Population in Brief 2019





OVERVIEW	3
KEY INDICATORS	4
OVERALL POPULATION	5
AGEING	8
MARRIAGE & PARENTHOOD	11
IMMIGRATION & CITIZENS BY DESCENT	16

Population in Brief 2019



	Overall Population	
Table 1:	Total population	18
Table 2:	Singapore citizens by age group, ethnic group and gender	19
Table 3:	Ethnic mix of citizen population	20
Table 4:	Overseas Singaporean population	20

	Ageing	
Table 5:	Old-age support ratio	20
Table 6:	Median age	21

	Marriage & Parenthood	
Table 7:	Proportion of singles among citizen males / females aged 25 – 49 years by age group	21
Table 8:	Proportion of singles among citizens by age group, gender and highest qualification attained	22
Table 9:	Number of marriages by residency status of grooms and brides	23
Table 10:	General marriage rates	23
Table 11:	Median age at first marriage	23
Table 12:	Origins of non-citizen spouses married to citizens (for marriages in stated year)	24
Table 13:	Median age of mothers at first birth by residency status of mothers	25
Table 14:	Average number of children born to ever-married females aged 30 – 49 years by residency status of females	25
Table 15:	Proportion of ever-married females aged 30 – 49 years who are without children by residency status of females	25
Table 16:	Number of births by birth order and residency status	26
Table 17:	Resident total fertility rate by ethnic group	26

Immigration
Table 18: Profile of SCs and PRs granted in 2018



Population in Brief is an annual publication providing key updates and trends on Singapore's population.

Its goal is to promote understanding of the factors that contribute to a sustainable population in Singapore. A sustainable population is one that is balanced across the three pillars of a **strong and cohesive society** with Singaporeans at its heart, a **dynamic and vibrant economy** to provide good jobs and opportunities for Singaporeans, and a **high quality living environment**.

Key highlights of the past year:



In 2018, there were 23,632 citizen marriages, compared to the 24,417 citizen marriages in 2017. Over the last five years (2014 to 2018), there were about 24,000 citizen marriages on average each year, higher than the average of 21,900 each year in the previous five years (2009 to 2013).



There were 32,413 citizen births in 2018, compared to the 32,356 citizen births in 2017. Over the last five years (2014 to 2018), there were about 33,000 citizen births on average each year, higher than the average of 31,400 each year in the previous five years (2009 to 2013). The resident total fertility rate fell from 1.16 in 2017 to 1.14 in 2018.



The citizen population grew by 0.8%, to reach 3.50 million citizens as of Jun 2019. The citizen population continues to age, with 16.0% aged 65 and above compared with 15.2% last year. The permanent resident population remained relatively stable at 0.53 million as of Jun 2019.



The non-resident population grew by 2.0%, to reach 1.68 million as of Jun 2019. This was mainly attributed to foreign employment growth due to sustained growth in Services and the turnaround in Construction. By pass type, foreign employment growth was mainly driven by an increase in Work Permit Holders.



Overall, Singapore's total population stands at 5.70 million as of Jun 2019. The total population grew by 1.2% from Jun 2018 to Jun 2019.

KEY INDICATORS



OVERALL POPULATION ('000)	JUN 2018	JUN 2019
Citizen population	3,471.9	3,500.9
Permanent resident (PR) population	522.3	525.3
Resident population	3,994.3	4,026.2
Non-resident population	1,644.4	1,677.4
Total population	5,638.7	5,703.6
AGE PROFILE OF CITIZENS	JUN 2018	JUN 2019
Proportion aged 65 and above (%)	15.2	16.0
Citizen median age (years)	41.7	42.0
MARRIAGE & PARENTHOOD		
	2017	2018
Number of marriages involving at least one citizen	24,417	23,632
Citizen births	32,356	32,413
Resident total fertility rate ¹	1.16	1.14
	2009 - 2013	2014 - 2018
Number of marriages involving at least one citizen, five-year average (to nearest hundred)	21,900	24,000
Number of citizen births, five-year average (to nearest hundred)	31,400	33,000

Note: The reference period for all data above is as of Jun of the year, except for Marriage & Parenthood data which are based on the full calendar year (Jan to Dec). Source: Department of Statistics, Immigration & Checkpoints Authority

¹ Total fertility rate refers to the average number of live-births each female would have during her reproductive years (15 – 49 years old) if she were subject to the prevailing age specific fertility rates in the population in the given year.



