

## General Studies-2; Topic: Population and associated issues

### World Population Prospects 2019

#### 1) Introduction

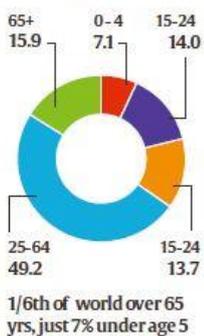
- The World Population Prospects 2019 published by the Population Division of the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs, provides a comprehensive overview of global demographic patterns and prospects.

#### 2) Key Highlights of the Report

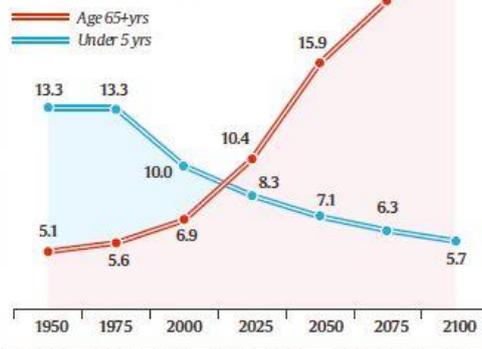
- Global population likely to touch 9.7 billion in 2050 and could peak at nearly 11 billion around 2100.
- The countries expected to show the biggest increase are India, Nigeria and Pakistan.
- Around 2027, India is projected to overtake China as the world's most populous country.
- India is expected to add nearly 273 million people between 2019 and 2050.
- The report has highlighted the higher fertility rates, growing older population and migration are few reasons for projections of the population growth
- Migration has become a major component of population change in some countries.
- Some of the largest migratory outflows are driven by the demand for migrant workers (Bangladesh, Nepal and the Philippines) or by violence, insecurity and armed conflict (Myanmar, Syria and Venezuela).
- Many of the fastest growing populations are in the poorest countries.
- Also, a growing number of countries are experiencing a reduction in population size.
- Males are projected to continue to outnumber females until the end of the century, but the gap will close.
- The report offers a roadmap indicating where to target action and interventions.

#### **MORE ELDERLY, FEWER KIDS**

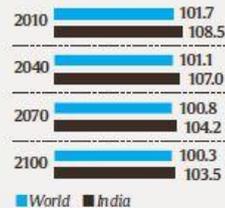
##### WORLD (2050)



##### WORLD TRENDS

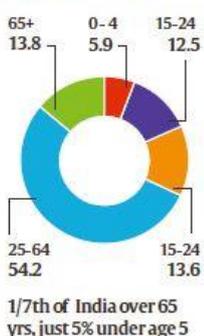


##### SEX RATIO



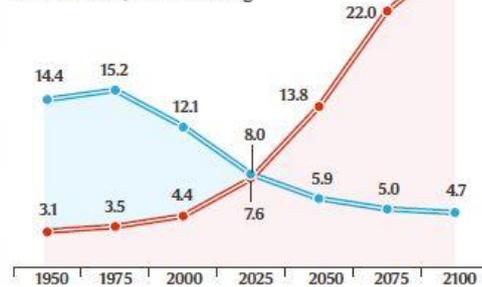
Graphs compare males per 100 females each year. The gap is projected to close between genders over the years, as well as between the world and India.

##### INDIA (2050)



##### INDIA TRENDS

India's under-65 population still below under-5 count, but not for long



##### WHEN INDIA OVERTAKES CHINA

(Populations in million)

Year	India	China
2018	1,353	1,427
2019	1,366	1,434
2020	1,380	1,439
2021	1,393	1,444
2022	1,407	1,448
2023	1,419	1,452
2024	1,432	1,455
2025	1,445	1,458
2026	1,457	1,460
2027	1,469	1,462
2028	1,481	1,463

### 3) Implications

- The major implication will be on the demographic dividend.
- There will be increase in young and older population that will face a lack of resources in future.
- The employment rates are going down in India and with more younger people, India won't be able to absorb them in workforce.
- A high population with no jobs may become a threat to the economy and the current challenges will become harder.
- Population growth brings additional challenges in the effort to eradicate poverty, achieve greater equality, combat hunger and malnutrition.

### 4) Concerns / Challenges in India

- Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) investments have "not been forthcoming" in the area of reproductive health and family planning.
- The inadequate doctors in Government hospitals.
- The basic facilities required in the hospitals, like medicine, furniture and equipment are not adequate to serve the population.
- Government's spending on healthcare services is not up to the WHO norms of GDP in healthcare.
- At the national level, achieving a reduction in fertility rates in States such as Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, Madhya Pradesh, Jharkhand and Chhattisgarh is a challenge for India.
- India will have a vast number of young people and insufficient natural resources left for exploitation.

### 5) Government Initiatives

- The union health ministry in 2017 launched mission Parivar Vikas to increase access to contraceptives and Family Planning services in 146 high fertility districts.
- It has been expanded to include the new contraceptives viz. Injectable contraceptive, Centchroman and Progesterone Only Pills (POP).
- The sterilization compensation scheme has been enhanced in 11 high focus states.
- Government has also been looking at the private sector for supporting its family planning program.

### 6) Way Forward

- We need to invest more in health, education and women empowerment as they contribute to slowing down population growth and accelerate development.
- We will have to utilize the opportunity provided by a large segment of youth.
- Investing in a skilled health workforce can both draw dividend from the youth while meeting the health needs of the elderly.
- More support from private sector is needed for supporting Government's family planning program.
- The rural access to quality medical service has to be improved.
- Making agriculture remunerative and keeping food prices stable are crucial to ensure nutrition for all.
- The poor, populous northern States must make concerted advances in women's literacy, health and participation in the workforce.
- Need for political will to improve the quality of life for India's people.
- The Sustainable Development Goals framework provides a roadmap to this new era.