

Government receives tentative results of 2024 Pay Trend Survey

A spokesman for the Civil Service Bureau said that the bureau received the tentative results of the 2024 Pay Trend Survey from the secretariat of the Pay Trend Survey Committee (PTSC) today (May 16).

"The Chief Executive-in-Council will comprehensively and fully consider all relevant factors under the established annual civil service pay adjustment mechanism in determining the annual civil service pay adjustment. These factors include the state of Hong Kong's economy, changes in the cost of living, the Government's fiscal position, the 'net pay trend indicators' (PTIs) (see attachment) calculated from the results of the Pay Trend Survey (PTS), the pay claims of the staff side and civil service morale," the spokesman said.

The PTS was conducted by the Pay Survey and Research Unit of the Joint Secretariat for the Advisory Bodies on Civil Service and Judicial Salaries and Conditions of Service in strict adherence to the methodology endorsed by the PTSC. The tentative results, presented in the form of "gross PTIs", show the rates of pay adjustment in the private sector in three salary bands for the period from April 2, 2023, to April 1, 2024. The PTSC will meet next week to decide whether to validate the "gross PTIs".

Tentative findings of 2024 Pay Trend Survey

The following is issued on behalf of the Pay Trend Survey Committee:

The 2024 Pay Trend Survey Report (PTS Report), compiled by the Pay Survey and Research Unit of the Joint Secretariat for the Advisory Bodies on Civil Service and Judicial Salaries and Conditions of Service, has been distributed to members of the Pay Trend Survey Committee (PTSC) earlier today (May 16).

The tentative survey findings have indicated the following average pay adjustments in the surveyed companies over the 12-month period from April 2, 2023, to April 1, 2024.

Tentative findings of the 2024 Pay Trend Survey (PTS) (subject to verification)

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		Basic Pay Indicator	+	Additional Pay Indicator	=	Gross Pay Trend Indicator
Lower Salary Band (below \$25,815 per month)	:	5.26%	+	1.37%	=	6.63%
Middle Salary Band (\$25,815 – \$79,135 per month)	:	5.03%	+	0.32%	=	5.35%
Upper Salary Band (\$79,136 – \$159,130 per month)	:	3.63%	+	1.42%	=	5.05%

Members of the PTSC are at present studying the PTS Report in detail. Subject to their analysis and deliberation, the PTSC will verify and consider whether to validate the findings of the survey at its meeting scheduled for May 22. After that, the PTSC will submit the survey findings to the Government.

In accordance with the established practice, the Chief Executive-in-Council (CE-in-Council) will take into account the pay trend indicators derived from the PTS and other pertinent considerations before making a decision on the 2024-25 civil service pay adjustment. The PTSC has yet to validate and confirm these tentative findings. The PTSC will not make any recommendations to the Government on the rates of adjustments to civil service salaries. Be they tentative or validated, the findings are not rates of adjustments to civil service salaries recommended by the PTSC.

The tentative survey findings reflect the pay trend in 113 companies covering 134 376 employees over the 12-month period from April 2, 2023, to April 1, 2024. Among these companies, there are 83 larger companies (employing 100 or more staff) and 30 smaller companies (employing 50 – 99 staff).

The survey is conducted in accordance with an improved methodology as approved by the CE-in-Council in March 2007. The survey takes into account adjustments to basic salary and additional payments awarded to employees of the surveyed companies attributable to factors in relation to the cost of living, general prosperity and company performance, general changes in market rates, merit and inscale increment.

The PTSC is chaired by Mr Laurence Li, SC, who is a member of the Standing Commission on Civil Service Salaries and Conditions of Service. Mr Li wishes to express the PTSC's sincere appreciation for the co-operation and assistance rendered by the companies who participated in the 2024 PTS.

Red flag hoisted at Cheung Chau Tung Wan Beach

Attention TV/radio announcers:

Please broadcast the following as soon as possible:

Here is an item of interest to swimmers.

The Leisure and Cultural Services Department announced today (May 16) that due to big waves, the red flag has been hoisted at Cheung Chau Tung Wan Beach in Islands District. Beachgoers are advised not to swim at the beach.

Speech by CS at Hospital Authority Convention 2024 (English only) (with photo/video)

Following is the speech by the Chief Secretary for Administration, Mr Chan Kwok-ki, at the Hospital Authority (HA) Convention 2024 today (May 16):

Vice-minister Cao Xuetao (Vice-minister of the National Health Commission), Henry (Chairman of the HA, Mr Henry Fan), Tony (Chief Executive of the HA, Dr Tony Ko), distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen,

Good morning. It gives me great pleasure to join you all today at the opening of this year's Hospital Authority Convention.

I have been told that the Convention has brought together some 7 000 healthcare professionals and stakeholders from Hong Kong, Mainland China, and around the world.

You will hear from over 160 expert speakers in a range of symposiums, plenaries, special sessions, masterclasses, and more.

Hong Kong is blessed with a life expectancy among the highest in the world. And our infant mortality rate is among the world's lowest.

Our remarkable standing in health, internationally, is only made possible by the support of our high-quality medical care services and effective healthcare system.

