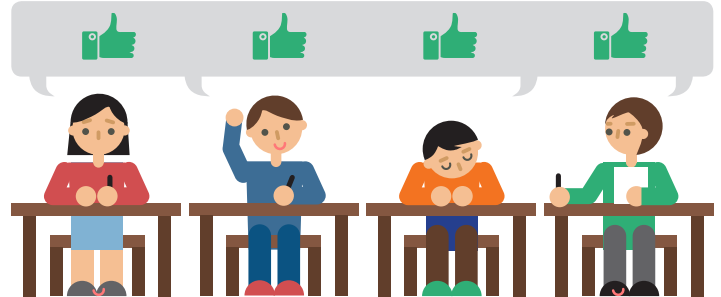


## Education: Thumbs Up to Secondary Changes But is More Reform Needed?



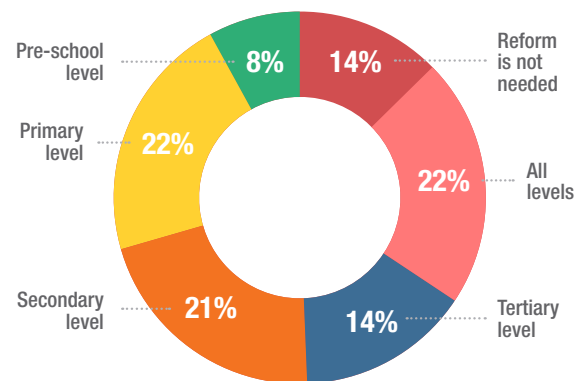
Changes are afoot in Singapore's education landscape as Education Minister Ong Ye Kung announced plans to replace secondary level streaming with subject-based banding, signaling a shift away from a "one-size-fits-all" system.

While generally happy with the local education system, Singaporeans split on where they think reform is most needed. While 21% would focus on secondary education, 22% say reform is more necessary at primary level and the same percentage argue that reform is needed at all levels. Only 14% don't believe any reform is necessary.

When asked about the change to subject-based banding, 59% of Singaporeans with children expressed support, compared to only 7% of parents who oppose it; a third (34%) said they are neutral.

Nearly 9 in 10 (89%) Singaporeans believe the secondary reforms will help students to take subjects at different levels that suits their strengths, while nearly 8 in 10 feel it will help students of various backgrounds to socialise more and reduce the stigma surrounding streaming.

If given a choice, which levels of the education system would you reform?



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

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

- Secondary school streaming will be replaced with full subject-based banding by 2024

86% (Followed) / 24% (Paid Close Attention)
- Singapore Budget 2019: Merdeka Generation Package, Bicentennial Bonus and more

86% (Followed) / 22% (Paid Close Attention)
- Dr Mahathir says Malaysian foreign minister to lead team for water talks with Singapore

83% (Followed) / 20% (Paid Close Attention)
- Samsung launches folding smartphone

78% (Followed) / 12% (Paid Close Attention)
- Blood in Taipei hotel room matches DNA of baby allegedly dumped by Singapore couple

77% (Followed) / 16% (Paid Close Attention)



