

# Statistics Singapore Newsletter

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## The Elderly in Singapore

By

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### Introduction

With better nutrition, advancement in medical science and an increased awareness of the importance of a healthy lifestyle, the life expectancy of the Singapore resident population has improved over the years.

On average, a new-born resident could expect to live to age 82 years in 2010. The life expectancy at birth was lower at 75 years in 1990.

For the average elderly person in Singapore, life expectancy at age 65 years rose from 16 years in 1990 to 20 years in 2010. Compared to 1990, there are more elderly persons aged 65 years and over today.

This article provides a statistical profile of the elderly resident population aged 65 years and over in Singapore.

Basic profiles such as:

- age
- sex
- type of dwelling
- geographical distribution

were compiled using administrative records from multiple sources.

Detailed profiles such as:

- marital status
- education
- language most frequently spoken at home
- living arrangement
- mobility status
- main source of financial support

were obtained from the Census 2010 sample enumeration of households staying in residential housing, and thus excluded those living in institutions such as old age or nursing homes. The resident population comprises Singapore citizens and permanent residents.

## Size of Elderly Resident Population

Of the 3.79 million Singapore residents as at end-June 2011, 352,600 residents were aged 65 years and over (Table 1).

Reflecting the faster growth rate of the elderly population compared to the resident population, the proportion of elderly residents increased from 6.0 per cent in 1990 to 7.2 per cent in 2000 and further to 9.3 per cent in 2011.

## Geographical Distribution

Of the 352,600 elderly residents in 2011, 56 per cent were concentrated in ten planning areas<sup>1</sup>.

Bedok had the highest number of elderly at 32,900, followed by Bukit Merah (24,400) and Ang Mo Kio (22,300) (Table 2).

While Bedok had the highest number of elderly, it was not among the top 10 planning areas in terms of proportion

TABLE 1 SIZE AND GROWTH OF RESIDENT POPULATION

	Resident Population	Resident Population Aged 65 Years & Over			
		Total	65 – 74 Years	75 – 84 Years	85 Years & Over
Number ('000)					
1990	2,735.9	164.5 (6.0%)	104.9	49.9	9.6
2000	3,273.4	235.3 (7.2%)	155.3	62.5	17.5
2005	3,467.8	279.7 (8.1%)	177.6	79.5	22.6
2010	3,771.7	338.4 (9.0%)	204.1	105.0	29.2
2011	3,789.3	352.6 (9.3%)	212.5	109.1	31.1
Annual Change (%)					
2000*	1.8	3.6	4.0	2.3	6.2
2005	1.6	5.7	5.4	6.3	6.0
2010	1.0	2.5	0.2	6.5	5.1
2011	0.5	4.2	4.1	3.8	6.4

\* For year 2000, growth rate refers to the annualised change over the last ten years.

Note: Figures in parentheses refer to elderly residents as a proportion of resident population.

1 Planning areas refer to areas demarcated in the Urban Redevelopment Authority's Master Plan 2008.

TABLE 2 TOP 10 PLANNING AREAS RANKED BY NUMBER AND SHARE OF RESIDENTS AGED 65 YEARS AND OVER, 2011

Rank	Planning Area	Number of Residents Aged 65 Years & Over	Planning Area	Share of Residents Aged 65 Years & Over (%)
1	Bedok	32,900	Outram	18.2
2	Bukit Merah	24,400	Downtown Core	16.6
3	Ang Mo Kio	22,300	Rochor	15.8
4	Hougang	20,300	Queenstown	15.7
5	Toa Payoh	19,000	Bukit Merah	15.6
6	Tampines	19,000	Toa Payoh	15.2
7	Jurong West	16,100	Kallang	14.5
8	Queenstown	15,300	Marine Parade	14.2
9	Geylang	14,900	Novena	13.3
10	Kallang	14,800	Ang Mo Kio	12.5

of elderly<sup>2</sup>. The proportion of elderly was the highest for Outram in 2011, where 18 per cent of residents staying in Outram were aged 65 years and over.

The proportion of elderly was next highest in Downtown Core (17 per cent) and Rochor (16 per cent).

There were five planning areas which were ranked top ten in both number and proportion of elderly residents, namely:

- Ang Mo Kio
- Bukit Merah
- Kallang
- Queenstown
- Toa Payoh

## Type of Dwelling

About 97 per cent of the elderly resident population were staying in residential housing, mainly in HDB 4-room (29 per cent) and 3-room (24 per cent) flats in 2011 (Table 3). The remaining were largely living in institutions such as old age and nursing homes.

Compared to the general resident population, a higher proportion of elderly residents were staying in HDB 1- and 2-room flats (7.3 per cent versus 3.2 per cent), HDB 3-room flats (24 per cent versus 17 per cent) and landed properties (9.4 per cent versus 6.6 per cent) in 2011.

2 In 2011, 11.1 per cent of residents in Bedok were aged 65 years and over.

TABLE 3 TYPE OF DWELLING OF RESIDENT POPULATION, 2011

	Resident Population	Resident Population Aged 65 Years & Over				Per Cent
		Total	65 – 74 Years	75 – 84 Years	85 Years & Over	
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	
HDB Dwellings*	82.4	81.1	82.7	80.5	71.9	
1- and 2-Room Flats	3.2	7.3	6.7	8.2	7.7	
3-Room Flats	16.6	24.0	24.8	23.7	19.6	
4-Room Flats	33.9	29.5	30.2	29.1	25.7	
5-Room and Executive Flats	28.4	20.1	20.7	19.4	18.7	
Condominiums and Private Flats	10.0	6.1	6.5	5.5	5.4	
Landed Properties	6.6	9.4	8.7	10.1	11.6	
Others	1.1	3.4	2.1	3.9	11.1	

\* 'HDB Dwellings' includes other HDB dwellings.

## Socio-Demographic Characteristics

### Sex Composition

Reflecting the longer life expectancy of females<sup>3</sup>, the male to female sex ratio was lower among the elderly resident population than that of the overall resident population.

In 2011, there were 795 elderly resident males per 1,000 elderly resident females, compared to 972 males per 1,000 females for the resident population. The sex ratio declined with age from 893 for those aged 65-74 years to 491 for those aged 85 years and over (Chart 1).

