



The demographic Profile of the United Arab Emirates

1. Population Trends:

a. Population Size of the UAE:

The population size of the UAE increased from 1.0 million in 1980 to 8.4 million in 2010. It is expected that the population will keep on increasing to reach approximately 15.5 million in 2050.

Table 1: Population Size of the UAE by Sex, 1980-2050

Year	Population Size (thousands)		
	Males	Females	Total
1980	707	308	1,015
1985	874	473	1,347
1990	1,185	622	1,806
1995	1,561	786	2,346
2000	2,042	984	3,026
2005	2,822	1,327	4,149
2010	5,960	2,482	8,442
2015*	6,659	2,918	9,577
2020*	7,299	3,303	10,602
2025*	7,851	3,628	11,479
2030*	8,385	3,946	12,330
2035*	8,918	4,283	13,201
2040*	9,433	4,631	14,064
2045*	9,885	4,957	14,842
2050*	10,239	5,240	15,479

Source: United Nations, World Population Prospects: The 2012 Revision, Available on: http://esa.un.org/unpd/wpp/unpp/panel_indicators.htm

* Projections (medium variant)

b. Population Growth in the UAE:

The growth rate of the population in UAE decreased from 5.87 per cent for the period 1985-1990 to 5.09 per cent for the period 1995-2000, and then increased to 14.21 per cent in the period 2005-2010. It is projected that the growth rate of the population in the UAE will decrease to reach 0.84 per cent for the period 2045-2050.

Table 2: Population Growth in the UAE, 1980-2050

Period	Population Growth Rate (%)
1980-1985	5.67
1985-1990	5.87
1990-1995	5.23
1995-2000	5.09
2000-2005	6.31
2005-2010	14.21
2010-2015*	2.52
2015-2020*	2.03
2020-2025*	1.59
2025-2030*	1.43
2030-2035*	1.36
2035-2040*	1.27
2040-2045*	1.08
2045-2050*	0.84

Source: United Nations, World Population Prospects: The 2012 Revision, Available on: http://esa.un.org/unpd/wpp/unpp/panel_indicators.htm

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2. Indicators of Demographic Transition:

a. Mortality Transition in the UAE

i. Life Expectancy

Life Expectancy at Birth in the UAE gained 7.2 years from the period 1980-1985 to the period 2005-2010, increasing from 68.7 years to 75.9 years. It is projected to reach 82.7 years during the period 2045-2050.

Table 3: Life Expectancy at Birth in the UAE, 1980-2050

Year	Life Expectancy at Birth (years)		
	Male	Female	Total
1980-1985	67.6	70.6	68.7
1985-1990	69.7	72.3	70.7
1990-1995	71.3	73.6	72.2
1995-2000	72.7	74.9	73.5
2000-2005	74.0	76.1	74.8
2005-2010	75.2	77.1	75.9
2010-2015*	76.1	78.1	76.7
2015-2020*	76.9	78.9	77.6
2020-2025*	77.8	79.7	78.5
2025-2030*	78.7	80.5	79.3
2030-2035*	79.7	81.2	80.2
2035-2040*	80.6	81.9	81.1
2040-2045*	81.5	82.6	81.9
2045-2050*	82.4	83.2	82.7

Source: United Nations, World Population Prospects: The 2012 Revision, Available on: http://esa.un.org/unpd/wpp/unpp/panel_indicators.htm

* Projections (medium variant)

ii. Infant Mortality Rate:

The Infant Mortality Rate in the UAE stood at 29.6 infant deaths per 1,000 live births in 1980-1985 and decreased to 6.9 infant deaths per 1,000 live births in 2005-2010. It is projected to continue this downward trend to reach 2.4 infant deaths per 1,000 live births in 2045-2050.

Table 4: Infant Mortality Rate in the UAE, 1980-2050

Year	Infant Mortality Rate (per 1,000 live births)		
	Male	Female	Total
1980-1985	32.5	26.4	29.6
1985-1990	23.8	19.4	21.7
1990-1995	18.1	14.8	16.5
1995-2000	13.6	11.1	12.4
2000-2005	10.2	8.2	9.2
2005-2010	7.6	6.1	6.9
2010-2015*	6.5	4.9	5.7
2015-2020*	5.7	4.1	4.9
2020-2025*	5.0	3.5	4.3
2025-2030*	4.3	3.2	3.8
2030-2035*	3.7	2.9	3.3
2035-2040*	3.2	2.7	3.0
2040-2045*	2.8	2.5	2.6
2045-2050*	2.5	2.3	2.4

Source: United Nations, World Population Prospects: The 2012 Revision, Available on: http://esa.un.org/unpd/wpp/unpp/panel_indicators.htm

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iii. Under-Five Mortality

The under-five mortality rate was estimated at 14 deaths under age five per 1,000 live births in 1995-2000, and decreased to 8 by 2010. It is projected to continue decreasing to reach 3 deaths per 1,000 live births by 2040 and will remain at this level up to 2050.

