

Health and Economic Benefits of Fertility Decline

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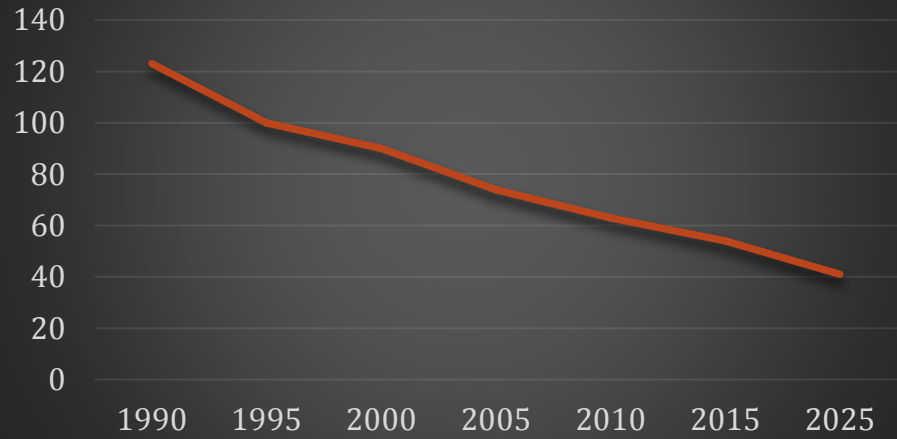
Director of Research

