Preface

Since its establishment in 2001 as a central mechanism to promote the well-being and interests of women in Hong Kong, the Women’s Commission has advocated gender mainstreaming as a key strategy in achieving gender equality. Gender mainstreaming is the integration of gender perspectives and needs in legislation, policies or programmes, in any area and at all levels. So we have to collect and analyse sex-disaggregated statistics systematically and scientifically when analysing the current situation in order to achieve gender mainstreaming.

To this end, the Commission takes great pleasure in presenting the 2017 Edition of “Hong Kong Women in Figures” which highlights key statistics of women and men in Hong Kong. The present position and trends of women’s development in Hong Kong are also exhibited.

As the sixth publication in the series since 2007, this booklet continues to provide the public with a handy yet comprehensive reference to the progress and development of Hong Kong women. Data collected is displayed in an evident and conspicuous manner over the following ten areas:

- Population
- Marriage and Family
- Education
- Employment
- Health
- Social and Political Participation
- Social Security and Welfare
- Violence and Crime
- Information Technology Usage
- International Comparison

Gender disaggregated data is essential to develop gender sensitive policy and enable effective monitoring and evaluation of change for women. The Commission hopes that you will find this booklet a useful instrument for women’s studies or research, as well as an effective starting point for interested parties to gain a deeper understanding of the situation of women in Hong Kong. The Commission also hopes it will stimulate reflection and discussion on women-related issues in the community.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contents</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Population</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Marriage and Family</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Education</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Employment</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Health</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Social and Political Participation</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Social Security and Welfare</td>
<td>59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Violence and Crime</td>
<td>63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Information Technology Usage</td>
<td>71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. International Comparison</td>
<td>75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>List of Charts and Tables</td>
<td>77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sources of Data</td>
<td>81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women’s Commission</td>
<td>82</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Population

In 2017, the mid-year population of Hong Kong was 7,389,500, of that 3,994,700 were female. Over the past decade, there have been substantial changes in the population composition of Hong Kong in terms of number, gender and age. One of the noticeable changes is the ageing population of Hong Kong.
Comparison between the population pyramids in 2007 and 2017 shows a continuing ageing trend during the period. There were generally more women than men in the age groups of 20 – 69 and 75 and over in 2017.

The ratio of male to female decreased continuously over the past decade. This arose as a result of the large inflow of female one-way permit holders from Mainland China and the importation of a large number of female foreign domestic helpers.
1.3 One-way Permit Holders Entering Hong Kong by Sex

Among the one-way permit holders entering Hong Kong from Mainland China, the number of women exceeded that of men, as many women came to Hong Kong to join their husbands.

1.4 Foreign Domestic Helpers\(^{(1)}\) by Sex

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>4 100</td>
<td>4 253</td>
<td>4 453</td>
<td>4 718</td>
<td>4 904</td>
<td>5 003</td>
<td>5 086</td>
<td>5 292</td>
<td>5 435</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>252 497</td>
<td>263 525</td>
<td>281 228</td>
<td>295 243</td>
<td>307 491</td>
<td>315 985</td>
<td>325 564</td>
<td>335 088</td>
<td>346 078</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\(^{(1)}\) Figures refer to those who have a valid limit of stay in Hong Kong as a foreign domestic helper as at end of the year.

Source: Immigration Department

The number of female foreign domestic helpers increased by around 94 000 from 2008 to 2016 whereas the number of male foreign domestic helpers increased by around 1 300 in the same period.
There were changes in the living arrangement of women and men during 1996 – 2016. In particular, the proportion of women living alone increased steadily from 3.3% in 1996 to 6.3% in 2016, while that of men experienced a slight increase from 5.5% in 1996 to 6.6% in 2016.
Marriage and Family

Changes in the marital status and family conditions of people in Hong Kong over the past decade have brought about considerable changes in the role of female in the sphere of family life. The median age at first marriage of women and the proportion of Hong Kong females marrying males from the Mainland China among cross boundary marriages have risen steadily.
2.1 Marriage

2.1.1 Population Aged 15 and over\(^{(1)}\) (Excluding Foreign Domestic Helpers) by Sex and Marital Status

The number and proportion of widowed / divorced / separated women increased over the past decade. In both 2006 and 2016, the number of widowed / divorced / separated women was larger than that of men. This can partly be explained by the longer life span of women and the relatively higher remarriage rate of the divorced / separated men.

2.1.2 Females Aged 15 and over\(^{(1)}\) (Excluding Foreign Domestic Helpers) by Marital Status

The number and proportion of widowed / divorced / separated women increased over the past decade.
2.1.3 Median Age at First Marriage by Sex

The median age of women at their first marriage rose steadily from 28.2 in 2006 to 29.4 in 2016.

2.1.4 Crude Marriage Rates by Sex

The crude marriage rates (i.e. the number of marriages per 1,000 mid-year population) for both men and women were generally decreasing since 2012, though there was a mild increase in 2014.
2.1.5 Number of Marriages by Type

The number of remarriages of either or both parties constituted 34.7% of all marriages in 2016.

Note: (1) Figures refer to re-registration of couples who had customarily married in Hong Kong before 7 October 1971.

Source: Census and Statistics Department

The number of remarriages of either or both parties constituted 34.7% of all marriages in 2016.
2.1.6 Number of Cross-boundary Marriages Between Hong Kong and Mainland China\(^{(1)(2)}\)

The proportion of Hong Kong females marrying males from the Mainland China among cross boundary marriages have risen steadily over the past decade.

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Notes: (1) Before the reference year of 2010, the figures of bridegrooms / brides from Mainland China are estimated with reference to two data items in the individual registered marriage records provided by the Immigration Department on a monthly basis, viz. “place of previous residence” being in Mainland China and “duration of stay in Hong Kong” being less than 1 year. The figure thus compiled might have included one-way permit holders entering Hong Kong and getting married in less than 1 year. Nevertheless, it still provides a good proxy indicator to cross-boundary marriage statistics. Since the reference year of 2010, besides the above two data items, more information (e.g. holding of travel document type) is used to enhance the estimates of bridegrooms / brides from Mainland China.

