



Information Paper Series

Rebasing of the Retail Sales and
Food & Beverage Services Indices
(2025=100)

information paper
on
business statistics

**REBASING OF THE RETAIL SALES AND
FOOD & BEVERAGE SERVICES INDICES**

(2025 as Base Year)

Singapore Department of Statistics
March 2026

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:

Industry Statistics Section
Business Statistics Division
Singapore Department of Statistics
Tel : 6835 8947 / 6835 8983
Email : info@singstat.gov.sg

Reproducing or quoting any part of this publication is permitted, provided this publication is accredited as the source. Please refer to the Statistics Singapore Website Terms of Use (<http://www.singstat.gov.sg/terms-of-use>) for more details on the conditions of use of this publication.

Our Vision

National Statistical Service of Quality, Integrity and Expertise

Our Mission

We deliver Insightful Statistics and Trusted Statistical Services that
Empower Decision Making

Our Guiding Principles

- | | |
|--|--|
| Professionalism
& Expertise | <i>We adhere to professional ethics and develop statistical competency to produce quality statistics that comply with international concepts and best practices.</i> |
| Relevance
& Reliability | <i>We produce statistics that users need and trust.</i> |
| Accessibility | <i>We facilitate ease of access to our statistics through user-friendly platforms.</i> |
| Confidentiality | <i>We protect the confidentiality of individual information collected by us.</i> |
| Timeliness | <i>We disseminate statistics at the earliest possible date while maintaining data quality.</i> |
| Innovation | <i>We constantly seek ways to improve our processes, leveraging on new technology, to deliver better products and services to users.</i> |
| Collaboration | <i>We engage users on data needs, data providers and respondents on supply of data, and undertake the role of national statistical coordination.</i> |
| Effectiveness | <i>We optimise resource utilisation, leveraging on administrative and alternative data sources to ease respondent burden.</i> |

CONTENTS

I	Introduction	1
II	What do the RSI and FSI Measure?	2
III	Data Sources	2
IV	Index Computation	4
V	The Rebased RSI and FSI Series	5
VI	Linking of Historical Series	8
VII	Comparison of 2017-based and 2025-based Series	9
VIII	Data Dissemination	10
	References	11
	APPENDIX	

REBASING OF THE RETAIL SALES AND FOOD & BEVERAGE SERVICES INDICES (2025= 100)

I Introduction

1. Since 1985, the Singapore Department of Statistics (DOS) has been compiling the Retail Sales Index (RSI) and Food & Beverage Services Index (FSI) to measure the monthly sales performance of the Retail Trade and Food & Beverage (F&B) services industries.
2. Retail Trade establishments sell merchandise directly to consumers, while F&B services establishments provide prepared food and drinks for consumption on premises or takeaway.
3. The RSI and FSI are rebased at periodic intervals to reflect changes in the structure of the Retail Trade and F&B services industries. The methodology, coverage and weights are reviewed and updated. This rebasing exercise from base year 2017 to 2025 is the 8th exercise done on the series.
4. This information paper provides details on the rebased RSI and FSI, such as the data sources, methodology adopted, the formula used for index computation and a comparison of the 2025-based series and 2017-based series. The list of activities in the Retail Trade and F&B services industries and the 2025-based index series for January 2025 to December 2025 are presented in the Annexes.

II What do the RSI and FSI Measure?

5. The RSI and FSI measure the performance of the Retail Trade and F&B services industries in Singapore respectively, based on the monthly sales of businesses in these industries. The two indices are presented at both current prices and chained volume terms. The indices at current prices measure changes in sales values, which can result from changes in both price and quantity, while the indices in chained volume terms measure the change in the volume of economic activity by removing the price effect.

6. The RSI and FSI are seasonally adjusted to remove seasonal effects to better reflect the underlying trend of the monthly sales. The unadjusted indices show seasonal patterns due to intra-year periodic variations that repeat during fixed periods each year.

III Data Sources

7. 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 DOS.

