

**United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child  
Singapore's Sixth Periodic Report  
Annex A – Statistics**

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## NOTES ON THE DATA

This Annex contains statistical information about children in Singapore for the reporting timeframe of Singapore's 6<sup>th</sup> Periodic Report on the UNCRC. Subject to data availability, data is disaggregated by age, sex and/or ethnicity, otherwise, the most relevant breakdown of the data is given. Where relevant, brief explanations will be provided after each table.

### I. GENERAL MEASURES OF IMPLEMENTATION

All data on the Government's expenditure is based on the Government's financial year, unless otherwise stated.

**Table 1: Government Operating Expenditure on Social Development**

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Education	12,429	11,932	11,767	12,605	12,890	13,748
Health	8,937	9,915	14,311	16,274	15,909	16,674
National Development	2,941	2,606	4,626	4,710	7,851	7,475
Sustainability And The Environment	1,295	1,540	1,646	1,832	1,848	2,420
Culture, Community And Youth	1,668	1,674	1,927	2,096	2,272	1,951
Social And Family Development	2,608	2,835	3,673	3,592	3,653	4,057
Communications And Information	494	517	611	594	721	738
Manpower (Financial Security)	1,027	1,029	2,291	1,591	1,562	1,797
<b>Total Expenditure on Social Development S\$ (million)</b>	<b>31,400</b>	<b>32,047</b>	<b>40,853</b>	<b>43,292</b>	<b>46,707</b>	<b>48,860</b>
<b>Total Government Operating Expenditure S\$ (million)</b>	<b>57,561</b>	<b>58,667</b>	<b>72,936</b>	<b>78,543</b>	<b>84,438</b>	<b>85,364</b>

Source: Ministry of Finance (MOF)

Operating Expenditure refers to the expenses incurred to maintain Government's operations and other regular activities. Components include expenditure on manpower, other operating expenditure and operating grants to Statutory Boards and other institutions.

**Table 2: Government Development Expenditure on Social Development**

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Education	447	791	493	305	170	332
Health	1,490	1,404	949	1,049	1,204	1,272
National Development	1,191	926	1,191	1,110	1,221	1,135
Sustainability And The Environment	839	1,076	708	905	832	905
Culture, Community And Youth	300	210	207	277	1,571	436
Social And Family Development	115	111	93	84	84	104
Communications And Information	36	41	20	21	22	27
Manpower (Financial Security)	2	2	3	6	0	0
<b>Total Expenditure on Social Development S\$ (million)</b>	<b>4,419</b>	<b>4,560</b>	<b>3,664</b>	<b>3,757</b>	<b>5,104</b>	<b>4,211</b>
<b>Total Government Development Expenditure S\$ (million)</b>	<b>20,263</b>	<b>16,671</b>	<b>13,430</b>	<b>16,253</b>	<b>20,417</b>	<b>21,524</b>

Source: MOF

Development Expenditure refers to the expenses that represent a longer-term investment or result in the formation of a capitalisable asset of the Government. Examples of spending areas are the acquisition of heavy equipment and capitalisable assets, e.g. buildings and roads.

**Table 3: Funding from Community Chest for children and youth services**

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Funding S\$ (million)	15.9	20.5	21.9	20.3	21.9	17.5

Source: National Council of Social Service (NCSS)

**Table 4: Expenditure on family development**

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Family Development S\$ (million)	1,010	1,000	970	1,150	1,040	980

Source: Revenue and Expenditure Estimates from 2018 to 2022, Analysis of Revenue and Expenditure 2023, MOF

Family Development refers to initiatives that support marriage and parenthood. This includes the Baby Bonus Scheme, Government-Paid Leave Schemes and the Baby Support Grant.

**Table 5: Expenditure on early childhood development**

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Preschool subsidies	480	540	700	760	800	890
Grants to government-supported operators and training of educators	430	540	590	770	850	1,090
Others	80	50	120	140	160	210
<b>Total S\$ (million)</b>	<b>1,000</b>	<b>1,120</b>	<b>1,410</b>	<b>1,680</b>	<b>1,810</b>	<b>2,190</b>

Source: MSF

Early Childhood refers to efforts to provide affordable, accessible and quality early childhood services, such as providing government-supported preschool places, supporting fee cap reductions and higher salaries for educators in government-supported preschools, training of educators and educators-to-be, and ramping up capacity in Early Intervention education services.

