



5-Year Singapore PR & Citizen Trends

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INTRODUCTION

The Permanent Resident and citizenship status are coveted by many professionals and investors who have been working in Singapore and want to stay in the city-state for a longer period.

Having either status comes with benefits including access to public housing, quality education and healthcare services at subsidized rates. PRs and citizens also benefit from CPF savings as well as a range of personal tax reliefs and rebates.

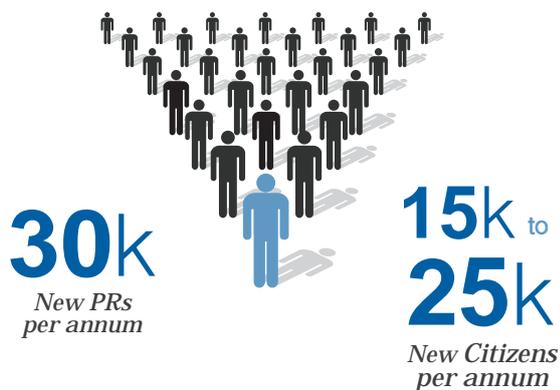


In addition, the republic offers a great mix of business opportunities and creature comforts such as a high degree of personal safety, good public infrastructure and air connectivity to 250 cities worldwide. However, attaining either status is dependent on a number of factors.

From the standpoint of the authorities, permanent residency and naturalization remain relevant to diversify and grow human capital as well as the population in Singapore.

As of 2012, and according to the latest Yearbook of Statistics issued by Singapore's Department of Statistics (SingStat), there were 533,100 Singapore PRs and 3.29 million citizens in Singapore.

However, this will not suffice for a city-state with an ageing population and low birth rate.



**A Sustainable Population
for a Dynamic Singapore**

To that end, and as stated in the NPTD's Population White Paper - A Sustainable Population for a Dynamic Singapore, **the city-state will grant PR status to 30,000 eligible candidates and 15,000 - 25,000 citizenships annually.**

In this report, we will provide an overview of the PR and naturalization activity in Singapore for the period of 2008 – 2012. The data is based on figures from the National Population and Talent Division (NPTD), SingStat and the Immigration and Checkpoints Authority (ICA).

We will also share a number of factors which affect a PR application and the avenues which can be pursued to achieve this status.

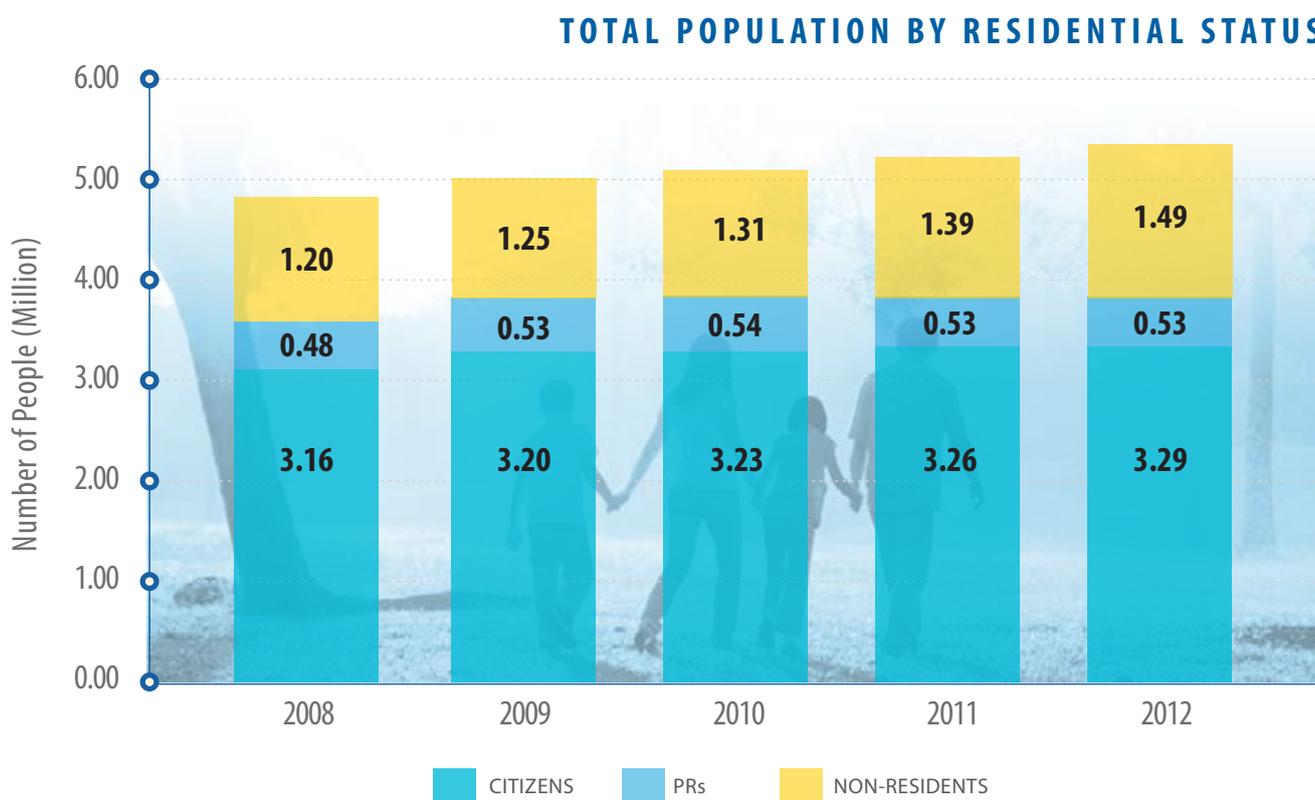
SINGAPORE'S TOTAL POPULATION BY RESIDENTIAL STATUS

