



Perhaps we should talk about population?



Patrons: Dr Katherine Betts, Hon Bob Carr, Dr Paul Collins, Prof Tim Flannery, Em.Prof. Ian Lowe



Global Environment

- Natural environment continues to deteriorate.
- Overall numbers and excessive behaviours combine to create the problem.
- Humans impact on Australia's and the global environment.

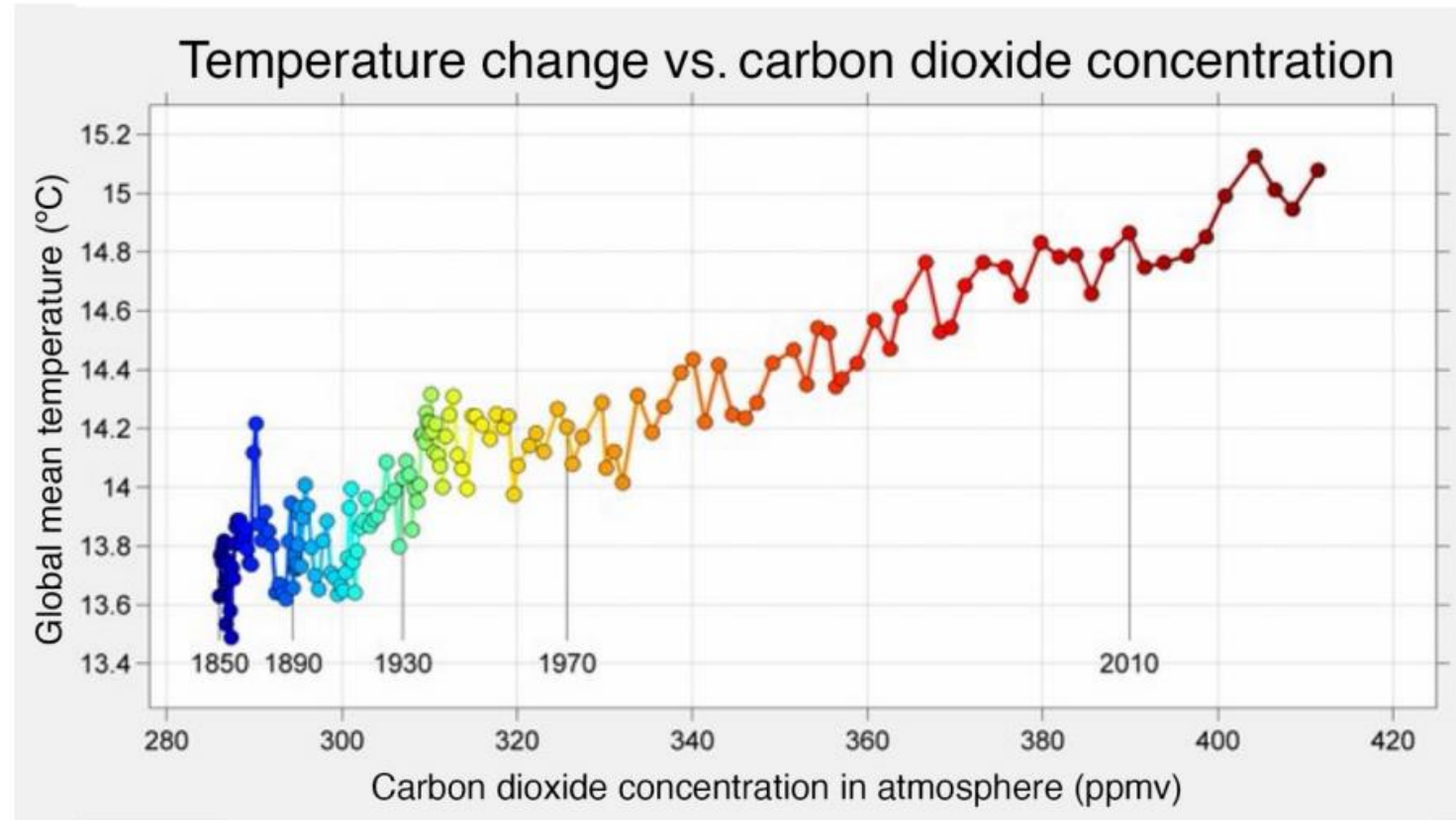


Figure 1: Historical record of global mean temperature and atmospheric CO₂ concentration. The chart shows that the global mean temperature has increased in proportion to CO₂ concentration (the trend being roughly a straight line) and that the warming has accelerated (each 40-year interval has seen a greater increase in both CO₂ and temperature than the last). Source: Berkeley Earth ¹⁸



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Global Population from 10,000 BCE to present

- Eight-fold expansion in human numbers since 1750.
- In 1800, the global population was ~ 1 billion.
- 10,000 years ago, global population may have been as low as 4 million.
 - much lower material standard of living
 - minimal environmental impact.



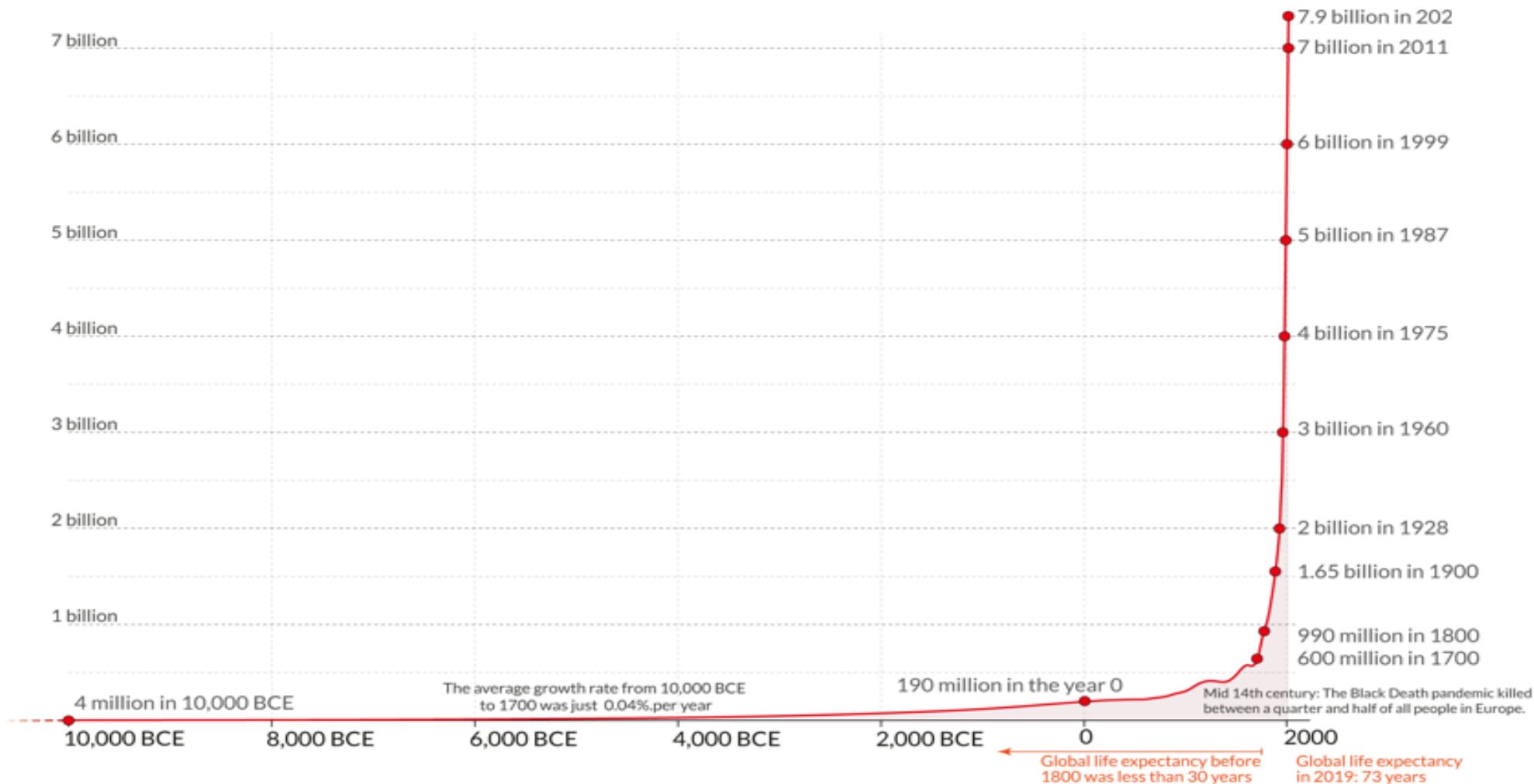


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Our World
in Data

The size of the world population over the last 12,000 years

Demographers expect rapid population growth to end by the end of the 21st century. The UN demographers expect a population of about 11 billion in 2100.



Based on estimates by the History Database of the Global Environment (HYDE) and the United Nations. On [OurWorldinData.org](https://ourworldindata.org) you can download the annual data. This is a visualization from [OurWorldinData.org](https://ourworldindata.org).

Licensed under [CC-BY-SA](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/4.0/) by the author Max Roser.



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Population Projections

	1960	2023	2032 projected
World	3 billion	8 billion	8.6 billion?
Australia	10 million	26 million	30 million?

Current population of 26,690,000 will be:

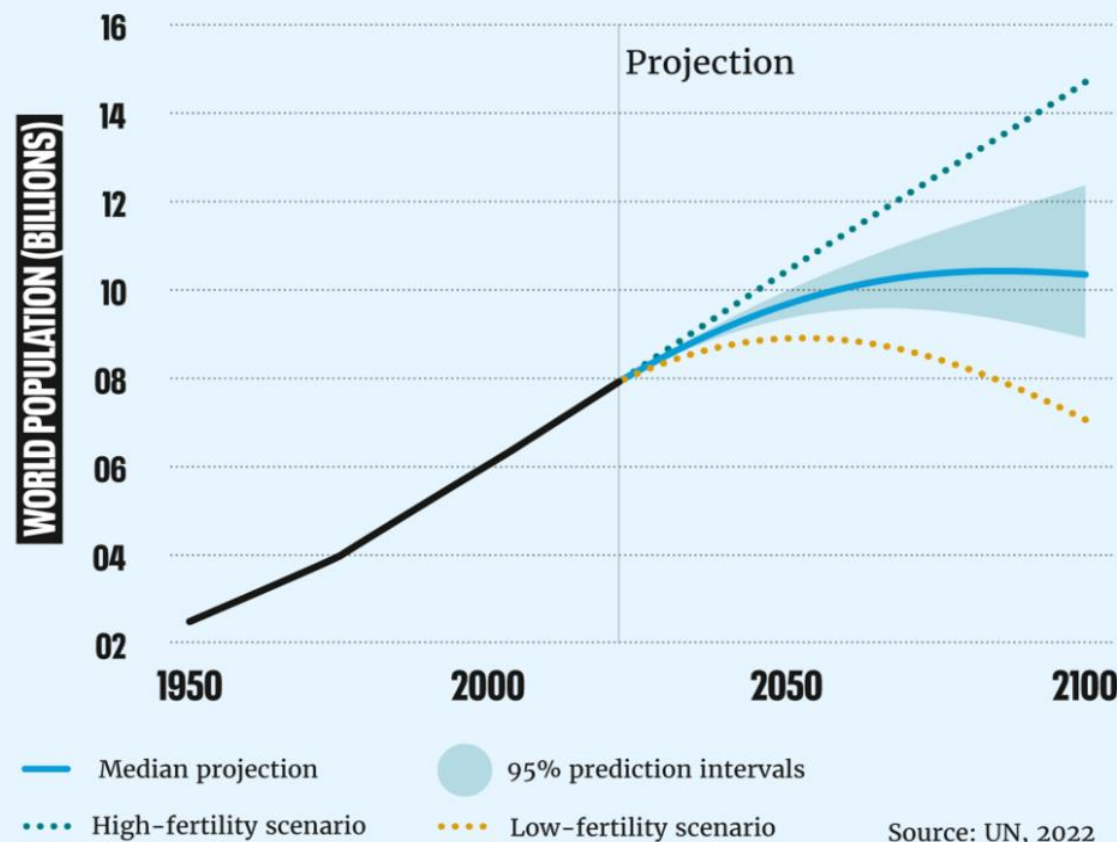
- 100 million at 2.0% A.G.R in 66 years
- 100 million at 1.5% A.G.R. in 88 years
- 100 million at 1.0% in 179 years

Many politicians and business leaders call for high growth.

