Health Up Elders!

Group ID: 10-12

Class 1A2

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We decided to focus on the healthcare systems in Singapore and the personal health and well-being of the ageing population.

Drawing links

With a rapidly ageing population, the Singapore Government will have to increase its spending on healthcare and social services.

From the first prompt, Singapore's 'demographic time bomb' explained, in 5 charts by Asyraf Kamil.

This statement subtly states that there will be more elderly in the future and many of them will be sick. How might we be able to try and keep our aged people living healthily?

Healthcare for the elderly

From the second prompt, the video shows an old lady, quite contented with her life, telling us how she wants to live her remaining years.

She wanted to live a simple, carefree and happy life. Many elderly would want to also lead a happy lifestyle and this is about their emotional health and how to stay emotionally healthy.

Year published: 2016 Format: Image

A old woman thinking about her hopes and dreams. Url: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ck8RqaTWD w

Access date: 2 April 2018



Healthcare for the elderly

From the last prompt, the video showed Minister Tan Chuan Jin talking about how important staying healthy is for the elderly.

This shows that healthcare is a big problem in the ageing population and we need to try and tackle the problems.

Year published: 2014 Format: Image

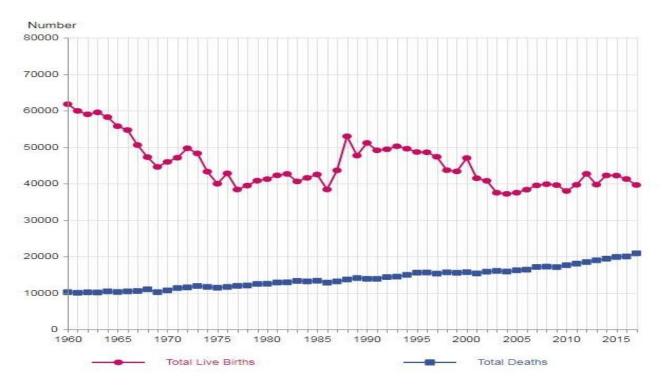
A governer talking about the aging problems.

Url: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mWa_u3qS1AA

Access date: 2 April 2018



Number of Births and Deaths



Article title:

Statistics Singapore - Number of Births

and Deaths

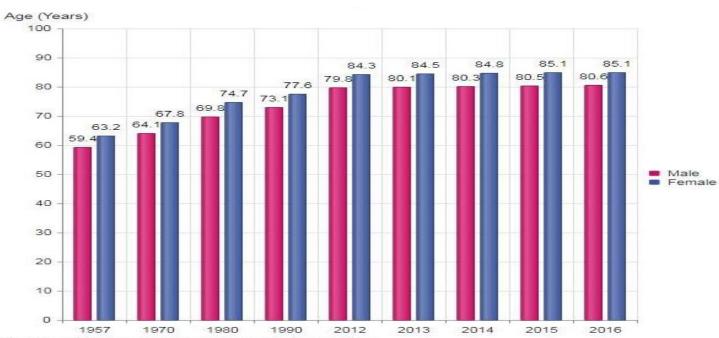
Website title:

Singstat.gov.sg

URL:

https://www.singstat.gov.sg/statistics/visu alising-data/charts/number-of-births-and-deaths

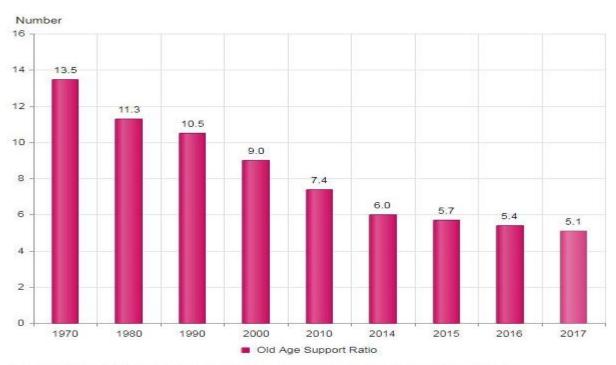
Life Expectancy



Article title:
Statistics Singapore - Life
Expectancy at Birth
Website title:
Singstat.gov.sg
URL:
https://www.singstat.gov.sg/statistics/visualising-data/charts/life-expectancy-at-birth

*Data from 1980 onwards refer to the resident population. Data for the latest available year are preliminary.

