



**United Nations**

Department of  
Economic and  
Social Affairs

# Overview of the *World Population Prospects 2024*

*John Wilmoth*

*Director, Population Division*

9:00-10:30 a.m. EDT, Friday, 12 July 2024



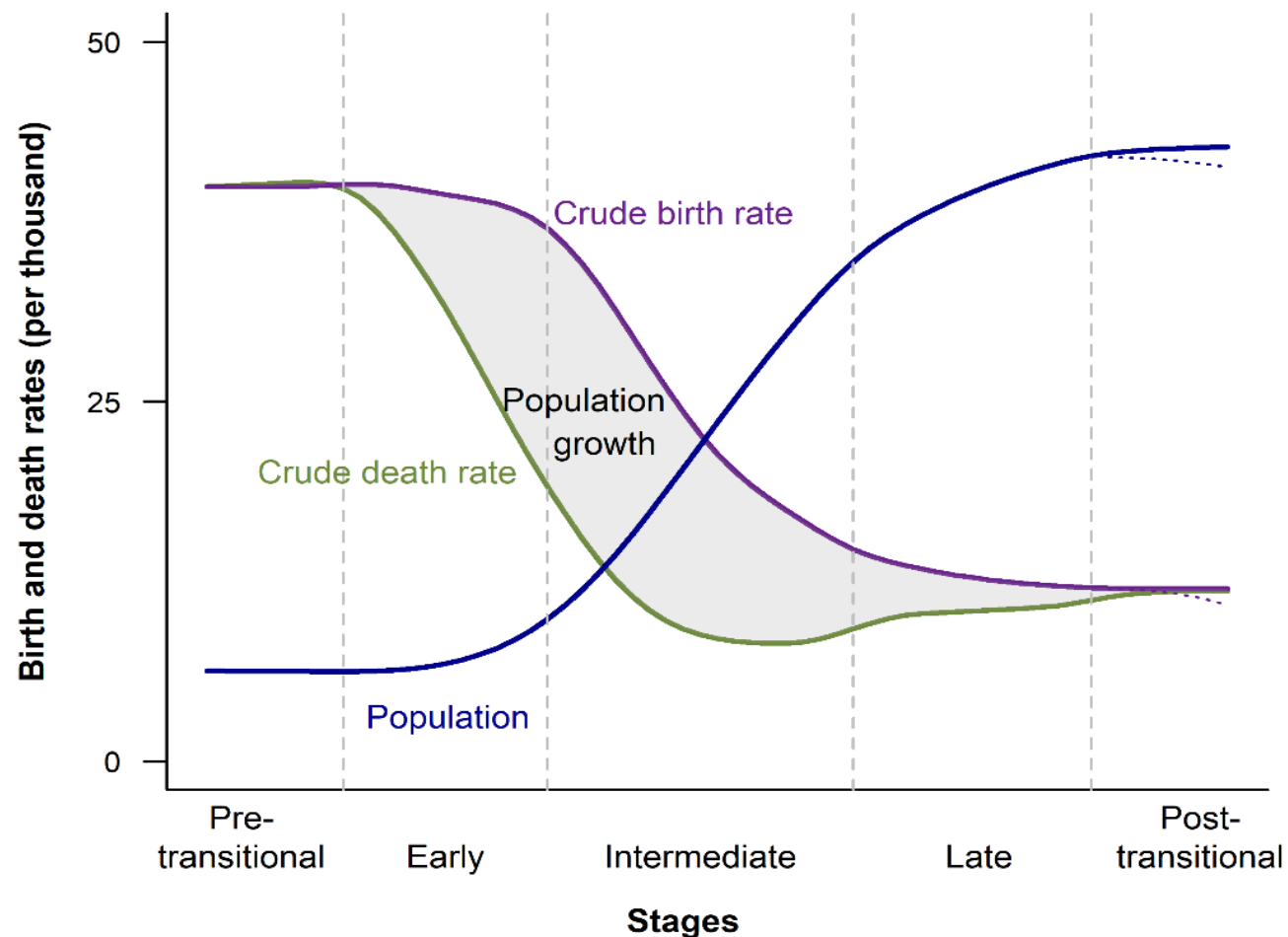
# ***World Population Prospects 2024***

- Global population estimates and projections of the United Nations since 1951
- Normally updated every two years; WPP 2024 is the 28<sup>th</sup> edition
- Used for around one quarter of indicators for the global monitoring of progress towards the SDGs
- Data by single-year of age and calendar year, estimates from 1950 to 2024 and projections from 2025 to 2100 for 237 countries and areas
- Used data from more than 1,900 censuses and nearly 3,200 sample surveys, as well as information from civil registration and vital statistics system for 169 countries

# Stages of demographic transition and timing reaching the population peak

- Populations grow, peak and plateau or decline as a direct consequence of the demographic transition
- Growth is rapid in the early and intermediate stages but decelerates as the transition continues
- When the transition is complete, population size may stabilize, with a growth rate close to zero
- In some cases, however, the population may decline in size, with a negative growth rate

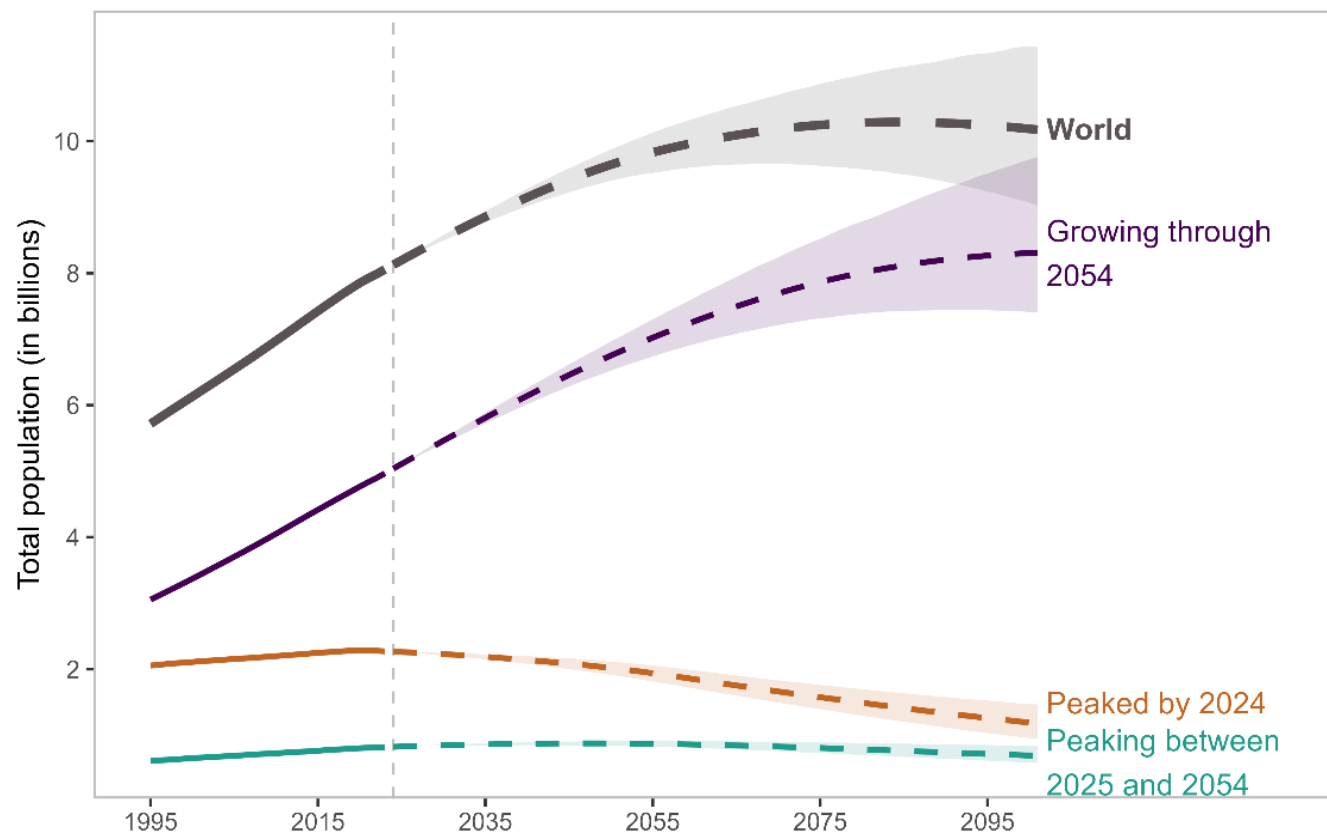
Schematic representation of the demographic transition



