

## Key statistics on operating characteristics of import/export, wholesale and retail trades, and accommodation and food services sectors in 2018

According to the results of the 2018 Annual Survey of Economic Activities – Import/Export, Wholesale and Retail Trades, and Accommodation and Food Services Sectors released today (November 29) 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 \$5,394.5 billion in 2018, representing an increase of 7.0% compared with 2017; on a per establishment basis, total receipts increased by 6.6% compared with 2017 to \$35.3 million in 2018.

Operating expenses, cost of goods sold and compensation of employees of the above sectors altogether amounted to \$4,985.1 billion in 2018, representing an increase of 6.9% compared with 2017; on a per establishment basis, they altogether increased by 6.6% compared with 2017 to \$32.6 million in 2018.

Gross surplus of the sectors, which is equal to total receipts less operating expenses, cost of goods sold and compensation of employees, increased by 8.2% compared with 2017 to \$409.5 billion in 2018; on a per establishment basis, gross surplus was \$2.7 million in 2018, which increased by 7.8% compared with 2017. For all these sectors taken together, gross surplus accounted for 7.6% of total receipts in 2018, which was similar to that in 2017.

Value added of the sectors, which is a measure of their total contribution to Hong Kong's Gross Domestic Product, amounted to \$683.1 billion in 2018, which increased by 5.8% compared with 2017; on a per establishment basis, value added was \$4.5 million in 2018, which increased by 5.4% compared with 2017.

According to the survey results, it was estimated that the aforementioned sectors comprised some 153 000 establishments and engaged about 1 095 600 persons, or an average of 7.2 persons per establishment, in 2018.

In the import/export trade, total receipts amounted to \$4,261.1 billion while operating expenses, cost of goods sold and compensation of employees totalled \$3,930.1 billion in 2018. Gross surplus increased from \$305.9 billion in 2017 to \$330.9 billion in 2018, accounting for 7.8% of total receipts in 2018. Value added increased by 4.5% compared with 2017 to \$478.3 billion.

In the wholesale trade, total receipts amounted to \$324.2 billion while operating expenses, cost of goods sold and compensation of employees totalled \$315.3 billion in 2018. Gross surplus increased from \$8.1 billion in 2017 to \$8.9 billion in 2018, accounting for 2.7% of total receipts in 2018. Value added increased by 7.6% compared with 2017 to \$23.6 billion.

In the retail trade, total receipts amounted to \$600.8 billion while operating expenses, cost of goods sold and compensation of employees totalled \$559.2 billion in 2018. Gross surplus increased from \$39.2 billion in 2017 to \$41.6 billion in 2018, accounting for 6.9% of total receipts in 2018. Value added increased by 7.0% compared with 2017 to \$89.9 billion.

In the accommodation services sector which covers hotels, guesthouses, boarding houses and other establishments providing short term accommodation, total receipts amounted to \$51.0 billion while operating expenses, cost of goods sold and compensation of employees totalled \$34.0 billion in 2018. Gross surplus increased from \$14.7 billion in 2017 to \$17.0 billion in 2018, accounting for 33.3% of total receipts in 2018. Value added increased by 13.1% compared with 2017 to \$32.2 billion.

In the food services sector which mainly covers restaurants, total receipts amounted to \$157.5 billion while operating expenses, cost of goods sold and compensation of employees totalled \$146.5 billion in 2018. Gross surplus increased from \$10.5 billion in 2017 to \$11.0 billion in 2018, accounting for 7.0% of total receipts in 2018. Value added increased by 10.0% compared with 2017 to \$59.1 billion.

Selected statistics for the import/export, wholesale and retail trades, and accommodation and food services sectors in 2017 and 2018 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 2018". 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](http://www.censtatd.gov.hk/hkstat/sub/sp320.jsp?productCode=B1080014)) as from end-December 2019.

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