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2012 年就業綜合估計數字
Composite Employment Estimates 2012

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在研究就業統計數據時，一個經常遇到的情況，就是從機構單位統計調查獲取的就業數據（即公司已聘請員工工作的職位數目）與住戶統計調查所獲取的就業數據（即就業人士數目）往往存有差異。在香港，這種情況可以透過運用特定的統計方法，協調以住戶作為基礎的「綜合住戶統計調查」結果及以機構單位作為基礎的「僱傭及職位空缺按季統計調查」結果，編製一套「就業綜合估計數字」，使數據更臻完善。

本文提供 2007 年至 2012 年根據「香港標準行業分類 2.0 版」而編製的「就業綜合估計數字」，並介紹這套數字的特徵，以及闡釋與其他就業統計數字的分別和用途。

In the study of employment statistics, there is a common issue arising from the discrepancies observed between the employment data obtained from establishment-based surveys which refer to occupied posts in firms, and those data obtained from household surveys which refer to persons employed. In Hong Kong, this issue is tackled through the compilation of a set of Composite Employment Estimates (CEE) which reconcile, under a designated statistical framework, the results obtained from the household-based General Household Survey (GHS) and the establishment-based Quarterly Survey of Employment and Vacancies (SEV).

This article provides the CEE figures for the reference years 2007 to 2012, based on the Hong Kong Standard Industrial Classification Version 2.0. It also gives an account of the characteristics of CEE and briefly discusses the differences and usage of the CEE vis-à-vis the other employment figures.

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2012 年就業綜合估計數字

Composite Employment Estimates 2012

1. 引言

1.1 由 2009 年起，「就業綜合估計數字」已採用「香港標準行業分類 2.0 版」作為行業分類，而有關數列亦已作後向估計至 2000 年的統計期。讀者在運用後向估計數據時應注意其局限，並謹慎闡釋有關數字。如須比較按「香港標準行業分類 2.0 版」與以往沿用的「香港標準行業分類 1.1 版」所分別編製的統計數字，可參閱政府統計處網站內的《「香港標準行業分類 2.0 版」與「香港標準行業分類 1.1 版」的對照》(www.statistics.gov.hk/pub/B2XX00182008XXXXB0800.pdf)。

2. 2012 年整體就業情況

2.1 根據「就業綜合估計數字」，2012 年香港整體就業人數達 3 657 100 人，按年增加 2.2%。不少行業組別的就業人數均錄得升幅，較顯著的有「建造業」（上升 7.1% 或 19 400 人）、「資訊及通訊業」（上升 5.3% 或 5 100 人）及「人類保健及社會工作服務業」（上升 5.2% 或 8 800 人）。

2.2 在 2012 年，以就業人數計算，「進出口貿易業」是最大的行業組別，僱用 517 600 人，佔總就業人數 14.2%。其次是「其他社會及個人服務業」，僱用 404 600 人，佔總就業人數 11.1%；以及「運輸、倉庫、郵政及速遞服務業」和「零售業」，各僱用 317 600 人，分別佔總就業人數 8.7%。

1. Introduction

1.1 Since 2009, the Composite Employment Estimates (CEE) have been compiled based on the Hong Kong Standard Industrial Classification Version 2.0 (HSIC V2.0) as the industry classification and the data series have been backcasted to the reference year of 2000. Readers are reminded that backcasted data are subject to limitations and should be interpreted with care. For comparison of statistics under HSIC V2.0 against those under the previously used HSIC V1.1, readers may refer to the publication *Concordances between Hong Kong Standard Industrial Classification Version 2.0 and Hong Kong Standard Industrial Classification Version 1.1* on the website of the Census and Statistics Department (C&SD) (www.statistics.gov.hk/pub/B2XX00182008XXXXB0800.pdf).

2. Overall employment position for 2012

2.1 According to the CEE, the overall employment in Hong Kong in 2012 was 3 657 100, with an annual increase of 2.2%. A number of industry groups registered increases in employment, with more notable ones in the industries of “Construction” (by 7.1% or 19 400 persons), “Information and communications” (by 5.3% or 5 100 persons) and “Human health and social work services” (by 5.2% or 8 800 persons).

