

Demography: Core Concepts and Theories

Demography · Answer Key · 19 Questions

1. What is the primary measure used to assess the number of births per 1,000 population in a given year?

- A) Total Fertility Rate (TFR)
- B) Crude Birth Rate (CBR)**
- C) Replacement-Level Fertility
- D) General Fertility Rate (GFR)

2. The demographic transition model, a cornerstone of population studies, describes a shift from high birth and death rates to what?

- A) High birth and low death rates
- B) Low birth and low death rates**
- C) Low birth and high death rates
- D) Fluctuating birth and death rates

3. Which of the following is NOT a direct component of population change, as defined by the fundamental demographic balancing equation?

- A) Births
- B) Deaths
- C) Immigration
- D) Economic Development**

4. Life expectancy at birth is defined as the average number of years a newborn infant can expect to live if current mortality patterns continue throughout its life. What key assumption underlies this calculation?

- A) Mortality rates will increase significantly
- B) Mortality rates will decline significantly
- C) Mortality rates will remain constant**
- D) Fertility rates will influence mortality

5. The concept of 'population momentum' refers to the tendency for population growth to continue even after fertility rates have fallen to replacement level. This is primarily due to what factor?

- A) High infant mortality rates
- B) A large proportion of young people in the population**
- C) Increased international migration
- D) Declining death rates

6. Which theory suggests that population growth is a primary driver of environmental degradation and resource depletion?

- A) Malthusian Theory**
- B) Cornucopian Theory
- C) Demographic Transition Theory
- D) Carrying Capacity Theory

7. The 'dependency ratio' in demography is a measure of the number of dependents (typically under 15 and over 64 years of age) per unit of what?

- A) Total population
- B) Working-age population**
- C) Fertile population
- D) Elderly population

8. What does the term 'cohort' refer to in demographic analysis?

- A) A specific age group within a population
- B) A group of people born in the same year or period
- C) Individuals who have experienced the same life event
- D) All of the above**

9. The Crude Death Rate (CDR) is calculated as the number of deaths per 1,000 population in a year. A low CDR can be an indicator of what?

- A) High fertility
- B) Improving public health and living conditions**
- C) Increased migration
- D) Economic recession

10. What is the 'Total Fertility Rate' (TFR)?

- A) The average number of children a woman has by age 50
- B) The average number of children a woman would have if she experienced current age-specific fertility rates throughout her reproductive life**
- C) The number of births per 1,000 women of reproductive age
- D) The average number of children born per family

11. Which type of migration involves individuals moving within the same country?

- A) International migration
- B) Emigration
- C) Internal migration**
- D) Immigration

12. The concept of 'zero population growth' occurs when which of the following is true?

- A) Births equal deaths, and net migration is zero
- B) Births exceed deaths, and net migration is negative
- C) Deaths exceed births, and net migration is positive
- D) Birth rates are consistently declining

13. What is 'age structure' in demography?

- A) The distribution of a population by age and sex
- B) The proportion of elderly people in a population
- C) The rate of aging in a population
- D) The average age of a population

14. The 'sex ratio' is typically defined as the number of males per 100 females. What is the approximate natural sex ratio at birth?

- A) 100 males per 100 females
- B) 105 males per 100 females
- C) 110 males per 100 females
- D) 95 males per 100 females

15. The 'rate of natural increase' is the difference between the crude birth rate and the:

- A) Crude death rate
- B) Net migration rate
- C) Total fertility rate
- D) Dependency ratio

16. Which of the following demographic indicators is most sensitive to changes in mortality at younger ages?

- A) Life expectancy at age 65
- B) Life expectancy at birth
- C) Crude death rate
- D) Total fertility rate

17. In demographic analysis, what does 'replacement-level fertility' generally refer to?

- A) A TFR of 2.1 children per woman
- B) A TFR of 2.0 children per woman
- C) A TFR sufficient to replace the current generation, accounting for mortality
- D) A TFR that leads to zero population growth

18. The study of population dynamics, including births, deaths, migration, and aging, is known as:

- A) Sociology
- B) Anthropology
- C) Demography**
- D) Epidemiology

19. Which factor is often considered the most significant driver of the increasing life expectancy observed in many developed countries over the past century?

- A) Increased birth rates
- B) Decreased infant and child mortality**
- C) Higher fertility rates among older women
- D) Greater international migration