

POPULATION IN BRIEF 2016





CONTENTS

OVERVIEW	3
KEY INDICATORS	4
OVERALL POPULATION	5
AGEING	8
MARRIAGE & PARENTHOOD	10
IMMIGRATION & CITIZENS BY DESCENT	14

ANNEX

Overall Population	
Table 1: Total population	16
Table 2: Singapore citizens by age group, ethnic group and gender	17
Table 3: Ethnic mix of citizen population	18
Table 4: Overseas Singaporean population size	18
Ageing	
Table 5: Old-age support ratio	18
Table 6: Median age	19
Marriago and Darouthood	
Marriage and Parenthood Table 7: Proportion of singles among citizen males / females aged 20- 49 years by age group	19
Table 8: Proportion of singles among citizens in selected age groups by gender and highest qualification attained	20
Table 9: Number of marriages by residency status of grooms and brides	21
Table 10: General marriage rates	21
Table 11: Median age at first marriage	22
Table 12: Origins of non-citizen spouses married to citizens	23
Table 13: Median age of mothers at first birth by residency status of mothers	23
Table 14: Average number of children born to ever-married females aged 30-49 years by residency status of females	24
Table 15: Proportion of ever-married females aged 30-49 years who are childless by residency status of females	24
Table 16: Number of births by birth order and residency status	25
Table 17: Resident total fertility rate by ethnic group	25
Immigration	
Immigration Table 18: New residents granted in 2015	26

OVERVIEW

- 1. Population in Brief is an annual publication providing key updates and trends on Singapore's population. It is produced by the National Population and Talent Division, Strategy Group, Prime Minister's Office.
- 2. Our 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**.
- 3. Key highlights of the past year:
 - Citizen births in 2015 were the highest in more than a decade, at 33,725 births. This was higher than in 2012, a Dragon year. There were 23,805 citizen marriages in 2015, significantly above this decade's average of about 21,900 citizen marriages.
 - The citizen population grew at a similar pace as last year, with 3.41 million citizens as of end June 2016. This is due to citizen births and a calibrated approach to immigration. The citizen population continues to age, with 13.7% aged 65 and above compared with 13.1% last year. The permanent resident population remained relatively stable at 0.52 million.
 - The non-resident population grew by 2.5% to 1.67 million. There was stronger growth in the number of Foreign Domestic Workers and dependants of Singaporeans who are on Long-Term Visit Passes.
 - Overall, total population growth rates remained relatively stable and low across the last three years. The total population grew by 1.3% to 5.61 million from June 2015 to June 2016.

KEY INDICATORS

OVERALL POPULATION	2015	2016
Citizen population ('000)	3,375.0	3,408.9
Permanent Resident (PR) population ('000)	527.7	524.6
Resident population ('000)	3,902.7	3,933.6
Non-resident population ('000)	1,632.3	1,673.7
Total population ('000)	5,535.0	5,607.3
AGE PROFILE OF CITIZENS	2015	2016
Proportion aged 65 and above (%)	13.1	13.7
Citizen median age (years)	40.7	41.0
Citizen old-age support ratio ¹	4.9	4.7
MARRIAGE & PARENTHOOD	2014	2015
Number of marriages involving at least one citizen	24,037	23,805
Citizen births	33,193	33,725
Resident total fertility rate ²	1.25	1.24

<u>Note</u>: The reference period for all data is as of June of each year, except for Marriage & Parenthood data which are based on the full calendar year (January to December).

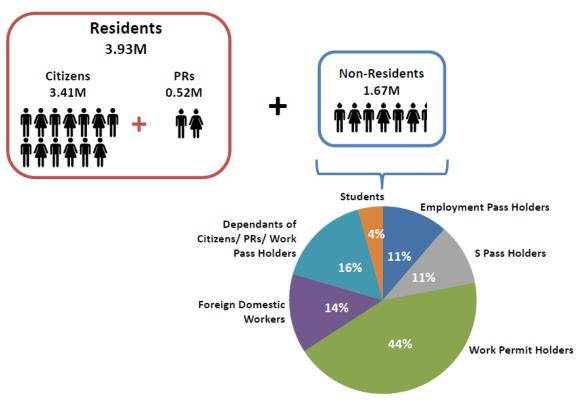
¹ The old-age support ratio refers to the number of persons aged 20-64 years per person aged 65 years and over. ² Total fertility rate refers to the average number of children who would be born per female, if all females live through their childbearing years of 15-49 and bear children according to a given set of age-specific fertility rates.

