

## Head 26 — CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT

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

**Estimate 2017–18** ..... **\$665.8m**

**Establishment ceiling 2017–18** (notional annual mid-point salary value) representing an estimated 1 248 non-directorate posts as at 31 March 2017 reducing by 12 posts to 1 236 posts as at 31 March 2018 ..... **\$483.9m**

In addition, there will be an estimated seven directorate posts as at 31 March 2017 and as at 31 March 2018.

### Controlling Officer's Report

#### Programmes

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

#### Detail

##### Programme (1): Trade Statistics

	2015–16 (Actual)	2016–17 (Original)	2016–17 (Revised)	2017–18 (Estimate)
Financial provision (\$m)	168.3	170.0	173.8 (+2.2%)	176.2 (+1.4%)
				(or +3.6% on 2016–17 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,
  - compiling port cargo statistics and container statistics, and
  - conducting an annual survey to collect data on trade in services and offshore trade in goods.
- 4 In 2016, the Department conducted further study on the compilation of foreign affiliates statistics for Hong Kong.
- 5 The key performance measures are:

### *Targets*

	Target	2015 (Actual)	2016 (Actual)	2017 (Plan)
provision of statistics requiring simple action (working days).....	0.5	0.2	0.2	<b>0.2</b>
provision of photocopies or softcopies containing detailed information upon receipt of a firm order (working days) ....	2	2	2	<b>2</b>
assistance in completion of import/export declarations or cargo manifests				
simple enquiries by telephone or personal visit (minutes).....	4	4	4	<b>4</b>
complex enquiries by telephone or personal visit (working days).....	1	1	1	<b>1</b>
written enquiries (working days).....	1	1	1	<b>1</b>
time after reference period for release of monthly trade statistics (weeks).....	4	4	4	<b>4</b>
time required for issuing notices for outstanding import/export declarations (months).....	1.5	1.2	1.2	<b>1.2</b>

### *Indicators*

	2015 (Actual)	2016 (Actual)	2017 (Estimate)
import/export declarations checked (million) .....	19.3	20.0	<b>20.0</b>
cargo manifests processed (million).....	8.0	7.9	<b>7.9</b>
statistical reports/publications produced .....	9	9	<b>9</b>
surveys conducted .....	6	6	<b>6</b>

### *Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2017–18*

6 During 2017–18, the Department will continue to support the use of electronic submission services for import/export declarations and cargo manifests.

### **Programme (2): Social Statistics**

	2015–16 (Actual)	2016–17 (Original)	2016–17 (Revised)	2017–18 (Estimate)
Financial provision (\$m)	153.2	246.5	258.5 (+4.9%)	<b>126.2</b> (–51.2%)
				(or –48.8% on 2016–17 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	2015 (Actual)	2016 (Actual)	2017 (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	1.6
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

**Indicators**

	2015 (Actual)	2016 (Actual)	2017 (Estimate)
quarters records updated .....	255 000#	123 000#	107 000
households enumerated¶ .....	78 100Δ	287 900λ	75 000
statistical systems maintained/enhanced/developed .....	10	10	10
statistical reports/publications producedφ .....	12	8	17@
surveys conductedΨ .....	5§	4δ	3

# More quarters records were updated in 2015 and 2016 owing to the special updating exercise for the 2016 Population By-census (16BC).

¶ Excluding households enumerated in surveys contracted out to private survey research firms.

Δ Including some 2 100 households enumerated in the pilot survey of the 16BC.

λ Including some 212 000 households enumerated in the 16BC and some 900 households enumerated in the Post Enumeration Survey of the 16BC.

φ The figures vary according to the requirements of bureaux and departments for conducting THS series as well as the scale and complexity of the surveys concerned.

@ Including statistical reports/publications on 16BC results.

Ψ Including household surveys contracted out to private survey research firms.

§ Including the pilot survey of the 16BC and the Survey on Households with School Children of South Asian Ethnicities.

δ Including the 16BC and the Post Enumeration Survey of the 16BC.

**Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2017–18**

10 The 16BC was conducted in mid-2016. Summary results will be released in February 2017. Several detailed reports relating to the 16BC 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 the second half of 2017.

