

Glossary: Total-age dependency ratio

Statistics Explained

The **total-age dependency ratio** is a measure of the age structure of the population. It relates the number of individuals who are likely to be “dependent” on the support of others for their daily living – the young and the elderly – to the number of those individuals who are capable of providing this support.

The total-age-dependency ratio is the ratio of the sum of the number of young and the number of elderly people at an age when both groups are generally economically inactive, (i.e. under 15 years of age and aged 65 and over), compared to the number of people of working age (i.e. 15-64 years old). It is the sum of the two ratios, the [young-age dependency ratio](#) and the [old-age dependency ratio](#) .

Related concepts

- [Old-age dependency ratio](#)
- [Population pyramid](#)
- [Young-age dependency ratio](#)

Statistical data

- [Population structure and ageing](#)

Source

- [OECD glossary of statistical terms](#)