Old Age Support Ratio



Article title:
Statistics Singapore - Resident
Old-Age Support Ratio
Website title:
Singstat.gov.sg
URL:
https://www.singstat.gov.sg/statisti
cs/visualising-data/charts/old-age-s
upport-ratio

^{*}Old Age Support Ratio refers to residents aged 20-64 years per resident aged 65 years & over.

Changing Age Demographics

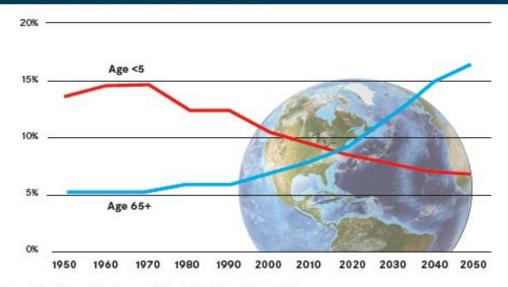


Article title:
Statistics Singapore Age Pyramid of
Resident Population
Website title:
Singstat.gov.sg
URL:
https://www.singstat.go
v.sg/statistics/visualisin
g-data/charts/age-pyra
mid-of-resident-populati
on

www.singstat.gov.sg

Comparison between the number of young children and older people globally

FIGURE 1: YOUNG CHILDREN AND OLDER PEOPLE AS A PERCENTAGE OF THE GLOBAL POPULATION: 1950-20501



Source: World Population Prospects: The 2010 Revision, United Nations.
Adapted from Global Health & Aging, World Health Organization, 2011.

Article title:

young children and older people as a percentage of the global population -

Google Search

Website title:

Google.com.sg

URL:

https://www.google.com.sg/search?q=youn g+children+and+older+people+as+a+perce ntage+of+the+global+population&rlz=1C1C HBD_enSG724SG724&source=lnms&tbm=i sch&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwijipu6y5vaAhWJ Po8KHVslBZIQ_AUICygC&biw=1600&bih=794#imgrc=fHyEDEmFc-3DGM:

Hospital Rates by Age and Gender

2014

Age Group	Acute Hospitals 1			Psychiatric Hospitals			Community Hospitals 2		
(Years)	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
0 - 14	126.6	109.4	118.2	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0
15 - 64	71.0	80.0	75-5	3.0	1.7	2.3	0.6	0.5	0.6
65 & Above	347.7	299.9	321.4	2.0	1.5	1.7	14.4	16.7	15.6

Acute hospital admission for 65 years and above has increased by 5.1% in 2 years

(Rate Per 1,000 Resident Popul									
Age Group	Acute Hospitals ¹			Psychiatric Hospitals			Community Hospitals ²		
(Years)	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
0 - 14	142.0	121.4	131.9	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1
15 - 64	81.4	88.5	85.0	2.9	1.5	2.2	1.1	0.8	0.9
65 & Above	366.5	314.0	337-8	2.0	1.4	1.7	20.2	23.2	21.9

Article title:

Hospital Admission Rates* by Age and Sex, 2014 | Ministry of Health

Website title:

Moh.gov.sg

URL:

https://www.moh.gov.sg/conte nt/moh_web/home/statistics/he althcare_institutionstatistics/ho spital_admissionratesbyagean dsex/Hospital_Admission_Rate s_by_Age_and_Sex_2014.htm

Article title:Hospital Admission Rates* by Age and Sex, 2016p | Ministry of HealthWebsite title:Moh.gov.sgURL:https://www.moh.gov.sg/content/moh_web/home/statistics/healthcare_institutionstatistics/hospital_admissionratesby ageandsex/Hospital Admission Rates by Age and Sex 2016P.html

Therefore, in the future, taking care of the elderly and keeping them healthy will be a big issue.

