A Period Fertility Table Analysis: Singapore, 1980-2015

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This study examines the patterns and demographic factors underlying the relationship between fertility changes and pronatal policy implementations in Singapore during 1980-2015, with a focus on the differential role of the first marriage of the major ethnic group. In order to derive the effects of the first marriage on annual changes in period fertility measures, we developed a numerical model to construct period fertility tables for each year.

Results show ethnic differentiations and similarities regarding factors associating with fertility changes: the first marriage and marital fertility. After the gradual introductions of the intensive pronatal policy, Marriage and Parenthood Package, in the early 2000s, Chinese nuptiality stopped to decline and the marital fertility started to increase. While Malay nuptiality dropped tremendously in the 2000s, and marital fertility continued to decrease until 2010, Malay marital fertility started to recover after 2010.