



# Population Trends 2023

## **POPULATION TRENDS, 2023**

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# PREFACE

Population size, structure and changes have important implications for production, investment and consumption activities as well as community development, social networks and kinship ties. A good understanding of demographic forces and emerging trends is useful for policy makers, planners, businesses and the academia.

The Singapore Department of Statistics compiles, monitors and analyses Singapore's population statistics and indicators in detail. A report on **Population Trends** that puts together different aspects of demographic statistics is released annually. **Population Trends, 2023** is the nineteenth edition of the annual series.

The report comprises six chapters, namely, 'Population', 'Geographical Distribution', 'Households and Housing', 'Family Formation and Dissolution', 'Fertility' and 'Mortality'. Key definitions and concepts are explained in text boxes in each chapter. Users can also explore the data time series in our e-service SingStat Table Builder at <https://tablebuilder.singstat.gov.sg/>.

I would like to thank various government agencies for providing the necessary data for the compilation of indicators released in this report. My sincere appreciation is also extended to all others who have contributed to the successful completion of this report.

Koh Eng Chuan  
Chief Statistician  
Singapore

September 2023

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#### NOTATIONS

- n.a. not available  
p preliminary  
- nil or negligible

#### NOTES

The *Population Trends, 2023* contains statistics that are the most recently available at the time of its preparation.

Figures may not add up to the totals due to rounding.

## KEY DEMOGRAPHIC INDICATORS, 1970 – 2023

Population	1970	1980	1990	2000	2010	2020	2022	2023
<b>Total Population</b> <sup>1,2,3</sup> ('000)	2,074.5	2,413.9	3,047.1	4,027.9	5,076.7	5,685.8	5,637.0	5,917.6
<b>Resident Population</b> <sup>2,3</sup> ('000)	2,013.6	2,282.1	2,735.9	3,273.4	3,771.7	4,044.2	4,073.2	4,149.3
Singapore Citizens ('000)	1,874.8	2,194.3	2,623.7	2,985.9	3,230.7	3,523.2	3,553.7	3,610.7
Permanent Residents ('000)	138.8	87.8	112.1	287.5	541.0	521.0	519.5	538.6
<b>Population Density</b> <sup>4</sup> (Per sq km)	3,538	3,907	4,814	5,900	7,146	7,810	7,688	8,058
<b>Sex Ratio</b> <sup>5</sup> (Males per 1,000 females)	1,049	1,032	1,027	998	974	957	955	950
<b>Median Age</b> <sup>5</sup> (Years)	19.5	24.4	29.8	34.0	37.4	41.5	42.1	42.4
<b>Old-Age Support Ratio</b> <sup>5</sup> (Per person aged 65 years & over)								
Persons aged 15 – 64 years	17.0	13.8	11.8	9.9	8.2	4.6	4.1	4.0
Persons aged 20 – 64 years	13.5	11.3	10.5	9.0	7.4	4.3	3.8	3.7
<b>Proportion of Singles Among Residents</b>								
<b>Aged 30 – 34 Years</b> <sup>6</sup> (%)								
Males	21.5	21.3	34.0	30.7	37.1	41.9	41.1	n.a.
Females	9.6	16.6	20.9	19.5	25.1	32.8	31.8	n.a.
<b>Highest Qualification Attained of Residents</b>								
<b>Aged 25 Years &amp; Over</b> <sup>7</sup> (%)	n.a.	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	n.a.
Below Secondary	n.a.	83.1	63.3	45.3	34.5	25.5	20.9	n.a.
Secondary	n.a.	9.5	23.6	24.0	19.0	16.3	16.0	n.a.
Post-Secondary (Non-Tertiary)	n.a.		4.7	8.9	9.5	10.0	10.0	n.a.
Diploma & Professional Qualification	n.a.	4.7*	3.6	9.8	13.3	15.3	16.9	n.a.
University	n.a.	2.7	4.7	12.1	23.7	33.0	36.2	n.a.
<b>Mean Years of Schooling Among Residents</b>								
<b>Aged 25 Years &amp; Over</b> <sup>7</sup> (Years)	n.a.	4.7	6.6	8.6	10.1	11.3	11.7	n.a.
Males	n.a.	5.6	7.3	9.2	10.6	11.7	12.1	n.a.
Females	n.a.	3.7	5.9	8.1	9.7	10.9	11.3	n.a.
<b>Households &amp; Housing</b>	<b>1970</b>	<b>1980</b>	<b>1990</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>
<b>Resident Households</b> <sup>8</sup> ('000)	380.5	472.7	661.7	915.1	1,145.9	1,372.6	1,390.6	1,399.6
<b>Average Household Size</b> <sup>8</sup> (Persons)	5.35	4.87	4.25	3.70	3.50	3.22	3.15	3.09
<b>Owner-Occupied Households</b> <sup>8</sup> (%)	29.4	58.8	87.5	92.0	87.2	87.9	88.9	89.3
<b>Type of Dwelling</b> <sup>8,9</sup> (%)	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
HDB Flats <sup>10</sup>	30.9	67.8	85.0	88.0	82.4	78.7	78.3	77.9
Condominiums & Other Apartments	4.8	3.9	4.7	6.5	11.5	16.0	16.5	17.0
Landed Properties	14.1	8.5	7.0	5.1	5.7	5.0	4.9	4.9

\* Data refer to Post-Secondary (Non-Tertiary) and Diploma & Professional Qualification.

Notes:

- 1) Total population comprises Singapore residents (i.e. Singapore citizens and permanent residents) and non-residents.
- 2) Data for 1970 and 1980 are based on *de facto* concept (i.e. the person is present in the country when enumerated at the reference period). Data from 1990 onwards are based on *de jure* concept (i.e. the person's place of usual residence).
- 3) Data from 2003 onwards exclude residents who have been away from Singapore for a continuous period of 12 months or longer as at the reference period.
- 4) Prior to 2003, data are based on Singapore's land area as at end-December. From 2003 onwards, data are based on Singapore's land area as at end-June.
- 5) Data refer to resident population.
- 6) Data refer to resident population, except for 1970 which refer to total population.
- 7) Data pertain to residents who were not attending educational institutions as full-time students and include those who were upgrading their qualifications through part-time courses.
- 8) Data refer to resident households (i.e. households where the household reference person is a Singapore citizen or permanent resident), except for 1970 which refer to private households.
- 9) Data include other types of dwelling (e.g. non-HDB shophouses).
- 10) Data for years prior 2018 include non-privatised Housing and Urban Development Company (HUDC) flats.

## KEY DEMOGRAPHIC INDICATORS, 1970 – 2022 (cont'd)

Family Formation and Dissolution <sup>11</sup>	1970	1980	1990	2000	2010	2020	2021	2022
<b>Total Marriages<sup>12</sup></b>	14,572	22,444	23,953	22,561	24,363	22,651	28,329	29,389
<b>General Marriage Rate<sup>13</sup></b>								
Males (Per 1,000 unmarried resident males aged 15-49 years)	51.3	54.9	52.2	47.4	39.3	35.7	45.3	47.0
Females (Per 1,000 unmarried resident females aged 15-49 years)	65.3	67.3	59.2	46.8	35.3	34.9	44.2	45.5
<b>Median Age at First Marriage (Years)</b>								
Grooms	26.9	26.7	28.0	28.7	30.0	30.4	30.5	30.7
Brides	23.1	23.6	25.3	26.2	27.7	28.8	29.1	29.3
<b>Total Divorces &amp; Annulments</b>	n.a.	1,721	3,634	5,137	7,338	6,959	7,890	7,107
<b>General Divorce Rate<sup>14</sup></b>								
Males (Per 1,000 married resident males aged 20 years & over)	n.a.	3.7	6.1	6.5	7.5	6.3	7.2	6.2
Females (Per 1,000 married resident females aged 20 years & over)	n.a.	3.8	6.1	6.5	7.2	6.1	6.9	5.9
Fertility <sup>11</sup>	1970	1980	1990	2000	2010	2020	2021	2022
<b>Total Live-Births</b>	45,934	41,217	51,142	46,997	37,967	38,590	38,672	35,605
<b>Resident Live-Births</b>	n.a.	40,100	49,787	44,765	35,129	34,233	34,183	32,290
<b>Crude Birth Rate<sup>6</sup></b> (Per 1,000 residents)	22.1	17.6	18.2	13.7	9.3	8.5	8.6	7.9
<b>Total Fertility Rate<sup>6</sup></b> (Per female)	3.07	1.82	1.83	1.60	1.15	1.10	1.12	1.04
<b>Gross Reproduction Rate<sup>6</sup></b> (Per female)	1.49	0.88	0.88	0.77	0.56	0.53	0.54	0.50
<b>Net Reproduction Rate<sup>6</sup></b> (Per female)	1.42	0.86	0.87	0.76	0.55	0.53	0.54	0.50
Mortality <sup>11</sup>	1970	1980	1990	2000	2010	2020	2021	2022
<b>Total Deaths</b>	10,717	12,505	13,891	15,693	17,610	22,054	24,292	26,891
<b>Resident Deaths</b>	n.a.	11,205	12,932	14,715	16,476	20,985	23,270	25,586
<b>Crude Death Rate<sup>6</sup></b> (Per 1,000 residents)	5.2	4.9	4.7	4.5	4.4	5.2	5.8	6.3
<b>Age-Standardised Death Rate<sup>6,15</sup></b> (Per 1,000 residents)	15.5	13.0	10.5	8.8	6.5	5.2	5.6	5.9
<b>Infant Mortality Rate<sup>6</sup></b> (Per 1,000 resident live-births)	20.5	8.0	6.6	2.5	2.0	1.8	1.8	1.8
<b>Life Expectancy at Birth<sup>6,16</sup></b> (Years)								
Males	65.8	72.1	75.3	78.0	81.7	83.7	83.2	83.0
Females	64.1	69.8	73.1	76.0	79.2	81.3	80.8	80.7
	67.8	74.7	77.6	80.0	84.0	85.9	85.5	85.2

Notes (cont'd):

11) Data for 2023 are not available.

12) Total marriages comprise civil marriages registered under the Women's Charter and Muslim marriages registered under the Administration of Muslim Law Act. Data exclude civil marriages which were contracted overseas or under religious and customary rites, and were subsequently registered in Singapore in the reference year.

13) Data are based on resident grooms/brides and resident population, except for 1970 and 1980 which are based on total grooms/brides and total population.

14) Data are based on divorces and annulments. From 2004 onwards, data are based on divorces and annulments where the male/female spouses are residents (i.e. Singapore citizens and permanent residents).

15) The Singapore resident population as at June 2020 is used as the standard population to fix the age structure and eliminate its effect on mortality trends.

16) Data for the latest available year is preliminary.

# Population Trends

# Chapter 1 Population

## Population Size and Growth

Singapore's total population stood at 5.92 million as at end-June 2023 (Table 1.1), a 5.0 per cent increase from end-June 2022. Taking into account the decline in total population in 2020 and 2021 due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the average annual growth rate of the total population over the past five years between 2018 and 2023 (1.0 per cent) was comparable to the preceding five-year period (0.9 per cent).

The resident population grew by 1.9 per cent from 2022 to 4.15 million as at end-June 2023. Within the resident population, citizens grew by 1.6 per cent to 3.61 million while permanent residents grew by 3.7 per cent to 0.54 million. With the easing of travel restrictions related to COVID-19, more citizens and PRs who previously remained overseas continuously for 12 months or more returned to Singapore, and this was the largest contributing factor to the increase in the resident population. As at end-June 2023, the non-resident population stood at 1.77 million, an increase of 13.1 per cent from end-June 2022.

**Table 1.1 Singapore Population Size and Growth by Residential Status**

Year	Number ('000)					Annual Growth <sup>1</sup> (%)				
	Total Population	Singapore Residents			Non-Residents	Total Population	Singapore Residents			Non-Residents
		Total	Citizens	PRs			Total	Citizens	PRs	
2000	4,027.9	3,273.4	2,985.9	287.5	754.5	2.8	1.8	1.3	9.9	9.3
2010	5,076.7	3,771.7	3,230.7	541.0	1,305.0	1.8	1.0	0.9	1.5	4.1
2013	5,399.2	3,844.8	3,313.5	531.2	1,554.4	1.6	0.7	0.9	-0.3	4.0
2018	5,638.7	3,994.3	3,471.9	522.3	1,644.4	0.5	0.7	1.0	-0.8	-0.1
2019	5,703.6	4,026.2	3,500.9	525.3	1,677.4	1.2	0.8	0.8	0.6	2.0
2020	5,685.8	4,044.2	3,523.2	521.0	1,641.6	-0.3	0.4	0.6	-0.8	-2.1
2021	5,453.6	3,986.8	3,498.2	488.7	1,466.7	-4.1	-1.4	-0.7	-6.2	-10.7
2022	5,637.0	4,073.2	3,553.7	519.5	1,563.8	3.4	2.2	1.6	6.3	6.6
2023	5,917.6	4,149.3	3,610.7	538.6	1,768.4	5.0	1.9	1.6	3.7	13.1

Note: Data from 2003 onwards exclude residents who have been away from Singapore for a continuous period of 12 months or longer as at the reference period.

<sup>1</sup> For 2000, growth rate refers to the annualised change over the last ten years. From 2010 onwards, growth rate refers to the change over the previous year.

### Population

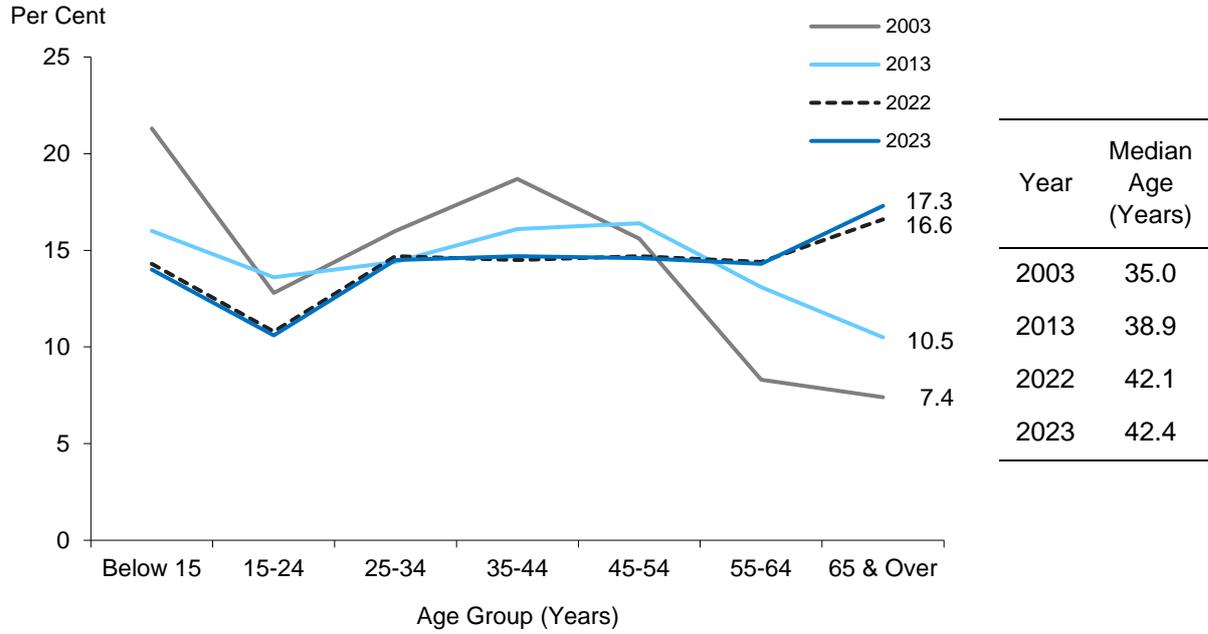
Total population comprises Singapore residents and non-residents. Resident population comprises Singapore citizens and permanent residents. Non-resident population comprises foreigners who are working, studying or living in Singapore but not granted permanent residence, excluding tourists and short-term visitors.

Singapore's population estimates are compiled using the register-based approach since the *Census of Population 2000*. The basic count and profile of the population are based on a person's place of usual residence i.e. *de jure* concept.

