

Demographic Transition in Algeria: An Analytical Study of Its Social Implications and Future Prospects

التحول الديمغرافي في الجزائر- دراسة تحليلية لانعكاساته الاجتماعية وآفاقه المستقبلية

KHELIFAOU Fahima*

University of Algiers 2- Abou El Kacem Saadallah, (Algeria)

Fahima.khelifaoui@univ-alger2.dz

Orcid

Received 15.../05...../2026

Accepted 04../07..../2026

• Abstract:

Algerian society has experienced significant demographic transformations since the colonial period, manifested in a gradual transition from a traditional demographic regime to a modern one, characterized by declining fertility rates, improved health indicators, and increased life expectancy. This transformation has been closely associated with several key factors, notably the rising educational attainment of women, their integration into the labor market, and the postponement of age at marriage, all of which have contributed to reshaping reproductive behavior and reducing family size. This paper aims to analyze the main determinants of demographic transition in Algeria and to examine its major implications for the social structure, particularly in terms of family structure, fertility levels, and the size of the working-age population, while also exploring future challenges such as population ageing.

Keywords:

Demographic transition, fertility, social structure, working-age population

الملخص:

يشهد المجتمع الجزائري تحولات ديمغرافية مهمة منذ المرحلة الاستعمارية، تجسدت في الانتقال التدريجي من نمط سكاني تقليدي إلى نمط حديث، تميز بتراجع معدلات الخصوبة وتحسن المؤشرات الصحية وارتفاع أمد الحياة. وقد ارتبط هذا التحول بجملة من العوامل، أبرزها ارتفاع المستوى التعليمي للمرأة، اندماجها في سوق العمل، وتأخر سن الزواج، مما أسهم في إعادة تشكيل السلوك الإنجابي وتقليص حجم الأسرة. تهدف هذه المداخلة إلى تحليل العوامل المفسرة للتحول الديمغرافي في الجزائر، والكشف عن أبرز انعكاساته على البنية الاجتماعية، لاسيما على مستوى بنية الأسرة، ومستويات الخصوبة، وحجم الفئة النشطة واستشراف التحديات المستقبلية لها كالشيخوخة السكانية.

الكلمات المفتاحية:

التحول الديمغرافي، الخصوبة، البنية الاجتماعية، الفئة النشطة

• Introduction

Demographic transitions constitute one of the most significant factors influencing the trajectory of societal development, as they are closely linked to the economic, social, and cultural changes experienced by countries across various historical stages. The demographic transition is defined as a gradual shift from a traditional population system characterized by high fertility and mortality rates to a modern demographic system marked by low rates, improved health indicators, and increased life expectancy.

Algeria has experienced a specific demographic trajectory linked to the historical and political contexts it has undergone, particularly since the colonial era. During the French colonial period, Algerian society witnessed significant demographic changes due to the social, economic, and health conditions imposed by the colonial regime, which reflected on the population size, structure, and demographic characteristics. Wars, famines, and epidemics, along with colonial settlement policies, had profound impacts on the demographic evolution of the Algerian population during the 19th and early 20th centuries.

Following Algeria's independence in 1962, the country entered a new phase of demographic transformations. It experienced rapid population growth due to improved health conditions and declining mortality rates, while fertility rates remained high during the first decades after independence. However, these indicators began to change gradually since the 1980s, with fertility rates recording a noticeable decline coinciding with rising education levels, accelerated urbanization, delayed marriage age, and changing lifestyle patterns within Algerian society.

These transformations have led to clear changes in the population structure of Algerian society, both in terms of age composition and geographical distribution. This, in turn, has impacted various social and economic sectors such as the family, labor market, education, housing, and social protection systems. Furthermore, these transformations present new challenges related to social and economic planning amidst the rapid changes occurring in society.

Based on this, the importance of studying demographic transition in Algeria emerges within a descriptive-analytical approach that allows for understanding the path of these transformations from the colonial period to the present, analyzing their social reflections, and forecasting their future prospects. This is addressed through the following problem statement.

To what extent do social and demographic factors contribute to accelerating the path of demographic transition in Algeria, and how has this transition reflected on the social structure, particularly at the level of family structure and the size of the active population? What are the most prominent future challenges associated with it, foremost among them being the phenomenon of population aging?

