

CHAPTER - 5

DEMOGRAPHIC TRENDS IN INDIA

1. Define Demography and explain the differences between its two main branches.

Answer:

- Demography is the systematic study of population, dealing with structure, birth/death rates, migration, and density.
- Formal Demography and Social Demography are the two branches of demography.
- **Formal Demography:** This branch focuses on quantitative measurements like population size, age structure, and gender ratios.
- **Social Demography:** This branch investigates the social causes and consequences of population changes, such as how they relate to social patterns.

2. What is the significance of studying demography for the development of a society?

Answer:

- It analyzes diverse human resources and structural changes within a specific area.
- To know how human resources can be utilized for a society's growth.
- Understanding population trends helps in formulating effective socio-economic and political patterns.

3. Explain the term migration and distinguish between internal and international migration.

Answer:

- Migration is the permanent or temporary settlement of people moving from one region to another.
- **Internal Migration:** This occurs within a country's borders, such as guest workers from other states moving to Kerala.
- **International Migration:** This occurs across country borders, such as Keralites moving to the Gulf or students going to the UK.

4. How do birth rate and death rate influence the population growth of an area?

Answer:

- Population growth is the difference between the birth rate (live births per 1000) and the death rate (deaths per 1000).
- When the birth rate is significantly higher than the death rate, the population increases.
- When the birth rate is low and the death rate is high, population growth slows down or decreases.

5. Discuss how high infant mortality and maternal mortality rates act as indicators of a country's backwardness.

Answer:

- Infant mortality refers to deaths of children under one year per 1000 live births; maternal mortality refers to deaths of women during childbirth.
- High rates in these categories are direct reflections of a country's poverty level.
- These rates reveal the backwardness of a nation's health care and sanitation systems.

6. Define Sex Ratio and explain its importance in predicting population growth.

Answer:

- Sex ratio is the number of females per thousand males in a particular area during a specific period.
- It is a key indicator used to predict future population growth and size.
- It helps governments understand the gender balance, which affects social and economic planning.

7. Analyze the declining trends of the Child Sex Ratio in India from 1961 to 2011.

Answer:

- Child sex ratio specifically measures females per 1000 males in the 0-6 years age group.
- Census data shows a steady decline from 960 in 1961 down to 914 in 2011.
- This declining trend is viewed as a significant demographic crisis by NITI Aayog and social planners.

8. What is meant by the density of population? Mention the states with the highest and lowest density in India.

Answer:

- Population density is the average number of people residing per square kilometer.
- According to the 2011 census, Delhi has the highest density in India.

- Among all states, Bihar has the highest population density
- Arunachal Pradesh is the state with the lowest population density.

9. Explain the concept of life expectancy and list the factors that contribute to high life expectancy in Kerala.

Answer:

- Life expectancy is an estimate of how long a person lives on average, based on death rates of various age groups.
- Kerala leads in life expectancy due to high literacy and awareness.
- Cleanliness, food availability, and decentralized public health policies are key contributors.

10. What is population age structure? How does it change with improvements in standard of living?

Answer:

- Age structure refers to the proportion of persons in different age groups (children, youth, and elderly).
- Improved living standards and healthcare increase life expectancy.
- These improvements lead to a higher proportion of older people in the population structure.

11. Define the dependency ratio and explain how it influences the economic stability of a country.

Answer:

- It is the comparison between the dependent population (under 15 and over 64) and the working population (15-64).
- A high dependency ratio places pressure on the working class to support non-working members.
- Governments use this ratio to plan healthcare and educational systems for those requiring care.

12. Explain the term "Demographic Dividend" and the advantages it offers to a nation.

Answer:

- This occurs when the working-age population is larger than the dependent population.
- It leads to increased national productivity and socio-economic progress.

- It allows for high levels of human resource development if youth are given proper opportunities.

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