The world's poorest countries experience the largest population growth, making it difficult to rise out of poverty. Worldwide birth rates are declining with women averaging 2.5 children. From 1816, Illinois' population began a quick growth. An Illinois census taken in 1818 to support the quest for statehood reported a population of 40,000. At that time, a population of 60,000 was required for statehood. Even though Illinois didn't make the population requirement it was deemed a sufficient population and granted statehood in 1818. Illinois continued to grow becoming an example for other states to follow. The population of Illinois in 1830 was 157,445; in 1840, 476,183; in 1850, 851,470; and in 1860, 1,711,951. In the decade between 1850 and 1860, Illinois' population grew by 101.06 percent, more than doubling the population by settlement and natural increase. The census of 1860 stated, “The condition to which Illinois has attained under the progress of the last thirty years is a monument of the blessings of industry, enterprise, peace, and free institutions.” In 2010, Illinois' population was 12.8 million, a small increase over the 2000 population. Even with this small increase, the demographics of Illinois are changing. Latinos are the state's largest minority group for the first time in Illinois' history. Asians have become the fastest growing ethnic group in Illinois with a 38 percent growth rate. As expected, most population growth has occurred in Chicago suburbs. In 2010, Kendall County had a population boom of 110.4 percent. Not all of Illinois is growing, numbers show that the population within the city of Chicago has declined by 200,418. Rural Illinois also experienced population losses. Pulaski County saw a population loss of 16.2 percent. Many factors will affect future population growth of Illinois. Illinois is still a popular destination for immigrants entering the United States and growth through immigration could remain strong. Growth in employment and number of children born, both of which can effect population, may be factors when we look at numbers for 2020. Population: The world population reached seven billion this year. Just 12 years earlier, the population was six billion. The annual population growth rate has declined to 1.2 percent per year but the world population continues to grow by 83 million annually. The world’s poorest countries experience the largest percent of the population growth, making it difficult to rise out of poverty. Worldwide birth rates are declining with women averaging 2.5 children. The U.S. population between 2000 and 2010 increased by 9.7 percent from 281.4 million to 308.7 million. The only lower population growth rate was seen in the 1930s with a growth rate of 7.3 percent. States in the South and the West saw a population boom while populations decreased in many rural areas.
The South grew by 14.3 million and the West increased by 8.7 million. The fastest growing state between 2000 and 2010 was Nevada growing by 35.1 percent, it is the only state that has maintained a growth rate of 25 percent or greater for the last three decades. It was followed by Arizona, Utah, Iowa and Texas. The slowest growing state was Michigan which actually declined in population by .06 percent. Rapid population growth is considered a recent occurrence. Until around 1750, birth rates accompanied high death rates, including death from war, famine and epidemics. With medical advances and improvements in the standard of living, killer diseases began to disappear. Many Americans made their living off the land, when people left the farms looking for work, the cities saw a population increase. By 1900, there were 30 million people living in cities. New medical treatments and better medicines help Americans live longer. The Census Bureau reported that there are two million people in America over the age of 90, triple the number of just three decades ago. Women represent three quarters of this older population. With a growing elderly population and lower birth rates problems with caring for the elderly will increase. Sometimes, rising costs of health care are often a concern of the elderly. The Census Bureau projects the United States population will increase to 392 million by 2050.

