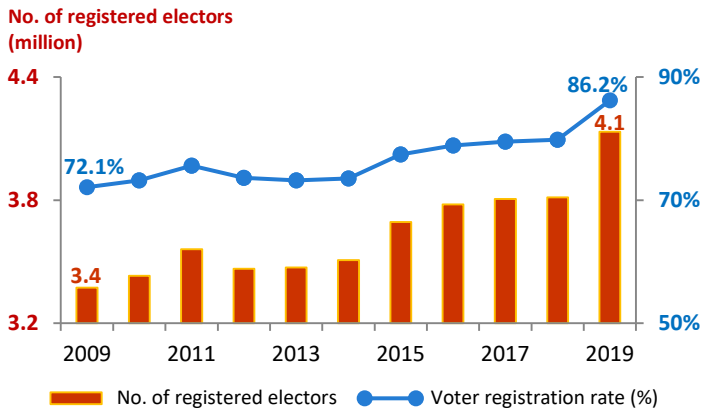


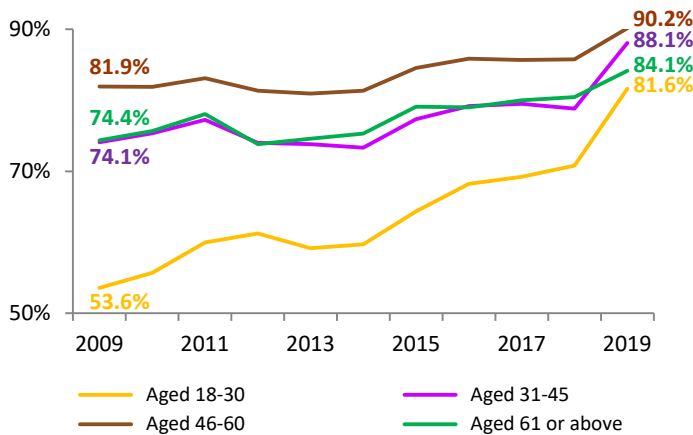


## Voter Registration for geographical constituencies

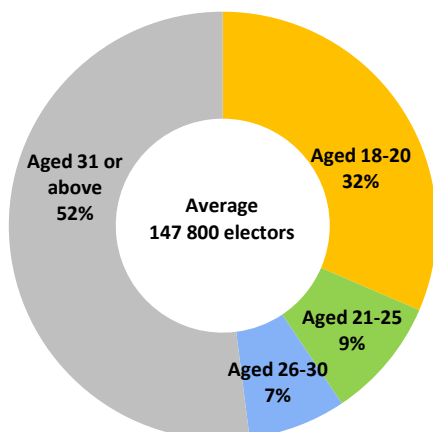
**Figure 1 — Total number of registered electors and overall voter registration rate, 2009-2019**



