

Chapter 3

Population Composition

Structure

- Definition of population composition
- Sex composition
- Age structure
- Age sex pyramid
- Expanding population
- Constant population
- Declining population
- Rural urban composition

Definition of population composition

Population composition is the description of the characteristics of a group of people in terms of factors such as their age, sex, marital status, education, occupation, and relationship to the head of household

- People can be distinguished by their age sex and their place of residence
- Other distinguishing attributes of the population are occupation education and life expectancy.

Sex composition

Ratio between the number of women and men in the population is called sex ratio. Method of calculating it is different in various countries

$$\frac{\text{Male Population}}{\text{Female Population}} \times 1000$$

or the number of males per thousand females.

But in India the sex ratio is worked out using the formula

$$\frac{\text{Female Population}}{\text{Male Population}} \times 1000$$

or the number of females per thousand males.

Importance of sex ratio

- It indicates of the status of women in a country
- It shows how modern a country is and how advanced it's society is and it also shows the equality

Problems Faced By Women

- Practice of female foeticide
- Female infanticide
- Domestic violence
- Sexual harassment
- Child marriage etc.

Reason

- Lower social economic status of women in these area.
- Conservative mindset
- Patriarchy

Natural advantage versus social disadvantage

Females have a biological advantage over males as they tend to be more resilient than males yet this advantage is cancelled out by the social disadvantages and discriminations that they face.

Some data

- on an average the world population reflects a sex ratio of 102 males per thousand females
- The highest sex ratio in the world has been recorded in Latvia where there are 85 males for 1000 female
- In contrast in Qatar there are 311 male per thousand females
- The sex ratio is favorable for females in 139
- countries of the world and unfavorable for them in remaining 72 countries listed by United Nations.
- In general Asia has a low sex ratio countries like China India Saudi Arabia Pakistan and Ghana have a lower sex ratio
- On the other hand extreme is greater part of Europe including Russia where males are in minority. The reason for it is the better status of women and an excessively male dominated out migration to different parts of the world in the past

Age structure

Definition :- It represents the number of people of different age groups this is an important indicator of population composition

- Large size of population in the age group of 15 to 59 indicates large working population
- A greater proportion of population about 60 years represents an aging population which requires more expenditure and health care facilities.
- High proportion of young population would mean that the region has high birth rates and the population is youthful.

Age sex pyramid/ Population pyramid

Definition:- age sex structure of a population refers to the number of female and male in different age groups. It is also known as population pyramid which is used to show the sex structure of the population.

Importance of age sex / Population pyramid

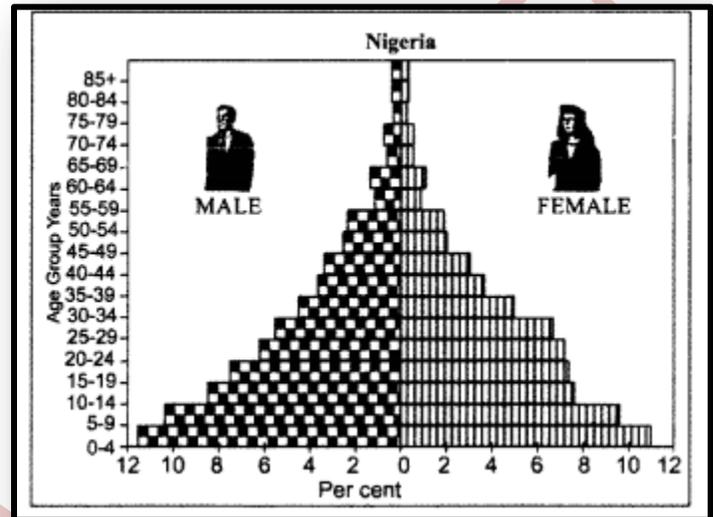
- The shape of the population pyramid reflects the characteristics of the population that how youthful old or constant population growth is of that nation.
- The left side shows the percentage of male by the right side shows the percentage of women in each group.

