

1996. Some analysts argue that because all three major North American countries saw increases in their general populations, every economic and social sector should plan for continued growth through the next fifty years.

Which choice best describes data from the table that would weaken the analysts' conclusion?

- (A) Decreases in the 15–34 age populations in Canada and the United States
- (B) The growing numbers of people ages 65+
- (C) Canada's lack of data in 1990 and 1995 in urban populations
- (D) Canada's stabilized population density

Product	Jan 1999	Dec 1999 ¹	Jan 2000	Change From	
				Jan 1999	Dec 1999
	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Butter	123,336	117,151	140,566	14.0	20.0
Cheese					
American Types ²	289,680	307,391	312,672	7.9	1.7
Cheddar	233,772	241,399	246,642	5.5	2.2
Swiss	18,650	16,262	15,946	−14.5	−1.9
Brick and Muenster	7,301	7,594	7,490	2.6	−1.4
Cream and Neufchatel	44,425	61,565	44,689	0.6	−27.4
Blue	4,386	4,270	6,964	58.8	63.1
Hispanic	6,162	6,939	6,489	5.3	−6.5
Mozzarella	203,828	219,079	214,539	5.3	−2.1
Other Italian Types	55,206	58,934	62,508	13.2	6.1
Total Italian Types	259,034	278,013	277,047	7.0	−0.3
All Other Types	9,089	10,588	8,956	−2.4	−15.4
Total	638,727	692,622	680,253	6.5	−1.8
Cottage Cheese, Curd ³	34,769	34,696	34,985	0.6	0.8
Cottage Cheese, Cream ⁴	26,028	26,679	26,699	2.6	0.1
Cottage Cheese, Lowfat ⁵	26,586	25,894	27,213	2.4	5.1
Canned Evaporated and					
Condensed Whole Milk	29,142	39,820	33,910	16.4	−14.8
Dry Whole Milk	10,957	9,902	8,755	−20.1	−11.6
Nonfat Dry Milk, Human	120,027	129,297	131,086	9.2	1.4
Dry Skim Milk, Animal	400	480	439	9.8	−8.5
Dry Buttermilk	6,274	4,700	5,806	−7.5	23.5
Yogurt, Plain & Flavored	126,445	141,990	136,328	7.8	−4.0
	<i>1,000 Gallons</i>	<i>1,000 Gallons</i>	<i>1,000 Gallons</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Frozen Products					
Ice Cream, Hard	57,387	55,759	61,696	7.5	10.6
Ice Cream, Lowfat, Hard	6,777	6,245	6,154	−9.2	−1.5
Ice Cream, Lowfat, Soft	13,560	15,209	14,261	5.2	−6.2
Ice Cream, Lowfat, Total	20,337	21,454	20,415	0.4	−4.8
Ice Cream, Nonfat, Hard	2,167	2,382	2,400	10.8	0.8
Sherbet, Hard	3,170	3,180	3,217	1.5	1.2
Water and Juice Ices	4,162	3,315	4,271	2.6	28.8
Frozen Yogurt, Total	5,946	4,772	5,448	−8.4	14.2
Regular & Lowfat, Hard	2,231	1,966	2,167	−2.9	10.2
Nonfat, Hard	1,545	1,130	1,111	−28.1	−1.7
Other Frozen Dairy					
Products	874	979	865	−1.0	−11.6
Mix for Frozen Products					
Ice Cream Mix	31,453	30,252	34,002	8.1	12.4
Ice Cream, Lowfat, Mix	12,607	13,426	12,746	1.1	−5.1

Ice Cream, Nonfat, Mix	1,283	1,371	1,553	21.0	13.3
Sherbet Mix	2,248	2,181	2,472	10.0	13.3
Yogurt Mix	3,763	3,020	3,448	-8.4	14.2

¹ Revised.

² Includes Cheddar, Colby, and Monterey Jack.

³ Mostly used for processing into cream or lowfat cottage cheese.

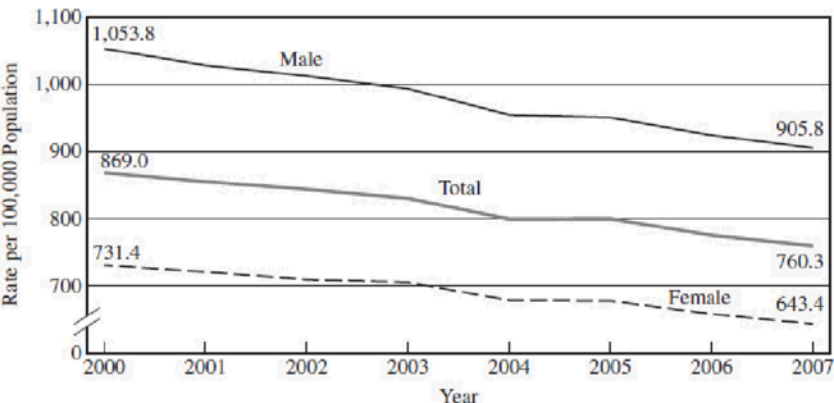
⁴ Fat content 4 percent or more.

