

Head 70 — IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT

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

Estimate 2021–22	\$6,700.5m
Establishment ceiling 2021–22 (notional annual mid-point salary value) representing an estimated 9 194 non-directorate posts as at 31 March 2021 rising by 15 posts to 9 209 posts as at 31 March 2022.....	\$4,574.6m
In addition, there will be an estimated 14 directorate posts as at 31 March 2021 and as at 31 March 2022.	
Commitment balance.....	\$81.4m

Controlling Officer's Report

Programmes

<p>Programme (1) Pre-entry Control Programme (2) Control upon Entry Programme (3) Control after Entry Programme (4) Personal Documentation Programme (5) Nationality and Assistance to HKSAR Residents outside Hong Kong</p>	<p>These programmes contribute to Policy Area 10: Immigration Control (Secretary for Security).</p>
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Detail

Programme (1): Pre-entry Control

	2019–20 (Actual)	2020–21 (Original)	2020–21 (Revised)	2021–22 (Estimate)
Financial provision (\$m)	388.4	407.8	384.4 (–5.7%)	408.3 (+6.2%)
				(or +0.1% on 2020–21 Original)

Aim

2 The aim is to control, through the visa system, legal immigration and the entry of foreigners to work in Hong Kong and to prevent the entry of undesirable persons.

Brief Description

3 The Visa Control (Policies) Division and Visa Control (Operations) Division of the Department deal with all aspects of pre-entry immigration control through the visa and entry permit systems and related petitions/appeals/judicial reviews. The work involves:

- adopting an open immigration regime to facilitate entry of talent, professionals and entrepreneurs;
- processing applications for entry into Hong Kong for employment, investment, training, residence and study in accordance with prevailing policies and procedures;
- facilitating entry of bona-fide tourists and business visitors through the issue of visas, visit permits, Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) Travel Passes and Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Business Travel Cards;
- processing applications for Pre-arrival Registration for Taiwan Residents by electronic means to facilitate Taiwan visitors to come to Hong Kong;
- processing applications for Pre-arrival Registration for Indian Nationals by electronic means to strengthen immigration control and to facilitate entry of bona-fide Indian visitors;
- processing applications for Certificate of Entitlement to the right of abode in Hong Kong;
- issuing entry permits to Mainland fisherman deckhands entering Hong Kong on board dual registered vessels for unloading catches in local fish markets under the Mainland Fisherman Deckhand Scheme;
- preventing the entry of undesirable persons who are likely to pose a threat to the security, prosperity and well-being of Hong Kong;

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- examining critically the bona fides of foreign visitors seeking to enter Hong Kong; and
- processing petitions/appeals/judicial reviews on visa control and Certificate of Entitlement matters.

4 The key performance measures are:

Targets

	Target	2019 (Actual)	2020 (Actual)	2021 (Plan)
average processing time (upon receipt of all supporting documents)				
entry visas and permits for visit within four weeks (%)	100	100	100	100
entry visas and permits for employment within four weeks (%)	90.0	98.9	98.9	99.0
entry permits under the Admission Scheme for Mainland Talents and Professionals within four weeks (%)	90.0	99.9	99.8	99.0
other entry visas and permits within six weeks (%)	90.0	99.6	99.3	99.0
visit permits and Pre-arrival Registration for Taiwan residents within two working days (%)	100	100	100	100
change of status within six weeks (%)	90	100	100	100

Indicators

	2019 (Actual)	2020 (Actual)	2021 (Estimate)
no. of applications			
entry visa			
received	274 984	179 922Δ	203 700
processedΩ	273 586	178 186Δ	203 700
visit visa			
received	68 426	5 820Δ	16 300
processedΩ	68 549	6 038Δ	16 300
visit permit for Taiwan residents			
received	42	8Δ	10
processedΩ	39	8Δ	10
Pre-arrival Registration for Taiwan Residents			
received	351 086	16 298Δ	72 100
processed	351 086	16 298Δ	72 100
Pre-arrival Registration for Indian Nationals			
received	358 190	23 414Δ	79 200
processed	358 190	23 414Δ	79 200
APEC Business Travel Card - local applications			
received	10 669	4 133Δ	5 200
processedΩ	11 455	4 404Δ	5 200
APEC Business Travel Card - referral applications			
received	64 136	29 701Δ	35 400
processedΩ	64 705	31 129Δ	35 400
HKSAR Travel Pass			
received	255	55Δ	100
processedΩ	260	81Δ	100
change of status			
received	7 600	7 393	7 500
processedΩ	7 602	7 360	7 500
entry permit for Mainland fisherman deckhands			
received	5 779	5 265	5 400
processedΩ	5 769	5 270	5 400
petition/appeal/judicial review			
received	41	42	40
processedΩ	24	44	40

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	2019 (Actual)	2020 (Actual)	2021 (Estimate)
Certificate of Entitlement received.....	3 693	1 726 Δ	2 300
processed Ω	3 888	3 595	2 300

Δ Substantial decrease in the number of applications received/processed due to COVID-19.

