

IPS Survey on Perceptions of Singapore's History

Press Briefing

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Objectives

- What are the major historical events in Singapore and how do Singaporeans feel about them?
- 1,516 Singaporeans were surveyed on:
 - (1) Awareness of historical events
 - (2) Perceived importance of events (to the individual and to future generations of Singaporeans)
 - (3) Perception of events as negative or positive
 - (4) Emotional reaction towards the events
- Underlying themes/narratives in Singapore's history
- Correlations between the themes/narratives and well-being

Methodology

- Quota sampling method, controlled for age, gender and ethnicity
- Data collection from August 2014 to October 2014
- Questionnaire conducted face-to-face by trained interviewers
- Average duration of interview: 30 minutes
- Questionnaire available in English, Chinese, Malay and Tamil
- Sample of 50 local historical events: between 1819 and 2011
- Three pilot studies conducted prior to the actual survey

Methodology

- Respondents were taken through each of the 50 historical events
- For each event, respondents were asked if they knew about the event
- Those who said yes were asked to rate, on a scale of 1 (not important/negative/indifferent) to 5 (very important/positive/feel strongly):
 - (1) Is the event important to you?
 - (2) Is the event important to future generations of Singaporeans?
 - (3) Is the event a negative or positive one?
 - (4) How strongly do you feel about the event?
- Respondents were also asked to rate their current and future sense of well-being, on a scale of 1 (very dissatisfied) to 5 (very satisfied)

Socio-demographic characteristics of the sample

	Respondents		Respondents		
	N	%	N	%	
Gender					
Male	742	48.9	HDB 1, 2 & 3-room	294	19.4
Female	774	51.1	HDB 4-room	677	44.7
<i>Total</i>	1516	100.0	HDB 5-room/Executive/HUDC	309	20.4
Age			Executive Condo/Private		
Age 21 to 34	437	28.8	Condo/Apartment/Landed		
Age 35 to 49	508	33.5	Property	236	15.6
Age 50 and above	571	37.7	<i>Total</i>	1516	100.0
<i>Total</i>	1516	100.0			
Ethnicity			Household income per month		
Chinese	1148	75.7	Below \$2,999	296	23.9
Malay	185	12.2	\$3,000-\$5,999	504	40.6
Indian	172	11.3	\$6,000 and above	440	35.5
Others	11	0.7	<i>Total</i> *	1240	100.0
<i>Total</i>	1516	100.0			
Citizenship			Education		
At Birth	1384	91.3	Non-Tertiary educated	1175	77.5
Naturalised	132	8.7	Tertiary educated	341	22.5
<i>Total</i>	1516	100.0	<i>Total</i>	1516	100.0

* Note: Excludes respondents with “No income”, “Do not know” and “Refused”

Respondents' Awareness of Events

Frequency of ‘Awareness’ ranked in descending order (%)

EVENTS	N	%
Opening of two Casinos (2010)	1500	98.9
SARS outbreak (2003)	1493	98.5
Major MRT breakdown (2011)	1461	96.4
Mas Selamat escapes (2008)	1443	95.2
Goh Chok Tong takes over as PM from Lee Kuan Yew (1990)	1411	93.1
WWII Japanese Occupation (1942)	1403	92.5
PAP loses Aljunied GRC (2011)	1392	91.8
Raffles' landing (1819)	1361	89.8
Lee Kuan Yew sobs on national TV over Separation (1965)	1344	88.7
Singapore hosts Youth Olympics (2010)	1327	87.5
Hotel New World collapse (1986)	1315	86.7
Completion of NEWater (2000)	1314	86.7
Introduction of GST (1994)	1291	85.2
NKF/TT Durai scandal (2005)	1255	82.8
Official launch of MRT (1988)	1244	82.1
Racial riots (1964)	1212	79.9
Singapore Cable Car accident (1983)	1185	78.2
Streaming in schools (1980)	1178	77.7
Launch of “Stop at Two” family planning (1970)	1144	75.5
Asian Financial Crisis (1997-98)	1142	75.3
Merger with Malaya (1963)	1108	73.1
Opening of Changi Airport (1981)	1101	72.6
Bukit Ho Swee fire (1961)	1072	70.7
Introduction of bilingualism policy in schools (1966)	1057	69.7
Formation of PAP (1954)	1038	68.5

Frequency of ‘Awareness’ ranked in descending order (%)

EVENTS	N	%
Majulah Singapura is composed (1958)	1018	67.2
Jemaah Islamiyah terrorist plot (2002)	1012	66.8
Caning of Michael Fay (1994)	1010	66.6
Creation of Singapore national pledge (1966)	990	65.3
Singapore River clean-up campaign (1977)	970	64.0
First batch of NS men enlist (1967)	969	63.9
Formation of HDB (1960)	937	61.8
PAP wins GE (1959)	935	61.7
Hijack of SQ 117 (1991)	927	61.1
SQ 006 Taipei crash (2000)	907	59.8
Hock Lee bus riots (1955)	871	57.5
SilkAir flight crash in Palembang, Indonesia (1997)	863	56.9
Bombing of MacDonald House (1965)	798	52.6
Formation of SQ (1972)	770	50.8
Withdrawal of British troops (1971)	738	48.7
Introduction of Singapore currency (1967)	713	47.0
J.B. Jeyaretnam wins Anson by-election (1981)	669	44.1
Maria Hertogh riots (1950)	561	37.0
Formation of MAS (1970)	532	35.1
Merger of Nantah and University of Singapore (1980)	521	34.4
PAP splits (1961)	487	32.1
Debate on Graduate Mother Scheme (1984)	378	24.9
Laju hostage incident (1974)	335	22.1
“Marxist Conspiracy” plot uncovered, 16 people detained (1987)	281	18.5
Operation Cold Store (1963)	252	16.6

Frequency of ‘Awareness’ by age group (%)

EVENTS (in chronological order)	Total		Age 21-34		Age 35-49		Age 50 & Above	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
Raffles' landing (1819)	1361	89.8	409	93.6	451	88.8	501	87.7
WWII Japanese Occupation (1942)	1403	92.5	415	95.0	473	93.1	515	90.2
Maria Hertogh riots (1950)	561	37.0	181	41.4	157	30.9	223	39.1
Formation of PAP (1954)	1038	68.5	293	67.0	340	66.9	405	70.9
Hock Lee bus riots (1955)	871	57.5	243	55.6	242	47.6	386	67.6
Majulah Singapura is composed (1958)	1018	67.2	320	73.2	321	63.2	377	66.0
PAP wins GE (1959)	935	61.7	245	56.1	299	58.9	391	68.5
Formation of HDB (1960)	937	61.8	254	58.1	314	61.8	369	64.6
Bukit Ho Swee fire (1961)	1072	70.7	259	59.3	335	65.9	478	83.7
PAP splits (1961)	487	32.1	130	29.7	147	28.9	210	36.8
Operation Cold Store (1963)	252	16.6	57	13.0	75	14.8	120	21.0
Merger with Malaya (1963)	1108	73.1	323	73.9	361	71.1	424	74.3
Racial riots (1964)	1212	79.9	340	77.8	393	77.4	479	83.9
Bombing of MacDonald House (1965)	798	52.6	242	55.4	271	53.3	285	49.9
Lee Kuan Yew sobs on national TV over Separation (1965)	1344	88.7	380	87.0	451	88.8	513	89.8
Creation of Singapore national pledge (1966)	990	65.3	296	67.7	323	63.6	371	65.0
Introduction of bilingualism policy in schools (1966)	1057	69.7	276	63.2	355	69.9	426	74.6
Introduction of Singapore currency (1967)	713	47.0	180	41.2	222	43.7	311	54.5
First batch of NS men enlist (1967)	969	63.9	254	58.1	317	62.4	398	69.7
Launch of “Stop at Two” family planning (1970)	1144	75.5	283	64.8	374	73.6	487	85.3
Formation of MAS (1970)	532	35.1	135	30.9	198	39.0	199	34.9
Withdrawal of British troops (1971)	738	48.7	199	45.5	239	47.0	300	52.5
Formation of SQ (1972)	770	50.8	197	45.1	274	53.9	299	52.4
Laju hostage incident (1974)	335	22.1	66	15.1	88	17.3	181	31.7
Singapore River clean-up campaign (1977)	970	64.0	255	58.4	318	62.6	397	69.5

Frequency of ‘Awareness’ by age group (%)

EVENTS (in chronological order)	Total	Age 21-34		Age 35-49		Age 50 & Above		
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
Merger of Nantah and University of Singapore (1980)	521	34.4	109	24.9	168	33.1	244	42.7
Streaming in schools (1980)	1178	77.7	337	77.1	402	79.1	439	76.9
Opening of Changi Airport (1981)	1101	72.6	307	70.3	357	70.3	437	76.5
J.B. Jeyaretnam wins Anson by-election (1981)	669	44.1	126	28.8	202	39.8	341	59.7
Singapore Cable Car accident (1983)	1185	78.2	279	63.8	408	80.3	498	87.2
Debate on Graduate Mother Scheme (1984)	378	24.9	81	18.5	123	24.2	174	30.5
Hotel New World collapse (1986)	1315	86.7	322	73.7	455	89.6	538	94.2
“Marxist Conspiracy” plot uncovered, 16 people detained (1987)	281	18.5	68	15.6	92	18.1	121	21.2
Official launched of MRT (1988)	1244	82.1	326	74.6	420	82.7	498	87.2
Goh Chok Tong takes over as PM from Lee Kuan Yew (1990)	1411	93.1	387	88.6	478	94.1	546	95.6
Hijack of SQ 117 (1991)	927	61.1	258	59.0	331	65.2	338	59.2
Caning of Michael Fay (1994)	1010	66.6	244	55.8	364	71.7	402	70.4
Introduction of GST (1994)	1291	85.2	329	75.3	457	90.0	505	88.4
SilkAir flight crash in Palembang, Indonesia (1997)	863	56.9	180	41.2	317	62.4	366	64.1
Asian Financial Crisis (1997-98)	1142	75.3	311	71.2	406	79.9	425	74.4
Completion of NEWater (2000)	1314	86.7	388	88.8	438	86.2	488	85.5
SQ 006 Taipei crash (2000)	907	59.8	230	52.6	323	63.6	354	62.0
Jemaah Islamiyah terrorist plot (2002)	1012	66.8	287	65.7	346	68.1	379	66.4
SARS outbreak (2003)	1493	98.5	432	98.9	502	98.8	559	97.9
NKF/TT Durai scandal (2005)	1255	82.8	347	79.4	431	84.8	477	83.5
Mas Selamat escapes (2008)	1443	95.2	429	98.2	481	94.7	533	93.3
Singapore hosts Youth Olympics (2010)	1327	87.5	392	89.7	460	90.6	475	83.2
Opening of two Casinos (2010)	1500	98.9	429	98.2	505	99.4	566	99.1
PAP loses Aljunied GRC (2011)	1392	91.8	382	87.4	477	93.9	533	93.3
Major MRT breakdown (2011)	1461	96.4	421	96.3	495	97.4	545	95.4

Frequency of ‘Awareness’ by ethnicity (%)

