



Day 1

**Where have all the children gone?
The Consequences of Low Fertility Rates in
South Korea, Singapore, and Japan**

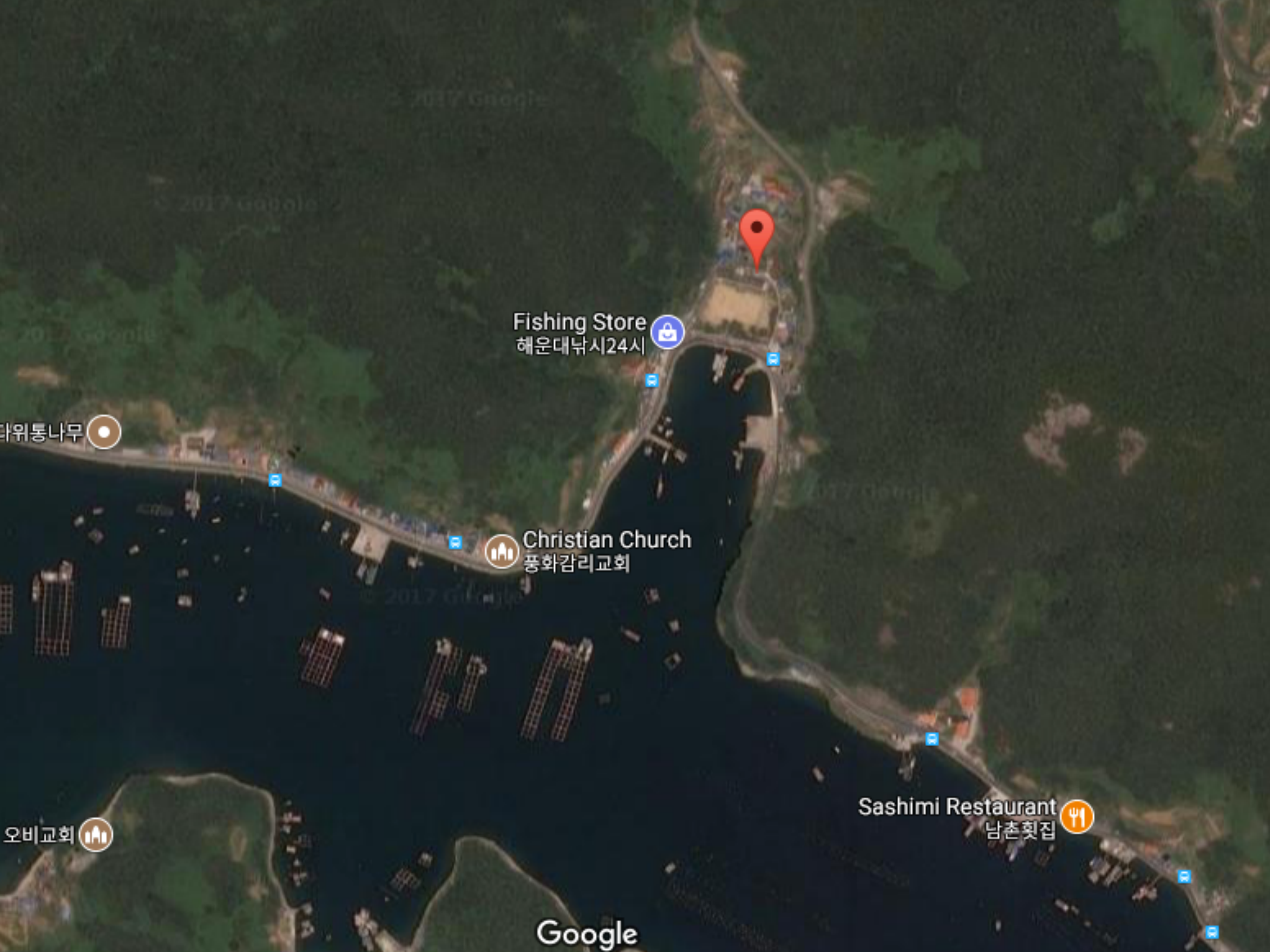
PowerPoint



Elementary School

Kitakyushu





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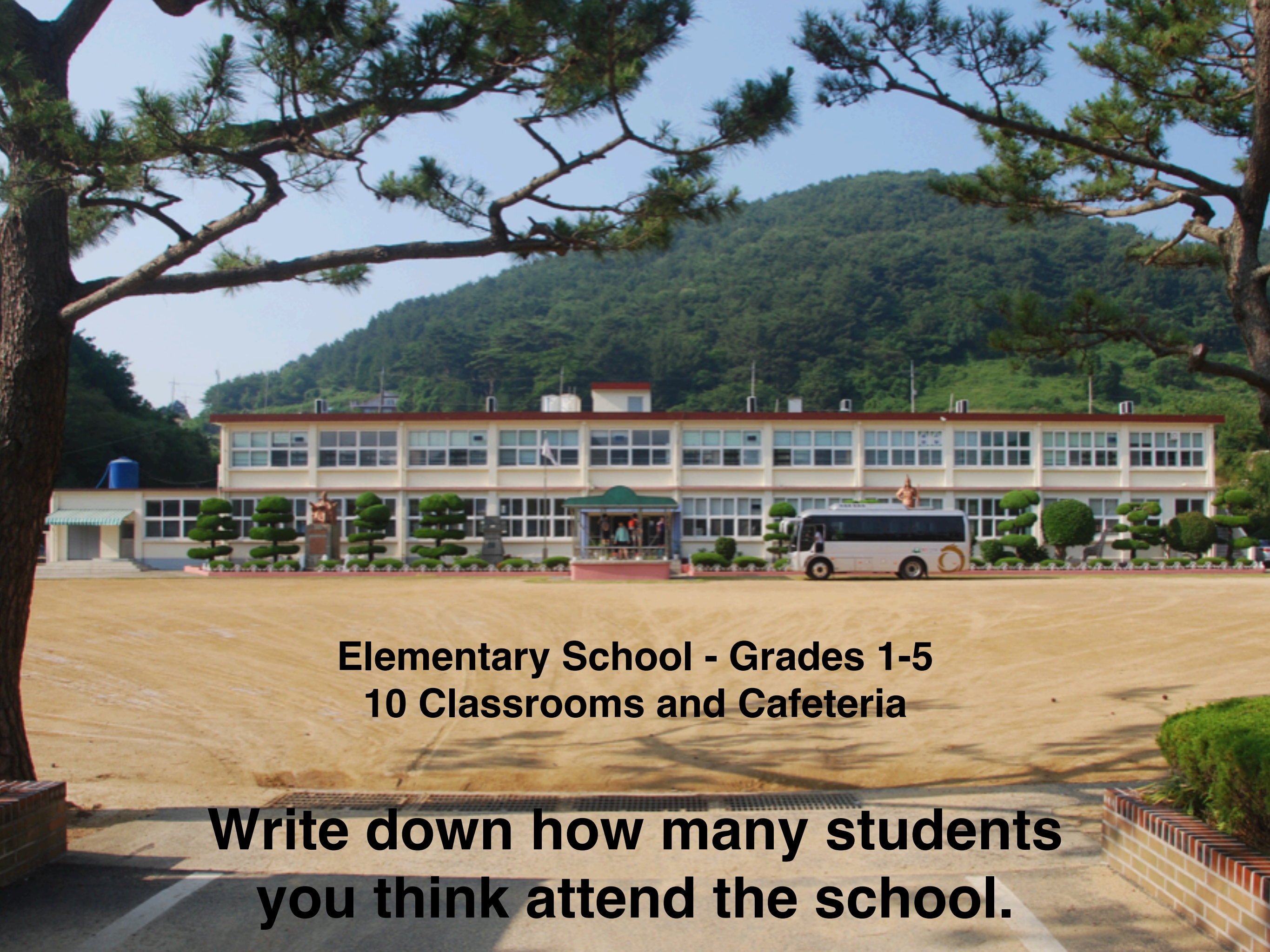
타워통나무

Christian Church
풍화감리교회

오비교회

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**Elementary School - Grades 1-5
10 Classrooms and Cafeteria**

**Write down how many students
you think attend the school.**



9 students and 4 teachers







The School's Hallway



**What has the
former classroom
been converted
into?**











The following excerpt by Cloe Sang-Hun in her *New York Times* article, *As South Korean Villages Empty, More Primary Schools Face Closings*,” details the reality for many of the small towns and villages across South Korea:

“Villages around here have no more children to send,” the school’s only teacher, Lee Sung-kyun, said recently, looking over an empty, weed-filled playground surrounded by old cherry trees. “Young people have all gone to cities to find work and get married there.”









**Yeongmoon High School
in Seoul, South Korea**





Hye-Min Park is 16 and lives in the affluent Seoul district of Gangnam, made famous by the pop star Psy. Her day is typical of that of the majority of South Korean teenagers.

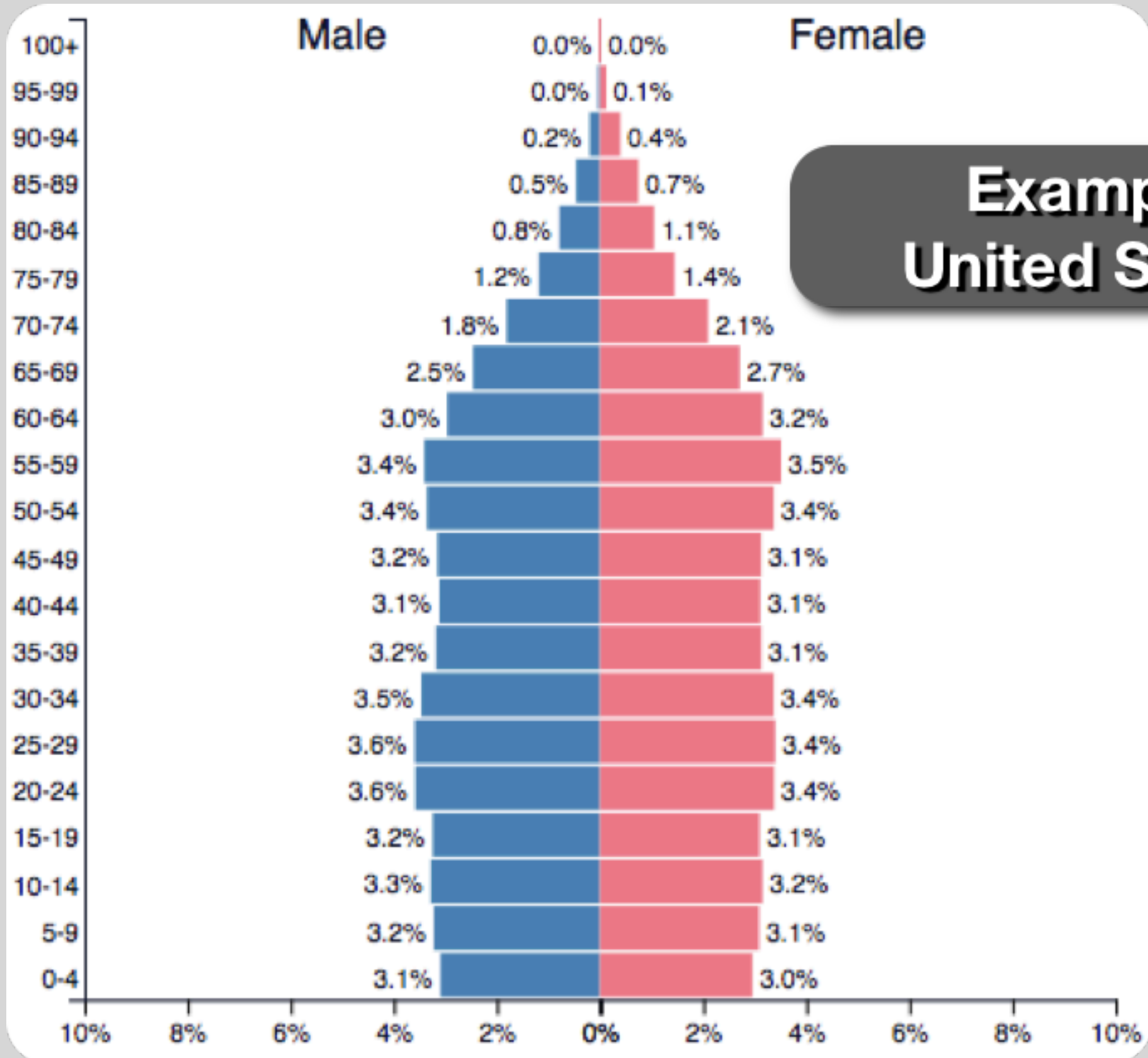
She rises at 6.30am, is at school by 8am, finishes at 4pm, (or 5pm if she has a club), then pops back home to eat.

She then takes a bus to her second school shift of the day, at a private crammer or hagwon, where she has lessons from 6pm until 9pm.

She spends another two hours in what she calls self-study back at school, before arriving home after 11pm. She goes to bed at 2am, and rises in the morning at 6.30am to do it all over again.



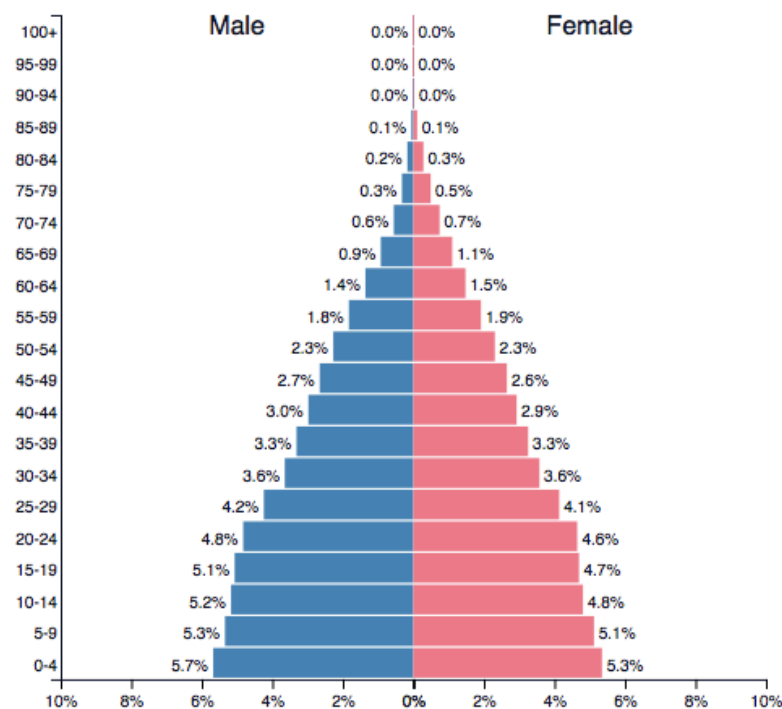
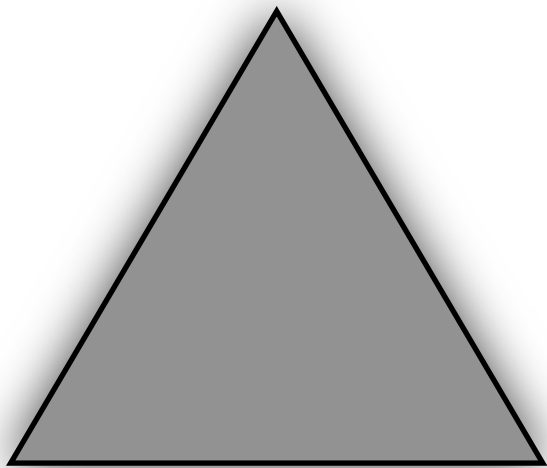
Review student understanding of population pyramids before constructing population pyramids of South Korea.



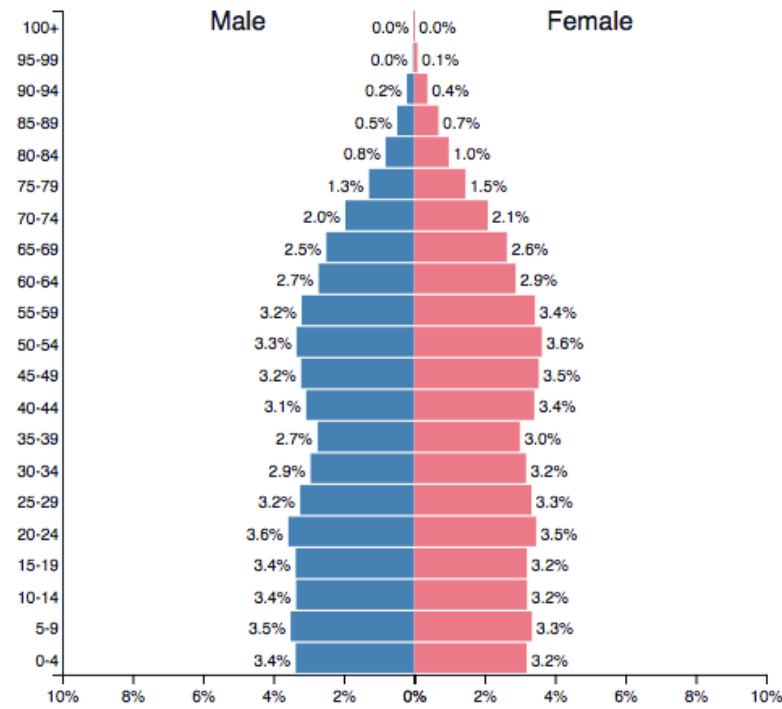
**Example:
United States**

Describe and explain the three basic shapes for population pyramids (age-sex graphs).

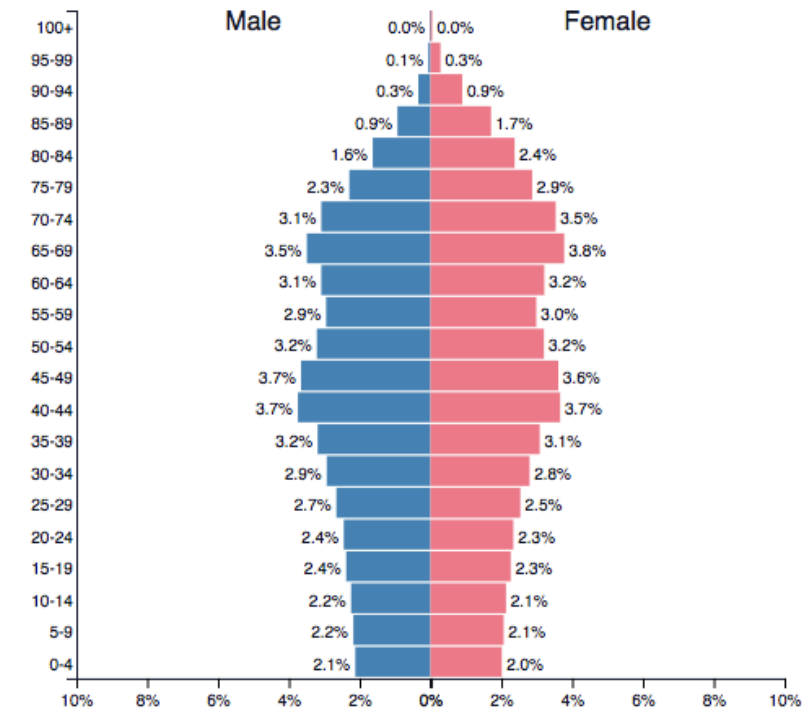
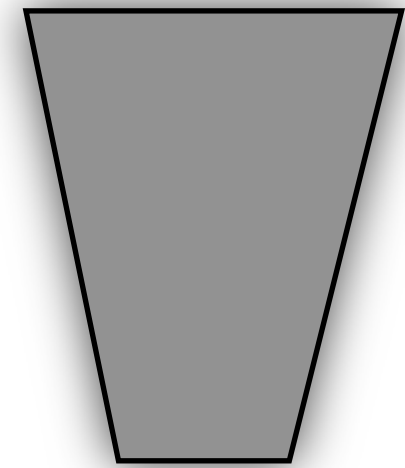
Triangular Shape



Rectangular Shape



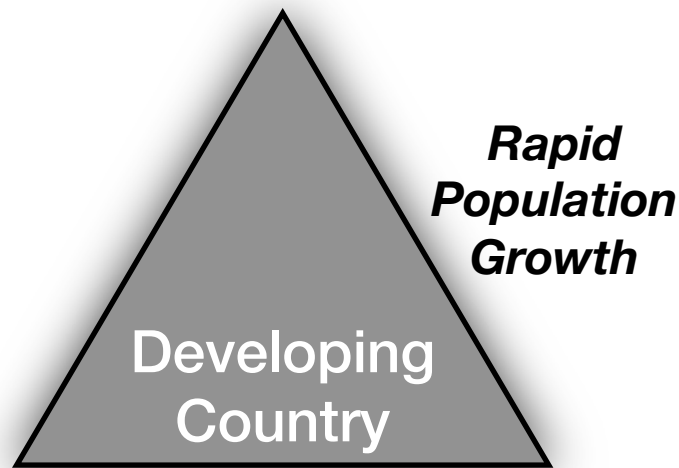
Vase Shape



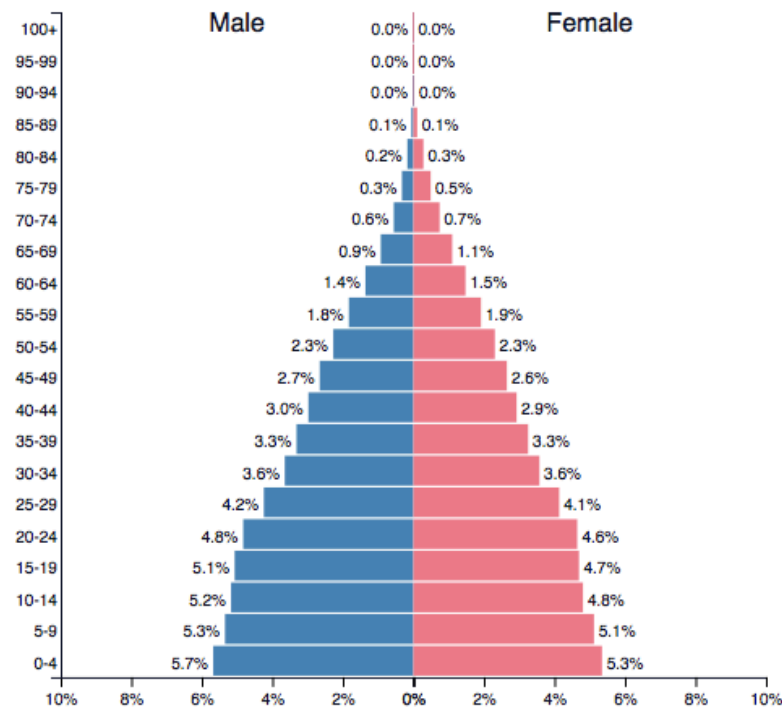
Three basic shapes for Population Pyramids

Triangular Shape

Broad at the base indicating high birth rates.
Narrow at the top indicating high death rates and a low life expectancy.



Philippines

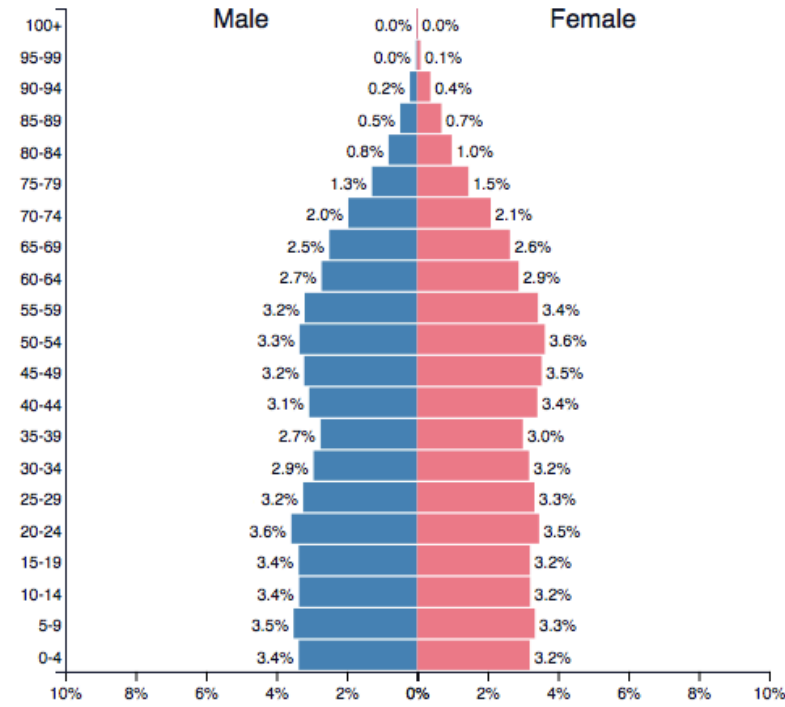


Rectangular Shape

A stable population growth rate with a high life expectancy, e.g., the number of 5 year olds is the same as 55 year olds.

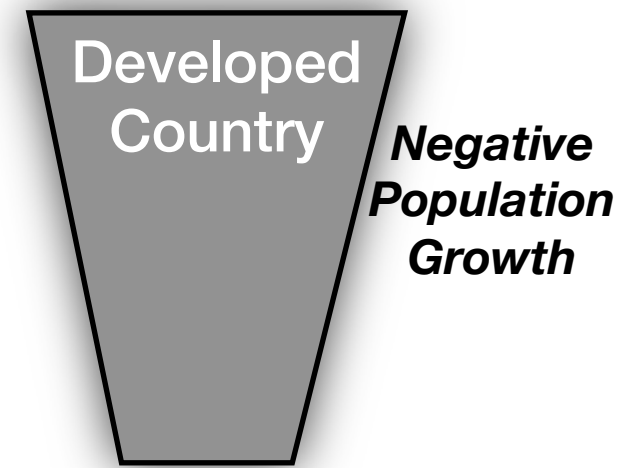


New Zealand

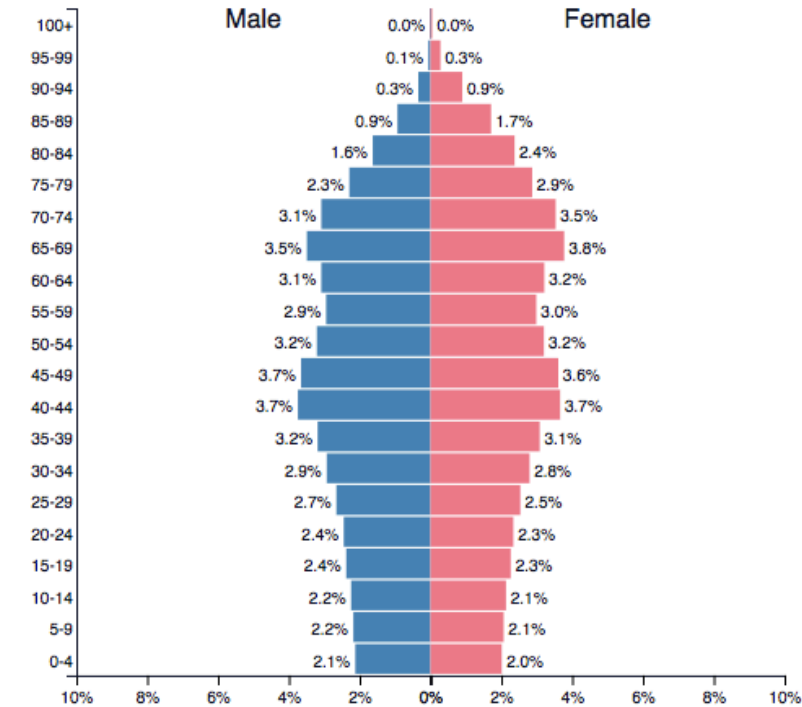


Vase Shape

Narrow at the base indicating low birth rates that continue to decline.
Broad at top indicating a high old age dependency.