The following analyses on marital status, educational profile, language most frequently spoken at home, living arrangement, mobility status and main source of financial support are based on elderly in residential housing and exclude those living in institutions such as old age or nursing homes (2.3 per cent in 2010).

### Marital Status

In 2010, one third of the elderly in residential housing was widowed (Table 4). With more females living longer than males, the proportion of widowed persons was higher for elderly females (50 per cent) than for the males (12 per cent).

<sup>3</sup> The preliminary life expectancy of a resident male at birth and at age 65 years were 79.3 years and 18.1 years respectively in 2010. The corresponding figures for a resident female at birth and at age 65 years were 84.1 years and 21.5 years.

CHART 1 SEX COMPOSITION OF RESIDENT POPULATION

Males per 1,000 Females

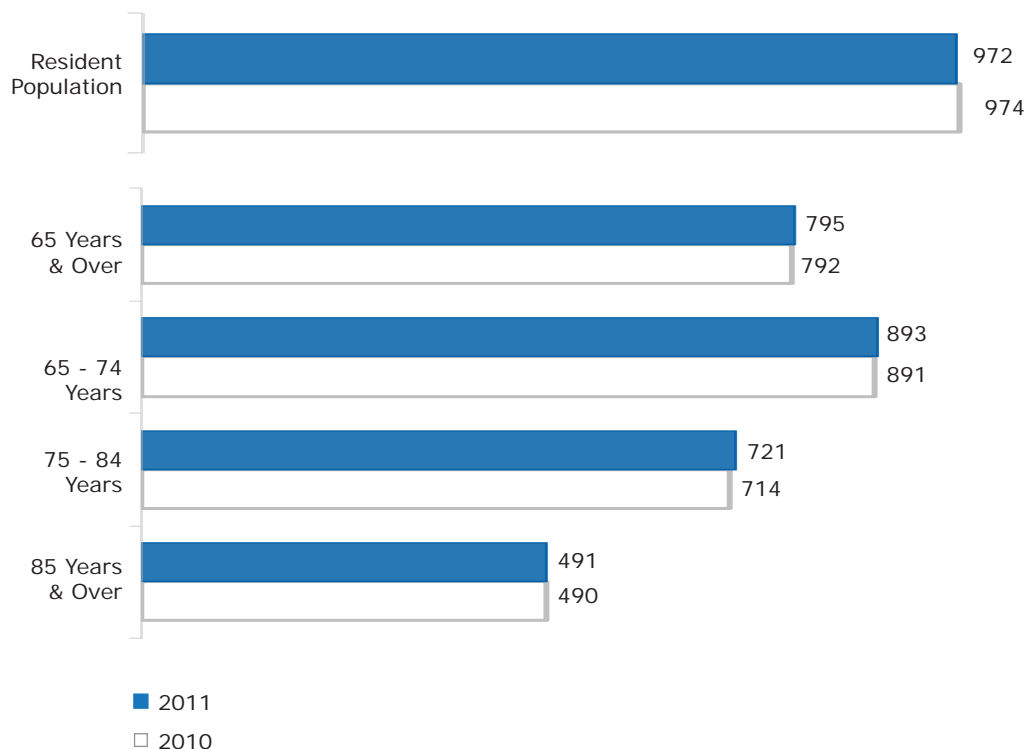


TABLE 4 MARITAL STATUS OF RESIDENT POPULATION AGED 65 YEARS AND OVER, 2010

	Per Cent									
	Resident Population Aged 65 Years & Over			65 – 74 Years		75 – 84 Years		85 Years & Over		
	Total	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	
Single	4.6	4.9	4.4	5.5	5.6	4.2	3.0	2.7	1.7	
Married	59.1	80.9	42.0	84.5	55.8	76.8	27.8	60.9	9.6	
Widowed	33.3	11.6	50.3	7.0	34.2	17.2	66.9	35.0	87.8	
Divorced/ Separated	3.0	2.6	3.3	3.0	4.3	1.8	2.2	1.4	1.0	

The proportion of widowed elderly increased with age to reach 88 per cent for females aged 85 years and over and 35 per cent for males aged 85 years and over.

### **Educational Profile**

The elderly in residential housing were less educated than the overall residents, given the relative lack of formal educational opportunities in the past. Nearly eight in ten elderly had below secondary qualifications, compared to about three in ten among the resident non-students aged 15 years and over in 2010 (Table 5).

The proportion of elderly with below secondary qualifications was 91 per cent

for residents aged 85 years and over, 88 per cent for residents aged 75-84 years and 74 per cent for residents aged 65-74 years.

A higher proportion of elderly females (86 per cent) had below secondary qualification than elderly males (71 per cent) in 2010. This reflected the social climate in the past, which saw more families sending males than females for education.

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

The usage of English as home language was less prevalent among the elderly resident population than the general resident population in residential housing.

TABLE 5 HIGHEST QUALIFICATION ATTAINED OF RESIDENT NON-STUDENTS, 2010

	Resident Non-Students Aged 15 Years & Over	Resident Non-Students Aged 65 Years & Over					
		Total	Males	Females	65 – 74 Years	75 – 84 Years	85 Years & Over
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Below Secondary	32.4	79.6	71.3	86.2	73.9	87.8	91.0
Secondary	18.9	9.7	12.8	7.3	12.4	5.7	5.1
Post-Secondary (Non-Tertiary)	11.1	4.1	5.6	2.9	5.2	2.4	1.8
Diploma* & Professional Qualification	14.8	2.9	4.3	1.9	3.8	1.8	0.8
University	22.8	3.7	6.1	1.8	4.8	2.2	1.4

\* 'Diploma' includes Polytechnic and other diplomas.

Among the elderly resident population, the proportion who spoke English most frequently at home was 12 per cent for the Chinese, 3.1 per cent for the Malays and 27 per cent for the Indians in 2010 (Table 6).

In contrast, the corresponding proportions for the resident population aged 5 years and over were 33 per cent for the Chinese, 17 per cent for the Malays and 42 per cent for the Indians.

