



# Hong Kong Poverty Situation Report 2014

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Government of the  
Hong Kong  
Special Administrative Region





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Government of the  
Hong Kong  
Special Administrative Region

Economic Analysis Division  
Economic Analysis and  
Business Facilitation Unit  
Financial Secretary's Office

Census and Statistics  
Department

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## Executive Summary

### Introduction

- ES.1 The current-term Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) attaches great importance to poverty alleviation. The first-term Commission on Poverty (CoP) announced the first official poverty line for Hong Kong in September 2013. The second-term CoP followed the poverty line framework adopted by the first-term CoP. On the basis of the poverty line analysis, the Government formulated the following directions and strategies for poverty alleviation: (i) to continue to enhance education and training and develop our economy, so as to create employment opportunities, particularly quality jobs that facilitate upward mobility of young people; (ii) to strengthen assistance to families in need, particularly working families, with a focus on encouraging employment and on enhancing assistance to address educational needs of school-age children, so as to sustain the self-reliance of family members with the objective of enhancing their upward mobility; (iii) to continue to render support to poor elderly, single-parent households, households with persons with disabilities and other needy groups through the Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) and other recurrent cash assistance and support, and the implementation of programmes funded by the Community Care Fund (CCF) and, subject to the availability of resources, regularisation of effective ones; and (iv) to continue to improve the quality of life of underprivileged citizens through providing public rental housing (PRH).
- ES.2 The priority for the poverty alleviation work of the current-term Government is to continue to fully implement the poverty alleviation blueprint as set out in the *2014 Policy Address*. Besides the full implementation of the Old Age Living Allowance (OALA), a series of enhancements of CSSA were implemented, including further increasing the grants for school-related expenses for primary and secondary students of CSSA families on top of the existing adjustment mechanism from the 2014/15 school year; and including post-secondary students in CSSA families in the calculation of rent allowance with effect from April 2014. Moreover, the Government is conducting reviews of the Work Incentive Transport Subsidy Scheme and the Disability Allowance. The “Low-income Working Family Allowance” (LIFA) Scheme is also expected to be launched in the second quarter of 2016.
- ES.3 The CCF is an integral part of the Government’s poverty alleviation blueprint, serving an important function of plugging gaps in the existing

system. Since its establishment in 2011, 11 programmes have been incorporated into the Government's regular assistance programmes. The CCF Task Force under CoP will continue to launch more assistance programmes as appropriate to meet the needs of different groups, and continuously review existing programmes to identify the needs for enhancement or extension in a timely manner, so as to strengthen support for low-income families.

## Poverty Situation in 2014

ES.4 The numbers of poor households, the sizes of the poor population and the poverty rates before and after policy intervention in 2014 are respectively as follows:

- Before policy intervention: 0.56 million, 1.32 million and 19.6%;
- After policy intervention (recurrent cash): 0.38 million, 0.96 million and 14.3%;
- After policy intervention (recurrent + non-recurrent cash): 0.36 million, 0.89 million and 13.2%; and
- After policy intervention (recurrent cash + in-kind): 0.27 million, 0.65 million and 9.6%.

ES.5 In 2014, poverty indicators before policy intervention improved across the board. Benefiting from the moderate expansion of economic activities and the persistent improvement in income situation, more households shared the fruit of the economy through employment and were lifted out of poverty. However, as the population ages, the number of retired elderly households continued to increase, thus constraining the magnitude of improvement in the overall poverty indicators. After recurrent cash intervention, the overall size of the poor population and the poverty rate in 2014 were 0.96 million people and 14.3% respectively, a slight improvement from the 2013 levels (0.97 million and 14.5%). It marked the second consecutive year that the size of the poor population stayed below the 1 million mark, which was a record low since such statistics were available in 2009. It is also worth pointing out that of the decline in the size of the poor population by 10 000 persons in 2014 as compared with 2013, the main factor was a noticeable fall in the poor population in economically active households by 27 200 persons, though being partly offset by the increase in the poor population in economically inactive households by 17 200 persons, among whom many were elders. The former reflects the positive impact of stable and favourable economic and employment situations, while the latter shows the structural trend of a rising number of retired elders.

- ES.6 The continuous increase in the amount of public expenditure on welfare in recent years reflects the Government's commitment to poverty alleviation. Comparing the poverty indicators before and after policy intervention to measure the effectiveness of poverty alleviation, recurrent cash measures lifted some 0.36 million people out of poverty in 2014, thereby reducing the poverty rate by 5.3 percentage points. The poverty alleviation impact is comparable to that in 2013, and significantly stronger than those from 2009 to 2012, demonstrating the positive results of the Government's poverty alleviation policies.
- ES.7 Further analysing the poor population and the poverty rate by gender (post-recurrent cash intervention), the corresponding figures in 2014 are:
- Males: 0.45 million and 13.8%; and
  - Females: 0.51 million and 14.6%.
- ES.8 The poverty situations of both males and females improved as compared with 2013. After policy intervention, the female poverty rate fell by 0.4 percentage point over the previous year, while that of males edged down by 0.2 percentage point.
- ES.9 After recurrent cash intervention, the size of the poor population and the poverty rate by age respectively in 2014 are:
- Elders aged 65 and above: 0.29 million and 30.0%;
  - People aged between 18 and 64: 0.49 million and 10.2%; and
  - Children aged below 18: 0.18 million and 18.2%.
- ES.10 When compared with 2013, all three age groups recorded declines in the poverty rates. For children aged below 18, the number of poor children and their poverty rate fell by 7 500 and 0.4 percentage point respectively. The corresponding figures of people aged between 18 and 64 declined by 10 800 and 0.3 percentage point respectively. As regards poverty indicators of elders aged 65 and above, there was also improvement in 2014. Despite the slight addition of 8 300 persons in the number of poor elders due to population ageing, the elderly poverty rate fell by 0.5 percentage point, showing the fruitful poverty alleviation effects of social security measures.
- ES.11 Among the 0.29 million poor elders, 83.4% (245 100 persons) resided in non-CSSA households, 143 400 elders claimed to have no financial needs. Among the 34 800 poor elders who claimed to have financial needs, over half (51.2%) resided in owner-occupied housing without mortgage; furthermore, 83% of them received social security benefits in some form.

This partly reflects the limitation of the poverty line, which considers only income, and would result in classifying some “asset-rich, income-poor” persons as poor. The statistics also show that social security measures have already covered most of the poor elders and provided a certain degree of financial support.

- ES.12 Analysed by selected recurrent cash item, CSSA was still the most effective poverty alleviation measure, reducing the size of the poor population and the overall poverty rate by some 0.20 million and 3.0 percentage points respectively in 2014. The effectiveness of OALA (targeted at elders in need of financial support), second only to CSSA, was also notable, lifting nearly 0.11 million people out of poverty and lowering the poverty rate by 1.6 percentage points. Besides these recurrent cash items, the provision of PRH is undeniably effective in improving the living environment and standard of the grassroots people, although it is not a cash subsidy. Even with a rather conservative estimation of the welfare transfer, PRH provision was estimated to have reduced the poor population by over 0.25 million and the poverty rate by 3.7 percentage points, demonstrating a sizeable effect on poverty alleviation.
- ES.13 In 2014, the overall poverty indicators were generally at six-year lows, both before and after policy intervention. On the one hand, this illustrates the importance of economic development and job creation. On the other hand, this shows that the Government’s policies have been effective in alleviating poverty. However, the persistent ageing of the population, as well as the expected continuous rise in poverty line thresholds alongside wage growth, leaves limited room for the poverty rate to decline markedly further in 2015. The Government will continue to monitor the poverty situation in Hong Kong and its trend.

### **Further Analysis of the 2014 Poverty Situation**

- ES.14 In 2014, the poverty rate (post-intervention) of unemployed households continued to be the highest (68.5%) among all socio-economic groups. In contrast, as the proportion of full-time workers in working households was high, the corresponding poverty rate was lower (8.3%). This clearly demonstrates that employment is the best way to prevent poverty. On the other hand, the post-intervention poverty rates of single-parent and new-arrival households (at 36.4% and 32.4% respectively) were more than twice the overall level, which is a continuing cause for concern. For single-parent households in poverty, this is partly because over 60% of the households lacked members who could spare time to work, as a result of their childcare

- responsibilities. As for new-arrival households in poverty, most (92%) of the working members were engaged in lower-skilled occupations. On top of these, both groups had relatively large household sizes and heavy family burdens, which in turn increased their poverty risk.
- ES.15 Further detailed analyses show that groups with higher proportions of working population and higher skill levels among workers benefited more from the tight labour market and had lower poverty rates than the other groups. This shows the importance of employment and skill upgrading in poverty prevention. Also, households with higher dependency ratio had a higher chance of falling below the poverty line.
- ES.16 Compared with 2013, the poverty situation in 2014 continued to show widespread improvement, with the sizes of the poor population and the poverty rates after policy intervention for most socio-economic groups falling from their 2013 levels. Comparing the statistics before and after policy intervention, poverty rate reduction was the largest for CSSA and elderly households, illustrating that the Government's poverty alleviation policies have been the most effective for these groups.
- ES.17 The analysis by type of housing shows that over half (52.7% or 697 800 persons) of the poor population lived in PRH before policy intervention, an indirect way of confirming that many poor households were already taken care of by PRH. Also, the poverty situation of households in inadequate housing conditions was severe. The poverty rates of private tenants in rooms / bedspaces / cocklofts and those residing in temporary housing were as high as 39.8% and 35.8% respectively. They were much higher than the overall level, reflecting the heavy living burden on these households.
- ES.18 Analysed in terms of the 18 District Council districts, the poverty situation of 11 districts improved over a year ago. After policy intervention, Sham Shui Po, Kwai Tsing, Kwun Tong, North and Wong Tai Sin were the 5 districts with the highest poverty rates. Analysis shows that districts with higher poverty rates usually had lower proportions of working population, higher proportions of lower-skilled workers, and higher elderly and child poverty rates. These are consistent with the findings from the analysis by socio-economic characteristic.

## Policy Implications

- ES.19 The poverty line set by CoP has three functions: to quantify the poverty situation in Hong Kong, facilitating thorough analysis of the causes and forms of poverty; to assist formulation of more appropriate and effective policy initiatives; and to assess quantitatively the effectiveness of the Government's poverty alleviation measures for the needy.
- ES.20 Poverty statistics show that for groups with higher proportions of working population in households and higher skill levels among workers, their poverty risk was lower. As the labour market remained tight over the past year, more households benefited from the favourable employment situation. Coupled with the upgrading of their skill levels, they managed to stay out of poverty. This demonstrates that the best way to prevent poverty is to propel economic development to generate more "quality employment" opportunities from the demand side, and to strengthen manpower training and reduce skill mismatch from the supply side. The Government will continue to strengthen education and training, and promote high value-added economic activities.
- ES.21 Poverty situation after policy intervention continued to improve in 2014. However, even though the poverty risk was lower for working households, there were still 0.14 million non-CSSA working households (comprising 0.46 million people) living below the poverty line. These households had more members and heavy family burdens, but received relatively little from current recurrent cash policies. Their poverty rate reduction before and after policy intervention was merely 2.0 percentage points. To provide more targeted support to these households, the upcoming LIFA will be a family-based allowance, with a Basic Allowance, which is tied to employment and working hours to encourage active employment; and a Child Allowance, which provides support to eligible poor families with heavier burdens. With the funding proposal for implementing the Scheme approved by the Legislative Council Finance Committee in January 2015, the Government has been pressing ahead with the preparatory work with a view to implementing the Scheme in the second quarter of 2016.
- ES.22 Besides recurrent cash policies, the Government has in place various non-recurrent and in-kind benefits to alleviate the living burden of the grassroots, and some even benefit the general public. Among them, PRH provision is the most prominent example. In terms of poverty alleviation impact of individual policies, PRH provision was even more effective than CSSA. The Government will continue to address the housing needs of grassroots

citizens through further provision of PRH.

- ES.23 Under the current poverty line framework, the effectiveness of PRH provision in poverty alleviation is supplemented as reference material. However, PRH provision is an important policy of the Government to improve the living conditions of grassroots families. Whether and how the poverty alleviation impact of PRH provision can be incorporated into the main analysis to enhance the poverty line framework, is a key research topic in the future. Upon C&SD's publication of the results of the "2014/15 Household Expenditure Survey" in mid-2016, it will provide information for thorough analyses of the expenditure patterns of poor households, and support the review of how the welfare transfer of PRH provision could be incorporated into the main analytical framework.
- ES.24 In 2014, the CCF continued to launch various assistance programmes to effectively plug gaps in the existing system and provide support to the underprivileged. With due regard to the conditions of the beneficiaries, the income thresholds for some of these programmes are more lenient than the poverty line thresholds. In addition, seven programmes have been incorporated into the Government's regular assistance programmes in 2014, and one more programme has been regularised by the Government in the 2015/16 school year. If financial position permits, the Government will continue to evaluate the effectiveness of programmes and consider further regularising effective ones.
- ES.25 Children and youths are the future pillars of the society. The Government fully acknowledges the importance of upward mobility in preventing, reducing and alleviating poverty. As such, one of the key directions of the current-term Government's poverty alleviation work is to provide quality education and training to school-age children and youths, with the aim of promoting upward social mobility. The Government has conducted a study of the earnings mobility of post-secondary education graduates from underprivileged families, so as to understand the factors, particularly the role of education, that affect earnings mobility. Initial results have been considered by CoP's Youth Education, Employment and Training Task Force in September 2015, which will continue to follow up on the subject and consider the case for action. Moreover, C&SD conducted the "Survey on Households with School Children of South Asian Ethnicities" from May 2014 to June 2015, to focus on and examine the poverty situation and socio-economic characteristics of households with school children from the South Asian ethnicities. The results of the analyses are expected to be released in the fourth quarter of 2015.



ES.26 Looking ahead in 2015, the slowdown in inbound tourism, if protracted, may further undermine the growth momentum of the domestic economy (such as catering, accommodations and retail sectors), with possible spillovers to the employment situation of the grassroots. The Government will monitor the situation closely. Various poverty alleviation measures will continue to provide assistance to the grassroots, with CSSA functioning as the social safety net and OALA providing cash subsidy to elders with financial needs.



## **1 Introduction**

### **1.I Guiding Principles of the Government in Regard to Poverty Alleviation**

1.1 The current-term Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) attaches great importance to the poverty situation, with poverty alleviation as one of the priority policy areas. The direction of the Government's poverty alleviation policy is to encourage young people and adults to be self-reliant through employment, while putting in place a social security and welfare system to help those who cannot provide for themselves on a reasonable and sustainable basis<sup>1</sup>, with the aim of supporting the needy. Since the establishment of the current-term Government, we have progressively rolled out a number of policies and initiatives to alleviate the problem of poverty by rendering assistance to disadvantaged groups.

### **1.II The “Poverty Line” and the Poverty Situation Report**

1.2 The Commission on Poverty (CoP) was reinstated in December 2012. With the aim of preventing and alleviating poverty, it deliberates on various policies and measures, and assists the Government in poverty alleviation work. One of the principal priority tasks for CoP was to set a well-recognised poverty line for Hong Kong.

1.3 Having considered the three primary functions (i.e. to analyse the poverty situation, to assist policy formulation and to assess policy effectiveness) and the five guiding principles (i.e. ready measurability, international comparability, regular data availability, cost-effectiveness, and amenability to compilation and interpretation) of setting the poverty line, and with due reference to local and international experience, the first-term CoP undertook iterative discussion and eventually agreed that the poverty line should be based on the concept of “relative poverty” and set at 50% of the median monthly household income before policy intervention (i.e. before taxation and social welfare transfer). This is generally in line with the international practice, for example that of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and the European Union (EU), as well as local organisations such as Oxfam Hong Kong (Oxfam) and the Hong Kong Council of Social Service (HKCSS)<sup>2</sup>. The poverty line thresholds are set based on household income before policy intervention, so as to avoid distortion by the Government's policy measures and reflect the most genuine situation of a household.

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1 See paragraph 110 of the *2015 Policy Address* and paragraph 46 of the *2014 Policy Address*.

2 For details of the poverty line framework, please refer to **Appendix 1**.

- 1.4 In September 2013, the first-term CoP announced the first official poverty line, and poverty statistics were subsequently updated annually using the poverty line framework. Following the end of the term of the first-term CoP in November 2014, the second-term CoP followed the poverty line framework adopted by the first-term CoP, and supplemented it with other related research (see **Section 1.VI** for details), thereby constantly monitoring the poverty situation of Hong Kong, evaluating the effectiveness of poverty alleviation policies and providing policy direction for poverty alleviation measures.

### **1.III Direction and Strategy for Poverty Alleviation**

- 1.5 Setting the poverty line has helped the Government understand the forms and situations of poverty in Hong Kong in a thorough manner and identify needy groups. On the basis of the poverty line analysis, the Government formulated the following directions and strategies for poverty alleviation:

- (i) To continue to enhance education and training and develop our economy, so as to create employment opportunities, particularly quality jobs that facilitate upward mobility of young people;
- (ii) To strengthen assistance to families in need, particularly working poor families with a focus on encouraging employment and on enhancing assistance to address educational needs of school-age children, so as to sustain the self-reliance of family members with the objective of enhancing their upward mobility;
- (iii) To continue to render support to poor elderly, single-parent households, households with persons with disabilities and other needy groups through the Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) and other recurrent cash assistance and support services; and the implementation of programmes funded by the Community Care Fund (CCF) and, subject to the availability of resources, regularisation of effective ones; and
- (iv) To continue to improve the quality of life of underprivileged citizens through providing public rental housing (PRH) to low-income families who cannot afford private rental housing.

### **1.IV Key Poverty Alleviation Efforts after Setting the Poverty Line**

- 1.6 The priority for the poverty alleviation work of the current-term Government is to continue to fully implement the poverty alleviation blueprint as set out in the *2014 Policy Address*, which covers a range of measures to benefit

different needy groups in the community. These measures include:

**(a) Recurrent cash assistance<sup>3</sup>**

- 1.7 Regarding existing recurrent cash benefits, OALA has been fully implemented in 2013 and since then has benefited over 420 000<sup>4</sup> elders, significantly alleviating poverty among elders. Also, the Government has implemented a series of enhancements for CSSA in 2014. Specifically, the grants for school-related expenses for primary and secondary students of CSSA families were further increased on top of the existing adjustment mechanism from the 2014/15 school year; and post-secondary students in CSSA families have been included in the calculation of rent allowance with effect from April 2014. These measures would strengthen support for students receiving CSSA and aim at promoting upward social mobility.
- 1.8 The Government is conducting a comprehensive review of the WITS Scheme, including its objectives, eligibility criteria, level of subsidy rate, *modus operandi* and effectiveness. In addition, the Inter-departmental Working Group on Review of the Disability Allowance coordinated by the Labour and Welfare Bureau expects to complete the review by the end of 2015, and then submit its report.

**(b) “Low-income Working Family Allowance”**

- 1.9 According to the poverty situation reports of the previous two years, non-CSSA working poor households generally have few working members, who are usually engaged in lower-skilled occupations, while generally having more children to raise, thus facing a higher poverty risk. In order to relieve the financial burden of these low-income working families, the Government has proposed a new poverty alleviation measure outside the CSSA Scheme - the “Low-income Working Family Allowance” (LIFA). It aims to encourage working members in low-income families to stay in active employment for self-reliance. Its design is to accord special attention to families with children and young people, with the objective of promoting upward social mobility and alleviating inter-generational poverty.
- 1.10 LIFA, on a family basis with eligibility criteria such as income / asset tests and working hour requirements, comprises a Basic Allowance and a Child Allowance. The Basic Allowance will be tied to both employment and

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3 Under the poverty line framework as endorsed by CoP, recurrent cash assistance includes CSSA, Old Age Living Allowance (OALA), Old Age Allowance (OAA), Disability Allowance (DA), Work Incentive Transport Subsidy (WITS), etc. For details, please refer to **Appendix 3**.

4 As at end-July 2015.

working hours to encourage self-reliance. A higher amount of allowance will be granted to those who work more. LIFA beneficiary families with eligible children / youth members will also receive a Child Allowance. Funding proposal for the LIFA Scheme implementation was approved by the Legislative Council Finance Committee in January 2015. The Labour and Welfare Bureau has been pressing ahead with the preparatory work with a view to implementing the Scheme in the second quarter of 2016. Please refer to **Section 3.I** and paragraph 4.5 of this Report for details of the Scheme.

**(c) Community Care Fund**

1.11 The CCF is an integral part of the Government's poverty alleviation blueprint, serving an important function of plugging gaps in the existing system. Since its establishment in 2011, the CCF has launched 30 assistance programmes. Among these, 11 pilot programmes<sup>5</sup> have been incorporated into the Government's regular assistance programmes.

1.12 The CCF Task Force under CoP will continue to ensure the efficient use of the CCF's resources in drawing up more assistance programmes as appropriate to meet the needs of different groups, and strengthen support for low-income families. The 4 new programmes launched by the CCF in 2014 were "Incentive scheme to further encourage CSSA recipients of the Integrated Employment Assistance Programme for Self-reliance to secure employment", "Pilot scheme on living allowance for carers of the elderly persons from low-income families", "Providing hostel subsidy for needy undergraduate students" and "Increasing the academic expenses grant under the Financial Assistance Scheme for Post-secondary Students". In 2015, the CCF launched 3 new programmes, which were "Provision of a one-off subsidy for full grant students under the School Textbook Assistance Scheme before the launch of the Low-income Working Family Allowance Scheme"; "Provision of funding for ordinary schools to arrange special educational needs coordinators"; and "Enhancing the academic expenses

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5 Including the programmes of "Subsidy for needy patients of Hospital Authority who marginally fall outside the Samaritan Fund (SF) safety net for the use of SF subsidised drugs"; "Financial assistance for non-school-attending ethnic minorities and new arrivals from the Mainland for taking language examinations"; "Subsidy for non-school-attending ethnic minorities and new arrivals from the Mainland participating in language courses"; "Subsidy for Tenants Purchase Scheme flat owners on CSSA"; "Subsidy to meet lunch expenses at whole-day primary schools for students from low-income families"; "Training subsidy for children who are on the waiting list for subvented pre-school rehabilitation services"; "Special subsidy to persons with severe physical disabilities for renting respiratory support medical equipment"; "Special subsidy to persons with severe physical disabilities for purchasing medical consumables related to respiratory support medical equipment"; "Enhancement of the flat rate grant under the School Textbook Assistance Scheme"; "Enhancement of the financial assistance for needy students pursuing programmes below sub-degree level"; and "Extra travel subsidy for needy special school students".

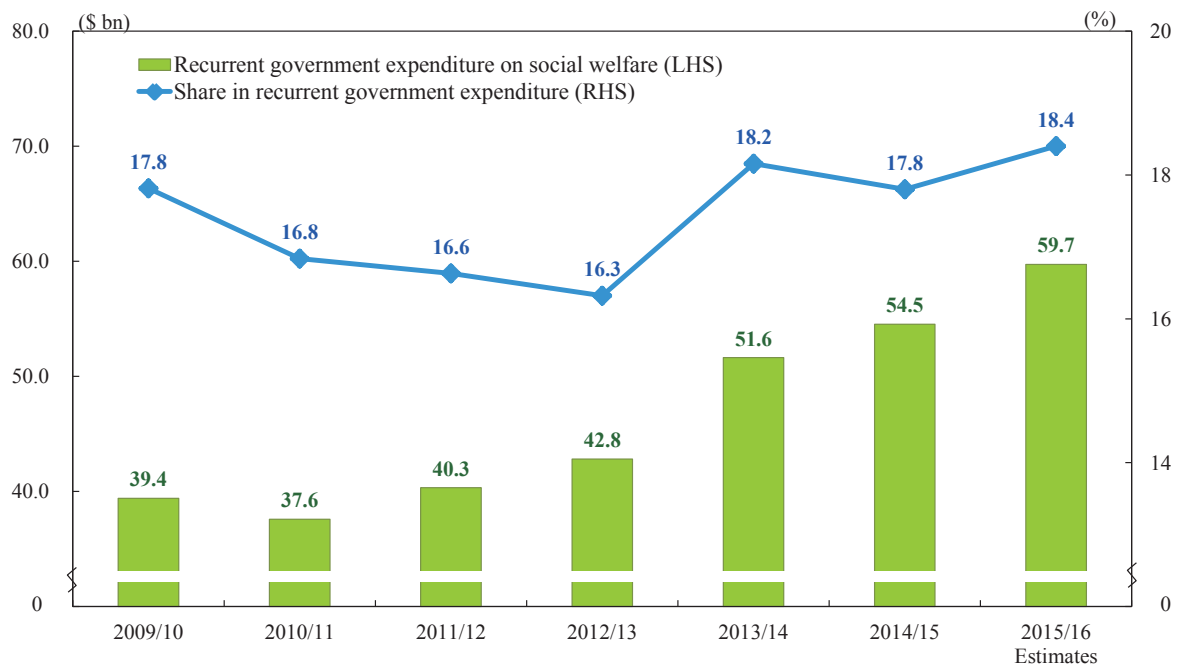
grant for students with special educational needs and financial needs pursuing post-secondary programmes”. Moreover, the CCF has also enhanced some existing programmes to provide assistance to the needy more effectively. This includes the expansion of the “Elderly dental assistance programme” since 1 September 2015 to cover OALA recipients by phases, so as to enable more elders who have financial difficulties and do not receive CSSA to benefit from free removable dentures and related dental services, starting with those aged 80 or above in the first phase, involving about 130 000 elders. Having regard to the progress of implementation of the expanded programme and the overall situation, consideration will be given to expanding the target beneficiaries to other age groups of OALA recipients progressively.

- 1.13 The CCF will also launch the “One-off living subsidy for low-income households not living in public housing and not receiving CSSA” programme for the third time in January 2016 to provide a one-off subsidy to persons not living in public housing and not receiving CSSA (known colloquially as the “N have-nots”), and add a tier with a higher amount of subsidy for five-or-more-person households to strengthen support for larger families.

## **1.V Commitment to Poverty Alleviation**

- 1.14 The continuous increase in government spending on welfare in recent years reflects the Government’s commitment to poverty alleviation. In 2015/16, recurrent government expenditure on social welfare is estimated to be \$59.7 billion, accounting for 18.4% of total recurrent government expenditure, and is the second largest item of expenditure after education (**Figure 1.1**). Since 2012/13, the relevant expenditure has registered a cumulative increase of 40%. Following the launch of the Government’s new poverty alleviation initiatives, and together with the impact of an ageing population, this expenditure is expected to continue to increase in the period ahead.

Figure 1.1 : Recurrent government expenditure on social welfare, 2009/10-2015/16



Note: Figures for 2013/14 and before are actual figures, while those for 2014/15 are revised estimates.  
Source: Financial Services and the Treasury Bureau.

1.15 The Government will continue to provide appropriate and targeted support to our underprivileged groups in the community, having regard to the prudent use of public resources. In response to the expected increase in expenditure, the Government will also undertake more comprehensive planning for Hong Kong’s public finance, in order to cope with its long-term commitments, for ensuring long-term fiscal sustainability.

## 1.VI Related Studies of the Poverty Line Framework

1.16 In addition to the 2014 update of related poverty statistics under the official poverty line, the Government has also conducted further studies under the poverty line framework, for instance the *Hong Kong Poverty Situation Report on Disability 2013* released last year. The areas in which the Government is undertaking follow-up actions and researches include:

- (i) **Socio-economic characteristics of ethnic minorities:** The “Survey on Households with School Children of South Asian Ethnicities” conducted by the Census and Statistics Department (C&SD) from May 2014 to June 2015 covers households with children from the South Asian (Indian, Pakistani, Nepali, Bangladeshi and Sri Lankan) ethnicities who are attending public sector and / or Direct Subsidy Scheme primary and secondary schools in Hong Kong. The survey findings would facilitate the analysis of the poverty situation and socio-economic characteristics of households with school children from the South Asian ethnicities. The results of the analyses of the



poverty situation are expected to be released in the fourth quarter of 2015.

- (ii) **Earnings mobility study:** supporting children and youths in education and enhancing their upward social mobility is one of the key directions of the current-term Government’s poverty alleviation work. The Government has conducted a study on the earnings mobility of tertiary education graduates from underprivileged families, so as to understand the impact of education on enhancing upward earnings mobility. Initial results have been considered by CoP’s Youth Education, Employment and Training Task Force in September 2015, which will continue to follow up on the subject to consider the case for action.
- (iii) **Expenditure pattern of poor households:** the “2014/15 Household Expenditure Survey” (HES) being conducted by C&SD could provide data for a better understanding of the expenditure patterns of poor households, which would be useful for examining the need for enhancing the poverty line framework and the way to do so, particularly regarding how the welfare transfer of PRH could be incorporated into the main analytical framework.
- (iv) **Supplementary poverty lines:** to monitor the circumstances of households with different poverty risks, this Report adopts the analyses in the box of the *Hong Kong Poverty Situation Report 2013*, by updating the analysis of the situation and socio-economic characteristics of households and people with incomes below 60% of the median and comparing them with those under the current poverty line (i.e. 50% of the median household income) (**Box 3.2**).

## 1.VII Report Structure

1.17 The remaining three chapters cover the following:

- **Chapter 2** analyses the poverty situation of Hong Kong in 2014.
- **Chapter 3** provides an in-depth analysis of households and people in poverty after policy intervention in 2014, with a view to understanding the forms and possible causes of poverty.
- **Chapter 4** concludes with policy implications based on the report findings.

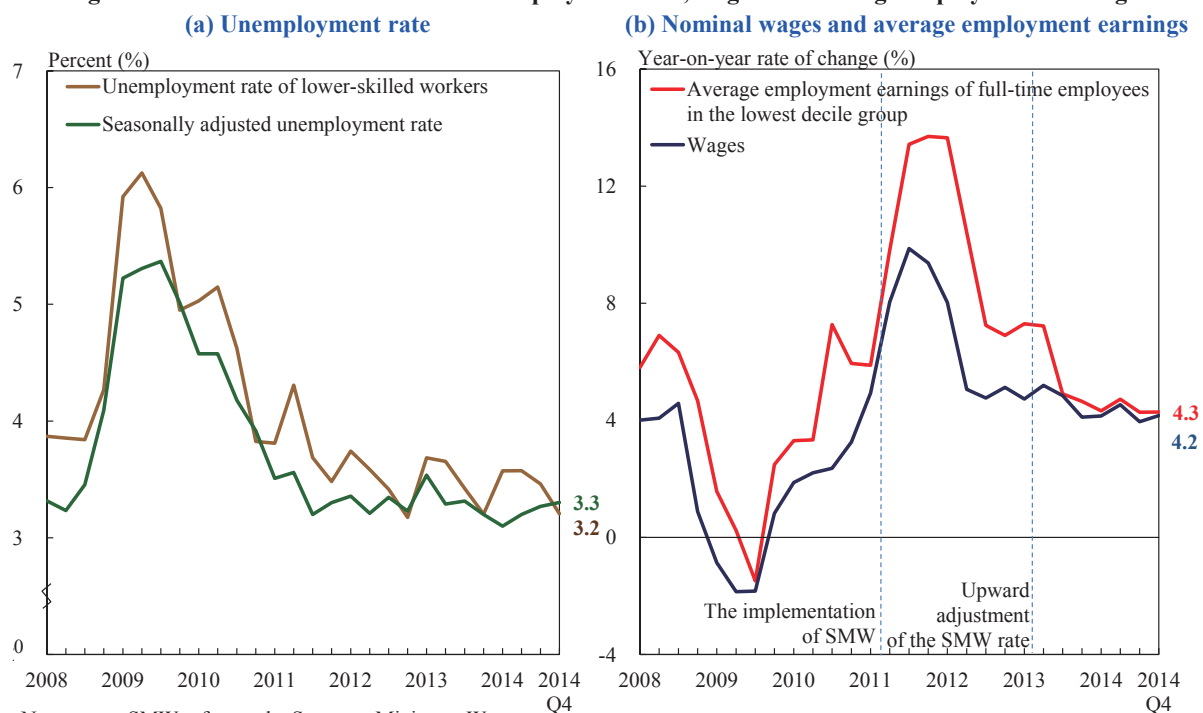
## 2 Poverty Situation in 2014

2.1 One of the main functions of the poverty line is to quantify and facilitate understanding of the poverty situation of Hong Kong. Having updated the poverty line based on the 2014 household income statistics released by C&SD, this Chapter will analyse the latest poverty situation of Hong Kong and assess the effectiveness of the Government's poverty alleviation policies over the past year.

### 2.1 Macroeconomic Situation and Population Growth

2.2 In 2014, the Hong Kong economy sustained moderate growth. Overall labour demand remained sturdy, with total employment growing by 21 200 to a new high of 3 749 200 in 2014. Over the same period, both the overall unemployment rate and that of lower-skilled workers edged down by 0.1 percentage point, to 3.3% and 3.5% respectively, indicating that the labour market was still in a state of full employment. The wage and income situation was also largely favourable (**Figure 2.1**), and grassroots workers continued to enjoy earnings growth.

**Figure 2.1: Labour market situation: unemployment rate, wages and average employment earnings**



2.3 In 2014, the total number of domestic households in Hong Kong amounted to 2 429 000, an increase of 27 100 (or 1.1%) over 2013. The total population<sup>6</sup>

6 Unless otherwise specified, all population figures in this Report refer to population in domestic households (excluding foreign domestic helpers (FDHs)).

in domestic households was 6 750 300, or up by 46 100 (or 0.7%) over 2013. Among them, the number of children aged below 18 decreased by 1.4% (or 14 700 persons) to 1 003 100, whilst the number of adults aged between 18 and 64 increased by 0.4% (or 16 900 persons) to 4 768 600. Meanwhile, the population continued to age, as the number of elders aged 65 and above rose by 4.7% (or 43 900 persons) to 978 600, with its share in the overall population rising from 13.9% in 2013 to 14.5% in 2014. Alongside the rise in elderly population, the demographic dependency ratio<sup>7</sup> in Hong Kong rose from 411 in 2013 to 416 in 2014, while the economic dependency ratio<sup>8</sup> was also up from 894 to 901. The concurrent increases in the demographic and economic dependency ratios indicated that the continuous expansion in the retired population had some impact on the overall poverty indicators.

## 2.II Household Income Distribution

### (a) Before policy intervention

2.4 On the back of a stable economic situation and a largely favourable employment market, household income (especially that of low-income households) continued to grow in 2014, thus helping to improve the poverty situation. The pre-intervention<sup>9</sup> monthly median household income<sup>10</sup> was \$22,600 in 2014, up by 3.7% over the level one year ago (**Table 2.1**). When compared with 2009, income grew by 30.3% cumulatively. After netting out price changes, the increase was 6.7% in real terms, indicating a generally favourable income situation over the past 5 years.

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7 “Demographic dependency ratio” refers to the number of persons aged below 18 and aged 65 and above per 1 000 persons aged between 18 and 64.

8 “Economic dependency ratio” refers to the number of economically inactive persons per 1 000 economically active persons.

9 The “pre-intervention monthly median household income” refers to original household income without policy intervention, i.e. it only includes a household’s own employment earnings and other cash income, without the effect of taxation and cash benefits. For the definitions of different household incomes, please refer to **Appendix 1** and the **Glossary**.

10 Unless otherwise specified, all household income figures are quoted on a monthly basis, rounded to the nearest hundred.

**Table 2.1: Pre-intervention household income, 2009-2014**

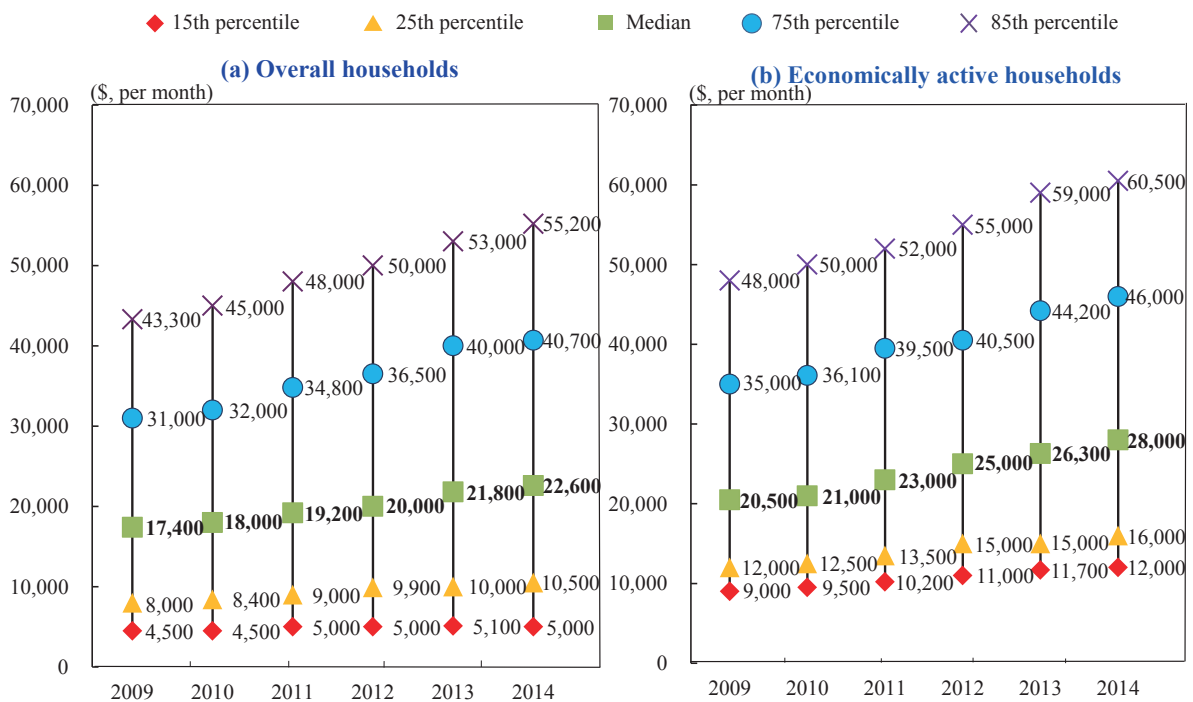
Percentile	Nominal household income (\$, per month)						Annual change (%)				
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
85th	43,300	45,000	48,000	50,000	53,000	55,200	+3.9	+6.7	+4.2	+6.0	+4.2
75th	31,000	32,000	34,800	36,500	40,000	40,700	+3.2	+8.6	+5.0	+9.6	+1.8
50th (Median)	17,400	18,000	19,200	20,000	21,800	22,600	+3.7	+6.7	+4.2	+9.0	+3.7
25th	8,000	8,400	9,000	9,900	10,000	10,500	+5.0	+7.1	+10.0	+1.0	+5.0
15th	4,500	4,500	5,000	5,000	5,100	5,000	@	+11.1	@	+2.0	-2.0

Notes: (@) Annual change within  $\pm 0.05\%$ .  
Annual changes are calculated based on unrounded figures.  
Source: General Household Survey, Census and Statistics Department.

2.5 Working households were able to benefit from the persistently tight labour market. Statistics indicate that in 2014, the median household income of economically active households<sup>11</sup> was \$28,000, up by 6.5% over the previous year, or by 2.0% in real terms after netting out inflation (**Figure 2.2**). However, as regards the overall household situation, against the backdrop of population ageing, the number of elderly households continued to rise, and expanded by 5.2% in 2014 over a year earlier, far more than the 1.1% growth of overall households. Since most members in these elderly households have retired and do not have employment income, these households have been persistently classified as “low-income household” groups in statistical analyses and also naturally suffered from lower income growth.

11 Economic activity status aside, household income is closely related to other socio-economic characteristics of a household, such as household size and type of housing. For analytical purpose, type of housing could be classified into PRH, subsidised sale flat, private permanent housing and temporary housing. For instance, larger households generally have higher income; and lower-income households usually reside in PRH, temporary housing and rooms / bedspaces / cocklofts. For the detailed analysis of household income distribution, please refer to **Chapter 3** of the *Hong Kong Poverty Situation Report 2012*.

**Figure 2.2: Key statistics of household income before policy intervention, 2009-2014**



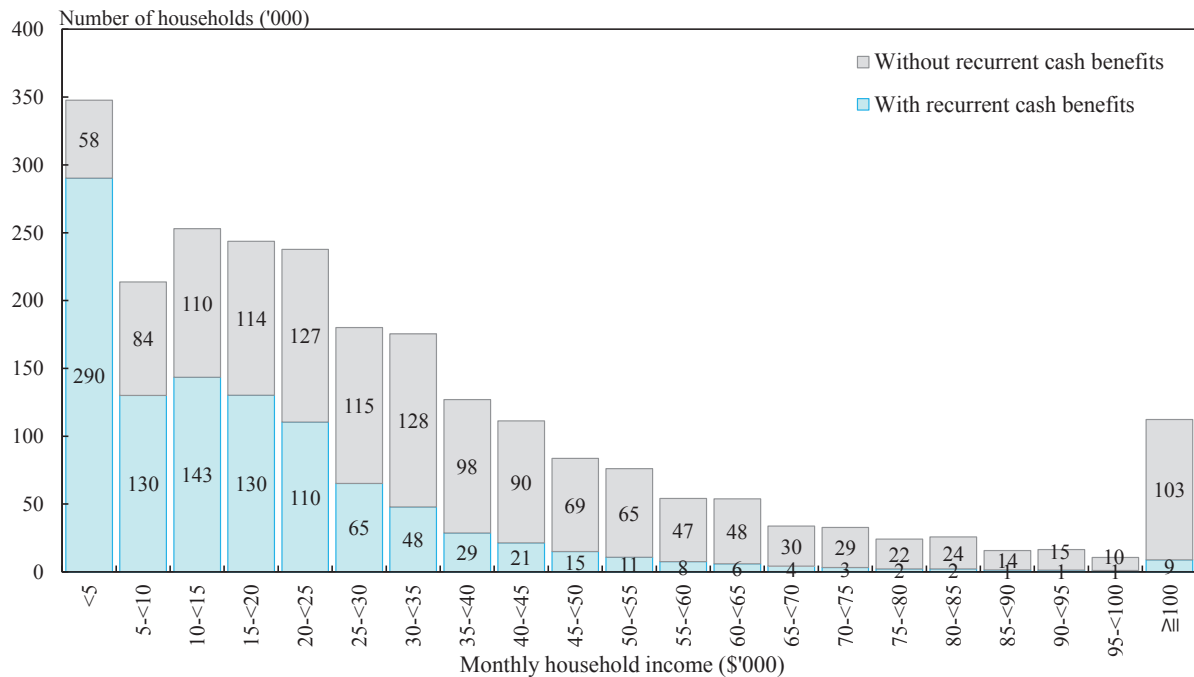
Source: General Household Survey, Census and Statistics Department.

## (b) Impact of recurrent cash measures

2.6 Policy intervention covers taxation, recurrent and non-recurrent cash measures and means-tested in-kind benefits<sup>12</sup>, among which recurrent cash benefits include social security payments and other cash allowances (e.g. CSSA, OALA, OAA, DA, education benefits, etc). As most of these measures are designed with means-tested features, it is understandable that the lower-income groups usually benefit the most from them. On the contrary, the proportion of beneficiaries decreases as household income increases (Figure 2.3).

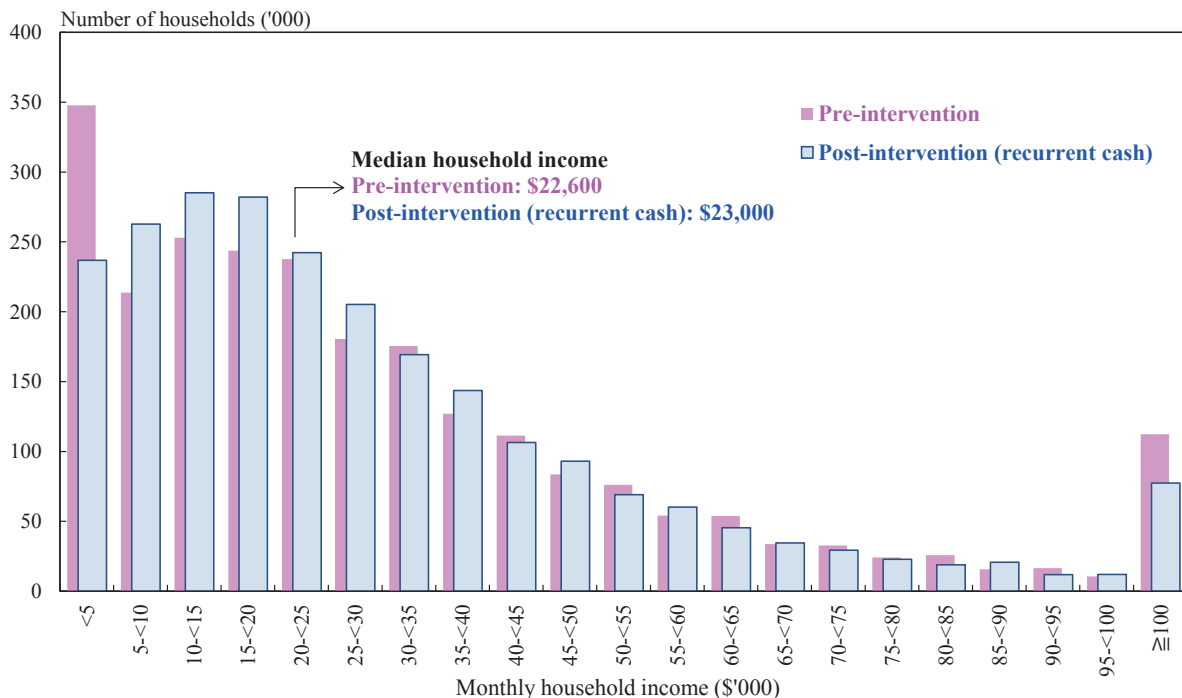
12 For details of the coverage of the policy measures, please refer to **Appendix 3**.

**Figure 2.3: Pre-intervention household income distribution by whether receiving recurrent cash benefits, 2014**



Note: Income groups are classified according to their respective pre-intervention household incomes.  
Source: General Household Survey, Census and Statistics Department.

**Figure 2.4: Pre- and post-intervention household income distribution, 2014**



Source: General Household Survey, Census and Statistics Department.

2.7 A similar situation can be observed by comparing the distributional changes in pre- and post-intervention monthly household income in 2014 (**Figure 2.4**): after policy intervention (recurrent cash)<sup>13</sup>, the number of households in the lowest income group (i.e. below \$5,000) declined visibly, while the

<sup>13</sup> Unless otherwise specified, “post-intervention” refers to “post-recurrent cash intervention”.

number of households with incomes of \$5,000 - <\$10,000, \$10,000 - <\$15,000, etc. rose appreciably. This shows that low-income households, after benefiting from recurrent cash benefits, saw increases in their household income, and even moved up to higher income groups. The number of households with income at \$50,000 and above decreased notably, reflecting the Government's role in income redistribution through taxation.

### 2.III The Poverty Line

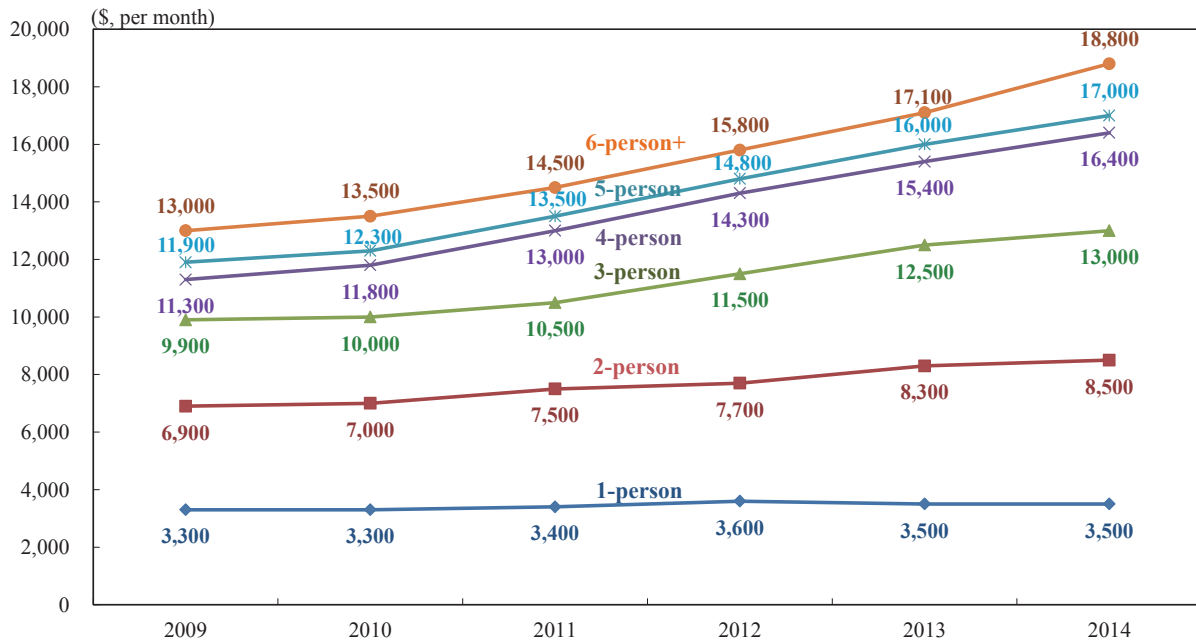
2.8 As mentioned in **Section 2.II**, on the back of moderate economic growth and a persistently tight labour market in 2014, the median household income continued to increase, leading to the upshifting of poverty line thresholds, which are set based on the concept of "relative poverty"<sup>14</sup>. As compared to 2013, the increases in the poverty line thresholds<sup>15</sup> of 3- to 6-person and above households were between 4.0% and 10.0%. On the other hand, due to a persistently ageing population, the number of economically inactive households increased. As they were concentrated mainly among 1- to 2-person households (representing 50.6% and 26.7% of all 1- to 2-person households respectively), the upward movements in the relevant poverty line thresholds were slower than overall. Specifically, the poverty line threshold of 1-person households remained unchanged, while that of 2-person households rose mildly by 3.0% (**Figure 2.5**).

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14 There are views that in addition to the poverty line at 50% of the median household income, multiple poverty lines should be set, e.g. at 60% of the median, so as to have a more comprehensive review on the circumstances of households at different levels of poverty risk. **Box 3.2** analyses the at-risk-of-poverty situation of households with income below 60% of the pre-intervention median household income, and their socio-economic characteristics.

15 The annual changes in poverty line thresholds are calculated based on unrounded figures.

Figure 2.5: The poverty line by household size, 2009-2014



Source: General Household Survey, Census and Statistics Department.

## 2.IV Poverty Situation and Policy Effectiveness in Poverty Alleviation

2.9 Benefiting from the general improvement in income, the size of the poor population and its corresponding poverty rate before policy intervention fell slightly in 2014, with the poverty rate falling back to its level in 2011 and 2012, also the lowest since poverty statistics have been compiled. In fact, over the period from 2009 to 2014, other than the slight increase in 2013, the poverty rate before policy intervention stayed broadly on a downward trend, reflecting that continuous economic development of recent years, as well as the implementation of the Statutory Minimum Wage, has lifted many people out of poverty. After policy intervention, the size of the poor population and the poverty rate in 2014 were markedly lower, and when compared to 2013, also showed further improvement. The following section will analyse the poverty indicators<sup>16</sup> under the poverty line framework in detail.

### (a) Overall

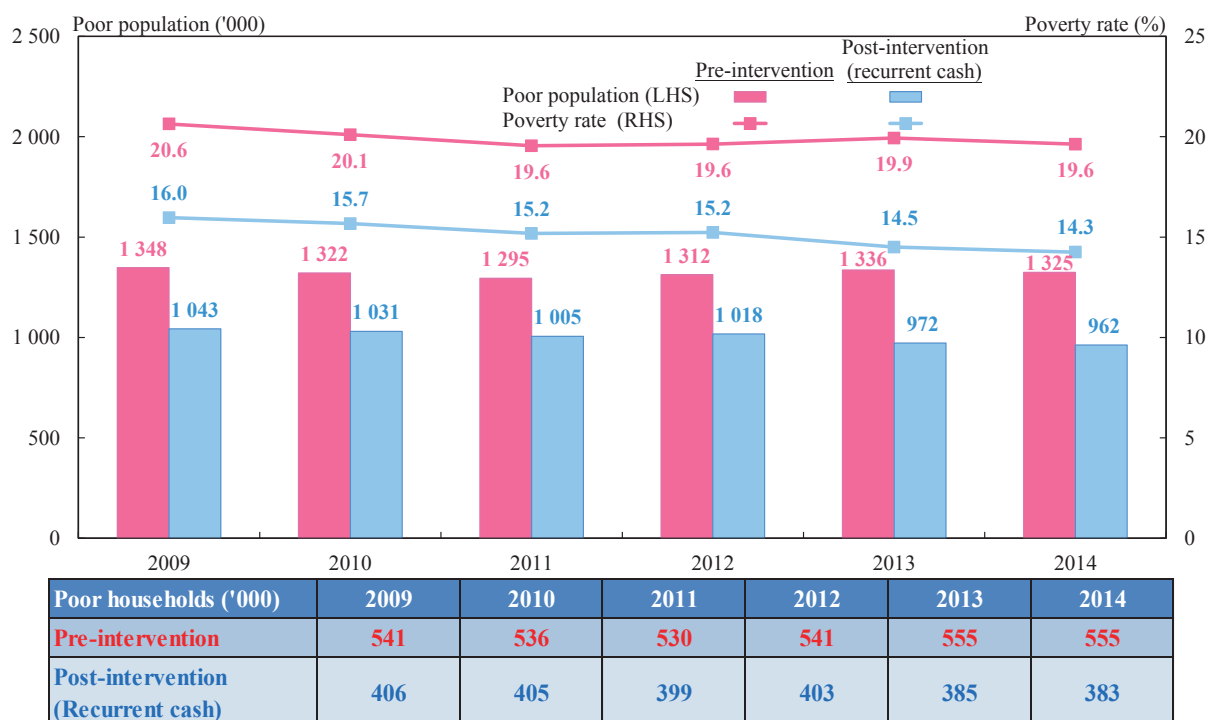
2.10 In 2014, **before policy intervention**, the number of poor households, the size of the poor population and the poverty rate were 555 200, 1 324 800 and 19.6% respectively. When compared with 2013, the number of poor households remained largely unchanged (only edging up by 0.1% or 300 households), while the size of the poor population shrank by 11 400 persons (or 0.9%) and the poverty rate fell by 0.3 percentage point. **After policy intervention (recurrent cash)**, the corresponding figures were 382 600

16 For definitions of different poverty indicators, please refer to **Appendix 2**.



households, 962 100 persons and 14.3%. When compared with 2013, all three of the post-intervention indicators fell to their lowest levels in the past six years (**Figure 2.6**).

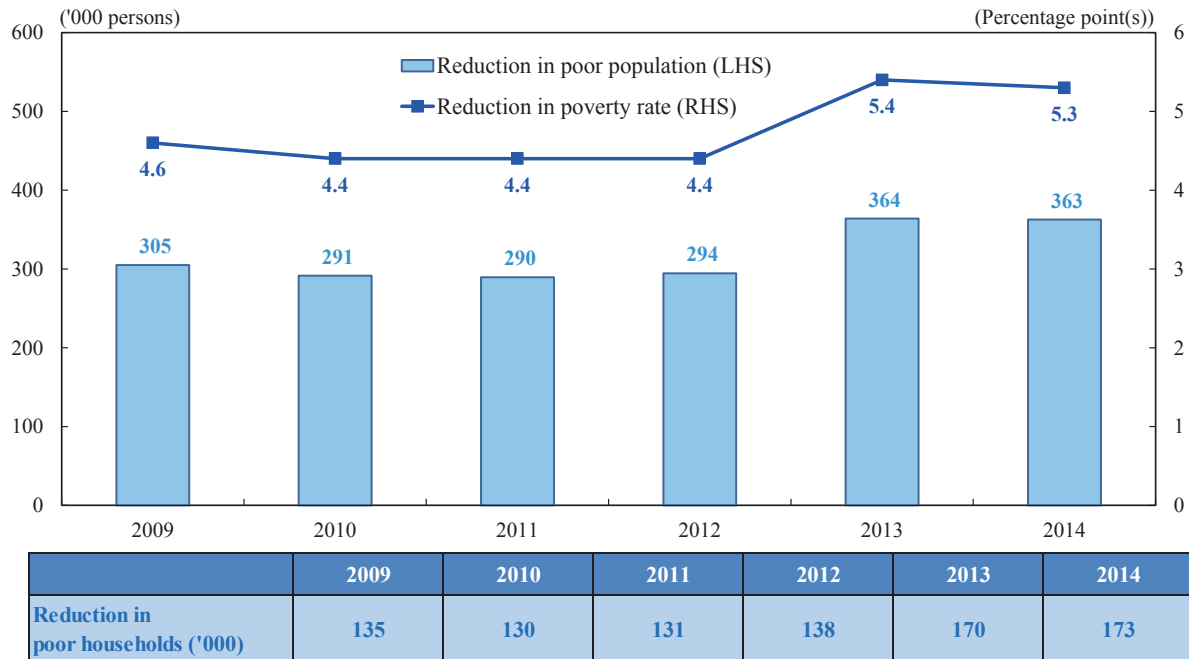
**Figure 2.6: Poor population and poverty rate, 2009-2014**



Source: General Household Survey, Census and Statistics Department.

2.11 As mentioned in **Chapter 1**, one key function of the poverty line is to assess the policy effectiveness in poverty alleviation by comparing the pre- and post-intervention poverty statistics. Overall, the Government's recurrent cash benefits in 2014 helped lift 172 600 households, comprising 362 700 people, out of poverty, resulting in a significant reduction in the poverty rate by 5.3 percentage points. The effectiveness was largely the same as that in 2013 (**Figure 2.7**). This shows that the Government's efforts in poverty alleviation have continued to yield significant positive results.

**Figure 2.7: Effectiveness of recurrent cash benefits in poverty alleviation, 2009-2014**



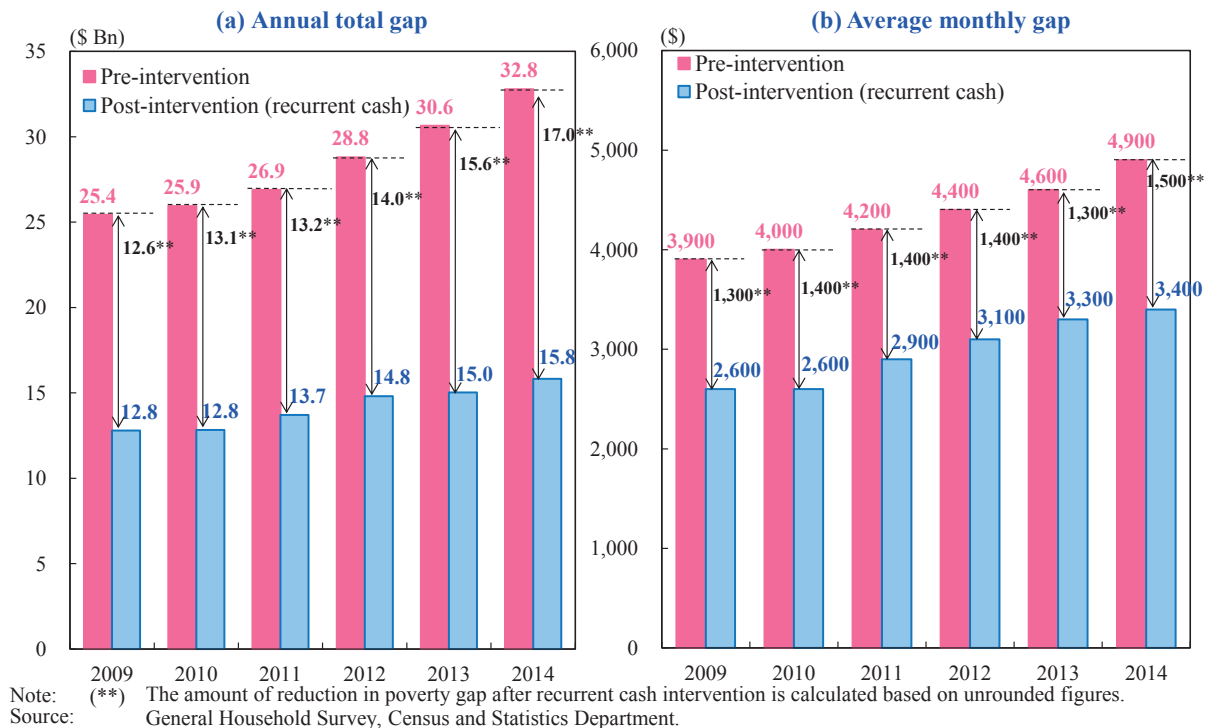
Source: General Household Survey, Census and Statistics Department.

2.12 Regarding the poverty gap<sup>17</sup>, given that the number of economically inactive poor households increased amid population ageing; that more working households were out of poverty due to improving income; and also the rise in poverty line thresholds in 2014, the average pre-intervention poverty gap of households that stayed below the poverty line widened further. In this regard, various poverty alleviation measures of the Government could provide some relief. In 2014, the post-intervention annual total and average monthly poverty gaps were \$15.8 billion and \$3,400 respectively. As compared with the pre-intervention figures (\$32.8 billion and \$4,900 respectively), the total poverty gap was drastically narrowed by \$17.0 billion, or by over half. The reduction was \$1.4 billion larger than that in 2013. Meanwhile, the average monthly poverty gap was also substantially reduced<sup>18</sup> (**Figure 2.8**).

17 Unlike the poverty incidence and poverty rate which measure the “extent” of poverty, the poverty gap aims at estimating the “depth” of poverty, i.e. the amount of money theoretically required to pull the poor households back to the level of the poverty line. This poverty indicator, which is commonly used internationally, can provide a useful reference for monitoring poverty and formulating relevant policies.

18 It is worth noting that the total amount of benefits is usually higher than the reduction in total poverty gap before and after policy intervention, since non-poor households could also benefit from a considerable number of policy items.

Figure 2.8: Poverty gaps, 2009-2014

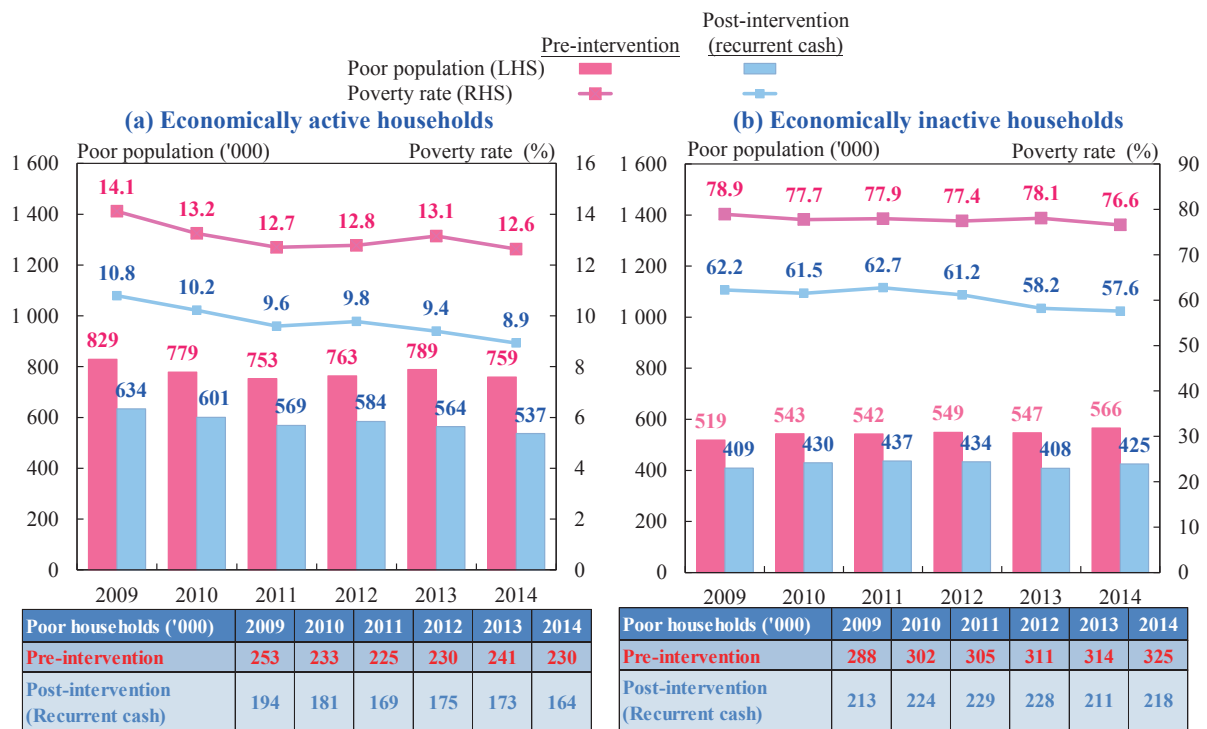


**(b) Analysed by economic activity status of households**

2.13 The labour market remained sturdy in 2014. The income of employees generally improved and the skill level of labour force upgraded, resulting in a higher proportion of working households which were lifted out of poverty via employment earnings improvement. **Before policy intervention**, the size of the poor population and the poverty rate among economically active households were 759 200 and 12.6% respectively, with the poverty rate hitting its lowest level since 2009. When compared with 2013, the poor population and the poverty rate fell by 29 600 persons and 0.5 percentage point respectively (**Figure 2.9(a)**). Among them, the size of the poor population in unemployed households decreased by 10% over a year ago, while that in working households shrank by 3%. This fully reflects the importance of employment in poverty prevention.

2.14 **After policy intervention (recurrent cash)**, the poverty situation of economically active households continued to improve. The poor population in 2014 was lowered to 536 800 people and the poverty rate fell to 8.9%, both down to the lowest levels in the past six years. Comparing the pre- and post-intervention poverty statistics, recurrent cash benefits in 2014 have helped lift 222 400 people out of poverty, and the poverty rate was reduced by 3.7 percentage points. Both figures were comparable to those in 2013 (which were 224 800 people and 3.7 percentage points respectively).

Figure 2.9: Poor population and poverty rate by economic activity status, 2009-2014



Source: General Household Survey, Census and Statistics Department.

Table 2.2 : Pre- and post-intervention poor households and population and their annual changes, by economic activity status, 2014

	Poor households ('000)			Poor population ('000)		
	2013	2014	Annual change <sup>@</sup> ('000)	2013	2014	Annual change <sup>@</sup> ('000)
<b>Pre-intervention</b>						
Economically active households	241.2	230.0	-11.2	788.8	759.2	-29.6
Working households	217.0	208.0	-9.0	729.1	705.5	-23.6
Unemployed households	24.2	22.0	-2.2	59.7	53.6	-6.0
Economically inactive households	313.7	325.2	+11.5	547.4	565.6	+18.2
<b>Overall</b>	<b>554.9</b>	<b>555.2</b>	<b>+0.3</b>	<b>1 336.2</b>	<b>1 324.8</b>	<b>-11.4</b>
<b>Post-intervention (recurrent cash)</b>						
Economically active households	173.3	164.3	-9.0	564.0	536.8	-27.2
Working households	154.7	145.6	-9.1	517.1	491.7	-25.4
Unemployed households	18.6	18.7	+0.1	46.9	45.1	-1.8
Economically inactive households	211.5	218.3	+6.8	408.2	425.3	+17.2
<b>Overall</b>	<b>384.8</b>	<b>382.6</b>	<b>-2.2</b>	<b>972.2</b>	<b>962.1</b>	<b>-10.0</b>

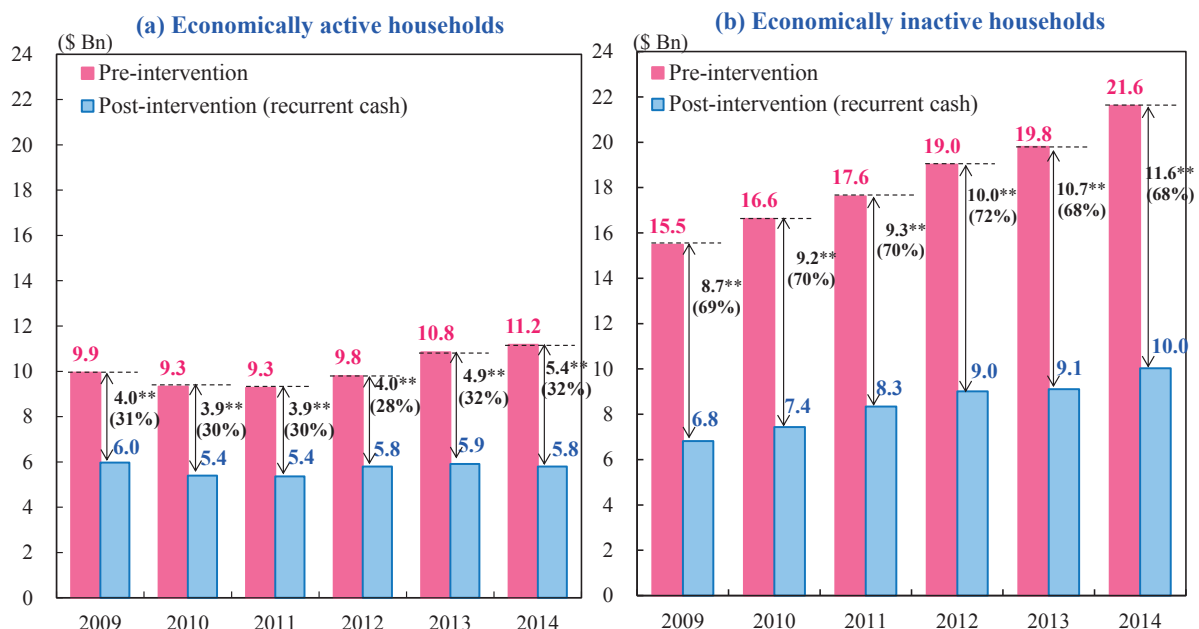
Note: (@) The annual changes are computed based on unrounded figures.

Source: General Household Survey, Census and Statistics Department.

2.15 As regards economically inactive households, poverty rates both before and after recurrent cash intervention were lower than their corresponding levels in 2013, and were the lowest since poverty statistics were available in 2009. The poverty rate **before policy intervention** fell to 76.6%, but the population in the corresponding households increased by 18 200 persons (Table 2.2), among whom nearly 90% were elders aged 65 or above. Meanwhile, the poverty rate **after recurrent cash policy intervention** fell to 57.6%. Nevertheless, against the backdrop of population ageing and the rise in the number of retired elderly households, the number of economically inactive poor households and the population therein increased slightly both before and after policy intervention. However, the Government's poverty alleviation measures remained effective, and 140 300 persons in these households were lifted out of poverty by recurrent cash policies in 2014 (slightly more than the 139 200 persons in 2013), and the reduction in poverty rate was 19.0 percentage points (Figure 2.9(b)).

2.16 Analysing the policy effectiveness in terms of the poverty gap, recurrent cash benefits helped narrow the total poverty gap in 2014 by \$17.0 billion, i.e. from \$32.8 billion to \$15.8 billion. Nearly 70% (\$11.6 billion) of this reduction was attributable to economically inactive households below the poverty line (Figure 2.10).

Figure 2.10: Total annual poverty gap by economic activity status, 2009-2014



Notes: (\*\*\*) The amount of reduction in total poverty gap after recurrent cash intervention, calculated based on unrounded figures.  
( ) Figures in parentheses denote the shares in total reductions.

Source: General Household Survey, Census and Statistics Department.

2.17 To summarise, of the decline in the size of the poor population by 10 000 persons in 2014 as compared with 2013, the main factor was a noticeable fall in the poor population in economically active households by 27 200 persons,

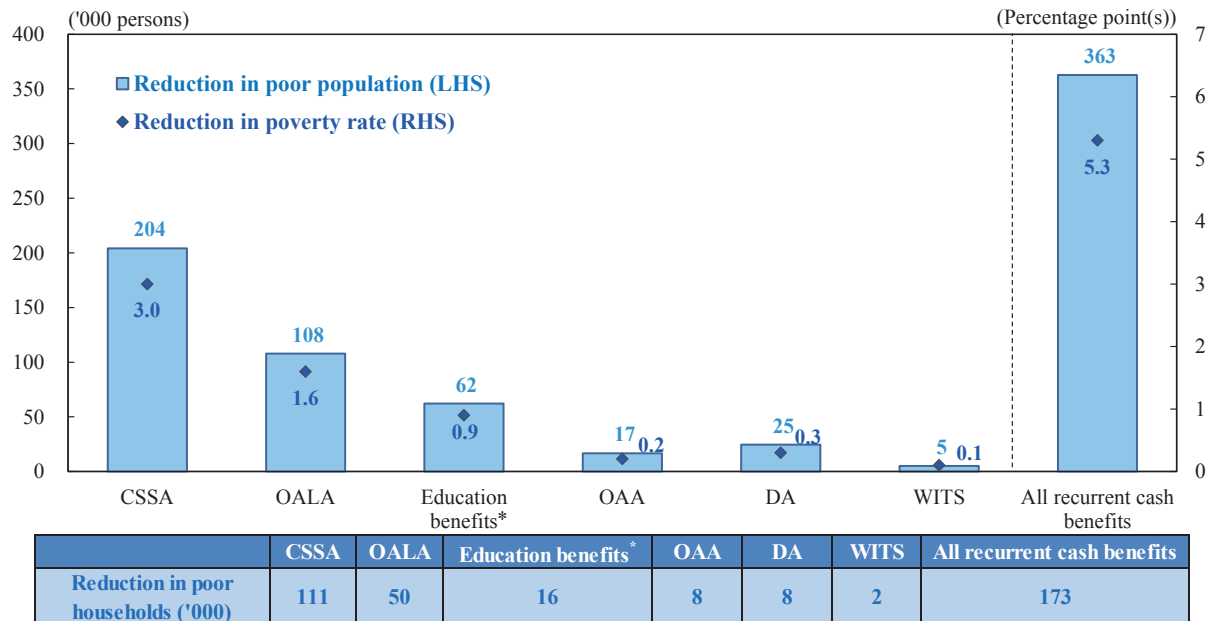
though being partly offset by the increase in the poor population among economically inactive households by 17 200 persons, among whom many were elders. The former reflects the positive impact of stable and favourable economic and employment situations - tight labour market and sturdy labour demand on the back of continued economic growth have generally led to improvement in the household incomes of economically active households, benefiting also lower-income households in the meantime. The latter shows the structural trend of a rising number of retired elders alongside population ageing, thereby exerting upward pressure on poverty statistics, by virtue of its definition purely by income. Against this backdrop, the number of households lifted out of poverty through employment increased, partially offsetting the adverse effect of population ageing (**Table 2.2**). This fully reflects the important function of economic development and improving employment conditions in poverty prevention.

2.18 Also, the Government has been providing support to the 1.32 million people living below the poverty line through various recurrent cash benefits. After policy intervention, the poverty situation in 2014 improved markedly over the pre-intervention situation. The following section will analyse further the effectiveness in poverty alleviation of different policies.

**(c) Poverty alleviation effectiveness of selected recurrent cash items**

2.19 In 2014, recurrent cash policies successfully lifted 172 600 households (362 700 persons) out of poverty, reducing the poverty rate by 5.3 percentage points. Analysed by recurrent cash item, CSSA remained the most effective poverty alleviation measure, lifting some 110 900 households (204 200 people) out of poverty and resulting in a reduction of the poverty rate by 3.0 percentage points. OALA also demonstrated a visible poverty alleviation effect, second only to CSSA. It lifted 49 600 households, i.e. 107 800 people (including 70 900 elders and 36 900 family members residing therein), out of poverty, lowering the overall poverty rate by 1.6 percentage points (**Figure 2.11**).

**Figure 2.11: Effectiveness of selected recurrent cash benefits in poverty alleviation, 2014**



Note: (\*) 2012/13 school year was a double-cohort year, in which those proceeding to post-secondary education included the Form 6 students who had taken the Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education Examination under the New Senior Secondary Academic Structure, as well as the Form 7 students under the old academic structure. As such, the number of applications for and the total amount of financial assistance disbursed under the Tertiary Student Finance Scheme - Publicly-funded Programmes and the Financial Assistance Scheme for Post-secondary Students increased in that year. This was reflected in the amount on education benefits of 2013. Due to the high base in 2013, the poverty alleviation effectiveness of education benefits was reduced in 2014 over a year earlier.

Source: General Household Survey, Census and Statistics Department.

2.20 It should be noted that, according to the core analytical framework of the poverty line adopted by CoP, only recurrent cash benefits were taken into account when conducting the policy effectiveness assessment above. The policy effectiveness would be even more visible when non-recurrent cash or in-kind benefits are considered. To understand more about the changes in poverty indicators after factoring in non-recurrent cash benefits, please refer to **Box 2.1**. **Box 2.2** examines the situation when means-tested in-kind benefits (such as PRH provision) are taken into account.

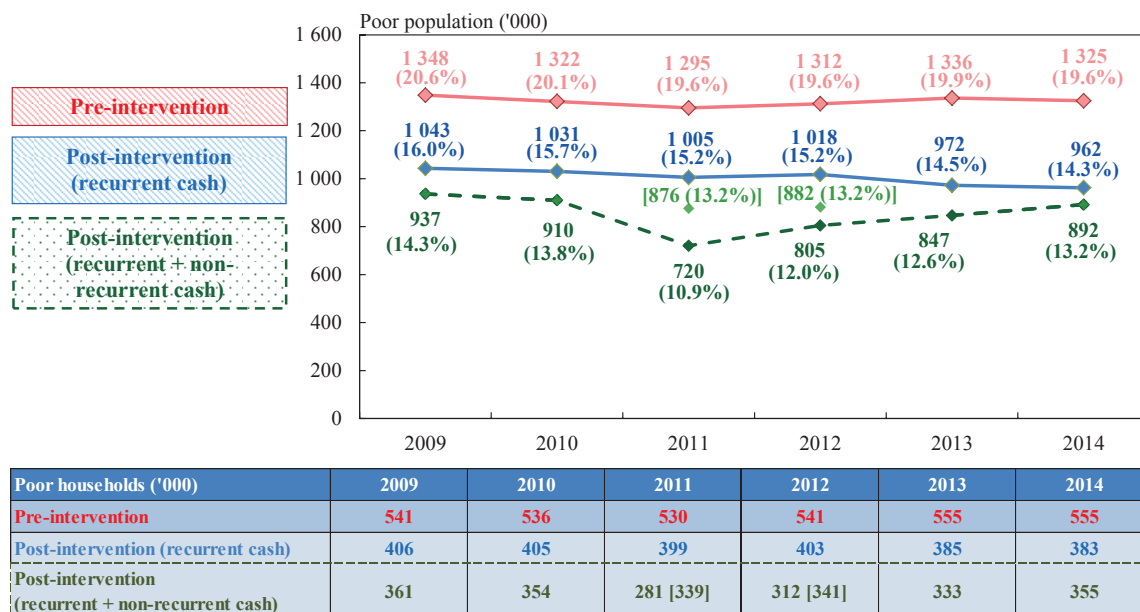
## Box 2.1

### Poverty Situation after Taking into Account Non-Recurrent Cash Benefits

Apart from recurrent cash benefits, the Government has also provided many non-recurrent cash benefits (including one-off measures) in recent years to allay the burden of citizens, including the provision of rates waivers, electricity subsidies, one additional month of social security payments, rent payments for the public housing tenants, etc.<sup>19</sup>, which involve a considerable amount of public resources. While the core analytical framework of assessing the policy effectiveness in poverty alleviation only covers recurrent cash benefits, the impact of non-recurrent cash items should not be overlooked. This box article furnishes the poverty situation after taking into account non-recurrent cash measures.

2. The latest statistics after policy intervention (recurrent + non-recurrent cash) show that the number of poor households rose from 332 800 in 2013 to 355 400 in 2014, and the poor population and the poverty rate increased from 846 600 people and 12.6% to 891 900 and 13.2% (Figure 2.12)<sup>20</sup>, mainly due to the reduction in the monetary amount of non-recurrent cash subsidies in 2014 as compared with 2013.

Figure 2.12: Poor population and poverty rate after taking into account non-recurrent cash benefits, 2009-2014



Notes: ( ) Figures in parentheses denote the corresponding poverty rates.  
[ ] Figures in square brackets denote the corresponding poverty figures with the effect of "Scheme \$6,000" excluded. As "Scheme \$6,000" was covered in 2011 and 2012 only, there were no corresponding figures for 2013 and 2014.

Source: General Household Survey, Census and Statistics Department.

19 For the coverage and estimation of non-recurrent cash benefits, please refer to **Appendix 3**.

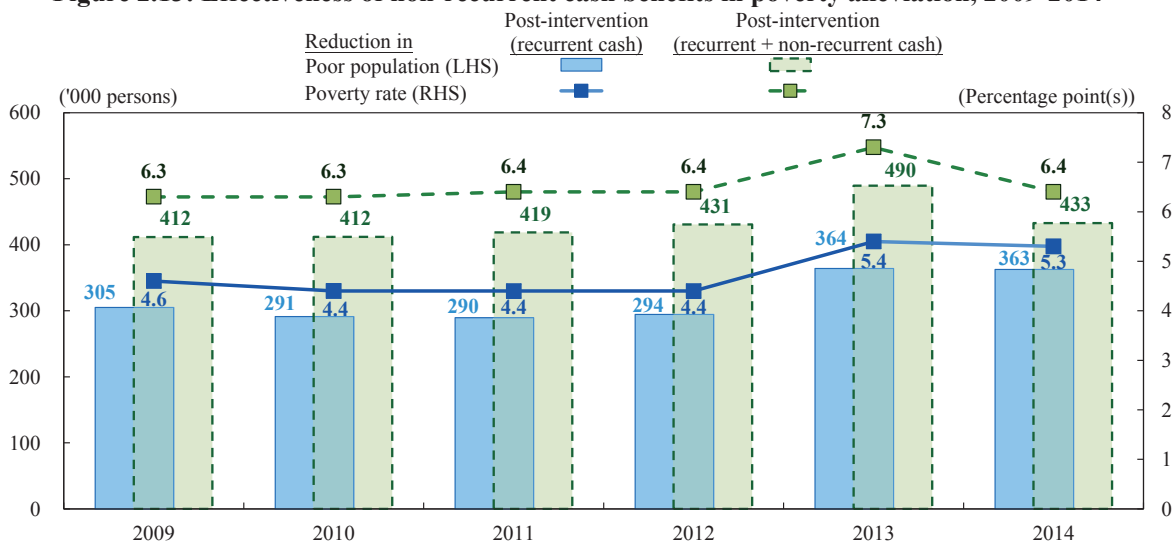
20 "Scheme \$6,000" was covered only in 2011 and 2012. This was the main factor behind the more prominent declines in the poor population and the poverty rate in these two years. After including the one-off effect of "Scheme \$6,000", the poor population and the poverty rate in 2011 (and 2012) were 720 200 (804 900) and 10.9% (12.0%) respectively. This demonstrates the additional fluctuation in poverty figures caused by non-recurrent measures.



**Box 2.1 (Cont'd)**

3. As compared with the situation when only recurrent cash benefits are taken into account, non-recurrent cash measures further increased the extent of poverty alleviation in 2014 by some 27 200 households (70 300 persons). The poverty rate was thus further reduced by 1.1 percentage points (**Figure 2.13**). Please refer to **Appendix 5** for the corresponding detailed poverty statistics.

**Figure 2.13: Effectiveness of non-recurrent cash benefits in poverty alleviation, 2009-2014**



Reduction in poor households ('000)	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Post-intervention (recurrent cash)	135	130	131	138	170	173
Post-intervention (recurrent + non-recurrent cash)	180	181	192	199	222	200

Note: Excluding the effect of "Scheme \$6,000".  
Source: General Household Survey, Census and Statistics Department.

4. As mentioned above, the decrease in the additional poverty alleviation of non-recurrent cash policies was partly due to the regularisation of some CCF programmes, as well as the reduction or expiry of some one-off relief cash measures (including the electricity subsidy, rate waivers, rent payments for public housing tenants, etc.), which led to a decrease in the total transfer of non-recurrent cash items from \$23.2 billion in 2013 to \$17.3 billion.

5. Nevertheless, it is worth noting that non-recurrent cash benefits are much less effective than recurrent cash measures in terms of cost effectiveness in alleviating poverty. The estimated proportion of recurrent cash benefit transfer received by poor households was 66.4%, while that of non-recurrent cash items was merely 15.7%. This is because some of the non-recurrent measures<sup>21</sup> adopt income thresholds that are more lenient than the poverty line, or even without income tests. Since these measures

21 However, programmes funded by the CCF aim at assisting people with financial difficulties, e.g. the "One-off living subsidy for low-income households not living in public housing and not receiving CSSA" programme. It should also be pointed out that low-income households benefiting from non-recurrent cash items under the CCF programmes might also be covered by other measures, with a considerable composite effect of poverty alleviation.

**Box 2.1 (Cont'd)**

are not targeted at households below the poverty line only, their cost-effectiveness in poverty alleviation is naturally lower than that of more targeted recurrent cash benefits.

**Box 2.2**

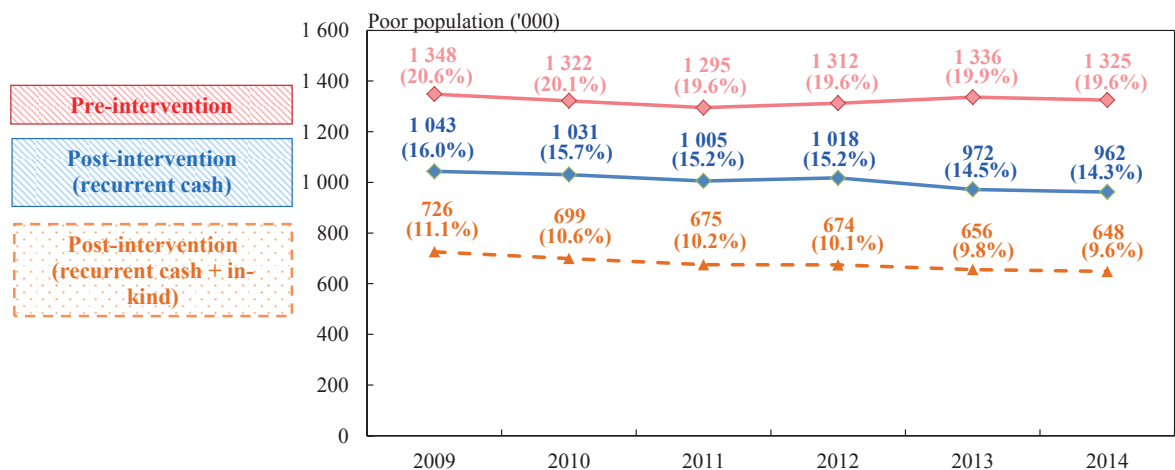
**The Effectiveness of In-kind Benefits in Poverty Alleviation**

Although the current core analytical framework of the poverty line only covers recurrent cash benefits, the Government has also rendered assistance to eligible grassroots citizens through a number of means-tested in-kind benefits, involving a substantial amount of resources. Among them, the provision of PRH is of particular importance.

2. PRH is undoubtedly effective in reducing the housing expenditure of low-income households, thus improving the livelihood of the grassroots population. Yet, as the benefit transferred from PRH is not an actual cash subsidy, its quantification as part of household income could be controversial<sup>22</sup>. Hence, as in the case of non-recurrent cash benefits, the effectiveness of in-kind benefits in alleviating poverty is currently separately assessed as supplementary reference material.

**Estimation results**

**Figure 2.14: Poor population and poverty rate after taking into account in-kind benefits, 2009-2014**



Poor households ('000)	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Pre-intervention	541	536	530	541	555	555
Post-intervention (recurrent cash)	406	405	399	403	385	383
Post-intervention (recurrent cash + in-kind)	284	278	271	272	269	271

Note: ( ) Figures in parentheses denote the corresponding poverty rates.  
Source: General Household Survey, Census and Statistics Department.

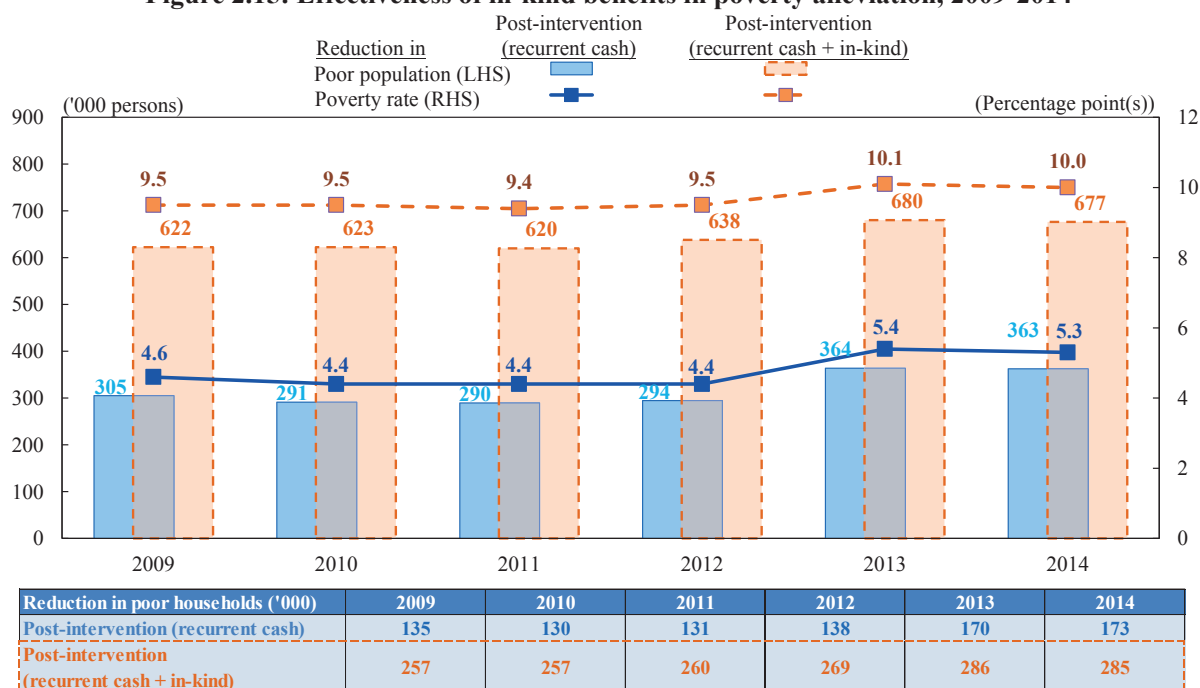
3. In 2014, the size of the poor population and the poverty rate after policy intervention (recurrent cash + in-kind benefits) were reduced slightly when compared to the levels in 2013 (Figure 2.14). In comparison with the poverty situation after recurrent cash intervention, PRH and other means-tested in-kind benefits in 2014

22 For the estimation and limitations of the in-kind transfer from provision of public rental housing, please refer to Appendix 4.

### Box 2.2 (Cont'd)

lifted the livelihood of an additional 111 900 households (313 900 persons) to or above the poverty line. The poverty rate fell further by 4.7 percentage points (**Figure 2.15**). These findings only aim at providing a reference to assess the effectiveness of PRH and other in-kind benefits in poverty alleviation and do not purport to downplay the poverty situation in Hong Kong.

