

Back to the Future on the Back of an Envelope

Terry M. Gray, Ph.D.

ASA 2017

Colorado School of Mines

Golden, Colorado


Cityscapes Then (~1900) and Now



Global and US Population Clock



U.S. and World Population Clock


Tell us what you think >

 The United States


 The World

Jul 20, 2017 18:05 UTC (+6)

Learn More  | Download and Share 

 U.S. Population

3 2 5 , 4 8 1 , 6 9 9

 World Population

7 , 4 0 4 , 9 6 2 , 8 4 3

<https://www.census.gov/popclock/>

China – 1.38 billion India – 1.28 billion EU – 510 million

Global Energy Use

World Total	556 EJ
China	128 EJ
US	95 EJ (17%)
EU	69 EJ
India	30 EJ

Data from BP 2017 Statistical Review of World Energy

ExaJoule = 10^{18} Joules

1 EJ ~ 1 Quad (used in the US energy industry)

A Quad is quadrillion (10^{15}) BTU

**The US with
4.4% of the world's population
uses
17% of its energy resources**

Per Capita Energy Use

World: 556×10^{18} EJ / 7.4×10^9 people = 75×10^9 = **75 GJ/person**

US: 95×10^{18} EJ / 325×10^6 people = 292×10^9 = **292 GJ/person**

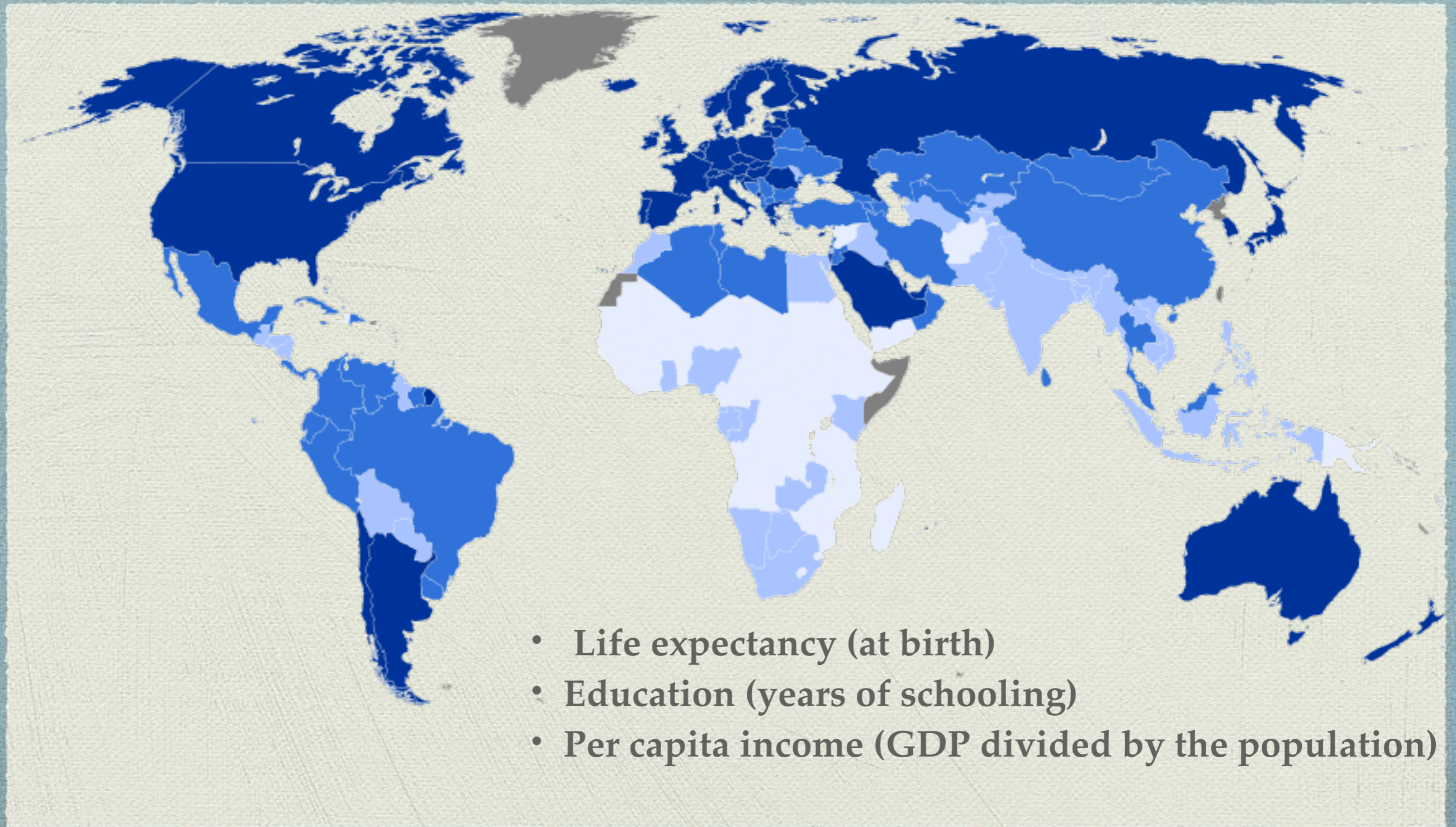
EU: 69×10^{18} EJ / 510×10^6 people = 135×10^9 = **135 GJ/person**

