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1981 年至 2019 年香港生育趨勢
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這篇文章簡述由 1981 年至 2019 年香港的生育趨勢，並分析影響生育趨勢的因素。

Broadly speaking, Hong Kong's fertility showed a declining trend over the past 38 years. After experiencing the historic low of 901 live births per 1 000 women in 2003, the total fertility rate rebounded to 1 285 in 2012, before declining gradually to 1 051 in 2019. During the whole period, the total fertility rate of Hong Kong has been consistently below the replacement level of 2 100.

This article gives a brief account of the fertility trend in Hong Kong over the period from 1981 to 2019 and analyses the factors underlying the fertility trend.

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1981 年至 2019 年香港生育趨勢

Fertility Trend in Hong Kong, 1981 to 2019

1. 引言

1.1 香港的生育水平，在過去 38 年大致而言呈現下跌的趨勢。總和生育率在經歷過 2003 年每千名女性有 901 名活產嬰兒的歷史低位後，在 2012 年回升至 1 285 名，再逐漸下降至 2019 年的 1 051 名。在整段期間，總和生育率持續低於 2 100 的更替水平¹。

1.2 這篇文章簡述由 1981 年至 2019 年香港的生育趨勢，並分析影響生育趨勢的因素。

1.3 有關出生及生育統計數字的編製方法，請參閱本文章的第 7 節。

2. 出生趨勢

2.1 香港每年的活產嬰兒數目從 1981 年的 86 751 名下降至 2003 年的 46 965 名，然後回升至 2011 年的 95 451 名，再跌至 2019 年的 52 856 名。粗出生率（即 1 年內的活產嬰兒數目相對該年年中的人口）從 1981 年的每千人有 16.8 名下降至 2003 年的 7.0 名，其後回升至 2011 年的 13.5 名，再回落至 2019 年的 7.0 名。（表 1）

1. Introduction

1.1 Broadly speaking, Hong Kong's fertility showed a declining trend over the past 38 years. After experiencing the historic low of 901 live births per 1 000 women in 2003, the total fertility rate rebounded to 1 285 in 2012, before declining gradually to 1 051 in 2019. During the whole period, the total fertility rate of Hong Kong has been consistently below the replacement level¹ of 2 100.

1.2 This article gives a brief account of the fertility trend in Hong Kong over the period from 1981 to 2019 and analyses the factors underlying the fertility trend.

1.3 For the compilation approach of birth and fertility statistics, please refer to Section 7 of this article.

2. Birth trend

2.1 The annual number of live births in Hong Kong dropped steadily from 86 751 in 1981 to 46 965 in 2003 and then rebounded to 95 451 in 2011, before dropping to 52 856 in 2019. The crude birth rate, i.e. the ratio of the number of live births in a calendar year to the mid-year population, declined from 16.8 live births per 1 000 population in 1981 to 7.0 in 2003, and then rebounded to 13.5 in 2011, before dropping to 7.0 in 2019. (Table 1)

1 更替水平指每千名女性平均需要生產的嬰兒數目使人口能自行更替。每名女性必須平均生產一名女兒，由該名女兒「更替」其母親，人口才能夠自行更替。計及男嬰出生數目比女嬰稍多的情況，總和生育率應為每千名女性生產 2 100 名嬰兒，才能達到人口自行更替的水平。

1 Replacement level refers to the number of children 1 000 women needs to produce for a population to replace itself. Each woman would produce an average of one daughter, who may be said to "replace" her mother in the population. A total fertility rate of 2 100 per 1 000 women is considered to correspond to the replacement level, allowing for slightly more boys than girls given at birth.

表 1 1981 年至 2019 年的活產嬰兒數目及粗出生率
Table 1 Number of live births and crude birth rate, 1981 to 2019

年份 Year	活產嬰兒數目 Number of live births	粗出生率 Crude birth rate (每千名人口計算) (per 1 000 population)
1981	86 751	16.8
1982	86 120	16.4
1983	83 293	15.6
1984	77 297	14.4
1985	76 126	14.0
1986	71 620	13.0
1987	69 958	12.6
1988	75 412	13.4
1989	69 621	12.3
1990	67 731	12.0
1991	68 281	12.0
1992	70 949	12.3
1993	70 451	12.0
1994	71 646	11.9
1995	68 637	11.2
1996	63 291	9.9
1997	59 250	9.1
1998	52 977	8.1
1999	51 281	7.8
2000	54 134	8.1
2001	48 219	7.2
2002	48 209	7.1
2003	46 965	7.0
2004	49 796	7.3
2005	57 098	8.4
2006	65 626	9.6
2007	70 875	10.2
2008	78 822	11.3
2009	82 095	11.8
2010	88 584	12.6
2011	95 451	13.5
2012	91 558	12.8
2013	57 084	8.0
2014	62 305	8.6
2015	59 878	8.2
2016	60 856	8.3
2017	56 548	7.7
2018	53 716	7.2
2019	52 856	7.0