**Figure 2.15: Effectiveness of in-kind benefits in poverty alleviation, 2009-2014**

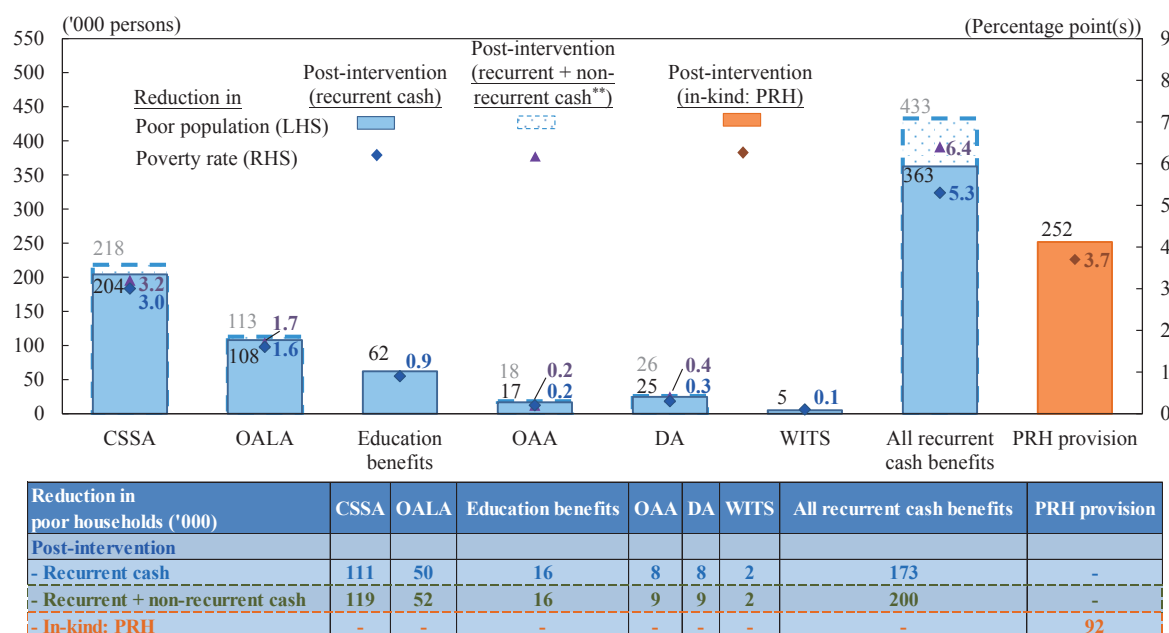


Source: General Household Survey, Census and Statistics Department.

4. As shown in **Figure 2.16**, the policy effectiveness of PRH was even greater than that of CSSA, the latter being the most prominent recurrent cash policy in terms of poverty reduction (**Figure 2.11**). **Table 2.3** shows the estimated transfer of recurrent cash benefits, non-recurrent cash benefits, and PRH provision and their corresponding effects on poverty alleviation. It can be seen that PRH provision is indeed effective in improving the livelihood of the grassroots, with notable effectiveness in alleviating poverty.

**Box 2.2 (Cont'd)**

**Figure 2.16: Comparison of effectiveness in poverty alleviation, PRH provision and selected recurrent cash benefits, 2014**



Note: (\*\*) Illustrating the additional poverty alleviation impact (reductions in poor population and poverty rates) of the corresponding non-recurrent measures, such as the provision of extra one-month allowances for recipients of CSSA, OAA, OALA and DA.  
Source: General Household Survey, Census and Statistics Department.

**Table 2.3: Estimated transfer and poverty alleviation impact by policy category, 2014**

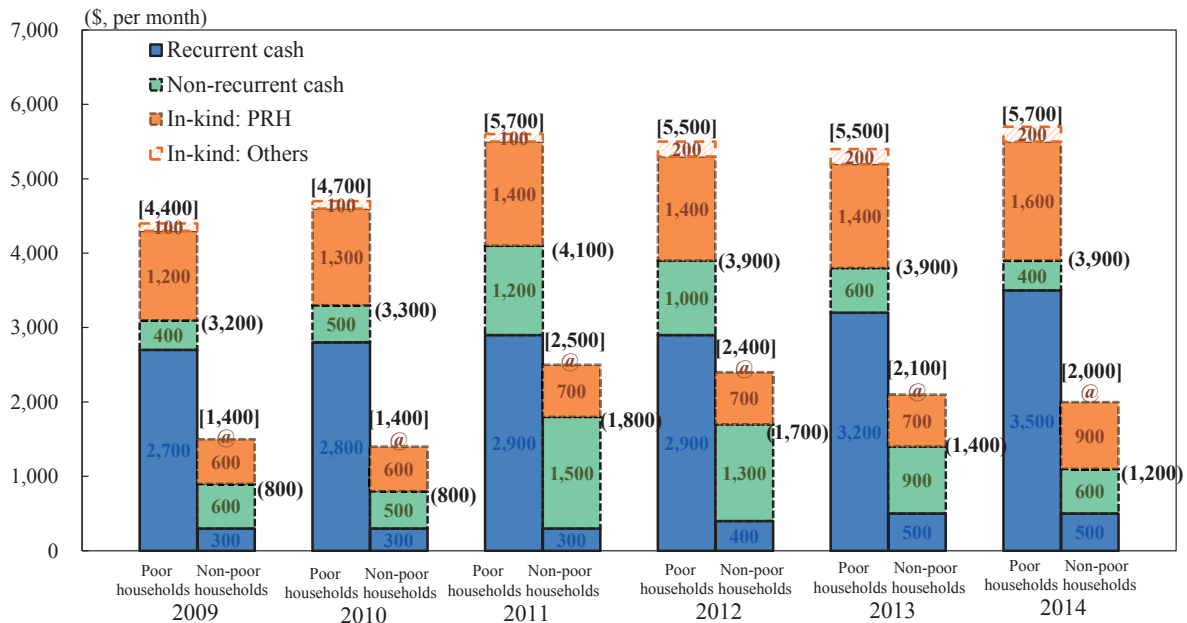
Policy item	Estimated transfer (\$ Bn)	Proportion of transfer enjoyed by poor households (%)	Reduction in poverty rate (% point(s))
<b>Recurrent cash</b>	35.3	66.4	5.3
CSSA	14.8	97.6	3.0
OALA	11.0	45.5	1.6
<b>Non-recurrent cash</b>	17.3	15.7	1.1
<b>PRH provision</b>	29.7	35.1	3.7

Source: General Household Survey, Census and Statistics Department.

5. Analysing the monthly household welfare transfer by policy item, it should be noted that the estimated in-kind transfer value of PRH provision rose merely from \$1,200 to \$1,600 at an annualised rate of around 6% over the past five years (Figure 2.17). In comparison, the private housing rentals rose by nearly 10% per annum over the same period. This reflects that the estimation methodology for the transfer of PRH provision is both prudent and conservative.

Box 2.2 (Cont'd)

Figure 2.17: Estimated average transfer per household by policy intervention category, 2009-2014



Notes: (@) Amounts smaller than \$50 are not released.  
Figures in parentheses denote the sum of estimated recurrent and non-recurrent cash transfers; figures in square brackets denote the sum of all estimated transfers.

Source: General Household Survey, Census and Statistics Department.

6. C&SD is currently conducting the 2014/15 HES, the results of which are expected to be published in mid-2016. This information will facilitate a better understanding of the expenditure patterns of poor households, including the proportion of housing costs in total household expenditure, etc., and can help examine whether there is a need to enhance the poverty line framework and the way to do so, especially concerning how PRH provision could be incorporated into the main analytical framework.

## 2.V Poverty Situation by Gender and Age

2.21 Analysed by gender, as the proportion of males residing in working households (89.1%) was higher than that of females (87.2%), it was easier for males to benefit from the employment earnings of the working member(s) of their households and thereby got out of poverty. As such, the poverty rate of males was slightly lower than that of females. However, the coverage of social securities was higher for females, and the proportion of females residing in households benefiting from CSSA or OALA was higher than the corresponding figure for males. As such, the difference between male and female poverty rates narrowed after policy intervention (from 1.0 percentage point down to 0.8 percentage point). The data also show that, comparing 2014 to 2013, the improvement in poverty rate among females was more visible than that among males in 2014.

**Table 2.4: Pre- and post-intervention poverty rates and their annual changes by gender, 2014**

	Poor population ('000)			Poverty rate (%)		
	2013	2014	Annual change <sup>@</sup> ('000)	2013	2014	Annual change (% point(s))
<b>Pre-intervention</b>						
<b>Males</b>	623.2	619.4	-3.8	19.3	19.1	-0.2
<b>Females</b>	713.0	705.4	-7.6	20.6	20.1	-0.5
<b>Overall</b>	<b>1 336.2</b>	<b>1 324.8</b>	<b>-11.4</b>	<b>19.9</b>	<b>19.6</b>	<b>-0.3</b>
<b>Post-intervention (recurrent cash)</b>						
<b>Males</b>	451.5	449.1	-2.5	14.0	13.8	-0.2
<b>Females</b>	520.7	513.1	-7.6	15.0	14.6	-0.4
<b>Overall</b>	972.2	962.1	-10.0	14.5	14.3	-0.2

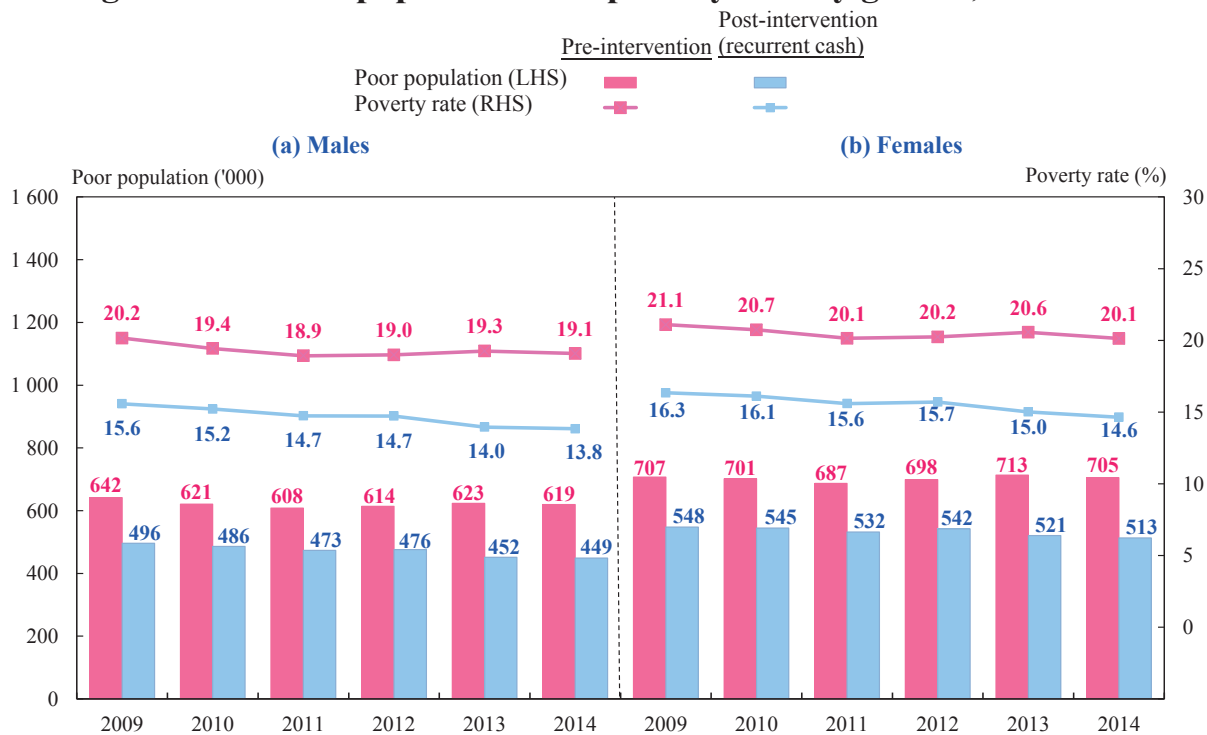
Note: (@) The annual changes in the sizes of the poor population are computed based on unrounded figures.  
Source: General Household Survey, Census and Statistics Department.

2.22 Further analysing the poverty situation by gender (**Table 2.4** and **Figure 2.18**):

- **Males:** both the pre- and post-intervention poverty situations of males improved in 2014. Before policy intervention, the number of poor males and their poverty rate were 619 400 and 19.1% respectively in 2014, down by 3 800 and 0.2 percentage point from 2013. After policy intervention, the corresponding figures were 449 100 and 13.8% respectively, down by 2 500 and 0.2 percentage point from 2013.
- **Females:** The difference between the poverty indicators of females and males was not substantial, and has been narrowing in recent years. The

improvement in both the pre- and post-intervention poverty situations of females was more visible than that of males in 2014. Before policy intervention, the number of poor females and their poverty rate were 705 400 and 20.1% respectively, down by 7 600 and 0.5 percentage point from 2013. After policy intervention, the corresponding figures were 513 100 and 14.6%, down by 7 600 and 0.4 percentage point from 2013, to the lowest levels since 2009.

**Figure 2.18: Poor population and poverty rate by gender, 2009-2014**



Source: General Household Survey, Census and Statistics Department.

2.23 Analysed by age, the poverty rates of all groups fell before policy intervention. As highlighted in paragraph 2.17, an improving income situation can help households avoid poverty through employment, benefiting elders, adults, youths and children members therein. However, it is worth noting that with the overall number of elders rising notably as population ageing continues, and notwithstanding the fall in the elderly poverty rate, the number of poor elders still increased slightly.



**Table 2.5: Pre- and post-intervention poverty rates and their annual changes by age, 2014**

	Poor population ('000)			Poverty rate (%)		
	2013	2014	Annual change <sup>@</sup> ('000)	2013	2014	Annual change (% point(s))
<b>Pre-intervention</b>						
<b>Below 18</b>	241.7	235.9	-5.8	23.7	23.5	-0.2
<b>18-64</b>	675.0	652.5	-22.5	14.2	13.7	-0.5
<b>65 and above</b>	419.5	436.4	+16.9	44.9	44.6	-0.3
<b>Overall</b>	<b>1 336.2</b>	<b>1 324.8</b>	<b>-11.4</b>	<b>19.9</b>	<b>19.6</b>	<b>-0.3</b>
<b>Post-intervention (recurrent cash)</b>						
<b>Below 18</b>	189.8	182.2	-7.5	18.6	18.2	-0.4
<b>18-64</b>	496.9	486.1	-10.8	10.5	10.2	-0.3
<b>65 and above</b>	285.5	293.8	+8.3	30.5	30.0	-0.5
<b>Overall</b>	<b>972.2</b>	<b>962.1</b>	<b>-10.0</b>	<b>14.5</b>	<b>14.3</b>	<b>-0.2</b>

Note: (@) The annual changes in the sizes of the poor population are computed based on unrounded figures.  
Source: General Household Survey, Census and Statistics Department.

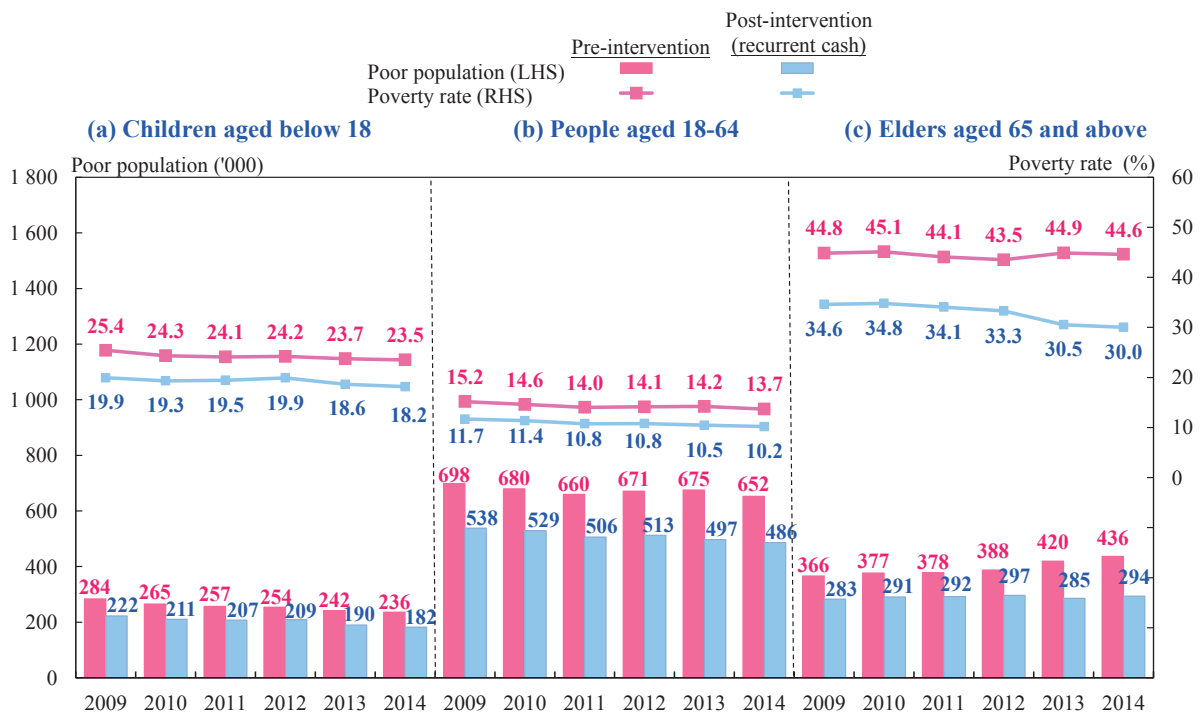
2.24 Further analysing the poverty situation by age, all three age groups recorded declines in the poverty rate as compared with 2013. Their poverty situations are as follows (**Figure 2.19**)<sup>23</sup>:

- **Children aged below 18 and people aged between 18 and 64:** the pre- and post-intervention sizes of the poor population and the poverty rates fell for both groups as compared with 2013 (**Table 2.5**). After policy intervention, the poverty rate of people aged between 18 and 64 was down by 0.3 percentage point to a record low of 10.2%. The poverty rate of children was down by 0.4 percentage point to 18.2%, which is also the lowest level in recent years. Yet, the child poverty rate, being higher than the overall rate, still warrants close attention.
- **Elders aged 65 and above:** as poverty is defined solely by income, the increase in the number of retired elders who did not have regular income, a consequence of the ageing population, had caused a persistent rise in the number of poor elders before intervention. In 2014, before policy intervention, the number of poor elders was 436 400, or 16 900 higher than the 2013 level. After taking recurrent cash policies into account, the poverty rate declined by 0.5 percentage point over 2013 to 30.0%, though the number of elders increased

23 It should be noted that the age groups are computed based on the total poor population. Hence, the number of poor elders aged 65 and above is different from the number of persons living in elderly poor households (i.e. households with all members aged 65 and above).

slightly by 8 300 to 293 800 in 2014. **Box 2.3** further analyses the elderly poverty situation.

**Figure 2.19: Poor population and poverty rate by age, 2009-2014**



Source: General Household Survey, Census and Statistics Department.

## Box 2.3

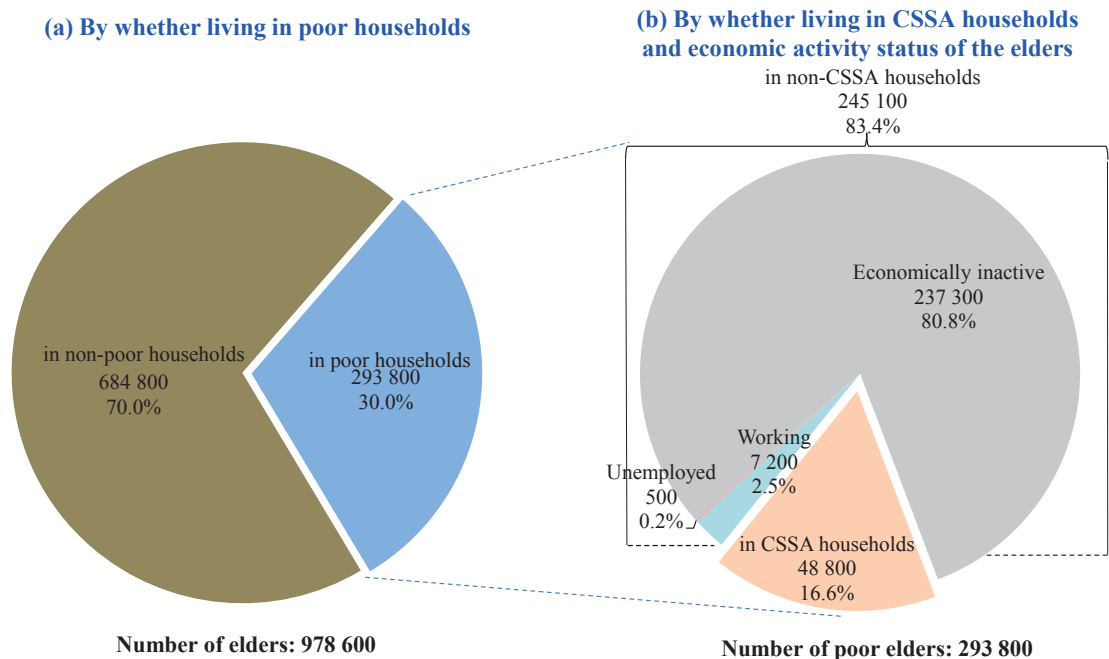
### Poverty Situation of the Elderly

Over the past six years, the post-intervention poverty rate of elders aged 65 and above was persistently at relatively high levels. This warrants further analysis.

#### Latest poverty situation

2. According to statistics, in 2014, there were 978 600 elders aged 65 and above living in domestic households in Hong Kong, among whom 293 800 were identified as poor after policy intervention, with a poverty rate of 30.0%. In other words, three in ten elders were classified as in poverty (**Figure 2.20(a)**). About one-sixth (16.6% or 48 800 persons) of the poor elders after recurrent cash intervention were residing in households receiving CSSA. Of the remaining 245 100 poor elders living in non-CSSA households, a large majority (96.8% or 237 300 persons) were economically inactive (**Figure 2.20(b)**).

**Figure 2.20: Poor elders by whether CSSA-receiving and economic activity status, 2014**



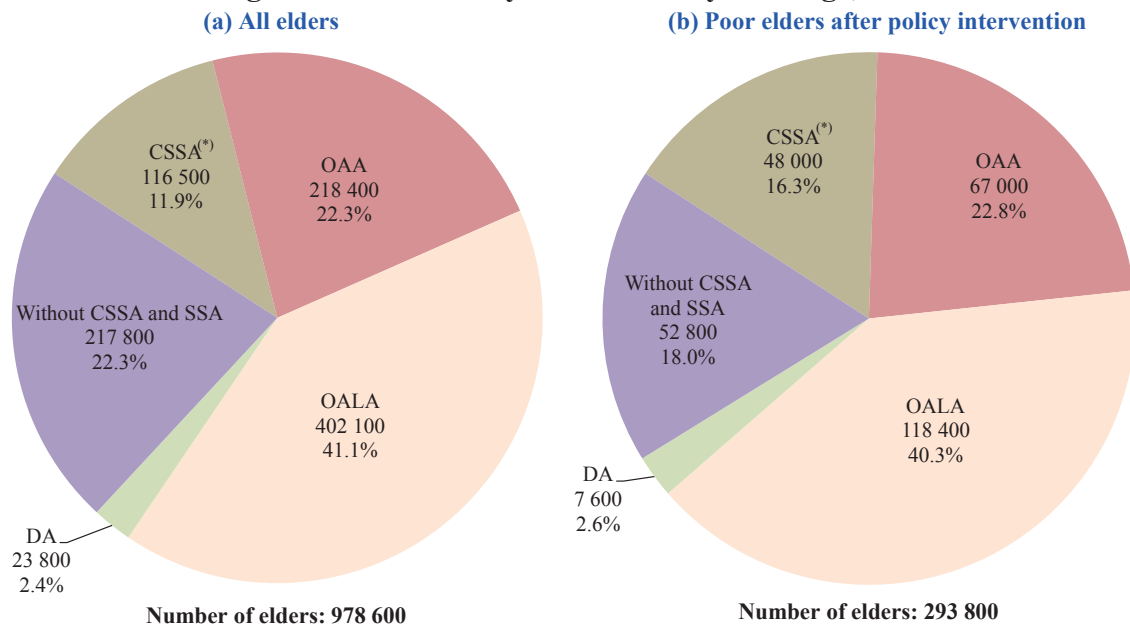
Note: Based on poverty statistics after recurrent cash intervention.  
Source: General Household Survey, Census and Statistics Department.

3. Other than the means-tested CSSA which aims at meeting the basic needs of families, the Government provides support to elders through various welfare measures. Since 1 April 2013, the Government has rolled out OALA, which is targeted at elders, under the Social Security Allowance (SSA) Scheme, with income and asset tests more lenient than the CSSA, to supplement the living expenses of elders in need of financial support. It should be noted that the income thresholds of

### Box 2.3 (Cont'd)

OALA are more lenient than the poverty line. Since implementation<sup>24</sup>, OALA has benefited around 420 000 eligible elders aged 65 and above. Also, around 220 000 more senior elders (aged 70 and above) received the non-means-tested OAA<sup>25</sup>. Only around one-fifth (22.3% or 217 800 persons) of the elders did not receive any social benefits (**Figure 2.21**). This shows that the current social security system has a high coverage ratio for elders.

**Figure 2.21: Elders by social security coverage, 2014**



Notes: These are estimates from GHS and may not match the administrative records of the Social Welfare Department.  
 (\*) Refers to elders receiving CSSA. Since not all elders living in CSSA households receive CSSA, the figures may differ from those in **Figure 2.20**.  
 Source: General Household Survey, Census and Statistics Department.

4. Focusing on the 245 100 elders residing in non-CSSA households who were classified as poor, merely 34 800 (14.2%) claimed to have financial needs<sup>26</sup>, among whom, over half (51.2% or 17 800 persons) resided in owner-occupied housing without mortgage (**Figure 2.22**). As highlighted repeatedly in previous *Hong Kong Poverty Situation Reports*, one of the limitations of the poverty line is that it takes household income as the single indicator for measuring poverty, without considering assets. As the population continues to age, many elders retire and lack employment income, and thus would be more easily classified as poor<sup>27</sup>. However, some of them

24 As at end-July 2015, the number of OALA cases was 422 015 and that of OAA cases was 217 144, according to the administrative records of the Social Welfare Department (SWD).

25 These are estimates from the General Household Survey (GHS) and may not match the administrative records of SWD.

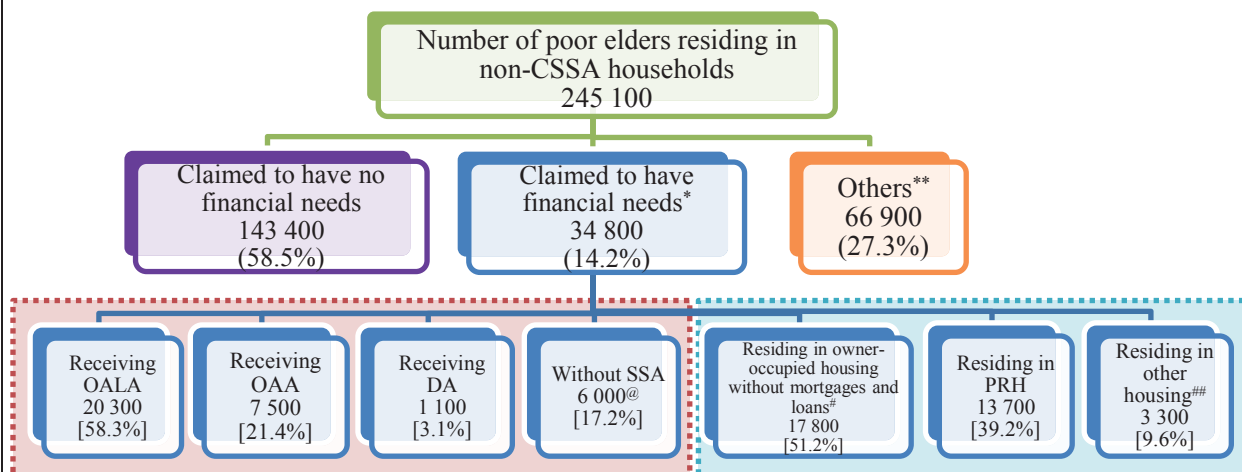
26 Including those who claimed to have financial needs but did not pass the income and assets tests / not satisfy residence requirements / not willing to apply, and those whose applications for CSSA were in progress.

27 After policy intervention, the poverty rate of elderly households was 46.9%.

### Box 2.3 (Cont'd)

own some assets and / or have no financial needs. Thus, the statistics of poor elders inevitably cover some “asset-rich, income-poor” persons, thereby overstating the poverty situation of elders. According to statistics, the proportion of those reported to have financial needs among poor elders in non-CSSA households fell continuously from 18.0% in 2010 to 14.2% in 2014. This apparently suggests that the extent of overstating the poverty situation of elders has increased over the past few years. One should not overlook the above caveats when analysing the poverty statistics, and more focus should be on those poor elders in non-CSSA households that reported to have financial needs.

**Figure 2.22: Poor elders in non-CSSA households, by reason of not applying for CSSA and housing type, 2014**



- Notes: ( ) Figures in parentheses denote the proportion of the relevant elders out of all poor elders residing in non-CSSA households.  
 [ ] Figures in square brackets denote the proportion of the relevant elders out of poor elders residing in non-CSSA households who claimed to have financial needs\*.  
 (#) Including subsidised sale flats and owner-occupied private housing, both without mortgages and loans.  
 (##) Including subsidised sale flats (with mortgages or loans), temporary housing and private housing (including tenants and those owner-occupiers with mortgages or loans).  
 (\*) Including those who claimed to have financial needs but did not pass the income and assets tests / not satisfy residence requirements / not willing to apply, and those whose application for CSSA was in progress.  
 (\*\*) Including those who refused to respond.  
 (@) Including 700 (11.9%) elders aged 70 and above.  
 Based on poverty statistics after recurrent cash intervention.

Source: General Household Survey, Census and Statistics Department.

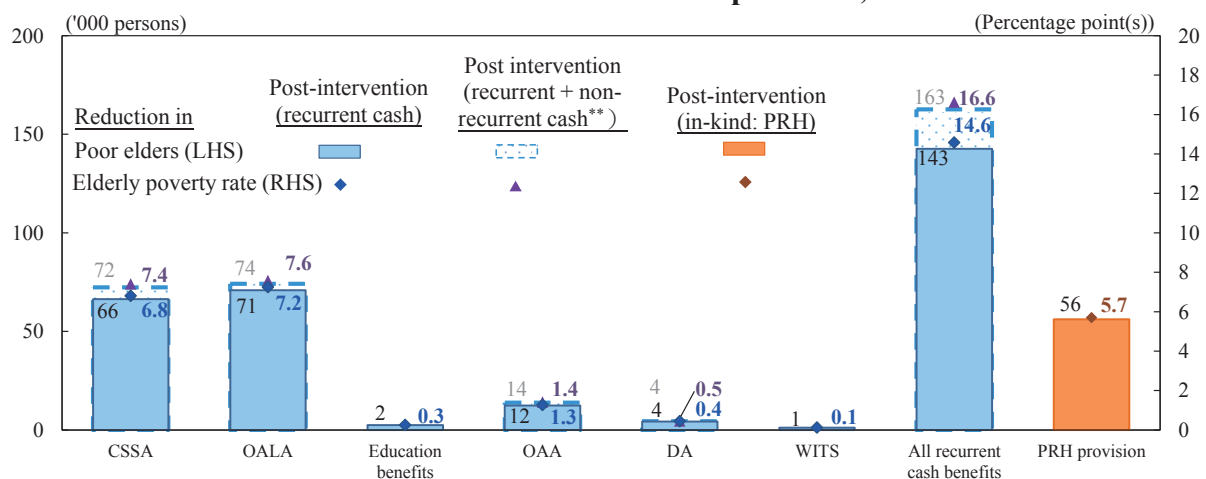
5. Among the 34 800 poor elders residing in non-CSSA households who claimed to have financial needs, only 6 000 elders did not receive any social benefits. This reflects that social security measures have benefited most of the elders in need. However, there were still 20 300 elders who received OALA while still claiming to have financial needs. It warrants further exploration as to how they should be helped through more targeted policy intervention.

### Box 2.3 (Cont'd)

#### The effectiveness of OALA and selected policy intervention items in alleviating elderly poverty

6. Comparing the effectiveness of various recurrent cash benefits in alleviating elderly poverty in 2014, OALA, which is targeted at elders and had the widest coverage among elders (benefiting around 420 000 elders aged 65 or above), had the largest impact. It led to a reduction in the elderly poverty rate by 7.2 percentage points, more than the 6.8-percentage-point reduction of CSSA. PRH also had a visible poverty alleviation effect among elders, reducing the elderly poverty rate by 5.7 percentage points, since almost 40% (38.0%) of poor elders were residing in PRH. All in all, recurrent cash policies lifted 0.14 million elders out of poverty and reduced the elderly poverty rate by 14.6 percentage points, demonstrating the important poverty alleviation effect of social security benefits (Figure 2.23).

**Figure 2.23: Comparison of effectiveness in poverty alleviation on elders, selected recurrent cash benefits and PRH provision, 2014**



Note: (\*\*) Illustrating the additional poverty alleviation impact (reductions in the poor population and the poverty rate) of the corresponding non-recurrent measures, such as the provision of extra one-month allowances for recipients of CSSA, OAA, OALA and DA.

Source: General Household Survey, Census and Statistics Department.

7. It should also be pointed out that the living needs of the elders might not be fully met merely by providing cash assistance. Whilst cash allowance would definitely be useful in relieving the burden of elders with financial needs, in-kind support, such as day-to-day care, medical services and community support services, might be more important for the elders to fully cope with their different needs. Currently, SWD provides a series of support services for the elderly, such as “Integrated Home Care Services” and “Day Respite Service for Elders”. “Government Public Transport Fare Concession Scheme for the Elderly and Eligible Persons with Disabilities” has also been extended from the Mass Transit Railway, franchised buses and ferries to green minibuses in phases since March 2015, aiming to help build a caring and inclusive society by encouraging elders and persons with disabilities to participate more in community activities. In addition, the CCF has

**Box 2.3 (Cont'd)**

launched programmes targeted at elders or their family members, including the “Elderly dental assistance programme” and the “Pilot scheme on living allowance for carers of the elderly persons from low-income families”.

8. In a nutshell, as the population in Hong Kong ages further, the economically inactive elderly population is bound to keep growing. Some “asset-rich, income-poor” elders would unavoidably be classified as poor since the poverty line does not take into account their assets conditions. This limitation must be fully acknowledged when interpreting the movement of elderly poverty indicators. In 2014, the poverty situation of elders saw visible improvement after policy intervention, illustrating the fruitful poverty alleviation effect of current social security measures. In the long term, particularly given the onset of population ageing, the Government will continue to closely monitor the elderly poverty situation.

## 2.VI Key Observations

2.25 The numbers of poor households, the sizes of the poor population and the poverty rates before and after policy intervention in 2014 are respectively as follows:

- Before policy intervention: 0.56 million, 1.32 million and 19.6%;
- After policy intervention (recurrent cash): 0.38 million, 0.96 million and 14.3%;
- After policy intervention (recurrent + non-recurrent cash): 0.36 million, 0.89 million and 13.2%; and
- After policy intervention (recurrent cash + in-kind): 0.27 million, 0.65 million and 9.6%.

2.26 In 2014, poverty indicators before policy intervention improved across the board. Benefiting from the moderate expansion of economic activities and the persistent improvement in income situation, more households shared the fruit of the economy through employment and were lifted out of poverty. However, as the population ages, the number of retired elderly households continued to increase, thus constraining the magnitude of improvement in the overall poverty indicators. After recurrent cash intervention, the overall size of the poor population and the poverty rate in 2014 were 0.96 million people and 14.3% respectively, a slight improvement from the 2013 levels (0.97 million and 14.5%). It marked the second consecutive year that the size of the poor population stayed below the 1 million mark, which was a record low. It is also worth pointing out that of the decline in the size of the poor population by 10 000 persons in 2014 as compared with 2013, the main factor was a noticeable fall in the poor population in economically active households by 27 200 persons, though being partly offset by the increase in the poor population in economically inactive households by 17 200 persons, among whom many were elders. The former reflects the positive impact of stable and favourable economic and employment situations, while the latter shows the structural trend of a rising number of retired elders.

2.27 The continuous increase in the amount of public expenditure on welfare in recent years reflects the Government's commitment to poverty alleviation. Comparing the poverty indicators before and after policy intervention, recurrent cash measures lifted some 0.36 million people out of poverty in 2014, thereby reducing the poverty rate by 5.3 percentage points. The poverty alleviation impact is comparable to that in 2013, and significantly stronger than those from 2009 to 2012, demonstrating the positive results of the Government's poverty alleviation policies.



- 2.28 Further analysing the post-recurrent cash intervention poor population and the poverty rate by gender, the corresponding figures in 2014 are:
- Males: 0.45 million and 13.8%; and
  - Females: 0.51 million and 14.6%.
- 2.29 The poverty situations of both males and females improved as compared with 2013. After policy intervention, the female poverty rate fell by 0.4 percentage point over the previous year, while that of males declined slightly by 0.2 percentage point.
- 2.30 After recurrent cash intervention, the size of the poor population and the poverty rate by age in 2014 respectively are:
- Elders aged 65 and above: 0.29 million and 30.0%;
  - People aged between 18 and 64: 0.49 million and 10.2%; and
  - Children aged below 18: 0.18 million and 18.2%.
- 2.31 When compared with 2013, all three age groups recorded declines in the poverty rate. For children aged below 18, the number of poor children and their poverty rate fell by 7 500 and 0.4 percentage point respectively. The size of the poor population and the poverty rate of people aged between 18 and 64 declined by 10 800 and 0.3 percentage point respectively. As regards the poverty indicators of elders aged 65 and above, there was also improvement in 2014. Despite the slight addition of 8 300 persons in the number of poor elders due to population ageing, the elderly poverty rate fell by 0.5 percentage point, showing the fruitful poverty alleviation effects of social security measures.
- 2.32 Among the 0.29 million poor elders, 83.4% (245 100 persons) resided in non-CSSA households, 143 400 elders claimed to have no financial needs. Among the 34 800 poor elders who claimed to have financial needs, over half (51.2%) resided in owner-occupied housing without mortgage; furthermore, 83% of them received social security benefits in some form. This partly reflects the limitation of the poverty line, which considers only income, and would result in classifying some “asset-rich, income-poor” persons as poor. The statistics also show that social security measures have already covered most of the poor elders and provided a certain degree of financial support. There were also 20 300 elders receiving OALA while still claiming to have financial needs. It warrants further exploration as to how they should be helped through more targeted policy intervention.
- 2.33 Analysed by selected recurrent cash item, CSSA is still the most effective

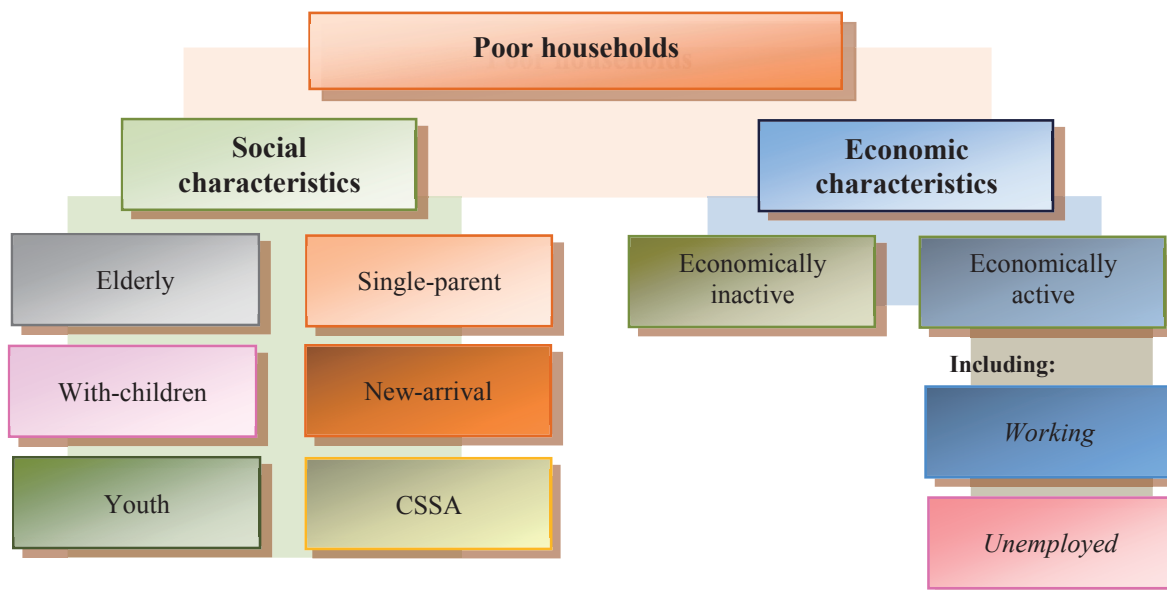
poverty alleviation measure, reducing the size of the poor population and the overall poverty rate by some 0.20 million and 3.0 percentage points respectively in 2014. The effectiveness of OALA (targeted at elders in need of financial support), second only to CSSA, was also notable, lifting nearly 0.11 million people out of poverty and lowering the poverty rate by 1.6 percentage points. Besides these recurrent cash items, the provision of PRH is undeniably effective in improving the living environment and standard of the grassroots people, although it is not a cash subsidy. Even with a rather conservative estimation of the welfare transfer, PRH provision was estimated to have reduced the poor population by over 0.25 million and the poverty rate by 3.7 percentage points, demonstrating a sizeable effect on poverty alleviation.

- 2.34 In 2014, the overall poverty indicators were generally at six-year lows, both before and after policy intervention. On the one hand, this illustrates the importance of economic development and job creation. On the other hand, this shows that the Government's policies have been effective in alleviating poverty. However, the persistent ageing of the population, as well as the expected continuous rise in poverty line thresholds alongside wage growth, leaves limited room for the poverty rate to decline markedly further in 2015. The Government will continue to monitor the poverty situation in Hong Kong and its trend.

### 3 Further Analysis of the 2014 Poverty Situation

3.1 By making reference to the analytical framework endorsed by CoP<sup>28</sup>, this Chapter will further examine the poverty situation by socio-economic household group, with a particular focus on selected groups that are usually considered by the community as relatively underprivileged and in need of assistance (**Figure 3.1**), and analyse the forms and causes of poverty in Hong Kong.

**Figure 3.1: Selected socio-economic household groups under the analytical framework**



Note: Some of the above household groups are not mutually exclusive. For example, an elderly household may also be classified as an economically inactive household, unemployed households may be receiving CSSA, and with-children households may also be single-parent households. For their definitions, please refer to the **Glossary**.

3.2 This chapter is broadly divided into three sections: (i) understanding the forms of poverty in accordance with the socio-economic characteristics of poor households; (ii) housing type analysis; and (iii) district analysis. The profile of each selected socio-economic group of poor households with handy statistics and diagrams is set out in the last section of this chapter for quick reference. Detailed tabulations are shown in **Appendix 5**.

#### 3.1 Poverty Situation by Selected Household Group

##### (a) Analysis in terms of socio-economic characteristics

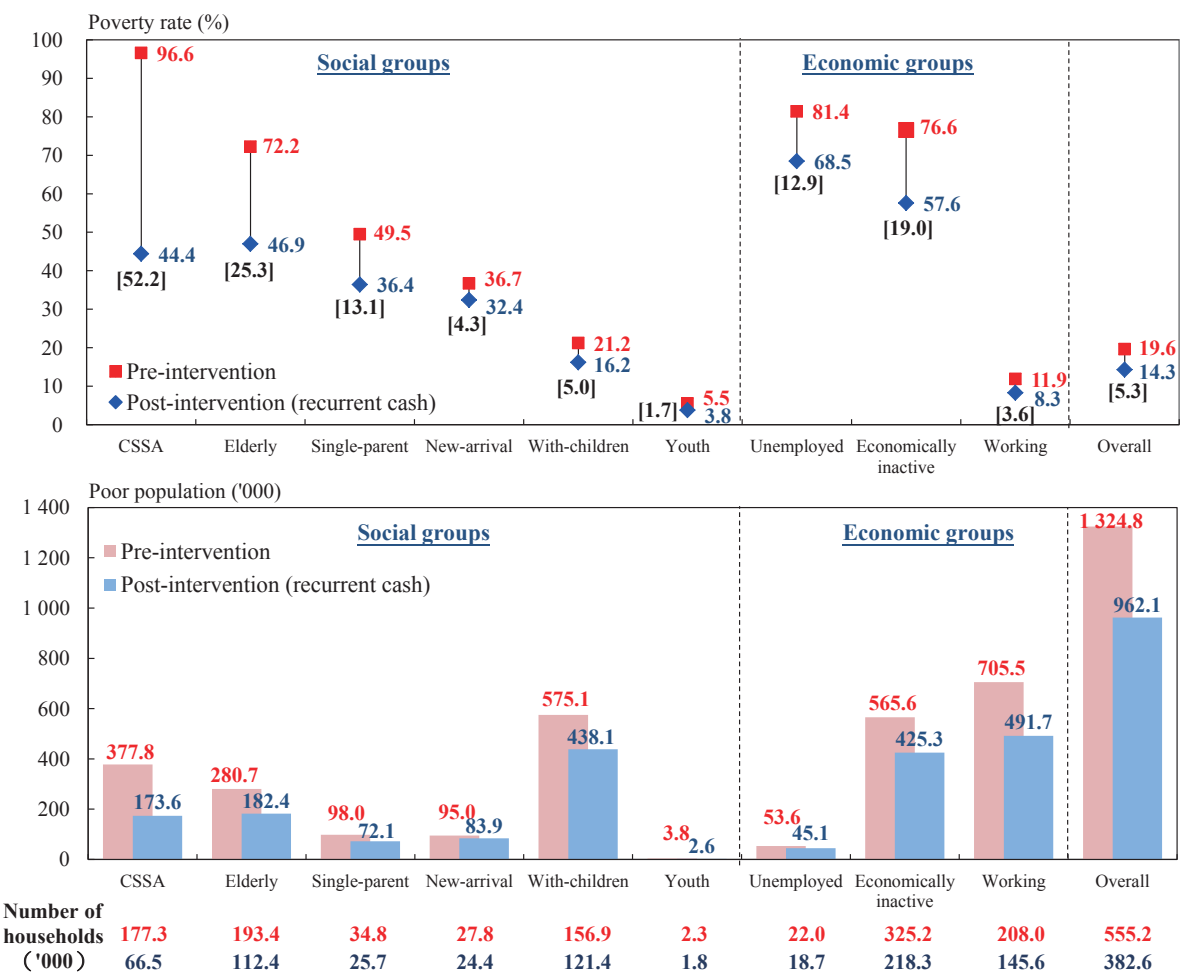
3.3 **Figure 3.2** shows the sizes of the poor population and the poverty rates of different socio-economic household groups before and after policy intervention<sup>29</sup>. Data show that:

28 For details of the analytical framework of the poverty line, please refer to **Appendix 1**.

29 Unless otherwise specified, “after / post-intervention” refers to “post-recurrent cash intervention”.

- In terms of the size of the poor population, analysed by social characteristic, households with children, those receiving CSSA and elderly households stood out in terms of both pre- and post-intervention statistics. The size of the poor population in youth households was the smallest (less than 4 000 persons). Analysed by economic activity status, about half of the poor population came from working households, while around 45% were from economically inactive households. Unemployed households accounted for the remaining 5% (Figure 3.2).

Figure 3.2: Poverty rate and poor population, by selected socio-economic group, 2014



Note: [ ] Figures in square brackets denote the percentage point(s) reductions in the poverty rates.  
Source: General Household Survey, Census and Statistics Department.

- Before policy intervention, CSSA, elderly, single-parent (grouped by social attribute), unemployed and economically inactive households (grouped by economic attribute) faced an acute poverty situation, with poverty rates ranging from nearly 50% to over 90%. However, after recurrent cash intervention, the poverty rates of these households were all significantly lower, demonstrating the importance of the Government's cash benefits in redistributing income. CSSA, as the social safety net, had a marked effect on poverty alleviation, with the

poverty rate reduction of CSSA households before and after policy intervention being the largest. The declines in the poverty rates amongst elderly and single-parent households, many of which benefited from different social security measures, were also notable. Analysed by economic activity status, over 30% of unemployed and economically inactive households received CSSA. As such, their poverty situations were somewhat relieved after policy intervention (Figure 3.2 and Table 3.1).

**Table 3.1: CSSA poor households, by selected socio-economic group, 2014**

Household group	Number of poor households before policy intervention (recurrent cash) ('000)		Corresponding proportion (%)
	Total	CSSA-receiving	
<b>Social groups</b>			
CSSA	177.3	177.3	100.0
Elderly	193.4	67.1	34.7
Single-parent	34.8	22.8	65.5
New-arrival	27.8	7.2	26.0
With-children	156.9	53.9	34.3
Youth	2.3	§	§
<b>Economic groups</b>			
Unemployed	22.0	7.5	34.3
Economically inactive	325.2	129.5	39.8
Working	208.0	40.3	19.4
<b>Overall</b>	<b>555.2</b>	<b>177.3</b>	<b>31.9</b>

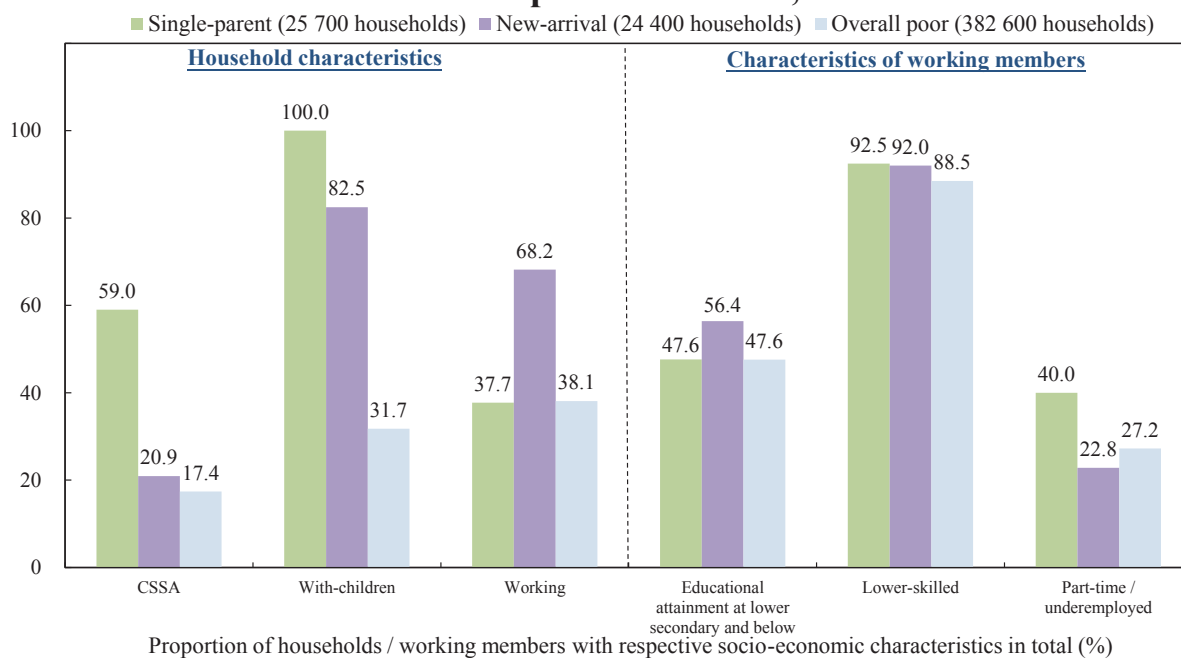
Notes: (§) Not released due to large sampling errors.  
Based on poverty statistics before recurrent cash intervention.  
Source: General Household Survey, Census and Statistics Department.

3.4 Poverty rates of single-parent and new-arrival households, both before and after policy intervention, were at relatively high levels, or more than twice the overall poverty rate. This is a continuing cause for concern. The two household groups shared the feature of having relatively large household sizes<sup>30</sup> and heavy family burdens. On top of this, these two groups had other idiosyncratic factors which increased their poverty risk. For single-parent poor households, due to their childcare responsibilities, more than 60% of the households lacked members who could spare time to work. Even for those who were able to enter the job market, the proportion of full-time workers was relatively low (60%), thus they had lower employment earnings. As for new-arrival poor households, despite having a relatively higher proportion of working population (68%), the employed household

30 Average household sizes of single-parent and new-arrival poor households were 2.8 and 3.4 respectively. They were both larger than that of overall poor households at 2.5.

members were mostly (92%) engaged in lower-skilled occupations and their employment earnings were generally not high (Figure 3.3).

**Figure 3.3: Selected socio-economic characteristics of single-parent and new-arrival poor households, 2014**



Proportion of households / working members with respective socio-economic characteristics in total (%)  
 Notes: ( ) Figures in parentheses denote the corresponding numbers of households.  
 Based on poverty statistics after recurrent cash intervention.  
 Source: General Household Survey, Census and Statistics Department.

3.5 Comparing 2014 with 2013, the poverty statistics generally improved across different socio-economic groups. It is worth pointing out that groups with higher full-time working population ratios (including households with children, new-arrival households, working households, etc.) benefited from the tight labour market and favourable income situation, and their poverty situations improved even before policy intervention. In contrast, due to low proportion of working population, the poverty rate worsened for single-parent households. After policy intervention, most of the groups recorded declines in terms of the number of poor households, the poor population and the poverty rate when compared with 2013. Among them, CSSA households saw the greatest improvement in the poverty rate (down by 5.6 percentage points), followed by new-arrival households (down by 4.1 percentage points) and elderly households (down by 2.1 percentage points) (Table 3.2). Poverty rates of single-parent, with-children, and youth households also improved slightly, by magnitudes ranging from 0.2 to 0.4 percentage point.

**Table 3.2: Poverty indicators and their annual changes, by selected socio-economic group, 2014**

Household group	2014			Annual change over 2013		
	Poor households ('000)	Poor population ('000)	Poverty rate (%)	Poor households <sup>@</sup> ('000)	Poor population <sup>@</sup> ('000)	Poverty rate (% point(s))
<b>Social groups</b>						
CSSA	66.5	173.6	44.4	-18.5	-32.2	-5.6
Elderly	112.4	182.4	46.9	-0.4	+2.2	-2.1
Single-parent	25.7	72.1	36.4	-0.7	-1.9	-0.4
New-arrival	24.4	83.9	32.4	-3.6	-10.3	-4.1
With-children	121.4	438.1	16.2	-5.3	-17.2	-0.3
Youth	1.8	2.6	3.8	§	-0.5	-0.2
<b>Economic groups</b>						
Unemployed	18.7	45.1	68.5	§	-1.8	+1.9
Economically inactive	218.3	425.3	57.6	+6.8	+17.2	-0.6
Working	145.6	491.7	8.3	-9.1	-25.4	-0.4
<b>Overall</b>	<b>382.6</b>	<b>962.1</b>	<b>14.3</b>	<b>-2.2</b>	<b>-10.0</b>	<b>-0.2</b>

Notes: (@) Annual changes are computed based on unrounded figures.

(§) Not released due to large sampling errors.

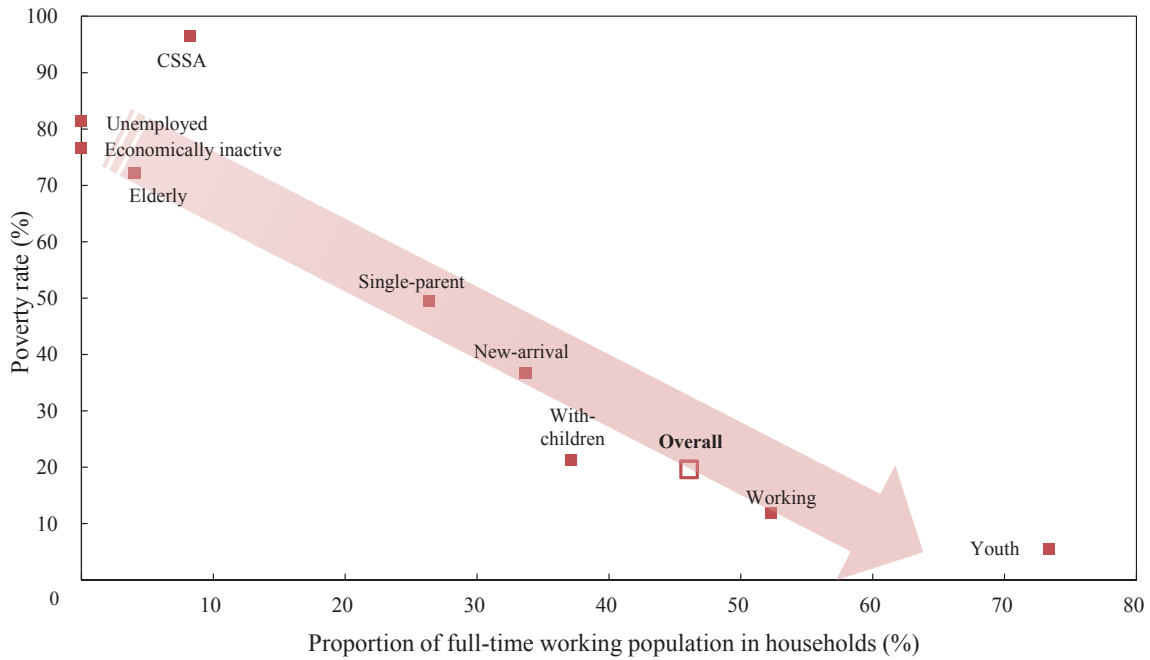
Based on poverty statistics after recurrent cash intervention.

Source: General Household Survey, Census and Statistics Department.

3.6 Regarding the forms of poverty of these household groups, a few points can be summarised below:

- **Employment effectively reduces poverty risk:** the poverty line adopts household income as its sole indicator. As such, it is quite natural that households with employment earnings find it easier to avoid poverty. In fact, from **Figure 3.4**, it is clear that the risk of falling below the poverty line is lower as the proportion of full-time working population in households increases. The proportion of full-time working population in households was 52.3% for working households, which was among the highest of all the groups, and the corresponding poverty rate (pre-intervention) was merely 11.9%. In contrast, unemployed households, without any employment earnings, had a poverty rate of 81.4%. Similarly, as most of the elderly, CSSA and economically inactive households lacked employment earnings, their poverty rates were also higher.

**Figure 3.4: Proportion of full-time workers and poverty rate, 2014**

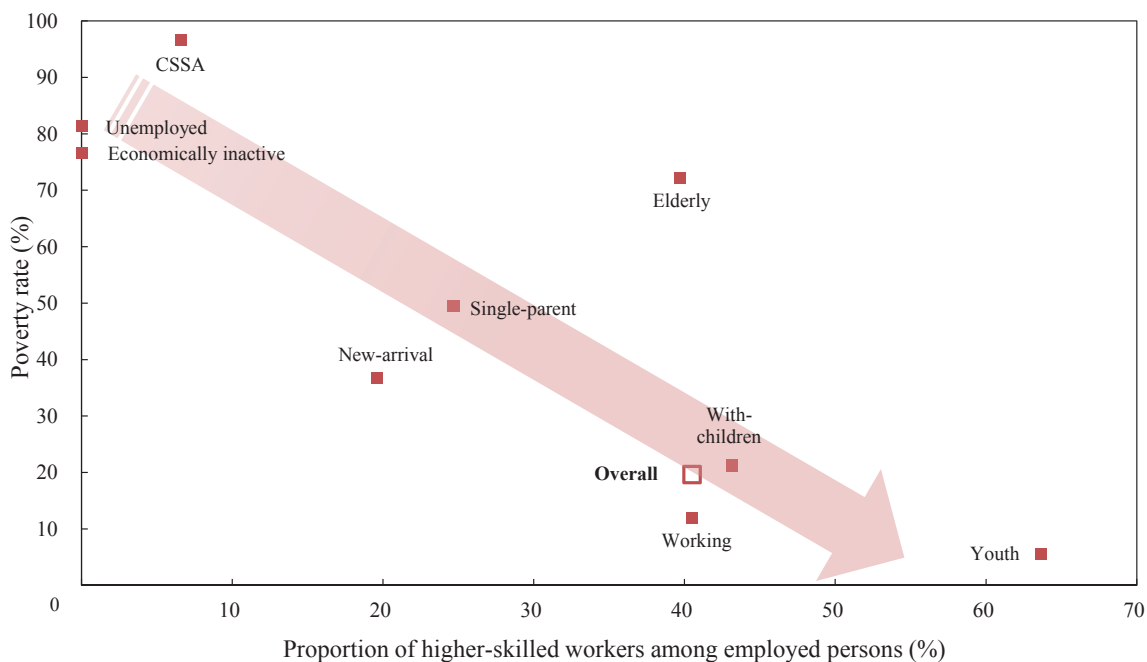


Note: Based on poverty statistics before recurrent cash intervention.  
Source: General Household Survey, Census and Statistics Department.

- **Improving skill level also helps lowering the poverty risk:** workers engaged in higher-skilled occupations usually have higher employment earnings. Their poverty risk is naturally lower. Taking youth households as an example, 63.7% of employed persons were engaged in higher-skilled occupations, and the pre-intervention poverty rate was merely 5.5%. On the contrary, only about 20% of employed persons in single-parent and new-arrival households were higher-skilled workers. Their poverty rates were 49.5% and 36.7% respectively (**Figure 3.5**).



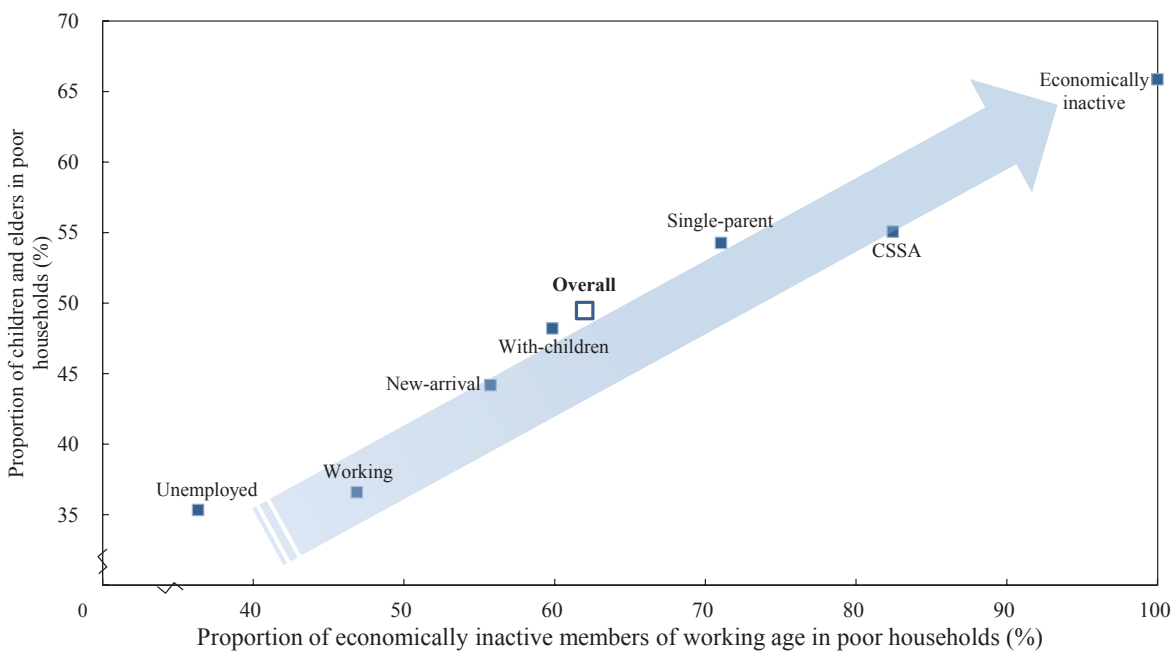
**Figure 3.5: Proportion of higher-skilled workers and poverty rate, 2014**



Note: Based on poverty statistics before recurrent cash intervention.  
Source: General Household Survey, Census and Statistics Department.

- **A higher dependency ratio increases the poverty risk:** working age members in households with more children or elders to take care of (for example single-parent households and households with children) usually find it difficult to work at the same time (Figure 3.6), thus they have limited employment earnings. Generally, for households with higher dependency ratios, their family burdens are also heavier, and hence their poverty rates are higher.

**Figure 3.6: Proportion of dependants and economically inactive persons, 2014**



Notes: Based on poverty statistics after recurrent cash intervention. According to definitions, the proportions of children and elders in elderly households and youth households are 100% and 0% respectively. Such household groups are therefore not included in the above diagram for analysis.  
Source: General Household Survey, Census and Statistics Department.

### Box 3.1

#### Poverty Situation of Non-CSSA Working Households

As many as 40% of non-CSSA poor households are working households. These households, despite having self-reliant working members, still fell below the poverty line, a situation that warrants attention. This box will provide further analysis of the socio-economic characteristics of this group.

#### Socio-economic characteristics of non-CSSA working poor households

2. In 2014, after policy intervention, the number of poor households, the size of the poor population and the poverty rate of non-CSSA working poor households were 136 200, 459 100 and 7.9% respectively, a slight improvement from the situation in 2013<sup>31</sup>. These households were mostly (81.1%) 3-person-and-above households, and over half (55.4%) of them had children. However, 84.2% of these households had only 1 working member, and each working member on average had to support 1.9 family members (i.e. 2.9 members if including oneself). These ratios were even higher for households with children and new-arrival households, both at 2.2 members, and were significantly higher than that of non-CSSA working households overall (0.7 member) (Table 3.3). Meanwhile, working members in these households usually had lower educational attainment and skill level, and a quarter of them only worked part-time or were underemployed (Figure 3.7).

**Table 3.3: Selected types of non-CSSA working poor households, 2014**

Non-CSSA working household group	Number ('000)	Population ('000)	Average household size			Workless-to-employed ratio <sup>~</sup>
			All	Employed	Child	
<b>Poor households</b>	<b>136.2</b>	<b>459.1</b>	<b>3.4</b>	<b>1.2</b>	<b>0.8</b>	<b>1.9</b>
<b>With-children</b>	75.5	290.5	3.8	1.2	1.5	2.2
<b>New-arrival</b>	15.7	57.7	3.7	1.1	1.3	2.2
<b>Single-parent</b>	7.3	23.1	3.2	1.1	1.3	1.8
<b>Overall households</b>	<b>1 913.3</b>	<b>5 799.9</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>1.8</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>0.7</b>

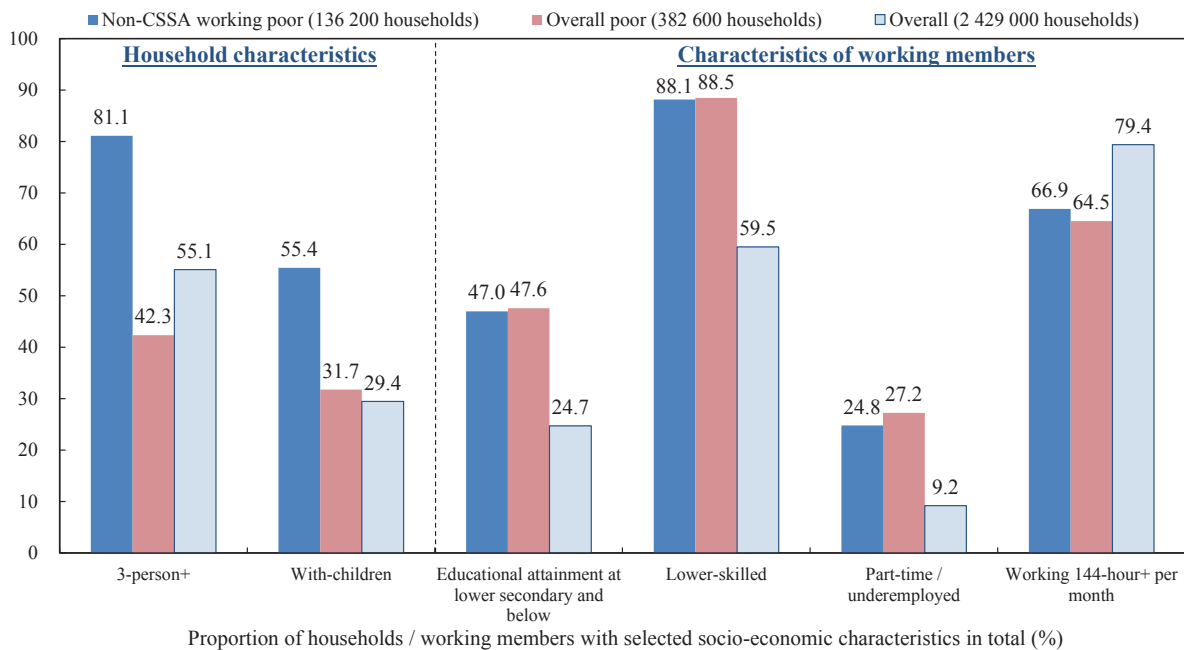
Notes: (~) Denote the number of workless members (including economically inactive members and unemployed members) supported by one employed member on average.  
Based on poverty statistics after recurrent cash intervention.

Source: General Household Survey, Census and Statistics Department.

31 The respective figures in 2013 were 140 800 households, 469 700 people and 8.1%.

**Box 3.1 (Cont'd)**

**Figure 3.7: Selected socio-economic characteristics of poor households, 2014**



Notes: ( ) Figures in parentheses denote the corresponding number of households.  
Based on poverty statistics after recurrent cash intervention.

Source: General Household Survey, Census and Statistics Department.

3. However, it is worth noting that the poverty rate reduction of non-CSSA working households before and after policy intervention was only 2.0 percentage points. This is partly because these households did not receive CSSA, and the transfer from other recurrent cash benefits enjoyed by them was also relatively small.

**“Low-income Working Family Allowance”**

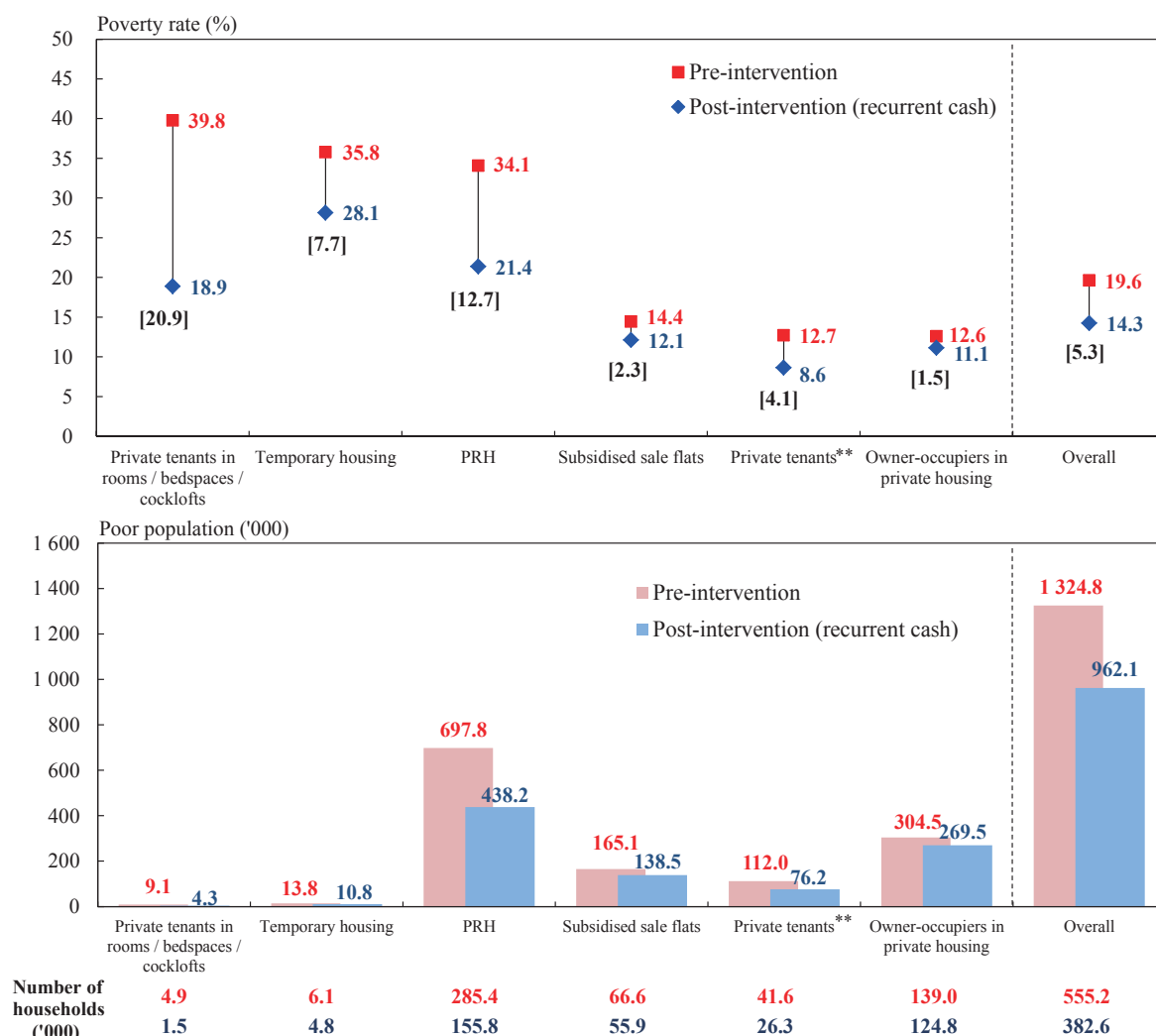
4. To more effectively alleviate the financial burden of these families, the “Low-income Working Family Allowance” Scheme was announced in the *2014 Policy Address*, so as to encourage working members of low-income families to stay in active employment for self-reliance. The family-based allowance is designed with income / asset tests and a working hour requirement. It comprises a Basic Allowance and a Child Allowance. The Basic Allowance is tied to employment and working hours to encourage self-reliance. A higher amount of allowance will be granted to those who work more. Families with eligible children / youth members will receive an additional Child Allowance. As the working hour requirement is lower for single-parent applicants, and there is no residence requirement, LIFA can also provide support to needy single-parent and new-arrival working households.

5. Following the funding approval by the Legislative Council Finance Committee on 16 January 2015, the Government has been pressing ahead with the preparatory work with a view to implementing the Scheme in the second quarter of 2016.

**(b) Analysis in terms of housing type**

3.7 Analysed by housing type, over half of the poor population before policy intervention (52.7% or 697 800 persons) were residing in PRH, an indirect way of confirming that many poor households<sup>32</sup> were already taken care of by PRH. Moreover, households in inadequate housing conditions had severe poverty situation. The poverty rates of private tenants in rooms / bedspaces / cocklofts and those residing in temporary housing were 39.8% and 35.8% respectively, both far higher than the overall level (**Figure 3.8**).

**Figure 3.8: Poverty rate and poor population, by type of housing, 2014**



Notes: (\*\*\*) Including those residing in rooms / bedspaces / cocklofts.  
[ ] Figures in square brackets denote the percentage point(s) reductions in the poverty rate.  
Source: General Household Survey, Census and Statistics Department.

3.8 For households in housing types with higher poverty rates (including private tenants in rooms / bedspaces / cocklofts, and households residing in temporary housing and PRH), the poverty rate reductions after taking into account recurrent cash benefits were generally more discernible, showing

32 For details of the analysis on the poverty alleviation impact of PRH, please refer to **Box 2.2**.

that many of these households had already been lifted out of poverty by social security measures, and the Government's poverty alleviation work had been effective.

3.9 Comparing 2014 with 2013, the poverty rate (post-intervention) of households residing in PRH declined significantly, conceivably because more members in such households received OALA and thus their poverty situation was alleviated. As for households residing in subsidised sale flats and private tenants, despite the slight expansion in the poor population (Table 3.4), their poverty rates (at 12.1% and 8.6% respectively) were still lower than the overall level (14.3%).

**Table 3.4: Poverty indicators and their annual changes, by type of housing, 2014**

Type of housing	2014			Annual change over 2013		
	Poor households ('000)	Poor population ('000)	Poverty rate (%)	Poor households <sup>@</sup> ('000)	Poor population <sup>@</sup> ('000)	Poverty rate (% point(s))
Private tenants in rooms / bedspaces / cocklofts	1.5	4.3	18.9	§	§	§
Temporary housing	4.8	10.8	28.1	§	+0.8	+1.4
PRH	155.8	438.2	21.4	-10.3	-22.2	-1.1
Subsidised sale flats	55.9	138.5	12.1	+2.3	+4.0	+0.3
Private tenants**	26.3	76.2	8.6	+1.5	+6.5	+0.4
Owner-occupiers in private housing	124.8	269.5	11.1	+4.0	-0.3	#
<b>Overall</b>	<b>382.6</b>	<b>962.1</b>	<b>14.3</b>	<b>-2.2</b>	<b>-10.0</b>	<b>-0.2</b>

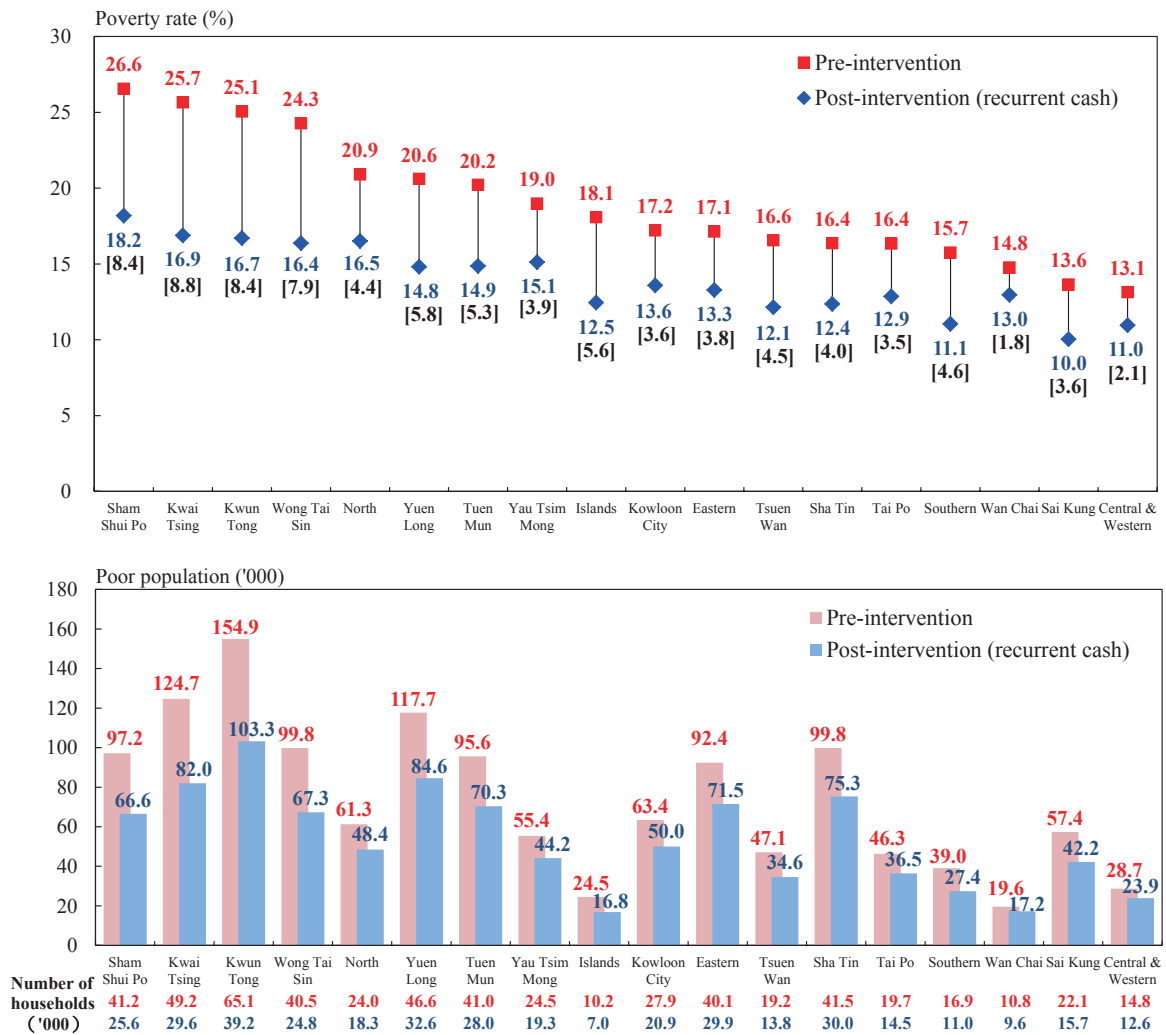
Notes: (§) Not released due to large sampling errors.  
 (#) Annual changes less than 0.05 percentage point.  
 (@) Annual changes are computed based on unrounded figures.  
 (\*\*) Including those residing in rooms / bedspaces / cocklofts.  
 Based on poverty statistics after recurrent cash intervention.  
 Source: General Household Survey, Census and Statistics Department.

## 3.II Poverty Situation by District

3.10 Analysed in terms of the 18 District Council districts, districts with larger poor population and higher poverty rate in 2014 included Kwun Tong, Yuen Long, Kwai Tsing, Tuen Mun, Wong Tai Sin and Sham Shui Po. Sha Tin and Eastern districts also had a considerable poor population, but their poverty rates were lower than the overall average. After policy intervention, the poverty situation generally improved across all districts, and those with higher poverty rates improved more visibly (Figure 3.9).

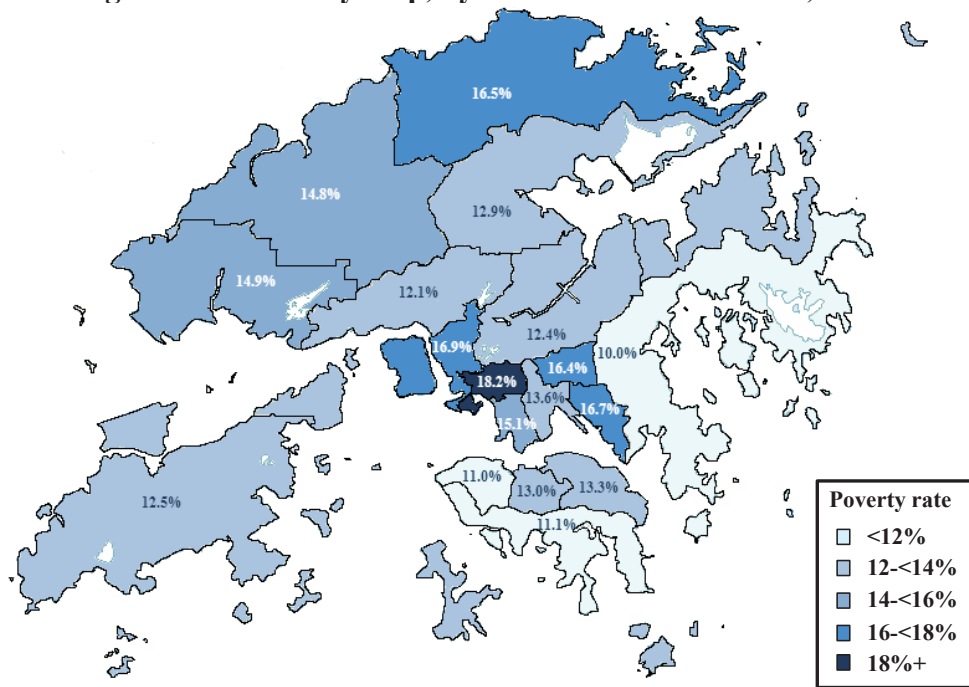
3.11 Examining the poverty situation after policy intervention, as shown in the poverty map, Sham Shui Po had the highest poverty rate (18.2%) among all districts. Similar to 2013, the poverty rates of Kwai Tsing, Kwun Tong, North, Wong Tai Sin, Yau Tsim Mong, Tuen Mun and Yuen Long were also higher than the overall average (Figure 3.10).

Figure 3.9: Poverty rate and poor population, by District Council district, 2014



Note: [ ] Figures in square brackets denote the percentage point(s) reductions in the poverty rates.  
Source: General Household Survey, Census and Statistics Department.

**Figure 3.10: Poverty map, by District Council district, 2014**



Note: Based on poverty statistics after recurrent cash intervention.  
Source: General Household Survey, Census and Statistics Department.

- 3.12 Analysed in terms of the poverty rates after recurrent cash intervention in the 18 District Council districts in 2014 over 2013, it can be observed that the improvement in the poverty situation was widespread. 11 districts recorded annual declines in the poverty rates, with the fall being most visible in Islands district (**Table 3.5**).
- 3.13 For the 7 districts that recorded increases in the poverty rates, the rise was more prominent in Wan Chai and North districts. For the former, it may be partly due to a higher proportion of retired elders from population ageing in the district. For the latter, it was partly because employment conditions worsened for the working population in the district, and the unemployment rate rose by 0.3 percentage point over a year ago. Also, the proportion of full-time workers fell slightly. For the remaining 5 districts, the rises in the poverty rates ranged only between 0.1 and 1.0 percentage point (**Table 3.5**). For more detailed poverty statistics analysed by District Council district, please refer to **Section 3.V** and **Appendix 5**.

**Table 3.5: Poverty rates and their annual changes, by District Council district, 2014**

District Council district	Overall poverty rate (%)		
	2013	2014	Annual change (% point(s))
Sham Shui Po	18.6	18.2	-0.4
Kwai Tsing	16.3	16.9	+0.6
Kwun Tong	17.7	16.7	-1.0
Wong Tai Sin	16.2	16.4	+0.2
North	15.0	16.5	+1.5
Yuen Long	14.9	14.8	-0.1
Tuen Mun	16.1	14.9	-1.2
Yau Tsim Mong	15.2	15.1	-0.1
Islands	14.9	12.5	-2.4
Kowloon City	12.6	13.6	+1.0
Eastern	13.2	13.3	+0.1
Tsuen Wan	13.1	12.1	-1.0
Sha Tin	13.2	12.4	-0.8
Tai Po	12.6	12.9	+0.3
Southern	11.2	11.1	-0.1
Wan Chai	10.9	13.0	+2.1
Sai Kung	11.3	10.0	-1.3
Central and Western	11.1	11.0	-0.1
<b>Overall</b>	<b>14.5</b>	<b>14.3</b>	<b>-0.2</b>

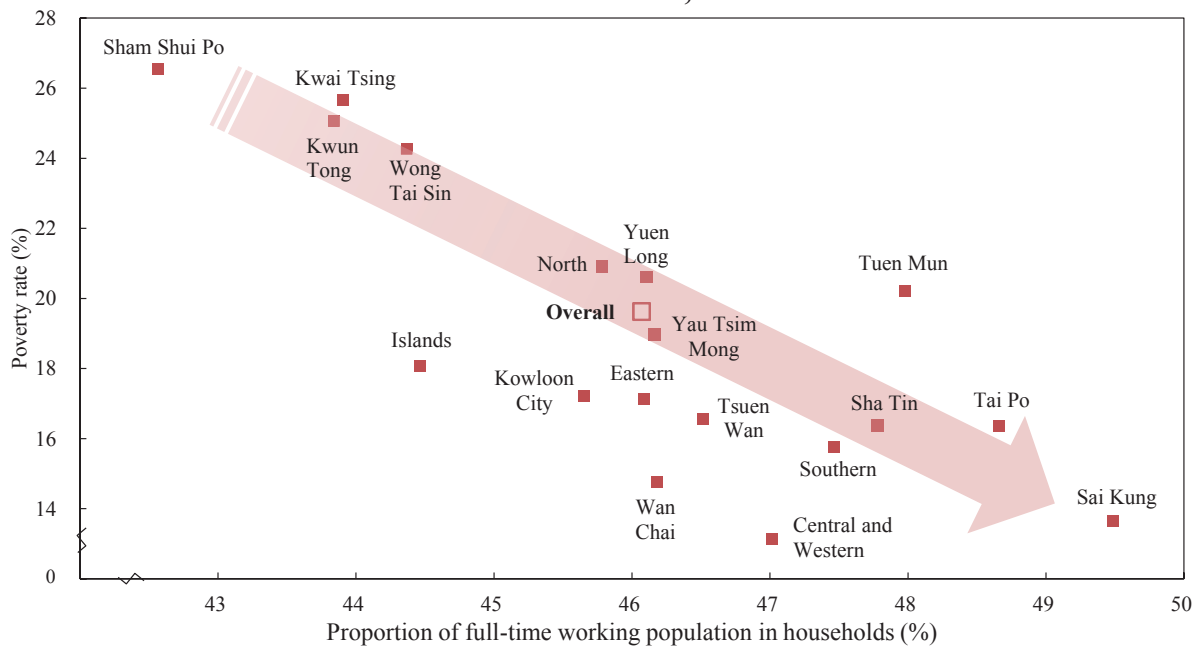
Note: Based on poverty statistics after recurrent cash intervention.

Source: General Household Survey, Census and Statistics Department.

3.14 Analysing the forms of poverty by District Council district, districts with higher proportions of full-time working population in households tended to have lower poverty rates, echoing the findings in paragraph 3.6. For example, Sai Kung district had the highest proportion of full-time workers (49.5%), and its poverty rate (pre-intervention) was only 13.6%. In contrast, Sham Shui Po had the lowest proportion of full-time workers (42.6%) and the highest poverty rate (26.6%) among all districts (**Figure 3.11**).



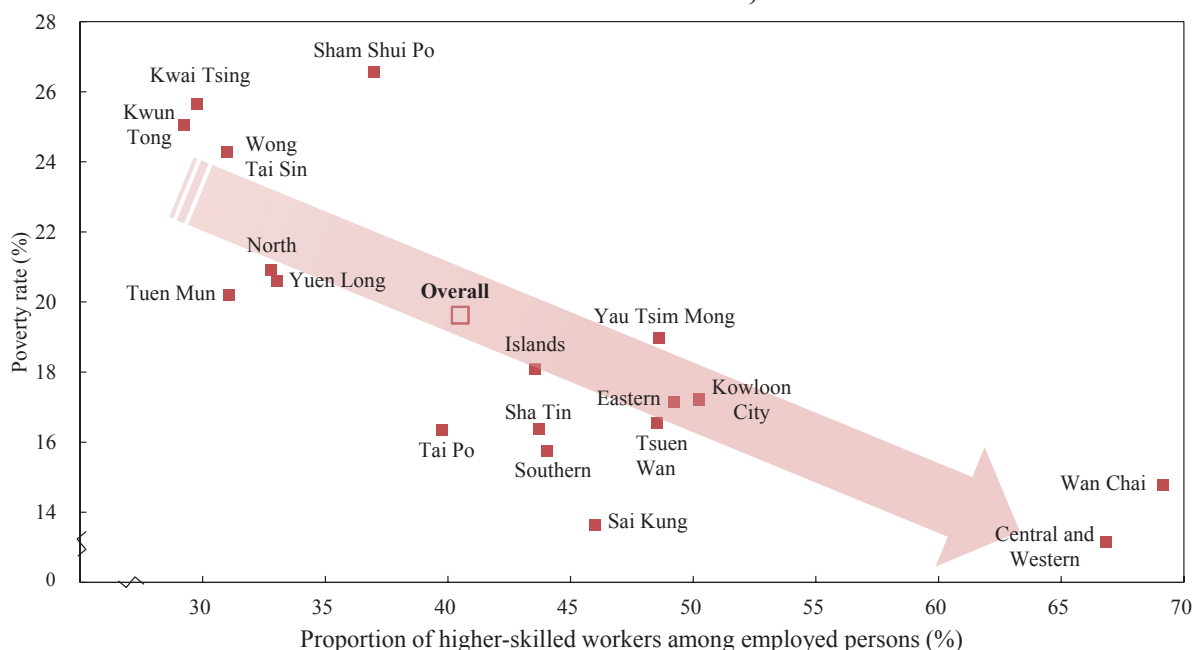
**Figure 3.11: Proportion of full-time workers and poverty rate, by District Council district, 2014**



Note: Based on poverty statistics before recurrent cash intervention.  
Source: General Household Survey, Census and Statistics Department.

3.15 Also, according to **Figure 3.12**, districts with higher proportions of higher-skilled workers usually had lower poverty rates. For instance, the proportion of higher-skilled workers among employed persons was as high as 66.8% in Central and Western district, and the corresponding poverty rate (pre-intervention) was as low as 13.1%. Contrarily, only 29.2% of employed persons in Kwun Tong were higher-skilled, and the district's poverty rate stood high at 25.1%.