EVENTS (in chronological order)	Total		Chinese		Malay		Indian/Others	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
Raffles' landing (1819)	1361	89.8	1026	89.4	171	92.4	164	89.6
WWII Japanese Occupation (1942)	1403	92.5	1068	93.0	172	93.0	163	89.1
Maria Hertogh riots (1950)	561	37.0	378	32.9	103	55.7	80	43.7
Formation of PAP (1954)	1038	68.5	773	67.3	130	70.3	135	73.8
Hock Lee bus riots (1955)	871	57.5	656	57.1	119	64.3	96	52.5
Majulah Singapura is composed (1958)	1018	67.2	718	62.5	157	84.9	143	78.1
PAP wins GE (1959)	935	61.7	702	61.1	112	60.5	121	66.1
Formation of HDB (1960)	937	61.8	693	60.4	119	64.3	125	68.3
Bukit Ho Swee fire (1961)	1072	70.7	820	71.4	131	70.8	121	66.1
PAP splits (1961)	487	32.1	361	31.4	52	28.1	74	40.4
Operation Cold Store (1963)	252	16.6	190	16.6	34	18.4	28	15.3
Merger with Malaya (1963)	1108	73.1	844	73.5	130	70.3	134	73.2
Racial riots (1964)	1212	79.9	902	78.6	159	85.9	151	82.5
Bombing of MacDonald House (1965)	798	52.6	585	51.0	113	61.1	100	54.6
Lee Kuan Yew sobs on national TV over Separation (1965)	1344	88.7	1016	88.5	164	88.6	164	89.6
Creation of Singapore national pledge (1966)	990	65.3	724	63.1	133	71.9	133	72.7
Introduction of bilingualism policy in schools (1966)	1057	69.7	793	69.1	129	69.7	135	73.8
Introduction of Singapore currency (1967)	713	47.0	537	46.8	83	44.9	93	50.8
First batch of NS men enlist (1967)	969	63.9	723	63.0	129	69.7	117	63.9
Launch of “Stop at Two” family planning (1970)	1144	75.5	888	77.4	142	76.8	114	62.3
Formation of MAS (1970)	532	35.1	384	33.4	72	38.9	76	41.5
Withdrawal of British troops (1971)	738	48.7	564	49.1	82	44.3	92	50.3
Formation of SQ (1972)	770	50.8	559	48.7	94	50.8	117	63.9
Laju hostage incident (1974)	335	22.1	238	20.7	47	25.4	50	27.3
Singapore River clean-up campaign (1977)	970	64.0	745	64.9	113	61.1	112	61.2

Frequency of ‘Awareness’ by ethnicity (%)

EVENTS (in chronological order)	Total		Chinese		Malay		Indian/Others	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
Merger of Nantah and University of Singapore (1980)	521	34.4	421	36.7	43	23.2	57	31.1
Streaming in schools (1980)	1178	77.7	884	77.0	145	78.4	149	81.4
Opening of Changi Airport (1981)	1101	72.6	809	70.5	144	77.8	148	80.9
J.B. Jeyaretnam wins Anson by-election (1981)	669	44.1	474	41.3	97	52.4	98	53.6
Singapore Cable Car accident (1983)	1185	78.2	888	77.4	155	83.8	142	77.6
Debate on Graduate Mother Scheme (1984)	378	24.9	280	24.4	46	24.9	52	28.4
Hotel New World collapse (1986)	1315	86.7	1002	87.3	163	88.1	150	82.0
“Marxist Conspiracy” plot uncovered, 16 people detained (1987)	281	18.5	208	18.1	36	19.5	37	20.2
Official launch of MRT (1988)	1244	82.1	946	82.4	152	82.2	146	79.8
Goh Chok Tong takes over as PM from Lee Kuan Yew (1990)	1411	93.1	1073	93.5	163	88.1	175	95.6
Hijack of SQ 117 (1991)	927	61.1	692	60.3	113	61.1	122	66.7
Caning of Michael Fay (1994)	1010	66.6	776	67.6	126	68.1	108	59.0
Introduction of GST (1994)	1291	85.2	980	85.4	157	84.9	154	84.2
SilkAir flight crash in Palembang, Indonesia (1997)	863	56.9	637	55.5	124	67.0	102	55.7
Asian Financial Crisis (1997-98)	1142	75.3	887	77.3	128	69.2	127	69.4
Completion of NEWater (2000)	1314	86.7	983	85.6	169	91.4	162	88.5
SQ 006 Taipei crash (2000)	907	59.8	699	60.9	107	57.8	101	55.2
Jemaah Islamiyah terrorist plot (2002)	1012	66.8	745	64.9	150	81.1	117	63.9
SARS outbreak (2003)	1493	98.5	1131	98.5	182	98.4	180	98.4
NKF/TT Durai scandal (2005)	1255	82.8	971	84.6	140	75.7	144	78.7
Mas Selamat escapes (2008)	1443	95.2	1083	94.3	183	98.9	177	96.7
Singapore hosts Youth Olympics (2010)	1327	87.5	1012	88.2	151	81.6	164	89.6
Opening of two Casinos (2010)	1500	98.9	1140	99.3	179	96.8	181	98.9
PAP loses Aljunied GRC (2011)	1392	91.8	1057	92.1	163	88.1	172	94.0
Major MRT breakdown (2011)	1461	96.4	1098	95.6	182	98.4	181	98.9

Importance to Respondent

Ranked mean score of ‘Importance to respondent’

EVENTS	Mean (SD)
SARS outbreak (2003)	4.37 (0.76)
Official launch of MRT (1988)	4.36 (0.73)
Formation of HDB (1960)	4.23 (0.81)
Opening of Changi Airport (1981)	4.21 (0.80)
Creation of Singapore national pledge (1966)	4.20 (0.74)
Lee Kuan Yew sobs on national TV over Separation (1965)	4.14 (0.90)
Introduction of Singapore currency (1967)	4.14 (0.83)
Majulah Singapura is composed (1958)	4.11 (0.83)
Completion of NEWater (2000)	4.09 (0.82)
First batch of NS men enlist (1967)	4.07 (0.86)
Formation of PAP (1954)	4.07 (0.81)
Racial riots (1964)	4.04 (0.94)
Introduction of bilingualism policy in schools (1966)	4.04 (0.93)
Major MRT breakdown (2011)	4.02 (0.98)
PAP wins GE (1959)	4.01 (0.85)
Singapore River clean-up campaign (1977)	3.99 (0.89)
Introduction of GST (1994)	3.98 (0.91)
Jemaah Islamiyah terrorist plot (2002)	3.97 (0.94)
Asian Financial Crisis (1997-98)	3.91 (0.95)
Formation of MAS (1970)	3.90 (0.83)
Goh Chok Tong takes over as PM from Lee Kuan Yew (1990)	3.87 (0.93)
Mas Selamat escapes (2008)	3.86 (1.05)
WWII Japanese Occupation (1942)	3.84 (1.01)
Formation of SQ (1972)	3.84 (0.85)
Streaming in schools (1980)	3.78 (0.96)

Ranked mean score of ‘Importance to respondent’

EVENTS	Mean (SD)
Raffles' landing (1819)	3.69 (1.05)
Withdrawal of British troops (1971)	3.64 (1.02)
PAP loses Aljunied GRC (2011)	3.60 (1.01)
Singapore hosts Youth Olympics (2010)	3.58 (1.09)
Hotel New World collapse (1986)	3.58 (1.07)
NKF/TT Durai scandal (2005)	3.57 (1.13)
Merger with Malaya (1963)	3.55 (1.04)
Hijack of SQ 117 (1991)	3.54 (1.08)
Bombing of MacDonald House (1965)	3.48 (1.07)
PAP splits (1961)	3.46 (0.94)
Caning of Michael Fay (1994)	3.44 (1.16)
Maria Hertogh riots (1950)	3.40 (1.05)
Hock Lee bus riots (1955)	3.39 (1.05)
SQ 006 Taipei crash (2000)	3.39 (1.04)
SilkAir flight crash in Palembang, Indonesia (1997)	3.38 (1.05)
Merger of Nantah and University of Singapore (1980)	3.38 (1.00)
Laju hostage incident (1974)	3.36 (1.06)
Singapore Cable Car accident (1983)	3.35 (1.13)
Bukit Ho Swee fire (1961)	3.35 (1.09)
J.B. Jeyaretnam wins Anson by-election (1981)	3.32 (1.04)
“Marxist Conspiracy” plot uncovered, 16 people detained (1987)	3.29 (1.09)
Launch of “Stop at Two” family planning (1970)	3.28 (1.20)
Debate on Graduate Mother Scheme (1984)	3.27 (1.05)
Operation Cold Store (1963)	3.27 (1.04)
Opening of two Casinos (2010)	3.09 (1.27)

Mean score of ‘Importance to respondent’ by age group

Mean (SD)

EVENTS (in chronological order)	Total	Age 21-34	Age 35-49	Age 50 & Above
Raffles' landing (1819)	3.69 (1.05)	3.60 (0.98)	3.67 (0.99)	3.78 (1.14)
WWII Japanese Occupation (1942)	3.84 (1.01)	3.88 (0.93)	3.84 (0.95)	3.81 (1.11)
Maria Hertogh riots (1950)	3.40 (1.05)	3.57 (1.01)	3.37 (0.97)	3.29 (1.13)
Formation of PAP (1954)	4.07 (0.81)	3.99 (0.82)	4.04 (0.75)	4.16 (0.83)
Hock Lee bus riots (1955)	3.39 (1.05)	3.43 (0.99)	3.32 (0.98)	3.42 (1.13)
Majulah Singapura is composed (1958)	4.11 (0.83)	3.97 (0.89)	4.08 (0.81)	4.27 (0.77)
PAP wins GE (1959)	4.01 (0.85)	3.85 (0.86)	3.99 (0.82)	4.14 (0.85)
Formation of HDB (1960)	4.23 (0.81)	4.06 (0.81)	4.20 (0.82)	4.37 (0.77)
Bukit Ho Swee fire (1961)	3.35 (1.09)	3.27 (0.99)	3.21 (1.04)	3.49 (1.15)
PAP splits (1961)	3.46 (0.94)	3.42 (0.92)	3.40 (0.87)	3.53 (1.00)
Operation Cold Store (1963)	3.27 (1.04)	3.28 (1.07)	3.08 (0.85)	3.38 (1.12)
Merger with Malaya (1963)	3.55 (1.04)	3.54 (0.94)	3.53 (1.01)	3.58 (1.13)
Racial riots (1964)	4.04 (0.94)	4.01 (0.92)	3.99 (0.94)	4.11 (0.96)
Bombing of MacDonald House (1965)	3.48 (1.07)	3.49 (0.95)	3.48 (1.05)	3.47 (1.19)
Lee Kuan Yew sobs on national TV over Separation (1965)	4.14 (0.90)	4.01 (0.89)	4.18 (0.85)	4.21 (0.94)
Creation of Singapore national pledge (1966)	4.20 (0.74)	4.06 (0.78)	4.22 (0.69)	4.29 (0.74)
Introduction of bilingualism policy in schools (1966)	4.04 (0.93)	4.14 (0.80)	4.12 (0.85)	3.90 (1.04)
Introduction of Singapore currency (1967)	4.14 (0.83)	4.16 (0.82)	4.14 (0.76)	4.13 (0.89)
First batch of NS men enlist (1967)	4.07 (0.86)	4.08 (0.84)	3.95 (0.86)	4.17 (0.87)
Launch of “Stop at Two” family planning (1970)	3.28 (1.20)	3.09 (1.08)	3.24 (1.17)	3.41 (1.27)
Formation of MAS (1970)	3.90 (0.83)	3.84 (0.85)	3.99 (0.74)	3.83 (0.88)
Withdrawal of British troops (1971)	3.64 (1.02)	3.56 (0.99)	3.60 (0.96)	3.72 (1.08)
Formation of SQ (1972)	3.84 (0.85)	3.76 (0.78)	3.85 (0.84)	3.89 (0.91)
Laju hostage incident (1974)	3.36 (1.06)	3.32 (0.81)	3.33 (0.97)	3.38 (1.18)
Singapore River clean-up campaign (1977)	3.99 (0.89)	3.87 (0.87)	3.93 (0.87)	4.10 (0.90)

