December 2024 issue of "Hong Kong Monthly Digest of Statistics" now available

The Census and Statistics Department (C&SD) published today (December 16) the December 2024 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 "The Four Key Industries in the Hong Kong Economy" and "Analysis of Hong Kong's External Merchandise Trade by Industry".

"The Four Key Industries in the Hong Kong Economy"

The Government has been actively pursuing economic development in order to keep up the competitive advantage of Hong Kong. The traditional Four Key Industries in Hong Kong, namely financial services, tourism, trading and logistics, and professional and producer services, have been the driving force of Hong Kong's economic growth, providing impetus to growth of other sectors and creating employment.

This feature article analyses the economic contribution and employment situation in respect of the Four Key Industries in 2023. Taken together, the share of the total value added of the Four Key Industries in Gross Domestic Product (GDP) was 57.1%, while the percentage share of total employment was 42.4%.

For enquiries about this feature article, please contact the National Income Branch (2) of the C&SD (Tel: 3903 7002; email: <u>gdp-p@censtatd.gov.hk</u>).

"Analysis of Hong Kong's External Merchandise Trade by Industry"

The C&SD has compiled a set of statistics on trade by industry of importers/exporters in order to provide insights into the external merchandise trading activities of individual industries.

In 2023, "transportation, storage, postal and courier services" and "import/export and wholesale trades" were the two major industries, together contributing about 92% of the total trade value. On the export side, the contribution of small and medium sized enterprises in these two industries was 52% and 62% of their respective exports.

This feature article also presents further analyses of imports and exports of major industries by major trading partner and major commodity group.

For enquiries about this feature article, please contact the Trade

Analysis Section of the C&SD (Tel: 2582 4914; email: trade@censtatd.gov.hk).

Published in bilingual form, the HKMDS is a compact volume of official statistics containing about 130 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: <u>gen-enquiry@censtatd.gov.hk</u>).

<u>Special traffic arrangements for</u> <u>football match at Hong Kong Stadium</u>

Police will implement special traffic arrangements in So Kon Po and Causeway Bay to facilitate a football match to be held at the Hong Kong Stadium on December 17 (Tuesday).

A. Traffic arrangements at the commencement of the event

Depending on the crowd and traffic conditions, the following traffic arrangements will be implemented from about 5.30pm:

Road closure

- Part of the traffic lane of Caroline Hill Road between Eastern Hospital Road and Cotton Path;
- Westbound Hysan Avenue between Yun Ping Road and Hoi Ping Road;
- Stadium Path; and
- Lee Garden Road between Lan Fong Road and Hysan Avenue, except for green minibuses (GMBs).

Traffic diversions

Caroline Hill Road between its eastern junction with Leighton Road and Cotton Path;

⁻ Caroline Hill Road between its western junction with Leighton Road and

Stadium Path will be re-routed one way southbound; - Eastern Hospital Road between Stadium Path and Tung Lo Wan Road will be rerouted one way northbound; - Caroline Hill Road between its western junction with Leighton Road and Link Road will have two lanes for traffic entering Caroline Hill Road from Hoi Ping Road; - Hysan Avenue between Leighton Road and Hoi Ping Road will be re-routed one way eastbound; - Eastbound Hysan Avenue will have two lanes for traffic turning right to Hoi Ping Road; - Vehicles leaving the private driveway of Lee Garden One must turn left to eastbound Hysan Avenue; - Traffic along Yun Ping Road cannot turn left to westbound Hysan Avenue, and vehicles will be diverted to Lan Fong Road and Pak Sha Road; - If necessary, traffic along northbound Link Road downhill to northbound Caroline Hill Road must turn left to westbound Leighton Road; and - If necessary, traffic along Lan Fong Road cannot turn left to southbound Lee Garden Road, and vehicles will be diverted to northbound Lee Garden Road, Foo Ming Street and southbound Percival Street, except for GMBs.

Passenger alighting arrangements

The drop-off zone for taxis and private cars will be arranged to set down passengers at the locations specified below:

 Western kerbside of Caroline Hill Road near the Disciplined Service Sports and Recreation Club;

- Northern kerbside of Cotton Path; and

– Southern kerbside (taxi drop-off zone) and northern kerbside (private car drop-off zone) of Eastern Hospital Road near the main entrance of Hong Kong Stadium.

B. Traffic arrangements on conclusion of the event

Depending on the crowd and traffic conditions, the following traffic arrangements will be implemented from about 9.30pm:

Road closure

- Caroline Hill Road;
- Eastern Hospital Road between Caroline Hill Road and Cotton Path;
- Hoi Ping Road;

Sunning Road, except for vehicles exit from Lee Garden Three Car Park;
If necessary, Cotton Path, Leighton Road, and northbound Link Road (downhill), except for vehicles heading for No. 1, 3, 5 and 7 on Link Road.

Traffic diversions

- Before the end of the event, vehicles may be permitted to leave the South

China Athletic Association car parks by turning right at the western exit to northbound Caroline Hill Road;

 Before the end of the event, vehicles may be permitted to exit buildings on Eastern Hospital Road by turning right to northbound Eastern Hospital Road;
Traffic along westbound Leighton Road cannot enter Caroline Hill Road for Link Road, and vehicles will be diverted via Wong Nai Chung Road and Broadwood Road; and

– When Leighton Road is closed, traffic along westbound Causeway Road will be diverted via Irving Street; traffic along eastbound Morrison Hill Road will be diverted via Canal Road West; traffic along southbound Percival Street must turn right to westbound Leighton Road; and traffic along southbound Canal Road East cannot turn left to Leighton Road.