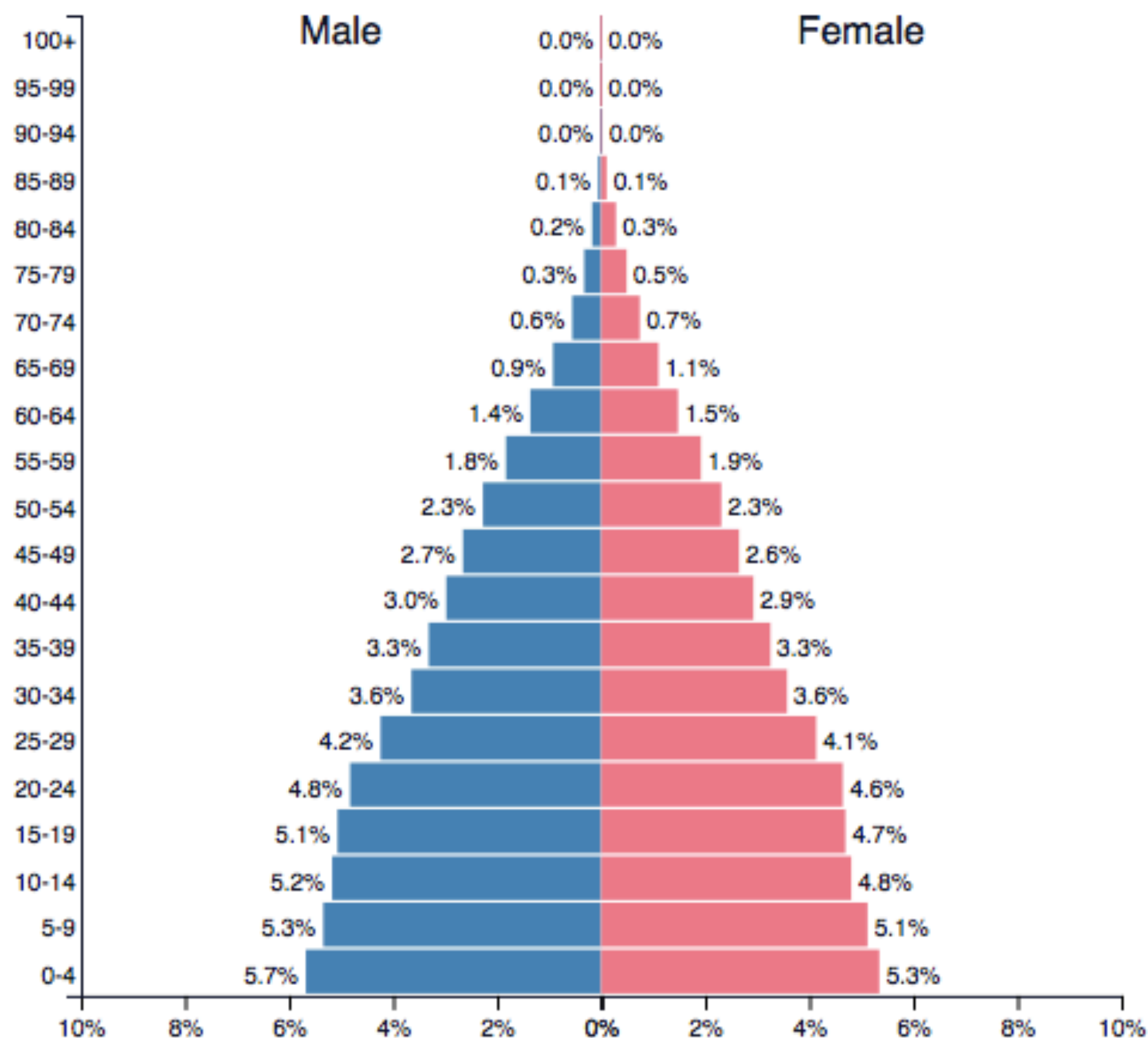
Japan



Philippines ▼

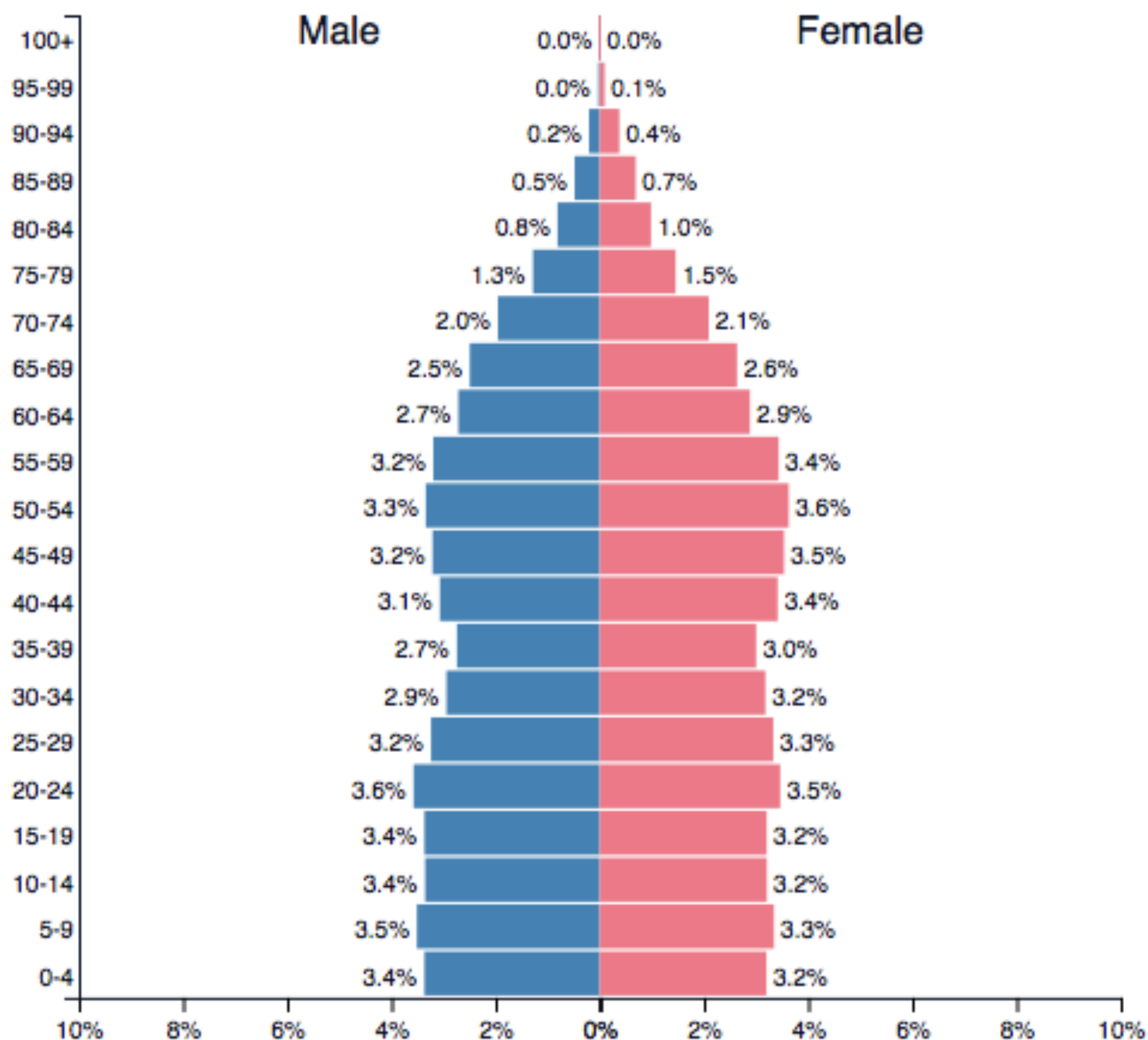
2017

Population: 103,796,831



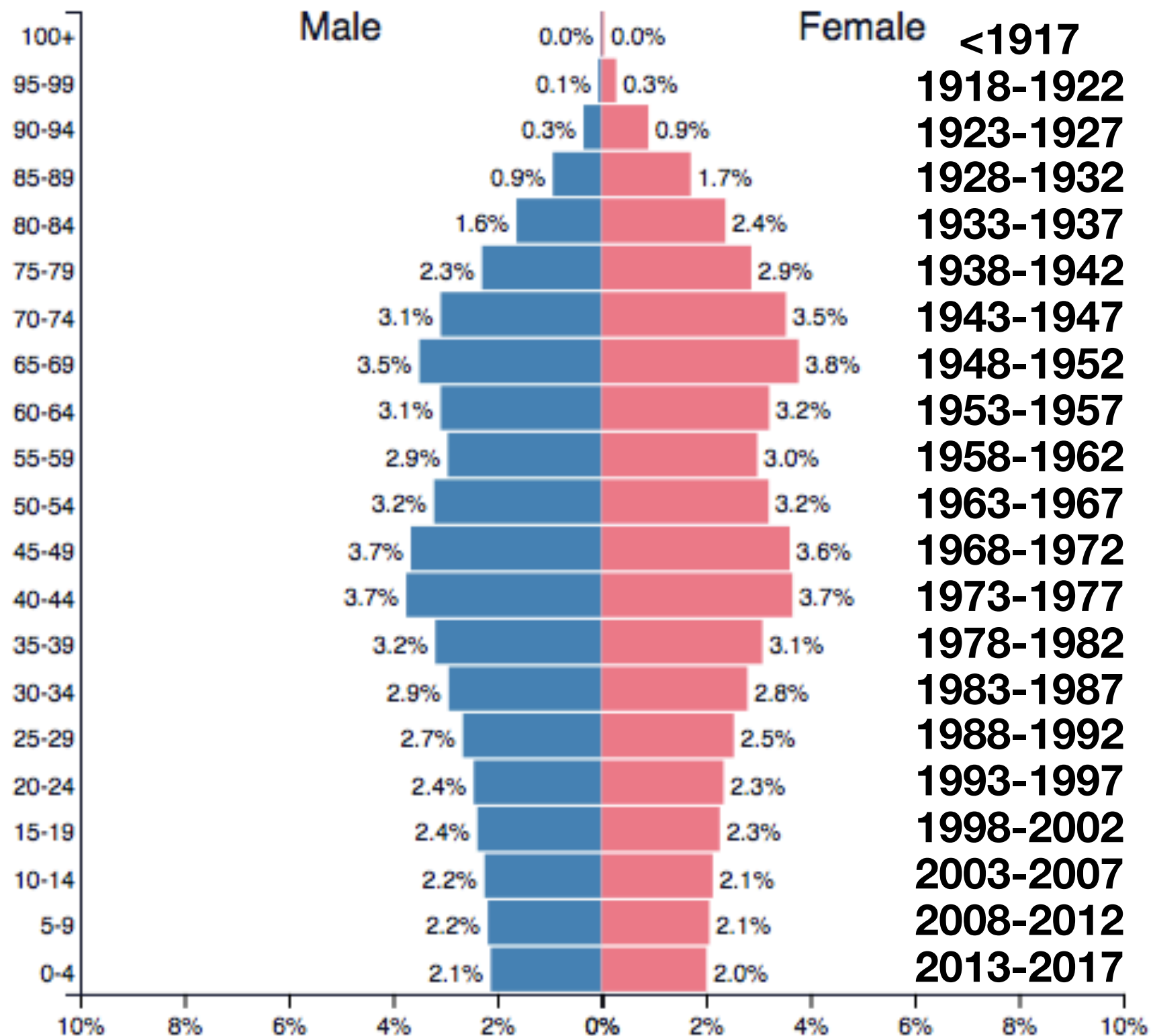
New Zealand ▼ 2017

Population: **4,604,871**



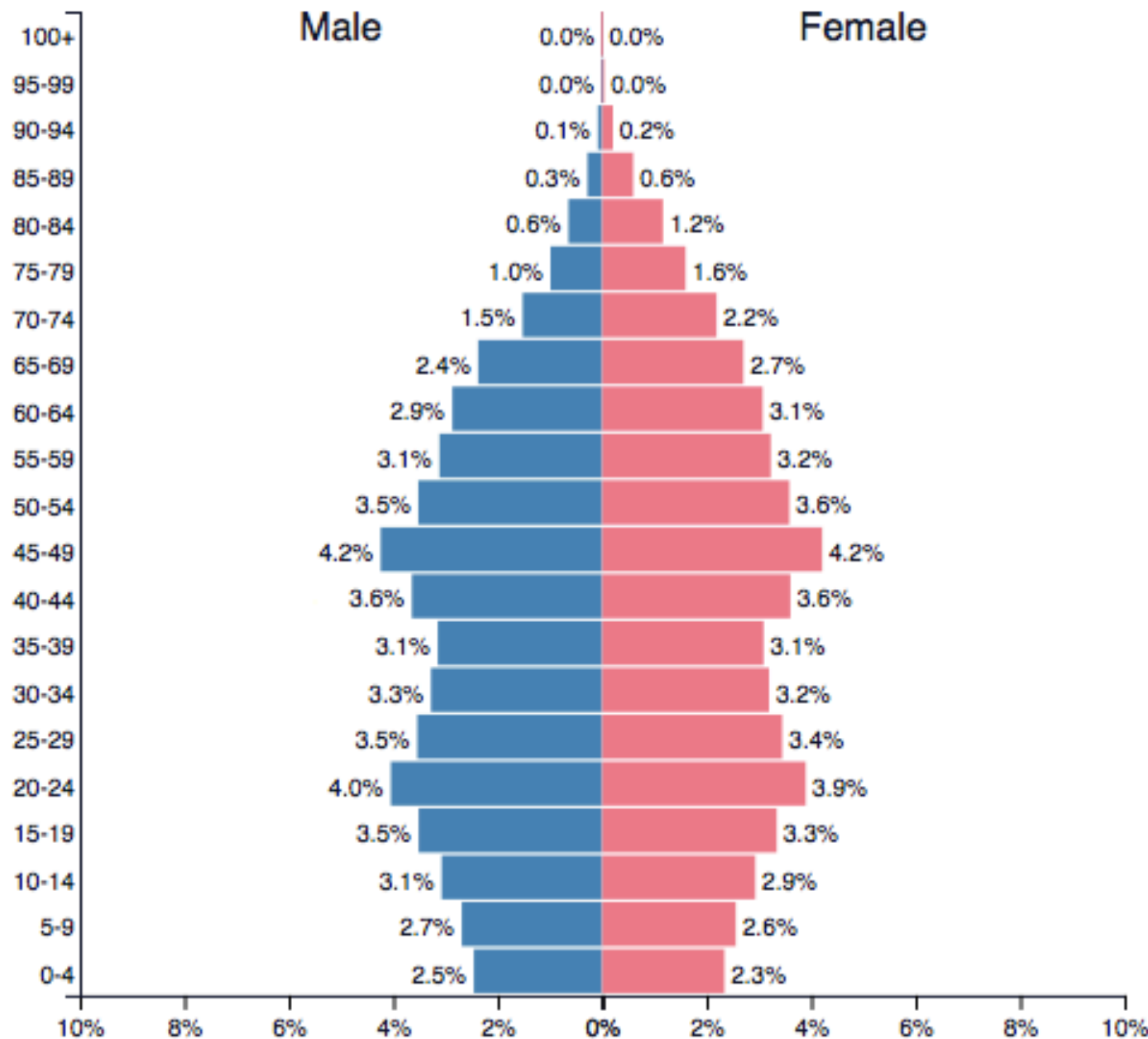
Japan ▼ 2017

Population: **126,045,211**



Why is there a highest percentage of women between the ages of 50-84 than men between the ages of 50-84?

Japan's Population Pyramid for 1995



A. Women have a higher life expectancy.

B. More women survived World War I and II.

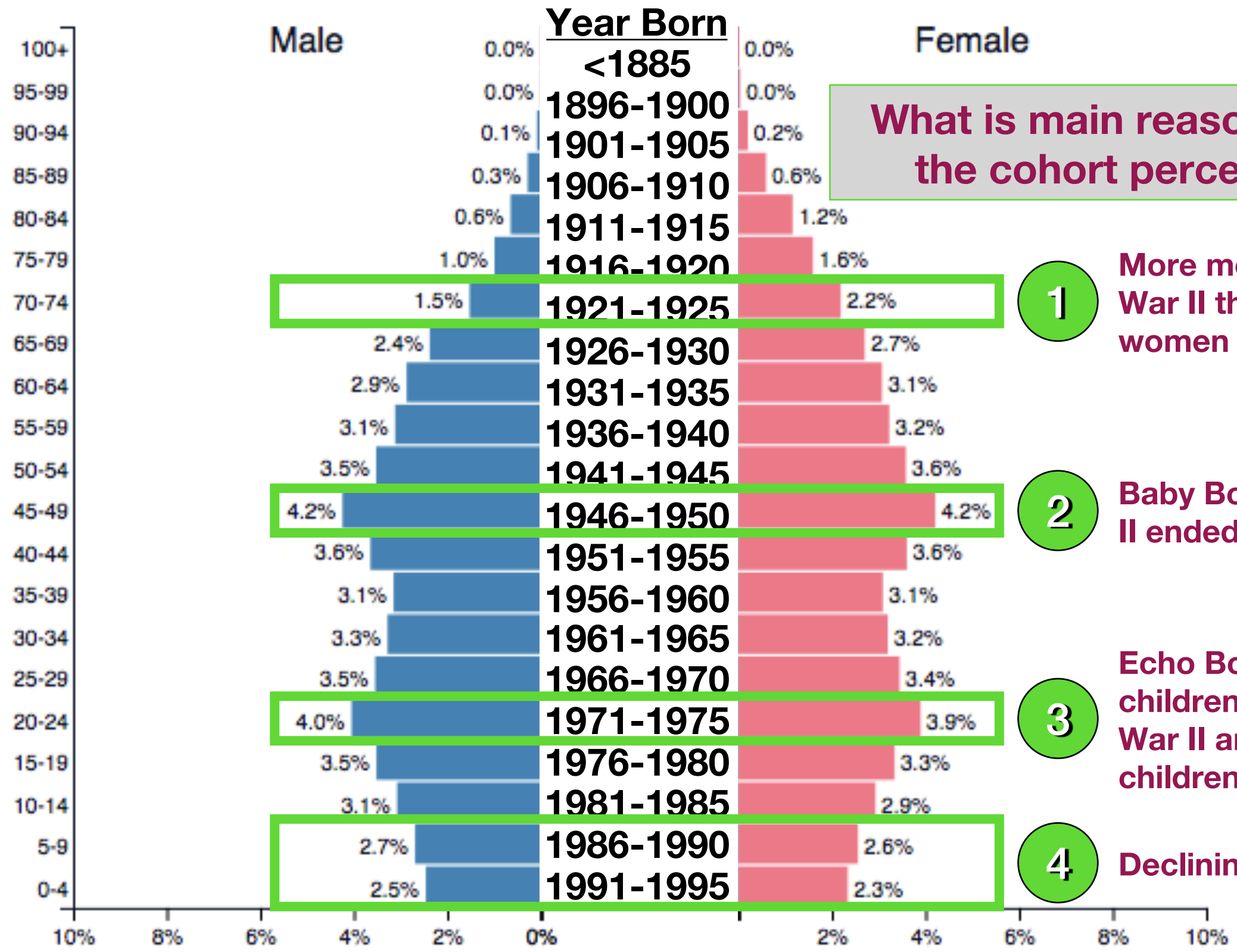
C. There is a preference for female babies over male babies.

D. Both A and B.

E. None of the above.

Japan ▼ 1995

Population: 124,483,305



What is main reason(s) for each of the cohort percentages (1-4)?

1

More men died during World War II than women, and women live longer than men.

2

Baby Boom after World War II ended (1945).

3

Echo Boom where the children born after World War II are not having children.

4

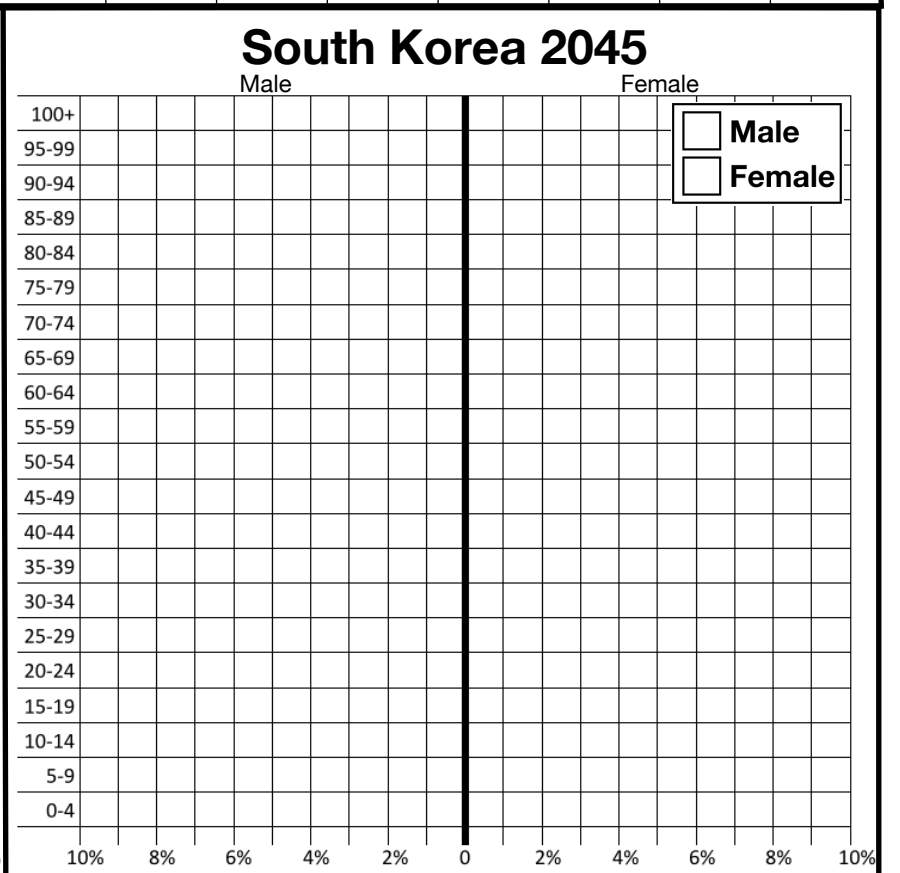
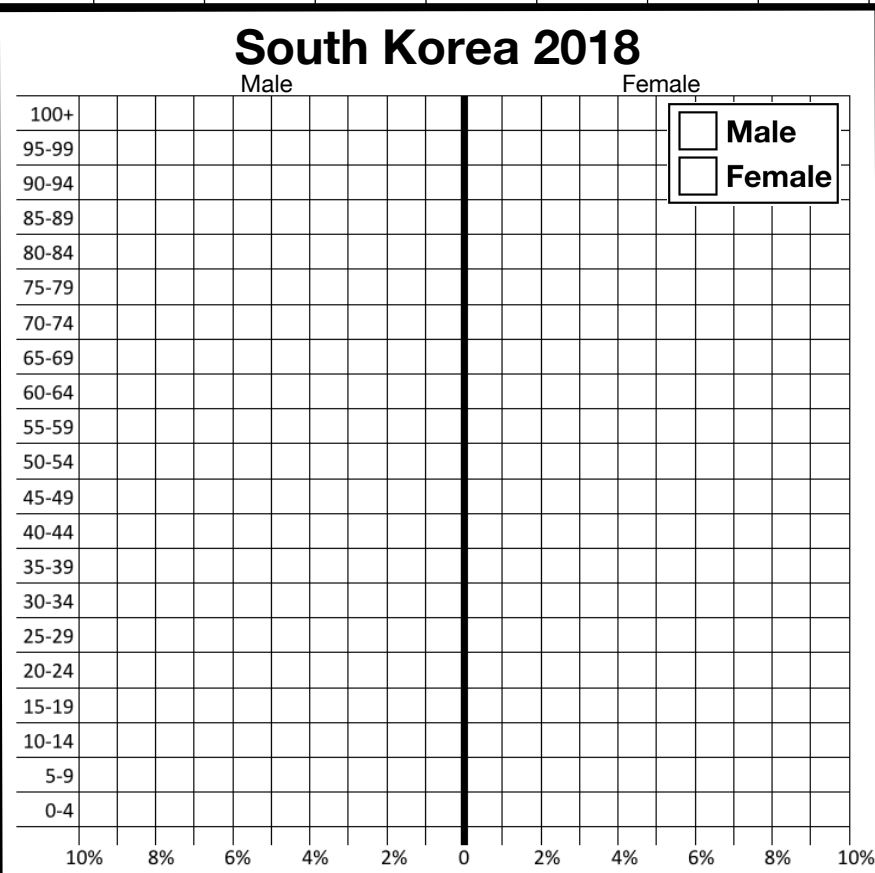
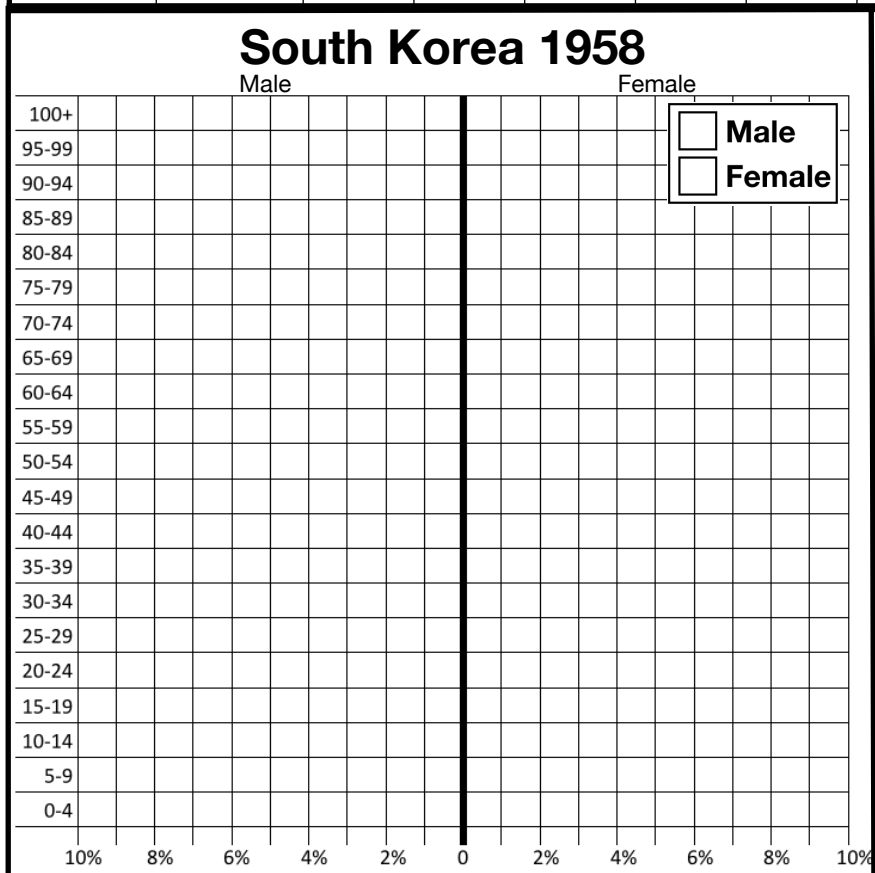
Declining Birth Rate

South Korea's Population Pyramids in 1958, 2018, and 2045

Student Name: _____

Directions: Use the statistics below to construct the three population pyramids for South Korea in 1958, 2018, and 2045. Answer the questions below after constructing the three population pyramid graphs.

Year	Cohort Sex %	0-4	5-9	10-14	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60-64	65-69	70-74	75-79	80-84	85-89	90-94	95-99	100+
		1958	Male	7.4%	7.2%	6.0%	5.5%	4.7%	3.3%	2.9%	2.8%	2.4%	2.2%	1.8%	1.3%	1.0%	0.7%	0.5%	0.2%	0.1%	—	—
	Female	7.1%	6.8%	5.4%	4.9%	4.6%	3.9%	3.3%	2.9%	2.4%	2.1%	1.7%	1.4%	1.2%	0.9%	0.6%	0.3%	0.2%	—	—	—	—
2018	Male	2.3%	2.3%	2.4%	3.0%	3.7%	3.5%	3.6%	3.8%	4.1%	4.2%	4.1%	3.8%	3.0%	2.1%	1.6%	1.2%	0.7%	0.3%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%
	Female	2.2%	2.2%	2.2%	2.8%	3.3%	3.1%	3.4%	3.7%	4.0%	4.2%	4.1%	3.9%	3.1%	2.3%	1.9%	1.7%	1.2%	0.6%	0.3%	0.1%	0.0%
2045	Male	1.9%	2.0%	2.2%	2.4%	2.4%	2.4%	2.4%	2.4%	2.6%	3.4%	3.6%	3.3%	3.5%	3.5%	3.6%	3.1%	2.5%	1.5%	0.5%	0.1%	0.0%
	Female	1.8%	1.9%	2.1%	2.2%	2.2%	2.3%	2.3%	2.3%	2.4%	3.1%	3.3%	3.0%	3.5%	3.6%	3.9%	3.3%	3.3%	2.4%	1.1%	0.4%	0.1%

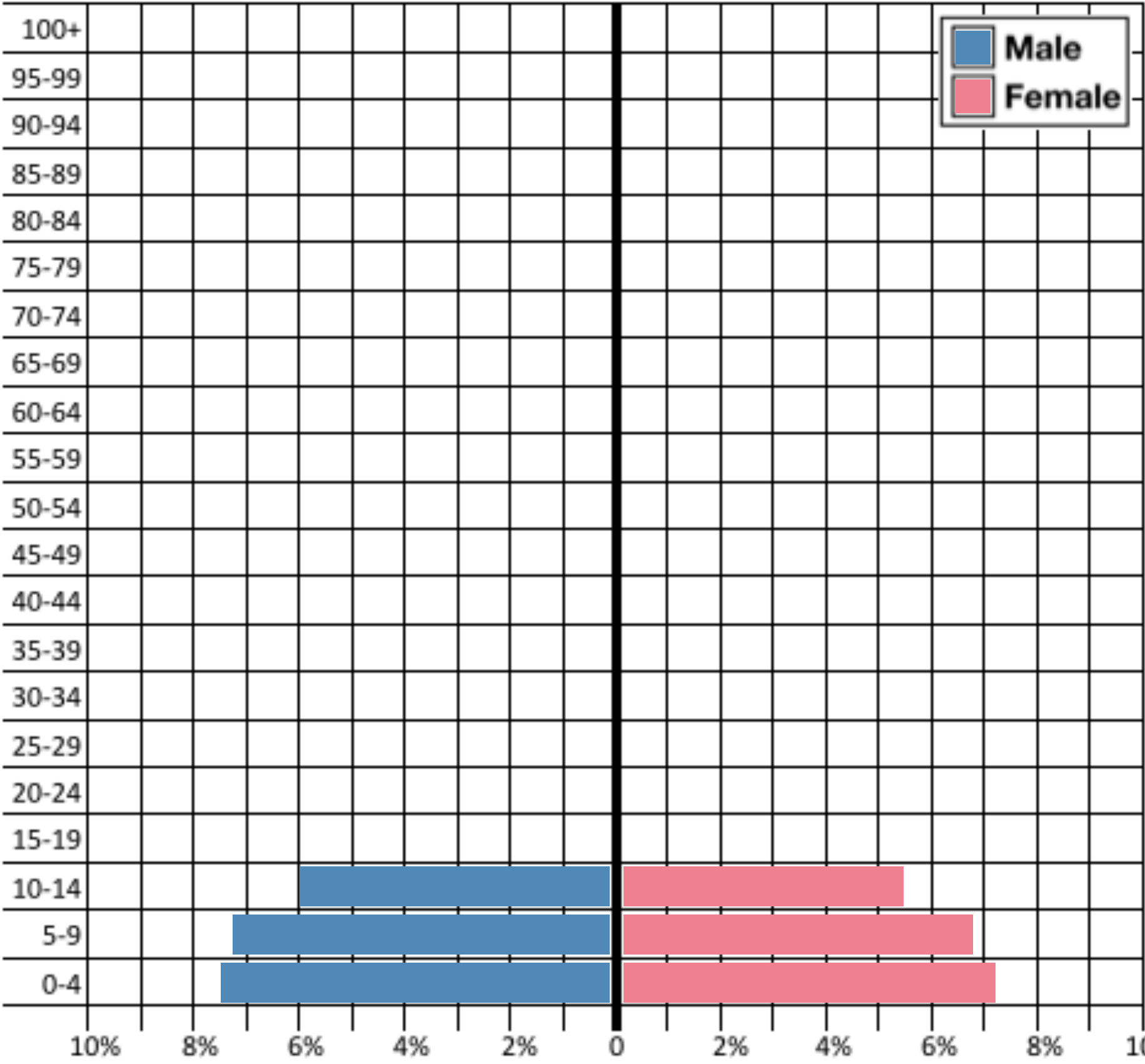
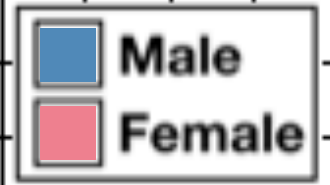


Describe how South Korea's population pyramid in 1958 is different from the population pyramid in 2018.

Explain how the population pyramid is projected to look by 2045.

Male

Female



Constructing a Population Pyramid for South Korea

- Color in starting in the middle at 0 going right for females and left for males.
- Use a blue color for the males and a pink/red color for the females.
- Use the statistics at the bottom of the slide to determine the correct percentage for each of the cohorts (age groups), e.g, males ages 0-4 is 7.4% of the overall population.

Year	Cohort Sex %	Cohort %																					
		0-4	5-9	10-14	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60-64	65-69	70-74	75-79	80-84	85-89	90-94	95-99	100+	
1958	Male	7.4%	7.2%	6.0%	5.5%	4.7%	3.3%	2.9%	2.8%	2.4%	2.2%	1.8%	1.3%	1.0%	0.7%	0.5%	0.2%	0.1%	-	-	-	-	
	Female	7.1%	6.8%	5.4%	4.9%	4.6%	3.9%	3.3%	2.9%	2.4%	2.1%	1.7%	1.4%	1.2%	0.9%	0.6%	0.3%	0.2%	-	-	-	-	

ANSWERS

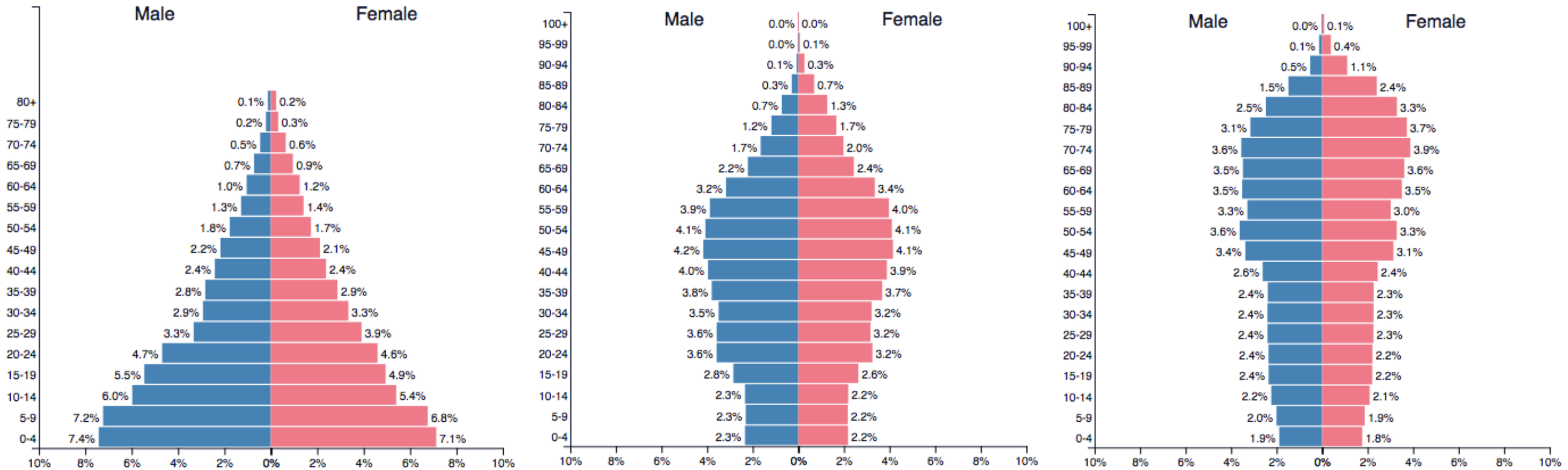
South Korea's Population Change

(1958 to 2045)

1958

2018

2045



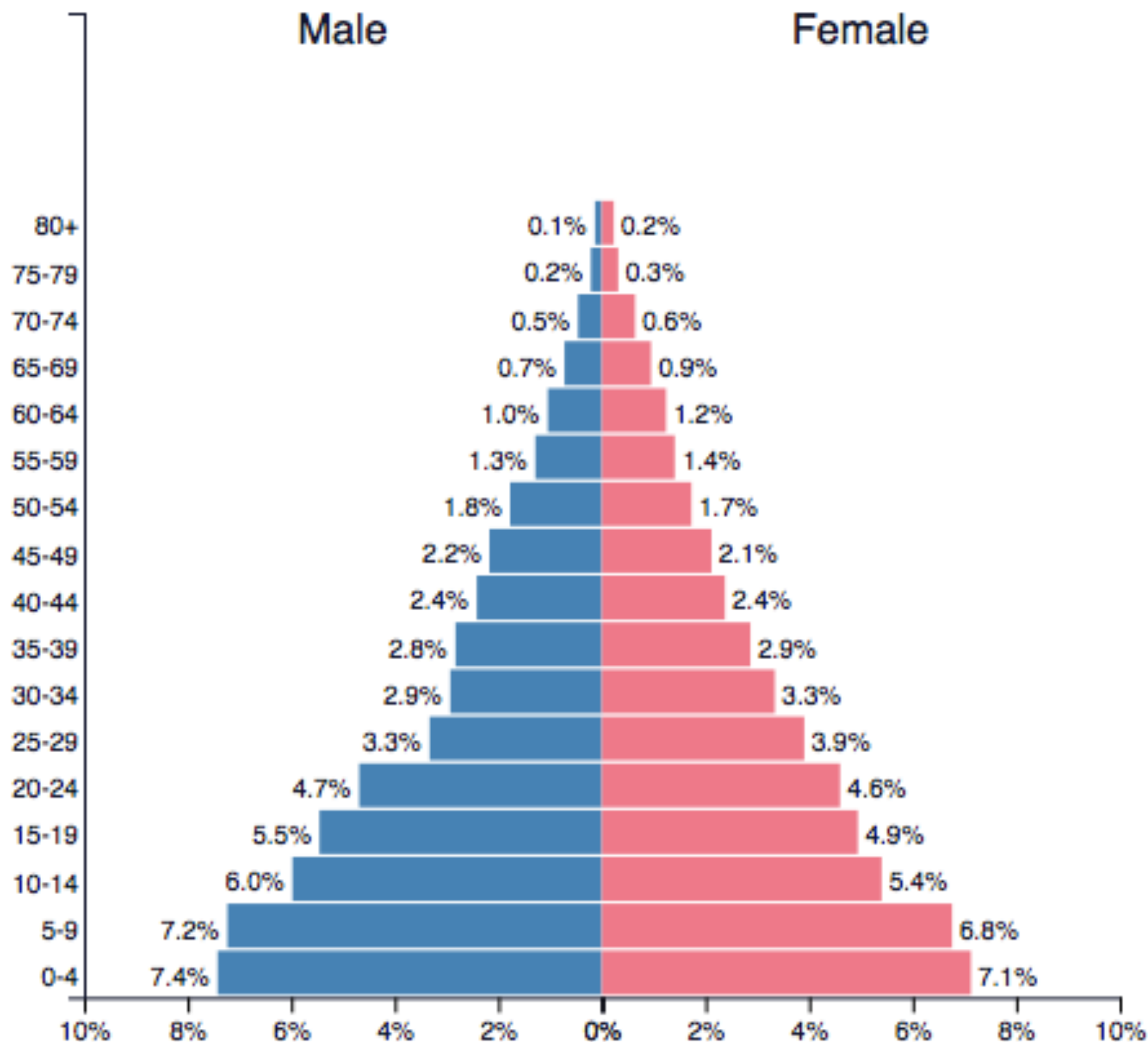
Describe how South Korea's population pyramid in 1958 is different from the population pyramid in 2018.

