Demographic Trends in Hong Kong 1986-1995
一九八六至一九九五年香港人口趨勢

The population of Hong Kong increased from 5.53 million in 1986 by some 0.63 million to 6.16 million in 1995. Concomitant with this population growth, there were also new developments in the demographic trends. Aging of the population continued. The fertility rate remained at a very low level in recent years. Mortality situation continued to improve, with the expectation of life at birth gradually edging up. By international standards, Hong Kong is now one of the lowest mortality territories. Delay in marriage still prevailed. The marriage rates of bachelors and spinsters had decreased but the re-marriage rates of divorced or widowed persons had increased.

This article describes the salient features of the population growth and structure as well as the trends in fertility, mortality and nuptiality in Hong Kong during the period 1986-1995.

香港人口由一九八六年的五百五十三萬增加至一九九五年的六百一十六萬，增加了約六十三萬人。隨著人口增長，人口趨勢亦出現新發展。人口老化的現象持續。生育率近年維持在非常低的水平。死亡情況持續改善，出生時的平均預期壽命穩步調升。根據國際標準，香港現時是死亡率最低的地區之一。遲婚的風氣仍很普遍。未婚男女的結婚率下降，但離婚及鰥寡人士的再結婚率則上升。

本文闡述一九八六至一九九五年間香港人口的增長和結構，與及生育、死亡和婚姻的趨勢。

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Population size and growth

1. The population of Hong Kong in mid-1995 was 6.16 million. Compared with mid-1986, it increased by some 0.63 million. The annual growth rate in each of the recent three years, at around 2.0%, was much higher than the average annual growth rate of about 1.2% in the period 1986 to 1995 and the rate of around 1% in the earlier years (Table 1).

2. Regarding the components of population change, natural increase fluctuated at around 40 000 per annum during the period. The relative contribution of natural increase to population growth decreased substantially in the recent five years. Correspondingly, the gain from migration, as reflected by the positive balance of arrivals and departures, increased dramatically from 16 000 in 1991 to 116 000 in 1995. Before 1991, there was usually a net *outflow* of population, as indicated by the negative balance of arrivals and departures (Table 1).

人口數目及其增長

1. 一九九五年年中香港人口爲六百一十六萬，較十年前增加了六十三萬。一九八六年至一九九五年間平均每年人口增加百分之一點二，而過去三年每年平均增長百分之二，較早幾年平均每年百分之一的增長爲高（表一）。

2. 至於人口變動的組成部分，期間自然增長約每年四萬人，最近五年自然增長佔整體人口增長的百分比大幅下降，相對地入境人數不斷較離境人數多，多出的人數由一九九一年的一萬六千人劇增至一九九五年的十一萬六千人。一九九一年以前通常有人口的淨移出，即離境人數較入境人數多（表一）。

Table 1 Population size and components of population change
表一 人口及其變動的組成部份

Year 年	Mid-year population (thousands) 年中人口 (千人)	Annual growth rate 每年增長率	Births (thousands) 出生 (千人)	Deaths (thousands) 死亡 (千人)	Natural increase (thousands) 自然增長 (千人)	Balance of arrivals & departures (thousands) 抵港及離港人數差額 (千人)
1986	5 525	1.3%	72	26	46	21
1987	5 580	1.0%	70	27	43	5
1988	5 628	0.8%	75	28	48	-8
1989	5 686	1.0%	70	29	41	-16
1990	5 704	0.3%	68	29	39	-9
1991	5 752	0.8%	68	28	40	16
1992	5 800	0.8%	71	31	40	47
1993	5 901	1.7%	70	31	40	84
1994	6 035	2.3%	72	30	42	87
1995	6 156	2.0%	69	31	37	116

Age structure

3. Aging of the population continued. The median age of the population increased from 28.8 in 1986 to 33.6 in 1995. There are also other indicators of aging : the proportion of children aged under 15 decreased from 23.0% in 1986 to 19.4% in 1995. This was brought about by a continual decline in fertility. During the period, the proportion of the elderly aged 65 or over increased from 7.7% to 9.8% (Table 2).

年齡結構

3. 人口老化現象仍然持續，人口的年齡中位數由三點六歲，其他顯示人口一九八六年的二十八點八歲上升至一九九五年的三十老化的指標包括十五歲以下小童所佔人口的比例，由一九八六年的百分之二十三下降至一九九五年的百分之十九點四，這是由於生育下降所致。與此同時，六十五歲或以上老年人所佔人口的比例，則由百分之七點七上升至百分之九點八（表二）。

Table 2 Percentage distribution of the population by age
表二 按年齡劃分的人口百分比

Year 年	Age group 年齡組別					Median age 年齡中位數
	0 - 14	15 - 24	25 - 54	55 - 64	65+	
1986	23.0	18.5	42.3	8.5	7.7	28.8
1987	22.6	17.7	43.1	8.6	8.0	29.4
1988	22.2	16.9	44.2	8.7	8.0	30.0
1989	21.8	16.3	44.9	8.8	8.2	30.4
1990	21.5	15.7	45.6	8.7	8.5	31.0
1991	20.8	15.2	46.6	8.8	8.6	31.6
1992	20.6	14.6	47.0	8.8	9.0	32.2
1993	20.1	14.4	47.7	8.6	9.2	32.7
1994	19.7	14.3	47.9	8.5	9.6	33.2
1995	19.4	14.1	48.4	8.3	9.8	33.6

Sex structure

4. The sex structure of a population is determined by the sex ratio at birth, by differential mortality of males and females, and by migration which could be sex selective.