OVERALL POPULATION

1. There were 3.41 million Singapore citizens as of end June 2016. Together with 0.52 million permanent residents (PRs), there were 3.93 million residents. Non-residents totalled 1.67 million, and include dependants, international students and individuals who are here to work. Singapore's total population stood at 5.61 million.

<u>Diagram 1: Total population, as of June 2016³</u>

Total Population 5.61M



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

³ The figures are based on stock numbers as of end June 2016.

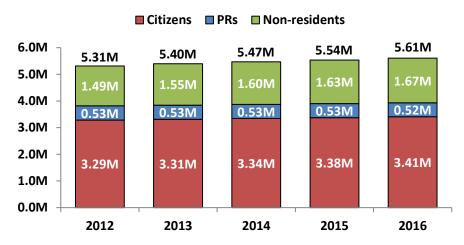
<u>Work Permit Holders</u> are mostly in occupations which face difficulties hiring Singaporeans (e.g. construction workers).

<u>S Pass holders</u> work in various industries such as retail, manufacturing, and healthcare (e.g. allied healthcare workers), as well as in social and voluntary welfare sectors as care-givers for the elderly. <u>Employment Pass Holders</u> work in managerial, executive or specialised jobs.

2. The citizen population grew by 1.0% 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 June



Source: Department of Statistics

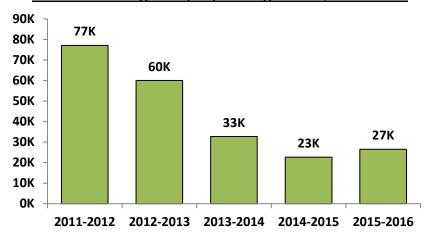
Numbers may not sum due to rounding.

3. The non-resident population grew by 2.5%. There was stronger growth in the number of Foreign Domestic Workers (FDWs) and dependants of Singaporeans who are on Long-Term Visit Passes. The increase in FDW population growth reflects Singaporeans' rising desire to augment their own care for their children and elderly.

4. Foreign employment growth remained low compared to the earlier part of the decade. Foreign workforce growth will continue to be moderated to supplement our local workforce in a sustainable manner. To stay competitive in a tight labour market, businesses will need to re-design jobs and restructure to become more manpower-lean and productive (Chart 2).

Foreign Employment Growth Remained Low Compared to Earlier Part of Decade

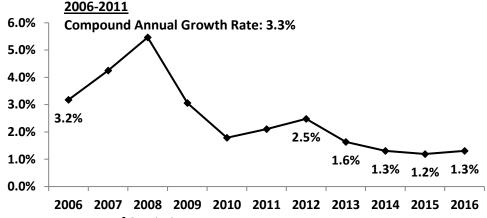
Chart 2: Foreign employment growth⁴, as of June



Source: Ministry of Manpower

5. The total population grew by 1.3% from June 2015 to June 2016. Overall, total population growth rates remained relatively stable and low across the last three years (Chart 3).

Total Population Growth Rates Remain Stable and LowChart 3: Total population growth rate per year, as of June (%)



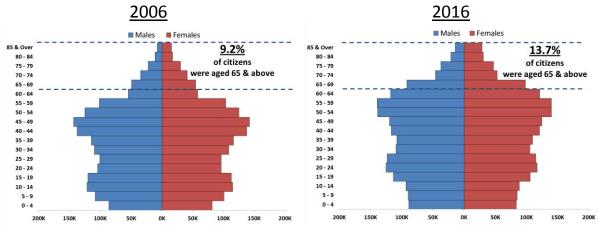
⁴ The figures refer to foreigners employed at any time in the month, in line with internationally accepted statistical definition of employment. Foreign domestic workers are excluded in the figures.