China: 128×10^{18} EJ / 1.38×10^9 people = 93×10^9 = **93 GJ/person**

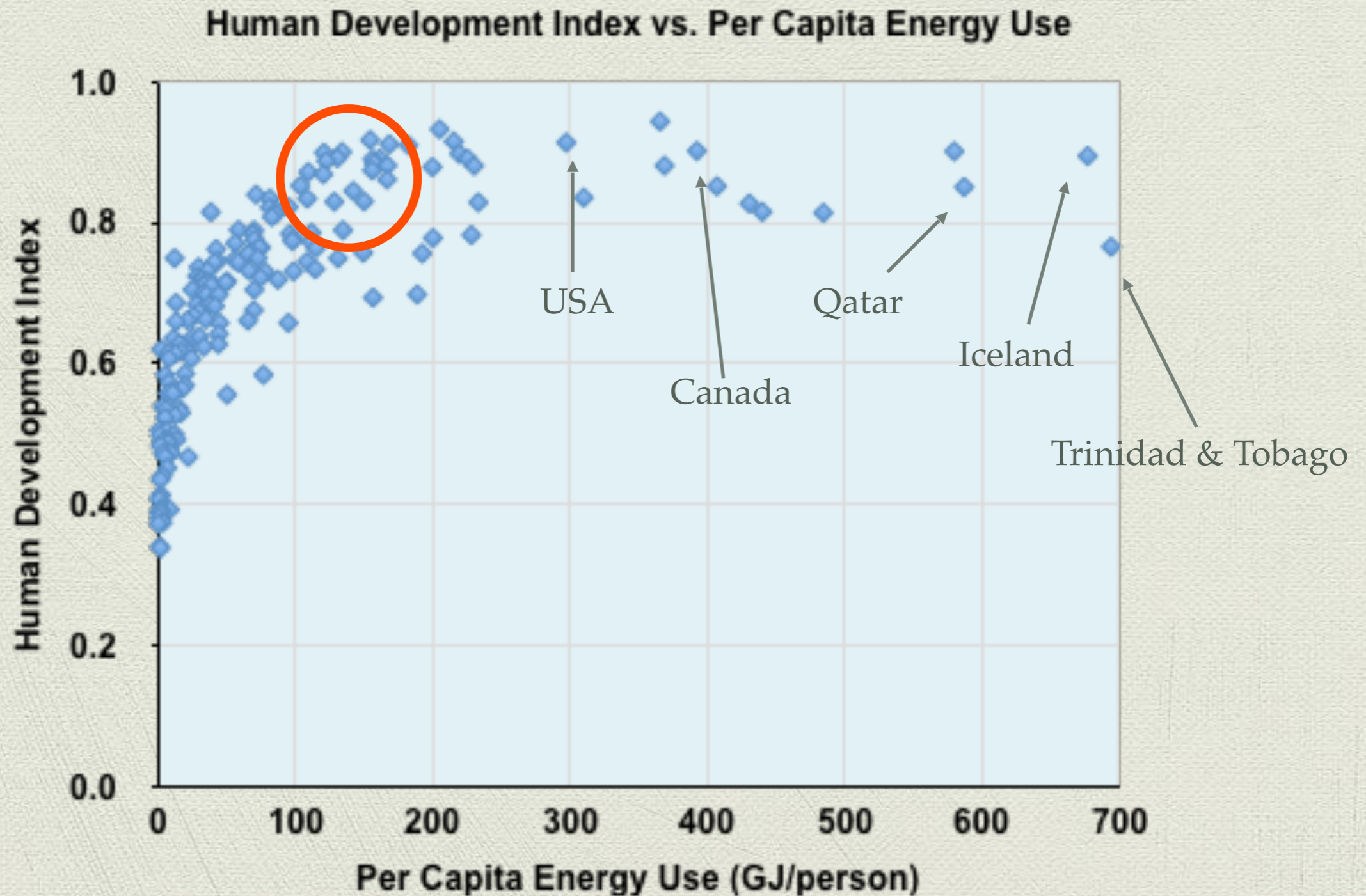
India: 30×10^{18} EJ / 1.28×10^9 people = 23×10^9 = **23 GJ/person**

