Life in the 21st century
A vision for all

How the world changes every hour

Global births per hour, 1955-2025

Global deaths per hour, 1955-2025

Natural increase of the world population per hour, 1955-2025
A. Life expectancy at birth

- 1955: 68% above 60 years, 32% 60 years or less
- 1975: 40% above 60 years, 60% 60 years or less
- 1995: 14% below 70, 86% 70 and above
- 2025: 4% below 70, 96% 70 and above

B. Under-5 mortality rate per 1000 live births

- 1955: 70% below 70, 30% 70 and above
- 1975: 47% below 70, 53% 70 and above
- 1995: 36% below 70, 64% 70 and above
- 2025: 5% below 70, 94% 70 and above

C. Infant mortality rate per 1000 live births

- 1955: 81% below 50, 19% 50 and above
- 1975: 70% below 50, 30% 50 and above
- 1995: 40% below 50, 60% 50 and above
- 2025: 6% below 50, 94% 50 and above

*Percentages shown are of populations of all WHO Member States meeting or failing to meet WHO targets for health for all by the year 2000.
Age structure of deaths, 1955-2025

World

Least developed countries

Developed market economies

*Percentages of total deaths; figures in brackets refer to the number of deaths in millions.
Global causes of death, 1997

- Diseases of the circulatory system: 17,310 (29%)
- Infections and parasitic diseases: 13,200 (23%)
- Lower respiratory infections: 5,230 (9%)
- Maternal causes: 3,020 (5%)
- Other and unknown causes: 2,500 (4%)
- Cancers: 1,950 (3%)

*Deaths in thousands and percentages of total.*

The burden of cancer, 1997

Mortality, worldwide

- Males:
  - Lung: 1,820
  - Stomach: 1,140
  - Colon-rectum: 1,000
  - Liver: 1,000
  - Breast (female): 900
  - Oesophagus: 800
  - Mouth-pharynx: 700
  - Prostate: 600
  - Lymphoma and myeloma: 500
  - Leukaemia: 500
  - Bladder: 400
  - Ovary: 400
  - Kidney: 380
  - Corpus uteri: 200
  - Melanoma of skin: 100

- Females:
  - Lung: 1,600
  - Stomach: 1,100
  - Colon-rectum: 900
  - Liver: 900
  - Breast (female): 900
  - Oesophagus: 800
  - Mouth-pharynx: 700
  - Prostate: 600
  - Lymphoma and myeloma: 500
  - Leukaemia: 500
  - Bladder: 400
  - Ovary: 400
  - Kidney: 380
  - Corpus uteri: 200
  - Melanoma of skin: 100

Prevalence, worldwide

- Males:
  - Lung: 3,150
  - Stomach: 2,150
  - Colon-rectum: 1,200
  - Liver: 750
  - Breast (female): 650
  - Oesophagus: 600
  - Mouth-pharynx: 600
  - Prostate: 500
  - Lymphoma and myeloma: 400
  - Leukaemia: 400
  - Bladder: 350
  - Ovary: 350
  - Kidney: 350
  - Corpus uteri: 200
  - Melanoma of skin: 100

- Females:
  - Lung: 2,300
  - Stomach: 1,400
  - Colon-rectum: 1,000
  - Liver: 700
  - Breast (female): 650
  - Oesophagus: 500
  - Mouth-pharynx: 450
  - Prostate: 450
  - Lymphoma and myeloma: 350
  - Leukaemia: 350
  - Bladder: 300
  - Ovary: 300
  - Kidney: 300
  - Corpus uteri: 200
  - Melanoma of skin: 100

Incidence, developed and developing world

Developed world

- Lung: 560
- Stomach: 420
- Colon-rectum: 350
- Liver: 200
- Breast (female): 130
- Oesophagus: 90
- Mouth-pharynx: 80
- Prostate: 80
- Lymphoma and myeloma: 70
- Leukaemia: 70
- Bladder: 60
- Ovary: 60
- Kidney: 60
- Corpus uteri: 50
- Melanoma of skin: 50

Developing world

- Lung: 420
- Stomach: 300
- Colon-rectum: 220
- Liver: 160
- Breast (female): 130
- Oesophagus: 90
- Mouth-pharynx: 80
- Prostate: 80
- Lymphoma and myeloma: 70
- Leukaemia: 70
- Bladder: 60
- Ovary: 60
- Kidney: 60
- Corpus uteri: 50
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Age structure of the global population, 1955-2025

Urban and rural global population, 1955-2025

Replacement-level fertility, 1955-2025

- Replacement-level fertility is the total fertility rate of 2.1 children per woman.
- Percentages of total global population.

Percentages of total global population; figures in brackets refer to the number of persons in billions.
An ageing world

A. Population aged 65 and above, 1997

B. Population aged 65 and above, 2025