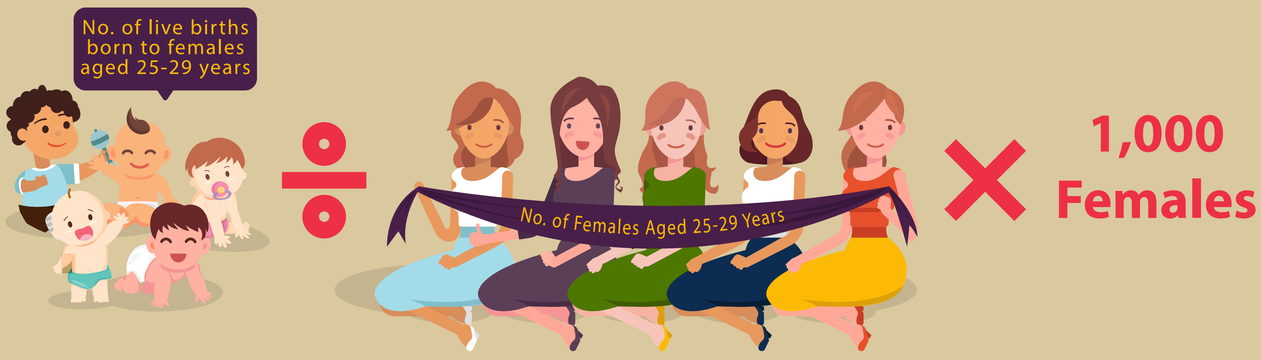
UNDERSTANDING

AGE-SPECIFIC FERTILITY RATE & TOTAL FERTILITY RATE

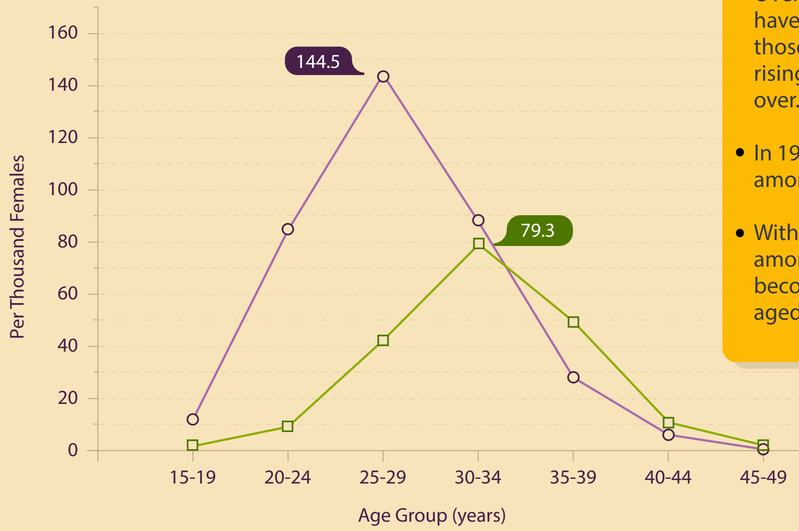
What is Age-Specific Fertility Rate (ASFR)?

Age-specific fertility rate (ASFR) is the number of live-births born to females of a specific age group, out of every 1,000 females in the same age group.

For example, for females aged 25-29 years, the ASFR is calculated by



Resident Age-Specific Fertility Rates, 1980 & 2024



- Over the years, the resident ASFRs have been gradually declining for those aged below 35 years, while rising for those aged 35 years and over.
- In 1980, fertility rates were highest among females aged 25-29 years.
- With the delay in childbirth among females, fertility rates have become highest among females aged 30-34 years instead.

○ 1980	12.7	84.9	144.5	87.8	28.0	5.8	0.5
□ 2024	2.3	9.8	42.6	79.3	50.0	10.2	0.7

What is Total Fertility Rate (TFR)?