Chinese dialects were the most frequently spoken language for majority of the Chinese elderly (64 per cent), with the proportion

increasing with age. Among the Chinese elderly aged 85 years and over, 84 per cent spoke Chinese dialects most frequently at home.

Most Malay elderly (97 per cent) spoke Malay most frequently at home in 2010. Among the Indian elderly, 48 per cent spoke Tamil most frequently at home.

## Living Arrangement

In 2010, 86 per cent of elderly residents in residential housing lived with their spouse or children (Table 7). Elderly who lived alone formed a relatively small

TABLE 6 LANGUAGE MOST FREQUENTLY SPOKEN AT HOME OF RESIDENT POPULATION, 2010

	Resident Population Aged 5 Years & Over	Resident Population Aged 65 Years & Over				Per Cent
		Total	65 – 74 Years	75 – 84 Years	85 Years & Over	
<b>Chinese</b>	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	
English	32.6	12.2	14.3	9.2	7.1	
Mandarin	47.7	23.1	28.9	15.3	7.9	
Chinese Dialects	19.2	64.3	56.4	75.0	84.3	
Others*	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.7	
<b>Malays</b>	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	
English	17.0	3.1	4.1	1.4	3.2	
Malay	82.7	96.7	95.8	98.3	96.8	
Others*	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.3	-	
<b>Indians</b>	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	
English	41.6	27.4	29.8	23.6	22.9	
Malay	7.9	7.8	8.2	6.7	9.9	
Tamil	36.7	48.2	47.4	50.2	46.1	
Others*	13.8	16.6	14.7	19.5	21.2	

'-' refers to nil or negligible.

\* Not elsewhere included.

Note: Data exclude persons who were unable to speak, and those in one-person households and households comprising only unrelated persons.

proportion at 8.2 per cent. Given their longer life expectancy, elderly females were more likely than males to be widowed and hence lived with their children. In 2010, 46 per cent of elderly females were living with their children in the absence of their spouse compared to 12 per cent among the elderly males.

Similarly, elderly residents aged 85 years and over had higher proportion living with children in the absence of their spouse (63 per cent), compared to 42 per cent for those aged 75-84 years and 21 per cent for those aged 65-74 years.

### **Mobility Status**

In 2010, some 8,200 or 2.4 per cent of elderly in residential housing were non-ambulant (i.e. unable to move around). Among the non-ambulant elderly, 91 per cent were

living with spouse or children (Chart 2). The proportion living with spouse or children was 86 per cent among those who were semi-ambulant (i.e. able to move around with some help such as walking aids, or when supported) and ambulant (i.e. able to move around independently).

### **Main Source of Financial Support**

Majority of the elderly residents in residential housing (63 per cent) depended on their children's allowances as their main source of financial support in 2010 (Table 8).

Compared to the ever-married elderly, a higher proportion of never-married elderly depended on income from employment or business, savings or interests earned or other sources as their main source of financial support.

TABLE 7 LIVING ARRANGEMENT OF RESIDENT POPULATION AGED 65 YEARS AND OVER, 2010

	Per Cent					
	Resident Population Aged 65 Years & Over					
	Total	Males	Females	65 – 74 Years	75 – 84 Years	85 Years & Over
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Living With Spouse	55.1	76.9	38.0	65.6	43.3	22.0
No Children in Household	19.4	26.0	14.3	22.5	16.5	7.8
With Children in Household	35.7	50.9	23.7	43.1	26.8	14.2
Living With Children but Without Spouse	31.0	12.1	46.0	20.8	42.5	63.3
Not Living With Spouse or Children	13.9	11.1	16.1	13.6	14.3	14.6
Alone	8.2	6.3	9.6	7.9	9.0	6.7
With Other Elderly Persons Only	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.4	1.2	0.8
Others	4.4	3.5	5.2	4.2	4.1	7.1



