

FACT SHEET

Women in the Legislative Council, the District Council, the Government of Hong Kong and other Legislatures

Table 1 - Facts about woman legislators in the Legislative Council ^(a)

Year in which a woman legislator was first appointed to the Legislative Council	1965
Number of woman legislators appointed or elected (from 1965 to present)	31
Number of woman legislators appointed	13
Number of woman legislators elected	12
Number of same woman legislators appointed and elected at different periods of time	6
Average age when first appointed or elected	46 years old
Average age when first appointed	43 years old
Average age when first elected	48 years old
Longest period of service	22 years

Note:

- a. Figures presented in Table 1 do not include Official Members who have ceased to be appointed to the Legislative Council since 1995.

Table 2 – Number of male and female legislators in the Legislative Council (percentage in parenthesis)

	Male Official Members	Female Official Members	Male Non-official Members	Female Non-official Members	Total No. of Legislators
1965 ^(a)	13 (50 %)	0	12 (46 %)	1 (4 %)	26 (100 %)
1976 ^(b)	19 (46.3 %)	0	19 (46.3 %)	3 (7.4 %)	41 (100 %)
1982 ^(c)	22 (45 %)	0	22 (45 %)	5 (10 %)	49 (100 %)
1985 - 1988	11 (19.3 %)	0	39 (68.4 %)	7 (12.3 %)	57 (100 %)
1988 - 1991	11 (19.3 %)	0	35 (61.4 %)	11 (19.3 %)	57 (100 %)
1991 - 1995	4 (7 %)	0	50 (82 %)	7 (11 %)	61 (100 %)
1995 - 1997	N.A. ^(d)	N.A.	53 (88 %)	7 (12 %)	60 (100 %)
1997 - 1998	N.A.	N.A.	51 (85 %)	9 (15 %)	60 (100 %)
1998 - 2000	N.A.	N.A.	50 (83 %)	10 (17%)	60 (100 %)
2000 - 2004	N.A.	N.A.	49 (82 %)	11 (18 %)	60 (100 %)

Notes:

- a. The figures are as at 22 December 1965.
- b. The figures are as at 22 December 1976.
- c. The figures are as at 22 December 1982.
- d. 'N.A.' represents Not Applicable.

Table 3 - Number of male and female legislators holding office of chairperson, deputy chairperson and member in panels, committees and subcommittees of the Legislative Council in Year 2002 - 2003 (percentage in parenthesis)

	No. of Panels / Committees	Male Legislators	Female Legislators
Membership of the Legislative Council	N.A.	49 (82 %)	11 (18 %)
Panels			
Chairperson	18	15 (83 %)	3 (17 %)
Deputy Chairperson	18	14 (78 %)	4 (22 %)
Bills Committees activated			
Chairperson	46	28 (61 %)	18 (39 %)
Membership (including chairperson)	46	390 (71 %)	162 (29 %)
Other Committees ^(a)			
Chairperson	5	4 (80 %)	1 (20 %)
Deputy Chairperson	5	3 (60 %)	2 (40 %)

Note:

- a. Other committees are Finance Committee, Public Accounts Committee, Committee on Members' Interests, House Committee, and Committee on Rules of Procedures.

Table 3 - Number of male and female legislators holding office of chairperson, deputy chairperson and member in panels, committees and subcommittees of the Legislative Council in Year 2002 - 2003 (percentage in parenthesis) (cont'd)

	No. of Subcommittees	Male Legislators	Female Legislators
Subcommittees of Finance Committee ^(b)			
Chairperson	2	2 (100 %)	0 (0 %)
Deputy Chairperson	2	2 (100 %)	0 (0 %)
Subcommittees of House Committee ^(c)			
Chairperson	7	7 (100 %)	0 (0 %)
Deputy Chairperson	7	0 (0 %)	2 ^(c) (100 %)
Subcommittees of Subsidiary Legislation			
Chairperson	27	18 (67 %)	9 (33 %)

Notes:

- b. Subcommittees of Finance Committee are Establishment Subcommittee and Public Works Subcommittee.
- c. Subcommittees of House Committee are Subcommittee on Proposed Senior Judicial Appointments, Subcommittee to Follow Up the Outstanding Capital Works Projects of the Former Municipal Councils, Subcommittee to Study Issues Relating to the Fugitive Offenders (Sri Lanka) Order, Subcommittee to Study the Draft Ocean Park Bylaw, Subcommittee on Members' Remuneration and Operating Expenses Reimbursement, Parliamentary Liaison Subcommittee, and Subcommittee on Draft Subsidiary Legislation to be made under the Securities and Futures Ordinance. Only the latter two subcommittees have the position of deputy chairperson.

