

Head 26 — CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT

Controlling officer: the Commissioner for Census and Statistics will account for expenditure under this Head.

Estimate 2014–15 **\$615.1m**

Establishment ceiling 2014–15 (notional annual mid-point salary value) representing an estimated 1 218 non-directorate posts as at 31 March 2014 rising by 73 posts to 1 291 posts as at 31 March 2015 **\$444.7m**

In addition, there will be an estimated seven directorate posts as at 31 March 2014 and as at 31 March 2015.

Controlling Officer's Report

Programmes

- | | |
|---|--|
| Programme (1) Trade Statistics | This programme contributes to Policy Area 6: Commerce and Industry (Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development) and Policy Area 27: Intra-Governmental Services (Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury). |
| Programme (2) Social Statistics | These programmes contribute to Policy Area 27: Intra-Governmental Services (Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury). |
| Programme (3) National Accounts and Balance of Payments Statistics | |
| Programme (4) General Statistical Services | |
| Programme (5) Price/Industry/Service Statistics | This programme contributes to Policy Area 17: Information Technology and Broadcasting (Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development) and Policy Area 27: Intra-Governmental Services (Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury). |
| Programme (6) Labour Statistics | This programme contributes to Policy Area 27: Intra-Governmental Services (Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury). |

Detail

Programme (1): Trade Statistics

	2012–13 (Actual)	2013–14 (Original)	2013–14 (Revised)	2014–15 (Estimate)
Financial provision (\$m)	148.4	165.4	145.6 (–12.0%)	161.4 (+10.9%)
				(or –2.4% on 2013–14 Original)

Aim

2 The aim is to process import/export declarations and cargo manifests, to safeguard the Government's revenue from import/export declaration charges, and to produce and analyse trade statistics.

Brief Description

- 3 The work involves:
- processing import/export declarations submitted by importers/exporters and cargo manifests submitted by carriers,
 - matching import/export declarations and cargo manifests to ensure full collection of import/export declaration charges,
 - designing commodity classification systems and compiling trade statistics,
 - conducting monthly surveys on trade related to outward processing in the Mainland,
 - conducting surveys on re-export trade for estimating the rates of re-export margin,
 - conducting supplementary surveys to track the latest developments in the trade structure of Hong Kong,

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- collecting data for adjusting import statistics to a free-on-board basis to facilitate compilation of national income and balance of payments (BoP) statistics and international comparison of trade data,
 - compiling import/export specification price indices, and
 - compiling port cargo statistics and container statistics.
- 4 The key performance measures are:

Targets

	Target	2012 (Actual)	2013 (Actual)	2014 (Plan)
provision of statistics requiring simple action (working days).....	0.5	0.2	0.2	0.2
provision of photocopies or softcopies containing detailed information upon receipt of a firm order (working days)....	2	2	2	2
assistance in completion of import/export declarations or cargo manifests				
simple enquiries by telephone or personal visit (minutes).....	4	4	4	4
complex enquiries by telephone or personal visit (working days).....	1	1	1	1
written enquiries (working days).....	1	1	1	1
time after reference period for release of monthly trade statistics (weeks).....	4	4	4	4
time required for issuing notices for outstanding import/export declarations (months).....	1.5	1.2	1.2	1.2

Indicators

	2012 (Actual)	2013 (Actual)	2014 (Estimate)
import/export declarations checked (million)	18.6	19.1	19.1
cargo manifests processed (million).....	8.3	8.3	8.3
statistical reports/publications produced	9	8#	8
surveys conducted	5	5	5

Production of the publication “Annual Review of Hong Kong External Merchandise Trade” has been ceased since 2013.

Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2014–15

5 During 2014–15, the Department will continue to support the use of electronic submission services for import/export declarations and cargo manifests.

Programme (2): Social Statistics

	2012–13 (Actual)	2013–14 (Original)	2013–14 (Revised)	2014–15 (Estimate)
Financial provision (\$m)	86.9	79.2	78.2 (–1.3%)	109.2 (+39.6%)
				(or +37.9% on 2013–14 Original)

Aim

6 The aim is to produce and analyse demographic, labour force and social statistics, and to maintain a register of quarters as a sampling frame for conducting household surveys.