(2) Since applicants with issuance of CAMR (who claimed for the purpose of marrying in Mainland China) may not eventually lead to marriages, the sum of relevant figures in the chart only gives a crude indicator of the total number of marriages.

Source: Census and Statistics Department
2.1.7 Crude Divorce Rates

The crude divorce rates (i.e. the number of divorce decrees granted per 1,000 mid-year population) dropped in recent years.

![Graph showing the number of divorce decrees granted per 1,000 mid-year population from 2006 to 2016.](image)

*Source: Census and Statistics Department*

The crude divorce rates (i.e. the number of divorce decrees granted per 1,000 mid-year population) dropped in recent years.

2.1.8 Single Parents\(^{(1)}\) by Sex

![Bar chart showing the number of single mothers and fathers from 1996 to 2016.](image)

*Note: (1) Refers to mothers or fathers who are never married, widowed, divorced or separated, and living with child(ren) aged under 18 in the same household. Figures for 2001-2016 have been compiled based on the classification of single parents adopted in the 2011 Population Census and the 2016 Population By-census.*

*Source: Census and Statistics Department*

The number of single mothers outnumbered single fathers in the past two decades.
While there was a general decreasing trend in the fertility rates for women aged 20-24, that for women aged between 30 and 44 were in general increasing.
2.2.2 Median Age of Women at First Childbirth

The median age of women at first childbirth increased from 29.2 to 31.4 over the past decade.

2.2.3 Trend of Population, Women Aged 15 – 49 and Population Aged 0 - 14

The young population aged from 0 to 14 has experienced a decreasing trend since 1970s. The number of women aged 15 – 49 has remained stable since late 1990s, and the general population growth is forecasted to drop from 2040s.
2.3 Headship

2.3.1 Headship Rates\(^{(1)}\) by Sex and Age Group

The headship rate is the ratio of the number of household heads in a given age-sex group to the total number of persons in the corresponding age-sex group of the population living in domestic households. The headship rates for female aged 50 and over increased from 2006 to 2016.

*Note: (1) In computing the headship rate, all persons reported to be household heads, irrespective of whether they being head in single-head households or one of the heads in multi-head households, are all counted as household heads. The total number of household heads would hence be larger than the total number of households.*

*Source: Census and Statistics Department*
Education

The trend in educational attainment of the Hong Kong population has improved much with the advancement in the Hong Kong society on different fronts. A wide range of education and training opportunities are available to all who wish to further their study and enhance their employability. The proportion of female aged 15 and over who have received post-secondary education and above has increased from 22.0% in 2006 to 28.9% in 2016.
3.1 Population Aged 15 and over(1) by Sex and Educational Attainment

Among women aged 15 and over, 78.6% received secondary education and above as against 84.5% for men in 2016. The numbers of women and men who have received secondary education and above in 2016 increased by 24.2% and 12.6% respectively as against 2006.

3.2 Percentage Shares of Male and Female Students in Programmes Funded by the University Grants Committee (UGC)

Female students enrolled in higher education programmes funded by UGC continued to outnumber male students and constituted 53.7% of total student population in 2016/17 academic year.
### 3.3 Students Enrolled in Programmes Funded by UGC by Level of Study and Sex

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level of study</th>
<th>Sex</th>
<th>Number of students(^{(1)})</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2006/07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Female</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sub-degree(^{(2)})</td>
<td></td>
<td>6 346 (65.3%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Male</td>
<td>3 375 (34.7%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Undergraduate</td>
<td>Female</td>
<td>27 831 (53.0%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Male</td>
<td>24 682 (47.0%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taught postgraduate(^{(2)})</td>
<td>Female</td>
<td>2 673 (57.3%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Male</td>
<td>1 995 (42.7%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research postgraduate</td>
<td>Female</td>
<td>2 413 (42.2%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Male</td>
<td>3 303 (57.8%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overall</td>
<td>Female</td>
<td>39 263 (54.1%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Male</td>
<td>33 355 (45.9%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>72 618</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Notes:**

1. Figures in brackets denote the percentage shares of female and male students in each level of study of the respective academic years.
2. The Government decided that a majority of sub-degree / taught postgraduate programmes should be changed to self-financed mode in phases in the 2005/06 – 2007/08 triennium. As a result, there were decreases in the number of students enrolled in UGC-funded sub-degree / taught postgraduate programmes.

**Source:** University Grants Committee
3.4 Percentage Shares of Male and Female Students in UGC-funded Programmes by Academic Programme Category, 2016/17 Academic Year

In the 2016/17 academic year, more female students enrolled in education (72.7%), arts and humanities (72.5%), health (66.8%), social sciences (64.2%), dentistry (59.7%), business and management (59.3%) and medicine (51.1%) programmes when compared with male students.

3.5 Percentage Shares of Male and Female Full-time Staff in UGC-funded Institutions\(^{(1)}\), 2016/17 Academic Year

In the 2016/17 academic year, there were 20,588 full-time staff with salaries wholly funded by UGC from General Funds in UGC-funded Institutions and 10,497 of them were female (51.0%). Female staff accounted for 16.9% of senior academic positions and 32.9% of junior academic staff. On the other hand, more non-academic positions were filled by women (61.3%).

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\(^{(1)}\) Figures refer to staff with salaries wholly funded by UGC from General Funds as at 31 October 2016.

Source: University Grants Committee
EMPLOYMENT

With improvement in the level of educational attainment and increase in training opportunities, women in Hong Kong have increasing participation in economic activities and enjoy financial independence. The labour force participation rate of women aged 40 and above increased remarkably in the past decade. The numbers of female certified public accountants and solicitors holding practising certificates are getting close to that of men in recent years.
4.1 Labour Force Participation

4.1.1 Labour Force Participation Rates (Excluding Foreign Domestic Helpers) by Sex

The labour force participation rate for women increased gradually from 49.3% in 2006 to 50.7% in 2016. On the other hand, the labour force participation rate of men decreased from 70.9% in 2006 to 68.6% in 2016.

