

Head 26 — CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT

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

Estimate 2012–13..... **\$576.4m**

Establishment ceiling 2012–13 (notional annual mid-point salary value) representing an estimated 1 213 non-directorate posts as at 31 March 2012 reducing by two posts to 1 211 posts as at 31 March 2013 **\$374.8m**

In addition, there will be an estimated seven directorate posts as at 31 March 2012 and as at 31 March 2013.

Commitment balance **\$9.8m**

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
Programme (3) National Accounts and Balance of Payments Statistics These programmes contribute to Policy Area 27: Intra-Governmental Services (Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury).

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

	2010–11 (Actual)	2011–12 (Original)	2011–12 (Revised)	2012–13 (Estimate)
Financial provision (\$m)	132.6	150.1	139.1 (–7.3%)	157.1 (+12.9%)
				(or +4.7% on 2011–12 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	2010 (Actual)	2011 (Actual)	2012 (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	1.3	1.3	1.3

Indicators

	2010 (Actual)	2011 (Actual)	2012 (Estimate)
import/export declarations checked (million)	19.1	18.4	18.4
cargo manifests processed (million)	8.8	8.4	8.4
statistical reports/publications produced.....	9	9	9
surveys conducted.....	7#	5	5

Additional ad hoc surveys were conducted in 2010.

Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2012–13

5 During 2012–13, the Department will continue to support the use of electronic submission services for import/export declarations and cargo manifests.

Programme (2): Social Statistics

	2010–11 (Actual)	2011–12 (Original)	2011–12 (Revised)	2012–13 (Estimate)
Financial provision (\$m)	134.9	385.8	347.3 (–10.0%)	98.7 (–71.6%)
				(or –74.4% on 2011–12 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.

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	2010 (Actual)	2011 (Actual)	2012 (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	1.4	1.6[^]
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

[^] Slightly longer time is required to take account of the 2011 Population Census (11C) results.

Indicators

	2010 (Actual)	2011 (Actual)	2012 (Estimate)
quarters records updated	293 500 [¶]	122 000 [¶]	95 000
households enumerated [‡]	105 600 ^Ψ	2 180 000 [§]	80 000
statistical systems maintained/enhanced/developed	10	10	10
statistical reports/publications produced	12	15	20^λ
surveys conducted ^ψ	6 ^δ	5 ^φ	4^Δ

[¶] More quarters records were updated in 2010 and 2011 owing to the special updating exercises for the 11C.

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

^Ψ More households were enumerated in 2010 due to the conduct of Small-scale Test Survey and Pilot Survey for the 11C.

[§] More households were enumerated in 2011 due to the conduct of the 11C and the Post Enumeration Survey of the 11C.

^λ Increase in 2012 will mainly be due to the release of the 11C results.

^ψ Including THS series contracted out to private survey research firms and the survey conducted on parents of babies born in Hong Kong to Mainland women.

^δ Including the survey on profile of inmates of private elderly homes as well as the Small-scale Test Survey and the Pilot Survey for the 11C.

^φ Including the 11C and the Post Enumeration Survey of the 11C.

^Δ Including the survey on profile of inmates of private elderly homes.

Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2012–13

9 The 11C was conducted between 30 June and 2 August 2011. Summary results will be released in February 2012. Several detailed reports relating to the 11C will subsequently be published in stages. The Department will compile an updated set of population and related projections making use of the latest benchmark population information. It is expected that the projections will be available in stages from mid 2012.

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

	2010–11 (Actual)	2011–12 (Original)	2011–12 (Revised)	2012–13 (Estimate)
Financial provision (\$m)	66.5	72.0	70.3 (–2.4%)	78.8 (+12.1%)

(or +9.4% on
2011–12 Original)

Aim

10 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

11 The work involves:

- compiling quarterly and annual GDP and GNP 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 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, 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.

12 The key performance measures are:

Targets

	Target	2010 (Actual)	2011 (Actual)	2012 (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	1.5	1.5
annual GDP by expenditure component	2.5	1.9	1.8	1.8
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	2.7	2.7
annual statistics on international investment position	3.0@	4.0	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

@ Ongoing effort is made to enhance the timeliness of statistics through streamlining of work procedures. The target has been revised from 5.5 to 3.0 months since 2011.

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Indicators

	2010 (Actual)	2011 (Actual)	2012 (Estimate)
statistical reports/publications produced.....	4	4	4
surveys conducted.....	1	1	1

Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2012–13

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

Programme (4): General Statistical Services

	2010–11 (Actual)	2011–12 (Original)	2011–12 (Revised)	2012–13 (Estimate)
Financial provision (\$m)	28.0	35.0	31.9 (–8.9%)	35.9 (+12.5%)
				(or +2.6% on 2011–12 Original)

Aim

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

Brief Description

15 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;
- 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; and
- hosting the 59th World Statistics Congress of the International Statistical Institute in Hong Kong in 2013 to promote statistical development and application.