2.2 居於中國內地的女性（以下簡稱為內地女性）在港所生的活產嬰兒可以分為兩類。其配偶為香港永久性居民的內地女性在港所生的活產嬰兒稱為第一類嬰兒，而其配偶為非香港永久性居民的內地女性在港所生的活產嬰兒則稱為第二類嬰兒。第一類嬰兒的數目近年持續下降，由 2005 年的 9 879 名下降至 2019 年的 3 343 名。（表 2）

2.3 終審法院在 2001 年 7 月裁定中國公民在香港所生的嬰兒均擁有香港居留權。自此，第二類嬰兒數目明顯上升，由 2001 年的 620 名增加至 2011 年的 35 736 名。自從 2013 年實施丈夫為非香港居民的內地孕婦在港分娩服務的零配額政策²後，這些嬰兒的數目下降至低水平，在 2019 年只有 393 名。（表 2）

2.2 Live births born in Hong Kong to women residing in the mainland of China (referred to as Mainland women hereafter) can be categorised into two types. Live births born in Hong Kong to Mainland women whose spouses are Hong Kong Permanent Residents are known as Type I Babies, while those born in Hong Kong to Mainland women whose spouses are not Hong Kong Permanent Residents are known as Type II Babies. The number of Type I Babies continued to decrease in recent years, from 9 879 in 2005 to 3 343 in 2019. (Table 2)

2.3 In July 2001, the Court of Final Appeal ruled that babies born in Hong Kong to Chinese nationals have the right of abode in Hong Kong. Since then, the number of Type II Babies increased significantly, from 620 in 2001 to 35 736 in 2011. Since the implementation of the zero-quota policy² on obstetric services for Mainland women whose spouses are not Hong Kong residents in 2013, the number of these babies dropped to low levels, at only 393 in 2019. (Table 2)

表 2 2001 年至 2019 年內地女性在香港生產的嬰兒數目
Table 2 Births born in Hong Kong to Mainland women, 2001 to 2019

統計期間 Reference period	活產嬰兒數目 Number of live births	其中內地女性在香港所生的活產嬰兒數目 Of which number of live births born in Hong Kong to Mainland women			小計 Sub-total
		其配偶為 香港永久性居民 whose spouses are Hong Kong Permanent Residents	其配偶為 非香港永久性居民 ⁽¹⁾ whose spouses are not Hong Kong Permanent Residents ⁽¹⁾	其他 ⁽²⁾ Others ⁽²⁾	
2001	48 219	7 190	620	≈	7 810
2002	48 209	7 256	1 250	≈	8 506
2003	46 965	7 962	2 070	96	10 128
2004	49 796	8 896	4 102	211	13 209
2005	57 098	9 879	9 273	386	19 538
2006	65 626	9 438	16 044	650	26 132
2007	70 875	7 989	18 816	769	27 574
2008	78 822	7 228	25 269	1 068	33 565
2009	82 095	6 213	29 766	1 274	37 253
2010	88 584	6 169	32 653	1 826	40 648
2011	95 451	6 110	35 736	2 136	43 982
2012	91 558	4 698	26 715	1 786	33 199
2013	57 084	4 670	790	37	5 497
2014	62 305	5 179	823	22	6 024
2015	59 878	4 775	775	16	5 566
2016	60 856	4 370	606	3	4 979
2017	56 548	3 826	502	6	4 334
2018	53 716	3 549	434	0	3 983
2019	52 856	3 343	393	5	3 741

註釋：(1) 包括香港非永久性居民（例如從內地來港少於 7 年的人士）及非香港居民。

(2) 在出生登記時，內地母親並沒有提供嬰兒父親居民身分的資料。
≈ 沒有數字。

Notes: (1) Include Hong Kong Non-permanent Residents (such as persons from the Mainland having resided in Hong Kong for less than 7 years) and non-Hong Kong residents.

(2) Mainland mothers did not provide the father's residential status during birth registration.
≈ Not available.

2 實際上可能還會有一些第二類嬰兒，如嬰兒父親是持單程證來港但仍未成為香港永久性居民。

2 There may in fact be some Type II Babies such as those whose fathers were admitted through One-way Permits who have yet to become Hong Kong Permanent Residents.

