

## National Statistical Standards

The Singapore Department of Statistics (DOS) is responsible for the development and promotion of national statistical standards, including classifications, concepts and definitions, for use in statistical activities. With the decentralised statistical system in Singapore, national statistical standards must be established to ensure that data compiled by various government agencies are consistent and comparable.

The national statistical standards provide a common framework to classify and aggregate data collected in statistical surveys and administrative systems. They are relevant to both Research and Statistics Units as well as ministries, government departments and statutory boards which collect statistics as by-products of their administrative systems or under the appropriate legislation governing the operations of their respective organisations. The use of the relevant national statistical standards in administrative data facilitates the compilation of important Singapore official statistics.

Singapore's national statistical standards are consistent with the United Nations' Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics. Our statistical classifications, concepts and definitions meet national requirements

and are compatible with international standards.

DOS has developed three national standard statistical classifications. They are the Singapore Standard Industrial Classification (SSIC), the Singapore Standard Occupational Classification (SSOC) and the Singapore Standard Educational Classification (SSEC). These classifications are revised and updated periodically to take into account changes in economic activities, employment structure and educational system as appropriate. There are different levels of aggregation in each of the national standard statistical classifications. This provides flexibility for data producers to adopt the classifications according to the level of detail required for their purpose.

The adoption of a common framework, as provided by Singapore's national statistical standards, benefits both producers and users of data. Among producers, data-sharing is facilitated by the use of the same statistical standards. Data users benefit from the availability of consistent and comparable data for analysis. Data producers are therefore encouraged to adopt the national statistical standards, where appropriate, so as to maximise the value of the data collected and compiled.

# Gender Differentials in Fields of Study among Graduates

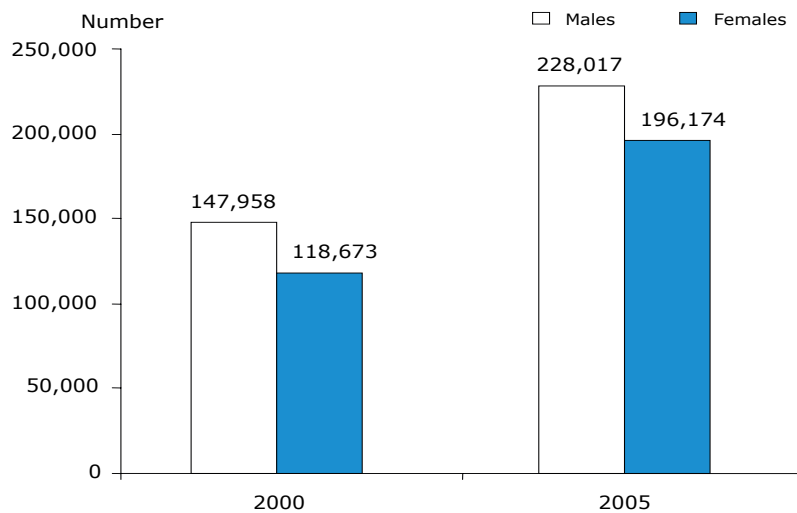
By  
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## Introduction

In 2005, there were about 228,000 male and 196,200 female resident university graduates (Chart 1). Compared with 2000, female university graduates registered a rise of 11 per cent per annum, higher than the 9 per cent per annum growth recorded by their male counterparts.

The faster growth of the female graduates vis-à-vis their male counterparts translated to a decline in the ratio of male to female graduates between 2000 and 2005. In 2000, the ratio stood at 1,247 males to 1,000 females, but dropped to 1,162 males to 1,000 females in 2005.

CHART 1 RESIDENT UNIVERSITY GRADUATES BY SEX, 2000 AND 2005



Although male university graduates outnumbered females at the overall level, there were some fields of study which were predominantly the domains of female university graduates. This article looks at the gender concentrations in fields of study among university graduates, as well as the differences in the gender concentrations by broad age groups based on data from the General Household Survey 2005.

### Top Five Fields of Study

The top five fields of study in 2005 were Business & Administration, Engineering Sciences, Humanities & Social Sciences, Natural, Physical, Chemical & Mathematical Sciences, and Information Technology. About 85 per cent of university graduates attained their highest qualifications in these fields of study (Table 1).

TABLE 1 RESIDENT UNIVERSITY GRADUATES BY FIELD OF STUDY, 2005

Field of Study	Number	Per Cent
<b>Total</b>	<b>424,191</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Business & Administration	136,200	32.1
Engineering Sciences	94,699	22.3
Humanities & Social Sciences	52,702	12.4
Natural, Physical, Chemical & Mathematical Sciences	38,796	9.1
Information Technology	36,516	8.6
Health Sciences	16,733	3.9
Mass Communication & Information Science	12,030	2.8
Architecture & Building	11,916	2.8
Education	9,055	2.1
Law	8,413	2.0
Fine & Applied Arts	5,084	1.2
Others	2,047	0.5

The proportions of university graduates in the fields of Health Sciences, Mass Communication & Information Science, Architecture & Building, Education, and Law were smaller, accounting for 2 to 4 per cent each.