OVERALL POPULATION

There were 3.50 million Singapore citizens as of Jun 2019. Together with 0.53 million permanent residents (PRs), there were 4.03 million residents. Non-residents totalled 1.68 million, and include dependants, international students, and individuals who are here to work. Overall, Singapore's total population stood at 5.70 million.

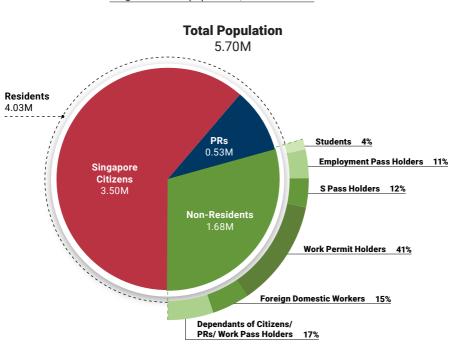
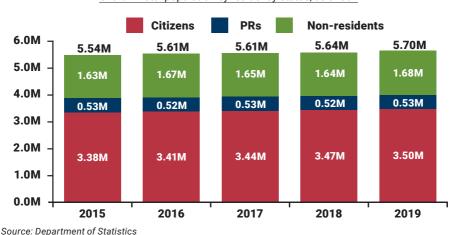


Diagram 1: Total population, as of Jun 2019²

Source: Department of Statistics, Ministry of Manpower Numbers may not sum up due to rounding.

² The figures are based on stock numbers as of end Jun 2019.

<u>Work Permit Holders</u> are mostly in occupations which face difficulties hiring Singaporeans (e.g. construction workers). <u>S Pass Holders</u> are workers providing mid-level and technical skills to fill jobs with local shortfall. <u>Employment Pass Holders</u> work in managerial, executive, or specialised jobs. The citizen population grew by 0.8% over the past year due to citizen births and immigration. The PR population remained relatively stable (Chart 1).

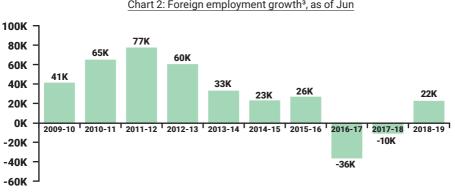


Stable Growth in Citizen Population; Stable PR Population Size

Chart 1: Total population by residency status, as of Jun

Numbers may not sum up due to rounding.

The non-resident population grew by 2.0%, to reach 1.68 million as of Jun 2019. There was an increase in foreign employment over the past year (Chart 2). This was mainly attributed to sustained growth in Services and the turnaround in Construction. By pass type, foreign employment growth was mainly driven by an increase in the number of Work Permit Holders.



Increase in Foreign Employment from Jun 2018 to Jun 2019

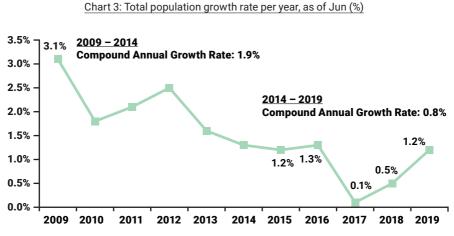
Chart 2: Foreign employment growth³, as of Jun

Source: Ministry of Manpower

³ Foreign domestic workers are excluded in the figures.

Singapore's total population grew by 1.2% from Jun 2018 to Jun 2019. Overall, total population growth rate over the past five years was slower compared to the previous five-year period (Chart 3).

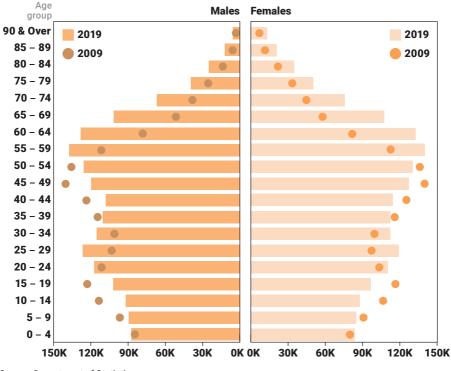
Slower Total Population Growth Rate from 2014-2019, Compared to Previous Five-Year Period



Source: Department of Statistics



With increasing life expectancy and low fertility rates, the proportion of our citizen population aged 65 years and above is rising⁴, and at a faster pace compared to the last decade. Large cohorts of "baby boomers"⁵ have begun entering the post-65 age range (Chart 4).



