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# Chapter 1

## 107

### 1.1 107.guide

Texified version of data for Hong Kong.

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Hong Kong

### 1.2 107.guide/Hong Kong

Hong Kong  
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Header (Hong Kong)  
Geography (Hong Kong)  
People (Hong Kong)  
Government (Hong Kong)  
Government (Hong Kong 2. usage)  
Economy (Hong Kong)  
Economy (Hong Kong 2. usage)  
Communications (Hong Kong)  
Defense Forces (Hong Kong)

### 1.3 107.guide/Header (Hong Kong)

Header (Hong Kong)  
=====

Affiliation:  
(dependent territory of the UK)

### 1.4 107.guide/Geography (Hong Kong)

Geography (Hong Kong)  
=====

Location:  
East Asia, on the southeast coast of China bordering the South China Sea  
Map references:  
Asia, Southeast Asia, Standard Time Zones of the World  
Area: total area:  
1,040 km<sup>2</sup>  
land area:  
990 km<sup>2</sup>  
comparative area:  
slightly less than six times the size of Washington, DC  
Land boundaries:  
total 30 km, China 30 km  
Coastline:  
733 km  
Maritime claims:  
exclusive fishing zone:  
3 nm  
territorial sea:  
3 nm  
International disputes:  
none  
Climate:  
tropical monsoon; cool and humid in winter, hot and rainy from spring

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through summer, warm and sunny in fall  
Terrain:  
hilly to mountainous with steep slopes; lowlands in north  
Natural resources:  
outstanding deepwater harbor, feldspar  
Land use:  
arable land:  
7%  
permanent crops:  
1%  
meadows and pastures:  
1%  
forest and woodland:  
12%  
other:  
79%  
Irrigated land:  
20 km<sup>2</sup> (1989)  
Environment:  
more than 200 islands; occasional typhoons

## 1.5 107.guide/People (Hong Kong)

People (Hong Kong)

=====

Population:  
5,552,965 (July 1993 est.)  
Population growth rate:  
-0.06% (1993 est.)  
Birth rate:  
12.27 births/1,000 population (1993 est.)  
Death rate:  
5.68 deaths/1,000 population (1993 est.)  
Net migration rate:  
-7.2 migrant(s)/1,000 population (1993 est.)  
Infant mortality rate:  
5.9 deaths/1,000 live births (1993 est.)  
Life expectancy at birth:  
total population:  
79.99 years  
male:  
76.55 years  
female:  
83.64 years (1993 est.)  
Total fertility rate:  
1.34 children born/woman (1993 est.)  
Nationality:  
noun:  
Chinese  
adjective:  
Chinese  
Ethnic divisions:

Chinese 98%, other 2%

Religions:  
eclectic mixture of local religions 90%, Christian 10%

Languages:  
Chinese (Cantonese), English

Literacy:  
age 15 and over can read and write (1971)  
total population:  
77%

male:  
90%

female:  
64%

Labor force:  
2.8 million (1990)  
by occupation:  
manufacturing 28.5%, wholesale and retail trade, restaurants, and hotels  
27.9%, services 17.7%, financing, insurance, and real estate 9.2%, ←  
transport  
and communications 4.5%, construction 2.5%, other 9.7% (1989)

## 1.6 107.guide/Government (Hong Kong)

Government (Hong Kong)

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Names:  
conventional long form:  
none  
conventional short form:  
Hong Kong

Abbreviation:  
HK

Digraph:  
HK

Type:  
dependent territory of the UK scheduled to revert to China in 1997

Capital:  
Victoria

Administrative divisions:  
none (dependent territory of the UK)

Independence:  
none (dependent territory of the UK; the UK signed an agreement with China  
on 19 December 1984 to return Hong Kong to China on 1 July 1997; in the  
joint declaration, China promises to respect Hong Kong's existing social ←  
and  
economic systems and lifestyle)

Constitution:  
unwritten; partly statutes, partly common law and practice; new Basic Law  
approved in March 1990 in preparation for 1997

Legal system:  
based on English common law

National holiday:

Liberation Day, 29 August (1945)

Political parties and leaders:

United Democrats of Hong Kong, Martin LEE, chairman; Democratic Alliance ↔  
for  
the Betterment of Hong Kong; Hong Kong Democratic Foundation

