



PRESS RELEASE

Key Household Income Trends, 2022

9 February 2023

Median Household Income from Work Grew in Both Nominal and Real Terms

1. Median household income from work grew in both nominal and real terms in 2022, according to the “Key Household Income Trends, 2022” paper released by the Singapore Department of Statistics today.

2. Among resident employed households¹, median monthly household income from work² grew by 6.1 per cent in nominal terms, from \$9,520 in 2021 to \$10,099 in 2022. After adjusting for inflation³, median monthly household income from work rose 0.2 per cent in real terms in 2022. From 2017 to 2022, median monthly household income from work of resident employed households increased 2.9 per cent cumulatively or 0.6 per cent per annum in real terms.

3. Taking into account household size, median monthly household income from work per household member rose from \$3,027 in 2021 to \$3,287 in 2022, an increase of 8.6 per cent in nominal terms or 2.6 per cent in real terms. From 2017 to 2022, median monthly household income per household member grew by 11.9 per cent cumulatively or 2.3 per cent per annum in real terms.

Households Across Most Income Deciles⁴ Saw Increases in Real Average Household Income from Work Per Household Member

4. In 2022, the average household income from work per household member of resident employed households in all income groups rose in nominal terms, with the increases ranging from 5.3 to 15.6 per cent. After adjusting for inflation, households in the first nine deciles saw real income growth of 1.1 to 10.1 per cent, while those in the top decile saw a real income decline of 1.3 per cent.

¹ A resident employed household refers to a household where the household reference person is a Singapore citizen or permanent resident, and with at least one employed person.

² Household income from work includes employer Central Provident Fund (CPF) contributions.

³ The Consumer Price Index (CPI) for All Items for the relevant household income group is used as the deflator to compute real income changes.

⁴ It should be noted that not all households are consistently in the same decile group from one year to the next. For example, a household may move down from a higher decile in a particular year due to the temporary unemployment of a household member, before moving up the deciles when the member resumes employment in the subsequent year. In comparing the performance of any particular decile group over time, it is therefore relevant to note that the comparison may not pertain to the same group of households.

5. Between 2017 and 2022, the average household income from work per household member of resident employed households in the first nine deciles rose 1.5 to 3.0 per cent per annum in real terms, while that in the top decile recorded a decline of 0.4 per cent per annum in real terms.

Households Received More Government Transfers in 2022

6. Resident households (including households with no employed person) received \$5,765 per household member on average from Government schemes in 2022. This was higher than the \$5,257 received in 2021, due to the one-off and transitional measures in 2022, as well as enhanced schemes, to cushion the impact of the GST rate increase and higher inflation on cost of living.

7. Resident households staying in HDB 1- & 2-room flats continued to receive the most Government transfers. In 2022, they received \$12,189 per household member on average from Government schemes, close to double the transfers received by resident households staying in HDB 3-room flats.

Household Income Inequality Before Accounting for Government Transfers and Taxes Continued to Fall in 2022

8. The Gini coefficient⁵ based on household income from work per household member (before Government transfers and taxes) fell to 0.437 in 2022, from 0.444 in 2021.

9. After adjusting for Government transfers and taxes, the Gini coefficient in 2022 fell from 0.437 to 0.378. This reflected the redistributive effect of Government transfers and taxes.

10. The report on “Key Household Income Trends, 2022” is available on the Department of Statistics’ Website at www.singstat.gov.sg.

Singapore Department of Statistics

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⁵ The Gini coefficient is a summary measure of income inequality. It is equal to zero in the case of total income equality and to one in the case of total inequality.