Mean score of ‘Importance to respondent’ by age group

Mean (SD)

EVENTS (in chronological order)	Total	Age 21-34	Age 35-49	Age 50 & Above
Merger of Nantah and University of Singapore (1980)	3.38 (1.00)	3.38 (0.84)	3.26 (0.94)	3.47 (1.10)
Streaming in schools (1980)	3.78 (0.96)	3.93 (0.84)	3.86 (0.86)	3.61 (1.10)
Opening of Changi Airport (1981)	4.21 (0.80)	4.10 (0.78)	4.22 (0.80)	4.28 (0.81)
J.B. Jeyaretnam wins Anson by-election (1981)	3.32 (1.04)	3.33 (0.95)	3.30 (0.98)	3.33 (1.12)
Singapore Cable Car accident (1983)	3.35 (1.13)	3.28 (1.05)	3.30 (1.08)	3.43 (1.19)
Debate on Graduate Mother Scheme (1984)	3.27 (1.05)	3.14 (1.13)	3.36 (0.98)	3.28 (1.07)
Hotel New World collapse (1986)	3.58 (1.07)	3.38 (1.02)	3.52 (1.04)	3.75 (1.10)
“Marxist Conspiracy” plot uncovered, 16 people detained (1987)	3.29 (1.09)	3.47 (1.04)	3.21 (0.98)	3.25 (1.18)
Official launch of MRT (1988)	4.36 (0.73)	4.30 (0.73)	4.32 (0.74)	4.44 (0.72)
Goh Chok Tong takes over as PM from Lee Kuan Yew (1990)	3.87 (0.93)	3.75 (0.89)	3.80 (0.94)	4.01 (0.93)
Hijack of SQ 117 (1991)	3.54 (1.08)	3.69 (0.93)	3.43 (1.13)	3.54 (1.14)
Caning of Michael Fay (1994)	3.44 (1.16)	3.26 (1.04)	3.39 (1.15)	3.60 (1.21)
Introduction of GST (1994)	3.98 (0.91)	3.94 (0.85)	4.02 (0.90)	3.97 (0.95)
SilkAir flight crash in Palembang, Indonesia (1997)	3.38 (1.05)	3.29 (0.99)	3.39 (1.00)	3.42 (1.13)
Asian Financial Crisis (1997-98)	3.91 (0.95)	3.84 (0.97)	3.92 (0.92)	3.96 (0.97)
Completion of NEWater (2000)	4.09 (0.82)	4.01 (0.78)	4.03 (0.83)	4.22 (0.83)
SQ 006 Taipei crash (2000)	3.39 (1.04)	3.42 (0.96)	3.39 (1.01)	3.38 (1.11)
Jemaah Islamiyah terrorist plot (2002)	3.97 (0.94)	3.99 (0.92)	4.01 (0.89)	3.93 (1.00)
SARS outbreak (2003)	4.37 (0.76)	4.37 (0.70)	4.32 (0.80)	4.40 (0.78)
NKF/TT Durai scandal (2005)	3.57 (1.13)	3.43 (1.10)	3.58 (1.09)	3.66 (1.17)
Mas Selamat escapes (2008)	3.86 (1.05)	3.78 (1.02)	3.80 (1.05)	3.97 (1.06)
Singapore hosts Youth Olympics (2010)	3.58 (1.09)	3.50 (1.03)	3.55 (1.09)	3.66 (1.14)
Opening of two Casinos (2010)	3.09 (1.27)	3.16 (1.15)	3.15 (1.23)	2.99 (1.37)
PAP loses Aljunied GRC (2011)	3.60(1.01)	3.55 (0.95)	3.58 (1.03)	3.65 (1.03)
Major MRT breakdown (2011)	4.02 (0.98)	4.12 (0.90)	3.94 (1.02)	4.01 (0.99)

Mean score of ‘Importance to respondent’ by ethnicity

EVENTS (in chronological order)	Mean (SD)			
	Total	Chinese	Malay	Indian/Others
Raffles' landing (1819)	3.69 (1.05)	3.64 (1.06)	3.81 (0.96)	3.88 (1.00)
WWII Japanese Occupation (1942)	3.84 (1.01)	3.86 (0.99)	3.90 (1.04)	3.67 (1.05)
Maria Hertogh riots (1950)	3.40 (1.05)	3.28 (1.00)	3.88 (0.99)	3.35 (1.19)
Formation of PAP (1954)	4.07 (0.81)	4.04 (0.81)	4.18 (0.76)	4.12 (0.81)
Hock Lee bus riots (1955)	3.39 (1.05)	3.39 (1.04)	3.51 (1.05)	3.28 (1.15)
Majulah Singapura is composed (1958)	4.11 (0.83)	4.03 (0.84)	4.45 (0.66)	4.20 (0.83)
PAP wins GE (1959)	4.01 (0.85)	4.00 (0.85)	4.08 (0.82)	4.02 (0.87)
Formation of HDB (1960)	4.23 (0.81)	4.21 (0.80)	4.27 (0.82)	4.30 (0.84)
Bukit Ho Swee fire (1961)	3.35 (1.09)	3.34 (1.09)	3.38 (1.07)	3.34 (1.10)
PAP splits (1961)	3.46 (0.94)	3.46 (0.97)	3.46 (0.90)	3.49 (0.86)
Operation Cold Store (1963)	3.27 (1.04)	3.23 (1.07)	3.53 (0.96)	3.21 (0.88)
Merger with Malaya (1963)	3.55 (1.04)	3.53 (1.05)	3.72 (1.00)	3.56 (1.00)
Racial riots (1964)	4.04 (0.94)	4.03 (0.94)	4.19 (0.90)	3.99 (0.98)
Bombing of MacDonald House (1965)	3.48 (1.07)	3.44 (1.07)	3.76 (1.04)	3.39 (1.13)
Lee Kuan Yew sobs on national TV over Separation (1965)	4.14 (0.90)	4.12 (0.91)	4.23 (0.88)	4.18 (0.85)
Creation of the Singapore national pledge (1966)	4.20 (0.74)	4.15 (0.76)	4.38 (0.68)	4.32 (0.63)
Introduction of bilingualism policy in schools (1966)	4.04 (0.93)	4.00 (0.95)	4.13 (0.92)	4.13 (0.80)
Introduction of Singapore currency (1967)	4.14 (0.83)	4.12 (0.84)	4.20 (0.87)	4.20 (0.73)
First batch of NS men enlist (1967)	4.07 (0.86)	4.05 (0.86)	4.18 (0.92)	4.09 (0.84)
Launch of “Stop at Two” family planning (1970)	3.28 (1.20)	3.29 (1.18)	3.16 (1.29)	3.32 (1.22)
Formation of MAS (1970)	3.90 (0.83)	3.90 (0.82)	4.03 (0.82)	3.78 (0.86)
Withdrawal of British troops (1971)	3.64 (1.02)	3.62 (1.00)	3.70 (1.03)	3.75 (1.09)
Formation of SQ (1972)	3.84 (0.85)	3.81 (0.86)	3.90 (0.86)	3.97 (0.81)
Laju hostage incident (1974)	3.36 (1.06)	3.30 (1.06)	3.57 (1.10)	3.42 (1.03)
Singapore River clean-up campaign (1977)	3.99 (0.89)	3.96 (0.89)	4.14 (0.89)	4.02 (0.91)

Mean score of 'Importance to respondent' by ethnicity

EVENTS (in chronological order)	Mean (SD)			
	Total	Chinese	Malay	Indian/Others
Merger of Nantah and University of Singapore (1980)	3.38 (1.00)	3.37 (1.02)	3.33 (0.97)	3.51 (0.89)
Streaming in schools (1980)	3.78 (0.96)	3.75 (0.96)	3.93 (0.89)	3.85 (0.98)
Opening of Changi Airport (1981)	4.21 (0.80)	4.17 (0.81)	4.30 (0.82)	4.32 (0.70)
J.B. Jeyaretnam wins Anson by-election (1981)	3.32 (1.04)	3.29 (1.05)	3.30 (1.08)	3.48 (0.99)
Singapore Cable Car accident (1983)	3.35 (1.13)	3.31 (1.12)	3.43 (1.13)	3.50 (1.16)
Debate on Graduate Mother Scheme (1984)	3.27 (1.05)	3.26 (1.04)	3.52 (1.05)	3.12 (1.13)
Hotel New World collapse (1986)	3.58 (1.07)	3.54 (1.07)	3.74 (1.11)	3.67 (1.02)
"Marxist Conspiracy" plot uncovered, 16 people detained (1987)	3.29 (1.09)	3.25 (1.07)	3.42 (1.20)	3.41 (1.07)
Official launch of MRT (1988)	4.36 (0.73)	4.37 (0.73)	4.30 (0.80)	4.38 (0.68)
Goh Chok Tong takes over as PM from Lee Kuan Yew (1990)	3.87 (0.93)	3.82 (0.95)	3.98 (0.89)	4.04 (0.82)
Hijack of SQ 117 (1991)	3.54 (1.08)	3.47 (1.09)	3.74 (1.09)	3.75 (1.02)
Caning of Michael Fay (1994)	3.44 (1.16)	3.42 (1.14)	3.54 (1.23)	3.46 (1.16)
Introduction of GST (1994)	3.98 (0.91)	3.99 (0.90)	3.99 (0.91)	3.88 (0.95)
SilkAir flight crash in Palembang, Indonesia (1997)	3.38 (1.05)	3.34 (1.02)	3.60 (1.16)	3.41 (1.09)
Asian Financial Crisis (1997-98)	3.91 (0.95)	3.92 (0.96)	3.90 (0.94)	3.88 (0.92)
Completion of NEWater (2000)	4.09 (0.82)	4.12 (0.81)	3.98 (0.84)	4.08 (0.85)
SQ 006 Taipei crash (2000)	3.39 (1.04)	3.35 (1.02)	3.45 (1.14)	3.58 (1.01)
Jemaah Islamiyah terrorist plot (2002)	3.97 (0.94)	3.96 (0.92)	4.03 (0.97)	3.97 (1.02)
SARS outbreak (2003)	4.37 (0.76)	4.36 (0.78)	4.46 (0.64)	4.31 (0.76)
NKF/TT Durai scandal (2005)	3.57 (1.13)	3.59 (1.13)	3.60 (1.12)	3.38 (1.13)
Mas Selamat escapes (2008)	3.86 (1.05)	3.85 (1.05)	3.96 (1.02)	3.80 (1.03)
Singapore hosts Youth Olympics (2010)	3.58 (1.09)	3.52 (1.09)	3.66 (1.09)	3.84 (1.04)
Opening of two Casinos (2010)	3.09 (1.27)	3.17 (1.24)	2.64 (1.30)	3.06 (1.28)
PAP loses Aljunied GRC (2011)	3.60(1.01)	3.57 (1.03)	3.67 (1.01)	3.74 (0.90)
Major MRT breakdown (2011)	4.02 (0.98)	4.01 (0.98)	4.01 (1.04)	4.05 (0.92)

Importance to Future Generations

Ranked mean score of ‘Importance to future generations’

