

# 1 MARRIAGE AND FERTILITY

## Marital Status

The proportion of singles among the resident population rose from 30 per cent in 2000 to 32 per cent in 2010 (Table 1). This reflected the postponement in marriages and greater tendency for individuals to remain unmarried. The proportion who were either divorced or separated increased from 2.5 per cent in 2000 to 3.3 per cent in 2010. Correspondingly, the proportion of married persons declined from 62 per cent in 2000 to 59 per cent in 2010. Widowed persons accounted for 5.1 per cent of the resident population in 2010.

The proportion of widowed females was significantly higher than the males largely due to their longer life expectancy. The proportion of females who were divorced or separated was also higher than the males.

Table 1 Resident Population Aged 15 Years and Over by Marital Status

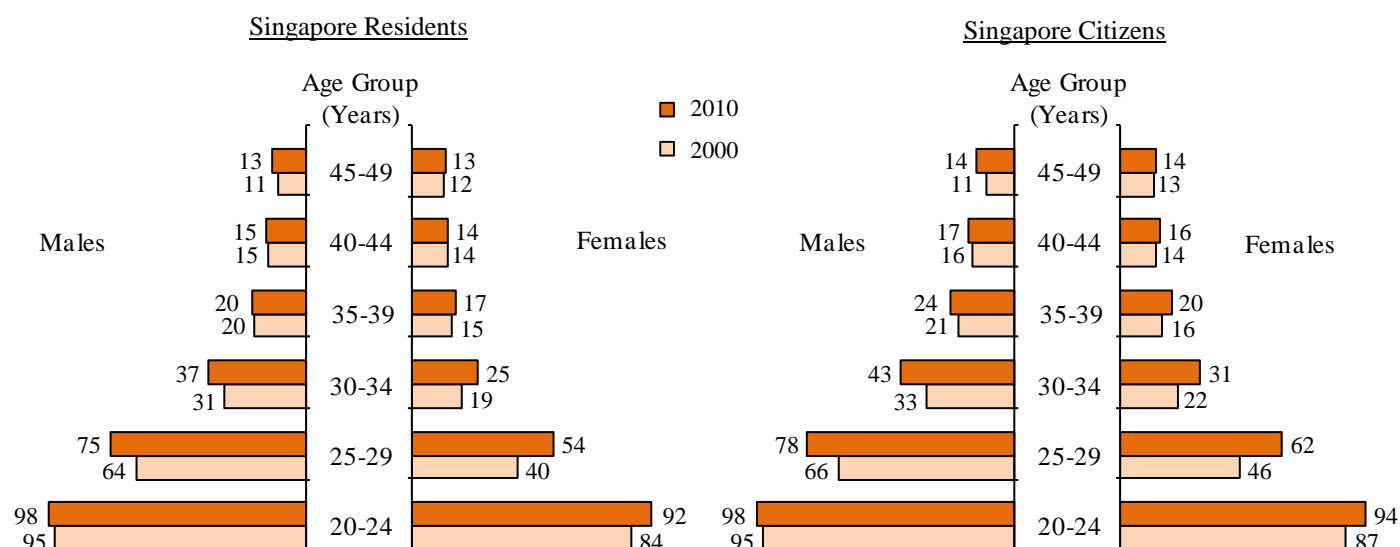
Marital Status	Per Cent					
	Total		Males		Females	
	2000	2010	2000	2010	2000	2010
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Single	30.5	32.2	33.6	34.7	27.4	29.8
Married	61.9	59.4	62.7	61.2	61.1	57.7
Widowed	5.2	5.1	1.8	1.6	8.4	8.4
Divorced/Separated	2.5	3.3	1.9	2.4	3.1	4.2

## Proportion of Singles by Age Group

The increase in the proportion of singles between 2000 and 2010 was more prominent for the younger age groups. Among Singapore citizens aged 30-34 years, the proportion of singles rose significantly from 33 per cent to 43 per cent for the males, and from 22 per cent to 31 per cent for the females (Chart 1).

Chart 1 Proportion of Singles by Age Group, Sex and Residential Status

Per Cent



### Proportion of Singles by Education Attainment

Singlehood was most prevalent among citizen males with below secondary qualifications and graduate citizen females (Table 2). At age 40-44 years, 24 per cent of citizen males with below secondary qualifications were single in 2010, as compared to 13 per cent of university graduates. For citizen females, 23 per cent of graduates aged 40-44 years were single in 2010, as compared to 11 per cent among females with below secondary qualifications.

