

Population Terms

Need to Knows

Replacement level

Def: the tfr level needed for a generation to replace itself (zero population growth)

Ex: 2.1 in the developed world

Total Fertility Rate

Def: likely number of a woman will have during child-bearing years

Sig: a TFR above 2.1 indicates that the society is growing; below 2.1 indicates a society in decline

Carrying capacity

Def: the number of people a unit of land can sustain without degrading its future capacity

Sig: varies on the land's natural characteristics and the type of agriculture

Thomas Malthus

Def: argued that population grows exponentially while agricultural output only grows arithmetically (i.e. not enough food)

Sig: critics point to slowing population and agricultural revolutions

Ester Boserup

Def: argues that as societies will find ways to feed growing populations (additional land, technology)

Sig: challenges neo-Malthusians

Crude Birth Rate

Def: number of babies born in a population per 1,000 people [births/total pop. x 10]

Ex: MDC = 10, LDC=25+, World=20

Crude Death Rate

Def: number of deaths in a population per 1,000 people

Ex: MDC=10, LDC=8, World=8

Natural Increase Rate

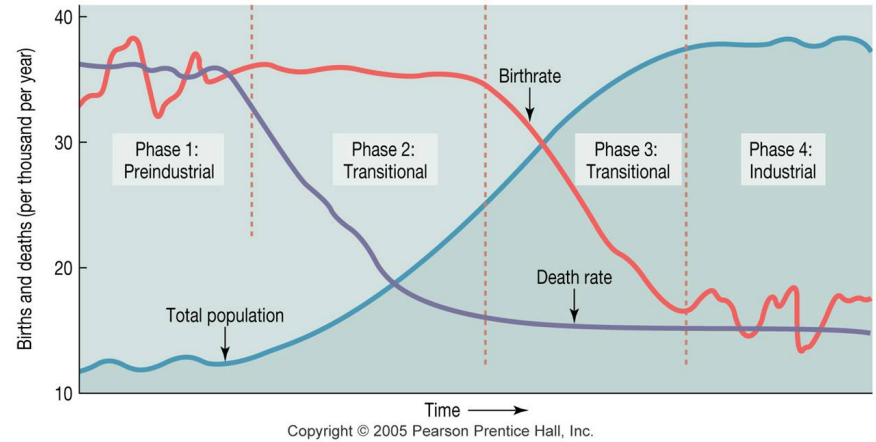
Def: CBR minus CDR. Divide it by 10 to make it a percentage. It doesn't include migration.

Ex: MDC=.1, LDC=1.7+, World=1.2

Doubling Time

Def: the amount of time before a population doubles (70 divided by the natural increase rate)

Ex: MDC=700 yrs, LDC=41+ yrs, World=58 yrs



Demographic Transition Model

Def: a model that helps us understand the change in population over time

Sig: populations rise as they develop and then stabilize (or even fall) once they're developed