EVENTS	Mean (SD)
Official launch of MRT (1988)	4.45 (0.70)
SARS outbreak (2003)	4.42 (0.74)
Introduction of bilingualism policy in schools (1966)	4.34 (0.78)
Creation of the Singapore national pledge (1966)	4.32 (0.68)
Opening of Changi Airport (1981)	4.32 (0.78)
Formation of HDB (1960)	4.31 (0.77)
First batch of NS men enlist (1967)	4.28 (0.78)
Completion of NEWater (2000)	4.28 (0.76)
Racial riots (1964)	4.26 (0.88)
Majulah Singapura is composed (1958)	4.25 (0.74)
Lee Kuan Yew sobs on national TV over Separation (1965)	4.24 (0.87)
Introduction of Singapore currency (1967)	4.22 (0.79)
Jemaah Islamiyah terrorist plot (2002)	4.22 (0.83)
Formation of PAP (1954)	4.18 (0.80)
Major MRT breakdown (2011)	4.16 (0.90)
Singapore River clean-up campaign (1977)	4.12 (0.87)
PAP wins GE (1959)	4.11 (0.82)
WWII Japanese Occupation (1942)	4.10 (0.99)
Mas Selamat escapes (2008)	4.05 (0.95)
Formation of MAS (1970)	4.05 (0.78)
Introduction of GST (1994)	4.02 (0.90)
Raffles' landing (1819)	4.01 (0.99)
Formation of SQ (1972)	4.01 (0.78)
Singapore hosts Youth Olympics (2010)	3.99 (0.98)
Goh Chok Tong takes over as PM from Lee Kuan Yew (1990)	3.99 (0.89)

Ranked mean score of ‘Importance to future generations’

EVENTS	Mean (SD)
Asian Financial Crisis (1997-98)	3.99 (0.91)
Streaming in schools (1980)	3.98 (0.93)
Caning of Michael Fay (1994)	3.85 (1.07)
Withdrawal of British troops (1971)	3.83 (0.99)
NKF/TT Durai scandal (2005)	3.82 (1.05)
Hijack of SQ 117 (1991)	3.81 (0.98)
PAP loses Aljunied GRC (2011)	3.80 (0.96)
Maria Hertogh riots (1950)	3.79 (1.05)
Hotel New World collapse (1986)	3.78 (1.03)
Merger with Malaya (1963)	3.74 (1.04)
Bombing of MacDonald House (1965)	3.73 (0.99)
Hock Lee bus riots (1955)	3.67 (1.06)
Laju hostage incident (1974)	3.65 (1.00)
PAP splits (1961)	3.61 (1.00)
Merger of Nantah and University of Singapore (1980)	3.59 (0.99)
“Marxist Conspiracy” plot uncovered, 16 people detained (1987)	3.59 (1.05)
SilkAir flight crash in Palembang, Indonesia (1997)	3.56 (1.05)
Operation Cold Store (1963)	3.56 (1.07)
Bukit Ho Swee fire (1961)	3.56 (1.10)
SQ 006 Taipei crash (2000)	3.56 (1.03)
Singapore Cable Car accident (1983)	3.55 (1.08)
Debate on Graduate Mother Scheme (1984)	3.47 (1.02)
J.B. Jeyaretnam wins Anson by-election (1981)	3.45 (1.01)
Opening of two Casinos (2010)	3.43 (1.23)
Launch of “Stop at Two” family planning (1970)	3.36 (1.21)

Mean score of ‘Importance to future generations’ by age group

EVENTS (in chronological order)	Mean (SD)			
	Total	Age 21-34	Age 35-49	Age 50 & Above
Raffles' landing (1819)	4.01 (0.99)	3.93 (0.94)	4.04 (0.94)	4.06 (1.07)
WWII Japanese Occupation (1942)	4.10 (0.99)	4.20 (0.88)	4.11 (0.93)	4.01 (1.11)
Maria Hertogh riots (1950)	3.79 (1.05)	3.99 (0.93)	3.82 (0.98)	3.61 (1.17)
Formation of PAP (1954)	4.18 (0.80)	4.12 (0.79)	4.10 (0.83)	4.28 (0.79)
Hock Lee bus riots (1955)	3.67 (1.06)	3.73 (0.95)	3.66 (0.95)	3.65 (1.19)
Majulah Singapura is composed (1958)	4.25 (0.74)	4.18 (0.74)	4.16 (0.78)	4.38 (0.69)
PAP wins GE (1959)	4.11 (0.82)	3.99 (0.82)	4.09 (0.79)	4.21 (0.84)
Formation of HDB (1960)	4.31 (0.77)	4.19 (0.74)	4.25 (0.81)	4.46 (0.74)
Bukit Ho Swee fire (1961)	3.56 (1.1)	3.48 (1.09)	3.48 (1.02)	3.65 (1.16)
PAP splits (1961)	3.61 (1.00)	3.62 (0.93)	3.57 (0.87)	3.64 (1.12)
Operation Cold Store (1963)	3.56 (1.07)	3.60 (1.07)	3.43 (1.04)	3.63 (1.09)
Merger with Malaya (1963)	3.74 (1.04)	3.76 (0.93)	3.77 (1.04)	3.70 (1.14)
Racial riots (1964)	4.26 (0.88)	4.33 (0.82)	4.23 (0.83)	4.24 (0.95)
Bombing of MacDonald House (1965)	3.73 (0.99)	3.75 (0.88)	3.73 (0.91)	3.71 (1.14)
Lee Kuan Yew sobs on national TV over Separation (1965)	4.24 (0.87)	4.16 (0.81)	4.27 (0.83)	4.27 (0.94)
Creation of Singapore national pledge (1966)	4.32 (0.68)	4.22 (0.67)	4.32 (0.68)	4.40 (0.68)
Introduction of bilingualism policy in schools (1966)	4.34 (0.78)	4.33 (0.74)	4.38 (0.74)	4.32 (0.83)
Introduction of Singapore currency (1967)	4.22 (0.79)	4.24 (0.77)	4.21 (0.79)	4.22 (0.81)
First batch of NS men enlist (1967)	4.28 (0.78)	4.27 (0.74)	4.16 (0.77)	4.38 (0.79)
Launch of “Stop at Two” family planning (1970)	3.36 (1.21)	3.21 (1.15)	3.21 (1.20)	3.55 (1.22)
Formation of MAS (1970)	4.05 (0.78)	4.03 (0.76)	4.12 (0.73)	3.99 (0.85)
Withdrawal of British troops (1971)	3.83 (0.99)	3.75 (0.97)	3.82 (0.90)	3.89 (1.05)
Formation of SQ (1972)	4.01 (0.78)	3.88 (0.79)	4.04 (0.70)	4.07 (0.83)
Laju hostage incident (1974)	3.65 (1.00)	3.68 (0.79)	3.52 (1.05)	3.70 (1.04)
Singapore River clean-up campaign (1977)	4.12 (0.87)	4.03 (0.83)	4.05 (0.87)	4.24 (0.89)

Mean score of ‘Importance to future generations’ by age group

EVENTS (in chronological order)	Mean (SD)			
	Total	Age 21-34	Age 35-49	Age 50 & Above
Merger of Nantah and University of Singapore (1980)	3.59 (0.99)	3.48 (0.87)	3.48 (0.91)	3.72 (1.08)
Streaming in schools (1980)	3.98 (0.93)	3.96 (0.91)	4.01 (0.86)	3.96 (1.01)
Opening of Changi Airport (1981)	4.32 (0.78)	4.23 (0.78)	4.34 (0.76)	4.36 (0.80)
J.B. Jeyaretnam wins Anson by-election (1981)	3.45 (1.01)	3.48 (0.99)	3.48 (0.94)	3.43 (1.06)
Singapore Cable Car accident (1983)	3.55 (1.08)	3.48 (0.99)	3.54 (1.04)	3.6 (1.16)
Debate on Graduate Mother Scheme (1984)	3.47 (1.02)	3.53 (1.09)	3.55 (0.93)	3.39 (1.06)
Hotel New World collapse (1986)	3.78 (1.03)	3.72 (0.92)	3.75 (0.96)	3.84 (1.13)
“Marxist Conspiracy” plot uncovered, 16 people detained (1987)	3.59 (1.05)	3.69 (1.00)	3.65 (0.88)	3.49 (1.18)
Official launch of MRT (1988)	4.45 (0.70)	4.39 (0.67)	4.43 (0.68)	4.50 (0.74)
Goh Chok Tong takes over as PM from Lee Kuan Yew (1990)	3.99 (0.89)	3.88 (0.87)	3.97 (0.88)	4.09 (0.91)
Hijack of SQ 117 (1991)	3.81 (0.98)	3.91 (0.92)	3.73 (0.98)	3.80 (1.03)
Caning of Michael Fay (1994)	3.85 (1.07)	3.66 (1.03)	3.81 (1.06)	4.01 (1.07)
Introduction of GST (1994)	4.02 (0.90)	3.97 (0.90)	4.05 (0.86)	4.02 (0.92)
SilkAir flight crash in Palembang, Indonesia (1997)	3.56 (1.05)	3.46 (0.97)	3.53 (1.03)	3.64 (1.11)
Asian Financial Crisis (1997-98)	3.99 (0.91)	3.93 (0.91)	3.98 (0.91)	4.04 (0.90)
Completion of NEWater (2000)	4.28 (0.76)	4.20 (0.74)	4.23 (0.78)	4.38 (0.74)
SQ 006 Taipei crash (2000)	3.56 (1.03)	3.52 (0.93)	3.52 (1.01)	3.62 (1.11)
Jemaah Islamiyah terrorist plot (2002)	4.22 (0.83)	4.20 (0.82)	4.24 (0.82)	4.21 (0.85)
SARS outbreak (2003)	4.42 (0.74)	4.35 (0.78)	4.41 (0.72)	4.49 (0.72)
NKF/TT Durai scandal (2005)	3.82 (1.05)	3.71 (1.01)	3.84 (1.01)	3.89 (1.11)
Mas Selamat escapes (2008)	4.05 (0.95)	3.99 (0.94)	4.04 (0.95)	4.12 (0.96)
Singapore hosts Youth Olympics (2010)	3.99 (0.98)	3.90 (0.97)	4.00 (0.94)	4.06 (1.00)
Opening of two Casinos (2010)	3.43 (1.23)	3.45 (1.11)	3.55 (1.21)	3.30 (1.33)
PAP loses Aljunied GRC (2011)	3.80 (0.96)	3.76 (0.92)	3.76 (0.97)	3.86 (0.99)
Major MRT breakdown (2011)	4.16 (0.90)	4.10 (0.91)	4.13 (0.93)	4.25 (0.84)

Mean score of ‘Importance to future generations’ by ethnicity

EVENTS (in chronological order)	Mean (SD)			
	Total	Chinese	Malay	Indian/Others
Raffles' landing (1819)	4.01 (0.99)	3.99 (1.00)	4.09 (0.97)	4.06 (0.93)
WWII Japanese Occupation (1942)	4.10 (0.99)	4.10 (0.98)	4.15 (1.02)	4.03 (1.05)
Maria Hertogh riots (1950)	3.79 (1.05)	3.77 (1.00)	3.92 (1.11)	3.74 (1.23)
Formation of PAP (1954)	4.18 (0.80)	4.16 (0.82)	4.25 (0.77)	4.21 (0.77)
Hock Lee bus riots (1955)	3.67 (1.06)	3.65 (1.05)	3.83 (1.06)	3.66 (1.14)
Majulah Singapura is composed (1958)	4.25 (0.74)	4.19 (0.75)	4.50 (0.65)	4.27 (0.77)
PAP wins GE (1959)	4.11 (0.82)	4.10 (0.82)	4.21 (0.83)	4.13 (0.83)
Formation of HDB (1960)	4.31 (0.77)	4.31 (0.77)	4.29 (0.84)	4.34 (0.75)
Bukit Ho Swee fire (1961)	3.56 (1.10)	3.55 (1.11)	3.58 (1.10)	3.63 (1.07)
PAP splits (1961)	3.61 (1.00)	3.60 (1.02)	3.58 (1.04)	3.68 (0.83)
Operation Cold Store (1963)	3.56 (1.07)	3.52 (1.09)	3.76 (0.99)	3.61 (0.99)
Merger with Malaya (1963)	3.74 (1.04)	3.72 (1.06)	3.81 (1.03)	3.83 (0.98)
Racial riots (1964)	4.26 (0.88)	4.24 (0.88)	4.35 (0.89)	4.26 (0.84)
Bombing of MacDonald House (1965)	3.73 (0.99)	3.70 (0.99)	3.88 (1.03)	3.73 (0.89)
Lee Kuan Yew sobs on national TV over Separation (1965)	4.24 (0.87)	4.22 (0.89)	4.32 (0.87)	4.30 (0.76)
Creation of Singapore national pledge (1966)	4.32 (0.68)	4.29 (0.70)	4.44 (0.60)	4.38 (0.66)
Introduction of bilingualism policy in schools (1966)	4.34 (0.78)	4.33 (0.79)	4.45 (0.67)	4.30 (0.80)
Introduction of Singapore currency (1967)	4.22 (0.79)	4.21 (0.80)	4.33 (0.77)	4.22 (0.76)
First batch of NS men enlist (1967)	4.28 (0.78)	4.26 (0.78)	4.39 (0.76)	4.27 (0.80)
Launch of “Stop at Two” family planning (1970)	3.36 (1.21)	3.37 (1.20)	3.27 (1.25)	3.34 (1.24)
Formation of MAS (1970)	4.05 (0.78)	4.04 (0.78)	4.18 (0.81)	3.99 (0.77)
Withdrawal of British troops (1971)	3.83 (0.99)	3.79 (0.98)	3.94 (0.99)	3.95 (1.00)
Formation of SQ i(1972)	4.01 (0.78)	3.99 (0.79)	4.11 (0.74)	4.06 (0.77)
Laju hostage incident (1974)	3.65 (1.00)	3.59 (1.02)	4.00 (0.89)	3.62 (0.95)
Singapore River clean-up campaign (1977)	4.12 (0.87)	4.11 (0.87)	4.26 (0.81)	4.11 (0.93)

Mean score of 'Importance to future generations' by ethnicity

EVENTS (in chronological order)	Mean (SD)			
	Total	Chinese	Malay	Indian/Others
Merger of Nantah and University of Singapore (1980)	3.59 (0.99)	3.55 (1.02)	3.79 (0.94)	3.72 (0.75)
Streaming in schools (1980)	3.98 (0.93)	3.97 (0.94)	4.06 (0.84)	3.99 (0.97)
Opening of Changi Airport (1981)	4.32 (0.78)	4.29 (0.79)	4.4 (0.78)	4.39 (0.76)
J.B. Jeyaretnam wins Anson by-election (1981)	3.45 (1.01)	3.43 (1.01)	3.41 (1.05)	3.58 (0.97)
Singapore Cable Car accident (1983)	3.55 (1.08)	3.50 (1.09)	3.73 (1.00)	3.71 (1.09)
Debate on Graduate Mother Scheme (1984)	3.47 (1.02)	3.39 (1.00)	3.85 (1.01)	3.58 (1.07)
Hotel New World collapse (1986)	3.78 (1.03)	3.73 (1.04)	3.93 (1.00)	3.94 (0.96)
"Marxist Conspiracy" plot uncovered, 16 people detained (1987)	3.59 (1.05)	3.54 (1.05)	3.61 (1.15)	3.84 (0.87)
Official launch of MRT (1988)	4.45 (0.70)	4.46 (0.69)	4.37 (0.83)	4.46 (0.65)
Goh Chok Tong takes over as PM from Lee Kuan Yew (1990)	3.99 (0.89)	3.96 (0.90)	4.09 (0.83)	4.09 (0.85)
Hijack of SQ 117 (1991)	3.81 (0.98)	3.73 (0.98)	3.98 (0.99)	4.07 (0.94)
Caning of Michael Fay (1994)	3.85 (1.07)	3.83 (1.06)	3.98 (1.07)	3.89 (1.09)
Introduction of GST (1994)	4.02 (0.90)	4.02 (0.89)	4.05 (0.93)	4.03 (0.92)
SilkAir flight crash in Palembang, Indonesia (1997)	3.56 (1.05)	3.52 (1.03)	3.71 (1.13)	3.63 (1.08)
Asian Financial Crisis (1997-98)	3.99 (0.91)	3.97 (0.94)	4.04 (0.87)	4.04 (0.75)
Completion of NEWater (2000)	4.28 (0.76)	4.30 (0.75)	4.16 (0.79)	4.24 (0.79)
SQ 006 Taipei crash (2000)	3.56 (1.03)	3.51 (1.05)	3.62 (1.02)	3.83 (0.88)
Jemaah Islamiyah terrorist plot (2002)	4.22 (0.83)	4.22 (0.82)	4.27 (0.83)	4.14 (0.90)
SARS outbreak (2003)	4.42 (0.74)	4.42 (0.75)	4.49 (0.66)	4.37 (0.74)
NKF/TT Durai scandal (2005)	3.82 (1.05)	3.83 (1.05)	3.82 (1.09)	3.77 (1.04)
Mas Selamat escapes (2008)	4.05 (0.95)	4.04 (0.96)	4.19 (0.88)	3.98 (0.92)
Singapore hosts Youth Olympics (2010)	3.99 (0.98)	3.96 (0.97)	3.98 (1.02)	4.19 (0.94)
Opening of two Casinos (2010)	3.43 (1.23)	3.50 (1.19)	3.03 (1.33)	3.37 (1.31)
PAP loses Aljunied GRC (2011)	3.80 (0.96)	3.77 (0.97)	3.87 (0.94)	3.95 (0.91)
Major MRT breakdown (2011)	4.16 (0.90)	4.15 (0.89)	4.16 (0.98)	4.24 (0.81)

Perception of Events as Negative or Positive

Ranked mean score of ‘Negative or Positive’ event

EVENTS	Mean (SD)
Official launch of MRT (1988)	4.52 (0.70)
Opening of Changi Airport (1981)	4.43 (0.74)
Singapore River clean-up campaign (1977)	4.33 (0.76)
Creation of Singapore national pledge (1966)	4.33 (0.73)
Introduction of Singapore currency (1967)	4.31 (0.74)
Majulah Singapura is composed (1958)	4.28 (0.80)
Formation of HDB (1960)	4.27 (0.84)
Completion of NEWater (2000)	4.22 (0.91)
Formation of SQ (1972)	4.19 (0.76)
Introduction of bilingualism policy in schools (1966)	4.18 (0.91)
Raffles' landing (1819)	4.17 (0.86)
First batch of NS men enlist (1967)	4.13 (0.91)
Singapore hosts Youth Olympics (2010)	4.09 (0.90)
Formation of MAS (1970)	4.08 (0.84)
Formation of PAP (1954)	4.07 (0.88)
PAP wins GE (1959)	4.07 (0.84)
Lee Kuan Yew sobs on national TV over Separation (1965)	4.01 (1.06)
Goh Chok Tong takes over as PM from Lee Kuan Yew (1990)	3.96 (0.86)
Withdrawal of British troops (1971)	3.73 (0.96)
Merger of Nantah and University of Singapore (1980)	3.57 (0.96)
J.B. Jeyaretnam wins Anson by-election (1981)	3.43 (0.98)
Caning of Michael Fay (1994)	3.40 (1.31)
Streaming in schools (1980)	3.35 (1.13)
PAP loses Aljunied GRC (2011)	3.26 (1.07)
Merger with Malaya (1963)	3.11 (1.06)

Ranked mean score of ‘Negative or Positive’ event

EVENTS	Mean (SD)
PAP splits (1961)	3.05 (1.02)
Debate on Graduate Mother Scheme (1984)	2.96 (1.12)
Operation Cold Store (1963)	2.84 (1.15)
Launch of “Stop at Two” family planning (1970)	2.78 (1.14)
Opening of two Casinos (2010)	2.71 (1.20)
“Marxist Conspiracy” plot uncovered, 16 people detained (1987)	2.70 (1.18)
Introduction of GST (1994)	2.53 (1.16)
Laju hostage incident (1974)	2.19 (1.25)
Maria Hertogh riots (1950)	2.15 (1.19)
Hock Lee bus riots (1955)	2.13 (1.16)
WWII Japanese Occupation (1942)	2.05 (1.30)
Bukit Ho Swee fire (1961)	1.97 (1.17)
Racial riots (1964)	1.96 (1.27)
Asian Financial Crisis (1997-98)	1.95 (1.14)
Hijack of SQ 117 (1991)	1.93 (1.14)
Singapore Cable Car accident (1983)	1.91 (1.18)
Major MRT breakdown (2011)	1.88 (1.20)
Bombing of MacDonald House (1965)	1.86 (1.12)
Mas Selamat escapes (2008)	1.86 (1.17)
NKF/TT Durai scandal (2005)	1.81 (1.10)
SQ 006 Taipei crash (2000)	1.80 (1.06)
SARS outbreak (2003)	1.78 (1.25)
Hotel New World collapse (1986)	1.77 (1.15)
Jemaah Islamiyah terrorist plot (2002)	1.77 (1.18)
SilkAir flight crash in Palembang, Indonesia (1997)	1.70 (1.05)

