

information paper
on
business statistics

**RE-BASING AND REVISION OF THE
QUARTERLY BUSINESS RECEIPTS INDEX
(2008=100)**

Singapore Department of Statistics
June 2009

Papers in this Information Paper Series are intended to inform and clarify conceptual and methodological changes and improvements in official statistics. The views expressed are based on the latest methodological developments in the international statistical community. Statistical estimates presented in the papers are based on new or revised official statistics compiled from the best available data. Comments and suggestions are welcome.

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RE-BASING AND REVISION OF THE QUARTERLY BUSINESS RECEIPTS INDEX (2008 = 100)

I Introduction

1. The Department of Statistics has been compiling the Quarterly Business Receipts Index (QBRI) since 1998 to monitor the performance of the Services Sector on a quarterly basis.

2. The QBRI is re-based at regular intervals to reflect changes in the structure of the Services Sector. The current QBRI series is based on year 2002 and will be updated to base year 2008. During the re-basing exercise, the coverage and weights are updated and the methodology is reviewed.

3. This information paper provides details on the 2008-based QBRI's industry coverage, data sources, sampling methodology and weights.

4. The list of industries covered in the QBRI is provided in Annex 1, while the 2008-based QBRI series at major services industry level are provided in Annex 2.

II Profile of the Services Sector

5. The Services Sector industry groups covered by the QBRI are: Transport and Storage, Information and Communications, Financial and Insurance, Real Estate, Rental and Leasing, Business Services, Education, Health and Social Work, and Other Services Activities. The QBRI does not cover wholesale and retail trade, hotels and restaurants.

6. The QBRI services industries comprised about 77,000 establishments in year 2007¹, employed 809,000 workers and generated \$381 billion of operating receipts. These industries contributed \$128 billion in terms of Gross Domestic Product (at current market prices) in year 2008².

III What QBRI Measures

7. The QBRI measures the short-term changes in the amount of business or operating receipts on a quarterly basis.

8. Business or operating receipts is the income earned from business operations, i.e. includes income from services rendered, sale of goods, commission fees, and rental of premises and machinery and equipment. For local branches of foreign airlines and foreign shipping lines, operating receipts refers to the reimbursement from their head offices for the operating expenditure they incurred.

IV The 2008-based QBRI Series

Expanded Coverage

9. The scope of the 2008-based QBRI series has been expanded to include non-profit organisations³. In terms of industry coverage, firms engaged in community, social and personal services as well as real estate developers, which were previously excluded in the QBRI, are now included in the 2008-based QBRI series.

¹ Annual Survey of Services, 2007 (preliminary)

² Economic Survey of Singapore, 2008

³ Non-profit organisations are entities created for the purpose of producing goods and services whose status does not permit them to be a source of income, profit or other financial gain for the units that establish, control or finance them. (Source: System of National Accounts 1993)

Data Sources

10. Data on business receipts are primarily sourced from the Department's Quarterly Survey of Services (QSS) and Survey of Quarterly National Income Estimates.

11. Business receipts of financial and insurance services are compiled through surveys conducted by the Monetary Authority of Singapore's (MAS) Research and Statistics Unit.

12. In line with international practices to optimise administrative data for statistical compilations so as to reduce reporting burden of firms, the Department has incorporated administrative data in the compilation of the QBRI.

13. In total, the 2008-based QBRI is compiled based on the survey data and administrative records of more than 7,000 enterprises. This is a significant increase from the 2,700 enterprises covered in the 2002-based QBRI series.

Sampling Methodology

14. The sample frame of the QSS is obtained from the Department's Commercial Establishment Information System (CEIS), which contains basic information of enterprises and establishments registered in Singapore. The data in the CEIS are primarily sourced from the registration records of the Accounting and Corporate Regulatory Authority (ACRA), which is the agency in charge of the registration of companies and businesses in Singapore.

