An Ageing Hong Kong: Challenges and Opportunities

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HKJC Centre for Suicide Research and Prevention
The University of Hong Kong

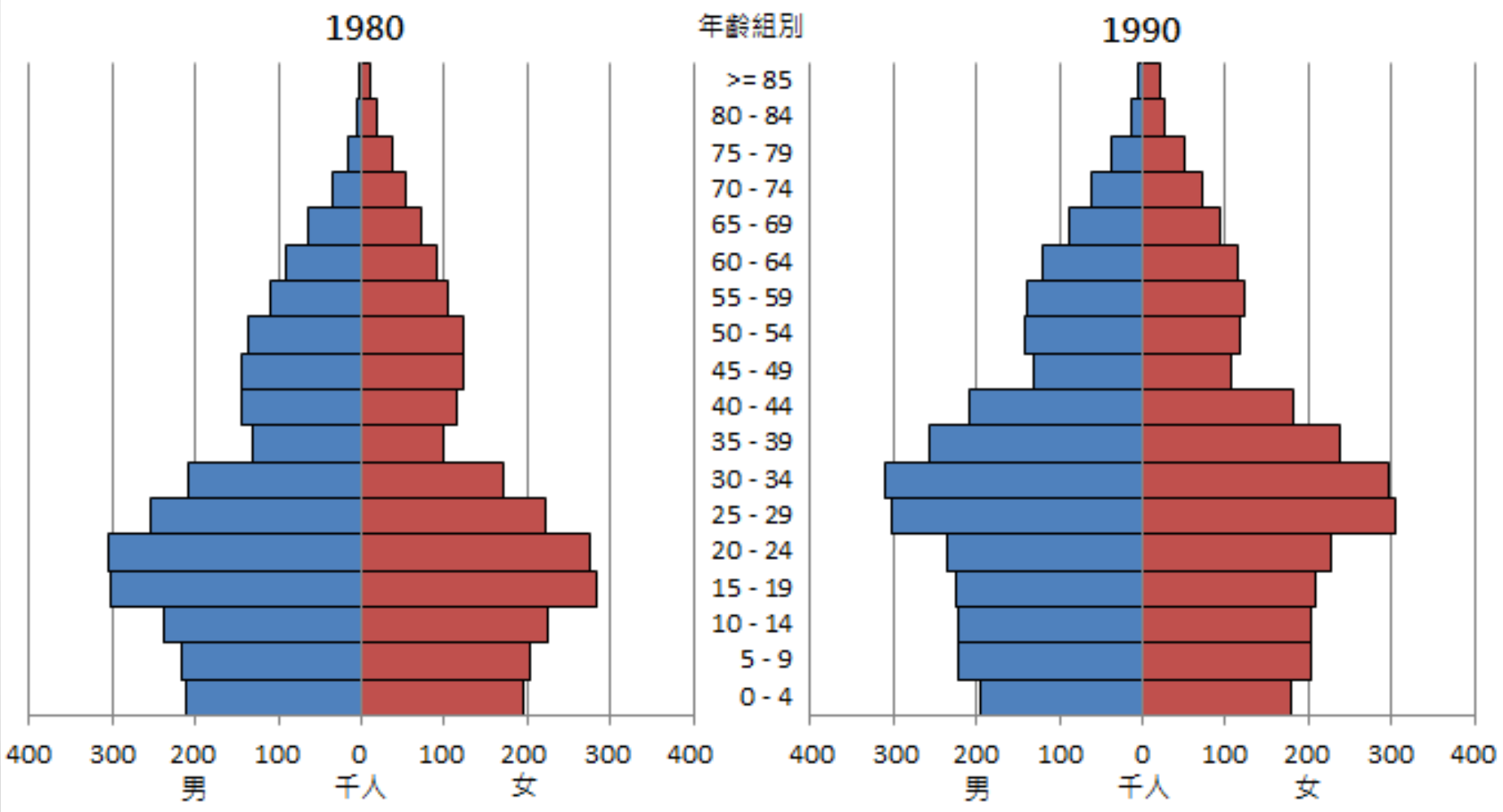
for

CUHK Centre for Bioethics Launch Conference

9th Jan, 2015

Panel discussion: Changing Demographics and Health Status in Global Cities

Past


1980
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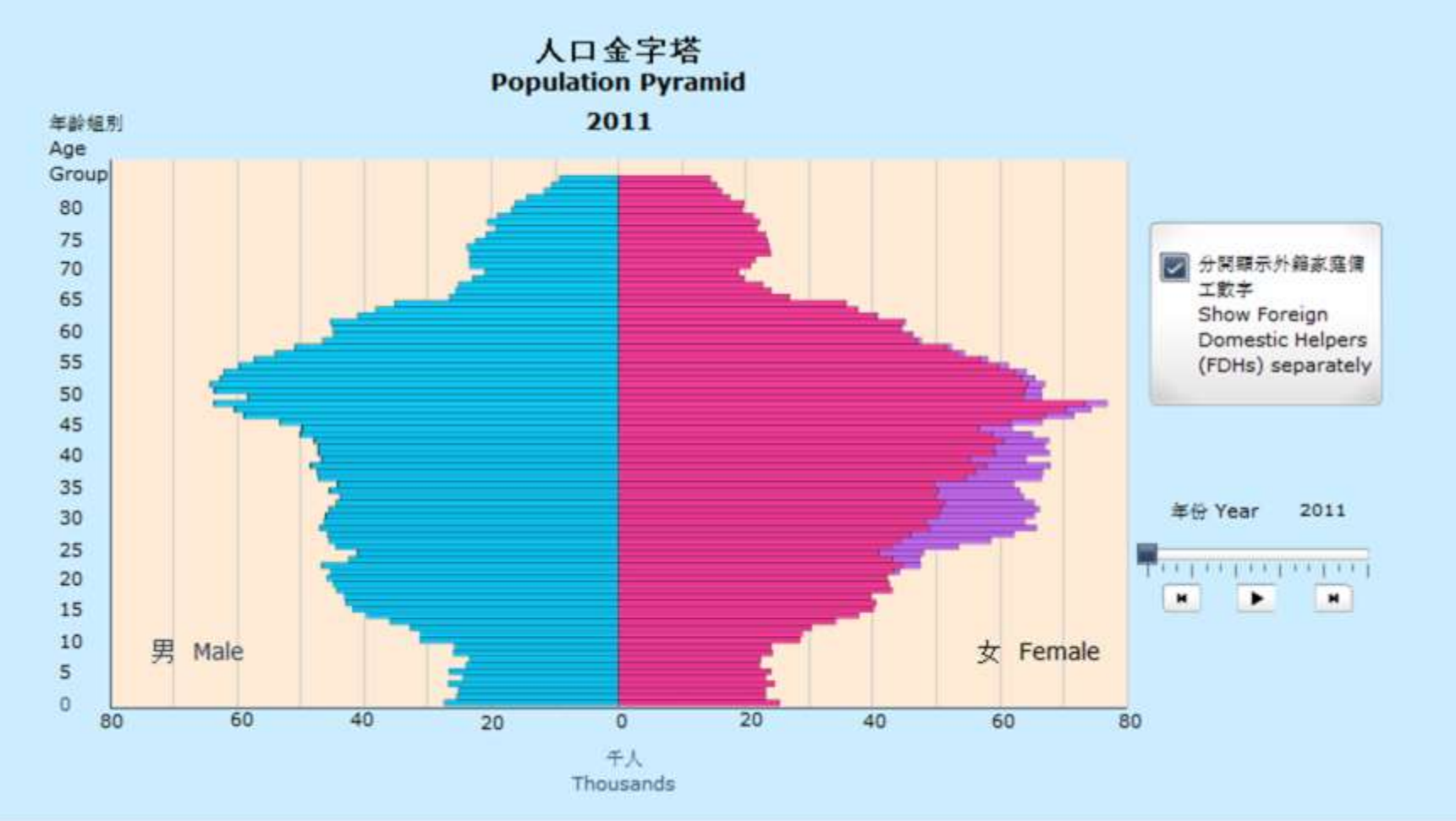
Present


人口金字塔
Population Pyramid
2011
年齡組別
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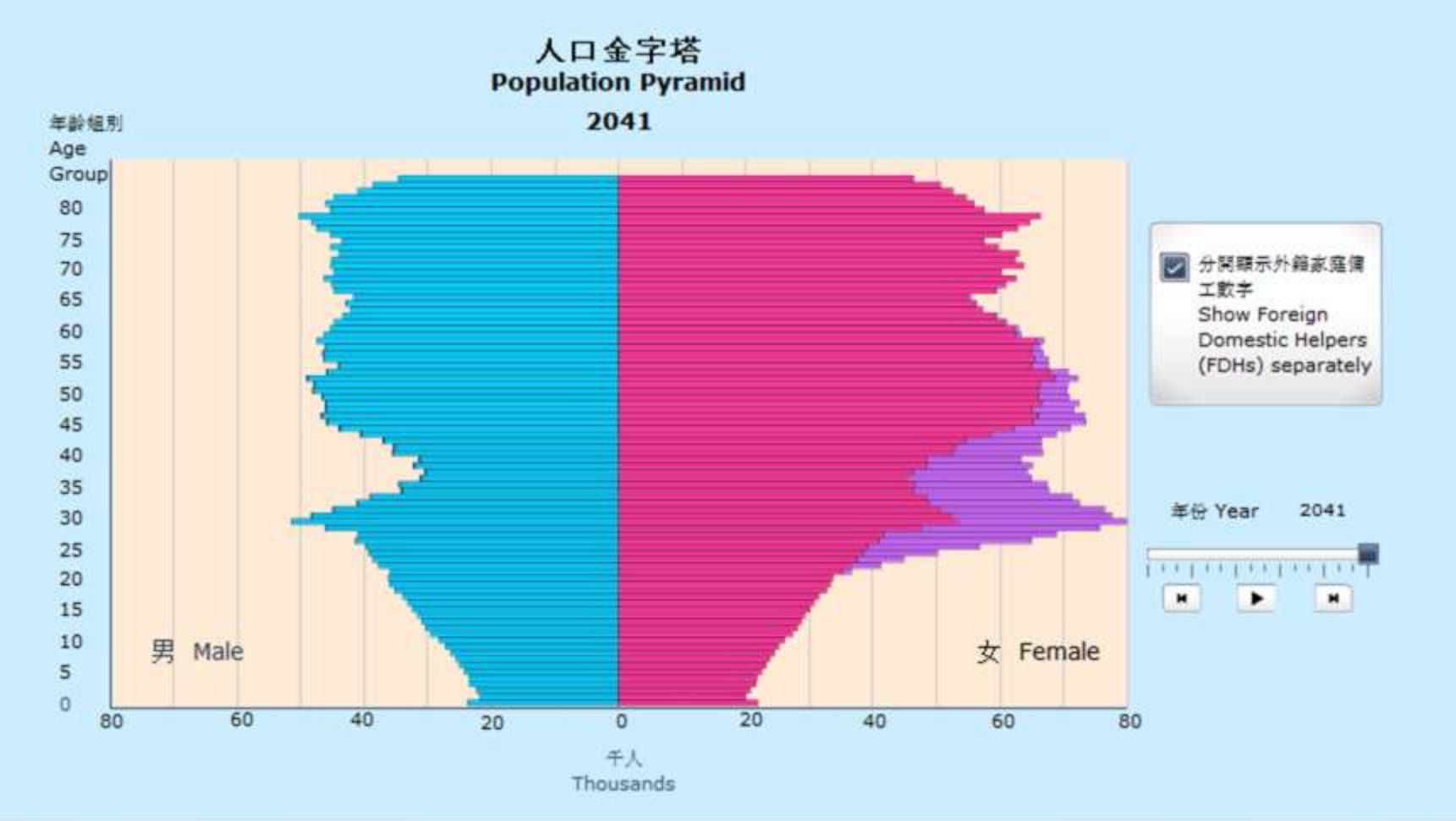
Thousands
分開顯示外籍家庭傭工數字
Show Foreign Domestic Helpers (FDHs) separately
年份 Year
2011