**Figure 2 — Voter registration rates by major age group, 2009-2019**



**Figure 3 — Annual average of new registration of electors by age group, 2009-2019**

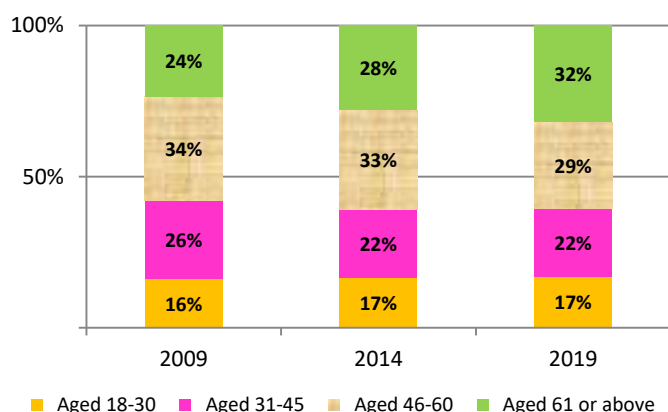


### Highlights

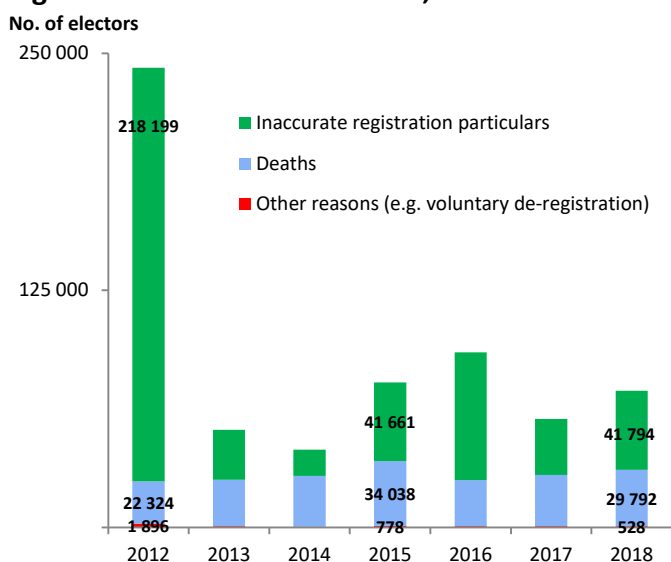
- The number of registered electors for geographical constituencies ("GC") has surged by 318 700 or 8% within a year (and by 759 600 or 23% within a decade) to a record high of 4.13 million in 2019, based on the most recent statistics released by Registration and Electoral Office ("REO") (**Figure 1**). While this reflects enhanced political awareness in society, the impending District Council Election scheduled for November 2019 also contributes to this rising trend.
- Overall voter registration ("VR") rate has risen from 72.1% in 2009 to 79.8% in 2018, and significantly further to 86.2% in 2019. Despite an all-time high in overall VR rate, the VR rates for the youngest electors aged 18-20 and the oldest electors aged 71 or above were noticeably lower, standing at 66.4% and 76.1% respectively in 2019.
- Analysed by major age group, the VR rate for younger persons aged 18-30 exhibited the steepest increase over the past decade, from 53.6% to 81.6% (**Figure 2**). This is in part attributable to enhanced civic awareness amongst youngsters and more targeted VR campaigns launched by the Government. Also relevant was a very low base of comparison for younger persons in the earlier years. That said, voter registration rate for younger persons is still below other major age groups in 2019.
- For the newly registered electors, they averaged at 147 800 each year during 2009-2019. Amongst them, 32% were aged 18-20, 9% aged 21-25 and 7% aged 26-30 (**Figure 3**). As a whole, younger persons aged 18-30 took up just 48% of annual new registrations over the past decade, while the rest were aged 31 or above.

## Voter registration for geographical constituencies (cont'd)

**Figure 4 — Distribution of all registered electors by major age group, 2009-2019**



**Figure 5 — Removal of electors, 2012-2018**



**Figure 6 — Suspected cases of electors providing false statement knowingly, 2012-2018**

Year	Electors referred to law enforcement agencies for investigation	Electors convicted after investigation
2012	2 163	57
2013	0	0
2014	1	0
2015	482	2
2016	631	0
2017	15	0
2018	17	0

### Highlights

- In spite of an upsurge in their registration rate, younger persons aged 18-30 still represents a small proportion in overall electors because (a) younger persons move to successive older age groups as time passes; (b) there are fewer younger persons amidst sustained low local fertility rate in 2000s; and (c) there are more elderly people amidst ageing trend in society. During 2009-2019, the share of younger electors aged 18-30 edges up only marginally from 16% to 17%, while the respective figure for elderly electors aged 61 or above went up noticeably from 24% to 32% (**Figure 4**).
- To maintain the integrity of the VR System, REO can remove electors from the Register upon their deaths or when their registration particulars (e.g. residential addresses) are inaccurate. In view of widespread complaints and media reports on suspected vote rigging in the District Board Election in 2011, REO stepped up checking under statutory inquiry, resulting in removal of as many as 218 200 or 6% of electors from the Register on this ground in 2012. The number of removed electors stabilized in the ensuing years, averaging at 65 070 per annum during 2013-2018, 56% of whom were due to inaccurate registration particulars and 43% were due to deaths (**Figure 5**).
- It is a criminal offence for those electors making false or incorrect statement knowingly or recklessly in relation to VR. In 2012, the REO referred 2 163 electors to law enforcement agencies for such suspicion, resulting in 57 successful convictions only, partly because of the difficulty in collecting evidence (**Figure 6**). For the ensuing years during 2013-2018, both the number of referral cases for investigation and successful convictions dropped significantly.

Data sources: Latest figures from Registration and Electoral Office and Census and Statistics Department.

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