

COMCARE TRENDS REPORT FY2013-FY2017

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PREFACE

The Government has strengthened its social safety net over the last decade by investing heavily in education, healthcare, housing, employment and retirement adequacy for Singaporeans. There are broad-based schemes and subsidies that benefit many, while a network of government and community agencies provides targeted assistance for low-income and vulnerable groups who need additional help. Within these multiple layers of assistance, ComCare plays the role of supporting low-income households with their living expenses.

Since its inception in 2005, ComCare has served as a key social safety net for low-income Singaporeans.

Over the years, the profile of Singapore society has evolved due to demographic and social changes, such as smaller family sizes and an aging population. The family has come under greater strain as the first line of support.

In response to these trends, ComCare has evolved to assist low-income families to meet their basic needs and regain self-reliance.

This report provides an overview of the profile of households assisted by ComCare over the last five financial years.

DEFINITIONS

Applicants

- “Main applicant” refers to the household member who applied for and was assisted by ComCare.

Educational Qualifications

- “No formal/primary qualification” refers to those who have no formal education qualification or received primary-level education, including those who did and did not pass the Primary School Leaving Examination (PSLE).
- “Secondary qualification” refers to those who received secondary-level education, including those who did and did not pass the GCE “O” or “N” Level.
- “Post-secondary qualification (non-tertiary)” refers to those who have ITE/vocational education or professional qualifications.
- “Post-secondary qualification (tertiary)” refers to those who have polytechnic, university, or post-graduate qualifications.
- “Not reported” refers to instances where no information was available on the individuals’ education qualifications.

Employment Status

- “Working” refers to those who were holding full-time or part-time jobs.
- “Seeking employment” refers to those who were not working but were looking for jobs.
- “Not working – Medically unfit” refers to those who were certified to be unfit for work.
- “Not working – Others” refers to those without regular employment, or were not working for other reasons (e.g. caregiving) except medical reasons or retirement.
- “Not reported” refers to instances where no information was available on the individuals’ employment status.

Marital Status

- “Not reported” refers to instances where no information was available on the individuals’ marital status.

Dwelling Type

- “Institutions” refer to homes and centres which provide specialised care, e.g. nursing homes and elderly aged homes.
- “Not reported” refers to instances where no information was available on the individuals’ dwelling type.

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

SMTA : ComCare Short-to-Medium-Term Assistance scheme

LTA : ComCare Long-Term Assistance scheme (also known as Public Assistance)

SCFA : Student Care Fee Assistance scheme

KIFAS: Kindergarten Financial Assistance scheme

For more information on ComCare schemes, please refer to <http://app.msf.gov.sg/ComCare>.



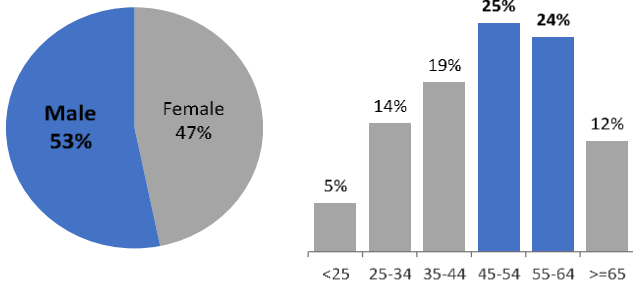
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

SNAPSHOT OF COMCARE HOUSEHOLDS IN FY2017

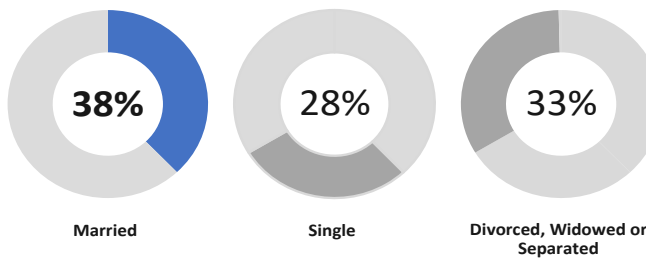
SMTA

HOUSEHOLD MAIN APPLICANTS

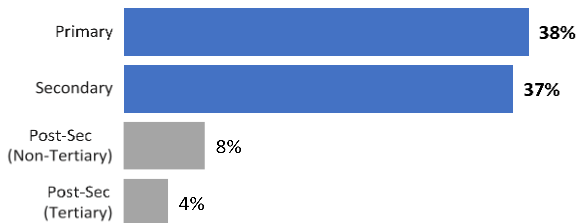
Gender Age Group



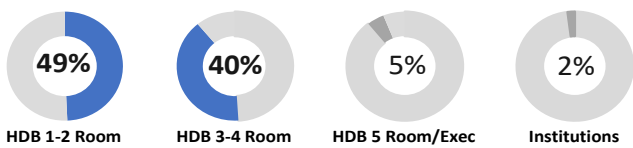
Marital Status



Education



Dwelling Type



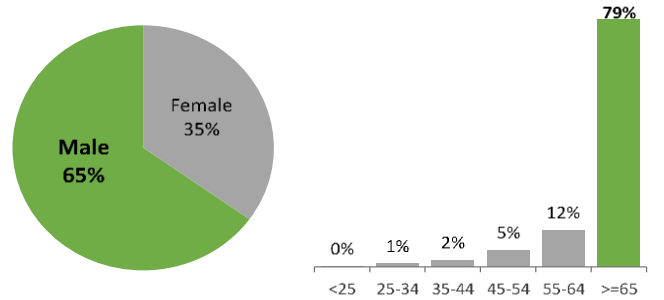
Household Composition



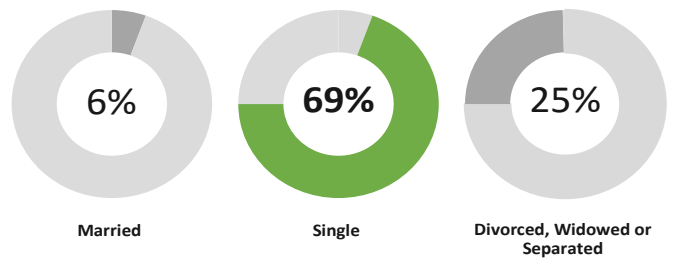
LTA

HOUSEHOLD MAIN APPLICANTS

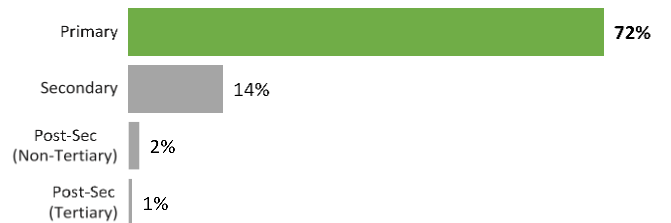
Gender Age Group



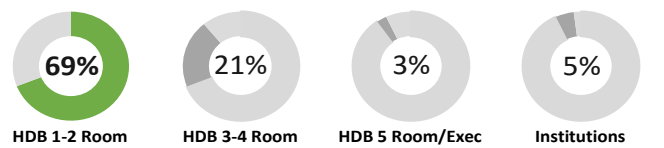
Marital Status



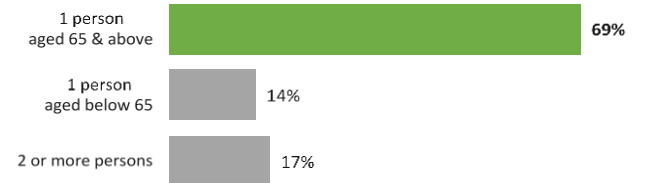
Education



Dwelling Type

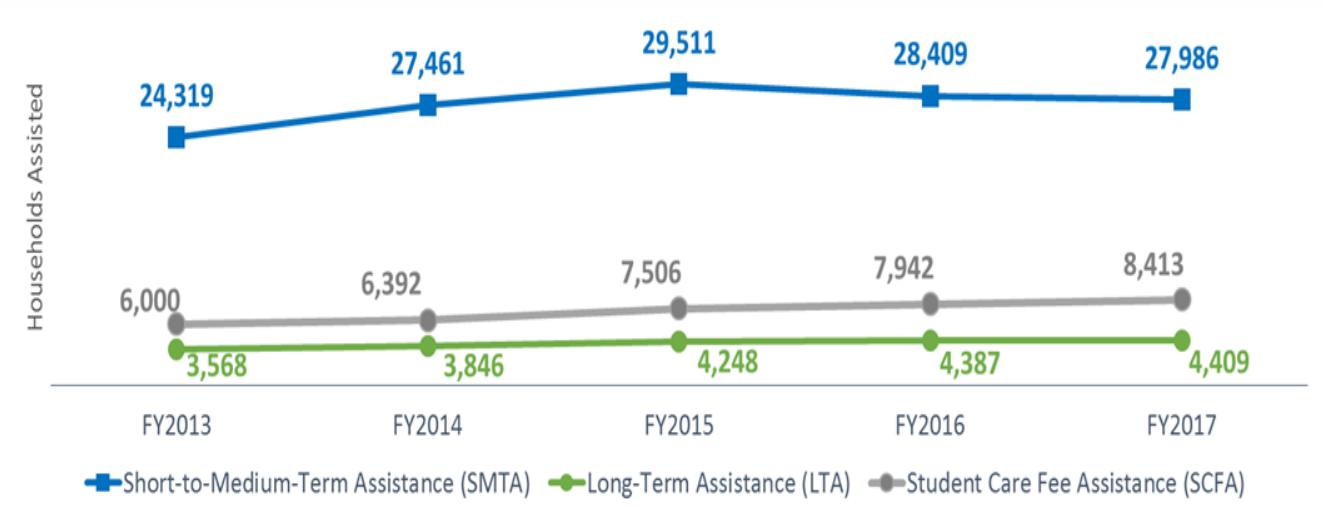


Household Composition

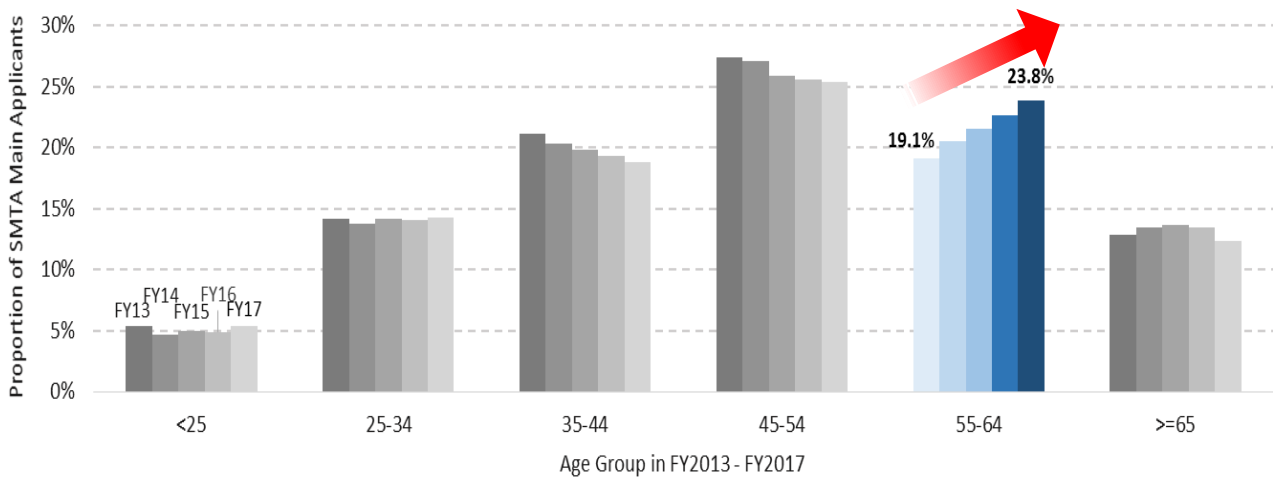


SALIENT TRENDS

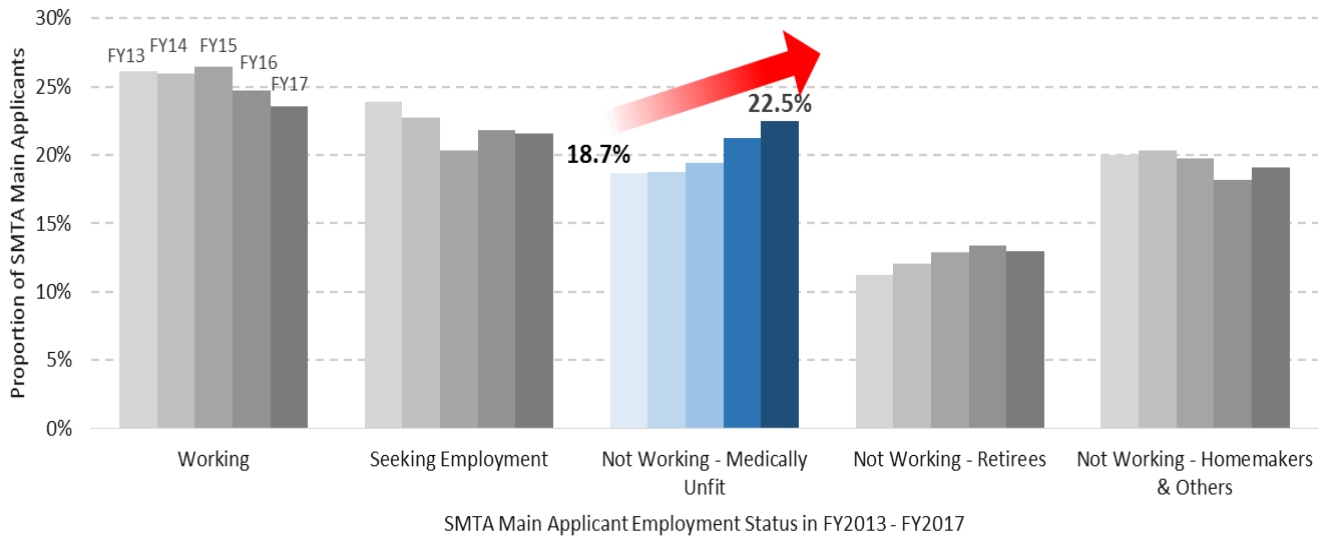
There was an overall increase in the number of households assisted on all schemes between FY2013 and FY2017 with the number of households on SMTA stabilising in FY2016 and FY2017, and more elderly and school-going children assisted.