Table 2 Proportion of Singles Among Singapore Citizens by Age Group, Sex and Highest Qualification Attained

Highest Qualification Attained	Per Cent							
	25-29 Years		30-34 Years		35-39 Years		40-44 Years	
	2000	2010	2000	2010	2000	2010	2000	2010
<b>Males</b>								
Below Secondary	62.5	66.7	41.0	44.8	29.2	32.5	21.1	24.1
Secondary	59.0	66.3	30.4	41.0	18.3	26.1	13.8	18.2
Post-Secondary (Non-Tertiary)	61.5	72.3	30.3	42.1	16.5	25.4	10.5	17.0
Diploma & Professional Qualification	68.1	78.7	29.0	43.2	15.7	21.6	9.1	13.7
University	73.0	83.7	33.1	43.4	17.4	20.8	8.6	12.9
<b>Females</b>								
Below Secondary	27.7	35.5	15.6	20.0	11.1	12.7	9.1	10.8
Secondary	34.2	40.8	18.4	22.2	14.5	15.2	14.8	12.5
Post-Secondary (Non-Tertiary)	42.1	50.9	23.3	28.3	18.0	18.9	18.1	15.6
Diploma & Professional Qualification	50.4	60.0	25.3	30.4	24.8	21.9	23.7	17.8
University	60.8	72.2	32.8	35.1	29.1	24.8	26.7	23.5

## Proportion of Singles by Ethnic Group

The Chinese had the highest proportion of singles. In 2010, 18 per cent of Chinese citizen males aged 40-44 years were single, compared to 13 per cent for the Malays and Indians (Table 3). Among Chinese citizen females aged 40-44 years, 18 per cent were single, higher than the Malays (8.2 per cent) and the Indians (11 per cent).

Table 3 Proportion of Singles Among Singapore Citizens by Age Group, Sex and Ethnic Group

Ethnic Group	Per Cent							
	25-29 Years		30-34 Years		35-39 Years		40-44 Years	
	2000	2010	2000	2010	2000	2010	2000	2010
<b>Males</b>								
Chinese	68.9	81.5	35.4	45.8	23.7	25.7	17.3	18.3
Malays	53.4	66.6	24.4	30.5	13.1	18.2	8.3	13.4
Indians	61.5	75.8	29.4	35.8	16.6	15.3	9.3	13.4
<b>Females</b>								
Chinese	49.8	67.2	24.3	33.7	18.2	22.5	15.4	17.5
Malays	27.0	45.1	12.7	18.2	8.9	9.9	8.4	8.2
Indians	33.7	51.8	17.6	20.8	10.4	11.6	10.1	11.1

