



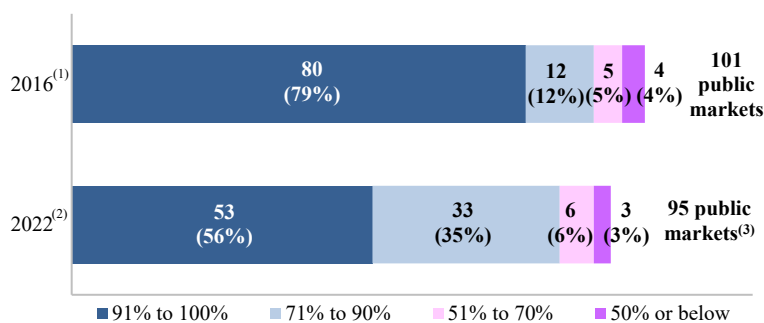
Public markets

Figure 1 – Number of public markets by districts⁽¹⁾

	No. of markets ⁽²⁾				No. of stalls	
	CFM	PM & CFM	PM	Total	Available	Occupancy rate
Eastern	1	7	1	9	1 358	87%
Central & Western	1	4	1	6	740	93%
Wan Chai	0	3	3	6	666	87%
Southern	1	4	1	6	488 ⁽³⁾	92%
Kwun Tong	4	2	2	8	963	86%
Yau Tsim Mong	1	3	2	6	771	80%
Kowloon City	0	3	1	4	1 085	91%
Sham Shui Po	0	2	2	4	969	81%
Wong Tai Sin	0	2	1	3	927	87%
Yuen Long	3	1	5	9	1 145	67%
Kwai Tsing	4	0	3	7	467	86%
Tuen Mun	3	0	3	6	485	95%
Islands	2	0	4	6	359	96%
Tsuen Wan	1	2	2	5	974	91%
North	0	4	0	4	895	99%
Sha Tin	2	0	2	4	395	95%
Tai Po	0	1	1	2	557	90%
Sai Kung	0	0	1	1	209	97%
Total	23	38	35	96	13 453	87%

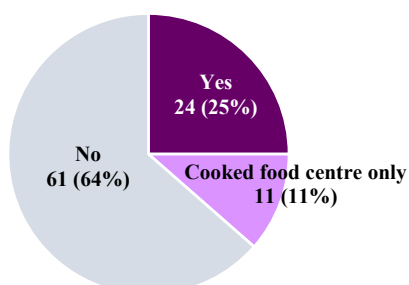
- Notes: (1) Figures are as at 1 July 2022.
 (2) “CFM” refers to cooked food market, “PM & CFM” refers to public market with cooked food stalls; and “PM” refers to public market without cooked food stalls.
 (3) Market stalls of the Aberdeen Market which has been under overhaul are excluded.

Figure 2 – Distribution of public markets by occupancy rate



- Notes: (1) Figures are as at 31 December 2016.
 (2) Figures are as at 1 July 2022.
 (3) The number included the FEHD Skylight Market in Tin Shui Wai that was commissioned in December 2020 and excluded the Aberdeen Market which was under overhaul.

Figure 3 – Number of public markets with A/C system⁽¹⁾



- Note: (1) Figures are as at 1 July 2022.

Highlights

- The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (“FEHD”) operated 96 public markets across the territory as at mid-2022 to provide access to food and daily necessities for the general public. Among them, 35 were standalone public markets and 38 contained both a public market and a cooked food centre (Figure 1). They together accommodated 13 024 stalls out of a total of 13 453 stalls in Hong Kong. FEHD also managed 23 standalone cooked food markets with 429 stalls.
- There have been concerns over the increased vacancy in public markets. Between 2017 and mid-2022, FEHD had closed six public markets with low occupancy rates of 20% to 59% before closure. However, the proportion of public markets having a high occupancy rate of 91% or above had dropped from 79% in 2016 to 56% in mid-2022 (Figure 2). The overall occupancy rate of public markets eased in tandem from 91% to 87% in the period. Although the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic conceivably has contributed to the decline in occupancy rate in recent years, it is noted that FEHD has planned to close another six markets taking into consideration factors such as their vacancy rates, availability of fresh provision shops in the vicinity and cost-effectiveness of upgrading works.
- The low occupancy rate in some public markets may be attributable to their unsatisfactory operating environment. One example is the lack of provision of air-conditioning (“A/C”) system in most public markets (Figure 3). Excluding the new market in Tin Shui Wai, only two existing markets, i.e. the Tai Wai Market and the Aberdeen Market have been retrofitted with A/C systems in the past few years, as such enhancements are generally confined to a few overhaul and redevelopment projects in the pipeline.

