DEMOGRAPHY OF INDIA – MCQ BOOKLET

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1. India: Population

Age and Sex Structure of the Population

1. Consider the following statements with respect to the adolescent population (age group of 10 to 19 years) of India, according to the 2011 Census:

- **Adolescent population comprises half the population of the country.**
- **The group is regarded as youthful population with high potential.**
- **In this group there are greater number of females than males.**

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

A. 1 only
B. 2 only
C. 1 and 2
D. 2 and 3

Ans: B

UPSC CDS-2-2021

Let's analyze each statement based on Census 2011 data: 1. Adolescent population comprises half the population of the country: According to the 2011 Census, the population in the age group 10-19 years was approximately 243 million out of a total population of 1210 million. This is roughly 20%, not half (50%). Statement 1 is incorrect. 2. The group is regarded as youthful population with high potential: The age group 10-19 years is considered part of the young population, and its potential contribution to the future workforce and development is widely recognized. This is a generally accepted demographic perspective. Statement 2 is correct. 3. In this group there are greater number of females than males: The child sex ratio (0-6 years) was adverse, and the sex ratio (females per 1000 males) for older age groups also showed fewer females than males at the national level in 2011. For the 10-19 age group, the sex ratio was significantly below 1000, indicating fewer females than males. Statement 3 is incorrect.

2. 3 years ago, the average age of husband, wife and their child was 27 years and 5 years ago, average age of wife and the child was 20 years. What is the present age of the husband?

A. 35 years
B. 40 years
C. 50 years
D. None of the above

Ans: B

GPSC Prelims CSP-1-2024

Age problems often involve translating statements about past or future ages into equations involving present ages. The sum of ages changes by the number of people multiplied by the number of years passed. Average age is the sum of ages divided by the number of people.

3. Which of the following statements are correct regarding Population pyramid?

A. In a population pyramid males are represented in the left and females in the right.
B. On the X axis, population size is shown and age group is represented on the Y axis
C. India's population dependency ratio is less than world's population dependency ratio.
D. All of the above

Ans: D

GPSC Prelims CSP-2-2021

A population pyramid visually represents the age and sex structure of a population, providing insights into its growth potential, mortality and fertility rates, and dependency burden.

4. Nine years ago, father was nine times as old as his son and ten years hence, he will be two years more than twice the age of his son then. What are their present ages?

A. Father = 32 yr, Son = 9 yr
B. Father = 33 yr, Son = 10 yr
C. Father = 34 yr, Son = 11 yr
D. Father = 36 yr, Son = 12 yr

Ans: D

HAS Prelims-2023

This is an age problem that can be solved by setting up simultaneous linear equations based on the given information about the ages of the father and son at different time points.

5. The present age of a father is four years more than $2\frac{1}{2}$ times the age of the son. Five years hence father's age will be 5 years more than twice the age of the son. What are the present ages of the father and the son?

A. Father = 34 yrs, Son = 12 yrs
B. Father = 33 yrs, Son = 11 yrs
C. Father = 32 yrs, Son = 10 yrs
D. Father = 31 yrs, Son = 9 yrs

Ans: A

HAS Prelims-2023

- Translating age-related word problems into algebraic equations. - Setting up equations for present and future ages. - Solving a system of linear equations using substitution or elimination.

6. The logic problems in this set (20 – 24) present you with three true statements: Fact 1, Fact 2 and Fact 3. Then you are given three more statements (labelled I, II and III), and you must determine which of these, if any, is also a fact. One or two of the statements could be true; all of the statements could be true; or none of the statements could be true. Fact 1 : Jessica has four children. Fact 2 : Two of the children have blue eyes and two of the children have brown eyes. Fact 3 : Half of the children are girls. If the first three statements are facts, which of the following statement/(s) must also be a fact ?

- **I. At least one girl has blue eyes.**
- **II. Two of the children are boys.**
- **III. The boys have brown eyes.**

Choose the correct answer from the options given below :

A. Only II
B. Only I and III
C. Only II and III
D. None of the statements is a known fact

Ans: A

KPSC KAS Prelims-2017

Deductions from Fact 1 (4 children) and Fact 3 (half are girls) prove that there must be 2 boys. Statement I (at least one girl has blue eyes) and Statement III (the boys have brown eyes) cannot be definitively proven true or false based on the given facts about the total number of blue/brown eyed children (Fact 2), as the distribution of eye color among boys and girls is not specified.

