Population Trends

2022

DEPARTMENT OF
STATISTICS
SINGAPORE
Empowering You with Trusted Data

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, 2022** is the eighteenth 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 http://www.singstat.gov.sg/tablebuilder.

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 2022

Our Vision

National Statistical Service of Quality, Integrity and Expertise

Our Mission

We deliver Insightful Statistics and Trusted Statistical Services that Empower Decision Making

Our Guiding Principles

Professionalism & Expertise	*We adhere to professional ethics and develop statistical competency to produce quality statistics that comply with international concepts and best practices.*
Relevance & Reliability	*We produce statistics that users need and trust.*
Accessibility	*We facilitate ease of access to our statistics through user-friendly platforms.*
Confidentiality	*We protect the confidentiality of individual information collected by us.*
Timeliness	*We disseminate statistics at the earliest possible date while maintaining data quality.*
Innovation	*We constantly seek ways to improve our processes, leveraging on new technology, to deliver better products and services to users.*
Collaboration	*We engage users on data needs, data providers and respondents on supply of data, and undertake the role of national statistical coordination.*
Effectiveness	*We optimise resource utilisation, leveraging on administrative and alternative data sources to ease respondent burden.*

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NOTATIONS

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

NOTES

The ***Population Trends, 2022*** 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 – 2022

Population	1970	1980	1990	2000	2010	2020	2021	2022
Total Population[1,2,3] ('000)	2,074.5	2,413.9	3,047.1	4,027.9	5,076.7	5,685.8	5,453.6	5,637.0
Resident Population[2,3] ('000)	2,013.6	2,282.1	2,735.9	3,273.4	3,771.7	4,044.2	3,986.8	4,073.2
Singapore Citizens ('000)	1,874.8	2,194.3	2,623.7	2,985.9	3,230.7	3,523.2	3,498.2	3,553.7
Permanent Residents ('000)	138.8	87.8	112.1	287.5	541.0	521.0	488.7	519.5
Population Density[4] (Per sq km)	3,538	3,907	4,814	5,900	7,146	7,810	7,485	7,688
Sex Ratio[5] (Males per 1,000 females)	1,049	1,032	1,027	998	974	957	960	955
Median Age[5] (Years)	19.5	24.4	29.8	34.0	37.4	41.5	41.8	42.1
Old-Age Support Ratio[5] (Per person aged 65 years & over)								
Persons aged 15 – 64 years	17.0	13.8	11.8	9.9	8.2	4.6	4.3	4.1
Persons aged 20 – 64 years	13.5	11.3	10.5	9.0	7.4	4.3	4.0	3.8
Proportion of Singles Among Residents Aged 30 – 34 Years[6] (%)								
Males	21.5	21.3	34.0	30.7	37.1	41.9	45.7	n.a.
Females	9.6	16.6	20.9	19.5	25.1	32.8	35.4	n.a.
Highest Qualification Attained of Residents Aged 25 Years & Over[7] (%)	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	21.6	n.a.
Secondary	n.a.	9.5	23.6	24.0	19.0	16.3	16.5	n.a.
Post-Secondary (Non-Tertiary)	n.a.	4.7*	4.7	8.9	9.5	10.0	9.4	n.a.
Diploma & Professional Qualification	n.a.		3.6	9.8	13.3	15.3	16.3	n.a.
University	n.a.	2.7	4.7	12.1	23.7	33.0	36.1	n.a.
Mean Years of Schooling Among Residents Aged 25 Years & Over[7] (Years)	n.a.	4.7	6.6	8.6	10.1	11.3	11.6	n.a.
Males	n.a.	5.6	7.3	9.2	10.6	11.7	12.0	n.a.
Females	n.a.	3.7	5.9	8.1	9.7	10.9	11.3	n.a.

Households & Housing	1970	1980	1990	2000	2010	2020	2021	2022
Resident Households[8] ('000)	380.5	472.7	661.7	915.1	1,145.9	1,372.6	1,390.6	n.a.
Average Household Size[8] (Persons)	5.35	4.87	4.25	3.70	3.50	3.22	3.15	n.a.
Owner-Occupied Households[8] (%)	29.4	58.8	87.5	92.0	87.2	87.9	88.9	n.a.
Type of Dwelling[8,9] (%)	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	n.a.
HDB Flats[10]	30.9	67.8	85.0	88.0	82.4	78.7	78.3	n.a.
Condominiums & Other Apartments	4.8	3.9	4.7	6.5	11.5	16.0	16.5	n.a.
Landed Properties	14.1	8.5	7.0	5.1	5.7	5.0	4.9	n.a.

* 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.

Family Formation and Dissolution[11]	1970	1980	1990	2000	2010	2020	2021
Total Marriages[12]	14,572	22,444	23,953	22,561	24,363	22,651	28,329
General Marriage Rate[13]							
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
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
Median Age at First Marriage (Years)							
Grooms	26.9	26.7	28.0	28.7	30.0	30.4	30.5
Brides	23.1	23.6	25.3	26.2	27.7	28.8	29.1
Total Divorces & Annulments	n.a.	1,721	3,634	5,137	7,338	6,959	7,890
General Divorce Rate[14]							
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
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

Fertility[11]	1970	1980	1990	2000	2010	2020	2021
Total Live-Births	45,934	41,217	51,142	46,997	37,967	38,590	38,672
Resident Live-Births	n.a.	40,100	49,787	44,765	35,129	34,233	34,183
Crude Birth Rate[6] (Per 1,000 residents)	22.1	17.6	18.2	13.7	9.3	8.5	8.6
Total Fertility Rate[6] (Per female)	3.07	1.82	1.83	1.60	1.15	1.10	1.12
Gross Reproduction Rate[6] (Per female)	1.49	0.88	0.88	0.77	0.56	0.53	0.54
Net Reproduction Rate[6] (Per female)	1.42	0.86	0.87	0.76	0.55	0.53	0.54

Mortality[11]	1970	1980	1990	2000	2010	2020	2021
Total Deaths	10,717	12,505	13,891	15,693	17,610	22,054	24,292
Crude Death Rate[6] (Per 1,000 residents)	5.2	4.9	4.7	4.5	4.4	5.2	5.8
Age-Standardised Death Rate[6,15] (Per 1,000 residents)	15.5	13.0	10.5	8.8	6.5	5.2	5.6
Infant Mortality Rate[6] (Per 1,000 resident live-births)	20.5	8.0	6.6	2.5	2.0	1.8	1.8
Life Expectancy at Birth[6,16] (Years)	65.8	72.1	75.3	78.0	81.7	83.7	83.5
Males	64.1	69.8	73.1	76.0	79.2	81.3	81.1
Females	67.8	74.7	77.6	80.0	84.0	85.9	85.9

Notes *(cont'd)*:

11) Data for 2022 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 data series on age-standardised death rate has been updated to use the Singapore resident population as at June 2020 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 5.64 million as at end-June 2022 (Table 1.1). The total population grew by 3.4 per cent from the previous year, mainly due to the increase in the non-resident population. While the total population grew after two consecutive years of decline, it remained slightly lower than the pre-COVID level of 5.70 million as at end-June 2019.

The resident population grew by 2.2 per cent from 2021 to 4.07 million as at end-June 2022. Within the resident population, citizens grew by 1.6 per cent to 3.55 million while permanent residents grew by 6.3 per cent to 0.52 million. The growth in the resident population could be largely attributed to the easing of travel restrictions due to COVID-19, as more citizens and PRs who were previously overseas continuously for 12 months or more returned to Singapore. The non-resident population grew by 6.6 per cent to 1.56 million over the same period, but was still lower than the pre-COVID level of 1.68 million as at end-June 2019.

Table 1.1 Singapore Population Size and Growth by Residential Status

Year	Number ('000)					Average Annual Growth[1] (%)				
	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
2015	5,535.0	3,902.7	3,375.0	527.7	1,632.3	1.2	0.8	1.0	-	2.1
2016	5,607.3	3,933.6	3,408.9	524.6	1,673.7	1.3	0.8	1.0	-0.6	2.5
2017	5,612.3	3,965.8	3,439.2	526.6	1,646.5	0.1	0.8	0.9	0.4	-1.6
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

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.

[1] 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 reached 42.1 years as at end-June 2022, up from 41.8 years in the previous year (Chart 1.1). Similarly, the proportion of residents aged 65 years and over increased, from 16.0 per cent in 2021 to 16.6 per cent in 2022.

Chart 1.1 Age Distribution of Resident Population

Year	Median Age (Years)
2000	34.0
2010	37.4
2021	41.8
2022	42.1
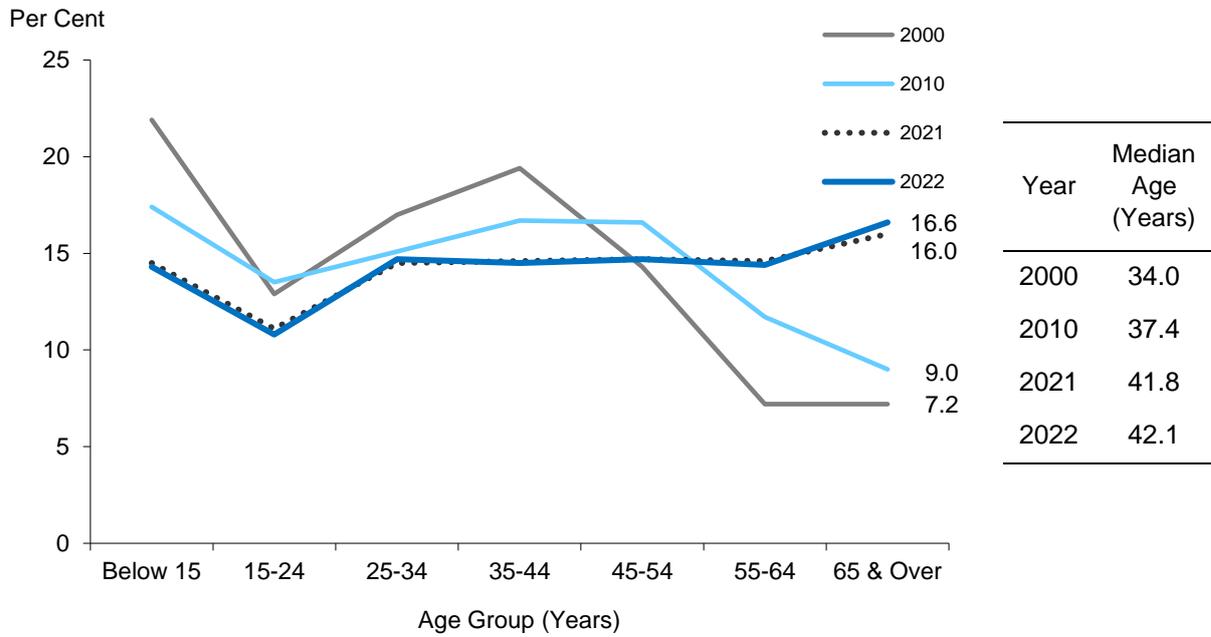
Chart 1.2 Age Pyramid of Resident Population
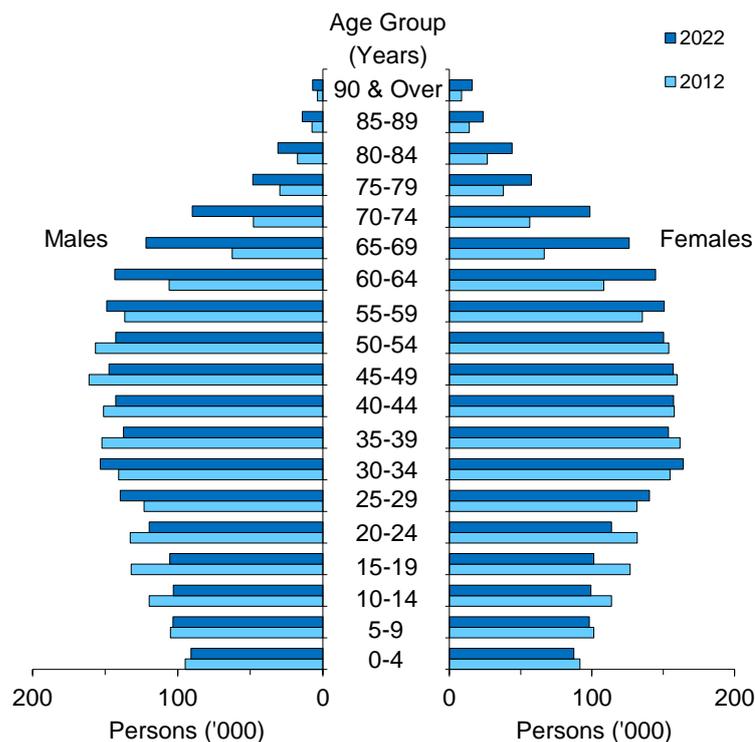
Old-Age Support Ratio

The resident old-age support ratio (i.e. ratio of residents aged 20-64 years for each resident aged 65 years and over) declined further to 3.8 as at end-June 2022 (Chart 1.3).

Chart 1.3 Resident Old-Age Support Ratio

No. of Residents Aged 20-64 Years
Per Resident Aged 65 Years & Over
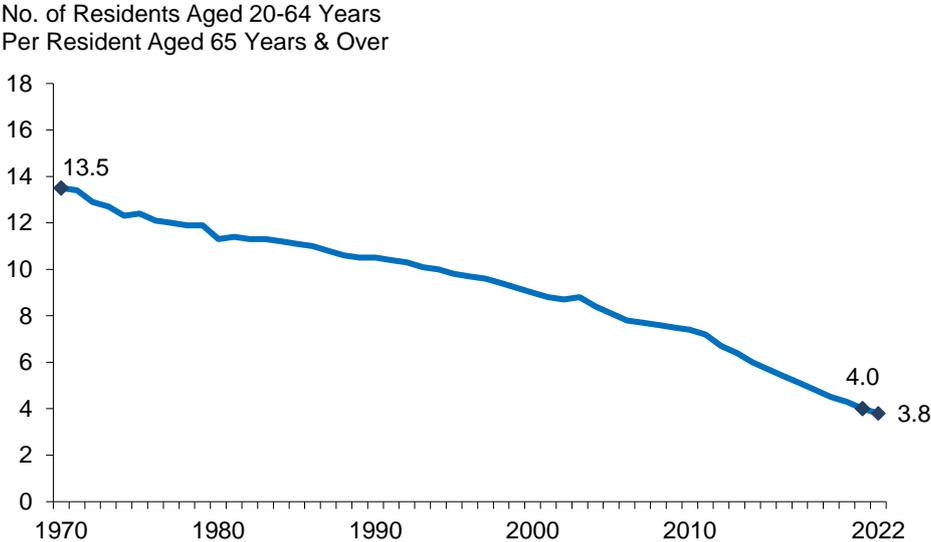
Note: For 1971-1979, data refer to total population.

