

Lecture-2

on

# Introduction to Population Geography



By

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## ❑ **What is Population?**

A population is the number of living things that live together in the same place.

Usually population refers to the number of humans in a certain area

## ❑ **What is Population Geography?**

1. Population is not the study of population but it is meant for the population awareness and population consciousness of the bad effects of population growth and Its remedial measures.
2. It is the education about population growth and its remedial measures.
3. It is the education about population matter like fertility, mortality and migration and its remedial measures to check the rapid growth of population.
4. It aims at the growth of the qualitative life of the people. In the various fields of healthcare, a population study is a study of a group of individuals taken from the general population who share a common characteristic, such as age, sex, or health condition. This group may be studied for different reasons, such as their response to a drug or risk of getting a disease.
5. Population studies Major areas studied include broad population dynamics; fertility and family dynamics: health, aging, and mortality; and human capital and labour markets. Researchers in population studies also focus on methodology.
6. A population study is interdisciplinary area of study: scholars from demography, epidemiology, sociology, economics, anthropology, and various other disciplines study populations.

# Definition of Population Geography

According to **Trewartha (Father of Population Geography)**, population geography is concerned with the understanding of the regional differences in the earth's covering of people.

**John I. Clarke**, suggested that population geography is mainly concerned with demonstrating how spatial variation in population and its various attributes like composition, migration and growth are related to the spatial variation in the nature of places.

**Wilbur Zelinsky** defines it as “a science that deals with the ways in which geographic character of places is formed by and, in turn, reacts upon a set of population phenomena that vary within it through both space and time interacting one with another, and with numerous non-demographic phenomena.”

In short precise and comprehensive definition of Population Geography “**Population Geography studies the distribution of population over the surface of the earth along with its characteristics and relation with geographical personality of the region.**”

## ❑ **What is Demography?**

Demography can be defined as the study of human populations including their composition, distributions, densities, growth and other characteristics as well as the causes and consequences of changes in these factors.

Demography, as understood today, is the scientific study of human population and its dynamics. It is derived from two Greek Words:

- **Demos** means population
- **Graphics** means to draw

❑ The term demography has been ascribed to a Belgian statistician, **Achille Guillard**, who coined it in 1855. However, the origins of modern demography are usually traced back to **John Graunt's** quantitative analyses of the “Bills of Mortality” published in 1662.

❑ Father of Demography- **John Graunt**

❑ Demography focuses its attention on three readily available human phenomena:

- Changes in population size (growth or decline)
- The composition of the population and
- The distribution of population in space.

Demography deals with major “demographic processes” namely fertility, mortality and migration.

# Demography Vs Population Geography

❑ **Demography** is the statistical study of the human **population**. **Demography** studies the growth of **population** and the size, structure and distribution of this growing **population**. **Population geography** is the study of the division of humans over **geographical** factors.

❑ Demography deals the quantitative analysis of population where population geography deals both quantitative and qualitative analysis of population.

❑ Demography only discuss about the changes of rate of fertility, mortality and migration where population geography discuss both the changes of rate of fertility, mortality, migration and also the effect of thee changes on human being as well as environment.

❑ Father of Demography- John Graunt whereas father of population geography is G.T. Treewartha.

# Content of Population Geography

❑ **Population dynamics:** In Trewartha opinion, an analysis of world population patterns, population dynamics in terms of mortality and fertility, area aspect of over and under population, distribution of population by world regions and settlement types and migration of population (both international and inter-regional) form an important part of analysis in population geography.

❑ **Qualities of population and their regional distribution:** He suggested two broad groups physical qualities (e.g., race, sex, age, health etc.), and socio-economic qualities (e.g. religion, education, occupation, marital status, stages of economic development, customs, habits etc.)

❑ **Population composition**

❑ **Problems of population:** Over population, population explosion, population bomb (**Paul Ehrlick**), baby boom , baby bust, baby eco.

❑ **Population and Environment**

❑ **Population policy**

❑ **Population-resource region**

❑ **Theories of population growth**

# Scope of population geography

❑ The development of methods of making population maps is very important. Hence, while describing, comparing or explaining the determinants and consequences of population phenomena, social phenomena have to be taken into consideration.