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Brief Description

- 7 The work involves:
- conducting population censuses/by-censuses at five-yearly intervals;
 - compiling vital statistics and population statistics and making population projections;
 - conducting a continuous General Household Survey with a core part to collect data on the labour force, employment, unemployment and underemployment and a supplementary part to collect data on a variety of social topics;
 - organising the Thematic Household Survey (THS) series to meet the statistical data requirements of bureaux and departments under a contracting-out mode; and
 - maintaining an up-to-date register of quarters.
- 8 The key performance measures are:

Targets

	Target	2012 (Actual)	2013 (Actual)	2014 (Plan)
provision of statistics requiring simple action (working days).....	1	1	1	1
provision of photocopies or softcopies containing detailed information upon receipt of a firm order (working days)....	4	4	4	4
time after reference period or time-point for release of				
half-yearly population statistics (months)	1.7	1.6	1.6	1.5
annual vital statistics (months)	7.5	7.5	7.5	7.5
unemployment and underemployment statistics for three-month periods (days)	18	18	18	18

Indicators

	2012 (Actual)	2013 (Actual)	2014 (Estimate)
quarters records updated	99 000 [^]	112 000	112 000
households enumerated [¶]	80 000	79 000	79 000
statistical systems maintained/enhanced/developed	10	10	10
statistical reports/publications produced	21 [‡]	13 [‡]	9
surveys conducted ^Ψ	4 [§]	4 ^δ	3

[^] Resources were redeployed to conduct an ad hoc Survey on Babies Born in Hong Kong to Mainland Women in 2012, thus less quarters records were updated.

[¶] Excluding households enumerated in the THS series contracted out to private survey research firms.

[‡] Including reports of the 2011 Population Census results.

^Ψ Including THS series contracted out to private survey research firms.

[§] Including the Survey on Babies Born in Hong Kong to Mainland Women.

^δ Including the Institution Survey on Persons with Disabilities and Chronic Diseases.

Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2014–15

9 The Department will continue with the planning for the 2016 Population By-census (16BC) and set up the 16BC Office.

10 The Investigation Task Force on Statistical Data Quality Assurance put forward in March 2013 recommendations to strengthen the data quality assurance mechanism and fieldwork management system of the Department. They are in different stages of implementation and the Department will continue to attach importance to the follow up action.

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Programme (3): National Accounts and Balance of Payments Statistics

	2012–13 (Actual)	2013–14 (Original)	2013–14 (Revised)	2014–15 (Estimate)
Financial provision (\$m)	75.8	82.9	78.8 (–4.9%)	80.3 (+1.9%)
				(or –3.1% on 2013–14 Original)

Aim

11 The aim is to produce and analyse Gross Domestic Product (GDP), Gross National Income (GNI) (formerly known as Gross National Product (GNP)), BoP and related statistics in a timely and accurate manner, and to assist in the preparation of Government’s forecasts of various economic aggregates.

Brief Description

12 The work involves:

- compiling quarterly and annual GDP and GNI statistics based on international statistical standards recommended in the “System of National Accounts” of the United Nations;
- compiling quarterly and annual BoP, international investment position and external debt statistics in accordance with the standards stipulated in the “Balance of Payments and International Investment Position Manual” of the International Monetary Fund;
- conducting survey work for collecting data required for the compilation of annual external direct investment statistics as well as quarterly and annual GNI, BoP and related statistics; and
- providing data and professional support for performing econometric modelling related to the production of short-term and medium-term forecasts of economic aggregates.

13 The key performance measures are:

Targets

	Target	2012 (Actual)	2013 (Actual)	2014 (Plan)
provision of statistics requiring simple action (working days).....	1.0	0.4	0.4	0.4
time after reference period for release of various statistics (months)				
quarterly GDP by expenditure component.....	2.0	1.5	1.6	1.6
annual GDP by expenditure component.....	2.5	1.8	2.0	1.9
quarterly GDP by economic activity ..	3.0	2.7	2.7	2.7
annual GDP by economic activity	11	11	11	11
quarterly GNI.....	3.0	2.5	2.5	2.5
annual GNI	3.0	2.5	2.5	2.5
quarterly BoP statistics	3.0	2.7	2.7	2.7
annual BoP statistics	3.0	2.7	2.7	2.7
annual external direct investment statistics	12	12	12	12
quarterly statistics on international investment position	3.0	2.7	2.7	2.7
annual statistics on international investment position	3.0	2.7	2.7	2.7
quarterly external debt statistics	3.0	2.7	2.7	2.7
annual external debt statistics	3.0	2.7	2.7	2.7

Indicators

	2012 (Actual)	2013 (Actual)	2014 (Estimate)
statistical reports/publications produced.....	5φ	4	4
surveys conducted	1	1	1

φ Including an ad hoc report, namely “Special Report on Gross Domestic Product”.