Future


人口金字塔
Population Pyramid
2041
年齡組別
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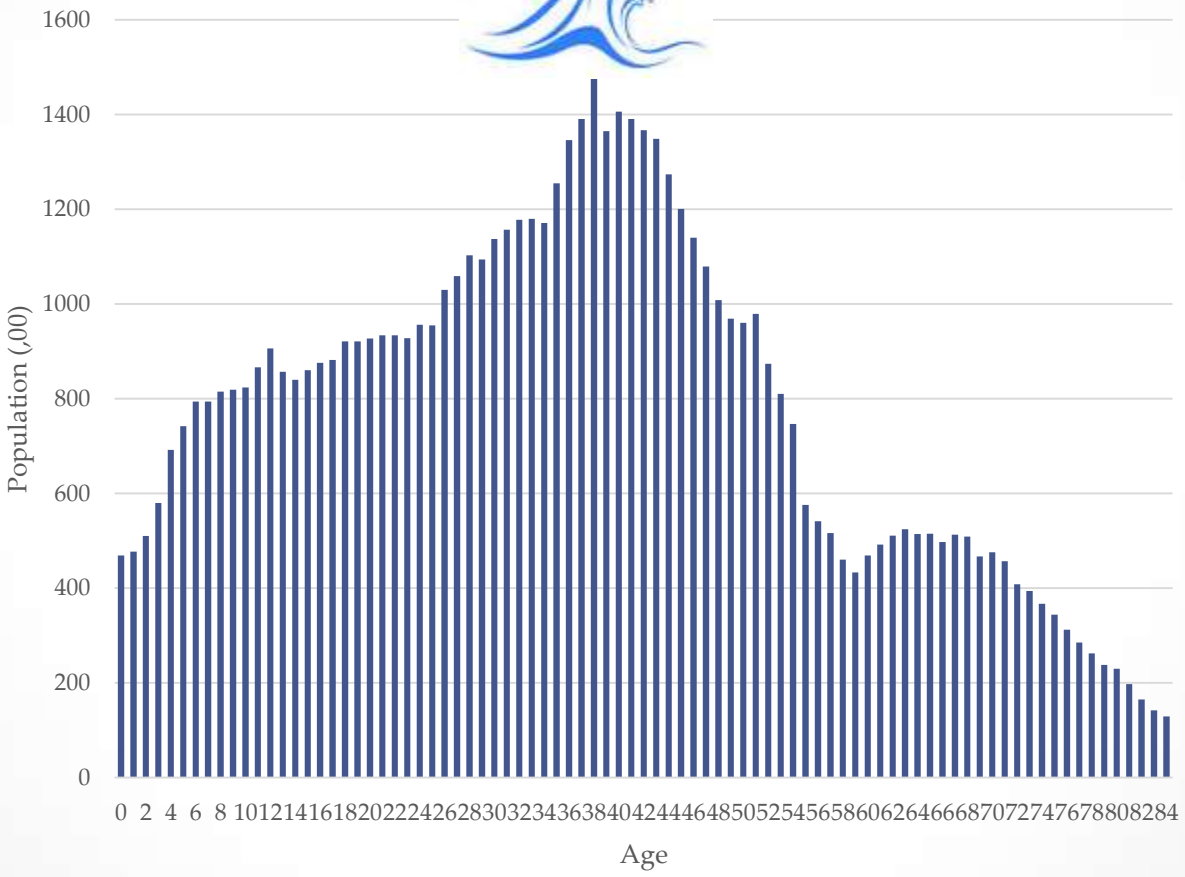
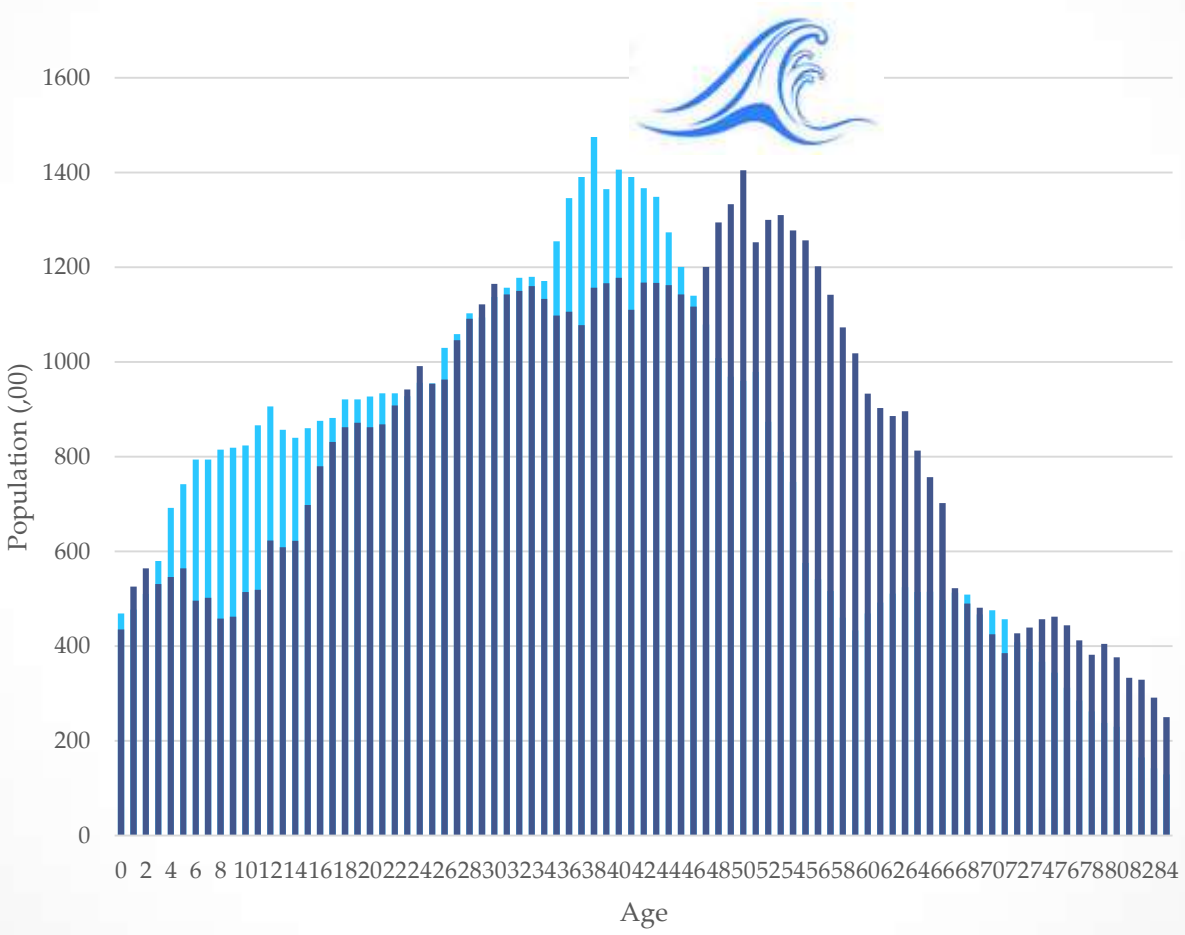
Thousands
分開顯示外籍家庭傭工數字
Show Foreign Domestic Helpers (FDHs) separately
年份 Year
2041

2001



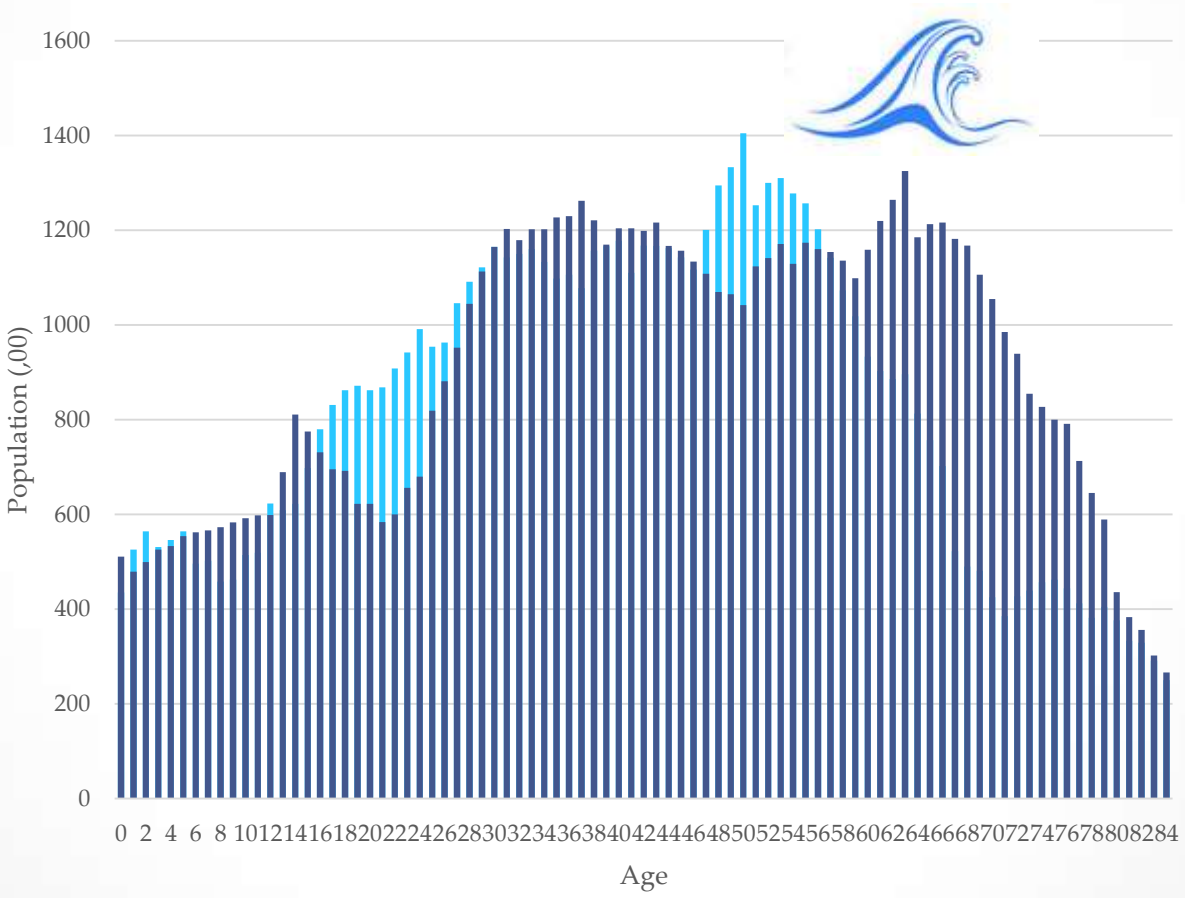
Source: Census and Statistical Department

2013



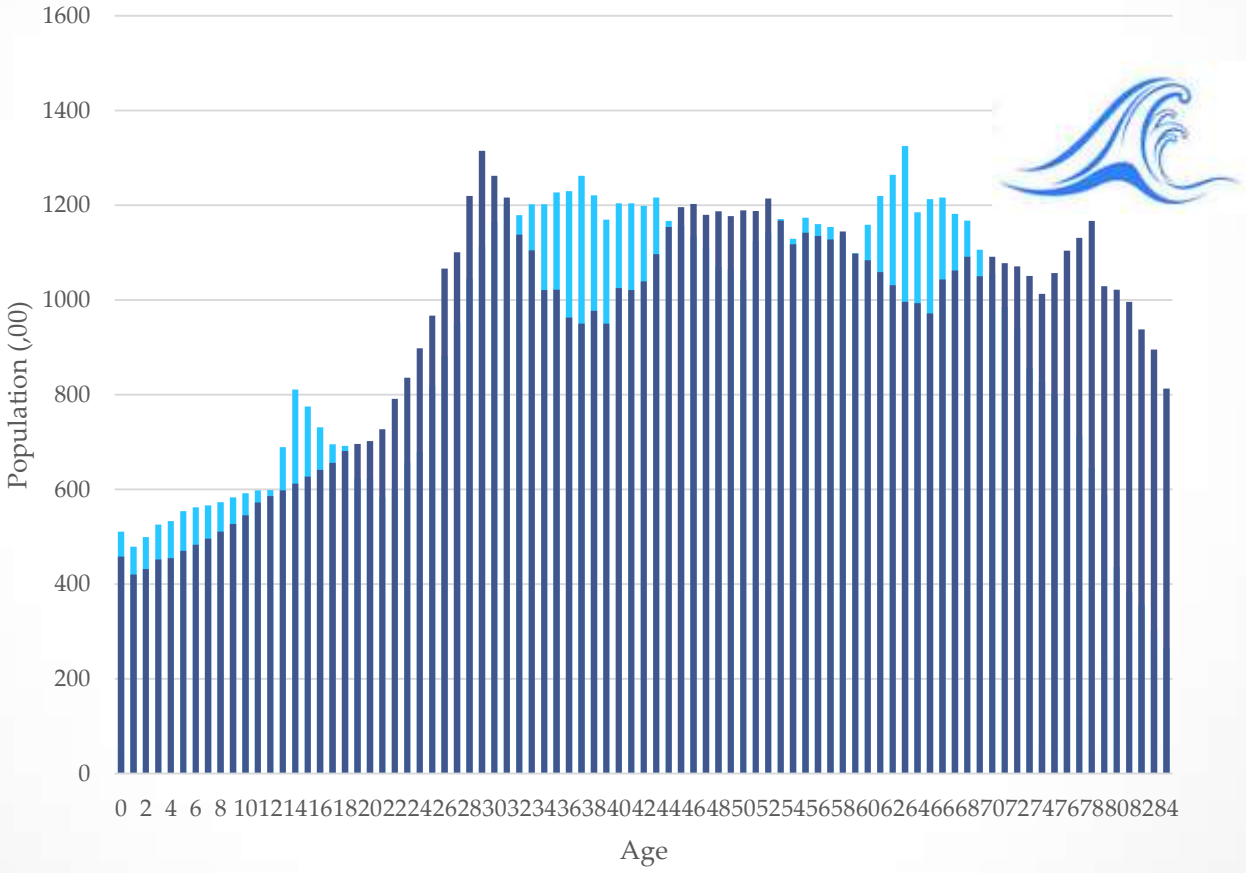
Source: Census and Statistical Department

2026



Source: Census and Statistical Department

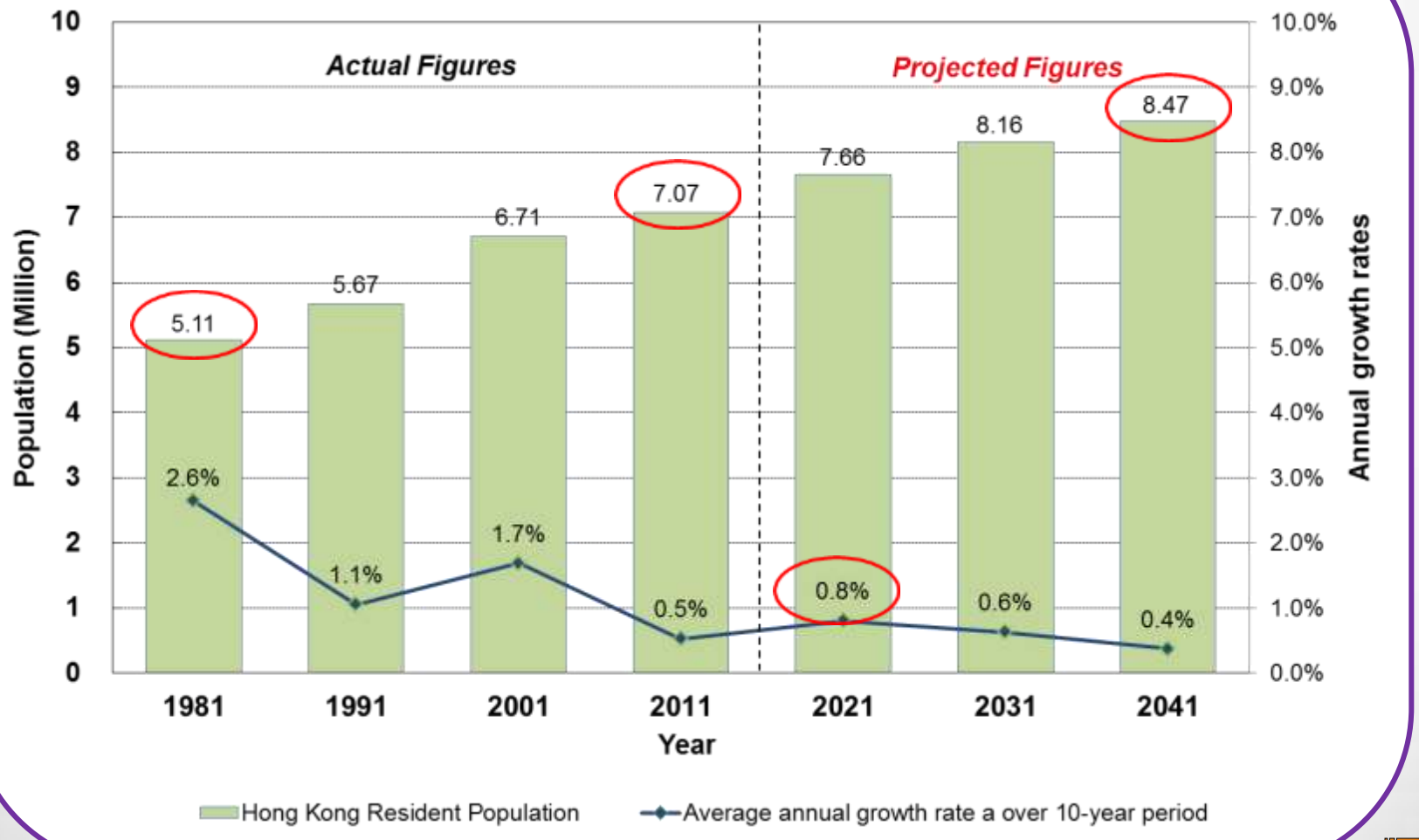
2041



Source: Census and Statistical Department

Population Size

- Growth rate of Hong Kong population moderating over time.

