

Head 26 — CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT

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

Estimate 2010–11 **\$599.2m**

Establishment ceiling 2010–11 (notional annual mid-point salary value) representing an estimated 1 298 non-directorate posts as at 31 March 2010 reducing by one post to 1 297 posts as at 31 March 2011 **\$384.3m**

In addition, there will be an estimated seven directorate posts as at 31 March 2010 and as at 31 March 2011.

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

	2008–09 (Actual)	2009–10 (Original)	2009–10 (Revised)	2010–11 (Estimate)
Financial provision (\$m)	132.7	155.3	132.5 (–14.7%)	150.0 (+13.2%)
				(or –3.4% on 2009–10 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 In 2009, efforts were made to further reduce the time needed for issuing notices for outstanding import/export declarations through, for example, streamlining the internal process and increasing the manpower resources.

5 The key performance measures are:

Targets

	Target	2008 (Actual)	2009 (Actual)	2010 (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#	2.6	1.5	1.5

Target improved from two to 1.5 months as from 2010.

Indicators

	2008 (Actual)	2009 (Actual)	2010 (Estimate)
import/export declarations checked (million)	19.1	17.2 [^]	17.2
cargo manifests processed (million).....	9.1	8.1 [^]	8.1
statistical reports/publications produced	9	9	9
surveys conducted	5	5	6

[^] The decrease in 2009 over 2008 was due to slackening in external trade amid the global economic downturn.

Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2010–11

6 During 2010–11, the Department will continue to:

- support the use of electronic submission services for import/export declarations and cargo manifests; and
- review if the target time required for issuing notices for outstanding import/export declarations (i.e. 1.5 months) could practically be further reduced having regard to the circumstances then prevailing including industry practices.

Programme (2): Social Statistics

	2008–09 (Actual)	2009–10 (Original)	2009–10 (Revised)	2010–11 (Estimate)
Financial provision (\$m)	60.2	94.4	88.8 (–5.9%)	142.6 (+60.6%)
				(or +51.1% on 2009–10 Original)

Aim

7 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.

Brief Description

8 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.

9 The key performance measures are:

Targets

	Target	2008 (Actual)	2009 (Actual)	2010 (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	1.5	1.5	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

	2008 (Actual)	2009 (Actual)	2010 (Estimate)
quarters records updated	129 000¶	120 000	272 500‡
households enumeratedΨ	82 000	82 000	114 800§
statistical systems maintained/enhanced/developed	10	10	10
statistical reports/publications produced	15	15	15
surveys conductedλ	2	4ψ	6δ

¶ More quarters records were updated in 2008 owing to the special updating exercises for the government-wide Data Alignment Measures project.

‡ More quarters records will be updated in 2010 owing to the special updating exercises for the 2011 Population Census (11C).

Ψ Excluding households enumerated in the THS series contracted out to private survey research firms.

§ The increase in 2010 is due to the Small-scale Test Survey (covering some 2 800 households) and pilot survey (covering some 30 000 households) of 11C scheduled for January 2010 and mid-2010 respectively.

λ Including THS series contracted out to private survey research firms.

ψ Including the survey conducted on parents of babies born in Hong Kong to Mainland women and the survey on profile of inmates of private elderly homes.

δ Including the survey conducted on parents of babies born in Hong Kong to Mainland women, the survey on profile of inmates of private elderly homes as well as the Small-scale Test Survey and the pilot survey of 11C.

Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2010–11

10 The Department will continue with the planning for the large scale project on 11C. A Small-scale Test Survey was conducted in January 2010 to test the questionnaire design and operational arrangements of 11C and consult households on related arrangements. A pilot survey of larger scale will be conducted in mid-2010 to test various aspects of the operation and evaluate the design of 11C.

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

	2008–09 (Actual)	2009–10 (Original)	2009–10 (Revised)	2010–11 (Estimate)
Financial provision (\$m)	74.0	77.5	69.6 (–10.2%)	73.9 (+6.2%)
				(or –4.6% on 2009–10 Original)

Aim

11 The aim is to produce and analyse Gross Domestic Product (GDP), 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 GNP statistics based on international statistical standards recommended in "A System of National Accounts" of the United Nations;
- compiling quarterly and annual BoP and external debt statistics as well as quarterly and annual statistics on international investment position in accordance with the standard stipulated in "The Balance of Payments 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 GNP and BoP 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	2008 (Actual)	2009 (Actual)	2010 (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	1.6	1.6	1.6
annual GDP by expenditure component.....	2.5	1.9	1.9	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 GNP	3.0	2.5	2.5	2.5
annual GNP	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
annual statistics on international investment position	5.5	5.1	5.1	4.0
quarterly external debt statistics	3.0	2.7	2.7	2.7
annual external debt statistics	3.0	2.7	2.7	2.7

φ Quarterly international investment position statistics will be compiled for the first time as from the reference quarter of the first quarter of 2010. The statistics will be released in June 2010.