15. QSS uses a stratified random sampling design, similar to that adopted by the Annual Survey of Services⁴. Lavallée and Hidioglou (1988) algorithm is applied within each industry. Coefficient of variation is set at 5 per cent for estimation at 2-digit level of the Singapore Standard Industrial Classification (SSIC)⁵.

Weights

16. The weights for the 2008-based QBRI series are based on the value added contributions of the respective industries, using data from the Annual Survey of Services 2007. This is in line with recommendations from OECD’s Compilation Manual for an Index of Services Production (2007) to use value added as weighting variable. The 2002-based QBRI was weighted using the operating receipts contributions of the respective industries.

17. The weights of each of the QBRI industry groups are shown in Table 1.

Table 1: Weighting Pattern of the Services Sector, 2008=100

SERVICES SECTOR (EXCLUDING COMMERCE)	2008=100 *
Total	10,000
Transport and Storage	2,408
Information and Communications	935
Financial and Insurance	2,461
Real Estate, Rental and Leasing	1,209
Business Services	1,680
Education	451
Health and Social Work	459
Other Services Activities	397

* Weights for the 2008-based QBRI are compiled using 2007 value added data, the latest available.

⁴ Statistics Singapore Newsletter (March 2008) article on “Improving Sampling Efficiency for the Annual Survey of Services”

⁵ Enterprises in Singapore are classified using the Singapore Standard Industrial Classification (SSIC) according to their principal activity. The SSIC adopts the basic framework of the International Standard Industrial Classification (ISIC).

V QBRI Computation

18. The QBRI at detailed industry level is computed by dividing the industry's total business receipts for that quarter by the industry's average quarterly receipts in base year 2008. The overall QBRI is then subsequently computed by combining the indices at the SSIC 5-digit level using the respective industry weights, which represents the industry's relative importance in the overall services sector. The computation can be presented mathematically as follows:

$$I_{on} = \frac{\sum_i W_i \frac{V_{in}}{V_{io}}}{\sum_i W_i} \times 100$$

where I_{on} is the index for the current period n compared to the base period o ;

V_{in} denotes the total business receipts of the i^{th} industry during the current period n ;

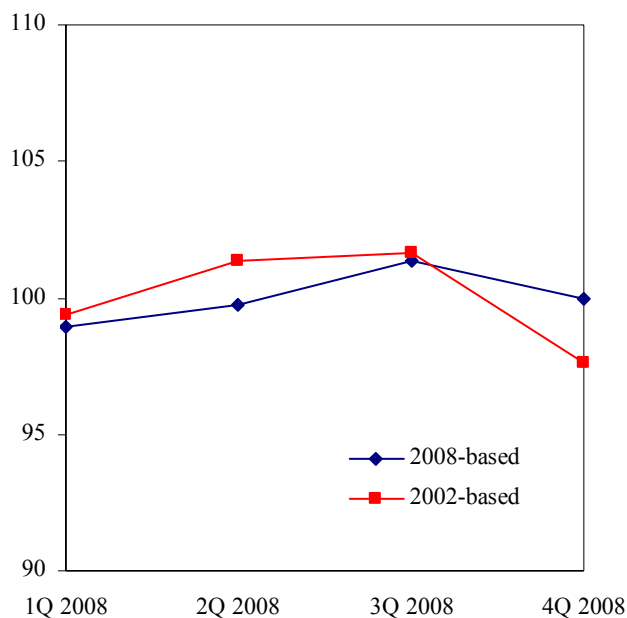
V_{io} denotes the total business receipts of the i^{th} industry during the base period o ;

W_i is the weight of the i^{th} industry, which represents its share of value added with respect to the overall services sector.

VI Comparison of 2002-based and 2008-based QBRI Series

19. The 2002-based and 2008-based QBRI are not strictly comparable due to the difference in coverage. However, the two series exhibit similar trends.

Chart 1: 2002-based and 2008-based QBRI Series, Overall Services



VII Data Dissemination

20. The 2008-based series will be released with effect from the 1Q2009 report. The quarterly report is available at the Department's website (<http://www.singstat.gov.sg>). The QBRI is also published in the Monthly Digest of Statistics and Yearbook of Statistics. Subscribers to the Department's Singstat Time Series (STS) may download the series electronically.

Singapore Department of Statistics

June 2009

References

1. *Press releases of Quarterly Business Receipts Index*, available at SingStat website (<http://www.singstat.gov.sg/pubn/business.html#qbri>)
2. *Singapore Standard Industrial Classification 2005*, available at SingStat website (<http://www.singstat.gov.sg/statsres/ssc/ssic/ssic2005.pdf>)
3. *Statistics Singapore Newsletter (March 2008): Improving Sampling Efficiency for the Annual Survey of Services*, available at SingStat website (<http://www.singstat.gov.sg/pubn/ssn/archive/ssnmar2008.pdf>)
4. *The Quarterly Business Receipts Index: A Technical Note on the Re-basing*, available at SingStat website (<http://www.singstat.gov.sg/pubn/papers/economy/ip-b18.pdf>)

Industries Covered in the Quarterly Business Receipts Index

SSIC 2005	Description of Activity
	TOTAL SERVICES EXCLUDING WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE, HOTELS AND RESTAURANTS
52-56	TRANSPORT AND STORAGE
52101	Railroad services
52102	Mass rapid transit systems (including light rail)
52211	Public bus services
52212	Chartered bus services
52213	School bus services
52214	Taxi services
52215	Trishaw services
52219	Passenger transport by road nec (eg private cars for hire with operator)
52220	Aerial cableways (including cable car services)
52231	Freight transport by road
52232	Moving services (eg delivery services, baggage transfer services, furniture moving services)
52239	Freight transport by road nec (eg rental and leasing of lorries and trucks with operator)
52300	Transport via pipelines
55201	Carpark management and operation services
55209	Supporting services to land transport nec
53101	Shipping lines
53102	Branches of foreign shipping lines
53103	Sight-seeing cruise services
53109	Sea and coastal water transport nec
53201	Barge, tugboat and sampan services
53202	Ferry services
53203	Harbour cruise services
53209	Inland water transport nec
55310	Ship brokering services
55321	Classification societies
55322	Marine surveying services other than classification societies
55391	Representative offices of foreign shipping lines
55392	Shipping agencies (freight)
55393	Port operation services
55394	Stevedoring and lighterage services
55395	Salvaging of distressed vessels and cargo
55396	Ship and boat leasing with operator (including chartering)
55397	Ship management services
55399	Other supporting services to water transport nec
54001	Airlines
54002	Branches of foreign airlines (passengers)
54003	Branches of foreign airlines (freight)
54009	Air transport services nec
55401	Representative offices of foreign airlines

SSIC 2005	Description of Activity
55402	Airline agencies (freight)
55403	Airport operation services
55404	Airport terminal services
55405	Aircraft chartering with operator
55409	Supporting services to air transport nec
55101	General warehousing
55102	Cold storage
55103	Storage for class cargo
55104	Value added logistics providers
55109	Other specialised storage
55511	Taxi booking services
55519	Services allied to transport of passengers nec
55521	Freight forwarding packing and crating services
55522	Cargo surveying services
55523	Container services (excluding rental of containers)
55524	Crane services
55529	Services allied to transport of goods nec
55901	Towing services
55909	Other services allied to transport nec
56010	National post activities (eg postal services)
56020	Courier activities other than national post activities
60-63	INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS
60011	Publishing of books, brochures, musical books and other publications
60012	Publishing of newspapers
60013	Publishing of journals, periodicals and magazines
60014	Publishing of directories and databases
60019	Publishing activities nec
60021	Publishing of computer games
60029	Publishing of other software
61111	Motion picture/video production
61112	Motion picture/video distribution
61113	Video filming and recording services (including video-taping of events)
61114	Motion picture/video/television post-production services
61115	Services allied to motion picture/video production and distribution
61121	Cinema services
61129	Motion picture projection nec
61201	Television programme production
61202	Television programme distribution
61203	Radio programme production and distribution
61209	Other radio and television related activities
61300	Sound recording production and distribution
61401	Radio broadcasting
61402	Television broadcasting (including cable satellite and terrestrial television)
62011	Fixed-line services (including local/international PSTN and leased circuits)
62012	Mobile cellular and radio paging services
62013	Satellite uplink and downlink services
62021	Internet access providers (including ISPs)