5. Each year, there are more boys than girls born alive. The sex ratio at birth was around 1 070 boys per 1 000 girls (Table 3). But at every age mortality of males exceeds that of females, markedly so as age advances. This has an effect of progressively reducing the surplus of males at birth until at old ages the number of females far exceeds that of males. However, at certain ages the sex structure was more affected by sex selective migration. The large inflow of female immigrants from China joining their husbands in Hong Kong and importation of female foreign domestic helpers significantly depressed the sex ratios in the age groups 20-39 (Table 4).

性別結構

4. 人口性別結構主要由出生嬰兒的男女比例及男性與女性的差別死亡率決定，同時亦受入境移民的男女比例影響。

5. 每年活產的男嬰較女嬰多，出生時的男女比例約爲每千名女嬰對一千零七十名男嬰（表三）。但在其他歲數，男性的死亡率較女性爲高，年紀越大死亡率的差距越大。受這累積的影響，令出生時數目較多的男性，到老年時數目遠少於女性。但某些年齡組別的男女比例，受入境移民男女比例的影響較大。年齡組別二十至三十九歲的男女比例明顯下降，是由於大量中國女性移民來港與丈夫團聚，及大量女性外籍家庭傭工來港工作所致（表四）。

Table 3 Sex ratio at birth
表三 出生嬰兒的性別比例

Year 年	Sex ratio at birth 出生嬰兒的性別比例
1986	1 064
1987	1 059
1988	1 074
1989	1 059
1990	1 077
1991	1 064
1992	1 072
1993	1 075
1994	1 085
1995	1 075
1986 - 1995	1 070

Table 4 Sex ratios of population
表四 人口的性別比例

Age group 年齡組別	Year 年		
	1986	1991	1995
0 - 14	1 084	1 082	1 068
15 - 19	1 090	1 088	1 078
20 - 24	1 041	1 001	993
25 - 29	1 058	969	874
30 - 34	1 090	1 028	911
35 - 39	1 141	1 063	993
40 - 44	1 232	1 138	1 041
45 - 49	1 202	1 231	1 141
50 - 54	1 163	1 220	1 239
55 - 64	1 049	1 101	1 120
65 +	729	790	810
0 - 65+	1 062	1 044	1 004

Fertility

生育情況

Crude birth rate and general fertility rate

粗出生率及一般生育率

6. The number of births in the period 1986 to 1995 was around 70 000 a year, except for a surge to 75 000 in 1988, which was an auspicious year of the dragon according to the Chinese chronology cycle. During the decade, the crude birth rate, which relates the number of live births in a calendar year to the mid-year population, fell

6. 一九八六年至一九九五年間出生的人數維持在每年七萬人，唯一例外是在一九八八年出生人數輕微增至七萬五千人，因爲按中國曆法計算一九八八年爲龍年。在這十年間，粗出生率（即該年的活產嬰兒數目佔年中人口的比例）由一九八六年的每千人有十三個活

from 13 live births per 1 000 population in 1986 to 11 in 1995 (Table 5).

7. The trends in the number of births and the crude birth rate are affected by changes in the number and proportion of women of childbearing ages 15-49. A better fertility indicator is the general fertility rate which relates the annual number of live births to the mid-year population of women aged 15-49. There was a decrease in the general fertility rate throughout the period from 49 live births per 1 000 women of childbearing ages in 1986 to 38 in 1995. Even this measure does not take account of differences in the age composition of women of childbearing age. A better way of assessing fertility change is to use the age-specific fertility rates (Table 7).

產嬰兒下降至一九九五年的每千人有十一個活產嬰兒（表五）。

7. 出生人數及粗出生率的趨勢均受育齡婦女(即年齡介乎十五至四十九歲的婦女）的數目及其佔人口的比例所影響。另一項較佳的生育情況指標是一般生育率，即每年活產嬰兒數目相對年中十五至四十九歲的女性的比例。期間一般生育率一直下降，由一九八六年的每千名育齡婦女生四十九名活產嬰兒，下降至一九九五年的三十八名活產嬰兒。但該指標仍未考慮育齡婦女的年齡結構，因此要透過年齡別生育率才能更準確量度生育趨向的轉變（表七）。

Table 5 Live births, crude birth rate and number of women of childbearing ages (15 - 49)

表五 活產嬰兒、粗出生率及生育年齡（十五至四十九歲）的婦女數目

Year 年	Number of live births 活產嬰兒數目	Crude birth rate (per 1 000 population) 粗出生率 (按每千名人口計算)	General fertility rate (per 1 000 women aged 15-49) 一般生育率 (按每千名15-49歲婦女計算)	Women aged 15-49 15-49歲的婦女人數	Women aged 15-49 as percentage of population 15-49歲婦女佔人口的百分比
1986	71 600	13.0	48.9	1 465 200	26.6
1987	70 000	12.6	46.9	1 490 200	26.7
1988	75 400	13.4	49.9	1 512 000	27.0
1989	69 600	12.3	45.4	1 532 700	27.2
1990	67 700	12.0	43.7	1 548 700	27.4
1991	68 300	12.0	43.2	1 582 200	27.8
1992	70 900	12.3	43.9	1 615 400	28.1
1993	70 500	12.0	42.1	1 674 400	28.6
1994	71 600	11.9	41.1	1 744 500	29.0
1995	68 600	11.2	38.0	1 804 700	29.4

Age-specific fertility rates

8. Age-specific fertility rate (AFR) relates the number of live births occurring to women in a specific age group during a calendar year to the total female population in that age group at the middle of that year. At the younger ages, these rates are very much affected by the proportion of women married. In Hong Kong, there are very few births born out of wedlock. A decline in the proportion of women married at the younger ages, other things being equal, would result in a reduction in the AFRs at these ages. Moreover, an increase in the interval between marriage and the first birth at these young ages would aggravate the fertility decline (Table 6). Reduction in the AFR at the older ages almost exclusively reflects a continued fertility decline related to family planning.

