

# Measurement of Health

## Vital statistics

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- The branch of medical statistics concerned with measurement of health status of the community through registration and presentation of vital events as **indicators**.
- **Morbidity indicators:** 1- Incidence rate  
2- Prevalence rate.
- **Mortality indicators:** 1- Crude death rate  
2- Age specific death rate  
3- Cause specific mortality rate  
4- Proportionate mortality rate  
5- Case fatality rate.
- **Fertility indicators:** 1-Crude Birth Rate  
2-General Fertility Rate  
3-Fecundity Rate  
4-Age Specific Fertility Rate  
5-Total Fertility Rate

# 1- MORBIDITY STATISTICS

- There are two basic measures to assess the frequency of the disease: incidence rate and prevalence rate
- A **RATE** is composed of a **numerator** (number of events), a **denominator** (population at risk for the event) and the **specified time** in which events occur (*in case of incidence rate*) or the specific time in which the data were collected (*in case of prevalence rate*) and a **multiplier** (constant: 100, 1000, 100,000)

# 1- INCIDENCE RATE

- It is the number of **new** (reported) cases of a particular disease over a certain time period and locality per 1000 at-risk population in the same time period and locality.
- Example: the incidence of meningitis in Egypt in 2008.
- It measures newly diagnosed cases per unit of person-time (e.g. the incidence of influenza is 10 cases per 100,000 individuals per year)

- Measuring the frequency of acute diseases (communicable) per time.
- Measuring the incidence of chronic diseases (e.g. non-communicable) by detection of new cases among free individuals throughout time.
- The decrease in the incidence rate may be due to :
  - 1- Resistance to disease.
  - 2- Change in the disease etiology.
  - 3- Effective prevention program (e.g. immunization, antismoking program and cancer lung)

## 2- PREVALENCE RATE

- It is the number of **all cases [new and old]** of a particular disease diagnosed during a survey study in a given locality (area) at a particular time per 100 examined at-risk individuals.
- Example: Prevalence of Diabetes in Egypt 2008.

- Measures the amount of disease already present in a population.
- It is a good measure for chronic diseases.
- It is used for measuring the prevalence of non-communicable diseases and some communicable diseases (e.g. TB, Schistosomiasis)
- Survey studies (using screening tests/diagnostic tests) are used to measure the prevalence of the diseases where reporting and registration are lack.
- High prevalence = high incidence or long duration of the disease.
- Low prevalence = low incidence or short duration (rapid recovery or death) or both.

# 2- MORTALITY STATISTICS

## (1) Crude Death Rate:

*No. of total deaths in a certain year and locality*  $\times 1000$   
*Mid year population in the same year and locality*

Factors affecting CDR:

- 1- Socioeconomic status.
- 2- Incidence and prevalence of diseases.
- 3- Age structure of the population.
- 4- Health system, wars and disasters.



## (2) Age Specific Death Rates:

It is the number of deaths in a certain age group in a certain year and locality per 1000 midyear population of the same age and in the same year and locality.

### 1- Infant Mortality Rate (IMR):

$$\frac{\text{No. of deaths in } \textit{the first year of life} \textit{ in a certain year and locality}}{\text{No. of live births in the same year and locality}} \times 1000$$

No. of live births in the same year and locality

### 2 Neonatal Mortality Rate (NMR):

$$\frac{\text{No. of deaths in } \textit{the first 4 weeks of life} \textit{ in a certain year and locality}}{\text{No. of live births in the same year and locality}} \times 1000$$

No. of live births in the same year and locality

### 3- Post-neonatal Mortality Rate (PNMR):

No. of *infant deaths during the period 28 days to less than 12 months of life in a certain year and locality* \_\_\_\_\_ x 1000  
No. of *live births in the same year and locality*

### 4- Children Mortality Rate (CMR):

No. of *deaths of children 1-4 years of age in a certain year and locality* \_\_\_\_\_ x 1000  
*Midyear population of children 1-4 years of age in the same year and locality*

