

Household Expenditure Survey 2022/23

Introduction

The Singapore Department of Statistics (DOS) will be conducting the Household Expenditure Survey (HES) 22/23 from November 2022 to November 2023. The HES is conducted once every 5 years and is carried out over a one-year period to cover households' festive and seasonal expenditure. The coming HES will be the 12th in the series of the HES undertaken in Singapore since 1956/57.

The HES collects detailed information on the latest consumption expenditure of persons and households. It also collects information on households' demographic and social-economic characteristics, income and availability of consumer durables. One main objective of the HES is to update the weighting pattern and expenditure basket of goods and services for compilation of the Consumer Price Index (CPI), an indicator of inflation in Singapore. Data collected are also used to support policy planning and review studies on household income and expenditure patterns by government agencies, private sector organisations and the general public.

Approach of HES 22/23

About 13,000 dwellings in Singapore have been selected to participate in the HES 22/23. These dwellings will be divided into 26 batches. Each batch of respondents is required to participate in the survey and complete two weeks of expenditure recording online or through face-to-face interviews with field interviewers.

HES 22/23 Data Items and Their Uses

Data items to be captured in HES 22/23 and their corresponding potential uses are listed in Table 1.

Enhancements Made for HES 22/23

Improved User Interface and User Experience for Submission of Survey and Expenditure Recording

- First introduced in HES 17/18, the HES Online Submission portal provides respondents with the flexibility of responding at their own convenience, without going through a third-party.
- There will be Website Tour to guide respondents on how to navigate the website.

- Mobile survey platform is optimised to facilitate uploading of receipts in place of recording.

Greater Use of Administrative Data Whenever Possible to Reduce Respondent's Burden

- Basic information e.g., name, type of dwelling preloaded and displayed for verification upon authentication also minimise data entry errors.

Improved Methods for Data Processing of Data

- Application of Machine Learning for coding of occupations to the Singapore Standard Occupational Classification reduces manual coding efforts.
- Optical Character Recognition (OCR) will be used to capture details from receipts and handwritten entries of expenditure recording. The conversion to a set of text output improves productivity and cuts down on manpower needed for data entry.

Publicity

To create awareness of the survey, a series of publicity activities for the HES 22/23 will be carried out. These include the announcement of the launch of the HES 22/23, press statements, display of HES posters at strategic public locations such as town councils, community clubs and neighbourhood police posts and more.

Selected households will receive a Notification Package comprising a Notification Letter and an Information Pamphlet by post prior to their respective survey period start dates.

Conclusion

HES 22/23 is an important national survey. The full cooperation and participation of selected households in the HES 22/23 is crucial to ensure the representativeness of the data collected. All Information collected will be kept in the strictest confidence in accordance with the Statistics Act 1973.

Latest data on the HES are available in the *Report on the Household Expenditure Survey 2017/18* and SingStat Table Builder via the following selections:

[Households](#) > [Household Expenditure](#) > [Household Expenditure Survey](#)

Table 1
USES FOR HES 2022/23 DATA ITEMS

Legend : Broad Categories Data Items Uses of Data Items

Demographic and Social	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Name ● Age ● Household Composition ● Household Relationship
	<p>For studies on changes in expenditure patterns of different population groups over time. E.g.,</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Changes in the profile of households over time such as household size, age of household reference person and the impact of such changes on household income and expenditure. 2. Changes in standard of living, income and expenditure patterns of specific segments of the population, such as retirees and young families
Housing-related	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Dwelling Type ● Tenancy ● House Purchase and Mortgage ● House Insurance ● Rent Paid ● Utilities ● Maintenance Cost and Refuse Fees ● Repairs and Renovations ● Additional Properties
	<p>For studies on the profile of home owners and tenants. Data on dwelling type, together with income and expenditure data, are used for analyses on households' consumption expenditure and income of households residing in the different types of housing.</p>
Availability of Consumer Durables	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Audio-Visual Products/ Services ● Household Appliances ● Telecommunication Equipment & Services ● Personal Computer & Related Products ● Motor Vehicles ● Bicycles and Personal Mobility Devices (PMD) ● Others
	<p>Serve as a proxy indicator of households' access to modern day conveniences and standard of living. Such data can be used to assess households' economic well-being over time.</p>
Education and Employment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Current Activity Status ● Highest Qualification Attained ● Level of Education Attending ● Employment Status ● Occupation
	<p>For studies on the consumption patterns of households comprising members with different working profiles and levels of educational attainment, such as:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Household expenditure by employment status, highest qualification attained or occupation of main income earner 2. Number of working persons in the household
Income	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Employment Income ● Self-employment Income ● Other Employment Income ● Rental Income ● Investment Income ● Income from Other Sources
	<p>Support income studies such as:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Sources of income and income share of the different sources for various household income groups 2. Non-work income sources of retiree households
Wealth, Savings and Loans	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Savings in Cash or Deposits ● Investment in Financial Assets ● Holding in Cryptocurrencies ● Education, Credit Card and Other Loans
	<p>Provide an estimate on the level of assets and liabilities of different types of households. When analysed together with income and expenditure data, allow for analyses of the overall economic resources (e.g. drawing on savings to finance their expenditure) and economic well-being of households.</p>
Expenditure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Durable Goods ● Motor vehicles, e.g., Cars, Motorcycles ● Travel ● Day-to-day expenses ● Special Occasions, such as Wedding and Funeral Regular Expenditure
	<p>For analyses of household consumption expenditure patterns and changes over time. The detailed data are also used to update the weighting pattern and basket of goods and services for the compilation of the CPI.</p>

More information is available at the **HES 22/23** website (<https://go.gov.sg/hes2223>).

When the year-long survey commences in November 2022, respondents and the general public may also contact us via **email** (singstat_hes@singstat.gov.sg) or the **HES hotline** (1800-888-2223) for queries and feedback.