Ω The number of applications processed includes outstanding applications brought forward from the previous year.

Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2021–22

5 During 2021–22, the Department will continue to:

- provide immigration facilitation to support the policy objective of attracting and retaining outside talent, professionals and entrepreneurs to support the economic development of Hong Kong;
- implement the Information Technology Infrastructure in meeting rising service demands in Programmes (1) to (5); and
- develop the Next Generation Application and Investigation Easy Systems to enhance operational efficiency and effectiveness in supporting services in Programmes (1) to (5) including visa and permit applications of visitors or non-permanent Hong Kong residents; assistance to Hong Kong residents in distress outside Hong Kong; birth, death and marriage registrations; right of abode applications; and enforcement and investigation cases in relation to immigration offenders, removees and deportees.

Programme (2): Control upon Entry

	2019–20 (Actual)	2020–21 (Original)	2020–21 (Revised)	2021–22 (Estimate)
Financial provision (\$m)	3,240.3	3,645.6	3,301.9 (–9.4%)	3,671.0 (+11.2%)
				(or +0.7% on 2020–21 Original)

Aim

6 The aims are to exercise quantitative and qualitative control over legal immigration; prevent the entry of undesirable persons and the departure of persons wanted for criminal offences; facilitate the movement of bona-fide tourists, business visitors and local residents; and process cross-boundary vehicles.

Brief Description

7 The Border (Rail), Border (Vehicles), Harbour and Airport Divisions of the Department are responsible for operations at all control points of entry into and exit from Hong Kong via land, sea or air. The Border (Rail) Division comprises four land boundary control points, serving railway passengers at Lo Wu, Hung Hom, Lok Ma Chau Spur Line and West Kowloon Station of the Guangzhou-Shenzhen-Hong Kong Express Rail Link. The Border (Vehicles) Division covers six land boundary control points at Lok Ma Chau, Man Kam To, Sha Tau Kok, Shenzhen Bay, Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge Hong Kong Port and Heung Yuen Wai, serving cross-boundary passengers and vehicles. There is also a clearance centre at San Uk Ling which deals with the processing and repatriation of illegal immigrants from the Mainland. Immigration control over people movements by passenger liners and ferries to and from the Mainland and Macao is carried out at various ferry terminals. The Kai Tak Cruise Terminal provides immigration clearance to passengers and crew members travelling by cruise liners. Control over other types of sea traffic is usually carried out at the Eastern, Western and Tuen Mun Immigration Anchorages. Operations at the Airport enforce immigration control over passengers and aircrew entering and leaving Hong Kong by air. There are designated detention quarters in the China, Macau and Tuen Mun Ferry Terminals, the Harbour Control Section, the River Trade Terminal, the Kai Tak Cruise Terminal, the Lok Ma Chau Spur Line, West Kowloon Station of the Guangzhou-Shenzhen-Hong Kong Express Rail Link, Shenzhen Bay, Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge Hong Kong Port and Heung Yuen Wai control points and the Airport for detaining passengers and undesirable persons who have been refused entry and are pending removal. The work involves:

- examining incoming passengers, crew, vehicles and craft in a courteous and efficient manner to detect illegal immigrants, criminals and undesirable persons;
- examining outgoing passengers, crew, vehicles and craft in a courteous and efficient manner to detect immigration offenders and persons wanted for criminal offences; and
- repatriating illegal immigrants, individuals refused landing and undesirable persons in an efficient and reasonable manner.

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8 The Border (Rail), Border (Vehicles), Harbour and Airport Divisions of the Department strive to provide efficient immigration clearance and combat the use of forged travel documents.

9 The key performance measures are:

Targets

	Target	2019 (Actual)	2020 (Actual)	2021 (Plan)
clearing visitors within a 30-minute waiting time in the case of travelling by land (%).....	95.0	99.9	99.9#	99.9
sea (%).....	95	100	100#	100
clearing visitors within a 15-minute waiting time in the case of travelling by air (%).....	95.0	99.9	100#	99.9
clearing residents within a 15-minute waiting time in the case of travelling by land (%).....	98	100	100#	100
sea (%).....	98	100	100#	100
air (%).....	98	100	100#	100

Indicators

	2019 (Actual)	2020 (Actual)	2021 (Estimate)
passengers/vehicles/vessels examined			
land.....	252 461 300	24 668 531#	69 740 000
sea.....	19 441 003	3 121 013#	6 250 000
air.....	49 005 502	5 711 686#	14 390 000
visitors/seamen refused entry.....	57 583	9 387#	19 000
secondary examination.....	654 620	131 894#	235 000

In response to the development of COVID-19, passenger clearance services at the following control points have been suspended in phases since end-January 2020, with details as follows:

- Express Rail Link West Kowloon Station, Hung Hom, Man Kam To, Sha Tau Kok, China Ferry Terminal and Tuen Mun Ferry Terminal (with effect from 30 January 2020);
- Lo Wu, Lok Ma Chau Spur Line, Lok Ma Chau and Macau Ferry Terminal (with effect from 4 February 2020); and
- Kai Tak Cruise Terminal (with effect from the afternoon of 5 February 2020).

