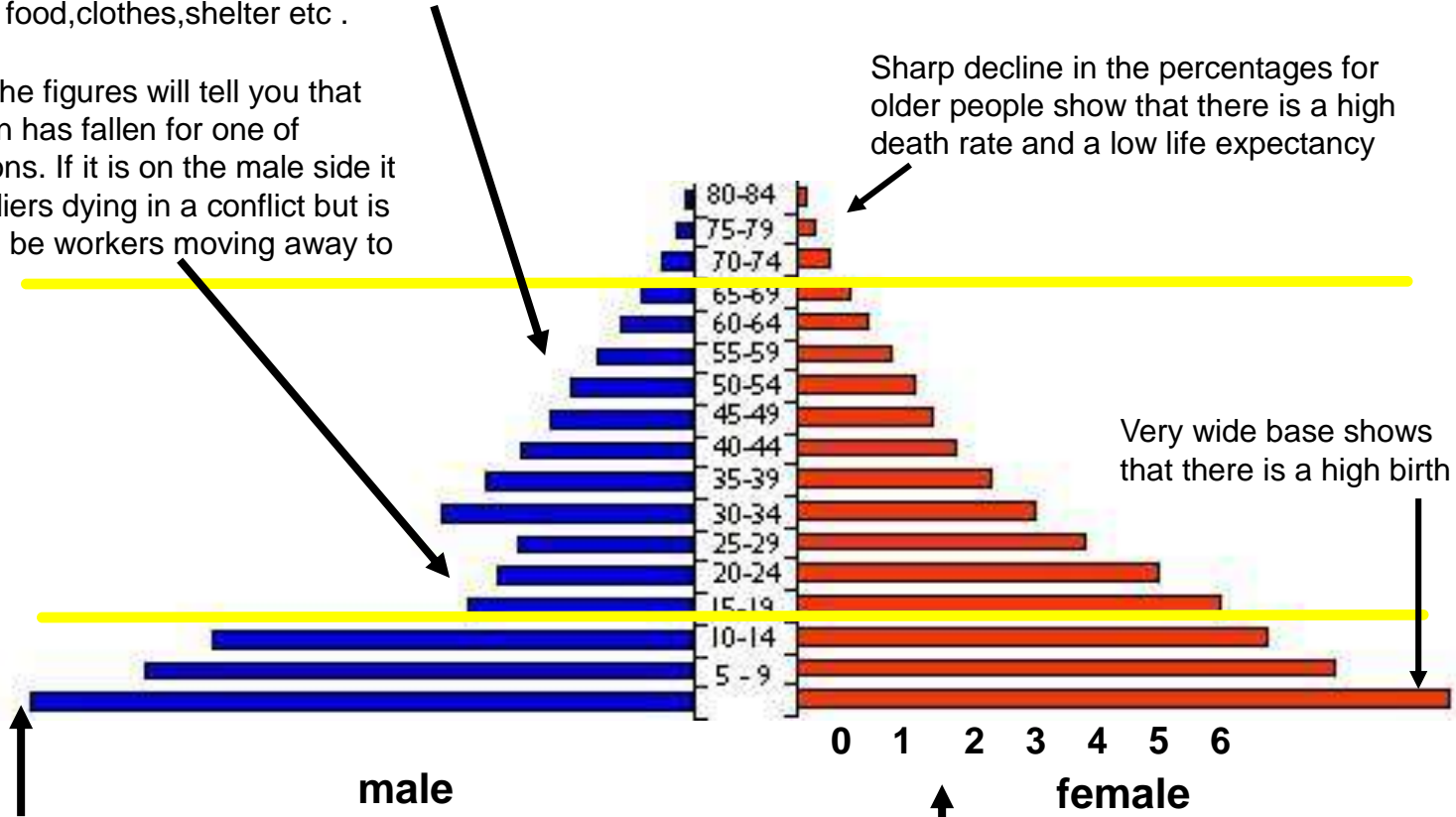# Population Pyramids -features of LEDC

A population pyramid is a useful way of showing population statistics as a diagram enabling visual comparisons to be made.

The population between the yellow lines is the working population. In a poorer country there will be a higher dependant population(> 50%)(young and old) putting greater pressure on the working population to provide adequate food,clothes,shelter etc .

An indent in the figures will tell you that the population has fallen for one of several reasons. If it is on the male side it might be soldiers dying in a conflict but is more likely to be workers moving away to get jobs

Sharp decline in the percentages for older people show that there is a high death rate and a low life expectancy

