















POPULATION IN BRIEF 2015

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OVERVIEW

- 1. Population in Brief is an annual publication by the National Population and Talent Division (NPTD) that provides key updates and trends on Singapore's population landscape.
- 2. Our goal is to promote understanding of the factors that contribute to a sustainable population in Singapore. A sustainable population is one that is balanced across the three pillars of a **strong and cohesive society** with Singaporeans at its heart, a **dynamic and vibrant economy** to provide good jobs and opportunities for Singaporeans, and a **high quality living environment**.
- 3. Key highlights in the past year:
 - There were more citizen marriages and births in 2014. More than 24,000 citizen marriages were registered, the highest since 1997. There were more than 33,000 citizen births; this was, along with citizen births in 2012 (Dragon year), the highest across the last decade.
 - The citizen population grew at a similar pace as last year to 3.38 million, with citizen births and calibrated immigration. The citizen population continues to age, with 13.1% aged 65 and above compared with 12.4% last year. The permanent resident (PR) population remained stable at 0.53 million.
 - The growth in the non-resident population continued to slow to 2.1% in 2015, down from 2.9% in 2014. This was mainly due to a slowdown in foreign workforce growth.
 - Singapore's total population was 5.54 million as of June 2015. The total population grew by 1.2% from June 2014 to June 2015, the slowest in more than a decade.

KEY INDICATORS

OVERALL POPULATION	2014	2015
Citizen population ('000)	3,343.0	3,375.0
Permanent Resident (PR) population ('000)	527.7	527.7
Resident population ('000)	3,870.7	3,902.7
Non-resident population ('000)	1,599.0	1,632.3
Total population ('000)	5,469.7	5,535.0
AGE PROFILE OF CITIZENS	2014	2015
Proportion aged 65 and above (%)	12.4	13.1
Citizen median age (years)	40.4	40.7
Citizen old-age support ratio ¹	5.2	4.9
MARRIAGE & PARENTHOOD	2013	2014
Number of marriages involving at least one citizen	21,842	24,037
Citizen births	31,017	33,193
Resident total fertility rate ²	1.19	1.25

<u>Note</u>: All data as of June of each year, except for Marriage & Parenthood which is as of December of each year.

Source: Department of Statistics

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

² Total fertility rate refers to the average number of children who would be born per female, if all females live through their childbearing years of 15-49 and bear children according to a given set of age-specific fertility rates.

OVERALL POPULATION

1. There were 3.38 million Singapore citizens as of end June 2015. Together with 0.53 million permanent residents, there were 3.90 million residents. There were 1.63 million non-residents, including dependants, international students and individuals who are here to work. Singapore's total population was 5.54 million.

Diagram 1: Total population, as of June 2015³ **Total Population** 5.54M Residents 3.90M **Non-Residents** Citizens **PRs** 1.63M 3.38M 0.53M **Breakdown of Non-Resident Population** Students Dependants of **Employment Pass Holders** Citizens/PRs/Work Pass Holders S Pass Holders 13% Foreign Domestic Workers **Work Permit Holders**

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

³ The figures are based on stock numbers as of end June 2015.

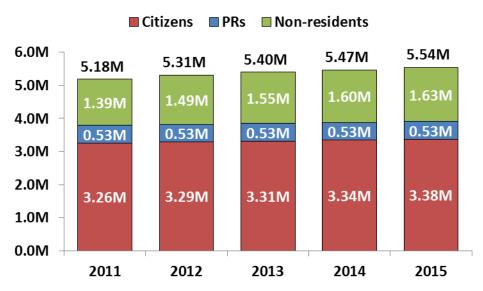
<u>Work Permit Holders</u> are mostly in occupations which face difficulties hiring Singaporeans (e.g. construction workers).

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

2. The citizen population grew by 1.0% through citizen births and calibrated immigration. The PR population remained stable (<u>Chart 1</u>).

