PRESS RELEASE

Complete Life Tables for Singapore Resident Population, 2021-2022

Life Expectancy Improved Over the Last Decade but Saw Declines Over Recent Years Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic

1. According to the "Complete Life Tables for Singapore Resident Population, 2021-2022" report released by the Singapore Department of Statistics (DOS) on 22 May 2023, life expectancy improved for the Singapore resident population over the last decade. Declines in life expectancy were however observed from 2020 to 2022, arising from higher mortality rates due to the COVID-19 pandemic[1].

2. In 2022, life expectancy at birth for Singapore residents was 83.0 years[2], an improvement of 0.9 years over the last decade, from 82.1 years in 2012. However, this was a decline of 0.2 years from 83.2 years in 2021. Compared with the pre-COVID life expectancy of 83.7 years in 2019, life expectancy at birth decreased by 0.7 years.

3. Similarly, life expectancy at age 65 years increased by 0.5 years over the last ten years to 20.7 years in 2022, although it declined 0.2 years from 20.9 years in 2021.

4. The life expectancy data for 2020 to 2022 assumes that the higher mortality rates due to the pandemic apply throughout a lifetime. Therefore, it is important to note that they may not be representative of the number of years individuals can expect to live, if mortality rates were to return to pre-pandemic levels.

Improvements in Life Expectancy Over the Last Decade Observed for Both Males and Females

5. The male and female life expectancies at birth were 80.7 years and 85.2 years respectively in 2022. Compared with 2012, both male and female life expectancies at birth improved by 0.9 years over the last decade.

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[1] For more information on excess mortality during the COVID-19 pandemic, please refer to https://www.moh.gov.sg/resources-statistics/reports/report-on-excess-mortality-during-the-covid-19-pandemic-up-to-june-2022.

[2] Data for 2022 is preliminary.

6. Compared with the year before, life expectancy at birth for males in 2022 declined 0.1 years from 80.8 years in 2021. For females, it declined 0.3 years from 85.5 years over the same period. Similar trends were observed for both male and female life expectancies at age 65 years.

7. The report on “Complete Life Tables for Singapore Resident Population, 2021-2022” and accompanying materials are available on the Singstat Website at https://www.singstat.gov.sg/publications/population/complete-life-table.

Singapore Department of Statistics
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For enquiries, please contact:
Ms Erica Ngan **T** (+65) 6332 7700 **E** erica_ngan@singstat.gov.sg
Ms Seet Ming Lee **T** (+65) 6332 5040 **E** seet_ming_lee@singstat.gov.sg

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