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US population growth rate at new low

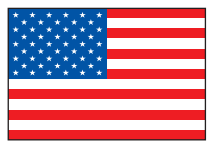
Not enough newborns or immigrants



ACCORDING to the US Census Bureau, the country's **population** from 2018 to 2019 is the lowest in nearly a **century**. This is because fewer babies are being born, more people are dying and fewer **immigrants** are arriving. The bureau thinks that the US population **growth rate** was 0.5 percent, ie, about 1.5 **million** people.

William H Frey of Brookings **Institution** said this is the lowest growth since 1918. One reason is that the generation born right after 1945 are beginning to die off.

Frey added that this means the death rate will rise, and there will be fewer **fertile** women, meaning that the number of births will be lower. Moreover, only 595,000 people moved to the US.



Fewer women in the US are having babies.

Big Dee ASKS

How can a country boost population growth?

EXERCISE

Comprehension

Circle the correct answer.

- Who released the figures?
 - White House
 - Nasa
 - US Census Bureau
- Which organisation is William Frey from?
 - Brookings Institution
 - US Census
 - White House
- How many people moved to the US in 2018-19?
 - 59,500
 - 595,000
 - 595



G08-09



GFun

Circle the correct answer

1. What kind of water is the WHO worried about?

- A. Tap B. Bottled C. Both

2. What is the maximum size of plastic that the human body can absorb?

- A. 150 micrometres B. 150 millimetres C. 150 centimetres

3. What does the WHO think should be done?

- A. Ignore it
B. Do more research
C. Ban bottled water

4. Who might be causing harm to cute animals?

- A. Google app makers B. Selfie takers C. Teachers

5. Which group is Nicole Duplaix with?

- A. WHO B. UN C. IUCN

6. What might happen to the animal species?

- A. Go extinct
B. Spread across the earth
C. Start eating human food



Discussion

1. Are you worried about microplastics in your water? Why or why not?
2. Will you stop buying single-use plastic items? State your reasons.
3. Do you want a cute animal as a pet? Why or why not?
4. Should international trade of otters be banned? State your reasons.

Answers on P12

GTips

A 'selfie' is a photo where you take a picture of yourself, usually alongside a famous person, family or friends.

Many people who take **selfies** with cute animals ...

Pictures or photos people paint or take of themselves are called 'self-portraits'.

Even famous painters like Picasso painted **self-portraits**.

'Portraits' are pictures or photos of people, as opposed to still life or landscapes.

The Duncans hung their family **portrait** up in their private library.

A person whose job is to take photos is a photographer.

The **photographer** shot many photos at the Peak.

GPlus

Although microplastics might not pose health risks to us yet, larger pieces of waste plastic have already hurt many wild animals. For example, many seabirds and sea animals, including whales and seals, eat the plastic we throw into the sea as food. Because the plastic takes up space in their stomachs, the more plastic they eat, the less food they can eventually eat. In the end, they cannot get any food in. So since they are eating less and less food, they slowly starve to death.



endangered (adj)
瀕臨絕種的

otter (n)
水獺

Vocabulary
Challenge ★★★★★

exponentially (adv)
呈幾何級數地

extinct (adj)
絕種