The proportion of SMTA main applicants aged 55-64, especially those aged 60-64, increased between FY2013 and FY2017.



The proportion of SMTA main applicants who were not working increased between FY2013 and FY2017. More than two-fifths of those who were not working were medically unfit.





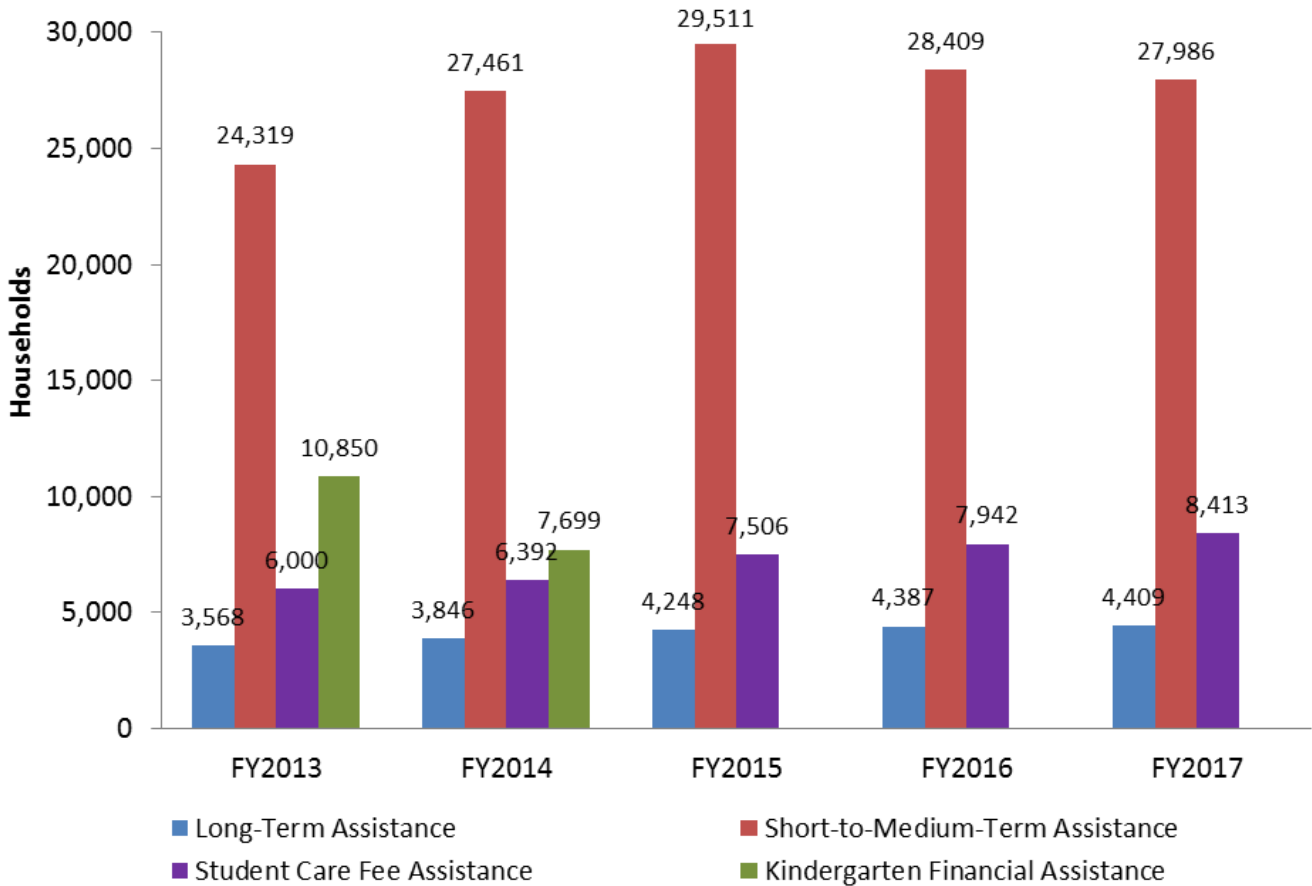
KEY TRENDS

KEY TRENDS

I) ComCare Households Assisted

1 There was an overall increase in the number of households assisted on all schemes from FY2013 to FY2017 with the number of households on SMTA stabilising in FY2016 and FY2017.

Figure 1: Number of Unique Households Assisted, by ComCare Scheme



Notes:

1. The count of households was unique within the scheme and financial year. Each household was counted once under the respective scheme in each financial year. Hence, the same household might be included more than once within the same FY, if it received assistance from more than one scheme in that FY.
2. FY2015 to FY2017 data excluded Kindergarten Financial Assistance Scheme (KIFAS) households, as the scheme was transferred to the Early Childhood Development Agency (ECDA) under the national kindergarten subsidy scheme with effect from 1 January 2015.

On the whole, the profiles of households on SMTA and LTA remained broadly similar over the past five financial years. This was observed across the demographic categories of age group, education qualifications, employment status, marital status, gender and dwelling type.

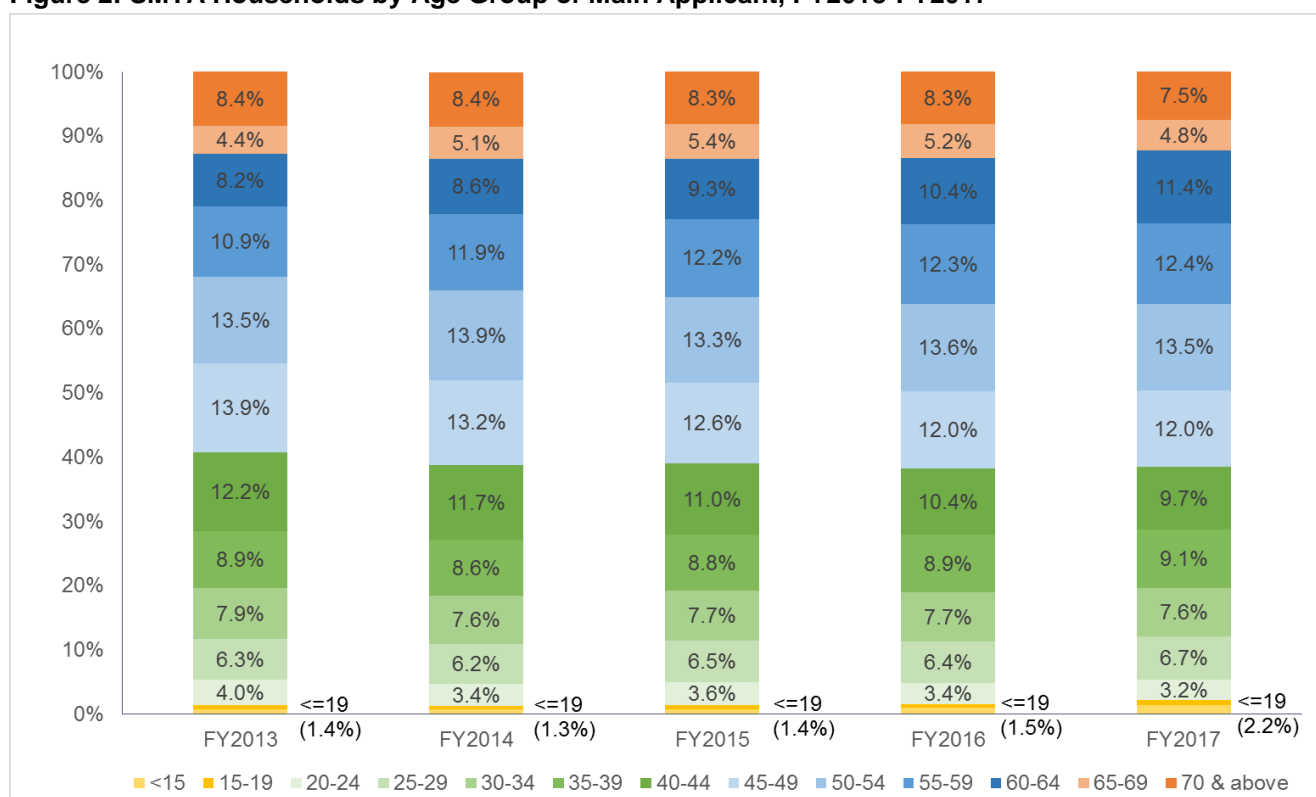
II) ComCare Households – Age Group Distribution

About half of Short-to-Medium-Term Assistance main applicants were aged 45-64

2 Main applicants aged 45-64 made up approximately half of the households assisted on SMTA. This trend was consistent across FY2013 to FY2017.

3 The proportion of SMTA main applicants aged 55-64 increased from 19.1% in FY2013 to 22.7% in FY2016, and to 23.8% in FY2017. The increase was mainly due to the older SMTA main applicants aged 60-64. This increased from 8.2% in FY2013 to 10.4% in FY2016, and to 11.4% in FY2017.

Figure 2: SMTA Households by Age Group of Main Applicant, FY2013-FY2017



Note(s):

