

# **Glossary of Terms and Definitions**

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## **DEMOGRAPHIC AND SOCIAL CHARACTERISTICS**

### **Country of Birth**

Country of birth refers to the country in which the person was born as defined by current political boundaries.

### **Residential Status**

Singapore citizens and permanent residents are classified as Singapore residents or the resident population. Singapore permanent residents refer to non-citizens who have been granted permanent residence in Singapore. The non-resident population refers to those who are non-citizens and non-permanent residents of Singapore, such as employment pass holders, work permit holders, student pass holders, dependent pass holders and long-term social visit pass holders.

### **Age**

Age refers to the number of completed years between a person's date of birth and 30 June 2000.

### **Ethnic/Dialect Group**

Ethnic group refers to a person's race. Those of mixed parentage are classified under the ethnic group of their fathers. The population is classified into the following four categories :

<i>Chinese</i>	This refers to persons of Chinese origin such as Hokkiens, Teochews, Cantonese, Hakkas, Hainanese, Hockchias, Foochows, Henghuas, Shanghainese, etc.
<i>Malays</i>	This refers to persons of Malay or Indonesian origin, such as Javanese, Boyanese, Bugis, etc.
<i>Indians</i>	This refers to persons of Indian, Pakistani, Bangladeshi or Sri Lankan origin such as Tamils, Malayalis, Punjabis, Bengalis, Singhalese, etc.
<i>Other Ethnic Groups</i>	This comprises all persons other than Chinese, Malays and Indians. They include Eurasians, Caucasians, Arabs, Japanese, etc.

## **Marital Status**

Marital status refers to a person's conjugal status in relation to the marriage laws or customs in Singapore.

<i>Single</i>	This refers to persons who have never been married.
<i>Married</i>	This refers to persons who are legally married, married according to customary rites, or cohabiting with another person as man and wife.
<i>Widowed</i>	This refers to persons whose spouses are deceased and have not remarried.
<i>Divorced/Separated</i>	This refers to persons whose marriages have been legally dissolved, or persons who have been legally separated or estranged from their spouses and who have not remarried.

## **Ever-Married Females**

Ever-married females refer to resident females who have been married before and are currently married, widowed, or divorced/separated.

## **Age at First Marriage**

Age at first marriage refers to the age at which the resident ever-married female was first married.

## **Number of Children Born**

Number of children born refers to all the live-born children each resident ever-married woman has given birth to. It includes those children who are currently staying with her, those who have set up their own homes and those who are no longer living.

## **Elderly Living Arrangement**

Elderly persons aged 65 years and over are classified according to their co-residence with their spouse or children. Additional dimension on the economic status of the children is incorporated into the classification.

<i>With Working Children</i>	This refers to an elderly person living with his/her children in the same household, at least one of whom are working.
<i>With Non-Working Children Only</i>	This refers to an elderly person living with his/her children in the same household, all of whom are not working.

Elderly persons who are not living with their spouse or children are classified according to whether they are living alone or with other elderly persons. Elderly persons living alone refer to those in one-person households, with or without other occupants in the same dwelling unit.

## **Religion**

Religion refers to the religious faith or spiritual belief of a person regardless of whether or not he regularly attends religious ceremonies in a temple, mosque, church or other religious building. He may or may not practise his faith or belief.

## **EDUCATION, LITERACY AND LANGUAGE**

### **Level of Education Attending**

Level of education attending refers to the grade or standard of formal education which a full-time student is attending. Students aged 5 years and over are classified into the following six main categories :

<i>Pre-Primary</i>	This refers to students attending kindergartens or pre-primary classes.
<i>Primary</i>	This refers to students attending Primary 1 to 6 and special classes for the educationally sub-normal.
<i>Secondary</i>	This refers to students attending Secondary 1 to 5 or courses of secondary level offered in the vocational, technical and commercial educational institutions, eg NTC Grade 3.
<i>Upper Secondary</i>	This refers to students attending Pre-university classes and junior colleges or other courses at upper secondary level, eg ITC, NTC Grades 1 and 2 and diploma courses in teacher training for those with GCE 'O' or 'A' level qualifications.

<i>Polytechnic</i>	This refers to students attending courses offered by the Polytechnics such as the Singapore, Ngee Ann, Temasek and Nanyang Polytechnics.
<i>University</i>	This refers to students attending degree or post-graduate courses in universities.