Table 5: Under-Five Mortality Rate in the UAE, 1980-2050

Year	Under-Five Mortality Rate (per 1,000 live births)		
	Male	Female	Total
1980-1985	39	33	36
1985-1990	28	23	26
1990-1995	21	17	19
1995-2000	16	13	14
2000-2005	12	10	11
2005-2010	9	7	8
2010-2015*	8	6	7
2015-2020*	7	5	6
2020-2025*	6	4	5
2025-2030*	5	4	4
2030-2035*	4	4	4
2035-2040*	4	3	3
2040-2045*	3	3	3
2045-2050*	3	3	3

Source: United Nations, World Population Prospects: The 2012 Revision,
Available on: http://esa.un.org/unpd/wpp/unpp/panel_indicators.htm

* Projections (medium variant)

iv. Maternal Mortality

The maternal mortality ratio in UAE was estimated at 24 maternal deaths per 100,000 live births in 1990. It decreased to reach 12 maternal deaths per 100,000 live births in 2010.

Source: World Health Statistics 2012.

Available on: http://www.who.int/gho/maternal_health/countries/en/#U

b. Fertility Transition in the UAE

i. Fertility Rate

The total Fertility Rate in UAE dropped from 5.23 children per woman in 1980-1985 to 2.40 in 2000-2005 (Replacement level fertility is 2.1) and 1.97 children per woman in 2005-2010. Projections show that total fertility will decline further to reach 1.60 children per woman in 2030-2035 but will start increasing afterwards and will reach 1.64 children per woman in 2045-2050.

Table 6: Total Fertility Rate in the UAE, 1980-2050

Year	Total Fertility Rate (children per woman)
1980-1985	5.23
1985-1990	4.83
1990-1995	3.88
1995-2000	2.97
2000-2005	2.40
2005-2010	1.97
2010-2015*	1.82
2015-2020*	1.73
2020-2025*	1.66
2025-2030*	1.62



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Year	Total Fertility Rate (children per woman)
2030-2035*	1.60
2035-2040*	1.61
2040-2045*	1.62
2045-2050*	1.64

Source: United Nations, World Population Prospects: The 2012 Revision,
Available on: http://esa.un.org/unpd/wpp/unpp/panel_indicators.htm

* Projections (medium variant)

ii. Contraceptive Prevalence

The prevalence of contraceptive use among married or in-union women aged 15 to 49 was estimated at 45.7 per cent in 2010 and increased to 47.5 per cent in 2012. Contraceptive use among women aged 15 to 49 is projected to increase and reach 50.3 per cent in 2015.

Source: United Nations, World Contraceptive Use 2012

Available on: <http://www.un.org/esa/population/publications/WCU2012/MainFrame.html>

c. Migration Transition in the UAE

i. Internal Migration

The percentage of urban dwellers decreased from 80.7 per cent in 1980 to 78.3 per cent in 1995. Then it increased to 84.0 per cent in 2010. Projections show that this percentage will continue to increase and will reach 90.6 per cent in 2050.

Table 7: Urban and Rural Population in the UAE, 1980-2050

Year	Urban (thousands)	Rural (thousands)	Total (thousands)	Percentage Urban (%)	Percentage Rural (%)	Year	Annual Rate of Change of Percentage Urban (%)	Annual Rate of Change of Percentage Rural (%)
1980	820	196	1,016	80.7	19.3	1980-1985	-0.23	0.92
1985	1,077	272	1,349	79.8	20.2	1985-1990	-0.19	0.73
1990	1,430	379	1,809	79.1	20.9	1990-1995	-0.19	0.69
1995	1,839	509	2,349	78.3	21.7	1995-2000	0.48	-1.85
2000	2,434	600	3,033	80.2	19.8	2000-2005	0.50	-2.16
2005	3,348	722	4,069	82.3	17.7	2005-2010	0.43	-2.11
2010	6,313	1,199	7,512	84.0	16.0	2010-2015*	0.34	-1.90
2015*	7,159	1,215	8,374	85.5	14.5	2015-2020*	0.27	-1.67
2020*	7,950	1,224	9,174	86.7	13.3	2020-2025*	0.21	-1.43
2025*	8,641	1,226	9,867	87.6	12.4	2025-2030*	0.16	-1.19
2030*	9,261	1,228	10,489	88.3	11.7	2030-2035*	0.14	-1.09
2035*	9,817	1,224	11,042	88.9	11.1	2035-2040*	0.13	-1.09
2040*	10,309	1,209	11,518	89.5	10.5	2040-2045*	0.13	-1.10
2045*	10,714	1,182	11,895	90.1	9.90	2045-2050*	0.12	-1.11
2050*	11,010	1,142	12,152	90.6	9.40			