0-24 cohorts and 50+ cohorts

Explain how the population pyramid is projected to look by 2045. **declining youth population and increasing elderly population**

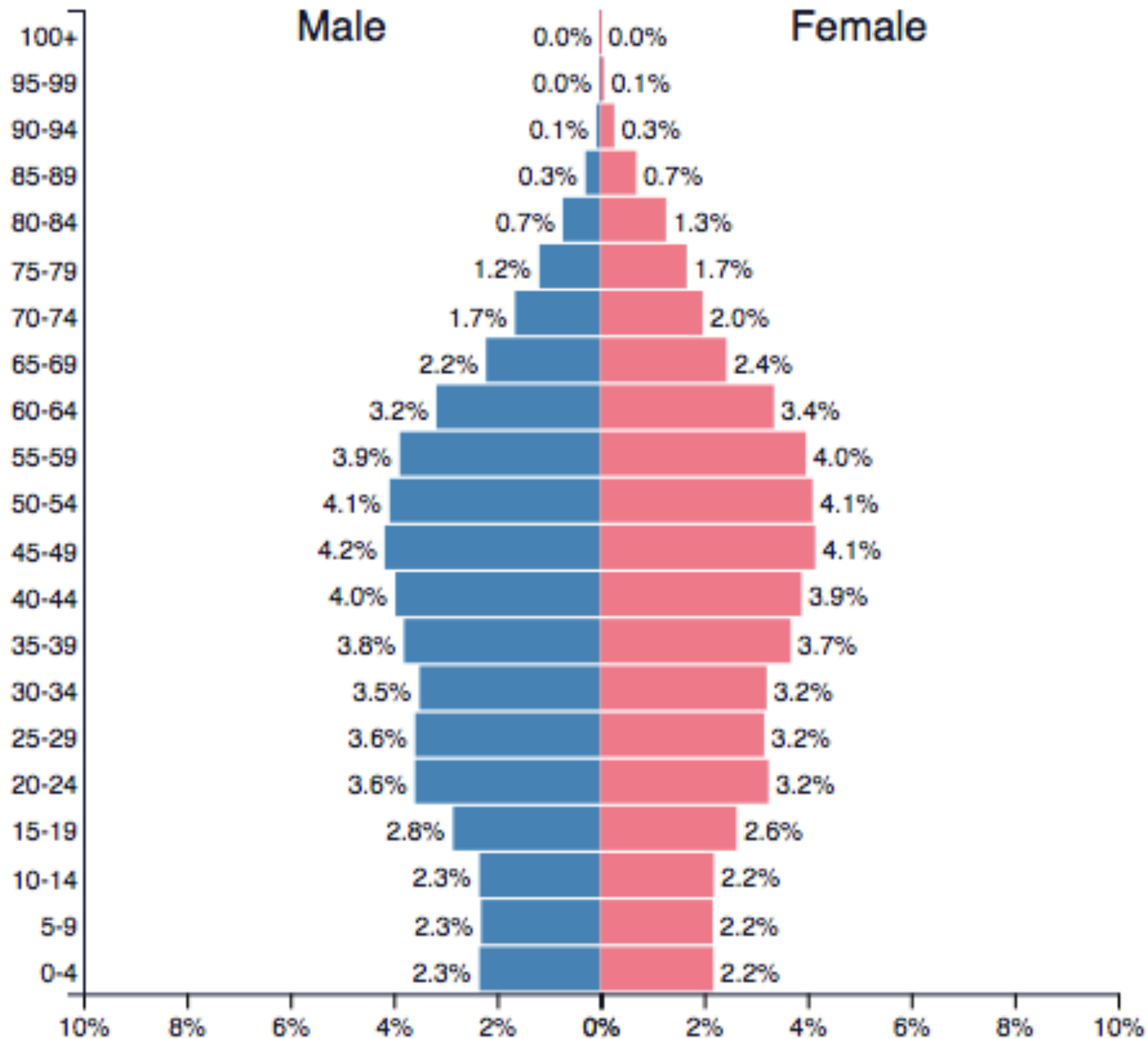
South Korea 1958

1958 was the last year in South Korea when the 0-4 cohort was the highest among all other charts at 7.4% for males and 7.1% for females.



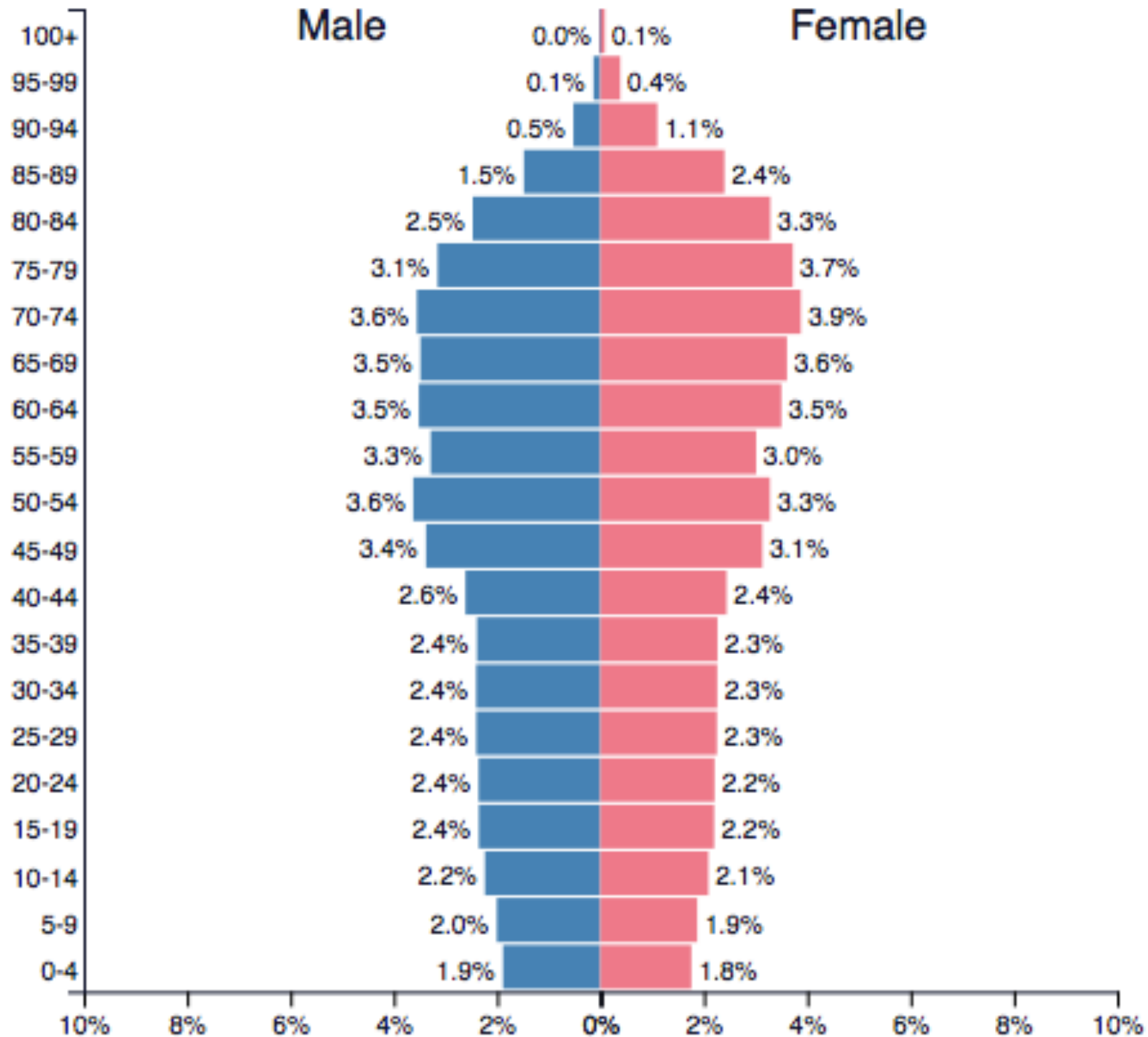
South Korea 2018

2018 is the current population pyramid for South Korea.



South Korea 2045

2045 potentially will be the first year in South Korea when the 0-4 cohort will be below 2.0% with 1.9% for males and 1.8% for females.



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=joSuXGzg8c0>



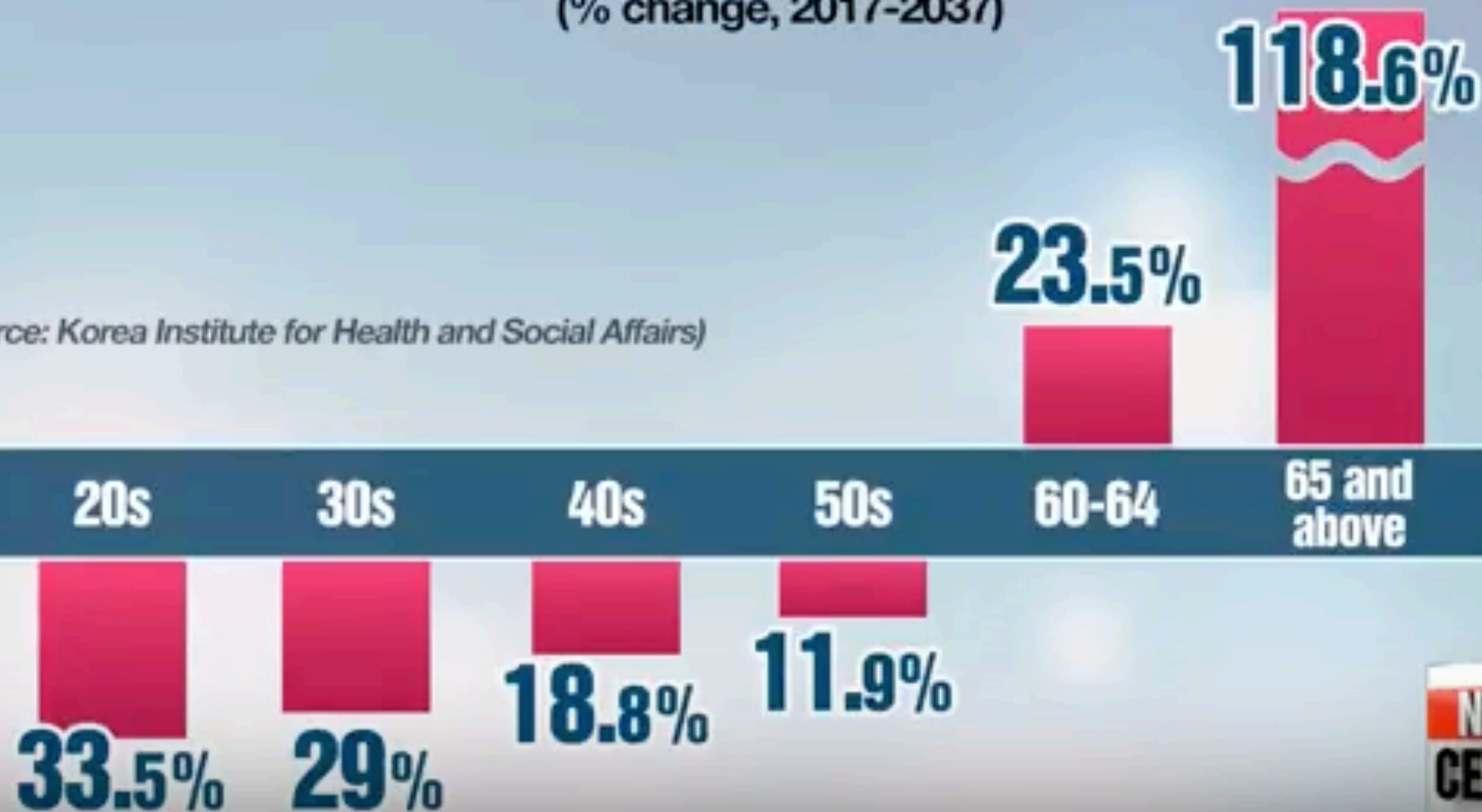
Korea's working population shrinking fast

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=joSuXGzg8c0>

KOREA'S DEMOGRAPHIC CHANGES

(% change, 2017-2037)

(Source: Korea Institute for Health and Social Affairs)



0:53 / 2:03



Korea's working population shrinking fast

Korea's Working Population Shrinking Fast

Questions

1. How does South Korea's fertility rate compare to other countries in the world?
2. What is happening to South Korea's working class population?
3. Describe how South Korea's demographics are projected to change between 2017-2037 for 20's-50's and Over 60.
4. What are the consequences of a declining working class population?
5. Explain how the term "demographic time bomb" relates to South Korea.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=joSuXGzg8c0>

Enrichment Activity Writing Prompt

One issue that contributes to the low fertility rate is the recent problem of high youth unemployment. Many college graduates are unable to find employment in the large conglomerates in South Korea, and as a result of them not being able to find their “dream job” many delay marriage and having a family due to not being financially stable. Discuss possible solutions to this issue in South Korea.

Enrichment Activity Source #1

<https://www.channelnewsasia.com/news/videos/south-korea-grapples-with-record-high-youth-unemployment-9849878>

South Korea grapples with record high youth unemployment

There are now too many college graduates looking for jobs in the country. Analysts say young South Koreans should put less importance on getting a job at a big cong...

BREAKING NEWS



00:00 - 02:43



Enrichment Activity Source #2

<https://www.npr.org/sections/parallels/2017/05/28/530153288/south-korean-youth-struggle-to-find-jobs-after-years-of-studying-for-tests>



3:55

+ Queue

Download

Embed

Transcript



ASIA

South Korean Youth Struggle To Find Jobs After Years Of Studying For Tests

May 28, 2017 · 8:09 AM ET

Heard on [Weekend Edition Sunday](#)

LAUREN FRAYER



Day 2

**Where have all the children gone?
The Consequences of Low Fertility Rates in
South Korea, Singapore, and Japan**

PowerPoint

What is the agricultural crop shown in the photo, and how is it harvested?













**GPS Automated
Tractor**

BRAINSTORMING ACTIVITY

Write down as many solutions you can think of that South Korea's government could implement to help increase its low fertility rates.

냉, 난방 배전반





임산부입니다.





반드시 커버를 열고 손잡이를 앞으로 당기면
편을 펼 수 있습니다

- 선반 아래 쪽에 대 앉을 수 있습니다
- 뒷자리는 앞대 손잡이입니다



내일의 주인공을 맞이하는 핑크카펫



서울 지하철 임산부 배려석



인사부



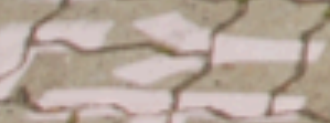
인사부
장소
전용



5

5

STOP



STOP

STOP



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6vCthCecq-0>



[4 Angles] Korea's Ultra-Low Birth Rate: Causes and Solutions

Korea's Ultra-Low Birth Rate: Causes and Solutions

Questions

1. What is a “demographic cliff?”
2. What has happened to South Korea’s fertility rate? How does it compare to other countries around the world? Developed countries?
3. What were the three parts of the Master Plan to increase fertility?
4. What are the criticisms on the reality of these government policies to increase fertility rates?
5. Why did the mother return to work after the birth of her child?
6. Discuss how the work life in South Korea negatively impacts the fertility rate.
7. What can be done to improve a work-life balance?
8. How does job security impact fertility rates in South Korea?
9. Why is improving the low fertility rate important to South Korea’s economy?
10. What from the video do you believe is the best solution to help increase the low fertility rate?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6vCthCecq-0>

Korea Prepares Emergency Measures to Bolster Birthrate

<http://www.koreaherald.com/view.php?ud=20160825000693>



Health and Welfare Minister Chung Jin-youb speaks during a briefing at the government complex in Sejong City on Thursday. (Yonhap)

Print

Korea prepares emergency measures to bolster birthrate

2016-08-25 16:59

The South Korean government will mobilize short-term emergency measures to fight the country's staggeringly low fertility rate such as by expanding state subsidies for couples' seeking infertility treatment.

The government will also raise the paternity leave allowances for families welcoming their second child.

The Ministry of Health and Welfare released these and other measures to fight the low birth rate during a state policy meeting presided by Prime Minister Hwang Kyo-ahn.



Health and Welfare Minister Chung Jin-youb speaks during a briefing at the government complex in Sejong City on Thursday. (Yonhap)

Despite the government's expansive measures in the past several years to raise the birth rate, South Korea has seen a continuous drop in the number of newborns.

The number of newborns in the first five months of this year dropped by 5.3 percent from the same period last year. At this pace, this year is to mark a record-low number of newborns.

The government aims to raise the total fertility rate from the current 1.24 births per woman to 1.5 by 2020. This means at least 20,000 more babies must be born next year.

In the latest measures, the subsidies for couples receiving infertility treatment -- which had been limited to those earning 150 percent or less of the monthly average income -- will apply to all couples regardless of their income level from September.

By October next year, the government plans to have infertility treatment covered by health insurance.

By income, those earning more than 150 percent of the average monthly income -- which is calculated at 5.83 million won (\$5,222) -- will receive 1 million won per session. Those earning between 3.16 million won and 5.83 million won will receive 1.9 million won for the treatment, while those earning 3.16 million won or less will collect 2.4 million won.

With the expansion, some 96,000 people are expected to benefit, compared to the current 50,000.

From July next year, those receiving infertility treatment will also be guaranteed three days of unpaid leave per year. The government has notified of such changes in the revision to the equal employment opportunity act.

The plan comes in light of a consistent rise in the percentage of babies born to parents who received infertility treatment. It rose from 1.4 percent in 2010 to 4.4 percent last year.

The measures also include wider health insurance benefits for treating premature babies born weighing less than 2.5 kilograms, from October.

The upper limit of the paternity leave allowance will be raised from the current 1.5 million won to 2 million won for fathers who had their second child since July this year. The plan is based on recent research that husbands who spend longer hours on child care and household chores lead to higher desires to have a second child.

Households with at least three children and working parents will be guaranteed prioritized admission to public child care centers regardless of their turn in the wait list.

Teachers with at least three children will also be guaranteed an assignment to a desired location of work. The benefit will gradually apply to workers in public organizations in the future.

For these measures, the ministry has decided to set aside some 65 billion won in next year's

budget. This is double this year's budget for the program at 42 billion won.

"The government prepared such emergency measures with a desperate mind that we must exert all possible efforts to block the current low birth rate that continues to decline," said Health Minister Chung Chin-young.

"But these still fall short of transforming the sense of defeat felt by youths into a sense of hope, or to console the working moms who shed tears during our policy debate."

Chung also urged for cooperation from the business, societal and religious sectors.

"I ask of you, the business leaders, to make the workplace somewhere that employees can take child care leave without feeling like they are doing something wrong. ... I ask of you, religious leaders and civic activists, to continuously broach the topic so that our society can contemplate deeper the values of life and family."

(khnews@heraldcorp.com)

Print

Close

Korea Prepares Emergency Measures to Bolster Birthrate **Questions**

1. What are state subsidies? List an example.
2. What has happened to the number of newborns in South Korea?
3. Describe the paternity leave measures.
4. What are the benefits for couples that have three or more children?
5. What can the business leaders do to help with encouraging couples to have children?

<http://www.koreaherald.com/view.php?ud=20160825000693>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=32GTZ6-bUZM>




The video player displays a news segment. On the left, a white text box contains the following information:

South Korea Birth Rate Strategies

- baby bonus
- paying for fertility treatment
- "lights out" policy once a month

The main video area shows a person's hands gently holding a newborn baby wrapped in a white blanket. The background is a blurred news studio setting. In the bottom right corner of the video frame, the 'CBC news' logo is visible. Below the video frame is a red progress bar and a control panel with icons for play, next, volume, and a timer showing 3:22 / 3:28. To the right of the timer are icons for closed captions (CC), settings (gear), full screen, and share.

 CBC is a publicly funded Canadian broadcaster

South Korea's declining birth rate

South Korea's Declining Birth Rate

Questions

1. What concerns do many women have about having children?
2. What is South Korea's "birth strike?" Why is it occurring?
3. List three obstacles facing South Korean women that contribute to them not having children.
4. How do some "traditionalists" react to many women's reluctance to have children?
5. How much money has the South Korean government spent over the past ten years to boost the fertility rate?
6. What reason does Yoon Kim give as to why women are not having children?
7. How is making "men part of the solution" a good move by the South Korean government?
8. Why was the Adeulbawi Rock (Son Rock) used as an example in the video?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=32GTZ6-bUZM>

Student Handout:

Potential Solutions to Low Fertility Rates

Potential Solutions to Low Fertility Rates Name: _____

Part 1 - What are the best solutions to increase South Korea's fertility rate?

Directions: The following are selected potential solutions South Korea's government has used to increase the country's low fertility rate. Rank order the following potential solutions from 1 being what you believe is the most effective to 8 being the least effective.

- _____ (a) Support for pregnancy and childbirth, including support for in vitro fertilization for infertile couples.
- _____ (b) Support for medical costs before childbirth and stronger health management for mothers, infants, and children.
- _____ (c) Housing support for newlyweds (Funds for purchasing or leasing homes provided at low interest rates for newlyweds).
- _____ (d) A 90-day paid leave may be used by women workers before and after childbirth.
- _____ (e) A 90-day paid leave may be used by men workers before and after childbirth.
- _____ (f) Flexible working hours for parents who wish to freely adjust their working hours temporarily for childcare.
- _____ (g) Employers install and operate childcare facilities together with other employers, contract local childcare facilities to support the childcare of their workers, or provide childcare allowances to workers when childcare facilities cannot be installed separately within the workplace. Workplaces with 300 or more full time women workers, or 500 or more full-time workers must install childcare facilities within the workplace.
- _____ (h) Expanded income tax deductions for families with children.

Directions: Answer the following questions in complete sentences.

1. What were the reasons for the order that you selected above? What made some of the solutions better in your opinion than other?

2. What is another solution you would add to the list above that you believe would be effective in increasing the fertility rate in South Korea?

Potential Solutions to Low Fertility Rates Name: _____

Part 2 - Creating a Population Poster for South Korea, Japan, or Singapore

Criteria for Population Poster

1. The poster should reflect the current population concerns for one of the following: Japan, Singapore, South Korea, or Taiwan.
2. The poster should have a minimum of one photo and text explaining the photo.
3. The poster should be a pro-natal poster, meaning it is promoting an increase in the total number of births.
4. The poster should include text large enough to read and limited in amount as to not overwhelm the reader.
5. Provide sources and your name on the back of the poster.

Part 3 - Poster Questions and Evaluations

1. Describe the poster you created.

2. Explain why you selected the photos, text, graphs, etc., for the poster you created.

Answer this question after all students have presented their poster to the class.

3. Which other students' posters did you believe would be the most effective and why?

Part 1 - What are the best solutions to increase South Korea's fertility rate?

Directions: The following are selected potential solutions South Korea's government has used to increase the country's low fertility rate. Rank order the following potential solutions from 1 being what you believe is the most effective to 8 being the least effective.

_____ (a) Support for pregnancy and childbirth, including support for in vitro fertilization for infertile couples.

_____ (b) Support for medical costs before childbirth and stronger health management for mothers, infants, and children.

_____ (c) Housing support for newlyweds (Funds for purchasing or leasing homes provided at low interest rates for newlyweds).

_____ (d) A 90-day paid leave may be used by women workers before and after childbirth.

_____ (e) A 90-day paid leave may be used by men workers before and after childbirth.

_____ (f) Flexible working hours for parents who wish to freely adjust their working hours temporarily for childcare.

_____ (g) Employers install and operate childcare facilities together with other employers, contract local childcare facilities to support the childcare of their workers, or provide childcare allowances to workers when childcare facilities cannot be installed separately within the workplace. Workplaces with 300 or more full time women workers, or 500 or more full-time workers must install childcare facilities within the workplace.

_____ (h) Expanded income tax deductions for families with children.

Criteria for Population Poster

1. The poster should reflect the current population concerns for one of the following: Japan, Singapore, South Korea, or Taiwan.
2. The poster should have a minimum of one photo and text explaining the photo.
3. The poster should be a pro-natal poster, meaning it is promoting an increase in the total number of births.
4. The poster should include text large enough to read and limited in amount as to not overwhelm the reader.
5. Provide sources and your name on the back of the poster.

Student Examples of Population Posters

South Korea!
YOUR NATION NEEDS YOU



THIS YEAR, THE POPULATION OF SOUTH KOREA FALLS TO A NEW RECORD.
THIS YEAR THERE WILL BE A NEW RECORD AMOUNT OF ELDERLY PEOPLE
THIS YEAR, THERE WILL RECORD LOW NUMBER OF PEOPLE WORKING.
THIS YEAR, THE NUMBER OF CHILDREN BORN WILL BE AT A RECORD LOW.
THIS YEAR SOUTH KOREA NEEDS YOU... NEEDS YOU TO HAVE MORE CHILDREN!






Birthrate Worldwide

Rank	Country	Birthrate
1	Hong Kong	0.96
2	South Korea	1.2
	Belarus	1.2
4	Ukraine	1.21
5	Poland	1.22
11	Japan	1.27
47	North Korea	1.85
156	Niger	7.16


..... IT'S YOUR NATIONAL DUTY

CHILDREN IN THE FAMILY CAN GIVE YOU JOY.
CHILDREN CAN GIVE YOU A BIGGER PURPOSE IN LIFE.
IF YOU HAVE ONE CHILD HAVE ANOTHER! YOUR ONE CHILD NEEDS SIBLINGS TO PLAY WITH!
STOP BY YOUR LOCAL GOV. OFFICE TO GET FINANCIAL AID, LOWER TUITION FEE, AND DAYCARE!



가족 사랑



CHILDREN CAN BE AMAZING

It is an old Korean tradition that the eldest son will take care of his parents as an adult. With the declining birth rate, there will be too many elders and too few children to care for them. Having a family and children isn't so bad. You have your own miniature version of you to raise and nurture with your love. So, go out there, meet a man or woman, and wish to have children. Korean children are usually the smart ones of the world too. :)

HAVE MORE BABIES SOUTH KOREA!!!!






Support your country by having two or more children and you could be as happy as this Korean family with two newborns! Help raise our national birth rate and support a growing population of the future.




for
South Korea

How well did these examples follow the criteria?

South Korea!
YOUR NATION NEEDS YOU



THIS YEAR, THE POPULATION OF SOUTH KOREA FALLS TO A NEW RECORD.
THIS YEAR THERE WILL BE A NEW RECORD AMOUNT OF ELDERLY PEOPLE
THIS YEAR, THERE WILL RECORD LOW NUMBER OF PEOPLE WORKING.
THIS YEAR, THE NUMBER OF CHILDREN BORN WILL BE AT A RECORD LOW.
THIS YEAR SOUTH KOREA NEEDS YOU... NEEDS YOU TO HAVE MORE CHILDREN!






Birthrate Worldwide (%)

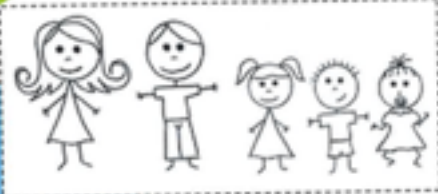
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Main criticism: Too much text on the first two examples.



도움

Help!

...I need a baby brother or sister.

SOUTH KOREANS NEED MORE BABIES!

*The sound of a baby's cry seems rare nowadays in South Korea.
South Korea's youth population falls to under 10 million for the first time in decades.*



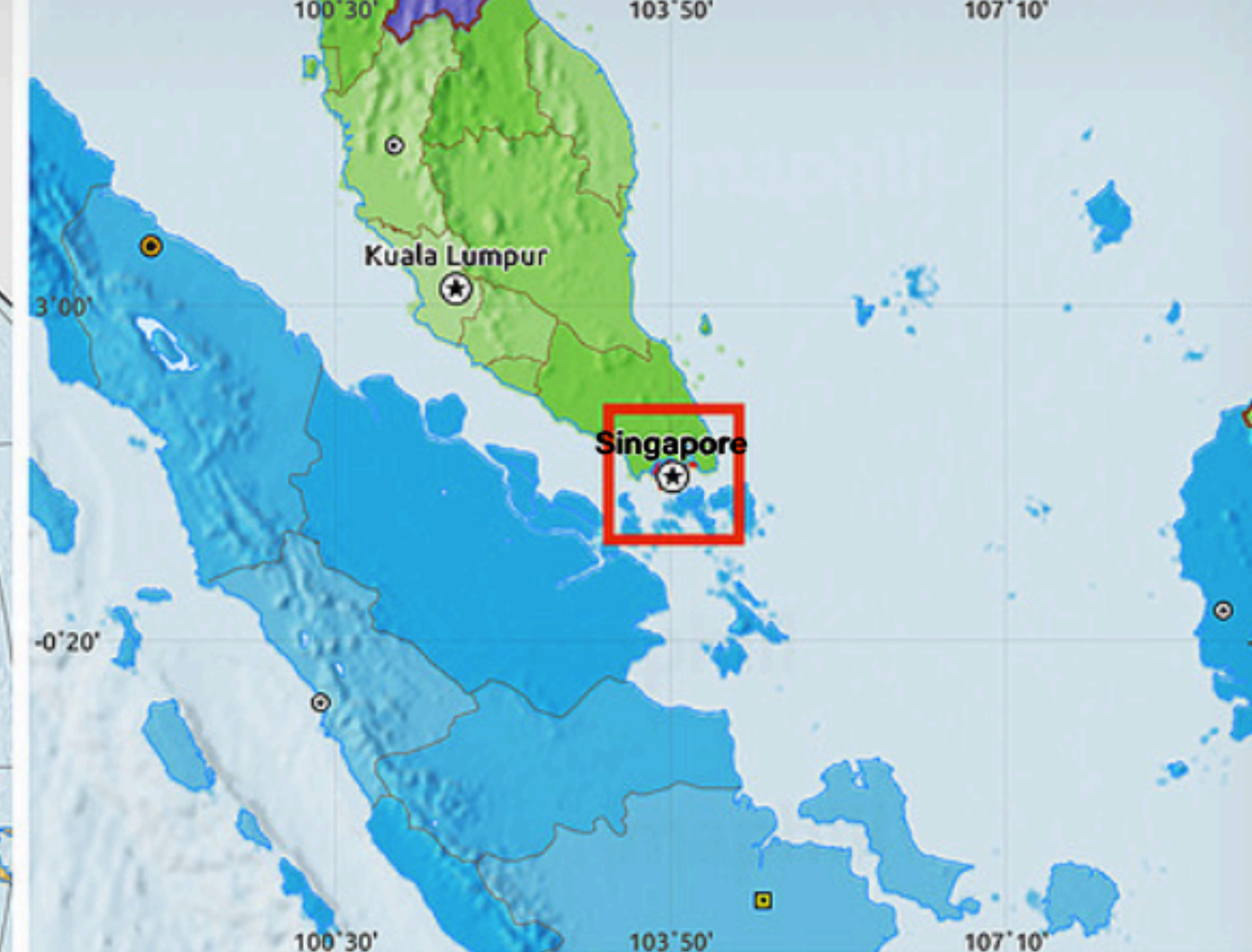
Day 3

**Where have all the children gone?
The Consequences of Low Fertility Rates in
South Korea, Singapore, and Japan**

PowerPoint



After viewing the following slides how would you describe life in Singapore: Culture, Housing, Religion, Food, and Language?



Singapore is an island country or city-state in Southeast Asia. It is one of the smallest independent countries in the world in area. It has a population of 5.7 million people.







Pet Lovers Centre
Pet Care Since 1972
Visitors: All Pets

HOLLAND VILLAGE FOOD COURT

HOLLAND VILLAGE FOOD COURT

HOLLAND VILLAGE FOOD COURT

Car Lift



CHILLI SAUCE

KETCHUP

CHILLI SAUCE



LOCATE US

Enter location



Filter your search

McDonald's Admiralty

678A Woodlands Avenue 6
#01-05
Singapore 731678



McDonald's Ang Mo Kio

51 Ang Mo Kio Avenue 3
#01-04
51 @ AMK
Singapore 569922



McDonald's Bedok Mall

311 New Upper Changi Road Unit
#01-10/11 Bedok Mall
Singapore 467360



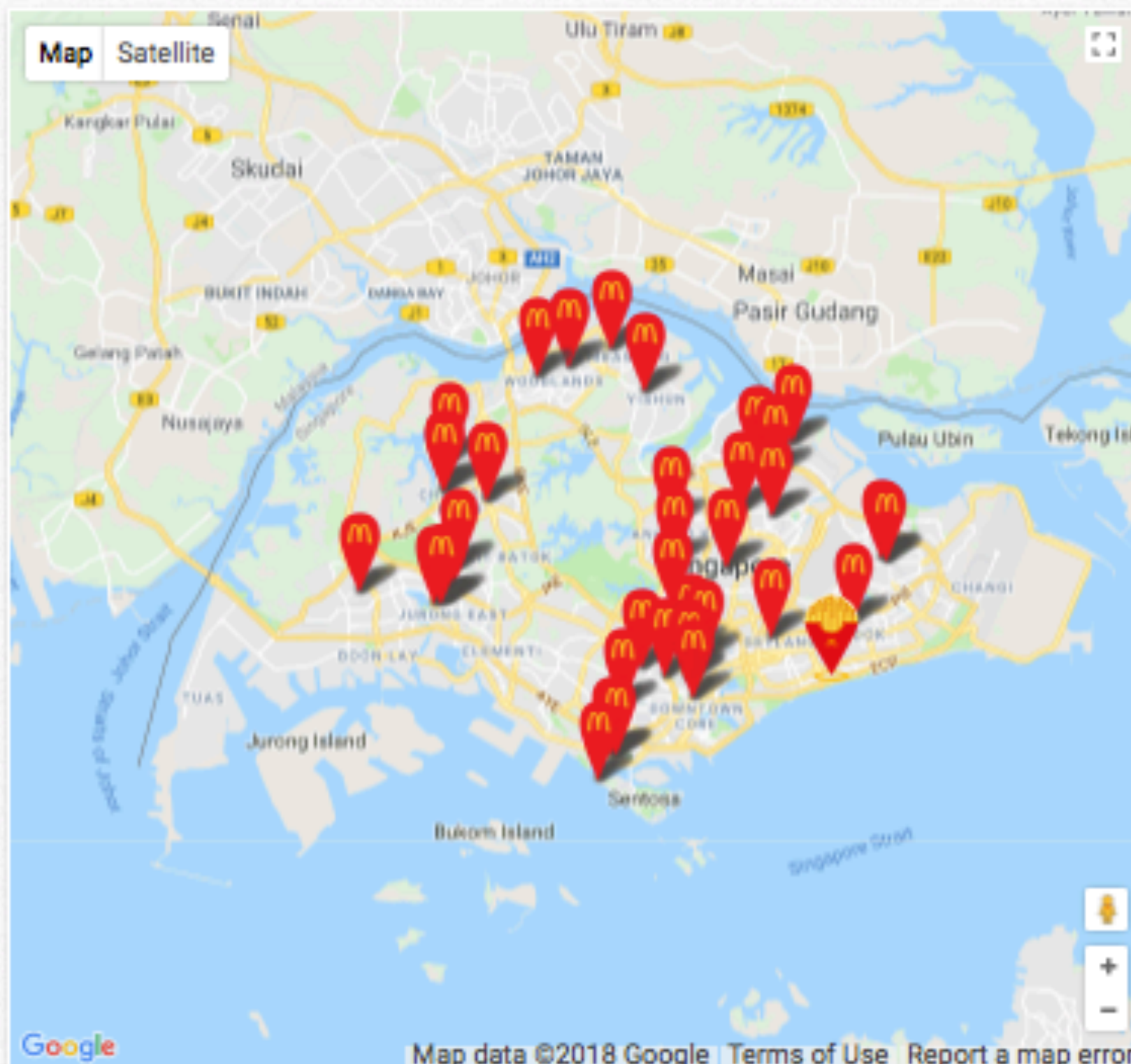
McDonald's Bishan Junction 8

9 Bishan Place
#01-20
Junction 8
Singapore 579837



McDonald's Bugis Junction

200 Victoria Street
#01-02





MASJID JAMAE CHULIA



THE WORLD ARRIVES
SINGAPORE
SINGAPORE AIRWAYS
SINGAPORE AIRWAYS

Chinatown
Night Market
11:00-11:00
Pulau Ubin
11:00-11:00
11:00-11:00

Chinatown
Heritage Trail
11:00-11:00
Pulau Ubin
11:00-11:00
11:00-11:00

WALL'S
WALL'S
WALL'S

DRIVE SLOWLY
DRIVE SLOWLY







FAIRFIELD METHODIST CHURCH
花菲衛理公會

平安

不要
忧
愁

LET NOT
your hearts
be troubled

不要
胆怯

欢迎来自中国的朋友!
WELCOME TO CHINA FRIENDS!

