

How Much Does the Population of Indonesia?

Preliminary Results of the 2010 Population Census

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1. Like most other countries--- and in line with the UN suggestions--- Indonesian in 2010 carried out a population census (SP2010). The main objective of the census is to enumerate all Indonesia's people at a specified census-date namely May 15th 2010. All the people who lived in the territory of RI counted, regardless of neighbourhood, religious affiliation, languages spoken, nationality, gender, ages, and other individual characteristics. They are all included simply because they are human and hence valuable to be reckoned with.
2. With such a very inclusive approach the census is the most credible source of data on the total population. Why not a survey? Because there is no survey that is free from errors (survey errors). Why not registration? Because not all people registering himself to the officer, or, self-registering more than once, or erroneously registered. Does SP include all people? Definitely not. Why? Because there must be a census officer with or without intentionally negligent in duty, or, certainly there are people who consider themselves truly exclusive and thus rejected to be enumerated during the census. Clearly, there must be a miss count (or counted twice), or in other words, there must be an error in coverage (coverage errors). Such limitations that may be said universal do not lessen the strategic significance of SP data as a 'controller' or the correction of the basic demographic data obtained from other data sources including those produced by BPS-Statistics. The data basis for calculating the population projection and estimation results of the survey during the period 2010-2020, for example, would be 'controlled' by the SP2010 data.
3. Field activity and the rapid data processing of the census have been completed. The results of the rapid data processing --- based on the recapitulation of all enumeration areas (census blocks) throughout the country --- are officially disseminated as the preliminary figures of the census. Preliminary figures indicate a total population of Indonesia in mid-May 2010 approximately 237.6 million people, consisting of 119.6 males and 118.0 million females. If the average resident consumes 0.3 kg of rice per day, the preliminary figures indicate that the availability needs of approximately 71.3 million tons of rice per day or 26.0 billion tons per year.

4. The total population ranks Indonesia at the fourth 'champions' after China (1.24 billion), India (1.17 billion) and U.S. (304.1 million). The total also shows that Indonesian population continues to grow. Compared with the previous census the population increase by about 32.5 million in 10 years --- an additional number that is equal to the total population of the second most prosperous countries in the rich North American region that is Canada (33.7 million), to a country in the Middle East region that is still plagued the humanitarian crisis in the form civil war that is Iraq (32.1 million), or to a relatively peaceful country in the region of North Africa that is Morocco (31.5). Compared to its neighboring Southeast Asian countries the profile of Indonesia's population is as shown by Table 1.

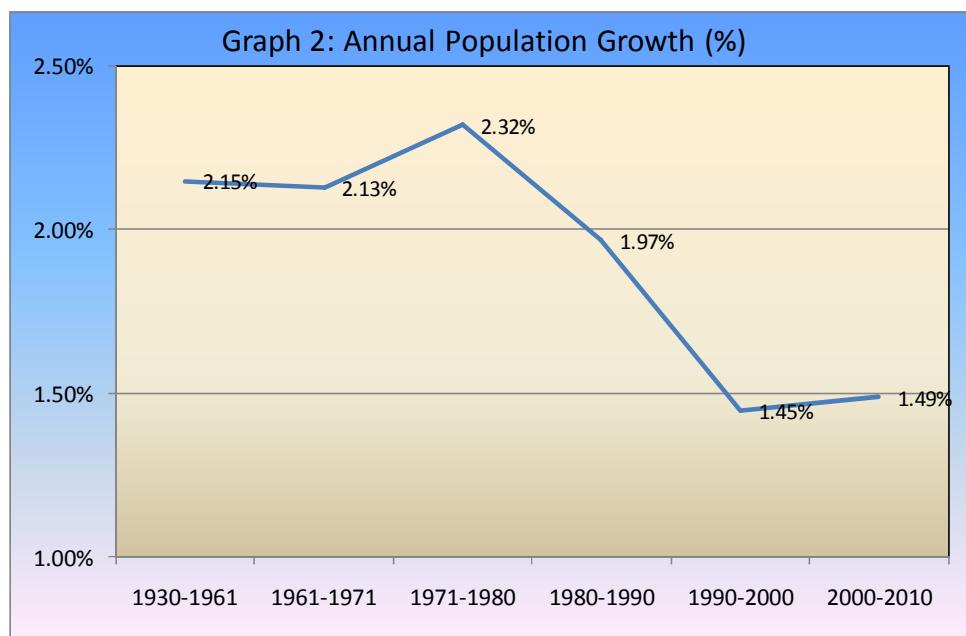
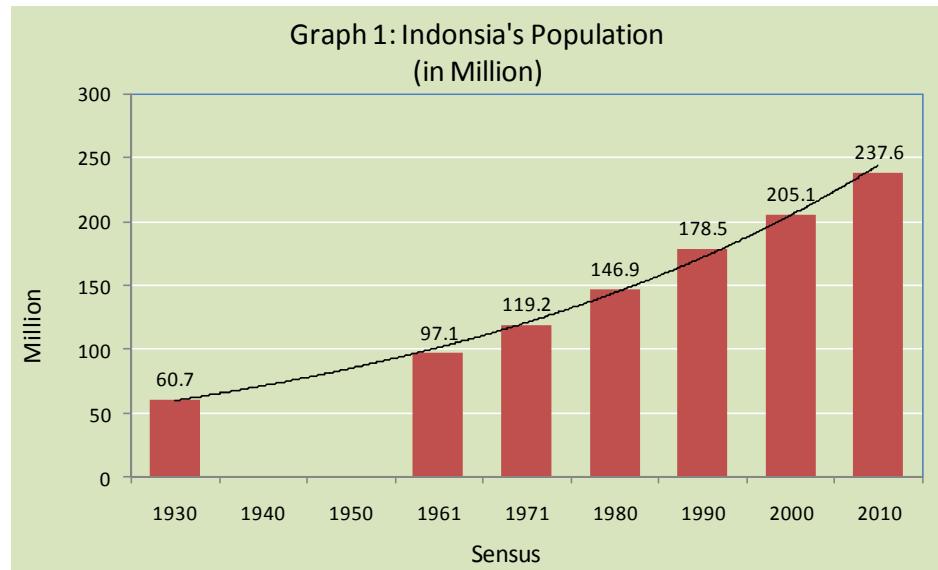
Table 1
Population Sizes of Selected South-East Asian Countries,
2009