Ethnic Composition

The ethnic composition of the resident population remained stable. As at end-June 2022, Chinese made up 74.1 per cent of the resident population, followed by Malays at 13.6 per cent and Indians at 9.0 per cent (Chart 1.4).

Chart 1.4 Ethnic Composition of Resident Population

Per Cent

	2012	2022	
Others	3.3	3.3	
Indians	9.2	9.0	
Malays	13.3	13.6	
Chinese	74.2	74.1	
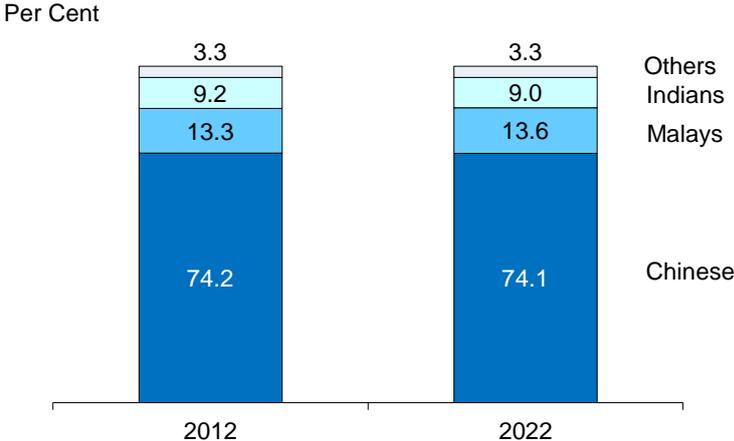
Sex Composition

Among the resident population, the number of females continued to be higher than males. As at end-June 2022, the sex ratio was 955 males per 1,000 females (Chart 1.5).

Chart 1.5 Sex Composition of Resident Population

Marital Status

Compared to a decade ago, the distribution of the resident population aged 15 years and over by marital status remained largely similar in 2021. Married persons formed the largest group at 60.0 per cent, followed by single (or never married) persons at 31.3 per cent (Chart 1.6). Residents who were widowed and divorced or separated formed 4.6 per cent and 4.1 per cent respectively.

A larger proportion of females were widowed as compared to males, partially due to the longer life expectancy of females.

Chart 1.6 Marital Status of Resident Population Aged 15 Years and Over by Sex
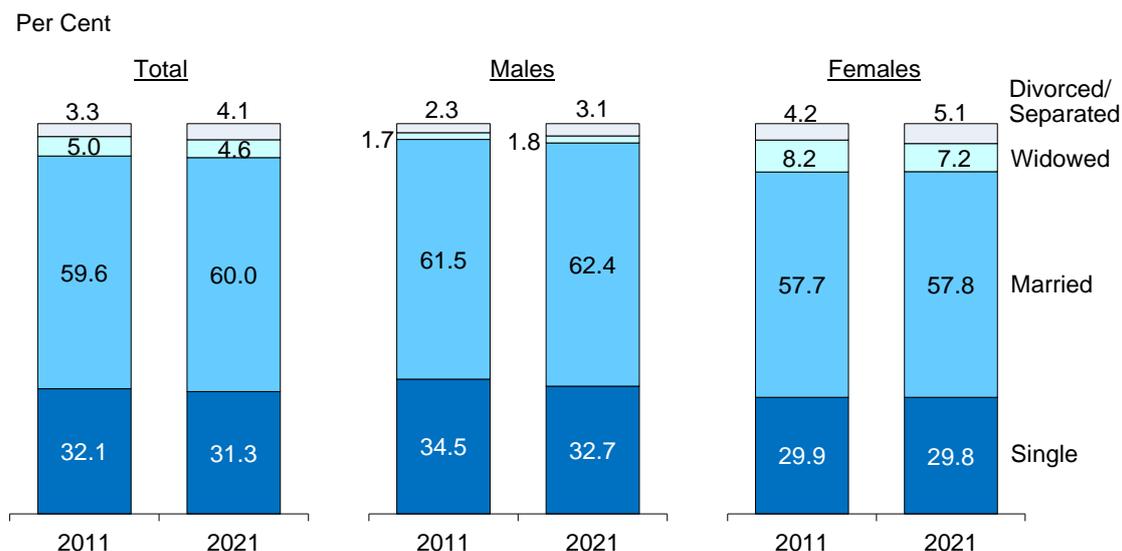
The marital distribution among the resident population varied across age groups. Those in the younger ages of 20-29 years were predominantly single while those aged 30 years and over were predominantly married in 2021 (Chart 1.7). With improved life expectancy in 2021 compared to a decade ago, the proportion of widowed among the older age group of 70 years and over had declined over the same period.

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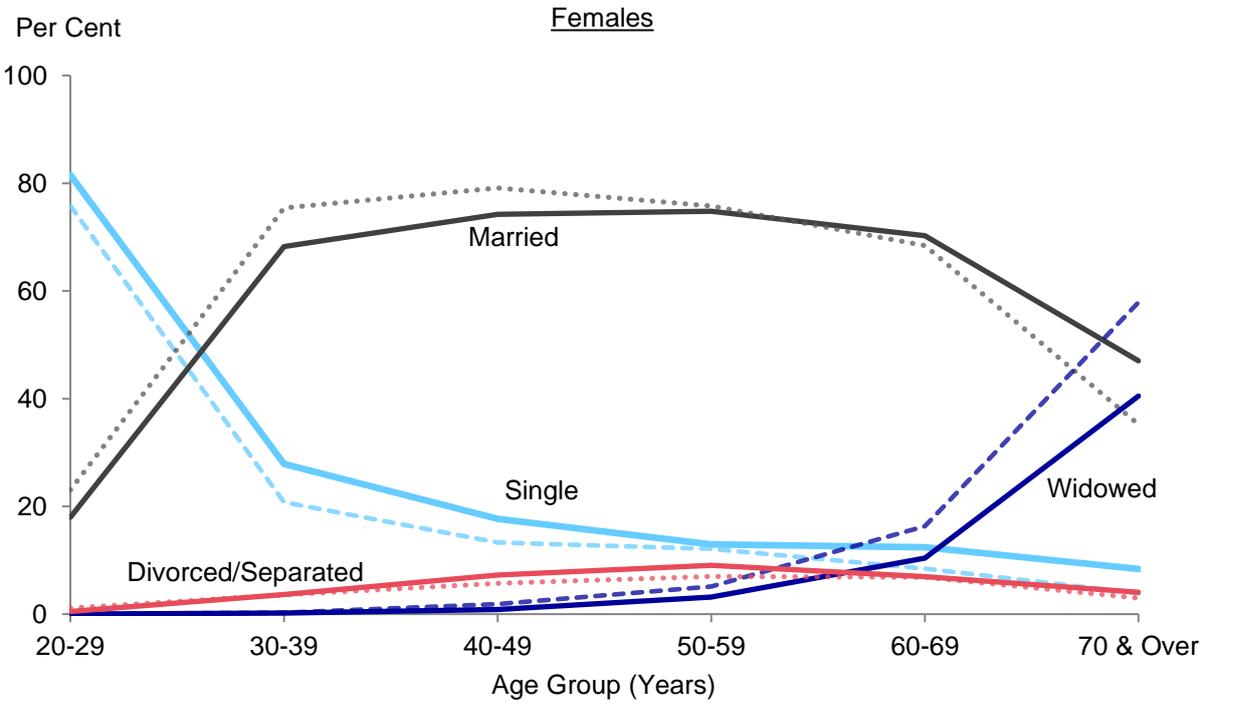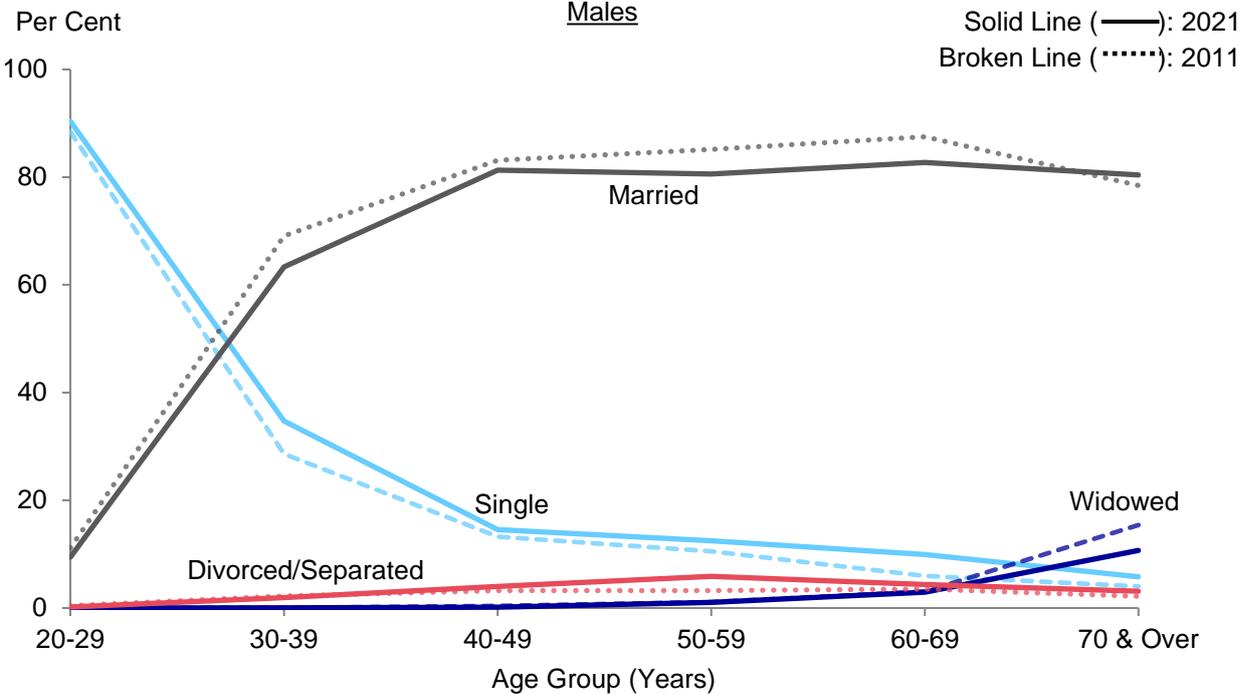
Proportion of Singles

The proportion of singles among resident males and females rose across all age groups below 50 years compared to a decade ago. In particular, the rise was larger among the younger age groups below 35 years (Chart 1.8).

In 2021, 83.5 per cent of males and 70.5 per cent of females aged 25-29 years were single, up from 77.0 percent and 57.6 per cent in 2011. Similarly, the proportion of singles among those aged 30-34 years rose to 45.7 per cent for males and 35.4 per cent for females in 2021, up from 38.1 per cent and 25.0 per cent a decade ago.

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

Per Cent	Age Group (Years)		
		2021	2011

Males	Age Group (Years)	Females
13.0 / 12.1	45-49	16.7 / 12.6
16.1 / 14.6	40-44	18.6 / 14.1
23.4 / 20.1	35-39	19.9 / 16.8
45.7 / 38.1	30-34	35.4 / 25.0
83.5 / 77.0	25-29	70.5 / 57.6
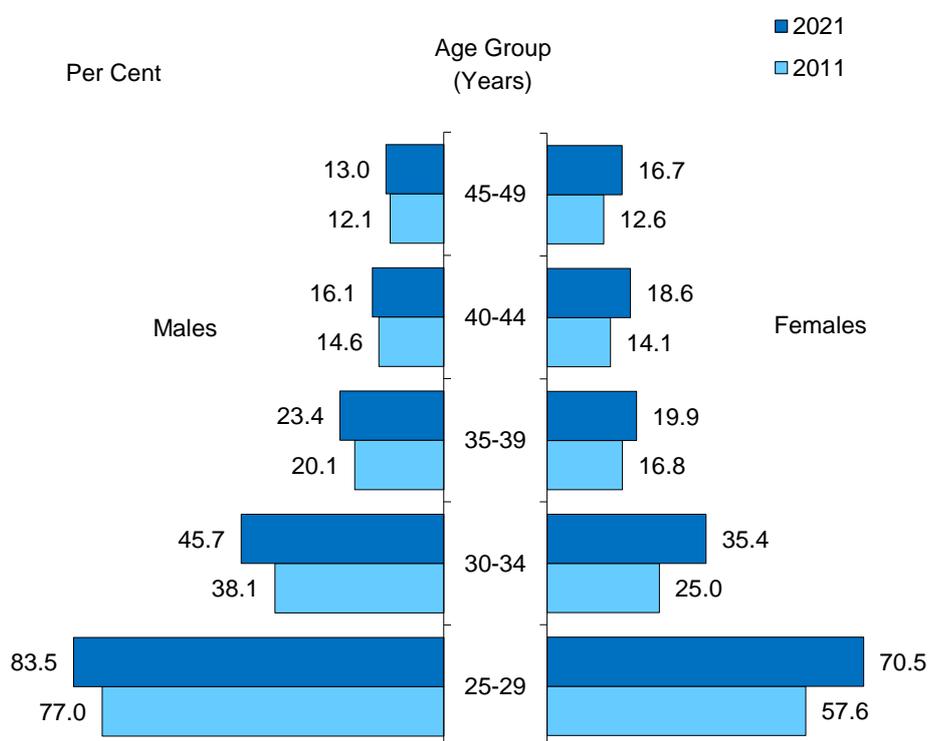
Singlehood was more prevalent among males with lower educational qualifications and females with higher educational qualifications. In 2021, the proportion of singles among males aged 40-49 years with below secondary qualification was 21.4 per cent, higher than the 13.1 per cent among those with university qualification (Chart 1.9). On the other hand, the proportion of singles among females aged 40-49 years with below secondary qualification was 12.6 per cent, lower than the 20.1 per cent among those with university qualification.

