

What are the consequences of Asia's changing demography?

Year 8

Term 5



(1) Keywords

Demography	The study of statistics such as births, deaths and income, which shows us the changing structure of human populations.
Population Density	The number of people in one geographical area (usually a square mile)
Distribution	The way something is spread out or arranged on a map.
Fertility Rate	The average number of children a woman will have in her lifetime based on where she lives.
Overpopulation	When the population of a place becomes too dense that it reduces the quality of life for
Internal Migration	The movement of people from one area to another within a country.
Life Expectancy	The number of years someone is expected to live to.

(2) Where is Asia?

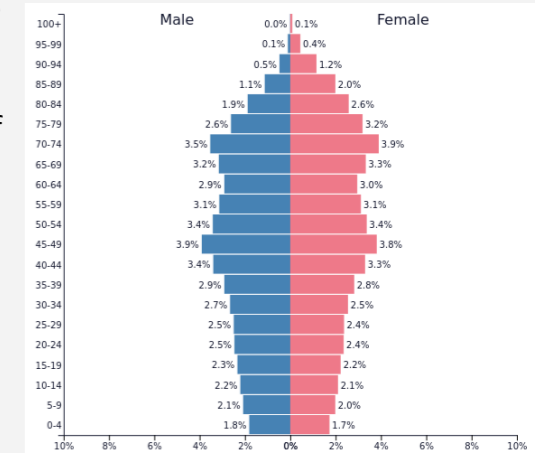


Asia is a continent with 48 countries. To the north is the Arctic Ocean, to the east is the Pacific and to the west is the continent of Europe. It is the largest continent and home to 4.5 billion people.

(3) What are population pyramids?

A population pyramid is a way to visualise two variables that affect a country's population: **age and sex**. They are used by demographers, who study populations.

- A population pyramid can be used to compare differences between male and female populations of an area.
- They can also show the **distribution** of age within the population of an area.
- They give us an idea of how **developed** a country is, and we can infer information about the **life expectancy, fertility rate and infant mortality rate** in an area.



(4) What is the demography of India and Afghanistan?

India and Afghanistan both have **youthful** populations. This means that there is a **higher proportion of children** than adults. This happens because there are **more births than deaths**.

A youthful population brings **opportunities**:

- There are many people of a working age, which increase the workforce and boosts the economy.

A youthful population brings **challenges**:

- Young adults are more likely to have children, which increases the population. Some countries, such as India, are struggling to cope with a large population.
- There is high competition for job opportunities.

(5) Japan's Ageing Population

Japan has an **ageing** population. This means that there is a **higher proportion of elderly people**. This has happened because **the fertility rates are declining** and **life expectancy is increasing**.

- The population is expected to drop from **127 million in 2015 to 88 million by 2065**.

An ageing population has **challenges** on the economy:

- There is a labour shortage in Japan. As elderly people retire, there are not enough young people to fill employment gaps.

However, there are some **solutions**:

- Many cities in Japan are offering money and benefits to women who have children.
- The government are creating programmes where elderly people look after young children.

(6) China's One Child Policy

The policy was introduced in **1979** to try and prevent overpopulation and increase quality of life for people living there.

It was stopped in **2015** and although it did bring the population down, this policy has had **long-lasting** consequences on China.

- China now has an ageing population and faces similar challenges to Japan.
- Elderly people require more healthcare, which puts pressure on hospitals and medical services.
- Lots of families favoured having boys. This led to high abortion rates for baby girls, which has led to a much higher proportion of men compared to women today.



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