Public markets (cont'd)

Figure 4 – Market Modernisation Programme

No. of markets	Hong Kong	Kowloon	New Territories	Total
Overhaul/redevelopment projects				
On-going ⁽¹⁾	1	0	0	1
Planned ⁽²⁾	0	3	1	4
Minor refurbishment or improvement works				
On-going or completed	3	5	3	11
Planned	2	1	2	5

Notes: (1) The overhaul project of the Aberdeen Market commenced in November 2021 and the overhauled market will be commissioned in the first quarter of 2023 offering 150 stalls.

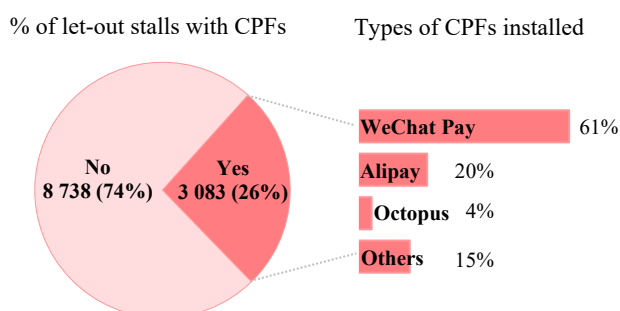
(2) FEHD has proposed to overhaul or redevelop the Ngau Tau Kok Market, Kowloon City Market, Lai Wan Market and Yeung Uk Road Market.

Figure 5 – New public markets commissioned/ under development

Project	Actual/ expected no. of stalls	Stage of development
FEHD Skylight Market in Tin Shui Wai	36	Commissioned in December 2020
Sunlight Market in Tung Chung	36	To be commissioned in the first quarter of 2023
Tin Shui Wai market	150	To be completed in 2027
Tung Chung Town Centre market	At least 100	Further technical feasibility study
Tseung Kwan O market	No less than 120	Preliminary design
Kwu Tung North NDA ⁽¹⁾ market	No less than 120	Preliminary design
Hung Shui Kiu / Ha Tsuen NDA market	To be confirmed	Preliminary planning
Tung Chung New Town Extension market	To be confirmed	Preliminary planning

Note: (1) “NDA” refers to new development area.

Figure 6 – Market stalls with CPFs⁽¹⁾



Note: (1) Figures are as at 31 December 2021. The figures of the Aberdeen Market which was under overhaul and the Choi Hung Road Market which was closed in March 2022 were excluded.

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Highlights

- While the Government has closed some underutilized public markets, it stepped up concurrent efforts to improve the operating environment of other public markets. HK\$2 billion was earmarked in 2018 for the implementation of a 10-year Market Modernisation Programme (“MMP”). Four years on, only the Aberdeen Market has been overhauled at an estimated capital cost of HK\$254 million. While there are another four public markets being proposed by FEHD for overhaul or redevelopment based on factors such as geographical location, business viability and community needs, the progress is still at early stages with related preparatory and consultation works already underway (**Figure 4**). FEHD has also commenced or completed minor refurbishment or improvement works of 11 public markets, involving an estimated cost of HK\$78.7 million.
- To serve shopping needs of residents in currently underserved new towns and new development areas, the Government announced in 2017 that it would study the need for and the feasibility of providing new public markets. Among the eight new public market projects proposed for development (**Figure 5**), the FEHD Skylight Market was opened in December 2020 and the Sunlight Market in Tung Chung may commence service in early 2023. Both are temporary markets with each offering 36 stalls. However, the development of the other six new markets is at different planning stages and may only be in service in the medium or longer term.
- FEHD has also strived to upgrade the auxiliary facilities of existing public markets to provide shoppers with a more pleasant shopping experience. Currently, around 90% of market venues (including public markets and cooked food centres) under FEHD are installed with Wi-Fi devices. Meanwhile, around 26% of the public market stalls had installed contactless payment facilities (“CPF”) as at end-2021, which was boosted by the two rounds of subsidy scheme launched in October 2020 and April 2021 under the Anti-epidemic Fund (**Figure 6**). FEHD will further promote contactless payment in public markets to provide convenience to shoppers and reduce virus transmission by encouraging more stall tenants to adopt CPFs.

Data sources: Latest figures from Food and Environmental Hygiene Department and Environment and Ecology Bureau.

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