Other political or pressure groups:

Cooperative Resources Center, Allen LEE, chairman; Meeting Point, Anthony CHEUNG, chairman; Association of Democracy and People's Livelihood, Frederick FUNG Kin Kee, chairman; Liberal Democratic Federation, HEUNG Yee Kuk; Federation of Trade Unions (pro-China); Hong Kong and Kowloon Trade Union Council (pro-Taiwan); Confederation of Trade Unions (prodemocracy); Hong Kong General Chamber of Commerce; Chinese General Chamber of Commerce (pro-China); Federation of Hong Kong Industries; Chinese Manufacturers' Association of Hong Kong; Hong Kong Professional Teachers' Union; Hong Kong Alliance in Support of the Patriotic Democratic Movement in China

Suffrage:

direct election 21 years of age; universal as a permanent resident living ↔  
in  
the territory of Hong Kong for the past seven years indirect election  
limited to about 100,000 professionals of electoral college and functional constituencies

Elections:

Legislative Council:

indirect elections last held 12 September 1991 and direct elections were held for the first time 15 September 1991 (next to be held in September ↔  
1995  
when the number of directly-elected seats increases to 20); results -  
percent of vote by party NA; seats - (60 total; 21 indirectly elected by functional constituencies, 18 directly elected, 18 appointed by governor, 3 ex officio members); indirect elections - number of seats by functional constituency NA; direct elections - UDHK 12, Meeting Point 3, ADPL 1, other 2

Executive branch:

British monarch, governor, chief secretary of the Executive Council

Legislative branch:

unicameral Legislative Council

## 1.7 107.guide/Government (Hong Kong 2. usage)

Government (Hong Kong 2. usage)

=====

Judicial branch:

Supreme Court

Leaders:

Chief of State:

Queen ELIZABETH II (since 6 February 1952)

Head of Government:

Governor Chris PATTEN (since NA July 1992); Chief Secretary Sir David ↔  
Robert  
FORD (since NA February 1987)

Member of: APEC, AsDB, CCC, ESCAP (associate), GATT, ICFTU, IMO (associate) ↔  
, INTERPOL



(subbureau), IOC, ISO (correspondent), WCL, WMO  
 Diplomatic representation in US:  
 as a dependent territory of the UK, the interests of Hong Kong in the US ←  
 are  
 represented by the UK  
 US diplomatic representation:  
 chief of mission:  
 Consul General Richard L. WILLIAMS  
 embassy:  
 Consulate General at 26 Garden Road, Hong Kong  
 mailing address:  
 Box 30, Hong Kong, or FPO AP 96522-0002  
 telephone:  
 [852] 239-011  
 Flag:  
 blue with the flag of the UK in the upper hoist-side quadrant with the Hong  
 Kong coat of arms on a white disk centered on the outer half of the flag;  
 the coat of arms contains a shield (bearing two junks below a crown) held ←  
 by  
 a lion (representing the UK) and a dragon (representing China) with another  
 lion above the shield and a banner bearing the words HONG KONG below the  
 shield

## 1.8 107.guide/Economy (Hong Kong)

### Economy (Hong Kong)

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#### Overview:

Hong Kong has a bustling free market economy with few tariffs or nontariff  
 barriers. Natural resources are limited, and food and raw materials must be  
 imported. Manufacturing accounts for about 18% of GDP, employs 28% of the  
 labor force, and exports about 90% of its output. Real GDP growth averaged ←  
 a  
 remarkable 8% in 1987-88, slowed to 3.0% in 1989-90, and picked up to 4.2%  
 in 1991 and 5.9% in 1992. Unemployment, which has been declining since the  
 mid-1980s, is now about 2%. A shortage of labor continues to put upward  
 pressure on prices and the cost of living. Short-term prospects remain  
 bright so long as major trading partners continue to be reasonably  
 prosperous.

#### National product:

GDP - exchange rate conversion - \$86 billion (1992 est.)

#### National product real growth rate:

5.9% (1992)

#### National product per capita:

\$14,600 (1992 est.)

#### Inflation rate (consumer prices):

9.4% (1992)

#### Unemployment rate:

2% (1992 est.)

