

# **Reported Changes in Functioning Among Older Singaporeans**

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# Demographic Characteristics of Singapore

	1970	2000	2030
<b>Population</b>	2,075,000	4,018,000	5,239,000
<b>TFR</b>	3.0	1.5	2.0
<b>e0</b>	68	77.9	81.5
<b>% 65+</b>	3.3	7.2	22.5

SOURCE : <http://devdata.worldbank.org/hnpstats/>

# Data Sources

- 1995 National Survey of Senior Citizens  
(N=4750, Sample = 55+)
- 1999 Transitions in Health, Wealth, and Welfare of Singaporean Elderly: 1995-1999  
(N=1980, Sample = 59+)

# Composition of Baseline and Follow-Up Samples

	<u>1995</u> (n=4750) 55+	<u>1999</u> (n=1977) 59+
Average age	70.9	73.2
Percent female	53.8	53.5
Percent married	50.9	56.2
Percent no education	66.9	60.9

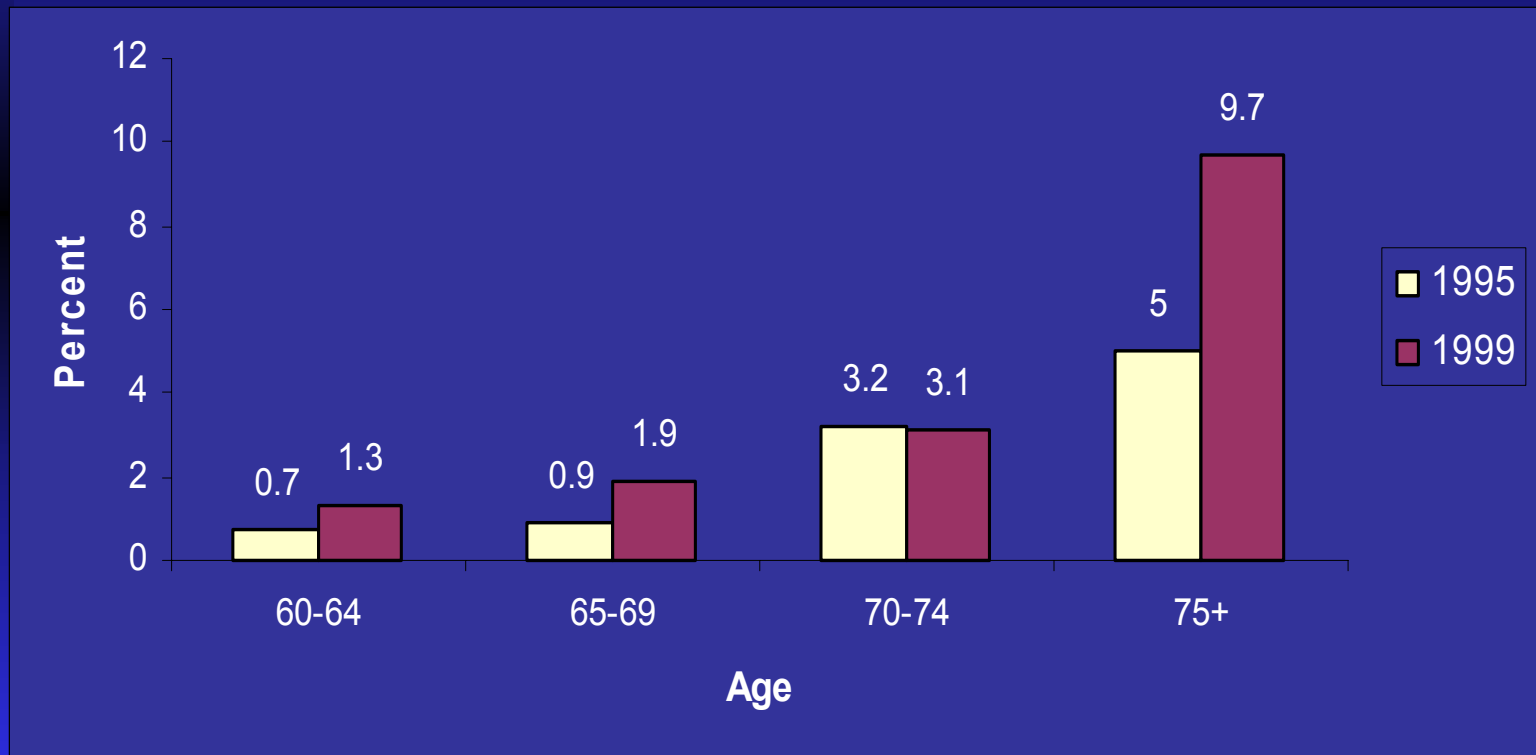
# Analytical Strategy

- Calculate prevalence rates of ADLs and IADLs for panel sample.
- Estimate probability of an increase in reports of at least one ADL and IADL between 1995-1999 using logistic regression.

