

CULTURE AND RECREATION



MediaCorp Pte Ltd

MediaCorp is Singapore's leading media company with the most complete range of platforms, spanning television, radio, newspapers, magazines, movies and digital media.

It pioneered the development of Singapore's broadcasting industry, with the broadcast of radio in 1936 and television in 1963. Today, MediaCorp has over 50 products in four languages (English, Mandarin, Malay and Tamil).

SPH UnionWorks Pte Ltd

SPH UnionWorks Pte Ltd manages and operates two radio stations, Radio 91.3FM and Radio 100.3FM.

Radio 91.3FM is a 24-hour English music station that caters to listeners, aged 15 to 40 years old. The station plays new and current top 40 hits featuring today's best music. It reaches out to 200,000 listeners weekly.

Radio 100.3FM is a 24-hour Mandarin infotainment station that caters to listeners aged 20 to 40 years old, reaching out to 230,000 people weekly. It delivers informative programmes ranging from lifestyle to gourmet features, current affairs, music and entertainment with a different perspective.

SAFRA Radio Network

Power 98FM and 88.3JiaFM make up the SAFRA Radio network. In 2008, Power 98FM has an average listenership of 264,500, while 88.3JiaFM achieved an average listenership of 264,000. SAFRA Radio reaches out to the general public and exclusively to the SAF camps and SAFRA clubs in Singapore. The stations continue to interact with their core listeners through their signature events.

Rediffusion Pte Ltd

Rediffusion Pte Ltd, a licensed commercial audio broadcasting station since 1949, provides direct sound broadcasts to subscribers via wireless Digital Multimedia Broadcasting (DMB) while retaining its existing cable network. Subscribers enjoy a selection of twenty channels that offer both international and Rediffusion-produced programmes.

Cinema

Data on cinema attendances are compiled by the Singapore Department of Statistics from returns submitted by cinema organisations. Prior to April 1994, they were obtained from the Singapore Customs. Total attendances are based on the number of tickets sold.

Library

The National Library Board (NLB) provides essential library facilities, information services as well as a variety of cultural, educational and recreational programmes for the community, government and businesses. In addition to the National Library, there are 19 Public Libraries, 3 Regional Libraries and 1 Community Children's Library. There are also 17 libraries belonging to government agencies, schools and institutions which are under NLB's management.

The National Library is designed to meet the needs of researchers, business persons and the general public. It houses the Lee Kong Chian Reference Library (LKCRIL), formerly known as the National Reference Library, the Central Public Library (CTPL) and the National Arts Council's Drama Centre.

The LKCRIL offers a reference collection of over 600,000 items in various formats and

subjects. The Social Sciences and Humanities, Science and Technology Collections offer an authoritative cross-disciplinary resource covering subjects such as library and information sciences, statistics, IT, engineering and biochemical science with global and Asian perspectives. The Business Collection features a wide variety of materials such as market research reports, statistical and financial sources, trade and business journals, business news and annual reports of Singapore listed companies in both print and electronic format. Other resources include the Bloomberg Professionals, a financial information network service and the Investment Resource Information Service (IRIS)@NLB. The Arts Collection, which emphasizes the history, theory and practice of all facets of the visual arts, complements the Performing Arts Collection at the Library@Esplanade. The Chinese, Malay and Tamil Collections offer a diversity of disciplines reflecting the socio-economic, cultural and literary aspects in the three languages. Those interested in knowing more about contemporary China would find the Chinese collection of yearbooks, industry development reports and trade directories useful. The Singapore and Southeast Asian Collections feature works on all subject areas with a focus on history, government, language, literature, culture, and more. The collections span various Southeast Asian countries with a special focus on Malaya and Singapore.

The computerized National Library System links all libraries under the NLB. Functions of the system include cataloguing, acquisitions, serials, legal deposits, enquiries, loans and the on-line public access catalogue. Data on library membership, loans and collections are generated on a regular basis by the system.

NLB's Circulation System is based on Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) technology to identify, categorise and track the loan and return of library materials in its network of libraries.