# World population continues to grow, may peak in the mid-2080s

- Today, the world's population is estimated at 8.2 billion
- Globally, the population is expected to continue growing, reaching a peak of around 10.3 billion people in the mid-2080s
- After peaking, the global population may begin to decline gradually, returning to around 10.2 billion people in 2100

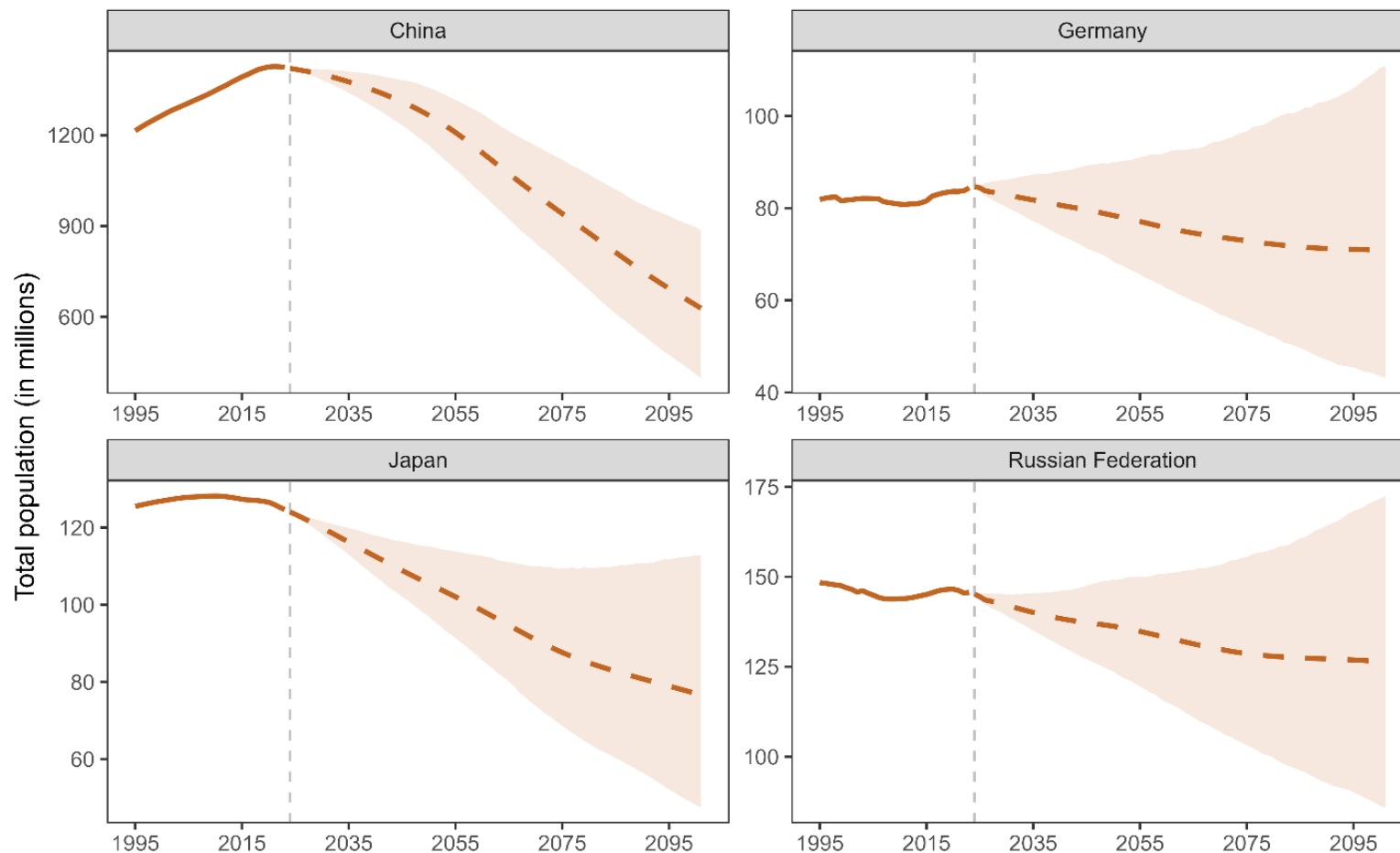
Population in absolute numbers (top) and relative to peak size (bottom), estimates, 1995-2023, and projections, 2024-2100, globally and for countries and areas by timing of the peak



# Countries whose populations already peaked by 2024

- For 63 countries and areas, with 28 per cent of global population today, the population reached a peak during or before 2024
- The total population of this group is projected to decline by 14 per cent over the next 30 years

