Population Pyramid Activity
Population Pyramids

- Age and sex are key indicators of population composition, and demographers and geographers use population pyramids to represent these traits visually.
Figure 2.16
Age–Sex Population Pyramids for Countries with High Population Growth Rates.
Countries with high total fertility rates, high infant mortality rates and low life expectancies will have population pyramids with wide bases and narrow tops.

Figure 2.17
Age–Sex Population Pyramids for Countries with Low Population Growth Rates.
Countries with lower total fertility rates and longer life expectancies have population pyramids shaped more uniformly throughout.
Compare the following demographic characteristics:

**LDC** (Less Developed Country)
- Crude Birth Rate = high
- Crude Death Rate = higher
- Infant Mortality Rate = high
- Literacy Rate = low
- School Enrollment = low
- Total Fertility Rate = high
- Total % of pop under 15 = high
- Life Expectancy = low
- Natural Increase Rate = high
- GNI Gross National Income = low

**MDC** (More Developed Country)
- Crude Birth Rate = low
- Crude Death Rate = low
- Infant Mortality Rate = low
- Literacy Rate = high
- School Enrollment = high
- Total Fertility Rate = low
- Total % of pop under 15 = low
- Life Expectancy = high
- Natural Increase Rate = low
- GNI Gross National Income = high
Population Pyramid Directions

1. Find the % of the population that is in each age cohort to the first decimal.

2. On the back create a population pyramid using your data.

3. Answer the following questions regarding your pyramid.
   - Stage? Why?
   - Population characteristics
   - Country? (China, France, India, Mexico, Nigeria, United States)
   - What potential problems or advantages does your country have based the pyramids shape?
Country A = The United States

United States of America 2016
Population: 324,118,000

Male

Female

[Chart showing population distribution by age and gender]
Country B = Mexico

Mexico
2016
Population: 128,632,000

Earth at Night
More information available at:
http://eosweb.larc.nasa.gov/cgi-bin/gibs/epod/ep001127.html
Country C = China

China 2016

Population: 1,382,323,000

[Population pyramid with age groups and gender distribution]

Country C = China

Country C = China

Country C = China

Country C = China
Country D = India
Country E = Nigeria
Country F = France