<https://www.worldometers.info/world-population/australia-population>
<https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/people/population>

<https://population.gov.au/data-and-forecasts/projections>
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Demographics_of_Australia

UNITED NATIONS POPULATION TO 2100: 95% CERTAINTY RANGE





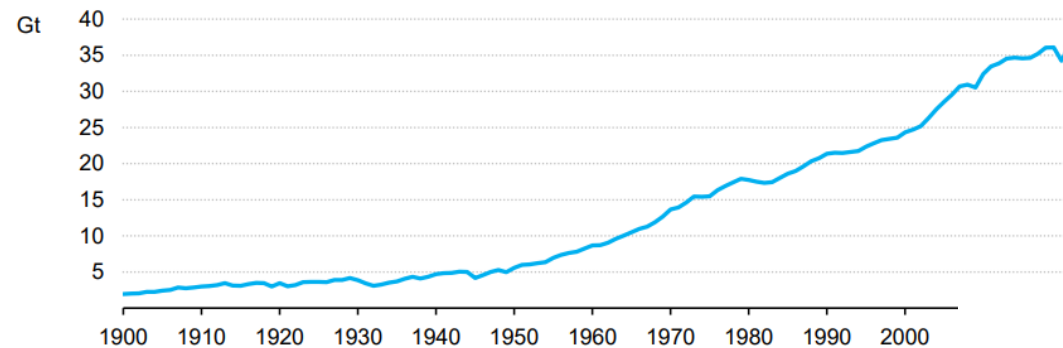
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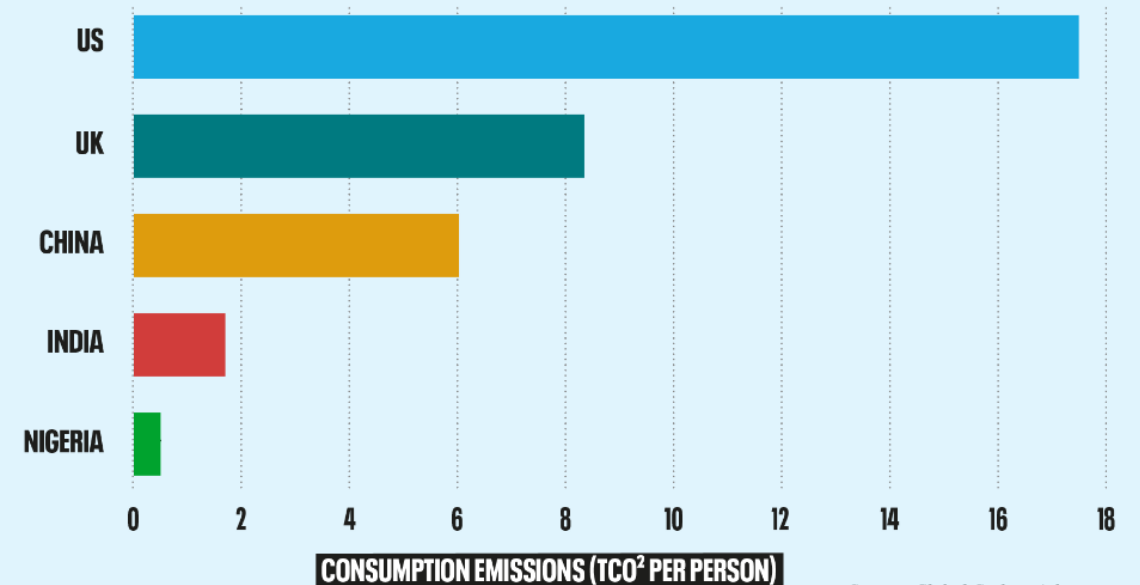
Global Emissions

- International Energy Agency
- GHG emissions continue to rise.
- 36.3 Gigatonnes in 2020.

Figure 1 Total CO₂ emissions from energy combustion and industrial processes and their annual change, 1900-2021



CO₂ CONSUMPTION EMISSIONS PER PERSON, 2017



Source: Global Carbon Atlas, 2020



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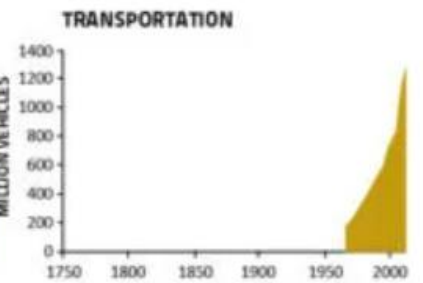
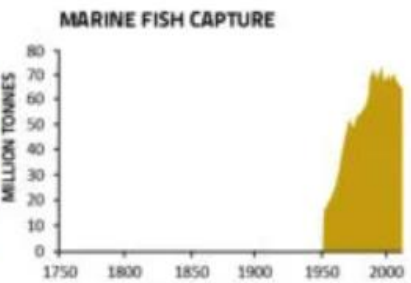
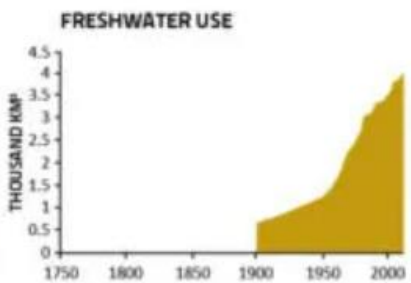
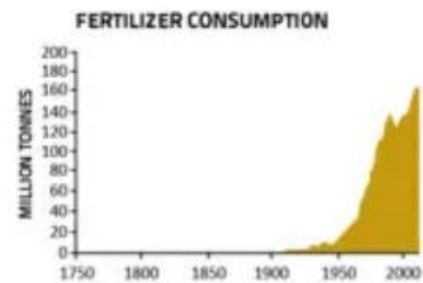
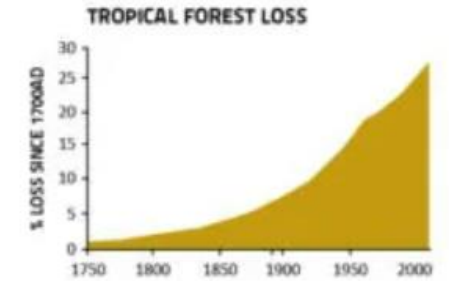
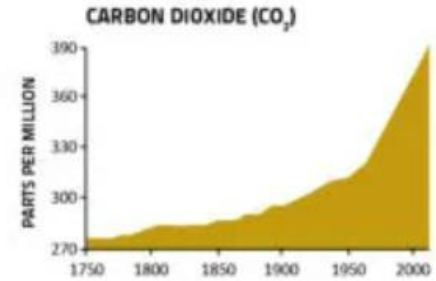
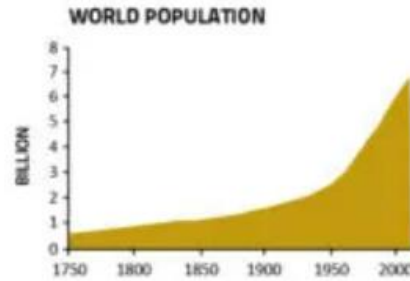


Human Footprint



Footprint Indicators

- Human activity has affected almost all ecosystems and resources.
- Our numbers remain the main factor driving our overall environmental impact.



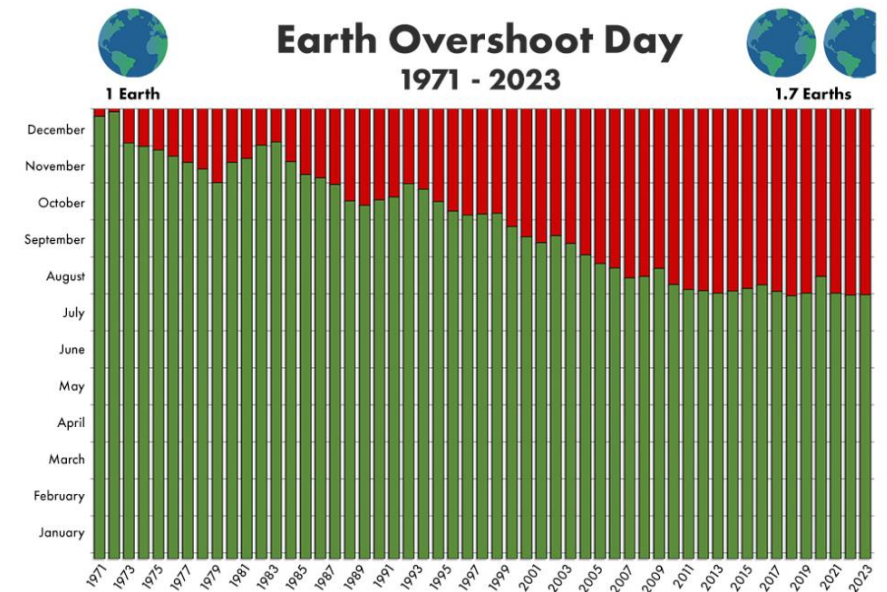


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Ecological Footprint

- **Ecological footprint** from the Global Footprint Network.
 - Measures human demand on natural capital (accounting).
i.e. the quantity of nature it takes to support people/economy.
 - If humanity uses natural capital 75% faster than Earth can renew.
=> Corresponds to **1.75** planet Earths.
 - **Earth Overshoot Day falls on 2 August**
 - **Australia 23 March**
- **Biocapacity & Ecological footprint** together are methods of measuring human impact on the environment



<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Biocapacity>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ecological_footprint

<https://www.bbc.com/future/article/20190218-are-we-on-the-road-to-civilisation-collapse>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Global_Footprint_Network

<https://www.earthday.org/>

<https://www.overshootday.org/newsroom/press-release-june-2023-english/>



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Endless Growth

- **Physically impossible to have endless growth anywhere in the Universe.**
- Impoverished countries with capacity for growth.
Greater GDP can deliver real economic and social benefits.
- Advanced economies
More GDP growth is less sensible, especially with more consumption of materials & energy.
- Many scientists believe that endless economic and population growth in a finite world, is nonsense.



