

## A hot August

Due to the warmer than normal sea surface temperature over the northern part of the South China Sea, August 2020 was hotter than usual in Hong Kong. The monthly mean temperature of 29.0 degrees was 0.4 degrees above the normal figure of 28.6 degrees. Together with the extremely hot weather in June and July, Hong Kong experienced the hottest summer on record from June to August 2020. The mean temperature of 29.6 degrees, the mean minimum temperature of 27.7 degrees and the mean maximum temperature of 32.6 degrees from June to August 2020 were all the highest on record for the same period. There were 16 very hot days in August 2020, the highest number on record for August. Moreover, up to August, the number of very hot days this year has already reached 43, which is 32.8 days above the annual normal, breaking the previous highest record of 38 days set in 2016. The number of hot nights up to August 2020 is 46, which is on par with the highest record in 2019. The monthly rainfall was 448.4 millimetres, about 4 per cent above the normal figure of 432.2mm. The accumulated rainfall recorded in the first eight months of the year was 1 537.2mm, about 19 per cent below the normal figure of 1 905.5mm for the same period.

Tropical depression Sinlaku over the northern part of the South China Sea moved generally west-northwestward and skirted past the southern coast of Hainan Island on August 1. Sinlaku made landfall over the northern part of Vietnam and weakened gradually into an area of low pressure over inland the next day. Affected by Sinlaku, it was windy in Hong Kong on August 1. The outer rainbands of Sinlaku also brought occasional heavy squally showers to the territory from August 1 to 2. More than 50mm of rainfall were generally recorded over Hong Kong on these two days and the rainfall even exceeded 90mm in the northern part of the New Territories.

Under the influence of a broad trough of low pressure, local weather remained unsettled with occasional heavy showers on August 3. More than 30mm of rainfall were recorded over Kowloon and the eastern part of Hong Kong Island, and the rainfall even exceeded 70mm over Tuen Mun. With the weakening of the broad trough of low pressure, there were fewer showers, with sunny intervals on August 4. An active southerly airstream brought more showers and thunderstorms to Hong Kong again on August 5. Showers were heavy in the morning and during night time. More than 50mm of rainfall were recorded over most parts of the territory, and the rainfall even exceeded 100mm over Tai Po and Sha Tin on that day. Under the rain, the temperature at the Hong Kong Observatory dropped to a minimum of 24.9 degrees on the night of August 5, the lowest of the month.

With the establishment of a subtropical ridge and the subsequent anticyclone aloft, apart from a few showers, the weather of Hong Kong became generally fine and very hot from August 6 to 10. With plenty of sunshine, the maximum temperature at the Hong Kong Observatory soared to 34.4 degrees on August 8, the highest of the month. With the setting in of a southerly airstream, showers became more frequent with a few thunderstorms from August

11 to 13. The showers were heavier on August 12 with more than 20mm of rainfall over most parts of the territory.

Under the influence of an anticyclone aloft, apart from a few showers and isolated thunderstorms, it was generally fine and very hot in Hong Kong from August 14 to 16. The high temperature also triggered isolated heavy thundery showers over the western part of the New Territories on August 16. Local weather was a mixture of sunshine, a few showers and thunderstorms on August 17.

Meanwhile, an area of low pressure gradually developed into a tropical depression over the northeastern part of the South China Sea in the small hours of August 18 and was later named as Higos. It moved generally northwestward across the northern part of the South China Sea during the day and intensified rapidly on its course towards the coast of Guangdong. Higos made landfall over Zhuhai of Guangdong Province with typhoon strength on the early morning of August 19 and weakened gradually into an area of low pressure over inland that night.

The strike of Higos necessitated the issuance of the Gale or Storm Signal No. 8 on the night of August 18 and the Increasing Gale or Storm Signal No. 9 in the small hours of August 19. As Higos strengthened on August 18, winds became much stronger locally on that night and on the early morning of August 19, with storm force winds at offshore and hurricane force winds on high ground. Heavy squally showers and thunderstorms associated with the rainbands of Higos also brought more than 100mm of rainfall to most parts of the territory and the rainfall even exceeded 200mm over parts of Hong Kong Island in these two days. In the midst of the downpour, the temperature at the Hong Kong Observatory dropped to the month's lowest of 24.9 degrees again on the morning of August 19.

Affected by an anticyclone aloft, apart from some isolated showers, the weather of Hong Kong turned generally fine and very hot from August 20 to 25. Under the influence of an upper-air disturbance, local weather became cloudier with more showers and thunderstorms later on August 26 and August 27. With the departure of the upper-air disturbance and under the influence of a continental airstream, apart from isolated showers, the weather turned generally fine and very hot again towards the end of the month.

Eight tropical cyclones occurred over the South China Sea and the western North Pacific in August 2020.

Details of issuance and cancellation of various warnings/signals in August are summarised in Table 1. Monthly meteorological figures and departures from normal for August are tabulated in Table 2.

---

# HAD to open temporary night heat shelters

The Home Affairs Department will open 19 temporary night heat shelters tonight (September 2) for people in need of the service.

The shelters will be open from 10.30pm until 8am tomorrow.

For further information, please call the department's hotline before midnight on 2572 8427.

The 19 night heat shelters are located at:

## Hong Kong Districts:

Central and Western –  
Sai Ying Pun Community Complex Community Hall  
3/F, Sai Ying Pun Community Complex,  
2 High Street, Sai Ying Pun

Eastern –  
Causeway Bay Community Centre  
3/F, 7 Fook Yum Road, Causeway Bay

Southern –  
Lei Tung Community Hall  
Lei Tung Estate, Ap Lei Chau

Wan Chai –  
Wan Chai Activities Centre  
LG/F, Wan Chai Market, 258 Queen's Road East, Wan Chai

## Kowloon Districts:

Kowloon City –  
Hung Hom Community Hall  
1/F, Kowloon City Government Offices,  
42 Bailey Street, Hung Hom

Kwun Tong –  
Lam Tin (West) Estate Community Centre  
71 Kai Tin Road, Lam Tin

Sham Shui Po –  
Shek Kip Mei Community Hall  
G/F, Block 42, Shek Kip Mei Estate, Sham Shui Po

Wong Tai Sin –

Tsz Wan Shan (South) Estate Community Centre  
45 Wan Wah Street, Tsz Wan Shan

Yau Tsim Mong –  
Henry G Leong Yaumatei Community Centre  
60 Public Square Street, Yau Ma Tei

New Territories Districts:

---

Islands –  
Tung Chung Community Hall  
G/F, Tung Chung Municipal Services Building,  
39 Man Tung Road, Tung Chung

Kwai Tsing –  
Kwai Shing Community Hall  
Podium, Block 6, Kwai Shing West Estate, Kwai Chung

North –  
Cheung Wah Community Hall  
Cheung Wah Estate, Fanling

Sai Kung –  
Hang Hau Community Hall  
G/F, Sai Kung Tseung Kwan O Government Complex,  
38 Pui Shing Road, Hang Hau, Tseung Kwan O

Sha Tin –  
Hin Keng Neighbourhood Community Centre  
5 Hin Wo Lane, Sha Tin

Tai Po –  
Tai Po Community Centre  
2 Heung Sze Wui Street, Tai Po

Tsuen Wan –  
Shek Wai Kok Community Hall  
Shek Wai Kok Estate, Tsuen Wan

Tuen Mun –  
Butterfly Bay Community Centre  
Butterfly Estate (near Tip Sum House), Tuen Mun

Yuen Long –  
Long Ping Community Hall  
Long Ping Estate, Yuen Long

Yuen Long –  
Tin Yiu Community Centre  
Tin Yiu Estate, Tin Shui Wai

---

## Extension of principal moratorium for 80 per cent and 90 per cent Guarantee Products

The following is issued on behalf of the Hong Kong Monetary Authority:

HKMC Insurance Limited, a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Hong Kong Mortgage Corporation Limited, today (September 2) announces that, in order to alleviate the cash flow pressure of small and medium-sized enterprises, the application period for principal moratorium for the 80 per cent Guarantee Product and the 90 per cent Guarantee Product under the SME Financing Guarantee Scheme (SFGS) is extended for six months to March 31, 2021, and the maximum duration of principal moratorium is increased from 12 months to 18 months. The loan guarantee period can also be extended correspondingly.

For public enquiries, please call the SFGS Hotline at 2536 0392.

---

## Effective Exchange Rate Index

The effective exchange rate index for the Hong Kong dollar on Wednesday, September 2, 2020 is 104.6 (up 0.2 against yesterday's index).

---

## US Dollar Liquidity Facility tender result

The following is issued on behalf of the Hong Kong Monetary Authority:

US Dollar Liquidity Facility tender result:

Tender date	:	September 2, 2020 (Wednesday)
Settlement date	:	September 3, 2020 (Thursday)

Repayment date	:	September 10, 2020 (Thursday)
Tenor	:	seven Days
Amount applied	:	Nil
Amount allotted	:	Nil
Lowest interest rate accepted	:	Nil
Highest interest rate accepted	:	Nil