AGEING

6. With increasing life expectancy and low fertility rates, our citizen population is ageing quickly. There has been a significant increase in the number of citizens aged 65 years⁵ and above in the past decade, with more of our 'postwar baby boomers⁶' entering their silver years (<u>Chart 4a</u>). Between 2015 and 2016, the proportion of citizens aged 65 years and above increased from 13.1% to 13.7%. The median age of the citizen population rose from 40.7 years to 41.0 years in the same period (Chart 4b).

A More Aged Citizen Population

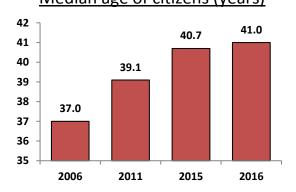
Chart 4a: Age profile of citizen population, as of June

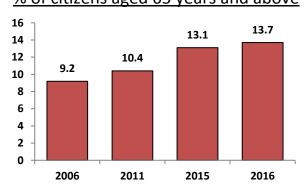


<u>Chart 4b: Median age and proportion of citizens aged 65 years and above</u>

<u>Median age of citizens (years)</u>

<u>% of citizens aged 65 years and above</u>





⁵ The benchmark of 65 years is used to align with international statistical norms.

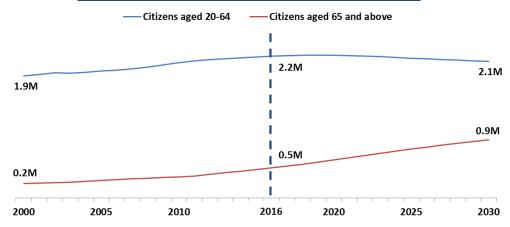
⁶ Post-war baby boomers are defined as those born from 1947 to 1965.

Fewer Working-Age Citizens to Each Citizen Aged 65 and Above Going Forward

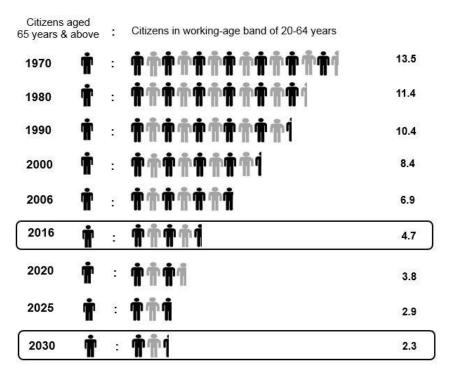
With an ageing population, the number of citizens in the working-age band of 20-64 years will decline going forward. At the same time, the number of citizens aged 65 and above will nearly double between now and 2030 (Chart 5a). This means that there will be fewer working-age citizens to each citizen aged 65 years and over. This ratio is 4.7 in 2016, and will halve to 2.3 in 2030 (Chart 5b). This trend can only be alleviated over the longer term with more citizen births and immigration.

Number of Working-Age Citizens will Decline, while Number of Citizens Aged 65 and Above will Nearly Double

Chart 5a: Historical and projected number of citizens



Fewer Working-Age Citizens to Each Citizen Aged 65 and Above Chart 5b: Citizen old-age support ratio, 1970-2030



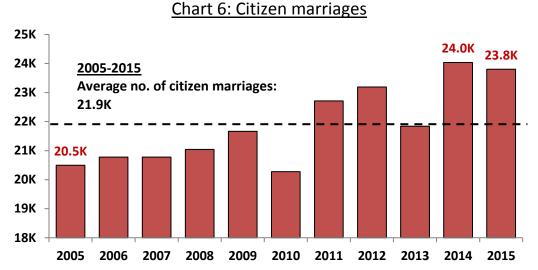
Source: Department of Statistics

Note: Projections assume current birth rates and immigration rates.

