



Government Satisfaction Index

84 MAR
84 FEB

Post Budget, the GSI is stable in March.
Year-on-year, the pandemic has had a positive impact on areas such as cost of living and population management.

	Government Satisfaction	Change since last month	Change over last 12 months
Defence/ national security	97%	-1%	0%
Crime levels	96%	1%	0%
Racial relations/ integration	94%	0%	1%
Education system	93%	1%	1%
The environment	92%	0%	0%
Public transport	91%	-1%	7%
Moral standards	90%	-1%	1%
Care for the Elderly	91%	0%	0%
Management of the economy	89%	-3%	6%
Health insurance/ protection	87%	-1%	0%
Government accountability	84%	0%	3%
Taxes	82%	-1%	0%
CPF/pensions	84%	1%	8%
Civil rights/ liberties/ free speech	79%	-2%	0%
Population management	79%	0%	5%
Jobs and unemployment	82%	0%	10%
Level of salaries and wages	77%	-2%	1%
Motor vehicle prices/ COE	72%	2%	0%
Housing affordability	73%	1%	-1%
Gap between rich and poor	71%	0%	3%
Cost of living	64%	0%	9%
Overall GSI	84%	0%	3%

80 MAR
81 FEB

Community Satisfaction

68 MAR
66 FEB

Personal Finances

77 MAR
72 FEB

National Economy

Singapore's Top 5 News Stories of the Month

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

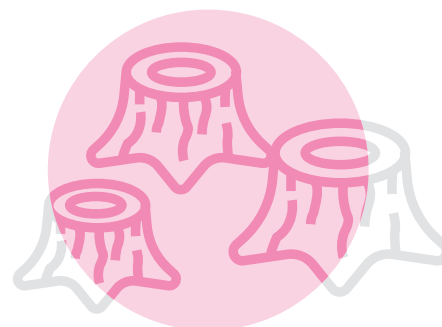
- Five people killed in Tanjong Pagar crash as 29-year-old driver believed to have sped before crashing into shophouse
43% 93%
- Seniors aged 70 and above to receive first COVID-19 vaccination letters
33% 92%
- Moderna's COVID-19 vaccine is authorised for use in Singapore, with the first shipment expected around March
26% 88%
- Budget 2021: Petrol duty rates raised by up to 15 cents per litre, Jobs Support Scheme extended for worst-hit sectors, S\$900 million Household Support Package
26% 87%
- Tuas fire: 3 workers dead and 7 injured in a combustible dust explosion caused by potato starch powder
26% 87%

Featured articles

- Environment:** The great Kranji kerfuffle
- Transportation:** The electric vehicle revolution is nigh
- Well-being:** Do children have a balanced childhood in Singapore?



Environment: The great Kranji kerfuffle



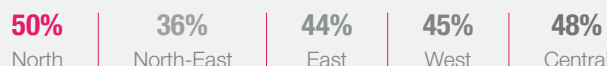
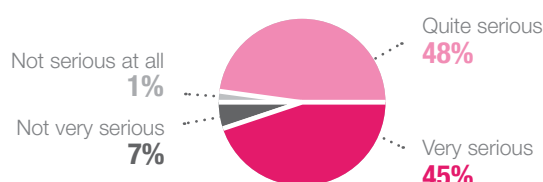
It was recently revealed that about 4.5 hectares of forested area in Kranji was cleared before a biodiversity study and an environmental management plan were completed. The JTC Corporation, in charge of the project, said that a sub-contractor had **erroneously** begun deforesting some of the land, prompting criticism from nature groups and conservation advocates.

While many Singaporeans bemoan the incident, not all feel similarly concerned by the potential loss of biodiversity. Indeed, our data shows notable geographic and demographic differences. Some 92% of Singaporeans consider this incident as “serious”, but it is predominantly seen as “very serious” by those living physically closer to Kranji: 50% for those in the north of Singapore versus 36%-48% for those in other regions. It is also seen as far more serious by older Singaporeans, as 56% of Boomers consider it “very serious”, compared to only 34% of Gen Zers. While not indifferent, younger Singaporeans feel much less strongly about this issue than older Singaporeans.