年齡別生育率

8. 年齡別生育率即在某一年內某一年齡組別婦女所生的活產嬰兒，相對在該年中該年齡組別婦女的總數。年輕婦女的生育率受已婚婦女所佔人口比例的影響。由於在香港極絕大部份的嬰兒都是經過結婚才出生的，而年輕婦女已婚的比例下降，因此影響年齡較輕的組別的年齡別生育率下降。再者，由結婚至第一次生育的時間距離增加，亦引致生育進一步下降（表六）。年齡較大的組別的年齡別生育率下降，反映生育下降主要與家庭計劃有關。

Table 6 Median age at first marriage for spinsters and median birth intervals since marriage

表六 未婚女士的初婚年齡中位數及由結婚至生育的間距中位數

Year 年	Median age of bride at first marriage 初婚的新娘年齡中位數	Median interval (in months) from marriage to 由結婚至生育的間距中位數(以月計)	
		First live birth 第一胎	Second live birth 第二胎
1986	25.3	19.6	54.2
1987	25.6	21.4	57.3
1988	25.8	21.2	60.0
1989	26.1	21.4	61.3
1990	26.3	23.2	61.2
1991	26.2	22.9	62.0
1992	26.3	23.1	63.0
1993	26.5	23.1	64.2
1994	26.5	24.1	64.8
1995	26.9	26.5	66.2

9. Over the decade, the AFR continued to decrease at ages 15-29. The AFR at ages 35-44, however, increased and that at ages 30-34 stabilized (Table 7).

9. 過去十年，十五至二十九歲的年齡別生育率持續下降，但三十五至四十四歲的年齡別生育率則上升，而三十至三十四歲的則維持穩定（表七）。

Table 7 Age-specific fertility rates (per 1 000 female population)
表七 年齡別生育率 (按每千名婦女計算)

Year 年	Age group 年齡組別						
	15 - 19	20 - 24	25 - 29	30 - 34	35 - 39	40 - 44	45-49
1986	7.0	47.9	109.1	76.3	26.3	3.9	0.3
1987	6.2	42.0	103.1	77.5	26.2	4.2	0.2
1988	6.4	42.1	108.1	85.5	28.5	4.8	0.3
1989	6.1	39.2	95.8	78.8	28.1	4.7	0.3
1990	5.9	38.4	93.9	76.0	27.2	4.3	0.3
1991	6.5	37.3	90.9	76.4	29.1	4.4	0.3
1992	6.6	42.7	91.8	79.0	29.4	4.4	0.3
1993	6.9	45.7	85.3	77.3	29.4	4.5	0.3
1994	6.6	44.8	83.4	78.8	29.9	4.2	0.2
1995	5.9	38.6	77.8	75.9	29.7	4.6	0.2

Total fertility rate

10. The net result of differential decline in the AFRs can be summarized by the total fertility rate (TFR). The TFR referring to a given year represents the number of children that a woman would bear during her life time if she were to pass through her childbearing ages (15-49) experiencing the age-specific fertility rates prevailing in that year. For a generation of women to replace themselves, each woman must give birth to approximately 2.1 children. During the period, the fertility level in Hong Kong was very much below the replacement level. It is also very low compared with other developed countries. The TFR, after a slight decline, basically stabilized at around 1.2 live births per woman in recent years (Table 8).

總和生育率

10. 總和生育率總結了年齡別生育率不同程度下跌的整體結果。某年的總和生育率是指一個婦女，若在渡過整個生育年齡期(即十五至四十九歲)時經歷了一如該年的年齡別生育率，其一生中活產子女的數目。一個婦女約要生二點一個子女才能更替自己。在過去十年間，香港婦女生育率遠低於更替水平，與其他發達國家比較亦屬偏低。總和生育率經輕微下跌後，近年基本上維持在每名婦女約生一點二個子女（表八）。

Table 8 Total fertility rates of Hong Kong compared with selected economy
表八 香港的總和生育率與其他選定經濟地區比較

Economy 經濟地區	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995
Hong Kong 香港	1 340	1 280	1 360	1 250	1 210	1 210	1 250	1 230	1 230	1 150
Australia 澳洲	1 870	1 850	1 840	1 840	1 910	1 860	1 890	1 870	1 850	N.A.
Japan 日本	1 720	1 690	1 660	1 570	1 540	1 530	1 500	1 460	1 500	N.A.
Netherlands 荷蘭	1 550	1 560	1 550	1 550	1 620	1 610	1 590	1 570	1 570	N.A.
Singapore 新加坡	1 430	1 620	1 960	1 760	1 870	1 770	1 760	1 780	1 750 *	N.A.
U.K 英國	1 780	1 820	1 840	1 810	1 840	1 820	1 800	1 760	1 740	N.A.

Notes : * Provisional figure.
N.A. Figures are not yet available.

註釋 : * 臨時數字。
N.A. 未有數字。

Confounding factors

11. All the aforesaid fertility rates are reckoned on a *de facto* basis. They are confounded by three factors. First, there were many babies born by Two-way Permit Holders and illegal immigrants. The mothers of these babies, after delivering the births, had to return to China. While all these babies were included in the numerator of the fertility rates, their mothers were excluded from the denominator. As a result, the fertility rates were inflated. Note that there was a small number of these babies not permitted to stay in Hong Kong as both their parents did not have the right of abode in Hong Kong (Table 9).

12. Second, there was a moderate number of babies born overseas by Hong Kong residents. These births, as well as their mothers, were not covered in the calculation of the fertility rates (Table 9).

13. Third, there was a large number of female foreign domestic helpers working in Hong Kong who had little exposure to the risk of childbearing. Hence, their inclusion in the female population for calculation would depress significantly the fertility rates.

