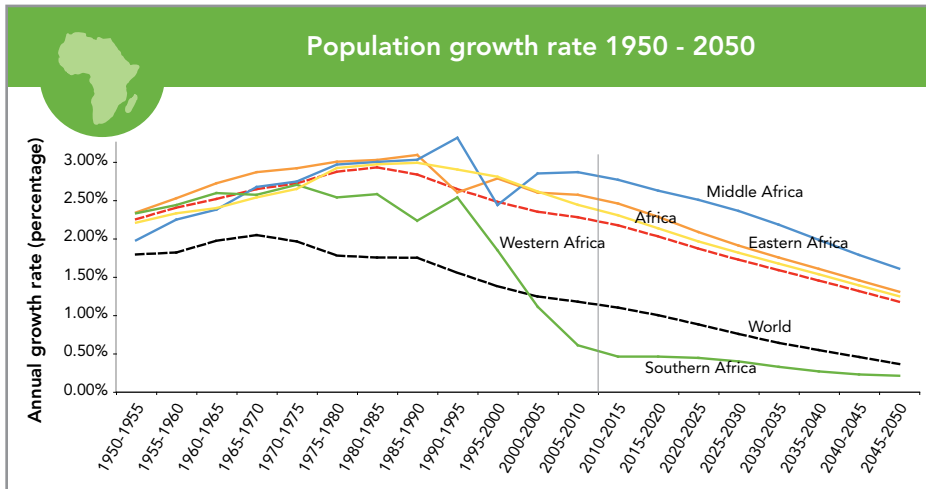


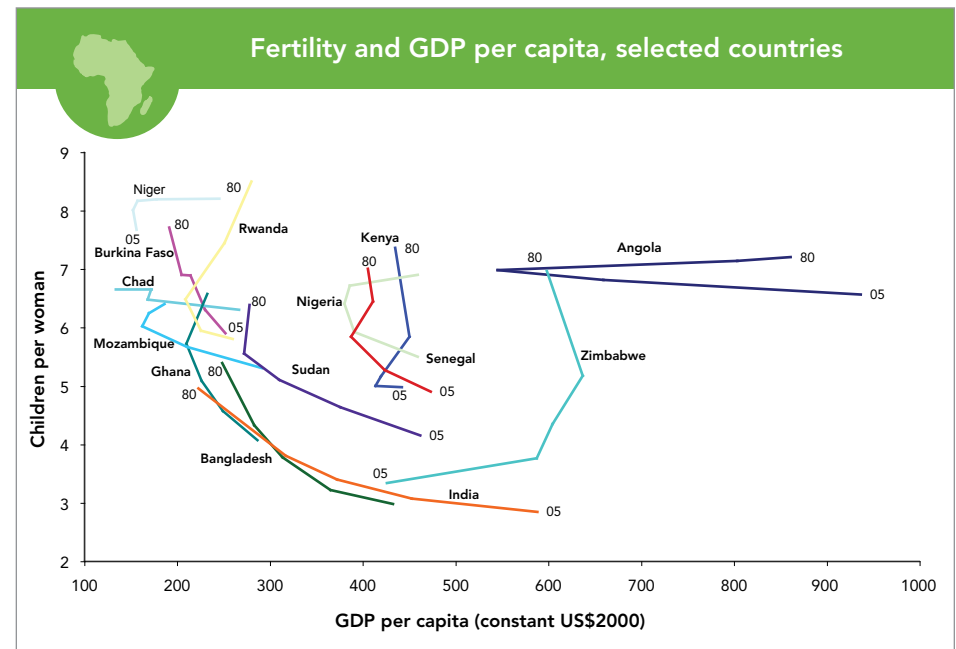
DEMOGRAPHIC TRENDS



Source: UN-DESA, 2007.

Population growth is still strong.