### Gender Concentrations by Field of Study

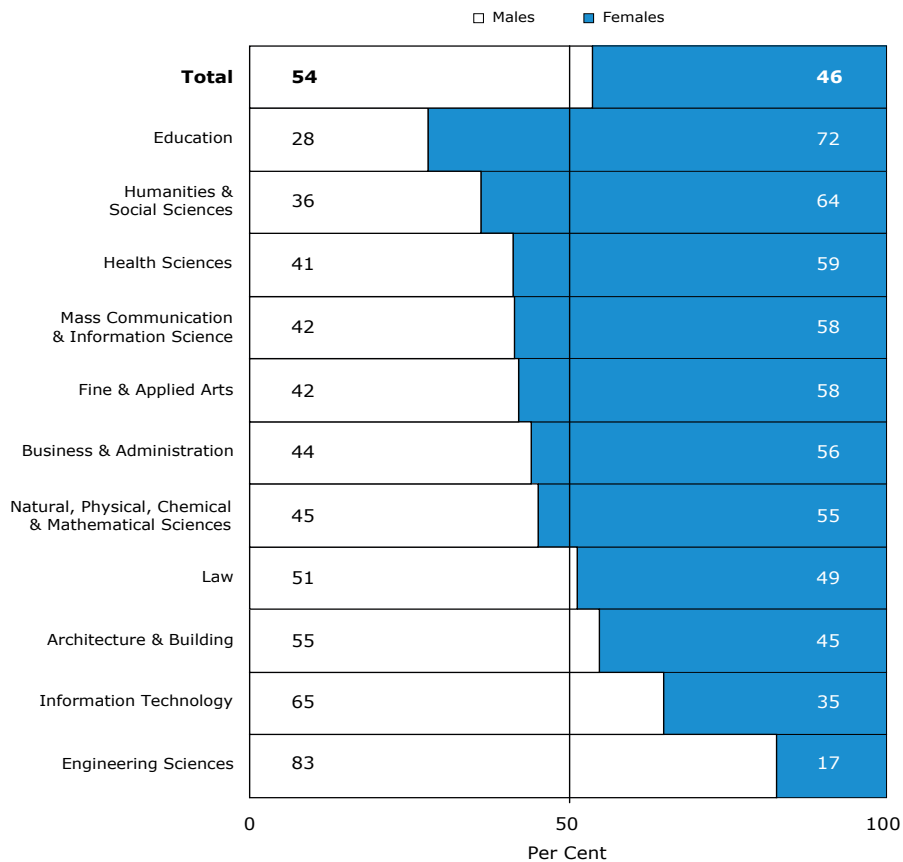
#### Female Graduates Predominated in More Fields of Study

Female graduates outnumbered male graduates in many fields of study,

showing their diversity in different subjects. Of the top five fields of study, three were the domains of female graduates, namely, Business & Administration, Humanities & Social Sciences, and Natural, Physical, Chemical & Mathematical Sciences. Female graduates constituted 55 per cent or more of the total resident graduate population in each of these three fields of study (Chart 2).

In other fields of study, particularly in Education, female university graduates were also predominant, accounting for more than 70 per cent. The proportions of female graduates in the fields of study

CHART 2 RESIDENT UNIVERSITY GRADUATES BY FIELD OF STUDY AND SEX, 2005



of Health Sciences, Mass Communication & Information Science, and Fine & Applied Arts were also higher than for male university graduates.

***More Male Graduates in Engineering Sciences and Information Technology***

Male university graduates, on the other hand, were concentrated mainly in Engineering Sciences and Information Technology. They accounted for 83 per cent and 65 per cent of the total university graduate population in each of these two fields of study. In Architecture & Building, male graduates also formed the majority although the differential between them and the female graduates was smaller. In the field of Law, however, the proportions of male and female graduates were almost equal in 2005.

**Gender Differentials in Fields of Study by Age Group**

***Smaller Gender Differentials in the Younger Age Groups***

Among graduates aged 40 years and over, there were 9 males to every 5 females. In the next younger age group of 30–39 years, males outnumbered females to a lesser extent, with 6 males to every 5 females.

In contrast, for graduates aged 25–29 years, there were only 4 males for every 5 females. The lower male-female ratio for this age group could be attributed to some males still pursuing university studies after fulfilling their National Service obligation.