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

Per Cent   ☐ 2011 ■ 2021

30-39 Years

Males

Qualification	2011	2021
Below Secondary	30.6	42.4
Secondary	30.3	29.6
Post-Secondary (Non-Tertiary)	30.7	33.1
Diploma & Professional Qualification	31.7	39.8
University	25.5	33.1

Females

Qualification	2011	2021
Below Secondary	12.8	22.5
Secondary	16.7	14.2
Post-Secondary (Non-Tertiary)	18.1	22.5
Diploma & Professional Qualification	22.1	24.8
University	23.6	31.4

40-49 Years

Males

Qualification	2011	2021
Below Secondary	21.8	21.4
Secondary	14.0	17.1
Post-Secondary (Non-Tertiary)	12.0	14.6
Diploma & Professional Qualification	11.1	14.6
University	8.4	13.1

Females

Qualification	2011	2021
Below Secondary	9.8	12.6
Secondary	10.7	12.5
Post-Secondary (Non-Tertiary)	14.6	18.2
Diploma & Professional Qualification	17.0	17.7
University	17.6	20.1

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[1]

Among residents aged 25 years and over, the proportion of those with post-secondary or higher qualifications rose from 46.9 per cent in 2011 to 61.8 per cent in 2021 (Chart 1.10). This was mainly due to the increase in university graduates, from 24.5 per cent to 36.1 per cent over the decade.

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

Per Cent

■ 2011   ■ 2021

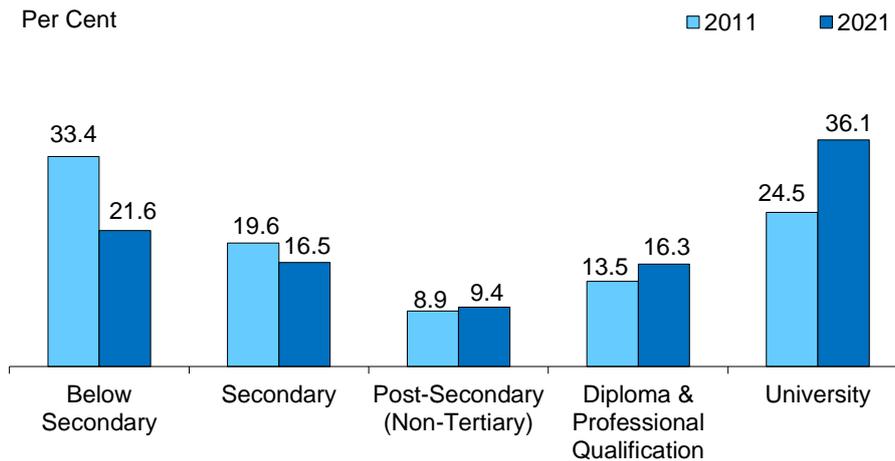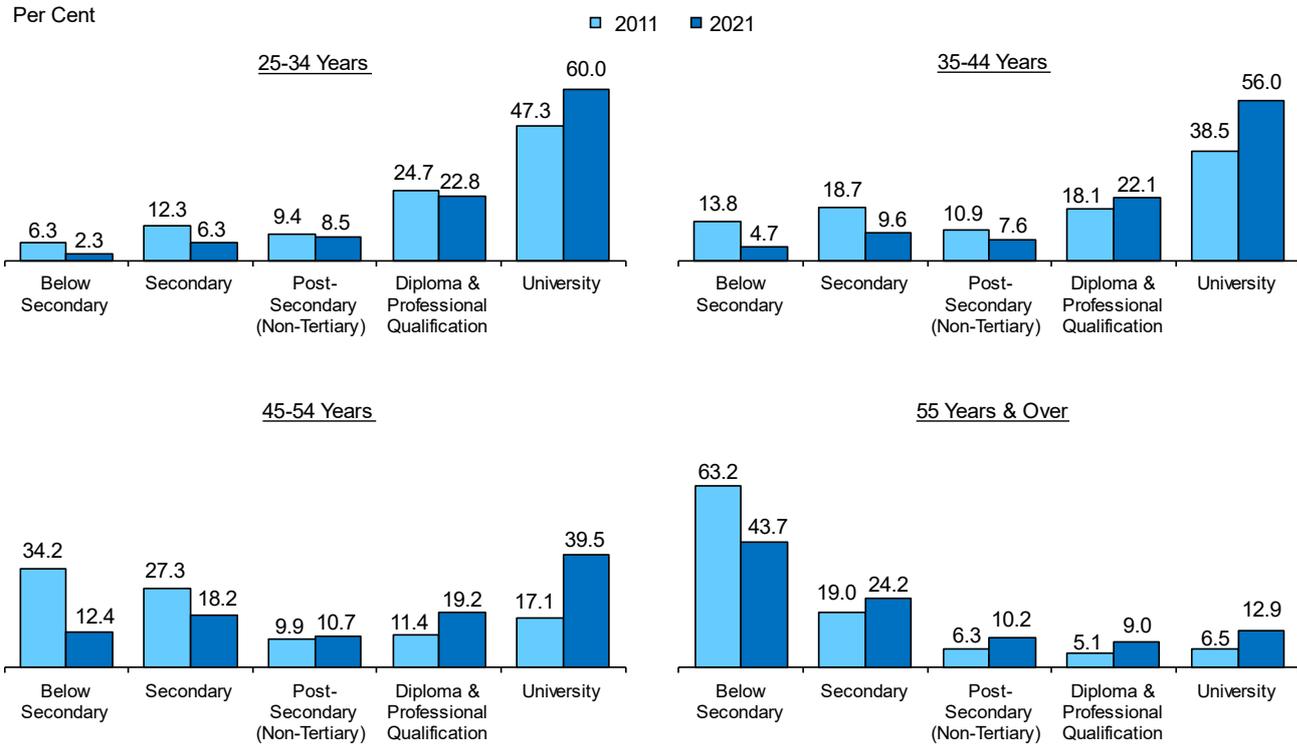|	Below Secondary	Secondary	Post-Secondary (Non-Tertiary)	Diploma & Professional Qualification	University
2011	33.4	19.6	8.9	13.5	24.5
2021	21.6	16.5	9.4	16.3	36.1

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[1] 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 qualification increased between 2011 and 2021 across all age groups (Chart 1.11). The largest increase of 22.4 percentage-points was observed among residents aged 45-54 years, from 17.1 per cent to 39.5 per cent.
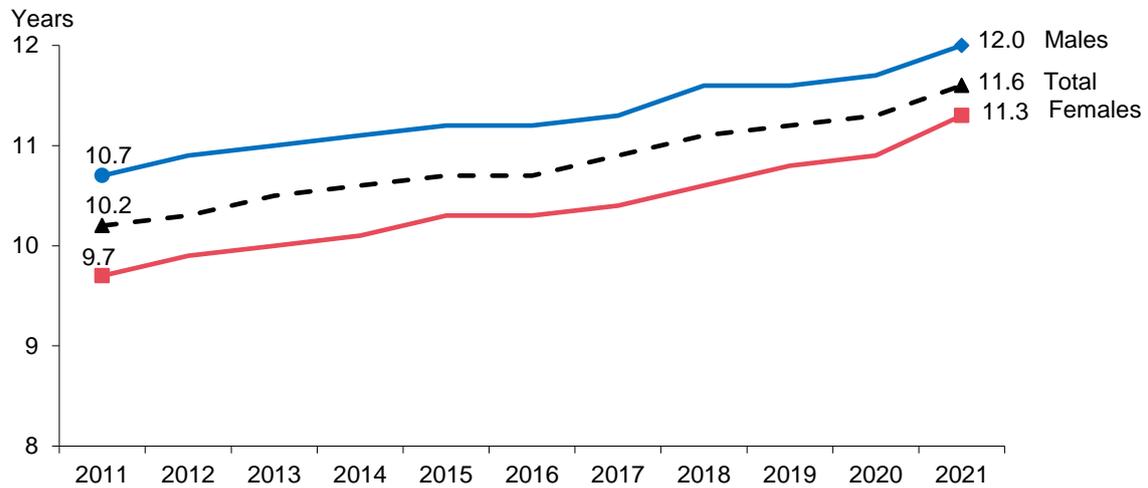
Among residents aged 25-34 years, university graduates formed 60.0 per cent in 2021, an increase from 47.3 per cent in 2011. Conversely, the proportions of those with below university qualification fell, especially those with secondary and below secondary qualifications.

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

Per Cent

■ 2011 ■ 2021

25-34 Years

	2011	2021
Below Secondary	6.3	2.3
Secondary	12.3	6.3
Post-Secondary (Non-Tertiary)	9.4	8.5
Diploma & Professional Qualification	24.7	22.8
University	47.3	60.0

35-44 Years

	2011	2021
Below Secondary	13.8	4.7
Secondary	18.7	9.6
Post-Secondary (Non-Tertiary)	10.9	7.6
Diploma & Professional Qualification	18.1	22.1
University	38.5	56.0

45-54 Years

	2011	2021
Below Secondary	34.2	12.4
Secondary	27.3	18.2
Post-Secondary (Non-Tertiary)	9.9	10.7
Diploma & Professional Qualification	11.4	19.2
University	17.1	39.5

55 Years & Over

	2011	2021
Below Secondary	63.2	43.7
Secondary	19.0	24.2
Post-Secondary (Non-Tertiary)	6.3	10.2
Diploma & Professional Qualification	5.1	9.0
University	6.5	12.9

With a larger proportion of residents attaining higher qualifications, the average number of years of schooling among residents rose from 10.2 years in 2011 to 11.6 years in 2021 (Chart 1.12). The gap between the males and females has narrowed from 1.0 years to 0.7 years over the same period.

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

Years

12.0	Males
11.6	Total
11.3	Females

10.7

10.2

9.7

2011 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016 2017 2018 2019 2020 2021

Chapter 2   Geographical Distribution
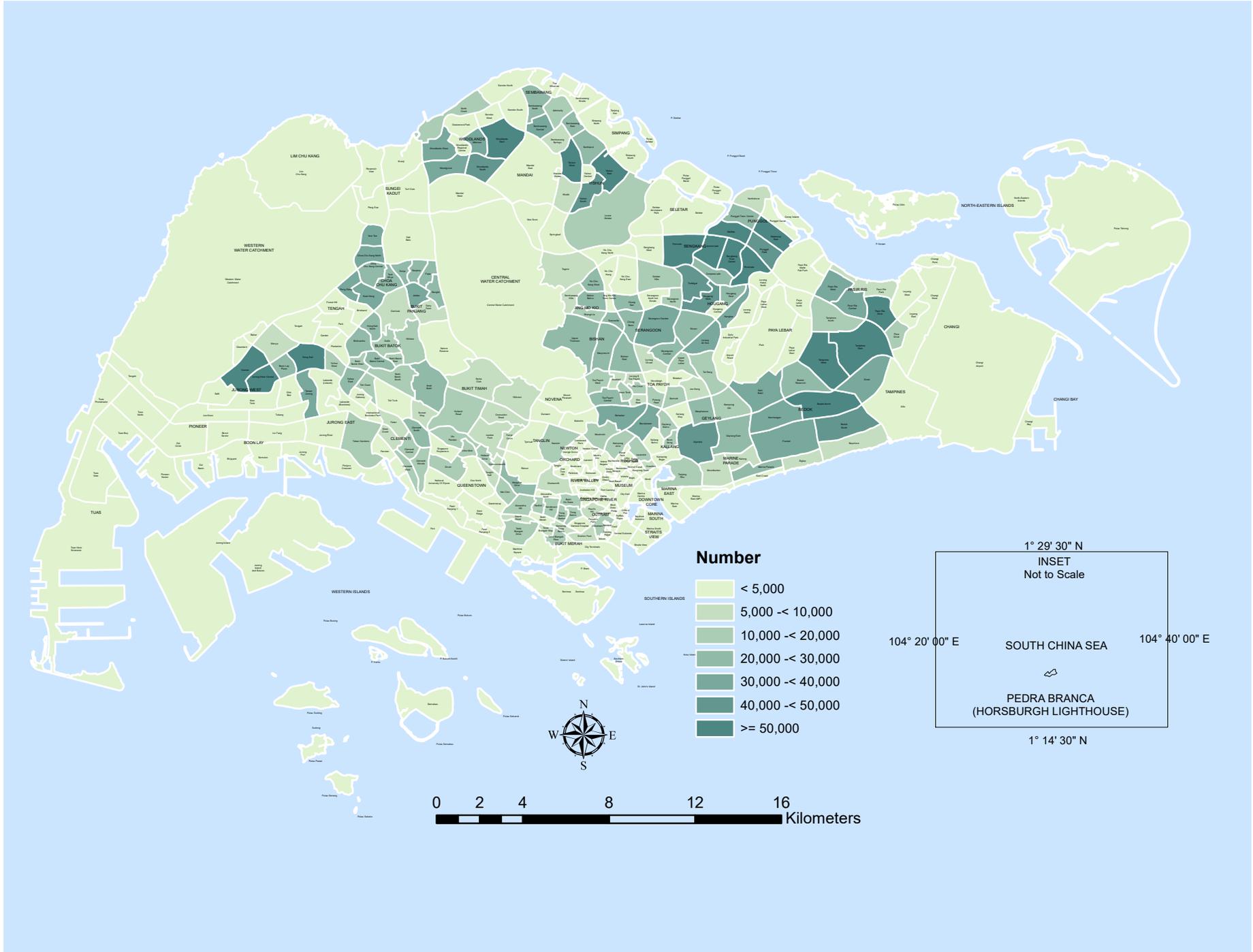
Resident Population

As at end-June 2022, more than half (52.3 per cent) of the 4.07 million residents in Singapore resided in nine out of fifty-five planning areas[2]. 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 278,270 residents.