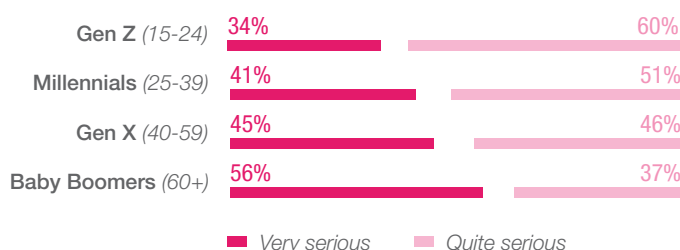
Older Singaporeans are also more animated about the way the incident was handled. Close to four in five (79%) Singaporeans aged 25 and above think JTC should have gone public with the information as soon as it was known, while close to one in three (31%) of Gen Zers say JTC was right to withhold the information until an investigation was conducted. These generational differences are also found in Singaporeans’ perception of the government’s work to preserve and/or conserve green spaces in Singapore. 56% of Gen Zers and 61% of Millennials think the government is doing “enough” in this regard, while 53% of Boomers think it is not doing enough.

These differences may be due to younger Singaporeans viewing natural green spaces as less directly or personally relevant to them. The consequences arising from mismanagement of green spaces appears less critical to them compared to more immediate environmental issues such as climate change or plastic wastage, which often record much higher concern levels.

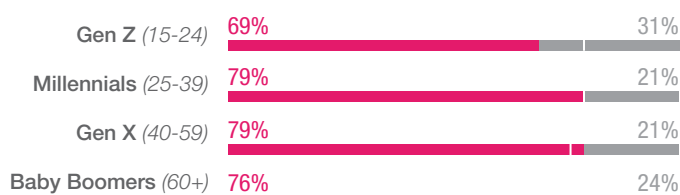
In your opinion, how serious an ‘error’ was this by the contractor? (All and by location)



In your opinion, how serious an ‘error’ was this by the contractor? (by age group)



Was JTC wrong to not immediately inform the public about the contractor erroneously cutting down woodland?



■ They should have gone public with this information
■ They were right to withhold the information until they had fully investigated what happened

*Totals may not add-up to 100 due to rounding



Transportation: The electric vehicle revolution is nigh



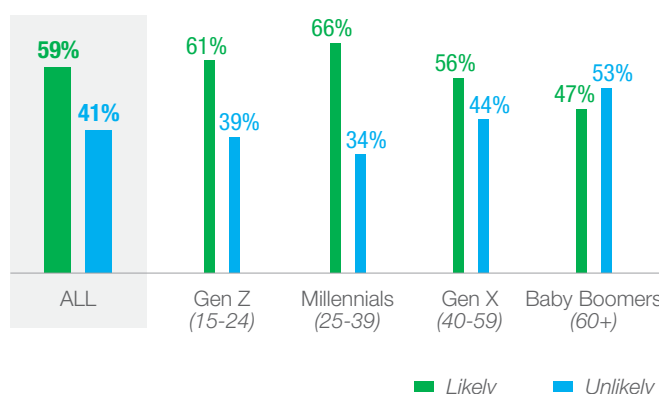
After several years of contradictory stances, the Singapore government is showing signs of **warming up** to electric vehicles (EVs) becoming part of Singapore's landscape. The clearest sign of all is the fact that the Parliament recently **discussed** a number of supportive measures, including lowering the road tax for mass-market electric cars so that it is on par with equivalent combustion-engine models.

Our data shows that Singaporeans are indeed largely ready for the EV revolution, but several obstacles – specifically, the price – remain in the way. Overall, 59% of Singaporeans say they are likely to buy an EV in the next five years, with Millennials most likely (66%).

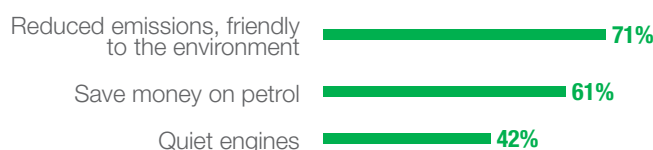
Among the benefits identified for EVs, the top three are their eco-friendliness (71%), the potential energy savings (61%), and their quietness (42%). Among the downsides, those that stand out are the prohibitive cost (70%), the charging times (59%), and the availability of charging stations (59%).

These findings suggest that much remains to be done to make EV ownership both practical and accessible. If everything goes according to plan, the government's S\$30 million pledge over the next five years for EV-related initiatives should incentivise the wider adoption of such vehicles – hopefully making Elon Musk rethink his **harsh assessment** of Singapore's position on the technology.

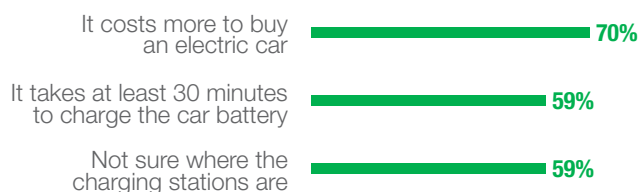
How likely are you to buy an electric car in the next 5 years?