Mean score of ‘Negative or Positive’ event by age group

EVENTS (in chronological order)	Mean (SD)			
	Total	Age 21-34	Age 35-49	Age 50 & Above
Raffles' landing (1819)	4.17 (0.86)	4.12 (0.88)	4.15 (0.86)	4.24 (0.84)
WWII Japanese Occupation (1942)	2.05 (1.30)	2.18 (1.33)	2.04 (1.26)	1.96 (1.31)
Maria Hertogh riots (1950)	2.15 (1.19)	2.30 (1.21)	2.08 (1.11)	2.07 (1.22)
Formation of PAP (1954)	4.07 (0.88)	3.94 (0.89)	4.04 (0.89)	4.19 (0.84)
Hock Lee bus riots (1955)	2.13 (1.16)	2.26 (1.13)	2.04 (1.07)	2.10 (1.23)
Majulah Singapura is composed (1958)	4.28 (0.80)	4.23 (0.81)	4.21 (0.79)	4.38 (0.79)
PAP wins GE (1959)	4.07 (0.84)	3.94 (0.86)	4.02 (0.84)	4.18 (0.81)
Formation of HDB (1960)	4.27 (0.84)	4.13 (0.83)	4.24 (0.81)	4.40 (0.85)
Bukit Ho Swee fire (1961)	1.97 (1.17)	2.07 (1.09)	2.03 (1.19)	1.87 (1.19)
PAP splits (1961)	3.05 (1.02)	3.15 (0.89)	3.03 (0.95)	2.99 (1.13)
Operation Cold Store (1963)	2.84 (1.15)	2.75 (1.15)	2.91 (1.09)	2.84 (1.20)
Merger with Malaya (1963)	3.11 (1.06)	3.16 (0.94)	3.11 (1.06)	3.09 (1.14)
Racial riots (1964)	1.96 (1.27)	2.09 (1.28)	1.89 (1.20)	1.92 (1.32)
Bombing of MacDonald House (1965)	1.86 (1.12)	1.89 (1.09)	1.85 (1.08)	1.86 (1.18)
Lee Kuan Yew sobs on national TV over Separation (1965)	4.01 (1.05)	3.86 (1.05)	4.07 (0.96)	4.08 (1.12)
Creation of Singapore national pledge (1966)	4.33 (0.73)	4.20 (0.74)	4.35 (0.71)	4.40 (0.72)
Introduction of bilingualism policy in schools (1966)	4.18 (0.91)	4.25 (0.77)	4.22 (0.88)	4.11 (1.01)
Introduction of Singapore currency (1967)	4.31 (0.74)	4.32 (0.73)	4.31 (0.75)	4.30 (0.75)
First batch of NS men enlist (1967)	4.13 (0.91)	4.03 (0.95)	4.01 (0.88)	4.28 (0.90)
Launch of “Stop at Two” family planning (1970)	2.78 (1.14)	2.81 (0.97)	2.80 (1.11)	2.75 (1.26)
Formation of MAS (1970)	4.08 (0.84)	3.99 (0.86)	4.16 (0.82)	4.07 (0.84)
Withdrawal of British troops (1971)	3.73 (0.96)	3.62 (0.92)	3.73 (0.85)	3.81 (1.06)
Formation of SQ (1972)	4.19 (0.75)	4.10 (0.77)	4.22 (0.73)	4.22 (0.77)
Laju hostage incident (1974)	2.19 (1.25)	2.48 (1.19)	2.08 (1.13)	2.14 (1.31)
Singapore River clean-up campaign (1977)	4.33 (0.75)	4.20 (0.80)	4.31 (0.75)	4.44 (0.71)

Mean score of ‘Negative or Positive’ event by age group

EVENTS (in chronological order)	Mean (SD)			
	Total	Age 21-34	Age 35-49	Age 50 & Above
Merger of Nantah and University of Singapore (1980)	3.57 (0.96)	3.53 (0.79)	3.41 (0.89)	3.70 (1.05)
Streaming in schools (1980)	3.35 (1.13)	3.40 (1.07)	3.33 (1.09)	3.34 (1.21)
Opening of Changi Airport (1981)	4.43 (0.74)	4.32 (0.77)	4.45 (0.74)	4.50 (0.71)
J.B. Jeyaretnam wins Anson by-election (1981)	3.43 (0.97)	3.52 (0.81)	3.45 (0.91)	3.40 (1.06)
Singapore Cable Car accident (1983)	1.91 (1.18)	1.88 (1.10)	1.93 (1.17)	1.92 (1.23)
Debate on Graduate Mother Scheme (1984)	2.96 (1.12)	3.15 (0.98)	2.93 (1.16)	2.90 (1.14)
Hotel New World collapse (1986)	1.77 (1.15)	1.79 (1.10)	1.80 (1.12)	1.75 (1.20)
“Marxist Conspiracy” plot uncovered, 16 people detained (1987)	2.70 (1.18)	2.65 (1.19)	2.79 (1.13)	2.67 (1.21)
Official launch of MRT (1988)	4.52 (0.70)	4.47 (0.67)	4.50 (0.74)	4.57 (0.69)
Goh Chok Tong takes over as PM from Lee Kuan Yew (1990)	3.96 (0.86)	3.86 (0.81)	3.90 (0.84)	4.09 (0.88)
Hijack of SQ 117 (1991)	1.93 (1.14)	1.96 (1.15)	1.90 (1.12)	1.93 (1.16)
Caning of Michael Fay (1994)	3.40 (1.31)	3.21 (1.17)	3.43 (1.30)	3.50 (1.39)
Introduction of GST (1994)	2.53 (1.16)	2.55 (1.06)	2.59 (1.22)	2.48 (1.17)
SilkAir flight crash in Palembang, Indonesia (1997)	1.70 (1.05)	1.78 (1.04)	1.63 (0.94)	1.73 (1.14)
Asian Financial Crisis (1997-98)	1.95 (1.14)	1.92 (1.06)	1.89 (1.08)	2.02 (1.25)
Completion of NEWater (2000)	4.22 (0.91)	4.19 (0.89)	4.17 (0.95)	4.28 (0.89)
SQ 006 Taipei crash (2000)	1.80 (1.06)	1.80 (1.00)	1.80 (1.05)	1.81 (1.11)
Jemaah Islamiyah terrorist plot (2002)	1.77 (1.18)	1.83 (1.14)	1.71 (1.14)	1.78 (1.24)
SARS outbreak (2003)	1.78 (1.25)	1.87 (1.25)	1.72 (1.19)	1.77 (1.30)
NKF/TT Durai scandal (2005)	1.81 (1.10)	1.80 (1.01)	1.81 (1.08)	1.82 (1.17)
Mas Selamat escapes (2008)	1.86 (1.17)	1.91 (1.17)	1.83 (1.13)	1.85 (1.21)
Singapore hosts Youth Olympics (2010)	4.09 (0.90)	4.09 (0.85)	4.05 (0.91)	4.13 (0.94)
Opening of two Casinos (2010)	2.71 (1.20)	2.92 (1.10)	2.71 (1.17)	2.54 (1.28)
PAP loses Aljunied GRC (2011)	3.26 (1.07)	3.30 (0.99)	3.28 (1.05)	3.21 (1.14)
Major MRT breakdown (2011)	1.88 (1.20)	1.85 (1.15)	1.90 (1.25)	1.87 (1.19)

Mean score of ‘Negative or Positive’ event by ethnicity

EVENTS (in chronological order)	Mean (SD)			
	Total	Chinese	Malay	Indian/Others
Raffles' landing (1819)	4.17 (0.86)	4.17 (0.85)	4.22 (0.90)	4.16 (0.85)
WWII Japanese Occupation (1942)	2.05 (1.30)	2.01 (1.27)	2.16 (1.41)	2.21 (1.38)
Maria Hertogh riots (1950)	2.15 (1.19)	2.11 (1.13)	2.23 (1.36)	2.20 (1.24)
Formation of PAP (1954)	4.07 (0.88)	4.08 (0.86)	4.08 (0.90)	4.01 (0.93)
Hock Lee bus riots (1955)	2.13 (1.16)	2.12 (1.17)	2.18 (1.23)	2.08 (1.03)
Majulah Singapura is composed (1958)	4.28 (0.80)	4.22 (0.82)	4.53 (0.68)	4.30 (0.79)
PAP wins GE (1959)	4.07 (0.84)	4.05 (0.83)	4.13 (0.85)	4.11 (0.87)
Formation of HDB (1960)	4.27 (0.84)	4.28 (0.82)	4.24 (0.87)	4.27 (0.87)
Bukit Ho Swee fire (1961)	1.97 (1.17)	1.96 (1.16)	1.96 (1.24)	2.00 (1.16)
PAP splits (1961)	3.05 (1.02)	3.06 (1.03)	2.77 (1.08)	3.16 (0.89)
Operation Cold Store (1963)	2.84 (1.15)	2.87 (1.15)	2.79 (1.18)	2.68 (1.16)
Merger with Malaya (1963)	3.11 (1.06)	3.11 (1.03)	3.30 (1.16)	2.97 (1.14)
Racial riots (1964)	1.96 (1.27)	1.95 (1.27)	1.87 (1.27)	2.08 (1.32)
Bombing of MacDonald House (1965)	1.86 (1.12)	1.85 (1.11)	1.82 (1.14)	2.02 (1.13)
Lee Kuan Yew sobs on national TV over Separation (1965)	4.01 (1.05)	4.03 (1.03)	3.89 (1.16)	3.99 (1.10)
Creation of Singapore national pledge (1966)	4.33 (0.73)	4.31 (0.73)	4.43 (0.68)	4.33 (0.74)
Introduction of bilingualism policy in schools (1966)	4.18 (0.91)	4.16 (0.93)	4.29 (0.89)	4.22 (0.80)
Introduction of Singapore currency (1967)	4.31 (0.74)	4.30 (0.74)	4.39 (0.73)	4.29 (0.76)
First batch of NS men enlist (1967)	4.13 (0.91)	4.13 (0.90)	4.18 (0.99)	4.09 (0.94)
Launch of “Stop at Two” family planning (1970)	2.78 (1.14)	2.77 (1.13)	2.74 (1.22)	2.94 (1.18)
Formation of MAS (1970)	4.08 (0.84)	4.10 (0.82)	4.15 (0.87)	3.93 (0.90)
Withdrawal of British troops (1971)	3.73 (0.96)	3.71 (0.94)	3.88 (1.04)	3.77 (1.02)
Formation of SQ (1972)	4.19 (0.75)	4.18 (0.77)	4.27 (0.69)	4.19 (0.72)
Laju hostage incident (1974)	2.19 (1.25)	2.24 (1.23)	1.89 (1.29)	2.24 (1.29)
Singapore River clean-up campaign (1977)	4.33 (0.75)	4.33 (0.75)	4.44 (0.76)	4.28 (0.79)

Mean score of ‘Negative or Positive’ event by ethnicity

EVENTS (in chronological order)	Mean (SD)			
	Total	Chinese	Malay	Indian/Others
Merger of Nantah and University of Singapore (1980)	3.57 (0.96)	3.53 (0.98)	3.88 (0.88)	3.67 (0.83)
Streaming in schools (1980)	3.35 (1.13)	3.31 (1.13)	3.57 (1.07)	3.40 (1.15)
Opening of Changi Airport (1981)	4.43 (0.74)	4.42 (0.74)	4.47 (0.78)	4.47 (0.69)
J.B. Jeyaretnam wins Anson by-election (1981)	3.43 (0.97)	3.42 (0.95)	3.40 (1.03)	3.52 (1.06)
Singapore Cable Car accident (1983)	1.91 (1.18)	1.92 (1.16)	1.86 (1.19)	1.96 (1.26)
Debate on Graduate Mother Scheme (1984)	2.96 (1.12)	2.89 (1.12)	3.28 (1.11)	3.08 (1.08)
Hotel New World collapse (1986)	1.77 (1.15)	1.78 (1.15)	1.75 (1.20)	1.76 (1.10)
“Marxist Conspiracy” plot uncovered, 16 people detained (1987)	2.70 (1.18)	2.70 (1.12)	2.83 (1.38)	2.62 (1.32)
Official launch of MRT (1988)	4.52 (0.70)	4.54 (0.68)	4.49 (0.75)	4.43 (0.77)
Goh Chok Tong takes over as PM from Lee Kuan Yew (1990)	3.96 (0.86)	3.93 (0.86)	4.07 (0.84)	4.06 (0.86)
Hijack of SQ 117 (1991)	1.93 (1.14)	1.96 (1.15)	1.67 (1.04)	2.00 (1.20)
Caning of Michael Fay (1994)	3.40 (1.31)	3.39 (1.30)	3.51 (1.41)	3.39 (1.22)
Introduction of GST (1994)	2.53 (1.16)	2.51 (1.13)	2.61 (1.35)	2.64 (1.19)
SilkAir flight crash in Palembang, Indonesia (1997)	1.70 (1.05)	1.69 (1.02)	1.67 (1.10)	1.84 (1.15)
Asian Financial Crisis (1997-98)	1.95 (1.14)	1.94 (1.14)	1.96 (1.27)	1.98 (0.99)
Completion of NEWater (2000)	4.22 (0.91)	4.27 (0.87)	3.96 (1.05)	4.15 (0.96)
SQ 006 Taipei crash (2000)	1.80 (1.06)	1.78 (1.03)	1.82 (1.15)	1.92 (1.14)
Jemaah Islamiyah terrorist plot (2002)	1.77 (1.18)	1.78 (1.18)	1.67 (1.07)	1.87 (1.27)
SARS outbreak (2003)	1.78 (1.25)	1.78 (1.24)	1.73 (1.26)	1.84 (1.31)
NKF/TT Durai scandal (2005)	1.81 (1.10)	1.79 (1.09)	1.85 (1.17)	1.91 (1.06)
Mas Selamat escapes (2008)	1.86 (1.17)	1.84 (1.15)	1.90 (1.28)	1.94 (1.18)
Singapore hosts Youth Olympics (2010)	4.09 (0.90)	4.09 (0.87)	4.06 (1.00)	4.12 (0.98)
Opening of two Casinos (2010)	2.71 (1.20)	2.75 (1.19)	2.48 (1.24)	2.66 (1.22)
PAP loses Aljunied GRC (2011)	3.26 (1.07)	3.30 (1.03)	3.13 (1.19)	3.12 (1.15)
Major MRT breakdown (2011)	1.88 (1.20)	1.90 (1.21)	1.78 (1.15)	1.85 (1.19)