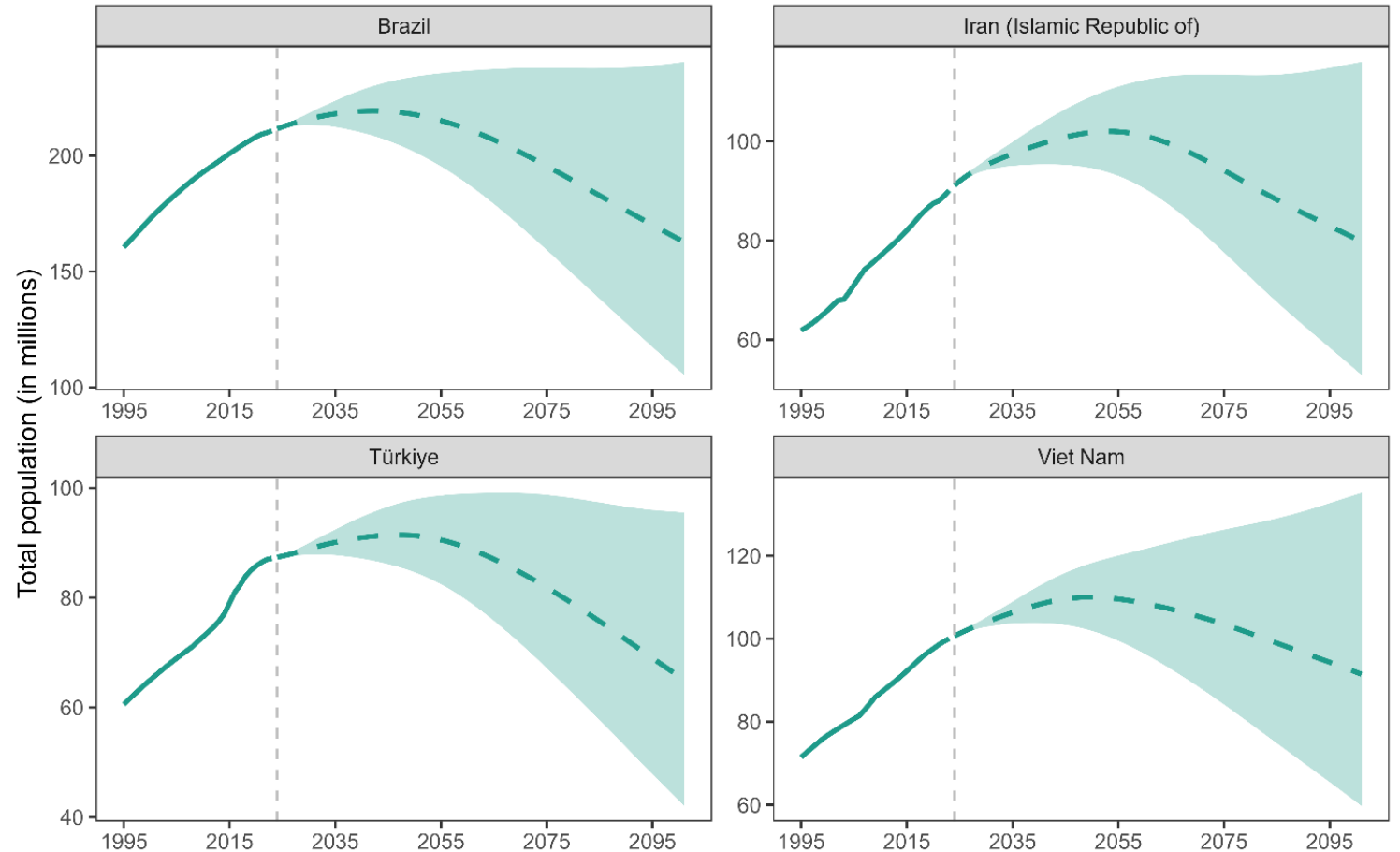
**Total population for selected countries with populations that have already peaked, estimates, 1995-2023, and projections (medium scenario), 2024-2100**



# Countries whose population will peak between 2025 and 2054

- For 48 countries and areas, with 10 per cent of global population today, the population is projected to peak between 2025 and 2054
- The total population of this group is projected to increase by 5 per cent over the next 30 years

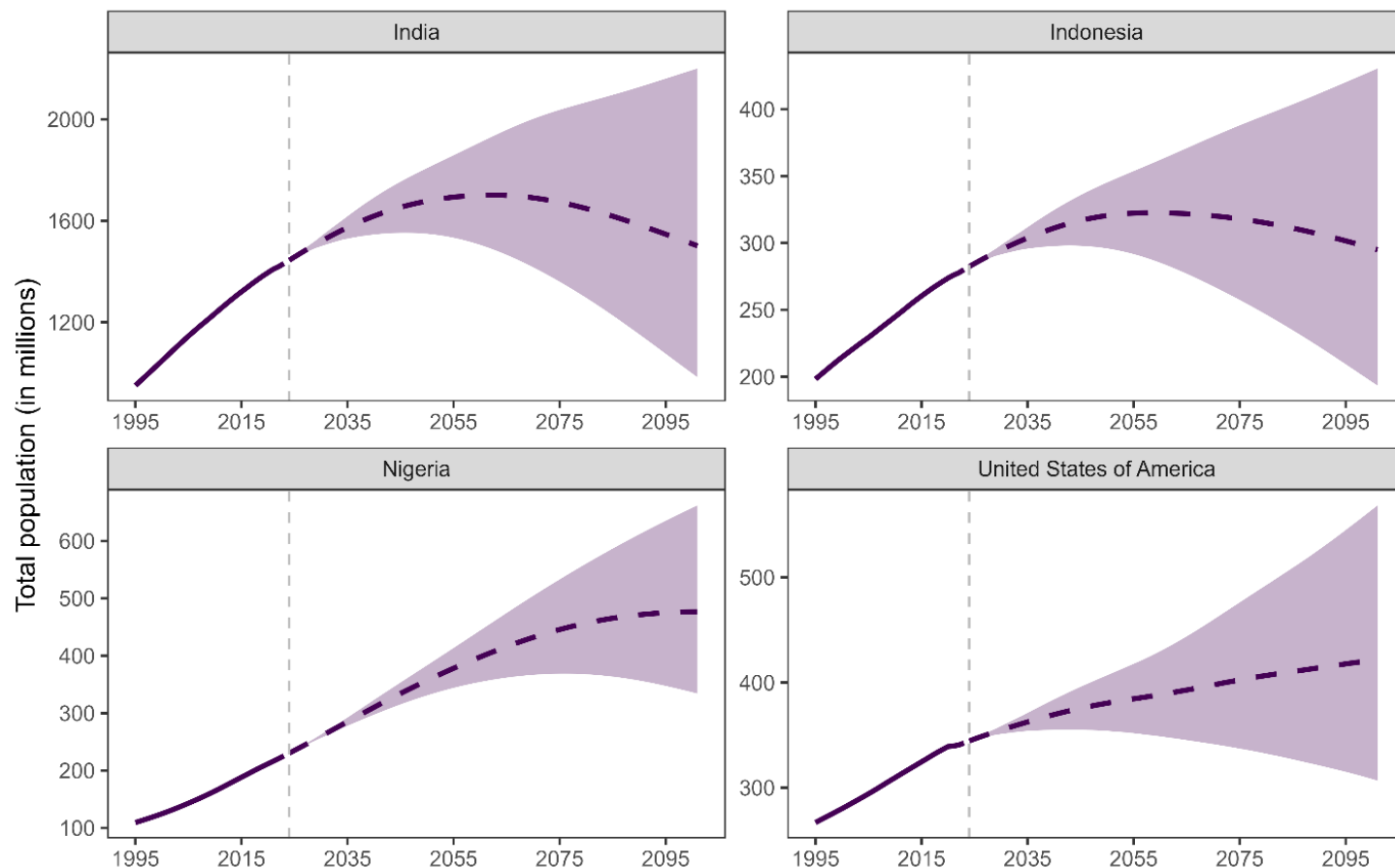
Total population for selected countries with populations that are expected to peak within the next 30 years, estimates, 1995-2023, and projections (medium scenario), 2024-2100



# Countries whose population will continue growing through 2054

- For the remaining 126 countries, with almost two thirds of today's global population, the population is expected to continue growing through 2054
- The total population of this group is projected to increase by 37.9 per cent over the next 30 years
- Nine countries of this group will see their populations double in size by 2054, including Angola, the Central African Republic and the Democratic Republic of Congo