MARRIAGE & PARENTHOOD

7. The number of citizen marriages in the last two years was the highest in more than a decade. There were 23,805 citizen marriages⁷ in 2015, significantly above this decade's average of about 21,900 citizen marriages (<u>Chart 6</u>). The median age at first marriage remained stable in the last two years, at 30.1 years for citizen males and 27.9 years for citizen females.

More Citizen Marriages in the Last Two Years



Source: Department of Statistics

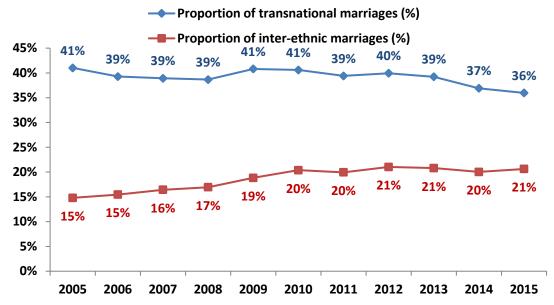
8. More than a third of citizen marriages last year involved transnational couples, and 2 in 10 citizen marriages were inter-ethnic (Chart 7).

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⁷ Citizen marriages refer to marriages involving at least one citizen.

Significant Proportion of Transnational Marriages; **Stable Proportion of Inter-Ethnic Marriages**

Chart 7: Transnational and inter-ethnic marriages involving at least one citizen



Source: Department of Statistics

The number of citizen births⁸ increased for the second consecutive year 9. since 2014, to 33,725 citizen births last year. This was the highest in more than a decade, higher than in 2012 (Dragon year) (Chart 8). The median age of citizen mothers at first birth remained at 30.3 years in the last two years.

2015 Citizen Births were the Highest in more than a Decade Chart 8: Citizen births 45K -41.6K 40K 33.2K 33.2K 33.7K 35K 30K 25K **20K** 15K 10K 5K **0K** 2000 2001 2002 2003 2004 2005 2006 2007 2008 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015

Note: 2000 and 2012 were Years of the Dragon (Chinese Zodiac)

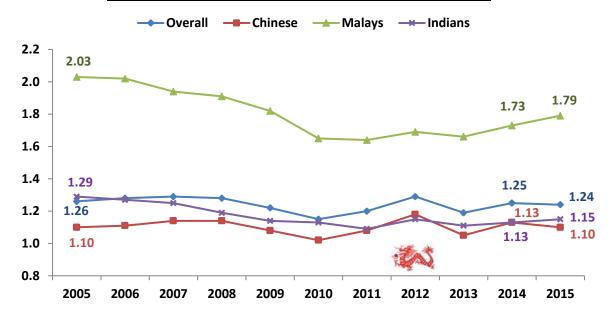
Source: Immigration & Checkpoints Authority

⁸ Citizen births refer to babies born to at least one citizen parent.

10. Resident total fertility rate (TFR)⁹ remained relatively stable at 1.24 in 2015, with slight improvements in the TFR for Malays and Indians (<u>Chart 9</u>).

Stable Overall TFR; Increase in TFR for Malays and Indians

Chart 9: Resident TFR by ethnic group (per female)



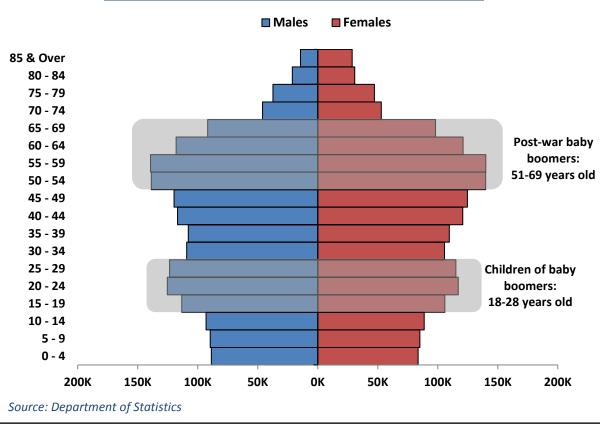
Note: 2012 was the Year of the Dragon (Chinese Zodiac)

⁹ Total fertility rate refers to the average number of children that would be born per female, if all females live through their childbearing years of 15-49 and bear children according to a given set of age-specific fertility rates.