8. The RSS and FSS use a stratified random sampling design. The sampling frame is obtained from the Statistical Business Register maintained by DOS, which contains basic information of enterprises registered in Singapore.

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

10. The RSS and FSS surveyed about 460 retail trade enterprises and 270 F&B services enterprises respectively. The survey data was supplemented with aggregated value of merchandise sales and food orders from third party online marketplaces and food delivery platforms.

11. Administrative records from the Land Transport Authority (LTA) are also utilised in the estimation of the retail sales of motor vehicles and motorcycles & scooters.

IV Index Computation

12. The sales indices at current prices are computed from sales values 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 Trade/F&B services industry for the current period n compared to the base period 0 (2025 as Base Year);

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

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

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

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

13. The overall sales index at current prices is a weighted average of indices at the detailed industry level. To derive the sales index at detailed industry level, the monthly sales for that industry are divided by the average monthly sales for the same industry in 2025 (the base year). The overall RSI and FSI are then computed by aggregating the sales indices of the detailed industries using weights which measure each industry's relative importance in the overall Retail Trade and F&B services industry respectively.

14. To derive the indices in chained volume terms, the sales indices at current prices at detailed industry level are first deflated by the appropriate price indices. These component indices are then weighed using the weights of previous years to derive the overall indices in chained volume terms.

V The Rebased RSI and FSI Series

Singapore Standard Industrial Classification

15. The Singapore Standard Industrial Classification (SSIC) is the national standard for classifying economic activities undertaken by economic units. The SSIC is reviewed and updated regularly to reflect developments in the Singapore economy, particularly the emergence of new economic activities as well as to align with changes in international standards.

16. The SSIC 2025 is the latest edition of the SSIC and adopts the basic framework of the latest International Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities Revision 5 (ISIC Rev. 5) developed by the United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD). The classification of the principal activity of firms in the 2025-based RSI and FSI is based on the SSIC 2025 with effect from Jan 2025, which is an update from the SSIC 2020 that was used in the 2017-based indices.

17. Firms' SSIC codes are sourced primarily from administrative data from the Accounting and Corporate Regulatory Authority (ACRA), and other Unique Entity Number (UEN) issuance agencies, supplemented by additional information received from statistical survey returns from DOS and Research & Statistics Units (RSUs) in government ministries and statutory boards.

Industry Groupings

18. During the rebasing exercise, industry groupings within the Retail Trade and F&B services industry were reviewed, taking into account feedback from key users and incorporating changes arising from the implementation of SSIC 2025.

19. The industry grouping of ‘Cafes, Food Courts & Other Eating Places’ was split into ‘Cafes (SSIC 56112)’ and ‘Food Courts & Other Eating Places’ (SSIC 56122, 56123 and 56130) in the 2025-based FSI.

20. ‘SSIC 47312 Retail sales of motorcycles and scooters’, ‘SSIC 47313 Retail sales of tyres and batteries for motor vehicles’, and ‘SSIC 47314 Retail sales of parts and accessories for motor vehicles’ were moved from the ‘Other Retail’ group to the ‘Motor Vehicles’ industry group. The new group was renamed ‘Motor Vehicles, Parts & Accessories’ in the 2025-based RSI.