Chart 2.1 Resident Population by Planning Area, June 2022

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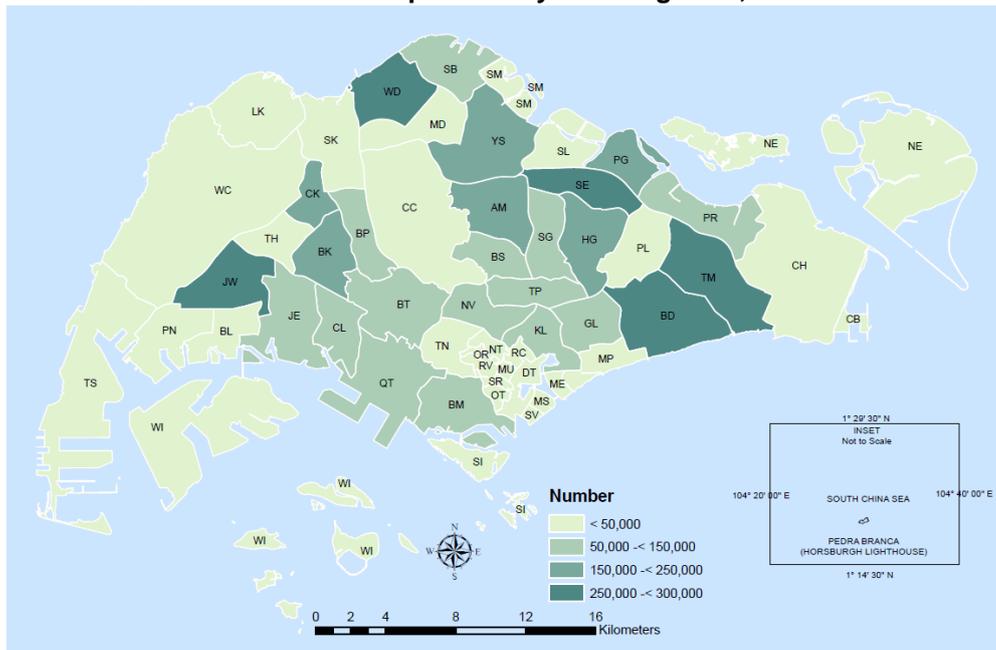
[2] Planning areas refer to areas demarcated in the Urban Redevelopment Authority's Master Plan 2019.

Chart 2.2 Resident Population by Subzone, June 2022

Number

< 5,000

5,000 -< 10,000

10,000 -< 20,000

20,000 -< 30,000

30,000 -< 40,000

40,000 -< 50,000

>= 50,000

INSET
Not to Scale

1° 29' 30" N

104° 20' 00" E   SOUTH CHINA SEA   104° 40' 00" E

PEDRA BRANCA
(HORSBURGH LIGHTHOUSE)

1° 14' 30" N

0   2   4   8   12   16
Kilometers

Age Profile

In 2022, 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 over.

In comparison, planning areas with newer housing estates had a higher proportion of children aged below 5 years than older planning areas. In 2022, Punggol had one of the highest proportions of children aged below 5 years, at 7.5 per cent of the resident population in the planning area (Chart 2.4).

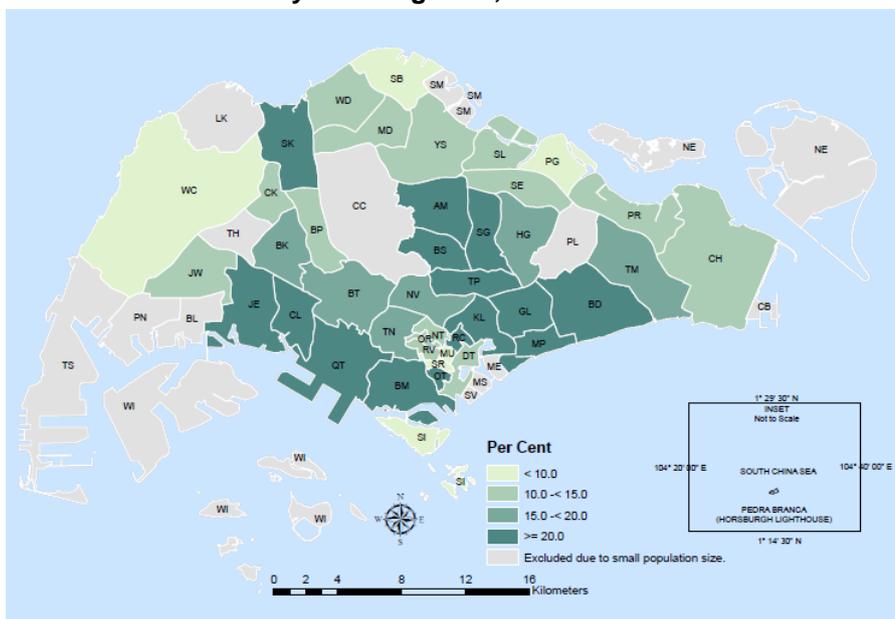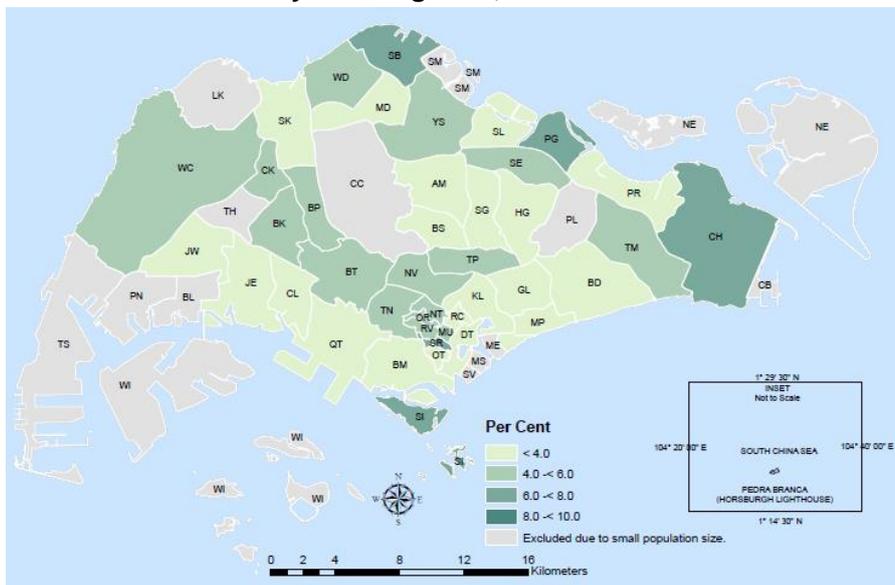**Chart 2.3 Proportion of Resident Population Aged 65 Years and Over by Planning Area, June 2022**

Chart 2.4 Proportion of Resident Population Aged Below 5 Years by Planning Area, June 2022

Type of Dwelling

An estimated 3.13 million residents, or approximately four in five residents, resided in HDB flats in 2022 (Chart 2.5). There were four planning areas where more than 90 per cent were staying in HDB flats. Outram ranked first among planning areas with the highest proportion of HDB dwellers, followed by Woodlands.

**Chart 2.5 Proportion of Resident Population Staying in HDB Flats
by Planning Area, June 2022**
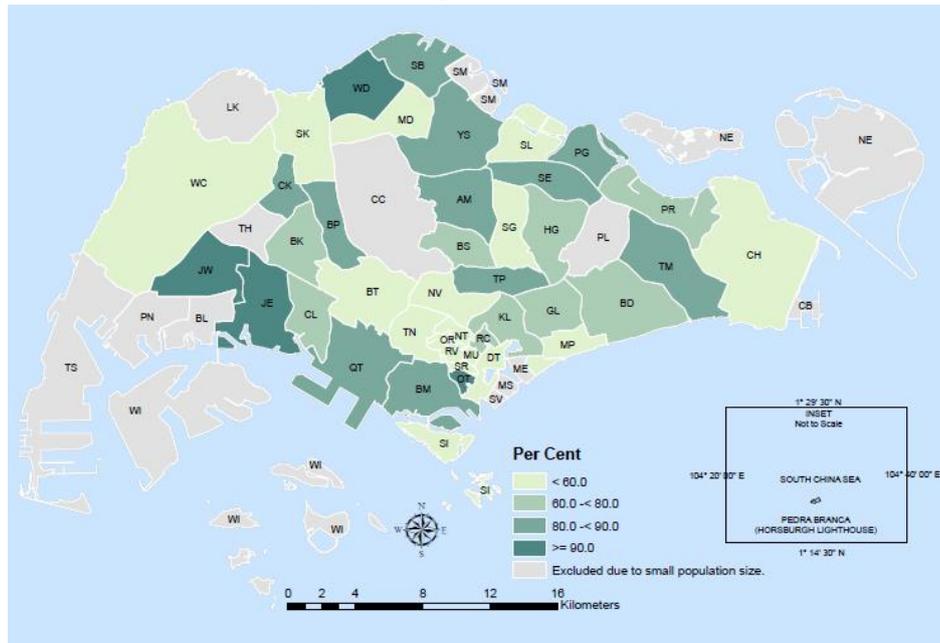
Floor Area

In 2022, proportionately more seniors aged 65 years and over (27.4 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, Queenstown, Rochor and Kallang 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), 2022
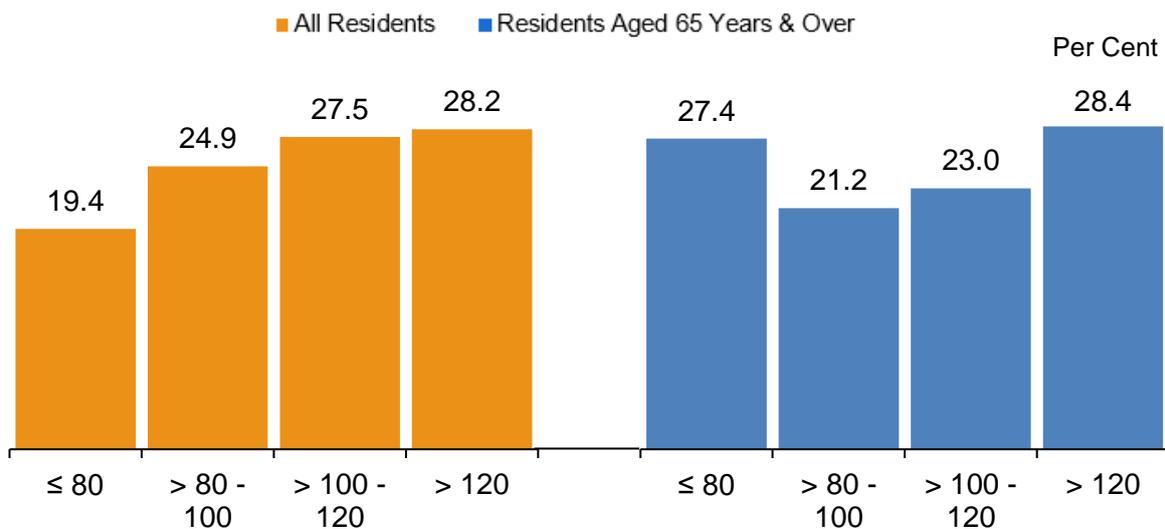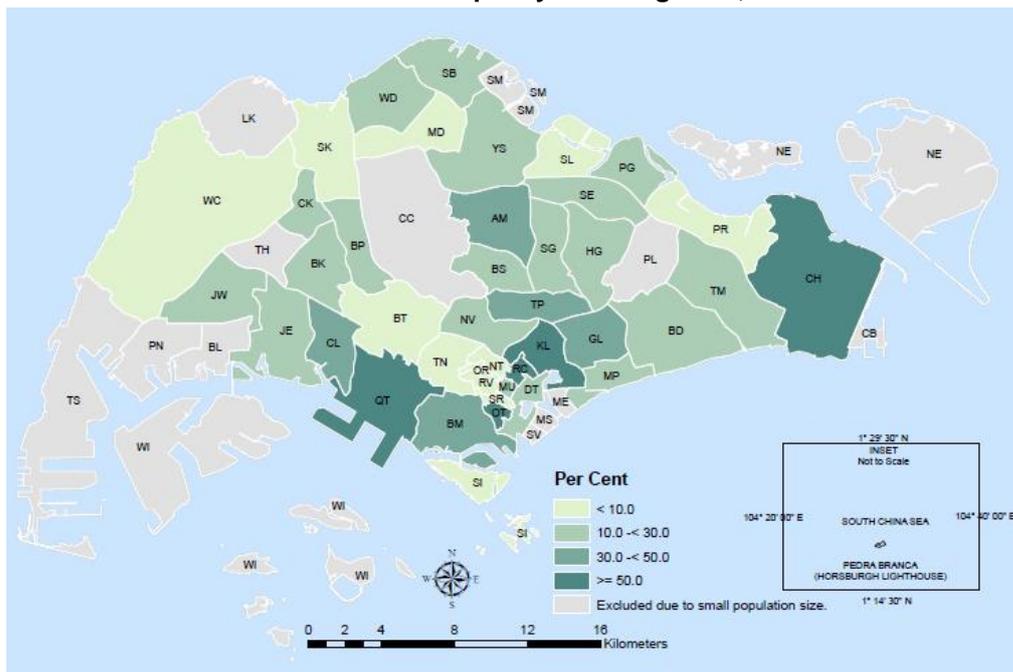

Chart 2.7 Proportion of Residents Aged 65 Years & Over Staying in Residential Dwelling Units of Floor Area ≤80 sq m by Planning Area, June 2022

<u>Note:</u>

Published maps are based on Urban Redevelopment Authority's Master Plan 2019 planning area boundaries and Singapore Land Authority's 2022 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.
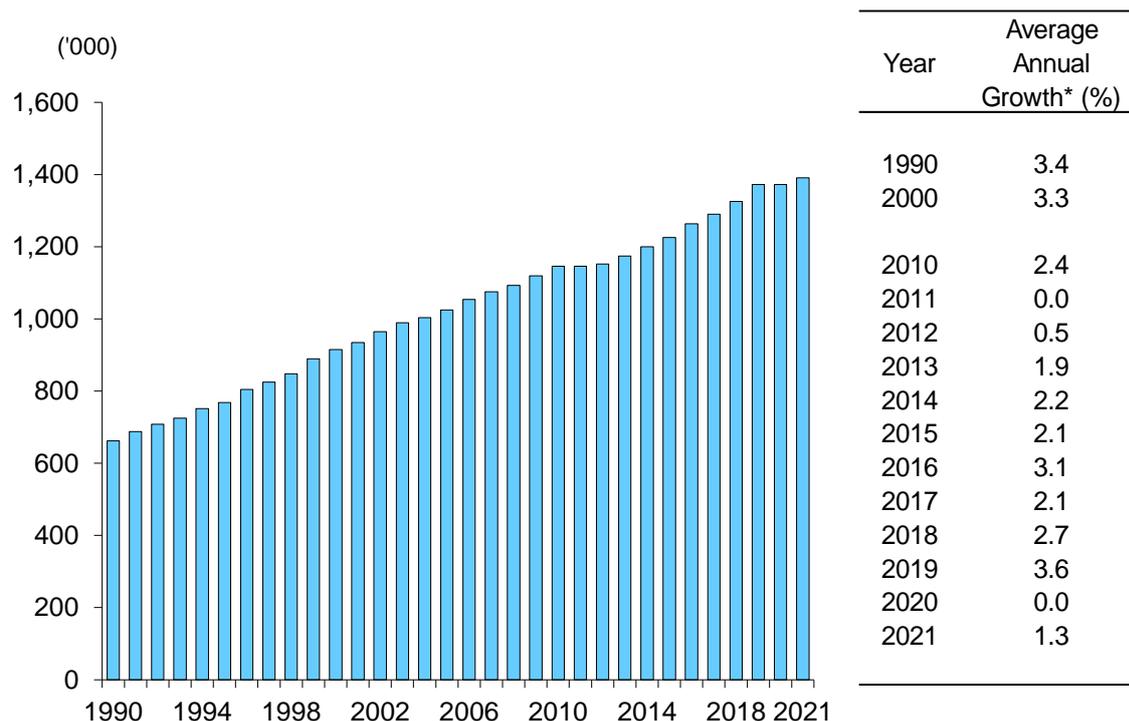
Codes for Planning Area

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

Chapter 3   Households and Housing

Resident Households

The number of resident households grew 1.3 per cent to 1.39 million in 2021 from 1.37 million a year ago (Chart 3.1). This was slower than the average annual growth rate of 2.9 per cent per annum between 2015-2019. Delays in renovation and construction works arising from the COVID-19 pandemic were likely to have continued in 2021, contributing to the slower growth.