Study Objectives:

1. Identify the different stages of demographic transition in Algeria.
2. Analyze the social factors influencing demographic transition in Algeria, particularly women's education, employment, and delayed marriage age.
3. Study the repercussions of demographic transition on social structure, focusing on family structure, fertility levels, and the size of the active population.
4. Forecast future challenges resulting from demographic transition, such as population aging, and provide proposals for addressing them within social and developmental policies.

Methodology: Descriptive-Analytical Approach (Analysis of Demographic Data)

1. Conceptual Framework

1.1. Concept of Demographic Transition:

Demographic transition is the shift from a population society characterized by high birth and death rates to a society characterized by low birth and death rates¹. It refers to an interpretive model based on historical trends of two fundamental demographic characteristics: birth rate and death rate. This model demonstrates that the total population growth rate of any country passes through successive stages as the country develops economically. Each stage is characterized by a specific relationship between the birth rate (annual births per 1,000 inhabitants) and the death rate (annual deaths per 1,000 inhabitants).

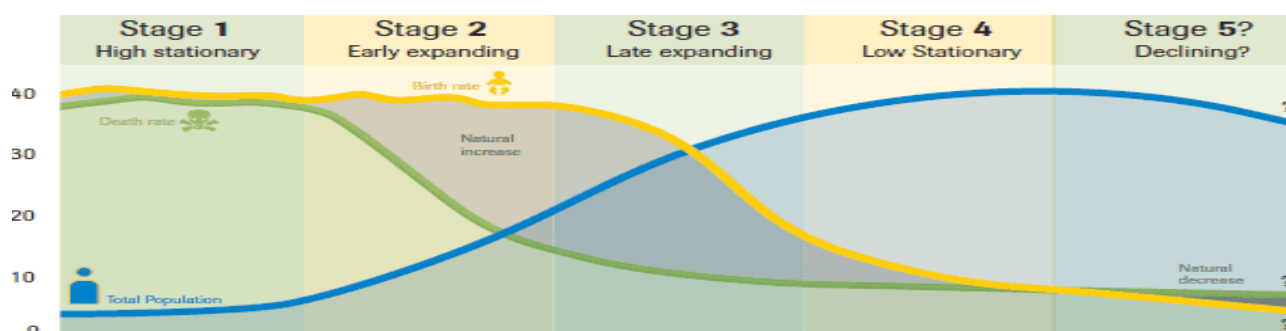
As these two rates change relative to each other, the resulting impact significantly reflects on the total population of the state. According to this model, the state gradually moves from one stage to another over time, influenced by a set of social and economic factors affecting birth and death rates ².

All countries can be classified into one of the stages of the Demographic Transition Model, although some stages may not currently apply precisely to any specific country. For instance, there are currently no countries in Stage 1, nor are there countries definitively in Stage 5, although the possibility of transitioning to these stages may remain in the future.

¹ - transition démographique- https://www.larousse.fr/encyclopedie/divers/transition_d%C3%A9mographique/187352

² - Drew Grover - What is the Demographic Transition Model- October 13- 2014- in <https://populationeducation.org/what-demographic-transition-model/>

Fig.1. Illustrative diagram of the stages of demographic transition



Source: Drew Grover- "What is the Demographic Transition Model" - October 13- 2014)
<https://populationeducation.org/what-demographic-transition-model/>

1-2. Demographic Transition in Algeria and its Main Manifestations:

Like other countries, Algeria has witnessed significant demographic transitions that cannot be ignored. Its initial beginnings predated the colonial period, which was characterized by the spread of epidemics and pests that caused significant human losses. The most dangerous occurred in the second half of the 16th century and early 19th century, where fourteen plague epidemics spread, the last being in 1872. During this period, the population growth rate did not exceed 0.5%, and the population ranged between 4 and 5 million inhabitants ¹.

1-2-1. The Colonial Period:

This stage was characterized by genocide, assassinations, and a "scorched earth" policy, accompanied by the emergence of epidemics and famines, such as cholera in 1867, and famine and plague in 1872. Deaths were estimated at around one million. The population reached approximately 2,134,352 inhabitants in 1872, rising to 8,449,332 in 1954. This increase can be explained by the absence of natural disasters and a pro-natalist stance adopted to preserve existence, compensate for losses, and continue the struggle. Growth declined between 1957 and 1960 to one birth per death ² due to the harsh conditions accompanying the outbreak of the War of Liberation.