**Table 6: Expenditure on education**

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
<b>Primary S\$ (million)</b>						
Development	210	261	147	102	57	78
Recurrent	2,824	2,738	2,674	2,945	3,143	3,263
<b>Secondary S\$ (million)</b>						
Development	70	73	41	16	10	32
Recurrent	2,788	2,714	2,560	2,755	2,866	2,901
<b>Junior College/ Centralised Institutes S\$ (million)</b>						
Development	44	39	8	5	1	11
Recurrent	389	340	320	329	335	325
<b>Institute of Technical Education S\$ (million)</b>						
Development	0	0	0	0	0	0
Recurrent	489	472	470	498	490	531
<b>University (Including National Institute of Education) S\$ (million)</b>						
Development	23	306	188	86	12	12
Recurrent	3,349	2,991	2,893	2,929	2,439	3,561
<b>Polytechnics S\$ (million)</b>						
Development	14	20	10	23	16	14
Recurrent	1,259	1,175	1,127	1,163	1,131	1,207
<b>Special Education S\$ (million)</b>						
Development	1	5	18	20	23	41
Recurrent	183	195	205	232	249	272
<b>Others<sup>1</sup> S\$ (million)</b>						
Development	85	87	81	53	51	144
Recurrent	1,148	1,307	1,518	1,754	2,237	1,688
<b>Total Development Expenditure S\$ (million)</b>	<b>447</b>	<b>791</b>	<b>493</b>	<b>305</b>	<b>170</b>	<b>332</b>
<b>Total Recurrent Expenditure S\$ (million)</b>	<b>12,429</b>	<b>11,932</b>	<b>11,767</b>	<b>12,605</b>	<b>12,890</b>	<b>13,748</b>

Source: MOE

<sup>1</sup> Includes MOE Headquarters.

**Table 7: Training on the Convention for teachers**

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Newly Trained Teachers	585	770	817	640	582	652

Source: MOE

Teachers' training curriculum at the National Institute of Education (NIE) covers key aspects of the Convention. The NIE trained more teachers in earlier years when we were recruiting at high levels to grow the teaching workforce. As student population continues to fall because of falling birth rates, the number of teachers trained has been calibrated to focus more on replacing teachers who have left the service and recruiting more teachers in specific subject areas such as Art, Music, Physical Education and Tamil.

## II. DEFINITION OF THE CHILD

**Table 8: Residents aged 19 years and below in Singapore by age and sex**

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
<b>Males</b>	<b>417,680</b>	<b>414,933</b>	<b>409,952</b>	<b>400,062</b>	<b>402,763</b>	<b>403,674</b>
0 - 4 years	94,916	94,666	93,388	91,043	90,906	89,629
5 - 9 years	101,636	101,051	101,729	101,980	103,270	103,249
10 - 14 years	105,026	105,661	104,967	102,112	103,066	104,335
15 - 19 years	116,102	113,555	109,868	104,927	105,521	106,461
<b>Females</b>	<b>399,964</b>	<b>398,345</b>	<b>393,488</b>	<b>382,039</b>	<b>385,810</b>	<b>387,606</b>
0 - 4 years	90,612	90,689	89,688	87,392	87,179	85,639
5 - 9 years	97,430	96,724	97,008	96,780	98,090	98,725
10 - 14 years	101,504	102,265	101,426	97,881	99,313	100,124
15 - 19 years	110,418	108,667	105,366	99,986	101,228	103,118
<b>Total aged 19 and below</b>	<b>817,644</b>	<b>813,278</b>	<b>803,440</b>	<b>782,101</b>	<b>788,573</b>	<b>791,280</b>
<b>Total residents</b>	<b>3,994,283</b>	<b>4,026,209</b>	<b>4,044,210</b>	<b>3,986,842</b>	<b>4,073,239</b>	<b>4,149,253</b>

Source: Department of Statistics (DOS)

As of June 2023, there were 791,000 residents (i.e. citizens and permanent residents) aged 19 years and below (19.1% of the resident population). This was a decline from 817,000 (20.5%) in June 2018. There were slightly more males (51.0%) than females (49.0%) aged 19 and below in 2023. The proportion was similar for each year between 2018 and 2023.