The Heung Yuen Wai Boundary Control Point commenced operation on 26 August 2020 with only cargo clearance service available at this stage.

Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2021–22

10 During 2021–22, the Department will:

- continue to implement the complementary immigration measures on non-local pregnant visitors coming to give birth in Hong Kong;
- continue to implement facilitation measures to ease the immigration clearance for cross-boundary students at control points;
- implement the extension of the operating hours of the Shenzhen Bay Control Point to 24-hour by phases and the commissioning of passenger clearance at the Heung Yuen Wai Boundary Control Point; and
- prepare for the resumption of passenger clearance at suspended control points.

Programme (3): Control after Entry

	2019–20 (Actual)	2020–21 (Original)	2020–21 (Revised)	2021–22 (Estimate)
Financial provision (\$m)	1,131.4	1,217.3	1,150.5 (–5.5%)	1,219.0 (+6.0%)

(or +0.1% on
2020–21 Original)

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Aim

11 The aim is to exercise immigration control by granting or refusing extension of stay; investigating and prosecuting offenders under the Immigration Ordinance (Cap. 115), Immigration Service Ordinance (Cap. 331), Registration of Persons Ordinance (Cap. 177), Marriage Ordinance (Cap. 181), Births and Deaths Registration Ordinance (Cap. 174), and certain provisions under the Crimes Ordinance (Cap. 200); removing or deporting illegal immigrants, overstayers and undesirable persons from Hong Kong; and implementing a unified screening mechanism (USM), based on the procedures under the statutory torture claim screening mechanism, to assess non-refoulement claims made on all applicable grounds and effect timely removal of those whose claim is rejected.

Brief Description

12 The Visa Control (Operations) Division, Enforcement Division, Counter-Terrorism Division and Removal Assessment and Litigation Division of the Department are responsible for post-entry immigration control. The work involves:

- processing and considering applications for extension of stay and change of status from visitors and temporary residents effectively and efficiently;
- taking enforcement actions against illegal immigrants and visitors engaged in unlawful employment after entry and/or overstaying, and related employers;
- maintaining vigilance in extension of stay and change of status applications from doubtful visitors so as to prevent them from prolonging their stay in Hong Kong for illicit purposes;
- arresting overstayers, illegal immigrants, illegal workers and other immigration offenders;
- investigating immigration offences and initiating prosecutions if there is sufficient evidence;
- taking enforcement actions against air passengers with forged travel documents, including those in transit, and their aiders and abettors;
- dealing with immigration offenders arrested by the Hong Kong Police Force and the Immigration Task Force;
- identifying trends in immigration offences and formulating counter measures;
- removing illegal immigrants, overstayers, immigration offenders and undesirable persons in a reasonable and cost-effective manner;
- issuing and executing removal orders against immigration offenders liable to removal and right of abode claimants not eligible for stay;
- seeking and executing deportation orders against criminals;
- conducting assessment on non-refoulement claims and dealing with related appeals/petitions and judicial reviews;
- processing petitions/appeals/judicial reviews arising from the removal or deportation of illegal immigrants, overstayers, immigration offenders and undesirable persons from Hong Kong;
- investigating and exposing the use or manufacture of forged travel documents by individuals or syndicates;
- exchanging intelligence and information with law enforcement counterparts of the Mainland and other places to prevent human smuggling by forged travel documents as well as sea borne means;
- taking proactive actions against the engagement of foreign domestic helpers in non-domestic and unapproved jobs;
- taking proactive actions against syndicates arranging the entry of underpaid foreign domestic helpers;
- facilitating early identification of potential victims of trafficking in persons and exploitation relating to foreign domestic helpers and conducting investigations on related immigration offences;
- detaining immigration offenders under the Immigration Ordinance or Immigration Service Ordinance pending their removal or deportation from Hong Kong;
- managing the Castle Peak Bay Immigration Centre; and
- formulating and reviewing departmental strategic plans, policies and standing procedures relating to counter-terrorism intelligence and liaison matters.

