

BASIC PROFILE OF KOWLOON CITY

Overview of Kowloon City

Covering an area of approximately 1,000 hectares, the Kowloon City District is chiefly a residential area accommodating a population of about 362,500. The majority of its population dwell in private sector housing, including old tenement buildings, private residential developments and low-rise villas, while the rest of them mainly live in public rental housing and the Home Ownership Scheme estates.

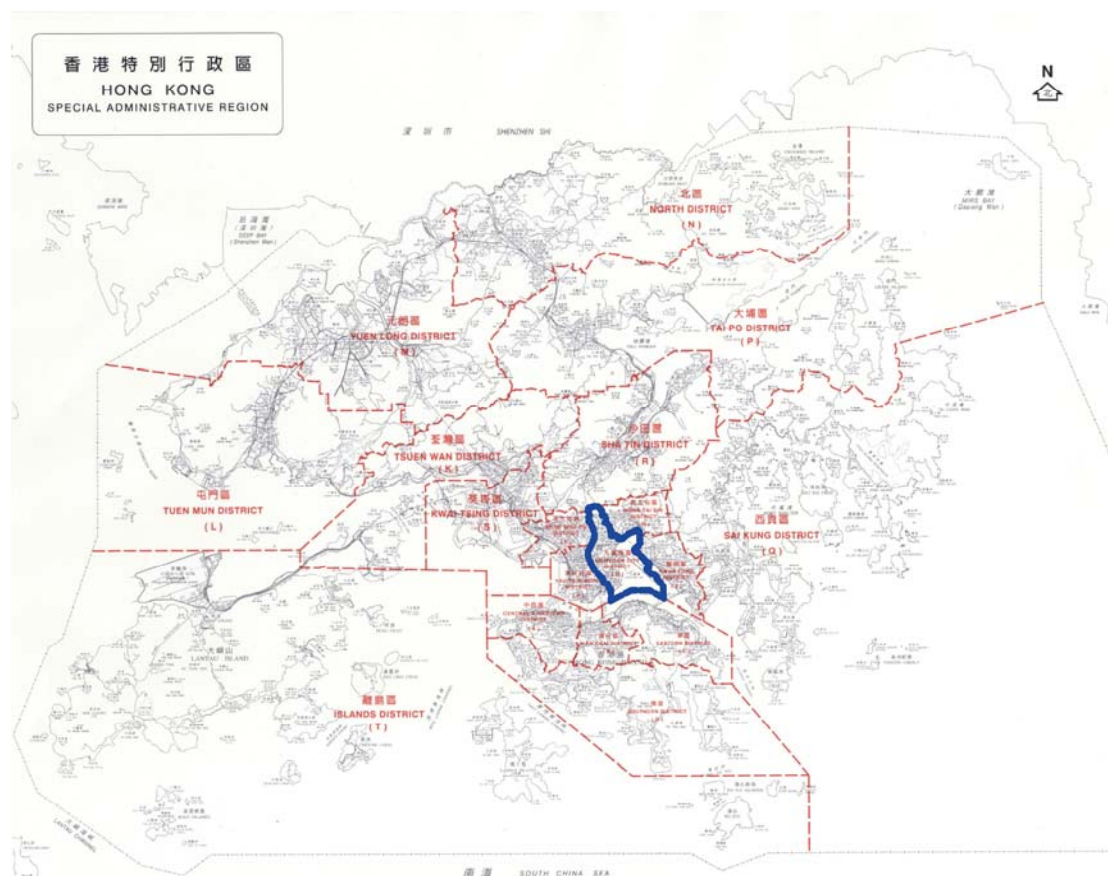
Though predominantly residential in nature, the district has a fair share of commercial and industrial functions. Commercial activities abound in the bustling streets in Kowloon City as well as in the shopping malls of Whampoa Garden and public housing estates within the district, whereas industrial activities are largely confined to the Tokwawan and Hunghom sub-districts.

With over 200 kindergartens, primary/secondary schools and tertiary institutions, the Kowloon City District has the highest concentration of schools in the territory. The Hong Kong Baptist University and the Open University of Hong Kong are located in the district. There is also a wide range of cultural and recreational facilities, such as the Ko Shan Theatre, the Kowloon Central Library, the Kowloon Tsai Park-cum-Swimming Pool and the Ho Man Tin Leisure Centre, to cater for various recreational needs of the local residents.

