





POPULATION IN BRIEF 2018

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OVERVIEW

- 1. Population in Brief is an annual publication providing key updates and trends on Singapore's population.
- 2. 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**.
- 3. Key highlights of the past year:
 - In 2017, there were 24,417 citizen marriages, more than the 23,873 citizen marriages in 2016. This was higher than the average of the past decade of about 22,500 citizen marriages.
 - There were 32,356 citizen births in 2017, fewer than the 33,167 citizen births in 2016. This was higher than the average of the past decade of about 32,200 citizen births. The resident total fertility rate fell from 1.20 in 2016 to 1.16 in 2017.
 - The citizen population grew by 1.0%, to reach 3.47 million citizens as of June 2018. The citizen population continues to age, with 15.2% aged 65 and above compared with 14.4% last year. The permanent resident population remained relatively stable at 0.52 million.
 - The non-resident population remained relatively stable at 1.64 million as of June 2018.
 - Overall, Singapore's total population stands at 5.64 million as of June 2018. The total population grew slightly by 0.5% over the past year, mainly due to stable growth in the citizen population.

KEY INDICATORS

OVERALL POPULATION ('000)	JUN 2017	JUN 2018
Citizen population	3,439.2	3,471.9
Permanent resident (PR) population	526.6	522.3
Resident population	3,965.8	3,994.3
Non-resident population	1,646.5	1,644.4
Total population	5,612.3	5,638.7
AGE PROFILE OF CITIZENS	JUN 2017	JUN 2018
Proportion aged 65 and above (%)	14.4	15.2
Citizen median age (years)	41.3	41.7
Citizen old-age support ratio ¹	4.4	4.2
MARRIAGE & PARENTHOOD	2016	2017
Number of marriages involving at least one citizen	23,873	24,417
Citizen births	33,167	32,356
Resident total fertility rate ²	1.20	1.16

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

Source: Department of Statistics, Immigration & Checkpoints Authority

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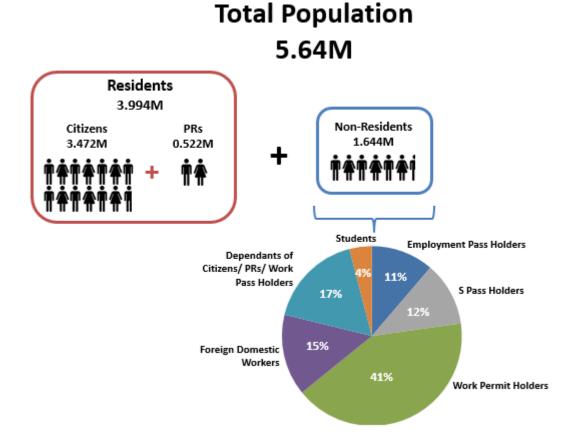
¹ The old-age support ratio refers to the number of persons aged 20-64 years, for every person aged 65 years and over

² 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

1. There were 3.47 million Singapore citizens as of June 2018. Together with 0.52 million permanent residents (PRs), there were 3.99 million residents. Non-residents totalled 1.64 million, and include dependants, international students, and individuals who are here to work. Overall, Singapore's total population stood at 5.64 million.

Diagram 1: Total population, as of June 2018³



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

³ The figures are based on stock numbers as of end June 2018.

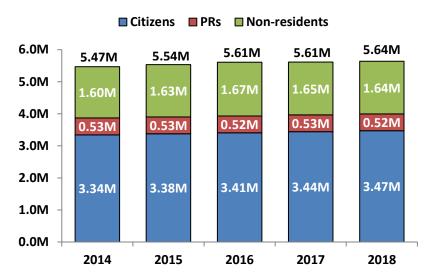
<u>Work Permit Holders</u> are mostly in occupations which face difficulties hiring Singaporeans (e.g. construction workers).

<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.