**Table 9: Residents aged 19 years and below by age and ethnicity**

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
<b>Malay</b>	<b>140,707</b>	<b>140,382</b>	<b>140,228</b>	<b>139,349</b>	<b>140,776</b>	<b>141,897</b>
0 – 4 years	36,169	37,374	38,668	39,252	40,301	40,225
5 - 9 years	30,930	31,339	32,070	33,190	34,878	36,699
10 - 14 years	33,438	32,966	32,472	31,562	31,288	31,170
15 - 19 years	40,170	38,703	37,018	35,345	34,309	33,803
<b>Chinese</b>	<b>554,320</b>	<b>551,455</b>	<b>544,107</b>	<b>526,103</b>	<b>529,726</b>	<b>530,699</b>
0 - 4 years	126,229	125,403	122,479	117,749	116,443	114,052
5 - 9 years	137,097	136,620	137,495	136,897	137,702	136,495
10 - 14 years	136,796	138,611	138,559	134,484	137,485	140,209
15 - 19 years	154,198	150,821	145,574	136,973	138,096	139,943
<b>Indian</b>	<b>90,092</b>	<b>89,300</b>	<b>87,309</b>	<b>85,424</b>	<b>86,209</b>	<b>86,186</b>
0 - 4 years	16,689	16,234	15,642	15,047	14,873	14,608
5 - 9 years	22,990	22,171	21,425	20,841	20,686	20,477
10 - 14 years	26,758	26,779	26,270	25,443	25,209	24,558
15 - 19 years	23,655	24,116	23,972	24,093	25,441	26,543
<b>Other ethnic groups</b>	<b>32,525</b>	<b>32,141</b>	<b>31,796</b>	<b>31,225</b>	<b>31,862</b>	<b>32,498</b>
0 - 4 years	6,441	6,344	6,287	6,387	6,468	6,383
5 - 9 years	8,049	7,645	7,747	7,832	8,094	8,303
10 - 14 years	9,538	9,570	9,092	8,504	8,397	8,522
15 - 19 years	8,497	8,582	8,670	8,502	8,903	9,290

Source: DOS

Chinese formed the majority (67.1%) of the resident population aged 19 and below in 2023. This was followed by Malay, Indian and other ethnic groups at 17.9%, 10.9% and 4.1% respectively.



### III. GENERAL PRINCIPLES

#### 1. Right to life, survival and development (art. 6)

**Table 10: Death of children aged 18 years and below by cause**

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
<b>Illnesses, including HIV/AIDS, malaria, tuberculosis, polio, hepatitis and acute respiratory infections (includes all communicable and non-communicable diseases)</b>						
0 - 4 years	84	71	66	66	68	66
5 - 9 years	16	11	6	7	15	12
10 - 14 years	11	2	9	12	18	13
15 - 18 years	16	15	9	17	14	9
<b>Traffic or other accidents</b>						
0 - 4 years	0	0	1	1	1	0
5 - 9 years	2	2	2	0	1	0
10 - 14 years	1	0	4	1	1	0
15 - 18 years	2	1	3	2	2	0
<b>Crime and other forms of violence</b>						
0 - 4 years	0	0	1	0	0	0
5 - 9 years	0	1	0	0	0	0
10 - 14 years	0	0	0	0	0	0
15 - 18 years	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Suicide</b>						
0 - 4 years	0	0	0	0	0	0
5 - 9 years	0	0	0	0	0	0
10 - 14 years	1	3	4	6	10	1
15 - 18 years	14	12	15	23	13	2

Source: MHA

Notes:

1. Death counts only include Singapore residents.
2. In Singapore, persons under 18 at the time of the offence are not subject to capital punishment. As such, the figure for such children is 0.

## 2. Respect for the views of the child (art. 12)

**Table 11: Schools with independent student councils**

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Proportion of schools	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Source: MOE

All schools in Singapore have an independent student council. A student council is defined as a board of students with a formal school-level leadership appointment in service of school and others.

**Table 12: Children who have been heard in judicial and administrative proceedings**

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
0 - 4 Years	102	89	59	138	77	52
5 - 9 Years	73	85	61	143	69	65
10 - 14 Years	191	187	133	208	154	133
15 - 18 Years	131	137	105	171	124	111

Source: Family Justice Courts (FJC)

Notes:

1. There are no administrative proceedings in the FJC.
2. Figures include children below 18 years involved in divorce (only for cases who went through a judicial interview); below 16 years in Criminal and Family Guidance Order cases (FJC's jurisdiction extends only to individuals below 16 years old); below 18 years in Care and Protection Order cases; and below 21 years in Enhanced Care and Protection Order (including cases whose Enhanced Care and Protection Order was varied).
3. Children involved in Criminal and Family Guidance cases are generally heard since they have to be present in court. For both Care and Protection cases as well as Enhanced Care and Protection cases, the Court may require the children's presence in Court. Generally, if the children are of a young age, their presence would not be required.

## IV. CIVIL RIGHTS AND FREEDOMS

### 1. Birth registration (art. 7)

**Table 13: Number of babies born each year**

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
No. of births	39,039	39,279	38,590	38,672	35,605	33,541

Source: MHA

From 2018 to 2023, there is a general steady decline in birth rates. The number of births peaked at 39,279 in 2019 before decreasing and remained relatively stable in 2020 and 2021 at 38,590 and 38,672, respectively. A more significant drop occurred in 2022, with births falling from 38,672 to 35,605. This downward trend continued into 2023, reaching a low of 33,541.

### 2. Access to appropriate information (art. 17)

**Table 14: Number of libraries accessible to children**

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Mobile libraries <sup>2</sup>	3	3	3	3	3	3
Public Libraries	23	23	23	24	25	25
Regional Libraries	3	3	3	3	3	4
National Library	1	1	1	1	1	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>33</b>

Source: MDDI

Children have access to libraries<sup>3</sup> to borrow/consume material within and to be members.