2.4 除此之外，有一定數目的嬰兒是香港居民在香港以外地方所生，並在 1 歲前被帶回香港。這些嬰兒並不包括在香港的活產嬰兒數目內。在 2019 年，這類嬰兒有 1 874 名。
(表 3)

2.4 Besides, there are a number of babies born to Hong Kong residents outside Hong Kong and are brought back to Hong Kong when they are less than 1 year old. They are not counted in the number of live births in Hong Kong. In 2019, there were 1 874 such babies. (Table 3)

表 3 1996 年至 2019 年香港女性在香港以外地方所生並在 1 歲前被帶回香港的活產嬰兒數目
Table 3 Number of live births born outside Hong Kong to Hong Kong women and brought back to Hong Kong when they were less than 1 year old, 1996 to 2019

年份 Year	香港女性 ⁽¹⁾ 在香港以外地方所生並在 1 歲前被帶回香港的活產嬰兒數目 Number of live births born outside Hong Kong to Hong Kong women ⁽¹⁾ and brought back to Hong Kong when they were less than 1 year old
1996	3 653
1997	3 619
1998	2 981
1999	2 359
2000	2 208
2001	2 034
2002	1 694
2003	1 553
2004	1 588
2005	1 538
2006	1 601
2007	1 655
2008	1 919
2009	1 779
2010	1 701
2011	1 685
2012	1 745
2013	1 909
2014	1 857
2015	1 823
2016	1 822
2017	2 066
2018	1 934
2019	1 874

註釋：(1) 包括香港永久性居民和香港非永久性居民。

Note: (1) Include Hong Kong Permanent Residents and Hong Kong Non-permanent Residents.

3. 生育趨勢

3.1 年齡別生育率是指某一年齡組別的女性在某一年內生產的活產嬰兒數目，相對該年年中該年齡組別的女性人口（不包括外籍家庭傭工）的比率。

3.2 在 1981 年至 2019 年間，較年輕的年齡組別的生育率有所下降。在年齡組別 15 至 19 歲及 20 至 24 歲的女性，其年齡別生育率在過去 38 年分別減少 83% 及 84%。另一方面，近年較年長的年齡組別的生育率大致呈上升趨勢。在 2003 年至 2019 年間，年齡組別 30 至 34 歲及 35 至 39 歲女性的生育率分別上升 45% 及 89%。這可能與本港女性遲婚的趨勢有關。（表 4）

3.3 總和生育率是量度現今生育水平對香港人口的潛在影響的一個指標。總和生育率是某年的年齡別生育率的總和。它是指 1 000 名女性，若她們在生育齡期（即 15 至 49 歲）經歷了一如該年的年齡別生育率，其一生之中活產子女的平均數目。配偶為香港居民（即香港永久性居民和香港非永久性居民）的內地女性在香港所生的嬰兒亦計算在內。

3.4 總和生育率從 1981 年的每千名女性有 1 933 名活產嬰兒下降至 2003 年的 901 名。其後該比率回升至 2012 年的 1 285 名，再逐漸下降至 2019 年的 1 051 名。（表 4）

3.5 此外，若扣除其配偶為香港居民的內地女性在香港所生的嬰兒，總和生育率亦顯示類似的趨勢。由 2003 年只有 748 名上升至 2012 年的 1 186 名，然後下降至 2019 年的 993 名。（表 4）

3. Fertility trend

3.1 The age specific fertility rate (AFR) is the number of live births occurring to women in a given age group during a calendar year to the total female population (excluding foreign domestic helpers) at mid-year of that age group.

3.2 The fertility rates in younger age groups declined during 1981 to 2019. For women in the age groups of 15 to 19 and 20 to 24, the AFRs decreased by 83% and 84% respectively in the past 38 years. On the other hand, the fertility rates in older age groups showed a generally upward trend in recent years, increasing by 45% and 89% for women in the age groups of 30 to 34 and 35 to 39 respectively from 2003 to 2019. This may be related to the trend of marriage postponement of Hong Kong women. (Table 4)

3.3 The total fertility rate (TFR) is one of the measures to assess the potential impact of current fertility on the Hong Kong population. The TFR is the sum of the AFRs in a given year and represents the average number of children that would be born alive to 1 000 women during their lifetime if they were to pass through their childbearing ages 15 to 49 experiencing the AFRs prevailing in that year. Babies born in Hong Kong to Mainland women whose spouses are Hong Kong residents (i.e. Hong Kong Permanent Residents and Hong Kong Non-Permanent Residents) are also taken into account.