1-2-2. Post-Independence (1962–1985):

Algeria witnessed a strong wave of population compensation, entering the second stage of demographic transition characterized by high population growth rates. The growth rate reached 4% in the period 1962–1966, decreasing to 3.6% in 1966–1977. The natural increase rate remained high, above 3%, until 1985. This means the population doubled in a period close to 20 years, representing one of the fastest doublings in the world and faster than Malthusian predictions. Among the factors contributing to this doubling were early marriage and the desire for children. These features constituted what is known as the

¹ - Nourreddine Aissani - Demographic Transition in Algeria and its Social Determinants - Afkar wa Afaq Journal - Vol. 4 - No. 06 - 2015 - p 406.

² - Ibid- pp 405-406.

"demographic explosion" in the period 1962–1985, where the population size moved from 10 million to 22 million inhabitants¹.

1-2-3. Stage of Fertility Transition and Decline in Population Growth (1986–2000):

Fertility transition began noticeably in 1986, marking a turning point in the population growth trajectory towards relative decline. A natural increase rate of 2.74% was recorded. The period 1986–2000 saw an average annual growth rate of 2.25%. The birth rate reached 19.36 per thousand in 2000, the lowest rate since vital registration began in the 19th century. The growth rate amounted to 27%.² This stage witnessed a decline in fertility levels, leading to a decline in population growth rates, marking the beginning of Algeria's entry into demographic maturity, although prevailing conditions hindered full realization

1-2-4. Stage of Revival and Relative Increase (2001–2020):

After 2000, fertility and population growth rates regained vitality and rose again, influenced by improved security, economic, and social conditions. Fertility rates rose from 19.12 per thousand in 2000 to 26.12 per thousand. These changes impacted Algeria's population structure, with the population growth rate moving from 1.39% in 2000 to 2.17% in 2016. The population increased from approximately 30.416 million in 2000 to about 41 million in 2016, jumping to approximately 45 million in 2020, an increase of 47.94% in roughly 20 years³.

From the above, we can conclude that demographic transition is not identical in all countries. One cannot impose the transition model of one country onto another; the experience of European countries differs from that of developing nations, depending on the social, economic, and cultural determinants of each state.

2. Factors Influencing Demographic Transition

2-1. Rising Level of Women's Education:

Education is considered a fundamental factor influencing demographic transformations, as it directly contributes to changing individuals' behaviors and attitudes toward marriage, childbirth, and family structure. With rising education levels, especially among women, health and social awareness increase, and families tend to reduce the number of children to improve quality of life rather than quantity. Education is also linked to delayed marriage age and entry into the labor market, which reflects on declining fertility rates. Thus, education constitutes a main driver in the path of demographic transition, contributing to the society's shift from traditional patterns to modern ones characterized by low births and changed family structures.

¹ - Hussein Toumi - Population of Algeria in the Past- Present, and Future – Who are they- what are their origins and roots- and their developments – Dar Al-Asala Publishing- Algeria – 2021 - pp 134-136.

² - Ibid- pp 136-137.

³ - Ibid- pp 140-141.

Table 1. Evolution of Female School Enrollment Rates (1965–2008)

Year	Rate
1966	32.9
1977	64.7
1989	76.56
1998	84.12
*2008	91.67

Source: Ministry of National Education – Statistical Summary (1962–2020)- p- 157.

Through Table No. (1), it is evident that the female school enrollment rate in Algeria has seen remarkable improvement, reflecting deep societal transformations in education and gender equality. In 1966, the rate was relatively low at 32.9%, reflecting limited opportunities for girls' education under the prevailing socio-economic conditions. However, this rate rose rapidly to 64.7% in 1977, due to post-independence educational policies, particularly compulsory general education and expanded school infrastructure. This upward trend continued, reaching 76.56% in 1989 and 84.12% in 1998, indicating the entrenchment of girls' education culture and reduced gender gaps. By 2008, the rate reached 91.67%, a high level reflecting near-universal education and confirming the success of efforts in this field. This evolution highlights the role of education in supporting demographic transition through its direct impact on delaying marriage age, lowering fertility, and enhancing women's status within the family and society.

