



PRESS RELEASE

THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (CPI) FOR RETIREE HOUSEHOLDS AND HOUSEHOLDS WITH YOUNG CHILDREN

The Department of Statistics today released an Occasional Paper on “The Consumer Price Index (CPI) for Retiree Households and Households with Young Children (2019 as Base Year)”.¹

Top expenditure items for retiree households were housing & utilities, food and health care...

2 In 2019, the top three expenditure divisions for retiree households were housing & utilities, food and health care. Collectively, these divisions accounted for 72.5 per cent of retiree households’ total expenditure. Reflecting the older age composition of household members, health care expenditure as a share of total expenditure was the highest for retiree households, at 11.2 per cent, compared to the other household groups.

...while top expenditure items for households with young children were housing & utilities, transport and food

3 In 2019, the top three expenditure divisions for households with young children were housing & utilities, transport and food. These divisions collectively accounted for about 60 per cent of their total expenditure.

4 Among the household groups, households with young children had the lowest expenditure weight for housing & utilities, at 21.4 per cent. By contrast, their expenditure weight for education was the highest, at 11.1 per cent, as they had a far larger share of households with at least one full-time student compared to other household groups.

CPI for retiree households rose marginally by 0.1 per cent in 2020

5 The inflation rate for retiree households was 0.1 per cent in 2020, higher than that for other household groups – general households (-0.2 per cent), lowest 20% income group (-0.1 per cent), middle 60% income group (-0.1 per cent) and highest 20% income group (-0.2 per cent). This was partly due to the higher costs of food (excluding food serving services) as well as hospital

¹ For statistical purpose, retiree households refer to households comprising solely non-employed persons aged 65 years and above. Households with young children refer to households where the household reference person has at least one child aged below 16 years.

services, which had a larger impact on their CPI as these items accounted for bigger shares of their total expenditure. On the other hand, the decline in the costs of discretionary expenditure items, such as private transport, exerted a smaller downward pressure on their CPI as these items accounted for lower shares of their expenditure basket. The enhancement of pre-school subsidies in January 2020, which lowered the CPI for most of the other household groups, had no impact on retiree households.

CPI for households with young children fell by 0.4 per cent in 2020

6 The CPI for households with young children fell by 0.4 per cent in 2020, the largest decline among all household groups. This was primarily due to the enhancement of pre-school subsidies in January 2020 which had the largest dampening effect on their CPI as pre-school education's share of their total expenditure was higher than that for other household groups.

7 The Occasional Paper on "The Consumer Price Index (CPI) for Retiree Households and Households with Young Children (2019 as Base Year)" is available online on the Department of Statistics' website at www.singstat.gov.sg.

Singapore Department of Statistics

13 July 2021

For enquiries, please contact:

Ms Sarah Ng T (+65) 6332 5047

E sarah_ng@singstat.gov.sg

Ms Ruth Lee T (+65) 6332 5045

E ruth_lee@singstat.gov.sg