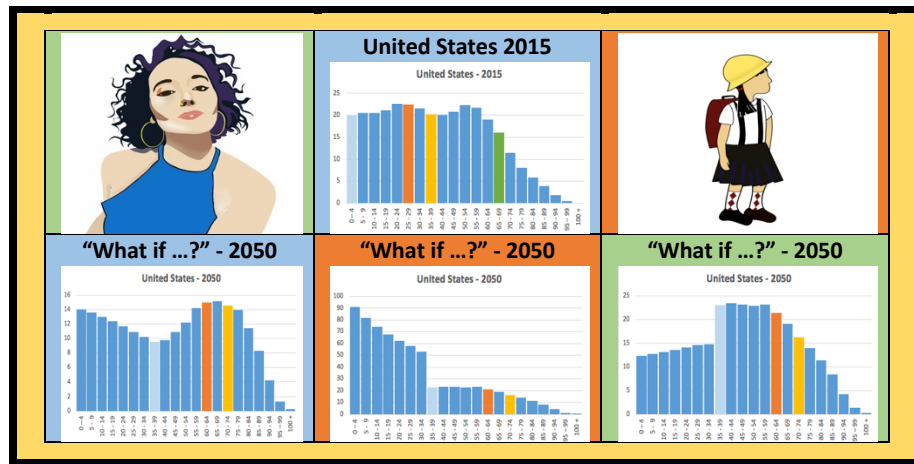


Unit 4

“What if ...?”



Introduction

“What if ...?” are investigations that think about what might happen to our countries if events change the assumptions used to design our projection models. Each of the countries we studied had a past that resulted in their current shapes. Each of the countries had recent changes in their counts that may or may not continue when future counts are conducted. This unit is about remodeling our projection tools to think about changes in a population based on events that may or may not happen. This unit also evaluates the recursive model by looking at how well it did in estimating the more recent counts of people based on past counts. Should we trust this model?

What if there is a major drought? What if there are changes in laws and policies that limit the count of people coming into a country? What if there is a change in the birth rate? What if a country needs many more workers that require efforts to bring people from other countries into a country? What if ...? What may happen to the generations that include Kristin or Raphine or Hana? “What if ...?” are stories that are yet to be told.