Review of: "Digital UAE - a platform for demographic processes management"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

The research article titled "Digital UAE – a platform for managing demographic processes" (Qeios, October 20, 2023) is good, with clear statistical analysis. It requires modifications and adjustment to the presentation format of scientific articles, including a brief research background section as a contextualization of the problem to be addressed. They develop an interesting look at demographic growth focused on the native and migrant population of the Arab Emirates. It would be desirable for them to briefly develop the global migratory situation and the specific one that emerges mostly from the study they present, which would seem to be of a nature of financial improvement for the migrant population.

It is impressive to have sections of the IMRAD structure. It would be valuable if you were guided by this structure to adjust the article. Particularly adding the methodology used and differentiating what is impressive to be in the text but is not presented in that way, in results and discussion.

At the beginning of the summary I suggest being a little more specific with the objective of the demographic analysis, otherwise it remains very generic and does not allow the reader to locate the specificity of the research.

As you read further, it is noticeable that a differentiation is made between the population of native origin (I would use native instead of indigenous since it has another meaning) and migrants. If this were the case, this is what could be included as a specification in the summary.

The first figure states that "The growth rate has decreased slightly since 2011, but the dynamics remain positive." I suggest adjusting the wording and removing positive from increasing. There are multiple variables involved in demographic growth, so I find it difficult to express a generalization in terms of whether growth is positive or negative. Take into account in particular the COVID-19 pandemic situation in the period 2020-2022 where it is reported that there was a decrease in population growth and it is also related to the birth rate.
Covid-19 is linked to a decline in birth rates in high-income countries. Pandemics are a key driver of changes in human populations, affecting both mortality and fertility rates. Only at the end of scenario 1 is the pandemic mentioned.

The argument of researchers from the United Arab Emirates that the increase in the migrant population has consequences in terms of national security is not sufficiently expressed. Although a probable cause could be inferred, some argument expressed by the investigators in this regard should be included.

The identification of the countries mentioned and the criteria for their inclusion in the study are not entirely clear in the

titles of the figures. Although it is stated that they are world leading countries, it is not specified in what variable their leadership is understood. It can be inferred that from the economic point of view but it should be clarified.

The titles of tables and figures should be adjusted more precisely. Although the text adequately describes what is sought, it is not clearly identified when only the table or figure is displayed by its title. For example, in Figure 1 it should be specified what the population growth of the United Arab Emirates is.

Figure 2 is titled 15 world leading countries and 16 are seen.

When referring to the analysis of the literature, where the factors that negatively affect birth processes are identified, the period should be specified, otherwise there would be an error, given that from 2021 to 2022 the global birth rate was altered.

Figure 3 lacks scale.

The way the information is presented does not allow us to clearly determine where the priority of the study is being placed. At first it is impressive that they refer to the migrant and native population. Later it seems that they focus on the birth rate and later they include the mortality rate and migration remains in the background. When developing the model, sufficient priority is not given to the clarification of the migrant and native population, as would be expected after the first section of argument. Are you interested in seeing the increase in the population or just the native population?

In the bibliographic referencing it is striking that the APA and Vancouver standards are mixed. At the same time, they are incomplete. They must be reviewed and adapted to the most current version.

To present different data, different countries are presented. I suggest handling the information from the same countries taking a priority criterion that, as I mentioned before, should base the inclusion criterion.

After figure 7, there appears to be an error when mentioning the assumption that increasing health care costs will contribute to savings and increase the country's population.

Instead of costs I should say investment, otherwise it is clear that the cost is for the patient and would be inversely proportional to the savings and the increase in the population.

The hypothesis that they refer to confirm in the results was not previously stated as such.