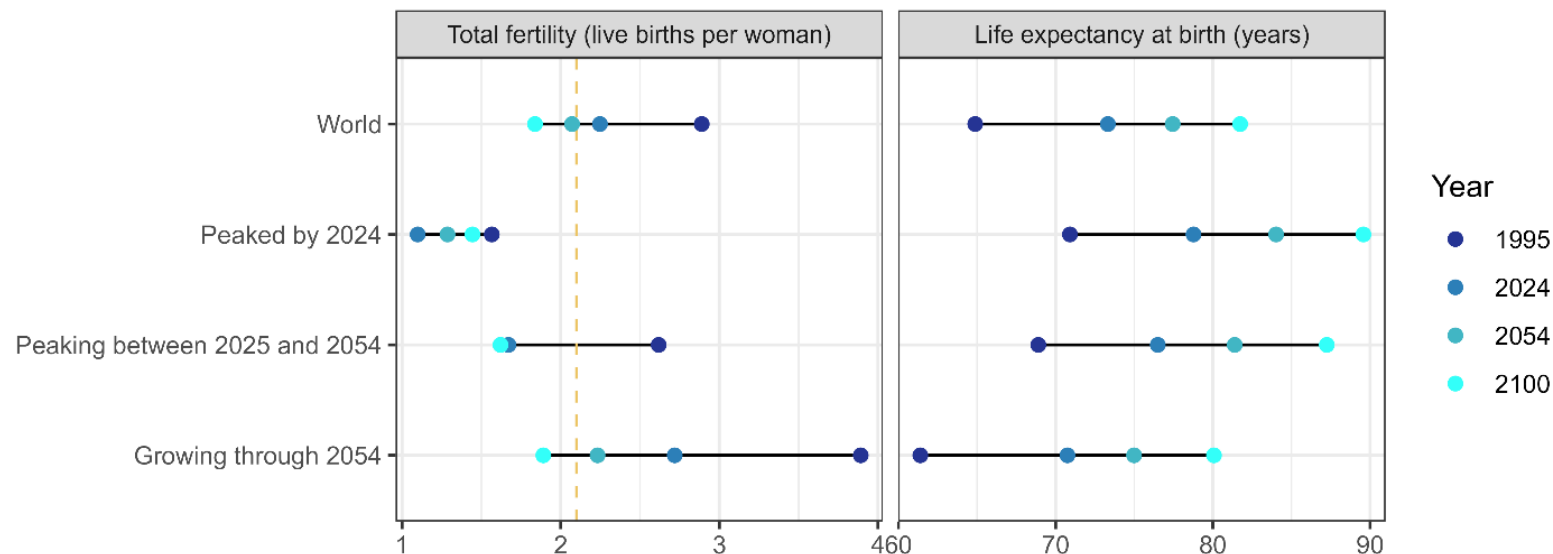
**Total population for selected countries with populations that are expected to continue growing through 2054, estimates, 1995-2023, and projections (medium scenario), 2024-2100**



# With few exceptions, the demographic transition towards longer lives and smaller families will continue

- Currently, global fertility stands at 2.3 live births per woman, down from 3.3 births in 1990
- More than half of all countries and areas globally have fertility below 2.1 live births per woman
- Twenty-four countries and areas have “ultra-low” fertility (below 1.4 births per woman), including China, Italy, Spain and Republic of Korea

**Total fertility and life expectancy at birth, globally and by timing of the peak, estimates for 1995 and projections (medium scenario), 2024, 2054 and 2100.**

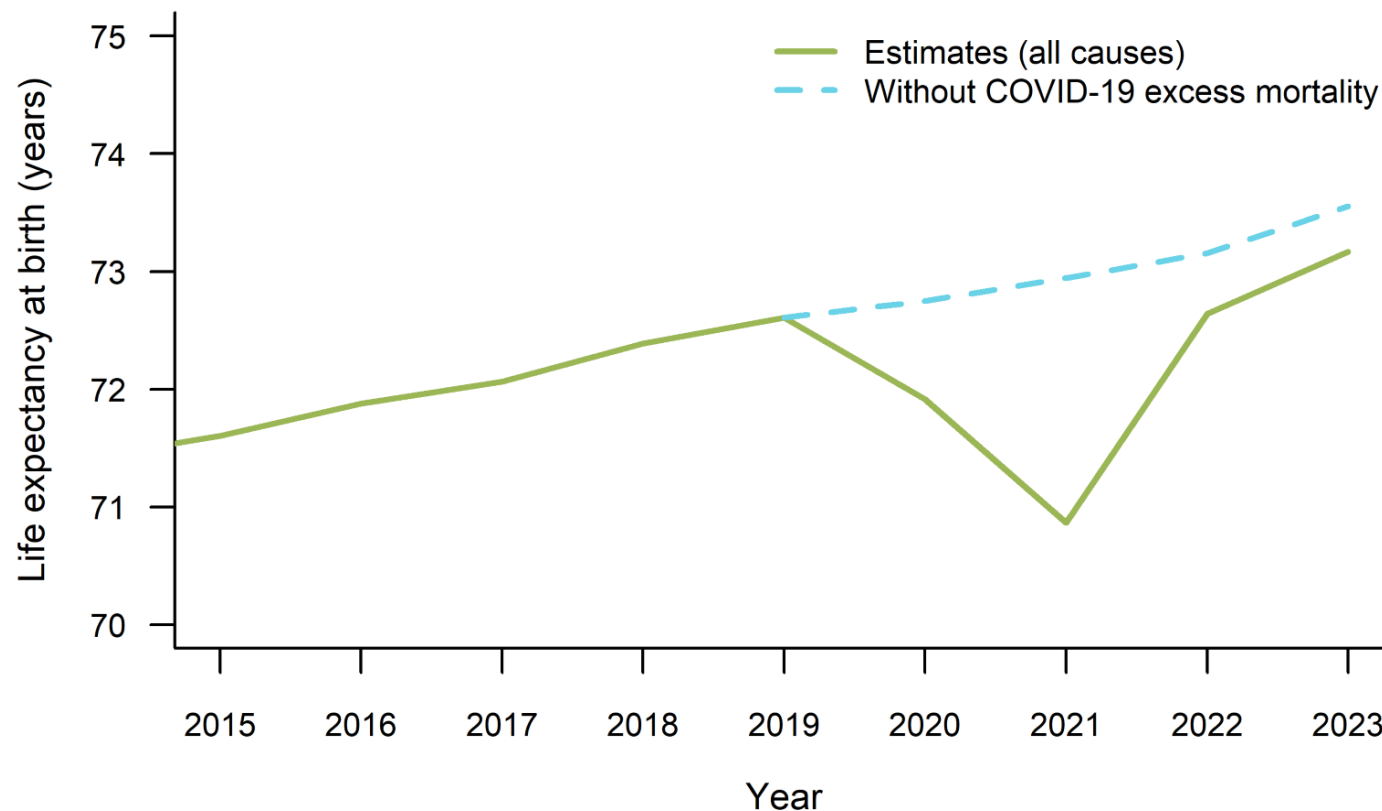




# Following the COVID-19 pandemic, global life expectancy is rising once again

- Global life expectancy at birth reached 73.3 years in 2024, an increase of 8.4 years since 1995
- Life expectancy is projected to rise to around 77.4 years globally in 2054
- Rising levels of life expectancy are expected to contribute to population growth, or to help mitigate population decline, in nearly all countries over the coming decades