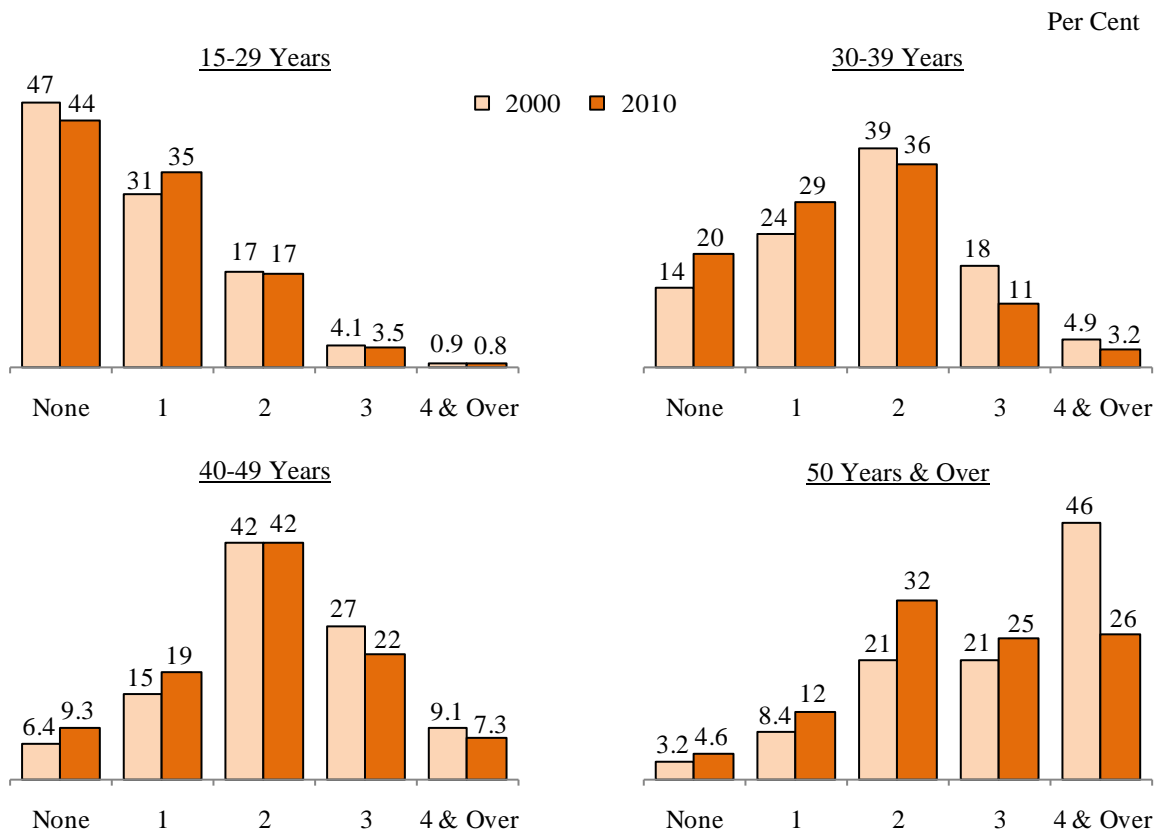
## Number of Children Born

There was a continuing delay in family formation, as reflected in the increase in the proportion with no children among ever-married females in their thirties and forties. The proportion who were childless increased from 14 per cent in 2000 to 20 per cent in 2010 among ever-married resident females aged 30-39 years, and from 6.4 per cent to 9.3 per cent among ever-married resident females aged 40-49 years (Chart 2).

Families with only one child showed an increasing trend. Among ever-married females aged 40-49 years who were likely to have completed child-bearing, the proportion with one child increased from 15 per cent in 2000 to 19 per cent in 2010.

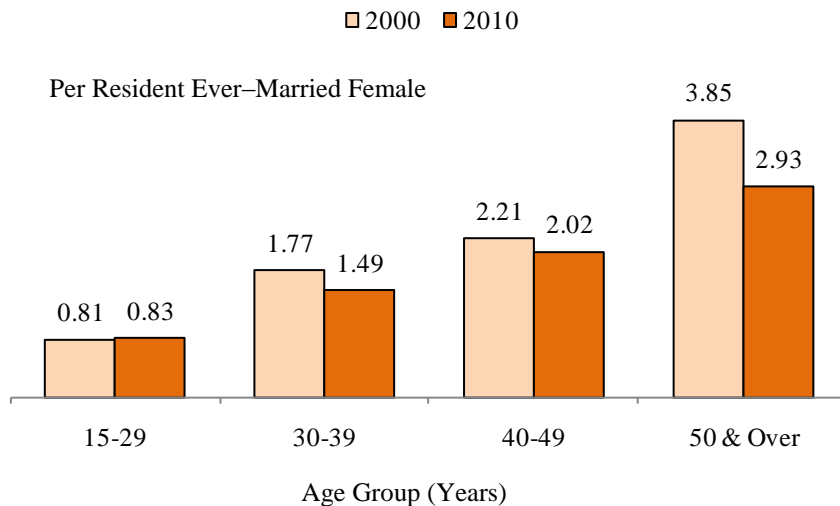
Nonetheless, families with two children continued to be the norm. The proportion of resident ever-married females aged 40-49 years who had given birth to two children was 42 per cent in 2010, unchanged from 2000. Among those aged 30-39 years, 36 per cent had given birth to two children.

Chart 2 Resident Ever-Married Females by Age Group and Number of Children Born



With more ever-married females remaining childless or having one child, the average number of children born to resident ever-married females declined for most age groups. Among those aged 40-49 years, the average number of children born declined from 2.21 in 2000 to 2.02 in 2010 (Chart 3).