花菲衛理公會
Fairfield Methodist Church





BBQ Chicken

central

CHRISTMAS
DISCOUNT

CHRISTMAS
DISCOUNT
FOR ALL
LEVELS

STEAMBOAT
CITY
HONG KONG

BECK'S
FLAMINGO
HONG KONG

SANTOUCI
HONG KONG

T
A
N

HE HAS MADE
EVERYTHING BEAUTIFUL
IN ITS TIME...
ECCLESIASTES 3:11

TANGS
ELEMENTAL
GALLERY

SAFETY FIRST
安全 第一
BERHAJUT HILANG
ORGANISASI

AREA
TANG
LAYDOWN

BE CAREFUL
BEYOND THE
FENCE
BEYOND THE
FENCE



Roman Catholic

Buddhist

Muslim

Hindu

Teachers in Singapore



After viewing the following slides how would you describe life in Singapore: Culture, Housing, Religion, Food, and Language?

Culture - Chinese and Malaysian Influences

Housing - High-rise Apartments

Religion - Christianity, Islam, Hinduism, Buddhism

Food - Food Courts, Fast Food, Spicy

Language - English



RESOURCES
TEACHING RESOURCES ESSAYS



Top Ten Things to Know about Singapore in the Twenty-First Century

By Charles Chao Rong Phua

Aerial view of downtown Singapore. Source: University of Strathclyde Glasgow website at <https://tinyurl.com/y7z49f55>.

1 MANY NAMES OF SINGAPORE. A place of human habitation long before 1819 when Sir Stamford Raffles established the British settlement, Singapore is the English version of the Malay word “Singapura,” which literally means “Lion City.” Legend has it that when Sang Nila Utama, once ruler of the Srivijaya Empire in Sumatra, discovered the island with white sandy shores in 1299, a storm nearly capsized his boat until he threw his crown into the turbulent waters. When they landed, they spotted a strange beast (orange head, black head, and a white neck breast; his advisers claimed it was a lion) from afar, and hence the island was named Singapura. He ruled until 1347. However, modern historians, citing zoological studies, question the existence of lions in Singapore. Before Singapura, Singapore was called “Temasek,” the Malay word for “Sea Town.” This explains why the Singapore mascot is the Merlion—a word that combines sea (Temasek) and lion (Singapura).

2 BRITAIN’S CROWN COLONY TO “UNSINKABLE” FORTRESS of the East. Sir Stamford Raffles, then-Lieutenant-Governor of British Bencoolen in West Sumatra, founded Singapore in 1819 with the intent of breaking Dutch dominance in the region. Singapore was designed and run as a free port. Owing to its geographical location and free trade, Singapore thrived and attracted Asians, Europeans, and Arabs. Under the Raffles

RESOURCES
TEACHING RESOURCES ESSAYS



Top Ten Things to Know about Singapore in the Twenty-First Century! by Charles Chao Hong Ph Lii

Aerial view of Singapore, Singapore. Source: University of Northumbria image courtesy of <http://www.100city.com/>

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2 BRITAIN’S CROWN COLONY TO “UNSINKABLE” FORTRESS of the East. Sir Stamford Raffles, then Lieutenant-Governor of British Bencoolen in West Sumatra, founded Singapore in 1819 with the intent of breaking Dutch dominance in the region. Singapore was designed and run as a free port. Owing to its geographical location and free trade, Singapore thrived and attracted Asians, Europeans, and Arabs. Under the Raffles Plan of Singapore, the country was divided into functional and ethnic subdivisions—Chinatown, Kampong Glam (populated by Malays), and Little India are a result of this policy. In 1867, Singapore became the capital of the Straits Settlements Crown Colony, which included four other British possessions that broke away from British India Rule under direct supervision of the Colonial Office in London. Winston Churchill has described Singapore as the “Gibraltar of the East” but in 1942, the Empire of Japan conquered Singapore. The British surrender and Japanese Occupation left an indelible mark etched in Singapore’s founding fathers: no one will protect your country except yourself.



A symbol of Singapore, the Merlion was created in 1964. Source: Wikimedia Commons (https://imgur.com/0Mjgdy)



Sir Stamford Raffles Raffles. Source: Wikimedia Commons (https://imgur.com/575z88)



April 09, 2011. Asia edition of Time magazine. Source: <http://imgur.com/0a2agp7>



RESOURCES
TEACHING RESOURCES ESSAYS

3 INTERNAL INDEPENDENCE, THE MALAY FEDERATION, AND NATIONAL INDEPENDENCE. The British first rejected the Straits Settlement and made Singapore a separate colony. After tamabuan internal political problems and negotiations with the British, the UK granted the colony complete internal self-government in 1959. British-trained lawyer and rising political star Lee Kuan Yew became Singapore’s Chief Minister. In 1963, Singapore joined the Federation of Malaysia. This was followed by two years of rocky relations, including race riots between Malays and Chinese, and the perception by Chinese that a meritocracy was impossible because of Malay dominance. On August 9th, 1965, Singapore, with Lee and the People’s Action Party (PAP) at the helm, became an independent nation.

4 FROM MEDIEVALS TO METROPOLES. Singapore’s infrastructural development journey is noteworthy. A key principle of the PAP government was that all citizens should own their own share (affordable public housing). Since 1960, public housing has accounted for more than 80 percent of Singaporeans’ residences. Rapid urbanization meant people in rural villages were moved to housing and Development Board (DB) flats. The PAP Government adopted a “Gang Plan” concept: clusters of high-density development surrounding the central water catchment area and southern development belt connecting Jurong (west) to Changi (east). Residential development was further strengthened by a mass rapid transit (MRT) system in 1987.

5 THIRD WORLD TO FIRST. Under Lee Kuan Yew’s leadership, Singapore jumped from Third World to First World within a generation (per capita GDP of US \$100 in 1965, the same as Mexico and South Africa, to US \$13,000 in 1993, surpassing South Korea and Israel). The stability and longevity of PAP rule provided necessary political stability and policy consistency for foreign investments and economic confidence in Singapore. Two economic strategies were key. First, Singapore heeded the advice of UN economic adviser and later chief economic adviser for twenty-four years, Albert Hirschman to embark on export-led industrialization and growth through multinational companies (MNCs). International development experts recommended import substitution in the 1950s and 1960s for developing countries, but it failed more than it succeeded. Singapore also adopted state-led capitalism after studying Japanese success and realized the powerful economic incentives of private ownership and profits with state guidance but not state control. This can be attributed to strong pragmatism and the hard work of Singapore’s business Development Board to court MNCs, the 1980s production of government-linked companies, a rigorous education system, and a population with a superb work ethic.

6 TOTAL DEFENSE. Singapore’s peace, stability and prosperity are premised in part upon its strong armed forces. Singapore has also benefited from partnerships and cooperation with global and regional powers, and its Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) neighbors. This self-reliance in defense was a key lesson learned from British failure to protect Singapore against Japanese invasion and occupation for three years and eight months during World War II. The conscripted citizen army is well-trained and well-equipped with the latest technologies. A citizen army has the merits of generating the entire nation’s talent pool for the military’s use in times of war. The two-year compulsory National Service in Singapore Armed Forces, Police and Civil Defense Force serves as a rite of passage from “teen to man.” Total Defense was adopted to stress the comprehensive nature of defense—military, civil, economic, social, and psychological—that every citizen has a part to play in Singapore. Total Defense Day is celebrated every February 19th, the day British surrendered to the Japanese, through island-wide public warning system sirens.



Skyscrapers with Singapore City skyline and modern skyscrapers. Source: <http://imgur.com/0a2agp7>



The bulk carrier ship, the Equator of the Republic of Singapore Navy. Source: <http://imgur.com/0a2agp7>

RESOURCES

TEACHING RESOURCES ESSAYS

7 REGARDLESS OF RACE, LANGUAGE, OR RELIGION. Singapore is also successful because of the relatively high, by world standards, harmony between races and religions. In Singapore, religions do not participate in politics. All races and religions are treated equally, as articulated in the Singapore national pledge and institutionalized by the Presidential Council of Religious Harmony and Minority Rights. Deliberate policies ensure diverse races and religions intermingle, beginning when citizens are young children. Most Singaporeans stay in public housing, and there are ethnic quotas to ensure all races are represented in all precincts and protected spaces for communal activities planned by residence committees and community clubs. Primary education is compulsory, and all schools are integrated. National service is a common experience for all citizens regardless of race, language, or religion. Everyone has the same hairstyle, eats the same communal rations, and charges up the same bill. In the recent past, for various reasons including low birth rates and labor shortages, Singapore has attracted a large number of immigrants. In 2017, the number of foreigners in Singapore (approximately 1.4 million) constituted almost one-quarter of Singapore's total population (5.75 million). This significant development may test Singapore's positive multi-ethnic record.

8 CONFUCIAN MERITOCRACY. Singapore's governance model is often judged against Western standards of democracy. It is more accurately a Confucian meritocracy. The key to government success in Singapore is to be a good technocrat. Elections are held and there are several political parties, but the PAP dominates politics. Singapore is not an authoritarian dictatorship; the highly respected, international organization Freedom House ranks Singapore as "partly free." Thanks to the late Lee Kuan Yew's leadership, a Confucian emphasis on education was coupled with the rule of law. Academic top scorers were given generous overseas scholarships, along with well-planned and accelerated career paths to pinnacle positions in public-sector and, sometimes, private-sector government-linked companies. However, recently there has been a gradual shift to more emphasis on *SkillFuture* (lifelong learning) and somewhat less of an intense emphasis upon academic performance. The Civil Service recently removed existing career scheme barriers separating graduate and nongraduate staff, and recruited and promoted staff based on job performance and work experience, rather than academic qualifications.

9 AN IDEOLOGY OF PRAGMATISM. In foreign policy and in general, as a small nation that works hard to survive, Singapore takes its pragmatism, Merited and bureaucratic leadership use the HALL criteria for policy selection—Honest, open voices, Analytical process, Imagination, and a sense of Reality. Singaporean leaders make policies based on hard-headed rationality and what works.

10 ODD HONEST KID IN THE BLOCK. Corruption-free government is an ideal the Singapore state has made happen in a realistic manner using competitive salaries coupled with strong disincentives for corruption. In 2016, Transparency International ranked Singapore seventh out of 178 nations in lack of government corruption. Singapore gets top rankings in transparency and lack of corruption for three reasons. First, strong leadership by example: when the top starts to be corrupt, the lower levels follow suit. The Confucian bias toward *justice* (*gentleman scholar*) sets a high moral yardstick to assess scholar-officials. Second, many nations don't pay public servants high salaries, and, rather than deal with the demands of the job, many people who could make higher salaries avoid government positions—hence, Singapore's middle way of paying officials competitive salaries. Entry-level pay for government ministers is 60 percent of the median income of the top 1,000 Singaporean salaries to "slightly sacrifice than come with others of public service," set with variable components linked to individual performance and national outcomes. Third, consequences for default are clear and harsh. The power of shame and guaranteed legal action (Prevention of Corruption Act) reinforce the message of zero tolerance toward corruption. The Corrupt Practices Investigation Bureau (CPIB) reports directly to the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) and is strengthened by an empowered and vigilant public ready to give information on all suspected corruption. Regardless of an official's rank, he or she will be investigated if there is a suspicion of corruption. ■



Singapore skyline and port area. Source: Singapore, Greater Singapore.

CHARLES CHIAO BONG PHUA is Deputy Director General for Overseas Chinese Affairs of National Development (Singapore), and concurrently Lee Kong Chuan School of the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy National University of Singapore. He is a thought leader with resident fellowships at Columbia, Johns Hopkins University, and the Brookings Institution. He was a president, Senior Fellow of The East Asia Institute (New York) and ASEAN Asia Fellow at National CSIS. Charles also served as Assistant Editor for *Comparative Public Policy* (Cambridge University Press), Immediate Past Editor-in-Chief of *Asian Journal of Public Affairs*, and is a member of the Editorial Board of *QJGIT* of *Journal of Values and Humanities* and *Journal of Values*.

Top Ten Things to Know about Singapore in the 21st Century **Summaries**

Write 2-3 sentence summaries for each of the ten things to know about Singapore.

1. Many Names of Singapore
2. Britain's Crown Colony to "Unsinkable" Fortress
3. Internal Independence, the Malay Federation, and National Independence
4. From Mudflats to Metropolis
5. Third World to First
6. Total Defense
7. Regardless of Race, Language, or Religion
8. Confucian Meritocracy
9. An Ideology of Pragmatism
10. Odd Honest Kid on the Block

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4yfbzFyqt_8



"When You Came Along" - SG50 Baby TVC

Discuss the purpose of the commercial. It is effective?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tMIBMjaijdE>



Times May Have Changed But The Joy Of Parenthood Remains

Discuss the purpose of the commercial. It is effective?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NRhg-oDbz18>

Current
1 week
Paternity
Leave

New!
1 week
Paternity
Leave
(voluntary)

Dads now have up to 4 weeks to care for their newborn (includes 1 week of Shared Parental Leave and 6 days of Child Care Leave).

Baby Bonus Cash Gift
Extended to 5th child and beyond

Baby Bonus Plus
Support caregiving during first 18 months

New!
\$8,000
for 5th child and beyond

New!
+\$2,000
for each child

Child Order	Current Bonus	New Bonus	Total Bonus
1st Baby	\$6,000	+\$2,000	\$8,000
2nd Baby	\$6,000	+\$2,000	\$8,000
3rd Baby	\$8,000	+\$2,000	\$10,000
4th Baby	\$8,000	+\$2,000	\$10,000
5th Baby & beyond	\$8,000	+\$2,000	\$10,000

No longer just for the first 4 children. The 5th and subsequent children will enjoy the Baby Bonus Cash Gift too.

Baby Bonus Plus of \$2,000 will be given on top of the current Baby Bonus Cash Gift.

1:03 / 3:45

CC

[CNM-IQ] Singapore's Population Growth Incentives

Singapore's Population Growth Incentives

Questions

1. When did Singapore last achieve its fertility replacement level of 2.1?
2. What are the effects of low population growth for Singapore?
3. What has the government done to try to increase the birth rate? List four examples.
4. Discuss if these government measures are effective.
5. What impact does work have on the low birth rates?
6. What is one way Singapore might achieve a work-life balance?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NRhg-oDbz18>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pGWp8dFxNSQ>



9. On how Singapore is increasing its birth rate (LKY Prize Award Ceremony)

On How Singapore is Increasing its Birth Rate

Questions

1. What does Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong say about Singapore's birth rate?
2. According to the Prime Minister what are some of the things Singapore can do to improve its birth rate?
3. How does the Prime Minister describes the populations of cities?
4. What does the Prime Minister say about “outside talent?”
5. What is the “balance” the Prime Minister is referring to at the end of the video?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pGWp8dFxNSQ>

OUR POPULATION, OUR FUTURE

Singapore's Population



Student Website Activity

<http://www.population.sg/portals/0/infographics/index.html#.WqAED2a-KHq>



OUR POPULATION, OUR FUTURE



SINGAPORE POPULATION
5.47 MIL
2014

Africa has diamonds, the Middle East has oil and many other countries have agriculture. For Singapore, people are our one natural resource.



Our
Population



Making
Babies



Living
Longer



Gearing for
Change



Pushing
Forward

Student Handout:

Our Population, Our Future (Singapore Infographic Website)

Our Population, Our Future

Name: _____

Directions: Use the following website to complete the questions below:

<http://www.population.sg/portals/0/infographics/index.html#.WqAED2a-KHq>

Explain the following statement:

Africa has diamonds, the Middle East has oil, and many other countries have agriculture. For Singapore, people are our one natural resource.

Which U.S. state(s) compare to Singapore's population of 5.47 million?

Our Population

Describe Singapore's population.

Making Babies

What is TFR?

How has Singapore's TFR changed from 1970 to 2014?

What are TWO consequences for the change in TFR?

How does Singapore's fertility rate compare to the other selected countries?

Living Longer

What is your life expectancy? Why is it so high?

What are TWO consequences for the elderly living longer?

How does the United States life expectancy compare to the other selected countries?

Our Population, Our Future

Name: _____

Gearing for Change

Describe Singapore's population pyramid in:

a) 1970

b) 1990

c) 2010

d) 2050

What are the main differences between 2050 and 2010?

Discuss the answer to the question, "How fast are we aging?"

Describe how the working-age numbers have changed since 1970.

Explain why Singapore will be facing a worker shortage.

Pushing Forward

Describe what happens if Singapore were to:

a) Change its TFR to 0.5 and its Immigration Rate to 0K

b) Change its TFR to 0.5 and its Immigration Rate to 40K

c) Change its TFR to 1.2 and its Immigration Rate to 0K

d) Change its TFR to 2.1 and its Immigration Rate to 40K

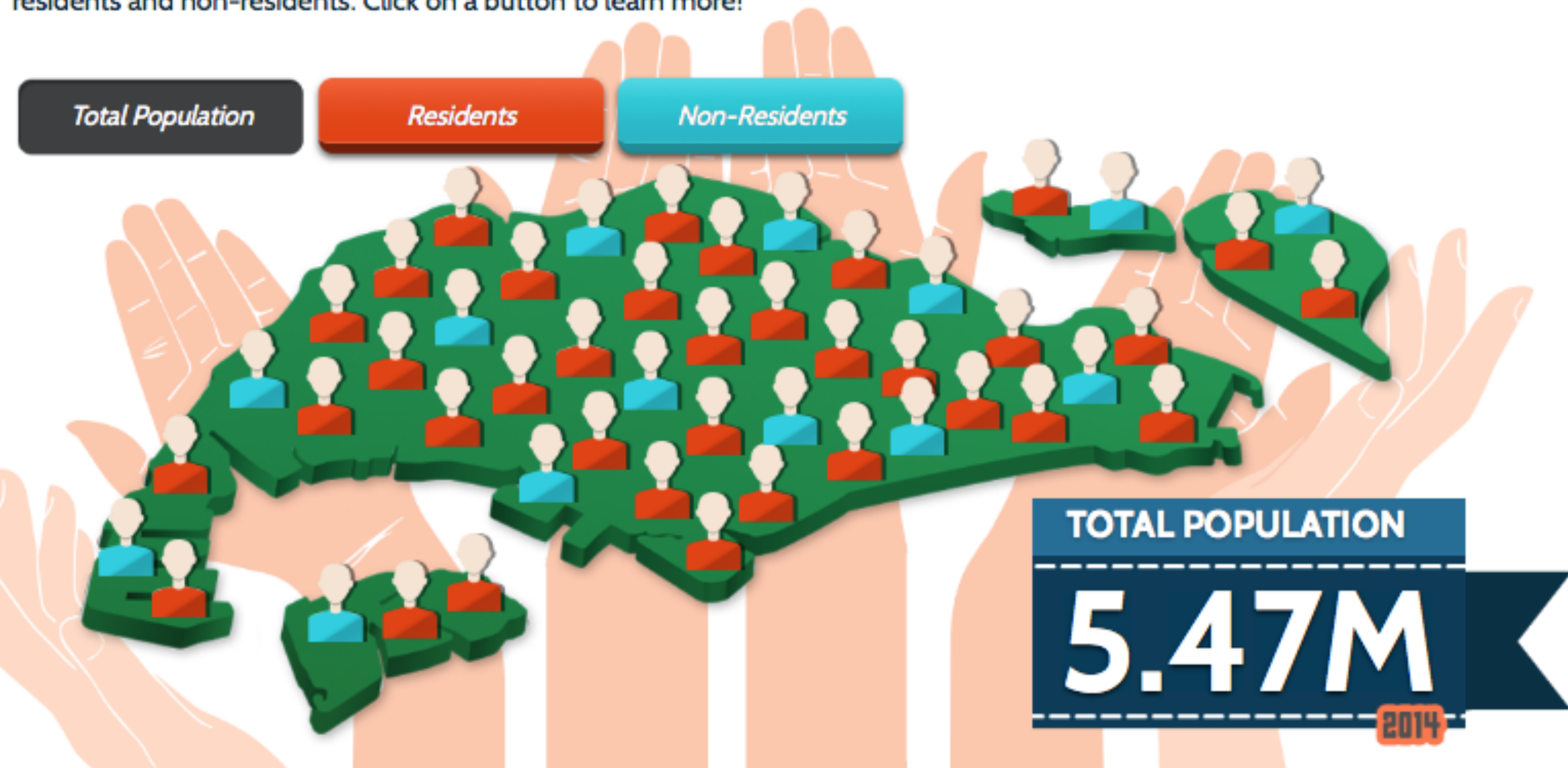
Explain what would be Singapore's ideal TFR and Immigration rate.

Discuss how Singapore is facing a balancing act when it comes to the country's future population.



OUR POPULATION

Singapore is a vibrant, international metropolis, home to a 5.47 million population, made up of citizens, permanent residents and non-residents. Click on a button to learn more!



MAKING BABIES

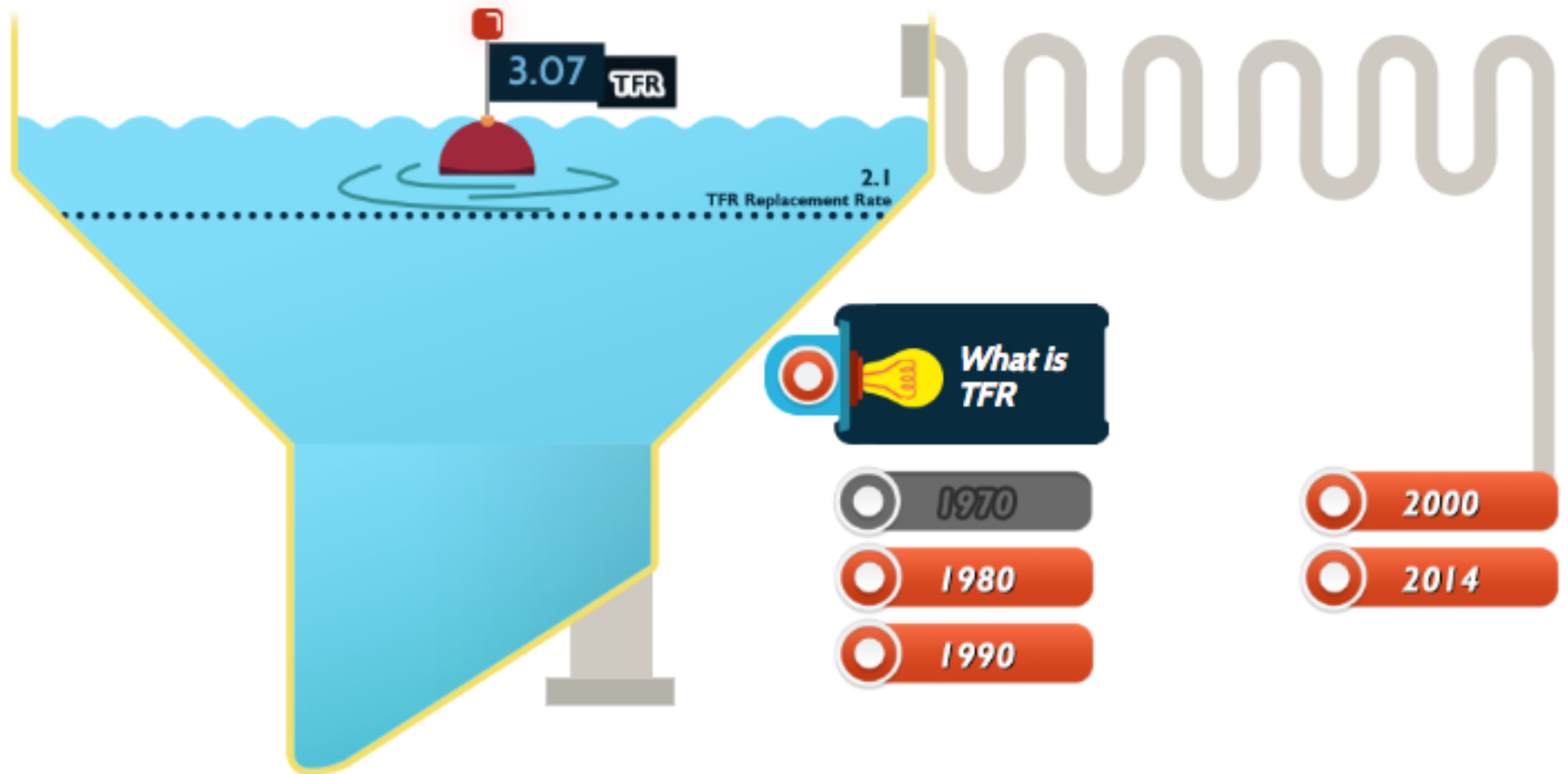
There was a time when we had such large families that it was challenging for us to feed, and eventually find employment for our children. Now, the reverse is true: our families are getting smaller, and some do not even have children! We haven't been having enough children to replace ourselves, since the late 1970s. How has TFR declined through the decades? Click on the years to find out!



**Making
Babies**

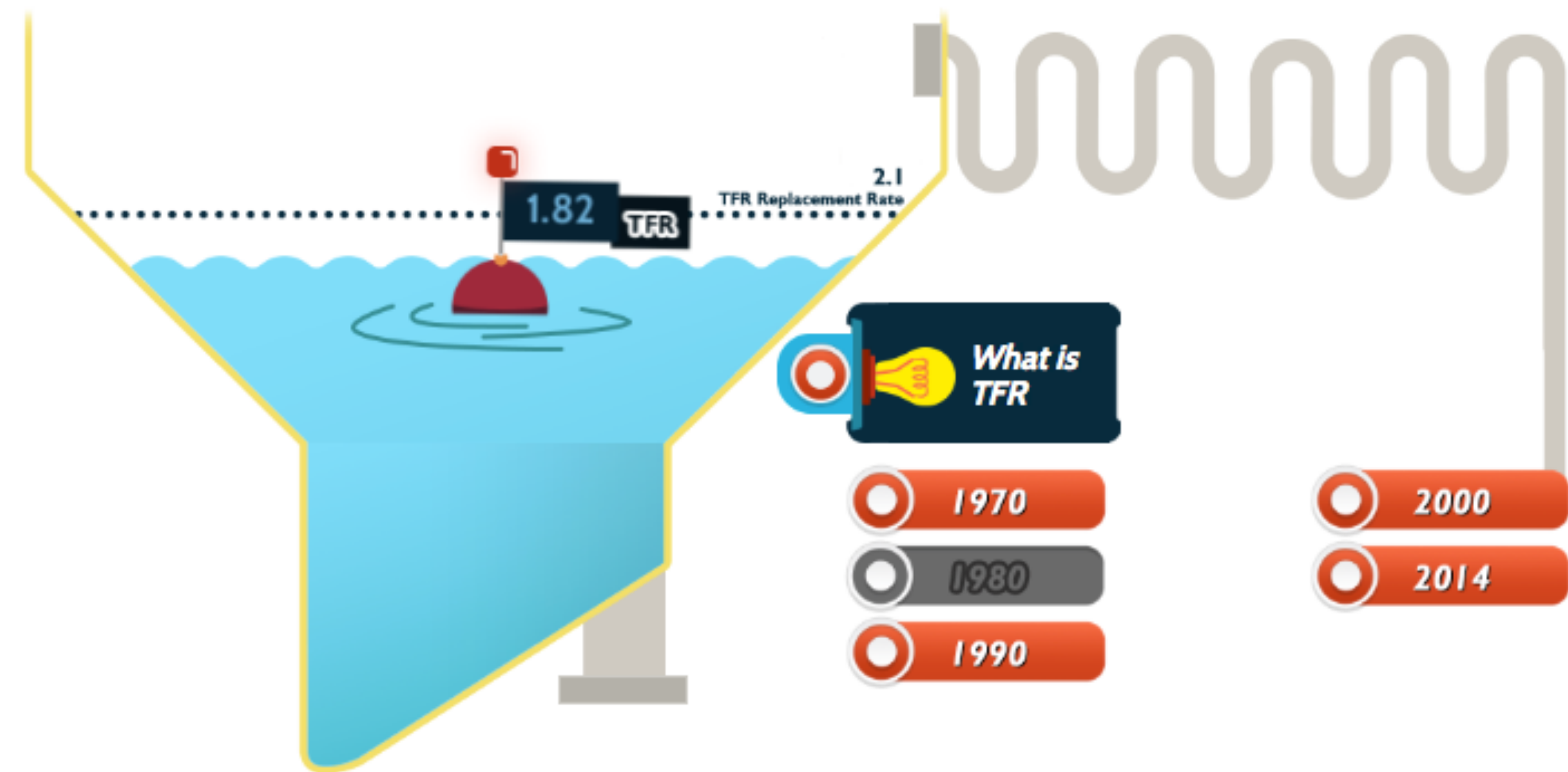
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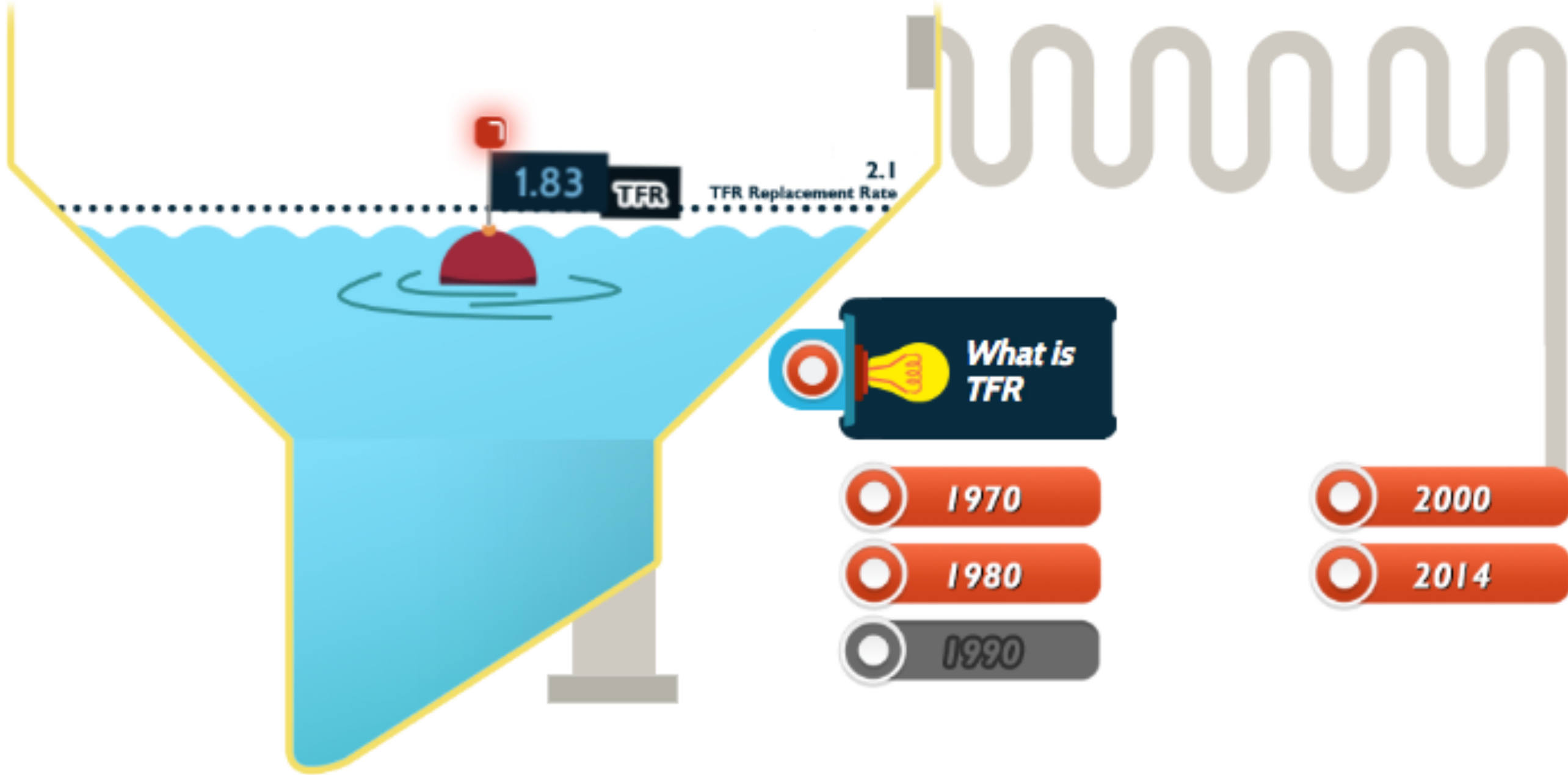
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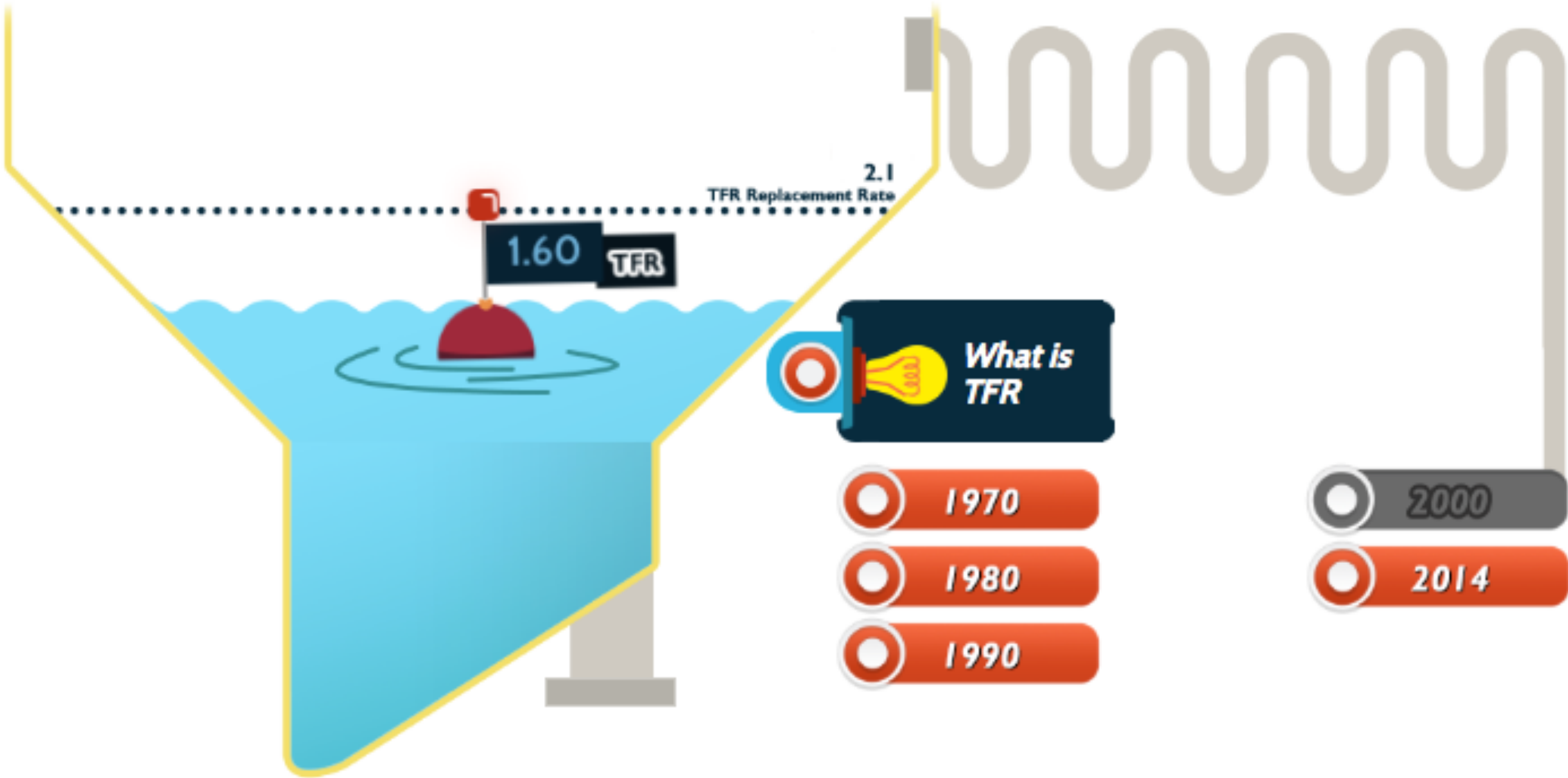
MAKING BABIES