7. Which one of the following is the correct definition of Dependency Ratio ?

A. Ratio of non-working population to working population
B. Ratio of ageing population to total population
C. Ratio of female population to male population
D. Ratio of non-working population to total population

Ans: A

OPSC CS Prelims-2015

The Dependency Ratio is a measure of the number of dependents (generally aged 0-14 and 65+ years) in a population divided by the number of people in the working-age group (generally 15-64 years). It indicates the ratio of those who are likely to be economically dependent on the support of others to those who are likely to be economically productive. Option A, "Ratio of non-working population to working population," is the most accurate general description among the choices provided, as "non-working" typically refers to the dependent age groups and "working" to the productive age group.

8. The shape of the population pyramid reflects the characteristics of the population. The shape of the pyramid in India is

A. bell shaped and tapered towards the top
B. narrow base and a tapered top
C. broad base and a tapered top
D. narrow base and narrow top

Ans: C

UPSC CAPF-2011

A broad base indicates a large proportion of young people (high birth rates), and a tapered top indicates a smaller proportion of older people (due to mortality). India has historically had and continues to have relatively high birth rates (though declining), resulting in a large young population, and mortality rates cause the population size to decrease significantly in older age groups.

9. As per Census of 2011 the share of population below the age of 35 years in India is

A. 50 per cent
B. 55 per cent
C. 60 per cent
D. 65 per cent

Ans: D

WBPSC CS Prelims-2017

- India has a large young population, often considered a demographic dividend. - The age group 0-14 years was about 30.9% in 2011. - The age group 15-34 years comprised a substantial portion of the 15-59 working-age population.

10. Which one of the following Union Territories of India has more females than males?

A. Chandigarh
B. Delhi
C. Lakshadweep
D. Puducheri

Ans: D

UPPSC Upper Mains-2006

According to the Census of India 2011 data on sex ratio (number of females per 1000 males), Puducherry had a sex ratio of 1037, which is greater than 1000, indicating more females than males. The other listed Union Territories (Chandigarh, Delhi, Lakshadweep) had sex ratios below 1000.

11. According to the provisional figures of Census 2011, what percentage of population is below the age of 35 years in India ?

A. 45%
B. 55%
C. 65%
D. 75%

Ans: C

UPPSC Upper Mains-2012

The age structure of a population is a key demographic indicator. Census data provides distribution of population across different age groups.

12. The shape of the Diminishing Age Pyramid is

A. Triangular
B. Bell-shaped
C. Urn-shaped
D. None of these

Ans: C

WBCS_Main-Paper-4-2023

The shape of an age pyramid directly reflects the age structure of a population, providing insights into past, current, and future population growth trends.

13. As per Census-2011, which state of India has the highest percentage proportion of child population (0-6 age group) to total population ? - (5) Question not attempted

A. (1) Meghalaya
B. (2) Goa
C. (3) Kerala
D. (4) Mizoram

Ans: A

Asst. Engineer Comb. Comp. Exam (Pre) -2024

This question is based on demographic data from the 2011 Census of India. It specifically asks for the state with the highest percentage of children in the 0-6 age group relative to its total population.

14. Best representation of population with age variation is done by

A. Life table
B. Correlation coefficient
C. Population pyramid
D. Bar chart

Ans: C

Sanitary Inspector Examination -2023

Population pyramids are graphical representations that depict the age structure of a population. They are typically bar charts or histograms where the age groups are arranged vertically, and the number or percentage of individuals in each age group is shown horizontally, usually separated by sex. The shape of the pyramid (e.g., broad-based, narrow-based, or columnar) indicates the stage of demographic transition and future population trends.

Demographic Dividend and Ageing Population

15. India is still a young country as the median age of its population is

A. Less than 25 years
B. Between 25 to 30 years
C. Between 30 to 35 years
D. Between 35 to 40 years

Ans: B

UPSC CDS-2-2022

- A low median age signifies a large proportion of young people in the population. - This demographic profile is often referred to as a "demographic dividend," representing a potential for economic growth due to a large working-age population.

