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The dependency ratio is the total number of people who are too young or old to work, divided by the number of working-age people.Dependency ratios reveal the population breakdown of a country and how well dependents can be taken care of.Older citizens are becoming a larger percentage of the U.S. dependency ratio, while the percentage of children is falling.This disparity generally has negative consequences for Social Security, because more people will withdraw from the program than contribute. The dependency ratio is the total number of people too young or old to work, divided by the number of working-age people (1564 years old). The dependency ratio measures the burden caused by non-working people on a nation's working-age population. The higher the dependency ratio, the greater the burden. Non-working dependents are defined as those up to and including age 14 and people aged 65 and older. Alternate name: Age dependency ratio You can find dependency ratios for countries worldwide from the United Nations, which calculates a dependency ratio for every nation every five years, going back to 1950. The dependency ratio formula used by governments and economists worldwide is: (Y) = People aged 014(S) = People aged 65+(W) = Workers aged 1564 The dependency ratio is the number of dependents in a population divided by the number of working-age people. Dependency ratios reveal the population breakdown of a country and how well it can care for its dependents. This ratio can help a nation set policy and forecast its financial needs. In the United States, it is most often used to discuss the viability of Social Security and other social benefits because they are paid for by collecting payroll taxes from working-age people. For instance, in the fiscal year 2022, Social Security is forecast to cost the federal government $1.2 trillion, and Medicare will cost $766 billion. Medicaid, designed for people with lower incomes, will cost $571 billion. Both of these programs are funded by payroll taxes collected from working-age peoplemeaning there needs to be enough people working and paying into them to keep them funded. The dependency ratio in 1960 was 66.7%. By 1985, the ratio had dropped to 50.9%. It rose again through the early 90s, then began to decrease during the 2000s. Around 2010, the dependency ratio began to climb, ending up at 53.9% by the end of 2020. The ratio continues to increase as more baby boomers turn 65 or older. This is demonstrated by the age dependency ratio of only those that are 65 and older in the U.Sin 1960 this ratio was 15.1%. At the end of 2020, it had skyrocketed to 25.6%. Since 18.4% of the U.S. population is 14 and under, this means that 56% of the U.S. population is supporting the other 44%, according to the age ranges used for the formula. This sounds like an alarm bell for the current working-age population. They will have even fewer children to support them when they become seniors. The dependency ratio estimates assume that all dependent age groups don't work, and everyone else does. In real life, that's not true. Not all who are 65 and older have stopped working. Meanwhile, many people ages 1564 do not work, for various reasons. One of the main limitations of the ratio is that it doesn't accurately reflect the transition of workers between age groups or the participation rate. For example, the labor force participation rate (LFPR) has been falling over the last two decadesin 2000, it peaked at 67.3%. In 2021, the LFPR hovered around 61%, in part because of the recovery from the pandemic, but it was also influenced by other factors. However, the U.S. Census Bureau found that while participation was declining overall, the participation rates within each age group by state were going up. The Bureau found that this was because baby boomers were transitioning out of the working-age group but were still working. By 2030, the percentage of those working between the ages of 65 and 74 is projected to increase 5.3%, with the percentage of workers over the age of 75 increasing 2.7% as well. This means that more people in the older age group will be working, which decreases the number that depends on younger generations for support. The dependency ratio also fails to account for increased longevity. People are living longer because of the advances in health care. In addition, many careers are becoming more sedentary or can be worked remotely; baby boomers and younger generations have access to, and experience with, technology and the internet; many continue to use them well into their later years. People over 65 today are in better condition than in the past and have more work options available today than ever before. Therefore, dependency ratios might not accurately reflect that people can and might choose to work longer in life. Thanks for your feedback! With respect to age composition in a population, it's sometimes said that demographics are destiny. Along those lines, the dependency ratio is a metric that can provide key indicators about a country or region's economic health and outlook. Image source: Getty Images. The dependency ratio is a measure of how many people within a population are not of working age. People who are younger than 15 or older than 65 are classified as "dependents" because they are not likely to be in the workforce.The dependency ratio is calculated by dividing the number of people in the dependents category by the total population. For example, if a country had 25 million dependents in a population of 100 million, it would have a dependency ratio of 25%. Taxes from workers are used to support programs for the young and elderly. If growth for the working-age population does not keep up with increases for the dependent population, the dependency ratio will rise. With a lower proportion of working adults in a population, it becomes harder to support social services and other spending.For instance, growth for the percentage of senior citizens in the U.S. means that more people need to be supported through Social Security, Medicare, and other programs. But, due to having a smaller percentage of working adults in the population pool, there is a proportionally smaller tax base to fund these programs. The dependency ratio should be viewed across multiple years and in context with birth and life expectancy rates to get a sense of broader trends. Although useful, the ratio is far from being a perfect indicator.For example, a rise in fertility rates would result in growth for the number of young people who are not of working age -- pushing up the total dependency ratio. Conversely, a decline in fertility rates would initially cause a proportional decline in young people below working age -- pushing the dependency ratio down.Broadly speaking, growth for the under-15 age demographic is a positive economic indicator for a country or region because these young people eventually enter the workforce and become net producers. Conversely, growth for the 65-and-above demographic without corresponding growth among younger demographics is typically a negative indicator because it will be more difficult to support the aging population. According to the World Bank, the U.S. had a dependency ratio of 54% in 2022. This was up from a dependency ratio of 52.8% in 2018 and a dependency ratio of 50.5% in 2014. The trend reflects the fact that the country's overall demographic composition has continued to skew older. More people are entering their non-working years, and growth among the working-age population has not kept pace.However, a rising dependency ratio isn't always a concerning indicator. It's important to look at the metric in conjunction with other population trends in order to get the full picture.The U.S. dependency ratio actually hit its highest level on record in 1961, coming in at roughly 67.3%. The high ratio reflected the fact that the fertility rate in the country was relatively high, and many people in the Baby Boomer generation had yet to age into the 15-and-above demographic that is considered the start of working age. The Motley Fool has a disclosure policy. A Comprehensive Guide to its Impact on Population and Society Sarah Lee AI generated Llama-4-Maverick-17B-128E-Instruct-FP8 5 min read May 24, 2025 The dependency ratio is a demographic measure used to indicate the ratio of dependents (people who are either too young or too old to work) to working-age (those who are capable of working and are typically contributing to the economy). It is a crucial metric for understanding the age structure of a population and its potential impact on the economy and societal structures.Definition and Calculation of Dependency RatioThe dependency ratio is calculated by dividing the number of dependents (people aged 0-14 and 65+) by the number of working-age individuals (those aged 15-64), and then multiplying by 100 to get a percentage.