Singapore's GDP Grew by 2.8 Per Cent in the Fourth Quarter of 2023 and by 1.2 Per Cent in 2023

<u>2 January 2024</u>. Based on advance estimates¹, the Singapore economy grew by 2.8 per cent on a year-on-year basis in the fourth quarter of 2023, faster than the 1.0 per cent growth in the previous quarter. On a quarter-on-quarter seasonally-adjusted basis, the economy expanded by 1.7 per cent, extending the 1.3 per cent expansion in the third quarter. For the whole of 2023, the economy grew by 1.2 per cent, moderating from the 3.6 per cent growth in 2022.

	4Q22	2022	1Q23	2Q23	3Q23	4Q23*	2023*				
Percentage change over corresponding period of previous year											
Overall GDP	2.1	3.6	0.5	0.6	1.0	2.8	1.2				
Goods Producing Industries	-1.1	2.9	-3.6	-5.5	-3.2	3.7	-2.2				
Manufacturing	-2.6	2.5	-5.2	-7.5	-4.7	3.2	-3.6				
Construction	10.0	6.7	7.9	7.7	6.2	9.1	7.7				
Services Producing Industries	4.0	4.8	1.9	2.8	2.3	2.4	2.3				
Wholesale & Retail Trade and Transportation & Storage	2.4	3.6	-0.7	2.2	1.3	1.5	1.1				
Information & Communications, Finance & Insurance and Professional Services	2.5	4.3	1.6	1.3	2.5	3.9	2.3				
Accommodation & Food Services, Real Estate, Administrative & Support Services and Other Services	9.0	7.4	6.8	6.1	3.9	2.0	4.6				

Gross Domestic Product in Chained (2015) Dollars

¹ The advance GDP estimates for the fourth quarter of 2023 are computed largely from data in the first two months of the quarter (i.e., October and November 2023). They are intended as an early indication of GDP growth in the quarter and are subject to revision when more comprehensive data become available.



	4Q22	2022	1Q23	2Q23	3Q23	4Q23*	2023*			
Quarter-on-quarter growth rate, seasonally adjusted										
Overall GDP	0.1	3.6	-0.3	0.1	1.3	1.7	1.2			
Goods Producing Industries	1.1	2.9	-3.5	-1.0	0.7	7.3	-2.2			
Manufacturing	1.0	2.5	-4.4	-1.4	0.3	9.0	-3.6			
Construction	1.4	6.7	1.2	2.7	0.8	4.3	7.7			
Services Producing Industries	-0.2	4.8	0.4	1.0	1.1	0.0	2.3			
Wholesale & Retail Trade and Transportation & Storage	-1.6	3.6	-0.6	3.0	0.6	-1.4	1.1			
Information & Communications, Finance & Insurance and Professional Services	1.1	4.3	-1.3	1.1	1.6	2.5	2.3			
Accommodation & Food Services, Real Estate, Administrative & Support Services and Other Services	1.1	7.4	1.6	0.3	0.7	-0.7	4.6			

*Advance estimates

Sectoral Performance

The manufacturing sector expanded by 3.2 per cent year-on-year in the fourth quarter of 2023, a turnaround from the 4.7 per cent contraction in the previous quarter. Growth in the sector was due to output expansions across all clusters, with the exception of the precision engineering cluster. On a quarter-on-quarter seasonally-adjusted basis, the manufacturing sector grew by 9.0 per cent in the fourth quarter, accelerating from the 0.3 per cent expansion in the third quarter.

The construction sector expanded by 9.1 per cent year-on-year in the fourth quarter, faster than the 6.2 per cent growth in the previous quarter. Both public and private sector construction output increased during the quarter. On a quarter-on-quarter seasonally-adjusted basis, the pace of growth in the construction sector picked up to 4.3 per cent in the fourth quarter, from 0.8 per cent in the third quarter.

Among the services sectors, the wholesale & retail trade and transportation & storage sectors collectively grew by 1.5 per cent year-on-year in the fourth



quarter, extending the 1.3 per cent growth in the previous quarter. All sectors within the group recorded expansions during the quarter. Growth in the wholesale & retail trade sector was supported by both wholesale and retail trade activities. Meanwhile, the expansion of the transportation & storage sector was partly driven by the air transport segment, which saw robust growth on the back of the continued recovery in air passengers handled at Changi Airport. On a quarter-on-quarter seasonally-adjusted basis, the wholesale & retail trade and transportation & storage sectors as a whole shrank by 1.4 per cent in the fourth quarter, a pullback from the 0.6 per cent growth in the preceding quarter.

The group of sectors comprising the information & communications, finance & insurance and professional services sectors grew by 3.9 per cent year-on-year in the fourth quarter, extending the 2.5 per cent growth in the previous quarter. All sectors within the group expanded during the quarter. Growth in the information & communications sector was led by the IT & information services segment, while that in the professional services sector was mainly driven by the other professional, scientific & technical services segment. As for the finance & insurance sector, growth was primarily supported by activities auxiliary to financial services, which include payment processing activities. On a quarter-on-quarter seasonally-adjusted basis, the sectors in the group collectively expanded by 2.5 per cent in the fourth quarter, faster than the 1.6 per cent growth in the third quarter.

The remaining group of services sectors (i.e., accommodation & food services, real estate, administrative & support services and other services sectors) grew by 2.0 per cent year-on-year in the fourth quarter, moderating from the 3.9 per cent growth in the previous quarter. Within the group, the accommodation, real estate and other services sectors recorded expansions during the quarter. In particular, the accommodation and other services sectors continued to expand in tandem with the ongoing recovery in tourist arrivals. On a quarter-on-quarter seasonally-adjusted basis, the sectors in the group collectively contracted by 0.7 per cent in the fourth quarter, a reversal of the 0.7 per cent expansion in the previous quarter.

The preliminary GDP estimates for the fourth quarter and whole of 2023, including performance by sectors, sources of growth, inflation, employment and productivity, will be released in the *Economic Survey of Singapore* in February 2024.

MINISTRY OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY 2 January 2024

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