

# 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 2015.

### Ethnic/ Dialect Group

Ethnic group is as declared by the person. The population is classified into the following four categories:

<i>Chinese</i>	This refers to persons of Chinese origin such as Hokkiens, Teochews, Cantonese, Hakkas, Hainanese, Hockchias, Foochows, Henghuas, Shanghainese, etc.
<i>Malays</i>	This refers to persons of Malay or Indonesian origin, such as Javanese, Boyanese, Bugis, etc.
<i>Indians</i>	This refers to persons of Indian, Pakistani, Bangladeshi or Sri Lankan origin such as Tamils, Malayalis, Punjabis, Bengalis, Singhalese, etc.
<i>Other Ethnic Groups</i>	This comprises all persons other than Chinese, Malays and Indians. They include Eurasians, Caucasians, Japanese, Filipino, Vietnamese 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.

### 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.

*Widowed* This refers to persons whose spouses are deceased and have not remarried.

*Divorced/ Separated* 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 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 (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 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 other household member(s).

### **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

2015 is used to classify students by level of education attending. Students aged 5 years and over are classified into the following 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. fifth or sixth year of the Integrated Programme, 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. It also includes students attending postgraduate courses in postgraduate educational or training institutions.

## 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 2015 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 persons who have never attended school, 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.
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<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 Employability Skills Systems (ESS) Workplace Literacy and Numeracy (WPLN) Statements of Attainment at Level 1 or 2.
<i>Lower Secondary</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</i>	This refers to persons 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 persons 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 persons who have polytechnic diploma, or polytechnic advanced diploma (including polytechnic advanced/ post/ specialist/ management/ graduate diploma), or polytechnic post-diploma certificate.
<i>Professional Qualification and Other Diploma</i>	This refers to persons 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).
<i>University</i>	This refers to persons who have bachelor degree, or postgraduate diploma (including NIE postgraduate diploma), or master's degree, or doctorate. It also includes persons with WSQ graduate certificate or 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 2015 is used to classify the subject matter of study.

## ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS

### Economic Status

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 one hour or more either 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 and available for work. It also includes those who are not working but planning to start his own business or taking up a new job after the reference period.

Economically inactive persons refer to persons aged 15 years and over who are neither working nor unemployed during the reference period.

### Occupation

Occupation of a working person refers to the kind of work the person was doing during the reference period, which may not necessarily be related to his training, skill or professional qualification. In the case of a person who performs two or more kinds of work, his occupation would refer to the one in which he usually works the longest hours during the reference period. The Singapore Standard Occupational Classification 2015 is used to classify working persons by occupation.

## Industry

Industry refers to the major kind of economic activity or the nature of business of the establishment, enterprise, firm or organisation in which the person was employed during the reference period. If the person was self-employed, industry refers to the major kind of economic activity or nature of business the person was operating. The Singapore Standard Industrial Classification 2015 is used to classify all working persons by industry.

## Employment Status

Employment status refers to the status of working persons in relation to their employment. Working persons aged 15 years and over are classified into the following categories:

<i>Employers</i>	These are persons who employ at least one paid worker in their business or trade.
<i>Own Account Workers</i>	These are persons who operate their own business without employing any paid workers in the conduct of their business or trade.
<i>Employees</i>	These are persons who work for employers in return for regular wages or salaries.
<i>Contributing Family Workers</i>	These are 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 that a person usually works in a typical week, regardless of whether he is paid or not. The concept of usual hours of work differs from that of normal hours of work referred to in contractual arrangements. 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 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

This refers to the total amount of income earned from employment. For employees, it refers to the gross monthly wages or salaries before deduction of employee Central Provident Fund (CPF) contributions. It would include gross monthly wages or salaries, allowances, overtime, commission, tips and one-twelfth of annual bonuses. For employers and own account workers, it refers to the average monthly profits from

their business, trade or professional (i.e. total receipts from sales and services performed less the business expenses incurred). Data refers to income from work before accounting for Government transfers and taxes.

## **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 person acknowledged as the head by other members of the household 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 generations in the household.

A family nucleus in a household can be formed by:

- (a) a married couple without children;
- (b) a married couple with never-married child(ren); or
- (c) 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 head and age group of the youngest child of head. Households are broadly classified into:

*Married Couple-based* Refers to households with a married head and spouse. This category is further split into those living with children and without children.

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

*Other Households without Family Nucleus* Refers to other types of households without a family nucleus, including one-person households. For example, a never-married household head living with never-married siblings, a household head 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 maids.

### Number of Working Persons in Household

The number of working persons in the household includes members of the same household who were 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. Monthly household income from work includes one-twelfth of the annual bonus. Data refers to household income from work before accounting for Government transfers and taxes, unless stated otherwise.

## 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.

## 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 economic status of the children is incorporated into the classification.

*With At Least One Working 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 working.

*With All Non-working Children* This refers to a resident aged 65 years and over living with his/her children in the same household, all of whom are not working.

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 counterparts. 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.

## 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 as follows:

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

*Non-Owner* This includes:  
*Tenant* where a household rents the dwelling or part of it; and  
*Others* where a household occupies a dwelling provided without charge by employers, friends or relatives.

## GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION AND TRANSPORT

### Planning Areas

Planning areas refer to areas demarcated in the Urban Development Authority's Master Plan 2014.

### Usual Mode of Transport to School or Work

Usual mode of transport to school or work refers to how a full-time student or a working person usually travels to school or work respectively. Persons who usually walk to school or work and persons who study from home or work from their place of residence are classified in the category "No transport required".

### Travel Time to School or Work

Travel time to school or work refers to the total number of minutes that a full-time student or working person usually takes to get from home to school or to work each day respectively. The travel time includes time spent waiting for public transportation, walking to the bus-stop or MRT station etc.