## COMMUNITY SATISFACTION

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

Feb 70 > Mar 73

Community Satisfaction rises by 3 points



## PERSONAL FINANCES

Those who rate their personal finances as Excellent/Good

Feb 66 > Mar 67

Personal Finances rises by 1 point



## NATIONAL ECONOMY

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

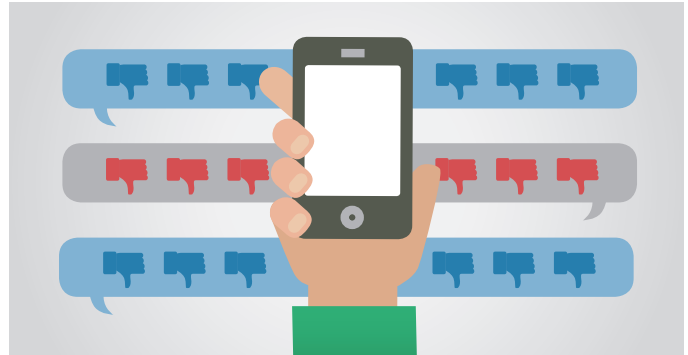
Feb 73 > Mar 73

National Economy remains steady

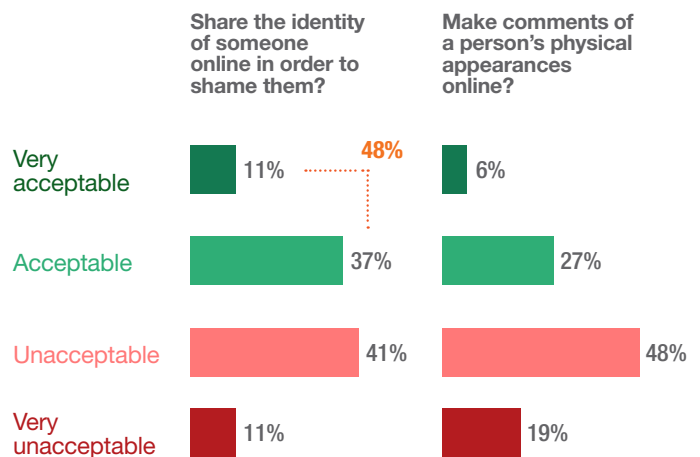
## Online Harassment: Many Still Think Vigilantism is Justified

The Ministry of Law recently announced that it is changing online harassment laws and is banning doxxing — the act of publishing private or identifying information about a particular individual on the Internet. This follows an incident last December, where a lorry swerved into a cyclist after he threw a bottle at its windscreen. This drew the attention of “netizens” eager to unmask the identity of the cyclist. Unfortunately, netizens identified the wrong person who subsequently received death threats and hostile comments about his employer on social media.

However, nearly half of all Singaporeans (48%) think doxxing is acceptable behaviour. But there are clear community divides — under 25s are far less tolerant of it (only 30% think doxxing is acceptable) and women are far less accepting than men (40% vs 57%).



### How do you feel about people who...



## Sentosa as the New Bali?

### Only 3 in 10 Singaporeans Go Along With the Idea

With the launch of Jewel Changi Airport and plans to rejuvenate Orchard Road, some observers recently have pointed to the lack of effort to transform Sentosa. The Executive Chairman of City Developments Limited raised eyebrows recently with his suggestion that Sentosa could be repositioned and transformed into the new Bali.

While 87% of Singaporeans agree Sentosa needs an upgrade, only 30% agree with the “new Bali” idea.

YKA survey findings reveal that many Singaporeans continue to visit Sentosa and feel it has things to offer tourists and partygoers, in particular. But many feel it still lacks interesting options for food lovers (57%), nature lovers (44%) and thrill-seekers (38%).

Sentosa lacks interesting options for...

#### Food lovers

57%

#### Nature lovers

44%

#### Thrill-seekers

38%



# Government Satisfaction Index

The GSI was again steady in March with no significant changes. Year on year, the biggest rise has been for public transport (+10) and the biggest drop has been CPF (-5).

## GOVERNMENT SATISFACTION INDEX

Monthly  
Index **80** GSI

Monthly  
Trend **0**

### 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	Crime levels	96%	0%	0%
2	The environment	94%	1%	-2%
3	Racial relations/ integration	92%	-2%	0%
4	Defence/ national security	92%	-1%	-1%
5	Education system	91%	0%	2%
6	Public transport	88%	1%	10%
7	Moral standards	86%	-1%	-1%
8	Care for the Elderly	86%	0%	0%
9	Management of the economy	85%	1%	-1%
10	Health insurance/protection	83%	-1%	1%
11	Jobs and unemployment	79%	-1%	-1%
12	Taxes	77%	-2%	2%
13	Government accountability	75%	-1%	-1%
14	Level of salaries and wages	75%	1%	-1%
15	Population management	74%	1%	0%
16	CPF/pensions	73%	1%	-5%
17	Civil rights/ liberties/ free speech	73%	1%	-1%
18	Housing affordability	69%	2%	5%
19	Motor vehicle prices/ COE	69%	1%	-2%
20	Gap between rich and poor	67%	2%	1%
21	Cost of living	59%	-1%	-4%
Overall Government Satisfaction Index		80	0	-1

## 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.

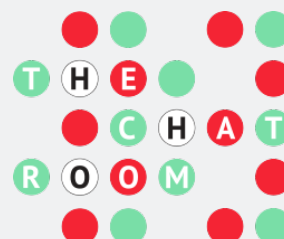
## YouKnowAnot

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.

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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)