4.1.2 Labour Force Participation Rates (Excluding Foreign Domestic Helpers) by Sex and Age Group, 2016

The labour force participation rate of women was lower than that of men in all age groups except the age group of 20 – 24.
Generally speaking, the labour force participation rates of women with higher level of educational attainment were higher.
4.1.4 Labour Force Participation Rates (Excluding Foreign Domestic Helpers) by Marital Status, Sex and Age Group

Never married women

Never married men

Age group
For any marital status, the labour force participation rate of women aged 40 and above increased remarkably in the past decade.

Note: (1) For those aged 15-19, figures are compiled based on a small number of observations and not be released owing to large sampling error.

Source: Census and Statistics Department
In 2016, the proportions of female clerical support workers and service and sales workers were relatively higher than those of male. The proportions of female managers and administrators, professionals and associate professionals have generally increased by 2016.
4.1.6 Percentage Shares of Male and Female Employed Persons (Excluding Foreign Domestic Helpers) by Industry

### 2006

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Industry</th>
<th>Female</th>
<th>Male</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Manufacturing</td>
<td>35.5%</td>
<td>64.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construction</td>
<td>7.2%</td>
<td>92.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wholesale, retail and import / export trades, restaurants and hotels</td>
<td>50.6%</td>
<td>49.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transport, storage and communications</td>
<td>22.7%</td>
<td>77.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financing, insurance, real estate and business services</td>
<td>41.4%</td>
<td>58.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community, social and personal services</td>
<td>57.8%</td>
<td>42.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Others</td>
<td>23.4%</td>
<td>76.6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Notes:** (1) Based on Hong Kong Standard Industrial Classification (HSIC) Version 1.1.

### 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Industry</th>
<th>Female</th>
<th>Male</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Manufacturing</td>
<td>33.2%</td>
<td>66.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construction</td>
<td>10.2%</td>
<td>89.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Import / export trade and wholesale</td>
<td>49.6%</td>
<td>50.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retail, accommodation and food services</td>
<td>56.3%</td>
<td>43.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transportation, storage, postal and courier services, information and communications</td>
<td>25.3%</td>
<td>74.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financing, insurance, real estate, professional and business services</td>
<td>48.3%</td>
<td>51.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public administration, social and personal services</td>
<td>59.7%</td>
<td>40.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other industries</td>
<td>25.3%</td>
<td>74.7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Notes:** (2) Based on HSIC Version 2.0.  
(3) Accommodation services cover hotels, guesthouses, boarding houses and other establishments providing short term accommodation. 
(4) The retail, accommodation and food services industries as a whole is generally referred to as the consumption- and tourism-related segment.

**Source:** Census and Statistics Department
4.1.7 Percentage Shares of Male and Female Employed Persons (Excluding Foreign Domestic Helpers) by Selected Industry (Based on HSIC Version 2.0) and Occupation

(a) Public Administration, Social and Personal Services

The proportions of women working as managers and administrators and associate professionals in the public administration, social and personal services sector increased in 2016 compared with the corresponding figures in 2011, while the proportion of women working as professionals in the sector decreased.
The proportions of women working as managers and administrators, professionals and associate professionals in the manufacturing sector were relatively lower.
The proportions of women working as professionals and associate professionals in the financing, insurance, real estate, professional and business services sector increased in the past five years, while the proportion of women working as managers and administrators in the sector decreased.

Notes: (1) Figures for plant and machine operators and assemblers and other occupations in 2011 and 2016 are compiled based on a small number of observations and not be released owing to large sampling error.
(2) Based on the International Standard Classification of Occupations 2008 (ISCO-08).
Source: Census and Statistics Department
The proportions of women engaged in the retail, accommodation and food services sector increased in all occupations except elementary occupations in the past five years.
4.1.8 Number of Persons in Selected Professions by Sex

There was an increasing participation of women in various professions. For instance, while the number of female certified public accountants, solicitors holding practising certificates and registered doctors increased steadily over the past decade, the number of female fully qualified engineers remained low.

(a) Certified Public Accountants

(b) Solicitors Holding Practising Certificates

Notes: (1) Figures as at end of each reference year. Figures in brackets refer to the proportion by sex. 
Source: Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants

Notes: (2) Figures as at end of each reference year. Figures in brackets refer to the proportion by sex. 
Source: The Law Society of Hong Kong
(c) Registered Doctors\(^5\)

![Graph showing thousands of registered doctors by year, with female and male counts and percentages.]

**Notes:** (3) Doctors with full registration on both the local and overseas lists as at end of each reference year. Figures in brackets refer to the proportion by sex.

*Source: Department of Health*

(d) Fully Qualified Engineers\(^4\)

![Graph showing thousands of fully qualified engineers by year, with female and male counts and percentages.]

**Notes:** (4) Figures as at January of each reference year. Figures in brackets refer to the proportion by sex.

*Source: The Hong Kong Institute of Engineers*
4.2 Employment Earnings

4.2.1 Median Monthly Employment Earnings of Employed Persons (Excluding Foreign Domestic Helpers)

(a) By Occupation of Main Employment and Sex

While women and men had broadly similar levels of median monthly employment earnings in some occupational groups such as professionals, associate professionals and clerical support workers, more significant differences were observed in other occupational groups.

Notes: (1) Based on International Standard Classification of Occupations 1988 (ISCO-88).

Notes: (2) Based on International Standard Classification of Occupations 2008 (ISCO-08).

Source: Census and Statistics Department.
(b) By Educational Attainment and Sex

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Educational attainment</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Median (HK$)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Female</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No schooling / Pre-primary</td>
<td>2006</td>
<td>4,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2016</td>
<td>8,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Primary</td>
<td>2006</td>
<td>5,400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2016</td>
<td>8,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lower secondary&lt;sup&gt;(1)&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>2006</td>
<td>6,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2016</td>
<td>9,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upper secondary&lt;sup&gt;(2)&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>2006</td>
<td>9,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2016</td>
<td>13,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Post-secondary : non-degree&lt;sup&gt;(3)&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>2006</td>
<td>12,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2016</td>
<td>15,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Post-secondary : degree</td>
<td>2006</td>
<td>20,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2016</td>
<td>25,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overall</td>
<td>2006</td>
<td>9,300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2016</td>
<td>14,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<sup>(1)</sup> Including Secondary 1-3 in all educational institutions.
<sup>(2)</sup> Including Secondary 4-7 of old academic structure, Secondary 4-6 of new academic structure or equivalent in all educational institutions, Project Yi Jin / Yi Jin Diploma and craft level.
<sup>(3)</sup> Including Certificate, Diploma, Higher Certificate, Higher Diploma, Professional Diploma, Associate Degree, Pre-Associate Degree, Endorsement Certificate, Associateship and other non-degree level courses in local or non-local institutions.
<sup>(4)</sup> Refers to the overall median monthly employment earnings of employed persons (excluding foreign domestic helpers).

Source: Census and Statistics Department

The median monthly employment earnings of women were lower than that of men at all levels of educational attainment.
(c) By Industry of Main Employment and Sex

### 2006

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Industry Description</th>
<th>Female</th>
<th>Male</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Manufacturing</td>
<td>7000</td>
<td>12000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construction</td>
<td>8300</td>
<td>9500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wholesale, retail and import/export trades, restaurants</td>
<td>8000</td>
<td>11500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>and hotels</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transport, storage and communications</td>
<td>11000</td>
<td>10000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financing, insurance, real estate and business services</td>
<td>13000</td>
<td>14000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community, social and personal services</td>
<td>10000</td>
<td>15000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Notes:** (1) Based on Hong Kong Standard Industrial Classification (HSIC) Version 1.1.

### 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Industry Description</th>
<th>Female</th>
<th>Male</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Manufacturing</td>
<td>11100</td>
<td>12000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construction</td>
<td>14400</td>
<td>17500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Import/export trade and wholesale</td>
<td>15000</td>
<td>21000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retail, accommodation and food services</td>
<td>11000</td>
<td>14900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transportation, storage, postal and courier services</td>
<td>16500</td>
<td>16000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financing, insurance, real estate and business services</td>
<td>16000</td>
<td>20000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public administration social and personal services</td>
<td>16100</td>
<td>22400</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Notes:** (2) Based on HSIC Version 2.0.  
(3) Accommodation services cover hotels, guesthouses, boarding houses and other establishments providing short term accommodation.  
(4) The retail, accommodation and food services industries as a whole is generally referred to as the consumption- and tourism-related segment.  

**Source:** Census and Statistics Department
The median hourly wage of male employees was generally higher than that of their female counterparts at the same level of educational attainment.
4.2.3 Median Hourly Wage of Employees\(^{(1)}\) by Sex and Occupation

The median hourly wage of male employees was higher than that of their female counterparts across all occupational groups except for clerical support workers.

Note: \((1)\) Excluding government employees, as well as student interns, work experience students and live-in domestic workers as exempted by the Minimum Wage Ordinance.

Source: Census and Statistics Department
4.3 Employment Pattern

4.3.1 Hong Kong Residents who had worked in Mainland China\(^{(1)}\) by Sex

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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<th></th>
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<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>179</td>
<td>31.3</td>
<td>38.9</td>
<td>49.1</td>
<td>49.2</td>
<td>55.5</td>
<td>54.4</td>
<td>44.1</td>
<td>39.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>115.7</td>
<td>145.1</td>
<td>148.7</td>
<td>176.9</td>
<td>186.2</td>
<td>173.4</td>
<td>158.2</td>
<td>144.1</td>
<td>130.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>133.5</td>
<td>176.3</td>
<td>187.6</td>
<td>226.0</td>
<td>235.4</td>
<td>228.9</td>
<td>212.6</td>
<td>188.2</td>
<td>170.1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: (1) Figures refer to Hong Kong residents who had worked in Mainland China during the twelve months before enumeration and were still required to work there in their present job at the time of enumeration.

Source: Census and Statistics Department

The number of women working in the Mainland was consistently smaller than that of men.

4.3.2 Percentage Shares of Unemployed Women and Men by Previous Industry, 2016

Among various sectors, the proportions of the unemployed women were higher for those who previously engaged in the public administration, social and personal services sector, import / export trade and wholesale sector, and retail, accommodation and food services sector.
4.3.3 Unemployed Persons by Sex

The number of unemployed females was consistently smaller than that of males. The unemployment rates of females in the age groups of 30 – 39 and 40 – 49 were higher than those of males in 2016.

Source: Census and Statistics Department

4.3.4 Unemployment Rates (Excluding Foreign Domestic Helpers) by Sex and Age Group, 2016

The number of unemployed females was consistently smaller than that of males. The unemployment rates of females in the age groups of 30 – 39 and 40 – 49 were higher than those of males in 2016.

Source: Census and Statistics Department
The number of female part-time employees had always been higher than their male counterparts, with the sex ratio of 553 males per 1,000 females in 2009.

4.3.6 Percentage Shares of Part-time Employees by Sex and Main Reason for not Working Longer Hours, April to June 2009

Took care of housework / took care of children, older persons, disabled or sick members at home was the major reason for female part-time employees not working longer hours. As for males, the major reason was slack work in company.
4.3.7 Self-employed Persons by Sex

The number of self-employed females was smaller than that of males, though there was a rising trend in the past decade.

4.3.8 Full-time Home-makers by Sex

Majority of full-time home-makers were females.
Among 2,500,800 economically inactive persons in 2016, 1,587,400 (63.5%) were females and 913,400 (36.5%) were males. Engagement in household duties was the major cause for females being economically inactive. The percentage largely outnumbered that of males. As for males, the major cause was retirement / old age.

Source: Census and Statistics Department
Health

With better provision of medical services and greater health consciousness of the general public, people in Hong Kong are now living longer than before. The expectation of life at birth for women is among the highest in the world.
5.1 Expectation of Life at Birth by Sex

Comparing 2006 and 2016, the expectation of life at birth for women and men increased by 1.8 and 1.9 years respectively, indicating an improvement in the health conditions of the population over the past decade.

5.2 Infant Mortality Rates by Sex

The infant mortality rates for both genders have been constantly low in recent years.
5.3 Registered Deaths by Major Cause of Death and Sex

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
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<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Female Male Female Male Female Male Female Male Female Male Female Male Female Male Female Male Female Male Female Male</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malignant neoplasms</td>
<td>5 157</td>
<td>7 682</td>
<td>5 245</td>
<td>7 831</td>
<td>5 305</td>
<td>7 936</td>
<td>5 403</td>
<td>7 933</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pneumonia</td>
<td>2 436</td>
<td>2 876</td>
<td>2 736</td>
<td>3 078</td>
<td>2 852</td>
<td>3 359</td>
<td>3 277</td>
<td>3 683</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diseases of heart</td>
<td>3 070</td>
<td>3 344</td>
<td>3 157</td>
<td>3 479</td>
<td>2 981</td>
<td>3 353</td>
<td>2 885</td>
<td>3 398</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cerebrovascular diseases</td>
<td>1 679</td>
<td>1 764</td>
<td>1 728</td>
<td>1 695</td>
<td>1 630</td>
<td>1 709</td>
<td>1 596</td>
<td>1 680</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>External causes of morbidity and mortality</td>
<td>749</td>
<td>1 189</td>
<td>657</td>
<td>1 207</td>
<td>577</td>
<td>990</td>
<td>585</td>
<td>1 069</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: (1) Classification of diseases and causes of death is based on the International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems (ICD) 10th Revision.

Source: Census and Statistics Department, Department of Health

5.4 Age-standardised Death Rates(1) of Ten Leading Causes of Death by Sex, 2016

![Age-standardised Death Rates Graph]

(2) According to the ICD 10th Revision, when the morbid condition is classifiable under Chapter XIX as "Injury, poisoning and certain other consequences of external causes", the codes under Chapter XIX for "External causes of morbidity and mortality" should be used as the primary cause of death.

Source: Census and Statistics Department, Department of Health

Death caused by malignant neoplasms (cancers) remained the major cause of death for both women and men, followed by pneumonia.
Among the top ten most common cancers in 2015, breast cancer was recorded as the leading cancer, followed by colorectum and lung cancer for women. For men, lung cancer was the leading cancer which was followed by colorectum and prostate cancer.

5.5 Top Ten Cancers by Sex, 2015

Source: Hong Kong Cancer Registry, Hospital Authority

5.6 Persons with Disabilities\(^{(1)}\) by Age Group and Sex, 2013

Note: \(^{(1)}\) Figures exclude persons with intellectual disability.

Source: Census and Statistics Department

The total number of disabled women aged 60 and over was significantly greater than that of men in 2013.
5.7 Daily Cigarette Smokers\(^{(1)}\) by Sex

Male smokers continued to outnumber female smokers though the absolute number for women smokers remained at around 100,000 from 2003 to 2015.

5.8 Reported Drug Abusers by Sex

The number of reported male and female drug abusers dropped from 2006 to 2016.
The number of reported HIV carriers for both genders increased since 2006. There were more male carriers than female among the reported HIV and AIDS cases during the period.
5.10 Persons who Reported to have Osteoporosis by Sex

The number and percentage of females who reported to have osteoporosis were larger than those of males.

5.11 Body Mass Index (BMI) Distribution Based on Classification of Weight Status for Chinese Adults in Hong Kong by Sex, 2016

The proportion of females who were overweight or obese (30.5%) was smaller than that of males (48.2%).
SOCIAL AND POLITICAL PARTICIPATION

Over the years, women have become more active in participating in public affairs and in exercising their civil rights. Although the absolute number of women holding public posts is still comparatively smaller than that of men, the figures reflect a comparable size of registered electors and voter turnout of women as compared with men.
6.1 Members in the Executive Council\(^{(1)}\) by Sex

- **Number of members**

- **Year**
  - 2006: 26 females, 3 males
  - 2007: 25 females, 4 males
  - 2008: 26 females, 5 males
  - 2009: 24 females, 5 males
  - 2010: 22 females, 7 males
  - 2011: 22 females, 7 males
  - 2012: 25 females, 6 males
  - 2013: 23 females, 6 males
  - 2014: 23 females, 6 males
  - 2015: 24 females, 6 males
  - 2016: 27 females, 4 males

**Note:** (1) Figures as at 1 January of each reference year.

**Source:** Executive Council Secretariat

6.2 Elected Members in Legislative Council\(^{(1)}\) by Sex

- **Number of elected members**

- **Year**
  - 1998: 10 females, 10 males
  - 2000: 50 females, 10 males
  - 2004: 50 females, 11 males
  - 2008: 49 females, 11 males
  - 2012: 49 females, 11 males
  - 2016: 59 females, 12 males

**Note:** (1) Figures refer to the position right after Legislative Council General Elections. By-election figures are not included.

**Source:** Registration and Electoral Office
6.3 Registered Electors and Voter Turnout in Legislative Council Elections by Sex

The number of registered female electors and voter turnout increased from 2008 to 2016. Similar situation was observed for males.

6.4 Elected Members and Government Appointed Members\(^1\) in District Councils\(^2\) by Sex

The number of females elected to the District Councils has increased over the years, though the proportion of women members was still low.

\(^1\) Government appointed members include ex-officio members.
\(^2\) Figures refer to the position right after District Council Ordinary Elections. By-election figures are not included.

Source: Registration and Electoral Office

Source: Home Affairs Department
6.5 Percentage Shares of Male and Female Civil Servants

The percentage share of female civil servants increased gradually from 33.7% in 2006 to 37.2% in 2016.

Notes: (1) Figures as at end of each reference year. Figures in brackets are the number of civil servants in thousands.
(2) Civil servants refer to persons who are employed on civil terms of appointment as at the survey reference date.
(3) Figures exclude judges and judicial officers, Independent Commission Against Corruption officers, locally engaged staff working in the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Offices outside Hong Kong, and other government employees like Non-Civil Service Contract staff.

Source: Civil Service Bureau
The number of female directorate officers in the civil service increased significantly by 35.1% from 348 in 2006 to 470 in 2016.