Large Cohorts of Baby Boomers Entering Post-65 Age Range

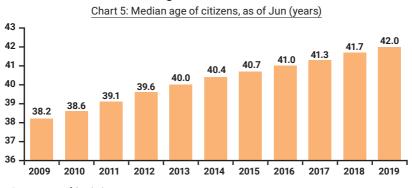
Chart 4: Age profile of citizen population, as of Jun

Source: Department of Statistics

⁴ The benchmark of 65 years aligns with international statistical definitions.

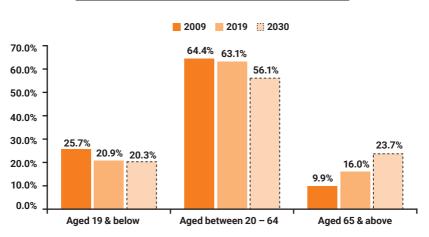
 $^{^5}$ For this publication, "baby boomers" are defined as those born from 1950 to 1964. As such, they would be aged between 45 - 59 in 2009, and 55 - 69 in 2019.

Between 2018 and 2019, the median age of the citizen population rose from 41.7 years to 42.0 years (Chart 5).



Median Age of Citizens Increased

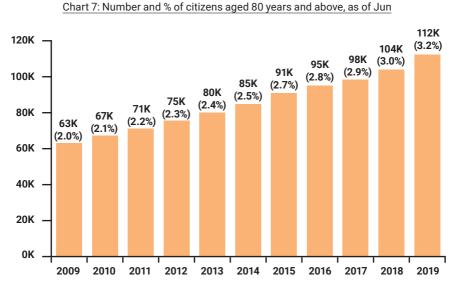
Currently, 63.1% of citizens are aged 20-64 years. This has decreased from 64.4% in 2009, and is projected to decrease further to about 56.1% in 2030. Conversely, the proportion of citizens aged 65 and above has increased from 9.9% in 2009 to 16.0% in 2019. This number is projected to increase to about 23.7% in 2030 (Chart 6).



Fewer Citizens in Age Band of 20-64 Years, More Citizens Aged 65 and Above Chart 6: Citizen population by broad age groups, as of Jun

Source: Department of Statistics

The number of citizens aged 80 and above has also almost doubled over the last decade (Chart 7).

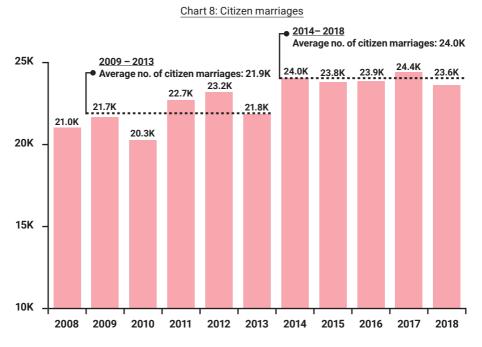


More Citizens Aged 80 and Above

MARRIAGE & PARENTHOOD

There were 23,632 citizen marriages⁶ in 2018, compared to 24,417 citizen marriages in 2017. Over the last five years (2014 to 2018), there were about 24,000 citizen marriages on average each year, higher than the average of 21,900 each year in the previous five years (2009 to 2013, <u>Chart 8</u>). The median age at first marriage in 2018 was 29.9 years for citizen grooms and 28.2 years for citizen brides, similar to the previous five years.

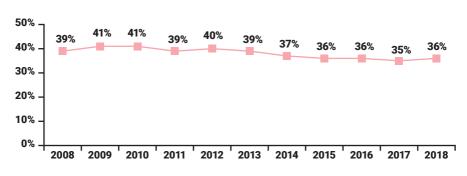
More Citizen Marriages Each Year on Average Between 2014-2018, Compared to Previous Five-Year Period



Source: Department of Statistics The figures are based on the full calendar year (Jan to Dec).

⁶ Citizen marriages refer to marriages involving at least one citizen.

