ABSTRACT

Singapore is a fast developing country with its population growing at an average rate of 3.5% per annum during 1990-2000. It is projected that Singapore’s population will reach 5.5 million in Year 2010. In order to increase land yield, the Ministry of National Development (MND) has instructed HDB to downsize its flats. Hence since 1993, HDB has begun downsizing its flat size gradually as directed by MND, in order to optimize land usage.

As there were mixed response from the public concerning the new downsized flats, this dissertation thus reviews the HDB’s flat size from the residents’ perspective. A survey was conducted to collect feedback from lessees staying in new downsized flats and old flats so that comparison can be made. The sampling frame consists of all households staying in HDB 4-room, 5-room and Executive Apartment in Singapore. Only 100 households were surveyed.

It is found that even though the lessees staying in the new downsized flats are indeed less satisfied with the size of their flats compared to those staying in the old flats with bigger floor area, this difference is not significant.

It is hoped that this research can provide HDB with a deeper understanding on the residents view on the sizes of their flats, and thus aid the Housing Board in its decision on further downsizing, if it has such intention in future.