**Notes: (1) Figures as at end of each reference year. Figures in brackets are the numbers of directorate officers.**

**(2) Figures include civil servants working who have been seconded / posted to organisations e.g. Hong Kong Monetary Authority and Hospital Authority. Figures on judges and judicial officers, Independent Commission Against Corruption officers, locally engaged staff working in Hong Kong Economic and Trade Offices are excluded.**

**Source: Civil Service Bureau**
The percentage of female serving on government advisory and statutory bodies increased from 26.0% in 2006 to 31.7% in 2016.

Note: (1) Figures as at end of each reference year.
Source: Home Affairs Bureau
6.8 Registered Volunteers of the Volunteer Movement by Sex

The number of female registered volunteers was consistently greater than that of male, which constituted around 60% of the total number of registered volunteers.

Notes: (1) Volunteer Movement is a central office for volunteer service within the Social Welfare Department to develop volunteer service in a more coordinated manner. A computer database to capture information on individual and corporate volunteers and a Volunteer Service Enquiry Line was established to facilitate volunteer development.

(2) Figures as at end of each reference year.

Source: Volunteer Movement
Social and Political Participation
SOCIAL SECURITY AND WELFARE

The Government provides different forms of support to members of the community who are in need of financial or material assistance to address their basic needs through a non-contributory social security system. The number of women receiving various types of assistance is in general greater than that of men.
7.1 Recipients of Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA)\(^{(1)}\) by Sex

The number of female CSSA recipients was in general greater than that of male recipients. The number of both male and female CSSA recipients dropped steadily since 2006.

7.2 Recipients of CSSA\(^{(1)}\) by Type of Case\(^{(2)}\) and Sex, 2016

The most significant gender difference in terms of the types of the CSSA recipients was observed in “single parent” cases, where the number of female CSSA recipients was significantly greater than that of male.
7.3 Recipients of Social Security Allowance (SSA) by Sex

(a) Old Age Allowance, Old Age Living Allowance and Guangdong Scheme

Notes: (1) Figures as at end of each reference year. Figures include persons whose cases are under processing and payments have not been made.
(2) Old Age Living Allowance (OALA) was launched in April 2013. Eligible Old Age Allowance recipients and Disability Allowance recipients aged 65 or above were gradually converted to receive OALA payment with effect from April 2013.
(3) The Guangdong (GD) Scheme was launched in October 2013. Breakdown by sex was available with effect from June 2014.

Source: Social Welfare Department
The number of women receiving SSA was in general greater than that of men. The number of women and men receiving SSA were 452,893 and 382,369 respectively in 2016.

Notes: (1) Figures as at end of each reference year. Figures include persons whose cases are under processing and payments have not been made.
(2) Old Age Living Allowance (OALA) was launched in April 2013. Eligible Old Age Allowance recipients and Disability Allowance recipients aged 65 or above were gradually converted to receive OALA payment with effect from April 2013.

Source: Social Welfare Department
VIOLENCE AND CRIME

Women and men have different experiences in relation to crime. Generally speaking, there are fewer women arrested for crime than men. Among the newly reported spouse/cohabitant battering cases, there were much more female victims than male victims.
8.1 Domestic Violence

8.1.1 Newly Reported Spouse / Cohabitant Battering Cases by Sex of Victim

Among the newly reported spouse / cohabitant battering cases in the past decade, there were much more female victims than male victims.

8.1.2 Percentage Shares of Newly Reported Spouse / Cohabitant Battering Cases by Perpetrator's Relationship with the Victim, 2016

Most of the victims of spouse / cohabitant battering cases were abused by their spouses. The number constituted 71.0% of all spouse / cohabitant battering cases.
8.2 Sexual Assault

8.2.1 Reported Rape Cases

The number of reported rape and indecent assault cases concerning female victims decreased in 2016 (1 030) compared with the figure in 2006 (1 240).

8.2.2 Reported Indecent Assault Cases by Sex of Victim

The number of reported rape and indecent assault cases concerning female victims decreased in 2016 (1 030) compared with the figure in 2006 (1 240).
8.3 Crime

8.3.1 Persons Arrested for Crime\(^{(1)}\) by Sex

Although the number of females arrested for crime dropped in 2016 when compared to 2006, its proportion increased from 25.1% in 2006 to 29.2% in 2016.

\(^{(1)}\) Figures refer to the number of persons in thousands arrested for reported crimes. Figures in brackets refer to the proportion by sex.

Source: Hong Kong Police Force
8.3.2 Percentage Shares of Male and Female Violent Crime Victims by Type of Violent Crime, 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of violent crime (Number of victims)</th>
<th>Female</th>
<th>Male</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assault on police (359 persons)</td>
<td>8.1%</td>
<td>91.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blackmail (959 persons)</td>
<td>8.7%</td>
<td>91.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wounding &amp; serious assault (5,024 persons)</td>
<td>31.5%</td>
<td>68.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arson (250 persons)</td>
<td>33.2%</td>
<td>66.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robbery (244 persons)</td>
<td>39.3%</td>
<td>60.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Murder &amp; manslaughter (28 persons)</td>
<td>39.3%</td>
<td>60.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cruelty to child (253 persons)</td>
<td>47.8%</td>
<td>52.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Criminal intimidation (1,766 persons)</td>
<td>51.1%</td>
<td>48.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attempted murder (3 persons)</td>
<td>66.7%</td>
<td>33.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indecent assault (1,019 persons)</td>
<td>94.1%</td>
<td>5.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rape (71 persons)</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Hong Kong Police Force
8.4 Sexual Harassment Complaints Received by the Equal Opportunities Commission for Investigation by Sex of Complainant

Most of the sexual harassment complaints received for investigation in the past ten years were filed by women.

Source: Equal Opportunities Commission
8.5 Suicide Rates by Sex

The suicide rate of men has been constantly higher than that of women.

