Population Trends
2024

DEPARTMENT OF
STATISTICS
SINGAPORE
—Empowering You with Trusted Data—

POPULATION TRENDS, 2024
ISSN 2591-8028

PREFACE

Population size, structure and changes have important implications for production, investment and consumption activities as well as community development, social networks and kinship ties. A good understanding of demographic forces and emerging trends is useful for policy makers, planners, businesses and the academia.

The Singapore Department of Statistics compiles, monitors and analyses Singapore's population statistics and indicators in detail. A report on **Population Trends** that puts together different aspects of demographic statistics is released annually. **Population Trends, 2024** is the twentieth edition of the annual series.

The report comprises six chapters, namely, 'Population', 'Geographical Distribution', 'Households and Housing', 'Family Formation and Dissolution', 'Fertility' and 'Mortality'. Key definitions and concepts are explained in text boxes in each chapter. Users can also explore the data time series in our e-service SingStat Table Builder at https://tablebuilder.singstat.gov.sg/.

I would like to thank various government agencies for providing the necessary data for the compilation of indicators released in this report. My sincere appreciation is also extended to all others who have contributed to the successful completion of this report.

Koh Eng Chuan
Chief Statistician
Singapore

September 2024

Our Vision

National Statistical Service of Quality, Integrity and Expertise

Our Mission

We deliver Insightful Statistics and Trusted Statistical Services that Empower Decision Making

Our Guiding Principles

Professionalism & Expertise *We adhere to professional ethics and develop statistical competency to produce quality statistics that comply with international concepts and best practices.*

Relevance & Reliability *We produce statistics that users need and trust.*

Accessibility *We facilitate ease of access to our statistics through user-friendly platforms.*

Confidentiality *We protect the confidentiality of individual information collected by us.*

Timeliness *We disseminate statistics at the earliest possible date while maintaining data quality.*

Innovation *We constantly seek ways to improve our processes, leveraging on new technology, to deliver better products and services to users.*

Collaboration *We engage users on data needs, data providers and respondents on supply of data, and undertake the role of national statistical coordination.*

Effectiveness *We optimise resource utilisation, leveraging on administrative and alternative data sources to ease respondent burden.*

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All statistical tables can be downloaded here.

NOTATIONS

n.a. not available
p   preliminary
-   nil or negligible

NOTES

The ***Population Trends, 2024*** contains statistics that are the most recently available at the time of its preparation.

Figures may not add up to the totals due to rounding.

KEY DEMOGRAPHIC INDICATORS, 1980 – 2024

Population	1980	1990	2000	2010	2020	2023	2024
Total Population[1,2,3] ('000)	2,413.9	3,047.1	4,027.9	5,076.7	5,685.8	5,917.6	6,036.9
Resident Population[2,3] ('000)	2,282.1	2,735.9	3,273.4	3,771.7	4,044.2	4,149.3	4,180.9
Singapore Citizens ('000)	2,194.3	2,623.7	2,985.9	3,230.7	3,523.2	3,610.7	3,635.9
Permanent Residents ('000)	87.8	112.1	287.5	541.0	521.0	538.6	544.9
Population Density[4] (Per sq km)	3,907	4,814	5,900	7,146	7,810	8,058	8,207
Sex Ratio[5] (Males per 1,000 females)	1,032	1,027	998	974	957	950	948
Median Age[5] (Years)	24.4	29.8	34.0	37.4	41.5	42.4	42.8
Old-Age Support Ratio[5] (Per person aged 65 years & over)							
Persons aged 15 – 64 years	13.8	11.8	9.9	8.2	4.6	4.0	3.8
Persons aged 20 – 64 years	11.3	10.5	9.0	7.4	4.3	3.7	3.5
Proportion of Singles Among Residents Aged 30 – 34 Years[5] (%)							
Males	21.3	34.0	30.7	37.1	41.9	45.2	n.a.
Females	16.6	20.9	19.5	25.1	32.8	33.7	n.a.
Highest Qualification Attained of Residents Aged 25 Years & Over[6] (%)	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	n.a.
Below Secondary	83.1	63.3	45.3	34.5	25.5	21.4	n.a.
Secondary	9.5	23.6	24.0	19.0	16.3	15.5	n.a.
Post-Secondary (Non-Tertiary)	4.7*	4.7	8.9	9.5	10.0	10.0	n.a.
Diploma & Professional Qualification		3.6	9.8	13.3	15.3	16.6	n.a.
University	2.7	4.7	12.1	23.7	33.0	36.6	n.a.
Mean Years of Schooling Among Residents Aged 25 Years & Over[6] (Years)	4.7	6.6	8.6	10.1	11.3	11.7	n.a.
Males	5.6	7.3	9.2	10.6	11.7	12.0	n.a.
Females	3.7	5.9	8.1	9.7	10.9	11.4	n.a.

Households & Housing	1980	1990	2000	2010	2020	2022	2023
Resident Households[7] ('000)	472.7	661.7	915.1	1,145.9	1,372.6	1,399.6	1,425.1
Average Household Size[7] (Persons)	4.87	4.25	3.70	3.50	3.22	3.09	3.11
Owner-Occupied Households[7] (%)	58.8	87.5	92.0	87.2	87.9	89.3	89.7
Type of Dwelling[7,8] (%)	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
HDB Flats[9]	67.8	85.0	88.0	82.4	78.7	77.9	77.8
Condominiums & Other Apartments	3.9	4.7	6.5	11.5	16.0	17.0	17.2
Landed Properties	8.5	7.0	5.1	5.7	5.0	4.9	4.8

* Data refer to Post-Secondary (Non-Tertiary) and Diploma & Professional Qualification.

Notes:

1) Total population comprises Singapore residents (i.e. Singapore citizens and permanent residents) and non-residents.

2) Data for 1980 are based on *de facto* concept (i.e. the person is present in the country when enumerated at the reference period). Data from 1990 onwards are based on *de jure* concept (i.e. the person's place of usual residence).

3) Data from 2003 onwards exclude residents who have been away from Singapore for a continuous period of 12 months or longer as at the reference period.

4) Prior to 2003, data are based on Singapore's land area as at end-December. From 2003 onwards, data are based on Singapore's land area as at end-June.

5) Data refer to resident population.

6) Data pertain to residents who were not attending educational institutions as full-time students and include those who were upgrading their qualifications through part-time courses.

7) Data refer to resident households (i.e. households where the household reference person is a Singapore citizen or permanent resident).

8) Data include other types of dwelling (e.g. non-HDB shophouses).

9) Data for years prior to 2018 include non-privatised Housing and Urban Development Company (HUDC) flats.

KEY DEMOGRAPHIC INDICATORS, 1980 – 2023 *(cont'd)*

Family Formation and Dissolution[10]	1980	1990	2000	2010	2020	2022	2023
Total Marriages[11]	22,444	23,953	22,561	24,363	22,651	29,389	28,310
General Marriage Rate[12]							
Males (Per 1,000 unmarried resident males aged 15-49 years)	54.9	52.2	47.4	39.3	35.7	47.0	44.3
Females (Per 1,000 unmarried resident females aged 15-49 years)	67.3	59.2	46.8	35.3	34.9	45.5	43.1
Median Age at First Marriage (Years)							
Grooms	26.7	28.0	28.7	30.0	30.4	30.7	31.0
Brides	23.6	25.3	26.2	27.7	28.8	29.3	29.5
Total Divorces & Annulments	1,721	3,634	5,137	7,338	6,959	7,107	7,118
General Divorce Rate[13]							
Males (Per 1,000 married resident males aged 20 years & over)	3.7	6.1	6.5	7.5	6.3	6.2	6.0
Females (Per 1,000 married resident females aged 20 years & over)	3.8	6.1	6.5	7.2	6.1	5.9	5.5

Fertility[10]	1980	1990	2000	2010	2020	2022	2023
Total Live-Births	41,217	51,142	46,997	37,967	38,590	35,605	33,541
Resident Live-Births	40,100	49,787	44,765	35,129	34,233	32,290	30,518
Crude Birth Rate[5] (Per 1,000 residents)	17.6	18.2	13.7	9.3	8.5	7.9	7.4
Total Fertility Rate[5] (Per female)	1.82	1.83	1.60	1.15	1.10	1.04	0.97
Gross Reproduction Rate[5] (Per female)	0.88	0.88	0.77	0.56	0.53	0.50	0.46
Net Reproduction Rate[5] (Per female)	0.86	0.87	0.76	0.55	0.53	0.50	0.46

Mortality[10]	1980	1990	2000	2010	2020	2022	2023
Total Deaths	12,505	13,891	15,693	17,610	22,054	26,891	26,888
Resident Deaths	11,205	12,932	14,715	16,476	20,985	25,586	25,567
Crude Death Rate[5] (Per 1,000 residents)	4.9	4.7	4.5	4.4	5.2	6.3	6.2
Age-Standardised Death Rate[5,14] (Per 1,000 residents)	13.0	10.5	8.8	6.5	5.2	5.9	5.6
Infant Mortality Rate[5] (Per 1,000 resident live-births)	8.0	6.6	2.5	2.0	1.8	1.8	2.2
Life Expectancy at Birth[5,15] (Years)	72.1	75.3	78.0	81.7	83.7	83.0	83.0
Males	69.8	73.1	76.0	79.2	81.3	80.7	80.7
Females	74.7	77.6	80.0	84.0	85.9	85.2	85.2

Notes *(cont'd)*:

10) Data for 2024 are not available.

11) Total marriages comprise civil marriages registered under the Women's Charter and Muslim marriages registered under the Administration of Muslim Law Act. Data exclude civil marriages which were contracted overseas or under religious and customary rites, and were subsequently registered in Singapore in the reference year.

12) Data are based on resident grooms/brides and resident population, except for 1980 which are based on total grooms/brides and total population.

13) Data are based on divorces and annulments. From 2004 onwards, data are based on divorces and annulments where the male/female spouses are residents (i.e. Singapore citizens and permanent residents).

14) The Singapore resident population as at June 2020 was used as the standard population to fix the age structure and eliminate its effect on mortality trends.

15) Data for the latest available year is preliminary.

Population Trends

Chapter 1   Population

Population Size and Growth

Singapore's total population stood at 6.04 million as at end-June 2024 (Table 1.1), a 2.0 per cent increase from end-June 2023, contributed by growth in both the resident and non-resident populations. The annualised population growth rate of 1.1 per cent over the past five years (2019-2024) was slightly higher than the 0.8 per cent over the preceding five-year period (2014-2019).

The resident population grew by 0.8 per cent to 4.18 million as at end-June 2024. Within the resident population, citizens grew by 0.7 per cent to 3.64 million while permanent residents grew by 1.2 per cent to 0.54 million. The non-resident population stood at 1.86 million as at end-June 2024, an increase of 5.0 per cent from the year before.

Table 1.1 Singapore Population Size and Growth by Residential Status

Year	Number ('000)					Annual Growth[1] (%)				
	Total Population	Singapore Residents			Non-Residents	Total Population	Singapore Residents			Non-Residents
		Total	Citizens	PRs			Total	Citizens	PRs	
2000	4,027.9	3,273.4	2,985.9	287.5	754.5	2.8	1.8	1.3	9.9	9.3
2010	5,076.7	3,771.7	3,230.7	541.0	1,305.0	2.3	1.4	0.8	6.5	5.6
2014	5,469.7	3,870.7	3,343.0	527.7	1,599.0	1.3	0.7	0.9	-0.7	2.9
2019	5,703.6	4,026.2	3,500.9	525.3	1,677.4	1.2	0.8	0.8	0.6	2.0
2020	5,685.8	4,044.2	3,523.2	521.0	1,641.6	-0.3	0.4	0.6	-0.8	-2.1
2021	5,453.6	3,986.8	3,498.2	488.7	1,466.7	-4.1	-1.4	-0.7	-6.2	-10.7
2022	5,637.0	4,073.2	3,553.7	519.5	1,563.8	3.4	2.2	1.6	6.3	6.6
2023	5,917.6	4,149.3	3,610.7	538.6	1,768.4	5.0	1.9	1.6	3.7	13.1
2024	6,036.9	4,180.9	3,635.9	544.9	1,856.0	2.0	0.8	0.7	1.2	5.0

Note: Data from 2003 onwards exclude residents who have been away from Singapore for a continuous period of 12 months or longer as at the reference period.

> ***Population***
>
> Total population comprises Singapore residents and non-residents. Resident population comprises Singapore citizens and permanent residents. Non-resident population comprises foreigners who are working, studying or living in Singapore but not granted permanent residence, excluding tourists and short-term visitors.
>
> Singapore's population estimates are compiled using the register-based approach since the *Census of Population 2000*. The basic count and profile of the population are based on a person's place of usual residence i.e. *de jure* concept.

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[1] For 2000 and 2010, growth rate refers to the annualised change over the last ten years. From 2014 onwards, growth rate refers to the change over the previous year.

Age Structure

Singapore's resident population continued to age. The median age of the resident population rose to 42.8 years as at end-June 2024, from 42.4 years in the previous year (Chart 1.1). The proportion of residents aged 65 years and over rose to 18.0 per cent from 17.3 per cent over the same period.

Chart 1.1 Age Distribution of Resident Population

Year	Median Age (Years)
2004	35.4
2014	39.3
2023	42.4
2024	42.8
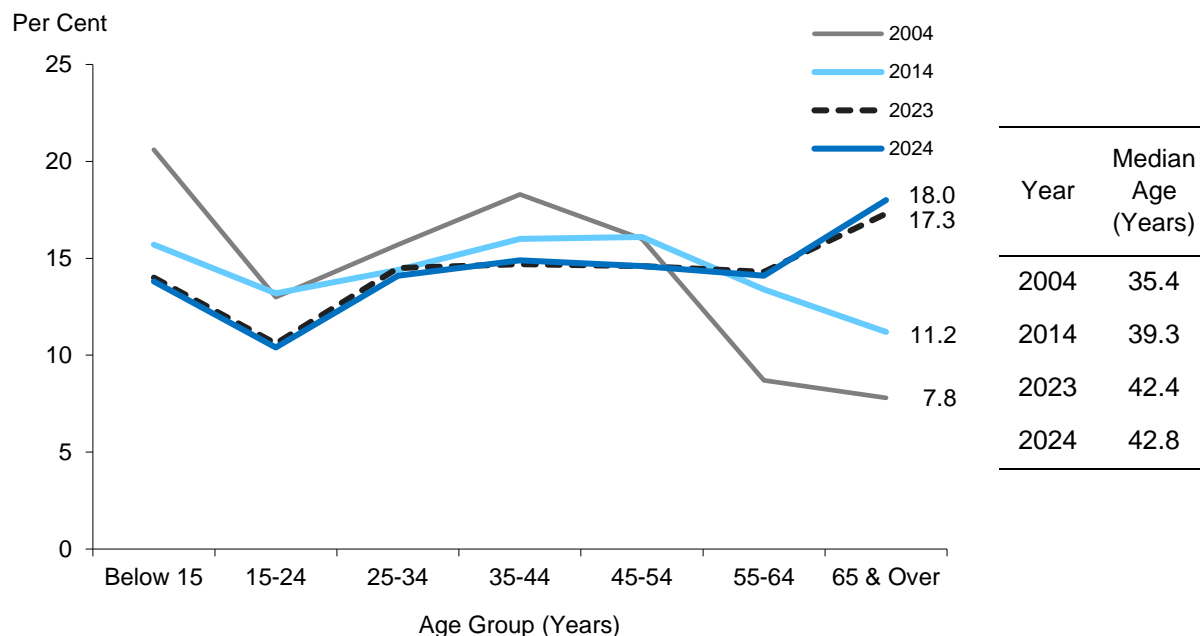
Chart 1.2 Age Pyramid of Resident Population
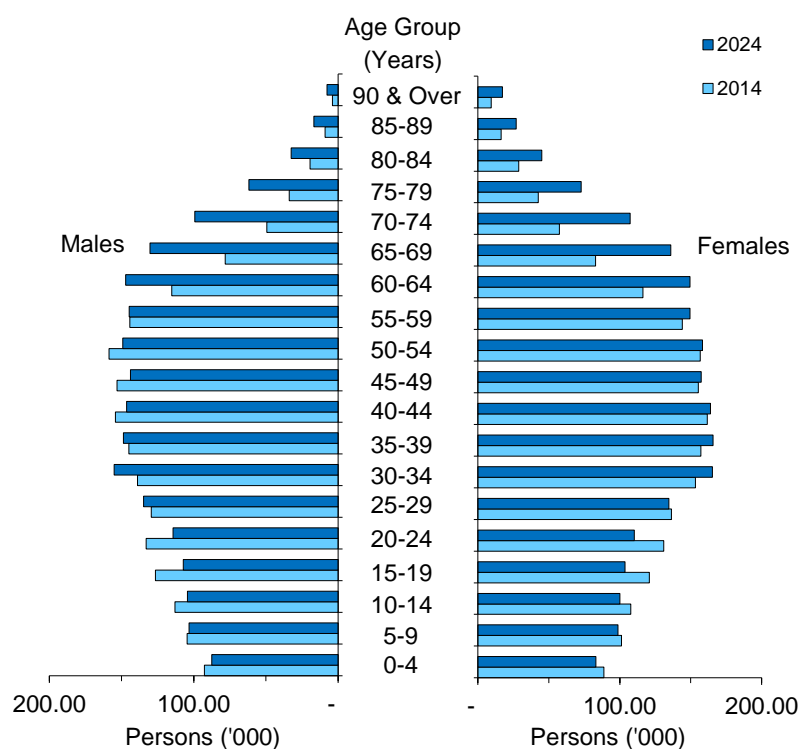
Old-Age Support Ratio

The resident old-age support ratio, which refers to the number of residents aged 20-64 years per resident aged 65 years and over continued to decline to 3.5 as at end-June 2024, from 3.7 as at end-June 2023 (Chart 1.3).