\[\text{Dependency Ratio} = \left( \frac{\text{Number of dependents}} {\text{Number of working-age individuals}} \right) \times 100\]Importance of Dependency Ratio in Demographic StudiesThe dependency ratio is significant in demographic studies because it provides insights into the potential burden on the working population to support those who are not working. A high dependency ratio indicates a larger proportion of dependents relative to the working-age population, which can strain the economy and social services.Overview of its Impact on Society and EconomyThe dependency ratio has far-reaching implications for both society and the economy. It affects the allocation of resources, the demand for public services such as education and healthcare, and the overall economic productivity. A high dependency ratio can lead to increased financial burdens on the working population through higher taxes to support social security and pension systems.Types of Dependency RatioThere are three main types of dependency ratios: youth dependency ratio, old-age dependency ratio, and total dependency ratio. Each type provides different insights into the demographic structure and its implications.Youth Dependency Ratio: Implications for Education and ChildcareThe youth dependency ratio measures the proportion of young people (typically those under 15) relative to the working-age population. A high youth dependency ratio indicates a significant need for investment in education and childcare services.Increased demand for educational facilities and servicesHigher expenditure on childcare supportPotential for a larger future workforceOld-Age Dependency Ratio: Implications for Pension and Healthcare SystemsThe old-age dependency ratio focuses on the proportion of older individuals (usually those 65 and above) relative to the working-age population. An increasing old-age dependency ratio suggests a greater burden on pension and healthcare systems.Increased pressure on pension funds and social security systemsHigher demand for healthcare services and elderly care facilitiesPotential strain on the working population to support older dependentsTotal Dependency Ratio: Overall Impact on the EconomyThe total dependency ratio combines both the youth and old-age dependency ratios, providing a comprehensive view of the dependent population relative to the working-age population. It gives an overall indication of the potential economic burden and the need for policy adjustments.Impact of Dependency Ratio on EconomyThe dependency ratio has significant implications for the economy, affecting workforce productivity, social security systems, and overall economic growth.Effects on Workforce and ProductivityA high dependency ratio can lead to a reduced workforce, as a larger proportion of the population is not working. This can result in decreased productivity and economic output.graph LR; A["High Dependency Ratio"] --> B["Reduced Workforce"]; B --> C["Decreased Productivity"]; C --> D["Economic Strain"];Influence on Social Security and Pension SystemsAn aging population with a high old-age dependency ratio puts pressure on social security and pension systems. The working population must support a larger number of retirees, potentially leading to financial strain on these systems.Implications for Economic Growth and DevelopmentThe dependency ratio can significantly influence economic growth. A favorable dependency ratio (i.e., a low total dependency ratio) can lead to a demographic dividend, where a larger working-age population drives economic growth.Managing Dependency RatioManaging the dependency ratio involves implementing strategies to mitigate its adverse effects and capitalize on its benefits.Strategies for Managing a High Dependency RatioTo manage a high dependency ratio, governments can implement policies aimed at:Increasing the retirement age to extend the working life of individualsEncouraging higher labor force participation, especially among women and older workersInvesting in automation and technology to boost productivityReforming pension and social security systems to ensure sustainabilityLeveraging a Low Dependency Ratio for Economic GrowthA low dependency ratio presents opportunities for economic growth. Governments can leverage this by:Investing in education and skills training to enhance workforce productivityEncouraging entrepreneurship and innovationImplementing policies to attract foreign investmentPromoting economic diversificationPolicy Interventions for Mitigating the Challenges of Dependency RatioEffective policy interventions are crucial for managing the challenges posed by the dependency ratio. These can include:Family-friendly policies to support working parentsImmigration policies to supplement the workforceHealthcare policies to support an aging populationPension reform to ensure the sustainability of retirement systemsConclusionThe dependency ratio is a vital demographic indicator that influences the economy and societal structures. Understanding its implications and managing its effects through informed policy decisions are crucial for sustainable economic growth and development.References FAQWhat is the dependency ratio?The dependency ratio is a measure of the number of dependents (people aged 0-14 and 65+) relative to the working-age population (those aged 15-64).Why is the dependency ratio important?It is important because it indicates the potential burden on the working population to support those who are not working, affecting the economy and social services.How is the dependency ratio calculated?It is calculated by dividing the number of dependents by the number of working-age individuals and then multiplying by 100.What are the implications of a high dependency ratio?A high dependency ratio can lead to increased financial burdens on the working population, strain on social security and pension systems, and potential economic strain.How can a low dependency ratio benefit the economy?A low dependency ratio can lead to a demographic dividend, where a larger working-age population drives economic growth, providing opportunities for increased productivity and economic development. Sarah Lee 2025-05-24 16:45:02 You need to be logged in to add comments. Click here to login. The proportion of the population that is dependent on the welfare state in comparison with the population of the working age is called the dependency ratio. It is also called the total dependency ratio or age dependency ratio and is an important measure of age structure of the population of a country. According to the United Nations Population Division and the World Bank, the dependency ratio is a measure of the number of dependents aged below 15 (children) and above 64 (elderly) compared with the overall population aged from 15 to 64 of a country. The dependency ratio is a demographic indicator that provides information about the number of people of non-working age compared with the number of people of working age in a countrys overall population. The dependency ratio is also used to understand the economic burden of the workforce and has consequences for taxation.FormulaHere is the formula to calculate dependency ratio:An image containing the dependency ratio formula.Dependency Ratio = (Number of Dependents / Number of people of Working Age) x 100%Dependency Ratio = (Number of people in the dependent age group / Number of people in the working age group) x 100%Understanding Dependency RatioThe population of a country can be divided into the following two groups:Dependent Age GroupThis group is composed of children and elderly and can be further divided into two subgroups:Children below 15 yearsElderly above 64 yearsThe number