Chart 3 Average Number of Children Born to Resident Ever-Married Females by Age Group



## Average Number of Children Born by Education Attainment

Higher educated females had fewer children than lower educated females on average. University graduates had the fewest children by the end of their child-bearing years, with an average of 1.74 children among ever-married graduates aged 40-49 years in 2010 (Table 4). In contrast, the average number of children born was 2.21 for ever-married females aged 40-49 years with below secondary qualifications.

Table 4 Average Number of Children Born to Resident Ever-Married Females by Age Group and Highest Qualification Attained

Highest Qualification Attained	Per Resident Ever-Married Female							
	15-29 Years		30-39 Years		40-49 Years		50 Years & Over	
	2000	2010	2000	2010	2000	2010	2000	2010
Below Secondary	1.34	1.48	2.09	1.89	2.37	2.21	4.19	3.33
Secondary	0.93	1.20	1.85	1.73	2.09	2.09	2.46	2.15
Post-Secondary (Non-Tertiary)	0.78	1.00	1.65	1.68	2.06	1.96	2.36	2.16
Diploma & Professional Qualification	0.46	0.68	1.42	1.39	1.88	1.83	2.21	2.03
University	0.39	0.51	1.30	1.27	1.95	1.74	2.18	2.01

## Average Number of Children Born by Ethnic Group

The Malays continued to have the largest family size, followed by the Indians and the Chinese. Resident ever-married Malay females aged 40-49 years had an average of 2.73 children in 2010, higher than the Indians (2.05) and Chinese (1.89) (Table 5). The decline in the average number of children between 2000 and 2010 for this age group was also smaller for the Malays than the Chinese and Indians.

Table 5 Average Number of Children Born among Resident Ever-Married Females by Age Group and Ethnic Group

Ethnic Group	Per Resident Ever-Married Female							
	15-29 Years		30-39 Years		40-49 Years		50 Years & Over	
	2000	2010	2000	2010	2000	2010	2000	2010
Chinese	0.64	0.65	1.63	1.37	2.11	1.89	3.72	2.85
Malays	1.35	1.26	2.43	2.13	2.78	2.73	4.92	3.63
Indians	1.01	0.92	1.88	1.59	2.21	2.05	3.91	2.92

## 2 EDUCATION, LITERACY AND HOME LANGUAGE

### Education Profile

The education profile of the resident population improved significantly between 2000 and 2010. Some 49 per cent of the non-student population aged 15 years and over in 2010 had at least post-secondary qualifications, up from 33 per cent in 2000 (Table 1). The share of university graduates also increased significantly from 12 per cent in 2000 to 23 per cent in 2010.

All ethnic groups among the resident population aged 15 years and over were better educated than before. The proportion with at least post-secondary qualifications increased from 35 per cent in 2000 to 48 per cent in 2010 among the Chinese, from 18 per cent to 36 per cent among the Malays and from 35 per cent to 60 per cent among the Indians.

Table 1 Resident Non-Student Population Aged 15 Years and Over by Ethnic Group and Highest Qualification Attained

Highest Qualification Attained	Per Cent							
	Total		Chinese		Malays		Indians	
	2000	2010	2000	2010	2000	2010	2000	2010
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Below Secondary	42.6	32.4	42.1	33.8	50.1	37.0	38.4	22.5
Secondary	24.6	18.9	23.2	18.2	32.1	27.1	26.4	17.2
Post-Secondary (Non-Tertiary)	9.9	11.1	9.7	9.9	10.6	19.2	10.8	11.2
Diploma & Professional Qualification	11.1	14.8	12.4	15.5	5.1	11.6	8.0	14.1
University	11.7	22.8	12.6	22.6	2.0	5.1	16.5	35.0

Majority of the younger resident population had attained at least post-secondary qualifications. In 2010, about 8 in 10 residents aged 25-34 years had at least post-secondary qualifications (Table 2). The proportion of university graduates among residents aged 25-34 years rose from 24 per cent in 2000 to 47 per cent in 2010.

Table 2 Resident Non-Student Population by Age Group and Highest Qualification Attained

Highest Qualification Attained	Per Cent							
	25-34 Years		35-44 Years		45-54 Years		55 Years & Over	
	2000	2010	2000	2010	2000	2010	2000	2010
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Below Secondary	18.4	6.1	36.9	16.4	52.6	37.4	79.8	65.6
Secondary	25.7	12.4	30.9	19.3	26.1	26.8	10.7	17.2
Post-Secondary (Non-Tertiary)	12.9	10.7	9.7	12.0	8.4	10.2	4.0	6.2
Diploma & Professional Qualification	18.7	24.2	10.1	17.8	6.2	10.1	2.7	4.8
University	24.4	46.5	12.4	34.6	6.7	15.4	2.8	6.1

## Literacy

Literacy had improved, in tandem with the improvement in education profile of the resident population. In 2010, 96 per cent of those aged 15 years and over were literate, up from 93 per cent in 2000 (Table 3).