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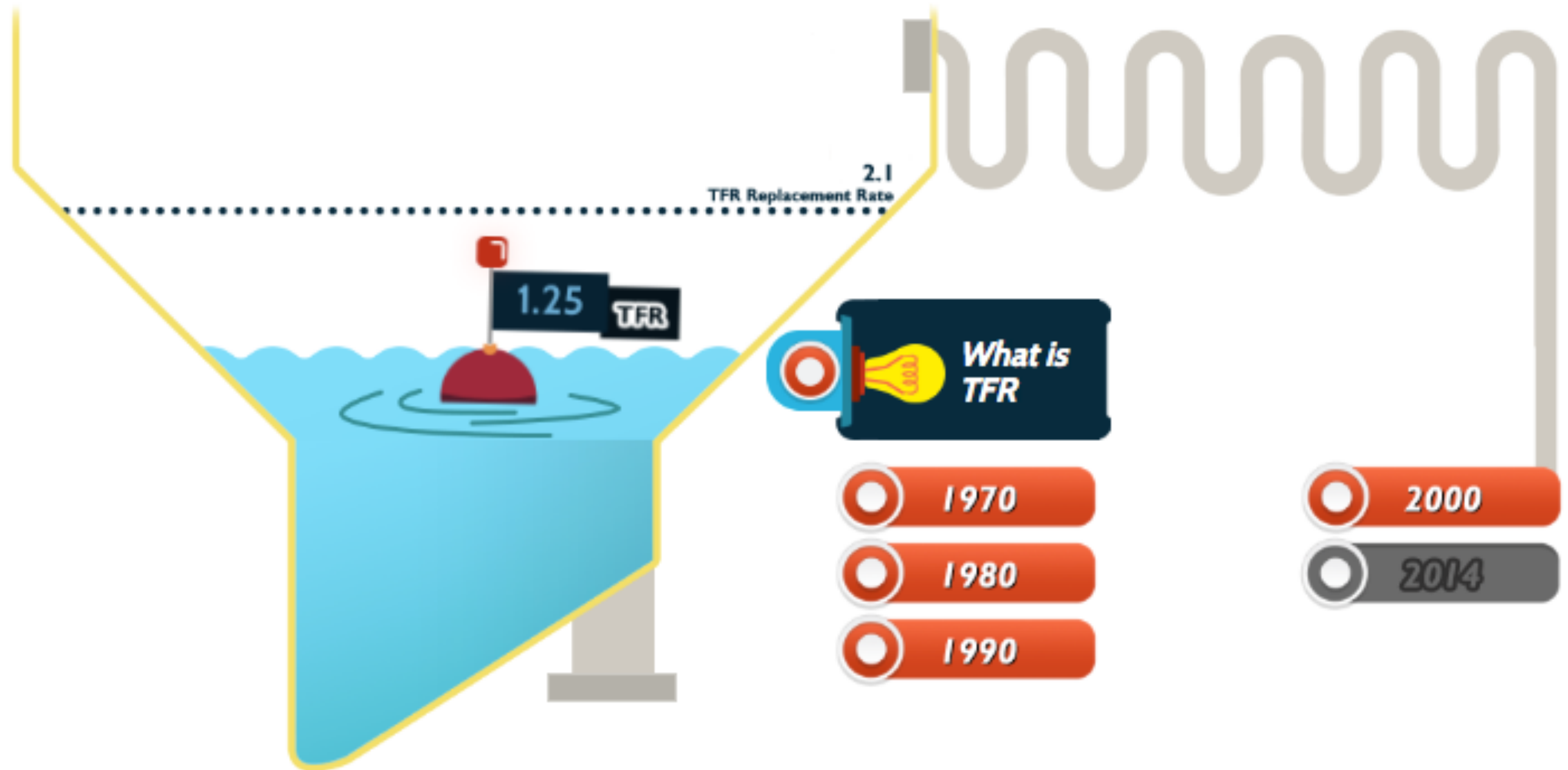
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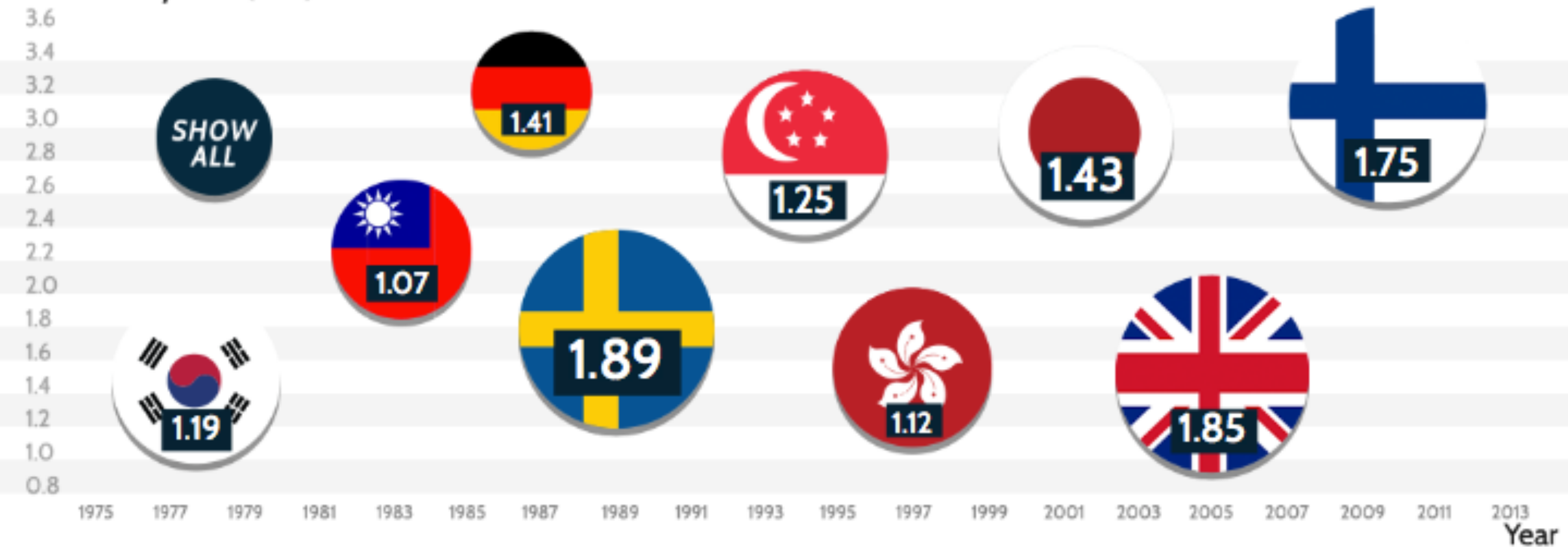
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FERTILITY WORLDWIDE

While birthrates in many societies have fallen, some managed to buck the trend – dads are more involved in caring for their children, and there are family-friendly arrangements to help parents manage their work and family commitments. Find out which ones by clicking on the flags!

Total Fertility Rate (TFR)





**Living
Longer**

GAUGING LIFE EXPECTANCY

How long an individual will live is anyone's guess, but statistics can give a clue. What is the life expectancy of a person based on age and gender? Our machine can tell you! Input your age and gender and pull the lever on the left!

Did You Know?

While life expectancy is a national average, a person's actual life expectancy very much depends on factors like lifestyle, diet and even genes! Did you know that in 2014, there were 1,053 Singaporeans aged over 100 years old?

43

Male

Female

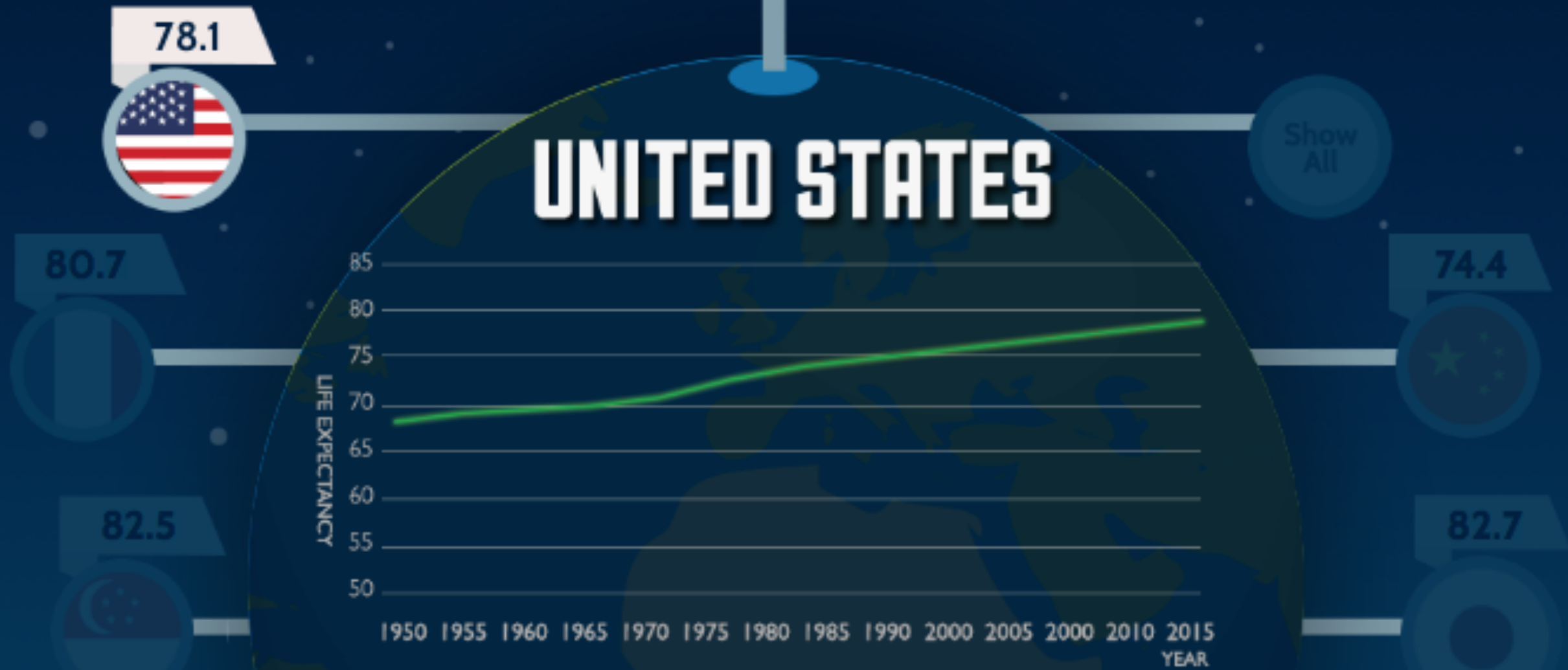
On average, people your age and gender have a life expectancy of : **85.3**

Ageing used to be just ageing...

With elders living longer, it's now 'Active Ageing'!

LIFE EXPECTANCY AROUND THE WORLD

With improving healthcare and living standards, Singaporeans are getting healthier and living longer. Singapore's life expectancy at birth in 1957 was 60 years; in 2013, it increased to 80 years! Here's life expectancy in Singapore, and around the world.



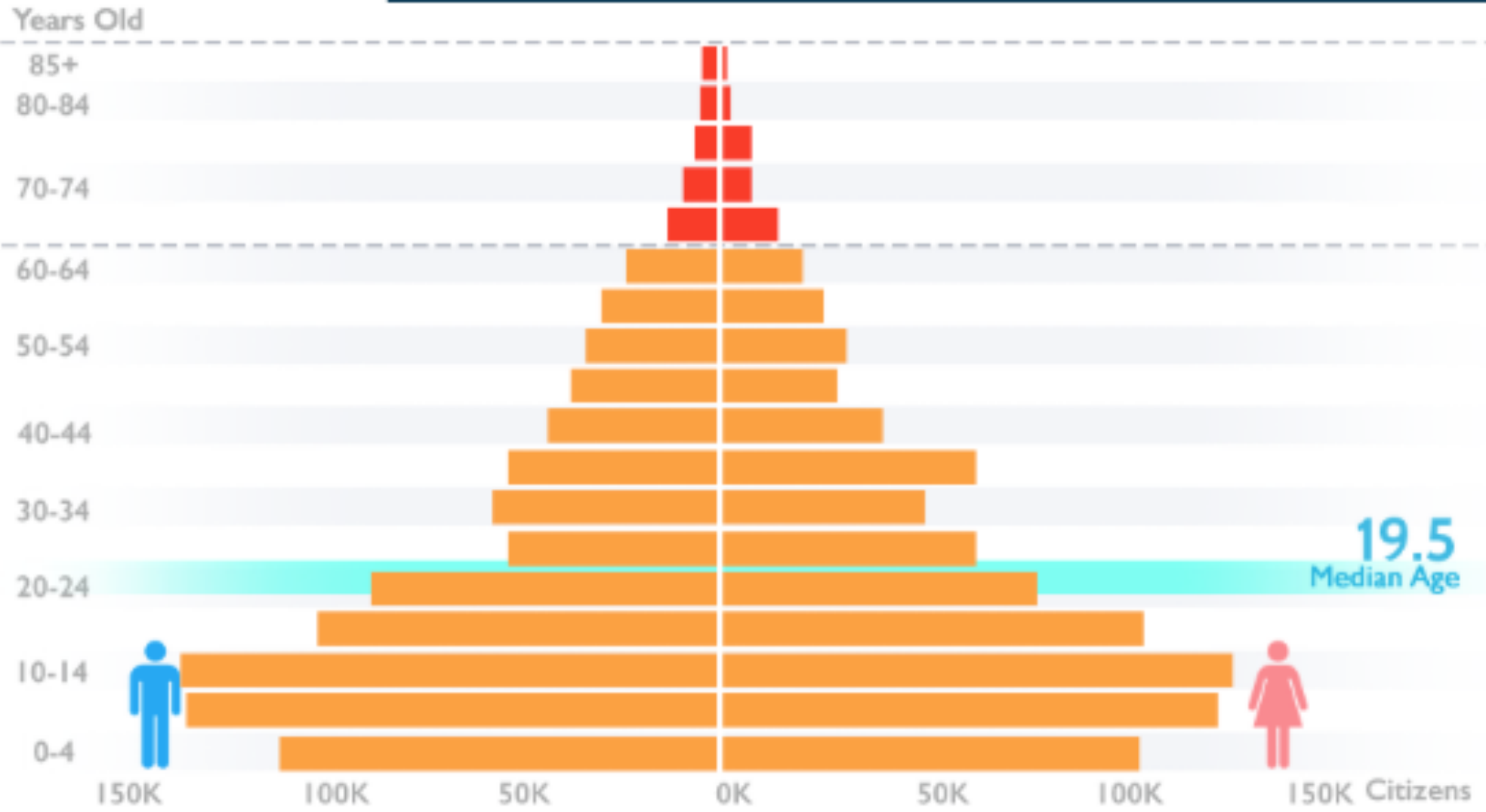


**Gearing for
Change**

GEARING FOR CHANGE

Society ages when the proportion of people in the older age groups increases. In Singapore, this is happening rapidly because of our declining birth rates and higher life expectancy. Toggle between the years to find out the trend.

AGE PROFILE OF CITIZEN POPULATION IN.. 1970



19.5%
of citizens aged 65 and above

Did You Know?

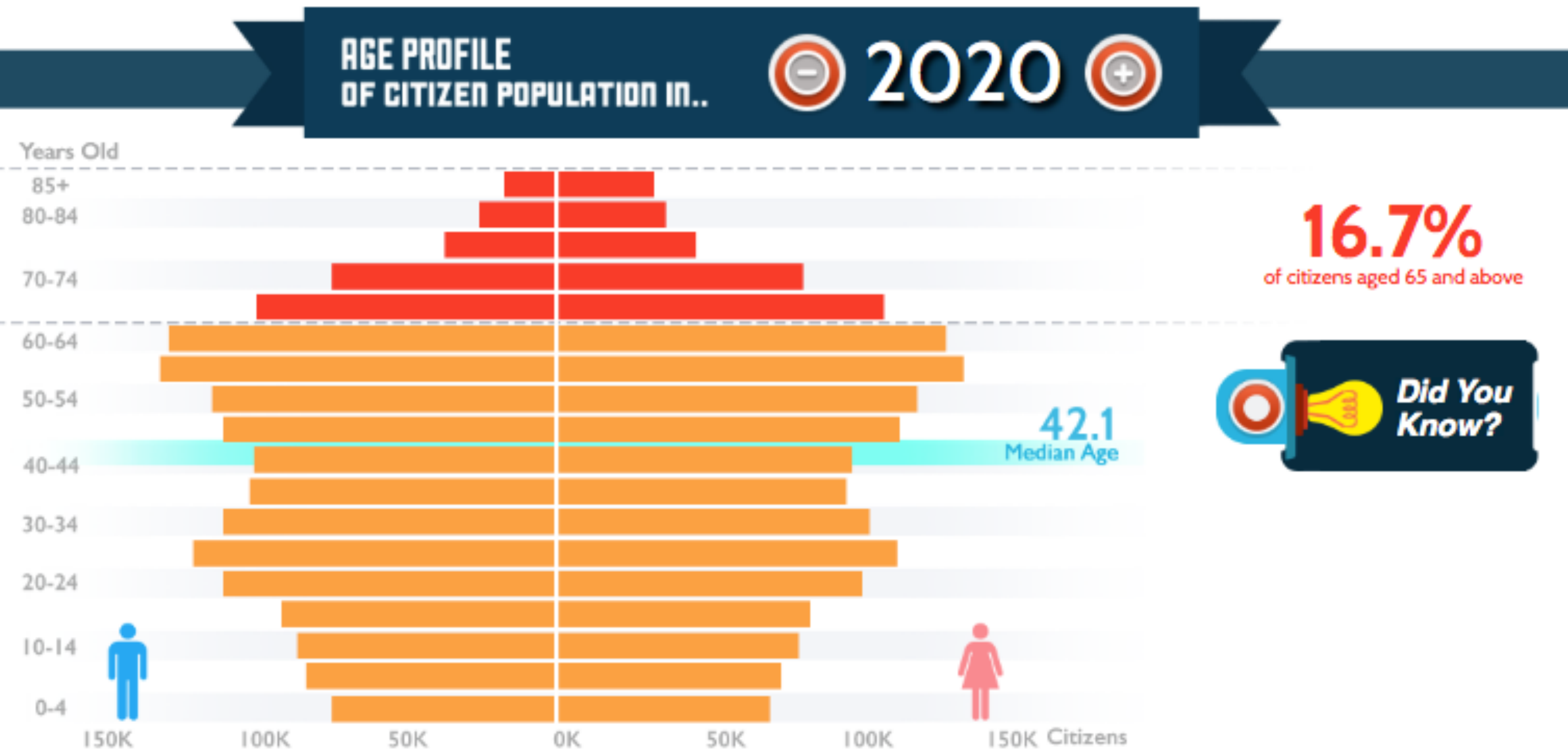
19.5
Median Age

HOW FAST ARE WE AGEING?

Just how fast is Singapore ageing? It took France 115 years to transit from an ageing society to an aged society. At our current pace of ageing, Singapore will make the same transition in just 19 years.

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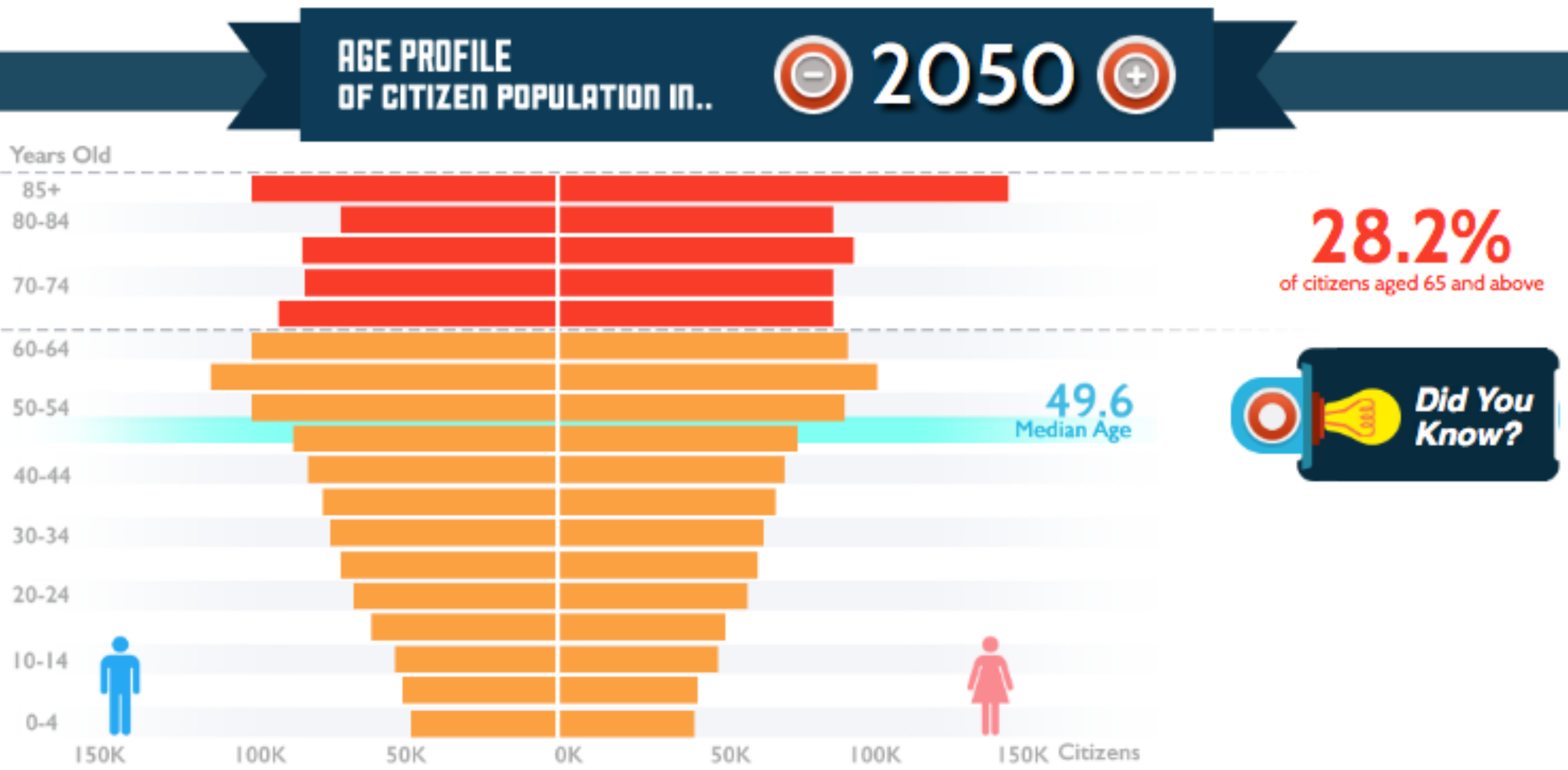


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Did You Know?



19 YEARS

Rapidly ageing society, in a span of two decades.



115 YEARS

Gradual pace of ageing over more than a century.



How do we slow down our rapid pace of ageing?



Make more babies... and stay young at heart!

BRAVING FUTURE CHALLENGES

With improving quality of life, Singaporeans remain more active than before at their older ages. Nevertheless, an ageing society means there are fewer working age adults for every person aged 65 and above. Click on the years to discover our changing support ratios.

1970

2000

2014

2030



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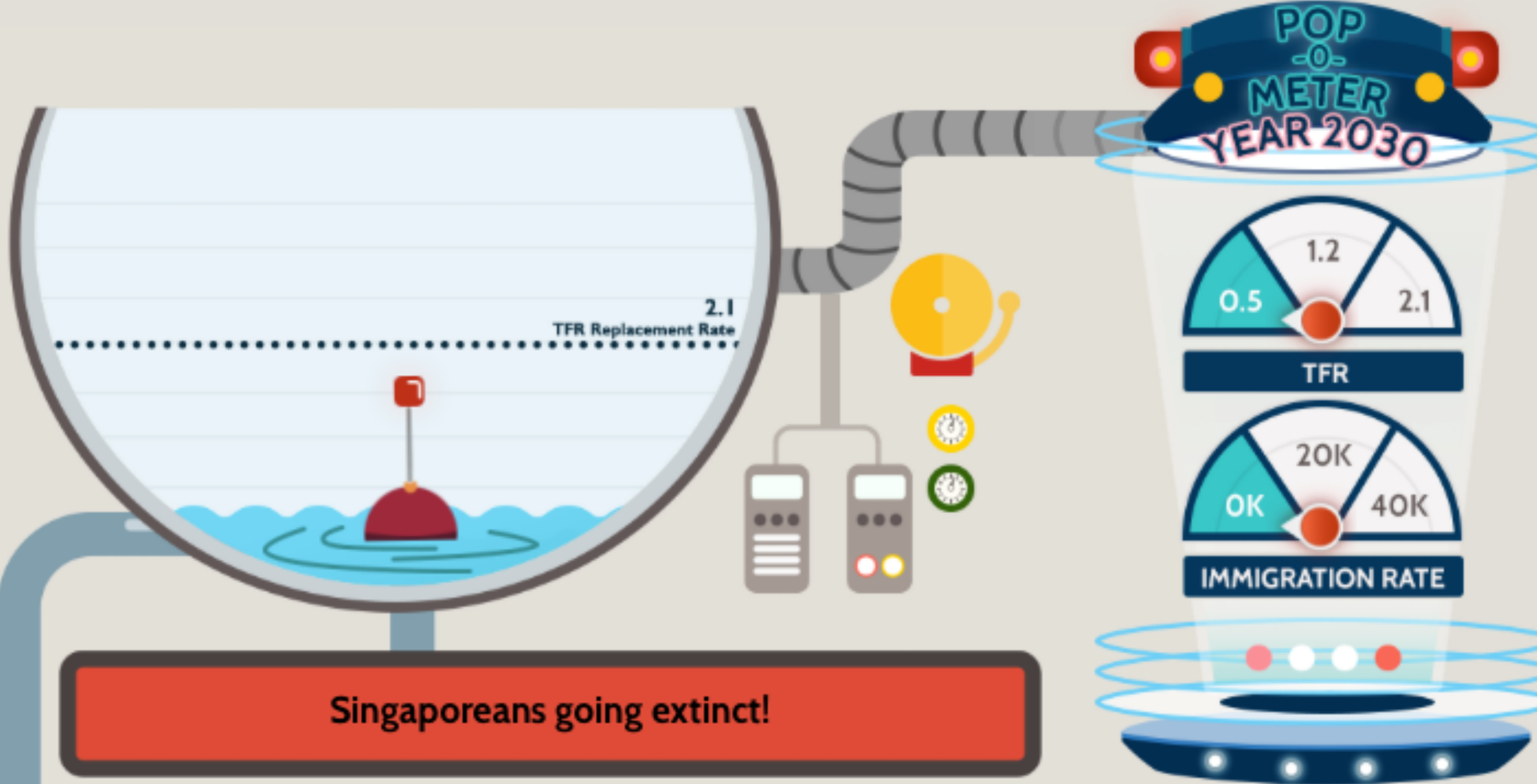




**Pushing
Forward**

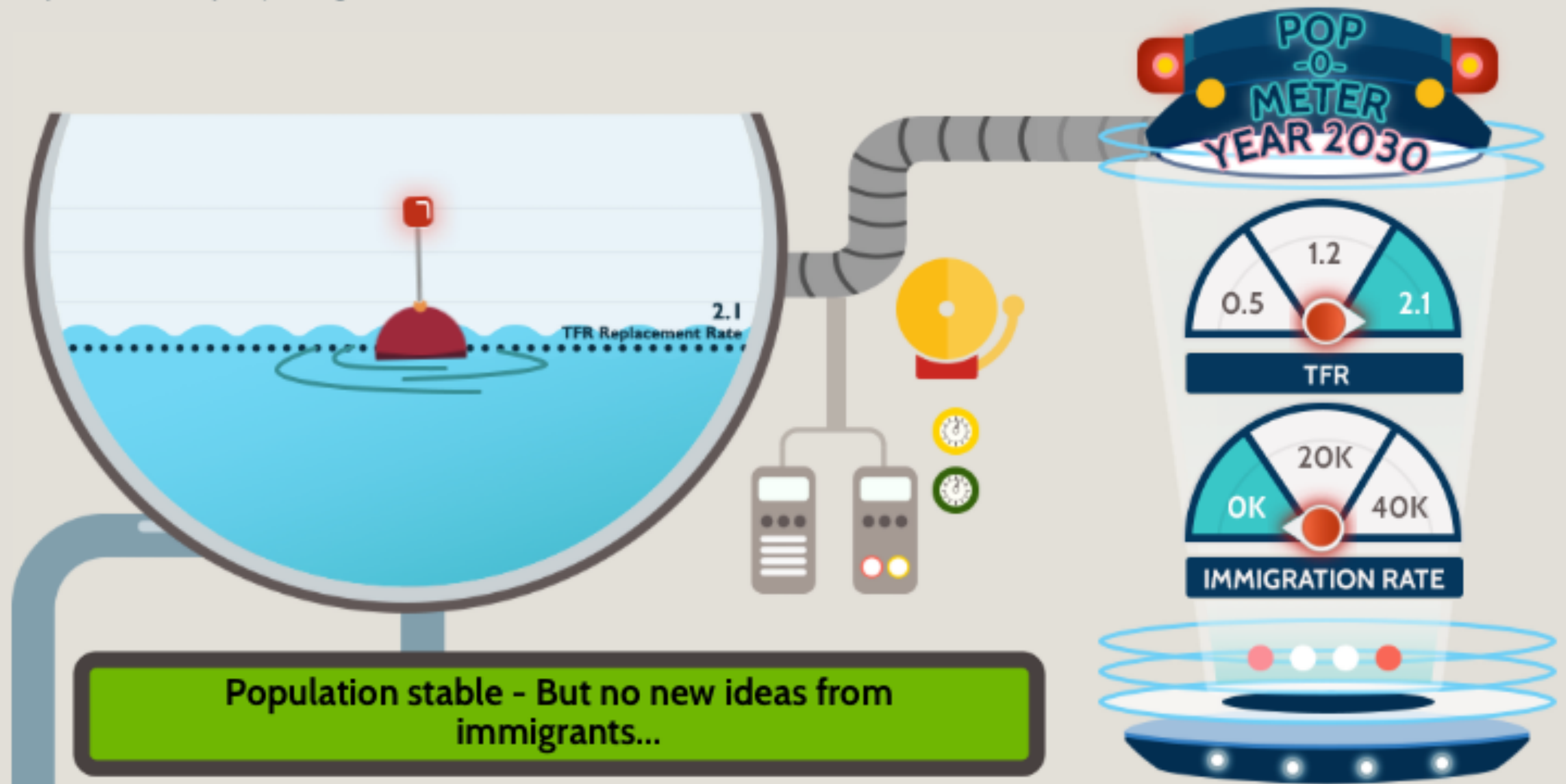
PUSHING FORWARD

Births and immigration work in tandem to keep our population youthful and stable. Given a range of birth rates (TFR), what is the immigration rate to prevent our population from shrinking? Try your hand at balancing our population with the Pop-O-Meter by adjusting the dials on the meters!