Visit Findings.

Analysed Findings of Doctor's interviews

We have learnt from our interview with a geriatrician that old people are extremely prone to falling sick and falling down. Generally, she looks at the whole picture and tries to improve their quality of life, by educating their caregivers.

Analysed Findings of Doctor's interviews

She also works with other allied health professional nurses specialising in physiotherapy to improve the quality of life for the old people.

However...

There is a decrease in the number of people willing to help out as caregivers and trained doctors to take care of old people. There is also a growing population of old people.

Therefore,

The government has proposed many incentives and programmes to promote a healthy life and to keep the elderly out of the hospital as much as possible.

Our request to interview her.

I am Yi Kai and I would like to know if u r free thus friday in the afternoon for us to meet for a project that my classmates n I have to do. We r doing abt the aging population so we need your help to interview u. I would also to know if u will be ok with us taking videos of it or taking some pictures of the interview and stuff. 20:02 🗸 Come to clinic ok? Thx I'll ask them 20:04 Yep we can we have confirmed n will send the lists of qn asap Ok. See you Friday. Estimated time is 30 minutes ok? 30-45min can? We may be slightly shorter tho 20:44 🗸 N can we record the interview too? 30 minutes ok? Then recording leh? 1:During this unit's first battle Like not video 20:45

3:30 ok?

20:03

So, we went to an old folks home to interview them.

We went to the Lion's Befrienders at Bendeemer Road, which is run by an old boy. The elderly there usually have the usual problems, like high blood pressure and diabetes. The owner also says that the government is trying to promote a healthy lifestyle with programmes, like fitting handle bars in the toilet

The elderly exercise in the centre regularly and some even go outside to exercise, which is extremely good. The owner also believes that walking devices are good for safety but they also need to exercise to not lose their muscle mass.

However,

There are always not enough people that volunteer and with the aging population, the amount of people in the centre will increase and they will need more volunteers.

All in all,

They need to have a positive mindset to be happy and not be too concerned on what is coming for them. Diets are extremely important too, even more important than exercise, but the cost is very menacing.

Picture of fall prevention toilets

Pictures of toilets taken at a senior activity centre near Bendemeer



Pictures of exercise equipment for elderly

Pictures of exercise equipments taken outside the senior activity centre



Futuristic scenario

Step into the future year of 2040. In this new era, we will see a much greater number of old people and a increase in the cost of living.

Many of them suffering from health problems such as dementia, diabetes and even alzheimer's disease, despite the advancement in technology.

They are more prone to falling and will have a weak immune system, thus falling sick easily.

But, we need more people to support them!

However, birth rates in Singapore have been decreasing these years, meaning that there will be lesser working population to support and care for ageing population.

Many of the elderly will have retired at around their mid sixties, but will be living till about 80+, 90 years old, some even longer.

Living on their CPF for so many years will leave them with almost nothing in their last few years.

They will not be willing to spend their money on medical attention due to the high costs even after subsidy, so they have to stay healthy in order not to need to see a doctor

Diet plays an important role on one's health but eating healthily comes at a higher cost than just eating unhealthy food. Therefore, they might opt for an unhealthy meal just to save that small amount of money.

It then would not be ideal for the government to invest so much money just to keep the elderly safe and healthy by installing grab-bars and non-slip floor tiles in their houses and setting up senior centres for them

they themselves are not aware of how to stay safe and healthy even though the implementations are a necessity.

Without them, the elderly will fall easily, breaking their brittle bones.

They will then need to seek urgent medical help which costs a huge amount of money. As a result, straining the government's resources.

Our ageing population retires at an average age of 63 years old, many will feel bored at home with nothing to do.

They will start thinking wild thoughts, which increases the risk of depression and other psychological illnesses.

This harms their emotional wellbeing and they think that they are useless to the world and will only be a burden to the family.

This eventually might lead to them being suicidal if not stopped in time.

The End.

Thank you for your kind attention.

Q&A?