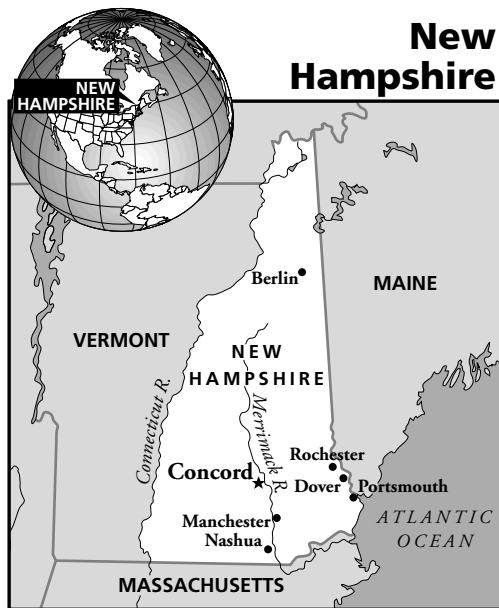
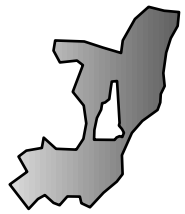


US in the WORLD

CONNECTING PEOPLE AND COMMUNITIES TO ENSURE A HEALTHY PLANET



New Hampshire



Comparison at same scale

New Hampshire
Area: 9,283 sq. miles
Population: 1.2 million

Congo
Area: 132,046 sq. miles
Population: 2.8 million



Congo

Largest urban area by population (2000): Brazzaville (1,234,000)

Largest metropolitan areas by population (1998): Portsmouth-Rochester (235,547), Manchester (187,483), Nashua (182,482)

Heavy forest cover supports a thriving timber industry in both New Hampshire and Congo (Congo should not be confused with its neighbor to the east, the Democratic Republic of Congo, formerly Zaire). Five million acres of commercial timber are managed for harvest in New Hampshire, and the area of the Congo Basin holds massive expanses of closed canopy tropical forest, second in acreage only to the Amazon in South America. Forests in both places are threatened, however, by human encroachment and by unsustainable use.

New Hampshire stretches from a low rolling coastal area in the east to countless hills and mountains on a central plateau in the west. Given the limited area available for farming and the poor quality of the soil, farms are few and small, and they engage primarily

in dairy farming, livestock raising, and fruit growing. Small-scale farming may explain why the state has the second lowest loss of wetlands in the nation. Likewise, in Congo, the little arable land that exists is limited to the coastal plains and the Niari Valley. Farming of staples such as cassava (which provides 90 percent of the food output), rice, corn, and peanuts takes place on a village scale.

Because both areas are significantly forested—87 percent of New Hampshire and 62 percent of Congo—threats to plant and animal habitat come primarily from timber exploitation. In New Hampshire, the felling of private forests and the demand for second homes contribute to the subdivision of timberlands while the creation of new access roads leads to the increased dispersal of undesirable exotic vegetation. Eight animal and four plant

species are currently listed as threatened or endangered.

In Congo, the opening of secondary routes for timber extraction has led to a steep increase in bush meat hunting to supply logging camps and other markets. There, 16 animal and three plant species are currently endangered. Despite the importance of lumber to Congo, manufacturing and mineral extraction remain the main economic activities. Forty-one percent of the population lives in urban areas that have developed around these economic activities; 70 percent of all Congolese live in the two main cities or along the railway that runs between them. Most of the labor force is employed in industry or in services.

New Hampshire, which manufactures electronics, industrial machinery, and precision instruments and has attracted recent investments in high-tech

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NEW HAMPSHIRE

Demographic and Health Trends

■ During the 1980s, New Hampshire's population grew by an average annual rate of 1.9 percent. In the 1990s, it grew by 8 percent, just below the national average. Since 1995, however, the rate of growth in the "Granite State" has exceeded the national average. And between 1998 and 1999, New Hampshire was one of the 10 fastest growing states.

■ New Hampshire's five largest cities—Manchester, Nashua, Concord,

Rochester, and Dover—all grew by between 3 percent and 4 percent from 1990 to 1998.

■ New Hampshire leads the nation in the percentage of live births (74 percent) that are classified as healthy deliveries. Criteria for a healthy delivery include a full gestation period of 37 weeks, a birth weight of at least 5.5 pounds, and prenatal care that starts in the first trimester.

Natural Resources and Wildlife Issues

■ Among New Hampshire's eight endangered and threatened animals are the Karner blue butterfly, the piping plover, and the dwarf wedge-mussel. Jesup's milk-vetch and the Northeastern bulrush are among the state's four endangered and threatened plants.

■ June 2000 readings of the Merrimack and Souhegan rivers by local volunteers showed unacceptably high

levels of *E. coli* bacteria in several sites. Waters with high *E. coli* levels generally are considered unsafe for swimming because of the possibility of diseases.

