

National Population Projections

NAME _____

Open the following web address in your Internet browser:

<http://www.census.gov/population/www/projections/natchart.html>

This is the page you will use to analyze the population projections for a 110 year span.

Click on the first image (the GIF) file, which is dated July 1, 1990. You may recognize this pyramid as the example that we used in class. Next, open each of the other images, as listed below:

- July 1, 2000
- July 1, 2025
- July 1, 2050
- July 1, 2100

Analyze the rest of the population pyramids. You may wish to keep all five files open while completing this activity sheet.

1. How does the population distribution change over time? What factors might contribute to these trends?
2. Think about why these graphs would be useful to manufacturers.
 - a. Why would these graphs be important when manufacturers decide what products to make?
 - b. What year would be the best year to sell toys? Why?
 - c. What year would be the best year to sell mini-vans? Why?
 - d. What year would be the best year to sell retirement condos? Why?
 - e. Why is it important for manufacturers to be able to use population projections?
3. Besides manufacturers, who else would be interested in these graphs? Give one example and explain.