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Age-specific fertility rates

Data analysis and Report writing workshop for Civil registration and vital statistics data.

Age-specific fertility rates

- ◆ When assessing fertility, it is helpful to know the fertility of females at particular age groups.
- ◆ **Age-specific fertility rates (ASFRs)** are the number of births occurring to mothers of a certain age group per 1,000 women in that age group in a given period of time.
- ◆ ASFR's are usually calculated for women aged 15-49 in each 5-year age group.
- ◆ The advantage of ASFRs is that they are not affected by differences in the age distribution among women of childbearing ages.

Question:

Which country has higher fertility?

Age group	ASFRs	
	Country A	Country B
15-19	70.3	27.2
20-24	203.3	135.5
25-29	193.3	207.4
30-34	136.8	189
35-39	60.2	106.9
40-44	22.3	48.9
45-49	1.4	15.5



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Hint:

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Total	687.6	730.4



Answer:

ASFRs are not affected by population structure.

Higher ASFRs = higher fertility

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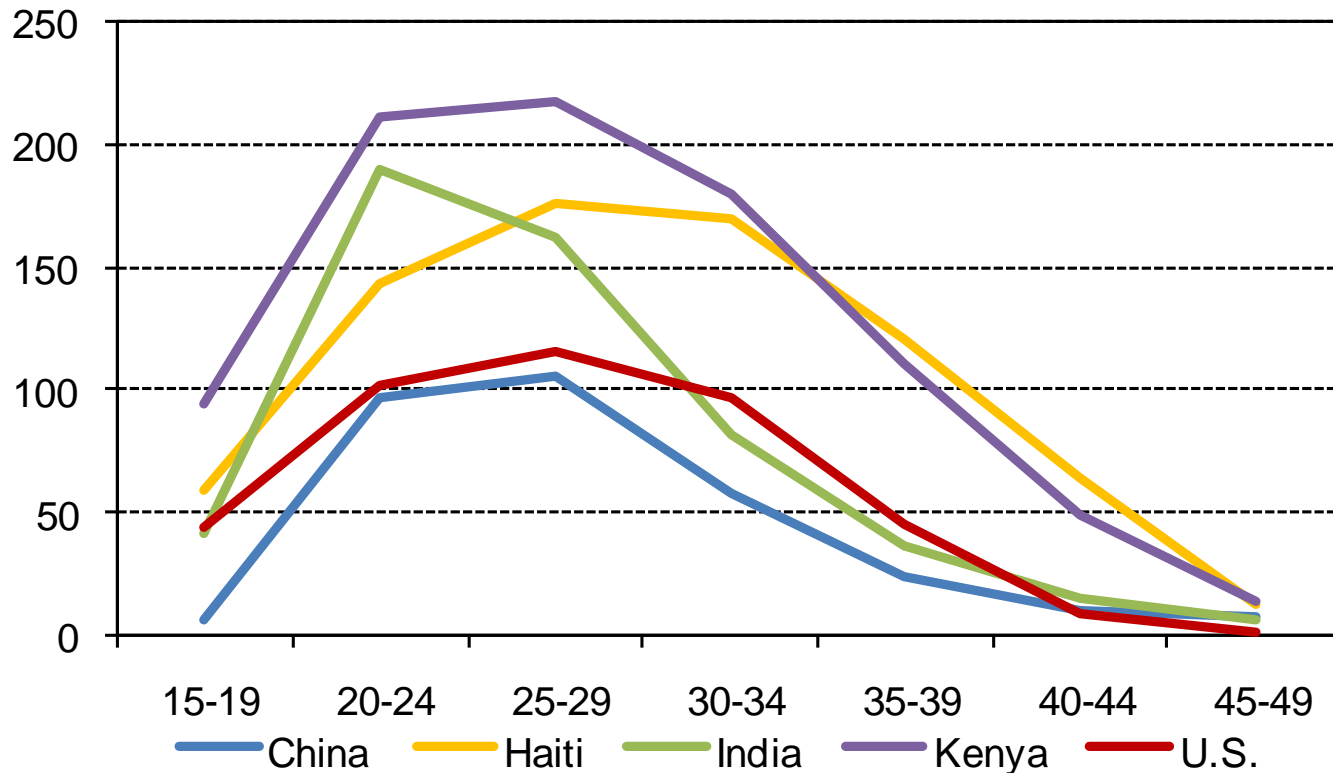
ASFRs follow a standard pattern

- ◆ ASFRs start from zero at very young ages where women are not yet able to bear children,
- ◆ Rise until they peak usually sometime in women's 20s.
- ◆ Decline back to zero somewhere around 50 years of age.
- ◆ Variations in the pattern occur due to factors such as age at marriage, the prevalence of contraceptive use, etc.