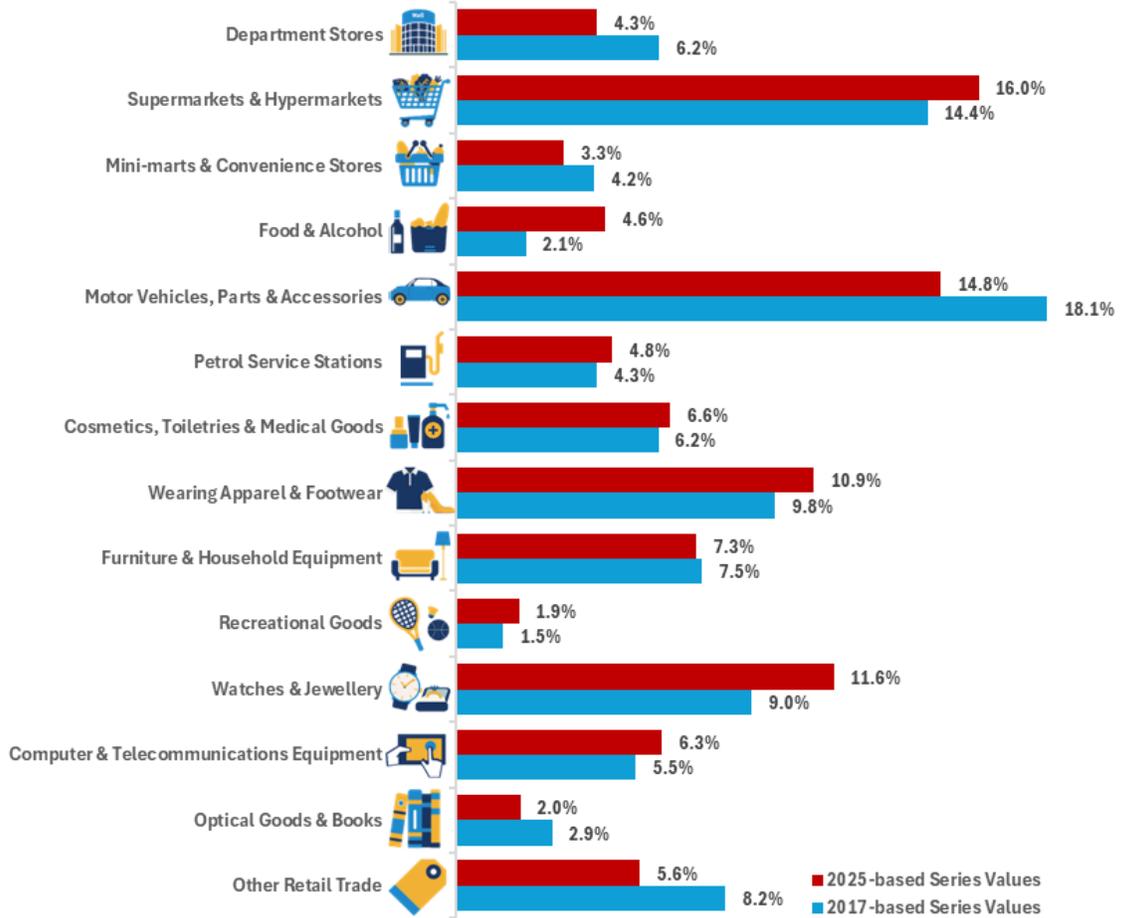
21. Similarly, ‘SSIC 47650 Retail Sale of Musical Instruments and Scores’ was moved from ‘Furniture & Household Equipment’ to ‘Recreational Goods’. This follows the SSIC 2025.

Weighting Pattern

22. The weight for each industry reflects its relative importance in the overall Retail Trade or F&B services industry. The weights are computed based on the retail and F&B services sales of the respective industries obtained from the Annual Industry Survey for reference year 2024.

