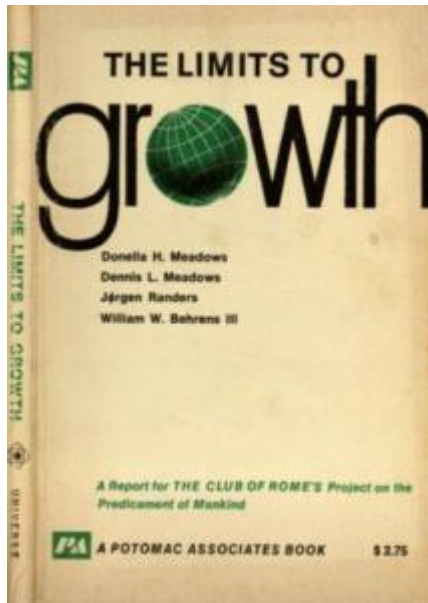


From the Planners' Bookshelf...

THE LIMITS TO GROWTH, A report for the Club of Rome's Project on the Predicament of Mankind.



Donella H. Meadows, Dennis L. Meadows, Jørgen Randers, William W. Behrens III
Universe Books, 1972, ISBN 0-87663-165-0

The message of this book still holds today: The earth's interlocking resources – the global system of nature in which we all live – probably cannot support present rates of economic and population growth much beyond the year 2100, if that long, even with advanced technology. In the summer of 1970, an international team of researchers at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology began a study of the implications of continued worldwide growth. They examined the five basic factors that determine and, in their interactions, ultimately limit growth on this planet-population increase, agricultural production, nonrenewable resource depletion, industrial output, and pollution generation.

The MIT team fed data on these five factors into a global computer model and then tested the behavior of the model under several sets of assumptions to determine alternative patterns for mankind's future. The Limits to Growth is the nontechnical report of their findings. The book contains a message of hope, as well: Man can create a society in which he can live indefinitely on earth if he imposes limits on himself and his production of material goods to achieve a state of global equilibrium with population and production in carefully selected balance.

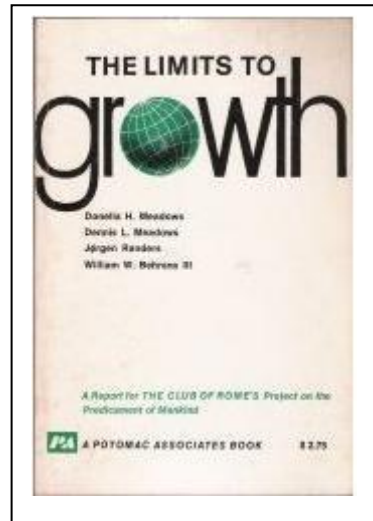
Download the book in pdf [here](#).

Link: <https://www.clubofrome.org/report/the-limits-to-growth/>

From the Planners' Bookshelf...

The Limits to Growth

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia
The Limits to Growth (LTG) is a 1972 report^[1] on the [computer simulation](#) of exponential [economic](#) and [population growth](#) with a finite supply of resources.^[2] Funded by the [Volkswagen Foundation](#)^[3] and commissioned by the [Club of Rome](#), the findings of the study were first presented at international gatherings in Moscow and Rio de Janeiro in the summer of 1971.^{[1]:186} The report's authors are [Donella H. Meadows](#), [Dennis L. Meadows](#), [Jørgen Randers](#), and [William W. Behrens III](#), representing a team of 17 researchers.^{[1]:8} Since its publication, some 30 million copies of the book in 30 languages have been purchased.^[4] It continues to generate debate and has been the subject of several subsequent publications.^[5] Most recently, *The Limits to Growth: The 30-Year Update* was published in 2004.^[6]



Conclusions[edit]

After reviewing their computer simulations, the research team came to the following conclusions:^{[1]:23–24}

1. Given business as usual, i.e., no changes to historical growth trends, the limits to growth on earth would become evident by 2072, leading to "sudden and uncontrollable decline in both population and industrial capacity".
2. Growth trends existing in 1972 could be altered so that sustainable ecological and economic stability could be achieved.
3. The sooner the world's people start striving for the second outcome above, the better the chance of achieving it.