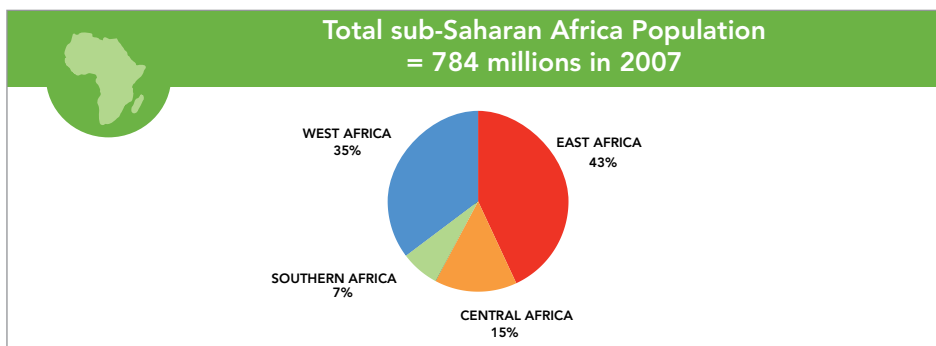
In 2007, sub-Saharan Africa had a population of 784 million people. African population has continued to grow at a very high pace during the last decade, although growth rates have begun to decline since around 1985. Whereas population growth in Southern Africa has plummeted and is expected to remain just above zero in the coming decades, mostly due to the toll of HIV/AIDS in that subregion, growth rates in other subregions are only slowly decreasing and are projected to remain above 1.5 per cent annually to 2040.



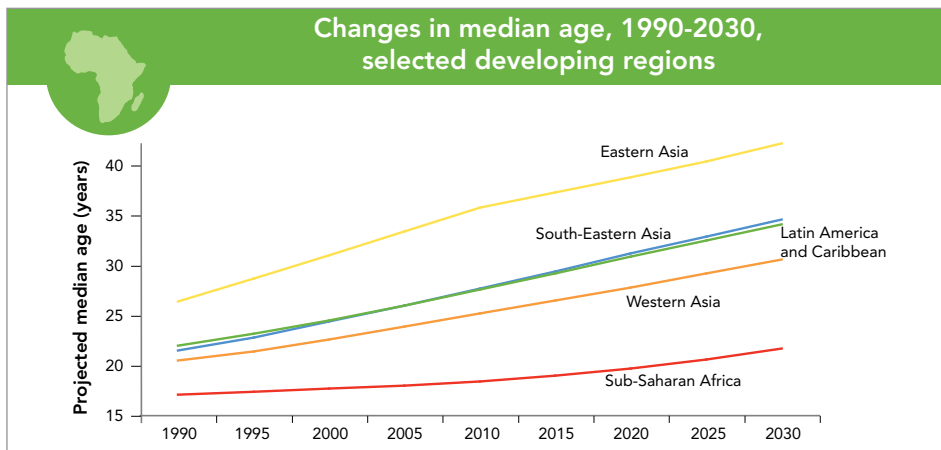
Source: World Development Indicators 2007.

Fertility rates have decreased, but less rapidly than in other regions.

Part of the explanation of the rapid demographic growth lies in very high fertility rates. In countries like Angola, Burkina Faso, Chad and Niger, the average number of children is still above 6 per woman. By contrast, Zimbabwe, Kenya, Ghana and Sudan seem to be on a rapid transition pattern towards lower fertility levels. Fertility rates tend to decrease over time, notably with rising incomes.



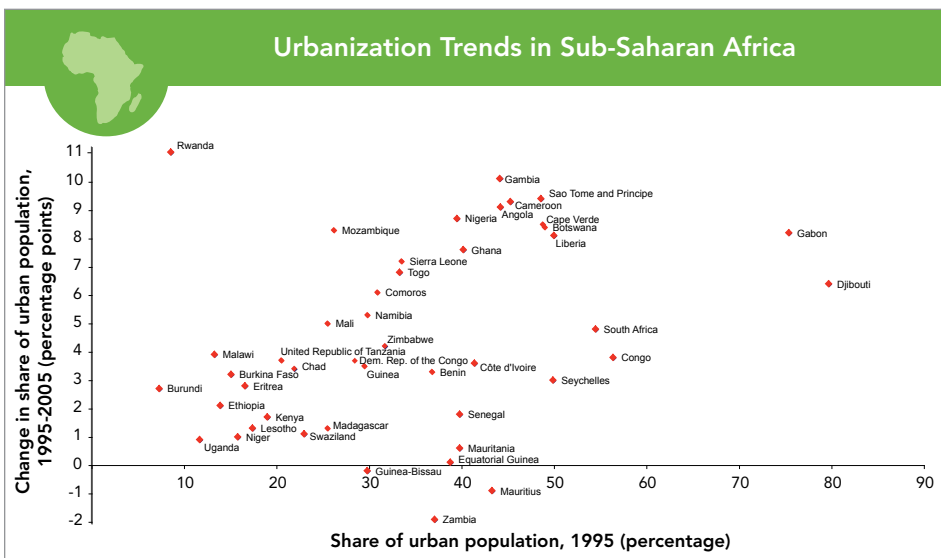
Source: UN-DESA, 2007.



