

# Glossary

Aged population	A population is considered “aged” when the share of older persons exceeds 14 per cent.
Ageing in place	The opportunity for older people to remain in their home for as long as possible, without having to move to a long-term care facility.
Ageing population	A population is considered “ageing” when the share of older persons is between 7 per cent and 14 per cent.
Ageing transition	The period of time during which the share of older persons shifts from 7 per cent to 14 per cent.
Care ecosystem	Primarily composed of social protection systems, including social insurance, social assistance, and health coverage as well as the long-term care economy.
Contributory mechanisms	Social protection mechanisms where eligibility is based on contributions, in principle paid by employers and employees but in practice often subsidized by general government revenue.
Dependency ratio	The total dependency ratio is the ratio of the sum of the population aged 0-14 and aged 65 and above to the population aged 15-64. The child dependency ratio is the ratio of the population aged 0-14 to the population aged 15-64. The old-age dependency ratio is the ratio of the population aged 65 and above to the population aged 15-64. All ratios are presented as the number of dependents per 100 persons of working age (15-64).
Effective coverage	Refers to the proportion of the population who are in fact covered by social protection.
General fertility rate	The number of live births per 1,000 women aged 15-44 or 15-49 years in a given year.
Health insurance	Provision of health care through contributory mechanisms, meaning that eligibility is limited to the population covered by health insurance schemes.
Household	One or more persons occupying a housing unit.
Illiteracy rate	The proportion of persons in a given age group who cannot read with understanding and cannot write a short simple statement on their everyday life.
Indexation mechanisms	Mechanisms for pensions to automatically increase to compensate for inflation.
Informal care	Unpaid care provided by family, friends, and community members who support older people’s care needs.
Long-term care (LTC)	Both the need for and supply of long-term care support including formal and informal care and services to assist older persons and support their independence, including services provided in the community and at home, as well as institutional care.
Long-term care (LTC) services	Formal services only, such as domiciliary care and residential care.
Labour force participation	The proportion of a given age group that is economically active, as a percentage of the total population of that same age group. The active population (or labour force) is defined as the sum of persons in employment and unemployed persons seeking employment.

Legal coverage	Refers to the part of the population entitled to be covered by social protection according to the legal framework in place.
Life expectancy at a specific age	The average number of years of life expected by a hypothetical cohort of individuals who would be subject during all their lives to the mortality rates of a given period.
Migration	The movement of a person or a group of persons across an international border. It encompasses any kind of movement of people, whatever its length, composition and causes; and includes migration of refugees, displaced persons, economic migrants and persons moving for other purposes, such as family reunification.
Mortality	Deaths as a component of population change.
Non-contributory mechanisms	Social protection mechanisms where eligibility is based on perceived need, citizenship or residency rather than contributions. They are financed through general government revenue.
Old-age dependency ratio	The ratio of older persons and the number of persons in the working-age population. For the purpose of pension schemes, the old-age dependency ratio refers to the number of older persons receiving pensions and the number of active contributors.
Older persons	In this report older persons are aged 65 years and above, unless otherwise stated.
Population	De facto population in a country, area or region as of the year indicated.
Population ageing	A demographic process where the number and share of older persons in a population increases, resulting from a decline in fertility and improvement in life expectancy.
Pension coverage	The percentage of older persons above the statutory pensionable age who receive periodic cash benefits (old-age pensions). Pension coverage is the total coverage, including contributory mandatory, contributory voluntary and non-contributory pension coverage.
Population growth rate	Average exponential rate of growth of the population over a given period.
Replacement ratios	Ratio of pensions to pre-retirement earnings.
Sex ratio	The number of males per one hundred females in a population, either for the total population or for a specific age group.
Social assistance	Non-contributory social protection interventions providing monetary and in-kind benefits, mainly to vulnerable groups.
Social insurance	Contributory social protection interventions providing monetary and in-kind benefits to the covered population, largely limited to formal workers and their households. Includes old-age pensions.
Social protection	A set of public policies and programmes intended to ensure an adequate standard of living and access to health care throughout the life cycle. Social protection benefits can be provided in cash or in kind through universal or targeted non-contributory schemes, contributory schemes such as pensions and complementary measures.
System connectors	Other services, individuals, practices or innovations that facilitate the utilization of services offered by the LTC market by older people or their informal caregivers.
Total fertility rate	The average number of live births a hypothetical cohort of women would have at the end of their reproductive period if they were subject during their whole lives to the fertility rates of a given period, and if they were not subject to mortality. It is expressed as live births per woman.
Vesting period	The period during which a person must contribute to a pension scheme in order to be eligible for an old-age pension upon retirement.
Working-age population	Persons aged between 15 and 64.