

# **Populations: an Introduction to Demography**

Population Trends In Canada

# **Demography**

- **Demography** is the study of populations over time and over place.

# **Three major**

Components of demography are:

1. **Mortality,**
2. **Fertility,**
3. **and Migration.**

# **I. Mortality**

1. **Mortality** deals with death rates in a population;

## **II. Fertility**

2. In 2002, Canadian women gave birth to 328,802 babies, **down 1.5 per cent** from the year before.
- It was also the **eleventh decline** in 12 years.

# Birthrate less than 2= negative population growth

- IMMIGRATION IS VITAL...
- **Definition:** This entry gives the average annual number of births during a year per 1,000 persons in the

# StatsCan

- Birth rate: 10.29 births/1,000 population (2008 )
  - . Fertility rate will be only 1.3 children per woman by 2010.
- Population (2009 est.): 33,487,208 (growth rate: 0.8% );

# **BABY BOOM – Population Bulge**

- The **substantial increase in the birth rate** (from 1947 to approximately 1966), following the **Second World War**



# **BABY BOOM**

- **The baby boom** was most apparent in Canada, US, Australia and New Zealand.
- **In 1996**, the baby boom generation were 33% of the Canadian population

## **III. Migration**

- **Net migration-**

# **Canada**

**Birth Rate:** 10.75 births/1,000 population  
(2007)

- **Births and Migration**-stabilize populations, thus immigration vital to economic stability in Canada.

# **Demography Studies...**

- **Demographers** are interested in the determinants of these **three** **population components** as well as in their effects on various elements of

# **Demographic Impact**

- These effects above affect not only population dynamics. They also impact:
  1. **Economic patterns**
  2. **Social processes**
  3. **Social policy**