Harvard Center for Population and Development Studies

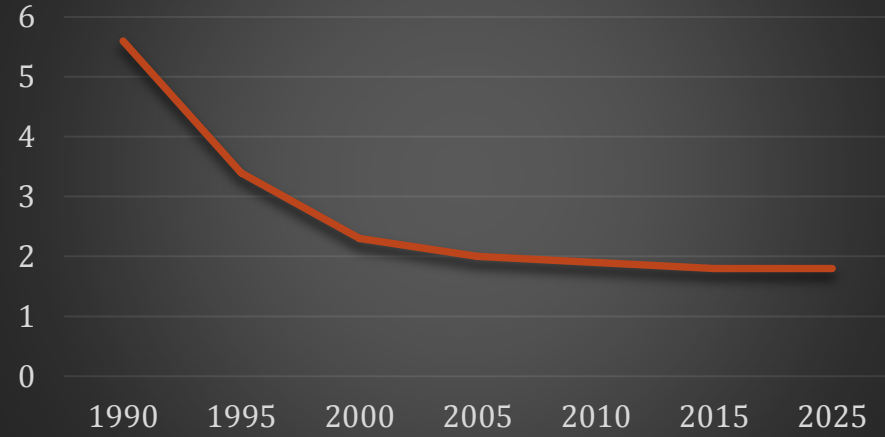
22nd January 2015

Demographic Transition

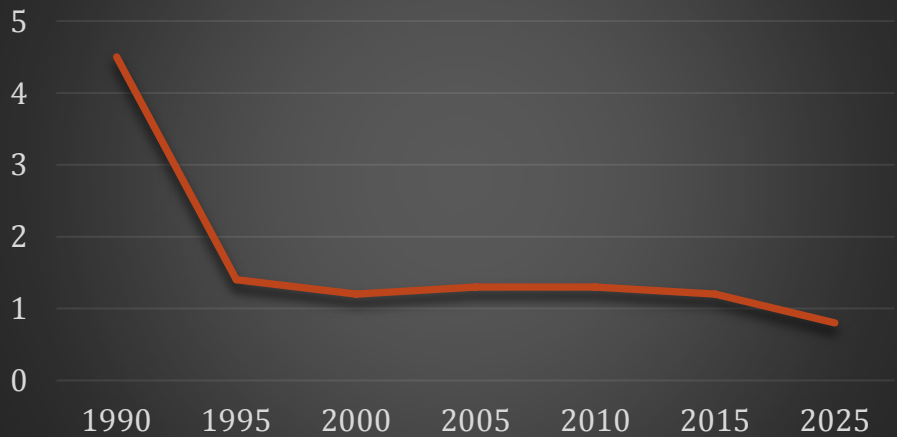
Under 5 mortality rate



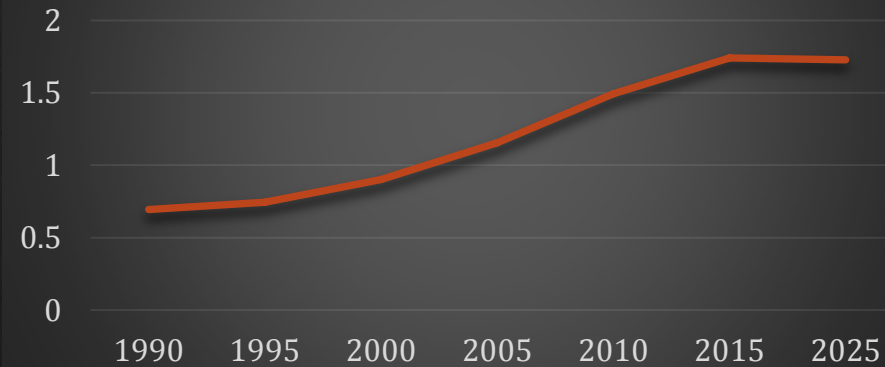
Total fertility rate



Population growth rate



Working age / non-Working age

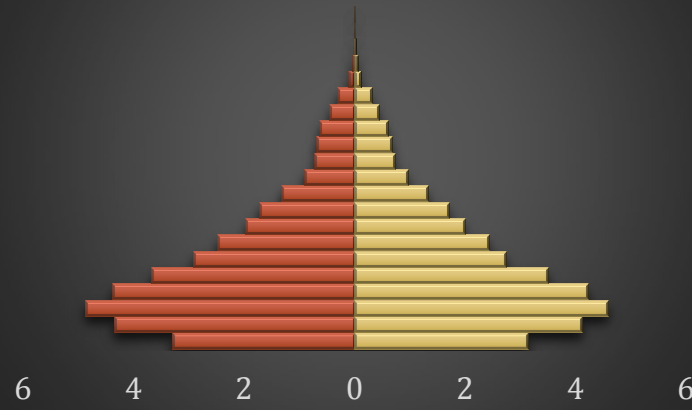


Age structure

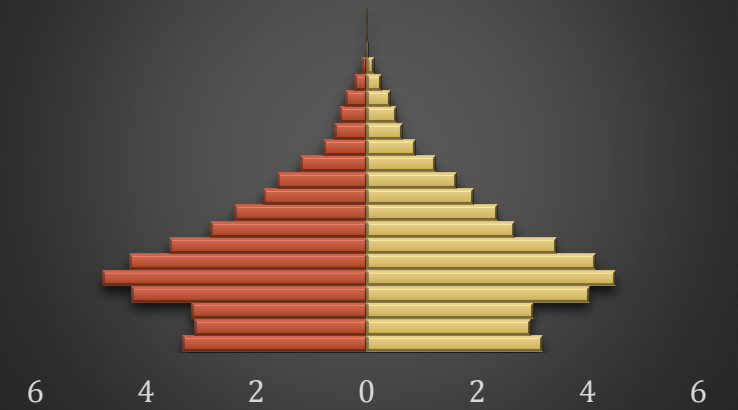
1990



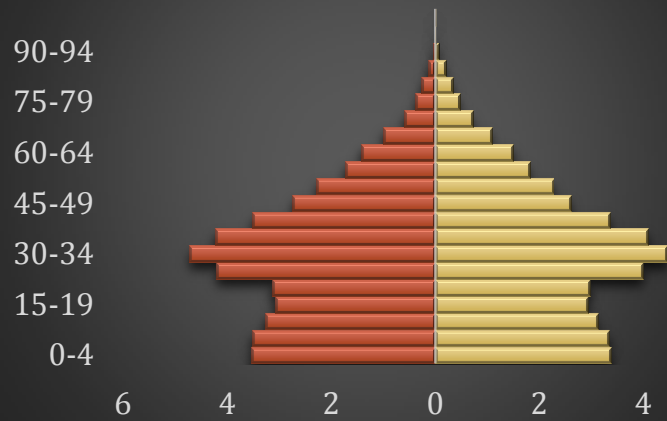
2000



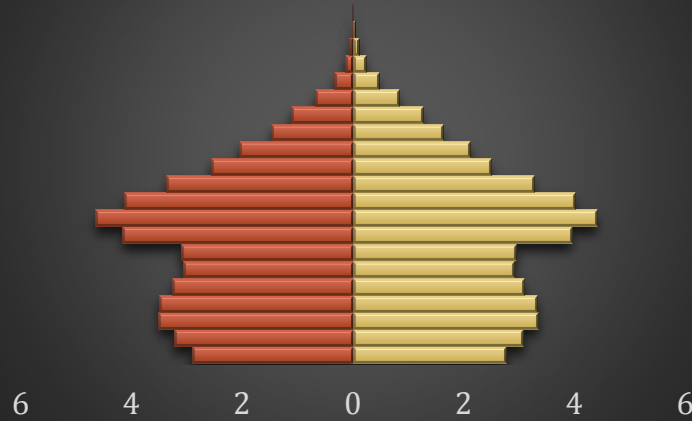
2010