Table 2. Average Desired Number of Children (MICS 2019)

Educational Level	Average Number of Children
No Education	1.9
Primary	1.7
Secondary (Middle)	1.6
High School	1.5
University	1.4

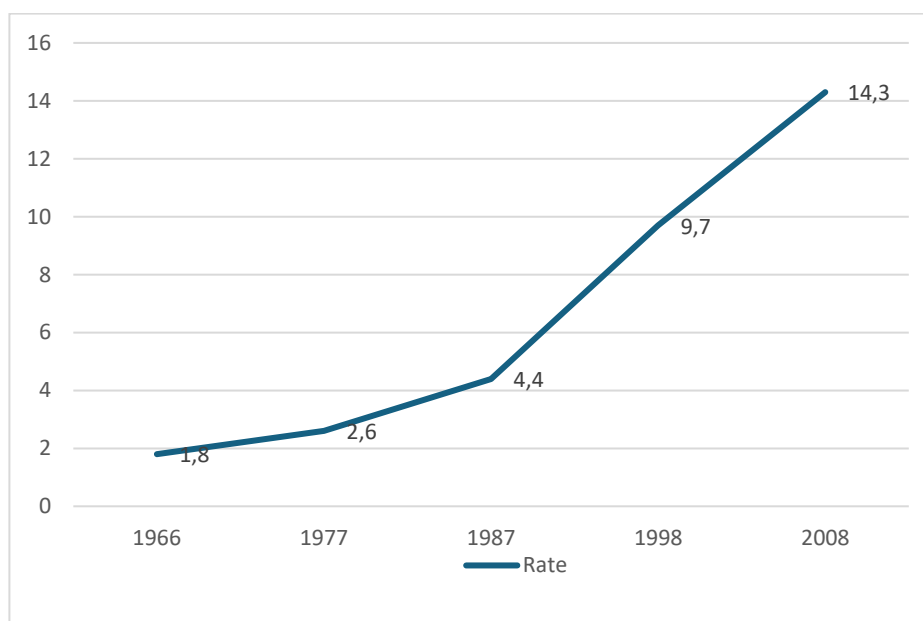
Source: MSP-UNICEF-UNFPA: Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys 2019-Final Report of Results- 2020- p 198.

Data from Table No. (2) confirms a clear inverse relationship between education level and the desire for childbirth. The average desired number of children gradually decreases from 1.9 among women with no education to 1.4 among those with university education. This gradient reflects the impact of education on changing values and representations associated with family and reproduction. Educated women tend to prefer small families and focus on the quality of child-rearing rather than quantity. Additionally, education is linked to delayed marriage, higher professional ambitions, and increased health and economic awareness. Thus, the continuous improvement in female education in Algeria is one of the most prominent factors explaining the decline in fertility, confirming the strong link between education and demographic transition toward the small-family model.

2-2. Women's Employment:

Female labor witnessed gradual transformations after independence, reflecting the path of national state-building and accompanying socio-economic changes. In the first phase, women's presence in the labor market was limited due to the dominance of traditional values and low levels of education and qualification. However, with the expansion of the education system, especially for girls, and the increasing need for labor in various sectors, the integration of women into economic activity strengthened significantly, as shown below:

Fig. 2. Evolution of Women's Activity According to Censuses



Source: Prepared by the researcher based on census data (1966-1977-1987-1998-2008).

Evolution of the female activity rate across censuses, showing a gradual rise from 1.8% in 1966 to 14.3% in 2008, passing through 2.6% (1977), 4.4% (1987), and 9.7% (1998). This curve reflects the accelerating integration of women into the labor market, especially from the late 1980s, a phase linked to deep economic, social, and educational transformations.

Most demographic studies indicate a clear inverse relationship between women's employment and their fertility levels; the birth rate tends to decline as women's integration into economic activity increases. As Spencer's theory suggests, there is a conflict between

self-actualization and reproduction: the more effort an individual exerts to affirm their existence and success, the weaker their efforts in creation ¹. Thus, the decline in women's fertility can be attributed to a set of intertwined factors, most notably delayed marriage age resulting from prolonged educational paths and the pursuit of professional stability, in addition to the multiple roles played by working women between family and professional responsibilities, which drives them to reduce the number of children.