## Highest Qualification Attained

Highest qualification attained refers to the highest grade or standard a person has passed or the highest level where a certificate, diploma or degree is awarded. Persons aged 15 years and over who are not attending educational institutions as full-time students are classified into the following main categories :

<i>No Formal Qualification/ Lower Primary</i>	This refers to those who have never attended school, or have primary education but without Primary School Leaving Examination (PSLE) certificate or their equivalent, or have Certificate in Best 1-3.
<i>Primary</i>	This refers to those who have PSLE or other certificate of equivalent standard, or have Certificate in Best 4.
<i>Lower Secondary</i>	This refers to those who have secondary education without a GCE 'O'/'N' Level pass or equivalent, or have Certificate in Wise 1-3, or basic vocational certificates (incl. Basic vocational training).
<i>Secondary</i>	This refers to those who have at least 1 GCE 'N'/'O' Level pass, or Certificate of Competency, or Technical Certificate at NTC Grade 3 level or equivalent (eg Certificate of Vocational Training, BCA Builder Certificate), or other certificates/qualifications of equivalent standard.
<i>Upper Secondary</i>	<p>GENERAL</p> <p>– This refers to those who have at least 1 GCE 'A' Level pass, or have other certificates/qualifications of equivalent standard.</p> <p>VOCATIONAL</p> <p>– This refers to those who have Certificate in Office Skills, or Certificate in Business Skills, or Technical Certificate at NTC Grade 2 level or equivalent (including Advanced Builder Certificate), or Technical Certificate at NTC Grade 1 level or equivalent, or Industrial Technician Certificate or equivalent (including Polytechnic certificates), or other advanced certificates (eg SIM certificates).</p>
<i>Polytechnic Diploma</i>	This refers to those who have Polytechnic diploma, or Polytechnic advanced diploma (including Polytechnic advance/post/specialist/management/graduate diploma), or Polytechnic post-diploma certificate.
<i>Other Diploma and Professional Qualification</i>	This refers to those who have qualifications awarded by professional bodies, or National Institute of Education (NIE) Diploma, or other diploma qualifications (eg SIM diploma).
<i>University</i>	This refers to those who have Bachelor Degree, or Postgraduate Diploma (including NIE postgraduate diploma), or Masters, or Doctorate.

## **Field of Study**

Field of study refers to the principal discipline, branch or subject matter of study that leads to the award of the highest qualification attained at polytechnic or university levels. The Singapore Standard Educational Classification 2000 is used to classify the subject matter of study.

## **Literacy (Language Literate In)**

Literacy refers to a person's ability to read with understanding, eg a newspaper, in the language specified.

## **Language Most Frequently Spoken at Home**

Language most frequently spoken at home refers to the language or dialect that a person uses most frequently at home when speaking to household members.

## **Predominant Household Language**

Predominant household language refers to the language or dialect spoken by the majority of household members to other members.

## **ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS**

### **Economic Status**

The economic status of a person refers to whether a person was working during the seven days preceding the day he was enumerated. Persons aged 15 years and over are classified as either economically active or economically inactive.

Economically active persons refer to persons who were working and those who were actively looking for work if not working during the reference period.

<i>Working</i>	A working person is one who during the reference period, worked for pay or profit. It includes all those who had a job but were on leave during the Census, serving national service, as well as those who worked in a family business without fixed pay.
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<i>Unemployed</i>	An unemployed person is one who was not working during the reference period but was actively looking for work or planning to start his own business. An unemployed person who had a job or business prior to the reference period is classified as "Unemployed – previously worked". A person who had never worked in any job or business prior to the reference period and was actively looking for his first job is classified as "Unemployed – never previously worked".
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Economically inactive persons refer to persons who were not working and not looking for work during the reference period. They include housewives, students, pensioners, retired and disabled persons and persons with private means and are classified into the following categories :

<i>Homemakers</i>	This refers to persons who were engaged in household work without pay. Housewives are included in this category.
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<i>Students</i>	This refers to persons who were attending educational institutions such as schools, colleges or universities on full-time basis.
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<i>Retired</i>	This refers to persons who had withdrawn from the workforce or were too old to work.
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<i>Others</i>	This refers to all other economically inactive persons such as disabled persons and persons with private means. Prisoners, patients of mental hospitals, inmates of homes for the aged as well as those who were awaiting call-up for national service are included in this category.
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## **Occupation**

Occupation of a working person refers to the kind of work he was doing during the reference period. The Singapore Standard Occupational Classification 2000, which is based on the International Standard Classification of Occupations 1988 (ISCO-88), is used to classify working persons by occupation.

## Industry

Industry refers to the kind of economic activity or the nature of business of the firm, establishment or department in which the person was employed during the reference period. If the person was self-employed, industry refers to the kind of economic activity or nature of business he was operating. The Singapore Standard Industrial Classification 2000, which is based on the International Standard Industrial Classification 1990 (ISIC-90), is used to classify all working persons by industry.

## Occupational Status

Occupational status refers to the status of working persons in relation to their employment. Working persons aged 15 years and over are classified into the four categories :

<i>Employers</i>	This refers to persons who operate either on their own or jointly with other partners a business, trade or profession and hire one or more employees.
<i>Own Account Workers</i>	This refers to persons who operate either on their own or jointly with other partners a business, trade or profession without any paid employee.
<i>Employees</i>	This refers to persons who work for individuals, firms or organisations, the government or statutory bodies and receive regular wages and salaries from them.
<i>Unpaid Family Workers</i>	This refers to persons who assist in the family business, trade or enterprise without receiving any fixed wage or salary.