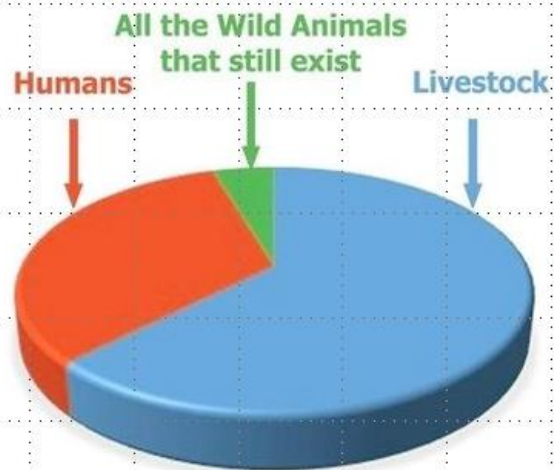
Economic growth without more consumption of energy and non-renewable resources is different. See 'Steady State Economics'



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Biomass of all the land mammals on planet Earth:



We'll miss the world's biodiversity when it's gone.

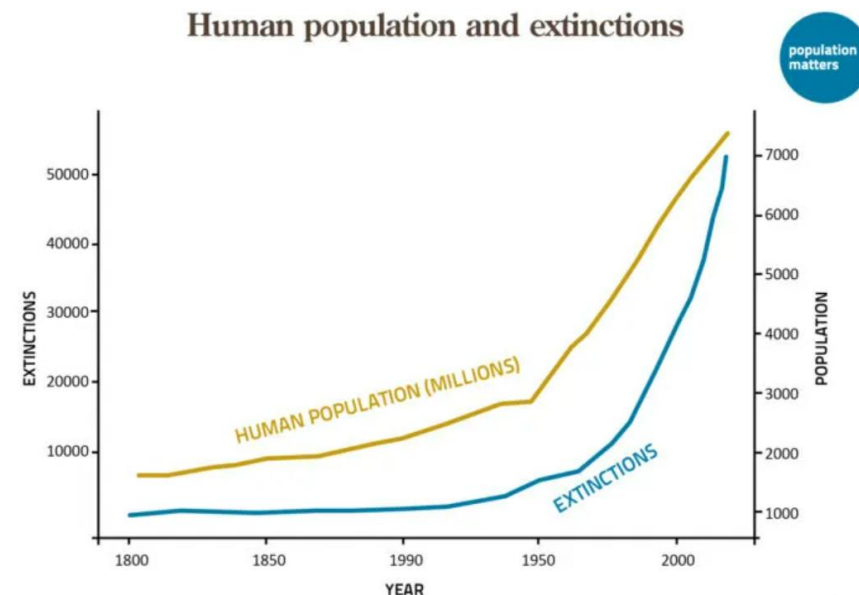
96% of the biomass of mammals on Earth is now humans plus our livestock.

Moral Concerns

- Humans take the planet's resources for our own benefit.
- Do we care enough about other life forms, or future generations of people, to give up :
 - space,
 - assets
 - wealth

for their benefit in the future?

Human population and extinctions



Source: United Nations/University of Idaho

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Population and Consumption

$$I = P \times A \times T$$

- “All we have to do is reduce consumption”.
- Consumption is one of the problems, but so is population.
- **Factors** driving environmental decline include:
 - Population
 - Consumption level or affluence
 - Technology or Efficiency of Production etc.
 - Economic growth

Human Impact = Population x Consumption x Technology

POPULATION MATTERS MYTHBUSTING #4

Myth: "There are plenty of resources to go round if everyone takes their fair share."

Fact: Our finite planet simply cannot indefinitely and sustainably provide for our huge and growing population.

We must reduce our consumption in rich countries but global demand for resources is rapidly increasing due to population growth and people escaping poverty.

If nothing changes, we'll need three Earths by 2050.



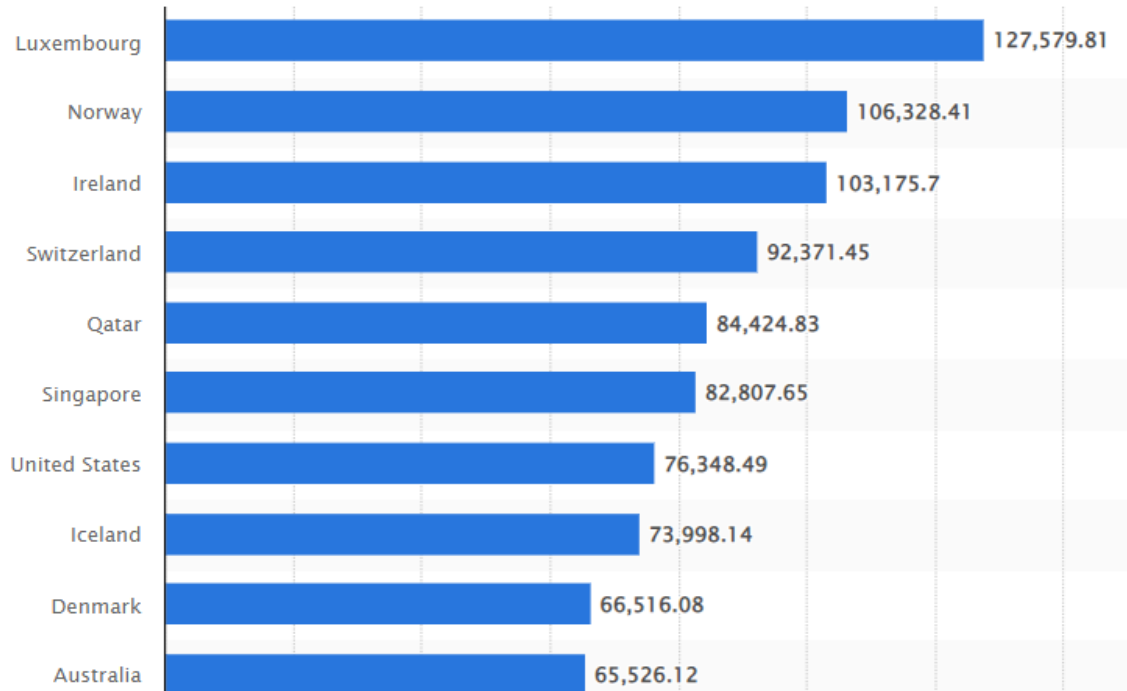
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<https://mahb.stanford.edu/library-item/a-brief-history-of-ipat-impact-population-x-affluence-x-technology/>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/I_%3D_PAT



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GDP - Gross Domestic Product

- Easiest way to increase **total GDP** - increase the population.
- Rarely hear politicians use **GDP per capita**.
- Poor countries with a manageable capacity for growth, higher GDP may deliver economic and social benefits.
- In 2022 - Top 10 countries with highest GDP per capita, **eight** have populations less than 10 million.



Robert F. Kennedy on GDP :

'it measures everything... except that which makes life worthwhile'

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<https://barcharttrace.graphtochart.com/stats.php?u=1637>

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xAYvPLEDnOM&ab_channel=BeancakeData

<https://www.statista.com/statistics/270180/countries-with-the-largest-gross-domestic-product-gdp-per-capita/>



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Prevailing Understanding

- Richest countries emit more CO₂ than rest of the world combined.
- Population is only growing in the poorest countries.
- Focus on reducing emissions **per capita**.
- Addressing **population** is not relevant.

Who bears responsibility for carbon emissions growth?

From 1990 to 2015, the wealthiest 5% of the global population were responsible for 36% of global emissions growth, an analysis by Stockholm Environment Institute and Oxfam found. Together, the wealthiest 10% accounted for almost half of the emissions growth.

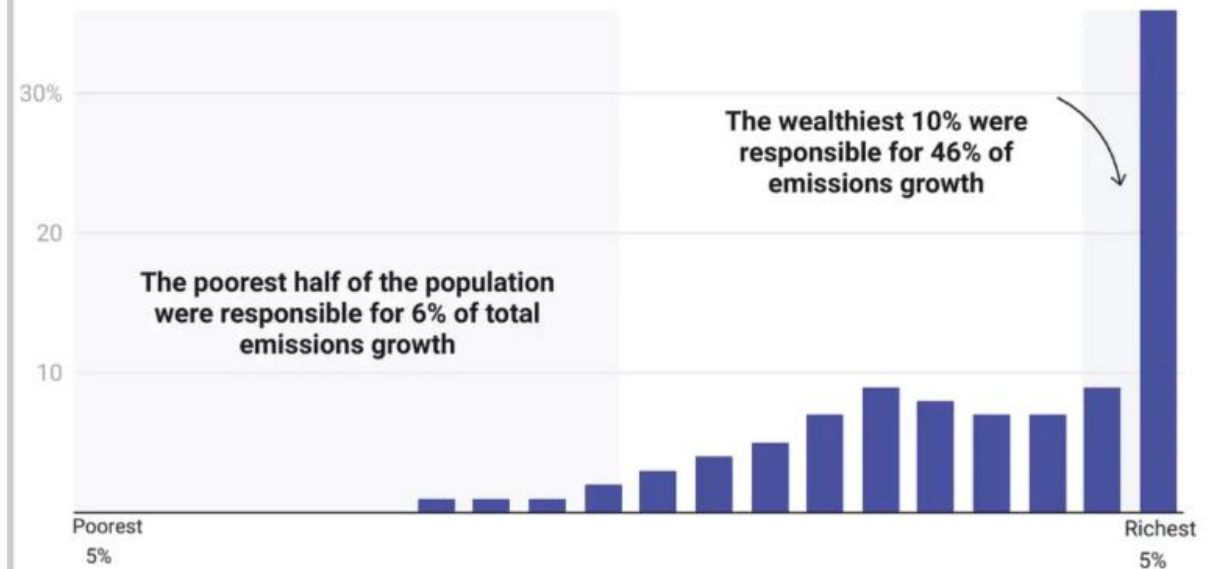


Chart: The Conversation/CC-BY-ND • Source: Stockholm Environment Institute and Oxfam

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Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) - AR6 Synthesis Report 2023

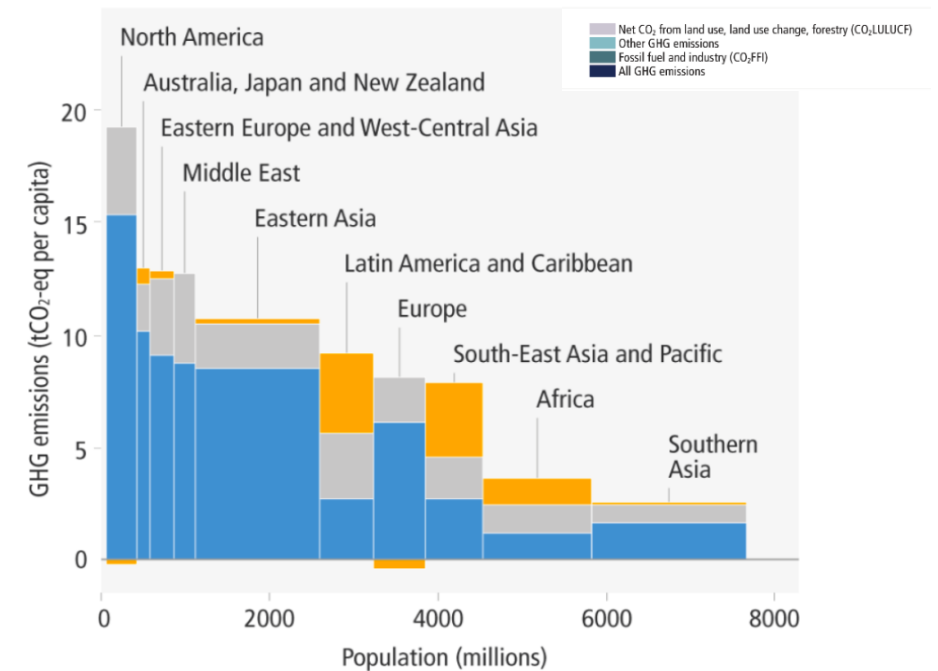
“The drivers of urban GHG emissions are complex and include population size, income, state of urbanisation and urban form”.

