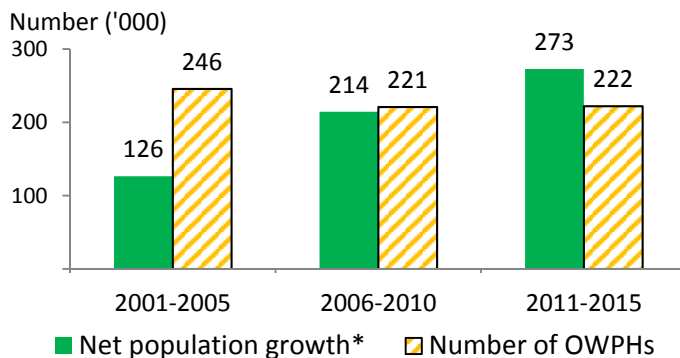




New arrivals from the Mainland

Figure 1 – Number of One-way Permit Holders and incremental population growth during 2001-2015



Note: (*) Net population growth equals to natural increase in population plus inflow of OWPBs and net movement of other residents in Hong Kong.

Figure 2 – Labour participation rates of new arrivals during 2001 - 2011

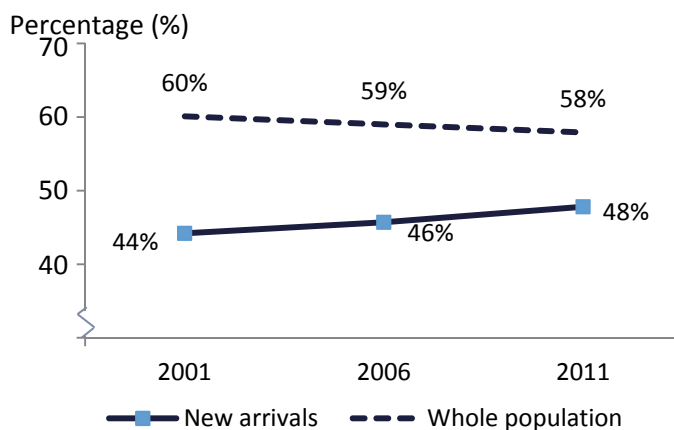
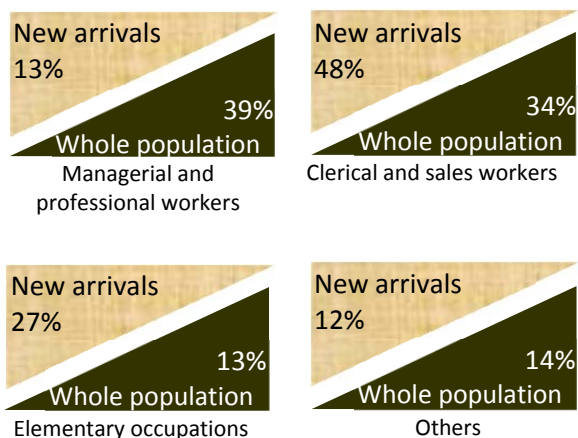


Figure 3 – Occupation categories of new arrivals in 2011



Highlights

- The annual number of One-way permit holders ("OWPHs") who come to Hong Kong mainly for family reunion has exhibited a downtrend over the past 15 years, falling from 53 700 in 2001 to 38 300 in 2015. Yet OWPBs still remain the most important growth driver of local population. During 2011-2015, there was a cumulative inflow of 222 000 OWPBs, more than offsetting outflow of other residents and representing about four-fifths of incremental growth of overall population over the same period (**Figure 1**).
- OWPBs generally has a lower labour force participation rate ("LFPR") than local population, as a larger proportion of them becomes students and home-makers upon arrival in Hong Kong. Based on the latest statistics available from the 2011 Population Census, LFPR of new arrivals (i.e. those OWPBs living in Hong Kong for less than seven years) was only 48% in 2011, compared with 58% in the entire population (**Figure 2**).
- OWPBs generally had lower educational attainment than the local population, despite an improvement over the past decade. In 2015, only 21% of the OWPBs aged 15 and above had attended tertiary education or above, lower than the respective figure of 31% of the entire population in Hong Kong. As such, only 13% of new arrivals could take up managerial and professional jobs in Hong Kong in 2011, far less than that of 39% in the overall population (**Figure 3**).

