

Table 1 – Demographic Yearbook 2003

Table 1 presents for the world, major areas and regions estimates of the order of magnitude of population size, rates of population increase, crude birth and death rates, surface area as well as population density.

Description of variables: Estimates of world population by major areas and by regions are presented for 1950, 1960, 1970, 1980, 1990, 2000 and 2003. The average annual percentage rates of population growth, the crude birth and crude death rates are shown for the period 2000 to 2005. Surface area in square kilometers and population density estimates relate to 2003.

All population estimates and rates presented in this table were prepared by the Population Division of the United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, and have been published in *World Population Prospects: The 2004 Revision, vol. I, Comprehensive Tables*¹.

The scheme of regionalization used for these estimates is described below. Although some continental totals are given, and all can be derived, the basic scheme presents six major areas that are so drawn as to obtain greater homogeneity in sizes of population, types of demographic circumstances and accuracy of demographic statistics. Five of the major areas are subdivided into a total of 20 regions, which are arranged within the major areas; these regions together with Northern America, which is not subdivided, make a total of 21 regions.

The major areas of Northern America and Latin America were distinguished, rather than the conventional continents of North America and South America, because population trends in the middle American mainland and the Caribbean region more closely resemble those of South America than those of America north of Mexico. Data for the traditional continents of North and South America can be obtained by adding Central America and Caribbean region to Northern America and deducting from Latin America. Latin America, as defined here, has somewhat wider limits than it would be if defined only to include the Spanish-speaking, French-speaking and Portuguese-speaking countries.

The average annual percentage rates of population growth were calculated by the Population Division, United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, using an exponential rate of increase.

Crude birth and crude death rates are expressed in terms of the average annual number of births and deaths, respectively, per 1 000 mid-year population. These rates are estimated.

Surface area totals were obtained by summing the figures for individual countries or areas shown in table 3.

Computation: Density, calculated by the Statistics Division of the United Nations Department of Social and Economic Affairs, is the number of persons in the 2003 total population per square kilometer of total surface area.

Reliability of data: With the exception of surface area, all data are set in *italic* type to indicate their conjectural quality.

Limitations: The estimated orders of magnitude of population and surface area are subject to all the basic limitations set forth in connection with table 3, and to the same qualifications set forth for population and surface area statistics in sections 3 and 2.4 of the Technical Notes, respectively.

Likewise, the rates of population increase and the density index are affected by the limitations of the original figures. However, it may be noted that, in compiling data for regional and major areas totals, errors in the components may tend to compensate each other and the resulting aggregates may be more reliable than the quality of the individual components would imply.

Because of their estimated character, many of the birth and death rates shown should also be considered only as orders of magnitude, and not as measures of the true level of natality or mortality. Rates for 2002-2005 published in this Demographic Yearbook were estimated on the basis of the data available in 2004 and are, therefore, based on newer information than previously published estimates for the same years. As a result they may be different from the rates published in previous issues of the Demographic Yearbook.

Because surface area totals were obtained by summing the figures for individual countries or areas shown in table 3, they exclude places with a population of less than 50, for example, uninhabited polar areas.

In interpreting the population densities, one should consider that some of the regions include large segments of land that are uninhabitable or barely habitable, and density values calculated as described make no allowance for this, nor for differences in patterns of land settlement.

