

# 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 Census reference date of 30 June 2020.

### Ethnic / Detailed Ethnic Group

Ethnic group is obtained from administrative sources and 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, Foochows, Henghuas, Shanghainese, Hockchias, etc.

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

*Indians* This includes persons of Indian, Pakistani, Bangladeshi or Sri Lankan origin such as Tamils, Malayalees, Hindis, Sikhs, etc.

*Other Ethnic Groups* This comprises all persons other than Chinese, Malays and Indians. They include Eurasians, Caucasians, Fillipinos, Burmese, Arabs, Thais 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.

## **Sex Ratio**

Sex ratio refers to the number of males per 1,000 females in the population.

## **Age Dependency Ratio**

The old-age dependency ratio is defined as the number of elderly person aged 65 years and over for every 100 persons aged 20-64 years.

The child dependency ratio is defined as the number of persons aged below 20 years for every 100 persons aged 20-64 years.

## **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 woman 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 he/she regularly attends religious ceremonies in a temple, mosque, church or other religious building. He/she may or may not practise his/her faith or belief. It is as declared by the person.

## **EDUCATION, LITERACY AND LANGUAGE**

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

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

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

Language most / second most frequently spoken at home refers to the language or dialect that a person uses most / second most frequently at home when speaking to other household member(s). For persons who are staying alone, it refers to the language(s)/dialect(s) he/she uses most / second most frequently.

### **Level of Education Attending**

Level of education attending refers to the grade or standard of formal education which a student aged 5 years and over is attending. The classification of level of education attending into the following main categories is based on the Singapore Standard Educational Classification 2020 :

<i>Pre-Primary</i>	This refers to students attending nurseries, 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, including Institute of Technical Education (ITE) Skills Certificate courses.

**Post Secondary (Non-Tertiary)** This refers to students attending Pre-university classes and junior colleges or other courses at post-secondary level, including fifth or sixth year of the Integrated Programme, National ITE Certificate (Nitec), Higher Nitec and Master Nitec.

***Polytechnic Diploma*** 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.

***Professional Qualification and Other Diploma*** This refers to students attending courses leading to the award of professional qualification and other diploma, including 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), Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA).

***University*** 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 vocational/skill certificate, diploma, or degree is awarded. The classification of highest qualification attained into the following main categories is based on the Singapore Standard Educational Classification 2020:

***No Qualification*** This refers to persons who have never attended school, have primary education but without Primary School Leaving Examination (PSLE) certificate or their equivalent, or have Certificate in Basic Education for Skills Training (BEST) 1 – 3.

<i>Primary</i>	This refers to persons who have PSLE or other certificate of equivalent standard, or have Certificate in BEST 4 or at least 3 achievements <sup>1</sup> for different Workplace Literacy or Numeracy (WPLN) skills at Level 1 or 2.
<i>Lower Secondary</i>	This refers to persons who have secondary education without any subject pass at General Certificate of Education (GCE) Normal ('N')/Ordinary ('O') Level 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 achievements for different WPLN skills at Level 3 or 4.
<i>Secondary</i>	This refers to persons who have at least 1 subject pass at GCE 'N' / 'O' Level, or have National ITE Certificate (Nitec) (Intermediate) or equivalent (including National Technical Certificate (NTC) Grade 3, Certificate of Vocational Training, BCA Builder Certificate), or have ITE Skills Certificate (ISC) or equivalent (including Certificate of Competency, Certificate in Service Skills) or at least 3 achievements for different WPLN skills at Level 5 and above.
<i>Post-Secondary (Non-Tertiary)</i>	This refers to persons who have at least 1 subject pass at GCE 'A'/'H2' Level or other certificates/ qualifications of equivalent standard. It also includes those who have Nitec (including Post Nitec Certificate, Specialist Nitec, Certificate in Office Skills, NTC Grade 2, National Certificate in Nursing, BCA Advanced Builder Certificate), or have Higher Nitec (including Certificate in Business Skills, Industrial Technician Certificate and other polytechnic certificates), or Master Nitec (including NTC Grade 1). This group also includes Workforce Skills Qualification (WSQ) Certificate/Higher Certificate/Advanced Certificate or equivalent, International Baccalaureate/NUS High School

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<sup>1</sup> These refer to both WSQ Statement of Attainment and/or certification issued by SkillsFuture Singapore's appointed WPLN assessment partner.

diploma or other post-secondary certificates/ qualifications (including SIM certificates).

*Polytechnic Diploma*

This refers to persons who have Polytechnic diploma or Polytechnic post diploma (including polytechnic advanced/specialist/management/ graduate diploma, diploma (conversion)).