	In thousand	Index (Indonesia=100)
Filipina	92,150	38.8
Thailand	66,903	28.2
Malaysia	28,910	12.2
Singapore	4,988	2.1
Cambodia	24,509	10.3
Vietnam	86,025	36.2
Brunei	406	0.2

Source: <http://unstat.un.org/unsd/demographic>

5. The first nationwide census is performed in 1930 and produced a total number of Indonesian population of about 60.7 million people. That number increased to approximately 97.1 million people in 1961, the first population census for Indonesia as a fully sovereign state. That number continues to grow 'smoothly' so that in 2010 it reaches, as mentioned, 237.6 million inhabitants (see Graph 1).

6. Though growing, the overall growth rate tends to fall. The highest growth achieved in the period 1971-1980, 2.32 per cent per annum. The era was known as the 'baby boom' (baby boom), which occurs in almost all developing countries. Why? The short explanation may be this: so loose from the stranglehold colonizers, age couples felt 'independence' has a child in circumstances where limited availability of contraceptives, improved infant life chances (than before) and children by parents is more valued as an asset of the economic cost.



7. Since 1980 until 2000 the growth rate dropped dramatically (see Graph 2) and is generally interpreted as fruit of the successful family planning programs. Then, whether the increase in the rate of growth in the last two decades associated with 'lack of success' of Family planning programme? The answer is still to be sought and the 2010 final data is expected to become the main source of factual information. For while I the authors would speculate like this: the increase in growth rate is mainly associated with the shift of the population age structure towards women of childbearing age.

8. The Indonesian population is still concentrated or 'crowded' Java. In 2010, approximately 58 percent of Indonesian population live in the vast island region, only seven percent of the total national territory. Nevertheless, the level of concentration continues to decrease: 64% (1971), 62% (1980), 60% (1990) and 59% (2000). The implication is clear: the concentration of Outer-Java tends to increase and that this occurs almost without exception (see Table 2).
9. Reduction of concentration of the population does not mean Java island become less crowded. The island is still relatively very dense. Outside Java, the relatively high density occurred in North Sumatra, West Sumatra, Lampung, South Sulawesi and North Sulawesi (see Map 1).

Table 2: Percentage Distribution of Indonesia's Population by Island/Province, 1971-2010

Island/Province	1971	1980	1990	2000	2010
Sumatera	17,62	19,07	20,44	21,02	21,31
Jawa	63,89	62,12	60,23	58,93	57,49
DKI Jakarta	3,85	4,43	4,62	4,06	4,04
Jawa Barat	18,16	18,68	19,81	17,36	18,11
Jawa Tengah	18,37	17,27	15,97	15,17	13,63
D I Yogyakarta	2,09	1,87	1,63	1,52	1,45
Jawa Timur	21,43	19,87	18,20	16,89	15,78
Banten (*)	-	-	-	3,93	4,48
Nusa Tenggara	5,56	5,40	5,27	5,34	5,50
Kalimantan	4,33	4,58	5,09	5,49	5,80
Sulawesi	7,16	7,08	7,01	7,23	7,31
Maluku & Papua	1,44	1,76	1,96	2,00	2,60
INDONESIA	100,00	100,00	100,00	100,00	100,00

(*) Before 2000 Banten is included in Jawa Barat

Map 1: Population Density of Indonesia, 2010