Composition of macro geographical regions and sub-regions

AFRICA	Benin	Lao People's Democratic Republic
Eastern Africa	Burkina Faso	Malaysia
Burundi	Cape Verde	Myanmar
Comoros	Côte d'Ivoire	Philippines
Djibouti	Gambia	Singapore
Eritrea	Ghana	Thailand
Ethiopia	Guinea	Timor Leste
Kenya	Guinea-Bissau	Viet Nam
Madagascar	Liberia	Western Asia
Malawi	Mali	Armenia
Mauritius	Mauritania	Azerbaijan
Mozambique	Niger	Bahrain
Réunion	Nigeria	Cyprus
Rwanda	Saint Helena	Georgia
Seychelles	Senegal	Iraq
Somalia	Sierra Leone	Israel
Uganda	Togo	Jordan
United Republic of Tanzania	ASIA	Kuwait
Zambia	Eastern Asia	Lebanon
Zimbabwe	China	Occupied Palestinian Territory
Middle Africa	China - Hong Kong SAR	Oman
Angola	China - Macao SAR	Qatar
Cameroon	Japan	Saudi Arabia
Central African Republic	Korea, Democratic People's Republic of	Syrian Arab Republic
Chad	Korea, Republic of	Turkey
Congo	Mongolia	United Arab Emirates
Democratic Republic of the Congo	South-central Asia	Yemen
Equatorial Guinea	Afghanistan	EUROPE
Gabon	Bangladesh	Eastern Europe
Sao Tome and Principe	Bhutan	Belarus
Northern Africa	India	Bulgaria
Algeria	Iran (Islamic Republic of)	Czech Republic
Egypt	Kazakhstan	Hungary
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	Kyrgyzstan	Poland
Morocco	Maldives	Republic of Moldova
Sudan	Nepal	Romania
Tunisia	Pakistan	Russian Federation
Western Sahara	Sri Lanka	Slovakia
Southern Africa	Tajikistan	Ukraine
Botswana	Turkmenistan	Northern Europe
Lesotho	Uzbekistan	Åland Island
Namibia	South-eastern Asia	Channel Islands
South Africa	Brunei Darussalam	Denmark
Swaziland	Cambodia	Estonia
Western Africa	Indonesia	

Faeroe Islands
Finland
Iceland
Ireland
Isle of Man
Latvia
Lithuania
Norway
Sweden
United Kingdom of Great Britain
and Northern Ireland

Southern Europe

Albania
Andorra
Bosnia and Herzegovina
Croatia
Gibraltar
Greece
Holy See
Italy
Malta
Portugal
San Marino
Serbia and Montenegro
Slovenia
Spain
The Former Yugoslav Republic
of Macedonia

Western Europe

Austria
Belgium
France
Germany
Liechtenstein
Luxembourg
Monaco
Netherlands
Switzerland

LATIN AMERICA + the CARIBBEAN

Caribbean

Anguilla
Antigua and Barbuda
Aruba

Bahamas
Barbados
British Virgin Islands
Cayman Islands
Cuba
Dominica
Dominican Republic
Grenada
Guadaloupe
Haiti
Jamaica
Martinique
Montserrat
Netherlands Antilles
Puerto Rico
Saint Kitts and Nevis
Saint Lucia
Saint Vincent and the
Grenadines
Trinidad and Tobago
Turks and Caicos Islands
United States Virgin
Islands

Central America

Belize
Costa Rica
El Salvador
Guatemala
Honduras
Mexico
Nicaragua
Panama

South America

Argentina
Bolivia
Brazil
Chile
Colombia
Ecuador
Falkland Islands (Malvinas)
French Guiana
Guyana
Paraguay
Peru
Suriname
Uruguay

Venezuela

NORTHERN AMERICA

Bermuda
Canada
Greenland
Saint Pierre and Miquelon
United States of America

OCEANIA

Australia and New Zealand

Australia
New Zealand
Norfolk Island

Melanesia

Fiji
New Caledonia
Papua New Guinea
Solomon Islands
Vanuatu

Micronesia

Guam
Kiribati
Marshall Islands
Micronesia (Federated States of)
Nauru
Northern Mariana Islands
Palau

Polynesia

American Samoa
Cook Islands
French Polynesia
Niue
Pitcairn
Samoa
Tokelau
Tonga
Tuvalu
Wallis and Futuna Islands

NOTES

¹ *World Population Prospects: The 2004 Revision*, vol. I, *Comprehensive Tables* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.05.XIII.5), New York 2005.