of people in the dependent age group is the sum of the population of the children (below 15) and the elderly (above 64).Working Age GroupThis group consists of people of age from 15 years to 64 years.Now, the dependency ratio is the number of people in the dependent age group calculated as a percentage of the number of people in the working age group. Lets understand this with the help of a simple hypothetical example. Lets suppose that a country has a population of 800 people. In this country, there are 150 children under the age of 15, 150 elderly people over the age of 64, and 500 people in the working age group who are aged from 15 to 64. In this case, the dependency ratio is calculated as follows:Number of people in the dependent age group = No. of Children + No. of elderly = 150 + 150 = 300Number of people in the working age group = 500Dependency Ratio = (Number of people in the dependent age group / Number of people in the working age group) x 100% = (300 / 500) x 100% =60%A high value of dependency ratio explains that the overall economy and the economically active population face a greater burden in supporting the dependent population.Other Types of Dependency RatioOther forms of dependency ratio are the youth dependency ratio and the elderly dependency ratio.Youth Dependency RatioThe youth dependency ratio is the number of dependents aged below 15 (youth) calculated as a percentage of the number of people in the working age group. Its formula is given below:An image containing the youth dependency ratio formula.Youth Dependency Ratio = (Number of Dependents below 15 / Number of people of Working Age) x 100%A high youth dependency ratio means a higher level of government spending in schooling and childcare.Elderly Dependency RatioThe elderly dependency ratio is the number of dependents aged above 64 (elderly) calculated as a percentage of the number of people in the working age group. It is also called the old-age dependency ratio. Its formula is given below:An image containing the elderly dependency ratio formula.Elderly Dependency Ratio = (Number of Dependents above 64 / Number of people of Working Age) x 100%A high elderlydependency ratio means a higher level of government spending in pensions and health care.The main focus of dependency ratio is to separate those of working age, from 15 to 64 years of age, from those of non-working age. It also provides an accounting of those who can earn their own income and who are most likely unable to earn their income in a country. Many complex employment regulations make it possible that individuals under the age of 15 are unlikely to get employed for any personal income. Those who normally entered the age of 65 years are considered in a normal retirement age category, and they are not considered as a part of the workforce of a country. Those who fall in the dependent age category (below 15 or above 64 years) generally have a lack of income potential, and they are dependent on others for their basic needs to be fulfilled.Dependency Ratio AnalysisGenerally, dependency ratios are reviewed to compare the percentage of the total population, termed as working age, that will provide economic support to the remaining non-working age population. The dependency ratio analysis provides an overview for analysts and economists to track the shifts in the structure and age distribution of the population of a country.Due to the increase in the population of non-working, those who are working are subjected to increased taxes in order to compensate for the rest of the dependent population. The dependency ratio is often adjusted to understand the accurate dependency because people above 64 years of age need more government assistance as compared to the dependents under the age of 15. When the overall age of the population increases, it can be shifted to reflect the increased needs concerned with an ageing population.Impact of Female ParticipationMany females in Europe are concerned about the increasing trend of dependency ratio. For example, by 2040, the dependency ratio in the United Kingdom is expected to rise to 65%. Therefore, this increase in dependency ratio can be overcome by increasing female participation in the labour market as a workforce, a smaller percentage of people under the age of 18, and a proposed increase in the pension age. These strategies can offset the rise of the dependency ratio in a country.Importance of Dependency RatioThe importance of dependency ratio is because it compares the ratio of economically inactive with economically active. The economically active are those who pay more income tax, corporate tax, more sales, and VAT taxes. The economically inactive (below 15 and above 64 years) tend to be bigger recipients of government spending, like education, healthcare, and pensions.When a countrys dependency ratio increases, it causes fiscal problems for the government; for example, Italy already had a high financial debt due to an ageing population and a high dependency ratio. A doubling of the dependency ratio is going to cause difficult choices for the ruling government to make.Good Dependency RatioA low dependency ratio is termed a good dependency ratio, which indicates that there are a sufficient number of individuals in the labour force that can support the remaining dependent population. Typically, a lower dependency ratio denotes better healthcare for ageing adults along with higher pensions. But a higher dependency ratio suggests stress on the economy as the dependents are too many in number to be supported by the workforce.In 2022, the United Arab Emirates had the lowest dependency ratio of about 20.57. Niger had the highest dependency ratio of 105.13. The United States had a dependency ratio of 54.05.Factors Affecting Dependency RatioThe following are some factors that affect the dependency ratio:AgeA primary factor that affects the dependency ratio is age. Age determines who is and is not included in the workforce.DemographicsDemographics also affect dependency ratio. Therefore, the demographics of a nation are affected by multiple factors, like immigration policies, birth rates, and other previous government policies, like Chinas one child policy.Foreign WorkersDependency ratio can also be affected by foreign workers. If a country attracts more foreign workers, it will help grow the workforce and economic health.Birth RateThe birth rate also affects the dependency ratio. If a country has a high birth rate, then there will be enough individuals to replace a particular portion of the workforce that retires.A diagram illustrating the factors affecting dependency ratio.Limitations of Dependency RatioThere are some limitations of dependency ratio:The dependency ratio only considers age when determining whether a person is economically active or not.It does not include those people that are under non-working age (above 64), even if they are working, as some people continue to work beyond the age of 64.Another drawback is that if a person is working or economically active aside from age, it should determine other factors like status as an illness, disability, or student, at-home parents, long-term unemployed and people who take early retirements.Solutions to Higher Dependency RatiosThe following are some solutions to normalise high dependency ratios:A diagram illustrating the solutions to higher dependency ratio.Raising Retirement AgeBy raising retirement age, it allows individuals to work for a longer life span and remain economically active.Encouraging ImmigrationAnother solution is to encourage immigration of people in their early 20s and 30s.Private PensionsBy reducing the real value of state pensions and encouraging people to take out private pensions, countries can lower the dependency ratios.High Income TaxesThe increased value of income taxes makes people able to afford pension and healthcare spending.Decreasing School Leaving AgeDecreasing the school leaving age can decrease the number of dependents and increase the number of economically active individuals, leading to a lower value of the dependency ratio.ConclusionIn conclusion, a dependency ratio is a demographic or economic indicator that calculates the number of dependent population aged below 15 and above 64 years, compared with the total population aged from 