### **Schools equipped with information technology**

All schools in Singapore are equipped with information technology.

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<sup>2</sup> The National Library Board's Mobile Libraries are retrofitted buses that travel around Singapore bringing books, services and programmes to under-served communities which do not have ready access to public libraries.

<sup>3</sup> While library@esplanade, library@orchard, The LLibrary and Singapore Botanic Gardens' Library do not have a dedicated children's collection, these four libraries remain accessible to children to visit, and borrow or consult the material.

## V. VIOLENCE AGAINST CHILDREN

### 1. Abuse and neglect (art. 19), sexual exploitation and sexual abuse (article 34), including physical and psychological recovery and social reintegration (art. 39)

**Table 15: Child abuse cases overseen by MSF**

	2021	2022	2023
<b>By age and sex of child</b>			
<b>0-6 years</b>	<b>735</b>	<b>786</b>	<b>802</b>
Male	364	401	395
Female	371	385	407
<b>7-12 years</b>	<b>785</b>	<b>749</b>	<b>711</b>
Male	398	356	371
Female	387	393	340
<b>13-16 years</b>	<b>540</b>	<b>476</b>	<b>427</b>
Male	220	182	175
Female	320	294	252
<b>17-18 years</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>71</b>
Male	35	25	28
Female	46	31	43
<b>By type of abuse</b>			
<b>Physical abuse</b>	<b>788</b>	<b>758</b>	<b>888</b>
Age			
0-6 years	325	318	361
7-12 years	306	305	348
13-16 years	136	116	158
17-18 years	21	19	21
Sex			
Male	408	403	462
Female	380	355	426
<b>Neglect</b>	<b>629</b>	<b>536</b>	<b>544</b>
Age			
0-6 years	210	217	231
7-12 years	204	158	158
13-16 years	185	143	133
17-18 years	30	18	22
Sex			
Male	311	246	259
Female	318	290	285
<b>Sexual abuse</b>	<b>443</b>	<b>351</b>	<b>272</b>
Age			
0-6 years	96	68	56
7-12 years	175	143	112
13-16 years	153	127	87
17-18 years	19	13	17
Sex			
Male	159	116	105
Female	284	235	167
<b>Emotional &amp; psychological abuse</b>	<b>281</b>	<b>422</b>	<b>307</b>
Age			
0-6 years	104	183	154
7-12 years	100	143	93

13-16 years	66	90	49
17-18 years	11	6	11
Sex			
Male	139	199	143
Female	142	223	164
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,141</b>	<b>2,067</b>	<b>2,011</b>

Source: MSF

While the number of cases overseen by MSF has fallen since 2021, the figures remain higher than before COVID. This suggests increased stress and conflicts faced by families during the pandemic. It could also be attributed to stepped-up Government and community campaigns during this period to increase awareness of domestic violence and reporting of child abuse. Please refer to Section VI of the Report for more information on measures to tackle child abuse.

## VI. FAMILY ENVIRONMENT AND ALTERNATIVE CARE

### 1. Family support (arts. 5 and 18, paras. 1 and 2)

**Table 16: Infant care and childcare places available**

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Places available	165,919	175,930	181,386	190,491	197,097	209,552

Source: MSF

The number of infant care and childcare places have increased over the years as the Government works with preschool operators to build new childcare centres in areas where families with young children are concentrated. Refer to Section VII Part A of the main Report for more information on Singapore's efforts to support parents in their child-rearing responsibilities.

### 2. Children without parental care (arts. 9, paras. 1–4, 21 and 25)

**Table 17: Children who require out-of-home care**

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Child protection cases in residential care	631	597	554	517	512	519
Children in foster care	535	545	543	541	540	540
Children in kinship care	295	288	338	485	467	450
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,461</b>	<b>1,430</b>	<b>1,435</b>	<b>1,543</b>	<b>1,519</b>	<b>1,509</b>

Source: MSF

**Table 18: Number of children’s homes and foster families for children who require out-of-home care**

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Children’s homes	21	21	21	19	19	19
Foster families	498	530	564	595	596	614

Source: MSF

The staff to child ratio in children’s homes is minimally 1:10. The actual ratio may be lower, depending on the needs of the children residing in the home.

**Table 19: Adoption orders granted**

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Orders granted	358	206	545	338	276	281

Source: FJC

Notes:

1. Figures are by the year of order granted and are accurate as of 31 Dec 2023.

### **3. Family reunification (art. 10)**

#### **Number of children voluntarily returned to their country of habitual residence in international child abduction cases**

The Singapore Central Authority carries out the functions under the 1980 Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction, which Singapore is Party to. From 2018 to 2023, the number of children who were voluntarily returned to their country of habitual residence each year ranged from 0 to 2. There are no significant changes in the trend of children voluntarily returned to their country of habitual residence.

