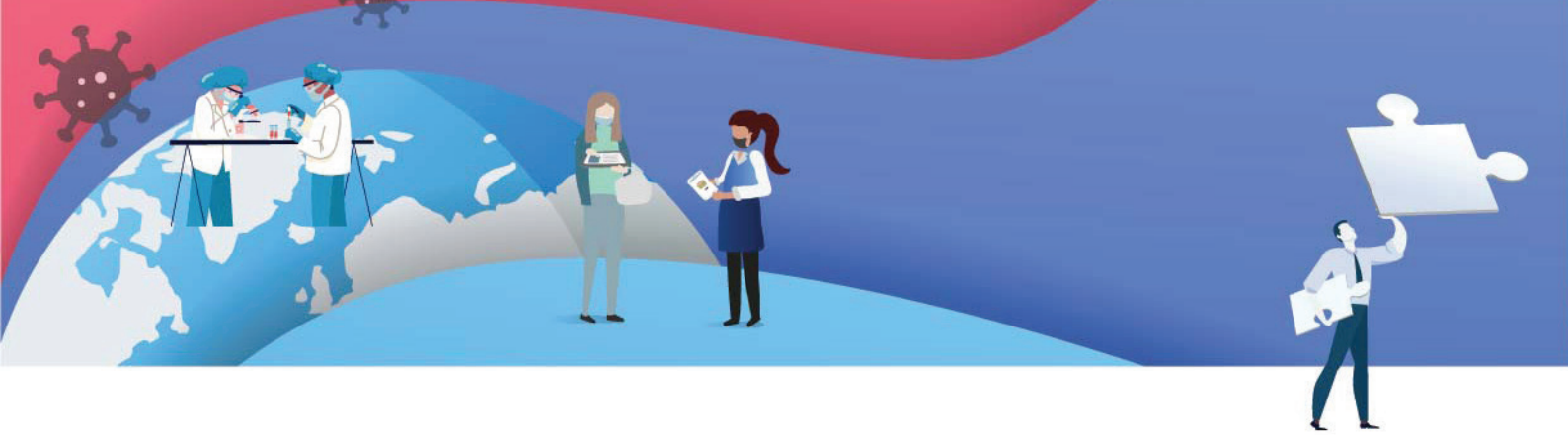


PREFACE

The report on Labour Force in Singapore analyses various labour market indicators on employment, unemployment, incomes and working hours, to present a comprehensive picture of the Singapore labour market each year. Insights presented in this report are built upon data collected from the Comprehensive Labour Force Survey, which has been conducted annually since 1974.

The survey is based on a sample of 33,000 households, which are selected randomly to be representative of the Singapore population. The adoption of concepts and definitions aligned with international guidelines on official statistics, which have been recommended by the International Labour Organisation and the International Monetary Fund, also enables us to compare the data with past periods and other countries. Users may refer to the section on Survey Coverage and Methodology for more information on the concepts and definitions used. For individuals who would like to do more in-depth studies on the labour market or specific topics, the detailed statistical tables will serve as a useful guide.

The 2020 Comprehensive Labour Force Survey coincided with the Circuit Breaker period implemented to stem the transmission of COVID-19 in our community. Hence this year's data would reflect the impact of COVID-19 on different groups in the labour force.

It was particularly challenging to reach out to selected households to obtain information this year due to logistical constraints brought about by COVID-19. Yet we were still able to achieve a high response rate in a timely fashion to ensure our data remains of high quality – representative of the population, and comparable with past years. This reflects the dedication of our staff in the Manpower Research and Statistics Department committed to collect, process and analyse the data efficiently, as well as the strong support and cooperation of households for the timely provision of the necessary information.

ANG BOON HENG
Director
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Ministry of Manpower

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