More than 1 in 3 citizen marriages last year involved transnational⁷ couples (<u>Chart 9</u>). About 1 in 5 citizen marriages last year were inter-ethnic⁸ (Chart 10).





Source: Department of Statistics The figures are based on the full calendar year (Jan to Dec).

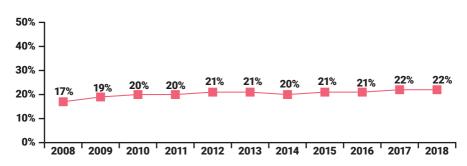


Chart 10: Inter-ethnic marriages as a proportion of citizen marriages

Source: Department of Statistics

The figures are based on the full calendar year (Jan to Dec).

⁷ Transnational marriages refer to marriages involving one citizen and one non-citizen (i.e. permanent resident or non-resident).

⁸ Inter-ethnic marriages refer to marriages between persons of different races.

There were 32,413 citizen births⁹ in 2018, compared to 32,356 in 2017. Over the last five years (2014 to 2018), there were about 33,000 citizen births on average each year, higher than the average of 31,400 each year in the previous five years (2009 to 2013, <u>Chart 11</u>). The median age of citizen mothers at first birth was 30.4 years in 2018. This remains similar to the median age of 30.3 years in 2017.

More Citizen Births Each Year on Average Between 2014-2018, Compared to the Previous Five-Year Period

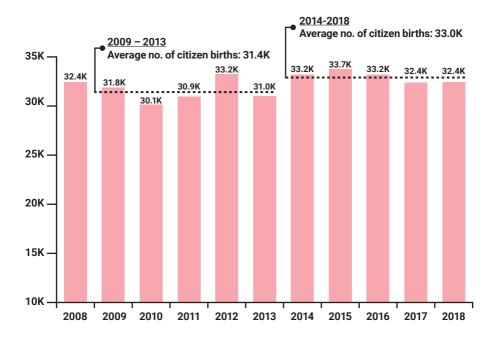
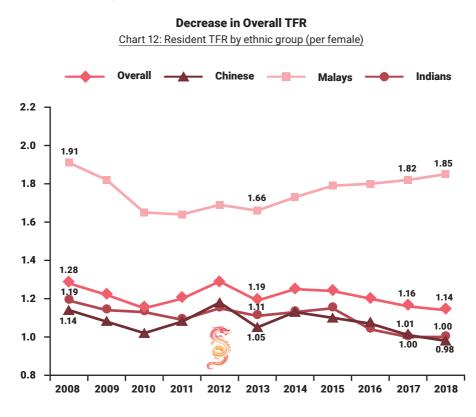


Chart 11: Citizen births

Source: Immigration & Checkpoints Authority The figures are based on the full calendar year (Jan to Dec).

⁹ Citizen births refer to babies born to at least one citizen parent.

The resident total fertility rate (TFR)¹⁰ decreased from 1.16 in 2017 to 1.14 in 2018 (<u>Chart</u> <u>12</u>). This is due partly to a larger cohort of young Singaporeans (aged 20-30 in 2018) – many of whom are children of baby boomers – who are entering the peak childbearing ages, but have not yet had children.



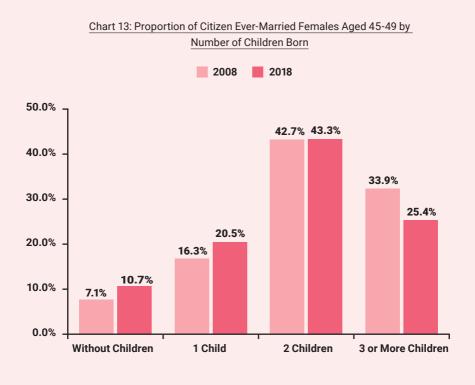
Source: Department of Statistics

Note: 2012 was the Year of the Dragon (Chinese Zodiac). The figures are based on the full calendar year (Jan to Dec).

¹⁰ Total fertility rate refers to the average number of live-births each female would have during her reproductive years (15 – 49 years old) if she were subject to the prevailing age-specific fertility rates in the population in the given year.