2 GJ is the heat produced by burning a tank of gasoline

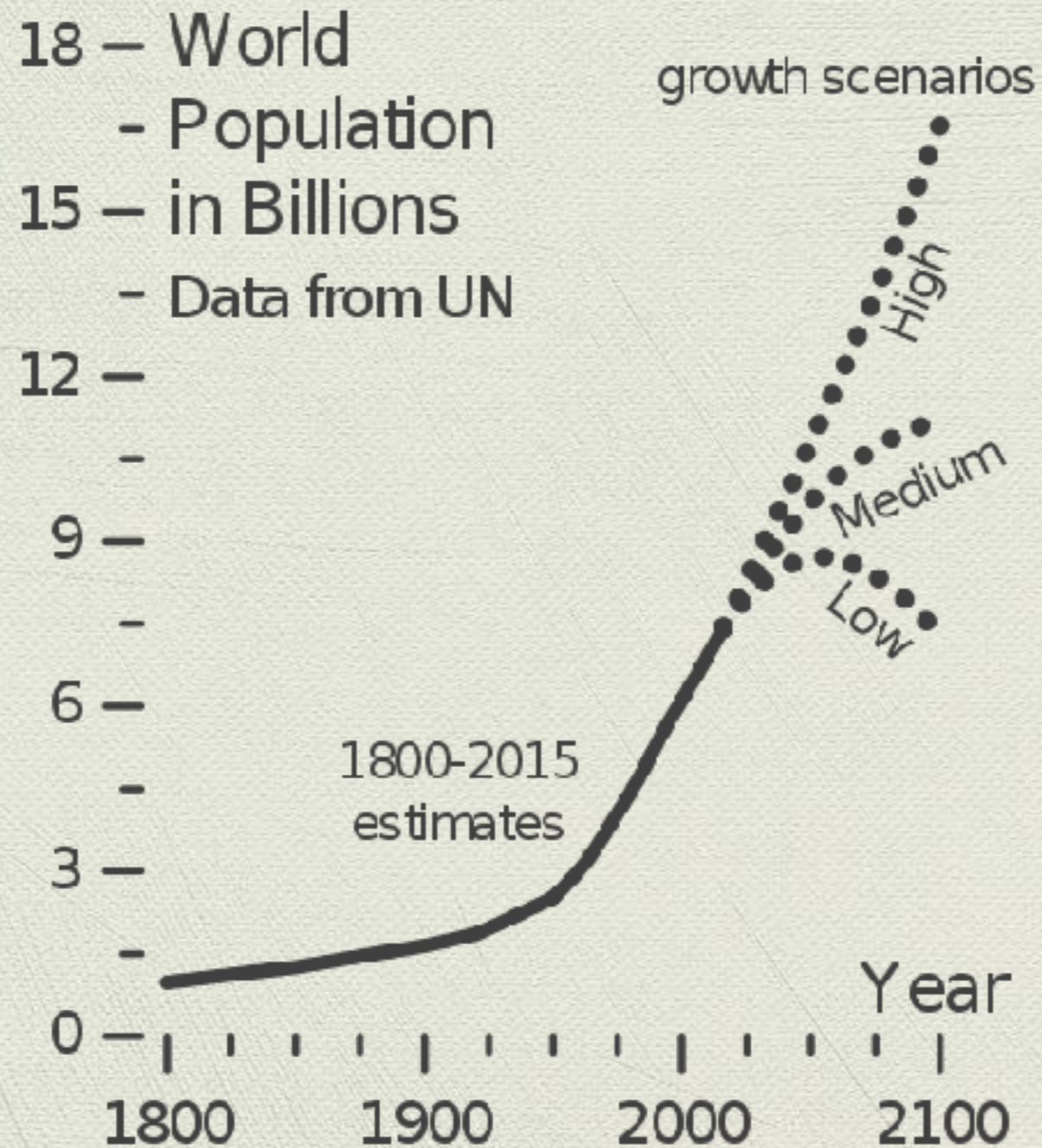
HDI Quartiles



HDI vs. Per Capita Energy Use