### 5- Under-5 Mortality Rate (U5MR):

No. of *deaths of children in the first 5 years of life in a certain year and locality* \_\_\_\_\_ x 1000  
*Midyear population of the under-five children in the same year and locality*

*N.B: U5 Mortality Ratio is the number of deaths of children in the first 5 years of life in a certain year and locality per 1000 **live births** in the same year and locality*

## **6- Still Birth Rate and Ratio:**

***Still birth:*** is intrauterine fetal death after viability (after 22 weeks of gestation).

***Stillbirth rate:*** the number of stillbirths per 1000 total births

***Stillbirth ratio:*** the number of stillbirths per 1000 total live births

## **7- Perinatal Mortality Rate and Ratio:**

***Perinatal period:*** This period starts at the completed 22 weeks of gestation and ends at seven completed days after birth.

***Perinatal Mortality Rate*** is the number of fetal and early neonatal deaths per 1000 total births

***Perinatal Mortality Ratio*** is the number of fetal and early neonatal deaths per 1000 live births.

### 3- CAUSE SPECIFIC MORTALITY RATE:

#### 1- Cause Specific Mortality Rate from a specific Disease:

The number of deaths of a certain disease in a certain year and locality per 100,000 populations in the same year and locality.

#### 2- Maternal Mortality Ratio (MM Ratio):

Number of deaths of mothers due to causes related to pregnancy, labor or puerperium in a certain year and locality per 100,000 live births in the same year and locality.

#### 3- Maternal Mortality Rate (MMR):

Number of deaths of mothers due to causes related to pregnancy, labor or puerperium in a certain year and locality per 100,000 females in the child bearing period (15-49) in the same year and locality.

#### **4- PROPORTIONATE DEATH RATE:**

It is the proportion of deaths from a specific disease (or deaths in a specific age) to total deaths in a certain year and locality. This indicator measures the severity of the disease at the community level.

#### **5- CASE FATALITY RATE:**

Number of deaths from a specific disease in a certain year and locality per 100 cases of the same disease. It measures the severity of the disease.

# 3- FERTILITY STATISTICS

- Crude Birth Rate (CBR)
- General Fertility Rate (GFR)
- Fecundity Rate (FR)
- Age Specific Fertility Rate (ASFR)
- Total Fertility Rate (TFR)

## 1- Crude Birth Rate (CBR):

*Number of live births (year/locality)*  $\times 1000$

**Mid Year Population in the same year & locality**

less sensitive indicator for measurement of fertility because it relates births to the midyear population, with no consideration to the age and sex structure of the population.

## 2- General Fertility Rate (GFR):

The number of live births per 1000 females aged 15-49 years in a given year and locality.

It's more sensitive in fertility because it relates births more nearly to the age-sex group at-risk of giving birth (women 15-49 years of age).

### 3- Fecundity Rate (FR):

Fecundity rate is a more sensitive fertility indicator than the GFR, because it relates births to Married Women in the Reproductive Age (MWRA).

### 4- Age Specific Fertility Rate (ASFR):

The number of live births to women in specific age interval (usually 5 years ex. 20: 25) per 1000 females in the same age interval, in a certain year and locality.

**ASFR** is more sensitive indicator for measurement of fertility but, it considers all females in the reproductive age (married and unmarried).

It's used to calculate the Total Fertility Rate.



## 5- Total Fertility Rate (TFR):

TFR is calculated by multiplying the ASFR for each group (5-year age group) by 5, then adding the seven groups together.

<b>Age Groups</b>	<b>ASFR, 2008</b>	<b>TFR, 2008</b>
15-19	50 x 5	250
20-24	169 x 5	845
25-29	185 x 5	925
30-34	12 x 5	610
35-39	59 x 5	295
40-44	17 x 5	85
45-49	2 x 5	10
<b>Total fertility / 1000 Women</b>		The sum = 3020
<b>Total Fertility/Woman</b>		3.0