16. The phenomenon of 'demographic dividend' of a country is related to:

A. A sharp decline in the total population
B. A decline in the infant mortality Rate
C. An increase in the sex ratio
D. An increase in the population in the working age group

Ans: D

HPPSC HPAS Prelims-2020

- Demographic dividend is a consequence of demographic transition, where fertility rates decline, leading to a bulge in the working-age population. - It represents a potential for accelerated economic growth. - Realizing the dividend depends on investments in human capital (education, health) and creating productive employment opportunities.

17. Match List I with List II :

List I	List II
(a) Sandeep Shastri	(i) "Gender Demographics and Empowerment in India"
(b) Kalpana Srivastava	(ii) "Demographic Profile and Health Status of Older Adults in India"
(c) N. Neetha	(iii) "Demographic Dividend in India : Myth or Reality"
(d) Mridul Eapen	(iv) "Demographic Shift and its Impact on Indian Politics"

Choose the correct answer from the options given below :

A. (a)-(iii), (b)-(i), (c)-(ii), (d)-(iv)
B. (a)-(ii), (b)-(i), (c)-(iii), (d)-(iv)
C. (a)-(iv), (b)-(ii), (c)-(i), (d)-(iii)
D. (a)-(i), (b)-(ii), (c)-(iv), (d)-(iii)

Ans: C

HPPSC HPAS Prelims-2024

This question requires matching prominent Indian scholars with specific areas of their research or publications related to demographics and social/economic issues. - (a) Sandeep Shastri is a noted political scientist whose work often examines the socio-political landscape of India, including how demographic shifts influence politics. Matching (a) with (iv) "Demographic Shift and its Impact on Indian Politics" is appropriate. - (b) Kalpana Srivastava is an academic researcher who has published on topics including population studies and health. Matching (b) with (ii) "Demographic Profile and Health Status of Older Adults in India" is plausible, although less widely known than other pairings. - (c) N. Neetha is a development economist associated with the Centre for Development Studies, focusing on labour, migration, and gender. While her work on the demographic dividend (matching (c) with (iii)) is well-known, matching (c) with (i) "Gender Demographics and Empowerment in India" is also consistent with her research focus on gender issues and labour markets. - (d) Mridul Eapen is also a development economist from CDS, working on labour, gender, and poverty, particularly in Kerala. Matching (d) with (iii) "Demographic Dividend in India: Myth or Reality" or other topics might be less direct links than the chosen pairings in the options.Based on prominent research areas and checking against likely pairings in options, the best fit is: (a) Sandeep Shastri - (iv) Demographic Shift and its Impact on Indian Politics (b) Kalpana Srivastava - (ii) Demographic Profile and Health Status of Older Adults in India (c) N. Neetha - (i) Gender Demographics and Empowerment in India (d) Mridul Eapen - (iii) Demographic Dividend in India : Myth or RealityThis matches option C.

18. The term demographic dividend refers to

A. decline in population
B. increase in working class
C. decline in birth rate
D. decline in fertility rate

Ans: B

TNPSC CS Prelims-2017

- Demographic dividend is a temporary phenomenon occurring during the demographic transition. - It presents a window of opportunity for economic growth if accompanied by investments in education, health, and job creation. - A decline in birth rate (C) and fertility rate (D) are causes that lead to the demographic shift, not the dividend itself. Decline in population (A) is incorrect; the population structure changes, but not necessarily a decline in total population.

19. The Dependency Ratio in India is declining because

A. Population of 0-14 years is relatively high
B. Population of 60 years and above is relatively high
C. Population of 15-59 years is relatively high
D. Population of 0-14 years and 60 years and above together are relatively high

Ans: C

UPPCS Prelims-2019

The dependency ratio is calculated as the ratio of the population typically not in the labour force (dependents, aged 0-14 and 60+ or 65+) to the population typically in the labour force (working-age population, aged 15-59 or 15-64). A declining dependency ratio means that the proportion of the