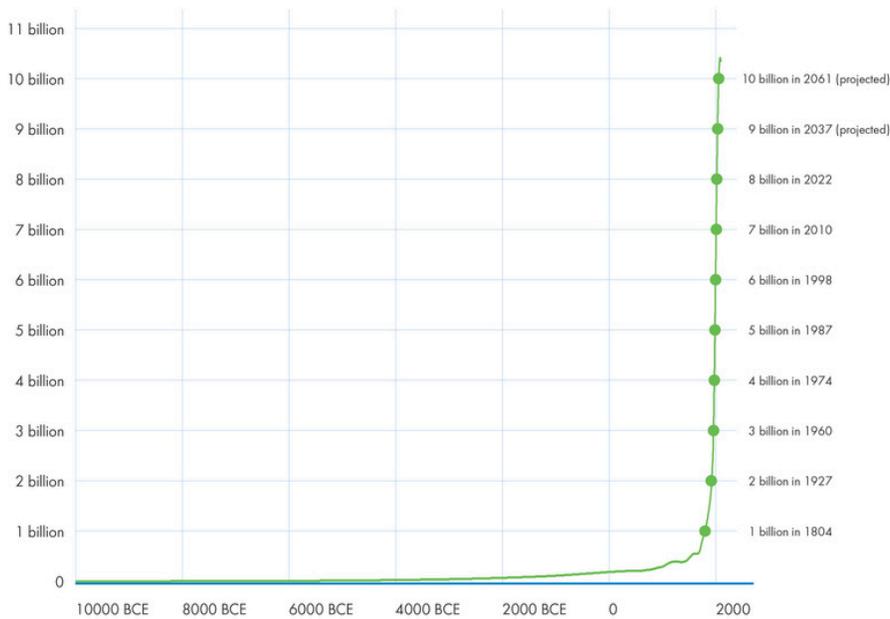


POPULATION GROWTH FACTS

World Population Milestones Over 12,000 Years of Human History



Estimates and projections from the History Database of the Global Environment (HYDE) and the United Nations Population Division
Design based on a visualization created by OurWorldInData.org

popconnect.org



It took until 1800 for our human population to reach 1 billion. Since then, it has expanded 8-fold, reaching 8 billion in 2022.

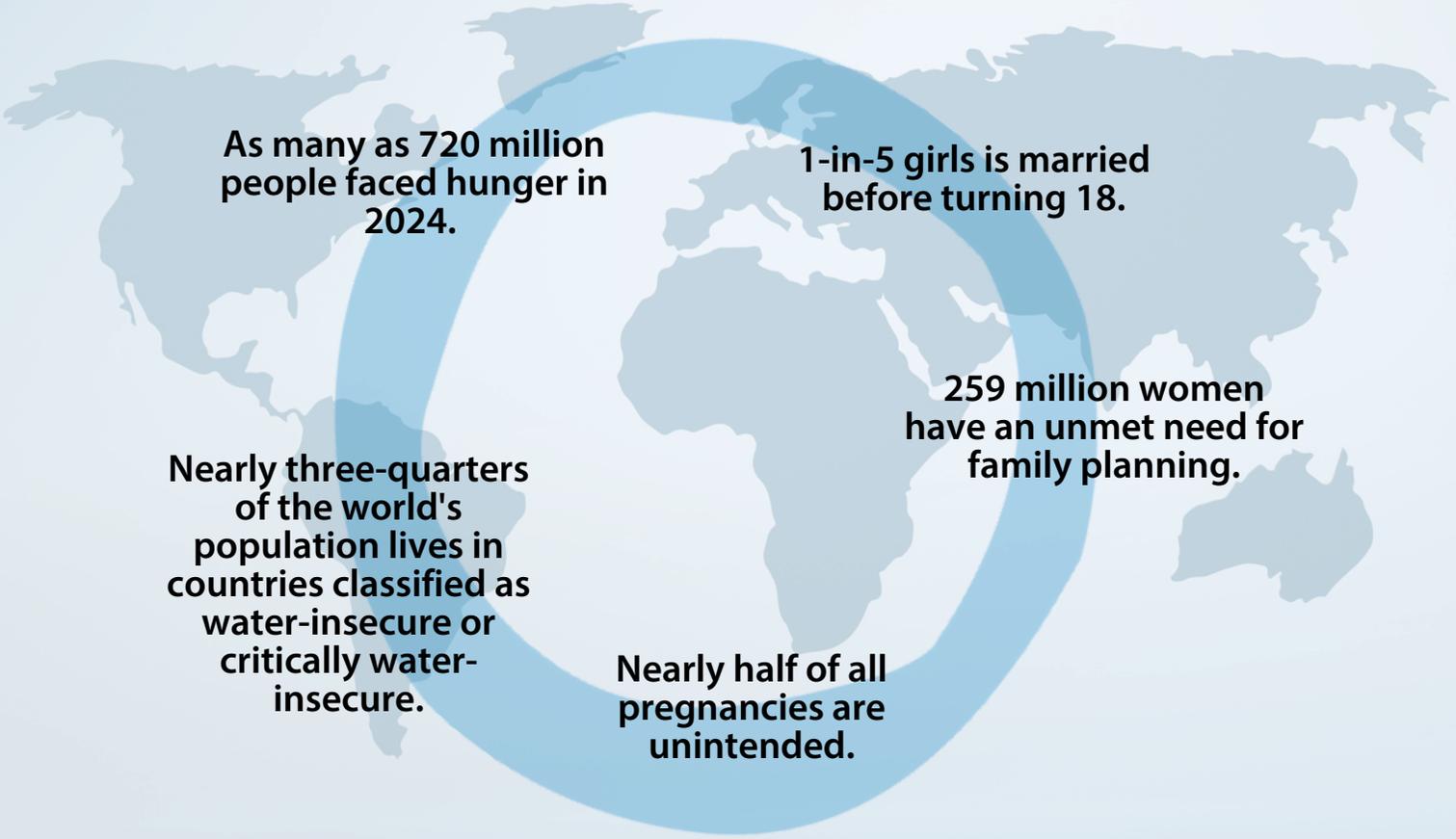
The United Nations projects our population will continue growing until well into the second half of this century, likely peaking around 10.3 billion in the 2080s.

Our population growth is exacerbating all environmental problems, including climate change, biodiversity loss, natural resource depletion and pollution.



Rapid population growth isn't only bad for the environment — it also traps people in poverty and worsens food and water insecurity. And it reflects deep gender inequality: The areas with the fastest population growth are those where women and girls have the least power over their own bodies and lives.





As many as 720 million people faced hunger in 2024.

1-in-5 girls is married before turning 18.

Nearly three-quarters of the world's population lives in countries classified as water-insecure or critically water-insecure.

259 million women have an unmet need for family planning.

Nearly half of all pregnancies are unintended.

THE SOLUTION



Empowering women by removing barriers to family planning and girls' education is the most effective way to end population growth and is key to improving lives and achieving a future in which people and nature can thrive.



→ [Learn more at popconnect.org](https://popconnect.org)

Sources: United Nations World Population Prospects (2024); World Health Organization (2025); UNU-INWEH (2026); UNFPA (2025); UNICEF (2023).