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Contents

1	214	1
1.1	214.guide	1
1.2	214.guide/Singapore	1
1.3	214.guide/Geography (Singapore)	2
1.4	214.guide/People (Singapore)	3
1.5	214.guide/Government (Singapore)	4
1.6	214.guide/Government (Singapore 2. usage)	5
1.7	214.guide/Economy (Singapore)	6
1.8	214.guide/Economy (Singapore 2. usage)	7
1.9	214.guide/Communications (Singapore)	7
1.10	214.guide/Defense Forces (Singapore)	8

Chapter 1

214

1.1 214.guide

Texified version of data for Singapore.

Texified using wfact from

Gerhard Leibrock
Neuhäuselerstr. 12
D-66459 Kirkel
Germany

Tel.: 06849 / 6134
INTERNET: leibrock@fsinfo.cs.uni-sb.de
fach5@cipsol.cs.uni-sb.de

Project Gutenberg

P. O. Box 2782

Champaign, IL 61825

When all other email fails try our Michael S. Hart, Executive
Director:

hart@vmd.cso.uiuc.edu (internet) hart@uiucvmd (bitnet)

We would prefer to send you this information by email (Internet,
Bitnet, Compuserve, ATTMAIL or MCI mail).

Singapore

1.2 214.guide/Singapore

Singapore

Geography (Singapore)
 People (Singapore)
 Government (Singapore)
 Government (Singapore 2. usage)
 Economy (Singapore)
 Economy (Singapore 2. usage)
 Communications (Singapore)
 Defense Forces (Singapore)

1.3 214.guide/Geography (Singapore)

Geography (Singapore)

=====

Location:

Southeast Asia, between Malaysia and Indonesia

Map references:

Asia, Southeast Asia, Standard Time Zones of the World

Area:

total area:

632.6 km²

land area:

622.6 km²

comparative area:

slightly less than 3.5 times the size of Washington, DC

Land boundaries:

0 km

Coastline:

193 km

Maritime claims:

exclusive fishing zone:

12 nm

territorial sea:

3 nm

International disputes:

two islands in dispute with Malaysia

Climate:

tropical; hot, humid, rainy; no pronounced rainy or dry seasons;

thunderstorms occur on 40% of all days (67% of days in April)

Terrain:

lowland; gently undulating central plateau contains water catchment area ←
and

nature preserve

Natural resources:

fish, deepwater ports

Land use:

arable land:

4%

permanent crops:

7%

meadows and pastures:

0%
 forest and woodland:
 5%
 other:
 84%
 Irrigated land:
 NA km2
 Environment:
 mostly urban and industrialized
 Note:
 focal point for Southeast Asian sea routes

1.4 214.guide/People (Singapore)

People (Singapore)

=====

Population:
 2,826,331 (July 1993 est.)
 Population growth rate:
 1.19% (1993 est.)
 Birth rate:
 17.12 births/1,000 population (1993 est.)
 Death rate:
 5.25 deaths/1,000 population (1993 est.)
 Net migration rate:
 0 migrant(s)/1,000 population (1993 est.)
 Infant mortality rate:
 5.8 deaths/1,000 live births (1993 est.)
 Life expectancy at birth:
 total population:
 75.75 years
 male:
 73.07 years
 female:
 78.63 years (1993 est.)
 Total fertility rate:
 1.89 children born/woman (1993 est.)
 Nationality:
 noun:
 Singaporean(s)
 adjective:
 Singapore
 Ethnic divisions:
 Chinese 76.4%, Malay 14.9%, Indian 6.4%, other 2.3%
 Religions:
 Buddhist (Chinese), Atheist (Chinese), Muslim (Malays), Christian, Hindu,
 Sikh, Taoist, Confucianist
 Languages:
 Chinese (official), Malay (official and national), Tamil (official), ↔
 English
 (official)
 Literacy:

age 15 and over can read and write (1990)
 total population:
 88%
 male:
 93%
 female:
 84%
 Labor force:
 1,485,800
 by occupation:
 financial, business, and other services 30.2%, manufacturing 28.4%, ←
 commerce
 22.0%, construction 9.0%, other 10.4% (1990)