15 to 64 years. The dependency ratio is used to determine the people of working age and non-working age, which is helpful in understanding taxation, which impacts the governments revenue and other multiple factors of a nation. The ideal dependency ratio is the lower one, as it indicates less of a burden on the workforce in supporting those who are economically inactive or non-working. How to Calculate Withholding and Deductions From a Paycheck We help you conquer everyday moments in your financial lives, and we take our job seriously.Learn how we create content Subject-matter experts write and edit all of our articles. We never recommend something we wouldnt recommend to our friends. We give you practical solutions, rather than mere best practices. We're committed to consistently updating and rigorously fact-checking our content. How to Buy Your First Home The dependency ratio refers to the proportion of the population that is dependent on the welfare state in comparison with the proportion of the population in employment. This measure is calculated by the number of dependents on the state (ages 0-14 years old and 65+ year olds) compared to the total population. Therefore, indicating the amount of people of non-working age compared to those of workingage. Age-population ratio of those in the labor force to those not in the labor forceAge dependency ratio as of 2017[1]The dependency ratio is an age-population ratio of those typically not in the labor force (the dependent part ages 0 to 14 and 65+) and those typically in the labor force (the productive part ages 15 to 64). It is used to measure the pressure on the productive population.Consideration of the dependency ratio is essential for governments, economists, bankers, business, industry, universities and all other major economic segments which can benefit from understanding the impacts of changes in population structure. A low dependency ratio means that there are sufficient people working who can support the dependent population.[2] A lower ratio could allow for better pensions and better health care for citizens. A higher ratio indicates more financial stress on working people and possible political instability.[citation needed] While the strategies of increasing fertility and of allowing immigration especially of younger working age people have been formulas for lowering dependency ratios, future job reductions through automation may impact the effectiveness of those strategies.In published international statistics, the dependent part usually includes those under the age of 15 and over the age of 64. The productive part makes up the population in between, ages 15 64. It is normally expressed as a percentage: ( T o t a l ) D e p e n d e n c y r a t i o = ( n u m b e r o f p e o p l e a g e d 0 t o 14 ) + ( n u m b e r o f p e o p l e a g e d 65 a n d o v e r ) n u m b e r o f p e o p l e a g e d 15 t o 64 100 {\displaystyle \mathrm {(Total)\ Dependency\ ratio} ={\frac {(\mathrm {number\ of\ people\ aged\ 0\ to\ 14} )+(\mathrm {number\ of\ people\ aged\ 65\ and\ over)} }{\mathrm {number\ of\ people\ aged\ 15\ to\ 64} }}\times 100} As the ratio increases there may be an increased burden on the productive part of the population to maintain the upbringing and pensions of the economically dependent. This results in direct impacts on financial expenditures on things like social security, as well as many indirect consequences.The (total) dependency ratio can be decomposed into the child dependency ratio and the aged dependency ratio:[3] C h i l d d e p e n d e n c y r a t i o = n u m b e r o f p e o p l e a g e d 0 t o 14 n u m b e r o f p e o p l e a g e d 15 t o 64 100 {\displaystyle \mathrm {Child\ dependency\ ratio} ={\frac {\mathrm {number\ of\ people\ aged\ 0\ to\ 14} }{\mathrm {number\ of\ people\ aged\ 15\ to\ 64} }}\times 100} A g e d d e p e n d e n c y r a t i o = n u m b e r o f p e o p l e a g e d 65 a n d o v e r n u m b e r o f p e o p l e a g e d 15 t o 64 100 {\displaystyle \mathrm {Aged\ dependency\ ratio} ={\frac {\mathrm {number\ of\ people\ aged\ 65\ and\ over} }{\mathrm {number\ of\ people\ aged\ 15\ to\ 64} }}\times 100} [4]Below is a table constructed from data provided by the UN Population Division.[5] It shows a historical ratio for the regions shown for the period 1950 - 2010. Columns to the right show projections of the ratio. Each number in the table shows the total number of dependents (people aged 014 plus people aged over 65) per hundred people in the workforce (number of people aged 1564). The number can also be expressed as a percent. So, the total dependency ratio for the world in 1950 was 64.8% of the workforce.Region1950197019902010203020502070 2090World64.874.964.052.554.759.162.365.7Africa80.590.191.681.267.761.555.855.7Asia67.979.563.348.050.655.863.069.9Europe52.255.649.746.664.774.975.680.6Latin America & The Caribbean78.086.769.852.450.257.370.780.4North America54.461.751.749.064.865.272.376.2Oceania59.265.856.253.460.361.864.469.5As of 2010, Japan and Europe had high aged dependency ratios (that is over 65 as% of workforce) compared to other parts of the world.[6] In Europe 2010, for every adult aged 65 and older there are approximately four working age adults (15-64); This ratio (one:four, or 25%) is expected to decrease to one:two, or 50%, by 2050.[7] An aging population is caused by a decline in fertility and longer life expectancy. The average life expectancy of males and females are expected to increase from 79 years in 1990 to 82 years in 2025.[8] The dependency amongst Japan residents aged 65 and older is expected to increase which will have a major impact on Japan's economy.The inverse of the dependency ratio, the inverse dependency ratio can be interpreted as how many independent workers have to provide for one dependent person (pension & expenditure on children).Old-age dependency ratio as of 2017[9]This chart depicts the old age dependency ratio in the US[10]A high dependency ratio can cause serious problems for a country if a large proportion of a government's expenditure is on health, social security & education, which are most used by the youngest and the oldest in a population. The fewer people of working age, the fewer the people who can support schools, retirement pensions, disability pensions and other assistances to the youngest and oldest members of a population, often considered the most vulnerable members of society. The ratio of old (usually retired) to young working people is called old age dependency ratio (OADR) or just dependency ratio.[11]The old-age dependency ratio ignores the fact that the 65+ are not necessarily dependent (an increasing proportion of them are working, see also retirement age) and that many of those of 'working age' are actually not working. Alternatives have been developed', such as the 'economic dependency ratio', but they still ignore factors such as increases in productivity and in working hours. Worries about the increasing (demographic) dependency ratio should thus be taken with caution.[12]The labor force dependency ratio (LFDR) is a more specific metric than the old age dependency ratio because it measures the ratio of the older retired population to the employed population at all ages (or the ratio of the inactive population to the active population at all ages).[11]While OADRs or LFDRs provide reasonable measures of dependency, they do not account for the fact that middle-aged and educated workers are usually the most productive. Hence the productivity weighted labor force dependency ratio (PWLFDR) may be a better metric to determine dependency. The PWLFDR is the ratio of inactive population (all ages) to active population (all ages), weighted by productivity for education level. Interestingly, while OADRs or LFDRs can change substantially, the PWLFDR is predicted to remain relatively constant in countries like China for the next couple of decades. PWLFDR assessments recommend to invest in education and life-long learning and child health to maintain social stability even when populations age.[11]Migrant labor dependency ratio (MLDR) is used to describe the extent to which the domestic population is dependent upon migrant labor.