Singapore has seen a moderate growth in its total population between 2008 and 2012.

As depicted in the figure below, Singapore's total population, which consists of residents (citizens and PRs) and non-residents, has grown from approximately 4.84 million in 2008 to 5.3 million in 2012. Altogether, Singapore's total population has grown 9.5% between 2008 and 2012.

During this period, the resident population has grown approximately 5% - from 3.64 million to 3.82 million. This expansion was contributed largely by the PR population which grew by 10%. The citizen population, on the other hand, grew by 4% - from 3.16 million to 3.29 million during the period.

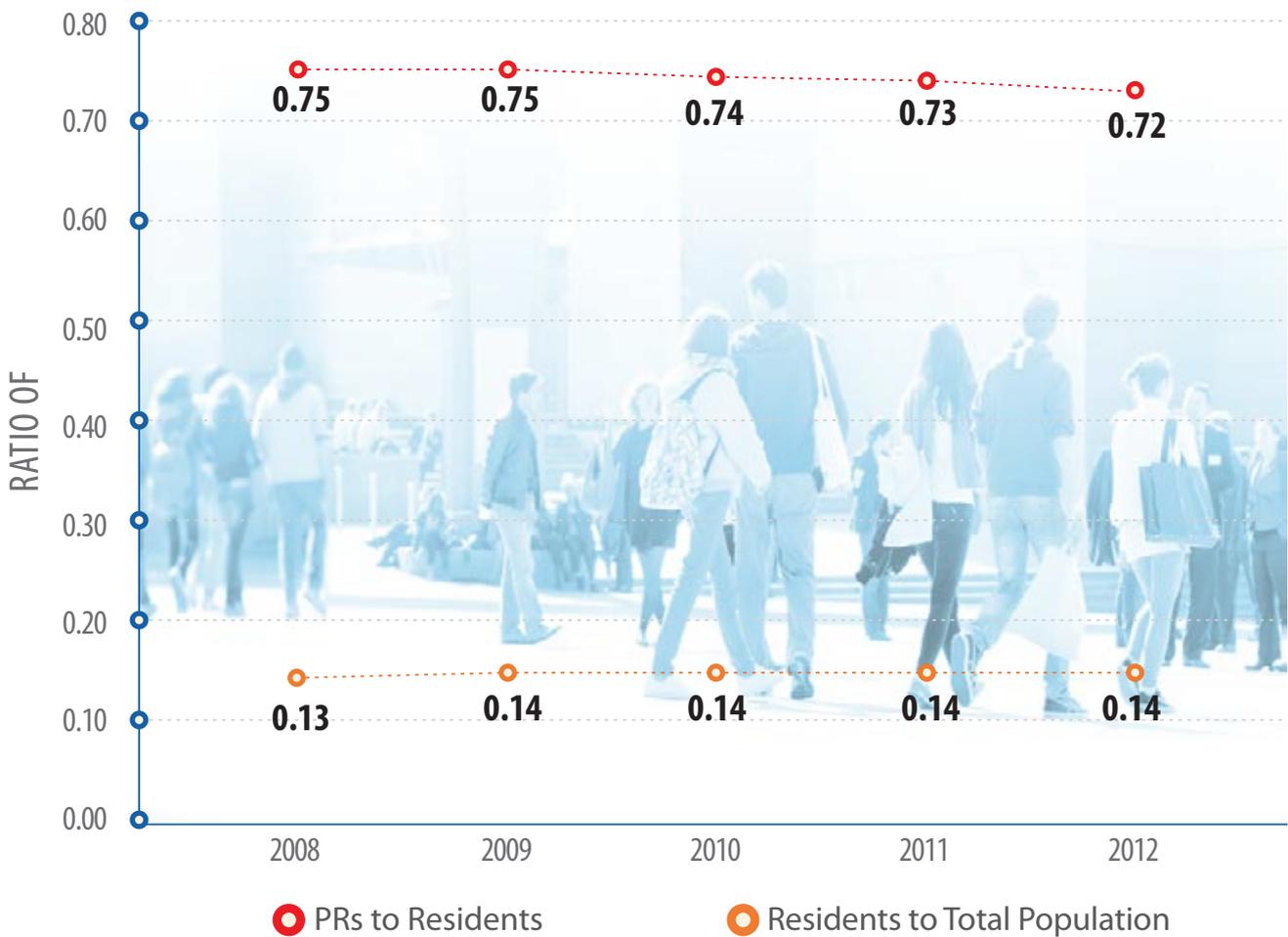
However, the biggest contributor of total population growth during this period was the non-resident population. This segment grew by 24% - from 1.2 million to more than 1.49 million.



