

# Hong Kong: The Facts

## Population: 6.9777 million (as at mid-2008)

Hong Kong Island	1.31 million	18.7%	<b>Age structure</b> Median age: 40.3 Under 15: 12.9% 65 and over: 12.6%	
Kowloon	2.03 million	29.1%		
New Territories	3.64 million	52.1%		
Marine	†	§		
<b>Overall density</b> 6 460 people per square kilometre. The most densely populated District Council district is Kwun Tong with a density of 51 600 persons per square kilometre.			<b>Crude birth rate</b> 11.3# per 1 000 population	
<b>Housing</b> At the end of 2008, about 2.0 million people lived in public rental housing estates of the Hong Kong Housing Authority and the Hong Kong Housing Society. The number of flats was 733 500. In 2008, Hong Kong had 2.28 million domestic households: 52.7% occupied by the owners, 43.3% by tenants, and 4.0% by persons living in either rent-free accommodation or accommodation provided by employers.				<b>Crude death rate</b> 5.9# per 1 000 population
<b>Area: 1 104.32 square km</b>			<b>Expectation of life at birth</b>	
Hong Kong Island & adjacent islands	80.53 sq km		Male 79.4 years#	
Kowloon	46.94 sq km		Female 85.5 years#	
New Territories—mainland	748.06 sq km		<b>Nationalities</b> Predominantly of Chinese descent 95% Total number for all nationalities: 551 330 (as at end 2008) Largest groups: Indonesia 141 010 Philippines 138 370 USA 28 620	
New Territories— islands (Lantau 147.16 sq km; others 81.63 sq km)	228.79 sq km			Thailand 28 220
—Reclamation since 1887	68.17 sq km			India 24 250
				Canada 20 600
				Nepal 17 810
				Pakistan 16 060
			Malaysia 14 710	
			Australia 13 710	
			Sub-total 443 360	
<b>Religion and Custom</b> Buddhists and Taoists make up the vast majority. Others (estimates): Christians 670 000; Muslims 220 000; Hindus 40 000; Sikhs 10 000; Jews 3 000.				

## Weather

**Average annual rainfall** 2 382.7 mm

### Wettest period

Hourly 145.5 mm (June 7, 2008)  
daily 534.1 mm (July 19, 1926)  
monthly 1 346.1 mm (June 2008)

### Driest

10% humidity (January 16, 1959)

### Highest temperature

36.1°C (August 19, 1900 and August 18, 1990)

### Lowest temperature

0.0°C (January 18, 1893)

### Highest wind speed (gust)

259 km/h at HK Observatory, 284 km/h at Tate's Cairn (Typhoon Wanda, September 1, 1962)

## Employment

Total employment#: 3.54 million in 2008

Major Employment Sectors in 2008#	
Wholesale, retail and import and export trades, restaurants and hotels	1 187 500 34% of total employment
Community, social and personal services	940 800 27% of total employment
Financing, insurance, real estate and business services	588 000 17% of total employment
Transport, storage and communications	368 400 10% of total employment
Construction	270 300 8% of total employment
Manufacturing	163 500 5% of total employment

**Unemployment rate** 3.6% in 2008

**Average wages** \$11,079 per month

(All selected industries)

Notes: Figures presented on this page refer to those released up to end-March 2009

# Provisional figures

† Less than 0.005 million

§ Less than 0.05%

@ Figure is subject to revision later on

## The Economy

### Economic growth

Year-on-year rate of change in GDP (in chained (2006) dollars):  
2.5%@ in 2008

### Inflation affecting consumers

Year-on-year rate of change in Composite CPI:  
4.3% in 2008

## Transport

### Roads

The 2 040 km of roads (as at end-2008) carry 575 106 licensed vehicles, or about 282 vehicles per kilometre

### Bridges

Longest: Tsing Ma suspension bridge (main span 1 377 metres) and the cable-stayed Ting Kau Bridge (two main spans totalling 923 metres)

### Air movements

2008—301 142 flights; 47.14 million passengers; 3.63 million tonnes of freight

### Shipping movements

2008—35 850 ocean vessel arrivals; 35 970 ocean vessel departures; port cargo throughput 259.40 million tonnes

### Container throughput

2008—24.49 million Twenty-Foot Equivalent Units