

## **Rural population (a) characteristics (b) number (c) distribution (d) composition (e) migration**

Demographic characteristics include population, birth rate, death rate, sex ratio, migration, population changes, age composition, individual family size etc. There is need to study population in order to determine the characteristics of the end-user of technological innovations. The word population could be categorized into rural or urban based on where they live. The study of rural sociology concentrates on the rural population

### **Characteristics of the rural population**

This would be discussed as part of class tutorials

### **Number and Distribution**

Majority of the world population live in the rural areas where they engage in agricultural, fishing and pastoral occupation

### **Composition of Rural Population**

This could be described in form of age, marital status, religious affiliation, sex, level of education, other characteristics.

How rural population differ from urban in terms of age

1. Rural population have higher proportion of children
2. rural population has a lower population in the age category of 15-44
3. A higher proportion of rural population is more than 45 years of age.

### **Occupational status of rural dwellers**

Rural occupation in a developing country like Nigeria would be discussed as

- Agriculture
- Processing of agricultural outputs
- Marketing of agricultural products
- Small scale industries
- Livestock rearing
- Fishing
- Hunting

**Types of animals and crops raised in Nigeria would also be assessed**