CHART 2 MOBILITY STATUS AND LIVING ARRANGEMENT OF RESIDENT POPULATION AGED 65 YEARS AND OVER, 2010

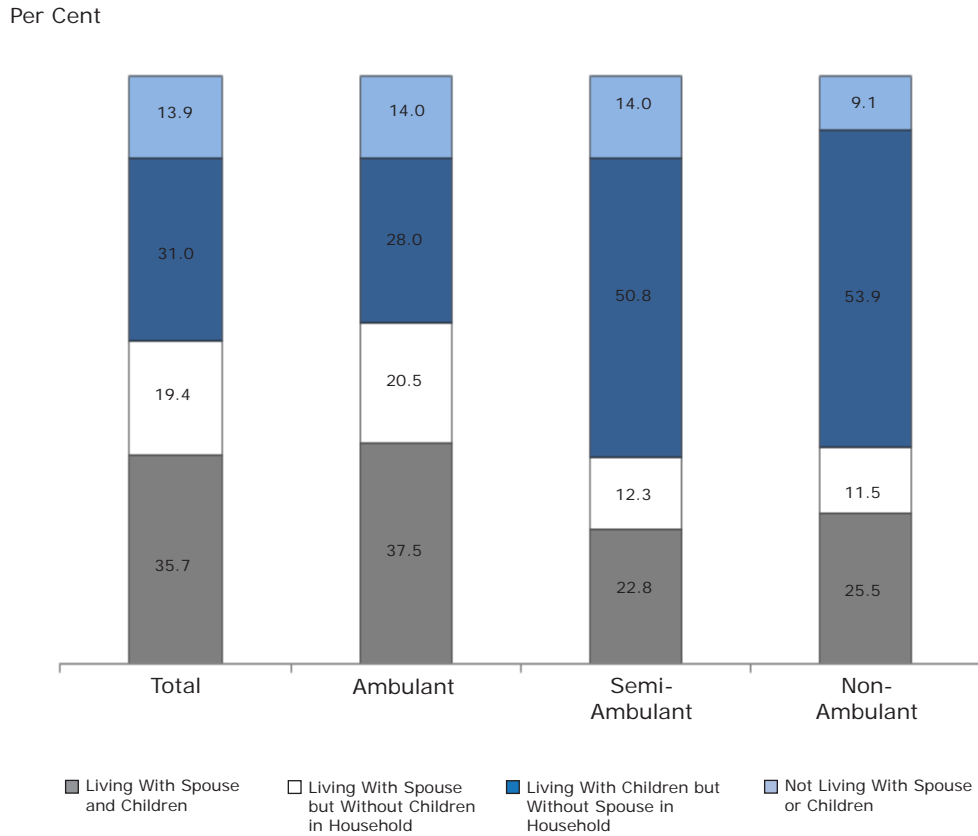


TABLE 8 MAIN SOURCE OF FINANCIAL SUPPORT OF RESIDENT POPULATION AGED 65 YEARS AND OVER, 2010

	Per Cent				
	Resident Population Aged 65 Years & Over				
	Total	Single	Married	Widowed	Divorced/ Separated
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Allowance Given by Children	62.8	5.7	56.8	82.3	53.3
Allowance Given by Spouse	3.2	-	5.4	-	-
Income from Employment/Business	12.3	20.1	15.8	4.6	17.7
Savings/Interests Earned	10.7	27.3	11.9	6.1	11.9
Income from Rental/Dividends/Annuity/Trusts	2.9	4.9	3.1	2.2	4.1
Other Sources*	8.1	42.0	7.0	4.8	12.8

'-' refers to nil or negligible

\* 'Other Sources' includes allowances given by relatives/friends, contributions from charitable organisations/public assistance, and CPF Withdrawals (e.g. CPF Life), etc.

## Trend Towards Older Grooms and Brides

Are men and women in Singapore taking a longer time to say “I do”?

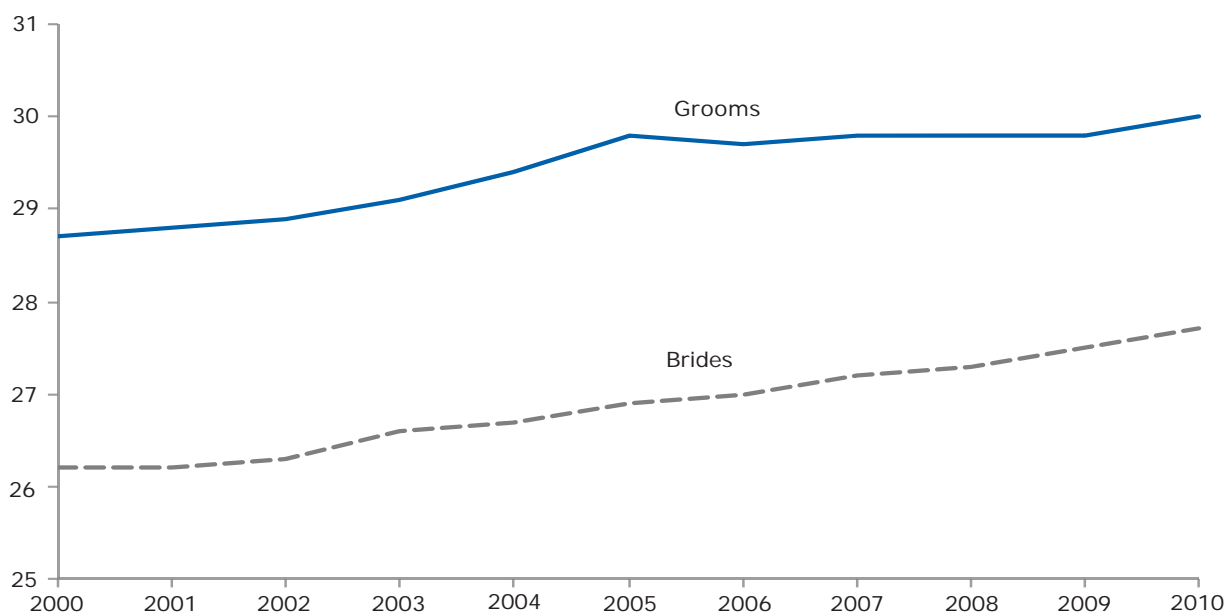
Over the past decade, the median age at first marriage in Singapore increased from 28.7 to 30.0 years for grooms and from 26.2 to 27.7 years for brides in 2000 and 2010 respectively (Chart 1).

They are not alone, however. Recent statistics from selected developed countries and regions suggest that they too are experiencing a rising median age at first marriage.

The median age at first marriage for grooms in Singapore in 2010 was lower than that of their counterparts in Taiwan and Hong Kong, but higher than that of New Zealand and the United States (Chart 2).

Meanwhile, the median age at first marriage for brides in Singapore in 2010 was lower than that of Taiwan, Hong Kong and New Zealand, but higher than that of the United States (Chart 3).

CHART 1 MEDIAN AGE AT FIRST MARRIAGE IN SINGAPORE, 2000 – 2010



For more information, download a softcopy of the report on “Statistics on Marriages and Divorces 2010” from SingStat website at:

<http://www.singstat.gov.sg/pubn/popn/smd2010.pdf>

Chart 2 MEDIAN AGE AT FIRST MARRIAGE OF GROOMS, 2000 and 2010

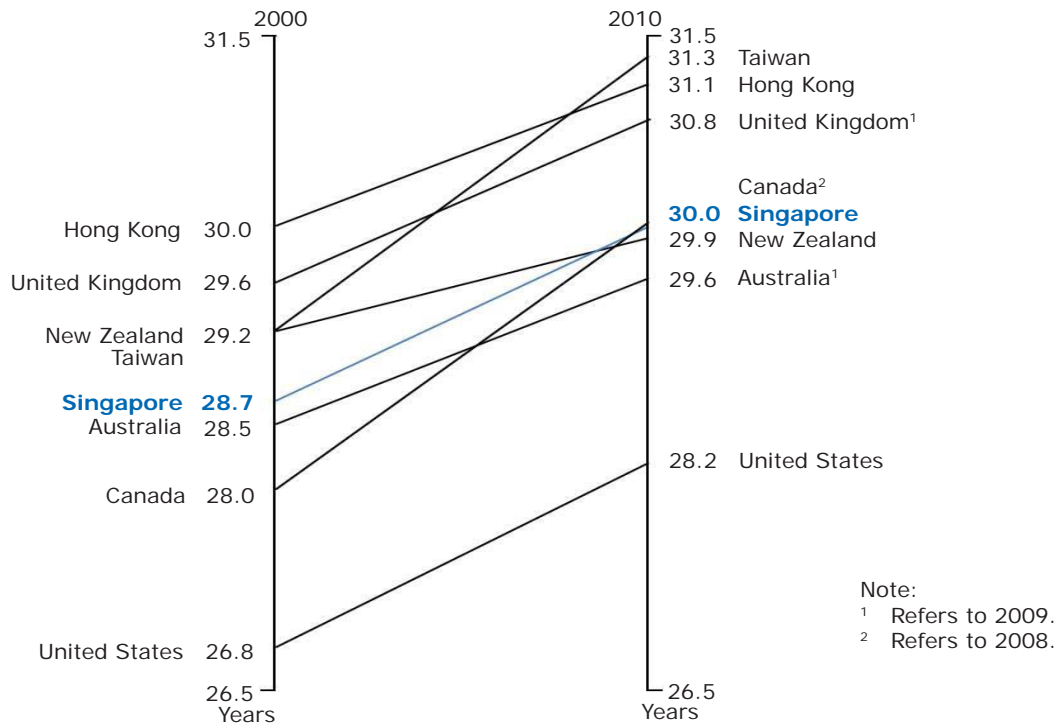
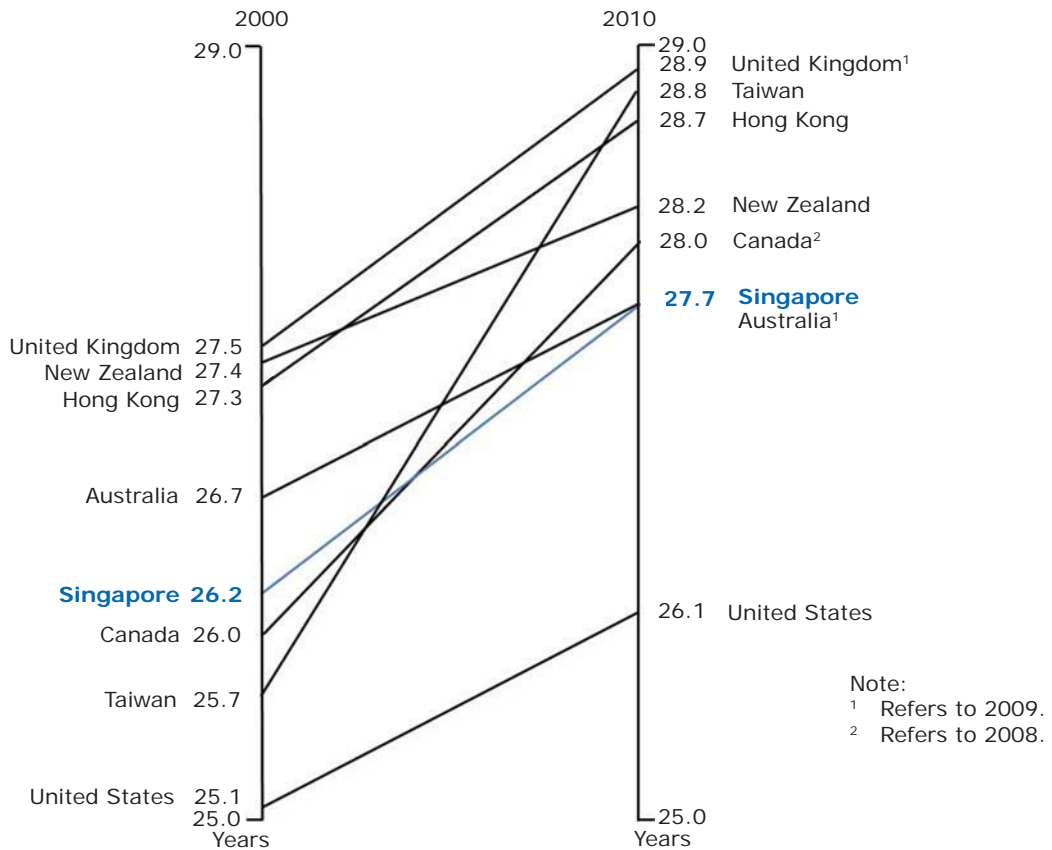


Chart 3 MEDIAN AGE AT FIRST MARRIAGE OF BRIDES, 2000 and 2010



Source: Official statistical publications and websites

# Caregiving in Singapore

By  
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## Introduction

Caregiving refers to the provision of assistance to a person who is ill, disabled, or needs help with daily activities.

Caregivers perform a range of tasks, including providing personal care, performing tasks inside or outside the home, and arranging for transportation and medical care.

As Singapore experiences an ageing population, there is an increasing number of elderly persons, aged 65 years and over, who require support and care.

Data on caregiving were collected for the first time by the Ministry of Health through the National Health Survey 2010.

This article highlights the profile of informal caregivers in the Singapore population and the key characteristics of caregivers and care recipients.

Informal caregivers refer to those who have not undergone any formal training and are not paid for caregiving.

## Profile of Caregivers

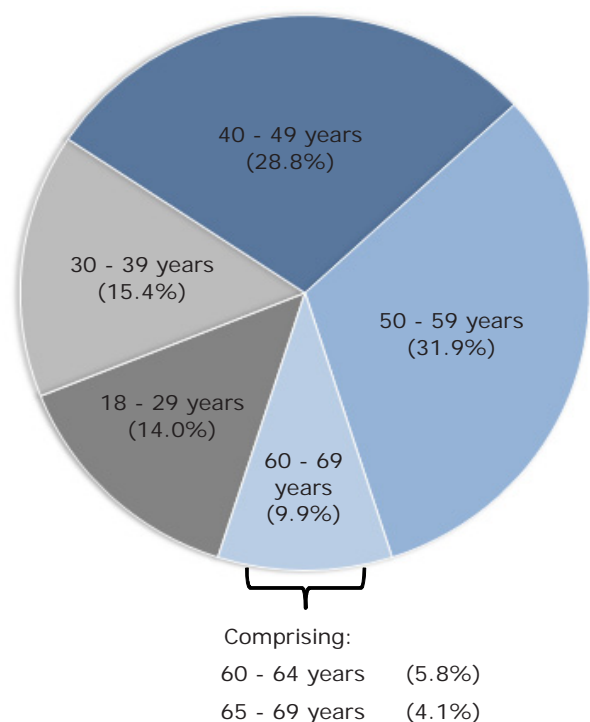
In 2010, 8.1 per cent of Singapore residents aged between 18 to 69 years old indicated that they provided regular care or assistance to friends or family

members. Some 37 per cent of caregivers reported that they had been providing care to their care recipients for over a decade.