[4][13]High dependency ratios can lead to long-term economic changes within the population such as saving rates, investment rates, the housing markets, and the consumption patterns. Typically, workers will start to increase their savings as they grow closer to retirement age, but this will eventually affect their long-term interest rates due to the retirement population increasing and the fertility rates decreasing. If the demographic population continues to follow this trend, their savings will decrease while their long-term interest rates increase. Due to the saving rates decreasing, the investment rate will prevent economic growth because there will be less funding for investment projects. There is a correlation between labor force and housing markets, so when there is a high age-dependency ratio in a country, the investments in housing markets will decrease since the labor force is decreasing due to a high dependency population.[14]Low dependency ratios promote economic growth while high dependency ratios decrease economic growth due to the large amounts of dependents that pay little to no taxes. A solution to decreasing the dependency ratio within a country is to promote immigration for younger people. This will stimulate a higher economic growth because the working-age population will grow in number if more young adults migrate into their country.The increase in the involvement of women in the work force has contributed to the working-age population which complements the dependency ratio for a country. Encouraging women to work will help decrease the dependency ratio. Because more women are getting higher education, it is less likely for them to have children, causing the fertility rates to decrease as well.Using productivity weighted labor force dependency ratio (PWLFDR) suggests that even an aging or decreasing population can maintain a stable support for the dependent (primarily ageing) population by increasing its productivity. A consequence from PWLFDR assessments is the recommendation to invest in education and life-long learning, child health, and to support disabled workers.[11]The age-dependency ratio can determine which stage in the Demographic Transition Model a certain country is in. The dependency ratio acts like a rollercoaster when going through the stages of the Demographic Transition Model. During stages 1 and 2, the dependency ratio is high due to significantly high crude birth rates putting pressure onto the smaller working-age population to take care of all of them. In stage 3, the dependency ratio starts to decrease because fertility and mortality rates start to decrease which shows that the proportion of adults to the young and elderly are much larger in this stage.[15]In stages 4 and 5, the dependency ratio starts to increase once again as the working-age population retires. Because fertility rates caused the younger population to decrease, once they grow up and start working, there will be more pressure for them to take care of the previous working-age population that just retired since there will be more young and elderly people than working-age adults during that time period.[15] The population structure of a country is an important factor for determining the economic status of their country. Japan is a great example of an aging population. They have a 1:4 ratio of people 65 years and older. This causes trouble for them because there is not enough people in the working-age population to support all of the elders. Rwanda is another example of a population that struggles with a younger population (also known as the "youth bulge"). Both of these countries are struggling with high dependency ratios even though both countries are on opposite stages of the Demographic Transition Model.[16]The dependency ratio has been criticized for ignoring that many older adults are employed, and many younger adults are not, and obscuring other trends such as improving health for older people that might make older people less economically dependent.[12] For this reason, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights has characterized the metric as ageist, and recommends avoiding its use.[17] Alternative metrics, such as the economic dependency ratio (defined as the number of unemployed and retired people divided by the number of workers) do address this oversimplification, but ignore the effects of productivity and work hours.[12]List of countries by dependency ratioDemographic economicsEconomic collapseEmployment-to-population ratioIntergenerational equityGenerational accountingPensions crisisPopulation ageingSub-replacement fertilitySocietal collapseCase studies:Ageing of EuropeAgeing of Japan^ "Age dependency ratio". 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Retrieved 2018-03-27.^ "Dependency Ratio - Economics Help". Economics Help. Retrieved 2018-04-02.^ "Measure what you treasure: Ageism in Statistics" (PDF). OHCHR. 2020. Retrieved 5 October 2021.Old Age dependency Ratios in EuropeDefinition and Forecasts for Dependency RatiosThe Risk Pool, Malcolm Gladwell, The New Yorker, 8/23/2006Retrieved from " 2For other uses, see 9X (disambiguation).Vietnamese demographic cohort born in the 1990sTh h 9X (literally "9X Generation", often referred to simply as 9X) is a Vietnamese term for people born during the 1990s.[1] The usage of 9X was used to refer to both Vietnamese people[2] and people of varying Asian cultures born during the 1990s.[3][4] The 9X generation of Vietnam refers to those that grew up during the development of Vietnam's economy, information technology, and other influential events that opened Vietnam to the world.They were described as being a progressive and rebellious generation.[2] They are often described as being more confident than members of older generations, they dare to freely pursue personal interests, and are more proficient in foreign languages. Technology, specifically the internet, is an important part of their lives. They are also willing to reject established traditions, ignore elder class values, listen to classical music, and follow foreign fashion trends and life styles.[2]This generation has now become matured citizens of Vietnam and is subsequently succeeded by the 2K Generation, a phrase that is used to refers "kids" that were born from the year of 2000 to 2009. This phrase was later popularly outshone by the term "Gen Z" which has a very close definition to the "2K."Vietnam portal1990s portalSociety portalBuddha-like mindsetDemographics of VietnamGeneration YGeneration ZN-po generation, Korean conceptPost-90s, Chinese equivalentSatori generation, Japanese conceptSampo generation, Korean equivalentStrawberry generation, Taiwanese counterpartTang ping, Chinese term^ "Teens rebel by adopting eclectic Japanese style". Vietnam News Agency. July 2007. Archived from the original on 22 June 2008. Retrieved 18 July 2008. {{cite journal}}: Cite journal requires |journal= (help)^ a b c "im cng v im tr cho 9X" (in Vietnamese). VTC News. May 2008. Archived from the original on 26 May 2008. Retrieved 18 July 2008. {{cite journal}}: Cite journal requires |journal= (help)^ "9X Trung Quc 'th thch' tin bi". VnExpress (in Vietnamese). May 2007. Archived from the original on 27 May 2012. Retrieved 18 July 2008.