

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**FSTB(FS)109**

**(Question Serial No. 5183)**

Head: (26) Census and Statistics Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (4) General Statistical Services

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Census and Statistics (Leslie TANG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury

Question:

Under this programme, the Census and Statistics Department (C&SD) will continue to use modern technologies in the dissemination of statistical information and enhance its website to make it more convenient for users to obtain statistical information in 2019-20. Please advise the following:

1. What are the establishment and expenditure on salaries of the staff who are responsible for handling the C&SD's website?
2. At present, the public can build their own statistical tables and charts using data through the Interactive Data Dissemination Service for the 2016 Population By-census (16BC). They can however only compare the 16BC figures with the results of the 2011 Population Census and 2006 Population By-census, but cannot compare the figures with those for earlier years. The relevant service of 2011 Population Census allowed the figures to be compared with the results of the 2001 Population Census. Will C&SD enhance the data dissemination service to make it convenient for users to compare the statistical information of population census/by-census with those for 2001 or earlier years? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon FAN Kwok-wai, Gary (LegCo internal reference no.: 118)

Reply:

1. The C&SD's website is managed by a team comprising 1 statistician, 1 senior statistical officer and 3 statistical officers, who are responsible for supporting computer systems for data dissemination. As the management of the C&SD's website constitutes part of the duties of this team, we do not have a separate breakdown on the relevant expenditure.
2. In designing the "Interactive Data Dissemination Service" (IDDS) for population censuses / by-censuses, the C&SD has balanced a host of factors, including data users' needs, computing capacity of the computer systems in processing a huge amount of data in an interactive manner within a reasonable time and comparability of figures in different rounds of population censuses/ by-censuses. In this connection, data for the

2006, 2011 and 2016 rounds of population census/ by-censuses are provided in the IDDS for the 2016 Population By-census for the public to build their own statistical tables and charts.

For population census/ by-census data in 2001 or before, the C&SD has made available a series of tables which will be provided to members of the public on request free of charge.

In planning the data dissemination service for the 2021 Population Census, the C&SD will revisit the factors mentioned above and actively explore enhancement of the IDDS to render more convenience to the public, including developing Application Programming Interface for users to access the data and providing statistical results of earlier rounds of population censuses/ by-censuses.

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