Chart 3.1 Resident Households

Year	Average Annual Growth* (%)
1990	3.4
2000	3.3
2010	2.4
2011	0.0
2012	0.5
2013	1.9
2014	2.2
2015	2.1
2016	3.1
2017	2.1
2018	2.7
2019	3.6
2020	0.0
2021	1.3

* 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 in Housing and Development Board (HDB) flats, the proportion decreased from 82.7 per cent in 2011 to 78.3 per cent in 2021 (Chart 3.2). In particular, the proportions of resident households living in HDB 3-room and 5-room/executive flats decreased from 20.4 and 25.5 per cent in 2011 to 17.5 and 22.7 per cent in 2021 respectively.

Correspondingly, the proportion of resident households living in condominiums and other apartments rose to 16.5 per cent in 2021 from 11.1 per cent a decade ago. The proportion of those living in landed properties remained relatively stable at 4.9 per cent in 2021.

Chart 3.2 Proportion of Resident Households by Selected Type of Dwelling
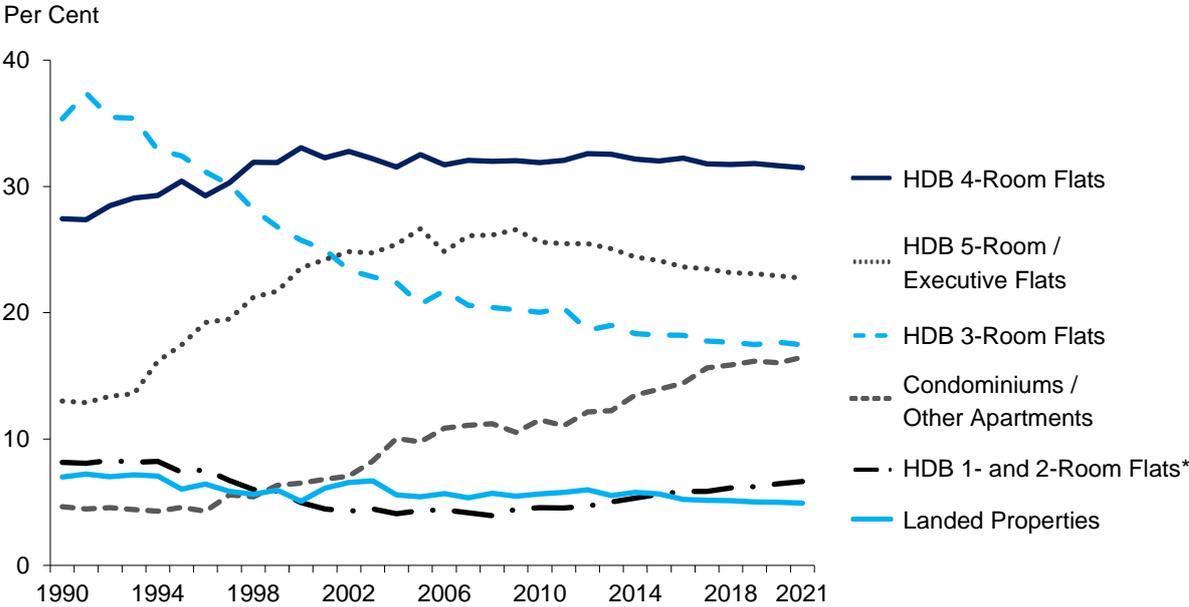
* Includes HDB studio apartments.

Tenancy of Households

In 2021, 88.9 per cent of resident households owned the dwelling they were staying in, similar to a decade ago (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[3]	1,372.6	1,206.0	152.1	87.9
2021	1,390.6	1,236.9	134.8	88.9

* 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)).

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[3] 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 3.51 persons in 2011 to 3.15 persons in 2021 (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 2021, the average household size was 2.01 persons for HDB 1- & 2-room flat, followed by 2.48 persons and 3.27 persons for HDB 3-room and 4-room flats respectively. Among the larger dwellings, there were 3.63 persons living in HDB 5-room/executive flats and 4.20 persons living in landed properties on average.

Chart 3.3 Average Household Size of Resident Households by Selected Type of Dwelling
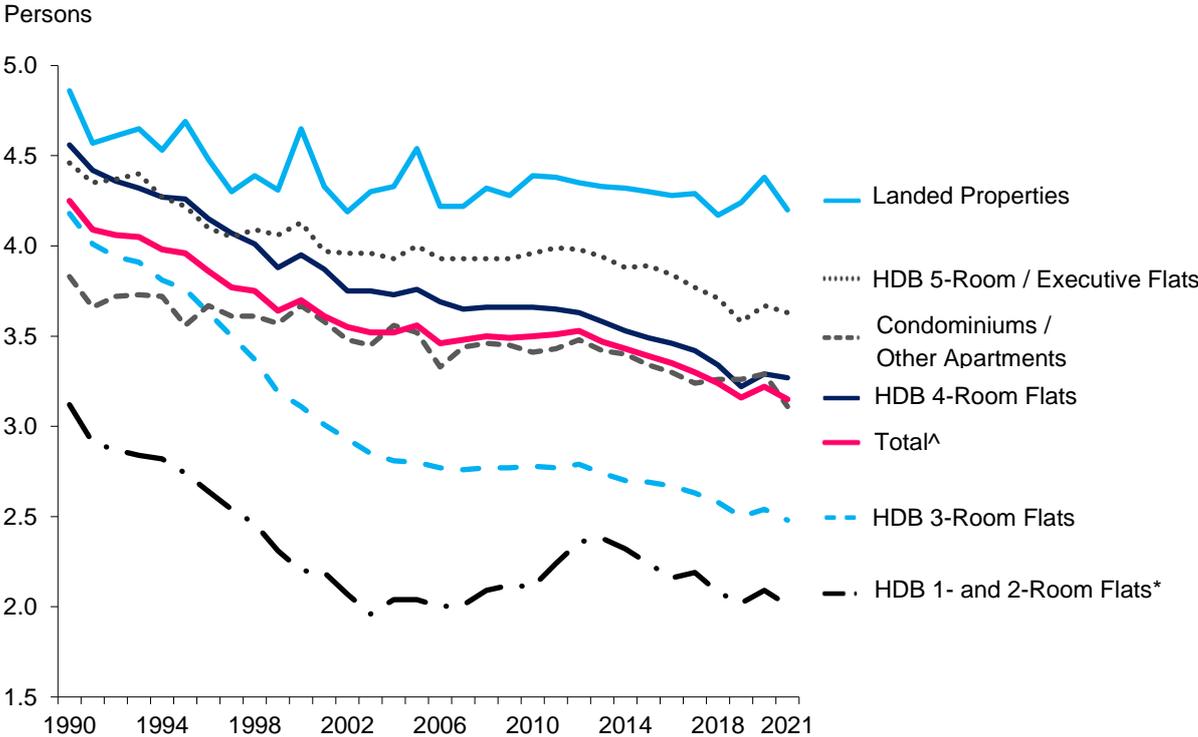
^ Includes other types of dwelling (e.g. non-HDB shophouses). Data for years prior to 2018 includes non-privatised Housing and Urban Development Company (HUDC) flats.
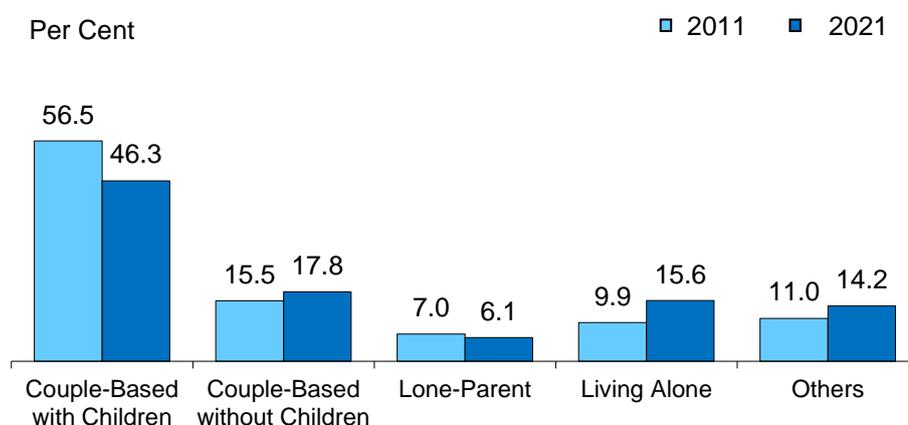
* Includes HDB studio apartments.

Household Living Arrangement

While couple-based households with children continued to be the most prevalent living arrangement, its share among resident households declined from 56.5 per cent in 2011 to 46.3 per cent in 2021 (Chart 3.4).

Over the same period, the proportions rose for couple-based households without children (from 15.5 per cent to 17.8 per cent) and to a larger extent, one-person households (from 9.9 per cent to 15.6 per cent).

Chart 3.4 Resident Households by Household Living Arrangement

Per Cent

■ 2011   ■ 2021

Category	2011	2021
Couple-Based with Children	56.5	46.3
Couple-Based without Children	15.5	17.8
Lone-Parent	7.0	6.1
Living Alone	9.9	15.6
Others	11.0	14.2

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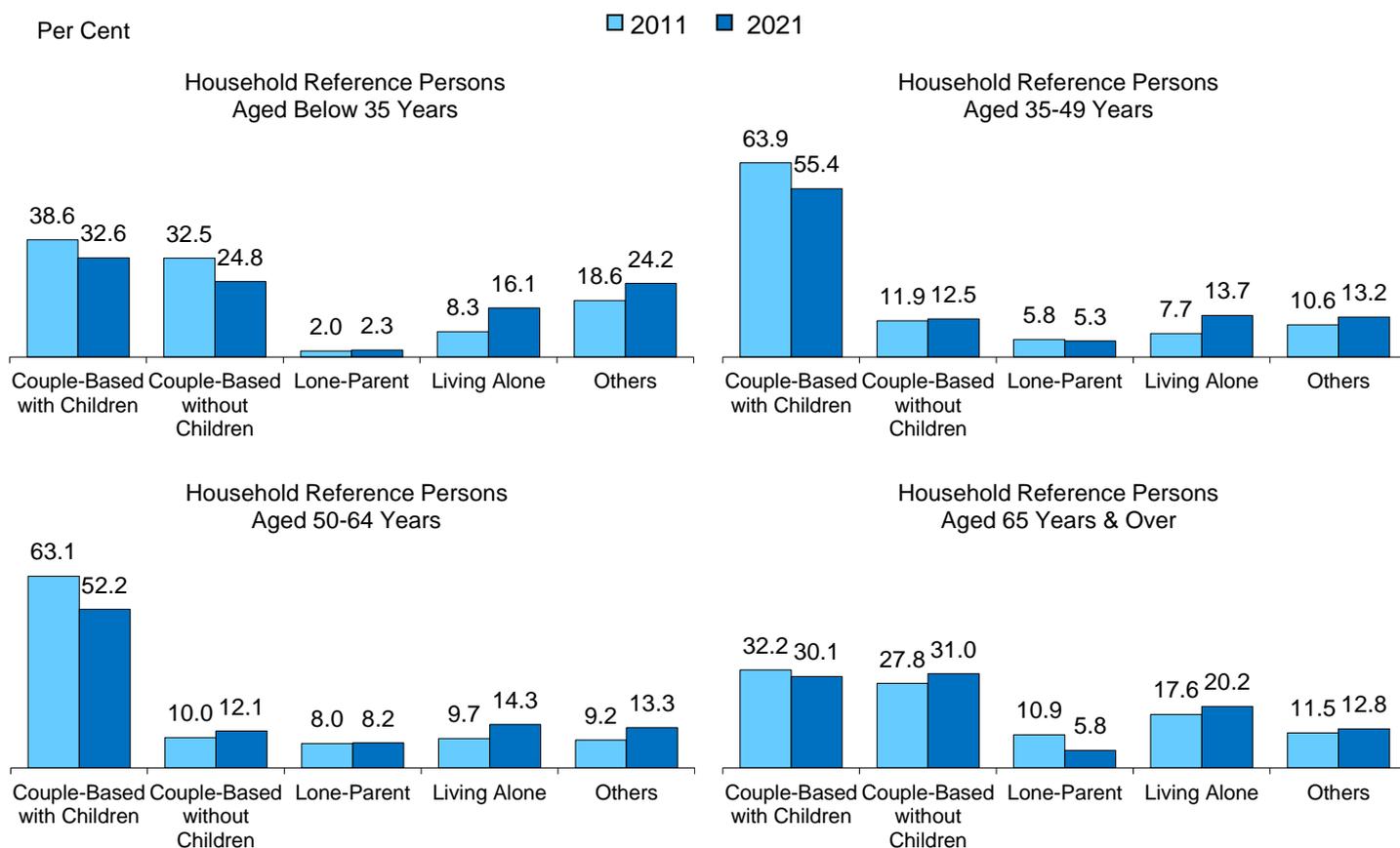
Living alone households refer to one-person households. Examples include single persons living alone, or ever-married persons who are living alone as their children have grown up and moved out from the parental home.

Between 2011 and 2021, the decline in share of couple-based households with children was observed across household reference persons of all age groups, particularly among those aged 35-49 years (from 63.9 to 55.4 per cent) and 50-64 years (from 63.1 to 52.2 per cent) (Chart 3.5).

