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# Key Demographic Trends

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## KEY DEMOGRAPHIC TRENDS

### Population Size and Growth

Singapore's total population was 5.08 million as at end-June 2010 (Table 1). There were 3.77 million Singapore residents, comprising 3.23 million Singapore citizens and 0.54 million permanent residents, and 1.31 million non-resident foreigners.

Singapore's total population registered a lower growth of 1.8 per cent in 2010, reflecting the slower growth in the number of permanent residents and non-residents over the past year. The number of permanent residents grew by 1.5 per cent in 2010, down from at least 6 per cent growth per year between 2005 and 2009. Growth in the number of non-residents also slowed to 4.1 per cent in 2010, down from the peaks of 15 per cent in 2007 and 19 per cent in 2008.

The number of Singapore citizens grew by 0.9 per cent between 2009 and 2010. This is comparable to the annual growth rate of 0.8 – 1.1 per cent that was registered between 2005 and 2009.

**Table 1 Population Size and Growth**

Year	Number, (as at June) ('000)					Average Annual Growth <sup>1</sup> (Per Cent)				
	Total Population <sup>2</sup>	Singapore Residents			Non-Residents	Total Population <sup>2</sup>	Singapore Residents			Non-Residents
		Total	Singapore Citizens	Singapore Permanent Residents			Total	Singapore Citizens	Singapore Permanent Residents	
1980	2,413.9	2,282.1	2,194.3	87.8	131.8	1.5	1.3	1.6	-4.5	8.0
1990	3,047.1	2,735.9	2,623.7	112.1	311.3	2.3 <sup>3</sup>	1.7 <sup>3</sup>	1.7 <sup>3</sup>	2.3 <sup>3</sup>	9.0
2000	4,027.9	3,273.4	2,985.9	287.5	754.5	2.8	1.8	1.3	9.9	9.3
2005	4,265.8	3,467.8	3,081.0	386.8	797.9	2.4	1.6	0.8	8.6	5.9
2006	4,401.4	3,525.9	3,107.9	418.0	875.5	3.2	1.7	0.9	8.1	9.7
2007	4,588.6	3,583.1	3,133.8	449.2	1,005.5	4.3	1.6	0.8	7.5	14.9
2008	4,839.4	3,642.7	3,164.4	478.2	1,196.7	5.5	1.7	1.0	6.5	19.0
2009	4,987.6	3,733.9	3,200.7	533.2	1,253.7	3.1	2.5	1.1	11.5	4.8
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

1 For years prior to 2005, growth rate refers to average annual growth over the last ten years. For 2005-2010, growth rate refers to growth over the previous year.