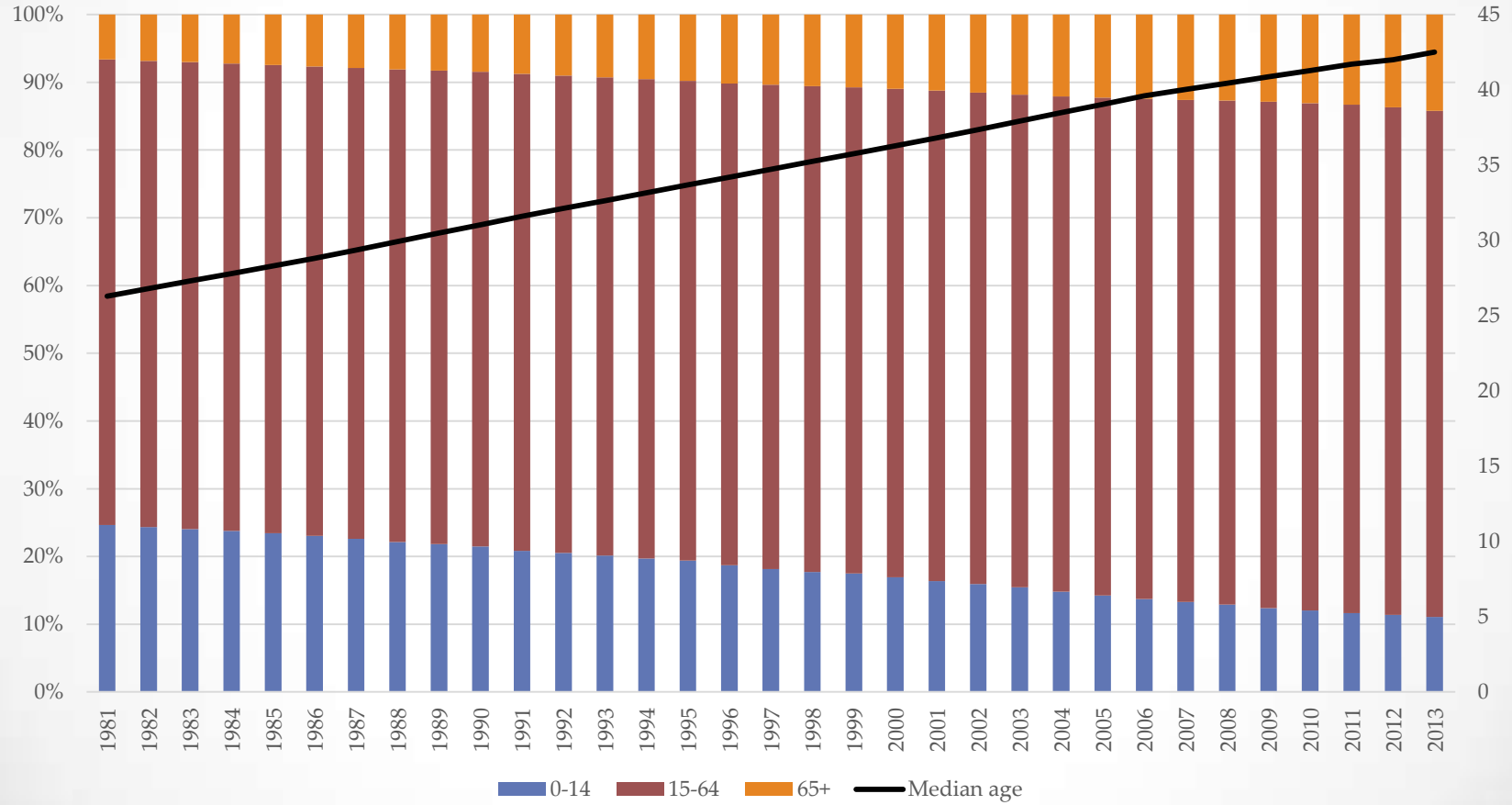


Age Structure

- Hong Kong population experiencing an accelerating ageing trend.

	Actual			Projected		
	1991	**2001**	**2011**	**2021**	**2031**	**2041**
The proportion of the population aged 65+	9%	11%	13%	19%	26%	30%
The proportion of the population aged <15	21%	17%	12%	11%	10%	9%
The median age of the population	31.5	36.7	41.7	45.1	47.7	49.9

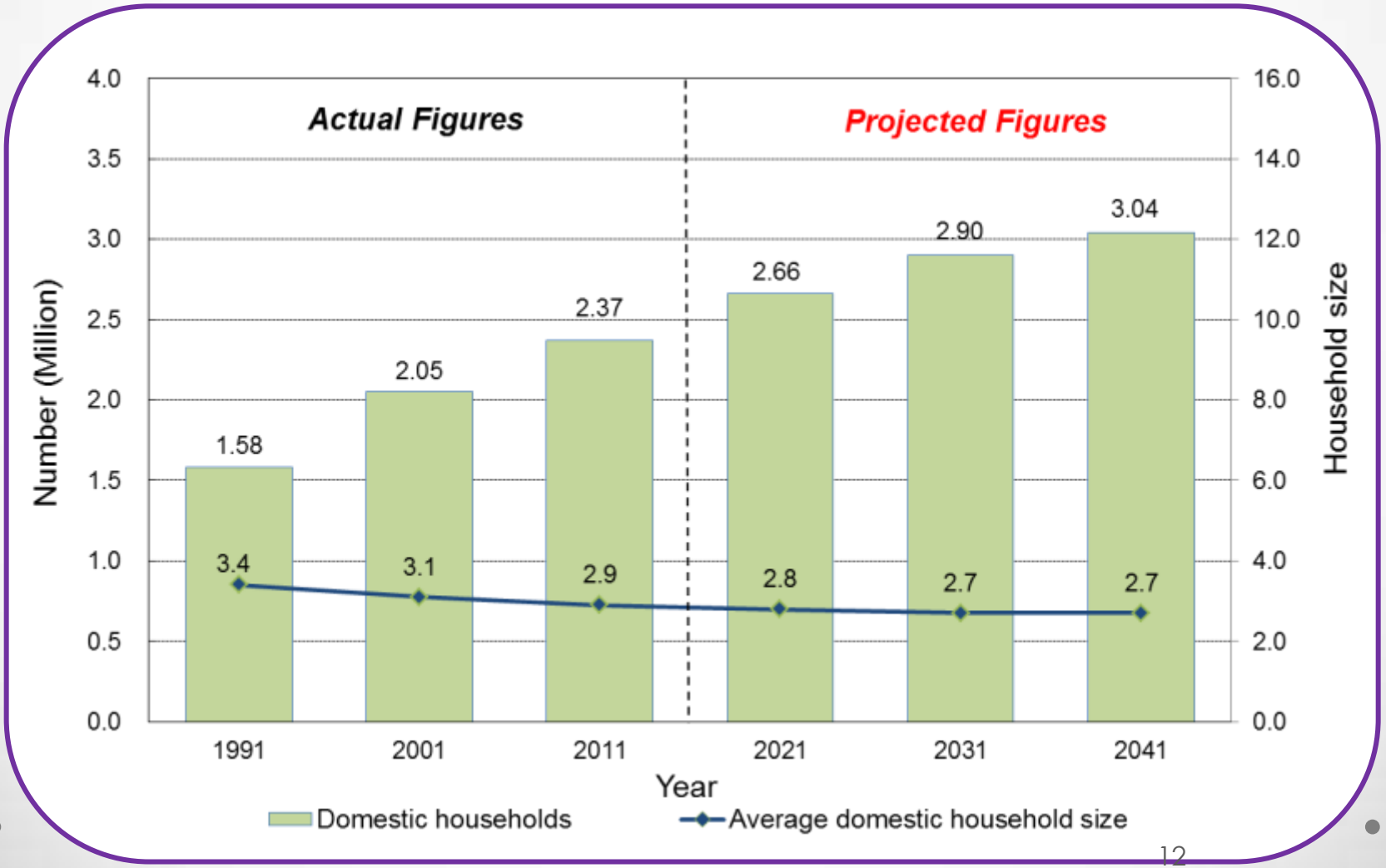
Age structure (1981-2013)



Source: Census and Statistical Department

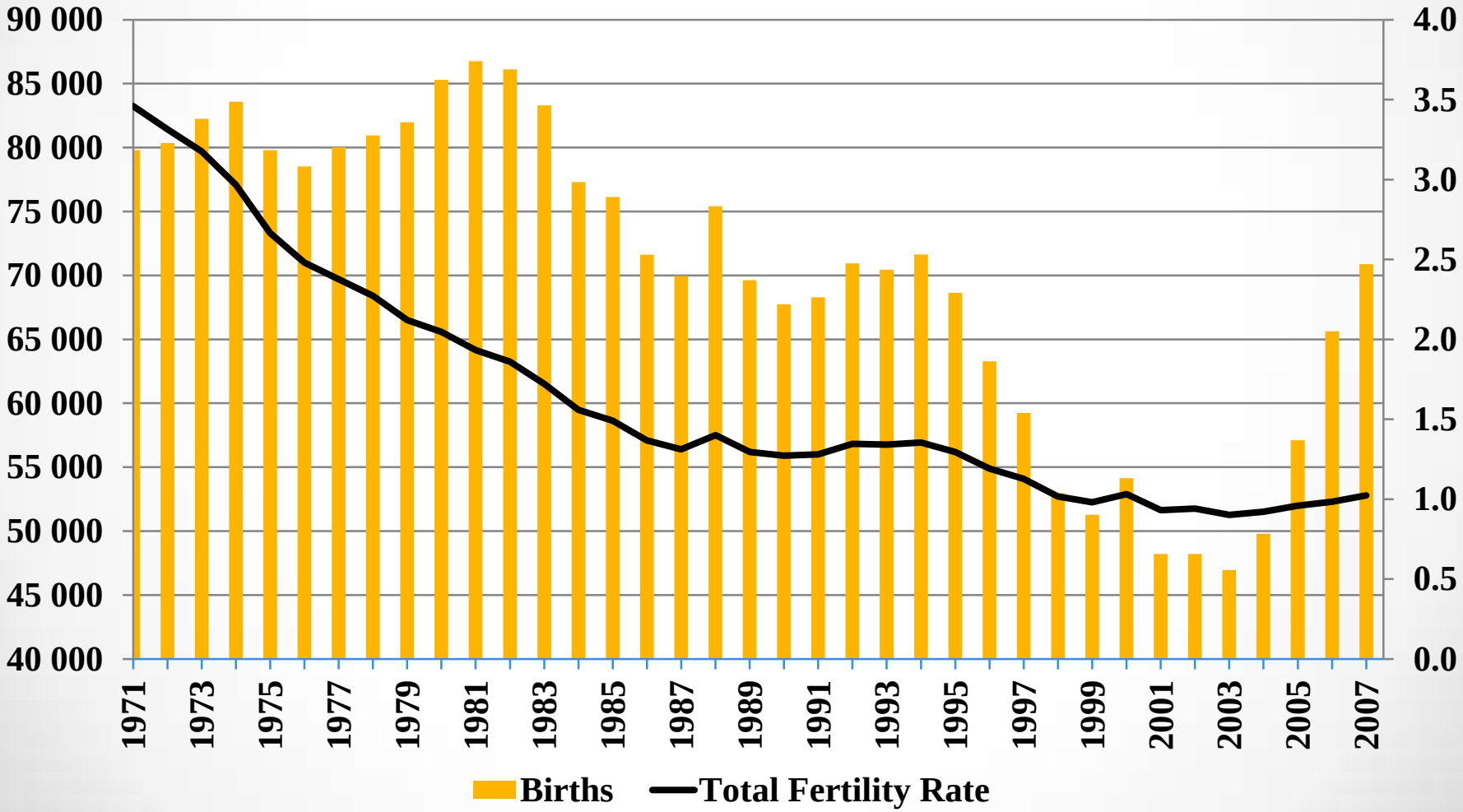
Domestic Households

- A continuous trend towards smaller households leading to the number of domestic households increasing at a faster rate than the population.

