

***AED Econ. 597.01 - Int. St. 597.01
Spring 2006***

Additional Hints for the Final Paper *

A. DATA

Most of the **basic** information needed to write the paper can be found in the website of the World Resources Institute:

<http://www.wri.com>

Once there, go to **Earth Trends**

** minimum*

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A. DATA

Earth Trends – Main contains several sections:

- Coastal and Marine Ecosystems
- Water Resources
- Climate and Atmosphere
- Population, Health and Human Well-being
- Economics, Business and Environment
- Energy and Resources
- Biodiversity
- Agriculture and Food
- Forests
- Environmental Governance

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A. DATA

- For each section, go to the [Searchable Database](#)
- Select the variable of interest
- Select a region
or a **country**
or both at the same time
(simultaneous selections allow
you to make comparisons)
- Select the **years** of interest

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1. Introduction

The purpose of the introduction is to set the stage for the analysis.

This includes:

- paragraph to indicate why the country is an interesting case study
- main thesis of the paper (the central elements of the **story** to be told)
- the country's key characteristics that will be relevant for the paper

2. Population

The main purpose is to describe the country's **demographic history** and make some forecasts about the future

- a. Describe the evolution of the country's **rate of natural increase** of the population (transformed into a percentage):

From the Population section in the website, work with Demographics: CBR and CDR, for the period **1950-1955/2005-2010**

2. Population

- b. Discuss the potential influence of **population momentum**

To draw a pyramid, use data provided for each country by the U.S. Census Bureau for **2005**

<http://www.census.gov/ipc/www/idbsum.html>

Caution: the pyramid found in this website shows absolute numbers. Your pyramid should show **percentages** along the horizontal axis.

2. Population

c. **Determinants** of population growth (why?):

Depending on the factors that are **relevant** for your analysis, you will find in this website information on these and many other variables:

- Incidence of AIDS/HIV
- Infant mortality rate
- Total fertility rate
- Schooling, by sex; literacy
- Labor force
- Contraceptive prevalence

3. Food

The main purpose is to describe the country's food security status and forecast challenges for the future

- a. Describe the country's indicators of **malnutrition** (Population/**children's health**):
- Under-5 infant mortality rate
 - Stunting
 - Underweight
 - Wasting
 - Calorie supply per capita
(Agriculture/**nutrition**)

3. Food

- b. Forecast the **evolution of the food market**, using information from 1990 to the most recent year for which it is available (2003 in most cases).

Thus, for **1990-2003**, in the computation use the **average annual growth rates** for:

n = Total population, both sexes

E = Income elasticity of the demand for food from the course's website

i = GDP: PPP current international dollars per capita

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3. Food

c. For **1990-2003**, in the computation use the **average annual growth rates** for:

s = Food Production Index (base year 1999-2001)

a = Arable land

These data are available in the WRI website as well (**Agriculture and Food**)

The data are taken from the FAO website, which is an alternative source.

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3. Food

- d. From data on the evolution of the demand and supply of food derive inferences with respect to issues such as:
- i. the role of international trade in the food security of this country
 - ii. environmental impacts derived from extensification and intensification
 - iii. the role of agriculture and the productivity of labor in agriculture

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4. Environment

Given the characteristics of this country, the demographic history, pressures on the market for food, rural/urban migration, and other relevant factors, briefly identify one or some of the major environmental challenges faced by this country.

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5. Conclusion

Linking back to your thesis statement, derive the main conclusion from your analysis and discuss possible **policy options** for your country.

6. References

****** Always adhere to academic rules for creating an **original** paper.