Welcome to the National Atlas Project for Developing Countries. Unlike many developed nations, most less developed nations do not have the capacity to produce national atlases. As a result, students in developing nations lack a comprehensive resource to investigate the geography of their country. The purpose of this site is to provide as a service - a simple national atlas - to countries that have limited capacity to map. This site has been developed by the students and faculty at Calvin College, located in Grand Rapids, Mich., U.S.A., who are taking and teaching courses in cartography and Geographic Information Systems (GIS).
Three main climatic groups exist in Ethiopia: tropical rainy, dry, and warm temperate. Rainfall is seasonal, varying in quantity, location, and duration over the course of a year. The general pattern of rainfall flows from the southwest to the northeast of the country. Mean annual rainfall distribution is affected by westerly and southeasterly winds. The data for this map was collected at points across the country and displayed using an inverse distance weighted method. Data was not collected in some parts of the country. Credit goes to Johnathan Bascom for collecting this data.
One of the topics in the 2007 Population and Housing Census of Ethiopia was housing. This map shows the average size of household by each region in Ethiopia. The number of persons per household increases from light to dark. The graph below shows the total number of households by region.

Since 1984, several Population and Housing Censuses have been conducted to assess the socio-economic conditions of the inhabitants of Ethiopia. Information such as population size, age, sex, ethnicity, religion, mortality, literacy, marital status, economic status, and housing have been collected. This map shows the average rural household size by region during the most recent survey in 2007. Note that Addis Ababa is an urban area. The complementary graph below displays the total population of Ethiopia, separated by region and gender.

This map has been produced by Calvin College, Dept. of Geology, Geography, and Environmental Studies. It is provided free of any change as a service to global communities and can be distributed freely. Changes and alterations are not allowed. No warranty is given for this map as to accuracy and is based on available data.

Data Source: Population and Housing Census of Ethiopia, 2007
One of the topics in the 2007 Population and Housing Census of Ethiopia was housing. The map to the right indicates the average size of urban households in each region of Ethiopia. Below is a graph displaying the number of households per region. In Ethiopia, Population and Housing Censuses are the main source of data that reflect the demographic, social, economic and housing characteristics of the country. The collected data is useful for creating development plans and for monitoring and evaluating their implementation.

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Data Source: Population and Housing Census of Ethiopia 2007
One of the topics in the Ethiopia Population and Housing Census of Ethiopia 2007 was religion. Ethiopia is the oldest Christian state in the world, after Georgia and Armenia, and Christianity is still very prevalent. Just under One Percent of Ethiopia is Catholic. The percentage of Catholics in urban centers is significantly lower than in rural settings. In urban settings, there are 66,468 declared Catholics, while the rural setting accounts for 470,359 declared Catholics, resulting in a total number of 536,827.

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One of the topics in the Ethiopia Population and Housing Census of Ethiopia 2007 was religion. Data obtained from the 2007 census are classified under six categories of religious affiliation. According to the data given 43.5 percent of the total population of Ethiopia was Orthodox Christian and 33.9 percent was Muslim. Protestant and traditional religious group followers accounted for 18.6 percent and 2.6 percent respectively. Catholic followers account for a mere .07% of the total population in Ethiopia.

### Catholic Population by Region

Data Source: Population and Housing Census of Ethiopia 2007
The highest elevation in Ethiopia is Ras Dejen in the Semien Mountains in the Amhara Region at an elevation of 4,550 m above sea level. The lowest elevation in the Afar Depression in the Afar Region at -125 m below sea level.
This map shows the size of the male population for each region of Ethiopia according to the Population and Housing Census of Ethiopia in 2007. The population is represented in the map by a graduated circle for each of the individual regions. According to the census, the total male population was approximately 36,578,112 in 2007. These numbers are useful for formulating various development plans and for monitoring and evaluating their implementation.

