

Standard-documentation Meta information

(Definitions, comments, methods, quality)

on

Demographic tables

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Executive Summary

Demographic tables are not results of primary or secondary statistical data collections but they are calculation based on different demographic data bases like census, population estimations, population registers and vital statistics et al. Important is the general and detailed live table calculated on the deaths of three years around a (register based) census year. Those tables are used in numerous cases of juridical or actuarial questions.

Beyond that yearly life tables for Austria und the NUTS 2-regions (Bundesländer) are calculated within the system of demographic indicators. Until the year 2001 the reliability of those tables was lower due to uncertainties in population estimations between censuses than in the census based tables mentioned above. Census based life tables could be calculated on more accurate population figures. By the way, yearly life tables from the year 2002 onwards are based on the new Austrian population register.

Without doubt, the most important life table function is the expectation of life. This function shows for men and women at certain ages the expected years of life in average with the constraint that age specific risks of death will be constant in future. Those life tables are period tables which mirror the conditions of mortality of one calendar year or a period of at least three years around a census. In general, the mean life expectancy is the life expectancy at birth.

In addition cohort life tables could be calculated which show the mortality of birth cohorts during their life. For the construction of those tables one has to wait until the whole cohort has died off. Because age and sex specific deaths rates for Austria are available since 1947 those calculations are currently not possible.

Life tables are calculated for men and women separately. Women have a significant higher life expectancy than men; the difference is about 5 years. For the last years unisex tables were calculated due to legal acts concerning prohibiting gender differences in actuarial cases. Other important functions of the life table beyond age and sex specific death rates and life expectancies are the standardized life table deaths, the survivorship function deduced from the life table deaths as well as the stationary population.

Supplementary demographic tables describe with similar methods other demographic issues like fertility, nuptiality or divorces.

Demographic tables – Main Features	
Subject Matter	Presentation of demographic facts in age and sex specific table functions by relating demographic occurrences (for instance deaths) to the population of risk (for instance death related to population in life tables).
Population	Population of Austria, at the time about 8.8 million
Type of statistics	Demographic model, life tables
Data sources/Survey techniques	Population register, census, vital statistics
Reference period or due day	Life tables: Census since 1868/71; yearly for Austria since 1947, yearly for NUTS 2-regions since 1970 Other tables: occasionally
Periodicity	Census or register based census; yearly
Survey participation (in case of a survey)	n.a.
Main legal acts	Bundesstatistikgesetz
Most detailed regional breakdown	NUTS 2-regions
Availability of results	4 th quarter of the first projection year
Other	Final data: Yearly life tables: t + 6 months Census tables: t + 2 years (using deaths of three years around the census date.)