

SINGAPORE

Region: Asia and the Pacific

Income group: High income

Summary: Singapore has reported the *Census of Population* as a metadata source, which collects information on international labour migration statistics. The Singapore Department of Statistics carries out the *Census of Population*.

Geographically the census covers whole country, and various population groups such as:

- *Nationals (citizens) in the country,*
- *Nationals (citizens) employed in the country,*
- *Nationals (citizens) living abroad,*
- *Nationals (citizens) living and working abroad,*
- *Foreigners (non-citizens) living in the country, and*
- *Foreign workers (non-citizens) living in the country.*

The *Population and Housing Census* was last processed in 2010. The five essential demographic characteristics covered by the census are age, sex, marital status, educational attainment, and household size.

International migration characteristic covered by the census is country of birth. The Census also asks information about household members who left to live, work or study abroad for 12 months or more.

Labour migration related characteristics that can be found in the census include employment status, occupation, industry/economic sector, status in employment, hours usually worked, and individual earnings per month.

Definitions of “*international migrant workers*”, “*nationals living abroad*”, and “*employment*” are applied in the census.

To classify occupation, industry, status in employment, and education both internationally and nationally adapted classifications are applied in the census.

Micro data is unavailable for research and analysis outside the agency.

Metadata sources:

| Type of source | Name of the source | Agency Responsible | Periodicity of data collection | Year the source started | Year of the last source |
|-----------------------|----------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| Q1. Population Census | Census of Population | Singapore Department of Statistics | - | - | 2010 |

Findings:

The latest *Census of Population in SINGAPORE* was processed in 2010 by the Singapore Department of Statistics, covering the whole country. There are six population groups examined in the Census:

- *Nationals (citizens) in the country,*

- *Nationals (citizens) employed in the country,*
- *Nationals (citizens) living abroad,*
- *Nationals (citizens) living and working abroad,*
- *Foreigners (non-citizens) living in the country, and*
- *Foreign workers (non-citizens) living in the country.*

The census obtains detailed data on demographic characteristics of these population groups, such as:

- Age,
- Sex,
- Marital status,
- Educational attainment, and
- Household size.

The question raised in the assessment on the topic of international migration related characteristics is country of birth. In addition to the characteristics, the Census asks information about household members who left to live, work or study abroad for 12 months or more, such as:

- Name,
- Sex,
- Age at present,
- Marital status at present, and
- Education at present.

The *Census of Population 2010* covers labour related characteristics of all current household members aged 15 years and over, such as:

- Employment status,
- Occupation,
- Industry/economic sector,
- Status in employment,
- Hours usually worked, and
- Individual earnings per month.

In the *Census of Population 2010*, data on "*international migrant workers*" working in Singapore are compiled from valid work passes issued by the Ministry of Manpower. Foreigners can work in Singapore only if they have valid work passes issued by the Ministry of Manpower. "*National living abroad*" refers to citizens with a registered foreign address, or who have been away from Singapore for a continuous period of 12 months or longer as at the reference period. In context of the *Census of Population 2010*, we would also take into account "*absentee members*" who intend to stay abroad continuously for 12 months or more. "*Employment*" covers a working person who during the reference period, worked for pay or profit. It includes those serving National Service, as well as those who are helping in a family business without fixed pay. It also includes all those who had a job or business to return to but were temporarily absent because of illness, injury or other reasons.

To classify occupation, industry, status in employment, and education, both internationally and nationally adapted classifications are applied. For example:

- National adaptation of ISCO (Adopted basic framework of ISCO-08) (where one digit is used to release the data);
- National adaptation of ISIC (Adopted basic framework of ISIC rev 4) (where one digit is used to release the data);
- ICSE-1993 (Consistent with basic framework and principles of ICSE-1993); and
- National adaptation of ISCED (Consistent with basic framework and principles of ISCED-1997).

Micro data are unavailable for research and analysis outside the agency.

Q1. Population Census

SOURCE

Title of source: Census of Population 2010

Year of last census: 2010

Agency responsible: Singapore Department of Statistics

COVERAGE

Geographical coverage: Whole country

Population groups covered: Nationals (citizens) in the country, nationals (citizens) employed in the country, nationals (citizens) living abroad, nationals (citizens) living and working abroad, foreigners (non-citizens) living in the country, foreign workers (non-citizens) living in the country

- **Publication/dissemination of data on population groups covered:** Nationals (citizens) in the country, foreigners (non-citizens) living in the country,

TOPIC COVERED

Demographic characteristics: Age, sex, marital status, educational attainment, household size

International migration related characteristics: Country of birth

- **Coverage for international migration related characteristics:** All persons
- **Exceptions for international migration related characteristics:** N.A.

Information about household members left to live abroad: Yes (For 12 months or more)

- **Information refers to the last time the person left:** Yes
- **Limited to certain age or work status:** No
- **Limited to those who left the household abroad within the last X years and have not returned:** No
- **Characteristics of persons who left to live abroad:** Name, sex, age at present, marital status at present, education at present

Labour related characteristics of all current household members: Employment status, occupation, industry/economic sector, status in employment, hours usually worked, individual earnings per month

- **Age coverage:** 15 years old and over

Remittances related characteristics: N.A.

Information on immigrants and return migrants: No

- **Information on the situation of the person prior to leaving the household last time is obtained:** N.A.

Data collected and not published/disseminated: Yes

- **Number and name of question not published:** C2.6 - Characteristics of persons who left to live, work or study abroad for 12 months or more
- **Reason not published:** The Census of Population 2010 adopted a de jure concept for Singapore's population estimates based on a person's place of usual residence. Persons who were away from Singapore for a continuous period of 12 months or longer were not included in the total population count.

CONCEPTS AND DEFINITIONS

Definition of international migrant workers: Data on foreigners working in Singapore are compiled from valid work passes issued by the Ministry of Manpower. Foreigners can work in Singapore only if they have valid work passes issued by the Ministry of Manpower.

Definition of national (citizen) living abroad: Refers to citizens with a registered foreign address, or who have been away from Singapore for a continuous period of 12 months or longer as at the reference period. In context of the Census of Population 2010, we would also take into account “absentee members” who intend to stay abroad continuously for 12 months or more.

Definition of employment: A working person is one who during the reference period, worked for pay or profit. It includes those serving National Service, as well as those who are helping in a family business without fixed pay. It also includes all those who had a job or business to return to but were temporarily absent because of illness, injury or other reasons.

CLASSIFICATION

Classification used for occupation: National adaptation of ISCO (Adopted basic framework of ISCO-08)

- **Number of digits used to release occupation data:** 1

Classification used for industry: National adaptation of ISIC (Adopted basic framework of ISIC rev 4)

- **Number of digits used to release industry data:** 1

Classification used for status in employment: ICSE-1993 (Consistent with basic framework and principles of ICSE-1993)

Classification used for status in education: National adaptation of ISCED (Consistent with basic framework and principles of ISCED-1997)

DATA COLLECTION AND DISSEMINATION

Data collection method: Face-to-face computer assisted interview by census enumerator (CAPI), computer assisted telephone interview by enumerator with data recorded on computer (CATI), self-administered online (web) census questionnaire /Computer Assisted Web Interview (CAWI), administrative sources

Compulsory participation of households: Yes

Official estimate of under-coverage rate: No

Dissemination of results: Printed publications (Please refer to the following link for the list of Census of Population 2010 Statistical Releases (which are available in both printed and softcopy versions): <http://www.singstat.gov.sg/publications/publications-and-papers/population>); Web site (Softcopy of Census of Population 2010 Statistical Releases as well as Administrative Report (which contains Census metadata and questionnaire) can be accessed via the following link: <http://www.singstat.gov.sg/publications/publications-and-papers/population>)

Metadata has been prepared and disseminated: Yes

Micro-data availability outside NSO/responsible agency: No