2.2 In 2012, “Import and export trade” was the largest industry group in terms of employment. It employed 517 600 persons or 14.2% of the overall employment. The next largest industry group was “Other social and personal services”, engaging 404 600 persons or 11.1% of overall employment; followed by “Transportation, storage, postal and courier services” and “Retail trade”, each engaging 317 600 persons or 8.7% of the overall employment.

2.3 所有服務行業合共佔 2012 年總就業人數 88.4%；而「製造業」及「建造業」則共佔 11.0%。

3. 2007 年至 2012 年就業趨勢

3.1 表 1 載列 2007 年至 2012 年香港「就業綜合估計數字」。

3.2 在 2012 年，所有行業的總就業人數與 5 年前比較，增加 5.1% 或 176 600 人。其中，錄得顯著增幅的行業為「藝術、娛樂及康樂活動業」（增加 33.6% 或 13 300 人）、「行政及支援服務業」（增加 20.5% 或 30 700 人）、「人類保健及社會工作服務業」（增加 18.9% 或 28 300 人）及「金融及保險業」（增加 18.8% 或 36 100 人）。

2.3 All the service industries taken together had an employment share of 88.4% in 2012. On the other hand, the “Manufacturing” and “Construction” industries had a combined share of 11.0%.

3. Employment trend during 2007 to 2012

3.1 The employment statistics for the CEE in Hong Kong from 2007 to 2012 are presented in Table 1.

3.2 The total employment of all industries in 2012 increased by 5.1% or 176 600 persons over 5 years earlier. Significant increases were observed in the industries of “Arts, entertainment and recreation” (by 33.6% or 13 300 persons), “Administrative and support services” (by 20.5% or 30 700 persons), “Human health and social work services” (by 18.9% or 28 300 persons) and “Financing and insurance” (by 18.8% or 36 100 persons).

表 1 2007 年至 2012 年按行業劃分的就業綜合估計數字
Table 1 Composite Employment Estimates by industry, 2007 to 2012