2-3. Rising Age at Marriage:

Delayed marriage age is one of the most prominent demographic indicators reflecting the depth of social and economic transformations within society. A set of factors, such as rising education levels (especially among women), increasing life requirements, and the emergence of new practices related to family and marriage, have reshaped individuals' reproductive behavior. In this context, a clear trend toward delayed marriage has emerged, as illustrated in the following table:

Table 3. Evolution of Mean Age at First Marriage by Sex through Censuses (1966–2008)

Sex	Census				
	1966	1977	1987	1998	2008
Males	23.2	25.3	27.7	31.3	32.9
Females	18.3	20.9	23.7	27.6	29.1

Source: National Office of Statistics: Chapter 1 - Demography - Summary 1962–2011, p.49.

The table shows a clear upward trend, reflecting the impact of demographic transition on marital behavior. The average age at marriage for males rose from 23.2 years in 1966 to 32.9 years in 2008, an increase of nearly 10 years. Similarly, for females, it rose from 18.3 years to 29.1 years during the same period, also an increase of over 10 years.

This increase was gradual across various censuses, accelerating significantly starting in the 1980s, coinciding with the deepening of demographic transition in Algeria, particularly regarding declining fertility, expanded education, and increased urbanization. These data also reflect a narrowing gap between genders in marriage age, resulting from changes in women's status and social role.

¹ - Hussam, Saud Al-Rashid - Theory of Population Sociology and Migration - Department of Social Studies - King Saud University - 1439 AH - pp 4-5.

Thus, this development confirms that delayed marriage is a key indicator of demographic transition and contributes to reinforcing it by shortening the reproductive period, leading to lower fertility rates and changing the structure of the Algerian family.

2-4. Improved Health Standards:

Algerian society has witnessed a notable improvement in health standards since independence, manifested in the expansion of healthcare services, improved medical coverage, and declining mortality rates, especially infant and maternal mortality, which directly reflected in increased life expectancy. This improvement contributed to profound changes in demographic behavior, particularly regarding fertility.

With increased life expectancy and reduced health risks, high childbirth was no longer necessary to compensate for child deaths, as it was in the past. This led families to adopt a more rational reproductive behavior based on reducing the number of children. Furthermore, improved health awareness and the spread of family planning services reinforced this trend, with families tending to invest in the quality of children's lives rather than their quantity.

Additionally, improved health standards are linked to rising education levels, especially among women, and their increased participation in economic life, which further reinforces delayed marriage and declining fertility. Therefore, improved health indicators and increased life expectancy can be considered fundamental factors that contributed to the demographic transition in Algeria, from a traditional system characterized by high fertility and mortality to a modern system characterized by low rates.

3. Repercussions of Demographic Transition on Social Structure

The concept of social structure refers to the organized network of relationships and interactions linking individuals and groups within society, within a framework of relatively stable rules, norms, and social roles. It represents the organizational and functional structure of interaction patterns and social systems prevalent in society, possessing continuity¹. It determines individuals' positions (such as social status), roles, and relationship patterns within basic institutions like family, education, economy, and politics. Among the thinkers who addressed this concept is Talcott Parsons, who attempted through his structural-functional theory to explain how society stabilizes and continues.

In this work, we will focus on the family as a basic unit in society encompassing statuses, values, and roles. Demographic transition leads to profound transformations in family structure, which can be outlined as follows:

3-1. Repercussions on Family Structure:

The family is one of the oldest social systems and institutions, considered a group with a specific internal organization and a unit of general organization in society. It is a social

¹- Ibrahim Al-Kilani and others - Security Dictionary- English-Arabic – Riyadh – Naif Arab Academy for Security Sciences - 1st Ed – 1428 AH - p 213.

system composed of individuals linked by marriage or blood ties, based on fundamental economic, social, religious, value-based, and health components derived from existing societal systems. Its members are organized in a specific location and shared livelihood, with relationships based on reciprocal interaction defining clear roles. It is also a means of social control, shaping the behavior of its members through socialization ¹.