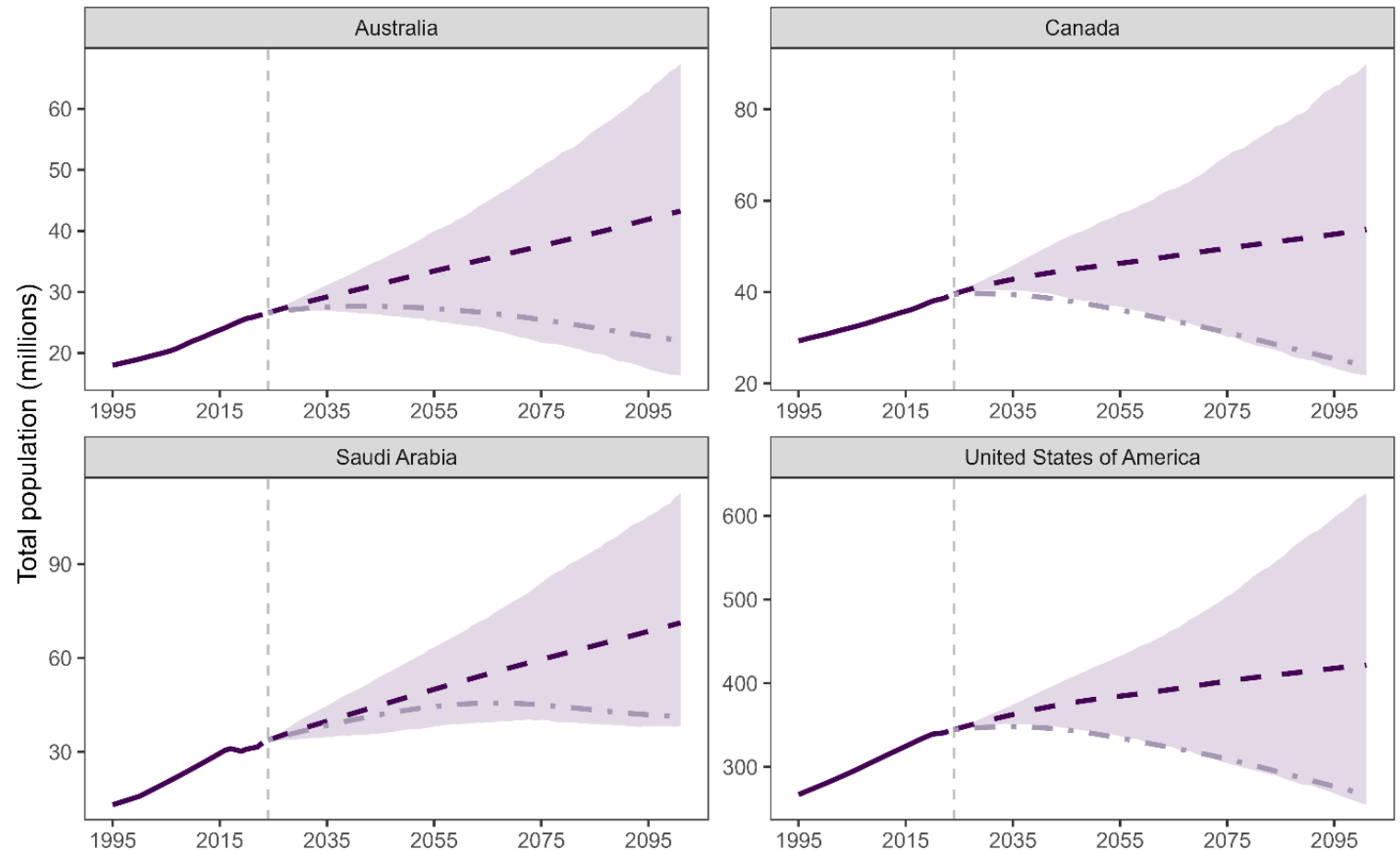
**Global life expectancy at birth (as observed) and counterfactual scenario without COVID-19 excess mortality, 2015-2023**



# For some populations, immigration will be the main driver of future growth

- Immigration is projected to be the main driver of population growth through 2054 in 52 countries and areas, including Australia, Canada and the United States of America
- Emigration is expected to contribute to population decline through 2054 in 14 countries and areas that are already experiencing low fertility

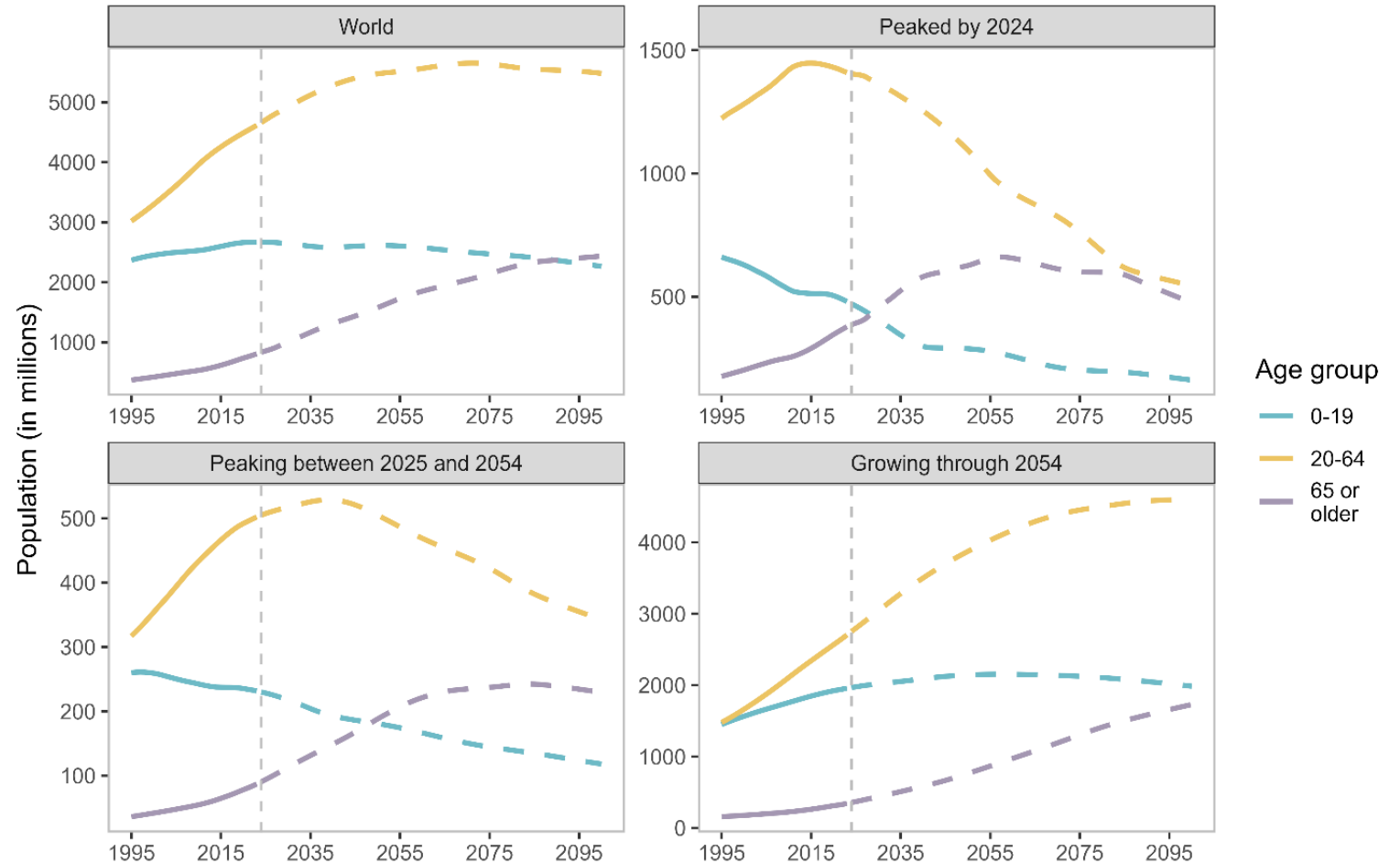
**Total population for selected countries with populations that are likely to continue growing through 2054, estimates, 1995-2023, projections (medium scenario) with prediction intervals, and zero net migration scenario (dash-dotted line), 2024-2100**