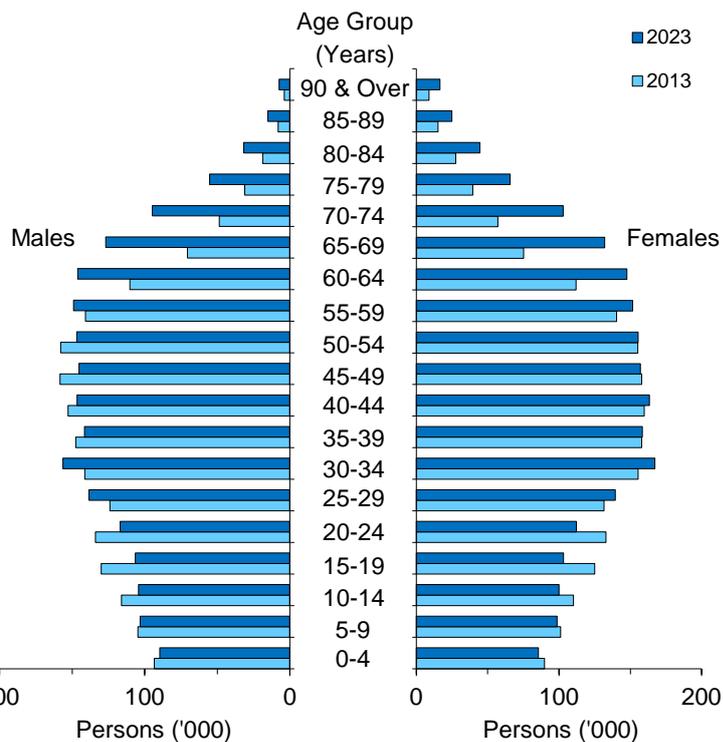
## Age Structure

Singapore's resident population continued to age. The median age of the resident population rose to 42.4 years as at end-June 2023 from 42.1 years in the previous year (Chart 1.1). The proportion of residents aged 65 years and over rose to 17.3 per cent from 16.6 per cent over the same period.

**Chart 1.1 Age Distribution of Resident Population**



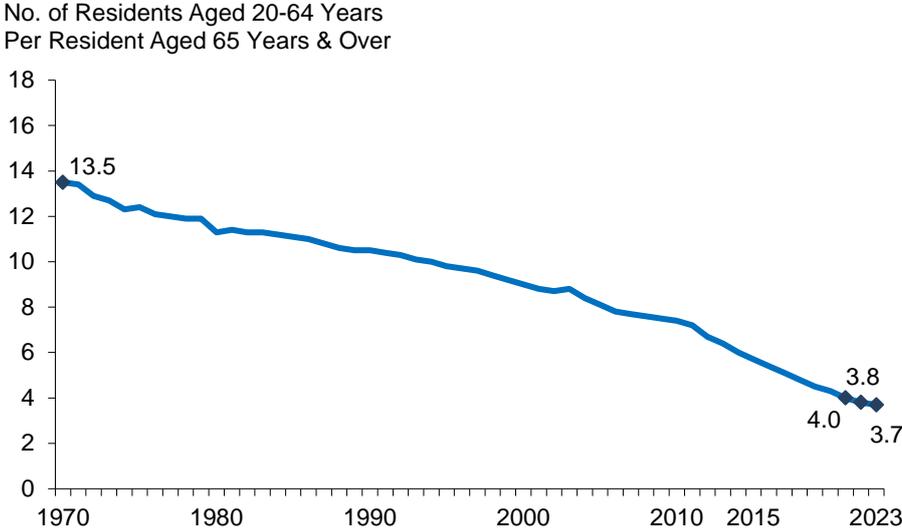
**Chart 1.2 Age Pyramid of Resident Population**



### Old-Age Support Ratio

The resident old-age support ratio, which refers to the number of residents aged 20-64 years per resident aged 65 years and over, declined further to 3.7 as at end-June 2023 (Chart 1.3).

**Chart 1.3 Resident Old-Age Support Ratio**

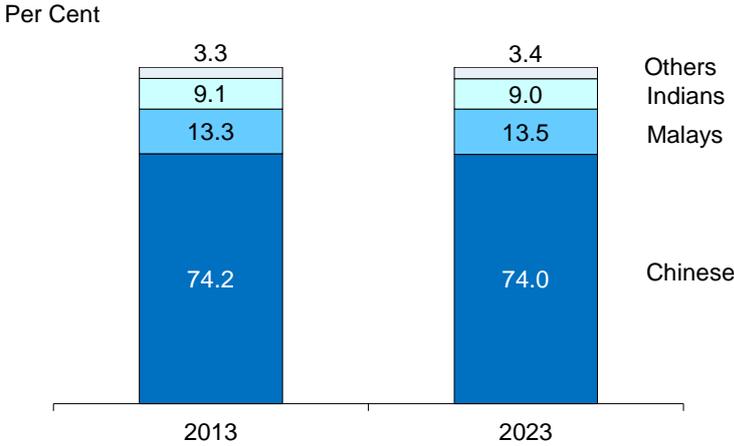


Note: For 1971-1979, data refer to total population.

### Ethnic Composition

The ethnic composition of the resident population remained stable. As at end-June 2023, the resident population comprised 74.0 per cent Chinese, 13.5 per cent Malays, 9.0 per cent Indians, and 3.4 per cent Others (Chart 1.4).

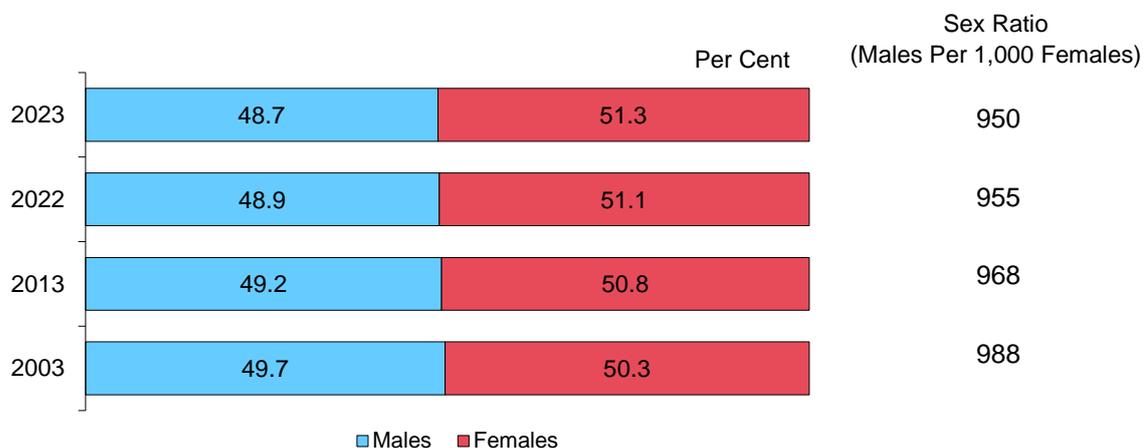
**Chart 1.4 Ethnic Composition of Resident Population**



## Sex Composition

Among the resident population, the number of females continued to be higher than the number of males. As at end-June 2023, the sex ratio was 950 males per 1,000 females (Chart 1.5).

**Chart 1.5 Sex Composition of Resident Population**

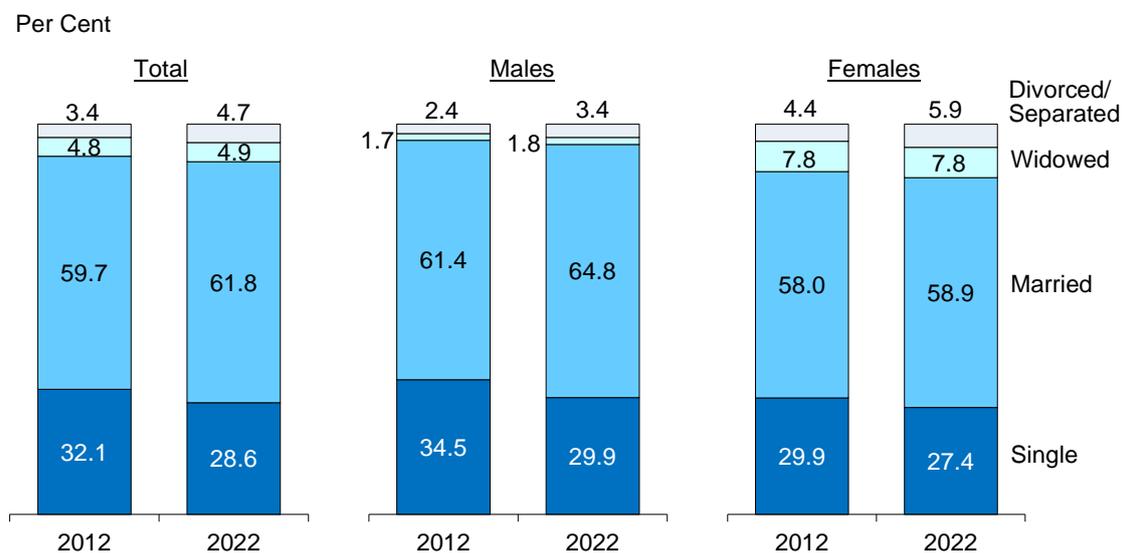


## Marital Status

Among the resident population aged 15 years and over, married persons formed the largest group at 61.8 per cent in 2022, an increase from 59.7 per cent in 2012 (Chart 1.6). This was followed by single (or never married) persons at 28.6 per cent, a decline from 32.1 per cent a decade ago. Those who were widowed and divorced or separated accounted for 4.9 per cent and 4.7 per cent respectively in 2022, compared to 4.8 per cent and 3.4 per cent in 2012.

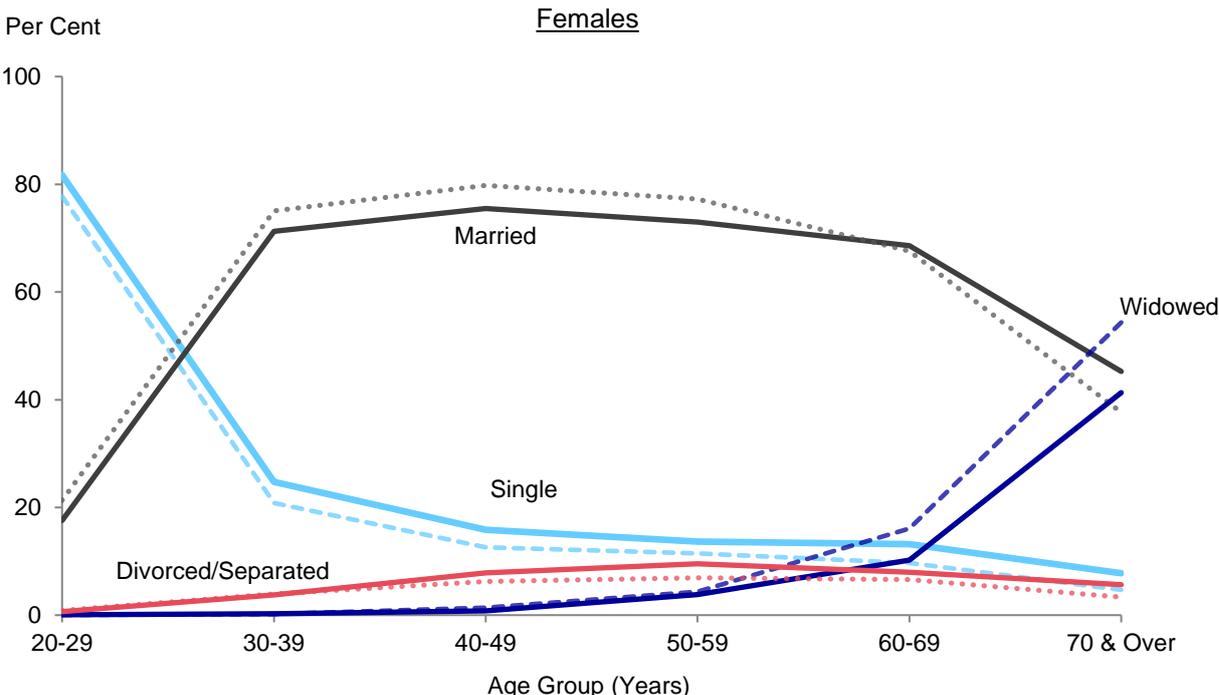
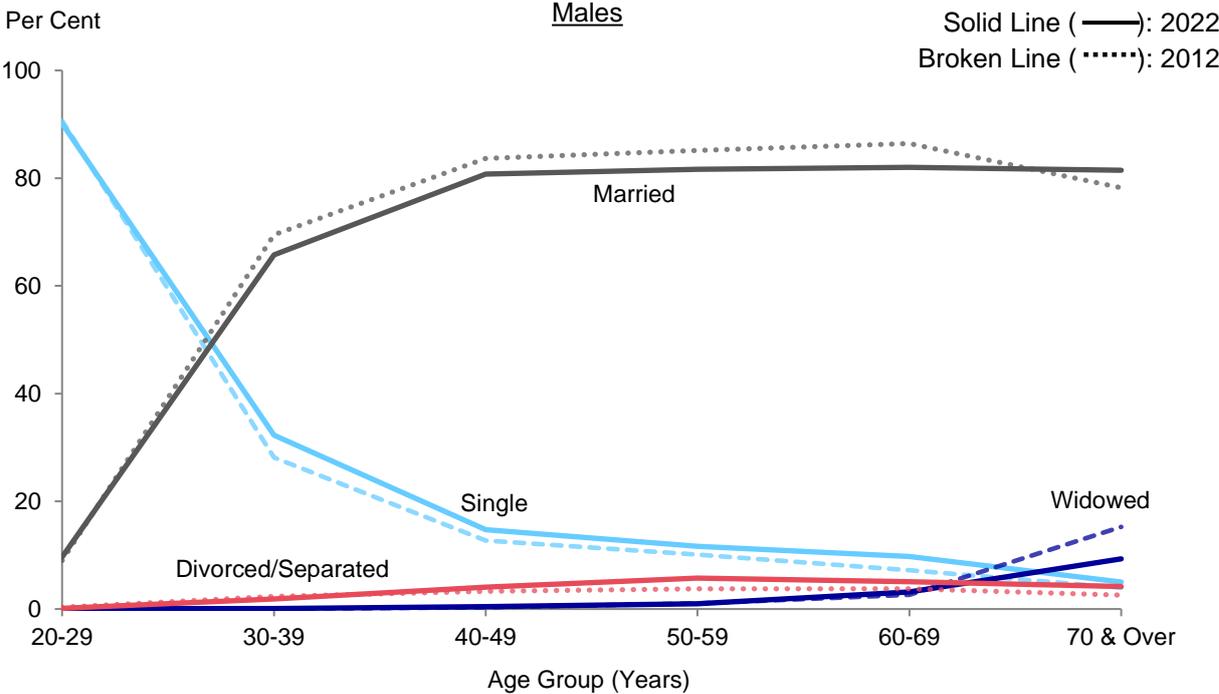
The proportion of widowed residents continued to be higher among females than males, due in part to the longer life expectancy of females.

**Chart 1.6 Marital Status of Resident Population Aged 15 Years and Over by Sex**



The marital distribution among the resident population varied across age groups. The majority of residents in the younger age group of 20-29 years were single, while those aged 30 years and over were predominantly married (Chart 1.7). As more residents live past the age of 70 with improved life expectancy in 2022 compared to a decade ago, the proportion of widowed residents among those aged 70 years and over declined over the same period.

**Chart 1.7 Distribution of Marital Status Among Resident Population by Selected Age Group and Sex**



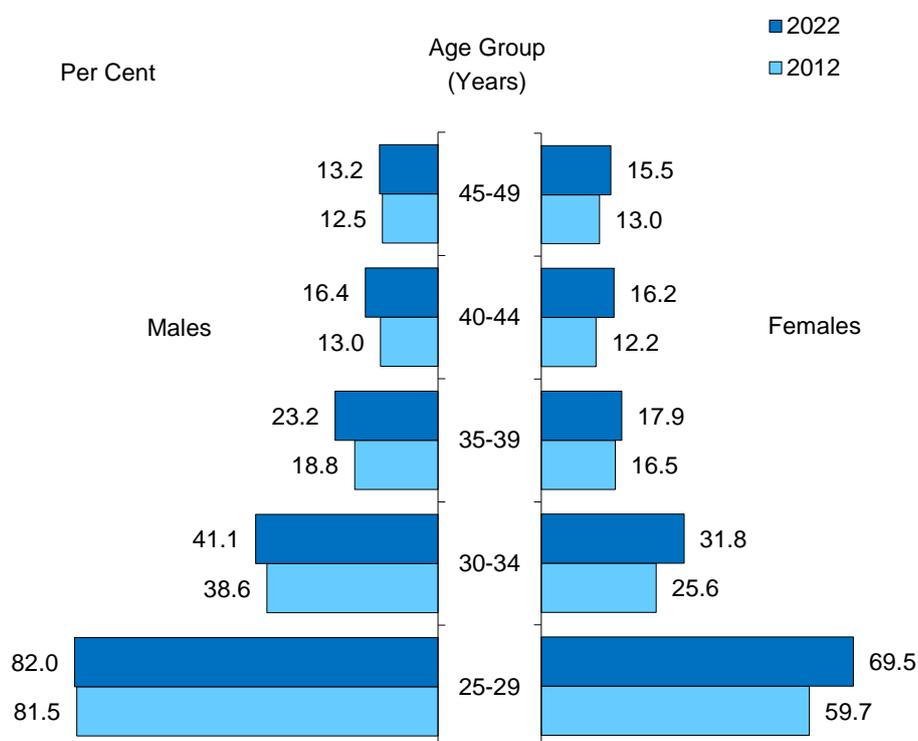
## Proportion of Singles

Among the resident population aged 25-49 years, the proportion of singles rose across all male and female age groups between 2012 and 2022.