NLB also provides library members with onsite and remote access to a digital library of more than 160 database titles, including over 180,000 licensed images, more than 800 titles of electronic full-image newspapers, over 130,000 music tracks, as well as some 700,000 e-journals, e-books, audio-books, e-magazines, via its website at eresources.nlb.gov.sg. NLB also has more than 27,000 Singapore-related websites, and more than 10,000 Government e-publications, archived for research purposes. The library portal also offers a host of library-related transactional and information services. On 15 April 2008, NLB launched the TriWeb services, which is a family of three websites created to replace the current single access website (www.nlb.gov.sg). The three sites are namely the National Library Board Web (www.nlb.gov.sg); the Public Library Web (www.pl.sg); and the National Library Web (www.nl.sg). NLB also provides reference and advisory services for research assignments, business ventures and personal interest. The libraries can provide answers to queries, suggest useful search strategies and guide the library users to relevant and useful resources available.

Sports in Singapore

The Singapore Sports Council (SSC) is Singapore's lead agency tasked with developing sports in Singapore and creating a city where sports is a way of life. It aims to achieve this by focusing on the three strategic thrusts of cultivating a sporting culture, achieving sports excellence and creating a vibrant sports industry.

The SSC adopts a targeted lifestyle marketing approach, maintains sports-friendly infrastructure and forms collaborative partnerships with government agencies and private sector partners to increase participation in sports.

The SSC also focuses on targeted sports, an athlete-centric / coach-driven approach and focused resource allocation to achieve international sporting excellence.

In addition, the SSC seeds and grows a self-sustaining sports industry ecosystem through positioning Singapore as a regional hub for international and regional federations and sports business headquarters and create opportunities for growth in sports business. It builds a strong portfolio of diverse and sustainable local, regional and international sports events.

Sports and Performing Arts Courses

The People's Association, together with Grassroots Organisations and Community Development Councils, promotes community participation in social, cultural, educational, youth, sports, recreational, adventure and other wholesome activities. These activities are conducted mainly at Community Clubs, Residents' Committee centres and Water-Venture outlets.

The Arts

The National Arts Council (NAC) compiles data on arts activities from performing venues, arts groups and impresarios, newspapers and magazines. Pop and rock concerts are not included in the statistics.

Definitions

Performing Arts: Refers to folk, traditional, classical and contemporary forms of dance, music, theatre and other performances. Traditional arts performances such as lion and dragon dances are excluded as they are usually performed for closed religious and ceremonial audiences. Performances classified as 'others' include acrobatic arts, cultural concerts and multi-disciplinary performances.

Visual Arts: Refers to public exhibitions of abstract or representational art objects such as paintings, prints, sculpture, pottery, ceramics, creative photography, installation art and multi-media art. Applied arts like film, video, graphic design, fashion design, jewellery design, and handicrafts are excluded.

23.1 TELEVISION LICENCES, PAY TV SUBSCRIBERS, REDIFFUSION SUBSCRIBERS AND CINEMAS (End of Period)

	1998	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Television Licences ('000)	704	855	876	890	888	934	965
Pay TV Subscribers ¹ ('000)	144	380	412	448	487	531	583
Rediffusion Subscribers (No)	19,013	10,556	9,204	8,126	9,100	9,000	9,500
Cinemas (No)	147	147	147	146	167	175	174
Seating Capacity ('000)	46	38	38	36	38	40	37
Attendances ('000)	16,397	14,644	15,877	15,084	15,588	17,956	19,058

Source : Media Development Authority
StarHub Cable Vision Ltd
Singapore Telecommunications (Singtel)
Rediffusion Pte Ltd
Singapore Department of Statistics

1 With effect from 2007, data include Singtel Mio-TV subscribers. Singtel Mio-TV was launched in July 2007.

23.2 RADIO AND TELEVISION TRANSMISSION

	1998	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Radio (MediaCorp, UnionWorks & SAFRA)	2,828	2,576	2,576	2,744	2,744	2,744	2,856
Television (MediaCorp & MediaWorks ¹)	483	1,015	1,020	888	888	886	885