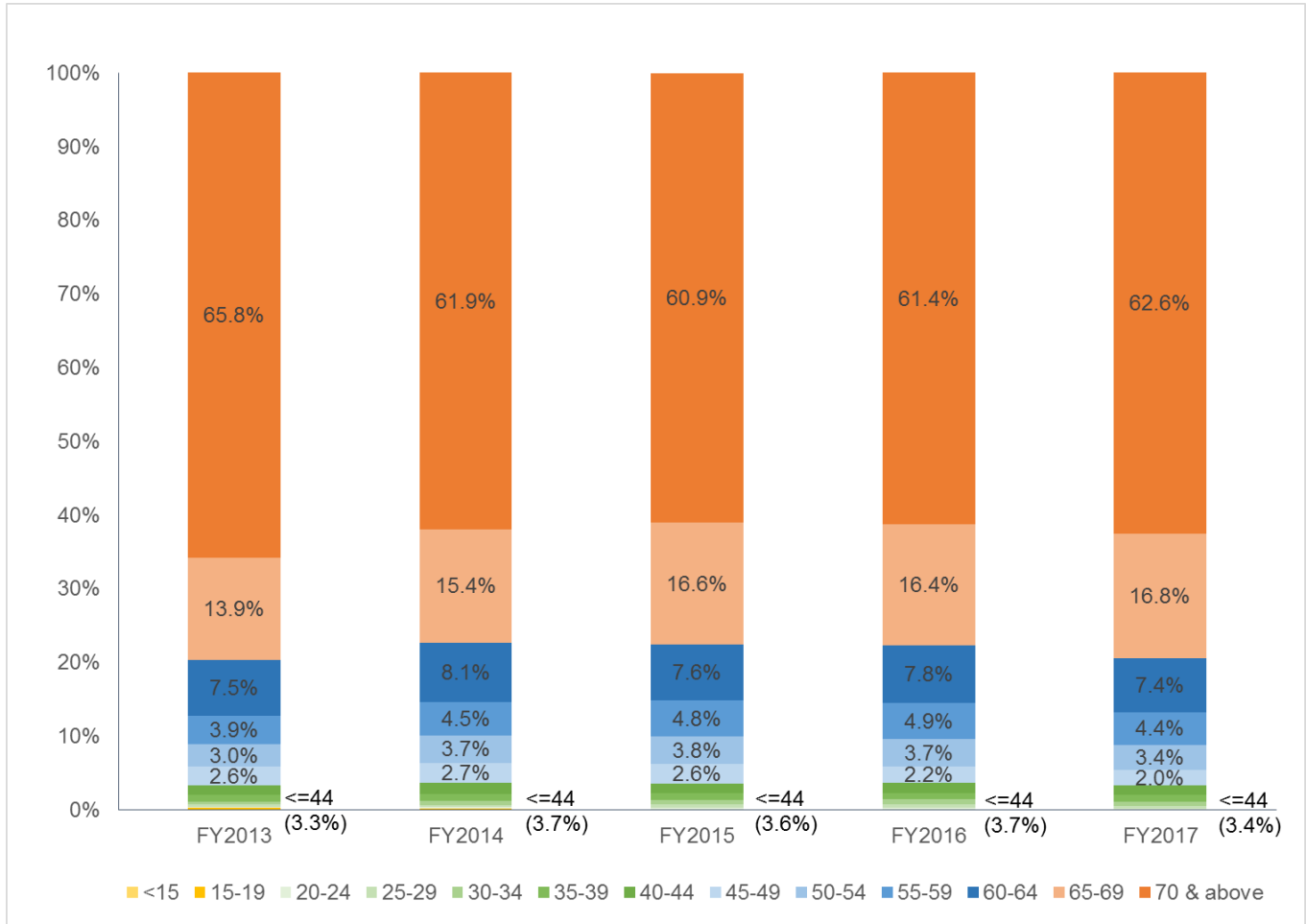
1. The count of households was unique within the scheme and financial year. Each household was counted once under the respective scheme in each financial year.
2. Age was taken as at end of each financial year (i.e. end Mar). There could be main applicants aged below 15 because (i) the adults in the households were incarcerated or (ii) the children were orphans.

The majority of Long-Term Assistance main applicants were aged 65 and above

4 Main applicants aged 65 and above remained the largest proportion of households assisted on LTA. This trend was consistent across FY2013 to FY2017.

5 In particular, the proportion of LTA main applicants aged 65 to 69 increased from 13.9% in FY2013, to 16.4% in FY2016, and to 16.8% in FY2017.

Figure 3: LTA Households by Age Group of Main Applicant, FY2013-FY2017



Note(s):

1. The count of households was unique within the scheme and financial year. Each household was counted once under the respective scheme in each financial year.
2. Age was taken as at end of each financial year (i.e. end Mar). There could be main applicants aged below 15 because (i) the adults in the households were incarcerated or (ii) the children were orphans.

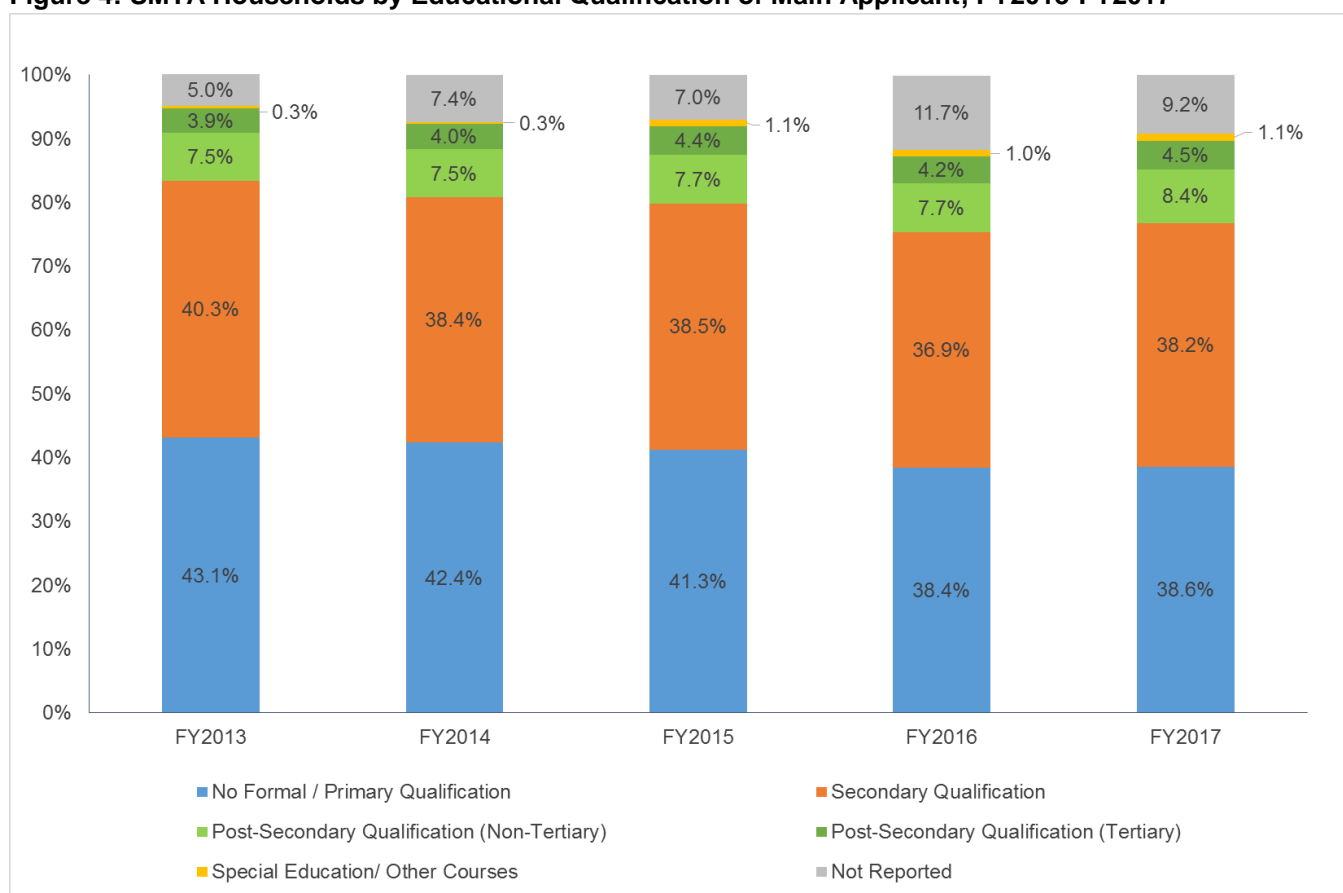
III) ComCare Households – Educational Qualifications

The majority of Short-to-Medium-Term Assistance main applicants had secondary-level education or below

6 Main applicants with secondary-level education or below remained the largest proportion of households assisted on SMTA. This has been consistent across all years from FY2013 to FY2017.

7 The proportion of SMTA main applicants with secondary-level education or below decreased from 83.4% in FY2013 to 75.3% in FY2016, and increased slightly to 76.8% in FY2017.

Figure 4: SMTA Households by Educational Qualification of Main Applicant, FY2013-FY2017



Note(s):

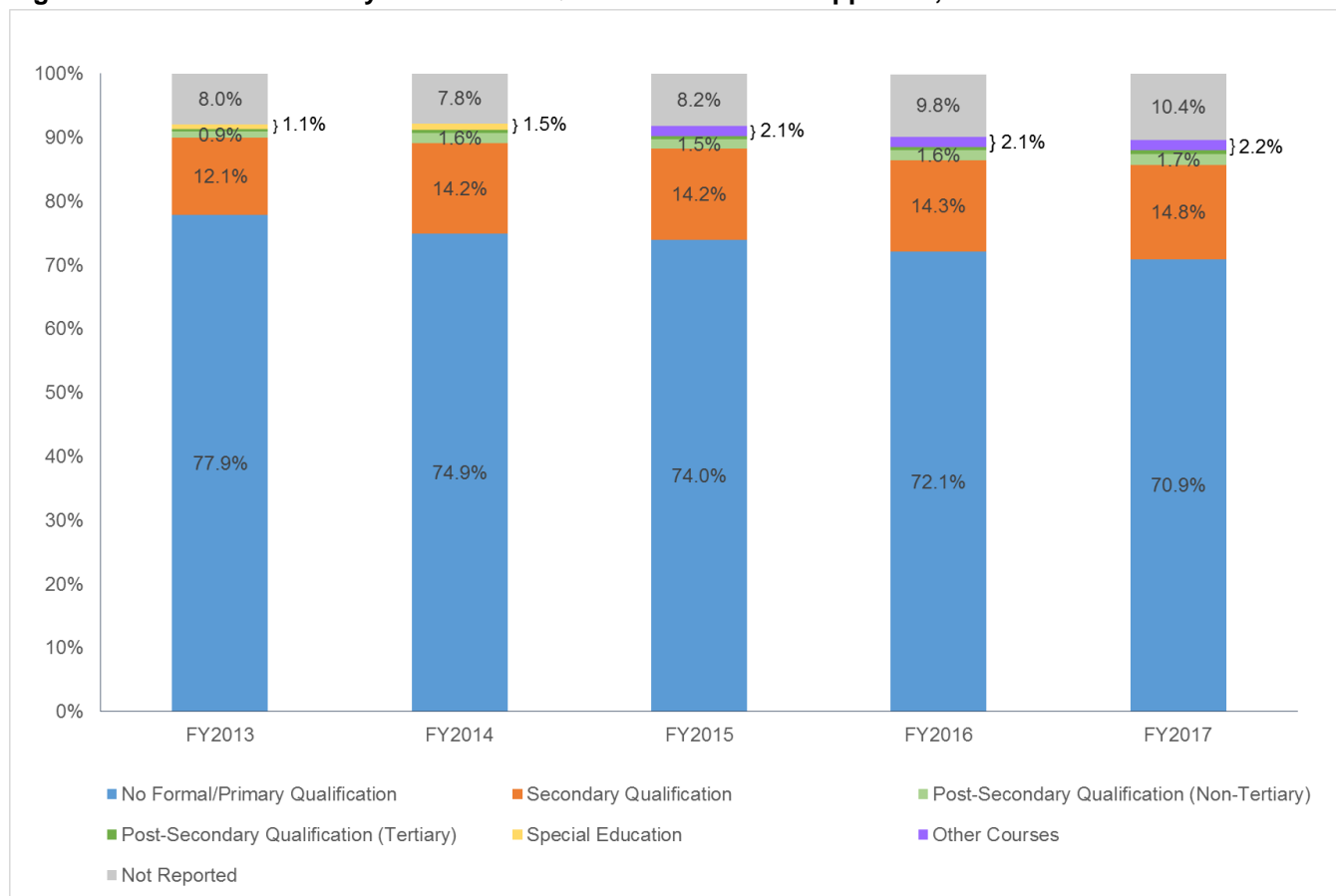
1. The count of households was unique within the scheme and financial year. Each household was counted once under the respective scheme in each financial year.
2. There were slight changes in definitions from the FY2013-FY2014 trends report following system changes in 2015. The current definitions are set out on page 2. FY2013-FY2014 data were regrouped according to the revised definitions in this report for comparability.

The majority of Long-Term Assistance main applicants had primary-level education or below

8 Main applicants with primary-level education or below remained the largest proportion of households assisted on LTA. This has been consistent across all years from FY2013 to FY2017.

9 The LTA main applicants with primary-level education or below decreased in proportion, from 77.9% in FY2013 to 72.1% in FY2016, and to 70.9% in FY2017.

Figure 5: LTA Households by Educational Qualification of Main Applicant, FY2013-FY2017



Note(s):

1. The count of households was unique within the scheme and financial year. Each household was counted once under the respective scheme in each financial year.
2. There were slight changes in definitions from the FY2013-FY2014 trends report following system changes in 2015. The current definitions are set out on page 2. FY2013-FY2014 data have been regrouped according to the revised definitions in this report for comparability.