行業 Industry	人數 Number						2012年與下列 年份比較的 變動百分率 ⁽¹⁾ % change in 2012 over the year below ⁽¹⁾	
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2007	2011
製造 Manufacturing	148 100 (4.3%)	141 400 (4.0%)	132 200 (3.8%)	112 900 (3.2%)	112 100 (3.1%)	111 500 (3.0%)	-24.7	-0.5
電力、燃氣和自來水供應及廢棄物管理 Electricity, gas and water supply, and waste management	14 500 (0.4%)	15 100 (0.4%)	14 900 (0.4%)	15 100 (0.4%)	15 000 (0.4%)	14 600 (0.4%)	+0.7	-2.6
電力及燃氣供應 Electricity and gas supply	7 900 (0.2%)	7 800 (0.2%)	7 700 (0.2%)	7 600 (0.2%)	7 600 (0.2%)	7 600 (0.2%)	-4.2	-0.7
自來水供應；污水處理、廢棄物管理及污染 防治服務 Water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation services	6 600 (0.2%)	7 300 (0.2%)	7 200 (0.2%)	7 500 (0.2%)	7 400 (0.2%)	7 000 (0.2%)	+6.6	-4.6
建造 Construction	275 200 (7.9%)	265 900 (7.6%)	261 200 (7.5%)	261 500 (7.5%)	271 900 (7.6%)	291 300 (8.0%)	+5.9	+7.1
服務行業 Service industries	3 037 300 (87.3%)	3 080 400 (87.8%)	3 056 000 (88.1%)	3 085 900 (88.7%)	3 175 900 (88.7%)	3 234 400 (88.4%)	+6.5	+1.8
進出口貿易、批發及零售 Import/export, wholesale and retail trades	916 800 (26.3%)	909 800 (25.9%)	881 000 (25.4%)	884 900 (25.4%)	888 200 (24.8%)	899 200 (24.6%)	-1.9	+1.2
進出口貿易 Import and export trade	559 900 (16.1%)	550 500 (15.7%)	520 600 (15.0%)	523 500 (15.0%)	519 600 (14.5%)	517 600 (14.2%)	-7.6	-0.4
批發 Wholesale	71 800 (2.1%)	68 800 (2.0%)	66 700 (1.9%)	64 000 (1.8%)	64 400 (1.8%)	64 000 (1.8%)	-10.8	-0.6
零售 Retail trade	285 100 (8.2%)	290 500 (8.3%)	293 600 (8.5%)	297 400 (8.5%)	304 300 (8.5%)	317 600 (8.7%)	+11.4	+4.4
住宿及膳食服務 ⁽²⁾ Accommodation and food services ⁽²⁾	262 900 (7.6%)	263 200 (7.5%)	254 400 (7.3%)	261 600 (7.5%)	266 300 (7.4%)	268 500 (7.3%)	+2.1	+0.8
運輸、倉庫、郵政及速遞服務 Transportation, storage, postal and courier services	325 300 (9.3%)	325 700 (9.3%)	319 800 (9.2%)	313 600 (9.0%)	320 200 (8.9%)	317 600 (8.7%)	-2.4	-0.8
資訊及通訊 Information and communications	93 600 (2.7%)	97 600 (2.8%)	92 500 (2.7%)	93 100 (2.7%)	96 700 (2.7%)	101 800 (2.8%)	+8.7	+5.3
金融及保險、地產以及專業及商用服務 Financing and insurance, real estate, and professional and business services	602 900 (17.3%)	636 700 (18.1%)	638 800 (18.4%)	659 000 (18.9%)	688 500 (19.2%)	710 300 (19.4%)	+17.8	+3.2
金融及保險 Financing and insurance	192 700 (5.5%)	206 100 (5.9%)	211 400 (6.1%)	216 700 (6.2%)	226 300 (6.3%)	228 800 (6.3%)	+18.8	+1.1
地產 Real estate	110 100 (3.2%)	116 200 (3.3%)	113 600 (3.3%)	115 000 (3.3%)	122 100 (3.4%)	126 700 (3.5%)	+15.1	+3.8
專業及商用服務 Professional and business services	300 200 (8.6%)	314 400 (9.0%)	313 700 (9.0%)	327 300 (9.4%)	340 100 (9.5%)	354 700 (9.7%)	+18.2	+4.3
專業、科學及技術服務 Professional, scientific and technical services	150 500 (4.3%)	161 100 (4.6%)	159 500 (4.6%)	162 100 (4.7%)	166 700 (4.7%)	174 300 (4.8%)	+15.8	+4.6
行政及支援服務 Administrative and support services	149 700 (4.3%)	153 200 (4.4%)	154 100 (4.4%)	165 300 (4.8%)	173 500 (4.8%)	180 400 (4.9%)	+20.5	+4.0

表 1 (續) 2007 年至 2012 年按行業劃分的就業綜合估計數字
Table 1 (cont'd) Composite Employment Estimates by industry, 2007 to 2012

行業 Industry	人數 Number						2012年與下列 年份比較的 變動百分率 ⁽¹⁾ % change in 2012 over ⁽¹⁾ the year below ⁽¹⁾	
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2007	2011
	公共行政以及社會及個人服務 Public administration, and social and personal services	835 700 (24.0%)	847 500 (24.1%)	869 600 (25.1%)	873 700 (25.1%)	916 000 (25.6%)	936 900 (25.6%)	+12.1
公共行政 Public administration	122 300 (3.5%)	116 400 (3.3%)	104 400 (3.0%)	105 400 (3.0%)	104 800 (2.9%)	103 000 (2.8%)	-15.8	-1.7
教育 Education	170 400 (4.9%)	174 600 (5.0%)	184 000 (5.3%)	184 000 (5.3%)	194 500 (5.4%)	198 100 (5.4%)	+16.2	+1.9
人類保健及社會工作服務 Human health and social work services	149 900 (4.3%)	153 300 (4.4%)	165 600 (4.8%)	161 900 (4.7%)	169 400 (4.7%)	178 200 (4.9%)	+18.9	+5.2
藝術、娛樂及康樂活動 Arts, entertainment and recreation	39 700 (1.1%)	47 300 (1.3%)	50 400 (1.5%)	50 500 (1.5%)	53 100 (1.5%)	53 000 (1.4%)	+33.6	-0.2
其他社會及個人服務 Other social and personal services	353 400 (10.2%)	355 800 (10.1%)	365 100 (10.5%)	371 900 (10.7%)	394 300 (11.0%)	404 600 (11.1%)	+14.5	+2.6
其他 ⁽³⁾ Others ⁽³⁾	5 500 (0.2%)	6 900 (0.2%)	6 000 (0.2%)	3 300 (0.1%)	4 600 (0.1%)	5 300 (0.1%)	-3.4	+15.8
總就業人數 Total employment	3 480 500 (100.0%)	3 509 800 (100.0%)	3 470 300 (100.0%)	3 478 600 (100.0%)	3 579 500 (100.0%)	3 657 100 (100.0%)	+5.1	+2.2