*Professional Qualification and Other Diploma*

This refers to persons who have qualifications awarded by professional bodies (including ACCA, CFA), and other diploma qualifications (including ITE Diploma, NIE diploma, SIM diploma, LASALLE diploma, NAFA diploma, WSQ diploma, WSQ specialist diploma etc).

*University*

This refers to persons 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 at polytechnics or university levels. The classification of field of study is based on the Singapore Standard Educational Classification 2020.

**ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS**

**Labour Force Status**

Labour Force

Refers to persons who are either employed or unemployed during the reference period.

Employed

Refers to persons who during the reference period:

- (i) work for one hour or more either for pay or profit; or
- (ii) have a job or business to return to but are temporarily absent because of illness, injury, breakdown of machinery at workplace,

labour management dispute or other reasons.

Members of the Singapore Armed Forces including full-time National Servicemen are included, unless stated otherwise.

**Unemployed** Refers to persons who are not working but are actively looking for a job and available for work during the reference period. They include persons who are not working but are taking steps to start their own business or taking up a new job after the reference period.

**Outside the Labour Force** Refers to persons who are neither employed nor unemployed during the reference period.

### **Occupation**

This refers to the type of work performed by workers during the reference period, which may not necessarily be related to their training, skill or professional qualification. In the case of workers who perform two or more kinds of work, their occupation would refer to the one in which they usually work the longest hours during the reference period. The classification of occupations is based on the Singapore Standard Occupational Classification 2020.

### **Industry**

This refers to the major kind of economic activity or the nature of business of the firm, organisation, establishment or department in which the person is employed during the reference period. If the person is self-employed, this item refers to the kind of economic activity or nature of business he/she is operating. The classification of industries is based on the Singapore Standard Industrial Classification 2020.

### **Employment Status**

This refers to the status of employed persons in relation to their employment. There are four types of employment status:

*Employers* This refers to persons who hire one or more paid employees in their business or trade.

<i>Own Account Workers</i>	This refers to persons who operate their own business without employing any paid employee in the conduct of their business or trade.
<i>Employees</i>	This refers to persons who work for employers in return for regular wages or salaries.
<i>Contributing Family Workers</i>	This refers to persons who assist in the operation of family business without receiving regular wages or salaries.

### **Usual Hours Worked**

This refers to the number of hours a person usually works on a typical week, regardless whether he/she is paid for it. For those who are temporarily not working (e.g. on leave), the most recent week of employment is used. For a person who has just started work during the reference period, usual hours of work refers to the number of hours per week he/she is expected to work in that job. For a multiple jobholder, it should be aggregated from the hours spent in all the jobs.

### **Monthly Income from Work**

This refers to income received by a employed person from employment and business. 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) before deduction of income tax.

For employees, gross monthly income refers to the total gross monthly wages or salaries before deduction of employee CPF contributions and personal income tax. It comprises basic wages, commissions, overtime pay, National Wages Council (NWC) supplements, tips and other allowances. Payments in kind, reimbursement for transport and other expenses are excluded. If they have just started work, the monthly income refers to the wages they will be receiving for a full-month's work. It includes one-twelfth of the annual bonus.

## **Workplace Location**

This refers to the address of the person's workplace where he/she usually works most of the time. For those who report to different places on different days, this refers to the address where this person reported most frequently to during the last week.

## **HOUSEHOLD AND HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS**

### **Resident Household**

A household refers to (i) a group of two or more persons living together in the same house and sharing common food or other essential arrangements for living; or (ii) a person living alone or a person living with others but having his own food or other essential arrangements for living. Although persons may be living in the same house, they may not be members of the same household. For example, a family renting out a room to a tenant – if the tenant does not share or have meals with the family, the tenant belongs to a separate household.

A resident household refers to a household where the household reference person is a resident (i.e. Singapore citizen or permanent resident).

### **Household Reference Person**

The household reference person refers to the oldest member, the main income earner, the owner-occupier of the house, the person who manages the affairs of the household, or the person who supplied the information pertaining to other members.

Prior to Census of Population 2020, survey respondents were asked to identify the 'head of household'. The identified person is used as the reference person to determine relationships between household members. In Census of Population 2020, the term 'head of household' has been replaced with 'household reference person'.

### **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.

A family nucleus in a household can be formed by:

- (a) a married couple; or
- (b) one parent with never-married child(ren).

Each nucleus comprises one or more generations.

A household can have one family nucleus, multiple family nuclei or none.

Household with no family nucleus 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 reference person and age group of the youngest child of the household reference person. Households are broadly classified into:

*Married Couple-Based* Refers to households with a married household reference person and spouse. This category is further split into those living with child(ren) and without children.