**Figure 3.12: Proportion of higher-skilled workers and poverty rate, by District Council district, 2014**



Note: Based on poverty statistics before recurrent cash intervention.  
Source: General Household Survey, Census and Statistics Department.

3.16 Focusing on the forms of poverty of the 8 districts with higher-than-overall poverty rates, it can be observed that the elderly and child poverty rates of these districts were relatively high. Moreover, the proportions of CSSA, single-parent and new-arrival households in these districts were higher than average, as were their proportions of non-CSSA working poor persons (Table 3.6).

**Table 3.6: Selected socio-economic characteristics of districts with higher-than-overall poverty rates, 2014**

	Elderly poverty rate	Child poverty rate	Share of non-CSSA working poor persons <sup>~</sup>	Share of non-CSSA unemployed poor persons <sup>~</sup>	Share of CSSA households <sup>†</sup>	Share of single-parent households <sup>†</sup>	Share of new-arrival households <sup>†</sup>
Sham Shui Po	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Kwai Tsing		x	x	x	x	x	x
Kwun Tong	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Wong Tai Sin		x	x	x	x	x	x
North	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Yuen Long	x	x	x		x	x	
Tuen Mun	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Yau Tsim Mong	x			x			x
<b>Overall</b>	<b>30.0%</b>	<b>18.2%</b>	<b>4.5%</b>	<b>0.9%</b>	<b>7.5%</b>	<b>2.8%</b>	<b>3.1%</b>

Notes: ( ~ ) Proportion of relevant poor persons, in labour force residing in domestic households of the corresponding districts.

( † ) Proportion of relevant households, in domestic households of the corresponding districts.

“x” represents higher-than-overall relevant proportions of the corresponding districts. Based on poverty statistics after recurrent cash intervention.

Source: General Household Survey, Census and Statistic Department.

### 3.III Key Observations

3.17 In 2014, the poverty rate (post-intervention) of unemployed households continued to be the highest (68.5%) among all socio-economic groups. In contrast, as the proportion of full-time workers in working households was high, the corresponding poverty rate was lower (8.3%). This clearly demonstrates that employment is the best way to prevent poverty. On the other hand, the post-intervention poverty rates of single-parent and new-arrival households (at 36.4% and 32.4% respectively) were more than twice the overall level, which is a continuing cause for concern. For single-parent poor households, this is partly because over 60% of the households lacked members who could spare time to work, as a result of their childcare responsibilities. As for new-arrival poor households, most (92%) of the

- working members were engaged in lower-skilled occupations. On top of these, both groups had relatively large household sizes and heavy family burdens, which in turn increased their poverty risk.
- 3.18 Further detailed analyses show that groups with higher proportions of working population in households and higher skill levels among workers benefited more from the tight labour market and had lower poverty rates. This shows the importance of employment and skill upgrading in poverty prevention. Also, households with higher dependency ratio had a higher chance of falling below the poverty line.
- 3.19 Compared with 2013, the poverty situation in 2014 continued to show widespread improvement, with the sizes of the poor population and the poverty rates after policy intervention for most socio-economic groups falling from their 2013 levels. Comparing the statistics before and after policy intervention, poverty rate reduction was the largest for CSSA and elderly households, illustrating that the Government's poverty alleviation policies have been the most effective for these groups.
- 3.20 Focusing on the 0.14 million non-CSSA working poor (post-intervention) households (and the 0.46 million persons therein), the findings were largely the same as those in the 2012 and 2013 *Hong Kong Poverty Situation Reports*. These households had heavy family burdens, but did not benefit extensively from recurrent cash benefits; as such, their poverty rate reduction was merely 2.0 percentage points. They may be in need of more assistance. The LIFA Scheme will provide more targeted support to working poor households and encourage working persons to stay in active employment for self-reliance. The Scheme will also provide support to single-parent households and those with children / youths.
- 3.21 The analysis by type of housing shows that over half (52.7% or 697 800 persons) of the poor population lived in PRH before policy intervention, an indirect way of confirming that many poor households were already taken care of by PRH. Also, the poverty situation of households in inadequate housing conditions was severe. The poverty rates of private tenants in rooms / bedspaces / cocklofts and those residing in temporary housing were as high as 39.8% and 35.8% respectively. They were much higher than the overall level, reflecting the heavy living burden on these households.
- 3.22 Analysed in terms of the 18 District Council districts, the poverty situation of 11 districts improved over a year ago. After policy intervention, Sham Shui Po, Kwai Tsing, Kwun Tong, North and Wong Tai Sin were the 5 districts with the highest poverty rates. Analysis shows that districts with

higher poverty rates usually had lower proportions of working population, higher proportions of lower-skilled workers, and higher elderly and child poverty rates. These are consistent with the findings from the analysis by socio-economic characteristic.

## Box 3.2

### The Situation of “At-risk-of-poverty” Households

The official poverty line for Hong Kong was set at 50% of the pre-intervention median household income by household size. However, there have been views that in addition to that, multiple poverty lines should also be set at other percentages, e.g. 60% of the median household income, so as to comprehensively examine the situation of households below and around the poverty line<sup>33</sup>. This box article adopts the methodology used in **Box 3.1** of the *Hong Kong Poverty Situation Report 2013*, and applies the poverty line framework to households with incomes below 60% of the median household income (hereafter referred to as at-risk-of-poverty households), and briefly analyses the poverty risk and socio-economic characteristics of relevant households.

2. **Table 3.7** lists the thresholds of 50% and 60% of the median household income by household size:

**Table 3.7: Selected percentages of the median household income before policy intervention by household size, 2014**

Household size	Percentage of the median household income before policy intervention (\$, per month)	
	50% (i.e. households with income below this threshold are considered as poor households)	60% (i.e. households with income below this threshold are considered as at-risk-of-poverty households)
1-person	3,500	4,200
2-person	8,500	10,200
3-person	13,000	15,600
4-person	16,400	19,600
5-person	17,000	20,400
6-person+	18,800	22,500

Source: General Household Survey, Census and Statistics Department.

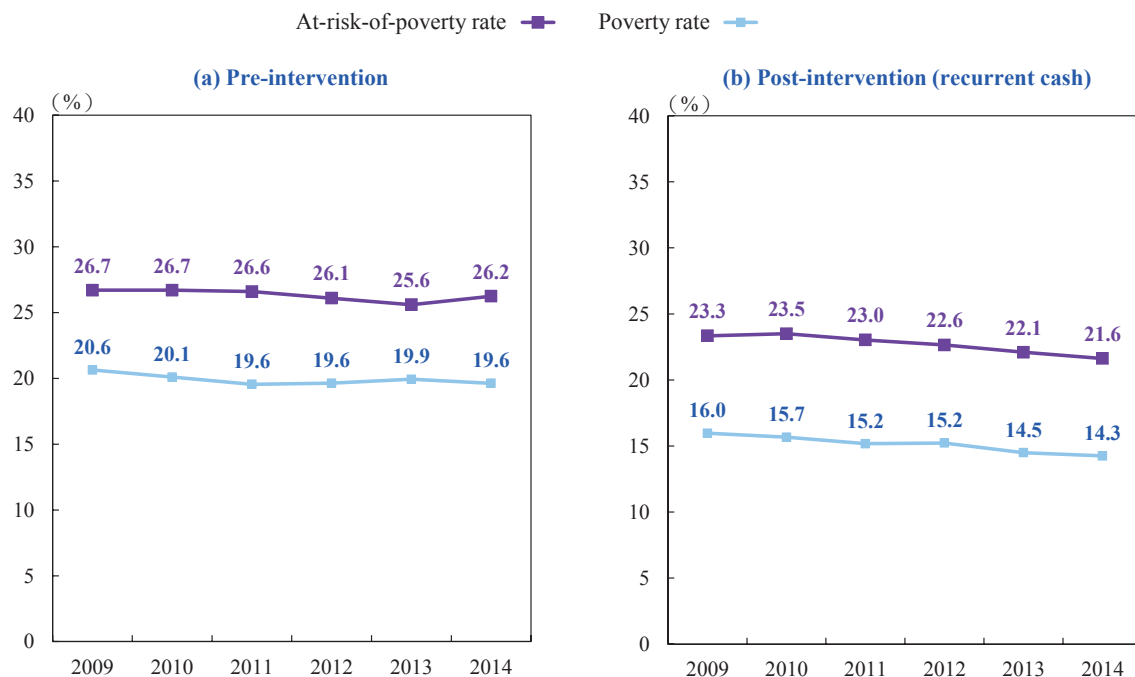
3. By applying the threshold above, the number of at-risk-of-poverty households, the population therein and its share of the overall population (“at-risk-of-poverty rate” hereafter) in Hong Kong can be computed. As shown in **Figure 3.13**, the trend of the at-risk-of-poverty rate was similar to that of the poverty rate from 2009 to 2014. In 2014, before policy intervention, there were 707 100 at-risk-of-

33 The EU anchors its “at-risk-of-poverty thresholds” at 60% of the median household income to monitor the situation of households with relatively low incomes. According to the EU’s definition, households below the at-risk-of-poverty thresholds have relatively low incomes compared with other residents of the country, but they are not poor households. It does not necessarily imply they have a low standard of living.

### Box 3.2 (Cont'd)

poverty households, involving 1 771 800 persons. The at-risk-of-poverty rate was 26.2% (Table 3.8). All three figures increased as compared with 2013. However, after taking recurrent cash policies into account, the at-risk-of-poverty rate was lowered notably to 21.6%, which is a new low since 2009. The reduction before and after policy intervention (4.6 percentage points) was also significantly higher than the corresponding figure in 2013 (3.5 percentage points). This reflects that not only did recurrent cash policies help alleviate poverty, but also they were effective in lowering the risk of poverty.

**Figure 3.13: At-risk-of-poverty rate and poverty rate, 2009-2014**



Source: General Household Survey, Census and Statistics Department.

**Table 3.8: Comparison of at-risk-of-poverty population and poor population, 2014**

At-risk-of-poverty households	Households ('000)	Population ('000)	At-risk-of-poverty rate (%)
Pre-intervention (I)	707.1	1 771.8	26.2
Post-intervention (recurrent cash) (II)	567.4	1 460.1	21.6
Reduction (I) - (II)	139.6	311.7	4.6 % points
Poor households	Households ('000)	Population ('000)	Poverty rate (%)
Pre-intervention (I)	555.2	1 324.8	19.6
Post-intervention (recurrent cash) (II)	382.6	962.1	14.3
Reduction (I) - (II)	172.6	362.7	5.3 % points

Source: General Household Survey, Census and Statistics Department.

### Box 3.2 (Cont'd)

4. Focusing on households with incomes between 50% and 60% of the median (i.e. households with income just above the poverty line thresholds), their key socio-economic characteristics include (**Table 3.9**):

- **More family members with a smaller proportion of elderly households:** among households with incomes between 50% and 60% of the median, 62.6% were 3-person-and-above households, and 11.7% were elderly households. The corresponding figures for poor households were 39.1% and 34.8% respectively.
- **Higher labour force participation rate:** among households with incomes between 50% and 60% of the median, the labour force participation rate (LFPR) was 46.9%, much higher than the corresponding figure of 25.5% for poor households.
- **Better employment situation:** among households with incomes between 50% and 60% of the median, the unemployment rate and the proportions of voluntary part-time / underemployed persons were 6.5% and 15.0% respectively. They were both substantially lower than the corresponding figures of poor households (16.3% and 22.7% respectively).
- **Higher educational attainment:** among households with incomes between 50% and 60% of the median, 55.9% of the economically active persons residing therein had attained upper secondary education and above, slightly higher than the corresponding figure of 53.0% for poor households.

### Box 3.2 (Cont'd)

**Table 3.9: Comparison of selected characteristics of households with incomes between 50% and 60% of the median and poor households before policy intervention, 2014**

2014	Households with incomes between 50% and 60% of median	Poor households	Overall households
Number of households ('000)	151.9	555.2	2 429.0
Size of population ('000)	447.0	1 324.8	6 750.3
Working ('000)	170.3	243.9	3 423.4
<b>Household characteristics ** (%)</b>			
CSSA	1.5	31.9	7.5
Elderly	11.7	34.8	11.3
3-person and above	62.6	39.1	55.1
With-children	37.5	28.3	29.4
Economically active	83.1	41.4	81.8
Working	82.0	37.5	80.6
<b>Population characteristics (%)</b>			
LFPR	46.9	25.5	59.6
Unemployment rate <sup>~</sup>	6.5	16.3	3.6*
Upper secondary and above education <sup>~</sup>	55.9	53.0	75.1
Lower-skilled <sup>~</sup>	86.2	86.8	59.8
Part-time / underemployed <sup>~</sup>	15.0	22.7	8.8

Notes: (\*) Refers to the unemployment rate of the population in domestic households (excluding FDHs).  
 (\*\*) Proportion of the relevant households with the socio-economic characteristics, in all domestic households of the corresponding groups.  
 (~) Proportion of the relevant persons, among economically active persons residing in domestic households of the corresponding groups.

Source: General Household Survey, Census and Statistics Department.

5. Due to population ageing, among households with incomes between 50% and 60% of the median, the proportion of elderly households rose from 10.6% in 2013 to 11.7% in 2014. The increase in number of retired elders caused the proportion of working households and the LFPR in these households to fall. Although the proportion of elderly households in the relevant households was still notably lower than that of poor households, the upward trend warrants close monitoring. This also indirectly shows that, when adopting income as the sole measurement for at-risk-of-poverty households, the statistics face the limitation of including “asset-rich, income-poor” persons, as in the case of poverty line. As such, the data should be interpreted with caution.

6. The Government will not just be concerned about the households under the poverty line, but also attaches great importance to assisting families with higher poverty risk. Of the \$35.3 billion estimated transfer of all recurrent cash policies in 2014, \$23.4 billion (66.4%) benefited poor households, while \$2.4 billion (6.8%) was



**Box 3.2 (Cont'd)**

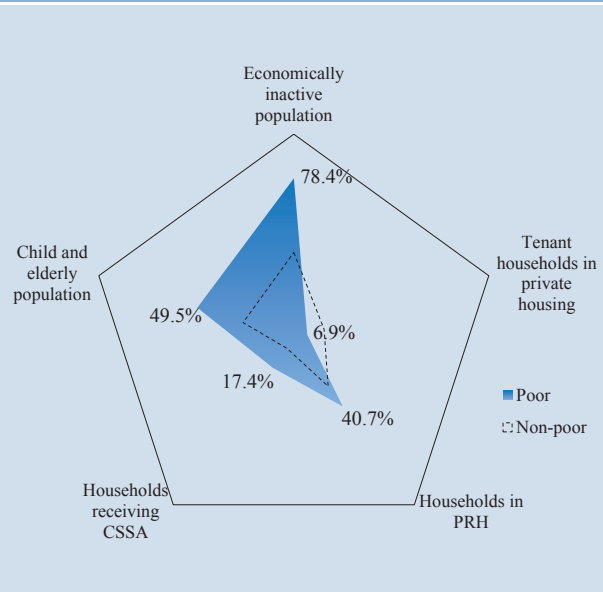
received by households with incomes between 50% and 60% of the median. Households with incomes between 60% and 70% of the median also received \$1.6 billion (4.4%). In fact, poverty line is not equivalent to “poverty alleviation line”. The Government’s social security policies to support the underprivileged do not only target poor households. For example, the income test thresholds of OALA launched in April 2013 are more lenient than those of CSSA. Furthermore, the Chief Executive of the HKSAR announced the introduction of the LIFA Scheme in his *2014 Policy Address*, which provides more support to households with incomes below 50% of the median, while also benefiting eligible families with incomes between 50% and 60% of the median. The Scheme aims at alleviating the burden of these self-reliant working households near poverty; and a Child Allowance is in place in addition to a Basic Allowance, to help promote upward mobility for the children and youths in these families.

7. As mentioned in the *Hong Kong Poverty Situation Report 2013*, when CoP set the poverty line, it took into account the fact that it is a common practice adopted by international (e.g. OECD) and local (e.g. HKCSS and Oxfam) organisations to set the main poverty threshold at 50% of the median household income. Also, if 60% of the median household income before policy intervention was adopted as the poverty line instead, many more households with higher incomes would inevitably be included, but these households generally have better employment situation, educational attainment, etc. As such, setting the poverty line at 50% of the median household income can help put the focus on the socio-economic groups with the greatest need. This in turn can facilitate the formulation of suitable and effective poverty alleviation policies, and help ensure a better utilisation of limited resources.

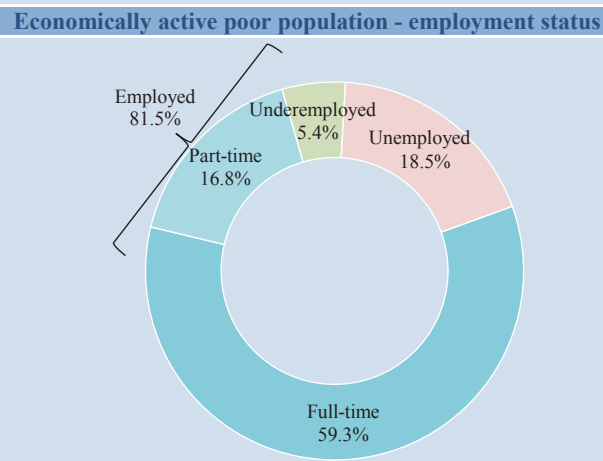
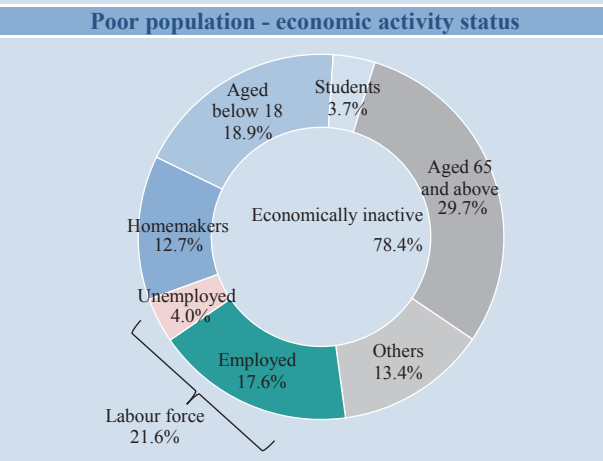
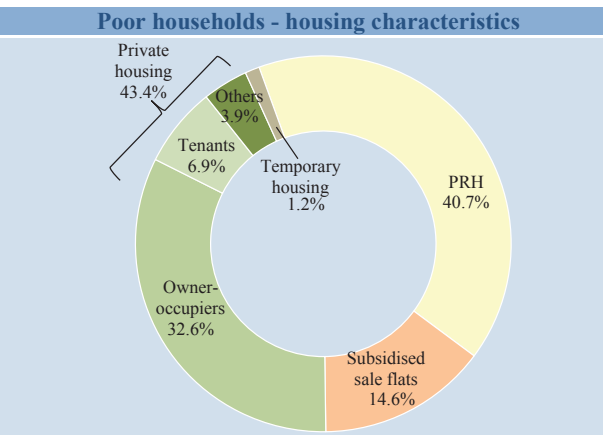
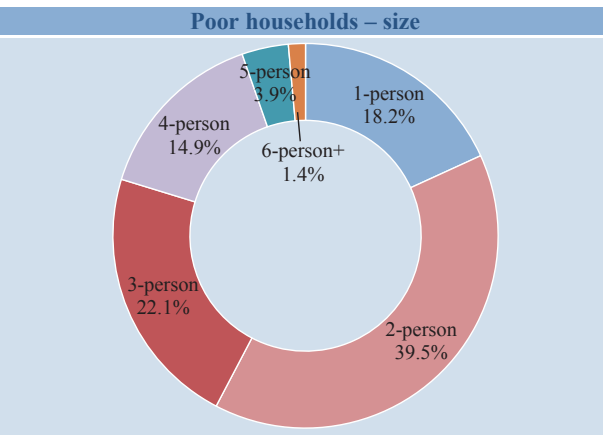
### 3.IV A Synopsis of Poverty Situation after Recurrent Cash Intervention by Selected Household Group

#### (i) Overall poor households

- Definition: domestic households with monthly household income (after recurrent cash intervention) below the poverty line of the corresponding household size.
- Poor households comprised mostly 2- and 3-person households. Those in PRH accounted for the largest proportion (40.7%), followed by owner-occupiers in private housing (32.6%).
- A low proportion of the working age poor were economically active. The demographic and economic dependency ratios were high.
- Among the poor who were economically active, the unemployment rate and the proportion of part-time employment / underemployment were both relatively high.
- Poverty rate fell by 0.2 percentage point over a year ago, a slight improvement in the poverty situation.



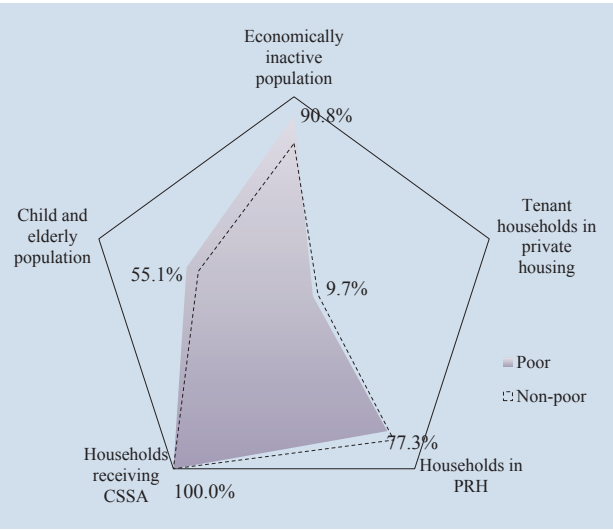
Major poverty figures		Selected statistical references of the poor	
Poor households ('000)	382.6	Average household size/employed members	2.5 / 0.4
Poor population ('000)	962.1	Median monthly household income (\$)	6,900
Poverty rate (%)	14.3	Median age	50
Total poverty gap (per annum, \$Mn)	15,819.8	LFPR (%)	25.4
Average poverty gap (per month, \$)	3,400	Unemployment rate (%)	18.5
		Demographic/Economic dependency ratio	979 / 3 632



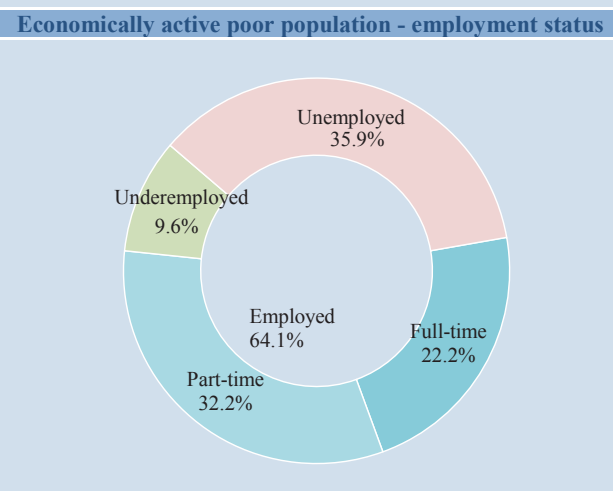
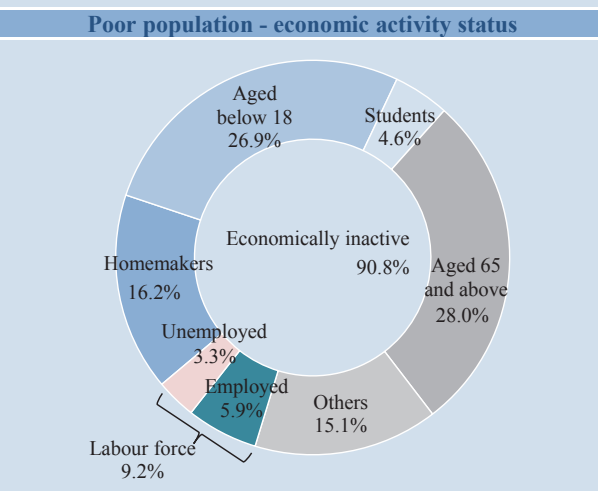
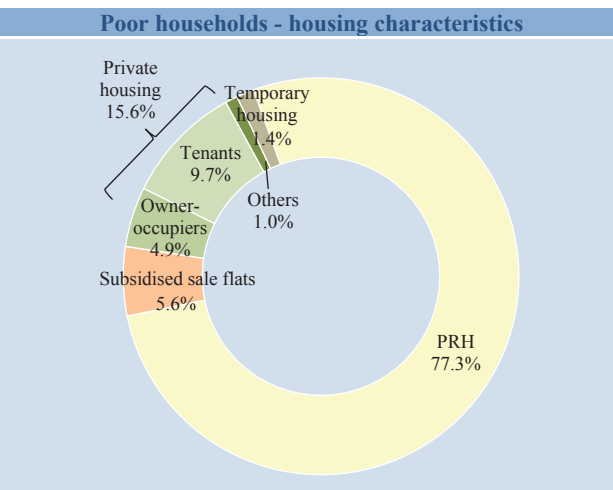
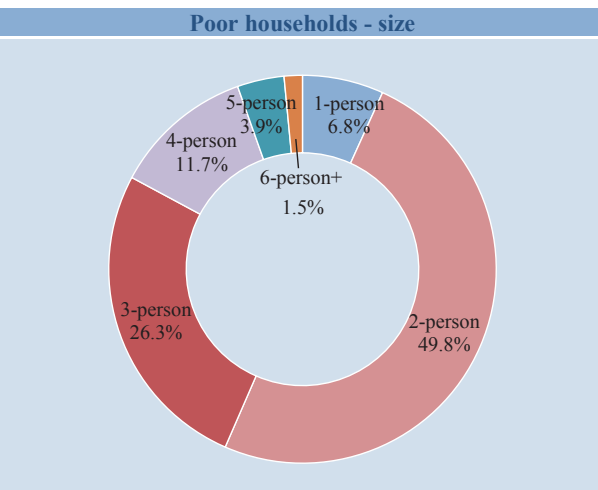
Source: General Household Survey, Census and Statistics Department.

**(ii) CSSA poor households**

- Definition: domestic households in poverty receiving Comprehensive Social Security Assistance.
- Most (76.1%) of CSSA poor households were 2- and 3-person households. 90.8% of the persons living in these households were economically inactive. The unemployment rate of economically active population therein stood high at 35.9%.
- 77.3% of the CSSA poor households were residing in PRH.
- These are estimates from GHS and may not match the administrative records of the SWD.
- Poverty rate declined by 5.6 percentage points over a year ago, a notable improvement in the poverty situation.



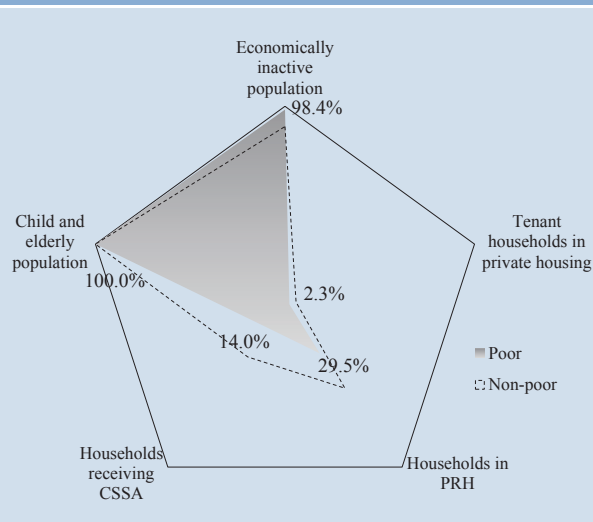
Major poverty figures		Selected statistical references of the poor	
Poor households ('000)	66.5	Average household size/employed members	2.6 / 0.2
Poor population ('000)	173.6	Median monthly household income (\$)	7,600
Poverty rate (%)	44.4	Median age	45
Total poverty gap (per annum, \$Mn)	2,012.6	LFPR (%)	11.5
Average poverty gap (per month, \$)	2,500	Unemployment rate (%)	35.9
		Demographic/Economic dependency ratio	1 225 / 9 910



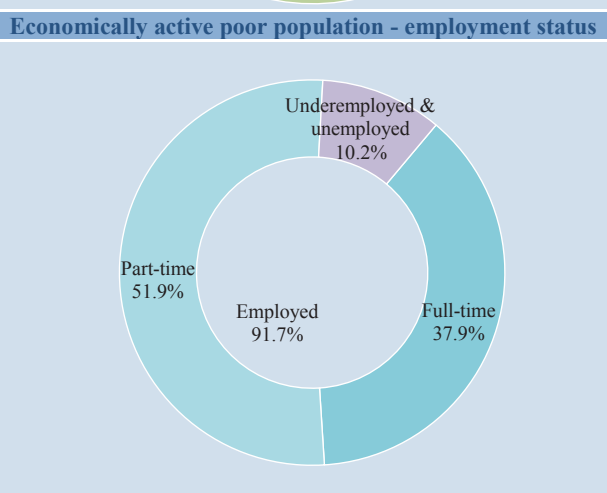
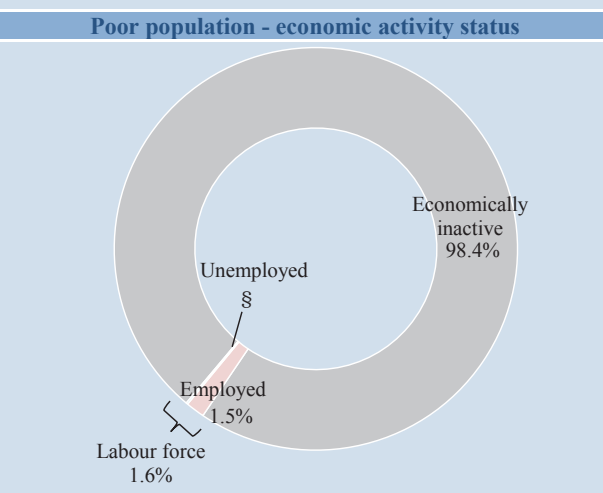
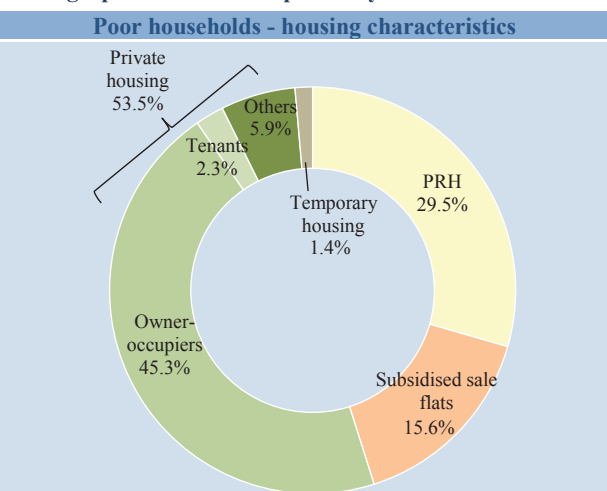
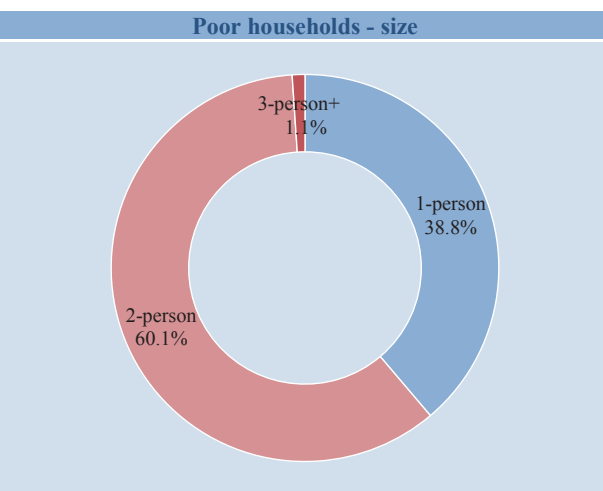
Source: General Household Survey, Census and Statistics Department.

### (iii) Elderly poor households

- Definition: domestic households in poverty with all members aged 65 and above.
- Elderly poor households comprised mostly singleton and 2-person households. Most (98.4%) of these elders were economically inactive.
- Owner-occupiers in private housing accounted for a visibly higher proportion of the overall elderly poor households than other household groups, and most of them were without mortgages and loans. This suggests a difference in assets conditions between elderly poor households and other poor household groups.
- Poverty rate of elderly households fell by 2.1 percentage points over a year ago, a notable improvement in the poverty situation.



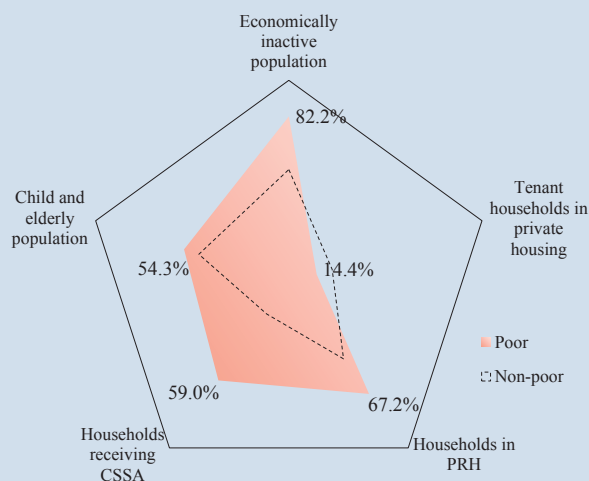
Major poverty figures		Selected statistical references of the poor	
Poor households ('000)	112.4	Average household size/employed members	1.6 / @
Poor population ('000)	182.4	Median monthly household income (\$)	3,200
Poverty rate (%)	46.9	Median age	75
Total poverty gap (per annum, \$Mn)	3,997.7	LFPR (%)	1.6
Average poverty gap (per month, \$)	3,000	Unemployment rate (%)	§
		Demographic/Economic dependency ratio	n.a. / 59 767



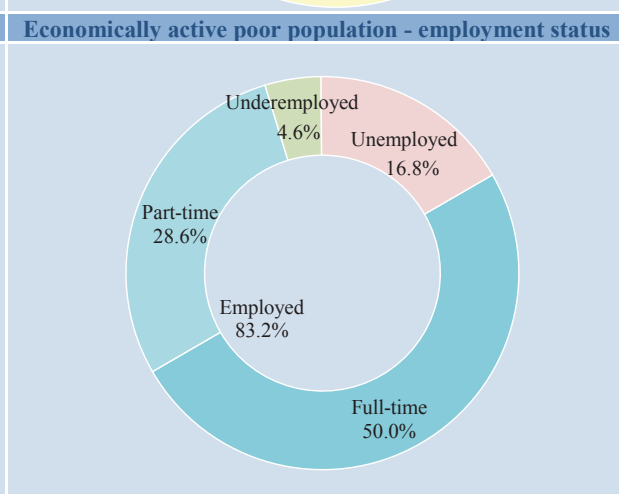
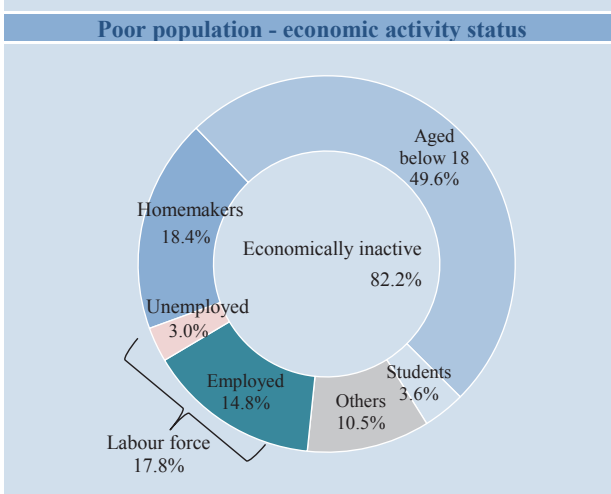
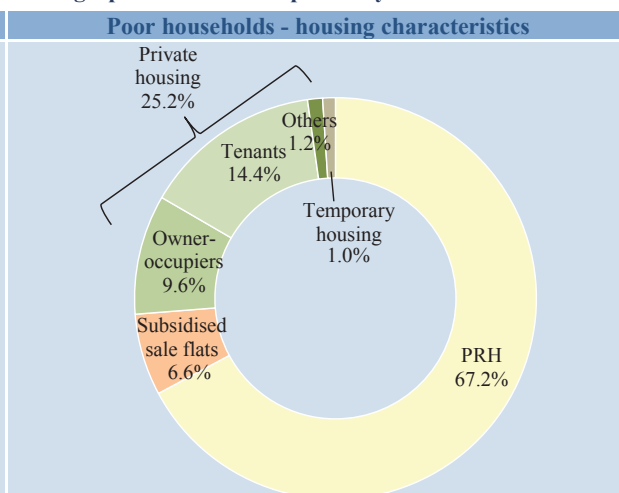
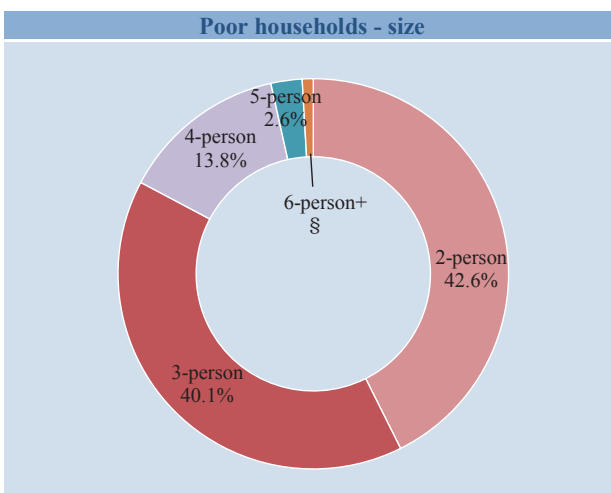
Notes: (§) Not released due to large sampling errors. (@) Less than 0.05.  
Source: General Household Survey, Census and Statistics Department.

### (iv) Single-parent poor households

- Definition: domestic households in poverty with at least one widowed, divorced, separated or unmarried member living with children aged below 18.
- Single-parent poor households were mostly 2- and 3-person households. Only 17.8% of the household members were economically active, and the proportion of part-time / underemployed among the working population was high (40.0%).
- These households were mostly in PRH (67.2%) and CSSA-receiving (59.0%). Both ratios were relatively high as compared to other selected socio-economic household groups.
- Poverty rate of single-parent households fell slightly by 0.4 percentage point over a year ago, a slight improvement in the poverty situation.



Major poverty figures		Selected statistical references of the poor	
Poor households ('000)	25.7	Average household size/employed members	2.8 / 0.4
Poor population ('000)	72.1	Median monthly household income (\$)	8,000
Poverty rate (%)	36.4	Median age	18
Total poverty gap (per annum, \$Mn)	995.1	LFPR (%)	27.8
Average poverty gap (per month, \$)	3,200	Unemployment rate (%)	16.8
		Demographic/Economic dependency ratio	1 186 / 4 617

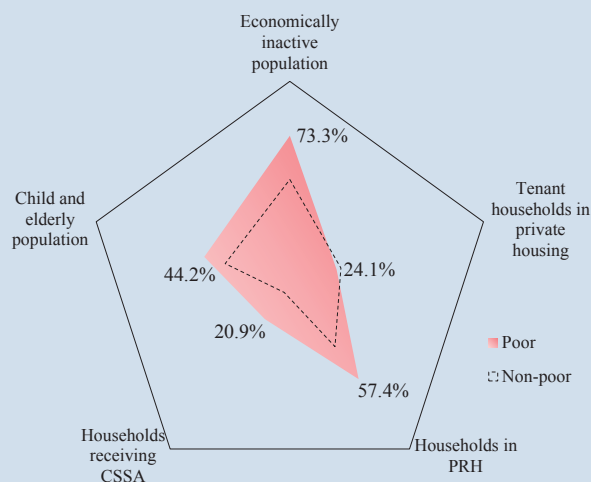


Note: (\$) Not released due to large sampling errors.

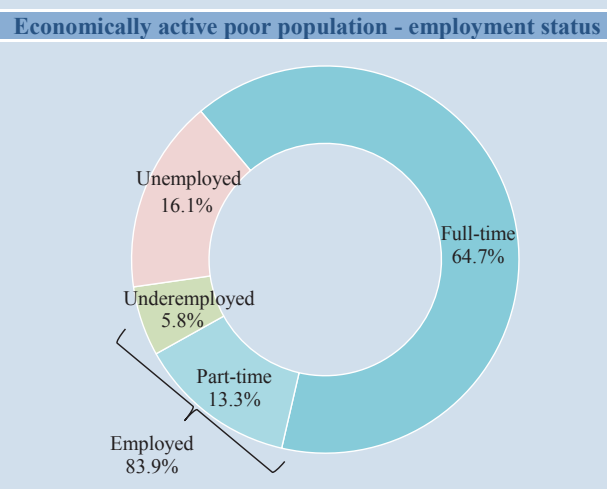
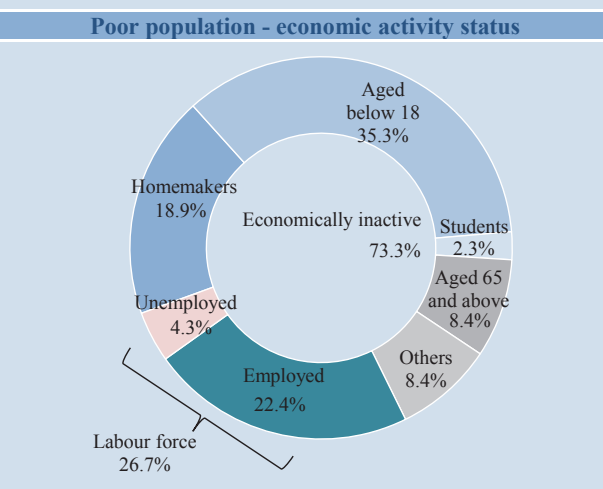
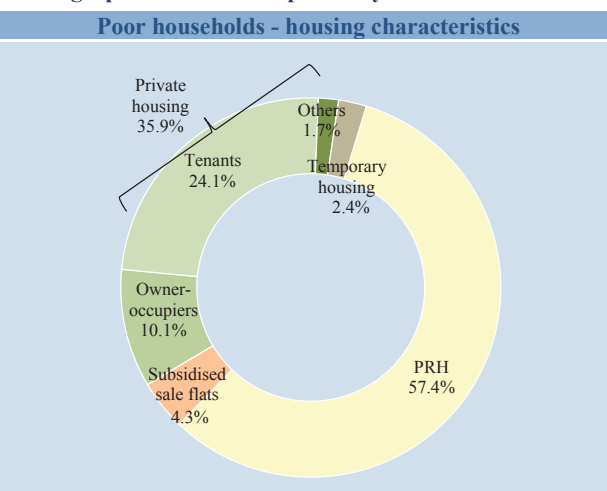
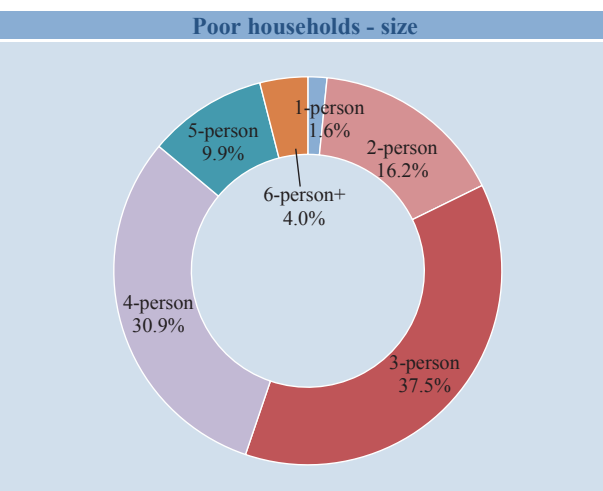
Source: General Household Survey, Census and Statistics Department.

### (v) New-arrival poor households

- Definition: domestic households in poverty with at least one member from the Mainland having resided in Hong Kong for less than seven years.
- New-arrival poor households were mostly 3- and 4-person households. The LFPR was relatively high among the selected household groups. However, as the proportion of higher-skilled workers was low, their household incomes were still relatively low.
- The proportions of the new-arrival poor households residing in PRH (57.4%) and being tenants in private housing (24.1%) were relatively high among poor households.
- Poverty rate of new-arrival households fell by 4.1 percentage points over a year ago, a notable improvement in the poverty situation.



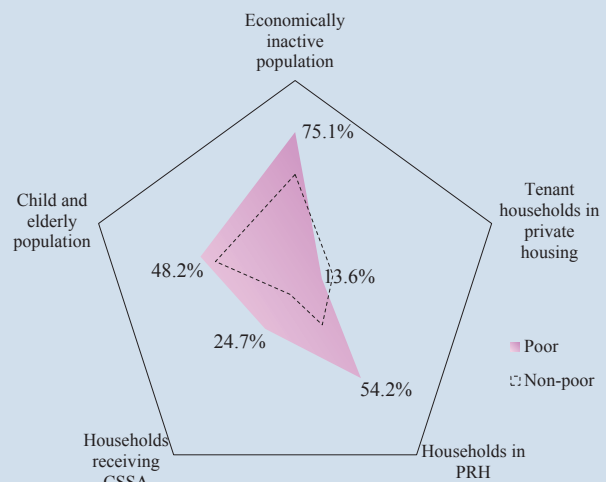
Major poverty figures		Selected statistical references of the poor	
Poor households ('000)	24.4	Average household size/employed members	3.4 / 0.8
Poor population ('000)	83.9	Median monthly household income (\$)	10,800
Poverty rate (%)	32.4	Median age	34
Total poverty gap (per annum, \$Mn)	1,035.1	LFPR (%)	39.1
Average poverty gap (per month, \$)	3,500	Unemployment rate (%)	16.1
		Demographic/Economic dependency ratio	792 / 2 741



Source: General Household Survey, Census and Statistics Department.

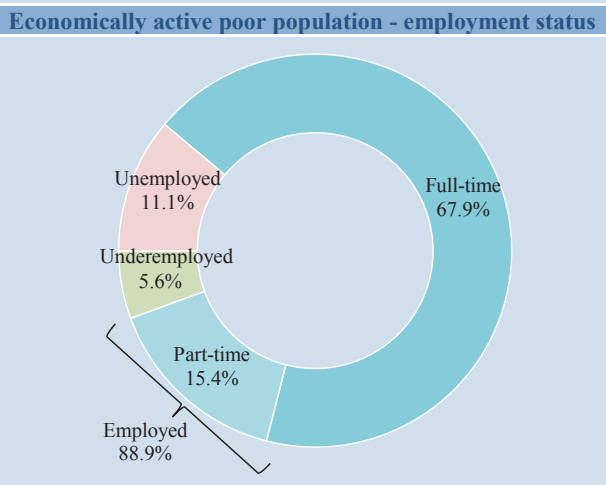
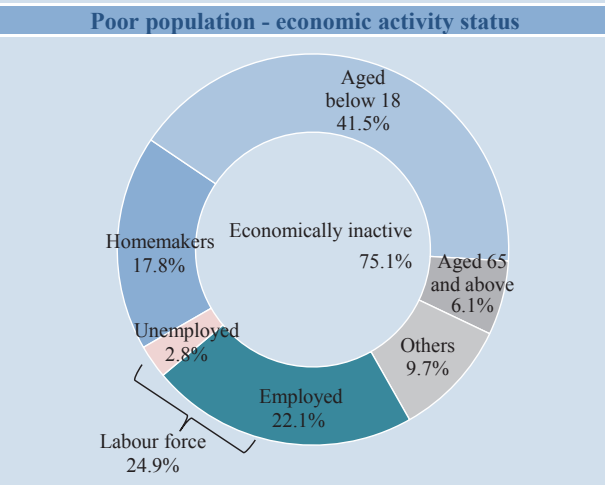
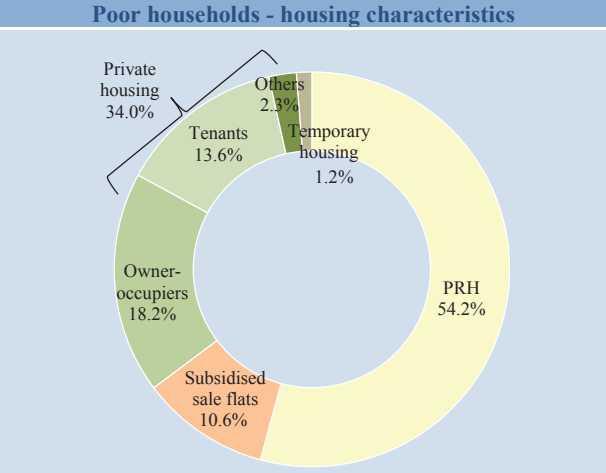
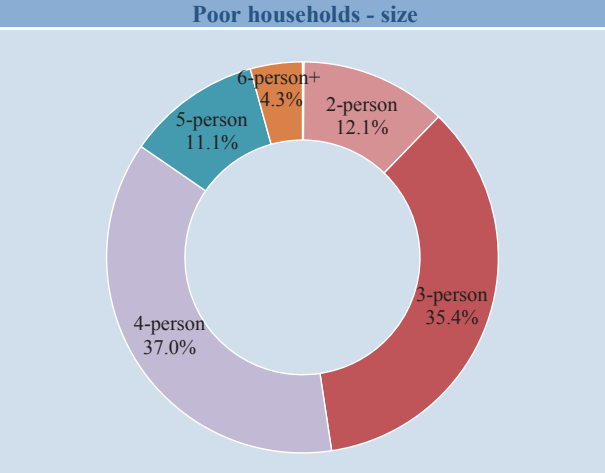
**(vi) Poor households with children**

- Definition: domestic households in poverty with at least one member aged below 18.
- Poor households with children comprised mostly 3- and 4-person households. Average household size was relatively large. About three-fourths of the household members were economically inactive, conceivably due to the childcare responsibilities of working age members.
- 54.2% of poor households with children were residing in PRH. The share was higher than that of overall poor households (40.7%).
- Poverty rate of households with children edged down by 0.3 percentage point over a year ago, a slight improvement in the poverty situation.



Major poverty figures	
Poor households ('000)	121.4
Poor population ('000)	438.1
Poverty rate (%)	16.2
Total poverty gap (per annum, \$Mn)	5,181.4
Average poverty gap (per month, \$)	3,600

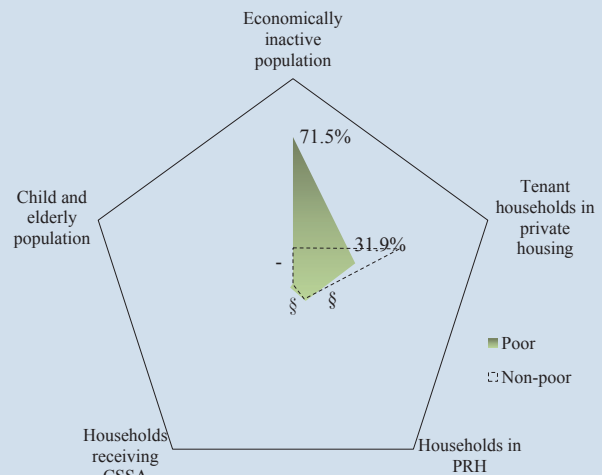
Selected statistical references of the poor	
Average household size/employed members	3.6 / 0.8
Median monthly household income (\$)	11,400
Median age	31
LFPR (%)	36.9
Unemployment rate (%)	11.1
Demographic/Economic dependency ratio	930 / 3 019



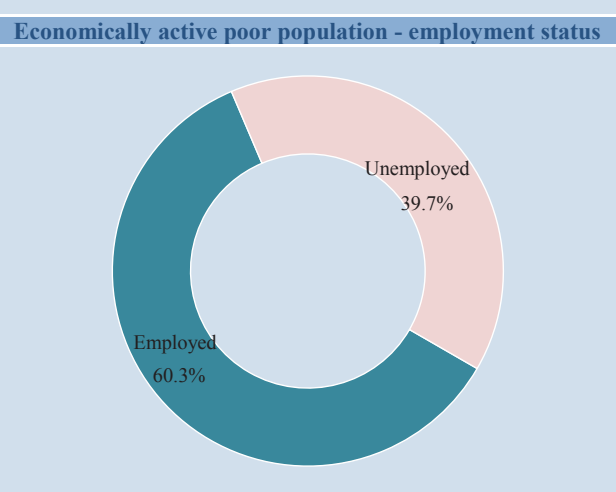
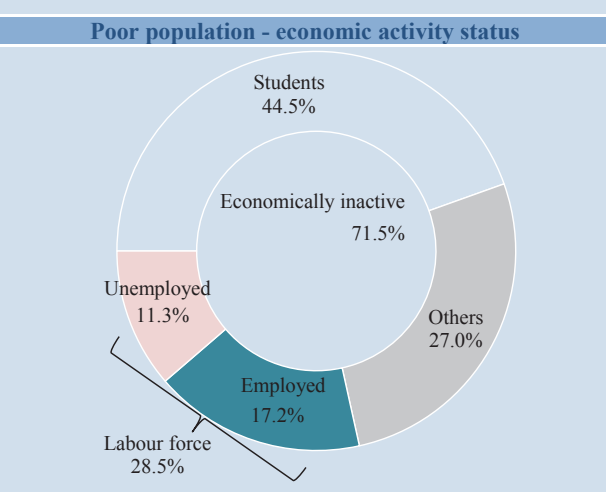
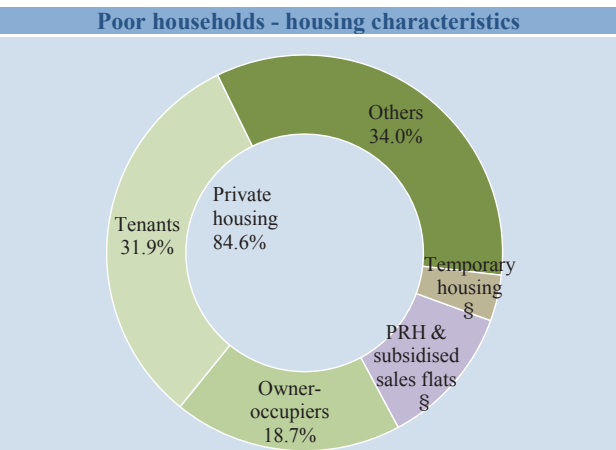
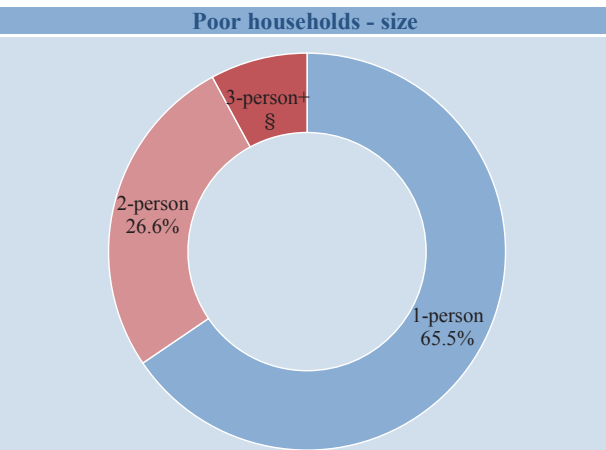
Source: General Household Survey, Census and Statistics Department.

### (vii) Youth poor households

- Definition: domestic households in poverty with all members aged 18-29.
- Both the number of youth poor households and the size of the poor population therein were small. They comprised mostly singleton and 2-person households. A majority of the members were economically inactive, among whom were mostly students. The unemployment rate of labour force therein stood high at 39.7%.
- The proportion (84.6%) of the group residing in private housing was relatively high. Among them, the share of “others” (including “rent-free” (e.g. parent-provided) and “provided by employers” etc.) was also particularly high.
- Poverty rate of youth households edged down by 0.2 percentage point over a year ago, a slight improvement in the poverty situation.



Major poverty figures		Selected statistical references of the poor	
Poor households ('000)	1.8	Average household size/employed members	1.5 / 0.3
Poor population ('000)	2.6	Median monthly household income (\$)	2,300
Poverty rate (%)	3.8	Median age	24
Total poverty gap (per annum, \$Mn)	62.6	LFPR (%)	28.5
Average poverty gap (per month, \$)	3,000	Unemployment rate (%)	39.7
		Demographic/Economic dependency ratio	n.a. / 2 513

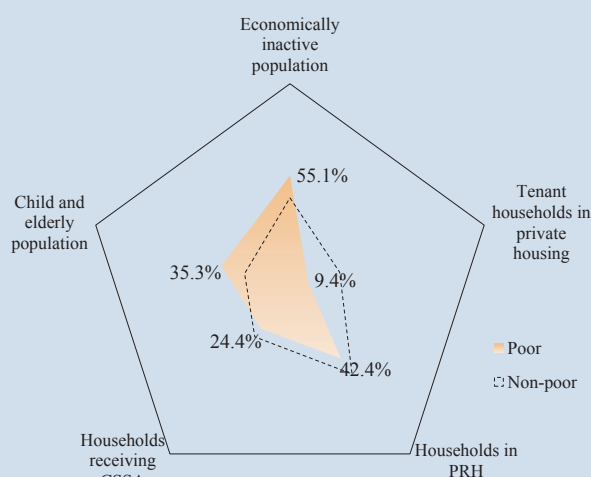


Note: (§) Not released due to large sampling errors. (-) Not applicable.  
Source: General Household Survey, Census and Statistics Department.

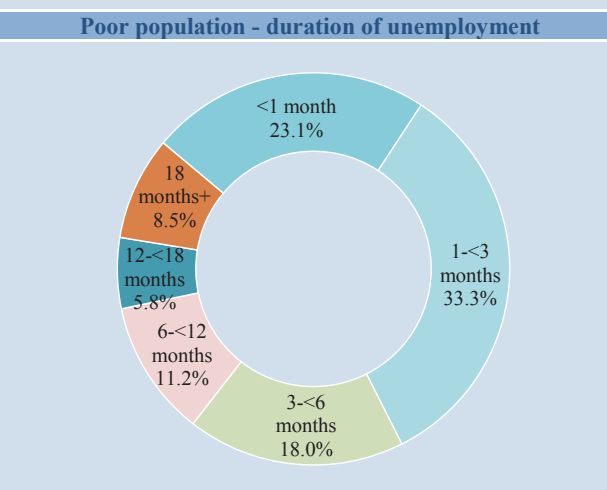
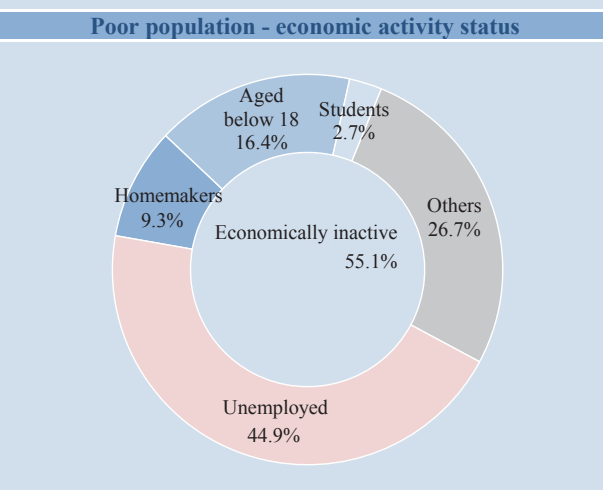
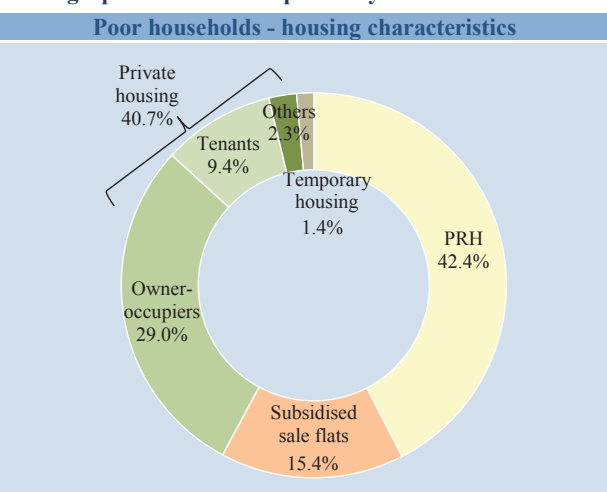
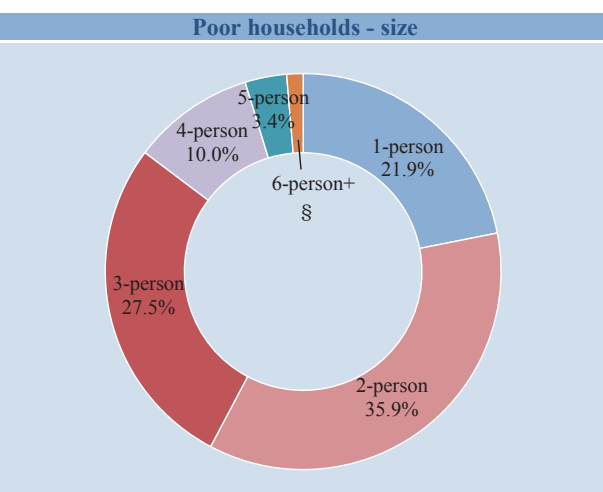


### (viii) Unemployed poor households

- Definition: domestic households in poverty with all economically active members being unemployed.
- Unemployed poor households were mostly 1-to-3-person households. The proportion of CSSA households was not low (24.4%), conceivably due to their receipt of unemployment CSSA.
- One-fourth (25.6%) of the unemployed were long-term unemployed (viz. unemployed for 6 months and above).
- The proportions of residing in PRH (42.4%) and in private housing as owner-occupiers (29.0%) were similar to those of overall households.
- Poverty rate of unemployed households rose by 1.9 percentage points over a year ago, falling behind other household groups. This is conceivably due to the rise in poverty line driven by favourable employment situation.



Major poverty figures		Selected statistical references of the poor	
Poor households ('000)	18.7	Average household size/employed members	2.4 / n.a.
Poor population ('000)	45.1	Median monthly household income (\$)	4,300
Poverty rate (%)	68.5	Median age	45
Total poverty gap (per annum, \$Mn)	1,201.8	LFPR (%)	51.0
Average poverty gap (per month, \$)	5,400	Unemployment rate (%)	100.0
		Demographic/Economic dependency ratio	546 / 1 225

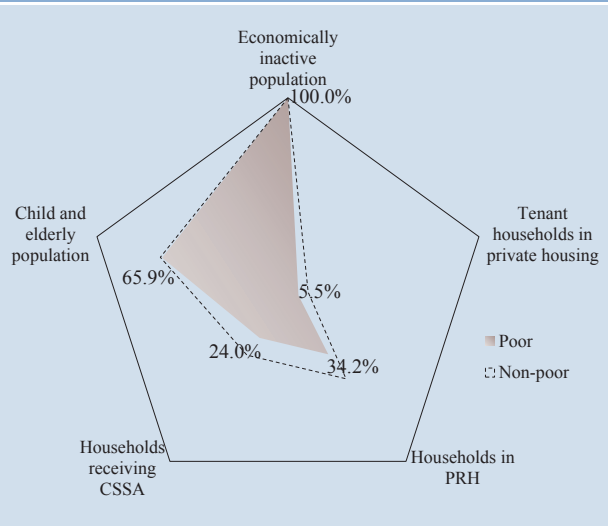


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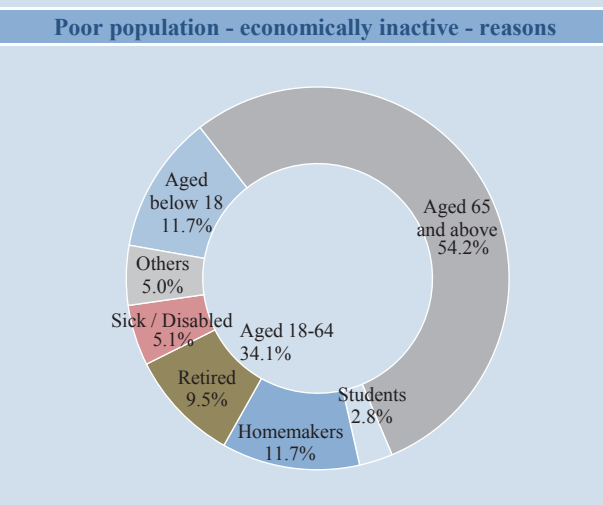
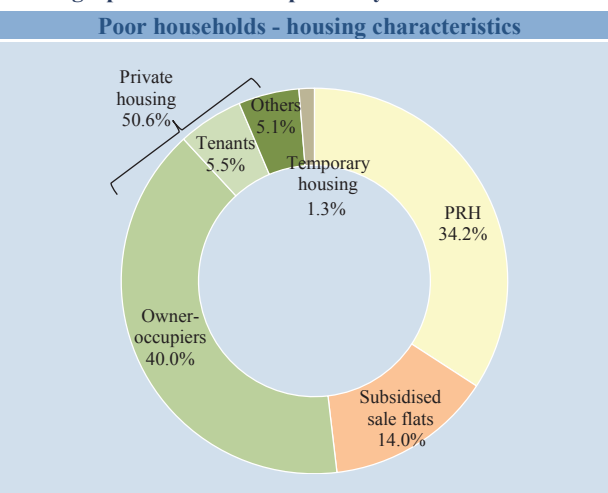
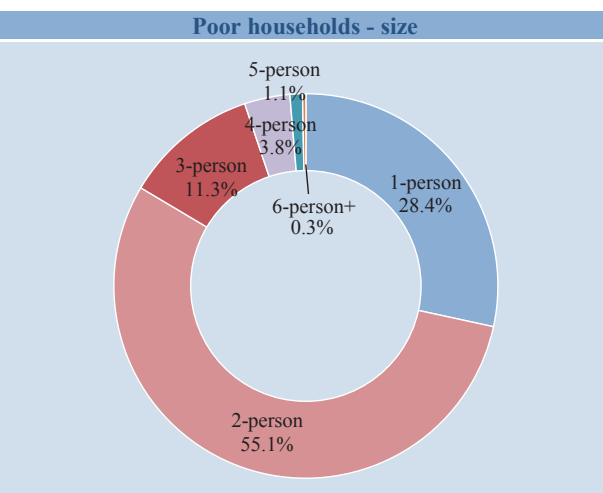
Source: General Household Survey, Census and Statistics Department.

### (ix) Economically inactive poor households

- Definition: domestic households in poverty with all members being economically inactive.
- Over half (54.2%) of the members in economically inactive poor households were elders. Many of the households were singleton and 2-person elderly households.
- One-third (34.2%) of economically inactive poor households were residing in PRH, while 40% were residing in private housing as owner-occupiers. The situation was similar to that of elderly poor households.
- Poverty rate of economically inactive households fell by 0.6 percentage point over a year ago, an improvement in the poverty situation.



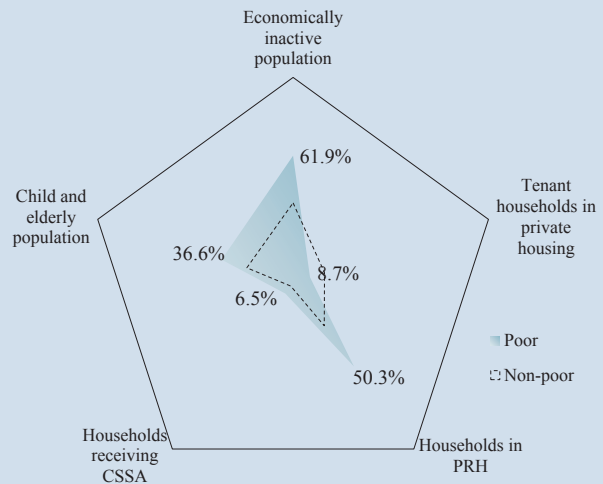
Major poverty figures		Selected statistical references of the poor	
Poor households ('000)	218.3	Average household size/employed members	1.9 / n.a.
Poor population ('000)	425.3	Median monthly household income (\$)	4,100
Poverty rate (%)	57.6	Median age	66
Total poverty gap (per annum, \$Mn)	10,025.7	LFPR (%)	n.a.
Average poverty gap (per month, \$)	3,800	Unemployment rate (%)	n.a.
		Demographic/Economic dependency ratio	1 930 / n.a.



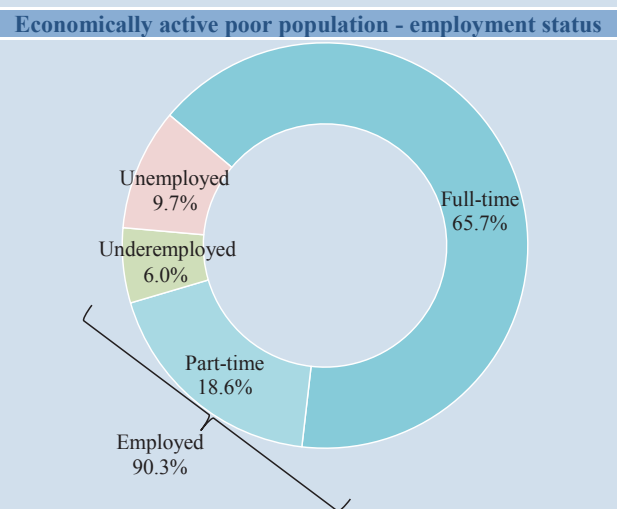
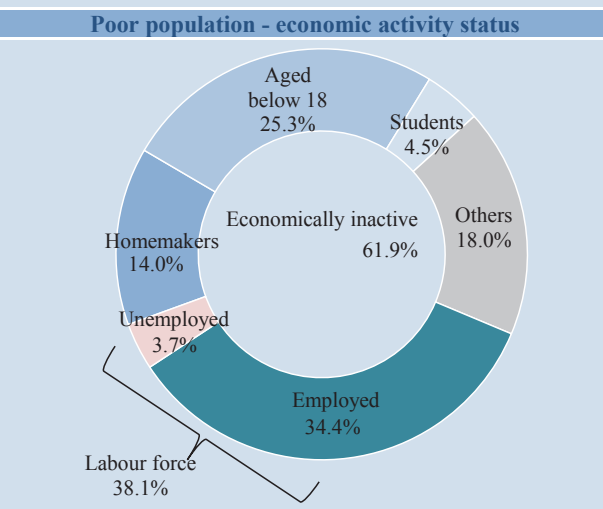
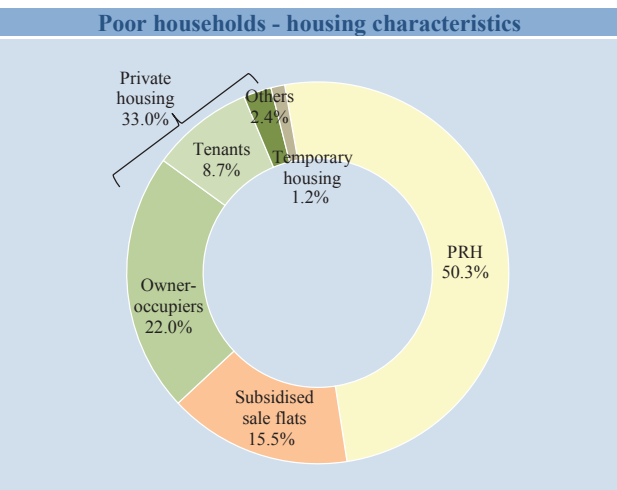
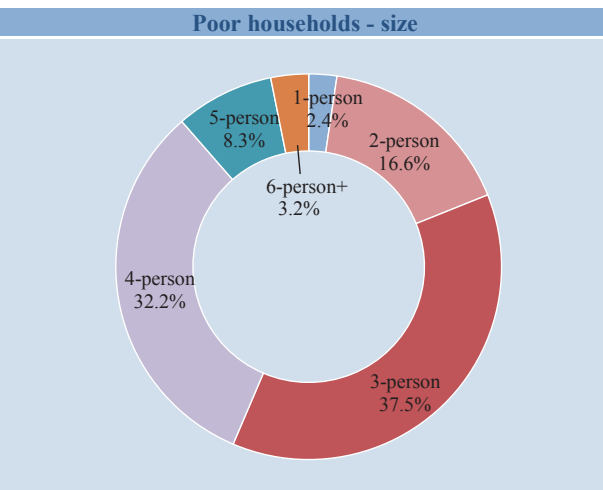
Source: General Household Survey, Census and Statistics Department.

### (x) Working poor households

- Definition: domestic households in poverty with at least one employed member excluding FDHs.
- Working poor households comprised mostly 3- and 4-person households. Despite having at least one household member in employment, the average household size was significantly higher than that of the overall poor households.
- About half (50.3%) of the working poor households were residing in PRH, while 22.0% of them were owner-occupiers in private housing.
- Poverty rate of working poor households edged down by 0.4 percentage point over a year ago, a slight improvement in the poverty situation.



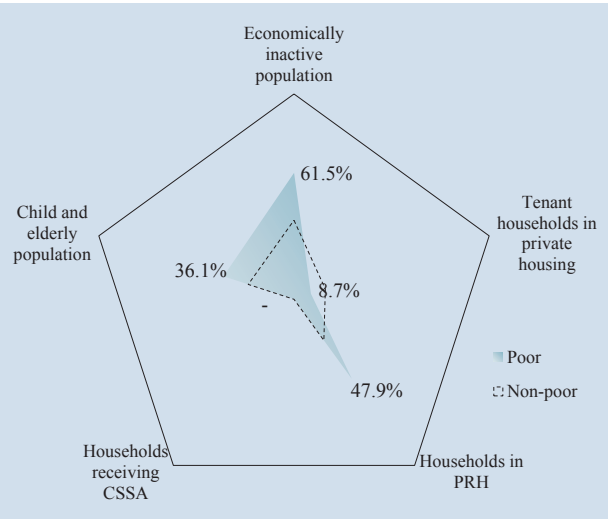
Major poverty figures		Selected statistical references of the poor	
Poor households ('000)	145.6	Average household size/employed members	3.4 / 1.2
Poor population ('000)	491.7	Median monthly household income (\$)	11,600
Poverty rate (%)	8.3	Median age	39
Total poverty gap (per annum, \$Mn)	4,592.3	LFPR (%)	47.6
Average poverty gap (per month, \$)	2,600	Unemployment rate (%)	9.7
		Demographic/Economic dependency ratio	577 / 1 623



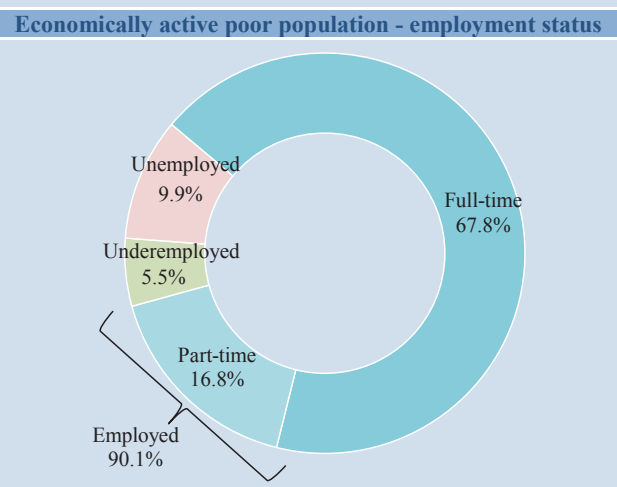
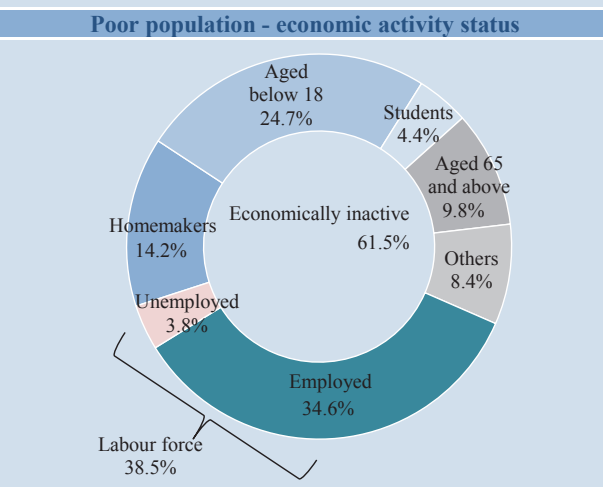
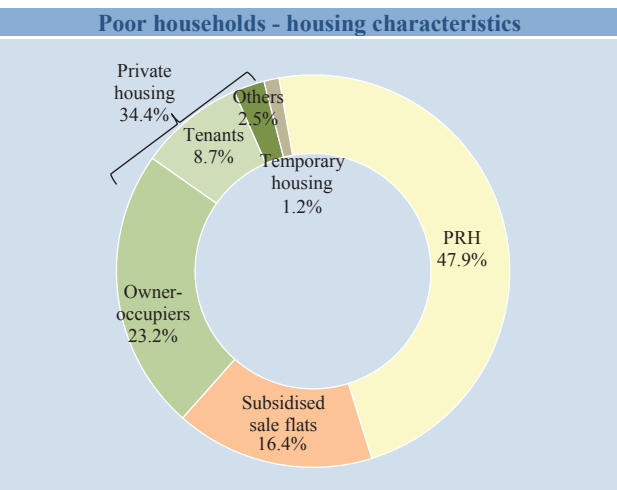
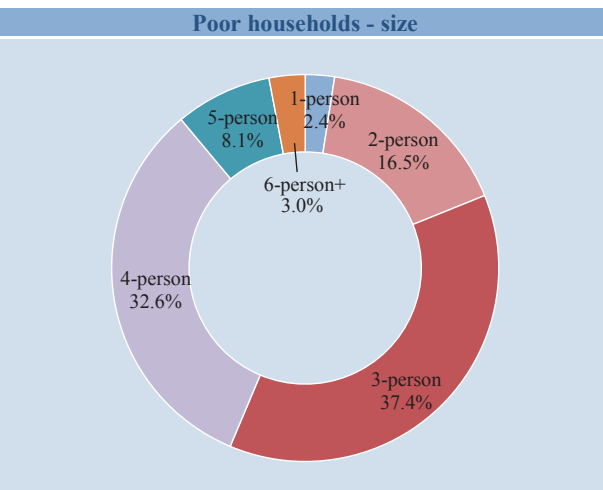
Source: General Household Survey, Census and Statistics Department.

**(xi) Non-CSSA working poor households**

- Definition: working poor domestic households, excluding CSSA domestic households.
- Households in this group were similar to the overall working poor households in terms of socio-economic characteristics, housing types and employment status.
- Similar to the overall working poor households, this group faced the following difficulty: most (81.1%) were 3-person-and-above households. However, on average, they had only one working member who needed to support two jobless members, reflecting a heavy family burden.
- Poverty rate of non-CSSA working households edged down by 0.2 percentage point over a year ago, a slight improvement in the poverty situation.



Major poverty figures		Selected statistical references of the poor	
Poor households ('000)	136.2	Average household size/employed members	3.4 / 1.2
Poor population ('000)	459.1	Median monthly household income (\$)	11,600
Poverty rate (%)	7.9	Median age	39
Total poverty gap (per annum, \$Mn)	4,301.9	LFPR (%)	47.9
Average poverty gap (per month, \$)	2,600	Unemployment rate (%)	9.9
		Demographic/Economic dependency ratio	566 / 1 601

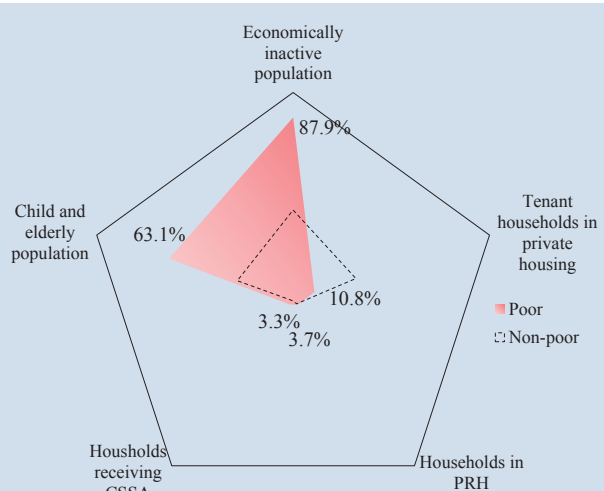


Note: (-) Not applicable.  
Source: General Household Survey, Census and Statistics Department.

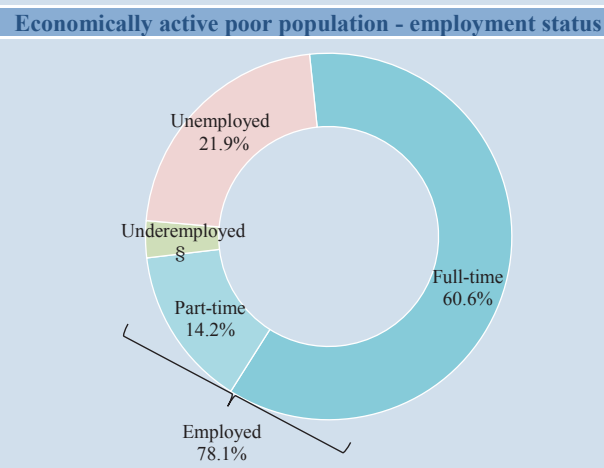
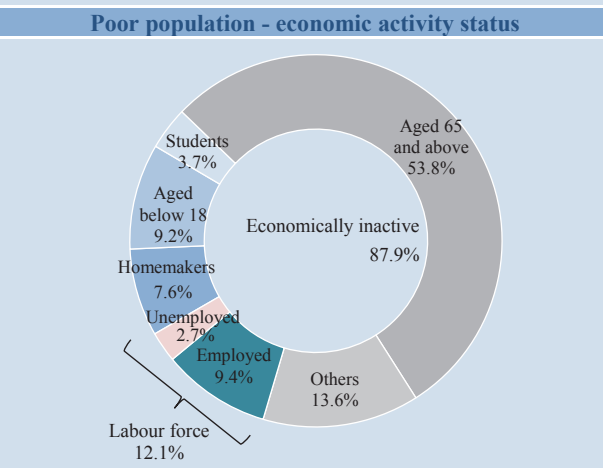
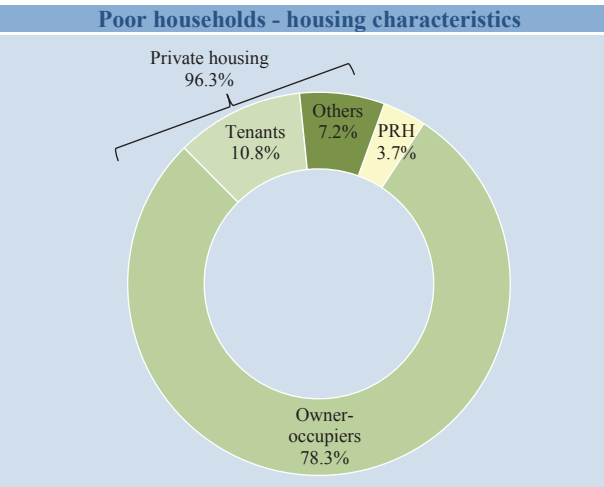
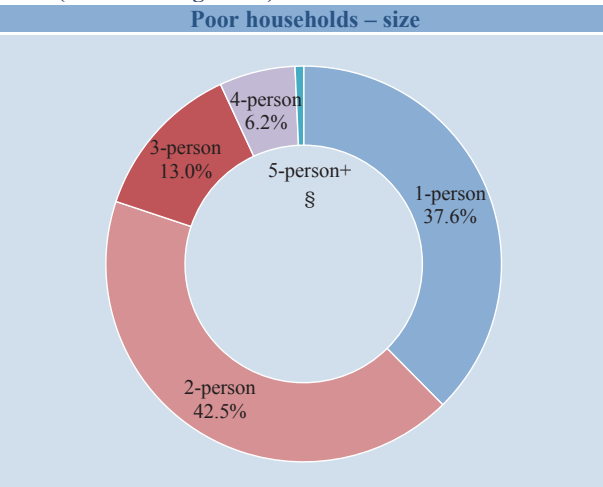
### 3.V A Synopsis of Poverty Situation after Recurrent Cash Intervention by District Council District

#### (i) Central and Western

- Among the poor population in Central and Western, the proportion of elders was relatively higher, with the median age reaching 65. The majority (87.9%) of the poor were economically inactive.
- Only 3.7% of the poor households were in PRH. 78.3% were owner-occupiers in private housing.
- The proportion of the poor households receiving CSSA was low (3.3%) whereas less than 10% of the non-CSSA poor households claimed to have financial needs.
- In 2014, the poverty rate of Central and Western, among the 18 districts, was only higher than Sai Kung. When compared to 2013, the poverty rate edged down by 0.1 percentage point.



Major poverty figures		Selected statistical references of the poor	
Poor households ('000)	12.6	Average household size/employed members	1.9 / 0.2
Poor population ('000)	23.9	Median monthly household income (\$)	1,900
Poverty rate (%)	11.0	Median age	65
Total poverty gap (per annum, \$Mn)	678.2	LFPR (%)	13.0
Average poverty gap (per month, \$)	4,500	Unemployment rate (%)	21.9
Ranking of 18 districts by poverty rate (in descending order)	17 / 18	Demographic/Economic dependency ratio	1 714 / 7 276

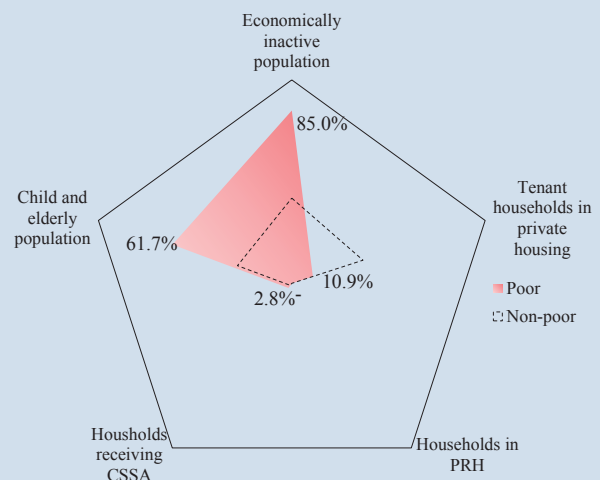


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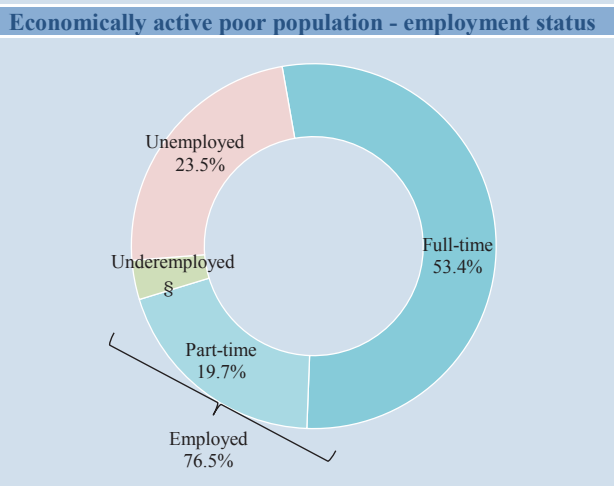
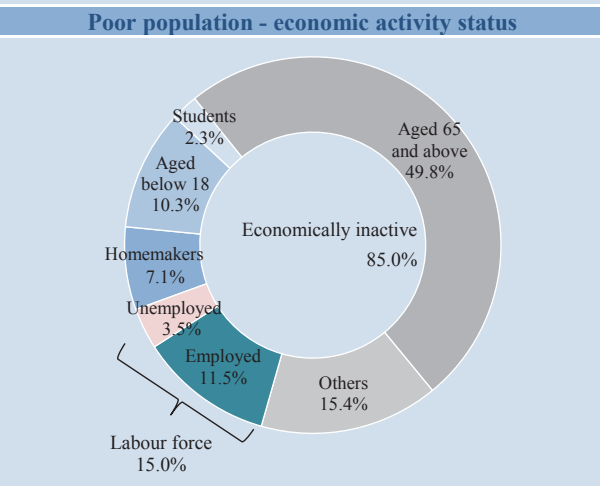
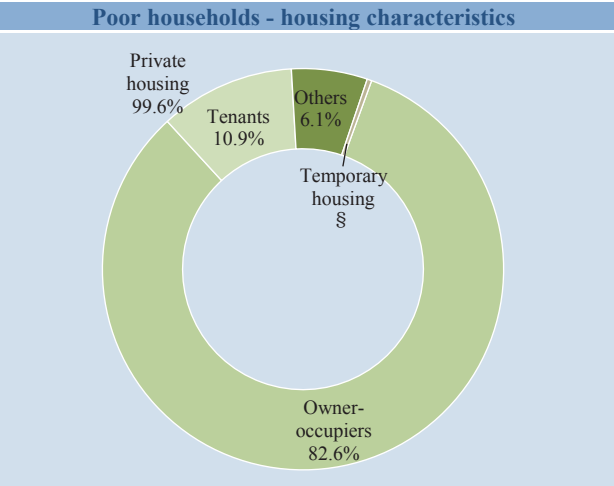
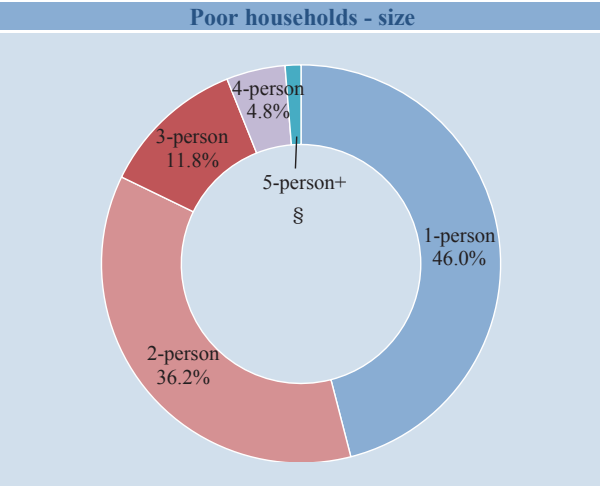
Source: General Household Survey, Census and Statistics Department.

**(ii) Wan Chai**

- Similar to the poverty situation in Central and Western, over half of the poor in Wan Chai were elders, with the median age as high as 65. Most of the poor were economically inactive and lacked employment earnings.
- 82.6% of the poor households lived in private housing as owner-occupiers, the highest among all districts. 95.0% of them were without mortgages and loans.
- 97.2% of the poor households did not receive CSSA, the highest among the 18 districts. Among them, 68.2% claimed to have no financial needs.
- In 2014, the poverty rate in Wan Chai rose 2.1 percentage points over a year ago, conceivably due to population ageing in the district. However, the poverty situation still ranked near the middle among the 18 districts.