Sources:

- Department of Statistics, *Key Demographic Indicators 1970 – 2013, Table 1*
- National Population and Talent Division, *Population in Brief 2013, p15*
- All data as of June each year; Figures are rounded off to 2 decimal points.

PROPORTION OF PRS AND RESIDENTS TO TOTAL POPULATION



Sources:

- Sources: Department of Statistics, Key Demographic Indicators 1970 – 2013, Table 1
- National Population and Talent Division, Population in Brief 2013, p15
- All data as of June each year; Figures are rounded off to 2 decimal points.

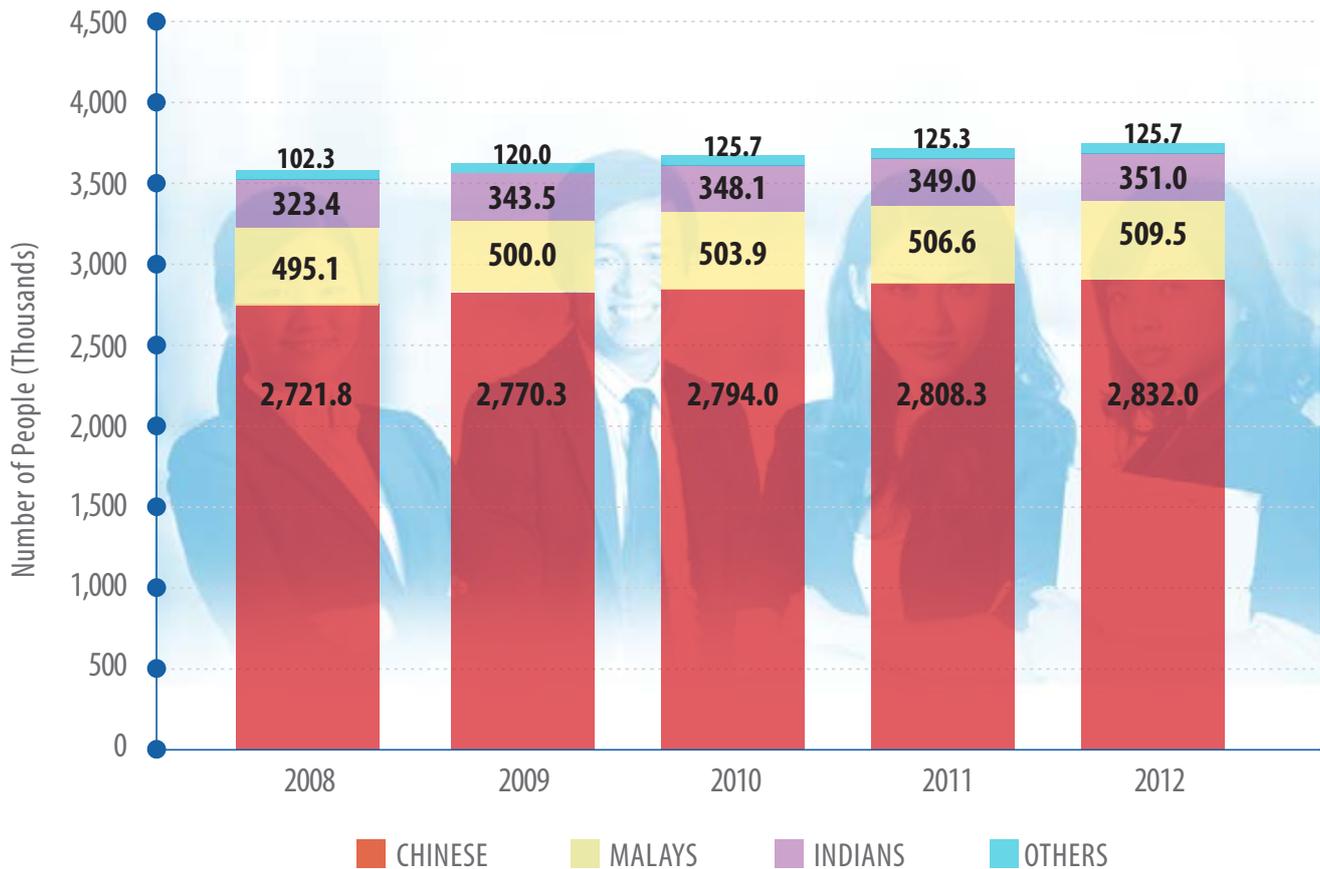
In the previous section, we saw that resident population growth has remained modest while the non-resident population grew at a faster clip between 2008 and 2012.