Total fertility rate (TFR) refers to the average number of live-births each female would have during her reproductive years (i.e., age 15-49 years) if she were subject to the prevailing ASFRs in the population in the given year. Mathematically, TFR is 5 times the sum of the average number of live-births per female across 5-year age groups (i.e., ASFR), over the female reproductive ages for the reference period.

Computation of 2024 Resident TFR

Age Group (Years)	No. of live-births per 1,000 females
15-19	2.3
20-24	9.9
25-29	42.6
30-34	79.4
35-39	49.9
40-44	10.1
45-49	0.7

Sum of ASFRs by 5-Yearly Age Groups = 194.9

$\times 5 \div 1{,}000 = 0.97$ live-births per female

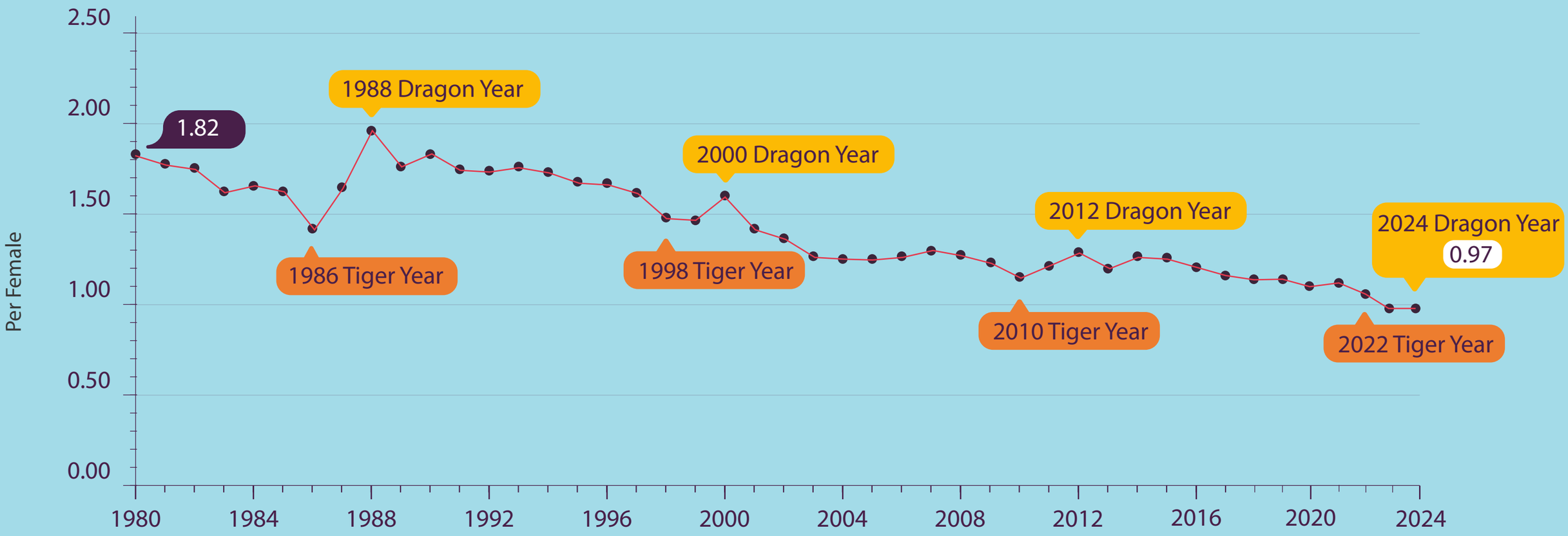
This means each female would have **0.97** live-births on average throughout her reproductive years based on 2024 birth trends.

Note: *Dividing by 1,000 is required since the ASFRs are expressed as per thousand females while the TFR is expressed as per female.*

Do You Know?

The TFR is a standard demographic indicator used internationally, by countries, international organisations, demographers and academia to measure fertility within a population

Resident Total Fertility Rate, 1980 – 2024



The resident TFR has been gradually declining over the past decades, similar to the experience in many developed societies.

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