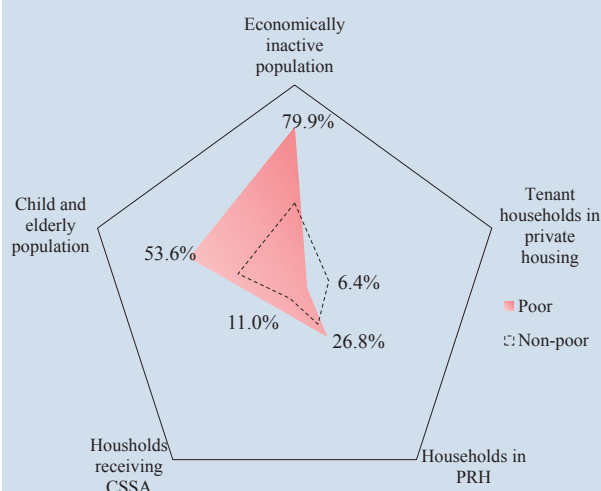
Major poverty figures		Selected statistical references of the poor	
Poor households ('000)	9.6	Average household size/employed members	1.8 / 0.2
Poor population ('000)	17.2	Median monthly household income (\$)	1,800
Poverty rate (%)	13.0	Median age	65
Total poverty gap (per annum, \$Mn)	488.4	LFPR (%)	16.1
Average poverty gap (per month, \$)	4,200	Unemployment rate (%)	23.5
Ranking of 18 districts by poverty rate (in descending order)	11 / 18	Demographic/Economic dependency ratio	1 614 / 5 653



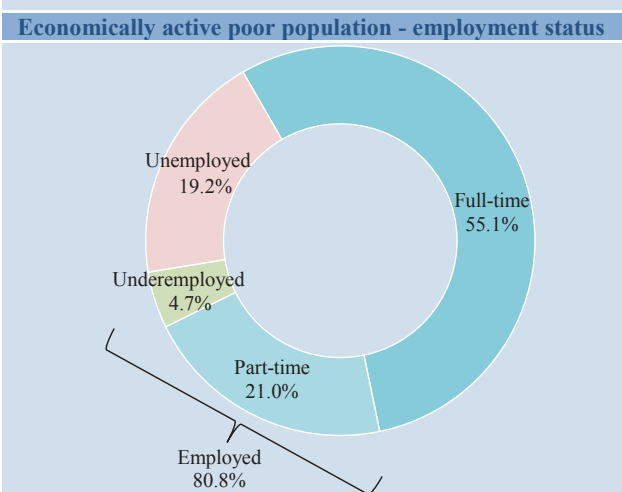
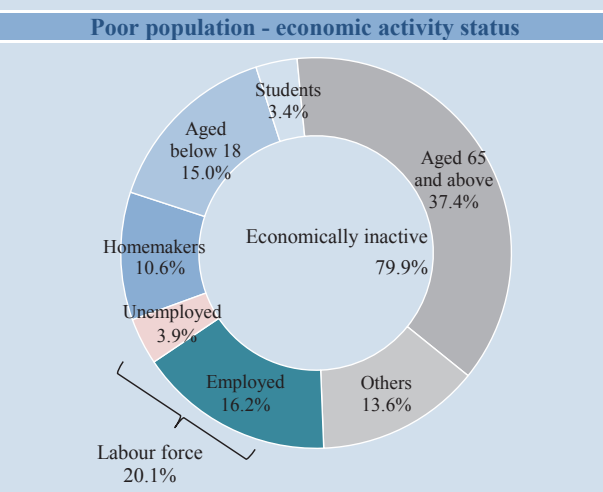
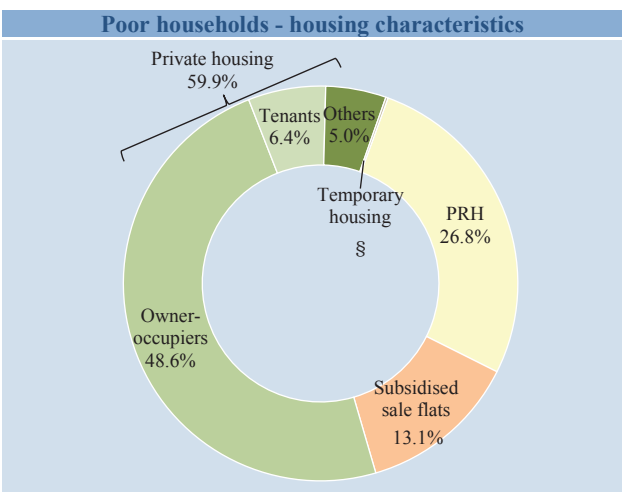
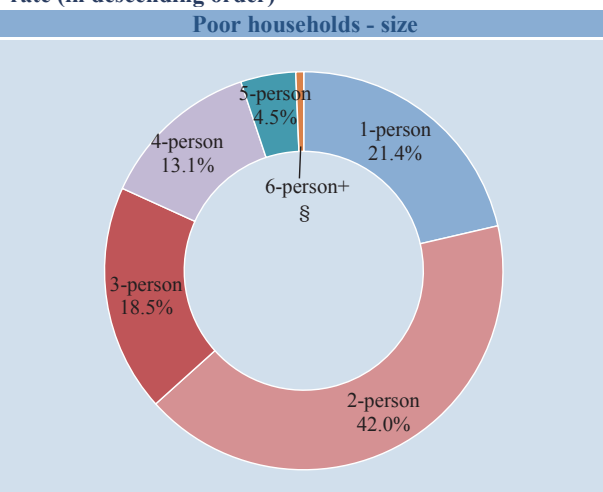
Notes: (§) Not released due to large sampling errors. (-) Not applicable.  
Source: General Household Survey, Census and Statistics Department.

### (iii) Eastern

- Despite having a lower proportion of elders than those in Central and Western and Wan Chai, the median age of the poor population in Eastern district still reached 58.
- Only one-fourth (26.8%) of poor households lived in PRH, while nearly half (48.6%) were owner-occupiers in private housing.
- The proportion of the poor households receiving CSSA was quite low (11.0%). Among the non-CSSA poor households, 58.9% claimed to have no financial needs.
- The poverty rate of Eastern district in 2014 edged up by 0.1 percentage point over a year ago. The poverty situation was similar to that in 2013, staying near the middle among the 18 districts.



Major poverty figures		Selected statistical references of the poor	
Poor households ('000)	29.9	Average household size/employed members	2.4 / 0.4
Poor population ('000)	71.5	Median monthly household income (\$)	5,300
Poverty rate (%)	13.3	Median age	58
Total poverty gap (per annum, \$Mn)	1,427.1	LFPR (%)	22.7
Average poverty gap (per month, \$)	4,000	Unemployment rate (%)	19.2
Ranking of 18 districts by poverty rate (in descending order)	10 / 18	Demographic/Economic dependency ratio	1 153 / 3 983

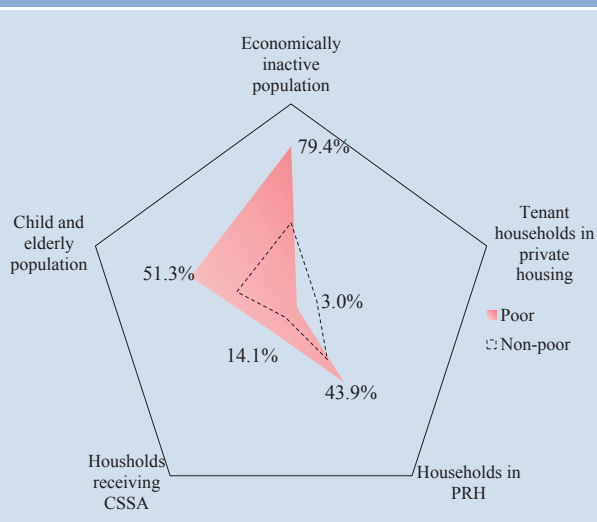


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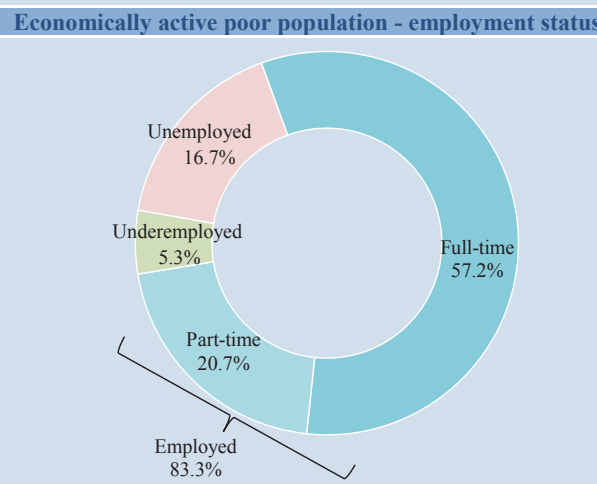
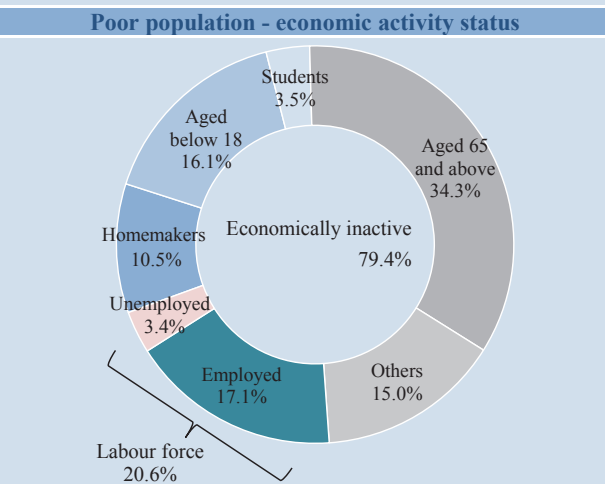
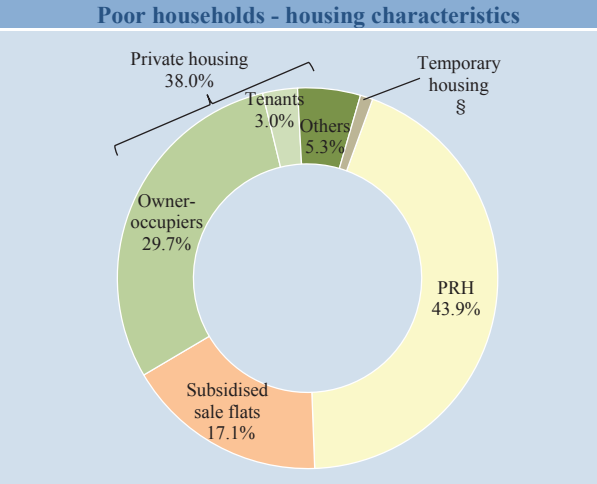
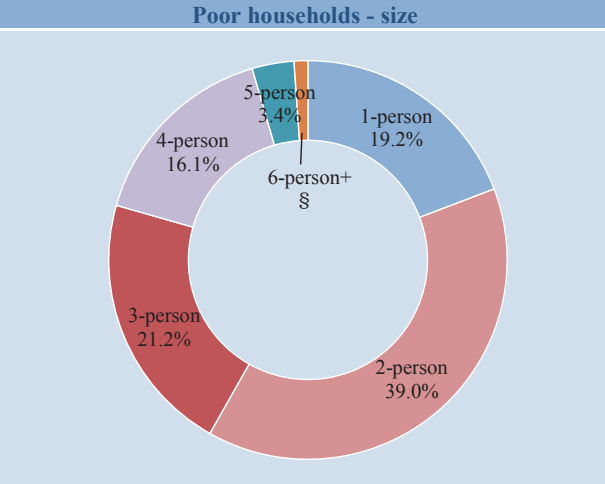
Source: General Household Survey, Census and Statistics Department.

### (iv) Southern

- As compared to other districts on Hong Kong Island, the poor population in Southern district was slightly younger, though the median age still reached 55. The proportion of working households (35.5%) was also relatively higher.
- Among the four Hong Kong Island districts, Southern district has the highest proportion of poor households residing in PRH (43.9%) and the lowest in owner-occupied private housing (29.7%).
- 85.9% of the poor households were not receiving CSSA, of which 55.4% reported to have no financial needs.
- The poverty rate of Southern district in 2014 was the third lowest among the 18 districts. When compared with 2013, the poverty situation was largely the same, with the poverty rate edged down by 0.1 percentage point.



Major poverty figures		Selected statistical references of the poor	
Poor households ('000)	11.0	Average household size/employed members	2.5 / 0.4
Poor population ('000)	27.4	Median monthly household income (\$)	6,600
Poverty rate (%)	11.1	Median age	55
Total poverty gap (per annum, \$Mn)	480.1	LFPR (%)	23.2
Average poverty gap (per month, \$)	3,600	Unemployment rate (%)	16.7
Ranking of 18 districts by poverty rate (in descending order)	16 / 18	Demographic/Economic dependency ratio	1 055 / 3 859



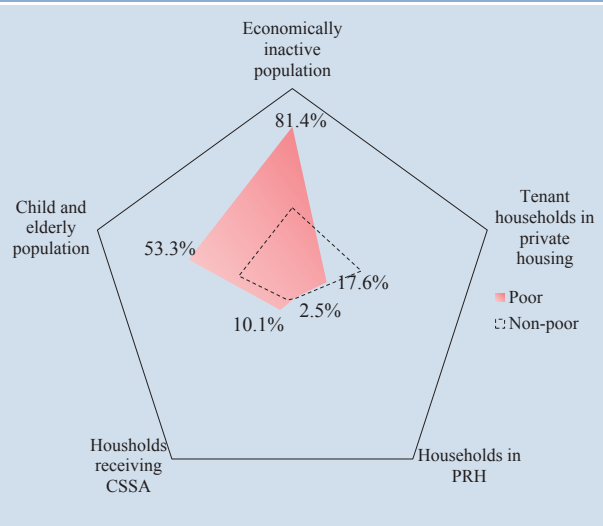
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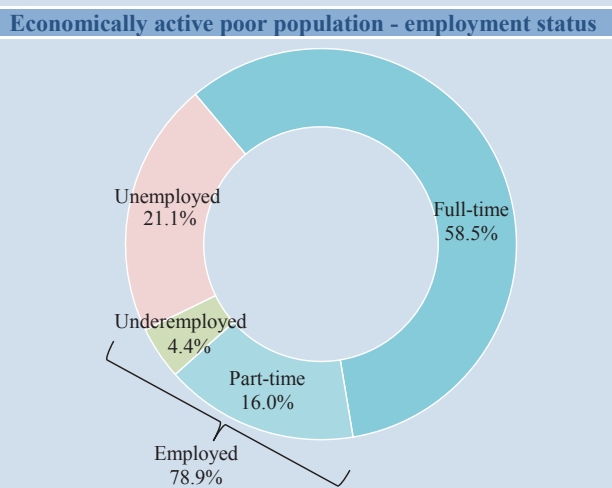
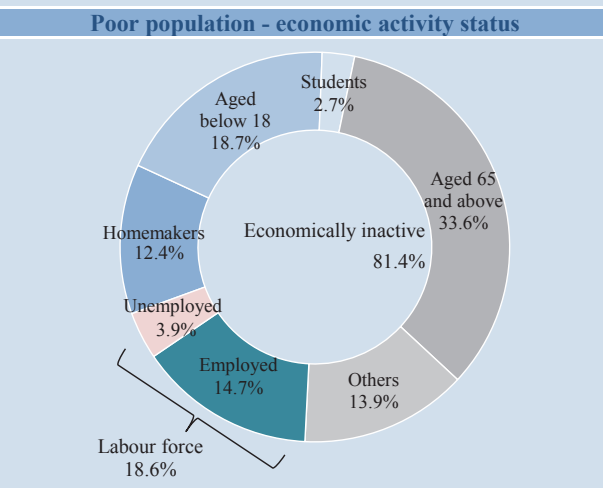
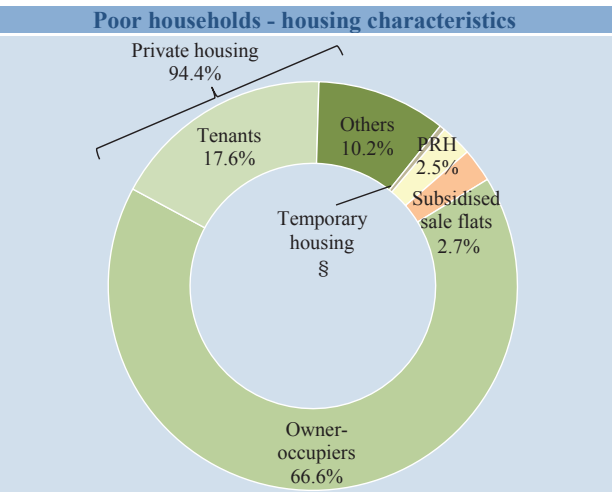
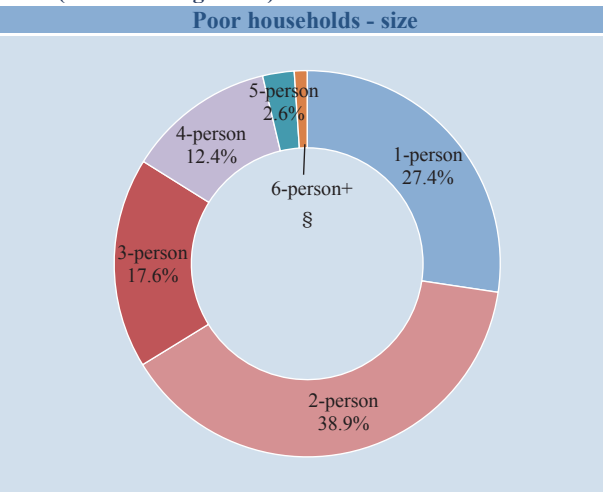


**(v) Yau Tsim Mong**

- Among poor households in Yau Tsim Mong, the proportions of economically inactive (66.7%) and elderly households (36.0%) were relatively high.
- Among the poor households, 66.6% were owner-occupiers, and 17.6% were tenants in private housing (highest among the 18 districts).
- Only 10.1% of the poor households were receiving CSSA, a relatively low proportion.
- The poverty rate of Yau Tsim Mong edged down by 0.1 percentage point over a year ago in 2014, with the poverty situation remaining largely the same. However, the poverty situation was still relatively severe when compared to other districts.



Major poverty figures		Selected statistical references of the poor	
Poor households ('000)	19.3	Average household size/employed members	2.3 / 0.3
Poor population ('000)	44.2	Median monthly household income (\$)	4,400
Poverty rate (%)	15.1	Median age	52
Total poverty gap (per annum, \$Mn)	867.5	LFPR (%)	22.0
Average poverty gap (per month, \$)	3,700	Unemployment rate (%)	21.1
Ranking of 18 districts by poverty rate (in descending order)	6 / 18	Demographic/Economic dependency ratio	1 139 / 4 369

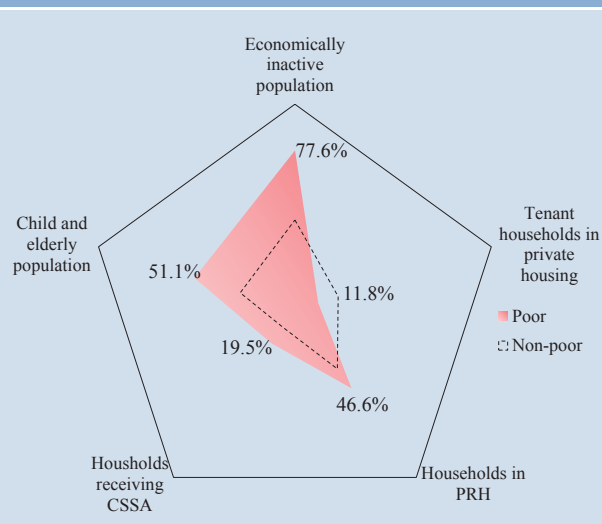


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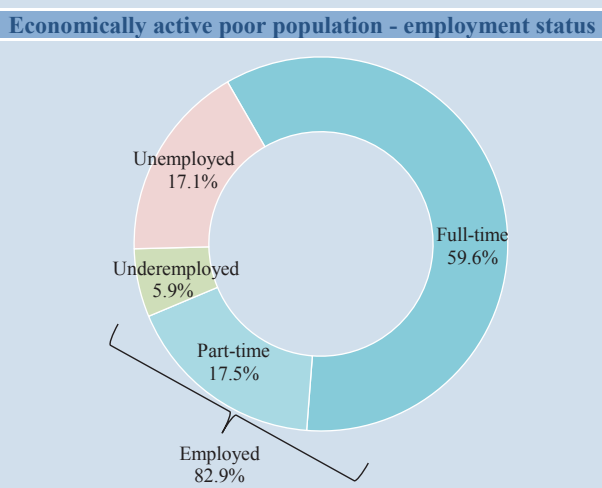
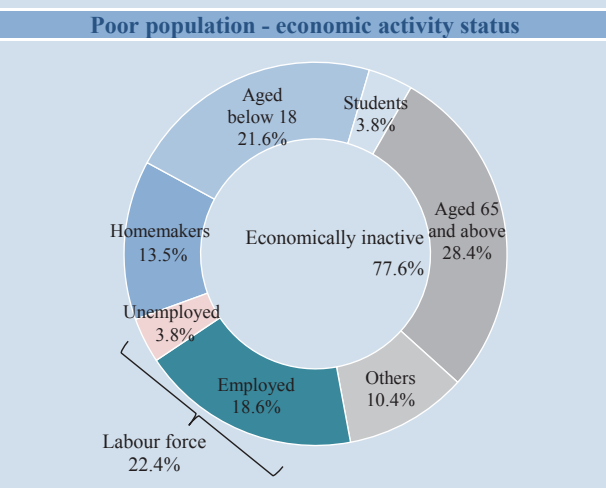
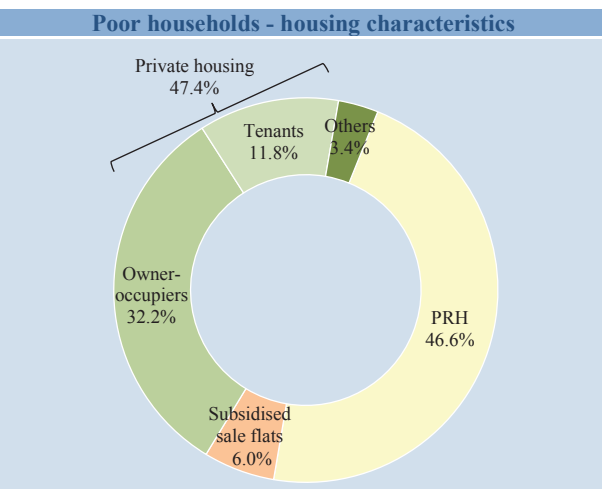
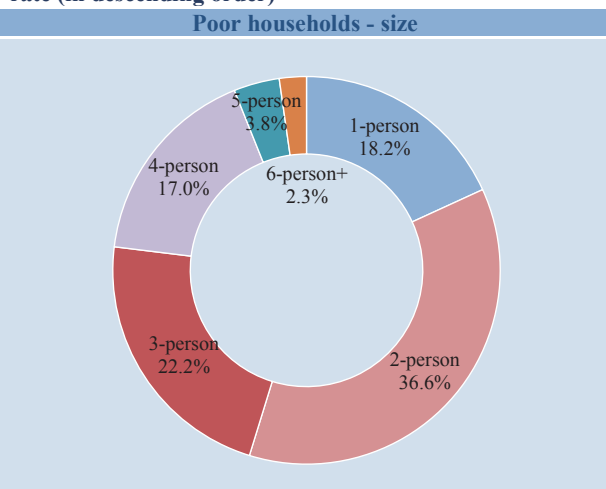
Source: General Household Survey, Census and Statistics Department.

### (vi) Sham Shui Po

- The proportion of new-arrival households among poor households in Sham Shui Po was the highest among all districts, at 10.6%. The proportion of unemployed households was also high, at 5.6%.
- The proportions of with-children and single-parent poor households were not low, at 36.3% and 7.8% respectively. They were both higher than those of overall poor households at 31.7% and 6.7% respectively.
- The proportion of the poor households receiving CSSA was 19.5%, higher than that of overall poor households at 17.4%.
- The poverty rate of Sham Shui Po in 2014 edged down by 0.4 percentage point over a year ago, but was still the highest among all districts. The poverty situation was severe.



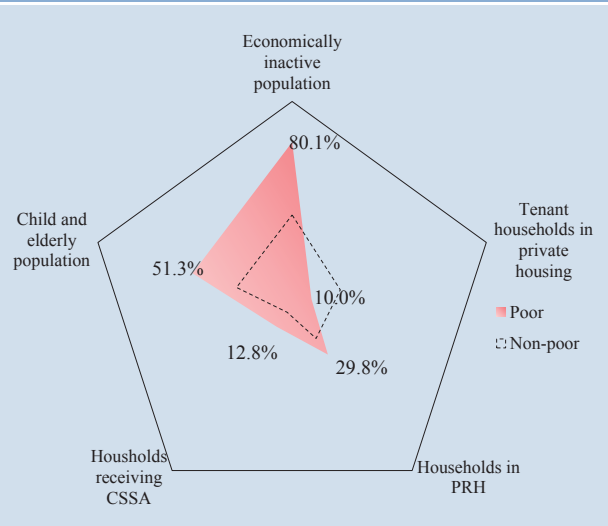
Major poverty figures		Selected statistical references of the poor	
Poor households ('000)	25.6	Average household size/employed members	2.6 / 0.5
Poor population ('000)	66.6	Median monthly household income (\$)	7,200
Poverty rate (%)	18.2	Median age	48
Total poverty gap (per annum, \$Mn)	1,039.8	LFPR (%)	27.0
Average poverty gap (per month, \$)	3,400	Unemployment rate (%)	17.1
Ranking of 18 districts by poverty rate (in descending order)	1 / 18	Demographic/Economic dependency ratio	1 046 / 3 470



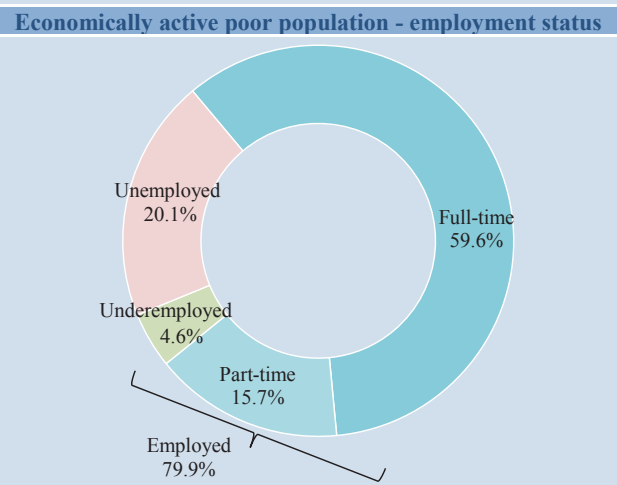
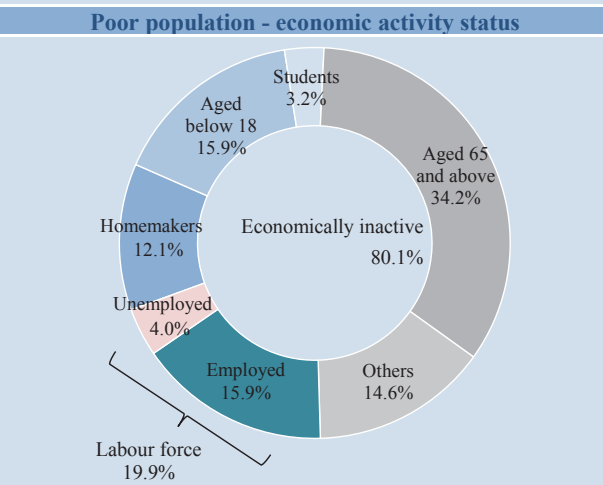
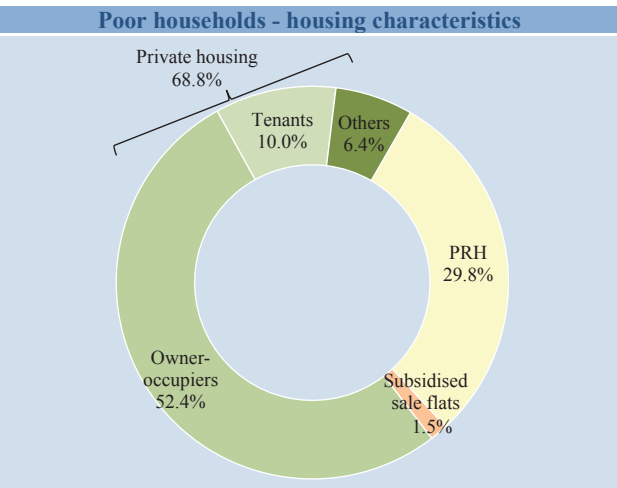
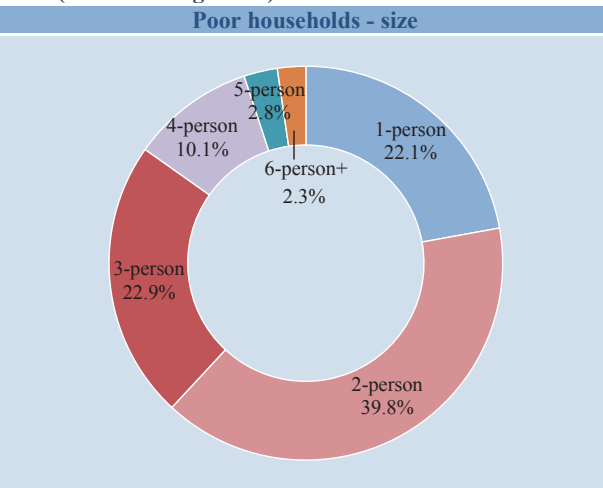
Source: General Household Survey, Census and Statistics Department.

**(vii) Kowloon City**

- Similar to the districts on Hong Kong Island, the proportion of elders (35.2%) among the poor population in Kowloon City was relatively higher, with the median age reaching 56.
- Over half (52.4%) of the poor households were owner-occupiers in private housing, a relatively high proportion. About 30% (29.8%) were in PRH.
- 12.8% of the poor households were receiving CSSA, a level below that of overall poor households (17.4%).
- The poverty rate in 2014 rose by 1.0 percentage point over a year ago, while still ranking near the middle among the 18 districts.



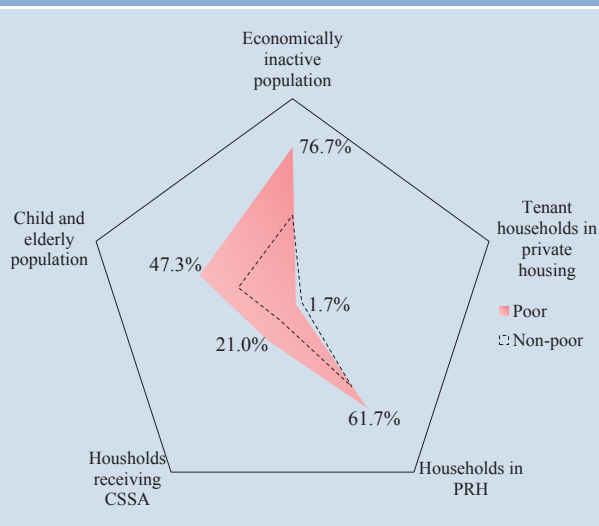
Major poverty figures		Selected statistical references of the poor	
Poor households ('000)	20.9	Average household size/employed members	2.4 / 0.4
Poor population ('000)	50.0	Median monthly household income (\$)	5,800
Poverty rate (%)	13.6	Median age	56
Total poverty gap (per annum, \$Mn)	957.3	LFPR (%)	22.9
Average poverty gap (per month, \$)	3,800	Unemployment rate (%)	20.1
Ranking of 18 districts by poverty rate (in descending order)	9 / 18	Demographic/Economic dependency ratio	1 052 / 4 024



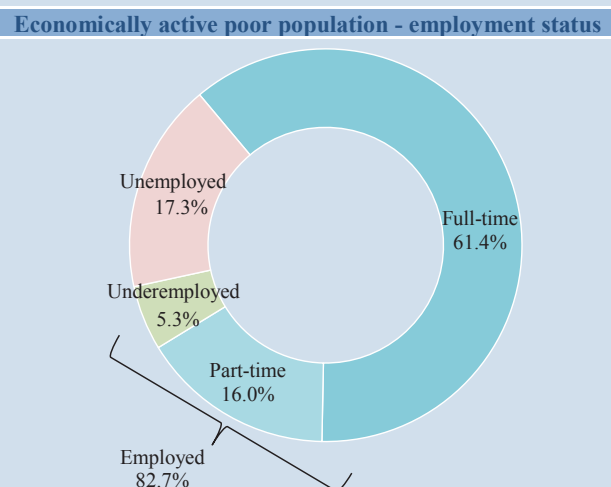
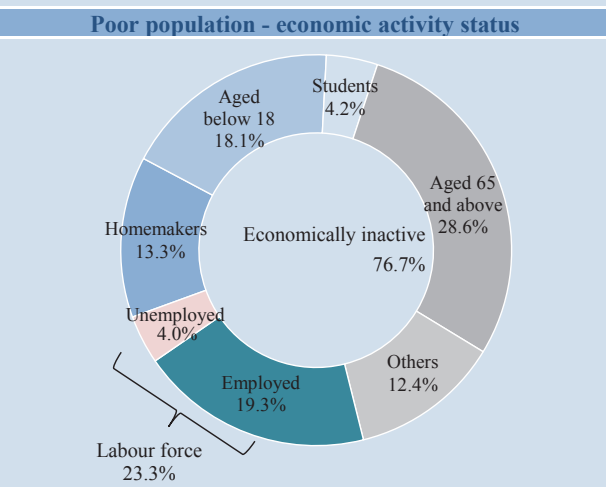
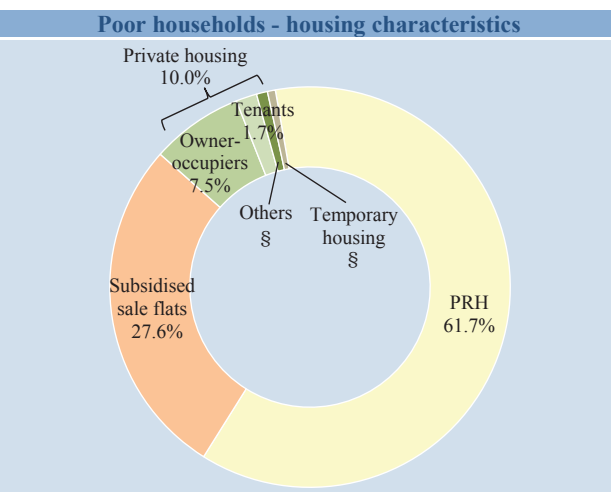
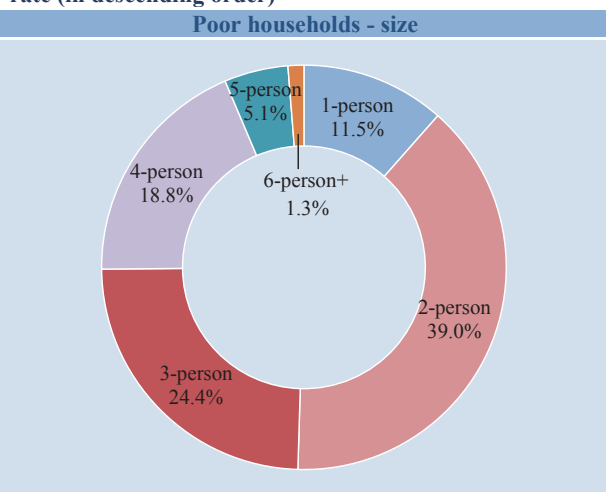
Source: General Household Survey, Census and Statistics Department.

### (viii) Wong Tai Sin

- Among the poor households in Wong Tai Sin, almost half (49.5%) were 3-person-and-above households, higher than that of overall poor households at 42.3%.
- The number of working poor households in the district was not small, accounting for 44.7% of poor households and higher than that of overall poor households at 38.1%.
- Most of the poor households (61.7%) were in PRH. About 10.0% were in private housing, the lowest among the 18 districts.
- The poverty rate of Wong Tai Sin in 2014 edged up by 0.2 percentage point over a year ago, and the poverty situation remained relatively severe.



Major poverty figures		Selected statistical references of the poor	
Poor households ('000)	24.8	Average household size/employed members	2.7 / 0.5
Poor population ('000)	67.3	Median monthly household income (\$)	7,800
Poverty rate (%)	16.4	Median age	50
Total poverty gap (per annum, \$Mn)	884.5	LFPR (%)	27.1
Average poverty gap (per month, \$)	3,000	Unemployment rate (%)	17.3
Ranking of 18 districts by poverty rate (in descending order)	5 / 18	Demographic/Economic dependency ratio	898 / 3 285

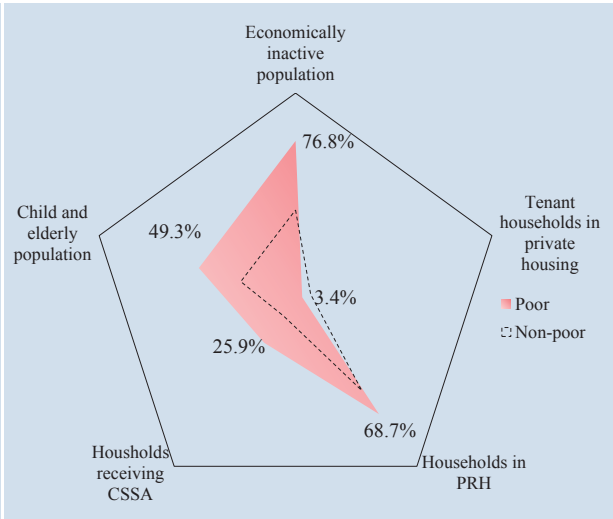


Note: (\$) Not released due to large sampling errors.

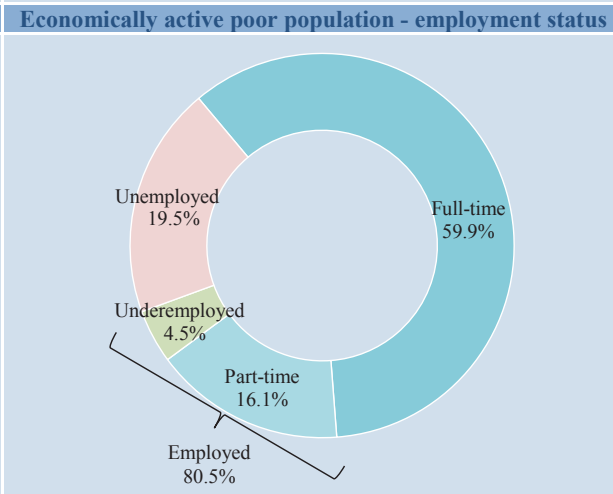
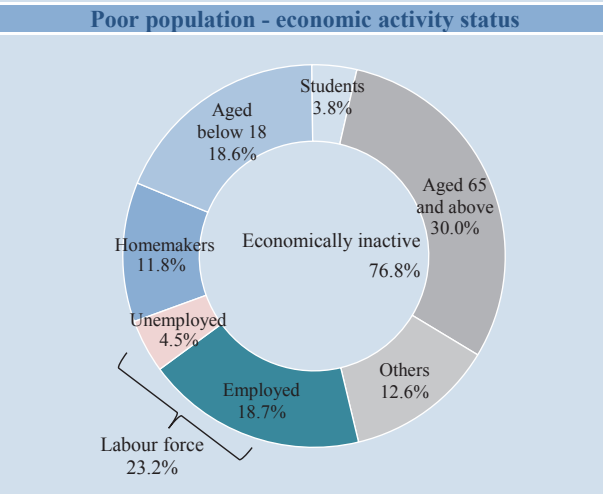
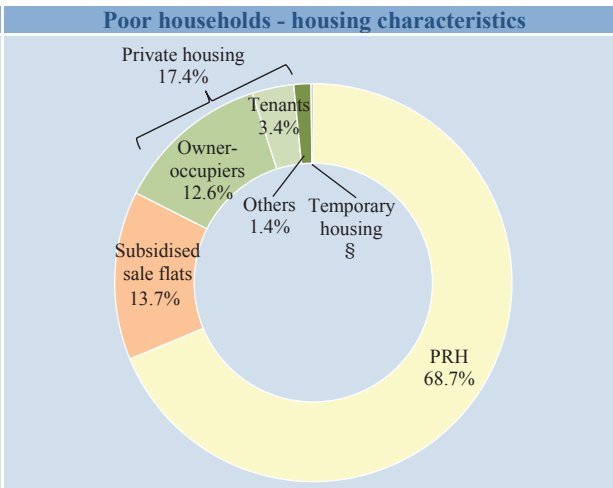
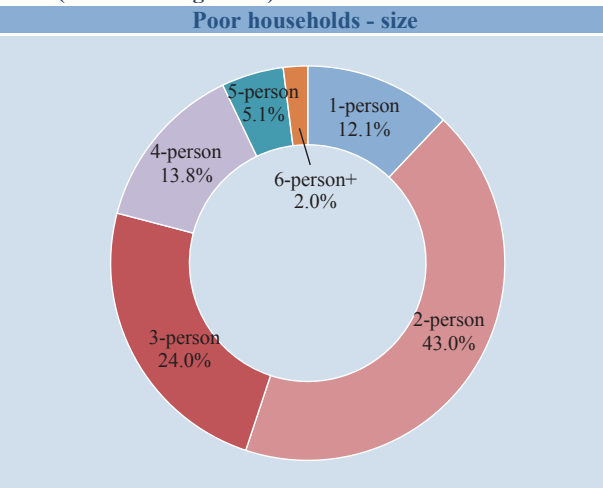
Source: General Household Survey, Census and Statistics Department.

**(ix) Kwun Tong**

- A relatively high proportion of the poor households in Kwun Tong was new-arrival households (8.8%). This is higher than that of overall poor households at 6.4%.
- Over one-fourth (25.9%) of poor households were receiving CSSA. The proportion was the highest among the 18 districts.
- Nearly 70% (68.7%) of the poor households were in PRH, significantly higher than that of overall poor households at 40.7%.
- The poverty situation of Kwun Tong improved in 2014, with the poverty rate declining by 1.0 percentage point over a year ago. However, the poverty rate was still the third highest among all districts, and the poverty situation remained severe.



Major poverty figures		Selected statistical references of the poor	
Poor households ('000)	39.2	Average household size/employed members	2.6 / 0.5
Poor population ('000)	103.3	Median monthly household income (\$)	7,600
Poverty rate (%)	16.7	Median age	49
Total poverty gap (per annum, \$Mn)	1,311.7	LFPR (%)	27.3
Average poverty gap (per month, \$)	2,800	Unemployment rate (%)	19.5
Ranking of 18 districts by poverty rate (in descending order)	3 / 18	Demographic/Economic dependency ratio	971 / 3 312

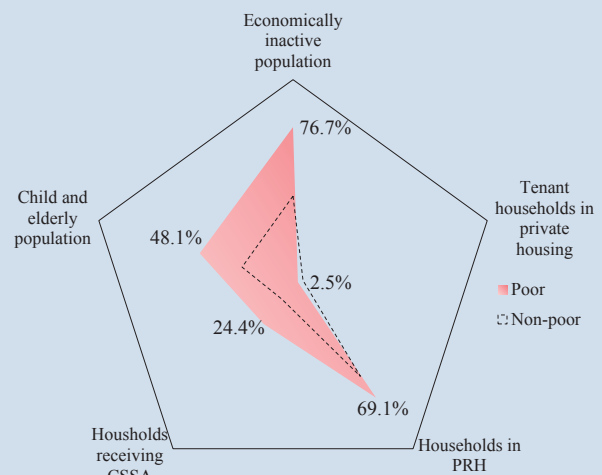


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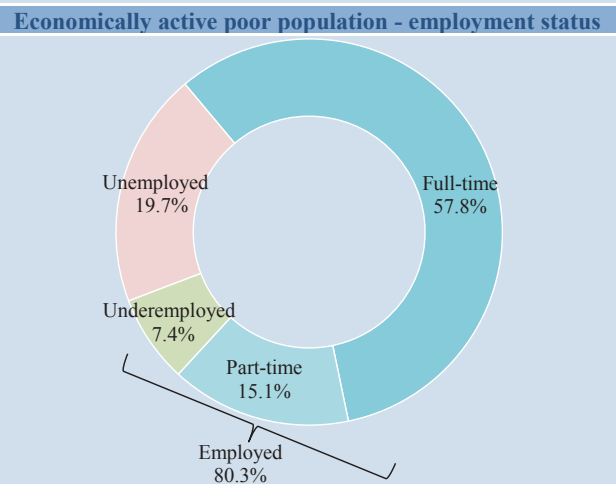
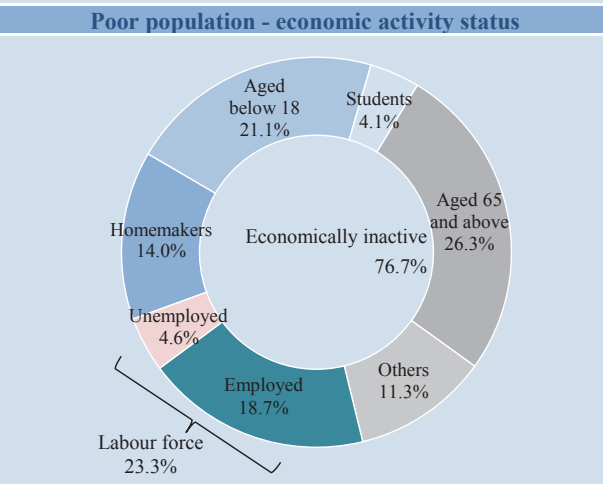
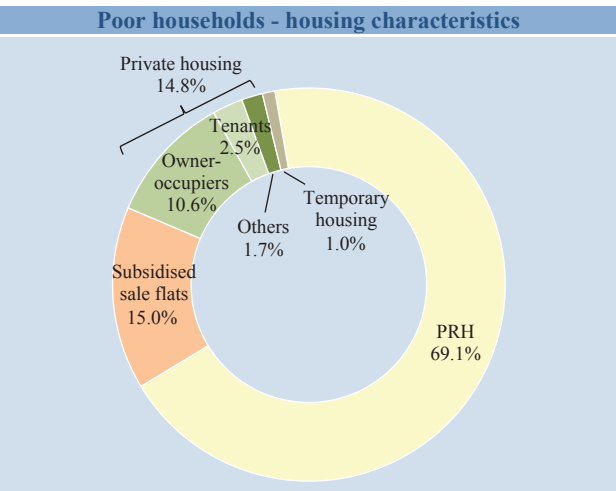
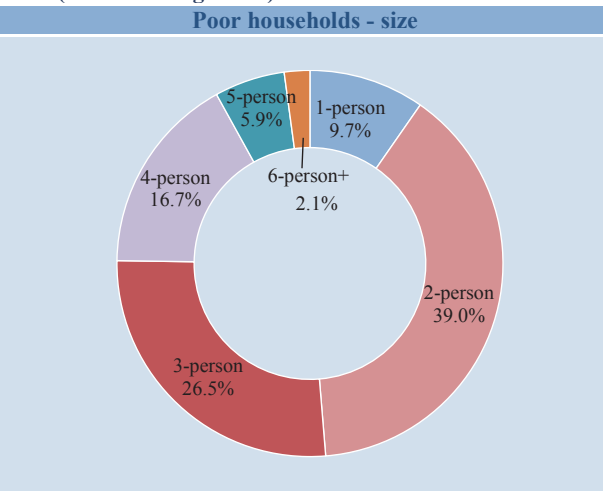
Source: General Household Survey, Census and Statistics Department.

**(x) Kwai Tsing**

- Poor households in Kwai Tsing comprised relatively more working (45.2%), with-children (37.5%) and new-arrival (8.5%) households. The proportions were all higher than the corresponding figures of overall poor households (38.1%, 31.7% and 6.4% respectively).
- 69.1% of the poor households were in PRH, the highest among the 18 districts. The proportion of poor households receiving CSSA (24.4%) was also visibly higher than that of overall poor households (17.4%).
- The poverty situation in Kwai Tsing was relatively severe, with the poverty rate rising by 0.6 percentage point over a year ago to the second highest among the 18 districts. This is mainly due to population ageing, worsening of employment situation and the fall in the proportion of full-time working population in the district.



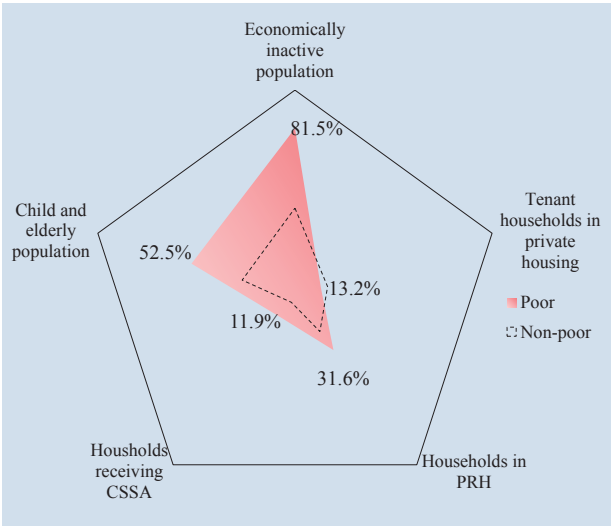
Major poverty figures		Selected statistical references of the poor	
Poor households ('000)	29.6	Average household size/employed members	2.8 / 0.5
Poor population ('000)	82.0	Median monthly household income (\$)	7,900
Poverty rate (%)	16.9	Median age	46
Total poverty gap (per annum, \$Mn)	1,055.4	LFPR (%)	28.0
Average poverty gap (per month, \$)	3,000	Unemployment rate (%)	19.7
Ranking of 18 districts by poverty rate (in descending order)	2 / 18	Demographic/Economic dependency ratio	927 / 3 299



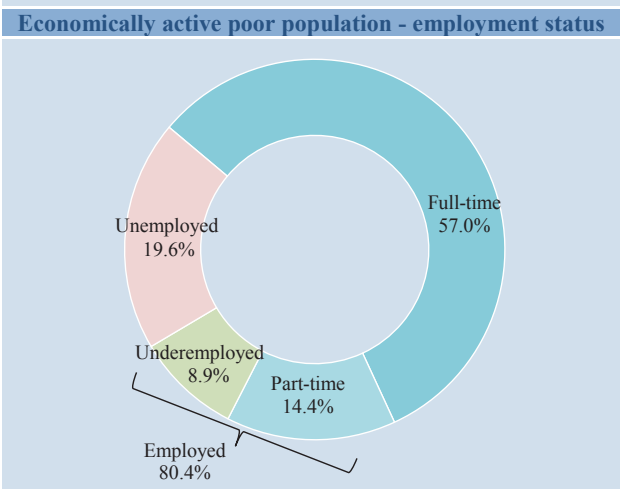
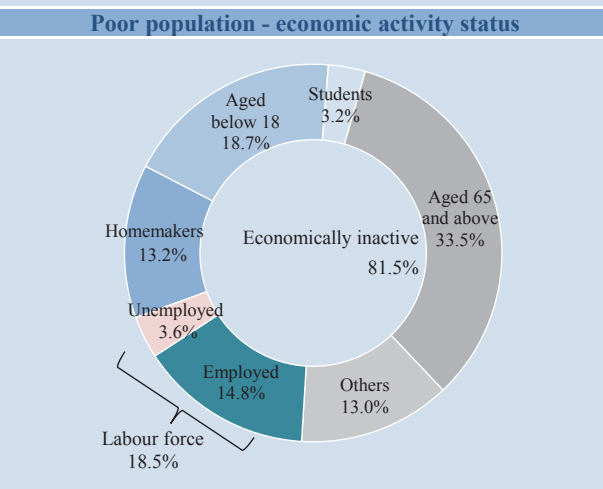
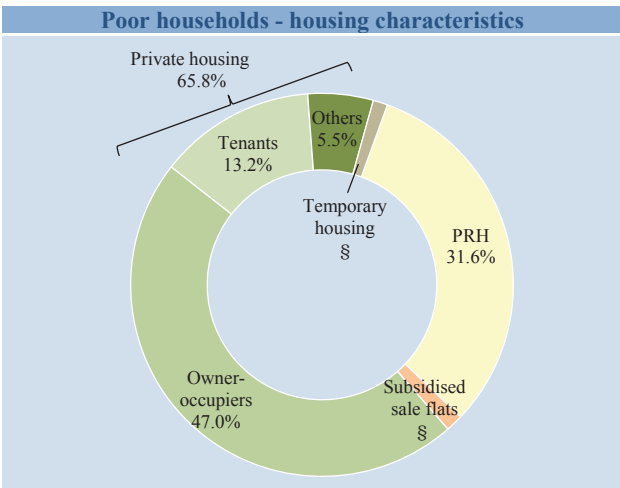
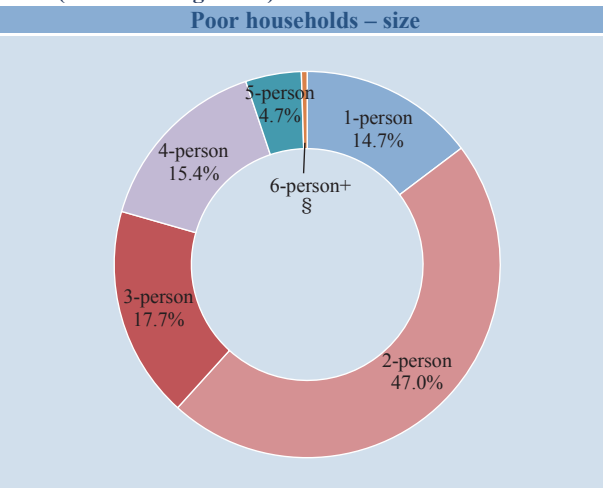
Source: General Household Survey, Census and Statistics Department.

**(xi) Tsuen Wan**

- The share of elders (33.8%) among the poor in Tsuen Wan was high among other districts in the New Territories, despite being only slightly higher than that of overall poor households. The share of economically inactive persons (81.5%) was also relatively high.
- The share of tenants in private housing (13.2%) was high.
- Almost 90% (88.1%) of the poor households were not receiving CSSA, the highest among all districts in the New Territories.
- The poverty rate of Tsuen Wan fell by 1.0 percentage point over a year ago in 2014, with the poverty situation staying near the lower end among the 18 districts.



Major poverty figures		Selected statistical references of the poor	
Poor households ('000)	13.8	Average household size/employed members	2.5 / 0.4
Poor population ('000)	34.6	Median monthly household income (\$)	6,100
Poverty rate (%)	12.1	Median age	54
Total poverty gap (per annum, \$Mn)	642.0	LFPR (%)	21.8
Average poverty gap (per month, \$)	3,900	Unemployment rate (%)	19.6
Ranking of 18 districts by poverty rate (in descending order)	15 / 18	Demographic/Economic dependency ratio	1 105 / 4 415

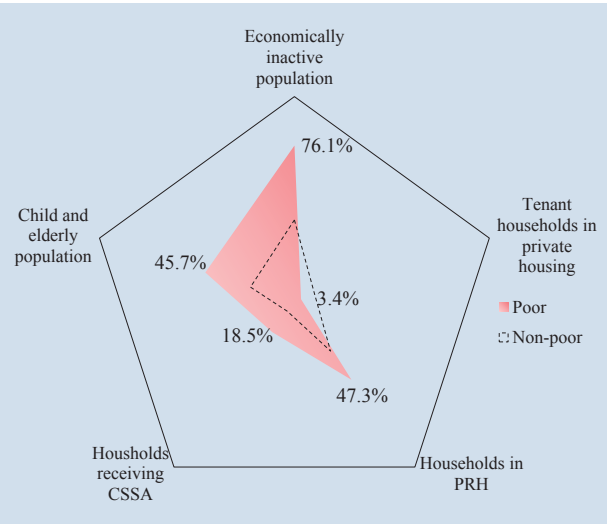


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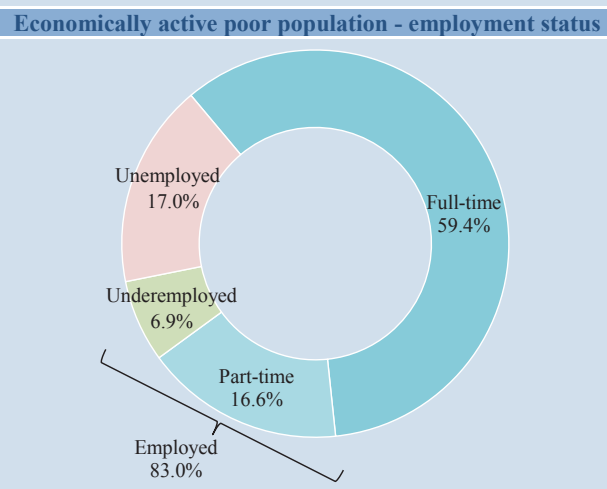
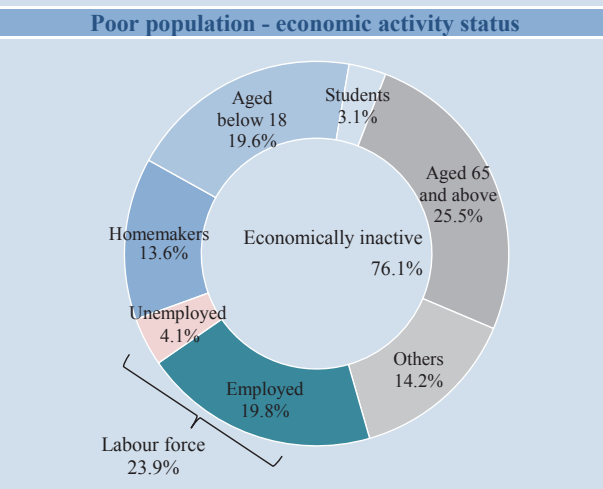
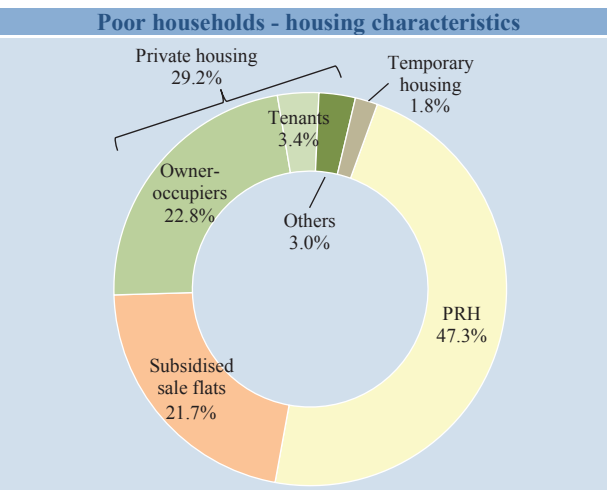
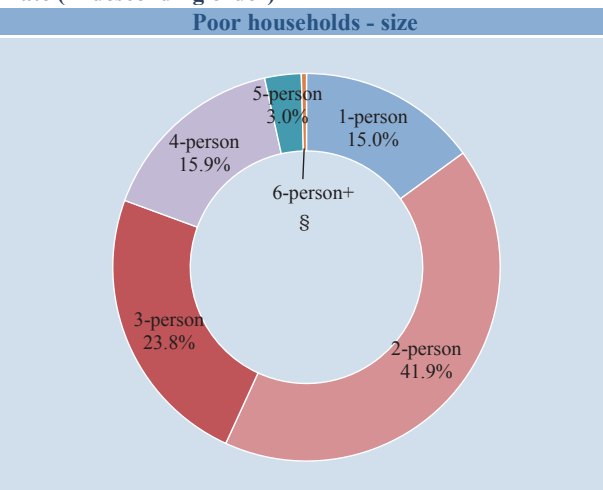
Source: General Household Survey, Census and Statistics Department.

**(xii) Tuen Mun**

- Among poor households in Tuen Mun, the proportions of working (42.5%) and with-children (34.3%) households were higher than the corresponding figures of overall poor households (38.1% and 31.7% respectively).
- The share of CSSA households was 18.5%, slightly higher than that of overall poor households at 17.4%.
- Nearly half (47.3%) of the poor households were in PRH, a relatively high proportion.
- The poverty rate of Tuen Mun in 2014 fell by 1.2 percentage points over a year ago. The poverty situation ranked near the middle among the 18 districts.



Major poverty figures		Selected statistical references of the poor	
Poor households ('000)	28.0	Average household size/employed members	2.5 / 0.5
Poor population ('000)	70.3	Median monthly household income (\$)	7,000
Poverty rate (%)	14.9	Median age	49
Total poverty gap (per annum, \$Mn)	1,076.2	LFPR (%)	28.2
Average poverty gap (per month, \$)	3,200	Unemployment rate (%)	17.0
Ranking of 18 districts by poverty rate (in descending order)	7 / 18	Demographic/Economic dependency ratio	843 / 3 185

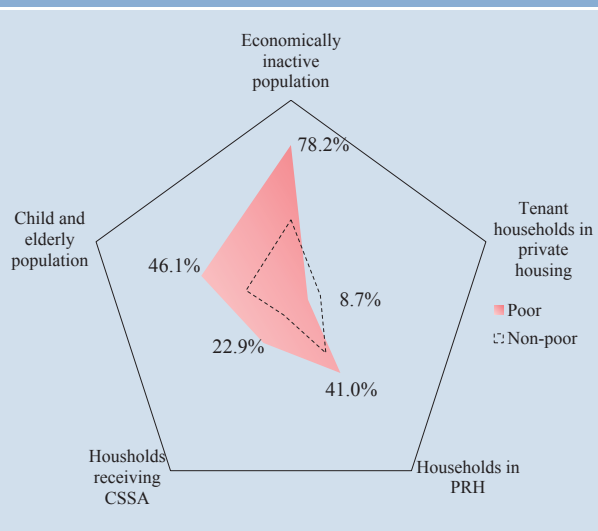


Note: (\$) Not released due to large sampling errors.  
Source: General Household Survey, Census and Statistics Department.

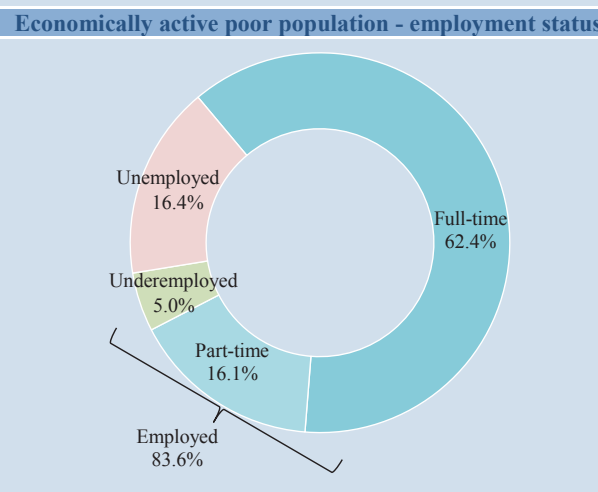
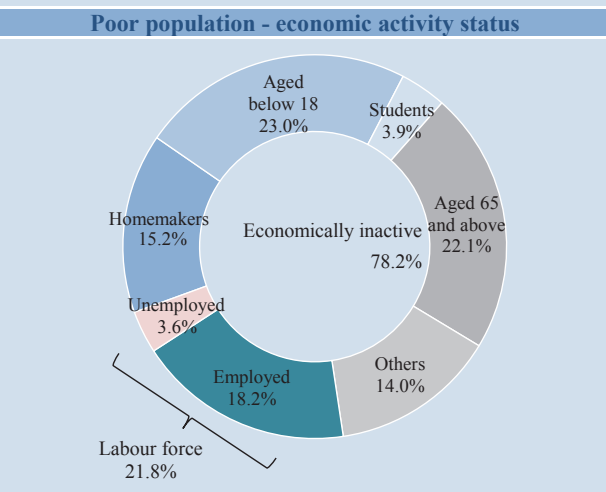
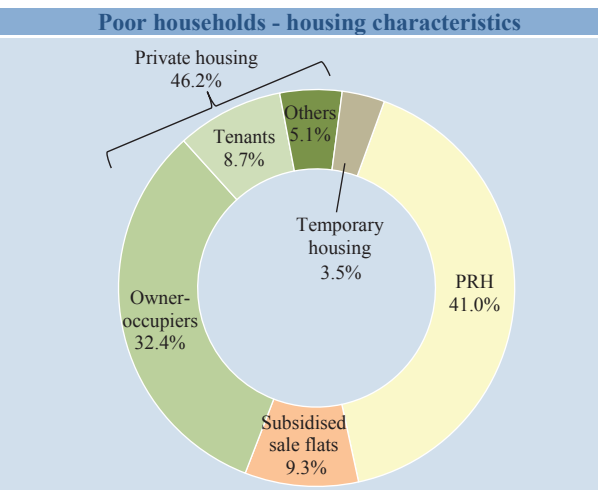
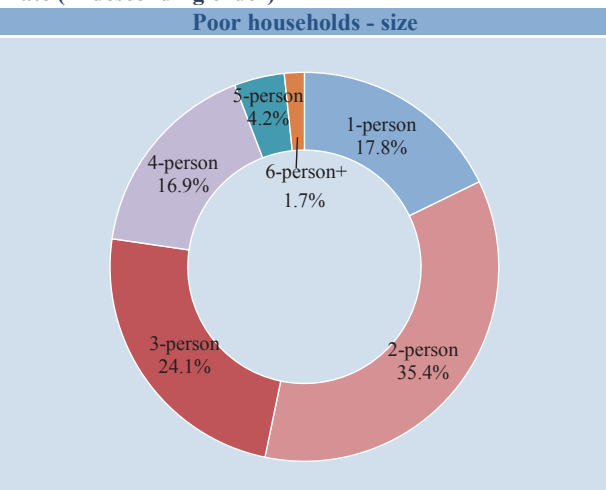


**(xiii) Yuen Long**

- The proportion of with-children poor households (38.9%) was high in Yuen Long, while that of single-parent households (9.4%) was the highest among the 18 districts.
- The share of CSSA households among poor households was 22.9%, only lower than Kwun Tong and Kwai Tsing.
- About 40% (41.0%) of the poor households were in PRH, and almost one-third (32.4%) lived in private housing as owner-occupiers.
- The poverty rate of Yuen Long edged down by 0.1 percentage point over a year ago in 2014. The poverty situation was largely unchanged, staying near the middle among the 18 districts.



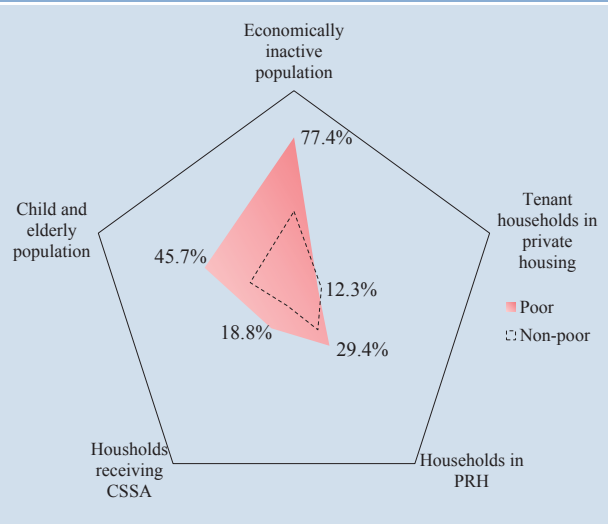
Major poverty figures		Selected statistical references of the poor	
Poor households ('000)	32.6	Average household size/employed members	2.6 / 0.5
Poor population ('000)	84.6	Median monthly household income (\$)	7,300
Poverty rate (%)	14.8	Median age	45
Total poverty gap (per annum, \$Mn)	1,260.8	LFPR (%)	26.5
Average poverty gap (per month, \$)	3,200	Unemployment rate (%)	16.4
Ranking of 18 districts by poverty rate (in descending order)	8 / 18	Demographic/Economic dependency ratio	854 / 3 582



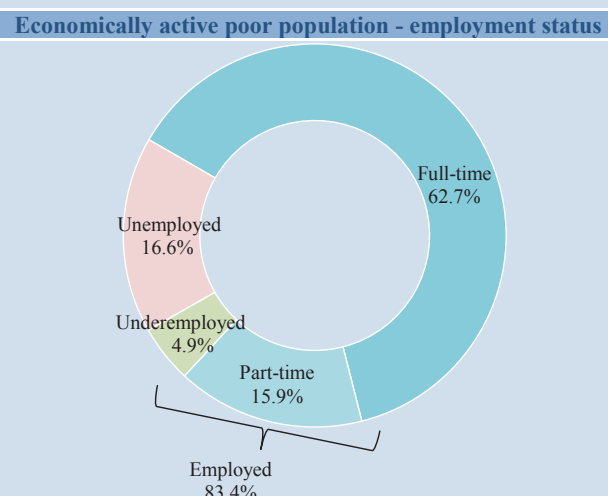
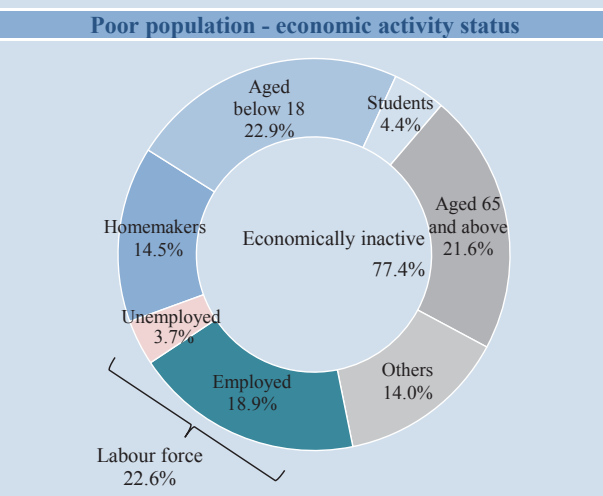
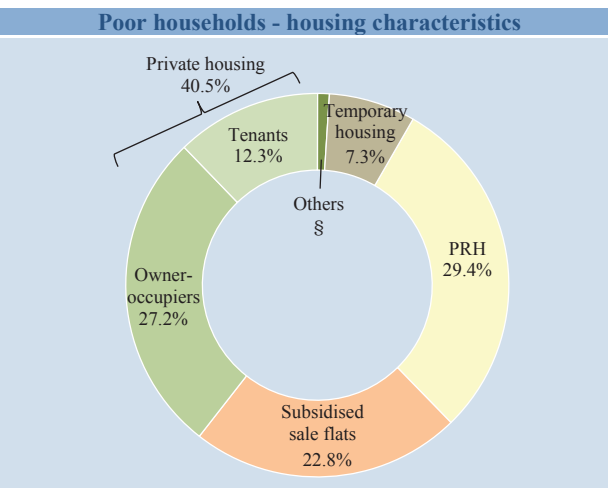
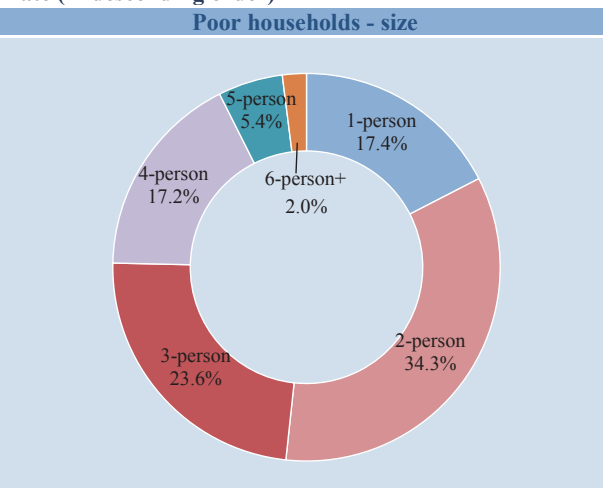
Source: General Household Survey, Census and Statistics Department.

**(xiv) North**

- Similar to Yuen Long, the share of with-children (39.8%) and single-parent (8.6%) households were high among poor households, with the former being the highest among all districts.
- Less than 20% (18.8%) of the poor households received CSSA, and the proportion fell notably over a year ago.
- Less than 30% (29.4%) of poor households were in PRH, a relatively low proportion.
- The poverty situation in North district was relatively severe, with the poverty rate rising notably by 1.5 percentage point over a year ago in 2014. This is partly due to the worsening of employment situation in the district, the rise in the unemployment rate, and the slight fall in the share of full-time working population.



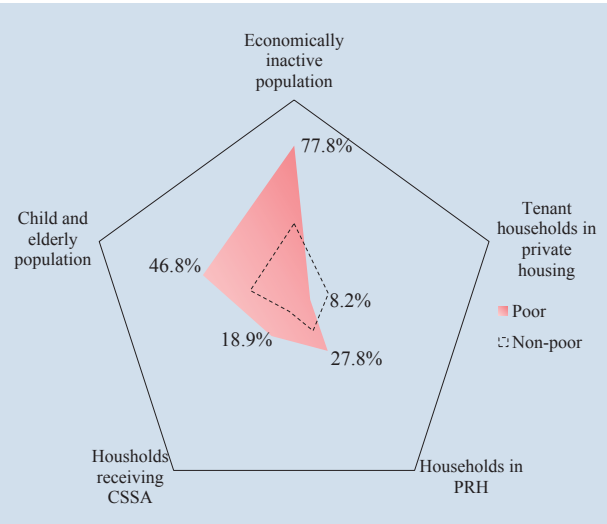
Major poverty figures		Selected statistical references of the poor	
Poor households ('000)	18.3	Average household size/employed members	2.7 / 0.5
Poor population ('000)	48.4	Median monthly household income (\$)	6,900
Poverty rate (%)	16.5	Median age	45
Total poverty gap (per annum, \$Mn)	819.0	LFPR (%)	27.8
Average poverty gap (per month, \$)	3,700	Unemployment rate (%)	16.6
Ranking of 18 districts by poverty rate (in descending order)	4 / 18	Demographic/Economic dependency ratio	842 / 3 420



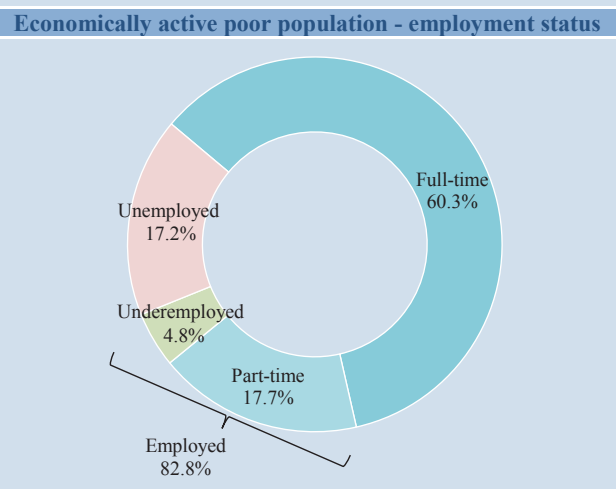
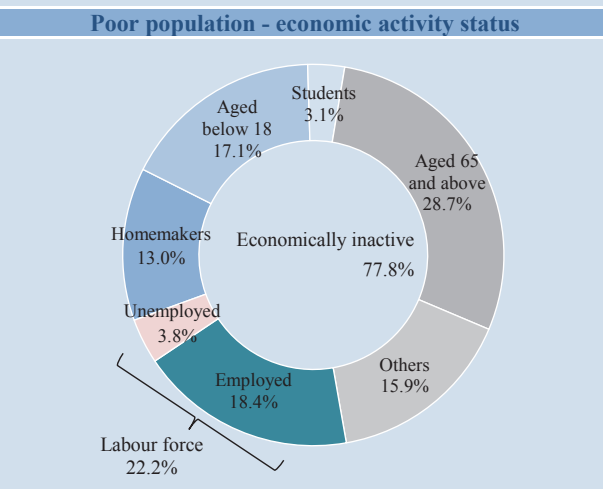
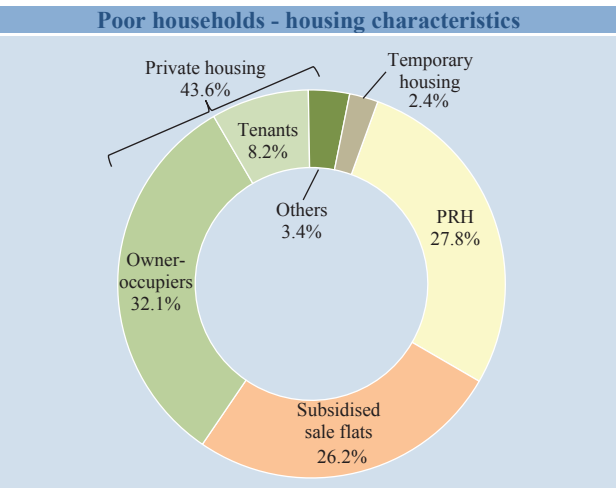
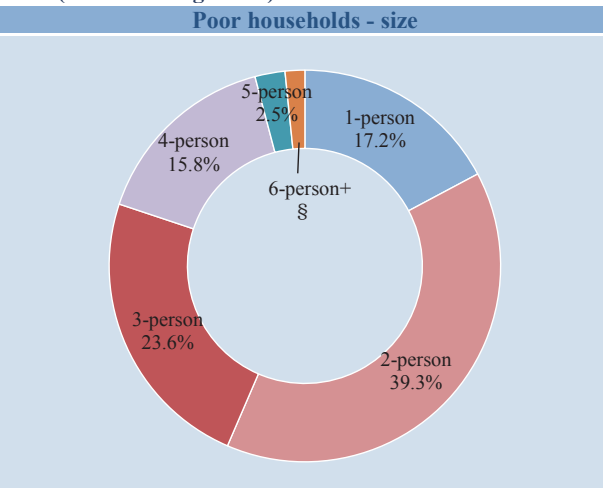
Note: (§) Not released due to large sampling errors.  
Source: General Household Survey, Census and Statistics Department.

(xv) Tai Po

- Among poor households in Tai Po, the proportions of with-children (28.8%) and new-arrival (6.1%) households were slightly lower than those of overall poor households (31.7% and 6.4% respectively).
- The share of poor households receiving CSSA was 18.9%, slightly higher than that of overall poor households at 17.4%.
- Among the poor households, less than 30% (27.8%) were in PRH, lower than that of overall poor households at 40.7%.
- The poverty rate of Tai Po edged up by 0.3 percentage point over a year ago in 2014. The poverty situation ranked near the middle among the 18 districts.



Major poverty figures		Selected statistical references of the poor	
Poor households ('000)	14.5	Average household size/employed members	2.5 / 0.5
Poor population ('000)	36.5	Median monthly household income (\$)	6,800
Poverty rate (%)	12.9	Median age	52
Total poverty gap (per annum, \$Mn)	621.9	LFPR (%)	25.7
Average poverty gap (per month, \$)	3,600	Unemployment rate (%)	17.2
Ranking of 18 districts by poverty rate (in descending order)	12 / 18	Demographic/Economic dependency ratio	881 / 3 500

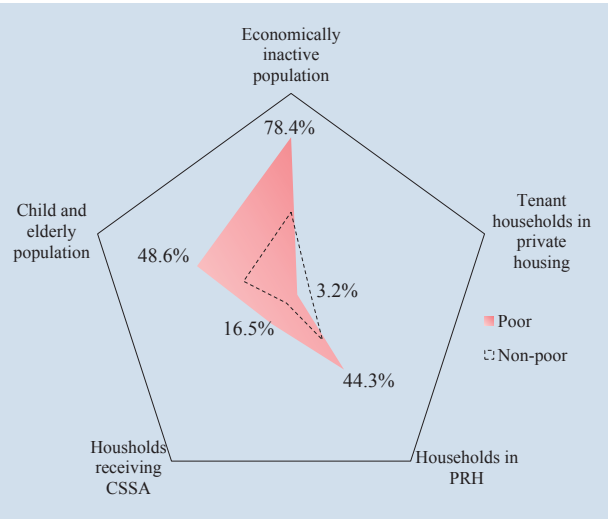


Note: (\$) Not released due to large sampling errors.

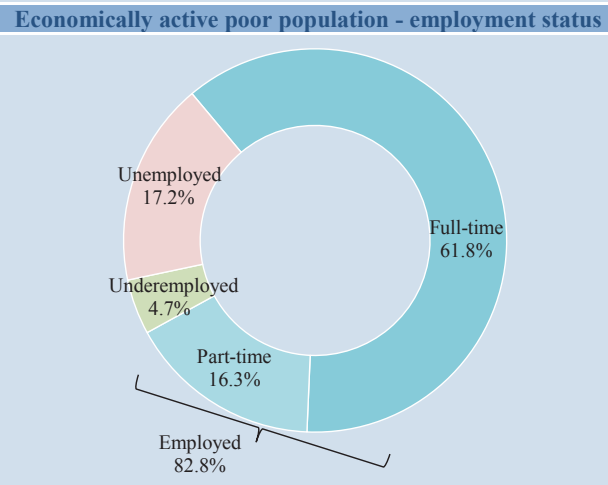
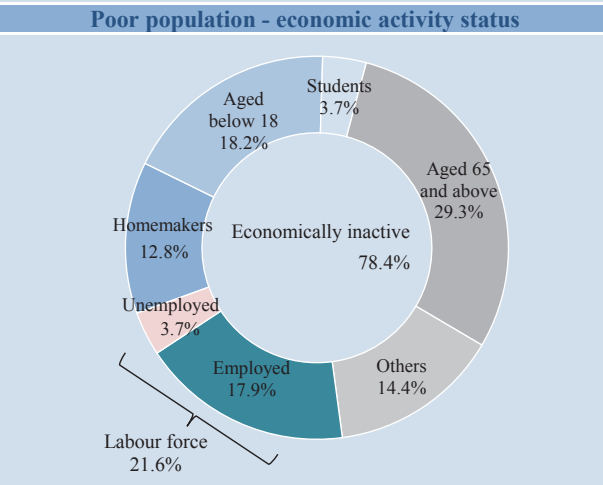
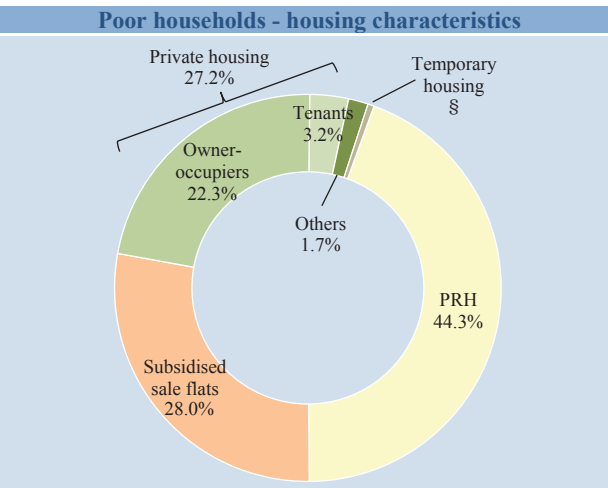
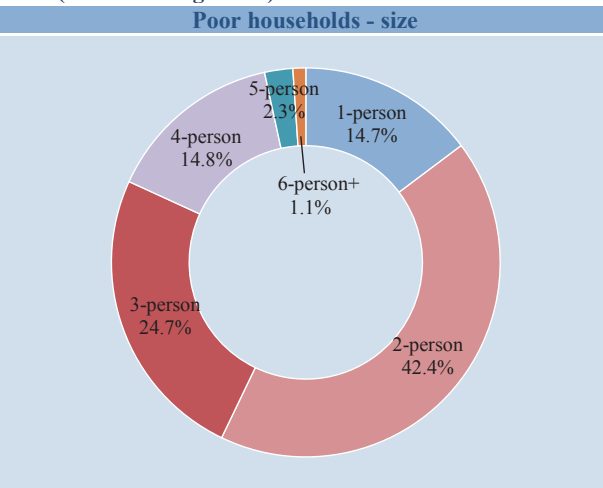
Source: General Household Survey, Census and Statistics Department.

**(xvi) Sha Tin**

- The size of the poor population in Sha Tin was relatively large among the 18 districts, but the poverty rate (12.4%) was lower than the overall level at 14.3%.
- Over two-third (67.1%) of the poor households in Sha Tin were 2- and 3-person households, a relatively high proportion.
- 27.2% of the poor households lived in private housing. This is visibly lower than that of overall poor households at 43.4%.
- The share of CSSA households (16.5%) was slightly lower than that of overall poor households at 17.4%.
- The poverty rate of Sha Tin in 2014 fell by 0.8 percentage point over a year ago, to near the lower end among the 18 districts.



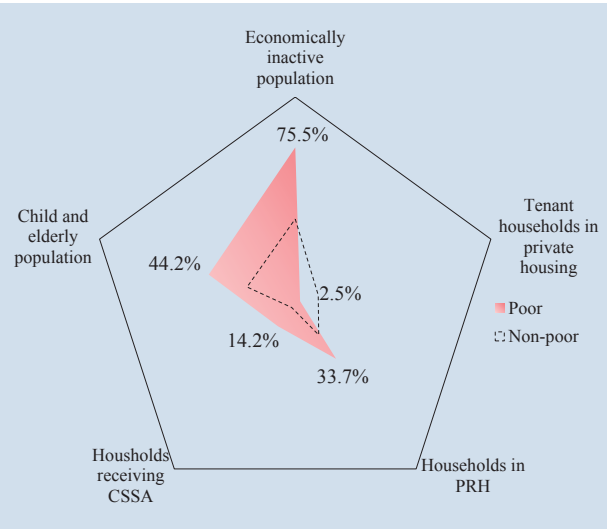
Major poverty figures		Selected statistical references of the poor	
Poor households ('000)	30.0	Average household size/employed members	2.5 / 0.4
Poor population ('000)	75.3	Median monthly household income (\$)	7,100
Poverty rate (%)	12.4	Median age	52
Total poverty gap (per annum, \$Mn)	1,206.2	LFPR (%)	25.2
Average poverty gap (per month, \$)	3,300	Unemployment rate (%)	17.2
Ranking of 18 districts by poverty rate (in descending order)	14 / 18	Demographic/Economic dependency ratio	946 / 3 637



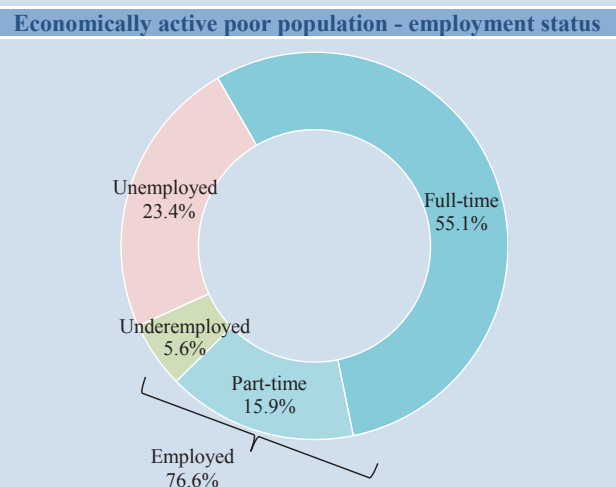
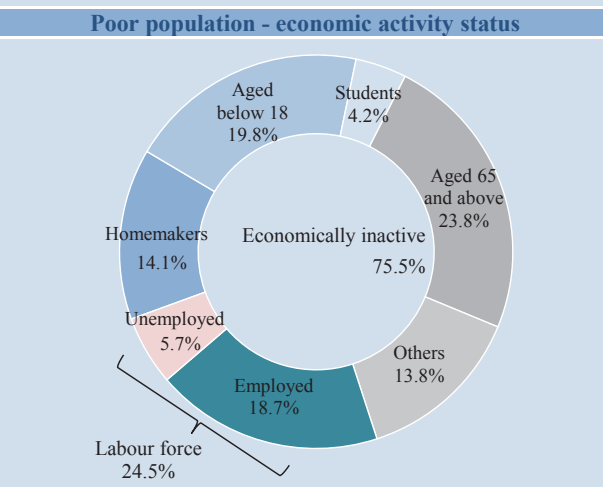
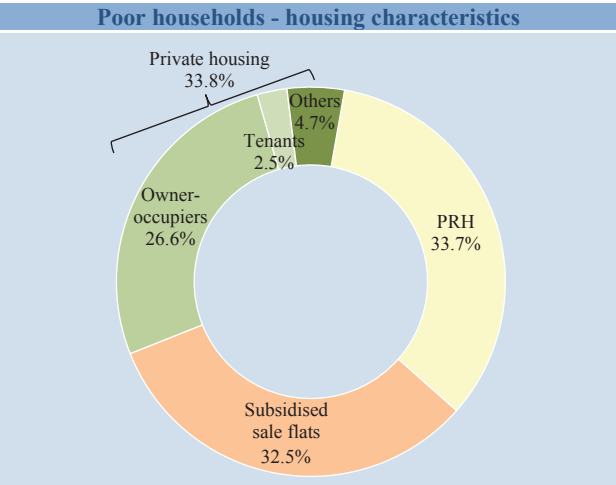
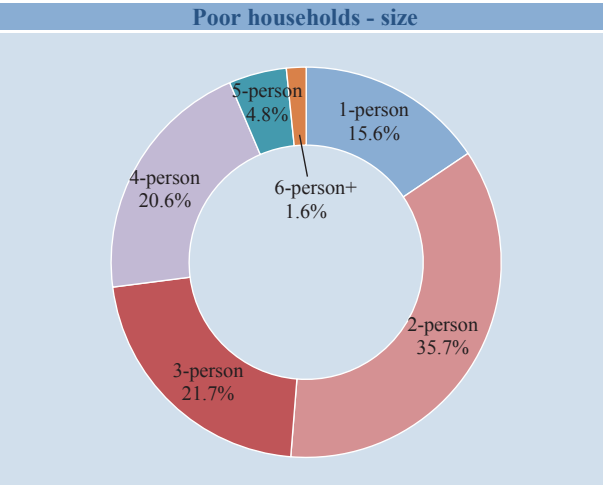
Note: (\$) Not released due to large sampling errors.  
Source: General Household Survey, Census and Statistics Department.

**(xvii) Sai Kung**

- The poverty rate of Sai Kung was only 10.0%, the lowest among the 18 districts. The share of economically active persons among the poor (24.5%) was also the highest among all districts.
- Poor households in the district had relatively large household sizes. Many of them were 2- and 3-person households, while 27.0% were 4-person-and-above, higher than that of overall poor households at 20.3%.
- 32.5% of the poor households were in subsidised sale flats, the highest among the 18 districts.
- Over 80% (85.8%) of the poor households did not receive CSSA.
- In 2014, the poverty rate of Sai Kung fell markedly by 1.3 percentage points over a year ago, and the poverty situation improved notably.