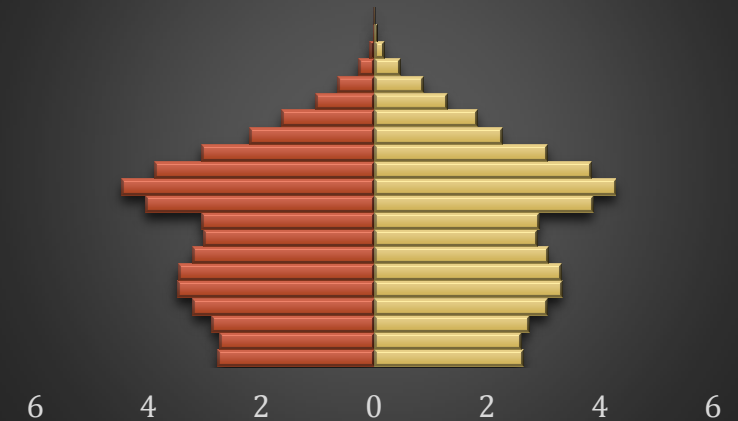
2020



2030



2040



Demographic Dividend

By construction income per capita increases

1. Output per labor unit the same.
2. Labor force participation the same.
3. Fraction of workers in the population increases.
4. Income per capita increases.

Behavioral responses to demographic changes

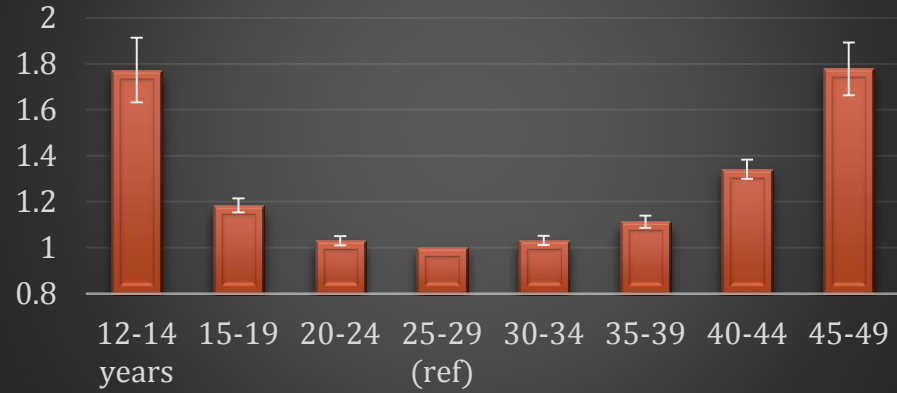
1. Declines in fertility increase female labor force participation
2. Savings increases as there are fewer dependents
3. Fewer children, higher education, greater technological innovation