混雜因素

11. 以上所討論的生育率，是以時點人口爲計算基礎，受三種混雜因素的影響。其一，有不少由持雙程證來港的大陸人士及非法入境者在港所生的嬰兒，這些嬰兒的母親於生產後須返回中國。雖然這些嬰兒會計算入生育率的分子內，但這些母親是從生育率的分母中扣除。因此，生育率會被高估。要留意的，是一小部份該等嬰兒是不受允許留港的，因他們的父母並無居港權（表九）。

12. 其二，有一些由香港居民在外地所生的嬰兒，這類嬰兒及他們的母親均不計算入生育率內（表九）。

13. 其三，有大量在港工作的女性外籍家庭傭工，她們在港生育的機會甚微。因此，在計算時包括她們在女性人口中，會導致生育率明顯減低。

14. All these factors are difficult to adjust in the calculation of the fertility rates. However, their effects, when taken together, tend to offset each other. Hence, the fertility rates calculated without adjustment for the influence of these factors could still reflect the underlying trend of fertility.

14. 在計算生育率時，要把這些因素的影響扣除非常困難，但它們的影響在混合時可互相抵銷。因此，未經扣除這些因素的影響所計算的生育率，仍可反映生育率的基本趨勢。

Table 9 Number of births given by Two-way Permit Holders (TWPH) and Illegal Immigrants (II) and estimated number of babies born overseas by Hong Kong residents

表九 持雙程證來港的大陸人士和非法入境者在港所生嬰兒數目及香港居民在外地所生嬰兒數目

Year 年	No. of babies born by TWPH 持雙程證來港的大陸人士所生的嬰兒數目		No. of babies born by II 非法入境者所生的嬰兒數目		Estimated no. of babies # born overseas by Hong Kong residents 本港居民在外地所生的嬰兒數目 #
	Eligible to stay * 准許居留*	Not eligible to stay 不准居留	Eligible to stay * 准許居留*	Not eligible to stay 不准居留	
1986	72	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	1 451
1987	140	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	1 621
1988	439	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	1 752
1989	907	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	2 267
1990	1 606	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	2 410
1991	2 553	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	2 420
1992	4 483	N.A.	1 902 +	N.A.	2 785
1993	6 035	173	2 453	181	3 047
1994	6 725	218	2 231	93	4 133
1995	4 011	128	2 832	54	4 260

Notes : * The eligibility to stay is established on the basis that either the baby's parents has the right of abode in Hong Kong or is a Hong Kong resident with conditional stay or unconditional stay.

\# Figures refer to those babies who were born by Hong Kong residents in other countries except China and were aged below 1 when brought back to Hong Kong as Hong Kong residents or as visitors who changed their status back to Hong Kong residents afterwards.

\+ Figure refers to February to December 1992 only.

N.A. Figures are not available.

註釋：* 准許居留是基於嬰兒的父母任何一方是有居港權或是作有條件或無條件居留的香港居民。

\# 數字是指香港居民在外地（中國除外）所生而返港時年齡少於一歲的嬰兒，而這些嬰兒是以香港居民身份回港或是以旅客身份到港而其後再申請轉爲香港居民。

\+ 只包括一九九二年二月至十二月的數字。

N.A. 沒有數字。

Birth order

15. The fertility trend in the past decade indicated that couples continued to favour small family. Women were found to be shortening their period of childbearing as they were marrying at higher ages. At the same time, they were having fewer higher order births. In the past decade, there has been a continued reduction in the third or higher order births, from 19% in 1986 to only 13% in 1995 (Table 10).

胎次

15. 過去十年的生育趨勢顯示一般夫婦仍喜歡小家庭。由於婦女在較大年紀時才結婚，因而縮短了生育時間，同時，她們越來越少有高次數的生育。過去十年，第三胎或以上的生育不斷下降，由一九八六年的百分之十九下降至一九九五年的百分之十三（表十）。

Table 10 Percentage distribution of live births by birth order
表十 按胎次劃分的活產嬰兒數目的百分比

Year 年	All births 所有胎次	First births 第一胎	Second births 第二胎	Third births 第三胎	Fourth and higher order births 第四或以上的胎次
1986	100	45	36	14	5
1991	100	46	37	12	5
1995	100	48	39	10	3

Mortality

Crude and standardized death rates

16. The annual number of deaths gradually increased from about 26 000 in 1986 to about 32 000 in 1995. Over the past decade, the crude death rate (CDR), which relates the number of deaths in a calendar year to the estimated mid-year population, fluctuated around 5 deaths per 1 000 population (Table 11).

17. The CDR is not a good indicator of changes in the level of mortality as it is influenced by changes in the age and sex structure of a population. The standardized death rate (SDR), which takes account of these changes, is a better measure of mortality trend. The SDR edged down from 5.3 deaths per 1 000 population in 1986 to 4.6 in 1995, suggesting that mortality improvement continued (Table 11).

死亡

粗死亡率及標準死亡率

16. 每年的死亡人數，由一九八六年的二萬六千人輕微上升至一九九五年的三萬二千人。過去十年，粗死亡率（即一年內的死亡人數相對該年年中的人口估計）徘徊於每千人有五個死亡的水平（表十一）。

17. 由於會受到人口的年齡及性別結構影響，粗死亡率並非一個量度死亡水平的好指標。標準死亡率則兼顧這些轉變，所以是一項較理想的死亡趨勢指標。標準死亡率由一九八六年的每千人有五點三名死亡，下降至一九九五年的每千人有四點六名死亡，顯示死亡情況不斷改善（表十一）。

Table 11 Number of deaths and death rates
表十一 死亡數目及死亡率

Year 年	Number of deaths 死亡數目	Crude death rate (per 1 000 population) 粗死亡率 (按每千人計算)	Standardized death rate (per 1 000 population) 標準死亡率 (按每千人計算)
1986	25 900	4.7	5.3
1987	26 900	4.8	5.3
1988	27 700	4.9	5.3
1989	28 700	5.1	5.3
1990	29 100	5.2	5.3
1991	28 400	5.0	5.0
1992	30 600	5.3	5.2
1993	30 600	5.2	5.0
1994	29 900	5.0	4.6
1995	31 500	5.1	4.6

Note : The standardized death rate was computed using the age-sex structure of the 1991 population as standard.