The District is served by a major acute hospital (Queen Elizabeth Hospital), an extended care and convalescent hospital (Kowloon Hospital), four general outpatient clinics, one maternal and child health centre, one elderly health centre, one chest clinic, one child assessment centre (for children with disabilities), one student health centre, one outpatient dental clinic, one student dental clinic (for primary school pupils), and three methadone clinics (for methadone treatment for drug users). There are also three private hospitals in the District (St Teresa Hospital, Evangelist Hospital and Baptist Hospital) and a number of clinics operated by medical practitioners (Western and Chinese medicine) in the private sector. Besides, Hong Kong Eye Hospital (a specialist ophthalmology hospital serving the whole Hong Kong SAR) and the School of Chinese Medicine of the Baptist University are also situated in the Kowloon City District.

The Kowloon City District is a very distinctive place. Its Kowloon Walled City was one of the earliest developments in the territory. In 1993, the Walled City was reconstructed as the Walled City Park where many relics of historical value have been preserved. After years of development, there are now a 5-star hotel and large private housing estates within the district. The removal of the airport in 1998 has also spared a vast piece of land at the northern shore of the Victoria Harbour with high potential for redevelopment. Infrastructural projects in the redevelopment area are underway and the Kowloon City District will surely experience drastic changes in the near future.

The Map of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region showing the location of the Kowloon City District



Kowloon City District Council

There are at present 18 district councils in Hong Kong, 9 in the urban areas and 9 in

the New Territories. The functions of a District Council are -

(a) to advise the Government -

- (i) on matters affecting the well-being of the people in the District; and
- (ii) on the provision and use of public facilities and services within the District; and
- (iii) on the adequacy and priorities of Government programmes for the District; and
- (iv) on the use of public funds allocated to the District for local public works and community activities; and

(b) where funds are made available for the purpose, to undertake -

- (i) environmental improvements within the District;
- (ii) the promotion of recreational and cultural activities within the District; and
- (iii) community activities within the District.

The current term of the Kowloon City District Council was established in January 2004. Its Chairman and Vice-chairman are Ir. WONG Kwok-keung, JP and Mr. CHAN Ka-wai respectively. The Council is very much concerned about various local and territory-wide issues which affect people's livelihood. In addition to commitments to solve problems for the community in the areas of transport, building management and maintenance, recreation and culture and the like, the Council also undertakes a number of environmental improvement and community involvement projects to improve the living environment of the district and enhance the residents' sense of belonging.

Five committees, namely the Community Building Committee, the Traffic and Transport Committee, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Committee, the Housing and Infrastructure Committee and the Culture, Recreation and Sports Committee, are set up under the Council, each responsible for resolving problems and implementing projects in relation to different areas of concern. The Kowloon City District Council will continue to play an active linking role between the Government and the local residents and reflect to the Administration the latter's needs and aspirations.

Statistical Profile		
	Hong Kong Special Administrative Region	Kowloon City District
Population ^(a)	6864346	362501
	100%	5.28%
Proportion of population(%)		
Aged under 15	13.7%	46969 (13.0%)
Aged 15-64	73.9%	263438 (72.7%)
Aged 65 and over	12.4%	52094 (14.4%)
Sex Distribution		
Male	47.7%	166294 (45.9%)
Female	52.3%	196207 (54.1%)
Median age	39	40
Proportion of population aged 15 and over being never married (%)		
Male	34.3%	47031 (33.1%)
Female	30.7%	53525 (30.9%)
Population density (no. of persons per Km ²) (2003) ^(b)	6300	36550
Usual Language		
Cantonese	6030960(87.9%)	305095(84.2%)
Putonghua	60859(0.9%)	4054(1.1%)
Other Chinese dialects	289027(4.2%)	19988(5.5%)
English	187281(2.7%)	14005(3.9%)
Other languages	72217(1.1%)	7624(2.1%)
M.A. (Person aged under 5 or mute)	224002(3.3%)	11735(3.2%)
District welfare needs ^(c)		
Population of single parents (2001)	58340 (100%)	3092 (5.3%)
Population of Persons from the Mainland Having Resided in Hong Kong for Less than 7 Years (PMRs) (2001)	266348 (100%)	18378 (6.9%)

