

# THE EUROPEAN UNION THROUGH DATA ANALYSIS

## -STUDENT ORIENTATION-

The purpose of this activity is to organize and analyze data and to identify the European Union nation to which the data apply. Follow the set of instructions I, II, and III.

### I. Population Pyramid

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A population pyramid is a graphic way to show the age/gender (sex) composition and structure of a population. The structure describes the relative number of people at different ages by gender. Population pyramids are used to provide a visual image of the composition of a country's population and to show what is happening demographically in that country. The shape of a population pyramid is a result of migration, births, and death. It also reflects historical, socio-economic, and political events such as the Baby Boom that followed W.W. II.

The total population and population by gender and age cohorts (groups) is provided in the first set of data.

#### I. a. Construct a Population Pyramid

To construct a population pyramid, calculate the percentage of the TOTAL POPULATION for each sex and age cohort. Find the total population first, then divide each cohort by that number.

First, find the total population of the country. Add the total number of males to the total number of females. Then divide the number of males aged 0-4 by the total population. Write the percent in the column to the right labeled PERCENT. Then repeat the procedure for females.

Construct the population pyramid on the graph provided. Be sure you put the male information on the male half of the graph and the female information on the female half. Remember, a population pyramid is a special kind of bar graph.

#### I. b. Analyze the Population Pyramid

Once you have constructed the pyramid, analyze it by answering these questions:

A. What is the total percentage of DEPENDENTS (defined as the percentage of the population either too young or too old to take care of themselves, that is, 14 or younger and 65 and older) in the population?

- ◆ 14 and younger:
- ◆ 65 and older:
- ◆ Total Percent of Dependents:

B. Describe the structure of population in this country now. Is this a country with a fast growing population, a slow growing population, or no growth at all? Are there an even number of men and women at each age cohort? Are there many old people or few?

C. Examine the number of 0-19 year olds. What do you think the population of this country is going to be like in the future? Young? Old? Balanced?

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D. What are the implications/consequences of this population pyramid? Based on the characteristics of the population, what kinds of goods (products to purchase) and services (schools, hospitals, stores, occupations) do you think the people need? Is this a growing market or a declining market?

### II. Additional Data Analysis

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The second set of data provides additional information about your country. Be sure you understand what each statistic means. You may wish to jot down the definition for each in this table:

DATA	DEFINITION
Births per 1,000	
Deaths per 1,000	
Rate of Natural Increase (%)	
Annual Rate of Growth (%)	
Life Expectancy at Birth	
Infant Deaths per 1,000 Live Births	
Total Fertility Rate (per woman)	
GDP/PPP (billions)	
Per Capita Income	
<b>Labor Force</b>	
Services (%)	
Industry (%)	
Agriculture (%)	

Pay special attention to the data on Labor Force. In general, countries with developed economies and high standards of living have a higher percentage of their population engaged in industry (secondary economic activities) and services (tertiary economic activities) than agriculture (primary economic activities).

#### II. a. Labor Force

Organize the Labor Force data by constructing a circle graph or bar graph.

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### III. What Country is This?

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Based on your knowledge of the characteristics of EU nations, and your analysis of the data, what European Union nation do you think this is?

Why? Provide at least four reasons to explain your selection. Write in complete thoughts/sentences.

A.

B.

C.

D.