

In **Stage 4**, birth and death rates are both low, stabilizing the population. These countries tend to have stronger economies, higher levels of education, better healthcare, a higher proportion of working women, and a fertility rate hovering around two children per woman. Most developed countries are in Stage 4.

A possible **Stage 5** would include countries in which fertility rates have fallen significantly below replacement level (2 children) and the elderly population is greater than the youthful population.