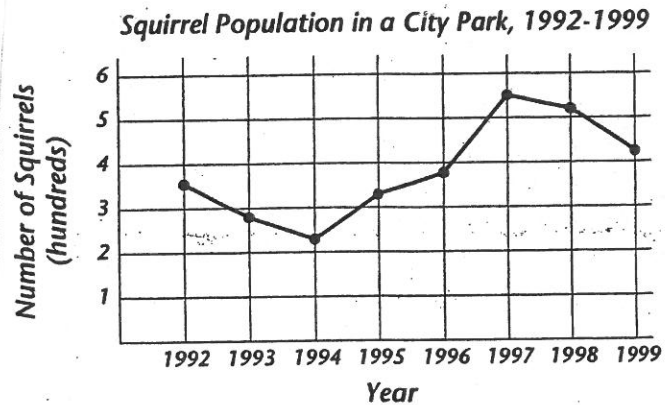


Studying Populations

1. A vegetable garden is 12 meters long by 7 meters wide. In one square meter, you count two toads. Estimate the population of toads in garden. Which method of studying a population would this example be?

The graph below shows how the size of the squirrel population in a city park changed over time. Use the graph to answer questions 2-4.



2. Over which time period(s) did the squirrel population decrease?
3. Over which time period(s) did the squirrel population increase?
4. In which year did the population reach its lowest point? What was the size of the squirrel population that year?

Answer the following questions.

5. What causes a population to change in size?
6. Identify three limiting factors that can prevent a population from increasing. Explain how each factor limits a population size.
 - a.
 - b.
 - c.
7. Define population density and the formula needed to calculate population density.
8. Explain how carrying capacity affects population growth.