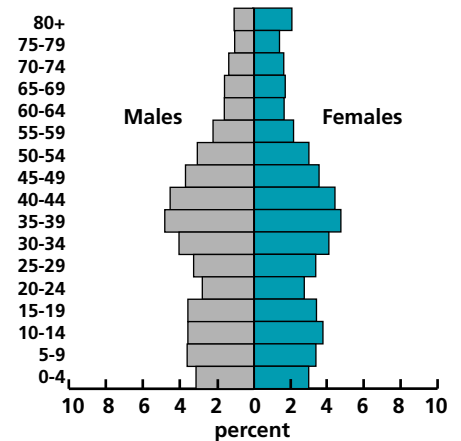
■ The popularity of White Mountain National Forest has concerned environmentalists, who fear that unchecked recreational activity could endanger the area's natural resources.

Socioeconomic Factors

■ In the early 1990s, New Hampshire's economy slowed as a result of the end of the Cold War and subsequent declines in defense-related industries. Since mid-decade, however, it has rebounded, thanks in part to a growth in high-tech industries. New Hampshire's 1997 gross state product was 7.5 percent higher than the previous year's—the second fastest rate of growth nationwide.

■ According to U.S. Census Bureau estimates, New Hampshire had the country's lowest poverty rate in 1996—6 percent—which was less than half the national rate that year. The state's median household income of \$40,200 was among the 10 highest in the country.

POPULATION BY AGE AND SEX



NEW HAMPSHIRE FACTS

Population, 1999: 1.2 million

Projected population, 2025: 1.4 million

Annual growth rate: 1.3%

Doubling time (at current rate): 54 years

Average number of children per woman: 1.9

Infant deaths per 1,000 live births: 4.3

Life expectancy: 74 (male), 80 (female)

Persons per square mile: 134

Percent urban: 51

Endangered/threatened animals: 8 species

Endangered/threatened plants: 4 species

Percent of land protected: 3

Wetlands loss, 1780-1980: 9%

Daily water use per capita: 1,152 gallons

Water use for domestic purposes: 12%

Water use for agriculture: 1%

Water use for industry: 4%

Water use for energy production: 84%

Cropland per capita: 0.2 acres

Energy use per capita: 44.7 barrels of oil equiv.

Persons per motor vehicle: 1.1

Adults who are high school graduates: 86%

Elected officials who are women: 32%

Labor force in agriculture: 2%

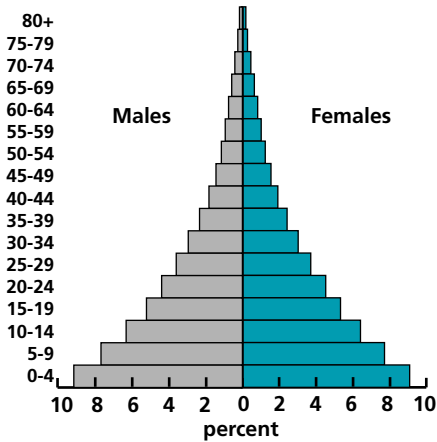
Labor force in industry: 21%

Labor force in services: 77%

Gross State Product, 1997: \$32,494 per capita

CONGO

POPULATION BY AGE AND SEX



CONGO FACTS

Population, 2000: 2.8 million

Projected population, 2025: 4.6 million

Annual growth rate: 2.4%

Doubling time (at current rate): 29 years

Average number of children per woman: 5.3

Infant deaths per 1,000 live births: 109

Life expectancy: 45 (male), 50 (female)

Persons per square mile: 21

Percent urban: 41

Threatened animals: 16 species

Threatened plants: 3 species

Percent of land protected: 5.0

Wetlands loss, through 1980s: n.a.

Percent with access to safe water: 34

Percent with adequate sanitation: 69

Daily water use per capita: 14 gallons

Water use for domestic purposes: 62%

Water use for agriculture: 11%

Water use for industry: 27%

Cropland per capita: 0.2 acres

Energy use per capita: 2.8 barrels of oil equiv.

Persons per motor vehicle: 50

Percent of girls in secondary school: 45

Percent of boys in secondary school: 62

Women as % of national legislature: 12

Labor force in agriculture: 49%

Labor force in industry: 15%

Labor force in services: 36%

GDP per capita, 1998: US\$704

Demographic and Health Trends

■ Congo's population has grown from 1.3 million in 1970 to 2.8 million in 2000, with the highest growth rates occurring from 1975 to 1995.

■ The graph at left depicts a rapidly growing population in which each five-year age group is larger than the one above it. This age structure means the population will continue to grow for at least several decades as ever-larger groups of young people become parents.

■ One in nine Congolese infants does not survive one year. The country's infant mortality rate of 109 deaths per 1,000 live births is higher than the sub-Saharan African average of 94. Immunization rates for 1-year-olds against tuberculosis, polio, measles, diphtheria, pertussis, and tetanus are less than half the rates for sub-Saharan Africa overall.

