

Population Composition Class 12 Geography Important Questions **Answers at the Bottom**

Population Composition

1. What is the occupational age group of the population?
2. What do you mean by 'occupational structure'?
3. Mention the any category of occupation working population of a country is put?
4. Which country has the lowest sex ratio in the world?
5. What conclusions can be drawn from sex structure composition of a country?
6. Distinguish between progressive population and regressive population.
7. On the basis of place of residence classify the population of the world into two groups. Explain the main characteristics of each group of the population.
8. What is the significance of age structure?
9. Explain the different aspects of composition of population in detail.
10. What is sex ratio? Explain the world pattern of sex ratio with suitable examples.

Population Composition

Answer

1. 15 to 59 years is the occupational age group of the population.
2. The proportional distribution of active population under specific economic activities is known as occupational structure where people earn money for their lively hood by doing the work .
3. **Primary activities:** It includes hunting, agriculture, forestry and fishing.
4. Country, having lowest sex ratio in the world is United Arab Emirates. This is because of the selective Migration of male working Population at a greater level. Thus, UAE has the lowest sex ratio in the World.

5. The ratio between men and women in a country is called sex ratio. It is expressed either as number of females per thousand males or number of males per thousand females. It provides important information about the condition of women in a country. Those regions where gender discrimination is too high, the sex ratio is not in favour of females. In these regions there many incidents of female foeticide, female child killing, domestic violence against women and social systems like dowry, etc. In these regions the reason behind such condition may be low socio-economic standard of women. It is not necessary that the regions where number of females is more than the number of males then their condition is better. Rather it may be that males had to migrate to other places in search of employment. If it is the case even then these females have to bear mental torture which is not acceptable for their mental and intellectual development.

6. Progressive Population	Regressive Population
The progressive population is where the death rate and birth rate are high.	The regressive population has a low death rate and a declining birth rate.
The age-sex pyramid shows a wide base and rapid tapering apex.	The age-sex pyramid has a narrow base and narrow top.
Life expectancy is low.	Life expectancy is high.
The progressive population is found in less developing countries passing through the first stage of demographic transition.	Developed countries such as Sweden, France, Germany are good examples of regressive population.

7. On the basis of residence the world population can be classified into two groups:

1. Rural population
2. Urban population

Characteristics:

Rural population:

1. The population living in a village is known as the rural population.
2. Rural population is mostly engaged in agriculture and other primary occupations.
3. Share of the rural population is 55% of the whole population of the world.

Urban population:

1. The population in towns and cities is called urban population.
2. Urban population is engaged in second and tertiary activities.
3. Share of urban population is 45% in the world population.

8. It is an important indicator of population composition due to the following:

1. If there are a large number of young people (below 15 years) it means that region has high birth rate and the population is said to be youthful.
2. If there are a large number of adults (between 15 to 59 years) it means that country has large working population.
3. If there are a large number of old people (above 60 years) it means that birth rates are low and the population is said to be ageing which require more expenditure on health care facilities.

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9. The term, 'population composition', refers to the distinguishing attributes of population of a country such as occupation, education, life-expectancy, age, sex, place of residence, etc. The important features of composition of population include sex ratio, density of population, literacy rates, age-sex pyramid, occupational structure, life-expectancy and educational attainments. Females have a biological advantage over males as they tend to be more resilient than males. Yet this advantage is cancelled out by many social discriminations and disadvantages that they face. On an average world sex ratio is in favour of males. It is 990 females per thousand males. The highest sex ratio in the world has been recorded in Latvia which is 1187 females per 1000 males. The lowest sex ratio is found in UAE where it is 468 females per 1000 males. The sex ratio is favourable for females in 139 countries of the world and unfavourable for them in 72 countries of the world. In Asia due to socio-economic condition of women the number of females is less per thousand males but in Europe some countries including Russia exhibit male minority. It is because of better status of women and an excessively male-dominated out-migration to different parts of the world. Age structure represents the number of people of different age groups. It can help us to know the number of working population and dependent population. Population pyramid is constructed to know the features of population which is called age sex pyramid. This pyramid has two parts. The left side of the pyramid shows the percentage of males in the population while the, right side shows the percentage of females in each age group. In many of the developed countries of the world, population in the higher age group has increased because of increase in life-expectancy and decline in birth rate. It is also important to know rural-urban composition because the age-sex pyramid, occupational structure, density of population and level of social and economic development vary between rural and urban areas. The criterion to distinguish rural population from urban population is different in different countries. But the most common is the occupational structure. Those areas where people are occupied in primary activities are called rural areas and areas where majority is engaged in secondary and tertiary activities is called urban area. The rural-urban sex composition differences in Canada and West European countries like Finland are just opposite of African and Asian countries like Zimbabwe and Nepal. In western countries the number of males is more than females in rural areas but it is opposite in India, Nepal and Pakistan. The excess of females in urban areas of the USA, Canada and Europe is found because of migration from rural areas for better opportunities. In these countries farming is a major occupation which is so mechanised that males can handle it better. Due to shortage of housing, high cost of living, lack of employment opportunities, lack of security in urban areas in developing countries women do not migrate to urban areas. Proportion of literate population of a nation indicates its socio-economic development as it shows standard of living, social status of women, government policies and availability of educational facilities.

10. The ratio between the number of women and men in the population is called the sex ratio. The world pattern of sex ratio is described as under:
1. On an average, the world population reflects a sex ratio of 102 males per 100 females. Highest sex ratio is recorded in Latvia i.e. 85 males per 100 females. While the lowest is recorded in UAE i.e. 468 females per 1000 males.
 2. The pattern of sex ratio does not exhibit variation in the developed region of the world. It is favourable for females in 139 countries and unfavourable in the remaining 72 countries.
 3. Many Asian countries have low sex ratios like China, India, Saudi Arabia, Pakistan and Afghanistan that points to low socio-economic status and lower sex ratio of women.
 4. Many European countries have a high sex ratio where females outnumber males. This deficit is attributed to a better status of women and excessively male-dominated out-migration to different parts of the world in the past. There are some examples of European countries where females outnumber males, Latvia, Lithuania, Curacao, Ukraine, Armenia, Russian Federation, Belarus, Estonia, Portugal etc.
 5. In Africa, where females outnumber males and vice versa also. In Africa, Rwanda is the best example of where females outnumber males.
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