

**The 8<sup>th</sup> billionth baby**  
(For middle and high school students)

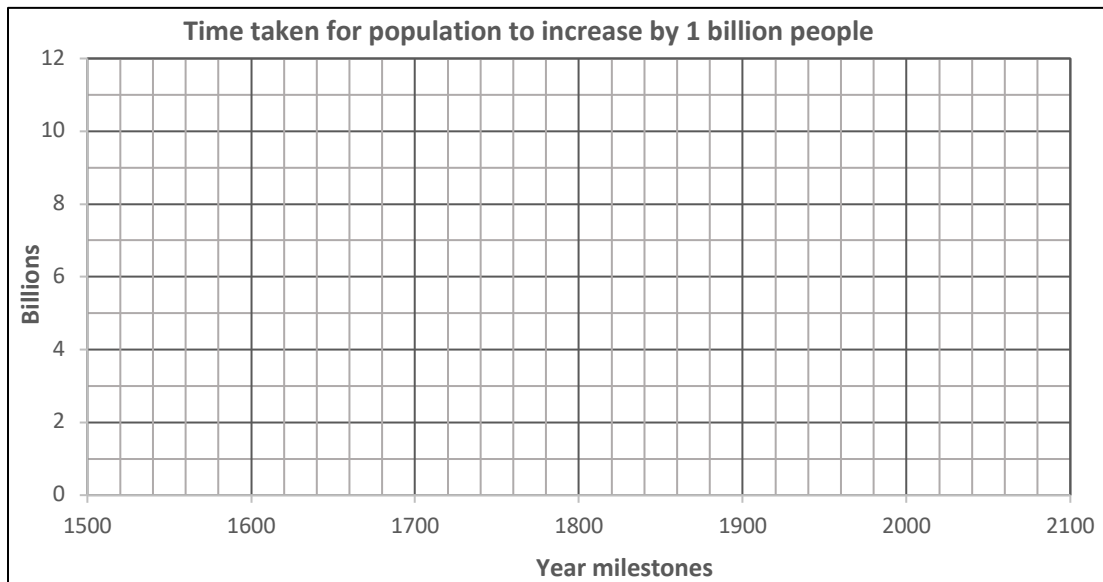
Yep, the population of the world has just reached **8 billion** people.

1. There are about 334,759,170 people in the U. S. About how many times larger is the population of the world than the U.S.?
2. Find out the approximate population of either your town or your state. When the world reaches a population of 8 billion how many times greater will the population of the world will be than your town or state?

The table below shows the estimated year when each billion people milestone was or will be reached.

3. Create a column to the right of the table that shows the number of years that it took the world population to increase by 1 billion. The first entry, of course, would only be an increase of ½ billion people.
4. Describe a pattern or trend that you see.
5. Create a chart with the numbers above.

Population		
Year	Billion	
1500	.5	
1802	1	
1927	2	
1959	3	
1974	4	
1986	5	
1998	6	
2010	7	
2022	8	
2036	9	
2057	10	



6. What can you see or deduce from either our data or your chart about future population change?
7. What do you think are some trends or events in our world today that may be causing this slowing growth?

8. Many specific countries' population changes heavily influence global population. Choose two of these countries and research how their populations are changing and what is influencing those changes. Bring your analysis to class for discussion. Consider the changing proportions of their working-age population and their dependent-population.

- China

Average number of births per woman	1.2
Change of working aged population	
Change of dependent population	

- United States

Average number of births per woman	1.7
Change of working aged population	
Change of dependent population	

- India

Average number of births per woman	2.0
Change of working aged population	
Change of dependent population	

- Italy

Average number of births per woman	1.3
Change of working aged population	
Change of dependent population	

- Nigeria

Average number of births per woman	5.2
Change of working aged population	
Change of dependent population	

- Philippines

Average number of births per woman	2.7
Change of working aged population	
Change of dependent population	

- Democratic Republic of Congo

Average number of births per woman	6.2
Change of working aged population	
Change of dependent population	

9. In the news, we were told that the 8 billionth baby was born in Manilla of the Philippines. This not a precise count of the 8<sup>th</sup> billion baby born just a symbolic United Nations designation. Explain why you think the UN chose Manilla.

Sources: [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/World\\_population\\_estimates](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/World_population_estimates)  
[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Population\\_growth](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Population_growth)  
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<https://www.npr.org/sections/goatsandsoda/2022/11/15/1136745637/earth-welcomes-its-8-billionth-baby-is-that-good-or-bad-news-or-a-bit-of-both>  
<https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SP.DYN.TFRT.IN>