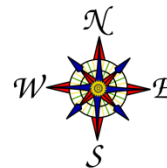


Climate and Effects on the People of South Asia

Infographic Information Sheet

1. **Monsoons** - Textbook (map – pg. 813 info. – pg. 812)
 - a. **Summer** – Winds from the southwest, blowing from the Indian Ocean
 - i. Rains frequently - **80%** of South Asia's Rain Falls during the Summer Monsoon.
 1. Can Flood
 2. Much needed for Crops
 - b. **Winter** – Winds blow from the Northeast
 - i. Himalaya blocks most of cold air
 - ii. Much drier weather
2. **Green Revolution** – Textbook (pg. 145)
 - a. Effort to use modern technologies and science to increase production of food in India.
 - i. India was overpopulated and often had shortages of food.
 1. Used higher **quality seeds** (Texas A&M helped)
 2. Created **dams** to collect water to **irrigate** with.



Summer Monsoon

The summer monsoon is associated with heavy rainfall. It usually happens between April and September. As winter ends, warm, moist air from the southwest Indian Ocean blows toward countries like India, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, and Myanmar. The summer monsoon brings a humid climate and torrential rainfall to these areas.

India and Southeast Asia depend on the summer monsoon. Agriculture, for example, relies on the yearly rain. **2/3** of water for crops comes from rain, not reservoirs. Many areas in these countries do not have large irrigation systems surrounding lakes, rivers, or snowmelt areas. Aquifers, or supplies of underground water, are shallow. The summer monsoon fills wells and aquifers for the rest of the year. Rice and tea are some crops that rely on the summer monsoon. Dairy farms, which help make India the largest milk producer in the world, also depend on the monsoon rains to keep cows healthy and well-fed. **2/3 (66%) of India's people farm to feed its 1.2 billion people.**

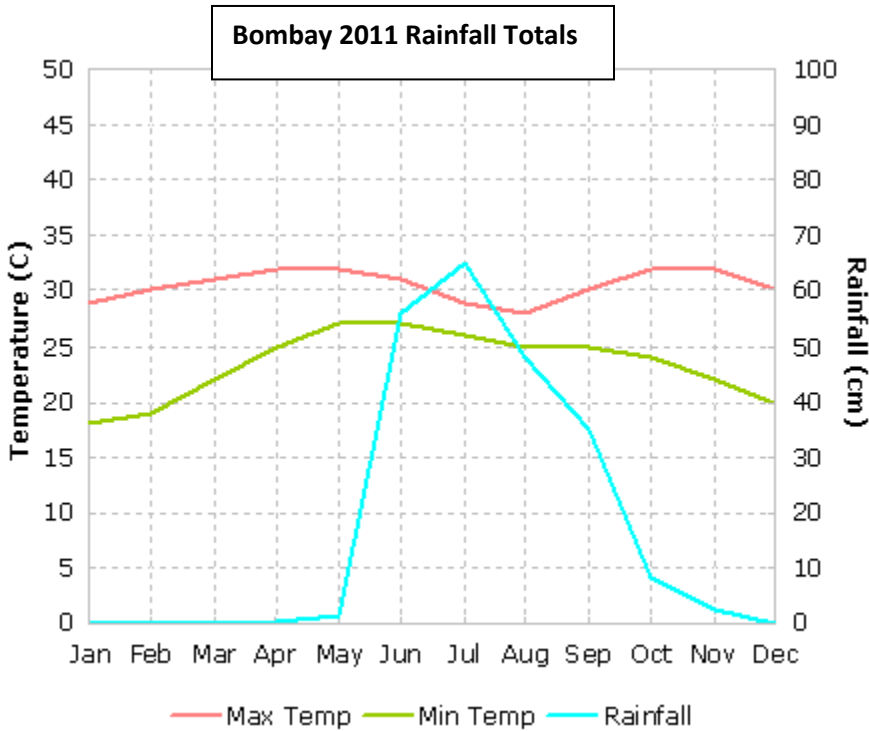
Industry in India and Southeast Asia also relies on the summer monsoon. A great deal of electricity in the region is produced by **hydroelectric power plants**, which are driven by water collected during the monsoons. Electricity powers hospitals, schools, and businesses that help the economies of these areas develop.

