

Government Satisfaction Index

81 OCT
82 SEPT

Management of the economy saw the largest drop of 3 points compared to the previous month.

Year on year, satisfaction with cost of living has fallen 6 points, while housing affordability has dropped by 5 points. Salaries and wages, rich-poor gap and the cost of vehicles or COE are down 4-points year on year.

	Government Satisfaction	Change since last month	Change over last 12 months
Defence/ national security	96%	-1%	0%
Crime levels	96%	0%	1%
Racial relations/ integration	91%	1%	-2%
Education system	90%	2%	-2%
The environment	90%	-1%	-2%
Public transport	93%	1%	3%
Moral standards	88%	-2%	-1%
Care for the Elderly	88%	-2%	0%
Management of the economy	86%	-3%	-1%
Health insurance/ protection	88%	0%	2%
Government accountability	80%	-2%	-2%
Taxes	79%	-1%	0%
CPF/pensions	84%	2%	3%
Civil rights/ liberties/ free speech	77%	-1%	-2%
Population management	77%	-2%	-1%
Jobs and unemployment	76%	-2%	1%
Level of salaries and wages	72%	-1%	-4%
Motor vehicle prices/ COE	66%	-1%	-4%
Housing affordability	66%	1%	-5%
Gap between rich and poor	65%	-1%	-4%
Cost of living	59%	1%	-6%
Overall GSI	81%	-1%	-1%

71 OCT
73 SEPT

Community Satisfaction

66 OCT
63 SEPT

Personal Finances

72 OCT
72 SEPT

National Economy

Singapore's Top 5 News Stories of the Month

% Who Followed the News % Who Paid Close Attention

1

COVID-19: Case numbers exceed 2,400 with record number of deaths, as home recovery patients set up Telegram group for support due to lack of clear instructions from MOH



2

National Day Rally: PM Lee announces support for low wage workers, as well as new laws to maintain racial harmony and combat workplace discrimination



3

Phoon Chiu Yoke, who was seen without a mask at Marina Bay Sands, jailed after pleading guilty to multiple offences



4

US to lift restrictions on fully vaccinated international travellers in November



5

Bangkok to reopen to international travellers on Oct 15



Featured Articles

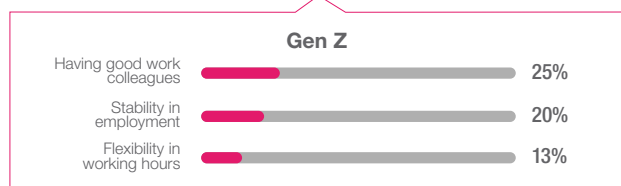
- + What are the jobs of the future?
- + FICA legislation: How worried are Singaporeans about foreign interference?
- + Travel resumes: Is space a destination?



What are the jobs of the future?

Millions of lives have altered since 2020; now as 2022 approaches, people have learned to better assess the situation around them and realign their priorities: in health, spending habits and, in particular, in employment. After 18 months of living with a global pandemic, Singaporeans have discerned the qualities that make one job better than another.

What makes a job valuable and enjoyable these days?