Dependency Ratio

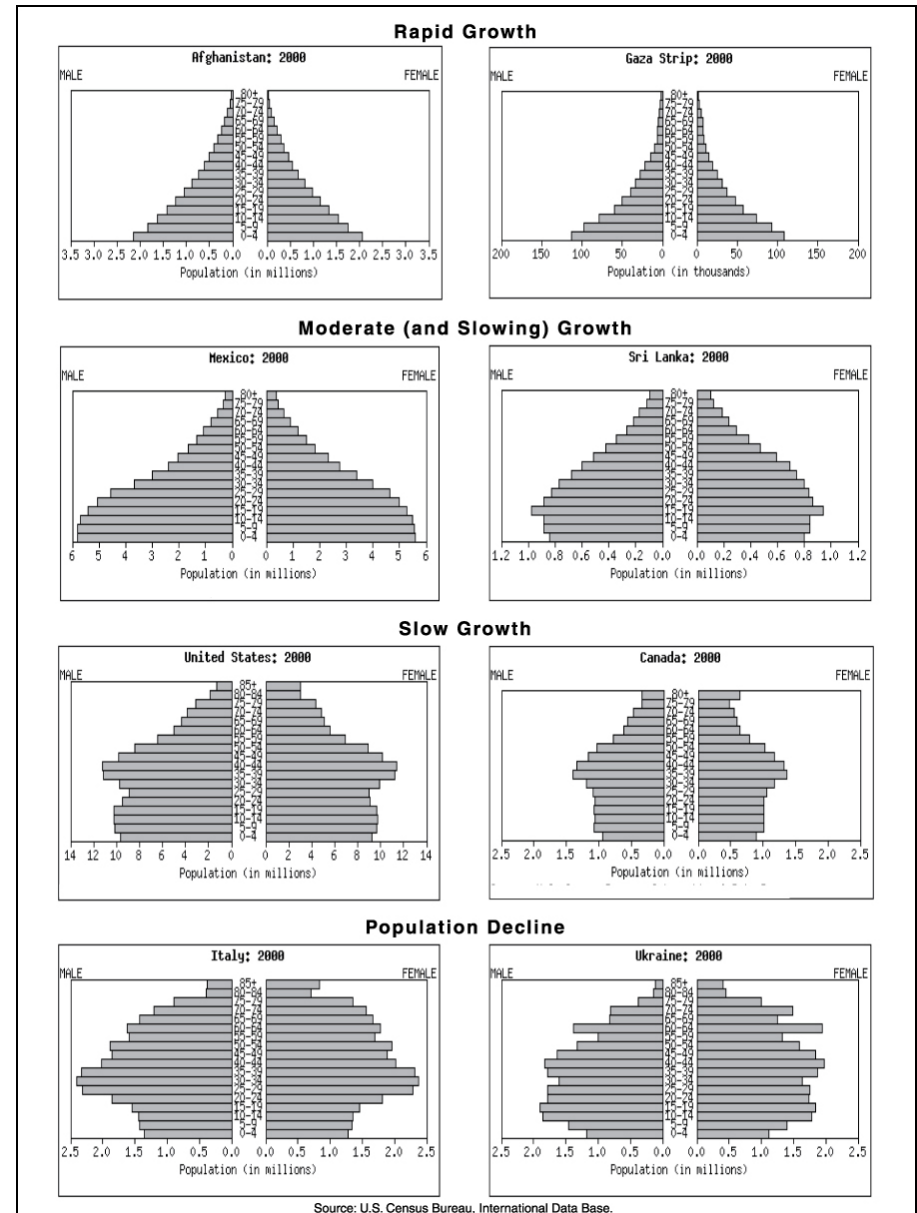
Def: the number of young and old compared to the working population (higher ratio puts pressure on society & hurts development)

Sig: MDCs with the elderly, LDCs with kids

Population Pyramids (4)

Def: visual representation of the age-sex ratio (correlated to stages of development & DTM)

Ex: see pic



Demographic Momentum

Def: the tendency for populations to continue to grow after it reaches or drops below replacement level (time lag until CDR catches up with CBR)

Ex: China's NI is .5 despite a 1.7 TFR

Infant & Child Mortality Rate

Def: deaths per 1,000 people (infant includes those from birth to age 1 & child is from age 1 to 5)

IM: MDC=5, LDC=45, World=41

Life Expectancy

Def: average number of years a person can expect to live at birth

Ex: MDC=78, LDC=66, World=70

Epidemiological Transition

Def: the tendency for societies to move from communicable to non communicable diseases as they move through the DTM

Sig: stages 1 & 2 (cholera), stages 3 & 4 (heart disease)

Antinatalist & Pronatalist Policy

- AP: Gov't policy to limit population growth (e.g. China's One Child)
- PP: Gov't policy to encourage pop. growth
- Ex: China's "One Child" policy or India's sterilization policies (e.g. paid leave for mothers)

Should also know

One-Child Policy

- Def: China's policy mandate that families stop at one child (rural & minorities are given some flexibility)
- Sig: TFR decline (female infanticide and imbalanced sex ratios)

UN Cairo Conference

- Def: focused on population control through addressing gender inequality & family planning
- Sig: controversial among conservatives

Agricultural Density

Def: the number of people engaged in farming divided by the amount of arable land.

Sig: A higher AD signifies less development as they rely on more labor

Arithmetic density (APD)

Def: the number of people per square mile or kilometer

Sig: a high number may indicate over population (Bangladesh is 2,542/km², US is 79/km²)

Physiological density (PPD)

Def: number of people per mile or kilometer of *arable* land (suitable for farming).

Sig: PPD is a better indicator of population pressure than APD. Egypt's APD is 70/km² but its PPD is 3,503)

Demographic Accounting Equation

Def: population change including natural increase and net migration ($CB-CD + I-E$)

Sig: it can be used to analyze sub groups too (population under 65, Latinos, etc)

Baby Boom

Def: a spike in the CBR which will eventually lead to a spike in the CDR

Ex: those born b/t 1946 & 1964 in the US

Eugenic Population Policy

- Def: government policy to affect the ethnic make-up of a population (through birth or migration)
- Ex: anti-miscegenation laws in the US

Miscellaneous Terms

Female Infanticide

- Def: deliberate killing of fetus or infant because it's a girl
- Sig: an unintended consequence of China and India's antinatalist policies