

# WORLD OIL CONSUMPTION

The data underlying these graphs came directly from a website for Frontline, a program of the Public Broadcasting System.

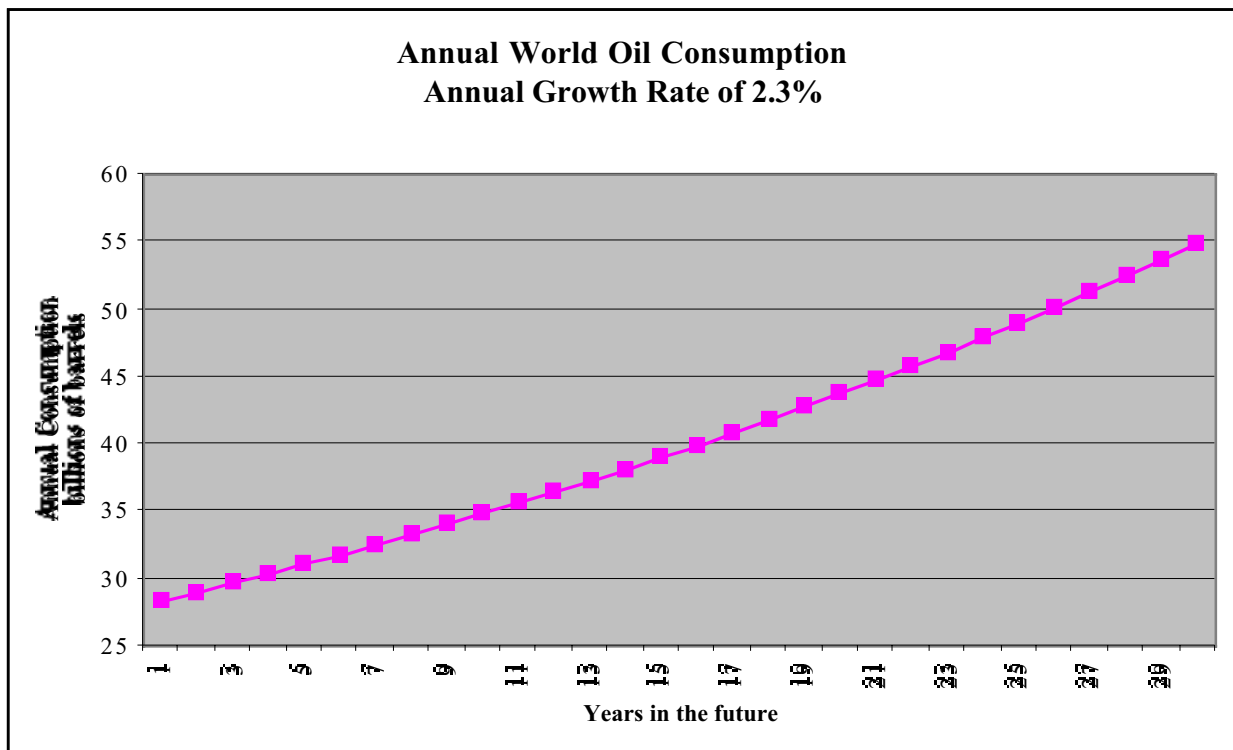
<http://www.pbs.org/frontlineworld/stories/colombia/oila.html>

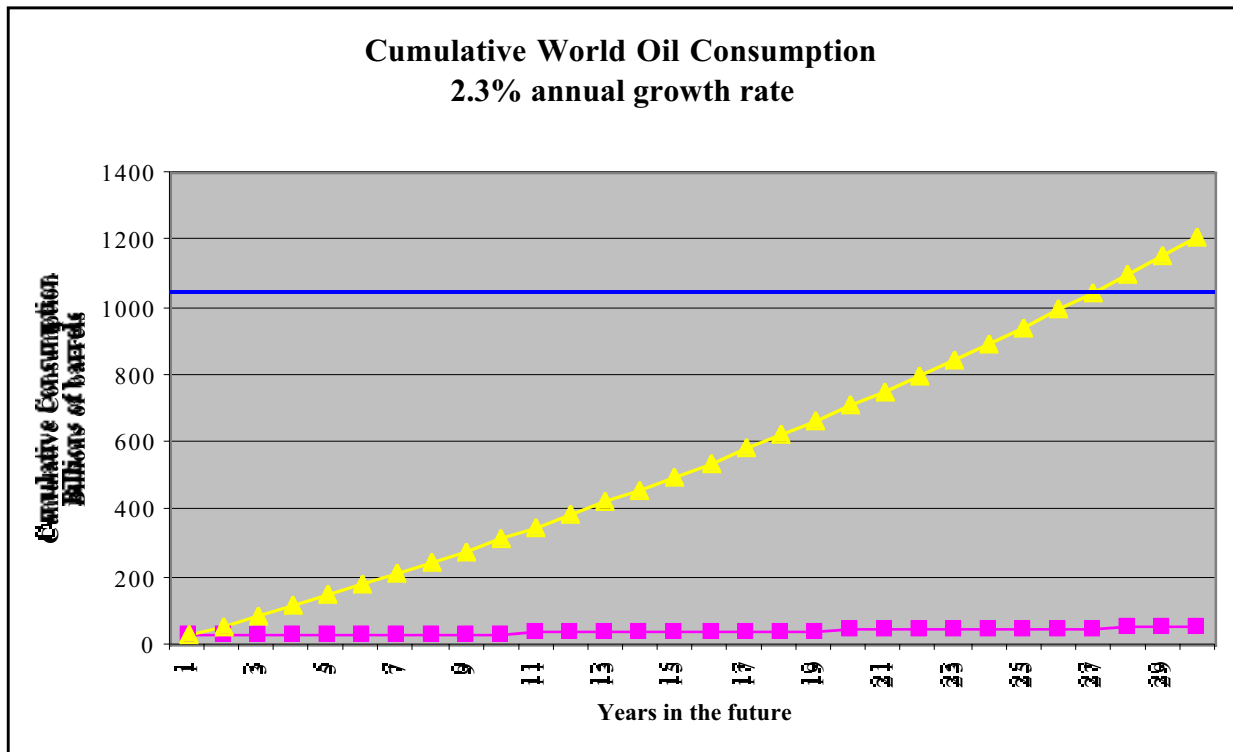
These data are entirely consistent with those from other, more authoritative sources.

According to Frontline, world oil consumption will increase from 76 million barrels per day in 2000 to 119 million barrels per day in 2020. That's an annual growth rate of about 2.3% - a doubling time of about 30 years.

World oil reserves total approximately 1027 billion barrels.

Below are two graphs. The first plots predicted annual consumption. The second plots cumulative consumption. Take how much is used this year and add it to the total of what was used in the past. That way we can see about when that trillion barrels of reserves will be used up.





The blue line marks the amount of proven oil reserves as of 2002. It is certain that some more oil will be found but it is highly unlikely that the total recoverable oil will be a great deal more than the roughly 1,000 billion barrels known today.

At some point, well before the blue line and yellow line cross, the curve on the first graph will turn downward. Oil production will reach a peak. One authoritative source suggests that will occur sometime between 2003 and 2008.

Sell your car. Buy a bicycle.