The largest increase was observed among females aged 25-34 years (Chart 1.8), where the proportion of singles rose from 59.7 per cent to 69.5 per cent among females aged 25-29 years, and from 25.6 per cent to 31.8 per cent among females aged 30-34 years over the last decade.

For males, the proportion of singles increased the most among those aged 35-44 years. It rose from 18.8 per cent to 23.2 per cent among males aged 35-39 years, and from 13.0 per cent to 16.4 per cent among males aged 40-44 years between 2012 and 2022.

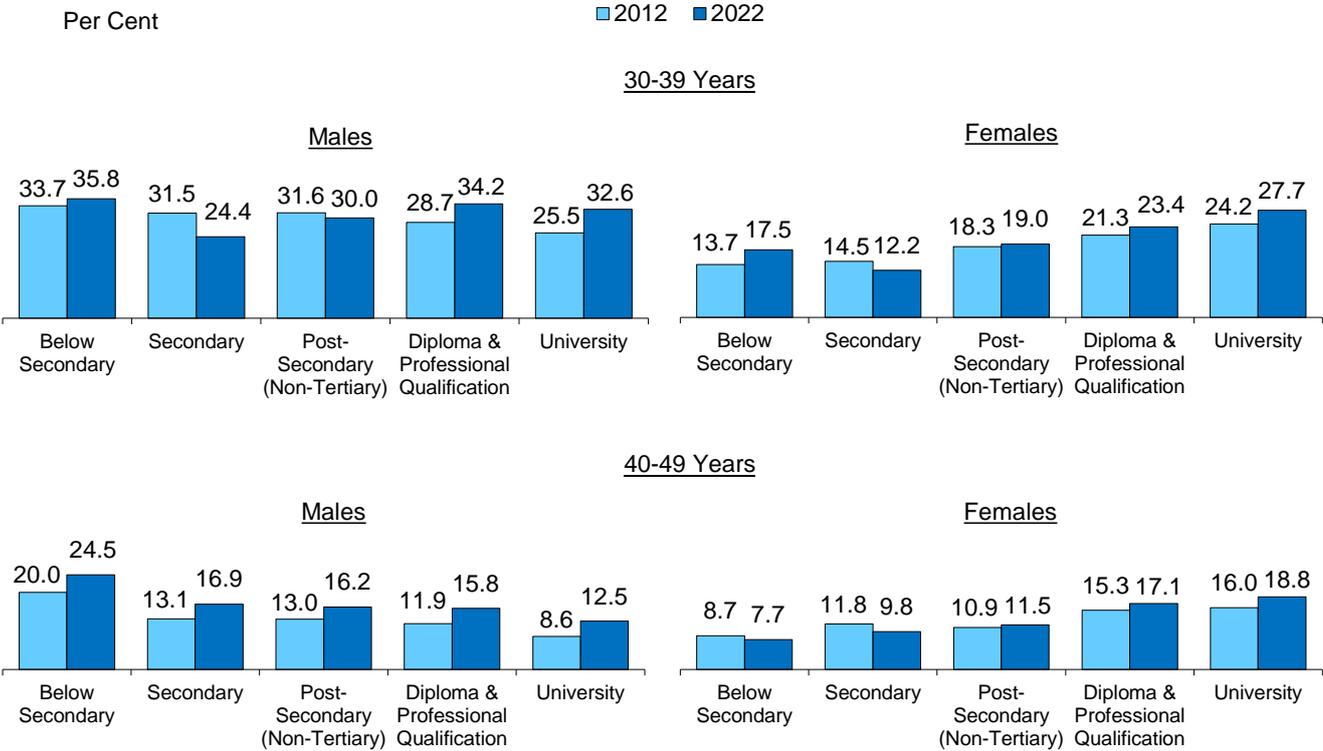
**Chart 1.8 Proportion of Singles Among Resident Population by Selected Age Group and Sex**



Singlehood was more prevalent among males aged 40-49 years with lower educational qualifications. In 2022, 24.5 per cent of resident males aged 40-49 years with below secondary qualification were single, higher than the 12.5 per cent among those with university qualification (Chart 1.9).

In contrast, there were proportionally more females with higher educational qualifications who were single. The proportion of singles among resident females aged 40-49 years with university qualification was 18.8 per cent in 2022, higher than the 7.7 per cent among those with below secondary qualification.

**Chart 1.9 Proportion of Singles Among Resident Population by Selected Age Group, Sex and Highest Qualification Attained**

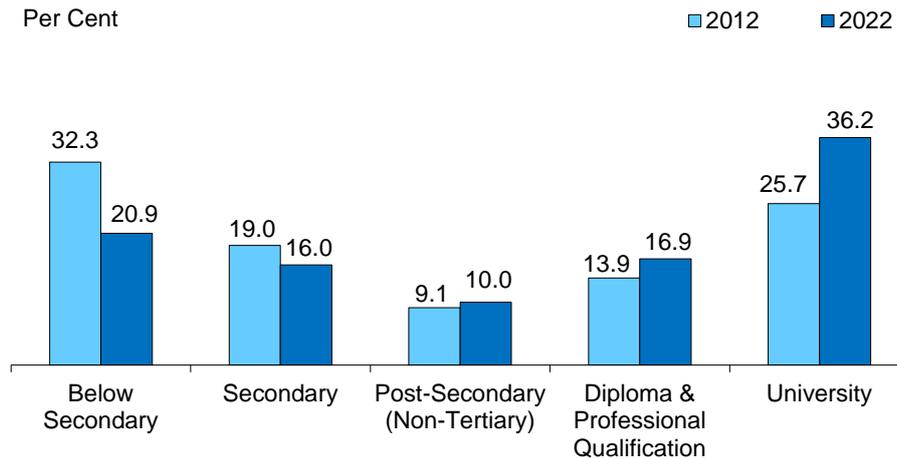


Note: Data pertain to residents who were not attending educational institutions as full-time students and include those who were upgrading their qualifications through part-time courses.

## Education Profile<sup>3</sup>

Among residents aged 25 years and over, the proportion of those with post-secondary or higher qualifications rose from 48.7 per cent in 2012 to 63.1 per cent in 2022 (Chart 1.10). This was mainly due to the increase in university graduates, from 25.7 per cent to 36.2 per cent over the decade.

**Chart 1.10 Highest Qualification Attained of Resident Population Aged 25 Years and Over**



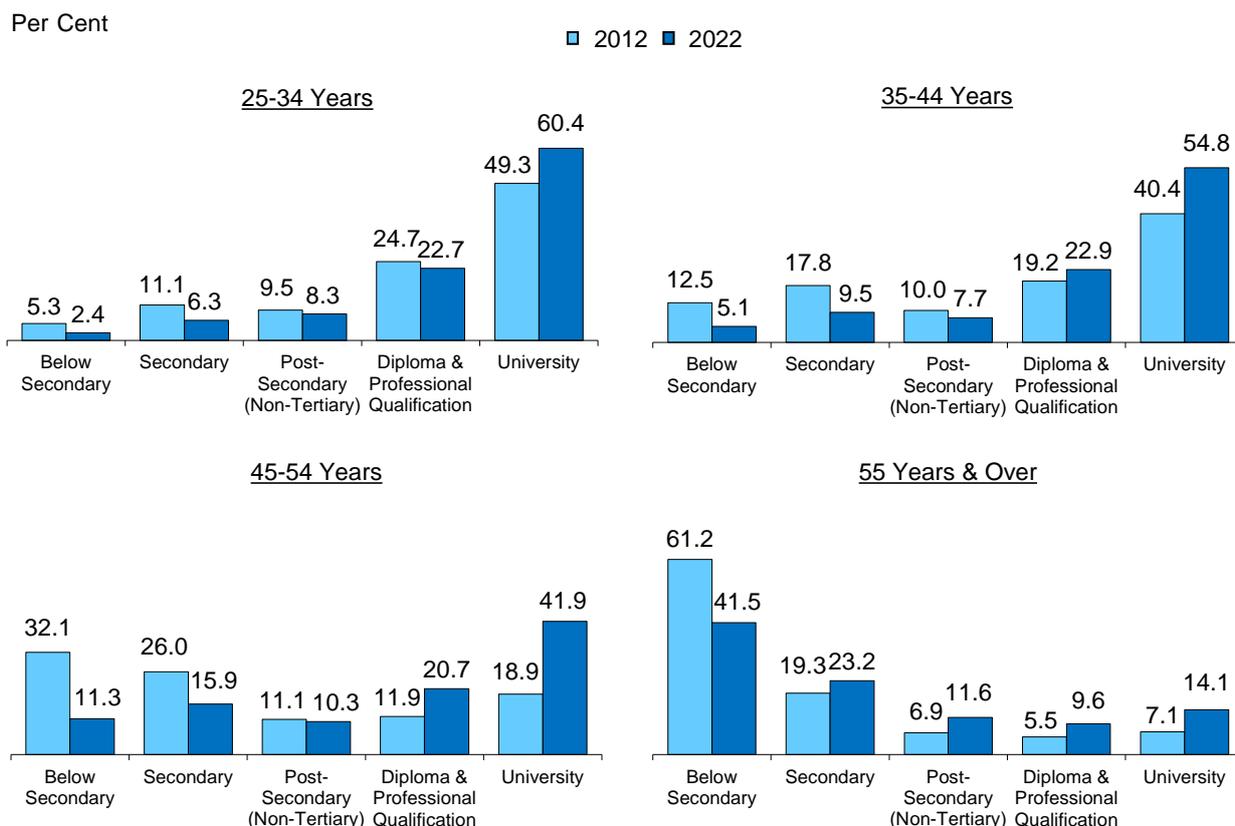
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<sup>3</sup> Data pertain to residents who were not attending educational institutions as full-time students and include those who were upgrading their qualifications through part-time courses.

The proportion of residents with university qualifications increased between 2012 and 2022 across all age groups (Chart 1.11). The largest increase of 23.0 percentage-points was observed among residents aged 45-54 years, from 18.9 per cent to 41.9 per cent.

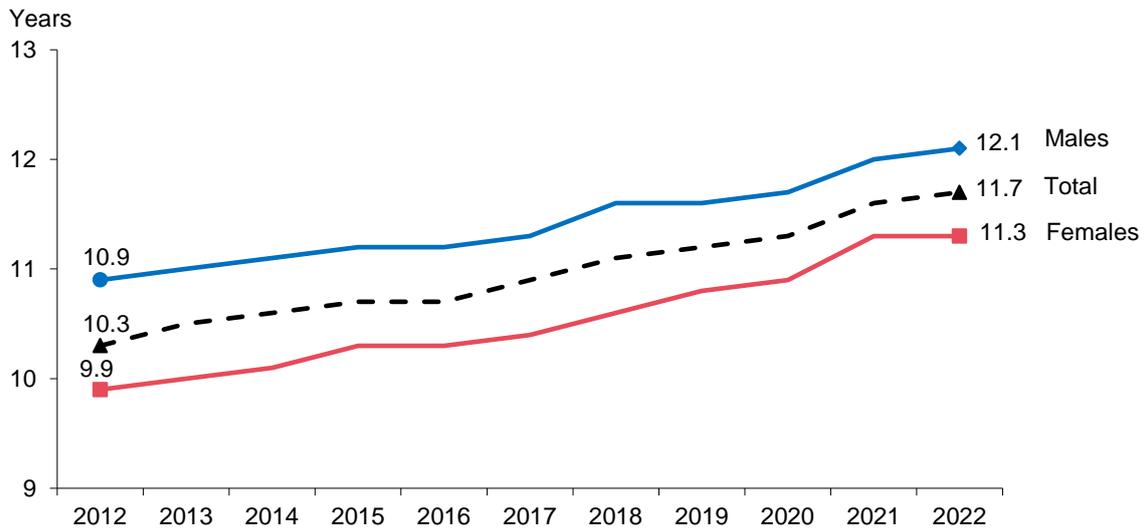
Among residents aged 25-34 years, university graduates formed the majority at 60.4 per cent in 2022, an increase from 49.3 per cent in 2012. Conversely, the proportions of those with below university qualifications fell, especially those with secondary and below secondary qualifications.

**Chart 1.11 Highest Qualification Attained of Resident Population Aged 25 Years and Over by Age Group**



With a larger proportion of residents attaining higher qualifications, the average number of years of schooling among residents rose from 10.3 years in 2012 to 11.7 years in 2022 (Chart 1.12). The gap between the males and females narrowed from 1.0 years to 0.8 years over the same period.

