

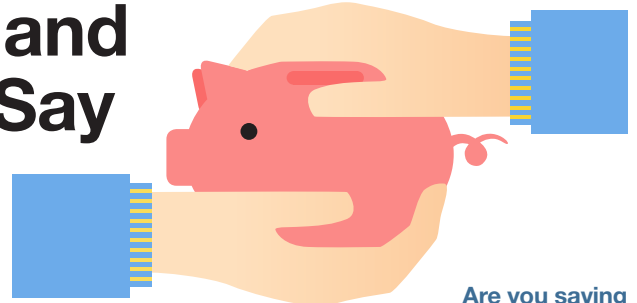
## Retirement is Coming and 62% of Singaporeans Say They Are Not Ready

Manpower Minister Josephine Teo recently announced a raise in the retirement age in Singapore, "although when and by how much is yet to be determined". In the coming months, we will likely have a clearer idea of the future retirement age. However, the question remains: can Singaporeans afford to retire?

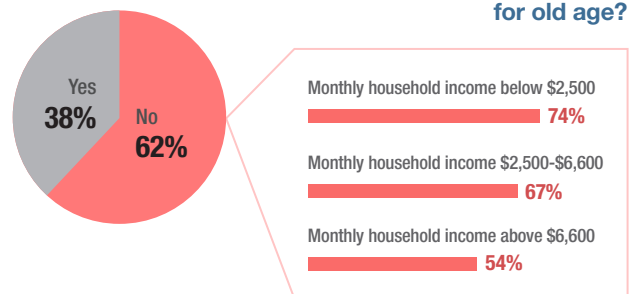
Our polling indicates concerns amongst Singaporeans on this issue. At present, 62% of Singaporeans feel they are not saving enough for old age. This figure rises to 74% amongst those living in households earning less than \$2,500 a month.

According to the LKY School of Public Policy, single elderly folks need \$1,379 a month to afford a basic standard of living. While 45% of Singaporeans believe \$1,379 sounds about right, one in three feel the amount is too low and three in four Singaporeans (76%) believe those already 60 years-old and above have not saved enough to live off this amount.

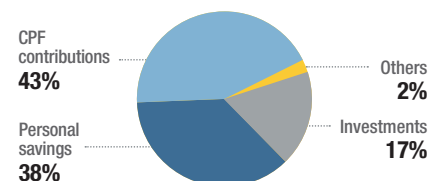
When it comes to retirement planning, Singaporeans still rely mainly on CPF (43%) followed by savings (38%). Relying exclusively on CPF however, may not be prudent as Singaporeans who fulfill the Basic Retirement Sum of \$88,000 only receive a monthly payout of less than \$800. Only 17% of Singaporeans say they actively invest for retirement, with men more likely than women (20% vs 14%).



Are you saving enough to cover basic needs and expenses for old age?



How are you saving for retirement?



## Singapore's Top 5 News Stories of the Month

■ % Who Followed the News  
■ % Who Paid Close Attention

- Elderly in Singapore need S\$1,379 a month for basic needs: Study**  
79% followed, 27% paid close attention
- Singapore Parliament passes Bill to tackle online falsehoods after lengthy debate spread over two days**  
76% followed, 20% paid close attention
- Asia's first same-sex weddings take place in Taiwan after gay marriage law passed**  
75% followed, 14% paid close attention
- Li Huanwu, the grandson of Singapore's first Prime Minister, Lee Kuan Yew, marries his male partner in South Africa**  
74% followed, 18% paid close attention
- Woman on mobility scooter crashes into glass door at Toa Payoh interchange**  
74% followed, 14% paid close attention

## COMMUNITY SATISFACTION

Those who say they are satisfied with the way things are going in Singapore

May 72 > Jun 71  
Community Satisfaction drops by 1 point

## PERSONAL FINANCES

Those who rate their personal finances as Excellent/Good

May 67 > Jun 66  
Personal Finances drops by 1 point

## NATIONAL ECONOMY

Those who rate current economic conditions in Singapore as Excellent/Good

May 76 > Jun 72  
National Economy drops by 4 points

## Rent-a-Date: Men More Willing to Try But Women Will Pay More

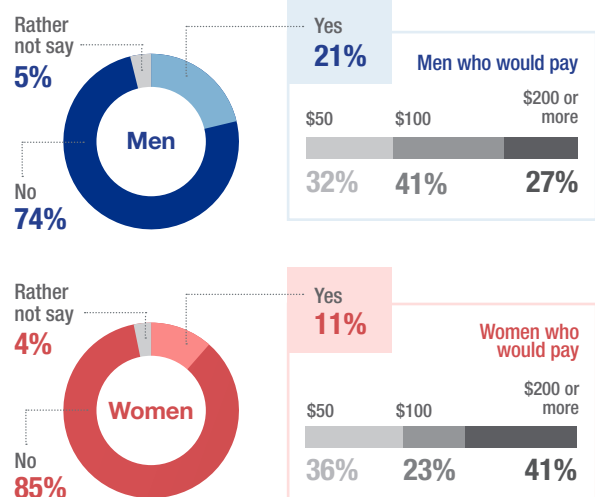
In a country where applying for a HDB flat is jokingly deemed an acceptable marriage proposal, Singaporeans are typically a practical bunch when it comes to matters of the heart. As for dating, more than one in four Singaporeans (26%) say they have relied on the internet for romantic encounters. Feedback for online dating is generally mixed (46%) though, with only one in three feeling totally positive about their experiences.