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Indicators

	2008 (Actual)	2009 (Actual)	2010 (Estimate)
statistical reports/publications produced	4	4	4
surveys conducted	1	1	1

Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2010–11

14 The Department will continue to enhance the methodology and compilation framework in respect of national accounts and BoP statistics in line with the latest international standards.

Programme (4): General Statistical Services

	2008–09 (Actual)	2009–10 (Original)	2009–10 (Revised)	2010–11 (Estimate)
Financial provision (\$m)	26.2	27.0	27.5 (+1.9%)	28.5 (+3.6%)
				(or +5.6% on 2009–10 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 and 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
- co-ordinating and providing technical support for information technology (IT) applications in statistical work.

17 The key performance measures are:

Target

	Target	2008 (Actual)	2009 (Actual)	2010 (Plan)
provision of statistics requiring simple action (working days)	1	1	1	1

Indicators

	2008 (Actual)	2009 (Actual)	2010 (Estimate)
projects of bureaux and departments for which the Department has provided assistance	16	16	16
statistical reports/publications produced	8	6	5

Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2010–11

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 address this need, the Department will continue to upgrade the quality of statistical services in respect of timeliness, relevance and user serviceability to ensure that the services are oriented to the needs of users. It will continue to give attention to co-ordinating statistical activities across government departments to ensure data compatibility and maintain quality standards.

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

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 replace the Full Harmonized System, and to set up a department-wide output production system, two department-wide data capturing systems as well as a knowledge management support system on top of other strategic IT projects which have been completed already.

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 contents, navigation, user friendliness and value-added services.

Programme (5): Price/Industry/Service Statistics

	2008–09 (Actual)	2009–10 (Original)	2009–10 (Revised)	2010–11 (Estimate)
Financial provision (\$m)	115.5	130.9	122.0 (–6.8%)	137.0 (+12.3%)
				(or +4.7% on 2009–10 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 a programme of annual economic surveys covering all major economic sectors to collect detailed structural data;
- conducting monthly and quarterly surveys to collect data for compiling short-term indicators of the performance of selected economic 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; and
- conducting an annual survey to collect data on innovation activities, including research and development, in the business sector.

24 In 2009, the Department:

- started to conduct the 2009–10 HES as from October for updating the expenditure weights of the CPIs;
- initiated a further study on the compilation of more inward foreign affiliates trade in services (FATS) statistics and started the trial compilation of outward FATS statistics for Hong Kong;
- further expedited the release of quarterly statistics on restaurant receipts by about three days;
- enhanced various sub-annual economic surveys to compile and publish statistics based on the Hong Kong Standard Industrial Classification (HSIC) Version 2.0;
- worked on integrating the existing annual economic surveys of different economic sectors into a unified Annual Survey of Economic Activities to align with the new industrial classification under HSIC Version 2.0 as from the reference year 2009 and introduced the corresponding legislative amendments; and
- continued to participate in the International Comparison Program.

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25 The key performance measures are:

Targets

	Target	2008 (Actual)	2009 (Actual)	2010 (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 Δ	1.0	1.0	1.0
Quarterly Survey of Service Industries	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.4
Quarterly Survey of Restaurant Receipts and Purchases	1.2	1.2	1.1	1.1
Annual Survey of Industrial Production	12	11	11	—
Annual Survey of Wholesale, Retail and Import and Export Trades, Restaurants and Hotels	12	11	11	—
Annual Survey of Economic Activities@	12	—	—	12
time after reference period for release of CPIs (days)	22	21	21	21

Δ Target improved from 1.2 to 1.1 months as from 2010.

@ New survey introduced to integrate the existing annual economic surveys as from the reference year 2009.

Indicators

	2008 (Actual)	2009 (Actual)	2010 (Estimate)
establishments enumerated	242 400	250 200 Λ	240 600
households enumerated	— Ω	1 720 Ω	4 390Ω
price quotations collected	596 800 α	606 100 α	596 100
statistical reports/publications produced	24	24	22
surveys conducted	26	30	20β

Λ Review of sample sizes of some economic surveys was made in connection with the adoption of the HSIC Version 2.0 in 2009.

Ω The HES will be conducted during October 2009 to September 2010.

α Additional price quotations had been collected in 2008 and 2009 to facilitate close monitoring of the upsurge in food prices. Additional price quotations had also been collected in 2009 for the International Comparison Program.

β The reduction in number of surveys is mainly because seven annual economic surveys will be integrated into one new annual survey as from the reference year 2009.

Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2010–11

26 During 2010–11, the Department will:

- continue to conduct the HES for updating the weights of the CPIs;
- continue the study on the compilation of more inward FATS statistics and the trial compilation of outward FATS statistics for Hong Kong;
- start to publish monthly restaurant receipts statistics on a quarterly basis;
- adopt the HSIC Version 2.0 in various annual economic surveys and take the opportunity to enhance the economic statistics on personal services activities; and
- increase the sample sizes of various annual economic surveys to support more detailed analysis on small and medium enterprises.

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Programme (6): Labour Statistics

	2008–09 (Actual)	2009–10 (Original)	2009–10 (Revised)	2010–11 (Estimate)
Financial provision (\$m)	62.1	68.3	62.5 (–8.5%)	67.2 (+7.5%)
				(or –1.6% on 2009–10 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	2008 (Actual)	2009 (Actual)	2010 (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

	2008 (Actual)	2009 (Actual)	2010 (Estimate)
records of establishments updated	475 000	482 000	482 000
establishments enumerated.....	584 000	518 000 ^γ	518 000
statistical reports/publications produced	5 ^μ	4	5^θ
surveys conducted	4	6 [#]	6[^]

^γ The sample size of the Quarterly Survey of Employment and Vacancies has been reduced with effect from the first quarter of 2009 so that resources can be redeployed for the collection and analysis of data related to the introduction of a statutory minimum wage in Hong Kong.

^μ A publication “Hong Kong Standard Industrial Classification (HSIC) Version 2.0” was published in 2008.

^θ Including the report on major findings of a new annual survey, known as Annual Earnings and Hours Survey (AEHS).

[#] Including an ad hoc survey, namely Wage Survey of the Care Workers/Personal Care Workers engaged in Elderly Homes; and the new AEHS.

[^] Including an ad hoc survey on employment benefits.

Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2010–11

30 The Department has launched a new annual statistical survey, known as AEHS, since May 2009 to collect information on wages, hours worked, employment and demographic characteristics of employees to provide data for analysis related to the introduction of a statutory minimum wage in Hong Kong.

ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL PROVISION

Programme	2008–09 (Actual) (\$m)	2009–10 (Original) (\$m)	2009–10 (Revised) (\$m)	2010–11 (Estimate) (\$m)
(1) Trade Statistics	132.7	155.3	132.5	150.0
(2) Social Statistics	60.2	94.4	88.8	142.6
(3) National Accounts and Balance of Payments Statistics	74.0	77.5	69.6	73.9
(4) General Statistical Services	26.2	27.0	27.5	28.5
(5) Price/Industry/Service Statistics	115.5	130.9	122.0	137.0
(6) Labour Statistics	62.1	68.3	62.5	67.2
	470.7	553.4	502.9 (-9.1%)	599.2 (+19.1%)
				(or +8.3% on 2009–10 Original)

Analysis of Financial and Staffing Provision

Programme (1)

Provision for 2010–11 is \$17.5 million (13.2%) higher than the revised estimate for 2009–10. 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 for enhancing the processing and checking of import/export declarations and cargo manifests, increased salary provision for filling of vacancies and staff changes, as well as full-year provision for vacancies filled in 2009–10.

Programme (2)

Provision for 2010–11 is \$53.8 million (60.6%) higher than the revised estimate for 2009–10. This is mainly due to the full-year provision for posts created in 2009–10 and other operating expenses for the preparation of the 11C.

Programme (3)

Provision for 2010–11 is \$4.3 million (6.2%) higher than the revised estimate for 2009–10. This is mainly due to the full-year provision for vacancies filled in 2009–10 and increased salary provision for staff changes.

