



Research Office
Legislative Council Secretariat

Fact Sheet

Major demographic indicators of selected economies

(data as at 31 December 2015)

FS05/15-16

1. Introduction

1.1 This fact sheet compares the demographic statistics of Hong Kong and seven selected economies. The comparison aims to present a broad picture of Hong Kong's demographic structure relative to these economies.

1.2 The demographic statistics selected for comparison comprises:

- (a) population – total population, population growth rate, population by age group, median age, population by sex and sex ratio;
- (b) age dependency ratio – child dependency ratio, elderly dependency ratio and overall dependency ratio;
- (c) fertility – number of live births, crude birth rate and total fertility rate;
- (d) mortality – number of death and crude death rate;
- (e) life expectancy at birth; and
- (f) number of households and average household size.

Table – Major demographic indicators of Hong Kong and selected economies, 2014

	Hong Kong	The Mainland	Taiwan	Singapore ⁽¹⁾	South Korea	Japan	The United Kingdom	The United States	
Population									
Population (million) ⁽²⁾	7.24	1 367.82	23.43	3.87	50.42	127.08	64.60	318.86	
Population growth rate	+0.8%	+0.5%	+0.3%	+0.7%	+0.4%	-0.2%	+0.8%	+0.7%	
<i>Population by age group</i>									
Aged 0-14	Number of person (million)	0.80	225.58	3.28	0.61	7.20	16.22	11.41	61.07
	Percentage share	11.1%	16.5%	14.0%	15.7%	14.3%	12.8%	17.7%	19.2%
	Annual growth rate	+0.9%	+1.0%	-2.1%	-1.2%	-2.5%	-1.0%	+0.9%	-0.1%
Aged 15-64	Number of person (million)	5.37	1 004.69	17.35	2.83	36.84	77.77	41.78	211.55
	Percentage share	74.2%	73.5%	74.0%	73.1%	73.1%	61.2%	64.7%	66.3%
	Annual growth rate	*	-0.1%	+0.1%	+0.2%	+0.3%	-1.5%	+0.3%	+0.4%
Aged 65 or above	Number of person (million)	1.07	137.55	2.81	0.43	6.39	33.10	11.41	46.24
	Percentage share	14.7%	10.1%	12.0%	11.2%	12.7%	26.0%	17.7%	14.5%
	Annual growth rate	+4.3%	+4.5%	+4.2%	+6.7%	+4.0%	+3.4%	+2.5%	+3.4%
Median age	42.0	36.7	39.4	39.3	40.2	45.4	40.0	36.7	

Notes: (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.

(2) Individual figures may not add up to the total due to rounding.

(*) Changes within $\pm 0.05\%$.

Table – Major demographic indicators of Hong Kong and selected economies, 2014 (cont'd)

		Hong Kong	The Mainland	Taiwan	Singapore	South Korea	Japan	The United Kingdom	The United States
Population by sex									
Male	Number of person (million)	3.35	700.79	11.70	1.90	25.22	61.79	31.79	156.94
	Percentage share	46.2%	51.2%	49.9%	49.1%	50.0%	48.6%	49.2%	49.2%
	Annual growth rate	+0.4%	+0.5%	*	+0.6%	+0.3%	-0.2%	+0.8%	+0.8%
Female	Number of person (million)	3.90	667.03	11.74	1.97	25.20	65.29	32.80	161.92
	Percentage share	53.8%	48.8%	50.1%	50.9%	50.0%	51.4%	50.8%	50.8%
	Annual growth rate	+1.0%	+0.5%	+0.4%	+0.8%	+0.5%	-0.2%	+0.7%	+0.7%
Sex ratio ⁽³⁾		858	1 051	997	967	1 001	946	969	969
Age dependency ratio⁽⁴⁾									
Child dependency ratio ⁽⁵⁾		150	225	189	215	195	209	273	289
Elderly dependency ratio ⁽⁶⁾		198	137	162	152	173	426	273	219
Overall dependency ratio		348	361	351	367	368	635	546	508

Notes: (3) Sex ratio = number of males per 1 000 females.

(4) Age dependency ratio is the number of persons aged under 15 and those aged 65 or above per 1 000 persons aged 15-64. It shows the relationship between those who have the responsibilities to provide support in society and those who depend on them for upbringing and education, and/or for medical services and maintenance.

(5) Child dependency ratio = number of persons aged 0-14 per 1 000 persons aged 15-64.

(6) Elderly dependency ratio = number of persons aged 65 or above per 1 000 persons aged 15-64.

(*) Changes within $\pm 0.05\%$.

Table – Major demographic indicators of Hong Kong and selected economies, 2014 (cont'd)

	Hong Kong	The Mainland	Taiwan	Singapore	South Korea	Japan	The United Kingdom	The United States
Fertility								
Number of live births	62 300	16 870 000	210 383	42 232	435 435	1 003 539	776 352	3 988 076
Crude birth rate ⁽⁷⁾	8.6	12.4	9.0	9.8	8.6	8.0	12.0	12.5
Total fertility rate ⁽⁸⁾	1.23	1.40	1.16	1.25	1.21	1.42	1.83	1.86
Mortality								
Number of death	45 100	9 770 000	163 929	19 393	267 692	1 273 004	570 341	2 593 996
Crude death rate ⁽⁹⁾	6.2	7.2	7.0	4.7	5.3	10.1	8.8	8.1
Life expectancy at birth⁽¹⁰⁾								
Male (number of years)	81.2	73.1	76.7	80.5	79.0	80.5	78.3	77.1
Female (number of years)	86.9	77.4	83.2	84.9	85.5	86.8	82.7	81.9
Household								
Number of households (million)	2.4	430.0	8.4	1.2	18.5	50.4	26.7	123.2
Average household size	2.9	3.0	2.8	3.4	2.6	2.5	2.4	2.5

Notes: (7) Crude birth rate = number of live births per 1 000 population.

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

(9) Crude death rate = number of deaths per 1 000 population.

(10) 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 or she were subjected to the prevalent mortality conditions as reflected by the set of age-sex specific mortality rates for that year.

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