

**Table 1 – Demographic Yearbook 2008**

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 2008. Average annual percentage rates of population growth, crude birth and crude death rates are shown for the period from 2005 to 2010. Surface area in square kilometers and population density estimates relate to 2008.

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 2008 Revision, CD Rom Edition – Extended Dataset*<sup>1</sup>.

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 are 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 are 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 are estimated by Population Division, United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs.

Computation: Density, calculated by the Statistics Division of the United Nations Department of Social and Economic Affairs, is the number of persons in the 2008 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, rates of population increase and 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.

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**

#### **Eastern Africa**

Burundi  
Comoros  
Djibouti  
Eritrea  
Ethiopia  
Kenya  
Madagascar  
Malawi  
Mauritius  
Mayotte  
Mozambique  
Réunion  
Rwanda  
Seychelles  
Somalia  
Uganda  
United Republic of Tanzania  
Zambia  
Zimbabwe

#### **Middle Africa**

Angola  
Cameroon  
Central African Republic  
Chad  
Congo  
Democratic Republic of the  
Congo  
Equatorial Guinea  
Gabon  
Sao Tome and Principe

#### **Northern Africa**

Algeria  
Egypt  
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya  
Morocco  
Sudan  
Tunisia  
Western Sahara

#### **Southern Africa**

Botswana  
Lesotho  
Namibia  
South Africa  
Swaziland

#### **Western Africa**

Benin  
Burkina Faso  
Cape Verde  
Côte d'Ivoire  
Gambia  
Ghana

Guinea  
Guinea-Bissau  
Liberia  
Mali  
Mauritania  
Niger  
Nigeria  
Saint Helena  
Senegal  
Sierra Leone  
Togo

### **ASIA**

#### **Eastern Asia**

China  
China, Hong Kong SAR  
China, Macao SAR  
Democratic People's  
Republic of Korea  
Japan  
Mongolia  
Republic of Korea

#### **South-central Asia**

Afghanistan  
Bangladesh  
Bhutan  
India  
Iran (Islamic Republic of)  
Kazakhstan  
Kyrgyzstan  
Maldives  
Nepal  
Pakistan  
Sri Lanka  
Tajikistan  
Turkmenistan  
Uzbekistan

#### **South-eastern Asia**

Brunei Darussalam  
Cambodia  
Indonesia  
Lao People's Democratic  
Republic  
Malaysia  
Myanmar  
Philippines  
Singapore  
Thailand  
Timor Leste  
Viet Nam

#### **Western Asia**

Armenia  
Azerbaijan  
Bahrain

Cyprus  
Georgia  
Iraq  
Israel  
Jordan  
Kuwait  
Lebanon  
Occupied Palestinian Territory  
Oman  
Qatar  
Saudi Arabia  
Syrian Arab Republic  
Turkey  
United Arab Emirates  
Yemen

### **EUROPE**

#### **Eastern Europe**

Belarus  
Bulgaria  
Czech Republic  
Hungary  
Poland  
Republic of Moldova  
Romania  
Russian Federation  
Slovakia  
Ukraine

#### **Northern Europe**

Åland Islands  
Denmark  
Estonia  
Faeroe Islands  
Finland  
Guernsey  
Iceland  
Ireland  
Isle of Man  
Jersey  
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  
Montenegro  
Portugal  
San Marino  
Serbia  
Slovenia  
Spain  
TFYR of Macedonia

#### **Western Europe**

Austria  
Belgium  
France  
Germany  
Liechtenstein  
Luxembourg  
Monaco  
Netherlands  
Switzerland

#### **LATIN AMERICA and the CARIBBEAN**

##### **Caribbean**

Anguilla  
Antigua and Barbuda  
Aruba  
Bahamas  
Barbados  
British Virgin Islands  
Cayman Islands  
Cuba  
Dominica  
Dominican Republic  
Grenada  
Guadeloupe  
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 (Plurinational State of)  
Brazil  
Chile  
Colombia  
Ecuador  
Falkland Islands (Malvinas)  
French Guiana  
Guyana  
Paraguay  
Peru  
Suriname  
Uruguay  
Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

##### **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

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#### **NOTES**

<sup>1</sup> United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division (2009). *World Population Prospects: The 2008 Revision, CD-ROM Edition*.