New arrivals from the Mainland (cont'd)

Figure 4 – Median monthly employment income of new arrivals during 2001 - 2011

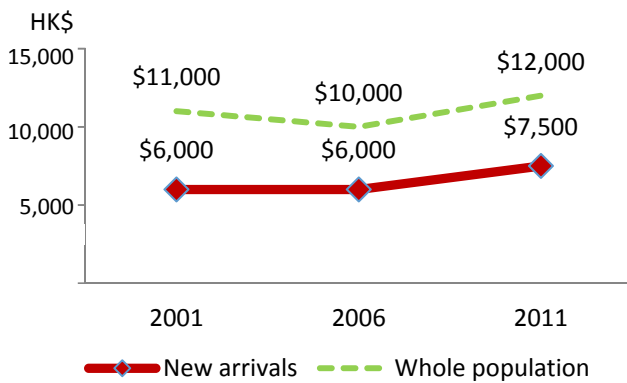
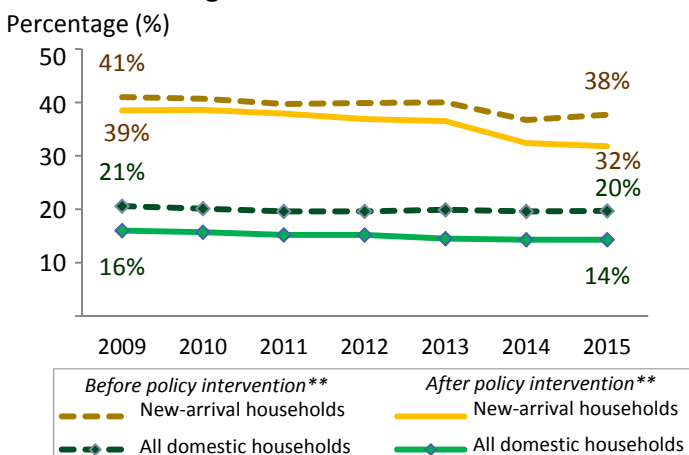


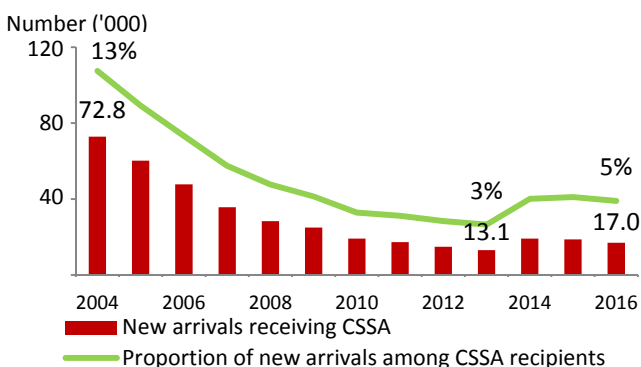
Figure 5 – Poverty rate of new-arrival households* during 2009 - 2015



Notes: (*) Referring to local households with at least one new arrival.

(**) Policy intervention refers to recurrent cash benefits such as social security payments to eligible households.

Figure 6 – New arrivals receiving CSSA during 2004 - 2016



Highlights

- As most of the new arrivals are engaged in jobs at the lower end of the occupational hierarchy, they tend to have lower employment income. In 2011, the median monthly employment earnings of new arrivals was \$7,500, 38% below the corresponding figure for the entire population. However, it is noted that the employment income of new arrivals had witnessed a significant rise of 25% during 2006-2011, conceivably related in part to implementation of statutory minimum wage which came into effect in May 2011 (Figure 4).
- Likewise, median monthly income of new-arrival households was \$14,070 in 2011, 31% lower than the overall figures in Hong Kong. According to the Commission on Poverty, the poverty rate of new-arrival households was 38% before policy intervention (i.e. cash assistance) in 2015, almost doubling that of 20% for overall households in Hong Kong. Even after policy intervention, the poverty rate of new-arrival households stayed at a higher level of 32%, more than twice that of 14% for all households (Figure 5).
- The number of new arrivals receiving Comprehensive Social Security Assistance ("CSSA") fell significantly by 82% to 13 100 during 2004-2013. To a considerable extent, this was related to a tightening in residence requirement for CSSA from one to seven years in 2004, as well as a step-up of Support for Self-reliance Scheme as a condition of receiving CSSA since 2003. However, the number of new arrivals receiving CSSA bounced up visibly to 17 000 (5% of all recipients) in 2016, after a court decision in 2014 that reverted the residence requirement back to one year (Figure 6).

Data sources: Latest figures from Census and Statistics Department, Commission on Poverty, Home Affairs Department and Immigration Department.

Research Office
Information Services Division
Legislative Council Secretariat
23 February 2017
Tel: 2871 2145

Statistical Highlights are compiled for Members and Committees of the Legislative Council. They are not legal or other professional advice and shall not be relied on as such. Statistical Highlights are subject to copyright owned by The Legislative Council Commission (The Commission). The Commission permits accurate reproduction of Statistical Highlights for non-commercial use in a manner not adversely affecting the Legislative Council, provided that acknowledgement is made stating the Research Office of the Legislative Council Secretariat as the source and one copy of the reproduction is sent to the Legislative Council Library. The paper number of this issue of Statistical Highlights is ISSH20/16-17.