### **4. Illicit transfer and non-return (art. 11)**

#### **Number of children abducted into Singapore**

From 2018 to 2023, the Singapore Central Authority noted that the number of children abducted into Singapore each year ranged from 2 to 9. The number of children abducted from Singapore yearly ranged from 1 to 11 over the same period.

### **5. Children with incarcerated parents**

**Table 20: Children with incarcerated parents**

	2020	2021	2022	2023
Children with incarcerated parents	4,862	4,391	4,184	4,297
Average age of such children (years)	9.1	9.6	10.2	9.9

Source: MHA

Notes:

1. From 2020, figures were retrieved from our national demographic database.

The SPS has measures to support family members and children of incarcerated parents. Read more in Section VII Part B of the Report.

## VII. DISABILITY, BASIC HEALTH AND WELFARE

### 1. Children with disabilities (art. 23)

**Table 21: Children with developmental needs (DN)**

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Children diagnosed with DN	5,557	5,270	5,122	7,027	7,605	6,989

Source: MOH

Notes:

1. The data only includes the number of new cases of children with DN who are seen in public healthcare institutions<sup>4</sup>. While it does not capture the new cases which are followed-up in other settings (e.g. private sector), these figures would approximate national figures.
2. The data refers to the number of new cases diagnosed each year instead of the total number of children diagnosed with DN each year. Some children with DN may show improvement in their conditions in later years and eventually be excluded from the number, which we will only be able to monitor when they attend schools due to compulsory education at age 7.
3. The number of new cases are largely for children diagnosed up to 6 years old.
4. Majority of the children diagnosed with DN received subsidies.

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<sup>4</sup> KK Women's and Children's Hospital and National University Hospital.

**Table 22: Students with reported disabilities and special educational needs (SEN) and the type of schools they attend**

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
By type of schools they attend						
<b>Mainstream schools<sup>5</sup></b>	<b>26,100</b>	<b>26,237</b>	<b>26,561</b>	<b>27,249</b>	<b>28,001</b>	<b>28,421</b>
Primary	13,479	13,457	12,777	12,733	12,660	12,979
Secondary	11,861	12,070	13,003	13,709	14,509	14,584
Junior College/Centralised Institute	760	710	781	807	832	858
<b>Government- and community-funded SPED schools</b>	<b>6,020</b>	<b>6,344</b>	<b>6,708</b>	<b>7,025</b>	<b>7,327</b>	<b>7,771</b>
By disability type						
Learning Disabilities <sup>6</sup>	28,275	31,376	32,125	33,573	35,429	36,459
Sensory Disabilities	1,560	1,705	1,783	1,864	1,903	1,922
Physical Disabilities	633	672	660	711	751	768
Intellectual Disabilities	2,478	2,466	2,502	2,496	2,475	2,517
Multiple Disabilities	578	580	587	588	567	566
<b>Total</b>	<b>32,120</b>	<b>32,581</b>	<b>33,269</b>	<b>34,274</b>	<b>35,328</b>	<b>36,192</b>

Source: MOE

About 80% of students with disabilities and SEN attend mainstream schools where they can access the national curriculum through inclusive practices implemented by all teachers and school personnel. Specialised personnel are trained and deployed to implement interventions for these students to cope with learning, socio-emotional and behavioural challenges.

The remaining 20% of students, with higher support needs are supported in government and community-funded alternative specialised educational settings known as SPED schools. These schools offer customised curriculum, and are resourced with facilities, specially-trained teachers and allied professionals to help students attain the skills necessary for further education, training, employment and independent living. There are formalised partnerships for purposeful and meaningful interactions between these students and their peers in mainstream schools.

It is compulsory for all Singaporean children aged 6 to 15, including children with disabilities, to attend a government-funded national primary school. However, a few children may have severe disabilities or medical conditions which prevent them from attending school, and are exempted.

<sup>5</sup> The sum of the number of students reported with each type of disability and SEN is greater than the total number of students with disability and SEN as some students have more than one type of disability and SEN, and are therefore counted in more than one disability and SEN type.

<sup>6</sup> This includes attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, autism spectrum disorder, dyslexia and other learning disabilities.



**Table 23: Children with disabilities in out-of-home care, foster care, or living in institutions**

	2021	2022	2023
Out-of-home care	281	316	344
Foster care	112	135	160
Institutions	169	181	184

Source: MSF

Notes:

1. The number of children with disabilities in foster care are defined as those with special needs and receive a higher fostering allowance of \$1,500 per month, compared to \$1,100 for foster children without disabilities. This also includes children with behavioural/emotional disorders, trauma and other mental health issues.