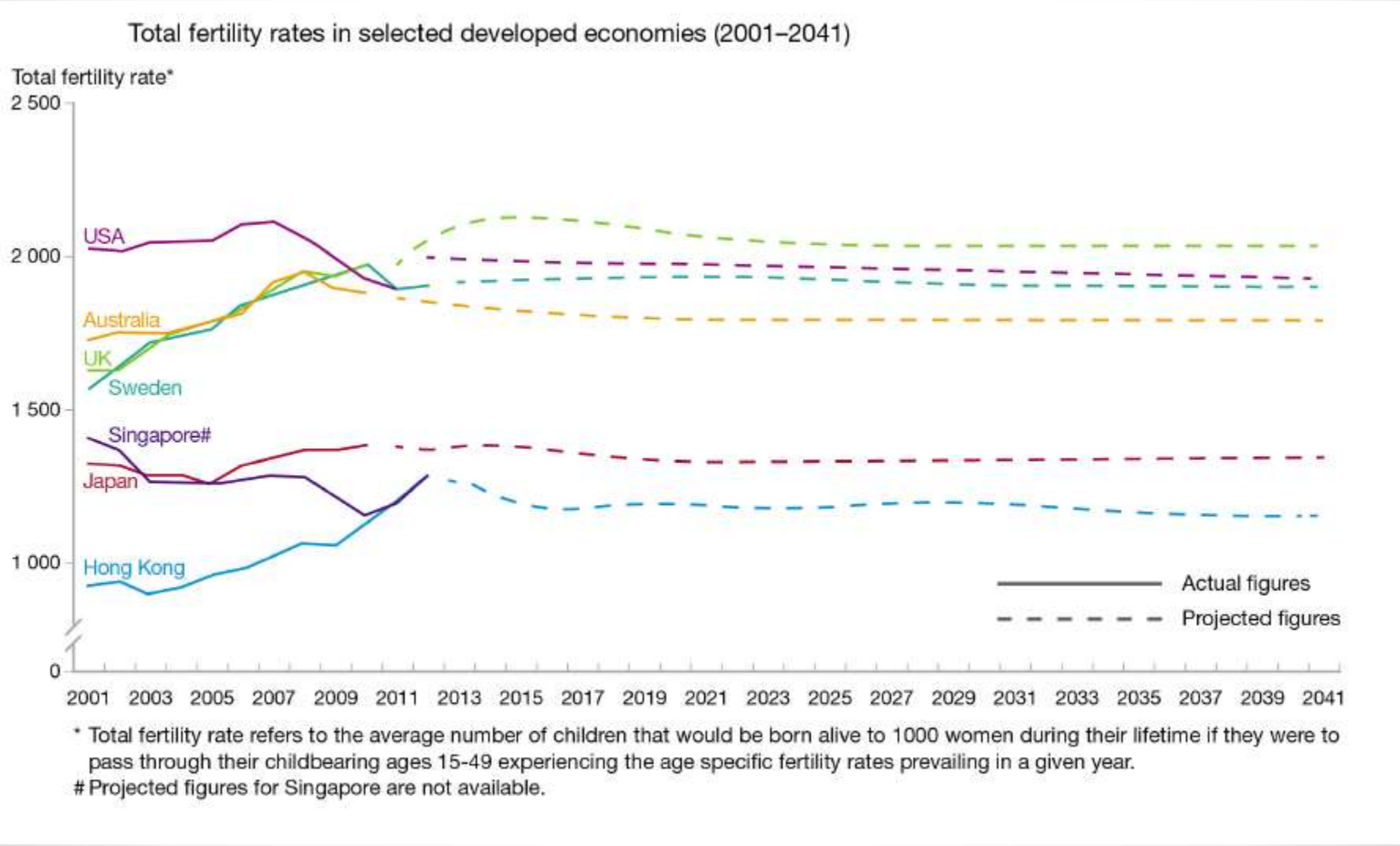


Babies vs Pets

Birth Rate and Total Fertility Rate



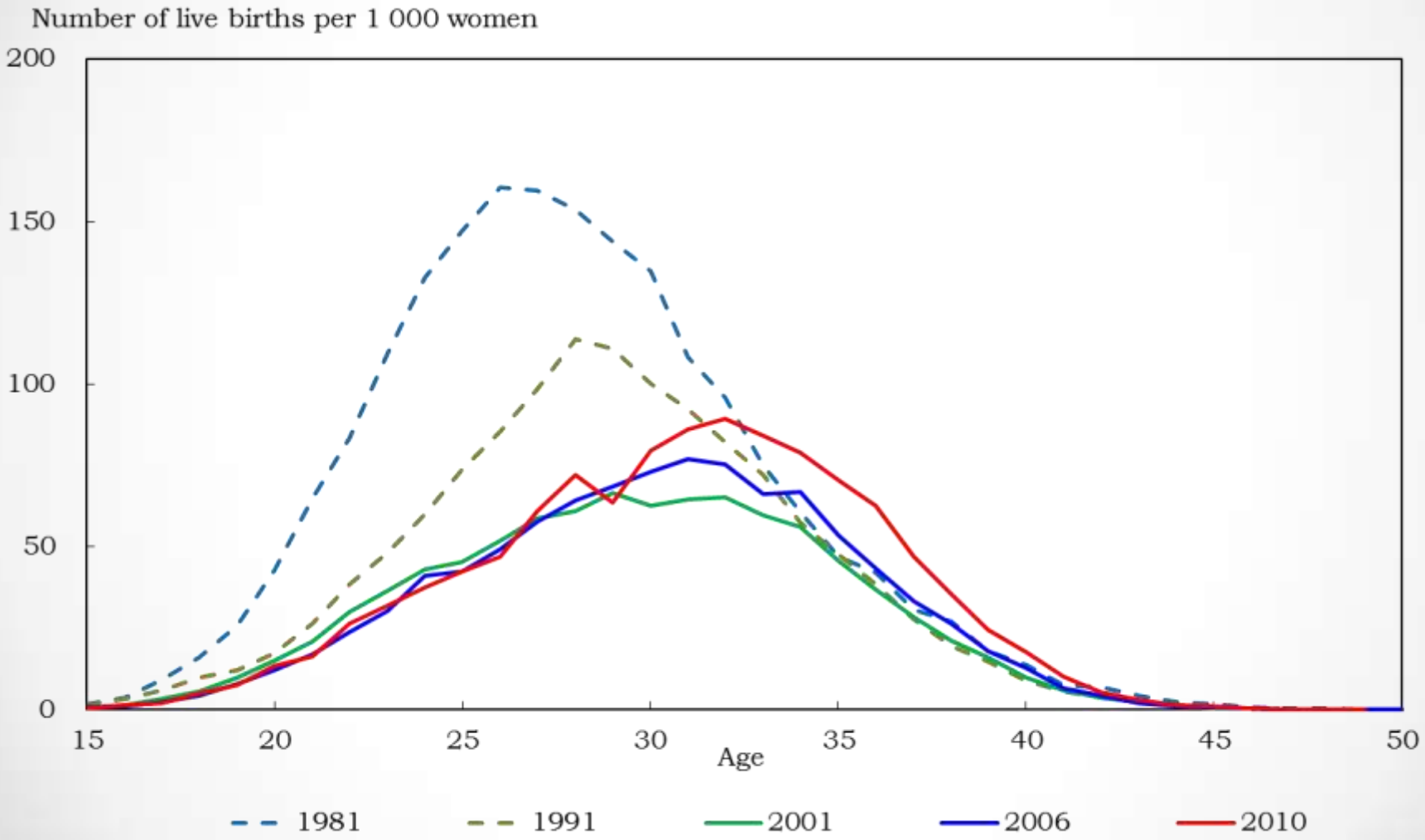
Total Fertility rates



* Total fertility rate refers to the average number of children that would be born alive to 1000 women during their lifetime if they were to pass through their childbearing ages 15-49 experiencing the age specific fertility rates prevailing in a given year.

Projected figures for Singapore are not available.

Age Specific Fertility Rates



- Source: Demographic Statistics Section, Census and Statistics Department

Tempo effect vs. Quantum effect

- Tempo effect versus Quantum effect

- Not tempo. But real Quantum effect.

- **Speed (速度)** and **magnitude (力度)** of th reduction of the fertilit rate

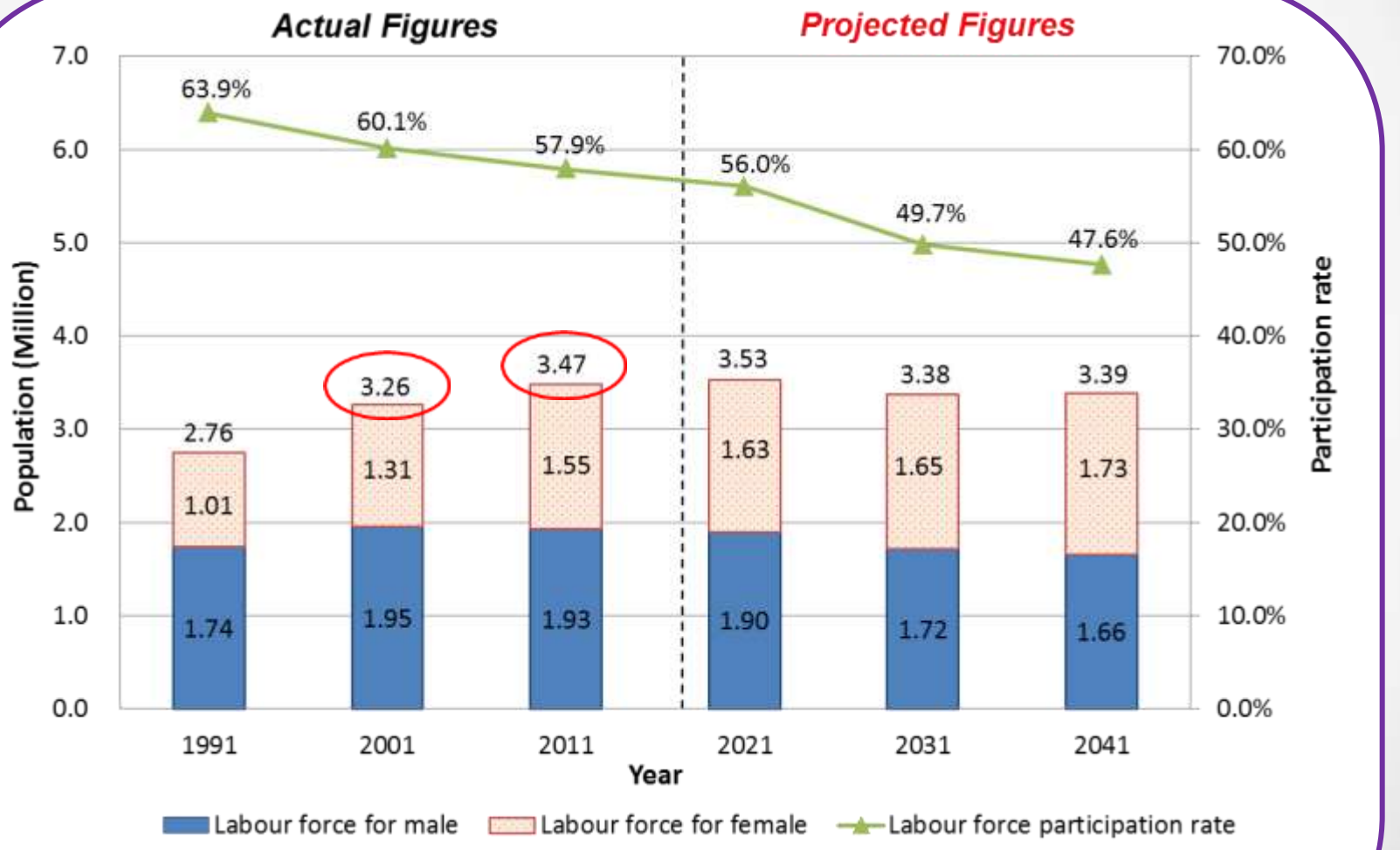
Birth and Fertility

- Various factors contributing to the decreasing fertility trend.

Main factors for the decreasing fertility trend	1981	1991	2001	2011
(a) Marriage postponement				
- Proportion of aged 25-29 married women	69%	54%	39%	27%
- Median age at first marriage for women	23.9	26.2	27.5	28.9
(b) **Increased prevalence of spinsterhood**				
- Proportion of aged 45-49 never married women	2%	4%	8%	14%
(c) **Postponement of low-order live births**				
- Proportion of first order live births within 3 years after marriage	90%	70%	60%	70%
(d) **Curtailment of high-order live births**				
- Proportion of third and higher order live births	23%	16%	10%	9%
(e) Increased divorce rates				

Labour Force

- A continuous downward trend in the overall labour force participation rate owing to the ageing effect.

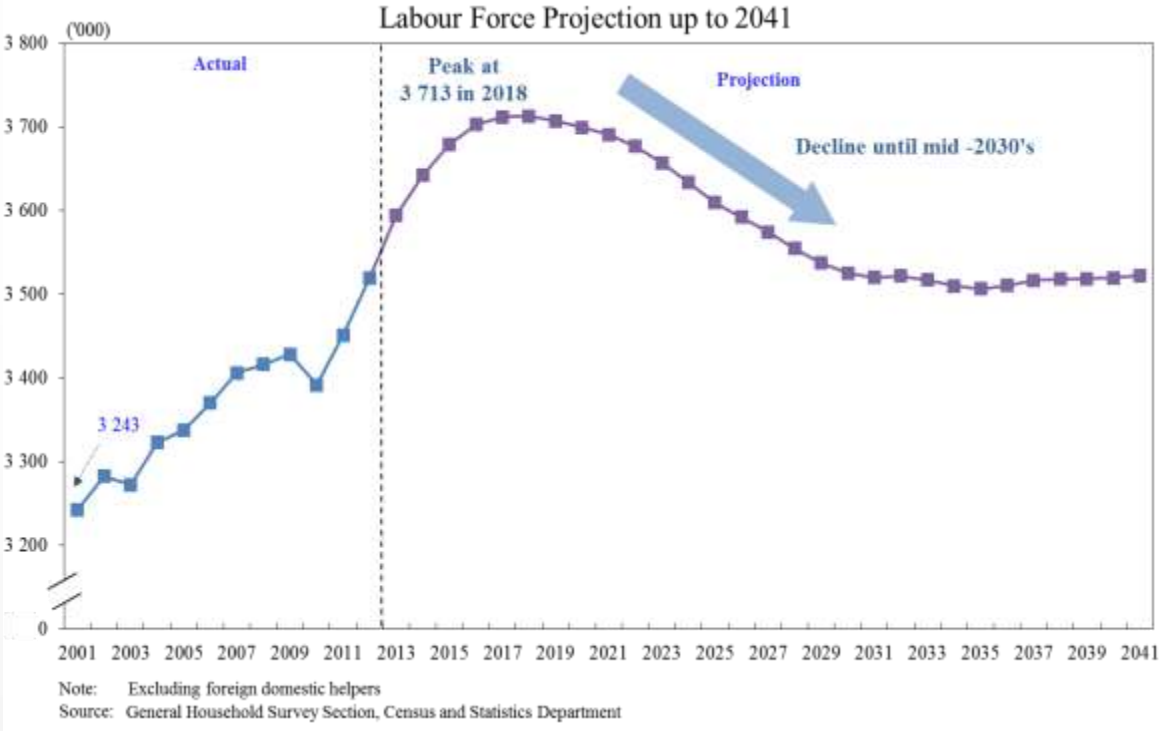


Notes: Excluding foreign domestic helpers.

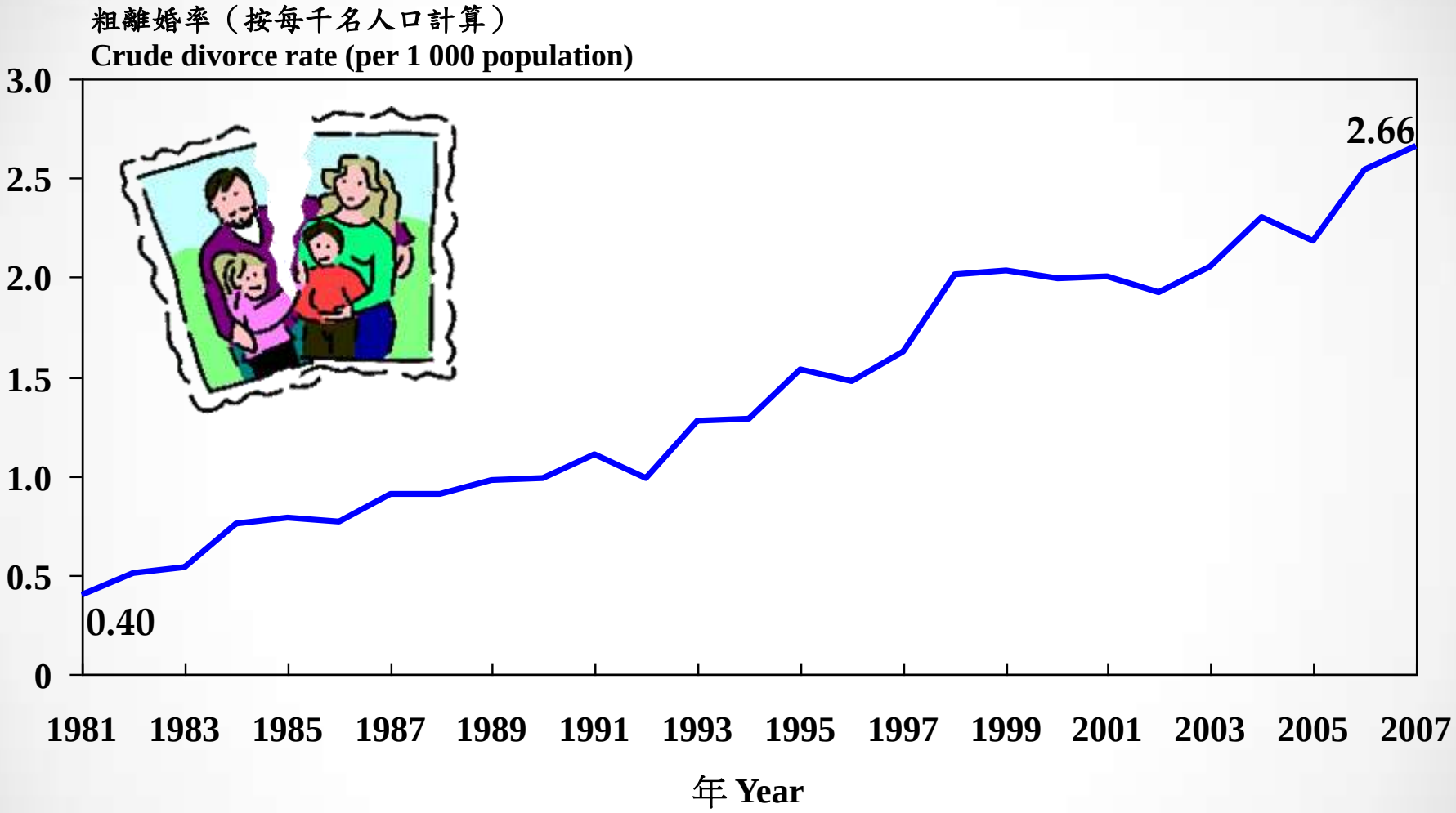
Figures for 2011 and before are based on population censuses/by-censuses, figures after 2011 are based on the Labour Force Projections for 2012 to 2041.

