Background Information: Demography

Demography Lab will help you learn about the current demographics for human populations of seven countries. You can use this lab to investigate how population size, population structure, mortality rate, and fertility rate influence the size and growth of human populations over time. For simplicity, the effects of immigration and emigration are not included in Demography Lab. However, because the demographic data presented in this lab have been determined from actual current demographic statistics for each country, the population changes you will examine may simulate future demographic realities for these seven countries.

The purpose of this laboratory is to:

- Demonstrate fundamental primary demographic factors that influence human population size and growth.
- Simulate the effects of demographic factors on human population growth.
- Use demographic models to predict future changes in human population growth.

Some terms that you should become familiar with prior to lab are:

**Fertility Rate:** a measure of reproduction. It is expressed as the number of live births per 1,000 women in a given age group per year. In Demography Lab, the fertility rate is shown as a bar graph. An example is provided below (the numbers on the left represent the age groups):

![Example of Fertility Rate]

**Mortality Rate:** a measure of the probability of dying. It is expressed as the number of deaths per 1,000 in a given age group per year. In Demography Lab, the mortality rate is shown as a bar graph. An example is provided below (the numbers on the left represent the age group; notice the option button to distinguish between females and males):
**Population Structure:** the distribution of individuals by age and sex. In DemographyLab, the population structure is shown as a bar graph with females left of center and males right of center. The numbers represent the percentage of the population. An example is provided below: