

Glossary of Terms and Definitions in Census 2020

DEMOGRAPHIC AND SOCIAL CHARACTERISTICS

Whereabouts

Singapore's population estimates are compiled using the register-based approach since Census of Population 2000. The basic count and profile of the population is based on a person's place of usual residence. Usual residence is determined based on the person's whereabouts status in relation to his/her residency in the selected address. For the purpose of Census, information on whereabouts is collected using the following categories:

Present in house

This refers to persons who are usually residing at the address. They include members who are serving National Service in camps, staying in school hostel for part of the week, those who are temporarily hospitalized, babies and young children cared for outside the home during the day etc.

Overseas for less than 6 months

This refers to persons who are usual residents at the address but are out of Singapore for short-term holiday or business trip for the stated duration.

Overseas for 6 months to less than 12 months

This refers to persons who have their registered address at the stated address but are out of Singapore for extended business trips or overseas study for the stated duration.

Overseas for 12 months or more

This refers to persons whose location of employment or course of study is overseas, and the duration of such employment or course of study is 12 months or more. It also includes those who are not working or studying, but have been staying or intend to stay abroad for at least 12 months.

Shifted Out

This refers to persons who have moved out of the stated address.

Deceased

This refers to persons who have passed away.

Unknown person

This refers to persons who are unknown to members currently residing at the selected address. These may include previous occupants of the house who may not have officially changed their addresses.

Age

Age refers to the age as of a person's last birthday.

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 or not 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.

Difficulty in Performing Basic Activities

Difficulty in performing basic activities refers to the difficulty a person may have as a result of physical or mental health problem(s), excluding those caused by a lack of resources. Core functional domains include seeing, hearing, moving, cognition, self-care, and communication.

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.

<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, e.g. Institute of Technical Education (ITE) Skills Certificate courses.
<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. fifth or sixth year of the Integrated Programme, National ITE Certificate (Nitec), Higher Nitec and Master Nitec.
<i>Polytechnic Diploma Course</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>Courses Leading to 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), Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA).

<i>Bachelor's Degree or equivalent</i>	This refers to students attending first degree courses or equivalent (including NIE bachelor degree with diploma in education) in universities.
<i>Postgraduate Diploma/Certificate (excluding Master's and Doctorate)</i>	This refers to students attending postgraduate diploma/certificate courses (including NIE postgraduate diploma) in universities.
<i>Master's/Doctorate or equivalent</i>	This refers to students attending master's degree or doctoral degree courses or equivalent 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.

<i>No Formal Qualification (Did not pass PSLE or equivalent)</i>	This refers to persons who have never attended school, have pre-primary/kindergarten education, or 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, passed PSLE or equivalent</i>	This refers to persons who have PSLE or other certificate 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>Secondary, without any GCE 'N'/'O' level pass</i>	This refers to persons 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, with at least 1</i>	This refers to persons who have at least 1 GCE 'N' / 'O' Level

GCE 'N'/'O' level pass

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.

Post-Secondary (Non-Tertiary)

This refers to persons who have at least 1 GCE 'A'/'H2' Level pass or other certificates/qualifications of equivalent standard. It also includes those who have Nitec (e.g. Post Nitec Certificate, Specialist Nitec, 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 Qualification (WSQ) Certificate/ Higher Certificate/ Advanced Certificate or equivalent, International Baccalaureate/ High school diploma or other post-secondary certificates/qualifications (e.g. 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 (e.g. ITE Diploma, NIE diploma, SIM diploma, LASALLE diploma, NAFA diploma, WSQ diploma, WSQ specialist diploma etc).

Bachelor's Degree or equivalent

This refers to persons who have University First Degree or equivalent qualifications.

Postgraduate Diploma/Certificate (excluding Master's and

This refers to persons who have Postgraduate diploma or Postgraduate certificate (including NIE postgraduate diploma). It also includes persons with WSQ graduate

Doctorate) certificate and WSQ graduate diploma.

Master's/Doctorate or equivalent This refers to persons who have Master's or Doctoral degree or equivalent qualifications.

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 2020 is used to classify the subject matter of study.

Literacy

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

Language(s) Most Frequently Spoken at Home

Language(s) most frequently spoken at home refers to the language(s) or dialect(s) that a person uses 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 frequently.

ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS

Current Activity Status

The current activity status of a person refers to whether a person is a full-time student, working or not working during the seven days preceding the day he/she was enumerated.

Fully engaged in work (include serving National Service); These refer to working persons who worked for one hour or more either for pay, profit or family gains during the reference period. It includes those who are serving National

Schooling but currently working in a vacation job or undergoing paid internship; Working while awaiting examination results or National Service call-up; Engaged in work while schooling

Service or members of the Singapore Armed Forces, as well as those who had a job or business to return to but are temporary absent because of illness, injury, breakdown of machinery at workplace, labour management dispute or other reasons.

Full-time student

This refers to persons who are attending educational institutions such as schools, colleges or universities on a full-time basis.

Not working and not full-time student

This refers to persons who are not working and not schooling and:

(i) are actively looking for a job and are available for work during the reference period. It includes persons who are not working but are taking steps to start his/her own business or taking up a new job after the reference period; or

(ii) not actively looking for work during the reference period. It includes housewives, retirees, persons who are not able to work due to injury, illness or disability, prisoners, patients of mental hospitals, as well as those who are awaiting call-up for National Service.

Employment Status

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

Employer

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

Employee

This refers to persons who work for employers in return for regular wages or salaries.

Own Account Worker

This refers to persons who operate their own business without employing any paid employee in the conduct of their

business or trade.

Contributing Family Worker This refers to persons who assist in the operation of family business without receiving regular wages or salaries.

Usual Hours Worked Per Week

Usual hours worked 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.

Gross Monthly Income from Work

Gross monthly 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) 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.

Industry / Main Business / Activity of Firm

This refers to the 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.

Occupation

Occupation of a working person refers to the kind of work he/she is doing during the reference period. In the case of a person who performs two or more kinds of work, his/her occupation will refer to the one in which he/she usually works the longest hours during the reference period.

Workplace Location

This refers to the address of the usual workplace where the person is working from during the reference period. If the person is self-employed, this item refers to the usual place of business he/she is operating at.

TRANSPORT CHARACTERISTICS

Mode of Transport to School / Work

Mode of transport to school or work refers to how a student or a working person 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 working person 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.

HOUSEHOLD AND HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS

Household

A **household** refers to one person living alone or a group of two or more persons (including maids/stay-in caregiver) living in the same house and sharing common food or other essential arrangements for living. Although persons may be living in the same house, they may not be in the same household. For e.g., 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.

Household Reference Person

The household reference person is the person generally acknowledged as such by other members of the household. The household reference person may refer to 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 household reference person refers to the person who manages the affairs of the household, or any responsible person who supplied the information pertaining to other members.

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>	This refers to a household where the reference person or any other member owns the house.
<i>Rented</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.