Toeing the Mark The eighth census of the United States included the year 1860, a time right before the full effects of the Civil War would be known. The census was devoted to reporting “the population of the United States, as represented by number, sex, age, nativity and occupation.” The census seems to show a growing country with a bright future. The country had grown from 31 to 35 states with five new territories being organized. The census states “as general good health prevailed, and peace reigned throughout the country, there was no apparent cause of disturbance or interruption to the natural progress of population. At the time no state had declined in population. In 1860, there were fifteen slave states with a population of 12,240,000. Of these inhabitants, 8,039,000 were white, 251,000 were free colored persons and 3,950,000 were slaves. The nineteen free states and seven territories with the Federal District contained 19,203,008 people. The population consisted of 18,920,771 whites, 237,283 free colored and 41,725 civilized Indians. The country was growing by unprecedented gains. A new element arose during the 1860 census, the growing statistic of negro slavery among Indian tribes. The Choctaw held 2,297 slaves, the Cherokees obtained 2,504, the Creeks had 1,651, and the Chickasaw had 917 slaves. The manumission of slaves doubled to a little over 3,000 during this census. This increase was seen mainly in Alabama, Georgia, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, North Carolina and Tennessee. Fugitive slaves were reducing in number with Mississippi, Missouri and Virginia reporting an increase in escaped slaves. Another peculiarity from this census was the surge of the male population. One cause of this population growth is the number of immigrant men leaving a home, wife and children to come to the United States. According to this census, the number of males in Illinois was around 92,000 or one-twelfth of the entire population. Illinois was not the only state with this problem, in Massachusetts females outnumbered males by 37,600, yet in Michigan females were outnumbered by 40,000 males; Texas 36,000; and Wisconsin 43,000. In Colorado, the gap was as large as twenty males to every female. The census compares the states with the most rapid and slow population growth. In 1860, Virginia had the lowest rate of increase in population with 12.29 percent. The white population gained 152,611, as the slave population grew by 18,337. The fastest growing population was New York which grew from 3,097,394 to 3,880,735, an increase of 783,341 from 1850 to 1860. The region of Texas was previously mostly wilderness, yet by 1860 the population was over 600,000, an increase of 184 percent. Birth rates climbed in 1860, with pioneer states Oregon, Iowa, Minnesota, Missouri, Texas, Illinois, Kansas, and Arkansas having the largest increase in births. The territory of Utah had a large birth rate due to the practice of polygamy. Looking at the other end of the spectrum, the total number of deaths in 1860 were 394,123. This number of deceased seems insignificant compared to the more than 620,000 who died by the end of the Civil War. The number of people who died at the age of 100 or over was 466, of which 137 were white, 39 free slaves and 290 slaves. This large number is questionable as many slaves and people of little means were unsure of their actual birth year.

Primary Sources in the Classroom: The Library of Congress offers classroom materials and professional development to help teachers effectively use primary sources from the Library's vast digital collections in their teaching. Learn about the tremendous growth of cities between 1880 and 1900. In Mapping Population Growth in Chicago, 1850-1900, students can analyze two maps showing the population density of the city of Chicago in 1850 and 1900. American Memory Timeline Rise to Industrial America, 1876-1900-Rural Life in the Late 19th Century Students use documents to analyze rural life in the late 19th century and understand how the rural population growth compared to the urban growth. Zoom into Maps Using historic maps from the Library of Congress, students learn what maps can tell us. This presentation has a special section on migration and settlement. Students can follow the western migration and analyze a map showing distribution of slaves in the southern states based on the 1860 census.

