

Population Dynamics and Social Policy Imperatives

A Prognostic Assessment of Small Caribbean States

Godfrey St. Bernard

Sir Arthur Lewis Institute of Social and Economic Studies
The University of the West Indies
St. Augustine

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Department of Economics
St. Augustine Campus
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Background of the Study

- Population dynamics are lost in the frenzy associated with myriad efforts to sustain livelihoods, surmount social decay and seek alternative constitutional frameworks
- Short-term horizons at the expense of medium-term or long-term horizons
- Claims to knowledge rooted in post-positivism as essential for generating plausible projections about future population trajectories

Philosophical Outlook

- Today's change agents often react to today's social problems with the aim of realizing future outcomes that can be translated as having overcome yesterday's problems
- Instead today's change agents should strive to prevent today's social problems from being tomorrow's social problems to the extent that in reporting on tomorrow's outcomes, it can be said that they constitute improvements over today's outcomes

Key Strategies Underlying Systematic Evaluation

- **Be aware of and know about theoretical frameworks that provide explanation for any given social problem**
- **Being able to test and evaluate the merit of such theoretical frameworks**
- **Develop implementation strategies that align policies and especially intervention measures to the most appropriate theoretical frameworks**
- **Mobilize processes for monitoring implementation strategies and outcomes that are associated with specific intervention measures**

Purpose of the Study

- The study seeks to demonstrate the utility associated with considering prospective population dynamics as a precursor to prescriptions about social policy interventions in Commonwealth Caribbean Small States

Population Clusters	Commonwealth Caribbean Small States
Moderate Growth Momentum Populations	Antigua and Barbuda, The Bahamas
Quasi-Stationary Ageing Populations	Barbados, Guyana, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines
High Growth Momentum Populations	Belize
Ageing Populations with High Potential for Declining Size	Dominica, Grenada, Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago

Adapted from St. Bernard (2014)

Objectives of the Study

- To provide an account of current and projected social and demographic characteristics of the populations within each of the four population clusters
- To draw on heuristic insights signalling prospective population growth trajectories draw to determine principal domains to be targeted in the context of each of the four population clusters
- All of this is expected t attract the attention of bureaucratic elites during the first half of the 21st century

Smallness and Resilience Building

- **Drawing on the literature through the works of Crowards (2002), Jalan (1977), Downes (1988), Downes and Mamingi (2001), Sutton and Payne (1993)**
 - **Population Size**
 - **Land Area**
 - **Income**
 - **Inherently Vulnerable**
 - Openness
 - Insularity/enclaveness
 - Resilience
 - Weakness
 - Dependence
- **Building resilience as critical to counteracting inherent vulnerability**

Data Sources

- **United Nations World Population Prospectives**
- **Population Reference Bureau – World Population Datasheet**
- **Population Projections based on medium assumptions**
- **Data are collected for 12 Commonwealth Caribbean small states in terms of the following:**
 - **land area**
 - **population size**
 - **aging indicators**
 - **economic fortunes**
 - **human development status**

Table 4.2: High Growth Momentum/Medium Growth Momentum Populations

Selected Indicators	Belize	Antigua and Barbuda	Bahamas
Mid-Year Population (millions) 2013	0.3	0.1	0.3
Mid-Year Population (millions) 2025	0.4	0.1	0.4
Mid-Year Population (millions) 2050	0.6	0.1	0.5
Population Size Ratio – 2050 to 2013	1.8	1.3	1.3
Life Expectancy at Birth – Male in 2013	71	74	72
Life Expectancy at Birth – Female in 2013	77	80	78
Total Fertility Rate	2.6	2.1	1.7
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1000 live births)	14	16	16
Net Migration Rate per 1000 Population	5	0	6
Percentage of Population <15 in 2013	35	26	26
Percentage of Population 65+ in 2013	4	7	6
Median Age – Population in 2010	22.0	...	30.9
Median Age – Population in 2025	27.0	...	35.8
Median Age – Population in 2050	35.7	...	41.2
Land Area (in square kilometers)	22,810	440	10,010
GDP per capita (in US Dollars)	6,880	16,260	29,740
Percent Share of Income – Poorest Fifth
Percent Share of Income – Richest Fifth
Individual Internet Use in 2000	5.96	6.48	8.00
Individual Internet Use in 2006	10.40	30.00	26.00
Individual Internet Use in 2012	25.00	59.00	71.75

Table 4.3: Quasi-Stationary Ageing Populations

Selected Indicators	Barbados	Guyana	St Kitts and Nevis	St Lucia	St Vincent and the Grenadines
Mid-Year Population (millions) 2013	0.3	0.8	0.1	0.2	0.1
Mid-Year Population (millions) 2025	0.3	0.8	0.1	0.2	0.1
Mid-Year Population (millions) 2050	0.3	0.8	0.1	0.2	0.1
Population Size Ratio – 2050 to 2013	1.1	1.0	1.1	1.1	1.2
Life Expectancy at Birth – Male in 2013	73	63	72	72	70
Life Expectancy at Birth – Female in 2013	77	69	77	77	74
Total Fertility Rate	1.8	2.6	1.8	2.0	2.2
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1000 live births)	12	29	18	11	17
Net Migration Rate per 1000 Population	1	-8	1	1	21
Percentage of Population <15 in 2013	22	37	23	25	26
Percentage of Population 65+ in 2013	13	3	8	9	7
Median Age – Population in 2010	36.2	21.9	-	29.5	27.9
Median Age – Population in 2025	39.7	26.0	-	34.7	33.8
Median Age – Population in 2050	42.6	35.8	-	43.7	40.8
Land Area (in square kilometres)	431	196,849	261	606	389
GDP per capita (in US Dollars)	18,400	3,400	17,280	11,020	10,810
Percent Share of Income – Poorest Fifth	-	-	-	-	-
Percent Share of Income – Richest Fifth	-	-	-	-	-
Individual Internet Use in 2000	3.97	6.61	5.86	5.09	3.25
Individual Internet Use in 2006	55.30	-	49.00	24.50	12.00
Individual Internet Use in 2012	73.33	33.00	79.35	48.63	47.52