Stable Growth in Citizen Population; Stable PR Population Size; Slower Growth In Non-Resident Population

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

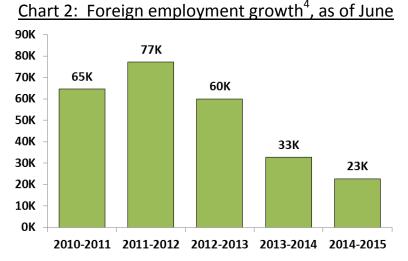


Source: Department of Statistics

Numbers may not sum due to rounding.

3. The growth of the non-resident population slowed to 2.1%, down from 2.9% last year. This was due to concrete steps taken to slow the growth of our foreign workforce (Chart 2).

Foreign Workforce Growth Continued to Slow



Source: Ministry of Manpower

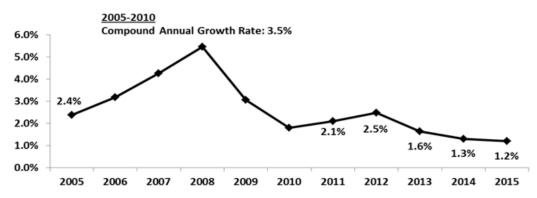
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⁴ The figures refer to foreigners employed at any time in the month, in line with internationally accepted statistical definition of employment. Foreign domestic workers are excluded in the figures.

- 4. Businesses will continue to face a tight labour market. The Government will support businesses to shift towards skills- and capital-intensive ways to grow, so that businesses can continue to grow and succeed here, to create quality jobs for Singaporeans.
- 5. The Government is committed to help Singaporeans do well in the workplace. We have introduced SkillsFuture to support all Singaporeans to upgrade their skills throughout their lives. Recent enhancements to the Fair Consideration Framework and Jobs Bank will also ensure that Singaporeans have fair opportunities for quality jobs in the market.
- 6. As a result of the slowdown in foreign workforce growth, our total population growth slowed to 1.2%, the slowest in more than a decade (Chart 3).

Slowest Population Growth in More than a Decade

Chart 3: Total population growth rate per year, as of June (%)



AGEING

7. With increasing life expectancy and low fertility rates, our citizen population continues to age. There are more citizens in the older age groups today as the 'post-war baby boomers' enter their silver years (<u>Chart 4a</u>). The proportion of citizens aged 65 years⁵ and above increased from 12.4% in 2014 to 13.1% in 2015. The median age of the citizen population rose from 40.4 years in 2014 to 40.7 years in 2015 (<u>Chart 4b</u>).

A More Aged Citizen Population

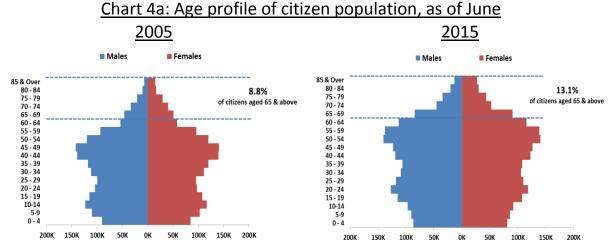
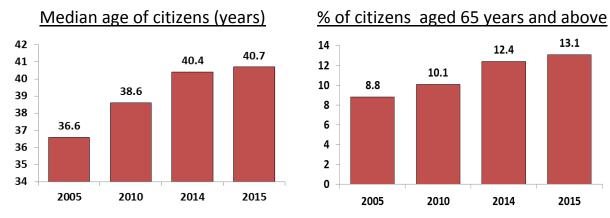


Chart 4b: Median age and proportion of citizens aged 65 years and above



Source: Department of Statistics

8. Currently, there are 4.9 citizens in the working age band of 20-64 years, for each citizen aged 65 years and above (<u>Chart 5</u>). This is a decline from 7.2 in 2005.