註釋 : 標準死亡率是以一九九一年人口的年齡及性別結構作標準而計算。

Age-sex-specific death rates

18. Mortality differs significantly between ages. In general, the death rate starts at a high level during the first year of life, falls to a minimum around ages 5-9, then increases slowly until mid-life. Thereafter, it rises rapidly as old age advances. Mortality also differs between sexes, with male mortality being higher than female mortality at every age. The trend of mortality improvement can be readily studied with reference to the age-sex-specific death rates. The rate relates the number of deaths of each sex in a given age group occurring in a calendar year to the population of each sex in that age group at the middle of that year.

19. Some features of the mortality decline are observed. First, there has been a considerable fall in mortality in infancy and childhood and at the younger adult ages. However, the improvement decreases with age and at higher ages, improvement has generally been rather slow. Second, at most ages, male mortality has improved more rapidly than female mortality, particularly at the older ages. Third, the mortality rates for both sexes at many ages have approached what is generally considered to be their biological minimum. Hence, any further reduction will be insignificant (Table 12).

按年齡性別劃分的死亡率

18. 不同年齡的死亡率有很大差別。一般而言，出生後第一年內死亡率是很高的，接著下降至五至九歲時最低水平，然後再慢慢增加直至中年，年老時則隨年齡的增長而快速增加。男性與女性的死亡率亦有分別，不同年齡的男性死亡率均較女性爲高。因此，要研究死亡率有否改善，必須研究按年齡及性別計算的死亡率（即在某年內某性別某年齡組別的死亡人數，相對在該年年中該性別在該年齡組別人口的比例）。

19. 一些有關死亡率下降的情況。首先，嬰兒、兒童及年輕成年人的死亡率大幅下降，但改善的幅度隨年齡增加而減少，老年人死亡率的改善速度非常緩慢。其二，在大多數年齡組別中，男性死亡率改善的速度均較女性快，尤以在老年爲甚。其三，一九八六年男女在不同年齡的死亡率已達到接近生物學認爲最低水平，因此再無顯著的下降（表十二）。

Table 12 Age-sex-specific death rates (per 1 000 population)
表十二 按年齡及性別劃分的死亡率（按每千人計算）

Age group 年齡組別	Year 年									
	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995
	Male 男性									
0	7.5	7.5	8.6	7.2	6.9	6.2	4.7	4.7	4.2	4.3
1-4	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.3
5-9	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1
10-14	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.1
15-19	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4
20-24	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.6	0.7	0.7
25-29	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.8	0.7	0.8	0.8	0.7	0.8	0.7
30-34	0.9	0.8	0.8	0.9	1.0	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.8	0.8
35-39	1.3	1.1	1.4	1.3	1.4	1.2	1.4	1.3	1.2	1.3
40-44	2.3	1.9	2.0	2.2	2.0	2.2	2.0	2.1	1.8	2.1
45-49	3.6	4.0	3.5	3.9	3.6	3.4	3.4	3.0	3.0	2.9
50-54	6.7	6.6	6.4	6.3	5.7	5.7	6.2	5.3	5.7	5.9
55-59	10.3	10.4	10.7	10.6	10.5	8.9	9.4	8.9	8.1	8.3
60-64	17.2	16.2	16.3	16.5	15.7	15.4	16.0	15.8	14.6	14.2
65-69	27.4	27.9	26.2	26.5	26.5	23.6	25.3	24.8	23.3	22.5
70-74	42.1	41.6	40.6	44.0	42.0	39.7	41.5	41.1	38.2	35.6
75 +	79.2	82.0	79.7	81.5	80.6	76.3	80.7	76.6	73.5	76.4
	Female 女性									
0	7.1	6.6	6.9	6.4	5.2	6.8	4.7	4.4	4.6	4.3
1-4	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.2
5-9	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
10-14	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1
15-19	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.2
20-24	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3
25-29	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.4
30-34	0.5	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.4
35-39	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.7	0.6
40-44	1.2	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.1	1.2	1.1	1.0	1.0
45-49	1.9	1.8	1.7	1.8	1.6	1.7	1.6	1.9	1.5	1.4
50-54	3.6	3.2	3.0	3.1	2.9	2.9	2.7	2.7	2.5	2.5
55-59	5.2	5.1	4.9	5.1	4.6	4.5	4.4	4.4	4.1	3.9
60-64	8.6	8.8	8.4	8.0	7.9	7.3	7.8	7.0	6.5	6.1
65-69	14.7	14.6	14.9	13.8	14.7	13.2	13.1	12.6	11.6	11.4
70-74	23.8	24.4	23.0	23.9	23.7	23.1	23.2	23.1	20.9	20.2
75 +	58.3	60.7	63.2	62.6	64.7	60.9	65.3	61.6	56.2	59.3

20. Differential mortality trend by sex can be further assessed by studying the index of excess male mortality. These indexes are calculated by dividing the age-specific death rates for males by those for females. The figures show that the excess of male mortality has become relatively less marked at many ages. This trend reflects the fact that mortality has improved faster for males than for females (Table 13).