Chart 1.3 Resident Old-Age Support Ratio

No. of Residents Aged 20-64 Years
Per Resident Aged 65 Years & Over
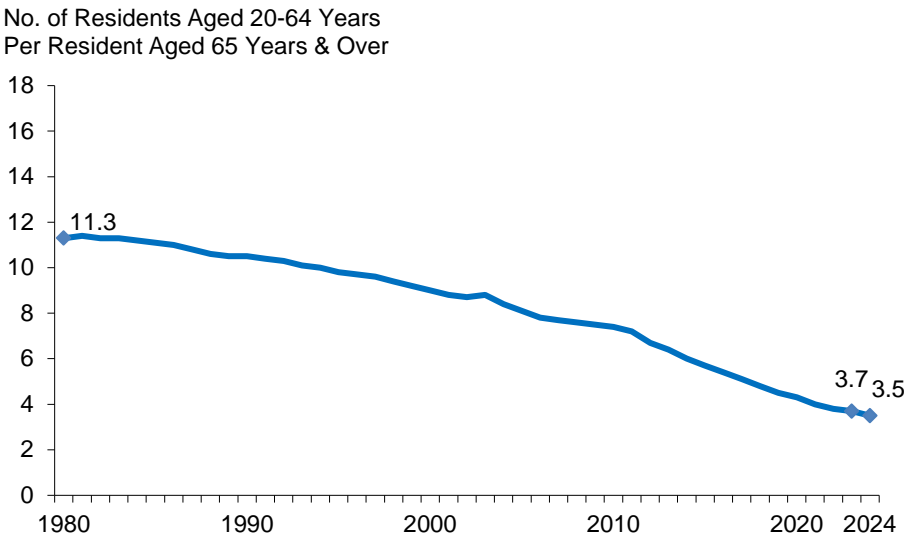
Ethnic Composition

The ethnic composition of the resident population remained stable. As at end-June 2024, the resident population comprised 74.0 per cent Chinese, 13.5 per cent Malays, 9.0 per cent Indians, and 3.4 per cent Others (Chart 1.4).

Chart 1.4 Ethnic Composition of Resident Population

Per Cent

Sex Composition

Among the resident population, the number of females continued to be higher than the number of males, contributed by the longer life expectancy of females and the ageing population. As at end-June 2024, the sex ratio was 948 males per 1,000 females (Chart 1.5).

Chart 1.5 Sex Composition of Resident Population

	Per Cent	Sex Ratio (Males Per 1,000 Females)
2024	Males 48.7 / Females 51.3	948
2023	Males 48.7 / Females 51.3	950
2014	Males 49.1 / Females 50.9	967
2004	Males 49.7 / Females 50.3	986

■ Males ■ Females

Marital Status

Among the resident population aged 15 years and over, married persons constituted the largest group at 61.2 per cent in 2023, up from 59.6 per cent in 2013 (Cha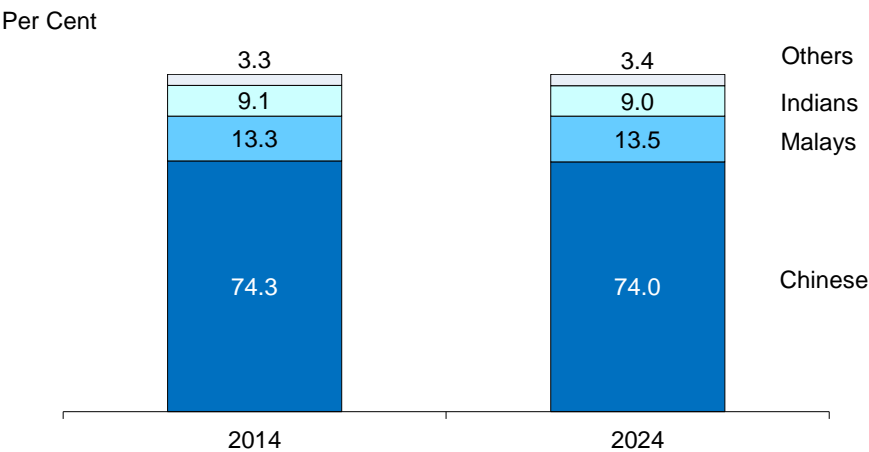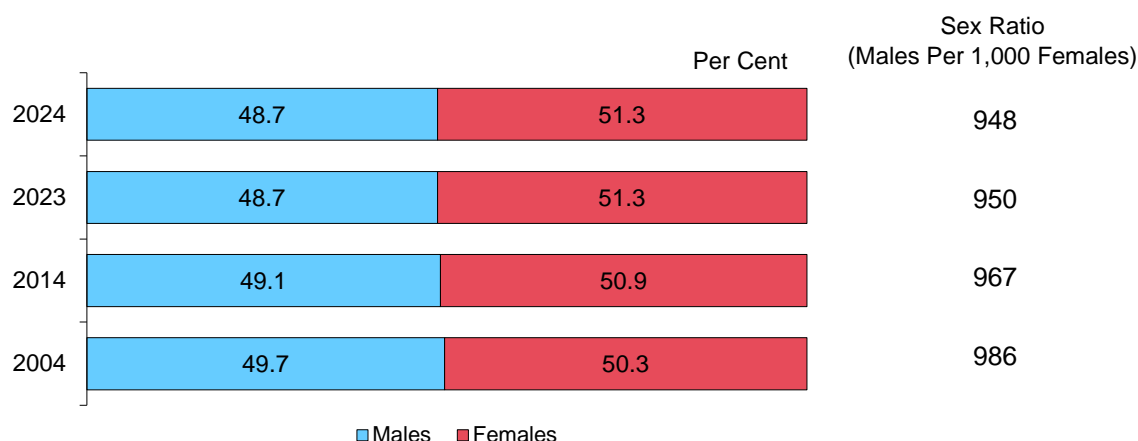rt 1.6). This was followed by single (or never married) persons at 29.7 per cent, a decrease from 32.1 per cent a decade ago. Those who were widowed and divorced or separated accounted for 4.7 per cent and 4.3 per cent respectively in 2023, compared to 4.9 per cent and 3.3 per cent in 2013.

The proportion of widowed residents continued to be higher among females than males, due in part to the longer life expectancy of females.

Chart 1.6 Marital Status of Resident Population Aged 15 Years and Over by Sex

Per Cent

	Total		Males		Females		
	2013	2023	2013	2023	2013	2023	
Divorced/Separated	3.3	4.3	2.4	3.3	4.3	5.3	
Widowed	4.9	4.7	1.6	1.9	8.0	7.4	
Married	59.6	61.2	61.7	63.1	57.7	59.5	
Single	32.1	29.7	34.3	31.7	30.0	27.9	
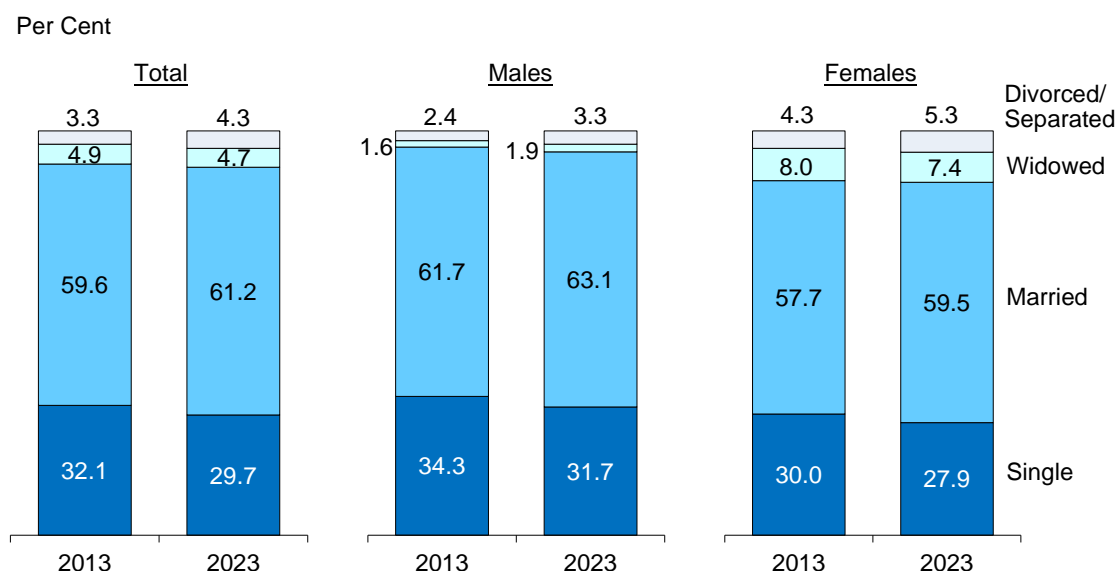
The marital status distribution among the resident population varied across age groups. Most residents in the younger age group of 20-29 years were single, while those aged 30 years and over were predominantly married (Chart 1.7). In tandem with improved life expectancy in 2023 compared to a decade ago, the proportion of widowed residents among those aged 60 years and over declined over the same period.

Chart 1.7 Distribution of Marital Status Among Resident Population by Selected Age Group and Sex
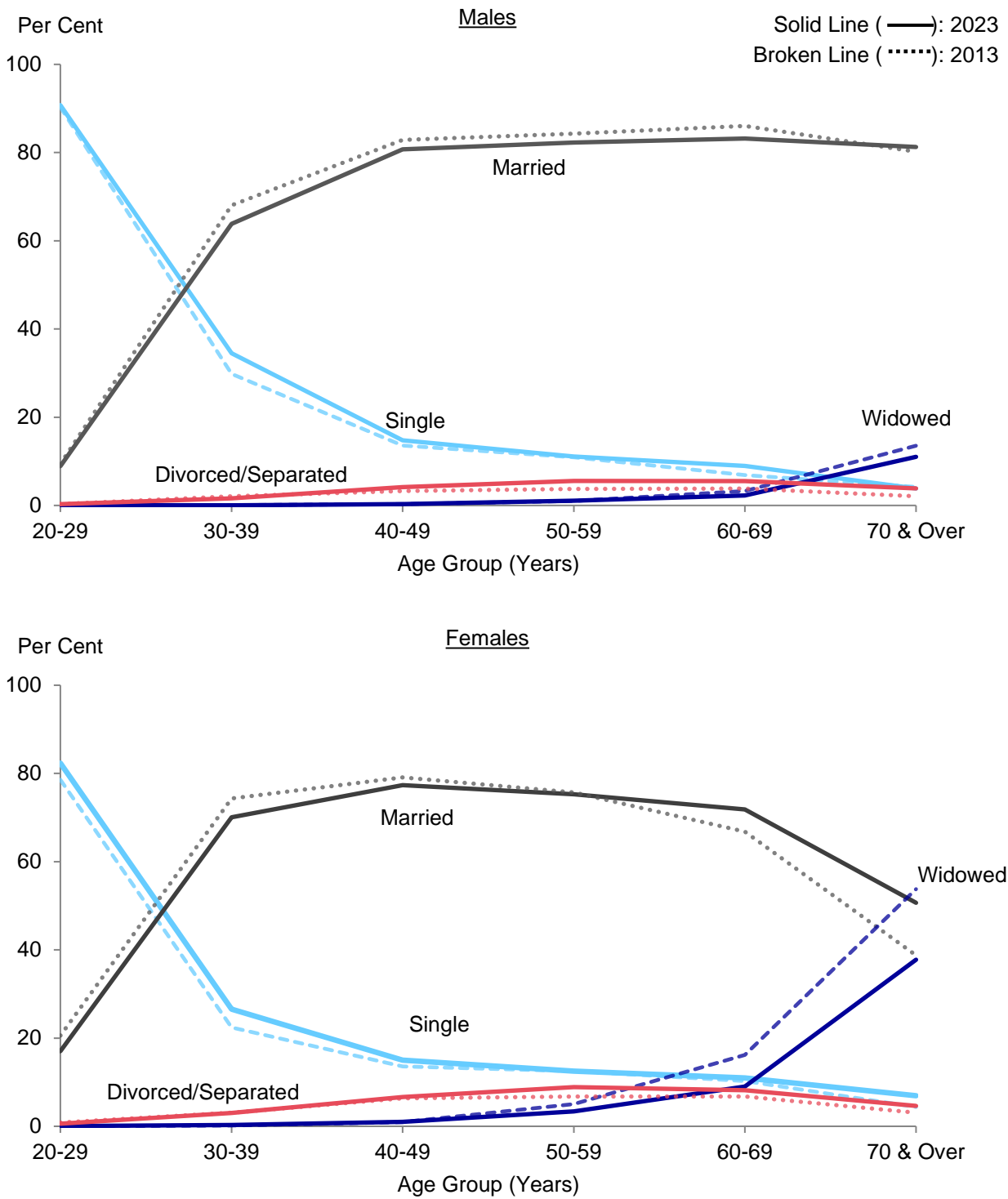
Proportion of Singles

Among the resident population aged 25-49 years, the proportion of singles rose across all male and female age groups between 2013 and 2023.

The largest increases were observed among the younger ages of 25-34 years. In 2023, 83.8 per cent of resident males and 70.1 per cent of resident females aged 25-29 years were single, an increase from 80.8 per cent and 62.4 per cent respectively in 2013 (Chart 1.8).

For those aged 30-34 years, 45.2 per cent of resident males and 33.7 per cent of resident females in 2023 were single, an increase from 39.6 per cent and 27.0 per cent respectively in 2013.

Chart 1.8 Proportion of Singles Among Resident Population by Selected Age Group and Sex

	Males 2023	Males 2013	Age Group (Years)	Females 2023	Females 2013
	13.6	12.1	45-49	14.0	13.3
	15.9	15.1	40-44	16.0	13.8
	23.1	20.9	35-39	19.3	18.0
	45.2	39.6	30-34	33.7	27.0
	83.8	80.8	25-29	70.1	62.4

Per Cent

■ 2023   ■ 2013
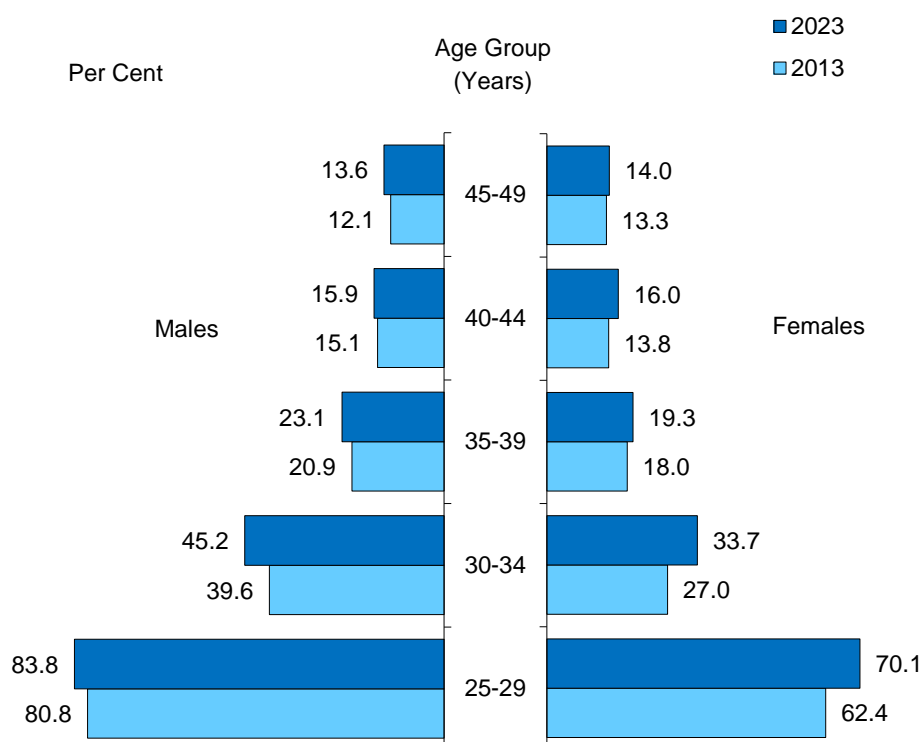
Singlehood was more prevalent among males with lower educational qualifications and females with higher educational qualifications for residents aged 40-49 years. In 2023, 21.2 per cent of resident males aged 40-49 years with secondary & below qualification were single, higher than the 13.0 per cent among those with university qualification (Chart 1.9).

