













• Instead of presenting the absolute number of persons in a specific age group, we can use the percentage distribution of age.

- If the absolute numbers distributed by 5-year age groups are converted to percentages, a clearer indication of the relative magnitudes of the numbers in the distribution is obtained.
- Percentage distribution is important to compare between countries with different population size.
- Example: Mexico vs. USA

Percentage Distribution

		Under	5 to	15 to	25 to	35 to	45 to	
	<i>Total</i>	5	14	24	34	44	64	65+
Mexico	100.0	12.6	25.9	21.7	14.6	10.0	11.0	4.2
US	100.0	7.4	14.2	14.8	17.4	15.1	18.6	12.6





Populatio	on of the United S	itates, 1980 and 199	0, and Percentage	Change, by Age	
	Po	pulation	Increase		
	1980	1990	Amount	Percentage	
Age (years)	(1)	(2)	(2)-(1) = (3)	$[(3) \div (1)] \times 100 = (4)$	
Total	226,545,805	248,709,873	22,164,068	9.8	
Under 5	16,348,254	18,354,443	2,006,189	12.3	
5 to 9	16,699,956	18,099,179	1,399,223	8.4	
10 to 14	18,242,129	17,114,249	-1,127,880	-6.2	
15 to 19	21,168,124	17,754,015	-3,414,109	-16.1	
20 to 24	21,318,704	19.020.312	-2,298,392	-10.8	
25 to 29	19,520,919	21,313,045	1,792,126	9.2	
30 to 34	17,560,920	21,862,887	4,301,967	24.5	
35 to 44	25,634,710	37,578,903	11,944,193	46.6	
45 to 54	22,799,787	25,223,086	2,423,299	10.6	
55 to 64	21,702,875	21,147,923	-554,952	-2.6	
65 and over	25,549,427	31,241,831	5,692,404	22.3	



- Two indexes can be used to compare between two percentage distributions of age groups;
 - Index of relative difference, and
 - Index of dissimilarity















Median Age			
Country	Median Age (2010)		
Denmark	40.6		
Djibouti	21.4		
Egypt	24.4		
Germany	44.3		
Ghana	20.5		





Summary Me Various	ge Com Around 1	omposition for 1d 1990		
	Median age (1)	Percentage of total population		
Country and year		Under 15 years (2)	65 years and over (3)	Ratio of aged persons to children (per 100)
Africa				
Kenya (1989)	15.9	47.9	3.3	6.9
South Africa (1991)	22.7	34.6	4.3	12.4
Uganda (1991)	16.3	47.3	3.3	7.1
Zambia (1990)	16.8	45.3	2.6	5.7
Zimbabwe (1992)	17.0	45.2	3.3	7.3
North America				
Canada (1991)	na	20.9	11.6	55.7
Mexico (1990)	19.8	38.6	4.2	10.8
United States (1990)	32.9	21.5	12.6	58.3
South America				
Argentina (1991)	27.2	30.6	8.9	29.0
Bolivia (1992)	19.2	41.4	4.3	10.3
Brazil (1991)	22.7	34.7	4.8	139







Age Dependency Ratios for Various Countries: Around 1990 (ratios per 100)					
Country and year	Total dependency ratio ¹ (1)	Child dependency ratio ² (2)	Aged dependency		
Africa					
Kenya (1989)	104.9	98.2	6.8		
South Africa (1991)	63.7	56.6	7.0		
Uganda (1991)	102.5	95.8	6.8		
Zambia (1990)	91.9	86.9	4.9		
Zimbabwe (1992)	94.4	87.9	6.4		
North America					
Canada (1991)	48.1	30.9	17.2		
Mexico (1990)	74.7	67.4	7.3		
United States (1990)	51.7	32.7	19.1		
South America					
Argentina (1991)	65.1	50.5	14.6		
Bolivia (1992)	84.0	76.1	7.8		
Brazil (1991)	65.4	57.5	8.0		
Chile (1992)	56.3	46.0	10.3		
Ecuador (1990)	75.7	68.1	7.6		
Venezuela (1990)	70.2	63.4	6.8		



