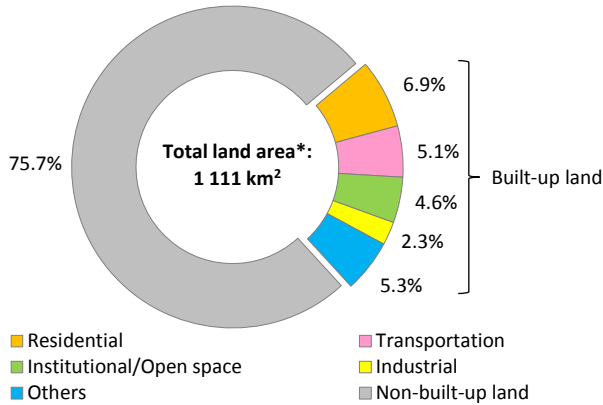




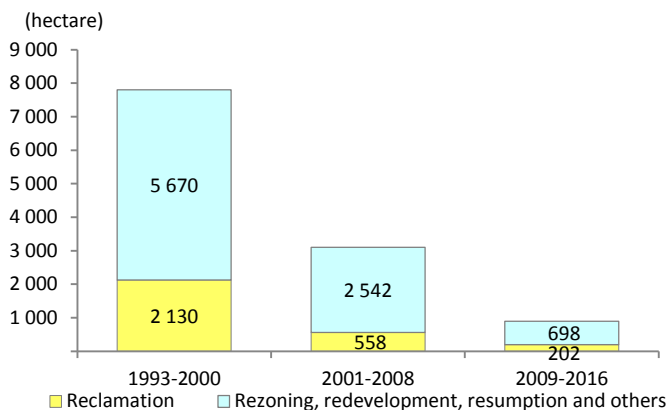
Land supply and utilization in Hong Kong

Figure 1 – Land usage in Hong Kong at end-2016



Note: (*) 1 km² = 100 hectares.

Figure 2 – Net addition of built-up land during 1993-2016



Note: From 2000 onwards, figures were updated based on satellite images and caution is required in data comparison.

Figure 3 – Population density in major cities in 2018

Selected cities	Population density [#]
Hong Kong	25 900
Singapore	11 400
Seoul-Incheon	8 800
Taipei	7 600
London	5 600
Beijing	5 100
Tokyo-Yokohama	4 500

Note: (#) In terms of number of persons per km² of built-up urban area.

Highlights

- During 1993-2016, the overall territorial size of Hong Kong has increased by a cumulative 3.3% to 1 111 km². Although built-up land (e.g. land for residential, business and infrastructure usage) has gone up by a larger magnitude of 78% to 270 km² over the same period, it accounted for just about 24% of the total land available at end-2016 (**Figure 1**).
- Breaking the aforementioned 24-year period into three sub-periods, net addition of built-up land was just 900 hectares during 2009-2016, representing a sharp decrease of 88% from that of 7 800 hectares during 1993-2000 (**Figure 2**). To a certain extent, this reduction in addition of built-up land was attributable to a significant slowdown in reclamation, which witnessed a plunge of 91% from 2 130 hectares to only 202 hectares over the same periods. Also contributed was a noticeable reduction in new land obtained from a change in land usage (e.g. land rezoning and resumption) over the past two decades or so.
- Only about 200 hectares of net addition of land in Hong Kong was designated for residential usage during 2007-2016. This was considered to be too small to meet the cumulative growth in local population by 479 500 or 7% over the same period. Actually, the population density of Hong Kong is amongst the highest across major global cities, with 25 900 persons per km² of built-up urban area in 2018 (**Figure 3**). This is much higher than the respective figure in Singapore (by 127%), Seoul (194%), Taipei (241%) and London (363%).

Land supply and utilization in Hong Kong (cont'd)

Figure 4 – Distribution of non-built-up land at end-2016

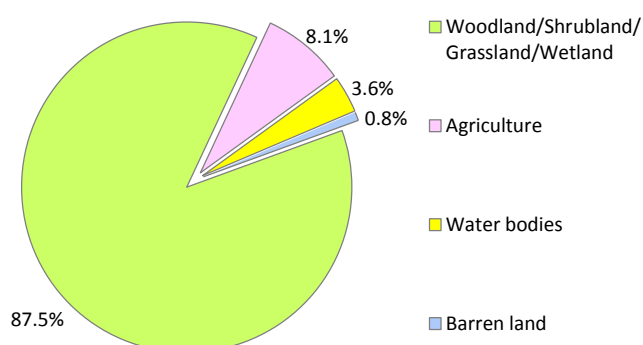
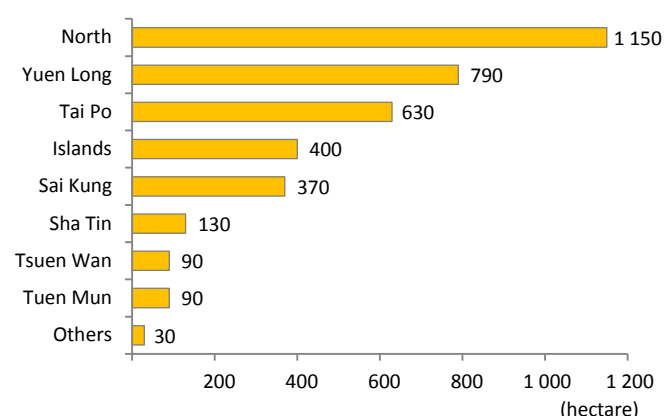


Figure 5 – Area of selected country parks in 2017

Location	Area (Hectare)
Lantau South	5 646
Tai Lam	5 412
Plover Cove	4 600
Sai Kung East	4 494
Pat Sin Leng	3 125
Sai Kung West	3 000
Ma On Shan	2 880
Others (including special areas)	15 155
Total	44 312

Figure 6 – Abandoned agricultural land in the New Territories at end-2017



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Highlights

- In face of the land shortage, there has been a suggestion on enlarging the built-up area through changing the existing usage of undeveloped land. At end-2016, there were some 841 km² of undeveloped areas in Hong Kong, mostly (88%) in the form of woodland, shrubland, grassland or wetland (**Figure 4**).
- There were 24 country parks and 22 special areas subject to statutory protection in Hong Kong, totaling 44 300 hectares or some 40% of the total land area (**Figure 5**). In May 2017, the Hong Kong Housing Society has commenced feasibility studies on two sites lying within or close to country parks (i.e. located in Tai Lam and Shui Chuen O with a total area of 40 hectares) to explore their potential for development into residential usage.
- This apart, 8% of local undeveloped land was agricultural land. There has been a suggestion in the community to convert the part of abandoned agricultural land into built-up areas. In 2017, there was some 3 700 hectares abandoned agricultural land, accounting for 84% in total agricultural land. Abandoned agricultural land was located mainly in North district (31%), followed by Yuen Long (21%) and Tai Po district (17%) (**Figure 6**).
- Most recently on 26 April 2018, the Task Force on Land Supply is putting forward a total of 18 recommendations on the sources of land supply for public consultation, with 4 options in the short-to-medium term, 6 options in the medium-to-long term and 8 conceptual options. After the completion of consultation in September 2018, a report is reportedly scheduled for submission to the Government for consideration by end-2018.

Data sources: Latest figures from Planning Department, Lands Department, Census and Statistics Department, Demography, and Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department.

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