More recently, the idea of actually paying for a date (with no physical contact and only at public spaces) has generated conversation, enticing us at Blackbox to pose the question to Singaporeans: Would you pay for a date? If yes, how much?

Singaporeans, it seems, are against this idea, as a majority (79%) say they would not do so. Of those who are prepared to try "renting a date", men are almost twice as likely than women (21% vs 11%), though women who say 'yes' appear more willing to spend for the occasion, with 41% of women claiming they would pay \$200 or more for a platonic date, compared to only 27% of men, who would fork out over \$200.



### Pay for a date?



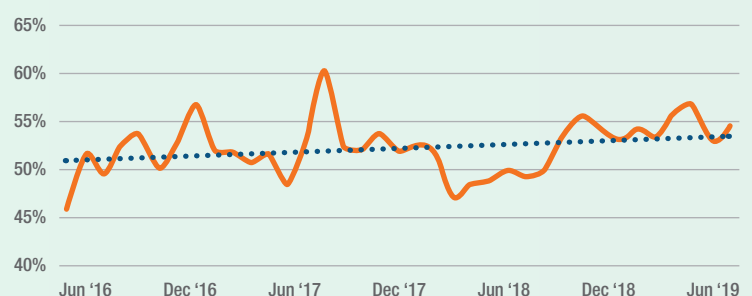
## Activism in Singapore: Singaporeans More Vocal But Less Giving



While some may describe Singaporeans as reluctant to speak out when things go awry, our survey findings on activism over the last three years suggest things may be changing. On average, one in two Singaporeans claim to have carried out some form of activism in the last 12 months and our findings over the past three years reveal an upwards trend in this regard.

**Singaporeans  
who carried out  
some form of  
activism\* since  
Jun 2016**

\*Includes signing petitions, contacting Town Councils, making charitable donations (see next page)

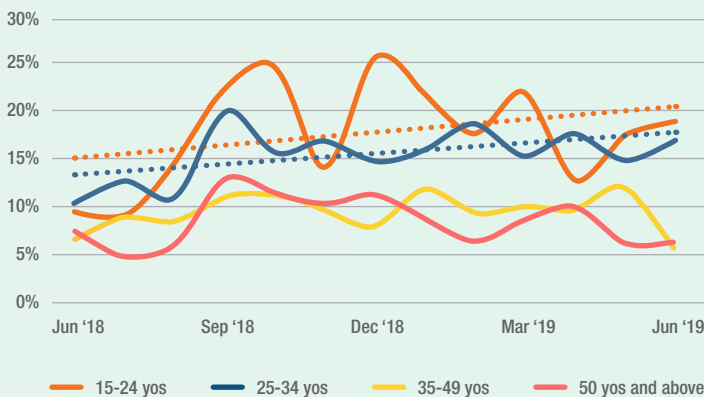


## Activism in Singapore: Singaporeans More Vocal But Less Giving

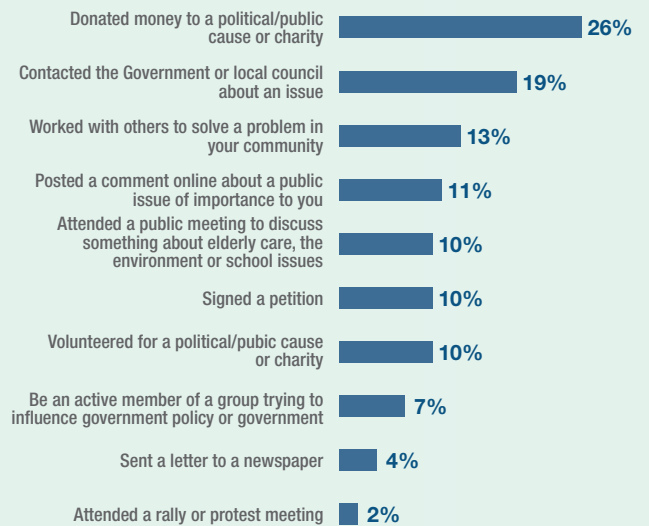
### 1. Petitions

Signing petitions is a popular choice among younger Singaporeans. Since June 2018, we noticed a discernible pattern of younger Singaporeans (15-34 years-old) signing more petitions than their older counterparts.

