

Table 2 - Demographic Yearbook 2000

Table 2 presents estimates of population and the percentage distribution, by age and sex and the percentage distribution, by age and sex and sex ratio for all ages, for the world, major areas and regions for 2000.

Description of variables: All population estimates presented in this table were prepared by the Population Division of the United Nations Secretariat. These estimates have been published (using more detailed age groups) in the World Population Prospects: The 2000 Revision, Volume II, The Sex and Age Distribution of the World Populations.²⁶

The scheme of regionalization used for the purpose of making these estimates is described on page 25 and discussed in detail in the technical notes for table 1. Age groups presented in this table are: under 15 years, 15-64 years and 65 years and over. Sex ratio refers to the number of males per 100 females of all ages.

Using the Population Division estimates, the percentage distributions and the sex ratios which appear in this table have been calculated by the Statistics Division of the United Nations.

Reliability of data: All data are set in italic type to indicate their conjectural quality.

Limitations: The data presented in this table are from the same series of estimates, prepared by the Population Division of the United Nations Secretariat, presented in table 1. They are subject to the same general limitations as discussed in the technical notes for table 1.

In brief, because of their estimated character, these distributions by broad age groups and sex should be considered only as orders of magnitude. However, it may be noted that, in compiling data for regional and macro region totals, errors in the components may tend to compensate each other and the resulting aggregates may be somewhat more reliable than the quality of the individual components would imply.

In addition, data in this table are limited by factors affecting data by age. These factors are described in the technical notes for table 7. Because the age groups presented in this table are so broad, these problems are minimized.

It should be noted that the United Nations Secretariat estimates that appear in this table are from the same series of estimated which also appear in tables 1, 3, 4, 5, 9, 15, 18 and 22 of this Yearbook.

Coverage: Data for 21 regions are presented.