

Lumber Use in the United States: Human Population and Resource Use

Lumber is wood that has been processed for use in building structures, such as houses, schools, and furniture. In the United States, the amount of lumber used has changed over time, often in response to the size and needs of the population. As the population grows, more buildings and products are needed, which can increase the demand for lumber. However, changes in technology, building materials, and conservation efforts can also affect how much lumber is used. Understanding how human population growth impacts resource use, like lumber, is important for managing natural resources wisely.



Fill in the Blank: Fill in the blank with the correct words.

1. Lumber is wood that is used for _____.
2. As the human _____ in the United States increases, the demand for lumber often increases too.
3. Building homes and _____ are two major uses for lumber.
4. Conservation and the development of new _____ can help reduce the amount of lumber needed.
5. The graph from the U.S. Census Bureau shows the relationship between lumber use and _____ size over time.

Word bank:

structures, population, materials, population, furniture, technology

Multiple Choice Questions: Choose the correct answer from the choices for each question.

1. What is lumber mainly used for?
 - a) Food production
 - b) Building structures
 - c) Transportation
 - d) Writing paper
2. If the population of the United States increases, what is most likely to happen to lumber use?
 - a) It will decrease
 - b) It will stay the same
 - c) It will increase
 - d) No change
3. Which of the following can help reduce the amount of lumber used?
 - a) Using more wood for all products
 - b) Developing alternative building materials
 - c) Building larger houses only
 - d) Increasing population growth
4. The source of the data for lumber use and population size is:
 - a) U.S. Department of Energy
 - b) U.S. Census Bureau
 - c) NASA
 - d) Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
5. Why is it important to understand the relationship between human population and resource use?

- a) To build more houses
- b) To manage resources wisely
- c) To increase lumber prices
- d) To cut down more trees

Open-Ended Questions: Answer the following questions in complete sentences.

1. How does an increase in human population affect the use of natural resources like lumber?
2. Explain one way technology can help reduce the need for lumber in building structures.
3. Why is it important to conserve resources like lumber, even if the population keeps growing?