Source : MediaCorp Pte Ltd
UnionWorks Pte Ltd
SAFRA Radio
SPH MediaWorks Ltd

1 Operated from April 2001 to December 2004.

23.3 NATIONAL LIBRARY MEMBERSHIP, BOOK COLLECTIONS AND LOAN OF LIBRARY MATERIALS

	Thousand						
	1998	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Membership ¹	1,559.8	2,192.6	1,813.8	1,924.0	1,909.5	1,948.8	1,985.0
Persons Aged 13 years and Over	1,268.9	1,886.2	1,561.2	1,676.0	1,623.8	1,622.9	1,669.1
Children Under 13 Years	290.9	306.4	252.5	248.0	285.7	325.9	315.9
Book Collections	5,162.7	7,821.0	7,855.6	7,980.0	8,083.0	8,219.0	8,232.0
English	3,236.4	5,061.8	5,118.6	5,101.0	5,204.0	5,279.0	5,289.0
Chinese	1,371.1	1,913.1	1,889.1	1,976.0	1,978.0	1,996.0	1,941.0
Malay	412.4	597.8	596.6	599.0	605.0	631.0	649.0
Tamil	142.8	248.3	251.3	304.0	296.0	313.0	353.0
Loan of Library Materials ²	23,323.1	34,889.9	26,371.6	27,743.1	28,563.5	28,768.7	27,816.0
Persons Aged 13 Years and Over	11,852.8	23,594.3	18,132.4	19,004.0	19,845.9	20,295.1	20,033.3
Children Under 13 Years	11,470.3	11,295.6	8,239.2	8,739.1	8,717.6	8,473.5	7,782.7

Source : National Library Board

- 1 With effect from 2004, data exclude members who have no library transactions in the past 5 years.
With effect from 2005, data include membership from public libraries only.
- 2 Loans include books, magazines and AV materials (such as Video Tapes, VCDs, CDs, CD-Roms, DVDs and music scores).
Prior to 2004, data include materials borrowed from public libraries, government libraries and academic libraries.
With effect from 2004, data include materials borrowed from public libraries only.

23.4 DAILY NEWSPAPER CIRCULATION

	Number						
	1998	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Total	1,125,520	1,708,665	1,622,728	1,359,807	1,634,272	1,615,085	1,753,738
English	539,495	1,095,982	1,038,546	777,140	904,518	877,472	916,237
Chinese	514,531	541,672	516,148	515,619	656,832	663,110	762,120
Malay	61,612	62,079	58,192	57,061	61,334	61,946	61,229
Tamil	9,882	8,932	9,842	9,987	11,588	12,557	14,152

Source : Singapore Press Holdings Ltd
MediaCorp Press Ltd

- Notes : Refers to daily average circulation for January-December.
- English Newspapers - The Straits Times/Sunday Times, Business Times, New Paper / New Paper Sunday / Little Red Dot/ IN.
Data for 2001-2004 include Streets.
Data for 2001 onwards include TODAY.
- Chinese Newspapers - Lianhe Zaobao, Lianhe Wanbao, Shin Min Daily News, Friday Weekly, Thumbs Up, My Paper.
- Malay Newspapers - Berita Harian/Berita Minggu.
- Tamil Newspapers - Tamil Murasu/Tamil Murasu Sunday.

23.5 VISITORS TO PLACES OF INTEREST

	Thousand						
	1998	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Asian Civilisations Museum ^{1,2}	85.9	147.2	225.8	276.8	437.8	575.1	701.4
National Museum of Singapore ³	242.5	109.1	87.6	91.4	158.7	675.1	871.8
Singapore Art Museum ¹	183.6	149.4	337.9	346.5	314.3	292.8	489.6
Singapore Philatelic Museum ¹	38.7	45.8	61.5	82.1	94.3	88.4	94.8
The Peranakan Museum ⁴	na	na	na	na	na	na	171.9
Chinese/Japanese Gardens ⁵	216.5	452.8	598.8	740.4	698.7	543.3	666.7
Singapore Discovery Centre ^{6,7}	315.0	238.3	134.9	na	201.8	251.1	200.0
Singapore Science Centre	469.4	486.3	806.4	783.8	989.0	880.0	1,039.2
Singapore Zoological Gardens	1,319.4	1,062.6	1,148.4	1,283.2	1,405.2	1,442.6	1,589.6
Night Safari	na	610.2	858.7	1,002.5	1,007.1	1,132.9	1,177.4
Jurong BirdPark	817.6	696.1	789.1	879.7	788.3	875.1	841.6
Sentosa ⁶	3,309.4	4,151.3	5,053.0	5,174.9	5,679.0	6,125.2	6,133.9
Esplanade-Theatres on the Bay ⁶	na	6,100.0	7,086.3	7,556.5	7,700.0	8,500.0	7,200.0