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Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2014–15

14 The Department will continue to enhance the methodology and compilation framework in respect of national accounts, BoP and related statistics to take account of the latest international standards and local economic developments.

Programme (4): General Statistical Services

	2012–13 (Actual)	2013–14 (Original)	2013–14 (Revised)	2014–15 (Estimate)
Financial provision (\$m)	32.1	37.3	31.7 (–15.0%)	32.3 (+1.9%)
				(or –13.4% on 2013–14 Original)

Aim

15 The aim is to provide statistical consultancy services and to maintain quality standards in statistical work.

Brief Description

16 The work involves:

- providing professional assistance to bureaux and departments in statistical work;
- promoting statistical literacy and application of statistics in the community;
- co-ordinating statistical work to ensure data compatibility and maintain quality standards;
- publishing general digests of statistics;
- promoting and facilitating further improvement of statistical services under the Department's e-government strategy, including continuous enhancement of the Department's website;
- promoting the re-dissemination of official statistics through data agencies and information providers in the private sector; and
- developing the overall information technology (IT) strategy of the Department, co-ordinating IT applications in statistical work and providing related business analysis and technical support.

17 The key performance measures are:

Target

	Target	2012 (Actual)	2013 (Actual)	2014 (Plan)
provision of statistics requiring simple action (working days).....	1	1	1	1

Indicators

	2012 (Actual)	2013 (Actual)	2014 (Estimate)
projects of bureaux and departments for which the Department has provided assistance.....	10	10	10
statistical reports/publications produced.....	5	5	5

Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2014–15

18 The need for objective, up-to-date and quality statistical information to facilitate policy planning in the Government as well as community understanding and discussion of public issues continues to increase. To meet this need, the Department will continue to upgrade the quality of statistical services in respect of timeliness, relevance and user serviceability. It will continue to co-ordinate statistical activities across government departments to ensure data compatibility and maintain quality standards.

19 The Department will continue to promote statistical literacy and applications of statistics in the community through organising seminars to facilitate correct interpretation and proper use of statistics.

20 Following the recommendations made in the Information Systems Strategy Study completed in 2004, the Department is implementing a number of strategic IT projects to set up two department-wide data capturing systems on top of other strategic IT projects already completed.

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21 The Department will continue to use modern technologies in the collection of data and dissemination of statistical information to enhance efficiency. It will also continue to enhance its website in respect of accessibility, contents, navigation, user friendliness and value-added services.

Programme (5): Price/Industry/Service Statistics

	2012–13 (Actual)	2013–14 (Original)	2013–14 (Revised)	2014–15 (Estimate)
Financial provision (\$m)	132.3	145.6	139.2 (–4.4%)	150.2 (+7.9%)
				(or +3.2% on 2013–14 Original)

Aim

22 The aim is to produce and analyse price, industry and service statistics.

Brief Description

23 The work involves:

- compiling on a monthly basis consumer price indices (CPIs) and index numbers relating to costs of labour and materials used in building and construction projects;
- conducting a household expenditure survey (HES) on a quinquennial basis to collect up-to-date information on household expenditure pattern for rebasing the CPIs;
- conducting an annual economic survey covering all major industry sectors to collect detailed data in respect of the business performance and operating characteristics of these sectors;
- conducting monthly and quarterly economic surveys to collect data for compiling short-term indicators of the business performance of selected industry sectors;
- conducting an annual survey to collect data on trade in services and offshore trade;
- conducting an annual survey to collect both data and views of companies in Hong Kong representing parent companies located outside Hong Kong;
- conducting an annual survey to collect data on innovation activities, including research and development, in the business sector; and
- conducting a survey to collect data on IT usage and penetration in the business sector.

24 In 2013, the Department:

- conducted further study on the compilation of more inward foreign affiliates trade in services (FATS) statistics and the trial compilation of outward FATS statistics for Hong Kong,
- continued to participate in the 2011 International Comparison Program for compilation of purchasing power parities among different economies, and
- conducted an ad hoc establishment survey to collect employers' views on their manpower and job skills requirements over the medium-term with a view to providing data required for the Manpower Projection to 2022 exercise.