## 2. Health and health services (art. 24)

**Table 24: Child mortality rate and proportion of children with low birth weight**

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Under-five child mortality rate	0.50	0.43	0.38	0.40	0.42	0.50
Proportion of children with low birth weight <sup>7</sup>	9.16	9.20	8.64	9.16	9.49	9.58

Source: MHA

1. Rate of child mortality refers to the number of deaths of resident children under the age of 5 per 1,000 age specific resident population.

**Table 25: Rate of child mortality due to suicide by age group**

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
5 – 9 years	0	0	0	0	0	0
10 - 14 years	0.05	0.14	0.19	0.30	0.49	0.34
15 - 18 years	0.77	0.69	0.90	1.42	0.79	0.89

Source: MHA

Notes:

1. Rate of child mortality due to suicide refers to age specific resident death per 10,000 age specific resident population
2. The 2023 figure is provisional.

**Table 26: Children who are immunised against tuberculosis, diphtheria, pertussis, tetanus, polio, hepatitis B and measles**

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
<b>Percentage (%) of children aged two-years immunised against:</b>						

<sup>7</sup> Low birth weight is defined as less than 2,500 grams at birth, in line with the UNICEF's definition.

Tuberculosis (BCG)	99.0	98.7	98.3	98.2	98.1	97.6
Diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis	97.8	97.1	97.8	98.0	97.2	97.5
Poliomyelitis	97.8	97.1	97.9	98.0	97.2	97.6
Hepatitis B	97.5	96.8	97.4	97.6	96.8	96.8
Measles	96.9	96.6	96.9	96.6	96.7	96.9

Source: HPB

Notes:

1. In Singapore, immunisation coverage for children is reported at 2 years of age.

### Maternal mortality rates and main causes

The maternal mortality rate significantly declined from 10.22 in 2018 to 2.97 in 2023, and Obstetric Embolism was the leading cause of maternal death. The incidence of maternal death each year ranged from 0 to 4.

Notes:

1. Maternal mortality rate refers to maternal deaths per 100,000 live and stillbirths.
2. The 2023 figure is provisional.

### Table 27: Proportion of live-births born in hospitals

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Proportion (%)	99.52	99.47	99.48	99.55	99.48	99.56

Source: MHA

### Table 28: Healthcare manpower

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
<b>No. of Doctors</b>	<b>13,766</b>	<b>14,279</b>	<b>14,823</b>	<b>15,423</b>	<b>16,009</b>	<b>16,753</b>
Public	8,819	9,105	9,532	9,844	10,146	10,586
Private	4,225	4,364	4,489	4,601	4,682	4,869
Not in Active Practice	722	810	802	978	1,181	1,298
<b>No. of Dentists</b>	<b>2,363</b>	<b>2,475</b>	<b>2,482</b>	<b>2,484</b>	<b>2,605</b>	<b>2,690</b>
Public	525	509	540	503	542	525
Private	1,768	1,881	1,859	1,891	1,965	2,053
Not in Active Practice	70	85	83	90	98	112
<b>No. of Pharmacists</b>	<b>3,216</b>	<b>3,408</b>	<b>3,435</b>	<b>3,634</b>	<b>3,759</b>	<b>3,989</b>
Public	1,535	1,616	1,710	1,758	1,789	1,935
Private	1,367	1,444	1,343	1,464	1,521	1,559
Not in Active Practice	314	348	382	412	449	495
<b>No. of Nurses and Midwives</b>	<b>42,125</b>	<b>42,777</b>	<b>42,173</b>	<b>43,005</b>	<b>43,772</b>	<b>46,344</b>
Public	25,636	26,079	26,914	27,339	27,512	29,384

Private	10,711	11,180	11,416	11,299	11,489	11,661
Not in Active Practice	5,778	5,518	3,843	4,367	4,771	5,299

Source: MOH

**Table 29: Proportion of mothers who practise exclusive breastfeeding and for how long**

Indicator	Based on NBS 2011	Based on NBCFS 2021/22
Prevalence of exclusive breastfeeding in infants aged six months or less	50% (at time of discharge from hospital) 35% at 1 month 28% at 2 months 1% at 6 months	40% (for the first 2 days after birth) 46% (0-3 months) 35% (4-5 months) 3% at 6 months

Source: National Breastfeeding Survey (NBS) 2011, National Breastfeeding and Child Feeding Survey (NBCFS) 2021/22

Notes:

1. The sampling methodology for NBS 2011 and NBCFS 2021/22 are different. NBS 2011 is a cohort study (follows the same mothers over a period of 6 months), while NBCFS is a cross-sectional study (surveying mothers who have babies of different ages at a particular time point). This explains what appears to be a “decline” in exclusive breastfeeding at birth (50% in 2011 vs 40% in 2021).
2. Data reflects the proportion of infants aged 0 - 6 months who are exclusively breastfed. These infants would have been receiving breast milk, and not receiving any other fluids or foods, with the exception of oral rehydration solution, vitamins, mineral supplements and medicines.

