

- [Up-to-date Information on Economy and Trade](#)

[Visitor arrivals in February 2019 increased by 15.5% year-on-year](#)

Information from the Statistics and Census Service (DSEC) indicated that attributable to the Lunar New Year holidays and the impact of the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge, visitor arrivals in February 2019 increased by 15.5% year-on-year to 3,545,701, and grew by 3.5% month-to-month. Overnight visitors (1,510,178) and same-day visitors (2,035,523) rose by 8.2% and 21.5% respectively year-on-year. As the proportion of same-day visitors continued to expand to 57.4%, the average length of stay of visitors shortened by 0.1 day year-on-year to 1.0 day, with that of overnight visitors (2.1 days) and same-day visitors (0.2 day) both decreasing by 0.1 day.

[The inflation rate was 2.79% in February 2019](#)

According to the data released by the Statistics and Census Service (DSEC), the Composite CPI in February 2019 increased by 2.79% year-on-year to 115.31, down by 0.25 percentage points from the 3.04% growth in January 2019. The increment in February was attributable to dearer charges for eating out and higher rentals for dwellings, as well as rising prices of motor cars, adults' clothing and fruits.

Among the various sections of goods and services, price indices of Education, Transport and Clothing & Footwear grew notably by 5.95%, 5.06% and 4.48% respectively year-on-year. The CPI-A (115.36) and CPI-B (114.90) went up by 2.74% and 3.15% respectively year-on-year.

[Number of households using the Internet totalled 175,400 in 2018](#)

Information from the Statistics and Census Service (DSEC) indicated that number of households using the Internet in 2018 increased by 6,600 year-on-year to 175,400, accounting for 90.2% of the total households. Number of households using fibre optic broadband connection continued to rise, up by 11.2% year-on-year to 117,500, taking up 67.0% of the total households using the Internet. This led to a decline of 15.6% in the number of households using fixed broadband connection (41,600).

Internet users aged 3 and above totalled 527,400, a rise of 2.7% year-on-year; the Internet penetration rate grew up by 0.6 percentage points to 83.8%. The Internet penetration rate for the population aged 15-24 reached 98.1%, up by 1.3 percentage points year-on-year. Internet use became increasingly prevalent among the population aged 3-14, with the penetration rate rising by 5.2 percentage points to 69.1%. Meanwhile, 63.7% of the population aged 55 and above used the Internet, up by 3.1 percentage points. As regards frequency of using the Internet, 91.7% of the Internet users used the Internet daily, a decrease of 2.8 percentage points.

The general unemployment rate was 1.7% for December 2018-February 2019

As indicated by the employment survey carried out by the Statistics and Census Service (DSEC), the general unemployment rate for December 2018-February 2019 held stable over the previous period (November 2018-January 2019), at 1.7%; the unemployment rate of local residents was 2.3%, down by 0.1 percentage point. Meanwhile, the underemployment rate was 0.5%, up by 0.1 percentage point.

Total labour force was 394,800 and the labour force participation rate was 70.8%. Total employment was 388,100 and number of employed residents totalled 283,600, down by 3,400 and 3,500 respectively from the previous period. Analysed by industry, employment in Gaming & Junket Activities decreased while that in Hotels, Restaurants & Similar Activities increased.

(Source: Statistics and Census Service Department)

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