



Population

Geography – Junior Cert

Quick Notes

Population

Population pyramids show the age and sex make-up of a population. A broad base in a population pyramid indicates high birth rates. A narrow peak indicates that a low percentage of people live until old age. Developing countries would have a broad base and a narrow peak. The reverse would be true for a developed country, narrow base and wide peak. Factors influencing population growth include health, food supplies, education, improved technology, war and status of women. Factors affecting population density (average number of people living in a square kilometer), on the other hand, include climate, relief, soils, mineral wealth, manufacturing and availability of services in urban areas. There are two types of migration- individual and organised. Individual is voluntary and it may involve push factors such as unemployment or pull factors such as better lifestyle. Organised migration is forced and therefore the standard push and pull factors do not apply. The population cycle or demographic transition model demonstrates how a population change as a country develops. These predictable set of changes are set out in five stages. Stage one is known as the high fluctuating stage because the birth rates and death rates are high. Stage two is the early expanding stage because the birth rate remains high while the death rate falls rapidly. Stage three is the late expanding stage as the death rate continues to decline, while the birth rate begins to fall rapidly. Stage four is the low fluctuating stage because birth rates and death rates are low. Finally, stage five is the senile stage because birth rates and death rates are very low. Asylum seekers are people who apply for refugee status