SSIC 2005	Description of Activity
62022	Third party telecommunications/value-added network operators
62023	Cyber 'cafes'
62029	Data communications services nec
62090	Telecommunications nec
63111	Hardware consultancy (including systems consultancy)
63112	Software consultancy
63121	Development of e-commerce applications
63122	Development of computer games
63129	Development of other software (including software maintenance)
63131	Web hosting services
63132	Computer time-sharing services
63133	Data entry services
63139	Data processing hosting and related activities nec (eg data tabulation services, application service providers, data storage, data hosting)
63191	Computer facilities management services
63192	Computer systems integration services
63199	Other IT and related activities nec (eg disaster recovery services)
63901	News agency activities
63902	Libraries and archives
63903	Web search portals
63909	Other information service activities nec
65-66	FINANCIAL AND INSURANCE
65121	Full banks
65122	Wholesale banks
65123	Offshore banks
65131	Full banks
65132	Wholesale banks
65133	Offshore banks
65141	Domestic Banking Units of merchant banks
65142	Asian Currency Units of merchant banks
65150	Finance companies (with deposit taking functions)
65923	Credit card services
65934	Trusts and foundations
65941	Stock, share and bond brokers and dealers
65942	Foreign exchange brokers and dealers
65944	Commodity brokers and dealers
65949	Security dealing activities nec
65951	Venture capital companies
65952	Asset/Portfolio management
65953	Property fund management (including REITs)
65954	Investment advisory services
65959	Fund management activities nec
65961	Stock exchange
65962	Exchange for commodity futures contracts
65969	Administration of financial markets nec
66101	Life insurance
66102	General insurance
66103	Composite insurance

SSIC 2005	Description of Activity
66201	Life reinsurance
66202	General reinsurance
66203	Composite reinsurance
66300	Captive insurance
70-71	REAL ESTATE, RENTAL AND LEASING
70101	Real estate developers
70102	Operating of service apartments
70103	Letting and operating of self-owned real estate except hotels, lodging and boarding houses
70104	Letting and operating of foodcourt and eating houses
70109	Real estate activities with own or leased property nec
70210	Real estate agents (including appraisers, valuers and rental service)
70221	Town councils
70222	Residential real estate management other than town councils
70223	Commercial and industrial real estate management
70224	Maintenance of swimming pools, spas and fountains
70229	Real estate activities on a fee or contract basis nec
71111	Renting of private cars without operator
71119	Renting of land transport equipment without operator nec (including lorries, trucks, caravans, scooters, containers, trailers)
71120	Renting of water transport equipment without operator (eg commercial boats and ships without operator)
71130	Renting of air transport equipment without operator (eg airplanes without operator)
71210	Renting of construction and civil engineering machinery and equipment
71221	Renting of computers and peripheral equipment
71222	Renting of office machinery and equipment
71291	Renting of industrial machinery and equipment
71299	Other renting of other machinery and equipment nec (eg agricultural machinery and equipment)
71301	Renting and leasing of furniture, utensils and other household equipment
71302	Renting and leasing of radio and television sets, and sound reproducing and recording equipment
71303	Renting of video tapes and the like
71304	Renting of attire (eg costumes)
71309	Renting of personal and household goods nec (eg books, pleasure boats, bicycles)
71400	Leasing of non-financial intangible assets (eg patents, trademarks, brand names etc)
73-78	BUSINESS SERVICES
73110	Legal activities
73121	Accounting and auditing services (including taxation advisory services)
73122	Book-keeping services
73211	Business representative offices
73212	Head/Regional offices of enterprises operating abroad
73221	Business management and consultancy services

