

Trends and Profiles of Singaporeans Who Travelled Overseas Over the Last Decade

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Introduction

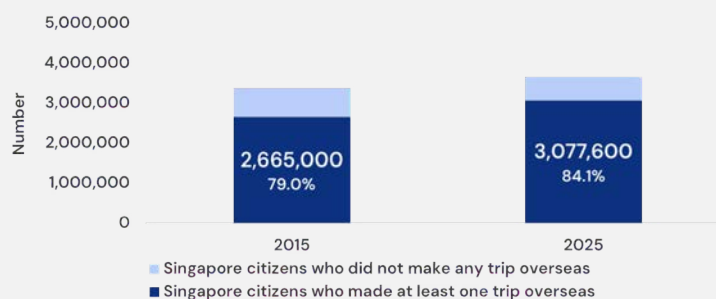
Ever stumbled upon the familiar Singaporean accent and distinctive Singlish [1] while travelling abroad? Such encounters have become more frequent as more Singaporeans travel overseas for various reasons such as work, vacation, student exchange programmes, graduation trips, or honeymoons.

This article examines the trends and profiles of Singapore citizens who travelled overseas during the 12-month period preceding end-June of 2015 and 2025, analysing those who made overnight trips and day trips [2] separately. The data used in this article are derived from administrative sources.

Rise in Overseas Travel

Among the 3.66 million Singapore citizens as at end-Jun 2025, 84.1% (3.08 million) made at least one trip overseas during the preceding 12-month period (Chart 1). This was an increase from 79.0% in 2015.

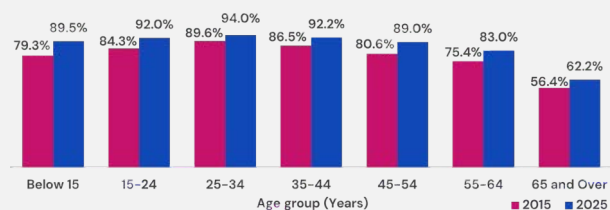
Chart 1: Overseas Travel Among Singapore Citizens During the Preceding 12-month Period, Jun 2015 and 2025



More Singapore Citizens Across Age Groups Making Overseas Trips

Chart 2: Proportion of Singapore Citizens Who Made At Least One Overseas Trip During the Preceding 12-month Period by Age Group, Jun 2015 and 2025

Between 2015 and 2025, the proportion of Singapore citizens who made at least one overseas trip increased across all age groups (Chart 2). In 2025, about 9 in 10 Singaporeans aged below 55 years made at least one overseas trip between July 2024 and June 2025. In comparison, older persons aged 65 and over were less likely to travel, with 62.2% travelling overseas between July 2024 and June 2025.



[1] Singlish refers to the colloquial form of English that blends with various languages and dialects spoken in Singapore.

[2] Overnight trips are defined as those where individuals left and returned to Singapore on different days. Day trips refer to those where individuals left and returned on the same day.

A higher proportion of Singapore citizens went on overnight trips than day trips. As at end-June 2025, 81.0% of Singapore citizens made at least one overnight trip during the preceding 12-month period, while 51.8% made at least one day trip (Charts 3 and 4).

Chart 3: Overnight Trips Among Singapore Citizens During the Preceding 12-month Period, Jun 2015 and 2025

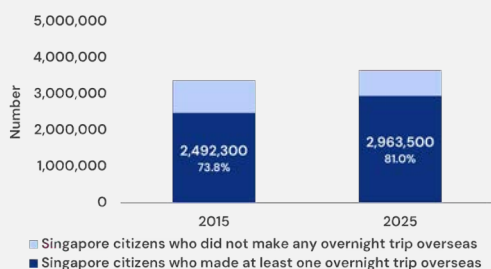
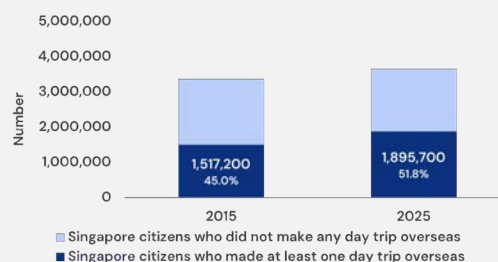


Chart 4: Day Trips Among Singapore Citizens During the Preceding 12-month Period, Jun 2015 and 2025



More Singaporeans Across Dwelling Types Are Making Overseas Trips

Between 2015 and 2025, the proportion of Singaporeans who made overnight trips increased across dwelling types, similarly for those who made day trips (Charts 5 and 6). Compared to private property dwellers, Housing Development Board (HDB) flat dwellers saw larger increases in the proportion who made overnight trips, especially those living in HDB 1- & 2-room and 4-room flats.

Nonetheless, the proportion who made overnight trips remained higher among private property dwellers than HDB dwellers in 2025. In comparison, the proportion who made day trips was higher among Singaporeans living in HDB 5-room and executive flats (57.1%) and HDB 4-room flats (53.8%).

Chart 5: Proportion of Singapore Citizens Who Made At Least One Overnight Trip During the Preceding 12-month Period by Type of Dwelling, Jun 2015 and 2025

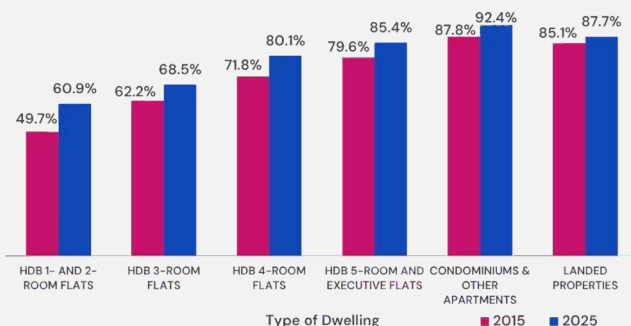
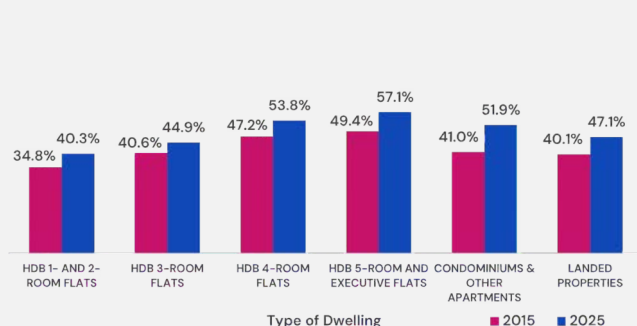


Chart 6: Proportion of Singapore Citizens Who Made At Least One Day Trip During the Preceding 12-month Period by Type of Dwelling, Jun 2015 and 2025



Increase in Number of Trips

Among Singaporeans who made overnight trips, the median number of overnight trips rose from three in 2015 to four in 2025. The proportion who made six or more overnight trips increased the most, from 22.8% in 2015 to 33.5% in 2025 (Chart 7). Conversely, the proportion who made only one overnight trip dropped from 24.2% to 15.1% over the same period.

Chart 7: Distribution of Singapore Citizens Who Made At Least One Overnight Trip During the Preceding 12-month Period by Number of Trips, Jun 2015 and 2025

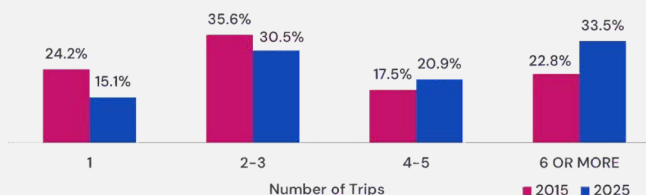


Chart 8: Distribution of Singapore Citizens Who Made At Least One Day Trip During the Preceding 12-month Period by Number of Trips, Jun 2015 and 2025

Similarly, among Singaporeans who made day trips, the median number of day trips rose from two in 2015 to three in 2025. Between July 2024 and June 2025, some 29.8% of Singaporeans made six or more day trips (Chart 8).