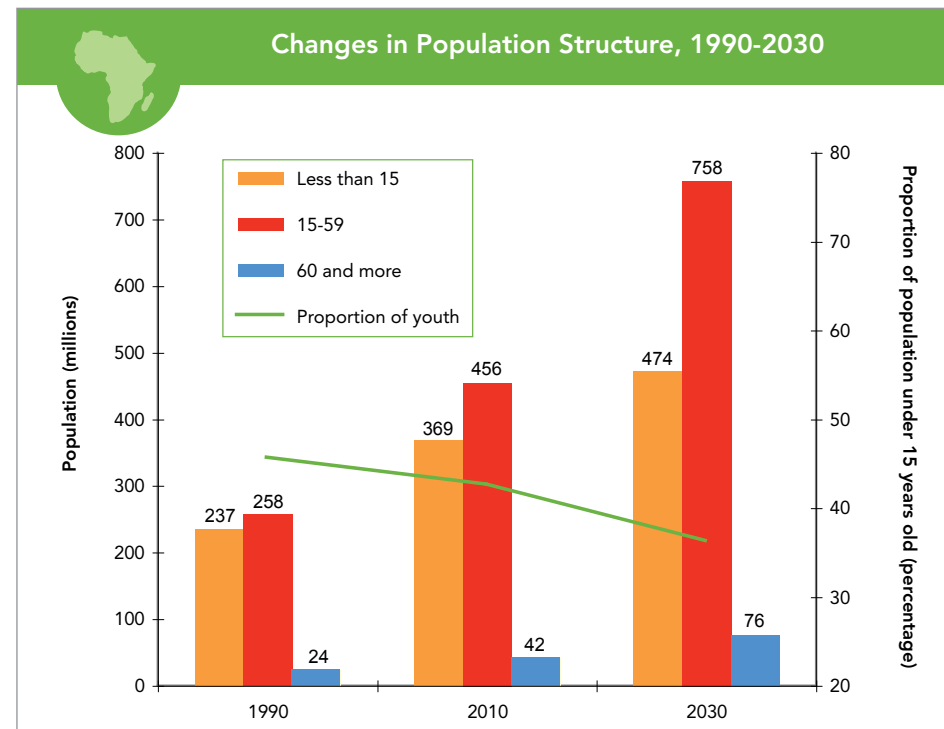
Source: UN-DESA, 2007.

Compared to other developing regions, sub-Saharan Africa's population is very young.

Currently, half of the population is less than 18 years old, whereas the median age is close to 25 or higher in Southern Asia and Latin America, and close to 35 in Eastern Asia. The difference between the age structure of population in Africa and in other developing regions is expected to increase over time. In 2030, the median age would be around 22 years in sub-Saharan Africa, whereas all Asian subregions and Latin America would have much older populations.



Source: UN-DESA, 2007.



Source: UN-DESA, 2007.

Working age population will continue to grow rapidly.

High fertility rates will translate into rapid population growth well into the century. From 520 million in 1990, population is expected to reach 1.3 billion by 2030. The share of people under 15 in total population is expected to decline only slowly, from 46 per cent in 1990 to 36 per cent in 2030. Population aged 15 to 59 is expected to grow from 456 million in 2010 to 758 million in 2030. This young population structure represents a particular challenge for African countries for education and employment.

Africa offers stark contrasts in terms of urbanization.

Countries like Burundi, Rwanda, Malawi, Ethiopia and Burkina Faso are still overwhelmingly rural, whereas in Djibouti and Gabon more than 80 per cent of the country's population lives in urban areas. Between 1995 and 2005, some countries have witnessed fast growth of urban population. Nigeria, the most populous country in sub-Saharan Africa, has seen the proportion of people living in urban areas grow from 44 to 52 per cent in 10 years. Urban growth, often reflecting sizeable migration flows from rural areas, presents daunting challenges for development, as inflows of migrants into the cities have to be provided with access to land, infrastructure and basic services.