1.5 214.guide/Government (Singapore)

Government (Singapore)

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Names:
 conventional long form:
 Republic of Singapore
 conventional short form:
 Singapore
 Digraph:
 SN
 Type:
 republic within Commonwealth
 Capital: Singapore
 Administrative divisions:
 none
 Independence:
 9 August 1965 (from Malaysia)
 Constitution:
 3 June 1959, amended 1965; based on preindependence State of Singapore
 Constitution
 Legal system:
 based on English common law; has not accepted compulsory ICJ jurisdiction
 National holiday:
 National Day, 9 August (1965)
 Political parties and leaders:
 government:
 People's Action Party (PAP), GOH Chok Tong, secretary general
 opposition:
 Workers' Party (WP), J. B. JEYARETNAM; Singapore Democratic Party (SDP),
 CHIAM See Tong; National Solidarity Party (NSP), leader NA; Barisan ←
 Socialis
 (BS, Socialist Front), leader NA
 Suffrage:
 20 years of age; universal and compulsory
 Elections:
 President:
 last held 31 August 1989 (next to be held NA August 1993); results -

President WEE Kim Wee was reelected by Parliament without opposition
 Parliament:
 last held 31 August 1991 (next to be held 31 August 1996); results - ←
 percent
 of vote by party NA; seats - (81 total) PAP 77, SDP 3, WP 1
 Executive branch:
 president, prime minister, two deputy prime ministers, Cabinet
 Legislative branch:
 unicameral Parliament
 Judicial branch:
 Supreme Court
 Leaders:
 Chief of State:
 President WEE Kim Wee (since 3 September 1985)
 Head of Government:
 Prime Minister GOH Chok Tong (since 28 November 1990); Deputy Prime ←
 Minister
 LEE Hsien Loong (since 28 November 1990); Deputy Prime Minister ONG Teng
 Cheong (since 2 January 1985)
 Member of:
 APEC, AsDB, ASEAN, C, CCC, COCOM (cooperating country), CP, ESCAP, G-77,
 GATT, IAEA, IBRD, ICAO, ICC, ICFTU, IFC, ILO, IMF, IMO, INMARSAT, INTELSAT,
 INTERPOL, IOC, ISO, ITU, LORCS, NAM, UN, UNAVEM II, UNCTAD, UNIKOM, UPU,
 WHO, WIPO, WMO
 Diplomatic representation in US:
 chief of mission:
 Ambassador S. R. NATHAN

1.6 214.guide/Government (Singapore 2. usage)

Government (Singapore 2. usage)

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chancery:
 1824 R Street NW, Washington, DC 20009 telephone:
 (202) 667-7555
 US diplomatic representation:
 chief of mission:
 Ambassador Jon M. HUNTSMAN, Jr.
 embassy:
 30 Hill Street, Singapore 0617
 mailing address:
 FPO AP 96534
 telephone:
 [65] 338-0251
 FAX:
 [65] 338-4550
 Flag:
 two equal horizontal bands of red (top) and white; near the hoist side of
 the red band, there is a vertical, white crescent (closed portion is toward
 the hoist side) partially enclosing five white five-pointed stars arranged
 in a circle

1.7 214.guide/Economy (Singapore)

Economy (Singapore)

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Overview:

Singapore has an open entrepreneurial economy with strong service and manufacturing sectors and excellent international trading links derived ←
from

its entrepot history. The economy appears to have pulled off a soft landing from the 9% growth rate of the late 1980s, registering higher than expected growth in 1992 while stemming inflation. Economic activity slowed early in 1992, primarily as a result of slackened demand in Singapore's export markets. But after bottoming out in the second quarter, the economy picked up in line with a gradual recovery in the United States. The year's best performers were the construction and financial services industries and manufacturers of computer-related components. Rising labor costs continue ←
to

be a threat to Singapore's competitiveness, but there are indications that productivity is catching up. Government surpluses and the rate of gross national savings remain high. In technology, per capita output, and labor discipline, Singapore is well on its way toward its goal of becoming a developed country.

