

Head 120 — PENSIONS

Controlling officer: the Director of Accounting Services will account for expenditure under this Head.

Estimate 2019–20 **\$39,596.1m**

Controlling Officer’s Report

Programmes

Programme (1) Public and Judicial Service Pension Benefits

This programme contributes to Policy Area 26: Central Management of the Civil Service (Secretary for the Civil Service).

Programme (2) War Memorial Pensions/Volunteer Pensions

This programme contributes to Policy Area 14: Social Welfare (Secretary for Labour and Welfare).

Detail

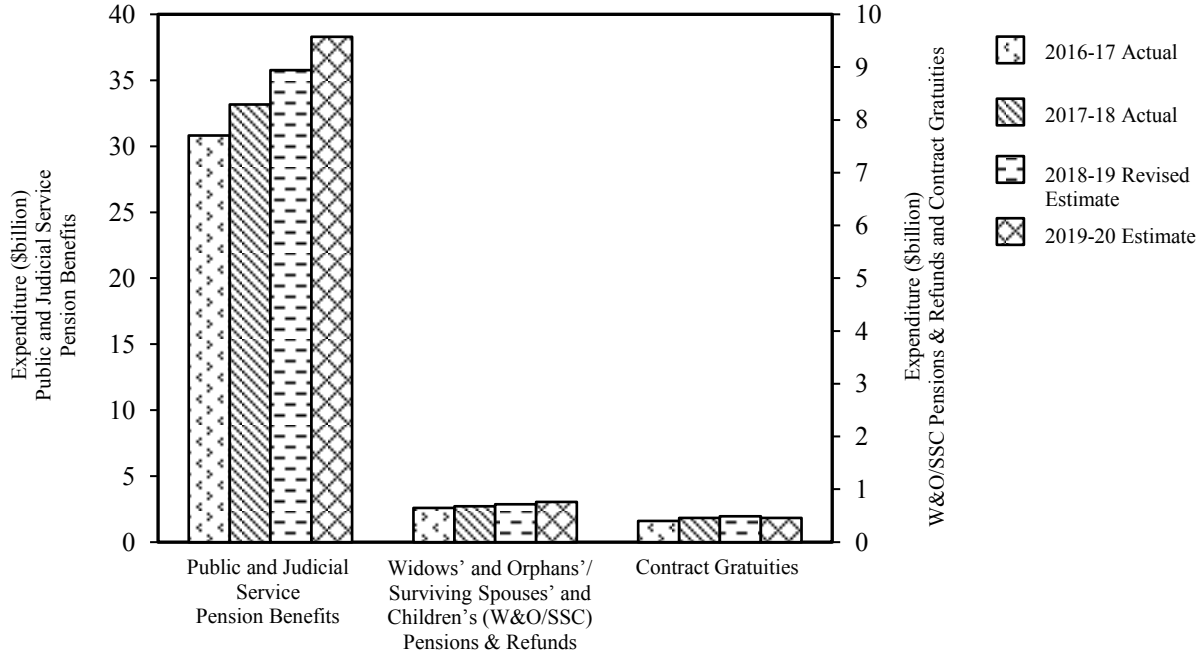
Programme (1): Public and Judicial Service Pension Benefits

	2017–18 (Actual)	2018–19 (Original)	2018–19 (Revised)	2019–20 (Estimate)
Financial provision (\$m)	34,391.9	37,916.4	37,059.1 (–2.3%)	39,579.8 (+6.8%)