Emotional Intensity

Ranked mean score of ‘Emotional intensity’

EVENTS	Mean (SD)
SARS outbreak (2003)	4.17 (0.89)
Official launch of MRT (1988)	4.14 (0.90)
Opening of Changi Airport (1981)	4.00 (0.91)
Creation of Singapore national pledge (1966)	3.95 (0.94)
First batch of NS men enlist (1967)	3.89 (0.96)
Majulah Singapura is composed (1958)	3.89 (1.00)
Introduction of bilingualism policy in schools (1966)	3.88 (0.99)
Major MRT breakdown (2011)	3.87 (0.99)
Formation of HDB (1960)	3.86 (0.99)
Lee Kuan Yew sobs on national TV over Separation (1965)	3.85 (1.03)
Introduction of Singapore currency (1967)	3.85 (0.96)
Completion of NEWater (2000)	3.84 (0.98)
Racial riots (1964)	3.76 (1.01)
Jemaah Islamiyah terrorist plot (2002)	3.75 (1.01)
Singapore River clean-up campaign (1977)	3.74 (1.07)
PAP wins GE (1959)	3.73 (0.96)
Introduction of GST (1994)	3.70 (0.94)
Formation of PAP (1954)	3.66 (0.99)
Mas Selamat escapes (2008)	3.65 (1.09)
Asian Financial Crisis (1997-98)	3.65 (1.02)
Formation of SQ (1972)	3.63 (1.00)
Formation of MAS (1970)	3.61 (1.02)
Streaming in schools (1980)	3.58 (0.95)
Goh Chok Tong takes over as PM from Lee Kuan Yew (1990)	3.56 (1.01)
Hotel New World collapse (1986)	3.56 (1.06)

Ranked mean score of ‘Emotional intensity’

EVENTS	Mean (SD)
WWII Japanese Occupation (1942)	3.54 (1.09)
Singapore hosts Youth Olympics (2010)	3.52 (1.07)
NKF/TT Durai scandal (2005)	3.51 (1.15)
SilkAir flight crash in Palembang, Indonesia (1997)	3.47 (1.02)
PAP loses Aljunied GRC (2011)	3.43 (1.02)
Caning of Michael Fay (1994)	3.40 (1.12)
Hijack of SQ 117 (1991)	3.38 (1.04)
SQ 006 Taipei crash (2000)	3.38 (0.99)
Withdrawal of British troops (1971)	3.36 (1.09)
Bombing of MacDonald House (1965)	3.33 (1.51)
Opening of two Casinos (2010)	3.26 (1.14)
Singapore Cable Car accident (1983)	3.25 (1.05)
Merger of Nantah and University of Singapore (1980)	3.23 (1.02)
Debate on Graduate Mother Scheme (1984)	3.21 (0.97)
Launch of “Stop at Two” family planning (1970)	3.20 (1.11)
Bukit Ho Swee fire (1961)	3.19 (1.09)
Raffles’ landing (1819)	3.17 (1.13)
Maria Hertogh riots (1950)	3.15 (1.07)
J.B. Jeyaretnam wins Anson by-election (1981)	3.14 (1.05)
Merger with Malaya (1963)	3.13 (1.04)
Laju hostage incident (1974)	3.12 (1.10)
Hock Lee bus riots (1955)	3.11 (1.05)
PAP splits (1961)	3.09 (0.95)
“Marxist Conspiracy” plot uncovered, 16 people detained (1987)	3.09 (1.13)
Operation Cold Store (1963)	3.04 (1.00)

Mean score of ‘Emotional intensity’ by age group

EVENTS (in chronological order)	Mean (SD)			
	Total	Age 21-34	Age 35-49	Age 50 & Above
Raffles' landing (1819)	3.17 (1.13)	3.09 (1.04)	3.18 (1.11)	3.23 (1.20)
WWII Japanese Occupation (1942)	3.54 (1.09)	3.49 (1.05)	3.53 (1.04)	3.58 (1.17)
Maria Hertogh riots (1950)	3.15 (1.07)	3.22 (1.02)	3.19 (0.96)	3.06 (1.17)
Formation of PAP (1954)	3.66 (0.99)	3.45 (1.00)	3.63 (0.96)	3.83 (0.99)
Hock Lee bus riots (1955)	3.11 (1.05)	3.13 (0.98)	3.05 (0.96)	3.14 (1.15)
Majulah Singapura is composed (1958)	3.89 (1.00)	3.78 (1.04)	3.83 (0.98)	4.02 (0.97)
PAP wins GE (1959)	3.73 (0.96)	3.56 (0.97)	3.73 (0.96)	3.83 (0.95)
Formation of HDB (1960)	3.86 (0.99)	3.69 (0.95)	3.79 (1.00)	4.03 (0.97)
Bukit Ho Swee fire (1961)	3.19 (1.09)	3.03 (1.02)	3.07 (0.99)	3.36 (1.16)
PAP splits (1961)	3.09 (0.95)	3.06 (0.90)	3.08 (0.89)	3.11 (1.03)
Operation Cold Store (1963)	3.04 (1.00)	3.05 (0.92)	2.96 (1.01)	3.08 (1.04)
Merger with Malaya (1963)	3.13 (1.04)	3.05 (0.98)	3.15 (1.01)	3.18 (1.11)
Racial riots (1964)	3.76 (1.01)	3.69 (0.98)	3.69 (0.99)	3.87 (1.06)
Bombing of MacDonald House (1965)	3.33 (1.51)	3.27 (1.02)	3.41 (2.10)	3.31 (1.15)
Lee Kuan Yew sobs on national TV over Separation (1965)	3.85 (1.03)	3.70 (1.01)	3.89 (0.98)	3.94 (1.07)
Creation of Singapore national pledge (1966)	3.95 (0.94)	3.78 (0.93)	3.98 (0.91)	4.05 (0.95)
Introduction of bilingualism policy in schools (1966)	3.88 (0.99)	3.90 (0.92)	3.94 (0.94)	3.82 (1.06)
Introduction of Singapore currency (1967)	3.85 (0.96)	3.83 (0.96)	3.90 (1.00)	3.84 (0.93)
First batch of NS men enlist (1967)	3.89 (0.96)	3.81 (0.99)	3.82 (0.92)	3.98 (0.98)
Launch of “Stop at Two” family planning (1970)	3.20 (1.11)	2.94 (1.01)	3.11 (1.09)	3.42 (1.13)
Formation of MAS (1970)	3.61 (1.02)	3.51 (1.04)	3.74 (0.97)	3.53 (1.05)
Withdrawal of British troops (1971)	3.36 (1.09)	3.16 (1.07)	3.28 (1.05)	3.55 (1.10)
Formation of SQ (1972)	3.63 (1.00)	3.48 (0.96)	3.69 (0.97)	3.67 (1.03)
Laju hostage incident (1974)	3.12 (1.10)	3.08 (0.87)	3.07 (1.03)	3.17 (1.20)
Singapore River clean-up campaign (1977)	3.74 (1.07)	3.54 (1.03)	3.71 (1.08)	3.88 (1.06)

Mean score of ‘Emotional intensity’ by age group

EVENTS (in chronological order)	Mean (SD)			
	Total	Age 21-34	Age 35-49	Age 50 & Above
Merger of Nantah and University of Singapore (1980)	3.23 (1.02)	3.00 (0.87)	3.14 (0.97)	3.40 (1.09)
Streaming in schools (1980)	3.58 (0.95)	3.61 (0.94)	3.64 (0.90)	3.51 (1.01)
Opening of Changi Airport (1981)	4.00 (0.91)	3.84 (0.91)	4.04 (0.91)	4.09 (0.89)
J.B. Jeyaretnam wins Anson by-election (1981)	3.14 (1.05)	3.09 (1.04)	3.18 (0.98)	3.14 (1.10)
Singapore Cable Car accident (1983)	3.25 (1.05)	3.16 (1.05)	3.21 (0.99)	3.33 (1.10)
Debate on Graduate Mother Scheme (1984)	3.21 (0.97)	3.05 (0.99)	3.26 (0.88)	3.24 (1.03)
Hotel New World collapse (1986)	3.56 (1.06)	3.36 (1.02)	3.52 (1.00)	3.72 (1.10)
“Marxist Conspiracy” plot uncovered, 16 people detained (1987)	3.09 (1.13)	3.19 (1.21)	3.07 (0.95)	3.04 (1.21)
Official launch of MRT (1988)	4.14 (0.90)	4.06 (0.87)	4.11 (0.89)	4.23 (0.92)
Goh Chok Tong takes over as PM from Lee Kuan Yew (1990)	3.56 (1.01)	3.40 (0.94)	3.49 (1.01)	3.75 (1.04)
Hijack of SQ 117 (1991)	3.38 (1.04)	3.45 (0.99)	3.34 (1.04)	3.38 (1.08)
Caning of Michael Fay (1994)	3.40 (1.12)	3.15 (1.05)	3.41 (1.10)	3.55 (1.15)
Introduction of GST (1994)	3.70 (0.94)	3.53 (0.96)	3.75 (0.90)	3.77 (0.95)
SilkAir flight crash in Palembang, Indonesia (1997)	3.47 (1.02)	3.42 (0.99)	3.48 (0.98)	3.48 (1.06)
Asian Financial Crisis (1997-98)	3.65 (1.02)	3.54 (1.01)	3.66 (1.00)	3.72 (1.04)
Completion of NEWater (2000)	3.84 (0.98)	3.70 (1.01)	3.86 (0.95)	3.93 (0.99)
SQ 006 Taipei crash (2000)	3.38 (0.99)	3.43 (0.96)	3.36 (0.92)	3.38 (1.08)
Jemaah Islamiyah terrorist plot (2002)	3.75 (1.01)	3.76 (1.00)	3.77 (0.97)	3.72 (1.07)
SARS outbreak (2003)	4.17 (0.89)	4.16 (0.83)	4.17 (0.89)	4.20 (0.94)
NKF/TT Durai scandal (2005)	3.51 (1.15)	3.33 (1.15)	3.55 (1.12)	3.61 (1.17)
Mas Selamat escapes (2008)	3.65 (1.09)	3.61 (1.07)	3.66 (1.05)	3.68 (1.15)
Singapore hosts Youth Olympics (2010)	3.52 (1.07)	3.36 (1.05)	3.56 (1.06)	3.61 (1.10)
Opening of two Casinos (2010)	3.26 (1.14)	3.11 (1.10)	3.33 (1.09)	3.32 (1.20)
PAP loses Aljunied GRC (2011)	3.43 (1.02)	3.30 (1.02)	3.45 (0.98)	3.50 (1.04)
Major MRT breakdown (2011)	3.87 (0.99)	3.95 (0.95)	3.85 (0.99)	3.83 (1.02)