2. The citizen population grew by 1.0% 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 June



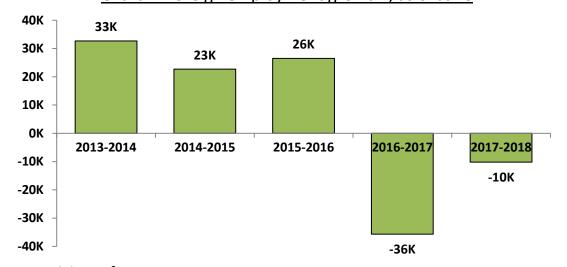
Source: Department of Statistics

Numbers may not sum up due to rounding.

3. The non-resident population remained relatively stable at 1.64 million. There was a slight decline in foreign employment over the past year (<u>Chart 2</u>). This was mainly attributed to a decrease in the number of Work Permit Holders in the Construction and Marine Shipyard sectors.

Slight Decline in Foreign Employment from June 2017 to June 2018

Chart 2: Foreign employment growth⁴, as of June

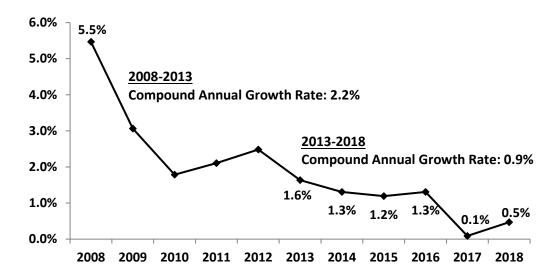


Source: Ministry of Manpower

⁴ Foreign domestic workers are excluded in the figures.

4. With stable growth in the citizen population, Singapore's total population grew slightly by 0.5% over the past year (<u>Chart 3</u>).

Slower Total Population Growth Rate Compared to Past Decade Chart 3: Total population growth rate per year, as of June (%)



AGEING

5. With increasing life expectancy and low fertility rates, the proportion of our citizen population aged 65 years⁵ and above is rising, and at a faster pace compared to the last decade. Large cohorts of 'baby boomers⁶' have begun entering the post-65 age range (<u>Chart 4a</u>). Between 2017 and 2018, the proportion of citizens aged 65 years and above increased from 14.4% to 15.2%. The median age of the citizen population rose from 41.3 years to 41.7 years in the same period (<u>Chart 4b</u>).

Higher Proportion of Citizen Population Aged 65 Years and Above

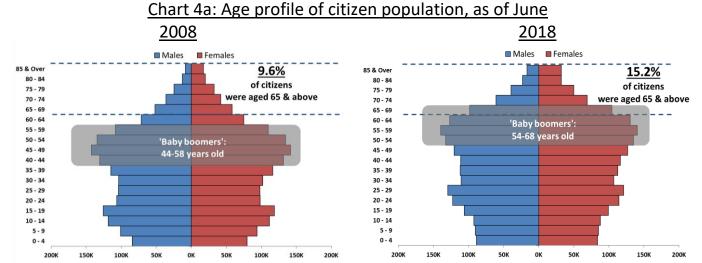
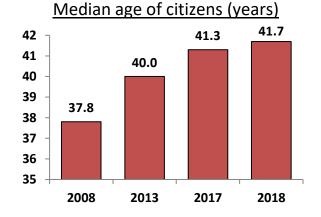


Chart 4b: Median age and proportion of citizens aged 65 years and above



% of citizens aged 65 years and above

15
10
9.6
10
2008
2013
2017
2018

Source: Department of Statistics

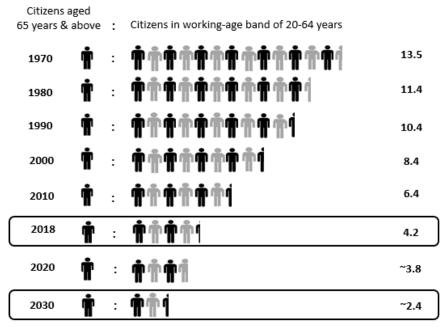
⁵ The benchmark of 65 years aligns with international statistical definitions.

