

## **ANALYZING A POPULATION**

### **What should we look for?**

- 1. Total population and population density of an area** – concentrations of people
- 2. Birth rates and death rates** – indicates economic status and health care; lowering DR is easier than lowering the BR (medical vs. cultural); areas with older populations have higher DRs than ones with a younger population in spite of economic status (demographic transition model).
- 3. Total fertility ratio** – average number of children born to child-bearing age women; age dependent; growth potential
- 4. Rate of natural increase** – BR minus DR
- 5. Age and sex of a population (dependency ratios)** – reflects dependency of those under 15 years old and over 65 years old; varies as a result of migration and war
- 6. Life expectancy and infant mortality rates** – variables that reflect availability of health care and food supplies
- 7. Population projection** – based on current trends; doubling time; zero population growth
- 8. Urban/rural ratios** – ability to support a population
- 9. Percent of a population with debilitating disease** – health and well-being; labor force
- 10. Percent of a population with access to a clean and adequate water supply** – health issues
- 11. Per capita GNP** – indication of wealth; reflects demographic transition model
- 12. Literacy rate** – ability to read and write; education
- 13. Urbanization rate** – related to urban/rural ratios and to changes in the BR/DR