In contrast, the proportion of singles among resident females aged 40-49 years with university qualification was 16.9 per cent in 2023, higher than the 9.9 per cent among those with secondary & below qualification.

Chart 1.9 Proportion of Singles Among Resident Population by Selected Age Group, Sex and Highest Qualification Attained
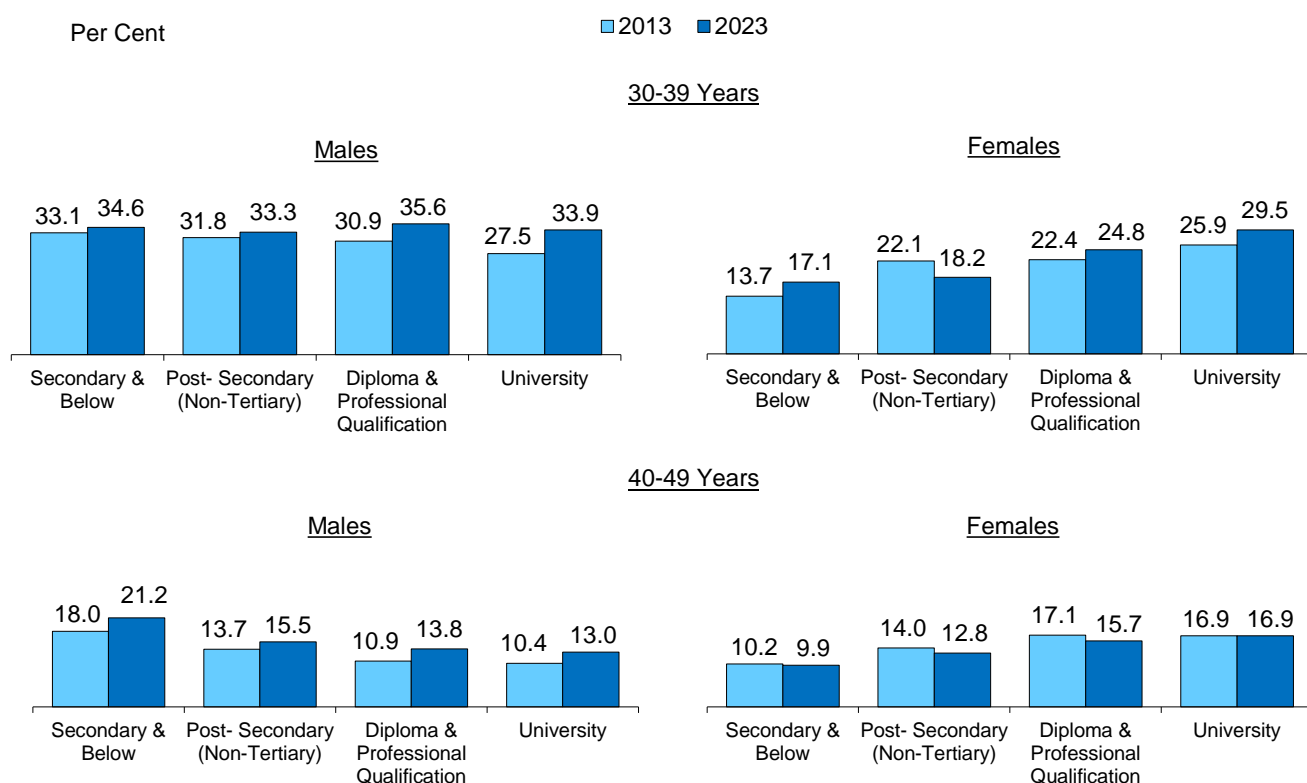
Note: Data pertain to residents who were not attending educational institutions as full-time students and include those who were upgrading their qualifications through part-time courses.

Education Profile[2]

Among residents aged 25 years and over, the proportion of those holding post-secondary or higher qualifications rose from 50.0 per cent in 2013 to 63.1 per cent in 2023 (Chart 1.10). This was mainly attributable to the increase in university graduates, from 27.3 per cent to 36.6 per cent over the decade.

**Chart 1.10 Highest Qualification Attained of Resident Population
Aged 25 Years and Over**

Per Cent

□ 2013   ■ 2023

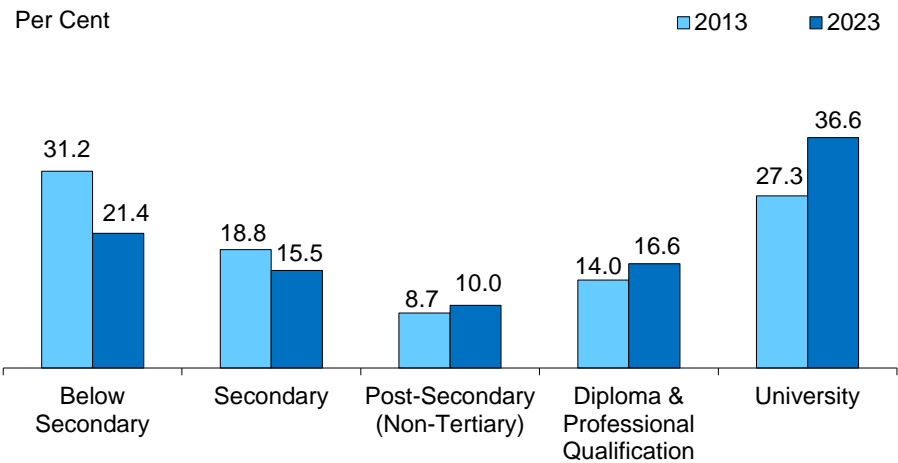| Qualification	2013	2023
Below Secondary	31.2	21.4
Secondary	18.8	15.5
Post-Secondary (Non-Tertiary)	8.7	10.0
Diploma & Professional Qualification	14.0	16.6
University	27.3	36.6

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[2] Data pertain to residents who were not attending educational institutions as full-time students and include those who were upgrading their qualifications through part-time courses.

The proportion of residents with university qualifications rose across all age groups between 2013 and 2023 (Chart 1.11). The largest increase of 21.0 percentage-points was observed among residents aged 45-54 years, from 21.8 per cent to 42.8 per cent.

Among residents aged 25-34 years, 59.9 per cent were university graduates in 2023, an increase from 51.1 per cent in 2013. Conversely, the proportions of those with below university qualifications within this age group fell, especially those with secondary and below secondary qualifications.

**Chart 1.11 Highest Qualification Attained of Resident Population
Aged 25 Years and Over by Age Group**
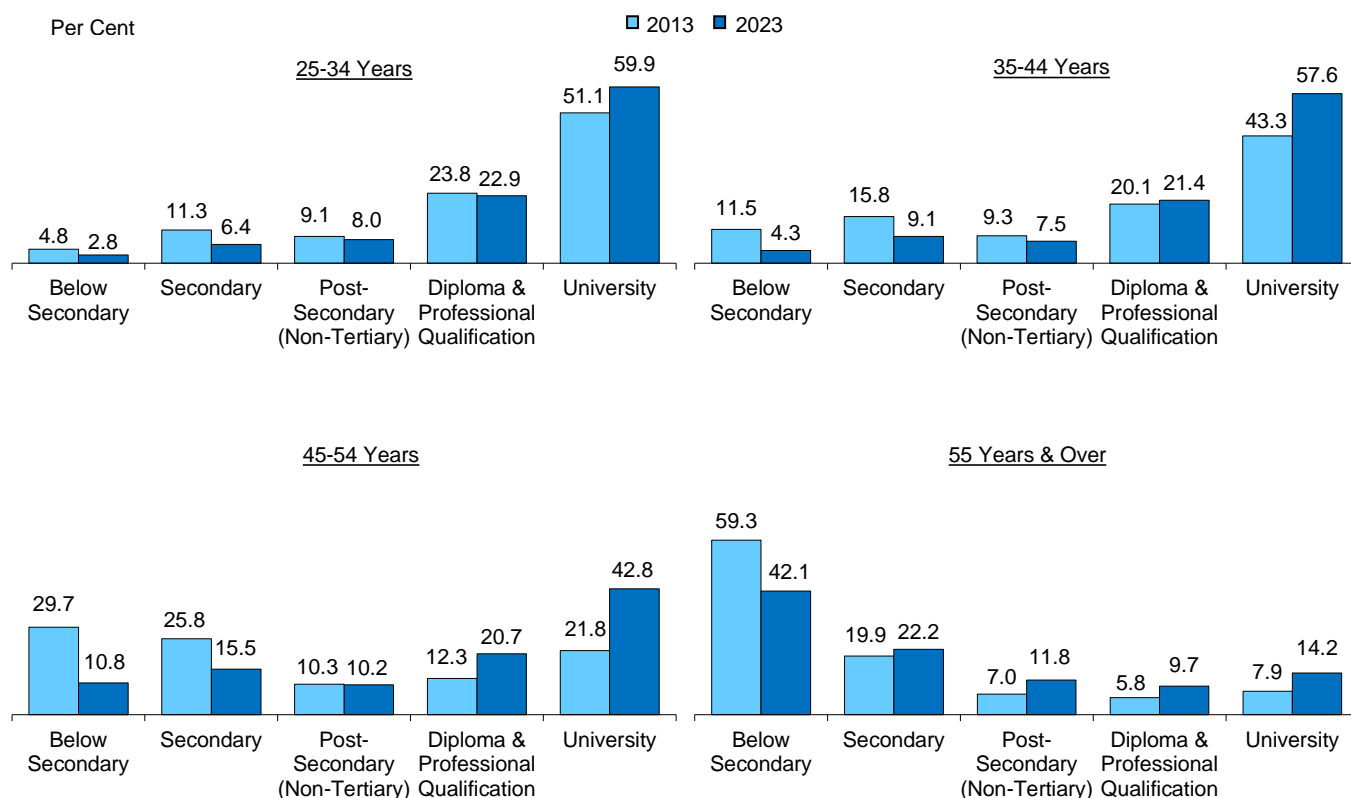
With a larger proportion of residents attaining higher qualifications, the average number of years of schooling among residents increased from 10.5 years in 2013 to 11.7 years in 2023 (Chart 1.12). The gap between the males and females narrowed from 1.0 years to 0.6 years over the same period.

**Chart 1.12 Mean Years of Schooling Among Resident Population
Aged 25 Years and Over by Sex**
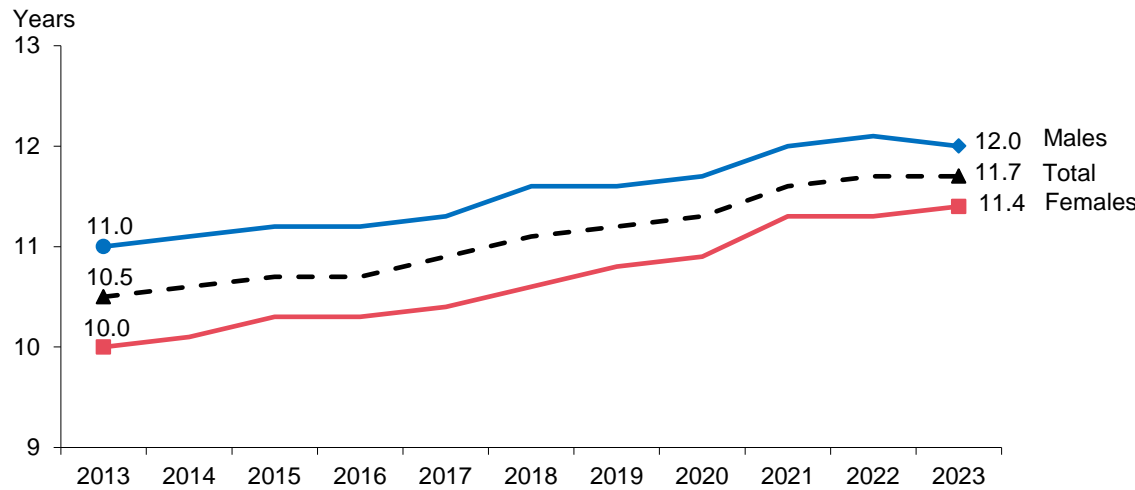
Chapter 2   Geographical Distribution

Resident Population

As at end-June 2024, more than half (52.3 per cent) of the 4.2 million residents in Singapore resided in nine out of fifty-five planning areas[3]. There were five planning areas with more than 250,000 residents each, namely Tampines, Bedok, Sengkang, Jurong West and Woodlands (Chart 2.1). Tampines was the most populous with 284,560 residents.

Chart 2.1 Resident Population by Planning Area, June 2024

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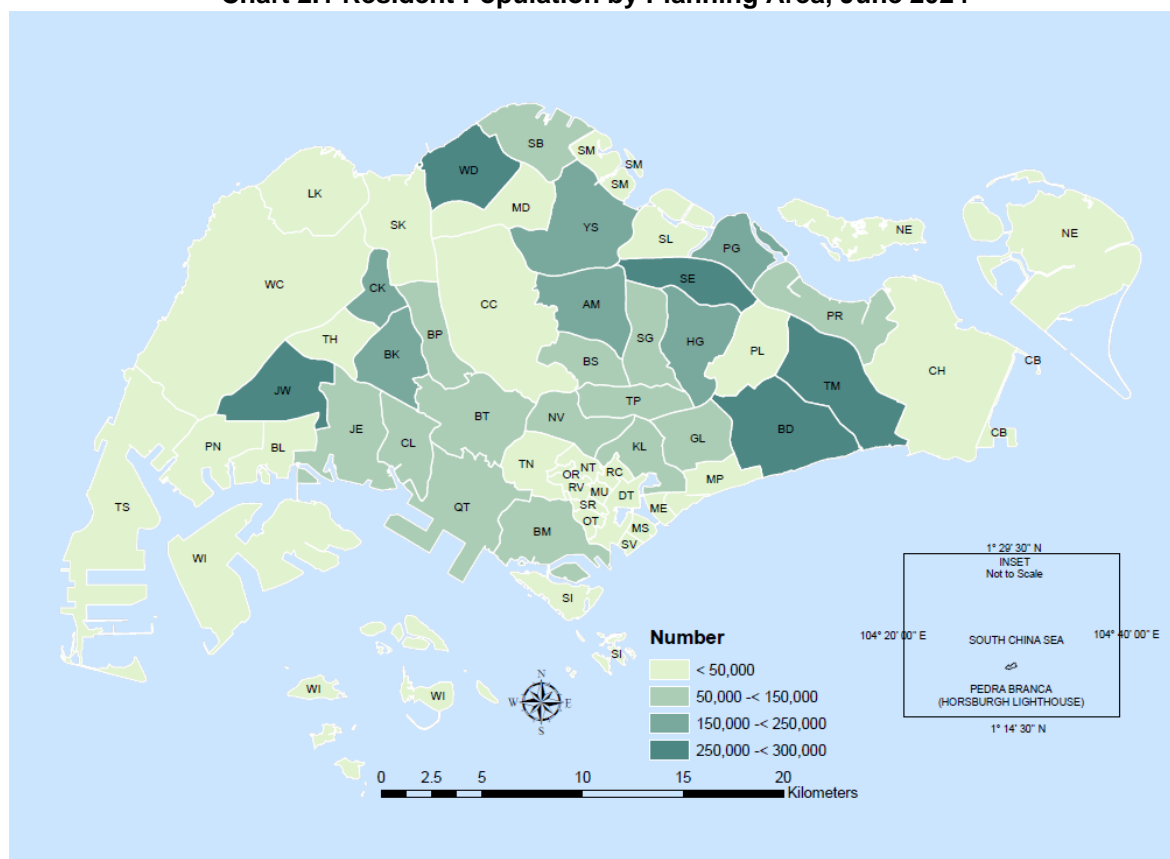
[3] Planning areas refer to areas demarcated in the Urban Redevelopment Authority's Master Plan 2019.