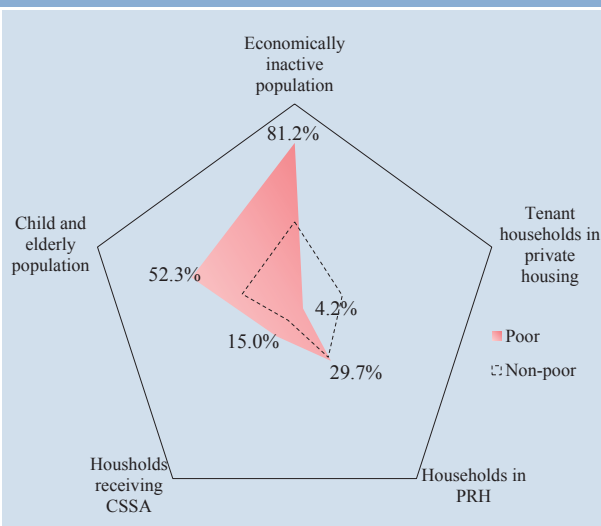
Major poverty figures		Selected statistical references of the poor	
Poor households ('000)	15.7	Average household size/employed members	2.7 / 0.5
Poor population ('000)	42.2	Median monthly household income (\$)	7,100
Poverty rate (%)	10.0	Median age	48
Total poverty gap (per annum, \$Mn)	706.8	LFPR (%)	28.5
Average poverty gap (per month, \$)	3,700	Unemployment rate (%)	23.4
Ranking of 18 districts by poverty rate (in descending order)	18 / 18	Demographic/Economic dependency ratio	793 / 3 089



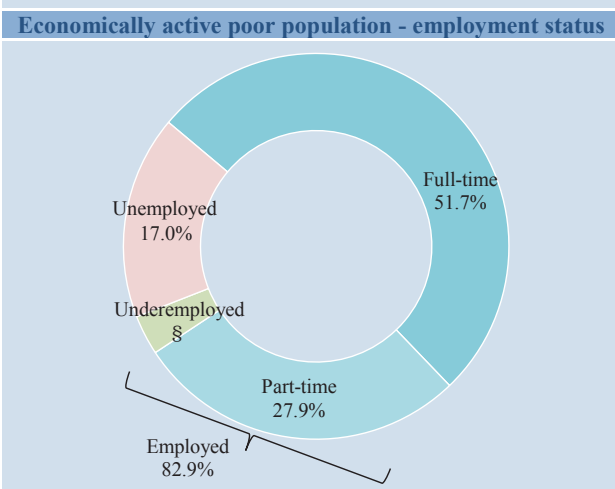
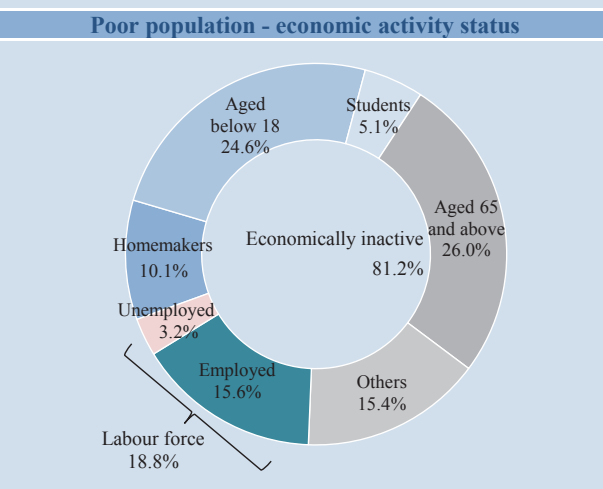
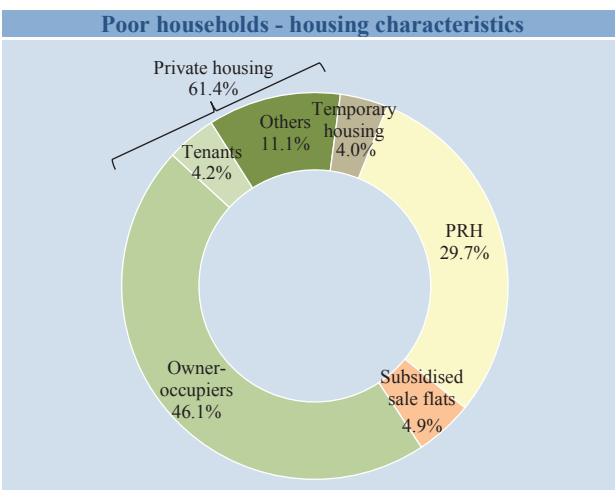
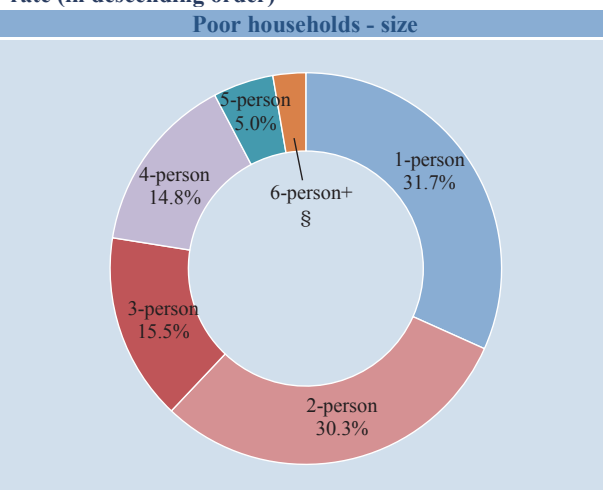
Source: General Household Survey, Census and Statistics Department.

### (xviii) Islands

- The number of households and population in the Islands district were small. The number of poor households and the size of the poor population were 7 000 and 16 800 respectively, both the lowest among the 18 districts.
- Most (62.1%) of the poor households were 1- and 2-person households. Only 29.7% of the poor households were in PRH.
- The poverty rate of Islands district fell markedly by 2.4 percentage points in 2014 to the lower end among the 18 districts, showing the largest improvement among all districts. However, it should be noted that, over 2013, the size of the population shrank by 3 200 people only.



Major poverty figures		Selected statistical references of the poor	
Poor households ('000)	7.0	Average household size/employed members	2.4 / 0.4
Poor population ('000)	16.8	Median monthly household income (\$)	5,600
Poverty rate (%)	12.5	Median age	46
Total poverty gap (per annum, \$Mn)	297.0	LFPR (%)	23.0
Average poverty gap (per month, \$)	3,500	Unemployment rate (%)	17.0
Ranking of 18 districts by poverty rate (in descending order)	13 / 18	Demographic/Economic dependency ratio	1 095 / 4 318



Note: (§) Not released due to large sampling errors.

Source: General Household Survey, Census and Statistics Department.

## 4 Policy Implications

- 4.1 The poverty line set by CoP has three functions: to quantify the poverty situation in Hong Kong, facilitating thorough analysis of the causes and forms of poverty; to assist formulation of more appropriate and effective policy initiatives; and to assess quantitatively the effectiveness of the Government's poverty alleviation measures for the needy.
- 4.2 The latest poverty statistics show that, due to sustained economic growth and the labour market staying in a state of full employment, overall poverty statistics in 2014 saw further improvement. After policy intervention (recurrent cash), the size of the poor population was slightly reduced from 0.97 million in 2013 to 0.96 million in 2014, staying below the 1 million mark for the second consecutive year. The poverty rate also fell slightly, from 14.5% to 14.3%. Both the size of the poor population and the poverty rate were the lowest since such statistics were available in 2009. Compared with the pre-intervention figures (1.32 million and 19.6% respectively), the poverty alleviation impact of recurrent cash policies was similar to that in 2013, showing that the Government's poverty alleviation work has yielded positive results.
- 4.3 Further analyses reveal that, for groups with higher proportions of working population in households and higher skill levels among workers, their poverty risk was lower. As the labour market remained tight over the past year, more households benefited from the favourable employment situation. Coupled with the upgrading of their skill levels, they managed to stay out of poverty. This demonstrates that the best way to prevent poverty is to propel economic development to generate more "quality employment" opportunities from the demand side, and to strengthen manpower training and reduce skills mismatch from the supply side. The Government will continue to strengthen education and training, and promote high value-added economic activities.
- 4.4 Analysed by recurrent cash policy, the poverty alleviation effectiveness was the highest for CSSA, while that of OALA was also notable. Besides, analyses show that the cost-effectiveness of non-means-tested policies, such as OAA and DA, was lower. It is clear that means-tested poverty alleviation policies can better target the neediest groups, thus they are more effective and ensure more efficient utilisation of public resources.
- 4.5 The poverty situation after policy intervention continued to improve in 2014. However, even though the poverty risk was lower for working households, there were still 0.14 million non-CSSA working households (comprising

0.46 million people) living below the poverty line. This is primarily because these households usually had only 1 working member with relatively low educational attainment to support a number of other family members, thus reflecting a heavy family burden. Among them, single-parent, with-children and new-arrival households had higher poverty risk than working households overall. With the funding proposal for LIFA Scheme implementation approved by the Legislative Council Finance Committee in January 2015, the Government has been pressing ahead with the preparatory work with a view to implementing the Scheme in the second quarter of 2016. LIFA is expected to provide more targeted support to working poor families. The family-based allowance comprises a Basic Allowance, which is tied to employment and working hours to encourage active employment; and a Child Allowance, which provides support to eligible poor households with heavier family burdens. As the working hour requirement is lower for single-parent households, and there is no residence requirement, LIFA can also provide support to needy single-parent and new-arrival working households.

- 4.6 Besides recurrent cash policies, the Government has in place various non-recurrent and in-kind benefits to alleviate the living burden of the grassroots, and some even benefit the general public. Among them, PRH provision is the most prominent example. PRH provision involves substantial public resources, and though not a cash subsidy, it improves the living standards of the underprivileged by providing actual housing support. In fact, detailed analysis of the poverty statistics shows that the poverty rates of households in inadequate housing conditions (e.g. those residing in temporary housing and private tenants in rooms / bedspaces / cocklofts) were notably higher than the overall level and so these households need further assistance. PRH provision can directly improve the living conditions of these needy households. The Government will continue to address the housing needs of grassroots citizens through further provision of PRH.
- 4.7 Under the current poverty line framework, the effectiveness of PRH provision in poverty alleviation is supplemented as reference material. However, it must be pointed out that, in terms of poverty alleviation impact of individual policies, PRH provision was even more effective than CSSA, and can reduce the living burden of the underprivileged substantially. The abovementioned detailed analysis of poverty statistics also clearly shows that PRH provision is an important policy of the Government to improve the living conditions of grassroots families. Whether and how the poverty alleviation impact of PRH provision can be incorporated into the main analysis to enhance the poverty line framework, is a key research topic in the



- future. Upon C&SD's publication of the results of the 2014/15 HES in mid-2016, it will provide information for thorough analyses of the expenditure patterns of poor households, and support the review of how the welfare transfer of PRH provision could be incorporated into the main analytical framework.
- 4.8 In 2014, the CCF continued to launch various assistance programmes to effectively plug gaps in the existing system and provide support to the underprivileged. With due regard to the conditions of the beneficiaries, the income thresholds for some of these programmes are more lenient than the poverty line thresholds. In addition, seven programmes have been incorporated into the Government's regular assistance programmes in 2014, and the "Extra travel subsidy for needy special school students" programme has been regularised in the 2015/16 school year. If financial position permits, the Government will continue to evaluate the effectiveness of programmes and consider further regularising effective ones.
- 4.9 Children and youths are the future pillars of the society. The Government fully acknowledges the importance of upward mobility in preventing, reducing and alleviating poverty. As such, one of the key directions of the current-term Government's poverty alleviation work is to provide quality education and training to school-age children and youths, with the aim of promoting upward social mobility. The Government has conducted a study of the earnings mobility of post-secondary education graduates from underprivileged families, so as to understand the factors, particularly the role of education, that affect earnings mobility. Initial results have been considered by CoP's Youth Education, Employment and Training Task Force in September 2015, which will continue to follow up on the subject to consider the case for action. Moreover, C&SD conducted the "Survey on Households with School Children of South Asian Ethnicities" from May 2014 to June 2015, to focus on and examine the poverty situation and socio-economic characteristics of households with school children from the South Asian ethnicities. The results of the analyses are expected to be released in the fourth quarter of 2015.
- 4.10 Moreover, in 2014, of the 245 100 elders in non-CSSA poor households, 20 300 were receiving OALA while still claiming to have financial needs. It warrants further exploration as to how they could be helped through more targeted policy intervention.
- 4.11 Looking ahead in 2015, the slowdown in inbound tourism, if protracted, may further undermine the growth momentum of the domestic economy (such as catering, accommodations and retail sectors), with possible spillovers to the

employment situation of the grassroots. The Government will monitor the situation closely. Various poverty alleviation measures will continue to provide assistance to the grassroots, with CSSA functioning as the social safety net and OALA providing a cash subsidy to elders with financial needs. LIFA will also be an important targeted poverty alleviation measure after its implementation in 2016.

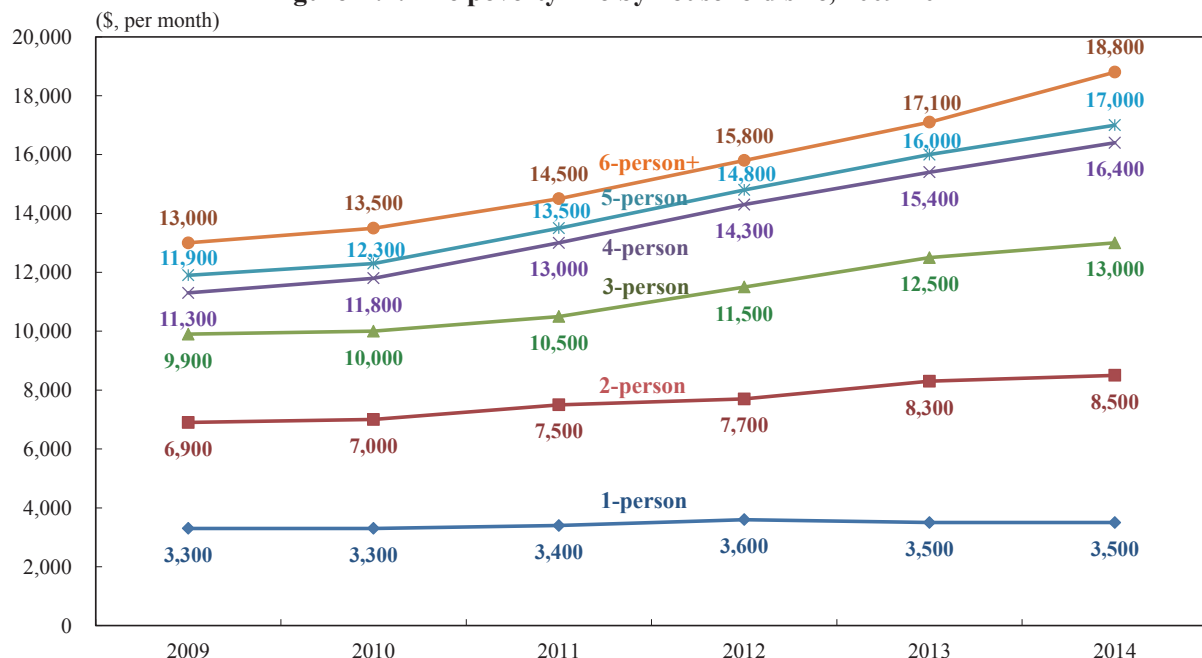
# Appendices



## A1 Poverty Line and Its Analytical Framework

A1.1 Based on the three functions (viz. analysing the poverty situation, assisting policy formulation, and assessing policy effectiveness) and five guiding principles (including ready measurability, international comparability, regular data availability, cost-effectiveness, and amenability to compilation and interpretation) of setting the poverty line, after rounds of discussion, the first-term CoP reached a general consensus on the proposal of: **adopting the concept of relative poverty, with the monthly household income before policy intervention as the basis for measurement, and setting the poverty line at 50% of the median household income by household size (Figure A.1)**<sup>34</sup>. The second-term CoP followed the poverty line framework adopted by the first-term CoP.

Figure A.1: The poverty line by household size, 2009-2014



Source: General Household Survey, Census and Statistics Department.

### A1.1 A Few Important Concepts

#### (a) Relative poverty

A1.2 There are two mainstream approaches to setting a poverty line, based either on the concept of absolute poverty or relative poverty. In short, the former concept identifies individuals who cannot meet a level of “minimum subsistence” or “basic needs” as poor, while the latter focuses on living standards below that of the general public, which is consistent with the guiding poverty alleviation principle of enabling different strata of the society to share the fruit of economic development.

<sup>34</sup> For details of the mainstream approaches to setting the poverty line and their assessment, please refer to **Appendix 1** and **Appendix 2** of the *Hong Kong Poverty Situation Report 2012*.

A1.3 The first-term CoP noted that adopting relative poverty is in line with the current international practice of most developed economies, such as OECD and the EU, and hence the corresponding statistics compiled would be more readily and broadly comparable. In addition, as Hong Kong is a mature and developed economy, it would be difficult to form broad consensus if only those living below the minimum subsistence level are regarded as poor.

**(b) Pre-intervention household income as the basis for measurement**

A1.4 Having regard to the international experience on adopting the concept of relative poverty, the first-term CoP found that many places set their poverty lines by anchoring to a certain percentage of median household income. In other words, households with income below the selected percentage of the median would be defined as poor<sup>35</sup>.

A1.5 Moreover, the poverty line thresholds are estimated with the effects of taxation and various cash benefits excluded from household income. This is to prevent the poverty line thresholds from being affected by policy intervention, which is in cognisance with one important function of the poverty line, i.e. to assess policy effectiveness.

A1.6 Simply put, household income can be classified into the following two types:

- (i) **“Pre-intervention household income”**: it literally refers to the original household income without taxation or any other policy intervention<sup>36</sup>. It only includes a household’s own employment earnings and other cash income. Setting a poverty line on such a basis aims to reveal the most fundamental situation of a household.
- (ii) **“Post-intervention household income”**: on top of (i), by deducting taxes and adding back all recurrent cash benefits (such as CSSA, OAA, OALA, DA and WITS, etc.<sup>37</sup>), the derived household income

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35 There are views that the expenditure patterns of households should also be taken into account when setting the poverty line. For example, household income net of housing expenses should be used to define poverty. However, the related statistics are mainly from the HES conducted by C&SD once every five years. The first-term CoP therefore reckoned that a poverty line based on such concept would be difficult to provide timely updates. As such, the first-term CoP’s decision is to adopt household income as the basic standard for measuring poverty. The data from the 2014/15 HES will help understand the expenditure patterns of poor households and provide supplementary analysis for the poverty line framework.

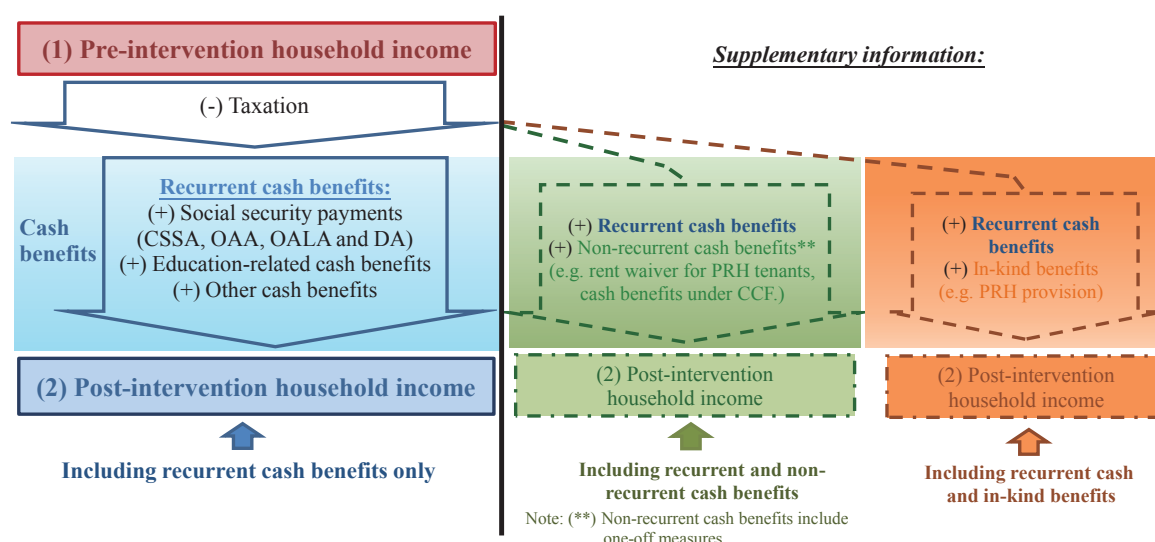
36 Refers to items in **Table A.3** in **Appendix 3**.

37 For details of the benefit items and their estimation methodologies, please see **Appendix 3**.

can more genuinely reflect the amount of monthly disposable cash available for a household.<sup>38</sup>

A1.7 The first-term CoP noted that the Government introduced many non-recurrent cash benefits (including one-off measures), involving a considerable amount of public spending. Although these measures can provide direct support to the grassroots, they are non-recurrent in nature. The first-term CoP therefore considered that the core analytical framework should only cover recurrent cash benefits, while poverty statistics after taking into account non-recurrent cash items should serve as supplementary information for policy effectiveness assessment. On the other hand, the first-term CoP agreed that many of the means-tested in-kind benefits can indeed benefit the poor and undoubtedly alleviate their poverty situation. Hence, relevant poverty figures should also be estimated as supplementary information (**Figure A.2**).

**Figure A.2: Schematic representation of pre- and post-intervention household income**



**(c) Setting the poverty line at 50% of the median household income by household size**

A1.8 The first-term CoP also noted that it has been a common practice, both internationally and locally, to set the poverty line at 50% of the median household income. For instance, OECD adopts 50% of the median household income as the main poverty threshold. In Hong Kong, some non-governmental organisations (such as HKCSS and Oxfam) also adopt 50% of the median household income as the poverty line.

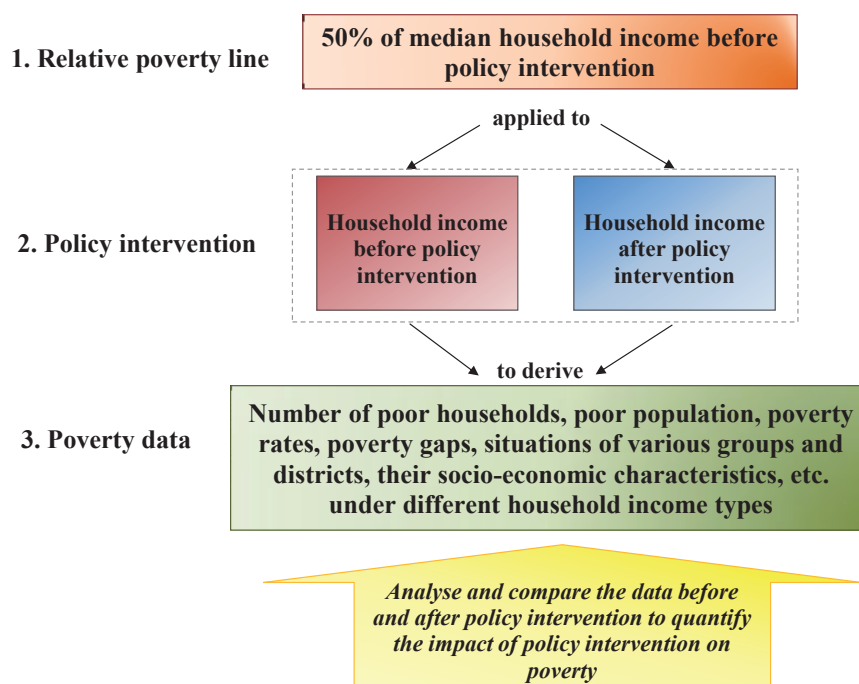
<sup>38</sup> Internationally, cash benefits offered by the government are usually counted as household income in the analysis of poverty and income distribution. For instance, EU includes government cash allowances as one of the components in the estimation of household “disposable income”. For details, please see EU’s webpage on metadata ([http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/cache/metadata/en/ilc\\_esms.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/cache/metadata/en/ilc_esms.htm)).

A1.9 In addition, household size certainly affects living needs. For example, a 2-person family normally consumes fewer resources than a 4-person family. But since some resources can be shared among household members, the larger the household, the greater the economies of scale, thus the lesser average living needs of each family member. The first-term CoP agreed to make reference to the approach currently adopted by HKCSS and Oxfam, i.e. setting different poverty line thresholds according to household size<sup>39</sup>.

## A1.II Analytical Framework

A1.10 One of the major functions of the poverty line is to assess policy effectiveness. By estimating two types of household income as illustrated above, we can analyse the changes in poverty indicators before and after policy intervention, so as to quantify and evaluate the effectiveness of existing poverty alleviation measures. This is useful for facilitating policy review (**Figure A.3**). By the same token, the poverty line also serves as a tool for simulating the effect of policy initiatives under deliberation on various poverty indicators, thereby providing objective policy guidance.

**Figure A.3: Schematic representation of the poverty line and its analytical framework**



<sup>39</sup> As far as the effect of household size on economies of scale is concerned, one approach is to adopt the “equivalence scale”. Upon deliberation, the first-term CoP concluded that internationally there is no universal standard for the equivalence scale, and its application and estimation methodology are also controversial. It would be difficult for the public to understand and interpret the figures, and therefore not in compliance with the guiding principle of “amenability to compilation and interpretation” in setting a poverty line. For details, please refer to **Box 2.1** of the *Hong Kong Poverty Situation Report 2012*.



- A1.11 With reference to international practice, there are several major poverty indicators under the poverty line framework, namely (i) poverty incidence (including the number of poor households and the size of the poor population) and (ii) poverty rate for measuring the extent of poverty, and (iii) poverty gap (including average and total poverty gaps) for measuring the depth of poverty<sup>40</sup>.
- A1.12 Statistics for poverty analysis are mainly sourced from GHS of C&SD. The data collected can be further analysed by a set of socio-economic characteristics, such as gender, age, employment conditions and district, etc. Focused analysis of the conditions of various groups, such as elderly, single-parent and unemployed households (**Table A.1**) can also be conducted.

**Table A.1: Four selected key household characteristics for focused analysis under the analytical framework**

(i) Social	(ii) Economic	(iii) Housing	(iv) District
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Elderly</li> <li>▪ Youth</li> <li>▪ With-children</li> <li>▪ CSSA</li> <li>▪ Single-parent</li> <li>▪ New-arrival</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Economically inactive</li> <li>▪ Working</li> <li>▪ Unemployed</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ PRH</li> <li>▪ Subsidised sale flats</li> <li>▪ Private housing (owner-occupiers)</li> <li>▪ Private housing (tenants)</li> <li>▪ Temporary housing</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ by the 18 District Council districts</li> </ul>

Note: For the definitions of various household groups, please refer to the **Glossary**.

- A1.13 Nevertheless, given the constraint of sample design and size, statistics for some specific groups cannot be disseminated from GHS. For instance, it is not possible to provide further breakdowns for each of the 18 District Council districts. In addition, data regarding some groups (e.g. ethnic minorities and persons with disabilities) are not available. As such, a special topic enquiry was conducted by C&SD in 2013 to interview and collect data on persons with disabilities in Hong Kong. Relevant analysis of their poverty situation is furnished in the *Hong Kong Poverty Situation Report on Disability 2013* published last year. As regards ethnic minorities, on the basis of the results of the *2011 Population Census* conducted by C&SD, detailed analysis on the population and their socio-economic characteristics, etc. of major ethnic minority groups in Hong Kong will be conducted so as to identify and understand the underprivileged ethnic groups. In addition, to collect latest information on the ethnic groups, and quantify the poverty situation in accordance with the poverty line framework approved by CoP,

<sup>40</sup> For definitions of these poverty indicators, please refer to **Appendix 2**.

C&SD conducted the “Survey on Households with School Children of South Asian Ethnicities” from May 2014 to June 2015. The results of the analyses of the relevant poverty situation are expected to be released in the fourth quarter of 2015.

### **A1.III Limitations of the Poverty Line**

A1.14 There is no perfect way of setting the poverty line. The following few major limitations must be observed:

#### **(a) Does not take assets into account**

A1.15 Since the poverty line takes household income as the single indicator for measuring poverty without considering the amount of assets and liabilities, some “asset-rich, income-poor” persons (such as retired elderly with considerable amount of savings or holding properties) might as a result be classified as poor. Such limitation should not be overlooked when interpreting the poverty figures.

#### **(b) The poverty line is not a “poverty alleviation line”**

A1.16 Without considering household assets, the poverty line cannot be taken as the eligibility criteria of any poverty alleviation initiatives. In other words, setting the poverty line does not mean that the Government should automatically offer subsidies to individuals or households below the poverty line. On the contrary, even if the household incomes of some groups are slightly above the poverty line, they will still be eligible for government subsidies subject to meeting of the means tests for individual support schemes<sup>41</sup>.

A1.17 Poverty line is an analytical tool for identifying the poor population, facilitating policy formulation, and assessing the effectiveness of government intervention in alleviating poverty. As such, the poverty line should not be linked directly to the means-tested mechanisms of assistance schemes.

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41 In fact, the eligibility criteria on income of most of the existing assistance schemes are more lenient than the poverty line thresholds. For example, the income limits of the WITS Scheme were about 60% to 105% of median household income (based on the limits of “effective income level”, i.e. income before deducting mandatory employees’ Mandatory Provident Fund contribution, applicable from February 2014 to January 2015). As for LIFA to be introduced, a two-tier system for the allowance by household income will be adopted: household income at or lower than 50% of the median, and between 50% and 60% of the median.

**(c) The poor population always exists statistically**

A1.18 Under normal circumstances, there are always people in poverty statistically based on a relative poverty line set at a percentage of the median household income. It is because under such concept, households with income “relatively” lower than that of the overall by a certain extent are, by definition, classified as poor. Therefore, an economic upturn with a widespread improvement in household income does not guarantee a decrease in the size of the poor population, especially when the income growth of households below poverty line is less promising as compared to the overall (i.e. median income).

## A2 Quantitative Indicators of the Poverty Line

A2.1 The quantitative indicators in this Appendix are widely adopted internationally. For details, please refer to Houghton and Khandker (2009) and Rio Group (2006).

**Table A.2: Quantitative indicators of the poverty line**

Indicator	Detailed definition
<p><b>1. Poverty incidence</b></p>	<p><b>Poverty incidence (<math>n</math>)</b> can be divided into the following two categories:</p> <p><b>(i) Number of poor households (<math>k</math>):</b> the number of households with household income below the poverty line.</p> <p><b>(ii) Poor population (<math>q</math>):</b> the number of persons living in poor households.</p> <p>Poverty incidence is the main indicator to measure the extent of poverty.</p>
<p><b>2. Poverty rate</b></p>	<p><b>Poverty rate (<math>H_p</math>)</b> is the proportion of poor population (<math>q</math>) in total population living in domestic households (<math>N_p</math>):</p> $H_p = \frac{q}{N_p}$
<p><b>3. Total poverty gap</b></p>	<p><b>Total poverty gap (<math>G_t</math>)</b> is the sum of the difference between the income (<math>y_i</math>) of each poor household (<math>k_i</math>) and the poverty line (<math>z</math>):</p> $G_t = \sum_{i=1}^k (z - y_i)$ <p>It represents the total amount of fiscal expenditure theoretically required for eliminating poverty. It is the main indicator to measure the depth of poverty.</p>
<p><b>4. Average poverty gap</b></p>	<p><b>Average poverty gap (<math>G_a</math>)</b> is the total poverty gap divided by the number of poor households (<math>k</math>):</p> $G_a = \frac{G_t}{k}$ <p>The average poverty gap represents the average amount of fiscal expenditure theoretically required to eliminate poverty for each poor household.</p>

### **A3 Policy Intervention - Coverage, Estimation and Limitations**

A3.1 Currently, household income collected by GHS of C&SD only includes household members' own employment and investment income (including regularly received rents, dividends, etc.), regular monthly social security payments (such as CSSA, OAA, etc.) and other non-welfare cash income (i.e. basic income).

A3.2 Given one of the major functions of the poverty line is to assess the effectiveness of poverty alleviation measures, it is necessary to further estimate the changes in household income before and after policy intervention. The ensuing paragraphs generally describe the coverage of these policy intervention items (**Table A.3**) and their corresponding estimation methodologies.

#### **A3.1 Policy Items Included in the Estimation of Main Poverty Statistics**

##### **(a) Taxation**

A3.3 Taxation includes (i) salaries tax, (ii) property tax; and (iii) rates and Government rent paid by households.

A3.4 The amount of salaries tax is estimated mainly based on the information provided by respondents of GHS on their household members' employment earnings and household composition. The amount of property tax is imputed based on reported rental income. The imputation of rates and Government rent are based primarily on the relevant data by type of housing (PRH: the administrative records provided by the Housing Authority and Housing Society; private housing: the 2011 Population Census results).

##### **(b) Recurrent cash benefits**

A3.5 Recurrent cash benefits can primarily be categorised into the following types:

- **Social security payments:** including CSSA, OAA, OALA and DA. As some GHS respondents are not willing to reveal their social security status of receiving CSSA, C&SD has carried out a reconciliation exercise between the GHS database and SWD's administrative records in order to obtain a more precise estimation of CSSA payments received by households; and
- **Other recurrent cash benefits:** refer to other Government measures that provide cash assistance to eligible households / persons, such as: Financial Assistance Scheme for Post-secondary Students,

WITS Scheme, etc. Since existing surveys for the direct provision of relevant data of these measures are not available, it is necessary for the corresponding bureaux / departments to provide relevant information from administrative records, including the number of benefited persons / households and their socio-economic characteristics (such as household income, age profiles of residents, etc.) for C&SD's data imputation. The amount of benefits will be imputed to the income of persons / households estimated to be the beneficiaries.

### **A3.II Policy Items Regarded as Supplementary Information**

#### **(a) Non-recurrent cash benefits (including one-off measures)**

A3.6 The Government has provided quite a number of non-recurrent cash benefits (including one-off measures) to the public in recent years. Although CoP considered that the core analytical framework should only cover recurrent cash benefits, the impact of non-recurrent measures on poverty should still be provided as supplementary information. The estimation methodology of these benefits is similar to that of recurrent cash benefits. **Box 2.1** of this Report provides an overview of the poverty statistics after factoring in non-recurrent cash benefits for reference.

#### **(b) Means-tested in-kind benefits**

A3.7 Whilst CoP considered that the core analytical framework should focus on the situation after recurrent cash policy intervention, it also agreed that means-tested in-kind benefits are also important poverty alleviation measures and thus their effectiveness should also be evaluated as a reference for policy analysis. **Box 2.2** provides the analysis of poverty statistics after taking these means-tested in-kind benefits into account.

A3.8 Besides the estimation of means-tested in-kind benefits arising from PRH provision, the amount of other means-tested in-kind benefits are also imputed by C&SD based on the socio-economic characteristics of beneficiaries (persons / households) extracted from the administrative records of the respective bureaux and departments. The amount of benefits will then be imputed to the income of the eligible individuals / households.

A3.9 The estimation methodology of PRH benefit is controversial. It also contributes substantially to the sum of all in-kind benefits to be estimated. Please refer to **Appendix 4** for details.

**Table A.3: Detailed coverage of policy measures recommended by CoP\*\***

<b>Pre-intervention</b>					
-					
<b>Taxation</b> (salaries tax and property tax, as well as rates and Government rent)					
+					
<b>Cash benefits</b>					
<table border="1"> <tr> <th style="text-align: center;">Recurrent cash benefits</th> </tr> <tr> <td> <b>Social security schemes</b>            ➤ CSSA, OAA, OALA and DA  <b>Other cash benefits</b>            ➤ School Textbook Assistance Scheme (including the “Enhancement of the flat rate grant under the School Textbook Assistance Scheme”<sup>*(+)</sup>)            ➤ Student Travel Subsidy Scheme            ➤ Tuition Fee Reimbursement for Project Yi Jin Students            ➤ Financial Assistance Scheme for Post-secondary Students            ➤ Tertiary Student Finance Scheme - Publicly-funded Programmes            ➤ Transport Support Scheme            ➤ WITS Scheme            ➤ Grant for Emergency Alarm System            ➤ Examination Fee Remission Scheme            ➤ Subsidy Scheme for Internet Access Charges            ➤ Child Development Fund Targeted Savings Scheme - Special Financial Incentive            ➤ Enhancement of the financial assistance for needy students pursuing programmes below sub-degree level*         </td> </tr> </table>	Recurrent cash benefits	<b>Social security schemes</b> ➤ CSSA, OAA, OALA and DA <b>Other cash benefits</b> ➤ School Textbook Assistance Scheme (including the “Enhancement of the flat rate grant under the School Textbook Assistance Scheme” <sup>*(+)</sup> ) ➤ Student Travel Subsidy Scheme ➤ Tuition Fee Reimbursement for Project Yi Jin Students ➤ Financial Assistance Scheme for Post-secondary Students ➤ Tertiary Student Finance Scheme - Publicly-funded Programmes ➤ Transport Support Scheme ➤ WITS Scheme ➤ Grant for Emergency Alarm System ➤ Examination Fee Remission Scheme ➤ Subsidy Scheme for Internet Access Charges ➤ Child Development Fund Targeted Savings Scheme - Special Financial Incentive ➤ Enhancement of the financial assistance for needy students pursuing programmes below sub-degree level*	<table border="1"> <tr> <th style="text-align: center;">Non-recurrent cash benefits (including one-off measures)</th> </tr> <tr> <td>           ➤ Tax rebate for salaries tax and tax under personal assessment            ➤ Rates waiver            ➤ Rent payments for public housing tenants            ➤ Additional provision of CSSA, OAA, DA and OALA payments            ➤ Providing \$1,000 allowance to students receiving CSSA or student financial assistance            ➤ Electricity charges subsidy            ➤ “Scheme \$6,000”            ➤ \$6,000 allowance for new arrivals<sup>~</sup>            ➤ Subsidy for CSSA recipients living in rented private housing and paying a rent exceeding the maximum rent allowance under CSSA Scheme<sup>~</sup>            ➤ Subsidy for low-income elderly tenants in private housing<sup>~</sup>            ➤ Subsidy for low-income persons who are inadequately housed<sup>~</sup>            ➤ Subsidy for the severely disabled persons aged below 60 who are non-CSSA recipients requiring constant attendance and living in the community<sup>~</sup>            ➤ Enhancement of the flat rate grant under the School Textbook Assistance Scheme<sup>*~</sup>            ➤ Enhancement of the financial assistance for needy students pursuing programmes below sub-degree level<sup>*~</sup>            ➤ One-off living subsidy for low-income households not living in public housing and not receiving CSSA<sup>~</sup>            ➤ Increasing the academic expenses grant under the Financial Assistance Scheme for Post-secondary Students<sup>~</sup> </td> </tr> </table>	Non-recurrent cash benefits (including one-off measures)	➤ Tax rebate for salaries tax and tax under personal assessment ➤ Rates waiver ➤ Rent payments for public housing tenants ➤ Additional provision of CSSA, OAA, DA and OALA payments ➤ Providing \$1,000 allowance to students receiving CSSA or student financial assistance ➤ Electricity charges subsidy ➤ “Scheme \$6,000” ➤ \$6,000 allowance for new arrivals <sup>~</sup> ➤ Subsidy for CSSA recipients living in rented private housing and paying a rent exceeding the maximum rent allowance under CSSA Scheme <sup>~</sup> ➤ Subsidy for low-income elderly tenants in private housing <sup>~</sup> ➤ Subsidy for low-income persons who are inadequately housed <sup>~</sup> ➤ Subsidy for the severely disabled persons aged below 60 who are non-CSSA recipients requiring constant attendance and living in the community <sup>~</sup> ➤ Enhancement of the flat rate grant under the School Textbook Assistance Scheme <sup>*~</sup> ➤ Enhancement of the financial assistance for needy students pursuing programmes below sub-degree level <sup>*~</sup> ➤ One-off living subsidy for low-income households not living in public housing and not receiving CSSA <sup>~</sup> ➤ Increasing the academic expenses grant under the Financial Assistance Scheme for Post-secondary Students <sup>~</sup>
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↓	↓				
<b>Post-intervention (recurrent cash)</b>	<b>Post-intervention (recurrent + non-recurrent cash)</b>				
+					
<b>Means-tested in-kind benefits</b>					
<b>In-kind benefits</b>					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ PRH provision</li> <li>➤ Kindergarten and Child Care Centre Fee Remission Scheme</li> <li>➤ School-based After-school Learning and Support Programmes</li> <li>➤ Medical Fee Waiver</li> <li>➤ Home Environment Improvement Scheme for the Elderly</li> <li>➤ Building Maintenance Grant Scheme for Elderly Owners</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ After-school Learning Support Partnership Pilot Scheme</li> <li>➤ Subsidy for elders aged 65 or above from low-income families who are on the waiting list of Integrated Home Care Services (Ordinary Cases) for household cleaning and escorting services for medical consultations<sup>~</sup></li> <li>➤ Setting up School-based Fund (Cross Boundary Learning Activities) to subsidise primary and secondary school students from low-income families to participate in cross-boundary activities and competitions<sup>~</sup></li> <li>➤ Subsidy to meet lunch expenses at whole-day primary schools for students from low-income families<sup>&amp;~</sup></li> </ul>				
↓					
<b>Post-intervention (recurrent cash + in-kind)</b>					
Notes:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>□ Included in the estimation of main poverty figures.</li> <li>(**) Including policy items estimated for 2009-2014.</li> <li>(*) Relevant programmes were regularised in the 2014/15 school year, so the involved transfer under non-recurrent cash benefits was estimated up to 31 August 2014. The transfer since 1 September 2014 was estimated as recurrent cash benefits.</li> <li>(+) Since 1 September 2014, the subsidy under the “Enhancement of Flat Rate Grant under the School Textbook Assistance Scheme” has been distributed together with the subsidy under the “School Textbook Assistance Scheme”.</li> <li>(&amp;) The relevant CCF programme was regularised in the 2014/15 school year.</li> </ul>				

### **A3.III Measures Not Included**

A3.10 For universal in-kind benefits without means tests, such as public medical services and education, CoP's decision was that these measures should not be included in the framework as they are neither targeted nor means-tested and all citizens in the general public are able to enjoy.

### **A3.IV Limitations**

A3.11 CoP understood that estimations of these benefits are subject to the following major limitations:

- (i) **Estimation subject to statistical errors:** data inconsistencies exist in terms of classifications and definitions between the data collected from GHS and administrative records. Also, detailed information regarding some benefit items to be estimated (e.g. the socio-economic characteristics of recipients) is unavailable. All these could give rise to statistical errors;
- (ii) **Estimation results involve randomness:** due to data limitations of GHS (e.g. data on household assets are unavailable), it is not possible to identify exactly the eligible individuals / households from the survey even if detailed profiles are available from administrative records. Only individuals / households with characteristics closest to the eligibility criteria will be randomly selected from the database for imputation. In other words, the resulting estimated poverty figures are only one of the many possible random allocation outcomes;
- (iii) **Time series data before 2009 are unavailable:** due to data limitations, statistics on taxation and benefit transfers before 2009 are not available; and
- (iv) **Figures different from those regularly released by the Government:** all the estimations in this Report are tailor-made for the setting of poverty line and its analytical framework, altering the original household income distributions. Hence, the related statistical figures would naturally deviate, to a certain degree, from those in the "Quarterly Report on General Household Survey" regularly released by C&SD. The two sets of data should not be compared due to their differences in estimation methodologies.

A3.12 Due to the above limitations, the poverty figures should be studied with care to avoid any misinterpretations of the statistics.



## A4 In-kind Transfer from Provision of Public Rental Housing - Estimation and Limitations

A4.1 As illustrated in **Box 2.2**, apart from recurrent cash benefits, the Government has also provided various means-tested in-kind benefits, with PRH provision being the most important one. In fact, the share of PRH in the total number of quarters in Hong Kong is higher than those in some developed economies<sup>42</sup>. PRH could undoubtedly alleviate the burden of the grassroots and its effectiveness in alleviating poverty is undisputable. Thus, CoP agreed that its policy effectiveness should also be assessed as supplementary information.

### A4.I Estimation Methodology

A4.2 As households in PRH do not obtain actual cash transfers, C&SD adopts the marginal analysis approach to estimate the amount of housing benefits. The concept is that if a PRH unit were leased in a hypothetical open market, the difference between the market rent and the actual rent paid by the household would be the opportunity cost of PRH provision to the Government and thus the housing benefits enjoyed by the household.

A4.3 This estimation methodology stems from the concept of opportunity cost and is in line with the mainstream international practice (such as OECD and EU). In fact, this methodology of estimating PRH benefits has been adopted before as early as in 2007, when C&SD consulted various sectors (including academia) regarding the estimation methodology for the value of different kinds of social transfers (mainly for the compilation of the Gini Coefficient then). The current approach was the result after consultation and has gained wide acceptance during consultation at that time.

A4.4 The estimation methodology of in-kind benefits arising from PRH provision is illustrated below (**Figure A.4**):

- (i) First, the whole territory is divided into some 4 000 street blocks. The two-year average of market rent<sup>43</sup> of all PRH units in a street block is then estimated using information provided by the Rating and Valuation Department while the two-year average of the actual rent paid by all PRH units in that street block is computed based on

42 The share of public housing in the overall number of living quarters in Hong Kong was 29%, much higher than that of other developed economies, including Denmark (20.0%), the UK (18.2%), France (17.4%), Germany (4.2%) and Spain (2.4%).

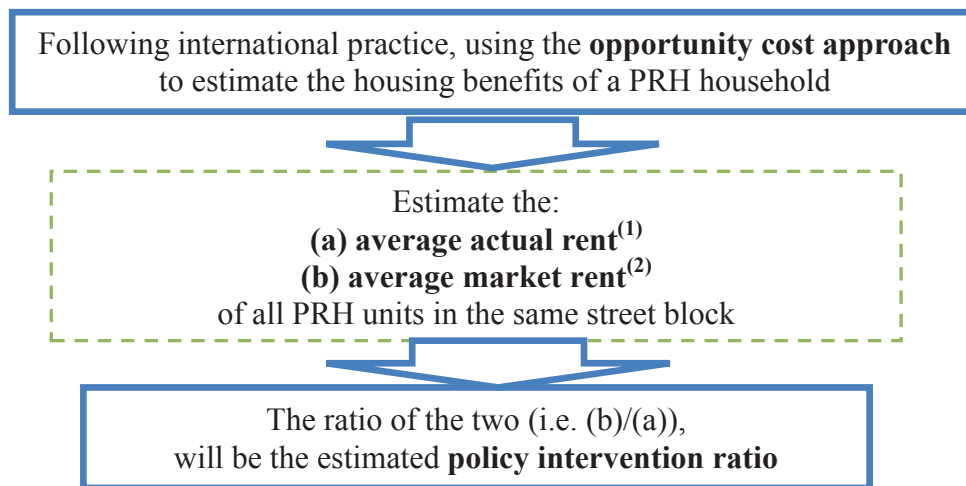
43 All rents are net of rates, Government rents and management fees.

information from the Housing Department. The ratio between the two is the estimated average policy intervention ratio for all PRH units in that particular street block.

- (ii) The market rent of a PRH unit is imputed by multiplying the actual rent paid by the household collected from GHS by the corresponding average policy intervention ratio for that street block. The difference between the imputed market rent and actual rent paid by a particular household is the estimated housing benefits received by that household.

**Figure A.4: Methodology of estimating the in-kind transfer of PRH provision**

**Step 1:**



**Step 2:**

$$\text{PRH household's actual rent paid}^{(3)} \times (\text{Estimated ratio} - 1) = \text{Estimated housing benefits of a household in PRH}$$

Sources: (1) Housing Department; (2) Rating and Valuation Department; and (3) Census and Statistics Department.

## A4.II Limitations

A4.5 CoP acknowledged that the estimation of housing benefits has the following major limitations:

- (i) **The benefits are not real cash assistance:** to some extent, a rise in private rent would increase the estimated housing benefits imputed to PRH households, possibly lifting more households out of poverty. However, the disposable income in their "pockets" does not actually increase.

- (ii) Estimated market rent of a PRH unit is not based on actual market transactions:** the estimation assumes that a PRH unit could be leased in an open market, but such assumption is not achievable.
- (iii) Using the two-year average market rent:** concerning the estimation of the market rent of a PRH unit, CoP examined whether the rent of a particular year, the average rent of the past two years or of several preceding years<sup>44</sup> should be used. Ultimately, CoP decided to adopt taking a two-year average since most private rental flats are of a two-year lease at present. Whilst the choice inherits arbitrariness, the advantage is that the imputed housing benefits could broadly reflect private rental changes and somewhat reduce short-term fluctuations.

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44 Using the market rent of a particular year would allow the PRH benefits to better reflect the current situation but would be subject to larger fluctuations over time especially when the private rental market is volatile. On the other hand, taking the average of the market rents of the past several years can smoothen the series, thereby producing a more stable estimate of the in-kind benefits arisen from PRH provision. However, it would then fail to reflect the latest situation.

## A5 Statistical Appendix

### A. Main Tables

- (1) Key poverty statistics, 2009-2014
- (2) Detailed poverty statistics before policy intervention
- (3) Detailed poverty statistics after policy intervention (recurrent cash)

### B. Supplementary Tables

- (1) Key poverty statistics, 2009-2014
- (2) Poverty statistics after policy intervention (recurrent + non-recurrent cash)
- (3) Poverty statistics after policy intervention (recurrent cash + in-kind)

Notes: The numbers of households and persons by social characteristic are not mutually exclusive.  
Unless otherwise specified, FDHs are excluded.  
Poor households are defined by the poverty line below:

**The poverty line by household size, 2009-2014**  
(50% of the pre-intervention median monthly household income)

	1-person	2-person	3-person	4-person	5-person	6-person+
2009	\$3,300	\$6,900	\$9,900	\$11,300	\$11,900	\$13,000
2010	\$3,300	\$7,000	\$10,000	\$11,800	\$12,300	\$13,500
2011	\$3,400	\$7,500	\$10,500	\$13,000	\$13,500	\$14,500
2012	\$3,600	\$7,700	\$11,500	\$14,300	\$14,800	\$15,800
2013	\$3,500	\$8,300	\$12,500	\$15,400	\$16,000	\$17,100
2014	\$3,500	\$8,500	\$13,000	\$16,400	\$17,000	\$18,800

- { } Figures in curly brackets denote the proportions of relevant households / persons, in all domestic households / persons residing in domestic households of the corresponding groups.
- ( ) Figures in parentheses denote the proportions of relevant (poor) households / persons, in (poor) domestic households / persons residing in domestic households of the corresponding groups.
- < > Figures in angle brackets denote the proportions of relevant (poor) employed persons, in (poor) employed persons residing in domestic households of the corresponding groups.
- (\*) Other economically inactive persons include pregnant women, those who cannot work or do not seek work.
- (^ ) Demographic dependency ratio refers to the number of persons aged under 18 (child dependency ratio) and aged 65 and above (elderly dependency ratio) per 1 000 persons aged between 18 and 64.
- (#) Economic dependency ratio refers to the number of economically inactive persons per 1 000 economically active persons.
- (§) Estimates less than 250 and related statistics derived based on such estimates (e.g. percentages, rates and median) are not released due to large sampling errors.
- (-) Not applicable.
- (@) Percentages less than 0.05% / percentage changes within  $\pm 0.05\%$  / average numbers of persons less than 0.05 / increases or decreases in the number of households or persons less than 50 / monetary amount less than \$50. Such statistics are also not shown in the table.

There may be slight discrepancies between the sums of individual items and the totals due to rounding.

Percentages may not add up to 100% due to rounding.

Except poverty rate, changes of all statistics are derived from unrounded figures.

All percentage changes are calculated using unrounded figures.

Source: General Household Survey, Census and Statistics Department.

**A. Main Tables**

<b>(1) Key poverty statistics, 2009-2014</b>	
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Table A.1.2	Poverty indicators (compared with the poverty indicators before policy intervention)
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Table A.2.2	Poor population by selected household group
Table A.2.3	Poverty rate by selected household group
Table A.2.4	Total poverty gap by selected household group
Table A.2.5	Average poverty gap by selected household group
<b>Detailed socio-economic characteristics of poor households, 2014</b>	
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Table A.2.7	Socio-economic characteristics of poor households by selected household group (2)
Table A.2.8	Socio-economic characteristics of poor households by District Council district (1)
Table A.2.9	Socio-economic characteristics of poor households by District Council district (2)
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Table A.2.13	Socio-economic characteristics of poor population by District Council district (1)
Table A.2.14	Socio-economic characteristics of poor population by District Council district (2)
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**A. Main Tables (Cont'd)**

<b>(3) Detailed poverty statistics after policy intervention (recurrent cash)</b>	
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Table A.3.2a	Poor population by selected household group
Table A.3.3a	Poverty rate by selected household group
Table A.3.4a	Total poverty gap by selected household group
Table A.3.5a	Average poverty gap by selected household group
<b>Poverty indicators, 2009-2014 (with the 2014 comparison of pre- and post-intervention poverty indicators)</b>	
Table A.3.1b	Poor households by selected household group
Table A.3.2b	Poor population by selected household group
Table A.3.3b	Poverty rate by selected household group
Table A.3.4b	Total poverty gap by selected household group
Table A.3.5b	Average poverty gap by selected household group
<b>Detailed socio-economic characteristics of poor households, 2014</b>	
Table A.3.6	Socio-economic characteristics of poor households by selected household group (1)
Table A.3.7	Socio-economic characteristics of poor households by selected household group (2)
Table A.3.8	Socio-economic characteristics of poor households by District Council district (1)
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<b>Detailed socio-economic characteristics of poor population, 2014</b>	
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Table A.3.15	Socio-economic characteristics of poor population by District Council district (3)

**Table A.1.1: Poverty indicators, 2009-2014 (compared with the previous year)**

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014						
<b>(A) Before policy intervention</b>												
I. Poor households ('000)	541.1	535.5	530.3	540.6	554.9	555.2						
II. Poor population ('000)	1 348.4	1 322.0	1 295.0	1 312.3	1 336.2	1 324.8						
III. Poverty rate (%)	20.6	20.1	19.6	19.6	19.9	19.6						
IV. Poverty gap												
Annual total gap (HK\$Mn)	25,424.4	25,943.0	26,891.7	28,798.4	30,640.4	32,785.4						
Monthly average gap (HK\$)	3,900	4,000	4,200	4,400	4,600	4,900						
<b>(B) After policy intervention (recurrent cash)</b>												
I. Poor households ('000)	406.3	405.3	398.8	403.0	384.8	382.6						
II. Poor population ('000)	1 043.4	1 030.6	1 005.4	1 017.8	972.2	962.1						
III. Poverty rate (%)	16.0	15.7	15.2	15.2	14.5	14.3						
IV. Poverty gap												
Annual total gap (HK\$Mn)	12,790.0	12,829.8	13,701.2	14,807.6	15,019.6	15,819.8						
Monthly average gap (HK\$)	2,600	2,600	2,900	3,100	3,300	3,400						
<b>Compared with the previous year</b>												
	<b>Change</b>	<b>% change</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>% change</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>% change</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>% change</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>% change</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>% change</b>
<b>(A) Before policy intervention</b>												
I. Poor households ('000)		-5.5	-1.0	-5.2	-1.0	10.3	2.0	14.3	2.6	0.3	0.1	
II. Poor population ('000)		-26.4	-2.0	-27.0	-2.0	17.4	1.3	23.9	1.8	-11.4	-0.9	
III. Poverty rate (%)		-0.5	-	-0.5	-	@	-	0.3	-	-0.3	-	
IV. Poverty gap												
Annual total gap (HK\$Mn)		518.6	2.0	948.8	3.7	1,906.6	7.1	1,842.1	6.4	2,145.0	7.0	
Monthly average gap (HK\$)		100	3.1	200	4.7	200	5.0	200	3.7	300	6.9	
<b>(B) After policy intervention (recurrent cash)</b>												
I. Poor households ('000)		-1.0	-0.2	-6.5	-1.6	4.2	1.1	-18.2	-4.5	-2.2	-0.6	
II. Poor population ('000)		-12.8	-1.2	-25.2	-2.4	12.4	1.2	-45.7	-4.5	-10.0	-1.0	
III. Poverty rate (%)		-0.3	-	-0.5	-	@	-	-0.7	-	-0.2	-	
IV. Poverty gap												
Annual total gap (HK\$Mn)		39.8	0.3	871.5	6.8	1,106.3	8.1	212.0	1.4	800.2	5.3	
Monthly average gap (HK\$)		@	@	200	8.5	200	6.9	200	6.2	200	5.9	

**Table A.1.2: Poverty indicators, 2009-2014 (compared with the poverty indicators before policy intervention)**

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014						
<b>(A) Before policy intervention</b>												
I. Poor households ('000)	541.1	535.5	530.3	540.6	554.9	555.2						
II. Poor population ('000)	1 348.4	1 322.0	1 295.0	1 312.3	1 336.2	1 324.8						
III. Poverty rate (%)	20.6	20.1	19.6	19.6	19.9	19.6						
IV. Poverty gap												
Annual total gap (HK\$Mn)	25,424.4	25,943.0	26,891.7	28,798.4	30,640.4	32,785.4						
Monthly average gap (HK\$)	3,900	4,000	4,200	4,400	4,600	4,900						
<b>(B) After policy intervention (recurrent cash)</b>												
I. Poor households ('000)	406.3	405.3	398.8	403.0	384.8	382.6						
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Monthly average gap (HK\$)	2,600	2,600	2,900	3,100	3,300	3,400						
	<b>Compared with the poverty indicators before policy intervention</b>											
	<b>Change</b>	<b>% change</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>% change</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>% change</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>% change</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>% change</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>% change</b>
I. Poor households ('000)	-134.8	-24.9	-130.2	-24.3	-131.5	-24.8	-137.6	-25.5	-170.1	-30.7	-172.6	-31.1
II. Poor population ('000)	-305.0	-22.6	-291.4	-22.0	-289.6	-22.4	-294.5	-22.4	-364.0	-27.2	-362.7	-27.4
III. Poverty rate (%)	-4.6	-	-4.4	-	-4.4	-	-4.4	-	-5.4	-	-5.3	-
IV. Poverty gap												
Annual total gap (HK\$Mn)	-12,634.4	-49.7	-13,113.2	-50.5	-13,190.5	-49.1	-13,990.8	-48.6	-15,620.9	-51.0	-16,965.6	-51.7
Monthly average gap (HK\$)	-1,300	-33.0	-1,400	-34.7	-1,400	-32.3	-1,400	-31.0	-1,300	-29.3	-1,500	-30.0



**Table A.2.1: Poor households by selected household group, 2009-2014 (with the 2014 annual change)**

Before policy intervention	No. of households ('000)						2014 compared with 2013	
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	Change	% change
<b>Overall</b>	541.1	535.5	530.3	540.6	554.9	555.2	0.3	0.1
<b>I. Household size</b>								
1-person	133.6	137.7	141.6	146.6	146.9	152.6	5.6	3.8
2-person	172.3	170.1	171.2	170.8	183.7	185.4	1.7	1.0
3-person	115.8	111.6	103.0	110.7	114.2	107.3	-6.9	-6.0
4-person	85.9	82.7	81.1	81.2	80.7	80.1	-0.7	-0.8
5-person	23.7	24.6	24.3	23.0	21.7	21.7	@	@
6-person+	9.7	8.9	9.1	8.4	7.7	8.1	0.5	6.0
<b>II. Social characteristics</b>								
CSSA households	206.7	207.3	202.2	194.8	186.3	177.3	-9.0	-4.8
Elderly households	158.4	166.8	167.6	172.3	186.3	193.4	7.1	3.8
Single-parent households	41.4	40.5	36.9	37.6	34.9	34.8	-0.1	-0.2
New-arrival households	37.8	30.6	32.3	34.1	30.4	27.8	-2.5	-8.3
Households with children	183.2	172.2	165.2	167.9	161.5	156.9	-4.6	-2.8
Youth households	2.8	2.5	2.7	3.3	2.1	2.3	0.2	10.0
<b>III. Economic characteristics</b>								
Economically inactive households	288.4	302.0	305.4	310.6	313.7	325.2	11.5	3.7
Working households	213.2	201.8	199.0	205.7	217.0	208.0	-9.0	-4.2
Unemployed households	39.4	31.7	25.9	24.4	24.2	22.0	-2.2	-9.0
<b>IV. Housing characteristics</b>								
Public rental housing	284.3	286.2	279.9	289.3	286.9	285.4	-1.6	-0.5
Subsidised sale flats	64.4	60.2	56.8	60.9	64.9	66.6	1.6	2.5
Private permanent housing	185.7	181.5	185.6	185.4	196.9	197.2	0.3	0.1
Owner-occupiers	130.0	134.5	135.2	131.6	137.6	139.0	1.4	1.0
- with mortgages or loans	16.2	10.9	12.2	12.0	13.7	12.1	-1.6	-11.4
Tenants	42.3	34.9	36.3	39.5	42.4	41.6	-0.9	-2.0
- in rooms / bedspaces / cocklofts	10.6	6.0	4.7	5.4	4.5	4.9	0.4	9.0
Temporary housing	6.7	7.6	8.0	5.0	6.2	6.1	-0.1	-0.8
<b>V. District Council districts</b>								
Central and Western	14.2	14.0	13.2	14.5	14.3	14.8	0.5	3.8
Wan Chai	8.6	9.7	9.0	9.6	9.0	10.8	1.8	20.3
Eastern	36.5	37.1	38.2	39.2	40.8	40.1	-0.8	-1.9
Southern	16.5	16.4	15.3	16.0	16.8	16.9	0.1	0.9
Yau Tsim Mong	23.5	22.9	25.0	25.7	24.5	24.5	-0.1	-0.3
Sham Shui Po	39.2	37.9	39.7	39.8	39.8	41.2	1.4	3.6
Kowloon City	25.3	24.8	24.8	25.1	25.7	27.9	2.3	8.8
Wong Tai Sin	39.1	41.4	38.1	41.6	39.8	40.5	0.6	1.6
Kwun Tong	62.0	64.3	60.6	64.2	68.6	65.1	-3.4	-5.0
Kwai Tsing	47.8	48.6	47.2	44.7	46.9	49.2	2.3	4.9
Tsuen Wan	20.9	18.5	19.1	19.7	20.4	19.2	-1.2	-5.7
Tuen Mun	42.0	39.6	39.3	40.2	41.6	41.0	-0.7	-1.6
Yuen Long	48.8	50.3	47.0	49.5	45.9	46.6	0.7	1.6
North	25.0	24.0	25.1	24.1	24.0	24.0	@	@
Tai Po	18.5	18.2	17.7	16.7	18.9	19.7	0.8	4.0
Sha Tin	39.2	37.8	38.5	39.1	44.1	41.5	-2.7	-6.0
Sai Kung	21.2	18.9	20.7	20.9	22.8	22.1	-0.7	-3.1
Islands	12.7	10.7	11.5	10.1	11.1	10.2	-0.9	-8.0

**Table A2.2: Poor population by selected household group, 2009-2014 (with the 2014 annual change)**

Before policy intervention	No. of persons ('000)						2014 compared with 2013	
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	Change	% change
<b>Overall</b>	1 348.4	1 322.0	1 295.0	1 312.3	1 336.2	1 324.8	-11.4	-0.9
<b>I. Household size</b>								
1-person	133.6	137.7	141.6	146.6	146.9	152.6	5.6	3.8
2-person	344.6	340.1	342.5	341.6	367.3	370.8	3.5	1.0
3-person	347.5	334.9	309.0	332.0	342.6	322.0	-20.6	-6.0
4-person	343.4	330.7	324.2	324.9	322.9	320.2	-2.7	-0.8
5-person	118.4	123.0	121.4	114.8	108.5	108.3	-0.2	-0.2
6-person+	60.8	55.6	56.2	52.3	47.9	50.8	2.9	6.1
<b>II. Social characteristics</b>								
CSSA households	471.3	471.8	456.1	416.3	397.1	377.8	-19.3	-4.9
Elderly households	225.4	238.9	239.2	248.0	268.9	280.7	11.8	4.4
Single-parent households	116.5	114.9	106.7	106.7	97.3	98.0	0.7	0.7
New-arrival households	133.2	108.9	115.4	119.7	103.4	95.0	-8.3	-8.1
Households with children	670.7	630.3	612.3	613.9	587.3	575.1	-12.2	-2.1
Youth households	3.7	3.5	4.1	4.8	3.9	3.8	-0.1	-3.1
<b>III. Economic characteristics</b>								
Economically inactive households	519.0	543.4	542.4	548.9	547.4	565.6	18.2	3.3
Working households	725.2	694.3	685.7	702.1	729.1	705.5	-23.6	-3.2
Unemployed households	104.2	84.3	66.9	61.3	59.7	53.6	-6.0	-10.1
<b>IV. Housing characteristics</b>								
Public rental housing	727.3	725.4	704.2	723.6	708.2	697.8	-10.4	-1.5
Subsidised sale flats	170.7	158.0	147.3	154.7	162.5	165.1	2.5	1.6
Private permanent housing	436.1	422.0	426.3	423.3	452.1	448.1	-4.0	-0.9
Owner-occupiers	304.5	305.6	309.9	295.6	308.2	304.5	-3.7	-1.2
- with mortgages or loans	48.3	33.5	37.9	35.3	39.7	34.6	-5.1	-13.0
Tenants	108.0	95.5	91.3	101.1	112.9	112.0	-0.9	-0.8
- in rooms / bedspaces / cocklofts	18.2	10.7	8.2	9.7	8.3	9.1	0.7	9.0
Temporary housing	14.3	16.5	17.1	10.7	13.4	13.8	0.4	3.0
<b>V. District Council districts</b>								
Central and Western	30.4	31.0	28.4	29.8	30.8	28.7	-2.2	-7.0
Wan Chai	17.7	18.5	18.1	19.5	17.3	19.6	2.3	13.5
Eastern	85.7	84.3	88.7	90.0	92.4	92.4	-0.1	-0.1
Southern	40.5	37.6	37.1	38.5	39.2	39.0	-0.1	-0.3
Yau Tsim Mong	52.4	52.2	56.2	56.8	57.2	55.4	-1.8	-3.1
Sham Shui Po	93.0	90.2	90.7	94.1	95.0	97.2	2.2	2.4
Kowloon City	58.8	56.8	58.9	59.0	59.5	63.4	3.9	6.6
Wong Tai Sin	97.1	100.2	92.9	101.3	97.0	99.8	2.8	2.9
Kwun Tong	148.0	155.9	145.5	157.4	164.9	154.9	-9.9	-6.0
Kwai Tsing	122.5	125.1	118.8	115.1	116.5	124.7	8.1	7.0
Tsuen Wan	51.1	46.7	48.1	46.0	47.6	47.1	-0.4	-0.9
Tuen Mun	106.2	99.6	97.1	95.9	97.8	95.6	-2.2	-2.2
Yuen Long	136.6	136.2	127.3	132.1	119.9	117.7	-2.2	-1.8
North	67.6	64.7	62.6	60.8	60.6	61.3	0.7	1.1
Tai Po	47.4	45.2	43.0	40.2	45.0	46.3	1.4	3.0
Sha Tin	100.2	98.3	94.7	94.6	108.7	99.8	-8.9	-8.2
Sai Kung	60.6	49.6	54.7	55.3	60.9	57.4	-3.6	-5.8
Islands	32.5	29.9	32.2	25.8	26.0	24.5	-1.6	-6.0

**Table A2.3: Poverty rate by selected household group, 2009-2014 (with the 2014 annual change)**

Before policy intervention	Share in the corresponding group (%)						2014 compared with 2013	
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	Change	% change
<b>Overall</b>	20.6	20.1	19.6	19.6	19.9	19.6	-0.3	-
<b>I. Household size</b>								
1-person	35.0	35.2	34.9	35.4	35.8	36.1	0.3	-
2-person	28.7	27.9	27.5	26.8	27.9	27.7	-0.2	-
3-person	19.6	18.5	16.6	17.5	18.0	16.8	-1.2	-
4-person	16.9	16.2	16.0	16.3	16.1	16.0	-0.1	-
5-person	15.4	16.1	16.2	15.4	15.1	15.4	0.3	-
6-person+	16.2	16.1	16.4	14.5	13.5	13.7	0.2	-
<b>II. Social characteristics</b>								
CSSA households	96.6	96.7	96.7	96.4	96.5	96.6	0.1	-
Elderly households	74.6	74.5	72.8	72.1	73.1	72.2	-0.9	-
Single-parent households	50.5	51.2	50.1	49.9	48.4	49.5	1.1	-
New-arrival households	41.0	40.7	39.7	39.9	40.0	36.7	-3.3	-
Households with children	22.7	21.8	21.5	21.8	21.3	21.2	-0.1	-
Youth households	4.7	4.3	5.1	6.0	5.1	5.5	0.4	-
<b>III. Economic characteristics</b>								
Economically inactive households	78.9	77.7	77.9	77.4	78.1	76.6	-1.5	-
Working households	12.6	12.0	11.7	11.9	12.3	11.9	-0.4	-
Unemployed households	86.5	84.2	83.7	84.3	84.7	81.4	-3.3	-
<b>IV. Housing characteristics</b>								
Public rental housing	36.7	36.3	35.1	35.2	34.7	34.1	-0.6	-
Subsidised sale flats	14.3	13.2	12.7	13.4	14.3	14.4	0.1	-
Private permanent housing	13.2	12.6	12.5	12.3	13.0	12.7	-0.3	-
Owner-occupiers	12.6	12.7	12.5	12.1	12.7	12.6	-0.1	-
- with mortgages or loans	4.5	3.4	3.7	3.5	4.0	3.5	-0.5	-
Tenants	15.4	12.6	12.4	12.8	13.3	12.7	-0.6	-
- in rooms / bedspaces / cocklofts	46.6	43.1	42.7	48.4	41.5	39.8	-1.7	-
Temporary housing	31.0	36.7	40.5	29.1	35.4	35.8	0.4	-
<b>V. District Council districts</b>								
Central and Western	13.4	13.5	12.8	13.2	13.9	13.1	-0.8	-
Wan Chai	12.7	13.2	13.5	14.4	13.1	14.8	1.7	-
Eastern	15.6	15.4	16.2	16.4	17.0	17.1	0.1	-
Southern	16.1	15.0	14.8	15.5	15.7	15.7	@	-
Yau Tsim Mong	18.7	18.4	19.7	19.5	19.6	19.0	-0.6	-
Sham Shui Po	26.8	26.1	25.5	25.9	26.2	26.6	0.4	-
Kowloon City	17.7	17.2	17.3	17.1	17.4	17.2	-0.2	-
Wong Tai Sin	24.1	24.8	22.9	24.8	23.6	24.3	0.7	-
Kwun Tong	25.9	26.6	24.4	25.9	26.6	25.1	-1.5	-
Kwai Tsing	24.9	25.5	24.3	23.7	24.0	25.7	1.7	-
Tsuen Wan	18.5	17.0	16.9	16.1	16.8	16.6	-0.2	-
Tuen Mun	22.6	21.1	20.8	20.5	20.8	20.2	-0.6	-
Yuen Long	26.1	25.6	23.0	23.7	21.3	20.6	-0.7	-
North	23.3	22.0	21.5	20.7	20.7	20.9	0.2	-
Tai Po	17.3	16.4	15.5	14.4	16.0	16.4	0.4	-
Sha Tin	17.4	16.8	16.1	15.9	17.9	16.4	-1.5	-
Sai Kung	15.5	12.5	13.4	13.5	14.7	13.6	-1.1	-
Islands	23.4	21.3	24.6	19.2	19.3	18.1	-1.2	-

**Table A.2.4: Total poverty gap by selected household group, 2009-2014 (with the 2014 annual change)**

Before policy intervention	HK\$Mn						2014 compared with 2013	
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	Change	% change
<b>Overall</b>	25,424.4	25,943.0	26,891.7	28,798.4	30,640.4	32,785.4	2,145.0	7.0
<b>I. Household size</b>								
1-person	4,085.5	4,263.7	4,576.5	5,043.9	5,171.5	5,454.0	282.5	5.5
2-person	8,892.2	9,123.4	9,863.9	10,178.4	11,533.8	12,581.7	1,047.8	9.1
3-person	6,137.1	6,106.2	5,643.3	6,551.3	6,762.1	7,369.5	607.4	9.0
4-person	4,389.5	4,544.4	4,743.6	4,922.0	5,118.0	5,159.8	41.8	0.8
5-person	1,289.4	1,347.6	1,415.1	1,466.5	1,475.0	1,543.4	68.4	4.6
6-person+	630.7	557.7	649.3	636.3	580.0	677.1	97.1	16.7
<b>II. Social characteristics</b>								
CSSA households	12,309.9	12,631.1	12,862.5	13,360.8	13,427.8	13,665.4	237.6	1.8
Elderly households	6,560.9	7,046.5	7,430.1	8,159.2	9,288.4	10,187.1	898.7	9.7
Single-parent households	2,807.5	3,052.8	2,881.1	3,044.7	2,945.0	3,024.8	79.8	2.7
New-arrival households	1,948.4	1,693.9	1,784.1	2,044.3	1,810.3	1,839.4	29.1	1.6
Households with children	10,122.8	9,976.9	10,043.5	10,802.2	10,623.0	11,024.1	401.0	3.8
Youth households	83.9	81.4	90.3	121.5	78.6	82.7	4.1	5.3
<b>III. Economic characteristics</b>								
Economically inactive households	15,476.4	16,619.2	17,615.8	19,012.0	19,799.0	21,610.6	1,811.7	9.2
Working households	7,254.4	7,062.2	7,295.8	7,881.9	8,849.9	9,285.8	435.9	4.9
Unemployed households	2,693.5	2,261.6	1,980.1	1,904.5	1,991.6	1,889.0	-102.6	-5.2
<b>IV. Housing characteristics</b>								
Public rental housing	13,541.2	13,829.5	14,293.7	15,536.2	15,940.8	16,881.2	940.4	5.9
Subsidised sale flats	2,689.2	2,684.3	2,651.0	2,962.4	3,402.9	3,699.8	296.9	8.7
Private permanent housing	8,871.7	9,080.0	9,577.0	10,029.3	10,984.8	11,840.2	855.4	7.8
Owner-occupiers	6,283.4	6,718.5	7,031.0	7,164.7	7,700.5	8,398.7	698.1	9.1
- with mortgages or loans	701.5	493.3	554.3	594.2	663.7	715.7	52.1	7.8
Tenants	2,051.4	1,826.7	1,935.2	2,196.2	2,393.9	2,547.9	154.0	6.4
- in rooms / bedspaces / cocklofts	440.5	247.9	200.2	277.6	214.6	245.1	30.4	14.2
Temporary housing	322.3	349.1	370.1	270.4	311.9	364.2	52.3	16.8
<b>V. District Council districts</b>								
Central and Western	667.6	692.4	729.3	776.0	774.9	880.5	105.6	13.6
Wan Chai	412.7	515.4	460.9	524.8	505.3	604.8	99.5	19.7
Eastern	1,678.7	1,787.4	1,937.0	2,083.7	2,292.3	2,429.9	137.5	6.0
Southern	740.3	741.4	751.2	811.2	866.8	950.4	83.6	9.6
Yau Tsim Mong	1,099.0	1,096.6	1,311.3	1,350.7	1,356.4	1,454.4	98.0	7.2
Sham Shui Po	1,861.7	1,894.4	1,942.7	2,143.4	2,247.5	2,415.8	168.3	7.5
Kowloon City	1,216.3	1,231.5	1,267.1	1,402.0	1,500.9	1,681.4	180.5	12.0
Wong Tai Sin	1,806.7	1,865.5	1,853.1	2,143.4	2,133.5	2,325.2	191.7	9.0
Kwun Tong	2,911.4	3,089.8	3,097.1	3,547.9	3,720.6	3,767.3	46.7	1.3
Kwai Tsing	2,136.4	2,304.2	2,255.8	2,354.7	2,511.1	2,921.0	409.9	16.3
Tsuen Wan	922.4	849.6	926.8	1,061.0	1,164.4	1,179.0	14.6	1.3
Tuen Mun	1,917.8	1,932.9	2,018.6	2,000.4	2,233.3	2,246.0	12.7	0.6
Yuen Long	2,445.6	2,600.1	2,499.9	2,664.9	2,587.0	2,853.6	266.6	10.3
North	1,274.2	1,220.7	1,271.8	1,322.7	1,328.2	1,541.6	213.4	16.1
Tai Po	897.7	895.0	932.4	964.3	1,017.4	1,180.4	163.0	16.0
Sha Tin	1,839.4	1,769.2	1,920.1	2,083.9	2,509.0	2,416.1	-93.0	-3.7
Sai Kung	969.1	904.2	1,050.7	1,042.4	1,266.4	1,302.7	36.4	2.9
Islands	627.4	552.6	666.1	520.9	625.4	635.4	10.0	1.6

**Table A.2.5: Average poverty gap by selected household group, 2009-2014 (with the 2014 annual change)**

Before policy intervention	HK\$						2014 compared with 2013	
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	Change	% change
<b>Overall</b>	3,900	4,000	4,200	4,400	4,600	4,900	300	6.9
<b>I. Household size</b>								
1-person	2,500	2,600	2,700	2,900	2,900	3,000	@	@
2-person	4,300	4,500	4,800	5,000	5,200	5,700	400	8.1
3-person	4,400	4,600	4,600	4,900	4,900	5,700	800	15.9
4-person	4,300	4,600	4,900	5,000	5,300	5,400	100	1.7
5-person	4,500	4,600	4,900	5,300	5,700	5,900	300	4.9
6-person+	5,400	5,200	6,000	6,300	6,300	6,900	600	10.1
<b>II. Social characteristics</b>								
CSSA households	5,000	5,100	5,300	5,700	6,000	6,400	400	6.9
Elderly households	3,500	3,500	3,700	3,900	4,200	4,400	200	5.7
Single-parent households	5,600	6,300	6,500	6,700	7,000	7,200	200	2.9
New-arrival households	4,300	4,600	4,600	5,000	5,000	5,500	500	10.8
Households with children	4,600	4,800	5,100	5,400	5,500	5,900	400	6.8
Youth households	2,500	2,700	2,800	3,000	3,200	3,000	-100	-4.3
<b>III. Economic characteristics</b>								
Economically inactive households	4,500	4,600	4,800	5,100	5,300	5,500	300	5.3
Working households	2,800	2,900	3,100	3,200	3,400	3,700	300	9.5
Unemployed households	5,700	5,900	6,400	6,500	6,900	7,200	300	4.3
<b>IV. Housing characteristics</b>								
Public rental housing	4,000	4,000	4,300	4,500	4,600	4,900	300	6.5
Subsidised sale flats	3,500	3,700	3,900	4,100	4,400	4,600	300	6.0
Private permanent housing	4,000	4,200	4,300	4,500	4,600	5,000	400	7.7
Owner-occupiers	4,000	4,200	4,300	4,500	4,700	5,000	400	8.0
- with mortgages or loans	3,600	3,800	3,800	4,100	4,000	4,900	900	21.8
Tenants	4,000	4,400	4,400	4,600	4,700	5,100	400	8.6
- in rooms / bedspaces / cocklofts	3,500	3,500	3,600	4,300	4,000	4,200	200	4.7
Temporary housing	4,000	3,800	3,900	4,500	4,200	5,000	700	17.7
<b>V. District Council districts</b>								
Central and Western	3,900	4,100	4,600	4,500	4,500	4,900	400	9.5
Wan Chai	4,000	4,400	4,300	4,500	4,700	4,700	@	@
Eastern	3,800	4,000	4,200	4,400	4,700	5,100	400	8.0
Southern	3,700	3,800	4,100	4,200	4,300	4,700	400	8.7
Yau Tsim Mong	3,900	4,000	4,400	4,400	4,600	5,000	300	7.5
Sham Shui Po	4,000	4,200	4,100	4,500	4,700	4,900	200	3.8
Kowloon City	4,000	4,100	4,300	4,700	4,900	5,000	100	3.0
Wong Tai Sin	3,900	3,800	4,000	4,300	4,500	4,800	300	7.3
Kwun Tong	3,900	4,000	4,300	4,600	4,500	4,800	300	6.5
Kwai Tsing	3,700	3,900	4,000	4,400	4,500	4,900	500	10.8
Tsuen Wan	3,700	3,800	4,000	4,500	4,800	5,100	400	7.4
Tuen Mun	3,800	4,100	4,300	4,100	4,500	4,600	100	2.2
Yuen Long	4,200	4,300	4,400	4,500	4,700	5,100	400	8.6
North	4,200	4,200	4,200	4,600	4,600	5,400	700	16.0
Tai Po	4,000	4,100	4,400	4,800	4,500	5,000	500	11.6
Sha Tin	3,900	3,900	4,200	4,400	4,700	4,900	100	2.5
Sai Kung	3,800	4,000	4,200	4,100	4,600	4,900	300	6.2
Islands	4,100	4,300	4,800	4,300	4,700	5,200	500	10.4

**Table A.2.6: Socio-economic characteristics of poor households by selected household group, 2014 (1)**

Before policy intervention	CSSA households	Elderly households	Single-parent households	New-arrival households	Households with children	Youth households	All poor households	All households
<b>(A) Poverty indicators</b>								
I. Poor households ('000)	177.3	193.4	34.8	27.8	156.9	2.3	555.2	-
II. Poor population ('000)	377.8	280.7	98.0	95.0	575.1	3.8	1 324.8	-
III. Poverty rate (%)	{96.6%}	{72.2%}	{49.5%}	{36.7%}	{21.2%}	{5.5%}	{19.6%}	-
Children aged under 18	{98.8%}	-	{53.9%}	{44.1%}	{23.5%}	-	{23.5%}	-
People aged between 18 and 64	{95.1%}	-	{45.9%}	{32.1%}	{19.0%}	{5.5%}	{13.7%}	-
Elders aged 65+	{97.3%}	{72.2%}	{46.6%}	{46.1%}	{30.4%}	-	{44.6%}	-
IV. Poverty gap								
Annual total gap (HK\$Mn)	13,665.4	10,187.1	3,024.8	1,839.4	11,024.1	82.7	32,785.4	-
Monthly average gap (HK\$)	6,400	4,400	7,200	5,500	5,900	3,000	4,900	-
<b>(B) Characteristics of households</b>								
<b>I. No. of households ('000)</b>								
<b>(i) Economic characteristics</b>								
Economically active	47.8 (27.0%)	5.5 (2.9%)	18.2 (52.2%)	21.1 (75.8%)	117.7 (75.0%)	0.8 (35.1%)	230.0 (41.4%)	1 987.6 (81.8%)
Working	40.3 (22.7%)	5.0 (2.6%)	16.3 (46.9%)	19.4 (69.6%)	111.8 (71.2%)	0.6 (25.4%)	208.0 (37.5%)	1 958.1 (80.6%)
Unemployed	7.5 (4.3%)	0.5 (0.3%)	1.8 (5.3%)	1.7 (6.2%)	5.9 (3.8%)	§ (4.0%)	22.0 (4.0%)	29.5 (1.2%)
Economically inactive	129.5 (73.0%)	187.9 (97.1%)	16.7 (47.8%)	6.7 (24.2%)	39.2 (25.0%)	1.5 (64.9%)	325.2 (58.6%)	441.4 (18.2%)
<b>(ii) Whether receiving CSSA or not</b>								
Yes	177.3 (100.0%)	67.1 (34.7%)	22.8 (65.5%)	7.2 (26.0%)	53.9 (34.3%)	§ (31.9%)	177.3 (31.9%)	182.4 (7.5%)
No	-	126.3 (65.3%)	12.0 (34.5%)	20.6 (74.0%)	103.1 (65.7%)	2.1 (93.6%)	377.9 (68.1%)	2 246.6 (92.5%)
Reason: no financial needs	-	72.5 (37.5%)	3.5 (10.0%)	4.9 (17.7%)	26.6 (16.9%)	1.1 (49.9%)	168.1 (30.3%)	177.0 (7.3%)
Reason: income and assets tests not passed	-	6.2 (3.2%)	0.6 (1.6%)	0.6 (2.2%)	3.0 (1.9%)	-	15.0 (2.7%)	15.6 (0.6%)
<b>(iii) Housing characteristics</b>								
Public rental housing	143.6 (81.0%)	94.9 (49.1%)	23.6 (67.7%)	16.7 (60.1%)	90.1 (57.4%)	0.4 (18.8%)	285.4 (51.4%)	739.0 (30.4%)
Subsidised sale flats	5.5 (3.1%)	23.6 (12.2%)	2.0 (5.7%)	1.1 (3.8%)	14.7 (9.4%)	§ (12.0%)	66.6 (12.0%)	375.6 (15.5%)
with mortgages or loans	0.5 (0.3%)	1.0 (0.5%)	0.4 (1.2%)	0.3 (0.9%)	3.3 (2.1%)	-	7.8 (1.4%)	88.1 (3.6%)
Private permanent housing	26.5 (14.9%)	72.9 (37.7%)	8.9 (25.4%)	9.4 (33.8%)	50.2 (32.0%)	1.7 (76.2%)	197.2 (35.5%)	1 298.0 (53.4%)
Owner-occupiers	5.4 (3.0%)	59.1 (30.6%)	2.6 (7.4%)	2.7 (9.7%)	24.3 (15.5%)	0.4 (17.6%)	139.0 (25.0%)	865.6 (35.6%)
- with mortgages or loans	§ (11.4%)	1.4 (0.7%)	0.5 (1.5%)	0.6 (2.1%)	5.3 (3.4%)	§ (31.7%)	12.1 (2.2%)	340.2 (14.0%)
Tenants	20.2 (11.4%)	5.4 (2.8%)	5.9 (17.0%)	6.3 (22.8%)	23.1 (14.7%)	0.7 (31.7%)	41.6 (7.5%)	344.0 (14.2%)
- in rooms / bedspaces / cocklofts	3.8 (2.1%)	1.3 (0.7%)	0.5 (1.6%)	0.5 (1.9%)	1.7 (1.1%)	-	4.9 (0.9%)	13.9 (0.6%)
Temporary housing	1.8 (1.0%)	2.0 (1.0%)	0.4 (1.2%)	0.6 (2.3%)	1.9 (1.2%)	§ (1.1%)	6.1 (1.1%)	16.3 (0.7%)
<b>(iv) Other characteristics</b>								
With FDH(s)	0.3 (0.2%)	11.7 (6.0%)	0.7 (2.1%)	§ (2.8%)	4.5 (2.8%)	-	20.7 (3.7%)	258.9 (10.7%)
With new arrival(s)	7.2 (4.1%)	0.3 (0.2%)	3.3 (9.5%)	27.8 (100.0%)	21.9 (14.0%)	§ (14.0%)	27.8 (5.0%)	76.2 (3.1%)
With children	53.9 (30.4%)	-	34.8 (100.0%)	21.9 (78.7%)	156.9 (100.0%)	-	156.9 (28.3%)	715.0 (29.4%)
<b>II. Other household characteristics</b>								
Average household size	2.1	1.5	2.8	3.4	3.7	1.7	2.4	2.8
Average no. of economically active members	0.3	@	0.6	0.9	0.9	0.4	0.5	1.5
Median monthly household income (HK\$)	@	@	3,100	9,000	10,000	1,400	3,000	22,600

**Table A.2.7: Socio-economic characteristics of poor households by selected household group, 2014 (2)**

Before policy intervention	Economically active households	Working households	Unemployed households	Economically inactive households	All poor households	All households
<b>(A) Poverty indicators</b>						
I. Poor households ('000)	230.0	208.0	22.0	325.2	555.2	-
II. Poor population ('000)	759.2	705.5	53.6	565.6	1 324.8	-
III. Poverty rate (%)	{12.6%}	{11.9%}	{81.4%}	{76.6%}	{19.6%}	-
Children aged under 18	{19.2%}	{18.4%}	{89.2%}	{85.8%}	{23.5%}	-
People aged between 18 and 64	{10.4%}	{9.8%}	{77.1%}	{72.4%}	{13.7%}	-
Elders aged 65+	{19.3%}	{18.0%}	{92.5%}	{77.6%}	{44.6%}	-
IV. Poverty gap						
Annual total gap (HK\$Mn)	11,174.8	9,285.8	1,889.0	21,610.6	32,785.4	-
Monthly average gap (HK\$)	4,000	3,700	7,200	5,500	4,900	-
<b>(B) Characteristics of households</b>						
<b>I. No. of households ('000)</b>						
<b>(i) Economic characteristics</b>						
Economically active	230.0 (100.0%)	208.0 (100.0%)	22.0 (100.0%)	- -	230.0 (41.4%)	1 987.6 (81.8%)
Working	208.0 (90.4%)	208.0 (100.0%)	- -	- -	208.0 (37.5%)	1 958.1 (80.6%)
Unemployed	22.0 (9.6%)	- -	22.0 (100.0%)	- -	22.0 (4.0%)	29.5 (1.2%)
Economically inactive	- -	- -	- -	325.2 (100.0%)	325.2 (58.6%)	441.4 (18.2%)
<b>(ii) Whether receiving CSSA or not</b>						
Yes	47.8 (20.8%)	40.3 (19.4%)	7.5 (34.3%)	129.5 (39.8%)	177.3 (31.9%)	182.4 (7.5%)
No	182.1 (79.2%)	167.7 (80.6%)	14.4 (65.7%)	195.7 (60.2%)	377.9 (68.1%)	2 246.6 (92.5%)
Reason: no financial needs	46.2 (20.1%)	37.3 (18.0%)	8.8 (40.2%)	121.9 (37.5%)	168.1 (30.3%)	177.0 (7.3%)
Reason: income and assets tests not passed	5.1 (2.2%)	3.9 (1.9%)	1.1 (5.1%)	9.9 (3.0%)	15.0 (2.7%)	15.6 (0.6%)
<b>(iii) Housing characteristics</b>						
Public rental housing	129.4 (56.3%)	119.0 (57.2%)	10.4 (47.5%)	155.9 (48.0%)	285.4 (51.4%)	739.0 (30.4%)
Subsidised sale flats	29.7 (12.9%)	26.8 (12.9%)	2.9 (13.3%)	36.8 (11.3%)	66.6 (12.0%)	375.6 (15.5%)
with mortgages or loans	5.6 (2.4%)	5.0 (2.4%)	0.5 (2.4%)	2.2 (0.7%)	7.8 (1.4%)	88.1 (3.6%)
Private permanent housing	68.3 (29.7%)	59.9 (28.8%)	8.3 (37.8%)	128.9 (39.6%)	197.2 (35.5%)	1 298.0 (53.4%)
Owner-occupiers	43.2 (18.8%)	37.7 (18.1%)	5.5 (25.1%)	95.7 (29.4%)	139.0 (25.0%)	865.6 (35.6%)
- with mortgages or loans	6.5 (2.8%)	5.4 (2.6%)	1.1 (4.9%)	5.6 (1.7%)	12.1 (2.2%)	340.2 (14.0%)
Tenants	21.2 (9.2%)	18.8 (9.1%)	2.4 (11.0%)	20.3 (6.2%)	41.6 (7.5%)	344.0 (14.2%)
- in rooms / bedspaces / cocklofts	1.4 (0.6%)	1.3 (0.6%)	§ §	3.5 (1.1%)	4.9 (0.9%)	13.9 (0.6%)
Temporary housing	2.6 (1.1%)	2.3 (1.1%)	0.3 (1.4%)	3.6 (1.1%)	6.1 (1.1%)	16.3 (0.7%)
<b>(iv) Other characteristics</b>						
With FDH(s)	4.9 (2.2%)	4.4 (2.1%)	0.5 (2.3%)	15.8 (4.9%)	20.7 (3.7%)	258.9 (10.7%)
With new arrival(s)	21.1 (9.2%)	19.4 (9.3%)	1.7 (7.8%)	6.7 (2.1%)	27.8 (5.0%)	76.2 (3.1%)
With children	117.7 (51.2%)	111.8 (53.7%)	5.9 (26.8%)	39.2 (12.1%)	156.9 (28.3%)	715.0 (29.4%)
<b>II. Other household characteristics</b>						
Average household size	3.3	3.4	2.4	1.7	2.4	2.8
Average no. of economically active members	1.3	1.3	1.1	-	0.5	1.5
Median monthly household income (HK\$)	10,000	10,500	@	@	3,000	22,600