⁵ Fat content less than 4 percent.

12. The year prior to the turn of the twenty-first century, the USDA Agricultural Statistics Board collected data concerning American dairy production. Using these statistics to build a business plan, a group of young entrepreneurs decided to venture into retail sales of dairy-based treats, specializing in lowfat ice cream as the best choice.

Which choice best describes data from the graph that would discourage investors from supporting the entrepreneurs' new business?

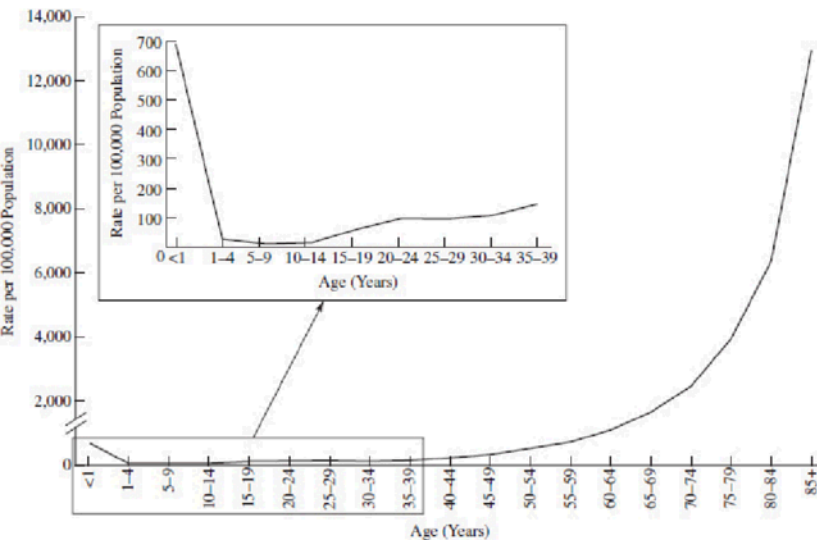
- (A) An increase in production of nonfat dairy ice cream
 (B) A drop in production of lowfat dairy ice cream
 (C) The large competitive jump in production of water and juice ices
 (D) The combined availability of hard ice cream and hard frozen yogurt



13. A 2007 analysis of deaths in the United States concludes that almost 2,500,000 people, regardless of gender, died in that year. However, that women traditionally outlive men has been well-known for generations. To provide context, researchers decided to compare graphically the number of deaths of men to those of women between the years 2000 and 2007. They concluded that the gap between gender-based deaths narrowed somewhat during those years.

Which choice best describes data from the graph that supports the researchers' conclusion?

- (A) The rate of decline in deaths among the general population was greater than the rate of decline among women.
- (B) The rate of deaths per 100,000 among women saw a greater decline than among men.
- (C) The rate of deaths per 100,000 among men saw a greater decline than among women.
- (D) The rate of decline in deaths among men was greater than the rate of decline in the next generation.

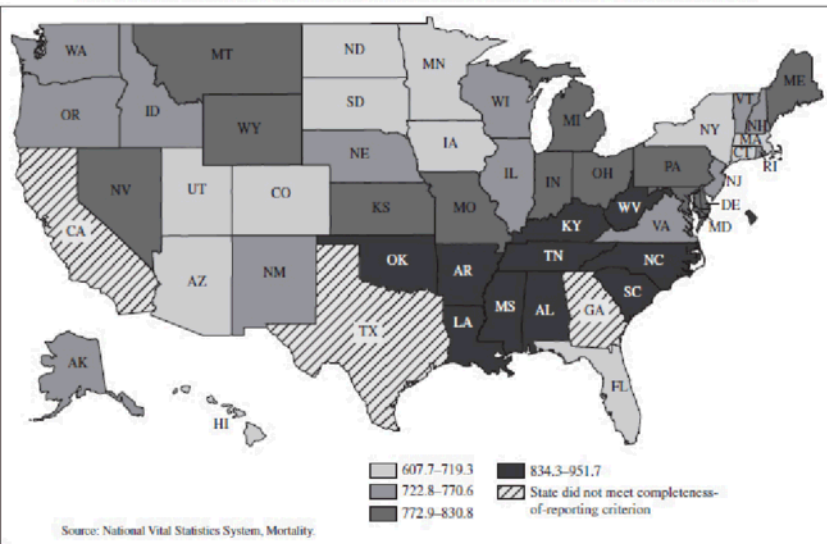


14. Continuing with their analysis of deaths in the United States in 2007, researchers began to study in what ways age relates to the statistical picture. When first studied, they found that viewing the data from the perspective of deaths in increments of 1,000 deaths per 100,000 people provided a somewhat misleading view for certain age groups with death rates below 1,000 deaths per 100,000 people.