Chart 2.2 Resident Population by Subzone, June 2024

Number

- < 5,000
- 5,000 -< 10,000
- 10,000 -< 20,000
- 20,000 -< 30,000
- 30,000 -< 40,000
- 40,000 -< 50,000
- >= 50,000

INSET
Not to Scale

1° 29' 30" N

104° 20' 00" E

SOUTH CHINA SEA

104° 40' 00" E

PEDRA BRANCA
(HORSBURGH LIGHTHOUSE)

1° 14' 30" N

0   2.5   5   10   15   20
Kilometers
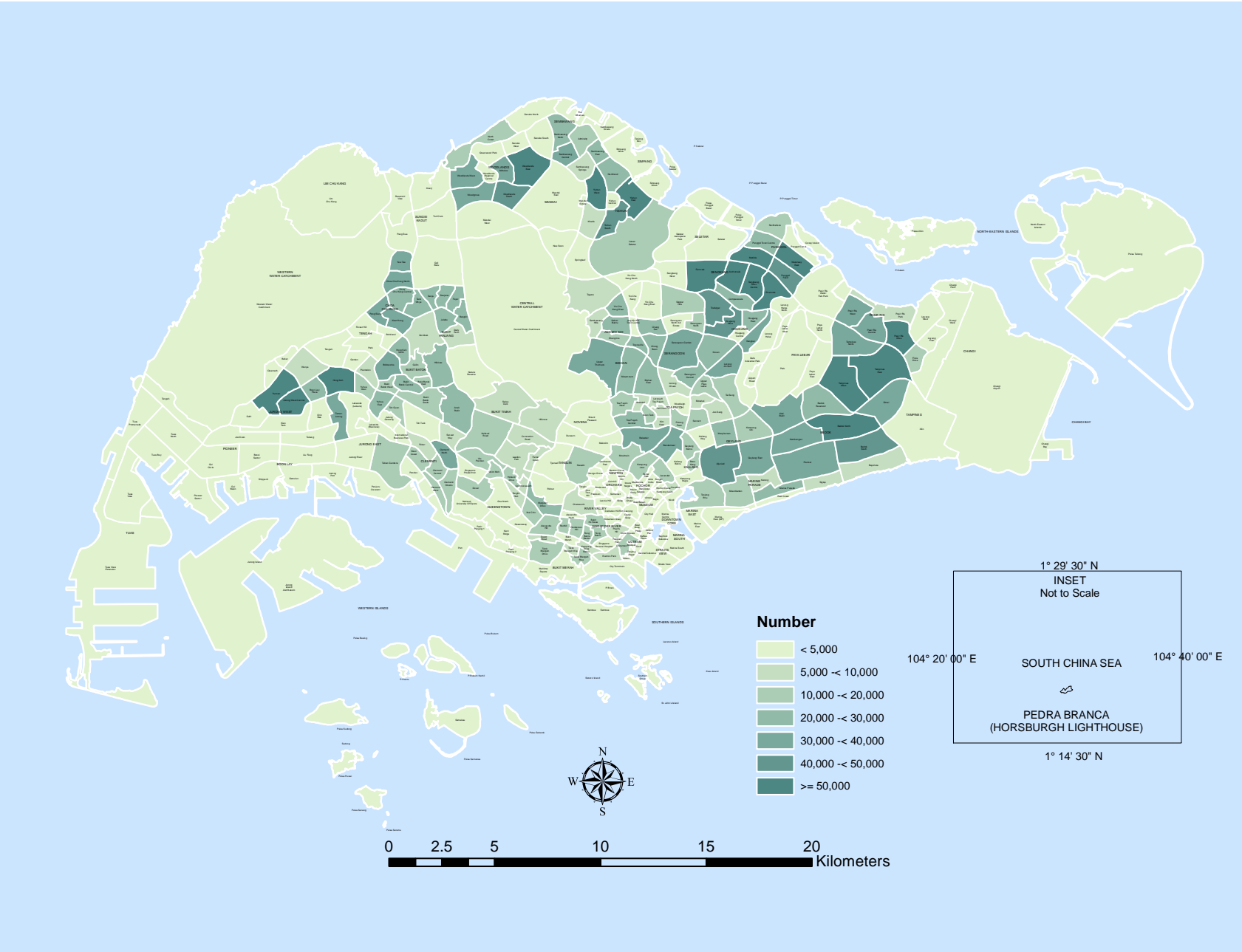
Age Profile

In 2024, Outram, Ang Mo Kio, Bukit Merah, Rochor and Jurong East were some of the planning areas which had higher proportions of residents aged 65 years and over than other planning areas (Chart 2.3). For each of these areas, more than one in five residents were aged 65 years and above.

In comparison, planning areas with newer housing estates had a higher proportion of children aged below 5 years than older planning areas. In 2024, Tengah, Punggol, Sembawang and Tampines were the top four planning areas with the highest proportion of residents aged below 5 years old. Children aged below 5 years made up more than 5.0 per cent of the residents in each of these areas (Chart 2.4).

Chart 2.3 Proportion of Resident Population Aged 65 Years and Over by Planning Area, June 2024
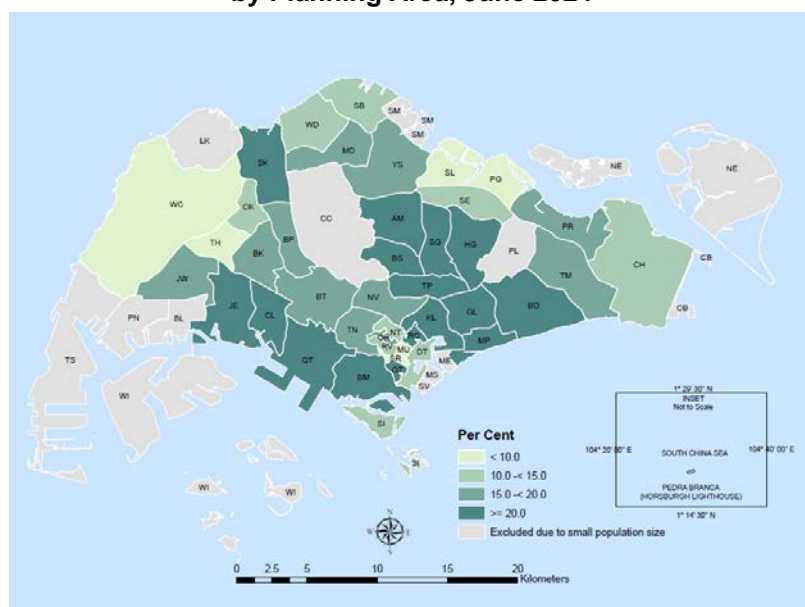
Chart 2.4 Proportion of Resident Population Aged Below 5 Years by Planning Area, June 2024
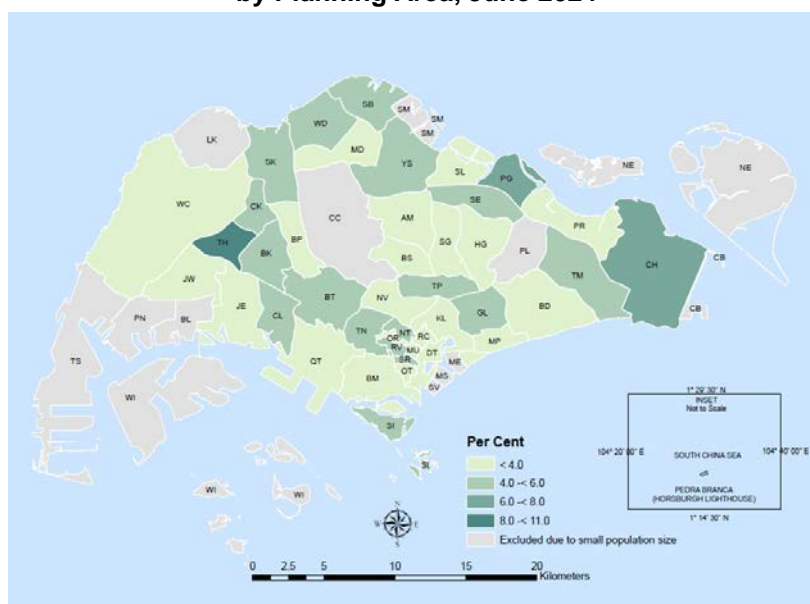
Type of Dwelling

An estimated 3.19 million residents, or approximately three in four residents, resided in HDB flats in 2024 (Chart 2.5). There were five planning areas where more than 90 per cent were staying in HDB flats, namely Tengah, Woodlands, Outram, Jurong West and Jurong East.

Chart 2.5 Proportion of Resident Population Staying in HDB Flats by Planning Area, June 2024
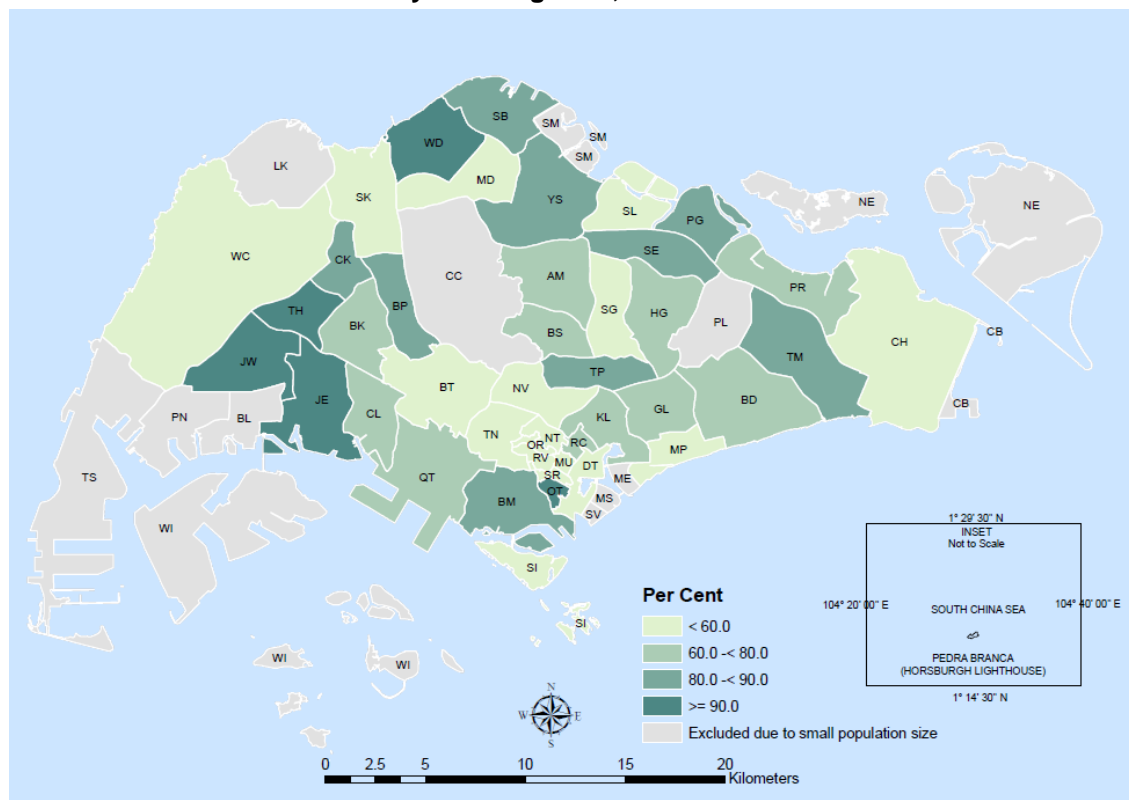
Floor Area

In 2024, proportionately more seniors aged 65 years and over (27.2 per cent) lived in smaller residential dwelling units with floor areas of 80 sq m or less, compared to the overall resident population (19.6 per cent) (Chart 2.6).

By planning area, Tengah, Outram and Rochor were some of the planning areas which had at least 50 per cent of residents aged 65 years and above staying in residential dwelling units with floor areas of 80 sq m or less (Chart 2.7).

Chart 2.6 Proportion of Resident Population by Floor Area of Residence (sq m), 2024

Chart 2.7 Proportion of Residents Aged 65 Years & Over Staying in Residential Dwelling Units of Floor Area ≤80 sq m by Planning Area, June 2024

<u>Note:</u>

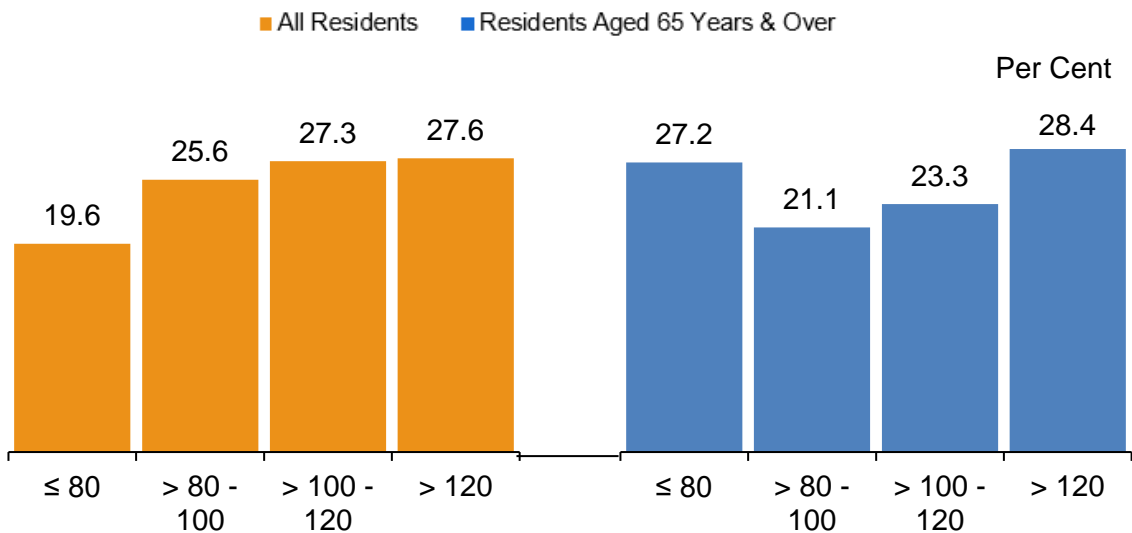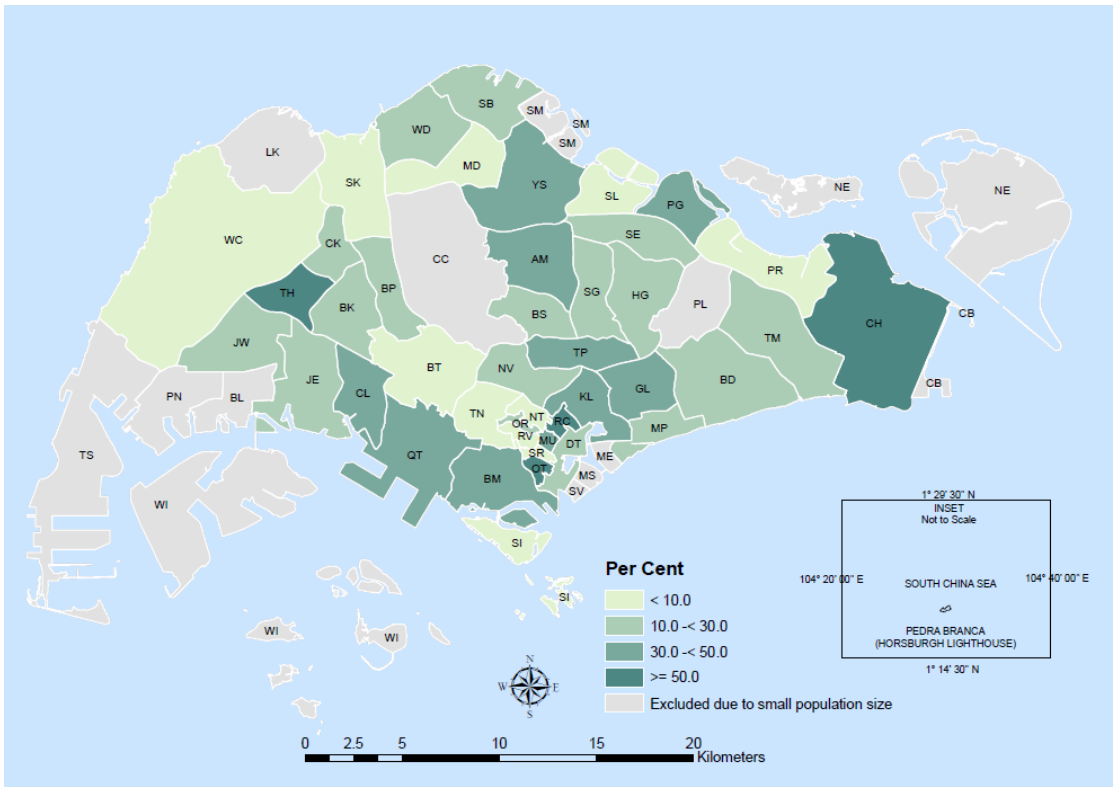Published maps are based on Urban Redevelopment Authority's Master Plan 2019 planning area boundaries and Singapore Land Authority's 2024 Singapore island profile. The Master Plan 2019 is a forward looking guiding plan for Singapore's development in the medium term over the next 10 to 15 years and the planning boundaries may not coincide with existing developments for some areas.