The smaller gender differentials for those aged 30–39 years vis-à-vis those aged 40 years and over showed that female university graduates are fast catching up on their male counterparts in the pursuit of university education.

***Younger Female Graduates Predominated in Three of the Top Five Fields of Study***

Gender concentrations across the different age groups among university graduates differ in pattern for the top five fields of study.

In the field of study of Natural, Physical, Chemical & Mathematical Sciences, female graduates in the younger age groups outnumbered their male counterparts by a large margin. Among those aged 25–29 years, female graduates far outnumbered their male counterparts at 398 males to 1,000 females. However, there were more males than females aged 40 years and over in this field of study with a ratio of 1,358 males to 1,000 females (Table 2).

TABLE 2 RESIDENT UNIVERSITY GRADUATES BY FIELD OF STUDY AND AGE GROUP, 2005

Field of Study	Overall	Males Per 1,000 Females		
		25–29 Years	30–39 Years	40 Years & Over
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,162</b>	<b>796</b>	<b>1,170</b>	<b>1,822</b>
<b>Top Five Fields of Study</b>				
<u>Female Domains</u>				
Natural, Physical, Chemical & Mathematical Sciences	829	398	812	1,358
Business & Administration	794	426	764	1,630
Humanities & Social Sciences	570	449	447	892
<u>Male Domains</u>				
Engineering Sciences	4,804	2,781	5,069	11,696
Information Technology	1,863	1,504	2,096	2,401

The gender differences for Business & Administration also displayed a pattern similar to Natural, Physical, Chemical & Mathematical Sciences graduates. The ratio for Business & Administration graduates aged 25–29 years was lower at 426 males to 1,000 females compared with 764 males to 1,000 females for those aged 30–39 years. In contrast, there were more male than female graduates aged 40 years and over in this field of study with the ratio at 1,630 males to 1,000 females in 2005.

In Humanities & Social Sciences, female university graduates predominated across all age groups. At the overall level, female graduates in this field of study outnumbered

their male counterparts to a much greater extent than other fields of study among the top five. There were 449 males to 1,000 females among those aged 25–29 years, and 892 males to 1,000 females for graduates who were 40 years or older.

### ***Female Graduates Fast Catching Up in Engineering Sciences and Information Technology***

Although Engineering Sciences remained the domain of male university graduates across all age groups, female graduates were rapidly catching up in this field of study. For graduates aged 25–29 years, there were 2,781 males to 1,000 females compared with the much higher ratios

for those aged 30–39 years (with 5,069 males to 1,000 females) and those aged 40 years and over (with 11,696 males to 1,000 females).

The same trend prevailed for graduates in the field of Information Technology. While males outnumbered females in all age groups in 2005, the ratios of male to female graduates were smaller for those in the younger age group. Among graduates aged 25–29 years, the ratio was 1,504 males to 1,000 females, compared with 2,401 males to 1,000 females for those aged 40 years and over.

## Conclusion

While male university graduates outnumbered their female counterparts at the overall level in 2005, not all fields of study were however the domains of male graduates. Gender concentrations in different fields of study showed that there were more female than male university graduates in a diverse range of subjects. For the top five fields of study, female graduates in the younger age groups either outnumbered their male counterparts or showed that they were catching up on their male counterparts in fields of study that were the domains of male graduates.

## About the Data

Resident university graduates refer to Singapore citizens and permanent residents aged 15 years and over who are not attending educational institutions as full-time students and have Bachelor Degree, or Postgraduate Diploma (including National Institute of Education postgraduate diploma), or Masters, or Doctorate.

Field of study refers to the principal discipline, branch or subject matter of study that leads to the award of the highest qualification attained at university level. The Singapore Standard Educational Classification (SSEC) 2000, which comprises three integral components of 'Level of Education Attending', 'Educational Qualification Attained', and 'Field of Study', is used to classify the subject matter of study. More information on the SSEC 2000 is available from the SingStat website at

<http://www.singstat.gov.sg/stats/ssc/ssec.html>

Data for years 2000 and 2005 are obtained from the Census of Population (COP) 2000 and General Household Survey (GHS) 2005, respectively. Softcopies of the COP 2000 and GHS 2005 reports are available for online access at

[www.singstat.gov.sg](http://www.singstat.gov.sg)

# General Household Survey 2005

## Innovations in Fieldwork Operations

By

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### Introduction

The Singapore Department of Statistics launched the General Household Survey (GHS) 2005 in March 2005. The GHS 2005 adopted the tri-modal data collection strategy which was successfully exploited in the Population Census 2000. This comprises Internet enumeration, Computer Assisted Telephone Interview (CATI) and fieldwork.