Source : National Heritage Board
Jurong Gardens Pte Ltd
Singapore Discovery Centre
Singapore Science Centre

Singapore Zoological Gardens
Night Safari
Jurong BirdPark Pte Ltd
Sentosa Development Corporation

The Esplanade Co Ltd

- With effect from April 2006, visitorship to the museums is counted using an automatic tracking system (PCATS) whereby a device is fixed at entrances to the museums. All visitors who access the museum premises are captured in the count, regardless of whether the entries are based on paid admissions or those not requiring payment.
- Opened in April 1997. Figures include visitors to Asian Civilisations Museum at Armenian Street (up to December 2005) and Asian Civilisations Museum at Empress Place Building (with effect from March 2003).
- The Singapore History Museum which was closed from March 2006, was re-opened as the National Museum of Singapore (NMS) on 8 December 2006. Between April to November 2006, exhibitions and fringe activities were held on the premises of the NMS.
- The Peranakan Museum (TPM) was officially opened on 26 April 2008. Year 2008 data refer to the number of visitors to TPM from 26 April 2008 to 31 December 2008.
- From October 2002 to July 2007, Japanese Garden was closed for renovation.
- Data refer to the financial year which begins in April of the current year and ends in March of the following year.
- Year 2004 data refer to Singapore Discovery Centre (SDC) visitorship from April to October 2004. SDC was closed for a major makeover in November 2004. As it was reopened only in July 2006, year 2006 data refer to SDC visitorship from July 2006 to March 2007.

23.6 UTILISATION OF SPORTS FACILITIES

	Number						
	1998	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Attendances							
Swimming	6,819,658	5,721,706	6,791,987	6,695,438	6,490,711	6,525,858	7,077,283
Gymnasium	479,741	1,228,686	1,289,283	1,257,882	1,299,384	1,470,433	1,589,634
Bookings							
Total	na	536,336	557,051	573,617	580,244	616,375	669,919
Tennis	99,639	100,900	103,324	117,006	117,412	114,244	132,384
Badminton ¹	181,858	293,583	307,271	319,819	319,935	352,840	372,291
Squash	35,433	20,925	18,014	16,602	17,015	19,829	23,559
Netball	5,044	7,772	8,165	8,537	7,716	7,974	8,696
Soccer	9,108	13,171	14,700	15,128	18,391	18,717	20,154
Hockey	2,098	3,656	3,763	3,866	3,895	3,690	3,670
Rugby	417	760	622	686	424	522	560
Athletics	694	547	874	1,440	1,438	1,431	1,212
Table-tennis ¹	na	na	na	na	45,350	47,511	53,495
Basketball ¹	na	na	na	na	13,112	12,289	14,293
Volleyball ¹	na	na	na	na	11,038	10,187	12,308
Others ²	na	95,022	100,318	90,533	24,518	27,141	27,297

Source : Singapore Sports Council (SSC)

Note : Refers to sports facilities provided by SSC.

1 Refers to bookings of sports hall facilities managed by the SSC.

2 Prior to 2006, data refer to other bookings at sports hall facilities managed by the SSC, eg table-tennis, basketball, volleyball, fencing, floorball etc.

With effect from 2006, data refer to other bookings at sports hall facilities managed by the SSC, eg fencing, floorball etc.