Which choice best describes data from the chart that supports the researchers' claim?

- (A) The highest death rate is in the 1–4 group.
- (B) The highest death rate is in the 5–9 group.
- (C) The lowest death rate is in the 1–4 group.
- (D) The lowest death rate is in the 5–9 group.

Age-adjusted death rates, by state and the District of Columbia: United States, preliminary 2007



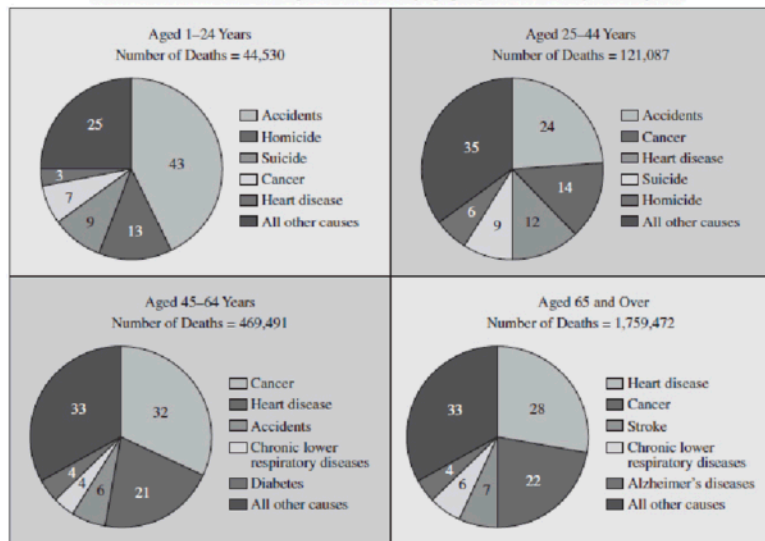
15. The risk of dying each year can increase by geographic location. The 2007 figures were used by researchers to determine age-adjusted death

rates on a state-by-state basis. Not only do death rates vary by state, researchers also found that certain regions shared a mortality pattern.

Which choice best describes data from the graph that would weaken the writer's conclusion?

- (A) Age-adjusted death rates in the Four Corners states
- (B) Age-adjusted death rates in the New England states
- (C) Age-adjusted death rates in the Pacific Northwest states
- (D) Age-adjusted death rates in the Southeast Mississippi Delta states

Percent distribution of five leading causes of death, by age group: United States, preliminary 2007



Source: National Vital Statistics System Mortality.

16. The three most prevalent causes of death in the United States in 2007 were found to be heart disease, cancer, and stroke. Despite increased longevity noted by statisticians since 1980 through the first decade of the twenty-first century, cancer persists as a growing concern.

Researchers also believe that age is a significant factor in the death-by-cancer risk, particularly at midlife ages.

Which choice best describes data from the graphs that would support the writer's argument?

- (A) Cancer is the second-highest cause of death between the ages of 25 and 44.
- (B) Cancer is the second-highest cause of death for people over the age of 65.
- (C) Cancer is the leading cause of death for people between the ages of 46 and 64.
- (D) Accidents, homicides, and suicides are more common causes of death for those under 25.

Elementary and Secondary School Enrollment (in Thousands), by Control and Grade Level of School, with Projections: Fall 1970–2008

Year/period	Public schools			Private schools ¹		
	Grades PreK–12	Grades PreK–8	Grades 9–12	Grades PreK–12	Grades PreK–8	Grades 9–12
1970	45,894	32,558	13,336	5,363	4,052	1,311
1988	40,189	28,501	11,687	5,241	4,036	1,206
1998	46,792	33,522	13,270	5,927	4,588	1,339
2008	Projected ²			Projected ²		
	48,201	33,455	14,746	6,067	4,579	1,488
	Percentage change			Percentage change		
1970–88	–12.4	–12.5	–12.4	–2.3	–0.4	–8.0
1988–98	Projected percentage change			Projected percentage change		
	16.4	17.6	13.5	13.1	13.7	11.0
	3.0	–0.2	11.1	2.4	–0.2	11.1

¹ Beginning in fall 1980, data include estimates for the expanded universe of private schools.

² Enrollment includes students in kindergarten through grade 12 and some nursery school students.

NOTE: Details may not add to totals due to rounding.