IV) ComCare Households – Employment Status

Almost half of Short-to-Medium-Term Assistance main applicants were employed or seeking employment

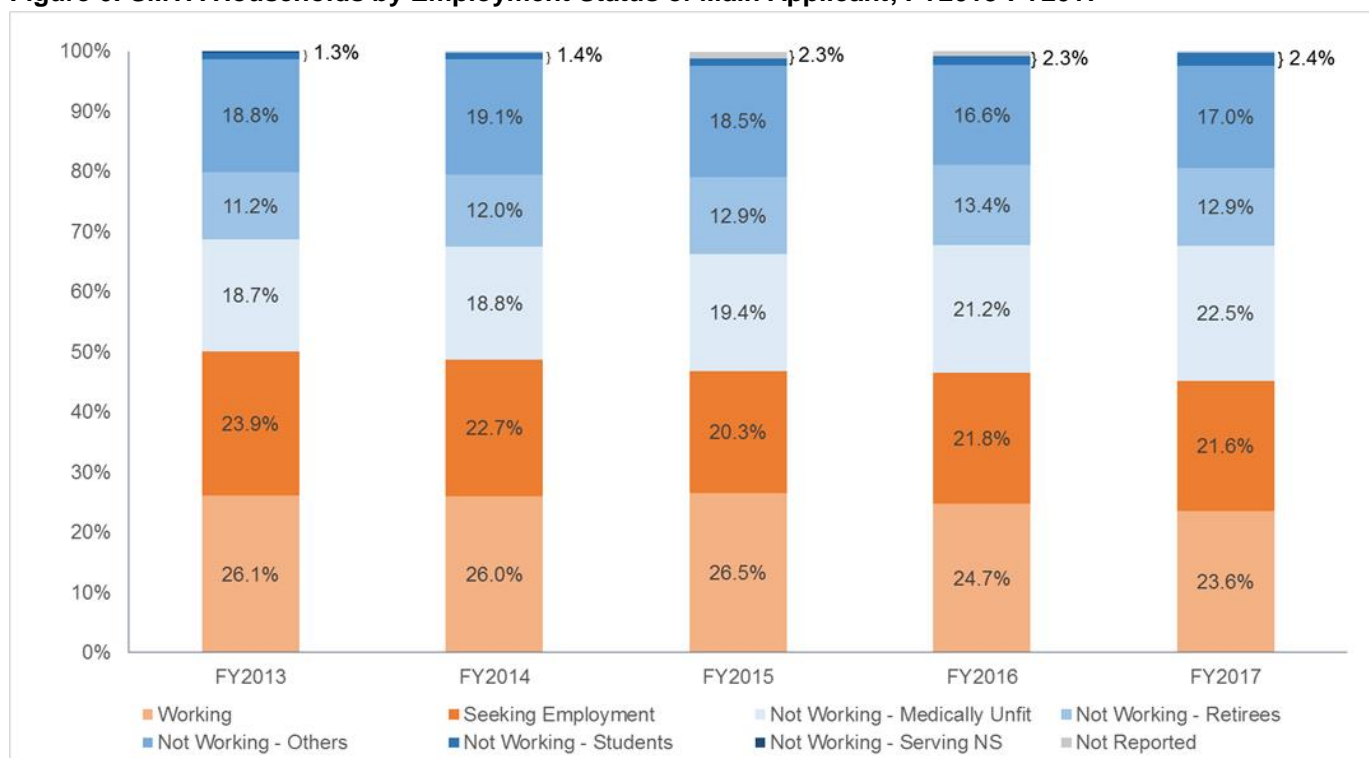
10 Main applicants who were either employed or seeking employment made up approximately half of the households assisted on SMTA. This has been consistent in all years from FY2013 to FY2017.

11 The proportion of SMTA main applicants who were either employed or seeking employment decreased from 50.0% in FY2013 to 46.5% in FY2016, and to 45.1% in FY2017.

12 Of these, the working SMTA applicants decreased in proportion, from 26.1% in FY2013 to 24.7% in FY2016, and to 23.6% in FY2017. The proportion of those seeking employment also decreased, from 23.9% in FY2013 to 21.8% in FY2016, and to 21.6% in FY2017.

13 Across the same period, there was an increase in the proportion of retirees (from 11.2% in FY2013 to 13.4% in FY2016, which then decreased slightly to 12.9% in FY2017) and those not working for medical reasons (from 18.7% in FY2013 to 21.2% in FY2016, and to 22.5% in FY2017).

Figure 6: SMTA Households by Employment Status of Main Applicant, FY2013-FY2017



Note(s):

1. The count of households was unique within the scheme and financial year. Each household was counted once under respective scheme in each financial year.
2. There were slight changes in definitions from the FY2013-FY2014 trends report following system changes in 2015. The current definitions are set out on page 2. FY2013-FY2014 data were regrouped according to the revised definitions in this report for comparability.

V) ComCare Households – Marital Status and Gender

Two-fifths of Short-to-Medium-Term Assistance main applicants were married

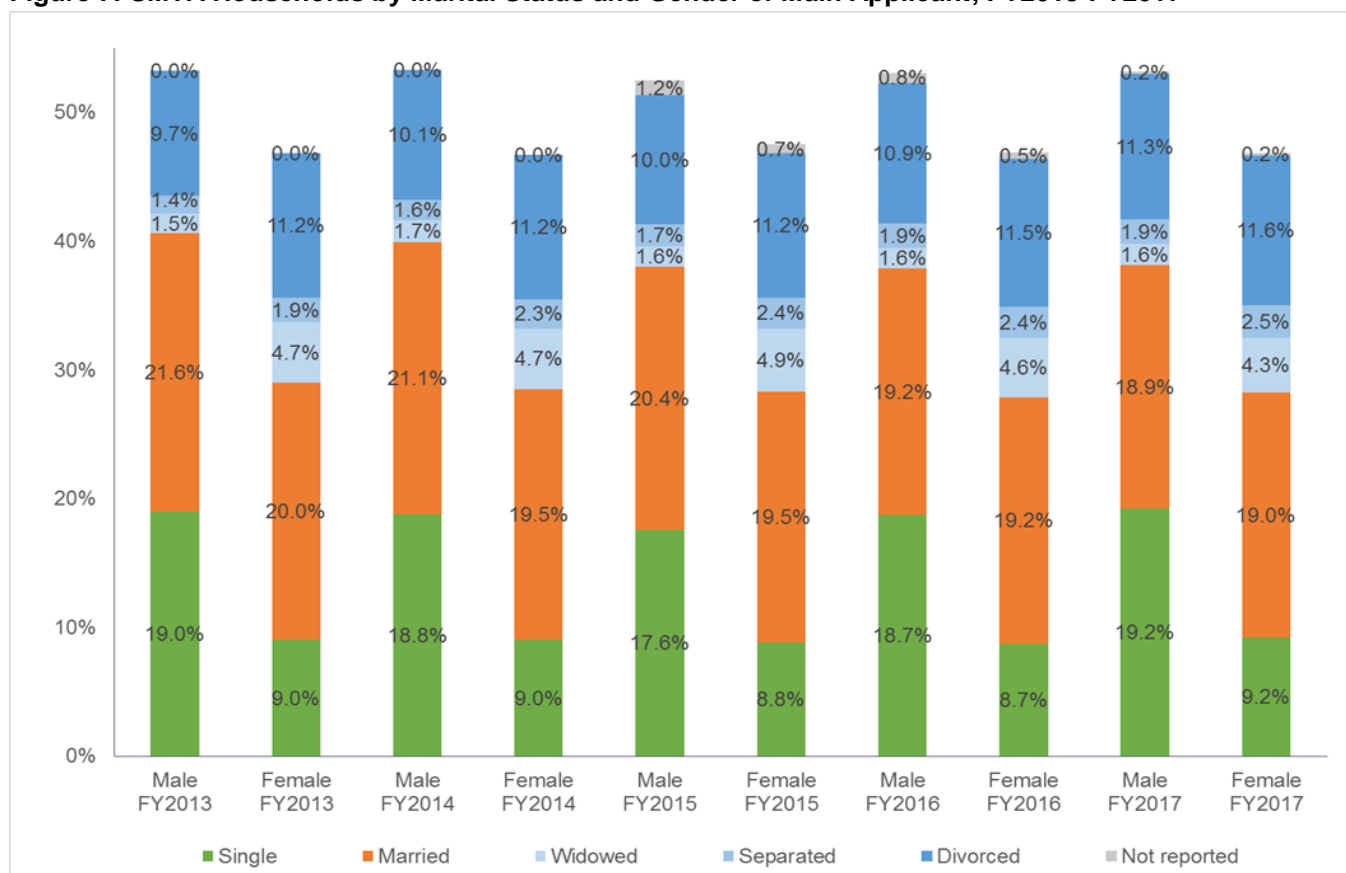
14 Main applicants who were married remained the largest proportion of households assisted on SMTA, followed by those who were widowed/separated/divorced, and then the singles. This was consistent between FY2013 and FY2017.

15 The SMTA main applicants who were married decreased in proportion, from 41.6% in FY2013 to 38.4% in FY2016, and to 37.9% in FY2017.

16 Those who were divorced made up about two-thirds of the widowed/separated/divorced group. The proportion of divorcees increased from 20.9% in FY2013 to 22.4% in FY2016, and to 22.9% in FY2017. Among the singles, the proportion of males remained more than twice that of females, across FY2013 to FY2017.

17 The top three marital and gender groups of SMTA main applicants remained consistent across FY2013 to FY2017: single male (19.2%), married female (19.0%) and married male (18.9%).

Figure 7: SMTA Households by Marital Status and Gender of Main Applicant, FY2013-FY2017



Note(s):

1. The count of households was unique within the scheme and financial year. Each household was counted once under the respective scheme in each financial year.

More than two-thirds of Long-Term Assistance main applicants were single

18 Main applicants who were single remained the largest proportion of households assisted on LTA. This was consistent between FY2013 and FY2017.

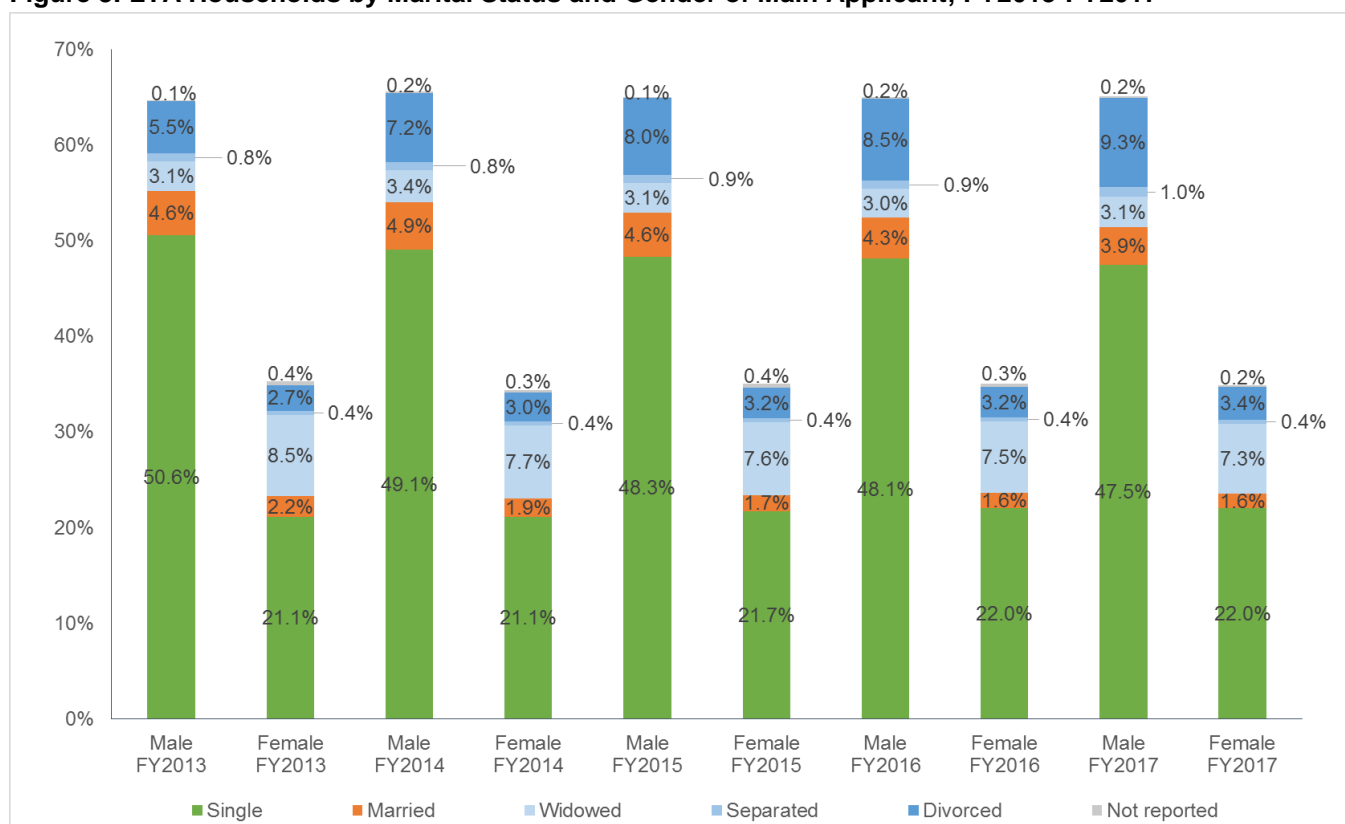
19 The LTA main applicants who were single decreased in proportion, from 71.7% in FY2013 to 70.1% in FY2016, and to 69.5% in FY2017.