Global Population Estimates for 2100



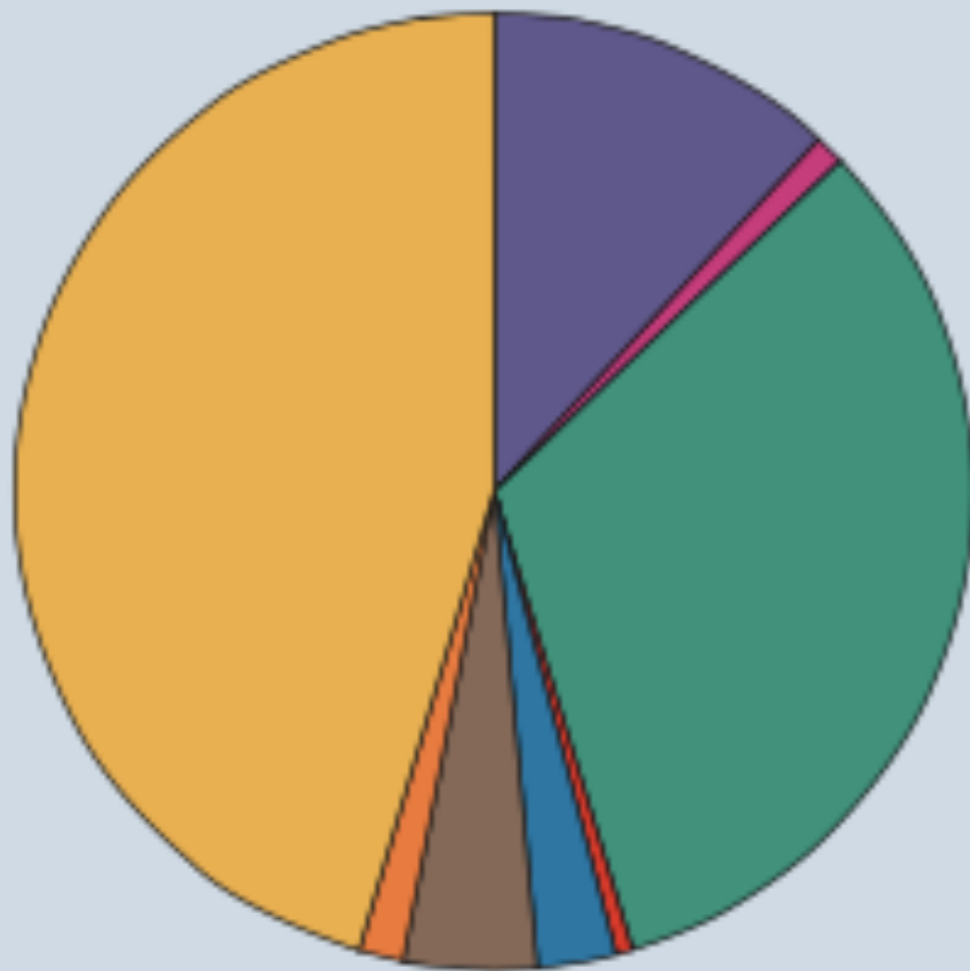
Global Energy Demand of 10 Billion People in 2100

