Major demographic indicators of selected economies
(data as at 31 December 2016)

Research Office
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Numbers & Figures

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1.　　Introduction

1.1　　This document 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) overall population size, population growth rate, population by sex and sex ratio (**Table 1**);

(b) population by age group, median age and dependency ratio (**Table 2**); and

(c) other major demographic indicators on fertility, mortality, life expectancy, number of households and household size (**Table 3**).

Table 1 – Population by sex in selected economies in 2015

		Hong Kong	Japan	The Mainland	Singapore[(1)]	South Korea	Taiwan	United Kingdom	United States
Population									
Population (million)[(2)]		7.31	127.11	1 374.62	3.90	50.62	23.49	65.11	321.20
Annual growth rate		+0.9%	+0.2%	+0.5%	+0.8%	+0.4%	+0.2%	+0.8%	+0.7%
Population by sex									
Male	Number (million)	3.37	61.83	704.14	1.92	25.30	11.71	32.07	158.12
	Percentage share	46.1%	48.6%	51.2%	49.1%	50.0%	49.9%	49.3%	49.2%
	Annual growth rate	+0.7%	*	+0.5%	+0.7%	+0.3%	+0.1%	+0.9%	+0.8%
Female	Number (million)	3.94	65.28	670.48	1.99	25.31	11.78	33.04	163.08
	Percentage share	53.9%	51.4%	48.8%	50.9%	50.0%	50.1%	50.7%	50.8%
	Annual growth rate	+1.1%	*	+0.5%	+0.9%	+0.4%	+0.4%	+0.7%	+0.7%
Sex ratio[(3)]		855	947	1 050	965	1 000	994	971	970

Notes: (1) Resident population in Singapore excludes 1.63 million 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 the foreigners in Singapore.

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

(3) Sex ratio = males per 1 000 females.

(*) Changes within ±0.05%.

Table 2 – Population by age group and dependency ratio in selected economies in 2015

		Hong Kong	Japan	The Mainland	Singapore	South Korea	Taiwan	United Kingdom	United States
Population by age group									
Aged 0-14	Number (million)	0.83	16.14	227.15	0.60	7.04	3.19	11.53	61.03
	Percentage share	11.3%	12.7%	16.5%	15.4%	13.9%	13.6%	17.7%	19.0%
	Annual growth rate	+2.9%	-0.6%	+0.7%	-0.9%	-2.2%	-2.7%	+1.1%	-0.1%
Aged 15-64	Number (million)	5.36	77.03	1 003.61	2.84	36.95	17.37	41.97	212.53
	Percentage share	73.4%	60.6%	73.0%	72.8%	73.0%	73.9%	64.5%	66.2%
	Annual growth rate	-0.2%	-1.1%	-0.1%	+0.3%	+0.3%	+0.1%	+0.4%	+0.5%
Aged 65 or above	Number (million)	1.12	33.94	143.86	0.46	6.62	2.94	11.61	47.64
	Percentage share	15.3%	26.7%	10.5%	11.8%	13.1%	12.5%	17.8%	14.8%
	Annual growth rate	+4.8%	+2.8%	+4.6%	+6.5%	+3.7%	+4.6%	+1.8%	+3.0%
Median age (years)		43.1	45.7	36.8	39.6	40.8	39.9	40.0	36.8
Dependency ratio									
Child dependency ratio[1]		154	210	226	212	190	184	275	287
Elderly dependency ratio[2]		208	441	143	162	179	169	277	224
Overall dependency ratio[3]		363	650	370	374	370	353	551	511

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

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

(3) Overall 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.

Table 3 – Major demographic indicators in selected economies in 2015

	Hong Kong	Japan	The Mainland	Singapore	South Korea	Taiwan	United Kingdom	United States
Fertility								
Number of live births	59 878	1 005 677	16 550 000	42 185	438 420	213 598	777 165	3 977 745
Crude birth rate[1]	8.2	8.0	12.1	9.7	8.6	9.1	11.9	12.4
Total fertility rate[2]	1.20	1.45	1.05	1.24	1.24	1.18	1.80	1.84
Mortality								
Number of death	46 108	1 290 444	9 750 000	19 862	275 895	163 858	602 782	2 626 418
Crude death rate[3]	6.3	10.3	7.1	4.8	5.4	7.0	9.3	8.2
Expectation of life at birth[4]								
Male (years)	81.4	80.8	74.6	80.4	79.0	77.0	79.1	76.4
Female (years)	87.3	87.1	77.6	84.9	85.2	83.6	82.8	81.2
Household								
Number of households (million)	2.5	51.9	409.5	1.2	18.7	8.5	27.0	124.6
Average household size	2.9	2.4	3.1	3.4	2.6	2.8	2.4	2.5

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

(2) 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.

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

(4) 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 condition as reflected by the set of age-sex specific mortality rates for that year.

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