

## **SINGAPORE RESIDENT POPULATION, 2003 - 2007**

The Singapore Department of Statistics (DOS) has refined the estimates of Singapore's population from 2003 onwards to exclude Singapore residents (citizens and permanent residents) who have been away from Singapore for a continuous period of 12 months or longer as at the reference period.

### **Register-based Population Estimates**

For statistical purpose, DOS adopts the de jure concept for Singapore's population estimates based on a person's place of usual residence. According to the United Nations' recommendations<sup>1</sup>, countries should apply a threshold of 12 months when considering place of usual residence. Persons who are absent from the country for a continuous period of 12 months or more should be excluded from the count of persons usually residing in the country.

In Singapore, register-based population statistics are estimated using administrative records from multiple sources. The merged administrative records provide the basic count and profile of the population. The "register-based" approach is in line with the practice of developed countries which maintain population registers or databases through linkage of administrative records.

Use of new administrative sources and improvements in existing administrative data would lead to database enhancements and hence revisions in register-based population statistics. DOS has carried out a review of the compilation of population estimates to better reflect the size and profile of the population whose usual residence is Singapore. Using the latest available administrative data from the Immigration and Checkpoints Authority as inputs and based on the statistical concept of a de jure population, DOS has refined the statistical estimates of Singapore's population from 2003 onwards to exclude Singapore residents (citizens and permanent residents) who have been away from Singapore for a continuous period of 12 months or longer as at the reference period.

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<sup>1</sup> The "Principles and Recommendations for Population and Housing Censuses, Revision 2" was adopted by the United Nations Statistical Commission at its 38<sup>th</sup> session in 2007.

## Key Demographic Trends

Based on the latest estimates, Singapore's total population as at end-June 2007 was 4,588,600 (Table 1). The resident population in Singapore, comprising Singapore citizens and permanent residents, numbered 3,583,100 and formed 78 per cent of the total population.

Table 1 Population as at June

Year	Total Population	Number ('000)	
		Singapore Residents	Non-Residents
2003	4,114.8	3,366.9	747.9
2004	4,166.7	3,413.3	753.4
2005	4,265.8	3,467.8	797.9
2006	4,401.4	3,525.9	875.5
2007	4,588.6	3,583.1	1,005.5

Note: Total population comprises Singapore residents and non-residents.  
Resident population comprises Singapore citizens and permanent residents.

The total population in 2007 grew by 4.3 per cent over the previous year (Table 2). The resident population registered a growth rate of 1.6 per cent in 2007. The non-resident population grew by 14.9 per cent in 2007.

Table 2 Annual Population Growth

Year	Total Population	Singapore Residents	Per Cent
			Non-Residents
2004	1.3	1.4	0.7
2005	2.4	1.6	5.9
2006	3.2	1.7	9.7
2007	4.3	1.6	14.9

The Singapore resident population has grown older. The median age of the resident population rose from 35.0 years in 2003 to 36.4 years in 2007 (Table 3). The proportion of elderly person aged 65 years and over increased to 8.5 per cent in 2007, up from 7.4 per cent in 2003.

With the ageing of the population, the ratio of working-age residents to elderly residents has declined. In 2007, there were 8.5 residents aged 15-64 years for every resident aged 65 years and over. The old-age support ratio was 9.7 in 2003.

Table 3 Selected Indicators on Age Structure of the Singapore Resident Population

Year	Median Age			Dependency Ratio <sup>1</sup>			Old Age Support Ratio <sup>2</sup>
	Persons	Males	Females	Total	Child	Old Age	
	Years			Per 100 Residents Aged 15-64 Years			Per Elderly Resident
2003	35.0	34.7	35.3	40.2	29.8	10.4	9.7
2004	35.4	35.1	35.7	39.5	28.7	10.8	9.2
2005	35.8	35.4	36.1	39.1	27.9	11.2	8.9
2006	36.1	35.8	36.4	38.5	27.0	11.6	8.6
2007	36.4	36.1	36.7	37.9	26.1	11.8	8.5

1. The *child dependency ratio* refers to the number of residents under 15 years of age per 100 residents aged 15-64 years. The *old age dependency ratio* is the number of residents aged 65 years and over per 100 residents aged 15-64 years. The *total dependency ratio* is the sum of the child and old age dependency ratios.

2. The *old age support ratio* refers to the number of residents aged 15-64 years per elderly resident aged 65 years and over.

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Table A1 - Singapore Residents by Age Group and Sex, June 2003 - June 2007

Age Group (Years)	2003			2004			2005			2006			2007		
	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females
	Number ('000)														
Total	3,366.9	1,673.4	1,693.5	3,413.3	1,695.0	1,718.2	3,467.8	1,721.1	1,746.7	3,525.9	1,748.2	1,777.7	3,583.1	1,775.5	1,807.6
0 - 4	209.9	108.6	101.4	204.8	105.6	99.2	199.5	102.7	96.9	194.5	99.7	94.7	193.6	99.1	94.5
5 - 9	247.0	127.3	119.7	240.5	124.2	116.3	237.2	122.3	114.9	235.2	121.4	113.8	229.5	118.4	111.2
10 - 14	259.1	133.4	125.7	257.3	132.3	125.0	258.6	133.0	125.6	256.5	131.7	124.7	255.3	131.4	123.9
15 - 19	214.1	110.3	103.7	227.4	117.1	110.3	234.9	120.9	114.0	246.5	126.6	119.9	257.3	131.6	125.7
20 - 24	215.4	107.4	108.0	215.2	108.2	107.1	219.0	110.6	108.3	219.6	111.3	108.4	218.5	110.6	107.9
25 - 29	250.9	120.0	130.9	246.7	117.7	129.0	247.8	118.2	129.6	251.7	120.0	131.7	254.5	122.0	132.5
30 - 34	287.3	138.3	149.0	290.5	139.6	150.8	293.4	141.5	152.0	293.3	141.0	152.2	294.5	141.5	153.0
35 - 39	310.6	155.0	155.7	302.9	149.9	153.0	299.2	147.1	152.0	298.2	145.9	152.3	302.0	147.4	154.6
40 - 44	318.3	160.9	157.4	321.1	162.0	159.1	321.5	162.0	159.5	323.0	162.5	160.5	321.0	161.2	159.8
45 - 49	292.8	147.8	145.0	300.7	151.6	149.1	307.5	155.3	152.2	312.9	158.2	154.6	315.6	159.6	156.0
50 - 54	233.2	117.4	115.8	244.1	123.2	120.9	254.2	128.2	126.0	267.0	134.5	132.5	279.2	140.8	138.4
55 - 59	157.9	78.4	79.4	174.8	87.1	87.7	197.8	98.6	99.2	214.6	107.0	107.6	221.0	110.3	110.6
60 - 64	121.7	58.8	62.9	122.7	59.6	63.1	117.6	57.3	60.3	118.2	58.0	60.3	135.5	66.7	68.8
65 - 69	89.9	42.9	47.0	96.0	45.8	50.2	101.1	48.3	52.8	108.8	51.7	57.1	113.8	53.8	60.0
70 - 74	70.0	32.1	37.9	72.5	33.1	39.3	76.5	34.9	41.6	78.3	35.9	42.4	78.6	36.2	42.4
75 - 79	42.9	18.1	24.8	47.9	20.3	27.6	51.6	21.8	29.8	54.4	23.2	31.2	56.7	24.4	32.4
80 - 84	25.8	10.0	15.8	26.9	10.6	16.3	27.9	11.0	16.8	29.4	11.6	17.8	31.5	12.3	19.2
85 & Over	20.1	6.7	13.4	21.3	7.1	14.2	22.6	7.4	15.1	23.7	7.9	15.8	24.9	8.3	16.7
	Per Cent														
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
0 - 14	21.3	22.1	20.5	20.6	21.4	19.8	20.1	20.8	19.3	19.5	20.2	18.7	18.9	19.6	18.2
15 - 64	71.3	71.4	71.3	71.7	71.7	71.6	71.9	72.0	71.7	72.2	72.4	72.0	72.5	72.8	72.3
65 & over	7.4	6.6	8.2	7.8	6.9	8.6	8.1	7.2	8.9	8.4	7.4	9.3	8.5	7.6	9.4