20. 男女死亡率趨勢的差異，可從過量男性死亡率指數再加研究。這項指數，是把男性年齡別死亡率除以女性年齡別死亡率而得的百分比。數字顯示，男女死亡率的差距在很多年齡組別已逐步減少，這趨勢正反映出先前提及男性死亡率改善的速度較女性爲快（表十三）。

Table 13 Indices of excess male mortality by age
表十三 按年齡劃分的過量男性死亡率指數

Age Group 年齡組別	1986-88	1990-92	1994-95
0	114	106	95
1-4	108	108	103
5-9	111	118	101
10-14	128	120	103
15-19	164	147	165
20-24	154	206	240
25-29	166	217	220
30-34	162	196	198
35-39	164	194	195
40-44	198	185	195
45-49	208	214	201
50-54	200	209	230
55-59	208	213	207
60-64	192	204	227
65-69	184	184	198
70-74	175	176	179
75 +	132	124	130

Causes of death

死亡原因

21. Neoplasms, diseases of the circulatory system and diseases of the respiratory system were the three major causes of death in the past decade. These diseases accounted for over three quarters of all deaths in the period. Neoplasms remained the leading killer in the period. The proportion of deaths due to diseases of the circulatory system dropped slightly. That related to diseases of the respiratory system, however, increased moderately from about 16% in 1986 to some 18% in 1995 (Table 14).

21. 腫瘤、循環系統疾病及呼吸系統疾病是過去十年三個主要的死亡原因。這些疾病佔期間的死亡總數四分三以上。腫瘤仍是該期間的頭號殺手，由循環系統導致的死亡數目所佔比例輕微下降，但與呼吸系統疾病有關的死亡數字所佔比例，則由一九八六年的百分之十六微升至一九九五年的百分之十八（表十四）。

Table 14 Percentage distribution of deaths by cause of death
表十四 按死因劃分的死亡百分比分佈

Cause of death	死因	1985-87	1989-91	1994-95
Neoplasms	腫瘤	30.6%	30.3%	31.4%
Diseases of the circulatory system	循環系統疾病	29.0%	28.4%	27.9%
Diseases of the respiratory system	呼吸系統疾病	16.1%	17.0%	17.9%
Injury & poisoning	受傷及中毒	5.7%	5.4%	4.5%
Diseases of the digestive system	消化系統疾病	4.2%	4.2%	4.4%
Diseases of the genitourinary system	泌尿生殖系統疾病	4.5%	4.5%	3.7%
Infectious and parasitic diseases	傳染及寄生蟲病	3.0%	3.4%	3.7%
Symptoms, signs and ill-defined conditions	病徵、病狀及難以分辨的情況	2.4%	2.5%	1.2%
Others	其他	4.5%	4.3%	5.3%
All causes	所有死因	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
		(26 025)	(28 770)	(30 687)

Note : Figures in brackets denote the average number of deaths in the period concerned.

註釋：括弧內數字是指平均每年死亡數字。

Life expectancy

平均預期壽命

22. Life expectancy is a useful summary measure to describe and compare mortality conditions at specific ages. It defines the average number of years of life that a cohort of births born in a given year can expect to live if they were subjected throughout their lifetime to the age-sex-specific death rates prevailing in that year.

22. 平均預期壽命是一項有用的指標，以供描述及比較年齡別人口的死亡情況。它是指某年出生的嬰兒，若他們一生經歷了一如該年按年齡及性別劃分的死亡率，預期能活的平均年數。

23. Over the past ten years, life expectancy increased at each age for both sexes. Improvement for males at middle or higher ages was greater than that for females (Table 15).

23. 過去十年，男女在每一年歲的平均預期壽命均上升，其中男性在中年及較大年紀的預期壽命改善幅度較女性爲大（表十五）。

Table 15 Life expectancy at selected ages by sex
表十五 按性別及選定年齡劃分的平均預期壽命

Age 年齡	Male 男性				Female 女性			
	1986	1990	1995	Increase (in years) 增長（以年計）	1986	1990	1995	Increase (in years) 增長（以年計）
0	74.1	74.6	76.0	1.9	79.4	80.3	81.5	2.1
20	55.0	55.5	56.7	1.7	60.4	61.0	62.1	1.7
40	35.7	36.3	37.5	1.8	40.9	41.5	42.5	1.6
60	18.5	18.9	19.9	1.4	22.6	23.0	23.8	1.2
80	6.6	7.0	7.4	0.8	8.3	8.7	8.8	0.5

24. A male born in 1995 was expected to live 76.0 years and a female, 81.5 years. These levels of life expectancy at birth are remarkably high by world standards (Table 16).

24. 在一九九五年，男嬰出生時預期可活到七十六歲，而女嬰則可活到八十一點五歲，與其他先進國家比較，這出生平均預期壽命明顯地較高（表十六）。

Table 16 International trends of life expectancy at birth
表十六 出生平均預期壽命的國際趨勢

Economy 經濟地區	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995
					Male 男性					
Hong Kong 香港	74.1	74.2	74.4	74.2	74.6	75.2	74.8	75.3	75.7	76.0
Japan 日本	75.2	75.6	75.5	75.9	75.9	76.1	76.1	76.3	76.6	N.A.
Netherlands 荷蘭	73.1	73.5	73.7	73.7	73.8	74.1	74.3	74.0	74.6	N.A.
Switzerland 瑞典	73.6	73.8	73.9	74.0	74.0	74.1	74.3	74.7	75.1	N.A.
U.K. 英國	71.9	72.2	72.4	72.7	72.9	73.2	73.6	73.6	74.2	N.A.
U.S.A 美國	71.2	71.4	71.4	71.7	71.8	72.0	72.3	72.2	N.A.	N.A.
					Female 女性					
Hong Kong 香港	79.4	79.7	79.9	80.0	80.3	80.7	80.7	80.9	81.5	81.5
Japan 日本	80.9	81.4	81.3	81.8	81.8	82.1	82.2	82.5	83.0	N.A.
Netherlands 荷蘭	79.6	80.1	80.2	79.9	80.1	80.2	80.3	80.0	80.3	N.A.
Switzerland 瑞典	80.3	80.5	80.7	80.9	80.8	80.9	81.2	81.4	81.6	N.A.
U.K. 英國	77.6	77.9	78.0	78.2	78.6	78.7	79.0	78.9	79.5	N.A.
U.S.A. 美國	78.2	78.3	78.3	78.5	78.8	78.9	79.0	78.8	N.A.	N.A.