20 The proportion of male LTA main applicants increased slightly, from 64.7% in FY2013 to 65.0% in FY2016, and to 65.1% in FY2017. Correspondingly, the proportion of female LTA main applicants decreased slightly, from 35.3% in FY2013 to 35.0% in FY2016, and to 34.9% in FY2017.

21 The top two groups of LTA main applicants were single male and single female. This was consistent across FY2013 to FY2017. The proportion of single females increased from 21.1% in FY2013 to 22.0% in FY2016 and FY2017. The proportion of single males decreased from 50.6% in FY2013 to 48.1% in FY2016, and to 47.5% in FY2017.

22 Divorced males increased in proportion, from 5.5% in FY2013 to 8.5% in FY2016, and to 9.3% in FY2017. Widowed females decreased in proportion, from 8.5% in FY2013 to 7.5% in FY2016, and to 7.3% in FY2017.

Figure 8: LTA Households by Marital Status and Gender of Main Applicant, FY2013-FY2017



Note:

The count of households was unique within the scheme and financial year. Each household was counted once under the respective scheme in each financial year.

VI) ComCare Households – Dwelling Type and Household Size

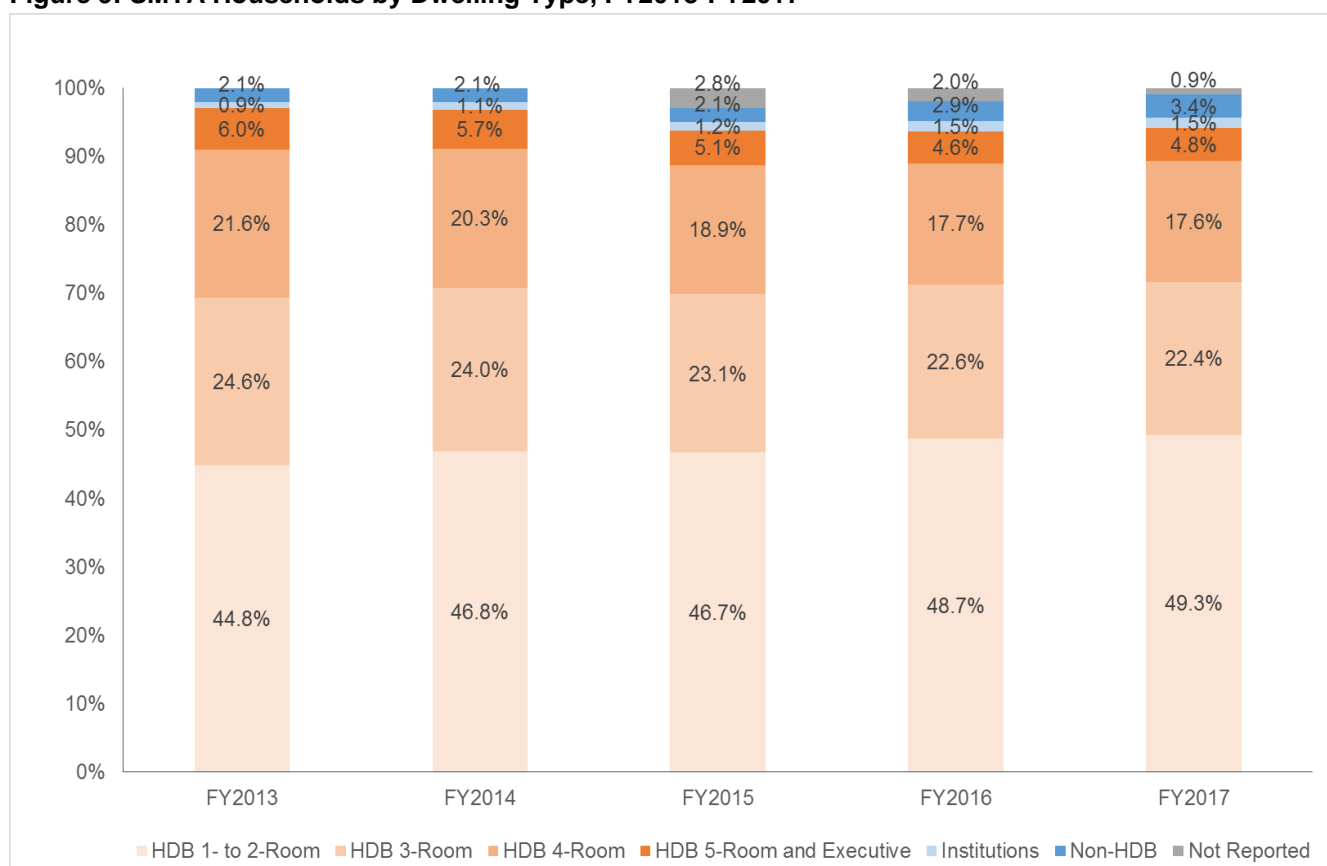
About half of Short-to-Medium-Term Assistance households stayed in HDB 1- to 2-room flats

23 Households who stayed in HDB 1- to 2-room flats made up about half of those assisted on SMTA. This trend was consistent across FY2013 to FY2017.

24 The proportion of households who stayed in HDB 1- to 2-room flats increased from 44.8% in FY2013 to 48.7% in FY2016, and to 49.3% in FY2017.

25 The proportion of households who stayed in HDB 3- to 4-room flats decreased from 46.2% in FY2013 to 40.3% in FY2016, and to 40.0% in FY2017.

Figure 9: SMTA Households by Dwelling Type, FY2013-FY2017



Note(s):

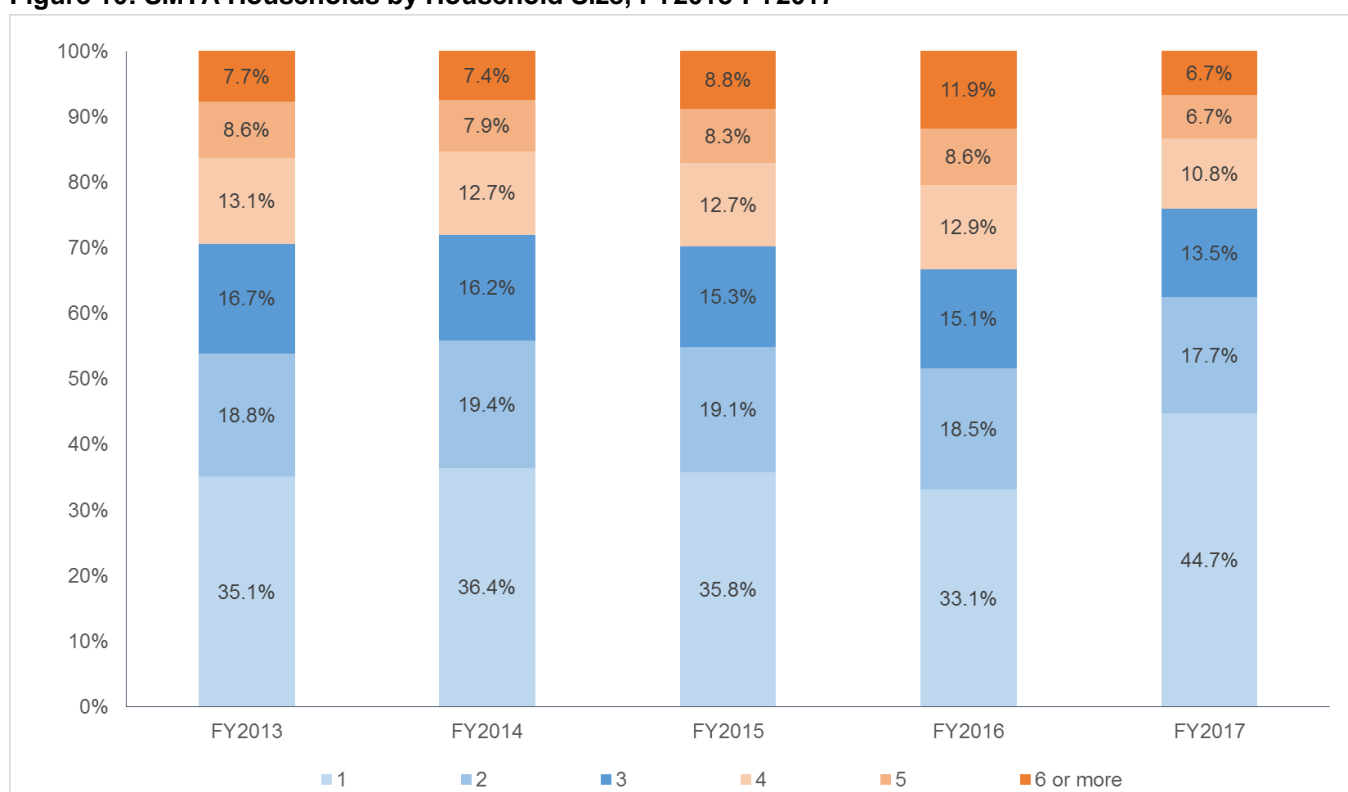
1. The count of households was unique within the scheme and financial year. Each household was counted once under the respective scheme in each financial year.
2. There were instances of ComCare applicants staying in landed properties. They were not house owners but were staying with family members or friends.

More than half of Short-to-Medium-Term Assistance households were one- to two-person households

26 One- to two-person households made up more than half of those assisted on SMTA. This trend was consistent across FY2013 to FY2017.

27 The one- to two-person SMTA households decreased in proportion, from 53.9% in FY2013 to 51.6% in FY2016, which then increased to 62.4% in FY2017. In particular, one-person SMTA households decreased in proportion from 35.1% in FY2013 to 33.1% in FY2016, which then increased to 44.7% in FY2017.

Figure 10: SMTA Households by Household Size, FY2013-FY2017



Note(s):

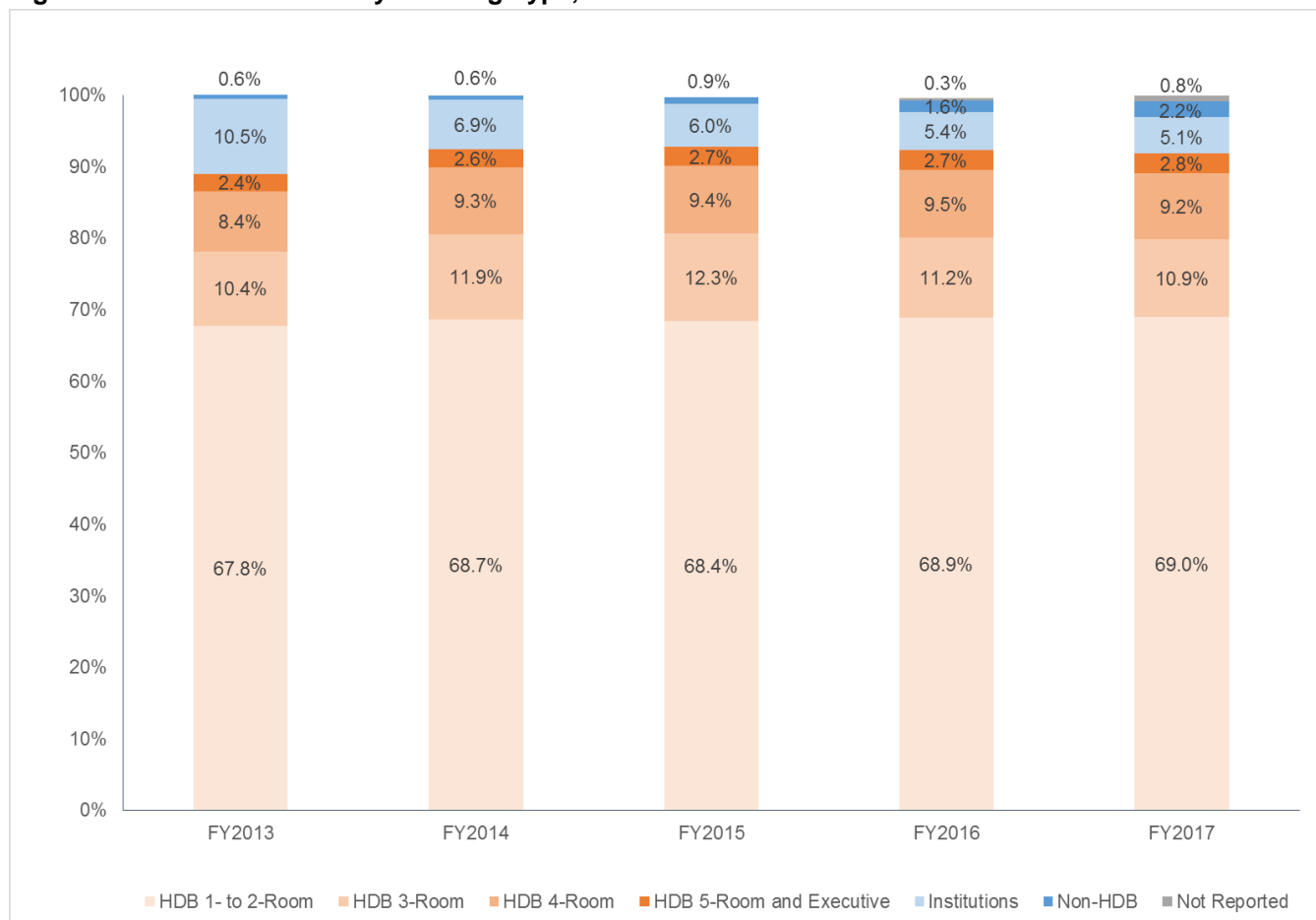
1. The count of households was unique within the scheme and financial year. Each household was counted once under the respective scheme in each financial year.