Data Source: Population and Housing Census of Ethiopia 2007
One of the topics in the Ethiopia Health and Demographics Survey (EDHS) was marital relations. Violence against women is a serious and common problem in Ethiopia. Men may feel justified in hitting or beating their wife for a number of reasons, five of which the 2005 EDHS evaluated. These included burning the food, arguing with the husband, going out without telling the husband, neglecting the children, or refusing to have sex with the husband. Overall, slightly more than half of Ethiopian men agree with at least one of the reasons for why a man is justified in beating his wife. For all reasons, poorer men are more inclined to believe wife beating is justified, as are men in rural areas.

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This map shows the size of the male population for each region of Ethiopia according to the Population and Housing Census of Ethiopia in 2007. The population is represented in the map by a graduated circle for each of the individual regions. According to the census, the total male population was around 37,296,657 in 2007. These numbers are useful for formulating various development plans and for monitoring and evaluating their implementation.

Population Pyramid for Ethiopia, 2007, Data Source: US Census Bureau

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Data Source: Population and Housing Census of Ethiopia 2007
Malaria is a leading public health problem in Ethiopia. Almost 75% of the land is malarious and an estimated 50 million people live in areas at risk of malaria. The use of mosquito nets is one of the major components of the selective vector control strategy in Ethiopia. This map shows the percentage of the population of each region age five and older who slept under a mosquito net the night prior to the survey. Persons in urban areas are more likely to sleep under a mosquito net than those in rural areas.

Data Source: Ethiopia Demographic and Health Survey 2005 (Table 12.4); Population and Housing Census of Ethiopia 2007
One of the topics in the Ethiopia Population and Housing Census of Ethiopia 2007 was religion. Ethiopia is the oldest Christian state in the world, after Georgia and Armenia, and Christianity is still very prevalent in current Ethiopian religion. The second largest group of religious followers are Muslim, making up 33.9 percent of the population. The percentages of Muslim inhabitants in Ethiopia are depicted by the light to dark color variation.

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One of the topics in the 2007 Population and Housing Census of Ethiopia was religion. The bulk of the population in Ethiopia is split between Orthodox Christians (43.5%) and Muslims (33.9%). This map shows the total number of Muslims per region within Ethiopia.
One of the topics in the 2007 Population and Housing Census of Ethiopia was religion. Ethiopia is the oldest Christian state in the world, after Georgia and Armenia, and Christianity is still very prevalent in current Ethiopian religion. Of the nation’s total population, 43% are Orthodox Christians. This map shows the percent of Orthodox believers by region compared to the population of that region.
One of the topics in the 2007 Population and Housing Census of Ethiopia was religion. Ethiopia is the oldest Christian state in the world, after Georgia and Armenia, and Christianity is still very prevalent in current Ethiopian religion. Of the nation's total population, 43% are Orthodox Christians. This map shows the total number of Orthodox Christians in each region.
Percentage of Households with More than Two Wives by Region

One of the topics in the Ethiopia Health and Demographics Survey (EHDS) was marital relations. In Ethiopia, polygamy is not uncommon, with 7% of married men reporting more than 2 wives and 5% of married woman reporting their husbands with more than 2 wives. The most likely women to be in a polygamous marriage are older, living in rural areas, without education and ranking in the poorest wealth quintile. The prevalence of polygamous marriages has declined within the past 5 years.

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Data Source: Ethiopia Demographic and Health Survey 2005
One of the topics in the Ethiopia Health and Demographics Survey (EHDS) was marital relations. This map depicts the regional distribution of Ethiopian families that have husbands married to two wives: their original wife with the addition of one co-wife. In Ethiopia, polygyny, the practice of having more than one wife is illegal, yet it is still practiced. Rural areas practice polygyny more than urban areas. Also, according to the EDHS, there seems to be an inverse relationship between education and polygyny.
One of the topics in the Ethiopia Health and Demographics Survey (EHDS) was marital relations. Officially, polygyny is illegal in Ethiopia. Nonetheless it is still practiced in some parts of the country. Polygyny has implications on the exposure to sexual activity which in turn affects the rate of fertility. Data was gained by asking married women whether or not their spouse had other wives. Similarly, married men were asked how many wives they currently had. The results showed that the regions of Amhara and Addis Ababa share the lowest rate of polygyny at around 3%. Gambela was shown to have the highest rate at around 27%.