**Chart 1.12 Mean Years of Schooling Among Resident Population Aged 25 Years and Over by Sex**

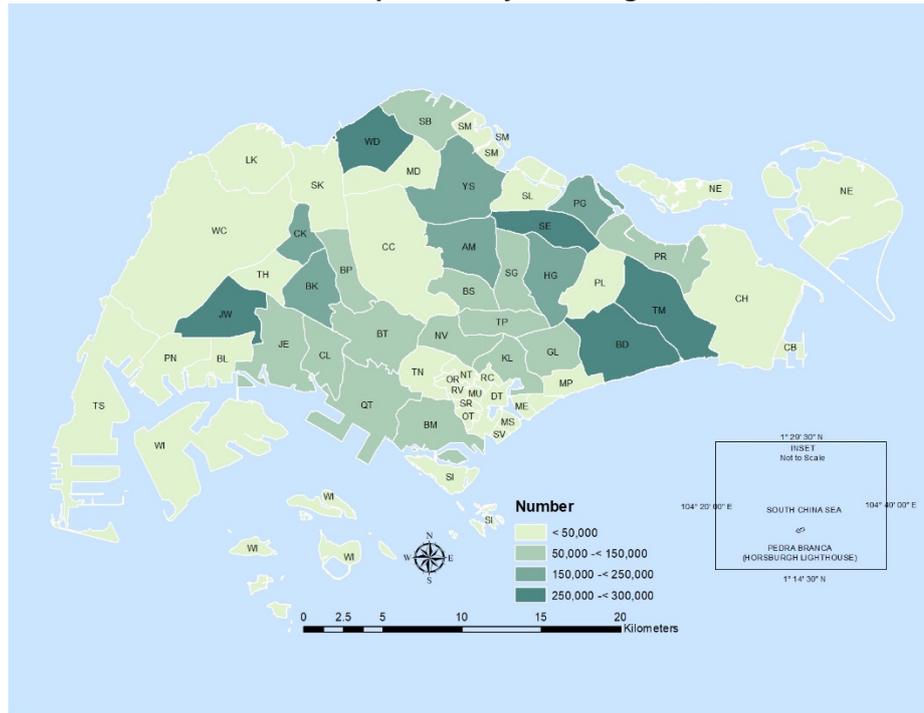


## Chapter 2 Geographical Distribution

### Resident Population

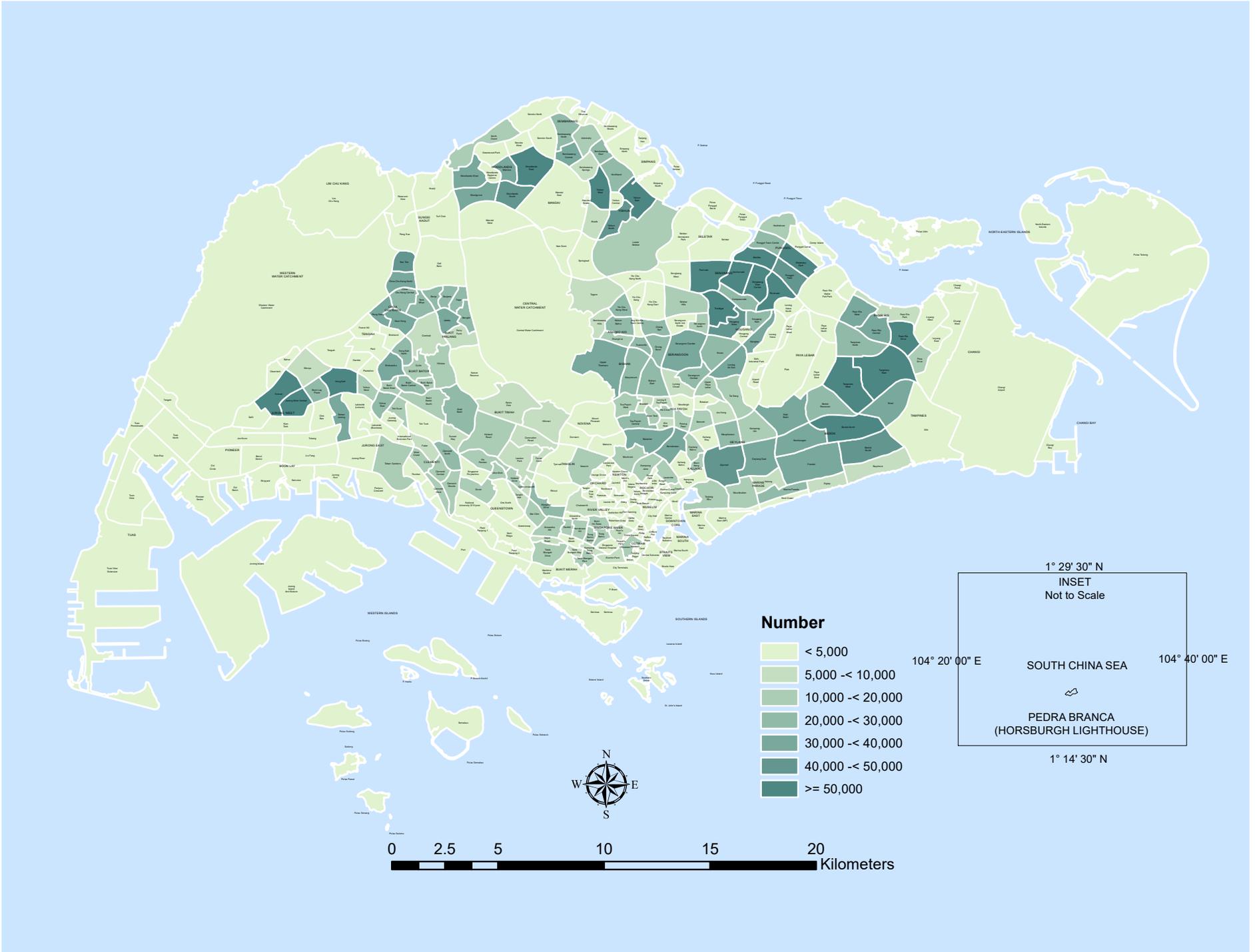
As at end-June 2023, more than half (52.3 per cent) of the 4.15 million residents in Singapore resided in nine out of fifty-five planning areas<sup>4</sup>. There were five planning areas with more than 250,000 residents each, namely Bedok, Tampines, Jurong West, Sengkang and Woodlands (Chart 2.1). Bedok was the most populous with close to 280,000 residents.

Chart 2.1 Resident Population by Planning Area, June 2023



<sup>4</sup> Planning areas refer to areas demarcated in the Urban Redevelopment Authority's Master Plan 2019.

Chart 2.2 Resident Population by Subzone, June 2023

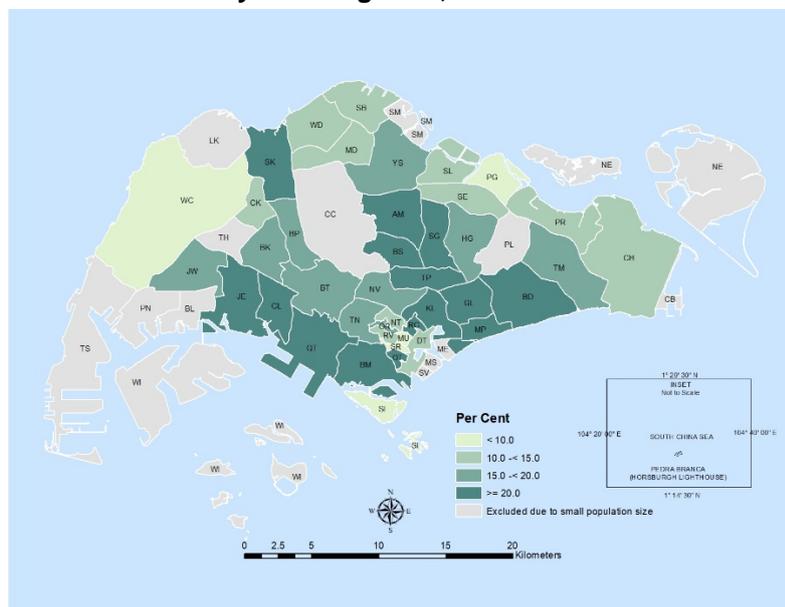


## Age Profile

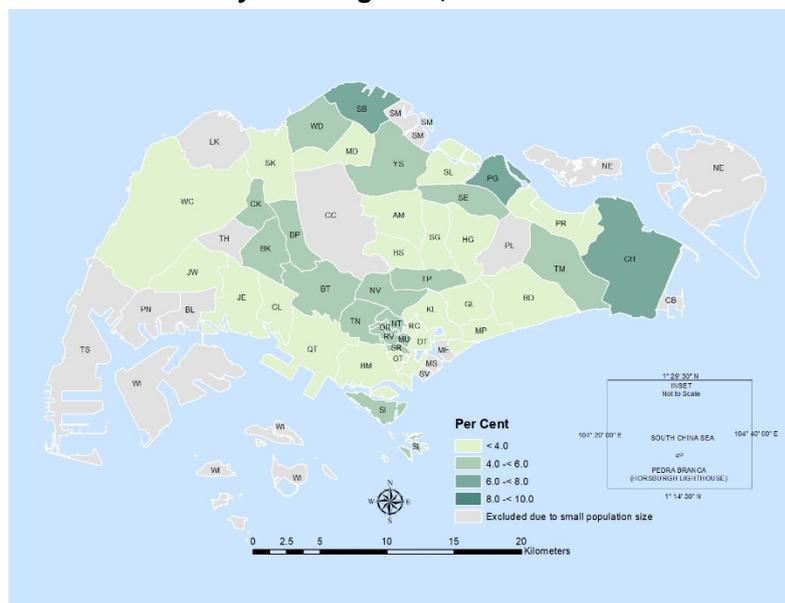
In 2023, Outram, Ang Mo Kio, Bukit Merah, Rochor and Kallang were some of the planning areas which had higher proportions of residents aged 65 years and over than other planning areas (Chart 2.3). For each of these areas, at least one in five residents were aged 65 years and above.

In comparison, planning areas with newer housing estates had a higher proportion of children aged below 5 years than older planning areas. In 2023, Punggol had the highest proportion of children aged below 5 years, at 6.9 per cent of the resident population in the planning area (Chart 2.4).

**Chart 2.3 Proportion of Resident Population Aged 65 Years and Over by Planning Area, June 2023**



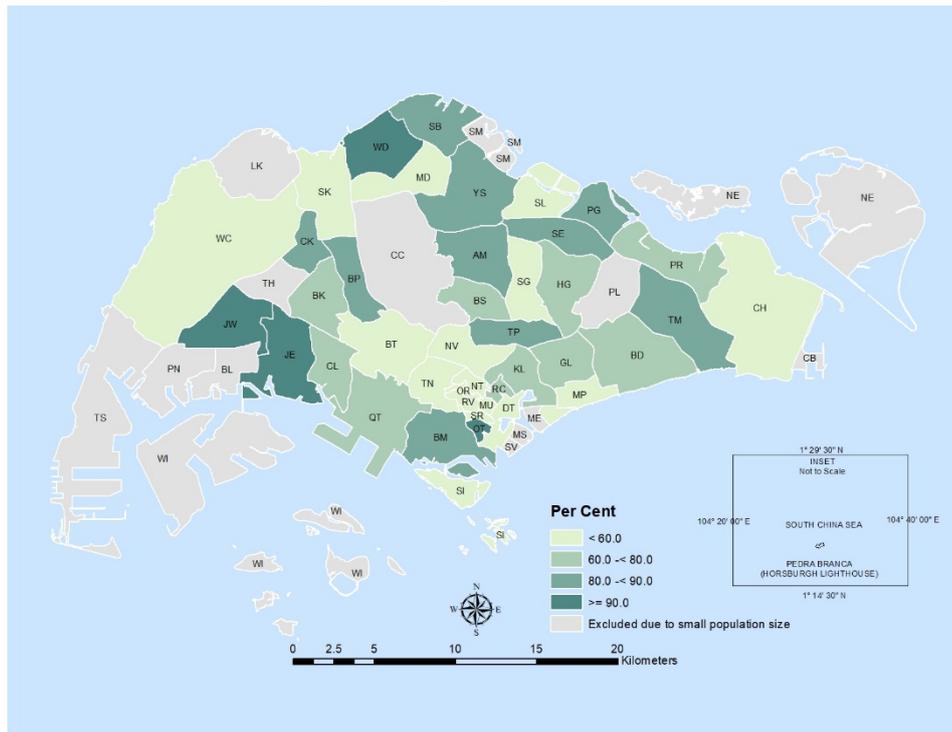
**Chart 2.4 Proportion of Resident Population Aged Below 5 Years by Planning Area, June 2023**



## Type of Dwelling

An estimated 3.18 million residents, or more than three in four residents, resided in Housing Development Board (HDB) flats in 2023 (Chart 2.5). There were four planning areas where more than 90 per cent of residents were staying in HDB flats. Woodlands ranked first amongst planning areas with the highest proportion of HDB dwellers, followed by Outram.

**Chart 2.5 Proportion of Resident Population Staying in HDB Flats by Planning Area, June 2023**

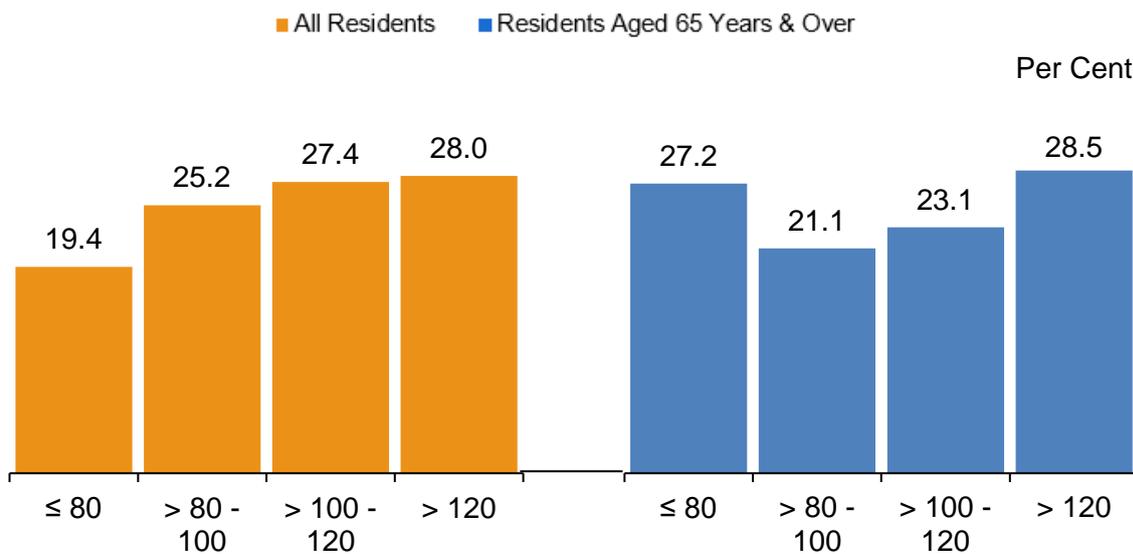


## Floor Area

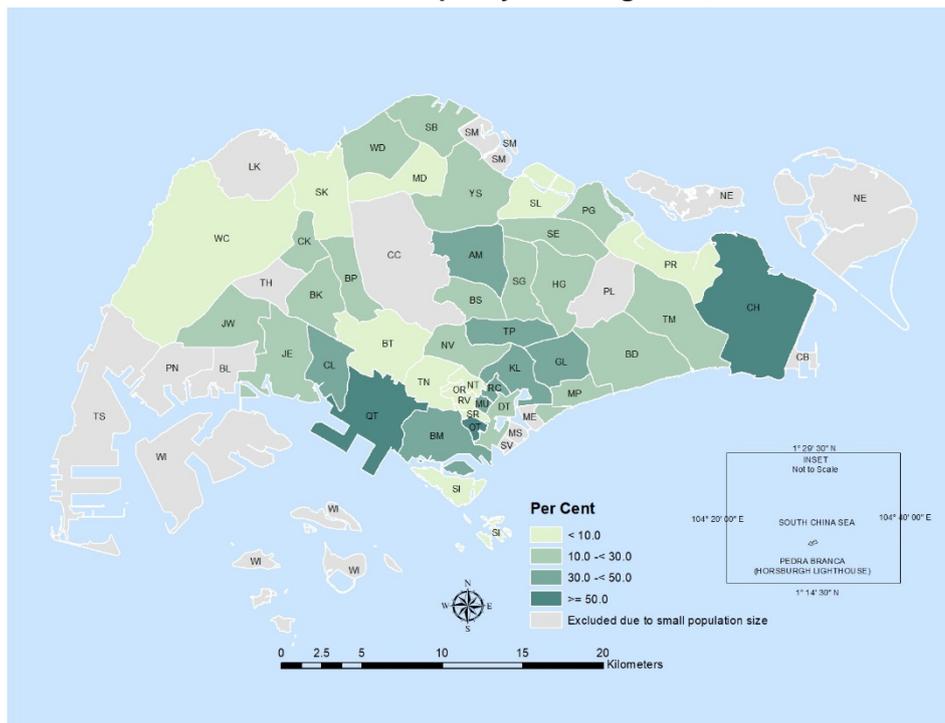
In 2023, proportionately more seniors aged 65 years and over (27.2 per cent) lived in smaller residential dwelling units with floor areas of 80 sq m or less, compared to the overall resident population (19.4 per cent) (Chart 2.6).

By planning area, Outram and Queenstown were some of the planning areas which had at least 50 per cent of residents aged 65 years and above staying in residential dwelling units with floor areas of 80 sq m or less (Chart 2.7).

**Chart 2.6 Proportion of Resident Population by Floor Area of Residence (sq m), 2023**



**Chart 2.7 Proportion of Residents Aged 65 Years & Over Staying in Residential Dwelling Units of Floor Area ≤80 sq m by Planning Area, June 2023**



Note:

Published maps are based on Urban Redevelopment Authority's Master Plan 2019 planning area boundaries and Singapore Land Authority's 2023 Singapore island profile. The Master Plan 2019 is a forward looking guiding plan for Singapore's development in the medium term over the next 10 to 15 years and the planning boundaries may not coincide with existing developments for some areas.

