Demographic changes in Asia and the Pacific – implications for the disability agenda

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Percentage of Females and Males by age group

In Asia-Pacific, age structures are shifting

In Asia-Pacific, by 2050, Number of older persons > younger

2020: More than 630 million older persons in the Asia-Pacific region

Number of people aged 60+ in the Asia-Pacific region (thousands), 2020

- China: 249,778
- India: 139,612
- Indonesia: 27,521
- Pakistan: 14,886
- Thailand: 13,412
- Russian Federation: 32,706
- Republic of Korea: 11,870
- Viet Nam: 11,989
- Turkey: 11,022
- Other countries: 60,813
- Japan: 43,412

In Asia-Pacific, many countries experiencing rapid population ageing

Number of **years** for the share of the population 65+ to increase from 7 to 14 per cent

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Start Year</th>
<th>End Year</th>
<th>Years</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td>1865-1880</td>
<td></td>
<td>115</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sweden</td>
<td>1890-1975</td>
<td></td>
<td>85</td>
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<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td>1944-2013</td>
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<td>69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canada</td>
<td>1944-2009</td>
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<td>65</td>
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<tr>
<td>Australia</td>
<td>1938-2011</td>
<td></td>
<td>61</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hungary</td>
<td>1944-1994</td>
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<td>53</td>
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<tr>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
<td>1930-1975</td>
<td></td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spain</td>
<td>1947-1992</td>
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<td>45</td>
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<tr>
<td>Poland</td>
<td>1966-2011</td>
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<td>45</td>
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<tr>
<td>Turkey</td>
<td>2004-2034</td>
<td></td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Japan</td>
<td>1968-1994</td>
<td></td>
<td>26</td>
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<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>1998-2024</td>
<td></td>
<td>26</td>
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<tr>
<td>Brazil</td>
<td>2010-2035</td>
<td></td>
<td>25</td>
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<td>Sri Lanka</td>
<td>2003-2026</td>
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<td>Thailand</td>
<td>2000-2021</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Viet Nam</td>
<td>2014-2034</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Singapore</td>
<td>2001-2021</td>
<td></td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Republic of Korea</td>
<td>1998-2017</td>
<td></td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In Asia-Pacific, most older persons 60+ are women, 2020

In Asia-Pacific, older persons often spend up to 10 years with impairments.

Life expectancy at birth (dark color) vs. Healthy life expectancy at birth (light color), 2019

§116 ... The aim of the International Plan of Action is to ensure that persons everywhere are able to age with security and dignity and to continue to participate in their societies as citizens with full rights.

Priority direction:
A. Older persons and development
B. Advancing health and well-being into old age
C. Ensuring enabling and supportive environments
Disability in MIPAA

Under Priority Direction II, Health and Well-Being in Old Age

Issue 6: Older persons and disabilities

Objective 1: Maintenance of maximum functional capacity throughout the life course and promotion of the full participation of older persons with disabilities.

Action areas include:

- “Ensure that the agendas of national policy and programme coordination agencies dealing with disabilities include attention to issues concerning older persons with disabilities”

- “Provide physical and mental rehabilitation services for older persons with disabilities”;

- “Encourage the development of housing options for older persons with disabilities that reduce barriers to and encourage independence and, where possible, make public spaces, transportation and other services, as well as commercial premises and services used by the general public accessible to them”;

- “Encourage the provision of rehabilitation and appropriate care and assistive technologies for older persons with disabilities to fulfil their need for services, support and full integration into society”.

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Intersectionality of vulnerabilities

Population ageing will lead to rising numbers of persons with disabilities

Persons with disabilities as part of the solution

Linkages between population ageing and disability agenda
Population ageing can be an “opportunity” for persons with disabilities to be better integrated in the labour force

Address linkages and intersectionalities between ageing and disabilities

Mainstream ageing into the disability agenda and mainstream disability (and accessibility) in the ageing agenda

Provide a voice to older persons with disabilities in organizations of persons with disabilities

Collect data disaggregated by age, sex, disability status and other characteristics
Thank You!

For any questions, please contact escap-sdd@un.org

or visit us at:

https://www.population-trends-asiapacific.org/