“High mitigation challenges, for example, due to assumptions of slow technological change, high levels of global population growth etc. “

However, scientific information was censored from *Summary for Policymakers* distributed to the world’s press and the public.

Does a problem disappear if we don't mention it?

c. Net anthropogenic GHG emissions per capita and for total population, per region (2019)



Source: IPCC, *Climate Change 2022: Mitigation of Climate Change: Summary for Policymakers*.

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An Analysis of Three Decades of Increasing Carbon Emissions: The Weight of the 'P' Factor

Published: 10 February 2023 *Sustainability* 2023, 15(4), 3245; <https://doi.org/10.3390/su15043245>

- World Bank - four income classifications for countries: low, lower-middle, upper-middle and high income.
- Based on gross national income (GNI) per capita.
- Period 1992 - 2019
- 2021 - 28 x **low**, 54 x **lower-middle**, 54 x **upper-middle**, 81 x **high** income countries.

$$GNI = GDP + (EX_{FS} - IM_{FS})$$

GNI = gross national income
GDP = gross domestic product
EX_{FS} = money flowing from foreign countries
IM_{FS} = money flowing to foreign countries

Table 2. Carbon emissions in 2019 by national income group.

Group	Per Capita Emissions	Total Emissions	% of Global Population	% of Global Emissions
High-income	9.9 t/capita	11.88 Gt	15.6%	35.1%
Upper-middle	6.0 t/capita	17.29 Gt	37.3%	51.0%
Lower-middle	1.5 t/capita	4.51 Gt	38.3%	13.3%
Low-income	0.3 t/capita	0.2 Gt	8.8%	0.6%

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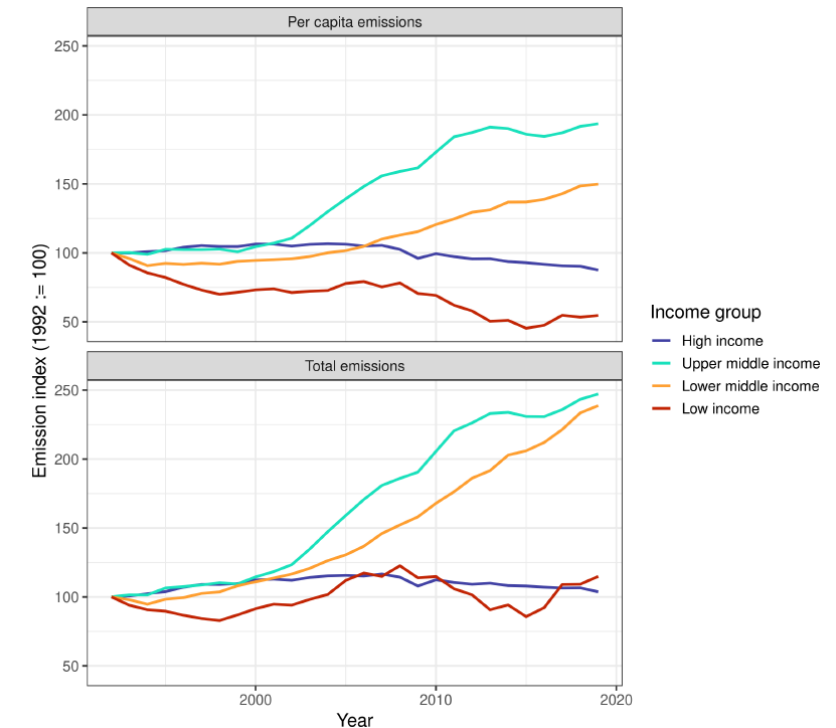


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An Analysis of Three Decades of Increasing Carbon Emissions: The Weight of the 'P' Factor

- Population growing in all groups.
 - **high-income** **18.5%+**
 - **low-income** **110.2%+**
- Largest contribution to global carbon emission = **upper-middle**.
- Population growth is main driver of increased emissions in all groups except **upper-middle**
- **Reductions in emissions/capita in high-income nullified by parallel increase in population in the same group.**
- Globally, population growth is the main driver, contributing 64% of total emissions growth.



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<https://www.mdpi.com/2071-1050/15/4/3245>

<https://phys.org/news/2023-04-population-growth-main-driver-carbon.html>



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An Analysis of Three Decades of Increasing Carbon Emissions: The Weight of the 'P' Factor

Conclusions

1. Mitigation strategies should address all factors:
Population + per capita consumption + technological innovation
2. Neglecting population growth leads to 'skewed and misleading vision'
3. Developed nations with stable / declining populations. Embrace them.
4. Population decrease in rich countries gives big emission-related benefits.
5. Increased affluence is not the main driver of carbon emissions.
6. **An exclusive focus on per capita emission reduction is insufficient.**



Australia

High population growth rate at ~2%

Migrants typically increase their emissions x 4 soon after arrival.



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<https://www.mdpi.com/2071-1050/15/4/3245>

<https://phys.org/news/2023-04-population-growth-main-driver-carbon.html>

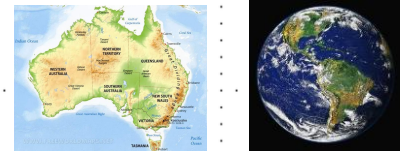


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Population

- **1960**
 - World 3 billion
 - Australia 10 million.
- Before immigration cuts due to COVID-19
 - Australia had fastest population growth rate in OECD @ 1.5% per annum.
- Policy of high immigration is largely responsible for fastest growth rate.
- Repeated public surveys show 70% of Australians do not want rapid population growth.

<https://www.worldometers.info/world-population/australia-population>

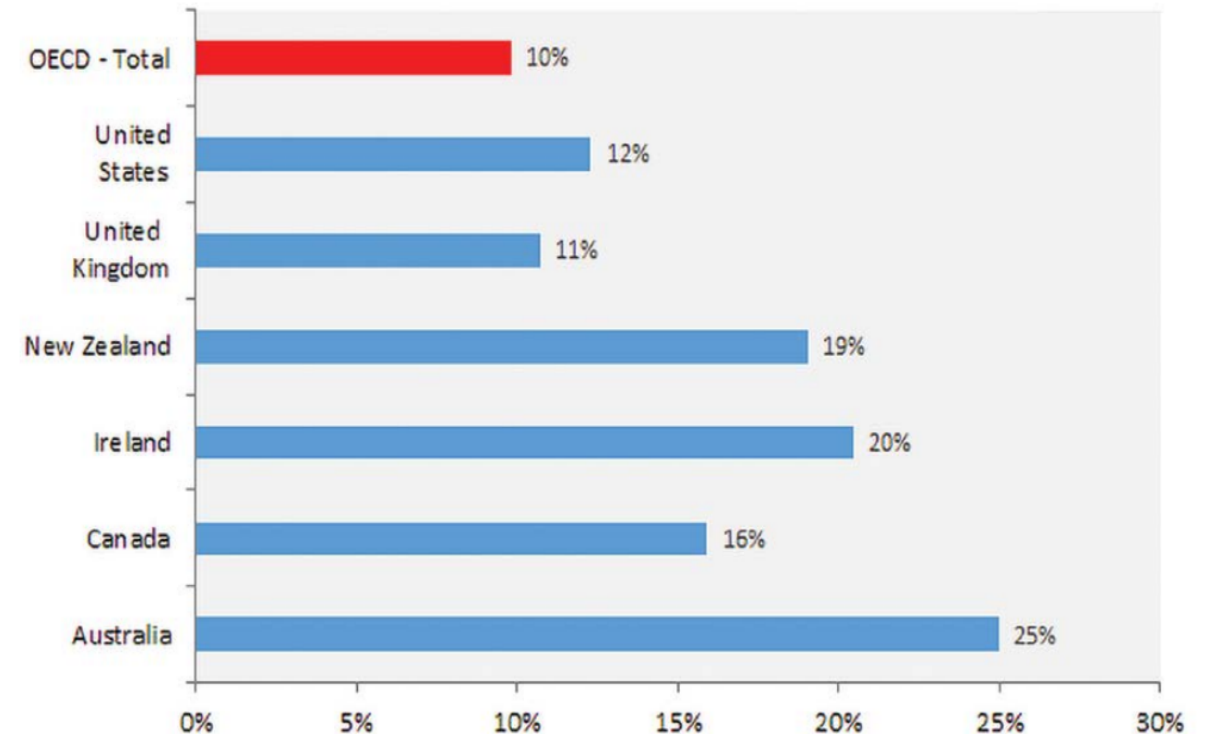
<https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/people/population>

<https://population.gov.au/data-and-forecasts/projections>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Demographics_of_Australia

CHART 1: Population change (2003 to 2017)

Source: World Bank



<https://www.news.com.au/finance/economy/australian-economy/national-disgrace-freelancer-ceo-matt-barrie-slams-immigration-ponzi-as-housing-crisis-deepens/news-story/f6d7cd8fca2455fe7a1e65fde5b9520f>



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Positive Consequences of Immigration

- Almost everyone likes the idea of immigration.
- Influx of new ideas, skills, foods, outlooks and values.
- Our culture is changed for the better – food, politics, diversity etc.
- 50% of us are from migrant families, married a migrant, or are migrants ourselves.



“The problem isn’t that immigration is good or bad, it’s just that the level is far too high for Australia to digest.”

Leith van Onselen

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Positive Consequences of Immigration

- Multiculturalism promotes integration of cultures and the sharing of ideas & perspectives.
- May lead to business innovations for businesses etc.
- Better problem-solving, empathy, compassion etc.
- Understanding the world from various perspectives.





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“If you reduce population growth, you are anti-migrant and racist”.

There is a very clear division between those who expose the negative economic & ecological impacts of population growth and those who use it as a smokescreen for racism. The public must understand there are two very different camps and support the former, while denouncing the latter.

“People should be able to live wherever they want to in the world and Australia should share its affluence”.

Continually bringing people into Australia damages our environment more and lowers the standard of living. It does not help others address their own population issues. The best way we can help, is to empower women, wherever they live.

NOTES:

- The far right has no informed or rational ideas on either sustainability or the environment.
- There were misguided attempts in some countries in the 1900s, to encourage or even enforce sterilisation.
- Taking an increased and fair share of refugees is that right thing for Australia to do.

