

# Statistics on trade involving outward processing in the mainland of China for first quarter of 2018

In the first quarter of 2018, 25.8% of Hong Kong's total exports to the mainland of China (the Mainland) were for outward processing in the Mainland. On the other hand, 37.3% of Hong Kong's imports from the Mainland were related to outward processing in the Mainland, according to statistics released today (June 11) by the Census and Statistics Department (C&SD). Over the same period, 65.0% of Hong Kong's re-exports of Mainland origin to other places were produced through outward processing in the Mainland.

In the first quarter of 2017, the corresponding proportions were 26.9% for total exports to the Mainland, 38.1% for imports from the Mainland and 66.5% for re-exports of Mainland origin to other places.

In value terms, \$132.6 billion of Hong Kong's total exports to the Mainland in the first quarter of 2018 were for outward processing in the Mainland, representing an increase of 7.8% compared with the first quarter of 2017. On the other hand, the value of imports from the Mainland related to outward processing in the Mainland increased by 5.3% compared with the first quarter of 2017 to \$176.6 billion. Meanwhile, \$201.1 billion of Hong Kong's re-exports of Mainland origin to other places were produced through outward processing in the Mainland, representing an increase of 4.1% compared with the first quarter of 2017.

The statistics for the first quarter of 2018 are given in the attached tables.

Information on trade involving outward processing in the Mainland is collected in a sample survey conducted by the C&SD. For the purpose of the survey, exports to the Mainland for outward processing refer to raw materials or semi-manufactures exported from or through Hong Kong to the Mainland for processing with a contractual arrangement for subsequent re-importation of the processed goods into Hong Kong.

Imports from the Mainland related to outward processing refer to processed goods imported from the Mainland, of which all or part of the raw materials or semi-manufactures have been under contractual arrangement exported from or through Hong Kong to the Mainland for processing.

Re-exports of Mainland origin to other places involving outward processing in the Mainland refer to processed goods re-exported through Hong Kong, of which all or part of the raw materials or semi-manufactures have been exported from or through Hong Kong to the Mainland for processing with a contractual arrangement for subsequent re-importation of the processed goods into Hong Kong.

In interpreting the statistics, it should be noted that all imports and exports of goods (not including transshipments and goods-in-transit) are recorded as external trade, irrespective of whether the goods are associated with outward processing or not. Moreover, the value and proportion of imports from the Mainland and re-exports of Mainland origin to other places involving outward processing in the Mainland refer to those of the entire goods instead of just the value added contributed by outward processing in the Mainland.

A sample of import/export declarations in respect of Hong Kong's trade with the Mainland and Hong Kong's re-exports originated in the Mainland to other places is selected for enumeration to obtain the required information from the establishments concerned. The findings of the survey facilitate a more informed analysis of the nature of Hong Kong's trade with the Mainland. In this respect, the survey results are a useful supplement to the regular trade statistics.

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Figures for 2017 had been revised because a small proportion of import/export declarations had not been included in the 2017 sample.

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The above survey results will be included in the June 2018 issue of "Hong Kong External Merchandise Trade". The publication will be available in August 2018. Users can download this publication free of charge from the website of the C&SD

([www.censtatd.gov.hk/hkstat/sub/sp230.jsp?productCode=B1020005](http://www.censtatd.gov.hk/hkstat/sub/sp230.jsp?productCode=B1020005)).

Enquiries on the survey results may be directed to the Outward Processing and Shipping Statistics Section of the C&SD (Tel: 2582 2126 or email: [ops@censtatd.gov.hk](mailto:ops@censtatd.gov.hk)).

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## Application for list of establishments from Central Register of Establishments

The Census and Statistics Department maintains a computerised Central Register of Establishments which contains information relating to some 410 000 active establishments in Hong Kong. Information kept in the Register is updated on a quarterly basis through feedback from various surveys of the department and administrative returns from relevant government departments. Information in respect of the first quarter of 2018 is now updated in the Register.