**Table A.2.8: Socio-economic characteristics of poor households by District Council district, 2014 (1)**

Before policy intervention	Central and Western	Wan Chai	Eastern	Southern	Yau Tsim Mong	Sham Shui Po	All poor households	All households
<b>(A) Poverty indicators</b>								
I. Poor households ('000)	14.8	10.8	40.1	16.9	24.5	41.2	555.2	-
II. Poor population ('000)	28.7	19.6	92.4	39.0	55.4	97.2	1 324.8	-
III. Poverty rate (%)	{13.1%}	{14.8%}	{17.1%}	{15.7%}	{19.0%}	{26.6%}	{19.6%}	-
Children aged under 18	{8.1%}	{10.5%}	{17.9%}	{15.5%}	{21.4%}	{33.3%}	{23.5%}	-
People aged between 18 and 64	{7.1%}	{8.3%}	{11.3%}	{10.5%}	{12.8%}	{19.1%}	{13.7%}	-
Elders aged 65+	{42.6%}	{42.8%}	{38.4%}	{38.7%}	{44.8%}	{50.7%}	{44.6%}	-
IV. Poverty gap								
Annual total gap (HK\$Mn)	880.5	604.8	2,429.9	950.4	1,454.4	2,415.8	32,785.4	-
Monthly average gap (HK\$)	4,900	4,700	5,100	4,700	5,000	4,900	4,900	-
<b>(B) Characteristics of households</b>								
<b>I. No. of households ('000)</b>								
<b>(i) Economic characteristics</b>								
Economically active	3.2 (21.7%)	2.5 (22.9%)	14.7 (36.7%)	6.5 (38.7%)	8.4 (34.4%)	17.3 (42.0%)	230.0 (41.4%)	1 987.6 (81.8%)
<i>Working</i>	2.8 (18.7%)	2.0 (18.8%)	13.2 (32.8%)	6.1 (36.1%)	7.3 (29.9%)	15.6 (37.9%)	208.0 (37.5%)	1 958.1 (80.6%)
<i>Unemployed</i>	0.4 (3.0%)	0.4 (4.1%)	1.6 (3.9%)	0.4 (2.6%)	1.1 (4.5%)	1.7 (4.1%)	22.0 (4.0%)	29.5 (1.2%)
Economically inactive	11.6 (78.3%)	8.3 (77.1%)	25.4 (63.3%)	10.4 (61.3%)	16.0 (65.6%)	23.9 (58.0%)	325.2 (58.6%)	441.4 (18.2%)
<b>(ii) Whether receiving CSSA or not</b>								
Yes	1.1 (7.6%)	0.7 (6.8%)	9.3 (23.1%)	4.9 (29.0%)	5.6 (22.7%)	16.0 (38.8%)	177.3 (31.9%)	182.4 (7.5%)
No	13.7 (92.4%)	10.0 (93.2%)	30.8 (76.9%)	12.0 (71.0%)	18.9 (77.2%)	25.2 (61.2%)	377.9 (68.1%)	2 246.6 (92.5%)
<i>Reason: no financial needs</i>	9.1 (61.1%)	6.5 (60.4%)	16.3 (40.6%)	5.7 (34.0%)	9.8 (40.1%)	10.4 (25.3%)	168.1 (30.3%)	177.0 (7.3%)
<i>Reason: income and assets tests not passed</i>	0.8 (5.3%)	0.8 (7.1%)	1.2 (3.0%)	0.3 (1.8%)	1.2 (4.8%)	1.0 (2.3%)	15.0 (2.7%)	15.6 (0.6%)
<b>(iii) Housing characteristics</b>								
Public rental housing	1.1 (7.1%)	-	15.1 (37.6%)	10.0 (59.1%)	1.3 (5.2%)	22.8 (55.3%)	285.4 (51.4%)	739.0 (30.4%)
Subsidised sale flats	-	-	4.4 (11.0%)	2.1 (12.6%)	0.6 (2.3%)	2.0 (4.8%)	66.6 (12.0%)	375.6 (15.5%)
<i>with mortgages or loans</i>	-	-	0.5 (1.4%)	0.3 (2.0%)	§	0.3 (0.7%)	7.8 (1.4%)	88.1 (3.6%)
Private permanent housing	13.8 (92.9%)	10.7 (99.7%)	20.5 (51.3%)	4.6 (27.5%)	22.5 (92.1%)	16.4 (39.9%)	197.2 (35.5%)	1 298.0 (53.4%)
<i>Owner-occupiers</i>	10.9 (73.6%)	8.8 (81.5%)	15.9 (39.7%)	3.6 (21.4%)	14.5 (59.3%)	9.5 (23.1%)	139.0 (25.0%)	865.6 (35.6%)
<i>- with mortgages or loans</i>	0.7 (4.8%)	0.5 (4.3%)	0.9 (2.2%)	§	0.7 (3.0%)	0.7 (1.7%)	12.1 (2.2%)	340.2 (14.0%)
<i>Tenants</i>	1.7 (11.3%)	1.4 (12.5%)	3.0 (7.5%)	0.4 (2.3%)	6.0 (24.5%)	5.7 (13.9%)	41.6 (7.5%)	344.0 (14.2%)
<i>- in rooms / bedspaces / cocklofts</i>	§	§	0.9 (2.1%)	-	0.8 (3.3%)	1.0 (2.5%)	4.9 (0.9%)	13.9 (0.6%)
Temporary housing	-	§	§	§	§	§	6.1 (1.1%)	16.3 (0.7%)
<b>(iv) Other characteristics</b>								
With FDH(s)	1.1 (7.4%)	1.6 (14.5%)	2.7 (6.8%)	0.9 (5.2%)	1.5 (6.2%)	1.3 (3.1%)	20.7 (3.7%)	258.9 (10.7%)
With new arrival(s)	§	§	1.7 (4.2%)	0.7 (3.9%)	1.1 (4.7%)	3.1 (7.5%)	27.8 (5.0%)	76.2 (3.1%)
With children	1.9 (13.0%)	1.6 (14.6%)	9.0 (22.5%)	3.6 (21.4%)	7.0 (28.8%)	12.3 (29.8%)	156.9 (28.3%)	715.0 (29.4%)
<b>II. Other household characteristics</b>								
Average household size	1.9	1.8	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.4	2.4	2.8
Average no. of economically active members	0.3	0.3	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.5	1.5
Median monthly household income (HK\$)	@	@	2,300	3,000	2,000	2,500	3,000	22,600



**Table A.2.9: Socio-economic characteristics of poor households by District Council district, 2014 (2)**

Before policy intervention	Kowloon City	Wong Tai Sin	Kwun Tong	Kwai Tsing	Tsuen Wan	Tuen Mun	All poor households	All households
<b>(A) Poverty indicators</b>								
I. Poor households ('000)	27.9	40.5	65.1	49.2	19.2	41.0	555.2	-
II. Poor population ('000)	63.4	99.8	154.9	124.7	47.1	95.6	1 324.8	-
III. Poverty rate (%)	{17.2%}	{24.3%}	{25.1%}	{25.7%}	{16.6%}	{20.2%}	{19.6%}	-
Children aged under 18	{18.1%}	{31.0%}	{30.1%}	{35.4%}	{18.4%}	{25.3%}	{23.5%}	-
People aged between 18 and 64	{11.7%}	{17.1%}	{17.7%}	{18.4%}	{11.1%}	{14.4%}	{13.7%}	-
Elders aged 65+	{39.6%}	{47.1%}	{50.5%}	{48.9%}	{42.4%}	{50.8%}	{44.6%}	-
IV. Poverty gap								
Annual total gap (HK\$Mn)	1,681.4	2,325.2	3,767.3	2,921.0	1,179.0	2,246.0	32,785.4	-
Monthly average gap (HK\$)	5,000	4,800	4,800	4,900	5,100	4,600	4,900	-
<b>(B) Characteristics of households</b>								
<b>I. No. of households ('000)</b>								
<b>(i) Economic characteristics</b>								
Economically active	9.7 (34.7%)	17.7 (43.9%)	28.2 (43.3%)	23.1 (47.0%)	8.0 (41.6%)	17.8 (43.4%)	230.0 (41.4%)	1 987.6 (81.8%)
<i>Working</i>	8.4 (30.1%)	16.3 (40.3%)	25.6 (39.3%)	21.2 (43.0%)	7.2 (37.4%)	16.3 (39.7%)	208.0 (37.5%)	1 958.1 (80.6%)
<i>Unemployed</i>	1.3 (4.6%)	1.4 (3.6%)	2.6 (4.0%)	1.9 (3.9%)	0.8 (4.2%)	1.5 (3.7%)	22.0 (4.0%)	29.5 (1.2%)
Economically inactive	18.2 (65.3%)	22.7 (56.1%)	36.9 (56.7%)	26.1 (53.0%)	11.2 (58.4%)	23.2 (56.6%)	325.2 (58.6%)	441.4 (18.2%)
<b>(ii) Whether receiving CSSA or not</b>								
Yes	7.3 (26.0%)	15.9 (39.3%)	27.7 (42.4%)	19.7 (40.1%)	4.2 (21.7%)	13.6 (33.1%)	177.3 (31.9%)	182.4 (7.5%)
No	20.7 (74.0%)	24.6 (60.7%)	37.5 (57.6%)	29.5 (59.9%)	15.1 (78.3%)	27.4 (66.9%)	377.9 (68.1%)	2 246.6 (92.5%)
<i>Reason: no financial needs</i>	10.3 (36.9%)	8.4 (20.8%)	13.5 (20.7%)	11.7 (23.7%)	6.2 (32.1%)	11.0 (26.9%)	168.1 (30.3%)	177.0 (7.3%)
<i>Reason: income and assets tests not passed</i>	0.8 (2.9%)	0.9 (2.3%)	0.8 (1.3%)	0.8 (1.7%)	0.9 (4.8%)	0.9 (2.2%)	15.0 (2.7%)	15.6 (0.6%)
<b>(iii) Housing characteristics</b>								
Public rental housing	10.8 (38.7%)	29.4 (72.6%)	49.8 (76.4%)	38.2 (77.6%)	8.4 (43.8%)	22.9 (56.0%)	285.4 (51.4%)	739.0 (30.4%)
Subsidised sale flats	0.3 (1.2%)	8.2 (20.2%)	6.4 (9.8%)	5.1 (10.5%)	0.3 (1.3%)	7.3 (17.9%)	66.6 (12.0%)	375.6 (15.5%)
<i>with mortgages or loans</i>	§ (0.0%)	0.8 (2.0%)	0.7 (1.0%)	0.7 (1.5%)	- (0.0%)	0.4 (1.0%)	7.8 (1.4%)	88.1 (3.6%)
Private permanent housing	16.8 (60.1%)	2.7 (6.8%)	8.8 (13.6%)	5.5 (11.3%)	10.3 (53.7%)	10.1 (24.6%)	197.2 (35.5%)	1 298.0 (53.4%)
<i>Owner-occupiers</i>	11.9 (42.6%)	1.9 (4.7%)	6.0 (9.3%)	3.8 (7.7%)	7.4 (38.4%)	7.3 (17.9%)	139.0 (25.0%)	865.6 (35.6%)
<i>- with mortgages or loans</i>	1.1 (3.9%)	§ (0.0%)	0.5 (0.8%)	0.3 (0.7%)	0.9 (4.6%)	0.8 (2.0%)	12.1 (2.2%)	340.2 (14.0%)
<i>Tenants</i>	3.4 (12.2%)	0.6 (1.4%)	2.2 (3.4%)	1.1 (2.3%)	2.1 (10.9%)	1.8 (4.3%)	41.6 (7.5%)	344.0 (14.2%)
<i>- in rooms / bedspaces / cocklofts</i>	0.4 (1.5%)	§ (0.0%)	§ (0.0%)	§ (0.0%)	§ (0.0%)	0.3 (0.8%)	4.9 (0.9%)	13.9 (0.6%)
Temporary housing	- (0.0%)	§ (0.0%)	§ (0.0%)	0.3 (0.7%)	§ (0.0%)	0.6 (1.5%)	6.1 (1.1%)	16.3 (0.7%)
<b>(iv) Other characteristics</b>								
With FDH(s)	1.4 (5.2%)	0.8 (2.1%)	1.0 (1.6%)	0.7 (1.4%)	0.9 (4.5%)	0.7 (1.6%)	20.7 (3.7%)	258.9 (10.7%)
With new arrival(s)	1.8 (6.5%)	2.3 (5.7%)	4.2 (6.5%)	2.6 (5.4%)	1.0 (5.1%)	1.7 (4.1%)	27.8 (5.0%)	76.2 (3.1%)
With children	7.0 (25.1%)	11.0 (27.2%)	18.2 (27.9%)	15.2 (30.9%)	5.3 (27.6%)	11.9 (29.1%)	156.9 (28.3%)	715.0 (29.4%)
<b>II. Other household characteristics</b>								
Average household size	2.3	2.5	2.4	2.5	2.5	2.3	2.4	2.8
Average no. of economically active members	0.4	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.5	1.5
Median monthly household income (HK\$)	2,000	4,000	2,800	4,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	22,600

**Table A.2.10: Socio-economic characteristics of poor households by District Council district, 2014 (3)**

Before policy intervention	Yuen Long	North	Tai Po	Sha Tin	Sai Kung	Islands	All poor households	All households
<b>(A) Poverty indicators</b>								
I. Poor households ('000)	46.6	24.0	19.7	41.5	22.1	10.2	555.2	-
II. Poor population ('000)	117.7	61.3	46.3	99.8	57.4	24.5	1 324.8	-
III. Poverty rate (%)	{20.6%}	{20.9%}	{16.4%}	{16.4%}	{13.6%}	{18.1%}	{19.6%}	-
Children aged under 18	{28.2%}	{30.6%}	{19.2%}	{19.4%}	{15.7%}	{22.2%}	{23.5%}	-
People aged between 18 and 64	{15.0%}	{15.2%}	{11.1%}	{11.3%}	{10.4%}	{12.6%}	{13.7%}	-
Elders aged 65+	{48.7%}	{45.5%}	{44.8%}	{40.7%}	{33.1%}	{47.2%}	{44.6%}	-
IV. Poverty gap								
Annual total gap (HK\$Mn)	2,853.6	1,541.6	1,180.4	2,416.1	1,302.7	635.4	32,785.4	-
Monthly average gap (HK\$)	5,100	5,400	5,000	4,900	4,900	5,200	4,900	-
<b>(B) Characteristics of households</b>								
<b>I. No. of households ('000)</b>								
<b>(i) Economic characteristics</b>								
Economically active	20.7 (44.3%)	11.1 (46.4%)	8.2 (41.6%)	18.0 (43.3%)	11.0 (49.8%)	3.8 (36.9%)	230.0 (41.4%)	1 987.6 (81.8%)
<i>Working</i>	18.9 (40.6%)	10.2 (42.6%)	7.6 (38.5%)	16.0 (38.6%)	9.8 (44.3%)	3.5 (34.4%)	208.0 (37.5%)	1 958.1 (80.6%)
<i>Unemployed</i>	1.7 (3.7%)	0.9 (3.8%)	0.6 (3.1%)	2.0 (4.8%)	1.2 (5.5%)	0.3 (2.5%)	22.0 (4.0%)	29.5 (1.2%)
Economically inactive	25.9 (55.7%)	12.9 (53.6%)	11.5 (58.4%)	23.5 (56.7%)	11.1 (50.2%)	6.4 (63.1%)	325.2 (58.6%)	441.4 (18.2%)
<b>(ii) Whether receiving CSSA or not</b>								
Yes	17.2 (37.0%)	7.6 (31.5%)	5.9 (30.2%)	11.7 (28.2%)	5.7 (25.6%)	3.4 (33.0%)	177.3 (31.9%)	182.4 (7.5%)
No	29.3 (63.0%)	16.4 (68.4%)	13.8 (69.8%)	29.7 (71.8%)	16.4 (74.4%)	6.8 (67.0%)	377.9 (68.1%)	2 246.6 (92.5%)
<i>Reason: no financial needs</i>	11.5 (24.7%)	8.1 (33.6%)	6.5 (33.1%)	12.1 (29.1%)	7.3 (32.9%)	3.9 (37.9%)	168.1 (30.3%)	177.0 (7.3%)
<i>Reason: income and assets tests not passed</i>	1.3 (2.8%)	0.8 (3.2%)	0.4 (2.2%)	1.6 (3.8%)	0.4 (1.7%)	§ (2.7%)	15.0 (2.7%)	15.6 (0.6%)
<b>(iii) Housing characteristics</b>								
Public rental housing	23.2 (49.9%)	8.5 (35.2%)	7.1 (35.9%)	22.7 (54.7%)	10.2 (46.0%)	4.0 (39.6%)	285.4 (51.4%)	739.0 (30.4%)
Subsidised sale flats	3.7 (8.0%)	4.8 (19.8%)	4.6 (23.2%)	10.1 (24.4%)	6.1 (27.6%)	0.6 (5.7%)	66.6 (12.0%)	375.6 (15.5%)
<i>with mortgages or loans</i>	0.8 (1.8%)	0.6 (2.5%)	0.4 (2.3%)	0.9 (2.3%)	0.9 (3.9%)	§ (2.7%)	7.8 (1.4%)	88.1 (3.6%)
Private permanent housing	18.1 (38.8%)	8.9 (37.0%)	7.6 (38.7%)	8.5 (20.5%)	5.8 (26.4%)	5.3 (51.9%)	197.2 (35.5%)	1 298.0 (53.4%)
<i>Owner-occupiers</i>	12.0 (25.8%)	5.2 (21.5%)	5.1 (25.8%)	6.9 (16.6%)	4.5 (20.5%)	3.7 (36.6%)	139.0 (25.0%)	865.6 (35.6%)
<i>- with mortgages or loans</i>	1.3 (2.9%)	0.3 (1.3%)	0.3 (1.3%)	1.3 (3.1%)	1.0 (4.5%)	0.4 (4.2%)	12.1 (2.2%)	340.2 (14.0%)
<i>Tenants</i>	4.3 (9.3%)	3.5 (14.5%)	2.0 (10.0%)	1.0 (2.4%)	0.5 (2.2%)	0.9 (8.5%)	41.6 (7.5%)	344.0 (14.2%)
<i>- in rooms / bedspaces / cocklofts</i>	0.3 (0.6%)	§ (0.6%)	§ (0.6%)	- (0.6%)	- (0.6%)	- (0.6%)	4.9 (0.9%)	13.9 (0.6%)
Temporary housing	1.5 (3.3%)	1.9 (7.9%)	0.4 (2.2%)	§ (2.2%)	- (0.7%)	0.3 (2.8%)	6.1 (1.1%)	16.3 (0.7%)
<b>(iv) Other characteristics</b>								
With FDH(s)	1.8 (3.8%)	0.9 (3.9%)	0.7 (3.8%)	1.2 (2.8%)	1.0 (4.4%)	0.6 (5.9%)	20.7 (3.7%)	258.9 (10.7%)
With new arrival(s)	2.1 (4.5%)	1.9 (7.9%)	1.0 (4.9%)	1.5 (3.5%)	0.6 (2.8%)	0.3 (3.1%)	27.8 (5.0%)	76.2 (3.1%)
With children	17.0 (36.4%)	8.8 (36.7%)	4.8 (24.6%)	11.5 (27.7%)	7.3 (33.1%)	3.4 (33.7%)	156.9 (28.3%)	715.0 (29.4%)
<b>II. Other household characteristics</b>								
Average household size	2.5	2.6	2.4	2.4	2.6	2.4	2.4	2.8
Average no. of economically active members	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.7	0.5	0.5	1.5
Median monthly household income (HK\$)	3,000	3,000	2,800	3,000	3,900	2,000	3,000	22,600

**Table A.2.11: Socio-economic characteristics of poor population by selected household group, 2014 (1)**

Before policy intervention	CSSA households	Elderly households	Single-parent households	New-arrival households	Households with children	Youth households	All poor households	All households
<b>(C) Characteristics of persons</b>								
<b>I. No. of persons ('000)</b>								
<b>(i) Gender</b>								
Male	178.4 (47.2%)	125.1 (44.6%)	36.9 (37.6%)	45.7 (48.1%)	269.7 (46.9%)	2.0 (53.4%)	619.4 (46.8%)	3 245.9 (48.1%)
Female	199.4 (52.8%)	155.5 (55.4%)	61.2 (62.4%)	49.3 (51.9%)	305.4 (53.1%)	1.8 (46.6%)	705.4 (53.2%)	3 504.4 (51.9%)
<b>(ii) Economic activity status and age</b>								
Economically active	58.7 (15.5%)	5.8 (2.1%)	21.0 (21.4%)	25.9 (27.2%)	148.3 (25.8%)	0.9 (25.1%)	291.3 (22.0%)	3 550.0 (52.6%)
Working	45.6 (12.1%)	5.3 (1.9%)	18.2 (18.5%)	22.1 (23.2%)	132.6 (23.1%)	0.7 (17.3%)	243.9 (18.4%)	3 423.4 (50.7%)
Unemployed	13.1 (3.5%)	0.5 (0.2%)	2.8 (2.9%)	3.8 (4.0%)	15.7 (2.7%)	0.3 (7.8%)	47.3 (3.6%)	126.6 (1.9%)
Economically inactive	319.1 (84.5%)	274.8 (97.9%)	77.0 (78.6%)	69.2 (72.8%)	426.8 (74.2%)	2.8 (74.9%)	1033.5 (78.0%)	3 200.3 (47.4%)
Children aged under 18	82.5 (21.8%)	-	46.8 (47.7%)	32.2 (33.9%)	234.9 (40.8%)	-	234.9 (17.7%)	997.0 (14.8%)
People aged between 18 and 64	122.6 (32.4%)	-	25.9 (26.4%)	27.2 (28.6%)	155.0 (27.0%)	2.8 (74.9%)	374.6 (28.3%)	1 307.4 (19.4%)
Student	17.8 (4.7%)	-	4.2 (4.3%)	2.4 (2.5%)	21.9 (3.8%)	2.0 (53.6%)	57.7 (4.4%)	268.8 (4.0%)
Home-maker	45.8 (12.1%)	-	15.7 (16.0%)	16.8 (17.7%)	96.1 (16.7%)	-	149.1 (11.3%)	591.0 (8.8%)
Retired person	15.5 (4.1%)	-	1.3 (1.3%)	1.6 (1.7%)	10.3 (1.8%)	-	69.3 (5.2%)	220.6 (3.3%)
Temporary / permanent ill	33.7 (8.9%)	-	2.5 (2.6%)	2.9 (3.0%)	13.6 (2.4%)	§	54.6 (4.1%)	93.7 (1.4%)
Other economically inactive*	9.9 (2.6%)	-	2.1 (2.2%)	3.5 (3.7%)	13.2 (2.3%)	0.7 (19.5%)	43.8 (3.3%)	133.4 (2.0%)
Elders aged 65+	114.0 (30.2%)	274.8 (97.9%)	4.4 (4.5%)	9.8 (10.3%)	36.9 (6.4%)	-	424.1 (32.0%)	895.9 (13.3%)
<b>(iii) Whether new arrival(s)</b>								
Yes	9.1 (2.4%)	0.4 (0.1%)	4.5 (4.6%)	37.2 (39.2%)	29.8 (5.2%)	§	37.2 (2.8%)	101.6 (1.5%)
No	368.7 (97.6%)	280.3 (99.9%)	93.5 (95.4%)	57.8 (60.8%)	545.3 (94.8%)	3.6 (95.0%)	1287.6 (97.2%)	6 648.7 (98.5%)
<b>(iv) Receiving social security benefit</b>								
OALA	0.9 (0.2%)	107.8 (38.4%)	2.5 (2.5%)	4.2 (4.5%)	20.3 (3.5%)	-	183.1 (13.8%)	402.1 (6.0%)
DA	0.7 (0.2%)	5.8 (2.1%)	1.2 (1.2%)	1.4 (1.5%)	9.3 (1.6%)	§	38.2 (2.9%)	109.3 (1.6%)
OAA	0.4 (0.1%)	52.9 (18.8%)	0.6 (0.7%)	0.6 (0.7%)	4.8 (0.8%)	-	77.0 (5.8%)	218.4 (3.2%)
<b>II. No. of employed persons ('000)</b>								
<b>(i) Occupation</b>								
Higher-skilled	2.3 <5.1%>	0.6 <11.7%>	1.2 <6.4%>	1.7 <7.5%>	12.2 <9.2%>	§	25.1 <10.3%>	1 386.5 <40.5%>
Lower-skilled	43.3 <94.9%>	4.7 <88.3%>	17.0 <93.6%>	20.4 <92.5%>	120.5 <90.8%>	0.5 <78.2%>	218.8 <89.7%>	2 037.0 <59.5%>
<b>(ii) Educational attainment</b>								
Primary and below	9.8 <21.4%>	2.9 <54.1%>	3.0 <16.4%>	3.9 <17.5%>	21.5 <16.2%>	§	47.3 <19.4%>	335.9 <9.8%>
Lower secondary	16.1 <35.3%>	0.9 <17.3%>	6.0 <32.9%>	9.0 <40.6%>	45.4 <34.2%>	§	72.4 <29.7%>	509.5 <14.9%>
Upper secondary (including craft courses)	14.1 <30.8%>	1.2 <22.6%>	7.1 <39.1%>	8.1 <36.6%>	54.4 <41.0%>	§	92.3 <37.8%>	1 261.7 <36.9%>
Post-secondary - non-degree	3.3 <7.2%>	§	1.1 <6.1%>	0.7 <3.3%>	6.3 <4.8%>	§	15.5 <6.3%>	330.0 <9.6%>
Post-secondary - degree	2.4 <5.3%>	§	1.0 <5.4%>	0.4 <2.0%>	5.0 <3.8%>	§	16.5 <6.8%>	986.4 <28.8%>
<b>(iii) Employment status</b>								
Full-time	27.0 <59.1%>	2.7 <50.7%>	11.1 <60.8%>	16.5 <74.8%>	100.4 <75.7%>	0.3 <49.8%>	177.8 <72.9%>	3 109.8 <90.8%>
Part-time / underemployed	18.7 <40.9%>	2.6 <49.3%>	7.1 <39.2%>	5.6 <25.2%>	32.2 <24.3%>	0.3 <50.2%>	66.1 <27.1%>	313.6 <9.2%>
<b>III. Other indicators</b>								
Median monthly employment earnings (HK\$)	6,300	3,400	7,000	9,100	9,500	3,400	8,300	14,700
Labour force participation rate (%)	18.6	2.1	32.4	39.0	37.7	25.1	25.5	59.6
Unemployment rate (%)	22.3	9.1	13.5	14.6	10.6	30.9	16.3	3.6
Median age	49	76	18	35	31	23	52	43
No. of children ('000)	82.9	-	47.1	32.4	235.9	-	235.9	1 003.1
Dependency ratio (demographic) <sup>a</sup>	1 102	-	1 130	810	918	-	1 030	416
Elderly	641	-	106	193	131	-	669	205
Child	461	-	1 024	616	787	-	362	210
Economic dependency ratio <sup>b</sup>	5 433	47 045	3 665	2 675	2 878	2 985	3 549	901

**Table A.2.12: Socio-economic characteristics of poor population by selected household group, 2014 (2)**

Before policy intervention	Economically active households	Working households	Unemployed households	Economically inactive households	All poor households	All households
<b>(C) Characteristics of persons</b>						
<b>I. No. of persons ('000)</b>						
<b>(i) Gender</b>						
Male	364.1 (48.0%)	337.7 (47.9%)	26.4 (49.2%)	255.3 (45.1%)	619.4 (46.8%)	3 245.9 (48.1%)
Female	395.1 (52.0%)	367.8 (52.1%)	27.3 (50.8%)	310.3 (54.9%)	705.4 (53.2%)	3 504.4 (51.9%)
<b>(ii) Economic activity status and age</b>						
Economically active	291.3 (38.4%)	267.3 (37.9%)	24.0 (44.7%)	-	291.3 (22.0%)	3 550.0 (52.6%)
Working	243.9 (32.1%)	243.9 (34.6%)	-	-	243.9 (18.4%)	3 423.4 (50.7%)
Unemployed	47.3 (6.2%)	23.3 (3.3%)	24.0 (44.7%)	-	47.3 (3.6%)	126.6 (1.9%)
Economically inactive	467.9 (61.6%)	438.3 (62.1%)	29.7 (55.3%)	565.6 (100.0%)	1033.5 (78.0%)	3 200.3 (47.4%)
Children aged under 18	178.8 (23.5%)	169.4 (24.0%)	9.4 (17.4%)	56.2 (9.9%)	234.9 (17.7%)	997.0 (14.8%)
People aged between 18 and 64	194.3 (25.6%)	182.8 (25.9%)	11.5 (21.4%)	180.3 (31.9%)	374.6 (28.3%)	1 307.4 (19.4%)
Student	42.2 (5.6%)	40.3 (5.7%)	1.9 (3.5%)	15.6 (2.7%)	57.7 (4.4%)	268.8 (4.0%)
Home-maker	93.7 (12.3%)	88.5 (12.5%)	5.2 (9.7%)	55.4 (9.8%)	149.1 (11.3%)	591.0 (8.8%)
Retired person	22.0 (2.9%)	20.2 (2.9%)	1.8 (3.4%)	47.3 (8.4%)	69.3 (5.2%)	220.6 (3.3%)
Temporary / permanent ill	17.5 (2.3%)	16.3 (2.3%)	1.2 (2.2%)	37.1 (6.6%)	54.6 (4.1%)	93.7 (1.4%)
Other economically inactive*	19.0 (2.5%)	17.6 (2.5%)	1.4 (2.5%)	24.9 (4.4%)	43.8 (3.3%)	133.4 (2.0%)
Elders aged 65+	94.9 (12.5%)	86.0 (12.2%)	8.8 (16.5%)	329.2 (58.2%)	424.1 (32.0%)	895.9 (13.3%)
<b>(iii) Whether new arrival(s)</b>						
Yes	28.7 (3.8%)	26.6 (3.8%)	2.1 (3.9%)	8.5 (1.5%)	37.2 (2.8%)	101.6 (1.5%)
No	730.5 (96.2%)	679.0 (96.2%)	51.5 (96.1%)	557.1 (98.5%)	1 287.6 (97.2%)	6 648.7 (98.5%)
<b>(iv) Receiving social security benefit</b>						
OALA	61.8 (8.1%)	57.0 (8.1%)	4.8 (8.9%)	121.3 (21.5%)	183.1 (13.8%)	402.1 (6.0%)
DA	20.5 (2.7%)	19.6 (2.8%)	1.0 (1.8%)	17.7 (3.1%)	38.2 (2.9%)	109.3 (1.6%)
OAA	15.7 (2.1%)	14.0 (2.0%)	1.7 (3.2%)	61.4 (10.8%)	77.0 (5.8%)	218.4 (3.2%)
<b>II. No. of employed persons ('000)</b>						
<b>(i) Occupation</b>						
Higher-skilled	25.1 <10.3%>	25.1 <10.3%>	-	-	25.1 <10.3%>	1 386.5 <40.5%>
Lower-skilled	218.8 <89.7%>	218.8 <89.7%>	-	-	218.8 <89.7%>	2 037.0 <59.5%>
<b>(ii) Educational attainment</b>						
Primary and below	47.3 <19.4%>	47.3 <19.4%>	-	-	47.3 <19.4%>	335.9 <9.8%>
Lower secondary	72.4 <29.7%>	72.4 <29.7%>	-	-	72.4 <29.7%>	509.5 <14.9%>
Upper secondary (including craft courses)	92.3 <37.8%>	92.3 <37.8%>	-	-	92.3 <37.8%>	1 261.7 <36.9%>
Post-secondary - non-degree	15.5 <6.3%>	15.5 <6.3%>	-	-	15.5 <6.3%>	330.0 <9.6%>
Post-secondary - degree	16.5 <6.8%>	16.5 <6.8%>	-	-	16.5 <6.8%>	986.4 <28.8%>
<b>(iii) Employment status</b>						
Full-time	177.8 <72.9%>	177.8 <72.9%>	-	-	177.8 <72.9%>	3 109.8 <90.8%>
Part-time / underemployed	66.1 <27.1%>	66.1 <27.1%>	-	-	66.1 <27.1%>	313.6 <9.2%>
<b>III. Other indicators</b>						
Median monthly employment earnings (HK\$)	8,300	8,300	-	-	8,300	14,700
Labour force participation rate (%)	46.8	46.5	51.3	-	25.5	59.6
Unemployment rate (%)	16.3	8.7	100.0	-	16.3	3.6
Median age	40	40	45	67	52	43
No. of children ('000)	179.7	170.3	9.4	56.2	235.9	1 003.1
Dependency ratio (demographic)^	608	613	543	2 138	1 030	416
Elderly	227	223	273	1 826	669	205
Child	381	389	270	312	362	210
Economic dependency ratio*	1 607	1 640	1 237	-	3 549	901

**Table A.2.13: Socio-economic characteristics of poor population by District Council district, 2014 (1)**

Before policy intervention	Central and Western	Wan Chai	Eastern	Southern	Yau Tsim Mong	Sham Shui Po	All poor households	All households
<b>(C) Characteristics of persons</b>								
<b>I. No. of persons ('000)</b>								
<b>(i) Gender</b>								
Male	13.3 (46.5%)	8.5 (43.3%)	43.6 (47.2%)	18.0 (46.1%)	25.6 (46.1%)	45.2 (46.5%)	619.4 (46.8%)	3 245.9 (48.1%)
Female	15.4 (53.5%)	11.1 (56.7%)	48.8 (52.8%)	21.1 (53.9%)	29.9 (53.9%)	52.0 (53.5%)	705.4 (53.2%)	3 504.4 (51.9%)
<b>(ii) Economic activity status and age</b>								
Economically active	4.0 (14.1%)	3.0 (15.4%)	18.7 (20.2%)	8.6 (22.0%)	10.7 (19.4%)	22.3 (23.0%)	291.3 (22.0%)	3 550.0 (52.6%)
Working	3.2 (11.3%)	2.2 (11.4%)	15.5 (16.8%)	7.4 (18.9%)	8.7 (15.8%)	19.0 (19.6%)	243.9 (18.4%)	3 423.4 (50.7%)
Unemployed	0.8 (2.8%)	0.8 (4.0%)	3.1 (3.4%)	1.2 (3.1%)	2.0 (3.6%)	3.3 (3.4%)	47.3 (3.6%)	126.6 (1.9%)
Economically inactive	24.6 (85.9%)	16.6 (84.6%)	73.7 (79.8%)	30.4 (78.0%)	44.7 (80.6%)	74.9 (77.0%)	1033.5 (78.0%)	3200.3 (47.4%)
Children aged under 18	2.7 (9.5%)	2.1 (10.5%)	13.3 (14.4%)	5.4 (14.0%)	10.2 (18.4%)	18.8 (19.4%)	234.9 (17.7%)	997.0 (14.8%)
People aged between 18 and 64	6.7 (23.5%)	4.7 (24.0%)	23.9 (25.9%)	10.0 (25.7%)	15.5 (28.0%)	26.2 (27.0%)	374.6 (28.3%)	1307.4 (19.4%)
Student	1.2 (4.1%)	0.6 (2.8%)	3.7 (4.0%)	1.5 (3.9%)	1.8 (3.2%)	3.9 (4.0%)	57.7 (4.4%)	268.8 (4.0%)
Home-maker	1.9 (6.7%)	1.4 (7.1%)	8.9 (9.7%)	3.7 (9.4%)	6.1 (11.0%)	10.7 (11.0%)	149.1 (11.3%)	591.0 (8.8%)
Retired person	2.4 (8.2%)	1.4 (6.9%)	6.0 (6.5%)	2.0 (5.0%)	2.7 (4.9%)	4.3 (4.4%)	69.3 (5.2%)	220.6 (3.3%)
Temporary / permanent ill	0.5 (1.9%)	0.4 (2.1%)	2.8 (3.1%)	1.7 (4.3%)	1.6 (2.9%)	3.9 (4.1%)	54.6 (4.1%)	93.7 (1.4%)
Other economically inactive*	0.7 (2.5%)	1.0 (5.2%)	2.4 (2.6%)	1.2 (3.0%)	3.3 (6.0%)	3.4 (3.5%)	43.8 (3.3%)	133.4 (2.0%)
Elders aged 65+	15.2 (52.8%)	9.8 (50.2%)	36.5 (39.5%)	14.9 (38.3%)	19.0 (34.2%)	29.8 (30.7%)	424.1 (32.0%)	895.9 (13.3%)
<b>(iii) Whether new arrival(s)</b>								
Yes	0.3 (0.9%)	§	2.1 (2.3%)	0.7 (1.8%)	1.5 (2.8%)	4.3 (4.4%)	37.2 (2.8%)	101.6 (1.5%)
No	28.4 (99.1%)	19.6 (99.8%)	90.3 (97.7%)	38.3 (98.2%)	53.9 (97.2%)	92.9 (95.6%)	1287.6 (97.2%)	6 648.7 (98.5%)
<b>(iv) Receiving social security benefit</b>								
OALA	4.0 (14.0%)	3.5 (18.1%)	13.7 (14.8%)	6.4 (16.4%)	6.5 (11.8%)	13.5 (13.9%)	183.1 (13.8%)	402.1 (6.0%)
DA	0.8 (2.9%)	1.0 (5.0%)	2.8 (3.0%)	1.7 (4.3%)	1.6 (3.0%)	1.7 (1.8%)	38.2 (2.9%)	109.3 (1.6%)
OAA	7.6 (26.7%)	4.0 (20.2%)	10.1 (10.9%)	2.5 (6.4%)	6.2 (11.2%)	5.4 (5.5%)	77.0 (5.8%)	218.4 (3.2%)
<b>II. No. of employed persons ('000)</b>								
<b>(i) Occupation</b>								
Higher-skilled	0.5 <15.8%>	0.8 <35.0%>	1.7 <10.8%>	0.5 <7.2%>	1.4 <16.1%>	2.1 <11.1%>	25.1 <10.3%>	1 386.5 <40.5%>
Lower-skilled	2.7 <84.2%>	1.5 <65.0%>	13.9 <89.2%>	6.8 <92.8%>	7.3 <83.9%>	16.9 <88.9%>	218.8 <89.7%>	2 037.0 <59.5%>
<b>(ii) Educational attainment</b>								
Primary and below	0.4 <12.6%>	§	3.0 <19.5%>	1.8 <25.0%>	1.8 <20.1%>	3.6 <18.7%>	47.3 <19.4%>	335.9 <9.8%>
Lower secondary	0.9 <26.2%>	0.5 <22.8%>	4.6 <29.4%>	1.8 <23.8%>	2.1 <23.8%>	6.3 <32.8%>	72.4 <29.7%>	509.5 <14.9%>
Upper secondary (including craft courses)	1.5 <44.7%>	0.9 <39.1%>	5.9 <37.7%>	2.8 <38.0%>	3.2 <37.1%>	6.6 <34.6%>	92.3 <37.8%>	1 261.7 <36.9%>
Post-secondary - non-degree	§	§	0.9 <5.9%>	0.5 <7.1%>	0.9 <10.3%>	1.1 <5.7%>	15.5 <6.3%>	330.0 <9.6%>
Post-secondary - degree	0.4 <12.9%>	0.5 <23.2%>	1.2 <7.5%>	0.5 <6.1%>	0.8 <8.8%>	1.6 <8.2%>	16.5 <6.8%>	986.4 <28.8%>
<b>(iii) Employment status</b>								
Full-time	2.4 <75.3%>	1.6 <72.8%>	11.0 <70.6%>	5.2 <69.9%>	6.2 <70.6%>	13.5 <71.1%>	177.8 <72.9%>	3 109.8 <90.8%>
Part-time / underemployed	0.8 <24.7%>	0.6 <27.2%>	4.6 <29.4%>	2.2 <30.1%>	2.6 <29.4%>	5.5 <28.9%>	66.1 <27.1%>	313.6 <9.2%>
<b>III. Other indicators</b>								
Median monthly employment earnings (HK\$)	9,200	9,000	8,000	8,100	8,000	8,000	8,300	14,700
Labour force participation rate (%)	15.1	16.5	22.8	24.3	22.7	27.1	25.5	59.6
Unemployment rate (%)	19.7	25.7	16.7	14.1	18.6	14.8	16.3	3.6
Median age	65	65	59	56	53	50	52	43
No. of children ('000)	2.8	2.1	13.4	5.4	10.3	18.9	235.9	1 003.1
Dependency ratio (demographic) <sup>a</sup>	1 714	1 632	1 233	1 154	1 166	1 044	1 030	416
Elderly	1 452	1 357	910	853	765	647	669	205
Child	262	275	323	301	401	397	362	210
Economic dependency ratio <sup>#</sup>	6 087	5 505	3 951	3 541	4 168	3 351	3 549	901

**Table A.2.14: Socio-economic characteristics of poor population by District Council district, 2014 (2)**

Before policy intervention	Kowloon City	Wong Tai Sin	Kwun Tong	Kwai Tsing	Tsuen Wan	Tuen Mun	All poor households	All households
<b>(C) Characteristics of persons</b>								
<b>I. No. of persons ('000)</b>								
<b>(i) Gender</b>								
Male	30.9 (48.8%)	45.8 (45.9%)	72.8 (47.0%)	60.4 (48.4%)	22.3 (47.3%)	45.3 (47.3%)	619.4 (46.8%)	3 245.9 (48.1%)
Female	32.5 (51.2%)	54.0 (54.1%)	82.1 (53.0%)	64.3 (51.6%)	24.8 (52.7%)	50.4 (52.7%)	705.4 (53.2%)	3 504.4 (51.9%)
<b>(ii) Economic activity status and age</b>								
Economically active	12.0 (18.8%)	22.6 (22.6%)	35.6 (23.0%)	29.6 (23.7%)	9.5 (20.1%)	22.5 (23.6%)	291.3 (22.0%)	3 550.0 (52.6%)
Working	9.6 (15.1%)	19.2 (19.2%)	29.8 (19.3%)	24.9 (20.0%)	8.0 (17.0%)	18.9 (19.8%)	243.9 (18.4%)	3 423.4 (50.7%)
Unemployed	2.3 (3.7%)	3.4 (3.4%)	5.8 (3.7%)	4.7 (3.8%)	1.5 (3.1%)	3.6 (3.8%)	47.3 (3.6%)	126.6 (1.9%)
Economically inactive	51.5 (81.2%)	77.2 (77.4%)	119.4 (77.0%)	95.1 (76.3%)	37.7 (79.9%)	73.1 (76.4%)	1033.5 (78.0%)	3200.3 (47.4%)
Children aged under 18	10.2 (16.1%)	16.2 (16.3%)	26.7 (17.3%)	23.8 (19.1%)	8.5 (18.0%)	17.1 (17.9%)	234.9 (17.7%)	997.0 (14.8%)
People aged between 18 and 64	18.4 (29.0%)	26.9 (26.9%)	40.6 (26.2%)	34.3 (27.5%)	13.1 (27.7%)	28.8 (30.1%)	374.6 (28.3%)	1307.4 (19.4%)
Student	2.1 (3.3%)	5.3 (5.3%)	6.2 (4.0%)	6.3 (5.0%)	1.9 (4.0%)	3.6 (3.7%)	57.7 (4.4%)	268.8 (4.0%)
Home-maker	6.8 (10.7%)	10.6 (10.6%)	16.1 (10.4%)	14.7 (11.8%)	5.6 (11.9%)	11.7 (12.2%)	149.1 (11.3%)	591.0 (8.8%)
Retired person	4.8 (7.6%)	3.9 (3.9%)	5.9 (3.8%)	4.3 (3.5%)	2.8 (6.0%)	6.2 (6.5%)	69.3 (5.2%)	220.6 (3.3%)
Temporary / permanent ill	2.8 (4.4%)	4.4 (4.4%)	7.5 (4.8%)	5.8 (4.7%)	1.6 (3.3%)	4.2 (4.4%)	54.6 (4.1%)	93.7 (1.4%)
Other economically inactive*	1.9 (3.0%)	2.7 (2.7%)	4.9 (3.2%)	3.1 (2.5%)	1.2 (2.6%)	3.1 (3.2%)	43.8 (3.3%)	133.4 (2.0%)
Elders aged 65+	22.8 (36.0%)	34.1 (34.2%)	52.0 (33.5%)	37.1 (29.7%)	16.1 (34.2%)	27.2 (28.4%)	424.1 (32.0%)	895.9 (13.3%)
<b>(iii) Whether new arrival(s)</b>								
Yes	2.5 (3.9%)	3.0 (3.1%)	6.0 (3.9%)	3.7 (3.0%)	1.3 (2.7%)	2.0 (2.1%)	37.2 (2.8%)	101.6 (1.5%)
No	61.0 (96.1%)	96.7 (96.9%)	148.9 (96.1%)	121.0 (97.0%)	45.9 (97.3%)	93.6 (97.9%)	1287.6 (97.2%)	6 648.7 (98.5%)
<b>(iv) Receiving social security benefit</b>								
OALA	9.6 (15.1%)	16.0 (16.1%)	22.7 (14.7%)	18.9 (15.1%)	7.8 (16.5%)	12.6 (13.2%)	183.1 (13.8%)	402.1 (6.0%)
DA	1.5 (2.3%)	2.3 (2.3%)	4.7 (3.0%)	2.5 (2.0%)	2.7 (5.7%)	2.3 (2.4%)	38.2 (2.9%)	109.3 (1.6%)
OAA	5.6 (8.8%)	3.0 (3.0%)	5.1 (3.3%)	3.7 (3.0%)	3.5 (7.5%)	3.0 (3.2%)	77.0 (5.8%)	218.4 (3.2%)
<b>II. No. of employed persons ('000)</b>								
<b>(i) Occupation</b>								
Higher-skilled	1.2 <12.5%>	1.8 <9.6%>	2.5 <8.4%>	1.9 <7.5%>	1.0 <13.0%>	1.2 <6.3%>	25.1 <10.3%>	1 386.5 <40.5%>
Lower-skilled	8.4 <87.5%>	17.3 <90.4%>	27.3 <91.6%>	23.0 <92.5%>	7.0 <87.0%>	17.7 <93.7%>	218.8 <89.7%>	2 037.0 <59.5%>
<b>(ii) Educational attainment</b>								
Primary and below	1.7 <17.7%>	3.9 <20.1%>	5.3 <17.7%>	5.0 <19.9%>	1.5 <18.2%>	3.9 <20.6%>	47.3 <19.4%>	335.9 <9.8%>
Lower secondary	2.3 <24.3%>	5.7 <29.8%>	9.0 <30.1%>	8.3 <33.5%>	2.1 <26.5%>	5.9 <31.3%>	72.4 <29.7%>	509.5 <14.9%>
Upper secondary (including craft courses)	4.2 <43.9%>	7.3 <37.9%>	11.8 <39.7%>	8.9 <35.7%>	3.6 <44.5%>	6.7 <35.2%>	92.3 <37.8%>	1 261.7 <36.9%>
Post-secondary - non-degree	0.7 <7.5%>	1.0 <5.3%>	2.0 <6.8%>	1.3 <5.3%>	0.3 <3.9%>	1.3 <6.7%>	15.5 <6.3%>	330.0 <9.6%>
Post-secondary - degree	0.6 <6.7%>	1.3 <6.9%>	1.7 <5.7%>	1.4 <5.6%>	0.6 <6.9%>	1.2 <6.2%>	16.5 <6.8%>	986.4 <28.8%>
<b>(iii) Employment status</b>								
Full-time	7.1 <73.5%>	14.5 <75.4%>	22.3 <74.7%>	18.1 <72.6%>	5.9 <73.7%>	13.7 <72.1%>	177.8 <72.9%>	3 109.8 <90.8%>
Part-time / underemployed	2.5 <26.5%>	4.7 <24.6%>	7.5 <25.3%>	6.8 <27.4%>	2.1 <26.3%>	5.3 <27.9%>	66.1 <27.1%>	313.6 <9.2%>
<b>III. Other indicators</b>								
Median monthly employment earnings (HK\$)	8,800	8,500	8,000	8,100	9,000	8,800	8,300	14,700
Labour force participation rate (%)	21.7	25.8	26.6	27.8	23.5	27.4	25.5	59.6
Unemployment rate (%)	19.6	15.1	16.2	15.8	15.3	16.1	16.3	3.6
Median age	57	52	51	48	54	50	52	43
No. of children ('000)	10.4	16.4	26.9	23.8	8.5	17.1	235.9	1 003.1
Dependency ratio (demographic) <sup>a</sup>	1 151	1 051	1 064	989	1 132	899	1 030	416
Elderly	800	714	706	609	748	558	669	205
Child	351	337	358	380	384	340	362	210
Economic dependency ratio <sup>#</sup>	4 307	3 422	3 354	3 217	3 972	3 242	3 549	901

**Table A.2.15: Socio-economic characteristics of poor population by District Council district, 2014 (3)**

Before policy intervention	Yuen Long	North	Tai Po	Sha Tin	Sai Kung	Islands	All poor households	All households
<b>(C) Characteristics of persons</b>								
<b>I. No. of persons ('000)</b>								
<b>(i) Gender</b>								
Male	54.9 (46.6%)	28.1 (45.9%)	21.5 (46.3%)	46.2 (46.4%)	25.9 (45.1%)	11.2 (45.9%)	619.4 (46.8%)	3 245.9 (48.1%)
Female	62.8 (53.4%)	33.2 (54.1%)	24.9 (53.7%)	53.5 (53.6%)	31.5 (54.9%)	13.2 (54.1%)	705.4 (53.2%)	3 504.4 (51.9%)
<b>(ii) Economic activity status and age</b>								
Economically active	26.6 (22.6%)	13.8 (22.5%)	10.3 (22.3%)	22.1 (22.2%)	14.4 (25.1%)	4.9 (20.1%)	291.3 (22.0%)	3 550.0 (52.6%)
Working	22.5 (19.2%)	11.7 (19.1%)	8.8 (18.9%)	18.7 (18.8%)	11.5 (20.1%)	4.0 (16.4%)	243.9 (18.4%)	3 423.4 (50.7%)
Unemployed	4.1 (3.5%)	2.1 (3.4%)	1.6 (3.4%)	3.4 (3.4%)	2.8 (4.9%)	0.9 (3.7%)	47.3 (3.6%)	126.6 (1.9%)
Economically inactive	91.1 (77.4%)	47.5 (77.5%)	36.0 (77.7%)	77.6 (77.8%)	43.0 (74.9%)	19.5 (79.9%)	1033.5 (78.0%)	3200.3 (47.4%)
Children aged under 18	26.1 (22.2%)	13.6 (22.2%)	7.2 (15.6%)	16.5 (16.6%)	10.5 (18.4%)	5.8 (23.6%)	234.9 (17.7%)	997.0 (14.8%)
People aged between 18 and 64	37.6 (31.9%)	19.8 (32.3%)	13.7 (29.5%)	28.7 (28.7%)	18.3 (31.8%)	7.4 (30.3%)	374.6 (28.3%)	1307.4 (19.4%)
Student	6.2 (5.3%)	3.0 (4.8%)	1.6 (3.4%)	4.2 (4.2%)	3.4 (5.8%)	1.4 (5.9%)	57.7 (4.4%)	268.8 (4.0%)
Home-maker	16.1 (13.6%)	8.7 (14.1%)	5.4 (11.6%)	11.2 (11.2%)	7.1 (12.4%)	2.5 (10.1%)	149.1 (11.3%)	591.0 (8.8%)
Retired person	5.9 (5.0%)	3.4 (5.6%)	2.8 (5.9%)	5.7 (5.7%)	3.2 (5.6%)	1.6 (6.7%)	69.3 (5.2%)	220.6 (3.3%)
Temporary / permanent ill	5.5 (4.7%)	2.4 (3.9%)	1.9 (4.2%)	3.9 (3.9%)	2.7 (4.7%)	0.9 (3.7%)	54.6 (4.1%)	93.7 (1.4%)
Other economically inactive*	3.9 (3.3%)	2.4 (3.9%)	2.0 (4.3%)	3.7 (3.7%)	1.9 (3.3%)	1.0 (4.0%)	43.8 (3.3%)	133.4 (2.0%)
Elders aged 65+	27.3 (23.2%)	14.1 (23.0%)	15.1 (32.6%)	32.4 (32.5%)	14.2 (24.7%)	6.4 (26.0%)	424.1 (32.0%)	895.9 (13.3%)
<b>(iii) Whether new arrival(s)</b>								
Yes	3.2 (2.7%)	2.3 (3.8%)	1.4 (2.9%)	1.8 (1.8%)	0.7 (1.2%)	0.4 (1.5%)	37.2 (2.8%)	101.6 (1.5%)
No	114.5 (97.3%)	59.0 (96.2%)	45.0 (97.1%)	97.9 (98.2%)	56.7 (98.8%)	24.1 (98.5%)	1287.6 (97.2%)	6 648.7 (98.5%)
<b>(iv) Receiving social security benefit</b>								
OALA	10.6 (9.0%)	5.9 (9.7%)	6.2 (13.3%)	16.4 (16.4%)	5.9 (10.2%)	2.9 (12.0%)	183.1 (13.8%)	402.1 (6.0%)
DA	3.5 (3.0%)	1.5 (2.5%)	1.3 (2.9%)	2.8 (2.8%)	3.2 (5.5%)	0.4 (1.8%)	38.2 (2.9%)	109.3 (1.6%)
OAA	3.8 (3.2%)	2.5 (4.1%)	2.4 (5.3%)	4.4 (4.4%)	3.0 (5.2%)	1.1 (4.6%)	77.0 (5.8%)	218.4 (3.2%)
<b>II. No. of employed persons ('000)</b>								
<b>(i) Occupation</b>								
Higher-skilled	2.6 <11.6%>	1.2 <10.5%>	1.1 <12.0%>	1.5 <8.1%>	1.4 <11.7%>	0.7 <17.4%>	25.1 <10.3%>	1 386.5 <40.5%>
Lower-skilled	19.9 <88.4%>	10.5 <89.5%>	7.7 <88.0%>	17.2 <91.9%>	10.2 <88.3%>	3.3 <82.6%>	218.8 <89.7%>	2 037.0 <59.5%>
<b>(ii) Educational attainment</b>								
Primary and below	4.3 <19.2%>	2.5 <20.9%>	1.7 <19.2%>	3.8 <20.2%>	2.0 <17.5%>	1.0 <26.1%>	47.3 <19.4%>	335.9 <9.8%>
Lower secondary	6.6 <29.3%>	3.1 <26.5%>	2.6 <29.9%>	5.9 <31.4%>	3.9 <33.6%>	0.8 <20.8%>	72.4 <29.7%>	509.5 <14.9%>
Upper secondary (including craft courses)	8.6 <38.2%>	4.8 <40.7%>	3.4 <38.7%>	6.5 <34.9%>	4.3 <37.2%>	1.5 <36.8%>	92.3 <37.8%>	1 261.7 <36.9%>
Post-secondary - non-degree	1.6 <7.0%>	0.9 <7.3%>	0.5 <6.1%>	1.3 <6.7%>	0.6 <5.0%>	0.3 <8.4%>	15.5 <6.3%>	330.0 <9.6%>
Post-secondary - degree	1.4 <6.3%>	0.5 <4.5%>	0.5 <6.0%>	1.3 <6.8%>	0.8 <6.7%>	0.3 <7.9%>	16.5 <6.8%>	986.4 <28.8%>
<b>(iii) Employment status</b>								
Full-time	16.6 <73.6%>	8.9 <76.2%>	6.1 <69.7%>	13.6 <72.8%>	8.4 <72.9%>	2.7 <68.4%>	177.8 <72.9%>	3 109.8 <90.8%>
Part-time / underemployed	5.9 <26.4%>	2.8 <23.8%>	2.7 <30.3%>	5.1 <27.2%>	3.1 <27.1%>	1.3 <31.6%>	66.1 <27.1%>	313.6 <9.2%>
<b>III. Other indicators</b>								
Median monthly employment earnings (HK\$)	8,700	8,000	8,400	8,500	9,000	8,000	8,300	14,700
Labour force participation rate (%)	27.2	27.4	25.4	25.5	28.8	24.2	25.5	59.6
Unemployment rate (%)	15.4	15.0	15.2	15.4	19.7	18.5	16.3	3.6
Median age	45	45	55	54	48	47	52	43
No. of children ('000)	26.2	13.7	7.3	16.5	10.6	5.8	235.9	1 003.1
Dependency ratio (demographic) <sup>a</sup>	863	859	972	1 005	783	1 050	1 030	416
Elderly	449	445	663	673	453	564	669	205
Child	415	414	309	332	330	486	362	210
Economic dependency ratio <sup>#</sup>	3 417	3 450	3 480	3 506	2 992	3 983	3 549	901

**Table A.3.1a: Poor households by selected household group, 2009-2014 (with the 2014 annual change)**

After policy intervention (recurrent cash)	No. of households ('000)						2014 compared with 2013	
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	Change	% change
<b>Overall</b>	406.3	405.3	398.8	403.0	384.8	382.6	-2.2	-0.6
<b>I. Household size</b>								
1-person	75.8	79.0	82.4	84.2	71.3	69.5	-1.8	-2.5
2-person	145.9	145.6	145.7	141.4	144.7	151.2	6.4	4.4
3-person	94.1	92.4	81.4	88.4	88.7	84.4	-4.3	-4.8
4-person	66.6	65.4	65.9	66.0	60.5	57.1	-3.4	-5.7
5-person	17.1	17.4	17.3	17.3	14.9	15.0	0.1	0.5
6-person+	6.8	5.6	6.1	5.6	4.6	5.5	0.8	17.4
<b>II. Social characteristics</b>								
CSSA households	104.9	106.1	107.3	102.7	84.9	66.5	-18.5	-21.7
Elderly households	108.9	116.0	118.2	120.6	112.8	112.4	-0.4	-0.3
Single-parent households	29.2	29.9	27.4	28.5	26.5	25.7	-0.7	-2.8
New-arrival households	35.7	29.4	31.1	31.7	28.0	24.4	-3.6	-13.0
Households with children	143.5	138.0	132.6	137.7	126.7	121.4	-5.3	-4.2
Youth households	2.3	2.1	2.2	2.6	1.7	1.8	0.1	3.4
<b>III. Economic characteristics</b>								
Economically inactive households	212.5	224.1	229.3	228.1	211.5	218.3	6.8	3.2
Working households	160.4	154.6	147.5	156.7	154.7	145.6	-9.1	-5.9
Unemployed households	33.4	26.6	22.0	18.2	18.6	18.7	0.1	0.5
<b>IV. Housing characteristics</b>								
Public rental housing	187.8	187.9	183.9	188.9	166.0	155.8	-10.3	-6.2
Subsidised sale flats	57.6	54.5	51.0	54.1	53.6	55.9	2.3	4.4
Private permanent housing	155.2	156.8	157.9	155.8	160.6	166.1	5.5	3.4
Owner-occupiers	121.5	126.5	124.7	121.7	120.8	124.8	4.0	3.3
- with mortgages or loans	15.9	11.5	12.0	11.8	12.9	11.7	-1.2	-8.9
Tenants	21.0	18.9	20.2	20.7	24.8	26.3	1.5	6.1
- in rooms / bedspaces / cocklofts	3.7	2.5	1.8	2.0	1.7	1.5	-0.2	-9.5
Temporary housing	5.6	6.0	6.0	4.2	4.6	4.8	0.2	4.4
<b>V. District Council districts</b>								
Central and Western	12.5	12.3	11.7	12.3	11.6	12.6	1.0	8.2
Wan Chai	7.6	8.6	7.9	8.4	7.5	9.6	2.1	28.6
Eastern	29.0	29.8	30.3	30.0	31.1	29.9	-1.3	-4.0
Southern	12.4	11.7	11.0	11.5	11.3	11.0	-0.3	-3.0
Yau Tsim Mong	17.8	18.5	19.4	21.0	18.8	19.3	0.5	2.8
Sham Shui Po	26.8	27.4	27.6	26.5	25.9	25.6	-0.2	-0.8
Kowloon City	19.2	19.4	19.2	19.4	18.1	20.9	2.9	15.8
Wong Tai Sin	28.0	30.0	27.2	29.9	25.4	24.8	-0.5	-2.1
Kwun Tong	43.8	44.2	42.7	43.5	41.6	39.2	-2.4	-5.8
Kwai Tsing	33.5	33.1	31.8	31.9	28.6	29.6	1.0	3.5
Tsuen Wan	15.6	14.6	14.7	15.3	15.0	13.8	-1.2	-8.0
Tuen Mun	31.3	31.4	30.7	30.0	30.1	28.0	-2.2	-7.2
Yuen Long	36.7	38.2	36.1	38.3	31.0	32.6	1.7	5.4
North	19.6	18.8	20.0	19.0	17.1	18.3	1.2	7.1
Tai Po	15.5	14.7	14.0	12.7	14.4	14.5	@	@
Sha Tin	30.4	28.5	28.8	29.8	31.6	30.0	-1.6	-5.0
Sai Kung	16.5	15.2	16.2	16.4	17.4	15.7	-1.7	-9.6
Islands	10.0	9.0	9.4	7.3	8.3	7.0	-1.2	-14.7



**Table A.3.2a: Poor population by selected household group, 2009-2014 (with the 2014 annual change)**

After policy intervention (recurrent cash)	No. of persons ('000)						2014 compared with 2013	
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	Change	% change
<b>Overall</b>	1 043.4	1 030.6	1 005.4	1 017.8	972.2	962.1	-10.0	-1.0
<b>I. Household size</b>								
1-person	75.8	79.0	82.4	84.2	71.3	69.5	-1.8	-2.5
2-person	291.8	291.1	291.4	282.9	289.5	302.3	12.9	4.4
3-person	282.3	277.2	244.1	265.2	266.0	253.2	-12.8	-4.8
4-person	266.5	261.4	263.7	264.1	242.0	228.3	-13.7	-5.7
5-person	85.3	87.1	86.4	86.5	74.5	74.8	0.4	0.5
6-person+	41.7	34.8	37.3	35.0	28.8	33.9	5.1	17.7
<b>II. Social characteristics</b>								
CSSA households	239.0	240.4	238.9	235.6	205.8	173.6	-32.2	-15.6
Elderly households	168.8	180.6	182.2	186.9	180.2	182.4	2.2	1.2
Single-parent households	81.9	83.7	78.3	81.0	74.0	72.1	-1.9	-2.5
New-arrival households	125.0	103.4	110.1	110.8	94.2	83.9	-10.3	-10.9
Households with children	521.7	498.2	487.2	500.5	455.3	438.1	-17.2	-3.8
Youth households	3.2	3.1	3.6	3.8	3.1	2.6	-0.5	-15.8
<b>III. Economic characteristics</b>								
Economically inactive households	409.2	430.0	436.6	433.5	408.2	425.3	17.2	4.2
Working households	543.3	527.5	509.4	537.5	517.1	491.7	-25.4	-4.9
Unemployed households	90.9	73.1	59.4	46.8	46.9	45.1	-1.8	-3.9
<b>IV. Housing characteristics</b>								
Public rental housing	510.0	510.3	495.7	518.9	460.3	438.2	-22.2	-4.8
Subsidised sale flats	153.7	142.8	132.8	137.8	134.4	138.5	4.0	3.0
Private permanent housing	367.2	364.5	363.4	352.1	367.3	374.6	7.3	2.0
Owner-occupiers	287.2	290.4	287.6	273.0	269.8	269.5	-0.3	-0.1
- with mortgages or loans	47.1	35.3	37.3	34.3	36.7	33.0	-3.7	-10.2
Tenants	57.2	53.6	52.2	53.8	69.7	76.2	6.5	9.3
- in rooms / bedspaces / cocklofts	8.0	5.7	4.0	4.7	4.4	4.3	-0.1	-2.0
Temporary housing	12.5	13.0	13.6	9.1	10.1	10.8	0.8	7.5
<b>V. District Council districts</b>								
Central and Western	26.8	27.4	25.4	25.6	24.7	23.9	-0.8	-3.1
Wan Chai	15.7	16.6	15.7	16.8	14.3	17.2	2.9	20.3
Eastern	69.6	69.3	71.6	71.0	71.7	71.5	-0.2	-0.2
Southern	31.4	28.1	27.1	29.3	28.0	27.4	-0.6	-2.1
Yau Tsim Mong	40.7	41.9	44.1	45.7	44.2	44.2	-0.1	-0.2
Sham Shui Po	70.2	68.3	67.7	68.4	67.4	66.6	-0.8	-1.2
Kowloon City	45.8	45.2	46.4	45.3	43.1	50.0	6.9	16.0
Wong Tai Sin	72.3	77.4	70.5	76.5	66.5	67.3	0.8	1.2
Kwun Tong	110.8	115.7	109.0	116.3	110.0	103.3	-6.8	-6.2
Kwai Tsing	90.6	89.9	85.6	87.9	79.3	82.0	2.7	3.4
Tsuen Wan	40.0	38.0	38.3	37.1	37.3	34.6	-2.7	-7.2
Tuen Mun	80.8	81.1	78.7	74.5	75.4	70.3	-5.1	-6.8
Yuen Long	103.2	103.7	97.5	103.7	84.0	84.6	0.6	0.7
North	53.6	51.6	51.3	49.2	43.8	48.4	4.6	10.5
Tai Po	40.7	36.1	34.5	31.1	35.4	36.5	1.0	2.9
Sha Tin	79.3	75.6	72.7	76.4	80.4	75.3	-5.0	-6.3
Sai Kung	47.1	39.9	43.0	43.8	46.7	42.2	-4.4	-9.5
Islands	24.8	24.7	26.2	19.2	20.0	16.8	-3.2	-15.8

**Table A.3.3a: Poverty rate by selected household group, 2009-2014 (with the 2014 annual change)**

After policy intervention (recurrent cash)	Share in the corresponding group (%)						2014 compared with 2013	
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	Change	% change
<b>Overall</b>	16.0	15.7	15.2	15.2	14.5	14.3	-0.2	-
<b>I. Household size</b>								
1-person	19.9	20.2	20.3	20.3	17.4	16.4	-1.0	-
2-person	24.3	23.9	23.4	22.2	22.0	22.6	0.6	-
3-person	16.0	15.3	13.1	14.0	14.0	13.2	-0.8	-
4-person	13.1	12.8	13.0	13.2	12.1	11.4	-0.7	-
5-person	11.1	11.4	11.6	11.6	10.3	10.6	0.3	-
6-person+	11.1	10.1	10.9	9.7	8.1	9.1	1.0	-
<b>II. Social characteristics</b>								
CSSA households	49.0	49.3	50.7	54.6	50.0	44.4	-5.6	-
Elderly households	55.9	56.3	55.5	54.4	49.0	46.9	-2.1	-
Single-parent households	35.5	37.3	36.7	37.8	36.8	36.4	-0.4	-
New-arrival households	38.5	38.6	37.9	36.9	36.5	32.4	-4.1	-
Households with children	17.6	17.2	17.1	17.8	16.5	16.2	-0.3	-
Youth households	4.2	3.8	4.4	4.8	4.0	3.8	-0.2	-
<b>III. Economic characteristics</b>								
Economically inactive households	62.2	61.5	62.7	61.2	58.2	57.6	-0.6	-
Working households	9.4	9.1	8.7	9.1	8.7	8.3	-0.4	-
Unemployed households	75.5	73.1	74.3	64.5	66.6	68.5	1.9	-
<b>IV. Housing characteristics</b>								
Public rental housing	25.7	25.5	24.7	25.2	22.5	21.4	-1.1	-
Subsidised sale flats	12.9	12.0	11.5	11.9	11.8	12.1	0.3	-
Private permanent housing	11.1	10.9	10.6	10.2	10.5	10.6	0.1	-
Owner-occupiers	11.9	12.1	11.6	11.2	11.1	11.1	@	-
- with mortgages or loans	4.4	3.6	3.6	3.4	3.7	3.3	-0.4	-
Tenants	8.2	7.1	7.1	6.8	8.2	8.6	0.4	-
- in rooms / bedspaces / cocklofts	20.5	22.9	21.1	23.6	21.9	18.9	-3.0	-
Temporary housing	27.0	28.9	32.1	24.7	26.7	28.1	1.4	-
<b>V. District Council districts</b>								
Central and Western	11.8	11.9	11.4	11.4	11.1	11.0	-0.1	-
Wan Chai	11.3	11.8	11.7	12.4	10.9	13.0	2.1	-
Eastern	12.7	12.7	13.1	13.0	13.2	13.3	0.1	-
Southern	12.5	11.2	10.9	11.8	11.2	11.1	-0.1	-
Yau Tsim Mong	14.6	14.8	15.4	15.7	15.2	15.1	-0.1	-
Sham Shui Po	20.2	19.7	19.0	18.8	18.6	18.2	-0.4	-
Kowloon City	13.8	13.7	13.7	13.1	12.6	13.6	1.0	-
Wong Tai Sin	17.9	19.2	17.4	18.7	16.2	16.4	0.2	-
Kwun Tong	19.4	19.8	18.3	19.1	17.7	16.7	-1.0	-
Kwai Tsing	18.4	18.3	17.5	18.1	16.3	16.9	0.6	-
Tsuen Wan	14.5	13.8	13.4	13.0	13.1	12.1	-1.0	-
Tuen Mun	17.2	17.2	16.9	15.9	16.1	14.9	-1.2	-
Yuen Long	19.7	19.5	17.6	18.6	14.9	14.8	-0.1	-
North	18.4	17.6	17.6	16.8	15.0	16.5	1.5	-
Tai Po	14.9	13.1	12.5	11.1	12.6	12.9	0.3	-
Sha Tin	13.8	12.9	12.4	12.8	13.2	12.4	-0.8	-
Sai Kung	12.0	10.1	10.5	10.7	11.3	10.0	-1.3	-
Islands	17.8	17.6	20.0	14.3	14.9	12.5	-2.4	-

**Table A.3.4a: Total poverty gap by selected household group, 2009-2014 (with the 2014 annual change)**

After policy intervention (recurrent cash)	HK\$m						2014 compared with 2013	
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	Change	% change
<b>Overall</b>	12,790.0	12,829.8	13,701.2	14,807.6	15,019.6	15,819.8	800.2	5.3
<b>I. Household size</b>								
1-person	1,393.1	1,490.3	1,577.4	1,845.6	1,805.5	2,040.4	234.9	13.0
2-person	4,821.8	4,871.9	5,583.3	5,685.1	6,042.4	6,529.2	486.8	8.1
3-person	3,395.5	3,287.9	3,013.1	3,545.1	3,667.1	3,789.8	122.7	3.3
4-person	2,390.5	2,380.8	2,667.8	2,797.9	2,635.9	2,523.7	-112.2	-4.3
5-person	546.3	607.3	625.4	699.1	655.1	683.2	28.2	4.3
6-person+	242.7	191.5	234.2	234.9	213.6	253.4	39.9	18.7
<b>II. Social characteristics</b>								
CSSA households	1,997.3	2,089.6	2,303.1	2,497.9	2,542.8	2,012.6	-530.3	-20.9
Elderly households	2,721.6	3,073.5	3,341.4	3,719.0	3,632.8	3,997.7	364.9	10.0
Single-parent households	839.2	890.4	883.8	987.1	1,040.0	995.1	-44.8	-4.3
New-arrival households	1,142.0	1,021.9	1,119.5	1,276.4	1,150.9	1,035.1	-115.8	-10.1
Households with children	4,881.4	4,724.0	4,916.2	5,435.3	5,196.2	5,181.4	-14.8	-0.3
Youth households	56.8	66.1	77.1	81.6	58.0	62.6	4.5	7.8
<b>III. Economic characteristics</b>								
Economically inactive households	6,817.8	7,432.0	8,338.7	9,007.4	9,107.6	10,025.7	918.1	10.1
Working households	4,259.4	4,005.2	4,149.1	4,720.6	4,744.5	4,592.3	-152.1	-3.2
Unemployed households	1,712.7	1,392.6	1,213.4	1,079.6	1,167.5	1,201.8	34.3	2.9
<b>IV. Housing characteristics</b>								
Public rental housing	4,340.5	4,401.7	4,731.4	5,138.9	4,863.2	4,695.0	-168.2	-3.5
Subsidised sale flats	2,041.8	1,941.0	1,964.9	2,247.9	2,301.4	2,447.3	145.9	6.3
Private permanent housing	6,230.8	6,314.7	6,794.5	7,246.1	7,695.3	8,497.6	802.3	10.4
Owner-occupiers	5,213.2	5,326.9	5,703.6	5,982.2	6,133.8	6,762.8	629.0	10.3
- with mortgages or loans	661.3	461.9	536.7	572.2	626.9	676.1	49.2	7.8
Tenants	586.5	531.7	585.5	735.6	926.6	1,059.2	132.6	14.3
- in rooms / bedspaces / cocklofts	70.3	40.7	32.7	53.0	43.9	41.9	-1.9	-4.4
Temporary housing	177.0	172.4	210.4	174.6	159.7	179.9	20.1	12.6
<b>V. District Council districts</b>								
Central and Western	524.0	535.3	577.1	611.9	617.5	678.2	60.7	9.8
Wan Chai	355.3	413.8	384.9	443.9	404.0	488.4	84.4	20.9
Eastern	1,036.5	1,061.5	1,150.4	1,256.2	1,392.5	1,427.1	34.6	2.5
Southern	394.9	355.0	441.0	457.4	433.0	480.1	47.1	10.9
Yau Tsim Mong	660.3	654.0	735.8	844.8	785.6	867.5	81.9	10.4
Sham Shui Po	799.5	836.1	870.7	928.4	991.2	1,039.8	48.6	4.9
Kowloon City	699.7	750.4	750.5	818.9	834.9	957.3	122.4	14.7
Wong Tai Sin	788.1	771.9	806.3	916.3	864.7	884.5	19.8	2.3
Kwun Tong	1,155.7	1,186.7	1,189.4	1,407.7	1,355.6	1,311.7	-44.0	-3.2
Kwai Tsing	892.8	922.6	918.2	1,026.7	980.8	1,055.4	74.6	7.6
Tsuen Wan	508.4	493.6	512.8	615.5	601.8	642.0	40.2	6.7
Tuen Mun	906.3	942.4	1,019.7	1,022.4	1,077.3	1,076.2	-1.1	-0.1
Yuen Long	1,128.1	1,194.5	1,245.4	1,337.9	1,170.7	1,260.8	90.0	7.7
North	610.7	622.2	679.0	649.7	610.8	819.0	208.1	34.1
Tai Po	543.6	457.8	519.0	512.2	587.0	621.9	34.9	5.9
Sha Tin	943.8	880.2	979.5	1,098.4	1,289.9	1,206.2	-83.8	-6.5
Sai Kung	523.2	486.5	581.7	583.6	690.3	706.8	16.5	2.4
Islands	319.0	265.3	340.0	275.8	331.8	297.0	-34.8	-10.5

**Table A.3.5a: Average poverty gap by selected household group, 2009-2014 (with the 2014 annual change)**

After policy intervention (recurrent cash)	HK\$						2014 compared with 2013	
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	Change	% change
<b>Overall</b>	2,600	2,600	2,900	3,100	3,300	3,400	200	5.9
<b>I. Household size</b>								
1-person	1,500	1,600	1,600	1,800	2,100	2,400	300	15.9
2-person	2,800	2,800	3,200	3,300	3,500	3,600	100	3.4
3-person	3,000	3,000	3,100	3,300	3,400	3,700	300	8.6
4-person	3,000	3,000	3,400	3,500	3,600	3,700	100	1.5
5-person	2,700	2,900	3,000	3,400	3,700	3,800	100	3.8
6-person+	3,000	2,900	3,200	3,500	3,800	3,900	@	@
<b>II. Social characteristics</b>								
CSSA households	1,600	1,600	1,800	2,000	2,500	2,500	@	@
Elderly households	2,100	2,200	2,400	2,600	2,700	3,000	300	10.4
Single-parent households	2,400	2,500	2,700	2,900	3,300	3,200	-100	-1.6
New-arrival households	2,700	2,900	3,000	3,400	3,400	3,500	100	3.4
Households with children	2,800	2,900	3,100	3,300	3,400	3,600	100	4.0
Youth households	2,100	2,600	2,900	2,600	2,800	3,000	100	4.3
<b>III. Economic characteristics</b>								
Economically inactive households	2,700	2,800	3,000	3,300	3,600	3,800	200	6.7
Working households	2,200	2,200	2,300	2,500	2,600	2,600	100	2.9
Unemployed households	4,300	4,400	4,600	4,900	5,200	5,400	100	2.5
<b>IV. Housing characteristics</b>								
Public rental housing	1,900	2,000	2,100	2,300	2,400	2,500	100	2.9
Subsidised sale flats	3,000	3,000	3,200	3,500	3,600	3,600	100	1.9
Private permanent housing	3,300	3,400	3,600	3,900	4,000	4,300	300	6.8
Owner-occupiers	3,600	3,500	3,800	4,100	4,200	4,500	300	6.7
- with mortgages or loans	3,500	3,300	3,700	4,000	4,100	4,800	700	18.4
Tenants	2,300	2,300	2,400	3,000	3,100	3,400	200	7.7
- in rooms / bedspaces / cocklofts	1,600	1,400	1,500	2,200	2,100	2,300	100	5.7
Temporary housing	2,600	2,400	2,900	3,500	2,900	3,100	200	7.8
<b>V. District Council districts</b>								
Central and Western	3,500	3,600	4,100	4,100	4,400	4,500	100	1.5
Wan Chai	3,900	4,000	4,100	4,400	4,500	4,200	-300	-6.0
Eastern	3,000	3,000	3,200	3,500	3,700	4,000	300	6.8
Southern	2,700	2,500	3,300	3,300	3,200	3,600	500	14.3
Yau Tsim Mong	3,100	2,900	3,200	3,400	3,500	3,700	300	7.4
Sham Shui Po	2,500	2,500	2,600	2,900	3,200	3,400	200	5.8
Kowloon City	3,000	3,200	3,300	3,500	3,800	3,800	@	@
Wong Tai Sin	2,300	2,100	2,500	2,600	2,800	3,000	100	4.4
Kwun Tong	2,200	2,200	2,300	2,700	2,700	2,800	100	2.7
Kwai Tsing	2,200	2,300	2,400	2,700	2,900	3,000	100	4.0
Tsuen Wan	2,700	2,800	2,900	3,400	3,300	3,900	500	16.0
Tuen Mun	2,400	2,500	2,800	2,800	3,000	3,200	200	7.6
Yuen Long	2,600	2,600	2,900	2,900	3,200	3,200	100	2.2
North	2,600	2,800	2,800	2,800	3,000	3,700	800	25.2
Tai Po	2,900	2,600	3,100	3,400	3,400	3,600	200	5.6
Sha Tin	2,600	2,600	2,800	3,100	3,400	3,300	-100	-1.6
Sai Kung	2,600	2,700	3,000	3,000	3,300	3,700	400	13.3
Islands	2,700	2,500	3,000	3,100	3,400	3,500	200	5.0

**Table A.3.1b: Poor households by selected household group, 2009-2014 (with the 2014 comparison of pre- and post-intervention poverty indicators)**

After policy intervention (recurrent cash)	No. of households ('000)						2014	
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	Change	% change
<b>Overall</b>	406.3	405.3	398.8	403.0	384.8	382.6	-172.6	-31.1
<b>I. Household size</b>								
1-person	75.8	79.0	82.4	84.2	71.3	69.5	-83.1	-54.4
2-person	145.9	145.6	145.7	141.4	144.7	151.2	-34.3	-18.5
3-person	94.1	92.4	81.4	88.4	88.7	84.4	-22.9	-21.4
4-person	66.6	65.4	65.9	66.0	60.5	57.1	-23.0	-28.7
5-person	17.1	17.4	17.3	17.3	14.9	15.0	-6.7	-30.9
6-person+	6.8	5.6	6.1	5.6	4.6	5.5	-2.7	-32.9
<b>II. Social characteristics</b>								
CSSA households	104.9	106.1	107.3	102.7	84.9	66.5	-110.9	-62.5
Elderly households	108.9	116.0	118.2	120.6	112.8	112.4	-81.0	-41.9
Single-parent households	29.2	29.9	27.4	28.5	26.5	25.7	-9.1	-26.1
New-arrival households	35.7	29.4	31.1	31.7	28.0	24.4	-3.5	-12.5
Households with children	143.5	138.0	132.6	137.7	126.7	121.4	-35.5	-22.6
Youth households	2.3	2.1	2.2	2.6	1.7	1.8	-0.5	-22.7
<b>III. Economic characteristics</b>								
Economically inactive households	212.5	224.1	229.3	228.1	211.5	218.3	-106.9	-32.9
Working households	160.4	154.6	147.5	156.7	154.7	145.6	-62.4	-30.0
Unemployed households	33.4	26.6	22.0	18.2	18.6	18.7	-3.3	-15.0
<b>IV. Housing characteristics</b>								
Public rental housing	187.8	187.9	183.9	188.9	166.0	155.8	-129.6	-45.4
Subsidised sale flats	57.6	54.5	51.0	54.1	53.6	55.9	-10.6	-15.9
Private permanent housing	155.2	156.8	157.9	155.8	160.6	166.1	-31.1	-15.8
Owner-occupiers	121.5	126.5	124.7	121.7	120.8	124.8	-14.2	-10.2
- with mortgages or loans	15.9	11.5	12.0	11.8	12.9	11.7	-0.4	-3.1
Tenants	21.0	18.9	20.2	20.7	24.8	26.3	-15.2	-36.6
- in rooms / bedspaces / cocklofts	3.7	2.5	1.8	2.0	1.7	1.5	-3.3	-68.2
Temporary housing	5.6	6.0	6.0	4.2	4.6	4.8	-1.3	-22.0
<b>V. District Council districts</b>								
Central and Western	12.5	12.3	11.7	12.3	11.6	12.6	-2.3	-15.3
Wan Chai	7.6	8.6	7.9	8.4	7.5	9.6	-1.2	-10.8
Eastern	29.0	29.8	30.3	30.0	31.1	29.9	-10.2	-25.4
Southern	12.4	11.7	11.0	11.5	11.3	11.0	-5.9	-34.9
Yau Tsim Mong	17.8	18.5	19.4	21.0	18.8	19.3	-5.2	-21.1
Sham Shui Po	26.8	27.4	27.6	26.5	25.9	25.6	-15.6	-37.8
Kowloon City	19.2	19.4	19.2	19.4	18.1	20.9	-7.0	-25.0
Wong Tai Sin	28.0	30.0	27.2	29.9	25.4	24.8	-15.6	-38.6
Kwun Tong	43.8	44.2	42.7	43.5	41.6	39.2	-25.9	-39.8
Kwai Tsing	33.5	33.1	31.8	31.9	28.6	29.6	-19.6	-39.8
Tsuen Wan	15.6	14.6	14.7	15.3	15.0	13.8	-5.4	-28.0
Tuen Mun	31.3	31.4	30.7	30.0	30.1	28.0	-13.0	-31.7
Yuen Long	36.7	38.2	36.1	38.3	31.0	32.6	-14.0	-30.0
North	19.6	18.8	20.0	19.0	17.1	18.3	-5.7	-23.9
Tai Po	15.5	14.7	14.0	12.7	14.4	14.5	-5.2	-26.6
Sha Tin	30.4	28.5	28.8	29.8	31.6	30.0	-11.4	-27.6
Sai Kung	16.5	15.2	16.2	16.4	17.4	15.7	-6.4	-28.8
Islands	10.0	9.0	9.4	7.3	8.3	7.0	-3.1	-30.9

**Table A.3.2b: Poor population by selected household group, 2009-2014 (with the 2014 comparison of pre- and post-intervention poverty indicators)**

After policy intervention (recurrent cash)	No. of persons ('000)						2014	
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	Change	% change
<b>Overall</b>	1 043.4	1 030.6	1 005.4	1 017.8	972.2	962.1	-362.7	-27.4
<b>I. Household size</b>								
1-person	75.8	79.0	82.4	84.2	71.3	69.5	-83.1	-54.4
2-person	291.8	291.1	291.4	282.9	289.5	302.3	-68.5	-18.5
3-person	282.3	277.2	244.1	265.2	266.0	253.2	-68.8	-21.4
4-person	266.5	261.4	263.7	264.1	242.0	228.3	-91.9	-28.7
5-person	85.3	87.1	86.4	86.5	74.5	74.8	-33.5	-30.9
6-person+	41.7	34.8	37.3	35.0	28.8	33.9	-16.9	-33.2
<b>II. Social characteristics</b>								
CSSA households	239.0	240.4	238.9	235.6	205.8	173.6	-204.2	-54.0
Elderly households	168.8	180.6	182.2	186.9	180.2	182.4	-98.3	-35.0
Single-parent households	81.9	83.7	78.3	81.0	74.0	72.1	-25.9	-26.4
New-arrival households	125.0	103.4	110.1	110.8	94.2	83.9	-11.1	-11.7
Households with children	521.7	498.2	487.2	500.5	455.3	438.1	-137.0	-23.8
Youth households	3.2	3.1	3.6	3.8	3.1	2.6	-1.2	-31.4
<b>III. Economic characteristics</b>								
Economically inactive households	409.2	430.0	436.6	433.5	408.2	425.3	-140.3	-24.8
Working households	543.3	527.5	509.4	537.5	517.1	491.7	-213.9	-30.3
Unemployed households	90.9	73.1	59.4	46.8	46.9	45.1	-8.5	-15.9
<b>IV. Housing characteristics</b>								
Public rental housing	510.0	510.3	495.7	518.9	460.3	438.2	-259.6	-37.2
Subsidised sale flats	153.7	142.8	132.8	137.8	134.4	138.5	-26.6	-16.1
Private permanent housing	367.2	364.5	363.4	352.1	367.3	374.6	-73.5	-16.4
Owner-occupiers	287.2	290.4	287.6	273.0	269.8	269.5	-35.0	-11.5
- with mortgages or loans	47.1	35.3	37.3	34.3	36.7	33.0	-1.6	-4.7
Tenants	57.2	53.6	52.2	53.8	69.7	76.2	-35.8	-32.0
- in rooms / bedspaces / cocklofts	8.0	5.7	4.0	4.7	4.4	4.3	-4.8	-52.5
Temporary housing	12.5	13.0	13.6	9.1	10.1	10.8	-2.9	-21.4
<b>V. District Council districts</b>								
Central and Western	26.8	27.4	25.4	25.6	24.7	23.9	-4.8	-16.6
Wan Chai	15.7	16.6	15.7	16.8	14.3	17.2	-2.4	-12.2
Eastern	69.6	69.3	71.6	71.0	71.7	71.5	-20.8	-22.5
Southern	31.4	28.1	27.1	29.3	28.0	27.4	-11.6	-29.8
Yau Tsim Mong	40.7	41.9	44.1	45.7	44.2	44.2	-11.3	-20.3
Sham Shui Po	70.2	68.3	67.7	68.4	67.4	66.6	-30.6	-31.5
Kowloon City	45.8	45.2	46.4	45.3	43.1	50.0	-13.4	-21.1
Wong Tai Sin	72.3	77.4	70.5	76.5	66.5	67.3	-32.5	-32.6
Kwun Tong	110.8	115.7	109.0	116.3	110.0	103.3	-51.7	-33.4
Kwai Tsing	90.6	89.9	85.6	87.9	79.3	82.0	-42.7	-34.2
Tsuen Wan	40.0	38.0	38.3	37.1	37.3	34.6	-12.6	-26.7
Tuen Mun	80.8	81.1	78.7	74.5	75.4	70.3	-25.3	-26.4
Yuen Long	103.2	103.7	97.5	103.7	84.0	84.6	-33.1	-28.1
North	53.6	51.6	51.3	49.2	43.8	48.4	-12.9	-21.0
Tai Po	40.7	36.1	34.5	31.1	35.4	36.5	-9.9	-21.3
Sha Tin	79.3	75.6	72.7	76.4	80.4	75.3	-24.4	-24.5
Sai Kung	47.1	39.9	43.0	43.8	46.7	42.2	-15.2	-26.4
Islands	24.8	24.7	26.2	19.2	20.0	16.8	-7.6	-31.1

**Table A.3.3b: Poverty rate by selected household group, 2009-2014 (with the 2014 comparison of pre- and post-intervention poverty indicators)**

After policy intervention (recurrent cash)	Share in the corresponding group (%)						2014	
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	Change	% change
<b>Overall</b>	16.0	15.7	15.2	15.2	14.5	14.3	-5.3	-
<b>I. Household size</b>								
1-person	19.9	20.2	20.3	20.3	17.4	16.4	-19.7	-
2-person	24.3	23.9	23.4	22.2	22.0	22.6	-5.1	-
3-person	16.0	15.3	13.1	14.0	14.0	13.2	-3.6	-
4-person	13.1	12.8	13.0	13.2	12.1	11.4	-4.6	-
5-person	11.1	11.4	11.6	11.6	10.3	10.6	-4.8	-
6-person+	11.1	10.1	10.9	9.7	8.1	9.1	-4.6	-
<b>II. Social characteristics</b>								
CSSA households	49.0	49.3	50.7	54.6	50.0	44.4	-52.2	-
Elderly households	55.9	56.3	55.5	54.4	49.0	46.9	-25.3	-
Single-parent households	35.5	37.3	36.7	37.8	36.8	36.4	-13.1	-
New-arrival households	38.5	38.6	37.9	36.9	36.5	32.4	-4.3	-
Households with children	17.6	17.2	17.1	17.8	16.5	16.2	-5.0	-
Youth households	4.2	3.8	4.4	4.8	4.0	3.8	-1.7	-
<b>III. Economic characteristics</b>								
Economically inactive households	62.2	61.5	62.7	61.2	58.2	57.6	-19.0	-
Working households	9.4	9.1	8.7	9.1	8.7	8.3	-3.6	-
Unemployed households	75.5	73.1	74.3	64.5	66.6	68.5	-12.9	-
<b>IV. Housing characteristics</b>								
Public rental housing	25.7	25.5	24.7	25.2	22.5	21.4	-12.7	-
Subsidised sale flats	12.9	12.0	11.5	11.9	11.8	12.1	-2.3	-
Private permanent housing	11.1	10.9	10.6	10.2	10.5	10.6	-2.1	-
Owner-occupiers	11.9	12.1	11.6	11.2	11.1	11.1	-1.5	-
- with mortgages or loans	4.4	3.6	3.6	3.4	3.7	3.3	-0.2	-
Tenants	8.2	7.1	7.1	6.8	8.2	8.6	-4.1	-
- in rooms / bedspaces / cocklofts	20.5	22.9	21.1	23.6	21.9	18.9	-20.9	-
Temporary housing	27.0	28.9	32.1	24.7	26.7	28.1	-7.7	-
<b>V. District Council districts</b>								
Central and Western	11.8	11.9	11.4	11.4	11.1	11.0	-2.1	-
Wan Chai	11.3	11.8	11.7	12.4	10.9	13.0	-1.8	-
Eastern	12.7	12.7	13.1	13.0	13.2	13.3	-3.8	-
Southern	12.5	11.2	10.9	11.8	11.2	11.1	-4.6	-
Yau Tsim Mong	14.6	14.8	15.4	15.7	15.2	15.1	-3.9	-
Sham Shui Po	20.2	19.7	19.0	18.8	18.6	18.2	-8.4	-
Kowloon City	13.8	13.7	13.7	13.1	12.6	13.6	-3.6	-
Wong Tai Sin	17.9	19.2	17.4	18.7	16.2	16.4	-7.9	-
Kwun Tong	19.4	19.8	18.3	19.1	17.7	16.7	-8.4	-
Kwai Tsing	18.4	18.3	17.5	18.1	16.3	16.9	-8.8	-
Tsuen Wan	14.5	13.8	13.4	13.0	13.1	12.1	-4.5	-
Tuen Mun	17.2	17.2	16.9	15.9	16.1	14.9	-5.3	-
Yuen Long	19.7	19.5	17.6	18.6	14.9	14.8	-5.8	-
North	18.4	17.6	17.6	16.8	15.0	16.5	-4.4	-
Tai Po	14.9	13.1	12.5	11.1	12.6	12.9	-3.5	-
Sha Tin	13.8	12.9	12.4	12.8	13.2	12.4	-4.0	-
Sai Kung	12.0	10.1	10.5	10.7	11.3	10.0	-3.6	-
Islands	17.8	17.6	20.0	14.3	14.9	12.5	-5.6	-

**Table A.3.4b: Total poverty gap by selected household group, 2009-2014 (with the 2014 comparison of pre- and post-intervention poverty indicators)**