Source: United Nations, World Urbanization Prospects: the 2011 Revision

Available on: http://esa.un.org/unup/unup/index_panel1.html

* Projections (medium variant)

ii. International Migration

Around 7,826,981 international migrant are expected to live in UAE in 2013, representing 83.75 per cent of the total population of the UAE. Projections show that female migrants would represent 25.26 per cent of all migrants for that year.



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The annual rate of change of the migrant stock increased from 6.27 per cent for the period 1990-2000 to 10.95 per cent for the period 2000-2010. Projections show that it will decrease to reach 2.25 per cent for the period 2010-2013.

The annual net migration rate in UAE went up from 31.6 migrants per 1,000 population for the period 1990-1995 to 121.1 migrants per 1,000 population for the period 2005-2010. Projections show that it will drop again to reach 6.4 migrants per 1,000 population for the period 2045-2050.

Table 8a: International Migrant (IM) Stock for the UAE, 1990-2013

Indicator	1990	2000	2010	2013*
Estimated Number of IM at Mid-Year (total)	1,306,574	2,446,675	7,316,611	7,826,981
Estimated Number of IM at Mid-Year (male)	932,046	1,757,144	5,463,515	5,850,180
Estimated Number of IM at Mid-Year (female)	374,528	689,531	1,853,096	1,976,801
Estimated Number of Refugees at Mid-Year	433	562	538	677
IM as Percentage of the Population (%)	72.33	80.85	86.67	83.75
Female Migrants as a Percentage of all IM (%)	28.66	28.18	25.33	25.26
Refugees as a Percentage of IM (%)	0.03	0.02	0.01	0.01

Source: United Nations, World Migration Stock: The 2013 Revision,
Available on: <http://esa.un.org/unmigration/migrantstocks2013.htm?mtotals>
* Projections

Table 8b: Annual Rate of Change of the Migrant Stock in the UAE, 1990-2013

Year	Annual Rate of Change of the Migrant Stock (%)
1990-2000	6.27
2000-2010	10.95
2010-2013*	2.25

Source: United Nations, World Migration Stock: The 2013 Revision,
Available on: <http://esa.un.org/unmigration/migrantstocks2013.htm?mtotals>
* Projections

Table 9: Net Migration in the UAE, 1980-2050

Year	Net Migration (average annual)	
	Rate (per 1,000 population)	Number (thousands)
1980-1985	29.5	35
1985-1990	32.9	52
1990-1995	31.6	66
1995-2000	34.6	93
2000-2005	48.2	173
2005-2010	121.1	762
2010-2015*	11.4	103
2015-2020*	10.3	104
2020-2025*	8.8	97
2025-2030*	8.1	97
2030-2035*	7.6	97
2035-2040*	7.1	97
2040-2045*	6.7	97
2045-2050*	6.4	97

Source: United Nations, World Population Prospects: The 2012 Revision,
Available on: http://esa.un.org/unpd/wpp/unpp/panel_indicators.htm
* Projections (medium variant)



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3. Population Structure

a. UAE's Population Age composition

The proportion of the population under 15 years of age has been decreasing since 1990 and is projected to continue this downward trend to the year 2050. At the same time, the proportion of the working-age group (15-64) has been increasing since 1990, where it rose from 68.0 per cent to reach 85.8 per cent in 2010. It is projected to reach a peak of 86.2 per cent in 2030 after which it will start a downward trend. The proportion of the elderly (65+) population declined from 1.3 per cent in 1980 to 0.3 per cent in 2010. Projections show that the proportion of the elderly (65+) population will start an upward trend afterwards and will reach 24.6 per cent in 2050.

