

# Population Growth and Policy Responses to Low Fertility

Population  
Division

Policy Brief No. 10

1. The population growth rate is the rate at which the population of a country is increasing or decreasing. It is calculated as the number of births minus the number of deaths, divided by the total population, and expressed as a percentage. The population growth rate is a key indicator of a country's demographic health and economic prospects. A high population growth rate indicates a young population and a high potential for economic growth, while a low or negative population growth rate indicates an aging population and a potential for economic stagnation or decline.

2. The population growth rate is influenced by a number of factors, including fertility rates, mortality rates, and migration. Fertility rates are the number of children a woman has over her lifetime, and mortality rates are the number of deaths per 1,000 people per year. Migration is the movement of people from one country to another. The population growth rate is also influenced by government policies, such as family planning programs and immigration laws.

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