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13 The key performance measures are:

Targets

	Target	2019 (Actual)	2020 (Actual)	2021 (Plan)
time required to process extension cases (upon receipt of all supporting documents)				
visitors within one working day (%)...	100	100	100	100
residents within two weeks (%)	100	99.6	99.8	99.9

Indicators

	2019 (Actual)	2020 (Actual)	2021 (Estimate)
no. of applications			
extension of stay.....	316 164	537 068 [□]	426 600
other endorsements	15 533	4 572	10 100
operations conducted by the Immigration Task Force (including investigation of forgery, illegal migration and counter-terrorism cases) ^β	46 989	34 670	41 335
investigation/removal/deportation cases processed	40 106	34 228	38 355
offenders prosecuted	5 081	4 141	4 980
persons repatriated	7 056	3 615 [‡]	5 140
appeals/petitions received	1 796 ^φ	1 106 ^φ	1 760^φ
deportation/removal orders issued	2 670	2 508	2 130
non-refoulement claim cases made	1 135 [§]	1 177 [§]	1 800[^]

□ Substantial increase in the number of applications due to COVID-19.

β Revised description of previous indicator “operations conducted by the Immigration Task Force (including investigation of forgery and illegal migration cases conducted at the Hong Kong International Airport)” as from 2021.

‡ Suspension of international flights under COVID-19 resulted in a substantial decrease in the number of persons repatriated in 2020.

φ Appeals/petitions lodged by non-refoulement claimants after the Department’s rejection of their non-refoulement claims account for the majority of the total number of appeals/petitions received. By early 2019, the Department had largely completed assessment of the previously outstanding claims. The appeals/petitions subsequent to those rejected outstanding claims had mostly been lodged by early 2019. Appeals/petitions received thereafter in 2019 mainly arose from claims newly received and determined during the year. The total number of appeals/petitions received in 2020 was, however, affected by COVID-19, with throughput of claim assessment dropped considerably, mainly due to the limited provision of publicly-funded legal assistance (PFLA) under special work arrangements of the two PFLA agencies, and hence the consequential drop in new appeals/petitions received. In 2021, appeals/petitions are expected to increase assuming an increased number of new claims received in the year, taking into account the latest trend of an increase in new claims received per month starting from September 2020, as well as the gradual clearing-up of claim requests accumulated due to COVID-19.

§ Since March 2014, the Department has commenced operating USM to screen non-refoulement claims lodged on all applicable grounds. The figures for 2019 and 2020 include only claim cases made by new claimants who had not previously made a torture claim with the Department and/or sought asylum with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in Hong Kong, but exclude cases made by previous torture claimants/asylum seekers (involving 78 and 46 claims in 2019 and 2020 respectively) which the Department also has to determine under USM.

^ Commencement and processing of screening of claims were interrupted in 2020 due to the limited provision of PFLA under special work arrangements of the two PFLA agencies during COVID-19 and the increased number of new claims received starting from September 2020. The number of new claims received is expected to increase in 2021 assuming the said upward trend continues.

Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2021–22

14 During 2021–22, the Department will:

- continue to process non-refoulement claims under USM expeditiously and deal with judicial reviews and appeals/petitions lodged by claimants;
- continue to support the Security Bureau’s comprehensive review of the strategy of handling non-refoulement claims;
- continue to step up enforcement actions to combat entry of illegal immigrants and abusers of USM;

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- continue to review removal procedures to expedite the removal of rejected or withdrawn non-refoulement claimants;
- implement the Immigration (Amendment) Bill 2020 upon its enactment for enhancing the screening of claims and measures in respect of law enforcement, removal and detention of claimants; and
- continue to step up enforcement actions against persons seeking entry into Hong Kong under the disguise of marriages with Hong Kong residents.

Programme (4): Personal Documentation

	2019–20 (Actual)	2020–21 (Original)	2020–21 (Revised)	2021–22 (Estimate)
Financial provision (\$m)	1,289.0	1,332.2	1,262.2 (–5.3%)	1,369.6 (+8.5%)
				(or +2.8% on 2020–21 Original)

Aim

15 The aims are to counteract illegal immigration and enhance the maintenance of law and order by providing all legal residents with a secure form of identity card and all consequential services related to identity cards; to register births, deaths and marriages and provide all consequential services related to such civil registration; to assess right of abode claims; and to facilitate international travel of Hong Kong residents by providing them with travel documents.

Brief Description

16 The Registration of Persons Division of the Department is responsible for the assessment of claims to right of abode, the issue of identity cards and the maintenance of identity card records. The Documents Division of the Department receives and processes applications for various types of travel documents. It is also responsible for registering all births, deaths and marriages and providing statistics for planning purposes. The work involves:

- providing identity cards and related services to legal residents;
- operating an accessible and convenient system for birth, death and marriage registration and providing related services;
- improving customer services to registrants for identity cards, births, deaths or marriages;
- monitoring and reviewing the operation of the Civil Celebrants of Marriages Scheme and its impact on marriage services;
- providing eligible Hong Kong residents with HKSAR passports or other travel documents;
- lobbying foreign countries to grant visa-free access to holders of HKSAR passport;
- enhancing the processing of applications for HKSAR electronic travel documents;
- assessing claims to right of abode and dealing with related matters;
- processing appeals and judicial reviews on identity card and HKSAR passport applications and related matters; and
- conducting the four-year territory-wide identity card replacement exercise.