^ "Th h 9x: Ch bit Google, khng gii phn tch?" (in Vietnamese). VNN. May 2007. Retrieved 18 July 2008.This Vietnam-related article is a stub. You can help Wikipedia by expanding it.vteRetrieved from " 3The following pages link to 9X Generation External tools(link counttransclusion countsorted list) See help page for transcluding these entriesShowing 50 items.View (previous 50 | next 50) (20 | 50 | 100 | 250 | 500)Generation X (links | edit)Lost Generation (links | edit)Pension (links | edit)Baby boomers (links | edit)Generation (links | edit)Millennials (links | edit)Generation gap (links | edit)Greatest Generation (links | edit)Digital divide (links | edit)Dependency ratio (links | edit)Voluntary childlessness (links | edit)Silent Generation (links | edit)Global digital divide (links | edit)Generation Jones (links | edit)Parentoffspring conflict (links | edit)Parental investment (links | edit)Inter-generational ministry (links | edit)Boomerang Generation (links | edit)Generation Z (links | edit)Sandwich generation (links | edit)Generationism (links | edit)Intergenerational equity (links | edit)Immigrant generations (links | edit)Digital native (links | edit)Strawberry generation (links | edit)MTV Generation (links | edit)Burnt Generation (links | edit)Generational accounting (links | edit)Th h 9X (redirect page) (links | edit)User:Acer/Simple4 (links | edit)9X (links | edit)Intergenerationality (links | edit)Me generation (links | edit)Western culture (links | edit)Post-80s (links | edit)Revolutionary generation (links | edit)Cost of raising a child (links | edit)Intergenerational shared site (links | edit)StraussHowe generational theory (links | edit)Husk's Children (links | edit)Interbellum Generation (links | edit)Theory of generations (links | edit)Transgenerational design (links | edit)Post-90s (links | edit)Filial responsibility laws (links | edit)Intergenerational struggle (links | edit)Future generations (links | edit)Post 70s Generation (links | edit)Xennials (links | edit)Cusper (links | edit)Satori generation (links | edit)View (previous 50 | next 50) (20 | 50 | 100 | 250 | 500)Retrieved from " WhatLinksHere/9X_Generation"DefinitionThe dependency ratio is a demographic measure that compares the number of dependents ages 0 to 14 and over 65 to the total working-age population ages 15 to 64. The dependency ratio is a measure of the number of dependents aged zero to 14 and over the age of 65, compared with the total population aged 15 to 64. This demographic indicator gives insight into the number of people of non-working age, compared with the number of those of working age. It is also used to understand the relative economic burden of the workforce and has ramifications for taxation. The dependency ratio is also referred to as the total or youth dependency ratio. The dependency ratio is a demographic measure of the ratio of the number of dependents to the total working-age population in a country or region.This indicator paints a picture of the make-up of a population compared to its workforce and can shed light on the tax implications of dependency.As the overall age of the population rises, the ratio can be shifted to reflect the increased needs associated with an aging population. DependencyRatio=#DependentsPopulationAged15to64100\text{Dependency Ratio} = \frac{\# \text{ Dependents}}{\text{Population Aged 15 to 64}} \cdot 100DependencyRatio=PopulationAged15to64#Dependents100 A high dependency ratio means those of working age, and the overall economy, face a greater burden in supporting the aging population. The youth dependency ratio includes those only under 15, and the elderly dependency ratio focuses on those over 64. The dependency ratio focuses on separating those of working age, deemed between the ages of 15 and 64 years of age, from those of non-working age. This also provides an accounting of those who have the potential to earn their own income and who are most likely to not earn their own income. Various employment regulations make it unlikely that individuals less than 15 years old would get employed for any personal income. A person who turns 65 years old is generally considered to be of normal retirement age and is not necessarily expected to be part of the workforce. It is the lack of income potential that generally qualifies those under 15 and over 64 as dependents as it is often necessary for them to receive outside support to meet their needs. Dependency ratios are generally reviewed to compare the percentage of the total population, classified as working age, that will support the rest of the non-working age population. This provides an overview for economists to track shifts in the population. As the percentage of non-working citizens rises, those who are working are likely subject to increased taxes to compensate for the larger dependent population. At times, the dependency ratio is adjusted to reflect a more accurate dependency. This is due to the fact those over 64 often require more government assistance than dependents under the age of 15. As the overall age of the population rises, the ratio can be shifted to reflect the increased needs associated with an aging population. For example, assume that the mythical country of Investopedialand has apopulationof 1,000 people, and there are 250 children under the age of 15, 500 people between the ages of 15 and 64, and 250 people aged 65 and older. The youth dependency ratio is 50%, or 250/500. The dependency ratio only considers age when determining whether a person is economically active. Other factors may determine if a person is economically active aside from age, including status as a student, illness or disability, stay-at-home parents, early retirement, and the long-term unemployed. Additionally, some people choose to continue working beyond age 64. A good dependency ratio is a low dependency ratio. A low dependency ratio indicates that there is a sufficient number of people in the workforce that can support the dependent population. Lower dependency ratios typically signify better healthcare for aging adults as well as higher pensions. A high dependency ratio, on the other hand, indicates stress on the economy as the dependent population is too large to be supported by the workforce. As of 2022, the country with the lowest dependency ratio is United Arab Emirates, with a ratio of 20.57. The country with the highest dependency ratio at 105.13 is Niger. The United States has a dependency ratio of 54.05. Age is the primary factor that affects the dependency ratio, as that determines who is and is not included in the workforce. The demographics of a nation, however, are affected by a variety of factors, such as birth rates, immigration policies, and other government policies (such as China's previous one-child policy). If a country can attract foreign workers, it will help grow the workforce, similarly, if the birth rate is high, then there will be enough individuals to replace the portion of the workforce that retires. These factors would help lower the dependency ratio. The dependency ratio is a demographic indicator that measures the number of dependents aged zero to 14 and over the age of 65, compared with the total population aged 15 to 64. It is analyzed to determine the people of working age versus those of non-working age, which aids in understanding taxation, which in turn impacts the government's revenue and, therefore, various aspects of the nation. A lower dependency ratio is ideal as it signifies less of a burden on the workforce in supporting those who are not working. Share copy and redistribute the material in any medium or format for any purpose, even commercially. Adapt remix

training to ensure these future workers are adequately prepared. Conversely, a high Elderly Dependency Ratio can lead to labor shortages, prompting businesses to invest in automation and other technologies to maintain productivity. Countries like South Korea have been at the forefront of integrating robotics and AI into their industries to counteract the effects of an aging workforce.Fiscal policies are also deeply intertwined with dependency ratios. Governments in countries with high dependency ratios often face increased pressure to allocate more resources to social services, such as healthcare, education, and pensions. This can lead to higher public debt levels if not managed carefully. For example, Italy has struggled with balancing its budget due to high public spending on pensions and healthcare for its aging population. Policymakers must navigate these challenges by implementing sustainable fiscal policies that balance the needs of dependents with the economic realities of a smaller tax base.Impact on Social SecurityThe impact of dependency ratios on social security systems is a topic of growing concern for many nations. As the proportion of elderly dependents rises, the financial sustainability of social security programs comes under scrutiny. With fewer workers contributing to the system and more retirees drawing benefits, the balance can become precarious. This demographic shift necessitates reforms to ensure that social security systems remain solvent. For instance, some countries have considered raising the retirement age or adjusting benefit formulas to reflect longer life expectancies.The strain on social security is not just a matter of numbers; it also affects the quality of life for retirees. In countries where the dependency ratio is high, social security