Citizen ever-married females have fewer children on average compared to a decade ago, but most still have two or more children

In both 2008 and 2018, most citizen ever-married females¹¹ had two or more children. The proportion of citizen ever-married females with two children remained stable at more than 4 in 10 (<u>Chart 13</u>). Over the same period, the proportion with three or more children fell from about one third to one quarter, while the proportions without children and with one child increased. In 2018, citizen ever-married females aged 45-49 had an average of 1.91 children, down from 2.14 children in 2008.



Source: Department of Statistics The figures are based on the full calendar year (Jan to Dec).

¹¹ "Ever-married females" refer to females who are married, widowed, divorced, or separated.

IMMIGRATION & CITIZENS BY DESCENT

Immigration helps to moderate the impact of ageing and low birth rates in our citizen population, and keeps it from shrinking over the longer term. Similar to past years, Singapore grants between 15,000 and 25,000 new citizenships annually, to individuals who are committed to making Singapore their home. They either share family ties with Singaporeans, or have studied, worked or lived here for some time.

Permanent residence is an intermediate step by which individuals may take up citizenship in Singapore. Since the tightening of the immigration framework in late 2009, we have accepted about 30,000 new PRs a year. This keeps the PR population size stable, and provides a pool of candidates who may be suitable for citizenship. The majority of our PRs are aged between 25-59 years (Chart 14).

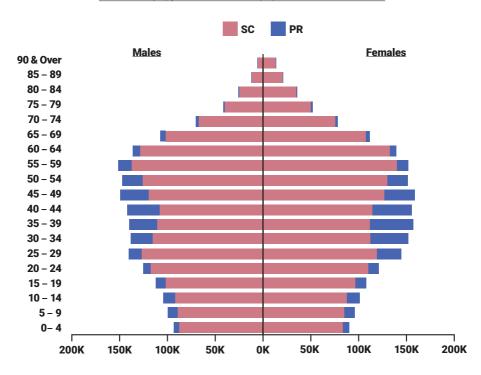


Chart 14: Age pyramid of resident population, as of Jun 2019

In 2018, 22,550 individuals were granted Singapore Citizenship (SC) and 32,710 individuals were granted PR. The number of SCs granted includes citizenships granted to children born overseas to Singaporean parents ("citizens by descent"). Last year, such children made up 1,576 or 7% of the new SCs granted (Chart 15).

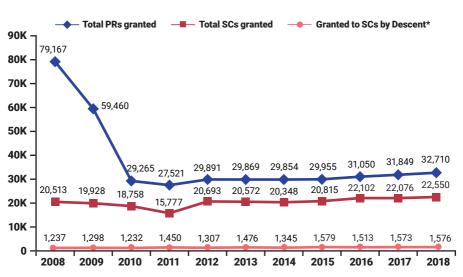


Chart 15: Number of SCs and PRs granted

*This is a subset of the total SCs granted each year. It refers to SCs granted to children born overseas to Singaporean parents.

Source: Immigration & Checkpoints Authority The figures are based on the full calendar year (Jan to Dec).



DETAILED STATISTICAL TABLES



Table 1: Total population, as of Jun ('000)

	2009	2014	2018	2019
Residents of which:	3,733.9	3,870.7	3,994.3	4,026.2
Citizens	3,200.7	3,343.0	3,471.9	3,500.9
PRs	533.2	527.7	522.3	525.3
Non-residents	1,253.7	1,599.0	1,644.4	1,677.4
Total	4,987.6	5,469.7	5,638.7	5,703.6