The family system, like other social systems (economic, educational, political, ideological, cultural), is affected by various changes and transformations in contemporary society. Demographic transition is one of the most prominent of these influential transformations. Its manifestations can be highlighted as follows:

3-1-1. Repercussions on Average Family Size:

Average family size is one of the most important demographic indicators reflecting the nature of family structure and the level of social transformations within society. It is closely linked to fertility rates, marriage patterns, and prevailing economic and cultural conditions. In Algeria, this indicator has not remained static but has witnessed noticeable changes reflecting the path of demographic transition, as shown in the following table based on national census data:

Table 4. Evolution of Average Family Size by Residential Environment through Censuses (1966–2008)

Average	Residential setting		Census
	Rural	Urban	
5.92	6.07	5.69	1966
6.66	6.67	6.65	1977
7.1	7.69	6.83	1987
6.3	6.9	6.2	1998
5.86	6.2	5.7	2008

Source: General Population and Housing Censuses of 1966- 1977-1987- 1998-2008.

The table shows that the average family size in Algeria recorded a significant increase between 1966 and 1987, rising from 5.92 to 7.10 members, with a disparity favoring the rural environment, where it reached 7.69 members. This reflects the dominance of the traditional pattern based on high fertility and the value of large families. However, starting from the late 1980s, the trend reversed, with the average family size dropping to 6.3 in 1998

¹ - Salwa Osman Al-Siddiqi: Family and Population from a Social and Religious Perspective- Modern University Office- Alexandria- 2003- pp-16-17.

and then to 5.86 in 2008. This is explained by the decline in birth rates due to social and economic transformations, such as the spread of education (especially among women), improved living standards, and increased awareness of family planning.

It is also noted that the urban environment witnessed a faster decline compared to the rural environment, indicating an accelerated pace of demographic transition in cities versus the persistence of some traditional characteristics in rural areas. Thus, the shrinking family size is a strong indicator of Algeria's transition toward advanced stages of demographic transition, where families are moving toward the small nuclear family model instead of the large extended family.

3-1-2. Repercussions on the Total Fertility Rate (TFR):

The Total Fertility Rate (TFR) is one of the most important demographic indicators used to measure the level of reproduction within a society, expressing the average number of children a woman could bear during her reproductive life. This indicator is closely linked to the path of demographic transition, representing the shift of societies from a traditional system with high birth and death rates to a modern system with low rates. To understand the evolution of this indicator in Algeria, we present the following table:

Table 5. Evolution of the Total Fertility Rate (TFR) (Children/Woman) from 1960 to 2025.

Year	Indicator	Year	Indicator	Year	Indicator
1960	7.5	1985	6.00	2010	2.90
1965	7.70	1990	4.50	2015	3.10
1970	7.6	1995	3.50	2020	2.90
1975	7.5	2000	2.60	2023	2.80
1980	7.00	2005	2.60	2025	2.7

Sources: - Demography of Algeria 2014- p3.

- Demography of Algeria 2016- p5.

- World Bank – Total Fertility Rate in Algeria 1960–2023 -from the website:

