

Explanatory Notes on Main Statistical Indicators

Total Population refers to the total number of people alive at a certain point of time within a given area.

The annual statistics on total population is taken at midnight, the 31st of December, not including residents in Taiwan province, Hong Kong SAR and Macao SAR and Chinese national residing abroad.

Urban Population and Rural Population Urban population refers to all people residing in cities and towns, while rural population refers to population other than urban population.

Birth Rate (or Crude Birth Rate) refers to the ratio of the number of births to the average population (or mid-period population) during a certain period of time (usually a year), expressed in ‰. Birth rate in the chapter refers to annual birth rate. The following formula is used:

$$\text{Birth Rate} = \frac{\text{Number of Births}}{\text{Annual Average Population}} \times 1000\text{‰}$$

Number of births in the formula refers to live births, i.e. when a baby has breathed or showed any vital phenomena regardless of the length of pregnancy.

Annual average population is the average of the number of population at the beginning of the year and that at the end of the year. Sometimes it is substituted by the mid-year population.

Death Rate (or Crude Death Rate) refers to the ratio of the number of deaths to the average population (or mid-period population) during a certain period of time (usually a year), expressed in ‰. Death rate in the chapter refers to annual death rate. The following formula is used:

$$\text{Death Rate} = \frac{\text{Number of Deaths}}{\text{Annual Average Population}} \times 1000\text{‰}$$

Natural Growth Rate of Population refers to the ratio of natural increase in population (number of births minus number of deaths) in a certain period of time (usually a year) to the average population (or mid-period population) of the same period, expressed in ‰. The following formula is applied:

$$\text{Natural Growth Rate of Population} = \frac{\text{Number of Births} - \text{Number of Deaths}}{\text{Annual Average Population}} \times 1000\text{‰}$$

$$\text{Natural Growth Rate of Population} = \text{Birth Rate} - \text{Death Rate}$$

Gross Dependency Ratio also called gross dependency coefficient, refers to the ratio of non-working-age population to the working-age population, express in ‰. Describing in general the number of non-working-age population that every 100 people at working ages will take care of, this indicator reflects the basic relation between population and economic development from the demographic perspective. The gross dependency ratio is calculated with the following formula:

$$\text{GDR} = \frac{P_{0-14} + P_{65+}}{P_{15-64}} \times 100\%$$

Where: GDR is the gross dependency ratio,

P_{0-14} is the population of children aged 0-14,

P_{65+} is the elderly population aged 65 and over, and

P_{15-64} is the working-age population aged 15-64.

Old Dependency Ratio also called old dependency coefficient, refers to the ratio of the elderly population to the working-age population, express in ‰. It describes the number of the elderly population that every 100 people at working ages will take care of. Old dependency ratio is one of the indicators reflecting the social implication of population aging from the economic perspective. The old dependency ratio is calculated with the following formula:

$$\text{ODR} = \frac{P_{65+}}{P_{15-64}} \times 100\%$$

Where: ODR is the old dependency ratio,

P_{65+} is the elderly population aged 65 and over, and

P_{15-64} is the working-age population aged 15-64.

Children Dependency Ratio also called children dependency coefficient, refers to the ratio of the children population to the working-age population, express in ‰. It describes the number of children population that every 100 people at working ages will take care of. The children dependency ratio is calculated with the following formula:

$$\text{CDR} = \frac{P_{0-14}}{P_{15-64}} \times 100\%$$

Where: CDR is the children dependency ratio,

P_{0-14} is the children population aged 0-14, and

P_{15-64} is the working-age population aged 15-64.