⁶ For this publication, 'baby boomers' are defined as those born from 1950 to 1964.

6. Currently, there are 4.2 citizens in the working age band of 20-64 years⁷, for each citizen aged 65 years and above (<u>Chart 5</u>, citizen old-age support ratio). This is a decline from 6.7 in 2008, and could fall to about 2.4 in 2030. If we include PRs, our resident old-age support ratio stands higher at 4.8 in 2018, as the majority of our PRs are in the working ages.

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

Chart 5: Citizen old-age support ratio, 1970-2030

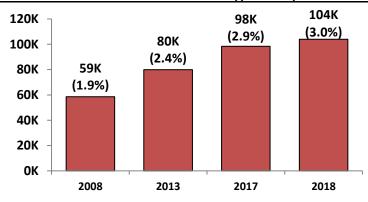


Source: Department of Statistics

7. The number of citizens aged 80 and above has also almost doubled over the last decade (Chart 6).

More Citizens Aged 80 and Above

Chart 6: Number and % of citizens aged 80 years and above

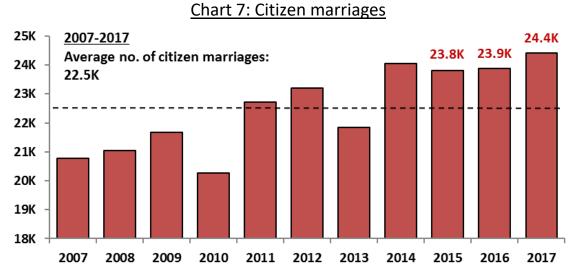


⁷ Today in Singapore, many of those aged 65 years and above continue to work beyond the working ages of 20-64 years.

MARRIAGE & PARENTHOOD

8. There were 24,417 citizen marriages⁸ in 2017, compared to 23,873 citizen marriages in 2016. This was higher than the average of the past decade of about 22,500 citizen marriages (<u>Chart 7</u>). The median age at first marriage in 2017 was 29.8 years for citizen grooms and 28.1 years for citizen brides, similar to the previous five years.

Citizen Marriages in 2017 Increased Slightly from 2016



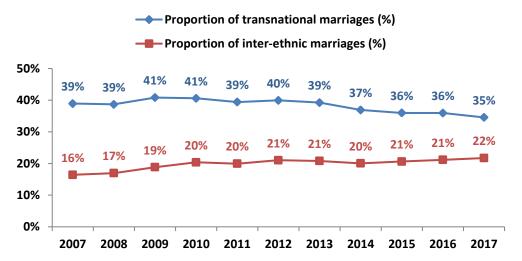
Source: Department of Statistics

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⁸ Citizen marriages refer to marriages involving at least one citizen.

9. More than 1 in 3 citizen marriages last year involved transnational 9 couples. There is a steady increase in inter-ethnic marriages over the past decade, with about 1 in 5 citizen marriages being between persons of different races (Chart 8).

Chart 8: Transnational and inter-ethnic marriages involving at least one citizen



Source: Department of Statistics

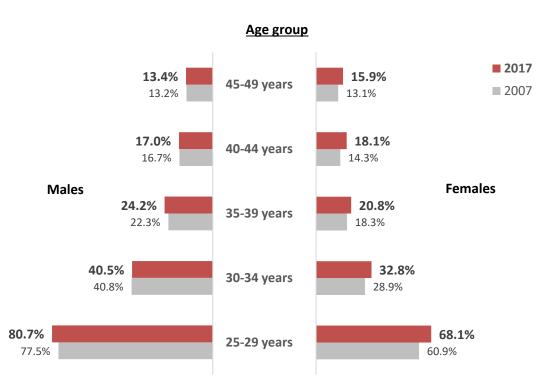
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⁹ Transnational marriages refer to marriages involving one citizen and one non-citizen (i.e. permanent resident or non-resident).

