



中華人民共和國香港特別行政區政府總部食物及衛生局  
Food and Health Bureau, Government Secretariat  
The Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region  
The People's Republic of China

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30 May 2019

Ms Maisie Lam  
Clerk to Panel  
Legislative Council Panel on Health Services  
Legislative Council Complex  
1 Legislative Council Road  
Central, Hong Kong

Dear Ms Lam,

**Meeting on 18 February 2019 at Panel on Health Services  
Item IV: Promotion of Breastfeeding**

At the meeting of the Legislative Council Panel on Health Services held on 18 February 2019, Members requested the Government to provide supplementary information on the captioned subject. Our response in consultation with the Department of Health (“DH”) is set out in the ensuing paragraphs.

**Breastfeeding rate**

2. The DH conducts regular Breastfeeding Surveys to monitor the local breastfeeding situation. The breastfeeding rates of children born in 2006, 2008, 2010, 2012, 2014 and 2016 are set out at **Annex 1**.

**Provision of babycare rooms in premises of government departments and organisations**

3. The Government has been actively promoting the provision of babycare facilities in government offices and public places. The “Advisory Guidelines on Babycare Facilities” were developed in August 2008 to

encourage the provision of baby care rooms in public venues managed by the Government. As of December 2018, a total of 324 baby care rooms have been set up in premises of government departments and organisations, with breakdown by district set out at **Annex 2**.

4. To step up the efforts, starting from early 2019, communal lactation rooms for staff as well as communal baby care rooms for the public will be provided in suitable new government premises.

Yours sincerely,



(Miss Fung Long-yin)  
for Secretary for Food and Health

c.c. Director of Health  
(Attn: Principal Medical & Health Officer (Family Health Service))

**Annex 1**

**Breastfeeding rates of children born in  
2006, 2008, 2010, 2012, 2014 and 2016**

		Year of birth <sup>1</sup>					
		2006	2008	2010	2012	2014	2016
Ever breastfeeding rate at hospital discharge <sup>2</sup>		69.6%	74.2%	79.9%	85.0%	86.4%	86.8%
Breastfeeding rate <sup>3</sup>	At 1 month of age	49.1%	54.2%	60.0%	68.6%	73.1%	78.2%
	At 2 month of age	37.2%	40.1%	45.1%	55.5%	61.0%	67.0%
	At 4 month of age	30.3%	30.8%	34.1%	44.3%	50.3%	55.5%
	At 6 month of age	22.6%	23.8%	25.4%	32.7%	40.9%	47.0%
	At 12 month of age	7.8%	10.4%	10.0%	14.2%	25.1%	28.2%
Exclusive breastfeeding rate <sup>4</sup>	At 1 month of age	20.2%	16.5%	19.4%	22.1%	30.8%	33.8%
	At 2 month of age	17.5%	16.0%	18.2%	21.7%	30.4%	33.4%
	At 4 month of age	13.3%	12.7%	14.8%	19.1%	26.6%	30.7%
	At 6 month of age	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	25.5%	27.9%

<sup>1</sup> Breastfeeding Survey is conducted in the year following the year of birth in the table. For example, the DH conducted survey in 2017 on the breastfeeding rate of children born in 2016.

<sup>2</sup> “Ever breastfeeding rate” refers to the percentage of newborn babies who had ever been breastfed.

<sup>3</sup> “Breastfeeding rate” refers to the percentage of children who are on any form of breastfeeding (including children exclusively breastfed as well as those breastfed children who are supplemented with formula milk and/or solid food feeding).

<sup>4</sup> “Exclusive breastfeeding rate” refers to the percentage of children who are on breastmilk only (either directly from breast or indirectly from expressed breastmilk). In the Breastfeeding Surveys in 2015 and 2017, information on complementary food at 6 months was collected to facilitate better understanding of the infant feeding practice.

Annex 2

**Babycare rooms in premises of government departments  
and organisations by district (as of December 2018)**

<b>Area</b>	<b>District</b>	<b>No. of babycare rooms</b>
Hong Kong Island	Central and Western	26
	Wan Chai	17
	Southern	6
	Eastern	17
Kowloon	Kowloon City	20
	Kwun Tong	23
	Sham Shui Po	13
	Yau Tsim Mong	30
	Wong Tai Sin	11
New Territories	Islands	55
	Kwai Tsing	13
	North	6
	Sai Kung	17
	Sha Tin	23
	Tai Po	5
	Tsuen Wan	8
	Tuen Mun	17
	Yuen Long	17
<b>Total</b>		<b>324</b>