**Codes for Planning Area**

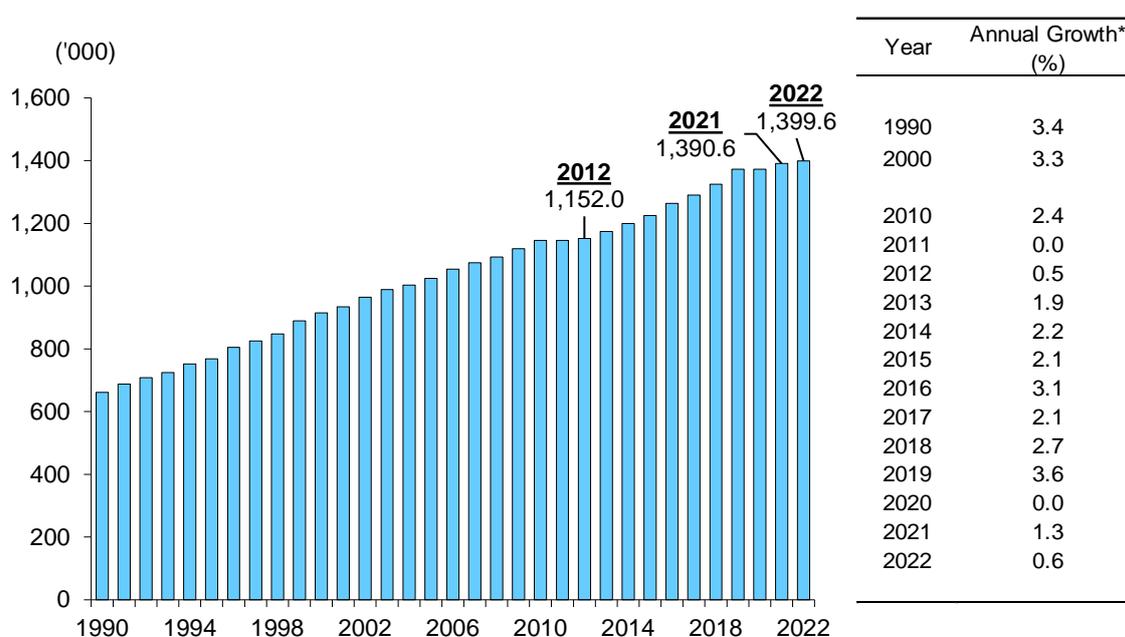
<b>AM</b>	Ang Mo Kio	<b>GL</b>	Geylang	<b>OR</b>	Orchard	<b>SL</b>	Seletar
<b>BD</b>	Bedok	<b>HG</b>	Hougang	<b>OT</b>	Outram	<b>SM</b>	Simpang
<b>BK</b>	Bukit Batok	<b>JE</b>	Jurong East	<b>PG</b>	Punggol	<b>SR</b>	Singapore River
<b>BL</b>	Boon Lay	<b>JW</b>	Jurong West	<b>PL</b>	Paya Lebar	<b>SV</b>	Straits View
<b>BM</b>	Bukit Merah	<b>KL</b>	Kallang	<b>PN</b>	Pioneer	<b>TH</b>	Tengah
<b>BP</b>	Bukit Panjang	<b>LK</b>	Lim Chu Kang	<b>PR</b>	Pasir Ris	<b>TM</b>	Tampines
<b>BS</b>	Bishan	<b>MD</b>	Mandai	<b>QT</b>	Queenstown	<b>TN</b>	Tanglin
<b>BT</b>	Bukit Timah	<b>ME</b>	Marina East	<b>RC</b>	Rochor	<b>TP</b>	Toa Payoh
<b>CB</b>	Changi Bay	<b>MP</b>	Marine Parade	<b>RV</b>	River Valley	<b>TS</b>	Tuas
<b>CC</b>	Central Water Catchment	<b>MS</b>	Marina South	<b>SB</b>	Sembawang	<b>WC</b>	Western Water Catchment
<b>CH</b>	Changi	<b>MU</b>	Museum	<b>SE</b>	Sengkang	<b>WD</b>	Woodlands
<b>CK</b>	Choa Chu Kang	<b>NE</b>	North-Eastern Islands	<b>SG</b>	Serangoon	<b>WI</b>	Western Islands
<b>CL</b>	Clementi	<b>NT</b>	Newton	<b>SI</b>	Southern Islands	<b>YS</b>	Yishun
<b>DT</b>	Downtown Core	<b>NV</b>	Novena	<b>SK</b>	Sungei Kadut		

## Chapter 3 Households and Housing

### Resident Households

The number of resident households increased by 0.6 per cent to 1.40 million in 2022, from 1.39 million in 2021 (Chart 3.1).

Chart 3.1 Resident Households



\* For 1990 and 2000, growth rates refer to the annualised change over the last ten years. From 2010 onwards, growth rate refers to the change over the previous year.

#### Household

A household refers to (i) a group of two or more persons living together in the same house and sharing common food or other essential arrangements for living; or (ii) a person living alone or a person living with others but having his own food or other essential arrangements for living. Although persons may be living in the same house, they may not be members of the same household.

A resident household refers to a household where the household reference person is a Singapore citizen or permanent resident.

The household reference person may refer to the oldest member, the main income earner, the owner-occupier of the house, the person who manages the affairs of the household, or the person who supplied the information pertaining to other members.

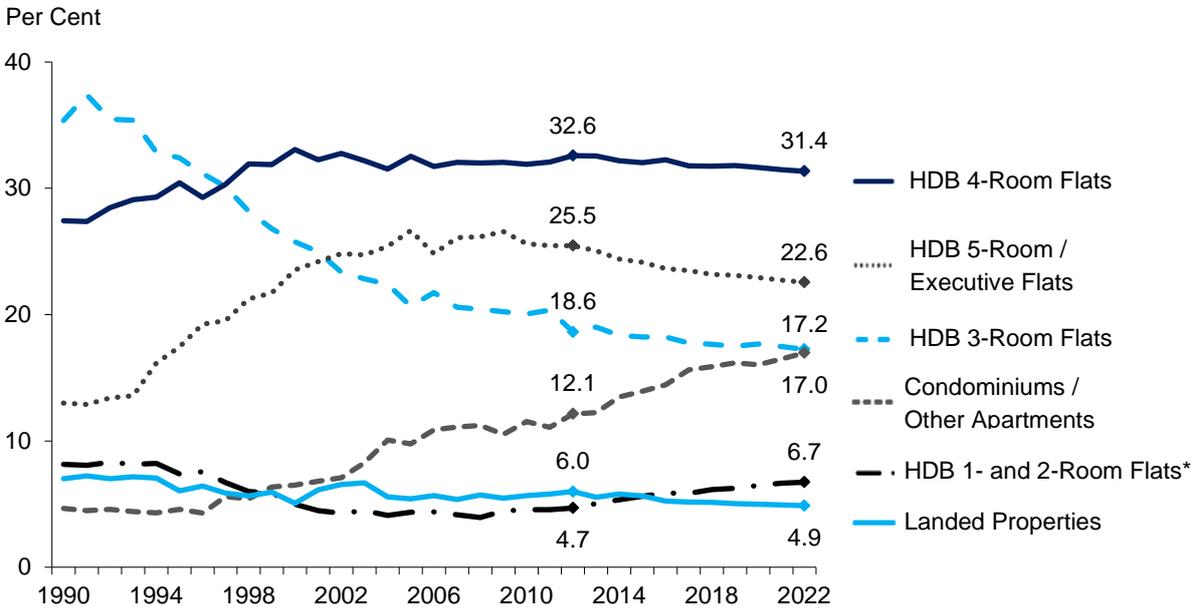
Prior to Census of Population 2020, survey respondents were asked to identify the 'head of household'. The identified person is used as the reference person to determine relationships between household members. In Census of Population 2020, the term 'head of household' has been replaced with 'household reference person'.

### Type of Dwelling

While most resident households continued to live HDB flats, the proportion decreased from 81.6 per cent in 2012 to 77.9 per cent in 2022. HDB 4-room and 5-room/executive flats remained the most prevalent type of dwelling among resident households over the past decade, despite a decline in the proportion of those living in HDB 5-room/executive flats from 25.5 per cent in 2012 to 22.6 per cent in 2022 (Chart 3.2).

Correspondingly, the proportion of resident households living in condominiums and other apartments rose from 12.1 per cent in 2012 to 17.0 per cent in 2022, similar to the proportion of those living in HDB 3-room flats (17.2 per cent). Those living in landed properties declined from 6.0 per cent to 4.9 per cent over the same period.

**Chart 3.2 Proportion of Resident Households by Selected Type of Dwelling**



\* Includes HDB studio apartments.

## Tenancy of Households

In 2022, 89.3 per cent of resident households owned the dwelling they were staying in, a slight increase from 2021 (Table 3.1).

**Table 3.1 Resident Households by Tenancy of Household**

Year	Tenancy ('000)			% in Owner-Occupied
	Total*	Owner-Occupied	Rented	
1990	661.7	578.9	78.6	87.5
2000	915.1	841.6	63.4	92.0
2010	1,145.9	998.9	132.5	87.2
2011	1,146.2	1,015.9	103.5	88.6
2012	1,152.0	1,038.2	106.8	90.1
2013	1,174.5	1,062.5	105.7	90.5
2014	1,200.0	1,083.4	109.8	90.3
2015	1,225.3	1,112.4	106.2	90.8
2016	1,263.6	1,149.1	107.6	90.9
2017	1,289.9	1,170.2	109.8	90.7
2018	1,325.3	1,205.8	112.4	91.0
2019	1,372.4	1,240.6	122.5	90.4
2020 <sup>3</sup>	1,372.6	1,206.0	152.1	87.9
2021	1,390.6	1,236.9	134.8	88.9
2022	1,399.6	1,249.7	131.7	89.3

\* Includes resident households in "Others" tenancy.

### **Tenancy of Household**

Tenancy refers to the tenure status of the household with respect to the dwelling in which the household members live in.

“Owner-Occupied” refers to a household where the household reference person and/or any other member(s) in the household owns the dwelling unit. This includes those which are fully paid-up as well as those with outstanding housing loans.

“Rented” refers to a household where the household reference person and/or any other member(s) in the household rents whole or part of the dwelling unit.

“Others” refer to a household where the household reference person and/or any other member(s) in the household occupies whole or part of the dwelling unit without charge (provided free by other persons (e.g., employers, relatives, friends, or any other persons)).

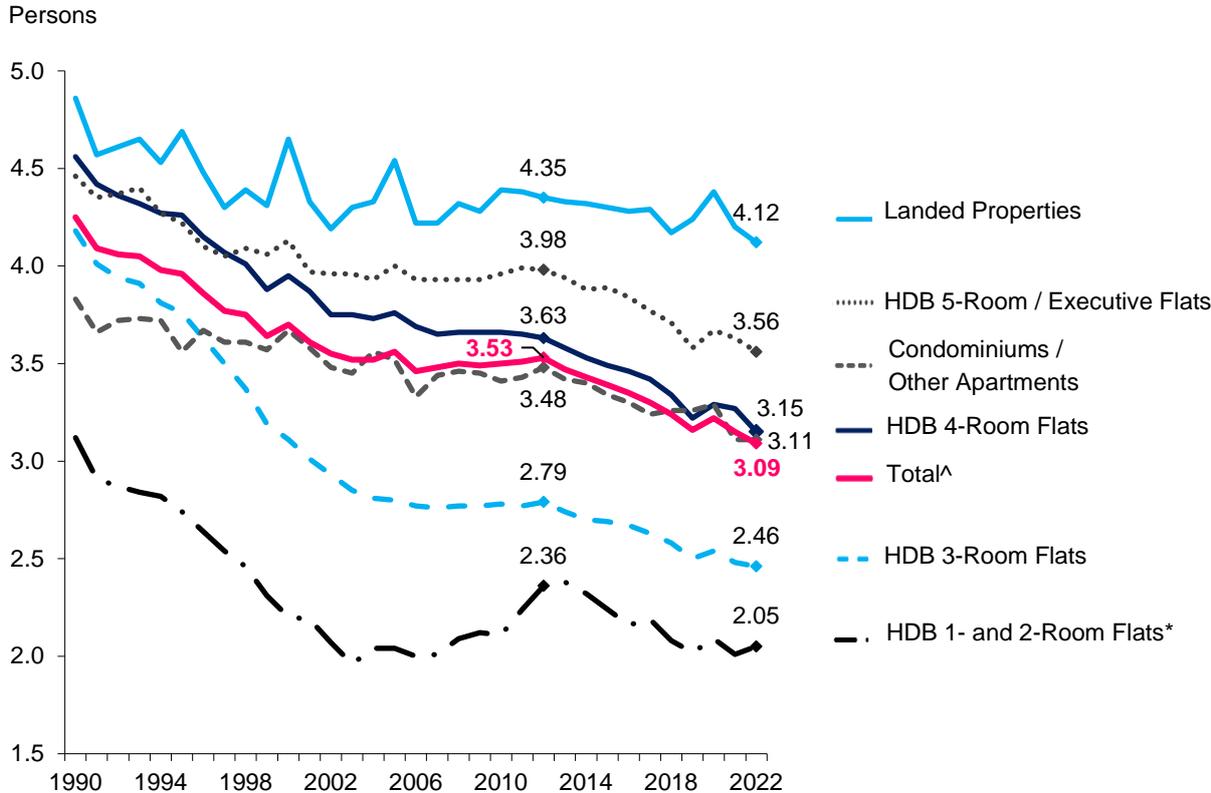
<sup>3</sup> The fall in the proportion of owner-occupied resident households in 2020 could be due to changes in living arrangements arising from the COVID-19 pandemic. For example, individuals moving in with family members to provide care or support during the pandemic, or resident homeowners who left Singapore before the pandemic and remained overseas at the point of data collection.

### Household Size

The average household size among resident households fell from 3.53 persons in 2012 to 3.09 persons in 2022 (Chart 3.3). The decline was observed across all types of dwelling.

Resident households living in HDB dwellings with fewer rooms tend to be smaller. In 2022, the average household size was 2.05 persons for HDB 1- & 2-room flats, 2.46 persons for HDB 3-room flats, followed by 3.15 persons and 3.56 persons for HDB 4-room and 5-room/executive flats respectively. Among those living in private properties, there were 3.11 persons living in condominiums/other apartments and 4.12 persons living in landed properties on average.

**Chart 3.3 Average Household Size of Resident Households by Selected Type of Dwelling**



^ Includes other types of dwelling (e.g. non-HDB shophouses). Data for years prior to 2018 includes non-privatised Housing and Urban Development Company (HUDC) flats.

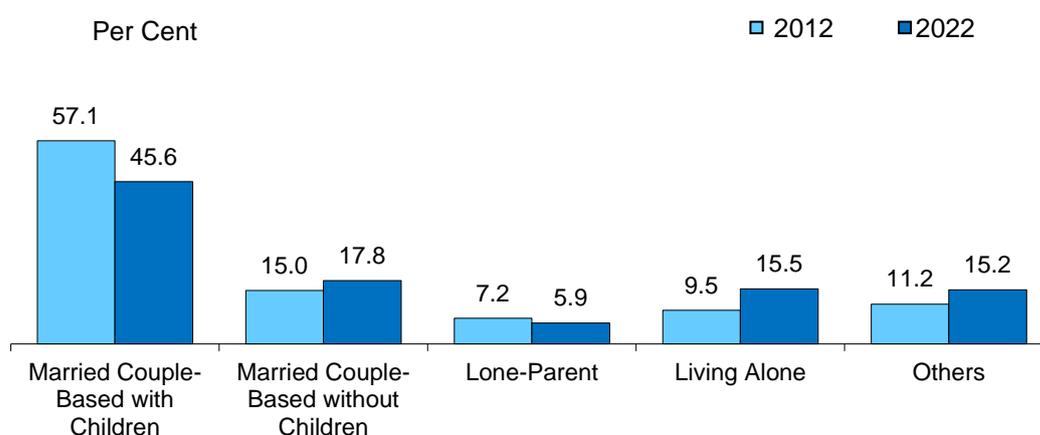
\* Includes HDB studio apartments.

## Household Living Arrangement

While married couple-based households with children continued to be the most prevalent living arrangement, its share among resident households declined from 57.1 per cent in 2012 to 45.6 per cent in 2022 (Chart 3.4).

Over the same period, the proportions rose for couple-based households without children (from 15.0 per cent to 17.8 per cent) and, to a larger extent, one-person households (from 9.5 per cent to 15.5 per cent).

**Chart 3.4 Resident Households by Household Living Arrangement**



### ***Household Living Arrangement***

Couple-based households refer to households with a married household reference person and spouse. This category is further split into those living with children and without children.

Lone-parent households refer to households whose household reference person is never-married/widowed/divorced/separated and living with children aged below 16 years or never-married children.

