

HONG KONG : THE FACTS



Population

Population Size: At mid-2009, the population of Hong Kong was 7.01 million*, including 6.80 million* Usual Residents and 0.21 million* Mobile Residents.

During the period 2004-2009, 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)
2004	6 783 500	0.8	929
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*	7 008 300	0.4	890

* Provisional figures.

Distribution by Area: At mid-2008, the population was distributed geographically as follows:

Area	% of total population
Hong Kong Island	18.7
Kowloon	29.1
New Territories (including marine)	52.2
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-2008 stood at 6 460 persons per square kilometre, and Kwun Tong, with 51 600 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 890* males per 1 000 females. The median age of the total population was 40.9*. The age and sex structure of the population was given as follows:

Age Group	Male*		Female*		Total*	
	Number	%#	Number	%#	Number	%#
0-14	447 100	6.4	417 900	6.0	865 000	12.3
15-24	435 900	6.2	443 300	6.3	879 200	12.5
25-34	459 300	6.6	622 300	8.9	1 081 600	15.4
35-44	508 300	7.3	672 700	9.6	1 181 000	16.9
45-54	622 600	8.9	666 900	9.5	1 289 500	18.4
55-64	408 200	5.8	403 300	5.8	811 500	11.6
65 and over	418 200	6.0	482 300	6.9	900 500	12.8
Total	3 299 600	47.1	3 708 700	52.9	7 008 300	100.0

* Provisional figures.

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

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)
2004	7.3	922	5.4	79.0	84.8	2.7
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

+ 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 (11.3 live births per 1 000 population in 2008 to 7.3 in 2004). Moreover, according to the total fertility rate, 1 000 women in 2008 would bear, on average, 1 056 children in their lifetime as compared with 922 children in 2004.

In 2008, the death rate was 6.0 per 1 000 population. The expectation of life at birth was 79.3 years for males and 85.5 years for females, compared against the corresponding figures of 79.0 and 84.8 years in 2004.

There was a decline in the infant mortality rate from 2.7 per 1 000 live births in 2004 to 1.8 in 2008. 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 Q2 2004 and Q2 2009 obtained from the results of the General Household Survey⁺⁺:

Educational attainment	% of population aged 15 and over	
	Q2 2004	Q2 2009
No schooling/Pre-primary	7.0	5.1
Primary	19.4	18.0
Secondary/Sixth form**	52.3	51.9
Post-secondary	21.4	25.0
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 5 education or equivalent level while persons with educational attainment at sixth form refer to those with Secondary 6 to Secondary 7 education or equivalent level.

Income: Based on the results of the General Household Survey, the median monthly domestic household income for Q2 2009 was \$17,500. The distribution of domestic households in Hong Kong by monthly household income was as follows:

Monthly household income (\$)	% of total domestic households [#]
Under 4,000	7.9
4,000–5,999	5.9
6,000–7,999	7.2
8,000–9,999	7.1
10,000–14,999	14.5
15,000–19,999	12.0
20,000–24,999	10.2
25,000–29,999	7.0
30,000–34,999	6.4
35,000–39,999	4.0
40,000–44,999	3.5
45,000–49,999	2.4
50,000–59,999	3.5
60,000–79,999	3.8
80,000–99,999	1.8
100,000 and over	2.9
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 Q2 2009 was 3.71 million. This represented 61.3 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:

Age group	Male (%)	Female (%)
15–19	12.8	10.2
20–24	64.5	65.9
25–29	94.5	88.6
30–34	96.4	80.9
35–39	96.2	74.7
40–44	96.6	72.9
45–49	94.7	67.0
50–54	91.4	57.3
55–59	77.9	39.2
60–64	49.4	19.7
65 and over	9.2	2.1
Overall	69.9	53.8

Occupation: The distribution of the employed population in Hong Kong by occupation for Q2 2009 was as follows:

Occupation	% of the employed population [#]
Managers and administrators	9.5
Professionals	6.8
Associate professionals	20.0
Clerks	15.5
Service workers and shop sales workers	15.8
Craft and related workers	7.2
Plant and machine operators and assemblers	5.9
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 Q2 2009, based on the results of the General Household Survey, was as follows:

Type of housing	% of land-based non-institutional population
Public rental housing	29.1
Subsidised sale flats	17.9
Private permanent housing	52.4
Temporary housing	0.5
Total	100.0

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