

COMPANIES AND BUSINESSES



Coverage and Sources of Data

Data on companies and businesses include all those registered with the Accounting and Corporate Regulatory Authority (ACRA) as well as those registered with professional bodies, for example, The Law Society of Singapore and Singapore Medical Council.

Definitions

Company: Refers to a business entity registered under the Companies Act, Chapter 50. It has a legal personality (i.e. it has the right to own properties, it has perpetual succession and it can sue or be sued in its own name). It usually has the words 'Pte Ltd' or 'Ltd' as part of its name.

Business: Refers to a business firm, operating either as a sole-proprietorship or a

partnership. It may be set up by individuals or companies. However, a business firm, not being a legal entity, cannot register another business firm. A sole-proprietorship is a business firm owned by one person or one company. There are no partners. The sole-proprietor has absolute say in the running of the business firm. A partnership may have between two and twenty partners. If there are more than twenty partners, the business entity must be registered as a company under the Companies Act, Chapter 50.

Formation: Refers to companies and businesses registered with the ACRA and other relevant organisations (e.g. The Law Society of Singapore, Singapore Medical Council) during the reference year.

Cessation: Refers to companies and businesses which have ceased operation during the reference year. Cessation status include ceased, struck off, amalgamated, cancelled and dissolved.

8.1 FORMATION OF COMPANIES BY INDUSTRY

Industry	Number						
	1998	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Total	6,624	13,543	17,151	19,498	21,495	25,903	25,328
Manufacturing	479	614	786	946	1,184	1,406	1,521
Construction	667	684	786	848	997	1,296	1,331
Wholesale & Retail Trade	2,278	4,445	5,541	6,032	6,182	6,564	6,415
Transport & Storage	315	543	759	831	897	1,165	1,150
Hotels & Restaurants	246	626	756	780	995	1,322	1,316
Information & Communications	465	1,131	1,187	1,395	1,489	1,513	1,569
Financial & Insurance Activities	659	1,337	1,937	2,387	3,044	4,349	3,592
Real Estate, Rental & Leasing Activities	249	268	347	408	540	911	584
Professional, Scientific & Technical Activities	639	1,824	2,382	2,665	3,024	3,645	3,761
Administrative & Support Service Activities	282	792	1,101	1,212	1,048	1,196	1,215
Education, Health & Social Work	140	591	703	862	768	991	1,040
Arts, Entertainment, Recreation & Other Service Activities	179	610	773	989	1,151	1,299	1,576
Others	26	78	93	143	176	246	258

Source : Accounting and Corporate Regulatory Authority

8.2 CESSATION OF COMPANIES BY INDUSTRY

Industry	Number						
	1998	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Total	4,088	7,230	5,885	7,007	8,980	9,215	10,484
Manufacturing	451	562	401	448	510	521	571
Construction	221	465	340	440	537	470	527
Wholesale & Retail Trade	1,788	2,606	2,068	2,489	3,230	3,373	3,657
Transport & Storage	267	383	321	320	407	369	442
Hotels & Restaurants	92	194	161	213	320	319	504
Information & Communications	106	529	520	566	661	635	781
Financial & Insurance Activities	402	959	760	824	964	1,079	1,173
Real Estate, Rental & Leasing Activities	185	376	292	335	337	330	376
Professional, Scientific & Technical Activities	330	627	537	704	1,026	1,047	1,210
Administrative & Support Service Activities	109	225	202	276	422	405	497
Education, Health & Social Work	24	76	108	154	238	244	265
Arts, Entertainment, Recreation & Other Service Activities	95	195	150	205	281	366	415
Others	18	33	25	33	47	57	66

Source : Accounting and Corporate Regulatory Authority

8.3 FORMATION OF BUSINESSES BY INDUSTRY

Industry	Number						
	1998	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Total	23,298	25,809	25,118	23,476	24,212	24,747	24,845
Manufacturing	1,447	886	853	1,041	1,148	1,189	1,295
Construction	2,842	1,520	1,415	1,432	1,566	1,690	1,739
Wholesale & Retail Trade	8,446	9,440	8,948	8,213	8,053	7,490	7,623
Transport & Storage	1,129	1,185	1,132	1,055	1,014	1,174	1,164
Hotels & Restaurants	1,226	1,643	1,756	1,604	1,564	1,699	1,628
Information & Communications	1,013	1,403	1,175	1,140	1,360	1,282	1,247
Financial & Insurance Activities	182	254	268	213	274	260	317
Real Estate, Rental & Leasing Activities	515	212	248	293	332	404	393
Professional, Scientific & Technical Activities	2,317	3,374	3,337	2,750	3,056	3,029	3,424
Administrative & Support Service Activities	1,202	1,859	1,817	1,651	1,447	1,397	1,511
Education, Health & Social Work	950	1,267	1,133	1,038	1,192	2,061	1,500
Arts, Entertainment, Recreation & Other Service Activities	1,920	2,596	2,840	2,890	3,060	2,891	2,774
Others	109	170	196	156	146	181	230

Source : Singapore Department of Statistics
Accounting and Corporate Regulatory Authority

8.4 CESSATION OF BUSINESSES BY INDUSTRY

Industry	Number						
	1998	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Total	21,336	15,065	17,362	56,284	26,853	21,312	21,045
Manufacturing	1,867	1,075	1,067	3,063	1,411	1,075	1,118
Construction	2,913	1,824	1,710	5,151	2,024	1,455	1,372
Wholesale & Retail Trade	8,327	5,542	6,404	20,122	9,634	7,656	7,365
Transport & Storage	1,051	667	780	2,595	1,182	987	951
Hotels & Restaurants	1,200	885	1,156	3,372	1,722	1,505	1,514
Information & Communications	683	671	741	3,045	1,255	1,131	1,123
Financial & Insurance Activities	132	117	145	461	262	204	222
Real Estate, Rental & Leasing Activities	637	301	301	960	398	368	326
Professional, Scientific & Technical Activities	1,683	1,344	1,799	6,584	3,074	2,332	2,417
Administrative & Support Service Activities	795	815	976	3,607	1,844	1,290	1,267
Education, Health & Social Work	516	503	644	2,166	1,046	828	863
Arts, Entertainment, Recreation & Other Service Activities	1,435	1,253	1,533	4,809	2,847	2,357	2,387
Others	97	68	106	349	154	124	120

Source : Singapore Department of Statistics
Accounting and Corporate Regulatory Authority