註釋：個別行業的數字是該年的 4 季平均數，並進位至最接近的百位數。由於四捨五入關係，個別數字加起來可能與總數不符。

括號內數字表示在有關年份以未經進位數字計算所佔總數的百分比。由於四捨五入關係，個別數字加起來可能不等於 100%。

- (1) 變動百分率數字是以未經進位數字計算。
- (2) 住宿服務業包括酒店、賓館、旅舍及其他提供短期住宿服務的機構單位。
- (3) 包括農業、林業及漁業，以及採礦及採石業。「農業、林業及漁業」的數字是根據「綜合住戶統計調查」的結果及從事漁業的水上居民的估計數字而編製成的。由於該統計調查搜集得的相關樣本數目相對較少，以致估計數字的抽樣誤差較大，有關數字因此須謹慎闡釋。

Notes: Figures for individual industries are the averages of the 4 quarters of the year rounded to the nearest hundred. Figures may not add up to the respective totals due to rounding.

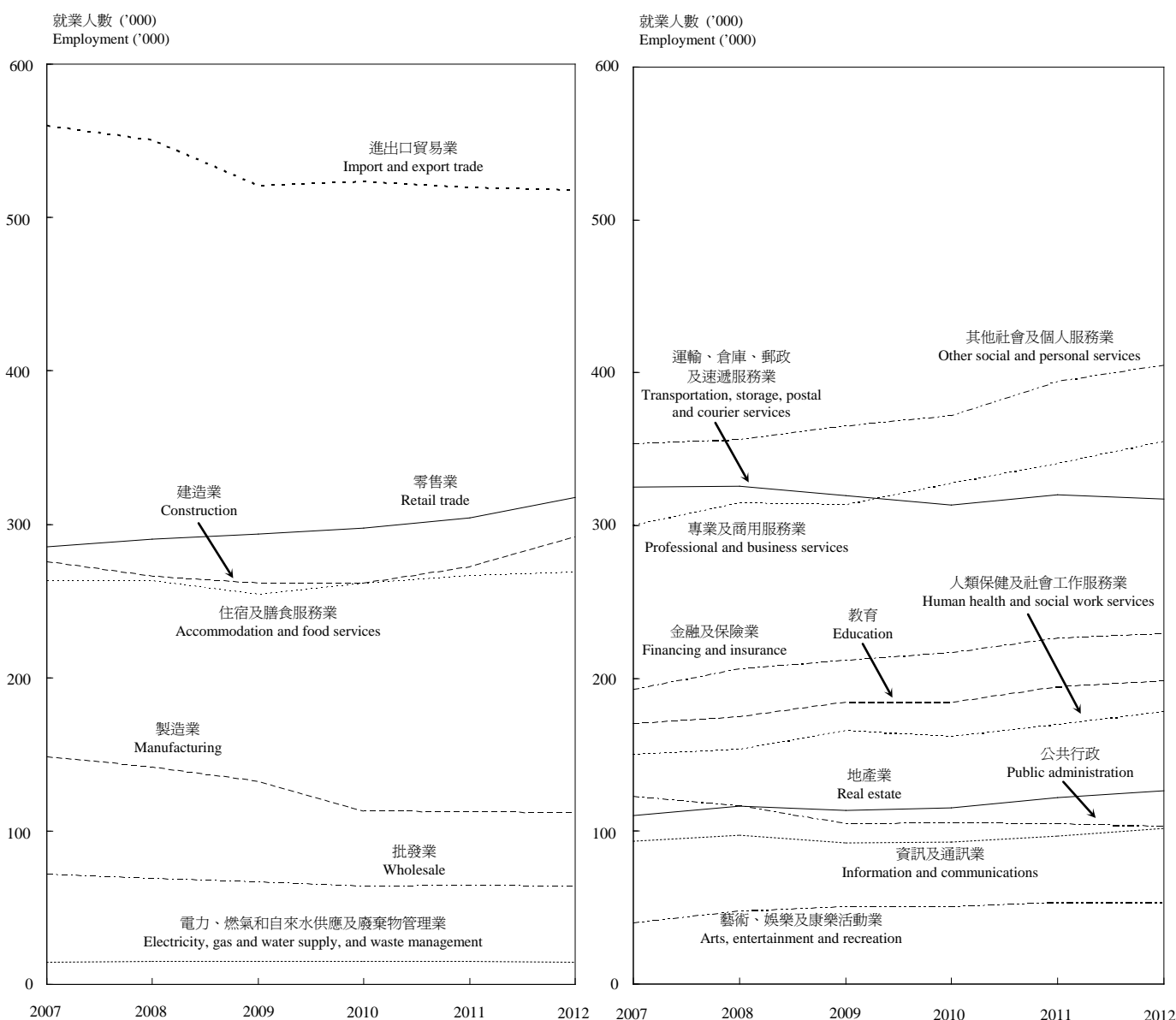
Figures in brackets refer to the percentage shares against the respective annual totals derived from unrounded figures. They may not add up to 100% due to rounding.