Population of Ethnic Minorities (2001)		8.2% of Ethnic Minorities in Hong Kong
		7.4% of Kowloon City 2001 Population
Newly registered child abuse cases (2005)	763(100%)	21(2.7%)
Newly reported battered spouse cases (2005)	3598 (100%)	169 (4.7%)
Newly reported sexual violence cases (2005)	589(100%)	18 (3.1%)
Newly reported elder abuse cases (2005)	528 (100%)	33 (6.3%)
Drug abusers (2005)	13265 (100%)	522 (3.9%)
Aged under 21	2106 (100%)	41 (1.9%)
Aged 21 & over	11159 (100%)	481 (4.3%)
Total number of offenders arrested by police (2005)	40804 (100%)	1623 (4.0%)
Juvenile Offenders (2005)	4531 (11.4 %)	119(7.3%)
Young Offenders (2005)	4780 (11.7%)	151(9.3%)
Juvenile Offenders/ Total number of offenders arrested by police (2005)	11.1: 100	7.3: 100
Young Offenders/ Total number of offenders arrested by police (2005)	11.7: 100	9.3: 100
Domestic households with older persons (2005)		
1 older person-household with household size=1	111100 (100%)	5400 (4.9%)
2 older person-household with household size=2	69200 (100%)	5000 (7.2%)
Persons under Social Security Allowance Scheme (including Higher Disability Allowance and Normal Disability Allowance) (Dec 2005)		
Physical disability	77621 (100%)	4181 (5.4%)
Mental disability	34460 (100%)	1870 (5.4%)
CSSA cases (December 2005)	298011 (100%)	14905 (5.0%)
Old age	151934 (100%)	8949 (5.9%)
Permanent disability	17482 (100%)	629 (3.6%)
Ill health	23962 (100%)	1145 (4.8%)
Single parent	39755 (100%)	1720 (4.3%)

Low earnings	18089 (100%)	577 (3.2%)
Unemployment	41436 (100%)	1675 (4.0%)
Others	5353 (100%)	210 (3.9%)
CSSA elderly singleton recipients (aged 60 or over) living alone in accommodations other than institution/ hospital (Dec 2005)	60015 (100%)	2870 (4.8%)
New arrival CSSA recipients having resided in Hong Kong for less than 7 years (Dec 2005)	60178(100%)	2104 (3.5%)
Registered street sleepers (Dec 2005)	399 (100%)	17 (4.3%)
Education ^(a)		
School attendance rate of population aged 6-18 (%)	96.5%	97.3%
Education Attainment (Highest Level Attended) (Aged under 15) (Annex 1 chart 4)		
No schooling/ Pre-primary	296221(31.5%)	15157(32.3%)
Primary	447228(47.6%)	22438(47.8%)
Lower Secondary	194023(20.6%)	9185(19.6%)
Upper Secondary	2213(0.24%)	189(0.4%)
Education Attainment (Highest Level Attended) (Aged 15 and over) (Annex 1 chart 4)		
No schooling/ Pre-primary	423310(7.1%)	18040(5.7%)
Primary	1084112(18.3%)	49382(15.7%)
Lower secondary	1124583(19%)	50075(15.9%)
Upper secondary	1579774(26.7%)	80933(25.6%)
Sixth form	351419(5.9%)	25592(8.1%)
Post-secondary(Diploma/Certificate, sub-degree course, degree course)	1361473(23%)	91510(29%)
Proportion of non-student population aged 20 and over having attained post-secondary education (%)	21.9%	28.1%
Total number of primary students studying in Kowloon City		35431
Labour force	3572384	190526
Labour force participation rate(%)	69.2%	68.4%
Male	52.4%	53.8%

