

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL BRIEF

**CENSUS AND STATISTICS ORDINANCE
CHAPTER 316**

**CENSUS AND STATISTICS
(QUARTERLY SURVEY OF EMPLOYMENT AND VACANCIES)
(AMENDMENT) ORDER 1999**

INTRODUCTION

Under the Census and Statistics Ordinance, the Secretary for Financial Services is empowered to direct the conduct of statistical surveys. In exercise of this power, the Secretary directs that the Census and Statistics (Quarterly Survey of Employment and Vacancies) (Amendment) Order 1999, as annexed, should be enacted to enable the streamlining of survey operation and to expand the data coverage.

Annex 1

BACKGROUND AND ARGUMENT

2. To streamline the survey operation, enquiry on detailed characteristics of job vacancies, which is currently done via a voluntary statistical survey, namely the Supplementary Survey of Job Vacancies, will be incorporated into the Quarterly Survey of Employment and Vacancies. The data coverage of this latter survey will also be expanded to include the following two new items :

- (i) Information, including name, telephone number and fax number, to facilitate contact with the responsible person in the establishment which is required to give information specified in the questionnaire. This facilitates follow-up communication with the respondent in the current round and offers the possibility of collecting data from the respondent via telephone and fax in future rounds.
- (ii) Number of persons engaged working outside Hong Kong. This is a useful piece of information for labour market analysis.

Annex 2

3. In order to effect these changes, the existing order for the Quarterly Survey of Employment and Vacancies (Annex 2) will have to be amended by an amendment order (Annex 1) whereby collection of data on the basis of the expanded data coverage is authorized.

THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS ORDERS

4. The Quarterly Survey of Employment and Vacancies (Amendment) Order 1999 (Annex 1) amends the existing order enacted in 1994 (Annex 2). The amended order empowers the Commissioner for Census and Statistics to collect additional information, including data on detailed characteristics of job

vacancies, information to facilitate contact, and the number of persons engaged working outside Hong Kong, via the Quarterly Survey of Employment and Vacancies.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

5. The required resources will be absorbed within existing provisions and there is no financial implication.

PUBLIC CONSULTATION

6. As the amendments involved are minor in nature, no public consultation is considered necessary.

LEGISLATIVE TIMETABLE

7. The following legislative timetable is adopted :

Signing of the Census and Statistics Order by the Secretary for Financial Services	3 February 1999
Publication in the Gazette	5 February 1999
Tabling in Legislative Council Sitting	10 February 1999

PUBLICITY

8. As the amendments involved are considered minor in nature, no publicity arrangement is deemed necessary.

Financial Services Bureau

4 February 1999

File Reference : FSB CR4/5141/68

CENSUS AND STATISTICS (QUARTERLY SURVEY OF EMPLOYMENT AND VACANCIES) (AMENDMENT) ORDER 1999

(Made under section 11 of the Census and Statistics Ordinance (Cap. 316))

1. Commencement

This Order shall come into operation on 31 March 1999.

2. Survey periods

Paragraph 6(a) of the Census and Statistics (Quarterly Survey of Employment and Vacancies) Order (Cap. 316 sub. leg.) is amended by repealing “1994” and substituting “1999”.

3. Particulars required to be given in respect of business undertakings

The Schedule is amended -

(a) by repealing -

“Number of persons engaged by operatives (or site workers) and other persons.

Number of vacancies by sex.

Number of vacancies by operatives (or site workers) and other persons.”;

(b) by adding at the end -

“Number of persons engaged working outside Hong Kong by sex.

Number of vacancies.

Reasons for significant changes in the number of persons
engaged and vacancies.

Characteristics of vacancies.

Information to facilitate contact with the person required to give
information under paragraph 5 including his name,
telephone number and fax number.”.

Secretary for Financial Services

3rd February 1999

Explanatory Note

This Order amends the Census and Statistics (Quarterly Survey of Employment and Vacancies) Order (Cap. 316 sub. leg.) to alter the information required to be given to the Commissioner for Census and Statistics starting from the survey period of the first quarter of 1999.