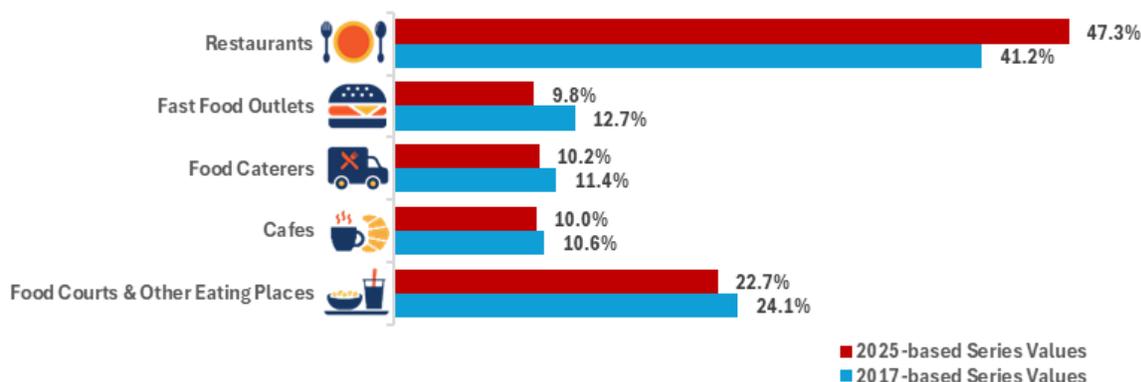
23. Chart 1 compares the 2017-based and 2025-based weights for the RSI categories. The most significant change in weights was observed in the ‘Motor Vehicles, Parts & Accessories’ category, which decreased from 18.1% to 14.8% of total Retail Trade. The majority of other retail categories had minimal changes to their weights, with a few notable exceptions including ‘Other Retail Trade’ (down 2.6 percentage points), ‘Watches & Jewellery’ (up 2.6 percentage points), and ‘Food & Alcohol’ (up 2.5 percentage points).

Chart 1: Weighting Pattern of RSI in 2017-Based and 2025-Based Series



24. Chart 2 presents the 2017-based and 2025-based weights for the FSI categories. The ‘Restaurants’ category saw a substantial increase in their weights from 41.2% to 47.3%, whilst that of other categories declined.

Chart 2: Weighting Pattern of FSI in 2017-Based & 2025-Based Series



VI Linking of Historical Series

25. To facilitate the time series analysis of the RSI and FSI series, the 2017-based series is linked to the 2025-based series using the following approach:

$$\text{Linked 2025-based index} = \text{2017-based index} \times \text{Linking Coefficient}$$

where the Linking Coefficient is the ratio of the average value of the 2025-based index in 2025 to the average value of the 2017-based index in 2025.

Example:

$$\text{Average value of the 2017-based index in 2025} = 107.0$$

$$\text{Average value of the 2025-based index in 2025} = 100.0$$

$$\text{Linking Coefficient} = 100.0/107.0$$

$$\text{2017-based index in Jan 2024} = 104.1$$

$$\text{2025-based index in Jan 2024} = 104.1 \times (100.0/107.0) = 97.3$$

VII Comparison of 2017-based and 2025-based Series

26. Charts 3 and 4 compare the overall RSI and FSI at current prices of the 2017-based and 2025-based series for the period of January to December 2025. Both series generally exhibit a similar trend.

Chart 3: RSI at Current Prices (2025=100)

