

## FACTSHEET *Data.gov.sg*

Open Data sharing is one of the priority areas for Singapore's Smart Nation vision. By releasing data, the government aims to unlock economic value, enable quality research and deepen public participation and engagement.

Data.gov.sg was first launched in 2011 as a free and open data portal where anyone can access datasets on Singapore, ranging from education, environment and health to transport.

The new Data.gov.sg – launched in July 2015 – aims to go beyond being a data repository. Through the active use of data visualisations and data-driven blog posts, the new portal aims to make government data relevant and understandable to the public.

In April 2016, a Developer's portal was also introduced to provide developers easier access to real-time data from different government agencies via APIs (Application Programming Interfaces).

As of March 2019, the one-stop portal provides the public with access to more than 1,600 high quality datasets and 14 real-time APIs from 70 public agencies. There was more than 300,000 page views and 13 million API calls for real-time data each month.

### Key features:

- **Dashboards for quick reference** – The homepage and nine topic pages feature dashboards with interactive charts, visualisations and stories that are topical and relevant to the public. For example, when the haze affected Singapore in September and October 2015, the homepage and Environment page were updated to show charts on PM2.5 concentration and PSI readings. When the dengue outbreak occurred in early 2016, the homepage depicted – via a heatmap - all the hotspots to be avoided.
- **Preview and share datasets through charts and tables** – Users can now preview the contents of each dataset without downloading them. For example, users can compare electricity consumption between households and industry by checking out the line chart on the “Monthly Electricity Consumption by Sector” dataset page<sup>1</sup>. Users can also easily embed data.gov.sg charts on their own websites using the “embed” feature, or download the charts for offline use.
- **Data.gov.sg blog** – The blog section (<https://blog.data.gov.sg>) aims to illustrate trends and importance of the use of data to improve daily lives of citizens, through relevant narratives and visualisations. A showcase of how GovTech data scientists played a key

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<sup>1</sup> <https://data.gov.sg/dataset/monthly-electricity-consumption-by-sector-total>  
[tech.gov.sg](https://tech.gov.sg)

role in resolving the mysterious disruptions on the MRT Circle Line was published in December 2016. The latest article, published in February 2019, details how our software engineers developed a deep learning tool, Colorise.sg, to bring life back to black and white photos.

- **High quality data** – The quality of the data on the portal is enhanced by standardising formats, ensuring machine-readability and improving documentation. This will ensure that data users can easily analyse, mash up and visualise datasets from Data.gov.sg without spending time unnecessarily on data scrubbing. Public officers can also use the data and analysis to drive policy and operations, ultimately delivering more anticipatory, citizen-centric solutions to help improve the lives of Singaporeans.
- **Developer’s Portal** – A portal for developers (<https://developers.data.gov.sg>) was launched in April 2016. Developers and analysts can now access real-time government open data APIs from different agencies via the portal instead of signing up with individual agencies. As of March 2019, 14 high-frequency APIs were made available, including PSI readings from the National Environment Agency and taxi locations and availability from the Land Transport Authority. More APIs from different public agencies will be made available progressively.

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For the latest updates, follow Data.gov.sg on Facebook (<https://fb.com/opendatasg>), Twitter (<https://twitter.com/datagovsg>) or blog (<https://blog.data.gov.sg>).

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