



Canadian Demographics Lesson Centre: Baby Boom

A population pyramid is a bar graph that shows the age and sex distribution of a population. Statistics Canada has an animated population pyramid that shows the changes to Canada's population from 1901 to 2001. You can stop the animation at any point, and advance or back it up one year at a time. Use the pyramid to answer the following questions.

www12.statcan.gc.ca/census-recensement/2006/as-sa/97-551/vignettes/cda06pymd.swf

1. Describe the changes to Canada's population in the first decade of the century (1901-1911). What age group experienced a significant increase? Speculate why that age group increased.
2. Describe the changes in the post-World War I years (1920s). Why do you think there was an increase in population?
3. Why do you think there was a decrease in the birth rate in the 1930s?
4. The large increase in births after World War II is known as the "Baby Boom". How long did the baby boom last? When did the boom peak?
5. Predict the impact of the baby boomers in the decades after 1950s. What impact might they have in the future?