Fertility Trend in Hong Kong, 1991 to 2021

total fertility rate (TFR): number of live births per 1 000 women

總和生育率

**Replacement level**

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 TFR 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.

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。

annual number of live births

每年活產嬰兒數目

**Birth trend**

**crude birth rate**, i.e. the ratio of the number of live births in a calendar year to the mid-year population: live births per 1 000 population

**粗出生率**（即一年內的活產嬰兒數目相對該年年中的人口）

Though the crude birth rate is a simple and common measure on fertility, it is susceptible to changes in the population in respect of age, sex and other characteristics.

**Type I and Type II Babies**

Live births born in Hong Kong to Mainland women whose spouses are Hong Kong Permanent Residents (HKPRs) are known as **Type I Babies**.

Those born in Hong Kong to Mainland women whose spouses are not HKPRs are known as **Type II Babies**.

**Fertility trend 生育趨勢**

**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.

**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。

The AFRs declined in younger age groups but increased in older age groups, reflecting the postponement in childbearing during 1991 to 2021. The fertility rate of women in the age group of 20 – 24 decreased by 77% in the past 30 years, while that of women in the age group of 40 - 44 increased by 91%. Such a change is conceivable as women now have better education and their participation in the labour force is high; thus leading to late marriage.

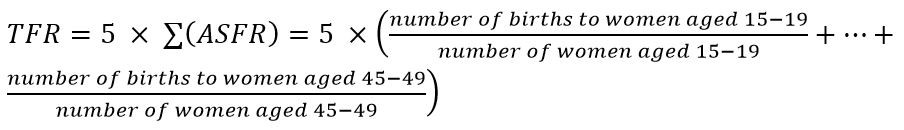
**Total fertility rate**

The **TFR** is one of the measures to assess the potential impact of current fertility on the Hong Kong population. It is computed through period data. The TFR sums up 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 of 15 – 49 experiencing the AFRs prevailing in that year. Babies born in Hong Kong to Mainland women whose spouses are Hong Kong residents (i.e. HKPRs and Hong Kong Non-Permanent Residents) are also taken into account.

**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。總和生育率利

用同一時期的生育數據，計算某年的年齡別生育率總和。它表示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。

It is calculated by adding up the average number of births per woman across five-year age groups (i.e. age-specific fertility rates, or ASFR). The specific formula to calculate TFR is:



[How is the Total Fertility Rate calculated? (population.gov.sg)](https://www.population.gov.sg/media-centre/articles/how-is-the-tfr-calculated)

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Compared with Asian economies, the fertility level in Hong Kong was below that in Japan, Singapore and Taiwan, but on par with that in Korea.

**General fertility rate** relates the number of live births in a calendar year to the mid-year female population aged 15 - 49.

**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 歲女性的數目。

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**.

計算總和生育率時，兩性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。

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.

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.

**Population**

"**Usual Residents**" refer to two categories of people: (1) Hong Kong Permanent Residents who have stayed in Hong Kong for at least three months during the six months before or for at least three months during the six months after the reference time-point, regardless of whether they are in Hong Kong or not at the reference time-point; and (2) Hong Kong Non-permanent Residents who are in Hong Kong at the reference time-point.

For those Hong Kong Permanent Residents who are not "Usual Residents", they are classified as "**Mobile Residents**" if they have stayed in Hong Kong for at least one month but less than three months during the six months before or for at least one month but less than three months during the six months after the reference time-point, regardless of whether they are in Hong Kong or not at the reference time-point.