

ECON 256: Poverty, Growth & Inequality

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Relative Growth vs Growth in Levels

Homework question asked where highest growth rate of population is

- Confusion over whether answer was Africa or Asia
- Due to confusion over relative growth versus growth in levels

$$\text{Relative Growth} = 100 * \frac{\text{after} - \text{before}}{\text{before}}$$

- Relative Growth tells us how much higher something is as a percentage of what it was before

Relative Growth vs Growth in Levels

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Growth in Levels = after – before

- Growth in levels tells us how much more there is after in units of the object being measured

Relative Growth vs Growth in Levels

Homework question asked where highest growth rate of population is

- Confusion over whether answer was Africa or Asia
- Due to confusion over relative growth versus growth in levels
- Asia grew the most in terms of levels, since that's where most people were born

(population in millions)	Africa	Asia
1980	478	2,626
2010	1,044	4,170
Change in Levels	566	1,544

Relative Growth vs Growth in Levels

Homework question asked where highest growth rate of population is

- Confusion over whether answer was Africa or Asia
- Due to confusion over relative growth versus growth in levels
- Africa, however, had a higher relative growth and annualized growth rate

(population in millions)	Africa	Asia
1980	478	2,626
2010	1,044	4,170
Relative Growth	148.4%	58.8%
Annualized Growth Rate	2.63%	1.55%

Historic and Projected Population Growth by Continent