In the figure above, we see that the proportion of residents – which consist of citizens and PRs - to the total population in Singapore has declined approximately 1% annually. The proportion of residents among total population has dropped slightly from 75% to 72%.

In addition, the proportion of PRs to residents in Singapore has remained somewhat steady, from 13% in 2008 to 14% in 2012.

This reiterates that the citizen population did not grow as fast as the PR population during this period.

ESTIMATES OF SINGAPORE RESIDENTS BY ETHNIC GROUP



Source: Immigration and Checkpoints Authority, Registry of Births and Deaths, September 2013, Table 3

In the previous section, we saw that Singapore’s resident population has shrunk slightly between 2008 and 2012.

In this section, we take a look at the people who make up Singapore’s resident population - categorized under the umbrella ethnic groups - Chinese, Malays, Indians as well as others.

In the figure above, we see that all ethnic groups seem to have a relatively modest growth between 2008 and 2012.

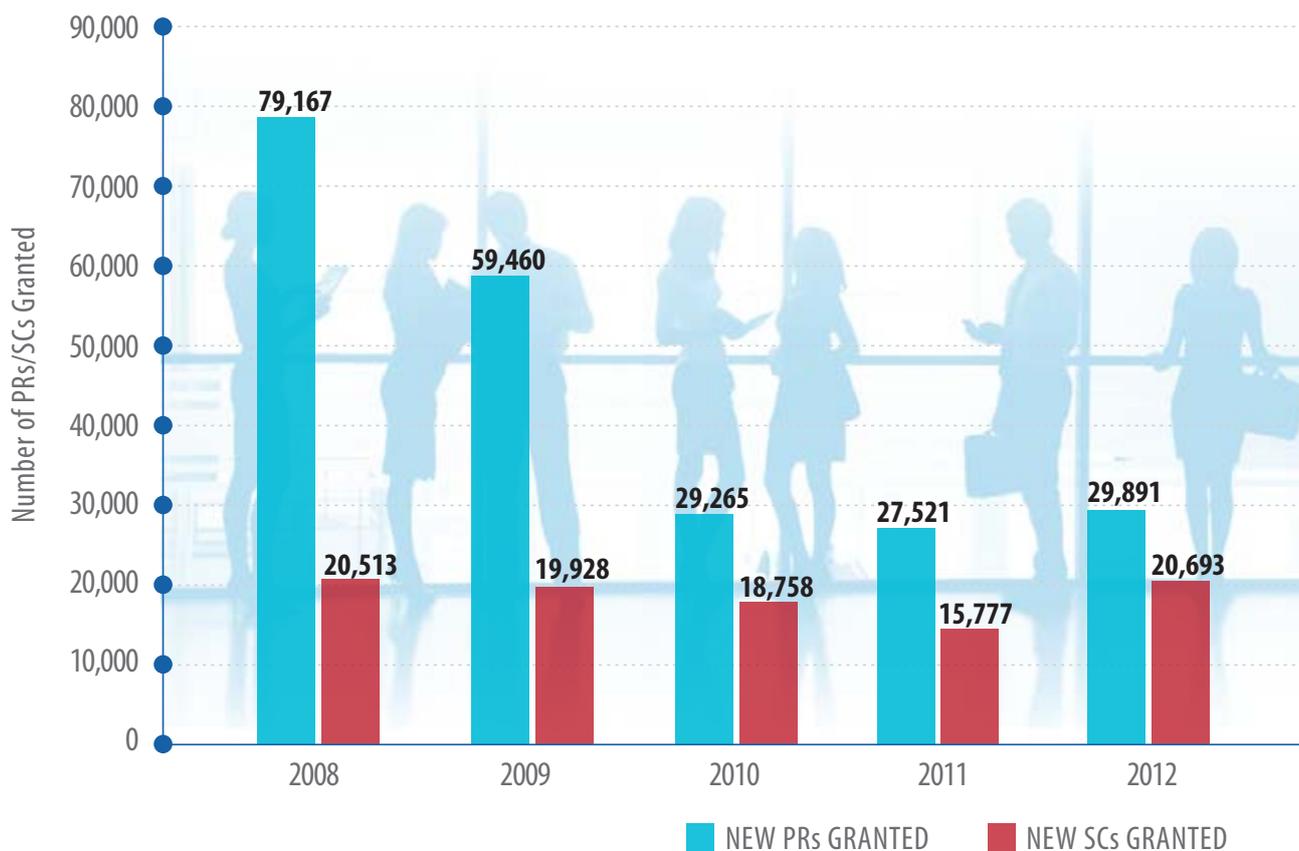
The Chinese population, which forms the bulk of the resident population in Singapore, grew 4% during the period. However, on a year-on-year (y-o-y) basis, the increase in Chinese population has declined from 48,500 between 2008 and 2009 to 23,700 between 2011 and 2012. On average, the Chinese population grew by 27,550 per annum during this period.

The Malay population grew by 2.9% during this period. On a y-o-y basis, the increase in Malay population has declined as well, from 4,900 between 2008 and 2009 to 2,900 between 2011 and 2012. On average, the Malay population grew by 3,600 a year during this period.

The Indian population, on the other hand, grew by 8.5% during this period. On a y-o-y basis, the increase in Indian population has dropped significantly, from 20,100 between 2008 and 2009 to 2,000 between 2011 and 2012. On average, the Indian population grew by 6,900 per annum during this period.

“Others” – a group to categorize a melting pot of ethnic groups in Singapore, grew by 22.8% during this period. On average, this group grew by 5,850 per annum. On a y-o-y basis, the population of this group plummeted as well, from increasing by 17,700 between 2008 and 2009 to increasing by 400 between 2011 and 2012.

NUMBER OF SINGAPORE PRs AND CITIZENSHIPS GRANTED



Source: National Population and Talent Division, Statistic Booklet - Population in Brief (Years 2008 - 2013), New residents by highest qualification attained

Between 2008 and 2012, the number of Singapore PRs granted has decreased significantly.