More than two-thirds of Long-Term Assistance households stayed in HDB 1- to 2-room flats

28 Households who stayed in HDB 1- to 2-room flats remained the largest proportion of those assisted on LTA. This trend was consistent across FY2013 to FY2017.

29 The proportion staying in HDB 1- to 2-room flats increased from 67.8% in FY2013 to 68.9% in FY2016, and to 69.0% in FY2017.

Figure 11: LTA Households by Dwelling Type, FY2013-FY2017



Note(s):

1. The count of households was unique within the scheme and financial year. Each household was counted once under the respective scheme in each financial year.
2. The number of LTA households included those staying in non-government funded institutions. Individuals staying in government-funded institutions was excluded as their long-term needs were supported using non-ComCare funds.

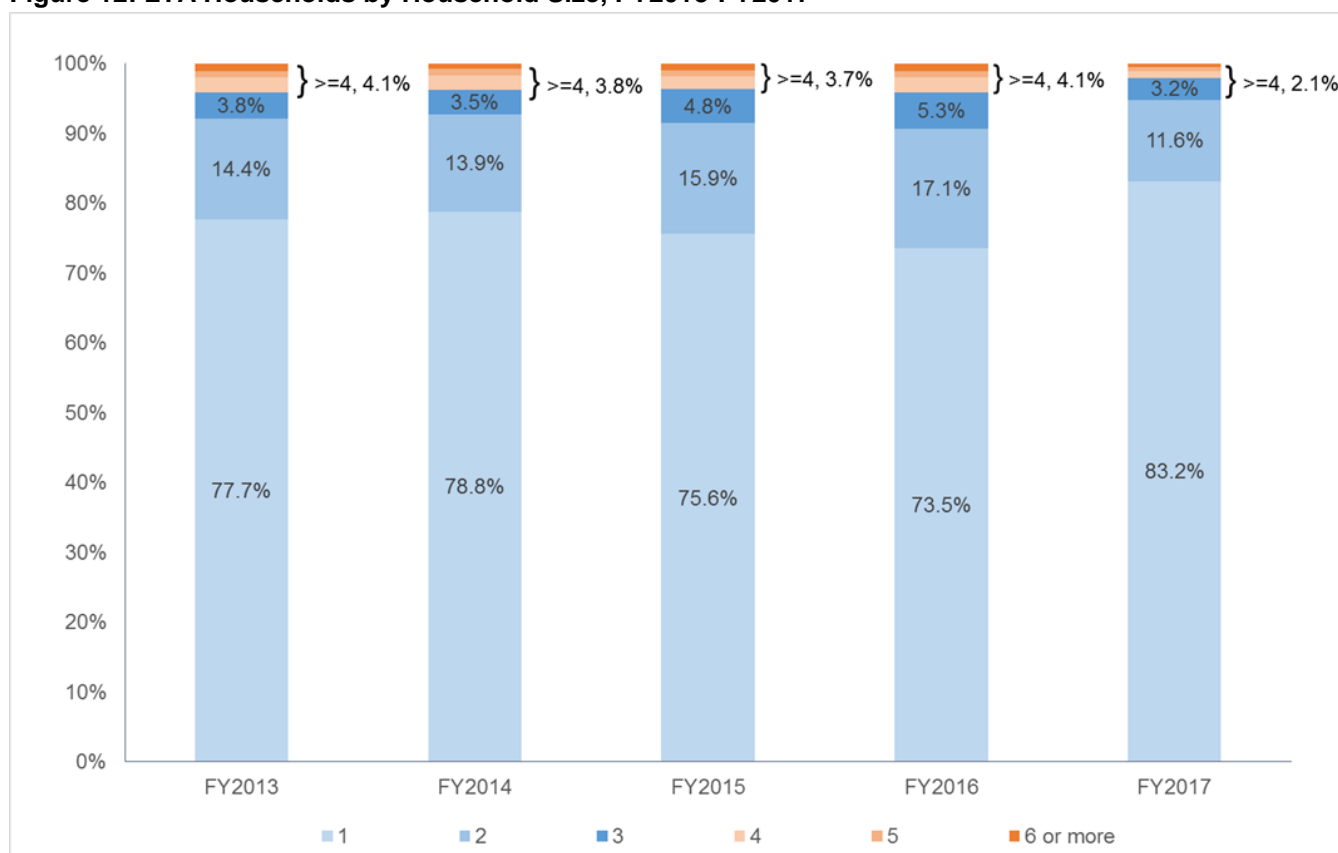
The majority of Long-Term Assistance households remained one-person households

30 One-person households remained the largest proportion of those assisted on LTA. This trend was consistent across FY2013 to FY2017.

31 The one-person LTA households decreased in proportion, from 77.7% in FY2013 to 73.5% in FY2016, which then increased to 83.2% in FY2017.

32 The proportion of two- and three-person LTA households increased from 18.2% in FY2013 to 22.4% in FY2016, which then decreased to 14.8% in FY2017.

Figure 12: LTA Households by Household Size, FY2013-FY2017



Note:

The count of households was unique within the scheme and financial year. Each household was counted once under the respective scheme in each financial year.

VII) ComCare Households – Household Composition

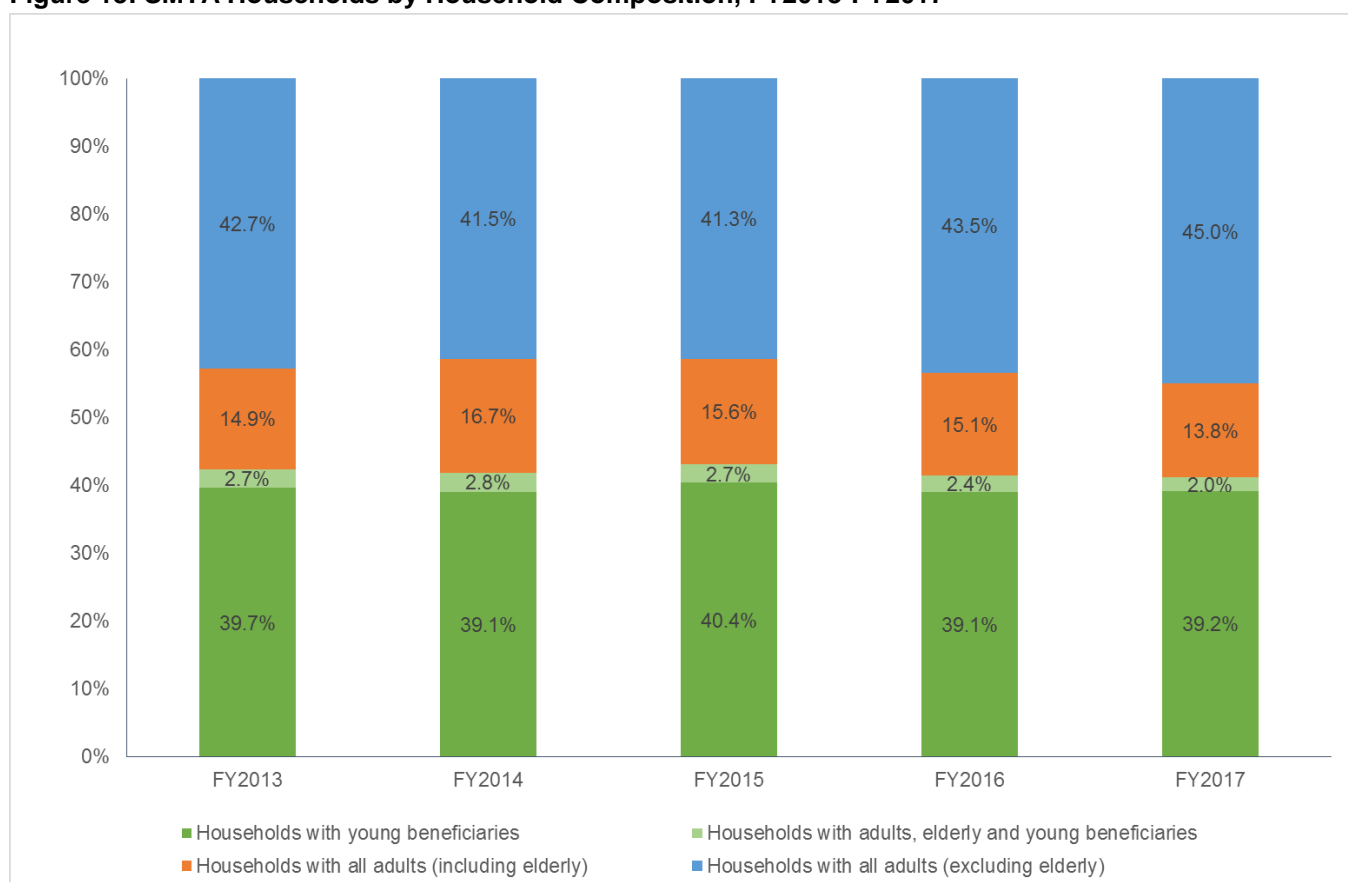
Nearly three-fifths of Short-to-Medium-Term Assistance households had elderly and/or children

33 Households with elderly and/or children remained the largest proportion of those assisted on SMTA. This trend was consistent across FY2013 to FY2017.

34 The SMTA households with elderly and/or young beneficiaries decreased in proportion, from 57.3% in FY2013 to 56.6% in FY2016, and to 55.0% in FY2017.

35 Correspondingly, the proportion of SMTA households with only adults increased from 42.7% in FY2013 to 43.5% in FY2016, and to 45.0% in FY2017.