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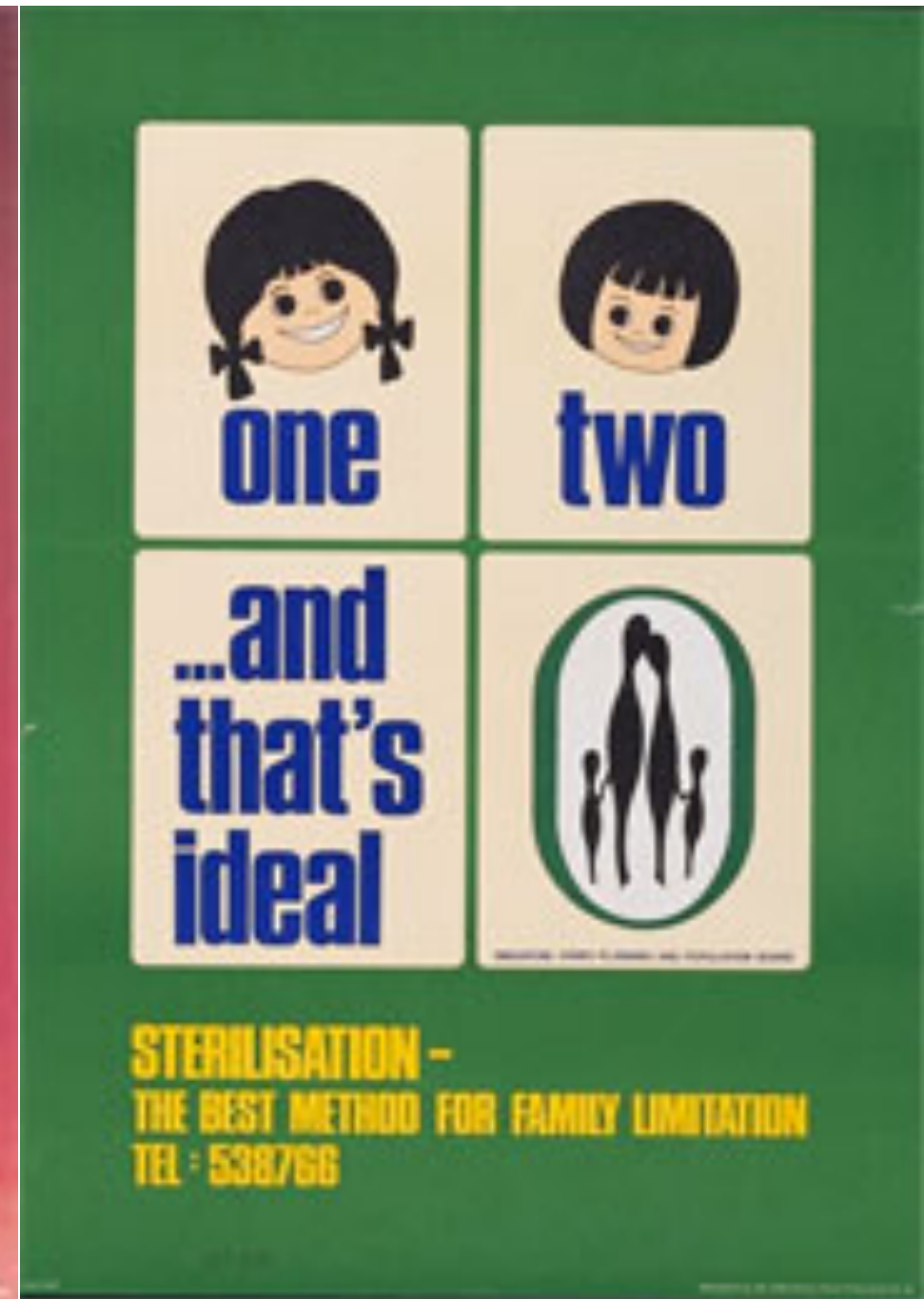


Day 4

**Where have all the children gone?
The Consequences of Low Fertility Rates in
South Korea, Singapore, and Japan**

PowerPoint

Population Posters Before the 1990's

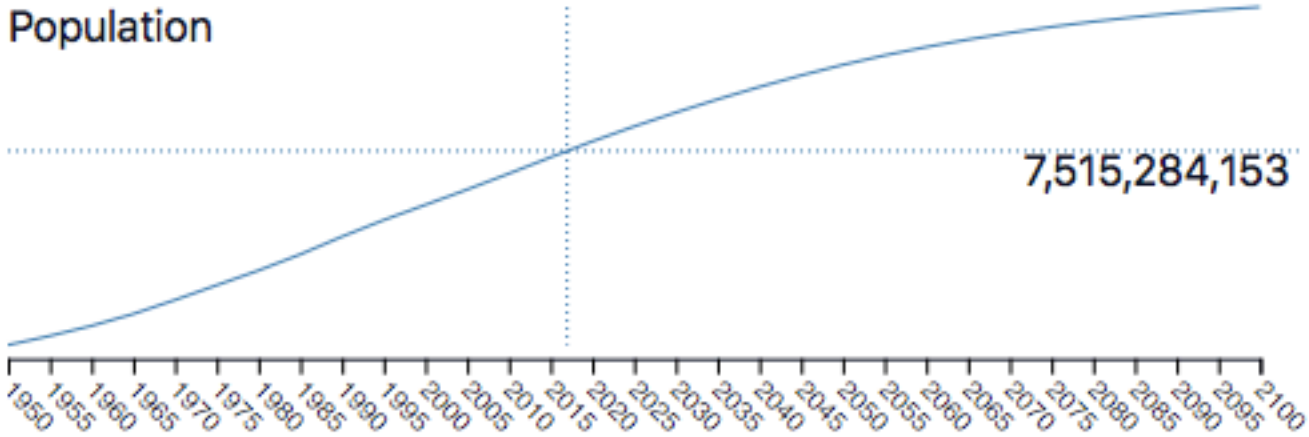
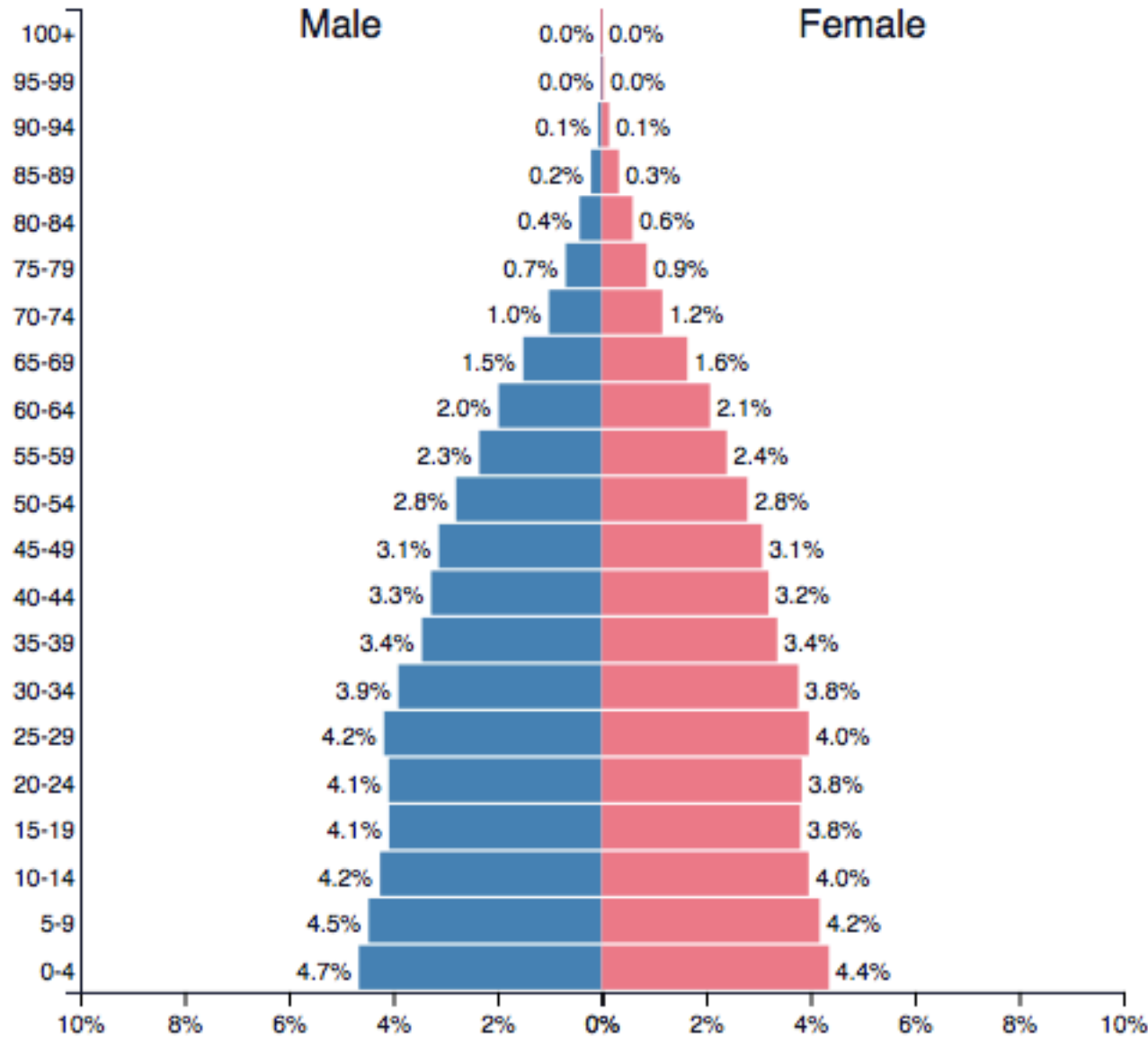


What were the purposes of the posters?

https://www.populationpyramid.net

WORLD ▼
2017

Population: **7,515,284,153**



YEAR -5 -1 2017 +1 +5

COUNTRY A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W Y Z

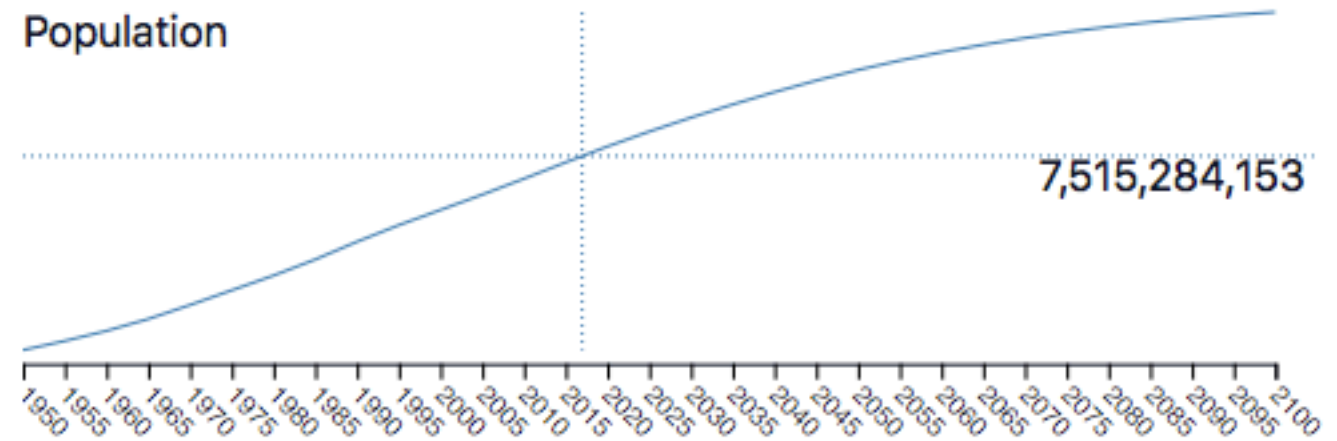
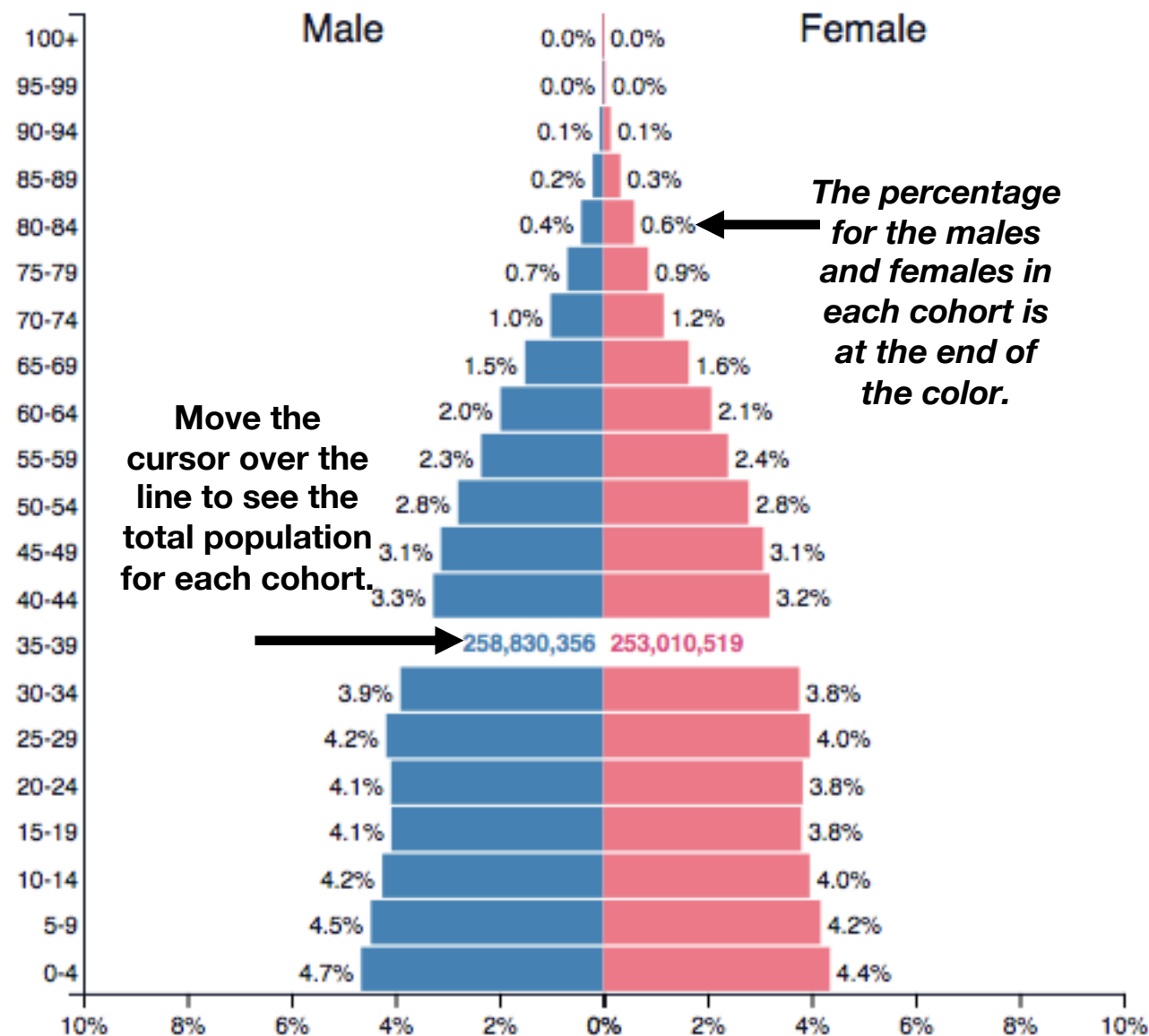
Western Africa
Western Asia
Western Europe

Western Sahara
WORLD

Directions for using www.populationpyramid.net

1. Go to the website www.populationpyramid.net.
2. Click on the drop down arrow (▼) and select the country whose population pyramid you wish to see. As an alternative type the name of the country in the SEARCH box at the top.
3. Click on the -5, -1, +1, or +5 to the right of “YEAR” to see the population pyramids for the years before or after 2017.

WORLD ▼ ← **2**
2017
Population: 7,515,284,153



YEAR -5 -1 2017 +1 +5 ← **3**

COUNTRY A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W Y Z

Western Africa Western Sahara
Western Asia WORLD
Western Europe

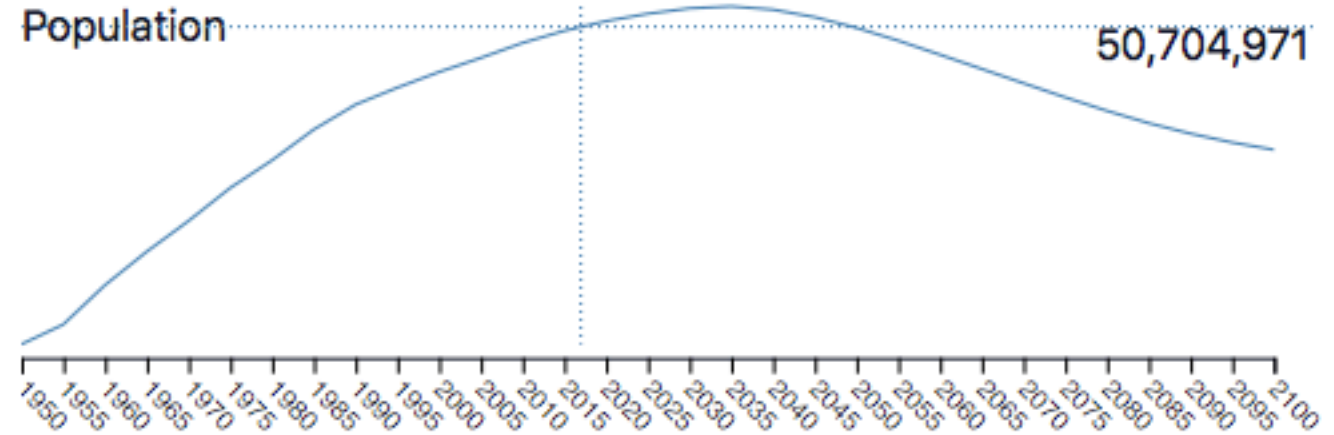
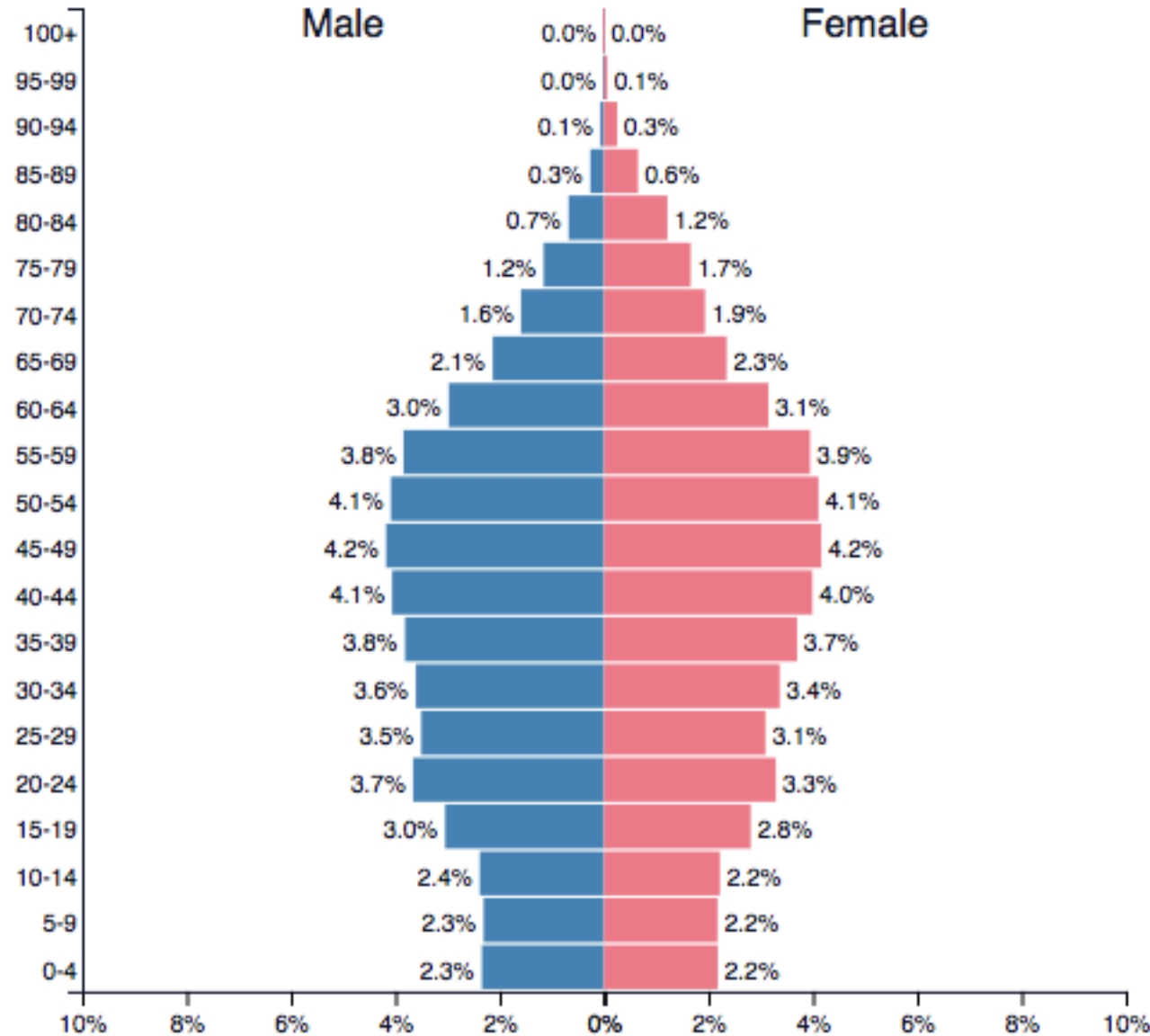
Directions for using www.populationpyramid.net

After clicking on the downward arrow (▼) type “Korea” in the Search box and select “Republic of Korea.” This is the official name for South Korea.

Republic of Korea ▼

2017

Population: 50,704,971



YEAR

COUNTRY [A](#) [B](#) [C](#) [D](#) [E](#) [F](#) [G](#) [H](#) [I](#) [J](#) [K](#) [L](#) [M](#) [N](#) [O](#) [P](#) [Q](#) [R](#) [S](#) [T](#) [U](#) [V](#) [W](#) [Y](#) [Z](#)

[Western Africa](#)
[Western Asia](#)
[Western Europe](#)

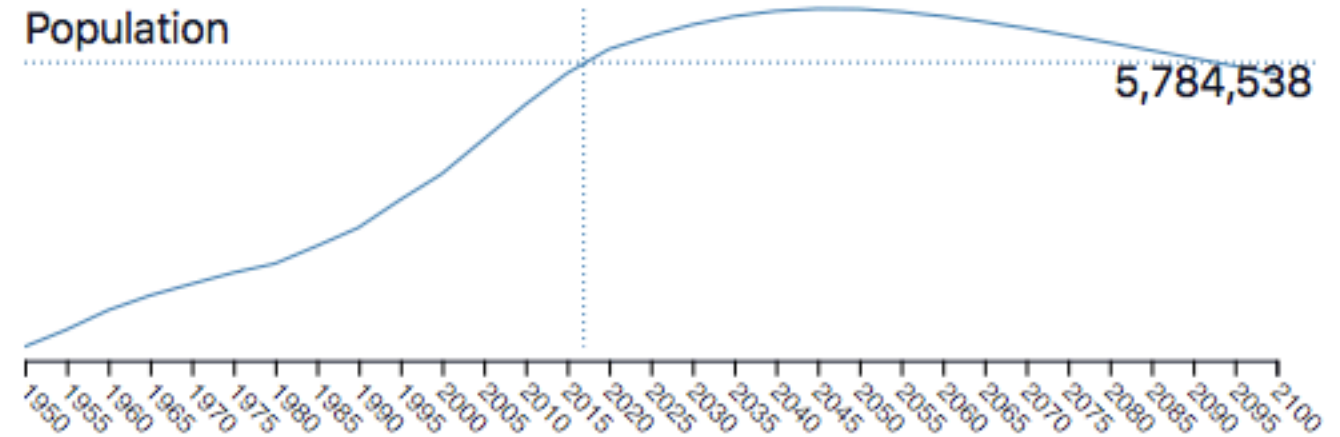
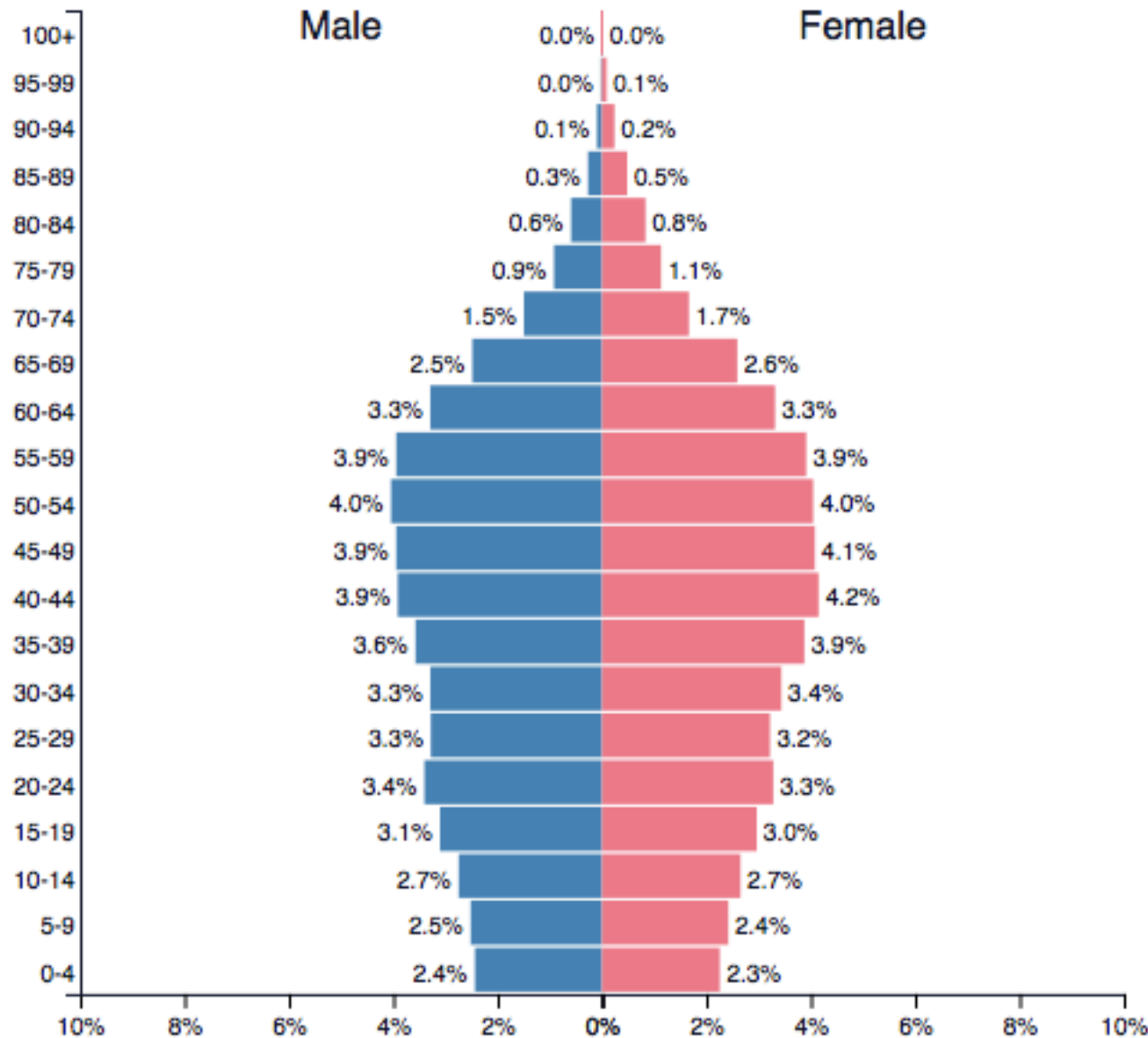
[Western Sahara](#)
[WORLD](#)

Directions for using www.populationpyramid.net

After clicking on the downward arrow (▼) scroll down and select Singapore.

