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### **Dr. Wenyi Yu’s academic viewpoint**

#### **The anticipation of U.S. population in 2061**

(Source: Chapter 10 Strategy, Dr. Wenyi Yu: The United States of America: Facts, Analysis, and strategy, AuthorHouse, IN, April 12, 2021)

The current population size predicts that the United States will become a country with one billion population. This is an irreversible trend, and cannot be altered by decision-maker. The government shall prepare new policy.

In 1887, China had a population of 378 million, as reported by the government of the Qing Dynasty; it reached one billion at the end of 1981, as the Census of the People’s Republic of China showed. The process of the population growth took ninety-four years. During the period, China experienced countless deaths caused by wars, starvation, poverty, disease, high mortality rate of baby and children, and short adult life span. The bad situation had not been relieved until the Economic System Reform and Opening-up to the Outside World since 1978. In the nineth-four years, China’s population grew from 378 million to one billion. The growth of the population seems to have a natural tendency, regardless of the death of tens of millions of people caused by the war and the starvations. The poor economy could not inhibit the expansion speed of the population.

Another example is India. India had 376 million population in 1950 and exceeded one billion in 1997, which took forty-seven years, only half the time China spent. India was also a poor country at that period, its economy and family income were not better than China. Geographically, India is a little further south than China, and the climate might be better suited to fertility and human growth, but India has a less size territory. India had not experienced larger scales of war, hunger, and political turmoil than China during the process. The facts and data indicated that population growth was a process of natural expansion. It was relatively independent of economy, war, disease, and politics—which was not able to change the overall trend of population expansion.

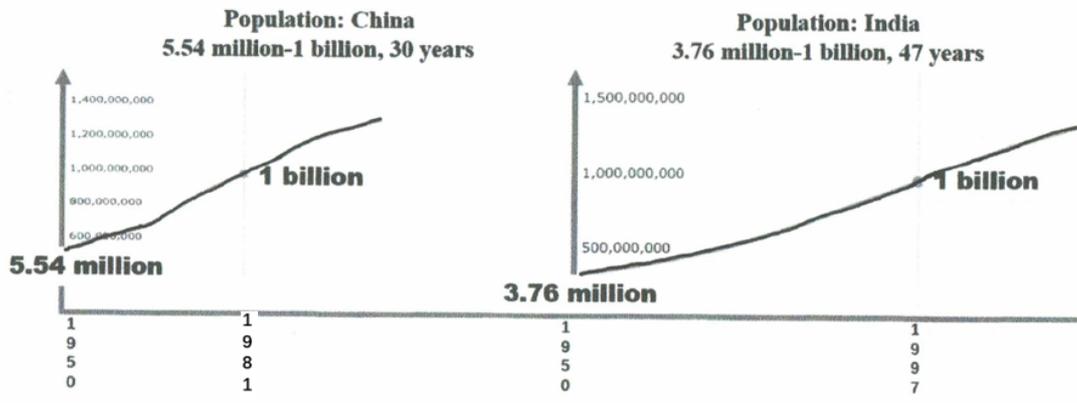


Diagram 1. The double and triple population growth of China and India in thirty-one to forty-seven years—both reached 1 billion population fast, showing an inherent, natural growth inertia of population  
 (Note: The population data in the Chapter are cited from [www.macrotrends.net](http://www.macrotrends.net) and the official population information of China and the USA.)

One more case is Japan’s population. It had been rising rapidly during the one hundred years from 1884 to 1984. The loss of population due to WWII had not changed the upward curve. Japan experienced a short economic hard time, epidemic, and nuclear radiation after WWII, however, the population remained growing from 38.1 million in 1884 to 121.2 million in 1984, more than tripled. Japan’s immigration policy was very strict, with only a few Korean and Chinese immigrants there. Japan’s steady and rapid population growth also endorsed the assumption that the human population growth was a natural rule, especially when it had a certain size of population foundation.

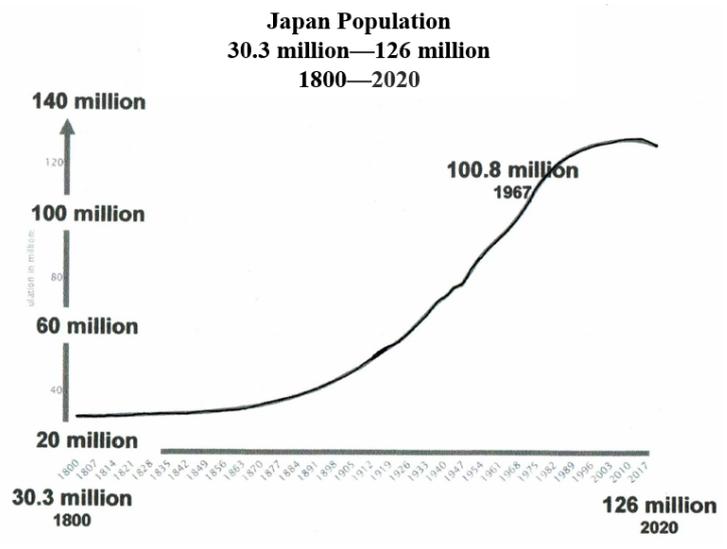


Diagram 2. Japan's population growth tendency was not significantly affected by WWII

On December 31, 2020, the US population was 330,034,257. While the 16–29 million illegal immigrants are taken into account, US population may have around 350 million. US population growth has been on a healthy upward trend, it is possible to reach 400 million by 2030. US population growth rate was 0.6% by average from 2018 to 2020, the annual legal immigrants was one million before 2020, the existing illegal immigrants in the U.S. is estimated to be 16–29 million, and mass Mexican people are crowding to pass the U.S. border...so the US will have 400 million in ten years—as if nothing happened, which is the natural inertia of population growth.