17 The key performance measures are:

Targets

	Target	2019 (Actual)	2020 (Actual)	2021 (Plan)
delivery of services related to identity card on the day of applicants' attendance (%)	100	100	100	100
normal processing time per application/case				
identity card within seven working days (%)¶	100	100φ	100	100
certificate of registered particulars within 25 working days (%)	100	100	100	100
verification of eligibility for permanent identity card within six weeks (%)μ	100	100	100	100

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	Target	2019 (Actual)	2020 (Actual)	2021 (Plan)
certified copy of birth/death/marriage certificate within seven working days (%).....	100	100	100	100
certified copy of adoption certificate within nine working days (%)	100	100	100	100
HKSAR passport first application or replacement within five working days (%)⊙	100	100⊙	100	100
application from children under 11 not holding Hong Kong permanent identity cards within ten working days (%)γ.....	100	100γ	100	100
HKSAR document of identity within five working days (%)⊙	100	100⊙	100	100
HKSAR seaman's identity book on the day of application (%)μ	100	100	100	100
HKSAR re-entry permit on the day of application (%)μ	100	100	100	100
standard processing time at counter birth/death/adoption registration within 30 minutes (%)	100	99.7	99.7	100
marriage notice within 30 minutes (%)	100	99.6	99.6	100

¶ With effect from 1 February 2019, the normal processing time per application of identity card has been shortened from ten to seven working days.

⊙ The figure for 2019 reflects the performance in meeting the previous target for processing application of identity card within ten working days before 1 February 2019 and the revised target for processing those applications within seven working days from 1 February 2019 onwards.

μ The target is applied upon receipt of all necessary documents.

⊙ With effect from 14 May 2019, the normal processing time for HKSAR passport and HKSAR document of identity applications has been shortened from ten to five working days. The figure for 2019 reflects the performance in meeting the previous target for processing HKSAR passport and HKSAR document of identity applications within ten working days before 14 May 2019 and the revised target for processing those applications within five working days from 14 May 2019 onwards.

γ With effect from 14 May 2019, the normal processing time for HKSAR passport application for children aged under 11 not holding a Hong Kong permanent identity card has been shortened from 14 to ten working days. The figure for 2019 reflects the performance in meeting the previous target for processing HKSAR passport application for children aged under 11 not holding a Hong Kong permanent identity card within 14 working days before 14 May 2019 and the revised target for processing those applications within ten working days from 14 May 2019 onwards.

Indicators

	2019 (Actual)	2020 (Actual)	2021 (Estimate)
identity cards and certificates of registered particulars issued	627 372	327 037 ^a	501 900
verification of eligibility of permanent identity card applications	95 098	69 496 ^a	71 300
identity cards issued under the territory-wide identity card replacement exercise.....	1 705 07 6	823 877 ^a	2 184 700
birth/death/adoption registrations.....	101 939	92 670 ^a	105 000
marriage registrations			
processing of notice of intended marriage	45 807	30 507 ^a	46 900
marriage solemnisation (by Civil Celebrants of Marriages).....	22 505	14 562 ^a	23 000
marriage solemnisation (other than by Civil Celebrants of Marriages)	22 015	13 599 ^a	21 800
birth/death/marriage/adoption certificates issued	214 258	177 251 ^a	192 300
appointment of Civil Celebrants	96	96 ^a	120

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	2019 (Actual)	2020 (Actual)	2021 (Estimate)
no. of applications			
HKSAR passport.....	723 798	250 896 ^a	720 000
HKSAR document of identity.....	61 407	16 192 ^a	50 000
HKSAR seaman's identity book.....	46	40 ^a	50
HKSAR re-entry permit.....	85 160	21 900 ^a	30 000

^a Figures in 2020 dropped as services were temporarily suspended due to COVID-19.

Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2021–22

18 During 2021–22, the Department will continue to conduct the territory-wide identity card replacement exercise which is expected to be completed by the end of 2022.