- (1) Percentage change figures are derived from unrounded figures.
- (2) Accommodation services sector covers hotels, guesthouses, boarding houses and other establishments providing short term accommodation.
- (3) Including the industries of agriculture, forestry and fishing; and mining and quarrying. Figures for the industry of "Agriculture, forestry and fishing" are compiled based on the results of the General Household Survey (GHS) and the estimates of marine population engaging in fishing. As the numbers of relevant observations found in the GHS were relatively small, related figures should be interpreted with care due to relatively large sampling error of the GHS estimates.

3.3 另一方面，「製造業」的就業人數在 2007 年至 2012 年期間向下調整，減少 24.7% 或 36 600 人。其他錄得就業人數明顯減少的行業包括「公共行政」（減少 15.8% 或 19 300 人）及「批發業」（減少 10.8% 或 7 700 人）。2007 年至 2012 年選定行業組別的就業人數趨勢見於圖 1。

3.3 On the other hand, “Manufacturing” shed its employment during 2007 to 2012. Its employment dropped by 24.7% or 36 600 persons during the period. Other industries registering notable decreases in employment included “Public administration” (a decrease of 15.8% or 19 300 persons) and “Wholesale” (a decrease of 10.8% or 7 700 persons). Chart 1 shows the employment trend for selected industry groups during 2007 to 2012.

圖 1 2007 年至 2012 年選定行業組別的就業人數
Chart 1 Employment in selected industry groups, 2007 to 2012



4. 2007 年與 2012 年就業分布

4.1 在 2007 年至 2012 年期間，主要行業組別「公共行政以及社會及個人服務業」僱用人數約為 80 至 90 萬，佔總就業人數的四分之一。這個主要行業組別可以細分為「公共行政」（佔 2012 年所有行業總就業人數的 2.8%）、「教育」（5.4%）、「人類保健及社會工作服務業」（4.9%）、「藝術、娛樂及康樂活動業」（1.4%）以及「其他社會及個人服務業」（11.1%）。

4.2 另一個主要行業組別「進出口貿易、批發及零售業」在這期間僱用約 90 萬人，同樣佔總就業人數的四分之一。這個主要行業組別是由「進出口貿易業」（佔 2012 年總就業人數的 14.2%）、「批發業」（1.8%）及「零售業」（8.7%）所組成。

4.3 在這期間，就業人數的分布逐漸出現變化。就業人數比例錄得相對明顯升幅的行業為「專業及商用服務業」，從 2007 年的 8.6% 增加至 2012 年的 9.7%，「其他社會及個人服務業」，從 10.2% 增加至 11.1%；而「金融及保險業」亦從 5.5% 增加至 6.3%。另一方面，「進出口貿易業」的就業人數比例則從 16.1% 下跌至 14.2%；而「製造業」亦從 4.3% 下跌至 3.0%。