Table 10: Population Distribution by Broad Age Groups in the UAE, 1980-2050

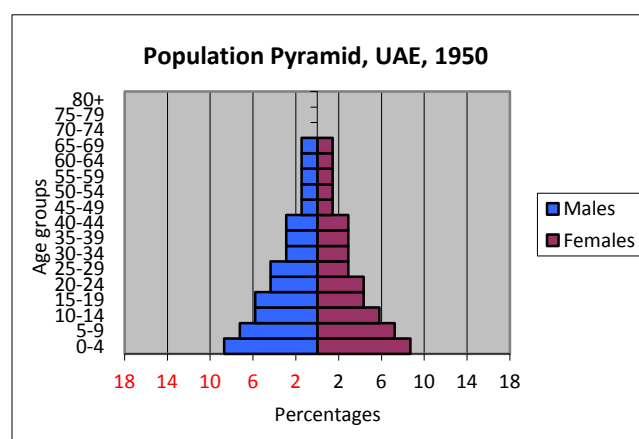
Year	Population by Age Group (%)			
	0-4	5-14	15-64	65+
1980	12.9	15.1	70.6	1.3
1985	13.8	18.0	66.8	1.3
1990	12.5	18.5	68.0	1.1
1995	9.3	17.5	72.2	1.0
2000	8.6	16.8	73.6	1.0
2005	7.0	13.1	79.1	0.8
2010	6.4	7.50	85.8	0.3
2015*	7.0	9.10	83.4	0.5
2020*	5.3	11.5	82.4	0.9
2025*	4.0	10.7	84.0	1.3
2030*	3.8	8.30	86.2	1.8
2035*	4.0	7.00	86.1	3.0
2040*	4.2	7.00	81.3	7.5
2045*	4.0	7.50	72.6	15.9
2050*	3.6	7.60	64.2	24.6

Source: United Nations, World Population Prospects: The 2012 Revision, Available on: http://esa.un.org/unpd/wpp/unpp/panel_indicators.htm

* Projections (medium variant)

b. Changing Age Structure¹

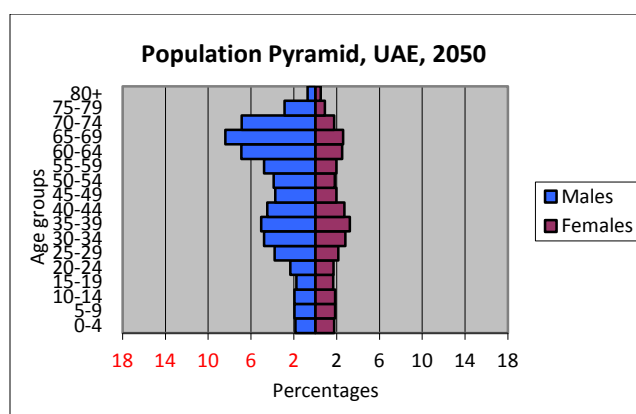
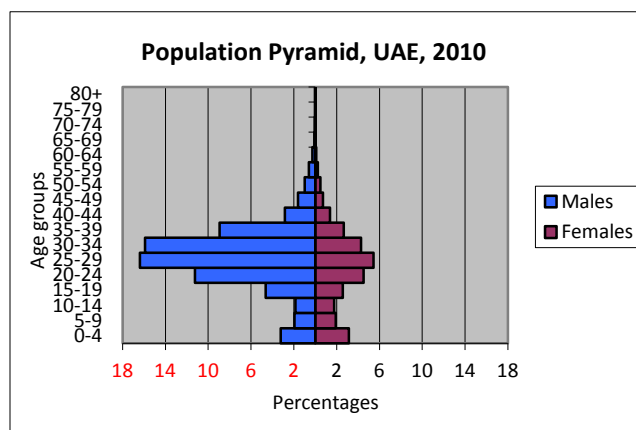
The population pyramid for UAE for the years 2010 and 2050 shows an unbalanced age-sex structure due to the high immigration rates and reliance on foreign labour.



¹ Source for all pyramids: United Nations, World Population Prospects: The 2012 Revision; Projections (medium variant). Available on: <http://www.un.org/esa/population/publications/wcu2010/Main.html>



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c. UAE's Youth Population

In 1985, youth (15-24) formed 14.3 per cent of the population in the UAE (or 21.3 per cent of the working-age group). In 2010, the percentage increased to 23.0 per cent (or 26.8 percent of the working-age group). The youth population is projected to decline and will reach 9.3 per cent in 2025 (or 11.1 per cent of the working-age group), then it will increase to reach 11.2 per cent in 2030, only to decrease again and will reach 7.30 per cent in 2045. It is expected to increase slightly afterwards to reach 7.5 per cent in 2050 (or 11.6 per cent of the working-age group).

