

6 Why is life expectancy low when people per doctor is high?

7 Define life expectancy.

8 Which countries are mentioned in the report?

9 Which charity has been working in this area?

10 Why are they helping?

1 What is this report about?

2 What is the difference in life expectancy between Chad and Japan?

3 Draw a quick graph to represent the life expectancy difference.

4 How does an unreliable water supply and food supply impact life expectancy? Explain.

POPULATION REPORT

Population issues

An article on life expectancy – adapted.
 Life expectancy is rapidly increasing worldwide. The life expectancy in many developed countries is now in the mid-80s, which is a significant increase on where it was just 20 years ago. However, there is a significant difference in life expectancy between countries; some readers will be shocked to learn that there could be as much as a 40-year difference in life expectancy. Let's look at some examples; in Japan the life expectancy in 2018 was 84 years, whereas in Chad (north-central Africa) the life expectancy was just 52 years. So why is there such a difference?
 Although quality of life is rapidly improving in developing countries, there are still issues accessing a reliable clean water supply and a reliable food supply in some rural areas. Even in these modern times, death from waterborne diseases is still one of the biggest killers worldwide.
 In some developing countries access to good medical care can still be difficult, especially for those people that live in rural areas. For example, where the number of people per doctor is high, life expectancy is commonly low. We do know that big gains have been made through aid groups such as Water Aid etc. however there is still much to do. Population pressure has also led

to the growth of squatter settlements, or shanty towns. In such residential areas, such as Kibera in Kenya living conditions can be poor. Sewage runs through the streets and people are crowded onto a small area of land, in housing which lacks basic amenities such as electricity and running water. The final factor which plays a significant role in suppressing life expectancy is conflict. In countries where conflict is common or where fighting has taken place in recent times, life expectancy is unsurprisingly low. Conflict does more than just lead to death through fighting, it impacts food production, reduces government spending on medical care and can lead to people living in unsanitary conditions such as refugee camps.
 We might think that people are living way beyond where they did in the past. However, this is still far from true for many people around the world.

11 What might happen to the quality of housing?

12 Why is this the case?

13 What does 'unsanitary' mean?

14 What is health care like in some developed countries? How does this affect life expectancy?

15 Overpopulation is leading to the growth of 'squatter settlements,' how is this potentially impacting life expectancy?

5 What is a rural area?

16 Challenge: Do you agree that conflict is the biggest factor in reducing life expectancy? Explain this, trying to link your explanation to other factors which impact life expectancy.