4.4 所有服務行業合共佔整體就業人數的比例，從 2007 年的 87.3% 增加至 2012 年的 88.4%。圖 2 顯示 2007 年及 2012 年各主要行業組別的就業人數比例。

4. Employment distribution in 2007 and 2012

4.1 During 2007 to 2012, the major industry group of “Public administration, and social and personal services” engaged around 0.8 to 0.9 million persons, accounting for about one quarter of total employment. This major industry group comprised the industries of “Public administration” (accounting for 2.8% of total employment for all industries in 2012), “Education” (5.4%), “Human health and social work services” (4.9%), “Arts, entertainment and recreation” (1.4%) and “Other social and personal services” (11.1%).

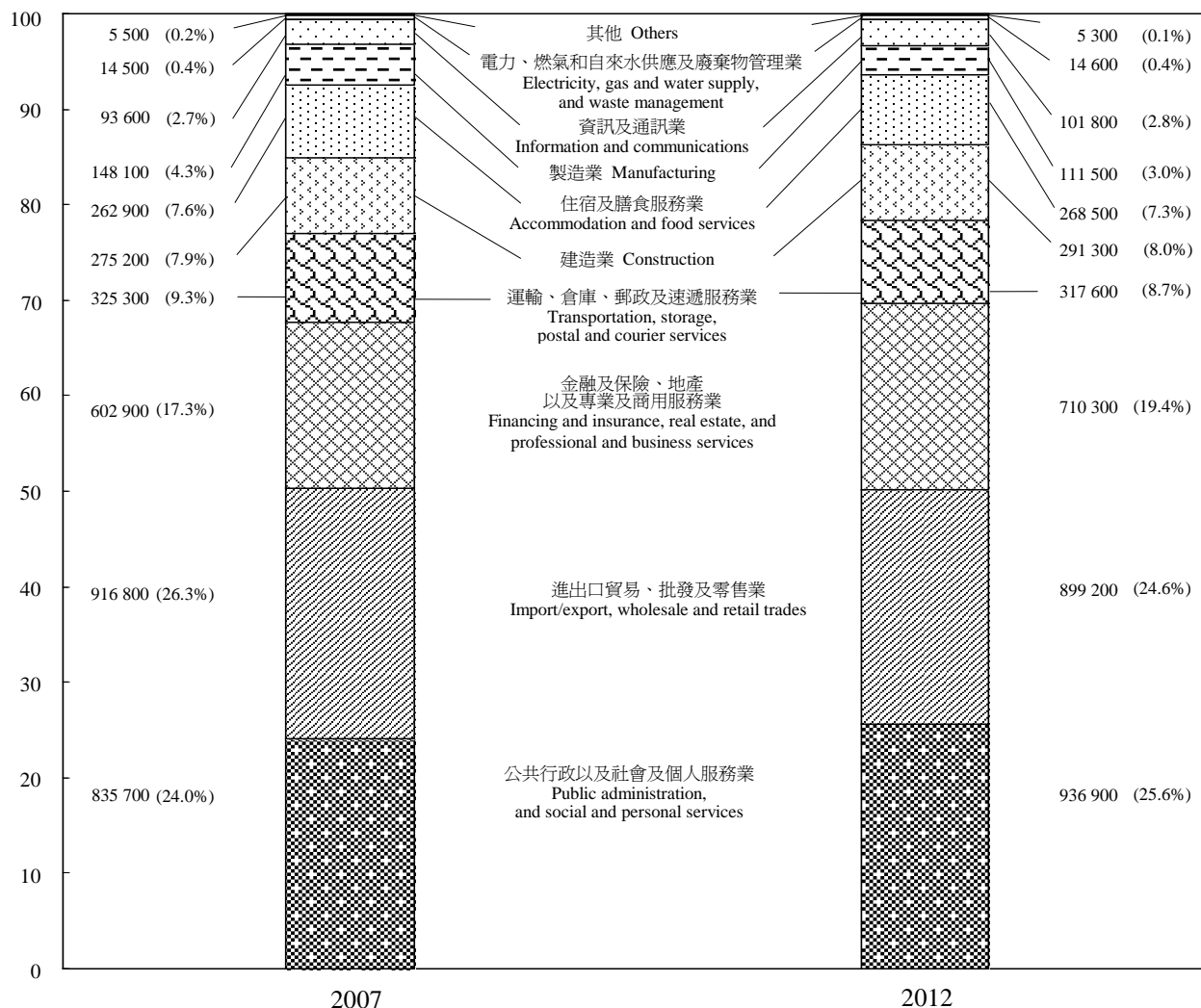
4.2 Another major industry group, “Import/export, wholesale and retail trades”, employed around 0.9 million persons during the period, accounting for another quarter of total employment. This major group was made up of “Import and export trade” (14.2% of total employment in 2012), “Wholesale” (1.8%) and “Retail trade” (8.7%).

