

[Fraudulent social media account and phishing instant messages related to Royal Bank of Canada](#)

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

The Hong Kong Monetary Authority (HKMA) wishes to alert members of the public to a press release issued by Royal Bank of Canada relating to a fraudulent social media account and phishing instant messages, which have been reported to the HKMA. A hyperlink to the press release is available on the [HKMA website](#).

The HKMA wishes to remind the public that banks will not send SMS or emails with embedded hyperlinks which direct them to the banks' websites to carry out transactions. They will not ask customers for sensitive personal information, such as login passwords or one-time password, by phone, email or SMS (including via embedded hyperlinks).

Anyone who has provided his or her personal information, or who has conducted any financial transactions, through or in response to the social media account or instant messages concerned, should contact the bank using the contact information provided in the press release, and report the matter to the Police by contacting the Crime Wing Information Centre of the Hong Kong Police Force at 2860 5012.

[Provisional statistics of retail sales for May 2024](#)

The Census and Statistics Department (C&SD) released the latest figures on retail sales today (July 2).

The value of total retail sales in May 2024, provisionally estimated at \$30.5 billion, decreased by 11.5% compared with the same month in 2023. The revised estimate of the value of total retail sales in April 2024 decreased by 14.7% compared with a year earlier. For the first 5 months of 2024 taken together, it was provisionally estimated that the value of total retail sales decreased by 6.1% compared with the same period in 2023.

Of the total retail sales value in May 2024, online sales accounted for 8.7%. The value of online retail sales in that month, provisionally estimated at \$2.6 billion, increased by 21.9% compared with the same month in 2023. The revised estimate of online retail sales in April 2024 increased by 11.5%

The biographical notes of the two appointees are as follows:

His Honour Judge Herbert Au-Yeung Ho-wing

His Honour Judge Herbert Au-Yeung was born in Hong Kong in 1973. He obtained an LL.B. and a P.C.LL. from the University of Hong Kong in 1996 and 1997 respectively. He was called to the Bar in Hong Kong in 1997. He was in private practice from 1998 to 2012. He was appointed as District Judge in 2012.

Her Honour Judge Winnie Tsui Wan-wah

Her Honour Judge Winnie Tsui was born in Hong Kong in 1973. She obtained a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Jurisprudence from the University of Oxford, the United Kingdom, in 1995 and a Postgraduate Diploma in Legal Practice from the College of Law, the United Kingdom, in 1996. She was admitted as Solicitor in England and Wales and in Hong Kong in 1998 and 1999 respectively. She was called to the Hong Kong Bar in 2005. She was in private practice and employed as in-house counsel between 1999 and 2014. She was appointed as District Judge in 2017.

[Effective Exchange Rate Index](#)

The effective exchange rate index for the Hong Kong dollar on Tuesday, July 2, 2024 is 106.9 (up 0.1 against last Saturday's index).

The effective exchange rate index for the Hong Kong dollar on Saturday, June 29, 2024 was 106.8 (down 0.1 against last Friday's index).