



Planet Pulse

For June 12, 2026

**A rhythmic check-in on
climate issues**



It's a boat, it's a plane, no it's Seaglider

I covered one of the Seaglider's test flights as the company edges closer to commercialization.

- Rhode Island-based Regent Craft continues to test its 12-passenger electric boat/plane while regulators figure out the rules for this new class of maritime transportation.
- The "ship" which comes under the purview of the Coast Guard, can float, foil, and fly.
- At the dock it looks like a boat and can hydrofoil at 25-40 miles per hour.. However, once it's about a mile offshore, it can lift off and fly (30 feet above the water) at up to 180 mph.
- The goal is to deploy the Seaglider as a commuter craft between corridors like New York to the Hamptons, Boston to Nantucket, and Palm Beach to Miami.
- Who said rich people aren't environmentally conscience.



Regent's Viceroy Seaglider
Rendering: Courtesy of Regent Craft



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Not so fast

I've covered the concept of putting data centers in space a few times now. Wave energy has also been a topic on multiple occasions. This post is sort of the Reese's Cup of the o topics.

- **Mike Schroeper - the founder of Gigascale Capital - is skeptical of space-based data centers.**

Why?

- **Because he's talking his book. Still, he has a point.**
- **His take is that its 100 times cheaper to build an ocean platform than to rocket materials to space, that is for everyone not named Musk.**
- **I suspect he's correct, not about Elon, but about the overall costs. Enter Panthalassa.**
- **The company is developing wave energy to power ocean-based data centers.**
- **The challenge: Wave energy has existed for 100 years without gaining traction primarily due to cost.**
- **Perhaps deep-pocketed hyperscalers will finally move the needle.**

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Meta Platforms data center complex on a 1,000-acre site in far Northeast El Paso. Omar Ornelas/El Paso Times/USA TODAY Network via REUTERS

This is how bad it's gotten

- Speaking of data centers, the backlash against them and AI is spreading like the plague.
- It's so bad that even Texas wants to put up roadblocks. And Texas is the "anti-Mikey." They like anything that makes money, until now
- Governor Abbott sent a letter to state regulators recommending a series of data centers reforms including:
 - Requiring new facilities to generate their own power and pay for their own grid connections and infrastructure upgrades.
 - Mandating a "closed loop" water system to reduce water consumption.
 - Instituting annual reporting on electricity and water use.
 - Repealing sales tax exemptions.
- What's the world coming to when a Republican governor starts channeling Democrat philosophies?

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How the world has changed



Forecast population change between 2025 and 2050

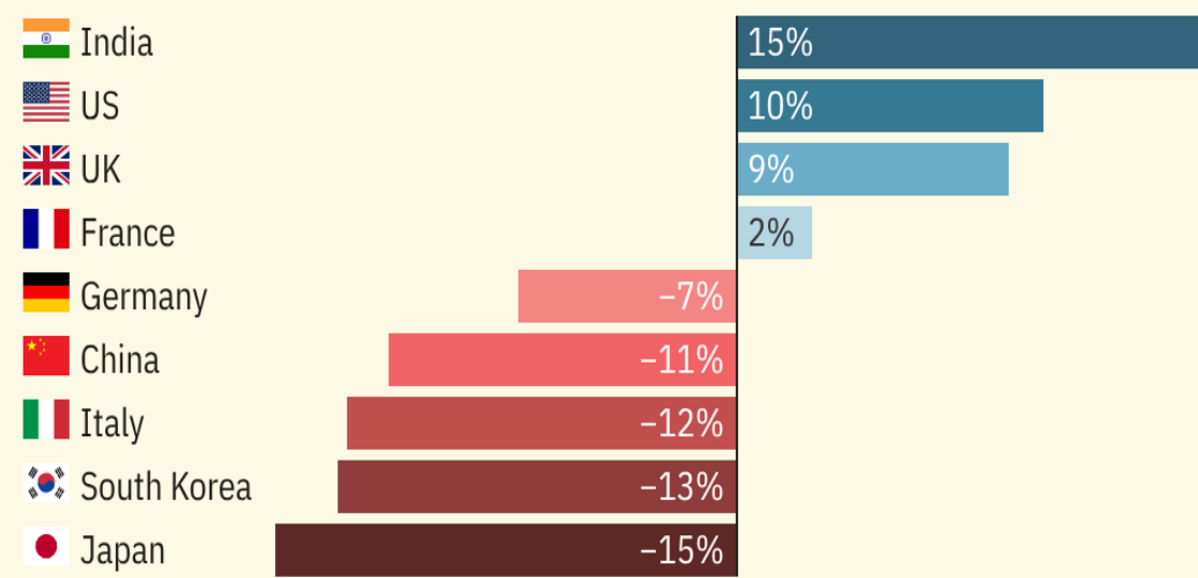


Chart: Jeronimo Gonzalez/Semafor • Source: UN via Voronoi

Many developed countries have a growing problem with a population that isn't growing.

Numerous countries have resorted to paying for procreation.

South Korea - with one of the lowest birth rates - is offering a "baby bonus" of about \$1,500.

Hungary offers newlyweds a \$30,000 loan if they have one child. If they have three, the loan is interest-free.

A regional Japanese government is taking a different approach. It's offering a \$125 subsidy for using dating apps.



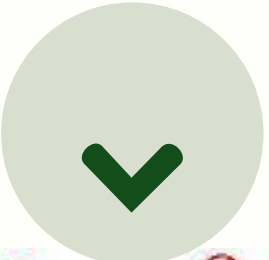
Japan's problem isn't that married couples are having fewer babies. Couples in Japan have only slightly fewer children than they did in 1977.



In Japan, the problem is that no one is getting married.



That's the opposite of Europe, where people have no problem finding a mate, but then have far fewer children.



Unbiased and Unfiltered

An honest assessment of the cleantech industry and the effort to stem climate change.