Table 2: Singapore citizens by age group, ethnic group and gender, Jun 2019

Age		Total			Chinese			Malays			Indians			Others	
Group (Years)	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females
							Number ('000)	r ('000)							
Total	3,500.9	1,734.9	1,766.0	2,661.0	1,313.3	1,347.7	525.1	264.3	260.8	261.4	131.5	129.8	53.5	25.8	27.7
0 - 4	173.0	88.7	84.3	117.9	60.5	57.4	37.2	19.1	18.1	12.8	6.5	6.2	5.2	2.6	2.6
5 - 9	176.2	90.6	85.6	126.5	65.3	61.2	31.0	15.9	15.1	13.5	6.8	6.7	5.2	2.6	2.7
10 - 14	181.5	93.0	88.5	128.4	66.0	62.4	32.5	16.7	15.8	15.9	8.0	7.9	4.7	2.3	2.4
15 – 19	200.4	103.3	97.1	140.1	72.3	67.8	38.3	19.8	18.5	17.8	9.1	8.7	4.2	2.1	2.1
20 - 24	229.9	119.1	110.8	162.4	84.2	78.2	44.3	22.9	21.4	19.3	9.9	9.4	4.0	2.1	1.9
25 – 29	248.6	128.5	120.0	176.0	91.3	84.8	48.7	25.0	23.7	20.3	10.3	10.0	3.6	2.0	1.6
30 - 34	230.1	117.1	113.1	167.0	85.0	82.0	41.6	21.3	20.4	18.2	9.2	8.9	3.3	1.5	1.8
35 – 39	225.0	112.1	112.9	171.0	84.9	86.1	33.9	17.4	16.5	17.0	8.5	8.5	3.1	1.3	1.9
40 - 44	224.6	109.6	115.0	178.9	86.9	92.1	26.5	13.3	13.2	16.2	8.1	8.1	3.0	1.3	1.7
45 - 49	249.4	121.5	127.9	197.1	95.2	102.0	29.9	14.9	15.0	19.0	9.8	9.1	3.4	1.6	1.8
50 - 54	258.9	127.5	131.4	197.4	96.6	100.8	37.5	18.5	19.0	20.7	10.9	9.8	3.2	1.5	1.8
55 - 59	280.4	139.4	141.0	215.1	106.7	108.4	40.9	20.5	20.5	21.3	10.8	10.5	3.0	1.4	1.6
60 - 64	263.9	130.2	133.7	211.0	103.9	107.1	32.4	16.0	16.4	18.0	9.0	8.9	2.5	1.2	1.3
62 - 69	211.5	103.2	108.3	174.6	85.5	89.1	22.1	10.5	11.6	13.1	6.3	6.8	1.8	0.9	0.9
70 - 74	144.3	68.0	76.3	122.2	57.8	64.4	12.7	5.9	6.8	8.2	3.7	4.5	1.3	0.6	0.6
75 - 79	90.8	40.2	50.6	78.9	35.1	43.8	6.9	3.0	3.9	4.4	1.8	2.6	0.7	0.3	0.4
80 - 84	60.2	25.1	35.1	51.6	21.6	29.9	5.0	2.1	2.9	3.1	1.2	1.9	0.6	0.2	0.4
85 - 89	33.1	12.1	21.0	28.3	10.1	18.2	2.6	1.0	1.6	1.8	0.9	1.0	0.4	0.2	0.2
90 & above	19.0	5.7	13.4	16.6	4.5	12.1	1:1	0.5	0.7	1.1	0.6	0.4	0.3	0.1	0.2

Table 3: Ethnic mix of citizen population, as of Jun (%)

	2009	2014	2018	2019
Chinese	76.2	76.2	76.1	76.0
Malay	15.1	15.0	15.0	15.0
Indian	7.4	7.4	7.5	7.5
Others	1.3	1.4	1.5	1.5

Source: Department of Statistics

Table 4: Overseas Singaporean population¹², as of Jun

Year	Number of Overseas Singaporeans
2009	180,700
2010	184,400
2011	192,200
2012	200,000
2013	207,000
2014	212,200
2015	212,500
2016	213,400
2017	214,700
2018	216,400
2019	217,200

Source: Department of Statistics

Table 5: Old-age support ratio, as of Jun

(persons aged 20-64 years per person aged 65 years & above)

	2009	2014	2018	2019	2030 (Projected)
Residents	7.5	6.0	4.8	4.5	2.7
Citizens	6.5	5.2	4.2	4.0	2.4
Source: Department of S	Statistics				

Source: Department of Statistics

¹² Defined as Singapore citizens with a registered foreign address or who are away for a cumulative period of at least six months in the past 12 months prior to the reference date (i.e. Jun each year). This would include frequent travellers who have their usual residence (venue of residence for a period of at least 12 months) in Singapore but travel overseas for the greater part of the reference period.