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

3 Growth rate based on 1980 and 1990 using de facto concept.

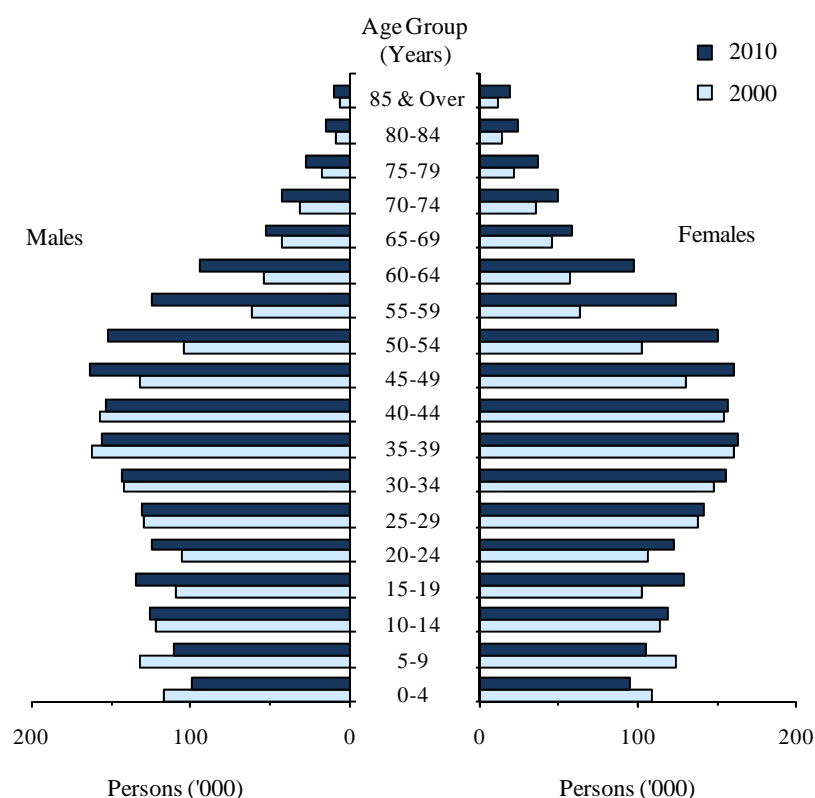
## Age Structure

The Singapore resident population has grown older. The proportion of Singapore residents aged 45 years and over in 2010 was higher as compared to a decade ago (Table 2 and Chart 1). The median age of the resident population rose from 34.0 years in 2000 to 37.4 years in 2010.

**Table 2 Age Distribution of the Resident Population**

Age Group (Years)	Per Cent	
	2000	2010
Total	100.0	100.0
Below 15	21.9	17.4
15-24	12.9	13.5
25-34	17.0	15.1
35-44	19.4	16.7
45-54	14.3	16.6
55-64	7.2	11.7
65 & Over	7.2	9.0
Median Age (Years)	34.0	37.4

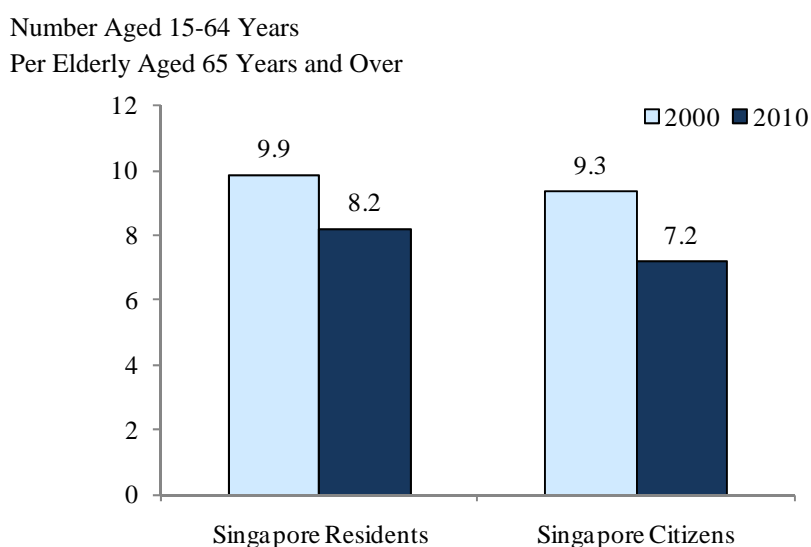
**Chart 1 Age Pyramid of the Resident Population**



With the ageing population, the ratio of working-age residents to elderly residents has declined. There were 8.2 residents aged 15-64 years for each resident aged 65 years and over in 2010, a decline from 9.9 in 2000 (Chart 2).

The inflow of permanent residents slowed down the pace of ageing. In 2010, the old-age support ratio among the resident population was higher than the old-age support ratio of 7.2 for the citizen population. The decline in the old-age support ratio among the resident population between 2000 and 2010 was also slower than that for the citizen population.

**Chart 2 Old-Age Support Ratio**



### Ethnic Composition

The Chinese formed 74 per cent of the resident population in 2010 (Table 3). The Malay and Indian share of the resident population stood at 13 per cent and 9.2 per cent respectively.

**Table 3 Ethnic Composition of the Resident Population**

Ethnic Group	Number ('000)		Distribution (%)	
	2000	2010	2000	2010
Total	3,273.4	3,771.7	100.0	100.0
Chinese	2,513.8	2,794.0	76.8	74.1
Malays	455.2	503.9	13.9	13.4
Indians	257.9	348.1	7.9	9.2
Others	46.4	125.8	1.4	3.3

## Sex Composition

There were more females than males in Singapore's resident population since 2000. In 2010, the difference widened with females outnumbering males by 49,500. The sex ratio fell to 974 males per 1,000 females in 2010, down from 998 males per 1,000 females in 2000 (Table 4).