Figure 13: SMTA Households by Household Composition, FY2013-FY2017



Note(s):

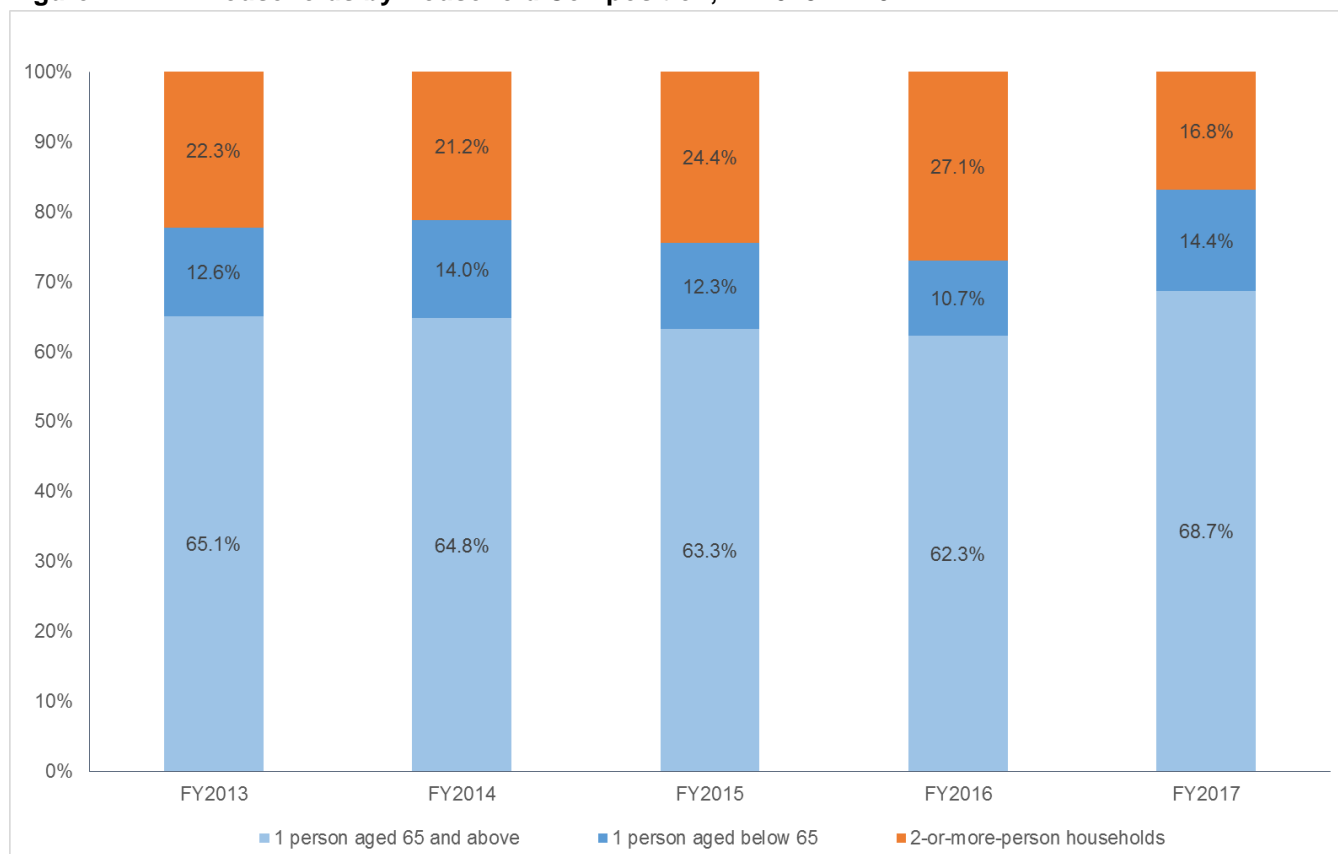
1. The count of households was unique within the scheme and financial year. Each household was counted once under the respective scheme in each financial year.
2. “Elderly beneficiaries” were defined as those aged 65 and above; “adult beneficiaries” were defined as those aged 21 to 64; and “young beneficiaries” were defined as those aged below 21.

The majority of Long-Term Assistance households were one-person elderly households

36 One-person elderly households remained the largest proportion of those assisted on LTA. This trend was consistent across FY2013 to FY2017.

37 The proportion of one-person households aged 65 and above decreased from 65.1% in FY2013 to 62.3% in FY2016, which then increased to 68.7% in FY2017.

Figure 14: LTA Households by Household Composition, FY2013-FY2017



Note(s):

1. The count of households was unique within the scheme and financial year. Each household was counted once under the respective scheme in each financial year.
2. Elderly households were defined as those with main applicants aged 65 and above.



SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

ComCare Households Assisted

- There was an overall increase in the number of households assisted on all schemes from FY2013 to FY2017 with the number of households on SMTA stabilising in FY2016 and FY2017.
- The majority, or 27,986 households, were assisted on SMTA, and 4,409 households were assisted on LTA in FY2017. There were 8,413 households that received SCFA in FY2017.

Age Group Distribution of ComCare Households

- The SMTA main applicants aged 55-64 increased in proportion, from 19.1% in FY2013 to 22.7% in FY2016, and to 23.8% in FY2017.
- The proportion of SMTA main applicants aged 60-64 increased from 8.2% in FY2013 to 10.4% in FY2016, and to 11.4% in FY2017.
- The proportion of LTA main applicants aged 65 to 69 increased from 13.9% in FY2013 to 16.4% in FY2016, and to 16.8% in FY2017.

Educational Qualifications of ComCare Households

- The proportion of SMTA main applicants with secondary-level education or below decreased from 83.4% in FY2013 to 75.3% in FY2016, which then increased to 76.8% in FY2017.
- The proportion of LTA main applicants with primary-level education or below decreased from 77.9% in FY2013 to 72.1% in FY2016, and to 70.9% in FY2017.

Employment Status of ComCare Households

- The working SMTA main applicants decreased in proportion, from 26.1% in FY2013 to 24.7% in FY2016, and to 23.6% in FY2017.
- The proportion of SMTA main applicants seeking employment decreased from 23.9% in FY2013 to 21.8% in FY2016, and to 21.6% in FY2017.
- There was an increase in the proportion of those not working for medical reasons (from 18.7% in FY2013 to 21.2% in FY2016, and to 22.5% in FY2017).

Marital Status and Gender of ComCare Households

- The top three marital and gender groups for SMTA main applicants remained consistent across FY2013 to FY2017. They were single male (19.2%), married female (19.0%) and

married male (18.9%).

- The married SMTA main applicants decreased in proportion, from 41.6% in FY2013 to 38.4% in FY2016, and to 37.9% in FY2017.
- The top two marital and gender groups for LTA main applicants remained consistent across FY2013 to FY2017. They were single male (47.5%) and single female (22.0%).
- The single LTA main applicants decreased in proportion, from 71.7% in FY2013 to 70.1% in FY2016, and to 69.5% in FY2017.

Dwelling Type and Household Size of ComCare Households

- The proportion of SMTA households who stayed in HDB 1- to 2-room flats increased from 44.8% in FY2013 to 48.7% in FY2016, and to 49.3% in FY2017. The proportion of SMTA households who stayed in HDB 3- to 4-room flats decreased from 46.2% in FY2013 to 40.3% in FY2016, and to 40.0% in FY2017.
- One- to two-person SMTA households decreased in proportion, from 53.9% in FY2013 to 51.6% in FY2016, which then increased to 62.4% in FY2017. In particular, one-person SMTA households decreased in proportion, from 35.1% in FY2013 to 33.1% in FY2016, which then increased to 44.7% in FY2017.
- The proportion of LTA households who stayed in HDB 1- to 2-room flats increased from 67.8% in FY2013 to 68.9% in FY2016, and to 69.0% in FY2017.
- One-person LTA households decreased in proportion, from 77.7% in FY2013 to 73.5% in FY2016, which then increased to 83.2% in FY2017.

Household Composition of ComCare Households

- The proportion of SMTA households with either elderly and/or young beneficiaries (those aged 65 and above and those aged below 21) decreased from 57.3% in FY2013 to 56.6% in FY2016, and to 55.0% in FY2017.
- One-person LTA households with an elderly person aged 65 and above decreased in proportion, from 65.1% in FY2013 to 62.3% in FY2016, which then increased to 68.7% in FY2017.



APPENDIX

APPENDIX

ComCare Households – Age Group Distribution

Table A1: Number and proportion of SMTA households by age group of main applicant

Age Group	FY2013	FY2013 (%)	FY2014	FY2014 (%)	FY2015	FY2015 (%)	FY2016	FY2016 (%)	FY2017	FY2017 (%)
<15	183	0.8%	188	0.7%	228	0.8%	277	1.0%	402	1.4%
15-19	152	0.6%	164	0.6%	186	0.6%	156	0.5%	221	0.8%
20-24	968	4.0%	940	3.4%	1,055	3.6%	955	3.4%	882	3.2%
25-29	1,543	6.3%	1,696	6.2%	1,907	6.5%	1,829	6.4%	1,863	6.7%
30-34	1,916	7.9%	2,092	7.6%	2,268	7.7%	2,174	7.7%	2,127	7.6%
35-39	2,163	8.9%	2,375	8.6%	2,600	8.8%	2,515	8.9%	2,551	9.1%
40-44	2,966	12.2%	3,223	11.7%	3,243	11.0%	2,953	10.4%	2,717	9.7%
45-49	3,388	13.9%	3,620	13.2%	3,706	12.6%	3,420	12.0%	3,347	12.0%
50-54	3,292	13.5%	3,820	13.9%	3,935	13.3%	3,858	13.6%	3,767	13.5%
55-59	2,662	10.9%	3,278	11.9%	3,602	12.2%	3,503	12.3%	3,484	12.4%
60-64	1,996	8.2%	2,350	8.6%	2,730	9.3%	2,941	10.4%	3,188	11.4%
65-69	1,059	4.4%	1,396	5.1%	1,587	5.4%	1,477	5.2%	1,331	4.8%
>=70	2,031	8.4%	2,319	8.4%	2,464	8.3%	2,351	8.3%	2,106	7.5%
Total	24,319	100.0%	27,461	100.0%	29,511	100.0%	28,409	100.0%	27,986	100.0%

Table A2: Number and proportion of LTA households by age group of main applicant

Age Group	FY2013	FY2013 (%)	FY2014	FY2014 (%)	FY2015	FY2015 (%)	FY2016	FY2016 (%)	FY2017	FY2017 (%)
<15	3	0.1%	3	0.1%	2	0.0%	1	0.0%	0	0.0%
15-19	7	0.2%	4	0.1%	3	0.1%	3	0.1%	3	0.1%
20-24	4	0.1%	7	0.2%	10	0.2%	8	0.2%	5	0.1%
25-29	10	0.3%	8	0.2%	15	0.4%	16	0.4%	13	0.3%
30-34	14	0.4%	23	0.6%	27	0.6%	30	0.7%	29	0.7%
35-39	31	0.9%	35	0.9%	42	1.0%	39	0.9%	39	0.9%
40-44	46	1.3%	60	1.6%	57	1.3%	63	1.4%	59	1.3%
45-49	92	2.6%	105	2.7%	110	2.6%	96	2.2%	89	2.0%
50-54	109	3.0%	142	3.7%	163	3.8%	161	3.7%	151	3.4%
55-59	141	3.9%	174	4.5%	205	4.8%	213	4.9%	196	4.4%
60-64	267	7.5%	311	8.1%	322	7.6%	342	7.8%	325	7.4%
65-69	496	13.9%	593	15.4%	707	16.6%	721	16.4%	742	16.8%
>=70	2,348	65.8%	2,381	61.9%	2,585	60.9%	2,694	61.4%	2,758	62.6%
Total	3,568	100.0%	3,846	100.0%	4,248	100.0%	4,387	100.0%	4,409	100.0%

ComCare Households – Educational Qualifications

Table A3: Number and proportion of SMTA households by educational qualification of main applicant

Highest Education Attained	FY2013	FY2013 (%)	FY2014	FY2014 (%)	FY2015	FY2015 (%)	FY2016	FY2016 (%)	FY2017	FY2017 (%)
No Formal/Primary Qualification	10,473	43.1%	11,641	42.4%	12,186	41.3%	10,921	38.4%	10,803	38.6%
Secondary Qualification	9,794	40.3%	10,534	38.4%	11,364	38.5%	10,487	36.9%	10,684	38.2%
Post-Secondary Qualification (Non-Tertiary)	1,833	7.5%	2,061	7.5%	2,279	7.7%	2,197	7.7%	2,360	8.4%
Post-Secondary Qualification (Tertiary)	938	3.9%	1,093	4.0%	1,306	4.4%	1,190	4.2%	1,250	4.5%
Special Education	68	0.3%	87	0.3%	5	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Other Courses	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	318	1.1%	298	1.0%	304	1.1%
Not Reported	1,213	5.0%	2,045	7.4%	2,053	7.0%	3,316	11.7%	2,585	9.2%
Total	24,319	100.0%	27,461	100.0%	29,511	100.0%	28,409	100.0%	27,986	100.0%

Table A4: Number and proportion of LTA Households by educational qualification of main applicant

Highest Education Attained	FY2013	FY2013 (%)	FY2014	FY2014 (%)	FY2015	FY2015 (%)	FY2016	FY2016 (%)	FY2017	FY2017 (%)
No Formal/Primary Qualification	2,779	77.9%	2,879	74.9%	3,145	74.0%	3,165	72.1%	3,124	70.9%
Secondary Qualification	431	12.1%	548	14.2%	603	14.2%	627	14.3%	654	14.8%
Post-Secondary Qualification (Non-Tertiary)	33	0.9%	61	1.6%	63	1.5%	71	1.6%	75	1.7%
Post-Secondary Qualification (Tertiary)	13	0.4%	19	0.5%	19	0.5%	24	0.5%	26	0.6%
Special Education	26	0.7%	38	1.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Other Courses	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	69	1.6%	72	1.6%	72	1.6%
Not Reported	286	8.0%	301	7.8%	349	8.2%	428	9.8%	458	10.4%
Total	3,568	100.0%	3,846	100.0%	4,248	100.0%	4,387	100.0%	4,409	100.0%

Note: There were slight changes in definition from the FY2013-FY2014 trends report following system changes in 2015. The current definitions are set out on page 2. FY2013-FY2014 data have been regrouped according to the revised definitions in this report for comparability.