Singapore ▼
2017

Population: **5,784,537**



YEAR -5 -1 2017 +1 +5

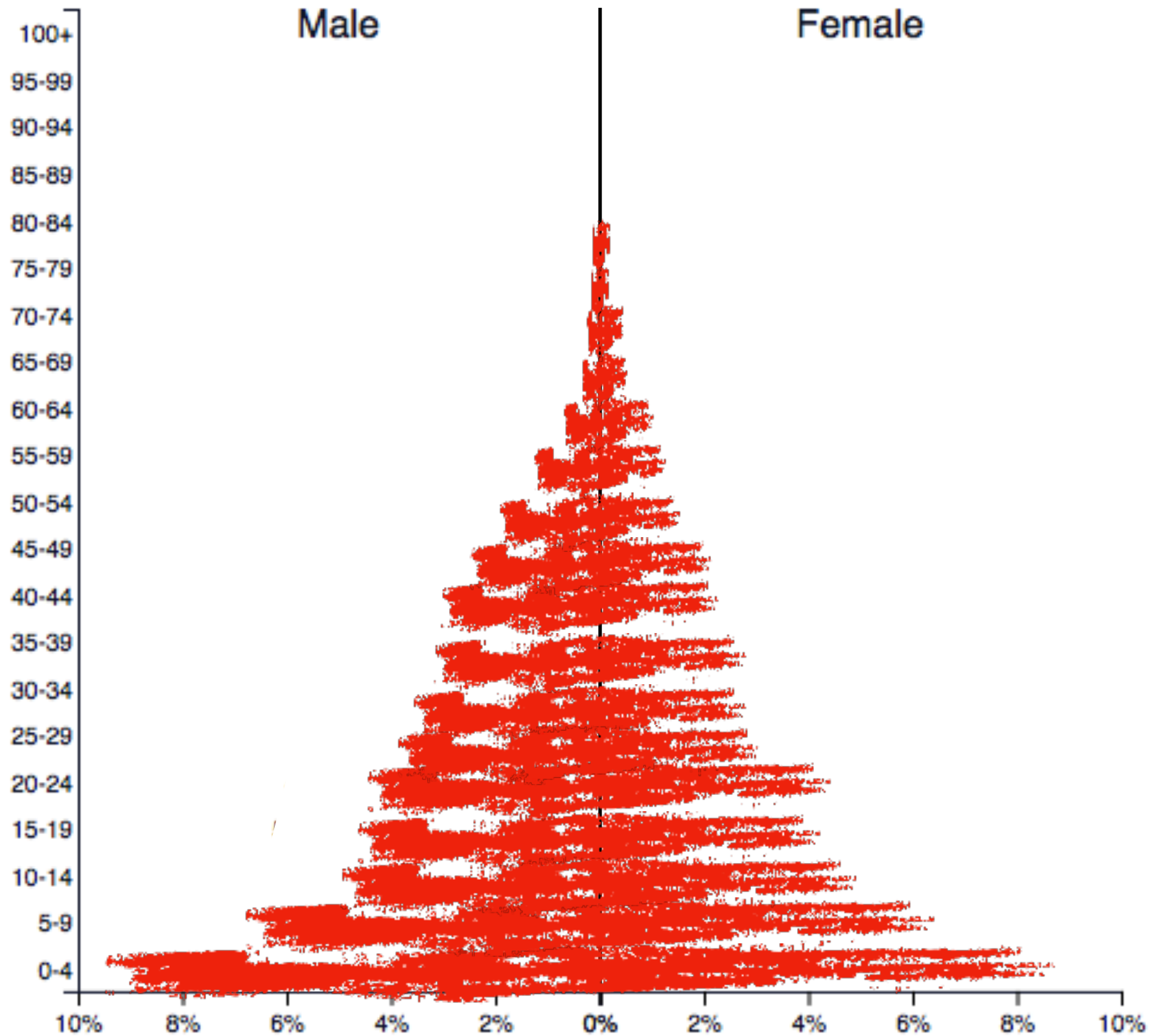
COUNTRY A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W Y Z

Jamaica

Jordan

Japan

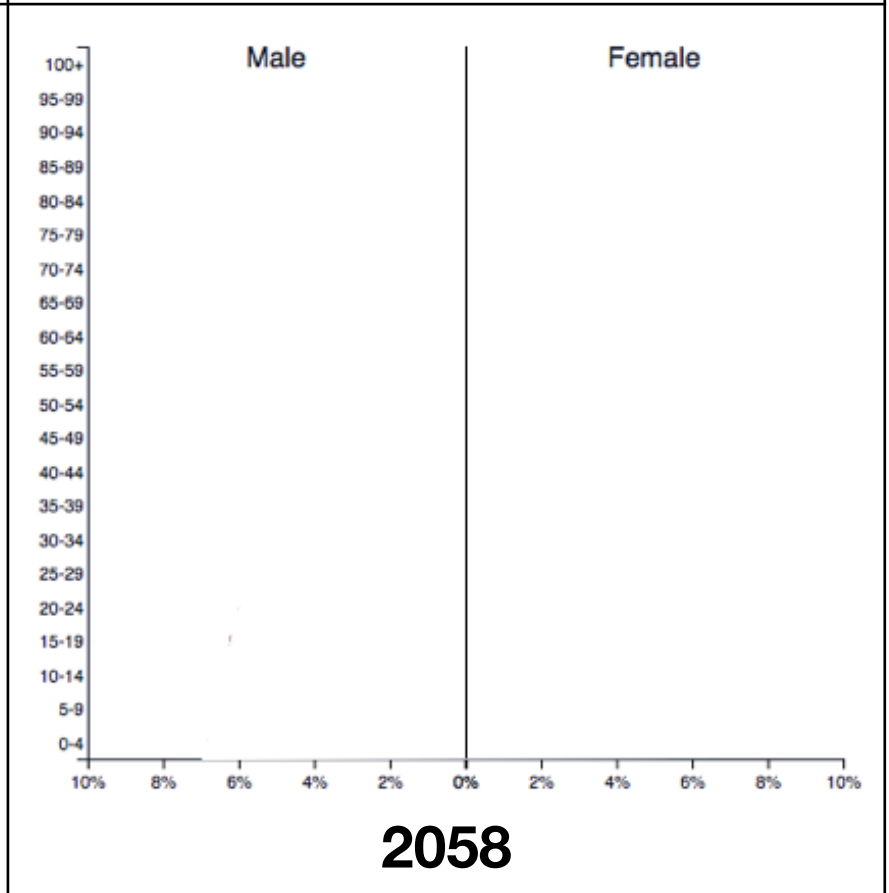
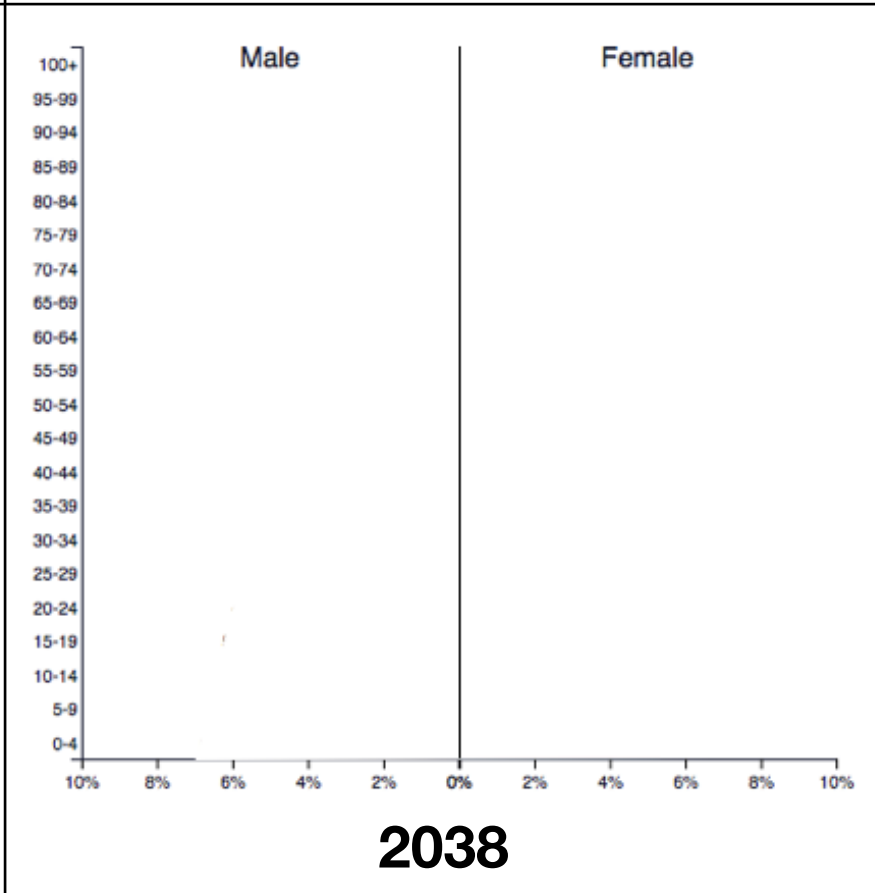
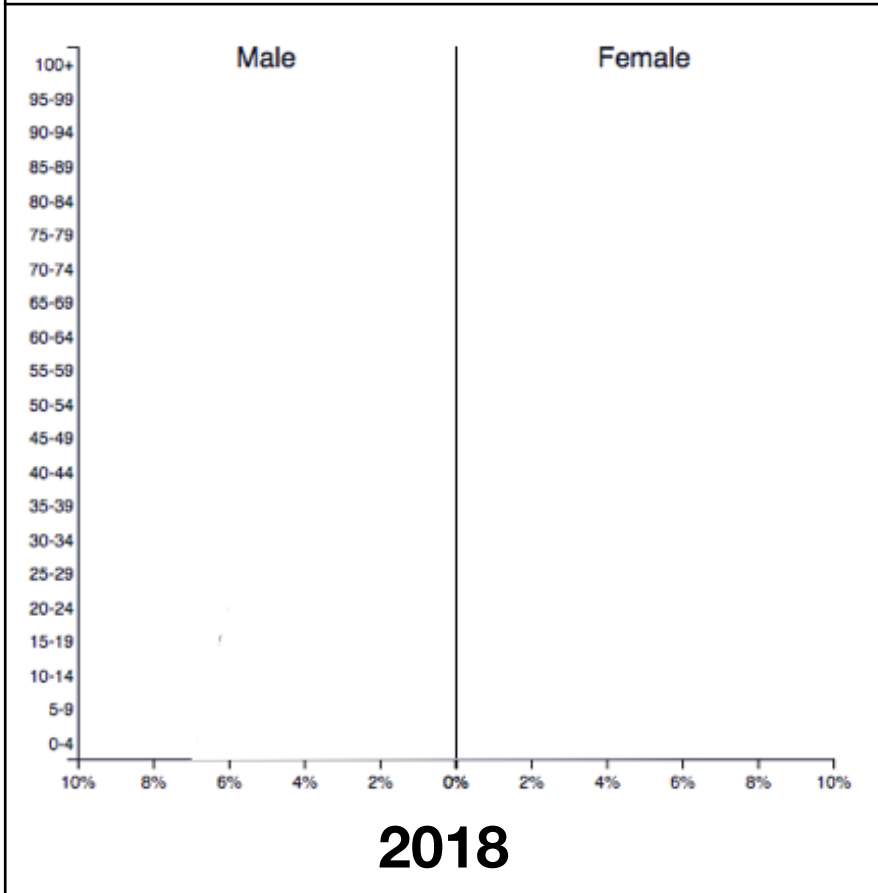
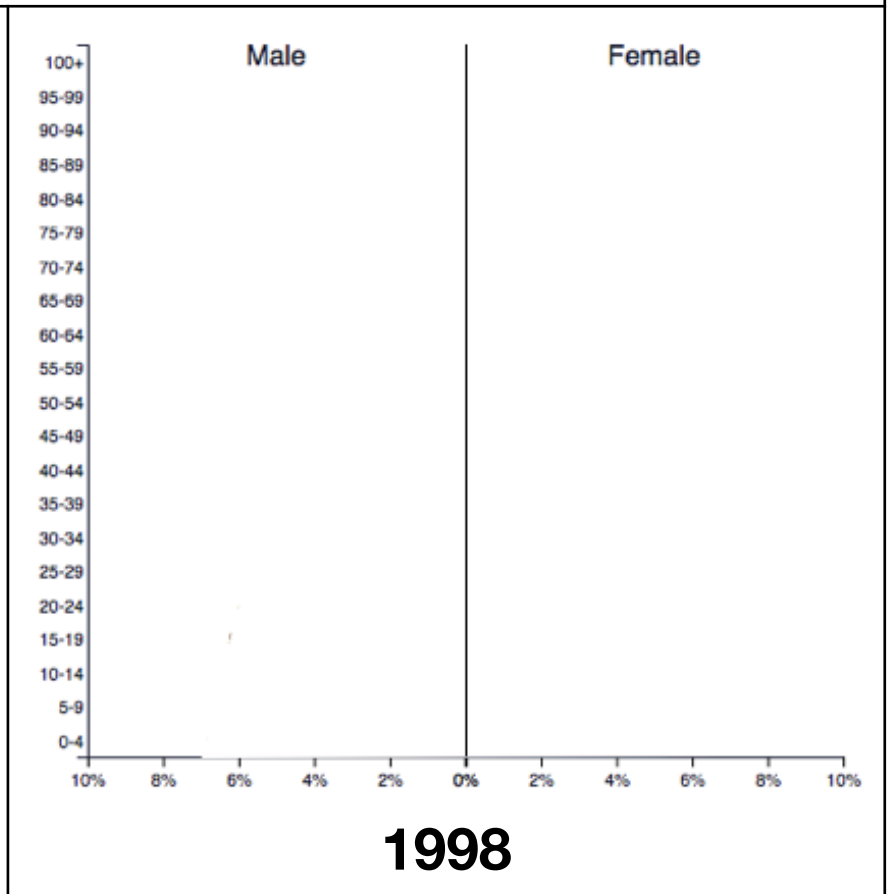
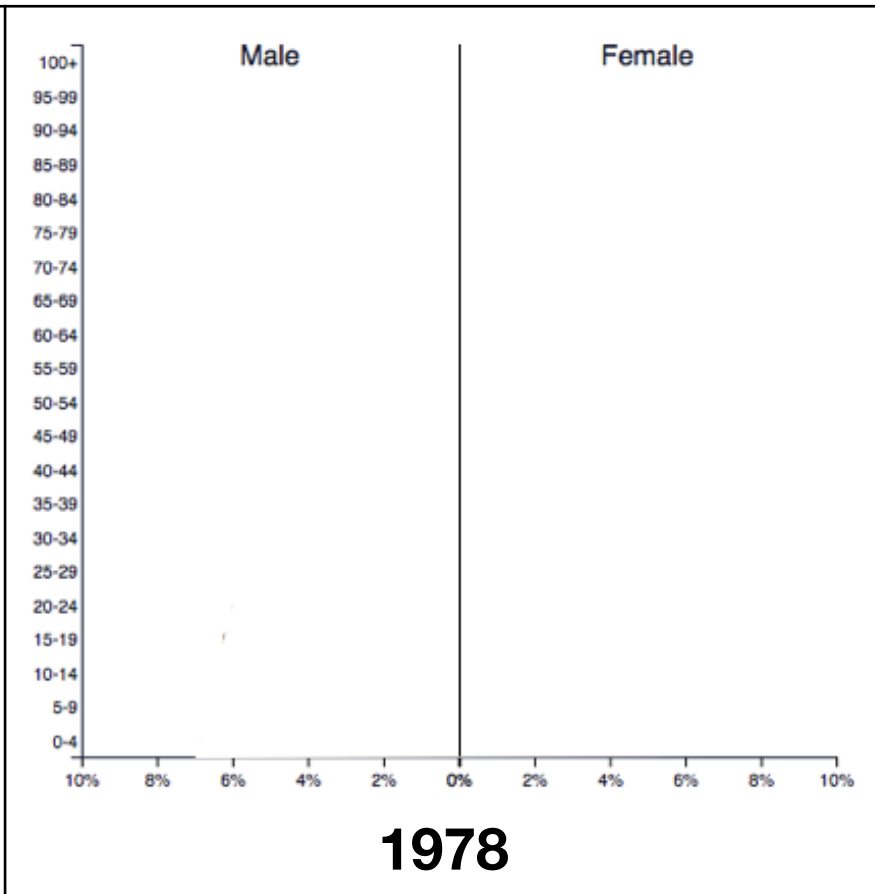
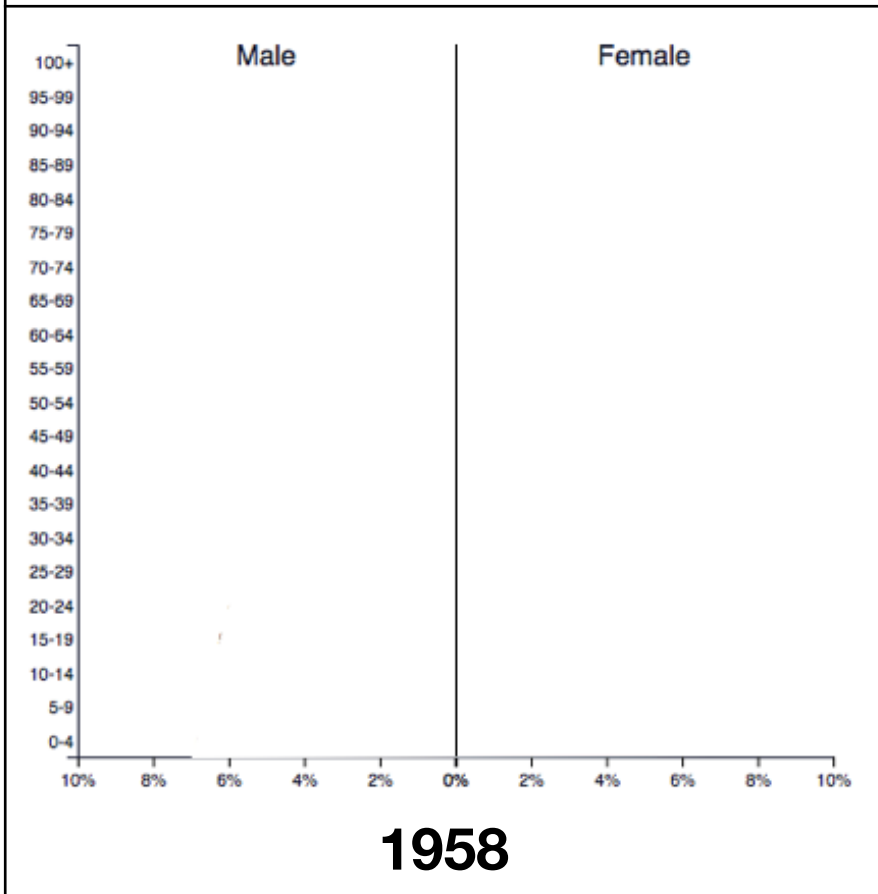
Sketching Example



Singapore in 1958

Singapore's Changing Population Pyramids, 1958-2058 Student Name: _____

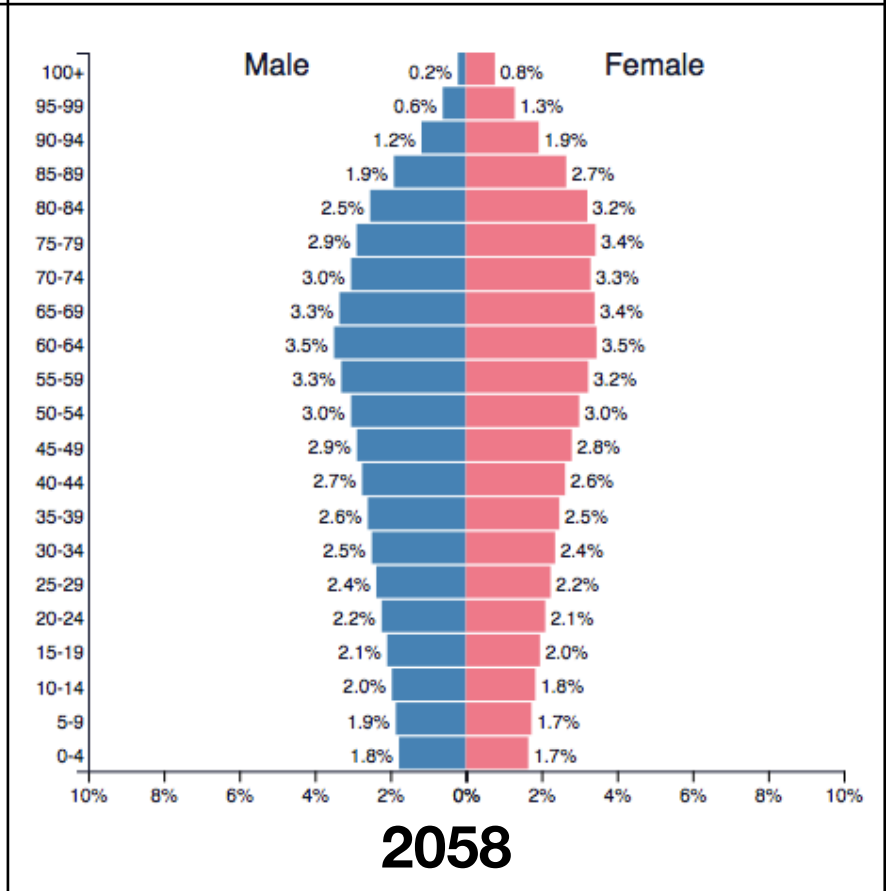
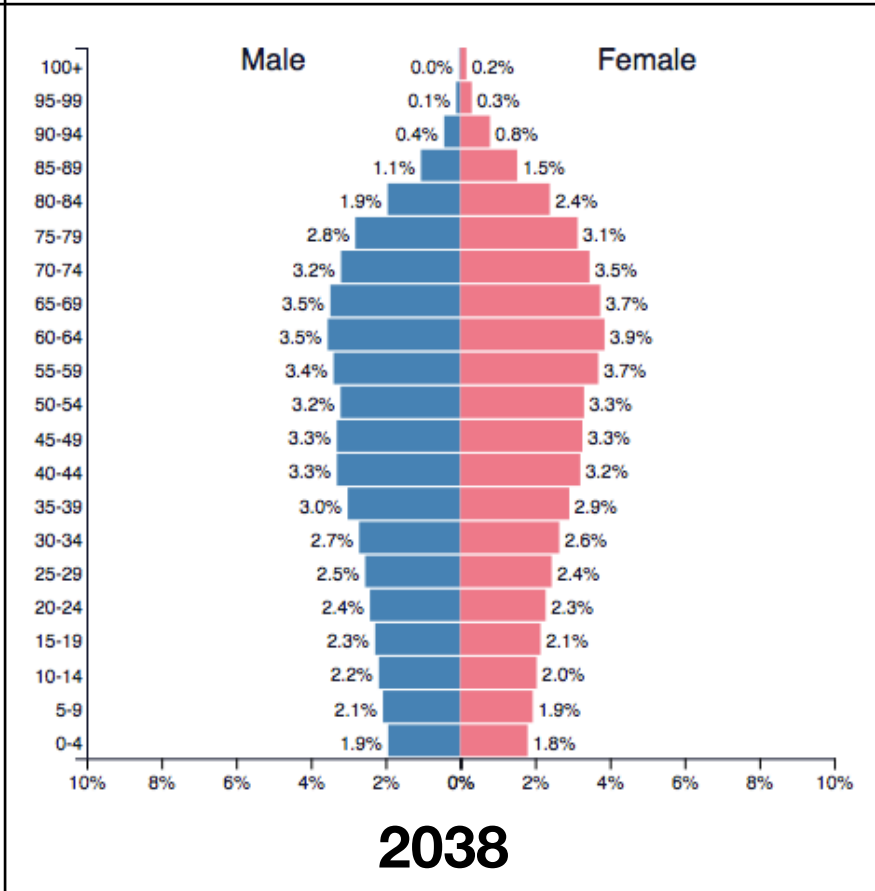
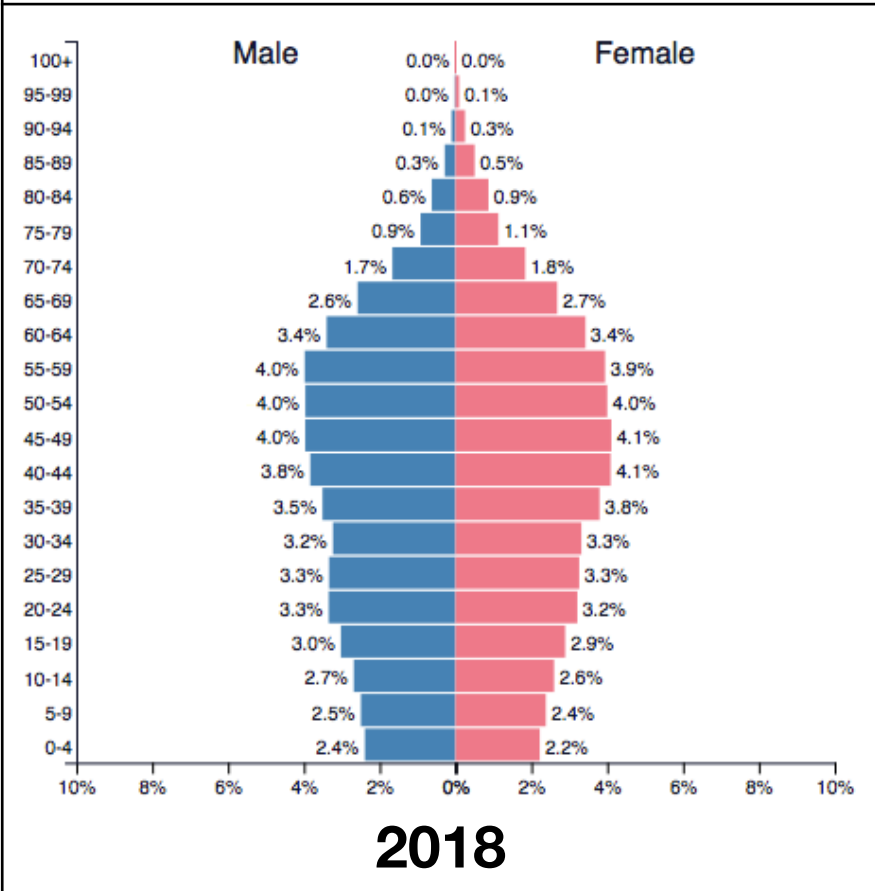
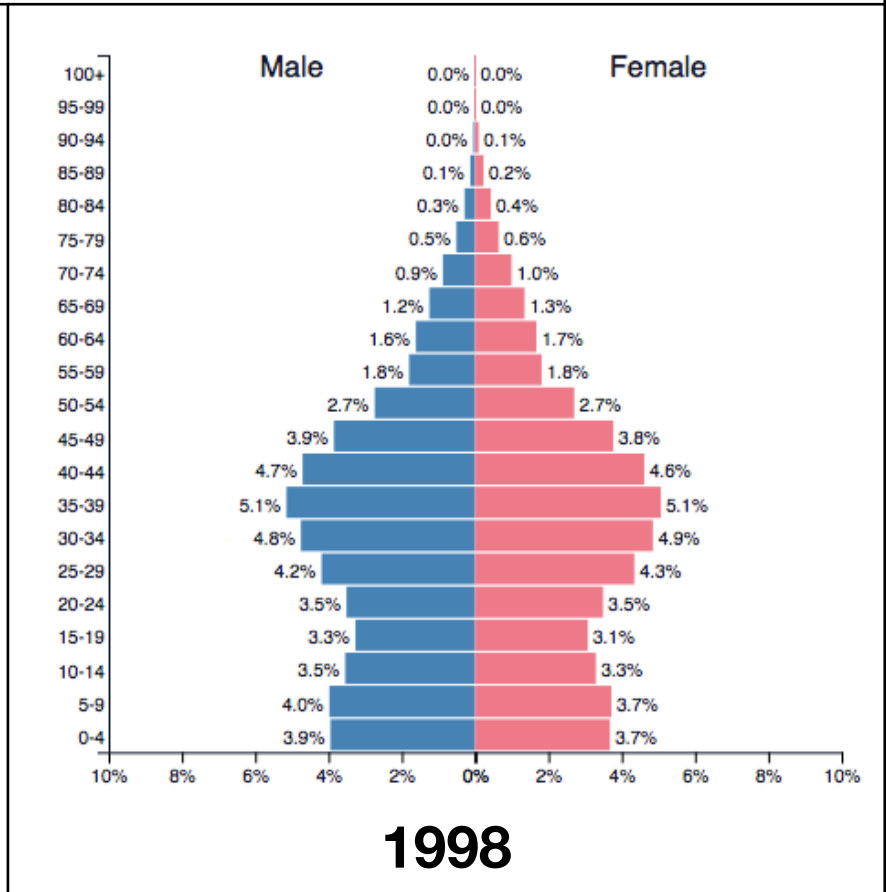
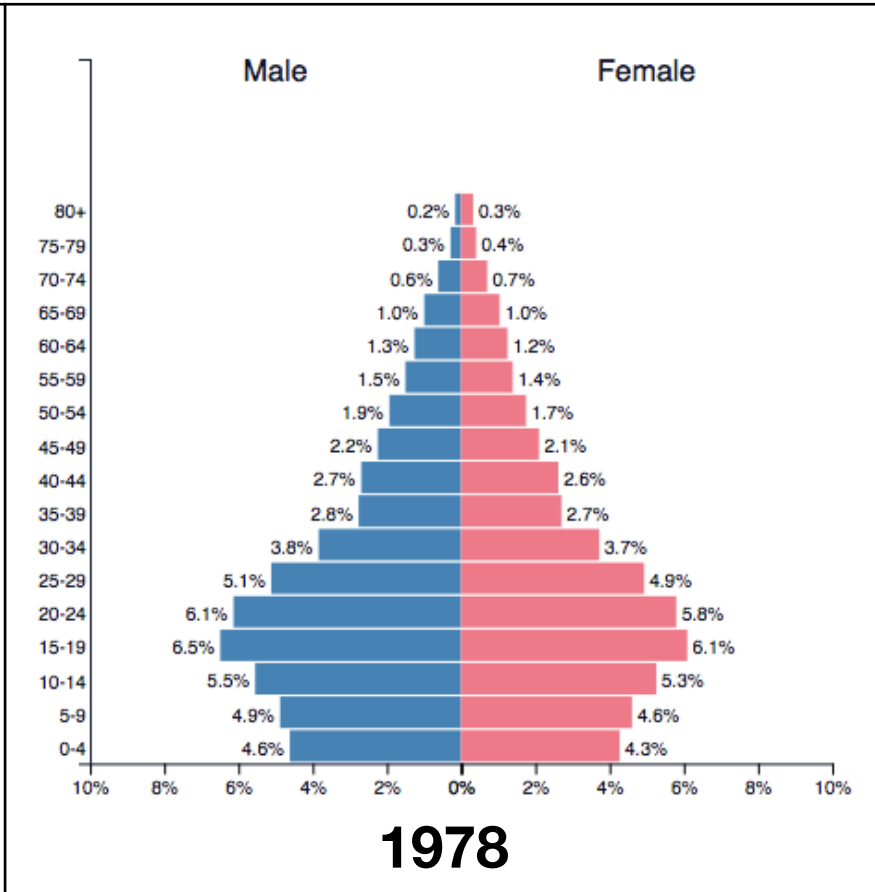
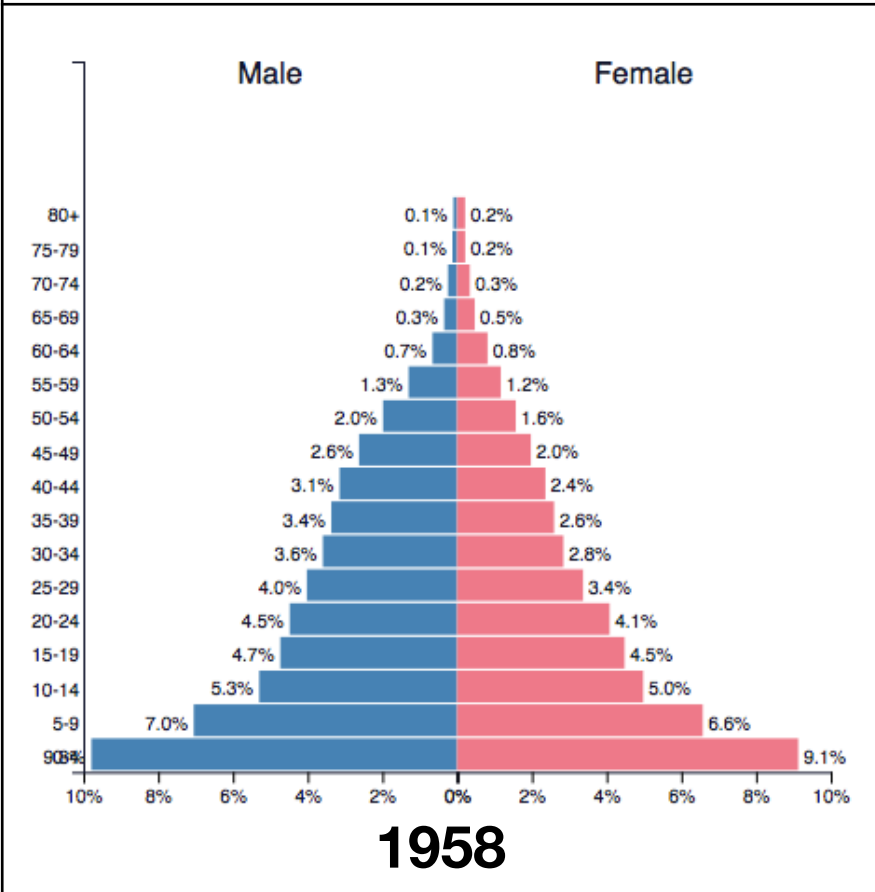
Directions: Using the website www.populationpyramid.net/singapore sketch out the population pyramid for each of the six years listed below. It is not necessary to be 100% exact with your sketches. The purpose is to show how Singapore's population pyramids have changed over the course of 100 years.



Singapore's Changing Population Pyramids, 1958-2058

Student Name: _____

Directions: Using the website www.populationpyramid.net/singapore sketch out the population pyramid for each of the six years listed below. It is not necessary to be 100% exact with your sketches. The purpose is to show how Singapore's population pyramids have changed over the course of 100 years.



Singapore Population Pyramid's Writing Assignment

How has Singapore's population changed from 1958 to 2018? Why have these changes occurred?

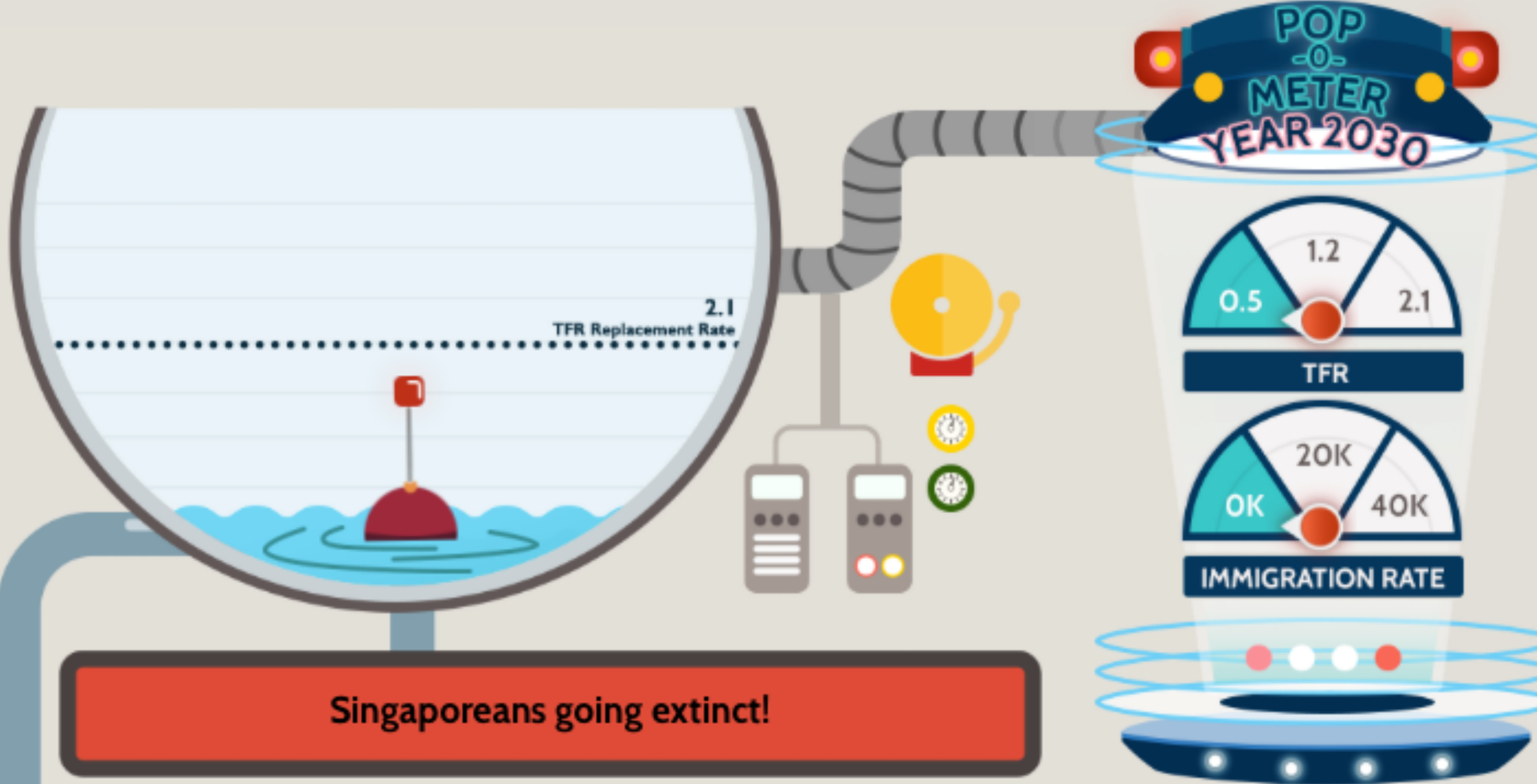
How is Singapore's population projected to change from 2018 to 2058? Discuss the consequences for these changes?