Programme (5): Nationality and Assistance to HKSAR Residents outside Hong Kong

	2019–20 (Actual)	2020–21 (Original)	2020–21 (Revised)	2021–22 (Estimate)
Financial provision (\$m)	31.8	32.7	33.1 (+1.2%)	32.6 (–1.5%)
				(or –0.3% on 2020–21 Original)

Aim

19 The Department is authorised by the Central People's Government to deal with Chinese nationality matters in respect of residents in HKSAR in accordance with the Nationality Law of the People's Republic of China and the "Explanations" adopted by the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress. The Department also accepts applications outside Hong Kong for declaration of change of nationality, naturalisation as a Chinese national, and renunciation and restoration of Chinese nationality through Chinese diplomatic and consular missions. It also provides assistance to Hong Kong residents in distress outside Hong Kong.

Brief Description

20 The work on nationality-related matters and assistance to Hong Kong residents outside Hong Kong involves:

- receiving and processing declarations of change of nationality;
- receiving and processing applications for naturalisation as a Chinese national and for renunciation and restoration of Chinese nationality;
- dealing with enquiries on Chinese nationality matters;
- providing prompt assistance to Hong Kong residents outside Hong Kong in distress, or those who have been imprisoned or detained, and their family members in Hong Kong;
- operating the 24-hour Assistance to Hong Kong Residents Unit hotline with 46 lines; and
- providing the Registration of Outbound Travel Information service which enables Hong Kong residents to register their contact details and itinerary outside Hong Kong, as well as providing updates on Outbound Travel Alerts and related public information to assistance seekers.

21 The key performance measures are:

Targets

	Target	2019 (Actual)	2020 (Actual)	2021 (Plan)
normal processing time per application/case				
assistance to Hong Kong residents outside Hong Kong on day of request (%).....	100	100	100	100
declaration of change of nationality in person on day of application (%)µ.....	100	100	100	100
application for naturalisation as a Chinese national within three months (%)µ.....	80.0	96.9	96.4	80.0

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	Target	2019 (Actual)	2020 (Actual)	2021 (Plan)
application for renunciation of Chinese nationality within two months (%)μ	80	100	100	80
application for restoration of Chinese nationality within three months (%)μ	80	100	100	80

μ The target is applied upon receipt of all necessary documents.

Indicators

	2019 (Actual)	2020 (Actual)	2021 (Estimate)
applications under the Chinese Nationality (Miscellaneous Provisions) Ordinance (Cap. 540)			
declaration of change of nationality	289	209	220
application for naturalisation as a Chinese national	1 638	756	1 400
application for renunciation of Chinese nationality	207	299	190
application for restoration of Chinese nationality	2	4	3
requests for assistance by Hong Kong residents in distress outside Hong Kong and by their family members	3 968	18 511λ	4 370
telephone calls received and made via “1868” hotline	132 922	153 596λ	146 200

λ Figure in 2020 increased due to assistance sought by Hong Kong residents outside Hong Kong arising from COVID-19.

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ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL PROVISION

Programme	2019–20 (Actual) (\$m)	2020–21 (Original) (\$m)	2020–21 (Revised) (\$m)	2021–22 (Estimate) (\$m)
(1) Pre-entry Control	388.4	407.8	384.4	408.3
(2) Control upon Entry	3,240.3	3,645.6	3,301.9	3,671.0
(3) Control after Entry	1,131.4	1,217.3	1,150.5	1,219.0
(4) Personal Documentation	1,289.0	1,332.2	1,262.2	1,369.6
(5) Nationality and Assistance to HKSAR Residents outside Hong Kong	31.8	32.7	33.1	32.6
	6,080.9	6,635.6	6,132.1 (-7.6%)	6,700.5 (+9.3%)
				(or +1.0% on 2020–21 Original)

Analysis of Financial and Staffing Provision

Programme (1)

Provision for 2021–22 is \$23.9 million (6.2%) higher than the revised estimate for 2020–21. This is mainly due to the salary increments for staff and filling of vacancies for meeting operational needs, partly offset by the net decrease of one post.

Programme (2)

Provision for 2021–22 is \$369.1 million (11.2%) higher than the revised estimate for 2020–21. This is mainly due to the salary increments for staff, filling of vacancies and the net increase of one post for meeting operational needs.

Programme (3)

Provision for 2021–22 is \$68.5 million (6.0%) higher than the revised estimate for 2020–21. This is mainly due to the salary increments for staff and filling of vacancies for meeting operational needs.