*The General Household Survey is a mid-decade national survey collecting socio-economic information on the population and households in Singapore. It is conducted once in ten years in between the decennial census of population. The GHS 2005 is the second in the series.*

A total of 90,000 dwelling units throughout the whole island of Singapore were selected for GHS 2005. These dwelling units were divided into 15 batches over a period of 12–15 weeks. From the practical perspective, this helped to even out the load on resources for Internet submission, CATI operations and fieldwork. Households

in each batch had the option to submit their survey returns through the Internet or telephone interviews. Field interviewers visited the households only if they had not completed their survey returns via Internet or telephone interview after the appropriate due date.

### Innovation : PDA

The GHS 2005 adopted a key innovation for fieldwork, involving the use of Personal Digital Assistants (PDAs) during face-to-face interviews of households by field interviewers. A PDA fieldwork enumeration system was developed, which allowed field interviewers to key the information directly into the PDA as the interview was being conducted.

*In previous Population Censuses and the GHS 1995, paper forms were used in fieldwork operations. Singapore is one of the first countries in the world to use the PDA in fieldwork operations in large-scale household surveys.*



With the introduction of PDA as a new data collection instrument, data security was ensured through various IT security measures. For example, to prevent unauthorized access, the correct set of user ID and password had to be entered in order to access the PDA fieldwork enumeration system. Data captured from face-to-face interviews was encrypted when it was stored in the PDA.

### ***Improved Flow of Face-to-Face Interviews***

The use of PDA had helped to facilitate face-to-face interviews with households.

The PDA fieldwork enumeration system ensured that respondents answer only the relevant questions. With automatic branching of questions built in, the system prompted and guided the field interviewer to ask only those questions which are applicable for different categories of household members. For example, only full-time students would be asked for the level of education attending and the usual mode of transport to school while persons who have left school would be asked for their highest qualification attained and economic characteristics.

As on-line completeness checks were carried out with the PDA, respondents were less likely to be called or visited again by the field interviewer to provide information on questions that had been inadvertently

omitted during the previous field interview. The PDA system also performed simple consistency checks and prompted the field interviewer on data entries that appeared inconsistent. With the checks carried out during data collection, the field interviewers could make clarifications with the respondents on the spot.

### ***Improved Logistics for Field Operations***

From the field operations perspective, the use of PDA accorded several benefits. The use of PDA eliminated the need to print voluminous hardcopies of the survey questionnaires and to arrange for the secure transportation of completed forms. Instead of carrying a bagful of paper forms, the field interviewer carried a PDA. For further convenience, the PDA fieldwork enumeration system allowed partially completed survey returns to be saved and retrieved at a later time for completion.

### ***Reduced Back-End Data Processing***

In addition, most of the data entered into the PDA were already electronically coded, thus reducing data entry and coding at the back-end. As the PDA performed on-line checks on the data entered, the quality of information collected during fieldwork was reasonably good, thereby further reducing the time and effort required to process the data in the office.

## Innovation : SMS Alerts

Another innovation in the GHS 2005 was the development of an automated system of mobile phone SMS alerts. SMS alerts would be sent automatically to the field supervisors' mobile phones in instances where incomplete survey returns had been downloaded to the PDA for face-to-face interviews and the households subsequently called the CATI interviewers to complete the survey or provide new information.

Where the survey returns of households had been completed via CATI, the supervisor would inform the field interviewer concerned not to visit the house. Incidents of field interviewers visiting households who had completed the survey were therefore minimised.

Where the household had provided new information but had yet to complete the survey, the supervisor would inform the field interviewer to contact the GHS call centre for the latest updates before visiting the house to complete the survey. As the field interviewers collected only the outstanding items, the time for the face-to-face interviews were shortened.

## Concluding Remarks

The use of PDA and mobile phone SMS alerts in the GHS 2005 has shown that technological advancements can be exploited to benefit survey respondents and improve survey operational efficiency.

The results of the GHS 2005 have been released in two statistical reports, namely :

- The General Household Survey 2005, *Statistical Release 1 : Socio-Demographic and Economic Characteristics*
- The General Household Survey 2005, *Statistical Release 2 : Transport, Overseas Travel, Households and Housing Statistics*

Detailed statistical tables and analyses of broad trends and changes since 2000, where appropriate, are provided in the two reports.

Softcopies of the reports are accessible from the SingStat website at

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

Hardcopies of the reports are available for sale at :

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1 Kim Seng Promenade  
#18-01/06 Great World City  
East Tower  
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# Accommodation Services Industry, 2004

By  
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## Introduction

The accommodation services industry consists of hotels, lodging & boarding houses and chalets that provide short-term lodging and facilities for travelers, vacationers and others on a fee basis. Serviced apartments (usually for longer term lodging) are not included in the accommodation services industry, but as part of the real estate industry. Data presented in this article are based on the findings of the Accommodation Services Survey for reference year 2004.