Among literate residents aged 15 years and over, 80 per cent were literate in English in 2010, up from 71 per cent in 2000. Literacy in two or more languages also rose from 56 per cent in 2000 to 71 per cent in 2010.

Table 3 Literacy Among Resident Population Aged 15 Years and Over

	2000	2010
General Literacy Rate (%)	92.5	95.9
<u>Among Literate Resident Population</u>		
% Literate in English	70.9	79.9
% Literate in Two or More Languages	56.0	70.5

## Language Spoken at Home

Concurrent with the rise in the level of English literacy, the usage of English at home became more prevalent (Table 4). Correspondingly, the use of Malay and Tamil as home language was less prevalent among the Malays and Indians respectively in 2010 compared to 2000. Among the Chinese, the use of Chinese dialects as home language was less prevalent but Mandarin was slightly more prevalent from 2000 to 2010.

Table 4 Resident Population Aged 5 Years and Over  
by Language Most Frequently Spoken at Home

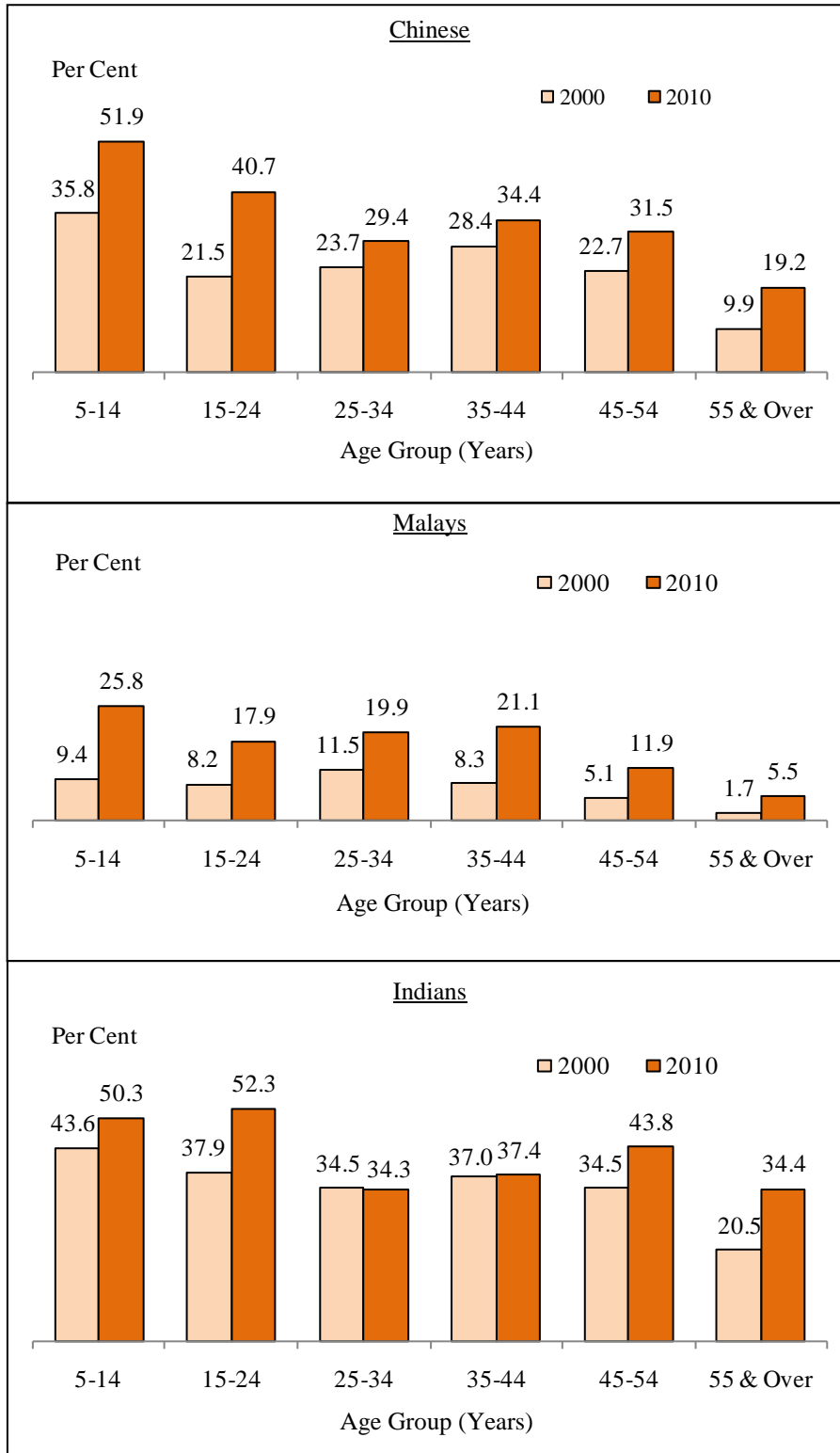
Ethnic Group/Language	Per Cent	
	2000	2010
<u>Chinese</u>	100.0	100.0
English	23.9	32.6
Mandarin	45.1	47.7
Chinese Dialects	30.7	19.2
Others	0.4	0.4
<u>Malays</u>	100.0	100.0
English	7.9	17.0
Malay	91.6	82.7
Others	0.5	0.3
<u>Indians</u>	100.0	100.0
English	35.6	41.6
Malay	11.6	7.9
Tamil	42.9	36.7
Others	9.9	13.8

