This was followed by financial services, at US$14.3 billion or 19.5 per cent of the overall surplus and travel services, at US$13 billion or 17.7 per cent of the overall surplus. Merchandising and other trade-related services, at US$32.6 billion or 44.5 per cent of the overall surplus, also made significant contributions.

Analysed by major services group, the largest surplus was recorded in merchanting and other trade-related services, travel services, and transportation services, which accounted for 27.2 per cent, 26.4 per cent and 21.9 per cent respectively of the total value in 2015. Exports of financial services took 24.1 per cent and 17.2 per cent of GDP in 2014. The ratio of Hong Kong’s exports of services to GDP is significant by international standards. In 2015, Hong Kong exported US$135.9 billion worth of services, bearing a ratio of 43.9 per cent to GDP.

Hong Kong’s exports of services comprise mainly merchanting and other trade-related services, travel services, and transportation services, which accounted for 27.2 per cent, 26.4 per cent and 21.9 per cent respectively of the total value in 2015. Exports of financial services took up 14 per cent of the total value in the same year, and exports of insurance services and other services accounted for 10.5 per cent.

Hong Kong is a net exporter of services with an overall surplus of US$73.2 billion in services trade in 2015. Analysed by major services group, the largest surplus was recorded in merchanting and other trade-related services, at US$32.6 billion or 44.5 per cent of the overall surplus. This was followed by financial services, at US$14.3 billion or 19.5 per cent of the overall surplus and travel services, at US$13 billion or 17.7 per cent of the overall surplus. This suggests that Hong Kong does have a strong edge as a services exporter in the region.

The Government’s Perspective: The Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region adopts an “appropriately proactive” economic strategy, with a view to creating a business-friendly environment, building Hong Kong as an international financial centre, strengthening Hong Kong’s position as the region’s hub for headquarters, trade, logistics, shipping, aviation and tourism, enhancing the competitiveness of the pillar industries, promoting new industries with growth potential, developing links with emerging economies, investing in infrastructure, improving human capital, increasing new land supply, and raising the quality of life.

Services Promotion: To provide support for specific service industries, relevant organisations are taking care of services promotion for their respective service sectors. For more information about the support provided by Government Bureaux/Departments and related organisations, please visit the following websites:

- Financial and accounting services: Financial Services and the Treasury Bureau (http://www.tstb.gov.hk/)
- Legal services: Department of Justice (http://www.doj.gov.hk/)
- Tourism: Tourism Commission (http://www.tourism.gov.hk/)
- Trade: Hong Kong Trade Development Council (http://www.hktdc.com)
- Logistics: Hong Kong Logistics Development Council (http://www.logisticshk.gov.hk/)
- Transport and Housing Bureau (http://www.thb.gov.hk/)
- Building and construction: Development Bureau (http://www.devb.gov.hk/)
- Direct investment opportunities in Hong Kong: Invest Hong Kong (http://www.investhk.gov.hk/)
- Global marketing and business matching services for traders and service sectors: Hong Kong Trade Development Council (http://www.hktdc.com)
- Professional Services Development Assistance Scheme: Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (http://www.cedeb.gov.hk/citb/psdas)

Note:
1. Accommodation services cover hotels, guesthouses, boarding houses and other establishments providing short term accommodation.