According to the experiences of China and India, once the population passed 376 million, it would soon grow to one billion. China's population was 550 million in 1950, it became one billion in 1981. In the thirty-one years, China's population increased by 450 million. In the 1970s, China had introduced the family planning policy though it was not mandatory to implement. Therefore, it is reasonable to anticipate that the US shall take less time than China to grow to one billion people because no requirement of the family planning here.

India had not implemented mandatory family planning policy in the forty-seven years. Americans respect life. The implementation of family planning is difficult in the U.S. In this respect, the India's data might be more accurate as a reference for the US population projection. From 1950–1997, India's population increased by 624 million in forty-seven years, therefore, it is more reasonable to make the inference that the US will use less than forty-seven years to have one billion population, say, for example, forty years, because it has so many immigrants. It is very inspiring to image that the United States will have one billion inhabitants by 2061—very exciting news will be! In the near-term, the US population may reach 400 million by 2030.

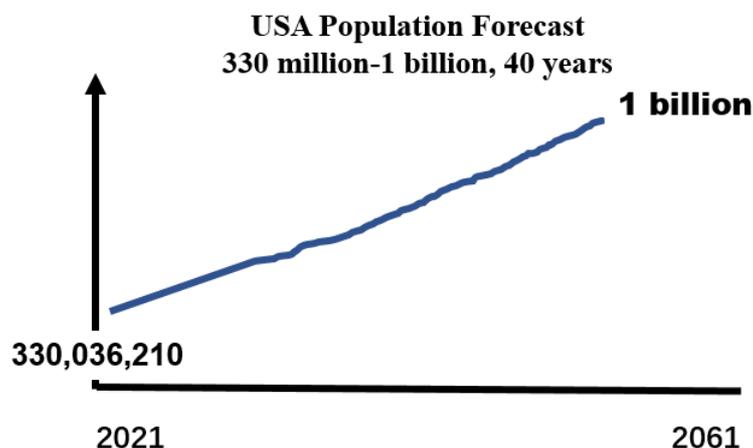


Diagram 3. A forecast of one billion population in the US by 2061

In the 21st century, the US has medical care, social security, human rights protection, low death rate of baby and children, high adult life expectancy, and advanced medical service, and so on. The country has far better services than both China and India which were in poverty in the past. The US is geographically located at a similar latitude as China. The climate and natural environment for human growth of the United States are almost the same or even better than China and India. The comprehensive resources of the United States should be good enough to realize the 1-billion-population target in a shorter time than China and India used.

The US has a bigger territory and population base than Japan, it can hold big population. The US birthrate remains high—not like Japan’s youth they don’t like to get married, nor production—somebody even lost the impetus to make love—so Japan is aging. The Japanese way is not the best choice for the US.

Please don't think that the global population will grow endlessly. As an early reminder, the author imagines that human resource will become a resource of shortage in the middle or second half of this century. The author anticipates that the global population will enter a plateau when it reaches a certain size, and the natural population growth inertia will slow down, even stop, just like the current decline population tendency in Japan and China. In China, it is difficult to find young couples who are willing to have two or more children because of the stress of educating children. Many young people in China are unwilling to marry at their 20s. The United States remains optimistic in population growth, not like Japan and China. The US population growth will depend on the immigrants to some extent, especially those immigrants through the U.S.–Mexico border.

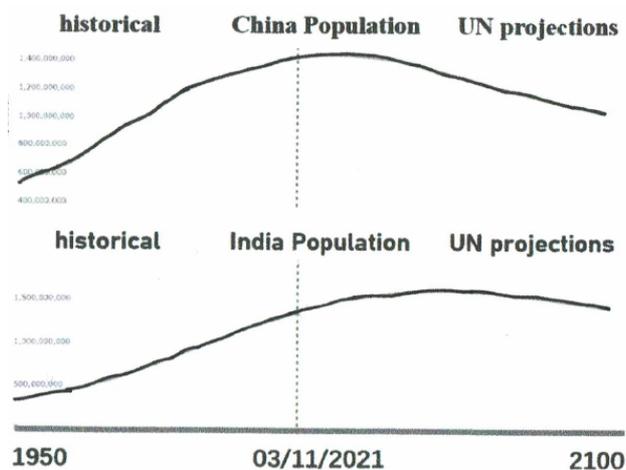


Diagram 4. The down tendency of the populations of China and India in the second half of the 21st century, estimated by UN

The populous country has its advantage. The reason why the US is stronger than Canada is because it has a larger population than Canada. At present, the major issue of Japan is the down-size trend of the population. A medium-size population will not be sufficient to maintain the long-term maintenance of America's global dominance. The future competition among global powers will be the competition of population. The larger the population, the greater the market, and the safer the people will feel. As such, the population policy shall be the top priority "future strategy" of the United States.

Since one billion population will be a very positive factor to productivity, and reinforce the US dominance, it's necessary to draft a forward-looking population strategy. However, from the debates over illegal immigration, it seemed many politicians had not had a clear demographic picture in minds. How many people shall live on the land of the United States? How big a population is appropriate? And how many people will grow up from now? The national situations among 330-million, 400-million, and 1-billion population will be different. The population and the growth formula and parameter shall be updated. Nevertheless, the US decision-maker has not showed they are fully prepared how to meet the trend and how to use the trend.

The immigration policy is an important part of population policy. The United States should adopt a selective and open immigration strategy.