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

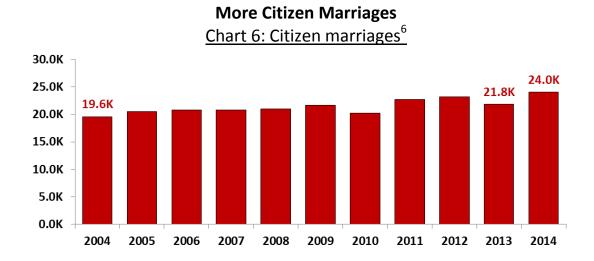
Fewer Working-Age Adults to Each Citizen Aged 65 and Above

Chart 5: Citizen old-age support ratio, 1970-2015

Citizens a 65 years &		:	Citizens in working-age band of 20-64 years	
1970	Ť	:	ተተተተተተተተተተተተ	13.5
1980	Ť	:	ተተተተተተተተ	11.4
1990	Ť	:	ተተተተተተ	10.4
2000	Ť	:	ተ ተተተተተ	8.4
2005	Ť	:	ተተተተ	7.2
2014	Ť	:	ተተ ተተ	5.2
2015	Ť	:	†††††	4.9

MARRIAGE & PARENTHOOD

9. The number of marriages involving at least one citizen increased from 21,842 in 2013 to 24,037 in 2014 (Chart 6). This is the highest number of citizen marriages since 1997. The median age at first marriage remained stable for both genders from 2013 to 2014, at 30.1 for citizen males in 2014 (same as 2013) and 27.9 for citizen females in 2014 (compared to 27.8 in 2013).



Source: Department of Statistics

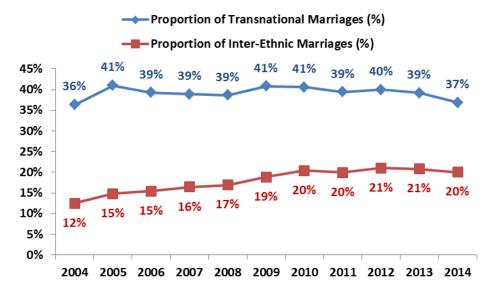
10. As our society becomes more globalised, Singaporeans meet people from different cultures and backgrounds here and overseas. Transnational marriages (between citizens and non-citizens) continue to comprise more than a third of all marriages involving citizens last year. The proportion of inter-ethnic marriages has almost doubled from a decade ago, reflecting the increasing diversity in our population (Chart 7).

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

Stable Proportion of Transnational Marriages; Inter-Ethnic Marriages Increased over the Decade

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



Source: Department of Statistics

11. There were 33,193 citizen births⁷ last year. This was, along with births in 2012 (Dragon year), the highest across the last decade (<u>Chart 8</u>). Resident total fertility rate (TFR)⁸ increased from 1.19 in 2013 to 1.25 in 2014. The increase was seen across all ethnic groups (Chart 9).

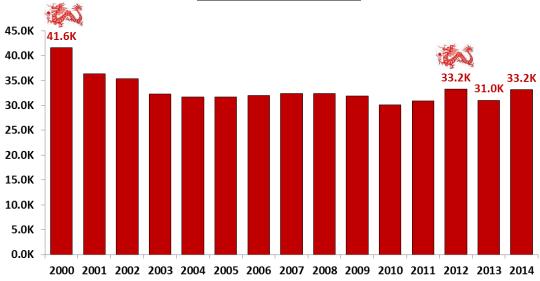
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⁷ Citizen births refer to births born to at least one citizen parent.

⁸ Total fertility rate refers to the average number of children that would be born per female, if all females live through their childbearing years of 15-49 and bear children according to a given set of age-specific fertility rates.