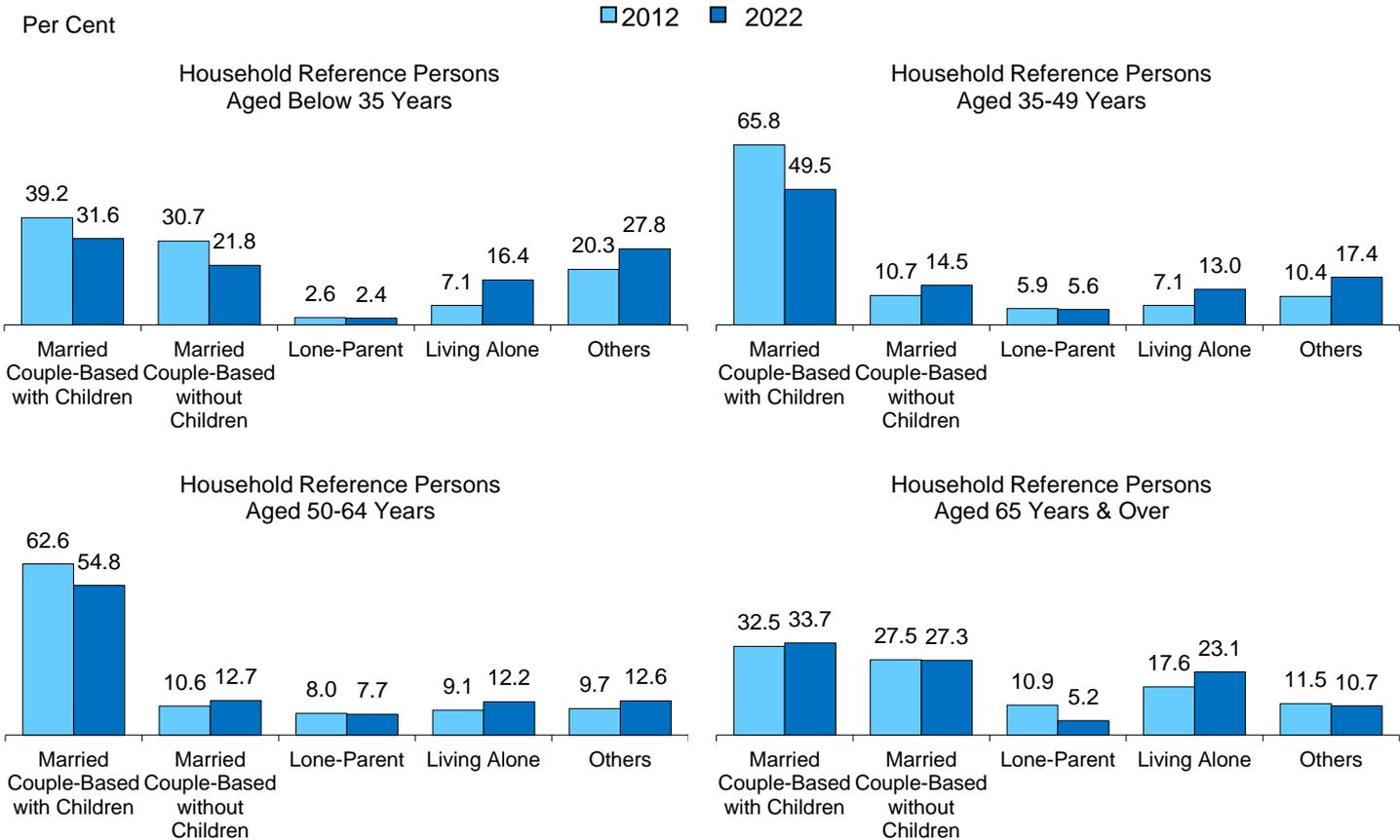
Living alone households refer to one-person households. Examples include single persons living alone, or ever-married persons who are living alone as their children have grown up and moved out from the parental home.

Between 2012 and 2022, a decline in the share of married couple-based households with children was observed among those with household reference persons aged below 65 years, particularly among those aged 35-49 years (from 65.8 to 49.5 per cent) (Chart 3.5). This corresponds to trends of declining fertility over the past decade.

Among those with younger reference persons aged below 35 years, the share of married couple-based households declined from 70.0 per cent in 2012 to 53.4 per cent in 2022. Conversely, the proportion of one-person households more than doubled over the same period, from 7.1 to 16.4 per cent. These are consistent with the trends of increasing singlehood and delayed marriages.

For households with elderly reference persons aged 65 years and over, the proportion of married couple-based without children and one-person households were the highest compared to the younger age groups, due to grown-up children setting up their own homes or the passing of one spouse.

**Chart 3.5 Resident Households by Age Group of Household Reference Person and Household Living Arrangement**



## Chapter 4 Family Formation and Dissolution

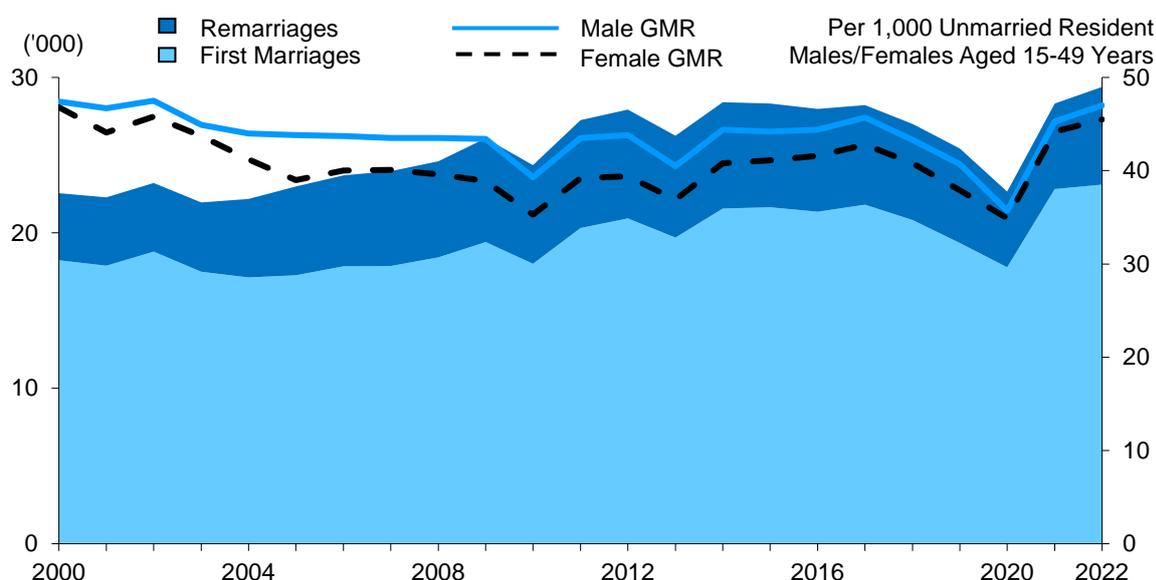
### Marriages

The total number of civil and Muslim marriages registered in 2022 rose to a record high of 29,389<sup>4</sup>, 3.7 per cent higher than the 28,329 marriages registered the year before (Chart 4.1). This is the second consecutive increase since 2020, where the total number of marriages dipped to 22,651 as marriage plans for some were disrupted due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Partly contributed by the dip in the number of marriages in 2020 due to the pandemic, the annual average number of marriages registered in the last five years was 26,562, lower than the annual average of 27,833 for the preceding five years between 2013 and 2017.

Among the marriages registered in 2022, close to four in five were first marriages where neither party had previously been married.

Chart 4.1 Total Marriages and General Marriage Rate (GMR)



#### Total Marriages and Divorces

Statistics on marriages comprise civil marriages registered under the Women's Charter and Muslim marriages registered under the Administration of Muslim Law Act. They are obtained from records maintained by the Registry of Marriages and the Registry of Muslim Marriages.

Statistics on divorces and annulments are obtained from records maintained by the Family Justice Courts and Syariah Court. The records on revocation of divorces are obtained from the Registry of Muslim Marriages. Separations that do not confer on the parties the right to remarry are not covered.

More details on marriages and divorces are available in the publication "[Statistics on Marriages and Divorces, 2022](#)".

<sup>4</sup> This is the highest since data on total marriages registered in Singapore (comprising civil and Muslim marriages) were first compiled and published in 1961. The previous record high was in 2014 with 28,407 marriage registrations.

In tandem with the higher number of marriages, the general marriage rates for both males and females increased in 2022. For males, the rate was 47.0 marriages per thousand unmarried resident males aged 15-49 years in 2022, up from 43.8 in 2012. The rate for females in 2022 was 45.5 marriages per thousand unmarried resident females aged 15-49 years, up from 39.4 a decade ago.

**General Marriage Rate**

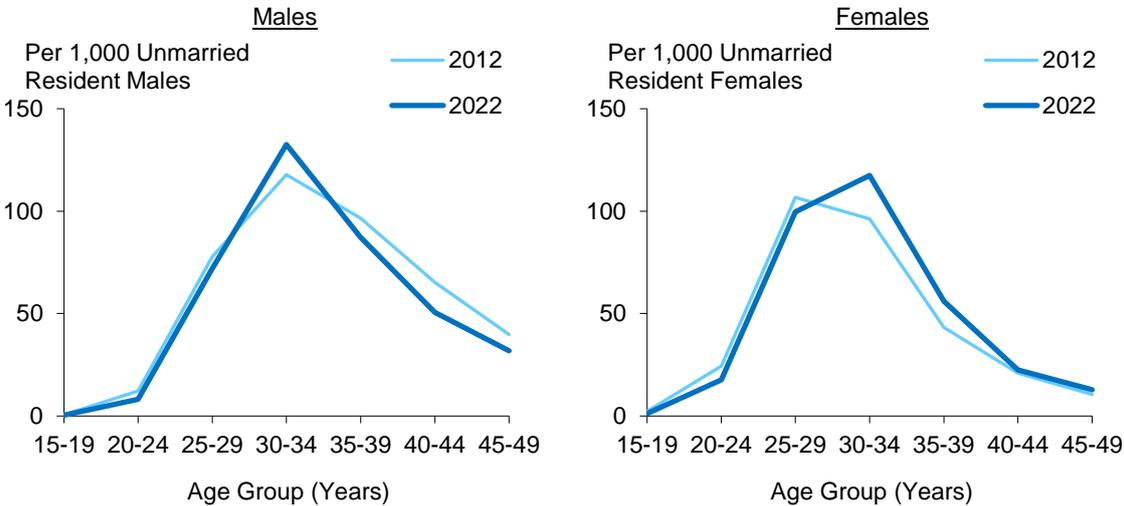
The rate is defined as the number of marriages registered among persons aged 15-49 years during the year, out of every thousand unmarried population in the same age group.

**Age-Specific Marriage Rate**

There was a shift towards later marriages for females in 2022 compared to 2012. Marriage rates rose for females aged 30 years and over but fell for those aged below 30 years (Chart 4.2). The peak marriage age group for females in 2022 (30-34 years) was also older than that in 2012 (25-29 years).

On the other hand, marriage rates for males in the peak age group of 30-34 years rose in 2022 but fell for all other age groups, compared to a decade ago.

**Chart 4.2 Age-Sex Specific Marriage Rate**



**Age-Specific Marriage Rate**

It is defined as the number of marriages registered within a specific age group during the year, out of every thousand unmarried population in the same age group.

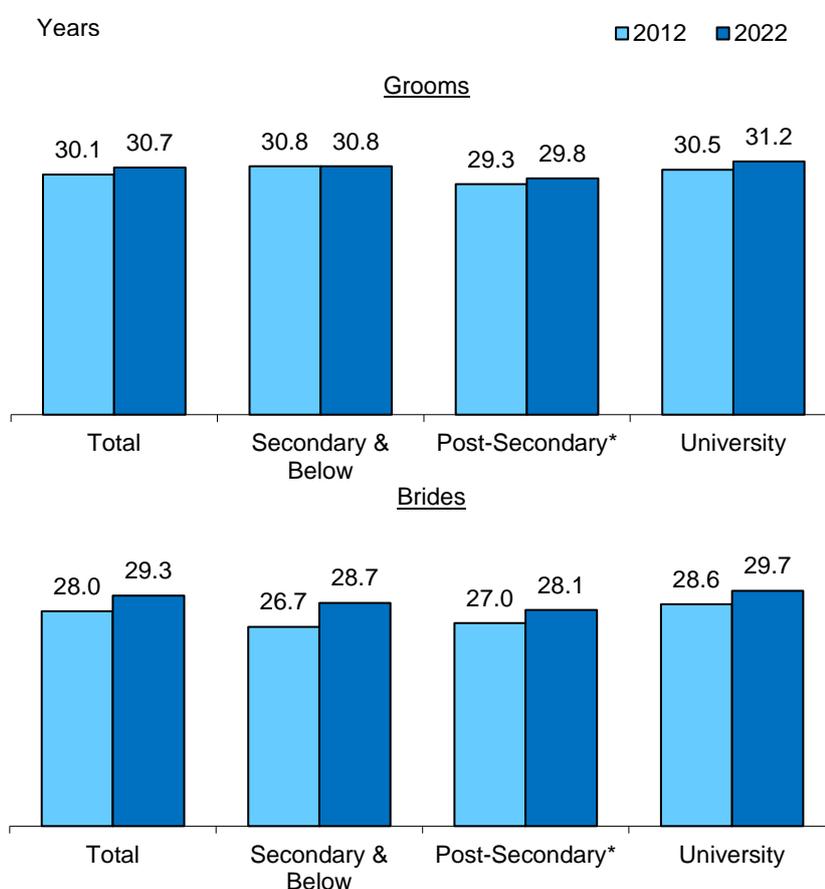
## Median Age at First Marriage

The median age at first marriage for grooms and brides were 30.7 years and 29.3 years respectively in 2022, up from 30.1 years for grooms and 28.0 years for brides a decade ago.

Over the last decade, the median age at first marriage rose across all educational groups, except for grooms with secondary and below qualification where it remained unchanged (Chart 4.3).

Among those who registered their marriages in 2022, those with university qualifications had the highest median age of 31.2 years for first-time grooms and 29.7 years for first-time brides.

**Chart 4.3 Median Age at First Marriage of Grooms and Brides by Educational Qualification**



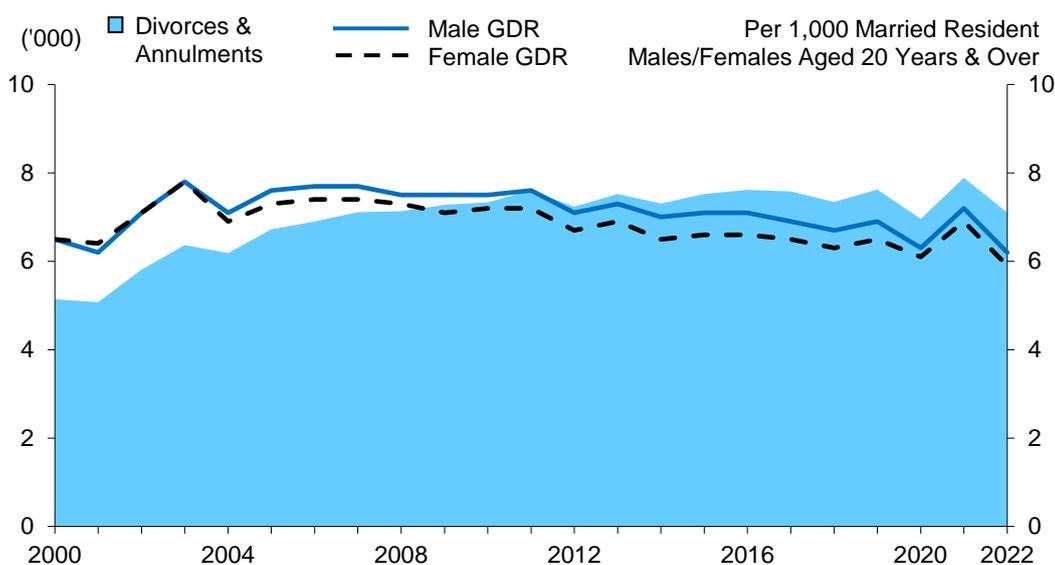
\* Post-Secondary comprises Post-Secondary (Non-Tertiary) and Diploma & Professional Qualification.

## Marital Dissolutions

There were 7,107 marital dissolutions in 2022, a decrease of 9.9 per cent from the 7,890 granted in the previous year<sup>5</sup> (Chart 4.4).

In tandem with the decline in number of marital dissolutions, the general divorce rates fell for both males and females in 2022. There were 6.2 marital dissolutions for every thousand married resident males aged 20 years and over in 2022, down from 7.1 in 2012. Similarly, there were 5.9 marital dissolutions for every thousand married resident females aged 20 years and over in 2022, a decrease from 6.7 a decade ago.

**Chart 4.4 Total Marital Dissolutions and General Divorce Rate (GDR)**



Note: Data on GDR include annulments. From 2004 onwards, data on GDR are based on divorces and annulments where either or both spouses are residents (i.e. Singapore citizens or permanent residents).

### **General Divorce Rate**

The rate is defined as the number of divorces and annulments granted to married persons aged 20 years and over during the year, out of every thousand married population in the same age group.