# Percent with ADL Difficulties : Panel Sample (n=1977)

	<u>1995</u>	<u>1999</u>
<b>Bathing/dressing</b>	<b>1.8</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Toileting</b>	<b>1.3</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Eating</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Any one</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>3.7</b>

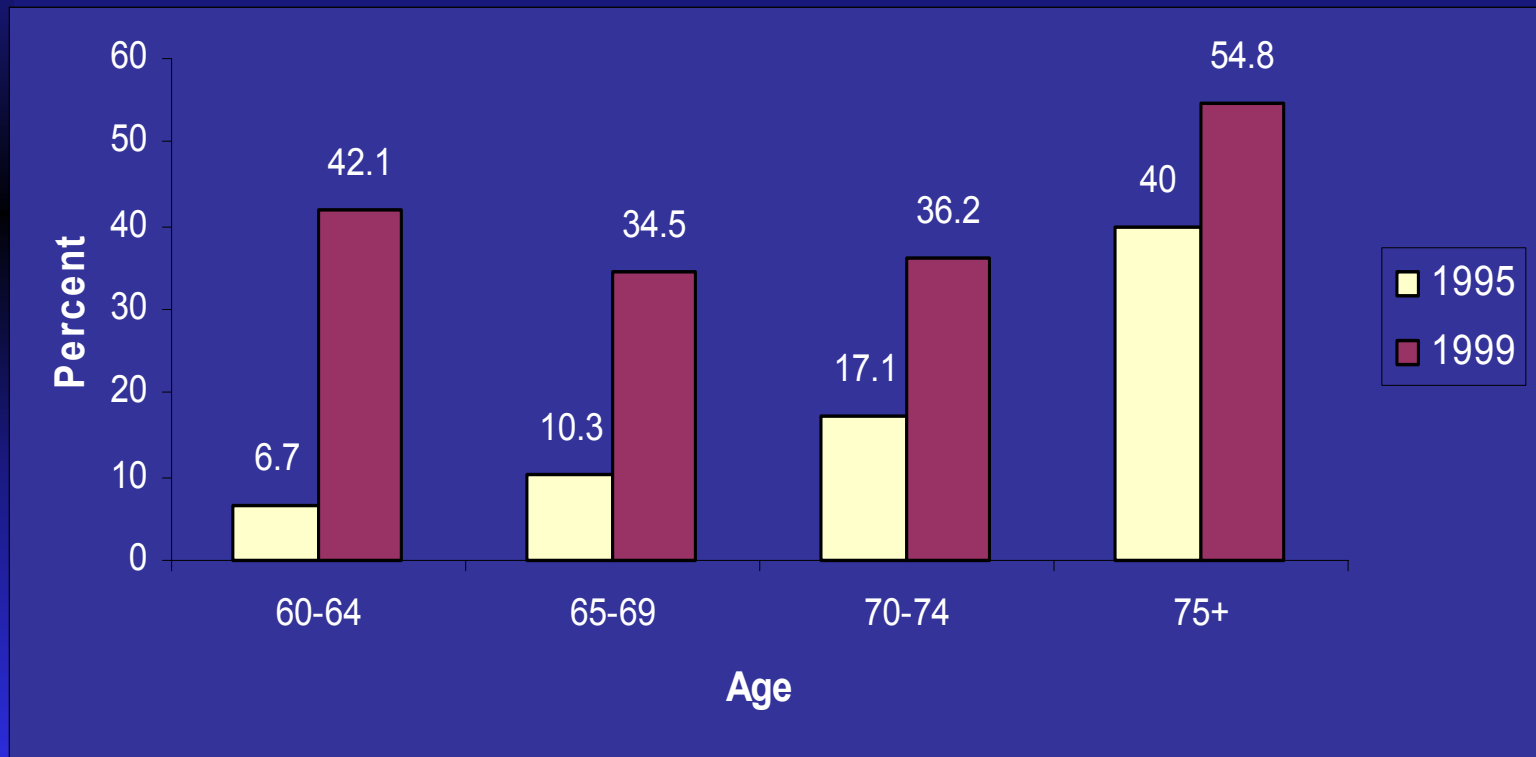
# Percent having at least one ADL difficulty by age and year



# Percent with IADL Difficulties : Panel Sample (n=1977)

	<u>1995</u>	<u>1999</u>
Using transportation	7.3	16.8
Shopping	7.3	11.9
Preparing meals	8.4	12.2
Light housework	6.5	8.9
Any one	14.3	42.3

