

28. Population – structure

Structure of population by several aspects (criteria):

- sex (gender)
- age
- race
- nationality
- language
- education
- religion

Structure of population by gender

- developed countries* = women prevail
- developing countries* = men prevail

↔ different mortality, socio-economic differences, influence of migration (men to USA) and war conflicts (loss of men during WWII), etc.

Structure of population by age

= population pyramids – share (%) of men/women of total population →

- ⇒ *progressive type* (high share of young age groups: 0-15 yrs.)
- ⇒ *stationary type* (stagnation of population)
- ⇒ *regressive type* (small share of young age groups)
- ⇒ *extreme regressive type* (ageing of population)

There is a relation between age structure and socio-economic development of a population. Young, economically LDCs have typical progressive type of a population's structure by age. Later, with increasing development of a country this type is continuously replaced by stationary and regressive type of age structure.

Which countries is ageing of population typical for?

Structure of population by race

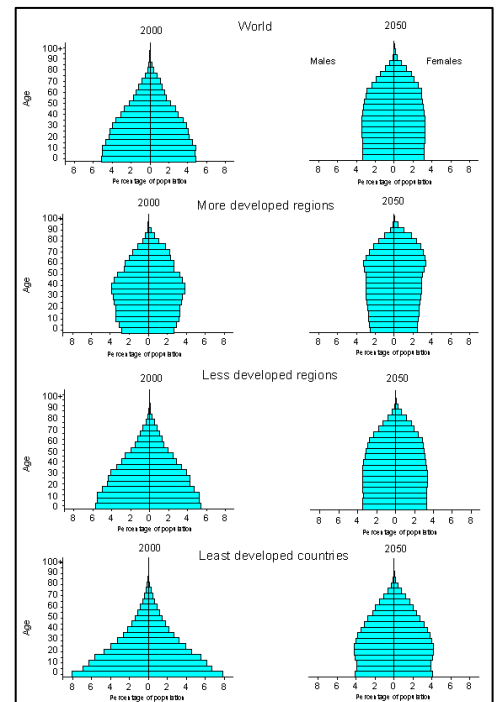
Physical and biological features = different races:

- ☺ White race – Europe, Canada, USA (multicultural)
- ☺ Yellow race - Asia
- ☺ Black race – Africa

+ transition races (stocks) caused by large migrations of the world's population, e.g. SE Asian, North Eurasian, etc.

+ miscegenation between races:

- ❖ *Mulatto* – Europeans + Africans
- ❖ *Mestizo* – Europeans + Indians (South America)
- ❖ *Zambo* – Asians + Indians
- ❖ *Creole* – Europeans + descendants of African slaves in Latin America (Caribbean)
- ❖ *Malagasies* – Indonesians (Asians) + East Africans (Madagascar)



Structure of population by nationality and language

Nationality = reference of inhabitants to a certain nation → about 2,000 different nations live all around the world. The most numerous nations: Chinese, Hindus, Russians, Americans, etc.

Language families: the most numerous = Indo-European (47%), Sino-Tibetan (22%)

Language groups (of Indo-European language family): Slavic, Baltic, Germanic, Romanic, Celtic and Indo-Iranic.

Structure of population by education

Education levels: primary, secondary, university ↔ different education system →

Literacy rate = number (share) of people that can read, write and count (compute).

Nowadays: number of illiterate people = 1 billion (2/3 are women).

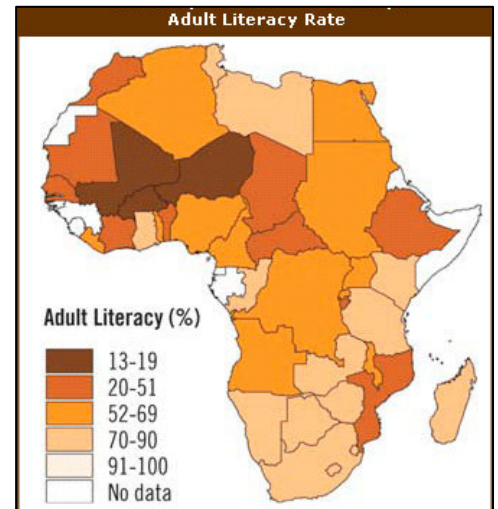
Structure of population by religion

Religion very often influences society, culture, tourism. Sometimes it's a cause of (armed) conflicts.

Main religions of the world:

- *Christianity* (N+S America, Europe + European part of Russia, Sub-Saharan Africa, Australia and part of Oceania)
- *Buddhism* (SE Asia, China, Japan)
- *Islam* (N Africa, SW Asia, Albania, former Yugoslavia, Central Asia)
- *Hinduism* (India + Nepal and SE Asia)
- *Chinese religions* (China)
- *Shintoism* (Japan)

Christianity, Islam, Buddhism and Hinduism = about 90% of the world's people belief. About 1/5 of the world's population is without any belief.



Keywords

population structure by different criteria, gender, population pyramids