### Use of English As Home Language by Age Group

The usage of English as home language was generally more prevalent among the younger age groups than the older age groups. Among Singapore residents aged 5-14 years, English was the home language for 52 per cent of the Chinese and 50 per cent of the Indians (Chart 1). English was also the home language for 26 per cent of Malays aged 5-14 years, up from 9.4 per cent in 2000.



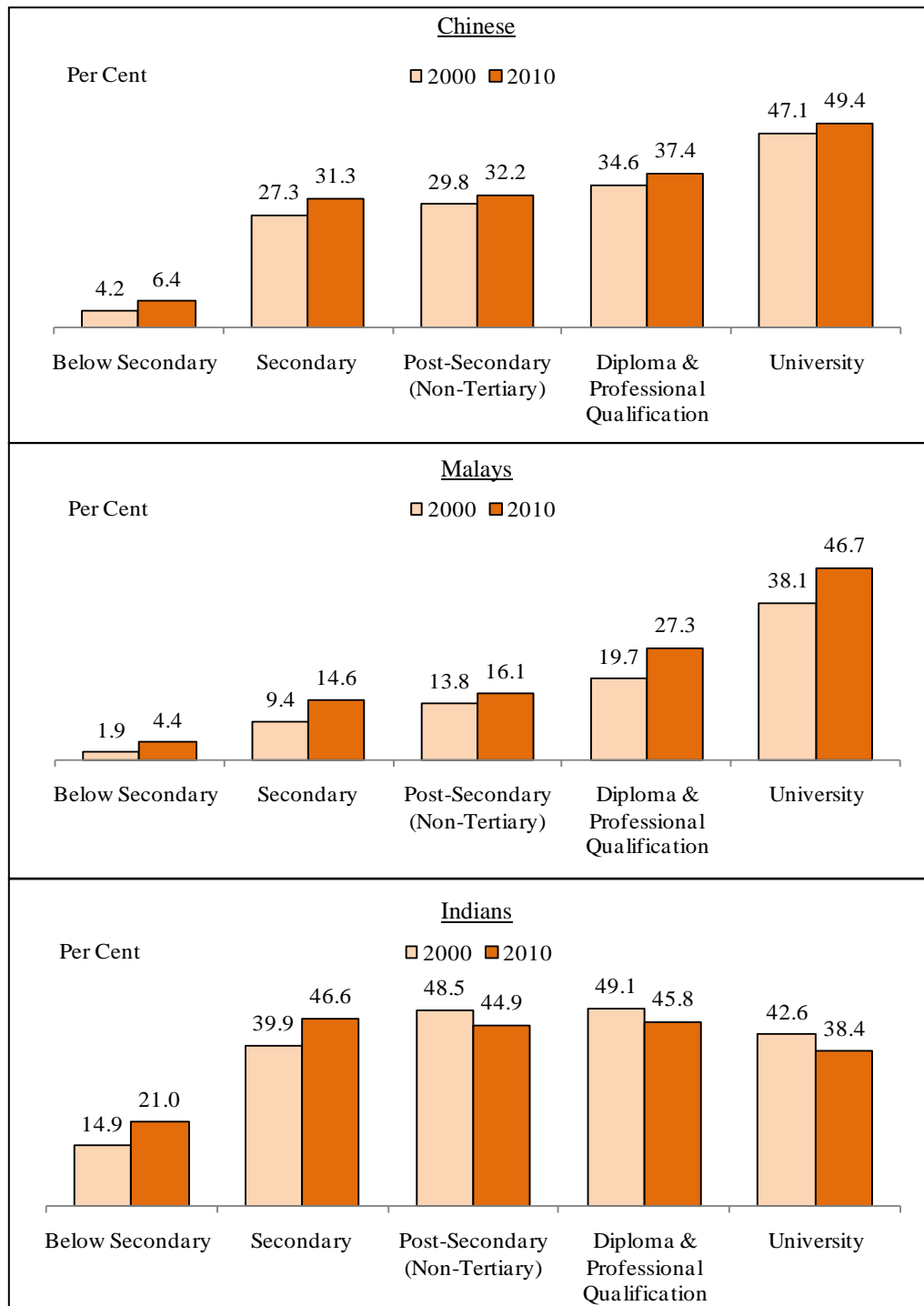
Chart 1 Proportion who Spoke English Most Frequently at Home  
Among Resident Population Aged 5 Years and Over by Ethnic Group and Age Group



## Use of English As Home Language by Education Attainment

Among university graduates, 49 per cent of the Chinese, 47 per cent of the Malays and 38 per cent of the Indians spoke English most frequently at home in 2010 (Chart 2). In contrast, among those with below secondary qualifications, 6.4 per cent of the Chinese, 4.4 per cent of the Malays and 21 per cent of the Indians spoke English most frequently at home.

Chart 2 Proportion of Resident Non-Student Population Aged 15 Years and Over who Spoke English Most Frequently at Home by Ethnic Group and Highest Qualification Attained



### 3 RELIGION

Buddhists and Taoists accounted for 33 per cent and 11 per cent of the resident population aged 15 years and over in 2010 respectively, as compared to 43 per cent and 8.5 per cent in 2000 (Table 1). The proportion of Christians increased from 15 per cent in 2000 to 18 per cent in 2010. The proportions of Muslims and Hindus were relatively stable at 15 per cent and 5.1 per cent respectively in 2010.

Persons without religious affiliation constituted 17 per cent of the resident population aged 15 years and above in 2010, up from 15 per cent in 2000.

Table 1 Resident Population Aged 15 Years and Over by Religion

Religion	Per Cent	
	2000	2010
Total	100.0	100.0
Buddhism/Taoism	51.0	44.2
<i>Buddhism</i>	42.5	33.3
<i>Taoism</i>	8.5	10.9
Christianity	14.6	18.3
Islam	14.9	14.7
Hinduism	4.0	5.1
Other Religions	0.6	0.7
No Religion	14.8	17.0

#### Religious Affiliation by Ethnic Group

The Chinese experienced a bigger shift in religious affiliations than the Malays and Indians. In 2010, 57 per cent of the Chinese identified themselves as Buddhists or Taoists, down from 64 per cent in 2000 (Table 2). Among the Chinese, there was a corresponding increase in the proportion of Christians (from 17 per cent to 20 per cent) and persons with no religion (from 19 per cent to 22 per cent).

Among the Indians, Hindus comprised 59 per cent in 2010, up from 55 per cent in 2000. Muslims remained the second largest group among Indians at 22 per cent in 2010, declining from 26 per cent in 2000. The proportion of Christians among Indians increased slightly from 12 per cent to 13 per cent.

There were no significant changes in the religious affiliation of the Malays. About 99 per cent of Malays in 2010 were Muslims, similar to the proportion reported in 2000.

The proportion without religious affiliation was highest among the Chinese at 22 per cent in 2010, followed by the Indians at 1.1 per cent and the Malays at 0.2 per cent.