After policy intervention (recurrent cash)	HK\$Mn						2014	
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	Change	% change
<b>Overall</b>	12,790.0	12,829.8	13,701.2	14,807.6	15,019.6	15,819.8	-16,965.6	-51.7
<b>I. Household size</b>								
1-person	1,393.1	1,490.3	1,577.4	1,845.6	1,805.5	2,040.4	-3,413.6	-62.6
2-person	4,821.8	4,871.9	5,583.3	5,685.1	6,042.4	6,529.2	-6,052.5	-48.1
3-person	3,395.5	3,287.9	3,013.1	3,545.1	3,667.1	3,789.8	-3,579.7	-48.6
4-person	2,390.5	2,380.8	2,667.8	2,797.9	2,635.9	2,523.7	-2,636.1	-51.1
5-person	546.3	607.3	625.4	699.1	655.1	683.2	-860.2	-55.7
6-person+	242.7	191.5	234.2	234.9	213.6	253.4	-423.6	-62.6
<b>II. Social characteristics</b>								
CSSA households	1,997.3	2,089.6	2,303.1	2,497.9	2,542.8	2,012.6	-11,652.8	-85.3
Elderly households	2,721.6	3,073.5	3,341.4	3,719.0	3,632.8	3,997.7	-6,189.4	-60.8
Single-parent households	839.2	890.4	883.8	987.1	1,040.0	995.1	-2,029.7	-67.1
New-arrival households	1,142.0	1,021.9	1,119.5	1,276.4	1,150.9	1,035.1	-804.4	-43.7
Households with children	4,881.4	4,724.0	4,916.2	5,435.3	5,196.2	5,181.4	-5,842.7	-53.0
Youth households	56.8	66.1	77.1	81.6	58.0	62.6	-20.2	-24.4
<b>III. Economic characteristics</b>								
Economically inactive households	6,817.8	7,432.0	8,338.7	9,007.4	9,107.6	10,025.7	-11,585.0	-53.6
Working households	4,259.4	4,005.2	4,149.1	4,720.6	4,744.5	4,592.3	-4,693.5	-50.5
Unemployed households	1,712.7	1,392.6	1,213.4	1,079.6	1,167.5	1,201.8	-687.2	-36.4
<b>IV. Housing characteristics</b>								
Public rental housing	4,340.5	4,401.7	4,731.4	5,138.9	4,863.2	4,695.0	-12,186.2	-72.2
Subsidised sale flats	2,041.8	1,941.0	1,964.9	2,247.9	2,301.4	2,447.3	-1,252.5	-33.9
Private permanent housing	6,230.8	6,314.7	6,794.5	7,246.1	7,695.3	8,497.6	-3,342.6	-28.2
Owner-occupiers	5,213.2	5,326.9	5,703.6	5,982.2	6,133.8	6,762.8	-1,635.8	-19.5
- with mortgages or loans	661.3	461.9	536.7	572.2	626.9	676.1	-39.6	-5.5
Tenants	586.5	531.7	585.5	735.6	926.6	1,059.2	-1,488.7	-58.4
- in rooms / bedspaces / cocklofts	70.3	40.7	32.7	53.0	43.9	41.9	-203.1	-82.9
Temporary housing	177.0	172.4	210.4	174.6	159.7	179.9	-184.4	-50.6
<b>V. District Council districts</b>								
Central and Western	524.0	535.3	577.1	611.9	617.5	678.2	-202.3	-23.0
Wan Chai	355.3	413.8	384.9	443.9	404.0	488.4	-116.3	-19.2
Eastern	1,036.5	1,061.5	1,150.4	1,256.2	1,392.5	1,427.1	-1,002.8	-41.3
Southern	394.9	355.0	441.0	457.4	433.0	480.1	-470.3	-49.5
Yau Tsim Mong	660.3	654.0	735.8	844.8	785.6	867.5	-586.9	-40.4
Sham Shui Po	799.5	836.1	870.7	928.4	991.2	1,039.8	-1,376.0	-57.0
Kowloon City	699.7	750.4	750.5	818.9	834.9	957.3	-724.1	-43.1
Wong Tai Sin	788.1	771.9	806.3	916.3	864.7	884.5	-1,440.7	-62.0
Kwun Tong	1,155.7	1,186.7	1,189.4	1,407.7	1,355.6	1,311.7	-2,455.6	-65.2
Kwai Tsing	892.8	922.6	918.2	1,026.7	980.8	1,055.4	-1,865.6	-63.9
Tsuen Wan	508.4	493.6	512.8	615.5	601.8	642.0	-537.0	-45.5
Tuen Mun	906.3	942.4	1,019.7	1,022.4	1,077.3	1,076.2	-1,169.8	-52.1
Yuen Long	1,128.1	1,194.5	1,245.4	1,337.9	1,170.7	1,260.8	-1,592.8	-55.8
North	610.7	622.2	679.0	649.7	610.8	819.0	-722.6	-46.9
Tai Po	543.6	457.8	519.0	512.2	587.0	621.9	-558.6	-47.3
Sha Tin	943.8	880.2	979.5	1,098.4	1,289.9	1,206.2	-1,209.9	-50.1
Sai Kung	523.2	486.5	581.7	583.6	690.3	706.8	-596.0	-45.7
Islands	319.0	265.3	340.0	275.8	331.8	297.0	-338.4	-53.3



**Table A.3.5b: Average poverty gap by selected household group, 2009-2014 (with the 2014 comparison of pre- and post-intervention poverty indicators)**

After policy intervention (recurrent cash)	HK\$						2014	
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	Change	% change
<b>Overall</b>	2,600	2,600	2,900	3,100	3,300	3,400	-1,500	-30.0
<b>I. Household size</b>								
1-person	1,500	1,600	1,600	1,800	2,100	2,400	-500	-17.9
2-person	2,800	2,800	3,200	3,300	3,500	3,600	-2,100	-36.4
3-person	3,000	3,000	3,100	3,300	3,400	3,700	-2,000	-34.6
4-person	3,000	3,000	3,400	3,500	3,600	3,700	-1,700	-31.4
5-person	2,700	2,900	3,000	3,400	3,700	3,800	-2,100	-35.9
6-person+	3,000	2,900	3,200	3,500	3,800	3,900	-3,100	-44.2
<b>II. Social characteristics</b>								
CSSA households	1,600	1,600	1,800	2,000	2,500	2,500	-3,900	-60.7
Elderly households	2,100	2,200	2,400	2,600	2,700	3,000	-1,400	-32.5
Single-parent households	2,400	2,500	2,700	2,900	3,300	3,200	-4,000	-55.5
New-arrival households	2,700	2,900	3,000	3,400	3,400	3,500	-2,000	-35.7
Households with children	2,800	2,900	3,100	3,300	3,400	3,600	-2,300	-39.3
Youth households	2,100	2,600	2,900	2,600	2,800	3,000	-100	-2.2
<b>III. Economic characteristics</b>								
Economically inactive households	2,700	2,800	3,000	3,300	3,600	3,800	-1,700	-30.9
Working households	2,200	2,200	2,300	2,500	2,600	2,600	-1,100	-29.4
Unemployed households	4,300	4,400	4,600	4,900	5,200	5,400	-1,800	-25.1
<b>IV. Housing characteristics</b>								
Public rental housing	1,900	2,000	2,100	2,300	2,400	2,500	-2,400	-49.1
Subsidised sale flats	3,000	3,000	3,200	3,500	3,600	3,600	-1,000	-21.3
Private permanent housing	3,300	3,400	3,600	3,900	4,000	4,300	-700	-14.8
Owner-occupiers	3,600	3,500	3,800	4,100	4,200	4,500	-500	-10.3
- with mortgages or loans	3,500	3,300	3,700	4,000	4,100	4,800	-100	-2.5
Tenants	2,300	2,300	2,400	3,000	3,100	3,400	-1,800	-34.4
- in rooms / bedspaces / cocklofts	1,600	1,400	1,500	2,200	2,100	2,300	-1,900	-46.1
Temporary housing	2,600	2,400	2,900	3,500	2,900	3,100	-1,800	-36.7
<b>V. District Council districts</b>								
Central and Western	3,500	3,600	4,100	4,100	4,400	4,500	-400	-9.1
Wan Chai	3,900	4,000	4,100	4,400	4,500	4,200	-400	-9.5
Eastern	3,000	3,000	3,200	3,500	3,700	4,000	-1,100	-21.3
Southern	2,700	2,500	3,300	3,300	3,200	3,600	-1,100	-22.4
Yau Tsim Mong	3,100	2,900	3,200	3,400	3,500	3,700	-1,200	-24.4
Sham Shui Po	2,500	2,500	2,600	2,900	3,200	3,400	-1,500	-30.8
Kowloon City	3,000	3,200	3,300	3,500	3,800	3,800	-1,200	-24.1
Wong Tai Sin	2,300	2,100	2,500	2,600	2,800	3,000	-1,800	-38.1
Kwun Tong	2,200	2,200	2,300	2,700	2,700	2,800	-2,000	-42.1
Kwai Tsing	2,200	2,300	2,400	2,700	2,900	3,000	-2,000	-40.0
Tsuen Wan	2,700	2,800	2,900	3,400	3,300	3,900	-1,200	-24.3
Tuen Mun	2,400	2,500	2,800	2,800	3,000	3,200	-1,400	-29.8
Yuen Long	2,600	2,600	2,900	2,900	3,200	3,200	-1,900	-36.9
North	2,600	2,800	2,800	2,800	3,000	3,700	-1,600	-30.2
Tai Po	2,900	2,600	3,100	3,400	3,400	3,600	-1,400	-28.3
Sha Tin	2,600	2,600	2,800	3,100	3,400	3,300	-1,500	-31.1
Sai Kung	2,600	2,700	3,000	3,000	3,300	3,700	-1,200	-23.8
Islands	2,700	2,500	3,000	3,100	3,400	3,500	-1,700	-32.3

**Table A.3.6: Socio-economic characteristics of poor households by selected household group, 2014 (1)**

After policy intervention (recurrent cash)	CSSA households	Elderly households	Single-parent households	New-arrival households	Households with children	Youth households	All poor households	All households
<b>(A) Poverty indicators</b>								
I. Poor households ('000)	66.5	112.4	25.7	24.4	121.4	1.8	382.6	-
II. Poor population ('000)	173.6	182.4	72.1	83.9	438.1	2.6	962.1	-
III. Poverty rate (%)	{44.4%}	{46.9%}	{36.4%}	{32.4%}	{16.2%}	{3.8%}	{14.3%}	-
Children aged under 18	{55.8%}	-	{41.2%}	{40.5%}	{18.2%}	-	{18.2%}	-
People aged between 18 and 64	{41.3%}	-	{32.9%}	{28.7%}	{14.4%}	{3.8%}	{10.2%}	-
Elders aged 65+	{41.2%}	{46.9%}	{30.2%}	{33.2%}	{22.4%}	-	{30.0%}	-
IV. Poverty gap								
Annual total gap (HK\$m)	2,012.6	3,997.7	995.1	1,035.1	5,181.4	62.6	15,819.8	-
Monthly average gap (HK\$)	2,500	3,000	3,200	3,500	3,600	3,000	3,400	-
<b>(B) Characteristics of households</b>								
<b>I. No. of households ('000)</b>								
<b>(i) Economic characteristics</b>								
Economically active	14.0 (21.0%)	2.8 (2.5%)	11.3 (43.7%)	18.3 (75.1%)	87.1 (71.7%)	0.6 (36.1%)	164.3 (42.9%)	1 987.6 (81.8%)
<i>Working</i>	9.4 (14.2%)	2.5 (2.3%)	9.7 (37.7%)	16.6 (68.2%)	82.4 (67.8%)	0.4 (23.6%)	145.6 (38.1%)	1 958.1 (80.6%)
<i>Unemployed</i>	4.6 (6.9%)	§ (5.1%)	1.5 (6.0%)	1.7 (6.9%)	4.7 (3.9%)	§ (59.0%)	18.7 (4.9%)	29.5 (1.2%)
Economically inactive	52.5 (79.0%)	109.7 (97.5%)	14.5 (56.3%)	6.1 (24.9%)	34.3 (28.3%)	1.1 (63.9%)	218.3 (57.1%)	441.4 (18.2%)
<b>(ii) Whether receiving CSSA or not</b>								
Yes	66.5 (100.0%)	15.7 (14.0%)	15.2 (59.0%)	5.1 (20.9%)	30.0 (24.7%)	§ (17.4%)	66.5 (17.4%)	182.4 (7.5%)
No	-	96.7 (86.0%)	10.5 (41.0%)	19.3 (79.1%)	91.4 (75.3%)	1.7 (97.6%)	316.1 (82.6%)	2 246.6 (92.5%)
<i>Reason: no financial needs</i>	-	64.6 (57.4%)	3.5 (13.6%)	4.9 (20.1%)	26.2 (21.5%)	1.0 (59.0%)	158.9 (41.5%)	177.0 (7.3%)
<i>Reason: income and assets tests not passed</i>	-	5.7 (5.1%)	0.6 (2.2%)	0.6 (2.5%)	2.9 (2.4%)	-	14.2 (3.7%)	15.6 (0.6%)
<b>(iii) Housing characteristics</b>								
Public rental housing	51.4 (77.3%)	33.1 (29.5%)	17.3 (67.2%)	14.0 (57.4%)	65.8 (54.2%)	§ (40.7%)	155.8 (40.7%)	739.0 (30.4%)
Subsidised sale flats	3.7 (5.6%)	17.6 (15.6%)	1.7 (6.6%)	1.0 (4.3%)	12.8 (10.6%)	§ (14.6%)	55.9 (14.6%)	375.6 (15.5%)
<i>with mortgages or loans</i>	0.3 (0.4%)	0.5 (0.4%)	0.3 (1.1%)	0.3 (1.1%)	2.9 (2.4%)	-	6.4 (1.7%)	88.1 (3.6%)
Private permanent housing	10.4 (15.6%)	60.2 (53.5%)	6.5 (25.2%)	8.7 (35.9%)	41.3 (34.0%)	1.5 (84.6%)	166.1 (43.4%)	1 298.0 (53.4%)
<i>Owner-occupiers</i>	3.3 (4.9%)	50.9 (45.3%)	2.5 (9.6%)	2.5 (10.1%)	22.1 (18.2%)	0.3 (18.7%)	124.8 (32.6%)	865.6 (35.6%)
<i>- with mortgages or loans</i>	§ (1.2%)	1.3 (1.2%)	0.5 (1.9%)	0.5 (2.2%)	5.2 (4.3%)	§ (3.1%)	11.7 (3.1%)	340.2 (14.0%)
<i>Tenants</i>	6.5 (9.7%)	2.6 (2.3%)	3.7 (14.4%)	5.9 (24.1%)	16.5 (13.6%)	0.6 (31.9%)	26.3 (6.9%)	344.0 (14.2%)
<i>- in rooms / bedspaces / cocklofts</i>	0.6 (0.9%)	§ (1.6%)	0.4 (1.6%)	0.5 (2.2%)	1.1 (0.9%)	-	1.5 (0.4%)	13.9 (0.6%)
Temporary housing	0.9 (1.4%)	1.6 (1.4%)	0.3 (1.0%)	0.6 (2.4%)	1.5 (1.2%)	§ (1.2%)	4.8 (1.2%)	16.3 (0.7%)
<b>(iv) Other characteristics</b>								
With FDH(s)	§ (9.0%)	10.1 (9.0%)	0.7 (2.9%)	§ (100.0%)	4.2 (3.5%)	-	18.4 (4.8%)	258.9 (10.7%)
With new arrival(s)	5.1 (7.7%)	0.3 (0.2%)	2.7 (10.7%)	24.4 (100.0%)	20.1 (16.5%)	§ (6.4%)	24.4 (6.4%)	76.2 (3.1%)
With children	30.0 (45.2%)	-	25.7 (100.0%)	20.1 (82.5%)	121.4 (100.0%)	-	121.4 (31.7%)	715.0 (29.4%)
<b>II. Other household characteristics</b>								
Average household size	2.6	1.6	2.8	3.4	3.6	1.5	2.5	2.8
Average no. of economically active members	0.2	@	0.5	0.9	0.9	0.4	0.5	1.5
Median monthly household income (HK\$)	7,600	3,200	8,000	10,800	11,400	2,300	6,900	23,000

**Table A.3.7: Socio-economic characteristics of poor households by selected household group, 2014 (2)**

After policy intervention (recurrent cash)	Economically active households	Working households	Unemployed households	Economically inactive households	All poor households	All households
<b>(A) Poverty indicators</b>						
I. Poor households ('000)	164.3	145.6	18.7	218.3	382.6	-
II. Poor population ('000)	536.8	491.7	45.1	425.3	962.1	-
III. Poverty rate (%)	{8.9%}	{8.3%}	{68.5%}	{57.6%}	{14.3%}	-
Children aged under 18	{14.1%}	{13.5%}	{70.5%}	{76.0%}	{18.2%}	-
People aged between 18 and 64	{7.5%}	{7.0%}	{64.7%}	{58.3%}	{10.2%}	-
Elders aged 65+	{11.4%}	{10.1%}	{83.0%}	{54.3%}	{30.0%}	-
IV. Poverty gap						
Annual total gap (HK\$Mn)	5,794.1	4,592.3	1,201.8	10,025.7	15,819.8	-
Monthly average gap (HK\$)	2,900	2,600	5,400	3,800	3,400	-
<b>(B) Characteristics of households</b>						
<b>I. No. of households ('000)</b>						
<b>(i) Economic characteristics</b>						
Economically active	164.3 (100.0%)	145.6 (100.0%)	18.7 (100.0%)	- -	164.3 (42.9%)	1 987.6 (81.8%)
Working	145.6 (88.6%)	145.6 (100.0%)	- -	- -	145.6 (38.1%)	1 958.1 (80.6%)
Unemployed	18.7 (11.4%)	- -	18.7 (100.0%)	- -	18.7 (4.9%)	29.5 (1.2%)
Economically inactive	- -	- -	- -	218.3 (100.0%)	218.3 (57.1%)	441.4 (18.2%)
<b>(ii) Whether receiving CSSA or not</b>						
Yes	14.0 (8.5%)	9.4 (6.5%)	4.6 (24.4%)	52.5 (24.0%)	66.5 (17.4%)	182.4 (7.5%)
No	150.3 (91.5%)	136.2 (93.5%)	14.1 (75.6%)	165.8 (76.0%)	316.1 (82.6%)	2 246.6 (92.5%)
Reason: no financial needs	44.9 (27.4%)	36.1 (24.8%)	8.8 (47.2%)	114.0 (52.2%)	158.9 (41.5%)	177.0 (7.3%)
Reason: income and assets tests not passed	5.1 (3.1%)	3.9 (2.7%)	1.1 (6.0%)	9.2 (4.2%)	14.2 (3.7%)	15.6 (0.6%)
<b>(iii) Housing characteristics</b>						
Public rental housing	81.2 (49.4%)	73.3 (50.3%)	7.9 (42.4%)	74.6 (34.2%)	155.8 (40.7%)	739.0 (30.4%)
Subsidised sale flats	25.4 (15.5%)	22.6 (15.5%)	2.9 (15.4%)	30.5 (14.0%)	55.9 (14.6%)	375.6 (15.5%)
with mortgages or loans	4.7 (2.9%)	4.2 (2.9%)	0.5 (2.8%)	1.7 (0.8%)	6.4 (1.7%)	88.1 (3.6%)
Private permanent housing	55.7 (33.9%)	48.1 (33.0%)	7.6 (40.7%)	110.4 (50.6%)	166.1 (43.4%)	1 298.0 (53.4%)
Owner-occupiers	37.4 (22.8%)	32.0 (22.0%)	5.4 (29.0%)	87.4 (40.0%)	124.8 (32.6%)	865.6 (35.6%)
- with mortgages or loans	6.4 (3.9%)	5.3 (3.6%)	1.1 (5.9%)	5.3 (2.4%)	11.7 (3.1%)	340.2 (14.0%)
Tenants	14.4 (8.8%)	12.6 (8.7%)	1.8 (9.4%)	12.0 (5.5%)	26.3 (6.9%)	344.0 (14.2%)
- in rooms / bedspaces / cocklofts	0.7 (0.4%)	0.6 (0.4%)	§ §	0.9 (0.4%)	1.5 (0.4%)	13.9 (0.6%)
Temporary housing	2.0 (1.2%)	1.7 (1.2%)	0.3 (1.4%)	2.8 (1.3%)	4.8 (1.2%)	16.3 (0.7%)
<b>(iv) Other characteristics</b>						
With FDH(s)	4.3 (2.6%)	3.8 (2.6%)	0.5 (2.6%)	14.1 (6.5%)	18.4 (4.8%)	258.9 (10.7%)
With new arrival(s)	18.3 (11.1%)	16.6 (11.4%)	1.7 (9.0%)	6.1 (2.8%)	24.4 (6.4%)	76.2 (3.1%)
With children	87.1 (53.0%)	82.4 (56.6%)	4.7 (25.2%)	34.3 (15.7%)	121.4 (31.7%)	715.0 (29.4%)
<b>II. Other household characteristics</b>						
Average household size	3.3	3.4	2.4	1.9	2.5	2.8
Average no. of economically active members	1.3	1.3	1.1	-	0.5	1.5
Median monthly household income (HK\$)	11,200	11,600	4,300	4,100	6,900	23,000

**Table A.3.8: Socio-economic characteristics of poor households by District Council district, 2014 (1)**

After policy intervention (recurrent cash)	Central and Western	Wan Chai	Eastern	Southern	Yau Tsim Mong	Sham Shui Po	All poor households	All households
<b>(A) Poverty indicators</b>								
I. Poor households ('000)	12.6	9.6	29.9	11.0	19.3	25.6	382.6	-
II. Poor population ('000)	23.9	17.2	71.5	27.4	44.2	66.6	962.1	-
III. Poverty rate (%)	{11.0%}	{13.0%}	{13.3%}	{11.1%}	{15.1%}	{18.2%}	{14.3%}	-
Children aged under 18	{6.4%}	{9.1%}	{14.4%}	{12.5%}	{17.3%}	{25.4%}	{18.2%}	-
People aged between 18 and 64	{6.0%}	{7.3%}	{9.1%}	{7.7%}	{10.3%}	{13.1%}	{10.2%}	-
Elders aged 65+	{35.8%}	{37.5%}	{28.2%}	{24.2%}	{34.9%}	{32.4%}	{30.0%}	-
IV. Poverty gap								
Annual total gap (HK\$m)	678.2	488.4	1,427.1	480.1	867.5	1,039.8	15,819.8	-
Monthly average gap (HK\$)	4,500	4,200	4,000	3,600	3,700	3,400	3,400	-
<b>(B) Characteristics of households</b>								
<b>I. No. of households ('000)</b>								
<b>(i) Economic characteristics</b>								
Economically active	2.4 (19.1%)	2.2 (23.3%)	11.1 (37.1%)	4.3 (38.9%)	6.4 (33.3%)	11.5 (44.8%)	164.3 (42.9%)	1 987.6 (81.8%)
Working	2.0 (15.9%)	1.8 (19.0%)	9.8 (32.7%)	3.9 (35.5%)	5.5 (28.7%)	10.1 (39.3%)	145.6 (38.1%)	1 958.1 (80.6%)
Unemployed	0.4 (3.2%)	0.4 (4.2%)	1.3 (4.4%)	0.4 (3.4%)	0.9 (4.6%)	1.4 (5.6%)	18.7 (4.9%)	29.5 (1.2%)
Economically inactive	10.2 (80.9%)	7.4 (76.7%)	18.8 (62.9%)	6.7 (61.1%)	12.9 (66.7%)	14.1 (55.2%)	218.3 (57.1%)	441.4 (18.2%)
<b>(ii) Whether receiving CSSA or not</b>								
Yes	0.4 (3.3%)	0.3 (2.8%)	3.3 (11.0%)	1.5 (14.1%)	1.9 (10.1%)	5.0 (19.5%)	66.5 (17.4%)	182.4 (7.5%)
No	12.2 (96.8%)	9.3 (97.2%)	26.6 (89.0%)	9.5 (85.9%)	17.4 (89.9%)	20.6 (80.5%)	316.1 (82.6%)	2 246.6 (92.5%)
Reason: no financial needs	8.6 (68.4%)	6.4 (66.3%)	15.6 (52.4%)	5.2 (47.6%)	9.7 (50.0%)	9.7 (37.8%)	158.9 (41.5%)	177.0 (7.3%)
Reason: income and assets tests not passed	0.7 (5.8%)	0.8 (8.0%)	1.2 (4.0%)	§	1.2 (6.0%)	0.9 (3.4%)	14.2 (3.7%)	15.6 (0.6%)
<b>(iii) Housing characteristics</b>								
Public rental housing	0.5 (3.7%)	-	8.0 (26.8%)	4.8 (43.9%)	0.5 (2.5%)	11.9 (46.6%)	155.8 (40.7%)	739.0 (30.4%)
Subsidised sale flats	-	-	3.9 (13.1%)	1.9 (17.1%)	0.5 (2.7%)	1.5 (6.0%)	55.9 (14.6%)	375.6 (15.5%)
with mortgages or loans	-	-	0.4 (1.5%)	0.3 (2.5%)	§	§	6.4 (1.7%)	88.1 (3.6%)
Private permanent housing	12.1 (96.3%)	9.6 (99.6%)	17.9 (59.9%)	4.2 (38.0%)	18.2 (94.4%)	12.2 (47.4%)	166.1 (43.4%)	1 298.0 (53.4%)
Owner-occupiers	9.8 (78.3%)	7.9 (82.6%)	14.5 (48.6%)	3.3 (29.7%)	12.9 (66.6%)	8.3 (32.2%)	124.8 (32.6%)	865.6 (35.6%)
- with mortgages or loans	0.6 (5.1%)	0.4 (4.1%)	0.9 (2.9%)	§	0.6 (3.1%)	0.6 (2.5%)	11.7 (3.1%)	340.2 (14.0%)
Tenants	1.4 (10.8%)	1.0 (10.9%)	1.9 (6.4%)	0.3 (3.0%)	3.4 (17.6%)	3.0 (11.8%)	26.3 (6.9%)	344.0 (14.2%)
- in rooms / bedspaces / cocklofts	§	§	0.4 (1.2%)	-	§	§	1.5 (0.4%)	13.9 (0.6%)
Temporary housing	-	§	§	§	§	-	4.8 (1.2%)	16.3 (0.7%)
<b>(iv) Other characteristics</b>								
With FDH(s)	1.2 (9.2%)	1.5 (15.3%)	2.5 (8.5%)	0.9 (7.8%)	1.4 (7.5%)	1.1 (4.3%)	18.4 (4.8%)	258.9 (10.7%)
With new arrival(s)	§	§	1.6 (5.3%)	0.6 (5.1%)	1.2 (6.0%)	2.7 (10.6%)	24.4 (6.4%)	76.2 (3.1%)
With children	1.6 (12.4%)	1.3 (13.9%)	7.1 (23.7%)	2.9 (26.6%)	5.7 (29.6%)	9.3 (36.3%)	121.4 (31.7%)	715.0 (29.4%)
<b>II. Other household characteristics</b>								
Average household size	1.9	1.8	2.4	2.5	2.3	2.6	2.5	2.8
Average no. of economically active members	0.2	0.3	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.6	0.5	1.5
Median monthly household income (HK\$)	1,900	1,800	5,300	6,600	4,400	7,200	6,900	23,000

**Table A.3.9: Socio-economic characteristics of poor households by District Council district, 2014 (2)**

After policy intervention (recurrent cash)	Kowloon City	Wong Tai Sin	Kwun Tong	Kwai Tsing	Tsuen Wan	Tuen Mun	All poor households	All households
<b>(A) Poverty indicators</b>								
I. Poor households ('000)	20.9	24.8	39.2	29.6	13.8	28.0	382.6	-
II. Poor population ('000)	50.0	67.3	103.3	82.0	34.6	70.3	962.1	-
III. Poverty rate (%)	{13.6%}	{16.4%}	{16.7%}	{16.9%}	{12.1%}	{14.9%}	{14.3%}	-
Children aged under 18	{14.0%}	{23.1%}	{21.6%}	{25.8%}	{14.0%}	{20.4%}	{18.2%}	-
People aged between 18 and 64	{9.7%}	{12.5%}	{12.4%}	{12.5%}	{8.2%}	{10.9%}	{10.2%}	-
Elders aged 65+	{29.6%}	{26.6%}	{30.0%}	{28.3%}	{29.9%}	{33.2%}	{30.0%}	-
IV. Poverty gap								
Annual total gap (HK\$Mn)	957.3	884.5	1,311.7	1,055.4	642.0	1,076.2	15,819.8	-
Monthly average gap (HK\$)	3,800	3,000	2,800	3,000	3,900	3,200	3,400	-
<b>(B) Characteristics of households</b>								
<b>I. No. of households ('000)</b>								
<b>(i) Economic characteristics</b>								
Economically active	8.0 (38.2%)	12.3 (49.7%)	18.6 (47.5%)	14.9 (50.4%)	5.3 (38.3%)	13.3 (47.5%)	164.3 (42.9%)	1 987.6 (81.8%)
<i>Working</i>	6.9 (32.9%)	11.1 (44.7%)	16.6 (42.3%)	13.4 (45.2%)	4.6 (33.4%)	11.9 (42.5%)	145.6 (38.1%)	1 958.1 (80.6%)
<i>Unemployed</i>	1.1 (5.3%)	1.2 (4.9%)	2.0 (5.2%)	1.5 (5.2%)	0.7 (4.9%)	1.4 (5.0%)	18.7 (4.9%)	29.5 (1.2%)
Economically inactive	12.9 (61.8%)	12.5 (50.3%)	20.6 (52.5%)	14.7 (49.6%)	8.5 (61.7%)	14.7 (52.5%)	218.3 (57.1%)	441.4 (18.2%)
<b>(ii) Whether receiving CSSA or not</b>								
Yes	2.7 (12.8%)	5.2 (21.0%)	10.2 (25.9%)	7.2 (24.4%)	1.7 (11.9%)	5.2 (18.5%)	66.5 (17.4%)	182.4 (7.5%)
No	18.3 (87.2%)	19.6 (79.1%)	29.0 (74.1%)	22.4 (75.6%)	12.2 (88.1%)	22.8 (81.5%)	316.1 (82.6%)	2 246.6 (92.5%)
<i>Reason: no financial needs</i>	9.9 (47.1%)	8.0 (32.1%)	12.6 (32.1%)	10.4 (35.3%)	5.9 (42.5%)	10.2 (36.5%)	158.9 (41.5%)	177.0 (7.3%)
<i>Reason: income and assets tests not passed</i>	0.8 (3.9%)	0.8 (3.4%)	0.8 (2.0%)	0.7 (2.5%)	0.8 (6.1%)	0.8 (3.0%)	14.2 (3.7%)	15.6 (0.6%)
<b>(iii) Housing characteristics</b>								
Public rental housing	6.2 (29.8%)	15.3 (61.7%)	27.0 (68.7%)	20.5 (69.1%)	4.4 (31.6%)	13.2 (47.3%)	155.8 (40.7%)	739.0 (30.4%)
Subsidised sale flats	0.3 (1.5%)	6.9 (27.6%)	5.4 (13.7%)	4.5 (15.0%)	§ §	6.1 (21.7%)	55.9 (14.6%)	375.6 (15.5%)
<i>with mortgages or loans</i>	§ §	0.8 (3.3%)	0.5 (1.2%)	0.7 (2.2%)	- -	0.3 (1.2%)	6.4 (1.7%)	88.1 (3.6%)
Private permanent housing	14.4 (68.8%)	2.5 (10.0%)	6.8 (17.4%)	4.4 (14.8%)	9.1 (65.8%)	8.2 (29.2%)	166.1 (43.4%)	1 298.0 (53.4%)
<i>Owner-occupiers</i>	11.0 (52.4%)	1.9 (7.5%)	4.9 (12.6%)	3.1 (10.6%)	6.5 (47.0%)	6.4 (22.8%)	124.8 (32.6%)	865.6 (35.6%)
<i>- with mortgages or loans</i>	1.1 (5.3%)	§ §	0.5 (1.3%)	0.4 (1.2%)	0.8 (5.6%)	0.8 (3.0%)	11.7 (3.1%)	340.2 (14.0%)
<i>Tenants</i>	2.1 (10.0%)	0.4 (1.7%)	1.3 (3.4%)	0.7 (2.5%)	1.8 (13.2%)	1.0 (3.4%)	26.3 (6.9%)	344.0 (14.2%)
<i>- in rooms / bedspaces / cocklofts</i>	§ §	- -	§ §	- -	§ §	§ §	1.5 (0.4%)	13.9 (0.6%)
Temporary housing	- -	§ §	§ §	0.3 (1.0%)	§ §	0.5 (1.8%)	4.8 (1.2%)	16.3 (0.7%)
<b>(iv) Other characteristics</b>								
With FDH(s)	1.3 (6.0%)	0.7 (2.7%)	0.9 (2.2%)	0.5 (1.6%)	0.7 (4.7%)	0.5 (1.9%)	18.4 (4.8%)	258.9 (10.7%)
With new arrival(s)	1.5 (7.3%)	2.0 (8.1%)	3.4 (8.8%)	2.5 (8.5%)	0.9 (6.7%)	1.3 (4.5%)	24.4 (6.4%)	76.2 (3.1%)
With children	5.6 (26.9%)	8.2 (33.1%)	13.1 (33.3%)	11.1 (37.5%)	4.1 (29.3%)	9.6 (34.3%)	121.4 (31.7%)	715.0 (29.4%)
<b>II. Other household characteristics</b>								
Average household size	2.4	2.7	2.6	2.8	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.8
Average no. of economically active members	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.5	1.5
Median monthly household income (HK\$)	5,800	7,800	7,600	7,900	6,100	7,000	6,900	23,000

**Table A.3.10: Socio-economic characteristics of poor households by District Council district, 2014 (3)**

After policy intervention (recurrent cash)	Yuen Long	North	Tai Po	Sha Tin	Sai Kung	Islands	All poor households	All households
<b>(A) Poverty indicators</b>								
I. Poor households ('000)	32.6	18.3	14.5	30.0	15.7	7.0	382.6	-
II. Poor population ('000)	84.6	48.4	36.5	75.3	42.2	16.8	962.1	-
III. Poverty rate (%)	{14.8%}	{16.5%}	{12.9%}	{12.4%}	{10.0%}	{12.5%}	{14.3%}	-
Children aged under 18	{21.0%}	{24.9%}	{16.6%}	{16.1%}	{12.4%}	{16.0%}	{18.2%}	-
People aged between 18 and 64	{10.9%}	{12.1%}	{9.2%}	{8.8%}	{7.6%}	{8.5%}	{10.2%}	-
Elders aged 65+	{33.4%}	{34.2%}	{31.0%}	{27.8%}	{23.3%}	{32.6%}	{30.0%}	-
IV. Poverty gap								
Annual total gap (HK\$Mn)	1,260.8	819.0	621.9	1,206.2	706.8	297.0	15,819.8	-
Monthly average gap (HK\$)	3,200	3,700	3,600	3,300	3,700	3,500	3,400	-
<b>(B) Characteristics of households</b>								
<b>I. No. of households ('000)</b>								
<b>(i) Economic characteristics</b>								
Economically active	14.7 (45.1%)	8.8 (48.2%)	6.4 (44.3%)	13.5 (44.9%)	8.0 (50.8%)	2.5 (36.1%)	164.3 (42.9%)	1 987.6 (81.8%)
Working	13.2 (40.5%)	8.0 (43.9%)	5.8 (40.3%)	11.8 (39.3%)	6.9 (43.6%)	2.3 (33.1%)	145.6 (38.1%)	1 958.1 (80.6%)
Unemployed	1.5 (4.6%)	0.8 (4.3%)	0.6 (4.0%)	1.7 (5.5%)	1.1 (7.2%)	§	18.7 (4.9%)	29.5 (1.2%)
Economically inactive	17.9 (54.9%)	9.5 (51.8%)	8.1 (55.7%)	16.6 (55.1%)	7.7 (49.2%)	4.5 (63.9%)	218.3 (57.1%)	441.4 (18.2%)
<b>(ii) Whether receiving CSSA or not</b>								
Yes	7.5 (22.9%)	3.4 (18.8%)	2.7 (18.9%)	4.9 (16.5%)	2.2 (14.2%)	1.1 (15.0%)	66.5 (17.4%)	182.4 (7.5%)
No	25.2 (77.1%)	14.8 (81.2%)	11.7 (81.1%)	25.1 (83.6%)	13.5 (85.8%)	6.0 (85.0%)	316.1 (82.6%)	2 246.6 (92.5%)
Reason: no financial needs	10.8 (33.1%)	7.6 (41.3%)	6.3 (43.8%)	11.7 (38.9%)	6.8 (43.1%)	3.6 (50.9%)	158.9 (41.5%)	177.0 (7.3%)
Reason: income and assets tests not passed	1.3 (3.9%)	0.8 (4.2%)	0.4 (2.6%)	1.5 (5.1%)	0.4 (2.4%)	§	14.2 (3.7%)	15.6 (0.6%)
<b>(iii) Housing characteristics</b>								
Public rental housing	13.4 (41.0%)	5.4 (29.4%)	4.0 (27.8%)	13.3 (44.3%)	5.3 (33.7%)	2.1 (29.7%)	155.8 (40.7%)	739.0 (30.4%)
Subsidised sale flats	3.0 (9.3%)	4.2 (22.8%)	3.8 (26.2%)	8.4 (28.0%)	5.1 (32.5%)	0.3 (4.9%)	55.9 (14.6%)	375.6 (15.5%)
with mortgages or loans	0.6 (1.7%)	0.5 (2.6%)	0.4 (2.5%)	0.8 (2.8%)	0.7 (4.5%)	§	6.4 (1.7%)	88.1 (3.6%)
Private permanent housing	15.1 (46.2%)	7.4 (40.5%)	6.3 (43.6%)	8.2 (27.2%)	5.3 (33.8%)	4.3 (61.4%)	166.1 (43.4%)	1 298.0 (53.4%)
Owner-occupiers	10.6 (32.4%)	5.0 (27.2%)	4.6 (32.1%)	6.7 (22.3%)	4.2 (26.6%)	3.2 (46.1%)	124.8 (32.6%)	865.6 (35.6%)
- with mortgages or loans	1.2 (3.8%)	0.4 (2.0%)	0.3 (1.8%)	1.3 (4.2%)	1.0 (6.4%)	0.5 (7.8%)	11.7 (3.1%)	340.2 (14.0%)
Tenants	2.8 (8.7%)	2.2 (12.3%)	1.2 (8.2%)	1.0 (3.2%)	0.4 (2.5%)	0.3 (4.2%)	26.3 (6.9%)	344.0 (14.2%)
- in rooms / bedspaces / cocklofts	§	§	§	-	-	-	1.5 (0.4%)	13.9 (0.6%)
Temporary housing	1.1 (3.5%)	1.3 (7.3%)	0.3 (2.4%)	§	-	0.3 (4.0%)	4.8 (1.2%)	16.3 (0.7%)
<b>(iv) Other characteristics</b>								
With FDH(s)	1.6 (5.0%)	0.8 (4.3%)	0.7 (4.7%)	1.0 (3.3%)	0.8 (5.0%)	0.5 (7.4%)	18.4 (4.8%)	258.9 (10.7%)
With new arrival(s)	1.8 (5.6%)	1.7 (9.5%)	0.9 (6.1%)	1.4 (4.5%)	0.5 (3.1%)	§	24.4 (6.4%)	76.2 (3.1%)
With children	12.7 (38.9%)	7.3 (39.8%)	4.2 (28.8%)	9.6 (31.8%)	5.7 (36.5%)	2.4 (34.7%)	121.4 (31.7%)	715.0 (29.4%)
<b>II. Other household characteristics</b>								
Average household size	2.6	2.7	2.5	2.5	2.7	2.4	2.5	2.8
Average no. of economically active members	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.7	0.5	0.5	1.5
Median monthly household income (HK\$)	7,300	6,900	6,800	7,100	7,100	5,600	6,900	23,000

**Table A.3.11: Socio-economic characteristics of poor population by selected household group, 2014 (1)**

After policy intervention (recurrent cash)	CSSA households	Elderly households	Single-parent households	New-arrival households	Households with children	Youth households	All poor households	All households
<b>(C) Characteristics of persons</b>								
<b>I. No. of persons ('000)</b>								
<b>(i) Gender</b>								
Male	79.7 (45.9%)	81.5 (44.7%)	27.1 (37.6%)	40.5 (48.3%)	205.8 (47.0%)	1.4 (54.7%)	449.1 (46.7%)	3 245.9 (48.1%)
Female	93.9 (54.1%)	101.0 (55.3%)	45.0 (62.4%)	43.4 (51.7%)	232.3 (53.0%)	1.2 (45.3%)	513.1 (53.3%)	3 504.4 (51.9%)
<b>(ii) Economic activity status and age</b>								
Economically active	15.9 (9.2%)	3.0 (1.6%)	12.8 (17.8%)	22.4 (26.7%)	109.0 (24.9%)	0.7 (28.5%)	207.7 (21.6%)	3 550.0 (52.6%)
Working	10.2 (5.9%)	2.8 (1.5%)	10.7 (14.8%)	18.8 (22.4%)	96.8 (22.1%)	0.4 (17.2%)	169.2 (17.6%)	3 423.4 (50.7%)
Unemployed	5.7 (3.3%)	§	2.2 (3.0%)	3.6 (4.3%)	12.2 (2.8%)	0.3 (11.3%)	38.5 (4.0%)	126.6 (1.9%)
Economically inactive	157.7 (90.8%)	179.4 (98.4%)	59.3 (82.2%)	61.5 (73.3%)	329.1 (75.1%)	1.8 (71.5%)	754.4 (78.4%)	3 200.3 (47.4%)
Children aged under 18	46.7 (26.9%)	-	35.8 (49.6%)	29.6 (35.3%)	181.7 (41.5%)	-	181.7 (18.9%)	997.0 (14.8%)
People aged between 18 and 64	62.5 (36.0%)	-	20.7 (28.7%)	24.8 (29.6%)	120.5 (27.5%)	1.8 (71.5%)	286.9 (29.8%)	1 307.4 (19.4%)
Student	8.0 (4.6%)	-	2.6 (3.6%)	2.0 (2.3%)	13.5 (3.1%)	1.2 (44.5%)	35.4 (3.7%)	268.8 (4.0%)
Home-maker	28.2 (16.2%)	-	13.3 (18.4%)	15.8 (18.9%)	78.0 (17.8%)	-	122.6 (12.7%)	591.0 (8.8%)
Retired person	5.6 (3.2%)	-	1.1 (1.6%)	1.5 (1.8%)	8.6 (2.0%)	-	59.4 (6.2%)	220.6 (3.3%)
Temporary / permanent ill	16.2 (9.3%)	-	2.1 (2.9%)	2.3 (2.8%)	10.3 (2.4%)	-	32.6 (3.4%)	93.7 (1.4%)
Other economically inactive*	4.5 (2.6%)	-	1.6 (2.2%)	3.2 (3.8%)	10.1 (2.3%)	0.7 (27.0%)	36.7 (3.8%)	133.4 (2.0%)
Elders aged 65+	48.5 (28.0%)	179.4 (98.4%)	2.8 (3.9%)	7.0 (8.4%)	26.9 (6.1%)	-	285.9 (29.7%)	895.9 (13.3%)
<b>(iii) Whether new arrival(s)</b>								
Yes	6.6 (3.8%)	0.4 (0.2%)	3.8 (5.3%)	32.9 (39.2%)	27.4 (6.3%)	§	32.9 (3.4%)	101.6 (1.5%)
No	167.0 (96.2%)	182.1 (99.8%)	68.3 (94.7%)	51.0 (60.8%)	410.7 (93.7%)	2.5 (95.5%)	929.2 (96.6%)	6 648.7 (98.5%)
<b>(iv) Receiving social security benefit</b>								
OALA	0.3 (0.2%)	74.0 (40.6%)	1.2 (1.7%)	2.9 (3.4%)	13.1 (3.0%)	-	118.4 (12.3%)	402.1 (6.0%)
DA	0.6 (0.4%)	4.8 (2.6%)	0.9 (1.2%)	0.9 (1.1%)	5.9 (1.4%)	-	27.0 (2.8%)	109.3 (1.6%)
OAA	0.3 (0.1%)	46.7 (25.6%)	0.6 (0.8%)	0.5 (0.6%)	4.2 (1.0%)	-	67.0 (7.0%)	218.4 (3.2%)
<b>II. No. of employed persons ('000)</b>								
<b>(i) Occupation</b>								
Higher-skilled	0.6 <6.3%>	0.4 <16.2%>	0.8 <7.5%>	1.5 <8.0%>	9.5 <9.8%>	§	19.5 <11.5%>	1 386.5 <40.5%>
Lower-skilled	9.5 <93.7%>	2.3 <83.8%>	9.9 <92.5%>	17.3 <92.0%>	87.3 <90.2%>	0.3 <77.4%>	149.7 <88.5%>	2 037.0 <59.5%>
<b>(ii) Educational attainment</b>								
Primary and below	2.0 <19.4%>	1.3 <46.9%>	1.7 <16.3%>	3.1 <16.4%>	15.3 <15.8%>	§	31.3 <18.5%>	335.9 <9.8%>
Lower secondary	3.8 <37.5%>	0.4 <14.6%>	3.3 <31.3%>	7.5 <40.0%>	32.3 <33.4%>	§	49.2 <29.1%>	509.5 <14.9%>
Upper secondary (including craft courses)	2.6 <25.3%>	0.8 <30.4%>	4.3 <40.4%>	7.3 <38.8%>	40.6 <41.9%>	§	66.2 <39.1%>	1 261.7 <36.9%>
Post-secondary - non-degree	1.1 <10.3%>	§	0.7 <6.2%>	0.6 <3.1%>	4.8 <4.9%>	§	10.6 <6.2%>	330.0 <9.6%>
Post-secondary - degree	0.8 <7.4%>	§	0.6 <5.8%>	0.3 <1.7%>	3.8 <3.9%>	§	12.0 <7.1%>	986.4 <28.8%>
<b>(iii) Employment status</b>								
Full-time	3.5 <34.6%>	1.1 <41.3%>	6.4 <60.0%>	14.5 <77.2%>	74.0 <76.4%>	0.3 <57.3%>	123.2 <72.8%>	3 109.8 <90.8%>
Part-time / underemployed	6.7 <65.4%>	1.6 <58.7%>	4.3 <40.0%>	4.3 <22.8%>	22.9 <23.6%>	§	46.1 <27.2%>	313.6 <9.2%>
<b>III. Other indicators</b>								
Median monthly employment earnings (HK\$)	3,000	3,000	7,000	9,500	10,000	2,000	8,500	14,700
Labour force participation rate (%)	11.5	1.6	27.8	39.1	36.9	28.5	25.4	59.6
Unemployment rate (%)	35.9	@	16.8	16.1	11.1	39.7	18.5	3.6
Median age	45	75	18	34	31	24	50	43
No. of children ('000)	46.8	-	36.0	29.8	182.2	-	182.2	1 003.1
Dependency ratio (demographic) <sup>a</sup>	1 225	-	1 186	792	930	-	979	416
Elderly	625	-	96	156	127	-	604	205
Child	600	-	1 091	636	803	-	375	210
Economic dependency ratio <sup>#</sup>	9 910	59 767	4 617	2 741	3 019	2 513	3 632	901

**Table A.3.12: Socio-economic characteristics of poor population by selected household group, 2014 (2)**

After policy intervention (recurrent cash)	Economically active households	Working households	Unemployed households	Economically inactive households	All poor households	All households
<b>(C) Characteristics of persons</b>						
<b>I. No. of persons ('000)</b>						
<b>(i) Gender</b>						
Male	258.8 (48.2%)	236.8 (48.2%)	22.0 (48.8%)	190.3 (44.7%)	449.1 (46.7%)	3 245.9 (48.1%)
Female	278.0 (51.8%)	254.9 (51.8%)	23.1 (51.2%)	235.1 (55.3%)	513.1 (53.3%)	3 504.4 (51.9%)
<b>(ii) Economic activity status and age</b>						
Economically active	207.7 (38.7%)	187.4 (38.1%)	20.3 (44.9%)	-	207.7 (21.6%)	3 550.0 (52.6%)
Working	169.2 (31.5%)	169.2 (34.4%)	-	-	169.2 (17.6%)	3 423.4 (50.7%)
Unemployed	38.5 (7.2%)	18.2 (3.7%)	20.3 (44.9%)	-	38.5 (4.0%)	126.6 (1.9%)
Economically inactive	329.1 (61.3%)	304.2 (61.9%)	24.8 (55.1%)	425.3 (100.0%)	754.4 (78.4%)	3 200.3 (47.4%)
Children aged under 18	131.9 (24.6%)	124.5 (25.3%)	7.4 (16.4%)	49.7 (11.7%)	181.7 (18.9%)	997.0 (14.8%)
People aged between 18 and 64	141.7 (26.4%)	132.4 (26.9%)	9.3 (20.6%)	145.2 (34.1%)	286.9 (29.8%)	1 307.4 (19.4%)
Student	23.4 (4.4%)	22.2 (4.5%)	1.2 (2.7%)	12.0 (2.8%)	35.4 (3.7%)	268.8 (4.0%)
Home-maker	73.0 (13.6%)	68.9 (14.0%)	4.2 (9.3%)	49.6 (11.7%)	122.6 (12.7%)	591.0 (8.8%)
Retired person	19.2 (3.6%)	17.6 (3.6%)	1.6 (3.6%)	40.3 (9.5%)	59.4 (6.2%)	220.6 (3.3%)
Temporary / permanent ill	10.8 (2.0%)	9.8 (2.0%)	1.0 (2.1%)	21.8 (5.1%)	32.6 (3.4%)	93.7 (1.4%)
Other economically inactive*	15.3 (2.9%)	14.0 (2.8%)	1.3 (2.9%)	21.4 (5.0%)	36.7 (3.8%)	133.4 (2.0%)
Elders aged 65+	55.4 (10.3%)	47.3 (9.6%)	8.1 (18.0%)	230.4 (54.2%)	285.9 (29.7%)	895.9 (13.3%)
<b>(iii) Whether new arrival(s)</b>						
Yes	25.1 (4.7%)	23.0 (4.7%)	2.1 (4.6%)	7.8 (1.8%)	32.9 (3.4%)	101.6 (1.5%)
No	511.7 (95.3%)	468.6 (95.3%)	43.0 (95.4%)	417.5 (98.2%)	929.2 (96.6%)	6 648.7 (98.5%)
<b>(iv) Receiving social security benefit</b>						
OALA	29.7 (5.5%)	25.3 (5.2%)	4.3 (9.6%)	88.7 (20.8%)	118.4 (12.3%)	402.1 (6.0%)
DA	12.2 (2.3%)	11.3 (2.3%)	0.9 (2.0%)	14.8 (3.5%)	27.0 (2.8%)	109.3 (1.6%)
OAA	11.9 (2.2%)	10.2 (2.1%)	1.6 (3.7%)	55.1 (13.0%)	67.0 (7.0%)	218.4 (3.2%)
<b>II. No. of employed persons ('000)</b>						
<b>(i) Occupation</b>						
Higher-skilled	19.5 <11.5%>	19.5 <11.5%>	-	-	19.5 <11.5%>	1 386.5 <40.5%>
Lower-skilled	149.7 <88.5%>	149.7 <88.5%>	-	-	149.7 <88.5%>	2 037.0 <59.5%>
<b>(ii) Educational attainment</b>						
Primary and below	31.3 <18.5%>	31.3 <18.5%>	-	-	31.3 <18.5%>	335.9 <9.8%>
Lower secondary	49.2 <29.1%>	49.2 <29.1%>	-	-	49.2 <29.1%>	509.5 <14.9%>
Upper secondary (including craft courses)	66.2 <39.1%>	66.2 <39.1%>	-	-	66.2 <39.1%>	1 261.7 <36.9%>
Post-secondary - non-degree	10.6 <6.2%>	10.6 <6.2%>	-	-	10.6 <6.2%>	330.0 <9.6%>
Post-secondary - degree	12.0 <7.1%>	12.0 <7.1%>	-	-	12.0 <7.1%>	986.4 <28.8%>
<b>(iii) Employment status</b>						
Full-time	123.2 <72.8%>	123.2 <72.8%>	-	-	123.2 <72.8%>	3 109.8 <90.8%>
Part-time / underemployed	46.1 <27.2%>	46.1 <27.2%>	-	-	46.1 <27.2%>	313.6 <9.2%>
<b>III. Other indicators</b>						
Median monthly employment earnings (HK\$)	8,500	8,500	-	-	8,500	14,700
Labour force participation rate (%)	47.9	47.6	51.0	-	25.4	59.6
Unemployment rate (%)	18.5	9.7	100.0	-	18.5	3.6
Median age	40	39	45	66	50	43
No. of children ('000)	132.5	125.1	7.4	49.7	182.2	1 003.1
Dependency ratio (demographic) <sup>a</sup>	575	577	546	1 930	979	416
Elderly	186	176	292	1 587	604	205
Child	389	401	255	343	375	210
Economic dependency ratio <sup>#</sup>	1 584	1 623	1 225	-	3 632	901



**Table A.3.13: Socio-economic characteristics of poor population by District Council district, 2014 (1)**

After policy intervention (recurrent cash)	Central and Western	Wan Chai	Eastern	Southern	Yau Tsim Mong	Sham Shui Po	All poor households	All households
<b>(C) Characteristics of persons</b>								
<b>I. No. of persons ('000)</b>								
<b>(i) Gender</b>								
Male	11.0 (45.8%)	7.3 (42.2%)	33.3 (46.6%)	12.8 (46.8%)	20.1 (45.5%)	30.7 (46.0%)	449.1 (46.7%)	3 245.9 (48.1%)
Female	12.9 (54.2%)	10.0 (57.8%)	38.2 (53.4%)	14.6 (53.2%)	24.1 (54.5%)	35.9 (54.0%)	513.1 (53.3%)	3 504.4 (51.9%)
<b>(ii) Economic activity status and age</b>								
Economically active	2.9 (12.1%)	2.6 (15.0%)	14.4 (20.1%)	5.6 (20.6%)	8.2 (18.6%)	14.9 (22.4%)	207.7 (21.6%)	3 550.0 (52.6%)
Working	2.3 (9.4%)	2.0 (11.5%)	11.6 (16.2%)	4.7 (17.1%)	6.5 (14.7%)	12.4 (18.6%)	169.2 (17.6%)	3 423.4 (50.7%)
Unemployed	0.6 (2.7%)	0.6 (3.5%)	2.8 (3.9%)	0.9 (3.4%)	1.7 (3.9%)	2.5 (3.8%)	38.5 (4.0%)	126.6 (1.9%)
Economically inactive	21.0 (87.9%)	14.6 (85.0%)	57.2 (79.9%)	21.7 (79.4%)	35.9 (81.4%)	51.7 (77.6%)	754.4 (78.4%)	3 200.3 (47.4%)
Children aged under 18	2.2 (9.2%)	1.8 (10.3%)	10.7 (15.0%)	4.4 (16.1%)	8.3 (18.7%)	14.4 (21.6%)	181.7 (18.9%)	997.0 (14.8%)
People aged between 18 and 64	6.0 (25.0%)	4.3 (24.8%)	19.7 (27.6%)	7.9 (29.0%)	12.8 (29.0%)	18.4 (27.6%)	286.9 (29.8%)	1 307.4 (19.4%)
Student	0.9 (3.7%)	0.4 (2.3%)	2.5 (3.4%)	1.0 (3.5%)	1.2 (2.7%)	2.5 (3.8%)	35.4 (3.7%)	268.8 (4.0%)
Home-maker	1.8 (7.6%)	1.2 (7.1%)	7.6 (10.6%)	2.9 (10.5%)	5.5 (12.4%)	9.0 (13.5%)	122.6 (12.7%)	591.0 (8.8%)
Retired person	2.2 (9.2%)	1.3 (7.6%)	5.6 (7.8%)	1.8 (6.7%)	2.6 (5.8%)	2.7 (4.1%)	59.4 (6.2%)	220.6 (3.3%)
Temporary / permanent ill	0.4 (1.7%)	0.3 (1.5%)	2.0 (2.8%)	1.2 (4.5%)	1.1 (2.6%)	1.6 (2.5%)	32.6 (3.4%)	93.7 (1.4%)
Other economically inactive*	0.6 (2.7%)	1.1 (6.3%)	2.1 (2.9%)	1.0 (3.7%)	2.5 (5.6%)	2.6 (3.9%)	36.7 (3.8%)	133.4 (2.0%)
Elders aged 65+	12.9 (53.8%)	8.6 (49.8%)	26.7 (37.4%)	9.4 (34.3%)	14.8 (33.6%)	18.9 (28.4%)	285.9 (29.7%)	895.9 (13.3%)
<b>(iii) Whether new arrival(s)</b>								
Yes	§	§	2.0 (2.7%)	0.6 (2.2%)	1.6 (3.5%)	3.8 (5.7%)	32.9 (3.4%)	101.6 (1.5%)
No	23.7 (99.3%)	17.2 (99.8%)	69.6 (97.3%)	26.8 (97.8%)	42.6 (96.5%)	62.8 (94.3%)	929.2 (96.6%)	6 648.7 (98.5%)
<b>(iv) Receiving social security benefit</b>								
OALA	2.9 (12.3%)	2.8 (16.2%)	9.3 (13.0%)	3.7 (13.6%)	4.5 (10.2%)	8.5 (12.8%)	118.4 (12.3%)	402.1 (6.0%)
DA	0.7 (2.7%)	0.9 (5.1%)	2.1 (3.0%)	1.2 (4.2%)	1.4 (3.1%)	1.2 (1.8%)	27.0 (2.8%)	109.3 (1.6%)
OAA	6.8 (28.5%)	3.7 (21.6%)	8.9 (12.4%)	2.2 (8.0%)	5.8 (13.1%)	4.7 (7.1%)	67.0 (7.0%)	218.4 (3.2%)
<b>II. No. of employed persons ('000)</b>								
<b>(i) Occupation</b>								
Higher-skilled	0.5 <21.2%>	0.8 <39.9%>	1.2 <10.4%>	0.5 <9.8%>	0.9 <14.2%>	1.6 <12.7%>	19.5 <11.5%>	1 386.5 <40.5%>
Lower-skilled	1.8 <78.8%>	1.2 <60.1%>	10.4 <89.6%>	4.2 <90.2%>	5.6 <85.8%>	10.8 <87.3%>	108.8 <88.5%>	2 037.0 <59.5%>
<b>(ii) Educational attainment</b>								
Primary and below	0.3 <12.1%>	§ <18.7%>	2.2 <18.7%>	1.1 <22.4%>	1.1 <17.1%>	2.1 <16.8%>	31.3 <18.5%>	335.9 <9.8%>
Lower secondary	0.4 <18.6%>	0.5 <23.3%>	3.3 <28.7%>	1.0 <22.3%>	1.7 <25.8%>	3.9 <31.7%>	49.2 <29.1%>	509.5 <14.9%>
Upper secondary (including craft courses)	1.1 <46.9%>	0.7 <35.5%>	4.4 <38.4%>	2.0 <42.9%>	2.7 <40.9%>	4.5 <36.8%>	66.2 <39.1%>	1 261.7 <36.9%>
Post-secondary - non-degree	§ <21.4%>	§ <26.2%>	0.7 <6.4%>	0.3 <6.8%>	0.6 <8.9%>	0.8 <6.7%>	10.6 <6.2%>	330.0 <9.6%>
Post-secondary - degree	0.5 <21.4%>	0.5 <26.2%>	0.9 <7.8%>	0.3 <5.5%>	0.5 <7.4%>	1.0 <8.0%>	12.0 <7.1%>	986.4 <28.8%>
<b>(iii) Employment status</b>								
Full-time	1.8 <77.7%>	1.4 <69.7%>	7.9 <68.2%>	3.2 <68.7%>	4.8 <74.1%>	8.9 <71.8%>	123.2 <72.8%>	3 109.8 <90.8%>
Part-time / underemployed	0.5 <22.3%>	0.6 <30.2%>	3.7 <31.8%>	1.5 <31.3%>	1.7 <25.9%>	3.5 <28.2%>	46.1 <27.2%>	313.6 <9.2%>
<b>III. Other indicators</b>								
Median monthly employment earnings (HK\$)	9,500	9,000	8,000	8,500	8,000	8,000	8,500	14,700
Labour force participation rate (%)	13.0	16.1	22.7	23.2	22.0	27.0	25.4	59.6
Unemployment rate (%)	21.9	23.5	19.2	16.7	21.1	17.1	18.5	3.6
Median age	65	65	58	55	52	48	50	43
No. of children ('000)	2.2	1.8	10.7	4.4	8.3	14.4	182.2	1 003.1
Dependency ratio (demographic) <sup>a</sup>	1 713	1 614	1 153	1 055	1 139	1 046	979	416
Elderly	1 464	1 343	830	725	737	604	604	205
Child	249	271	323	331	402	443	375	210
Economic dependency ratio <sup>#</sup>	7 276	5 653	3 983	3 859	4 369	3 470	3 632	901

**Table A.3.14: Socio-economic characteristics of poor population by District Council district, 2014 (2)**

After policy intervention (recurrent cash)	Kowloon City	Wong Tai Sin	Kwun Tong	Kwai Tsing	Tsuen Wan	Tuen Mun	All poor households	All households
<b>(C) Characteristics of persons</b>								
<b>I. No. of persons ('000)</b>								
<b>(i) Gender</b>								
Male	24.5 (49.0%)	31.6 (46.9%)	48.2 (46.7%)	39.6 (48.3%)	16.4 (47.3%)	33.5 (47.6%)	449.1 (46.7%)	3 245.9 (48.1%)
Female	25.5 (51.0%)	35.7 (53.1%)	55.1 (53.3%)	42.4 (51.7%)	18.2 (52.7%)	36.9 (52.4%)	513.1 (53.3%)	3 504.4 (51.9%)
<b>(ii) Economic activity status and age</b>								
Economically active	10.0 (19.9%)	15.7 (23.3%)	23.9 (23.2%)	19.1 (23.3%)	6.4 (18.5%)	16.8 (23.9%)	207.7 (21.6%)	3 550.0 (52.6%)
Working	8.0 (15.9%)	13.0 (19.3%)	19.3 (18.7%)	15.3 (18.7%)	5.1 (14.8%)	13.9 (19.8%)	169.2 (17.6%)	3 423.4 (50.7%)
Unemployed	2.0 (4.0%)	2.7 (4.0%)	4.7 (4.5%)	3.8 (4.6%)	1.3 (3.6%)	2.9 (4.1%)	38.5 (4.0%)	126.6 (1.9%)
Economically inactive	40.1 (80.1%)	51.6 (76.7%)	79.3 (76.8%)	62.9 (76.7%)	28.2 (81.5%)	53.5 (76.1%)	754.4 (78.4%)	3 200.3 (47.4%)
Children aged under 18	8.0 (15.9%)	12.2 (18.1%)	19.2 (18.6%)	17.3 (21.1%)	6.5 (18.7%)	13.8 (19.6%)	181.7 (18.9%)	997.0 (14.8%)
People aged between 18 and 64	15.0 (30.0%)	20.2 (30.0%)	29.1 (28.2%)	24.1 (29.4%)	10.2 (29.4%)	21.8 (30.9%)	286.9 (29.8%)	1 307.4 (19.4%)
Student	1.6 (3.2%)	2.9 (4.2%)	3.9 (3.8%)	3.4 (4.1%)	1.1 (3.2%)	2.2 (3.1%)	35.4 (3.7%)	268.8 (4.0%)
Home-maker	6.1 (12.1%)	9.0 (13.3%)	12.2 (11.8%)	11.5 (14.0%)	4.5 (13.2%)	9.6 (13.6%)	122.6 (12.7%)	591.0 (8.8%)
Retired person	4.2 (8.4%)	3.3 (4.9%)	4.4 (4.3%)	3.5 (4.3%)	2.7 (7.7%)	5.0 (7.1%)	59.4 (6.2%)	220.6 (3.3%)
Temporary / permanent ill	1.6 (3.1%)	2.7 (4.0%)	4.4 (4.2%)	3.2 (3.9%)	0.8 (2.4%)	2.5 (3.6%)	32.6 (3.4%)	93.7 (1.4%)
Other economically inactive*	1.6 (3.1%)	2.3 (3.5%)	4.3 (4.1%)	2.6 (3.1%)	1.0 (3.0%)	2.4 (3.4%)	36.7 (3.8%)	133.4 (2.0%)
Elders aged 65+	17.1 (34.2%)	19.3 (28.6%)	31.0 (30.0%)	21.5 (26.3%)	11.6 (33.5%)	17.9 (25.5%)	285.9 (29.7%)	895.9 (13.3%)
<b>(iii) Whether new arrival(s)</b>								
Yes	2.2 (4.3%)	2.6 (3.9%)	5.0 (4.8%)	3.5 (4.3%)	1.2 (3.4%)	1.5 (2.2%)	32.9 (3.4%)	101.6 (1.5%)
No	47.9 (95.7%)	64.7 (96.1%)	98.3 (95.2%)	78.5 (95.7%)	33.4 (96.6%)	68.8 (97.8%)	929.2 (96.6%)	6 648.7 (98.5%)
<b>(iv) Receiving social security benefit</b>								
OALA	6.5 (13.0%)	9.4 (14.0%)	14.3 (13.8%)	11.8 (14.4%)	5.1 (14.9%)	8.3 (11.8%)	118.4 (12.3%)	402.1 (6.0%)
DA	1.1 (2.1%)	1.8 (2.6%)	3.2 (3.1%)	1.6 (2.0%)	1.5 (4.3%)	1.5 (2.2%)	27.0 (2.8%)	109.3 (1.6%)
OAA	4.9 (9.9%)	2.4 (3.6%)	4.1 (4.0%)	2.6 (3.2%)	3.0 (8.7%)	2.3 (3.2%)	67.0 (7.0%)	218.4 (3.2%)
<b>II. No. of employed persons ('000)</b>								
<b>(i) Occupation</b>								
Higher-skilled	1.2 <15.2%>	1.4 <11.0%>	1.9 <9.8%>	1.3 <8.6%>	0.7 <13.3%>	0.9 <6.6%>	19.5 <11.5%>	1 386.5 <40.5%>
Lower-skilled	6.7 <84.8%>	11.6 <89.0%>	17.4 <90.2%>	14.0 <91.4%>	4.4 <86.7%>	13.0 <93.4%>	149.7 <88.5%>	2 037.0 <59.5%>
<b>(ii) Educational attainment</b>								
Primary and below	1.2 <15.5%>	2.6 <19.7%>	3.4 <17.7%>	3.4 <22.3%>	0.7 <13.7%>	2.5 <17.6%>	31.3 <18.5%>	335.9 <9.8%>
Lower secondary	1.9 <24.1%>	3.7 <28.5%>	6.0 <30.9%>	4.7 <30.8%>	1.2 <24.0%>	4.7 <33.6%>	49.2 <29.1%>	509.5 <14.9%>
Upper secondary (including craft courses)	3.6 <45.5%>	5.1 <39.4%>	7.9 <40.8%>	5.9 <38.5%>	2.4 <46.2%>	5.0 <35.8%>	66.2 <39.1%>	1 261.7 <36.9%>
Post-secondary - non-degree	0.6 <7.1%>	0.7 <5.7%>	1.1 <5.7%>	0.5 <3.4%>	0.3 <6.3%>	0.9 <6.7%>	10.6 <6.2%>	330.0 <9.6%>
Post-secondary - degree	0.6 <7.9%>	0.9 <6.7%>	0.9 <4.9%>	0.8 <4.9%>	0.5 <9.8%>	0.9 <6.3%>	12.0 <7.1%>	986.4 <28.8%>
<b>(iii) Employment status</b>								
Full-time	5.9 <74.6%>	9.6 <74.2%>	14.3 <74.4%>	11.0 <72.0%>	3.6 <70.9%>	10.0 <71.6%>	123.2 <72.8%>	3 109.8 <90.8%>
Part-time / underemployed	2.0 <25.4%>	3.3 <25.7%>	4.9 <25.6%>	4.3 <28.0%>	1.5 <29.1%>	4.0 <28.4%>	46.1 <27.2%>	313.6 <9.2%>
<b>III. Other indicators</b>								
Median monthly employment earnings (HK\$)	9,000	8,800	8,000	8,500	9,000	9,000	8,500	14,700
Labour force participation rate (%)	22.9	27.1	27.3	28.0	21.8	28.2	25.4	59.6
Unemployment rate (%)	20.1	17.3	19.5	19.7	19.6	17.0	18.5	3.6
Median age	56	50	49	46	54	49	50	43
No. of children ('000)	8.0	12.2	19.3	17.4	6.5	13.8	182.2	1 003.1
Dependency ratio (demographic) <sup>a</sup>	1 052	898	971	927	1 105	843	979	416
Elderly	723	553	602	519	712	481	604	205
Child	329	345	368	408	394	362	375	210
Economic dependency ratio <sup>#</sup>	4 024	3 285	3 312	3 299	4 415	3 185	3 632	901

**Table A.3.15: Socio-economic characteristics of poor population by District Council district, 2014 (3)**

After policy intervention (recurrent cash)	Yuen Long	North	Tai Po	Sha Tin	Sai Kung	Islands	All poor households	All households
<b>(C) Characteristics of persons</b>								
<b>I. No. of persons ('000)</b>								
<b>(i) Gender</b>								
Male	39.6 (46.8%)	22.6 (46.6%)	16.6 (45.7%)	34.8 (46.2%)	18.8 (44.6%)	7.8 (46.4%)	449.1 (46.7%)	3 245.9 (48.1%)
Female	45.0 (53.2%)	25.9 (53.4%)	19.8 (54.3%)	40.6 (53.8%)	23.4 (55.4%)	9.0 (53.6%)	513.1 (53.3%)	3 504.4 (51.9%)
<b>(ii) Economic activity status and age</b>								
Economically active	18.5 (21.8%)	11.0 (22.6%)	8.1 (22.2%)	16.3 (21.6%)	10.3 (24.5%)	3.2 (18.8%)	207.7 (21.6%)	3 550.0 (52.6%)
Working	15.4 (18.2%)	9.1 (18.9%)	6.7 (18.4%)	13.5 (17.9%)	7.9 (18.7%)	2.6 (15.6%)	169.2 (17.6%)	3 423.4 (50.7%)
Unemployed	3.0 (3.6%)	1.8 (3.7%)	1.4 (3.8%)	2.8 (3.7%)	2.4 (5.7%)	0.5 (3.2%)	38.5 (4.0%)	126.6 (1.9%)
Economically inactive	66.1 (78.2%)	37.5 (77.4%)	28.4 (77.8%)	59.1 (78.4%)	31.9 (75.5%)	13.7 (81.2%)	754.4 (78.4%)	3 200.3 (47.4%)
Children aged under 18	19.5 (23.0%)	11.1 (22.9%)	6.2 (17.1%)	13.7 (18.2%)	8.3 (19.8%)	4.1 (24.6%)	181.7 (18.9%)	997.0 (14.8%)
People aged between 18 and 64	28.0 (33.1%)	15.9 (32.9%)	11.6 (31.9%)	23.3 (30.9%)	13.5 (32.0%)	5.2 (30.6%)	286.9 (29.8%)	1 307.4 (19.4%)
Student	3.3 (3.9%)	2.1 (4.4%)	1.1 (3.1%)	2.8 (3.7%)	1.8 (4.2%)	0.9 (5.1%)	35.4 (3.7%)	268.8 (4.0%)
Home-maker	12.8 (15.2%)	7.0 (14.5%)	4.7 (13.0%)	9.7 (12.8%)	5.9 (14.1%)	1.7 (10.1%)	122.6 (12.7%)	591.0 (8.8%)
Retired person	5.2 (6.2%)	3.2 (6.7%)	2.5 (6.9%)	5.1 (6.8%)	2.8 (6.5%)	1.4 (8.1%)	59.4 (6.2%)	220.6 (3.3%)
Temporary / permanent ill	3.5 (4.1%)	1.5 (3.1%)	1.3 (3.4%)	2.6 (3.4%)	1.4 (3.3%)	0.5 (2.9%)	32.6 (3.4%)	93.7 (1.4%)
Other economically inactive*	3.1 (3.7%)	2.0 (4.2%)	2.0 (5.6%)	3.1 (4.2%)	1.6 (3.9%)	0.7 (4.3%)	36.7 (3.8%)	133.4 (2.0%)
Elders aged 65+	18.7 (22.1%)	10.4 (21.6%)	10.5 (28.7%)	22.1 (29.3%)	10.0 (23.8%)	4.4 (26.0%)	285.9 (29.7%)	895.9 (13.3%)
<b>(iii) Whether new arrival(s)</b>								
Yes	2.8 (3.3%)	2.2 (4.5%)	1.3 (3.4%)	1.7 (2.3%)	0.6 (1.3%)	§ (10.4%)	32.9 (3.4%)	101.6 (1.5%)
No	81.8 (96.7%)	46.2 (95.5%)	35.2 (96.6%)	73.6 (97.7%)	41.7 (98.7%)	16.6 (98.6%)	929.2 (96.6%)	6 648.7 (98.5%)
<b>(iv) Receiving social security benefit</b>								
OALA	7.0 (8.3%)	4.3 (8.9%)	4.2 (11.4%)	10.3 (13.6%)	3.5 (8.4%)	1.7 (10.4%)	118.4 (12.3%)	402.1 (6.0%)
DA	2.5 (2.9%)	1.0 (2.1%)	0.9 (2.4%)	2.2 (2.9%)	2.0 (4.8%)	0.4 (2.2%)	27.0 (2.8%)	109.3 (1.6%)
OAA	3.4 (4.0%)	2.2 (4.5%)	2.2 (6.0%)	4.1 (5.4%)	2.6 (6.2%)	1.1 (6.4%)	67.0 (7.0%)	218.4 (3.2%)
<b>II. No. of employed persons ('000)</b>								
<b>(i) Occupation</b>								
Higher-skilled	1.9 <12.2%>	1.1 <12.0%>	0.9 <13.6%>	1.3 <9.5%>	1.0 <12.2%>	0.5 <19.7%>	19.5 <11.5%>	1 386.5 <40.5%>
Lower-skilled	13.5 <87.8%>	8.0 <88.0%>	5.8 <86.4%>	12.2 <90.5%>	6.9 <87.8%>	2.1 <80.3%>	149.7 <88.5%>	2 037.0 <59.5%>
<b>(ii) Educational attainment</b>								
Primary and below	2.8 <18.0%>	2.1 <22.5%>	1.4 <20.5%>	2.7 <19.7%>	1.1 <13.5%>	0.7 <27.1%>	31.3 <18.5%>	335.9 <9.8%>
Lower secondary	4.7 <30.6%>	2.4 <26.3%>	1.9 <28.6%>	4.0 <30.0%>	2.5 <32.0%>	0.6 <21.2%>	49.2 <29.1%>	509.5 <14.9%>
Upper secondary (including craft courses)	5.9 <38.5%>	3.5 <37.8%>	2.5 <37.5%>	4.8 <35.7%>	3.3 <42.1%>	0.8 <32.3%>	66.2 <39.1%>	1 261.7 <36.9%>
Post-secondary - non-degree	1.0 <6.5%>	0.7 <7.4%>	0.4 <6.1%>	1.0 <7.3%>	0.5 <5.9%>	§ <6.2%>	10.6 <6.2%>	330.0 <9.6%>
Post-secondary - degree	1.0 <6.4%>	0.6 <6.0%>	0.5 <7.4%>	1.0 <7.3%>	0.5 <6.6%>	0.3 <10.0%>	12.0 <7.1%>	986.4 <28.8%>
<b>(iii) Employment status</b>								
Full-time	11.5 <74.6%>	6.9 <75.2%>	4.9 <72.9%>	10.0 <74.6%>	5.7 <72.0%>	1.6 <62.4%>	123.2 <72.8%>	3 109.8 <90.8%>
Part-time / underemployed	3.9 <25.4%>	2.3 <24.8%>	1.8 <27.1%>	3.4 <25.4%>	2.2 <28.0%>	1.0 <37.6%>	46.1 <27.2%>	313.6 <9.2%>
<b>III. Other indicators</b>								
Median monthly employment earnings (HK\$)	9,000	8,000	8,500	9,000	9,000	8,000	8,500	14,700
Labour force participation rate (%)	26.5	27.8	25.7	25.2	28.5	23.0	25.4	59.6
Unemployment rate (%)	16.4	16.6	17.2	17.2	23.4	17.0	18.5	3.6
Median age	45	45	52	52	48	46	50	43
No. of children ('000)	19.5	11.1	6.3	13.7	8.4	4.2	182.2	1 003.1
Dependency ratio (demographic) <sup>a</sup>	854	842	881	946	793	1 095	979	416
Elderly	426	419	557	591	437	577	604	205
Child	428	423	324	355	357	518	375	210
Economic dependency ratio <sup>#</sup>	3 582	3 420	3 500	3 637	3 089	4 318	3 632	901

## B. Supplementary Tables

<b>(1) Key poverty statistics, 2009-2014</b>	
Table B.1.1	Poverty indicators (compared with the previous year)
Table B.1.2	Poverty indicators (compared with the poverty indicators before policy intervention)
<b>(2) Poverty statistics after policy intervention (recurrent + non-recurrent cash)</b>	
<b>Poverty indicators, 2009-2014 (with the 2014 annual change)</b>	
Table B.2.1a	Poor households by selected household group
Table B.2.2a	Poor population by selected household group
Table B.2.3a	Poverty rate by selected household group
Table B.2.4a	Total poverty gap by selected household group
Table B.2.5a	Average poverty gap by selected household group
<b>Poverty indicators, 2009-2014 (with the 2014 comparison of pre- and post-intervention poverty indicators)</b>	
Table B.2.1b	Poor households by selected household group
Table B.2.2b	Poor population by selected household group
Table B.2.3b	Poverty rate by selected household group
Table B.2.4b	Total poverty gap by selected household group
Table B.2.5b	Average poverty gap by selected household group
<b>(3) Poverty statistics after policy intervention (recurrent cash + in-kind)</b>	
<b>Poverty indicators, 2009-2014 (with the 2014 annual change)</b>	
Table B.3.1a	Poor households by selected household group
Table B.3.2a	Poor population by selected household group
Table B.3.3a	Poverty rate by selected household group
Table B.3.4a	Total poverty gap by selected household group
Table B.3.5a	Average poverty gap by selected household group
<b>Poverty indicators, 2009-2014 (with the 2014 comparison of pre- and post-intervention poverty indicators)</b>	
Table B.3.1b	Poor households by selected household group
Table B.3.2b	Poor population by selected household group
Table B.3.3b	Poverty rate by selected household group
Table B.3.4b	Total poverty gap by selected household group
Table B.3.5b	Average poverty gap by selected household group

**Table B.1.1: Poverty indicators, 2009-2014 (compared with the previous year)**

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014						
<b>(A) Before policy intervention</b>												
I. Poor households ('000)	541.1	535.5	530.3	540.6	554.9	555.2						
II. Poor population ('000)	1 348.4	1 322.0	1 295.0	1 312.3	1 336.2	1 324.8						
III. Poverty rate (%)	20.6	20.1	19.6	19.6	19.9	19.6						
IV. Poverty gap												
Annual total gap (HK\$Mn)	25,424.4	25,943.0	26,891.7	28,798.4	30,640.4	32,785.4						
Monthly average gap (HK\$)	3,900	4,000	4,200	4,400	4,600	4,900						
<b>(B) After policy intervention (recurrent + non-recurrent cash)</b>												
I. Poor households ('000)	361.2	354.2	280.8	312.5	332.8	355.4						
II. Poor population ('000)	936.6	910.0	720.2	804.9	846.6	891.9						
III. Poverty rate (%)	14.3	13.8	10.9	12.0	12.6	13.2						
IV. Poverty gap												
Annual total gap (HK\$Mn)	11,058.9	10,958.3	8,850.2	10,811.0	12,404.7	14,170.9						
Monthly average gap (HK\$)	2,600	2,600	2,600	2,900	3,100	3,300						
<b>(C) After policy intervention (recurrent cash + in-kind)</b>												
I. Poor households ('000)	284.1	278.1	270.5	271.7	269.2	270.7						
II. Poor population ('000)	726.0	699.5	675.1	674.2	655.8	648.3						
III. Poverty rate (%)	11.1	10.6	10.2	10.1	9.8	9.6						
IV. Poverty gap												
Annual total gap (HK\$Mn)	9,515.4	9,424.6	9,945.8	10,675.3	11,062.9	11,893.1						
Monthly average gap (HK\$)	2,800	2,800	3,100	3,300	3,400	3,700						
<b>Compared with the previous year</b>												
	Change	% change	Change	% change	Change	% change	Change	% change	Change	% change	Change	% change
<b>(A) Before policy intervention</b>												
I. Poor households ('000)			-5.5	-1.0	-5.2	-1.0	10.3	2.0	14.3	2.6	0.3	0.1
II. Poor population ('000)			-26.4	-2.0	-27.0	-2.0	17.4	1.3	23.9	1.8	-11.4	-0.9
III. Poverty rate (%)			-0.5	-	-0.5	-	@	-	0.3	-	-0.3	-
IV. Poverty gap												
Annual total gap (HK\$Mn)			518.6	2.0	948.8	3.7	1,906.6	7.1	1,842.1	6.4	2,145.0	7.0
Monthly average gap (HK\$)			100	3.1	200	4.7	200	5.0	200	3.7	300	6.9
<b>(B) After policy intervention (recurrent + non-recurrent cash)</b>												
I. Poor households ('000)			-7.0	-1.9	-73.5	-20.7	31.7	11.3	20.3	6.5	22.6	6.8
II. Poor population ('000)			-26.6	-2.8	-189.8	-20.9	84.7	11.8	41.6	5.2	45.3	5.3
III. Poverty rate (%)			-0.5	-	-2.9	-	1.1	-	0.6	-	0.6	-
IV. Poverty gap												
Annual total gap (HK\$Mn)			-100.5	-0.9	-2,108.1	-19.2	1,960.8	22.2	1,593.7	14.7	1,766.2	14.2
Monthly average gap (HK\$)			@	@	@	@	300	9.8	200	7.7	200	7.0
<b>(C) After policy intervention (recurrent cash + in-kind)</b>												
I. Poor households ('000)			-6.1	-2.1	-7.6	-2.7	1.2	0.4	-2.5	-0.9	1.4	0.5
II. Poor population ('000)			-26.5	-3.7	-24.4	-3.5	-0.9	-0.1	-18.4	-2.7	-7.5	-1.1
III. Poverty rate (%)			-0.5	-	-0.4	-	-0.1	-	-0.3	-	-0.2	-
IV. Poverty gap												
Annual total gap (HK\$Mn)			-90.8	-1.0	521.2	5.5	729.5	7.3	387.6	3.6	830.2	7.5
Monthly average gap (HK\$)			@	@	200	8.5	200	6.9	100	4.6	200	7.0

**Table B.1.2: Poverty indicators, 2009-2014 (compared with the poverty indicators before policy intervention)**

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014						
<b>(A) Before policy intervention</b>												
I. Poor households ('000)	541.1	535.5	530.3	540.6	554.9	555.2						
II. Poor population ('000)	1 348.4	1 322.0	1 295.0	1 312.3	1 336.2	1 324.8						
III. Poverty rate (%)	20.6	20.1	19.6	19.6	19.9	19.6						
IV. Poverty gap												
Annual total gap (HK\$Mn)	25,424.4	25,943.0	26,891.7	28,798.4	30,640.4	32,785.4						
Monthly average gap (HK\$)	3,900	4,000	4,200	4,400	4,600	4,900						
<b>(B) After policy intervention (recurrent + non-recurrent cash)</b>												
I. Poor households ('000)	361.2	354.2	280.8	312.5	332.8	355.4						
II. Poor population ('000)	936.6	910.0	720.2	804.9	846.6	891.9						
III. Poverty rate (%)	14.3	13.8	10.9	12.0	12.6	13.2						
IV. Poverty gap												
Annual total gap (HK\$Mn)	11,058.9	10,958.3	8,850.2	10,811.0	12,404.7	14,170.9						
Monthly average gap (HK\$)	2,600	2,600	2,600	2,900	3,100	3,300						
<b>(C) After policy intervention (recurrent cash + in-kind)</b>												
I. Poor households ('000)	284.1	278.1	270.5	271.7	269.2	270.7						
II. Poor population ('000)	726.0	699.5	675.1	674.2	655.8	648.3						
III. Poverty rate (%)	11.1	10.6	10.2	10.1	9.8	9.6						
IV. Poverty gap												
Annual total gap (HK\$Mn)	9,515.4	9,424.6	9,945.8	10,675.3	11,062.9	11,893.1						
Monthly average gap (HK\$)	2,800	2,800	3,100	3,300	3,400	3,700						
<b>Compared with the poverty indicators before policy intervention</b>												
	<b>Change</b>	<b>% change</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>% change</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>% change</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>% change</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>% change</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>% change</b>
<b>(B) After policy intervention (recurrent + non-recurrent cash)</b>												
I. Poor households ('000)	-179.8	-33.2	-181.3	-33.8	-249.5	-47.1	-228.2	-42.2	-222.1	-40.0	-199.8	-36.0
II. Poor population ('000)	-411.8	-30.5	-412.0	-31.2	-574.8	-44.4	-507.4	-38.7	-489.6	-36.6	-432.9	-32.7
III. Poverty rate (%)	-6.3	-	-6.3	-	-8.7	-	-7.6	-	-7.3	-	-6.4	-
IV. Poverty gap												
Annual total gap (HK\$Mn)	-14,365.5	-56.5	-14,984.6	-57.8	-18,041.5	-67.1	-17,987.4	-62.5	-18,235.7	-59.5	-18,614.5	-56.8
Monthly average gap (HK\$)	-1,400	-34.9	-1,500	-36.1	-1,600	-37.8	-1,600	-35.0	-1,500	-32.5	-1,600	-32.5
<b>(C) After policy intervention (recurrent cash + in-kind)</b>												
I. Poor households ('000)	-256.9	-47.5	-257.4	-48.1	-259.8	-49.0	-268.9	-49.7	-285.7	-51.5	-284.5	-51.2
II. Poor population ('000)	-622.4	-46.2	-622.5	-47.1	-619.9	-47.9	-638.2	-48.6	-680.4	-50.9	-676.5	-51.1
III. Poverty rate (%)	-9.5	-	-9.5	-	-9.4	-	-9.5	-	-10.1	-	-10.0	-
IV. Poverty gap												
Annual total gap (HK\$Mn)	-15,909.0	-62.6	-16,518.3	-63.7	-16,945.9	-63.0	-18,123.1	-62.9	-19,577.5	-63.9	-20,892.2	-63.7
Monthly average gap (HK\$)	-1,100	-28.7	-1,200	-30.0	-1,200	-27.5	-1,200	-26.2	-1,200	-25.6	-1,300	-25.6

**Table B.2.1a: Poor households by selected household group, 2009-2014  
(with the 2014 annual change)**

After policy intervention (recurrent + non-recurrent cash)	No. of households ('000)						2014 compared with 2013	
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	Change	% change
<b>Overall</b>	361.2	354.2	280.8	312.5	332.8	355.4	22.6	6.8
<b>I. Household size</b>								
1-person	60.6	62.4	46.2	55.4	56.7	65.8	9.2	16.2
2-person	133.9	130.9	112.9	115.3	129.6	139.8	10.3	7.9
3-person	86.2	83.1	57.8	70.5	77.5	77.8	0.2	0.3
4-person	60.2	58.6	48.7	53.9	52.1	53.1	1.0	1.9
5-person	14.6	14.9	11.6	13.0	12.8	13.9	1.0	8.2
6-person+	5.8	4.5	3.6	4.3	4.2	5.1	0.9	22.4
<b>II. Social characteristics</b>								
CSSA households	81.7	83.0	60.7	65.7	67.2	60.2	-7.0	-10.4
Elderly households	92.1	97.1	79.2	89.0	95.1	105.4	10.4	10.9
Single-parent households	25.7	26.0	21.3	23.9	23.6	23.0	-0.6	-2.4
New-arrival households	32.7	26.9	24.0	25.3	25.2	22.5	-2.6	-10.5
Households with children	128.9	122.8	99.4	113.2	109.8	112.3	2.5	2.3
Youth households	2.2	2.0	1.9	2.2	1.5	1.7	0.1	8.9
<b>III. Economic characteristics</b>								
Economically inactive households	187.4	196.0	168.4	181.1	186.7	206.5	19.8	10.6
Working households	142.1	132.9	93.0	115.2	128.9	130.9	1.9	1.5
Unemployed households	31.7	25.3	19.4	16.2	17.1	18.0	0.9	5.3
<b>IV. Housing characteristics</b>								
Public rental housing	157.1	152.5	113.4	127.3	134.9	141.9	7.0	5.2
Subsidised sale flats	53.8	49.9	37.1	45.6	46.7	52.1	5.4	11.5
Private permanent housing	145.0	146.1	125.6	135.9	147.1	157.0	9.9	6.7
Owner-occupiers	114.1	118.5	100.7	107.1	111.4	120.3	8.9	8.0
- with mortgages or loans	14.9	10.4	9.2	10.0	11.5	11.1	-0.4	-3.5
Tenants	18.4	16.4	13.6	16.5	21.3	22.0	0.7	3.0
- in rooms / bedspaces / cocklofts	2.9	1.8	0.8	1.3	1.2	1.2	-0.1	-6.0
Temporary housing	5.3	5.8	4.7	3.7	4.1	4.4	0.3	8.0
<b>V. District Council districts</b>								
Central and Western	11.9	11.4	9.9	10.5	10.6	12.0	1.3	12.4
Wan Chai	6.9	8.1	6.9	7.5	7.1	9.4	2.3	31.8
Eastern	26.2	26.3	21.2	24.0	27.8	28.4	0.6	2.2
Southern	11.2	10.0	8.0	8.9	9.4	10.2	0.9	9.4
Yau Tsim Mong	16.6	16.7	14.4	18.0	16.4	18.2	1.7	10.6
Sham Shui Po	23.0	23.5	18.8	19.4	22.0	23.6	1.6	7.2
Kowloon City	17.0	17.4	14.2	16.3	16.3	19.3	3.1	18.8
Wong Tai Sin	23.8	23.8	17.2	21.2	21.2	22.5	1.3	6.1
Kwun Tong	37.2	37.1	26.5	31.4	34.5	35.7	1.2	3.6
Kwai Tsing	29.0	28.2	21.4	24.1	24.7	27.0	2.3	9.3
Tsuen Wan	14.2	12.6	10.6	12.2	13.6	12.7	-0.9	-6.6
Tuen Mun	28.4	28.1	21.5	23.2	26.1	26.4	0.3	1.1
Yuen Long	32.9	34.6	27.0	30.0	26.4	30.1	3.7	14.1
North	18.0	17.2	14.4	14.6	14.7	17.3	2.6	17.4
Tai Po	14.3	12.7	10.3	10.2	13.0	13.6	0.6	4.6
Sha Tin	27.3	25.1	19.9	23.1	27.1	27.9	0.8	3.1
Sai Kung	14.5	13.3	11.6	12.4	14.7	14.6	@	@
Islands	9.1	8.1	7.0	5.5	7.4	6.6	-0.8	-10.3

**Table B.2.2a: Poor population by selected household group, 2009-2014  
(with the 2014 annual change)**

After policy intervention (recurrent + non-recurrent cash)	No. of persons ('000)						2014 compared with 2013	
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	Change	% change
<b>Overall</b>	936.6	910.0	720.2	804.9	846.6	891.9	45.3	5.3
<b>I. Household size</b>								
1-person	60.6	62.4	46.2	55.4	56.7	65.8	9.2	16.2
2-person	267.7	261.8	225.7	230.6	259.2	279.7	20.5	7.9
3-person	258.5	249.2	173.3	211.6	232.6	233.3	0.7	0.3
4-person	241.0	234.2	194.9	215.7	208.3	212.2	4.0	1.9
5-person	73.0	74.4	57.8	65.2	64.1	69.3	5.2	8.2
6-person+	35.9	28.0	22.2	26.4	25.8	31.6	5.8	22.3
<b>II. Social characteristics</b>								
CSSA households	194.6	197.8	158.0	172.4	176.4	159.5	-16.9	-9.6
Elderly households	147.0	155.4	129.5	144.9	155.5	170.4	14.9	9.6
Single-parent households	72.2	72.7	61.0	68.1	65.7	65.2	-0.5	-0.8
New-arrival households	113.3	93.8	84.5	89.0	84.7	78.3	-6.4	-7.6
Households with children	467.0	442.0	360.6	408.9	393.6	406.8	13.2	3.4
Youth households	3.1	2.8	3.1	3.2	2.8	2.4	-0.4	-13.3
<b>III. Economic characteristics</b>								
Economically inactive households	368.3	384.5	340.4	362.2	369.6	403.0	33.5	9.1
Working households	482.5	455.5	326.8	400.8	433.6	445.2	11.7	2.7
Unemployed households	85.8	70.0	53.0	41.9	43.4	43.6	0.2	0.4
<b>IV. Housing characteristics</b>								
Public rental housing	439.5	428.3	329.7	376.9	385.9	401.1	15.2	3.9
Subsidised sale flats	143.1	130.5	94.0	114.9	117.6	129.0	11.5	9.7
Private permanent housing	342.3	339.0	285.8	305.2	334.0	351.5	17.5	5.2
Owner-occupiers	268.9	271.6	228.9	238.1	246.7	258.9	12.2	4.9
- with mortgages or loans	44.1	31.6	28.7	28.1	32.2	30.9	-1.3	-3.9
Tenants	50.9	47.4	36.4	44.0	60.7	64.1	3.4	5.6
- in rooms / bedspaces / cocklofts	6.7	4.5	2.3	3.2	3.6	3.5	-0.1	-3.2
Temporary housing	11.8	12.3	10.7	7.9	9.1	10.2	1.2	12.9
<b>V. District Council districts</b>								
Central and Western	25.1	25.4	21.0	21.4	22.8	22.7	-0.1	-0.3
Wan Chai	14.7	15.7	13.4	14.4	13.4	16.7	3.4	25.0
Eastern	63.0	62.1	50.3	56.9	64.0	67.8	3.8	6.0
Southern	28.7	24.0	20.0	22.9	23.2	25.5	2.3	10.0
Yau Tsim Mong	37.7	38.3	32.9	39.7	38.7	41.3	2.6	6.7
Sham Shui Po	61.2	59.1	47.6	52.3	57.5	60.9	3.4	5.9
Kowloon City	40.4	40.4	34.7	38.6	38.6	46.0	7.4	19.3
Wong Tai Sin	62.1	63.7	46.6	56.2	56.6	61.3	4.7	8.3
Kwun Tong	95.9	97.9	69.3	87.4	92.7	93.2	0.5	0.5
Kwai Tsing	80.3	78.3	59.1	68.0	69.2	74.9	5.6	8.2
Tsuen Wan	36.2	33.2	27.7	29.4	33.3	31.7	-1.6	-4.8
Tuen Mun	74.4	74.2	56.9	59.7	66.2	66.4	0.2	0.3
Yuen Long	93.3	94.8	74.7	83.5	72.3	78.2	5.9	8.2
North	49.7	47.7	38.3	38.8	38.7	46.0	7.3	19.0
Tai Po	38.0	31.0	25.8	26.2	31.6	34.4	2.8	8.8
Sha Tin	71.9	67.0	50.7	60.5	69.5	70.1	0.7	1.0
Sai Kung	41.6	35.0	32.0	34.3	40.4	38.8	-1.6	-4.0
Islands	22.5	22.1	19.2	14.6	17.9	15.9	-2.1	-11.5