Codes for Planning Area

AM	Ang Mo Kio	**GL**	Geylang	**OR**	Orchard	**SL**	Seletar
BD	Bedok	**HG**	Hougang	**OT**	Outram	**SM**	Simpang
BK	Bukit Batok	**JE**	Jurong East	**PG**	Punggol	**SR**	Singapore River
BL	Boon Lay	**JW**	Jurong West	**PL**	Paya Lebar	**SV**	Straits View
BM	Bukit Merah	**KL**	Kallang	**PN**	Pioneer	**TH**	Tengah
BP	Bukit Panjang	**LK**	Lim Chu Kang	**PR**	Pasir Ris	**TM**	Tampines
BS	Bishan	**MD**	Mandai	**QT**	Queenstown	**TN**	Tanglin
BT	Bukit Timah	**ME**	Marina East	**RC**	Rochor	**TP**	Toa Payoh
CB	Changi Bay	**MP**	Marine Parade	**RV**	River Valley	**TS**	Tuas
CC	Central Water Catchment	**MS**	Marina South	**SB**	Sembawang	**WC**	Western Water Catchment
CH	Changi	**MU**	Museum	**SE**	Sengkang	**WD**	Woodlands
CK	Choa Chu Kang	**NE**	North-Eastern Islands	**SG**	Serangoon	**WI**	Western Islands
CL	Clementi	**NT**	Newton	**SI**	Southern Islands	**YS**	Yishun
DT	Downtown Core	**NV**	Novena	**SK**	Sungei Kadut		

Chapter 3   Households and Housing

Resident Households

   The number of resident households grew 1.8 per cent from 1.40 million in 2022 to 1.43 million in 2023 (Chart 3.1).

Chart 3.1 Resident Households

Year	Annual Growth* (%)
1990	3.4
2000	3.3
2010	2.3
2013	1.9
2018	2.7
2019	3.6
2020	0.0
2021	1.3
2022	0.6
2023	1.8
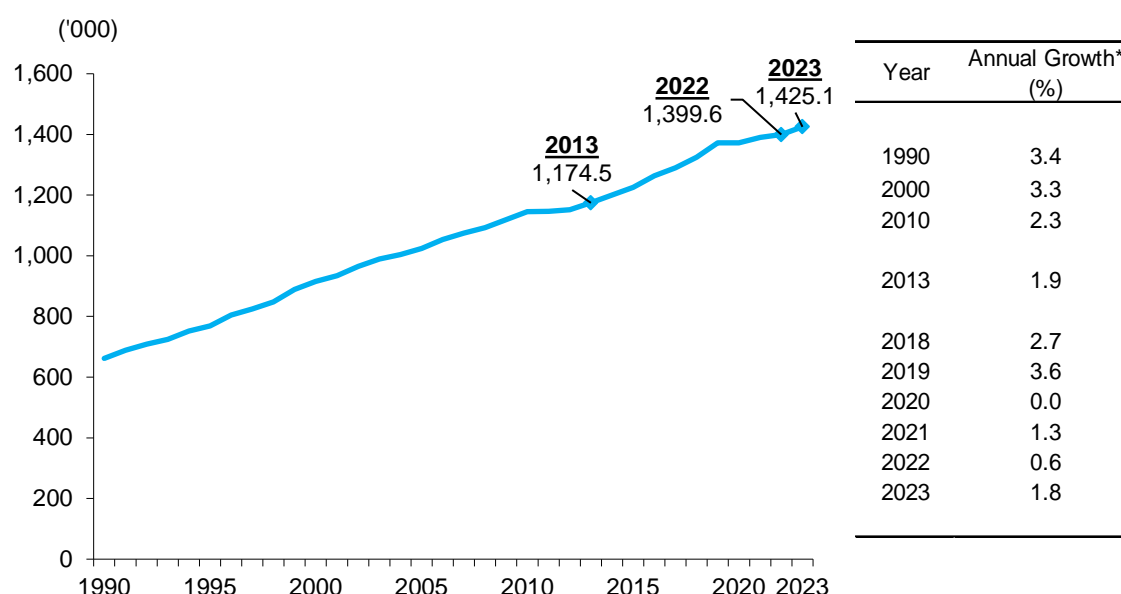
* For 1990, 2000 and 2010, growth rates refer to the annualised change over the last ten years. From 2013 onwards, growth rate refers to the change over the previous year.

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.

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

The household reference person may refer 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'.

Type of Dwelling

While most resident households continued to reside in HDB flats, the proportion fell from 81.9 per cent in 2013 to 77.8 per cent in 2023. HDB 4-room and 5-room/executive flats remained the most prevalent type of dwelling among resident households over the past decade, although the proportion of those living in such flats declined from 32.6 per cent and 25.1 per cent in 2013 to 31.3 per cent and 22.4 per cent in 2023 respectively (Chart 3.2).

Correspondingly, the proportion of resident households living in condominiums and other apartments rose from 12.2 per cent in 2013 to 17.2 per cent in 2023, close to the proportion who were living in HDB 3-room flats (17.0 per cent). Those living in landed properties decreased from 5.5 per cent to 4.8 per cent over the same period.

Chart 3.2 Proportion of Resident Households by Selected Type of Dwelling
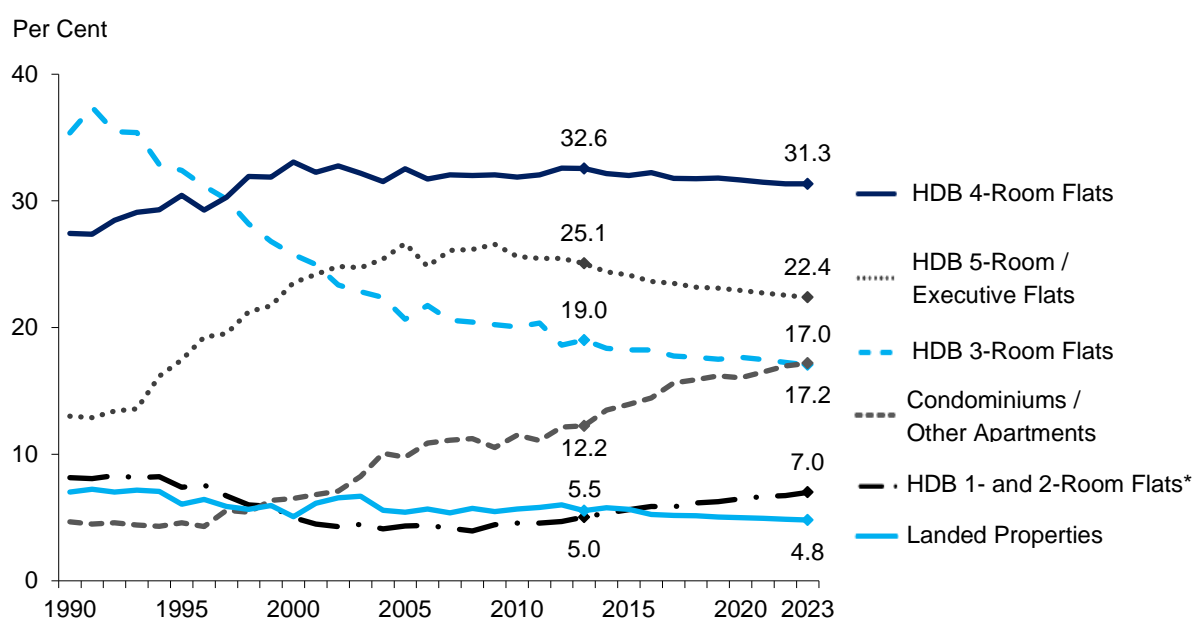
* Includes HDB studio apartments.

Tenancy of Households

In 2023, 89.7 per cent of resident households owned the dwelling they were staying in, a slight increase from 2022 (Table 3.1).

Table 3.1 Resident Households by Tenancy of Household

Year	Tenancy ('000)			% in Owner-Occupied
	Total*	Owner-Occupied	Rented	
1990	661.7	578.9	78.6	87.5
2000	915.1	841.6	63.4	92.0
2010	1,145.9	998.9	132.5	87.2
2013	1,174.5	1,062.5	105.7	90.5
2018	1,325.3	1,205.8	112.4	91.0
2019	1,372.4	1,240.6	122.5	90.4
2020[4]	1,372.6	1,206.0	152.1	87.9
2021	1,390.6	1,236.9	134.8	88.9
2022	1,399.6	1,249.7	131.7	89.3
2023	1,425.1	1,277.8	132.0	89.7

* Includes resident households in "Others" tenancy.

> ***Tenancy of Household***
>
> Tenancy refers to the tenure status of the household with respect to the dwelling in which the household members live in.
>
> "Owner-Occupied" 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.
>
> "Rented" 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)).

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[4] The fall in the proportion of owner-occupied resident households in 2020 could be due to changes in living arrangements arising from the COVID-19 pandemic. For example, individuals moving in with family members to provide care or support during the pandemic, or resident homeowners who left Singapore before the pandemic and remained overseas at the point of data collection.

Household Size

The average household size among resident households decreased from 3.47 persons in 2013 to 3.11 persons in 2023 (Chart 3.3). The decline was observed across all types of dwelling.

Resident households living in HDB dwellings with fewer rooms tend to be smaller. In 2023, the average household size was the smallest at 1.99 persons for HDB 1-& 2-room flats, followed by 2.49 persons for HDB 3-room flats. Conversely, those living in HDB 5-room/executive flats and landed properties were the largest at 3.60 persons and 4.07 persons on average respectively. The average household sizes for HDB 4-room flats and condominiums/other apartments were the same at 3.17 persons in 2023.

Chart 3.3 Average Household Size of Resident Households by Selected Type of Dwelling
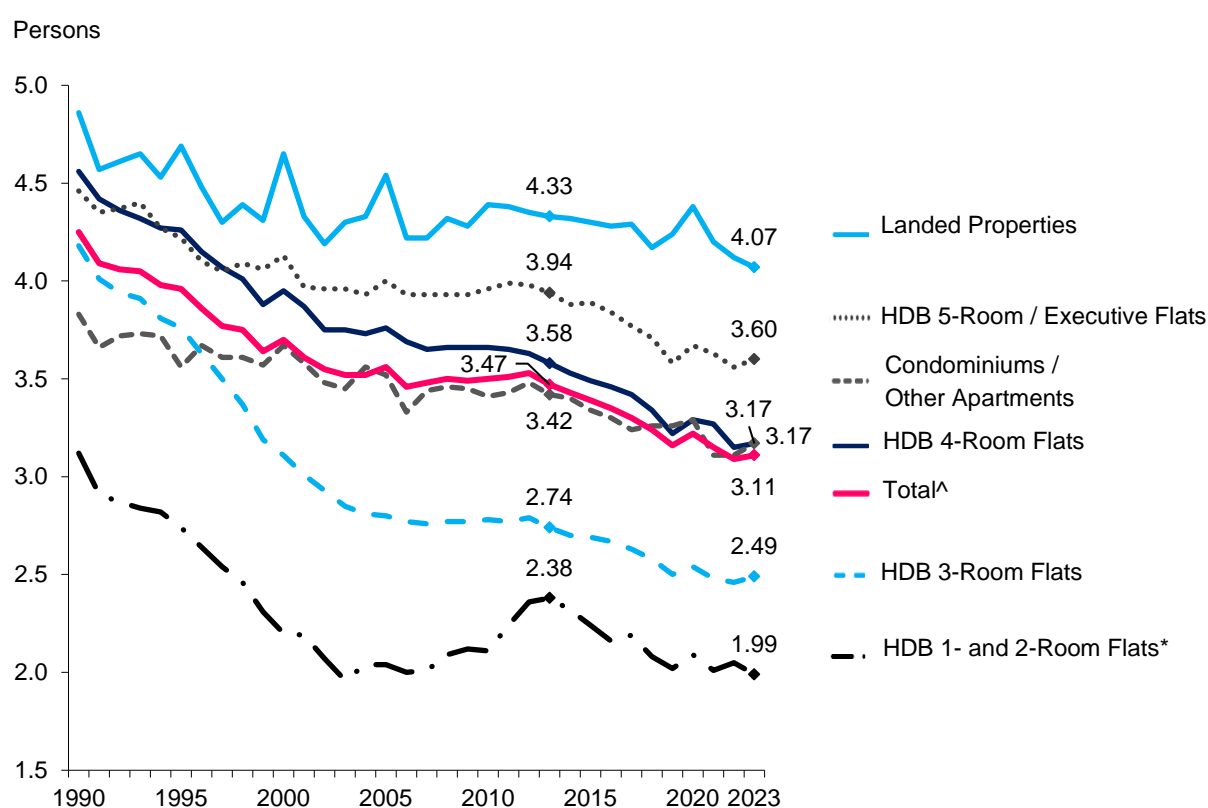
^ Includes other types of dwelling (e.g. non-HDB shophouses). Data for years prior to 2018 includes non-privatised Housing and Urban Development Company (HUDC) flats.
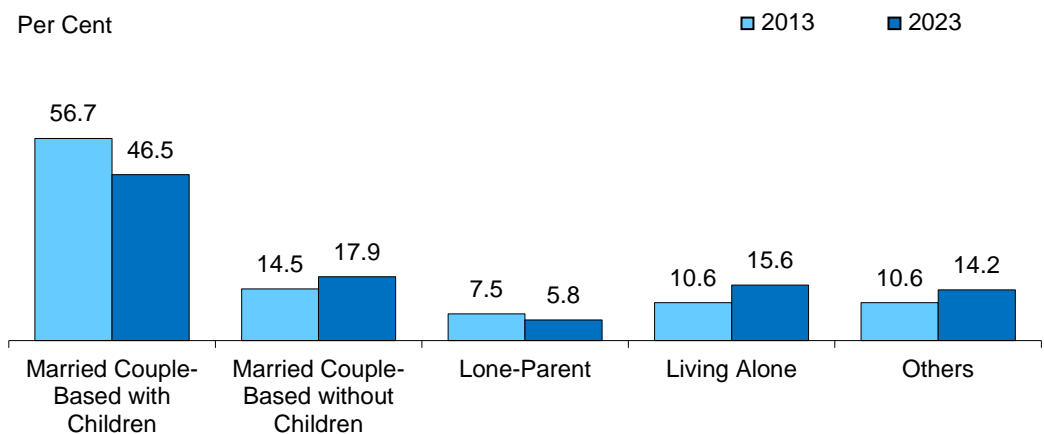
* Includes HDB studio apartments.

Household Living Arrangement

While married couple-based households with children remained the most prevalent living arrangement, its share among resident households declined from 56.7 per cent in 2013 to 46.5 per cent in 2023 (Chart 3.4).

Over the same period, the proportions increased for couple-based households without children (from 14.5 per cent to 17.9 per cent) and one-person households (from 10.6 per cent to 15.6 per cent).

Chart 3.4 Resident Households by Household Living Arrangement

Per Cent   ▢ 2013   ◼ 2023

	Married Couple-Based with Children	Married Couple-Based without Children	Lone-Parent	Living Alone	Others
2013	56.7	14.5	7.5	10.6	10.6
2023	46.5	17.9	5.8	15.6	14.2

Household Living Arrangement

Couple-based households refer to households with a married household reference person and spouse. This category is further split into those living with children and without children.

Lone-parent households refer to households whose household reference person is never-married/widowed/divorced/separated and living with children aged below 16 years or never-married children.

Living alone households refer to one-person households. Examples include single persons living alone, or ever-married persons who are living alone as their children have grown up and moved out from the parental home.

Between 2013 and 2023, a decline in the share of married couple-based households with children was observed across household reference persons of all age groups, particularly among those aged below 35 years (from 44.5 per cent to 31.4 per cent) and 35-49 years (from 65.9 per cent to 55.7 per cent) (Chart 3.5). This corresponds to trends of declining fertility over the past decade.

Among those with younger reference persons aged below 35 years, the share of married couple-based households declined from 71.8 per cent in 2013 to 56.3 per cent in 2023. Conversely, the proportion of one-person households rose from 9.3 per cent to 15.6 per cent over the same period. These are consistent with the trends of increasing singlehood and delayed marriages.

For households with elderly reference persons aged 65 years and over, the proportion of married couple-based without children and one-person households were the highest compared to the younger age groups, due to grown-up children setting up their own homes or the passing of one spouse.