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25 The key performance measures are:

Targets

	Target	2012 (Actual)	2013 (Actual)	2014 (Plan)
provision of statistics requiring simple action (working days).....	1	1	1	1
provision of photocopies or softcopies containing detailed information upon receipt of a firm order (working days)....	4	4	4	4
time after reference period for release of results of various surveys (months)				
Monthly Survey of Retail Sales.....	1.1	1.0	1.0	1.0
Quarterly Survey of Service Industries.....	2.4	2.3	2.3	2.3
Quarterly Survey of Restaurant Receipts and Purchases.....	1.2	1.1	1.1	1.1
Annual Survey of Economic Activities.....	11	11	11	11
time after reference period for release of CPIs (days).....	22	21	21	21

Indicators

	2012 (Actual)	2013 (Actual)	2014 (Estimate)
establishments enumerated.....	243 700	255 900 ^Λ	244 000
households enumerated.....	—	—	1 700 ^Φ
price quotations collected.....	605 100	606 800	606 100
statistical reports/publications produced.....	22	23 [@]	23 ^λ
surveys conducted.....	15	17 ^γ	16 ^μ

^Λ Including establishments covered in two ad hoc surveys, namely Survey on Information Technology Usage and Penetration in the Business Sector for 2013 and 2013 Establishment Survey on Manpower and Job Skills Requirements.

^Φ Including the estimated number of households to be enumerated in the 2014–15 HES.

[@] Including a biennial report, namely “Hong Kong as a Knowledge-based Economy – A Statistical Perspective”.

^λ Including an ad hoc report, namely “Report on Survey on Information Technology Usage and Penetration in the Business Sector for 2013”.

^γ Including two ad hoc surveys, namely Survey on Information Technology Usage and Penetration in the Business Sector for 2013 and 2013 Establishment Survey on Manpower and Job Skills Requirements.

^μ Including the 2014–15 HES conducted once every 5 years.

Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2014–15

26 During 2014–15, the Department will:

- continue to support more detailed analysis on small and medium enterprises and also the selected industries where Hong Kong enjoys clear advantages, based on data collected from the Annual Survey of Economic Activities; and
- conduct the 2014–15 HES from October 2014 to September 2015 for updating the weights of the CPIs.

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Programme (6): Labour Statistics

	2012–13 (Actual)	2013–14 (Original)	2013–14 (Revised)	2014–15 (Estimate)
Financial provision (\$m)	75.1	80.3	78.5 (–2.2%)	81.7 (+4.1%)
				(or +1.7% on 2013–14 Original)

Aim

27 The aim is to produce and analyse statistics on employment, vacancies, wage, labour earnings and manpower requirements and to maintain a Central Register of Establishments (CRE) as a sampling frame for conducting establishment surveys.

Brief Description

28 The work involves:

- compiling employment, vacancies, wage and labour earnings statistics;
- compiling statistics on manpower requirements and training needs; and
- maintaining the CRE.

29 The key performance measures are:

Targets

	Target	2012 (Actual)	2013 (Actual)	2014 (Plan)
provision of statistics requiring simple action (working days).....	1	1	1	1
provision of photocopies or softcopies containing detailed information upon receipt of a firm order (working days)....	4	4	4	4
time after reference period for release of results of quarterly surveys (weeks).....	13	13	13	13

Indicators

	2012 (Actual)	2013 (Actual)	2014 (Estimate)
records of establishments updated	607 000	647 000Ω	647 000
establishments enumerated.....	673 000	706 000Ω	706 000
statistical reports/publications produced	6α	5	5
surveys conducted	6β	5	5

Ω The increase in 2013 was mainly due to more applications for business registration and change in business registration particulars received from the Business Registration Office.

α Including an ad hoc report, namely “Manpower Requirement Projection to 2018 by Economic Sector”.

β Including an ad hoc survey, namely 2012 Survey on Employment Benefits.

Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2014–15

30 The Department will continue to:

- enhance the labour statistics compilation framework so that comprehensive, timely and reliable statistics can be made available to facilitate the related policy reviews and formulation; and
- upgrade the computer system for maintaining and updating the CRE, and to upkeep the Hong Kong Standard Industrial Classification so as to foster international comparability and to reflect the economic activities of Hong Kong.

