Population Pyramid Analysis

Canada's
Population Pyramid, 1961

Males

Age Groups

Females

The pyramid narrows toward the top. This is because the death rate is higher among older people than among younger people.
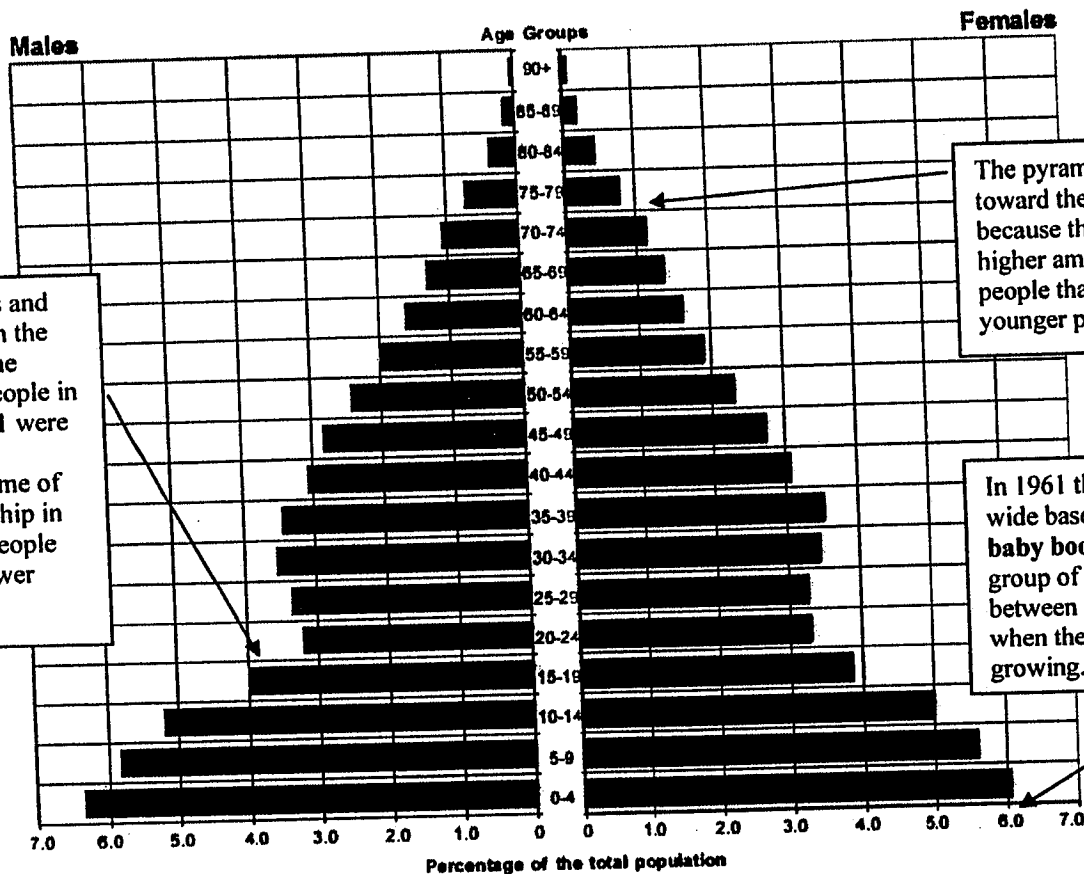
There are bulges and narrower parts in the middle part of the pyramid. The people in their 20s in 1961 were born during the Depression, a time of economic hardship in Canada when people were having fewer children.

In 1961 the pyramid had a wide base. These are the **baby boomers**, a large group of people born between 1947 and 1966 when the economy was growing.

90+
85-89
80-84
75-79
70-74
65-69
60-64
55-59
50-54
45-49
40-44
35-39
30-34
25-29
20-24
15-19
10-14
5-9
0-4

7.0 6.0 5.0 4.0 3.0 2.0 1.0 0 0 1.0 2.0 3.0 4.0 5.0 6.0 7.0

Percentage of the total population

1. This is how Canada's population was divided in 1961. How old would a person born during the Depression be today? _____ (give a range of ages).

2. Were your parents baby boomers? _____

3. How old would someone in the baby boomer generation be today?

_____ (give range of ages)

4. There is a slight difference between the death rate of men and women. Which gender survives better into old age? _____.

5. Suggest two reasons why this might be the case:

CANADA'S POPULATION IN 2006

Use the data on the right to complete Canada's population pyramid for 2006. (Be sure to use a ruler, add appropriate labels, and darkly shade in each of the bars on the graph using red and blue.)

- Neat
- Accurate
- Labelled Axes with units
- Title
- 2 Colors.

Age Group	% of men	% of women
0-4	5.4	5.1
5-9	5.8	5.5
10-14	6.6	6.2
15-19	6.9	6.4
20-24	7.2	6.7
25-29	7.0	6.7
30-34	7.0	6.7
35-39	7.3	7.1
40-44	8.4	8.2
45-49	8.3	8.1
50-54	7.3	7.3
55-59	6.4	6.4
60-64	4.8	4.9
65-69	3.7	3.9
70-74	3.0	3.4
75-79	2.4	3.0
80-84	1.5	2.4
85-89	0.7	1.4
90+	0.3	0.8

Age groups (bottom to top): 0-4, 5-9, 10-14, 15-19, 20-24, 25-29, 30-34, 35-39, 40-44, 45-49, 50-54, 55-59, 60-64, 65-69, 70-74, 75-79, 80-84, 85-89, 90+

| 10% | | | | MALES | | | | | 0% | | | | | FEMALES | | | 10% |

1. Write the details of your age group and sex within the Canadian population. 2006

   age group _____   sex _____   percentage _____

2. What single age group and sex represents the largest percentage of Canada's population? 2006

   age group _____   sex _____   percentage _____

3. Circle the 10-year age group that contains the largest percentage of the population. 2006

   0-9   10-19   20-29   30-39   40-49

4. What percentage of Canada's population is male and what percentage is female? (Add the percentages for each sex.) 1961

   males _____   females _____

5. Write in the percentages for males and females age 65 and over. 2006

   males _____   females _____

6. Explain why the 1996 *2006* population pyramid has a narrower base than that of the 1961 pyramid.

_____

_____

7. a) Populations are frequently divided into two categories: people who are of working-age (15-64) and people who are not of working age (under 15; 65 and over). Using the data on table, give the percentage for each category in ~~1996~~ 2006

working age _____   not of working age _____

b) List ways the working-age population contributes to Canada's economic growth.

_____

_____

c) Do you think the proportion of the population who are not of working age will change in the future? If so, which part (under 15, or 65 and over)? Explain.

_____

_____

Canada's population is aging. This means that the median (or middle age) of Canadians is getting older.

Demographics has become one of the hot topics of our decade. Demographers study population statistics and trends as you are doing in this activity. Among other things, organizations depend on the work of demographers to help plan the location of businesses; the number of schools, hospitals and retirement homes; the building of houses, condominiums, and apartments; and the designing and marketing of products.

What does Canada's aging population mean for Canadian society? Become a demographer, and predict what might happen as a larger percentage of Canadians is over 65 years old.

Part of Canadian Society	How Canada's aging population will affect it
health care	
housing	
the people available to work (the work force)	
job opportunities for younger Canadians	
the sorts of things Canadians will want to buy	