3.4 The TFR decreased from 1 933 live births per 1 000 women in 1981 to 901 in 2003. It then rebounded to 1 285 in 2012, before declining gradually to 1 051 in 2019. (Table 4)

3.5 Besides, if babies born in Hong Kong to Mainland women whose spouses are Hong Kong residents are excluded, the TFR also showed a similar trend. It increased from 748 in 2003 to 1 186 in 2012, and then dropped to 993 in 2019. (Table 4)

表 4 1981 年至 2019 年的年齡別生育率及總和生育率
Table 4 Age specific fertility rates and total fertility rate, 1981 to 2019

年份 Year	年齡別生育率 Age specific fertility rates							總和生育率 ⁽¹⁾ Total fertility rate ⁽¹⁾	總和生育率 (不包括其配偶為香港居民 ⁽²⁾ 的 內地女性在香港所生的嬰兒) Total fertility rate (excluding babies born in Hong Kong to Mainland women whose spouses are Hong Kong residents ⁽²⁾)
	年齡組別 Age group								
	15 - 19	20 - 24	25 - 29	30 - 34	35 - 39	40 - 44	45 - 49		
(每千名女性的活產嬰兒數目) (Number of live births per 1 000 women)									
1981	12	86	153	97	34	7	1	1 933	≈
1982	10	80	149	94	35	6	1	1 860	≈
1983	10	76	140	87	31	5	1	1 722	≈
1984	8	64	127	82	29	5	§	1 559	≈
1985	8	58	122	81	28	5	§	1 491	≈
1986	7	49	112	79	27	4	§	1 367	≈
1987	6	43	106	80	27	4	§	1 311	≈
1988	6	43	112	89	29	5	§	1 400	≈
1989	6	40	100	82	29	5	§	1 296	≈
1990	6	40	99	80	28	4	§	1 272	≈
1991	7	39	97	81	30	5	§	1 281	≈
1992	7	45	100	85	31	5	§	1 347	≈
1993	7	49	95	84	31	5	§	1 342	≈
1994	7	49	95	87	32	5	§	1 355	≈
1995	6	43	90	85	32	5	§	1 295	≈
1996	6	37	81	79	32	5	§	1 191	1 103
1997	6	33	73	76	32	5	§	1 127	1 046
1998	5	31	65	68	30	5	§	1 016	923
1999	5	31	62	65	29	5	§	981	864
2000	5	32	65	70	31	5	§	1 032	899
2001	4	29	57	62	29	5	§	931	802
2002	4	30	59	62	28	4	§	941	806
2003	4	29	57	58	27	5	§	901	748
2004	4	29	57	61	28	5	§	922	749
2005	3	27	58	67	31	5	§	959	770
2006	3	25	57	72	35	5	§	984	807
2007	3	24	57	76	40	6	§	1 028	879
2008	3	23	56	79	43	7	§	1 064	926
2009	3	24	54	78	43	7	§	1 055	931
2010	3	25	58	84	48	8	§	1 127	992
2011	3	27	64	87	52	9	§	1 204	1 065
2012	3	21	64	100	58	11	§	1 285	1 186
2013	3	18	55	85	52	11	1	1 125	1 053
2014	3	20	61	95	57	11	1	1 235	1 149
2015	3	19	59	92	55	11	1	1 196	1 111
2016	3	18	59	93	57	11	1	1 205	1 131
2017	3	17	54	85	55	11	1	1 125	1 060
2018	2	15	50	84	52	11	1	1 072	1 011
2019	2	14	48	84	51	11	1	1 051	993

註釋： (1) 總和生育率的計算包括其配偶為香港居民的內地女性在香港所生的嬰兒在內。

(2) 包括香港永久性居民和香港非永久性居民。

§ 少於 0.5。

≈ 沒有數字。

Notes: (1) Babies born in Hong Kong to Mainland women whose spouses are Hong Kong residents are included in the computation of total fertility rate.

(2) Include Hong Kong Permanent Residents and Hong Kong Non-permanent Residents.

§ Less than 0.5.

≈ Not available.

3.6 一般生育率是指每年出生的活產嬰兒數目相對該年年中 15 至 49 歲女性人口的比率。一般生育率由 1981 年的每千名 15 至 49 歲女性（扣除外籍家庭傭工）有 65.2 名活產嬰兒下降至 2003 年的 24.9 名。該比率回升至 2012 年的 36.4 名，再逐漸下降至 2019 年的 31.9 名。（表 5）

3.7 計算總和生育率時，男女性別的活產嬰兒均包括在內，而再生產率則只針對女性人口的更替。粗再生產率及淨再生產率是再生產率的兩種指標。

3.8 假設既定的年齡別生育率，粗再生產率量度一個有 1 000 名婦女的組群（扣除外籍家庭傭工）在其一生中的女兒數目。粗再生產率和總和生育率的計算方法大致相同，其分別在於前者只計算活產女嬰，而後者則包括所有活產嬰兒。（表 5）

3.9 假設既定的年齡別生育率及死亡率，淨再生產率量度一個有 1 000 名婦女的組群（扣除外籍家庭傭工）在其一生中的女兒數目。因此，淨再生產率是在既定的年齡別生育率及死亡率下，量度一個新生女性組群的自我更替程度。若淨再生產率為 1 000 是代表能完全自我更替，高於 1 000 則反映人口已高於自我更替水平，而低於 1 000 則是人口不足以自我更替。淨再生產率從 1981 年的 921 跌至 2003 年的 430。其後該比率回升至 2012 年的 613，再逐漸下降至 2019 年的 498。（表 5）