*Other Households With Family Nucleus* Includes lone parent households whose household reference person is never-married/widowed/divorced/separated and living with child(ren) aged below 16 years or never-married children as well as other types of households with a family nucleus. For example, a divorced household reference person living with elderly parents only, or a widowed household reference person living with the son and daughter-in-law.

*Households Without Family Nucleus* Refers to households without a family nucleus, including one-person households. For example, a never-married household reference person living with never-married siblings, a household reference person living with unrelated persons only, and an ever-married person who is living alone as the children have grown up and moved out from the parental home.

### **Household Size**

Household size refers to the total number of members in the household, including domestic workers.

## **Number of Employed Persons in Household**

The number of employed persons in the household includes members of the same household who are employed. Domestic workers in the household are excluded.

## **Household Income from Work**

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

## **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 there is one person in a household of four is employed, his/her income is divided by four to derive the household 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 domestic workers and unrelated persons), taking into account the reported language most frequently spoken and language second most frequently spoken at home for each household member.

## **Type of Dwelling**

A dwelling refers to a building or part of a building used or intended to be used by one or more persons as living quarters. Each dwelling has its own separate entrance(s) 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.

The dwellings covered are broadly classified into these three housing unit categories: Housing and Development Board (HDB) properties, condominiums and other apartments, and landed properties.

The Singapore Standard Classification of Type of Dwelling (Jan 2012) is used to classify the population and households by type of dwelling.

## **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 main categories:

<i>Owner-Occupied</i>	Refers to a household where the household reference person and/or any other member(s) in the household owns the dwelling unit. This includes those which are fully paid-up as well as those with outstanding housing loans.
<i>Rented</i>	Refers to a household where the household reference person and/or any other member(s) in the household rents whole or part of the dwelling unit.
Others	Refer to a household where the household reference person and/or any other member(s) in the household occupies whole or part of the dwelling unit without charge (provided free by other persons (e.g., employers, relatives, friends, or any other persons)).

## **GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION AND TRANSPORT CHARACTERISTICS**

### **Planning Areas of Residence / Workplace**

Planning areas refer to areas demarcated in the Urban Redevelopment Authority's Master Plan 2019.

### **Planning Regions of Residence**

Planning regions refer to areas demarcated in the Urban Redevelopment Authority's Master Plan 2019.

### **Floor Area of Residence**

Floor area of residence refers to the total floor area of the residential dwelling unit of which the resident is living in and may also include areas such as planter box and air-con ledge.

## **Mode of Transport to School / Work**

Mode of transport to school or work refers to how a student or a employed resident usually travels from home to school or work respectively in each journey.

## **Travelling Time to School / Work**

Travel time to school or work refers to the total number of minutes that it usually takes a student or an employed resident to travel from home to school or to work respectively. The travel time includes time spent waiting for public transportation and walking to the bus-stop or MRT/LRT station.

## **DIFFICULTY IN PERFORMING BASIC ACTIVITIES**

Difficulty in performing basic activities refers to the difficulties a person may have as the result of physical or mental health problem(s) in performing one or more of the activities below. It excludes those caused by a lack of resources. Difficulty in performing basic activities adopts the guidelines from the Washington Group on disability statistics. The person may or may not be medically diagnosed with a disability. Difficulty in the following core functional domains refer to:

<i>Seeing</i>	Persons who have vision difficulties or problems seeing even when wearing glasses (if they wear glasses).
<i>Hearing</i>	Persons who have some hearing limitation or problems of any kind with their hearing even when using a hearing aid (if they wear a hearing aid).
<i>Mobility</i>	Persons who have some limitation or problems of any kind walking or climbing steps without the assistance of any device (wheelchair, crutches, walker etc.) or human.
<i>Remembering</i>	Persons who have some problems with remembering or focusing attention that contribute to difficulty in doing their daily activities.
<i>Self-Care</i>	Persons who have some problems with taking care of themselves independently by washing all over and dressing.
<i>Communicating</i>	Persons who have some problems with talking, listening or understanding speech such that it

contributes to difficulty in making themselves understood to others or understanding others, using one's usual (customary) language.

### **Living Arrangement of Residents Aged 65 Years and Over**

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

*With At Least One Employed Child* This refers to a resident aged 65 years and over living with his/her children in the same household, at least one of whom is employed.

*With All Non-Employed Children* This refers to an elderly person living with his/her children in the same household, all of whom are not employed.

Residents aged 65 years and over who are not living with their spouse or children are classified according to whether they are living alone or with other elderly persons.

Residents aged 65 years and over living alone refer to those in one-person households, with or without other occupants in the same dwelling unit.