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<https://poll.lowyinstitute.org/charts/post-pandemic-immigration/>



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Birth Rates

- Australian women's birth rates decreasing steadily:
 - Mid-1960s 3.6 children per woman
 - 2022 1.7 children per woman
- Family sizes continue to fall.
- Number of children per woman = Total Fertility Rate (TFR).
- TFR = 2.1 is required over long term for a stable population.
- Australian women have already decided to have small families.
- Pre-COVID, Australia grew 400,000 per year
 - 60% net overseas migration,
 - 40% natural increase from citizens.



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<https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/people/population/births-australia/latest-release>

<https://population.org.au/discussion-papers/ageing/>

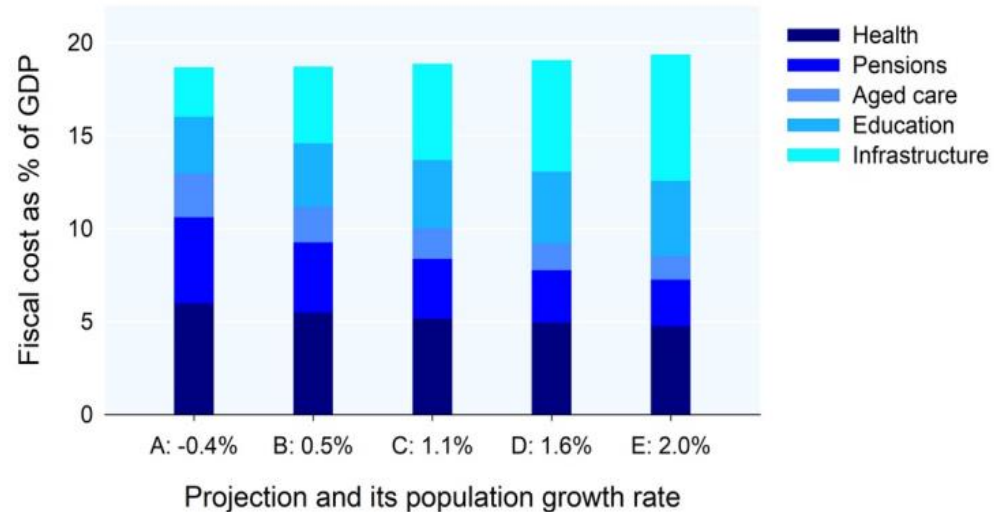
<https://www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/lookup/4102.0chapter3202008>



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C: Age-related fiscal costs



- Fertility rate around the replacement rate (TFR=2.1) or just enough immigrants to maintain population.
 - **stationary** - not growing.
 - **stable** - having a roughly constant age structure.

Ageing

- If we have migrants educated in developing countries, it deprives that country of their investment.
- Immigrants age themselves.
- Rise in the proportion of older citizens accounts for only a small fraction of the rise in health costs
- Dependents are made up of more retirees and less children.
- Many smaller nations have a high living standard and are not intent population increase.

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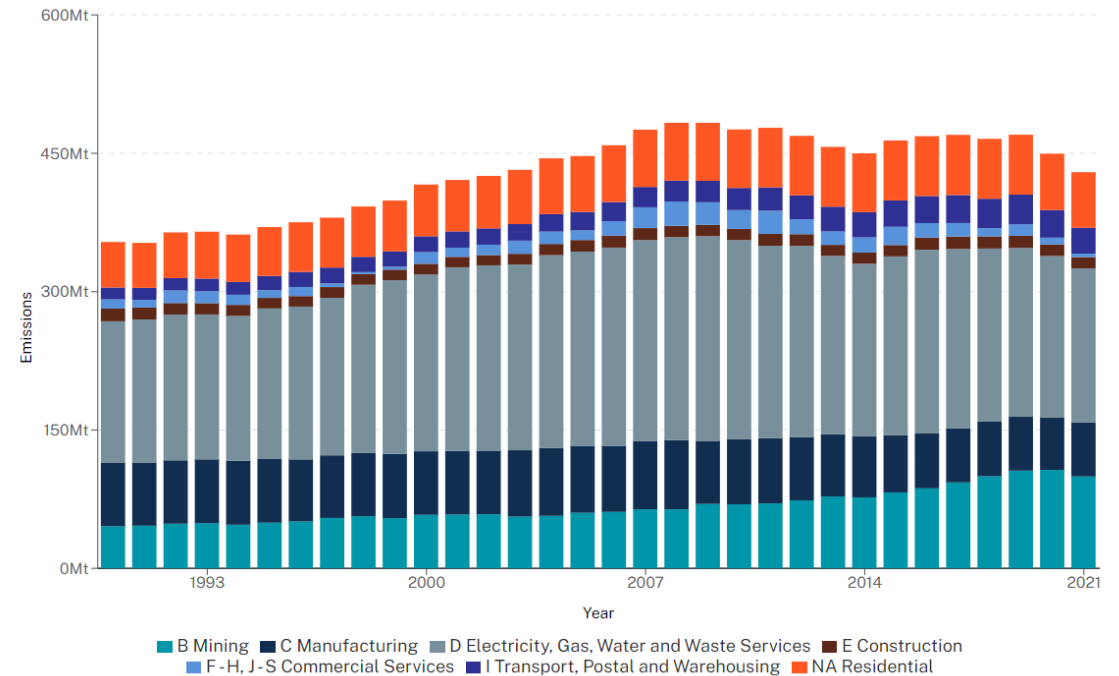
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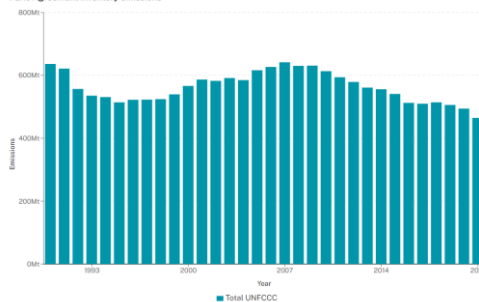
Emissions - Australia

- Land Use, Land Use-Change and Forestry (LULUCF) emissions skew emissions profiles.
- Excluding LULUCF our emissions increased.
- **Energy CO₂-e**—1990 = 353Mt 2021 = 429Mt
- **21% increase.**

Emissions by economic sector



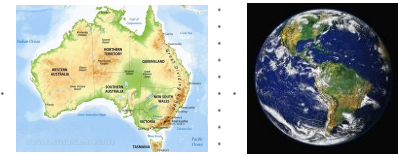
Paris Agreement inventory emissions



Per annum (Mt)	1990	2000	2010	2020	2021
GHG CO ₂ -e inc. LULUCF	636	566	613	494	465
GHG CO ₂ -e ex. LULUCF	353	415	475	449	429



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Emissions/capita

Australia 1990 to 2020

- Energy CO₂^{-e} per capita emissions 15.17 mt
- Underlying growth factors:
 - 51% increase in population
 - 60% increase in GDP per capita.
- GHG emissions continue to rise globally.

Enviromental Data: All Countries	Carbon Emissions Per Capita MtCO ₂ e	Carbon Emissions Total Million MtCO ₂ e
Qatar	32.65	95.67
Trinidad and Tobago	25.74	36.13
Kuwait	24.52	106.15
Brunei Darussalam	23.73	10.48
Bahrain	22.32	39.02
United Arab Emirates	20.43	204.08
Saudi Arabia	19.03	672.38
Oman	15.50	80.97
Australia	15.17	391.21
Mongolia	15.11	50.31
United States	15.04	5,007.33
Kazakhstan	14.57	276.67
Canada	14.33	545.64

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<https://www.unep.org/explore-topics/climate-action/what-we-do/climate-action-note/state-of-climate.html>

<https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/EN.ATM.CO2E.PC>

<https://www.dceew.gov.au/about/news/australias-greenhouse-gas-emissions-march-2022-quarterly-update>

<https://www.worlddeconomics.com/Indicator-Data/ESG/Environment/Carbon-Emissions/>

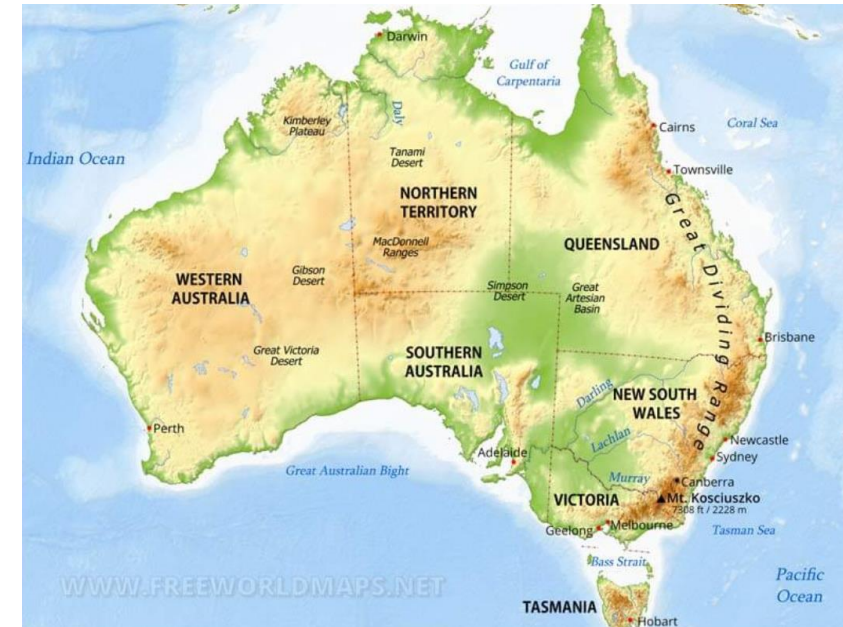


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Our Environment

- Australia is comparable in area to USA, but with a small-country population.
- Driest continent :
 - little agricultural land
 - generally poor soil
 - variable climate.
 - 70% is arid or semi-arid unsuitable for agriculture.
- World Bank (2020) arable / agricultural surface. **Australia is 4%. USA is 17%.**
- Landscape is not capable of massively increased population.
- 2022 Federal “*State of Environment*’ report shows a continual decline of almost every indicator.



We need a healthy environment to underpin the economy and social welfare of the people.

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Environmental Concerns

- Five-yearly Federal '***State of the Environment***' reports that population growth is a key driver of environmental impact.
- The latest report was issued in July 2022 and states:

'Population growth contributes to all the pressures described in this report. Each person added to our population increases demand on natural resources to provide food, shelter and materials for living.'

Australia 2021

State of the Environment

Combining scientific, traditional and local knowledge, Indigenous and non-Indigenous people have worked together to create this first holistic assessment of the state of Australia's environment.

The report aims to help shape policy and action, influence behaviours, and assess our actions as stewards of the Australian environment.

Our environment is under extreme pressure. Read the report. Make an impact. Heal Country. Our future wellbeing and prosperity depend on it.