3.6 General fertility rate relates the number of live births in a calendar year to the mid-year female population aged 15 to 49. The general fertility rate declined from 65.2 live births per 1 000 female population (excluding foreign domestic helpers) aged 15 to 49 in 1981 to 24.9 in 2003. The rate then rebounded to 36.4 in 2012, before declining gradually to 31.9 in 2019. (Table 5)

3.7 While the TFR involves live births of both sexes, reproduction rates are restricted to the replacement of the female population only. There are two measures: gross reproduction rate and net reproduction rate.

3.8 The gross reproduction rate is a measure of the number of daughters that a cohort of 1 000 women (excluding foreign domestic helpers) will have during their lifetime assuming a fixed schedule of AFRs. The calculation is the same as the TFR except that female live births instead of all live births are used in computing the gross reproduction rate. (Table 5)

3.9 The net reproduction rate is a measure of the number of daughters that a cohort of 1 000 women (excluding foreign domestic helpers) will have during their lifetime assuming a fixed schedule of AFRs and a fixed set of mortality rates. Thus, the net reproduction rate is a measure of the extent to which a cohort of newly born girls will replace themselves under given schedules of age specific fertility and mortality. A rate of 1 000 means exact replacement, a rate above 1 000 indicates that the population is more than replacing itself, and a rate below 1 000 means that the population fails to replace itself. The net reproduction rate decreased from 921 in 1981 to 430 in 2003. The rate then rebounded to 613 in 2012, before declining gradually to 498 in 2019. (Table 5)

表 5 1981 年至 2019 年的一般生育率、粗再生產率及淨再生產率
Table 5 General fertility rate, gross reproduction rate and net reproduction rate, 1981 to 2019

年份 Year	一般生育率 General fertility rate (每千名15 - 49歲女性計算) (per 1 000 females aged 15 - 49)	粗再生產率 Gross reproduction rate (每千名女性計算) (per 1 000 females)	淨再生產率 Net reproduction rate (每千名女性計算) (per 1 000 females)
1981	65.2	938	921
1982	63.8	900	883
1983	60.7	836	821
1984	55.6	753	741
1985	53.9	722	712
1986	49.8	663	653
1987	47.9	638	629
1988	51.1	675	665
1989	46.8	628	619
1990	45.4	613	604
1991	45.1	620	611
1992	46.3	650	643
1993	44.7	647	639
1994	44.1	650	643
1995	41.1	624	618
1996	37.4	576	570
1997	34.7	540	534
1998	30.5	485	481
1999	28.9	471	466
2000	30.2	493	489
2001	26.8	446	442
2002	26.3	454	450
2003	24.9	433	430
2004	25.1	445	441
2005	26.1	457	454
2006	27.0	468	465
2007	28.4	493	490
2008	29.5	513	509
2009	29.2	507	503
2010	31.3	545	541
2011	33.6	576	573
2012	36.4	617	613
2013	32.4	537	534
2014	35.9	597	593
2015	35.0	572	569
2016	35.8	577	574
2017	33.7	543	540
2018	32.2	515	512
2019	31.9	501	498

4. 最少有一名子女的女性

4.1 運用「1976 年中期人口統計」的數據（對 1976 年以前的資料而言）及從 1976 年開始的出生登記系統所搜集的資料，可將出生數據重新編排為不同組群，從而計算各組群女性中最少有一名子女的女性所佔的百分比。

4.2 80.3% 在 1949 年出生的女性在 30 歲前擁有最少一名子女，但 1989 年出生的女性的相應比率下降至 26.9%。這不單反映女性推遲首次活產的趨向，亦顯示在育齡期末仍未有子女的女性所佔的百分比有所增加。在 1964 年出生的女性，只有 29.1% 到 45 歲仍沒有子女，但 1974 年出生的女性的相應百分比已增至 34.1%。（表 6）

4. Women with at least one child

4.1 Based on data available from the 1976 Population By-census (for information prior to 1976) and the birth registration system starting from 1976, birth statistics could be re-arranged on a birth cohort basis to compute the proportion of women having at least one child for different cohorts.