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ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL PROVISION

	2012–13 (Actual) (\$m)	2013–14 (Original) (\$m)	2013–14 (Revised) (\$m)	2014–15 (Estimate) (\$m)
Programme				
(1) Trade Statistics.....	148.4	165.4	145.6	161.4
(2) Social Statistics.....	86.9	79.2	78.2	109.2
(3) National Accounts and Balance of Payments Statistics.....	75.8	82.9	78.8	80.3
(4) General Statistical Services.....	32.1	37.3	31.7	32.3
(5) Price/Industry/Service Statistics.....	132.3	145.6	139.2	150.2
(6) Labour Statistics.....	75.1	80.3	78.5	81.7
	550.6	590.7	552.0 (-6.6%)	615.1 (+11.4%)
				(or +4.1% on 2013–14 Original)

Analysis of Financial and Staffing Provision

Programme (1)

Provision for 2014–15 is \$15.8 million (10.9%) higher than the revised estimate for 2013–14. This is mainly due to the additional operating expenses for conducting supplementary surveys to track the latest development in the trade structure of Hong Kong and the increased salary provision for filling of vacancies and staff changes.

Programme (2)

Provision for 2014–15 is \$31.0 million (39.6%) higher than the revised estimate for 2013–14. This is mainly due to the additional provision for the creation of 62 posts in 2014–15 and other operating expenses for the preparation of the 16BC, as well as the increased salary provision for filling of vacancies and staff changes.

Programme (3)

Provision for 2014–15 is \$1.5 million (1.9%) higher than the revised estimate for 2013–14. This is mainly due to the increased salary provision for filling of vacancies and staff changes.

Programme (4)

Provision for 2014–15 is \$0.6 million (1.9%) higher than the revised estimate for 2013–14. This is mainly due to the increased salary provision for the creation of one post in 2014–15, filling of vacancies and staff changes.

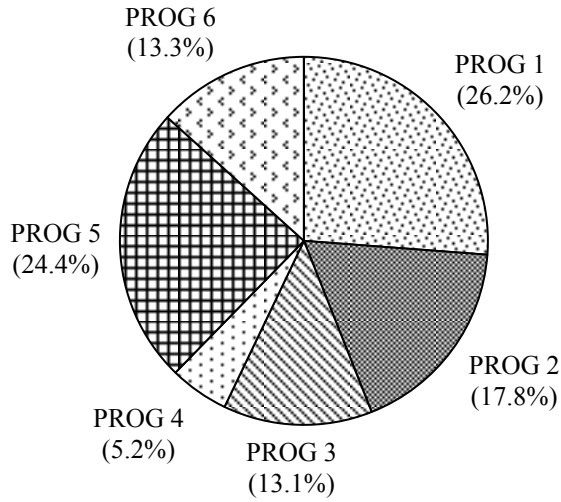
Programme (5)

Provision for 2014–15 is \$11.0 million (7.9%) higher than the revised estimate for 2013–14. This is mainly due to the additional provision for the creation of seven posts in 2014–15 and other operating expenses for conducting the 2014–15 HES as well as the increased salary provision for filling of vacancies and staff changes.

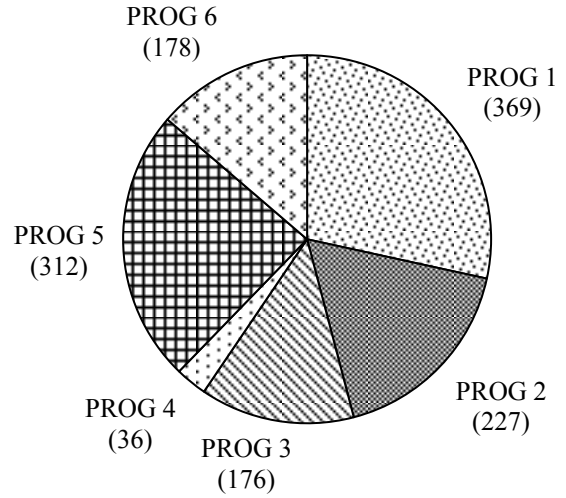
Programme (6)

Provision for 2014–15 is \$3.2 million (4.1%) higher than the revised estimate for 2013–14. This is mainly due to the increased salary provision for the creation of three posts in 2014–15, filling of vacancies and staff changes.