benefits may be stretched thin, leading to lower payouts and reduced purchasing power for the elderly. This can exacerbate issues of poverty and inequality among older populations. Policymakers must therefore consider not only the financial aspects but also the social implications of their decisions. For example, Sweden has implemented a flexible retirement system that allows individuals to choose when to start receiving benefits, thereby spreading the financial burden more evenly.Global Variations in Dependency RatiosDependency ratios vary significantly across the globe, influenced by factors such as birth rates, life expectancy, and migration patterns. In many developing countries, high birth rates contribute to elevated Youth Dependency Ratios. For example, nations in Sub-Saharan Africa often experience a youthful demographic profile, which presents both opportunities and challenges. While a young population can be a future asset for economic growth, it also requires substantial investment in education, healthcare, and job creation to harness this potential effectively. Policymakers in these regions must focus on creating robust educational systems and employment opportunities to ensure that the young population can transition into productive adulthood.In contrast, many developed countries face the opposite challenge: high Elderly Dependency Ratios due to low birth rates and increased life expectancy. Japan is a prime example, with one of the highest proportions of elderly citizens globally. This demographic trend places immense pressure on social security systems and healthcare services, necessitating innovative solutions to maintain economic stability. Some countries have turned to policies that encourage higher birth rates, such as offering financial incentives for families or implementing family-friendly workplace policies. Others, like Canada, have adopted more open immigration policies to bolster the working-age population and mitigate the effects of an aging society. The dependency ratio measures the economic burden on the working-age population by comparing the number of dependent individuals (children and elderly) to those of working age. This demographic indicator offers crucial insights into a societys economic structure and helps governments plan for future resource allocation, social welfare programs, and economic policies. As populations age or experience youth booms, these ratios shift, creating both challenges and opportunities for economic development and social support systems.Table of ContentsThe dependency ratio is a demographic measure that reflects the proportion of dependents (those typically not in the labor force) to the working-age population that supports them economically. This ratio helps economists, policymakers, and demographers understand the potential economic burden on productive members of society.The total dependency ratio is calculated using the formula:Total Dependency Ratio = [(Population aged 0-14 + Population aged 65+) / Population aged 15-64] 100This formula yields a percentage that represents how many dependents there are for every 100 working-age people. For example, a dependency ratio of 60 means there are 60 dependents for every 100 people of working age.Types of dependency ratios To gain more specific insights, the dependency ratio is often broken down into two components:Young-age dependency ratio: Measures the burden of children (0-14 years) on the working-age population. Formula: [(Population aged 0-14) / Population aged 15-64] 100Old-age dependency ratio: Measures the burden of elderly (65+ years) on the working-age population. Formula: [(Population aged 65+) / Population aged 15-64] 100These ratios help identify whether a societys economic burden comes primarily from supporting children (requiring investments in education and child healthcare) or the elderly (requiring pensions and geriatric healthcare systems).Significance of dependency ratios in economic planning Dependency ratios serve as vital indicators for economic planning and policy development for several reasons:Fiscal implications High dependency ratios typically signal increased pressure on government spending for social services. Countries with high young-age dependency ratios need to allocate more resources to education, childcare, and pediatric health services. Conversely, nations with high old-age dependency ratios face mounting costs for pensions, geriatric healthcare, and elder care facilities.For instance, when Japans old-age dependency ratio surpassed 45 in 2019, the government faced significant challenges financing its pension system and healthcare for the elderly, leading to policy reforms and budget reallocations.Labor market dynamics Dependency ratios influence labor market participation rates and productivity levels. In societies with high total dependency ratios, the working-age population bears a greater economic burden, which can affect: Labor force participation: Working-age individuals may need to work longer hours or delay retirementHousehold savings: Higher dependency burdens may reduce household saving capacityEconomic growth: Countries with favorable dependency ratios often experience what economists call a demographic dividenda period of accelerated economic growthIntergenerational equity The ratio also raises questions about fairness between generations. As old-age dependency ratios rise in many countries, younger workers increasingly support larger elderly populations through their tax contributions. This dynamic can create tensions around resource allocation and social security sustainability.Indias changing dependency ratio landscape (1961-2011) India has undergone significant demographic transitions over the past several decades, reflected clearly in its changing dependency ratios.Declining young-age dependency One of the most striking demographic shifts in India has been the steady decline in the young-age dependency ratio:1961: Young-age dependency ratio of approximately 752011: Young-age dependency ratio reduced to approximately 45This dramatic reduction stems from Indias declining fertility rates, which dropped from about 5.9 children per woman in 1960 to approximately 2.4 by 2011. The change represents a positive development for Indias economy, as it has reduced the pressure on education systems and created opportunities for greater investment per child.Rising old-age dependency While still relatively low compared to developed nations, Indias old-age dependency ratio has been increasing gradually:1961: Old-age dependency ratio of approximately 72011: Old-age dependency ratio increased to approximately 13This trend reflects improved life expectancy in India, which increased from about 41 years in 1960 to over 67 years by 2011. Although the increase appears modest compared to the decline in young-age dependency, it signals the beginning of population aging that will accelerate in coming decades.Total dependency ratio trends The combined effect of these changes has been an overall decline in Indias total dependency ratio:1961: Total dependency ratio of approximately 822011: Total dependency ratio reduced to approximately 58This favorable demographic shift has positioned India in what demographers call the demographic window of opportunitya period when the working-age population is proportionally large compared to dependent populations. This window typically presents opportunities for accelerated economic growth if supported by appropriate policies. [Image: Line graph showing trends in young-age, old-age, and total dependency ratios in India from 1961-2011, highlighting the declining youth dependency and gradually rising elderly dependency] Regional variations within India Indias demographic transition has not been uniform across all states and territories, creating a patchwork of different dependency challenges throughout the country.Northern vs. southern states A notable demographic divide exists between northern and southern states in India:Southern states (Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka): These states have progressed further in the demographic transition, with lower fertility rates and higher life expectancies. Consequently, they face lower young-age dependency ratios but are experiencing more rapid increases in old-age