Shrinking Labour Force

- The baby boomer generation will retire in the years ahead. From 2018 onward, our labour force will decline, as retirees leaving the job market outnumber young people starting work

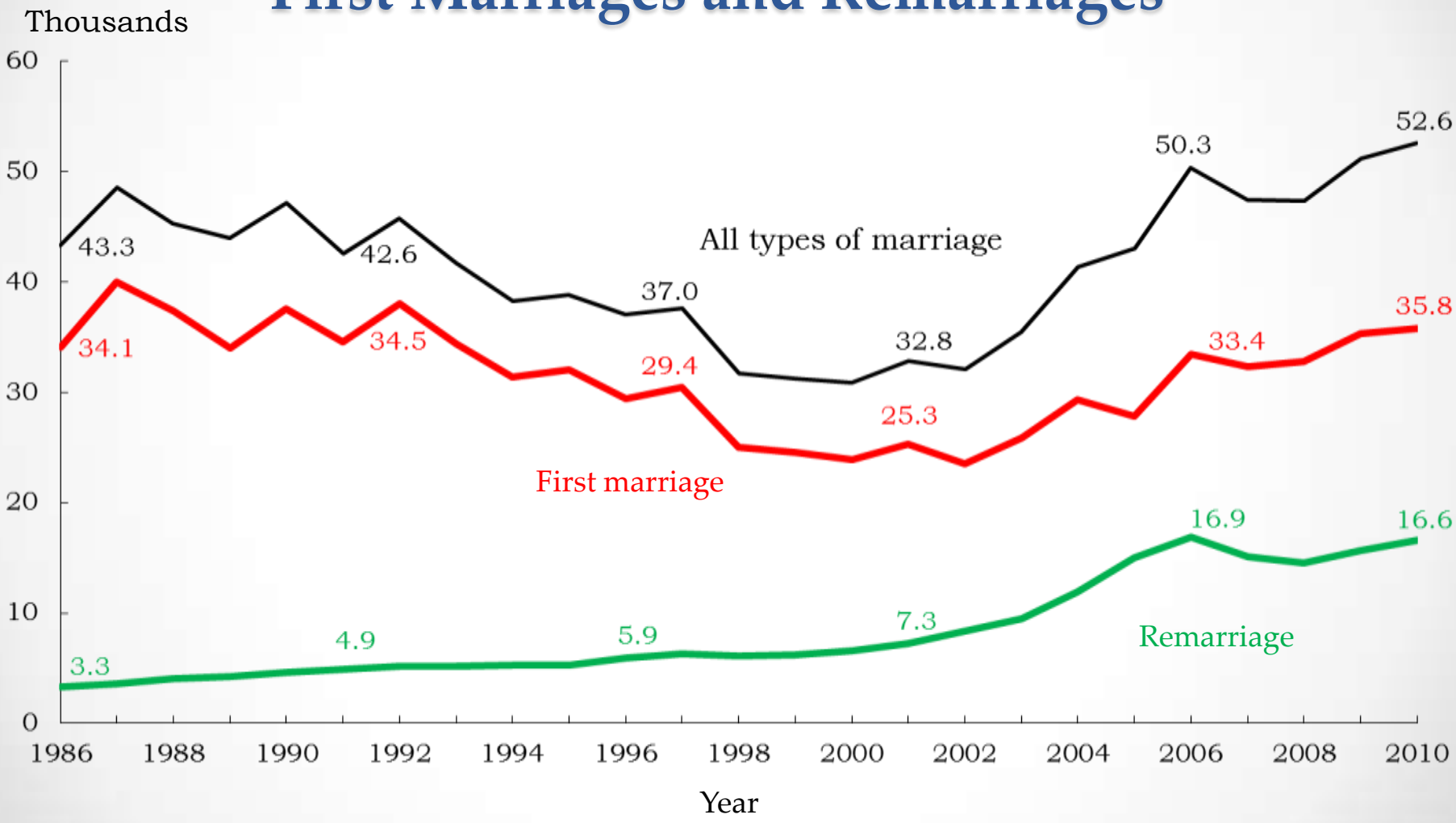


Crude Divorce Rates



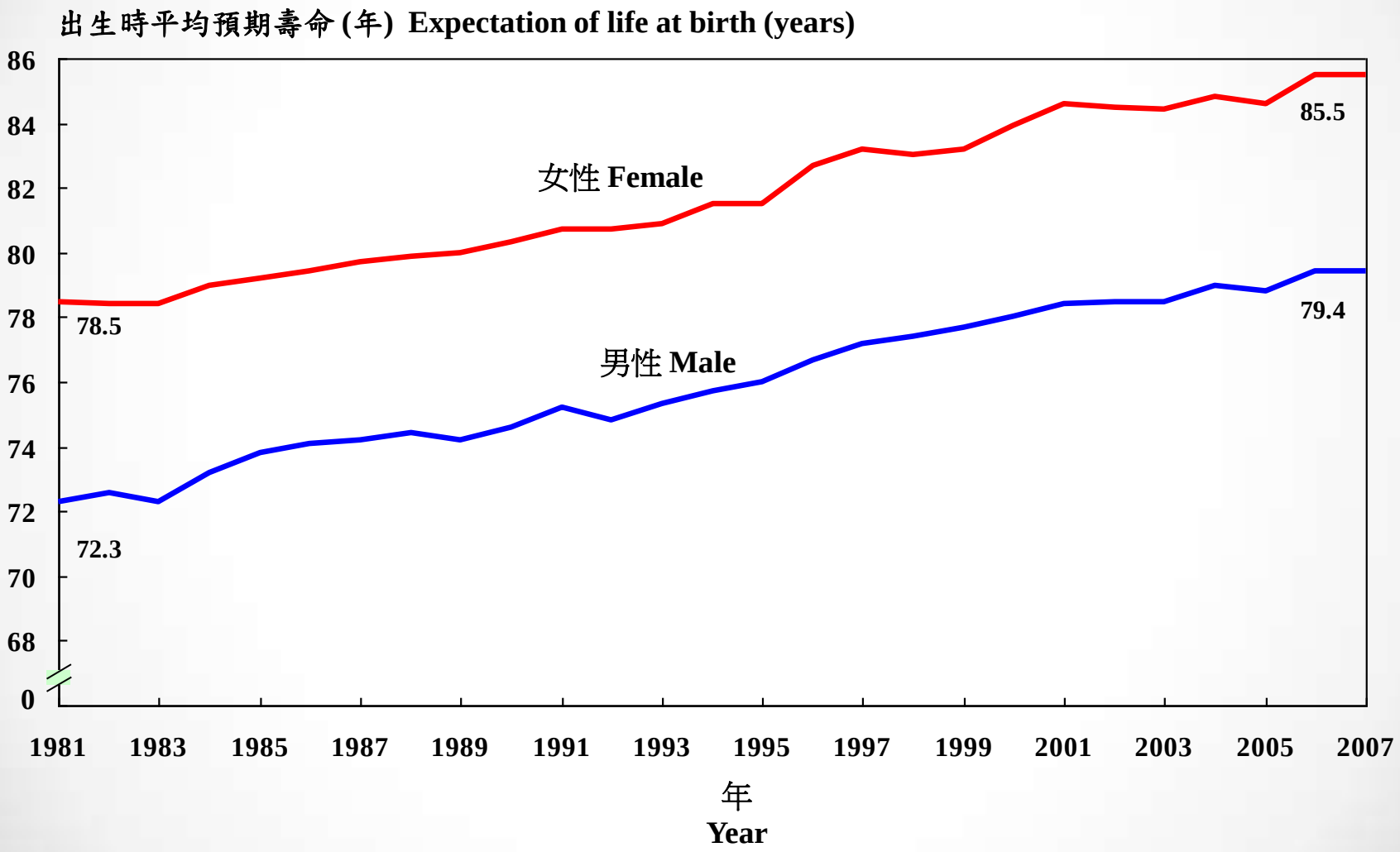
粗離婚率由一九八一年按每千名人口計算的0.40迅速上升至二零零七年的2.66。
The crude divorce rate increased rapidly from 0.40 per 1 000 population in 1981 to 2.66 in 2007.