When the **summer monsoon is late or weak**, the region's economy suffers. Fewer people can grow their own food, and large agribusinesses do not have produce to sell. Governments must import food. Electricity becomes more expensive, sometimes limiting development to large businesses and wealthy individuals. The summer monsoon has been called India's true finance minister.

Heavy summer monsoons can cause great damage. Residents of such urban areas as Mumbai, India, are used to the streets flooding with almost half a meter (1.5 feet) of water every summer. However, when the summer monsoon is stronger than expected, floods can devastate the region. In cities like Mumbai, entire neighborhoods can be drowned. In rural areas, mudslides can bury villages and destroy crops.

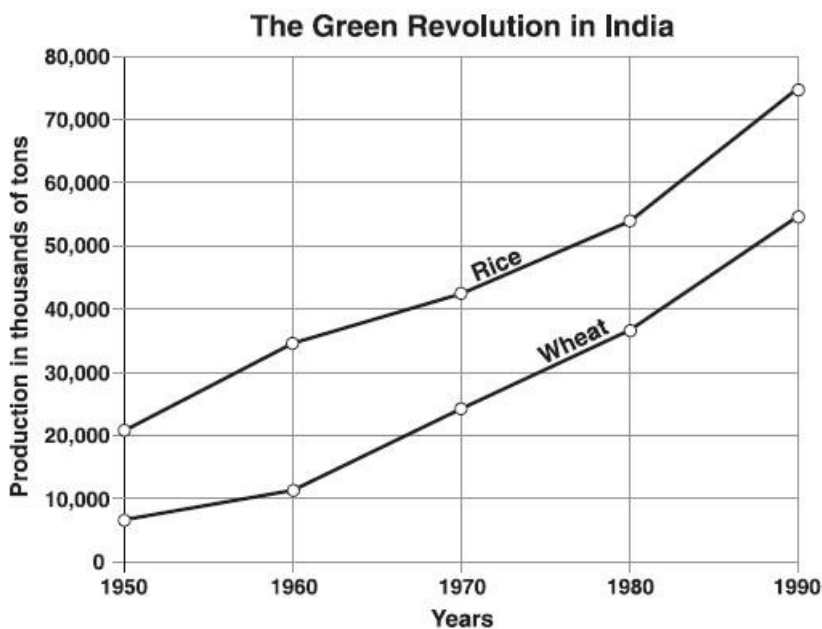
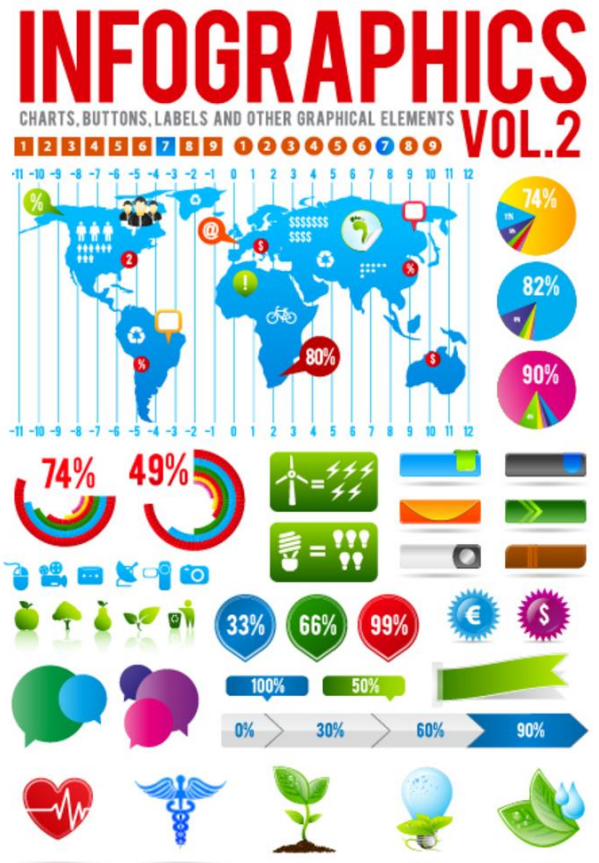
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Infographic Tips

- Be sure of your facts
- Don't distort data
- Create great designs
- Dive deep into details
- Share information
- Think about what graphics to use



Source: Library of Congress, Federal Research Division (adapted)