

## **38. Population – structure**

**Biological structure** = by gender, age, health, race, etc.

Structure of population by sex

In developed countries, there is more women than men.

In developing countries, there is more men than women.

Age structure

Normally, we use *population pyramids* to analyse population structure by age. There are 3 main types of population pyramids:

- *Progressive type* – population grows, e.g. developing countries
- *Stationary type* – population stagnates, e.g. Slovakia
- *Regressive type* – population declines, e.g. the most economically developed

Racial structure

There are 3 main races in the world:

- *White* = Europoid race
- *Yellow* = Asiatic race
- *Black* = African race

**Cultural structure** = by education, nationality, language, religion, etc.

Language structure

Hierarchy = language family → language group → language

The largest one is Indo-European language family. In Europe, there are many languages spoken among people, i.e. especially languages of Slavic, Germanic and Romanic language group:

- *Slavic language group*: Slovak, Czech, Russian, Ukrainian, Polish, Serbian, etc.
- *Germanic language group*: English, German, Norwegian, Dutch, Swedish, etc.
- *Romanic language group*: French, Portuguese, Spanish, Italian, Romanian, etc.

Educational structure

= *literacy rate* (% of literate people). *The pattern*: The less developed the country, the more illiterate the people. Countries with the lowest literacy rate:

- Africa: Mali, Niger, Chad, Sudan, Mauritania, Somalia
- Asia: Pakistan, Afghanistan, Yemen, Oman, Saudi Arabia

Structure by nationality

The most populous nations: Chinese, Hindus, Russians, Americans, etc.

Religious structure

The largest religions of the world are:

- *Christianity* – Europe, America, Sub-Saharan Africa, Australia
- *Islam* – North Africa, Middle East, Central Asia
- *Buddhism* – East + SE Asia
- *Hinduism* – South Asia

**Keywords**

gender, population pyramid, human races, language group, literacy rate, nationality, religion