2014 Citizen Births Similar to 2012 Dragon Year Peak

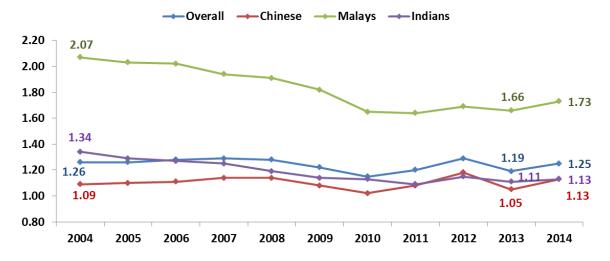
Chart 8: Citizen births



Source: Immigration & Checkpoints Authority

Uptick in TFR across All Ethnic Groups

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

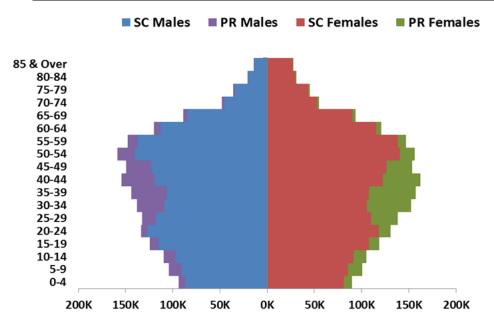


IMMIGRATION

12. Immigration helps to balance the shrinking and ageing of our citizen population. The majority of our PRs are in the prime working ages of 25-49 years (Chart 10).

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

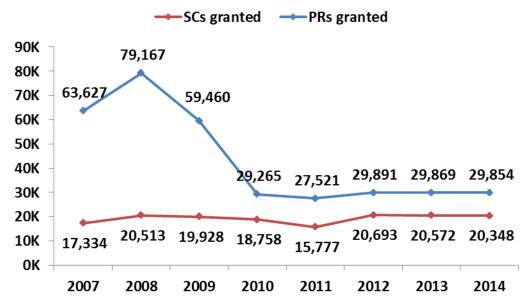
Chart 10: Age pyramid of resident population, as of June 2015



- 13. Our approach to immigration is a calibrated one. Similar to past years, we granted about 20,000 new citizens last year (Chart 11). We plan to continue taking in between 15,000 and 25,000 new citizens each year to prevent our citizen population from shrinking.
- 14. Permanent residence is an intermediate step through which suitable foreigners and spouses take up citizenship in Singapore. Since the tightening of the immigration framework in late 2009, we have taken in about 30,000 new PRs a year, to keep the PR population stable and to ensure a pool of suitable candidates for citizenship.

Number of SCs and PRs Granted Stable in Last 5 Years

Chart 11: Number of SCs and PRs granted



Source: Immigration & Checkpoints Authority

ANNEX

Detailed Statistical Tables

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

Total	4,265.8	5,076.7	5,469.7	5,535.0
Non-residents	797.9	1,305.0	1,599.0	1,632.3
Residents	3,467.8	3,771.7	3,870.7	3,902.7
PRs	386.8	541.0	527.7	527.7
Citizens	3,081.0	3,230.7	3,343.0	3,375.0
	2005	2010	2014	2015