Table 4.4: Ageing Populations with High Potential for Declining Size

Selected Indicators	Dominica	Grenada	Jamaica	Trinidad and Tobago
Mid-Year Population (millions) 2013	0.1	0.1	2.7	1.3
Mid-Year Population (millions) 2025	0.1	0.1	2.9	1.3
Mid-Year Population (millions) 2050	0.1	0.1	2.8	1.2
Population Size Ratio – 2050 to 2013	0.9	0.9	1.0	0.9
Life Expectancy at Birth – Male in 2013	71	70	71	68
Life Expectancy at Birth – Female in 2013	77	75	76	74
Total Fertility Rate	2.0	2.0	2.1	1.8
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1000 live births)	15	5	22	25
Net Migration Rate per 1000 Population	-6	-8	-6	-2
Percentage of Population <15 in 2013	22	27	29	21
Percentage of Population 65+ in 2013	11	7	8	9
Median Age – Population in 2010	-	25.0	27.0	31.9
Median Age – Population in 2025	-	31.4	31.3	39.4
Median Age – Population in 2050	-	41.3	40.2	43.6
Land Area (in square kilometres)	751	344	10,831	5,128
GDP per capita (in US Dollars)	12,190	10,300	-	22,400
Percent Share of Income – Poorest Fifth	-	-	5	-
Percent Share of Income – Richest Fifth	-	-	52	-
Individual Internet Use in 2000	8.81	4.06	3.12	7.72
Individual Internet Use in 2006	39.40	21.40	16.40	30.00
Individual Internet Use in 2012	55.18	42.09	46.50	59.52

Comparing Population Clusters

- Different in-built population growth momenta that will yield different patterns of population growth during the first half of the 21st century
 - High Growth Momentum Populations
 - Moderate Growth Momentum Populations
 - Quasi-Stationary Ageing Populations
 - Ageing Populations with High Potential for Declining size
- All population clusters are ageing societies
- Except for Grenada, Guyana , Jamaica and St. Vincent and the Grenadines, the other Commonwealth Caribbean small states are self-made (Briguglio. 2014)

Table 5.1: Principal Attributes by Policy Domain (Continued)

Policy Domain	Principal Attribute
Exposure to Education	Adult literacy Early childhood care and education Successful completion of secondary education Successful completion of tertiary education
Access to Health Treatment	Access to health insurance coverage Visit to health institution Visit to medical doctor Exposure to stressors Post-natal care of infants Child health Child nutrition
HIV/AIDS	Knowledge of HIV/AIDS prevention Attitudes toward discrimination Risky sex behaviour
Fertility	Children ever born alive Ideal family size
Public Order/Public Safety	Victim of violent crime Victim of intrafamilial violence Use of dangerous substances (including alcohol and tobacco)

Table 5.1: Principal Attributes by Policy Domain (Continued)

Policy Domain	Principal Attribute
Accumulation of Wealth	Entrepreneurial starts Business failure Access to credit Income/Expenditure Poverty Status
ICT	Internet usage Television Viewing Listening to Radio
Economic Activity	Unemployed status Participation in the Labour force Self employment status Employed in agriculture Employed in unskilled labour Employed in skilled labour Employed in professional work Employed in decent work
Public Participation	Civic engagement Civic participation Political participation Political voice
Social Protection	Receipt of Benefits – Education, Medical, Unemployment, Housing, Meals Receipt of Pension Receipt of Remittances Receipt of Counselling Services – Medical and/or Social Problems

Prospective Social Policy Agendas

- **Belize, Guyana**
 - Exposure to quality education
 - Access to health care
 - Fertility reduction
 - Enhanced economic activity including access to decent work
- **Antigua and Barbuda and the Bahamas, Barbados**
 - Promotion for opportunities for greater public participation
 - Equality and equity issues as they pertain to native and immigrant populations – education, wealth accumulation, economic activity including decent work

Prospective Social Policy Agendas

- **Dominica, Grenada, Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago, Saint Lucia, St. Kitts and Nevis and St. Vincent and the Grenadines**
 - **Children and youth**
 - Exposure to quality education at all levels
 - Greater access to health care
 - Greater food security awareness and coverage
 - Greater levels of social protection, particularly in the context of living in dangerous situations
 - Greater public participation
 - **Young adults**
 - Greater wealth accumulation
 - Greater access to health care/Knowledge and practice with regard to HIV/AIDS
 - Greater participation in economic activity
 - Exposure to quality education at all levels
 - Greater levels of social protection, particularly in the context of living in dangerous situations
 - Greater public participation
 - **Impact of class-determined fertility differential in the face of declining fertility**

Prospective Social Policy Agendas

- **Specific sets of Policy Agendas play into a larger set of considerations:**
 - Ageing Considerations
 - Spatial Considerations and Population Redistribution
 - Demographic Dividend and Related Considerations
 - International Migration Trends and Related Considerations
- **These considerations are presented in another paper that will be published soon**

END OF PRESENTATION

THANK YOU !!!