16 The key performance measures are:

Target

	Target	2010 (Actual)	2011 (Actual)	2012 (Plan)
provision of statistics requiring simple action (working days)	1	1	1	1

Indicators

	2010 (Actual)	2011 (Actual)	2012 (Estimate)
projects of bureaux and departments for which the Department has provided assistance ^φ	12	8	8
statistical reports/publications produced.....	5	5	5

^φ The figures vary according to the requirements of bureaux and departments for statistical assistance as well as the scale and complexity of the projects concerned.

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Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2012–13

17 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.

18 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 and hosting an international statistical congress in 2013.

19 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 a department-wide output production system and two department-wide data capturing systems on top of other strategic IT projects already completed.

20 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

	2010–11 (Actual)	2011–12 (Original)	2011–12 (Revised)	2012–13 (Estimate)
Financial provision (\$m)	121.9	120.0	120.3 (+0.3%)	133.7 (+11.1%)
				(or +11.4% on 2011–12 Original)

Aim

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

Brief Description

22 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 an annual survey to collect data on IT usage and penetration in the business sector.

23 In 2011, the Department:

- released the results of the 2009–10 HES and new series of CPIs with updated weights;
- 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; and
- continued to participate in the 2011 International Comparison Program (ICP).

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24 The key performance measures are:

Targets

	Target	2010 (Actual)	2011 (Actual)	2012 (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	2.4	2.3	2.3
Quarterly Survey of Restaurant Receipts and Purchases.....	1.2	1.1	1.1	1.1
Annual Survey of Economic Activities.....	12	12	11	11
time after reference period for release of CPIs (days)	22	21	21	21

Indicators

	2010 (Actual)	2011 (Actual)	2012 (Estimate)
establishments enumerated	243 100	262 200 ^Λ	252 400
households enumerated ^Ω	4 350	—	—
price quotations collected ^α	595 400	621 500	594 200
statistical reports/publications produced.....	22	24 ^β	22^γ
surveys conducted.....	19	15 ^μ	17^θ

Λ The larger number of establishments enumerated in 2011 was mainly due to the collection of additional price quotations for the ICP.

Ω The 2009–10 HES was conducted from October 2009 to September 2010.

α Additional price quotations were collected in 2010 for the ICP pilot survey and in 2011 for the ICP.

β The larger number of statistical reports is due to the release of the report on the 2009–10 HES and the publications on “Hong Kong as a Knowledge-based Economy” and “Hong Kong as an Information Society” in 2011, and the exclusion of an ad hoc report on testing and certification published in 2010.

γ The smaller number of statistical reports in 2012 is due to the exclusion of the report on the 2009–10 HES and the publication on “Hong Kong as a Knowledge-based Economy”.

μ The smaller number of surveys conducted in 2011 is due to completion of the 2009–10 HES in 2010 and the discontinuation of three establishment surveys.

θ The larger number of surveys conducted in 2012 is due to the resumption of an establishment survey on IT usage and penetration and the launch of the ad hoc 2012 Establishment Survey on Manpower and Job Skills Requirements.

Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2012–13

25 During 2012–13, the Department will:

- continue the study on the compilation of more inward FATS statistics and the trial compilation of outward FATS statistics for Hong Kong; and
- continue to support more detailed analysis on small and medium enterprises and also the six industries where Hong Kong enjoys clear advantages based on data collected from the Annual Survey of Economic Activities.

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Programme (6): Labour Statistics

	2010–11 (Actual)	2011–12 (Original)	2011–12 (Revised)	2012–13 (Estimate)
Financial provision (\$m)	60.2	64.7	64.0 (-1.1%)	72.2 (+12.8%)

(or +11.6% on
2011–12 Original)

Aim

26 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

27 The work involves:

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

28 The key performance measures are:

Targets

	Target	2010 (Actual)	2011 (Actual)	2012 (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

	2010 (Actual)	2011 (Actual)	2012 (Estimate)
records of establishments updated	545 000	612 000#	612 000
establishments enumerated	588 000	643 000#	643 000
statistical reports/publications produced.....	5	5	5
surveys conducted.....	6 [^]	5	5

The increase in 2011 was mainly due to more applications for business registration and change of business registration particulars received from the Business Registration Office.

[^] Including an ad hoc survey, namely Survey on the Provision of Statutory Employment Benefits by Employers.

Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2012–13

29 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

Programme	2010–11 (Actual) (\$m)	2011–12 (Original) (\$m)	2011–12 (Revised) (\$m)	2012–13 (Estimate) (\$m)
(1) Trade Statistics.....	132.6	150.1	139.1	157.1
(2) Social Statistics	134.9	385.8	347.3	98.7
(3) National Accounts and Balance of Payments Statistics.....	66.5	72.0	70.3	78.8
(4) General Statistical Services.....	28.0	35.0	31.9	35.9
(5) Price/Industry/Service Statistics.....	121.9	120.0	120.3	133.7
(6) Labour Statistics.....	60.2	64.7	64.0	72.2
	544.1	827.6	772.9 (-6.6%)	576.4 (-25.4%)
				(or -30.4% on 2011–12 Original)

Analysis of Financial and Staffing Provision

Programme (1)

Provision for 2012–13 is \$18.0 million (12.9%) higher than the revised estimate for 2011–12. 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 as well as the increased salary provision for filling of vacancies and staff changes.

Programme (2)

Provision for 2012–13 is \$248.6 million (71.6%) lower than the revised estimate for 2011–12. This is mainly due to the reduced operating expenses for the 11C and the net decrease of nine posts in 2012–13, partly offset by the increased salary provision for filling of vacancies and staff changes.

Programme (3)

Provision for 2012–13 is \$8.5 million (12.1%) higher than the revised estimate for 2011–12. This is mainly due to the increased salary provision for filling of vacancies and staff changes.

Programme (4)

Provision for 2012–13 is \$4.0 million (12.5%) higher than the revised estimate for 2011–12. This is mainly due to the increased salary provision for the creation of one post in 2012–13, filling of vacancies and staff changes.

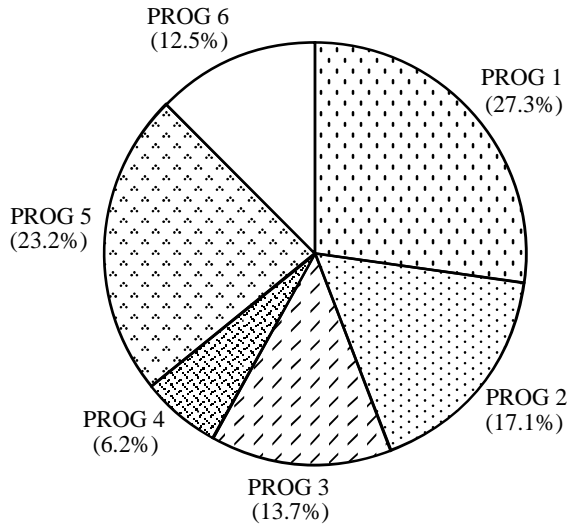
Programme (5)

Provision for 2012–13 is \$13.4 million (11.1%) higher than the revised estimate for 2011–12. This is mainly due to the creation of five posts in 2012–13 as well as the increased salary provision for filling of vacancies and staff changes, partly offset by the reduced operating expenses arising from the completion of the 2009–10 HES.

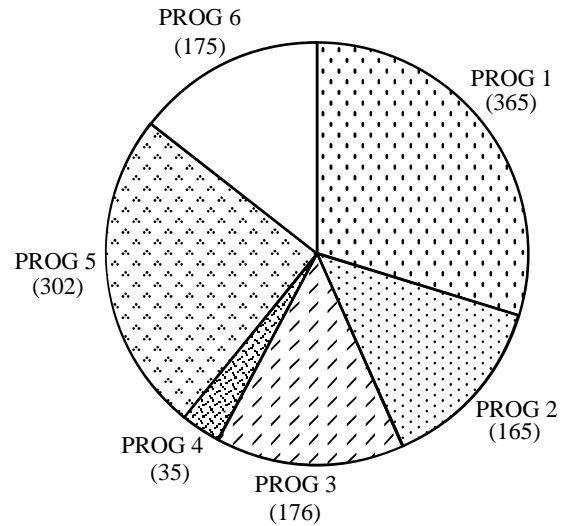
Programme (6)

Provision for 2012–13 is \$8.2 million (12.8%) higher than the revised estimate for 2011–12. This is mainly due to the increased salary provision for the creation of one post in 2012–13, filling of vacancies and staff changes.

