

Key statistics on operating characteristics of import/export, wholesale and retail trades, and accommodation and food services sectors in 2017

According to the results of the 2017 Annual Survey of Economic Activities – Import/Export, Wholesale and Retail Trades, and Accommodation and Food Services Sectors released today (November 30) by the Census and Statistics Department (C&SD), total receipts (i.e. sales and other receipts) of the import/export, wholesale and retail trades, and accommodation and food services sectors amounted to \$5,039.9 billion in 2017, representing an increase of 2.8% compared with 2016; on a per establishment basis, total receipts increased by 4.8% compared with 2016 to \$33.1 million in 2017.

Operating expenses, cost of goods sold and compensation of employees of the above sectors altogether amounted to \$4,661.4 billion in 2017, representing an increase of 2.7% compared with 2016; on a per establishment basis, they altogether increased by 4.7% compared with 2016 to \$30.6 million in 2017.

Gross surplus of the sectors, which is equal to total receipts less operating expenses, cost of goods sold and compensation of employees, increased by 3.3% compared with 2016 to \$378.4 billion in 2017; on a per establishment basis, gross surplus was \$2.5 million in 2017, which increased by 5.3% compared with 2016. For all these sectors taken together, gross surplus accounted for 7.5% of total receipts in 2017, which was similar to that in 2016.

Value added of the sectors, which is a measure of their total contribution to Hong Kong's Gross Domestic Product, amounted to \$645.7 billion in 2017, which increased by 5.3% compared with 2016; on a per establishment basis, value added was \$4.2 million in 2017, which increased by 7.3% compared with 2016.

According to the survey results, it was estimated that the aforementioned sectors comprised some 152 400 establishments and engaged about 1 092 600 persons, or an average of 7.2 persons per establishment, in 2017.

In the import/export trade, total receipts amounted to \$3,986.6 billion while operating expenses, cost of goods sold and compensation of employees totalled \$3,680.7 billion in 2017. Gross surplus increased from \$295.0 billion in 2016 to \$305.9 billion in 2017, accounting for 7.7% of total receipts in 2017. Value added increased by 5.2% compared with 2016 to \$457.6

billion.

In the wholesale trade, total receipts amounted to \$310.3 billion while operating expenses, cost of goods sold and compensation of employees totalled \$302.1 billion in 2017. Gross surplus decreased from \$8.2 billion in 2016 to \$8.1 billion in 2017, accounting for 2.6% of total receipts in 2017. Value added increased by 4.0% compared with 2016 to \$21.9 billion.

In the retail trade, total receipts amounted to \$552.3 billion while operating expenses, cost of goods sold and compensation of employees totalled \$513.1 billion in 2017. Gross surplus increased from \$39.0 billion in 2016 to \$39.2 billion in 2017, accounting for 7.1% of total receipts in 2017. Value added increased by 5.7% compared with 2016 to \$84.1 billion.

In the accommodation services sector which covers hotels, guesthouses, boarding houses and other establishments providing short term accommodation, total receipts amounted to \$45.2 billion while operating expenses, cost of goods sold and compensation of employees totalled \$30.4 billion in 2017. Gross surplus increased from \$14.3 billion in 2016 to \$14.7 billion in 2017, accounting for 32.6% of total receipts in 2017. Value added increased by 4.9% compared with 2016 to \$28.4 billion.

In the food services sector which mainly covers restaurants, total receipts amounted to \$145.5 billion while operating expenses, cost of goods sold and compensation of employees totalled \$135.1 billion in 2017. Gross surplus increased from \$10.1 billion in 2016 to \$10.5 billion in 2017, accounting for 7.2% of total receipts in 2017. Value added increased by 6.1% compared with 2016 to \$53.8 billion.

Selected statistics for the import/export, wholesale and retail trades, and accommodation and food services sectors in 2016 and 2017 are shown in the attached table.

More detailed survey results on the import/export, wholesale and retail trades, and accommodation and food services sectors will be given in the report "Key Statistics on Business Performance and Operating Characteristics of the Import/Export, Wholesale and Retail Trades, and Accommodation and Food Services Sectors in 2017". Users can download this report (in PDF format) free of charge at the website of C&SD (www.censtatd.gov.hk/hkstat/sub/sp320.jsp?productCode=B1080014) as from end-December 2018.

Users who have enquiries about the survey results may contact the Distribution Services Statistics Section of C&SD (Tel: 3903 7399; email : asw@censtatd.gov.hk).