Very wide base shows that there is a high birth rate

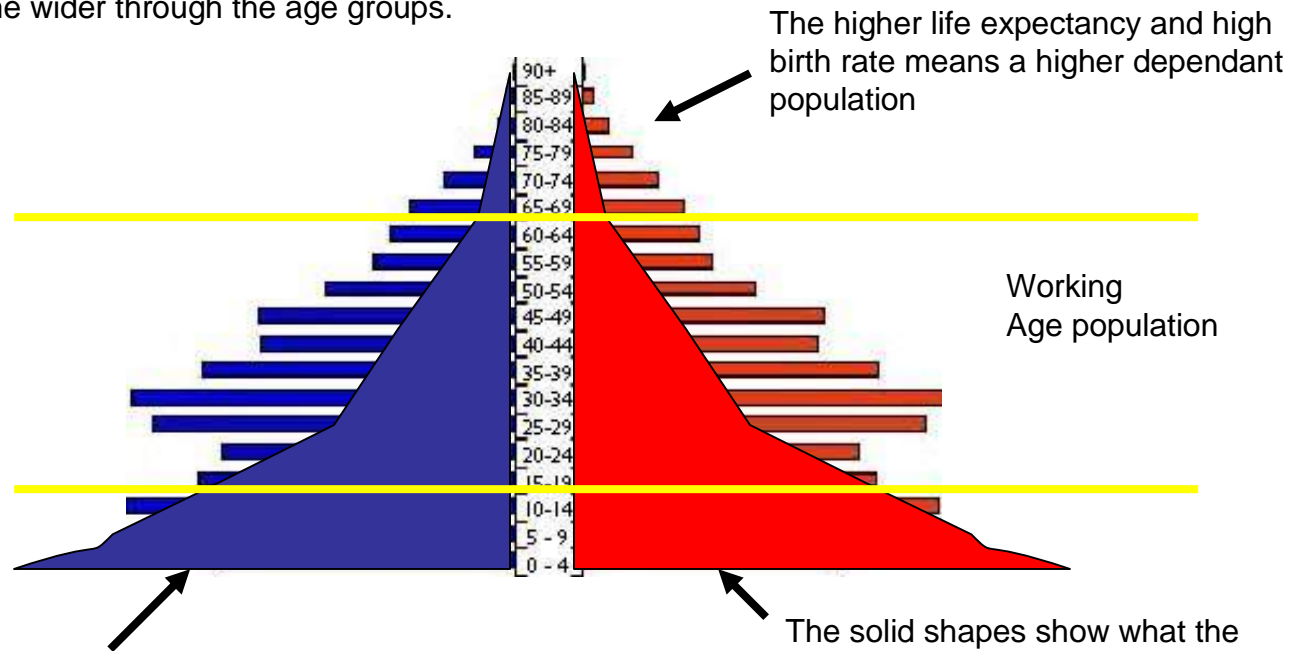| 80-84 |
| 75-79 |
| 70-74 |
| 65-69 |
| 60-64 |
| 55-59 |
| 50-54 |
| 45-49 |
| 40-44 |
| 35-39 |
| 30-34 |
| 25-29 |
| 20-24 |
| 15-19 |
| 10-14 |
| 5 - 9 |

0 1 2 3 4 5 6

male

female

The population is broken up into male and female and age ranges. This makes it easy to make comparisons between genders

The scale can be done in actual Figures (000s) or in percentages

Population Pyramids -features of EDC

The population pyramid of a country will change through time as it develops.If a country starts to improve health care and diet , and reduce infant mortality by investing in post natal care strategies and a nationwide vaccination programme for infant diseases then people will live longer and the pyramid will become wider through the age groups.

The higher life expectancy and high birth rate means a higher dependant population

Working
Age population

The solid shapes show what the pyramid used to look like and brings out the widening of the pyramid.

If population rises too quickly because life expectancy is improving and there are more potential child bearing females then the government might try to introduce some form of family planning programme allowing couples to have greater control over the number of children they have. In Chinas case they were even stricter with the introduction of the one child policy
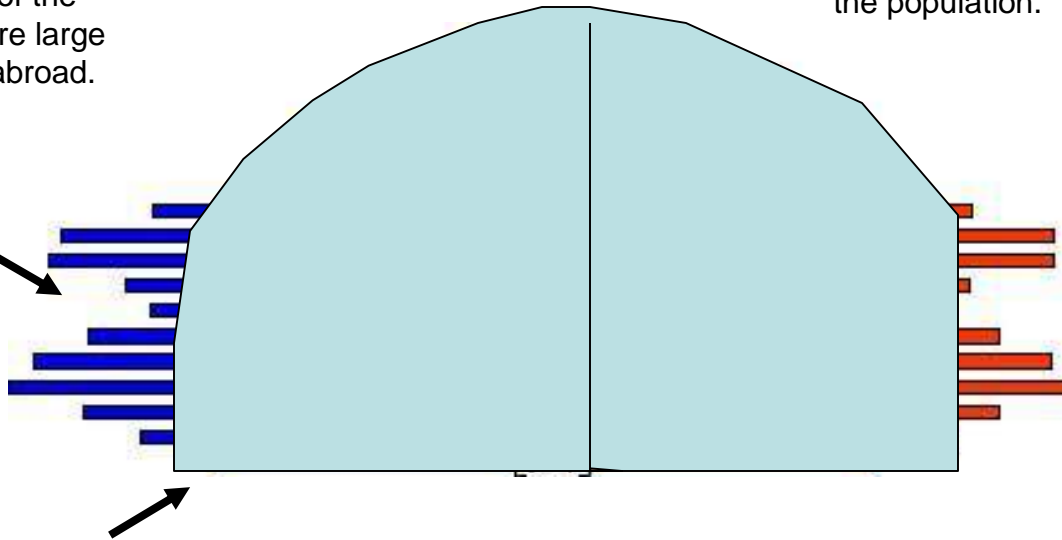
This is shown up in an indent in the youngest age groups

China

Population Pyramids -features of MEDC

Improved health care means a much greater life expectance and a much greater aging population. Many countries like Britain are having to look at different ways of dealing with pensions and health care as costs increase for a greater percentage of the population.

In Poland's pyramid there is an indent at the lower end of the working population where large numbers leave t- work abroad.

In the case of Poland the fall in the birth rate has led to a natural decrease in the total population.

Poland

The model for this pyramid is ofeten described as an artillery shell with many age groups being roughly the same size and not such a rapid decline in population.