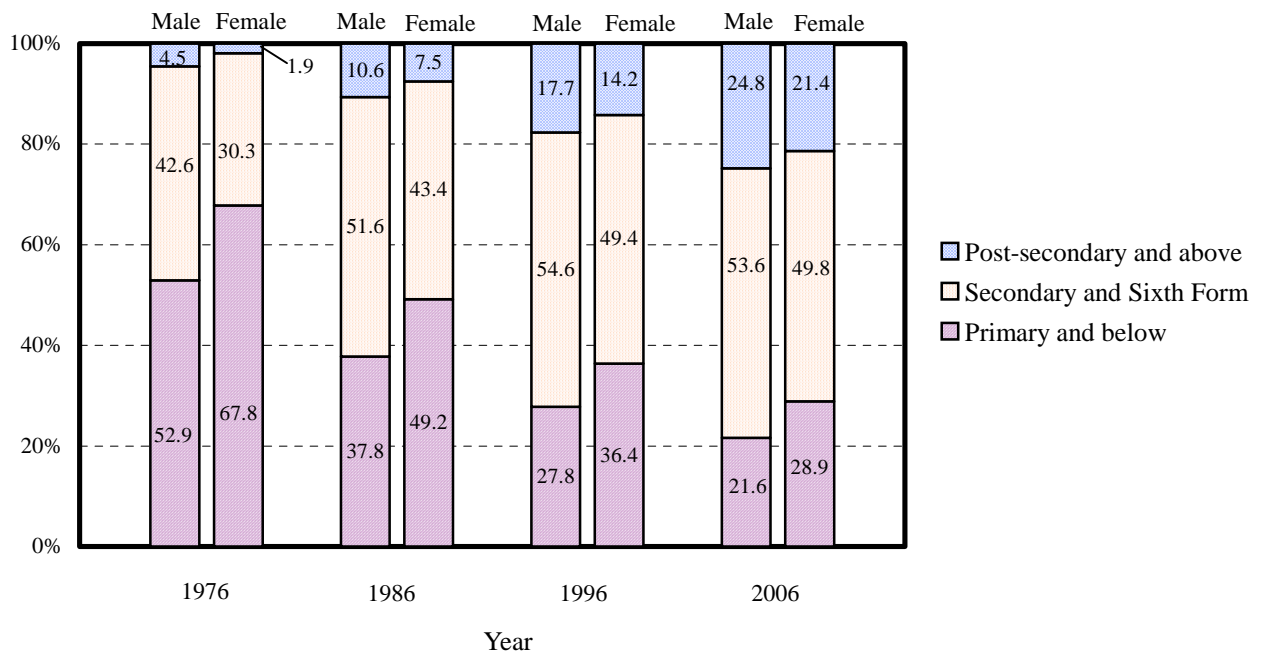


Hong Kong People See Notable Improvement in Education Level

- The introduction of nine-year free and universal basic education by the government in 1978 has laid a firm foundation for raising the education level of the Hong Kong population.
- With the continual expansion in post-secondary education opportunities since the early 1980s, the education level of Hong Kong population has seen notable improvement.
- The proportion of population aged 15 and over having received post-secondary education or above exceeded 20% in 2006, compared with less than 5% thirty years ago.
- Overall speaking, men appear to have attained a higher level of education than women. This is because women of the older generation in general had a smaller chance of receiving education when they were young.
- Nevertheless, the difference between the two sexes has been narrowing as the society becomes more advanced. Indeed, men and women now have equitable access to education opportunity.

**Percentage Distribution of Population Aged 15 and Over
by Educational Attainment and Sex, 1976 - 2006**



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.