Programme (4)

Provision for 2010–11 is \$1.0 million (3.6%) higher than the revised estimate for 2009–10. This is mainly due to the increased salary provision for staff changes.

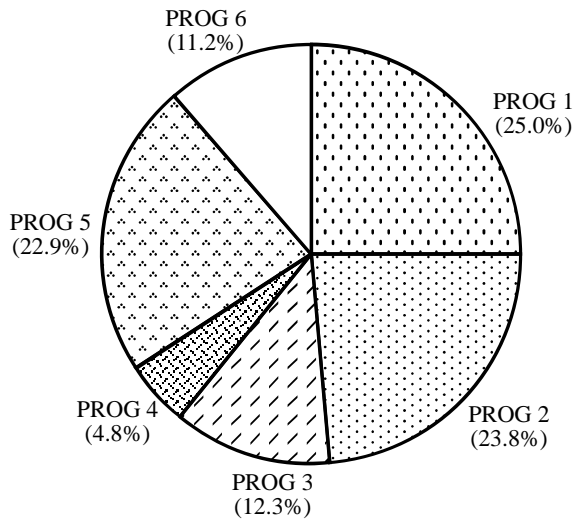
Programme (5)

Provision for 2010–11 is \$15.0 million (12.3%) higher than the revised estimate for 2009–10. This is mainly due to the full-year provision for vacancies filled in 2009–10, increased salary provision for staff changes and other operating expenses for conducting the 2009–10 HES.

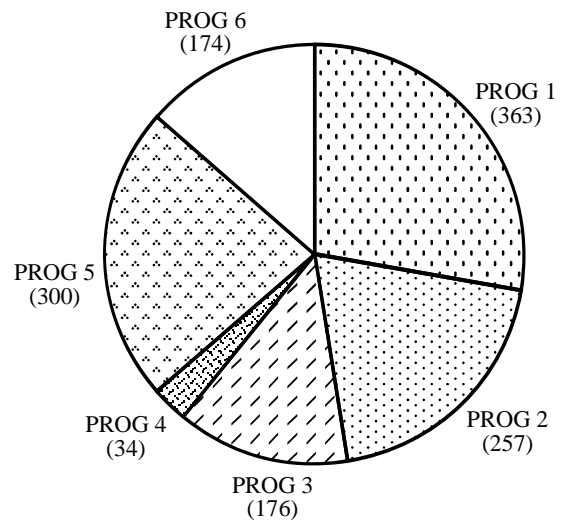
Programme (6)

Provision for 2010–11 is \$4.7 million (7.5%) higher than the revised estimate for 2009–10. This is mainly due to the full-year provision for vacancies filled in 2009–10 and increased salary provision for staff changes.

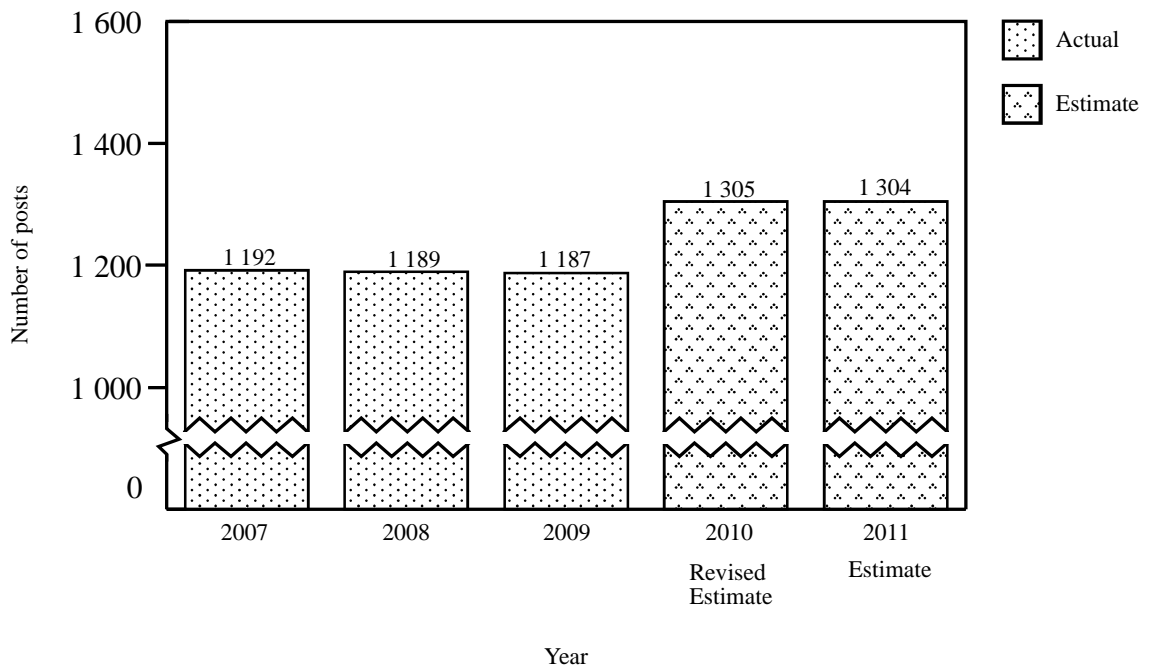
*Allocation of provision
to programmes
(2010-11)*