Natural Resources and Wildlife Issues

■ There are 4,350 known species of higher plants in Congo; 1,200 are endemic to the country. Known species of breeding birds number 449; mammal species number 200.

■ Among the threatened species in Congo are the lesser Angolan epauletted fruit bat, western lowland gorilla, central chimpanzee, African

elephant, lion, African manatee, and African dwarf crocodile.

■ The country's annual renewable water resources per capita are almost nine times greater than those in the United States. However, U.S. per capita withdrawals of water are more than 90 times higher than those in Congo.

Socioeconomic Factors

■ Eighty-three percent of men and 67 percent of women can read and write. The gap between men and women has decreased since 1980 from 26 percentage points to 16. The current literacy rates in Congo are about 20 percentage points higher than the averages for sub-Saharan Africa.

■ Rates of primary school enrollment are high in the country for both boys and girls, but just 55 per-

cent of those who enter the first grade reach fifth grade. Enrollment rates for secondary school are twice as high as those for sub-Saharan Africa.

■ Congo spends the equivalent of 1.8 percent of gross domestic product on health; this compares with a 1.7 percent average for sub-Saharan Africa overall and with 6.6 percent for the United States.

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ventures, enjoys one of the lowest unemployment and poverty rates in the country. Commercial mining of sand, gravel, clay, and granite—the latter often being used in the building of U.S. federal monuments—provides additional jobs and income. In Congo, oil has supplanted forestry as the mainstay of the economy, providing about 90 percent of government revenues and exports. The transport and shipment of goods from neighboring countries and the extraction of potash, gold, iron ore, lead, and copper also contribute significantly to the economy.

Social and demographic factors present different challenges for New Hampshire and Congo. Unlike New Hampshire, which has no major ethnic conflicts and is bordered by politically stable states and Canada, Congo faces disruption as a result of ethnic strife within its territory and among neighboring nations. Moreover, despite one of the lowest fertility rates in Middle Africa and an infant death rate of 1 out of 9, Congo's current annual growth rate would lead to a doubling of its population in just 29 years, almost twice as fast as doubling would occur in New Hampshire.

Responding to Challenges

The New Hampshire Lakes Association, the New Hampshire River Council, and Lake Winnepesaukee Watershed Partnership are working with property owners to implement the Water Steward Project. The project aims to increase awareness among citizens and businesses of the effects of land use on water quality. It addresses water quality issues through voluntary assessment of property management techniques and technical assistance to landowners.

The Central African Regional Program for the Environment is an initiative led by the U.S. Agency for International Development in partnership with organizations including The Nature Conservancy, World Resources Institute, Wildlife Conservation Society, and World Wildlife Fund to deal with deforestation in the Congo Basin. These

forests are the world's second largest tropical reservoir and sink of carbon dioxide (which helps reduce greenhouse gases that lead to global warming) and provide the highest level of biodiversity in Africa. The goal of the program is to reduce the basin's defor-

People in New Hampshire and Congo, along with all other living creatures, need clean and healthy air, water, and land, and a stable climate. But as people strive to meet these fundamental needs and improve their lives, they make demands on Earth's resources—and leave footprints. No species demands as much and leaves as many footprints as humans do. The number of people on the planet has a direct impact on the environment and how resources are used. But the level of consumption and the ways in which natural resources are used also directly affect the health of the planet—locally, regionally, globally.

No matter where one lives, the activities of *all* humans will ultimately determine the well-being of *all* humans.

estation rate and conserve its biodiversity. The U.S. Peace Corps placed 142 volunteers in Congo from 1991 to 1997. ■

DEFINITIONS: **Doubling Time:** The number of years it will take for a population to double, assuming a *constant* rate of natural increase. **Average Number of Children Per Woman:** Known as the Total Fertility Rate (TFR) or the average number of children a woman would have in her lifetime, assuming that birth rates remained constant throughout her childbearing years. **Endangered Species:** Any species in danger of extinction throughout all, or a significant portion, of its habitat. **Threatened Species:** Any species likely to become endangered within the foreseeable future throughout all, or a significant portion, of its habitat. **Gross Domestic Product (GDP):** The value of all goods and services produced within a nation in a given year. **Gross State Product (GSP):** The value of all goods and services produced within a state. It is the state counterpart of the nation's GDP. **Commercial energy** includes energy from solid, liquid, and gaseous fuels, plus primary electricity. **Traditional energy** includes fuelwood, charcoal, bagasse, and animal and vegetal wastes.

SOURCES: Major sources are International Labour Organization; National Center for Health Statistics; UNICEF; U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis; U.S. Department of Agriculture; U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; U.S. Geological Survey; The World Conservation Union (IUCN); and World Resources Institute. For a complete list of sources, contact PRB.

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