Higher proportion of single citizens across most age groups compared to a decade ago

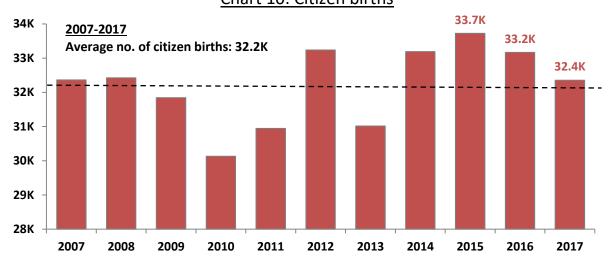
The proportion of singles among citizens across most age groups has increased, compared to 2007 (<u>Chart 9</u>). The biggest increase was among female citizens aged 25-29, where the proportion of singles increased from about 6 in 10 in 2007, to 7 in 10 in 2017. For male citizens aged 25-29, this proportion increased slightly to about 8 in 10 in 2017. For most other age groups, a similar trend of rising singlehood was observed.

Chart 9: Proportion of singles among citizens by age group and gender



There were 32,356 citizen births¹⁰ in 2017, compared to 33,167 in 2016. 10. This was higher than the average of the past decade of about 32,200 citizen births (Chart 10). The median age of citizen mothers at first birth was 30.3 years, remaining the same over the last four years.

2017 Citizen Births Remained Above Decade's Average Chart 10: Citizen births

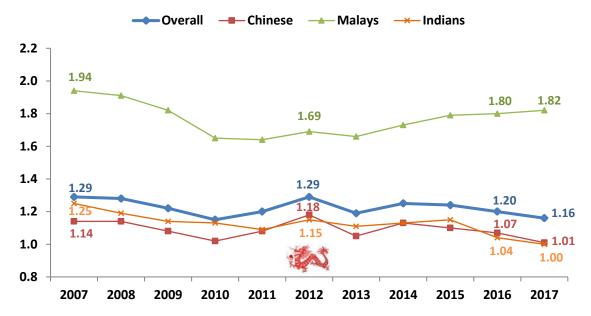


Source: Immigration & Checkpoints Authority

¹⁰ Citizen births refer to babies born to at least one citizen parent.

11. Resident total fertility rate (TFR)¹¹ decreased from 1.20 in 2016 to 1.16 in 2017 (<u>Chart 11</u>). This is due partly to a larger cohort of young Singaporeans (aged 19-29 in 2017) – many of whom are children of baby boomers – who are entering the peak childbearing ages, but have not yet had children.

Decrease in Overall TFR
Chart 11: Resident TFR by ethnic group (per female)



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

¹¹ 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.

IMMIGRATION & CITIZENS BY DESCENT

- 12. 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.
- 13. 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 in the prime working ages of 25-49 years (Chart 12).

■ PR **■ SC** Males **Females** 85 & Over 80 - 84 75 - 79 70 - 74 65 - 69 60 - 64 55 - 59 50 - 54 45 - 49 40 - 44 35 - 39 30 - 34 25 - 29 20 - 24 15 - 19 10 - 14 5 - 9 0 - 4 100K **50K 0K** 200K 150K **50K** 100K 150K 200K

Chart 12: Age pyramid of resident population, as of June 2018

14. In 2017, 22,076 Singapore Citizens (SCs) and 31,849 PRs were granted. The number of SCs granted includes citizenships granted to children born overseas to Singaporean parents ("citizens by descent"). Last year, such children made up about 1,600 or 7% of the new SCs granted (Chart 13).