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

	2015–16 (Actual)	2016–17 (Original)	2016–17 (Revised)	2017–18 (Estimate)
Financial provision (\$m)	80.1	83.8	85.6 (+2.1%)	87.7 (+2.5%)  (or +4.7% on 2016–17 Original)

#### *Aim*

11 The aim is to produce and analyse Gross Domestic Product (GDP), Gross National Income (GNI), 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	2015 (Actual)	2016 (Actual)	2017 (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 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*

	2015 (Actual)	2016 (Actual)	2017 (Estimate)
statistical reports/publications produced .....	4	4	4
surveys conducted .....	1	1	1

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### *Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2017–18*

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**

	2015–16 (Actual)	2016–17 (Original)	2016–17 (Revised)	2017–18 (Estimate)
Financial provision (\$m)	32.0	33.4	33.3 (–0.3%)	33.8 (+1.5%)
				(or +1.2% on 2016–17 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	2015 (Actual)	2016 (Actual)	2017 (Plan)
provision of statistics requiring simple action (working days).....	1	1	1	1

#### *Indicators*

	2015 (Actual)	2016 (Actual)	2017 (Estimate)
projects of bureaux and departments for which the Department has provided assistance.....	11	10	10
statistical reports/publications produced.....	5	5	5

### *Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2017–18*

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 The Department will continue to use modern technologies in the dissemination of statistical information and enhance its website to make it more convenient for users to obtain statistical information.

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### Programme (5): Price/Industry/Service Statistics

	2015–16 (Actual)	2016–17 (Original)	2016–17 (Revised)	2017–18 (Estimate)
Financial provision (\$m)	153.9	152.6	150.8 (–1.2%)	<b>153.6</b> (+1.9%)
				(or +0.7% on 2016–17 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 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 ad hoc survey to collect data on IT usage and penetration in the business sector.

23 In 2016, the Department released the results of the 2014–15 HES and the new series of CPIs with updated weights.

- 24 The key performance measures are:

#### Targets

	Target	2015 (Actual)	2016 (Actual)	2017 (Plan)
provision of statistics requiring simple action (working days).....	1	1	1	<b>1</b>
provision of photocopies or softcopies containing detailed information upon receipt of a firm order (working days) ....	4	4	4	<b>4</b>
time after reference period for release of results of various surveys (months)				
Monthly Survey of Retail Sales.....	1.1	1.0	1.0	<b>1.0</b>
Quarterly Survey of Service Industries.....	2.4	2.3	2.3	<b>2.3</b>
Quarterly Survey of Restaurant Receipts and Purchases.....	1.2	1.1	1.1	<b>1.1</b>
Annual Survey of Economic Activities .....	11	11	11	<b>11</b>
time after reference period for release of CPIs (days).....	22	21	21	<b>21</b>

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### Indicators

	2015 (Actual)	2016 (Actual)	2017 (Estimate)
establishments enumerated.....	251 800 $\tau$	256 800	264 000 $\ddagger$
households enumerated.....	5 420 $\Phi$	—	—
price quotations collected.....	597 100	607 300	611 400
statistical reports/publications produced.....	22 $@$	23 $\lambda$	22 $@$
surveys conducted.....	16 $\Omega$	14	15 $\alpha$

$\tau$  Including establishments enumerated in an ad hoc survey, namely Survey on Information Technology Usage and Penetration in the Business Sector for 2015.

$\ddagger$  Including establishments enumerated in an ad hoc survey, namely Survey on Information Technology Usage and Penetration in the Business Sector for 2017.

$\Phi$  Including the number of households enumerated in the 2014–15 HES.

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

$\lambda$  Including the report, namely “2014–15 Household Expenditure Survey and the Rebasing of the Consumer Price Indices” and an ad hoc report, namely “Report on the Survey on Information Technology Usage and Penetration in the Business Sector for 2015”.

$\Omega$  Including the 2014–15 HES conducted once every five years and an ad hoc survey, namely Survey on Information Technology Usage and Penetration in the Business Sector for 2015.

$\alpha$  Including an ad hoc survey, namely Survey on Information Technology Usage and Penetration in the Business Sector for 2017.

### Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2017–18

25 The Department will continue to enhance the compilation framework in respect of the innovation and technology statistics to meet the increasing data demands.

### Programme (6): Labour Statistics

	2015–16 (Actual)	2016–17 (Original)	2016–17 (Revised)	2017–18 (Estimate)
Financial provision (\$m)	81.5	82.2	86.1 (+4.7%)	88.3 (+2.6%)
				(or +7.4% on 2016–17 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	2015 (Actual)	2016 (Actual)	2017 (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

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### *Indicators*

	2015 (Actual)	2016 (Actual)	2017 (Estimate)
records of establishments updated .....	737 000	724 000 <sup>^</sup>	<b>724 000</b>
establishments enumerated.....	727 000	735 000	<b>735 000</b>
statistical reports/publications produced .....	5	5	<b>5</b>
surveys conducted .....	5	5	<b>5</b>

<sup>^</sup> The decrease in 2016 was mainly due to less applications for change in business registration particulars received from the Business Registration Office.

### *Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2017–18*

**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
- maintain and update 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	2015–16 (Actual) (\$m)	2016–17 (Original) (\$m)	2016–17 (Revised) (\$m)	2017–18 (Estimate) (\$m)
(1) Trade Statistics .....	168.3	170.0	173.8	176.2
(2) Social Statistics .....	153.2	246.5	258.5	126.2
(3) National Accounts and Balance of Payments Statistics.....	80.1	83.8	85.6	87.7
(4) General Statistical Services.....	32.0	33.4	33.3	33.8
(5) Price/Industry/Service Statistics.....	153.9	152.6	150.8	153.6
(6) Labour Statistics.....	81.5	82.2	86.1	88.3
	669.0	768.5	788.1 (+2.6%)	665.8 (–15.5%)
				(or –13.4% on 2016–17 Original)

#### Analysis of Financial and Staffing Provision

##### Programme (1)

Provision for 2017–18 is \$2.4 million (1.4%) higher than the revised estimate for 2016–17. This is mainly due to the increased salary provision for filling of vacancies and staff changes, partly offset by the reduced operating expenses.

##### Programme (2)

Provision for 2017–18 is \$132.3 million (51.2%) lower than the revised estimate for 2016–17. This is mainly due to the reduced operating expenses for the 16BC and the deletion of 14 posts in 2017–18, partly offset by the increased salary provision for filling of vacancies and staff changes.

##### Programme (3)

Provision for 2017–18 is \$2.1 million (2.5%) higher than the revised estimate for 2016–17. This is mainly due to the increased salary provision for filling of vacancies and staff changes, partly offset by the reduced operating expenses.

##### Programme (4)

Provision for 2017–18 is \$0.5 million (1.5%) higher than the revised estimate for 2016–17. This is mainly due to the increased salary provision for filling of vacancies and staff changes, partly offset by the reduced operating expenses.

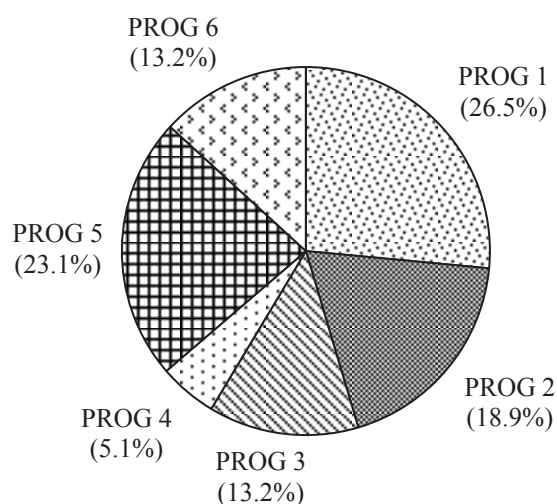
##### Programme (5)

Provision for 2017–18 is \$2.8 million (1.9%) higher than the revised estimate for 2016–17. This is mainly due to the increased salary provision for filling of vacancies and staff changes, partly offset by the reduced operating expenses arising from the completion of the 2014–15 HES.

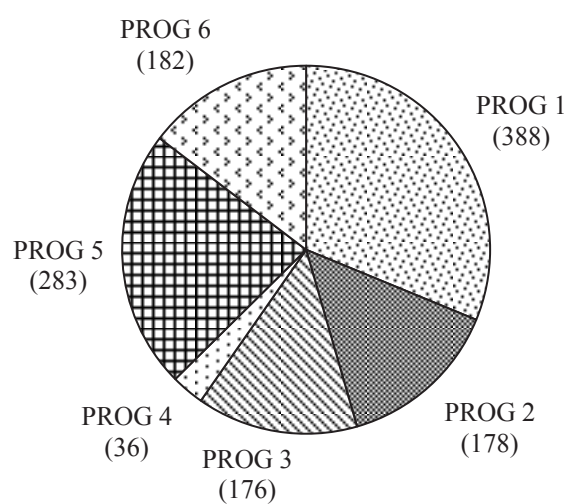
##### Programme (6)

Provision for 2017–18 is \$2.2 million (2.6%) higher than the revised estimate for 2016–17. This is mainly due to the increased salary provision for the creation of two posts in 2017–18, filling of vacancies and staff changes, partly offset by the reduced operating expenses.