Table 2: Singapore citizens by age group, ethnic group and sex, June 2015

Age		Total			Chinese			Malays			Indians			Others	
Group (Years)	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females
,	Number ('000)														
Total	3375.0	1678.8	1696.2	2571.0	1274.3	1296.7	505.3	254.5	250.8	250.3	126.5	123.8	48.3	23.5	24.8
0 - 4	167.9	86.5	81.3	118.8	61.4	57.3	31.5	16.2	15.3	12.5	6.4	6.1	5.1	2.6	2.6
5 - 9	176.0	90.2	85.8	124.3	63.9	60.4	32.0	16.4	15.6	14.8	7.5	7.3	4.9	2.5	2.5
10 - 14	188.8	97.0	91.8	131.7	67.7	64.0	36.3	18.8	17.5	16.7	8.4	8.2	4.1	2.1	2.0
15 - 19	222.4	114.8	107.6	156.5	81.0	75.6	43.2	22.3	20.9	18.6	9.4	9.2	4.1	2.0	2.0
20 - 24	245.5	127.1	118.5	173.6	90.1	83.5	48.2	24.9	23.4	20.2	10.3	9.9	3.5	1.8	1.6
25 - 29	227.7	117.9	109.8	162.5	84.5	78.0	43.8	22.3	21.4	18.4	9.4	9.0	3.1	1.6	1.4
30 - 34	214.8	109.0	105.8	159.5	80.9	78.6	36.0	18.4	17.6	16.5	8.4	8.2	2.8	1.3	1.5
35 - 39	214.4	106.5	107.9	169.7	84.1	85.6	26.9	13.6	13.2	15.2	7.6	7.6	2.6	1.2	1.4
40 - 44	241.5	118.8	122.6	190.6	93.0	97.6	30.1	15.2	14.9	17.7	9.2	8.4	3.1	1.5	1.7
45 - 49	249.2	122.7	126.5	190.7	93.2	97.6	35.5	17.6	17.9	19.8	10.6	9.3	3.1	1.4	1.7
50 - 54	280.5	140.0	140.5	213.7	106.4	107.2	42.2	21.1	21.1	21.6	11.0	10.6	3.0	1.4	1.6
55 - 59	276.1	137.5	138.6	218.2	108.3	109.9	35.8	17.9	17.8	19.5	10.0	9.5	2.7	1.3	1.4
60 - 64	228.7	113.0	115.7	187.0	92.6	94.3	25.3	12.3	13.0	14.4	7.0	7.4	2.0	1.0	1.0
65 - 69	174.9	84.4	90.5	146.5	70.9	75.6	16.4	7.8	8.6	10.4	4.9	5.5	1.6	0.8	0.8
70 - 74	97.9	45.2	52.7	84.4	39.2	45.2	7.9	3.5	4.3	4.9	2.1	2.8	0.7	0.3	0.4
75 - 79	78.0	34.6	43.4	66.5	29.6	36.9	6.7	3.0	3.6	4.1	1.6	2.4	0.8	0.3	0.4
80 - 84	50.3	20.3	30.0	42.2	16.8	25.4	4.7	1.9	2.8	2.9	1.4	1.5	0.6	0.2	0.4
85 & Over	40.4	13.4	27.1	34.7	10.7	24.0	2.9	1.3	1.7	2.2	1.2	1.0	0.5	0.2	0.4

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

	2005	2010	2014	2015
Chinese	76.5	76.2	76.2	76.2
Malay	15.2	15.1	15.0	15.0
Indian	7.2	7.4	7.4	7.4
Others	1.1	1.4	1.4	1.4

Table 4: Overseas Singaporean population size⁹, as of June

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

Source: Department of Statistics

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

	2005	2010	2014	2015
Residents	8.1	7.4	6.0	5.7
Citizens	7.2	6.4	5.2	4.9

Source: Department of Statistics

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⁹ Defined as Singapore citizens with a registered foreign address or who are away for a cumulative period of at least six months in the past 12 months prior to the reference date (i.e. June each year). This would include frequent travellers who have their usual residence (venue of residence for a period of at least 12 months) in Singapore but travel overseas for the greater part of the reference period.

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

	2005	2010	2014	2015
Residents	35.8	37.4	39.3	39.6
Citizens	36.6	38.6	40.4	40.7

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

	2004	2009	2013	2014
Proportion of singles am	ong citizen males by ag	ge group (%)		
20-24 years	97.7	97.8	98.4	98.7
25-29 years	73.9	79.3	84.2	84.4
30-34 years	37.2	41.9	45.4	44.9
35-39 years	22.0	23.0	25.0	26.6
40-44 years	17.3	16.8	16.7	18.0
45-49 years	13.4	13.6	13.6	14.0
Proportion of singles am	ong citizen females by	age group (%)		
20-24 years	90.5	93.2	95.5	96.2
25-29 years	53.1	62.1	69.2	71.6
30-34 years	25.8	29.8	33.3	33.1
35-39 years	18.3	18.7	21.4	22.8
40-44 years	14.4	14.3	15.4	17.3
45-49 years	13.0	12.8	14.4	15.2

Table 8: Proportion of singles among citizens in selected age groups by gender and highest qualification attained, as of June¹⁰ (%)