Among those with reference persons aged below 35 years, the share of couple-based households with children declined from 38.6 to 32.6 per cent. The share of couple-based households without children also fell (from 32.5 to 24.8 per cent) over the same period. On the other hand, the proportion of one-person households rose over the last decade. These correspond to the trends of lower fertility, increasing singlehood and marrying at a later age.

As for households with elderly reference persons aged 65 years and over, the proportion of 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

Per Cent

☐ 2011 ■ 2021

Household Reference Persons
Aged Below 35 Years

Category	2011	2021
Couple-Based with Children	38.6	32.6
Couple-Based without Children	32.5	24.8
Lone-Parent	2.0	2.3
Living Alone	8.3	16.1
Others	18.6	24.2

Household Reference Persons
Aged 35-49 Years

Category	2011	2021
Couple-Based with Children	63.9	55.4
Couple-Based without Children	11.9	12.5
Lone-Parent	5.8	5.3
Living Alone	7.7	13.7
Others	10.6	13.2

Household Reference Persons
Aged 50-64 Years

Category	2011	2021
Couple-Based with Children	63.1	52.2
Couple-Based without Children	10.0	12.1
Lone-Parent	8.0	8.2
Living Alone	9.7	14.3
Others	9.2	13.3

Household Reference Persons
Aged 65 Years & Over

Category	2011	2021
Couple-Based with Children	32.2	30.1
Couple-Based without Children	27.8	31.0
Lone-Parent	10.9	5.8
Living Alone	17.6	20.2
Others	11.5	12.8

Chapter 4   Family Formation and Dissolution

Marriages

A total of 28,329 civil and Muslim marriages were registered in 2021, 25.1 per cent higher than the 22,651 marriages registered the year before (Chart 4.1). The increase came amidst progressive easing of COVID-19 safe management measures, contrasting the dip observed a year before when marriage plans for some were disrupted due to the pandemic.

Among the marriages registered in 2021, four in five were first marriages where neither party had previously been married.

Chart 4.1 Total Marriages and General Marriage Rate (GMR)
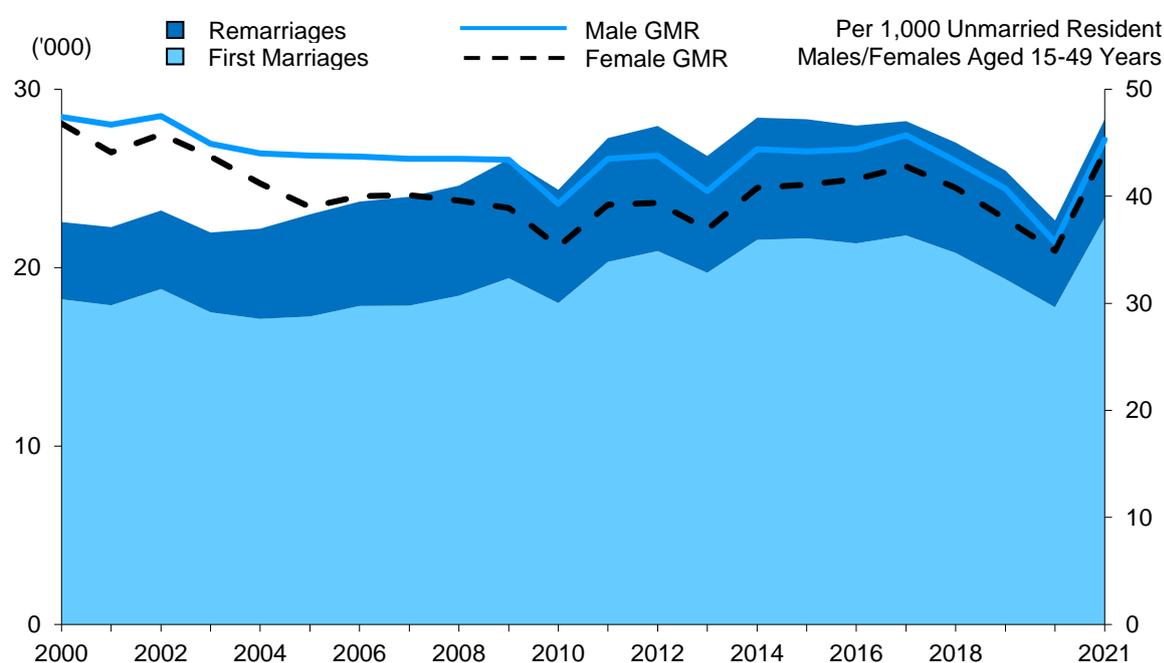
Total Marriages and Divorces

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, 2021".

In tandem with the higher number of marriages, the general marriage rates for both males and females increased in 2021, after falling for the past three years. For males, the rate was 45.3 marriages per thousand unmarried males aged 15-49 years in 2021, up from 43.5 in 2011. The rate for females in 2021 was 44.2 marriages per thousand unmarried females aged 15-49 years, up from 39.2 a decade ago.
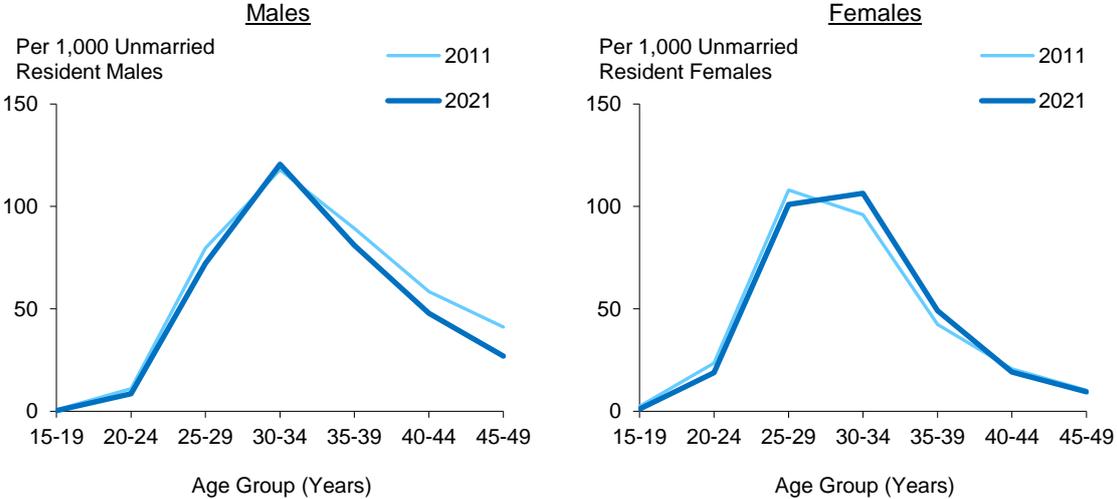
> **General Marriage Rate**
>
> The rate is defined as the number of marriages registered among persons aged 15-49 years during the year, out of every thousand unmarried population in the same age group.

Age-Specific Marriage Rate

In 2021, the highest marriage rates for both males and females were observed among those aged 30-34 years (Chart 4.2). For females, this was a shift from the peak age group of 25-29 years in 2011.

Compared to a decade ago, marriage rates rose for females aged 30 to 39 years and males aged 30 to 34 years.

Chart 4.2 Age-Sex Specific Marriage Rate
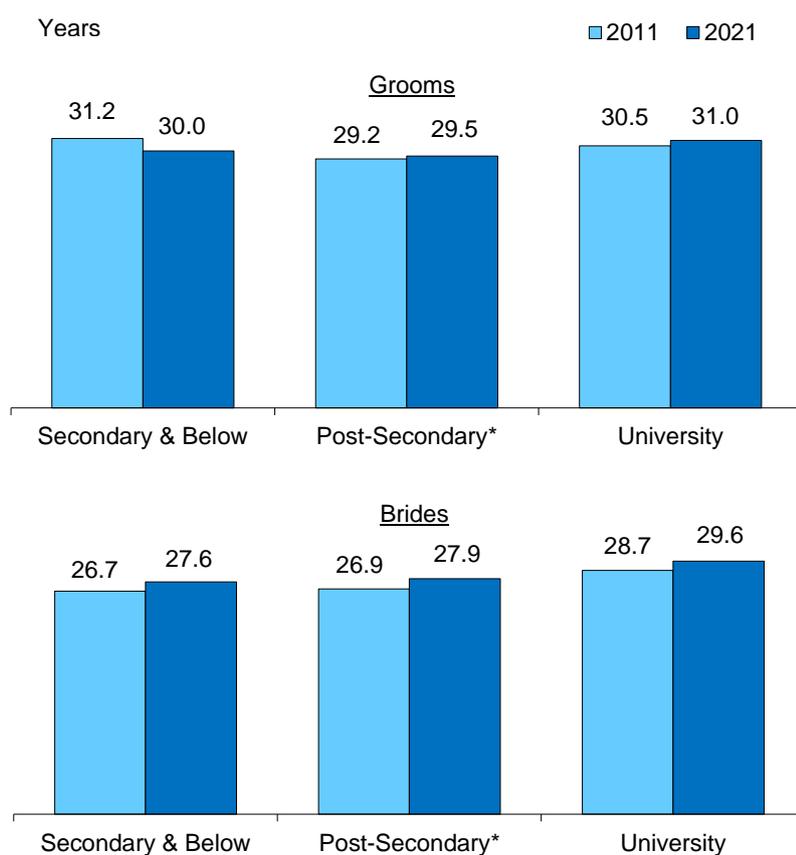

> **Age-Specific Marriage Rate**
>
> It is defined as the number of marriages registered within a specific age group during the year, out of every thousand unmarried population in the same age group.

Median Age at First Marriage

Between 2011 and 2021, the median age at first marriage rose across all educational groups except for grooms with secondary and below qualification (Chart 4.3).

Those with university qualification married the latest in 2021, with median ages of 31.0 years for first-time grooms and 29.6 years for first-time brides.

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

Years

☐ 2011 ■ 2021

Grooms

	Secondary & Below	Post-Secondary*	University
2011	31.2	29.2	30.5
2021	30.0	29.5	31.0

Brides

	Secondary & Below	Post-Secondary*	University
2011	26.7	26.9	28.7
2021	27.6	27.9	29.6

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

Marital Dissolutions

There were 7,890 marital dissolutions in 2021, an increase of 13.4 per cent from the 6,959 granted in the previous year (Chart 4.4). The increase was due to more divorce applications filed in 2021 and the resumption of divorce proceedings that were previously adjourned, following the easing of COVID-19 safe management measures.

There were 7.2 male divorcees for every thousand married males aged 20 years and over in 2021, up from 6.3 in 2020. Similarly, there were 6.9 female divorcees for every thousand married females aged 20 years and over in 2021, an increase from 6.1 in 2020. Despite the year-on-year increase, the general divorce rates for both males and females were still lower compared to a decade ago.

Chart 4.4 Total Marital Dissolutions and General Divorce Rate (GDR)
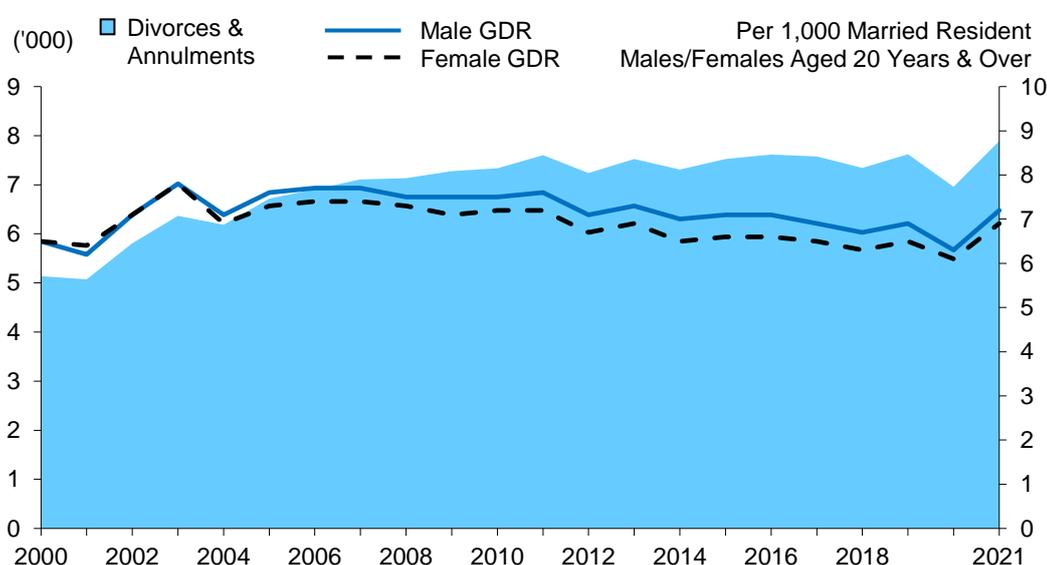
Note: Data on GDR include annulments. From 2004 onwards, data on GDR are based on divorces and annulments where either or both spouses are residents (i.e. Singapore citizens or permanent residents).

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.
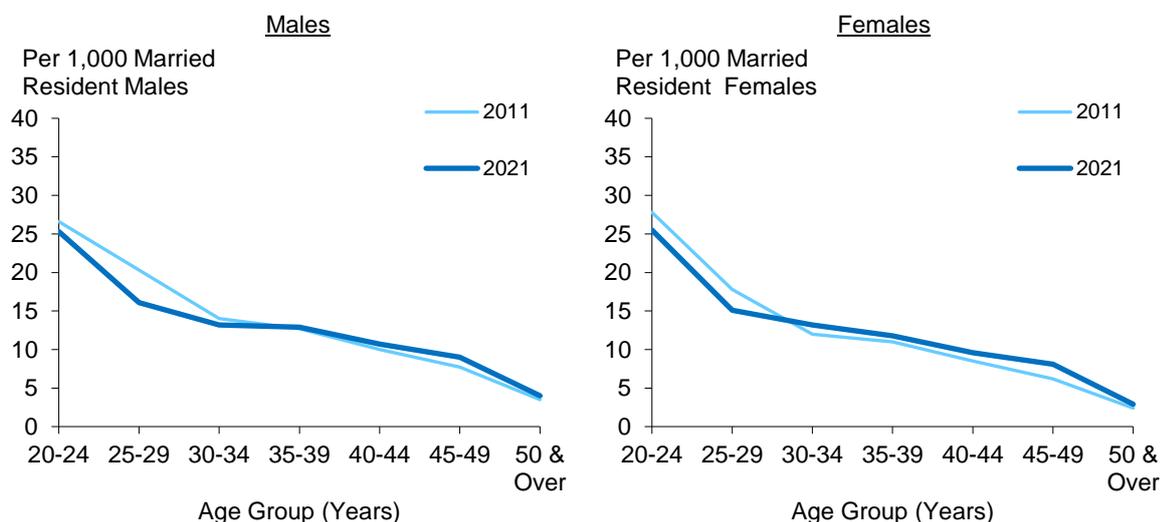
Annulment

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.