**Pushing
Forward**

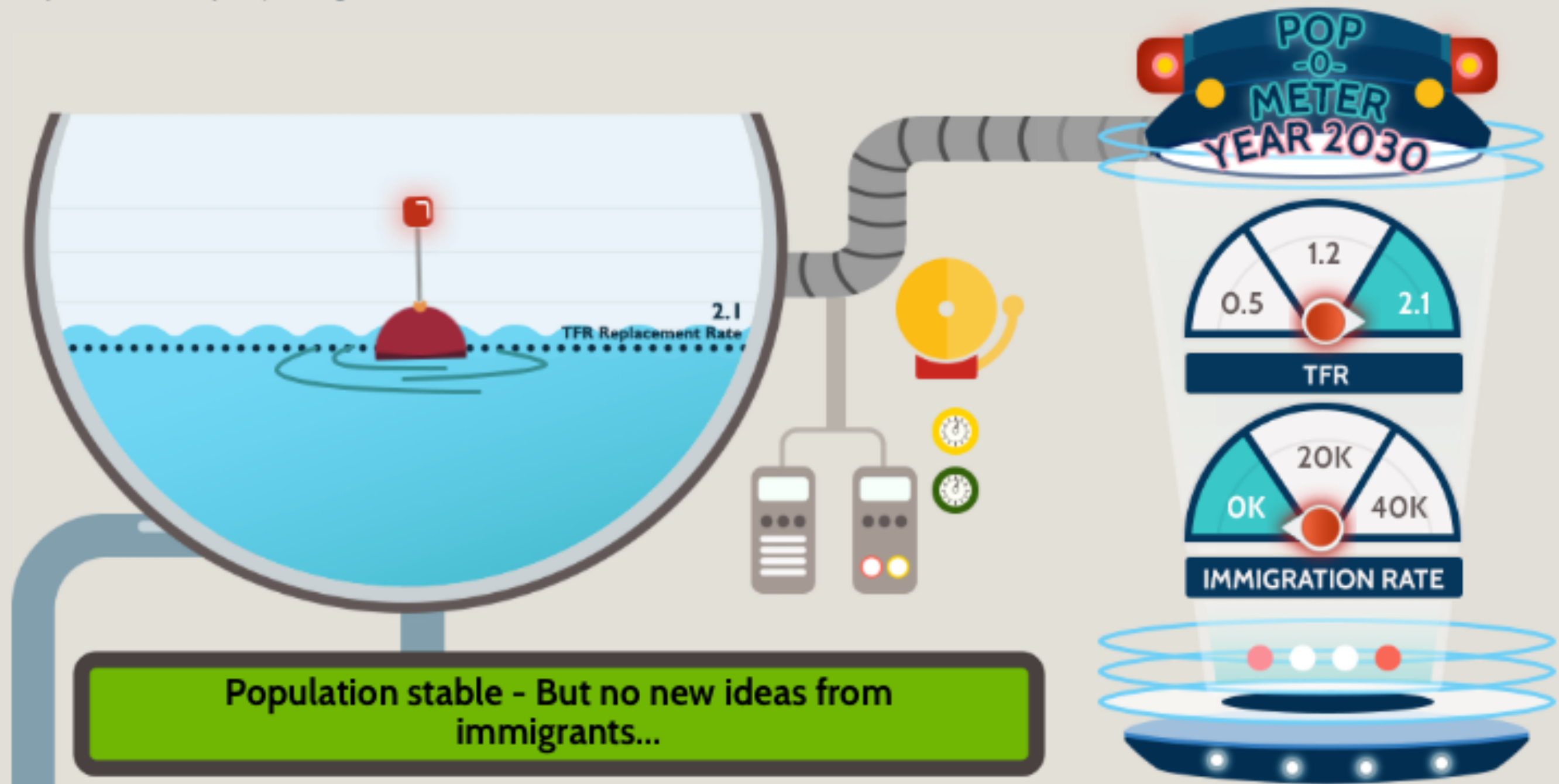
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EDUCATION ABOUT ASIA

Demographics, Social Policy, and Asia (Part I)



Wm. Theodore de Bary



Chinese Gardens in the US



Japan's Self-Defense Force (SDF)

EDUCATION ABOUT ASIA

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

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SINGAPORE

Immigration and Changing Public Policies

By Chris Hudson

Immigration control at Changi International Airport in Singapore. Source: Photo by Tang Yan Song . © Shutterstock.

The demographic composition of the contemporary population of Singapore reflects a complex and vibrant history of a melting pot nation that has grown out of successive waves of immigration stretching back nearly 200 years.¹ As an immigrant society, Singapore is a product of the forces of globalization that have been a constitutive feature of the historical development of many nations. When Britain's Sir Stamford Raffles signed a treaty in 1819 with local rulers, a swampy little island was transformed into a colony of the UK and a vibrant entrepôt. It was never really the uninhabited backwater of myth, and when Raffles arrived,

discrimination. Singapore citizens, however, remain officially differentiated on race or ethnic grounds, regardless of the length of their generational ties to the island. The most obvious manifestation of this is the national identity card proclaiming a citizen's race, determined by the race of the father. These clear racial boundaries are reflected in discriminatory policies that separate immigrants by the categories of labor they perform and their contribution to different sectors of the economy. In reality, this translates into disparities in rights, conditions, and remuneration for labor, demarcated along race, class, and gender lines. Since the 1990s, Singapore has



Immigration control at Changi International Airport in Singapore. Source: Photo by Tony Lee/Singapore Photo Bank.

The demographic composition of the contemporary population of Singapore reflects a complex and vibrant history of a melting pot nation that has grown out of successive waves of immigration stretching back nearly 200 years.¹ As an immigrant society, Singapore is a product of the forces of globalization that have been a constitutive feature of the historical development of many nations. When Britain's Sir Stamford Raffles signed a treaty in 1819 with local rulers, a swampy little island was transformed into a colony of the UK and a vibrant entrepôt. It was never really the uninhabited backwater of myth, and when Raffles arrived, around 1,000 people populated the island. They were mostly Chinese traders, Malays, and a stable group known as *orang laut* (sea people), often referred to as "sea gypsies." These sometime-pirates—indigenous to the Malay Archipelago—were seafaring, nomadic peoples who made a living from fishing.

The establishment of the colony resulted in a rapid influx of people from China, India, the Malay Archipelago, and further afield in Asia, so much so that by 1823, the population had exploded. It is estimated by that time to have increased to 4,724 Malays and 1,150 Chinese, to a total of 16,000 by 1829, to 26,000 five years later, and 60,000 by the beginning of 1858.² Immigration established and sustained the population of Singapore from its beginnings as a colony and continued unabated into the twentieth century until independence from Britain in 1965. More stringent government regulation of immigration in the period 1970–1980 slowed it significantly. The birth rate of the Singapore-born also decreased during the 1980s and 1990s, especially amongst the ethnic Chinese. Successive government strategies to increase it have failed.³ For this reason, immigration has been the only means to achieve a significant-enough population increase to maintain a steady supply of labor and sustain the desired levels of economic development.

In many immigrant societies, such as the United States, Canada, or Australia, that have experienced successive waves of immigrants, the integration of newcomers is facilitated by the social structure and a tradition of integration and absorption of immigrants—*notwithstanding* the obvious forms of everyday racism and the recent emergence of new forms of

discrimination. Singapore citizens, however, remain officially differentiated on race or ethnic grounds, regardless of the length of their generational ties to the island. The most obvious manifestation of this is the national identity card proclaiming a citizen's race, determined by the race of the father. These clear racial boundaries are reflected in discriminatory policies that separate immigrants by the categories of labor they perform and their contribution to different sectors of the economy. In reality, this translates into disparities in rights, conditions, and remuneration for labor, demarcated along race, class, and gender lines. Since the 1990s, Singapore has encouraged the entry of two clearly distinguishable immigrant groups to alleviate the labor shortages caused by low fertility rates and stagnant population growth: foreign talents and foreign workers.

Foreign Talents

One response to increasingly complex forms of economic and cultural globalization and the imperative for Singapore to compete as a cosmopolitan space amenable to private-sector economic development was to encourage the importation of what are referred to in Singapore as "foreign talents." Professional and business immigration had been a feature of the Singapore economy since the 1980s, but the necessity to transform itself into a global city required the development of a knowledge economy predicated on the complex and specialized skills and expertise of entrepreneurs, technocrats, and educationalists, amongst others. "Foreign talents" is usually understood to mean university-qualified foreigners with advanced skills working in higher-paid professions such as the financial, information technology, engineering, architecture, artistic, and education sectors that add value to the Singapore economy and provide cultural capital. In the past, most skilled professionals came from the United States, Britain, France, and Australia, so that foreign talent was seen, by and large, as a category of "whiteness." Nowadays, foreign talents are just as likely to be from China or India and other Southeast Asian countries. Additionally, the government expanded the professional categories available for foreign talent to include mid- and lower-level white-collar positions.

National anxieties about a brain drain caused by citizens emigrating, studying, and working overseas and failing to return, coupled with

planning fertility rates, were in large part a catalyst for the Foreign Talent Policy. The government was also influenced in the early 2000s by the theories of American urban studies theorist Richard Florida that made such an impact internationally on thinking about the cultural economy and its advantages for urban development and global capitalism in general. Florida believed that metropolises with high concentrations of creative people gave rise to a creative class made up of artists, musicians, designers, and especially substantial numbers of gay men such as one would find in San Francisco or Sydney that would yield much higher levels of economic development.⁴

To achieve the desired creative stimulus to the economy, the instrumental rationality and extreme pragmatism for which Singapore is known had to be tempered so that it could transform itself into a cosmopolitan space to attract such people. To this end, Singapore devised a strategy to reinvent itself as a "Renaissance City" and unveiled the plan in parliament in 2000. The redesign of Singapore's image as a state of excitement and fun had two objectives: first, to establish Singapore as a global city for the arts that would be conducive to creative, knowledge-based industries and talent, and second, to strengthen national identity and belonging among Singaporeans by nurturing an appreciation of shared heritage.⁵ In aiming to create a vibrant space for the arts in particular, and creativity in general, its stated agenda was to create an environment hospitable to bold innovation and the creative sensibilities of foreign talents. In effect, foreign talents were a privileged group who were invited to take part in the national cosmopolitan project in a context where urban development, cosmopolitanism, and the sometimes-unruly impulses of creativity could be managed.⁶

Strategies to attract talent and harness creative energy have been demonstrably successful. Florida reported in 2015 that Singapore was the fifth-most creative hub in the world, after New York, London, Paris, and San Francisco.⁷ What has also helped maintain Singapore's position as one of the most competitive economies in the world is the high percentage of knowledge and creative workers in its workforce. A creative class of roughly 30 percent of the workforce indicates the development of a large and vibrant economy, but in Singapore, nearly half (47.3 percent) of the workforce is in the creative class.⁸ Singapore is third out of 130 countries worldwide, ahead of the United States, Australia, and Canada, in terms of its creative resources.⁹

A hierarchy of work passes and employment permits that are granted by the government's Ministry of Manpower—based on the salary level and the type of work undertaken—regulates employees' rights and the length of time people are permitted to stay in Singapore. Foreign workers in the professions can hold one of a range of "employment passes" that confer benefits not available to lower-skilled holders of work permits. Skilled professionals may bring families and dependents may seek work, among other privileges. Certain classes of employment passes may even lead to permanent residence or citizenship. International students are another group of foreigners who may be granted temporary resident rights. The two most prestigious tertiary institutions in Singapore—National University of Singapore and Nanyang Technological University—offer scholarships to students from other ASEAN countries, including Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand, Brunei, Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, Viet Nam, and the Philippines. These scholarships offer subsidized tuition fees on the condition of being bonded to a Singapore company on successful completion of the qualification.

Foreign Workers

One important category of low-skilled foreign workers in Singapore are female domestic workers. Once known as *quibs* or *arsaks* (common in colonial times) whose job it was to care for children, clean, cook, and generally tend to the needs of whole households, they are now called maids. Official figures show that more than 230,000 migrant women worked as domestic help in Singapore in 2015 and that they come predominantly

Official figures show that more than 230,000 migrant women worked as domestic help in Singapore in 2015 and that they come predominantly from the Philippines, Indonesia, Myanmar, and Cambodia.

from the Philippines, Indonesia, Myanmar, and Cambodia. It is, of course, a profoundly female-dominated occupation and not always a positive experience for many women, some of whom have to leave their own children behind in their home countries to care for other people's children. Mismanagement of domestic workers, known anecdotally and recognized officially, may take the form of exploitation through sometimes-unlimited working hours, poor living conditions, and sexual and physical abuse. Some maids report that they are subject to food rationing, withholding of passports, and other forms of human rights abuse. Since they are required to live with employers—a regulation applying only to foreign domestic workers, therefore in effect only for women—there is very little privacy or limitation on working hours.¹⁰ While the government has taken steps to minimize exploitation and such ill treatment, domestic workers are not afforded the protections of the Employment Act and so are more vulnerable than most to abuse. The incidents of abuse were numerous enough that the Indonesian government in 2016 announced its intent to ban domestic workers from working in Singapore (and other nations as well). As of March 2017, the Indonesian government reversed the ban, but there are reports of domestic workers from other Southeast Asian nations facing the same difficulties in Singapore. Poor training and lack of preparedness for work in a foreign setting have been factors in the maladjustment to life in Singapore and the exploitation of women from elsewhere in Southeast Asia, such as Myanmar and Cambodia.

There are many positive social and economic consequences for a nation with a cheap supply of immigrant labor, such as the freeing up of well-educated local women for workforce participation. One visible social effect of the high numbers of foreign domestic workers is the air of festivity that pervades some parts of Singapore on any given Sunday. Maids—often identifiable by their cheaper and less fashionable dressing styles than permanent citizens—congregate in favored spots around the city in their Sunday leisure time. In parts of Orchard Road—one of the most elegant shopping thoroughfares in Asia—for example, maids resting on blankets sit out on the sidewalk on their day off to chatter with compatriots in Tagalog or Indonesian and share picnic lunches and stories from home. A major reason they are reduced to sitting amidst high-rises is that public spaces formerly available for them to gather and mingle on weekends and days off have been converted into high-end real estate or commercial developments. Lucky Plaza in Orchard Road is a favored location for Filipino maids, while Indonesian maids flock to City Plaza in Paya Lebar. Both these sites are the location of outlets for cheap goods, such as clothing and mobile phones, amidst the glittering department stores that sell high-end global chain fashion. I can confirm from personal experience that these hardworking women not only converse cheerfully with strangers, but also insist on sharing their lunches with interested passersby. Due to the large number of maids in Hong Kong, a similar scene is played out in Kowloon Park in Tsui She Tsui, Victoria Park in Causeway Bay, and other parts of Hong Kong on Sundays.

Workers in the construction industry are the other statistically significant group of low-skilled migrants. Coming mainly from India, Bangladesh,



Domestic workers and their families sit on a bench a month's off, and Leahy, Poon, & a few others go to get their train. Source: Screen capture from *Home Work: Singapore—Global Domestic Workers* at <https://vimeo.com/107474486>.



One of thousands of foreign workers spend their free weekends in Little India. Source: Screen capture from *Home Work: Singapore—Global Domestic Workers* at <https://vimeo.com/107474486>.

Sri Lanka, the Philippines, Myanmar, Thailand, and China, these are the people whose labor underpins the massive infrastructure projects and the seemingly unending development of the built environment in Singapore. As readers may be aware, Singapore is known not only for its culture of consumption, evident in the ubiquitous shopping malls, but also for a high-rise skyline that could be mistaken for a tropical New York or Shanghai. Marina Bay Sands, a spectacular hotel-casino-shopping complex featuring an infinity pool and a SkyPark Observation Deck, was completed in 2010. During its construction, the sparks and flashes of light from welding and the noise of heavy construction under arc lights could be seen and heard well after midnight while foreign workers toiled to meet building deadlines.

Construction workers live in dormitories provided by the employer or a dormitory operator. While there are regulations governing the management of workers' living quarters, stories of overcrowding, poor standards, and inadequate hygiene are legion. In 2016, a dormitory operator was fined \$300,000 for housing workers in conditions described as "filthy and cramped sleeping areas with clothes strewn all over, garbage littered over the floor, and cockroaches crawling on table tops."¹¹ "Rat-infested" was how one dormitory housing sixty workers was described. It was deemed by the Ministry of Manpower to be "unacceptable" accommodation with "unhygienic living conditions."¹² On their days off, construction workers typically congregate in Singapore's "Little India," where they can meet

Foreign Domestic and Construction Worker Permits

Permit Type	Dec. 2012	Dec. 2013	Dec. 2014	Dec. 2015	Dec. 2016
FDW/Work Permit/Foreign Domestic Worker	209,600	214,500	222,500	231,500	239,700
Foreign Construction Worker Permits	293,300	318,900	322,700	326,000	315,500
Totals	502,900	533,400	545,200	557,500	555,200

Source: Based on a chart from the Singapore Ministry of Manpower website at <https://www.mom.gov.sg/working>.

compatriots and indulge in their favorite dishes from home. While there have been some efforts to encourage interaction of locals with the migrant workers¹³ who have built the luxury hotels and high-rise tower blocks in which citizens live, real integration has not been universally accepted, and the debate over integration versus segregation has been in the public discourse for some time.¹⁴ In 2013, a riot involving some 400 workers from India, Sri Lanka, and Bangladesh erupted in Little India after a foreign worker was killed by a bus. This incident served only to harden attitudes among locals to immigration and was apparently the catalyst for the government to ban public drinking between 10:30 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. in Little India and in Geylang, a district popular with foreign workers from China.

Work permit holders such as domestic or construction workers are subject to constraints not applied to the higher-skilled employment pass holders. They are required to undergo regular medical checks, including X-rays and tests for HIV/AIDS. They are forbidden from marrying Singaporeans or permanent residents without permission, and any domestic worker found to be pregnant is expelled from Singapore summarily and without exception.

Current Policies and Attitudes to Immigrants

In December 2016, there were 239,700 female domestic worker visas and 315,500 construction worker visas effective in Singapore; employment passes and other categories of work permit for foreign talents amounted to some 372,000. Using the number of valid visas for noncitizens employed in Singapore as a guide, it indicates that the number of foreigners living in Singapore was approximately 1,395,000.¹⁵ The total population of Singapore as of January 2017 was 5.75 million. Clearly, Singapore has one of the highest percentages of nonpermanent resident foreigners of any nation in the world.

Immigration to Singapore has always been a feature of its role in a global economy as a magnet for people seeking work, even in the nineteenth century. More recently, it has become a node in twenty-first-century labor flows. Large-scale migration and mass population movements are defining features of contemporary social life and a key dynamic of globalization that has had a profound effect on many nations. This has not been without its critics in Singapore, and there has been a discernible backlash against immigrants from the general population in recent years. Singapore has an extremely stable economic and political system in which housing, health care, and education, while expensive, are among the best in the world; but, like other nations, it has also been vulnerable to the vagaries of the global economy. While unemployment is low compared to international norms, an increase in the jobless rate and the threat of more rises is causing some concern among citizens. In early 2013, the Singapore government released a population white paper titled *A Sustainable Population for a Dynamic Singapore*.¹⁶ This document grapples not only with the possibilities of unemployment, but with the issues precipitated by an aging population—

"Singapore for Singaporeans" was one of the rallying cries that could be heard. Such a display of dissent is rare in Singapore.

a problem common to low-birth rate countries, in particular Japan. The white paper argued that foreign workers were still needed for economic growth but that there should be a balance between the number of skilled and lower-skilled workers. The government projected the population of Singapore to be 6.9 million by the year 2038. It was noted by some critics that the urban infrastructure was already under pressure and that a steady increase in immigrants would only exacerbate this and create tensions between citizens and foreigners. On February 18th, 2013, nearly 3,000 people rallied in a public park to protest against the white paper and its suggestion that immigration should continue in order to achieve annual productivity increases. "Singapore for Singaporeans" was one of the rallying cries that could be heard. Such a display of dissent is rare in Singapore.

In a television interview on August 2, 2013, Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong noted that in 2014, due to government intervention, the inflow of migrants was the slowest it had been for some time. Asserting that this had not been the result of bowing to populist pressure, he said there was a need to balance productivity and economic development against other factors that may affect Singapore. He singled out national identity as one factor that loomed large in his desire to find the right "trade-off." Apart from the obvious stress on the infrastructure and capacity of the country to cope with more than a million new inhabitants, one of his concerns was how foreign workers would affect the "year of Singapore society."¹⁷

Singapore faces the problems that so many advanced societies in Asia and the West face today: declining birth rates, aging populations, increased health care costs, and the rising cost of labor. Net migration to Singapore in the period 1990–2000 outstripped natural growth through births and accounted for nearly two-thirds of the population increase. In the last decade, this has precipitated policies to curb immigration for the sake of maintaining social cohesion. The Little India riots shocked many people, who began calling for tighter controls and restrictions on immigration and public behavior, such as the banning of alcohol in spaces of conviviality for foreign workers. The potential for racial conflict has long been a source of anxiety in Singapore, and memories of the seven days of communal rioting in Singapore in May 1969, in which four people were killed and eighty injured, cannot have been far from the minds of many older citizens. Immigration and its consequences—crowding on public transport, public behavior, road congestion, community safety, noise levels, and even effects on property values—has been on the public agenda for decades. In 2008, some 1,600 residents of affluent enclave Serangoon Gardens signed a petition to stop the government from turning an old school in the district into a foreign workers' dormitory. Residents cited, among other concerns, the threat to the safety of children and old people from foreign workers and the potential for a drop in the value of assets. The dormitory was completed and now houses 600 workers; however, an access road forms a barrier between the dormitory and the residents of Serangoon Gardens. In addition, the dormitory has been fenced off, and the sensibilities of local residents have been saved from offense by the planting of trees to hide it from view. Like other such living spaces for foreign workers, it offers a level of invisibility that helps maintain the appropriate "tone" of society to which Lee referred, and the social and physical differentiation that citizens expect.

While multiculturalism and respect for ethnic and religious diversity are understood to be defining features of the nation, this does not extend

to embracing diversity in the form of immigrants. Immigration and population growth were again dominant issues in the 2015 general elections, the first since the death of Lee Kuan Yew, the founding father of the nation. While immigration causes anxieties that may be exploited for electoral advantage by political parties, the fact remains that imported labor is a necessity if Singapore is to maintain productivity and the materially rich, high standards of living its citizens enjoy. After all, many of the jobs that fall into the unskilled category are jobs that the well-educated populace does not want to do. Singapore's moral dilemma, as reflected in public policy that seeks to limit or expand immigration in response to perceived economic imperatives, is the result of being a small tropical island with a small population that aims high levels of social cohesion with discriminatory and somewhat-insular attitudes. ■

NOTES

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Singapore: Immigration and Changing Public Policies

Questions

1. What is Singapore's history as it relates to immigration?
2. Describe the ethnic diversity found in Singapore.
3. How has immigration been different in Singapore when compared to countries like the United States, Canada, or Australia?
4. Since the 1990's what type of immigrants has Singapore encouraged?
5. Describe the immigrants who are the "foreign talents."
6. What was the catalyst for the Foreign Talent Policy?
7. How did Singapore go about attracting foreign talents?
8. Describe the immigrants who are the "foreign workers."
9. What are the social and economic impacts for having a high number of foreign worker immigrants?
10. Describe five types of work done by the foreign workers.
11. Discuss how the foreign talents are treated differently than the foreign workers.
12. What are the attitudes toward immigrants in Singapore?
13. Explain what is meant by "Singapore for Singaporeans."
14. Why did Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong single out national identity as a factor in slowing the inflow of immigrants?
15. What has been the lasting impact of the communal riots in 1969?
16. How important is immigrants to Singapore's economic success?
17. Explain the last sentence of the article.
18. Explain the title of the article. What are the changing public policies?



Day 5

**Where have all the children gone?
The Consequences of Low Fertility Rates in
South Korea, Singapore, and Japan**

PowerPoint



What are the people in the photo doing?

<https://www.efe.com/efe/english/life/japan-to-accept-more-foreigners-as-caregivers-for-the-elderly/50000263-2521136>

Japan to accept more foreigners as caregivers for the elderly

EFE | Tokyo | 27 Jan 2015



This file photo shows Japanese elderly participating in a class of harmonic at a center for older in Hamamatsu City, Shizuoka Prefecture, Japan. EFE/File

<https://www.efe.com/efe/english/life/japan-to-accept-more-foreigners-as-caregivers-for-the-elderly/50000263-2521136>

Japan to accept more foreigners as caregivers for the elderly

The Japanese Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare is preparing a plan to increase the number of foreign caregivers for the elderly in the face of the growing shortage of workers in the sector, public broadcaster NHK reported Tuesday.

A document compiled by the ministry urges to include the category of nursing services and care to dependent persons within the public technical training for foreign learners program designed to train staff from developing countries.

The report specifies that the government will grant residence to those who obtain a license to provide this type of assistance in Japanese training centers.

With the measure, Japan is responding to the shortage of labor in this sector, which is expected to worsen in the coming years due to the progressive ageing of the population.

The government estimates that by 2025 Japan would need about 300,000 caregivers from abroad to cope with the demand for such services.

The expansion of the technical training program would take effect from April 2016, according to NHK.

The ministry also hopes to establish a new agency to supervise institutions that accept foreign trainees, since the program that started two decades ago has been criticized for harsh conditions that many of the trainees have allegedly been subjected to.

There have been several lawsuits filed over alleged abuses and irregularities committed against these apprentices by several companies and organizations.

Questions

1. Why is the Japanese Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare preparing to increase the number of foreign caregivers? Where will the caregivers come from?
2. What is the future outlook for the number of labor in this sector?
3. Discuss issues with how some of the foreign workers have been treated.

Student Handout:

Being Old in Rural Japan Video

Being Old in Rural Japan Video

Name: _____

Directions: The video is from the University of Vienna in Austria, and it is in German with English subtitles. Do not attempt to write answers to the questions while viewing the video. The video will be stopped after each of the twelve sections for you to be able to answer the question(s) for each section.

The video is on YouTube at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GDyPwiVObzg>

1- 0:00-4:00 - Introduction

1. Why are there few young people in the rural villages? Describe who lives in the villages.

2- 4:01-8:47 - Kikuchi Genichi, 93

2. Describe his poetry.

3- 8:48-11:13 - Nishizawa Shimako, 84

3. What did the three women discuss?

4- 11:14-12:38 - "Active Ageing"

4. What is "active ageing"?

5- 12:39-13:43 - Kikuchi Genichi, 93

5. How does he describe his life?

6- 13:44-15:40 - Life in the Village / Food

6. Explain the importance of the bus? Why is it's future threatened?

7. In what ways do they purchase food?

7- 15:41-17:37 - Driving (Kikuchi Genichi)

8. What do the elderly have to do to obtain a license to drive?

9. How do others know the driver is over 75?

10. when Kikuchi Genichi is driving around the village what information does he give about the village?

Being Old in Rural Japan Video

Name: _____

8- 17:38-19:07 - Agriculture

11. Describe what is grown in the village.

12. Describe the type of farming done by more of the elderly.

9- 19:08-24:47 - Children / Farming

13. When do some of the elderly's children come to visit?

14. Describe Nishizawa Shimako's farming.

10- 24:48-27:03 - Shopping

15. How has shopping changed in the villages?

11- 27:04-30:18 - Gateball / Leisure Time / "Senior Citizens Association"

16. Describe gateball. How important is it to some of the villagers?

17. List four examples the elderly do in their leisure time.

12- 30:19-33:24 - Municipality / Community Center

18. Describe three activities supported by the municipality and conducted at the community center.

Summary

19. How would you describe elderly life in rural Japan?

20. What are the future concerns for the elderly living in rural Japan?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GDyPwiVObzg>



65+ Being old in rural Japan

Being Old in Rural Japan



1- 0:00-4:00 - Introduction

1. Why are there few young people in the rural villages? Describe who lives in the villages.

Being Old in Rural Japan



They said: You've done that pretty well!
And they praised them.

2- 4:01-8:47 - Kikuchi Genichi, 93

2. Describe his poetry.

Being Old in Rural Japan

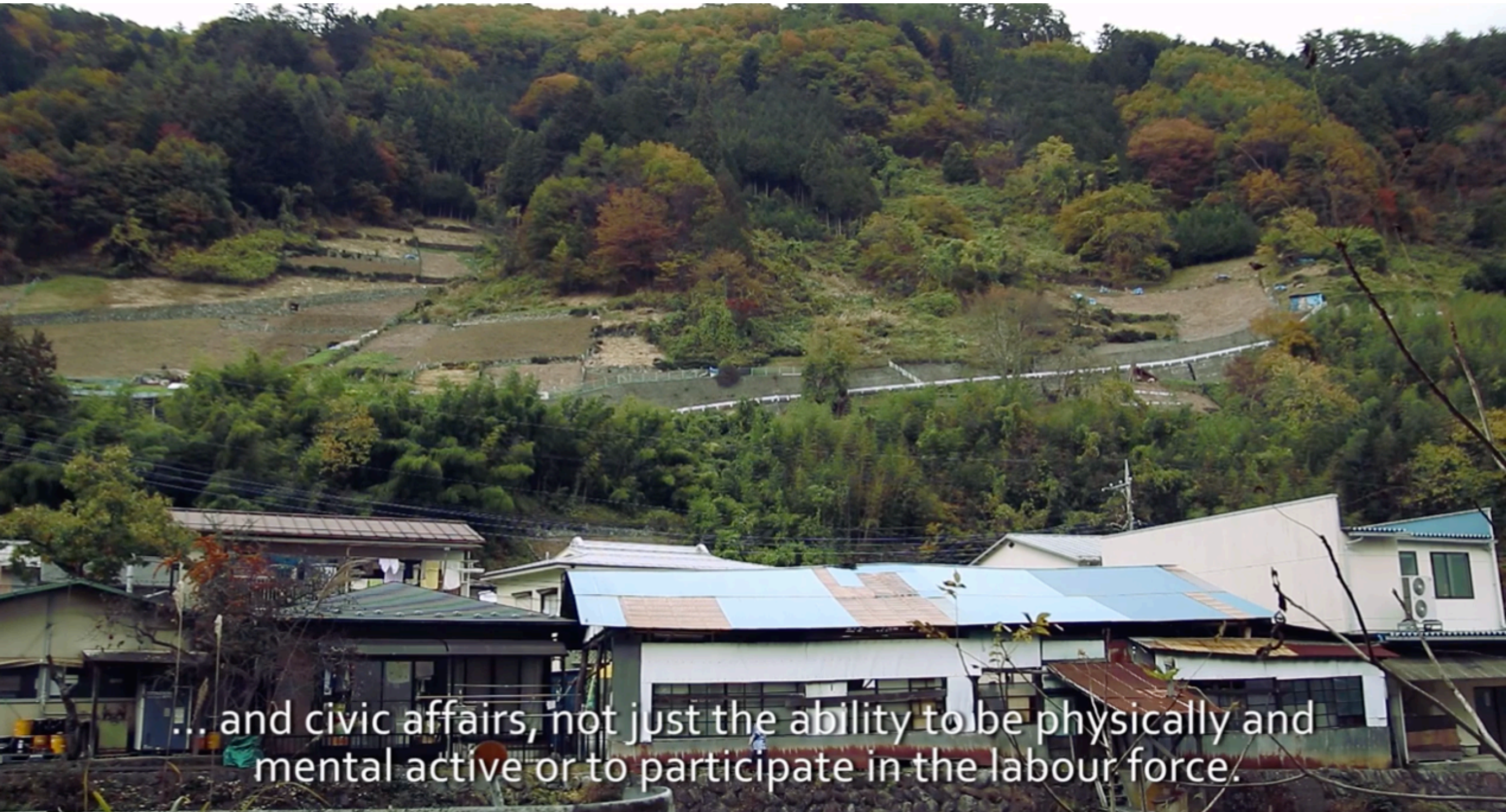


They're interested in how people over 65 live here.

3- 8:48-11:13 - Nishizawa Shimako, 84

3. What did the three women discuss?

Being Old in Rural Japan



... and civic affairs, not just the ability to be physically and mental active or to participate in the labour force.

4- 11:14-12:38 - “Active Ageing”

4. What is “active ageing?”

Being Old in Rural Japan



5- 12:39-13:43 - Kikuchi Genichi, 93

5. How does he describe his life?

Being Old in Rural Japan



Around 10 times a day, the bus picks up or drops people off in all the villages in one valley ...

6- 13:44-15:40 - Life in the Village / Food

6. Explain the importance of the bus? Why is it's future threatened?

Being Old in Rural Japan



That makes 724 yen.

The green earth in which we live. Let's keep the rich nature of the earth.

6- 13:44-15:40 - Life in the Village / Food

7. In what ways do they purchase food?

Being Old in Rural Japan



So I can drive my car until I turn 95.

7- 15:41-17:37 - Driving (Kikuchi Genichi)

8. What do the elderly have to do to obtain a license to drive?

Being Old in Rural Japan



Drivers over 75 have to label their cars with a special symbol to indicate they are seniors.

7- 15:41-17:37 - Driving (Kikuchi Genichi)

9. How do others know the driver is over 75?

Being Old in Rural Japan



Nobody lives here.

7- 15:41-17:37 - Driving (Kikuchi Genichi)

10. When Kikuchi Genichi is driving around the village what information does he give about the village?

Being Old in Rural Japan



Agriculture is mostly conducted in Japan part-time,
with decreasing productivity.

8- 17:38-19:07 - Agriculture

11. Describe what is grown in the village.

Being Old in Rural Japan



Nearly 2/3 of the farmers are 65 or older and farm work is therefore referred to as "retirement farming".

8- 17:38-19:07 - Agriculture

12. Describe the type of farming done by more of the elderly.

Being Old in Rural Japan



My daughter often comes, mostly on public holidays.
She helps me with the farming.

9- 19:08-24:47 - Children / Farming

13. When do some of the elderly's children come to visit?

Being Old in Rural Japan



9- 19:08-24:47 - Children / Farming

14. Describe Nishizawa Shimako's farming.

Being Old in Rural Japan



But the owner changed twice and it stopped operating because fewer and fewer customers came.

10- 24:48-27:03 - Shopping

15. How has shopping changed in the villages?

Being Old in Rural Japan



11- 27:04-30:18 - Gateball / Leisure Time / “Senior Citizens Association”
16. Describe gateball. How important is it to some of the villagers?

Being Old in Rural Japan



Various leisure options, such as choir, poetry club, dancing classes, health and sports activities or trips are offered.

11- 27:04-30:18 - Gateball / Leisure Time / “Senior Citizens Association”

17. List four examples the elderly do in their leisure time.

Being Old in Rural Japan



I go to the community centre once a month.
I try to get involved in these activities.

12- 30:19-33:24 - Municipality / Community Center

18. Describe three activities supported by the municipality and conducted at the community center.

Being Old in Rural Japan



Summary

19. How would you describe elderly life in rural Japan?

20. What are the future concerns for the elderly living in rural Japan?

References and Resources

Videos (See module for more information)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=joSuXGzg8c0>

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