

Monetary Statistics for May 2019

The following is issued on behalf of the Hong Kong Monetary Authority:

According to statistics published today (June 28) by the Hong Kong Monetary Authority, total deposits with authorised institutions declined by 1.0 per cent in May 2019. With decreases in savings, demand and time deposits, Hong Kong-dollar deposits went down by 1.0 per cent during the month. Overall foreign-currency deposits also decreased by 1.0 per cent in May. Renminbi deposits in Hong Kong increased by 2.0 per cent to RMB624.4 billion at the end of May. The total remittance of renminbi for cross-border trade settlement amounted to RMB477.3 billion in May, compared with RMB420.7 billion in April 2019.

Total loans and advances stayed virtually unchanged in May. Among the total, loans for use in Hong Kong (including trade finance) edged up by 0.1 per cent from a month ago, while loans for use outside Hong Kong edged down by 0.2 per cent (Note). The Hong Kong-dollar loan-to-deposit ratio picked up to 88.3 per cent at the end of May from 87.3 per cent at the end of April, as Hong Kong-dollar loans increased while Hong Kong-dollar deposits declined.

On a seasonally-adjusted basis, Hong Kong-dollar M1 declined by 2.2 per cent in May and dropped by 5.9 per cent year-on-year. Seasonally unadjusted Hong Kong-dollar M3 decreased by 1.0 per cent during the month but rose by 2.8 per cent from a year earlier.

Note: The December 2018 figures for loans for use in/outside Hong Kong have been restated to reflect authorised institutions' reclassification of working capital loans. The reported month-on-month and quarter-on-quarter growth rates are calculated based on the reclassified loan data. As reclassified loan data before December 2018 are not available, year-on-year growth rates of loans for use in/outside Hong Kong (including their sub-components) as shown in Table 1H of the Annex are calculated based on the data without such reclassification.

Labour Department investigates fatal work accident in Shau Kei Wan

The Labour Department (LD) is investigating a work accident that occurred in Shau Kei Wan this afternoon (June 28), in which a worker died.

The LD immediately deployed staff to the scene upon receiving a report of the accident, and is now conducting an investigation to look into its

cause.

Residential mortgage survey results for May 2019

The following is issued on behalf of the Hong Kong Monetary Authority:

The Hong Kong Monetary Authority (HKMA) announced the results of the residential mortgage survey for May 2019.

The number of mortgage applications in May increased month-on-month by 16.2 per cent to 17,456.

Mortgage loans approved in May increased by 30.1 per cent compared with April to HK\$52.3 billion. Among these, mortgage loans financing primary market transactions increased by 48.9 per cent to HK\$12.5 billion and those financing secondary market transactions increased by 23.5 per cent to HK\$26.2 billion. Mortgage loans for refinancing increased by 28.3 per cent to HK\$13.6 billion.

Mortgage loans drawn down during May increased by 58 per cent compared with April to HK\$33.6 billion.

The ratio of new mortgage loans priced with reference to HIBOR decreased from 89 per cent in April to 88 per cent in May. The ratio of new mortgage loans priced with reference to best lending rates increased from 8.1 per cent in April to 8.6 per cent in May.

The outstanding value of mortgage loans increased month-on-month by one per cent to HK\$1,351 billion at end-May.

The mortgage delinquency ratio remained unchanged at 0.02 per cent and the rescheduled loan ratio remained unchanged at nearly 0 per cent.

HAD to open temporary night heat shelters

The Home Affairs Department will open 19 temporary night heat shelters tonight (June 28) for people in need of the service.

The shelters will be open from 10.30pm until 8am tomorrow.

For further information, please call the department's hotline before midnight on 2835 1473.

The 19 night heat shelters are located at:

Hong Kong Districts:

Central and Western –

Sai Ying Pun Community Complex Community Hall
3/F, Sai Ying Pun Community Complex
2 High Street, Sai Ying Pun

Eastern –

Causeway Bay Community Centre
3/F, 7 Fook Yum Road, Causeway Bay

Southern –

Lei Tung Community Hall
Lei Tung Estate, Ap Lei Chau

Wan Chai –

Wan Chai Activities Centre
LG/F, Wan Chai Market, 258 Queen's Road East, Wan Chai

Kowloon Districts:

Kowloon City –

Hung Hom Community Hall
1/F, Kowloon City Government Offices
42 Bailey Street, Hung Hom