Top 3 **most** appealing factors of an electric vehicle



Top 3 **least** appealing factors of an electric vehicle





Well-being: Do children have a balanced childhood in Singapore?



Through most of 2020, the circuit breaker pushed many Singaporean families to adopt **home-based learning**, bringing to the surface a host of challenges (balancing working from home while managing children's schoolwork, limiting screen time, getting enough physical activity, etc.). Despite the difficulties, many saw this as **an opportunity** to change the way children's days are structured, managed, and balanced.

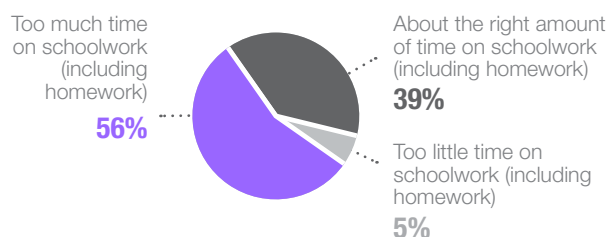
Our data shows that Singaporeans are ready to re-think the way children are pushed for excellence, especially if it means having a healthier balance between academic and non-academic successes. More than half (56%) of Singaporeans think too much time is spent on schoolwork. This sentiment has some notable demographic differences: it is highest for Boomers (65%), highest for women (60%), and lowest for higher-income households (48%).

When it comes to non-school activities, Singaporean parents see the value of physical activities and sleep. Not only that, they generally walk the talk. 85% think that children need 1-3 hours of daily sports and outdoor play, and 81% actually set this time aside. Conversely, 82% of parents think their children need 8-10 hours of sleep per night, but only 56% respect this need. For exactly one in three Singaporeans (33%), their children have 6-7 hours of sleep per night.

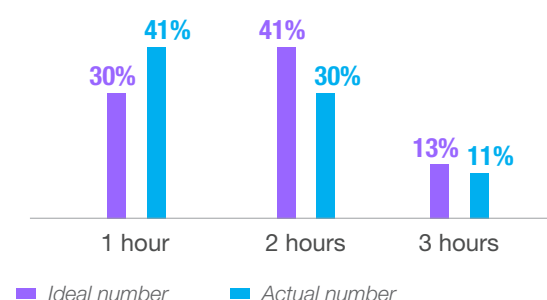
These findings reveal two major discrepancies when it comes to balancing children's schedules and activities. First, a lack of sleep that manifests despite knowing how much sleep a child should have per night. It is not surprise, then, that such behaviours carry into adulthood; Singapore is among the most **sleep-deprived** countries in the world. Second, marked socio-economic differences that influence the way families determine whether there is too much or not enough schoolwork. The higher the income bracket, the more schoolwork children are expected to be able to handle. Again, such expectations carry into adulthood and result in Singapore being one of the world's most **overworked** but **unproductive** societies.

As our past research shows, **work-life balance** is becoming a vital part of young Singaporeans' personal and professional goals. If Singapore is to compete with other knowledge-driven economies, it is high time that balanced lifestyles become the norm for adults as well as children.

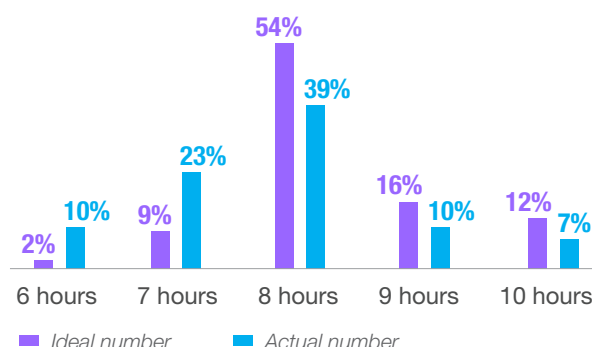
School-age children these days spend...



Average number of hours a child should engage in sports and/or physical activity per day



Average number of hours a child should sleep per night





every+one

YouKnowAnot

March 2021

Who We Are

Blackbox provides clients with decision science solutions, offering consumer, business, and community perspectives on contemporary problems and challenges. We monitor emerging trends both regionally and globally with the main aim of signalling potential changes of significance before they occur.

You Know Anot

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 comms@blackbox.com.sg for assistance.

every+one

In addition to YKA, Blackbox now runs a six-country bi-monthly omnibus study across ASEAN: every+one. Through 2021 Blackbox will be providing regular updates on key trends and on the ground sentiment across the increasingly important Southeast Asian region. If you would like to be included in our mailing list for every+one or purchase questions in the omnibus, please reach out. You can contact us at comms@blackbox.com.sg



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