4.2 80.3% of those women born in 1949 had at least one child before they reached 30, but the corresponding percentage dropped to 26.9% for those born in 1989. This reflects not only the tendency of having first birth at a later age but also the increasing proportion of women remaining childless at the end of the reproduction span. Only 29.1% of women who were born in 1964 never had any babies at age 45, but the corresponding percentage increased to 34.1% for those born in 1974. (Table 6)

表6 按母親出生年份及年齡劃分的最少有一名子女的女性百分比
Table 6 Percentage of women with at least one child by mother's year of birth and age

母親出生年份 Mother's year of birth	年齡 Age						
	15至未滿20歲 15 to before attaining 20	15至未滿25歲 15 to before attaining 25	15至未滿30歲 15 to before attaining 30	15至未滿35歲 15 to before attaining 35	15至未滿40歲 15 to before attaining 40	15至未滿45歲 15 to before attaining 45	15至未滿50歲 15 to before attaining 50
1944	13.3	56.7	87.6	96.8	98.9	99.2	99.2
1949	9.8	46.3	80.3	89.7	91.8	92.2	92.2
1954	7.3	40.0	71.6	82.3	85.2	85.7	85.7
1959	6.6	33.3	61.4	75.0	78.8	79.3	79.4
1964	4.2	20.3	47.9	65.2	70.1	70.9	71.0
1969	3.0	18.6	42.3	57.9	64.4	65.9	66.0
1974	3.0	16.0	34.5	53.5	63.9	65.9	
1979	2.5	14.0	32.6	56.5	68.0		
1984	1.7	11.4	31.0	55.4			
1989	1.4	9.2	26.9				
1994	1.3	7.7					
1999	1.0						

5. 生育趨勢的因素

5.1 生育率的趨勢與以下因素有關：

(i) 遲婚

已婚女性的比例在過去 30 多年明顯下跌。根據人口普查／中期人口統計的結果，在 1981 年 25 至 29 歲女性人口中，已婚女性佔 69%，但 2016 年該比例下跌至 25%。遲婚的趨勢亦可在女性初婚年齡中位數上升中顯示。初婚年齡中位數由 1981 年的 23.9 歲上升至 2019 年的 29.9 歲。遲婚會縮短女性的生育時期。

(ii) 女性獨身情況增加

未婚女性的比例在所有年齡組別都明顯增加。根據人口普查／中期人口統計的結果，40 至 44 歲年齡組別的女性人口中從未結婚女性所佔的百分比，由 1981 年的 3% 上升至 2016 年的 17%。從過去經驗所見，香港的嬰兒大多數由已婚女性所生。

(iii) 低次活產趨勢平穩

在 1981 年，約有 90% 的第一次活產是於婚後首 3 年內出生。在 2000 年，這個比率跌至 58%，其後回升至 2019 年的 65%。第一次活產並沒有因遲婚而明顯提前。

(iv) 高次活產維持在低水平

第三次及以上的活產百分比由 1981 年的 23% 下降至 1999 年的 11%，並在之後 20 年維持在低水平（約 10%），顯示選擇生育的女性傾向只生育少數嬰兒。

5. Factors underlying the fertility trend

5.1 The fertility trend was associated with the following factors:

(i) *Marriage postponement*

The proportion of married women dropped remarkably over the past three decades or so. According to the results of the population censuses / by-censuses, 69% of women aged 25 to 29 were married in 1981 whereas the corresponding figure was 25% in 2016. Marriage postponement is further revealed by the increasing median age at first marriage for women, which rose from 23.9 in 1981 to 29.9 in 2019. Marriage postponement for women shortens their childbearing exposure period.

(ii) *Increased prevalence of spinsterhood*

There is a significant increase in the proportion of never married women among all age groups. According to the results of the population censuses / by-censuses, the percentage of never married women in the age group 40 to 44 increased from 3% in 1981 to 17% in 2016. From past experience, babies in Hong Kong were mostly born to married women.

(iii) *Stable trend of low-order live births*

About 90% of the first order live births were born within three years after marriage in 1981. The proportion declined to 58% in 2000, and then rebounded to 65% in 2019. The first order live births were not obviously advanced albeit marriage postponement.

(iv) *High-order live births remained at low level*

The percentage of third and higher order live births declined from 23% in 1981 to 11% in 1999. It remained at a low level (around 10%) in the subsequent two decades, meaning that women who choose to have children tended to only have a small number of babies.

(v) *已婚女性生育率下跌*
30 至 49 歲的已婚女性生育率由 2006 年每千名女性生產 30.9 名嬰兒上升至 2016 年的 53.1 名，其後下降至 2019 年的 48.0 名。這是近年生育率下跌的部分原因。

(vi) *離婚率上升*
粗離婚率由 1981 年按每千名人口計算的 0.40 上升至 2019 年的 2.82。離婚率的上升亦有助解釋較低的生育率。

(vii) *內地女性在香港產子數目*
在編製出生數字時，所有內地女性在香港所生的嬰兒均計算在內；而在編製生育率時，則只計算配偶為香港居民的內地女性在香港所生的嬰兒（主要為第一類嬰兒）。自從 2013 年實施丈夫為非香港居民的內地孕婦在港分娩服務的零配額政策後，第二類嬰兒的數目維持在低水平，因此對出生數字的影響甚微。另一方面，2019 年第一類嬰兒的數目是 3 343 名，佔本港活產嬰兒的 6%。相對 2005 年 9 879 名（17%）的頂峰，其對出生及生育數字的影響亦有所下降。

(v) *Decreased marital fertility rates for women*
The marital fertility rates for women aged 30 to 49 increased from 30.9 per 1 000 women in 2006 to 53.1 in 2016, and then declined to 48.0 in 2019. This partly explains the recent decrease in fertility rates.