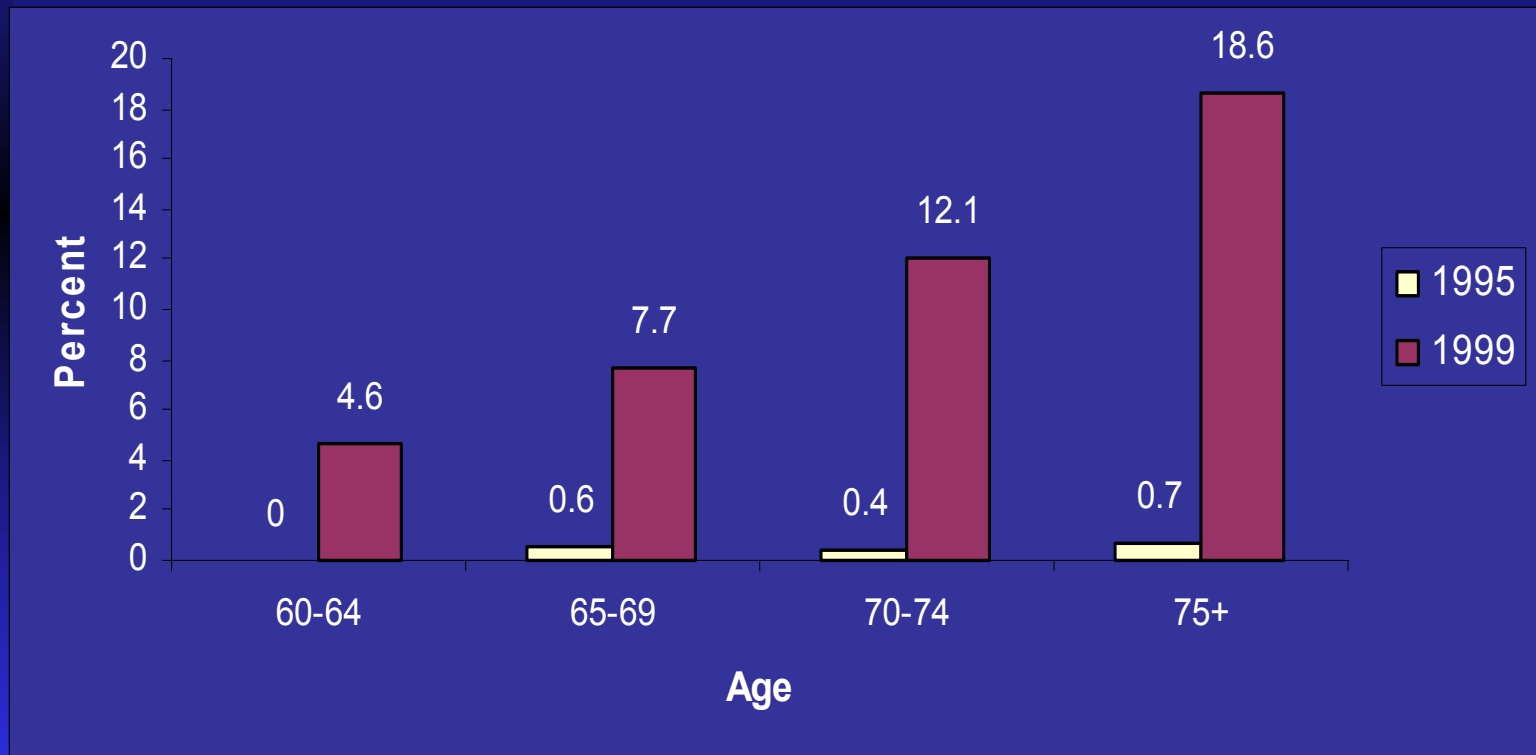
# Percent having at least one IADL difficulty by age and year



# Reports of Self-Assessed Health : Panel Sample (n=1977)

	<u>1995</u>	<u>1999</u>
<b>Very good</b>	<b>17.1</b>	<b>7.6</b>
<b>Good</b>	<b>68.5</b>	<b>46.4</b>
<b>Fair</b>	<b>14.0</b>	<b>36.1</b>
<b>Poor</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>9.9</b>

# Percent reporting poor self-assessed health by age and year



# Logistic Regression Odds Ratios

	ADL	IADL
<b>Year 1999</b>	n.s.	3.25
<b>Male</b>	0.69	n.s.
<b>Ethnicity</b>		
Chinese	---	---
Malay	1.54	1.62
Indian	n.s.	n.s.
<b>Age</b>		
55-59	---	---
60-64	n.s.	1.54
65-69	2.36	1.58
70-74	4.41	2.26
75+	10.87	5.89
<b>Not Married</b>	n.s.	1.16
<b>Some Education</b>	n.s.	n.s.

# Conclusion

- Using panel data for Singapore we show an increase in the percentage of respondents reporting at least one ADL or IADL between 1995 and 1999, controlling for background characteristics.
- Findings suggest an increase in functional limitations over time among older Singaporeans.