

May 2022 issue of “Hong Kong Monthly Digest of Statistics” now available

The Census and Statistics Department (C&SD) published today (May 17) the May 2022 issue of the "Hong Kong Monthly Digest of Statistics" (HKMDS).

Apart from providing up-to-date statistics, this issue also contains two feature articles entitled "External Debt Statistics of Hong Kong for 2017 to 2021" and "Movements of Producer Price Indices of Service Industries during 2012 to 2021".

"External Debt Statistics of Hong Kong for 2017 to 2021"

External Debt (ED) statistics provide useful information for international financial surveillance. They assist data users in monitoring the development of an economy's external liabilities and hence its debt servicing obligations over time. Over the past 5 years, the gross ED of Hong Kong increased by 19.0%, from \$12,309.4 billion at end-2017 to \$14,652.2 billion at end-2021. This was mainly attributable to the significant increases in ED of the banking sector and other sectors.

For enquiries about this feature article, please contact the Balance of Payments Branch (1), the C&SD (Tel: 3903 6990; email: bop@censtatd.gov.hk).

"Movements of Producer Price Indices of Service Industries during 2012 to 2021"

The Producer Price Index (PPI) measures changes in output prices of goods and services of an industry. It can be used as a deflator of output series for discounting the effect of price changes so as to measure changes of local output in real terms and to facilitate the assessment of productivity growth in an economy. PPI is also useful as an economic indicator for monitoring the price movements of local outputs and evaluating their price competitiveness vis-à-vis those delivered in other economies/territories.

This feature article analyses the movements of PPIs of selected service industries during 2012 to 2021.

For enquiries about this feature article, please contact the Logistics and Producer Prices Statistics Section, the C&SD (Tel: 3903 7255; email: services@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 at the website of the C&SD (www.censtatd.gov.hk/en/EIndexbySubject.html?pcode=B1010002&scode=460).

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).