LESSON 3: DEMOGRAPHIC INDICATORS

Glossary

Note: Most of the terms used in this glossary are verbatim versions from the Population Reference Bureau's Population Handbook (https://www.prb.org/population-handbook/), as of 25 July 2018. In some cases, minor changes and cuts have been made. Quotation marks are therefore not used. The complete and additional definitions can be found in the Population Reference Bureau's Population Handbook (https://www.prb.org/population-handbook/).

Age-dependency ratio
The ratio of people in the "dependent" ages, which are individuals under the age of 15 and ages 65 and older, to those in the "economically productive" ages (15 to 64 years) in a population.

Divorce rate
The number of divorces per 1,000 inhabitants in a given year.

Emigration rate
The number of emigrants (those leaving a country for another) departing an area of origin per 1,000 inhabitants in that area of origin in a given year.

Gross reproduction rate
The average number of daughters that would be born alive to a woman (or group of women) during her lifetime if she passed through her childbearing years conforming to the age-specific fertility rates of a given year. This rate only calculates daughters because it specifically measures "reproduction" in which case a woman is reproducing herself by having a daughter.

Growth rate
This is the rate at which a population is increasing (or decreasing) in a given year due to natural increase and net migration, which is expressed as a percentage of the base population. It takes into account all components of population growth: Births, deaths and migration.

Immigration rate
The number of immigrants (those entering the country from another country) arriving at a destination per 1,000 inhabitants at that destination in a given year.

Infant mortality rate
The number of deaths of infants under the age of one per 1,000 live births per year.

Life expectancy
The average number of additional years a person could expect to live if current mortality trends were to continue for the rest of that person's life.

Marriage rate
The number of marriages per 1,000 inhabitants per year.

Maternal mortality rate
The number of women who die as a result of pregnancy and childbirth complications per 100,000 live births in a given year.

Median age
The age that divides a population into two numerically equal groups; that is, half the population is younger than this age and the other half is older.

Net migration
The net effect of immigration and emigration on an area's population in a given time period, expressed as an increase or decrease.

Net reproduction rate (NRR)
The average number of daughters that would be born to a woman (or a group of women) if she passed through her lifetime conforming to the age-specific fertility and mortality rates of a given year. This rate is similar to the gross reproduction rate, but takes into account that some women will die before completing their childbearing years. An NRR of one means that each generation of mothers is having exactly enough daughters to replace itself in the population.

Replacement-level fertility
This is the average number of children sufficient to replace both parents in the population. In developed countries, a total fertility rate of 2.1 is considered to be replacement level.

Sex ratio
The ratio of men to women in a given population, typically expressed as the number of men per 100 women.

Total fertility rate
The average number of children that would be born alive to a woman (or group of women) during her lifetime if she were to pass through her childbearing years conforming to the age-specific fertility rates of a given year. This rate is sometimes stated as the number of children women are having today.