ComCare Households – Employment Status

Table A5: Number and proportion of SMTA households by employment status of main applicant

Employment Status	FY2013	FY2013 (%)	FY2014	FY2014 (%)	FY2015	FY2015 (%)	FY2016	FY2016 (%)	FY2017	FY2017 (%)
Working	6,342	26.1%	7,134	26.0%	7,833	26.5%	7,022	24.7%	6,595	23.6%
Seeking Employment	5,825	23.9%	6,227	22.7%	5,981	20.3%	6,181	21.8%	6,038	21.6%
Not Working - Medically Unfit	4,549	18.7%	5,149	18.8%	5,726	19.4%	6,031	21.2%	6,302	22.5%
Not Working - Retirees	2,732	11.2%	3,305	12.0%	3,808	12.9%	3,798	13.4%	3,620	12.9%
Not Working - Students	268	1.1%	301	1.1%	363	1.2%	428	1.5%	600	2.1%
Not Working - Serving NS	39	0.2%	33	0.1%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Not Working - Others	4,564	18.8%	5,243	19.1%	5,468	18.5%	4,729	16.6%	4,745	17.0%
Not Reported	0	0.0%	69	0.2%	332	1.1%	220	0.8%	86	0.3%
Total	24,319	100.0%	27,461	100.0%	29,511	100.0%	28,409	100.0%	27,986	100.0%

Note: There were slight changes in definition from the FY2013-FY2014 trends report following system changes in 2015. The current definitions are set out on page 2. FY2013-FY2014 data have been regrouped according to the revised definitions in this report for comparability.

ComCare Households – Marital Status and Gender

Table A6: Number and proportion of SMTA households by marital status and gender of main applicant

Marital Status	Gender	FY2013	FY2013 (%)	FY2014	FY2014 (%)	FY2015	FY2015 (%)	FY2016	FY2016 (%)	FY2017	FY2017 (%)
Single	Female	2,183	9.0%	2,484	9.0%	2,584	8.8%	2,482	8.7%	2,581	9.2%
	Male	4,628	19.0%	5,160	18.8%	5,199	17.6%	5,306	18.7%	5,375	19.2%
Married	Female	4,865	20.0%	5,355	19.5%	5,752	19.5%	5,450	19.2%	5,317	19.0%
	Male	5,248	21.6%	5,787	21.1%	6,024	20.4%	5,446	19.2%	5,298	18.9%
Widowed	Female	1,132	4.7%	1,285	4.7%	1,448	4.9%	1,319	4.6%	1,196	4.3%
	Male	368	1.5%	458	1.7%	478	1.6%	462	1.6%	454	1.6%
Separated	Female	473	1.9%	632	2.3%	700	2.4%	685	2.4%	704	2.5%
	Male	351	1.4%	444	1.6%	508	1.7%	530	1.9%	540	1.9%
Divorced	Female	2,723	11.2%	3,078	11.2%	3,307	11.2%	3,262	11.5%	3,253	11.6%
	Male	2,347	9.7%	2,776	10.1%	2,965	10.0%	3,099	10.9%	3,153	11.3%
Not reported	Female	0	0.0%	1	0.0%	205	0.7%	153	0.5%	48	0.2%
	Male	1	0.0%	1	0.0%	341	1.2%	215	0.8%	67	0.2%
Total	Female	11,376	46.8%	12,835	46.7%	13,996	47.4%	13,351	47.0%	13,099	46.8%
	Male	12,943	53.2%	14,626	53.3%	15,515	52.6%	15,058	53.0%	14,887	53.2%

Table A7: Number and proportion of LTA households by marital status and gender of main applicant

Marital Status	Gender	FY2013	FY2013 (%)	FY2014	FY2014 (%)	FY2015	FY2015 (%)	FY2016	FY2016 (%)	FY2017	FY2017 (%)
Single	Female	753	21.1%	813	21.1%	923	21.7%	965	22.0%	970	22.0%
	Male	1,804	50.6%	1,887	49.1%	2,050	48.3%	2,111	48.1%	2,094	47.5%
Married	Female	78	2.2%	74	1.9%	72	1.7%	70	1.6%	69	1.6%
	Male	164	4.6%	188	4.9%	197	4.6%	190	4.3%	174	3.9%
Widowed	Female	304	8.5%	297	7.7%	323	7.6%	327	7.5%	322	7.3%
	Male	110	3.1%	131	3.4%	133	3.1%	131	3.0%	138	3.1%
Separated	Female	13	0.4%	15	0.4%	18	0.4%	19	0.4%	18	0.4%
	Male	27	0.8%	32	0.8%	40	0.9%	40	0.9%	45	1.0%
Divorced	Female	96	2.7%	115	3.0%	135	3.2%	139	3.2%	150	3.4%
	Male	198	5.5%	275	7.2%	338	8.0%	372	8.5%	411	9.3%
Not reported	Female	16	0.4%	13	0.3%	14	0.4%	14	0.3%	9	0.2%
	Male	5	0.1%	6	0.2%	5	0.1%	9	0.2%	9	0.2%
Total	Female	1,260	35.3%	1,327	34.5%	1,485	35.0%	1,534	35.0%	1,538	34.9%
	Male	2,308	64.7%	2,519	65.5%	2,763	65.0%	2,853	65.0%	2,871	65.1%

ComCare Households – Dwelling Type and Household Size

Table A8: Number and proportion of SMTA households by dwelling type

Dwelling Type	FY2013	FY2013 (%)	FY2014	FY2014 (%)	FY2015	FY2015 (%)	FY2016	FY2016 (%)	FY2017	FY2017 (%)
HDB 1- to 2-Room	10,906	44.8%	12,851	46.8%	13,793	46.7%	13,834	48.7%	13,806	49.3%
HDB 3-Room	5,977	24.6%	6,599	24.0%	6,804	23.1%	6,407	22.6%	6,256	22.4%
HDB 4-Room	5,250	21.6%	5,557	20.3%	5,589	18.9%	5,027	17.7%	4,935	17.6%
HDB 5-Room and Executive	1,448	6.0%	1,555	5.7%	1,517	5.1%	1,311	4.6%	1,348	4.8%
Institutions	215	0.9%	307	1.1%	358	1.2%	425	1.5%	427	1.5%
Condominiums and Other Apartments	51	0.2%	66	0.2%	69	0.2%	69	0.2%	69	0.2%
Landed Properties	59	0.2%	61	0.2%	63	0.2%	47	0.2%	59	0.2%
Others - Interim Rental Housing / Shop houses, etc.	413	1.7%	465	1.7%	502	1.7%	717	2.5%	847	3.0%
Not Reported	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	816	2.8%	572	2.0%	239	0.9%
Total	24,319	100.0%	27,461	100.0%	29,511	100.0%	28,409	100.0%	27,986	100.0%

Table A9: Number and proportion of LTA households by dwelling type

Dwelling Type	FY2013	FY2013 (%)	FY2014	FY2014 (%)	FY2015	FY2015 (%)	FY2016	FY2016 (%)	FY2017	FY2017 (%)
HDB 1- to 2-Room	2,420	67.8%	2,644	68.7%	2,914	68.4%	3,023	68.9%	3,041	69.0%
HDB 3-Room	370	10.4%	457	11.9%	523	12.3%	492	11.2%	482	10.9%
HDB 4-Room	299	8.4%	359	9.3%	398	9.4%	415	9.5%	406	9.2%
HDB 5-Room and Executive Institutions¹	84	2.4%	99	2.6%	113	2.7%	117	2.7%	123	2.8%
Condominiums and Other Apartments	3	0.1%	4	0.1%	8	0.2%	8	0.2%	7	0.2%
Landed Properties	6	0.2%	6	0.2%	9	0.2%	9	0.2%	10	0.2%
Others - Interim Rental Housing / Shop houses etc.	11	0.3%	13	0.3%	23	0.5%	53	1.2%	79	1.8%
Not Reported	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	5	0.3%	35	0.8%	37	0.8%
Total	3,568	100.0%	3,846	100.0%	4,248	100.0%	4,387	100.0%	4,409	100.0%

¹ The number of LTA households included those staying in non-government funded institutions. Individuals staying in government-funded institutions were excluded as their Long-Term needs were supported using non-ComCare funds.

Table A10: Number and proportion of SMTA households by household size

Household Size	FY2013	FY2013 (%)	FY2014	FY2014 (%)	FY2015	FY2015 (%)	FY2016	FY2016 (%)	FY2017	FY2017 (%)
1	8,527	35.1%	9,997	36.4%	10,561	35.8%	9,400	33.1%	12,518	44.7%
2	4,576	18.8%	5,324	19.4%	5,638	19.1%	5,257	18.5%	4,959	17.7%
3	4,073	16.7%	4,457	16.2%	4,522	15.3%	4,283	15.1%	3,768	13.5%
4	3,188	13.1%	3,499	12.7%	3,745	12.7%	3,657	12.9%	3,010	10.8%
5	2,084	8.6%	2,160	7.9%	2,437	8.3%	2,433	8.6%	1,865	6.7%
6 or more	1,871	7.7%	2,024	7.4%	2,608	8.8%	3,379	11.9%	1,866	6.7%
Total	24,319	100.0%	27,461	100.0%	29,511	100.0%	28,409	100.0%	27,986	100.0%

Table A11: Number and proportion of LTA households by household size

Household Size	FY2013	FY2013 (%)	FY2014	FY2014 (%)	FY2015	FY2015 (%)	FY2016	FY2016 (%)	FY2017	FY2017 (%)
1	2,772	77.7%	3,030	78.8%	3,210	75.6%	3,225	73.5%	3,667	83.2%
2	513	14.4%	533	13.9%	677	15.9%	751	17.1%	512	11.6%
3	134	3.8%	133	3.5%	202	4.8%	231	5.3%	139	3.2%
4	76	2.1%	81	2.1%	80	1.9%	92	2.1%	43	1.0%
5	32	0.9%	37	0.9%	36	0.8%	38	0.9%	25	0.6%
6 or more	41	1.1%	32	0.8%	43	1.0%	50	1.1%	23	0.5%
Total	3,568	100.0%	3,846	100.0%	4,248	100.0%	4,387	100.0%	4,409	100.0%

ComCare Households – Household Composition

Table A12: Number and proportion of SMTA households by household composition

Household Profile	FY2013	FY2013 (%)	FY2014	FY2014 (%)	FY2015	FY2015 (%)	FY2016	FY2016 (%)	FY2017	FY2017 (%)
Households with all adults (including elderly)	3,613	14.9%	4,580	16.7%	4,615	15.6%	4,277	15.1%	3,857	13.8%
Households with young beneficiaries	9,663	39.7%	10,737	39.1%	11,924	40.4%	11,103	39.1%	10,978	39.2%
Households with adults, elderly and young beneficiaries	663	2.7%	760	2.8%	786	2.7%	669	2.4%	556	2.0%
Households with all adults (excluding elderly)	10,380	42.7%	11,384	41.5%	12,186	41.3%	12,360	43.5%	12,595	45.0%
Total	24,319	100.0%	27,461	100.0%	29,511	100.0%	28,409	100.0%	27,986	100.0%

Table A13: Number and proportion of LTA households by household composition

Household Profile	FY2013	FY2013 (%)	FY2014	FY2014 (%)	FY2015	FY2015 (%)	FY2016	FY2016 (%)	FY2017	FY2017 (%)
1 person aged 65 and above	2,323	65.1%	2,492	64.8%	2,687	63.3%	2,732	62.3%	3,030	68.7%
1 person aged below 65	449	12.6%	538	14.0%	523	12.3%	468	10.7%	637	14.4%
2-or-more-person households	796	22.3%	816	21.2%	1,038	24.4%	1,187	27.1%	742	16.8%
Total	3,568	100.0%	3,846	100.0%	4,248	100.0%	4,387	100.0%	4,409	100.0%