## Economic Performance

In 2004, there were 246 establishments

in the accommodation services industry, compared with 232 establishments in 2003 (Table 1). Its performance in 2004 was boosted by the large increase in tourist arrivals, which grew by 36 per cent to 8.3 million visitors<sup>1</sup> compared to 2003 when there was a SARS<sup>2</sup> outbreak.

Correspondingly, **total operating receipts** collected by the accommodation services industry increased from \$1.9 billion in 2003 to \$2.3 billion in 2004, a rise of 22 per cent.

Likewise, **total operating surplus** generated by the industry also registered a significant increase of 54 per cent to \$565 million in 2004.

TABLE 1 PRINCIPAL STATISTICS OF ACCOMMODATION SERVICES INDUSTRY, 2003 AND 2004

Key Indicators	2003	2004	Change (%)
Establishments (Number)	232	246	6.0
Employment (Number)	23,517	25,203	7.2
Operating Receipts (\$ Million)	1,882	2,297	22.0
Operating Surplus (\$ Million)	366	565	54.3
Value Added (\$ Million)	1,007	1,289	28.0

<sup>1</sup> Data from the Singapore Tourism Board

<sup>2</sup> Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome

**Total value added** of the industry also increased significantly by 28 per cent to \$1.3 billion in 2004, up from \$1.0 billion in 2003.

**Total employment** generated by the industry amounted to about 25,200 in 2004, representing a growth of 7.2 per cent compared to 2003. The industry engaged about 20,800 full-time employees and 4,200 part-time employees in 2004. In addition, there were also some 200 working directors, working proprietors/partners and unpaid family members.

### Main Types of Accommodation Services

In 2004, there were 83 hotels which were engaged in providing accommodation services as primary activity and food & beverage (F&B) services as secondary activity (Chart 1). These hotels were classified as hotels with restaurant. They employed an average of 278 workers

per establishment, considerably larger than other types of business in terms of employment size.

Besides these hotels with F&B services, there were another 128 hotels which were engaged in accommodation services only (i.e. without providing F&B services). They were classified as hotels without restaurant. Although they constituted the largest group within the accommodation services industry, these hotels had smaller employment size compared to those operating with restaurants, engaging an average of 12 workers per establishment.

In 2004, there were 35 chalets, lodging and boarding houses which provided short-term stay for vacationers, students and foreign workers. They employed a total of 641 workers, or an average of 18 employees per establishment.

Hotels with restaurant generated \$2.1 billion operating receipts, accounting for 91 per cent of the industry's total (Chart 2). On a per establishment basis,

CHART 1 ESTABLISHMENTS AND EMPLOYMENT, 2004

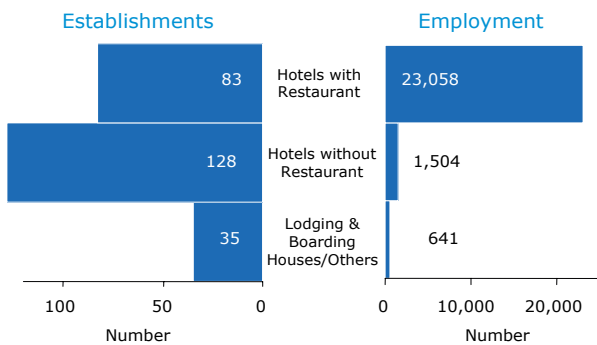
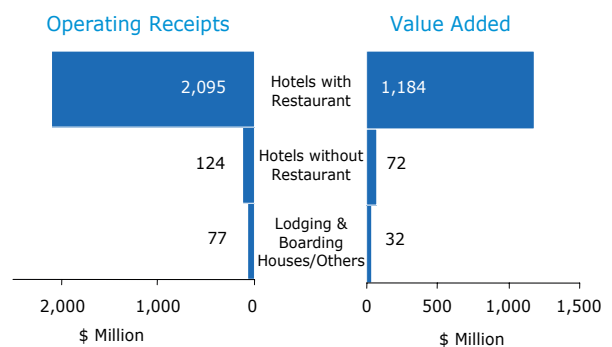


CHART 2 OPERATING RECEIPTS AND VALUE ADDED, 2004



this group registered an average turnover of \$25 million in 2004. Hotels without restaurant and lodging & boarding houses generated \$124 million and \$77 million operating receipts in 2004 respectively. This translated to an average turnover of \$971,200 and \$2.2 million respectively on a per establishment basis.

Similarly, hotels with restaurant contributed significantly to the industry's value added. They generated \$1.2 billion value added, accounting for 92 per cent of the industry total.