(vi) *Increased divorce rates*
The crude divorce rate increased from 0.40 per 1 000 population in 1981 to 2.82 in 2019. The increase in divorce rates also helps explain lower fertility rates.

(vii) *Number of births to Mainland women*
In the compilation of birth statistics, all babies born in Hong Kong to Mainland women are included. In the compilation of fertility rates, only babies born in Hong Kong to Mainland women whose spouses are Hong Kong residents (which mainly consist of Type I Babies) are included. Since the implementation of the zero-quota policy on obstetric services for Mainland women whose spouses are not Hong Kong residents in 2013, the number of Type II Babies has remained low and its impact on birth statistics is minimal. On the other hand, the number of Type I Babies was 3 343 in 2019, accounting for 6% of all live births in Hong Kong. Compared to the peak of 9 879 (17%) in 2005, the effect of Type I Babies on birth and fertility statistics has been declining.

6. 與其他亞洲經濟體的比較

6.1 近年，香港的總和生育率跟其他亞洲經濟體（如韓國、新加坡和台灣）相若，但卻遠低於西方國家。

6.2 其實大部分亞洲經濟體的總和生育率自 1990 年代都曾下跌，然後回升，只是低位發生在不同年份而已。總的來說，自 2011 年，它們的總和生育率都徘徊在 1 000 至 1 200 名（除日本有大約 1 400 名，而韓國在 2019 年只有 918 名）。（圖 1）

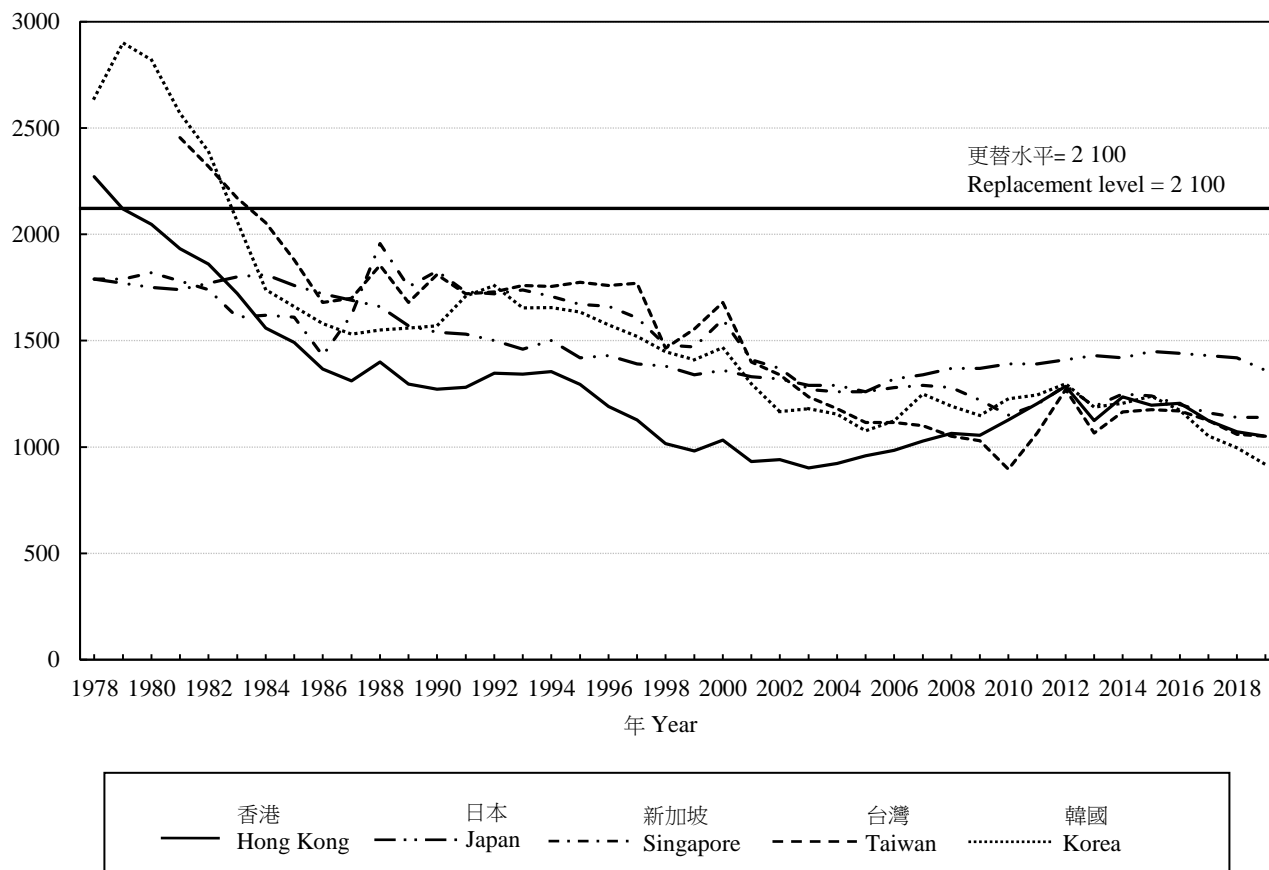
6. Comparison with other Asian economies