Age group (years) /	20	004	2009		2014	
Highest qualification						
attained	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females
Aged 30-39	29.2	21.9	31.9	23.9	35.8	27.9
Below secondary	34.1	15.1	38.7	16.1	41.9	18.3
Secondary	26.9	18.1	30.6	17.6	34.1	19.6
Post-secondary (Non-Tertiary)	26.9	22.7	30.6	22.0	35.9	26.9
Diploma & Professional Qualification	28.4	26.4	32.2	25.1	37.0	26.8
University	28.0	30.5	30.4	30.4	34.4	32.0
Aged 40-49	15.3	13.7	15.1	13.5	15.9	16.2
Below secondary	20.5	9.6	20.7	9.2	22.8	11.9
Secondary	12.8	14.1	13.2	13.0	16.1	13.0
Post-secondary (Non-Tertiary)	12.5	18.0	15.6	14.8	15.0	16.5
Diploma & Professional Qualification	9.3	21.6	11.2	16.6	13.7	19.0
University	8.6	24.7	10.8	21.9	13.3	20.9

<u>Note</u>: The proportions of singles among citizens in their thirties and forties have risen between 2009 and 2014 across most education bands. Compared to 2004, singlehood rates have fallen among citizen females aged 40-49 years with secondary and above qualifications in 2014.

¹⁰ Data by highest qualification attained pertain to citizens who are not attending educational institutions as full-time students. The data include those who are upgrading their qualifications through part-time courses while working.

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

Grooms	Brides	2004	2009	2013	2014
Total number of marriages		22,189	26,081	26,254	28,407
Citizen	Citizen	12,485	12,824	13,276	15,169
Citizen	PR	1,056	1,486	1,348	1,467
Citizen	Non-resident	4,358	5,410	5,007	5,126
PR	Citizen	663	813	678	715
Non-resident	Citizen	1,053	1,134	1,533	1,560
PR	PR	571	998	660	591
PR	Non-resident	852	1,214	933	956
Non-resident	PR	467	743	603	654
Non-resident	Non-resident	684	1,459	2,216	2,169

<u>Note</u>: There was an uptick in the number of citizen marriages¹¹ from 21,842 in 2013 to 24,037 in 2014. Marriages between citizens and non-citizens made up 36.9% of citizen marriages in 2014, with those between citizen grooms and non-citizen brides representing the majority (74.3%).

Table 10: General marriage rates (per 1,000 unmarried males / females aged 15-49 years 12)

	·	2004	2009	2013	2014
Parisha da	Males	44.0	43.4	40.5	44.4
Residents	Females	41.2	38.9	36.9	40.8
Citicana	Males	42.1	41.5	39.3	43.5
Citizens	Females	38.8	36.0	35.5	39.5

Source: Department of Statistics

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¹¹ Citizen marriages refer to marriages involving at least one citizen.

¹² In view of the rising proportion of marriages among persons aged 45-49 years, the data series on general marriage rate was revised in 2014 to cover the age group 15-49 years.

Table 11: Median age at first marriage (years)

		2004	2009	2013	2014
Davida da	Males	29.4	29.8	30.2	30.2
Residents	Females	26.6	27.5	28.1	28.1
6:1:	Males	29.4	29.9	30.1	30.1
Citizens	Females	26.3	27.4	27.8	27.9
DDo	Males	29.4	29.7	30.9	31.1
PRs	Females	27.6	28.2	29.4	29.5

<u>Note:</u> The median age at first marriage for citizens has remained stable for both genders from 2013 to 2014.

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

2004	2009	2013	2014
7,130	8,843	8,566	8,868
5,414	6,896	6,355	6,593
5,264	6,687	6,212	6,414
150	209	143	179
18	14	20	36
29	50	41	51
21	28	25	35
82	117	57	57
1,716	1,947	2,211	2,275
1,200	1,298	1,470	1,542
516	649	741	733
109	109	137	115
245	296	378	374
85	130	130	137
77	114	96	107
	7,130 5,414 5,264 150 18 29 21 82 1,716 1,200 516	7,130 8,843 5,414 6,896 5,264 6,687 150 209 18 14 29 50 21 28 82 117 1,716 1,947 1,200 1,298 516 649 109 109 245 296 85 130	7,130 8,843 8,566 5,414 6,896 6,355 5,264 6,687 6,212 150 209 143 18 14 20 29 50 41 21 28 25 82 117 57 1,716 1,947 2,211 1,200 1,298 1,470 516 649 741 109 109 137 245 296 378 85 130 130

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

<u>Note</u>: 97.3% of the non-citizen brides in 2014 came from Asia, while non-citizen grooms came from more diverse regions.

