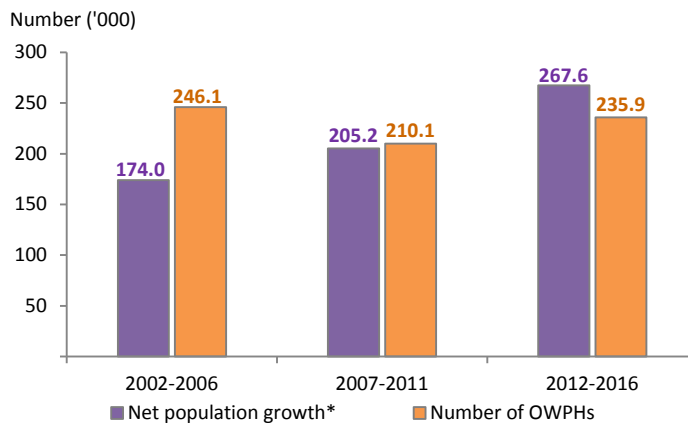




### Livelihood of new arrivals from the Mainland

**Figure 1 – Number of OWPBs and incremental population growth during 2002-2016**

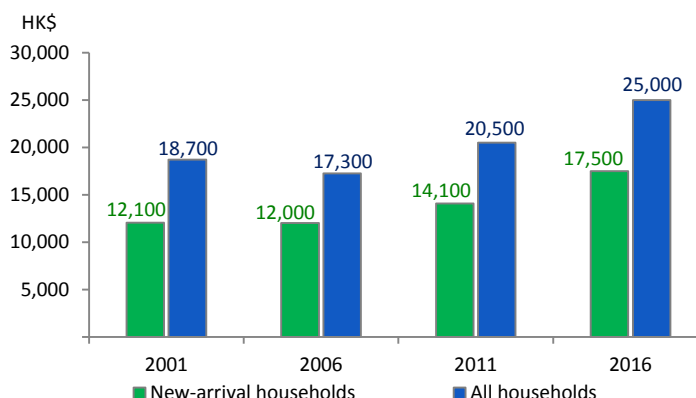


Note: (\*) Net population growth equals to natural increase in population plus inflow of OWPBs and net movement of other residents in Hong Kong.

**Figure 2 – Selected socioeconomic characteristics of OWPBs aged 15 and over in 2016**

	OWPBs	Overall population
Labour force participation rate	54.2%	58.7%
Share of students and home-makers	37.2%	15.8%
With educational attainment at secondary and below	80.5%	66.8%
Share of lower-skilled workers in employed persons	82.1%	58.7%
Median monthly employment earnings	HK\$10,300	HK\$15,500

**Figure 3 – Median monthly household income of new-arrival households<sup>#</sup>, 2001-2016**



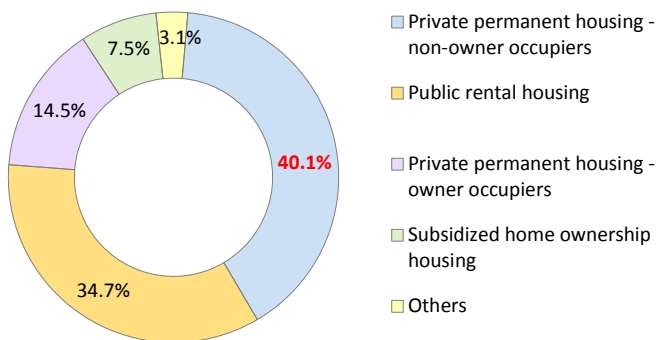
Note: (#) Referring to the domestic households with at least one new arrival.

### Highlights

- One-way Permit holders ("OWPBs") are immigrants from the Mainland to Hong Kong, mainly for family reunion and have become the most important driver of local population growth. During 2012-2016, there was a total inflow of 235 900 OWPBs, more than offsetting the outflow of other residents and representing around 90% of the incremental growth of overall population (**Figure 1**). In 2016, the annual inflow of OWPBs rebounded to a 15-year high of 57 400, from the annual average figure of 44 600 in the preceding four years.
- As OWPBs are more likely to be students and home-makers in Hong Kong, just about 54% of them participating in the labour market in 2016, compared with that of 59% for overall population. Moreover, OWPBs in employment tend to have lower earnings due to generally lower educational attainment and engagement in lower-skilled occupations. In 2016, the median monthly employment earnings of OWPBs was 34% lower than the overall employed population in Hong Kong (**Figure 2**).
- As such, new-arrival families tend to have lower household income. In 2016, the median monthly income of new-arrival households was HK\$17,500, about 30% lower than the overall figure for Hong Kong. That said, the median monthly income of new-arrival households had increased noticeably by 24% during 2011-2016, partly due to implementation of statutory minimum wage and a tightening in the job market in recent years (**Figure 3**).