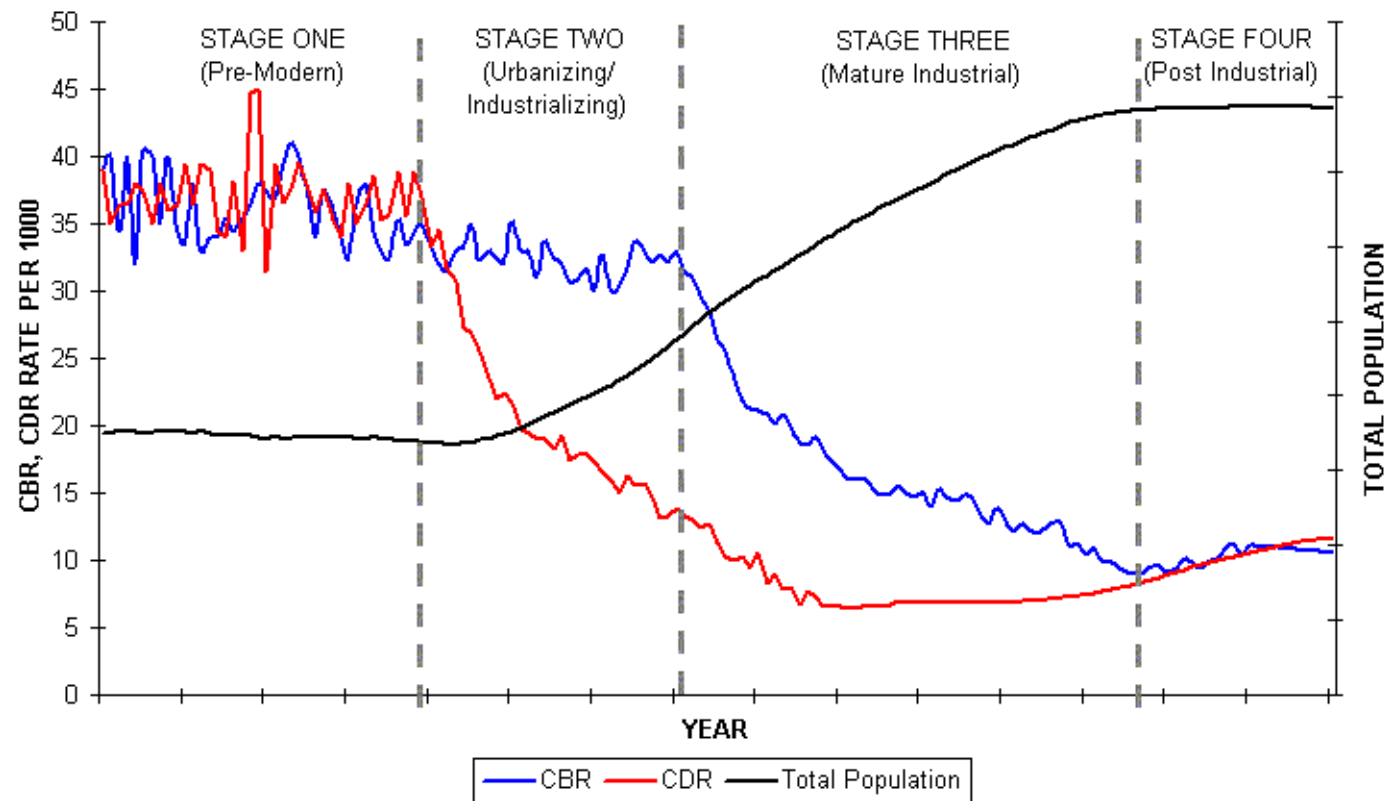
# **Boom, Bust and Echo**

- **A Key demographic text...**
- 1989)
- **By David K. Foot**
- .

# **The Demographic Transition**

- The **demographic transition** refers to **changing levels** of mortality and fertility in countries over time.

## THE DEMOGRAPHIC TRANSITION MODEL





# **Definition**

- The process of explaining the transformation of countries
- **from high birth rates and high death rates to...**

# Definition

- ...**low birth rates and low death rates** as part of the economic development of a country.
- **TRANSITION= from a pre-industrial to an industrialized economy**



# **Pre-industrial(pre-1750), Demographics**

- Prior to the industrial revolution...
- **Problems:**
- The availability of food, infectious diseases, poor hygiene and sanitation, & no.. modern medicine.

# **Population and Social** **Structure**

- **In 1871**, 55% of the labour force worked on farms.
- **By 1971**, only 6% worked in an agricultural occupation.

# **THE STATE and Dependency**

1. In Canada. *Average* -life expectancy in *1900* was 47 years.
2. Today it is 77 and rising. ...

## **i.e. Canadian Dependency Ratio**

- **MORE Elderly PEOPLE TODAY= More dependency...**
- **STATE MUST SUPPORT....Elderly and Young...**

# Industrial revolution

- During the **industrial revolution** (post-1750),
- Eng, Fr and Ger. led to a drop in mortality rates, **followed by** a decline in fertility rates..



# **Industrialization**

- This stage of the **demographic transition** therefore resulted in **excess fertility** and **significant population growth**

# **Epidemiological transition**

- Begins once there are **improvements** in food distribution, **nutrition**, water quality, personal **hygiene**, **public sanitation**, **education**, and economic development

# **Epidemiological transition**

- **Increase in life expectancy,**
- **Due to improvements illness and disability management and self-care.**

# **i.e. Healthy Heart Programs**

- For example, we have witnessed the **development of Healthy Heart Programs**, the Arthritis Self Management Program, and diabetes programs in recent years

# **Population Aging**

- **The proportion** of the Canadian population over the **age of 65**:
  1. 13.7 per cent in 2006;
  2. 13 per cent in 2001;
  3. 12.2 per cent in 1996.

# **Baby boomers**

- The **highest rate of population aging** will occur between **2011 and 2031**.
- Population in Canada increasingly looks like an **inverted vase**.

# Median age

- The median age in Canada was **37.6 years** in 2001, **39 in 2007**, and it is projected to increase to **41 years by 2011.**
- This means that by 2011, one-half of Canadians will be aged **41 or over.**

# **The youngest region**

- **The youngest region** in Canada is Nunavut, with a median age of 23.5 years because of high fertility levels.
- **Reason:** Survival, poverty.etc..



# **Boom, Bust and Echo (1996)**

- **Foot's main thesis** is that economic trends in Canada are largely dictated by the stage of life and financial status of the baby boomers. .

# Current Ages of Boomer

1. The oldest of Canada's almost 10 million ***baby boomers*** -- people born between 1946 and 1964 -- are entering their early 60s.

## **For example,**

- Foot predicts that the **housing market will shrink** and prices will drop because most baby boomers have purchased their homes and **younger cohorts** are smaller in size

# Limitations of Demography

- 'Demographic determinism' or 'apocalyptic demography'
- Ignores intervening variables- economic, political, social...**researchers and media** have used or misused demographic data to present a crisis when the factual evidence does not support it.