■Total PRs granted ■■Total SCs granted ■■ Granted to SCs by Descent* 90K 79,167 80K **70K** 59,460 60K **50K** 40K 31,849 29,265 29,891 31,050 29,869 29,955 29,854 27,521 30K 20,513 19,928 20,693 22,102 22,076 20,572 20,815 20,348 18,758 17,334 15,777 20K 10K 1,513 1,573 1,237 1,298 1,232 1,450 1,307 1,476 1,345 1,579 1,123 **0K**

Chart 13: Number of SCs and PRs granted

2012

2013

2014

2015

2016

2017

2011

Source: Immigration & Checkpoints Authority

2009

2008

2007

2010

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

ANNEX

Detailed Statistical Tables

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

	2008	2013	2017	2018
Residents	3,642.7	3,844.8	3,965.8	3,994.3
of which:				
Citizens	3,164.4	3,313.5	3,439.2	3,471.9
PRs	478.2	531.2	526.6	522.3
Non-residents	1,196.7	1,554.4	1,646.5	1,644.4
Total	4,839.4	5,399.2	5,612.3	5,638.7

<u>~</u>

Table 2: Singapore citizens by age group, ethnic group and gender, June 2018

Age		Total			Chinese			Malays			Indians			Others	
Group (Years)	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females
							Numb	per ('000)							
Total	3471.9	1722.2	1749.7	2641.0	1304.8	1336.2	520.0	261.8	258.2	258.9	130.4	128.4	52.1	25.2	26.9
0 - 4	172.6	88.6	84.0	118.6	60.9	57.8	36.0	18.5	17.5	12.8	6.6	6.2	5.2	2.6	2.6
5 - 9	175.8	90.5	85.3	126.4	65.4	61.1	30.6	15.7	14.9	13.7	6.9	6.8	5.2	2.5	2.6
10 - 14	180.2	92.3	87.9	126.6	65.0	61.6	33.0	16.9	16.1	16.1	8.1	8.0	4.5	2.3	2.2
15 - 19	205.7	106.3	99.4	143.7	74.3	69.4	39.8	20.7	19.0	18.0	9.2	8.8	4.2	2.1	2.1
20 - 24	237.0	122.6	114.5	168.1	87.1	81.1	45.6	23.5	22.1	19.5	10.0	9.5	3.8	2.0	1.8
25 - 29	251.0	129.8	121.1	179.0	93.0	86.1	48.2	24.8	23.5	20.1	10.2	9.9	3.6	1.9	1.6
30 - 34	217.9	110.7	107.2	157.5	80.2	77.4	39.8	20.3	19.5	17.5	8.9	8.6	3.1	1.4	1.7
35 - 39	224.6	111.7	112.9	172.9	85.8	87.1	32.1	16.4	15.7	16.7	8.3	8.3	3.0	1.3	1.7
40 - 44	227.6	111.2	116.3	181.3	88.0	93.2	26.8	13.5	13.3	16.5	8.3	8.2	3.0	1.3	1.7
45 - 49	247.3	120.5	126.8	194.2	93.7	100.4	30.7	15.2	15.5	19.1	10.0	9.1	3.3	1.5	1.8
50 - 54	267.8	132.6	135.2	203.5	100.2	103.3	39.9	19.8	20.1	21.2	11.1	10.1	3.2	1.5	1.7
55 - 59	280.4	139.7	140.7	216.5	107.6	108.9	39.9	20.0	19.9	21.0	10.7	10.3	3.0	1.4	1.6
60 - 64	257.5	127.1	130.4	207.1	102.2	104.9	31.0	15.3	15.7	17.1	8.5	8.6	2.4	1.2	1.2
65 - 69	202.9	98.6	104.3	168.5	82.2	86.2	20.2	9.6	10.7	12.5	6.0	6.5	1.7	0.9	0.8
70 - 74	130.1	61.0	69.1	110.4	51.9	58.6	11.4	5.3	6.1	7.1	3.3	3.9	1.1	0.5	0.5
75 - 79	89.5	39.3	50.2	77.8	34.5	43.4	6.7	2.9	3.8	4.3	1.7	2.6	0.7	0.3	0.4
80 - 84	55.2	23.0	32.3	46.8	19.5	27.3	4.9	2.0	2.8	3.0	1.2	1.8	0.6	0.2	0.4
85 & Over	48.7	16.5	32.1	41.9	13.5	28.4	3.4	1.4	2.0	2.7	1.4	1.3	0.6	0.2	0.4

