

Quadrant II –Glossary

Paper Code: ECG 104

Module Name: Age Specific Fertility Rate; Fertility and Family Size in India

Module No: 15

Glossary:

Age specific marital fertility rate: The age-specific marital fertility rate is the number of live births per 1,000 married women in a specific age interval.

Replacement level: It is the amount of fertility needed to keep the population the same from generation to generation. It refers to the total fertility rate that will result in a stable population without it increasing or decreasing.

United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA): It is an international development agency that promotes the right of every woman, man and child to enjoy a life of health and equal opportunity.

Possible misconceptions/clarification:

In relation to population studies, it is essential to know the meaning of fertility. Fertility is “the average number of children that would be born to a woman, if she experiences the current fertility pattern in her lifetime.” According to Thomson and Lewis, “Fertility is generally used to indicate the actual reproductive performance of a woman or groups of women.” Fecundity, on the other hand, has a different meaning, “If a female is able to conceive, then she is said to be fecund. In fact, fecundity is the capacity of a man and woman to produce a live child. In ancient times, both the words, ‘still birth’ and ‘live birth’ were used, but at present, the word ‘birth’ is being used only for ‘live birth.’ The meaning of fertility, in short, is the ability of the female to give birth to a child. Birth rate means the total number of children born per thousand populations in a particular area in a specific period.