**Table 30: Number of adolescents affected by alcohol and drug abuse**

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Alcohol abuse	49	23	18	18	15	4
Drug abuse	277	285	222	152	85	87

Source: MHA and MOH

Notes:

1. Adolescents are defined as individuals under 19 years old.

Children who have abused drugs or inhalant for the first time and assessed to have a lower risk of reoffending will be referred to a 6-month community-based rehabilitation programme, Youth Enhanced Supervision (YES). Concurrently, they undergo urine testing administered by the CNB. The YES comprises of individual, group -based and family interventions.

Children assessed to have moderate to high risk of further substance abuse would be referred to the National Addictions Management Service (NAMS). NAMS helps them to address risk factors that have contributed to their vulnerability in developing an addiction issue, and equips them with coping strategies and skills to maintain abstinence from substance abuse.

## VIII. EDUCATION, LEISURE AND CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

**Table 31: Literacy rate for those 15 and over**

	2018	2019	2020	2021
Male	98.9%	98.9%	98.5%	98.9%
Female	95.9%	96.1%	95.8%	96.4%

Source: DOS

Notes:

1. Literacy rate refers to the proportion of population who are able to read with understanding. It is derived based on information as reported in household surveys, as well as administrative data. Persons whose literacy is not known from surveys or administrative records are excluded from the computation of literacy rate.

**Table 32: Enrolment Ratios by Level of Education**

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
<b>Education level</b>						
Primary	100.0	99.8	99.9	99.9	99.4	99.1
Lower Secondary	99.9	99.4	99.7	99.1	99.5	100.0
Upper Secondary	99.9	100.0	99.7	98.9	98.6	98.3
Post-Secondary						
Non-Tertiary	123.2	127.6	130.0	134.2	141.2	130.2
Tertiary	84.8	88.9	91.1	93.1	97.1	98.0

Source: MOE

Notes:

1. Enrolment ratios for Primary and Secondary levels are Total Net Enrolment Ratios (TNER), while that at Post-Secondary Non-Tertiary and Tertiary levels are Gross Enrolment Ratios (GER).
2. TNER is the total number of students of the official age group for a given level of education who are enrolled in any level of education, expressed as a percentage of the corresponding population.
3. GER is the total number of students enrolled in a given level of education regardless of age, expressed as a percentage of population in the theoretical age group for that level of education. Enrolment ratios are aligned with the classification of programmes at post-secondary non tertiary and tertiary levels by UNESCO Institute for Statistics (UIS).

The enrolment ratios for all levels have remained high, in part due to compulsory education at Primary level for all Singapore children, and efforts to provide more opportunities and options for post-secondary education.

**Table 33: Percentage of Primary One cohort who progressed to post-secondary education**

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Percentage (%)	96.4	96.7	96.8	96.9	97.1	97.2

Source: MOE

Notes:

1. Post-secondary education include participation in Junior Colleges, Millennia Institute, Polytechnics, Institute of Technical Education (ITE), LASALLE College of the Arts, Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts and other private education institutions, and takes into account students who have left the country.

**Table 34: Pupil-teacher ratio and number of teachers (Primary and Secondary)**

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Number of teachers	30,028	29,705	29,711	29,493	28,907	28,258
Pupil-teacher ratio (Primary)	14.8	14.8	14.5	14.5	14.8	15.2
Pupil-teacher ratio (Secondary)	11.6	11.7	11.9	12.1	12.4	12.6

Source: MOE

The pupil-teacher ratio has increased slightly to 15.2 at the primary education level and 12.6 at the secondary education level in 2023, but remained comparable to the 2021 OECD average of 14.6 and 13.2 for primary and secondary level respectively.

### Children in the non-formal education system

Annually, about 300 students are exempted from Compulsory Education for enrolment in full-time madrasahs and San Yu Adventist School, and about 50 students for home-schooling.

**Table 35: Children who attend preschool and other early development education facilities**

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Percentage (%)	88%	90%	91%	92%	92%	92% (est)

Source: MSF

The proportion of Singaporean children aged 3 to 6 years who attend preschool or other early development education facilities has increased and remain stable in recent years, given greater awareness of the importance of early childhood development.

