

**HAWKERS
AND
FOOD ESTABLISHMENTS**



21 HAWKERS AND FOOD ESTABLISHMENTS

The National Environment Agency (NEA) issues licences to hawkers and operators of retail food establishments. Food factories are licensed by the Agri-Food & Veterinary Authority (AVA). They ensure that all licensees observe proper food hygiene practices and that all food sold in Singapore is safe for consumption. To motivate licensees to keep their premises clean and hygienic, a grading scheme has been introduced.

Licensed Hawkers

Licensed hawkers refer to hawkers who are issued with the respective licence by

NEA to operate stalls in markets/hawker centres, showcase stalls and also as itinerant hawkers. With effect from 1 April 2004, the management of all Housing and Development Board and Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources markets/hawker centres have been consolidated under NEA.

Licensed Food Establishments

Licensed food establishments are grouped under five separate categories, namely “Food Shops”, “Food Stalls”, “Food Factories”, “Supermarkets” and “Private Markets”.

21.1 LICENSED HAWKERS UNDER NATIONAL ENVIRONMENT AGENCY

(End of Period)

	Number						
	1998	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Total Licences Issued	3,698	3,239	15,862	15,105	14,346	14,419	12,898
Type of Premises							
Market/Food Centre	3,614	3,011	14,708	14,052	13,468	13,398	11,996
Show Case	4	-	-	-	-	-	-
Street ¹	80	228	1,154	1,053	878	1,021	902
Type of Goods Sold							
Market Produce	1,437	1,129	6,751	6,456	6,264	5,972	5,006
Cooked Food	1,808	1,454	7,130	5,655	5,585	5,800	5,395
Piece & Sundries ²	453	656	1,981	2,994	2,497	2,647	2,497

Source : National Environment Agency

Note : Data include PSA food centre (wef 2003) and HDB Market/Hawker Centre (wef 1 Apr 2004).

Private markets/food centres of other Statutory Boards are excluded.

- 1 Refers to street hawkers, who sells ice-cream, as well as not easily perishable food items and goods.
- 2 Includes items sold by Street Hawkers and at Show Case premises.

21.2 LICENSED HAWKERS UNDER OTHER AGENCIES

(End of Period)

	Number						
	1998	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Total Licences Issued	14,448	12,421	185	181	160	152	97
Management Authority							
Housing & Development Board ¹	14,200	12,234	-	-	-	-	-
Jurong Town Corporation	190	187	185	181	160	152	97
Port of Singapore Authority ²	58	-	-	-	-	-	-
Type of Goods Sold							
Market Produce	7,064	5,818	-	-	-	-	-
Cooked Food	5,577	4,952	184	180	159	152	97
Piece & Sundries	1,807	1,651	1	1	1	-	-

Source : National Environment Agency

- 1 With effect from 1 Apr 2004, stalls in HDB Market/Hawker Centres have been categorised as Market/Food Centres under Hawkers Department /NEA.
- 2 With effect from 2003, stalls in PSA food centre have been categorised as food establishments under Environment Health Department/NEA.

21.3 LICENSED FOOD ESTABLISHMENTS

(End of Period)

	Number						
	1998	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Total	23,416	26,693	26,082	26,523	26,240	26,969	27,811
Food Shops ¹	8,782	10,839	10,828	11,226	11,451	12,000	12,578
Food Stalls ²	12,828	14,125	13,509	13,579	13,039	13,141	13,363
Food Factories ³	1,199	1,135	1,128	1,119	1,154	1,224	1,259
Supermarkets ⁴	191	212	237	257	255	271	288
Private Markets ⁵	416	382	380	342	341	333	323

Source : National Environment Agency

Agri-Food & Veterinary Authority of Singapore

Note : From 2006, food establishments are categorised under food shops, food stalls, food factories, supermarkets and private markets.

- 1 Refers to establishments which are licensed to retail food.
- 2 Refers to smaller compartmentalised units which are housed within a food shop.
- 3 Refers to food processing establishment where food is manufactured, processed, prepared or packed for the purpose of distribution to wholesalers and retailers.

With effect from 2002, licensing of all food factories for distribution comes under the purview of Agri-Food & Veterinary Authority of Singapore.

- 4 Refers to larger stores / premises that sell fresh food such as meat, fish, vegetables and other prepacked foods.
- 5 Refers to private shops and stalls that sell fresh food such as meat, fish, vegetables and other prepacked foods.