Increasing Number of Citizens Entering Marriage & Parenthood Ages

Over the next few years, we will see larger cohorts of citizens approaching the peak marriage and parenthood ages. Many of them are children of our post-war baby boomers (<u>Chart 10</u>). Like the generations before them, the aspirations to start a family are strong among these Singaporeans. We will continue to support their aspirations, by ensuring that Singapore remains a Great Place for Families.

Larger Cohorts of Citizens aged 18 to 28
Chart 10: Age profile of citizen population, as of June 2016

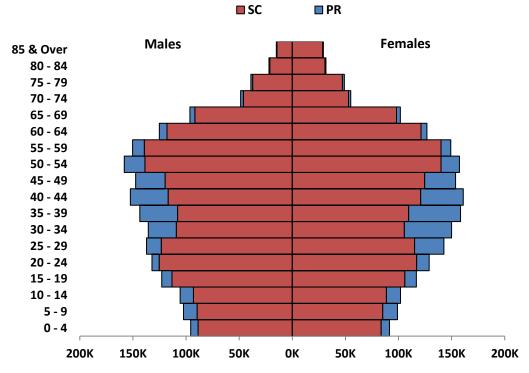


IMMIGRATION & CITIZENS BY DESCENT

- 11. Immigration helps to mitigate the shrinking size and ageing profile of our citizen population. We will continue to grant between 15,000 and 25,000 new citizenships each year. These new citizens have family ties with Singaporeans or have either studied, worked or lived here for a period of time.
- 12. Permanent residence is an intermediate step through which suitable foreigners and spouses 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 stable and ensures a pool of suitable candidates who are familiar and committed to Singapore, and for whom we may consider granting citizenship. The majority of our PRs are in the prime working ages of 25-49 years (Chart 11).

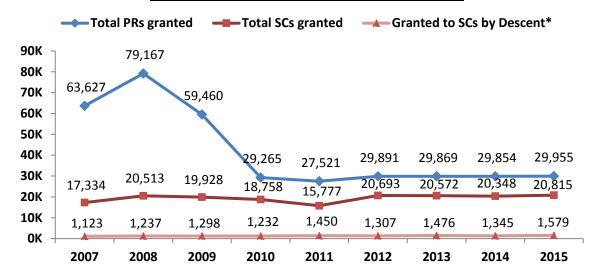
Immigration Helps to Mitigate the Shrinking and Ageing of Our Citizen Population





- 13. Besides immigration, citizenships are also granted to children born overseas to Singaporean parents. Last year, such children made up just under 1,600 or about 8% of the new Singapore Citizens (SCs) granted.
- 14. Overall, the number of new SCs and PRs added to our population has remained stable over the last few years (Chart 12).

Stable Number of SCs and PRs Granted in Last Six Years
Chart 12: Number of SCs and PRs granted



^{*}This is part of the total number of SCs granted each year. It refers to SCs granted to children born overseas to Singaporean parents.

Source: Immigration & Checkpoints Authority

ANNEX

Detailed Statistical Tables

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

	2006	2011	2015	2016
Citizens	3,107.9	3,257.2	3,375.0	3,408.9
PRs	418.0	532.0	527.7	524.6
Residents	3,525.9	3,789.3	3,902.7	3,933.6
Non-residents	875.5	1,394.4	1,632.3	1,673.7
Total	4,401.4	5,183.7	5,535.0	5,607.3