### **Annulment**

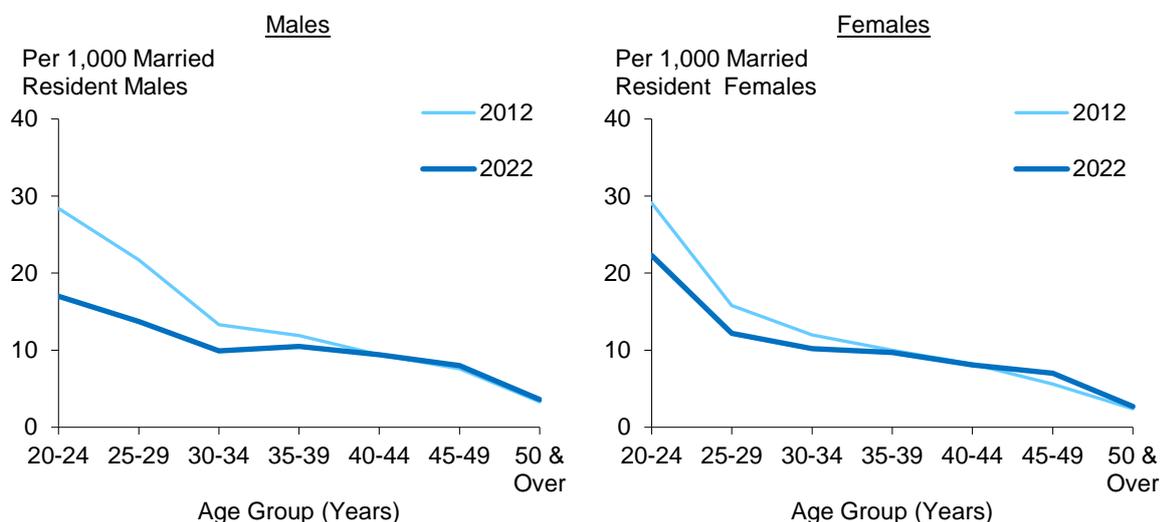
This refers to the invalidation of a marriage. Parties whose marriages have been annulled are conferred the status of never having been married to each other.

<sup>5</sup> The higher number of marital dissolutions in 2021 relative to other years arose due to more divorce applications filed as well as the resumption of divorce proceedings that were previously adjourned, following the easing of COVID-19 safe management measures.

## Age-Specific Divorce Rate

Although marital dissolutions continued to be more prevalent among younger married persons, differences across age groups narrowed in 2022, compared to 2012. Divorce rates over the same period declined among married persons aged below 40 years, especially among younger males aged 20-29 years, and rose slightly for those aged 45 years and over (Chart 4.5).

**Chart 4.5 Age-Sex Specific Divorce Rate**



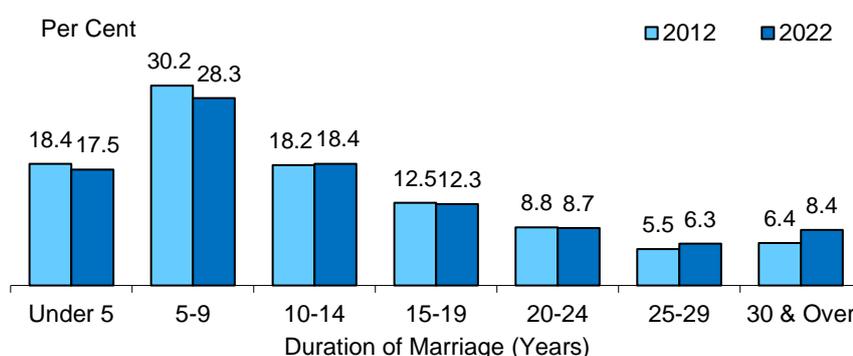
### Age-Specific Divorce Rate

It is defined as the number of divorces and annulments granted to a specific age group during the year, out of every thousand married population in the same age group.

## Marriage Duration of Divorcing Couples

In 2022, the median duration of marriage at divorce was 10.9 years, slightly longer than that in 2012 (10.3 years). Couples who were married for 5-9 years accounted for the largest share (28.3 per cent) of all divorces (Chart 4.6). This was followed by those with marriage duration of 10-14 years (18.4 per cent) and less than 5 years (17.5 per cent).

**Chart 4.6 Divorces by Duration of Marriage**



Note: Data exclude annulments.

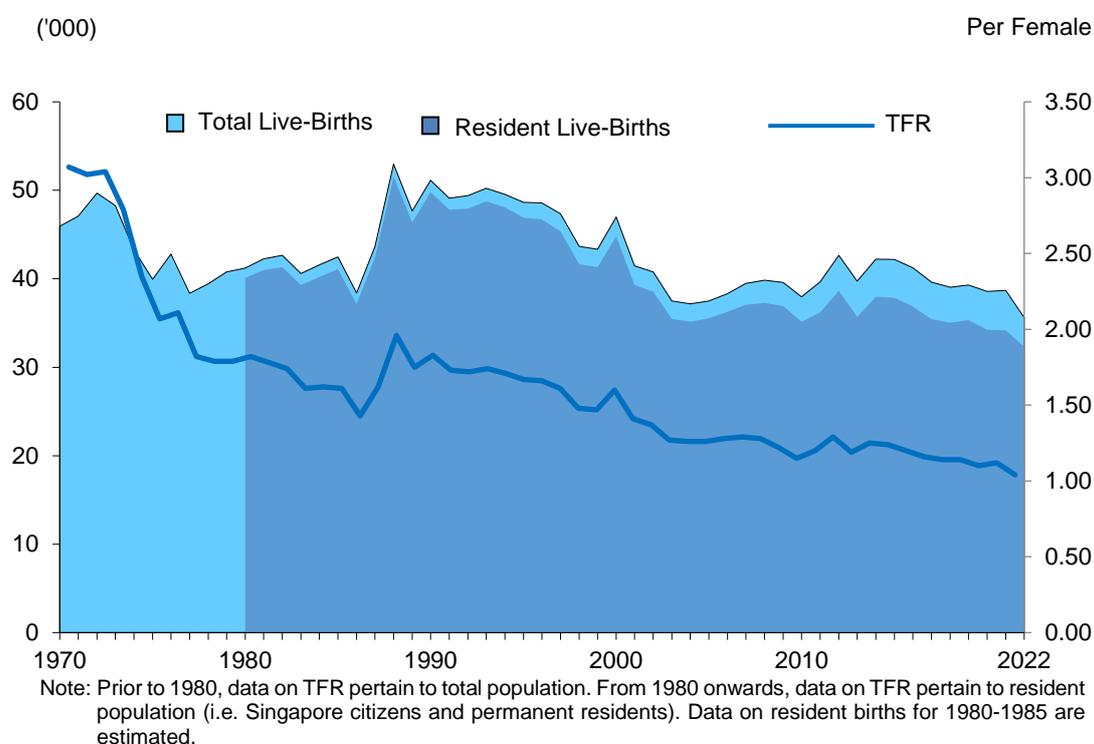
## Chapter 5 Fertility

### Births and Fertility Rate

There were 35,605 live-births in 2022, a decrease of 7.9 per cent from the 38,672 live-births in the previous year (Chart 5.1). Resident births (i.e. births with at least one parent who is a Singapore citizen or permanent resident) also fell to 32,290 in 2022, a decline of 5.5 per cent from 34,183 in 2021.

Singapore's resident total fertility rate (TFR) fell to a historic low at 1.04 births per female in 2022, from 1.12 births per female in 2021. The decline in 2022 coincided with the year of the Tiger in the Lunar calendar, which is generally associated with lower births among the Chinese.

Chart 5.1 Live-Births and Total Fertility Rate (TFR)



#### Live-Births

Statistics on live-births are obtained from records maintained by the Registry of Births and Deaths. The statistics refer to all live-births occurring within Singapore and its territorial waters as registered under the Registration of Births and Deaths Act 2021 (RBDA 2021), and are compiled based on date of occurrence.

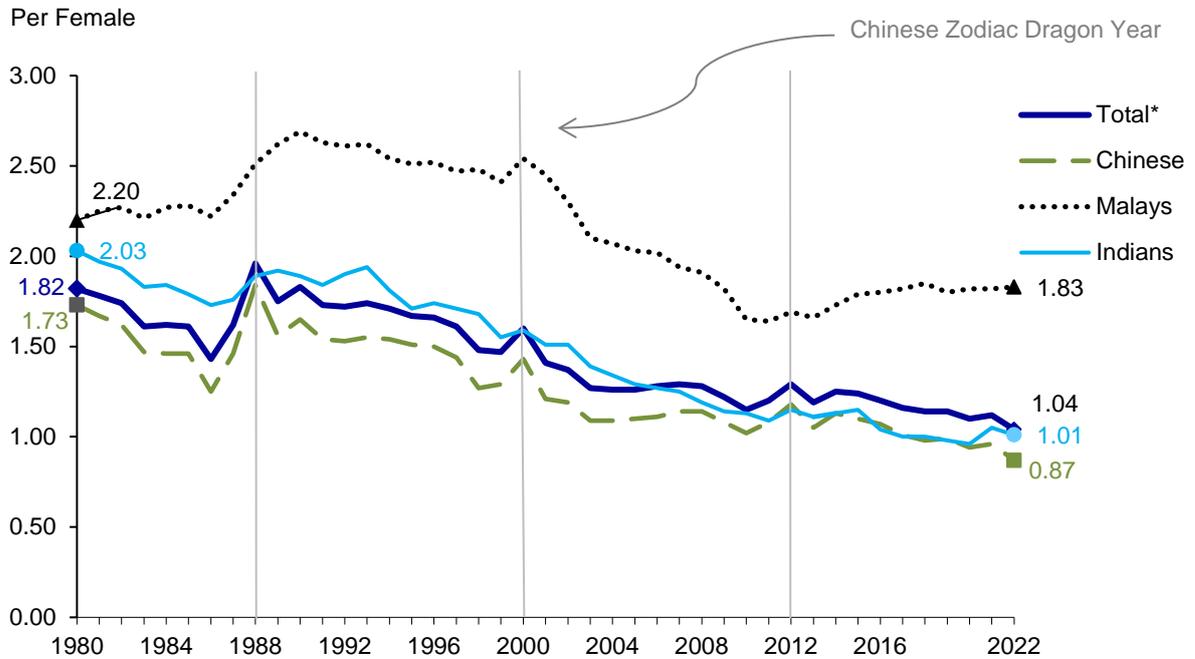
#### Total Fertility Rate

The rate refers to the average number of live-births each female would have during her reproductive years if she were subject to the prevailing age-specific fertility rates in the population in a given year. More details are available in the infographic [here](#).

## Ethnic Differentials in Fertility

Compared to 2021, the 2022 resident TFR fell for Chinese and Indians, and remained relatively stable for Malays (Chart 5.2). Malays continued to register the highest TFR at 1.83 births per female in 2022, followed by 1.01 for Indians and 0.87 for Chinese. The TFR of all ethnic groups remained below the replacement TFR of 2.1 births per female.

**Chart 5.2 Total Fertility Rate by Ethnic Group**

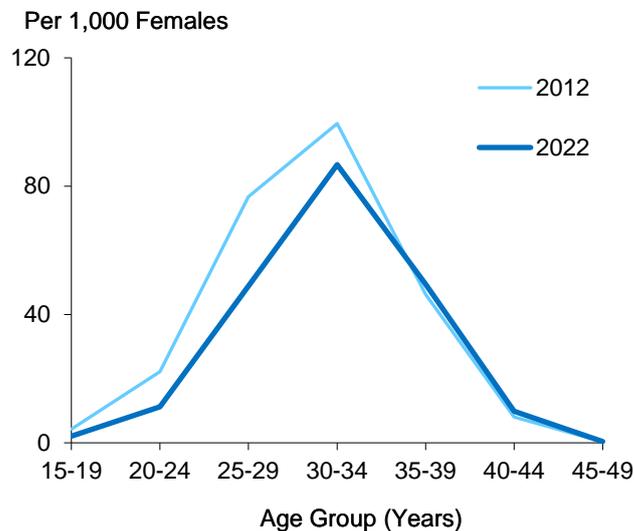


\* Includes the ethnic group "Others".

## Age-Specific Fertility Rate

Compared to a decade ago, age-specific fertility rates fell for those aged below 35 years in 2022 and rose for those aged 35-49 years (Chart 5.3). Fertility rate remained the highest among females aged 30-34 years compared to the other age groups.

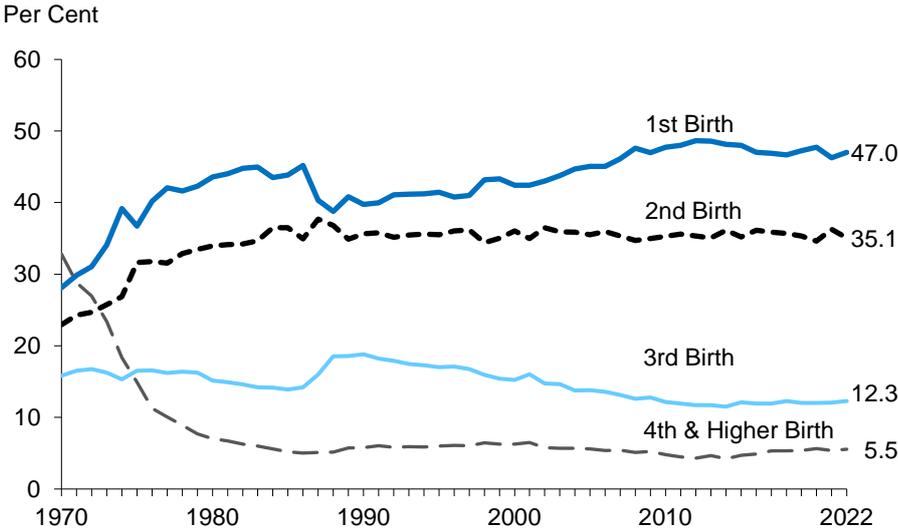
**Chart 5.3 Age-Specific Fertility Rate**



### Births by Birth Order

First and second order births continued to form the largest proportion of total live births in 2022. First-order births rose from 46.3 per cent in 2021 to 47.0 per cent in 2022 while second-order births fell from 36.3 per cent to 35.1 per cent over the same period (Chart 5.4). The share of third order birth and fourth and higher order births remained relatively stable at 12.3 per cent and 5.5 per cent respectively in 2022.

Chart 5.4 Proportion of Births by Birth Order



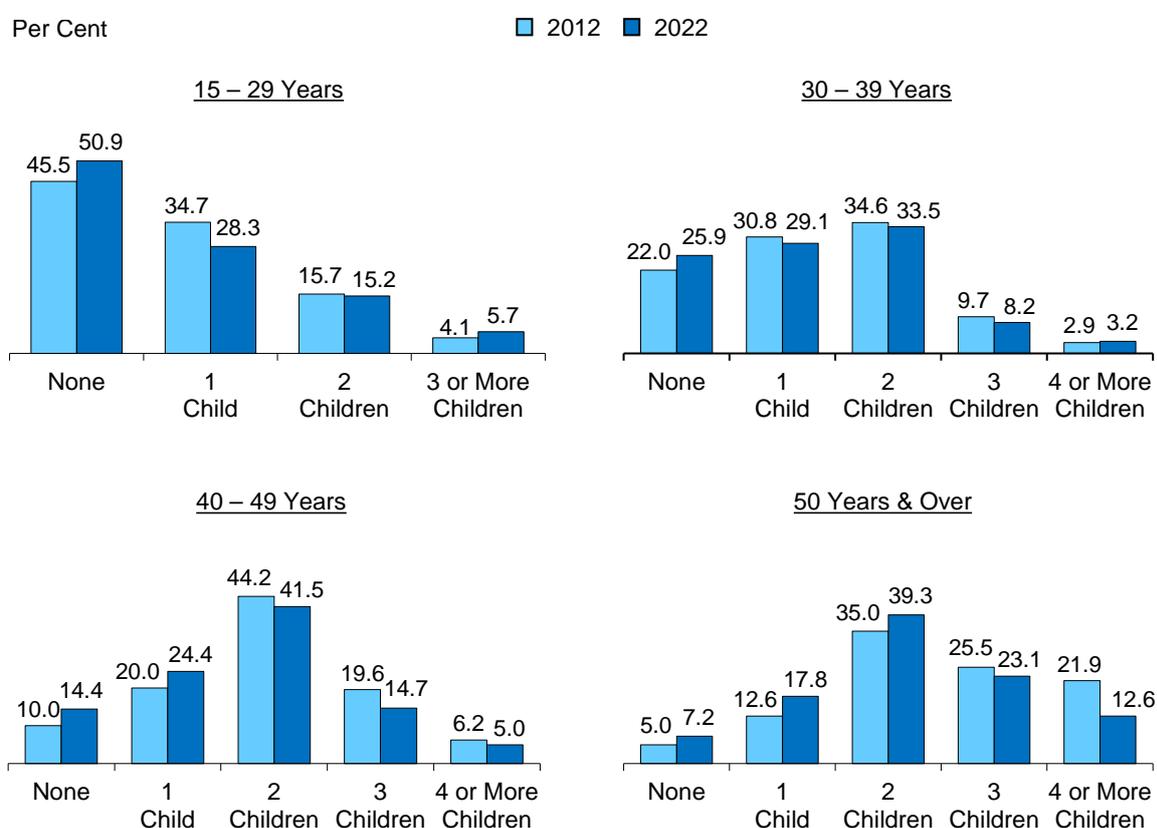
## Number of Children Born

While those with two children continued to account for the largest share among ever-married resident females aged 40-49 years, the proportion decreased to 41.5 per cent in 2022 compared to 44.2 per cent a decade ago (Chart 5.5).