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

	2008	2013	2017	2018
Chinese	76.3	76.2	76.1	76.1
Malay	15.2	15.0	15.0	15.0
Indian	7.3	7.4	7.4	7.5
Others	1.2	1.4	1.5	1.5

Table 4: Overseas Singaporean population¹², as of June

Year	Number of Overseas Singaporeans
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
2017	214,700
2018	216,400

Source: Department of Statistics

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

	2008	2013	2017	2018
Residents	7.6	6.4	5.1	4.8
Citizens	6.7	5.5	4.4	4.2

Source: Department of Statistics

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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. 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)

	2008	2013	2017	2018
Residents	36.7	38.9	40.5	40.8
Citizens	37.8	40.0	41.3	41.7

Table 7: Proportion of singles among citizen males / females aged 20-49 years by age group, as of June¹³ (%)

	2007	2012	2016	2017
Proportion of singles an	nong citizen males by	age group		
20-24 years	97.6	98.3	98.4	98.6
25-29 years	77.5	84.4	80.6	80.7
30-34 years	40.8	45.9	41.3	40.5
35-39 years	22.3	23.5	24.9	24.2
40-44 years	16.7	15.3	17.6	17.0
45-49 years	13.2	13.7	14.7	13.4
Proportion of singles an	nong citizen females	by age group		
20-24 years	91.0	95.3	95.7	95.1
25-29 years	60.9	68.5	68.8	68.1
30-34 years	28.9	33.2	31.3	32.8
35-39 years	18.3	20.2	22.4	20.8
40-44 years	14.3	14.3	17.7	18.1
45-49 years	13.1	13.9	14.6	15.9

¹³ 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 by age group, gender and highest qualification attained, as of June^{14,15} (%)

Age group (years) /	21	2007 2012		012	2017	
		007		012	2017	
Highest qualification						
attained	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females
Aged 30-39	31.1	23.3	34.3	26.3	32.1	26.5
Below secondary	37.0	15.8	37.1	20.1	43.2	17.3
Secondary	28.1	17.6	34.8	17.8	35.1	19.9
Post-secondary						
(Non-Tertiary)	32.6	23.1	34.7	23.9	32.1	18.3
Diploma & Professional						
Qualification	30.2	26.2	33.7	25.4	29.3	26.4
University	30.0	29.8	33.7	31.1	31.4	29.8
Aged 40-49	14.9	13.6	14.4	14.1	15.1	16.9
Below secondary	19.8	9.7	20.9	9.6	23.2	10.7
Secondary	13.0	12.3	13.7	13.0	18.1	12.5
Post-secondary						
(Non-Tertiary)	13.3	17.6	14.1	12.1	17.4	16.4
Diploma & Professional						
Qualification	9.0	17.0	12.6	18.0	13.9	17.7
University	11.1	25.9	11.1	18.9	11.5	21.9

¹⁴ 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.

¹⁵ 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	2007	2007 2012		2017
Total number of marriages		23,966	27,936	27,971	28,212
Citizen	Citizen	12,689	13,929	15,292	15,981
Citizen	PR	1,202	1,428	1,471	1,467
PR	Citizen	716	718	686	667
Citizen	Non-resident	4,998	5,599	4,822	4,663
Non-resident	Citizen	1,170	1,518	1,602	1,639
PR	PR	766	785	573	583
PR	Non-resident	1,014	1,067	839	765
Non-resident	PR	533	614	642	583
Non-resident	Non-resident	878	2,278	2,044	1,864

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

		2007	2012	2016	2017
Decidente	Males	43.5	43.8	44.4	45.7
Residents	Females	40.1	39.4	41.6	42.8
Citicono	Males	41.6	42.3	43.7	45.6
Citizens	Females	37.5	37.6	40.5	42.2

