

FACT SHEET

Major Demographic Indicators of Selected Economies

(as at 8 November 2004)

	Hong Kong	The Mainland	Taiwan	Singapore ¹	South Korea	Japan	The United Kingdom	The United States
Population (2003 figures)								
Population (million)	6.85	1 292.27	22.61	3.44	47.93	127.62	59.55	290.81
Population growth rate (2003 figures)								
Population growth rate	+0.9%	+0.6%	+0.4%	+1.7%	+0.6%	+0.1%	+0.4%	+1.0%

Note: 1. Resident population figures, instead of total population figures, are used for depicting the demographic trend of Singapore. Resident population refers to citizens and permanent residents with local residence, while total population consists of resident population and foreigners staying in Singapore for one year or more. The use of resident population figures is due to the lack of detailed demographic breakdown for total population figures in Singapore.

	Hong Kong	The Mainland	Taiwan	Singapore	South Korea	Japan	The United Kingdom	The United States
Population by sex (2003 figures)								
Male (million)	3.31 (48.3%) ²	665.56 (51.5%)	11.52 (50.9%)	1.71 (49.8%)	24.11 (50.3%)	62.30 (48.8%)	29.10 (48.9%)	143.04 (49.2%)
Growth rate of male population	+0.3%	+0.7%	+0.3%	+1.6%	+0.6%	+0.1%	+0.5%	+1.1%
Female (million)	3.54 (51.7%)	626.71 (48.5%)	11.09 (49.1%)	1.73 (50.2%)	23.82 (49.7%)	65.32 (51.2%)	30.45 (51.1%)	147.77 (50.8%)
Growth rate of female population	+1.4%	+0.5%	+0.5%	+1.9%	+0.6%	+0.2%	+0.3%	+0.9%

Note: 2. Figures in brackets represent percentage share of the total population.

	Hong Kong	The Mainland	Taiwan	Singapore	South Korea	Japan	The United Kingdom	The United States
Number of people by age group (2003 figures)								
Aged under 15 (million)	1.05	285.59	4.48	0.72	9.73	17.91	10.92	60.78
Aged 15 - 64 (million)	4.99	909.76	16.04	2.46	34.22	85.40	39.12	193.97
Aged 65 and over (million)	0.81	96.92	2.09	0.26	3.98	24.31	9.51	36.06
Percentage share of population by age group (2003 figures)								
Aged under 15	15.4%	22.1%	19.8%	20.9%	20.3%	14.0%	18.3%	20.9%
Aged 15 - 64	72.8%	70.4%	71.0%	71.5%	71.4%	66.9%	65.7%	66.7%
Aged 65 and over	11.8%	7.5%	9.2%	7.6%	8.3%	19.1%	16.0%	12.4%

	Hong Kong	The Mainland	Taiwan	Singapore	South Korea	Japan	The United Kingdom	The United States
Age group by sex (2003 figures)								
Aged under 15								
Male	51.6%	52.3%	52.1%	51.5%	52.8%	51.3%	51.2%	51.2%
Female	48.4%	47.7%	47.9%	48.5%	47.2%	48.7%	48.8%	48.8%
Aged 15 – 64								
Male	47.9%	51.6%	50.7%	49.7%	50.8%	50.3%	49.8%	49.9%
Female	52.1%	48.4%	49.3%	50.3%	49.2%	49.7%	50.2%	50.1%
Aged 65 and over								
Male	46.4%	47.1%	51.3%	45.1%	39.7%	41.9%	42.5%	41.5%
Female	53.6%	52.9%	48.7%	54.9%	60.3%	58.1%	57.5%	58.5%

	Hong Kong	The Mainland	Taiwan	Singapore	South Korea	Japan	The United Kingdom	The United States
Age dependency ratio³ (2003 figures)								
Child dependency ratio ⁴	210	314	279	293	284	210	279	313
Elderly dependency ratio ⁵	162	107	130	106	116	285	243	186
Overall dependency ratio	372	421	409	399	400	495	522	499
Crude birth rate and crude death rate (2003 figures)								
Crude birth rate ⁶	6.9	12.4	10.1	10.3	10.2	8.9	11.7	14.0
Crude death rate ⁷	5.4	6.4	5.8	4.4	5.1	8.0	10.3	8.3

Notes: 3. Age dependency ratio is the number of persons aged under 15 and those aged 65 and over per 1 000 persons aged 15 - 64. It shows the relationship between those who have the responsibilities of providing support in society and those who depend on them for upbringing and education, or for medical services and maintenance.

4. Child dependency ratio = the number of children aged under 15 per 1 000 persons aged 15 - 64.

5. Elderly dependency ratio = the number of persons aged 65 and over per 1 000 persons aged 15 - 64.

6. Crude birth rate = the number of live births per 1 000 population.

7. Crude death rate = the number of deaths per 1 000 population.

	Hong Kong	The Mainland	Taiwan	Singapore	South Korea	Japan	The United Kingdom	The United States
Total fertility rate⁸ (2003 figures)								
Births per female	0.94	1.70	1.24	1.26	1.19	1.29	1.73	2.07
Life expectancy at birth⁹ (2003 figures)								
Male (number of years)	78.5	70.3	74.1	76.9	71.7	78.4	75.7	74.4
Female (number of years)	84.3	74.3	79.9	80.9	79.3	85.3	80.7	80.1

Notes: 8. Total fertility rate is the average number of children that would be born to a woman during her lifetime if she were to pass throughout her childbearing life experiencing the age specific fertility rates prevailing in a given year.

9. Life expectancy at birth is the average number of years of life that a person born in a given year is expected to live if he/she were subject to the prevailing mortality conditions as reflected by the set of age-sex specific mortality rates for that year.

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