Age-Specific Divorce Rate

Although marital dissolutions continued to be more prevalent among younger married persons, a decline in divorce rates was observed for married persons aged below 30 years between 2011 and 2021 (Chart 4.5). Over the same period, divorce rates rose slightly for older married persons aged 35 years and over.

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 2021, the median duration of marriage at divorce was 10.7 years, slightly longer than the 10.5 years in 2011. Couples who were married for 5 to 9 years accounted for the largest share (29.8 per cent) of all divorces (Chart 4.6). This was followed by those with marriage duration of 10 to 14 years (18.4 per cent) and less than 5 years (17.1 per cent).

Chart 4.6 Divorces by Duration of Marriage
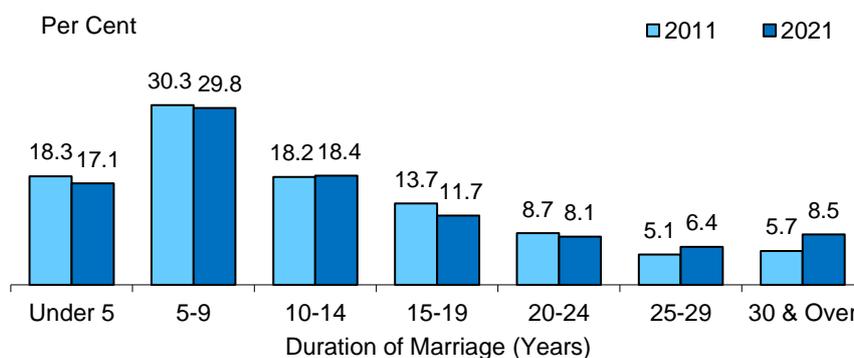
Note: Data exclude annulments.

Chapter 5 Fertility

Births and Fertility Rate

There were 38,672 live-births in 2021, similar to the 38,590 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) were also stable at 34,183 in 2021, compared to 34,233 in the past year.

Singapore's resident total fertility rate (TFR) was 1.12 births per female in 2021, a slight increase from the historic low of 1.10 in 2020. The increase was due to a decrease in the female population aged 15-49 years in 2021, which is used in the computation of the TFR.

Chart 5.1 Total Live-Births and Total Fertility Rate (TFR)
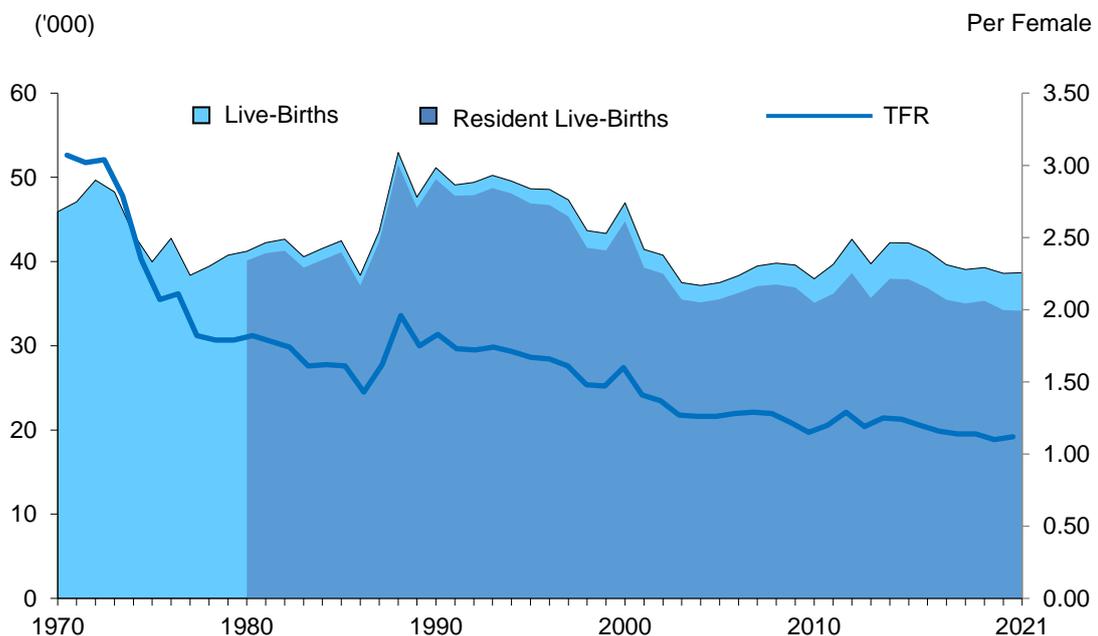
Note: Prior to 1980, data on TFR pertain to total population. From 1980 onwards, data on TFR pertain to resident population (i.e. Singapore citizens and permanent residents). Data on resident births for 1980-1985 are estimated.

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 (Chapter 267), and are compiled based on date of occurrence.
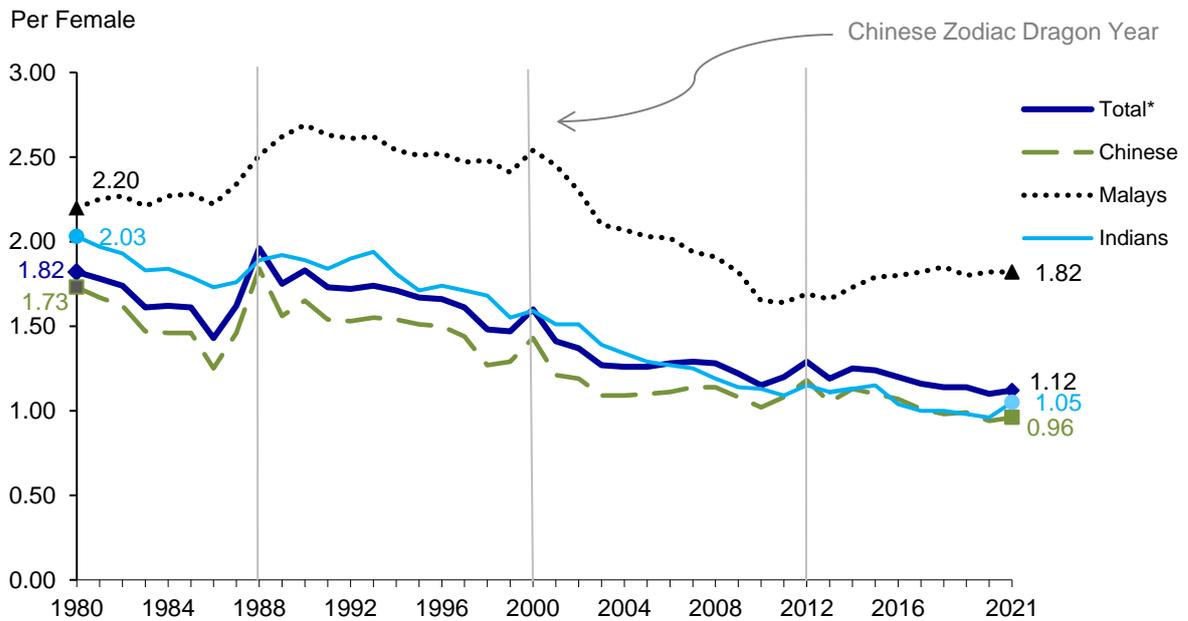
Total Fertility Rate

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

In 2021, the resident TFR rose for Indians and Chinese, and remained stable for Malays, as compared to the previous year (Chart 5.2). Malays continued to register the highest TFR at 1.82 births per female in 2021, followed by 1.05 for Indians and 0.96 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 30 years in 2021, and rose for those aged 30 years and over (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
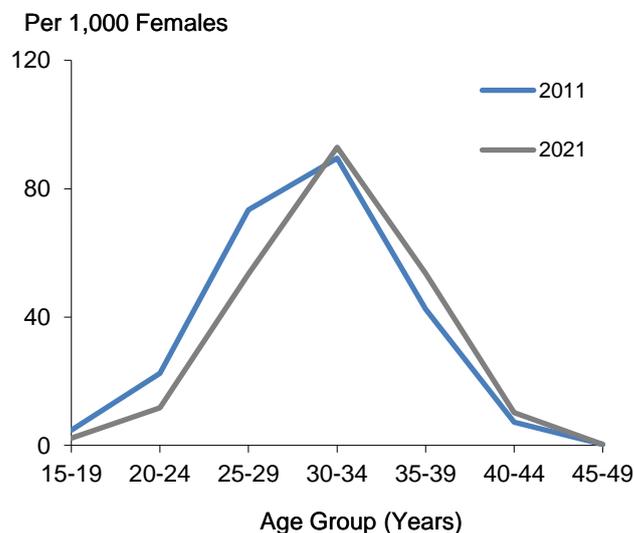
Births by Birth Order

While first-order births continued to form the largest proportion of total live-births in 2021, it fell from 47.7 per cent a year ago to 46.3 per cent (Chart 5.4). Correspondingly, the share of second-order births rose from 34.6 per cent to 36.3 per cent over the same period. The share of third order births and fourth and higher order births remained stable, comprising 12.1 per cent and 5.4 per cent respectively in 2021.

**Chart 5.4 Proportion of Births by Birth Order**
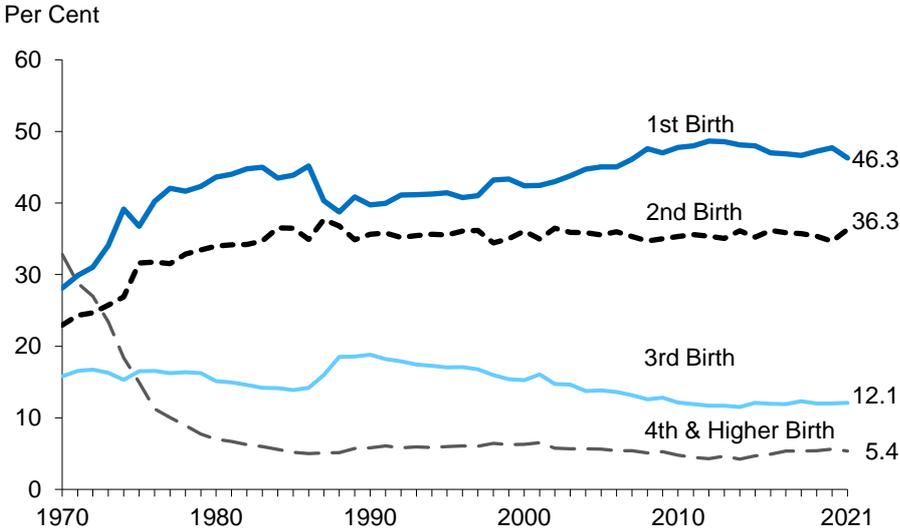
Number of Children Born

Ever-married females generally had fewer children compared to a decade ago. While those with two children continued to account for the largest share among ever-married resident females aged 15 years and over, the proportion of those aged 40-49 years with three children declined from 22.1 per cent in 2011 to 15.1 per cent in 2021 (Chart 5.5). It dipped from 6.0 per cent to 3.9 per cent for those with four or more children over the same period.

Correspondingly, the proportion of ever-married females aged 40-49 years who have never given birth increased from 9.1 per cent in 2011 to 15.1 per cent in 2021, while those with only one child increased from 19.4 per cent to 23.2 per cent.
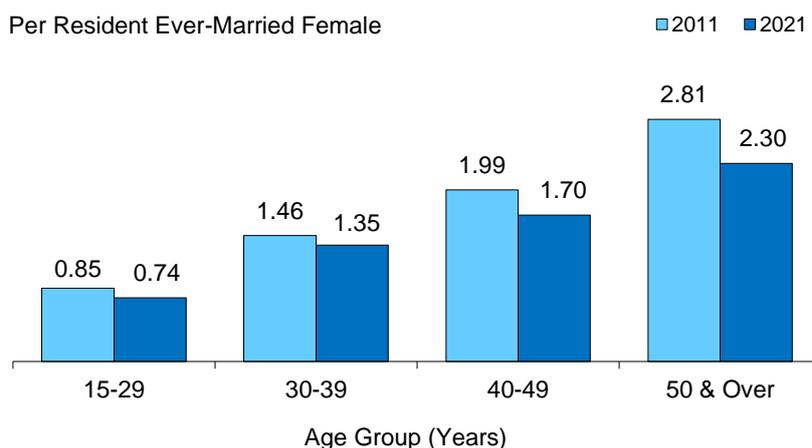
Chart 5.5 Resident Ever-Married Females by Age Group and Number of Children Born

Per Cent   ☐ 2011 ☐ 2021
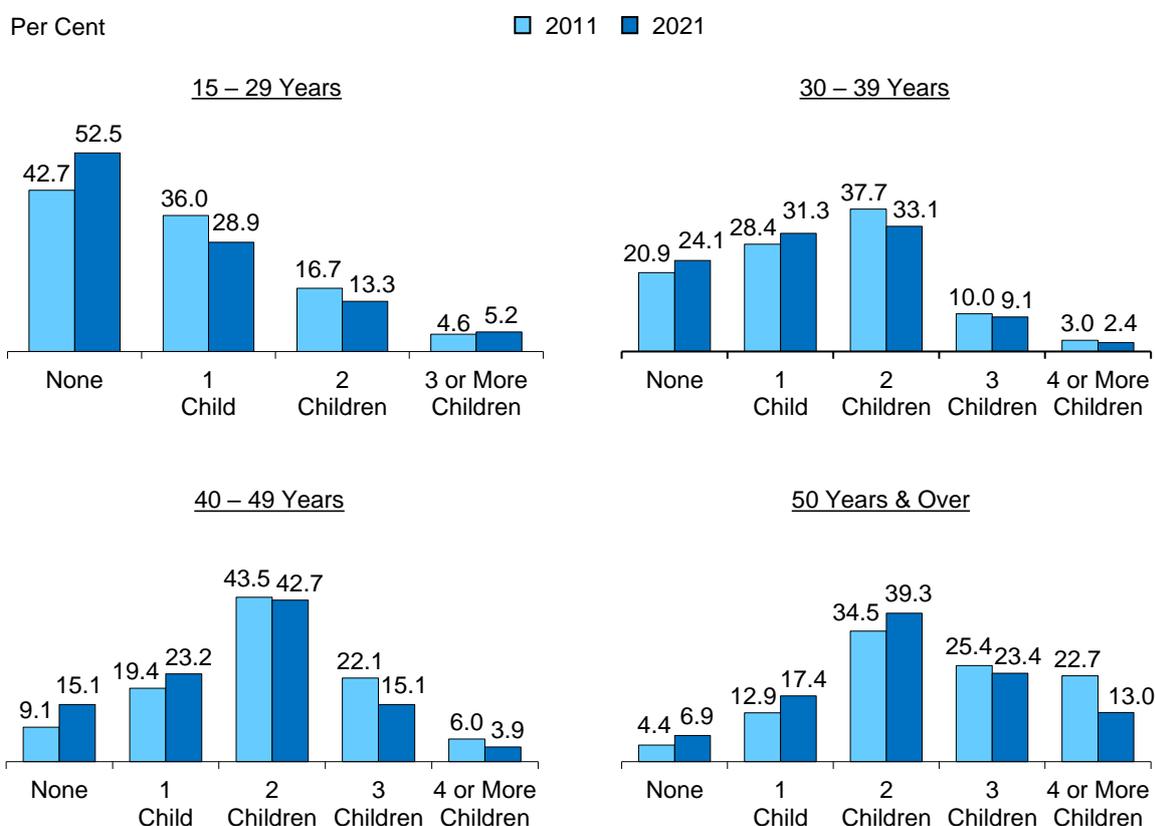
Average Number of Children Born by Age Group of Females

The average number of children born to ever-married resident females decreased across all age groups between 2011 and 2021. Among those aged 40-49 years, it fell from 1.99 per female in 2011 to 1.70 in 2021 (Chart 5.6). A large decrease was also observed among those aged 50 years and over, from 2.81 in 2011 to 2.30 in 2021.