#### Budget:

revenues \$17.4 billion; expenditures \$14.7 billion, including capital  
 expenditures of \$NA (FY92)

**Exports:**

\$118 billion, including reexports of \$85.1 billion (f.o.b., 1992 est.)

**commodities:**

clothing, textiles, yarn and fabric, footwear, electrical appliances, watches and clocks, toys

partners: US 29%, China 21%, Germany 8%, UK 6%, Japan 5% (1990)

**Imports:**

\$120 billion (c.i.f., 1992 est.)

**commodities:**

foodstuffs, transport equipment, raw materials, semimanufactures, petroleum

**partners:**

China 37%, Japan 16%, Taiwan 9%, US 8% (1990)

**External debt:**

\$9.5 billion (December 1990 est.)

**Industrial production:**

growth rate NA%

**Electricity:**

9,566,000 kW capacity; 29,400 million kWh produced, 4,980 kWh per capita (1992)

**Industries:**

textiles, clothing, tourism, electronics, plastics, toys, watches, clocks

**Agriculture:**

minor role in the economy; rice, vegetables, dairy products; less than 20% self-sufficient; shortages of rice, wheat, water

**Illicit drugs:**

a hub for Southeast Asian heroin trade; transshipment and major financial and money-laundering center

**Economic aid:**

US commitments, including Ex-Im (FY70-87), \$152 million; Western (non-US) countries, ODA and OOF bilateral commitments (1970-89), \$923 million

**Currency:**

1 Hong Kong dollar (HK\$) = 100 cents

## 1.9 107.guide/Economy (Hong Kong 2. usage)

### Economy (Hong Kong 2. usage)

=====

**Exchange rates:**

Hong Kong dollars (HK\$) per US\$ - 7.800 (1992), 7.771 (1991), 7.790 (1990), 7.800 (1989), 7.810 (1988), 7.760 (1987); note - linked to the US dollar at the rate of about 7.8 HK\$ per 1 US\$ since 1985

**Fiscal year:**

1 April - 31 March

## 1.10 107.guide/Communications (Hong Kong)

### Communications (Hong Kong)

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**Railroads:**

35 km 1.435-meter standard gauge, government owned

**Highways:**

1,100 km total; 794 km paved, 306 km gravel, crushed stone, or earth

**Ports:**

Hong Kong

**Merchant marine:**

176 ships (1,000 GRT or over), totaling 5,870,007 GRT/10,006,390 DWT;

includes 1 passenger, 1 short-sea passenger, 20 cargo, 6 refrigerated cargo ←

29 container, 15 oil tanker, 3 chemical tanker, 6 combination ore/oil, 5 liquefied gas, 88 bulk, 2 combination bulk; note - a flag of convenience registry; ships registered in Hong Kong fly the UK flag, and an estimated 500 Hong Kong-owned ships are registered elsewhere

**Airports:**

total:

2

useable:

2

with permanent-surface runways:

2

with runways over 3,659 m:

0

with runways 2,440-3,659 m:

1

with runways 1,220-2,439 m:

0

**Telecommunications:**

modern facilities provide excellent domestic and international services; 3,000,000 telephones; microwave transmission links and extensive optical fiber transmission network; broadcast stations - 6 AM, 6 FM, 4 TV; 1 ←

British

Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) repeater station and 1 British Forces Broadcasting Service repeater station; 2,500,000 radio receivers; 1,312,000 TV sets (1,224,000 color TV sets); satellite earth stations - 1 Pacific Ocean INTELSAT and 2 Indian Ocean INTELSAT; coaxial cable to Guangzhou, China; links to 5 international submarine cables providing access to ASEAN member nations, Japan, Taiwan, Australia, Middle East, and Western Europe

## 1.11 107.guide/Defense Forces (Hong Kong)

### Defense Forces (Hong Kong)

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**Branches:**

Headquarters of British Forces, Royal Navy, Royal Air Force, Royal Hong ←  
Kong

Auxiliary Air Force, Royal Hong Kong Police Force

**Manpower availability:**

males age 15-49 1,635,516; fit for military service 1,256,057; reach  
military age (18) annually 43,128 (1993 est.)

Defense expenditures:

exchange rate conversion - \$300 million, 0.5% of GDP (1989 est.); this represents one-fourth of the total cost of defending itself, the remainder being paid by the UK

Note:

defense is the responsibility of the UK

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