Types of Population pyramid

□ Expanding population (triangular shaped pyramid):-

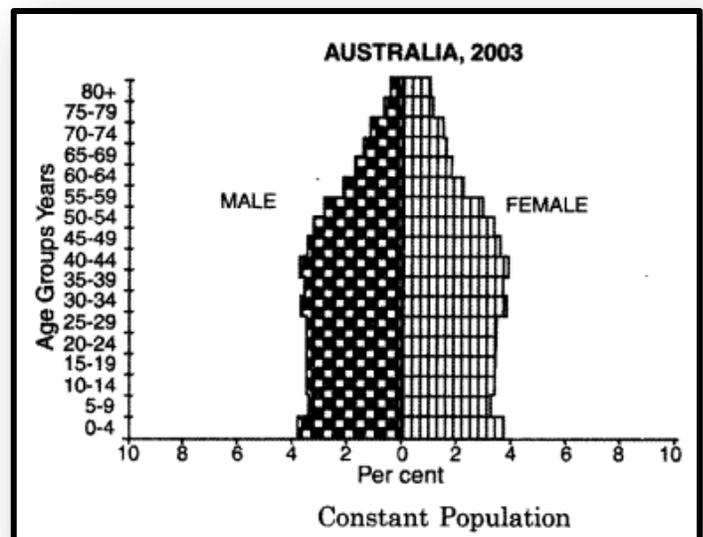
triangular shape pyramid with the wide base and typical of less developed countries. These have larger population in lower age groups due to high birth rate.

Example:- Nigeria , Bangladesh and Mexico.



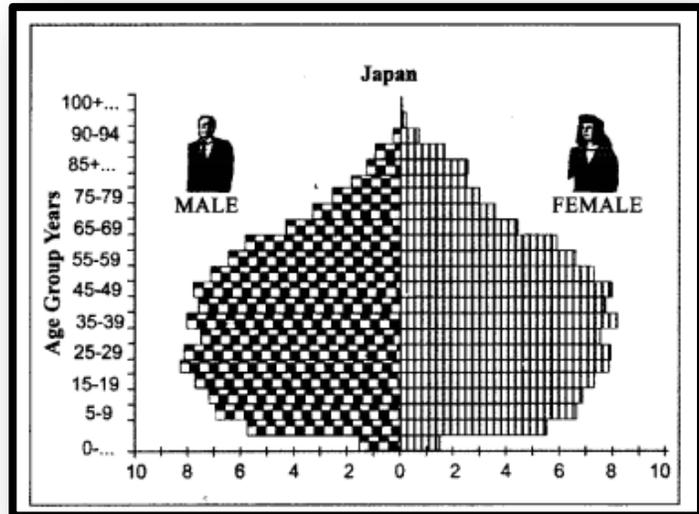
□ Constant population (bell shaped pyramid):-

Its age sex pyramid is bell shaped and tapered towards the top . This shows birth and death rates are almost equal leading to near constant population. Examples Austral



□ Declining population:-

pyramid has a tapered top showing low birth and death rates. The population growth in developed countries is usually zero or negative. Example Japan



Ageing Population

Population ageing is the process by which the share of the older population becomes proportionally larger.

This is a new phenomenon of the twentieth century .

In most of the developed countries of the world, population in higher age groups has increased due to increased life expectancy.

With a reduction in birth rates, the proportion of children in population has declined.

Rural urban composition

Definition:- The division of population into rural and urban is based on the residence It shows the difference between the rural and urban lifestyle in terms of livelihood ,social conditions ,the age sex occupational structure, density of population and level of development.

- Rural area:-** Are those where people are engaged in primary activities
- Urban area :-** are those where majority of the working population are engaged in non-primary activities.

Data

- The Rural and Urban Difference in sex ratio in Canada and West European countries like Finland are just the opposite of those in African and Asian countries like Zimbabwe and in Nepal respectively
- In Western countries male outnumber female in rural areas and female outnumber male in urban areas and the reason for this is the influx of female from rural areas to avail the last job opportunities. Farming in these developed countries is also highly mechanized and remains largely a male occupation.
- By contrast in countries like Nepal Pakistan and India the case is reverse the sex ratio in Asian urban areas remains male dominated due to the predominance of male migration . However in India female participation in farming activity in rural area is fairly high.
- Shortage of housing high cost of living positive job opportunities and lack of security in cities discourage women to migrate from rural to urban areas.

Literacy

In India literacy rate denotes the percentage of population above 7 years of age who is able to read, write and have the ability to do arithmetical calculations with understanding.

- It is an indicator of socio economic development of the nation as it reveals the standard of living.
- Social status of female availability of educational facilities and policies of government level of economic development is both cause and consequence of literacy.

Occupational structure

Definition:- working population that is women and men of the age group 15 to 59 take part in various occupations ranging from agriculture, forestry, fishing, manufacturing, construction, commercial transport, services, communication and other unclassified services.

Difference sectors of economy and activities

- Primary activities:-** agriculture, forestry, fishing and mining are classified as primary activities
- Secondary activities:-** manufacturing as secondary activity.
- Tertiary activities:-** trade, transport, communication and other services are tertiary activities.
- Quaternary activities :-** job related to, information technology and developing ideas as quaternary activities.

The proportion of working population engaged in these four sectors is a good indicator of levels of economic development of a nation.