Note: # Estimated figures (registration death date up to 31 July 2017).
Source: Hong Kong Jockey Club Centre for Suicide Research and Prevention, the University of Hong Kong
People in Hong Kong are generally keen users of information technology. Although the percentages of women who had used Internet and had mobile phone were lower than that of males, the differences in the rates between the two genders narrowed in past years.
9.1 Persons Aged 10 and over who had Used the Internet\(^{(1)(2)}\) by Sex

![Bar chart showing internet usage by sex and year]

**Notes:**
1. Figures refer to persons aged 10 and over (excluding foreign domestic helpers) who had used Internet during the 12 months before enumeration.
2. Figures in brackets refer to the percentage of persons who had used Internet to all persons aged 10 and over in the respective sex sub-group and survey period.

*Source: Census and Statistics Department*
9.2 Persons Aged 10 and over who had Mobile Phone (Including Smartphone)\(^{(1)(2)}\) by Sex

The percentages of women who had used the Internet and had mobile phone (including Smartphone) increased gradually in the past years.

**Notes:**
(1) Figures refer to persons aged 10 and over (excluding foreign domestic helpers) who had mobile phone (including smartphone).

(2) Figures in brackets refer to the percentage of persons who had mobile phone (including smartphone) to all persons aged 10 and over in the respective sex sub-group and survey period.

**Source:** Census and Statistics Department
List of Charts and Tables
INTERNATIONAL COMPARISON

The Gender Inequality Index (GII) is one of the five main Human Development Indices used by the United Nations (UN). It measures the achievement of women in basic capabilities and the opportunities provided for women in economic and political arenas.
10.1 Gender Inequality Indices (GII) in Selected Countries / Territory, 2015

GII presents a composite measure of gender inequality using three dimensions: reproductive health, empowerment and the labour market. A low GII value indicates low inequality between women and men, and vice-versa. Hong Kong’s GII value in 2015 follows that of Republic of Korea and Singapore and is similar to that of Austria who ranks at the fourteenth.

Notes: (1) Figures in square brackets refers to the international ranking.
(2) Hong Kong’s ranking in GII was absent since only parliamentary data of countries collected by the Inter-Parliamentary Union would be included in the calculation of GII. The index of Hong Kong was worked out by inserting the number of female Legislative Council members in Hong Kong in place of the number of female parliamentary members into the formula published in the United Nations Human Development Report 2016.

List of Charts and Tables

1. **Population**
   - Chart 1.1 Population Pyramids  
   - Chart 1.2 Sex Ratios  
   - Chart 1.3 One-way Permit Holders Entering Hong Kong by Sex  
   - Table 1.4 Foreign Domestic Helpers by Sex  
   - Chart 1.5 Percentage Shares of Persons Living in Domestic Households by Sex and Living Arrangement

2. **Marriage and Family**
   2.1 Marriage
   - Chart 2.1.1 Population Aged 15 and over (Excluding Foreign Domestic Helpers) by Sex and Marital Status  
   - Chart 2.1.2 Females Aged 15 and over (Excluding Foreign Domestic Helpers) by Martial Status  
   - Chart 2.1.3 Median Age at First Marriage by Sex  
   - Chart 2.1.4 Crude Marriage Rates by Sex  
   - Chart 2.1.5 Number of Marriages by Type  
   - Chart 2.1.6 Number of Cross-boundary Marriages Between Hong Kong and Mainland China  
   - Chart 2.1.7 Crude Divorce Rates  
   - Chart 2.1.8 Single Parents by Sex
   2.2 Family and Childbirth
   - Chart 2.2.1 Age Specific Fertility Rates  
   - Chart 2.2.2 Median Age of Women at First Childbirth  
   - Chart 2.2.3 Trend of Population, Women Aged 15 – 49 and Population Aged 0 – 14
   2.3 Headship
   - Chart 2.3.1 Headship Rates by Sex and Age Group

3. **Education**
   - Chart 3.1 Population Aged 15 and over by Sex and Educational Attainment  
   - Chart 3.2 Percentage Shares of Male and Female Students in Programmes Funded by the University Grants Committee (UGC)  
   - Table 3.3 Students Enrolled in Programmes Funded by UGC by Level of Study and Sex  
   - Chart 3.4 Percentage Shares of Male and Female Students in UGC-Funded Programmes by Academic Programme Category, 2016/17 Academic Year  
   - Chart 3.5 Percentage Shares of Male and Female Full-time Staff in UGC-Funded Institutions, 2016/17 Academic Year
4. Employment

4.1 Labour Force Participation

Chart 4.1.1 Labour Force Participation Rates (Excluding Foreign Domestic Helpers) by Sex 20
Chart 4.1.2 Labour Force Participation Rates (Excluding Foreign Domestic Helpers) by Sex and Age Group, 2016 20
Chart 4.1.3 Labour Force Participation Rates (Excluding Foreign Domestic Helpers) by Education Attainment and Sex, 2016 21
Chart 4.1.4 Labour Force Participation Rates (Excluding Foreign Domestic Helpers) by Marital Status, Sex and Age Group 22
Chart 4.1.5 Percentage Shares of Male and Female Employed Persons (Excluding Foreign Domestic Helpers) by Occupation 25
Chart 4.1.6 Percentage Shares of Male and Female Employed Persons (Excluding Foreign Domestic Helpers) by Industry 26
Chart 4.1.7 Percentage Shares of Male and Female Employed Persons (Excluding Foreign Domestic Helpers) by Selected Industry (Based on HSIC Version 2.0) and Occupation
(a) Public Administration, Social and Personal Services 27
(b) Manufacturing 28
(c) Financing, Insurance, Real Estate, Professional and Business Services 29
(d) Retail, Accommodation and Food Services 30
Chart 4.1.8 Number of Persons in Selected Professions by Sex
(a) Certified Public Accountants 31
(b) Solicitors Holding Practising Certificates 31
(c) Registered Doctors 32
(d) Fully Qualified Engineers 32

4.2 Employment Earnings

Chart 4.2.1 Median Monthly Employment Earnings of Employed Persons (Excluding Foreign Domestic Helpers)
(a) By Occupation of Main Employment and Sex 33
Table 4.2.1 Median Monthly Employment Earnings of Employed Persons (Excluding Foreign Domestic Helpers)
(b) By Educational Attainment and Sex 34
Chart 4.2.1 Median Monthly Employment Earnings of Employed Persons (Excluding Foreign Domestic Helpers)
(c) By Industry of Main Employment and Sex 35
Chart 4.2.2 Median Hourly Wage of Employees by Sex and Educational Attainment 36
Chart 4.2.3 Median Hourly Wage of Employees by Sex and Occupation 37