# The global population is growing older

## Population by age groups, globally and by timing of the peak, estimates, 1995-2023, and projections (medium scenario), 2024-2100

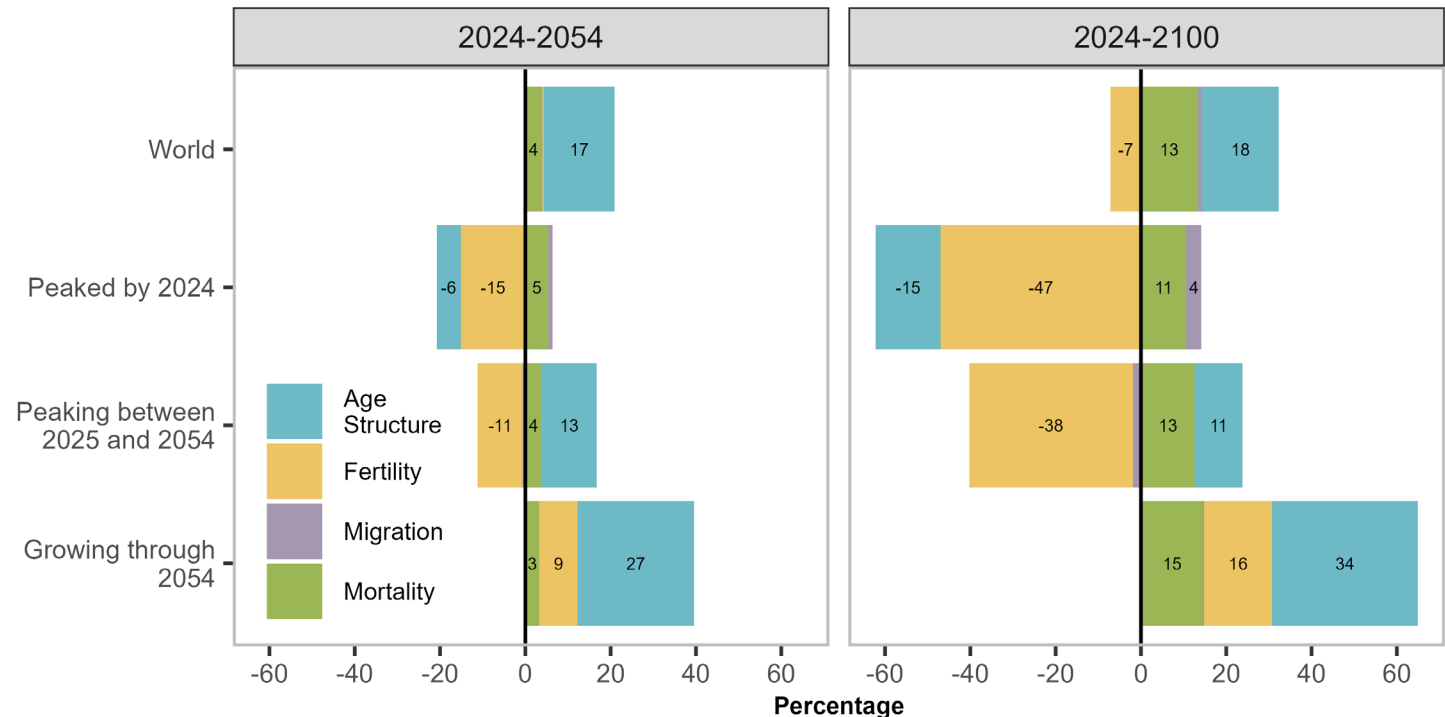
- Globally, the number of persons aged 65 years or older is projected to surpass the number of children (under age 18) by the late 2070s
- By the mid-2030s, the number of persons aged 80 or above is projected to surpass the number of infants (under age 1)
- Even in countries with rapid population growth and relatively youthful populations, the number of persons aged 65 or older is already increasing



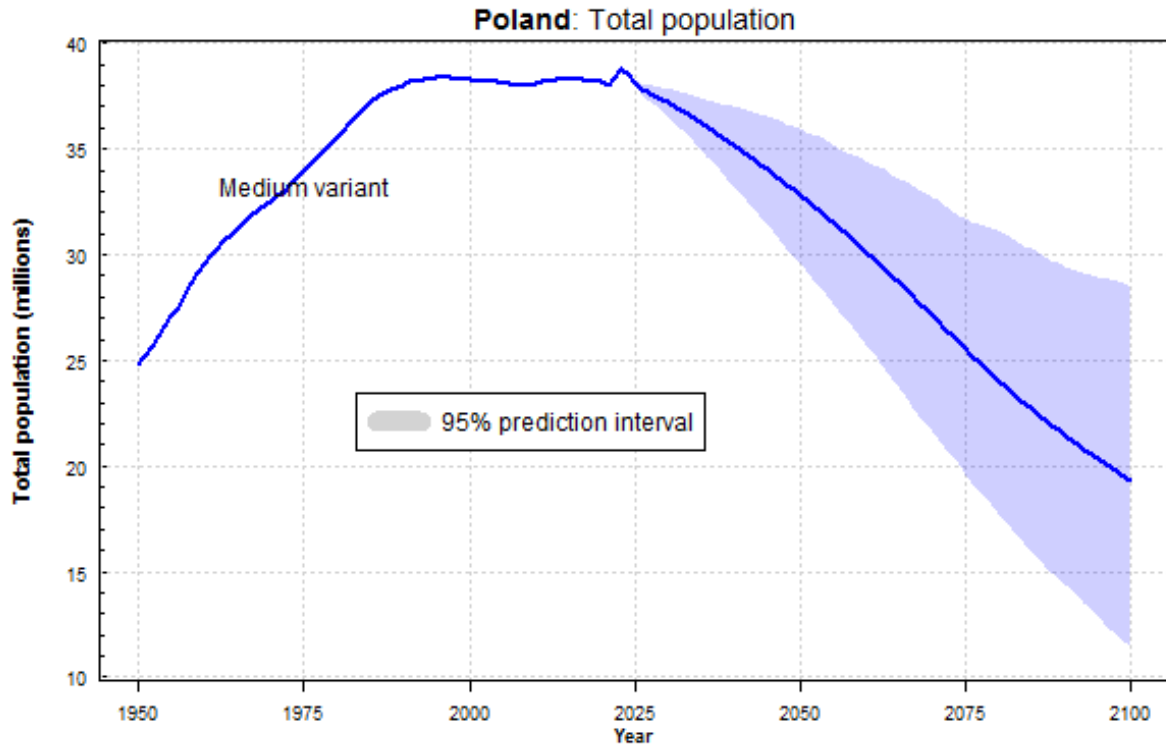
# Population momentum will be as the main driver of global population increase for the next 30 years