### Main Business Incomes

The accommodation services industry generated \$1.3 billion and \$813 million

of income from accommodation services and F&B services respectively. These two sources of business incomes accounted for 91 per cent of overall turnover. The industry also received another \$206 million from rental of premises, laundry services etc.

Within the industry, the share of accommodation services accounted for only 52 per cent of turnover for hotels with restaurant (Table 2). Income from F&B services accounted for another 39 per cent share of total revenue for this group. In contrast, accommodation services accounted for 96 per cent of turnover for hotels without restaurant.

TABLE 2 MAIN BUSINESS INCOMES, 2004

	Income Type and % Share		
	1st	2nd	3rd
Hotels with Restaurant	Accom 52.0	F&B 38.6	Rental 4.5
Hotels without Restaurant	Accom 96.0	Rental 2.4	-
Lodging & Boarding Houses/Others	Accom 88.1	F&B 5.4	Rental 2.7

Notations : Accom Accommodation Services  
F&B Food & Beverage Services  
Rental Rental of Premises

## Main Business Costs

Remuneration expense was the largest business expense incurred by the accommodation services industry, due to the large employment size (Table 3). It accounted for 36 per cent of total operating expenditure for hotels and 23 percent for lodging & boarding houses.

Purchase of F&B for sale was the second largest business cost for hotels with restaurant, accounting for 12 per cent of total operating expenditure. Rental of premises was the second largest cost for hotels without restaurant, accounting for 21 per cent of total business costs.

## Key Performance Ratios

**Profitability ratio** of the accommodation services industry, as measured by the ratio of operating surplus to operating receipts, stood at 25 per cent in 2004. Within the industry, hotels without restaurant registered the highest profit margin at 31 per cent in 2004 (Chart 3).

CHART 3 PROFITABILITY RATIO, 2003 AND 2004

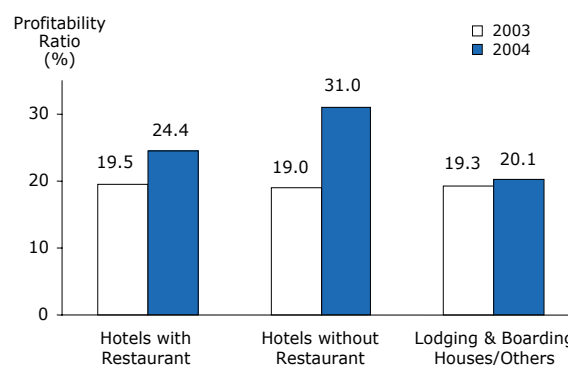


TABLE 3 MAIN BUSINESS COSTS, 2004

	Cost Type and % Share				
	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th
Hotels with Restaurant	Rem 35.8	Purchase 12.5	Dep 11.6	Utilities 6.1	Rental 3.9
Hotels without Restaurant	Rem 35.8	Rental 20.6	Utilities 10.5	Dep 5.1	Maint 5.0
Lodging & Boarding Houses/Others	Rem 22.6	Utilities 12.7	Rental 12.0	Dep 12.0	Maint 8.6

Notations :	Dep	Depreciation
	Maint	Maintenance of Premises
	Purchase	Purchases of Food & Beverages for Sale
	Rem	Remuneration
	Rental	Rental of Premises

**Average annual remuneration per employee** of the accommodation services industry was \$27,400 in 2004, 3.8 per cent higher compared to 2003. Employees engaged by hotels with restaurant received an average annual remuneration of \$27,800, the highest within the industry (Table 4).

Employees working in hotels without restaurant received a much lower remuneration of \$22,100. It represented a decrease of 6.8 per cent compared to a year ago. This was mainly due to the increase in the number of part-timers engaged. The average remuneration of employees working in lodging & boarding houses increased by 3.7 per cent to \$25,200 in 2004.

**Value added per worker** stood at \$51,100 for the accommodation services industry in 2004. Within the industry, hotels with restaurant recorded the highest value added per worker of \$51,400, registering a 20 per cent increase compared to 2003 (Chart 4). Hotels without restaurant and lodging & boarding houses generated value added per worker of \$48,100 and \$50,100 respectively.

