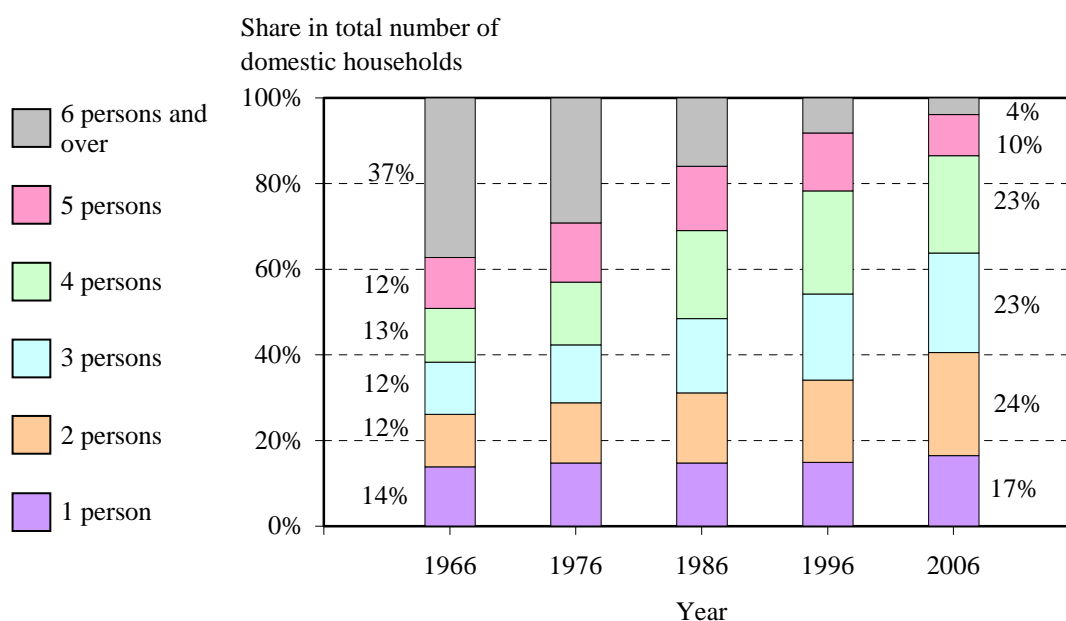


## Hong Kong People Prefer to Have Small Families

- Over the past 40 years, the number of domestic households comprising 2 to 4 members had seen a sharp increase. Their share in the total number of domestic households in Hong Kong rose from 37% in 1966 to 70% in 2006.
- Meanwhile, the share of domestic households with more than 4 members was on the decline, falling markedly from 49% to 14% over the same period.
- Correspondingly, the average number of members per domestic household registered a continuous decrease. The average household size reduced from 4.5 persons in 1971 to 3.0 persons in 2006.
- Major factors contributing to these changes include the preference of more and more married couples to form their own families and to have fewer children; and the prevalence of more elderly persons/couples living on their own.

### Distribution of Domestic Households by Household Size



*For further information on this series of articles, please write to the General Statistics Branch(2) of the Census and Statistics Department at 21/F, Wanchai Tower, 12 Harbour Road, Wan Chai, Hong Kong, call 2582 4004, or e-mail to [g2b\\_1@censtatd.gov.hk](mailto:g2b_1@censtatd.gov.hk).*