 $\stackrel{1}{\sim}$

Table 2: Singapore citizens by age group, ethnic group and gender, June 2016

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)														
Total	3,408.9	1,693.7	1,715.2	2,595.8	1,285.0	1,310.8	510.2	256.9	253.3	253.3	127.8	125.5	49.7	24.1	25.6
0 - 4	172.3	88.7	83.6	121.5	62.7	58.8	32.9	16.9	16.0	12.7	6.5	6.2	5.3	2.6	2.7
5 - 9	174.8	89.6	85.1	124.0	63.7	60.3	31.3	16.1	15.2	14.4	7.3	7.1	5.1	2.5	2.5
10 - 14	181.7	93.1	88.7	126.4	64.9	61.5	34.8	17.9	16.9	16.4	8.2	8.2	4.1	2.1	2.1
15 - 19	219.2	113.3	105.9	154.2	79.8	74.4	42.3	22.0	20.4	18.5	9.4	9.1	4.2	2.1	2.1
20 - 24	242.4	125.3	117.1	171.5	88.9	82.6	47.5	24.4	23.0	19.9	10.2	9.8	3.5	1.8	1.7
25 - 29	238.5	123.4	115.1	170.5	88.5	82.0	45.6	23.4	22.3	19.1	9.8	9.4	3.3	1.7	1.5
30 - 34	214.8	109.2	105.6	157.8	80.3	77.6	37.4	19.2	18.2	16.7	8.5	8.2	2.9	1.3	1.6
35 - 39	217.5	107.9	109.6	170.8	84.5	86.3	28.3	14.4	13.9	15.6	7.8	7.8	2.7	1.2	1.5
40 - 44	237.7	116.8	120.8	188.3	91.8	96.5	29.1	14.7	14.4	17.2	8.9	8.3	3.1	1.4	1.7
45 - 49	244.5	119.8	124.7	188.6	91.6	97.0	33.3	16.4	16.8	19.4	10.3	9.1	3.2	1.4	1.8
50 - 54	278.6	138.7	139.9	211.6	105.0	106.6	42.2	21.0	21.1	21.7	11.1	10.6	3.1	1.5	1.6
55 - 59	279.4	139.3	140.1	219.1	108.9	110.1	37.4	18.7	18.7	20.2	10.3	9.8	2.8	1.3	1.4
60 - 64	239.1	118.0	121.2	194.4	96.0	98.3	27.3	13.4	14.0	15.4	7.5	7.8	2.1	1.0	1.0
65 - 69	189.9	91.8	98.2	158.6	76.9	81.7	18.2	8.6	9.6	11.5	5.4	6.1	1.7	0.9	0.8
70 - 74	98.9	46.0	52.9	85.2	39.8	45.4	8.0	3.6	4.4	5.0	2.2	2.8	0.7	0.3	0.4
75 - 79	84.5	37.3	47.2	72.7	32.2	40.5	6.8	3.1	3.7	4.2	1.7	2.5	0.8	0.3	0.4
80 - 84	52.0	21.2	30.8	43.6	17.7	25.9	4.9	2.0	2.9	2.9	1.3	1.6	0.6	0.2	0.3
85 & Over	43.0	14.4	28.7	37.0	11.6	25.5	3.0	1.3	1.7	2.4	1.3	1.1	0.6	0.2	0.4

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

	2006	2011	2015	2016
	2006	2011	2015	2016
Chinese	76.4	76.2	76.2	76.1
Malay	15.2	15.1	15.0	15.0
Indian	7.3	7.4	7.4	7.4
Others	1.1	1.4	1.4	1.5

Table 4: Overseas Singaporean population size¹⁰, as of June

Year	Number of Overseas Singaporeans
2004	157,800
2005	163,000
2006	168,200
2007	172,000
2008	181,900
2009	180,700
2010	184,400
2011	192,200
2012	200,000
2013	207,000
2014	212,200
2015	212,500
2016	213,400

Source: Department of Statistics

Table 5: Old-age support ratio, as of June (persons aged 20-64 years per person aged 65 years & above)

	2006	2011	2015	2016
Residents	7.8	7.2	5.7	5.4
Citizens	6.9	6.3	4.9	4.7

Source: Department of Statistics

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¹⁰ 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. June 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 June (years)

	2006	2011	2015	2016
Residents	36.1	38.0	39.6	40.0
Citizens	37.0	39.1	40.7	41.0

Table 7: Proportion of singles among citizen males / females aged 20-49 years by age group, as of June¹¹ (%)