National product:

GDP - exchange rate conversion - \$45.9 billion (1992)

National product real growth rate:

5.8% (1992)

National product per capita:

\$16,500 (1992)

Inflation rate (consumer prices):

2.3% (1992)

Unemployment rate:

2.7% (June 1992)

Budget:

revenues \$10.4 billion; expenditures \$9.4 billion, including capital expenditures of \$NA (1993)

Exports:

\$61.5 billion (f.o.b., 1992)

commodities:

computer equipment, rubber and rubber products, petroleum products, telecommunications equipment

partners:

US 21%, Malaysia 13%, Hong Kong 8%, Japan 7%, Thailand 6%

Imports:

\$66.4 billion (f.o.b., 1992)

commodities:

aircraft, petroleum, chemicals, foodstuffs

partners:

Japan 21%, US 16%, Malaysia 14%, Taiwan 4%

External debt:

\$0 Singapore is a net creditor

Industrial production:

growth rate 2.3% (1992); accounts for 28% of GDP

Electricity:

4,860,000 kW capacity; 18,000 million kWh produced, 6,420 kWh per capita (1992)

Industries:

petroleum refining, electronics, oil drilling equipment, rubber processing and rubber products, processed food and beverages, ship repair, entrepot trade, financial services, biotechnology

Agriculture:

occupies a position of minor importance in the economy; self-sufficient in poultry and eggs; must import much of other food; major crops - rubber, copra, fruit, vegetables

1.8 214.guide/Economy (Singapore 2. usage)

Economy (Singapore 2. usage)

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Illicit drugs:

transit point for Golden Triangle heroin going to the US, Western Europe, and the Third World; also a major money-laundering center

Economic aid:

US commitments, including Ex-Im (FY70-83), \$590 million; Western (non-US) countries, ODA and OOF bilateral commitments (1970-89), \$1.0 billion

Currency:

1 Singapore dollar (S\$) = 100 cents

Exchange rates:

Singapore dollars (S\$) per US\$1 - 1.6531 (January 1993), 1.6290 (1992), 1.7276 (1991), 1.8125 (1990), 1.9503 (1989), 2.0124 (1988)

Fiscal year:

1 April - 31 March

1.9 214.guide/Communications (Singapore)

Communications (Singapore)

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Railroads:

38 km of 1.000-meter gauge

Highways:

2,644 km total (1985)

Ports:

Singapore

Merchant marine:

492 ships (1,000 GRT or over) totaling 9,763,511 GRT/15,816,384 DWT; includes 1 passenger-cargo, 125 cargo, 72 container, 7 roll-on/roll-off cargo, 4 refrigerated cargo, 18 vehicle carrier, 1 livestock carrier, 165 oil tanker, 8 chemical tanker, 7 combination ore/oil, 2 specialized tanker,

5 liquefied gas, 74 bulk, 3 combination bulk; note - many Singapore flag ships are foreign owned

Airports:

total:

10

usable:

10

with permanent-surface runways:

10

with runways over 3,659 m:

2

with runways 2,440-3,659 m:

4

with runways 1,220-2,439 m:

3

Telecommunications:

good domestic facilities; good international service; good radio and television broadcast coverage; 1,110,000 telephones; broadcast stations - ↔
13

AM, 4 FM, 2 TV; submarine cables extend to Malaysia (Sabah and peninsular Malaysia), Indonesia, and the Philippines; satellite earth stations - 1 Indian Ocean INTELSAT and 1 Pacific Ocean INTELSAT

1.10 214.guide/Defense Forces (Singapore)

Defense Forces (Singapore)

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Branches:

Army, Navy, Air Force, People's Defense Force, Police Force

Manpower availability:

males age 15-49 853,440; fit for military service 629,055 (1993 est.)

Defense expenditures:

exchange rate conversion - \$1.7 billion, 4% of GDP (1990 est.)