- Population momentum (or age structure) is projected to contribute 80 per cent of total growth through 2054, or around 1.7 billion people
- For 88 of the 126 countries and areas whose populations are projected to continue growing through 2054, population momentum is expected to be the main driver of population growth
- Some populations now have an age distribution that is significantly older than in the past, creating negative momentum

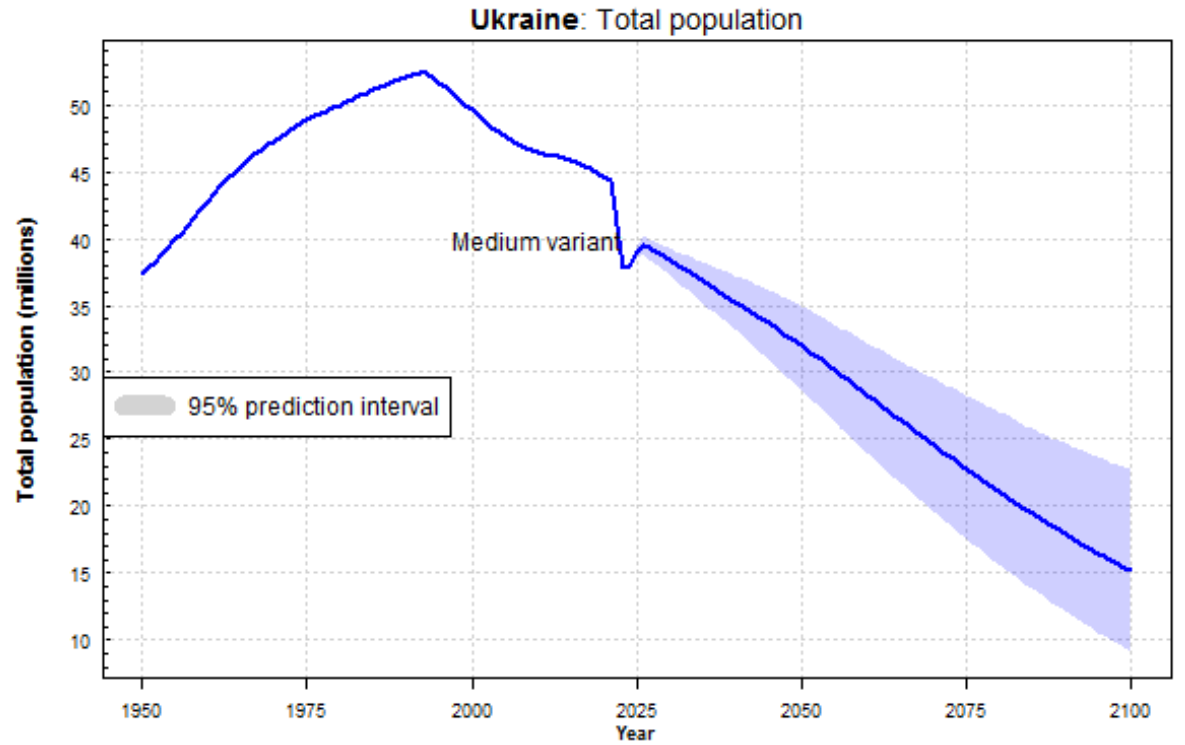
**Contribution of demographic components to total population change, 2024-2054, globally and for countries and areas by timing of the peak**



# Trends in total population: POL & UKR



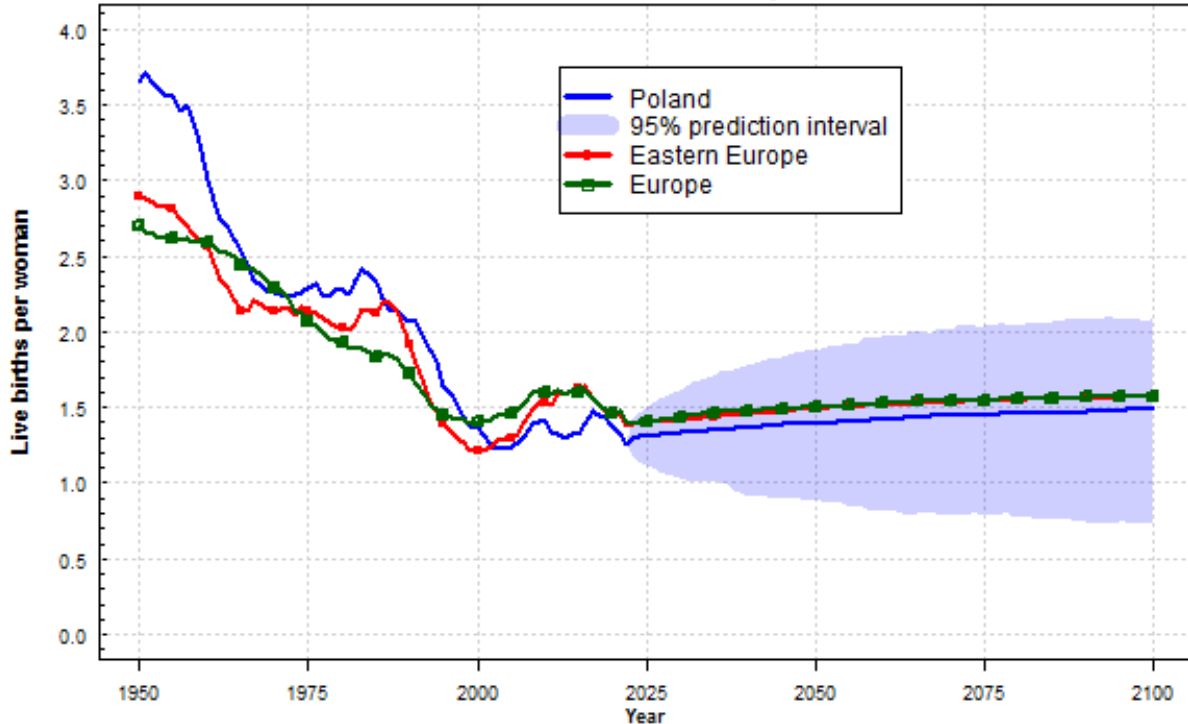
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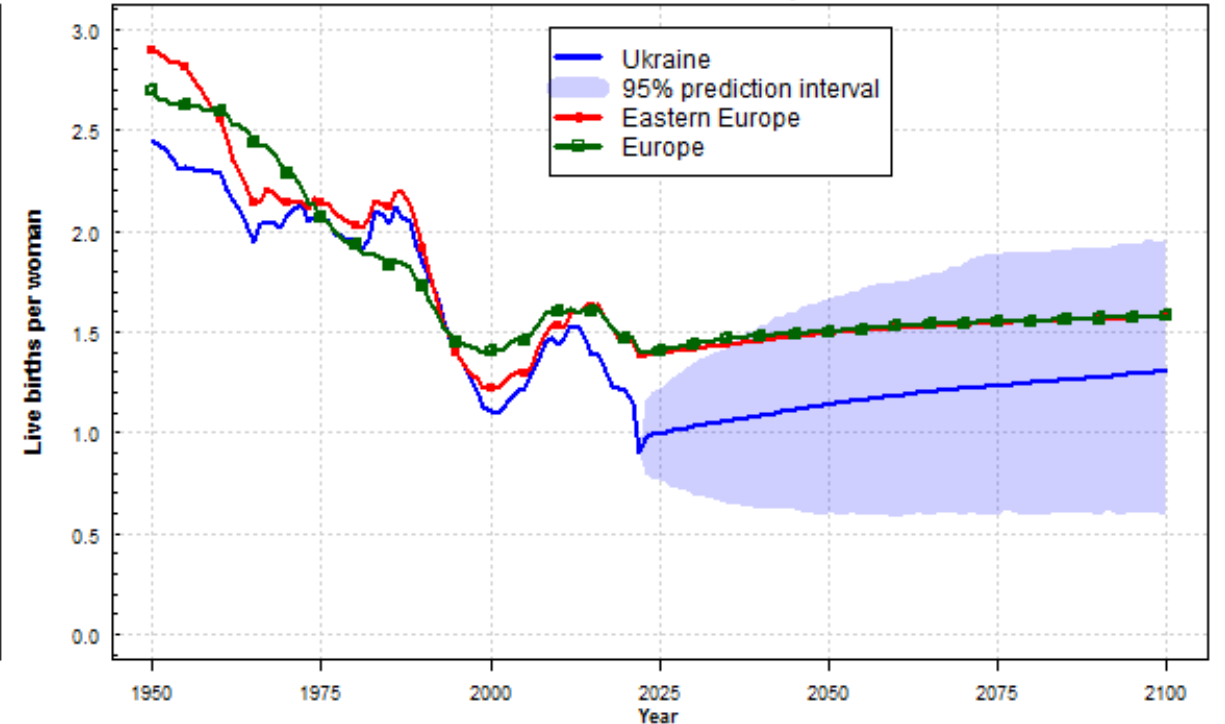
# Trends in total fertility: POL & UKR