Table 11: Youth (15-24) in Relation to Total Population and to Working-Age Population, UAE, 1950-2050

Year	Youth (thousands)	Youth (% of total population)	Working-Age Population (thousands)	Youth (% of working-age group)**
1950	13	18.5	38	34.2
1955	15	18.6	42	35.7
1960	16	18.2	48	33.3
1965	33	22.7	88	37.5
1970	45	19.6	147	30.6
1975	113	21.3	373	30.3
1980	185	18.2	717	25.8
1985	192	14.3	900	21.3
1990	284	15.7	1,228	23.1
1995	367	15.7	1,694	21.7



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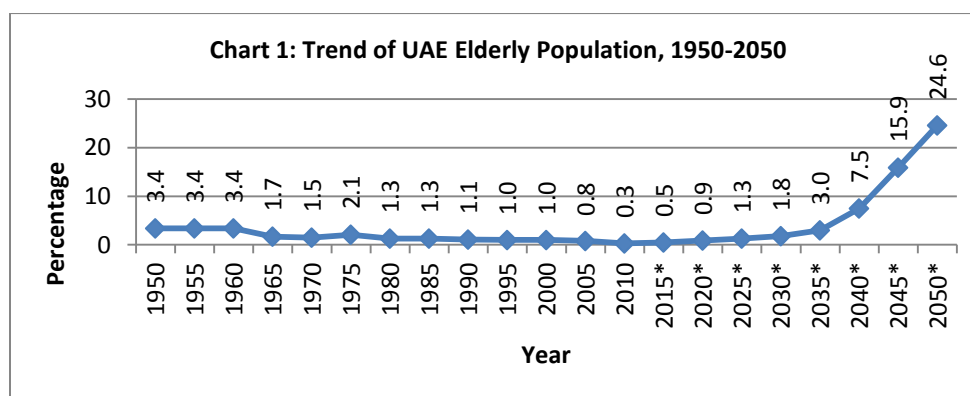
Year	Youth (thousands)	Youth (% of total population)	Working-Age Population (thousands)	Youth (% of working-age group)**
2000	483	16.0	2,228	21.7
2005	721	17.4	3,283	22.0
2010	1,938	23.0	7,243	26.8
2015*	1,162	12.1	7,983	14.6
2020*	912	8.6	8,733	10.4
2025*	1,069	9.3	9,640	11.1
2030*	1,384	11.2	10,623	13.0
2035*	1,394	10.6	11,359	12.3
2040*	1,184	8.4	11,435	10.4
2045*	1,090	7.3	10,774	10.1
2050*	1,156	7.5	9,933	11.6

Source: United Nations, World Population Prospects: The 2012 Revision, Available on: http://esa.un.org/unpd/wpp/unpp/panel_indicators.htm

* Projections (medium variant)

d. UAE's Elderly Population

In the UAE, the percentage of the population aged 65+ decreased from 3.4 per cent in 1950 to 1.5 per cent in 1970, then increased to 2.1 per cent in 1975 only to decrease again afterwards to get to 0.3 per cent in 2010. From then on, it is projected to increase and will reach 24.6 per cent by 2050.



Source: United Nations, World Population Prospects: The 2012 Revision, Available on: http://esa.un.org/unpd/wpp/unpp/panel_indicators.htm

* Projections (medium variant)

e. UAE's Dependency Ratios

The total dependency ratio in the UAE stood at 84 per cent in 1950 and increased to reach 87 per cent in 1960. It then started decreasing mainly due to the decrease in child dependency and reached 17 per cent in 2010. It is projected to continue decreasing to reach 16 per cent in 2030 and will increase after 2035 to reach 56 per cent in 2050 due to the expected increase in old-age dependency.

Table 12: Dependency Ratios in the UAE, 1950-2050 (per cent)

Year	Child Dependency Ratio	Old-Age Dependency Ratio	Total Dependency Ratio
1950	78	6	84
1955	78	6	84
1960	81	6	87
1965	64	3	66



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Year	Child Dependency Ratio	Old-Age Dependency Ratio	Total Dependency Ratio
1970	55	2	57
1975	40	3	43
1980	40	2	42
1985	48	2	50
1990	45	2	47
1995	37	1	38
2000	34	1	36
2005	25	1	26
2010	16	0	17
2015*	19	1	20
2020*	20	1	21
2025*	18	2	19
2030*	14	2	16
2035*	13	3	16
2040*	14	9	23
2045*	16	22	38
2050*	17	38	56

Source: United Nations, World Population Prospects: The 2012 Revision,
Available on: http://esa.un.org/unpd/wpp/unpp/panel_indicators.htm

* Projections (medium variant)

f. UAE's Demographic Dividend

The demographic change in the UAE is not clear due to the distorted age structure resulting from the sizable labour migration flow into the country. This is the case in most oil countries.