Source: Department of Statistics

Table 11: Median age at first marriage (years)

		2007	2012	2016	2017
Daridanta	Males	29.7	30.1	30.1	29.9
Residents	Females	27.2	27.9	28.1	28.2
Citicons	Males	29.7	30.1	30.0	29.8
Citizens	Females	27.0	27.7	28.0	28.1

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

	2007	2012	2016	2017
Total	8,086	9,263	8,581	8,436
Non-citizen brides	6,200	7,027	6,293	6,130
Asia	6,005	6,863	6,108	5,927
Non-Asia	195	164	185	203
of which:				
Americas*	27	17	39	45
Europe	38	65	68	74
Oceania*	19	23	29	30
Others	111	59	49	54
Non-citizen grooms	1,886	2,236	2,288	2,306
Asia	1,232	1,544	1,564	1,550
Non-Asia	654	692	724	756
of which:				
Americas*	112	112	119	119
Europe	300	361	388	409
Oceania*	118	138	101	99
Others	124	81	116	129

^{*&}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)

	2007	2012	2016	2017
Residents	29.7	30.4	30.7	30.7
Citizens	29.4	30.1	30.3	30.3

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	07	20	12	20	16	20	17
	30-39	40-49	30-39	40-49	30-39	40-49	30-39	40-49
Residents	1.50	2.07	1.42	1.94	1.45	1.84	1.44	1.84
Citizens	1.57	2.12	1.48	1.99	1.46	1.90	1.46	1.90

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 June (%)

	20	07	20	12	20	16	20	17
	30-39	40-49	30-39	40-49	30-39	40-49	30-39	40-49
Residents	19.7	7.7	22.0	10.0	20.3	11.4	21.4	11.0
Citizens	19.8	7.1	23.0	9.4	22.6	11.2	22.6	10.9

Table 16: Number of births¹⁶ by birth order and residency status

Birth Order	2007	2012	2016	2017
Total births	39,490	42,663	41,251	39,615
Resident births	37,074	38,641	36,875	35,444
First	17,005	18,569	17,070	16,352
Second	13,135	13,767	13,309	12,688
Third	4,878	4,568	4,539	4,380
Fourth	1,490	1,214	1,330	1,306
Fifth & over	566	523	627	718
Citizen births	32,361	33,238	33,167	32,356
First	14,700	15,764	15,337	14,814
Second	11,254	11,676	11,769	11,481
Third	4,439	4,136	4,172	4,102
Fourth	1,420	1,149	1,270	1,255
Fifth & over	548	513	619	704

Source: Immigration & Checkpoints Authority

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

	2007	2012	2016	2017
Overall	1.29	1.29	1.20	1.16
Chinese	1.14	1.18	1.07	1.01
Malays	1.94	1.69	1.80	1.82
Indians	1.25	1.15	1.04	1.00

¹⁶ 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: Profile of SCs and PRs granted in 2017

	New Permanent Residents	New Citizens
Total	31,849	22,076
By age group (%)		
Above 40 years	6.8	22.3
31-40 years	24.0	26.7
21-30 years	38.6	13.3
20 years and below	30.5	37.6
By highest qualification attain	ned among those age	d 20 & over (%)
Post-secondary	85.5	75.0
Secondary and below	14.5	25.0
By region of origin (%)		
Southeast Asian countries	60.1	65.7
Other Asian countries	31.8	28.6
Others	8.1	5.7

Source: Immigration & Checkpoints Authority

List of Relevant Publications

Singapore Department of Statistics
Population Trends 2018
Census of Population 2010
General Household Survey 2015
Statistics on Marriages & Divorces 2017
Monthly Digest of Statistics
Singapore in Figures 2018
Yearbook of Statistics 2018
Immigration & Checkpoints Authority
Report on Registration of Births & Deaths 2017
Singapore Demographic Bulletin
Ministry of Manpower
Statement on Labour Market Developments in 1H 2018
Manpower Statistics In Brief 2018

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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