And, of course, like most economies, Hong Kong is faced with challenges too. Our population is ageing; we have a shortage of healthcare

professionals; and chronic disease is increasing in our community.

That is why the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (SAR) continues to increase investment in Hong Kong's healthcare system, especially the public hospital system.

This fiscal year, our estimated recurrent subvention for the Hospital Authority is some HK\$95.4 billion. And that is on top of the commitments we have made regarding ongoing capital projects under the Hospital Development Plans and other healthcare infrastructure upgrades.

All along, the Hospital Authority plays a key role in delivering our healthcare policies, providing comprehensive, quality public healthcare services, together with a strong safety net for the people of Hong Kong.

Healthcare professionals and supporting personnel are at the core of quality healthcare services. This convention is a welcome opportunity for us all to express our appreciation and gratitude to all Hospital Authority staff, and the healthcare sector at large, for their commitment and contributions to Hong Kong.

And their achievements are particularly noteworthy, given our public healthcare manpower shortage. And I am pleased to add that the Hospital Authority's wide-ranging efforts to recruit healthcare professionals are beginning to yield results.

The Hong Kong SAR Government will continue to strengthen healthcare manpower supply and training. We will continue to support the Hospital Authority's drive to recruit more locally and non-locally trained doctors. We are also increasing training places, and providing new pathways for the admission of qualified, non-locally trained dentists and nurses.

At the same time, we are pursuing healthcare talent training and exchanges with the Mainland. More than 100 healthcare professionals from Guangdong Province have begun their exchanges under the Greater Bay Area Healthcare Talents Exchange Programme. And I am glad that they are here today, alongside professionals from around the world, under our Global Healthcare Talent Scheme.

Exchange programmes with Mainland cities like Beijing, Shanghai and Shenzhen are also being organised. Under these programmes, Hospital Authority staff will have the opportunity to learn from their counterparts on the Mainland.

Hardware development is also important to our healthcare system. Alongside the Hospital Development Plans, where all hospital projects under the First Plan have begun, the Hospital Authority is developing Smart Hospital and Smart Care initiatives. These programmes will ensure that our infrastructure remains modern and efficient for sustainable healthcare services.

On the policy level, the Hong Kong SAR Government is committed to developing Hong Kong into a health and medical innovation hub.

To that end, we are enhancing our drug and medical-device regulatory regime. That includes supporting clinical trials. Our long-term objective is to develop an internationally recognised authority that registers medical products under the "primary evaluation" approach.

With our Government's support, the Hospital Authority has also rolled out measures to help researchers and healthcare professionals conduct more clinical research. It has recently established the Central Clinical Research and Innovation Office. And it is also providing clinical trial sites, as well as patient participation in public hospitals, to promote scientific research.

Ladies and gentlemen, you are here, today and tomorrow, to discuss the latest advances and promising prospects in healthcare. You are here, as well, to learn more about the remarkable transformations taking place in global healthcare.

Given technological progress and ground-breaking discoveries in medicine, it is vital that we embrace innovation and collaboration, regionally and globally.

My thanks to the Hospital Authority for once again organising this annual gathering of medical professionals, scientists, academics, innovators, entrepreneurs, and institutions around the world.

This is, let me add, one of the anchor events at this year's International Healthcare Week. That inspiring series includes the con-current Asia Summit on Global Health, together with other high-profile events like the Hong Kong International Medical and Healthcare Fair, which opens today and continues through the weekend; and the first-edition FoodMed conference and exhibition, which runs from May 28 to 29.

Ladies and gentlemen, I wish you all a rewarding Convention this year. And for those who have travelled to Hong Kong, I encourage you to find time to explore our dynamic cosmopolitan city, where East meets West. Thank you very much.



LegCo Public Accounts Committee to hold public hearing tomorrow

The following is issued on behalf of the Legislative Council Secretariat:

The Legislative Council (LegCo) Public Accounts Committee (PAC) will hold the third public hearing on "Emergency dental services and elderly dental care support" (Chapter 2) of the Director of Audit's Report No. 82 tomorrow (May 17) at 9am in Conference Room 1 of the LegCo Complex.

Six witnesses have been invited to appear before the above hearing to respond to points raised in the Report and answer questions asked by PAC members.

The programme for the public hearing is as follows:

Subject: Emergency dental services and elderly dental care support
(Chapter 2 of the Director of Audit's Report No.82)

Date: May 17 (Friday)

Time: 9am

Venue: Conference Room 1

Witnesses:

Professor Lo Chung-mau
Secretary for Health

Mr Thomas Chan
Permanent Secretary for Health

Mr Eddie Lee
Deputy Secretary for Health 2

Dr Frankie So
Consultant (Oral Health Care)
Health Bureau

Dr Ronald Lam
Director of Health

Dr Kitty Hse
Consultant i/c Dental Services
Department of Health

The PAC is chaired by Mr Shiu Ka-fai, and its Deputy Chairman is Mr Paul Tse. Other members are Ms Yung Hoi-yan, Mr Luk Chung-hung, Mr Edmund Wong, Mr Louis Loong and Ms Carmen Kan.