

THE INNOVATIVE METROPOLIS:

FOSTERING ECONOMIC COMPETITIVENESS THROUGH
SUSTAINABLE URBAN DESIGN

HONG KONG

HISTORY AND CONTEXT

Country: People's Republic of China

Köppen classification: Humid Subtropical

Political Adjacencies: Guangdong Province

Land Area: 407 square miles

Spatial Adjacencies: Sharing a land border with Shenzhen, located east of Macau and on the Pearl River estuary, Hong Kong sits on a deep natural harbor. It is surrounded by the South China Sea on the east, south, and west. With steep and mountainous slopes surrounding, the developed area accounts for only 25% of the territory's landmass.

Municipality Population: 7,061,200

Population Density: 16,576/square mile

Racial Distribution: 90% Chinese, 10% Other

Language: English and Chinese

City Inception/Incorporation Date: 1842

Year at which Population Reached 1 Million People: 1933

POLICIES AND ORGANIZATION

Current Strategic Plan: n/a

Major Development Distinction: Hong Kong's New Town Development Program has developed 9 new towns since 1973 to cope with increase in population. Since then, Hong Kong's population has grown from 4.2 million to 7 million, making it the 4th-densest city in the world.

Agents of Urban Development: Civil Engineering and Development Department, Commerce and Economic Development Bureau

Links: <http://www.cedb.gov.hk/about/index.htm>

http://www.gov.hk/en/about/abouthk/factsheets/docs/towns&urban_developments.pdf

Sustainability Plan: The Council for Sustainable Development

Link: <http://www.susdev.gov.hk/resourcecentre/index.htm>

ECONOMICS

Largest industry of employment: Services (92.9%)

Link: <http://www.gov.hk/en/about/abouthk/factsheets/docs/trade&industry.pdf>

Shipping:

Port: Container shipping

Port of Hong Kong

Total tonnage: 267,815,000

Air:**Hong Kong International Airport**

4.1 million tons cargo

Link: <http://hongkongbusiness.hk/aviation/news/hong-kong-international-airports-cargo-volume-jumps-212>

56.2 million passengers (2012)

Link: <http://hongkongbusiness.hk/aviation/news/hong-kong-airport-5th-busiest-airport-in-2012>

Exchanges: Hong Kong Stock Exchange

Fortune 500 Companies: 4

Contemporary Economic Engines: Finance

Major Recent Development: Introduction of minimum wage in 2010 years signals a shift from its free market system.

Link: <http://www.economist.com/node/16591088>

ENVIRONMENT

Environmental Agency: Environmental Protection Department

Link: <http://www.epd.gov.hk/epd/eindex.html>

Water

Management: Hong Kong Water Supplies Department

Source: 70-80% imported from the Dongjiang River in Guangdong, sea water used for toilet flushing; Dongseng-Hong Kong water supply is capable of providing 1.1 billion cubic meters per year.

Daily Usage: 2.55 million cubic meters of fresh water; .74 million cubic meters of sea water

Per Capita Usage: 0.13 cubic meters per person per day

Reserves: 16 reservoirs including High Island and Plover Cove; reservoir capacity of 586 million cubic meters

Flood/Drought History: Flooding from typhoons: 136 severe storms since 1960 including Typhoon Wanda (1962), Typhoon Rose (1971), and Typhoon Chanthu (2010), which flooded 3,000 homes.

Waste Management

Public/Private – Department Name: Hong Kong Waste Management Association

Link: <http://www.hongkongwma.org.hk/>

Waste Production: 6.4 million tons

Waste Per Capita: 2,047 pounds

Link: http://www.nytimes.com/2011/02/07/business/energy-environment/07green.html?_r=0

Link: <http://science.time.com/2010/10/26/trash-talk-hong-kongers-produce-the-most-garbage-in-the-world/>

Energy**Electricity:**

Hong Kong Electric Company supplies Hong Kong Island, Ap Lei Chau, and Lamma Island
10.9 billion kWh/year (2010)

CLP Power Hong Kong Limited supplies Kowloon and the New Territories
30.9 billion kWh/year (2010)

Gas: Town gas and liquified petroleum gas (LPG) are the main types of fuel gas used for domestic and industrial purposes.

Link: http://www.gov.hk/en/about/abouthk/factsheets/docs/wp&g_supplies.pdf

Source: Coal, natural gas

Quantity: 22,761.8 kWh

TRANSPORTATION

Major Airports: Hong Kong International Airport, Shek Kong Airfield

Major Highways and Interstates: Yeng Long Highway, Tolo Highway, Kong Sham Western Highway, North Lantau Highway, Route 9

Light Rail: MTR rapid transit

152 stations serving 3.4 million people per day

Tsuen Wan Line: \$526 million (1977)

Tseung Kwan O Line: \$385 million (2001)

Bike Plan: Harbourfront cycleway

Link: <http://harbourfrontcycleway.hk/>

Cars Per 1,000 people: 40

Public Transportation Options: It is estimated that as high as 90% of commuters use some form of public transport.

QUALITY OF LIFE

Median Income: \$216,000

Link: <http://www.gov.hk/en/about/abouthk/factsheets/docs/population.pdf>

Minimum Hourly Wage: \$3.87

Unemployment Percentage: 3.3%

Average Commute Time: 30 minutes

Link: <http://www.ft.com/cms/s/2/77cbcbfa-4a9c-11e0-82ab-00144feab49a.html#axzz2LGjbqYao>