4.3 During the period, some gradual changes in employment shares were observed. Increases in employment shares were relatively notable in the industries of “Professional and business services” (up from 8.6% in 2007 to 9.7% in 2012), “Other social and personal services” (up from 10.2% to 11.1%) and “Financing and insurance” (up from 5.5% to 6.3%). On the other hand, employment shares decreased in “Import and export trade” (down from 16.1% to 14.2%) and “Manufacturing” (down from 4.3% to 3.0%).

4.4 The employment share of all the service industries taken together increased from 87.3% in 2007 to 88.4% in 2012. Chart 2 illustrates the employment share by major industry group for 2007 and 2012.

圖 2 2007 年及 2012 年按主要行業組別劃分的就業人數
Chart 2 Employment by major industry group, 2007 and 2012

就業人數 (百分比)
 Employment (Percentage share)



5. 就業綜合估計數字的特徵

5.1 政府統計處經由各類不同的統計調查及資料來源，編製多項不同的就業統計數字。其中，經由「僱傭及職位空缺按季統計調查」和「綜合住戶統計調查」所編製的就業統計數字，最常被引用。這兩項數字各有本身的用途和優點，但是就反映按行業劃分的本地整體就業分布情況而言，兩者都各有一些局限。因此，本處有需要編製「就業綜合估計數字」，以迎合個別特定用途。

5. Characteristics of CEE

5.1 The C&SD has been compiling different sets of employment figures based on different surveys and data sources. Among these, the employment figures compiled from the Quarterly Survey of Employment and Vacancies (SEV) and those from the GHS are most frequently referred to. While each of them has its own uses and merits, both are subject to some limitations in reflecting the distribution of territory-wide employment by industry. Hence, there is a need to compile the CEE to serve some specific applications.

5.2 相對於「僱傭及職位空缺按季統計調查」和「綜合住戶統計調查」的就業數字，運用統計方法將這兩組數據協調而編製的「就業綜合估計數字」，能較完整及準確地反映按行業劃分的本地整體就業分布情況。「就業綜合估計數字」所涵蓋的就業人士範圍相對於「僱傭及職位空缺按季統計調查」的數字更為完整，而按行業分類的「就業綜合估計數字」亦較「綜合住戶統計調查」的相應數字更可靠。

5.3 由於所涵蓋的就業人士範圍較完整，「就業綜合估計數字」可用作展示個別行業的就業人數佔整體就業人數的比例（以百分比計算）。

5.4 雖然編製「就業綜合估計數字」可在一定程度上減低「僱傭及職位空缺按季統計調查」和「綜合住戶統計調查」的就業統計數字的主要局限，但這套數據本身仍有一些不足之處。「僱傭及職位空缺按季統計調查」和「綜合住戶統計調查」兩者所得的就業人數存在不少固有的分別，如統計調查概念、涵蓋範圍和調查方法（例如點算方法）。具體來說，「就業綜合估計數字」與「綜合住戶統計調查」的就業數據都是以「人數」計算（即可展示按行業劃分的就業人數）；但「僱傭及職位空缺按季統計調查」的就業人數則是以「職位」計算。因此嚴格來說，將這兩項來自不同統計調查的數據直接相加，以編製涵蓋各行業的「就業綜合估計數字」，是頗粗略的做法。

5.5 有關上述兩項統計調查的詳細討論及「就業綜合估計數字」的編製方法，請分別參閱本月刊 2001 年 6 月號及 2005 年 6 月號內的專題文章。

5.2 Derived by reconciling, under a designated statistical framework, the employment figures obtained from SEV and GHS, the CEE can reflect a more comprehensive and accurate picture of the territory-wide employment in individual industries when compared to figures from these two surveys. On the one hand, the estimates are superior to the SEV figures in that the coverage of employed population is more complete. On the other hand, they are also superior to the GHS figures in that the industrial classification in respect of employment figures is more reliable.