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

	2004	2009	2013	2014
Residents	29.4	29.8	30.5	30.7
Citizens	29.2	29.6	30.2	30.3
PRs	29.7	30.4	31.3	31.5

Source: Immigration & Checkpoints Authority

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

	20	04	20	09	20:	13	20	14
	30-39	40-49	30-39	40-49	30-39	40-49	30-39	40-49
Residents	1.62	2.13	1.49	2.03	1.44	1.92	1.42	1.87
Citizens	1.71	2.15	1.57	2.08	1.48	1.98	1.45	1.93

<u>Note</u>: Married couples are having fewer children, especially those in the younger age groups due to later marriages. The average number of children born to ever-married females aged 30-49 years declined over the last decade.

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

	20	04	20	09	20	13	20	14
	30-39	40-49	30-39	40-49	30-39	40-49	30-39	40-49
Residents	17.8	7.1	20.2	9.1	19.9	10.0	21.4	11.2
Citizens	16.4	6.7	20.6	8.9	21.4	9.6	22.8	10.7

Table 16: Number of births¹³ by birth order and residency status

Birth Order	2004	2009	2013	2014
Total births	37,174	39,570	39,720	42,232
Resident births	35,135	36,925	35,681	37,967
First	15,658	17,264	17,176	17,970
Second	12,599	12,946	12,484	13,816
Third	4,826	4,717	4,268	4,482
Fourth	1,435	1,391	1,211	1,171
Fifth & over	617	607	542	528
Citizen births	31,694	31,842	31,017	33,193
First	14,048	14,628	14,832	15,546
Second	11,136	10,991	10,608	11,911
Third	4,506	4,309	3,887	4,098
Fourth	1,395	1,322	1,154	1,121
Fifth & over	609	592	536	517

Source: Immigration & Checkpoints Authority

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

	2004	2009	2013	2014
Overall	1.26	1.22	1.19	1.25
Chinese	1.09	1.08	1.05	1.13
Malays	2.07	1.82	1.66	1.73
Indians	1.34	1.14	1.11	1.13

Source: Department of Statistics

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¹³ Citizen births refer to births born to at least one citizen parent. Resident births refer to births born to at least one citizen or PR parent.

Table 18: New residents granted in 2014

	New Permanent Residents	New Citizens
Total	29,854	20,348
By age group (%)		
Above 40 years	7.0%	19.6%
31-40	24.9%	27.9%
21-30 years	40.6%	15.0%
20 years and below	27.5%	37.5%
By highest qualification attaine	ed among those aged	20 & over (%)
Post-Secondary	80.9%	74.9%
Secondary and below	19.1%	25.1%
By region of origin (%)		
Southeast Asian countries	55.7%	55.5%
Other Asian countries	34.6%	38.5%
Others	9.6%	6.0%

Source: Immigration & Checkpoints Authority

<u>Note</u>: New citizens are drawn from the pool of existing PRs, except for the overseas-born children of Singapore Citizen (SC) parents and some minors sponsored by successful SC applicants. The majority of our new SCs and PRs were aged 30 years and below, and this helps to improve the age-balance of our citizen population. Their educational profiles were wide-ranging, as they came through different schemes, including family ties and economic schemes. Most of our new SCs and PRs came from Asia.

List of Relevant Publications

Singapore Department of Statistics
Population Trends 2015
Census of Population 2010
Statistics on Marriages & Divorces 2014
Monthly Digest of Statistics
Singapore in Figures 2015
Yearbook of Statistics 2015
Immigration & Checkpoints Authority
Report on Registration of Births & Deaths 2014
Singapore Demographic Bulletin

For more information, you may visit the following websites:

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

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