First Marriages and Remarriages

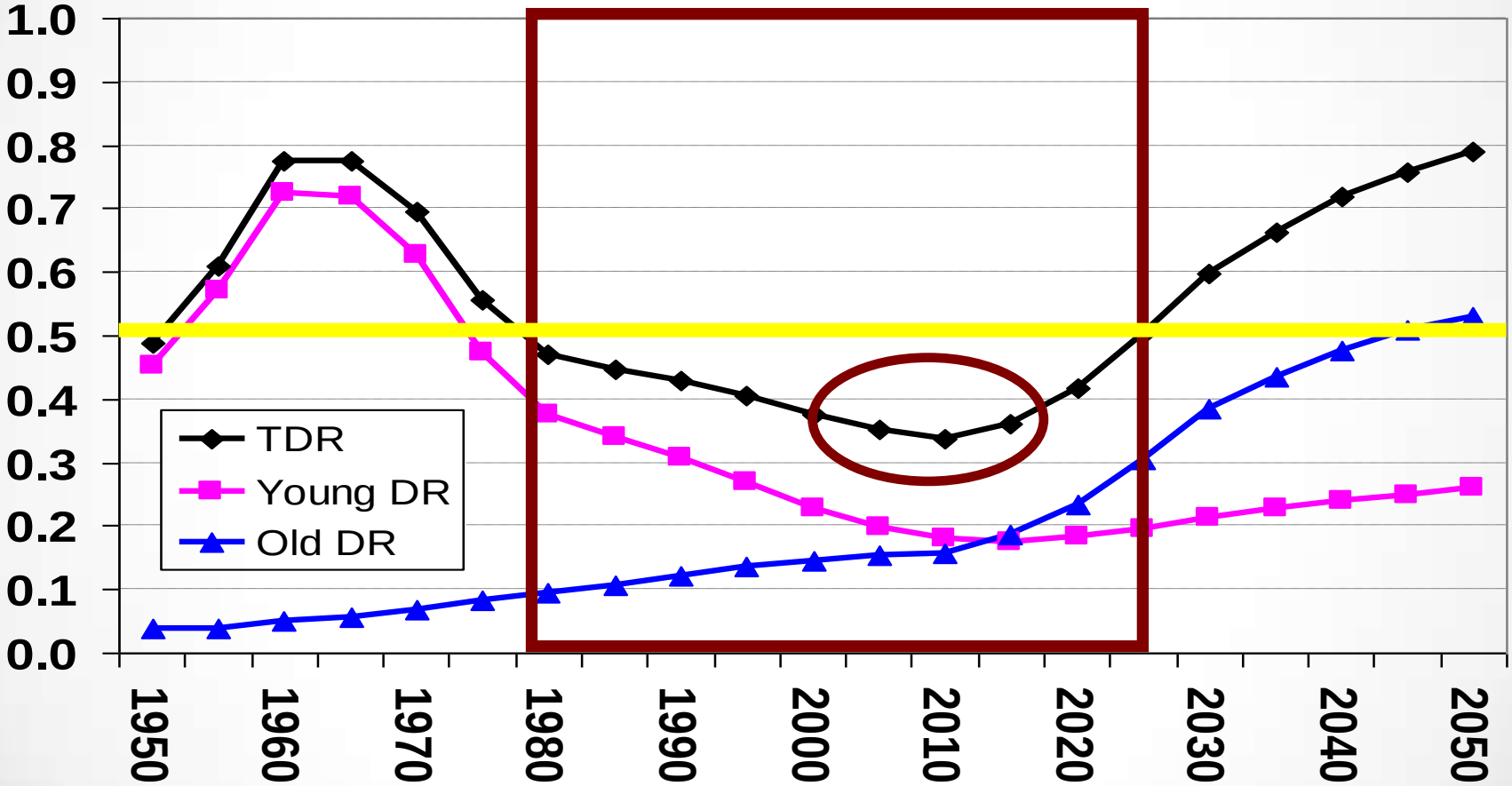


- Source: Demographic Statistics Section, Census and Statistics Department

出生時平均預期壽命
Expectation of Life at Birth



Demographic Window



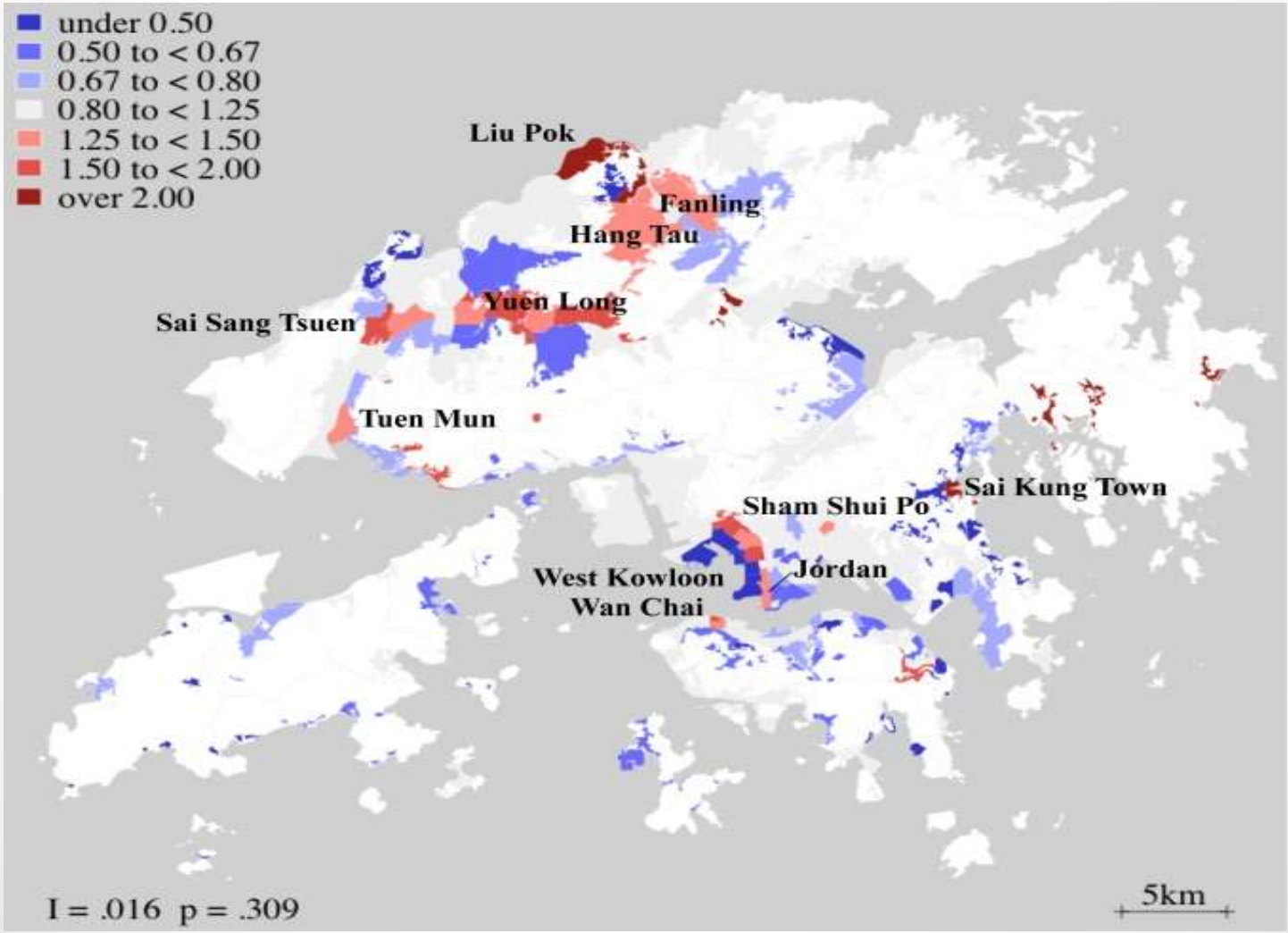
Source: Yip et al. (2010) Asian Population Studies

Socio-economic Characteristics

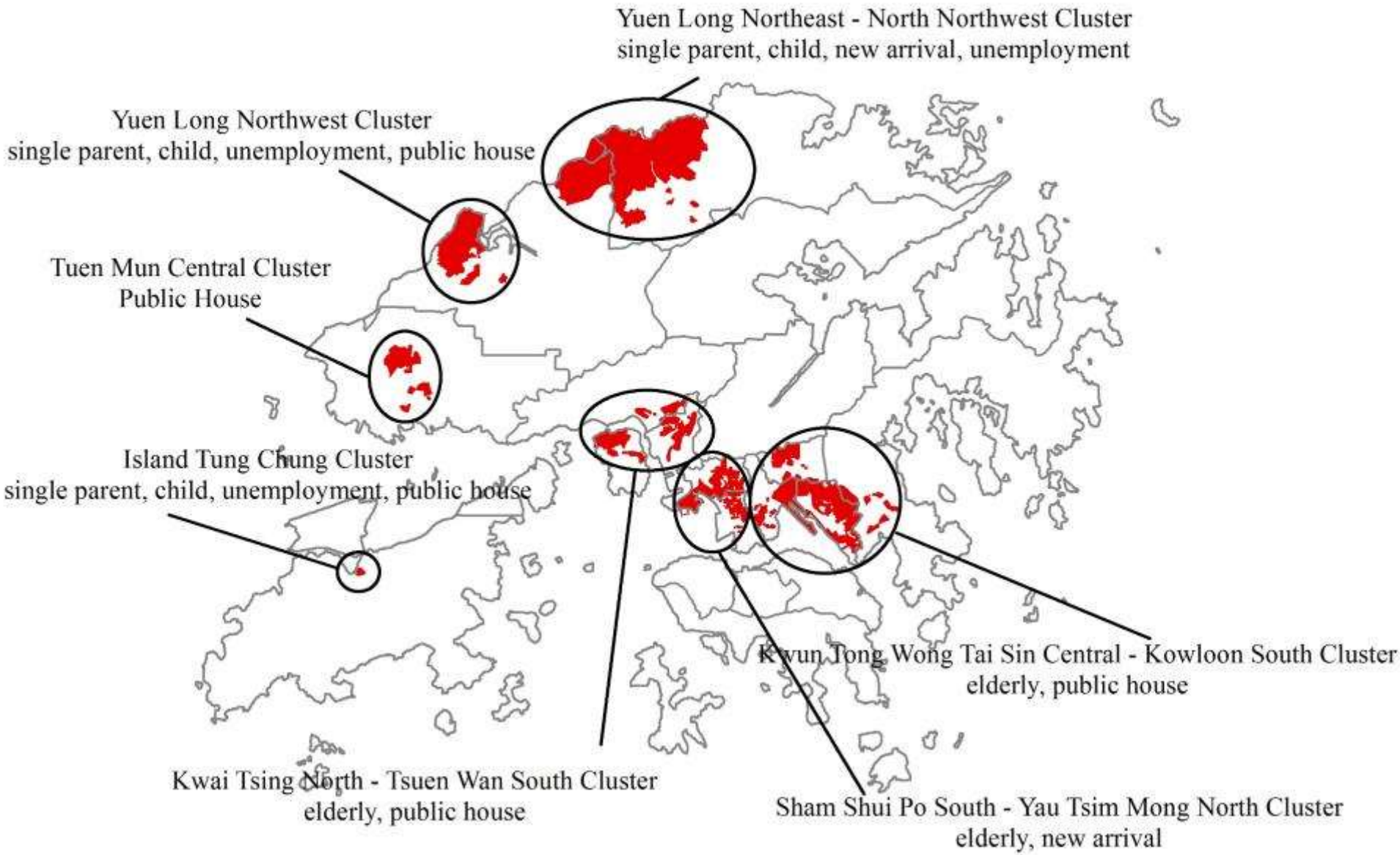
	1991	2001	2011
The number (proportion) of non-Chinese ethnicity in Hong Kong population	–	343 950 (5.1%)	451 183 (6.4%)
The median monthly household income	$9,964	$18,710	$20,500
The median monthly household income for economically active households	$10,000	$21,100	$24,810
The number (proportion) of domestic households living in their own premises	673 067 (42.6%)	1 042 605 (50.8%)	1 233 595 (52.1%)
The proportion of owner-occupier household heads ages less than 40	43%	29%	19.6%

Note: The data topic of ethnicity was not included in the 1991 Population Census.

Health disparities by premature mortality

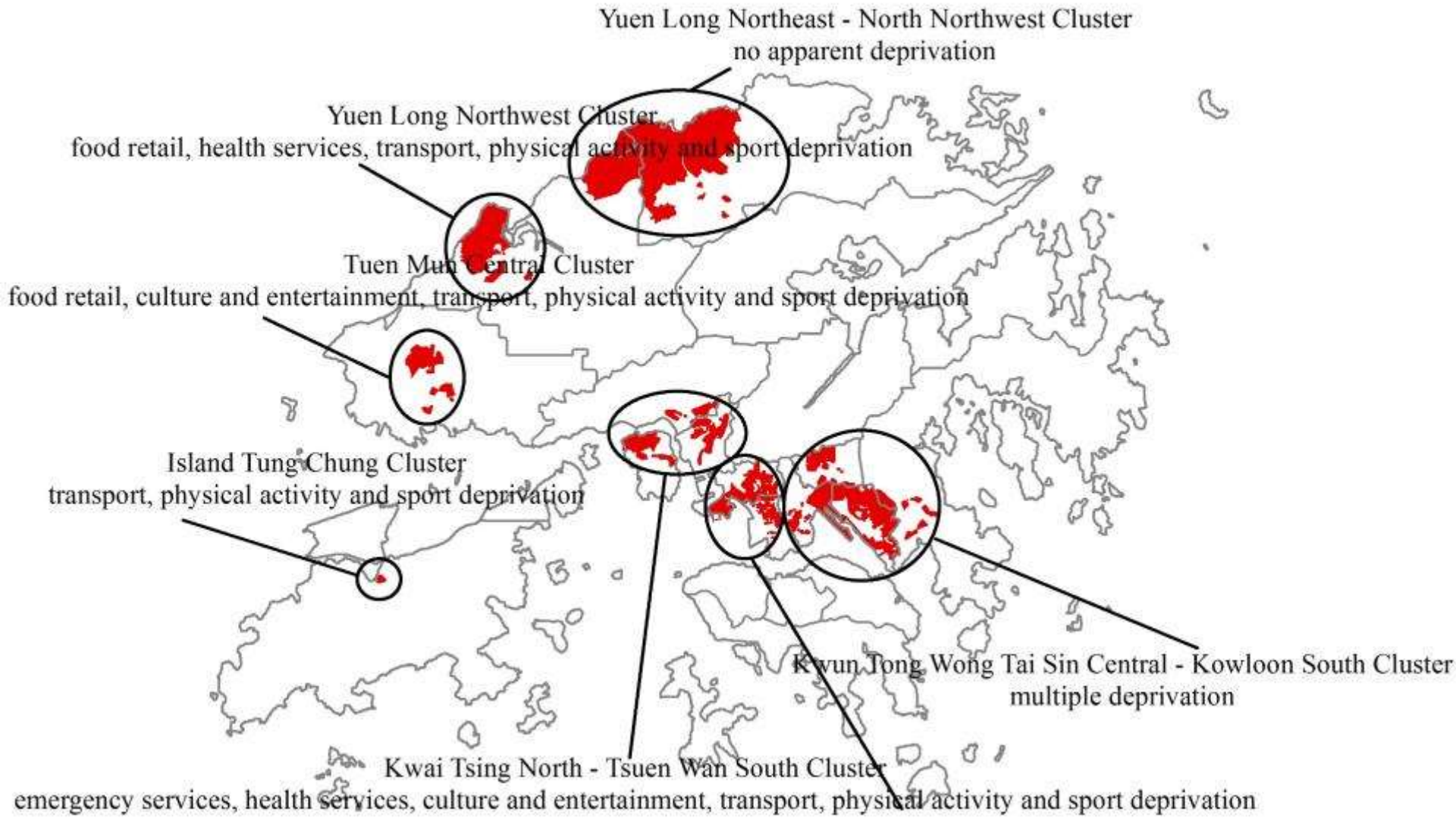


Social-demographic Characteristics of "Poverty Clusters" in Hong Kong



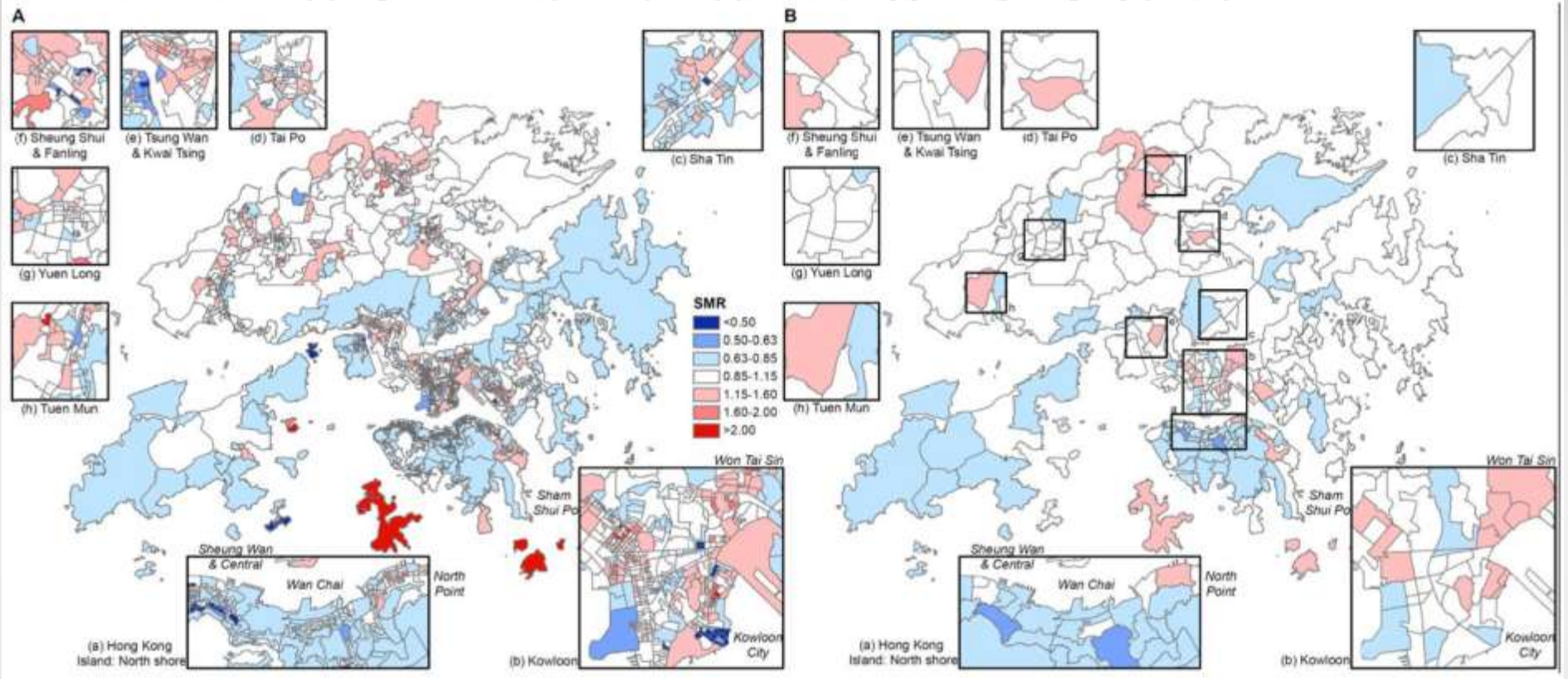
Source: 2011 Census Data, Census and Statistics Department

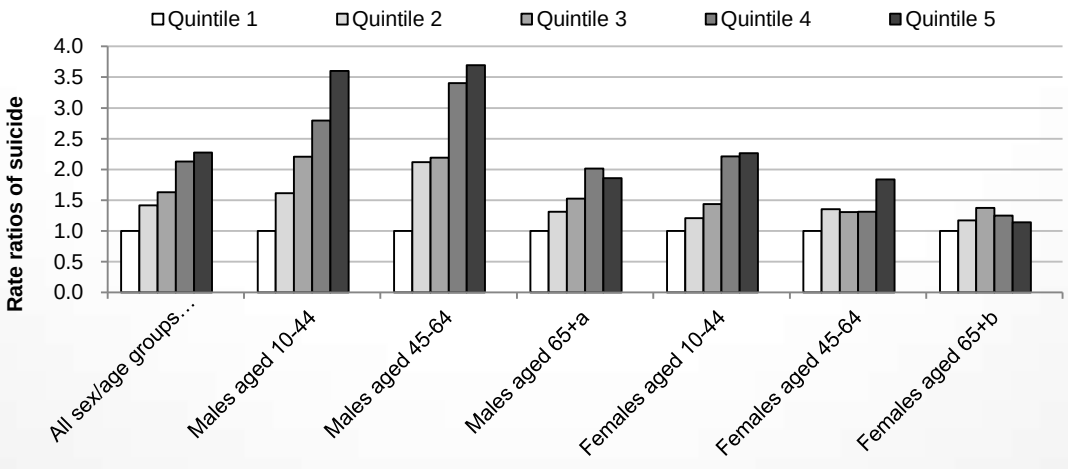
Service Deprivation Characteristics of "Poverty Clusters" in Hong Kong



Source: 2011 Geocommunity Data, Lands Department

Figure 1. Maps of smoothed standardised mortality ratio (SMR) for suicide in population aged 10+ years across small areas in Hong Kong, 2005-2010, at the level of (A) large street block (n=1693) and (B) small tertiary planning unit group (n=204).