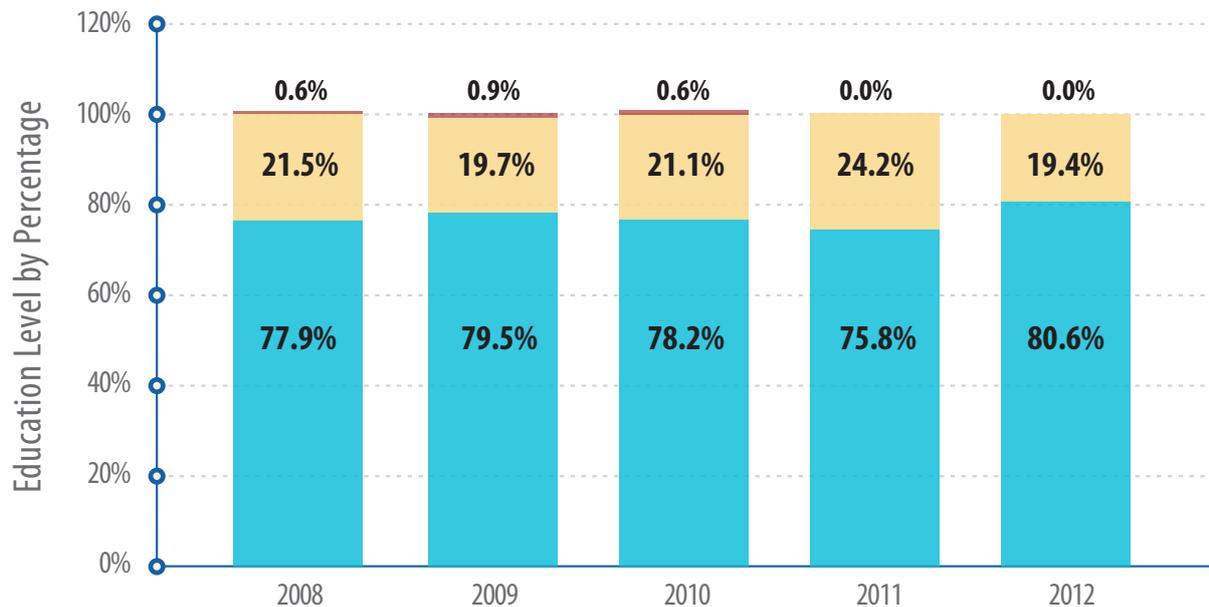
While there were 79,167 PRs granted in 2008, the number dropped to 29,891 in 2012. According to SingStat, this measure aims to keep the PR population stable at between 0.5 and 0.6 million.

In 2012, the Financial Investor Scheme was scrapped.

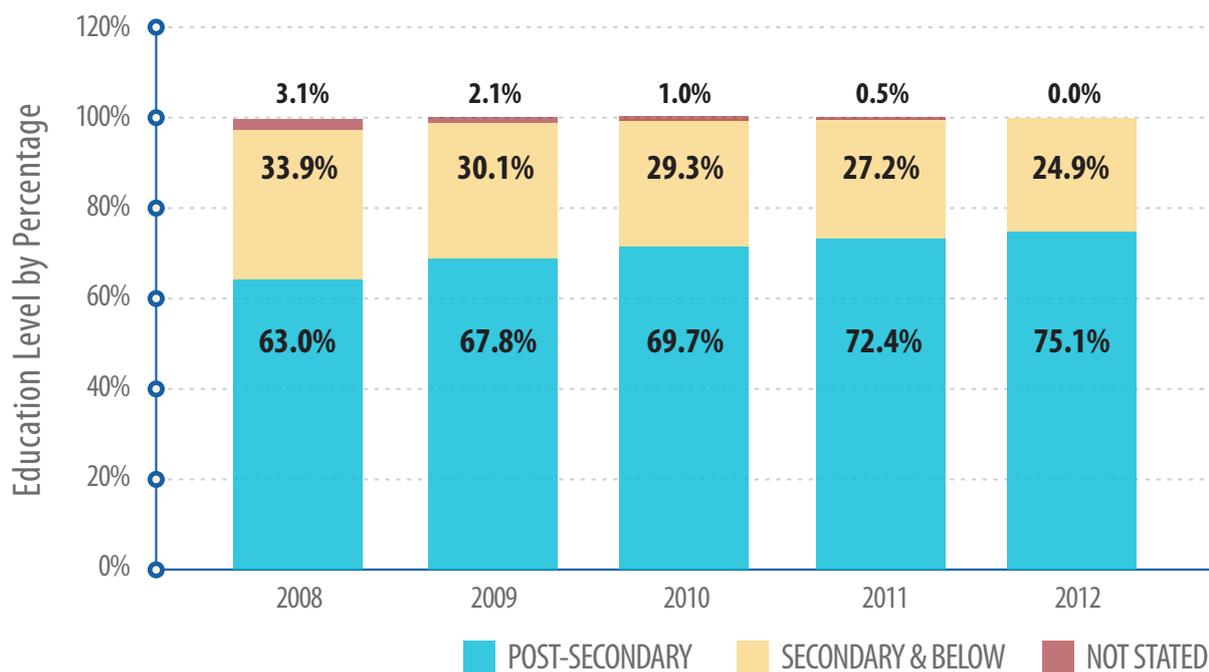
As for Singapore citizenships (SCs), the number granted annually has declined from 20,513 in 2008 to 15,777 in 2011. Fewer SCs are granted in 2011 resulting from the introduction of the compulsory Singapore Citizenship Journey. However, in 2012, the number bounced back to 20,693.

