

Activity 8

Community Medicine- First semester 2022-2023

Demography- Activity

Read the article entitled “Types and Significance of Population Pyramids” and answer the following questions:

1. What is a population pyramid? what do the X and Y axis in the population pyramid represent? What do the left and right sides of the population pyramid represent?

*A population pyramid is popularly known as an “age pyramid” or “age and sex pyramid”. It is a graphical representation of age structure or the distribution of the population according to various age groups. It can be constructed on the basis of age group based population composition of a region or a country or world as a whole. It is most commonly used not only to show the age composition but also the sex composition of the population.

*The population size is shown on the x-axis (horizontal) and age groups on the y-axis (vertical).

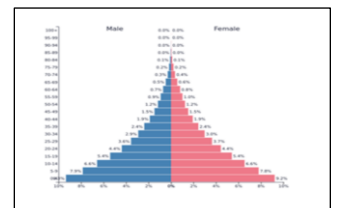
*Conventionally, females are depicted on the right side and males on the left side, and they may be shown according to the total population (absolute number) or percentage share of males and females in successive age groups

2. What are the three types of population pyramids and the characteristics of each type?

1. Expansive Pyramid: The population pyramid

with broad base and with successive

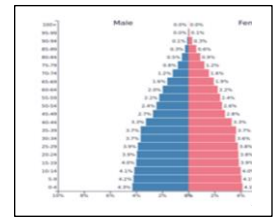
decline in the share of population of higher age groups is known as expansive pyramid. This pyramid represents situation of high fertility,



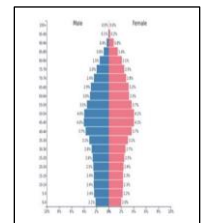
high mortality, low life expectancy, higher population growth rates, and low share of old age persons. (It indicates an expansion World Wide Journal of Multidisciplinary Research and Development~ 60 ~World Wide Journal of Multidisciplinary Research and Development of population because the size of each cohort gets larger than the size of the previous one. Expansive age pyramids are common for developing countries mainly in Africa and Asia)(not important)

2. Stationary Pyramid: A pyramid is described stationary

when the share of population remains constant in different age groups over a period of time. It represents situation of low fertility, low mortality and growth or stable population. The stationary or near stationary population pyramid displays a somewhat equal share of juvenile and adult age groups.



3. Constrictive Pyramid: A pyramid with a narrow base is called a constricted pyramid. It represents low fertility, low mortality, high life expectancy and ageing of population. It is typically associated with very advanced countries which have a high level of literacy, easy access to birth control measures and very good health and medical facilities.



3. What are the stages of the demographic transition model? What are the characteristics of each stage in terms of birth rate and death rate?

- (i) high stationary stage; high birth rate, high death rate
- (ii) early expanding stage; high birth rate and falling in death rate(living in middle ages)
- (iii) late expanding stage; decline in birth and low deaths
- (iv) low stationary stage: low birth rate and low death rate

(v) declining, contracting or negative growth rate stage: birth rate below death rate.

The characteristics of the stages are in the fig bellow

Memorize them:

