

# GLOSSARY OF TERMS AND DEFINITIONS

## DEMOGRAPHIC AND SOCIAL CHARACTERISTICS

### Age

Age refers to the number of completed years between a person's date of birth and the reference date of 30 June 2010.

### Ethnic/ Dialect Group

Ethnic group refers to a person's race. It is as declared by the person. The population is classified into the following four categories:

*Chinese* This refers to persons of Chinese origin such as Hokkiens, Teochews, Cantonese, Hakkas, Hainanese, Hockchias, Foochows, Henghuas, Shanghainese, etc.

*Malays* This refers to persons of Malay or Indonesian origin, such as Javanese, Boyanese, Bugis, etc.

*Indians* This refers to persons of Indian, Pakistani, Bangladeshi or Sri Lankan origin such as Tamils, Malayalis, Punjabis, Bengalis, Singhalese, etc.

*Other Ethnic Groups* This comprises all persons other than Chinese, Malays and Indians. They include Eurasians, Europeans, Arabs, Japanese, etc.

### 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 comprised foreigners who were working, studying or living in Singapore but not granted permanent residence, excluding tourists and short-term visitors.

### Place of Birth

Place of birth refers to the geographical area in which the person was born.

## **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 or married according to customary rites.
<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 females who have been married before and are currently married, widowed, or divorced/ separated.

## **Number of Children Born**

Number of children born refers to all the live-born children each resident woman aged 15 years and over has ever 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.

## **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. It is as declared by the person.

## EDUCATION, LITERACY AND LANGUAGE

### Literacy

This refers to a person's ability to read with understanding, e.g. a newspaper, in the language(s) specified. It is as declared by the person.

### 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.

### Level of Education Attending

Level of education attending refers to the grade or standard of formal education which a full-time student is attending. The Singapore Standard Educational Classification 2010 is used to classify students by level of education 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 education institutions, e.g. Institute of Technical Education (ITE) Skills Certificate course.
<i>Post-Secondary (Non-Tertiary)</i>	This refers to students attending Pre-University classes and junior colleges or other courses at post-secondary level, e.g. National ITE Certificate (Nitec), Higher Nitec and Master Nitec.
<i>Polytechnic</i>	This refers to students attending polytechnic diploma or polytechnic post/ advanced/ specialist/ management/ graduate diploma courses offered by the local polytechnics such as the Singapore Polytechnic, Ngee Ann Polytechnic, Temasek Polytechnic, Nanyang Polytechnic and Republic Polytechnic.
<i>Professional Qualification and Other Diploma</i>	This refers to students attending courses leading to the award of professional qualification and other diploma, e.g. ITE diploma, National Institute of Education (NIE) diploma, Singapore Institute of Management (SIM) diploma, LASALLE diploma, Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts (NAFA) diploma, Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA) Qualification and Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA).
<i>University</i>	This refers to students attending degree or postgraduate 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. The Singapore Standard Educational Classification 2010 is used to classify persons by highest qualification attained. 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 Qualification</i>	This refers to those who have never attended school, or have primary education but without Primary School Leaving Examination (PSLE) certificate or equivalent, or have Certificate in Basic Education for Skills Training (BEST) 1-3.
<i>Primary</i>	This refers to those who have PSLE or other certificates of equivalent standard, or have Certificate in BEST 4 or at least 3 Employability Skills Systems (ESS) Workplace Literacy and Numeracy (WPLN) Statements of Attainment at Level 1 or 2.
<i>Lower Secondary</i>	This refers to those who have secondary education without a General Certificate of Education (GCE) Normal ('N')/ Ordinary ('O') Level pass or equivalent, or have Certificate in Worker Improvement through Secondary Education (WISE) 1-3, or basic vocational certificates (including ITE Basic Vocational Training), or at least 3 ESS WPLN Statements of Attainment at Level 3 or 4.
<i>Secondary</i>	This refers to those who have at least 1 GCE 'N'/'O' Level pass, or have National ITE Certificate (Intermediate) or equivalent (e.g. National Technical Certificate Grade 3, Certificate of Vocational Training), or have ITE Skills Certificate (ISC) or equivalent (e.g. Certificate of Competency, Certificate in Service Skills) or at least 3 ESS WPLN Statements of Attainment at Level 5 and above.
<i>Post-Secondary (Non-Tertiary)</i>	This refers to those who have at least 1 GCE Advanced ('A')/ Higher 2 ('H2') Level pass or other certificates/ qualifications of equivalent standard. It also includes those who have Nitec (e.g. Post Nitec Certificate, Certificate in Office Skills, National Technical Certificate Grade 2, National Certificate in Nursing, Advanced Builder Certificate), or have Higher Nitec (including Certificate in Business Skills, Industrial Technician Certificate and other polytechnic certificates), or Master Nitec or equivalent (e.g. National Technical Certificate Grade 1). This group also includes Workforce Skills Qualifications (WSQ) Certificate/ Higher Certificate/ Advanced Certificate or equivalent, International Baccalaureate/ High School diploma or other advanced certificates (e.g. SIM certificates).
<i>Polytechnic</i>	This refers to those who have polytechnic diploma, or polytechnic advanced diploma (including polytechnic advanced/ post/ specialist/ management/ graduate diploma), or polytechnic post-diploma certificate.

*Professional Qualification and Other Diploma* This refers to those who have qualifications awarded by professional bodies, or NIE diploma, ITE diploma and other diploma qualifications (e.g. SIM diploma, LASALLE diploma, NAFA diploma, WSQ diploma and WSQ specialist diploma).

*University* This refers to those who have bachelor's degree, or postgraduate diploma (including NIE postgraduate diploma), or master's degree, or doctorate. It also includes persons with WSQ graduate certificate and WSQ graduate diploma.

## Field of Study

Field of study refers to the principal discipline, branch or subject matter of study that leads to the award of the qualification attained. The Singapore Standard Educational Classification 2010 is used to classify the subject matter of study.

## 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.

*Working* A working person is one who during the reference period, worked for pay or profit. It includes those serving National Service, as well as those who were helping in a family business without fixed pay. It also includes all those who had a job or business to return to but were temporarily absent because of illness, injury or other reasons.

*Unemployed* 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.

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

### Occupation

Occupation of a working person refers to the kind of work that the person was doing during the reference period. The Singapore Standard Occupational Classification 2010 is used to classify working persons by occupation.

## HOUSEHOLD AND HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS

### Household

A 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.

### Resident Household

A resident household refers to a household headed by a Singapore citizen or permanent resident.

### Head of Household

The head of a 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 person who supplied the information pertaining to other members.

### 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 never-married child(ren); (b) a family consisting of immediate related members, without presence of a married couple e.g. one parent only with never-married 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 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 household composition, age and marital status of household head and age group of the youngest child of the head. There are two broad types of households:

*Family-Based Households*            This refers to households with at least one family nucleus.

*Non-Family-Based Households*            This refers to households with no family nucleus.

Within the family-based households, couple-based households refer to those with a married head and spouse in the household. Other family-based households refer to those without a married head and spouse in the household, e.g. lone parent households.

## **Household Size**

Household size refers to the total number of members in the 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 working. Maids in the household are excluded.

## **Household Income from Work**

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

## **Household Income from Work Per Household Member**

Household income from work per household member refers to the household income from work divided by the total number of members (household size) in the household. For example, if only one person in a household of four is working, his income is divided by four to derive the average income per household member.

## **Predominant Household Language**

Predominant household language refers to the language or dialect spoken by the majority of household members to other members, excluding maids and unrelated persons.

## 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.

*With At Least One Working Child* This refers to an elderly person living with his children in the same household, at least one of whom is working.

*With All Non-Working Children* This refers to an elderly person living with his 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.

## 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 broadly classified into the following three categories: Housing and Development Board (HDB) flats, condominiums and private flats, and landed properties.

## 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:

*Owner* This refers to a household where the head or any other member owns the house.

*Tenant* This refers to a household which rents the dwelling or part of it.

*Others* This refers to a household which occupies a dwelling provided without charge by employers, friends or relatives.