Colonial America http://www.americaslibrary.gov/jb/colonial/jb_colonial_subj.html Discover what countries first settled in America and how the population of the 13 colonies grew to two million by 1770. Explore the States http://www.americaslibrary.gov/es/index.php  Wyoming http://www.americaslibrary.gov/es/wy/es_wy_subj.html  Learn about the big state that has the smallest population in the Union.  Utah http://www.americaslibrary.gov/es/ut/es_ut_subj.html Home of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latterday Saints, the congregration of this church makes up 70 percent of the population of Utah. New York http://www.americaslibrary.gov/es/ny/es_ny_subj.html The first establishment was established in 1624 but today New York has the third largest population in America. California http://www.americaslibrary.gov/es/ca/es_ca_subj.html Nicknamed the "Golden State," California is the third largest state in area after Alaska and Texas. American Memory provides free and open access through the Internet to written and spoken words, sound recordings, still and moving images, prints, maps, and sheet music that document the American experience. It is a digital record of American history and creativity. These materials, from the collections of the Library of Congress and other institutions, chronicle historical events, people, places, and ideas that continue to shape America, serving the public as a resource for education and lifelong learning. http://www.loc.gov/ammem/index.html The Thomas Jefferson Papers http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/collections/jefferson_papers/index.html The complete Thomas Jefferson Papers from the Manuscript Division at the Library of Congress consists of approximately 27,000 documents. This is the largest collection of original Jefferson documents in the world. The collection holds many documents relating to population. The October 1, 1880 census, the British Colonies of 1775 and the Louisiana population translated in French are just a few of the documents in the Jefferson papers. Map Collections http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/gmdhtml/gmdhome.html The Library of Congress holds more than 4.5 million items in the Geography and Map Division. Students can analyze maps from the early exploration of America to cities and how they have changed over time with the movement of the population. You can also view maps of other countries from early maps of the 1700’s to maps of today. A Century of Lawmaking for a New Nation: U.S. Congressional Documents and Debates, 1774 -1875 http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/amlaw/lawhome.html This collection contains many miscellaneous documents pertaining to population. A special presentation, Indian Land Cessions in the United States, 1784-1894, "indicates the number and location of each cession by or reservation for the Indian tribes from the organization of the Federal Government to and including 1894, together with descriptions of the tracts so ceded or reserved, the date of the treaty, law or executive order governing the same, the name of the tribe or tribes affected thereby, and historical data and references bearing hereon."

The Schedule of Indian Land Cessions comprises 709 entries with links to the related map or maps for each entry. Nineteenth Century in Print Periodicals http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/ndipcoop/moahml/snchome.html This component of The Nineteenth Century in Print will incorporate magazines and journals, with an emphasis on those intended for a general audience. The periodical Manufacturer and builder include articles on Population of the Earth, Population of the Globe, and Population of the World. There are also articles on the population in major cities during 1880 and 1870 and articles covering the populations of major cities overseas. Today in History: Each day an event from American history is illustrated by digitized items from the Library of Congress American Memory historic collections. http://www.loc.gov/ammem/today March 15, 1820: The Pine Tree State http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/today/mar15.html Maine is the most sparsely populated state east of the Mississippi.
May 11, 1858: The Star of the North http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/today/may11.html Until the second half of the nineteenth century, immigration into Minnesota was slow. However, as the value of the state’s woodlands and fertile prairie was realized, settlers poured into the region with New England lumbermen leading the way. Between 1850 and 1857, the state’s population skyrocketed from 6,077 to over 150,000. Prints and Photographs: The collections of the Prints and Photographs Division include photographs, fine and popular prints and drawings, posters, and architectural and engineering drawings. http://www.loc.gov/pictures Posters: The Yanker Poster Collection http://www.loc.gov/pictures/collection/yan/ The Yanker Poster Collection includes more than 3,000 political, propaganda, and social issue posters and handbills, dating 1927-1980. Most posters are from the United States, but over 55 other countries and the United Nations are also represented. Webcasts: Streaming video presentations on all sorts of subject, from book talks by authors, scientific breakthroughs in preservation, and historical footage from the dawn of film. National Geospatial Digital Archive http://www.loc.gov/today/cyberlc/feature_wdesc.php?rec=4011 Geospatial data is information such as maps, imagery and data sets that help us better understand, manage and monitor change in the present while providing insight into the past. From the first colonial maps to the time-sequenced satellite imagery of the 21st century, cartographic information has helped define our view of the country and the world. Exhibitions: Discover exhibitions that bring the world’s largest collection of knowledge, culture, and creativity to life through dynamic displays of artifacts enhanced by interactivity. www.loc.gov/exhibits Maps in our Lives http://www.loc.gov/exhibits/maps/ View a California Population and Ethnic Distribution Map that shows two thematic elements, population and ethnic distribution shown side by side to create a powerful demographic portrait of California.