

Legislative Council Panel on Financial Affairs
Follow-up to Meeting held on 1 February 2010

The latest statistics on the number of bank branches over the past five years are as follows.

At the end of	Number of bank branches¹
January 2010	1,297
January 2009	1,293
January 2008	1,266
January 2007	1,228
January 2006	1,219

The increase in the number of bank branches was geographically broad-based, with increases recorded in most districts.

The latest statistics on the number of ATMs over the past five years are as follows.

At the end of	Number of ATMs
January 2010	2,775
January 2009	2,690
January 2008	2,556
January 2007	2,419
January 2006	2,443

Source: Hong Kong Association of Banks

The latest statistics on the number of retail outlets that provide cash withdrawal services over the past five years are as follows.

At the end of	Number of retail outlets providing cash withdrawal services
January 2010	1,236
January 2009	1,070
January 2008	754
January 2007	612
January 2006	469

Source: EPS Company (Hong Kong) Limited

As seen from the tables above, the banking industry has made an effort to improve the availability of banking services. Over the past five years, the number of bank branches has increased by 78 or 6%, the number of ATMs by 332 or 14% and the number of retail outlets providing cash-withdrawal services has increased by 767 or 164%. As regards other work done to improve access

¹ Including branches approved but not yet opened.

to banking services, we understand that the Hong Kong Association of Banks has already provided the Panel with an update in their letter of 20 November 2009.

We shall continue to encourage the banking industry to take into account the views and needs of their existing and potential customers (in particular those with special needs) in considering their service delivery channels.

Hong Kong Monetary Authority
22 February 2010