SSIC 2005	Description of Activity
73222	Management services for healthcare organisations
73223	Hotel management services
73224	Human resources consultancy services
73225	Public relations services
73226	Agrotechnology consultancy services
73229	Business management and consultancy services nec
74111	Architectural services
74112	Landscape design and architecture
74113	Quantity surveying and building appraisal services (including land surveying)
74121	General building engineering services
74122	Process plant engineering services
74123	Industrial plant engineering services
74124	Environmental engineering services
74125	Infrastructure engineering services
74126	Petroleum mining and prospecting services (including offshore exploration services)
74129	Engineering activities nec
74211	Electronics-related industrial design services
74212	Transport-related industrial design services
74213	Furniture design services
74219	Other industrial design services
74220	Technical testing and analysis services (eg quality control)
75101	Research and experimental development on life sciences
75102	Research and experimental development on electronics
75103	Research and experimental development on chemicals
75104	Research and experimental development on engineering
75105	Research and experimental development on IT
75109	Research and experimental development on other natural sciences
75200	Research and experimental development on social sciences and humanities
76110	Advertising activities
76121	IT market research
76129	Market research and public opinion polling nec
76211	Photo finishing services (eg developing and processing of photographic films)
76219	Photographic activities nec (including micro-image recording services)
76221	Interior design services
76222	Art and graphic design services
76223	Fashion designing services (including accessories)
76291	Translation services
76292	Arbitration services
76293	Clinical trial management services
76299	Other professional scientific and technical activities nec
76300	Veterinary activities
78111	IT manpower contracting services
78112	Labour contracting services (excluding IT manpower)
78113	Maid agencies
78114	Employment agencies (excluding maid agencies)
78115	Executive search services
78119	Labour recruitment and provision of personnel nec

SSIC 2005	Description of Activity
78120	Management of human resources functions
78211	Travel agencies and tour operators
78212	Ticketing agencies (including airline, tour bus and cruise ship)
78290	Other reservation activities (eg timeshare, on-line hotel reservation services, reservation of tickets for performances etc)
78301	Detective agencies
78302	Security services
78309	Investigation and security activities nec
78411	Building-cleaning services
78412	Pest control services not in connection with agriculture
78419	Building-cleaning activities nec (eg janitorial service)
78420	Landscape care and maintenance service activities (eg garden installation and maintenance, grasscutting, tree felling and pruning)
78511	Office administrative services on a fee or contract basis (eg billing and record keeping)
78512	Call centres
78521	Direct mailing services
78522	Stenographic and secretarial services
78523	Duplicating and photo-copying services
78524	Answering services
78529	Direct mailing, stenographic and duplicating activities nec
78911	Debt collection services
78912	Credit rating agencies
78921	Exhibition organisers
78922	Convention/Conference organisers
78923	Event/Concert organisers
78924	Exhibition stand designers and contractors
78991	Auction-sale services
78992	Packaging activities
78993	Agents for artistes, athletes, models and other performers
78999	Other support activities nec
80	EDUCATION
80101	Nurseries and kindergartens
80102	Primary and secondary schools
80103	Junior colleges and pre-university centres
80104	Foreign system schools
80105	Schools for the handicapped and educationally sub-normal
80201	Technical and vocational training and education services (eg Institute of Technical Education)
80202	Commercial schools (including correspondence schools)
80203	Information technology education and training institutions (eg computer training schools)
80204	Specialised trade schools (eg Singapore Hotel Association Training and Education Centre (SHATEC))
80209	Technical, vocational and commercial education nec (eg Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts)
80301	Polytechnics

