

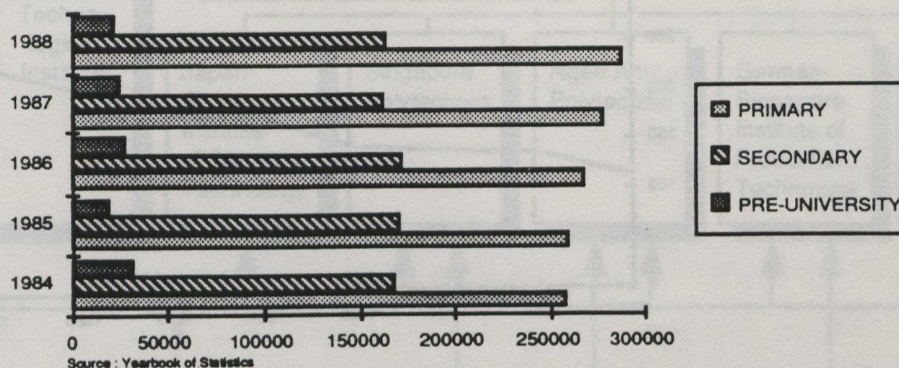
BACKGROUND ...

CURRENT SITUATION ...

Demand for Primary/Secondary/Pre-University Institutions

Between 1984-1988, enrollment for primary education declined by 3%. In contrast, enrollment in secondary and pre-university institutions increased by 1% and 9% respectively.

ENROLLMENT IN PRIMARY, SECONDARY AND PRE-UNIVERSITY INSTITUTIONS
(1984-1988)



Demand for Tertiary Education

The enrollment of undergraduates at the two universities - National University of Singapore (NUS) and the Nanyang Technological Institute (NTI) rose in 1988. Enrollment at NUS rose by 8%, while enrollment at NTI increased by almost 12%. The total student population at the two tertiary institutions increased by 9% to reach 18,717. Engineering enrollment increased by 10%, while enrollment in non-engineering courses increased by 8.5%. The total number of graduates from both universities was 4,746, an increase of 2.3% over 1987. Of this, 1,025 were engineering graduates.

Total full-time enrollment in the Polytechnics (Singapore and Ngee Ann) was 20,322, 3.6% higher than in 1987. The enrollment of engineering students rose by 1.2% while that for non-engineering increased by 13%. Output of full time students from the two polytechnics in 1988 rose by 8.8% to reach 5,781. Of these, 4,636 were engineering students.

In contrast, between 1986-1988, enrollment at the College of Physical Education and the Institute of Education declined by 8% and 10% respectively.

Demand for Technical and Vocational Institutions/Post Employment Training

In 1988, the demand for stronger skills and technical training raised total students enrollment at the VITB to 16,978 trainees, an increase of 5% over the previous year. Similarly, enrollment at the EDB Joint Industrial Training Centers increased by 7% from 2,526 in 1987 to 2,693 in 1988.

The popularity of post-employment training programs can be seen through the increase in the number of workers joining post-employment programs like the **MOST**, **BEST** and **WISE**.

The **MOST** program was launched in October 1986. It was aimed at equipping workers with the basic technical skills such as welding, metal machining, and maintenance fitting. In 1988, a total of 12,046 training places were filled, 20% more than in 1987.