NEW PRS, SINGAPORE CITIZENS BY HIGHEST QUALIFICATION ATTAINED

NEW SINGAPORE PERMANENT RESIDENTS BY HIGHEST QUALIFICATION ATTAINED, 2008-2012



NEW SINGAPORE CITIZENS BY HIGHEST QUALIFICATION ATTAINED, 2008-2012



Source: National Population and Talent Division, *Statistic Booklet - Population in Brief (Years 2008 - 2013), New residents by highest qualification attained*

These figures indicate that on average, new PRs outnumber new citizens in terms of possessing higher educational qualifications.

On average, 78.4% of new PRs hold post-secondary qualifications. In comparison, 69.6% of new citizens possess post-secondary qualifications.

In addition, in 2012, the post-secondary figure augments by almost 5% for new PRs and only 3% for new citizens.

FACTORS WHICH AFFECT A PR APPLICATION

Permanent residency is an intermediate step towards citizenship.

Apart from the general requirements to process a PR application, elements such as educational background as well as years of economic and social contribution, for example, play a part in the assessment. The main goal of Singapore government is to keep the PR population stable at between 0.5 and 0.6 million annually and to ensure a pool of suitable candidates for citizenship since majority of new citizens are drawn from the pool of existing PRs.

Therefore, factors that suggest an applicants' long term stay in Singapore as well as current and future contribution to Singapore will factor significantly when applying for PR. The following are some of the crucial ones.

INDUSTRY

When it comes to employment background, many candidates focus only on the salary, but in fact, industry matters as well. More specifically, the industry the applicant is in, whether it is a sunrise or sunset industry, whether it increases the domestic competition here in Singapore, whether it involves lots of risks and affects the stability of one's job, will be considered. The more promising the industry and the more in-demand the occupation is, the higher the chance of a successful application.

KINSHIP

Family ties reflect the long-terms plan of a person. Hence, it definitely adds weight to one's application. Kinship makes the authorities see that you have familial responsibilities to fulfil and are going to reside in Singapore for a longer term.

DURATION OF STAY IN SINGAPORE

Permanent resident status does not only entail more rights but also more obligations. The duration of stay and employment directly implies one's intention of applying for SPR. The longer you have stayed in Singapore, the more contribution you have made to this country and the more invested you are in a life in Singapore. Consequently, you have a better chance to get approved.

ECONOMIC CONTRIBUTION

Economic contribution such as current salary and overall financial status gives one a competitive edge.

SOCIAL CONTRIBUTION

Last but not least, charitable contributions such as donations, volunteering and community service indicate your character and your social contribution. Moreover, community affiliation or membership shows a commitment towards contributing to a greater social good and enhances the chance of attaining PR status.



HOW TO ATTAIN PR STATUS

The two routes to attain PR status are as follows:

FOR SINGAPORE WORKING PROFESSIONALS

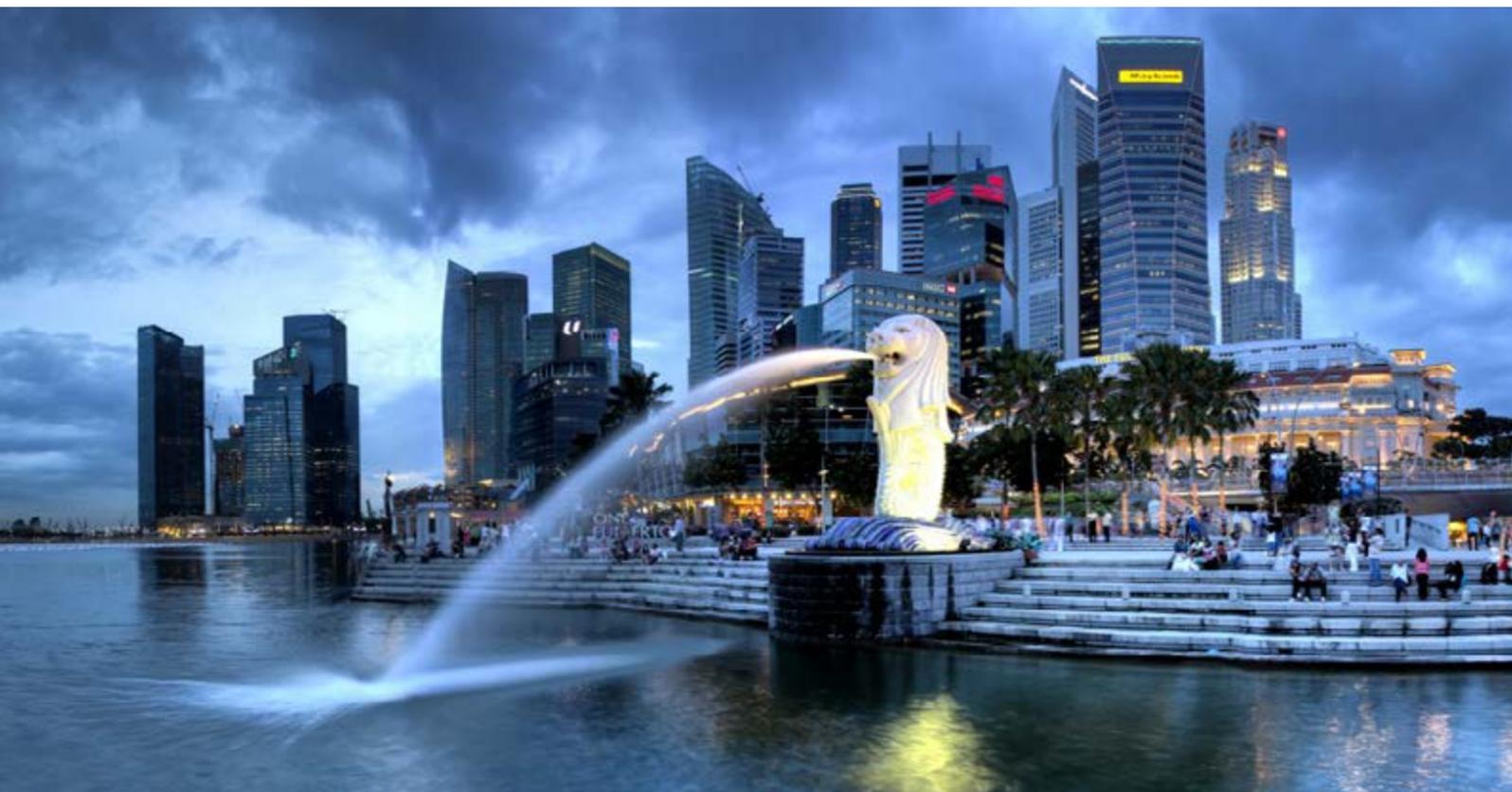
Professional, Technical Personnel and Skilled Worker Scheme (PTS Scheme)

The most popular scheme for permanent residence in Singapore is the Professional, Technical Personnel and Skilled Workers scheme (PTS Scheme). The scheme enables professionals working in Singapore under an Employment Pass or PEP to apply for permanent residence.

FOR CAPITAL INVESTORS

Global Investor Program Scheme (GIP Scheme)

The Global Investor Program is an initiative launched by Singapore Economic Development Board and Ministry of Manpower. It is a program for foreign individuals and entrepreneurs who are keen to invest in or initiate new business activities in Singapore, and in the process, obtain Singapore permanent residence. Spouses and children of these investors are also eligible for Singapore permanent residence.



RIKVIN PTE LTD

20 Cecil Street, #14-01, Equity Plaza, Singapore 049705

Main Line : (+65) 6320 1888

Fax : (+65) 6438 2436

Email : info@rikvin.com

Website : www.rikvin.com

CONTACT US

Name:

Phone Number:

E-mail:

Notes:

I would like to apply for Singapore Permanent Residence through Rikvin.

I would like to consult with Rikvin regarding my application for Permanent Residency.

I would like Rikvin to manage my appeal for my Permanent Residence case.

Note: Please email this form to info@rikvin.com.



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20 Cecil Street, #14-01, Equity Plaza, Singapore 049705

Main Line : (+65) 6320 1888

Fax : (+65) 6438 2436

Email : info@rikvin.com

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