# Dependency ratio,

- Dependency ratios are calculated by dividing the proportion of the population not in the labour force by the proportion in the labour force.
- Using the population aged 0 to 19 and those aged **65** and over divided by the remaining population (20 to 64).

# Calculating Dependency

- When a large proportion of the population is not in the work force, there are proportionately more people receiving benefits and a smaller proportion contributing taxes than when the dependency ratio is lower.

# Old age dependency

- As the population has aged over the last several decades, the **old age dependency** ratio has increased.
- **Some note crisis:** Aging pop and welfare, aging pop and health care...
- **Politicization of the Aged.**

# Peak Dependency

- Contrary to what most people believe, the overall **dependency ratio actually peaked** in the late 1960s and early 1970s.
- Future projections indicate a further reduction in the total dependency rate as a result of **prolonged low fertility**



# Pension Systems

- The current fiscal problems related to the Canadian **pension system are complex**, a few major points can be made to add to the ones discussed in the text.

# **CPP and QPP**

- First, since they were developed in the 1960s, **the provincial** governments have borrowed against **the CPP and QPP** (Canadian and Quebec Pension Plans) for capital development, such as roads, hospitals, and so on. These **provincial debts** have not been erased

# Reductions in pensions

- The federal government has been pressured into looking for ways to decrease the debt, including reductions in pensions to older adults, such as through **delaying the age of eligibility from 65 to 67.**

# RRSP

- Other reports show that between 1991 and 2004, the number of paid workers in Canada covered by a **Registered Pension Plan** declined to 39 per cent from 45.3 per cent at the same time as the proportion of workers covered by defined benefit pension plans is declining

# The Future

- **Retired Canadians** will need some combination of Old Age Security (**OAS**), Canada and Quebec Pension Plans (**CPP**), home ownership, a workplace pension plan, and savings through an RRSP as well as non-registered savings.

# Federal government

- The federal government has also reduced tax transfer payments to the provinces over the last two decades, resulting in cuts to health care and education budgets. The high costs of health care, especially for people **aged 80 and over**, represent one major aging-related controversy within the social policy arena

# **Mortality and Life** **Expectancy**

- Today, life expectancy at birth for Canadians is estimated to be approximately 80 years.
- In 2006, it was 82.5 years for women, and 77.7 for men.

# Women vs. Men

- Life expectancy have slowed for women in **recent years**.
- Perhaps women have reached a temporary **threshold in life expectancy** improvement or, alternatively, the life expectancy for women may be beginning to converge with that for men.



# Summary

- Demography is the study population aggregates (**Quantitative**) to predict social patterns
- Demography compliments sociology
- Its focus is qualitative but combined with qualitative sociological understanding, demography assists in understanding trends in modern societies such as Canada.

# United Nations

- According to the **United Nations** Human Development Index, Canada has the highest quality of life in the world.
- Contrary to popular opinion, Canada does not own the North Pole. In fact, **the North Pole** is not owned by any country. It is believed, however, that Santa Claus is from Canada!!!
- Canada is the **world's eighth biggest trader**.

# CANADA

- Canada is the **second largest country** in the world, with 9,971,000 square kilometres of land.
- With only three people per square kilometer, Canada has the **fourth lowest population density** in the world.
- Vancouver Canada is tied with Zurich Switzerland for the **highest quality of life** of any city in the world.
- Canada has the **ninth biggest economy** of the world

# **Geographic Distribution**

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- In 2006, a majority (about 81 per cent) of Canada's older population resided in urban centres with populations of 100,000 or more.

# Aging Provincial and Municipal

- 14.6 per cent of the BC population was 65 and over, compared to only 2.7 per cent in Nunavut.
- At the municipal level, Parksville, BC has about **one-third of its population** in the senior range,

- compared to Barrie, ON at the opposite extreme, which has one-fifth **aged 14 and under**.

# Ethnic composition and Aging

- **Ethnic composition** of a population affects aging processes in a number of significant ways because of the importance of **ethnic culture** on attitudes, values, and behaviours

# Minority Culture and Aging

- Persons of **oriental culture** are more likely to live in extended families than those of predominantly white culture.
- **Immigration trends** have shaped our ethnic composition. In 2006, about 25 per cent of elderly people were born outside of Canada.



# **Ethnic Origin Changing**

- This is higher than the percentage for the whole population because many **immigrants came** to Canada as young adults after WWII. .
- The **country of origin** has been changing over time, which is resulting in a **highly diverse ethnic** composition in Canada.