Population Composition

Involves describing and assessing consequences of population characteristics (e.g. sex, age, race, ethnicity, occupation, education, religion, marital status, and living arrangement). The demographic forces of fertility, mortality and migration, determine population characteristics

Age and Sex Composition

- refers to the <u>number or proportion of males and females</u> in each age group or <u>cohort</u>
- age and sex are the most basic characteristics of a population
- every population has a different age and sex composition and this structure can have considerable impact on a country's <u>demographic</u> <u>and socioeconomic situation</u>, both present and future
- population age structure is depicted by <u>POPULATION PYRAMIDS</u>

Population Composition

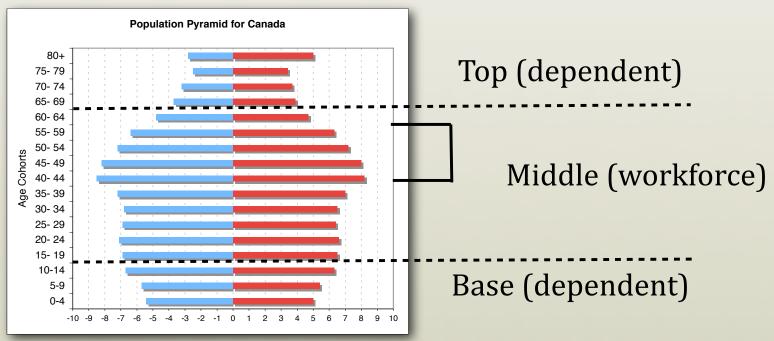
What is a Population Pyramid?

A population pyramid is a special kind of bar chart that shows the number of males and females in each 5-year age cohort from birth to over 80 years in age.

Show:

- 1. <u>Dominant Demographic Groups</u> (e.g. seniors, baby-boomers, teens, children)
- 2. <u>Median Age</u>: where half the population is older; the other half younger (e.g. low medians, rapidly growing populations)
- 3. **Sex-Age Ratio**: ratio of males to females (e.g. world 105:102)
- 4. **Age Dependency**: economically and socially dependent ages (e.g. <15 and >65)

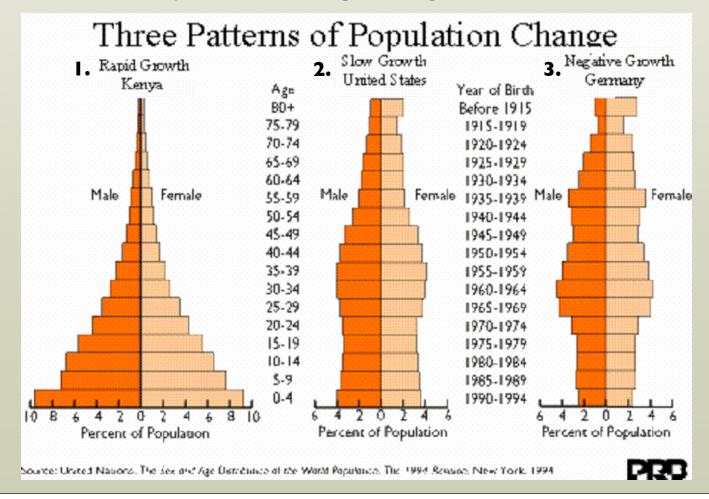
Typical Population Pyramids



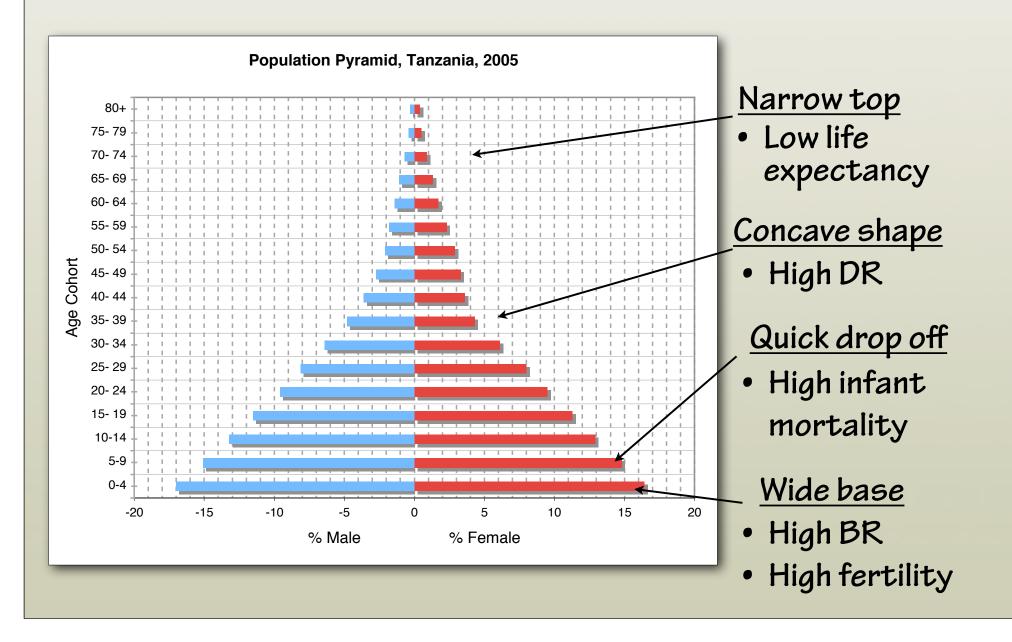
- 1. Which age cohort has the most people? Which has the fewest?
- 2. Are there more dependent children or seniors? Calculate the ratio of children: seniors by adding the appropriate cells
- 3. Which age groups represent the "baby boomers"? Use their ages to determine when they were born.
- 4. Are there more elderly men or women? Why might that be?

Three General Profiles: (associated socioeconomic impacts?)

- 1. Expansive: rapid growth
- 2. <u>Constrictive</u>: slow growth
- 3. Near Stationary: zero to negative growth



What does the shape tell us about the population?



What do Population Pyramids show us?

Population pyramids illustrate the age structure of populations. Therefore, their shape reflects population trends:

