Labour Force in Singapore
Advance Release 2026



MANPOWER RESEARCH &
STATISTICS DEPARTMENT

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LABOUR FORCE IN SINGAPORE ADVANCE RELEASE 2026

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NOTATIONS

–	:	Nil or negligible
%-pt	:	Percentage point
n.a.	:	Not applicable
P	:	Preliminary
s	:	Data suppressed due to small number covered

ABBREVIATIONS

Below Sec	:	Below Secondary
CLFS	:	Comprehensive Labour Force Survey
COVID	:	Coronavirus Disease
CPF	:	Central Provident Fund
CPI	:	Consumer Price Index
CSP	:	Community, Social & Personal Services
CSSWs	:	Clerical, Sales & Service Workers
CUB	:	C U Back at Work
Dip & Prof Qual	:	Diploma & Professional Qualification
e2i	:	Employment and Employability Institute
Excl.	:	Excluding
F&B	:	Food & Beverage
FWA	:	Flexible Work Arrangement
ILO	:	International Labour Organisation
Incl.	:	Including
LFPR	:	Labour Force Participation Rate
LTU	:	Long-term Unemployment
MOM	:	Ministry of Manpower
MRSD	:	Manpower Research and Statistics Department
NS	:	National Service
NTUC	:	National Trades Union Congress
OECD	:	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
OMIP	:	Overseas Markets Immersion Programme
p.a.	:	Per Annum
P20	:	20th Percentile
P50	:	Median
PMETs	:	Professionals, Managers, Executives & Technicians
Post-Sec (Non-Tertiary)	:	Post-Secondary (Non-Tertiary)
PTOCLs	:	Production & Transport Operators, Cleaners & Labourers
PWM	:	Progressive Wage Model
RSE	:	Relative Standard Error
SE	:	Standard Error
Sec	:	Secondary

SSEC	:	Singapore Standard Educational Classification
SSIC	:	Singapore Standard Industrial Classification
SSOC	:	Singapore Standard Occupational Classification
Svcs	:	Services
SWDA	:	Skills & Workforce Development Agency
WIS	:	Workfare Income Supplement
WSP	:	Workfare Special Payment
Yrs	:	Years

HIGHLIGHTS

Singapore's labour market remained resilient in 2026. Real incomes continued to rise, although at a slower pace than in 2025. Unemployment stayed low overall, but rose among non-professionals, managers, executives & technicians (non-PMETs). Time-related under-employment declined. Population ageing continued to weigh on the overall resident labour force participation rate (LFPR). These developments underscore the importance of equipping workers with relevant skills and supporting them through career transitions.

The LFPR for residents aged 15 and over edged down from 67.9% in 2025 to 67.8% in 2026, continuing the decline since 2021. This mainly reflected population ageing, with residents aged 65 and over, who generally have lower participation rates, accounting for a growing share of the population. Participation rates among residents aged 25 to 54, 55 to 64, and 65 and over were stable or rose slightly. Singapore's overall LFPR remained among the highest compared with countries in the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD).

Real incomes of full-time employed residents rose by 2.2% at the median (P50) and 1.3% at the 20th percentile (P20) in 2026, slower than the respective increases of 4.1% and 3.6% in 2025. The moderation partly reflected more cautious wage increases by firms and higher inflation. Over both the past five and ten years, real income growth at P20 outpaced growth at the median. Income at P20 was 54% of the median in 2026, compared with 53% in 2021 and 52% in 2016.

Fewer residents changed jobs amid lower turnover and softer hiring. The share of employed residents who changed jobs in the past year fell from 6.2% in 2025 to 5.7% in 2026. Around seven in ten full-time resident employees aged 25 to 64 who changed jobs saw real income gains. Most of these gains were at least 5%. Many job switchers moved across industries or occupations. Residents who changed industries typically remained in or moved into industries with above-average productivity, while those who changed occupations commonly moved between PMET roles.

Employment quality remained broadly stable even as manpower demand softened. Permanent employment remained the norm, accounting for 91.0% of resident employees in 2026. As residents' educational qualifications continued to improve, the share of employed residents in PMET roles rose to 65.2%. The overqualification rate declined to 18.7%, while the involuntary overqualification rate remained low at 1.6%.

Labour underutilisation remained low overall. The unemployment rate for resident PMETs was broadly stable at 2.7% in 2026. Among non-PMETs, it rose from 2.8% in 2025 to 3.5% in 2026, returning to levels seen in 2023 and 2024. Long-term unemployment rates edged up for both groups. The time-related under-employment rate fell from 1.9% to 1.7%. The number of discouraged workers remained low at 7,100, equivalent to 0.3% of the resident labour force.

LABOUR FORCE IN SINGAPORE ADVANCE RELEASE 2026

1. Introduction

1.1 The Labour Force in Singapore Advance Release [1] provides early findings from the Comprehensive Labour Force Survey (CLFS). Unlike the Monthly Labour Force Surveys, the CLFS is run annually with a larger sample size, measuring a wider range of labour market indicators. The breadth and depth of information from the CLFS enable a comprehensive review of the labour market performance of the resident population, in relation to longer-term structural trends.

2. Labour Force

Resident labour force participation rate eased further in 2026, reflecting population ageing

2.1 The labour force participation rate for residents aged 15 years and over decreased slightly from 67.9% in 2025 to 67.8% in 2026. This marked a continued decline from 2021, mainly reflecting population ageing. As Singapore officially became a super-aged society in 2026,[2] the share of residents aged 65 and over among the working age population continued to grow.[3] Those aged 65 and over generally have lower participation rates than younger age groups, even as it improved over time. Participation rates among residents aged 25 to 54, 55 to 64, and 65 and over were stable or rose slightly.

2.2 The lower overall labour force participation rate reflected a changing age profile due to population ageing, such as retirements, rather than weaker economic conditions.[4] If the age profile of the resident population had been unchanged over the last decade, the overall participation rate would have remained stable since 2021, and edged up over the year by 0.2%-points in 2026.

2.3 Looking ahead, population ageing will continue to dampen Singapore's overall labour force participation rate, as all the post-war baby boomers (born 1946 to 1964) progressively move into their 70s and 80s. Continued efforts to support labour force participation, particularly among women and seniors, will help to partially offset the downward pressure from population ageing.

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[1] Data in this report are for June periods and pertain to residents (comprising Singapore citizens and permanent residents) aged 15 years and over, unless stated otherwise. The survey coverage, methodology, concepts and definitions are in Annex A.

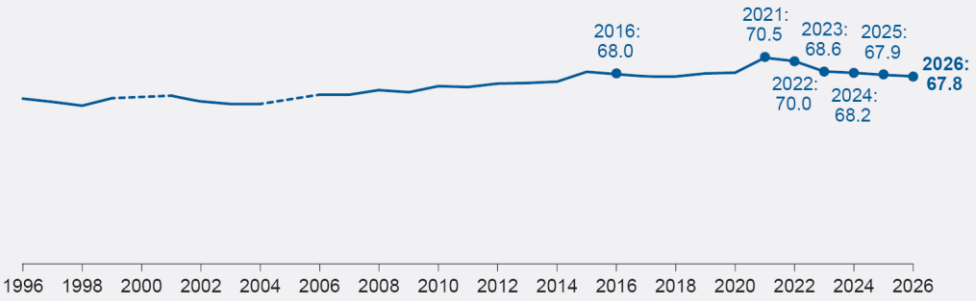
[2] This is based on the citizen population, where the proportion of citizens aged 65 and over has increased to 21.4% in 2026, surpassing the 21% threshold defined by the United Nations as a "super-aged" society. Source: Singapore Department of Statistics.

[3] In 2026, 22.5% of residents aged 15 years and over were 65 years or older, up from 18.7% in 2021 and 14.6% in 2016. Source: Singapore Department of Statistics.

[4] The share of the resident population aged 15 and over who are outside the labour force due to retirement increased from 7.3% in 2021 to 9.7% in 2025, and further to 10.4% in 2026.

Chart 1 Labour force participation rate of residents aged 15 years and over

Per Cent

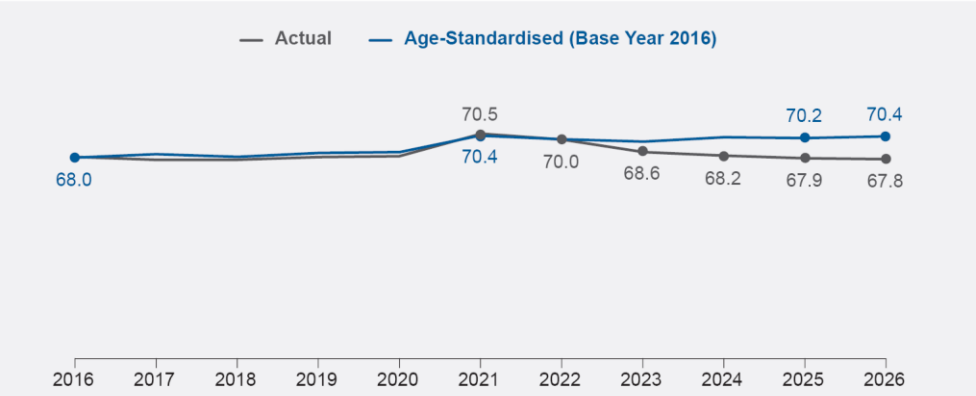


Source: Comprehensive Labour Force Survey, Manpower Research & Statistics Department, MOM

Note: The Comprehensive Labour Force Survey was not conducted in 2000 and 2005 due to the conduct of the Census of Population 2000 and General Household Survey 2005 by the Singapore Department of Statistics.

Chart 2 Labour force participation rate of residents aged 15 years and over, actual and age-standardised

Per Cent



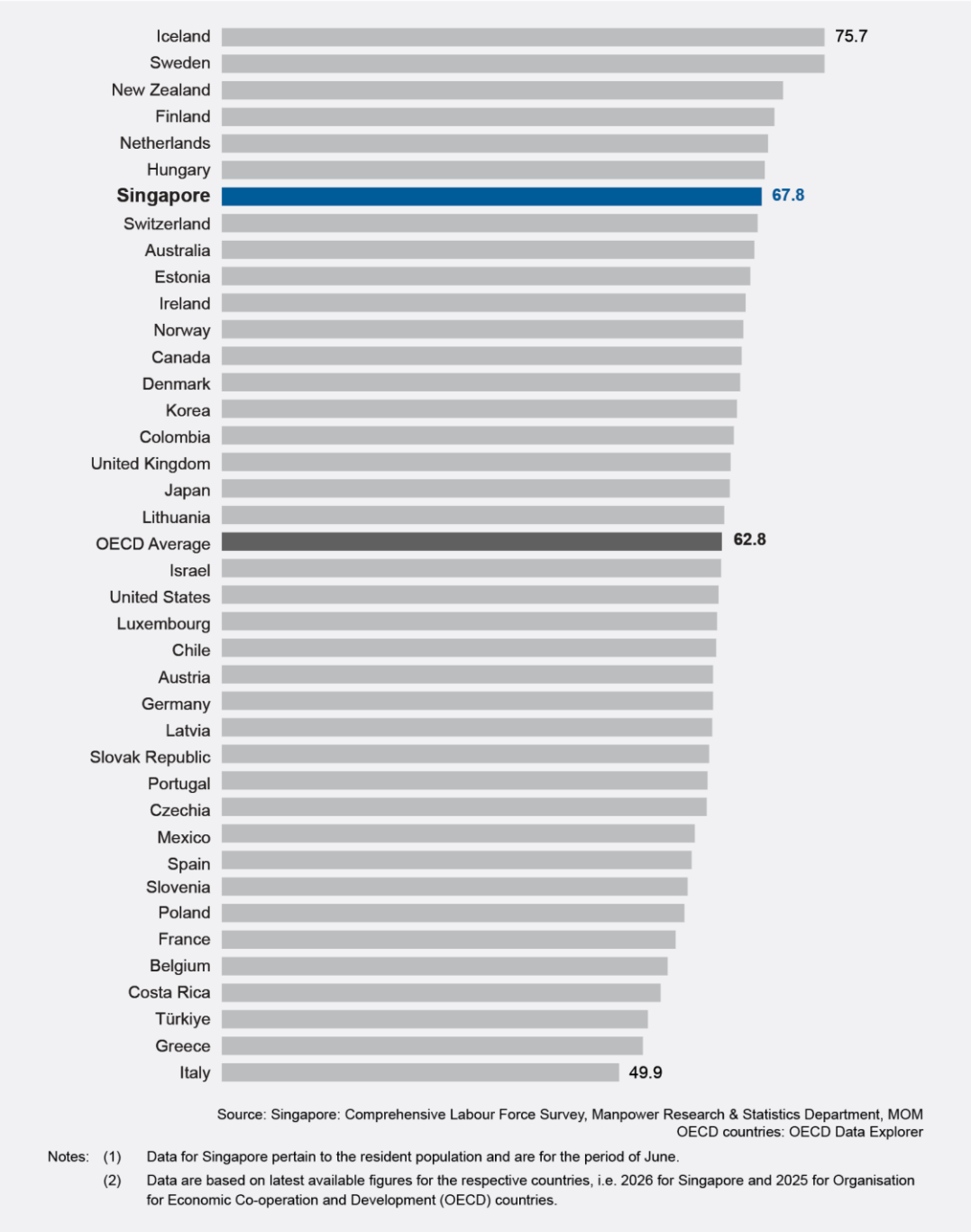
Source: Comprehensive Labour Force Survey, Manpower Research & Statistics Department, MOM

Note: Age-standardised labour force participation rate is derived by holding the age profile constant at 2016 levels, and computing the weighted average of the labour force participation rate in the various age groups using the 2016 age profile as weights.

2.4 Notwithstanding the gradual declines in recent years, Singapore's labour force participation rate remained among the highest when compared to countries in the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD).[5]

Chart 3 Labour force participation rate (aged 15 years and over) in Singapore and OECD countries

Per Cent



Source: Singapore: Comprehensive Labour Force Survey, Manpower Research & Statistics Department, MOM
OECD countries: OECD Data Explorer

Notes: (1) Data for Singapore pertain to the resident population and are for the period of June.
(2) Data are based on latest available figures for the respective countries, i.e. 2026 for Singapore and 2025 for Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) countries.

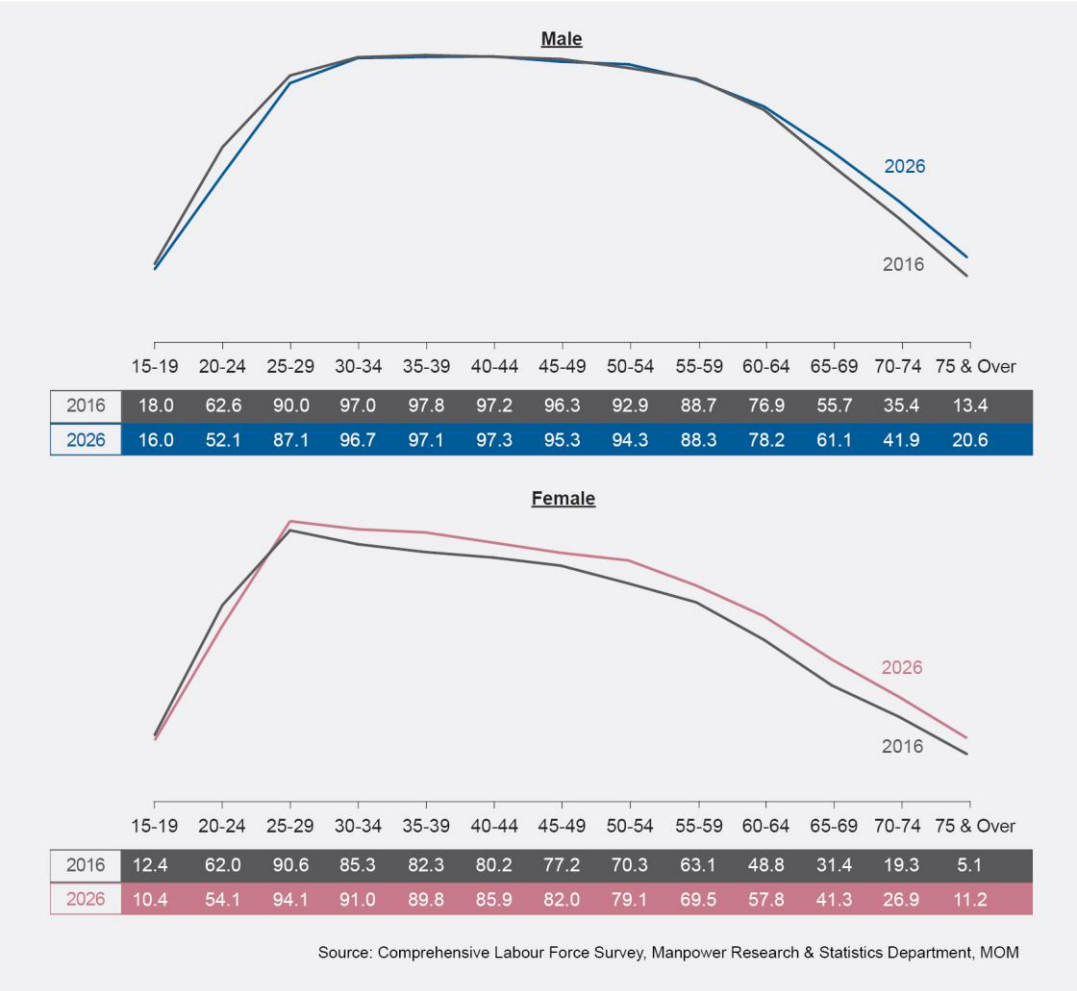
[5] Comparison was made to the OECD member countries, most of which are high-income countries similar to Singapore. The OECD also provides a comprehensive statistical database that facilitates harmonised comparisons across a broad spectrum of indicators.

Female labour force participation has risen significantly across most age groups

2.5 Female labour force participation rose significantly across most age groups over the past decade, alongside improvements in educational attainment[6] and measures supporting women to remain in or return to work.[7] Among residents aged 25 to 64, the female labour force participation rate rose significantly from 74.9% in 2016 to 80.8% in 2026, while participation among males remained high at 92.0%. This increase in female participation rates helped to offset some of the demographic pressures on labour supply.

Chart 4 Resident labour force participation rate by age and sex

Per Cent



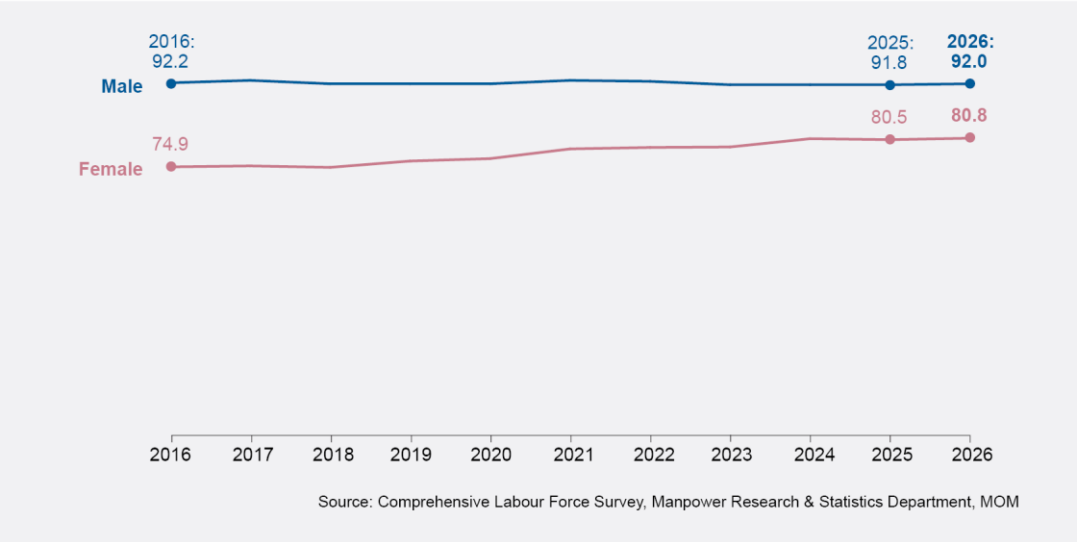
Source: Comprehensive Labour Force Survey, Manpower Research & Statistics Department, MOM

[6] The tertiary-educated (i.e. those with degree, diploma or professional qualification) formed 50.8% of females aged 15 years and over in 2026, an increase from 39.9% in 2016.

[7] These include the Tripartite Guidelines on Flexible Work Arrangement (FWA) Requests launched in April 2024, and before that, the Tripartite Advisory on FWAs in 2014 and Tripartite Standards on FWAs in 2017. Besides general career resources and career matching services provided by the Skills & Workforce Development Agency (SWDA) and NTUC e2i, females could tap programmes such as SWDA's herCareer initiative, SG Women in Tech's Relaunch initiative that supports women re-entering the tech workforce in Singapore, as well as the NTUC's C U Back at Work (CUB) Programme and Yes, Flex! Job portal that connects job seekers with employers offering flexible work arrangements.

Chart 5 Labour force participation rate of residents aged 25 to 64 by sex

Per Cent



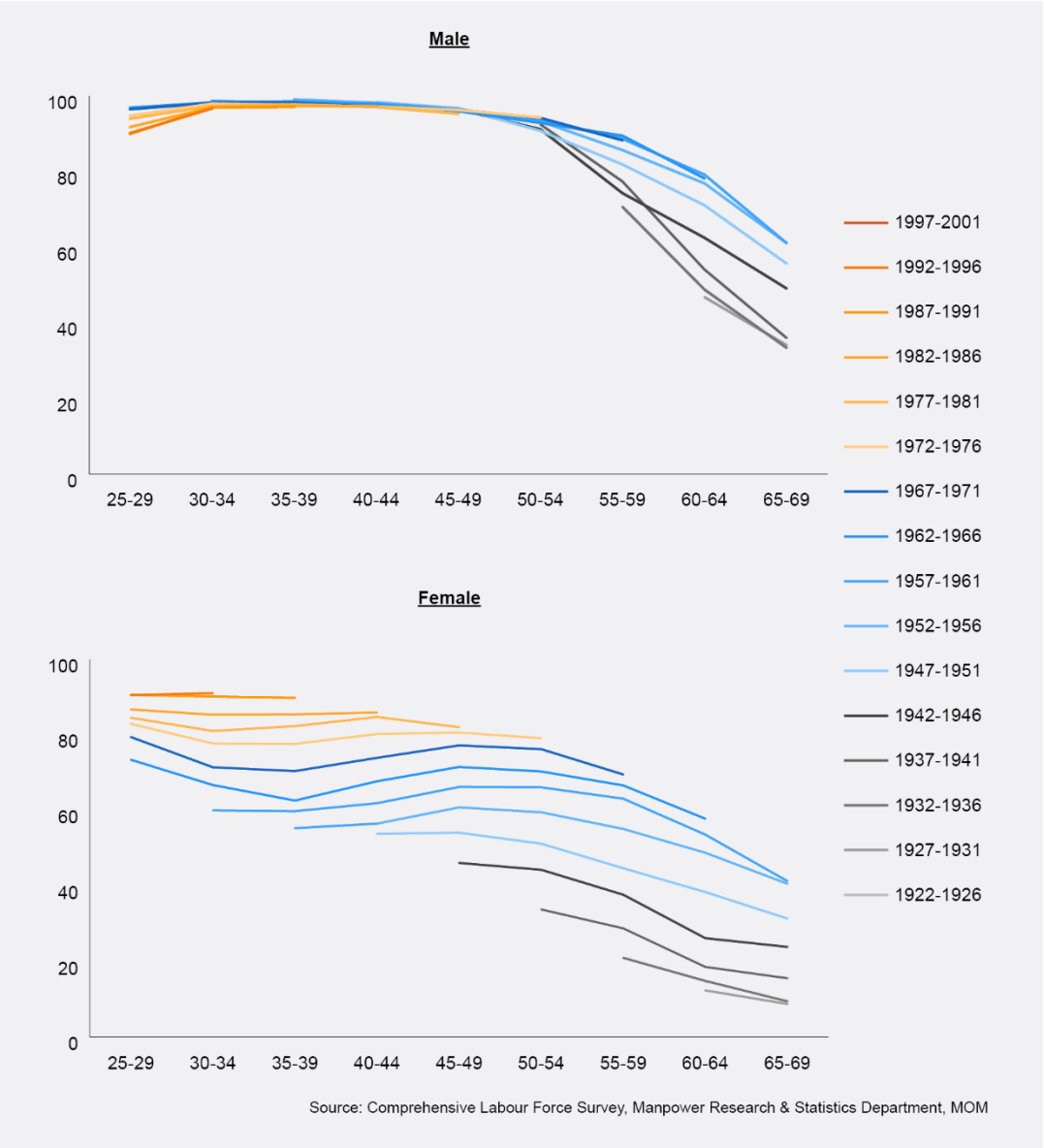
Higher participation among younger cohorts could support further increases in labour force participation

2.6 Differences in labour force participation among women of different ages partly reflect the experiences of successive generations. Earlier cohorts, such as those born from 1962 to 1966 (aged 60 to 64 in 2026), commonly left the labour force after marriage and childbirth, with some not returning. In contrast, younger, better educated cohorts have higher participation rates, with only a slight dip in their 30s. As these cohorts age, female labour force participation could rise further, supported by workplace flexibility and care arrangements that help women remain employed or return to work.

2.7 Across birth cohorts, labour force participation among men remains very high in their 30s and 40s, with more noticeable falls beginning in their 50s, as more exit the labour force for health reasons, retirement or to take a break. Nevertheless, the decline has become more gradual among recent cohorts, reflecting government initiatives to improve the employability of senior workers.

Chart 6 Resident labour force participation rate by birth cohort and sex

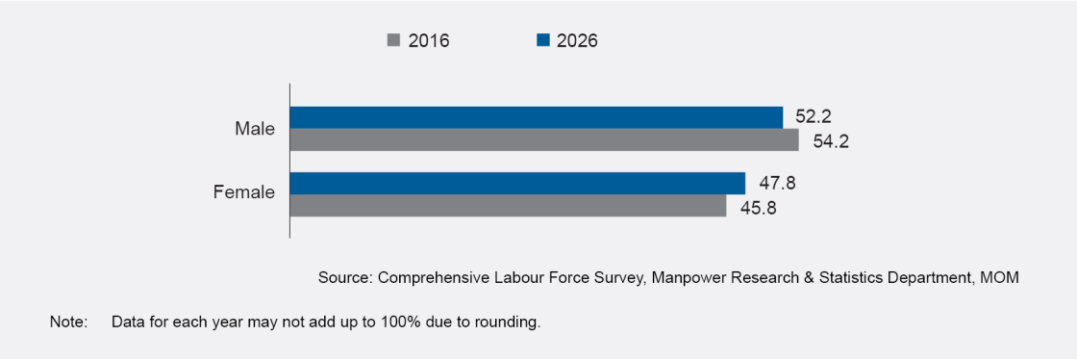
Per Cent



2.8 Reflecting females' increased labour force participation, the share of females in the resident labour force rose to 47.8% in 2026.

Chart 7 Profile of the resident labour force by sex

Per Cent



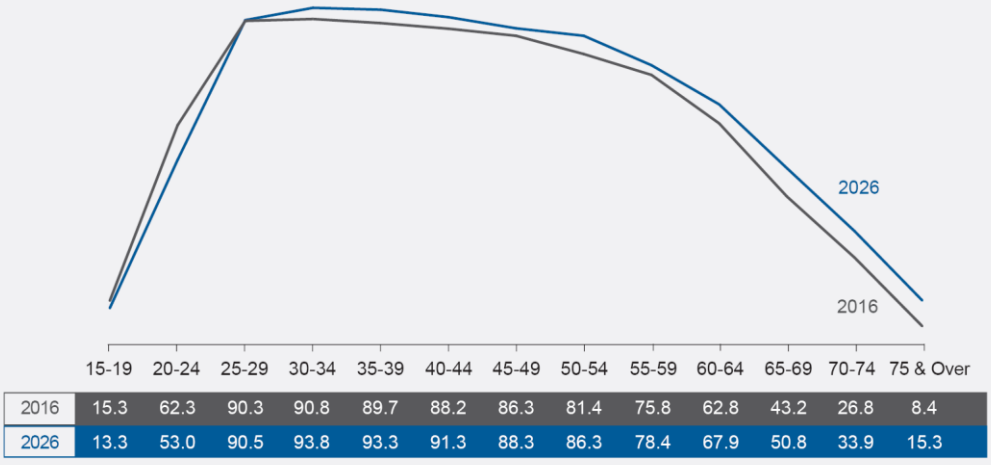
Share of seniors in the labour force increased over the decade

2.9 Age-specific participation rates remained resilient over the last decade. The labour force participation rate rose across most five-year age groups, with larger increases among seniors, reflecting initiatives that enhance their employability. Coupled with seniors' growing share in the population, the proportion of residents aged 60 years and over in the labour force rose from 13.1% in 2016 to 19.5% in 2026.

2.10 Only youths aged 15 to 24 had lower labour force participation from a decade ago, as more pursued further studies and entered the labour force later.[8] Participation among residents aged 25 to 29 remained stable. Coupled with their smaller share in the population due to falling birth rates, the share of residents aged below 30 in the labour force fell to 13.4% in 2026.

Chart 8 Resident labour force participation rate by age

Per Cent



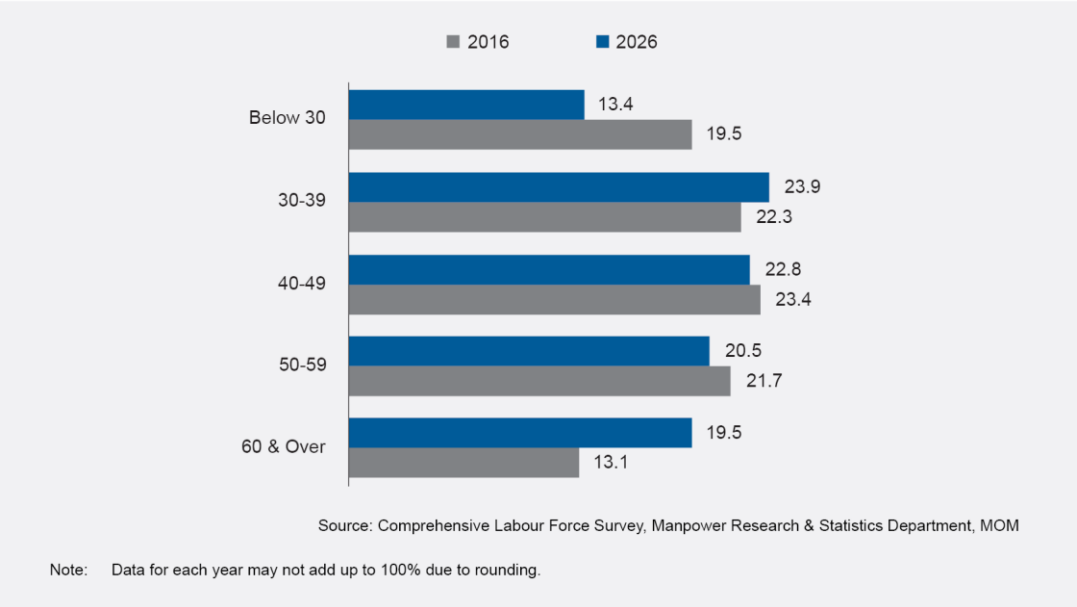
	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60-64	65-69	70-74	75 & Over
2016	15.3	62.3	90.3	90.8	89.7	88.2	86.3	81.4	75.8	62.8	43.2	26.8	8.4
2026	13.3	53.0	90.5	93.8	93.3	91.3	88.3	86.3	78.4	67.9	50.8	33.9	15.3

Source: Comprehensive Labour Force Survey, Manpower Research & Statistics Department, MOM

[8] Among the resident population aged 15 to 24 years, 64.5% were outside the labour force pursuing their education or training in 2026, up from 58.2% in 2016.

Chart 9 Profile of the resident labour force by age

Per Cent



Source: Comprehensive Labour Force Survey, Manpower Research & Statistics Department, MOM

Note: Data for each year may not add up to 100% due to rounding.

Resident old-age support ratio declined further

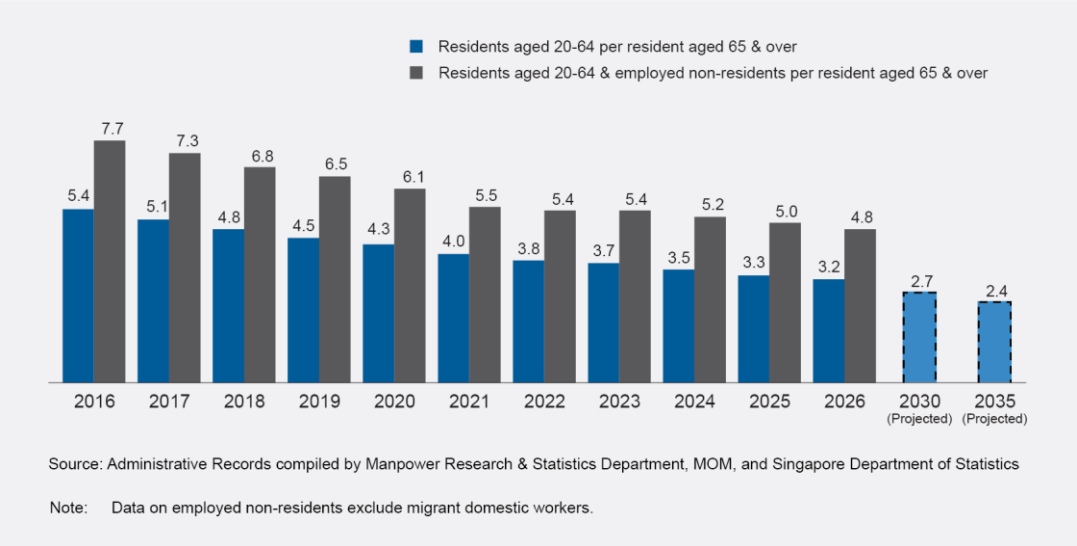
2.11 With continued population ageing, Singapore crossed the threshold of a super-aged society in 2026, with fewer residents supporting the elderly population. The resident old-age support ratio,[9] which relates the number of residents aged 20 to 64 years to residents aged 65 years and above, fell from 5.4 in 2016 to 3.2 in 2026.[10] The ratio is projected to decline further to 2.7 in 2030 and 2.4 in 2035. Including non-resident workers raises the ratio to 4.8 in 2026,[11] helping to ease some of the economic pressures of an ageing population.

[9] The old-age support ratio provides a rough indication of the number of persons who are potentially economically and socially supporting elderly people.

[10] Source: Singapore Department of Statistics.

[11] Source: Estimates derived using non-resident employment data from administrative records compiled by Ministry of Manpower's Manpower Research & Statistics Department, and population data from the Singapore Department of Statistics.

Chart 10 Old-age support ratio



Source: Administrative Records compiled by Manpower Research & Statistics Department, MOM, and Singapore Department of Statistics

Note: Data on employed non-residents exclude migrant domestic workers.

Employment rate remained high among prime-age and older residents

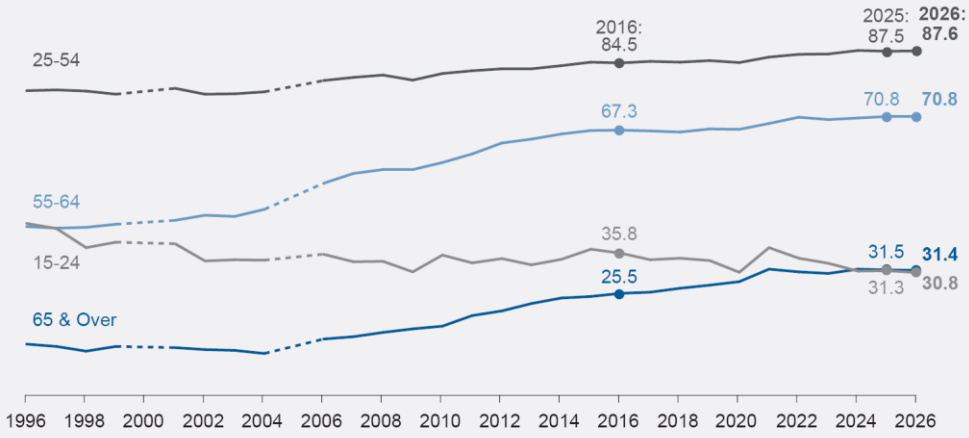
2.12 Over the year, employment rates remained broadly stable or improved across most age groups. In particular, the employment rate of prime-age residents (25 to 54 years) remained high, edging up from 87.5% to 87.6% in 2026. For residents aged 55 to 64 and aged 65 & over, the employment rates have been on a broad uptrend over the longer term, and the rate of those aged 55 to 64 remained at a record high of 70.8% in 2026. Recent recommendations by the Tripartite Workgroup on Senior Employment,[12] which builds on existing initiatives to raise their employability, will support more seniors who wish to remain in or re-enter the workforce.

2.13 The decline in employment rate among younger residents aged 15 to 24 mirrored the decline in their labour force participation rate, signalling that the decline in employment rate was not a result of unemployment rises but rather lower participation.

[12] The Tripartite Workgroup on Senior Employment released six recommendations in end-October 2026. These includes scaling up flexible-load opportunities and career guidance for seniors, bringing forward the increase in statutory retirement and re-employment ages to 65 and 70 respectively on 1 January 2029, and replacing the Senior Employment Credit with a new Re-Employment Credit from 2028 to support employment beyond the statutory retirement and re-employment ages.

Chart 11 Resident employment rate by age

Per Cent



Source: Comprehensive Labour Force Survey, Manpower Research & Statistics Department, MOM

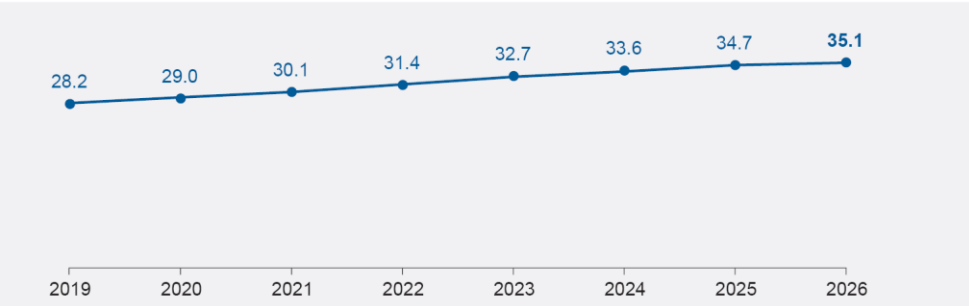
Note: The Comprehensive Labour Force Survey was not conducted in 2000 and 2005 due to the conduct of the Census of Population 2000 and General Household Survey 2005 by the Singapore Department of Statistics.

Employment rate of persons with disabilities continued to increase

2.14 from 34.7% in 2025 to 35.1% in 2026.[13]The recommendations by the Taskforce on Assurance for Families with Persons with Disabilities aim to help persons with disabilities secure and remain in meaningful employment, while helping employers redesign jobs and expand suitable job opportunities.meaningful employment, while helping employers redesign jobs and expand suitable job opportunities.

Chart 12 Two-year moving average of resident employment rate of persons with disabilities aged 15 to 64 years

Per Cent



Source: Comprehensive Labour Force Survey, Manpower Research & Statistics Department, MOM

Notes: (1) Data on the employment outcomes of persons with disabilities are collected from 2018/2019 onwards.

(2) The use of two-year moving averages is to smooth out year-on-year fluctuations in the data due to a relatively small number of persons with disabilities.

[13] Based on two-year moving averages, i.e. average for 2025 and 2026 compared with average for 2024 and 2025.

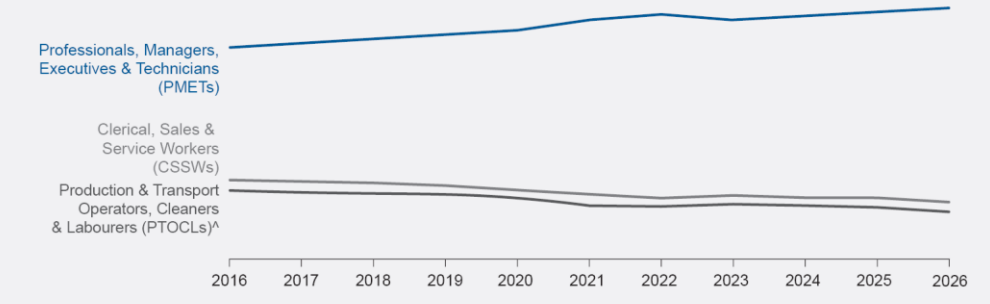
PMETs formed a rising share of employed residents

2.15 The proportion of Professionals, Managers, Executives & Technicians (PMETs) among employed residents continued to rise from 64.2% in 2025 to 65.2% in 2026, extending a long-term shift towards higher-skilled roles as the workforce progressed towards a better-educated profile.[14]

2.16 Over the decade, the increase in PMETs was driven by more productive and knowledge-intensive sectors such as *Financial & Insurance Services*, *Information & Communications*, *Health & Social Services*, and *Professional Services*. In contrast, increases were more modest in less productive sectors such as *Food & Beverage Services* and *Retail Trade*, largely reflecting the nature of work. Initiatives such as the SkillsFuture Workforce Development Grant (Job Redesign+) can support employers in these sectors to redesign jobs, improve productivity and better utilise workers' skillsets.

Chart 13 Employed residents by occupation

Per Cent



	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
PMETs	55.2	56.2	57.0	58.4	60.0	62.2	63.6	62.7	63.8	64.2	65.2
CSSWs	23.4	22.8	22.9	22.2	21.0	20.2	19.2	19.7	19.0	18.9	18.4
PTOCLs^	21.4	21.0	20.2	19.4	19.1	17.6	17.2	17.6	17.2	17.0	16.5

Source: Comprehensive Labour Force Survey, Manpower Research & Statistics Department, MOM

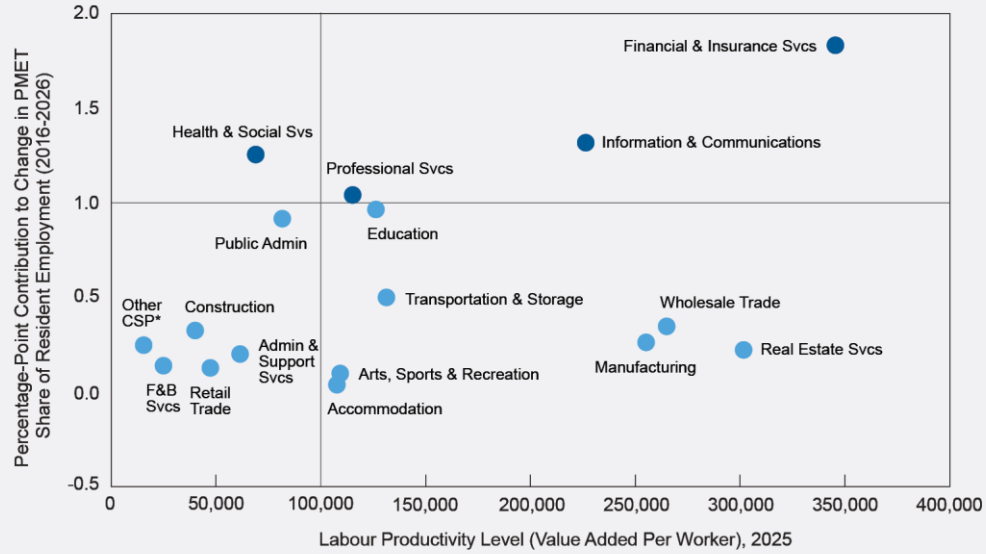
Notes: (1) Data are classified based on Singapore Standard Occupational Classification (SSOC) 2024. Data before year 2025 which were coded based on earlier versions of the SSOC were mapped to SSOC 2024 as far as possible to facilitate data comparability.

(2) ^ – Includes Agricultural & Fishery Workers and Workers Not Elsewhere Classified.

(3) Data for each year may not add up to 100% due to rounding.

[14] The proportion of the tertiary-educated among employed residents increased from 53.0% in 2016 to 65.0% in 2026.

Chart 14 Labour productivity level and percentage-point contribution to change in PMET share of resident employment by sector



Source: Contribution to Change in PMET Share of Resident Employment – Comprehensive Labour Force Survey, Manpower Research & Statistics Department, MOM
Labour Productivity Level – Singapore Department of Statistics

Notes: (1) Occupation data are classified based on Singapore Standard Occupational Classification (SSOC) 2024. Data before year 2025 which were coded based on earlier versions of the SSOC were mapped to SSOC 2024 as far as possible to facilitate data comparability.

(2) * – Refers to Other Community, Social & Personal Services.

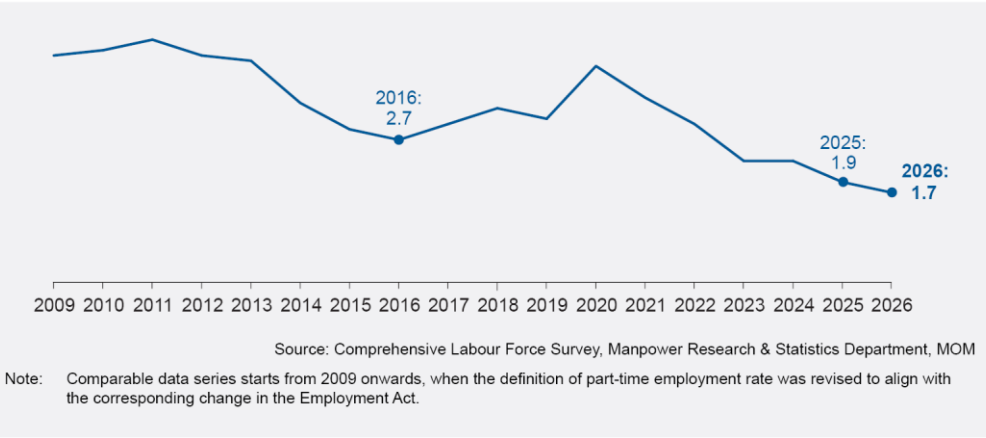
(3) Labour productivity level is based on value added per worker in chained (2015) dollars.

Time-related under-employment rate declined further

2.17 The resident time-related under-employment rate, which measures the percentage of employed residents who were working part-time and were willing and available to work longer hours, continued to decline from 1.9% in 2025 to 1.7% in 2026.

Chart 15 Resident time-related under-employment rate

Per Cent



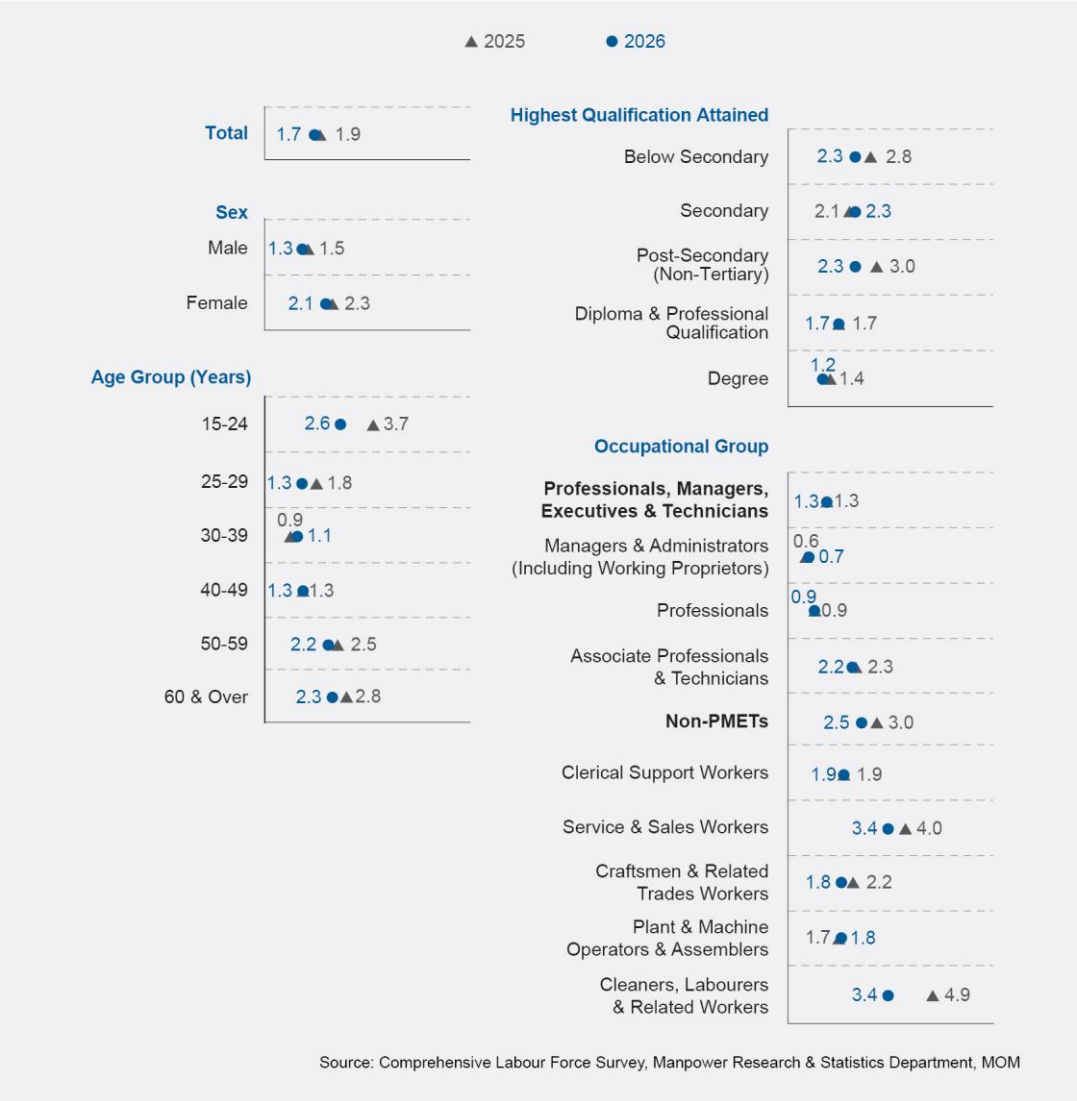
Source: Comprehensive Labour Force Survey, Manpower Research & Statistics Department, MOM

Note: Comparable data series starts from 2009 onwards, when the definition of part-time employment rate was revised to align with the corresponding change in the Employment Act.

2.18 Time-related under-employment rates either held steady or fell across most age and education groups over the year. There were more significant declines among the young, seniors, the non-tertiary educated, as well as those working as *cleaners, labourers & related workers* and *service & sales workers*.

Chart 16 Resident time-related under-employment rate by characteristics

Per Cent



Source: Comprehensive Labour Force Survey, Manpower Research & Statistics Department, MOM

Overqualification declined despite an increasingly educated workforce

2.19 Singapore's overqualification rate, which measures the proportion of the workforce whose qualification is higher than what is typically required for their job,[15] declined for the third consecutive year from 19.4% in 2025 to 18.7% in 2026. The improvement occurred even as the share of tertiary-educated employed residents continued its uptrend from 64.0% in 2025 to 65.0% in 2026.

[15] This indicator was developed by the International Labour Organisation (ILO) via an international workgroup, which included the Ministry of Manpower's Manpower Research & Statistics Department.

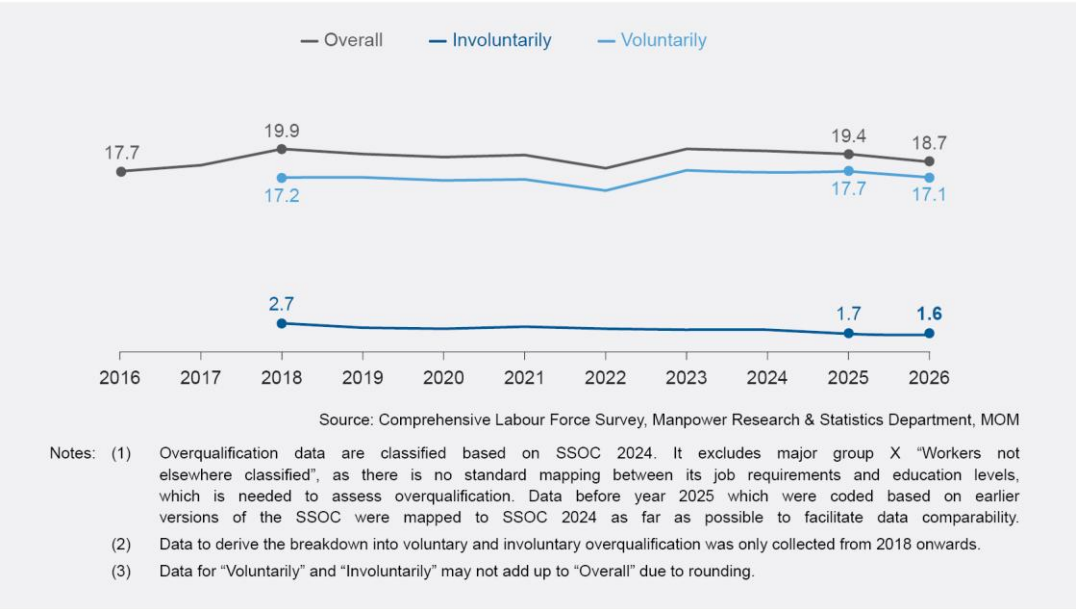
2.20 The large majority (17.1% of employed) of overqualified workers had voluntarily taken up roles below their qualification level, while involuntary [16] overqualification remained low at 1.6%, suggesting that few workers were in jobs below their qualifications because they could not find suitable alternatives.

2.21 The voluntarily and involuntarily overqualified had broadly similar profiles. More than two in five of both groups were aged below 40 (44.0% and 48.9% respectively in 2026). The majority of them were tertiary educated (80.5% and 83.6%). Around half of the tertiary educated were working as *associate professionals & technicians* (47.7% and 50.8%), reflecting younger workers taking on entry-level executive jobs to accumulate experience for higher-skilled jobs.

2.22 Singapore's overqualification rate was below the 20.4% [17] average among other high-income countries, despite its highly educated workforce.[18] This suggests that the availability of higher-skilled jobs in Singapore has broadly kept pace with its increasingly educated workforce.

Chart 17 Proportion of resident workforce who are overqualified

Per Cent



Source: Comprehensive Labour Force Survey, Manpower Research & Statistics Department, MOM

Notes: (1) Overqualification data are classified based on SSOC 2024. It excludes major group X "Workers not elsewhere classified", as there is no standard mapping between its job requirements and education levels, which is needed to assess overqualification. Data before year 2025 which were coded based on earlier versions of the SSOC were mapped to SSOC 2024 as far as possible to facilitate data comparability.

(2) Data to derive the breakdown into voluntary and involuntary overqualification was only collected from 2018 onwards.

(3) Data for "Voluntarily" and "Involuntarily" may not add up to "Overall" due to rounding.

[16] Involuntary overqualification refer to workers who may have taken on their jobs because they could not find jobs that matched their qualifications for reasons such as informational gaps in the labour market and skills deterioration, or limited job openings in certain fields. It is computed as a percentage of the employed residents.

[17] The comparison uses a set of 43 high-income countries for which comparable education data are available.

[18] High-income countries tend to have higher overqualification rates. This is attributed to the relatively higher proportion of their workforce with tertiary qualifications. 65.0% of Singapore's resident workforce had tertiary qualifications in 2026, compared with an average of 38.6% among high-income countries with comparable education data.

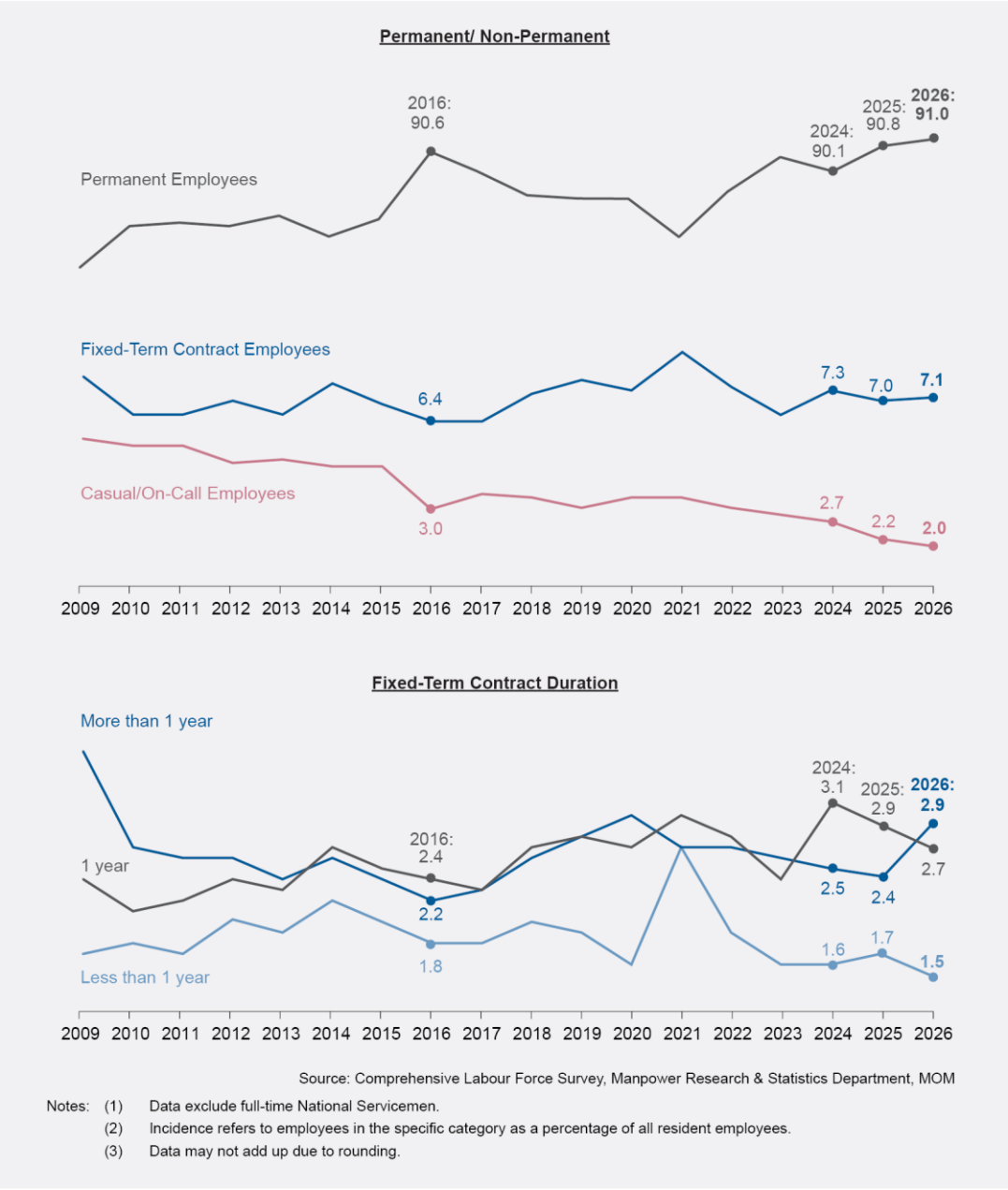
Permanent employment remained the norm among resident employees

2.23 Permanent employment remained the norm among resident employees, notwithstanding the softer manpower demand. Employees accounted for 88.2% of employed residents in 2026. Among resident employees, 91.0% held permanent jobs, edging up from the previous record high in 2025 (90.8%). The share of employees on fixed-term contracts remained stable at 7.1%, while casual/on-call employment declined further to 2.0%, continuing its longer-term downtrend.

2.24 Over the decade, there was a shift among fixed-term contract employees towards longer contracts of at least a year. Their share of resident employees rose from 4.5% in 2016 to 5.5% in 2026, alongside a general increase in the share of employees in permanent roles (from 90.6% to 91.0%).

Chart 18 Incidence of resident employees by type of employment

Per Cent



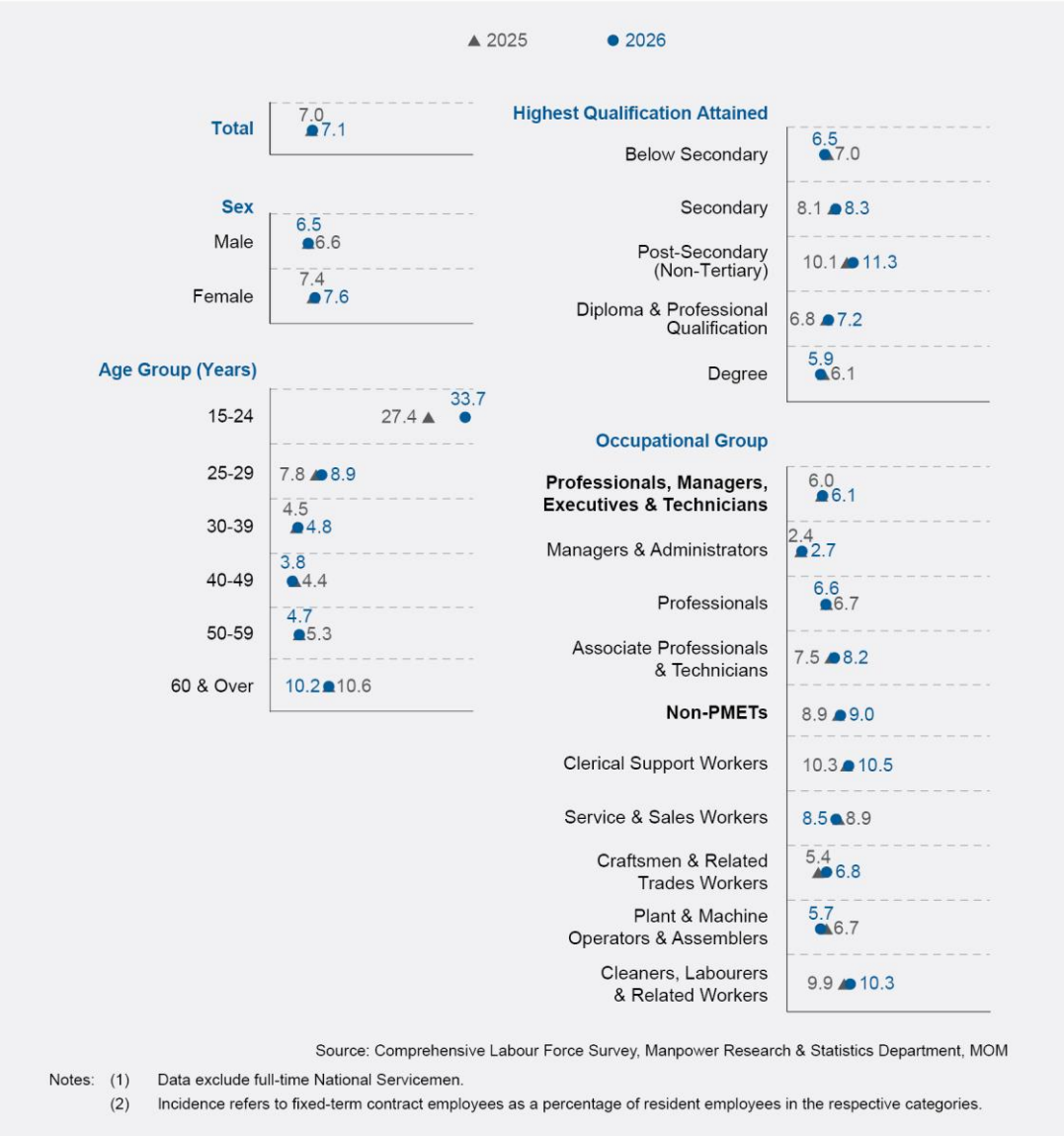
Source: Comprehensive Labour Force Survey, Manpower Research & Statistics Department, MOM

Notes: (1) Data exclude full-time National Servicemen.
(2) Incidence refers to employees in the specific category as a percentage of all resident employees.
(3) Data may not add up due to rounding.

2.25 Over the year, the share of fixed-term contract employees remained stable or declined across most age, education, and occupational groups. There was a more notable increase among younger employees aged below 30, particularly those aged 15 to 24 who were more likely to be on short-term internships or vacation jobs. Among those aged 25 to 29, the increase was driven by longer contracts of at least one year, while the share on shorter contracts declined. Nevertheless, the majority (80.4%) of younger employees aged below 30 were in permanent employment in 2026, and there is no evidence of a sustained shift towards contract employment. Fixed-term contract employment also remained stable or declined across most sectors, with larger declines seen in *Financial & Insurance Services*, *Arts, Sports & Recreation*, and *Accommodation*.

Chart 19 Incidence of resident fixed-term contract employees by characteristics

Per Cent



Source: Comprehensive Labour Force Survey, Manpower Research & Statistics Department, MOM

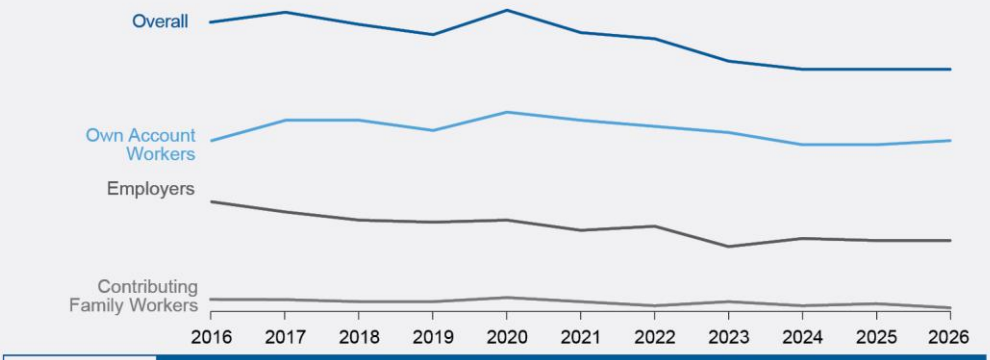
Notes: (1) Data exclude full-time National Servicemen.
(2) Incidence refers to fixed-term contract employees as a percentage of resident employees in the respective categories.

Self-employment remained broadly stable

2.26 The proportion of self-employed residents remained low at 11.8% for the third consecutive year in 2026. Among self-employed residents, about seven in ten were own account workers, and their share of the workforce has remained stable within the range of around 8% to 10% over the decade.

Chart 20 Proportion of self-employed among employed residents

Per Cent



	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Overall	14.1	14.6	14.0	13.5	14.7	13.6	13.3	12.2	11.8	11.8	11.8
Own Account Workers	8.3	9.3	9.3	8.8	9.7	9.3	9.0	8.7	8.1	8.1	8.3
Employers	5.3	4.8	4.4	4.3	4.4	3.9	4.1	3.1	3.5	3.4	3.4
Contributing Family Workers	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.6	0.4	0.2	0.4	0.2	0.3	0.1

Source: Comprehensive Labour Force Survey, Manpower Research & Statistics Department, MOM

Note: Data for "own account workers", "employers" and "contributing family workers" may not add up to the overall figure due to rounding.

Number of primary own account workers rose; nearly all preferred this form of work

2.27 Since 2016, the Labour Force Supplementary Survey has been conducted annually to collect data on residents engaged in own-account work. With its extended reference period covering the entire year, rather than just a week, the survey provides a more accurate picture of the prevalence and experiences of these workers.

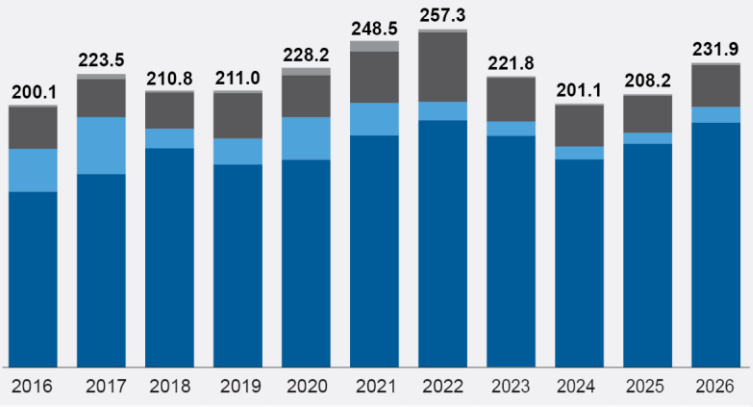
2.28 There were 231,900 residents who did own account work as a regular form of employment over the one-year period ending mid-2026. Most of them did own account work as their main job and livelihood, i.e. regular primary own account workers, with the number increasing from 179,200 in 2025 to 198,600 in 2026. This remained below the highs observed in 2021 and 2022. They made up 8.0%[19] of all employed residents in 2026.

2.29 Nearly all regular primary own account workers did such work on a preferred basis (94.0%). Similar to previous years, the reasons cited included flexibility in working hours and location (49.4%), the freedom to choose the work they want (29.2%), and greater control over their career (16.9%).

2.30 A minority engaged in own account work on the side (secondary own account workers), which rose slightly from 29,000 in 2025 to 33,300 in 2026. Apart from flexibility (42.2%) and freedom in choice of work (25.2%), 26.8% were in own account work to make use of their spare time to earn income, 21.2% were pursuing their passion or interest, and 20.7% wanted to spend more time with their family. This suggests that they are using it to complement their main job and lifestyle.

Chart 21 Resident regular own account workers

Number ('000)



	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Primary	**166.8**	**190.9**	**182.1**	**174.8**	**190.9**	**201.8**	**202.7**	**187.8**	**169.0**	**179.2**	**198.6**
Preferred	134.6	147.9	167.3	155.1	158.9	177.7	188.6	176.8	159.0	171.0	186.7
Non-Preferred	32.2	43.0	14.8	19.6	32.0	24.1	14.0	11.0	9.9	8.1	11.9
Secondary	**33.3**	**32.6**	**28.7**	**36.3**	**37.3**	**46.8**	**54.6**	**34.0**	**32.1**	**29.0**	**33.3**
Preferred	31.8	28.9	27.4	34.4	31.9	38.8	52.6	33.0	31.0	28.1	31.9
Non-Preferred	s	3.7	s	s	5.4	8.0	s	s	s	s	s

Source: Supplementary Survey on Own Account Workers, Manpower Research & Statistics Department, MOM

Notes: (1) Data refer to residents in own account work as a regular form of employment for the 12-month period ending the middle of the year.
(2) "s": Data suppressed due to small number covered.
(3) Data may not add up due to rounding.

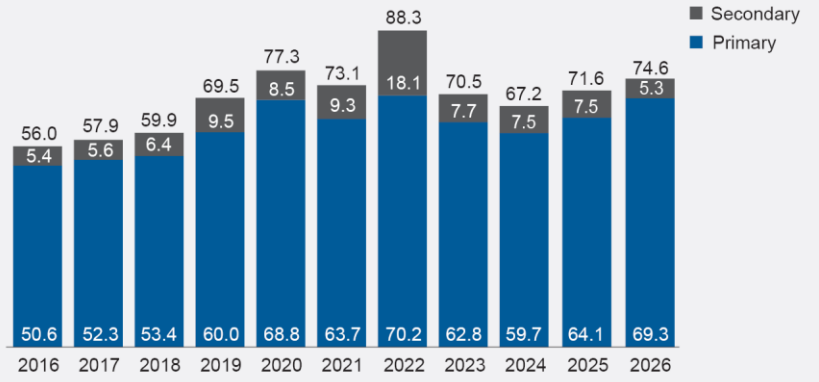
[19] The estimate is derived based on the number of regular primary own account workers, as a proportion of total resident employment (average over 12 months ending the middle of the year).

Number of platform workers grew but remained comparable to pre-pandemic level

2.31 Own account work encompasses a broad range of occupations. Among the 231,900 regular own account workers, about one in three (74,600) were platform workers,[20] up from 71,600 in 2025. This increase was driven by *private-hire car drivers* (from 36,000 to 38,100) and *delivery workers* (from 14,700 to 16,100), reflecting stronger demand for ride-hailing and delivery services, while the number of *taxi drivers* (21,000) declined gradually over the longer term. Despite the slight uptick, the prevalence of platform work (3.0% of employed residents) was similar to previous years.

Chart 22 Resident regular platform workers

Number ('000)



Source: Supplementary Survey on Own Account Workers, Manpower Research & Statistics Department, MOM

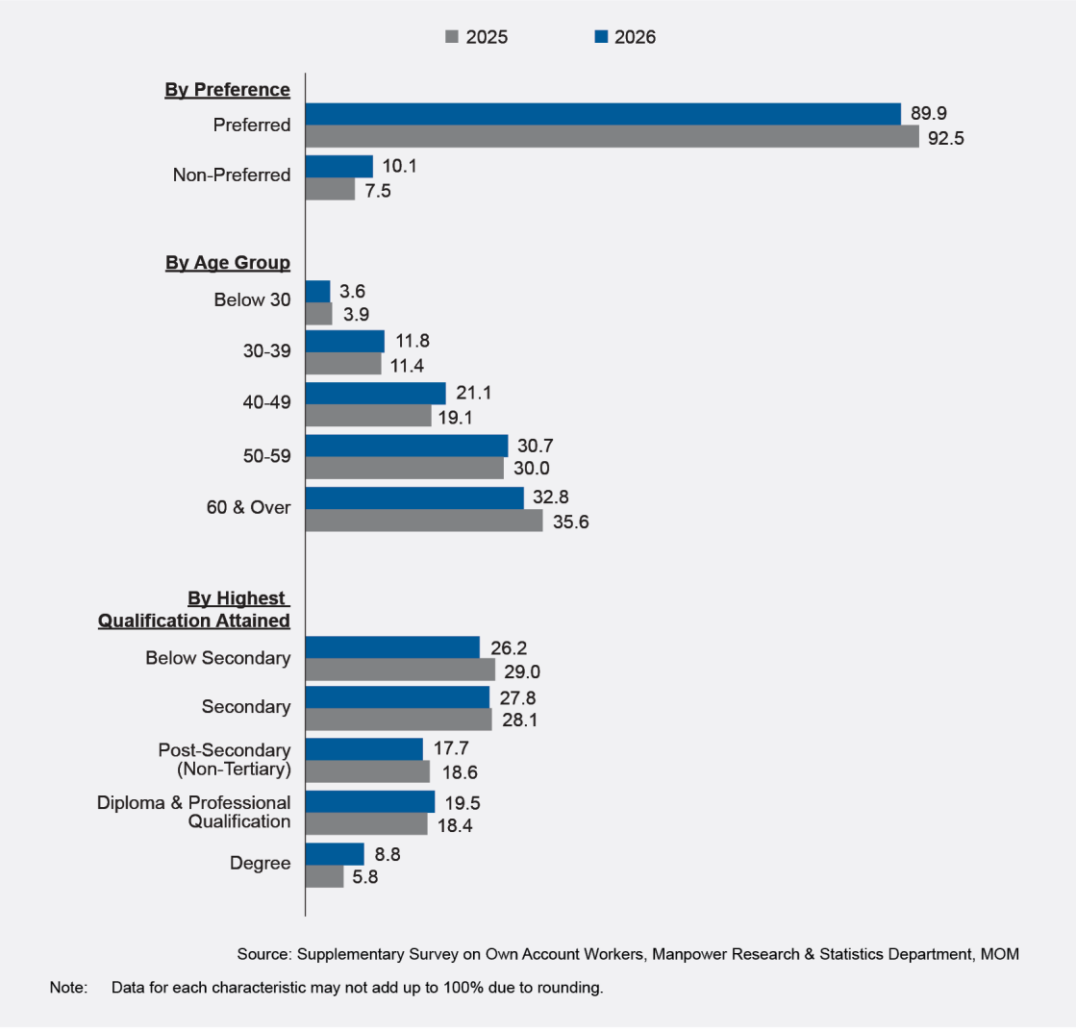
Notes: (1) Data are based on all regular platform workers (preferred and non-preferred).
(2) Data may not add up due to rounding.

[20] Platform workers are own account workers who have an agreement with a platform operator to provide ride-hail or delivery services to users for the platform operator and from this, derive payment or benefits in kind. Their work arrangement with platforms could resemble those of employees, as they are subject to the control of platform operators, for example, on work assignments and payment rate. Such jobs include private-hire car drivers, taxi drivers and delivery workers.
Platform operators are companies that enter into agreements with users to provide ride-hail or delivery services, utilise data to automate decisions affecting platform workers (such as task assignment and remuneration per task), and impose rules, requirements or prohibitions on these workers.

2.32 The vast majority (89.9%) of primary platform workers did such work on a preferred basis. Seniors in their 50s or aged 60 years and over, as well as the non-tertiary educated, continued to form the majority of these platform workers. The flexibility and accessibility offered by platform work may continue to attract older workers transitioning into retirement or seeking alternative income sources in later career stages. The enactment of the Platform Workers Act [21] in 2025 has since provided better protection and working conditions for platform workers, which strengthens safeguards for those undertaking this work.

Chart 23 Resident regular primary platform workers

Per Cent



Source: Supplementary Survey on Own Account Workers, Manpower Research & Statistics Department, MOM

Note: Data for each characteristic may not add up to 100% due to rounding.

[21] The Platform Workers Act aims to address key challenges faced by platform workers and strengthen protection for them in three main areas: (1) financial compensation for work-related injuries, (2) housing and retirement adequacy through mandatory Central Provident Fund (CPF) contributions and (3) a legal framework for representation.

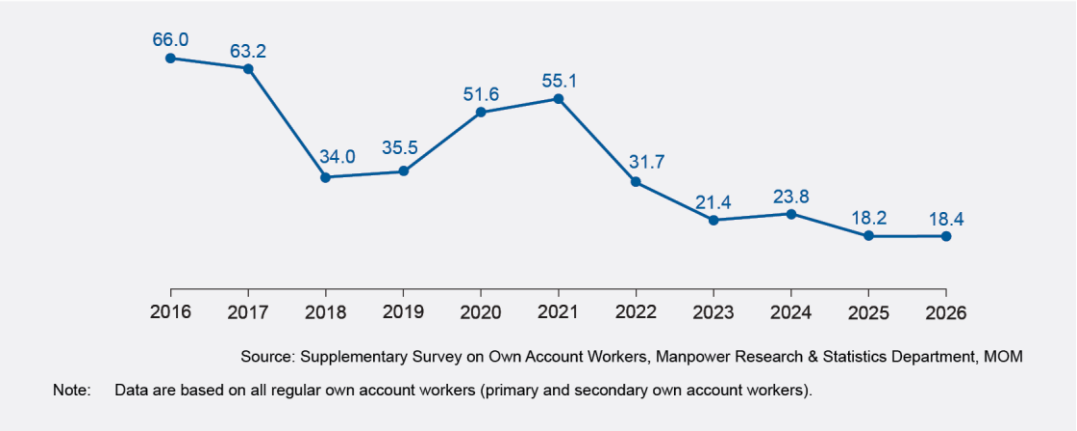
Share of own account workers who faced challenges declined over the longer term

2.33 Aside from increases during the pandemic years, the proportion of regular own account workers who faced challenges has declined over the longer term, and was broadly stable at 18.4% in 2026 (18.2% in 2025). Uncertainty about finding sufficient work and insufficient work remained the most common challenges. The overall decline reflects continuing collective efforts from the government and tripartite partners in addressing key issues faced, such as concerns regarding healthcare, retirement, and income loss in the event of work injury.

2.34 Nonetheless among platform workers, the proportion who faced challenges increased from 14.8% in 2025 to 17.7% in 2026. More platform workers reported difficulties due to uncertainty in finding sufficient work, a lack of sufficient work, and higher business expenses, such as higher petroleum costs due to supply shortages. Despite this uptick, the share of platform workers who faced challenges has declined significantly over the longer term (from 37.1% in 2019).

Chart 24 Resident regular own account workers who faced challenges with own account work

Per Cent

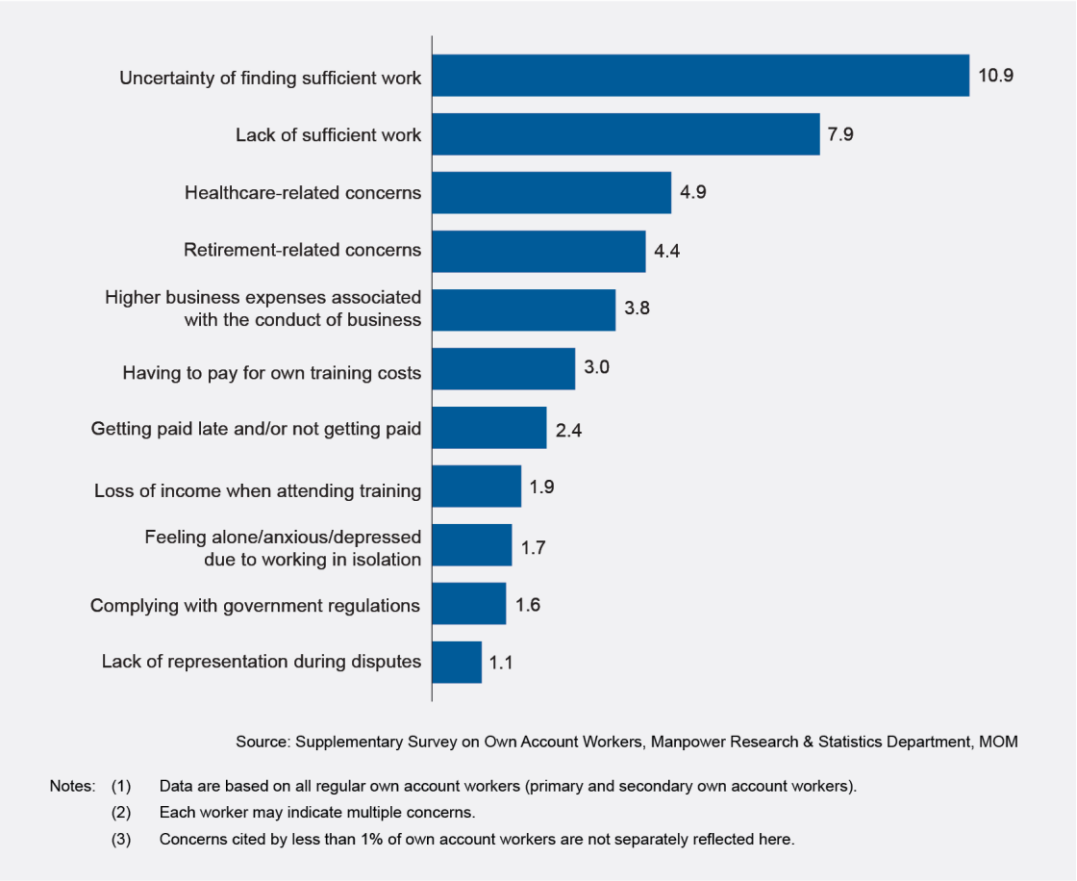


Source: Supplementary Survey on Own Account Workers, Manpower Research & Statistics Department, MOM

Note: Data are based on all regular own account workers (primary and secondary own account workers).

Chart 25 Challenges faced by resident regular own account workers, 2026

Per Cent



Source: Supplementary Survey on Own Account Workers, Manpower Research & Statistics Department, MOM

Notes: (1) Data are based on all regular own account workers (primary and secondary own account workers).
(2) Each worker may indicate multiple concerns.
(3) Concerns cited by less than 1% of own account workers are not separately reflected here.

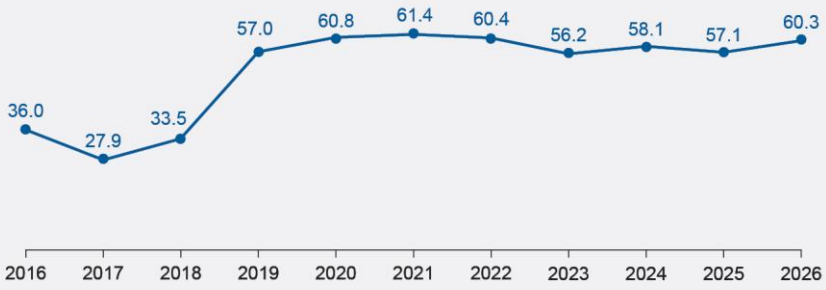
Online channels remained widely used among own account workers to advertise or obtain business

2.35 Regular primary own account workers continued to use digital tools widely amid digital transformation amongst businesses. 60.3% had used online channels to advertise or obtain business in 2026, including 38.5% who took up work through online matching platforms such as those that intermediate the provision of ride-hailing or delivery services.[22] The proportion has remained relatively stable at around 60% in recent years.

[22] In this report, online matching platforms refer to labour sharing platforms that serve as intermediaries to match or connect buyers with workers who take up piecemeal or assignment-based work. Such platforms could be either websites or mobile applications, covering services such as ride-hailing, goods/food delivery, creative work, etc. At present, there is no globally standardised statistical definition for digital platform employment. Singapore is collaborating with the ILO to develop internationally agreed statistical definitions on digital platform employment.

Chart 26 Usage of online channels for resident regular primary own account workers

Per Cent

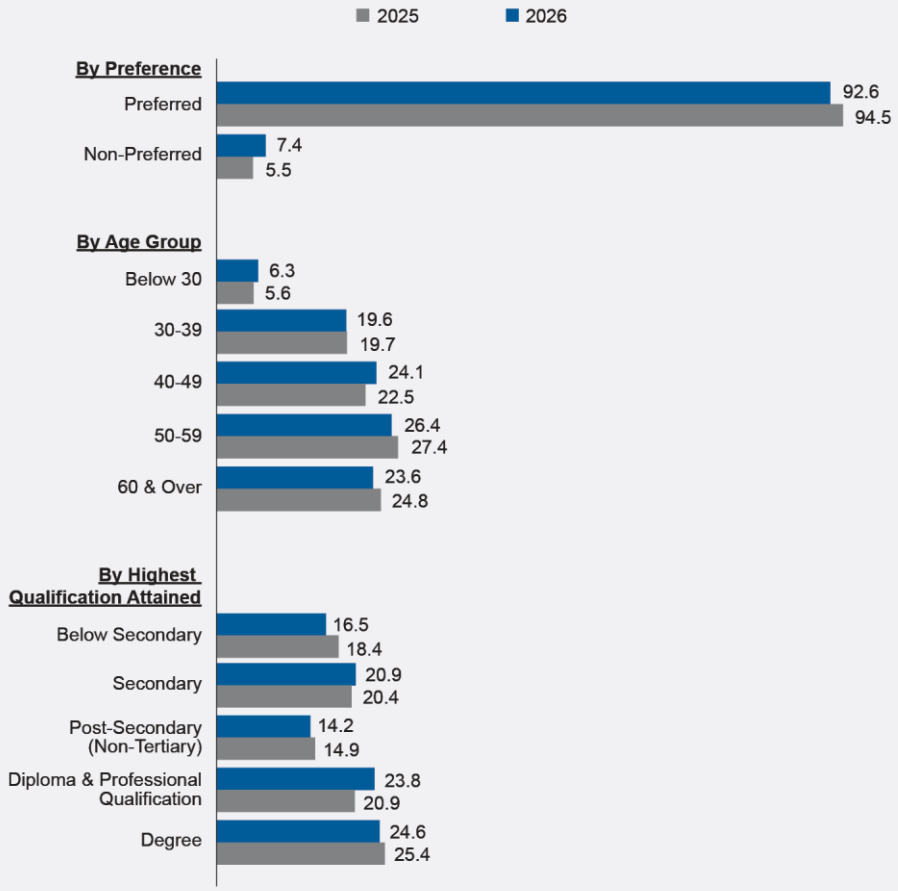


Source: Supplementary Survey on Own Account Workers, Manpower Research & Statistics Department, MOM

2.36 Reflecting the broader profile of own account workers, those using online channels to advertise or obtain business were mainly aged 50 and over (50 to 59 years: 26.4%; 60 years and over: 23.6%), and the non-tertiary educated (51.6%).

Chart 27 Resident regular primary own account workers who used online channels

Per Cent



Source: Supplementary Survey on Own Account Workers, Manpower Research & Statistics Department, MOM

Note: Data for each characteristic may not add up to 100% due to rounding.

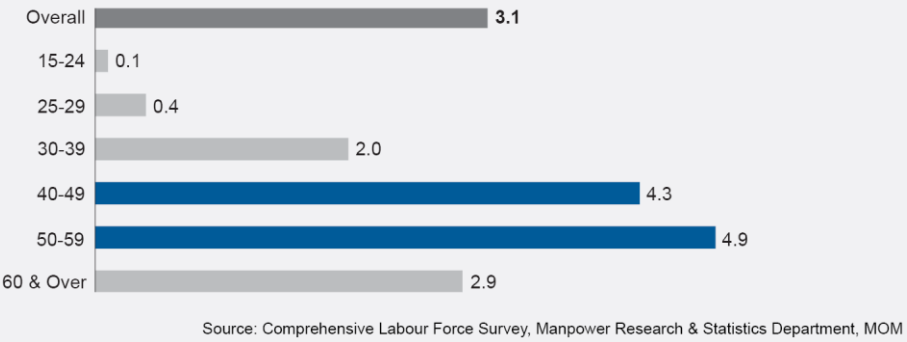
Overseas work experience was more common among mid-career workers and managers

2.37 3.1% or 75,900 residents in the labour force had ever relocated from Singapore to another country for a full-time work stint of at least six months, similar to the numbers a year ago. Most residents with overseas work experience had either taken up opportunities offered by their Singapore-based employer (53.6%) or had secured jobs with overseas-based organisations without a presence in Singapore (25.5%) for their latest overseas work stint.

2.38 Overseas work experience was most prevalent among residents in their 40s (4.3%) and 50s (4.9%), as firms typically consider staff with some years of experience for overseas posting opportunities. The recent removal of the requirement for employees to have graduated at least two years earlier to qualify for SWDA's Overseas Markets Immersion Programme (OMIP) could enable more workers to gain international exposure earlier in their careers, better preparing them for future leadership roles.

Chart 28 Proportion of resident labour force with overseas work experience by age, 2026

Per Cent



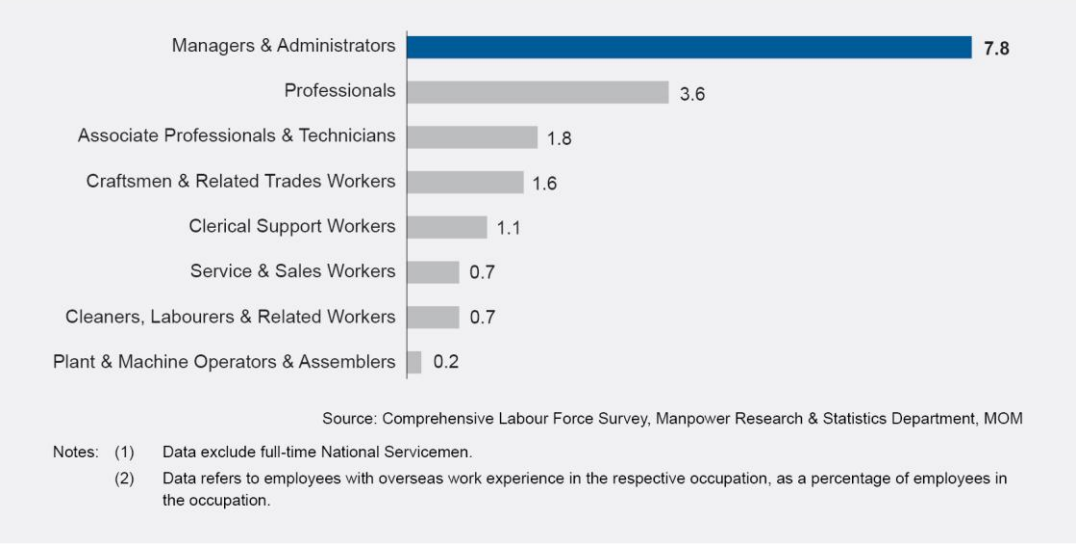
Source: Comprehensive Labour Force Survey, Manpower Research & Statistics Department, MOM

Note: Data refers to labour force with overseas work experience in the respective age group, as a percentage of the labour force in the age group.

2.39 Overseas work experience was most common among *managers* (7.8%), particularly *managing directors, chief executives & general managers* (13.3%). International exposure and perspectives are especially valuable in these leadership roles, where the ability to navigate global markets and manage cross-border operations is increasingly important and commonly sought out by multinational enterprises.

Chart 29 Proportion of resident employees with overseas work experience by current occupation, 2026

Per Cent



Source: Comprehensive Labour Force Survey, Manpower Research & Statistics Department, MOM

Notes: (1) Data exclude full-time National Servicemen.

(2) Data refers to employees with overseas work experience in the respective occupation, as a percentage of employees in the occupation.

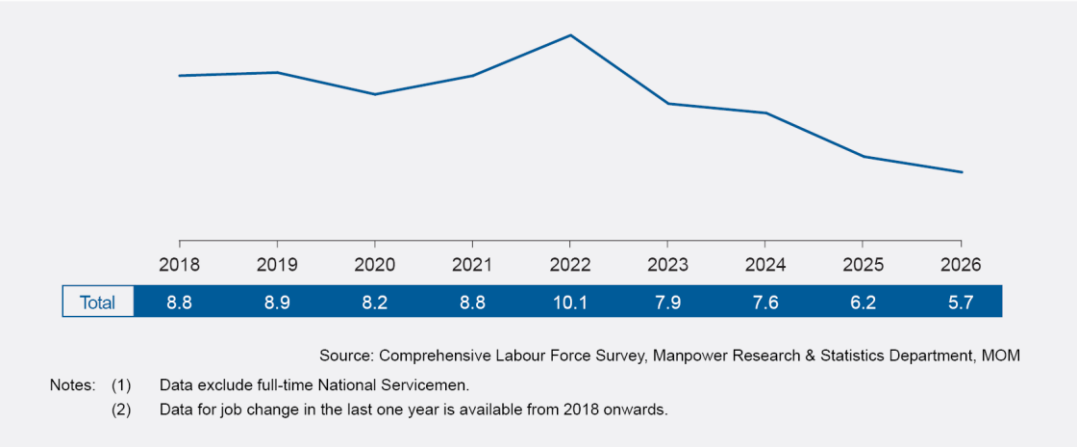
3. Job Mobility

Fewer workers changed jobs

3.1 Fewer residents changed jobs in 2026 amid lower turnover and softer hiring,[23] indicating that more workers are staying on with their existing employers. The proportion of employed residents who changed jobs in the past year fell to 5.7% in 2026, extending the gradual downtrend from its peak in 2022. This was also below the pre-COVID average of 8.9% from 2018 to 2019.

Chart 30 Proportion of employed residents who had changed jobs in the last one year

Per Cent



Source: Comprehensive Labour Force Survey, Manpower Research & Statistics Department, MOM

Notes: (1) Data exclude full-time National Servicemen.
(2) Data for job change in the last one year is available from 2018 onwards.

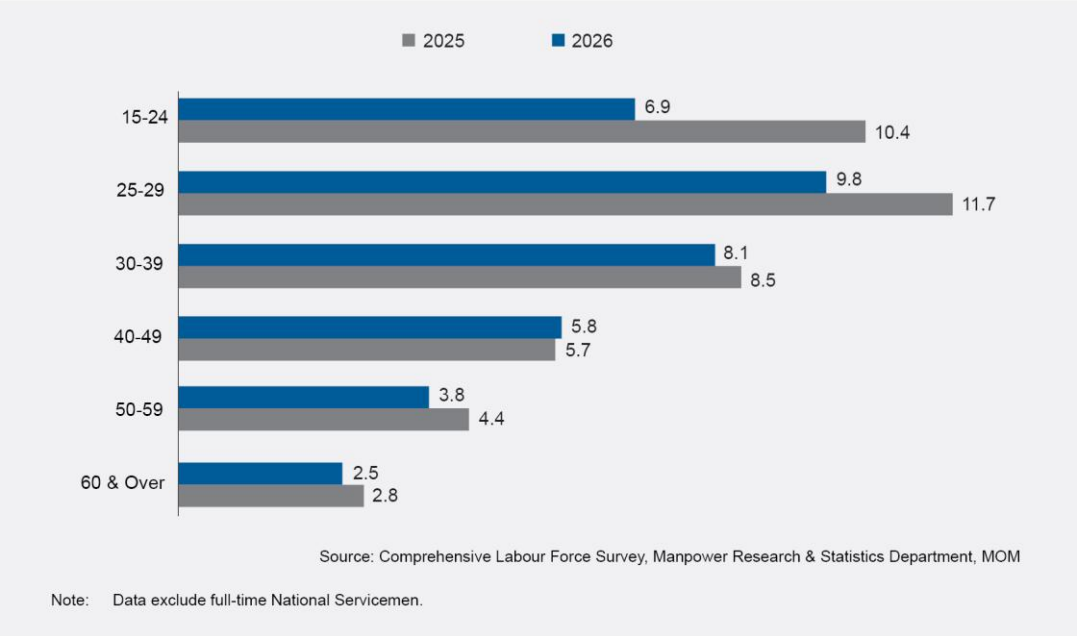
[23] From 2Q 2025 to 2Q 2026, the average monthly recruitment rate eased from 1.6% to 1.4%, while the average monthly resignation rate declined from 1.2% to 1.0%. Job vacancies fell from 76,200 in June 2025 to 68,600 in June 2026. Source: Labour Market Survey, Manpower Research & Statistics Department, MOM

3.2 The decline in job switching was most pronounced among younger residents aged below 30, particularly those aged 15 to 24. Among younger job stayers, job stability was the most common reason for staying, with the share rising over the year. In contrast, younger job switchers commonly took up their current jobs to better utilise their skills or find more interesting or meaningful work in 2026.

3.3 Job switching remained the lowest among older workers aged 50 and over, and this percentage eased further in 2026. Around half of older job stayers had been in their current jobs for at least ten years (aged 50 to 59: 51.9%; aged 60 and over: 47.8%). As job requirements evolve amid continued business transformation, it remains important to support senior workers in keeping their skills relevant and adapting to changing work demands.

Chart 31 Proportion of employed residents who had changed jobs in the last one year by age

Per Cent



Source: Comprehensive Labour Force Survey, Manpower Research & Statistics Department, MOM

Note: Data exclude full-time National Servicemen.

3.4 Job switching eased across most sectors, including *Professional Services* and *Financial & Insurance Services*. *Information & Communications* was an exception, increasing from 8.1% in 2025 to 8.7% in 2026, but remained below the level in 2024 (9.4%). These growth sectors continued to register above-average job switching rates. The declines in *Professional Services* and *Financial & Insurance Services* may partly reflect softer hiring and business restructuring. In contrast, the increase in *Information & Communications* suggests ongoing workforce reallocation efforts[24] and changing skill needs as firms adapt to technological developments.

[24] Between 2Q 2025 and 2Q 2026, the incidence of retrenchment rose the most in *Information & Communications* (from 4.0 to 6.3 retrenched per 1,000 employees) across sectors, due largely to business reorganisation or restructuring. Increases were smaller in *Professional Services* (from 2.2 to 3.0) and *Financial & Insurance Services* (from 3.1 to 4.6).

Chart 32 Proportion of employed residents who had changed jobs in the last one year by current industry

Per Cent



Source: Comprehensive Labour Force Survey, Manpower Research & Statistics Department, MOM

Notes: (1) Data exclude full-time National Servicemen.

(2) Data are classified based on Singapore Standard Industrial Classification (SSIC) 2025. Data before year 2026 which were coded based on earlier versions of the SSIC were mapped to SSIC 2025 as far as possible to facilitate data comparability.

Most job switchers experienced real income gains

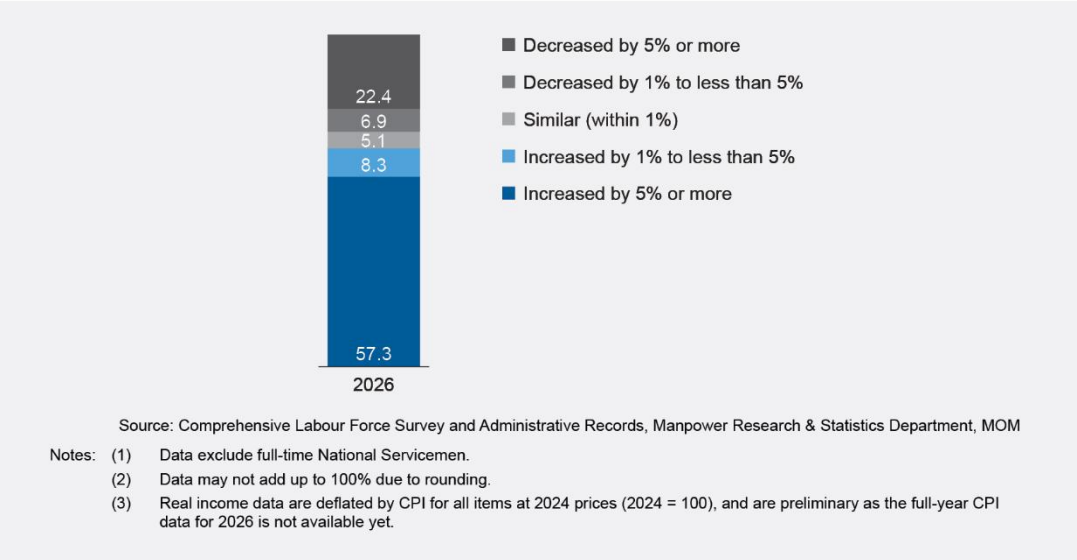
3.5 Job switchers generally saw positive wage outcomes. Close to seven in ten (65.6%) full-time resident employees aged 25 to 64 years who changed jobs in the past year experienced real income increases in 2026, and most of these gains were at least 5%.[25]

3.6 Job switchers also commonly moved across industries or occupations. Among full-time resident employees aged 25 to 64 who changed jobs in the past year in 2026, 60.5% changed industries, typically remaining in or moving into industries with above-average productivity, such as *Financial & Insurance Services*, *Wholesale Trade*, *Information & Communications*, and *Professional Services*.

3.7 41.5% of job switchers changed occupation groups, commonly between PMET roles, while most who remained in the same occupation were also in PMET-related jobs. Taken together with the positive income outcomes, these cross-sector and cross-occupation transitions show how transferable skills and experience can help workers to navigate labour market changes and access opportunities across the economy.

Chart 33 Real income outcomes of full-time resident employees aged 25 to 64 years who changed jobs in the last one year, 2026

Per Cent



Source: Comprehensive Labour Force Survey and Administrative Records, Manpower Research & Statistics Department, MOM

Notes: (1) Data exclude full-time National Servicemen.
(2) Data may not add up to 100% due to rounding.
(3) Real income data are deflated by CPI for all items at 2024 prices (2024 = 100), and are preliminary as the full-year CPI data for 2026 is not available yet.

[25] In comparison, real income gains were less common among job stayers. Among full-time resident employees aged 25 to 64 years who remained in the same job over the past year, around six in ten (59.3%) experienced a real income increase of at least 1% in 2026.

BOX ARTICLE: LONGER-TERM INCOMES FOLLOWING JOB CHANGE

INTRODUCTION

Job mobility refers to workers moving from one job to another, whether voluntarily or involuntarily. Changing jobs can provide opportunities for a better match to their skills, experience and aspirations and improve career trajectory. Income outcomes may differ depending on the nature and circumstances of the job change.

This article examines the income outcomes[1] of full-time resident employees aged 25 to 59[2] who had changed jobs in the past year, as well as their income progression following the job change.

Overall, job switchers were more likely than job stayers to experience real income gains, particularly over the longer term. While involuntary job switches were associated with weaker initial income outcomes than voluntary job switches, most subsequently experienced real income growth, including those who initially suffered a cut in wages. Notwithstanding this, involuntary job switchers remained less likely than voluntary job switchers to earn more than before their job change.

FINDINGS

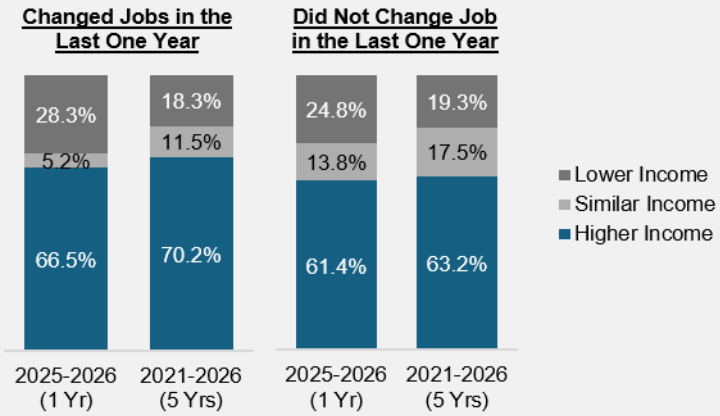
Job switchers were more likely to experience real income gains than job stayers, particularly over the longer term

Job switchers generally saw positive income outcomes. Among full-time resident employees aged 25 to 59, 66.5% of those who changed jobs in the past year saw real income gains from 2025 to 2026, compared with 61.4% of those who did not change jobs. This difference widened when incomes were tracked over a longer five-year period, from 2021 to 2026, based on an older cohort of workers (70.2% and 63.2% respectively).

[1] Income outcomes are based on real income changes at the 1% threshold.

[2] The analysis focuses on full-time resident employees aged 25 to 59 in the initial reference year to facilitate the tracking of income outcomes over subsequent years.

Chart A1 Real income outcomes of full-time resident employees aged 25 to 59 by whether they had changed jobs in the last year

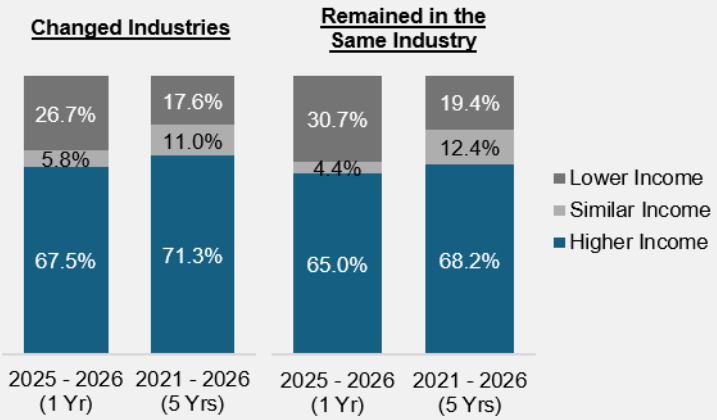


Source: Comprehensive Labour Force Survey and Administrative Records, Manpower Research & Statistics Department, MOM

Notes: (1) Data exclude full-time National Servicemen.
(2) Income outcomes are based on real income changes at the 1% threshold. Those whose income "increased" experienced real income growth of at least 1% per annum (p.a.). Those whose income "decreased" experienced real income declines of at least 1% p.a. Those whose income is similar over the period of comparison experience real income growth of greater than -1% p.a. to less than 1% p.a.
(3) Real income data are deflated by CPI for all items at 2024 prices (2024 = 100). Real income change data involving year 2026 are preliminary, as the full-year CPI data for 2026 is not available yet.
(4) Distribution data for each period may not add up to 100% due to rounding.

Among those who changed jobs, the share who saw real income increase within the year of job change was broadly similar between industry switchers and stayers (67.5% and 65.0% respectively). Over a longer period of five years, the share among industry switchers (71.3%) was slightly larger than those who remained in the same industry (68.2%).

Chart A2 Real income outcomes of full-time resident employees aged 25 to 59 who had changed jobs in the last year by whether they had changed industries



Source: Comprehensive Labour Force Survey and Administrative Records, Manpower Research & Statistics Department, MOM

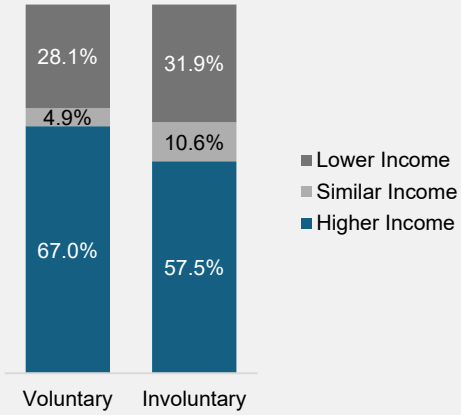
Notes: (1) Data exclude full-time National Servicemen.
(2) Income outcomes are based on real income changes at the 1% threshold. Those whose income "increased" experienced real income growth of at least 1% per annum (p.a.). Those whose income "decreased" experienced real income declines of at least 1% p.a. Those whose income is similar over the period of comparison experience real income growth of greater than -1% p.a. to less than 1% p.a.
(3) Real income data are deflated by CPI for all items at 2024 prices (2024 = 100). Real income change data involving year 2026 are preliminary, as the full-year CPI data for 2026 is not available yet.
(4) Distribution data for each period may not add up to 100% due to rounding.

Nearly all job switches were voluntary, though involuntary job switchers initially had weaker income outcomes

More than nine in ten (94.4%) job switches over the past year were voluntary rather than due to retrenchments.

Income outcomes differed by the circumstances of the job change. While over half (57.5%) of involuntary job switchers experienced higher real income in their new job relative to their pre-retrenchment wage, this was lower than the corresponding share among voluntary job switchers (67.0%). This suggests that some displaced workers may face difficulty finding employment that matched their skills and experience.

Chart A3 Real income outcomes of full-time resident employees aged 25 to 59 who had changed jobs in the last year by whether the job change was voluntary, 2026



Source: Comprehensive Labour Force Survey and Administrative Records, Manpower Research & Statistics Department, MOM

Notes: (1) Data exclude full-time National Servicemen.
(2) Income outcomes are based on real income changes at the 1% threshold. Those whose income "increased" experienced real income growth of at least 1% per annum (p.a.). Those whose income "decreased" experienced real income declines of at least 1% p.a. Those whose income is similar over the period of comparison experience real income growth of greater than -1% p.a. to less than 1% p.a.
(3) Real income data are deflated by CPI for all items at 2024 prices (2024 = 100). Real income change data involving year 2026 are preliminary, as the full-year CPI data for 2026 is not available yet.
(4) Voluntary job switches refer to workers who left their last job for reasons other than retrenchments, while involuntary job switches refer to workers who left their last job due to retrenchments.
(5) Distribution data for each category may not add up to 100% due to rounding.

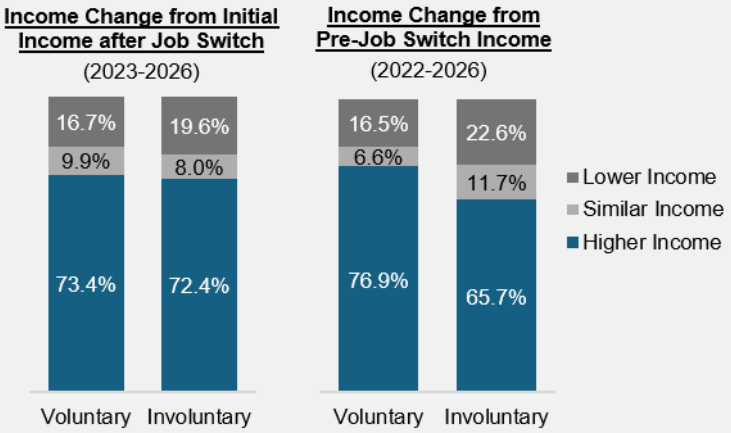
Income outcomes improved over time, although involuntary job switchers were less likely to surpass their pre-switch earnings

Beyond the initial job change, both voluntary and involuntary job switchers subsequently experienced real income growth within their new jobs. Among workers who changed jobs in 2023, 72.4% of involuntary job switchers experienced real income growth in their new jobs between 2023 and 2026, comparable to 73.4% among voluntary job switchers.

However, even with a longer runway, those who switched job involuntarily in 2023 were less likely than voluntary job switchers to surpass their pre-change earnings. By 2026, 65.7% of involuntary job switchers had real incomes above their pre-job change levels, compared with 76.9% among voluntary job switchers.

Taken together, this suggests that while incomes generally grew in real terms after re-entry into employment, subsequent gains may not fully offset the initial earnings loss for some displaced workers.

Chart A4 Real income outcomes of full-time resident employees aged 25 to 59 who had changed jobs in the last year



Source: Comprehensive Labour Force Survey and Administrative Records, Manpower Research & Statistics Department, MOM

Notes: (1) Data exclude full-time National Servicemen.
(2) Income outcomes are based on real income changes at the 1% threshold. Those whose income "increased" experienced real income growth of at least 1% per annum (p.a.). Those whose income "decreased" experienced real income declines of at least 1% p.a. Those whose income is similar over the period of comparison experience real income growth of greater than -1% p.a. to less than 1% p.a.
(3) Real income data are deflated by CPI for all items at 2024 prices (2024 = 100). Real income change data involving year 2026 are preliminary, as the full-year CPI data for 2026 is not available yet.
(4) Voluntary job switches refer to workers who left their last job for reasons other than retrenchments, while involuntary job switches refer to workers who left their last job due to retrenchments.
(5) Distribution data for each category may not add up to 100% due to rounding.

CONCLUSION

Overall, job switchers generally saw positive income outcomes, and were more likely than job stayers to experience real income gains, both in the near and longer term.

While involuntary job switchers initially had weaker income outcomes than voluntary job switchers, both groups had equal likelihood of experiencing real income growth within their new job after job change. Nonetheless, some displaced workers saw real incomes below their pre-switch earnings three years post displacement. Supporting displaced workers in securing jobs that make good use of their skills and experience can help improve their longer-term income progression.

4. Usual Hours Worked

Average usual hours worked remained stable amid a longer-term decline

4.1 On average, employed residents usually worked 41.5 hours a week in 2026, broadly stable compared to 41.4 in 2025. The average usual hours worked by full-time employed residents, who form a large majority of the workforce, was unchanged over the year (43.8). There was a slight rise in usual hours worked (from 20.3 to 21.1) among part-time workers, back to the level seen in 2024. This increase was seen across most sectors, including *Food & Beverage Services*, *Education*, and *Administrative & Support Services,* where part-time work is more common. The variation in part-time hours may reflect the greater flexibility typically associated with this form of employment,[26] which enables businesses and workers to scale up or down their typical working hours more easily.

4.2 Singapore's work hours remained on a broad downtrend over the longer term, in line with trends observed in other developed countries.[27] Contributing factors include the shift towards a more regular workweek, [28] fewer workers working excessive hours,[29] the growing share of workers in full-time PMET jobs (where average usual working hours are shorter than in full-time non-PMET roles), and improved efficiency through training, technology, and flexible work arrangements.[30]

[26] Among part-time resident employees, the top reasons for taking up their job were flexibility in work schedule (32.9%) and preferred working hours (28.2%). Similarly, among the self-employed, part-timers most commonly took up self-employment due to the flexibility in working hours, location etc. (59.7%).

[27] Based on latest available statistics, the average usual weekly hours worked on the main job have declined over the longer term among OECD countries, from 42.4 in 2015 to 41.1 in 2025 among full-time workers and from 17.0 to 16.8 among part-timers. Source: OECD Data Explorer. Note: OECD's data reflect the usual weekly hours worked in the main job only, whereas Singapore's data covers the usual weekly hours worked across all jobs.

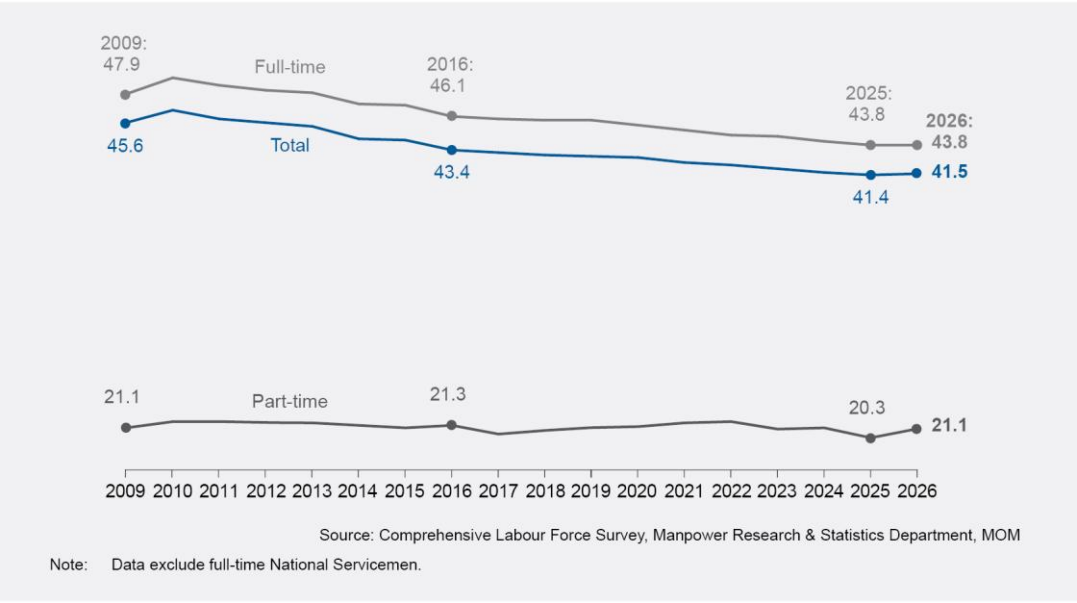
[28] The proportion of full-time employees who worked a five-day workweek increased from 44.3% in 2008 to 60.8% in 2024. Source: Conditions of Employment Survey, Manpower Research & Statistics Department, MOM.

[29] The proportion of full-time employed residents who usually worked more than 48 hours a week declined to 14.9% in 2026, from 15.5% in 2025 and 25.2% in 2016. The decrease over the year was observed across most sectors and occupations.

[30] The proportion of firms offering at least one type of scheduled FWA increased in 2025 (66.4%, from 46.5% in 2015). The most common FWAs offered were scheduled tele-working, flexi-hours, and part-time work. Source: Supplementary Survey on Flexible Work Arrangements, Manpower Research & Statistics Department, MOM.

Chart 34 Average (mean) usual hours worked per week of employed residents by nature of employment

Hours Per Week



Source: Comprehensive Labour Force Survey, Manpower Research & Statistics Department, MOM

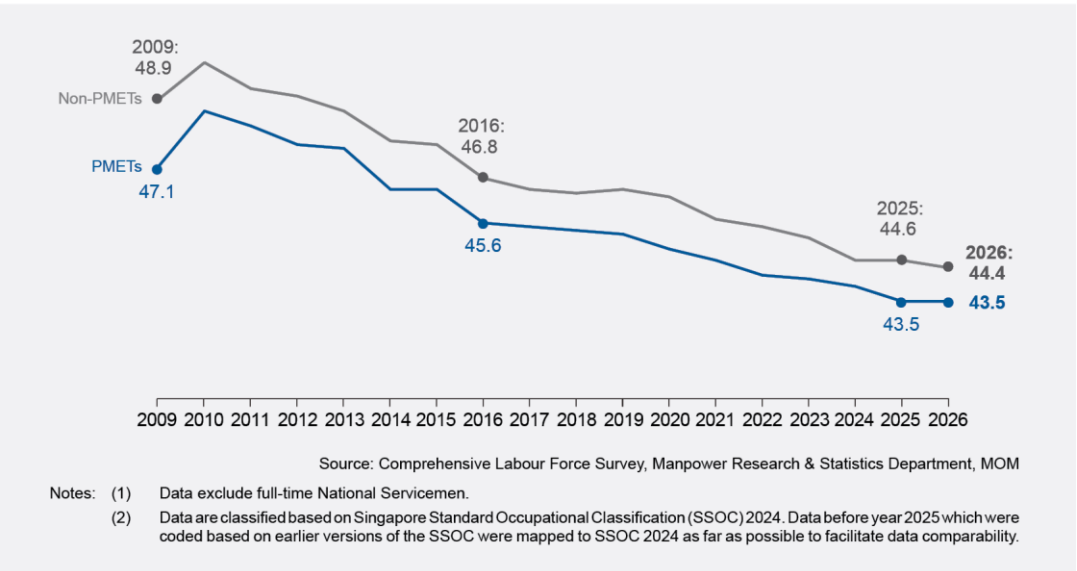
Note: Data exclude full-time National Servicemen.

Work hours declined over the decade for both full-time PMETs and non-PMETs

4.3 Over the decade, the average weekly usual hours worked among full-timers have declined for both PMETs (from 45.6 hours in 2016 to 43.5 hours in 2026) and non-PMETs (from 46.8 hours to 44.4 hours). The decline was broad-based across occupational groups and sectors. Notwithstanding the decline, full-time non-PMETs consistently worked more hours than PMETs, which may reflect differences in job responsibilities and work demands.

Chart 35 Average (mean) usual hours worked per week of full-time employed residents by occupation

Hours Per Week



Source: Comprehensive Labour Force Survey, Manpower Research & Statistics Department, MOM

Notes: (1) Data exclude full-time National Servicemen.

(2) Data are classified based on Singapore Standard Occupational Classification (SSOC) 2024. Data before year 2025 which were coded based on earlier versions of the SSOC were mapped to SSOC 2024 as far as possible to facilitate data comparability.

5. Income

Real incomes continued to rise, but at a slower pace

5.1 Incomes[31] continued to grow in 2026, although growth moderated in both nominal and real terms. The nominal median (P50) gross monthly income of full-time employed residents grew from $5,775 in 2025 to $6,021 in 2026. This translated to a growth of 4.3% over the year, easing from the 5.0% growth in 2025. At the 20th percentile (P20), nominal income grew by 3.4% from $3,164 to $3,270, slower than the increase of 4.6% in the previous year. The moderation partly reflected more cautious wage increases by firms.

5.2 Despite the higher inflation in 2026,[32] real[33] incomes continued to rise at the median (2.2%) and P20 (1.3%), slower than the respective increases of 4.1% and 3.6% in 2025.

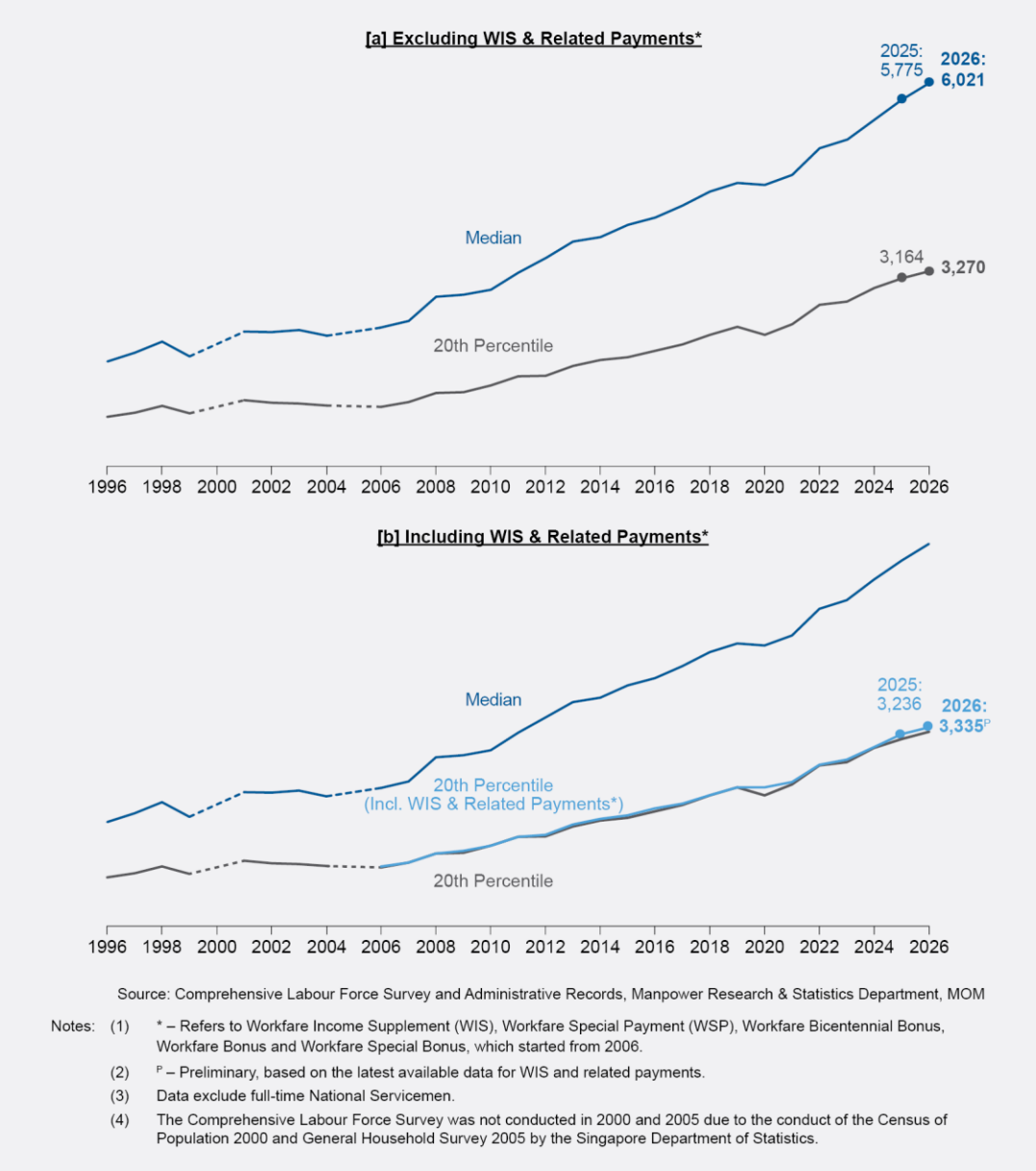
[31] Refers to gross monthly income from employment (including employer/platform operator CPF contributions) of full-time employed residents.

[32] The Consumer Price Index for all items is projected to increase by around 2.0% in 2026, higher than the 0.9% in 2025. Source: Monetary Authority of Singapore and Singapore Department of Statistics.

[33] All real income figures involving 2026's data are preliminary as the full-year Consumer Price Index for 2026 is not available yet.

Chart 36 Gross monthly income from employment (including employer/platform operator CPF contributions) of full-time employed residents

Dollars



Source: Comprehensive Labour Force Survey and Administrative Records, Manpower Research & Statistics Department, MOM

Notes: (1) * – Refers to Workfare Income Supplement (WIS), Workfare Special Payment (WSP), Workfare Bicentennial Bonus, Workfare Bonus and Workfare Special Bonus, which started from 2006.

(2) P – Preliminary, based on the latest available data for WIS and related payments.

(3) Data exclude full-time National Servicemen.

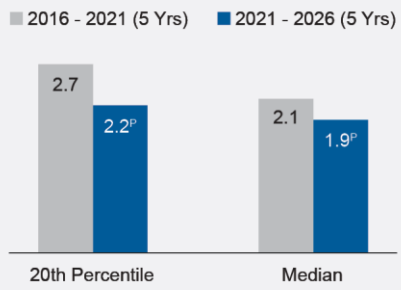
(4) The Comprehensive Labour Force Survey was not conducted in 2000 and 2005 due to the conduct of the Census of Population 2000 and General Household Survey 2005 by the Singapore Department of Statistics.

Income growth at the 20th percentile outpaced the median over past five and ten years

5.3 Real income growth at the P20 over the recent five- and ten-year periods (2021 to 2026: 2.2% p.a.; 2016 to 2026: 2.5% p.a.) remained higher than growth at the median (1.9% p.a.; 2.0% p.a.). This indicates an inclusive income growth over the medium and longer term, supported by a series of initiatives including the expansion of the Progressive Wage Model (PWM) to uplift lower-wage workers. Income at P20 was 54% of the median in 2026, compared with 53% in 2021 and 52% in 2016. While Progressive Wage Measures continue to support lower-wage workers, sustaining real income growth in the coming years will require continued productivity improvements, job redesign, and opportunities for workers to move into higher-value roles.

Chart 37 Annualised change in real* gross monthly income from employment (including employer/platform operator CPF contributions) of full-time employed residents

Per Cent Per Annum



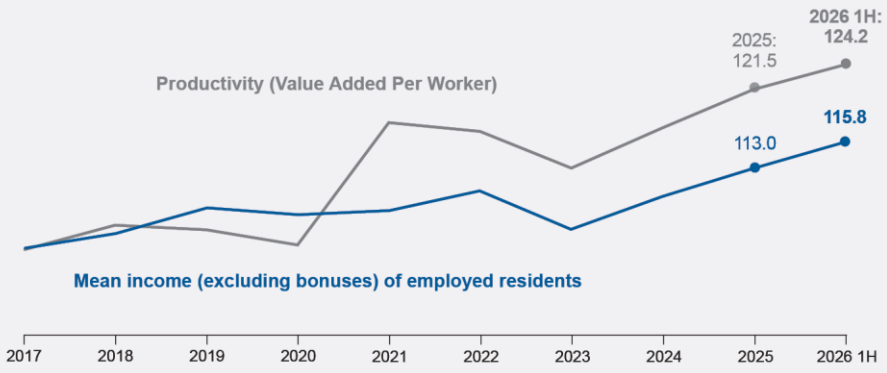
Source: Comprehensive Labour Force Survey, Manpower Research & Statistics Department, MOM

Notes: (1) Data exclude full-time National Servicemen.
(2) * – Deflated by Consumer Price Index (CPI) for all items at 2024 prices (2024 = 100).
(3) P – Preliminary as full-year CPI data for 2026 is not available yet.

5.4 Overall, income gains have been sustainable. Real income growth continued to grow in tandem with productivity growth (measured by real value added per worker) over the medium term. Sustaining longer-term income growth will require continued productivity gains across the economy, including sectors where productivity gains have been more modest. Business transformation, job redesign and workforce upskilling remain key to enhancing the ability of businesses to be more profitable and supporting longer-term income growth.

Chart 38 Indices of real mean gross monthly income from employment and real labour productivity (value added per worker)

2016 = 100



Source: Income: Labour Force Survey, Manpower Research & Statistics Department, MOM
Productivity: Singapore Department of Statistics

Notes: (1) Based on gross monthly income from employment including employer/platform operator CPF contributions and excluding bonus.
(2) Indices of real income and productivity are obtained by deflating real mean gross monthly income from employment and real labour productivity (value added per worker) by 2016 levels (2016 = 100).
(3) Real income levels are obtained by deflating nominal income levels by Consumer Price Index (CPI) for all items at 2024 prices (2024 = 100).
(4) Real productivity levels as measured by value added per worker in chained (2015) dollars.

6. Unemployment[34]

Unemployment rates remained low overall

6.1 Resident unemployment rates remained low overall. From 2025 to 2026, the PMET unemployment rate was broadly stable at 2.7%, while the non-PMET rate rose from 2.8% to 3.5%, returning to the levels seen in 2023 and 2024. Long-term unemployment (LTU) rates edged up for both PMETs (from 0.6% to 0.7%) and non-PMETs (from 0.5% to 0.7%). While still within their historical ranges, the PMET LTU rate was at the higher end, suggesting prolonged job search for some workers amid softer hiring in outward-oriented sectors.[35]

6.2 Among non-PMETs which observed larger increases in unemployment and LTU rates compared to PMETs, unemployment trends by age groups broadly mirrored the overall. The increase in LTU rate was driven by residents aged 50 and over, particularly those in their 50s. while it held steady or dipped for other age groups. This may partly reflect a general increase in retrenchments among residents in their 50s, and the continued challenges they faced in re-entering employment.[36]

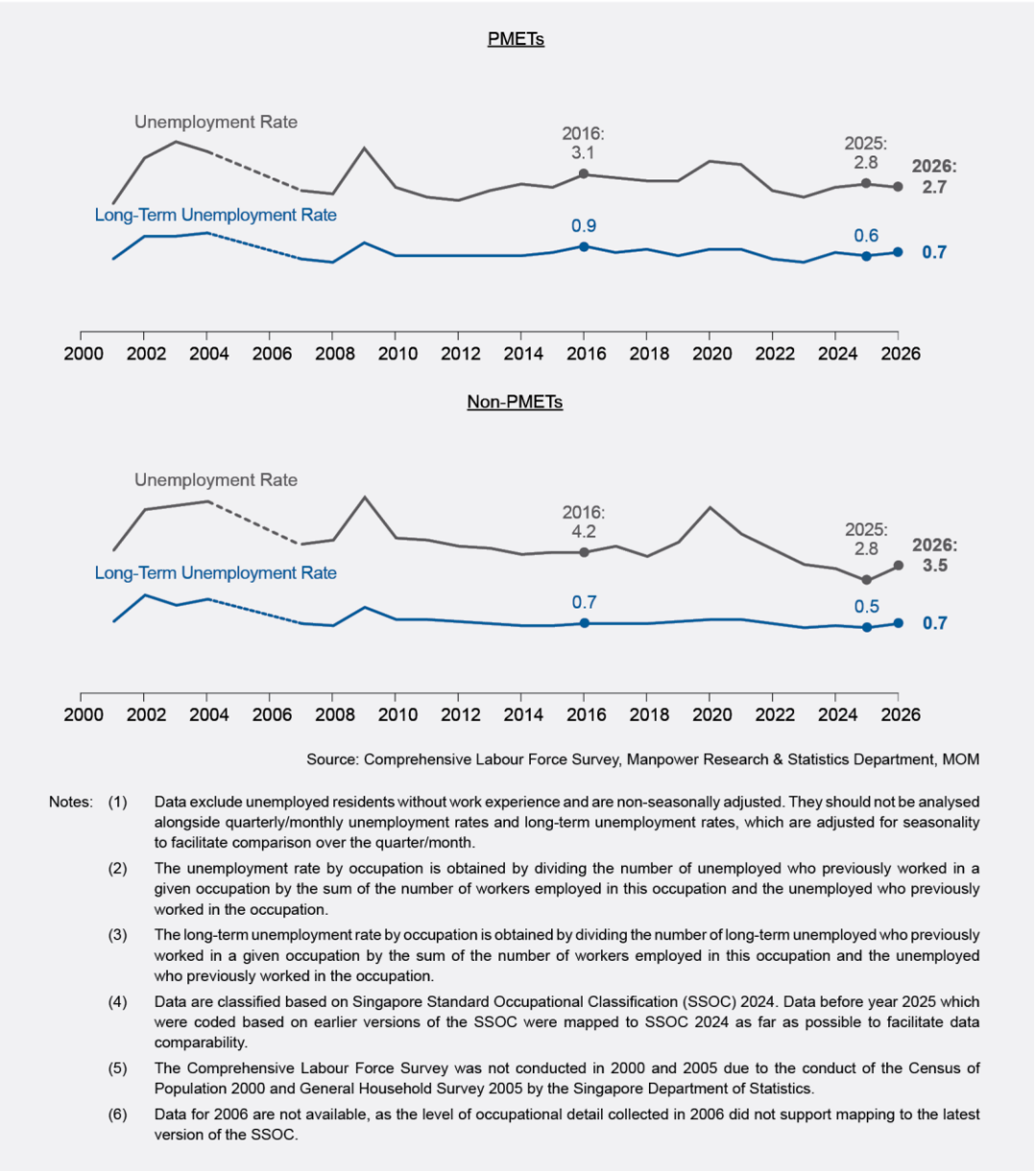
[34] Top-line seasonally adjusted unemployment rates are reported monthly, with breakdown by age and education available quarterly. With a larger sample size, the CLFS enables us to collect additional information of unemployment rates by occupation and industry. For analysis of unemployment trends at the top-line and by age and highest qualification attained, please refer to the End Monthly Unemployment Situation and quarterly Labour Market Reports.

[35] The PMET and non-PMET unemployment rates are non-seasonally adjusted figures for June periods. They should not be analysed alongside monthly unemployment rates, which are adjusted for seasonality to facilitate monthly analysis.

[36] Between 2Q 2025 and 2Q 2026, residents in their 50s recorded the highest incidence of retrenchment, rising from 2.4 to 3.6 per 1,000 employees. Their six-month re-entry rate was also consistently below the overall average.

Chart 39 Unemployment rate and long-term unemployment rate of resident PMETs and non-PMETs

Per Cent



Source: Comprehensive Labour Force Survey, Manpower Research & Statistics Department, MOM

Notes:
(1) Data exclude unemployed residents without work experience and are non-seasonally adjusted. They should not be analysed alongside quarterly/monthly unemployment rates and long-term unemployment rates, which are adjusted for seasonality to facilitate comparison over the quarter/month.

(2) The unemployment rate by occupation is obtained by dividing the number of unemployed who previously worked in a given occupation by the sum of the number of workers employed in this occupation and the unemployed who previously worked in the occupation.

(3) The long-term unemployment rate by occupation is obtained by dividing the number of long-term unemployed who previously worked in a given occupation by the sum of the number of workers employed in this occupation and the unemployed who previously worked in the occupation.

(4) Data are classified based on Singapore Standard Occupational Classification (SSOC) 2024. Data before year 2025 which were coded based on earlier versions of the SSOC were mapped to SSOC 2024 as far as possible to facilitate data comparability.

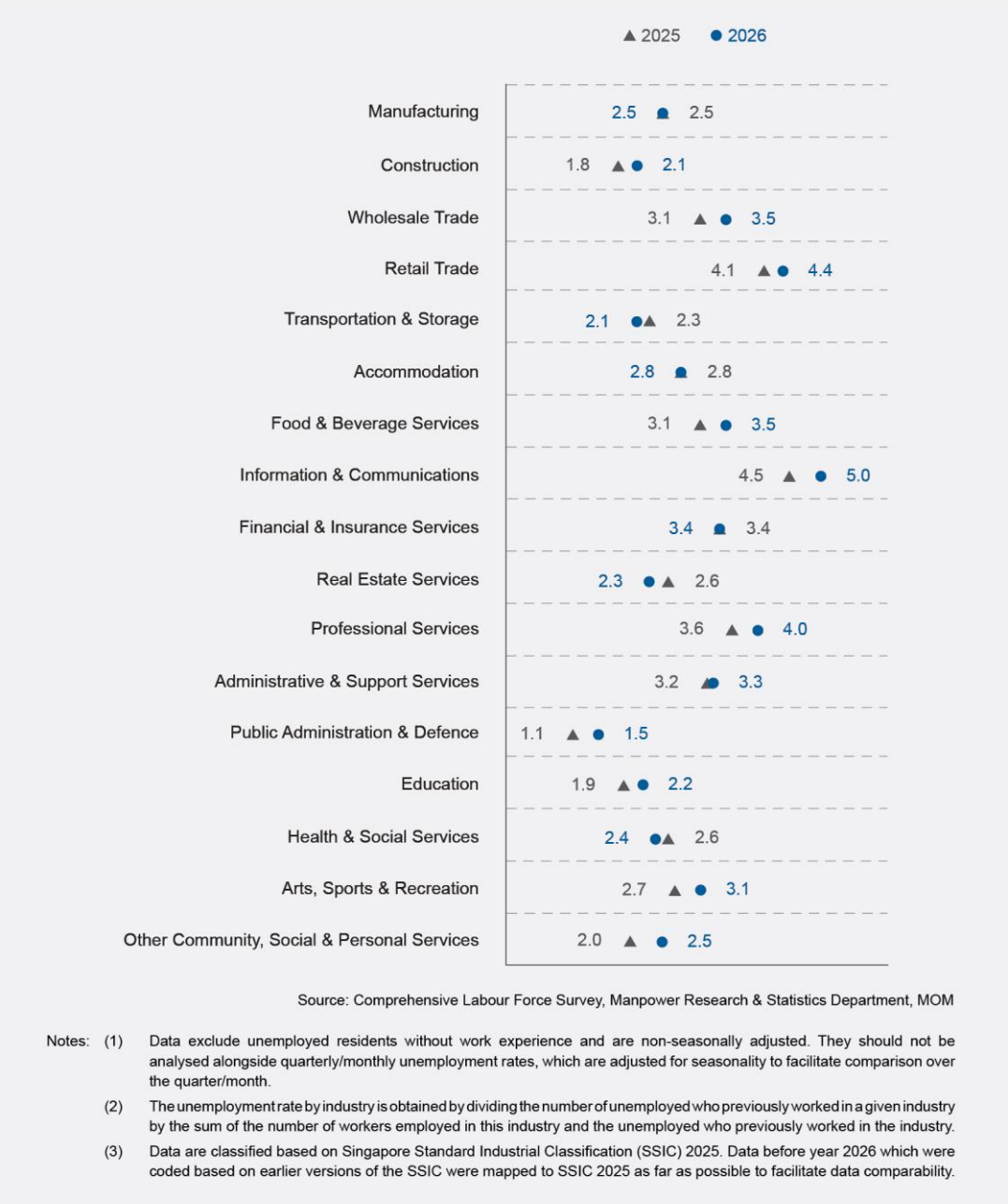
(5) The Comprehensive Labour Force Survey was not conducted in 2000 and 2005 due to the conduct of the Census of Population 2000 and General Household Survey 2005 by the Singapore Department of Statistics.

(6) Data for 2006 are not available, as the level of occupational detail collected in 2006 did not support mapping to the latest version of the SSOC.

6.3 Unemployment rates held steady or increased across most industries over the year, but generally remained within range of the recent five years. More broadly, unemployment rates edged up in both outward-oriented sectors[37] (from 3.1% to 3.3%) and domestic-oriented sectors[38] (from 2.4% to 2.7%) over the year in 2026. However, LTU rate for outward-oriented sectors increased (from 0.7% to 0.9%, a five-year high), diverging from the relatively stable trend in domestic-oriented sectors.

Chart 40 Resident unemployment rate by industry

Per Cent



Source: Comprehensive Labour Force Survey, Manpower Research & Statistics Department, MOM

Notes: (1) Data exclude unemployed residents without work experience and are non-seasonally adjusted. They should not be analysed alongside quarterly/monthly unemployment rates, which are adjusted for seasonality to facilitate comparison over the quarter/month.

(2) The unemployment rate by industry is obtained by dividing the number of unemployed who previously worked in a given industry by the sum of the number of workers employed in this industry and the unemployed who previously worked in the industry.

(3) Data are classified based on Singapore Standard Industrial Classification (SSIC) 2025. Data before year 2026 which were coded based on earlier versions of the SSIC were mapped to SSIC 2025 as far as possible to facilitate data comparability.

[37] Outward-oriented sectors refer to *Manufacturing*, *Wholesale Trade*, *Transportation & Storage*, *Accommodation*, *Information & Communications*, *Financial & Insurance Services* and *Professional Services*.

[38] Domestic-oriented sectors refer to *Construction*, *Retail Trade*, *Food & Beverage Services*, *Real Estate Services*, *Administrative & Support Services*, *Public Administration & Defence*, *Education*, *Health & Social Services*, *Arts, Sports & Recreation* and *Other Community, Social & Personal Services*.

7. Persons Outside the Labour Force

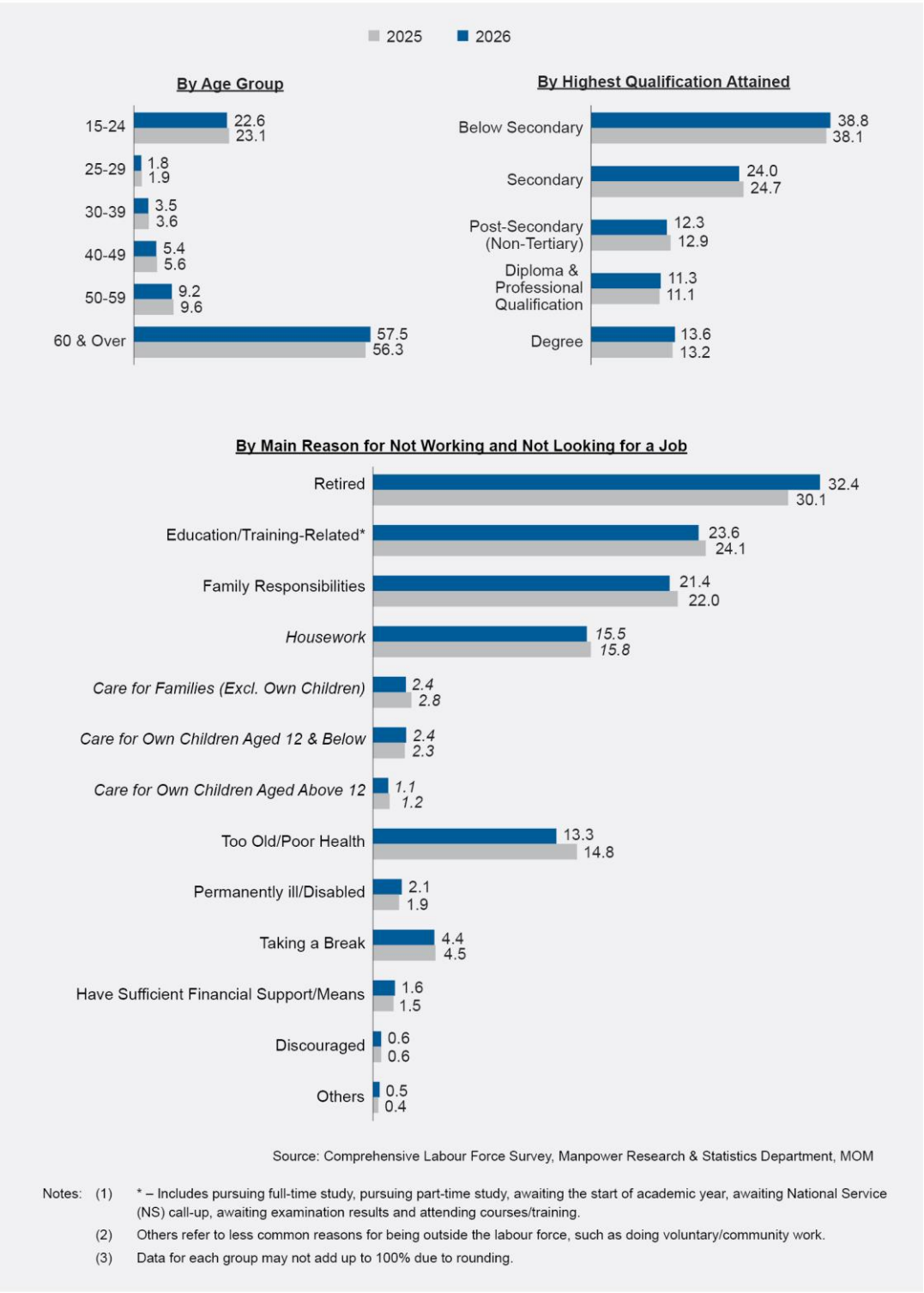
Population ageing continued to drive the increase in residents outside the labour force

7.1 The number of residents outside the labour force rose for the fifth consecutive year to reach 1.18 million in 2026. The increase was primarily driven by population ageing, as the proportion citing retirement as their main reason for not working rose to 32.4% (from 24.9% in 2021) and the share aged 60 years and over among those outside the labour force increased to 57.5% (from 52.1% in 2021). The number of residents outside the labour force is expected to rise further as the population continues to age and more baby boomers retire.

7.2 Education/training (23.6%) and housework/caregiving (21.4%) also remained common reasons for being outside the labour force, although their shares dipped from 2025 (24.1% and 22.0%) and 2021 (24.5% and 25.2%). The decline in individuals citing education/training reflect a smaller youth population due to falling birth rates, while the greater availability of flexible work arrangements may have helped some caregivers to remain in employment while managing family responsibilities.

Chart 41 Profile of residents outside the labour force

Per Cent



Source: Comprehensive Labour Force Survey, Manpower Research & Statistics Department, MOM

Notes: (1) * – Includes pursuing full-time study, pursuing part-time study, awaiting the start of academic year, awaiting National Service (NS) call-up, awaiting examination results and attending courses/training.

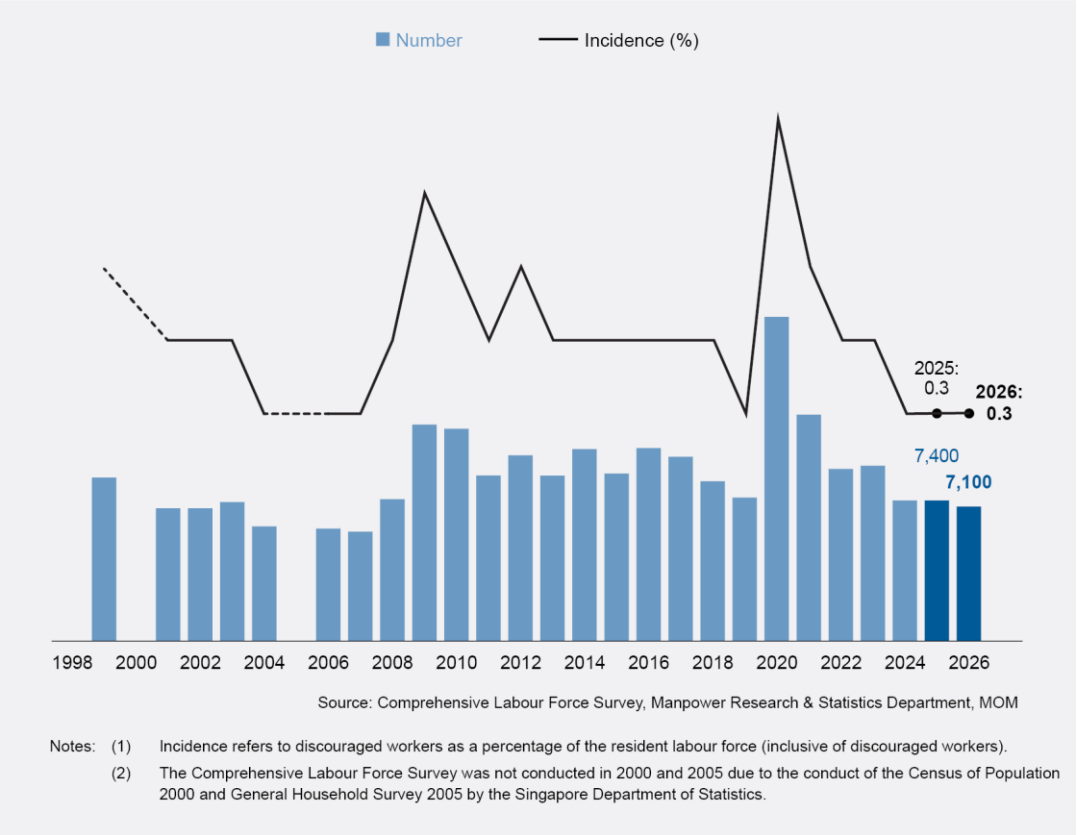
(2) Others refer to less common reasons for being outside the labour force, such as doing voluntary/community work.

(3) Data for each group may not add up to 100% due to rounding.

Discouraged workers remained low

7.3 The number and incidence[39] of discouraged workers, i.e. those who are not seeking work because they believe their job search would be unsuccessful, remained low at 7,100 or 0.3% in 2026. The incidence has remained at 0.3% for three consecutive years.

Chart 42 Residents discouraged from seeking work



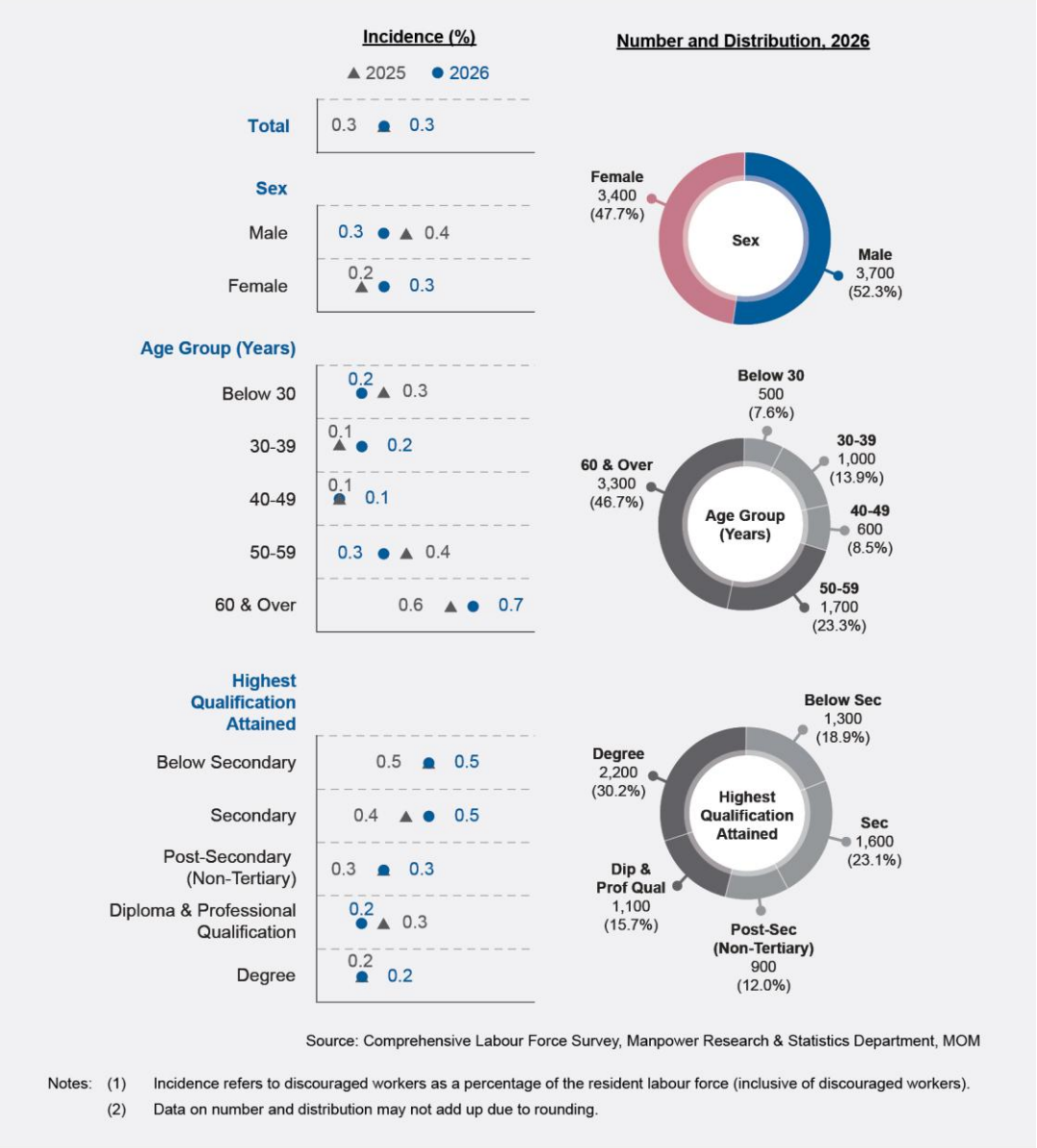
Source: Comprehensive Labour Force Survey, Manpower Research & Statistics Department, MOM

Notes: (1) Incidence refers to discouraged workers as a percentage of the resident labour force (inclusive of discouraged workers).
(2) The Comprehensive Labour Force Survey was not conducted in 2000 and 2005 due to the conduct of the Census of Population 2000 and General Household Survey 2005 by the Singapore Department of Statistics.

[39] As a percentage of the resident labour force (inclusive of discouraged workers).

7.4 By age groups, the incidence of discouraged workers was highest among seniors aged 60 years and over. This has edged up from 0.6% in 2025 to 0.7% in 2026, back to the level seen in 2024 and significantly below the level a decade ago (1.2%). Encouraging more seniors to reskill through programmes such as the SkillsFuture Level-Up Programme could improve their employability or reduce their risk of job displacement and withdrawal from the labour force due to unsuccessful search efforts.

Chart 43 Profile of residents discouraged from seeking work



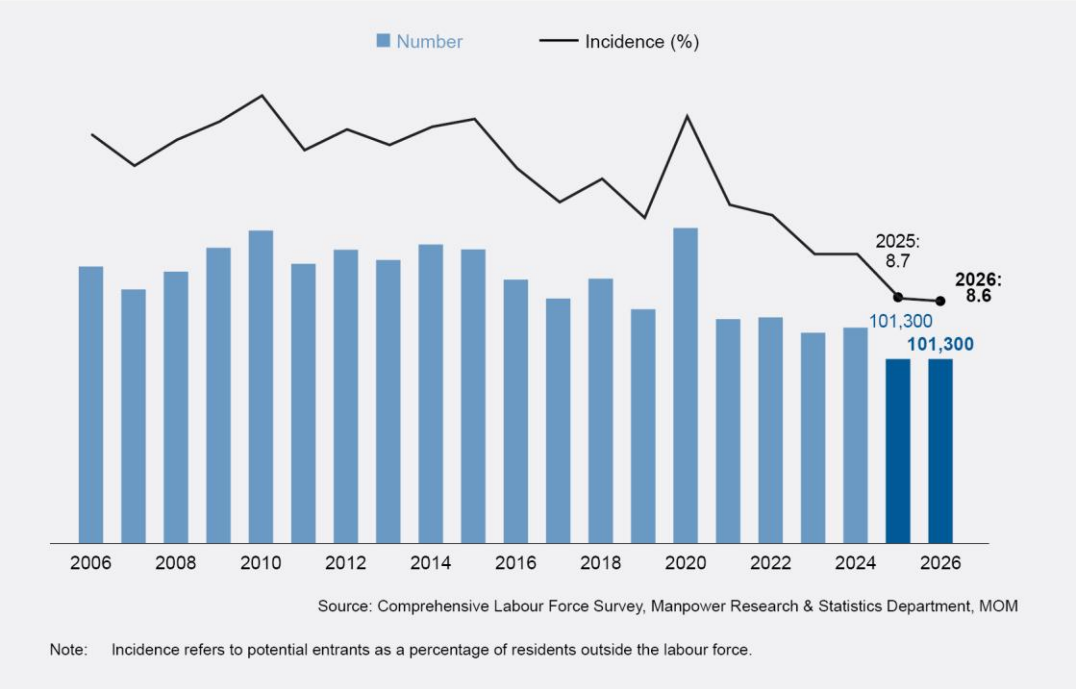
Source: Comprehensive Labour Force Survey, Manpower Research & Statistics Department, MOM

Notes: (1) Incidence refers to discouraged workers as a percentage of the resident labour force (inclusive of discouraged workers).
(2) Data on number and distribution may not add up due to rounding.

Number and incidence of potential entrants broadly stable, following a longer-term downtrend

7.5 Among residents outside the labour force in 2026, 101,300 or 8.6% intended to look for jobs within the next two years. These individuals are considered potential entrants, and the size of this pool was similar to 2025. Over the longer term, both the number and incidence of potential entrants have declined, largely due to population ageing, as older residents were less likely to intend to enter or return to the workforce. This downtrend is expected to continue as all post-war baby boomers will reach the age of 70 years and older by 2034.[40]

Chart 44 Resident potential entrants into the labour force



7.6 Looking at the profile of potential entrants in 2026, the bulk were females (58.7%), residents with tertiary education (57.1%) and those in their prime working ages of 25 to 54 (47.3%). These shares were around or above their respective shares among residents outside the labour force (60.5%, 24.9%, 14.3%), indicating similar or greater inclination among these groups to enter or return to the workforce.

[40] Only 0.7% of residents outside the labour force aged 70 years and older were potential entrants in 2026.

Annex A

SURVEY COVERAGE AND METHODOLOGY

Introduction

1 The 2026 Comprehensive Labour Force Survey (CLFS) is the forty-ninth in the series of mid-year labour force surveys conducted in Singapore by the Manpower Research and Statistics Department of the Ministry of Manpower. The objective of the survey is to collect data on the economic activities of the population, including detailed information on employment and unemployment as well as characteristics of persons in and outside the labour force.

2 The survey is conducted under the Statistics Act 1973 (2020 Revised Edition) which empowers the Director of the Manpower Research and Statistics Department to collect information from survey respondents. The Act also guarantees the confidentiality of individual information obtained from the survey.

Coverage

3 The survey covers private households in Singapore. It excludes workers living in construction worksites, dormitories and workers' quarters at the workplace and persons commuting from abroad to work in Singapore.

Concepts and Definitions

4 The concepts and definitions used in the survey conform to international guidelines recommended by the International Labour Organisation. The terms and definitions used are as follows:

Reference Period	This refers to the week preceding the date of the survey interview.
Residents	Residents refer to Singapore citizens and Permanent Residents.
Labour Force Status	**Labour Force** ▸ This refers to persons aged 15 years and over who are either employed (i.e. working) or unemployed (i.e. actively looking for a job and available for work) during the reference period. **Outside the Labour Force** ▸ This refers to persons aged 15 years and over who are neither employed nor unemployed during the reference period.

Employed Persons	This refers to persons aged 15 years and over who, during the reference period: (i) work for one hour or more either for pay or profit; or (ii) have a job or business to return to but are temporarily absent because of illness, injury, breakdown of machinery at workplace, labour management dispute or other reasons. Members of the Singapore Armed Forces including full-time National Servicemen are included, unless otherwise specified.
Unemployed Persons	This refers to persons aged 15 years and over who are not employed but are actively looking for a job and available for work during the reference period. They include persons who are not employed but are taking steps to start their own business or taking up a new job after the reference period.
Labour Force Participation Rate	This is defined as the percentage of the labour force to the population.
Employment Rate	This is defined as the percentage of employed persons to the population.
Unemployment Rate	This is defined as the percentage of unemployed persons to the labour force.
Duration of Unemployment	This refers to the number of complete weeks between the date when action was first taken to look for a job and the date of the survey interview.
Long-Term Unemployed Persons	This refers to persons aged 15 years and over who have been unemployed for 25 weeks or more.
Long-Term Unemployment Rate	This is defined as the percentage of long-term unemployed persons to the labour force.
Time-Related Under-Employed Persons	This refers to persons aged 15 years and over who normally work less than 35 hours a week but are willing and available to engage in additional work.
Time-Related Under-Employment Rate	This is defined as the percentage of time-related under-employed persons to employed persons.
Gross Monthly Income from Employment	This refers to income earned from employment. For employees, it refers to the gross monthly wages or salaries before deduction of employee CPF contributions and personal income tax. It comprises basic wages, overtime pay, commissions, tips, other allowances and one-twelfth of annual bonuses. For self-employed persons, gross monthly income refers to the average monthly profits from their business, trade or profession (i.e. total receipts less business expenses incurred) before deduction of income tax and platform workers' share of CPF contributions.

Nature of Employment	Employed persons can be categorised into those working on full-time or part-time basis. **Full-Time** ▸ This refers to employment where the normal hours of work is at least 35 hours a week. **Part-Time** ▸ This refers to employment where the normal hours of work is less than 35 hours a week. Before 2009, full-time refers to employment where the normal hours of work is at least 30 hours a week while part-time refers to employment where the normal hours of work is less than 30 hours a week. From 2009 onwards, the threshold between full-time and part-time was revised from 30 hours to 35 hours to align with the revised definition in the Employment Act.
Employment Status	This refers to the position or status of employed persons in relation to other persons within the organisation they work in. Employed persons are divided into the following four categories: **Employers** ▸ These are persons who employ at least one paid employee in their business or trade. **Employees** ▸ These are persons who work for employers in return for regular wages or salaries. **Own Account Workers** ▸ These are persons who operate their own business without employing any paid employees in the conduct of their business or trade. **Contributing Family Workers** ▸ These are persons who assist in the operation of family business without receiving regular wages or salaries.
Type of Employment	Employees can be categorised into those employed on casual/on-call, fixed-term contract or permanent basis. **Casual/On-Call** ▸ Casual/on-call employees refer to those employed on ad hoc basis, as and when the company requires additional manpower. **Fixed-Term Contract** ▸ Employees on fixed-term contract refer to those whose employment will terminate on the expiry of a specific term unless it is renewed. **Permanent** ▸ Permanent employees refer to those employed for an unspecified duration, i.e. they are neither casual/on-call employees nor on fixed-term contract.
Job Change	For employees, this refers to a change in employer. For the self-employed, it involves either a change in business or change from being an employee previously.

Usual Hours Worked	This refers to the number of hours that employed persons usually work in a typical week, including unpaid overtime. The concept of usual hours of work differs from that of normal hours of work referred to in contractual arrangements. For workers who have just started work during the reference period, usual hours of work refers to the number of hours per week they are expected to work in that job. For multiple jobholders, it should be aggregated from the hours spent in all the jobs.
Discouraged Workers	This refers to persons outside the labour force who are not actively looking for a job because they believe their job search would not yield results. Reasons cited for being discouraged include belief that there is no suitable work available, employers' discrimination and lack of necessary qualifications, training, skills or experience.
Potential Entrants	This refers to persons outside the labour force who intended to look for a job within the next two years.
Highest Qualification Attained	This refers to the highest grade or standard of education a person has passed or the highest level of education where a vocational/skill certificate, diploma or degree is awarded by an educational or training institution. The classification of highest qualification attained is based on the Singapore Standard Educational Classification (SSEC) 2020.
Occupation	This refers to the type of work performed by workers during the reference period, which may not necessarily be related to their work experience, employment status or professional qualification. In the case of workers who perform two or more kinds of work, their occupation would refer to the one in which they usually work the longest hours during the reference period. The classification of occupations is based on the Singapore Standard Occupational Classification (SSOC) 2024, unless otherwise specified.
Industry	This refers to the major kind of economic activity or the nature of business of the firm, organisation or establishment in which the person is employed during the reference period. For self-employed persons, industry refers to the kind of economic activity or nature of business they are operating. The classification of industries is based on the Singapore Standard Industrial Classification (SSIC) 2025, unless otherwise specified.

Planning, Organisation, Fieldwork and Data Verification

5 The field operation for the 2026 survey was carried out from 9 March 2026 to 31 July 2026. Around 110 temporary interviewers and 20 permanent staff were involved in the survey operations.

6 The majority of the households completed the survey through telephone or internet. Households that did not respond through these options were enumerated through face-to-face interviews.

7 The work of the interviewers was closely monitored to ensure the quality of the data collected. Supervisors conducted checks by calling up selected households to verify the information collected. The data were subjected to consistency and verification checks before tabulation.

Response

8 Of the 33,000 housing units selected in the initial sample, 1,287 were excluded from the survey as they were unoccupied, non-residential or demolished. A total of 27,292 households responded to the survey, achieving an overall response rate of 86.1%.

Reliability of Data

9 The results of the survey were grossed up to the resident population in June 2026 (compiled by the Singapore Department of Statistics) using multiple estimation factors.

10 In a sample survey, statistical inferences about the target population are derived from data collected from a representative subset, or sample. Errors due to extension of the conclusions based on one sample to the entire population are known as sampling errors. The sampling error of an estimate quantifies the deviation between the estimated parameter obtained from the sample and the true population parameter[41]. Key factors influencing the magnitude of the sampling error include the sample size, the sample design, the estimation method, the intrinsic variability of the population and the nature of the characteristic being analysed.

11 A commonly utilised metric[42] for quantifying sampling error in statistical estimation is the standard error (SE), which represents the standard deviation of the sampling distribution of an estimator. It reflects the variability inherent in the estimates obtained from all possible random samples of the same size drawn from the population.

12 Another metric for assessing precision is the relative standard error (RSE), which expresses the standard error as a percentage of the estimate itself. As compared to the standard error, the relative standard error standardises the precision of the estimate by comparing the magnitude of the standard error to the estimate itself. Lower relative standard error values indicate greater confidence that the estimate is close to the true population parameter. Estimates with an RSE of less than 25% are considered sufficiently reliable for most purposes.[43] Generally, estimates derived from smaller subpopulations or strata[44] tend to have larger relative standard errors as these groups typically have smaller sample sizes, which increases variability and reduces precision.

13 A sample estimate and its standard error can be used to construct a confidence interval, which provides a range of values within which the true population parameter is expected to lie, with a specified level of confidence. By statistical convention, the confidence level is often set at 95%, meaning that if repeated sampling[45] were conducted, approximately 95% of the constructed intervals would contain the true parameter.

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[41] Population parameter refers to a measure (e.g. mean, proportion) that describes an entire population.

[42] Metric refers to a standard of measurement used to quantify or evaluate a specific attribute or characteristic. In this context, metrics such as SE and RSE are used to measure the precision and variability of statistical estimates.

[43] Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics.

[44] Strata refers to a subset (part) of a population defined by specific characteristics. Stratified sampling uses these groups to ensure representation and improve accuracy of estimates.

[45] Repeated sampling refers to a process of drawing multiple random samples from a population under identical conditions. This helps to evaluate the variability of estimates, such as confidence levels or standard errors.

14 For the 2026 survey, the estimated sampling errors of the main resident labour force estimates were as follows:

	Estimate	Standard Error	Relative Standard Error (%)	95% Confidence Interval	
				Lower	Upper
Resident Labour Force	2,471,700	8,300	0.3	2,455,500	2,487,900
Employed Residents	2,387,100	8,300	0.3	2,370,800	2,403,400
Unemployed Residents	84,600	2,300	2.8	80,000	89,200
Residents Outside the Labour Force	1,175,900	7,500	0.6	1,161,200	1,190,600
Resident Labour Force Participation Rate	67.8%	0.20%-pt	0.3	67.4%	68.2%
Resident Employment Rate (Aged 15 & Over)	65.4%	0.20%-pt	0.3	65.0%	65.8%
Resident Employment Rate (Aged 25 to 64)	83.4%	0.20%-pt	0.2	83.0%	83.8%
Resident Unemployment Rate	3.4%	0.09%-pt	2.8	3.2%	3.6%

Note: Data are non-seasonally adjusted. They pertain to those aged 15 years and over, unless otherwise stated.

Labour Force Supplementary Survey on Own Account Workers, 2026

15 The Labour Force Supplementary Survey on Own Account Workers, 2026 was conducted by the Manpower Research and Statistics Department under the Statistics Act 1973 (2020 Revised Edition). It was conducted from 9 March 2026 to 31 July 2026.

16 The supplementary survey was conducted since 2016 to obtain in-depth information on persons who operated as own account workers in their primary or secondary jobs as a regular form of employment over *a year*. The reference period for the supplementary survey is extended to cover own account work over the course of the year, rather than the main job of employed persons over the past week from the annual Comprehensive Labour Force Survey. The longer reference period enables us to capture more accurately the prevalence of own account work, given the ad hoc and transient nature of such work arrangements.

17 The survey also sought to understand the profile of own account workers, experiences and reasons for engaging in own account work and the concerns faced.

18 The supplementary survey covered residents aged 15 years and over who were involved in own account work during the reference year. 3,896 residents were surveyed, of whom 3,177 or 81.5% responded. The results of the supplementary survey were grossed up to the resident population using multiple estimation factors.

Primary Own Account Workers	These are persons who are own account workers in their main job. This includes (i) those who are own account workers in their single job (full-time or part-time) or (ii) those who work longer hours in own account work alongside other jobs.
Secondary Own Account Workers	These are multiple job holders who spend fewer hours in own account work relative to other types of employment. They also include students, homemakers and retirees who do such work on the side.
Preferred and Non-Preferred Choice of Work	Own account workers are asked about the reasons they engage in this form of work. Those for whom own account work is *not their preferred choice of work* refer to persons who engage in own account work because they are unable to find work as an employee. Among multiple job holders, it includes those unable to find full-time work. Those for whom own account work is a *preferred choice of work* are those who do not fall into the above estimate of persons for whom own account work is a non-preferred choice of work.
Platform Workers	Platform workers are own account workers who have an agreement with a platform operator to provide ride-hail or delivery services to users for the platform operator and from this, derive payment or benefits in kind. Their work arrangement with platforms could resemble those of employees.

TABLE 1

KEY CHARACTERISTICS OF RESIDENT LABOUR FORCE, 2016 - 2026

	Labour Force Participation Rate (%)						Employment Rate (%)					
	Aged 15 and Over			Aged 25 - 64			Aged 15 and Over			Aged 25 - 64		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
2016	68.0	76.2	60.4	83.3	92.2	74.9	65.3	73.3	57.7	80.3	89.0	72.1
2017	67.7	76.0	59.8	83.6	92.7	75.1	64.9	73.0	57.2	80.7	89.4	72.4
2018	67.7	75.6	60.2	83.1	92.0	74.8	65.1	72.8	57.8	80.3	88.9	72.3
2019	68.0	75.4	61.1	83.8	92.0	76.1	65.2	72.4	58.3	80.8	88.8	73.3
2020	68.1	75.4	61.2	84.1	92.0	76.6	64.5	71.7	57.7	80.3	87.9	73.2
2021	70.5	77.2	64.2	85.4	92.7	78.6	67.2	73.8	61.0	81.8	88.9	75.1
2022	70.0	77.0	63.4	85.5	92.5	78.9	67.5	74.4	60.9	82.7	89.6	76.2
2023	68.6	74.9	62.6	85.2	91.8	79.0	66.2	72.5	60.3	82.6	89.0	76.6
2024	68.2	74.0	62.8	86.0	91.8	80.7	66.0	71.5	60.8	83.4	88.8	78.3
2025	67.9	73.6	62.5	85.9	91.8	80.5	65.7	71.3	60.5	83.3	88.9	78.0
2026	67.8	73.5	62.4	86.2	92.0	80.8	65.4	71.1	60.2	83.4	89.1	78.2

Source: Comprehensive Labour Force Survey, Manpower Research & Statistics Department, MOM

TABLE 2

RESIDENT LABOUR FORCE PARTICIPATION RATE BY AGE AND SEX, 2016 - 2026

(TOTAL)

Per Cent

Age (Years)	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Total	**68.0**	**67.7**	**67.7**	**68.0**	**68.1**	**70.5**	**70.0**	**68.6**	**68.2**	**67.9**	**67.8**
15 - 19	15.3	14.2	15.2	15.1	13.8	15.7	15.8	15.7	12.8	13.4	13.3
20 - 24	62.3	62.2	61.3	61.0	56.0	62.4	57.3	55.9	54.3	54.0	53.0
25 - 29	90.3	90.2	90.0	90.1	90.4	90.4	89.3	88.5	90.1	90.0	90.5
30 - 34	90.8	91.8	91.0	92.3	92.3	93.4	93.7	93.4	94.1	93.4	93.8
35 - 39	89.7	89.8	89.0	89.6	90.4	91.2	91.7	92.3	92.8	93.3	93.3
40 - 44	88.2	87.7	88.8	88.7	89.0	90.6	89.8	90.5	91.1	91.1	91.3
45 - 49	86.3	86.8	86.5	87.9	87.4	88.3	89.1	89.1	89.1	88.3	88.3
50 - 54	81.4	82.8	82.0	82.3	82.2	84.8	84.2	84.2	86.0	85.9	86.3
55 - 59	75.8	74.9	75.1	75.0	75.9	77.7	78.0	77.1	77.5	77.7	78.4
60 - 64	62.8	63.6	62.2	63.9	65.0	65.9	67.5	66.6	67.9	68.4	67.9
65 - 69	43.2	43.4	45.3	46.1	48.7	50.9	49.4	49.6	50.5	50.2	50.8
70 & Over	15.0	16.2	17.0	17.6	19.4	21.3	21.7	20.9	22.9	22.8	23.1
15 - 24	*39.4*	*38.2*	*38.1*	*38.3*	*36.0*	*41.3*	*37.7*	*36.5*	*33.7*	*33.7*	*33.2*
25 - 64	*83.3*	*83.6*	*83.1*	*83.8*	*84.1*	*85.4*	*85.5*	*85.2*	*86.0*	*85.9*	*86.2*
25 - 54	*87.6*	*88.0*	*87.7*	*88.3*	*88.5*	*89.9*	*89.7*	*89.6*	*90.5*	*90.3*	*90.6*
55 - 64	*69.7*	*69.5*	*68.9*	*69.9*	*70.7*	*71.7*	*72.9*	*72.0*	*72.6*	*73.1*	*73.1*
65 & Over	*26.5*	*26.8*	*27.8*	*28.7*	*30.1*	*32.9*	*32.1*	*31.5*	*32.5*	*32.3*	*32.4*

Source: Comprehensive Labour Force Survey, Manpower Research & Statistics Department, MOM

TABLE 2 (continued)

RESIDENT LABOUR FORCE PARTICIPATION RATE BY AGE AND SEX, 2016 - 2026

(MALE)

Per Cent

Age (Years)	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Total	**76.2**	**76.0**	**75.6**	**75.4**	**75.4**	**77.2**	**77.0**	**74.9**	**74.0**	**73.6**	**73.5**
15 - 19	18.0	18.0	18.4	17.5	16.8	17.6	19.4	16.3	15.7	16.2	16.0
20 - 24	62.6	62.7	60.3	59.3	54.9	59.0	57.4	55.4	55.7	53.0	52.1
25 - 29	90.0	90.7	90.7	90.0	89.7	90.2	87.5	86.4	87.2	87.0	87.1
30 - 34	97.0	97.4	97.8	96.8	96.8	97.0	97.6	96.1	96.4	96.2	96.7
35 - 39	97.8	97.6	97.2	97.8	97.2	97.4	98.0	97.1	97.8	96.4	97.1
40 - 44	97.2	97.0	97.2	97.3	97.4	97.1	97.4	97.1	96.7	97.2	97.3
45 - 49	96.3	96.6	95.4	96.0	96.1	96.3	96.1	96.7	96.5	95.6	95.3
50 - 54	92.9	94.4	92.8	93.9	93.2	94.2	93.8	93.7	92.8	94.2	94.3
55 - 59	88.7	88.0	88.0	87.3	87.1	89.5	88.6	88.2	87.9	87.5	88.3
60 - 64	76.9	77.8	75.7	76.7	77.8	79.2	79.2	78.6	78.6	79.1	78.2
65 - 69	55.7	54.8	57.3	57.6	59.8	61.1	59.8	60.6	60.7	60.2	61.1
70 & Over	22.1	24.8	24.6	25.4	27.5	29.7	29.6	28.5	29.5	29.3	29.8
15 - 24	*41.0*	*40.5*	*39.2*	*38.6*	*36.6*	*40.4*	*40.1*	*36.8*	*36.2*	*34.5*	*34.0*
25 - 64	*92.2*	*92.7*	*92.0*	*92.0*	*92.0*	*92.7*	*92.5*	*91.8*	*91.8*	*91.8*	*92.0*
25 - 54	*95.2*	*95.7*	*95.2*	*95.3*	*95.1*	*95.5*	*95.4*	*94.6*	*94.8*	*94.8*	*95.0*
55 - 64	*83.2*	*83.2*	*82.2*	*82.3*	*82.7*	*84.2*	*84.1*	*83.5*	*83.1*	*83.2*	*83.1*
65 & Over	*37.0*	*37.1*	*38.2*	*38.7*	*40.1*	*42.8*	*41.5*	*41.0*	*40.8*	*40.4*	*40.7*

Source: Comprehensive Labour Force Survey, Manpower Research & Statistics Department, MOM

TABLE 2 (continued)

RESIDENT LABOUR FORCE PARTICIPATION RATE BY AGE AND SEX, 2016 - 2026

(FEMALE)

Per Cent

Age (Years)	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Total	**60.4**	**59.8**	**60.2**	**61.1**	**61.2**	**64.2**	**63.4**	**62.6**	**62.8**	**62.5**	**62.4**
15 - 19	12.4	10.2	11.6	12.4	10.6	13.7	12.3	15.1	9.6	10.3	10.4
20 - 24	62.0	61.6	62.4	62.9	57.3	66.1	57.1	56.5	52.7	55.1	54.1
25 - 29	90.6	89.6	89.4	90.1	91.1	90.5	91.1	90.7	93.0	93.0	94.1
30 - 34	85.3	86.9	84.9	88.3	88.2	90.1	90.0	90.8	92.0	90.6	91.0
35 - 39	82.3	82.9	81.8	82.7	84.4	85.4	86.0	87.9	88.3	90.3	89.8
40 - 44	80.2	78.9	81.0	81.2	81.4	84.7	83.2	84.6	86.2	85.7	85.9
45 - 49	77.2	77.7	78.1	80.3	78.8	80.6	82.7	82.3	82.5	81.7	82.0
50 - 54	70.3	71.2	71.5	71.3	71.6	76.2	75.2	75.5	79.8	78.6	79.1
55 - 59	63.1	61.8	62.1	63.3	64.8	66.6	67.1	66.6	67.7	69.0	69.5
60 - 64	48.8	49.9	49.4	50.8	52.6	53.6	56.1	55.2	57.7	58.0	57.8
65 - 69	31.4	32.9	33.7	35.3	38.2	40.6	39.4	39.0	41.1	41.0	41.3
70 & Over	9.8	9.6	11.3	11.5	13.1	14.5	15.5	14.9	17.5	17.5	17.6
15 - 24	*37.7*	*35.7*	*36.9*	*37.9*	*35.4*	*42.3*	*35.1*	*36.2*	*31.0*	*32.9*	*32.3*
25 - 64	*74.9*	*75.1*	*74.8*	*76.1*	*76.6*	*78.6*	*78.9*	*79.0*	*80.7*	*80.5*	*80.8*
25 - 54	*80.6*	*80.8*	*80.8*	*81.9*	*82.4*	*84.7*	*84.4*	*85.0*	*86.6*	*86.2*	*86.5*
55 - 64	*56.4*	*56.1*	*55.9*	*57.7*	*59.0*	*59.9*	*61.6*	*61.1*	*62.6*	*63.6*	*63.8*
65 & Over	*18.0*	*18.2*	*19.2*	*20.2*	*21.7*	*24.2*	*24.0*	*23.2*	*25.4*	*25.3*	*25.3*

Source: Comprehensive Labour Force Survey, Manpower Research & Statistics Department, MOM

TABLE 3

RESIDENT EMPLOYMENT RATE BY AGE AND SEX, 2016 - 2026

(TOTAL)

Per Cent

Age (Years)	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Total	**65.3**	**64.9**	**65.1**	**65.2**	**64.5**	**67.2**	**67.5**	**66.2**	**66.0**	**65.7**	**65.4**
15 - 19	14.1	13.2	14.2	13.6	12.1	14.7	14.8	14.5	12.0	12.7	12.6
20 - 24	56.5	54.9	55.1	53.8	47.9	55.7	52.2	50.7	50.1	49.9	49.0
25 - 29	85.5	85.4	85.0	84.7	84.2	85.0	84.4	84.2	85.4	85.2	85.1
30 - 34	88.0	89.5	88.2	89.5	89.1	89.8	90.7	90.6	91.4	90.5	90.7
35 - 39	86.5	86.9	86.5	87.3	86.8	88.2	89.1	90.1	90.3	90.8	90.8
40 - 44	85.5	84.7	86.5	86.0	85.8	86.8	87.8	88.6	89.2	88.8	89.0
45 - 49	83.3	84.2	83.5	84.7	83.7	83.5	86.1	85.2	86.3	85.9	86.0
50 - 54	78.8	79.4	79.3	79.2	78.3	81.7	81.5	82.0	83.3	83.3	83.4
55 - 59	73.0	72.1	72.7	72.1	72.4	74.7	75.5	74.7	75.0	75.2	75.5
60 - 64	60.8	61.6	60.4	62.3	62.0	63.5	65.4	64.9	66.0	66.3	66.1
65 - 69	41.5	41.7	43.8	44.6	45.9	49.0	47.5	48.3	49.1	49.1	49.0
70 & Over	14.4	15.8	16.2	16.8	18.5	20.4	21.1	20.3	22.4	22.3	22.6
15 - 24	*35.8*	*34.1*	*34.5*	*33.9*	*30.9*	*37.2*	*34.5*	*33.2*	*31.2*	*31.3*	*30.8*
25 - 64	*80.3*	*80.7*	*80.3*	*80.8*	*80.3*	*81.8*	*82.7*	*82.6*	*83.4*	*83.3*	*83.4*
25 - 54	*84.5*	*84.9*	*84.7*	*85.1*	*84.6*	*86.0*	*86.7*	*86.8*	*87.7*	*87.5*	*87.6*
55 - 64	*67.3*	*67.1*	*66.8*	*67.6*	*67.5*	*69.0*	*70.6*	*70.0*	*70.4*	*70.8*	*70.8*
65 & Over	*25.5*	*25.8*	*26.8*	*27.6*	*28.5*	*31.7*	*31.0*	*30.6*	*31.7*	*31.5*	*31.4*

Source: Comprehensive Labour Force Survey, Manpower Research & Statistics Department, MOM

TABLE 3 (continued)

RESIDENT EMPLOYMENT RATE BY AGE AND SEX, 2016 - 2026

(MALE)

Per Cent

Age (Years)	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Total	**73.3**	**73.0**	**72.8**	**72.4**	**71.7**	**73.8**	**74.4**	**72.5**	**71.5**	**71.3**	**71.1**
15 - 19	17.4	17.4	17.9	16.5	15.9	16.9	18.8	15.7	15.2	15.7	15.6
20 - 24	58.2	56.7	55.3	53.8	48.7	54.5	53.0	51.9	52.0	49.8	49.5
25 - 29	83.9	84.9	85.1	83.4	82.1	84.2	82.8	81.8	81.8	80.7	80.8
30 - 34	94.3	95.0	95.0	94.2	93.5	93.3	95.0	93.6	93.3	93.4	93.8
35 - 39	94.9	94.5	94.5	95.7	93.9	94.2	95.4	95.1	95.2	94.1	94.2
40 - 44	94.4	94.4	94.9	95.3	94.4	93.8	95.2	95.1	94.9	95.0	95.1
45 - 49	93.4	94.0	92.3	92.9	92.6	91.6	93.0	92.7	93.6	93.3	93.5
50 - 54	90.1	90.5	89.5	90.7	88.8	90.8	90.8	91.1	89.7	91.5	91.4
55 - 59	85.4	84.4	85.4	83.6	83.2	86.3	85.6	85.5	84.6	84.3	84.9
60 - 64	74.5	75.1	73.2	74.7	73.9	75.9	76.7	76.2	76.0	76.5	76.2
65 - 69	53.1	52.2	55.1	55.6	56.5	58.7	57.5	59.0	58.8	58.9	58.9
70 & Over	21.4	24.1	23.1	24.1	26.0	28.2	28.7	27.5	28.8	28.6	29.0
15 - 24	*38.4*	*37.2*	*36.5*	*35.3*	*33.0*	*37.6*	*37.5*	*34.6*	*34.0*	*32.7*	*32.4*
25 - 64	*89.0*	*89.4*	*88.9*	*88.8*	*87.9*	*88.9*	*89.6*	*89.0*	*88.8*	*88.9*	*89.1*
25 - 54	*91.9*	*92.3*	*91.9*	*92.0*	*91.0*	*91.5*	*92.4*	*91.7*	*91.7*	*91.8*	*91.9*
55 - 64	*80.3*	*80.0*	*79.7*	*79.4*	*78.8*	*81.0*	*81.3*	*81.0*	*80.2*	*80.3*	*80.5*
65 & Over	*35.5*	*35.6*	*36.4*	*37.2*	*37.8*	*41.0*	*40.1*	*39.8*	*39.7*	*39.5*	*39.4*

Source: Comprehensive Labour Force Survey, Manpower Research & Statistics Department, MOM

TABLE 3 (continued)

RESIDENT EMPLOYMENT RATE BY AGE AND SEX, 2016 - 2026

(FEMALE)

Per Cent

Age (Years)	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Total	**57.7**	**57.2**	**57.8**	**58.3**	**57.7**	**61.0**	**60.9**	**60.3**	**60.8**	**60.5**	**60.2**
15 - 19	10.6	8.7	10.1	10.4	7.9	12.4	10.8	13.2	8.5	9.4	9.2
20 - 24	54.5	52.8	54.8	53.8	47.0	57.0	51.1	49.4	47.9	49.9	48.6
25 - 29	87.0	86.0	84.9	86.0	86.3	85.8	86.1	86.7	89.2	89.8	89.5
30 - 34	82.4	84.6	82.2	85.3	85.0	86.5	86.6	87.8	89.6	87.8	87.9
35 - 39	78.7	80.0	79.5	80.1	80.6	82.5	83.3	85.5	86.0	87.7	87.7
40 - 44	77.6	75.6	78.7	78.0	77.8	80.3	81.4	82.6	84.1	83.3	83.6
45 - 49	74.1	75.0	75.4	77.1	75.1	75.7	79.7	78.5	79.7	79.1	79.4
50 - 54	67.9	68.2	69.3	68.3	68.3	73.2	72.8	73.7	77.2	76.0	76.1
55 - 59	60.8	59.8	59.8	61.1	61.7	63.8	65.1	64.6	66.0	67.0	67.0
60 - 64	47.1	48.6	48.2	49.5	50.7	51.9	54.4	54.2	56.3	56.5	56.3
65 - 69	30.4	32.0	32.8	34.2	35.8	39.4	37.9	37.9	40.1	40.0	39.9
70 & Over	9.4	9.4	11.1	11.1	12.6	14.0	15.0	14.5	17.1	17.0	17.3
15 - 24	*33.0*	*30.7*	*32.4*	*32.3*	*28.7*	*36.7*	*31.3*	*31.6*	*28.0*	*29.8*	*29.0*
25 - 64	*72.1*	*72.4*	*72.3*	*73.3*	*73.2*	*75.1*	*76.2*	*76.6*	*78.3*	*78.0*	*78.2*
25 - 54	*77.6*	*77.9*	*78.0*	*78.8*	*78.6*	*80.8*	*81.4*	*82.2*	*84.0*	*83.6*	*83.6*
55 - 64	*54.5*	*54.4*	*54.2*	*55.9*	*56.4*	*57.7*	*59.8*	*59.6*	*61.1*	*61.9*	*61.8*
65 & Over	*17.4*	*17.8*	*18.8*	*19.6*	*20.6*	*23.4*	*23.1*	*22.6*	*24.8*	*24.7*	*24.6*

Source: Comprehensive Labour Force Survey, Manpower Research & Statistics Department, MOM

TABLE 4

MEDIAN GROSS MONTHLY INCOME FROM EMPLOYMENT OF EMPLOYED RESIDENTS AGED FIFTEEN YEARS AND OVER BY NATURE OF EMPLOYMENT, 2016 - 2026

(Exclude Full-Time National Servicemen)

Dollars

	Including Employer/Platform Operator CPF Contributions			Excluding Employer/Platform Operator CPF Contributions		
	Total	Full-Time	Part-Time	Total	Full-Time	Part-Time
2016	3,680	4,056	1,000	3,250	3,500	938
2017	3,803	4,232	1,000	3,300	3,749	1,000
2018	3,949	4,437	1,053	3,467	3,800	1,000
2019	4,095	4,563	1,090	3,561	4,000	1,000
2020	4,095	4,534	1,130	3,573	4,000	1,000
2021	4,180	4,680	1,170	3,683	4,000	1,042
2022	4,680	5,070	1,287	4,083	4,500	1,200
2023	4,752	5,197	1,267	4,117	4,550	1,200
2024	5,000	5,500	1,376	4,333	4,860	1,200
2025	5,117	5,775	1,720	4,500	5,000	1,600
2026	5,455	6,021	1,744	4,805	5,250	1,600

Source: Comprehensive Labour Force Survey, Manpower Research & Statistics Department, MOM

TABLE 5

TIME-RELATED UNDER-EMPLOYED RESIDENTS AGED FIFTEEN YEARS AND OVER BY SELECTED CHARACTERISTICS, 2026

Characteristics	Number ('000)	Share (%)	Rate (%)
Total	**40.2**	**100.0**	**1.7**
Sex			
Male	16.5	40.9	1.3
Female	23.8	59.1	2.1
Age (Years)			
15 - 24	3.1	7.8	2.6
25 - 29	2.3	5.8	1.3
30 - 39	6.2	15.3	1.1
40 - 49	7.0	17.4	1.3
50 - 59	10.9	27.0	2.2
60 & Over	10.7	26.7	2.3
Highest Qualification Attained			
Below Secondary	6.1	15.3	2.3
Secondary	6.8	16.8	2.3
Post-Secondary (Non-Tertiary)	6.0	14.9	2.3
Diploma & Professional Qualification	8.2	20.4	1.7
Degree	13.1	32.6	1.2

Source: Comprehensive Labour Force Survey, Manpower Research & Statistics Department, MOM

Note :

1) Rate refers to the time-related under-employed as a percentage of all employed residents.

TABLE 5 (continued)

TIME-RELATED UNDER-EMPLOYED RESIDENTS AGED FIFTEEN YEARS AND OVER BY SELECTED CHARACTERISTICS, 2026

Characteristics	Number ('000)	Share (%)	Rate (%)
Total	**40.2**	**100.0**	**1.7**
Occupation (SSOC 2024)			
PMETs	19.5	48.4	1.3
Managers & Administrators (Including Working Proprietors)	2.9	7.2	0.7
Professionals	5.7	14.2	0.9
Associate Professionals & Technicians	10.9	27.0	2.2
Non-PMETs	20.8	51.6	2.5
Clerical Support Workers	3.7	9.3	1.9
Service & Sales Workers	8.2	20.4	3.4
Craftsmen & Related Trades Workers	0.9	2.2	1.8
Plant & Machine Operators & Assemblers	2.4	5.9	1.8
Cleaners, Labourers & Related Workers	5.5	13.7	3.4
Others	0.1	0.2	0.1

Source: Comprehensive Labour Force Survey, Manpower Research & Statistics Department, MOM

Notes :

1) 'Others' occupation includes Agricultural & Fishery Workers and Workers Not Elsewhere Classified.

2) Rate refers to the time-related under-employed as a percentage of all employed residents.

TABLE 5 (continued)

TIME-RELATED UNDER-EMPLOYED RESIDENTS AGED FIFTEEN YEARS AND OVER BY SELECTED CHARACTERISTICS, 2026

Characteristics	Number ('000)	Share (%)	Rate (%)
Total	**40.2**	**100.0**	**1.7**
Industry (SSIC 2025)			
C Manufacturing	1.3	3.3	0.6
F Construction	0.8	2.0	0.8
G-V Services	38.1	94.7	1.9
G Wholesale & Retail Trade	5.1	12.6	1.5
H Transportation & Storage	3.2	7.9	1.5
I Accommodation & Food Services	5.0	12.3	3.4
J,K Information & Communications	1.7	4.2	1.3
L Financial & Insurance Services	1.4	3.5	0.6
M Real Estate Services	1.8	4.5	3.1
N Professional Services	3.5	8.7	1.8
O Administrative & Support Services	3.4	8.4	2.5
P,Q Public Administration & Education	8.0	19.9	2.3
R Health & Social Services	2.2	5.3	1.4
S Arts, Sports & Recreation	1.2	3.0	3.2
T-V Other Community, Social & Personal Services	1.7	4.3	2.1
A, B, D, E Others	-	-	-

Source: Comprehensive Labour Force Survey, Manpower Research & Statistics Department, MOM

Notes :

1) 'Others' industry includes Agriculture, Fishing, Quarrying, Utilities and Sewerage & Waste Management.

2) Rate refers to the time-related under-employed as a percentage of all employed residents.

3) – : Nil or negligible.

TABLE 6

RESIDENT EMPLOYEES AGED FIFTEEN YEARS AND OVER BY TYPE OF EMPLOYMENT AND SELECTED CHARACTERISTICS, 2026

(Exclude Full-Time National Servicemen)

Thousands

Characteristics	Total	Permanent Employees	Non-Permanent Employees	Casual/On-Call	Fixed-Term Contract		
					Less Than 1 Year	1 Year	More Than 1 Year
Total	**2,070.8**	**1,883.6**	**187.2**	**41.0**	**31.8**	**55.3**	**59.1**
Age (Years)							
15 - 24	82.8	49.0	33.7	5.8	17.3	5.8	4.8
25 - 29	175.0	158.1	16.9	1.4	3.1	6.7	5.7
30 - 39	520.7	493.2	27.6	2.7	2.6	9.3	13.0
40 - 49	486.3	464.2	22.1	3.4	2.4	6.1	10.2
50 - 59	415.8	389.3	26.5	7.1	2.2	6.5	10.6
60 & Over	390.1	329.8	60.4	20.6	4.2	20.9	14.7
Highest Qualification Attained							
Below Secondary	227.1	198.9	28.2	13.5	3.3	6.0	5.4
Secondary	243.8	214.3	29.5	9.3	7.4	7.2	5.6
Post-Secondary (Non-Tertiary)	216.5	184.2	32.2	7.8	7.9	9.7	6.8
Diploma & Professional Qualification	413.6	377.2	36.5	6.6	6.8	11.7	11.3
Degree	969.8	909.0	60.8	3.7	6.5	20.7	29.9
Nature of Employment							
Full-Time	1,893.4	1,769.5	123.8	12.0	21.4	45.0	45.5
Part-Time	177.4	114.1	63.3	29.0	10.5	10.3	13.6

Source: Comprehensive Labour Force Survey, Manpower Research & Statistics Department, MOM

TABLE 6 (continued)

RESIDENT EMPLOYEES AGED FIFTEEN YEARS AND OVER BY TYPE OF EMPLOYMENT AND SELECTED CHARACTERISTICS, 2026

(Exclude Full-Time National Servicemen)

Thousands

Characteristics	Total	Permanent Employees	Non-Permanent Employees	Casual/On-Call	Fixed-Term Contract		
					Less Than 1 Year	1 Year	More Than 1 Year
Total	**2,070.8**	**1,883.6**	**187.2**	**41.0**	**31.8**	**55.3**	**59.1**
Occupation (SSOC 2024)							
Managers & Administrators	336.2	328.1	8.1	-	0.5	2.7	4.9
Professionals	616.7	575.4	41.3	0.4	5.0	15.4	20.5
Associate Professionals & Technicians	423.2	385.1	38.1	3.2	9.5	13.0	12.4
Clerical Support Workers	195.1	169.7	25.3	4.8	6.3	8.4	5.8
Service & Sales Workers	221.9	188.2	33.7	14.9	4.9	6.2	7.7
Craftsmen & Related Trades Workers	42.1	38.0	4.2	1.3	0.9	1.1	0.8
Plant & Machine Operators & Assemblers	63.8	57.5	6.3	2.6	0.7	1.9	1.1
Cleaners, Labourers & Related Workers	153.7	124.1	29.5	13.7	4.0	6.5	5.4
Others	18.2	17.4	0.8	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.4

Source: Comprehensive Labour Force Survey, Manpower Research & Statistics Department, MOM

Notes :

1) 'Others' occupation includes Agricultural & Fishery Workers and Workers Not Elsewhere Classified.

2) – : Nil or negligible.

TABLE 6 (continued)

RESIDENT EMPLOYEES AGED FIFTEEN YEARS AND OVER BY TYPE OF EMPLOYMENT AND SELECTED CHARACTERISTICS, 2026

(Exclude Full-Time National Servicemen)

Thousands

Characteristics	Total	Permanent Employees	Non-Permanent Employees	Casual/On-Call	Fixed-Term Contract		
					Less Than 1 Year	1 Year	More Than 1 Year
Total	**2,070.8**	**1,883.6**	**187.2**	**41.0**	**31.8**	**55.3**	**59.1**
Industry (SSIC 2025)							
C Manufacturing	196.6	186.4	10.2	2.4	1.6	3.9	2.3
F Construction	89.6	84.3	5.3	1.6	0.6	1.4	1.7
G-V Services	1,762.8	1,592.5	170.3	36.8	29.5	49.4	54.6
G Wholesale & Retail Trade	296.7	276.5	20.2	6.7	4.1	5.5	3.9
H Transportation & Storage	135.0	124.6	10.4	2.7	1.3	3.0	3.4
I Accommodation & Food Services	130.4	111.5	18.9	8.7	3.1	3.2	3.8
J,K Information & Communications	123.0	112.2	10.8	1.2	2.4	4.3	2.9
L Financial & Insurance Services	209.2	198.9	10.4	0.5	3.4	3.8	2.6
M Real Estate Services	38.7	35.1	3.6	0.4	0.4	1.7	1.1
N Professional Services	164.6	151.6	13.0	0.9	3.6	3.5	4.9
O Administrative & Support Services	125.7	104.0	21.7	6.0	3.7	6.9	5.1
P,Q Public Administration & Education	290.0	255.2	34.8	2.6	3.1	11.1	18.0
R Health & Social Services	144.1	131.7	12.4	1.4	2.3	3.7	5.1
S Arts, Sports & Recreation	34.4	30.1	4.3	1.6	0.8	0.9	1.1
T-V Other Community, Social & Personal Services	71.1	60.9	10.1	4.1	1.4	1.9	2.8
A, B, D, E Others	21.8	20.4	1.4	0.1	0.1	0.6	0.5

Source: Comprehensive Labour Force Survey, Manpower Research & Statistics Department, MOM

Note :

1) 'Others' industry includes Agriculture, Fishing, Quarrying, Utilities and Sewerage & Waste Management.

TABLE 7

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE OF RESIDENT PMETs AND NON-PMETs AGED FIFTEEN YEARS AND OVER BY AGE, 2016 - 2026

Per Cent

Occupation (SSOC 2024) / Age (Years)	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
PMETs	**3.1**	**3.0**	**2.9**	**2.9**	**3.5**	**3.4**	**2.6**	**2.4**	**2.7**	**2.8**	**2.7**
15 - 29	3.8	3.6	4.1	4.0	4.1	3.9	4.4	2.9	3.8	2.8	3.4
30 - 39	2.7	2.4	2.3	2.1	2.7	2.7	2.0	1.8	2.0	2.4	2.4
40 - 49	2.9	2.9	2.6	2.9	3.2	4.1	2.0	2.7	2.3	2.5	2.0
50 & Over	3.5	3.6	3.3	3.2	4.3	3.4	3.1	2.6	3.1	3.4	3.3
Non - PMETs	**4.2**	**4.5**	**4.0**	**4.7**	**6.4**	**5.1**	**4.4**	**3.6**	**3.4**	**2.8**	**3.5**
15 - 29	6.4	7.6	6.2	8.0	10.5	7.0	5.5	5.1	5.2	4.1	5.3
30 - 39	4.7	4.1	3.8	4.7	6.5	5.6	6.8	4.3	4.9	3.6	4.4
40 - 49	3.7	3.5	3.6	3.8	5.6	6.2	4.9	4.1	3.3	2.7	3.6
50 & Over	3.4	3.7	3.2	3.7	5.0	3.9	3.3	2.7	2.6	2.4	2.9

Source: Comprehensive Labour Force Survey, Manpower Research & Statistics Department, MOM

Notes :

1) Data exclude unemployed residents without work experience and are non-seasonally adjusted.

2) The unemployment rate by occupation is obtained by dividing the number of unemployed who previously worked in a given occupation by the sum of the number of workers employed in this occupation and the unemployed who previously worked in the occupation.

3) Data are classified based on Singapore Standard Occupational Classification (SSOC) 2024. Data before year 2025 which were coded based on earlier versions of the SSOC were mapped to SSOC 2024 as far as possible to facilitate data comparability.

TABLE 8

LONG-TERM UNEMPLOYMENT RATE OF RESIDENT PMETs AND NON-PMETs AGED FIFTEEN YEARS AND OVER BY AGE, 2016 - 2026

Per Cent

Occupation (SSOC 2024) / Age (Years)	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
PMETs	**0.9**	**0.7**	**0.8**	**0.6**	**0.8**	**0.8**	**0.5**	**0.4**	**0.7**	**0.6**	**0.7**
15 - 29	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.5	0.3	0.3	0.1	0.4	0.5	0.7
30 - 39	0.6	0.4	0.6	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.2	0.2	0.4	0.3	0.7
40 - 49	1.0	0.8	0.8	0.5	0.8	1.0	0.3	0.4	0.6	0.6	0.5
50 & Over	1.5	1.1	1.5	1.1	1.3	1.4	0.9	0.9	1.2	1.1	0.9
Non - PMETs	**0.7**	**0.7**	**0.7**	**0.8**	**0.9**	**0.9**	**0.7**	**0.5**	**0.6**	**0.5**	**0.7**
15 - 29	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.6	1.1	0.6	0.2	0.3	0.6	0.6	0.6
30 - 39	0.5	0.7	0.6	0.9	0.6	0.8	0.7	0.6	0.9	0.9	0.7
40 - 49	0.7	0.6	0.5	0.8	1.1	1.1	0.7	0.4	0.4	0.6	0.6
50 & Over	0.8	0.8	0.9	0.8	0.8	0.9	0.8	0.6	0.5	0.4	0.7

Source: Comprehensive Labour Force Survey, Manpower Research & Statistics Department, MOM

Notes :

1) Data exclude unemployed residents without work experience and are non-seasonally adjusted.

2) The long-term unemployment rate by occupation is obtained by dividing the number of long-term unemployed who previously worked in a given occupation by the sum of the number of workers employed in this occupation and the unemployed who previously worked in the occupation.

3) Data are classified based on Singapore Standard Occupational Classification (SSOC) 2024. Data before year 2025 which were coded based on earlier versions of the SSOC were mapped to SSOC 2024 as far as possible to facilitate data comparability.

TABLE 9

RESIDENTS OUTSIDE THE LABOUR FORCE AGED FIFTEEN YEARS AND OVER BY SELECTED CHARACTERISTICS AND SEX, 2026

Characteristics	Total			Male			Female		
	Number ('000)	Share (%)	Incidence (%)	Number ('000)	Share (%)	Incidence (%)	Number ('000)	Share (%)	Incidence (%)
Total	**1,175.9**	**100.0**	**32.2**	**464.6**	**100.0**	**26.5**	**711.3**	**100.0**	**37.6**
Age (Years)									
15 - 24	266.0	22.6	66.8	138.2	29.8	66.0	127.7	18.0	67.7
25 - 29	20.7	1.8	9.5	14.3	3.1	12.9	6.4	0.9	5.9
30 - 39	40.7	3.5	6.5	9.3	2.0	3.1	31.4	4.4	9.6
40 - 49	64.0	5.4	10.2	10.9	2.3	3.7	53.1	7.5	16.0
50 - 59	108.1	9.2	17.6	25.0	5.4	8.6	83.1	11.7	25.6
60 & Over	676.5	57.5	58.4	266.8	57.4	49.0	409.6	57.6	66.6
Highest Qualification Attained									
Below Secondary	456.6	38.8	62.1	168.6	36.3	53.5	288.0	40.5	68.6
Secondary	282.8	24.0	47.6	114.3	24.6	41.1	168.5	23.7	53.3
Post-Secondary (Non-Tertiary)	144.3	12.3	34.5	60.9	13.1	27.2	83.4	11.7	42.9
Diploma & Professional Qualification	132.4	11.3	20.6	58.6	12.6	17.8	73.8	10.4	23.5
Degree	159.9	13.6	12.7	62.2	13.4	10.2	97.6	13.7	15.1

Source: Comprehensive Labour Force Survey, Manpower Research & Statistics Department, MOM

Note :

1) Incidence refers to residents outside the labour force as a percentage of the resident population in the respective groups.

TABLE 10

RESIDENT POTENTIAL ENTRANTS AGED FIFTEEN YEARS AND OVER BY SELECTED CHARACTERISTICS AND SEX, 2026

Characteristics	Total			Male			Female		
	Number ('000)	Share (%)	Incidence (%)	Number ('000)	Share (%)	Incidence (%)	Number ('000)	Share (%)	Incidence (%)
Total	**101.3**	**100.0**	**8.6**	**41.9**	**100.0**	**9.0**	**59.4**	**100.0**	**8.4**
Age (Years)									
15 - 24	25.0	24.7	9.4	9.6	22.8	6.9	15.4	26.0	12.1
25 - 29	9.3	9.1	44.8	6.4	15.3	44.6	2.9	4.9	45.2
30 - 39	14.4	14.2	35.4	4.4	10.5	47.2	10.0	16.9	32.0
40 - 49	16.3	16.1	25.4	4.7	11.3	43.3	11.6	19.5	21.8
50 - 59	17.8	17.6	16.5	6.5	15.5	26.0	11.3	19.0	13.6
60 & Over	18.6	18.3	2.7	10.3	24.7	3.9	8.2	13.8	2.0
Highest Qualification Attained									
Below Secondary	9.5	9.4	2.1	4.6	10.9	2.7	5.0	8.4	1.7
Secondary	17.1	16.9	6.0	6.6	15.8	5.8	10.5	17.6	6.2
Post-Secondary (Non-Tertiary)	16.9	16.6	11.7	7.3	17.5	12.0	9.6	16.1	11.5
Diploma & Professional Qualification	23.7	23.4	17.9	11.3	27.0	19.3	12.4	20.9	16.8
Degree	34.1	33.7	21.3	12.1	28.8	19.4	22.0	37.1	22.6
Work Experience									
With Work Experience	73.3	72.4	10.2	29.6	70.6	9.5	43.8	73.6	10.8
Without Work Experience	28.0	27.6	6.1	12.3	29.4	8.0	15.7	26.4	5.1
Preference for Full-Time / Part-Time Employment									
Full-Time	63.8	63.0	n.a	28.5	68.0	n.a	35.4	59.5	n.a
Part-Time	37.5	37.0	n.a	13.4	32.0	n.a	24.1	40.5	n.a

Source: Comprehensive Labour Force Survey, Manpower Research & Statistics Department, MOM

Note :

1) Incidence refers to potential entrants as a percentage of residents outside the labour force.

OTHER RELEASES





UPCOMING ...

Labour Market Report Third Quarter 2026	10-16 Dec 2026*
Labour Force in Singapore 2026	25-29 Jan 2026*
Labour Market Advance Release Fourth Quarter 2026	28-29 Jan 2026*
Labour Market Report Fourth Quarter 2026	10-16 Mar 2026*

PAST ...

Labour Market Advance Release Third Quarter 2026	30 Oct 2026
Wage Adjustments and Adoption of NWC Guidelines for Lower-Wage Employees 2025	26 Oct 2026
Labour Market Second Quarter 2026	21 Sep 2026
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Report on Wage Practices 2025	28 May 2026
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_____

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