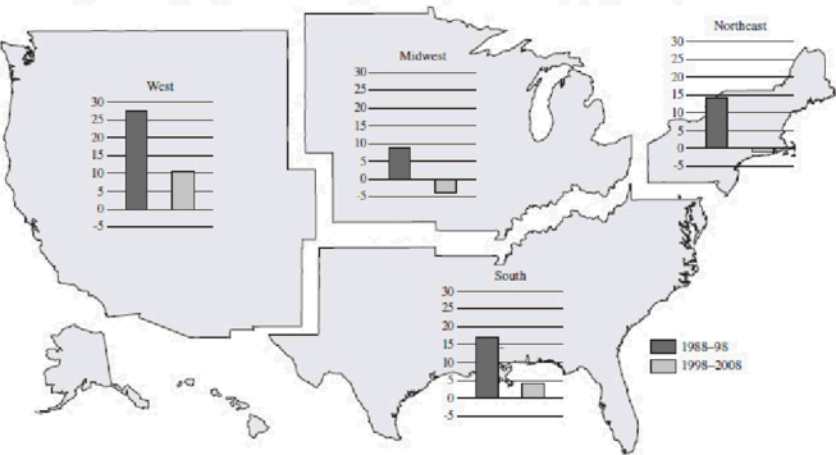
SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, *Digest of Education Statistics 1998* (based on Common Core of Data) and *Projections of Education Statistics to 2008, 1998*.

17. In preparing a degree program thesis, a graduate student in the field of social sciences decided to investigate data to suggest that in the late-twentieth century, perceptions were beginning to form that many couples were choosing to postpone having children until later in life. The student concludes that using school enrollment statistics and projections collected during the focus years would supply circumstantial evidence to introduce the topic of the thesis. An example includes _____.

Which choice most effectively uses data from the chart to complete the example?

- (A) a -12.5 percent enrollment change between 1970 and 1988 in grades PreK–8 in public schools
- (B) a projected 17.6 percent enrollment change between 1988 and 1998 in grades PreK–8 in public schools
- (C) a projected 3 percent enrollment change between 1998 and 2008 in grades PreK–12 in public schools
- (D) a percentage change of -1.4 between 1970 and 1988 in grades PreK–8 in private schools

Projected Percentage Change in Public Elementary and Secondary School Enrollment, by Region: Fall 1988–2008

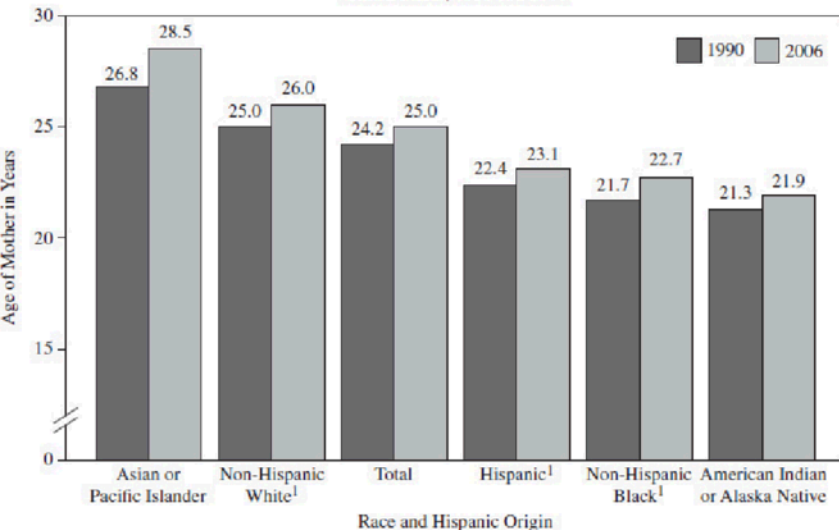


18. Most people agree that education is a valuable asset. Acquiring a high school diploma is a significant first step toward a higher-paying and more satisfying career. Consequently, much time, money, and effort are expended on determining how best to help students visualize and achieve their academic goals. One government official proposed that additional funds be allocated and educator training programs be implemented to facilitate student success on an individual regional basis. He speculates that an emphasis should be placed on students being attracted to being in school with aggressively promoted after-school programs to draw students into a sense of school community and equally aggressively promoted economic programs to attract parents of school-age children to the target region to ensure success.

Which choice describes the region on the map that supports the government official's conclusion?

- (A) West
- (B) Midwest
- (C) South
- (D) Northeast

Average Age of Mother at First Birth, by Race and Hispanic Origin of Mother:
United States, 1990 and 2006



¹For 1990, excludes data for New Hampshire and Oklahoma, which did not report Hispanic origin.

Source: CDC/NCHS, National Vital Statistics System.

19. Delayed childbearing is a significant factor to consider when attempting to determine population projections of a country. Also, the resulting consequences of women waiting longer to have children will determine a country's needs on many different levels. A researcher became interested in the public image being projected by women in the media. They frequently expressed the desire to be more career oriented and, once established as independent women, then consider giving birth and raising children. The researcher decided to explore the subject by investigating studies done on the ages of women when they gave birth for the first time. The researcher speculated that the shift in thinking was limited on an ethnic or racial basis.

Which choice best describes data from the graph that would weaken the researcher's conclusion?