SSIC 2005	Description of Activity
80302	Universities
80303	Teachers' training institute
80401	Professional and management development training institutions
80402	Music and dancing schools
80403	Language schools
80404	Driving schools
80405	Dressmaking and embroidery schools
80406	Tuition schools
80409	Other education nec (eg Outward Bound School, National Community Leadership Institute)
80501	Agencies of foreign educational institutions
80502	Distance learning infrastructure providers
80509	Supporting services to education nec (eg tuition agencies)
85-86	HEALTH AND SOCIAL WORK
85010	Hospitals
85021	Clinics and other general medical services (Western)
85022	Clinics and other general medical services (Non-Western)
85023	Specialised medical services (including day surgical centres)
85024	Dental services
85091	Nursing and personal care facilities (including hospices)
85092	Medical laboratories
85093	Radiology services
85094	Medical evacuation/travel medicine services
85095	Home healthcare services
85099	Other medical activities nec
86011	Homes for the elderly
86019	Other social activities with accommodation (eg children's homes)
86021	Child care services for pre-school children
86022	Child care services for school-going children (eg before- and after-school care centres, student care centres)
86023	Social services for children and youths (eg youth outreach services)
86024	Social services for families (eg family service centres)
86025	Social services for the elderly (eg befriender services, meal services drop-in centres)
86026	Social services for persons with disabilities (eg day care centres for persons with disabilities, rehabilitation services)
86027	Job training and vocational rehabilitation services
86029	Social activities without accommodation nec
86031	Community centres/clubs (including People's Association) and community development councils
86032	Residents' committees and residential associations (including citizens' consultative committees)
86039	Community activities nec
90-93	OTHER SERVICES ACTIVITIES
90101	Theatrical producers except motion picture
90102	Theatres and concert halls
90103	Operas, wayang and puppet shows

SSIC 2005	Description of Activity
90104	Orchestras and dance bands
90109	Dramatic arts, music and other arts activities nec (eg scenery, lighting and other equipment services)
90211	Museums
90212	Art galleries
90219	Museums activities and preservation of historical sites and buildings nec
90220	Botanical and zoological gardens and nature reserves activities
90291	Cultural villages
90299	Other cultural activities nec
90301	Country and golf clubs
90302	Sports clubs/associations except country and golf clubs
90303	Martial arts and pugilistic arts institutions
90304	Fitness centres and gymnasiums
90309	Sports activities nec (including bowling alleys, tennis centres, billiard halls, football stadia)
90901	Amusement parks/centres
90902	Cabarets, night clubs, discotheques and karaoke lounges
90903	Recreation clubs/associations except country and golf clubs
90904	Horse-racing and other betting activities
90909	Other amusement and recreation activities nec (including recreation parks/beaches and recreational fishing)
91110	Activities of business and employers' organisations
91120	Activities of professional organisations (eg medical associations, The Law Society of Singapore, The Institute of Certified Public Accountants of Singapore)
91200	Activities of trade unions
91911	Churches
91912	Mosques
91913	Buddhist/Taoist temples
91914	Hindu temples
91919	Activities of religious organisations nec
91920	Activities of political organisations
91991	Clan associations (huay kuans)
91992	Clubs and societies (including scouts/girl guides associations, book clubs and photo, music, art and craft clubs)
91993	Students' bodies and related associations (eg Parent-Teacher associations, Old Boys' associations)
91999	Activities of other membership organisations nec
92101	Repair and maintenance of car batteries and tyres
92102	Car washing and related services
92103	Vehicle inspection and valuation services
92109	Repair and maintenance of motor vehicles nec
92201	Repair and maintenance of computer hardware, data processing equipment and computer peripherals
92202	Repair and maintenance of office machinery and equipment (eg accounting and duplicating machines, calculators and typewriters)
92301	Repair of bicycles and tricycles
92302	Repair of footwear and leather goods