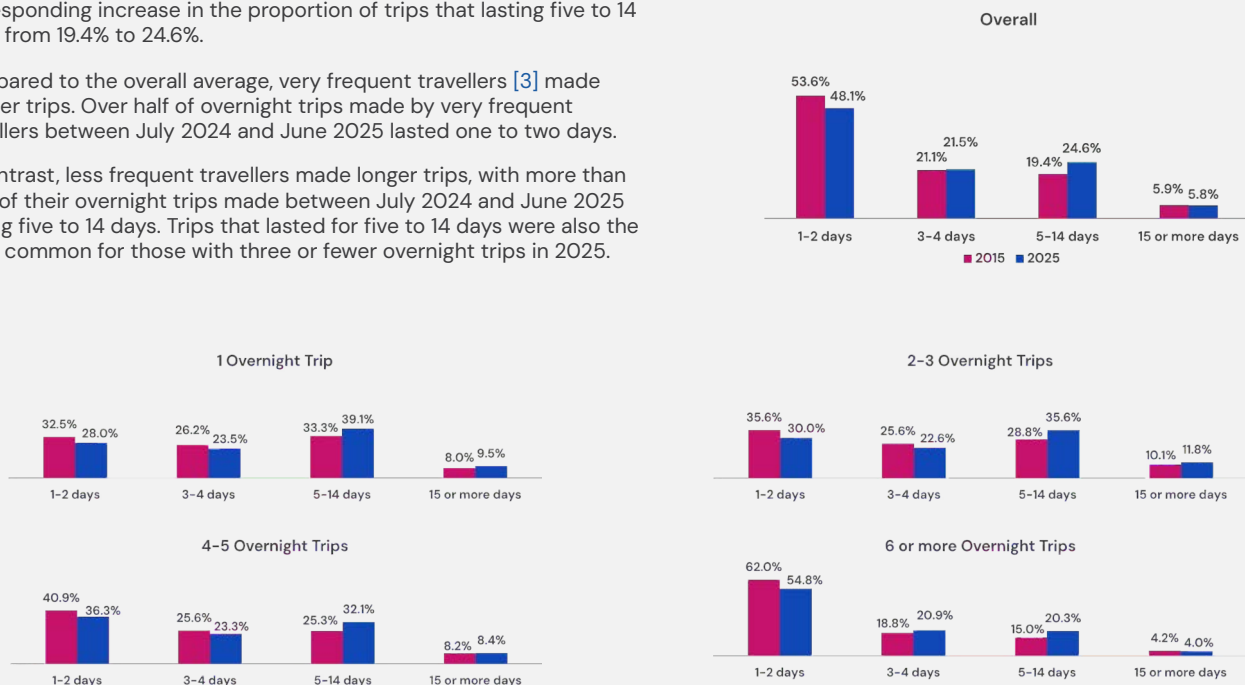
Longer Overnight Trips

The duration of overnight trips made by Singaporeans increased, with a median of three days in 2025 as compared with two days in 2015.

Trips that lasted one to two days were still the most common among overnight trips made by Singaporeans, although its share fell from 53.6% in 2015 to 48.1% in 2025 (Chart 9). Over the same period, there was a corresponding increase in the proportion of trips that lasting five to 14 days, from 19.4% to 24.6%.

Compared to the overall average, very frequent travellers [3] made shorter trips. Over half of overnight trips made by very frequent travellers between July 2024 and June 2025 lasted one to two days.

In contrast, less frequent travellers made longer trips, with more than 30% of their overnight trips made between July 2024 and June 2025 lasting five to 14 days. Trips that lasted for five to 14 days were also the most common for those with three or fewer overnight trips in 2025.

Chart 9: Distribution of Overnight Trips by Duration and Number of Trips, Jun 2015 and 2025

Conclusion

With rising affluence and greater accessibility to overseas travel, the overall number and proportion of Singaporeans who made overseas trips have risen over the last decade. These increases were observed across all age groups and dwelling types. The frequencies of overnight and day trips have also increased, and the duration of overnight trips were longer as well. These findings provide policymakers, businesses, researchers and the general public with useful insights on how the prevalence of overseas travel among Singaporeans has changed over the last ten years.

[3] In this study, very frequent travellers refer to those who made six or more overnight trips in the 12-month period.