$$10 \times 10^9 \text{ people} \times 135 \times 10^9 \text{ J/person}$$

$$= 1350 \times 10^{18} \text{ J}$$

$$= \mathbf{1350 \text{ EJ}}$$

Energy Water Nexus



**2010 withdrawals by category,
in million gallons per day**

Public supply	42,000
Self-supplied domestic	3,600
Irrigation	115,000
Livestock	2,000
Aquaculture	9,420
Self-supplied industrial	15,900
Mining	5,320
Thermolectric power	161,000

Values do not sum to 355,000 Mgal/d
because of independent rounding

US per capita for domestic and irrigation:

$$160 \times 10^9 \text{ gal per day} / 325 \times 10^6 \text{ people} \\ = 492 \text{ gal per day per person}$$

Global total in 2100:

$$492 \text{ gal per day per person} \times 10 \times 10^9 \text{ people} \\ = 4920 \times 10^9 \text{ gal per day}$$

Multiply by 365 to get gal per year:

$$4920 \times 10^9 \text{ gal per day} \times 365 \text{ days} \\ = 1.8 \times 10^{15} \text{ gal per year}$$

Energy required for reverse osmosis desalination

$$5 \text{ kWh/m}^3 = 68,000 \text{ J/gal}$$

Total Energy Required:

$$1.8 \times 10^{15} \text{ gallons per year} \times 68,000 \text{ J/gal} \\ = 122 \times 10^{18} = 122 \text{ EJ}$$

Global Energy Requirement in 2100 (including energy for desalination)

1350 EJ

+122 EJ

1472 EJ



Earth at Night in 2100 (from *Pandora's Promise*)

Carbon Free Energy

- ◆ **Nuclear**
- ◆ **Hydroelectric**
- ◆ **Wind + Storage**
- ◆ **Solar + Storage**
- ◆ **Geothermal**
- ◆ **Fossil Fuels + CCUS**

**ALL OF
THE
ABOVE**

Carbon Free Energy

Rough Count:

2000 1 GW carbon free
power plants in the world today.

Full disclosure:

Multiply solar capacities by 0.25 (the sun sets at night)

Multiply wind capacities by 0.35 (sometimes there's no wind)

So how much energy
does a 1 GW power plant
produce in a year?

$$1 \text{ GW} = 1 \text{ GJ/s}$$

$$1 \text{ GJ/s} \times 10^9 \text{ J/1 GJ} \times 60 \text{ s/1 min}$$

$$\times 60 \text{ min/1 hr} \times 24 \text{ hr/1 day}$$

$$\times 365 \text{ day/year} \times 1 \text{ EJ}/10^{18} \text{ J}$$

$$= 0.0315 \text{ EJ/year}$$

1472 EJ needed divided by 0.0315 EJ / power plant

46,730 1 GW power plants needed

minus the 2000 that we have gives

44,730 1 GW power plants

divided by 83 years

539 power plants per year for the next 83 years

Estimating \$2-5 billion per power plant

$\$2\text{-}5 \text{ billion} / \text{power plant} \times 539 \text{ power plants per year}$
 $= \$1\text{-}3 \text{ trillion for each of the next 83 years}$
 $\sim 1\text{-}3\% \text{ of the GWP}$

Last year the world built the
equivalent of 73

We better pick up the pace!