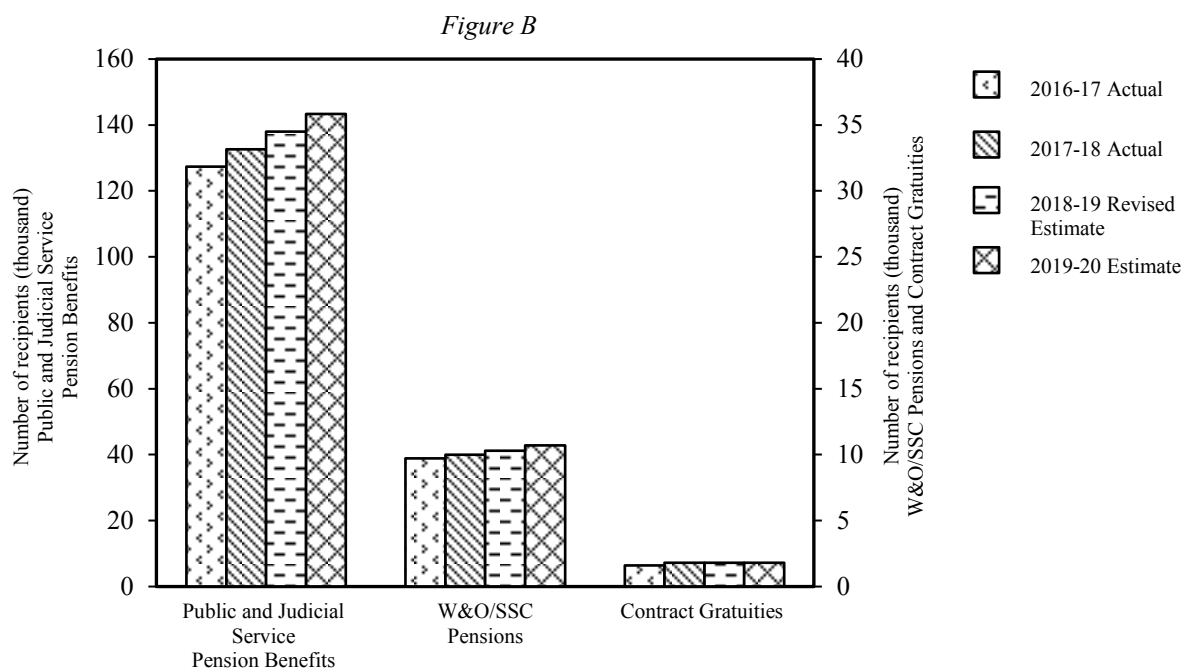
(or +4.4% on
2018–19 Original)

2 Expenditure on, and the number of recipients of, each of the major pension schemes are shown in Figures A and B respectively.

Figure A



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Aim

- 3 The aim is to make provision for the payment of public and judicial service pension benefits.

Brief Description

4 Under this programme, funds are provided to meet payment of public and judicial service pension benefits, contract gratuities, widows' and orphans' pensions, surviving spouses' and children's pensions, employees' compensation and other miscellaneous pensions, allowances and grants.

- 5 The key performance measures in respect of public and judicial service pension benefits are:

Indicators

	2017 (Actual)	2018 (Actual)	2019 (Estimate)
no. of public and judicial service pensioners	131 885	137 394	142 480
no. of officers retiring	6 662	6 802	6 960
no. of agreement officers completing contract.....	1 687	1 836	1 760
no. of recipients of widows' and orphans'/surviving spouses' and children's pensions.....	9 862	10 142	10 600

Programme (2): War Memorial Pensions/Volunteer Pensions

	2017-18 (Actual)	2018-19 (Original)	2018-19 (Revised)	2019-20 (Estimate)
Financial provision (\$m)	17.7	18.3	16.3 (-10.9%)	16.3 (—)

(or -10.9% on
2018-19 Original)

- 6 Expenditure on, and the number of recipients of, war memorial pensions/volunteer pensions are shown in Figures C and D respectively.