Female	60.3%	60.4%
Median monthly income from main employment of working population (HK\$)	10000	10500
Monthly domestic Household income (HK\$)(Annex 1 chart 2)		
< 2000	86736(3.9%)	4982(4.2%)
2000-3999	118779(5.3%)	5178(4.4%)
4000-5999	121605(5.5%)	6002(5.1%)
6000-7999	146010(6.6%)	7282(6.2%)
8000-9999	147081(6.6%)	6391(5.4%)
10000-14999	339469(15.2%)	15681(13.3%)
15000-19999	279217(12.5%)	13124(11.1%)
20000-24999	225292(10.1%)	10651(9.0%)
25000-29999	162783(7.3%)	7538(6.4%)
30000-39999	221101(9.9%)	12126(10.3%)
40000-59999	194723(8.7%)	12670(10.7%)
60000+	183750(8.3%)	16646(14.1%)
Occupation (Annex 1 chart 5)		
Managers and administrators	361891(5.3%)	30302(8.4%)
Professionals	205435(3%)	14444(4%)
Associate professionals	542309(7.9%)	31720(8.8%)
Clerks	567964(8.3%)	25613(7.1%)
Service workers and shop sales workers	550855(8%)	25720(7.1%)
Craft and related workers	286007(4.2%)	11061(3.1%)
Plant and machine operators and assemblers	208409(3%)	6098(1.7%)
Elementary occupations	633227(9.2%)	36252(10%)
Skilled agricultural and fishery workers; and occupations not classifiable	9639(0.1%)	160(0.04%)
N.A. (Persons not in working population)	3498610(51%)	181131(50%)
Household characteristics ^(a)		
Number of domestic households	2226546	118271
Average domestic household size	3.0	2.9
Median monthly domestic household income	17250	20000
Domestic households composition		
One person	367653(16.5%)	20794(17.6%)

One unextended nuclear family	1492809(67%)	75994(64.3%)
One vertically extended nuclear family	165685(7.4%)	8980(7.6%)
One horizontally extended nuclear family	15761(0.7%)	945(0.8%)
Two or more nuclear families	69364(3.1%)	4144(3.5%)
Related persons forming no nuclear family	66794(3%)	3636(3.1%)
Unrelated persons only	48480(2.2%)	3778(3.2%)
Housing characteristics ^(a)		
Number of occupied quarters	2226074	118821
Average number of domestic households per unit of quarters	1.01	1.01
Proportion of domestic households owning the quarters they occupy (%)	52.8	59.3
Median monthly domestic household mortgage payment and loan repayment (HK\$)	7800	10500
Median mortgage payment and loan repayment to income ratio (%)	26.6	29.8%
Median monthly domestic household rent (HK\$)	1677	2500
Median rent to income ration (%)	16.0% (Whole Territory)	20%
	26% (Kowloon)	20%
Type of Quarters (Annex1 chart1)		
Public rental flats population	2129252(31%)	61426(16.9%)
Subsidized sale flats by Housing Authority or Housing Society population	1221221(17.8%)	7739(2.1%)
Private residential flats population	2901658(42.3%)	282009(77.8%)
Villas/Bungalows/Modern village houses population	357118(5.2%)	4367(1.2%)
Others quarters population	255097(3.7%)	6960(1.9%)
Pollution ^(d)		
Total solid waste	100%	4.2%
Domestic waste	100%	5.1%
Commercial & industrial waste	100%	5.3%
Municipal solid waste	100%	5.2%

Landfilled construction waste	100%	2.0%
Living Environment ^(e)		
Parks, zoos and gardens		1
Community halls		2
Swimming pools		3
Libraries		4
Sports centres		5
Theatres		1
Recreation grounds		28

* Owing to rounding, percentages may not add up to 100 as shown in the table

(a) Census and Statistics Department - Basic Tables for District Council Districts, 2001 by-census

(b) Department of Health - Hong Kong Population Health Profile Series, 2004

(c) Social Welfare Department: Social Indicators on District Welfare Needs (2005 Update) (Kowloon City & Yau Tsim Mong District)