**Table 36: Children who attend after-school student care at Government-registered student care centres**

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Number of children	30,900	31,632	32,193	31,735	38,787	35,258

Source: MSF

Notes:

1. MSF collects enrolment data only from student care centres that are registered with the Government.

**Table 37: Number and percentage of children participating in organised leisure, sports, cultural and artistic activities**

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
<b>By sex</b>						
Male	173,676 (80.0%)	171,763 (79.9%)	166,429 (78.1%)	168,400 (78.9%)	170,296 (79.7%)	169,929 (79.3%)
Female	169,378 (81.1%)	167,000 (80.8%)	161,064 (78.6%)	162,699 (79.1%)	163,474 (79.3%)	164,279 (79.6%)
<b>By age</b>						
0 - 4 years <sup>8</sup>	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
5 - 9 years	47,149 (41.6%)	47,304 (41.2%)	39,779 (34.4%)	43,313 (36.6%)	44,245 (37.6%)	45,966 (38.4%)
10 - 14 years	183,898 (93.8%)	184,495 (94.2%)	183,479 (94.6%)	183,973 (95.3%)	185,241 (95.6%)	183,649 (95.6%)
15 - 18 years	109,940 (96.5%)	104,628 (96.6%)	102,354 (96.4%)	102,015 (96.7%)	102,781 (96.7%)	103,154 (96.3%)
Above 18 years	2,067 (76.1%)	2,336 (82.0%)	1,881 (79.2%)	1,798 (79.3%)	1,503 (78.9%)	1,439 (76.3%)
<b>By ethnic group</b>						
Chinese	237,822 (81.3%)	234,343 (80.7%)	226,612 (78.6%)	229,983 (79.4%)	232,501 (79.9%)	234,238 (80.1%)
Malay	51,130 (79.7%)	49,975 (79.7%)	47,810 (77.5%)	47,671 (77.4%)	48,070 (77.7%)	47,405 (76.2%)
Indian	38,047 (77.9%)	38,772 (79.6%)	38,146 (78.5%)	38,687 (79.5%)	38,650 (80.1%)	38,044 (80.5%)
Others	16,055 (79.1%)	15,673 (79.1%)	14,925 (76.4%)	14,758 (76.5%)	14,549 (77.1%)	14,521 (76.9%)
<b>Number and proportion<sup>9</sup> of children</b>	<b>343,054 (80.6%)</b>	<b>338,763 (80.3%)</b>	<b>327,493 (78.3%)</b>	<b>331,099 (79.0%)</b>	<b>333,770 (79.5%)</b>	<b>334,208 (79.4%)</b>

Source: MOE

## IX. SPECIAL PROTECTION MEASURES

### 1. Sexual exploitation, abuse and trafficking (arts. 34 and 35)

**Table 38: Number of border and law enforcement officials trained in the aspect of preventing child trafficking**

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Trained officials	400	438	540	1,000	2,000	2,260

Source: MHA

<sup>8</sup> Data for this group of children is unavailable.

<sup>9</sup> Excludes some secondary schools & Junior Colleges and Centralised Institutions which do not key in CCA data.

## 2. Children in conflict with the law, and administration of juvenile justice (art. 40)

**Table 39: Persons aged 19 and below arrested by police due to alleged conflict with the law**

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Arrests	2,703	2,699	2,422	2,575	2,023	2,288

Source: DOS

**Table 40: Persons aged 21 and below placed on diversionary programmes and probation orders**

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Diversionary programmes <sup>10</sup>	548	403	425	225	193
Probation orders	446	354	345	243	240

Source: MSF

**Table 41: 2-year recidivism rate for persons under 21, by rehabilitation programmes**

	2019	2020	2021
Guidance Programme	2.5%	1.5%	7.8%
(Enhanced) Streetwise Programme	0%	0%	20.0%
Youth Enhanced Supervision Programme	9.7%	4.7%	9.2%
Probation orders	10.3%	6.5%	8.2%
Admitted into Government Youth Home	39.4%	18.0%	17.9%

Source: MSF

Notes:

1. 2-year recidivism rate is the number of persons who reoffended within 2 years (i.e. re-arrested by Police) from the date the person was discharged from the rehabilitation programme, divided by the number of persons who were discharged from the rehabilitation programme in the specified year. The recidivism rate for the (Enhanced) Streetwise Programme was higher at 20.0% in 2023, likely due to the small cohort size – only 1 out of 5 persons who completed the programme reoffended.
2. Guidance Programme targets persons who commit minor offences such as theft. The sessions typically cover topics such as taking personal responsibility for one's actions and forming healthy relationships.

<sup>10</sup> Diversionary programmes comprise Guidance Programme, (Enhanced) Streetwise Programme, and Youth Enhanced Supervision Scheme.

3. (Enhanced) Streetwise Programme targets children who played minor roles in gang-related offences. The children are taught the consequences of gang involvement and guided to dissociate from gangs, form healthy relationships with others and resolve conflicts in a healthy manner.

**3. Children in armed conflicts (art. 38), including physical and psychological recovery and social reintegration (art. 39)**

Singapore has not experienced any instance of armed conflict since its independence in 1965. No child has been recruited and used in hostilities by armed groups, or in demobilisation and reintegration programmes, and none has been charged with war crimes.