**Chart 3.5 Resident Households by Age Group of Household Reference Person and Household Living Arrangement**
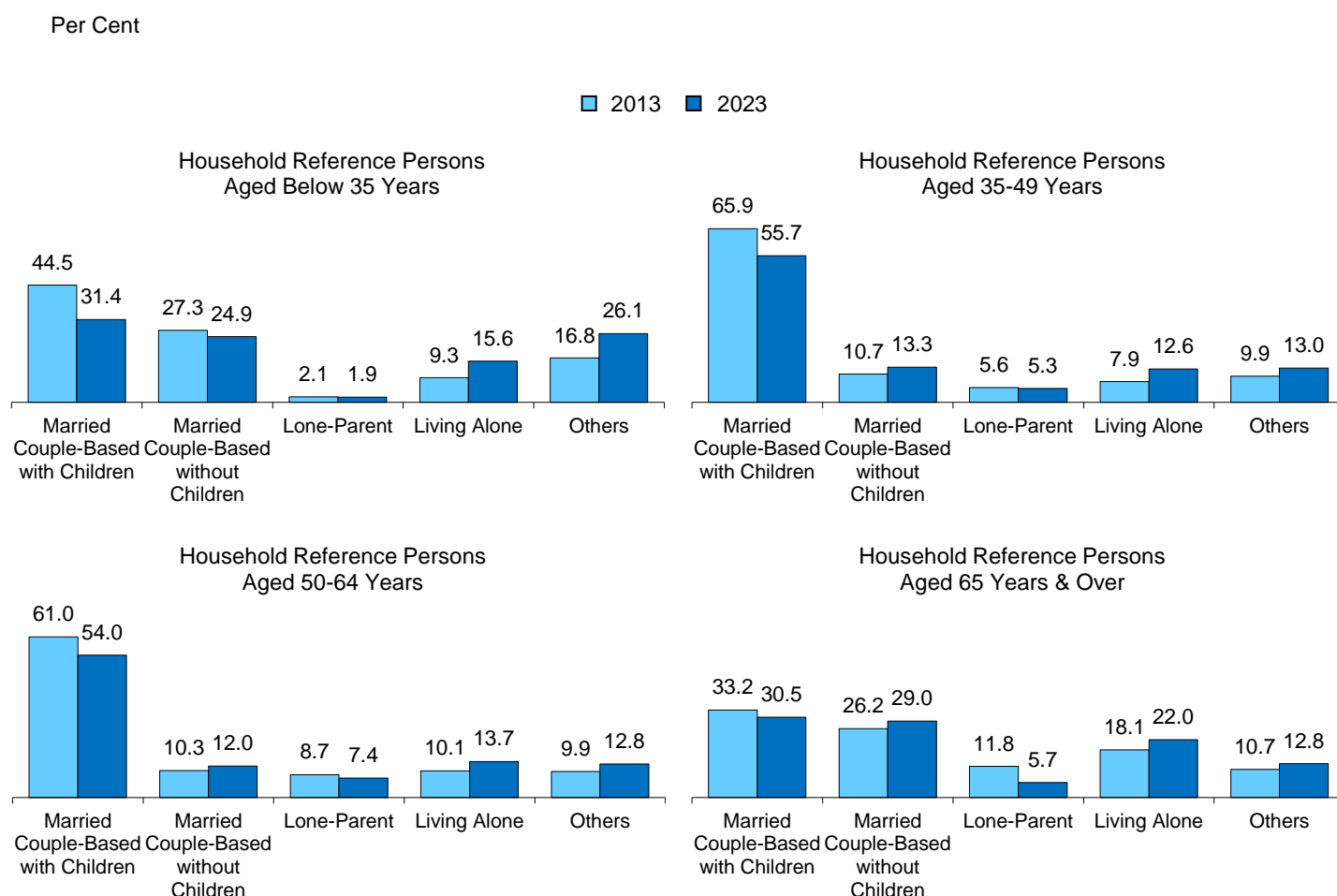
Per Cent

Chapter 4 Family Formation and Dissolution

Marriages

A total of 28,310 civil and Muslim marriages were registered in 2023, a decrease of 3.7 per cent from the record high of 29,389[5] marriages registered the year before (Chart 4.1).

Among the marriages registered in 2023, close to three in four (77.3 per cent) were first marriages where neither party had previously been married.

Chart 4.1 Total Marriages and General Marriage Rate (GMR)
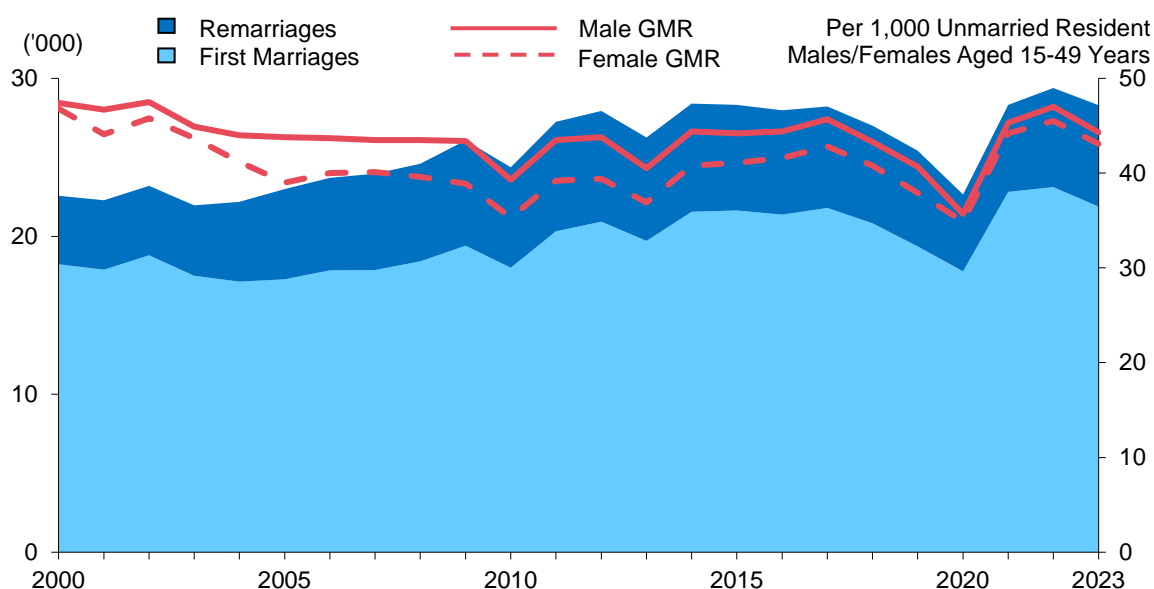
Total Marriages and Divorces

Statistics on marriages comprise civil marriages registered under the Women's Charter and Muslim marriages registered under the Administration of Muslim Law Act. They are obtained from records maintained by the Registry of Marriages and the Registry of Muslim Marriages.

Statistics on divorces and annulments are obtained from records maintained by the Family Justice Courts and Syariah Court. The records on revocation of divorces are obtained from the Registry of Muslim Marriages. Separations that do not confer on the parties the right to remarry are not covered.

More details on marriages and divorces are available in the publication "Statistics on Marriages and Divorces, 2023".

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[5] This is the highest since data on total marriages registered in Singapore (comprising civil and Muslim marriages) were first compiled and published in 1961.

The general marriage rates for both males and females were higher in 2023 compared to a decade ago. There were 44.3 marriages per thousand unmarried resident males aged 15 – 49 years in 2023, up from 40.5 in 2013. Similarly, there were 43.1 marriages per thousand unmarried resident females aged 15 – 49 years in 2023, up from 36.9 a decade ago.
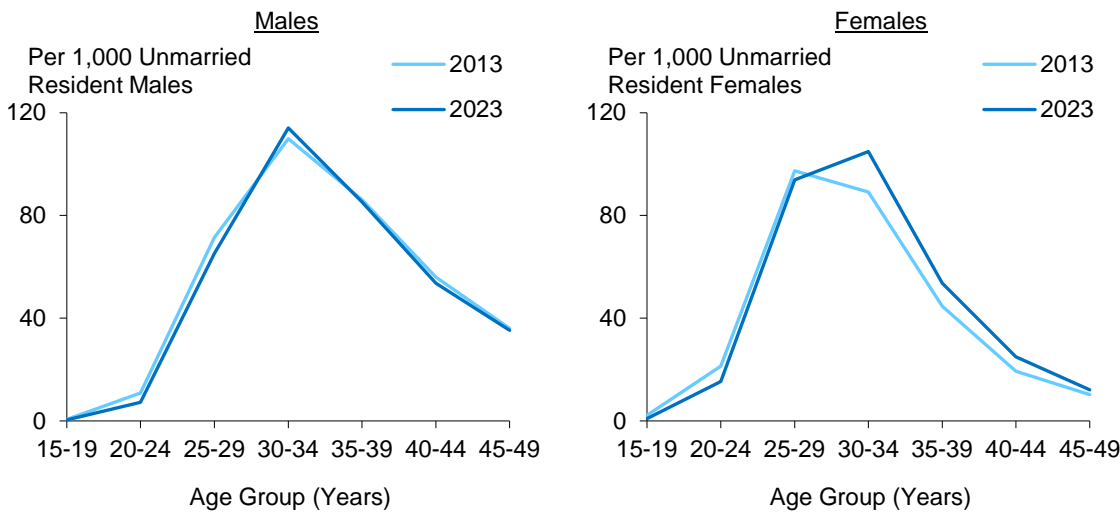
> **General Marriage Rate**
>
> The rate is defined as the number of marriages registered among persons aged 15-49 years during the year, out of every thousand unmarried population in the same age group.

Age-Specific Marriage Rate

Compared to a decade ago, marriage rates for males in 2023 fell across all age groups except those aged 30 – 34 years (Chart 4.2). For females, marriage rates declined for those aged below 30 years but rose for those aged 30 – 49 years. The peak marriage age group for females shifted from 25 – 29 years to 30 – 34 years over the last decade. This reflects the trend of females marrying at an older age.

Chart 4.2 Age-Sex Specific Marriage Rate

> **Age-Specific Marriage Rate**
>
> It is defined as the number of marriages registered within a specific age group during the year, out of every thousand unmarried population in the same age group.
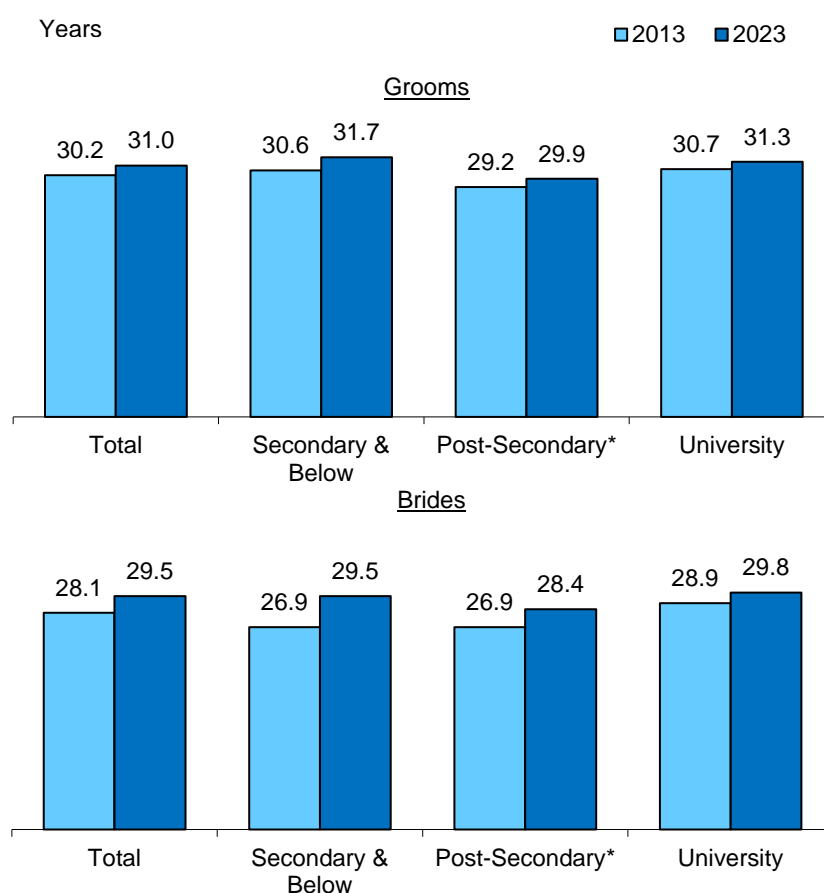
Median Age at First Marriage

The median age at first marriage for grooms and brides were 31.0 years and 29.5 years respectively in 2023, up from 30.2 years for grooms and 28.1 years for brides a decade ago.

Over the last decade, the median age at first marriage rose across all educational groups (Chart 4.3). The increase was larger for first-time brides with secondary and below qualification compared to other groups, narrowing the gap with their university graduate counterparts in 2023.

In 2023, those with post-secondary qualification generally married the earliest, with median ages of 29.9 years for first-time grooms and 28.4 years for first-time brides.

**Chart 4.3 Median Age at First Marriage of Grooms and Brides by Educational Qualification**

Years   □2013 ■2023

Grooms

	Total	Secondary & Below	Post-Secondary*	University
2013	30.2	30.6	29.2	30.7
2023	31.0	31.7	29.9	31.3

Brides

	Total	Secondary & Below	Post-Secondary*	University
2013	28.1	26.9	26.9	28.9
2023	29.5	29.5	28.4	29.8

* Post-Secondary comprises Post-Secondary (Non-Tertiary) and Diploma & Professional Qualification.

Marital Dissolutions

There were 7,118 marital dissolutions in 2023, a slight increase of 0.2 per cent from the 7,107 granted in the previous year (Chart 4.4).

The general divorce rates fell for both males and females in 2023 compared to 2013. There were 6.0 marital dissolutions for every thousand married resident males aged 20 years and over in 2023, down from 7.3 in 2013. Similarly, there were 5.5 marital dissolutions for every thousand married resident females aged 20 years and over in 2023, a decrease from 6.9 a decade ago.

Chart 4.4 Total Marital Dissolutions and General Divorce Rate (GDR)
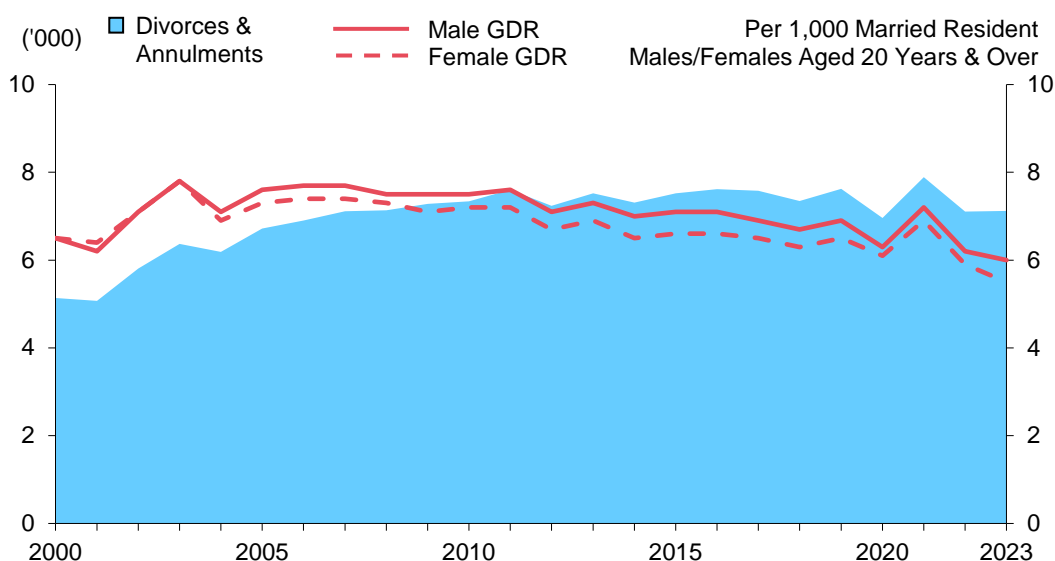
Note: Data on GDR include annulments. From 2004 onwards, data on GDR are based on divorces and annulments where either or both spouses are residents (i.e. Singapore citizens or permanent residents).

General Divorce Rate

The rate is defined as the number of divorces and annulments granted to married persons aged 20 years and over during the year, out of every thousand married population in the same age group.
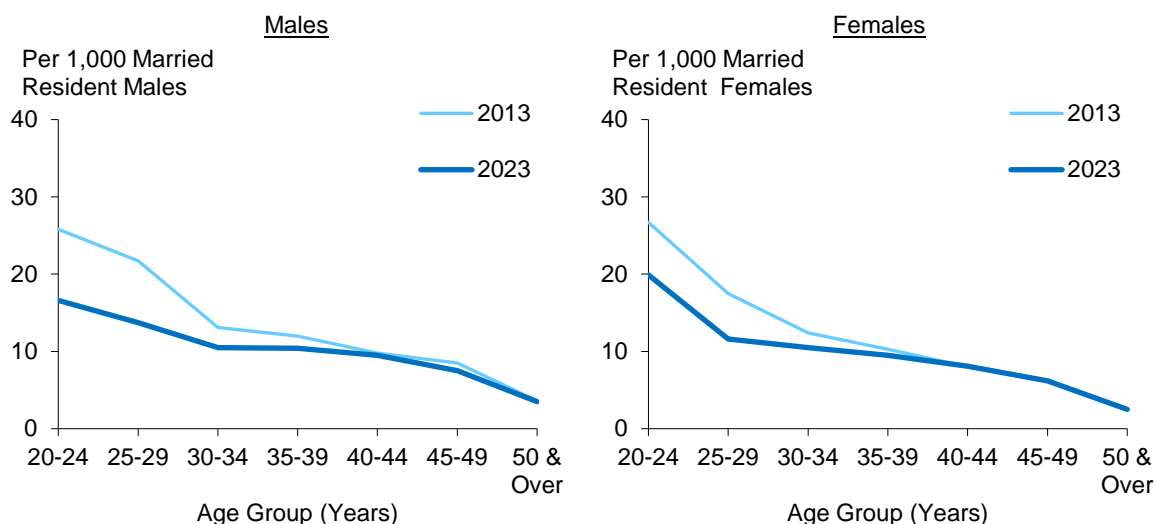
Annulment

This refers to the invalidation of a marriage. Parties whose marriages have been annulled are conferred the status of never having been married to each other.