Table 6: Median age, as of Jun (years)

	2009	2014	2018	2019
Residents	36.9	39.3	40.8	41.1
Citizens	38.2	40.4	41.7	42.0

Source: Department of Statistics

Table 7: Proportion of singles among citizen males / femalesaged 25 - 49 years by age group, as of Jun (%)

	2008	2013	2017	2018				
Proportion of singles among citizens males by age group								
25 – 29 years	78.0	83.9	80.7	80.6				
30 – 34 years	40.8	44.9	40.5	43.6				
35 – 39 years	23.3	26.5	24.2	23.5				
40 – 44 years	16.6	18.2	17.0	18.7				
45 – 49 years	13.9	13.5	13.4	14.8				
Proportion of sin	ngles among cit	izen females by	age group					
25 – 29 years	60.9	69.8	68.1	69.4				
30 – 34 years	29.9	33.5	32.8	32.3				
35 – 39 years	18.2	22.6	20.8	20.4				
40 – 44 years	13.9	16.5	18.1	17.7				
45 - 49 years	12.5	14.9	15.9	14.5				

Age group (years) / Highest	20	08	2013		2018	
qualification attained	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females
Aged 30 - 39	31.4	23.7	35.8	27.8	33.3	26.0
Below Secondary	38.8	16.3	41.7	15.6	42.8	19.1
Secondary	30.5	16.0	33.8	19.6	35.2	15.6
Post-Secondary (Non-Tertiary)	27.4	20.7	36.0	27.1	29.5	26.1
Diploma & Professional Qualification	30.9	23.6	36.3	26.7	33.7	23.0
University	30.7	32.5	34.6	32.7	32.6	29.9
Aged 40 - 49	15.1	13.2	15.7	15.7	16.7	16.0
Below Secondary	21.0	8.5	22.9	10.9	26.3	9.6
Secondary	12.5	12.0	15.7	12.3	16.4	12.0
Post-Secondary (Non-Tertiary)	15.9	15.6	14.5	16.7	18.9	15.5
Diploma & Professional Qualification	10.4	16.3	12.0	18.7	16.7	16.4
University	11.3	24.0	13.3	21.1	14.0	20.3

Table 8: Proportion of singles among citizens by age group, gender and highest qualification attained, as of Jun¹³ (%)

¹³ Data by highest qualification attained pertain to citizens who are not attending educational institutions as full-time students. The data include those who are upgrading their qualifications through part-time courses while working.

Grooms	Brides	2008	2013	2017	2018
Total number of marriages		24,596	26,254	28,212	27,007
Citizen	Citizen	12,906	13,276	15,981	15,241
Citizen	PR	1,345	1,348	1,467	1,395
PR	Citizen	714	678	667	684
Citizen	Non-resident	5,015	5,007	4,663	4,650
Non-resident	Citizen	1,062	1,533	1,639	1,662
PR	PR	842	660	583	515
PR	Non-resident	1,035	933	765	703
Non-resident	PR	580	603	583	542
Non-resident	on-resident Non-resident		2,216	1,864	1,615
Citizen marriages (i.e. marriages involving at least one citizen)		21,042	21,842	24,417	23,632

Table 9: Number of marriages by residency status of grooms and brides

Source: Department of Statistics

<u>Table 10: General marriage rates</u> (per 1,000 unmarried males / females aged 15 – 49 years)

		2008	2013	2017	2018
Desidente	Males	43.5	40.5	45.7	43.3
Residents	Females	39.6	36.9	42.8	40.8
	Males	41.8	39.3	45.6	43.3
Citizens	Females	37.0	35.5	42.2	40.4

Source: Department of Statistics

Table 11: Median age at first marriage (years)

		2008	2013	2017	2018
Decidente	Males	29.7	30.2	29.9	30.0
Residents	Females	27.3	28.1	28.2	28.3
Males	Males	29.7	30.1	29.8	29.9
Citizens	Females	27.1	27.8	28.1	28.2

Table 12: Origins of non-citizen spouses married to citizens (for marriages in stated year)

	2008	2013	2017	2018
Total	8,136	8,566	8,436	8,391
Non-citizen Brides	6,360	6,355	6,130	6,045
Asia	6,160	6,212	5,927	5,836
Non-Asia of which:	200	143	203	209
North America*	19	20	45	46
Europe	40	41	74	62
Oceania*	27	25	30	37
Others	114	57	54	64
Non-citizen Grooms	1,776	2,211	2,306	2,346
Asia	1,226	1,470	1,550	1,551
Non-Asia of which:	550	741	756	795
North America*	102	137	119	110
Europe	264	378	409	419
Oceania*	84	130	99	137
Others	100	96	129	129

*"North America" consists of United States of America and Canada. "Oceania" consists of Australia, New Zealand, and Papua New Guinea.