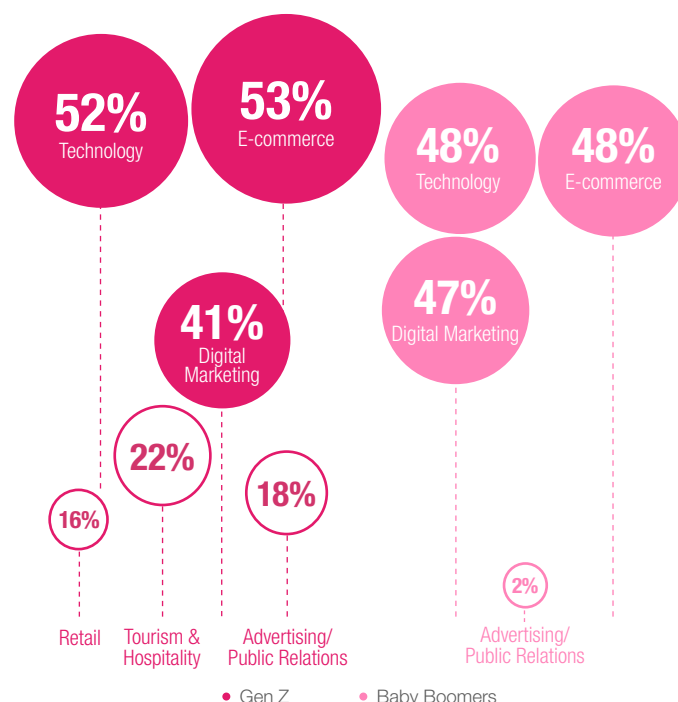


Nearly half (45%) of Singaporeans agree that salary is of importance when assessing a job's prospects; add to that people who need stability in employment (25%) and it is clear that a job must provide financial security and stability. However, it is important to note that while finances are paramount, there is no discounting the importance of having a job that values an employees' work-life balance (33%), especially as mental health has come to the fore of late.

We are also seeing generational differences in what makes jobs valuable and enjoyable. In addition to salary and work-life balance, we also note that for Gen Z, factors such as job stability and flexible working hours are less important than some other factors such as quality of work colleagues.

So, where does the public believe the 'good jobs' are now?

Top/bottom ranked sectors to find great jobs today

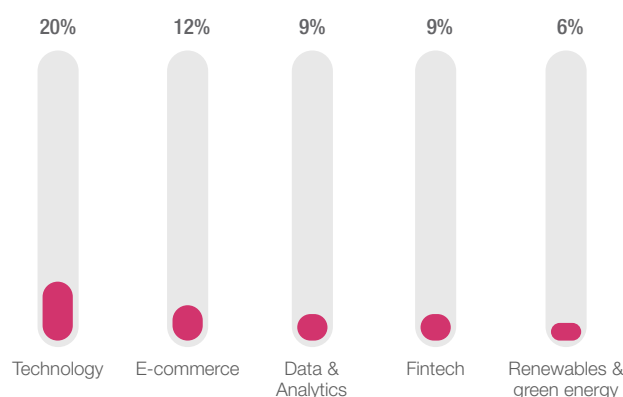


Today, tech jobs are most desirable with Singaporeans, as are roles in e-commerce, and data and analytics. Conversely, the automotive, advertising/PR, retail and tourism sectors are seen as the least desirable.

There's also low interest in working in sectors that have been instrumental to Singapore's development as a nation: manufacturing, aviation, and oil and gas. Even the public sector is looking comparatively less attractive for younger Singaporeans – a significant shift in mindset from previous generations.

Looking ahead, what do Singaporeans believe to be the sectors to find great jobs in the future?

Top-ranked sectors for the future



Singaporeans expect today's top two sectors to continue to provide great working opportunities in the future. Renewables & green energy enters the top bracket of sectors that Singaporeans believe will have great jobs on offer ahead.

As the workforce paradigm shifts, talent in SG will increasingly gravitate to new sectors and this will present challenges for mature sectors that still have an enormous contribution to make to Singapore's economy.

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FICA: How worried are Singaporeans about foreign interference?



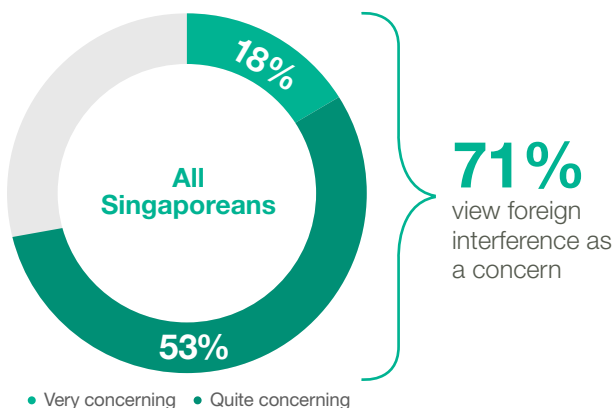
One topic that has been a constant news feature in recent months is the Foreign Interference (Countermeasures) Act, or FICA. According to Google Trends, in the first week the legislation passed, “FICA” was the most searched term on Google in Singapore. Since then, interest in the topic has sharply declined.