	2005	2010	2014	2015				
Proportion of singles among citizen males by age group (%)								
20-24 years	96.2	97.8	98.9	98.7				
25-29 years	72.9	78.5	84.8	82.6				
30-34 years	37.4	43.1	44.8	43.4				
35-39 years	22.2	23.9	26.7	25.1				
40-44 years	16.8	17.2	17.9	18.2				
45-49 years	13.6	14.3	14.5	14.2				
Proportion of singles am	ong citizen females	by age group	(%)					
20-24 years	89.3	93.6	96.7	96.0				
25-29 years	53.5	62.0	73.3	69.0				
30-34 years	26.3	30.6	32.7	31.4				
35-39 years	17.2	20.0	23.1	21.5				
40-44 years	15.3	15.6	18.2	17.9				
45-49 years	13.6	13.6	15.5	16.1				

¹¹ Data on proportion of singles for selected years prior to 2015 were revised in Feb 2016 for consistency across different survey sources.

Table 8: Proportion of singles among citizens in selected age groups by gender and highest qualification attained, as of June^{12,13} (%)

Age group (years) /	2	005	2010		2015	
Highest qualification						
attained	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females
Aged 30-39	29.5	21.4	32.9	24.9	34.1	26.3
Below secondary	35.0	14.4	36.7	15.0	38.9	16.3
Secondary	28.9	16.8	32.3	17.9	38.1	18.1
Post-secondary (Non-Tertiary)	27.7	19.1	33.0	22.5	31.3	22.9
Diploma & Professional Qualification	27.5	25.2	33.0	26.2	34.6	26.4
University	28.2	30.0	31.9	30.2	32.9	29.9
Aged 40-49	15.2	14.5	15.6	14.5	16.2	17.0
Below secondary	21.0	10.0	21.3	10.1	24.0	11.7
Secondary	13.3	13.6	15.0	12.3	17.2	12.4
Post-secondary (Non-Tertiary)	11.0	17.3	14.8	15.4	15.8	17.3
Diploma & Professional Qualification	9.9	22.6	12.1	18.7	13.6	17.1
University	9.8	26.3	11.4	23.1	13.5	23.7

¹² 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.

¹³ Data on proportion of singles for selected years prior to 2015 were revised in Feb 2016 for consistency across different survey sources.

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

Grooms	Brides	2005	2010	2014	2015
Total number of marriages		22,992	24,363	28,407	28,322
Citizen	Citizen	12,088	12,043	15,169	15,243
Citizen	PR	998	1,372	1,467	1,428
Citizen	Non-resident	5,611	4,963	5,126	4,828
PR	Citizen	631	682	715	684
Non-resident	Citizen	1,166	1,213	1,560	1,622
PR	PR	521	854	591	603
PR	Non-resident	909	1,082	956	941
Non-resident	PR	430	660	654	671
Non-resident	Non-resident	638	1,494	2,169	2,302

Table 10: General marriage rates (per 1,000 unmarried males / females aged 15-49 years¹⁴)

		2005	2010	2014	2015
Residents	Males	43.8	39.3	44.4	44.2
Residents	Females	39.0	35.3	40.8	41.1
Citizens	Males	42.5	38.0	43.5	43.2
	Females	37.4	33.4	39.5	39.8

¹⁴ In view of the rising proportion of marriages among persons aged 45-49 years, the data series on general marriage rate was revised in 2014 to cover the age group 15-49 years.

Table 11: Median age at first marriage (years)

		2005	2010	2014	2015
Davidanta	Males	29.7	30.0	30.2	30.2
Residents	Females	26.8	27.7	28.1	28.1
6:1:	Males	29.7	30.0	30.1	30.1
Citizens	Females	26.5	27.6	27.9	27.9
PRs	Males	30.0	30.4	31.1	31.1
	Females	28.0	28.5	29.5	29.3