5.3 With a complete coverage of the employed population, the CEE may also show the employment share (in percentage terms) of individual industries.

5.4 Although the compilation of CEE helps reduce the major limitations of both the SEV and GHS employment figures to a certain extent, it is still subject to certain drawbacks. There are a number of inherent differences between the SEV and GHS employment figures in terms of survey concepts, coverage and methodology (e.g. counting rules). In particular, the CEE data are person-based (i.e. showing the number of persons by industry), which are similar in concept to the GHS employment data. However, the employment data collected in the SEV are job-based. Strictly speaking, it is a crude method for compiling the CEE by adding directly the data based on the two different sources across different industries.

5.5 For detailed discussions of the GHS and SEV, and the CEE compilation methodology, reference can be made to the feature articles in the June 2001 and June 2005 issues of this *Digest* respectively.

6. 各組就業統計數字的用途

6.1 以上所述三組就業統計數字，固然並非完美；但它們各自有本身的優點，能互補不足。在選擇應用哪組數字時，應取決於特定的用途。

6.2 「就業綜合估計數字」結合了「綜合住戶統計調查」有關人口涵蓋範圍的優點及「僱傭及職位空缺按季統計調查」有關行業分類的優點，從而更完整及準確地反映按行業劃分的本地**整體**就業分布情況和該分布情況隨時間的轉變。因此，「就業綜合估計數字」尤為適用於這類分析。

6.3 另一方面，「僱傭及職位空缺按季統計調查」的統計數字可顯示統計調查所包括的行業的勞工需求，尤其可提供按行業及地區劃分的詳細就業分布資料，以及不同行業的勞動力投入（絕對值和相對值）的資料（指在統計調查內涵蓋範圍完整的行業而言）。

6.4 在較廣義的層面上，「綜合住戶統計調查」的就業數字，顯示本地勞工市場的勞動力供應。這些數字可提供詳細的就業狀況資料（如就業、失業及就業不足狀況）和勞動人口特徵（如年齡及性別分布），從而有助了解勞工市場的勞動力供應情況。

6.5 另一點要注意的，就是在使用「綜合住戶統計調查」的數字來分析按行業劃分的勞動人口特徵時（例如年齡及性別分布），有關「行業」的資料只應視為一項分類變數。在該情況下，統計調查的數字可幫助分析某行業內的勞動人口特徵（如失業率或職業狀況），或比較不同行業的勞動人口特徵。然而，那些數字卻不應用作顯示個別行業的實際就業人數。

6. Uses of different sets of employment figures

6.1 Among the three sets of employment figures described above, none of them could be regarded as perfect. They serve to complement each other since each set has its own merits. The selection of any one set for a particular application depends on the specific use it is put to.

6.2 By taking account of the merits of the GHS and SEV employment data in respect of population coverage and industrial classification respectively, the CEE can better reflect the broad distribution of the **overall** territory-wide employment broken down by industry, and also the change of such industry distribution over time. Application of the CEE in this specific area is thus recommended.

6.3 On the other hand, the SEV figures are able to indicate the labour demand for the specific industries covered. They are particularly useful for furnishing detailed information on the industrial and geographical distribution of employment and also the labour input (in both absolute and relative terms) to individual industries (for those industries with complete coverage in SEV).

6.4 From a broader perspective, the GHS employment figures show the labour supply in the local labour market. They can provide detailed information on the employment status (employed/unemployed/underemployed) and the demographic characteristics (e.g. age and sex distribution) of the labour force, thereby facilitating a better understanding of the labour market situation from the supply side.

6.5 Another point to note when using the GHS figures in studying the industry-specific labour force characteristics (such as age and sex distribution) is that the information on “industry” should only be taken as a classification variable. In that case, the survey results can facilitate analysis of the characteristics of the labour force in a specific industry (e.g. unemployment rate or occupational pattern) or comparison of such characteristics across industries. However, such figures should not be taken as the actual number of employed persons in the individual industries.