4.3 Employment Pattern

Table 4.3.1 Hong Kong Residents who had Worked in Mainland China by Sex 38
Chart 4.3.2 Percentage Shares of Unemployed Women and Men by Previous Industry, 2016 38
Chart 4.3.3 Unemployed Persons by Sex 39
Chart 4.3.4 Unemployment Rates (Excluding Foreign Domestic Helpers) by Sex and Age Group, 2016 39
Chart 4.3.5 Part-time Employees by Sex 40
Chart 4.3.6 Percentage Shares of Part-time Employees by Sex and Main Reason for not Working Longer Hours, April to June 2009 40
Chart 4.3.7 Self-employed Persons by Sex 41
Chart 4.3.8 Full-time Home-makers by Sex 41
Chart 4.3.9 Percentage Shares of Economically Inactive Persons Aged 15 and over by Sex and Reason for Being Economically Inactive, 2016 42

5. **Health**

Chart 5.1 Expectation of Life at Birth by Sex 44
Chart 5.2 Infant Mortality Rates by Sex 44
Table 5.3 Registered Deaths by Major Cause of Death and Sex 45
Chart 5.4 Age-standardised Death Rates of Ten Leading Causes of Death by Sex, 2016 45
Chart 5.5 Top Ten Cancers by Sex, 2015 46
Chart 5.6 Persons with Disabilities by Age Group and Sex, 2013 46
Chart 5.7 Daily Cigarette Smokers by Sex 47
Chart 5.8 Reported Drug Abusers by Sex 47
Chart 5.9 Reported HIV and AIDS Cases by Sex
(a) Reported HIV Cases 48
(b) Reported AIDS Cases 48
Chart 5.10 Persons who Reported to have Osteoporosis by Sex 49
Chart 5.11 Body Mass Index (BMI) Distribution Based on Classification of Weight Status for Chinese Adults in Hong Kong by Sex, 2016 49

6. **Social and Political Participation**

Chart 6.1 Members in the Executive Council by Sex 52
Chart 6.2 Elected Members in Legislative Council by Sex 52
Chart 6.3 Registered Electors and Voter Turnout in Legislative Council Elections by Sex 53
Chart 6.4 Elected Members and Government Appointed Members in District Councils by Sex 53
Chart 6.5 Percentage Shares of Male and Female Civil Servants 54
Chart 6.6 Percentage Shares of Male and Female Directorate Officers in the Civil Service 55
Chart 6.7 Percentage of Appointed Female Members Serving on Government Advisory and Statutory Bodies 56
Chart 6.8 Registered Volunteers of the Volunteer Movement by Sex 57

7. **Social Security and Welfare**

Chart 7.1 Recipients of Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) by Sex 60
Chart 7.2 Recipients of CSSA by Type of Case and Sex, 2016 60
Chart 7.3 Recipients of Social Security Allowance (SSA) by Sex
(a) Old Age Allowance, Old Age Living Allowance and Guangdong Scheme 61
(b) Disability Allowance 62
8. **Violence and Crime**

8.1 **Domestic Violence**
- Chart 8.1.1 Newly Reported Spouse / Cohabitant Battering Cases by Sex of Victim
- Chart 8.1.2 Percentage Shares of Newly Reported Spouse / Cohabitant Battering Cases by Perpetrator's Relationship with the Victim, 2016

8.2 **Sexual Assault**
- Chart 8.2.1 Reported Rape Cases
- Chart 8.2.2 Reported Indecent Assault Cases by Sex of Victim

8.3 **Crime**
- Chart 8.3.1 Persons Arrested for Crime by Sex
- Chart 8.3.2 Percentages Shares of Male and Female Violent Crime Victims by Type of Violent Crime, 2016
- Chart 8.4 Sexual Harassment Complaints Received by the Equal Opportunities Commission for Investigation by Sex of Complainant
- Chart 8.5 Suicide Rates by Sex

9. **Information Technology Usage**
- Chart 9.1 Persons Aged 10 and over who had Used the Internet by Sex
- Chart 9.2 Persons Aged 10 and over who had Mobile Phone (Including Smartphone) by Sex

10. **International Comparison**
- Chart 10.1 Gender Inequality Indices (GII) in Selected Countries / Territory, 2015
Sources of Data

Majority of the data presented in this booklet is from the Census and Statistics Department of the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR). Please visit its website (http://www.censtatd.gov.hk) for more detail information.

For data beyond the scope covered by HKSAR Government, please refer to the following sources for details:

Charts 3.2 to 3.5
- University Grants Committee
  http://www.ugc.edu.hk

Chart 4.1.8
- Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants
  http://www.hkicpa.org.hk
- The Law Society of Hong Kong
  http://www.hklawsoc.org.hk
- The Hong Kong Institution of Engineers
  http://www.hkie.org.hk

Chart 5.5
- Hong Kong Cancer Registry, the Hospital Authority
  http://www.ha.org.hk/cancereg

Chart 8.4
- Equal Opportunities Commission
  http://www.eoc.org.hk

Chart 8.5
- The Hong Kong Jockey Club Centre for Suicide Research and Prevention, the University of Hong Kong
  http://csrp.hku.hk

Chart 10.1
- Human Development Reports, the United Nations Development Programme
  http://hdr.undp.org

All charts and tables are based on the latest figures available at the time of publication.
Women’s Commission

The Women’s Commission was established by the HKSAR Government in January 2001 as a high-level central mechanism to promote the well-being and interests of women in Hong Kong.

Its mission is

“To enable women in Hong Kong to fully realise their due status, rights and opportunities in all aspects of life.”

To achieve this mission, the Women’s Commission has adopted a three-pronged strategy, namely the provision of an enabling environment, empowerment of women through capacity building, and public education.

For more information about the Women’s Commission, please visit our website: www.women.gov.hk
or send us an email: women@lwb.gov.hk