

information paper  
on  
business statistics

**RE-BASING OF THE RETAIL SALES AND  
FOOD & BEVERAGE SERVICES INDICES  
(2010 = 100)**

Singapore Department of Statistics  
March 2011

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.

© Singapore Department of Statistics. All rights reserved.

Please direct enquiries on this information paper to:

Retail Sales and Food & Beverage Services

Indices Section

Singapore Department of Statistics

Tel : 6332 6125

Email : [info@singstat.gov.sg](mailto:info@singstat.gov.sg)

Application for the copyright owner's written permission to reproduce any part of this publication should be addressed to the Chief Statistician and emailed to the above address.

# **RE-BASING OF THE RETAIL SALES AND FOOD & BEVERAGE SERVICES INDICES (2010 = 100)**

## **I Introduction**

1. Since 1985, the Department of Statistics has been compiling the Retail Sales Index (RSI) and Food & Beverage Services Index<sup>1</sup> (FSI) to measure the short-term performance of retail trade and food & beverage (F&B) services industries. Retail trade and F&B services are two important industries in the services sector. Retail establishments refer to those selling merchandise directly to the consumers. F&B services establishments are those selling prepared food and drinks for in-premises consumption or on a take-away basis. Together, these two industries contributed 3.1 per cent of nominal GDP in 2010.

2. The RSI and FSI are re-based at regular intervals to reflect changes in the structure of retail trade and F&B services industries. During the re-basing exercise, the methodology, coverage and weights are reviewed and updated. The re-basing of the RSI and FSI series from reference year 2005 to 2010 represents the fifth re-basing of the series.

3. This information paper presents the re-basing of the RSI and FSI to reference year 2010. Details on the data sources, methodology adopted, the formula used for index computation and a comparison of the re-based series and old series are provided. In addition, detailed weights for activities in retail and F&B services industries and the re-based series from January 2010 to December 2010 are attached in the Annexes.

---

<sup>1</sup> Previously known as the Catering Trade Index (CTI)

## **II What RSI and FSI Measure**

4. The RSI and FSI measure the monthly movements in the retail and F&B sales recorded by the respective establishments. The two indices are presented at both current prices and constant prices. The indices at current prices measure the changes of sales values which can result from changes in both price and quantity. By removing the price effect, the indices at constant prices measure the changes in the volume of economic activity.

5. Seasonal effects are observed in both the RSI and FSI as there are usually intra-year periodic variations that repeat during the fixed period of time every year. For example, the retail sales are normally higher in the months of December and January compared with other months of the year due to festive purchases. To better reflect the underlying trend of the monthly sales, both indices are seasonally adjusted to remove the seasonal effects.

## **III Data Sources**

6. The data used for the compilation of the RSI and FSI are primarily obtained from the Monthly Retail Sales Survey (RSS) and Monthly Food & Beverage Services Survey (FSS) conducted by the Department. The RSS covers retail establishments in the two-digit division “47” of the Singapore Standard Industrial Classification 2010 (SSIC 2010) while the FSS covers F&B services establishments in the two-digit division “56”. Hawkers and stall-holders (selling cooked food and prepared drinks) which do not register with the Accounting & Corporate Regulatory Authority (ACRA) are not considered F&B services establishments.

7. For the computation of the indices, administrative records from the Land Transport Authority (LTA) are also used for the estimation of the sales of motor vehicles and motorcycles & scooters.

#### IV Index Computation

8. The sales indices at current prices are computed from the sales value using the following formula:

$$I_{0n} = \sum_i W_i \frac{V_{in}}{V_{i0}} \times 100$$

where

$I_{0n}$  is the index of the overall retail/F&B services industry for the current period  $n$  compared to the base period 0 (the base year is 2010);

$V_{in}$  is the sales value of  $i^{\text{th}}$  industry during the current period  $n$ ;

$V_{i0}$  is the sales value of  $i^{\text{th}}$  industry during the base period 0;

$W_i$  is the normalised weight assigned to the  $i^{\text{th}}$  industry, i.e. its share in terms of retail/F&B sales with respect to the overall retail/F&B services industry;

$\sum_i$  is the summation of all industries in the retail/F&B services industry.

9. In other words, the overall sales index at current prices is a weighted average of indices from detailed industry level. To derive the sales index at detailed industry level, the monthly sales for that industry is divided by the average monthly sales for the same industry in 2010 (base year). The overall RSI/FSI is then computed by combining the sales indices of the detailed industries, using the weights to measure each industry's relative importance in the overall retail/F&B services industry.

10. To derive the indices at constant prices, the sales indices at current prices at detailed industry level are first deflated by appropriate price indices. These component indices at constant prices are then weighted and aggregated to derive the overall indices at constant prices.

## **V The Re-based RSI and FSI Series**

### Sampling Methodology

11. The establishments covered in RSS and FSS are selected based on stratified random sampling. The sampling frame 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.

12. The sampling frame was first stratified by industry groups. Each industry group was then further stratified into three size strata (large, medium and small) by size of operating receipts. All establishments in the large size stratum were selected with certainty whereas the establishments in the medium and small size strata were selected randomly. Lavallée-Hidiroglou (1988) algorithm was applied within each industry group to determine the size stratum boundaries and the optimal sample size for a required level of precision.

13. The new RSS and FSS sample comprise about 3,600 retail establishments and 1,200 F&B services establishments respectively.

### Weighting Pattern

14. The weight for each industry reflects its relative importance in the overall retail trade or F&B services sector. The weights are computed based on the retail/F&B sales of the respective industries as obtained from the Annual Surveys of Retail Trade/Food & Beverage Services for reference year 2009.

15. Table 1 compares the old and new weights for RSI categories. The weights of “Department Stores”, “Wearing Apparel & Footwear”, “Watches & Jewellery” and “Telecommunications Apparatus & Computers” have increased. These four categories accounted for 36.0 per cent of total weights in the retail trade sector for the 2010-based series, compared to 28.7 per cent in the previous base year. On the other hand, the weight of “Motor Vehicles” has decreased from 34.5 per cent in 2005-based series to 24.7 per cent in 2010-based series.

16. Table 2 presents the old and new weights for FSI categories. The weights of “Restaurants” and “Other Eating Places” have increased in the 2010-based series. Correspondingly, the relative importance of “Fast Food Outlets” and “Food Caterers” decreased during the same period.

Table 1: Weighting Pattern of RSI in 2005-Based & 2010-Based Series

<b>RSI Categories</b>	2005=100	2010=100
<b>Total</b>	<b>10,000</b>	<b>10,000</b>
1 Department Stores	1,322	1,525
2 Supermarkets	411	453
3 Provision & Sundry Shops	536	475
4 Food & Beverages	200	201
5 Motor Vehicles	3,449	2,465
6 Petrol Service Stations	456	508
7 Medical Goods & Toiletries	332	415
8 Wearing Apparel & Footwear	574	746
9 Furniture & Household Equipment	755	817
10 Recreational Goods	190	184
11 Watches & Jewellery	607	770
12 Telecommunications Apparatus & Computers	366	556
13 Optical Goods & Books	344	367
12 Others	458	518

Table 2: Weighting Pattern of FSI in 2005-Based & 2010-Based Series

<b>FSI Categories</b>		2005=100	2010=100
<b>Total</b>		<b>1,000</b>	<b>1,000</b>
1	Restaurants	360	391
2	Fast Food Outlets	136	126
3	Food Caterers	148	114
4	Other Eating Places	356	369

## VI Linking of Historical Series

17. To facilitate the time series analysis of the RSI and FSI series, the 2005-based old series was linked to the 2010-based new series using this approach:

Linked 2010-based index = 2005-based index  $\times$  Linking Coefficient

where the Linking Coefficient is the ratio of the average value of the 2010-based index in 2010 to the average value of the 2005-based index in 2010.

*Example:*

*Average value of the 2005-based index in 2010* = 140.5

*Average value of the 2010-based index in 2010* = 100

*Linking Coefficient* = 100/140.5

*2005-based index in Jan 2009* = 155.3

*2010-based index in Jan 2009* = 155.3  $\times$  (100/140.5) = 110.5



## VII Comparison of Old and New Series

18. Chart 1 compares the overall RSI at current prices of the 2005-based and 2010-based series during January to December 2010. The old and new series exhibit similar trend. However, the new series shows lower turnover from January to June 2010 and higher turnover from July to December 2010 compared to the old series.

19. Chart 2 shows the overall FSI for new series (base year 2010) and old series (base year 2005). The two series also present similar trend.

Chart 1: Retail Sales Index at Current Prices (2010=100)

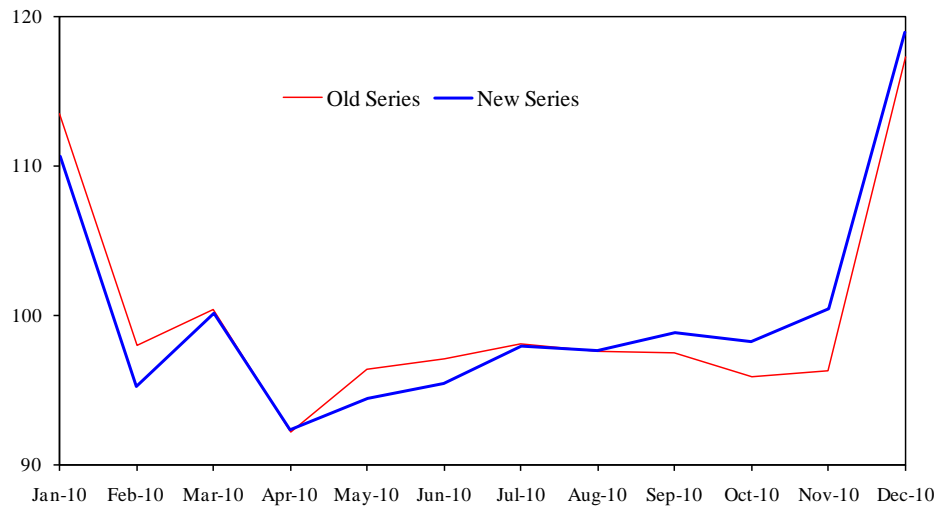
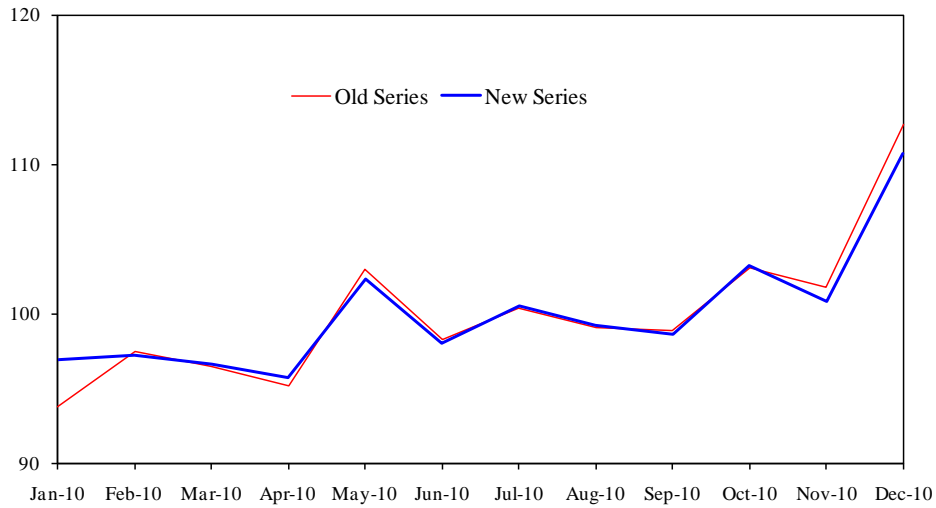


Chart 2: Food & Beverage Services Index at Current Prices (2010=100)



## VIII Data Dissemination

20. The 2010-based series will be released with effect from January 2011 report. The monthly report is available at the Department's website (<http://www.singstat.gov.sg>). The RSI and FSI are 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

Mar 2011

## References

1. *Lavallée, P. & Hidiroglou, M. (1988). On the stratification of skewed populations. Survey Methodology 14, 33–43.*
2. *Press releases of Retail Sales & Catering Trade Indices*, available at SingStat website (<http://www.singstat.gov.sg/news/news.html#press>).
3. *Re-basing and revision of the Retail Sales & Catering Trade Indices (2005 = 100)*, available at SingStat website (<http://www.singstat.gov.sg/pubn/papers/economy/ip-b19.pdf>)
4. *Seasonal adjustment of economic time series*, available at SingStat website (<http://www.singstat.gov.sg/pubn/papers/economy/ip-e32.pdf>).
5. *Singapore Standard Industrial Classification 2010*, available at SingStat website (<http://www.singstat.gov.sg/statsres/ssc/ssic/ssic2010.pdf>).
6. *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>)

## WEIGHTS OF RETAIL TRADE CATEGORY BY ACTIVITY

SSIC 2010	Description of Activity	Weight
47	<b>Total Retail Trade</b>	<b>10,000</b>
	<b>Department Stores</b>	<b>1,525</b>
47191	Department stores	650
47192	Department stores cum supermarkets (including hypermarkets)	875
47111	<b>Supermarkets</b>	<b>453</b>
47112	<b>Provision &amp; Sundry Shops</b>	<b>475</b>
	<b>Food &amp; Beverages</b>	<b>201</b>
47211	Fruits and vegetables	34
47212	Meat, poultry, eggs and seafood	18
47213	Confectionery and bakery products (not manufactured on site)	47
47214	Health supplements	33
47219	Food nec	51
47220	Beverages	10
47230	Tobacco products	8
47311	<b>Motor Vehicles</b>	<b>2,465</b>
47320	<b>Petrol Service Stations</b>	<b>508</b>
	<b>Medical Goods &amp; Toiletries</b>	<b>415</b>
47721	Cosmetics and toiletries	218
47722	Pharmacies and drug stores (Western)	88
47723	Chinese medicine shops	105
47729	Pharmaceutical and medical goods nec (eg Jamu shops)	4
	<b>Wearing Apparel &amp; Footwear</b>	<b>746</b>
47711	Wearing apparel for adults	534
47712	Children and infants' wear (including products and accessories for infants)	30
47713	Footwear	76
47714	Bags, luggages and travel accessories	98
47715	Sewing and clothing accessories (eg button, thread, lace, zip)	2
47719	Clothing, footwear and leather articles nec	6
	<b>Furniture &amp; Household Equipment</b>	<b>817</b>
47420	Audio and video equipment (eg radio and television sets, sound reproducing and recording equipment)	187
47510	Textiles	19
47531	Furniture (including mattresses, cushions)	276
47532	Furnishings (eg curtains, carpets, pillow cases)	38

## WEIGHTS OF RETAIL TRADE CATEGORY BY ACTIVITY

SSIC 2010	Description of Activity	Weight
47533	Lighting and lighting accessories	33
47534	Crockery, cutlery and kitchen utensils	20
47535	Household electrical appliances and equipment (eg vacuum cleaners, washing machines, refrigerators)	168
47536	Musical instruments and scores	16
47537	Security and fire-fighting equipment	3
47539	Household appliances, furniture, lighting equipment and other household articles nec	57
	<b>Recreational Goods</b>	<b>184</b>
47620	Music and video recordings (eg record albums, compact discs, VCDs, DVDs)	36
47630	Sporting equipment (including bicycles, boats and healthcare equipment)	120
47640	Games and toys	28
	<b>Watches &amp; Jewellery</b>	<b>770</b>
47731	Jewellery	443
47732	Costume jewellery	23
47733	Watches and clocks	295
47739	Personal effects nec	9
	<b>Telecommunications Apparatus &amp; Computers</b>	<b>556</b>
47411	Pagers, handphones and other telecommunications apparatus	236
47412	Computer hardware and accessories and computer software (except games)	279
47413	Computer games (including electronic games and video game consoles)	15
47414	Computer and office equipment consumables (eg printer cartridges)	26
	<b>Optical Goods &amp; Books</b>	<b>367</b>
47610	Books, newspaper and stationery (including newsvendors)	200
47751	Spectacles and other optical goods	86
47752	Cameras and other photographic goods	80
47759	Optical and photographic goods nec	1
	<b>Others</b>	<b>518</b>
47199	Retail sale in other non-specialised stores nec	85
47312	Motorcycles and scooters	39
47313	Tyres and batteries	43
47314	Spare parts and accessories for motor vehicles	70
47521	Paints	5
47522	Hardware (eg chains, changkols, axes)	44
47529	Hardware, paint and glass nec (eg wood, glass, sanitary ware, Do-It-Yourself materials)	8
47741	Antiques and works of art	22
47742	Handicrafts, collectibles and gifts	38
47743	Cut flowers (including wreaths)	23
47744	Artificial flowers and plants	2

## WEIGHTS OF RETAIL TRADE CATEGORY BY ACTIVITY

SSIC 2010	Description of Activity	Weight
47745	Aquarium fishes (including food and accessories)	7
47746	Pet birds and animals (including food and accessories)	17
47749	Handicrafts and fancy goods, flowers, plants and pet animals nec	16
47761	Joss paper and other ceremonial products	20
47762	Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG)	29
47769	Specific commodities nec (eg jute bags)	4
47770	Retail sale of second-hand goods in stores	18
47910	Retail sale via mail order houses or via internet	5
47990	Other retail sale not in stores, stalls or markets (eg sale via door-to-door canvassing and vending machines)	23

## WEIGHTS OF FOOD &amp; BEVERAGE SERVICES CATEGORY BY ACTIVITY

SSIC 2010	Description of Activity	Weight
56	<b>Total Food &amp; Beverage Services</b>	<b>1,000</b>
56111	<b>Restaurants</b>	<b>391</b>
56112	<b>Fast Food Outlets</b>	<b>126</b>
56201	<b>Food Caterers</b>	<b>114</b>
	<b>Other Eating Places</b>	<b>369</b>
56121	Cafes, coffee houses and snack bars	133
56122	Food courts, coffee shops, and eating houses (with mainly food and beverage income)	79
56130	Pubs (including bars)	35
56190	Other restaurants, cafes and bars	78
56202	Canteens	44

**RETAIL SALES INDEX**  
**(2010 = 100)**

	Total	Total (excl Motor Vehicles)	Dept Stores	Super- markets	Provision & Sundry Shops	Food & Beverages	Motor Vehicles	Petrol Service Stations	Medical Goods & Toiletries	Wearing Apparel & Footwear	Furniture & Household Equipment	Recreational Goods	Watches & Jewellery	Telecomm. Apparatus & Computers	Optical Goods & Books	Others
Weights	10,000	7,535	1,525	453	475	201	2,465	508	415	746	817	184	770	556	367	518
Period	At Current Prices															
2006	102.0	82.5	75.8	76.7	86.8	96.0	187.2	82.8	74.3	81.6	84.7	94.6	85.7	81.5	89.0	92.1
2007	106.3	90.4	83.1	85.7	92.3	101.4	175.4	89.3	77.6	92.0	96.8	101.7	94.6	88.4	96.8	100.1
2008	109.5	95.8	91.0	95.2	98.3	100.6	169.1	107.6	85.0	94.1	97.7	97.8	92.9	94.0	98.9	105.9
2009	101.0	93.5	93.2	98.7	100.7	99.6	133.4	91.6	90.1	91.1	91.1	97.6	86.3	94.7	95.9	96.2
2010	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
2010 Jan	110.6	104.5	104.4	106.3	101.5	98.8	129.5	102.1	97.2	117.5	109.3	98.0	97.6	102.5	110.3	99.9
Feb	95.2	94.7	98.8	108.4	98.7	144.3	96.9	94.0	89.2	102.2	75.6	92.5	92.3	85.5	83.7	93.5
Mar	100.1	96.1	92.0	95.4	98.4	85.3	112.4	103.7	103.9	84.5	96.9	99.1	90.2	113.8	100.9	97.8
Apr	92.3	92.3	91.0	95.1	96.0	87.9	92.5	102.4	92.6	84.6	94.8	94.7	89.2	89.5	96.6	92.1
May	94.4	98.5	102.4	102.1	100.1	94.7	81.9	104.0	98.6	93.1	97.6	102.9	100.0	87.1	100.7	95.5
Jun	95.5	95.6	97.1	93.3	92.1	89.0	95.0	94.8	103.2	93.5	99.2	102.7	93.8	86.3	97.4	99.7
Jul	97.9	98.1	97.7	98.1	99.6	97.5	97.4	102.6	97.9	102.0	101.3	102.1	93.9	83.6	100.2	102.0
Aug	97.6	98.1	98.2	105.0	102.4	100.6	96.0	101.7	97.2	88.7	101.2	95.2	95.6	101.2	93.9	97.1
Sep	98.8	98.3	95.3	97.0	101.3	97.6	100.2	97.6	103.3	87.0	99.7	91.1	100.1	117.4	90.0	102.1
Oct	98.2	99.3	98.8	100.8	104.2	99.5	94.7	101.0	101.9	96.4	97.7	90.1	105.7	95.3	93.8	100.3
Nov	100.5	101.4	98.8	95.4	99.4	97.9	97.5	95.3	100.5	105.2	102.6	88.1	104.8	111.0	103.8	104.9
Dec	118.9	123.1	125.6	103.2	106.2	107.0	106.0	100.8	114.4	145.2	124.2	143.5	136.9	126.8	128.9	115.1
Period	At Constant Prices															
2006	110.9	88.9	82.5	89.2	101.9	109.7	196.6	94.8	81.2	84.5	84.0	95.0	119.0	64.9	94.9	102.7
2007	115.1	96.1	89.0	96.4	104.4	112.3	189.3	98.2	82.7	94.3	97.6	100.7	123.6	76.0	102.5	108.6
2008	113.1	97.4	93.4	99.3	101.6	104.7	174.6	101.3	87.5	95.1	97.6	97.1	111.3	86.6	102.1	107.7
2009	102.6	94.7	93.9	100.4	101.9	101.5	133.1	99.2	91.1	91.2	90.6	96.6	94.6	90.0	96.3	97.6
2010	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
2010 Jan	112.4	105.4	105.6	107.8	102.6	100.4	133.9	102.8	97.5	119.2	108.6	98.1	101.5	99.9	110.8	100.9
Feb	97.0	95.6	99.8	108.7	99.8	144.5	101.1	94.6	90.2	104.4	75.1	93.0	96.5	83.2	84.1	94.8
Mar	100.9	96.4	91.9	96.0	98.9	86.1	114.7	103.9	104.4	83.8	96.0	99.0	94.5	112.4	101.5	97.9
Apr	92.0	92.3	90.9	95.5	96.4	88.4	91.3	100.8	92.5	83.8	94.5	94.5	92.3	88.4	96.6	92.0
May	94.0	98.4	102.5	102.4	100.3	95.2	80.6	103.3	99.3	92.9	97.5	102.6	98.8	86.8	100.5	95.6
Jun	96.2	96.4	98.8	93.6	92.1	89.5	95.5	95.5	103.9	96.8	99.1	103.2	92.7	86.7	97.1	100.9
Jul	98.2	98.4	98.0	98.0	99.4	97.3	97.8	103.8	98.3	102.3	101.9	101.5	94.4	83.9	99.9	102.1
Aug	97.3	97.8	97.1	104.6	102.4	100.1	95.8	101.8	97.3	86.7	101.2	94.9	96.3	103.7	93.8	96.2
Sep	98.7	98.4	94.9	96.5	100.9	97.1	99.5	99.6	103.2	86.6	99.9	91.3	99.3	120.3	89.9	101.8
Oct	97.1	98.6	97.7	100.1	103.6	98.6	92.4	102.1	101.0	94.6	97.9	90.6	102.4	96.6	94.0	99.4
Nov	99.1	100.2	97.3	94.5	98.6	96.9	95.8	95.3	99.4	102.6	103.0	87.3	101.1	111.3	103.4	103.6
Dec	117.1	122.1	125.5	102.3	105.2	105.9	101.5	96.5	113.0	146.2	125.3	143.9	130.3	126.9	128.5	114.8