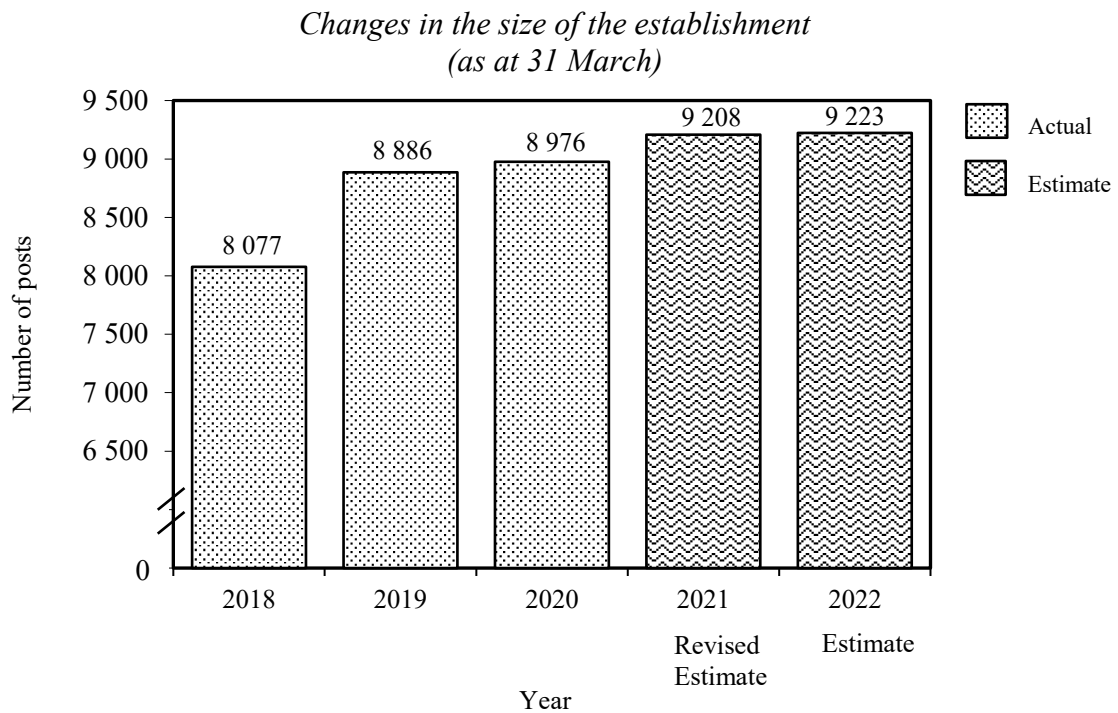
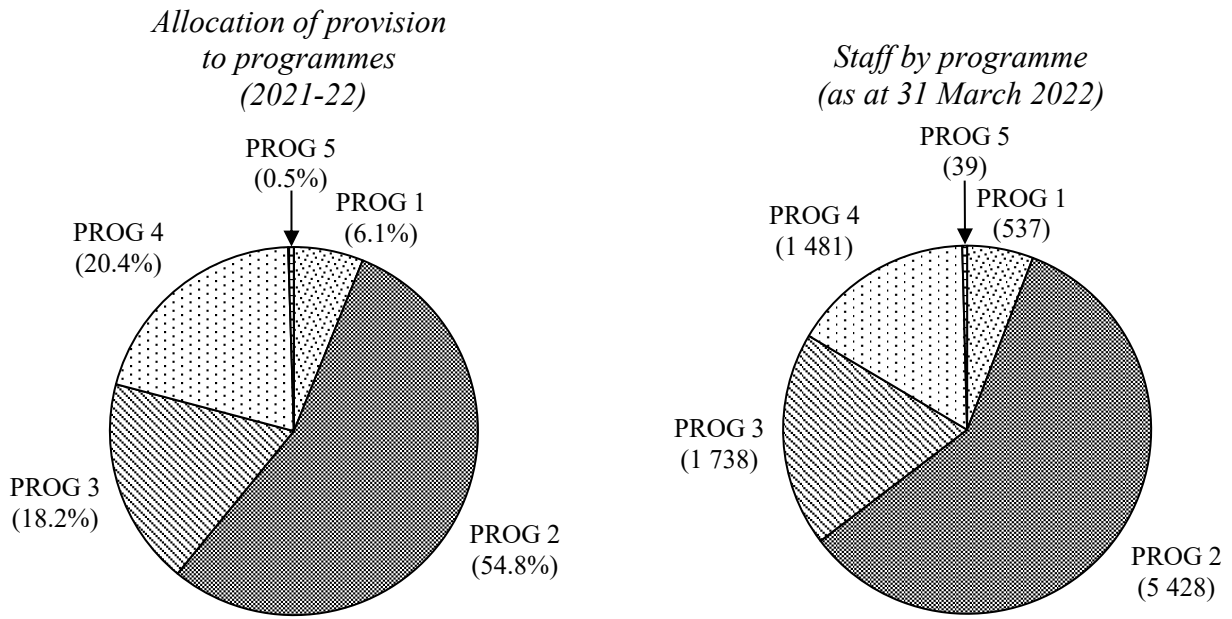
Programme (4)

Provision for 2021–22 is \$107.4 million (8.5%) higher than the revised estimate for 2020–21. This is mainly due to the salary increments for staff, filling of vacancies and the net increase of 15 posts for meeting operational needs.

