

100 People in a Village

If we could shrink the earth's population to a village of precisely 100 people, with all the existing human ratios remaining the same, it would look something like the following.*

There would be:

57 Asians

21 Europeans

14 from the Western Hemisphere, both north and south

8 Africans

52 would be female

48 would be male

70 would be non-white

30 would be white

70 would be non-Christian

30 would be Christian

89 would be heterosexual

11 would be homosexual

6 people would possess 59% of the entire world's wealth and all 6 would be from the US

80 would live in substandard housing

70 would be unable to read

50 would suffer from malnutrition

1 would be near death; 1 would be near birth

1 (yes, only 1) would have a college education

1 would own a computer

“When one considers our world from such a compressed perspective, the need for acceptance, understanding and education becomes glaringly apparent.”

— From the works of Donella H. Meadow's “If the World Were a Village of 100 People” which is included in an anthology called “Futures by Design” edited by Doug Ashley. She was a professor at Dartmouth and had a regularly published column. (1941-2001)