Table 4 - Number of male and female legislators who raised questions, moved and spoke in motions without legislative effect during Council Meetings of the Legislative Council in Year 2002 - 2003 (percentage in parenthesis)

	No. of Questions / Motions Without Legislative Effect	Male Legislators	Female Legislators
Membership of the Legislative Council	N.A.	49 (82 %)	11 (18 %)
Oral Questions	160	129 (81 %)	31 (19 %)
Written Questions	455	371 (82 %)	84 (18 %)
Moving of Motions Without Legislative Effect	55	44 (80 %)	11 (20 %)
Spoke in Motions Without Legislative Effect	55	858 (82 %)	189 (18 %)

Table 5 – Number of appointed and elected male and female district councillors in Hong Kong, Kowloon, and the New Territories (percentage in parenthesis)

	Male District Councillors in Hong Kong and Kowloon	Female District Councillors in Hong Kong and Kowloon	Male District Councillors in the New Territories	Female District Councillors in the New Territories
1985	187 (87 %)	29 (13 %)	144 (94 %)	9 (6 %)
1988	196 (84 %)	36 (16 %)	160 (92 %)	13 (8 %)
1991	198 (88 %)	27 (12 %)	166 (92 %)	14 (8 %)
1994	164 (89 %)	21 (11 %)	145 (90 %)	16 (10 %)
1997	203 (88 %)	27 (12 %)	216 (90 %)	23 (10 %)
1999	210 (85 %)	36 (15 %)	210 (85 %)	36 (15 %)
2003	201 (82 %)	45 (18 %)	211 (82 %)	45 (18 %)

Table 6 – Number of appointed and elected male and female district councillors (percentage in parenthesis)

	Appointed Male District Councillors	Appointed Female District Councillors	Elected Male District Councillors	Elected Female District Councillors
1985	111 (84 %)	21 (16 %)	220 (93 %)	17 (7 %)
1988	119 (84 %)	22 (16 %)	237 (90 %)	27 (10 %)
1991	116 (87 %)	17 (13 %)	248 (91 %)	24 (9 %)
1994 ^(a)	0	0	309 (89 %)	37 (11 %)
1997	419 (89 %)	50 (11 %)	0	0
1999	87 (85 %)	15 (15 %)	333 (85 %)	57 (15 %)
2003	83 (81 %)	19 (19 %)	329 (82 %)	71 (18 %)

Note:

a. The then Governor Chris Patten abolished appointed membership of District Boards.

Table 7 – Number of male and female directorate officers of post remunerated at D6 or above of the directorate pay scale, or equivalent in the Hong Kong Government (percentage in parenthesis)

	Male Directorate Officers at D6 or above	Female Directorate Officers at D6 or above	Total No. of Directorate Officers at D6 or above
1985	24 (100 %)	0 (0 %)	24 (100 %)
1988	26 (96 %)	1 (4 %)	27 (100 %)
1991	55 (96 %)	2 (4 %)	57 (100 %)
1994	54 (89 %)	7 (11 %)	61 (100 %)
1997	44 (80 %)	11 (20 %)	55 (100 %)
2000	44 (75 %)	15 (25 %)	59 (100 %)
2003 ^(a)	37 (67 %)	18 (33 %)	55 (100 %)

Note:

- a. Information extracted from the written reply from the Secretary for the Civil Service, Mr. Joseph W. P. Wong, to the Legislative Council on 30 April 2003.

Table 8 – Women in legislatures ^(a)

Jurisdiction	Lower or Single House				Upper House or Senate			
	Year of Election	Total No. of Seats ^(b)	Seats Taken by Woman Legislators ^(b)	% of Woman Legislators	Year of Election	Total No. of Seats ^(b)	Seats Taken by Woman Legislators ^(b)	% of Woman Legislators
Australia	2001	150	38	25.3%	1998	76	22	28.9%
Canada	2000	301	62	20.6%	N.A.	105	34	32.4%
HONG KONG	2000	60	11	18.3%	-	-	-	-
Japan	2000	480	35	7.3%	2001	247	38	15.4%
Singapore	2001	94	15	16.0%	-	-	-	-
Sweden	2002	349	158	45.3%	-	-	-	-
United Kingdom	2001	659	118	17.9%	N.A.	713	117	16.4%
United States of America	2002	435	62	14.3%	2002	100	13	13%

Notes:

- a. The figures are as at 31 August 2003.
b. The figures correspond to the number of seats currently filled in the legislature.

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