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Figure C

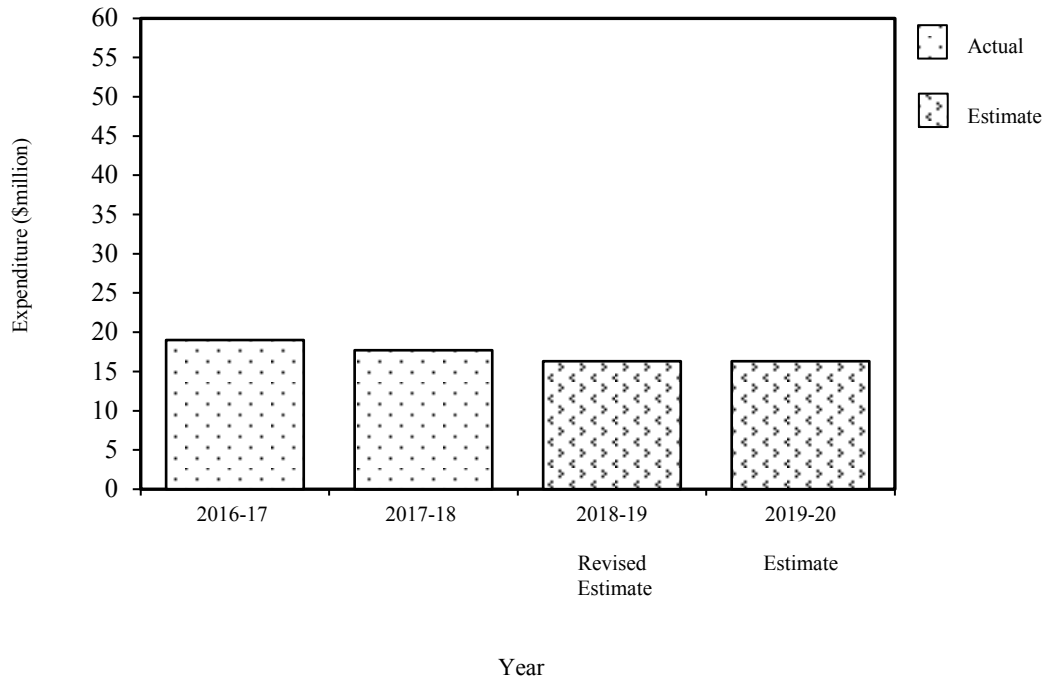
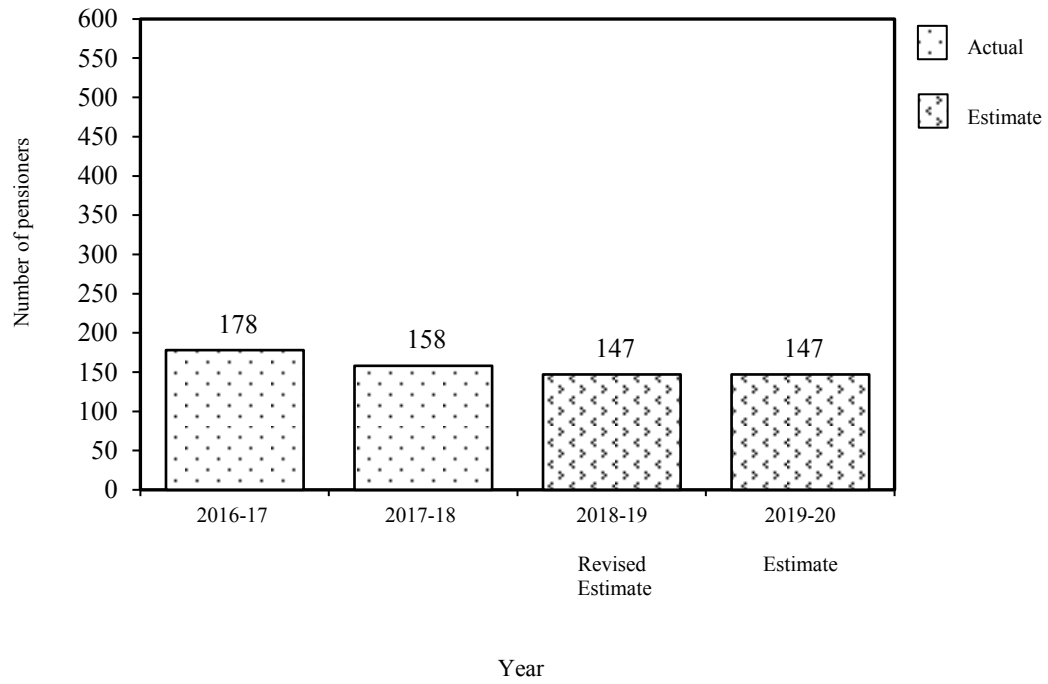


Figure D



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Aim

7 The aim is to make provision for the payment of war memorial pensions and volunteer pensions.

Brief Description

8 Under this programme, funds are provided to meet payments of war memorial pensions, volunteer and defence force pensions, allowances and grants.

9 The key performance measures in respect of war memorial and volunteer pensions are:

Indicators

	2017 (Actual)	2018 (Actual)	2019 (Estimate)
no. of war memorial pensioners	160	137	137
no. of volunteer pensioners	10	10	10

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ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL PROVISION

Programme	2017–18 (Actual) (\$m)	2018–19 (Original) (\$m)	2018–19 (Revised) (\$m)	2019–20 (Estimate) (\$m)
(1) Public and Judicial Service Pension Benefits	34,391.9	37,916.4	37,059.1	39,579.8
(2) War Memorial Pensions/Volunteer Pensions.....	17.7	18.3	16.3	16.3
	34,409.6	37,934.7	37,075.4 (–2.3%)	39,596.1 (+6.8%)

**(or +4.4% on
2018–19 Original)**

Analysis of Financial Provision

Programme (1)

Provision for 2019–20 is \$2,520.7 million (6.8%) higher than the revised estimate for 2018–19. This is mainly due to an anticipated increase in payment of pension gratuities to new retirees in 2019–20 and full-year provision for new pensions awarded in 2018–19.

Programme (2)

Provision for 2019–20 is the same as the revised estimate for 2018–19.