<https://data.albankaldawli.org/indicator/SP.DYN.TFRT.IN?locations=DZ>

- Demographics of Algeria - Population Structure - from the website

<https://www.worldometers.info/ar>

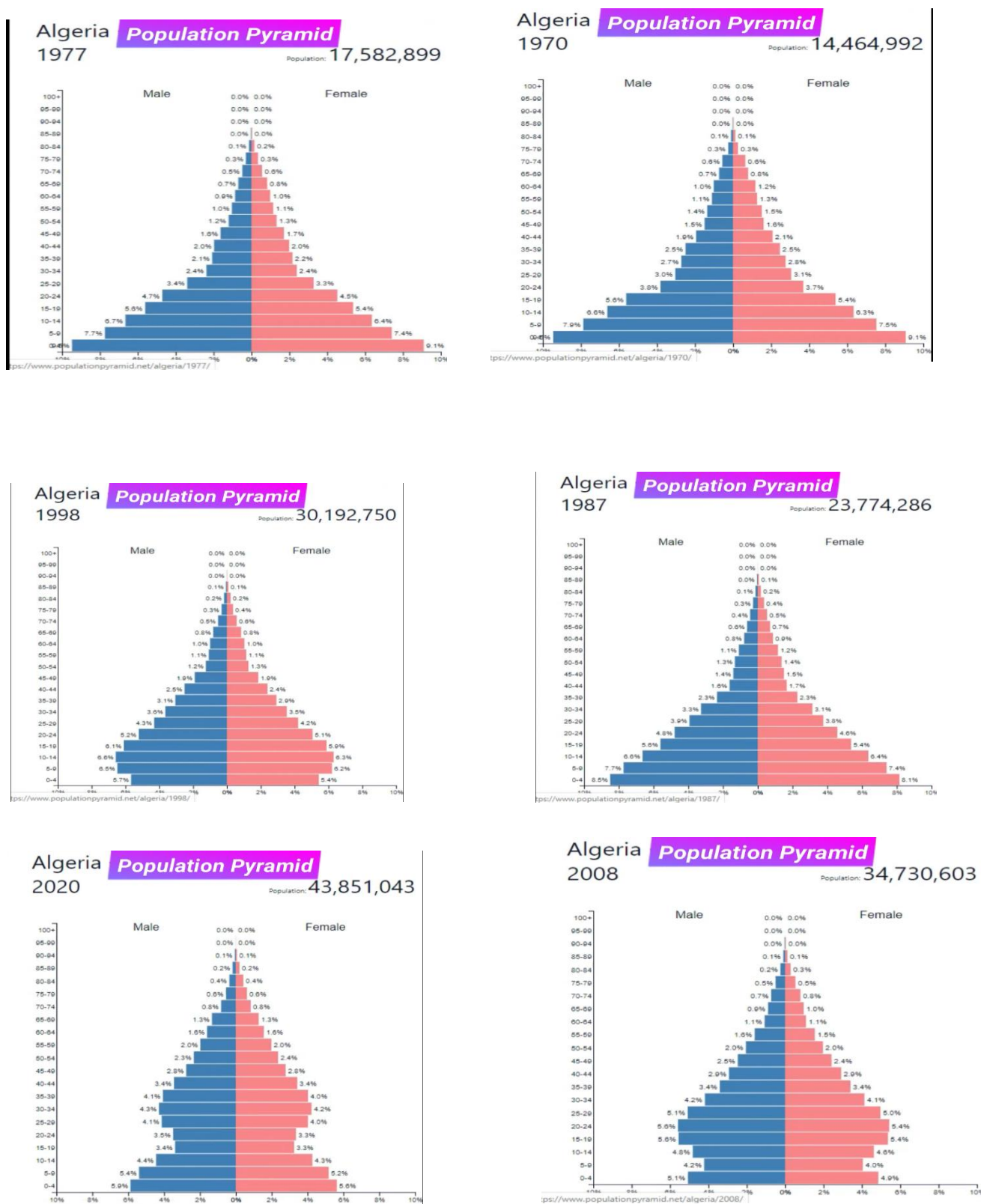
The evolution of the Total Fertility Rate in Algeria indicates profound demographic transformations reflecting the transition from a traditional to a modern pattern in reproductive behavior. During the period from 1960 to 1980, fertility recorded very high levels ranging between 7.0 and 7.7 children per woman, reflecting the prevalence of early marriage, the dominance of traditional family values and culture, and low use of family planning methods. Starting from the mid-1980s, Algeria entered a phase of rapid and sharp decline in fertility, with the indicator dropping from 6.0 in 1985 to 2.6 in 2000. This was due to several factors, most notably the spread of education (especially among women), delayed marriage age, increased women's participation in the labor market, urbanization, and improved health and reproductive awareness.

During the period 2000–2010, the indicator stabilized at relatively low levels close to the replacement threshold, reflecting the entrenchment of the small-family model. After 2010, a slight increase was recorded, reaching 3.1 in 2015, before gradually declining again to reach 2.7 in 2025. This can be explained by fluctuating economic and social conditions on one hand, and the continuation of structural factors influencing fertility decline on the other. Thus, this path reflects Algeria's transition to an advanced stage of demographic transition, characterized by low fertility and changed family structure, with indicators pointing toward a future trend of gradual population aging.