23.7

SPORTS AND PERFORMING ARTS COURSES CONDUCTED BY
COMMUNITY CLUBS, PA WATER-VENTURE AND RESIDENTS' COMMITTEES

Type of Course							Number
	1998	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Classes							
Sports Courses	2,795	5,057	6,553	7,806	8,892	9,906	11,084
Ball Games	67	103	68	144	382	321	440
Board / Intellectual Games	-	7	6	8	10	11	19
Keep Fit	343	1,734	2,387	3,156	3,355	4,629	5,002
Martial Arts	908	2,343	2,922	3,360	3,778	3,709	4,056
Performing Sports	108	115	134	179	306	440	724
Water Sports	1,369	755	1,036	959	1,061	796	843
Performing Arts Courses	4,492	19,334	21,646	22,061	21,980	18,614	18,956
Dance	1,679	6,064	6,833	7,474	7,912	7,305	8,013
Drama ¹	318	2,171	3,748	3,645	3,203	269	241
Music	1,659	8,444	8,272	8,119	7,871	8,016	7,517
Vocal	836	2,655	2,793	2,823	2,994	3,024	3,185
Others	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Participants							
Sports Courses	40,872	96,790	118,300	138,495	157,809	171,665	192,689
Ball Games	806	1,733	823	1,752	4,577	3,177	5,871
Board / Intellectual Games	-	51	38	65	87	91	242
Keep Fit	4,979	33,121	44,866	56,931	58,821	77,639	83,588
Martial Arts	18,844	49,077	56,237	62,867	73,359	69,220	78,553
Performing Sports	2,432	1,468	1,649	2,125	3,593	4,967	7,918
Water Sports	13,811	11,340	14,687	14,755	17,372	16,571	16,517
Performing Arts Courses	137,477	185,959	201,016	208,571	217,991	165,545	180,502
Dance	69,559	88,085	89,930	96,895	105,732	89,184	99,683
Drama ¹	8,056	27,518	42,541	43,902	38,298	3,306	3,149
Music	22,447	20,537	19,685	19,571	23,700	22,463	23,458
Vocal	37,415	49,819	48,860	48,203	50,261	50,592	54,212
Others	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Source : People's Association (PA)

Notes : With effect from 1998, period refers to calendar year.

Prior to 2003, data pertain to Sports and Performing Arts courses conducted by Community Clubs only.

With effect from 2003, Sports and Performing Arts courses conducted by PA Water-Venture and Residents' Committees are also included.

¹ With effect from 2007, data exclude playgroup.

23.8 THE ARTS

Art Form	Number						
	1998	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Performing Arts							
Total Performances ¹	3,777	4,654	5,105	6,410	6,556	7,449	7,100
Music	1,113	1,889	1,992	2,226	2,859	3,093	2,661
Dance	369	498	716	990	711	916	880
Theatre	1,633	1,898	1,946	2,233	2,000	2,434	2,733
Others	662	369	451	961	986	1,006	826
Ticketed Performances	1,749	2,437	2,710	2,753	3,036	3,382	3,433
Music	377	610	741	783	1,039	948	949
Dance	166	248	317	214	234	358	372
Theatre	1,148	1,490	1,551	1,585	1,495	1,824	2,001
Others	58	89	101	171	268	252	111
Ticketed Attendances ²	821,700	985,200	1,110,300	1,262,200	1,290,300	1,494,900	1,559,700
Music	236,800	381,900	445,800	445,800	474,100	547,700	538,200
Dance	89,000	108,900	119,000	124,300	121,200	127,500	146,500
Theatre	439,800	432,500	452,400	532,600	574,200	687,000	814,500
Others	56,100	62,000	93,100	159,400	120,900	132,700	60,400
Visual Arts Exhibitions							
Number	399	537	542	568	660	824	944
Days	6,164	11,380	13,627	12,875	14,838	19,177	22,986

Source : National Arts Council

Note : With effect from 2002, data include performances, ticketed attendances and visual arts exhibitions at the Esplanade - Theatres on the Bay.

1 Includes both ticketed and non-ticketed performances.

2 Ticketed attendance for each art form are rounded to the nearest hundred.

23.9 REGISTERED ARTS SOCIETIES AND COMPANIES

Art Form	Number						
	1998	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Societies ¹							
Total	213	247	267	288	302	317	327
Music	54	72	81	87	90	99	103
Dance	21	20	20	23	24	26	26
Chinese Opera	10	13	13	13	13	12	12
Theatre	39	47	47	48	49	52	56
Literature	13	16	17	19	22	22	23
Visual Arts	35	37	38	40	43	44	45
Photography	9	10	10	10	9	9	9
Multi-Discipline	32	32	41	48	52	53	53
Companies ²							
Total	212	302	321	359	428	477	595
Music	11	24	25	28	35	66	79
Dance	5	15	13	19	21	26	27
Chinese Opera	29	31	35	36	38	34	38
Theatre	19	47	51	60	72	73	90
Visual Arts	137	153	158	174	211	212	273
Multi-Discipline	11	32	39	42	51	66	88

Source : National Arts Council

1 Includes arts societies registered under the Registrar of Societies.

2 Includes arts companies registered under the Accounting and Corporate Regulatory Authority.