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

Per Resident Ever-Married Female   ■2011 ■2021

Age Group (Years)

Average Number of Children Born by Educational Attainment of Females

The average number of children born to ever-married females fell across all levels of educational attainment (Chart 5.7). Females who were better educated had fewer children on average compared to their counterparts with lower educational qualifications. Among resident ever-married females aged 40-49 years, university graduates had an average of 1.63 children in 2021, lower than the average of 1.92 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

Per Resident Ever-Married Female   ■2011 ■2021
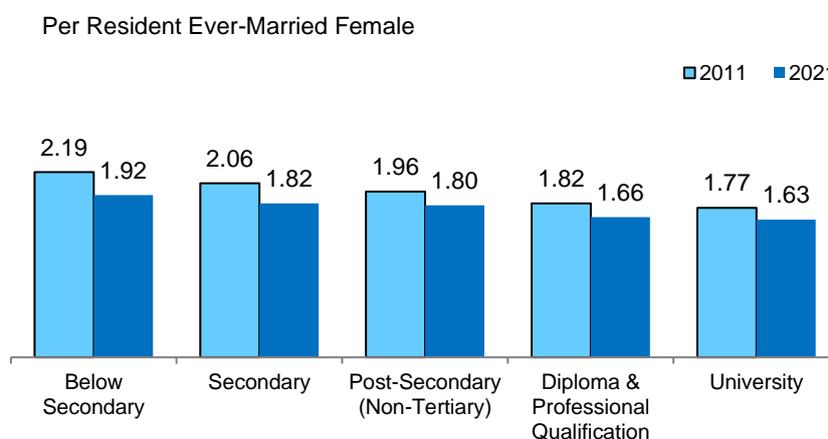
Note: Data by highest qualification attained pertain to residents who were not attending educational institutions as full-time students and include those who were upgrading their qualifications through part-time courses.

Chapter 6   Mortality

Deaths and Death Rates

Total deaths rose from 22,054 in 2020 to 24,292 in 2021, a 10.1 per cent increase as the population continued to age (Chart 6.1). This increase was larger than past years due to higher mortality rates amidst the COVID-19 pandemic. Over the same period, the resident crude death rate increased to 5.8 deaths per 1,000 residents.

The age-standardised death rate[4] which takes into account the population age structure, also increased from 5.2 per 1,000 residents in 2020 to 5.6 per 1,000 residents in 2021. On a longer term basis, the age-standardised death rate has been on a downward trend since 1970, reflecting the improvements in health and mortality of the population.

Chart 6.1 Total Deaths, Crude Death Rate and Age-Standardised Death Rate
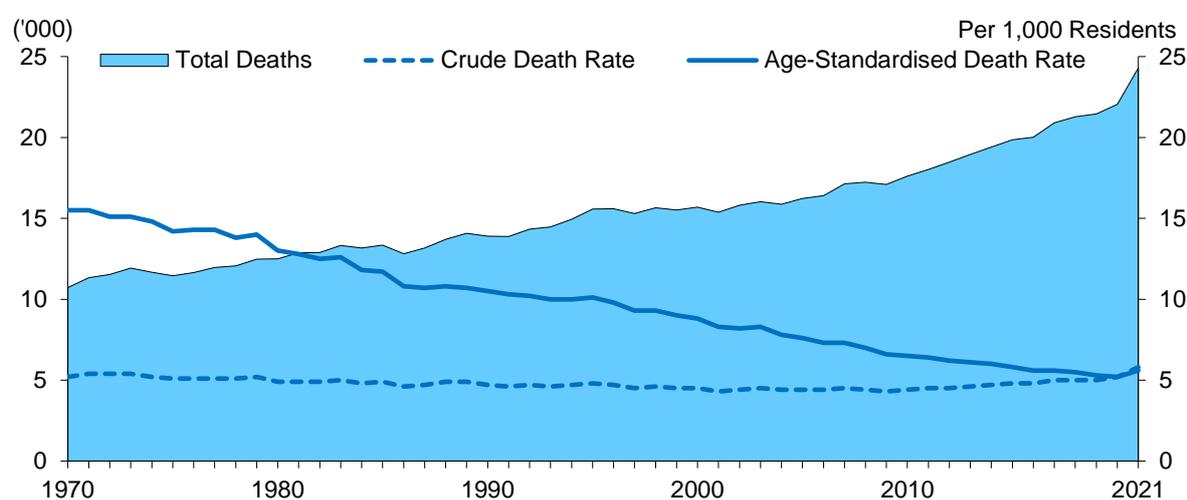
Note: From 1980 onwards, data on crude death rate and age-standardised death rate pertain to resident population (i.e. Singapore citizens and permanent residents).

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 (Chapter 267), 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.
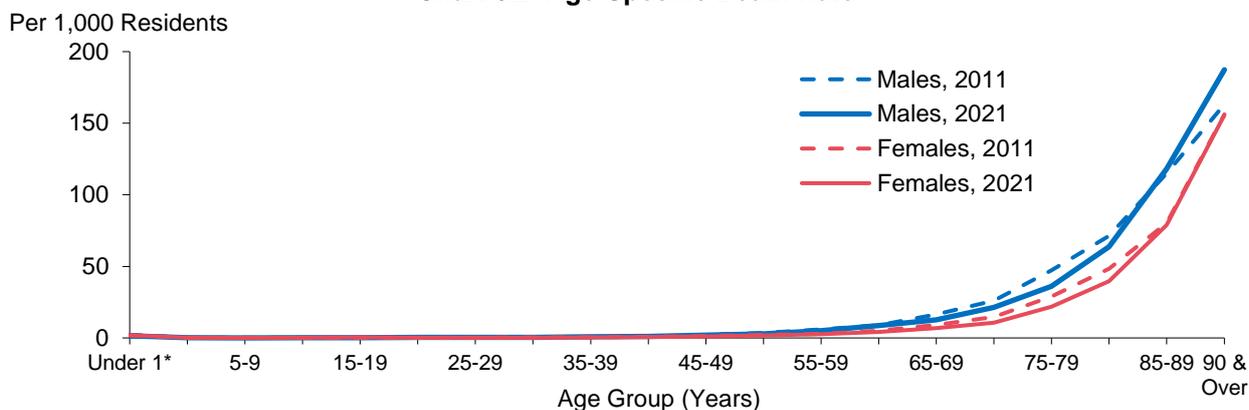
More details on death rates are available in the article "Age-Standardised Death Rate for Singapore" in the Statistics Singapore Newsletter, September 2015.

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[4] The data series on age-standardised death rate has been updated to use the Singapore resident population as at June 2020 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 2011, the age-specific death rates for resident males and females were lower for most age groups in 2021. The higher age-specific death rates at the oldest age groups in 2021 was due to more deaths at the older ages during the COVID-19 pandemic[5].

Chart 6.2 Age-Specific Death Rate

Per 1,000 Residents

Legend:
- Males, 2011
- Males, 2021
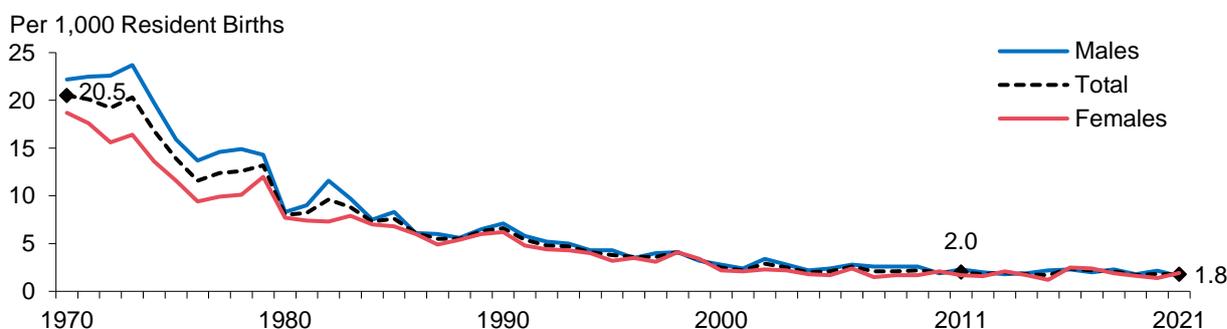- Females, 2011
- Females, 2021

Age Group (Years)

* Refers to infant mortality rate.

Infant Mortality Rate

The infant mortality rate remained stable over the last decade, at 2.0 infant deaths per 1,000 resident live-births in 2011 and 1.8 in 2021 (Chart 6.3).

Chart 6.3 Infant Mortality Rate

Per 1,000 Resident Births

Legend:
- Males
- Total
- Females

20.5 ... 2.0 ... 1.8

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 for Singapore" published in the Statistics Singapore Newsletter Issue 1, 2019

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[5] 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 83.5 years in 2021, a decrease of 0.2 years compared with 83.7 years in 2019 before the COVID-19 pandemic (Chart 6.4). Arising from the pandemic, this was the first decline in life expectancy at birth since 1957, the earliest year for which data is available. Nonetheless, life expectancy at birth of Singapore residents still improved over the last decade, increasing by 1.6 years from 81.9 years in 2011. Females continued to have longer life expectancy than males, with a gap of 4.8 years between both sexes in 2021.

While life expectancy at age 65 years for males decreased 0.2 years from 19.5 years in 2019 to 19.3 years in 2021, it remained at 23.0 years for females over the same period. Similar to the life expectancy at birth, the life expectancy at age 65 years for females was longer than males by 3.7 years.

Chart 6.4 Life Expectancy of Resident Population
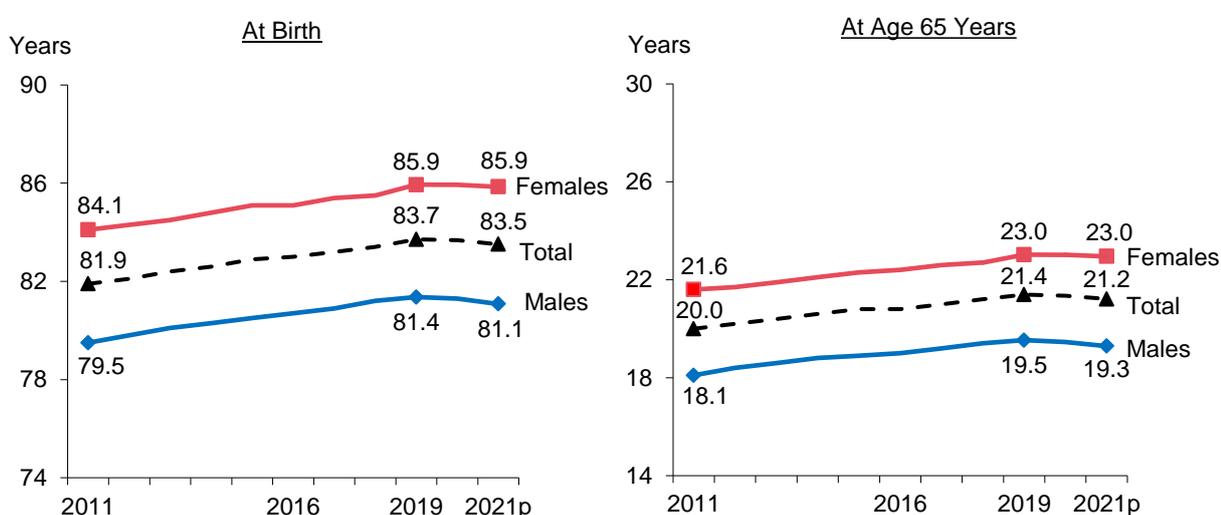
p: Preliminary

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 2020 and 2021 data assumes that the pandemic affected higher mortality rates are held constant over a lifetime, the life expectancy figures for 2020 and 2021 should be interpreted with the understanding that they may not be representative of the number of years that 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, 2020-2021".

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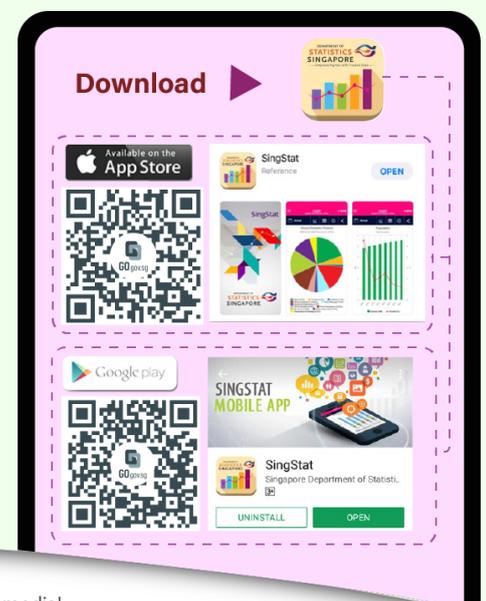
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