3-2. Repercussions on the Size of the Labor Force:

The impact of demographic transition is not limited to population aspects only but extends to various economic and social fields, foremost among them being the size of the labor force. In Algeria, the decline in fertility and improved survival rates have led to changes in the age structure of the population and the proportion of the population of working age. To analyze the effects of demographic transition on the labor force, we review population pyramids across different time periods corresponding to national censuses:

Fig. 3. Population Pyramids of Algeria during the periods 1970, 1977, 1987, 1998, 2008, 2020.



Source: Population Pyramids in Algeria (1970–2020) from the website:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HQU3d9XtzPU>

Through an analysis of Algeria's population pyramids from 1970 to 2020, it becomes evident that there have been profound transformations in the age structure of the population. These changes clearly reflect the trajectory of demographic transition from a youthful society toward one approaching demographic maturity.

In 1970, the population pyramid exhibited a broad base, with younger age groups representing a very large proportion of the population due to high fertility rates. The working-age population appeared relatively limited compared to the pyramid's wide base, while the narrow top reflected low numbers of elderly people, resulting from high mortality rates. This pattern persisted in 1977, with an even wider base, indicating continued high birth rates and accelerated population growth.

By 1987, a gradual narrowing of the pyramid's base became noticeable, accompanied by a relative expansion in the middle age groups (the working-age population). This reflects the beginning of a decline in fertility rates and improved survival rates. This shift serves as an indicator that Algeria was entering a transitional phase in its demographic structure.

In 1998, this change became even more pronounced, with the base continuing to shrink while the working-age groups (15–64 years) expanded significantly. This signals the emergence of what is known as the "demographic opportunity" or "demographic dividend," where the proportion of the population capable of working rises relative to the dependent age groups.

By 2008, the pyramid took on a shape closer to vertical or stable, with age group proportions becoming more similar and the working-age population continuing to expand. This reflects a continued decline in fertility and relative stability in population growth.

In 2020, the pyramid showed signs of a narrowing base and a relatively wider top, indicating declining birth rates and increased life expectancy—marking the beginning of a trend toward population aging, despite the continued significant weight of the working-age population.

Thus, the comparison between these pyramids reveals Algeria's transition from:

- A young, wide-based pyramid (1970–1977)
- A transitional pyramid (1987–1998)
- A semi-stable pyramid leaning toward aging (2008–2020).

4. Future Implications of Demographic Transition in Algeria

1. **Population Aging:** The continued decline in fertility and improvement in life expectancy will lead to an increase in the proportion of elderly people, imposing challenges on pension systems and healthcare services.
2. **Pressure on Social and Health Services:** There will be growing needs for medical and social care for the elderly, necessitating the expansion of social support networks.
3. **Changes in the Labor Market:** A decrease in the growth of the young population may reduce the size of the working-age population in the future, requiring strategies

to boost productivity and increase the participation of women and older adults in the workforce.

4. **Economic and Developmental Challenges:** There is a need for integrated demographic policies to capitalize on the current "demographic window" and ensure a balance between the active population and retirees.
5. **Social and Cultural Impacts:** Changes in family structures, including smaller household sizes and increased reliance on institutional support for the elderly rather than the traditional extended family.

Conclusion:

The study concluded that Algerian society has witnessed demographic transformations since the colonial era, represented by declining fertility rates and delayed marriage age, improved health indicators, and increased life expectancy. These changes have reshaped the social structure, particularly the family, contributing to its shrinking size and transition toward the nuclear model. Furthermore, the demographic transition reflected on the Total Fertility Rate and increased the size of the active population, providing opportunities for economic and social development during the "demographic window" phase.

Conversely, indicators point to the emergence of population aging as one of the most prominent future challenges. This requires public policies to plan for pressures on pension and healthcare systems and ensure a balance between different age groups.

Practical suggestions:

- Strengthening demographic studies to better understand population transformations in Algeria and their social implications.
- Integrating the demographic dimension into planning and sustainable development policies.
- Developing educational and training programs that align with demographic changes and labor market needs.
- Improving employment policies to reduce the effects of population growth and youth unemployment.
- Supporting social and healthcare programs to address the future increase in the elderly population.
- Encouraging balanced development between rural and urban areas in order to reduce internal migration.
- Supporting the stability of the Algerian family in light of contemporary social and demographic transformations.
- Enhancing urban planning to cope with population pressure resulting from rapid urbanization.