Data Source: Ethiopia Demographic and Health Survey 2005, Section 6.2
HIV/AIDS has greatly injured Ethiopia, bringing a seven-year decrease in life expectancy. Ranging from 0.2 percent in SNNPR to 6.0 percent in Gambela, the percentage of population with HIV/AIDS varies with each region. Regions suffering more from HIV/AIDS infections have decreased productivity, civil conflicts, and increased refugees. Still without a cure, HIV/AIDS can only be prevented from increased awareness and sexual protection.

Data Source: Ethiopia Demographic and Health Survey 2005, Table 14.4
One of the topics in the Ethiopia Population and Housing Census of Ethiopia 2007 was religion. Ethiopia is the oldest Christian state in the world, after Georgia and Armenia, and Christianity is still very prevalent in current Ethiopian religion. The population of Protestant followers accounted for 18.6 percent of the total population. Protestants tended to be found in rural areas. Thus, the Protestant population is concentrated in the south west regions, which are predominantly rural.

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Data Source: Population and Housing Census of Ethiopia 2007
One of the topics in the 2007 Population and Housing Census of Ethiopia was religion. Ethiopia is the oldest Christian state in the world, after Georgia and Armenia, and Christianity is still very prevalent in current Ethiopian religion. Christians make up the majority of the total population with 43% being Orthodox Christians and 18% Protestant. Islam makes up about a third of the population.

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Data Source: Summary and Statistical Report of the 2007 Population and Housing Census
Ethiopia is identified as one of the cradles of civilization. It is located in the Horn of Africa, very close to the Middle East. The total area of the country is about 1.1 million square kilometers. The majority of the population lives in the highland areas of the country—the main occupation being farming. In fact, Ethiopia is one of the least urbanized countries in the world, with less than 14 percent of the country urbanized in 1994. This map shows the density of rural areas in Ethiopia by region.

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One of the main topics in the 2007 Population and Housing Census of Ethiopia was Population. Ethiopia is divided into nine regional states and two city administrations. The three biggest regional states by population are Oromia, Amhara, and Southern Nations and Nationalities and Peoples (SNNP). A measure of total population and population density is useful for designing development plans and monitoring and evaluating their implementation. This map shows the total population of each region.

Population Pyramid for Ethiopia, 2007, Data Source: US Census Bureau

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One of the main topics in the 2005 Ethiopia Demographics and Health Survey was population. Total Fertility Rate is a measure of the total number of births to women within their child-bearing years, ages 15-49 years. According to the Ethiopia Demographic and Health Survey 2005, section 4.2, "The level of fertility is inversely related to women's educational attainment." Also according to section 4.2, fertility rate is also affected by wealth.

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One of the topics in the 2007 Population and Housing Census of Ethiopia was housing. This map details the total number of households (rural + urban), within Ethiopia, by region. The graph below breaks down the number of households by region into rural, urban, and total.

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Data Source: Summary and Statistical Report of the 2007 Population and Housing Census
One of the main topics in the 2007 Population and Housing Census of Ethiopia was housing. Ethiopia’s population is predominantly rural. This is slowly changing. As of 2007, 16% of the total population of Ethiopia resided in urban areas. This number has increased slightly since the 1984 census, when 14% resided in urban areas.

Total Number of Rural Households by Region

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Data Source: Population and Housing Census of Ethiopia 2007
One of the main topics in the 2007 Population and Housing Census of Ethiopia was housing. As of 2007, 16% of the total population of Ethiopia resides in urban areas. This number has increased slightly since the 1984 census, when 14% resided in urban areas. Most of the urban population is concentrated in several regions. 82% of the country’s urban population resides in Oromiya, Addis Ababa, Amhara, and SNNP.

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Data Source: Population and Housing Census of Ethiopia 2007
Ethiopia is identified as one of the cradles of civilization. It is located in the Horn of Africa, very close to the Middle East. The total area of the country is about 1.1 million square kilometers. The majority of the population lives in the highland areas of the country—the main occupation being farming. In fact, Ethiopia is one of the least urbanized countries in the world, with less than 14 percent of the country urbanized in 1994. This map shows the density of people living in the relatively few urban environments found in Ethiopia.