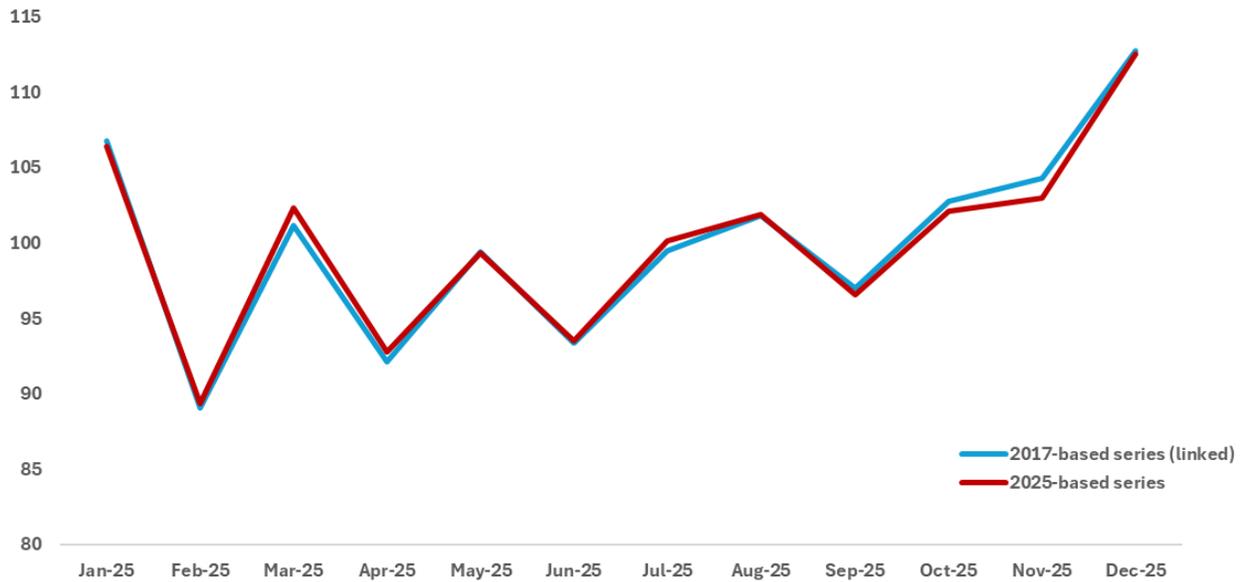
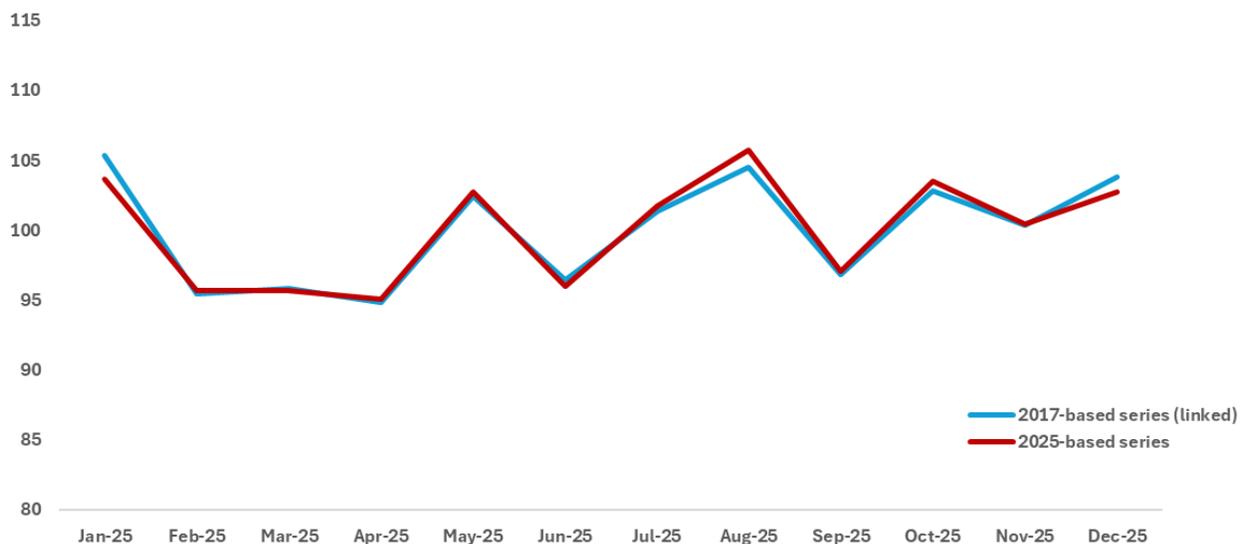


Chart 4: FSI at Current Prices (2025=100)



VIII Data Dissemination

27. The 2025-based RSI and FSI series were released with effect from the January 2026 Monthly Retail Sales and Food & Beverage Services Indices report, released on 5 March 2026. The monthly report, information paper, and index series are available on the SingStat Website (<https://www.singstat.gov.sg/>) and in the SingStat Table Builder (<https://www.singstat.gov.sg/tablebuilder>). This latest series will continue to be released via a press release on the SingStat Website (<https://www.singstat.gov.sg/mrs>) on the 5th of every month, or on the following working day if the 5th falls on a weekend or a public holiday.

