



# Pop Quiz: Canada

- 1. What is the world population in 2023?**  
a) 1 billion      b) 3.8 billion      c) 8 billion      d) 9.2 billion      e) 11 billion
- 2. By approximately how many people does the world grow each year?**  
a) 10 million      b) 26 million      c) 41 million      d) 75 million      e) 168 million
- 3. Which world region has the most people?**  
a) Africa      b) Asia      c) Europe      d) North America      e) South America
- 4. Which world region is experiencing the fastest population growth?**  
a) Africa      b) Asia      c) Europe      d) North America      e) South America
- 5. True or False: There is a population explosion in the world today.**
- 6. Which has NOT been a major cause of the global population growth over the past two centuries?**  
a) an increase in birth rates      b) modern preventive medicine      c) improved sanitation  
d) lower infant mortality      e) longer life expectancy
- 7. Worldwide, what percentage of pregnancies are unintended?**  
a) 18%      b) 28%      c) 38%      d) 48%
- 8. A megacity has a population of over 10 million people. How many megacities are there in the world?**  
a) 15      b) 21      c) 29      d) 34      e) 52
- 9. What was the population of Canada in 2022?**  
a) 6 million      b) 39 million      c) 53 million      d) 102 million      e) 140 million
- 10. True or False: Now that Canada's fertility rate (1.4 children per woman in 2022) is well below replacement level, all Canadian population growth is due to immigration.**
- 11. Which of the following provinces has the highest population?**  
a) Alberta      b) British Columbia      c) Nova Scotia      d) Ontario      e) Quebec
- 12. Which of the following countries consumes the most energy per person?**  
a) Canada      b) China      c) Germany      d) Jordan      e) United States

# Pop Quiz: Canada | Answers

1. What is the world population in 2023? c) 8 billion

Note that world population figures are best estimates demographers can make, but are not precise counts.

2. By approximately how many people does the world grow each year? d) 75 million

The current population growth rate is about 1 percent, a decrease from a high of 2.2 percent in the early 1960s. To calculate the world's growth rate, subtract the death rate (currently 8 per 1,000) from the birth rate (currently 17 per 1,000) and divide the result by 10. To calculate how many people are added to the world population each year, multiply the total world population by the growth rate, also called the natural rate of increase.

3. Which world region has the most people? b) Asia

Asia is home to 60 percent of the world's population and includes the two most populous countries, India and China (each with approximately 1.4 billion people).

4. Which world region is experiencing the fastest population growth? a) Africa

Africa's population is currently growing at 2.5 percent each year. The continent's population is expected to double in about 35 years. Most of this growth is occurring in the countries of sub-Saharan Africa.

5. True or False: There is a population explosion in the world today. You decide

It took all of human time on Earth (about 3 million years) for the population to reach 1 billion in 1804. Global population reached 2 billion in 1927 (123 years later); 3 billion in 1960 (33 years); 4 billion in 1974 (14 years); 5 billion in 1987 (13 years); 6 billion in 1998 (11 years); and 7 billion in 2010 (12 years). World population topped 8 billion in 2022 (12 years later). The population had been growing ever faster through the 19<sup>th</sup> and much of the 20<sup>th</sup> centuries, but the growth rate is now decreasing. Demographers at the UN project continued growth (albeit slower) through this century before stabilizing at 10-11 billion people.

6. Which has NOT been a major cause of the global population growth over the past two centuries? a) Increase in birth rate

A decrease in death rates, rather than an increase in birth rates, has been the main cause of rapid population growth. Improved nutrition, sanitation, and advances in medicine and agriculture all contributed to this decline. Death rates in Western Europe dropped during the Industrial Revolution (beginning in the 1700s), and later in North America due to industrialization and urbanization. In the 20<sup>th</sup> century, Latin America, Africa, and Asia saw dramatic drops in mortality. Since fertility remained at its previous high level for some time after the decline in these areas, rapid growth resulted.

7. Worldwide, what percentage of pregnancies are unintended? d) 48%

According to research compiled by the Guttmacher Institute and several UN agencies, nearly half of all pregnancies are unintended. This is fairly consistent across income groups around the world. Just over half of married women of childbearing age (15-49) report using modern methods of family planning.<sup>1</sup>

8. A megacity has a population of over 10 million people. How many megacities are there in the world? c) 34

Megacities are a recent phenomenon. In the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century, there were only two: New York City and Tokyo. Today, there are 34, with an expected 43 megacities by 2030. All major global regions except Oceania contain megacities. Most of the cities that have reached the 10 million marker in recent years are located in Asia and Africa.

9. What was the population of Canada in 2022? d) 39 million

10. True or False: Now that Canada's fertility rate is well below replacement level (1.4 children per woman in 2022), all Canadian population growth is due to immigration. False

An average of 1.4 children per family is below the replacement level fertility rate (2.1). However, growth will not stop until births and deaths are equal. In 2020, the birth rate was about 17 percent higher than the death rate. Net migration (immigration minus emigration) does account for about 80 percent of Canada's population growth.

11. Which of the following provinces has the highest population? d) Ontario

Ontario is the most populous province with 15.3 million people, followed by Quebec with 8.8 million people. The Territory of Nunavut has the smallest population, with just over 40,000 people.

12. Which of the following countries consumes the most energy per person? a) Canada

Canada uses the most energy per person of the countries listed. In fact, one person in Canada uses as much energy as 1.3 people in the U.S., 2.4 people in Germany, 3.8 people in China, or 7.7 people in Jordan. This is largely due to Canada's size and climate – it's big and cold. A lot of energy is needed for heating and driving (much of which takes place in large fuel-inefficient vehicles that can handle snow and ice).

Sources: Lancet Global Health, National Center for Health Statistics (CDC), Our World in Data, Pew Research Center, Population Reference Bureau, Statistics Canada, UN Population Division

<sup>1</sup> Bearak, J., et al., (2020, July 22). Unintended pregnancy and abortion by income, region, and the legal status of abortion: estimates from a comprehensive model for 1990–2019, *Lancet Global Health*, DOI: [https://doi.org/10.1016/S2214-109X\(20\)30315-6](https://doi.org/10.1016/S2214-109X(20)30315-6)