Table 12: Origins of non-citizen spouses married to citizens

	2005	2010	2014	2015
Total	8,406	8,230	8,868	8,562
Non-citizen brides	6,609	6,335	6,593	6,256
Asia	6,433	6,078	6,414	6,069
Non-Asia	176	257	179	187
of which:				
Americas*	16	22	36	26
Europe	32	47	51	70
Oceania*	21	26	35	31
Others	107	162	57	60
Non-citizen grooms	1,797	1,895	2,275	2,306
Asia	1,216	1,227	1,542	1,491
Non-Asia	581	668	733	815
of which:				
Americas*	115	111	115	164
Europe	281	337	374	404
Oceania*	88	112	137	134
Others	97	108	107	113

^{*&}quot;Americas" consists of "United States of America" and "Canada". "Oceania" consists of "Australia", "New Zealand" and "Papua New Guinea".

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

	2005	2010	2014	2015
Residents	29.3	30.1	30.7	30.7
Citizens	29.2	29.8	30.3	30.3
PRs	29.7	30.6	31.5	31.8

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 June (per ever-married female)

	20	05	20	10	20:	14	20	15
	30-39	40-49	30-39	40-49	30-39	40-49	30-39	40-49
Residents	1.61	2.13	1.49	2.02	1.42	1.87	1.46	1.85
Citizens	1.69	2.16	1.55	2.08	1.45	1.93	1.49	1.91

Table 15: Proportion of ever-married females aged 30-49 years who are childless by residency status of females, as of June (%)

	20	05	20	10	20	14	20	15
	30-39	40-49	30-39	40-49	30-39	40-49	30-39	40-49
Residents	17.9	7.0	20.1	9.3	21.4	11.2	20.7	11.6
Citizens	17.3	6.6	20.5	8.6	22.8	10.7	21.9	11.3

Table 16: Number of births¹⁵ by birth order and residency status

Birth Order	2005	2010	2014	2015
Total births	37,492	37,967	42,232	42,185
Resident births	35,528	35,129	37,967	37,861
First	16,002	16,710	17,970	17,915
Second	12,555	12,390	13,816	13,314
Third	4,936	4,299	4,482	4,731
Fourth	1,486	1,224	1,171	1,332
Fifth & over	549	506	528	569
Citizen births	31,706	30,131	33,193	33,725
First	14,242	14,127	15,546	15,887
Second	10,915	10,444	11,911	11,632
Third	4,593	3,910	4,098	4,375
Fourth	1,416	1,160	1,121	1,278
Fifth & over	540	490	517	553

Source: Immigration & Checkpoints Authority

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

	2005	2010	2014	2015
Overall	1.26	1.15	1.25	1.24
Chinese	1.10	1.02	1.13	1.10
Malays	2.03	1.65	1.73	1.79
Indians	1.29	1.13	1.13	1.15

Source: Department of Statistics

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¹⁵ 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.

Table 18: New residents granted in 2015

	New Permanent	New Citizens
	Residents	Citizens
Total	29,955	20,815
By age group (%)		
Above 40 years	7.7%	20.5%
31-40	24.5%	27.1%
21-30 years	38.4%	13.4%
20 years and below	29.4%	38.9%
By highest qualification attaine	ed among those aged	l 20 & over (%)
Post-Secondary	77.7%	74.1%
Secondary and below	22.3%	25.9%
By region of origin (%)		
Southeast Asian countries	58.5%	58.7%
Other Asian countries	32.5%	35.0%
Others	9.0%	6.3%

Source: Immigration & Checkpoints Authority

List of Relevant Publications

Singapore Department of Statistics
Population Trends 2016
Census of Population 2010
General Household Survey 2015
Statistics on Marriages & Divorces 2015
Monthly Digest of Statistics
Singapore in Figures 2016
Yearbook of Statistics 2016
Immigration & Checkpoints Authority
Report on Registration of Births & Deaths 2015
Singapore Demographic Bulletin

For more information, you may visit the following websites:

National Population and Talent Division,	:	www.nptd.gov.sg
Strategy Group, Prime Minister's Office		
Singapore Department of Statistics	:	www.singstat.gov.sg
Ministry of Home Affairs	:	www.mha.gov.sg
Immigration & Checkpoints Authority	:	www.ica.gov.sg

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