On average, they provided around 6.8 hours of care per day in a typical week.

Most of these caregivers were in the older age groups (Chart 1). Around six in 10 caregivers were aged between 40 and 59 years old, while about one in 10 were aged between 60 and 69 years. About one in 25 caregivers were themselves elderly.

CHART 1 AGE DISTRIBUTION OF CAREGIVERS



There was a slightly higher proportion of female caregivers than males (Table 1). The majority of caregivers were currently married (69 per cent) and a quarter (26 per cent) were single.

TABLE 1 PROPORTION OF CAREGIVERS BY SEX AND MARITAL STATUS

	Per Cent
<b>Sex</b>	
Male	45.7
Female	54.3
<b>Marital Status</b>	
Ever Married <sup>1</sup>	5.3
Currently Married	68.8
Never Married	25.6

<sup>1</sup> Separated, divorced or widowed.

Close to three-quarters of caregivers (74 per cent) were employed (Table 2). Only one in 10 caregivers (11 per cent) was retired or not working.

This suggests that most caregivers juggled caregiving tasks with work commitments and family responsibilities.

TABLE 2 PROPORTION OF CAREGIVERS BY WORK STATUS

	Per Cent
Working	74.2
Homemaker / Housewife	14.3
Retired / Unemployed <sup>1</sup>	11.4

<sup>1</sup> Includes full-time students and those serving National Service.

The majority of caregivers (79 per cent) received some form of support from other family members (70 per cent) and/or domestic helpers (14 per cent). However, one in five caregivers (21 per cent) reported being the sole caregiver.

Among all caregivers, approximately six out of 10 mentioned that their care recipients most needed help in taking care of their residences or personal living spaces (60 per cent).

## Profile of Care Recipients

While focusing on the profile of caregivers, the survey also collected some information on the recipients of care.

Our analysis below provides some indicative information on this group of persons who require long-term care by friends or family members.

The average age of care recipients was 64 years old. Nearly two in three care recipients (65 per cent) were elderly, with 42 per cent of care recipients aged 75 years and over (Table 3).

TABLE 3 AGE DISTRIBUTION OF CARE RECIPIENTS

	Per Cent
0 - 29 Years	10.9
30 - 64 Years	24.1
65 - 74 Years	22.8
75 - 84 Years	25.7
85 Years & Over	16.5

In addition, about six out of 10 elderly care recipients (63 per cent) were female (Table 4). This could be due to the higher life expectancy of females.

TABLE 4 PROPORTION OF CARE RECIPIENTS BY SEX

	Per Cent
Male	36.7
Female	63.3

Care recipients require assistance for a range of health problems, illnesses or disabilities. The three major doctor-

diagnosed health problems affecting care recipients were diabetes (13 per cent), stroke (9.7 per cent) and heart disease (6.9 per cent), as reported by their caregivers.

### Conclusion

Long-term caregiving impacts the caregivers, care recipients, as well as their family, friends and the larger community. It is hoped that the survey findings will shed light on the profile of caregivers and care recipients, as well as provide useful inputs for policy formulation.



## Overseas Visitors

The Singapore Department of Statistics (DOS) welcomed the following visitors over the past six months.

Topics discussed included the EU-ASEAN Statistical Capacity Building Programme, and the Australian Bureau of Statistics' experience in compiling Australia's International Investment Position.

Other topics of interest included the methods used by DOS in the production of statistics on household income and expenditure, and an overview of the systems, mechanisms, definitions and institutional framework for trade in services statistics.

The Department's approach in promoting awareness of the importance of statistics to the general public was also shared.

### Australia

- *Australian Bureau of Statistics*

- Mr Peter Bradbury  
Director, International Services and Investment

### European Union

- *EU-ASEAN Statistical Capacity Building Programme*

- Mr Deo Ramprakash  
Independent Consultant, Team Leader
- Ms Baya Kebiri  
Independent Consultant, Senior Expert

### India

- *Research and Information System for Developing Countries*

- Dr Ram Upendra Das  
Senior Fellow

### Korea

- *Statistics Korea*

- Mr Choi Bong Ho  
Director-General, Statistical Training Institute

## Latest Financial Investment Statistics

In April 2011, the Singapore Department of Statistics released the reports on:

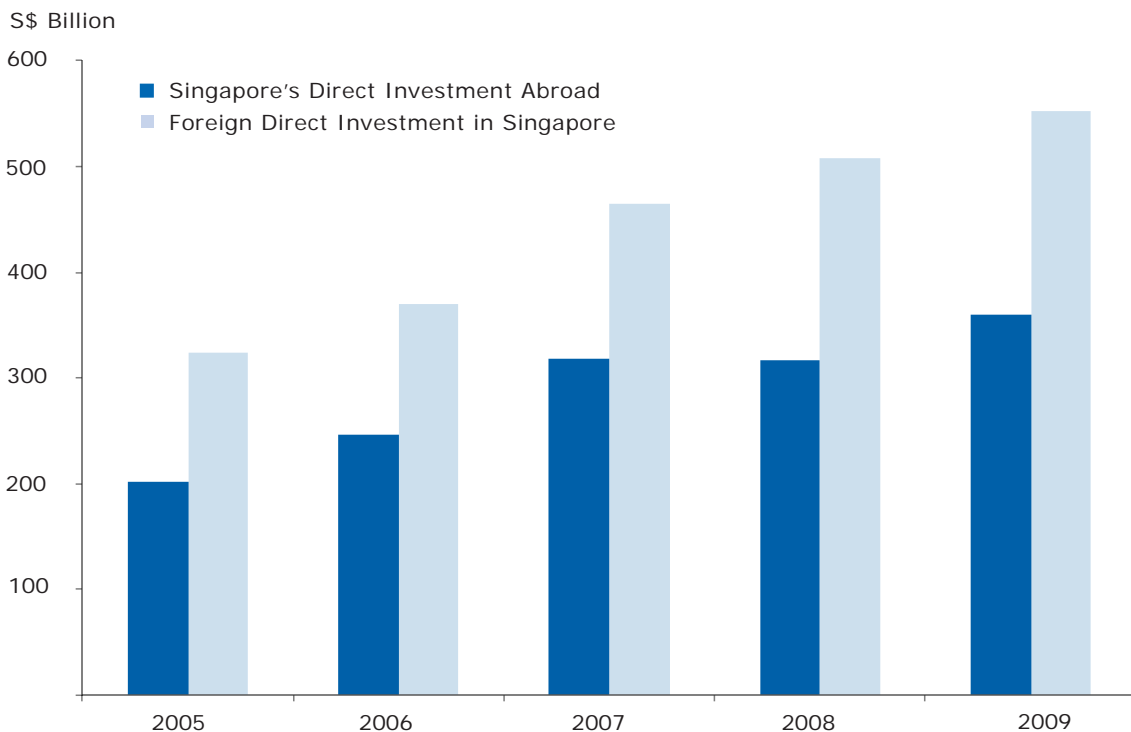
- *Foreign Equity Investment in Singapore 2009*
- *Singapore's Investment Abroad 2009*

The reports show that between 2005 and 2009, the total Foreign Direct

Investment (FDI) stock in Singapore grew by an average annual rate of 14 per cent from S\$324 billion to S\$552 billion (Chart 1).

Over the same period, Singapore's total Direct Investment Abroad (DIA) increased at an average annual rate of 15 per cent from S\$202 billion to S\$359 billion.

CHART 1 INVESTMENT STOCK



Note: Preliminary FDI and DIA data for 2010 will be available by 1Q2012.

Other key findings and latest data for reference year 2009 are available from these reports, which may be downloaded from the SingStat website at:

<http://www.singstat.gov.sg/pubn/business.html#sia>

# GDP Release Schedule and Revisions

## GDP Release Schedule

The Singapore Department of Statistics compiles GDP estimates by the output, expenditure and income approaches. Two public releases of GDP estimates are made for each reference quarter.

The advance constant price GDP estimates are published not later than two weeks after the end of the reference quarter.

Following that, the preliminary current and constant price GDP estimates are released not later than eight weeks after the end of the reference quarter, and are published in the *Economic Survey of Singapore* (ESS).

A quarter-ahead advance release calendar showing the “not later than” release dates is published on the SingStat website<sup>1</sup>, which will be updated one week prior to the data release to show the precise release dates.

In summary, the GDP release schedule is as follows:

**Advance Estimate** - Constant price GDP by the output approach is released not later than two weeks after the end of the reference quarter.

**Preliminary Estimate** - Output-based GDP in current and constant prices, and expenditure-based GDP at constant price are released not later than eight weeks after the reference quarter. The current price expenditure-based and income-based GDP are available on an annual basis, and are released in the ESS for the fourth quarter of the year.

Chart 1 contains an illustration of the GDP release schedule for reference periods 3Q10 and 4Q10.

## Revisions to GDP Estimates

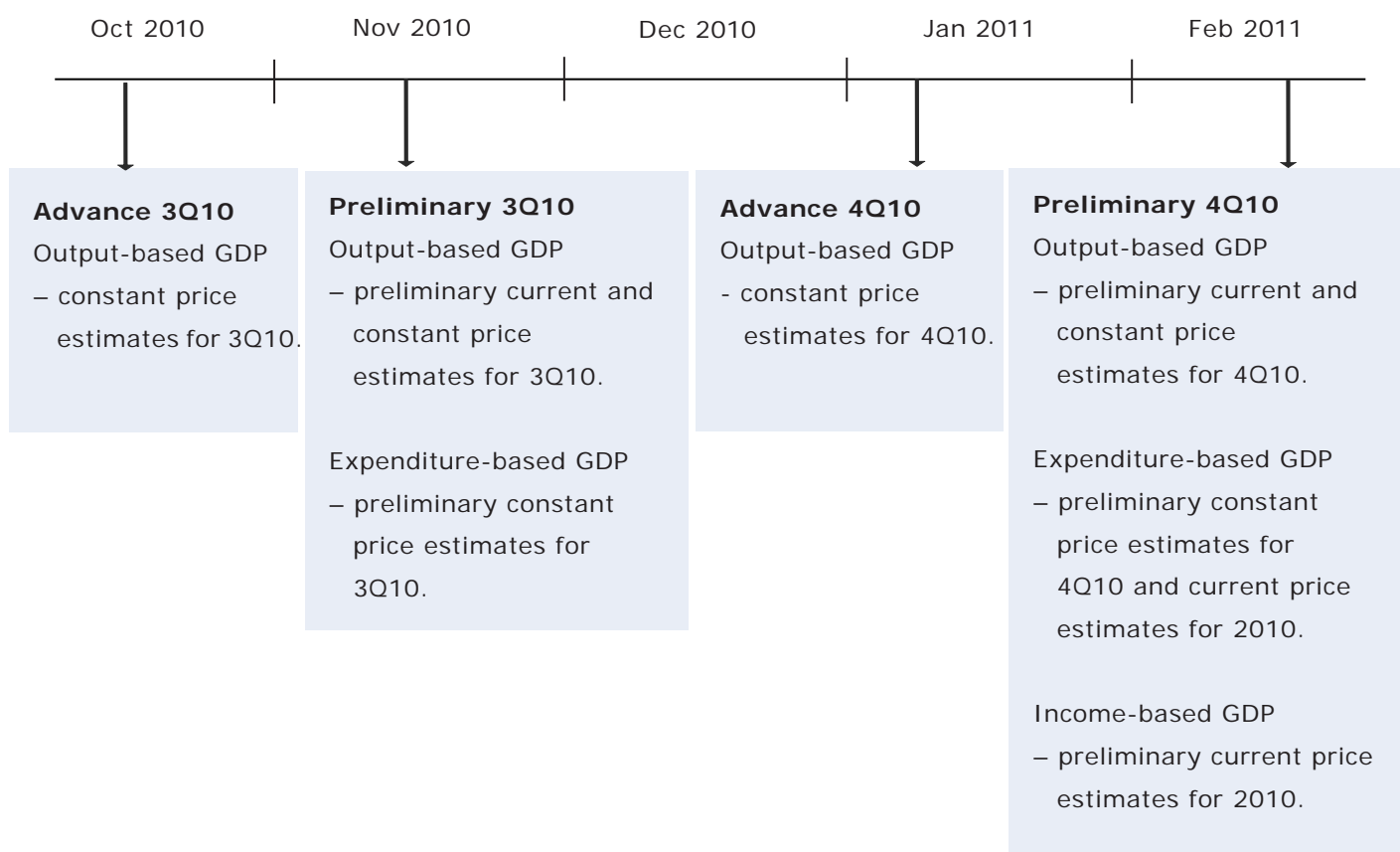
### *Quarterly GDP Revisions*

The advance GDP estimates are computed largely from data for the first two months of the quarter and are intended as an early indication of GDP growth in the quarter. More comprehensive data will be incorporated in the preliminary GDP estimates.

In addition, revisions are also made to the estimates of previous quarters in the current year, after incorporating data with more complete reporting in the previous quarters.

<sup>1</sup> <http://www.singstat.gov.sg/stats/arc.html>



CHART 1 RELEASE SCHEDULE FOR 3Q AND 4Q 2010  
 GDP ESTIMATES


For example, in the advance or preliminary release of 3Q10 estimates, the estimates for 1Q10 and 2Q10 may be revised.

Quarterly data in the preliminary estimates are disseminated in both seasonally adjusted and non-seasonally adjusted formats.

During the release of the fourth quarter ESS, quarterly seasonally-adjusted series are re-analysed.

### **Annual GDP Revisions**

Annual GDP figures are revised by benchmarking against comprehensive annual survey results, when they are

available (usually with a time lag of one to two years).

Revisions to the earlier years' figures are incorporated in the release of the fourth quarter ESS in February each year.

In addition, rebasing is carried out every few years to revalue GDP on the basis of prices prevailing in the new base year.

Rebasing reconciles the different estimates of GDP by the three approaches, and provides the occasion for methodological and conceptual reviews and improvements. These may result in the revision of previously published historical GDP figures.

# Standard Classification of (a) Marital Status (b) Household Tenure Status

The Singapore Department of Statistics has recently released two standard classifications, viz. marital status and household tenure status. Similar to the Singapore Standard Industrial Classification (SSIC) and Singapore Standard Occupational Classification (SSOC), the objective of developing these standard classifications is to enhance data consistency and comparability across agencies.

## Standard Classification of Marital Status

Marital status refers to a person's conjugal status in relation to marriage laws in Singapore.

There are six categories in the standard classification of marital status. An overview of the structure is given in Table 1.

TABLE 1 STRUCTURE OF THE STANDARD CLASSIFICATION OF MARITAL STATUS

Code	Description	Definition
1	Single	This refers to a person who has never been married <sup>1</sup> .
2	Married	This refers to a person who is recognised as married under the marriage laws in Singapore. It includes a person who has remarried.
3	Widowed	This refers to a person whose spouse(s) is/are deceased and who has not remarried.
4	Separated	This refers to a person who has been legally separated or estranged from his/her spouse(s) and who has not remarried.
5	Divorced	This refers to a person whose marriage(s) has/have been legally dissolved and who has not remarried.
X	Not Reported	This includes instances where the marital status is unknown, not reported or where there is no insufficient information available on the marital status.

<sup>1</sup> Common terms like 'Never-married'/'Never been married' and 'Unmarried' relating to marital status refers to the following categories in the classification:

'Never-married'/'Never been married': Refers to persons who are 'Single'.

'Unmarried': Refers to persons who are currently not married and include those who are 'Single', 'Widowed', 'Separated' or 'Divorced'.

For more information, access the Standard Classification of Marital Status on the SingStat website at:

<http://www.singstat.gov.sg/statsres/ssc/scms.pdf>

## Standard Classification of Household Tenure Status

Household tenure status refers to the arrangements under which a household occupies all or part of a dwelling unit. It is the status of the household with

respect to the dwelling in which the household members live. The standard classification of household tenure status is a two-level hierarchical structure with four broad categories. An overview of the structure is given in Table 2.

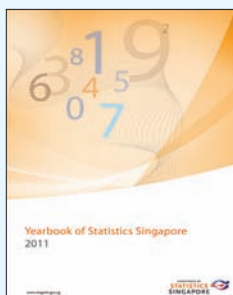
TABLE 2 STRUCTURE OF THE STANDARD CLASSIFICATION OF HOUSEHOLD TENURE STATUS

Code	Description	Definition
<b>1</b>	<b>Owner-Occupied</b>	
10	Owner-Occupied	The head 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.
<b>2</b>	<b>Rented</b>	
21	Rented Whole of Dwelling Unit	The head and/or any other member(s) in the household rents the whole of the dwelling unit.
22	Rented Room(s) of Dwelling Unit	The head and/or any other member(s) in the household rents part of the dwelling unit (i.e. room(s)).
<b>3</b>	<b>Others</b>	
31	Provided Free by Employer	The head and/or any other member(s) in the household occupies the dwelling or part of it without charge (provided free by employer).
32	Provided Free by Other Persons (except Employers)	The head and/or any other member(s) in the household occupies the dwelling or part of it without charge (provided free by other persons (e.g. relatives, friends, or any other persons), except employers).
X	Not Reported	This includes instances where the household tenure status is unknown or where there is no/insufficient information available on the household tenure status.

For more information, access the Standard Classification of Household Tenure Status on the SingStat website at:

<http://www.singstat.gov.sg/statsres/ssc/schts.pdf>

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