Health benefits of the fertility decline

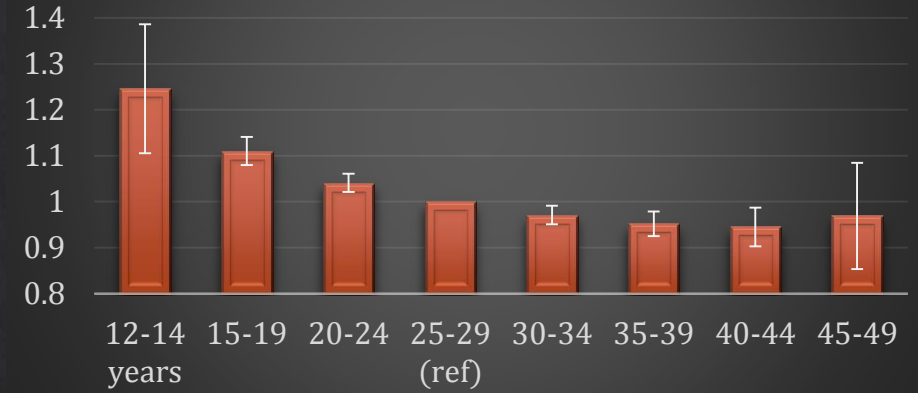
1. Fewer children, healthier children
2. {fertility declined because of better child health/survival}
3. Fewer births, healthier mothers (and fathers)

Health benefits of fertility decline

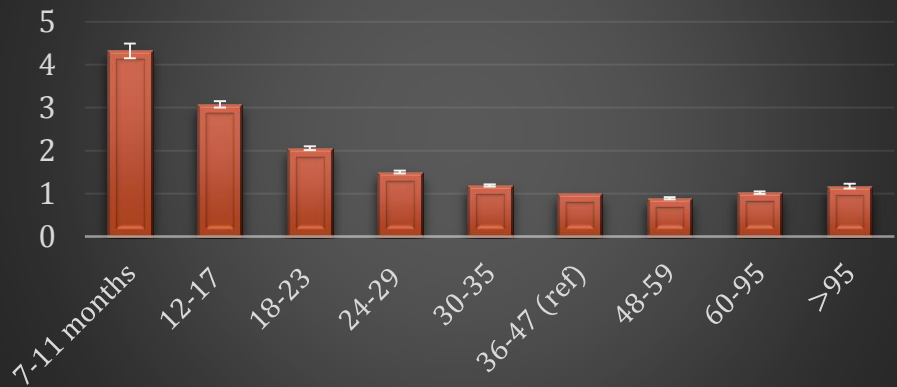
Infant Mortality Age of Mother at Birth



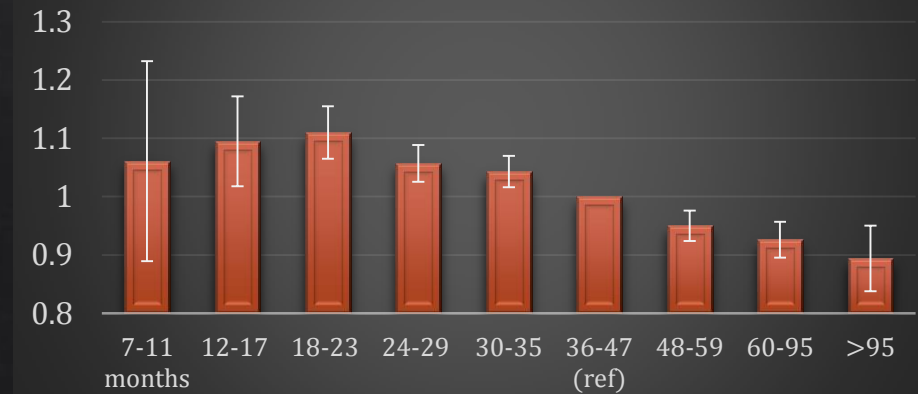
Stunting Age of Mother at Birth



Infant Mortality Birth Interval



Stunting Birth Interval



Thank you

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