Poland: Total fertility



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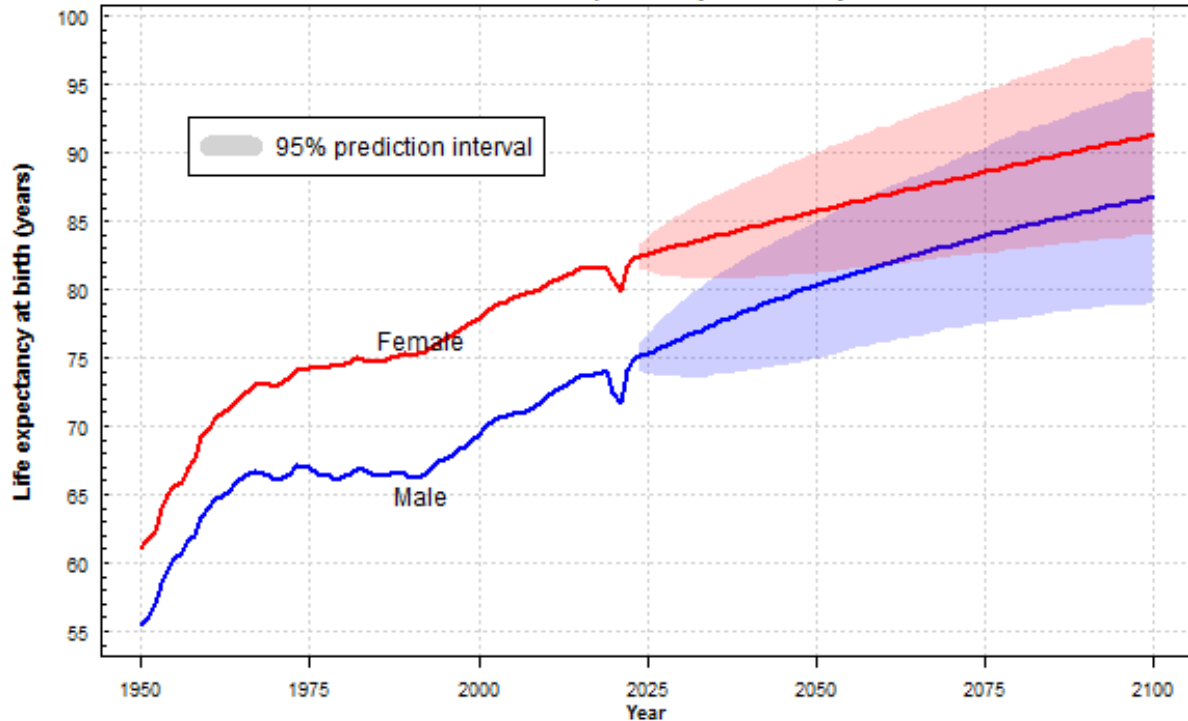
Ukraine: Total fertility



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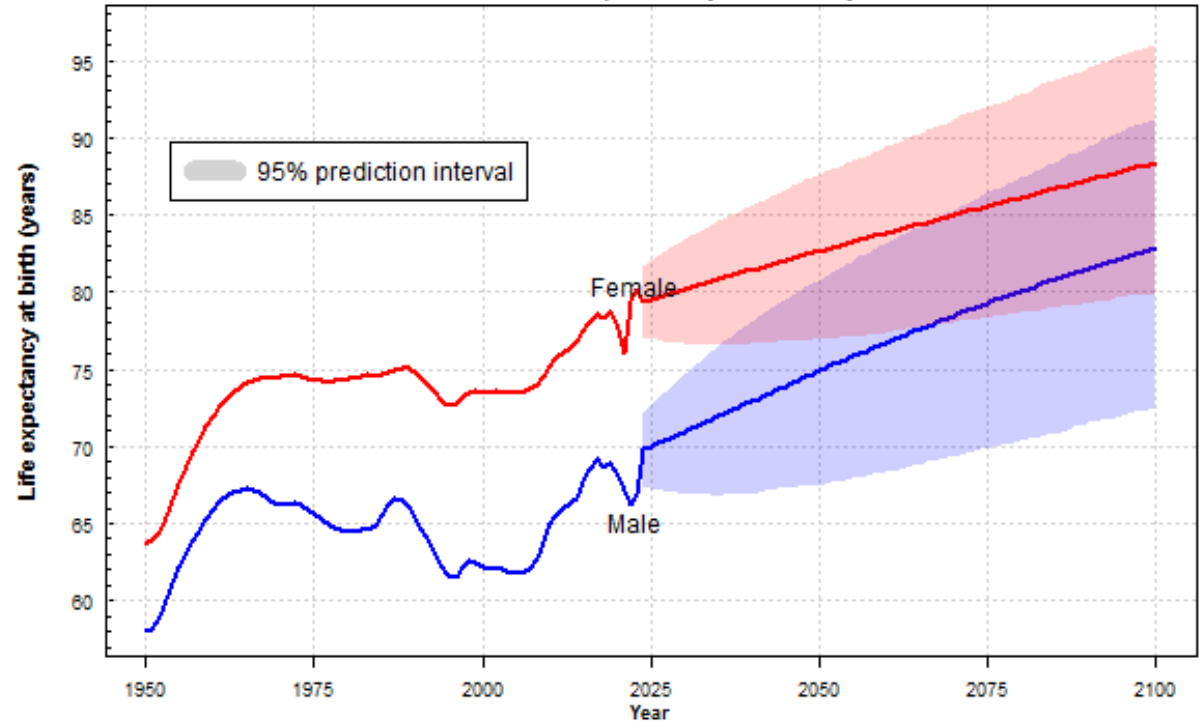
# Trends in life expectancy: POL & UKR

Poland: Life expectancy at birth by sex



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Ukraine: Life expectancy at birth by sex



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# Thank you

