

香港特別行政區政府
財政司司長辦公室
經濟分析及方便營商處

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21 June 2006

Clerk to the Panel on Financial Affairs
Legislative Council
Hong Kong
(Attn : Ms Rosalind MA)

Panel on Financial Affairs
Follow-up to the meeting on 5 June 2006

Dear Ms Ma,

I refer to your letter of 6 June on the captioned subject which requests the Administration to provide analyses on households with monthly household income below \$5,000. Our written response (in both Chinese and English) is enclosed for your further action.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K C Kwok'.

(K C Kwok)

Government Economist

Encl.

c.c. Ms Vivian Sum, AA/FS
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立法會 CB(1)1610/05-06(04)號文件附件中申述的有關每月入息少於 4,000 元的住戶分析，是為回應立法會事務委員會一委員多次就有關香港該等低收入住戶數目有所上升的查詢而提供。

在二零零六年六月五日的立法會事務委員會會議中，委員之間對不同基準的統計數據有所混淆。一些委員界定低收入住戶為每月入息少於 4,000 元的住戶，而其他一些委員卻以每月入息少於 5,000 元為準則。從觀察所得，以不同入息限額作出分析只會為討論加添不必要的混亂。更重要的是，根據以數據為基礎作分析的類似經驗，有關低收入住戶的主要研究結果及結論，不會因入息限額有輕微更改而有明顯改變。因此，我們認為額外提供有關每月入息少於 5,000 元的住戶的分析，並非可取的做法。

附帶一提，如需要有關住戶入息分布的額外數據作參考及比較用途，請參閱綜合住戶統計調查按季統計報告書表 12D。

The analysis of households with monthly income below \$4,000, as given in the Annex to LC Paper No. CB(1)1610/05-06(04), was undertaken in response to repeated enquiries by a LegCo Panel Member regarding the increase in the number of such low-income households (LIH) in Hong Kong.

During the LegCo Panel meeting held on 5 June 2006, there were confusions amongst Panel members as to the statistics with different bases. Some Members referred to LIH as households with income less than \$4,000, while some other Members referred to those earning less than \$5,000. It is observed that providing analyses with different income thresholds would only add unnecessary confusion to the discussions. More importantly, experience with similar exercises of data-based analyses suggests that the major findings and conclusions on LIH would not change very much when the income threshold is moderately varied. Thus we do not consider it advisable to provide an additional analysis of those households with monthly household income below \$5,000.

Incidentally, if additional data on distribution of household income are required for reference and comparison, they can be found in Table 12D of the Quarterly Report on General Household Survey.