#### Singaporeans who signed a petition since June 2018



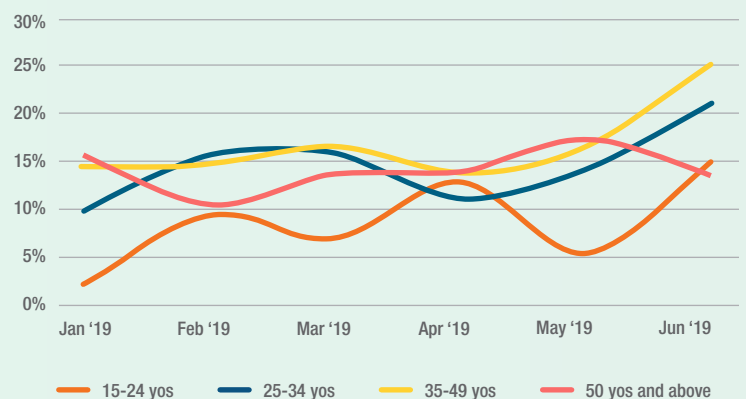
#### Which of the following have you done in the last 12 months?



### 2. Town Council Complaints

Singaporeans are also growing more vocal when it comes to issues in their immediate surroundings. In the last 6 months, Singaporeans have been contacting the Government or their local town councils, with higher frequencies in May and June.

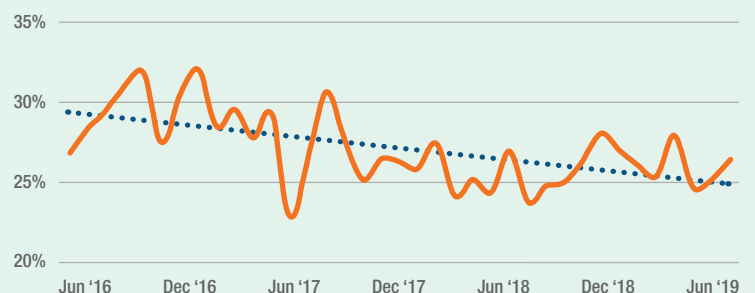
#### Contacted the Government or local council about an issue



### 3. Charitable Donations

While charitable donations remain common, polling suggests a shift downwards in those donating over the last three years, possibly due to public scandals. We explored this topic in an earlier issue of YKA (see <http://bit.ly/2M5IDOa>).

#### Donated money to a political/public cause or charity



## Government Satisfaction Index

Cost of living issues again fell sharply this month (6 points), followed by Jobs and Unemployment (4 points), highlighting rising economic pressures and a softening job market. There are clear indications that Singaporeans are worrying more and this may be why the Government has been slow to announce an early election that some had predicted for September 2019.

### GOVERNMENT SATISFACTION INDEX

Monthly  
Index **79** GSI

Monthly  
Trend **-1**

#### About the Results

Each month Blackbox conducts interviews with a representative sample of 1,000 Singaporeans. We use a geographically stratified online sample. Our methodology also applies quota controls to ensure representative demographic coverage of the population. If you would like to purchase customised questions for your organisation or want to dig into our historical general community data/demographic information, please contact [chris@blackbox.com.sg](mailto:chris@blackbox.com.sg) for assistance.

Rank	Issue	Satisfaction with Government	Change since last month	Change over last 12 months
1	Defence/ national security	96%	1%	1%
2	Crime levels	96%	2%	0%
3	Racial relations/ integration	93%	0%	0%
4	The environment	92%	2%	1%
5	Education system	92%	3%	1%
6	Public transport	88%	1%	8%
7	Management of the economy	86%	1%	2%
8	Moral standards	86%	1%	0%
9	Care for the Elderly	85%	-2%	-1%
10	Health insurance/protection	83%	-2%	0%
11	Taxes	78%	-3%	3%
12	Government accountability	77%	-1%	3%
13	Civil rights/ liberties/ free speech	75%	1%	1%
14	CPF/pensions	74%	-1%	0%
15	Jobs and unemployment	74%	-4%	-3%
16	Level of salaries and wages	72%	-3%	0%
17	Population management	72%	-1%	0%
18	Housing affordability	67%	-3%	2%
19	Motor vehicle prices/ COE	67%	-2%	4%
20	Gap between rich and poor	63%	-3%	-1%
21	Cost of living	54%	-6%	-3%
Overall Government Satisfaction Index		79	-1	0

## Who We Are

Blackbox Research is an award-winning Singapore based agency specialising in communications insights. We provide advanced research, analytics and digital intelligence services for both public sector and commercial clients. Our team has expertise covering market research, strategic communications and messaging, advertising and public policy.

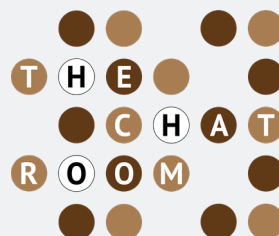
## YouKnowAnot

YouKnowAnot is our monthly community survey platform that has been running since 2013. We interview a representative sample of 1,000 Singaporeans every month. We now use a geographically stratified online sample. Our methodology also applies quota controls to ensure representative demographic coverage of the population. If you would like to purchase customised questions for your organisation or want to dig into our historical general community data/demographic information, please contact [chris@blackbox.com.sg](mailto:chris@blackbox.com.sg) for assistance.

## Get In Touch

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Blackbox Research introduces Singapore's first inspiration laboratory – the Chat Room. Primarily designed for focus group discussions, The Chat Room is a creative space that brings people together. The inviting and relaxed atmosphere allows companies and brands to connect with consumers in meaningful conversations.

For more information, visit [thechatroom.com.sg](http://thechatroom.com.sg)