CHART 4 VALUE ADDED PER WORKER, 2003 AND 2004

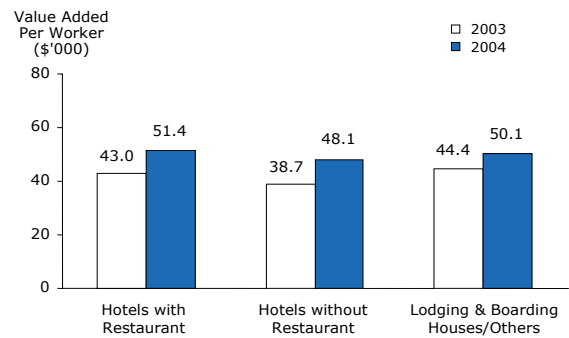


TABLE 4 ANNUAL REMUNERATION PER EMPLOYEE, 2003 AND 2004

	2003	2004	Change
	(\$'000)		(%)
Hotels with Restaurant	26.6	27.8	4.5
Hotels without Restaurant	23.7	22.1	-6.8
Lodging & Boarding Houses/Others	24.3	25.2	3.7

## Performance by Firm Size

Medium firms (i.e. those with employment size of 10–99 workers) formed the majority (42 per cent) in the accommodation services industry. Their profitability ratio of 25 per

cent was also the highest as compared to that of small firms (less than 10 workers) and large firms (100 workers & above). However, large firms contributed the most to total operating receipts (\$2.0 billion or 87 per cent) in 2004 (Table 5).

TABLE 5 ESTABLISHMENTS, OPERATING RECEIPTS AND PROFITABILITY RATIO BY FIRM SIZE, 2004

Employment Size	Estab-lishments (Number)	Operating Receipts (\$ Million)	Profitability Ratio (%)
Less than 10	84	83	23.3
10 – 99	104	218	25.1
100 & Above	58	1,996	24.6

### Visit of Minister of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan 20 September 2006

Her Excellency Mrs Suhair Al-Ali, Minister of Planning and International Cooperation of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, visited the Singapore Department of Statistics (DOS) on 20 September 2006, as a side programme of the International Monetary Fund (IMF)/ World Bank Annual Meetings held in Singapore during the period 13-20 September 2006.

The Minister was accompanied by His Excellency Mr Jamal Al-Asal, Director of Policies and Studies Department and Singapore's Ambassador to Jordan, Mr K Kesavapany.

DOS provided the delegates with an overview of Singapore's Statistical System and briefed them on the methodology used in the collection and dissemination of economic statistics covering the following areas :

- Overview of the Singapore Economy
- Tracking Domestic and External Economy
- Integrating the Data
- Adjusting for Price Changes
- Dissemination Channels



# Overseas Visitors

The Singapore Department of Statistics received the following visitors in the past six months. Topics discussed include Singapore's statistical system and organizational structure, IT systems and applications, surveys on the services sector, and data collection methods for General Household Survey 2005. Other topics of interest include compilation of national accounts, price indices and trade in services data, as well as dissemination of economic time series.

## Abu Dhabi

– *Department of Planning & Economy*

- Mr Nasser Dayan  
Head, Economic Indicators Section
- Mr Ahmad Nazmi Said  
Projects Manager
- Ms Nadia Salem Mubarak  
Head, IT Division
- Ms Fatma AbdoulRahman Al Ali  
Undersecretary's Office Manager
- Ms Layla Shams Almazouqi  
Media Coordinator

## ASEAN Secretariat

– *Harmonisation of ASEAN Trade Indicators Project*

- Mr John Billing  
Statistical Consultant

## Australia

– *Australian Bureau of Statistics*

- Ms Soo Kong  
Deputy Director  
National Education Services Unit

## Saudi Arabia

– *Central Department of Statistics & Information*

- Mr Abdullah S. AL-Othaim  
Director General
- Mr Mohammed Y. AL-Furaih  
Director Manager,  
Economic Statistics
- Mr Mohammed Z. AL-Dafes  
Manager, Administrative Development  
Department
- Mr Khalid Mohammed AL-Dalgan  
Computer Analyzer and  
Systems Designer

## South Korea

– *Korea National Statistical Office*

- Mr Yun Seogeun  
Chief Secretary
- Mr Koo Jamun  
Deputy Director

Officials from the following Korean government agencies also visited DOS :

- Ministry of Labour
- Ministry of Gender Equality and Family
- National Internet Development Agency

# Economic Surveys Series

## (Reference Year 2004)

The Singapore Department of Statistics conducts an annual survey on the services industries to collect a wide range of data for studies and analyses in this sector. The latest survey was conducted in 2005 for reference year 2004.

The Economic Surveys Series 2004 comprises eight reports. The first seven contain detailed survey findings and statistical tables on specific services

industries of importance to Singapore's economy. The final consolidated report on **The Services Sector** provides a comprehensive performance review of the entire sector.

Summary indicators from the reports are provided below.

Softcopies of the full reports will be made available for free access via the SingStat website (<http://www.singstat.gov.sg>).