Note : N.A. Figures are not yet available.

註釋 ：N.A. 未有數字。

Marriage

Background

25. In the case of Hong Kong, the study of marriage behaviour could enhance the understanding of changes in fertility since few births are born out of wedlock. Thus, changes in the age and the rate at which women enter first marriage can, other things being equal, be expected to bring about corresponding changes in the age at which women start childbearing. Moreover, the formation of families through marriage has an important bearing on the growth of households; and hence on the demand for housing.

26. In examining time series data on marriages in Hong Kong, several factors need to be borne in mind. First, before October 1971, marriages could be contracted in accordance with Chinese customs or the Chinese Civil Code of 1930. Statistics on total marriages include couples who were formally married by customary procedures and had re-registered after October 1971 and those who married outside Hong Kong. Second, intercensal estimates of the population by marital status are not available. Thus marriage rates based on the single population can only be calculated for census/by-census years. Third, the time series figures were affected by the tendency among some couples to avoid getting married in 'blind years' in the Chinese chronology cycle. Conversely, there were more couples marrying in auspicious years.

Number of marriages

27. Between 1986 and 1995, the total number of marriages (excluding others) contracted each year fluctuated in the region of 37 000 to 44 000. However, the fluctuations were very much related to fluctuations in the number of first marriages of both parties ranging from 31 000 to 40 000. Both the number and the proportion of first marriage of only one party are increasing, as are remarriages of both parties (Table 17).

婚姻

背景

25. 就香港而言，研究婚姻的行爲，可幫助瞭解生育情況的轉變。由於大部分的嬰兒都是經過結婚才出生的，因此當其他因素不變，女性初婚年齡及初婚率的轉變，將爲婦女開始生育年齡帶來相應的轉變。而且，結婚後組成家庭對住戶增長及對房屋需求都有很大的影響。

26. 要深入研究香港的結婚數字時，須緊記幾項重要因素。其一，在一九七一年十月前可根據一九三〇年的法例或中國習俗而結婚，結婚總數包括了一些以往按傳統習俗形式結婚而在一九七一年後再補辦註冊手續，及那些在香港以外地方結婚而在港補辦註冊手續的人士。其二，在人口普查及中期人口統計後之期間，並沒有按婚姻狀況劃分的人口估計，因此，結婚率只可在人口普查或中期人口統計的年份才可計算。其三，結婚數字因有些夫婦會避免在中國曆法中的所謂「盲年」結婚而受影響。相反地，在吉利的年份則有很多人結婚。

結婚數目

27. 在一九八六年至一九九五年間，結婚總數（不包括其他婚姻類別數字）每年都在三萬七千至四萬四千之間變動，而數目的變化與雙方均屬初次結婚的數目（每年在三萬一千至四萬水平）很有關連。其中一方屬初次結婚的數目及其所佔比例都有上升，而雙方均屬再婚的，亦有相同情況出現（表十七）。

Table 17 Number of marriages by type of marriage
表十七 按婚姻類別劃分的結婚數目

Year 年	First marriage of both parties 雙方均屬初婚	First marriage of one party, remarriage of other party 一方初婚而另一方再婚	Remarriage of both parties 雙方均屬再婚	Others * 其他類別 *	All marriages (excluding others) 所有婚姻類別（不包括其他類別）	All marriages (including others) 所有婚姻類別（包括其他類別）
1986	34 088 (91.1%)	2 781 (7.4%)	552 (1.5%)	5 859	37 421	43 280
1987	39 960 (91.7%)	3 036 (7.0%)	564 (1.3%)	5 001	43 560	48 561
1988	37 380 (90.2%)	3 390 (8.2%)	682 (1.6%)	3 786	41 452	45 238
1989	33 959 (88.9%)	3 528 (9.2%)	727 (1.9%)	5 733	38 214	43 947
1990	37 581 (89.0%)	3 786 (9.0%)	830 (2.0%)	4 971	42 197	47 168
1991	34 522 (87.6%)	3 981 (10.1%)	911 (2.3%)	3 154	39 414	42 568
1992	38 065 (88.0%)	4 311 (10.0%)	882 (2.0%)	2 444	43 258	45 702
1993	34 394 (86.9%)	4 286 (10.8%)	918 (2.3%)	2 083	39 598	41 681
1994	31 348 (85.5%)	4 328 (11.8%)	981 (2.7%)	1 607	36 657	38 264
1995	32 033 (85.8%)	4 246 (11.4%)	1 041 (2.8%)	1 466	37 320	38 786

Note : * Figures refer to re-registrations of couples who had either customarily married in Hong Kong before the Marriage Reform Ordinance was enacted in 1971 or had married outside Hong Kong.