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Plants and Animals

- “The abundance and distribution of native flora and fauna are declining and an estimated 12% are threatened. “
- “South Australia’s surface water and groundwater resources are under pressure from agriculture, industrial use, population growth, pollution and climate change”
- SA State of the Environment Report
 - 2018 results (above)
 - 2023 in preparation

ASPECT	OBSERVATION	TREND	CONDITION
Agricultural land Soil acidity 	Soil acidity is getting worse across South Australia. Lime is needed to help maintain agricultural productivity	 getting worse	 fair
Land: native fauna Population trends and percentage threatened 	The statewide trend in populations of land native fauna shows a continuous decline, which is due to a range of ongoing pressures	 getting worse	 fair
Land: native flora Population trends and percentage threatened 	The statewide trend in populations of land native flora shows a continuous decline, which is due to a range of ongoing pressures	 getting worse	 good
Land: invasive species Abundance and distribution of established invasive species 	The trend in the abundance and distribution of established invasive species shows a continuous increase	 getting worse	 poor



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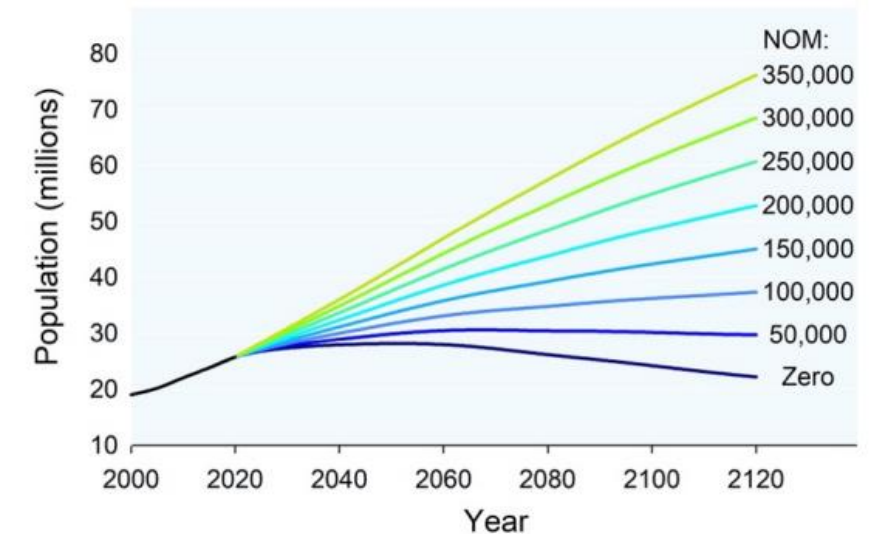
Polls

Australia's population is officially projected to increase by 2.18 million people in the five years to 2026-27, or by an average of 435,200 people each year," [MacroBusiness](#)

Lowy Institute (2022) 2000+ people polled

- 46 per cent wanted immigration to return to close to pre-pandemic levels,
- 33 per cent said it should be lower,
- 21 per cent argued it should be higher.

A. Effect of NOM level on size of the Australian population



NOTES:

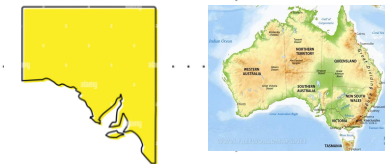
- The far right has no informed or rational ideas on either sustainability or the environment.
- There were misguided attempts in some countries in the 1900s, to encourage or even enforce sterilisation.
- Taking an increased and fair share of refugees is that right thing for Australia to do.

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<https://poll.lowyinstitute.org/charts/post-pandemic-immigration/>
<https://www.news.com.au/finance/economy/federal-budget/worrying-sign-australias-housing-crisis-is-about-to-deepen/news-story/a1b321c7f8f4b9d876886ae6645b9d54>

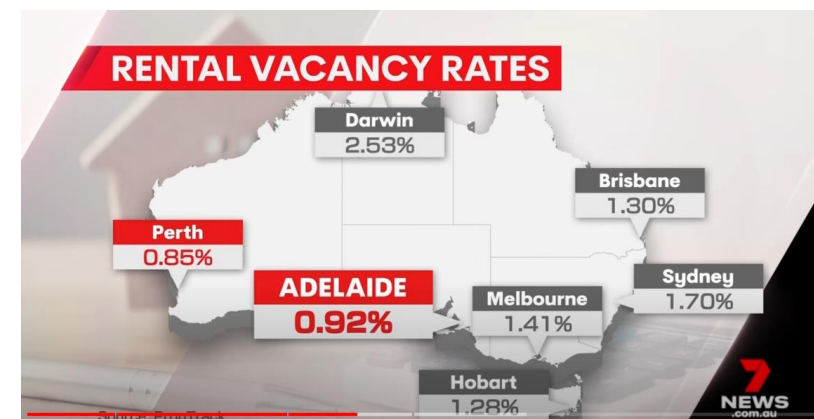
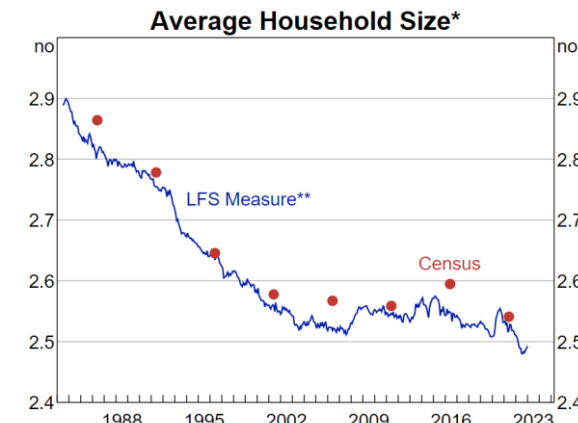


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Housing Crisis

- Australia has one of the worst rental-housing crises in the developed world
 - One of the highest immigration rates globally.
- Housing & rental crisis?
 - High Immigration
 - Social housing build
 - Air BnB
 - Household size



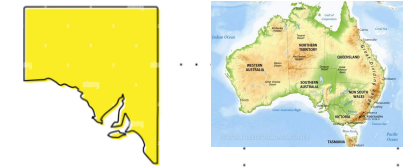
<https://www.rba.gov.au/publications/bulletin/2023/mar/a-new-measure-of-average-household-size.html>
<https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/people/population/household-and-family-projections-australia/latest-release>
<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2022-12-29/influence-of-air-bnb-on-australian-rental-crisis/101809556>

Noalition invites Labor action Patrons: Dr Katherine Betts, Hon Bob Carr, Dr Paul Collins, Prof Tim Flannery, Em.Prof. Ian Lowe
<https://www.canberratimes.com.au/story/8145392/a-massive-undemocratic-assault-on-australian-living-standards/>
<https://www.news.com.au/finance/concerns-raised-for-housing-affordability-as-australias-population-grows-very-sharply/video>
<https://independentaustralia.net/business/business-display/population-growth-fuelling-the-housing-crisis-fire,17398>
<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2023-04-12/why-rents-australia-increasing-cause-interest-rates-immigration/102208316>

<https://www.theguardian.com/australia-news/2023/jan/13/australia-on-track-for-2023-migration-boom-as-arrivals-dwarf-treasury-forecasts-ex-official-says>
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sW4CYZMdU7Q&ab_channel=7NEWSAustralia



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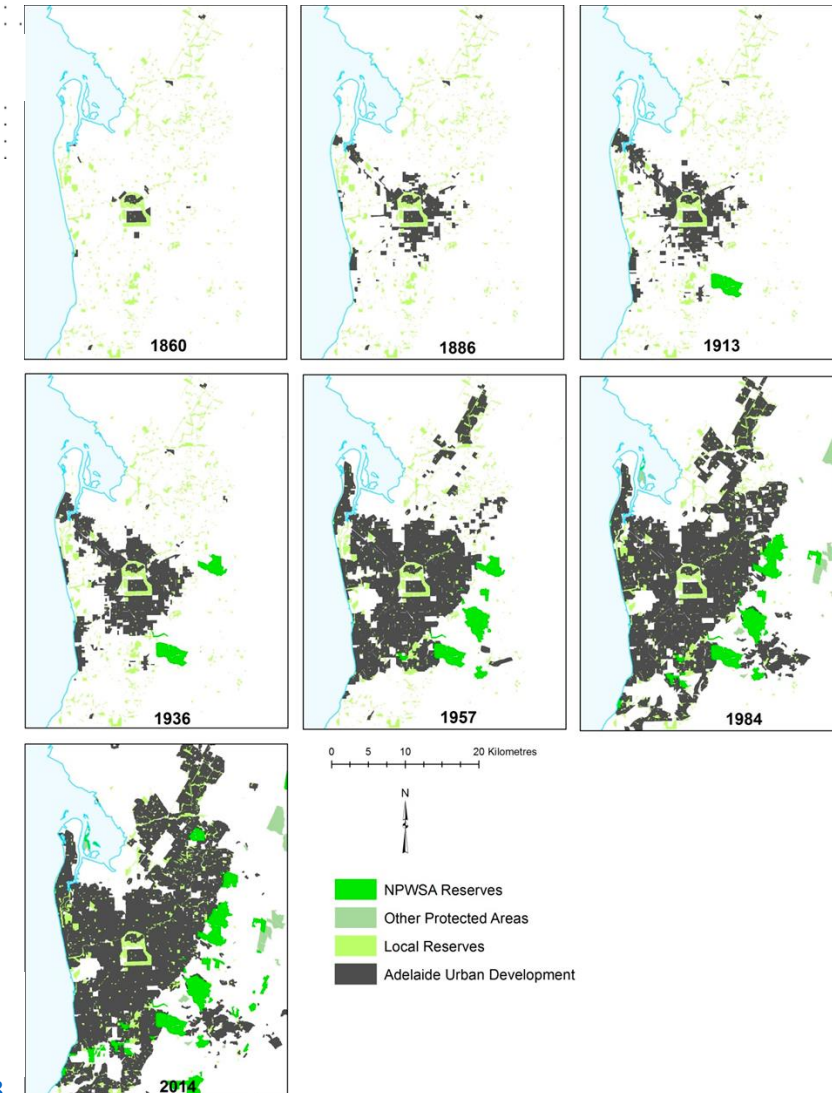


Urban Sprawl

- Adelaide Metro
 - 1960 - maximum **15km** from the GPO.
 - 2023 - Gawler (**40km**) to Aldinga (**45km**).
 - Amongst lowest global average = 1,100 people / km².
- In sprawling cities, cost of retrofitting new infrastructure is more expensive.
- Greenfield land in short supply.
- Destruction of natural habitat and agricultural land.
- Unmeasured costs have been ignored by pro-growth political parties and others with a vested interest in growth.

