

# **Population Resource Regions of the World**

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# Introduction:

Edward A. Ackerman (1970) made a very useful effort in introducing the population resource regions.

Ackerman used three basic criteria for devising the world's regional scheme of population/ resource ratio.

These are-

(a) Population factor

(b) Resource factor

(c) Technology factor

Among these factors he put greater emphasise upon the *Factor of technology*.

# Population resource regions of the world:

1. Technology-source areas of low population-potential/resources ratio or United States type
2. Technology-source areas of high population/resources ratio, or the European type
3. Technology –deficient areas of low population/resources ratio, or the Brazilian type
4. Technology –deficient areas of high population/resources ratio, or the China or Egyptian type
5. Technology –deficient areas possessing a few food producing resources, or the Arctic- desert type

# United States type

1. These areas cover large territories that are well stocked in terms of known or potential resources.
2. The population of these regions is not very large and mostly have small to moderate population.
3. The technologies are not only highly advanced but also rapidly expanding.
4. The society is well equipped with social and technological means to maximise the national as well as individual affluence.
5. Though the economy has developed rapidly, it has caused irreparable damage to the habitat due to the destructive manner.

# United States type

6. Extensive territories and general physical resources make these regions able to create lofty social and economic estates within their own territories and access the resources of other countries too.
7. USA, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, parts of Russia and Argentina are included in this type of region.
8. This type of population resource and technology relationship is the most recent of all the 5 types.
9. Most of these countries were of Brazilian type before gaining their present status.

# European Type

1. There exists quite favourable relationship between population and technology.
2. In this type of regions, the territories are small, the resources are limited and the populations are larger in comparison to the United States type.
3. The narrow territories and still narrower resources coupled with larger populations produce intensive local economies and conservative attitude towards resources.
4. The skilled services and advanced industrial goods are exchanged for natural resources and labourforce.
5. Continued efforts are made in these regions to discover new local physical resources and more significantly to develop new methods for extracting greater benefits from familiar resources.

# European Type

6. Countries included in this region are-
  - a. Western, southern and eastern Europe excluding Rumania, Bulgaria, Turkey and Yugoslavia.
  - b. Israel, Japan and Soviet Central Asia.
7. Many of the countries of Brazilian and Egyptian type are expected to enter in this type in near future with better management of their human and physical resources.

# Brazilian Type

1. These are the areas that are technology deficient but fairly stabilized in terms of size of population.
2. These areas are usually of fairly substantial size, where the present day population size is below the level that could comfortably be supported by known resources of the region.
3. In this type of region, much larger populations could be achieved with the help of higher socio- economic development.
4. Depending upon the development of their resources, the areas under this region may be upgraded or degraded to other types of regions.



# Brazilian Type

5. A higher order development of their resources could enhance their living standards and could make the regions move upward to the category of European type.
6. On the other hand, rapid population growth without corresponding development of resources could lead to acute population pressure and the consequent decline in their living standards could make these regions slip downward to the Egyptian type.
7. Most of the areas under this type are confined to three regions-
  - (a) Indo- China
  - (b) Tropical Africa
  - (c) Latin America

# Brazilian Type

8. Other areas under this type of population- resource region are- Brazilian Plateau, Bolivia, Venezuela, interior Argentina and Paraguay of South America, Cuba, Central America, etc.
9. The Indo-China region could support much more highly developed human societies than what prevail there now, but political and social problems block the development.
10. Much of tropical Africa can be considered underpopulated but many physical and social problems hamper their massive socio-economic development.

# Egyptian Type

1. This is the most discouraging type of population region.
2. The areas under this type of population resource region suffer from great imbalance of population and resources.
3. The populations of these areas are rapidly growing and population density is also very high.
4. Economy of these areas is agrarian and food crop occupies most of the cultivated land.
5. As the agricultural sectors of these areas are not scientifically developed, productivity of the agricultural land is limited.

# Egyptian Type

6. Social and technological development is very less in these areas.
7. The physical and capital resources are very limited in this type of region.
8. It is important to note that all countries of the world have passed through this stage at one time or the other.
9. Countries or areas included in this type are found in almost all the continents of the world, e.g., Egypt, Algeria, Tunisia, Morocco (Africa), Sicily, Sardinia, Southern Italy, Albania, Greece, Southern Yugoslavia (Southern Europe), Haiti, El Salvador, Guatemala (New World), China, India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, South Korea, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Afghanistan, Lebanon, Cyprus, Jordan, Etc. (Asia)

# Arctic Desert Type

1. This is the least important population-resource region of the world.
2. These are fairly extensive areas which have remained entirely uninhabited due to excessive aridity or cold, physical isolation or inhospitable terrain.
3. These areas are either the homes of small marginal groups or uninhabited.
4. At present, their significance lies in the abundant supply of raw materials-mineral ores or fuels, furs, marine life and hydroelectric power potential.

# Arctic Desert Type

5. Areas under this type of population-resource region includes entire Antarctica and Greenland, greater parts of northern North America, much of northern Eurasia, Sahara and arid regions of Southwest and Central Asia, empty lands of Mexico, southwest United States, desert areas of Peru and Chile, Central Australia, Amazonia, southwest Africa, etc.
6. Technological advancements in the coming years may enhance the importance of these areas significantly.

*THANK YOU*