



Trend of Population Growth Due to Birth Rate and Death Rate: high birth rates and declining death rates were the phenomena till 1980, which resulted into high population growth. After that due to government efforts and increased awareness, the birth rate also started to decline, resulting in gradual decline in the population growth rate.

Migration: It is the movement of people across regions and territories. The movement of people within the country (from one place to another) is called internal migration. It does not change the population size but it changes the population distribution of an area. The movement of people from one country to other is called international migration. It changes population size of the country as well as population distribution.

Migration Pattern in India: In India, most of the recent migrations have been from rural areas to urban areas. This is due to poverty and unemployment in rural areas (Push factors) and increased employment opportunity and better living conditions in urban places (Pull factors). The urban population has increased from 17.29% of the total population in 1951 to 31.8% in 2011. There has been a significant increase in the number of million plus cities from 35 to 53 in just a decade, i.e. 2001 to 2011.

Characteristics or qualities of the population

Age Composition: The number of people in different age groups in a country is called its age composition. It is one of the most basic characteristics of a population. The age of a person influences his needs, his purchases, his capacity to perform. Generally in India, the people are classified into following three age groups. These are as follow

1. Children (Generally below 15 years): They are economically unproductive and need to be provided with food, clothing, education and medical care.
2. Working Age (15-59 years): They are economically and biologically reproductive. They comprise the working population. The working age group is the economically productive group. In 2001, this group comprised 58.7% of the population, while children made up 34.4 % and the aged only 6.9%.
3. Aged (Above 59 years): They can be economically productive though they may have retired. They may be working voluntarily but they are not available for employment through recruitment.

Dependent Population: The population of children and aged people together constitute the dependent population. They are termed dependent because they are not producers.

Sex Ratio: The sex ratio is the number of females per 1000 males in the population. It is an important social indicator to measure the extent of equality between males and females in a society at a given time. In India, sex ratio has always been unfavourable to females due to reasons of tradition and unscrupulous actions of people. Certain states which are progressive like Kerala have a very favourable sex ratio. As per census 2011, the sex ratio of Kerala is 1084 compared to 940 for all of India. Puducherry has 1038 females for every 1000 males, while Delhi has only 866 females per thousand males and Haryana has just 877 females per thousand.

Literacy Rate: A person who can read and write any language with understanding by the age of 7 years is considered literate. The total percentage of the population





of an area at a particular time aged seven years or above who can read and write with understanding is called literacy rate. Although there has been a regular increase in the literacy rates in the country, rural literacy lags behind urban literacy significantly and female literacy lags behind male literacy by a huge margin. According to Census 2011 literacy rate in the country is 74.04%. It has revealed that urban literacy rate was 84.98 %. While that in the rural areas was only 68.91 %. Similarly, female literacy was only 65.46 %, while that for males was 82.14 %.

Occupational Structure: Occupational structure referred to as the distribution population according to various types of occupation. Economically active population percentage is an important. Index of development. There is large variety of occupation the country. The occupations are usually categorised into. Primary, secondary and tertiary occupations.

- Primary occupations are those in which natural resources are extracted from the Earth. These include agriculture, fishers-. Forestry, mining, quarrying, etc.
- Secondary occupations are those in which the extracted! Natural resources are processed into products for use. These include manufacturing, refining, construction, etc.
- Tertiary occupations ate those which support the primary and secondary occupations by providing services. These include transportation, communications, commerce, administration legal services, etc.

Pattern of Working Population - The proportion of people working in different activities vary in

Developed and developing countries. The developing countries have more of their population working in primary occupations, whereas the developed nations have more of their population working in secondary and tertiary occupations.

In India, half of the population is engaged in agriculture alone however, due to industrialisation and urbanisation in recent times, there has occurred a significant shift towards secondary and tertiary occupations. Which earlier stood about 13% and 20%, respectively

Health: Health is an important component of population composition. It affects its development significantly. Due to the sustained efforts of government, healthcare programmes, life expectancy at birth has improved from 36.7 years in 1951 to 64.7 years in 2011. The death rate has declined from 25 per 1000 persons in 1951 to 7.2 in 2011. However, healthcare and nutrition are still major issues. Malnutrition in children afflicts a large percentage of the population. Availability of safe drinking water and proper sanitation are major problems in rural areas and need urgent action. Only one-third of the rural population has these basic amenities. The level of nutrition and per capita calorie consumption is much below the recommended level. This can be reduced by appropriate policy on population.

Adolescent Population: Adolescents are population aged from 10 to 19 years. They currently comprise about 20% of India's population and are an important future resource for the country. Their nutritional requirements are more than that of either adults or younger children, but in our country the diet available for them is usually inadequate for their requirements, which leads to deficiency and stunted growth. Many adolescent girls suffer from anaemia and they must be made aware of their requirements through better education and literacy they confront.





National Population Policy: After recognising that the family planning would improve individual health and welfare, the Government of India initiated its first Family Planning Programme in 1952. This promoted responsible and planned parenthood on a voluntary basis. In the year 2000, the government formulated the National Population Policy (NPP, 2000), which had the following major objectives:

- Providing a policy framework for imparting free and compulsory school education up to 14 years of age.
- Reducing infant mortality rate to below 30 per 1000 live births.
- Achieving universal immunisation of children against all vaccine preventable diseases.
- Promoting delayed marriage for girls.
- Making family welfare a people-centered programme.

NPP 2000 and Adolescents: National Population Policy (NPP) 2000 identified adolescents as one of the major sections of the population that need greater attention. NPP 2000 put greater emphasis on the important needs of adolescents, Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STDs) and unhealthy nutritional habits. It focussed on programmes that aim towards encouraging delayed marriage and child bearing, education of adolescents, providing food supplements and nutritional services, etc.

Exercise:

1. Which age groups of population are economically unproductive?
2. What is the present sex ratio of India?
3. Write any one character of developing countries.
4. When did the first Family Planning Program started in India?
5. State true or false.

The sex ratio is the number of males per 1000 females in the population.

The literacy rate among male is higher than that of female.

Mining is a secondary occupation.

6. What do you mean by absolute increase of population?
7. What kind of migration takes place when a poor farmer in Bihar leaves his village and comes to Delhi for work?
8. State true or false.

Population is an static phenomenon.

The percentage increase of population per year is termed as absolute increase of population.

The growth rate of population is generally done at the interval of 10 year period.

9. Which Union Territories of India has the highest and the lowest population?
10. What is India's rank in the world in terms of population density?
11. Name any two low population density states.
12. Fill in the blanks

(i) _____ make and use resources.

(ii) The _____ provides information of population.

(iii) As per 2011 census, the population density of India is _____

(iv) The state with the lowest population density is _____