**Table B.2.3a: Poverty rate by selected household group, 2009-2014  
(with the 2014 annual change)**

After policy intervention (recurrent + non-recurrent cash)	Share in the corresponding group (%)						2014 compared with 2013	
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	Change	% change
<b>Overall</b>	14.3	13.8	10.9	12.0	12.6	13.2	0.6	-
<b>I. Household size</b>								
1-person	15.9	15.9	11.4	13.4	13.8	15.6	1.8	-
2-person	22.3	21.5	18.2	18.1	19.7	20.9	1.2	-
3-person	14.6	13.7	9.3	11.2	12.2	12.2	@	-
4-person	11.9	11.5	9.6	10.8	10.4	10.6	0.2	-
5-person	9.5	9.7	7.7	8.7	8.9	9.8	0.9	-
6-person+	9.5	8.1	6.5	7.3	7.3	8.5	1.2	-
<b>II. Social characteristics</b>								
CSSA households	39.9	40.5	33.5	39.9	42.9	40.8	-2.1	-
Elderly households	48.7	48.5	39.4	42.1	42.3	43.9	1.6	-
Single-parent households	31.3	32.4	28.6	31.8	32.7	32.9	0.2	-
New-arrival households	34.9	35.1	29.1	29.7	32.8	30.2	-2.6	-
Households with children	15.8	15.3	12.7	14.5	14.3	15.0	0.7	-
Youth households	4.0	3.5	3.8	4.1	3.7	3.5	-0.2	-
<b>III. Economic characteristics</b>								
Economically inactive households	56.0	55.0	48.9	51.1	52.7	54.6	1.9	-
Working households	8.4	7.9	5.6	6.8	7.3	7.5	0.2	-
Unemployed households	71.3	70.0	66.3	57.7	61.7	66.2	4.5	-
<b>IV. Housing characteristics</b>								
Public rental housing	22.2	21.4	16.4	18.3	18.9	19.6	0.7	-
Subsidised sale flats	12.0	10.9	8.1	9.9	10.3	11.3	1.0	-
Private permanent housing	10.3	10.1	8.4	8.9	9.6	10.0	0.4	-
Owner-occupiers	11.1	11.3	9.2	9.8	10.2	10.7	0.5	-
- with mortgages or loans	4.1	3.2	2.8	2.8	3.2	3.1	-0.1	-
Tenants	7.3	6.3	5.0	5.6	7.1	7.3	0.2	-
- in rooms / bedspaces / cocklofts	17.0	18.1	11.8	16.2	17.8	15.2	-2.6	-
Temporary housing	25.5	27.3	25.2	21.4	24.0	26.5	2.5	-
<b>V. District Council districts</b>								
Central and Western	11.1	11.0	9.4	9.5	10.3	10.4	0.1	-
Wan Chai	10.5	11.2	10.0	10.6	10.2	12.6	2.4	-
Eastern	11.5	11.4	9.2	10.4	11.8	12.6	0.8	-
Southern	11.4	9.5	8.0	9.2	9.3	10.3	1.0	-
Yau Tsim Mong	13.5	13.5	11.5	13.6	13.3	14.1	0.8	-
Sham Shui Po	17.7	17.1	13.4	14.4	15.9	16.6	0.7	-
Kowloon City	12.1	12.2	10.2	11.2	11.3	12.5	1.2	-
Wong Tai Sin	15.4	15.8	11.5	13.7	13.8	14.9	1.1	-
Kwun Tong	16.8	16.7	11.6	14.4	15.0	15.1	0.1	-
Kwai Tsing	16.3	16.0	12.1	14.0	14.2	15.4	1.2	-
Tsuen Wan	13.1	12.1	9.7	10.3	11.7	11.1	-0.6	-
Tuen Mun	15.8	15.7	12.2	12.7	14.1	14.0	-0.1	-
Yuen Long	17.8	17.8	13.5	15.0	12.9	13.7	0.8	-
North	17.1	16.2	13.2	13.2	13.2	15.7	2.5	-
Tai Po	13.9	11.2	9.3	9.4	11.3	12.1	0.8	-
Sha Tin	12.5	11.5	8.6	10.2	11.4	11.5	0.1	-
Sai Kung	10.6	8.8	7.8	8.4	9.7	9.2	-0.5	-
Islands	16.2	15.7	14.7	10.9	13.3	11.7	-1.6	-

**Table B.2.4a: Total poverty gap by selected household group, 2009-2014  
(with the 2014 annual change)**

After policy intervention (recurrent + non-recurrent cash)	HK\$Mn						2014 compared with 2013	
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	Change	% change
<b>Overall</b>	11,058.9	10,958.3	8,850.2	10,811.0	12,404.7	14,170.9	1,766.2	14.2
<b>I. Household size</b>								
1-person	1,178.8	1,255.7	1,025.2	1,355.0	1,445.2	1,826.8	381.5	26.4
2-person	4,209.7	4,211.1	3,721.7	4,263.4	5,009.6	5,838.8	829.2	16.6
3-person	2,971.7	2,830.8	1,919.7	2,564.5	3,047.4	3,408.2	360.8	11.8
4-person	2,054.0	2,012.6	1,711.6	2,010.2	2,194.0	2,265.3	71.3	3.2
5-person	445.7	495.8	352.7	465.7	536.7	607.0	70.3	13.1
6-person+	198.9	152.3	119.3	152.2	171.7	224.8	53.1	30.9
<b>II. Social characteristics</b>								
CSSA households	1,369.8	1,437.3	1,037.7	1,454.3	1,818.2	1,601.1	-217.1	-11.9
Elderly households	2,301.3	2,595.9	2,095.1	2,686.6	2,858.8	3,463.2	604.4	21.1
Single-parent households	655.1	689.8	557.2	684.8	813.2	865.5	52.3	6.4
New-arrival households	986.2	877.0	715.9	849.5	977.4	919.4	-58.0	-5.9
Households with children	4,137.8	3,941.0	3,167.5	3,898.4	4,263.1	4,639.4	376.3	8.8
Youth households	52.2	62.9	56.6	66.1	53.0	59.2	6.1	11.6
<b>III. Economic characteristics</b>								
Economically inactive households	5,856.6	6,369.3	5,648.9	6,825.8	7,577.4	8,996.3	1,418.9	18.7
Working households	3,645.5	3,333.4	2,308.2	3,107.2	3,791.3	4,052.6	261.2	6.9
Unemployed households	1,556.8	1,255.7	893.1	878.1	1,036.0	1,122.1	86.1	8.3
<b>IV. Housing characteristics</b>								
Public rental housing	3,388.0	3,334.1	2,447.0	3,147.1	3,603.7	3,992.9	389.2	10.8
Subsidised sale flats	1,829.2	1,736.1	1,338.8	1,731.5	1,948.7	2,213.8	265.0	13.6
Private permanent housing	5,678.8	5,732.7	4,918.1	5,789.1	6,713.0	7,799.4	1,086.4	16.2
Owner-occupiers	4,738.5	4,818.2	4,126.5	4,793.3	5,339.0	6,246.3	907.3	17.0
- with mortgages or loans	594.2	412.8	383.7	449.4	542.5	629.7	87.2	16.1
Tenants	523.0	470.0	395.8	548.7	793.0	899.1	106.1	13.4
- in rooms / bedspaces / cocklofts	60.0	33.9	17.3	30.8	29.7	31.5	1.8	6.2
Temporary housing	162.9	155.5	146.3	143.3	139.3	164.8	25.5	18.3
<b>V. District Council districts</b>								
Central and Western	477.8	486.5	432.2	493.5	546.5	627.5	81.0	14.8
Wan Chai	326.2	377.0	285.3	360.6	355.0	449.2	94.2	26.5
Eastern	904.9	923.1	766.5	948.7	1,169.7	1,288.5	118.8	10.2
Southern	336.8	298.8	298.6	333.3	353.7	431.9	78.1	22.1
Yau Tsim Mong	605.7	595.5	516.6	658.5	678.3	789.2	110.9	16.3
Sham Shui Po	682.1	704.9	552.1	664.0	807.8	918.2	110.3	13.7
Kowloon City	620.1	667.9	513.0	627.9	713.1	865.5	152.4	21.4
Wong Tai Sin	656.4	620.7	467.9	608.9	676.5	771.7	95.3	14.1
Kwun Tong	950.2	946.5	666.8	942.6	1,044.8	1,132.3	87.4	8.4
Kwai Tsing	736.4	748.0	520.1	681.9	765.0	921.7	156.7	20.5
Tsuen Wan	443.3	426.3	336.6	461.6	497.9	578.8	80.9	16.2
Tuen Mun	789.0	814.7	659.1	751.0	898.4	972.9	74.5	8.3
Yuen Long	979.9	1,021.0	813.8	984.0	978.6	1,133.8	155.2	15.9
North	531.6	546.2	454.7	476.0	503.6	743.9	240.3	47.7
Tai Po	484.5	398.5	349.3	389.9	496.6	561.0	64.4	13.0
Sha Tin	805.8	743.9	613.8	796.2	1,069.1	1,076.9	7.8	0.7
Sai Kung	448.6	414.2	378.6	424.1	568.7	637.7	68.9	12.1
Islands	279.7	224.6	225.3	208.4	281.3	270.4	-11.0	-3.9

**Table B.2.5a: Average poverty gap by selected household group, 2009-2014  
(with the 2014 annual change)**

After policy intervention (recurrent + non-recurrent cash)	HK\$						2014 compared with 2013	
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	Change	% change
<b>Overall</b>	2,600	2,600	2,600	2,900	3,100	3,300	200	7.0
<b>I. Household size</b>								
1-person	1,600	1,700	1,800	2,000	2,100	2,300	200	8.8
2-person	2,600	2,700	2,700	3,100	3,200	3,500	300	8.0
3-person	2,900	2,800	2,800	3,000	3,300	3,700	400	11.5
4-person	2,800	2,900	2,900	3,100	3,500	3,600	@	@
5-person	2,500	2,800	2,500	3,000	3,500	3,700	200	4.6
6-person+	2,800	2,800	2,700	3,000	3,400	3,700	200	6.9
<b>II. Social characteristics</b>								
CSSA households	1,400	1,400	1,400	1,800	2,300	2,200	@	@
Elderly households	2,100	2,200	2,200	2,500	2,500	2,700	200	9.2
Single-parent households	2,100	2,200	2,200	2,400	2,900	3,100	300	9.1
New-arrival households	2,500	2,700	2,500	2,800	3,200	3,400	200	5.1
Households with children	2,700	2,700	2,700	2,900	3,200	3,400	200	6.4
Youth households	2,000	2,700	2,500	2,500	2,900	3,000	100	2.5
<b>III. Economic characteristics</b>								
Economically inactive households	2,600	2,700	2,800	3,100	3,400	3,600	200	7.4
Working households	2,100	2,100	2,100	2,200	2,500	2,600	100	5.3
Unemployed households	4,100	4,100	3,800	4,500	5,000	5,200	100	2.9
<b>IV. Housing characteristics</b>								
Public rental housing	1,800	1,800	1,800	2,100	2,200	2,300	100	5.3
Subsidised sale flats	2,800	2,900	3,000	3,200	3,500	3,500	100	1.9
Private permanent housing	3,300	3,300	3,300	3,500	3,800	4,100	300	8.8
Owner-occupiers	3,500	3,400	3,400	3,700	4,000	4,300	300	8.3
- with mortgages or loans	3,300	3,300	3,500	3,800	3,900	4,700	800	20.2
Tenants	2,400	2,400	2,400	2,800	3,100	3,400	300	10.0
- in rooms / bedspaces / cocklofts	1,700	1,600	1,700	2,000	2,000	2,200	300	13.0
Temporary housing	2,600	2,200	2,600	3,200	2,800	3,100	300	9.5
<b>V. District Council districts</b>								
Central and Western	3,400	3,600	3,600	3,900	4,300	4,400	100	2.2
Wan Chai	3,900	3,900	3,400	4,000	4,200	4,000	-200	-4.0
Eastern	2,900	2,900	3,000	3,300	3,500	3,800	300	7.8
Southern	2,500	2,500	3,100	3,100	3,200	3,500	400	11.6
Yau Tsim Mong	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,100	3,400	3,600	200	5.2
Sham Shui Po	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,800	3,100	3,200	200	6.0
Kowloon City	3,000	3,200	3,000	3,200	3,700	3,700	100	2.1
Wong Tai Sin	2,300	2,200	2,300	2,400	2,700	2,900	200	7.5
Kwun Tong	2,100	2,100	2,100	2,500	2,500	2,600	100	4.6
Kwai Tsing	2,100	2,200	2,000	2,400	2,600	2,800	300	10.2
Tsuen Wan	2,600	2,800	2,600	3,100	3,100	3,800	700	24.4
Tuen Mun	2,300	2,400	2,600	2,700	2,900	3,100	200	7.1
Yuen Long	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,700	3,100	3,100	@	@
North	2,500	2,600	2,600	2,700	2,800	3,600	700	25.9
Tai Po	2,800	2,600	2,800	3,200	3,200	3,500	300	8.0
Sha Tin	2,500	2,500	2,600	2,900	3,300	3,200	-100	-2.3
Sai Kung	2,600	2,600	2,700	2,800	3,200	3,600	400	12.4
Islands	2,600	2,300	2,700	3,200	3,200	3,400	200	7.2

**Table B.2.1b: Poor households by selected household group, 2009-2014 (with the 2014 comparison of pre- and post-intervention poverty indicators)**

After policy intervention (recurrent + non-recurrent cash)	No. of households ('000)						2014	
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	Change	% change
<b>Overall</b>	361.2	354.2	280.8	312.5	332.8	355.4	-199.8	-36.0
<b>I. Household size</b>								
1-person	60.6	62.4	46.2	55.4	56.7	65.8	-86.8	-56.9
2-person	133.9	130.9	112.9	115.3	129.6	139.8	-45.6	-24.6
3-person	86.2	83.1	57.8	70.5	77.5	77.8	-29.6	-27.6
4-person	60.2	58.6	48.7	53.9	52.1	53.1	-27.0	-33.7
5-person	14.6	14.9	11.6	13.0	12.8	13.9	-7.8	-36.0
6-person+	5.8	4.5	3.6	4.3	4.2	5.1	-3.1	-37.5
<b>II. Social characteristics</b>								
CSSA households	81.7	83.0	60.7	65.7	67.2	60.2	-117.1	-66.0
Elderly households	92.1	97.1	79.2	89.0	95.1	105.4	-88.0	-45.5
Single-parent households	25.7	26.0	21.3	23.9	23.6	23.0	-11.8	-34.0
New-arrival households	32.7	26.9	24.0	25.3	25.2	22.5	-5.3	-19.0
Households with children	128.9	122.8	99.4	113.2	109.8	112.3	-44.6	-28.4
Youth households	2.2	2.0	1.9	2.2	1.5	1.7	-0.6	-26.7
<b>III. Economic characteristics</b>								
Economically inactive households	187.4	196.0	168.4	181.1	186.7	206.5	-118.7	-36.5
Working households	142.1	132.9	93.0	115.2	128.9	130.9	-77.1	-37.1
Unemployed households	31.7	25.3	19.4	16.2	17.1	18.0	-3.9	-17.9
<b>IV. Housing characteristics</b>								
Public rental housing	157.1	152.5	113.4	127.3	134.9	141.9	-143.5	-50.3
Subsidised sale flats	53.8	49.9	37.1	45.6	46.7	52.1	-14.4	-21.7
Private permanent housing	145.0	146.1	125.6	135.9	147.1	157.0	-40.2	-20.4
Owner-occupiers	114.1	118.5	100.7	107.1	111.4	120.3	-18.7	-13.4
- with mortgages or loans	14.9	10.4	9.2	10.0	11.5	11.1	-1.0	-8.4
Tenants	18.4	16.4	13.6	16.5	21.3	22.0	-19.6	-47.1
- in rooms / bedspaces / cocklofts	2.9	1.8	0.8	1.3	1.2	1.2	-3.7	-76.0
Temporary housing	5.3	5.8	4.7	3.7	4.1	4.4	-1.7	-27.9
<b>V. District Council districts</b>								
Central and Western	11.9	11.4	9.9	10.5	10.6	12.0	-2.9	-19.3
Wan Chai	6.9	8.1	6.9	7.5	7.1	9.4	-1.4	-13.2
Eastern	26.2	26.3	21.2	24.0	27.8	28.4	-11.7	-29.2
Southern	11.2	10.0	8.0	8.9	9.4	10.2	-6.7	-39.4
Yau Tsim Mong	16.6	16.7	14.4	18.0	16.4	18.2	-6.3	-25.7
Sham Shui Po	23.0	23.5	18.8	19.4	22.0	23.6	-17.6	-42.8
Kowloon City	17.0	17.4	14.2	16.3	16.3	19.3	-8.6	-30.8
Wong Tai Sin	23.8	23.8	17.2	21.2	21.2	22.5	-17.9	-44.4
Kwun Tong	37.2	37.1	26.5	31.4	34.5	35.7	-29.4	-45.2
Kwai Tsing	29.0	28.2	21.4	24.1	24.7	27.0	-22.2	-45.2
Tsuen Wan	14.2	12.6	10.6	12.2	13.6	12.7	-6.5	-33.9
Tuen Mun	28.4	28.1	21.5	23.2	26.1	26.4	-14.6	-35.7
Yuen Long	32.9	34.6	27.0	30.0	26.4	30.1	-16.5	-35.3
North	18.0	17.2	14.4	14.6	14.7	17.3	-6.7	-27.9
Tai Po	14.3	12.7	10.3	10.2	13.0	13.6	-6.2	-31.2
Sha Tin	27.3	25.1	19.9	23.1	27.1	27.9	-13.6	-32.7
Sai Kung	14.5	13.3	11.6	12.4	14.7	14.6	-7.5	-33.7
Islands	9.1	8.1	7.0	5.5	7.4	6.6	-3.6	-34.9

**Table B.2.2b: Poor population by selected household group, 2009-2014 (with the 2014 comparison of pre- and post-intervention poverty indicators)**

After policy intervention (recurrent + non-recurrent cash)	No. of persons ('000)						2014	
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	Change	% change
<b>Overall</b>	936.6	910.0	720.2	804.9	846.6	891.9	-432.9	-32.7
<b>I. Household size</b>								
1-person	60.6	62.4	46.2	55.4	56.7	65.8	-86.8	-56.9
2-person	267.7	261.8	225.7	230.6	259.2	279.7	-91.2	-24.6
3-person	258.5	249.2	173.3	211.6	232.6	233.3	-88.7	-27.6
4-person	241.0	234.2	194.9	215.7	208.3	212.2	-108.0	-33.7
5-person	73.0	74.4	57.8	65.2	64.1	69.3	-39.0	-36.0
6-person+	35.9	28.0	22.2	26.4	25.8	31.6	-19.3	-37.9
<b>II. Social characteristics</b>								
CSSA households	194.6	197.8	158.0	172.4	176.4	159.5	-218.3	-57.8
Elderly households	147.0	155.4	129.5	144.9	155.5	170.4	-110.3	-39.3
Single-parent households	72.2	72.7	61.0	68.1	65.7	65.2	-32.8	-33.5
New-arrival households	113.3	93.8	84.5	89.0	84.7	78.3	-16.8	-17.6
Households with children	467.0	442.0	360.6	408.9	393.6	406.8	-168.3	-29.3
Youth households	3.1	2.8	3.1	3.2	2.8	2.4	-1.3	-35.3
<b>III. Economic characteristics</b>								
Economically inactive households	368.3	384.5	340.4	362.2	369.6	403.0	-162.6	-28.7
Working households	482.5	455.5	326.8	400.8	433.6	445.2	-260.3	-36.9
Unemployed households	85.8	70.0	53.0	41.9	43.4	43.6	-10.0	-18.7
<b>IV. Housing characteristics</b>								
Public rental housing	439.5	428.3	329.7	376.9	385.9	401.1	-296.7	-42.5
Subsidised sale flats	143.1	130.5	94.0	114.9	117.6	129.0	-36.0	-21.8
Private permanent housing	342.3	339.0	285.8	305.2	334.0	351.5	-96.6	-21.6
Owner-occupiers	268.9	271.6	228.9	238.1	246.7	258.9	-45.6	-15.0
- with mortgages or loans	44.1	31.6	28.7	28.1	32.2	30.9	-3.6	-10.5
Tenants	50.9	47.4	36.4	44.0	60.7	64.1	-47.9	-42.7
- in rooms / bedspaces / cocklofts	6.7	4.5	2.3	3.2	3.6	3.5	-5.6	-61.8
Temporary housing	11.8	12.3	10.7	7.9	9.1	10.2	-3.6	-25.8
<b>V. District Council districts</b>								
Central and Western	25.1	25.4	21.0	21.4	22.8	22.7	-5.9	-20.7
Wan Chai	14.7	15.7	13.4	14.4	13.4	16.7	-2.9	-14.6
Eastern	63.0	62.1	50.3	56.9	64.0	67.8	-24.5	-26.6
Southern	28.7	24.0	20.0	22.9	23.2	25.5	-13.5	-34.7
Yau Tsim Mong	37.7	38.3	32.9	39.7	38.7	41.3	-14.1	-25.5
Sham Shui Po	61.2	59.1	47.6	52.3	57.5	60.9	-36.3	-37.3
Kowloon City	40.4	40.4	34.7	38.6	38.6	46.0	-17.4	-27.5
Wong Tai Sin	62.1	63.7	46.6	56.2	56.6	61.3	-38.5	-38.6
Kwun Tong	95.9	97.9	69.3	87.4	92.7	93.2	-61.8	-39.9
Kwai Tsing	80.3	78.3	59.1	68.0	69.2	74.9	-49.8	-40.0
Tsuen Wan	36.2	33.2	27.7	29.4	33.3	31.7	-15.4	-32.7
Tuen Mun	74.4	74.2	56.9	59.7	66.2	66.4	-29.2	-30.6
Yuen Long	93.3	94.8	74.7	83.5	72.3	78.2	-39.5	-33.5
North	49.7	47.7	38.3	38.8	38.7	46.0	-15.3	-24.9
Tai Po	38.0	31.0	25.8	26.2	31.6	34.4	-11.9	-25.8
Sha Tin	71.9	67.0	50.7	60.5	69.5	70.1	-29.6	-29.7
Sai Kung	41.6	35.0	32.0	34.3	40.4	38.8	-18.6	-32.5
Islands	22.5	22.1	19.2	14.6	17.9	15.9	-8.6	-35.1

**Table B.2.3b: Poverty rate by selected household group, 2009-2014 (with the 2014 comparison of pre- and post-intervention poverty indicators)**

After policy intervention (recurrent + non-recurrent cash)	Share in the corresponding group (%)						2014	
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	Change	% change
<b>Overall</b>	14.3	13.8	10.9	12.0	12.6	13.2	-6.4	-
<b>I. Household size</b>								
1-person	15.9	15.9	11.4	13.4	13.8	15.6	-20.5	-
2-person	22.3	21.5	18.2	18.1	19.7	20.9	-6.8	-
3-person	14.6	13.7	9.3	11.2	12.2	12.2	-4.6	-
4-person	11.9	11.5	9.6	10.8	10.4	10.6	-5.4	-
5-person	9.5	9.7	7.7	8.7	8.9	9.8	-5.6	-
6-person+	9.5	8.1	6.5	7.3	7.3	8.5	-5.2	-
<b>II. Social characteristics</b>								
CSSA households	39.9	40.5	33.5	39.9	42.9	40.8	-55.8	-
Elderly households	48.7	48.5	39.4	42.1	42.3	43.9	-28.3	-
Single-parent households	31.3	32.4	28.6	31.8	32.7	32.9	-16.6	-
New-arrival households	34.9	35.1	29.1	29.7	32.8	30.2	-6.5	-
Households with children	15.8	15.3	12.7	14.5	14.3	15.0	-6.2	-
Youth households	4.0	3.5	3.8	4.1	3.7	3.5	-2.0	-
<b>III. Economic characteristics</b>								
Economically inactive households	56.0	55.0	48.9	51.1	52.7	54.6	-22.0	-
Working households	8.4	7.9	5.6	6.8	7.3	7.5	-4.4	-
Unemployed households	71.3	70.0	66.3	57.7	61.7	66.2	-15.2	-
<b>IV. Housing characteristics</b>								
Public rental housing	22.2	21.4	16.4	18.3	18.9	19.6	-14.5	-
Subsidised sale flats	12.0	10.9	8.1	9.9	10.3	11.3	-3.1	-
Private permanent housing	10.3	10.1	8.4	8.9	9.6	10.0	-2.7	-
Owner-occupiers	11.1	11.3	9.2	9.8	10.2	10.7	-1.9	-
- with mortgages or loans	4.1	3.2	2.8	2.8	3.2	3.1	-0.4	-
Tenants	7.3	6.3	5.0	5.6	7.1	7.3	-5.4	-
- in rooms / bedspaces / cocklofts	17.0	18.1	11.8	16.2	17.8	15.2	-24.6	-
Temporary housing	25.5	27.3	25.2	21.4	24.0	26.5	-9.3	-
<b>V. District Council districts</b>								
Central and Western	11.1	11.0	9.4	9.5	10.3	10.4	-2.7	-
Wan Chai	10.5	11.2	10.0	10.6	10.2	12.6	-2.2	-
Eastern	11.5	11.4	9.2	10.4	11.8	12.6	-4.5	-
Southern	11.4	9.5	8.0	9.2	9.3	10.3	-5.4	-
Yau Tsim Mong	13.5	13.5	11.5	13.6	13.3	14.1	-4.9	-
Sham Shui Po	17.7	17.1	13.4	14.4	15.9	16.6	-10.0	-
Kowloon City	12.1	12.2	10.2	11.2	11.3	12.5	-4.7	-
Wong Tai Sin	15.4	15.8	11.5	13.7	13.8	14.9	-9.4	-
Kwun Tong	16.8	16.7	11.6	14.4	15.0	15.1	-10.0	-
Kwai Tsing	16.3	16.0	12.1	14.0	14.2	15.4	-10.3	-
Tsuen Wan	13.1	12.1	9.7	10.3	11.7	11.1	-5.5	-
Tuen Mun	15.8	15.7	12.2	12.7	14.1	14.0	-6.2	-
Yuen Long	17.8	17.8	13.5	15.0	12.9	13.7	-6.9	-
North	17.1	16.2	13.2	13.2	13.2	15.7	-5.2	-
Tai Po	13.9	11.2	9.3	9.4	11.3	12.1	-4.3	-
Sha Tin	12.5	11.5	8.6	10.2	11.4	11.5	-4.9	-
Sai Kung	10.6	8.8	7.8	8.4	9.7	9.2	-4.4	-
Islands	16.2	15.7	14.7	10.9	13.3	11.7	-6.4	-

**Table B.2.4b: Total poverty gap by selected household group, 2009-2014 (with the 2014 comparison of pre- and post-intervention poverty indicators)**

After policy intervention (recurrent + non-recurrent cash)	HK\$Mn						2014	
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	Change	% change
<b>Overall</b>	11,058.9	10,958.3	8,850.2	10,811.0	12,404.7	14,170.9	-18,614.5	-56.8
<b>I. Household size</b>								
1-person	1,178.8	1,255.7	1,025.2	1,355.0	1,445.2	1,826.8	-3,627.2	-66.5
2-person	4,209.7	4,211.1	3,721.7	4,263.4	5,009.6	5,838.8	-6,742.9	-53.6
3-person	2,971.7	2,830.8	1,919.7	2,564.5	3,047.4	3,408.2	-3,961.2	-53.8
4-person	2,054.0	2,012.6	1,711.6	2,010.2	2,194.0	2,265.3	-2,894.5	-56.1
5-person	445.7	495.8	352.7	465.7	536.7	607.0	-936.4	-60.7
6-person+	198.9	152.3	119.3	152.2	171.7	224.8	-452.2	-66.8
<b>II. Social characteristics</b>								
CSSA households	1,369.8	1,437.3	1,037.7	1,454.3	1,818.2	1,601.1	-12,064.3	-88.3
Elderly households	2,301.3	2,595.9	2,095.1	2,686.6	2,858.8	3,463.2	-6,723.9	-66.0
Single-parent households	655.1	689.8	557.2	684.8	813.2	865.5	-2,159.3	-71.4
New-arrival households	986.2	877.0	715.9	849.5	977.4	919.4	-920.0	-50.0
Households with children	4,137.8	3,941.0	3,167.5	3,898.4	4,263.1	4,639.4	-6,384.6	-57.9
Youth households	52.2	62.9	56.6	66.1	53.0	59.2	-23.6	-28.5
<b>III. Economic characteristics</b>								
Economically inactive households	5,856.6	6,369.3	5,648.9	6,825.8	7,577.4	8,996.3	-12,614.4	-58.4
Working households	3,645.5	3,333.4	2,308.2	3,107.2	3,791.3	4,052.6	-5,233.2	-56.4
Unemployed households	1,556.8	1,255.7	893.1	878.1	1,036.0	1,122.1	-766.9	-40.6
<b>IV. Housing characteristics</b>								
Public rental housing	3,388.0	3,334.1	2,447.0	3,147.1	3,603.7	3,992.9	-12,888.3	-76.3
Subsidised sale flats	1,829.2	1,736.1	1,338.8	1,731.5	1,948.7	2,213.8	-1,486.1	-40.2
Private permanent housing	5,678.8	5,732.7	4,918.1	5,789.1	6,713.0	7,799.4	-4,040.7	-34.1
Owner-occupiers	4,738.5	4,818.2	4,126.5	4,793.3	5,339.0	6,246.3	-2,152.4	-25.6
- with mortgages or loans	594.2	412.8	383.7	449.4	542.5	629.7	-86.1	-12.0
Tenants	523.0	470.0	395.8	548.7	793.0	899.1	-1,648.7	-64.7
- in rooms / bedspaces / cocklofts	60.0	33.9	17.3	30.8	29.7	31.5	-213.6	-87.1
Temporary housing	162.9	155.5	146.3	143.3	139.3	164.8	-199.4	-54.8
<b>V. District Council districts</b>								
Central and Western	477.8	486.5	432.2	493.5	546.5	627.5	-253.0	-28.7
Wan Chai	326.2	377.0	285.3	360.6	355.0	449.2	-155.6	-25.7
Eastern	904.9	923.1	766.5	948.7	1,169.7	1,288.5	-1,141.4	-47.0
Southern	336.8	298.8	298.6	333.3	353.7	431.9	-518.5	-54.6
Yau Tsim Mong	605.7	595.5	516.6	658.5	678.3	789.2	-665.2	-45.7
Sham Shui Po	682.1	704.9	552.1	664.0	807.8	918.2	-1,497.6	-62.0
Kowloon City	620.1	667.9	513.0	627.9	713.1	865.5	-815.9	-48.5
Wong Tai Sin	656.4	620.7	467.9	608.9	676.5	771.7	-1,553.4	-66.8
Kwun Tong	950.2	946.5	666.8	942.6	1,044.8	1,132.3	-2,635.0	-69.9
Kwai Tsing	736.4	748.0	520.1	681.9	765.0	921.7	-1,999.3	-68.4
Tsuen Wan	443.3	426.3	336.6	461.6	497.9	578.8	-600.2	-50.9
Tuen Mun	789.0	814.7	659.1	751.0	898.4	972.9	-1,273.1	-56.7
Yuen Long	979.9	1,021.0	813.8	984.0	978.6	1,133.8	-1,719.8	-60.3
North	531.6	546.2	454.7	476.0	503.6	743.9	-797.7	-51.7
Tai Po	484.5	398.5	349.3	389.9	496.6	561.0	-619.4	-52.5
Sha Tin	805.8	743.9	613.8	796.2	1,069.1	1,076.9	-1,339.2	-55.4
Sai Kung	448.6	414.2	378.6	424.1	568.7	637.7	-665.1	-51.1
Islands	279.7	224.6	225.3	208.4	281.3	270.4	-365.0	-57.5

**Table B.2.5b: Average poverty gap by selected household group, 2009-2014 (with the 2014 comparison of pre- and post-intervention poverty indicators)**

After policy intervention (recurrent + non-recurrent cash)	HK\$						2014	
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	Change	% change
<b>Overall</b>	2,600	2,600	2,600	2,900	3,100	3,300	-1,600	-32.5
<b>I. Household size</b>								
1-person	1,600	1,700	1,800	2,000	2,100	2,300	-700	-22.4
2-person	2,600	2,700	2,700	3,100	3,200	3,500	-2,200	-38.5
3-person	2,900	2,800	2,800	3,000	3,300	3,700	-2,100	-36.1
4-person	2,800	2,900	2,900	3,100	3,500	3,600	-1,800	-33.8
5-person	2,500	2,800	2,500	3,000	3,500	3,700	-2,300	-38.5
6-person+	2,800	2,800	2,700	3,000	3,400	3,700	-3,300	-46.9
<b>II. Social characteristics</b>								
CSSA households	1,400	1,400	1,400	1,800	2,300	2,200	-4,200	-65.5
Elderly households	2,100	2,200	2,200	2,500	2,500	2,700	-1,700	-37.7
Single-parent households	2,100	2,200	2,200	2,400	2,900	3,100	-4,100	-56.6
New-arrival households	2,500	2,700	2,500	2,800	3,200	3,400	-2,100	-38.3
Households with children	2,700	2,700	2,700	2,900	3,200	3,400	-2,400	-41.2
Youth households	2,000	2,700	2,500	2,500	2,900	3,000	-100	-2.5
<b>III. Economic characteristics</b>								
Economically inactive households	2,600	2,700	2,800	3,100	3,400	3,600	-1,900	-34.4
Working households	2,100	2,100	2,100	2,200	2,500	2,600	-1,100	-30.6
Unemployed households	4,100	4,100	3,800	4,500	5,000	5,200	-2,000	-27.6
<b>IV. Housing characteristics</b>								
Public rental housing	1,800	1,800	1,800	2,100	2,200	2,300	-2,600	-52.4
Subsidised sale flats	2,800	2,900	3,000	3,200	3,500	3,500	-1,100	-23.6
Private permanent housing	3,300	3,300	3,300	3,500	3,800	4,100	-900	-17.3
Owner-occupiers	3,500	3,400	3,400	3,700	4,000	4,300	-700	-14.1
- with mortgages or loans	3,300	3,300	3,500	3,800	3,900	4,700	-200	-4.0
Tenants	2,400	2,400	2,400	2,800	3,100	3,400	-1,700	-33.3
- in rooms / bedspaces / cocklofts	1,700	1,600	1,700	2,000	2,000	2,200	-1,900	-46.4
Temporary housing	2,600	2,200	2,600	3,200	2,800	3,100	-1,900	-37.2
<b>V. District Council districts</b>								
Central and Western	3,400	3,600	3,600	3,900	4,300	4,400	-600	-11.6
Wan Chai	3,900	3,900	3,400	4,000	4,200	4,000	-700	-14.5
Eastern	2,900	2,900	3,000	3,300	3,500	3,800	-1,300	-25.1
Southern	2,500	2,500	3,100	3,100	3,200	3,500	-1,200	-25.0
Yau Tsim Mong	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,100	3,400	3,600	-1,300	-27.0
Sham Shui Po	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,800	3,100	3,200	-1,600	-33.6
Kowloon City	3,000	3,200	3,000	3,200	3,700	3,700	-1,300	-25.6
Wong Tai Sin	2,300	2,200	2,300	2,400	2,700	2,900	-1,900	-40.3
Kwun Tong	2,100	2,100	2,100	2,500	2,500	2,600	-2,200	-45.2
Kwai Tsing	2,100	2,200	2,000	2,400	2,600	2,800	-2,100	-42.4
Tsuen Wan	2,600	2,800	2,600	3,100	3,100	3,800	-1,300	-25.7
Tuen Mun	2,300	2,400	2,600	2,700	2,900	3,100	-1,500	-32.7
Yuen Long	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,700	3,100	3,100	-2,000	-38.5
North	2,500	2,600	2,600	2,700	2,800	3,600	-1,800	-33.1
Tai Po	2,800	2,600	2,800	3,200	3,200	3,500	-1,500	-30.9
Sha Tin	2,500	2,500	2,600	2,900	3,300	3,200	-1,600	-33.7
Sai Kung	2,600	2,600	2,700	2,800	3,200	3,600	-1,300	-26.1
Islands	2,600	2,300	2,700	3,200	3,200	3,400	-1,800	-34.6



**Table B.3.1a: Poor households by selected household group, 2009-2014 (with the 2014 annual change)**

After policy intervention (recurrent cash + in-kind)	No. of households ('000)						2014 compared with 2013	
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	Change	% change
<b>Overall</b>	284.1	278.1	270.5	271.7	269.2	270.7	1.4	0.5
<b>I. Household size</b>								
1-person	49.5	54.2	52.8	55.2	55.2	60.3	5.1	9.2
2-person	105.7	101.8	105.2	102.5	104.9	107.1	2.2	2.1
3-person	69.3	64.1	54.8	58.7	60.3	55.1	-5.2	-8.6
4-person	45.5	44.4	44.7	42.4	37.4	36.6	-0.8	-2.2
5-person	9.8	10.1	9.8	9.7	8.9	8.4	-0.5	-5.9
6-person+	4.2	3.4	3.3	3.1	2.5	3.3	0.7	28.9
<b>II. Social characteristics</b>								
CSSA households	46.1	47.6	44.9	42.6	41.5	29.8	-11.8	-28.3
Elderly households	70.3	77.7	77.0	80.1	84.1	88.1	4.0	4.8
Single-parent households	18.8	17.9	16.1	16.8	16.4	14.4	-2.0	-12.5
New-arrival households	24.7	19.8	20.0	21.3	18.7	16.0	-2.7	-14.5
Households with children	98.3	91.2	85.4	85.9	78.3	74.4	-3.9	-5.0
Youth households	1.9	1.9	2.0	2.5	1.7	1.6	@	@
<b>III. Economic characteristics</b>								
Economically inactive households	148.3	158.0	159.5	161.7	161.5	169.3	7.9	4.9
Working households	108.3	99.0	93.6	95.0	92.7	86.6	-6.1	-6.6
Unemployed households	27.5	21.0	17.3	15.0	15.0	14.7	-0.4	-2.3
<b>IV. Housing characteristics</b>								
Public rental housing	68.5	63.0	57.8	61.0	57.0	48.5	-8.5	-14.8
Subsidised sale flats	57.1	54.1	50.6	53.4	52.0	55.0	3.0	5.8
Private permanent housing	153.0	155.0	156.1	153.2	155.9	162.5	6.6	4.2
Owner-occupiers	120.3	125.4	123.9	120.0	117.7	123.0	5.3	4.5
- with mortgages or loans	15.7	11.3	11.9	11.2	12.0	11.1	-1.0	-7.9
Tenants	20.2	18.2	19.5	19.9	23.4	24.8	1.4	5.9
- in rooms / bedspaces / cocklofts	3.2	2.3	1.7	1.9	1.5	1.5	@	@
Temporary housing	5.5	6.0	5.9	4.1	4.4	4.6	0.3	6.1
<b>V. District Council districts</b>								
Central and Western	12.2	12.0	11.4	11.8	11.1	12.2	1.1	10.3
Wan Chai	7.4	8.4	7.8	8.3	7.4	9.5	2.2	29.5
Eastern	21.5	21.7	21.5	22.3	23.7	22.9	-0.8	-3.3
Southern	7.9	6.9	7.0	7.3	7.3	7.5	0.2	2.9
Yau Tsim Mong	16.8	17.5	17.8	19.5	17.6	18.3	0.7	4.3
Sham Shui Po	17.2	17.3	16.8	15.5	17.2	16.8	-0.4	-2.3
Kowloon City	15.0	15.9	15.2	14.6	14.3	15.7	1.4	9.9
Wong Tai Sin	15.2	13.9	13.7	15.5	13.4	12.8	-0.5	-4.0
Kwun Tong	22.6	20.8	19.0	21.1	21.0	19.3	-1.7	-8.1
Kwai Tsing	16.6	15.6	14.2	15.9	14.0	15.4	1.4	10.3
Tsuen Wan	11.8	11.1	11.5	11.4	11.8	11.1	-0.6	-5.5
Tuen Mun	23.0	24.4	22.8	21.8	23.0	20.9	-2.0	-8.8
Yuen Long	29.7	30.5	28.9	28.2	23.6	25.2	1.6	7.0
North	15.3	15.1	15.2	14.2	13.1	14.7	1.7	12.7
Tai Po	12.5	10.9	10.7	9.7	11.2	11.8	0.6	5.6
Sha Tin	20.4	18.7	18.9	18.6	21.6	19.6	-2.0	-9.1
Sai Kung	11.3	10.6	10.9	11.0	11.9	11.2	-0.7	-5.9
Islands	7.9	6.6	7.3	4.9	6.4	5.5	-0.9	-13.6

**Table B.3.2a: Poor population by selected household group, 2009-2014 (with the 2014 annual change)**

After policy intervention (recurrent cash + in-kind)	No. of persons ('000)						2014 compared with 2013	
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	Change	% change
<b>Overall</b>	726.0	699.5	675.1	674.2	655.8	648.3	-7.5	-1.1
<b>I. Household size</b>								
1-person	49.5	54.2	52.8	55.2	55.2	60.3	5.1	9.2
2-person	211.4	203.6	210.4	205.0	209.7	214.1	4.4	2.1
3-person	208.0	192.4	164.3	176.2	181.0	165.3	-15.6	-8.6
4-person	182.1	177.7	178.7	169.7	149.6	146.3	-3.3	-2.2
5-person	49.2	50.6	49.0	48.7	44.4	41.8	-2.6	-5.9
6-person+	25.8	20.9	19.9	19.4	15.8	20.5	4.6	29.2
<b>II. Social characteristics</b>								
CSSA households	110.9	114.8	107.4	110.5	109.9	83.7	-26.2	-23.8
Elderly households	112.1	122.9	122.7	128.2	134.2	139.8	5.6	4.2
Single-parent households	52.5	50.4	45.6	48.0	46.7	41.9	-4.9	-10.4
New-arrival households	85.1	68.5	68.9	74.0	62.8	55.0	-7.8	-12.4
Households with children	351.8	326.1	309.9	308.3	278.7	269.0	-9.7	-3.5
Youth households	2.7	2.8	3.2	3.6	3.0	2.4	-0.6	-19.5
<b>III. Economic characteristics</b>								
Economically inactive households	290.6	306.7	308.2	314.4	313.1	323.7	10.6	3.4
Working households	362.4	335.4	321.0	321.4	305.0	288.6	-16.5	-5.4
Unemployed households	73.0	57.4	45.9	38.4	37.7	36.0	-1.7	-4.5
<b>IV. Housing characteristics</b>								
Public rental housing	200.1	185.2	170.3	185.1	164.4	139.5	-24.9	-15.1
Subsidised sale flats	152.0	141.6	131.6	135.6	129.5	135.6	6.1	4.7
Private permanent housing	361.7	359.8	359.8	344.8	352.3	362.7	10.4	3.0
Owner-occupiers	283.7	287.6	285.9	268.0	259.6	263.6	4.1	1.6
- with mortgages or loans	46.7	34.4	37.2	31.8	33.7	30.5	-3.2	-9.6
Tenants	55.4	51.7	50.7	52.0	65.3	71.0	5.7	8.7
- in rooms / bedspaces / cocklofts	7.3	5.4	3.7	4.6	4.0	4.2	0.2	4.1
Temporary housing	12.2	12.9	13.3	8.7	9.7	10.5	0.8	8.2
<b>V. District Council districts</b>								
Central and Western	25.9	26.5	24.2	24.4	23.4	23.0	-0.4	-1.8
Wan Chai	15.4	16.3	15.5	16.2	13.8	16.9	3.1	22.1
Eastern	49.2	49.5	50.1	51.6	51.2	52.1	0.9	1.8
Southern	19.7	16.5	16.4	18.2	17.4	17.7	0.3	1.4
Yau Tsim Mong	38.4	39.2	40.1	42.2	41.2	41.1	-0.1	-0.4
Sham Shui Po	45.2	41.6	40.4	41.0	43.0	41.9	-1.1	-2.5
Kowloon City	35.6	36.5	36.5	33.3	33.0	35.8	2.8	8.5
Wong Tai Sin	39.6	37.0	36.5	39.2	33.7	32.9	-0.9	-2.5
Kwun Tong	57.3	54.1	47.2	55.7	53.4	47.2	-6.3	-11.7
Kwai Tsing	45.2	43.3	37.2	43.3	37.7	41.5	3.8	9.9
Tsuen Wan	29.4	29.0	29.3	27.2	28.3	27.6	-0.7	-2.5
Tuen Mun	62.4	65.2	61.4	55.7	57.4	51.6	-5.8	-10.1
Yuen Long	84.0	82.8	78.9	76.5	63.7	63.3	-0.5	-0.7
North	42.0	41.5	39.3	37.1	33.8	38.5	4.6	13.7
Tai Po	33.0	27.4	26.5	24.7	26.7	29.7	3.0	11.1
Sha Tin	53.1	49.3	47.7	47.3	53.3	47.2	-6.0	-11.3
Sai Kung	32.1	26.9	28.9	28.7	30.0	28.3	-1.7	-5.7
Islands	18.5	16.8	19.1	11.8	14.6	12.2	-2.4	-16.6

**Table B.3.3a: Poverty rate by selected household group, 2009-2014 (with the 2014 annual change)**

After policy intervention (recurrent cash + in-kind)	Share in the corresponding group (%)						2014 compared with 2013	
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	Change	% change
<b>Overall</b>	11.1	10.6	10.2	10.1	9.8	9.6	-0.2	-
<b>I. Household size</b>								
1-person	13.0	13.8	13.0	13.3	13.4	14.3	0.9	-
2-person	17.6	16.7	16.9	16.1	15.9	16.0	0.1	-
3-person	11.8	10.6	8.8	9.3	9.5	8.6	-0.9	-
4-person	9.0	8.7	8.8	8.5	7.5	7.3	-0.2	-
5-person	6.4	6.6	6.6	6.5	6.2	5.9	-0.3	-
6-person+	6.9	6.1	5.8	5.4	4.5	5.5	1.0	-
<b>II. Social characteristics</b>								
CSSA households	22.7	23.5	22.8	25.6	26.7	21.4	-5.3	-
Elderly households	37.1	38.3	37.4	37.3	36.5	36.0	-0.5	-
Single-parent households	22.8	22.5	21.4	22.5	23.3	21.1	-2.2	-
New-arrival households	26.2	25.6	23.7	24.6	24.3	21.3	-3.0	-
Households with children	11.9	11.3	10.9	11.0	10.1	9.9	-0.2	-
Youth households	3.4	3.4	4.0	4.5	3.9	3.5	-0.4	-
<b>III. Economic characteristics</b>								
Economically inactive households	44.2	43.9	44.3	44.3	44.6	43.8	-0.8	-
Working households	6.3	5.8	5.5	5.4	5.1	4.9	-0.2	-
Unemployed households	60.6	57.3	57.4	52.8	53.5	54.6	1.1	-
<b>IV. Housing characteristics</b>								
Public rental housing	10.1	9.3	8.5	9.0	8.1	6.8	-1.3	-
Subsidised sale flats	12.7	11.9	11.4	11.7	11.4	11.9	0.5	-
Private permanent housing	10.9	10.8	10.5	10.0	10.1	10.3	0.2	-
Owner-occupiers	11.7	12.0	11.5	11.0	10.7	10.9	0.2	-
- with mortgages or loans	4.3	3.5	3.6	3.2	3.4	3.1	-0.3	-
Tenants	7.9	6.8	6.9	6.6	7.7	8.1	0.4	-
- in rooms / bedspaces / cocklofts	18.7	21.9	19.6	23.3	19.9	18.2	-1.7	-
Temporary housing	26.5	28.7	31.4	23.6	25.6	27.1	1.5	-
<b>V. District Council districts</b>								
Central and Western	11.4	11.5	10.9	10.8	10.5	10.5	@	-
Wan Chai	11.1	11.6	11.6	11.9	10.5	12.7	2.2	-
Eastern	8.9	9.1	9.2	9.4	9.4	9.7	0.3	-
Southern	7.9	6.6	6.6	7.3	7.0	7.1	0.1	-
Yau Tsim Mong	13.8	13.8	14.0	14.4	14.1	14.1	@	-
Sham Shui Po	13.1	12.0	11.4	11.3	11.9	11.4	-0.5	-
Kowloon City	10.7	11.0	10.7	9.7	9.7	9.7	@	-
Wong Tai Sin	9.8	9.2	9.0	9.6	8.2	8.0	-0.2	-
Kwun Tong	10.0	9.2	7.9	9.2	8.6	7.6	-1.0	-
Kwai Tsing	9.2	8.8	7.6	8.9	7.8	8.5	0.7	-
Tsuen Wan	10.6	10.6	10.3	9.5	10.0	9.7	-0.3	-
Tuen Mun	13.3	13.8	13.2	11.9	12.2	10.9	-1.3	-
Yuen Long	16.1	15.5	14.3	13.7	11.3	11.1	-0.2	-
North	14.4	14.1	13.5	12.7	11.6	13.1	1.5	-
Tai Po	12.0	9.9	9.6	8.9	9.5	10.5	1.0	-
Sha Tin	9.2	8.4	8.1	7.9	8.8	7.8	-1.0	-
Sai Kung	8.2	6.8	7.1	7.0	7.3	6.7	-0.6	-
Islands	13.3	12.0	14.6	8.8	10.9	9.0	-1.9	-

**Table B.3.4a: Total poverty gap by selected household group, 2009-2014 (with the 2014 annual change)**

After policy intervention (recurrent cash + in-kind)	HK\$Mn						2014 compared with 2013	
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	Change	% change
<b>Overall</b>	9,515.4	9,424.6	9,945.8	10,675.3	11,062.9	11,893.1	830.2	7.5
<b>I. Household size</b>								
1-person	1,212.8	1,306.9	1,380.4	1,649.9	1,640.2	1,904.0	263.8	16.1
2-person	3,802.5	3,787.8	4,347.5	4,544.2	4,837.9	5,275.3	437.4	9.0
3-person	2,434.6	2,301.6	2,044.4	2,335.8	2,421.5	2,551.0	129.5	5.3
4-person	1,608.3	1,555.7	1,708.3	1,661.2	1,673.9	1,628.2	-45.6	-2.7
5-person	316.9	359.5	336.0	367.8	372.2	382.6	10.5	2.8
6-person+	140.3	113.0	129.1	116.5	117.3	152.0	34.7	29.6
<b>II. Social characteristics</b>								
CSSA households	774.5	802.5	790.5	916.8	1,020.9	705.8	-315.1	-30.9
Elderly households	2,147.9	2,460.4	2,651.1	3,045.2	2,989.2	3,389.0	399.8	13.4
Single-parent households	459.4	466.3	437.6	470.2	511.5	514.0	2.5	0.5
New-arrival households	676.6	587.0	611.2	684.8	672.5	595.3	-77.2	-11.5
Households with children	3,171.1	2,979.0	2,986.9	3,067.0	3,055.0	3,151.7	96.7	3.2
Youth households	52.3	63.5	70.3	79.0	56.8	59.5	2.7	4.7
<b>III. Economic characteristics</b>								
Economically inactive households	5,361.8	5,814.2	6,488.3	7,145.3	7,321.4	8,164.3	843.0	11.5
Working households	2,807.5	2,535.5	2,551.9	2,684.3	2,804.1	2,772.6	-31.5	-1.1
Unemployed households	1,346.1	1,075.0	905.6	845.7	937.4	956.2	18.8	2.0
<b>IV. Housing characteristics</b>								
Public rental housing	1,261.8	1,194.0	1,171.1	1,301.4	1,220.8	1,087.2	-133.6	-10.9
Subsidised sale flats	2,006.5	1,901.9	1,934.0	2,179.4	2,233.4	2,383.5	150.1	6.7
Private permanent housing	6,075.9	6,163.9	6,639.3	7,028.6	7,456.7	8,250.8	794.1	10.6
Owner-occupiers	5,090.9	5,207.6	5,584.6	5,830.8	5,980.8	6,624.3	643.6	10.8
- with mortgages or loans	643.4	447.2	520.4	545.0	596.3	647.9	51.7	8.7
Tenants	561.6	507.2	557.3	685.0	858.1	970.3	112.2	13.1
- in rooms / bedspaces / cocklofts	65.9	38.5	28.6	48.9	36.5	35.7	-0.8	-2.2
Temporary housing	171.2	164.8	201.4	165.9	152.0	171.6	19.6	12.9
<b>V. District Council districts</b>								
Central and Western	507.2	516.1	561.9	586.3	593.6	660.7	67.1	11.3
Wan Chai	348.9	407.3	381.9	435.2	398.9	481.7	82.8	20.8
Eastern	833.6	861.8	928.4	1,012.0	1,135.9	1,177.0	41.1	3.6
Southern	272.3	241.9	324.7	325.9	319.5	348.2	28.7	9.0
Yau Tsim Mong	626.7	618.2	685.8	796.0	743.2	825.2	82.0	11.0
Sham Shui Po	568.1	591.5	591.9	621.8	671.1	715.4	44.3	6.6
Kowloon City	592.9	665.0	636.5	680.6	699.2	776.9	77.7	11.1
Wong Tai Sin	469.0	424.8	446.6	514.6	472.7	516.2	43.5	9.2
Kwun Tong	673.2	602.8	579.0	705.7	686.6	681.4	-5.2	-0.8
Kwai Tsing	452.7	476.1	399.8	487.9	478.1	541.2	63.2	13.2
Tsuen Wan	422.4	385.3	385.0	488.1	467.1	537.3	70.2	15.0
Tuen Mun	673.5	704.4	765.5	749.8	822.6	817.4	-5.2	-0.6
Yuen Long	866.3	893.6	947.0	986.1	904.2	971.1	67.0	7.4
North	461.0	490.3	528.8	493.4	472.8	659.1	186.4	39.4
Tai Po	454.5	371.3	416.9	409.2	483.4	510.3	26.9	5.6
Sha Tin	654.7	614.9	686.7	736.8	950.0	863.7	-86.3	-9.1
Sai Kung	386.3	369.5	424.9	437.9	516.2	568.3	52.1	10.1
Islands	252.0	189.7	254.7	208.1	247.9	242.0	-5.9	-2.4

**Table B.3.5a: Average poverty gap by selected household group, 2009-2014 (with the 2014 annual change)**

After policy intervention (recurrent cash + in-kind)	HK\$						2014 compared with 2013	
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	Change	% change
<b>Overall</b>	2,800	2,800	3,100	3,300	3,400	3,700	200	7.0
<b>I. Household size</b>								
1-person	2,000	2,000	2,200	2,500	2,500	2,600	200	6.3
2-person	3,000	3,100	3,400	3,700	3,800	4,100	300	6.8
3-person	2,900	3,000	3,100	3,300	3,300	3,900	500	15.3
4-person	2,900	2,900	3,200	3,300	3,700	3,700	@	@
5-person	2,700	3,000	2,900	3,100	3,500	3,800	300	9.3
6-person+	2,800	2,800	3,300	3,100	3,800	3,900	@	@
<b>II. Social characteristics</b>								
CSSA households	1,400	1,400	1,500	1,800	2,000	2,000	-100	-3.5
Elderly households	2,500	2,600	2,900	3,200	3,000	3,200	200	8.2
Single-parent households	2,000	2,200	2,300	2,300	2,600	3,000	400	14.8
New-arrival households	2,300	2,500	2,500	2,700	3,000	3,100	100	3.5
Households with children	2,700	2,700	2,900	3,000	3,300	3,500	300	8.6
Youth households	2,200	2,800	2,900	2,700	2,800	3,000	200	7.6
<b>III. Economic characteristics</b>								
Economically inactive households	3,000	3,100	3,400	3,700	3,800	4,000	200	6.3
Working households	2,200	2,100	2,300	2,400	2,500	2,700	100	5.8
Unemployed households	4,100	4,300	4,400	4,700	5,200	5,400	200	4.5
<b>IV. Housing characteristics</b>								
Public rental housing	1,500	1,600	1,700	1,800	1,800	1,900	100	4.6
Subsidised sale flats	2,900	2,900	3,200	3,400	3,600	3,600	@	@
Private permanent housing	3,300	3,300	3,500	3,800	4,000	4,200	200	6.1
Owner-occupiers	3,500	3,500	3,800	4,000	4,200	4,500	300	6.0
- with mortgages or loans	3,400	3,300	3,600	4,100	4,100	4,900	700	18.0
Tenants	2,300	2,300	2,400	2,900	3,100	3,300	200	6.8
- in rooms / bedspaces / cocklofts	1,700	1,400	1,400	2,100	2,000	2,000	@	@
Temporary housing	2,600	2,300	2,800	3,400	2,900	3,100	200	6.4
<b>V. District Council districts</b>								
Central and Western	3,500	3,600	4,100	4,100	4,500	4,500	@	@
Wan Chai	3,900	4,000	4,100	4,400	4,500	4,200	-300	-6.7
Eastern	3,200	3,300	3,600	3,800	4,000	4,300	300	7.1
Southern	2,900	2,900	3,800	3,700	3,600	3,900	200	5.9
Yau Tsim Mong	3,100	2,900	3,200	3,400	3,500	3,700	200	6.5
Sham Shui Po	2,800	2,800	2,900	3,300	3,300	3,600	300	9.1
Kowloon City	3,300	3,500	3,500	3,900	4,100	4,100	@	@
Wong Tai Sin	2,600	2,500	2,700	2,800	2,900	3,400	400	13.8
Kwun Tong	2,500	2,400	2,500	2,800	2,700	2,900	200	8.1
Kwai Tsing	2,300	2,500	2,400	2,600	2,800	2,900	100	2.6
Tsuen Wan	3,000	2,900	2,800	3,600	3,300	4,000	700	21.7
Tuen Mun	2,400	2,400	2,800	2,900	3,000	3,300	300	9.0
Yuen Long	2,400	2,400	2,700	2,900	3,200	3,200	@	@
North	2,500	2,700	2,900	2,900	3,000	3,700	700	23.7
Tai Po	3,000	2,800	3,300	3,500	3,600	3,600	@	@
Sha Tin	2,700	2,700	3,000	3,300	3,700	3,700	@	@
Sai Kung	2,900	2,900	3,200	3,300	3,600	4,200	600	16.9
Islands	2,700	2,400	2,900	3,500	3,200	3,600	400	13.0

**Table B.3.1b: Poor households by selected household group, 2009-2014 (with the 2014 comparison of pre- and post-intervention poverty indicators)**

After policy intervention (recurrent cash + in-kind)	No. of households ('000)						2014	
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	Change	% change
<b>Overall</b>	284.1	278.1	270.5	271.7	269.2	270.7	-284.5	-51.2
<b>I. Household size</b>								
1-person	49.5	54.2	52.8	55.2	55.2	60.3	-92.3	-60.5
2-person	105.7	101.8	105.2	102.5	104.9	107.1	-78.4	-42.3
3-person	69.3	64.1	54.8	58.7	60.3	55.1	-52.2	-48.7
4-person	45.5	44.4	44.7	42.4	37.4	36.6	-43.5	-54.3
5-person	9.8	10.1	9.8	9.7	8.9	8.4	-13.3	-61.4
6-person+	4.2	3.4	3.3	3.1	2.5	3.3	-4.9	-59.7
<b>II. Social characteristics</b>								
CSSA households	46.1	47.6	44.9	42.6	41.5	29.8	-147.6	-83.2
Elderly households	70.3	77.7	77.0	80.1	84.1	88.1	-105.3	-54.5
Single-parent households	18.8	17.9	16.1	16.8	16.4	14.4	-20.5	-58.8
New-arrival households	24.7	19.8	20.0	21.3	18.7	16.0	-11.8	-42.4
Households with children	98.3	91.2	85.4	85.9	78.3	74.4	-82.6	-52.6
Youth households	1.9	1.9	2.0	2.5	1.7	1.6	-0.6	-28.4
<b>III. Economic characteristics</b>								
Economically inactive households	148.3	158.0	159.5	161.7	161.5	169.3	-155.9	-47.9
Working households	108.3	99.0	93.6	95.0	92.7	86.6	-121.3	-58.3
Unemployed households	27.5	21.0	17.3	15.0	15.0	14.7	-7.3	-33.1
<b>IV. Housing characteristics</b>								
Public rental housing	68.5	63.0	57.8	61.0	57.0	48.5	-236.8	-83.0
Subsidised sale flats	57.1	54.1	50.6	53.4	52.0	55.0	-11.6	-17.4
Private permanent housing	153.0	155.0	156.1	153.2	155.9	162.5	-34.6	-17.6
Owner-occupiers	120.3	125.4	123.9	120.0	117.7	123.0	-15.9	-11.5
- with mortgages or loans	15.7	11.3	11.9	11.2	12.0	11.1	-1.0	-8.4
Tenants	20.2	18.2	19.5	19.9	23.4	24.8	-16.7	-40.3
- in rooms / bedspaces / cocklofts	3.2	2.3	1.7	1.9	1.5	1.5	-3.4	-69.5
Temporary housing	5.5	6.0	5.9	4.1	4.4	4.6	-1.5	-24.2
<b>V. District Council districts</b>								
Central and Western	12.2	12.0	11.4	11.8	11.1	12.2	-2.6	-17.7
Wan Chai	7.4	8.4	7.8	8.3	7.4	9.5	-1.2	-11.6
Eastern	21.5	21.7	21.5	22.3	23.7	22.9	-17.2	-42.9
Southern	7.9	6.9	7.0	7.3	7.3	7.5	-9.4	-55.5
Yau Tsim Mong	16.8	17.5	17.8	19.5	17.6	18.3	-6.1	-25.0
Sham Shui Po	17.2	17.3	16.8	15.5	17.2	16.8	-24.5	-59.3
Kowloon City	15.0	15.9	15.2	14.6	14.3	15.7	-12.2	-43.8
Wong Tai Sin	15.2	13.9	13.7	15.5	13.4	12.8	-27.6	-68.3
Kwun Tong	22.6	20.8	19.0	21.1	21.0	19.3	-45.8	-70.3
Kwai Tsing	16.6	15.6	14.2	15.9	14.0	15.4	-33.8	-68.6
Tsuen Wan	11.8	11.1	11.5	11.4	11.8	11.1	-8.1	-42.1
Tuen Mun	23.0	24.4	22.8	21.8	23.0	20.9	-20.0	-48.9
Yuen Long	29.7	30.5	28.9	28.2	23.6	25.2	-21.4	-45.9
North	15.3	15.1	15.2	14.2	13.1	14.7	-9.3	-38.6
Tai Po	12.5	10.9	10.7	9.7	11.2	11.8	-7.9	-40.1
Sha Tin	20.4	18.7	18.9	18.6	21.6	19.6	-21.8	-52.7
Sai Kung	11.3	10.6	10.9	11.0	11.9	11.2	-10.9	-49.5
Islands	7.9	6.6	7.3	4.9	6.4	5.5	-4.6	-45.6

**Table B.3.2b: Poor population by selected household group, 2009-2014 (with the 2014 comparison of pre- and post-intervention poverty indicators)**

After policy intervention (recurrent cash + in-kind)	No. of persons ('000)						2014	
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	Change	% change
<b>Overall</b>	726.0	699.5	675.1	674.2	655.8	648.3	-676.5	-51.1
<b>I. Household size</b>								
1-person	49.5	54.2	52.8	55.2	55.2	60.3	-92.3	-60.5
2-person	211.4	203.6	210.4	205.0	209.7	214.1	-156.7	-42.3
3-person	208.0	192.4	164.3	176.2	181.0	165.3	-156.7	-48.7
4-person	182.1	177.7	178.7	169.7	149.6	146.3	-173.9	-54.3
5-person	49.2	50.6	49.0	48.7	44.4	41.8	-66.5	-61.4
6-person+	25.8	20.9	19.9	19.4	15.8	20.5	-30.4	-59.7
<b>II. Social characteristics</b>								
CSSA households	110.9	114.8	107.4	110.5	109.9	83.7	-294.1	-77.8
Elderly households	112.1	122.9	122.7	128.2	134.2	139.8	-140.9	-50.2
Single-parent households	52.5	50.4	45.6	48.0	46.7	41.9	-56.2	-57.3
New-arrival households	85.1	68.5	68.9	74.0	62.8	55.0	-40.0	-42.1
Households with children	351.8	326.1	309.9	308.3	278.7	269.0	-306.1	-53.2
Youth households	2.7	2.8	3.2	3.6	3.0	2.4	-1.3	-35.7
<b>III. Economic characteristics</b>								
Economically inactive households	290.6	306.7	308.2	314.4	313.1	323.7	-241.9	-42.8
Working households	362.4	335.4	321.0	321.4	305.0	288.6	-417.0	-59.1
Unemployed households	73.0	57.4	45.9	38.4	37.7	36.0	-17.6	-32.9
<b>IV. Housing characteristics</b>								
Public rental housing	200.1	185.2	170.3	185.1	164.4	139.5	-558.3	-80.0
Subsidised sale flats	152.0	141.6	131.6	135.6	129.5	135.6	-29.5	-17.8
Private permanent housing	361.7	359.8	359.8	344.8	352.3	362.7	-85.4	-19.1
Owner-occupiers	283.7	287.6	285.9	268.0	259.6	263.6	-40.9	-13.4
- with mortgages or loans	46.7	34.4	37.2	31.8	33.7	30.5	-4.1	-11.9
Tenants	55.4	51.7	50.7	52.0	65.3	71.0	-41.1	-36.6
- in rooms / bedspaces / cocklofts	7.3	5.4	3.7	4.6	4.0	4.2	-4.9	-54.2
Temporary housing	12.2	12.9	13.3	8.7	9.7	10.5	-3.3	-24.3
<b>V. District Council districts</b>								
Central and Western	25.9	26.5	24.2	24.4	23.4	23.0	-5.7	-19.9
Wan Chai	15.4	16.3	15.5	16.2	13.8	16.9	-2.7	-13.8
Eastern	49.2	49.5	50.1	51.6	51.2	52.1	-40.2	-43.6
Southern	19.7	16.5	16.4	18.2	17.4	17.7	-21.3	-54.7
Yau Tsim Mong	38.4	39.2	40.1	42.2	41.2	41.1	-14.3	-25.9
Sham Shui Po	45.2	41.6	40.4	41.0	43.0	41.9	-55.3	-56.9
Kowloon City	35.6	36.5	36.5	33.3	33.0	35.8	-27.7	-43.6
Wong Tai Sin	39.6	37.0	36.5	39.2	33.7	32.9	-66.9	-67.1
Kwun Tong	57.3	54.1	47.2	55.7	53.4	47.2	-107.8	-69.6
Kwai Tsing	45.2	43.3	37.2	43.3	37.7	41.5	-83.2	-66.7
Tsuen Wan	29.4	29.0	29.3	27.2	28.3	27.6	-19.5	-41.5
Tuen Mun	62.4	65.2	61.4	55.7	57.4	51.6	-44.0	-46.0
Yuen Long	84.0	82.8	78.9	76.5	63.7	63.3	-54.4	-46.3
North	42.0	41.5	39.3	37.1	33.8	38.5	-22.8	-37.2
Tai Po	33.0	27.4	26.5	24.7	26.7	29.7	-16.7	-36.0
Sha Tin	53.1	49.3	47.7	47.3	53.3	47.2	-52.5	-52.7
Sai Kung	32.1	26.9	28.9	28.7	30.0	28.3	-29.0	-50.6
Islands	18.5	16.8	19.1	11.8	14.6	12.2	-12.3	-50.1

**Table B.3.3b: Poverty rate by selected household group, 2009-2014 (with the 2014 comparison of pre- and post-intervention poverty indicators)**

After policy intervention (recurrent cash + in-kind)	Share in the corresponding group (%)						2014	
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	Change	% change
<b>Overall</b>	11.1	10.6	10.2	10.1	9.8	9.6	-10.0	-
<b>I. Household size</b>								
1-person	13.0	13.8	13.0	13.3	13.4	14.3	-21.8	-
2-person	17.6	16.7	16.9	16.1	15.9	16.0	-11.7	-
3-person	11.8	10.6	8.8	9.3	9.5	8.6	-8.2	-
4-person	9.0	8.7	8.8	8.5	7.5	7.3	-8.7	-
5-person	6.4	6.6	6.6	6.5	6.2	5.9	-9.5	-
6-person+	6.9	6.1	5.8	5.4	4.5	5.5	-8.2	-
<b>II. Social characteristics</b>								
CSSA households	22.7	23.5	22.8	25.6	26.7	21.4	-75.2	-
Elderly households	37.1	38.3	37.4	37.3	36.5	36.0	-36.2	-
Single-parent households	22.8	22.5	21.4	22.5	23.3	21.1	-28.4	-
New-arrival households	26.2	25.6	23.7	24.6	24.3	21.3	-15.4	-
Households with children	11.9	11.3	10.9	11.0	10.1	9.9	-11.3	-
Youth households	3.4	3.4	4.0	4.5	3.9	3.5	-2.0	-
<b>III. Economic characteristics</b>								
Economically inactive households	44.2	43.9	44.3	44.3	44.6	43.8	-32.8	-
Working households	6.3	5.8	5.5	5.4	5.1	4.9	-7.0	-
Unemployed households	60.6	57.3	57.4	52.8	53.5	54.6	-26.8	-
<b>IV. Housing characteristics</b>								
Public rental housing	10.1	9.3	8.5	9.0	8.1	6.8	-27.3	-
Subsidised sale flats	12.7	11.9	11.4	11.7	11.4	11.9	-2.5	-
Private permanent housing	10.9	10.8	10.5	10.0	10.1	10.3	-2.4	-
Owner-occupiers	11.7	12.0	11.5	11.0	10.7	10.9	-1.7	-
- with mortgages or loans	4.3	3.5	3.6	3.2	3.4	3.1	-0.4	-
Tenants	7.9	6.8	6.9	6.6	7.7	8.1	-4.6	-
- in rooms / bedspaces / cocklofts	18.7	21.9	19.6	23.3	19.9	18.2	-21.6	-
Temporary housing	26.5	28.7	31.4	23.6	25.6	27.1	-8.7	-
<b>V. District Council districts</b>								
Central and Western	11.4	11.5	10.9	10.8	10.5	10.5	-2.6	-
Wan Chai	11.1	11.6	11.6	11.9	10.5	12.7	-2.1	-
Eastern	8.9	9.1	9.2	9.4	9.4	9.7	-7.4	-
Southern	7.9	6.6	6.6	7.3	7.0	7.1	-8.6	-
Yau Tsim Mong	13.8	13.8	14.0	14.4	14.1	14.1	-4.9	-
Sham Shui Po	13.1	12.0	11.4	11.3	11.9	11.4	-15.2	-
Kowloon City	10.7	11.0	10.7	9.7	9.7	9.7	-7.5	-
Wong Tai Sin	9.8	9.2	9.0	9.6	8.2	8.0	-16.3	-
Kwun Tong	10.0	9.2	7.9	9.2	8.6	7.6	-17.5	-
Kwai Tsing	9.2	8.8	7.6	8.9	7.8	8.5	-17.2	-
Tsuen Wan	10.6	10.6	10.3	9.5	10.0	9.7	-6.9	-
Tuen Mun	13.3	13.8	13.2	11.9	12.2	10.9	-9.3	-
Yuen Long	16.1	15.5	14.3	13.7	11.3	11.1	-9.5	-
North	14.4	14.1	13.5	12.7	11.6	13.1	-7.8	-
Tai Po	12.0	9.9	9.6	8.9	9.5	10.5	-5.9	-
Sha Tin	9.2	8.4	8.1	7.9	8.8	7.8	-8.6	-
Sai Kung	8.2	6.8	7.1	7.0	7.3	6.7	-6.9	-
Islands	13.3	12.0	14.6	8.8	10.9	9.0	-9.1	-



**Table B.3.4b: Total poverty gap by selected household group, 2009-2014 (with the 2014 comparison of pre- and post-intervention poverty indicators)**

After policy intervention (recurrent cash + in-kind)	HK\$Mn						2014	
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	Change	% change
<b>Overall</b>	9,515.4	9,424.6	9,945.8	10,675.3	11,062.9	11,893.1	-20,892.2	-63.7
<b>I. Household size</b>								
1-person	1,212.8	1,306.9	1,380.4	1,649.9	1,640.2	1,904.0	-3,550.0	-65.1
2-person	3,802.5	3,787.8	4,347.5	4,544.2	4,837.9	5,275.3	-7,306.4	-58.1
3-person	2,434.6	2,301.6	2,044.4	2,335.8	2,421.5	2,551.0	-4,818.5	-65.4
4-person	1,608.3	1,555.7	1,708.3	1,661.2	1,673.9	1,628.2	-3,531.5	-68.4
5-person	316.9	359.5	336.0	367.8	372.2	382.6	-1,160.8	-75.2
6-person+	140.3	113.0	129.1	116.5	117.3	152.0	-525.0	-77.5
<b>II. Social characteristics</b>								
CSSA households	774.5	802.5	790.5	916.8	1,020.9	705.8	-12,959.5	-94.8
Elderly households	2,147.9	2,460.4	2,651.1	3,045.2	2,989.2	3,389.0	-6,798.1	-66.7
Single-parent households	459.4	466.3	437.6	470.2	511.5	514.0	-2,510.8	-83.0
New-arrival households	676.6	587.0	611.2	684.8	672.5	595.3	-1,244.1	-67.6
Households with children	3,171.1	2,979.0	2,986.9	3,067.0	3,055.0	3,151.7	-7,872.3	-71.4
Youth households	52.3	63.5	70.3	79.0	56.8	59.5	-23.2	-28.1
<b>III. Economic characteristics</b>								
Economically inactive households	5,361.8	5,814.2	6,488.3	7,145.3	7,321.4	8,164.3	-13,446.3	-62.2
Working households	2,807.5	2,535.5	2,551.9	2,684.3	2,804.1	2,772.6	-6,513.1	-70.1
Unemployed households	1,346.1	1,075.0	905.6	845.7	937.4	956.2	-932.8	-49.4
<b>IV. Housing characteristics</b>								
Public rental housing	1,261.8	1,194.0	1,171.1	1,301.4	1,220.8	1,087.2	-15,794.0	-93.6
Subsidised sale flats	2,006.5	1,901.9	1,934.0	2,179.4	2,233.4	2,383.5	-1,316.3	-35.6
Private permanent housing	6,075.9	6,163.9	6,639.3	7,028.6	7,456.7	8,250.8	-3,589.3	-30.3
Owner-occupiers	5,090.9	5,207.6	5,584.6	5,830.8	5,980.8	6,624.3	-1,774.3	-21.1
- with mortgages or loans	643.4	447.2	520.4	545.0	596.3	647.9	-67.8	-9.5
Tenants	561.6	507.2	557.3	685.0	858.1	970.3	-1,577.5	-61.9
- in rooms / bedspaces / cocklofts	65.9	38.5	28.6	48.9	36.5	35.7	-209.4	-85.4
Temporary housing	171.2	164.8	201.4	165.9	152.0	171.6	-192.6	-52.9
<b>V. District Council districts</b>								
Central and Western	507.2	516.1	561.9	586.3	593.6	660.7	-219.8	-25.0
Wan Chai	348.9	407.3	381.9	435.2	398.9	481.7	-123.1	-20.4
Eastern	833.6	861.8	928.4	1,012.0	1,135.9	1,177.0	-1,252.9	-51.6
Southern	272.3	241.9	324.7	325.9	319.5	348.2	-602.2	-63.4
Yau Tsim Mong	626.7	618.2	685.8	796.0	743.2	825.2	-629.3	-43.3
Sham Shui Po	568.1	591.5	591.9	621.8	671.1	715.4	-1,700.4	-70.4
Kowloon City	592.9	665.0	636.5	680.6	699.2	776.9	-904.5	-53.8
Wong Tai Sin	469.0	424.8	446.6	514.6	472.7	516.2	-1,809.0	-77.8
Kwun Tong	673.2	602.8	579.0	705.7	686.6	681.4	-3,085.9	-81.9
Kwai Tsing	452.7	476.1	399.8	487.9	478.1	541.2	-2,379.8	-81.5
Tsuen Wan	422.4	385.3	385.0	488.1	467.1	537.3	-641.7	-54.4
Tuen Mun	673.5	704.4	765.5	749.8	822.6	817.4	-1,428.6	-63.6
Yuen Long	866.3	893.6	947.0	986.1	904.2	971.1	-1,882.5	-66.0
North	461.0	490.3	528.8	493.4	472.8	659.1	-882.4	-57.2
Tai Po	454.5	371.3	416.9	409.2	483.4	510.3	-670.1	-56.8
Sha Tin	654.7	614.9	686.7	736.8	950.0	863.7	-1,552.4	-64.3
Sai Kung	386.3	369.5	424.9	437.9	516.2	568.3	-734.4	-56.4
Islands	252.0	189.7	254.7	208.1	247.9	242.0	-393.4	-61.9

**Table B.3.5b: Average poverty gap by selected household group, 2009-2014 (with the 2014 comparison of pre- and post-intervention poverty indicators)**

After policy intervention (recurrent cash + in-kind)	HK\$						2014	
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	Change	% change
<b>Overall</b>	2,800	2,800	3,100	3,300	3,400	3,700	-1,300	-25.6
<b>I. Household size</b>								
1-person	2,000	2,000	2,200	2,500	2,500	2,600	-300	-11.6
2-person	3,000	3,100	3,400	3,700	3,800	4,100	-1,500	-27.4
3-person	2,900	3,000	3,100	3,300	3,300	3,900	-1,900	-32.6
4-person	2,900	2,900	3,200	3,300	3,700	3,700	-1,700	-30.9
5-person	2,700	3,000	2,900	3,100	3,500	3,800	-2,100	-35.7
6-person+	2,800	2,800	3,300	3,100	3,800	3,900	-3,100	-44.3
<b>II. Social characteristics</b>								
CSSA households	1,400	1,400	1,500	1,800	2,000	2,000	-4,400	-69.2
Elderly households	2,500	2,600	2,900	3,200	3,000	3,200	-1,200	-26.9
Single-parent households	2,000	2,200	2,300	2,300	2,600	3,000	-4,300	-58.8
New-arrival households	2,300	2,500	2,500	2,700	3,000	3,100	-2,400	-43.8
Households with children	2,700	2,700	2,900	3,000	3,300	3,500	-2,300	-39.7
Youth households	2,200	2,800	2,900	2,700	2,800	3,000	@	@
<b>III. Economic characteristics</b>								
Economically inactive households	3,000	3,100	3,400	3,700	3,800	4,000	-1,500	-27.4
Working households	2,200	2,100	2,300	2,400	2,500	2,700	-1,100	-28.3
Unemployed households	4,100	4,300	4,400	4,700	5,200	5,400	-1,700	-24.3
<b>IV. Housing characteristics</b>								
Public rental housing	1,500	1,600	1,700	1,800	1,800	1,900	-3,100	-62.1
Subsidised sale flats	2,900	2,900	3,200	3,400	3,600	3,600	-1,000	-22.0
Private permanent housing	3,300	3,300	3,500	3,800	4,000	4,200	-800	-15.5
Owner-occupiers	3,500	3,500	3,800	4,000	4,200	4,500	-600	-10.9
- with mortgages or loans	3,400	3,300	3,600	4,100	4,100	4,900	-100	-1.2
Tenants	2,300	2,300	2,400	2,900	3,100	3,300	-1,900	-36.2
- in rooms / bedspaces / cocklofts	1,700	1,400	1,400	2,100	2,000	2,000	-2,200	-52.3
Temporary housing	2,600	2,300	2,800	3,400	2,900	3,100	-1,900	-37.8
<b>V. District Council districts</b>								
Central and Western	3,500	3,600	4,100	4,100	4,500	4,500	-400	-8.8
Wan Chai	3,900	4,000	4,100	4,400	4,500	4,200	-500	-9.9
Eastern	3,200	3,300	3,600	3,800	4,000	4,300	-800	-15.1
Southern	2,900	2,900	3,800	3,700	3,600	3,900	-800	-17.7
Yau Tsim Mong	3,100	2,900	3,200	3,400	3,500	3,700	-1,200	-24.4
Sham Shui Po	2,800	2,800	2,900	3,300	3,300	3,600	-1,300	-27.2
Kowloon City	3,300	3,500	3,500	3,900	4,100	4,100	-900	-17.8
Wong Tai Sin	2,600	2,500	2,700	2,800	2,900	3,400	-1,400	-30.0
Kwun Tong	2,500	2,400	2,500	2,800	2,700	2,900	-1,900	-39.1
Kwai Tsing	2,300	2,500	2,400	2,600	2,800	2,900	-2,000	-41.0
Tsuen Wan	3,000	2,900	2,800	3,600	3,300	4,000	-1,100	-21.2
Tuen Mun	2,400	2,400	2,800	2,900	3,000	3,300	-1,300	-28.8
Yuen Long	2,400	2,400	2,700	2,900	3,200	3,200	-1,900	-37.1
North	2,500	2,700	2,900	2,900	3,000	3,700	-1,600	-30.4
Tai Po	3,000	2,800	3,300	3,500	3,600	3,600	-1,400	-27.8
Sha Tin	2,700	2,700	3,000	3,300	3,700	3,700	-1,200	-24.5
Sai Kung	2,900	2,900	3,200	3,300	3,600	4,200	-700	-13.6
Islands	2,700	2,400	2,900	3,500	3,200	3,600	-1,600	-30.0

## Glossary

Glossary	Definition
Domestic households	A domestic household consists of a group of persons who live together and make common provision for essentials for living. These persons need not be related. If a person makes provision for essentials for living without sharing with other persons, he / she is also regarded as a household. In this case, it is a 1-person household.
CSSA households	Refer to domestic households receiving Comprehensive Social Security Assistance.
Elderly households	Refer to domestic households with all members aged 65 and above.
Single-parent households	Refer to domestic households with at least one widowed, divorced, separated or never married member living with children aged below 18.
New-arrival households	Refer to domestic households with at least one member from the Mainland having resided in Hong Kong for less than seven years.
Households with children	Refer to domestic households with at least one member aged below 18.
Youth households	Refer to domestic households with all members aged 18-29.
Economically active households	Refer to domestic households with at least one member being economically active, excluding foreign domestic helpers.
Economically inactive households	Refer to domestic households with all members being economically inactive.
Unemployed households	Refer to domestic households with all economically active members being unemployed.
Working households	Refer to domestic households with at least one employed member, excluding foreign domestic helpers.
Households in private housing	Refer to domestic households residing in private permanent housing.

Glossary	Definition
	Includes private housing blocks, flats built under the Urban Improvement Scheme of the Hong Kong Housing Society, villas / bungalows / modern village houses, simple stone structures and quarters in non-residential buildings. As from Q1 2002, subsidised sale flats that can be traded in open market are also put under this category.
Households in public rental housing	Refer to domestic households residing in public rental housing.
Households in subsidised sale flats	Refer to domestic households residing in subsidised sale flats.  Includes flats built under the Home Ownership Scheme, Middle Income Housing Scheme, Private Sector Participation Scheme, Buy or Rent Option Scheme and Mortgage Subsidy Scheme, and flats sold under the Tenants Purchase Scheme of the Hong Kong Housing Authority. Also includes flats built under the Flat for Sale Scheme and Sandwich Class Housing Scheme of the Hong Kong Housing Society. As from Q1 2002, subsidised sale flats that can be traded in open market are excluded.
Households in temporary housing	Refer to domestic households residing in temporary housing.
Demographic dependency ratio	Refers to the number of persons aged below 18 (youth and child dependency ratio) and aged 65 and above (elderly dependency ratio) per 1 000 persons aged between 18 and 64.
Economic dependency ratio	Refers to the number of economically inactive person(s) per 1 000 economically active persons.
Economic activity status	Domestic households / population can be classified into two main groups: economically active and economically inactive.
Household income	The total income earned by all member(s) of the household in the month before enumeration. Household income in the Report can be divided into four types according to the coverage of policy intervention:  (i) Pre-intervention; (ii) Post-intervention (recurrent cash);

Glossary	Definition
	<p>(iii) Post-intervention (recurrent cash + non-recurrent cash); and</p> <p>(iv) Post-intervention (recurrent cash + in-kind).</p>
Pre-intervention	This income type only includes household members' employment earnings, investment income and non-social-transfer cash income. In other words, the income is pre-tax income with all cash benefits excluded.
Post-intervention (recurrent cash)	It refers to the household income after tax, including recurrent cash benefits received.
Post-intervention (recurrent + non-recurrent cash)	It refers to the household income after tax, including both recurrent and non-recurrent cash benefits (including one-off measures) received.
Post-intervention (recurrent cash + in-kind)	It refers to the household income after tax, including recurrent cash benefits and in-kind benefits monetised as part of income received.
Policy intervention measures	<p>Under the discussion of CoP, policy intervention measures can broadly be classified into 4 types:</p> <p>(i) Taxation;</p> <p>(ii) Recurrent-cash benefits;</p> <p>(iii) Non-recurrent cash benefits; and</p> <p>(iv) In-kind benefits.</p>
Taxation	Taxation includes salaries tax, property tax, rates, and government rents.
Recurrent cash benefits	Refer to cash-based benefits / cash-equivalent supplements recurrently provided by the Government, such as social security benefits and education allowance in cash.
Non-recurrent cash benefits	Refer to the Government's non-recurrent cash benefits, including one-off measures. Cash measures provided by the Community Care Fund also included.
In-kind benefits	Refer to in-kind benefits provided with means tests. The provision of public rental housing by the Government is a typical example.

<b>Glossary</b>	<b>Definition</b>
Persons	Only those residing in domestic households (excluding foreign domestic helpers) are counted as persons in this Report.
Working age persons	Refers to persons aged 15-64.
Economically active persons	The economically active persons, synonymous with the labour force, comprise the employed persons and the unemployed persons.
Economically inactive persons	The economically inactive persons refer to those persons who have not had a job and have not been at work during the seven days before enumeration, excluding persons who have been on leave / holiday during the 7-day period and persons who are unemployed. Persons such as home-makers, retired persons and all those below the age of 15 are thus included.
Employed persons	For a person aged 15 or over to be classified as employed, that person should: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) be engaged in performing work for pay or profit during the seven days before enumeration; or</li> <li>(ii) have formal job attachment (i.e. that the person has continued receipt of wage or salary; or has an assurance or an agreed date of return to job or business; or is in receipt of compensation without obligation to accept another job).</li> </ul>
Full-time workers	Full-time workers are employed persons who work 35 hours and over during the seven days before enumeration, or those who work less than 35 hours due to leave during the 7-day period.
Part-time workers	Part-time workers are employed persons who work less than 35 hours during the seven days before enumeration, excluding those who work less than 35 hours due to leave during the 7-day period and those underemployed.
Underemployed persons	The criteria for an employed person to be classified as underemployed are: involuntarily working less than 35 hours during the seven days before enumeration; and either

Glossary	Definition
	<p>(i) has been available for additional work during the seven days before enumeration; or</p> <p>(ii) has sought additional work during the 30 days before enumeration.</p> <p>Working short hours is considered involuntary if it is due to slack work, material shortage, mechanical breakdown or inability to find a full-time job. Following this definition, employed persons taking no-pay leave due to slack work during the seven days before enumeration are also classified as underemployed if they worked less than 35 hours or were on leave even for the whole period during the 7-day period.</p>
Unemployed persons	<p>For a person aged 15 or over to be classified as unemployed, that person should:</p> <p>(i) not have had a job and should not have performed any work for pay or profit during the seven days before enumeration; and</p> <p>(ii) have been available for work during the seven days before enumeration; and</p> <p>(iii) have sought work during the 30 days before enumeration.</p> <p>However, if a person aged 15 or over fulfils the conditions (i) and (ii) above but has not sought work during the 30 days before enumeration because he / she believes that work is not available, he / she is still classified as unemployed, being regarded as a so-called “discouraged worker”.</p> <p>Notwithstanding the above, the following types of persons are also classified as unemployed:</p> <p>(i) persons without a job, have sought work but have not been available for work because of temporary sickness; and</p> <p>(ii) persons without a job, have been available for work but have not sought work because they:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✧ have made arrangements to take up a new job or to start business on a subsequent date; or</li> <li>✧ are expecting to return to their original jobs (e.g. casual workers are usually called back to</li> </ul>

<b>Glossary</b>	<b>Definition</b>
	work when service is needed).
Unemployment rate	Unemployment rate refers to the proportion of unemployed persons in the labour force.
Median	For an ordered data set which is arranged in ascending order (i.e. from the smallest value to the largest value), the median is the value that ranks in the middle of all data in the set. If the total number of data is an even number, the median is the average of the two middle values of the ordered data set.
Percentiles	Percentiles are the 99 values that divide an ordered data set into 100 equal parts (in terms of number of observations). In brief, the pth percentile is the value which delineates the lowest p% of all the data, where p can be any integer value from 1 to 99.
Poverty indicators	Quantitative measurements of poverty.
Poverty incidence	Refer to the number of poor households and its corresponding number of persons living therein (i.e. poor population), with monthly household income less than the poverty line corresponding to the household size.
Poverty rate	Poverty rate is the ratio of poor population to total population living in domestic households.
Poverty gap	Poverty gap of a poor household refers to the amount of difference between its household income and the poverty threshold. Total poverty gap is the sum of such differences of all poor households. Total poverty gap divided by the number of poor households yields the average poverty gap.
Poverty line	Poverty line is set to define poor households and poor population. In this Report, 50% of median monthly household income before policy intervention by household size is adopted as the poverty line.



## Abbreviations

CoP	Commission on Poverty
CCF	Community Care Fund
C&SD	Census and Statistics Department
CSSA	Comprehensive Social Security Assistance
DA	Disability Allowance
EU (The)	The European Union
FDH	Foreign Domestic Helper
GHS	General Household Survey
HES	Household Expenditure Survey
HKSAR (The)	The Hong Kong Special Administrative Region
HKCSS	Hong Kong Council of Social Service
LFPR	Labour force participation rate
LIFA	Low-income Working Family Allowance
OAA	Old Age Allowance
OALA	Old Age Living Allowance
OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
Oxfam	Oxfam Hong Kong
PRH	Public rental housing
SF	Samaritan Fund
SSA	Social Security Allowance
SWD	Social Welfare Department
WITS	Work Incentive Transport Subsidy

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