Singapore Department of Statistics

March 2026

References

1. Lavallée, P. & Hidioglou, M. (1988). *On the stratification of skewed populations*. *Survey Methodology* 14, 33–43
2. *Press release of Retail Sales and Food & Beverage Services Index*, available at SingStat website (<https://www.singstat.gov.sg/find-data/search-by-theme/industry/services/latest-data>)
3. *Seasonal Adjustment of Economic Time Series*, available at SingStat website (<https://www.singstat.gov.sg/-/media/files/publications/reference/ip-e32.pdf>)
4. *Singapore Standard Industrial Classification 2025*, available at SingStat website (<https://www.singstat.gov.sg/standards/standards-and-classifications/ssic>)

LIST OF ACTIVITIES IN RETAIL TRADE

SSIC 2025	Description of Activity
47	Total Retail Trade
	Department Stores
47103	Department stores
	Supermarkets & Hypermarkets
47101	Supermarkets and hypermarkets
47102	Mini-marts & Convenience Stores
	Food & Alcohol
47211	Retail sale of fruits and vegetables
47212	Retail sale of meat, poultry, eggs and seafood
47213	Retail sale of confectionery and bakery products (not manufactured on site)
47214	Retail sale of health supplements
47219	Retail sale of food n.e.c.
47220	Retail sale of beverages
47230	Retail sale of tobacco products
	Motor Vehicles, Parts & Accessories
47311	Retail sale of motor vehicles (except motorcycles and scooters)
47312	Retail sale of motorcycles and scooters
47313	Retail sale of tyres and batteries for motor vehicles
47314	Retail sale of parts and accessories for motor vehicles
47320	Petrol Service Stations
	Cosmetics, Toiletries & Medical Goods
47721	Retail sale of personal care products
47722	Pharmacies and drug stores (Western)
47723	Chinese medicine shops
47729	Retail sale of pharmaceutical and medical goods n.e.c.
	Wearing Apparel & Footwear
47711	Retail sale of clothing for adults
47712	Retail sale of children and infants' clothing
47713	Retail sale of footwear
47714	Retail sale of bags, luggage and travel accessories
47715	Retail sale of sewing and clothing accessories
47719	Retail sale of clothing, footwear and leather articles n.e.c.
	Furniture & Household Equipment
47510	Retail sale of textiles
47531	Retail sale of furniture
47532	Retail sale of furnishings
47533	Retail sale of lighting and lighting accessories

LIST OF ACTIVITIES IN RETAIL TRADE

SSIC 2025	Description of Activity
47534	Retail sale of crockery, cutlery and kitchen utensils
47535	Retail sale of household electrical appliances and equipment
47536	Retail sale of security and safety equipment
47539	Retail sale of electrical household appliances, furniture, lighting equipment and other household articles n.e.c.
Recreational Goods	
47620	Retail sale of music and video recordings
47630	Retail sale of sports apparel and equipment
47640	Retail sale of games and toys
47650	Retail sale of musical instruments and scores
Watches & Jewellery	
47731	Retail sale of jewellery made from precious metals and stones
47732	Retail sale of costume jewellery
47733	Retail sale of watches and clocks
47739	Retail sale of personal effects n.e.c.
Computer & Telecommunications Equipment	
47411	Retail sale of handphones and related telecommunications and peripheral equipment
47412	Retail sale of computer hardware and peripheral equipment, and computer software (except games and cybersecurity hardware and software)
47413	Retail sale of computer games
47414	Retail sale of computer and office equipment consumables
47415	Retail sale of cybersecurity software, hardware and peripheral equipment
Optical Goods & Books	
47610	Retail sale of books, newspapers and stationery
47751	Retail sale of spectacles and other optical goods
47752	Retail sale of cameras and other photographic goods
47759	Retail sale of optical and photographic goods n.e.c.
Others	
47109	Retail sale in non-specialised stores n.e.c.
47521	Retail sale of paints
47522	Retail sale of hardware
47529	Retail sale of hardware, paint and glass n.e.c.
47741	Retail sale of antiques and works of art
47742	Retail sale of handicrafts, collectibles and gifts
47743	Retail sale of cut flowers
47744	Retail sale of artificial flowers and plants
47745	Retail sale of aquarium fishes and related accessories/products
47746	Retail sale of pet birds and animals and related accessories/products
47749	Retail sale of handicrafts and fancy goods, flowers, plants and pet animals n.e.c.
47761	Retail sale of joss paper and other ceremonial products
47762	Retail sale of liquefied petroleum gas (LPG)