With the controversial FICA bill now the law of the land, we look at how worried average Singaporeans feel about possible interference and whom from?

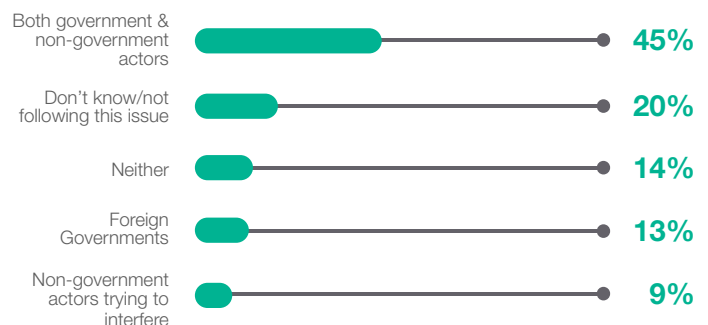
While Singaporeans are more likely to suspect a mix of both government and non-government actors as sources of potential foreign interference, they are more likely to suspect foreign interference to come from the two major superpowers – the US and China – or Singapore’s closest neighbour: Malaysia. However, it is worth noting that one in three Singaporeans (29%) are not sure where foreign interference could come from.

Doubtless, Singaporeans are concerned about foreign interference, but without the public being given many facts about whom the Singaporean government is most worried about, it would seem that there are still unknowns regarding how effective the new legislation is compared to previously existing laws and whether new methods of potential interference – especially digitally – prove to be problematic for Singapore in the years ahead.

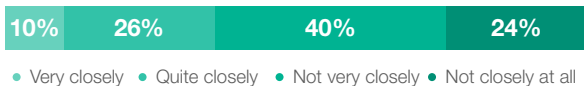
Foreign interference and FICA are much-discussed in Parliament; how concerning, if at all, do Singaporeans believe the issue is to Singapore?



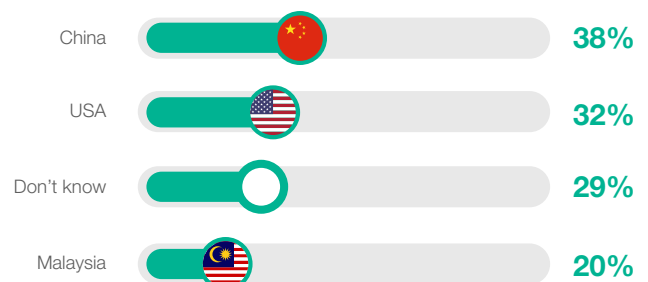
Do you think Singapore has more to worry about outside interference from...?



How closely, if at all, Singaporeans followed news and updates on the FICA Bill



Which foreign governments Singaporeans suspect most of interfering in Singapore?



While 7 in 10 Singaporeans view foreign interference as a concern to Singapore, less than one in five (18%) say they are very concerned. In fact, only a little over a third (36%) followed the news surrounding FICA closely; and of note, Gen Z (81%) did not follow the news closely. This suggests that foreign interference is concerning, but most do not perceive the topic as one needing constant monitoring.

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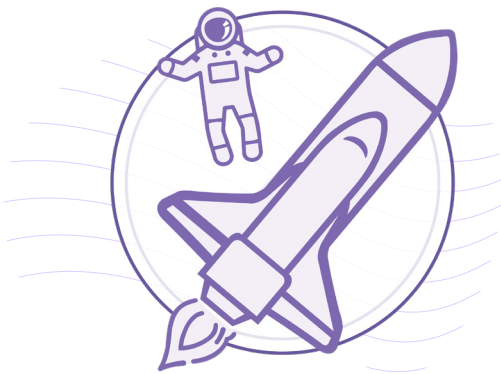
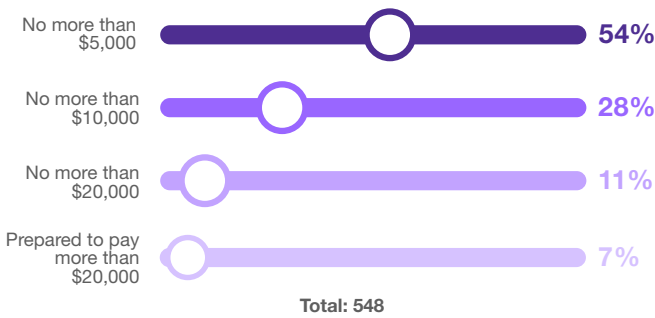
Travel resumes: Is space a destination?