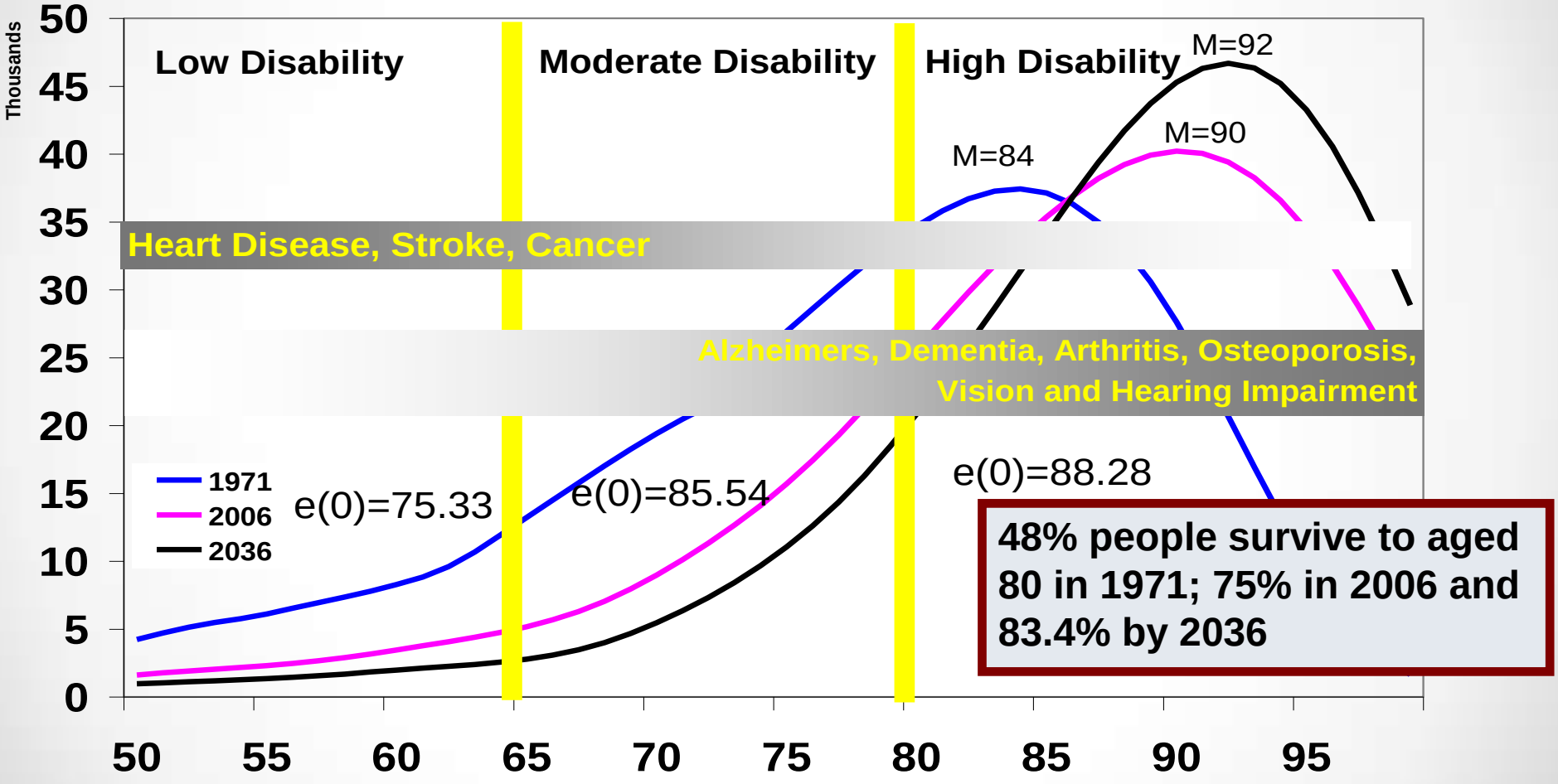




Strategic Issues

- Maintaining a population of high quality which can maintain sustainable development
- Empowering our human capital through education and skill training
- Promoting physical and mental wellbeing

Life expectancy:



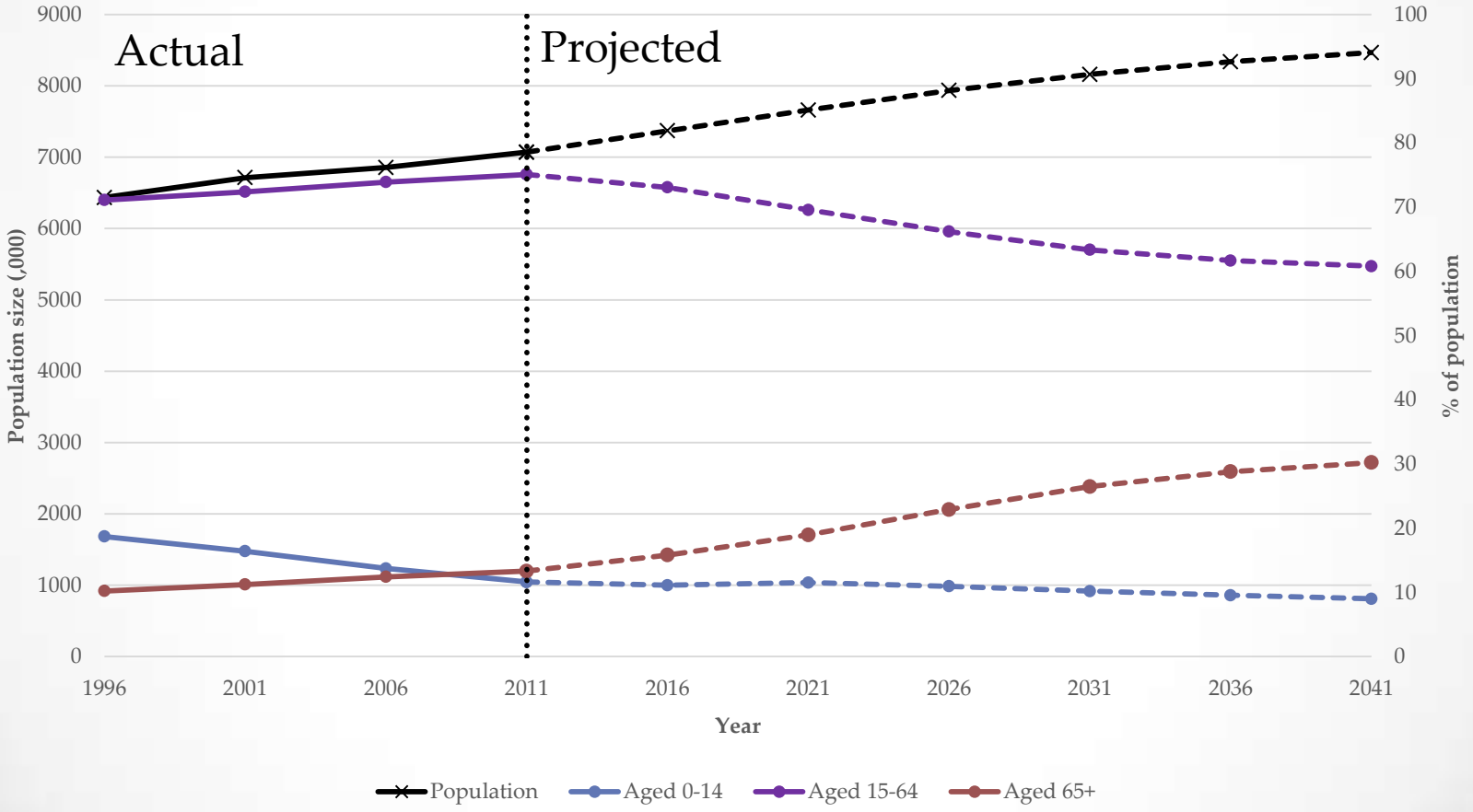
Source: Hong Kong Life Table – female, 1971, 2006, 2036

Life expectancy (LE) of HK population

	Actual				Projected					
Year	1996	2001	2006	2011	2016	2021	2026	2031	2036	2041
LE at birth										
Male	76.7	78.4	79.4	80.3	81.4	82.3	82.9	83.5	84.0	84.4
Female	82.7	84.6	85.5	86.7	87.6	88.5	89.2	89.9	90.3	90.8
LE at age 65										
Male	16.6	17.7	18.2	18.9	19.7	20.4	20.8	21.3	21.7	22.0
Female	20.6	22.1	22.9	23.9	24.6	25.3	25.9	26.4	26.8	27.2

Source: Census and Statistical Department

Age structure (1996-2041)



Source: Census and Statistical Department

警告

Health Care and social services

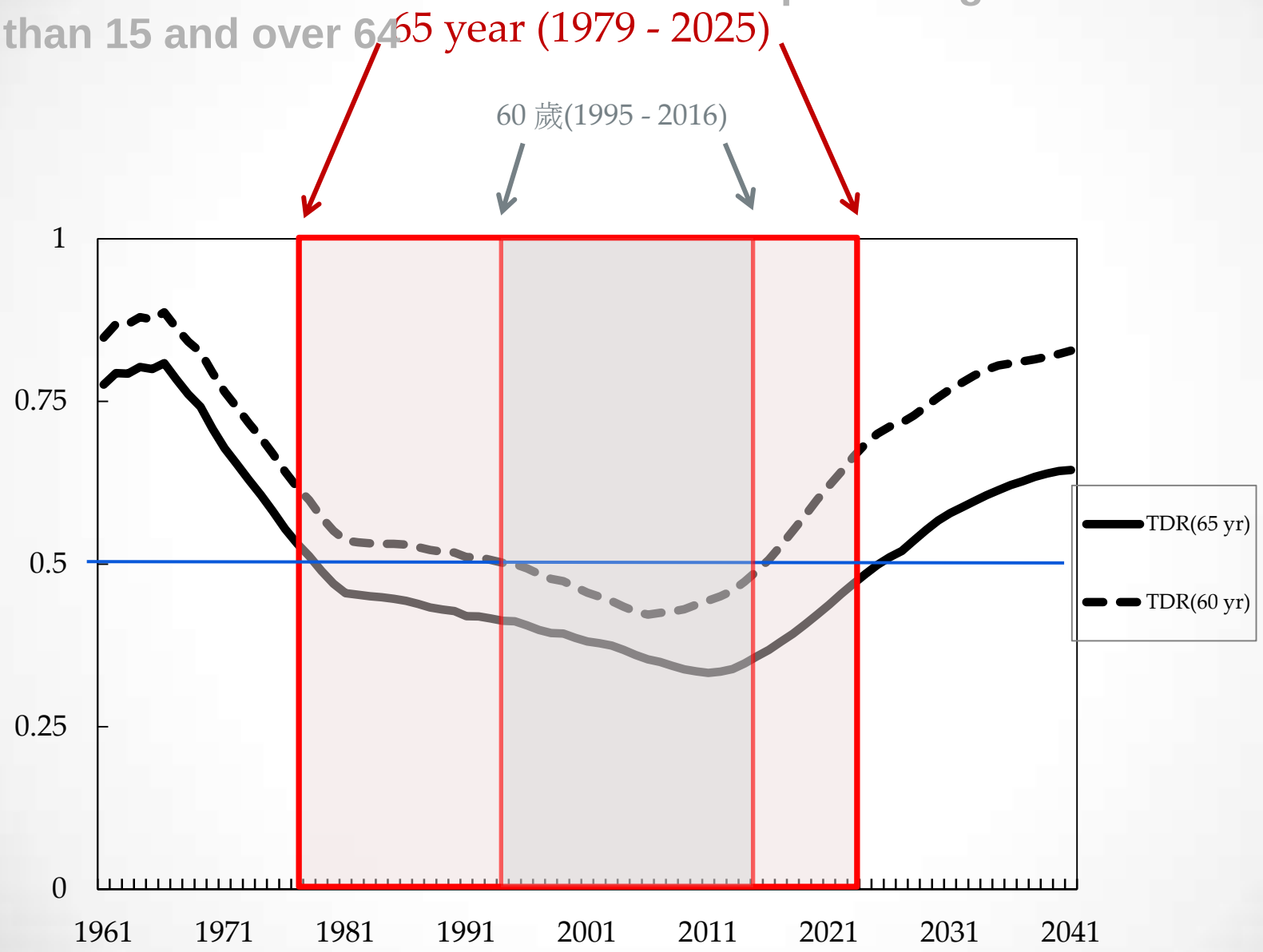
Even the prevalence rate remains the same (if not increasing) but the demand will still increase simply due to ageing.

We have a double hit!

