

**An enhanced indicator in measuring the fertility situation of a place with very few births born outside wedlock**

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The Total Fertility Rate is the most common indicator in measuring the fertility situation of a place. However, for economies with very few births born outside wedlock, never married females are not exposed to childbearing activities. The Total Fertility Rate may not be the most suitable indicator. Using the life table approach, this paper proposes an alternative indicator called the Enhanced Total Fertility Rate. The Enhanced Total Fertility Rate is a weighted sum of the age specific fertility rates using the cumulative percentage of women marrying up to a specified age from a hypothetical cohort based on the current first marriage schedule as weights. Data from Hong Kong show that the Enhanced Total Fertility Rate can reflect timely the impact of the changing marriage rates on the fertility situation.

**Key Words:** Average number of children, age specific fertility rate, total marital fertility rate, fertility projections