Kwun Tong –

Lam Tin (West) Estate Community Centre
71 Kai Tin Road, Lam Tin

Sham Shui Po –

Shek Kip Mei Community Hall
G/F, Block 42, Shek Kip Mei Estate
Sham Shui Po

Wong Tai Sin –

Tsz Wan Shan (South) Estate Community Centre
45 Wan Wah Street, Tsz Wan Shan

Yau Tsim Mong –

Henry G Leong Yaumatei Community Centre

60 Public Square Street, Yau Ma Tei

New Territories Districts:

Islands –

Tung Chung Community Hall
G/F, Tung Chung Municipal Services Building,
39 Man Tung Road, Tung Chung

Kwai Tsing –

Kwai Shing Community Hall
Podium, Block 6, Kwai Shing West Estate, Kwai Chung

North –

Cheung Wah Community Hall
Cheung Wah Estate, Fanling

Sai Kung –

Hang Hau Community Hall
G/F, Sai Kung Tseung Kwan O Government Complex,
38 Pui Shing Road, Hang Hau, Tseung Kwan O

Sha Tin –

Lung Hang Estate Community Centre
Lung Hang Estate, Sha Tin

Tai Po –

Tai Po Community Centre
2 Heung Sze Wui Street, Tai Po

Tsuen Wan –

Lei Muk Shue Community Hall
G/F, Hong Shue House, Lei Muk Shue Estate, Tsuen Wan

Tuen Mun –

Butterfly Bay Community Centre
Butterfly Estate (near Tip Sum House), Tuen Mun

Yuen Long –

Long Ping Community Hall
Long Ping Estate, Yuen Long

Yuen Long –

Tin Yiu Community Centre
Tin Yiu Estate, Tin Shui Wai

The temporary night heat shelters will resume their functions as either community centres or community halls in the daytime for hire by the local community and cannot continue to be open as heat shelters. People may choose to take refuge from the heat during the daytime in the common areas in any of

the 20 designated community centres or community halls. Their opening hours are from 9am to 10pm. For addresses of the community centres or community halls, please browse the following webpage:
www.had.gov.hk/file_manager/en/documents/public_services/emergency_services/List_CH_CC_Day_E.pdf.

Grading of beach water quality released

The Environmental Protection Department (EPD) today (June 28) released the latest grading of water quality for 38 gazetted beaches that are open for swimming and one non-gazetted beach (i.e. Discovery Bay*).

Thirteen beaches were rated as Good (Grade 1), 15 as Fair (Grade 2) and 11 as Poor (Grade 3).

Grade 1 beaches are:

Cheung Chau Tung Wan Beach	Repulse Bay Beach
Chung Hom Kok Beach	South Bay Beach
Discovery Bay	Stanley Main Beach
Hap Mun Bay Beach	Tong Fuk Beach
Hung Shing Yeh Beach	Trio Beach
Kiu Tsui Beach	Upper Cheung Sha Beach
Lo So Shing Beach	

Grade 2 beaches are:

Butterfly Beach	Lower Cheung Sha Beach
Cafeteria New Beach	Middle Bay Beach
Castle Peak Beach	Pui O Beach
Clear Water Bay First Beach	Shek O Beach
Clear Water Bay Second Beach	Silverstrand Beach
Deep Water Bay Beach	St Stephen's Beach
Golden Beach	Turtle Cove Beach
Kwun Yam Beach	

Grade 3 beaches are:

Anglers' Beach	Kadoorie Beach
Approach Beach	Lido Beach
Big Wave Bay Beach	Ma Wan Tung Wan Beach
Cafeteria Old Beach	Silver Mine Bay Beach
Casam Beach	Ting Kau Beach
Hoi Mei Wan Beach	

* Discovery Bay is a non-gazetted beach without lifeguard service.

Compared with the grading released last week, Castle Peak Beach, Clear Water Bay Second Beach and Deep Water Bay Beach have been upgraded from Grade 3 to Grade 2. Kwun Yam Beach and St Stephen's Beach have been changed from Grade 1 to Grade 2, and Ma Wan Tung Wan Beach from Grade 2 to Grade 3.

"The changes are generally within the normal range of fluctuation of the bacteriological water quality of the beaches," an EPD spokesman said.

Under the present grading system, beaches are classified into four grades according to the level of E. coli in the water. Grades are calculated on the basis of the geometric mean of the E. coli counts on the five most recent sampling occasions.

While the ratings represent the general water quality at the beaches, the EPD spokesman reminded members of the public that water quality could be temporarily affected during and after periods of heavy rain. Bathers should avoid swimming at beaches for up to three days after a storm or heavy rainfall.

A summary of beach grades is published weekly before the weekend. The latest beach grades based on the most current data may be obtained from the department's website on Beach Water Quality (www.epd.gov.hk/epd/beach) or the beach hotline, 2511 6666.