SSIC 2005	Description of Activity
92303	Repair of watches and clocks
92304	Repair of jewellery
92305	Repair of audio and video equipment (eg television sets, radios, tape recorders and players)
92306	Repair of domestic electrical/electronic appliances except audio and video equipment
92307	Repair and restoration of cabinets, furniture, upholstery, window shades and other fixtures
92309	Repair of personal and household goods nec (eg cameras, musical instruments)
93011	Laundry and dry cleaning services except coin laundries
93012	Coin laundries
93019	Washing and (dry-) cleaning of textile and fur products nec
93021	Men's hairdressing shops
93022	Ladies' hairdressing shops (including unisex salons)
93023	Beauty salons and spas (including slimming centres)
93024	Manicure and pedicure services
93029	Hairdressing and other beauty treatment nec
93030	Funeral and related activities (including embalming, cremating and cemetery services, upkeep of cemeteries)
93040	Wedding and related activities (including bridal studios and wedding planners)
93091	Friendship, match-making and dating services
93092	Social escort services
93093	Massage parlours and foot reflexology (including traditional therapy)
93094	Astrology, palmistry and other fortune telling services
93095	Training of pets and animals
93096	Care services for pets and animals
93099	Other service activities nec

TABLE 1
BUSINESS RECEIPTS INDEX
(2008 = 100)

Activities	Total Services ¹	Transport and Storage ²	Information and Communications	Financial and Insurance	Real Estate, Rental and Leasing	Business Services ³	Education	Health and Social Work	Other Services Activities
Weights	10,000	2,408	935	2,461	1,209	1,680	451	459	397
Period	At Current Prices								
2008	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
2008 I	99.0	95.9	98.6	103.2	93.8	96.2	119.1	99.8	96.0
II	99.7	98.4	98.8	103.0	101.2	101.7	82.9	96.5	99.5
III	101.3	105.6	99.5	98.7	103.0	100.6	96.0	100.9	100.8
IV	100.0	100.2	103.1	95.0	102.0	101.6	102.0	102.8	103.7

¹ Excluding wholesale and retail trade, hotels and restaurants

² Comprises land transport, water transport, air transport, warehousing & support activities for transport and post & courier activities

³ Comprises professional, scientific & technical and administrative & support service activities, e.g. legal services, accounting activities, management and management consultancy services, architectural, engineering and technical services, employment agencies and travel agencies

TABLE 2
PERCENTAGE CHANGE IN BUSINESS RECEIPTS INDEX OVER PREVIOUS QUARTER
(2008 = 100)

Activities	Total Services ¹	Transport and Storage ²	Information and Communications	Financial and Insurance	Real Estate, Rental and Leasing	Business Services ³	Education	Health and Social Work	Other Services Activities	
Weights	10,000	2,408	935	2,461	1,209	1,680	451	459	397	
Period	At Current Prices									
2008	II	0.8	2.6	0.2	-0.2	8.0	5.6	-30.4	-3.3	3.7
	III	1.6	7.3	0.7	-4.2	1.8	-1.1	15.7	4.5	1.3
	IV	-1.3	-5.1	3.6	-3.8	-1.0	1.0	6.3	1.9	2.9

¹ Excluding wholesale and retail trade, hotels and restaurants

² Comprises land transport, water transport, air transport, warehousing & support activities for transport and post & courier activities

³ Comprises professional, scientific & technical and administrative & support service activities, e.g. legal services, accounting activities, management and management consultancy services, architectural, engineering and technical services, employment agencies and travel agencies

SINGAPORE DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS INFORMATION DISSEMINATION SERVICES

Statistics Singapore Website

The Statistics Singapore Website was launched by the Singapore Department of Statistics (DOS) in January 1995. Internet users can access the website by connecting to:

<http://www.singstat.gov.sg>

Key Singapore statistics are available via the following sections:

- ◆ Statistics
which provide key data on Singapore's economy and population.
- ◆ News
which cover the Performance of Singapore Economy, the Consumer Price Index, the Wholesale Trade Index, Business Receipts Index for Service Industries, Retail Sales and Catering Trade Indices, Manufacturing Performance, Singapore External Trade, Tourism Sector Performance, Real Estate Information and Employment Situation.
- ◆ Publications - Papers & Analyses
which provide papers on economic and social topics.
- ◆ Themes
which presents official statistics compiled by DOS and the Research and Statistics Units in the various ministries and statutory boards according to themes. Within each theme, relevant statistics and related press releases, publications and references are provided.

Statistical resources are available via:

- ◆ Publication Catalogue
which lists the latest editions of publications released by the Singapore Department of Statistics at <http://www.singstat.gov.sg/pubn/catalog.html>. All softcopy DOS publications are available for free downloading.
- ◆ Advance Release Calendar
which covers key Singapore economic indicators.

The website also provides a convenient gateway to international statistical websites under the "Statistical Resources" section:

- ◆ Guide to International Statistics
which covers international databases, classifications and links, and statistical terms and definitions.
- ◆ IMF Dissemination Standards Bulletin Board
which provides metadata about Singapore's key indicators in the real, fiscal, financial and external sectors, including dissemination practices and information about pre-release access of current indicators.

SingStat Express

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SINGAPORE DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS

INFORMATION DISSEMINATION SERVICES (continued)

Really Simple Syndication

Really Simple Syndication (RSS) is an easy way to stay updated on the latest statistical news released via the Statistics Singapore Website. The SingStat RSS feed delivers statistical news highlights and hyperlinks to the source documents whenever the updates are posted. More information are available at <http://www.singstat.gov.sg/svcs/rss.html>.

Data on SMS

Data on SMS is a free mobile service for local data users to receive the latest data for key indicators via SMS. Simply key **data** and SMS to 74688 (or SGOVT) for the service. More information is available at <http://www.singstat.gov.sg/svcs/dataonsms.html>.

Key Singapore Data on Palm OS Devices

The pdf version of "Singapore in Brief 2009" for Palm OS devices is available for downloading from the Statistics Singapore Website.

SingStat Time Series (STS) Online System

The SingStat Time Series (STS) Online System is an internet-accessible time series retrieval system. The STS includes more than 7,000 historical data series on Singapore society and economy from several domains, including national accounts, balance of payments, investments, finance, labour, prices, business expectations, trade, manufacturing, tourism, demography, health and education.

Besides the usual monthly, quarterly and annual data, STS includes also seasonally adjusted data series for key economic indicators providing for a better analysis and understanding of current economic trends. The STS also offers:

- Web-based search engine that is easy to use;
- "Bookmark" features that enable users to save and organise links in their personalised portals.

Subscription to STS is opened to local and overseas users. More information on STS are available via Statistics Singapore Website. For enquiries, please contact our Department at **Tel : 6332-7119**.

E-survey

The E-survey enables business organisations to complete and submit their survey forms through the internet. Using secured encryption protocols, the E-survey ensures that the information transmitted through the net is secured and protected. The system features online helps and validation checks to assist respondents in completing their survey forms. With the E-survey, respondents do away with the tedious paper work and manual tasks of mailing or faxing their survey returns to the Department.

Statistical Enquiries and Feedback

If you have any statistical enquiries or comment or suggestions on our statistical publications and electronic services, you are welcomed to :

- ◆ E-mail us at **info@singstat.gov.sg**
- ◆ Fax to us at **(65) 6332-7689**
- ◆ Call us at **1800-3238118* (local callers)**
(65) 6332-7738 (overseas callers)

* Calls from mobile telephone lines to 1800 local toll free number may be subject to mobile airtime charges as imposed by the relevant mobile service provider.