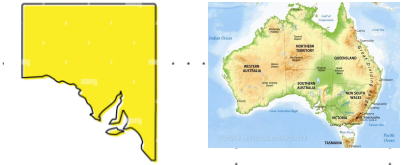
“That means developing the outer metropolitan area in a considered way, while ensuring infrastructure keeps up,”

Peter Malinauskas, SA Premier (2022)





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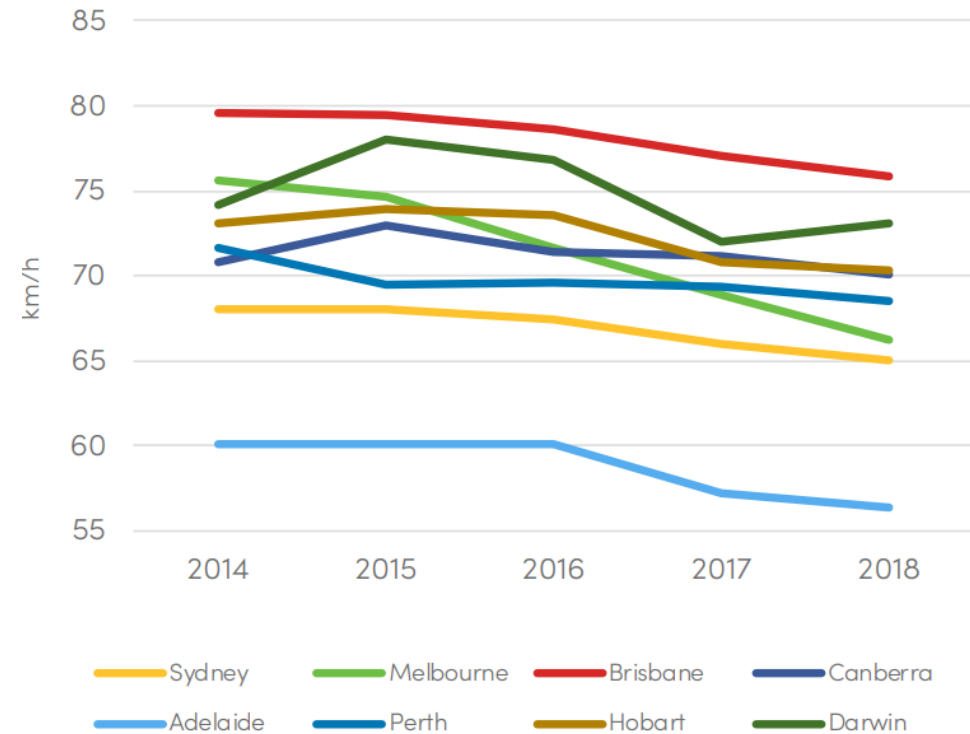


Road Congestion

- Traffic congestion has progressively worsened across Australia's major cities.
- Sydney and Melbourne now have worse traffic congestion than New York and Toronto.
- Congestion cost the Australian economy \$16.5 billion (2015).
- Recent investments in transport infrastructure in our fast-growing cities are largely playing 'catch-up'

"Even with programmed investment, Adelaide's transport networks are forecast to become more congested"
Infrastructure Australia (2017-2031)

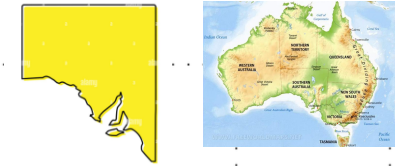
Average free flow speeds



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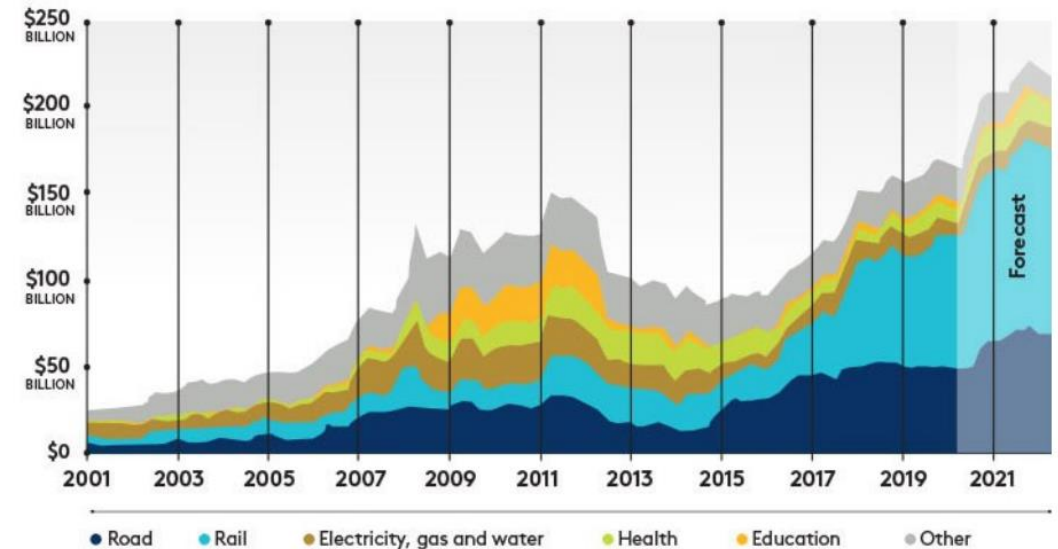


Infrastructure Lag

- Infrastructure delivery is struggling to keep pace with rapid population growth and change.
- IMF - Australia has an infrastructure gap compared to other advanced economies.
- Most of this infrastructure cost falls to State and local governments, and private individuals, rather than the Federal government
- The economic costs of population growth outweigh those of ageing.

Build it up

VALUE OF CURRENT AUSTRALIAN INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT PROJECTS BY INDUSTRY



Source: Deloitte Access Economics

Patrons: Dr Katherine Betts, Hon Bob Carr, Dr Paul Collins, Prof Tim Flannery, Em.Prof. Ian Lowe

Feb 2021

<https://www.aicd.com.au/economic-news/australian/infrastructure-projects/is-australias-infrastructure-boom-at-risk.html>

<https://www.imf.org/en/News/Articles/2019/02/15/NA022119-australia-economic-outlook-in-six-charts>



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Social Concerns

- High immigration adds to demands on:
 - housing, water, schools,
 - hospitals, roads, transport,
 - energy, jobs, waste management,
 - open space and the natural environment,
 - wages flat line, infrastructure less adequate,
 - ambulances and hospitals are harder to access.
- It may deliver a higher material living standard to newcomers, but from a low base.
- 'Liveability' declining.



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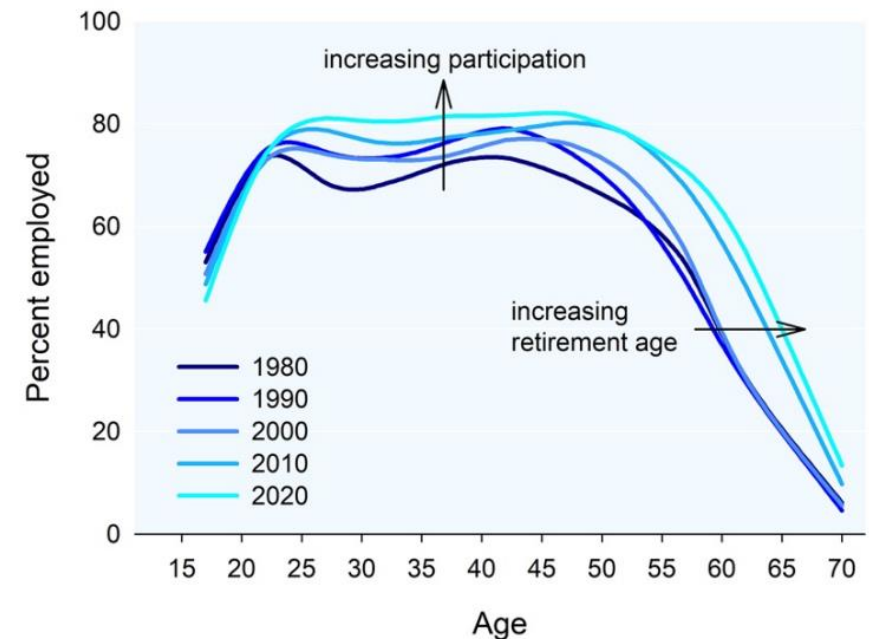
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Participation Rates

- As the labour market tightens, fewer people will be unemployed, and employers will improve wages and conditions.
- Workforce participation rate is not declining.
- We need to support the elderly to promote physical and mental health, reducing demand on services.
 - Australians are healthier for longer.
 - Encourage older Australians back to work part-time with tax incentives.

Figure 8. People are retiring later than in past decades

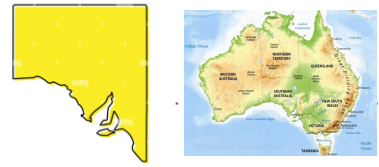


→ The shifting profile of age-specific employment **participation** over recent decades. ⁴⁹

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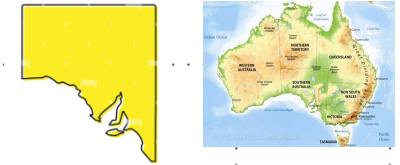
Unemployment Rates

- Unemployment rates *fell* dramatically when immigration reduced from 200,000 to 60,000 a year due to COVID-19.
- Governments and some businesses have said for decades - ***high immigration needed for high employment rates.***
- Many argue that there are other less impactful ways of boosting employment:
 - free skills training
 - more secure work
 - more people earn a fair living wage
- Older Australians - we already have a resident work force on standby subject to:
 - upskilling (if needed)
 - care in appropriate deployment
 - improved incentives e.g. tax

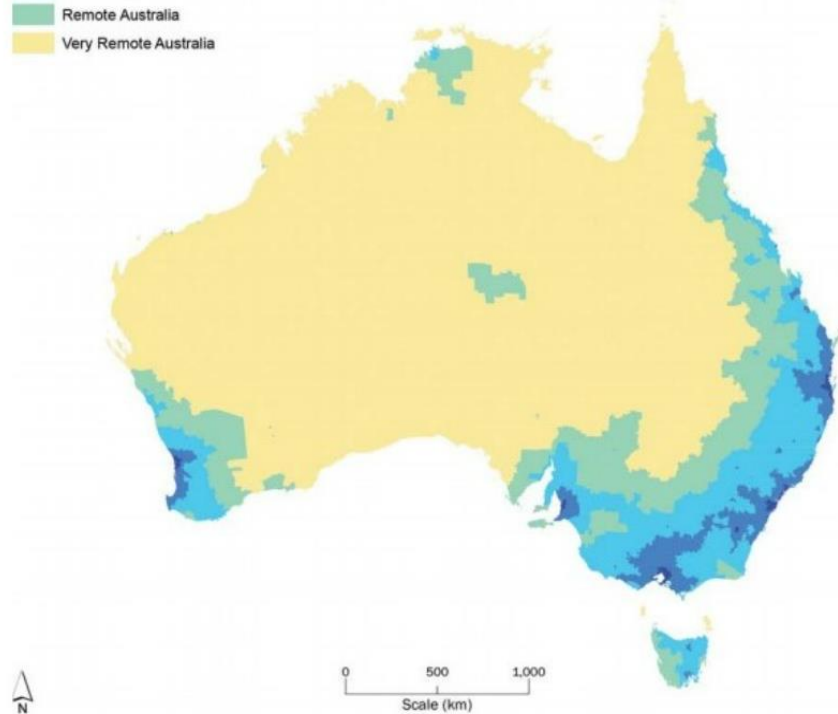
High employment is possible without high immigration.



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- Major Cities of Australia
- Inner Regional Australia
- Outer Regional Australia
- Remote Australia
- Very Remote Australia



Decentralisation

“Numbers don’t matter – all we need is to move people to the regions and build more infrastructure”

- Most regional towns do not have enough reliable water to support growth and are already under population stress etc.
- Need an extra A\$100,000 per person of your tax for infrastructure.
- Many plans for decentralisation have failed.
- 80% of migrants return to major urban centres after a few years.