6.1 In recent years, Hong Kong's TFR has been similar to that of other Asian economies (e.g. Korea, Singapore and Taiwan), but much lower than that in western countries.

6.2 In fact, most Asian economies' TFRs have declined in the late 1990s and have rebounded at some points, though the troughs occurred during different periods. In general, their TFRs have been hovering between 1 000 and 1 200 (except at about 1 400 for Japan and only 918 for Korea in 2019) since 2011. (Chart 1)

圖 1 香港及其他亞洲經濟體的總和生育率
Chart 1 Hong Kong and other Asian economies' total fertility rate

總和生育率（每千名女性的活產嬰兒數目）
 Total fertility rate (Number of live births per 1 000 women)



7. 出生及生育統計數字編製方法

7.1 出生統計數字和生育統計數字很相似，但兩類統計數字是有分別的。出生統計數字是以出生嬰兒為重點，而生育統計數字則以生產嬰兒的女性為重點。

7.2 出生統計數字是指活產嬰兒數目及活產嬰兒數目相對整體人口計算的出生率。出生統計數字包括活產嬰兒數目、粗出生率等等。活產嬰兒數目包括所有在香港出生的嬰兒（不論其父母是否香港居民），而整體人口是指「居港人口」。

7. Compilation approach of birth and fertility statistics

7.1 Birth statistics and fertility statistics are similar but there are differences between these two types of statistics. Birth statistics focus on babies born and fertility statistics focus on women giving births.

7.2 Birth statistics refer to the number of live births and various birth rates calculated by relating live births to the overall population. Birth statistics include, *inter alia*, number of live births and crude birth rate. All live births born in Hong Kong are included (regardless of whether the parents are Hong Kong residents) and the overall population refers to the Hong Kong Resident Population.

7.3 另一方面，在編製生育數字時，活產嬰兒包括：(i) 女性香港居民在香港所生的嬰兒；(ii) 其配偶為香港居民的內地女性在香港所生的嬰兒；及 (iii) 女性香港居民在香港以外地方所生而在 1 年內被帶回港的嬰兒。但是，其配偶並非香港居民的內地女性在香港所生的嬰兒則不包括在內。

7.4 至於編製生育數字所採用的女性人口，則包括居港人口內在生育齡期（即 15 至 49 歲）的所有女性（外籍家庭傭工除外）。由於出生嬰兒已包括其配偶為香港居民的內地女性在香港所生的嬰兒，故這些母親亦計算在內。由內地婦女所生的嬰兒，若其父親為香港居民，嬰兒的母親其後通常會成為香港人口的一分子（一般在 4 年內），故此在計算生育統計數字時，這些暫未在香港定居的女性亦包括在內。

7.3 On the other hand, in the calculation of fertility statistics, live births include those: (i) born in Hong Kong to women who are Hong Kong residents; (ii) born in Hong Kong to Mainland women whose spouses are Hong Kong residents; and (iii) born outside Hong Kong to women who are Hong Kong residents and brought back to Hong Kong within 1 year. However, babies born in Hong Kong to Mainland women whose spouses are not Hong Kong residents are not included.

7.4 As for the female population used in the calculation of fertility statistics, all women of childbearing ages (i.e. aged 15 to 49) in the Hong Kong Resident Population (excluding foreign domestic helpers) are included. Since babies born in Hong Kong to Mainland women whose spouses are Hong Kong residents are included in births, these mothers are also taken into account. For babies born in Hong Kong to Mainland women, if the babies' fathers are Hong Kong residents, the babies' mothers will usually become part of the Hong Kong population, normally within 4 years. Hence, these women who have not yet settled in Hong Kong for the time being are included in compiling fertility statistics.