



I am comparing the population pyramids of Italy(bottom) and Japan(top). These two countries are found on opposite sides of Eurasia, but they share many similarities when it comes to their demographics. These similarities include aging population, gender distribution since both have slightly larger female populations, birth and death rates with those figures being nearly identical for both countries. The size of the two countries is somewhat comparable in land area with Japan being the larger of the two, unlike their populations with Japan's 125 million being over double that of Italy at 60 million.

Italy and Japan both found themselves on losing sides after World War 2, so their populations were substantially reduced during the time of recovery from war. However, starting in the 1960s both countries experienced growth in their economies and populations, with Japan also experiencing a significant technological revolution in the following decades which drastically reshaped the Asian country. The Italian economy started experiencing major growth in the 1960s with the advancement of new industries such as fashion and cars, even more so in the

1970s. However, in contemporary times the populations of both countries started to stagnate and even marginally drop in the 2010s.

To reiterate, I will now compare the similar aforementioned values regarding population for Italy and Japan. The percentage of female population is over 51% in both countries, 51.24% for Italy and 51.18% emphasizing nevertheless the difference in population between the two nations since there are more females in Japan than overall people in Italy. This gives Italy a gender ratio of 0.93 and Japan 0.94. In addition, the death rate for both countries hovers between 11 and 12 deaths per 1,000 people and the birth rate for Japan is 1.3 babies per woman while for Italy it is 1.25 babies per woman. Both countries have a significant portion of their populations over 80 years old showing in the pyramids with Italy's over 80 even exceeding their under age 5 category. However, one difference is that Italy has a substantial percentage of their population in the late working age from 40s to early 50s while Japan has a large amount of their population in their 30s.

All these similarities are attributed to better quality of life in both countries given the proximity to seas and mountains which extends life expectancy and reduces death rates. The air and mist created by either ocean or mountains has been proven to be beneficial to the human body. In addition, the healthcare systems in both countries are above average, with Japan having the edge, which benefit the death rates and birth rates. Japan and Italy both reached their peak populations and are at a steady decline in current times. Predictions for the next decades indicate that the decline might continue.