❑ Population geography has a special place in economic geography because people, as the main productive force, are employed in all economic sectors and, up to a point, their location has an all encompassing significance.

❑ Use of GIS

❑ Social Science Surveyor- NFHS, DLHS, AHS, IIPS

❑ Policy maker

# Sources of Population Data

Population data are the indicators of the various information of population like birth, death, migration, age, sex, marital status, religion, literacy, language, occupation, etc. Such data help to formulate and implement the various policies and planning in a country. Economic, social, cultural and political development takes place on the basis of the data. Population data can be found from various sources.

## 1) **Census**

### 2) **Registration**

A) Vital Registration

B) Population Register

C) Other Records

D) International Publication

### 3) **Demographic Sample Surveys**



# What is Census?

The most important source of demographic data is the census. The word “census” is derived from the Latin word “censere” which means “to assess”. Census is the single largest source of data for population studies all over the world. Though modern census is the phenomenon of a more recent time in past – in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, evidences indicate that enumeration of people were carried out in different parts of the world even during the ancient time. The purpose of such enumeration was, however, very limited, i.e., tax collection, or military conscription, or both.

- ❑ A census is usually conducted after an interval of 10 years.
- ❑ The census covers the entire country or a part of it.
- ❑ The census operations are completed within specified dates.
- ❑ It is organised and conducted by the Government through the Census Commission of the country.
- ❑ A census is a process whereby information is collected relating to age, sex, marital status, occupation, education etc. from people residing in a country.

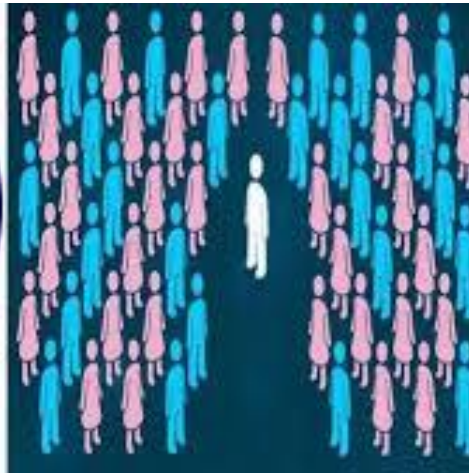
# Types of Census

## **DEFACTO**

This technique of conducting census refers to counting persons where they are present at the time of the census period.

## **DEJURE**

This technique is the counting of people according to the permanent place of location or residence.



**Table A- General Population Table** (Area, size, number of household, number of population, number of male, female and 0-6 years population)

**Table B- General Economic Table** (Occupation, Work Participation Force)

**Table C – Social and Cultural Table** (Education, Religion, Caste)

**Table D- Migration**

**Table F- Fertility** (Number of live birth)

# Registration

Another source of population data is the registration of life or vital statistics. Every person is required by law to register with a specified authority such demographic events as birth, death, marriage, divorce, etc. Unlike the census, registration of vital events is a continuous process throughout the year. It is an important source of information about citizenship, marital status, succession rights and settlement of disputes regarding birth and death. Registration is a secondary source of demographic data which is available from four sources:

- A) Vital Registration (Birth, Death, marriage and divorce);
- B) B) Population Register;
- C) Other Records (social security schemes like unemployment insurance and allowance, old age pension, maternity allowance, etc.), and
- D) International Publications (United Nations Demographic Year Book and Statistical Year Book, Human Development Report and the World Bank report).

## Demographic Sample survey

## **The important sources of vital statistics in India**

1. Population census
2. Civil registration system
3. National Sample Survey Organization (NSSO)
4. Sample Registration System (SRS)
5. National Family Health Survey (NFHS)
6. District Level Household Survey (DLHS)
7. Annual Health Survey (AHS) for EAG states and Assam

**Thank You**

1. Principles of Population Studies-  
Asha A. Vende & Tara Kanitkar
2. Population Geography- S.D.Mourya
3. Demography- Bhatt &Deshai
4. Population Geography- R.C.  
Chnadna
5. Jonosongskha Vugol- Paramita Dutta