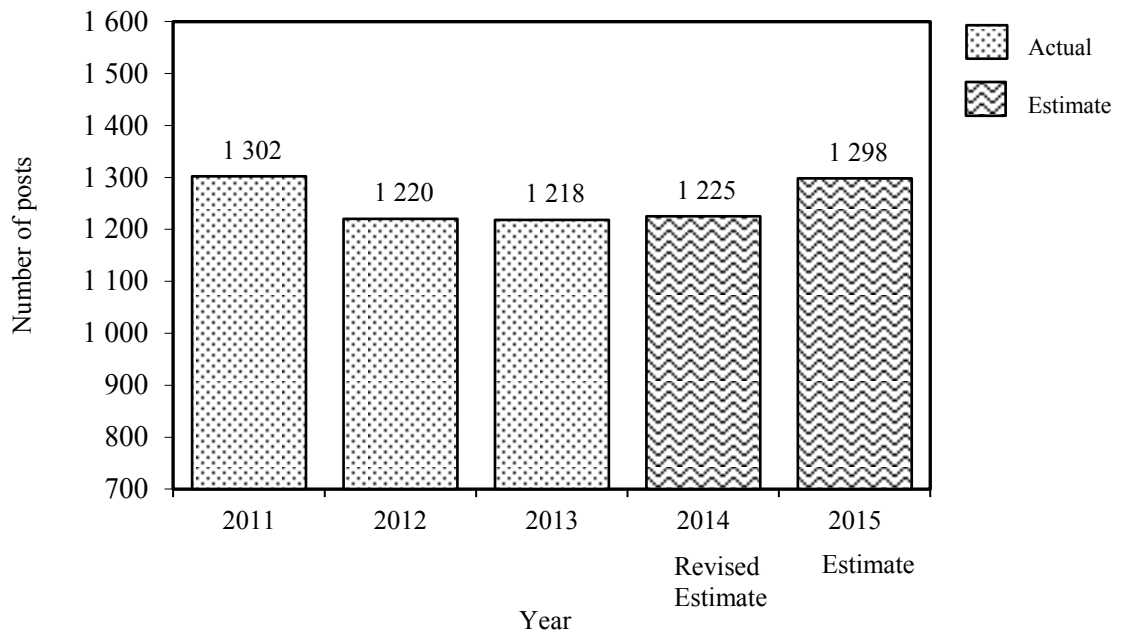
*Allocation of provision
to programmes
(2014-15)*



*Staff by programme
(as at 31 March 2015)*



*Changes in the size of the establishment
(as at 31 March)*



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Sub-head (Code)	Actual expenditure 2012-13	Approved estimate 2013-14	Revised estimate 2013-14	Estimate 2014-15	
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	
Operating Account					
Recurrent					
000	Operational expenses	547,274	583,890	551,600	615,131
	Total, Recurrent.....	<u>547,274</u>	<u>583,890</u>	<u>551,600</u>	<u>615,131</u>
Non-Recurrent					
	General non-recurrent	3,351	6,823	400	—
	Total, Non-Recurrent.....	<u>3,351</u>	<u>6,823</u>	<u>400</u>	<u>—</u>
	Total, Operating Account	550,625	590,713	552,000	615,131
<hr/>					
	Total Expenditure	<u>550,625</u>	<u>590,713</u>	<u>552,000</u>	<u>615,131</u>

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Details of Expenditure by Subhead

The estimate of the amount required in 2014–15 for the salaries and expenses of the Census and Statistics Department is \$615,131,000. This represents an increase of \$63,131,000 over the revised estimate for 2013–14 and of \$64,506,000 against actual expenditure in 2012–13.

Operating Account

Recurrent

2 Provision of \$615,131,000 under *Subhead 000 Operational expenses* is for the salaries, allowances and other operating expenses of the Census and Statistics Department. The increase of \$63,531,000 (11.5%) over the revised estimate for 2013–14 is mainly due to the provision for preparing the 2016 Population By-census and conducting the 2014–15 Household Expenditure Survey, as well as the increased salary provision for filling of vacancies and staff changes.

3 The establishment as at 31 March 2014 will be 1 225 permanent posts. It is expected that there will be a net increase of 73 posts in 2014–15. Subject to certain conditions, the controlling officer may under delegated power create or delete non-directorate posts during 2014–15, but the notional annual mid-point salary value of all such posts must not exceed \$444,655,000.

4 An analysis of the financial provision under *Subhead 000 Operational expenses* is as follows:

	2012–13 (Actual) (\$'000)	2013–14 (Original) (\$'000)	2013–14 (Revised) (\$'000)	2014–15 (Estimate) (\$'000)
Personal Emoluments				
- Salaries.....	461,309	480,202	472,350	513,126
- Allowances.....	3,124	3,882	2,788	3,720
- Job-related allowances.....	—	4	1	1
Personnel Related Expenses				
- Mandatory Provident Fund contribution.....	986	736	1,185	1,416
- Civil Service Provident Fund contribution.....	3,597	5,050	5,754	7,430
Departmental Expenses				
- General departmental expenses	78,026	93,781	69,287	89,203
Other Charges				
- Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific	232	235	235	235
	547,274	583,890	551,600	615,131