**Table 4 Sex Composition of the Resident Population**

	Number ('000)	
	2000	2010
Total	3,273.4	3,771.7
Males	1,634.7	1,861.1
Females	1,638.7	1,910.6
Sex Ratio (Males per 1,000 Females)	998	974

## Place of Birth

The proportion of the resident population born outside of Singapore increased from 18 per cent in 2000 to 23 per cent in 2010 (Table 5). The last decade saw an increase in the proportion of those born in Malaysia, the Indian sub-continent and Other Asian countries.

**Table 5 Resident Population by Place of Birth**

Place of Birth	Number ('000)		Distribution (%)	
	2000	2010	2000	2010
Total	3,273.4	3,771.7	100.0	100.0
Singapore	2,681.4	2,911.9	81.9	77.2
Outside Singapore	592.0	859.8	18.1	22.8
Malaysia	305.4	386.0	9.3	10.2
China, Hong Kong and Macau	155.0	175.2	4.7	4.6
India, Pakistan, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka	60.4	123.5	1.8	3.3
Indonesia	32.5	54.4	1.0	1.4
Other Asian Countries	22.4	90.1	0.7	2.4
European Countries	5.5	13.4	0.2	0.4
USA and Canada	3.7	7.2	0.1	0.2
Australia and New Zealand	2.6	4.8	0.1	0.1
Others	4.4	5.3	0.1	0.1

## Geographical Distribution

Out of the 3.77 million Singapore resident population as at 2010, about 57 per cent were concentrated in ten planning areas<sup>1</sup>. Bedok was the registered place of address for the largest group of Singapore residents (294,500), followed by Jurong West (267,500) and Tampines (261,700) (Table 6).

**Table 6 Top 10 Planning Areas by Size of Resident Population, 2010**

Rank	Planning Area	Size ('000)
1	Bedok	294.5
2	Jurong West	267.5
3	Tampines	261.7
4	Woodlands	245.1
5	Hougang	216.7
6	Yishun	185.2
7	Ang Mo Kio	179.3
8	Choa Chu Kang	173.3
9	Sengkang	167.1
10	Bukit Merah	157.1

Sengkang recorded the largest growth in the number of Singapore residents, with an increase of 105,800 Singapore residents between 2000 and 2010 (Table 7). Jurong West, Punggol and Woodlands were the next three planning areas that registered relatively large increases in the number of Singapore residents.

**Table 7 Top 10 Planning Areas with Largest Increase in Resident Population Size, 2010**

Rank	Planning Area	Increase in Size from 2000 ('000)
1	Sengkang	105.8
2	Jurong West	62.8
3	Punggol	59.1
4	Woodlands	56.3
5	Sembawang	40.9
6	Choa Chu Kang	36.5
7	Bukit Panjang	32.0
8	Bukit Batok	17.5
9	Pasir Ris	17.0
10	Hougang	12.3

<sup>1</sup> Planning areas refer to areas demarcated in the Urban Redevelopment Authority's Master Plan 2008.

Bedok had the largest population of elderly residents as at 2010 (Table 8). Other relatively older estates such as Bukit Merah and Ang Mo Kio also had larger population of elderly residents.

In contrast, relatively newer estates had larger populations of children aged below 15 years. In 2010, Woodlands had the largest number of children aged below 15 years, followed by Jurong West.

**Table 8 Top 10 Planning Areas by Size of Elderly and Children, 2010**

Rank	Residents Aged 65 Years and Over		Residents Aged Below 15 Years	
	Planning Area	Size ('000)	Planning Area	Size ('000)
1	Bedok	31.6	Woodlands	53.7
2	Bukit Merah	24.0	Jurong West	51.4
3	Ang Mo Kio	21.4	Bedok	45.7
4	Hougang	19.4	Tampines	45.5
5	Toa Payoh	18.5	Sengkang	37.2
6	Tampines	18.0	Choa Chu Kang	36.3
7	Jurong West	15.1	Hougang	34.9
8	Queenstown	15.1	Yishun	31.0
9	Geylang	14.8	Pasir Ris	27.8
10	Kallang	14.3	Ang Mo Kio	25.7