Mean score of ‘Emotional intensity’ by ethnicity

EVENTS (in chronological order)	Mean (SD)			
	Total	Chinese	Malay	Indian/Others
Raffles' landing (1819)	3.17 (1.13)	3.10 (1.12)	3.36 (1.11)	3.41 (1.15)
WWII Japanese Occupation (1942)	3.54 (1.09)	3.54 (1.08)	3.58 (1.17)	3.45 (1.06)
Maria Hertogh riots (1950)	3.15 (1.07)	3.04 (1.03)	3.59 (1.09)	3.09 (1.09)
Formation of PAP (1954)	3.66 (0.99)	3.64 (0.99)	3.72 (1.00)	3.73 (1.04)
Hock Lee bus riots (1955)	3.11 (1.05)	3.09 (1.05)	3.29 (1.05)	3.04 (1.04)
Majulah Singapura is composed (1958)	3.89 (1.00)	3.77 (1.01)	4.31 (0.79)	3.99 (1.01)
PAP wins GE (1959)	3.73 (0.96)	3.72 (0.94)	3.75 (1.00)	3.74 (1.06)
Formation of HDB (1960)	3.86 (0.99)	3.84 (0.97)	3.92 (1.02)	3.88 (1.06)
Bukit Ho Swee fire (1961)	3.19 (1.09)	3.21 (1.09)	3.13 (1.15)	3.12 (1.00)
PAP splits (1961)	3.09 (0.95)	3.04 (0.95)	3.25 (0.97)	3.22 (0.94)
Operation Cold Store (1963)	3.04 (1.00)	2.99 (0.99)	3.21 (1.12)	3.18 (0.91)
Merger with Malaya (1963)	3.13 (1.04)	3.13 (1.04)	3.22 (1.14)	3.04 (0.96)
Racial riots (1964)	3.76 (1.01)	3.75 (1.02)	3.96 (0.86)	3.65 (1.09)
Bombing of MacDonald House (1965)	3.33 (1.51)	3.33 (1.64)	3.45 (1.11)	3.24 (1.09)
Lee Kuan Yew sobs on national TV over Separation (1965)	3.85 (1.03)	3.81 (1.03)	4.00 (1.00)	3.96 (0.99)
Creation of Singapore national pledge (1966)	3.95 (0.94)	3.90 (0.93)	4.08 (0.95)	4.05 (0.92)
Introduction of bilingualism policy in schools (1966)	3.88 (0.99)	3.85 (0.99)	4.02 (0.97)	3.90 (0.99)
Introduction of Singapore currency (1967)	3.85 (0.96)	3.81 (0.97)	4.08 (0.84)	3.89 (0.96)
First batch of NS men enlist (1967)	3.89 (0.96)	3.84 (0.96)	4.07 (1.05)	3.97 (0.90)
Launch of “Stop at Two” family planning (1970)	3.20 (1.11)	3.22 (1.10)	3.13 (1.18)	3.18 (1.08)
Formation of MAS (1970)	3.61 (1.02)	3.59 (0.98)	3.75 (1.12)	3.55 (1.10)
Withdrawal of British troops (1971)	3.36 (1.09)	3.32 (1.07)	3.52 (1.16)	3.41 (1.14)
Formation of SQ (1972)	3.63 (1.00)	3.60 (0.99)	3.74 (1.08)	3.63 (0.97)
Laju hostage incident (1974)	3.12 (1.10)	3.08 (1.07)	3.36 (1.22)	3.12 (1.10)
Singapore River clean-up campaign (1977)	3.74 (1.07)	3.72 (1.05)	3.91 (1.09)	3.63 (1.13)

Mean score of ‘Emotional intensity’ by ethnicity

EVENTS (in chronological order)	Mean (SD)			
	Total	Chinese	Malay	Indian/Others
Merger of Nantah and University of Singapore (1980)	3.23 (1.02)	3.25 (1.01)	3.09 (1.17)	3.19 (0.93)
Streaming in schools (1980)	3.58 (0.95)	3.58 (0.93)	3.69 (0.95)	3.48 (1.08)
Opening of Changi Airport (1981)	4.00 (0.91)	3.97 (0.90)	4.15 (0.93)	4.04 (0.95)
J.B. Jeyaretnam wins Anson by-election (1981)	3.14 (1.05)	3.14 (1.03)	3.08 (1.09)	3.23 (1.11)
Singapore Cable Car accident (1983)	3.25 (1.05)	3.19 (1.05)	3.48 (1.00)	3.33 (1.12)
Debate on Graduate Mother Scheme (1984)	3.21 (0.97)	3.16 (0.98)	3.26 (1.02)	3.38 (0.91)
Hotel New World collapse (1986)	3.56 (1.06)	3.54 (1.05)	3.72 (1.03)	3.51 (1.09)
“Marxist Conspiracy” plot uncovered, 16 people detained (1987)	3.09 (1.13)	3.02 (1.10)	3.39 (1.18)	3.14 (1.23)
Official launch of MRT (1988)	4.14 (0.90)	4.14 (0.90)	4.14 (0.92)	4.16 (0.90)
Goh Chok Tong takes over as PM from Lee Kuan Yew (1990)	3.56 (1.01)	3.53 (1.01)	3.66 (1.03)	3.67 (1.00)
Hijack of SQ 117 (1991)	3.38 (1.04)	3.33 (1.03)	3.66 (1.08)	3.44 (1.03)
Caning of Michael Fay (1994)	3.40 (1.12)	3.40 (1.11)	3.48 (1.21)	3.32 (1.08)
Introduction of GST (1994)	3.70 (0.94)	3.70 (0.92)	3.78 (1.00)	3.62 (0.99)
SilkAir flight crash in Palembang, Indonesia (1997)	3.47 (1.02)	3.42 (0.99)	3.71 (1.10)	3.44 (1.08)
Asian Financial Crisis (1997-98)	3.65 (1.02)	3.64 (1.03)	3.81 (0.99)	3.57 (0.96)
Completion of NEWater (2000)	3.84 (0.98)	3.86 (0.97)	3.76 (1.04)	3.81 (0.98)
SQ 006 Taipei crash (2000)	3.38 (0.99)	3.36 (0.98)	3.39 (1.13)	3.52 (0.93)
Jemaah Islamiyah terrorist plot (2002)	3.75 (1.01)	3.76 (1.01)	3.86 (0.98)	3.56 (1.08)
SARS outbreak (2003)	4.17 (0.89)	4.18 (0.88)	4.31 (0.86)	3.98 (0.97)
NKF/TT Durai scandal (2005)	3.51 (1.15)	3.54 (1.14)	3.58 (1.13)	3.22 (1.20)
Mas Selamat escapes (2008)	3.65 (1.09)	3.64 (1.10)	3.83 (1.13)	3.55 (1.02)
Singapore hosts Youth Olympics (2010)	3.52 (1.07)	3.48 (1.05)	3.55 (1.22)	3.71 (1.05)
Opening of two Casinos (2010)	3.26 (1.14)	3.34 (1.10)	3.00 (1.24)	3.02 (1.20)
PAP loses Aljunied GRC (2011)	3.43 (1.02)	3.43 (1.01)	3.40 (1.06)	3.47 (1.03)
Major MRT breakdown (2011)	3.87 (0.99)	3.86 (0.97)	3.89 (1.06)	3.90 (1.04)

Factor Analysis and Correlations

To identify the underlying themes that shape the meaning and importance of events for respondents, the top 35 events on the awareness scale were further analysed.

Three distinct clusters of historical themes emerge: Nation Building, Differences and National Resilience

Nation Building	Differences	National Resilience
Represents the collective achievements and shared memories in Singapore's nation-building journey	Consists of events where Singaporeans feel divided over how Singapore should be governed and comprise events that have a major and lasting impact on Singapore society	Consists of events where Singaporeans stand together as one people to overcome challenges
1. Majulah Singapura is composed (1958) 2. Formation of HDB (1960) 3. Creation of Singapore national pledge (1966) 4. Formation of PAP (1954) 5. PAP wins GE (1959) 6. Opening of Changi Airport (1981) 7. Official launch of MRT (1988) 8. First batch of NS men enlist (1967) 9. Lee Kuan Yew sobs on national TV over Separation (1965) 10. Singapore River clean-up campaign (1977) 11. Goh Chok Tong takes over as PM from Lee Kuan Yew (1990) 12. Completion of NEWater (2000)	1. Opening of two Casinos (2010) 2. Asian Financial Crisis (1997-98) 3. PAP loses Aljunied GRC (2011) 4. Introduction of GST (1994) 5. Merger with Malaya (1963) 6. Major MRT breakdown (2011) 7. Streaming in schools (1980) 8. Mas Selamat escapes (2008) 9. Launch of "Stop at Two" family planning (1970) 10. SARS outbreak (2003) 11. Racial riots (1964) 12. Introduction of bilingualism policy in schools (1966)	1. Hotel New World collapse (1986) 2. Singapore Cable Car accident (1983) 3. SQ 006 Taipei crash (2000) 4. Hijack of SQ 117 (1991) 5. Bukit Ho Swee fire (1961) 6. Caning of Michael Fay (1994) 7. Singapore hosts Youth Olympics (2010)

Correlations between Historical Themes and Life Satisfaction

Historical Themes	Pearson's Correlation	
	Present Life Satisfaction (N = 1,516)	Life Satisfaction 5 years later (N = 1,516)
Nation Building	0.12***	-0.02
Differences	0.06*	0.02
National Resilience	0.09***	0.05+

+p=0.06, *p<0.05, **p<0.01, ***p<0.001.

Summary

Summary

- Recent events are more likely to be remembered
- Events that are considered important to respondents are also likely to be regarded as important for future generations of Singaporeans
- Events with a racial undertone are more likely to be recalled by the affected ethnic community, e.g., Maria Hertogh riots, Jemaah Islamiyah terrorist plot
- Awareness of events does not equate to importance to respondents, e.g., opening of the two casinos
- Further analyses on the ratings of the importance of events uncover three major themes (or narratives):
 - (1) Nation Building
 - (2) Differences
 - (3) National Resilience

Summary

- “Nation building” events underscore the progress and development that Singapore has achieved over the years. These include the physical infrastructure that we have built, like the MRT and Changi Airport, and symbols of nationhood, such as the creation of the national pledge and Singapore’s Separation from Malaysia
- Historical events that embody “Differences” emphasise contestations, disagreements and dilemmas. Examples include the “Stop At Two” birth control policy, the bilingualism policy and racial riots
- Finally, events related to “National Resilience” highlight the challenges that we have overcome as a people. Examples include the Cable Car accident in the 1980s, and the Bukit Ho Swee fire in the 1960s

Summary

- All three historical themes (or narratives) are positively correlated with current life satisfaction
- National resilience is marginally associated with perceived future satisfaction and well-being

THANK YOU