Age-Specific Divorce Rate

For both married males and females across all age groups, the divorce rates either fell or remained similar to a decade ago (Chart 4.5). While marital dissolutions continued to be more prevalent among younger married persons, declines in divorce rates were the largest among those aged below 30 years.

**Chart 4.5 Age-Sex Specific Divorce Rate**

Age-Specific Divorce Rate

It is defined as the number of divorces and annulments granted to a specific age group during the year, out of every thousand married population in the same age group.

Marriage Duration of Divorcing Couples

In 2023, the median duration of marriage at divorce was 11.1 years, longer than 10.4 years in 2013. Couples who were married for 5-9 years accounted for the largest share (28.7 per cent) of all divorces (Chart 4.6). This was followed by those with marriage duration of 10 – 14 years (20.1 per cent) and less than 5 years (16.1 per cent).

Chart 4.6 Divorces by Duration of Marriage
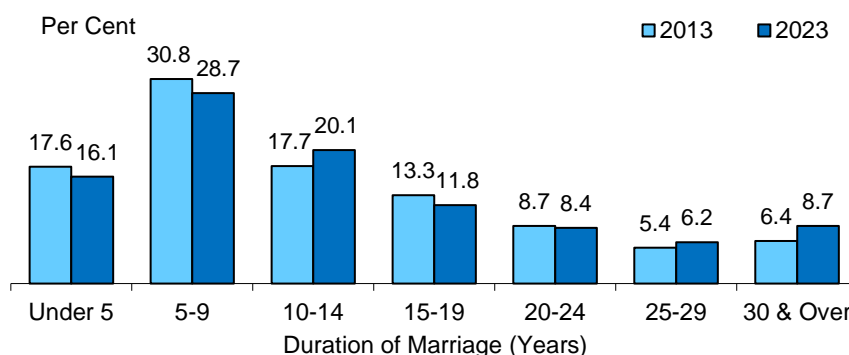
Note: Data exclude annulments.

Dissolution of Marriages Among Resident Marriage Cohorts[6]

Compared with the 2005 marriage cohort, resident marriage cohorts from 2006 to 2012 had lower dissolution rates before the 10th anniversary (Chart 4.7). The cumulative proportion of marriages that dissolved before the 10th anniversary declined from 17.0 per cent for the 2005 marriage cohort to 15.3 per cent for the 2012 marriage cohort. Similarly, the proportion who dissolved their marriages before the 5th anniversary declined from 7.4 per cent for the 2005 marriage cohort to 5.9 per cent for the 2017 marriage cohort.

The proportion of resident marriages that dissolved was the highest when marriages progressed from the 5th to before the 10th anniversary, compared to other 5-yearly intervals. After the 10th anniversary, the increases in dissolution rates at each subsequent 5-yearly interval were smaller.

Chart 4.7 Cumulative Proportion of Dissolved Resident Marriages Before 5th, 10th, 15th, 20th and 25th Anniversary

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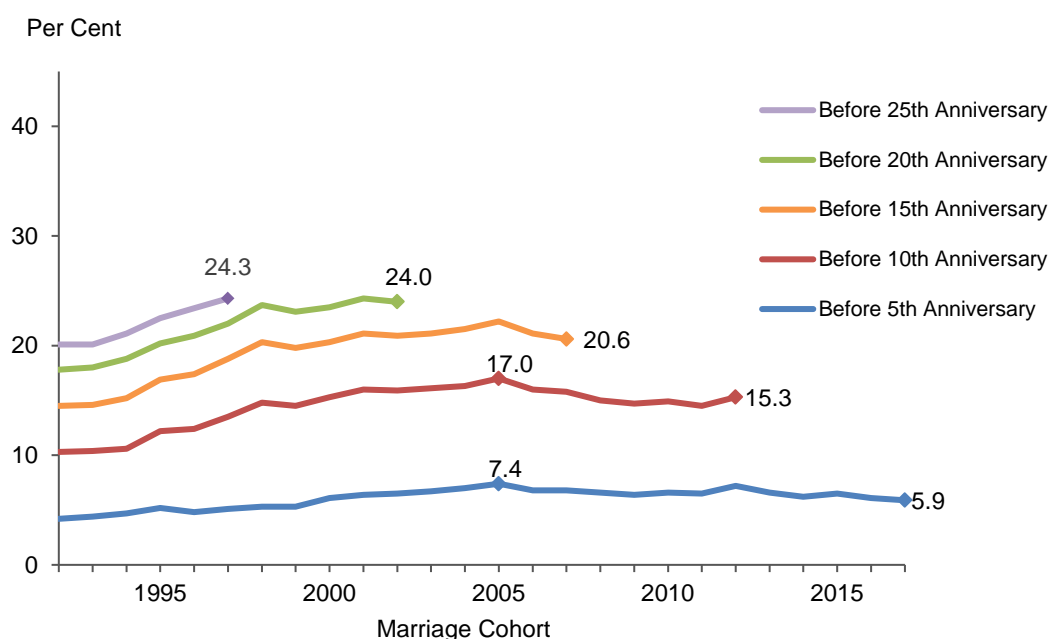
[6] Resident marriage cohorts refer to marriages contracted in a particular year between persons where either or both are Singapore citizens or permanent residents. Data on marriage cohort dissolution rates in this report are based on local marriage and dissolution records up till 2022.

Chapter 5   Fertility

Births and Fertility Rate

There were 33,541 live-births in 2023, a decrease of 5.8 per cent from the 35,605 live-births in the previous year (Chart 5.1). Resident births (i.e. births where at least one parent was a Singapore citizen or permanent resident) also fell to 30,518 in 2023, a decline of 5.5 per cent from 32,290 in 2022.

Singapore's resident total fertility rate (TFR) fell to a historic low of 0.97 births per female in 2023 from 1.04 births per female in 2022. This is the first time the TFR has fallen below 1.0.

Chart 5.1 Live-Births and Total Fertility Rate (TFR)
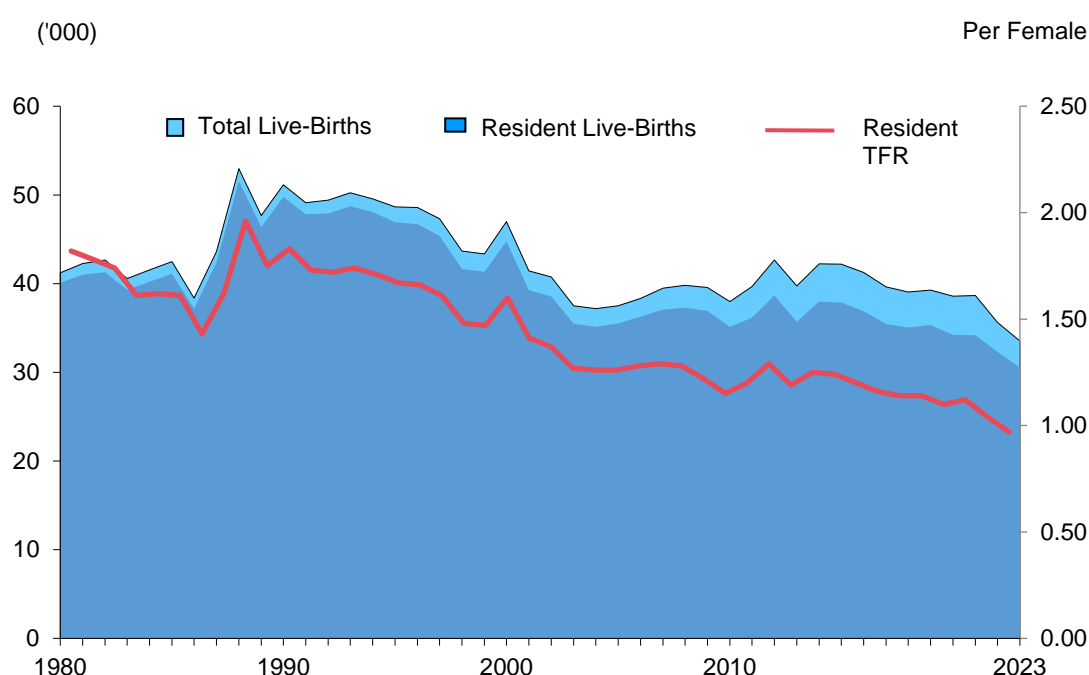
Note: Data on resident births for 1980-1985 are estimated.

Live-Births

Statistics on live-births are obtained from records maintained by the Registry of Births and Deaths. The statistics refer to all live-births occurring within Singapore and its territorial waters as registered under the Registration of Births and Deaths Act 2021 (RBDA 2021), and are compiled based on date of occurrence.
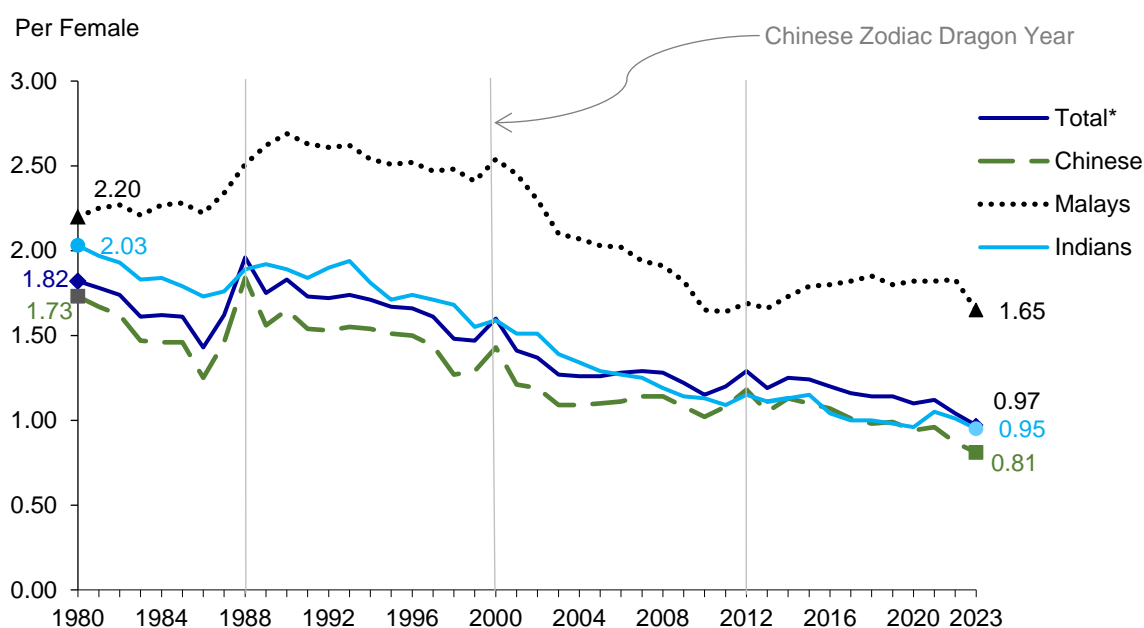
Total Fertility Rate

The rate refers to the average number of live-births each female would have during her reproductive years if she were subject to the prevailing age-specific fertility rates in the population in a given year. More details are available in the infographic here.

Ethnic Differentials in Fertility

Compared to 2022, the 2023 resident TFR fell for all three main ethnic groups (Chart 5.2). For Chinese, it declined from 0.87 in 2022 to 0.81 in 2023. For Indians, it declined from 1.01 to 0.95 over the same period. The decline was the largest for Malays, from 1.83 in 2022 to 1.65 in 2023. Nevertheless, Malays continued to register the highest TFR among the three main ethnic groups.

**Chart 5.2 Total Fertility Rate by Ethnic Group**

* Includes the ethnic group "Others".

Age-Specific Fertility Rate

Compared to a decade ago, age-specific fertility rates fell for females aged below 35 years in 2023 and rose for those aged 35-49 years (Chart 5.3). Fertility rate remained the highest among females aged 30-34 years compared to the other age groups.

Chart 5.3 Age-Specific Fertility Rate
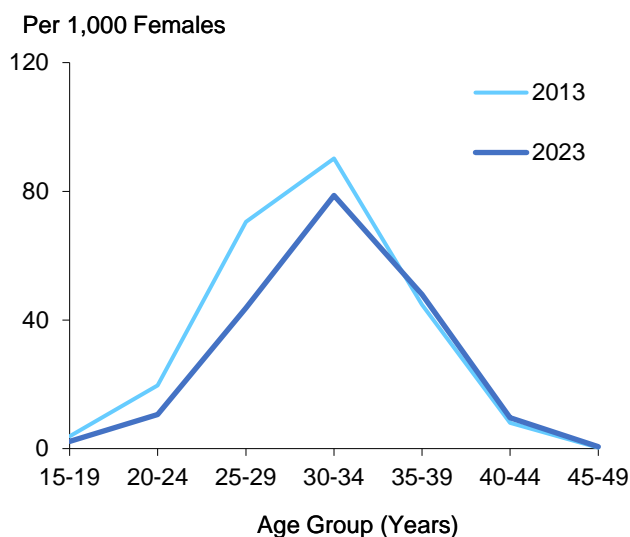
Births by Birth Order

First and second order births continued to form the largest share among total live births in 2023. First-order births fell from 47.0 per cent in 2022 to 46.4 per cent in 2023 while second-order births rose from 35.1 per cent to 36.3 per cent over the same period (Chart 5.4). The share of third order births and fourth and higher order births remained relatively stable at 11.9 per cent and 5.5 per cent respectively in 2023.

**Chart 5.4 Proportion of Births by Birth Order**
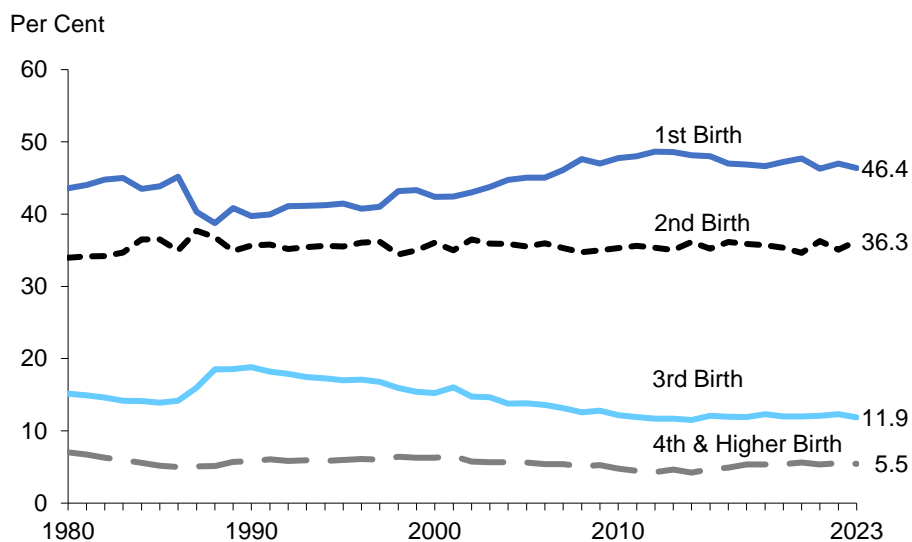
Number of Children Born

Ever-married females generally had fewer children compared to a decade ago. While those with two children continued to account for the largest share among ever-married resident females aged 40-49 years, with the proportion stable at 44.0 per cent in 2023 compared to 44.3 per cent a decade ago, the proportion of those with three children fell from 18.9 per cent in 2013 to 13.7 per cent in 2023 (Chart 5.5). The proportion of those with four or more children also fell from 6.1 per cent to 4.6 per cent over the same period.