The share of those with three or more children also saw a decline over the last decade. Among resident ever-married females aged 40-49 years, the proportion of those with three children fell from 19.6 per cent in 2012 to 14.7 per cent in 2022, and those with four or more children fell from 6.2 per cent to 5.0 per cent over the same period.

Correspondingly, the proportion of ever-married females aged 40-49 years who have never given birth increased from 10.0 per cent in 2012 to 14.4 per cent in 2022, while those with only one child increased from 20.0 per cent to 24.4 per cent over the same period.

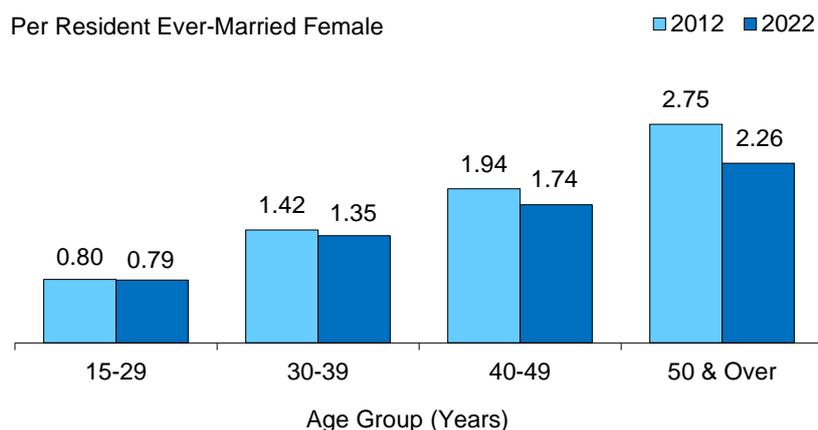
**Chart 5.5 Resident Ever-Married Females by Age Group and Number of Children Born**



## Average Number of Children Born by Age Group of Females

The average number of children born to ever-married resident females decreased across all age groups between 2012 and 2022. Among those aged 40-49 years, it fell from 1.94 per female in 2012 to 1.74 in 2022 (Chart 5.6). A large decrease was also observed among those aged 50 years and over, from 2.75 in 2012 to 2.26 in 2022.

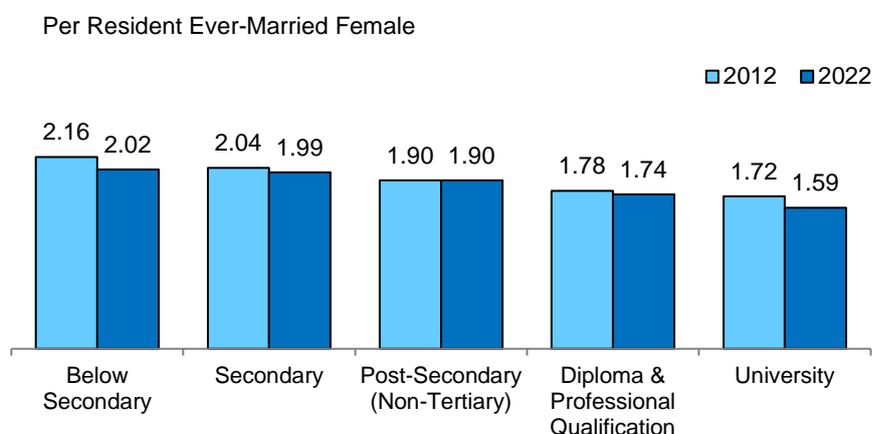
**Chart 5.6 Average Number of Children Born by Age Group of Resident Ever-Married Females**



## Average Number of Children Born by Educational Attainment of Females

In 2022, the average number of children born to ever-married females fell across all levels of educational attainment as compared to a decade ago, with the exception of those with post-secondary qualification, where it remained the same (Chart 5.7). Females with higher levels of qualifications had fewer children on average, compared to their counterparts with lower educational qualifications. Among resident ever-married females aged 40-49 years in 2022, university graduates had an average of 1.59 children, lower than the average of 2.02 children among those with below secondary qualification.

**Chart 5.7 Average Number of Children Born to Resident Ever-Married Females Aged 40-49 Years by Highest Qualification Attained**



Note: Data by highest qualification attained pertain to residents who were not attending educational institutions as full-time students and include those who were upgrading their qualifications through part-time courses.

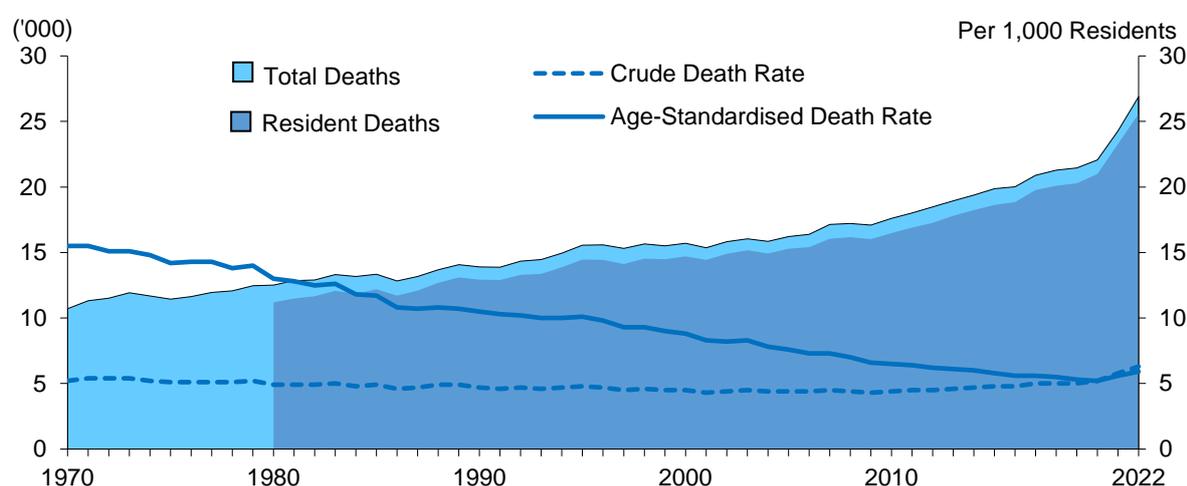
## Chapter 6 Mortality

### Deaths and Death Rates

Total deaths rose from 24,292 in 2021 to 26,891 in 2022, a 10.7 per cent increase as the population continued to age (Chart 6.1). Similarly, resident deaths increased by 10.0 per cent from 23,270 in 2021 to 25,586 in 2022. The larger increases observed in the recent two years were due to higher mortality rates amidst the COVID-19 pandemic. The resident crude death rate also rose, from 5.8 per 1,000 residents to 6.3 deaths per 1,000 residents over the same period.

The age-standardised death rate<sup>6</sup> which takes into account the population age structure, increased from 5.6 per 1,000 residents in 2021 to 5.9 per 1,000 residents in 2022. Despite the increase in recent years, the age-standardised death rate remains on a long-term downward trend, reflecting the improvements in health and mortality of the population.

**Chart 6.1 Deaths, Crude Death Rate and Age-Standardised Death Rate**



Note: From 1980 onwards, data on crude death rate and age-standardised death rate pertain to resident population (i.e. Singapore citizens and permanent residents).

#### **Deaths and Death Rates**

Statistics on deaths are obtained from records maintained by the Registry of Births and Deaths. The statistics refer to all deaths occurring within Singapore and its territorial waters as registered under the Registration of Births and Deaths Act 2021 (RBDA 2021), and are compiled based on date of registration.

Crude death rate refers to the number of deaths per thousand population. Age-standardised death rate is another summary indicator of mortality that removes effects of age structure variations in the population over time.

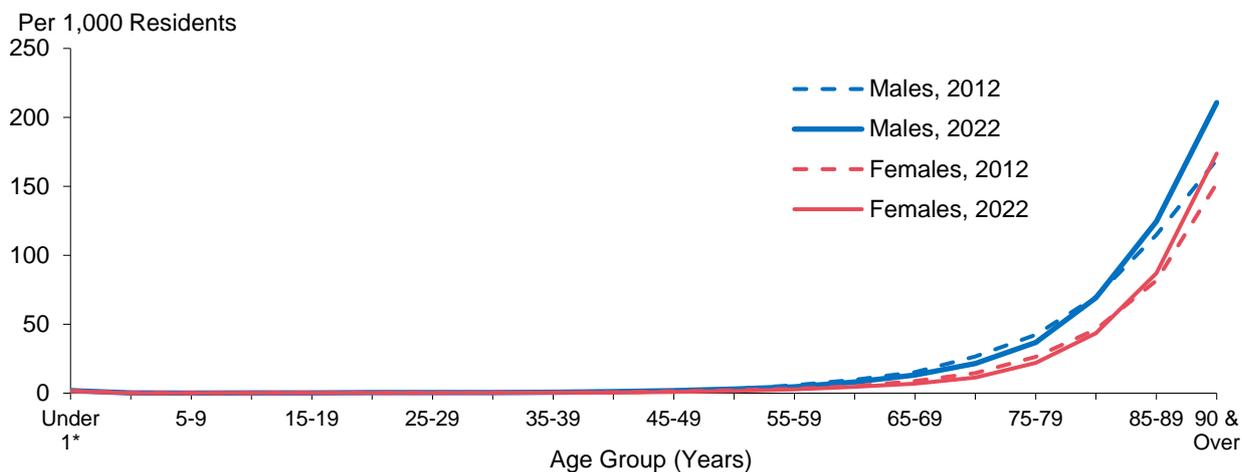
More details on death rates are available in the article "[Age-Standardised Death Rate for Singapore](#)" in the Statistics Singapore Newsletter, September 2015.

<sup>6</sup> The Singapore resident population as at June 2020 is used as the standard population to fix the age structure and eliminate its effect on mortality trends.

## Age-Specific Death Rate

In general, resident females had lower death rates than resident males (Chart 6.2). Compared to a decade ago, the age-specific death rates were lower for most age groups in 2022 for both for resident males and females. The higher age-specific death rates at the older age groups in 2022 was due to more deaths at the older ages during the COVID-19 pandemic<sup>7</sup>.

**Chart 6.2 Age-Specific Death Rate**

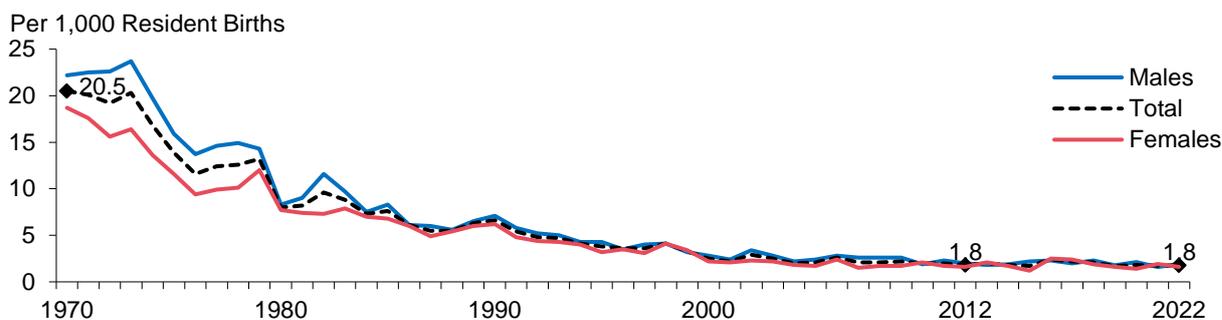


\* Refers to infant mortality rate.

## Infant Mortality Rate

The infant mortality rate remained stable over the last decade, at 1.8 infant deaths per 1,000 resident live-births in 2012 and 2022 (Chart 6.3).

**Chart 6.3 Infant Mortality Rate**



Note: From 1980 onwards, data on infant mortality rate pertain to resident population (i.e. Singapore citizens and permanent residents).

### Infant Mortality Rate

The rate refers to the number of deaths of children under one year of age per thousand live-births. Along with life expectancy, it is one of the most widely used indicators of the population's health status.

More details on infant mortality rate are available in the article "[Trends in Infant Mortality Rate and Related Indicators](#)" published in the Statistics Singapore Newsletter Issue 1, 2019.

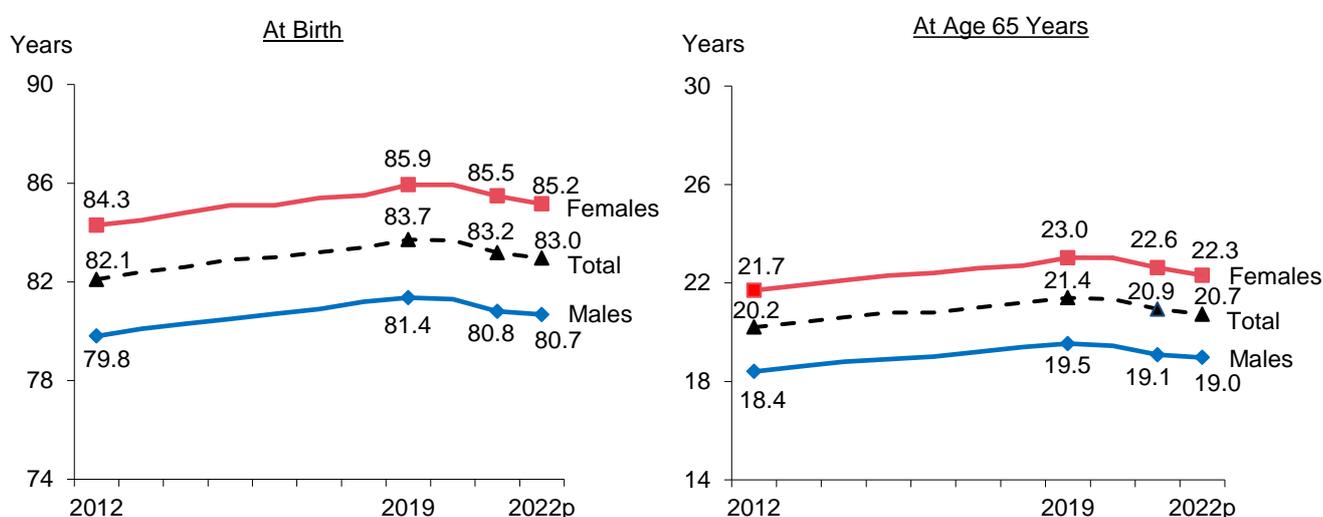
<sup>7</sup> For more information, please refer to <https://www.moh.gov.sg/resources-statistics/reports/report-on-excess-mortality-during-the-covid-19-pandemic-up-to-june-2022>

## Life Expectancy

Life expectancy at birth of Singapore residents was 83.0 years in 2022, a decline of 0.2 years from 83.2 years in 2021 (Chart 6.4). Compared with the pre-COVID life expectancy of 83.7 years in 2019, life expectancy at birth decreased by 0.7 years over two consecutive declines in 2021 and 2022. Nonetheless, life expectancy at birth of Singapore residents still improved by 0.9 years over the last decade, from 82.1 years in 2012. Females continued to have longer life expectancy than males, with a gap of 4.5 years between both sexes in 2022.

Life expectancy at age 65 years increased 0.5 years over the last ten years, from 20.2 years in 2012 to 20.7 years in 2022. It however declined 0.2 years from 20.9 years in 2021. Similar trends were observed for both males and females.

**Chart 6.4 Life Expectancy of Resident Population**



p: Preliminary

### Life Expectancy

It refers to the average number of additional years that persons (at birth or specific age such as age 65 years) might expect to live, if the current age-specific mortality rates were held constant over their lifetime. It does not take into account future changes in mortality. The derived life expectancies give an indication of the average longevity of the population, but do not necessarily reflect the longevity of an individual.

This single indicator is commonly used to sum up the mortality experience of a population, taking into account the population's age and sex structure.

As the life expectancy data for 2020 to 2022 assumes that the higher mortality rates due to the pandemic apply throughout a lifetime, they may not be representative of the number of years individuals can expect to live, if mortality rates were to return to pre-pandemic levels.

More details on life expectancy are available in the publication "[Complete Life Tables for Singapore Resident Population, 2021-2022](#)".

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# PROJECT TEAM

Senior Assistant Directors

Mr Hong Renting

Ms Cai Jialin

Assistant Directors

Ms Wong Mun Mun

Ms Joanne Tan

Mr Jason Tan

Statistician

Ms Erica Ngan

Lead Manager

Ms Yeo Yen Fang

Senior Managers

Ms Seet Ming Lee

Mr Wong Kwok Wing

Ms Kalavathy d/o Jayaram

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