

July 2020 issue of “Hong Kong Monthly Digest of Statistics” now available

The Census and Statistics Department (C&SD) published today (July 15) the July 2020 issue of the "Hong Kong Monthly Digest of Statistics" (HKMDS).

Apart from providing up-to-date statistics, this issue also contains three feature articles entitled "Hong Kong's Trade Involving Outward Processing in the Mainland of China, 2009 to 2019", "International Comparison Program" and "Foreign Affiliates Statistics of Hong Kong".

"Hong Kong's Trade Involving Outward Processing in the Mainland of China, 2009 to 2019"

Outward processing (OP) activities play an important role in Hong Kong's trade with the mainland of China (the Mainland). Trade of OP nature is mingled with other types of trade under the existing system of recording trade statistics. To better assess the performance of Hong Kong's trade with the Mainland, the C&SD has been conducting monthly surveys to collect data on trade involving OP in the Mainland since 1988. The main objective of the surveys is to separate OP trade from the regular trade. Starting from 2010, additional data on the arrangement for OP in the Mainland was collected in the survey.

This feature article describes Hong Kong's trade involving OP in the Mainland during the period from 2009 to 2019.

For enquiries about this feature article, please contact the Outward Processing and Shipping Statistics Section of the C&SD (Tel: 2582 4889; email: ops@censtatd.gov.hk).

"International Comparison Program"

The conventional approach of comparing the GDP and other expenditure aggregates across economies is to convert the values measured in local currencies into a common currency using the market exchange rates. Nevertheless, this approach is subject to the limitation that the exchange rates, which are determined by the demand for and supply of currencies, do not reflect the relative price level differences across economies and are under the influence of a number of extraneous factors. In view of such shortcomings, the International Comparison Program (ICP) was launched to provide a more robust system for meaningful international comparison by means of Purchasing Power Parities (PPPs) data. Results of the 2017 ICP have recently been released by the World Bank.

This feature article aims to introduce the methodology of the ICP and provides some highlights on the results of the 2017 ICP.

For enquiries about this feature article, please contact the National Income Section (1)1 of the C&SD (Tel: 2582 5077; email: gdp-e@censtatd.gov.hk).

"Foreign Affiliates Statistics of Hong Kong"

With globalisation of the world economy, it is popular for multinational enterprises to provide services to customers in another economy through setting up affiliated companies abroad.

In view of the importance of services supplied via this mode, the C&SD has developed a statistical framework for compiling relevant statistics, known as "foreign affiliates statistics (FATS)". This feature article briefly describes the statistical system for compiling inward FATS, and presents selected inward FATS of Hong Kong for 2018. It is an update of similar articles on the same subject published in preceding years.

For enquiries about this feature article, please contact the Trade in Services Statistics Section of the C&SD (Tel: 3903 7410; email: tis@censtatd.gov.hk).

Published in bilingual form, the HKMDS is a compact volume of official statistics containing about 140 tables. It collects up-to-date statistical series on various aspects of the social and economic situation of Hong Kong. Topics include population; labour; external trade; National Income and Balance of Payments; prices; business performance; energy; housing and property; government accounts, finance and insurance; and transport, communications and tourism. For selected key statistical items, over 20 charts depicting the annual trend in the past decade and quarterly or monthly trend in the recent two years are also available. Users can download the Digest free of charge at the website of the C&SD (www.censtatd.gov.hk/hkstat/sub/sp460.jsp?productCode=B1010002).

Enquiries about the contents of the Digest can be directed to the Statistical Information Dissemination Section (1) of the C&SD (Tel: 2582 4738; email: gen-enquiry@censtatd.gov.hk).