註釋 : * 數字是指再辦理婚姻註冊的夫婦，包括於一九七一年婚姻條例制定前，在香港以傳統習俗形式結婚，或在外地結婚的夫婦。

Marriage rates

28. In analyzing the trend in marriages by sex, it is necessary to examine marriage rates for specific ages and marital status groups, as the number of marriages is affected by changes in the age and marital composition of the population. In calculating the age-sex-marital status-specific marriage rates, the number of marriages has been averaged over three-year periods so as to smooth out the effect of the Chinese chronology cycle on the yearly fluctuations in the number of marriages and the effect of migration.

29. The trend in remarriage rates is much more striking than that in first marriage rates, particularly among the divorced. Rates of remarriage among the divorced have risen markedly for both sexes at almost every age. Between 1986 and 1995, the number of divorces remarrying per 1 000 population rose from 79 to 106; that for divorcees from 77 to 86 (Table 18).

結婚率

28. 要分析按性別劃分的結婚數目的趨勢，必須從按年齡及婚姻狀況劃分的結婚率著手，因爲結婚的數目會受人口的年齡及婚姻狀況的結構影響。在計算按性別、年齡及婚姻狀況劃分的結婚率時，須先計算三年內的平均結婚數目，以免除受到中國曆法週期及移民數字對每年結婚數目產生波動的影響。

29. 再婚率的趨勢尤以離婚者爲甚，比初婚率更值得注意。不同年齡組別的離婚男性及女性的再婚率均顯著上升。一九八六至一九九五年間，每千名離婚者再婚人數，男性由七十九人上升至一百零六人，而女性則由七十七人上升至八十六人（表十八）。

Table 18 Marriage rates by marital status and age (per 1 000 related population)
表十八 按婚姻狀況及年齡劃分的結婚率（每千名有關人口）

Marital status 婚姻狀況	Year 年份	Age group 年齡組別 16-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-44	45+	16+
Bachelors	1985/87	1	28	96	113	70	14	45
未婚男性	1990/92	1	26	88	113	69	19	48
Spinsters	1985/87	8	73	143	103	51	9	62
未婚女性	1990/92	8	73	128	89	41	15	62
Divorces	1985/87	0	48	124	156	117	32	79
離婚男性	1990/92	0	38	185	231	149	45	106
Divorcees	1985/87	5	231	293	162	72	9	77
離婚女性	1990/92	0	226	375	198	78	13	86
Widowers	1985/87	0	48	44	55	34	4	6
鰥夫	1990/92	0	0	38	85	63	5	8
Widows	1985/87	24	42	71	27	13	0	1
寡婦	1990/92	0	61	60	57	17	0	1

Age pattern of marriage

30. The median age at first marriage for bachelors increased from 28.0 in 1986 to 30.0 in 1995, while that for spinsters, from 25.3 to 26.9. However, these figures should be interpreted with care as no adjustment has been made to take account of the effect of changes in the age structure of the single population on age at marriage.

31. The median age of remarriage for both divorces and divorcees reached 39.1 and 33.9 respectively in 1995, representing an increase, in both cases, of about 2.5 years over the past decade. In contrast, that for widowers fluctuated at around 53 while that for widows, at about 40 (Table 19).

結婚年齡模式

30. 未婚男性的初婚年齡中位數，由一九八六年的二十八歲上升至一九九五年的三十歲，而同期的未婚女性初婚年齡中位數，則由二十五點三歲上升至二十六點九歲。但理解這些數字時須小心，因爲人口年齡結構轉變對結婚年齡的影響未被考慮。

31. 男性及女性離婚者再婚的年齡中位數，在一九九五年分別爲三十九點一歲及三十三點九歲，較十年前均上升了約二點五歲。相反，鰥夫的再婚年齡中位數約爲五十三歲，而寡婦則爲四十歲（表十九）。

Table 19 Median age at marriage
表十九 結婚年齡中位數

Year 年	Male 男性 Bachelors 未婚男性	Male 男性 Divorces 離婚男性	Male 男性 Widowers 鰥夫	Female 女性 Spinsters 未婚女性	Female 女性 Divorcees 離婚女性	Female 女性 Widows 寡婦
1986	28.0	36.5	53.1	25.3	31.4	38.7
1987	28.3	36.7	52.5	25.6	31.8	38.7
1988	28.6	37.1	51.3	25.8	32.3	39.7
1989	28.7	37.6	54.9	26.1	32.5	39.9
1990	28.9	37.4	53.2	26.3	32.6	40.1
1991	29.1	37.7	53.6	26.2	33.2	40.4
1992	29.4	37.9	53.1	26.3	33.2	39.2
1993	29.6	38.4	51.4	26.5	33.2	40.2
1994	29.6	38.5	51.7	26.5	33.5	40.2
1995	30.0	39.1	52.5	26.9	33.9	39.7

32. In the past decade, there has been an increase in the proportion of bachelors marrying older wives and a reduction in the proportion of bachelors marrying younger wives. This may well be associated with the growing shortage of eligible younger women (Table 20).

32. 過去十年，未婚男性中與較自己年紀大的未婚女性結婚的比例上升，而與較自己年輕的未婚女性結婚的比例則下降，這可能與合適的年輕女性出現短缺有關（表二十）。

Table 20 Age difference between bachelors marrying spinsters
表二十 未婚男性與未婚女性結婚時的年齡差距

Year 年	Percentage of bachelors who married 丈夫與妻子結婚年齡差距的百分比 Younger wives 妻子較丈夫年輕	Wives of same age 妻子與丈夫年齡相同	Older wives 妻子較丈夫年長
1986	75.0	10.5	14.5
1987	74.7	10.6	14.7
1988	74.9	10.6	14.5
1989	74.5	10.8	14.7
1990	74.0	10.8	15.2
1991	73.9	10.5	15.6
1992	74.7	10.3	15.0
1993	74.3	10.4	15.3
1994	73.5	10.6	15.9
1995	73.2	11.0	15.8