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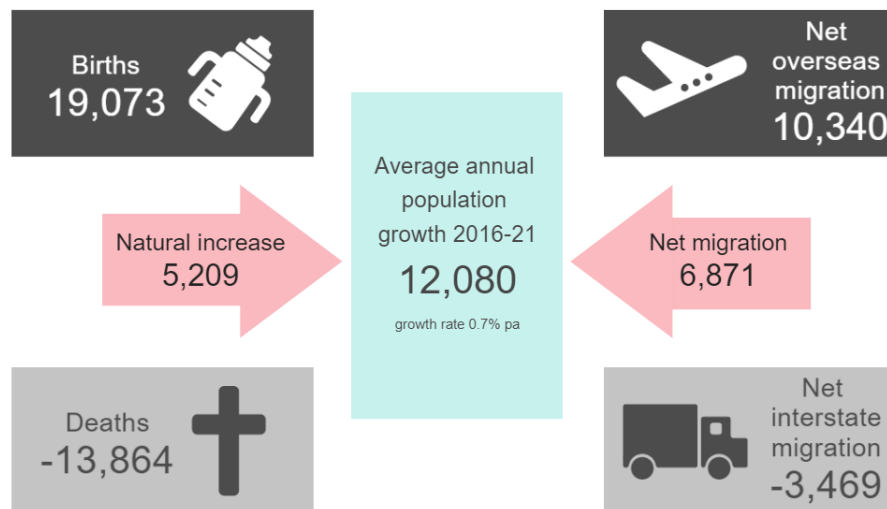


Hospital Waiting Times

South Australia's components of growth, average annual change 2016-21

If the population continues to climb:

1. Need more infrastructure
2. Need more and better-trained Healthcare Professionals
3. Need for multilingual Healthcare Professionals who demonstrate cultural literacy



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<https://www.myhealthcareer.com.au/health-industry/australian-population-growth-and-health-care/>

https://plan.sa.gov.au/state_snapshot/population

<https://www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/wps/wcm/connect/public+content/sa+health+internet/about+us/our+performance/our+hospital+dashboards>



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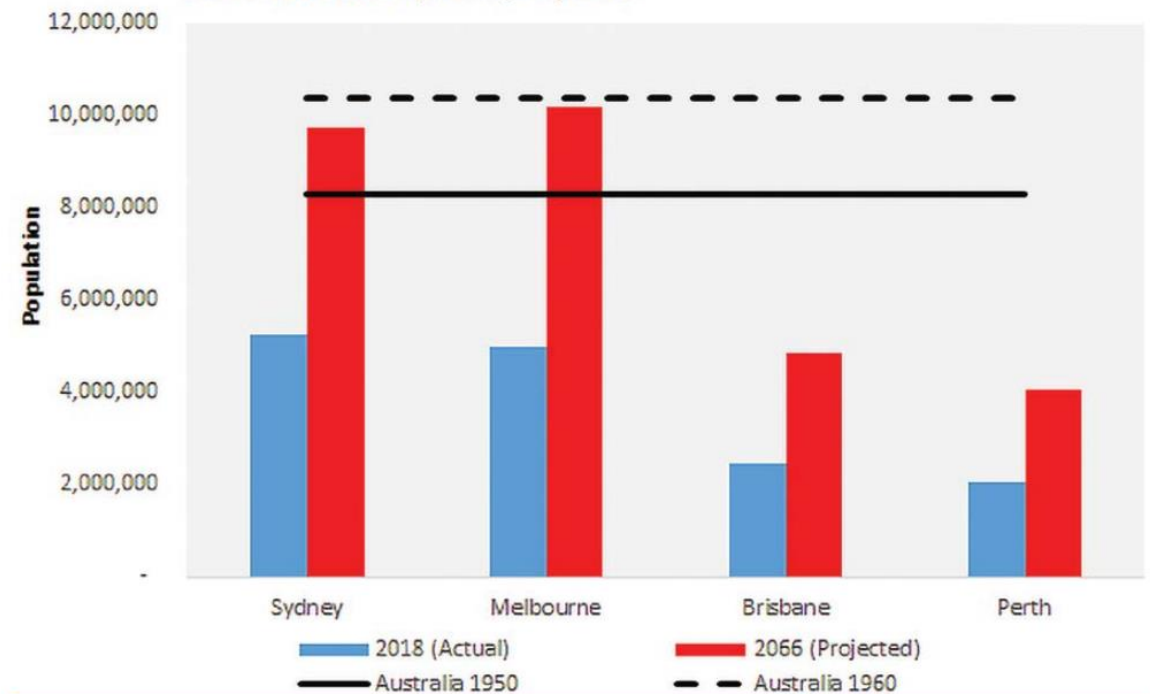


Population Projections - Australia

- Current population growth at 1.5% per year:
 - 45 years to 51 million.
 - Lifetime of some people born today to 110 million
 - Cities will be **x 4** larger, demanding **x 4** food, water, pipes, wires, poles, roads, homes, schools, hospitals, cars etc.
- If we did not have a high level of immigration:
 - Australia similar to other advanced Western countries in moving towards a stable population.
 - Or moving towards a smaller population: Japan, South Korea, France, Germany, Italy.

CHART 7: Capital city population projections

Source: ABS Series B (Middle) Projection





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Endless Growth

- Civilisation may outrun resources.
- Collective human mind swings between acknowledging deep trouble – and denying it.
- Governments mouth platitudes of climate action, then quietly encourage new oil & gas fields, coal mines, tar sands.
- Solutions...?
 - Cease fossil fuels in all forms.
 - Have fewer children.
 - Consume & travel far less.
 - Adopt circular global economy.
 - Renewable food.
 - Renewable energy.



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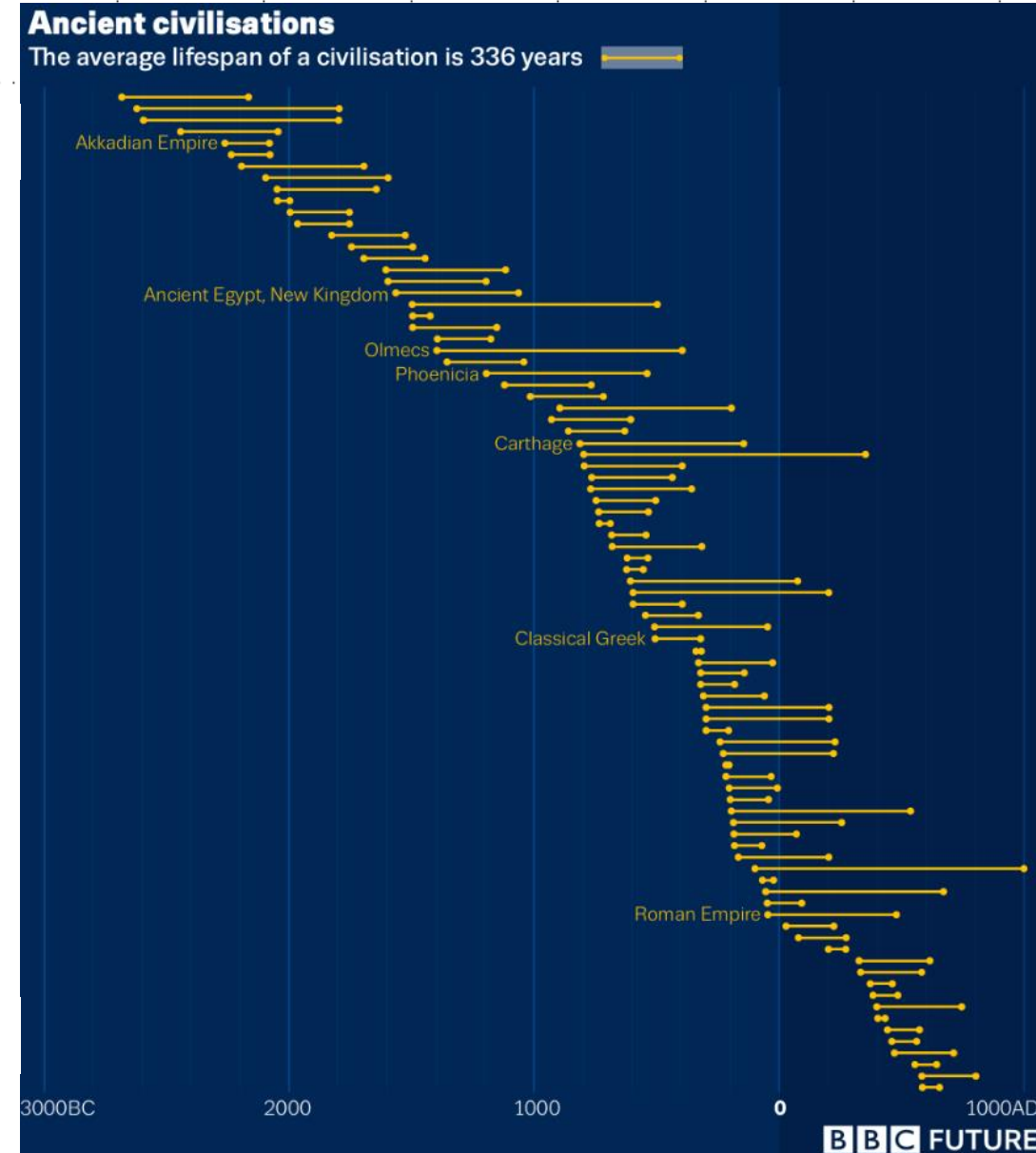
<https://johnmenadue.com/the-earth-has-bipolar-disorder-and-so-do-we/>

<https://www.bbc.com/future/article/20190218-are-we-on-the-road-to-civilisation-collapse>



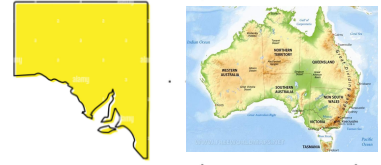
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How Long Does a Civilization Last?





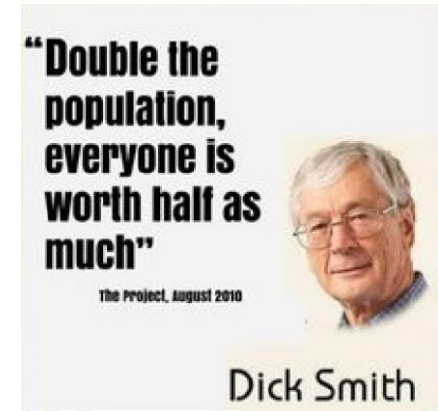
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1. Summary

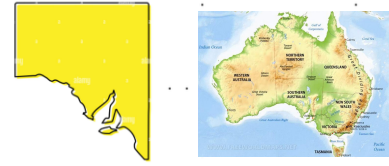
- A high *rate* of population growth does not deliver economic prosperity for most individuals.
- Average migrant to Australia increases their carbon footprint **x 4** by adopting Australian lifestyles.
- Countries with high rates of population growth are some of the world's poorest, e.g. Nigeria @ 3.75% / year.

Will people have enough food and water and infrastructure to adapt to climate change beyond 2050?





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2. Summary

- Low immigration is pro-immigrant, allowing greater access to good quality jobs.
- Pressure from human numbers & consumption & waste causes climate change.
- Growth in population, as well as consumption, is not sustainable.
- We must consider environmental as well as economic factors.

Sir David Attenborough on the environment:

“I’ve never seen a problem that wouldn’t be easier to solve with fewer people, or harder, and ultimately impossible, with more.”





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