dependency.Northern states (Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Rajasthan): These states generally maintain higher fertility rates, resulting in higher young-age dependency ratios and slower increases in old-age dependency.For instance, in 2011, Kerala had a young-age dependency ratio of approximately 35 compared to Bihars 62. Meanwhile, Keralas old-age dependency ratio stood around 20, nearly double Bihars figure of approximately 11.Rural-urban differences Significant disparities exist between rural and urban areas:Urban areas: Generally exhibit lower total dependency ratios due to lower fertility rates and the concentration of working-age populations who migrate for employmentRural areas: Often maintain higher young-age dependency ratios due to higher fertility rates, while also experiencing rising old-age dependency as working-age individuals migrate to citiesThese variations create distinct policy challenges across different regions of the country, requiring tailored approaches to education, healthcare, and social security systems.Global comparisons: India vs. developed nations Indias dependency ratio profile differs markedly from those of developed nations, reflecting different stages of demographic transition.Comparing old-age dependency ratios The contrast in old-age dependency ratios is particularly striking:India (2011): Approximately 13Japan (2011): Approximately 36Germany (2011): Approximately 31United States (2011): Approximately 19These differences highlight Indias relatively youthful population structure compared to aging societies in developed nations. However, Indias old-age dependency ratio is projected to increase significantly in coming decades as its demographic transition progresses.Comparing total dependency ratios While Indias total dependency ratio has declined, some developed nations are experiencing increases in their total dependency ratios due to aging populations:India (2011): Approximately 58Japan (2011): Approximately 57Germany (2011): Approximately 52United States (2011): Approximately 49The similarity in total dependency ratios masks fundamentally different dependency structures: Indias burden comes primarily from supporting children, while developed nations increasingly focus on supporting elderly populations.Economic and social implications Dependency ratios have far-reaching implications for economic development and social welfare systems.The demographic dividend opportunity Indias declining total dependency ratio has created a potential demographic dividenda window when the working-age population significantly outnumbers dependents. This demographic structure can accelerate economic growth if leveraged effectively through:Education and skill development: Preparing the large youth cohort for productive employmentJob creation: Ensuring sufficient employment opportunities for the growing workforceFinancial systems: Developing robust savings and investment channels to harness increased earning potentialSouth Korea and Singapore successfully capitalized on their demographic dividends during the 1980s-1990s, achieving remarkable economic growth rates. Indias opportunity window is projected to remain open until approximately 2055, providing a critical period for economic advancement.Preparing for future aging While India currently benefits from a relatively low old-age dependency ratio, projections indicate rapid aging in coming decades:2050 projection: Old-age dependency ratio expected to reach approximately 28This anticipated increase necessitates forward-thinking policies to prepare for population aging:Pension systems: Developing sustainable retirement income programsHealthcare infrastructure: Expanding geriatric care capabilitiesElder care models: Adapting traditional family-based support systems for changing family structuresIndia has the advantage of learning from challenges faced by rapidly aged societies like Japan, which struggled to adapt their social systems quickly enough to population aging.Policy implications and future outlook The changing dependency ratio landscape in India necessitates thoughtful policy responses across multiple domains.Education and workforce development To capitalize on its favorable dependency ratio, India should prioritize:Educational quality improvements: Enhancing learning outcomes and skill relevanceVocational training: Developing practical skills aligned with market demandsFemale labor force participation: Removing barriers to womens employment to maximize the productive workforceThese investments are crucial for converting Indias demographic advantage into economic prosperity.Healthcare system adaptation Indias healthcare system must evolve to address changing dependency patterns:Child and maternal health: Continuing improvements in pediatric and maternal careNon-communicable disease management: Developing capabilities to address diseases of aging like diabetes, hypertension, and dementiaHealth insurance expansion: Extending financial protection mechanisms for healthcare costsThe dual burden of addressing both child health needs and emerging elderly care requirements presents a complex challenge for Indias health system.Social security frameworks Indias limited formal social security coverage requires expansion and adaptation:Pension coverage expansion: Developing inclusive retirement income programs beyond the formal sectorFamily support supplementation: Creating systems that complement rather than replace traditional family-based elder supportSustainable financing mechanisms: Designing fiscally responsible programs that can withstand demographic changesThe challenge lies in developing appropriate systems before the demographic window closes and the old-age dependency ratio rises substantially.What do you think? How might Indias regional variations in dependency ratios affect its ability to implement uniform national policies? Could Indias experience of navigating demographic transition offer lessons for other developing countries with young populations? views updated May 14 2018The ratio of persons who are economically dependent on those who provide for them, either by earning incomes or paying taxes, is known as the dependency ratio. In demographic terms, the dependency ratio is defined as the proportion of those aged under fifteen and over sixty-five to all those between these ages, though this definition does not accurately represent economic dependency at the national level, since persons aged fifteen through sixty-four who are economically dependent, such as disabled persons, invalids, the mentally ill, or the unemployed, are counted inappropriately as independent. In public health and public-policy planning, therefore, indicators such as the number of people receiving disability benefits or the use of disability-adjusted life years would be more accurate for tracking dependency.John M. Last(see also: Demography; Economics of Health ) views updated May 09 2018dependency ratio A simple indicator of the age composition of the population which typically varies in the range 0.5 to 1.00. Early definitions of the dependency ratio refer to the total number of young dependants divided by the total number of persons of productive age. More recently, due to the economic burden of ageing populations, the dependency ratio is defined as the total number of young and old dependants divided by the population of working agefor example persons aged under 15 and 65 and over divided by persons aged 1564, or persons aged under 20 and 60 and over divided by persons aged 2059 years. In both definitions, the two parts of the population are identified purely by age, rather than with reference to numbers actually working and not working. As national data sources improve in quality and frequency, this thirdmore precisedefinition becomes a possibility, and is used in some studies. The dependency ratio is used by demographers to monitor trends over time in the age structure and relate them to the fertility rate, the mortality rate, and other demographic, social, and economic indicators.

**What is a dependency ratio quizlet. What does the dependency ratio show. Dependency ratio. Dependency ratio definition sociology. What is a good dependency ratio. What is a dependency ratio sociology quizlet. What is a normal dependency ratio.**