Programme (5)

Provision for 2021–22 is \$0.5 million (1.5%) lower than the revised estimate for 2020–21. This is mainly due to the decreased requirements for new or replacement equipment.

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Sub-head (Code)		Actual expenditure 2019–20	Approved estimate 2020–21	Revised estimate 2020–21	Estimate 2021–22
		\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Operating Account					
Recurrent					
000	Operational expenses	6,042,141	6,588,863	6,099,313	6,657,959
202	Repatriation expenses	7,742	10,600	4,420	7,263
	Total, Recurrent.....	<u>6,049,883</u>	<u>6,599,463</u>	<u>6,103,733</u>	<u>6,665,222</u>
	Total, Operating Account	<u>6,049,883</u>	<u>6,599,463</u>	<u>6,103,733</u>	<u>6,665,222</u>
Capital Account					
Plant, Equipment and Works					
603	Plant, vehicles and equipment.....	2,016	9,742	2,000	9,484
661	Minor plant, vehicles and equipment (block vote).....	28,955	26,372	26,372	25,841
	Total, Plant, Equipment and Works.....	<u>30,971</u>	<u>36,114</u>	<u>28,372</u>	<u>35,325</u>
	Total, Capital Account.....	<u>30,971</u>	<u>36,114</u>	<u>28,372</u>	<u>35,325</u>
	Total Expenditure	<u><u>6,080,854</u></u>	<u><u>6,635,577</u></u>	<u><u>6,132,105</u></u>	<u><u>6,700,547</u></u>

Head 70 — IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT

Details of Expenditure by Subhead

The estimate of the amount required in 2021–22 for the salaries and expenses of the Immigration Department is \$6,700,547,000. This represents an increase of \$568,442,000 over the revised estimate for 2020–21 and \$619,693,000 over the actual expenditure in 2019–20.

Operating Account

Recurrent

2 Provision of \$6,657,959,000 under *Subhead 000 Operational expenses* is for the salaries, allowances and other operating expenses of the Immigration Department.

3 The establishment as at 31 March 2021 will be 9 208 posts including one supernumerary post. It is expected that there will be a net increase of 15 posts in 2021–22. Subject to certain conditions, the controlling officer may under delegated power create or delete non-directorate posts during 2021–22, but the notional annual mid-point salary value of all such posts must not exceed \$4,574,649,000.

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

	2019–20 (Actual) (\$'000)	2020–21 (Original) (\$'000)	2020–21 (Revised) (\$'000)	2021–22 (Estimate) (\$'000)
Personal Emoluments				
- Salaries	4,177,783	4,640,099	4,223,212	4,597,146
- Allowances	112,599	114,762	116,488	120,057
- Job-related allowances.....	3,950	2,249	12,762	5,197
Personnel Related Expenses				
- Mandatory Provident Fund contribution	35,831	34,485	33,255	19,969
- Civil Service Provident Fund contribution	318,243	396,954	382,791	481,976
Departmental Expenses				
- Information and communications technology rentals and maintenance	258,868	263,122	237,907	269,759
- Specialist supplies and equipment.....	263,561	177,572	174,861	117,798
- General departmental expenses	870,884	959,181	917,607	1,045,606
Other Charges				
- Land usage cost	1	1	1	1
- Grant to the Immigration Service Welfare Fund.....	421	438	429	450
	6,042,141	6,588,863	6,099,313	6,657,959

5 Provision of \$7,263,000 under *Subhead 202 Repatriation expenses* is for the repatriation of illegal immigrants, immigration offenders and convicted criminals in accordance with the relevant immigration legislation. The increase of \$2,843,000 (64.3%) over the revised estimate for 2020–21 is mainly due to the increased repatriation expenses incurred in making removal arrangement for removees arising from COVID-19, the expected resumption of normal operation with the anticipated alleviation of COVID-19 and the anticipated increase in air ticket fees.

Head 70 — IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT

Commitments

Sub-head (Code)	Item (Code)	Ambit	Approved commitment	Accumulated expenditure to 31.3.2020	Revised estimated expenditure for 2020–21	Balance
			\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
<i>Capital Account</i>						
603		<i>Plant, vehicles and equipment</i>				
	801	Replacement of Immigration Launch No. 4	19,170	1,686	2,000	15,484
	802	Replacement of Immigration Launch No. 3δ.....	21,980δ	—	—	21,980
	803	Replacement of Immigration Launch No. 5δ.....	21,980δ	—	—	21,980
	804	Replacement of Immigration Launch No. 7δ.....	21,980δ	—	—	21,980
		Total	<u>85,110</u>	<u>1,686</u>	<u>2,000</u>	<u>81,424</u>

δ This is a new item, funding for which is sought in the context of the Appropriation Bill 2021.