2. *Enhancing and empowerment of our Human Capital*

- Extension of retirement age
- qualifications but the skills needed for our community

Demographic Window:
period fall between the ration of 2:1 of the person aged 15-64 to less than 15 and over 64



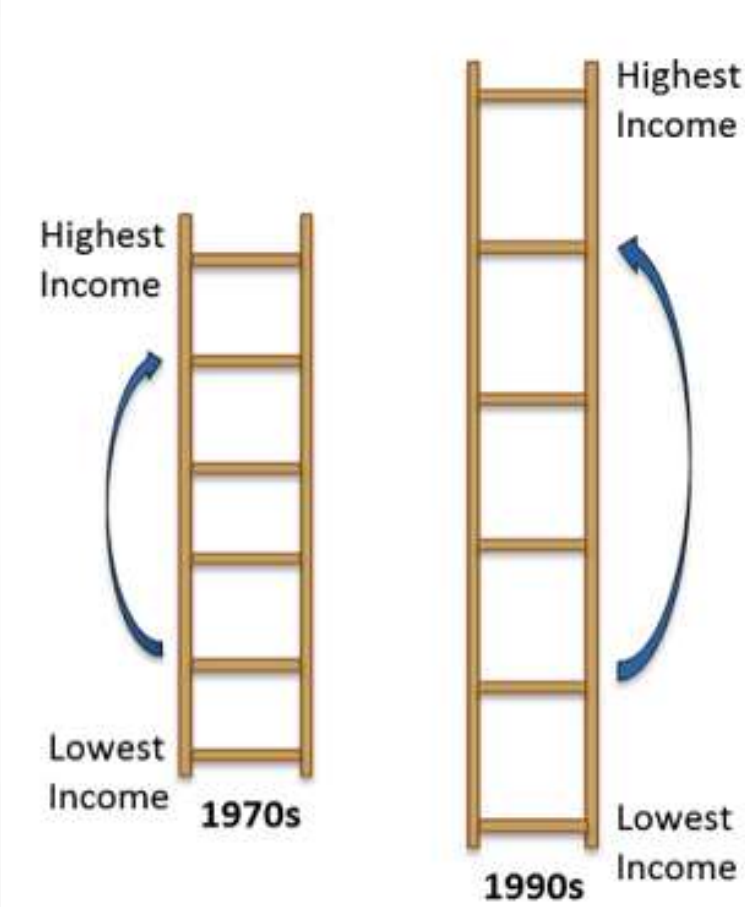
C&SD（2013)

3. Providing skills training and productivity enhancement

For Presentation Only, DO NO DUPLICATE

Yip, P.S.F. et. al (2011). "Understanding our Young Generation Report" Consultancy Report commissioned by Central Policy Unit HKSAR Government

Social and economic mobility of our young people



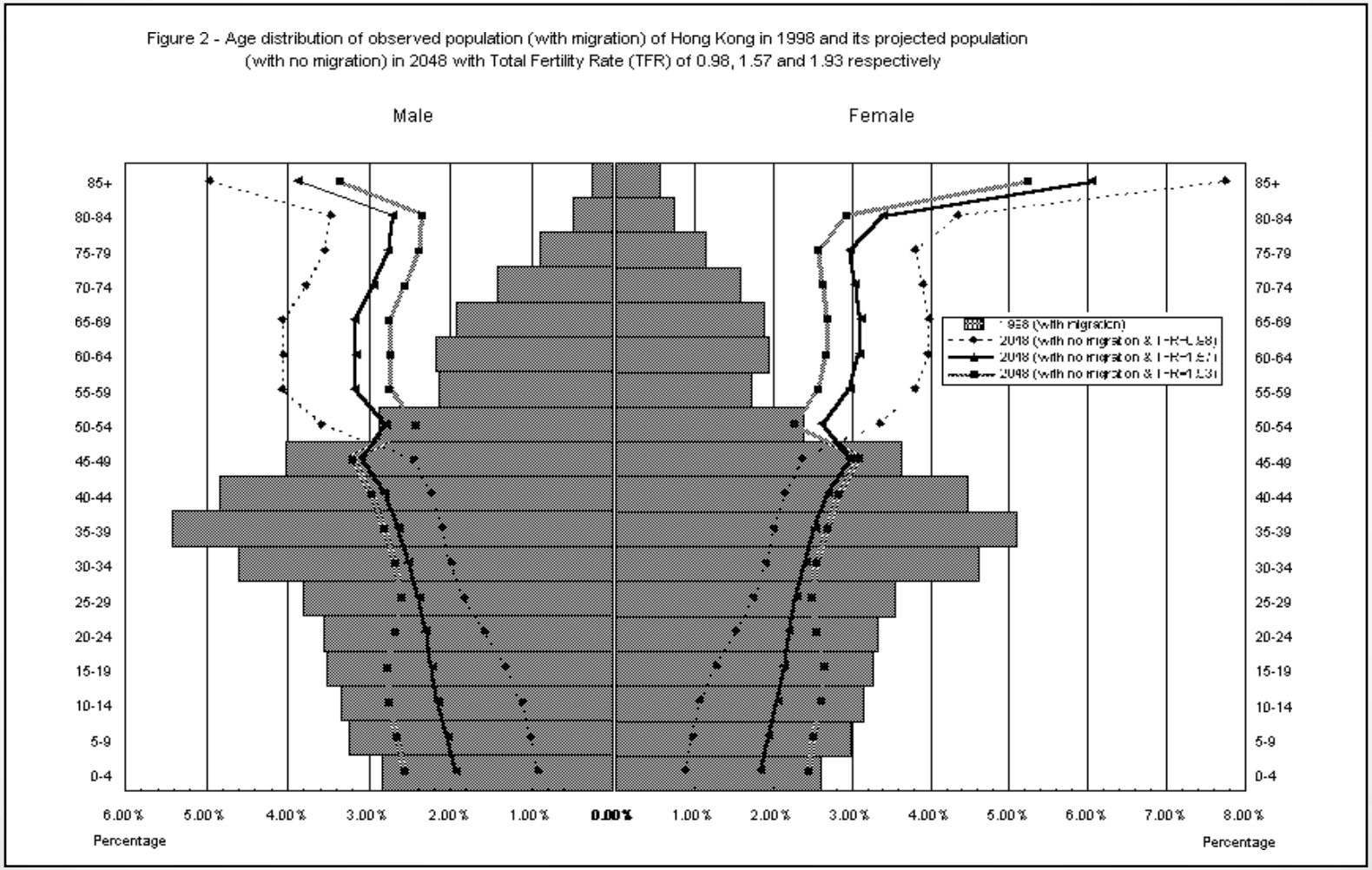
Are youths in HK facing the same situation? Or at least *feel* they are in same situation?

- http://www.businessinsider.com/heres-why-economic-mobility-hasnt-increased-2014-1

3. Migration

- Selective and meet the need of the local development
- The local need and feeling need to be addressed sufficiently
- A gradual development with the objective to develop an harmonious society
- DEVELOPMENT is NOT 100% Equvialent to GROWTH.

No migration



4. Family friendly working environment

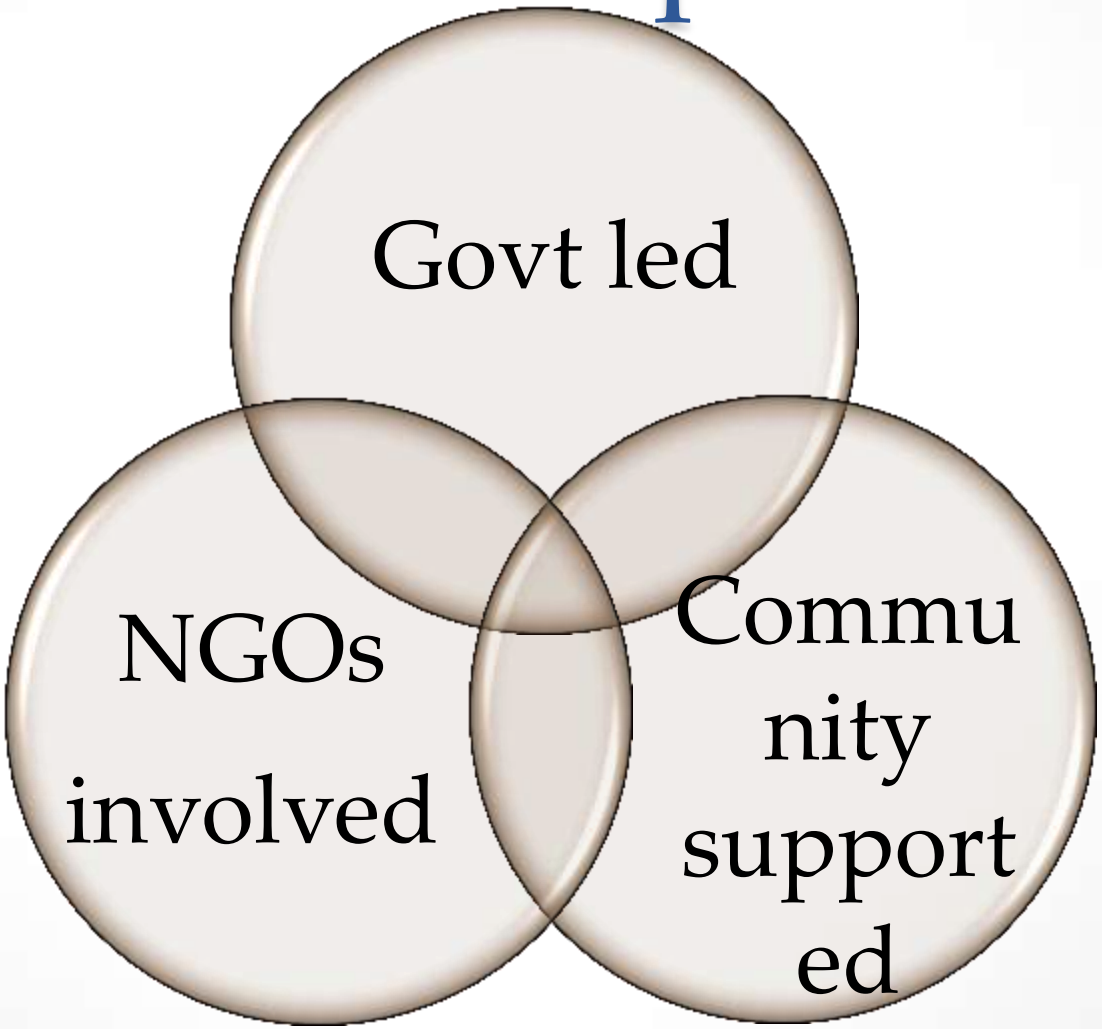
Individual choice

versus

Community response

If the children will become the work force of the next generation in the community, any effort to assist the existing family **should not be seen as discriminatory since they are "contributing" to the betterment of the community**.

Social Capital



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Japan Fuzika

- Active ageing,
- Regular body check up
- Green tea and spa.

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Community based participation and involvement

Which helping hand will prevent a suicide?

THEY ALL MIGHT.

In the United States, someone dies by suicide every 17 minutes. In many cases, these deaths are preventable.

As an individual, speaking openly about suicide, knowing the warning signs and offering a helping hand could, quite literally, make the difference between life and death.

As a nation, fully implementing the National Strategy for Suicide Prevention and establishing mental health parity could help save lives.

OPENING MINDS. CHANGING POLICY. SAVING LIVES.

SPAN USA

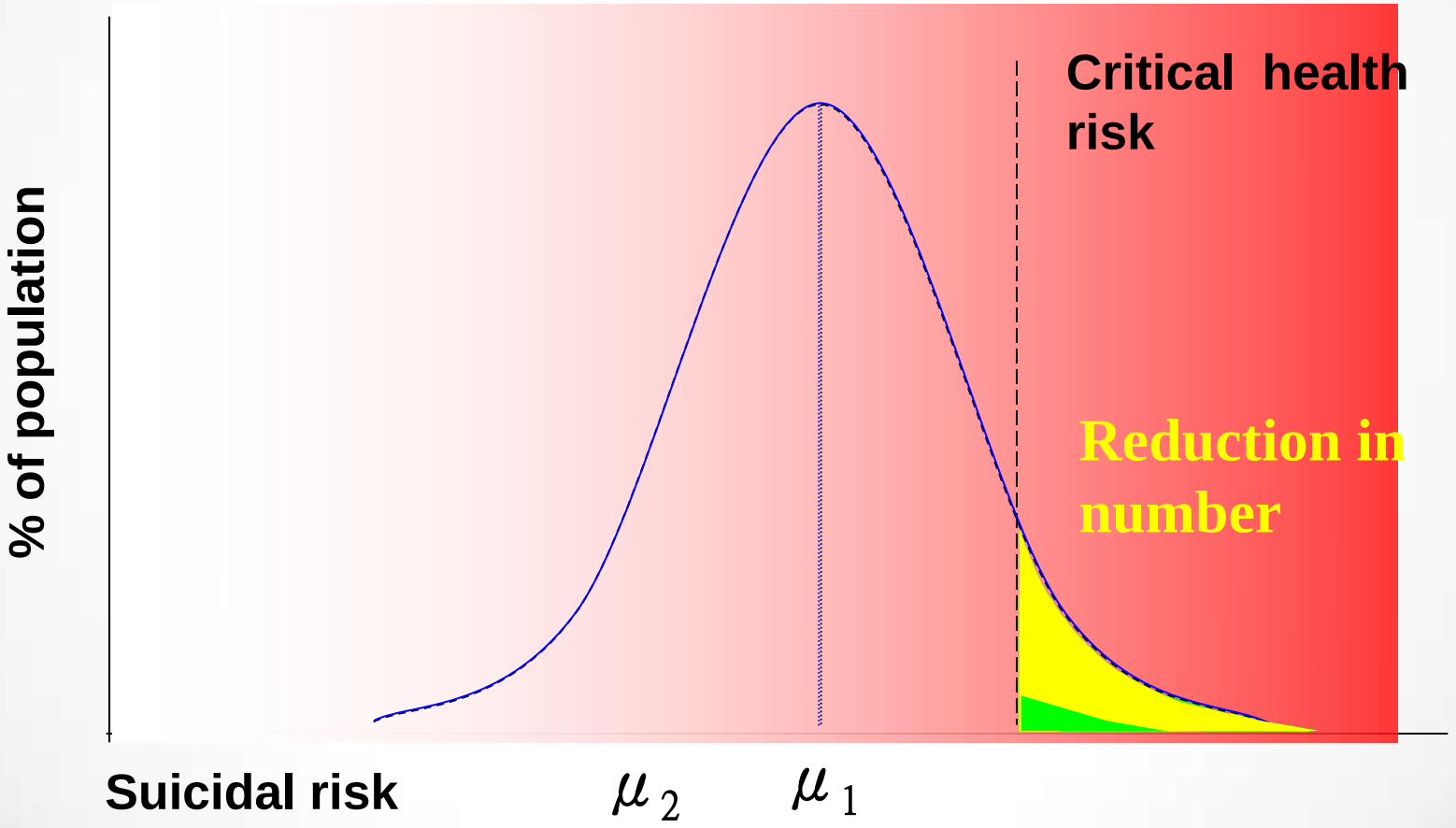
SUICIDE PREVENTION ACTION NETWORK USA

1025 VERMONT AVE., NW • SUITE 1066 • WASHINGTON, DC 20005 • P (202) 449-3600 • F (202) 449-3601 • WWW.SPANUSA.ORG

What does this mean?
這是什么意思?

Does it help?
那又怎樣?

A Public Health Approach



- Analogy of a clock: second arm: (politics)
- Minute arm (economic)
- Hour arm (Population)

- Thank you !