

# Investigating Population Pyramids



**PART 1:** Visit this website to observe an animation in the change of Canada's population pyramid from 1971 to 2006: [www.statcan.ca/english/kits/animat/pyca.htm](http://www.statcan.ca/english/kits/animat/pyca.htm)

1. Describe the general shape changes you see from the animation.

2. By selecting choosing different Canadian regions from the 'Select a region' box you will be able to see how population statistics differ across the country. Comment on your findings below.

**By analysing population pyramids and identifying trends, we can learn a lot about our society.**

3. Based on the changes you observed from the website make your prediction for the future of Canada's population. What will our population pyramid shape be?

4. Discuss how changes in our population pyramid will affect our economy. How will we be able to sustain our economy with little population growth?

5. a) Create a list of factors that affect the shape of a country's population pyramid.  
 b) Discuss whether any of these factors can be 'controlled' and by what means?

a)	
b)	

**PART 2:** Visit the website listed below to select 5 countries from around the world from the alphabetical list provided and view their population pyramids, completing the summary chart below for each of the 5 selected countries. \*\* When you are selecting your countries be sure to check to make sure that ALL countries have the same unit for population, either thousands or millions. [www.census.gov/ipc/www/idbpyr.html](http://www.census.gov/ipc/www/idbpyr.html)

<b>Country</b>					
<b>Continent</b>					
<b>Pyramid Sketch</b>					
<b>Type of Pyramid (Reasoning)</b>					
<b>Bulge Location</b>					
<b>Male vs. Female Distribution</b>					
<b>Lasting Impressions</b>					

6. Based on your research and population analysis what do you feel is the largest factor affecting the shape of a population pyramid for a particular country? Explain your answer.

7. a) What does the future hold for the countries you selected?  
b) Discuss whether your countries had an increasing, stable or declining population pyramid.  
c) Make suggestions as to how countries may increase, decrease or maintain their population.  
d) How might your countries population affect their international relationships?

8. How does Canada's population pyramid compare to those pyramids of the 5 countries you investigated? Do you have any concerns for our place in the global market in the future?.

9. If you were a business owner how might you use population pyramids to project for the future? (Be specific)