LIST OF ACTIVITIES IN RETAIL TRADE

SSIC 2025	Description of Activity
47769	Retail sale of other goods n.e.c.
47770	Retail sale of second-hand goods in stores

LIST OF ACTIVITIES IN FOOD & BEVERAGE SERVICES

SSIC 2025	Description of Activity
56	Total Food & Beverage Services
56111	Restaurants
56121	Fast Food Outlets
56200	Food Caterers
56112	Cafes
	Food Courts & Other Eating Places
56122	Operators of food courts, hawker centres, coffee shops and canteens (with mainly food and beverage income)
56123	Food and drinks kiosks mainly for takeaway and delivery
56130	Pubs

SINGAPORE DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS COMMUNICATIONS & INFORMATION SERVICES

The Singapore Department of Statistics (DOS) offers official statistics, data insights, visualisations, and statistical resources through user-friendly platforms.



SingStat Website

Visit this convenient gateway to access latest data and statistical information.

Data across the six major themes of Economy & Prices, Industry, Trade & Investment, Population, Households, and Society covering some 200 topics such as Gross Domestic Product, Consumer Price Index, Retail Sales and Food & Beverage Services Indices, Producer Price Indices, Business Expectations, Business Receipts Index, Trade in Services, Direct Investment, Population Indicators, Household Income, Household Expenditure, Deaths and Life Expectancy, Births and Fertility, Marriages and Divorces, and more.



Publications

- **Statistics Singapore Newsletter** - features articles on latest key statistical activities, recent survey findings, and methodological improvements.
- **Information Papers** - highlight conceptual and methodological changes and improvements in official statistics.
- **Occasional Papers** - present statistical trends and observations on important social and economic issues to stimulate discussion and research.
- **Singapore in Figures** - allows exploration of key economic and socio-demographic statistics through interactive dashboards.

Visualisations such as infographics and interactive dashboards with latest data, and videos to explain data and statistical concepts.

Businesses Insights Tool for Enterprises (BITE) serves businesses with bite-sized data for big decisions, giving firms insights on their customers, industries, and business performance.

Advance Release Calendar with dates of upcoming data and publication releases in the next six months.



SingStat Table Builder

Access some 2,400 data tables for free across various economic and socio-demographic domains from 70 public sector agencies. Watch the [video](#) to find out how you can easily access and customise data tables.



SANDRA (Statistics ANd Data Retrieval A.I. Assistant)

Chat with SANDRA on your data enquiries. Watch the [video](#) to find out how SANDRA can assist you in finding the data you need.



SingStat Express

Subscribe to receive alerts on the latest press releases, occasional/ information papers, and newsletters.



SingStat Mobile App

Download the app for fast and convenient access to commonly used statistics from your mobile devices.

Over 300 charts are available across over 40 data categories for easy access to visualise data trends.



For statistical enquiries, you may reach us at:

✉ email: info@singstat.gov.sg or submit the [Data Request Form](#)

☎ phone: 1800-323 8118* (Local users) or (65) 6332 7738 (Overseas users)

* 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.

Find us on social media!

@SingStat

@singstat_dos

@SingStatvideo

@sg-department-of-statistics

DEPARTMENT OF
**STATISTICS
SINGAPORE**

— Empowering You with Trusted Data —