Table 2 Resident Population Aged 15 Years and Over by Religion and Ethnic Group

Ethnic Group / Religion	Per Cent	
	2000	2010
<u>Chinese</u>	100.0	100.0
Buddhism/Taoism	64.4	57.4
<i>Buddhism</i>	53.6	43.0
<i>Taoism</i>	10.8	14.4
Christianity	16.5	20.1
Other Religions	0.5	0.7
No Religion	18.6	21.8
<u>Malays</u>	100.0	100.0
Islam	99.6	98.7
Other Religions	0.4	1.1
No Religion	0.1	0.2
<u>Indians</u>	100.0	100.0
Hinduism	55.4	58.9
Islam	25.6	21.7
Christianity	12.1	12.8
Other Religions	6.3	5.4
No Religion	0.6	1.1

### Religious Affiliation and Age Group

The proportion of residents who reported no religion increased across all age groups (Table 3). Higher proportions of younger residents reported no religion than older residents.

The proportion of Christians also increased across all age groups. The proportion of residents who identified themselves to be either Buddhists or Taoists decreased across all age groups. Higher proportions of older adults identified themselves to be either Buddhists or Taoists than younger adults.

Table 3 Resident Population Aged 15 Years and Over by Religion and Age Group

Religion	Per Cent									
	15-24 Years		25-34 Years		35-44 Years		45-54 Years		55 Years & Over	
	2000	2010	2000	2010	2000	2010	2000	2010	2000	2010
<u>Total</u>	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Buddhism/Taoism	47.2	34.9	45.8	39.2	48.5	41.1	54.8	46.9	60.1	53.9
<i>Buddhism</i>	38.9	27.1	40.2	30.6	41.5	33.3	44.9	35.9	47.4	36.9
<i>Taoism</i>	8.4	7.7	5.6	8.7	6.9	7.8	9.9	11.0	12.7	17.0
Christianity	12.8	17.7	15.8	18.4	15.7	20.3	14.4	18.2	13.7	17.3
Islam	18.6	21.7	15.1	14.5	15.7	13.0	13.0	15.1	12.3	11.5
Hinduism	3.5	4.2	4.6	7.4	4.5	6.9	3.6	4.4	3.5	3.2
Other Religions	0.6	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.8	0.7	0.7
No Religion	17.3	21.0	18.1	19.9	15.0	18.0	13.7	14.6	9.8	13.4

### Religious Affiliation and Education Attainment

The proportion of residents who reported no religion was higher among the higher educated than the lower educated. Among university graduates, 24 per cent reported no religion in 2010 (Table 4). In contrast, a lower 9.9 per cent of residents with below secondary qualifications reported no religion.

There were higher concentrations of Buddhists and Taoists among the lower educated as compared to the higher educated. Between 2000 and 2010, the proportion of Buddhists and Taoists increased among residents with university qualifications, but declined among those with below university qualifications.

Between 2000 and 2010, the proportion of Christians increased among residents with secondary or below qualifications. However, the proportion of Christians declined among those with at least post-secondary qualifications. Christians remained the largest religious group among university graduates in 2010 at 32 per cent.

The proportion of Muslims increased among residents with secondary and above education between 2000 and 2010. The proportion of Hindus also increased among residents with at least post-secondary qualifications.

Table 4 Resident Non-Student Population Aged 15 Years and Over  
by Religion and Highest Qualification Attained

Religion	Per Cent									
	Below Secondary		Secondary		Post-Secondary (Non-Tertiary)		Diploma & Professional Qualification		University	
	2000	2010	2000	2010	2000	2010	2000	2010	2000	2010
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Buddhism/Taoism	64.7	61.5	47.4	44.6	42.6	37.8	44.9	41.4	26.3	28.9
<i>Buddhism</i>	51.5	42.4	41.6	35.4	37.2	29.7	39.3	32.7	23.6	23.6
<i>Taoism</i>	13.2	19.1	5.8	9.2	5.3	8.1	5.6	8.6	2.7	5.3
Christianity	6.4	8.8	14.6	15.9	18.7	16.5	22.7	21.4	33.5	32.2
Islam	17.2	16.1	18.9	19.9	15.7	23.8	7.2	11.6	3.5	4.3
Hinduism	3.5	3.1	4.1	4.1	4.2	4.7	2.8	4.7	6.9	9.6
Other Religions	0.5	0.6	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.9	0.9
No Religion	7.7	9.9	14.3	14.8	18.0	16.5	21.8	20.4	28.9	24.2