Demography—the study of people—addresses the size, distribution, composition, and density of populations, and considers the impact these factors have on individual lives and the changing structure of human populations. Each generation’s demographic composition influences a person’s life chances; the economic and political structures within which that life is lived; the person’s access to social and natural resources; and life expectancy. Demography: A Very Short Introduction considers how the global population has evolved over time and space and discusses the theorists, theories, and methods involved in studying population trends and movements. It also looks at the emergence of new demographic sub-disciplines and addresses some of the future population challenges.