

HONG KONG : THE FACTS



Population

Population Size: At mid-2009, the population of Hong Kong was 7.00 million, including 6.80 million Usual Residents and 0.21 million Mobile Residents.

During the period 2005-2009, the population grew at an average annual rate of 0.7 per cent. Population in these years was as follows:

Year	Mid-year population	Annual rate of increase	Sex ratio (males per 1 000 females)
2005	6 813 200	0.4	920
2006	6 857 100	0.6	912
2007	6 925 900	1.0	904
2008	6 977 700	0.7	896
2009	7 003 700	0.4	889

Distribution by Area: At mid-2009, the population was distributed geographically as follows:

Area	% of total population [†]
Hong Kong Island	18.5
Kowloon	29.5
New Territories (including marine)	52.1
Total	100.0

Population Density[‡]: Hong Kong is one of the most densely populated places in the world. The land population density as at mid-2009 stood at 6 480 persons per square kilometre, and Kwun Tong, with 53 110 persons per square kilometre, was the most densely populated district among the District Council districts.

[‡] Excluding marine population and area of reservoirs.

Age and Sex Structure: At mid-2009, there were 889 males per 1 000 females. The median age of the total population was 40.7. The age and sex structure of the population was given as follows:

Age Group	Male		Female		Total	
	Number	% [†]	Number	% [†]	Number	% [†]
0-14	451 400	6.4	422 000	6.0	873 400	12.5
15-24	443 500	6.3	450 300	6.4	893 800	12.8
25-34	456 900	6.5	619 500	8.8	1 076 400	15.4
35-44	504 900	7.2	669 700	9.6	1 174 600	16.8
45-54	619 100	8.8	663 300	9.5	1 282 400	18.3
55-64	406 500	5.8	403 100	5.8	809 600	11.6
65 and over	413 900	5.9	479 600	6.8	893 500	12.8
Total	3 296 200	47.1	3 707 500	52.9	7 003 700	100.0

Births and Deaths: Fertility rate in Hong Kong has continued to remain at a low level. It has also attained a very low level of mortality by international standards. Birth and death rates are given as follows:

Year	Crude birth rate (per 1 000 population)	Total fertility rate (per 1 000 women) [‡]	Crude death rate (per 1 000 population)	Expectation of life at birth for males (years)	Expectation of life at birth for females (years)	Infant mortality rate (per 1 000 live births)
2005	8.4	959	5.7	78.8	84.6	2.3
2006	9.6	984	5.5	79.4	85.5	1.8
2007	10.2	1 024	5.7	79.4	85.5	1.8
2008	11.3	1 056	6.0	79.3	85.5	1.8
2009	11.7	1 042	5.9	79.7	85.9	1.7

[‡] Total fertility rate refers to the average number of children that would be born alive to 1 000 women during their lifetime if they were to pass through their childbearing ages 15-49 experiencing the age specific fertility rates prevailing in a given year. These figures have been compiled using a population denominator which has excluded female foreign domestic helpers.

The birth rate remained low (11.7 live births per 1 000 population in 2009 to 8.4 in 2005). Moreover, according to the total fertility rate, 1 000 women in 2009 would bear, on average, 1 042 children in their lifetime as compared with 959 children in 2005.

In 2009, the death rate was 5.9 per 1 000 population. The expectation of life at birth was 79.7 years for males and 85.9 years for females, compared against the corresponding figures of 78.8 and 84.6 years in 2005.

There was a decline in the infant mortality rate from 2.3 per 1 000 live births in 2005 to 1.7 in 2009. The decline reflected a continual improvement in maternal and child health services.

Education: The educational level of the population of Hong Kong has improved appreciably over the past five years. The following table compares the educational attainment of the population aged 15 and over for Q4 2004 and Q4 2009 obtained from the results of the General Household Survey⁺⁺:

<i>Educational attainment</i>	<i>% of population aged 15 and over</i>	
	<i>Q4 2004</i>	<i>Q4 2009*</i>
No schooling/Pre-primary	6.4	5.3
Primary	19.5	16.9
Secondary**	51.3	52.1
Post-secondary	22.8	25.7
Total	100.0	100.0

++ The General Household Survey covers the land-based non-institutional population of Hong Kong.

** Persons with educational attainment at secondary level refer to those with Secondary 1 to Secondary 7 education or equivalent level.

Income: Based on the results of the General Household Survey, the median monthly domestic household income for Q4 2009 was \$17,500. The distribution of domestic households in Hong Kong by monthly household income was as follows:

<i>Monthly household income (\$)</i>	<i>% of total domestic households*[∇]</i>
Under 4,000	8.1
4,000–5,999	6.0
6,000–7,999	6.9
8,000–9,999	7.1
10,000–14,999	14.4
15,000–19,999	12.2
20,000–24,999	10.5
25,000–29,999	6.8
30,000–34,999	6.2
35,000–39,999	4.1
40,000–44,999	3.4
45,000–49,999	2.4
50,000–59,999	3.7
60,000–79,999	3.7
80,000–99,999	1.7
100,000 and over	2.8
Total	100.0

Labour Force Participation Rate: Based on the results of the General Household Survey, the size of the total labour force in Hong Kong for Q4 2009 was 3.65 million*. This represented 60.1 per cent* of the total population aged 15 and over. The following table shows the labour force participation rates of the population by age and sex:

<i>Age group</i>	<i>Male (%)*</i>	<i>Female (%)*</i>
15–19	11.1	12.0
20–24	62.7	63.9
25–29	94.2	86.7
30–34	96.1	79.6
35–39	96.1	75.3
40–44	95.5	70.3
45–49	94.0	66.9
50–54	89.0	54.8
55–59	75.9	37.4
60–64	49.6	18.9
65 and over	9.2	1.9
Overall	68.7	52.7

Occupation: The distribution of the employed population in Hong Kong by occupation for Q4 2009 was as follows:

<i>Occupation</i>	<i>% of the employed population*[∇]</i>
Managers and administrators	9.5
Professionals	6.5
Associate professionals	20.1
Clerks	15.9
Service workers and shop sales workers	15.8
Craft and related workers	7.3
Plant and machine operators and assemblers	5.6
Elementary occupations	19.1
Others	0.1
Total	100.0

Housing: The distribution of the land-based non-institutional population of Hong Kong by type of housing for Q4 2009, based on the results of the General Household Survey, was as follows:

<i>Type of housing</i>	<i>% of land-based non-institutional population*[∇]</i>
Public rental housing	29.9
Subsidised sale flats	18.0
Private permanent housing	51.3
Temporary housing	0.9
Total	100.0

The following symbols are used in this fact sheet:

* Revised figures.

∇ There may be a slight discrepancy between the sum of individual items and the total as shown in the tables due to rounding.