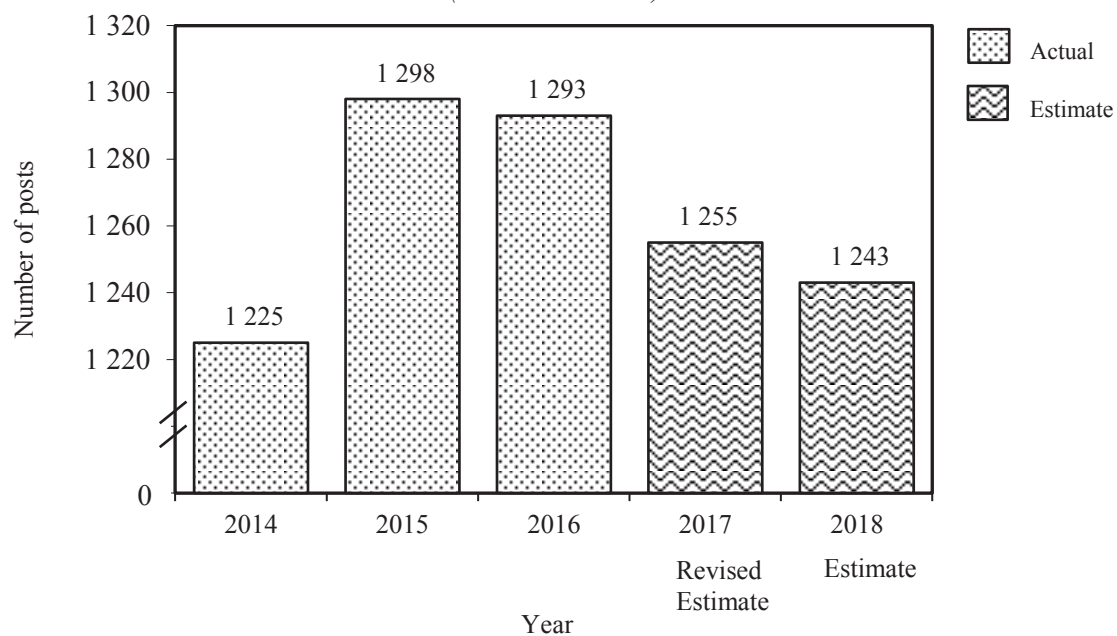
*Allocation of provision  
to programmes  
(2017-18)*



*Staff by programme  
(as at 31 March 2018)*



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



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Sub-head (Code)	Actual expenditure 2015–16	Approved estimate 2016–17	Revised estimate 2016–17	<b>Estimate 2017–18</b>
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	<b>\$'000</b>
<b>Operating Account</b>				
Recurrent				
000 Operational expenses .....	668,960	768,519	788,126	<b>665,767</b>
Total, Recurrent.....	668,960	768,519	788,126	<b>665,767</b>
Total, Operating Account .....	668,960	768,519	788,126	<b>665,767</b>
<hr/>				
Total Expenditure .....	668,960	768,519	788,126	<b>665,767</b>
	<u>668,960</u>	<u>768,519</u>	<u>788,126</u>	<u><b>665,767</b></u>

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### Details of Expenditure by Subhead

The estimate of the amount required in 2017–18 for the salaries and expenses of the Census and Statistics Department is \$665,767,000. This represents a decrease of \$122,359,000 against the revised estimate for 2016–17 and \$3,193,000 against the actual expenditure in 2015–16.

#### *Operating Account*

#### Recurrent

2 Provision of \$665,767,000 under *Subhead 000 Operational expenses* is for the salaries, allowances and other operating expenses of the Census and Statistics Department. The decrease of \$122,359,000 (15.5%) against the revised estimate for 2016–17 is mainly due to the reduced provision for the 2016 Population By-census, partly offset by the increased salary provision for filling of vacancies and staff changes.

3 The establishment as at 31 March 2017 will be 1 255 permanent posts. It is expected that there will be a net decrease of 12 permanent posts in 2017–18. Subject to certain conditions, the controlling officer may under delegated power create or delete non-directorate posts during 2017–18, but the notional annual mid-point salary value of all such posts must not exceed \$483,878,000.

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

	2015–16 (Actual) (\$'000)	2016–17 (Original) (\$'000)	2016–17 (Revised) (\$'000)	2017–18 (Estimate) (\$'000)
Personal Emoluments				
- Salaries.....	526,936	547,504	542,400	540,647
- Allowances.....	4,599	6,760	5,760	5,110
- Job-related allowances.....	1	1	1	1
Personnel Related Expenses				
- Mandatory Provident Fund contribution.....	1,481	1,803	1,402	2,215
- Civil Service Provident Fund contribution.....	10,202	12,706	13,360	16,897
Departmental Expenses				
- General departmental expenses .....	125,509	199,510	224,970	100,662
Other Charges				
- Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific .....	232	235	233	235
	<u>668,960</u>	<u>768,519</u>	<u>788,126</u>	<u>665,767</u>