In April of 1961, Yuri Gagarin became the first person to cross the threshold into space. Up until July 2021, astronautical flight had been privileged for a very select few individuals who could pass gruelling physical and mental training, which according to NASA, can take up to two years.

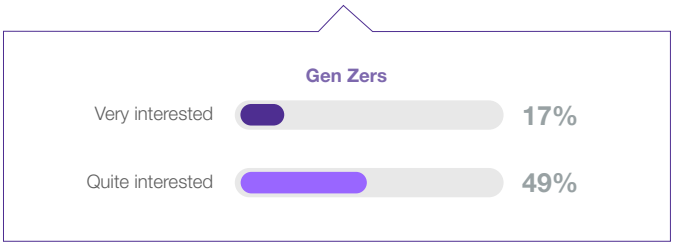
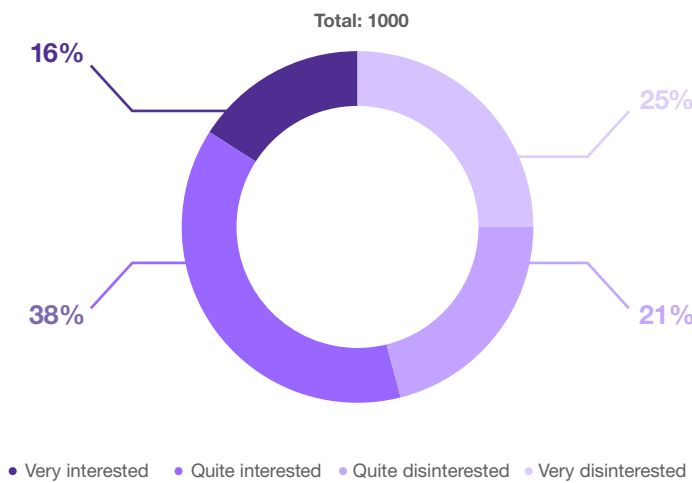
The democratisation of space travel has taken 60 years, but now with Jeff Bezos's Blue Origin and Elon Musk's SpaceX introducing space travel to non-astronauts, anyone who's able to afford it can take a trip to space. So, how keen are Singaporeans on spaceflight?

More than half of Singaporeans (54%) have an interest in space travel with the caveat that it becomes affordable. Gen Zers, in particular, have shown aspirations to exploring beyond our blue skies, with two-thirds (66%) identifying as those who would consider a trip to space. So, how much would it cost for spaceflight to be an enticing – and doable – prospect?

How much would you pay for a ticket on a space flight if you could get one?



With civilians recently traveling into space on board Virgin Galactic and SpaceX flights, travel in to space is arguably closer to reality for ordinary people. How interested are you in traveling to space if you could afford it?



While there are those in the minority, mainly Boomers (12%) and Gen X (10%), who are prepared to spend more than S\$20,000 for a seat on the next spacecraft, most Singaporeans are grounded for now – 54% are only willing to fork out the equivalent of a first-class return airline ticket to Dubai.

Trips to space are definitely among the musings of many Singaporeans, they are however to remain musings at least until the cost of spaceflight has descended into the atmosphere of Singaporean sensibility.

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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.

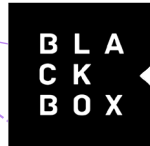
You Know Anot

YouKnowAnot (YKA) is a monthly community survey platform that has been running since 2013. Blackbox interviews a representative sample of 1,000 Singaporean citizens/PRs aged 15+ every month.

We use a geographically stratified online sample, and our methodology also applies quota controls to ensure representative demographic coverage of the population (as per the most recent Census data).

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 bizdesign@blackbox.com.sg



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