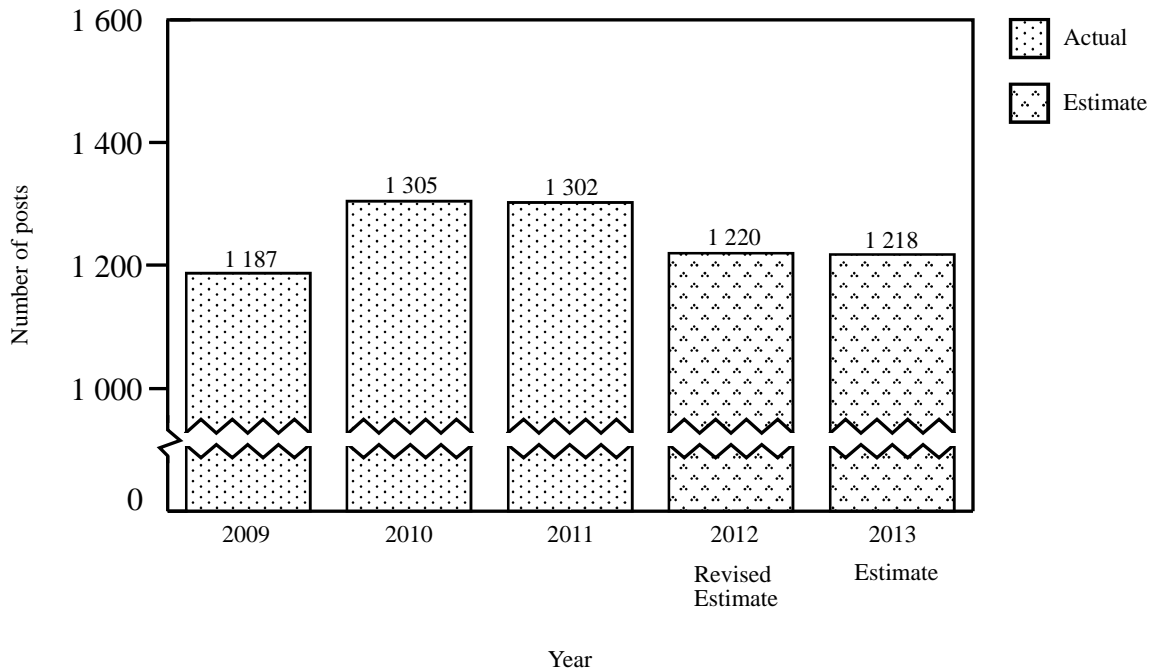
Allocation of provision to programmes (2012-13)



Staff by programme (as at 31 March 2013)



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



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Sub-head (Code)	Actual expenditure 2010–11	Approved estimate 2011–12	Revised estimate 2011–12	Estimate 2012–13	
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	
Operating Account					
Recurrent					
000	Operational expenses	543,663	821,707	767,809	571,367
	Total, Recurrent	543,663	821,707	767,809	571,367
Non-Recurrent					
700	General non-recurrent	274	5,900	5,100	5,000
	Total, Non-Recurrent	274	5,900	5,100	5,000
	Total, Operating Account	543,937	827,607	772,909	576,367
Capital Account					
Plant, Equipment and Works					
	Minor plant, vehicles and equipment (block vote).....	164	—	—	—
	Total, Plant, Equipment and Works	164	—	—	—
	Total, Capital Account.....	164	—	—	—
	Total Expenditure	544,101	827,607	772,909	576,367

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Details of Expenditure by Subhead

The estimate of the amount required in 2012–13 for the salaries and expenses of the Census and Statistics Department is \$576,367,000. This represents a decrease of \$196,542,000 against the revised estimate for 2011–12 and an increase of \$32,266,000 over actual expenditure in 2010–11.

Operating Account

Recurrent

2 Provision of \$571,367,000 under *Subhead 000 Operational expenses* is for the salaries, allowances and other operating expenses of the Census and Statistics Department. The decrease of \$196,442,000 (25.6%) against the revised estimate for 2011–12 is mainly due to the reduced provision for the 2011 Population Census partly offset by the additional operating expenses for conducting supplementary surveys to track the latest development in the trade structure of Hong Kong.

3 The establishment as at 31 March 2012 will be 1 220 permanent posts. It is expected that there will be a net decrease of two permanent posts in 2012–13. Subject to certain conditions, the controlling officer may under delegated power create or delete non-directorate posts during 2012–13, but the notional annual mid-point salary value of all such posts must not exceed \$374,801,000.

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

	2010–11 (Actual) (\$'000)	2011–12 (Original) (\$'000)	2011–12 (Revised) (\$'000)	2012–13 (Estimate) (\$'000)
Personal Emoluments				
- Salaries	422,278	460,579	442,799	467,476
- Allowances	5,307	5,881	7,340	3,506
- Job-related allowances.....	—	4	1	4
Personnel Related Expenses				
- Mandatory Provident Fund contribution	782	614	850	560
- Civil Service Provident Fund contribution	642	2,182	2,110	3,373
Departmental Expenses				
- General departmental expenses	114,420	352,213	314,475	96,213
Other Charges				
- Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific.....	234	234	234	235
	543,663	821,707	767,809	571,367

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Commitments

Sub-head (Code)	Item (Code)	Ambit	Approved commitment	Accumulated expenditure to 31.3.2011	Revised estimated expenditure for 2011-12	Balance
			\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
<i>Operating Account</i>						
700		<i>General non-recurrent</i>				
	947	59th World Statistics Congress.....	15,200	274	5,100	9,826
		Total	<u>15,200</u>	<u>274</u>	<u>5,100</u>	<u>9,826</u>