	2008	2013	2017	2018
Residents	29.7	30.5	30.7	30.7
Citizens	29.4	30.2	30.3	30.4

Table 13: Median age of mothers at first birth by residency status of mothers (years)

Source: Immigration & Checkpoints Authority

Table 14: Average number of children born to ever-married females aged 30 – 49 years by residency status of females, as of Jun (per ever-married female)

	20	08	2013		2017		2018	
	30 - 39	40 - 49	30 - 39	40 - 49	30 - 39	40 - 49	30 - 39	40 - 49
Residents	1.52	2.06	1.44	1.92	1.44	1.84	1.45	1.81
Citizens	1.58	2.11	1.48	1.98	1.46	1.90	1.48	1.86

Source: Department of Statistics

Table 15: Proportion of ever-married females aged 30 – 49 years who are without children by residency status of females, as of Jun (%)

	20	08	2013		2017		2018	
	30 - 39	40 - 49	30 - 39	40 - 49	30 - 39	40 - 49	30 - 39	40 - 49
Residents	19.3	8.2	19.9	10.0	21.4	11.0	20.9	12.0
Citizens	19.2	7.7	21.4	9.6	22.6	10.9	21.7	11.9

Birth Order	2008	2013	2017	2018
Total births	39,826	39,720	39,615	39,039
Resident births	37,277	35,681	35,444	35,040
First	17,675	17,176	16,352	16,178
Second	12,938	12,484	12,688	12,397
Third	4,708	4,268	4,380	4,441
Fourth	1,412	1,211	1,306	1,362
Fifth & over	544	542	718	662
Citizen births	32,423	31,017	32,356	32,413
First	15,129	14,832	14,814	14,928
Second	11,101	10,608	11,481	11,344
Third	4,302	3,887	4,102	4,166
Fourth	1,364	1,154	1,255	1,322
Fifth & over	527	536	704	653

Source: Immigration & Checkpoints Authority

Table 17: Resident total fertility rate by ethnic group (per female)

	2008	2013	2017	2018
Overall	1.28	1.19	1.16	1.14
Chinese	1.14	1.05	1.01	0.98
Malays	1.91	1.66	1.82	1.85
Indians	1.19	1.11	1.00	1.00

¹⁴ Citizen births refer to births born to at least one citizen parent. Resident births refer to births born to at least one citizen or PR parent.

	New Permanent Residents	New Citizens	
Total	32,710	22,550	
By age group (%)			
Above 40 years	7.0	22.2	
31 - 40 years	25.3	26.1	
21 - 30 years	38.3	13.9	
20 years and below	29.5	37.8	
By highest qualification attained among those aged 20 & over (%)			
Post-secondary	82.2	78.4	
Secondary and below	17.8	21.6	
By region of origin (%)			
Southeast Asian Countries	62.5	61.6	
Other Asian countries	31.2	32.4	
Others	6.3	6.0	

Table 18: Profile of SCs and PRs granted in 2018

Source: Immigration & Checkpoints Authority

List of Relevant Publications:

Singapore Department of Statistics		
Population Trends 2019		
Census of Population 2010		
General Household Survey 2015		
Statistics on Marriages & Divorces 2018		
Monthly Digest of Statistics		
Singapore in Figures 2019		
Yearbook of Statistics 2019		
Immigration & Checkpoints Authority		
Report on Registration of Births & Deaths 2018		
Singapore Demographic Bulletin		
Ministry of Manpower		
Statement on Labour Market Developments in 1H 2019		
Manpower Statistics in Brief 2019		

For more information, you may visit the following websites:

Strategy Group, Prime Minister's Office	www.strategygroup.gov.sg
Singapore Department of Statistics	www.singstat.gov.sg
Ministry of Home Affairs	www.mha.gov.sg
Immigration & Checkpoints Authority	www.ica.gov.sg
Ministry of Manpower	www.mom.gov.sg



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