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4. Population Policy Profile of the UAE:

Population policy Variable	1976	1986	1996	2011
Population Size and Growth				
View on growth	Too low	Satisfactory	Too high	Satisfactory
Policy on growth	Raise	Raise	No intervention	Maintain
Population age structure				
Level of concern about working-age population	..	..	..	Major concern
Level of concern about aging of the population	..	..	..	Minor concern
Measures to address population ageing*	..	..	..	1
Fertility				
View on fertility level	Satisfactory	Satisfactory	Satisfactory	Satisfactory
Policy on fertility level	Maintain	Raise	No intervention	Maintain
Level of concern about adolescent fertility	..	..	..	Not a concern
Policies to reduce adolescent fertility	..	..	..	No
Reproductive health and family planning				
Government support for family planning	No support	No support	No support	No support
Grounds on which abortion is permitted**	..	..	1	1,2,3
Level of concern about violence against women	..	..	..	Minor concern
Policies to prevent domestic violence***	..	..	..	2
Health and mortality				
View on life expectancy at birth	Acceptable	Acceptable	Acceptable	Acceptable
View on under-five mortality	..	..	..	Acceptable
View on under nutrition in children	..	..	..	Unacceptable
View on maternal mortality	..	..	..	Acceptable
Level of concern about overweight and obesity	..	..	..	Major concern
Level of concern about non-communicable diseases	..	..	..	Major concern
Level of concern about tuberculosis	..	..	..	Major concern
Level of concern about malaria	..	..	..	Not a concern
Level of concern about HIV/AIDS	..	..	..	Minor concern
Measures to address HIV/AIDS****	..	..	..	1,2,3,4,6
Spatial distribution and internal migration				
View on spatial distribution	Minor change desired	Minor change desired	Satisfactory	Satisfactory
Policy on migration from rural to urban areas	..	..	..	No intervention
Policy on migration into urban agglomerations	..	No intervention	..	No intervention
International migration				
View on immigration	Satisfactory	Too high	Too high	Too high
Policy on immigration	Maintain	Lower	Lower	Lower
Policy on permanent settlement	..	..	..	Lower
Policy on temporary workers	..	..	..	Maintain
Policy on highly-skilled workers	..	..	..	Raise
Policy on family reunification	..	..	..	Lower
Policy on integration of non-nationals	..	..	..	No
Policy on naturalization	..	..	..	No
Level of concern about irregular migration	..	..	..	Major concern
Prgms. to facilitate migrants' return to home countries	..	..	..	Yes
View on emigration	Satisfactory	Satisfactory	Satisfactory	Satisfactory
Policy on emigration	Maintain	Maintain	No intervention	No intervention
Policy to encourage the return of citizens	..	..	..	Yes
Acceptance of dual citizenship	..	..	..	No
Special governmental unit dealing with Diaspora	..	..	..	No
Measures to attract investment by Diaspora*****	..	..	..	None of these

* Measures to address population ageing: (1) change in statutory retirement age in the last 5 years; (2) pension system reform in the last 5 years.

** Grounds on which abortion is permitted: (1) to save a woman's life; (2) to preserve a woman's physical health; (3) to preserve a woman's mental health; (4) in case of rape or incest; (5) because of foetal impairment; (6) for economic or social reasons; (7) on request.

*** Policies to prevent domestic violence: (1) legal provision; (2) policy.

**** Measures to address HIV/AIDS: (1) blood screening; (2) information/education campaigns; (3) antiretroviral treatment; (4) non-discrimination policies (legal measures); (5) Distribution of condoms; (6) prevention of mother-to-child transmission (PMTCT).

***** Measures to attract investment by Diaspora: (1) tax exceptions or breaks; (2) reduction of tariffs on goods or import duties for Diaspora companies; (3) preferential treatment in providing credit; (4) preferential treatment in allotment of licenses; (5) streamlined bureaucratic procedures for investment; (6) Diaspora bond/mutual fund.

Source: United Nations, World Population Policies, 2011.