## Hours Worked

Hours worked refers to the number of hours the person worked during the week preceding the day he was enumerated. For those who were temporarily not working (eg on leave), the most recent week of employment is used.

## Gross Monthly Income from Work

Income from work refers to income received by a working person from employment. It does not include other forms of income which are not derived from work.



For self-employed persons, gross monthly income refers to the average monthly profits from their business, trade or profession (total receipts less business expenses incurred).

For employees, gross monthly income refers to the total gross monthly wages or salaries including commissions, overtime pay, National Wages Council (NWC) supplements, tips, other allowances and one-twelfth of the annual bonus received or expected to receive. Payments in kind, reimbursement for transport and other expenses are excluded. If they have just started work, the gross monthly income refers to the wages they would be receiving for a full-month's work plus one-twelfth of the expected annual bonus.

## **TRANSPORT AND GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION**

### **Usual Mode of Transport to School or Work**

Usual mode of transport to school or work refers to how a full-time student or a working person usually travels to school or work respectively. Persons who usually walk to school or work and persons who work at their place of residence are classified in the category "no transport required".

### **DGP Zones**

DGP zones refer to zones demarcated in the Urban Redevelopment Authority (URA)'s Development Guide Plans. These are 55 planning areas for the physical development of Singapore according to their different regions and subsidiary areas. Each DGP zone covers a planning area with a population of around 150,000 served by a town centre.

## **HOUSEHOLD AND HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS**

### **Household**

A **private household** refers to a group of two or more persons living together in the same house and sharing common food or other arrangements for essential living. It also includes a person living alone or a person living with others but having his own food arrangements. Although persons may be living in

the same house, they may not be members of the same household. A **resident private household** refers to a private household headed by a Singapore citizen or permanent resident.

### **Head of Household**

The head of a private household is the person generally acknowledged as such by other members of the household. The head is normally the oldest member, the main income earner, the owner-occupier of the house or the person who manages the affairs of the household. Where the household comprises a group of unrelated persons, the head of household refers to the person who manages the affairs of the household, or any responsible person who supplied the information pertaining to other members.

### **Household Size**

Household size refers to the total number of members in the private household, including maids.

### **Number of Working Persons in Household**

The number of working persons in the household includes members of the same household who are living and working in Singapore. Maids in the household are excluded.

### **Household Income from Work**

Household income from work refers to the sum of income received by all members of the household from employment and business. However, it does not include the income of servants.

### **Household Structure**

Household structure refers to the classification of a household according to the number of family nuclei and the number of generations in the household.

<i>One Family Nucleus</i>	This refers to a household formed by one of the following, regardless of the number of generations : (a) a married couple, with or without unmarried child(ren) and/or a parent/grandparent; (b) a family consisting of immediate related members, without presence of a married couple eg one parent only with unmarried child(ren).
<i>Two Family Nuclei</i>	This refers to a household with two family nuclei.
<i>Three or More Family Nuclei</i>	This refers to a household with three or more family nuclei.
<i>No Family Nucleus</i>	This refers to a household formed by a person living alone or living with others but which does not constitute any family nucleus. This is further classified into one-person household or household with more than one person.

## Household Living Arrangement

Household living arrangement refers to the classification of a household according to the type of household, age and marital status of household head and age group of the youngest child of the head. There are two broad types of households :

<i>Family-Based Households</i>	This refers to households with at least one family nucleus.
<i>Non-Family-Based Households</i>	This refers to households with no family nucleus.

Within the family-based households, couple-based households refer to those with a married head. The couple-based households are classified under the following four categories :

<i>Young Couples</i>	This refers to households where the married head is below 35 years old.
<i>Middle-Aged Couples</i>	This refers to households where the married head is aged 35–49 years.
<i>Mature Couples</i>	This refers to households where the married head is aged 50–64 years.
<i>Elderly Couples</i>	This refers to households where the married head is aged 65 years and over.

## Type of Dwelling

A dwelling refers to a building, part of a building, or a covered space used or intended to be used by one or more persons as living quarters. Each dwelling has its own separate entrance with direct access to a public road or pathway. A dwelling may be a residential building by itself, or a unit in a residential building, or part of a non-residential building such as a shop or factory with space used as living quarters.

Dwellings are classified into six categories : detached bungalows, semi-detached bungalows, terrace houses, HDB flats, other public flats, and condominiums and private flats.

## **Tenancy**

Tenancy refers to the tenure status of the household with respect to the dwelling in which the household members live. Tenancy is classified into the following three categories :

<i>Owner</i>	This refers to a household where the head or any other member owns the house.
<i>Tenant</i>	This refers to a household which rents the dwelling or part of it.
<i>Others</i>	This refers to a household which occupies a dwelling provided without charge by employers, friends or relatives.