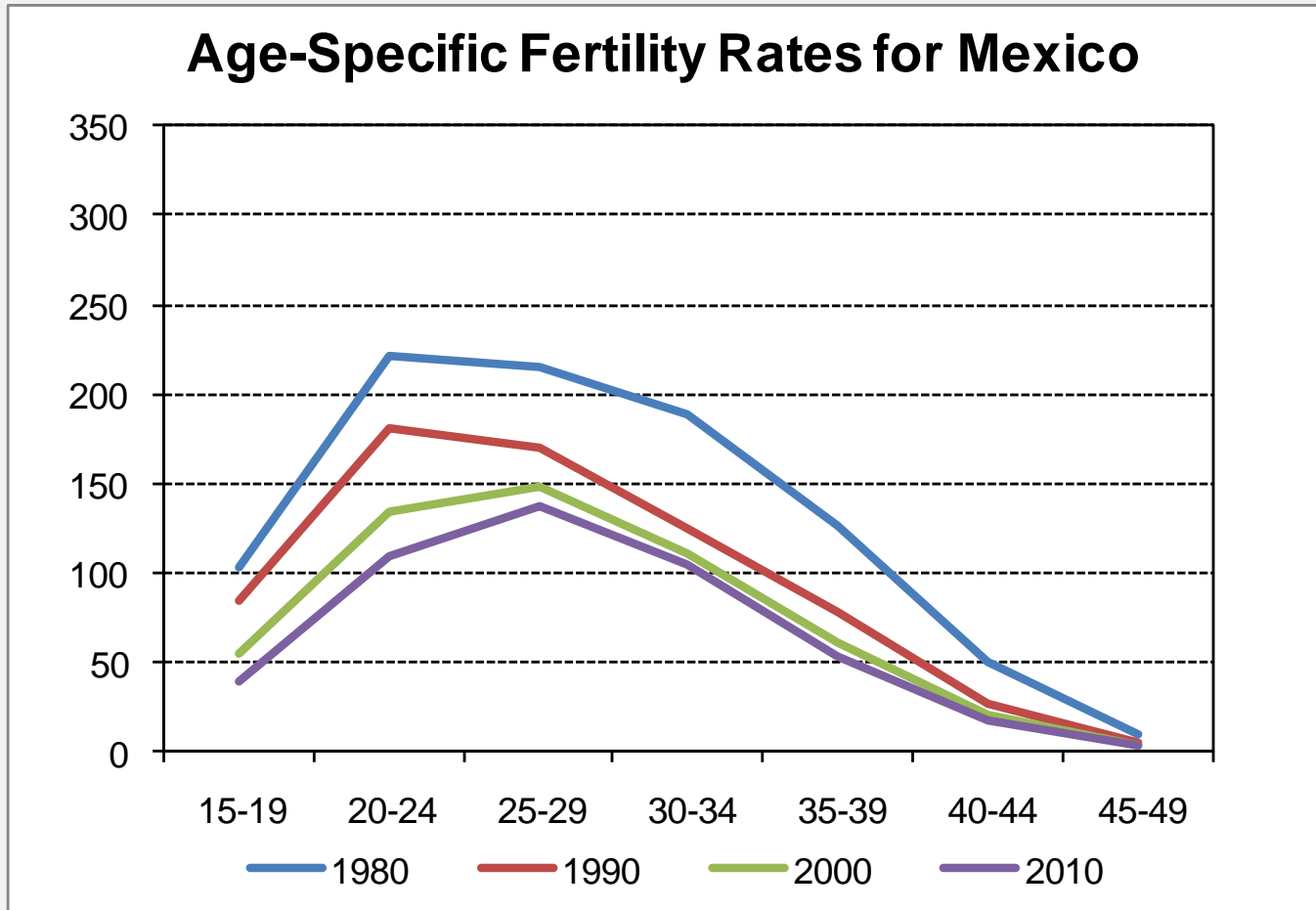
ASFR Comparisons across 5 countries

Age-Specific Fertility Rates for 5 Countries



Source: U.S. Census Bureau's
International Data Base

ASFRs in Mexico over Time



Source: U.S. Census Bureau's
International Data Base

Calculating ASFRs

Table IV-1. Age-Specific Fertility Rates and Total Fertility Rate for Chile: 1983

Age of women	Female population	Number of births	Fertility rate
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4) = (3) / (2) x 1,000
15-19	593,262	36,784	62.0
20-24	587,076	81,213	138.3
25-29	505,362	65,236	129.1
30-34	424,186	37,506	88.4
35-39	385,749	17,532	45.4
40-44	325,105	4,929	15.2
45-49	266,575	512	1.9
		Sum =	480.4
		Sum x 5 / 1,000 =	2.4

Source: U.S. Census Bureau's *Population Analysis with Microcomputers Volume I Presentation of Techniques*

The total fertility rate in Chile in 1983 was 2.4 births per woman.

Teenage fertility rate

- ◆ The **teenage fertility rate**, or adolescent birth rate, refers to the number of births in a given period of time to females aged 15–19, divided by the number of all 15 – 19 year old females at the period midpoint.
- ◆ Equal to the ASFR for 15-19 year olds.
- ◆ Adolescent birth rates are a key indicator in measuring the progress of SDG Goal 3: Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages
 - ◆ Indicator 3.7.2: Adolescent birth rate (aged 10-14 years; aged 15-19 years) per 1,000 women in that age group
- ◆ Adolescent births rates in 2018 were:
 - ◆ 44 for the World
 - ◆ 33 for South-East Asia
 - ◆ 50 for less developed regions (2010-2015), and
 - ◆ 19 for more developed regions (201—2015)

Exercise

- ◆ Calculate ASFRs for your test data.
 - ◆ Should you use adjusted or unadjusted counts of births by mother's age?
 - ◆ In which age group does fertility peak?
 - ◆ Describe the pattern you see
 - ◆ How does adolescent fertility compare to the rest of the world?
- ◆ Repeat this with your country data and if possible describe how fertility has changed over time.
 - ◆ Has the age where fertility peaks changed?
 - ◆ What about teenage fertility?