**FOOD & BEVERAGE SERVICES INDEX**  
(2010 = 100)

		Total	Restaurants	Fast Food Outlets	Food Caterers	Other Eating Places
Weights		1,000	391	126	114	369
Period		At Current Prices				
2006		85.2	84.9	76.9	92.7	86.3
2007		90.4	87.2	80.9	97.9	95.2
2008		96.9	92.8	88.2	103.2	102.8
2009		94.2	93.3	92.9	90.6	97.0
2010		100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
2010	Jan	96.9	100.4	96.1	95.5	94.0
	Feb	97.2	106.5	92.6	97.6	88.9
	Mar	96.6	94.1	98.1	98.2	98.3
	Apr	95.8	93.2	96.4	93.6	98.9
	May	102.4	103.8	105.3	98.2	101.1
	Jun	98.0	94.5	99.1	98.0	101.4
	Jul	100.5	97.6	103.7	99.1	103.0
	Aug	99.2	98.4	96.9	104.1	99.3
	Sep	98.6	97.1	98.0	97.7	100.8
	Oct	103.3	103.0	103.8	100.2	104.3
	Nov	100.8	99.7	100.8	105.6	100.4
	Dec	110.7	111.7	109.1	112.2	109.7
		At Constant Prices				
2006		96.9	95.5	84.1	101.6	102.4
2007		99.8	95.0	86.6	104.9	109.3
2008		101.1	96.0	91.4	105.2	109.8
2009		95.7	94.4	93.4	90.6	100.4
2010		100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
2010	Jan	97.6	101.4	96.4	95.4	94.6
	Feb	97.7	107.3	92.8	97.5	89.4
	Mar	97.1	94.8	98.4	98.1	98.7
	Apr	96.0	93.6	96.4	93.9	99.1
	May	102.6	104.2	105.4	98.5	101.3
	Jun	98.3	94.9	98.9	98.3	101.6
	Jul	100.3	97.2	103.8	99.0	102.8
	Aug	99.0	98.0	96.9	104.0	99.1
	Sep	98.4	96.7	98.1	97.6	100.5
	Oct	102.7	102.2	103.5	100.1	103.9
	Nov	100.3	99.0	100.5	105.5	100.0
	Dec	110.0	110.8	108.8	112.1	108.9

## 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 provides key data on Singapore's economy and population.
- News  
which covers 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 provides 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 DOS at <http://www.singstat.gov.sg/pubn/catalog.html>. All softcopy DOS publications are available for free downloading. Statistical tables of DOS publications in Excel format are also available.
- 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

*SingStat Express* is a personalised data delivery service which sends the latest press releases, notices of publication, newsletter, occasional and information papers to subscribers via email. SMS alert service is also available to local users. Subscription details are available from the *Statistics Singapore Website* ([www.singstat.gov.sg/express](http://www.singstat.gov.sg/express)).

**SINGAPORE DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS**  
**INFORMATION DISSEMINATION SERVICES (cont'd)**

### **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 is 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>.

### **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* is 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 can 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 | <b>info@singstat.gov.sg</b>  |
|  Fax to us | at | <b>(65) 6332-7689</b>  |
|  Call us   | at | <b>1800-3238118* (local callers)</b><br><b>(65) 6332-7738 (overseas callers)</b> |

\* 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.