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Sub-head (Code)	Actual expenditure 2017–18	Approved estimate 2018–19	Revised estimate 2018–19	Estimate 2019–20	
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	
Operating Account					
Recurrent					
015	Public and judicial service pension benefits and compensation.....	33,191,029	36,653,360	35,792,000	38,296,500
016	Contract gratuities.....	462,799	489,000	489,000	457,000
017	Surviving spouses' and children's pensions and widows' and orphans' pensions	678,064	715,600	715,600	758,200
018	Volunteer and defence force pensions, allowances and grants.....	17,663	18,350	16,300	16,300
021	Ex-gratia pensions, awards and allowances.....	107	120	110	125
026	Employees' compensation, injury, incapacity and death related payments and expenses	59,978	58,300	62,400	68,000
	Total, Recurrent.....	<u>34,409,640</u>	<u>37,934,730</u>	<u>37,075,410</u>	<u>39,596,125</u>
	Total, Operating Account	<u>34,409,640</u>	<u>37,934,730</u>	<u>37,075,410</u>	<u>39,596,125</u>

	Total Expenditure	<u><u>34,409,640</u></u>	<u><u>37,934,730</u></u>	<u><u>37,075,410</u></u>	<u><u>39,596,125</u></u>

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Details of Expenditure by Subhead

The estimate of the amount required in 2019–20 for public and judicial service pension benefits, contract gratuities, surviving spouses' and children's pensions, widows' and orphans' pensions, payments under the Employees' Compensation Ordinance (Cap. 282), payments under the Hong Kong War Memorial Pensions Ordinance (Cap. 386) and various other pensions, gratuities, allowances and grants is \$39,596,125,000. This represents an increase of \$2,520,715,000 over the revised estimate for 2018–19 and \$5,186,485,000 over the actual expenditure in 2017–18.

Operating Account

Recurrent

2 Provision of \$38,296,500,000 under *Subhead 015 Public and judicial service pension benefits and compensation* is for the payment of—

- pensions, gratuities and other allowances under the Pensions Ordinance (Cap. 89), the Pension Benefits Ordinance (Cap. 99) and the Pension Benefits (Judicial Officers) Ordinance (Cap. 401) to current pensioners and officers who will retire in 2019–20, and any increases in such pensions under the Pensions (Increase) Ordinance (Cap. 305); and
- pensions to agreement officers, or dependant pensions to dependants of deceased agreement officers, on account of injuries suffered whilst on duty, and any increases in such pensions.

The provision comprises \$23,990,300,000 for the payment of public and judicial service pensions and other allowances and \$14,306,200,000 for pension gratuities.

3 Provision of \$457 million under *Subhead 016 Contract gratuities* is for the payment of contract gratuities or resettlement grants to officers who are due to complete their agreements in 2019–20.

4 Provision of \$758,200,000 under *Subhead 017 Surviving spouses' and children's pensions and widows' and orphans' pensions* is for—

- the payment of pensions to surviving spouses and children of deceased contributors to either the Surviving Spouses' and Children's Pensions Scheme or the Widows and Orphans Pension Scheme, and for any increases in payment for these two types of pensions under the Pensions (Increase) Ordinance and the Widows and Orphans Pension (Increase) Ordinance (Cap. 205);
- the return of contributions plus interest or addition under section 14 of the Surviving Spouses' and Children's Pensions Ordinance (Cap. 79) to contributors who, on leaving the service, are never married or are widows/widowers/divorcees or are not eligible for a public or judicial service pension; and
- the refund of contributions plus interest under section 11 of the Widows and Orphans Pension Ordinance (Cap. 94) to contributors who, on leaving the public or judicial service, remain bachelors or widowers without children who are eligible to receive these pensions.

5 Provision of \$16,300,000 under *Subhead 018 Volunteer and defence force pensions, allowances and grants* comprises—

- \$300,000 for the payment of pensions and other grants in respect of death, disablement or sickness of members of the former Hong Kong Volunteer Defence Corps, Hong Kong Naval Volunteer Force, or members of the other civil defence forces as provided for under the relevant legislation; and
- \$16 million for the payment of pensions and other benefits under the Hong Kong War Memorial Pensions Ordinance which will be adjusted in accordance with any increases in civil service pensions and any increases in payment under the Emergency Relief Fund and social security schemes.

6 Provision of \$125,000 under *Subhead 021 Ex-gratia pensions, awards and allowances* is for the payment of ex-gratia awards linked with the provisions of the pension legislation for the public and judicial services and volunteers and civil defence forces, the Surviving Spouses' and Children's Pensions Ordinance, the Widows and Orphans Pension Ordinance and the Employees' Compensation Ordinance, and also for the payment of recurrent ex-gratia pensions, allowances and any increases in such pensions already in issue. The increase of \$15,000 (13.6%) over the revised estimate for 2018–19 is mainly due to the inclusion of a lump-sum ex-gratia award for 2019–20 which is one-off in nature.

7 Provision of \$68 million under *Subhead 026 Employees' compensation, injury, incapacity and death related payments and expenses* is for the payment of compensation to government employees under the Employees' Compensation Ordinance and other injury, incapacity and death related payments and expenses.