

## **Concept 35.2**

### **There are limits to population growth.**

#### **Exponential Growth of Populations:**

J-shaped curve

#### **Carrying Capacity:**

Carrying capacity - The number of organisms in a population that the environment can maintain.

S-shaped curve

Limiting factor - a condition that can restrict a population's growth.

#### **Factors Affecting Population Growth:**

**Density-Dependent Factors** -A factor that limits a population more as population density increases.

**Density-Independent Factors** - Factors that limit populations but are unrelated to population density.

#### **Population Growth Cycle:**

Snowshoe Hare and Lynx Population Cycle

“boom-and-bust cycle”