

Reading a Population Pyramid

7th Grade

A graph shape that tells you a country's future.

Bars show how many people are in each age band, split by sex.

Shape	Means	Implies
Wide base, narrow top	many young, few old	fast growth; needs schools
Straight sides	even spread	stable population
Narrow base, wide middle	few young, many older	shrinking; needs healthcare

A pyramid is a prediction. The children at the base become the workforce in twenty years.