*Staff by programme
(as at 31 March 2011)*



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



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Sub-head (Code)	Actual expenditure 2008-09	Approved estimate 2009-10	Revised estimate 2009-10	Estimate 2010-11	
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	
Operating Account					
Recurrent					
000	Operational expenses.....	470,086	552,479	501,834	598,995
	Total, Recurrent	<u>470,086</u>	<u>552,479</u>	<u>501,834</u>	<u>598,995</u>
Non-Recurrent					
	General non-recurrent	625	945	945	—
	Total, Non-Recurrent	<u>625</u>	<u>945</u>	<u>945</u>	<u>—</u>
	Total, Operating Account.....	<u>470,711</u>	<u>553,424</u>	<u>502,779</u>	<u>598,995</u>
Capital Account					
Plant, Equipment and Works					
661	Minor plant, vehicles and equipment (block vote).....	—	—	150	170
	Total, Plant, Equipment and Works	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>150</u>	<u>170</u>
	Total, Capital Account	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>150</u>	<u>170</u>
	 Total Expenditure	<u><u>470,711</u></u>	<u><u>553,424</u></u>	<u><u>502,929</u></u>	<u><u>599,165</u></u>

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Details of Expenditure by Subhead

The estimate of the amount required in 2010–11 for the salaries and expenses of the Census and Statistics Department is \$599,165,000. This represents an increase of \$96,236,000 over the revised estimate for 2009–10 and of \$128,454,000 over actual expenditure in 2008–09.

Operating Account

Recurrent

2 Provision of \$598,995,000 under *Subhead 000 Operational expenses* is for the salaries, allowances and other operating expenses of the Census and Statistics Department. The increase of \$97,161,000 (19.4%) over the revised estimate for 2009–10 is mainly due to the provision for conducting the 2011 Population Census, 2009–10 Household Expenditure Survey and surveys related to the introduction of a statutory minimum wage, additional operating expenses for conducting supplementary trade surveys and for enhancing the processing and checking of import/export declarations and cargo manifests, and increased salary provision for staff changes.

3 The establishment as at 31 March 2010 will be 1 305 permanent posts. It is expected that there will be a net decrease of one permanent post in 2010–11. Subject to certain conditions, the controlling officer may under delegated power create or delete non-directorate posts during 2010–11, but the notional annual mid-point salary value of all such posts must not exceed \$384,264,000.

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

	2008–09 (Actual) (\$'000)	2009–10 (Original) (\$'000)	2009–10 (Revised) (\$'000)	2010–11 (Estimate) (\$'000)
Personal Emoluments				
- Salaries	417,848	458,617	424,113	475,912
- Allowances	3,380	6,593	3,918	3,111
- Job-related allowances.....	—	4	1	4
Personnel Related Expenses				
- Mandatory Provident Fund contribution	381	903	882	1,037
- Civil Service Provident Fund contribution	207	230	327	336
Departmental Expenses				
- General departmental expenses.....	48,037	85,898	72,359	118,361
Other Charges				
- Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific.....	233	234	234	234
	470,086	552,479	501,834	598,995

Capital Account

Plant, Equipment and Works

5 Provision of \$170,000 under *Subhead 661 Minor plant, vehicles and equipment (block vote)* represents an increase of \$20,000 (13.3%) over the revised estimate for 2009–10. This is mainly due to the increased requirement for replacement of minor equipment.