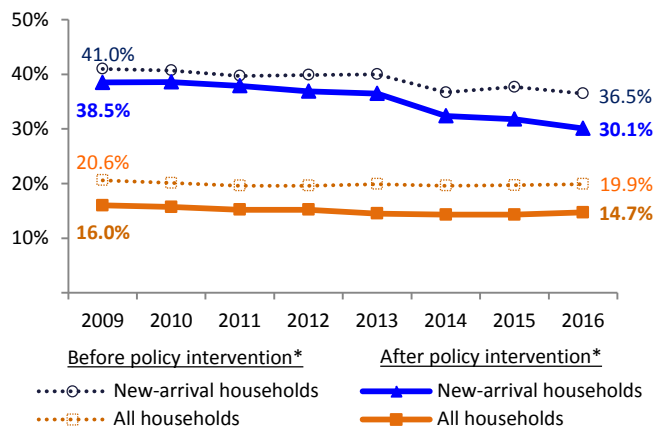
## Livelihood of new arrivals from the Mainland (cont'd)

**Figure 4 – Share of new-arrival households by type of housing in 2016**



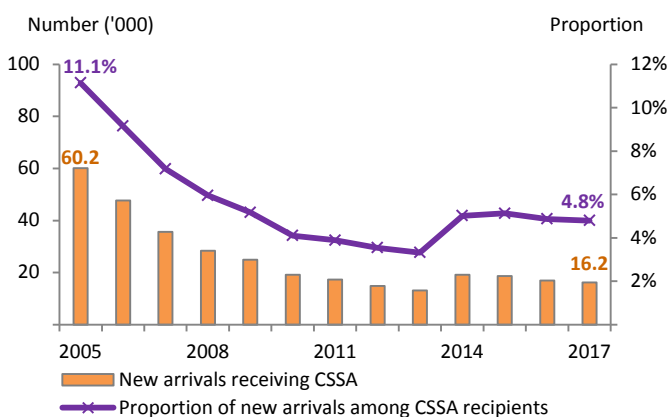
Note: Figures may not add up to 100% due to rounding.

**Figure 5 – Poverty rate of new-arrival households, 2009-2016**



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

**Figure 6 – New arrivals receiving CSSA during 2005-2017**



### Highlights

- In 2016, some 40% of the new-arrival households rented their accommodation in private housing, higher than the overall figure of 20% in Hong Kong (**Figure 4**). New-arrival families would then face greater pressure from rising rental in private housing in recent years, as manifested in a cumulative increase of 40% in the median monthly rentals for such families in five years to HK\$4,900 in 2016. For these new-arrival families, the median ratio of monthly rental payment to household income rose from 26% to 31% over the same period.
- Against the above backdrop and also due to more children in family composition, new-arrival households were more likely to prone to poverty. According to the Commission on Poverty, although the poverty rate (after payments of cash allowance) of new-arrival households dropped to a record low of 30.1% in 2016, this still doubled the respective figure of 14.7% for all households in Hong Kong (**Figure 5**).
- After stepping up the intensified measures under the Support for Self-reliance Scheme as a condition of receiving Comprehensive Social Security Allowance ("CSSA") in 2003 and tightening the residence requirement from one year to seven years in 2004, there was a sharp decline of 78% in the number of new arrivals receiving CSSA during 2005-2013. Although the number bounced up slightly after a court decision reverting the residence requirement back to one year in 2014, new arrivals receiving CSSA fell back to 16 200 in 2017, representing around 5% of all CSSA recipients (**Figure 6**).

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

Research Office  
Information Services Division  
Legislative Council Secretariat  
23 March 2018  
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 ISSH18/17-18.