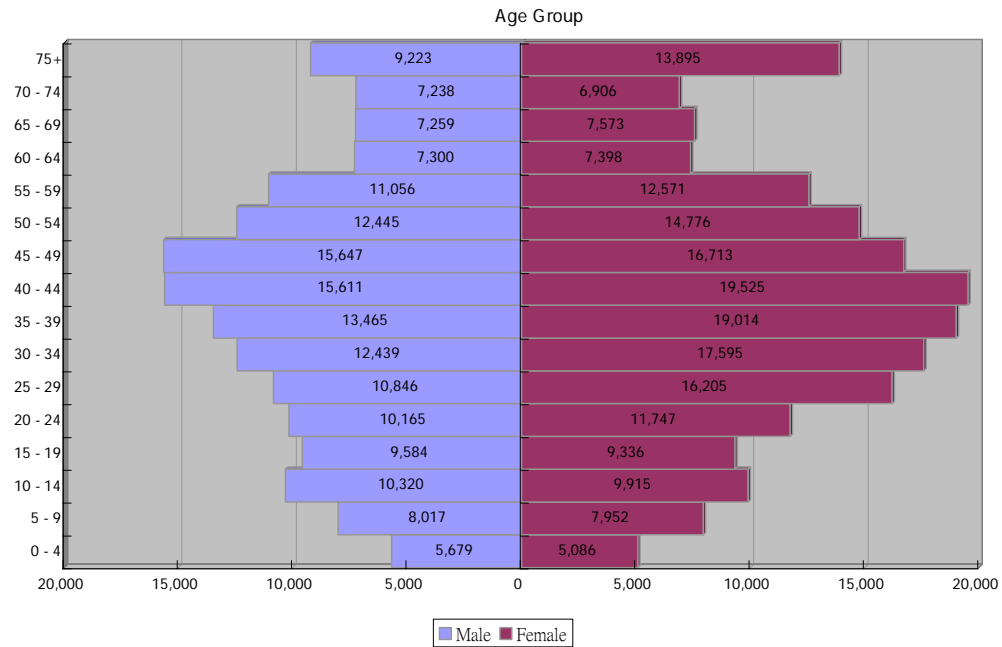
(d) Environmental Protection Department: Monitoring of Solid Waste in Hong Kong 2006

(e) Leisure and Cultural Services Department Website (accessed in June 2007)