Industry	Number of Estab-lishments	Number of Workers Employed	Operating Receipts	Operating Surplus	Value Added
	('000)		(\$ Billion)		
Wholesale Trade	35.1	196.9	621.8	12.3	22.4
Retail Trade	20.2	97.7	31.5	1.7	3.7
Food & Beverage Services	4.5	65.0	3.9	0.2	1.2
Transport Services	8.8	100.7	46.1	10.9	16.5
Information & Communications Services	5.8	53.4	20.8	3.8	7.0
Health Services	3.4	48.8	5.5	0.9	3.2
Education Services	2.9	49.6	2.1	0.7	3.6
<b>Services Sector</b>	<b>137.3</b>	<b>956.6</b>	<b>815.8</b>	<b>63.5</b>	<b>85.1</b>

# Formation and Cessation of Companies and Businesses, January-June 2006

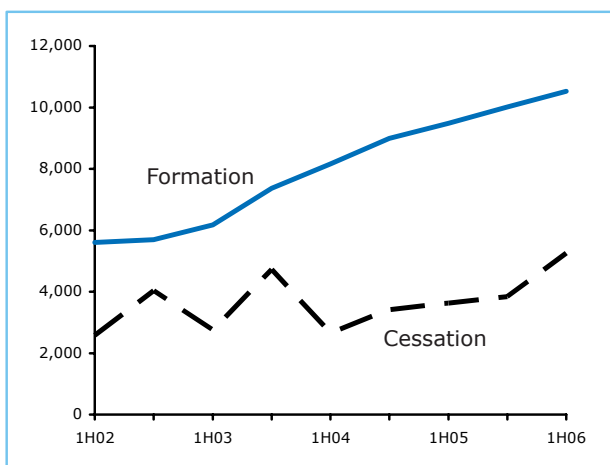
## Companies

A total of 10,530 companies were formed in first half of 2006, as compared to 10,020 reported in second half of 2005 and 9,480 reported in first half of 2005.

In first half of 2006, most major industries recorded an increase in the number of new companies formed compared with the same period in 2005. Growths in company formation by industry ranged from 3.0 per cent (transport & storage industry) to 50 per cent (real estate, rental & leasing industry). However, the administrative & support services industry, and education, health & social work industry registered a decline in number of companies formed, at 35 per cent and 1.0 per cent respectively.

The number of company cessations reached 5,250 in first half of 2006, representing an increase of 45 per cent from first half of 2005. All major industries showed a year-on-year rise in the number of companies which ceased operations during this period.

CHART 1 FORMATION AND CESSATION OF COMPANIES

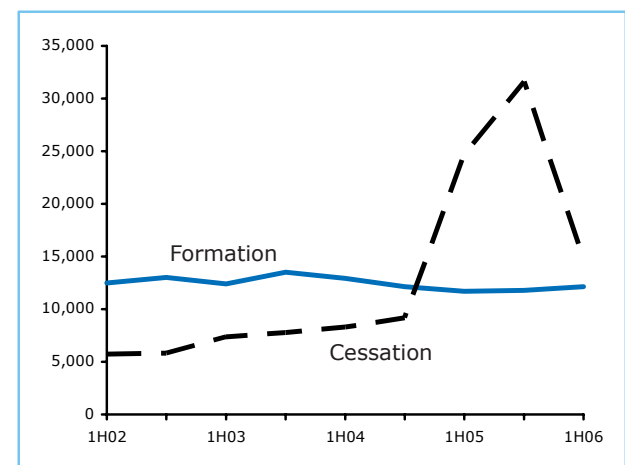


## Businesses

In first half of 2006, the number of new businesses formed stood at 12,150, higher than the 11,790 recorded in second half of 2005. The largest year-on-year increase was recorded in the financial & insurance industry (31 per cent), with the real estate, rental & leasing industry a close second at 30 per cent. In contrast, business formation in the administrative & support services industry declined by 30 per cent.

The number of business cessations was 14,670 in first half of 2006, representing a decline of 41 per cent over first half of 2005. This was mainly attributed to a high base in first half of 2005 when a large number of business cessations was recorded following the batch cancellation notices issued by the Accounting & Corporate Regulatory Authority (ACRA) to businesses which had failed to renew their business licenses after the expiry dates.

CHART 2 FORMATION AND CESSATION OF BUSINESSES



## Appointment of New Chief Statistician

We are pleased to announce the appointment of Ms Wong Wee Kim as the Chief Statistician of the Singapore Department of Statistics (DOS) with effect from 1 July 2006. Mrs Leow Bee Geok, who was the Acting Chief Statistician, has been appointed as the Advisor of DOS.

Ms Wong was the Director of Enterprise Ecosystem and Planning at the Economic Development Board before joining DOS as the Deputy Chief Statistician in August 2004.

The *Statistics Singapore Newsletter* is issued half-yearly by the Singapore Department of Statistics. It aims to provide readers with news of recent research and survey findings. It also serves as a vehicle to inform readers of the latest statistical activities in the Singapore statistical service.

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