Correspondingly, the proportion of ever-married females aged 40-49 years who have no children increased from 10.0 per cent in 2013 to 13.9 per cent in 2023, while the proportion of those with one child increased from 20.8 per cent to 23.8 per cent over the same period.
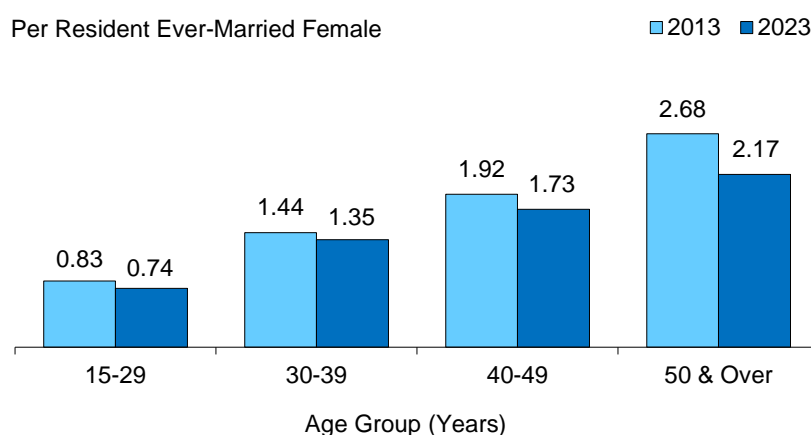
Chart 5.5 Resident Ever-Married Females by Age Group and Number of Children Born

Per Cent ☐ 2013 ■ 2023
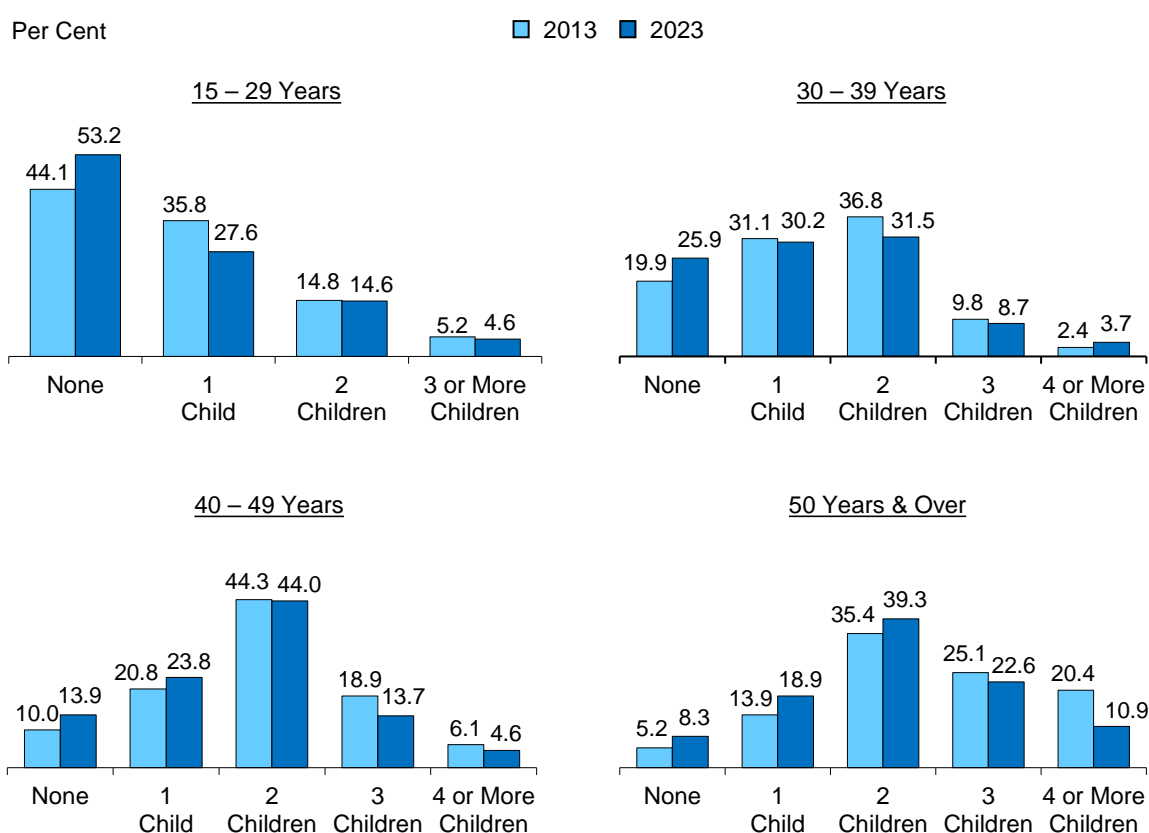
Average Number of Children Born by Age Group of Females

The average number of children born to ever-married resident females decreased across all age groups between 2013 and 2023. Among those aged 40-49 years, it fell from 1.92 per female in 2013 to 1.73 in 2023 (Chart 5.6). A large decrease was also observed among those aged 50 years and over, from 2.68 to 2.17 over the same period.

Chart 5.6 Average Number of Children Born by Age Group of Resident Ever-Married Females

Per Resident Ever-Married Female ☐2013 ■2023

Age Group (Years)

Average Number of Children Born by Educational Attainment of Females

In 2023, the average number of children born to ever-married females aged 40-49 years fell across all levels of educational attainment as compared to a decade ago, with the exception of those with post-secondary qualification, where it remained relatively stable (Chart 5.7). Females with higher levels of qualifications had fewer children on average, compared to their counterparts with lower educational qualifications. Among resident ever-married females aged 40-49 years in 2023, university graduates had an average of 1.64 children, lower than the average of 2.06 children among those with below secondary qualification.

Chart 5.7 Average Number of Children Born to Resident Ever-Married Females Aged 40-49 Years by Highest Qualification Attained

Per Resident Ever-Married Female

☐2013 ■2023
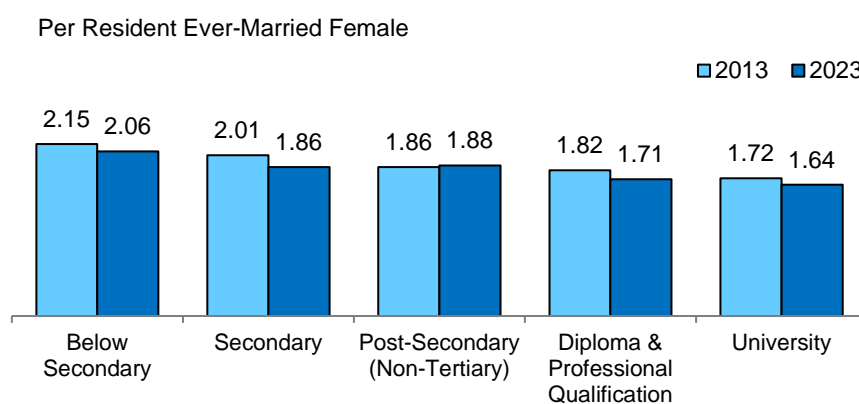
Note: Data by highest qualification attained pertain to residents who were not attending educational institutions as full-time students and include those who were upgrading their qualifications through part-time courses.

Chapter 6   Mortality

Deaths and Death Rates

A total of 26,888 deaths were registered in 2023, comparable to the 26,891 deaths registered in 2022 (Chart 6.1).

Among residents, the number of resident deaths fell by 0.1 per cent from 25,586 in 2022 to 25,567 in 2023. The resident crude death rate also fell from 6.3 per 1,000 residents to 6.2 per 1,000 residents over the same period, reflecting gradual improvements in mortality since the COVID-19 pandemic.

The age-standardised death rate[7] which takes into account the population age structure, decreased from 6.1 per 1,000 residents in 2013 to 5.6 per 1,000 residents in 2023. The age-standardised death rate remains on a long-term downward trend, reflecting the improvements in health and mortality of the population.

Chart 6.1 Deaths, Crude Death Rate and Age-Standardised Death Rate
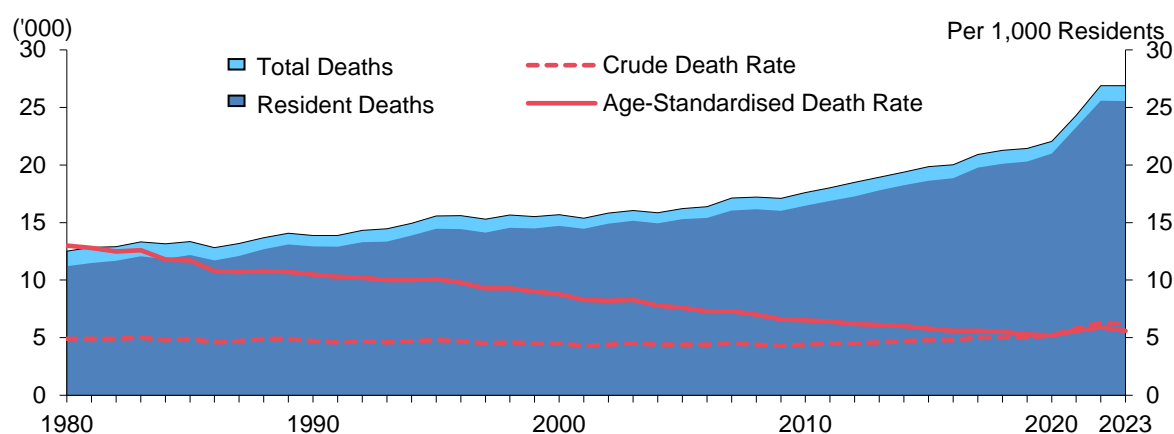
Note: Data on crude death rate and age-standardised death rate pertain to resident population (i.e. Singapore citizens and permanent residents).

Deaths and Death Rates

Statistics on deaths are obtained from records maintained by the Registry of Births and Deaths. The statistics refer to all deaths occurring within Singapore and its territorial waters as registered under the Registration of Births and Deaths Act 2021 (RBDA 2021) and are compiled based on date of registration.

Crude death rate refers to the number of deaths per thousand population. Age-standardised death rate is another summary indicator of mortality that removes effects of age structure variations in the population over time by relating the age-specific death rates to a "standard" population.

More details on death rates are available in the article "Age-Standardised Death Rate for Singapore" in the Statistics Singapore Newsletter, September 2015.

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[7] The Singapore resident population as at June 2020 was used as the standard population to fix the age structure and eliminate its effect on mortality trends.

Age-Specific Death Rate

In general, resident females had lower death rates than resident males (Chart 6.2). Compared to a decade ago, the age-specific death rates were lower for most age groups in 2023 for both for resident males and females. The age-specific death rates at the older age groups remained slightly higher in 2023 when compared to 2013.
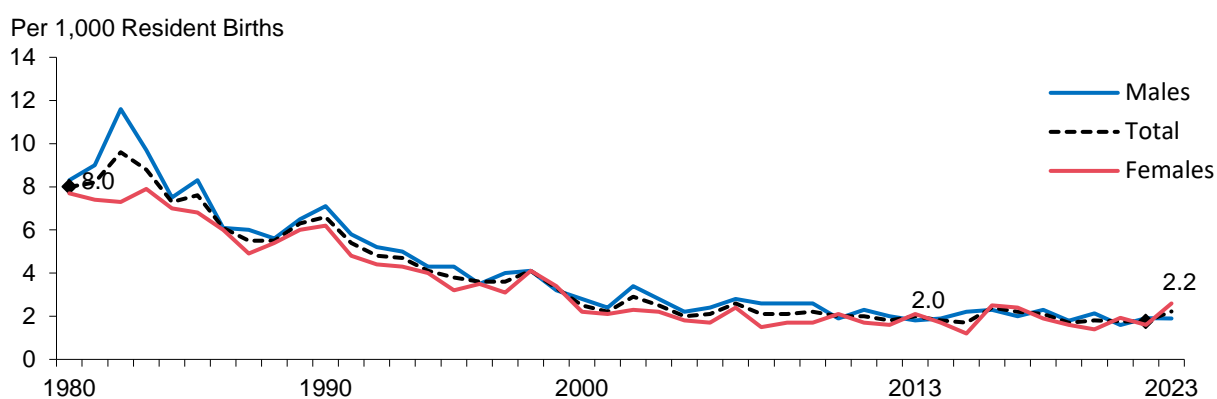
Chart 6.2 Age-Specific Death Rate

* Refers to infant mortality rate.
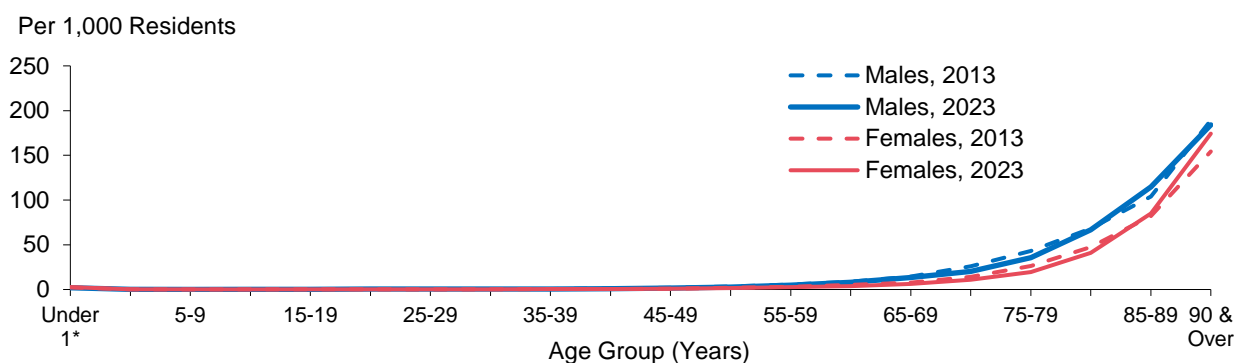
Infant Mortality Rate

The infant mortality rate in 2023 was 2.2 infant deaths per 1,000 resident live-births, relatively stable over the last decade (Chart 6.3).

Chart 6.3 Infant Mortality Rate

Note: Data on infant mortality rate pertain to resident population (i.e. Singapore citizens and permanent residents).

> ### Infant Mortality Rate
>
> The rate refers to the number of deaths of children under one year of age per thousand live-births. Along with life expectancy, it is one of the most widely used indicators of the population's health status.
>
> More details on infant mortality rate are available in the article "Trends in Infant Mortality Rate and Related Indicators" published in the Statistics Singapore Newsletter Issue 1, 2019.

Life Expectancy

Life expectancy at birth of Singapore residents was 83.0 years in 2023, unchanged from 2022 (Chart 6.4). This was 0.6 years higher than the 82.4 years in 2013. Females continued to have longer life expectancy than males, with a gap of 4.5 years based on life expectancy at birth between both sexes in 2023.

Life expectancy at age 65 years improved from 20.4 years in 2013 to 20.7 years in 2023. Similarly, male and female life expectancies at age 65 years improved over the ten-year period, from 18.6 years in 2013 to 19.0 years in 2023 for males and from 21.9 years in 2013 to 22.2 years in 2023 for females.

Chart 6.4 Life Expectancy of Resident Population
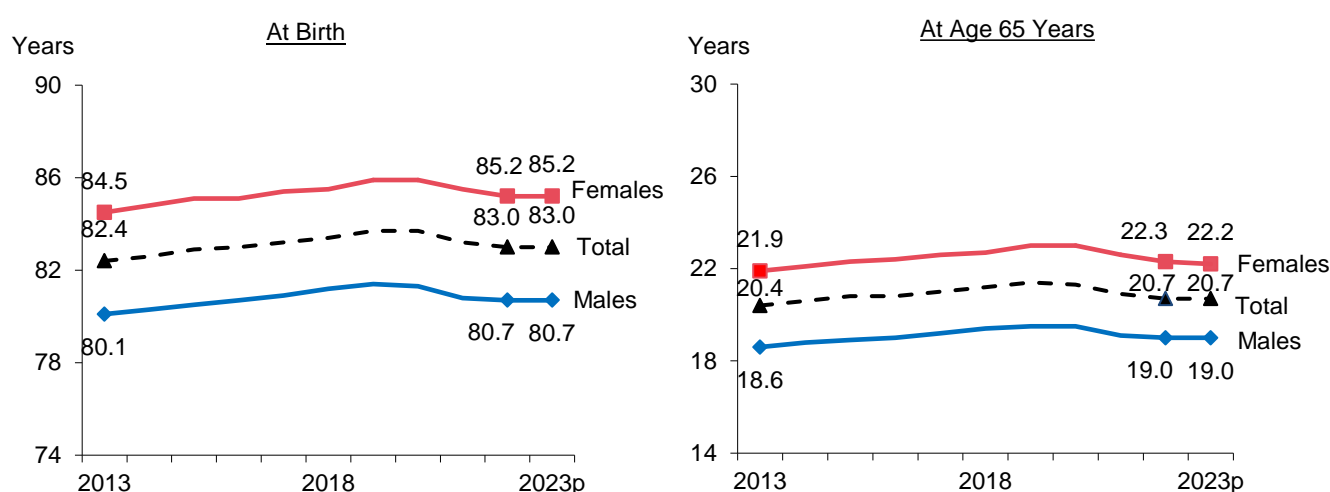
p: Preliminary

Life Expectancy

It refers to the average number of additional years that persons (at birth or specific age such as age 65 years) might expect to live, if the current age-specific mortality rates were held constant over their lifetime. It does not take into account future changes in mortality. The derived life expectancies give an indication of the average longevity of the population, but do not necessarily reflect the longevity of an individual.

This single indicator is commonly used to sum up the mortality experience of a population, taking into account the population's age and sex structure.

As the life expectancy data for 2020 to 2023 assumes that the higher mortality rates due to the COVID-19 pandemic apply throughout a lifetime, they may not accurately represent the number of years individuals can expect to live, if mortality rates return to pre-pandemic levels.

More details on life expectancy are available in the publication "Complete Life Tables for Singapore Resident Population, 2022-2023".

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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