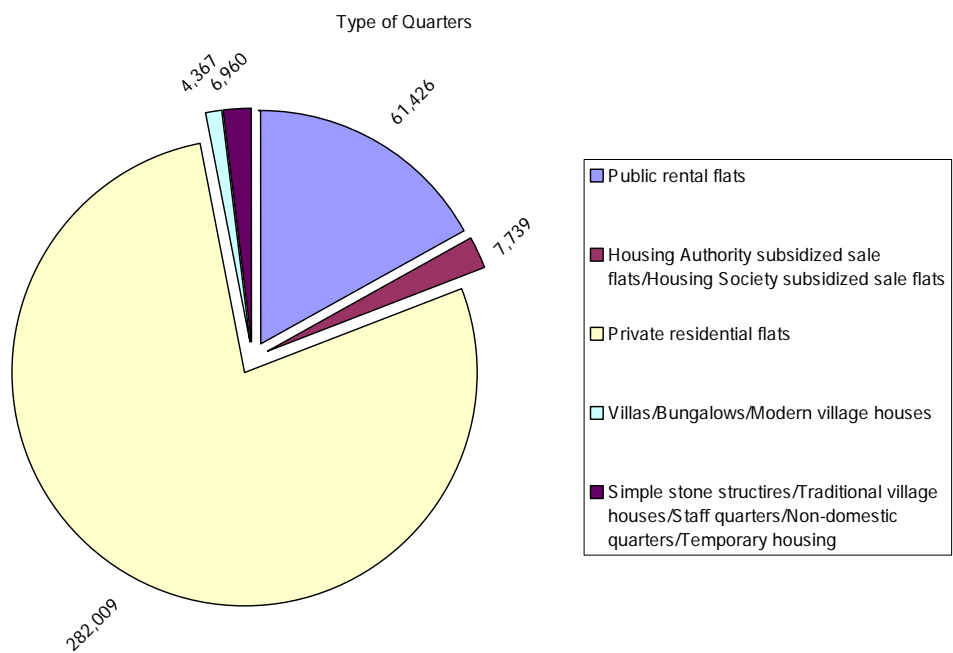
(f) HK \$1 approximately = US \$0.128

Charts

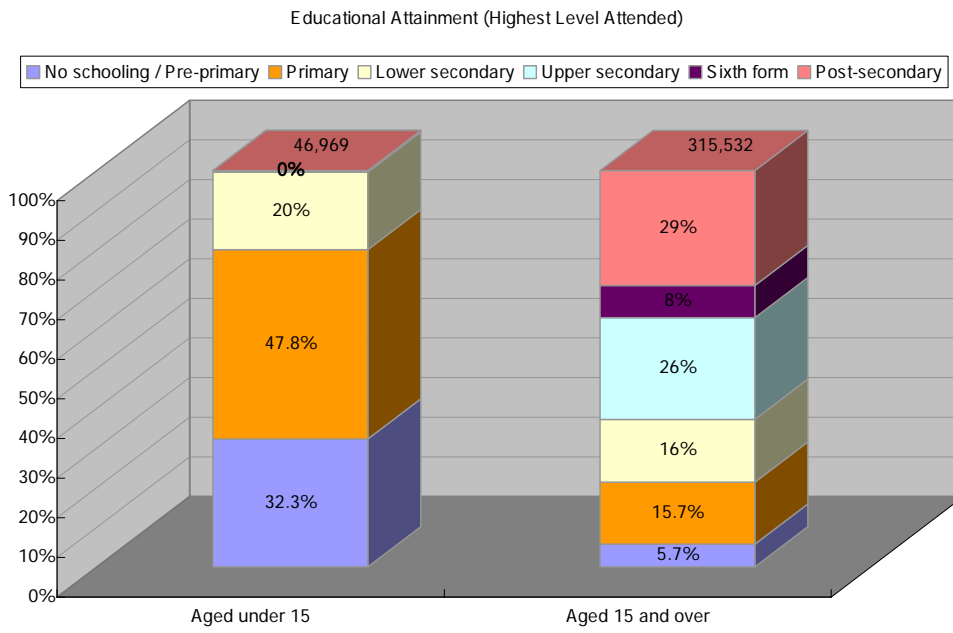
Population Structure



Housing

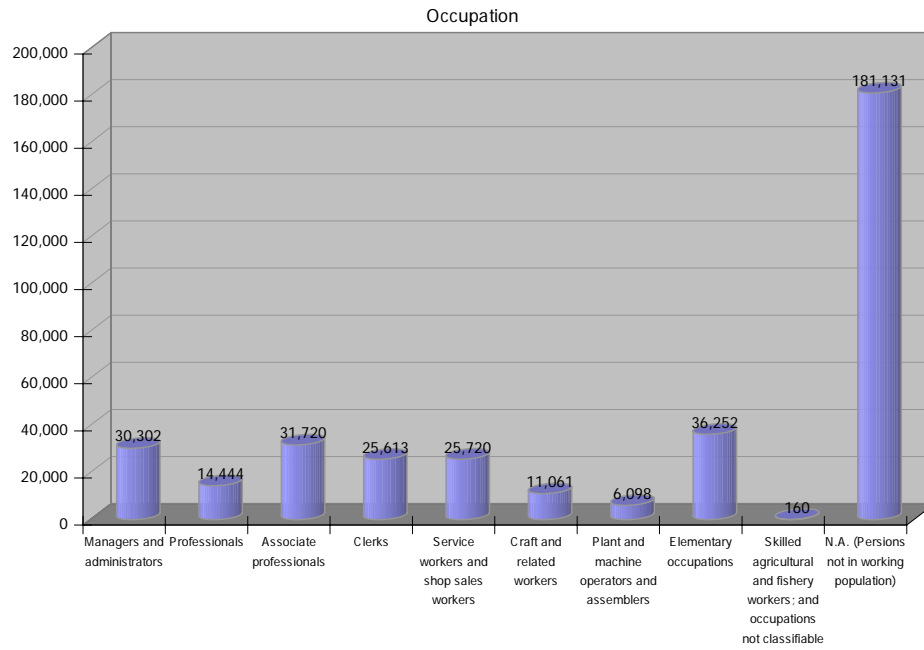


Education



Socio-economic status

b) Occupation



c) Income

