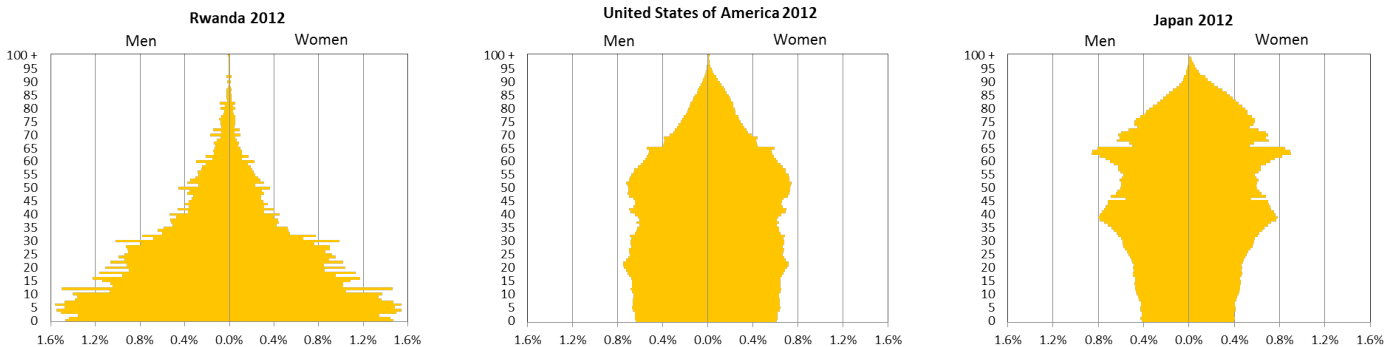


LESSON 2: THE POPULATION PYRAMID

Activity 1 – Different Types of Population Pyramids



Births, deaths and migration determine the shape of a population pyramid, so pyramids can represent the different stages of population growth. **Assign the texts to the appropriate graphic and explain your reasoning.**



Source: United Nations Statistics, Division and United Nations data from the INED-Webseite (http://www.ined.fr/en/everything_about_population/graphs-maps/population_graphs/).

1. A rather square-shaped population pyramid refers to a population with slow population growth: There are fewer births and fewer younger people, but more older people due to the lower mortality rate and higher life expectancy.
2. This example of a population pyramid is based on population decline: In countries with a very low birth and mortality rate, the population declines instead of grows. Due to a high life expectancy and the low birth rate, the population undergoes an ageing process: Fewer children are born, but the majority of them live until a high age.
3. Population structures with a pyramid shape indicate a young population and relatively strong population growth: A large number of new-borns and youth form the basis of the pyramid so that it is wider at the bottom and becomes increasingly smaller and narrower at the top among the older age groups. This type of population pyramid typically has a considerable mortality rate, which creates a very sharply contoured figure.