C. Traffic arrangements throughout the event

Prohibition for learner drivers

From 5pm to 11pm, learner drivers cannot enter Tung Lo Wan Road from Causeway Road. The following roads will also be prohibited to all learner drivers:

– Westbound Leighton Road;

- Percival Street south of Hennessy Road;
- Caroline Hill Road;
- Link Road;
- Stadium Path;
- Cotton Path;
- Eastern Hospital Road; and
- Eastern Hospital Road service road.

Suspension of parking spaces

All on-street parking spaces on the following roads will be suspended from 5pm to 11pm:

- Stadium Path;

- Northbound Caroline Hill Road between Stadium Path and Cotton Path;
- Hoi Ping Road;
- Sunning Road; and
- Eastern Hospital Road service road.

Restrictions on access to / exit from car parks

If necessary, all car parks along Caroline Hill Road, Eastern Hospital Road, Stadium Path and Cotton Path may be closed at short notice.

Vehicles in car parks within the road closure area may not be permitted to leave during the road closure period.

All vehicles parked illegally during the implementation of the above special traffic arrangements will be towed away without prior warning, and may be subject to multiple ticketing.

Actual implementation of traffic arrangements will depend on the traffic and crowd conditions in the areas. Members of the public are advised to exercise tolerance and patience and take heed of instructions of the Police on site.

Effective Exchange Rate Index

The effective exchange rate index for the Hong Kong dollar on Monday, December 16, 2024 is 106.9 (same as last Saturday's index).

â€<The effective exchange rate index for the Hong Kong dollar on Saturday, December 14, 2024 was 106.9 (same as last Friday's index).

EMSD Symposium 2024 held (with photos)

The EMSD Symposium 2024, organised by the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD), was held today (December 16). It is one of the events celebrating the 75th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China. Officials from the National Energy Administration and the National Railway Administration and academics from Tsinghua University delivered keynote speeches under the theme "Empowering High-quality Development for a Green Future". Over 400 representatives of local, Mainland and overseas government departments, public organisations, electrical and mechanical (E&M) and innovation and technology (I&T) sectors, professional institutions and academics attended the symposium and shared innovative solutions and research and development (R&D) achievements related to new energy, smart E&M, green transport and efficient construction.

Delivering an opening address at the symposium, the Secretary for Environment and Ecology, Mr Tse Chin-wan, encouraged all participants, trade members and other stakeholders to promote the development of renewable energy and new energy, including green hydrogen and low-carbon hydrogen energy, seize opportunities in hydrogen development to establish Hong Kong as the country's hub for promoting hydrogen industry and technology, address the green transition, and achieve carbon neutrality before 2050.

In his welcoming speech, the Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services, Mr Raymond Poon, expressed hope that the symposium would inspire innovative thinking and reinforce Hong Kong's role as a "super-connector" and a "super value-adder" between the Mainland and the rest of the world, contributing to the high-quality green city development of the country. He called on participants to work together to optimise city management and promote in-depth integration and development of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area. As the Government's innovation facilitator, the EMSD will continue to support R&D and promote the adoption of I&T and artificial intelligence to foster new quality productive forces.

At the symposium, the EMSD signed a Memorandum of Co-operation with the Guangzhou Association for Science & Technology aimed at strengthening exchanges and co-operation between the two places and promoting technological innovation. Prize presentation for winners of the GWIN 2024 Smart City E&M IoT Application Challenge and the Hydrogen Fueled Street Washing Vehicle Naming & Drawing Contest was also held during the symposium.

To enhance the diversity of communication channels with the public and promote co-operation between Hong Kong and the Mainland, the EMSD has set up its WeChat official account and held a launching ceremony for it at the symposium.



Inspection of aquatic products imported from Japan

In response to the Japanese Government's plan to discharge nuclearcontaminated water at the Fukushima Nuclear Power Station, the Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene issued a Food Safety Order which prohibits all aquatic products, sea salt and seaweeds originating from the 10 metropolis/prefectures, namely Tokyo, Fukushima, Ibaraki, Miyagi, Chiba, Gunma, Tochigi, Niigata, Nagano and Saitama, from being imported into and supplied in Hong Kong.

For other Japanese aquatic products, sea salt and seaweeds that are not

prohibited from being imported into Hong Kong, the Centre for Food Safety (CFS) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department will conduct comprehensive radiological tests to verify that the radiation levels of these products do not exceed the guideline levels before they are allowed to be supplied in the market.

As the discharge of nuclear-contaminated water is unprecedented and will continue for 30 years or more, the Government will closely monitor and step up the testing arrangements. Should anomalies be detected, the Government does not preclude further tightening the scope of the import ban.

From noon on December 13 to noon today (December 16), the CFS conducted tests on the radiological levels of 302 food samples imported from Japan, which were of the "aquatic and related products, seaweeds and sea salt" category, in the past three days (including last Saturday and Sunday). No sample was found to have exceeded the safety limit. Details can be found on the CFS's thematic website titled "Control Measures on Foods Imported from Japan"

(www.cfs.gov.hk/english/programme/programme_rafs/programme_rafs_fc_01_30_Nucl ear_Event_and_Food_Safety.html).

In parallel, the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) has also tested 150 samples of local catch for radiological levels. All the samples passed the tests. Details can be found on the AFCD's website (www.afcd.gov.hk/english/fisheries/Radiological_testing/Radiological_Test.htm <u>l</u>).

The Hong Kong Observatory (HKO) has also enhanced the environmental monitoring of the local waters. No anomaly has been detected so far. For details, please refer to the HKO's website (www.hko.gov.hk/en/radiation/monitoring/seawater.html).

From August 24, 2023, to noon today, the CFS and the AFCD have conducted tests on the radiological levels of 105 535 samples of food imported from Japan (including 68 317 samples of aquatic and related products, seaweeds and sea salt) and 23 916 samples of local catch respectively. All the samples passed the tests.