The Register serves mainly as the sampling frame for various economic surveys conducted by the department. In addition, many other government departments and private organisations also make use of the disclosable particulars kept in the Register for their surveys, publicity, business promotion, customer classification and research work. These disclosable particulars cover the name, address, type of business and employment size class of the establishments. They are available to the public in the following two forms.

### 20% sample listing

A sample listing containing 20% of the records randomly selected from the Register, together with disclosable particulars of the establishments, is available to users. Users may apply for all or part of the records in the 20% sample listing in writing by providing the following information:

- \* Particulars of the applicant (including name, position, organisation, address, telephone, fax and email);
- \* Details of the project (including name, purpose, expected completion date,

and specifications of information required such as industries, employment sizes and districts); and

- \* Medium of delivering the information (e.g. photocopy or CD-R and file format such as Visual FoxPro, Excel or text, if applicable).

The application can be faxed to 2827 2296, emailed to [cre@censtatd.gov.hk](mailto:cre@censtatd.gov.hk) or posted to the Employment Statistics and Central Register of Establishments Section, Census and Statistics Department, 20/F, Wanchai Tower, 12 Harbour Road, Wan Chai, Hong Kong.

The information can be supplied in the form of CD-R or photocopies at the following rates:

- \* CD-R – a charge of about \$1,540 per listing, compiled to the user's requirements (exact amount depending on the complexity of the job concerned);
- \* Photocopies – a ready, standard listing is available for photocopying (in part if desired). A charge of \$1.20 per page is levied.

#### Matching operation with specified establishments

Users may apply to conduct matching operations for a list of establishments in their databases and then extract disclosable particulars for the matched establishments from the Register. The matching operation will be done using the application program supplied by the user and conducted on the computing facilities in the Department. Both the name and address of establishment will be used as matching keys.

Users may apply for this service item by submitting a proposal of the matching operation to the department. The proposal should cover the intended use of the information derived from the matching operation, the specifications of the establishment database provided by the user, the details of the matching process and the specifications of the output data.

The information can be supplied in the form of CD-R. A charge will be levied at the following rates:

- \* a minimum charge of about \$4,800 for the service required (exact amount depending on the complexity of the matching operation conducted); plus
- \* \$1 per matched record with information supplied to the user.

#### Enquiries

Further details about the above service items can be obtained from the Employment Statistics and Central Register of Establishments Section of the department at Tel: 2582 4760; fax: 2827 2296 or email: [cre@censtatd.gov.hk](mailto:cre@censtatd.gov.hk).

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## CHP closely monitors global situation of measles outbreaks

The Centre for Health Protection (CHP) of the Department of Health (DH) today (June 11) reported that the outbreak of measles in Okinawa, Japan since late-March is under control and reminded members of the public to undertake continuous vigilance against measles when travelling to other places with high incidence or outbreak of measles.

According to the information from the Government of Okinawa Prefecture, there was an outbreak of measles involving a total of 99 confirmed cases with the index case confirmed on March 20. The last patient in Okinawa did not have any exposure in the community after May 15. Since then, there has been no new case for four weeks, and the Government of Okinawa Prefecture has announced the end of this outbreak of measles.

Meanwhile, measles remain as an endemic infection in many places around the world. In southeast Asia, according to data from the World Health Organization, as of May 11, the 12-month measles incidence (number of cases per million population) has reached 76.9, 61.1, 26.7 and 25.2 in Malaysia, the Philippines, Indonesia and Thailand respectively. In Europe, there were marked increases in measles cases in recent months, with the highest 12-month incidence (number of cases per million population) in Greece (255.6), Romania (108.3), Italy (66.6) and France (36.4).

"Vaccination is the most effective way to prevent measles. As the summer vacation is approaching, members of the public who are planning to travel to places with high incidence or outbreak of measles should review their vaccination history and past medical history, especially non-local born people who might not have received measles vaccination during childhood. Information on the history of measles vaccination in Hong Kong is available from the CHP's [measles page](#).

"For those who had received two doses of measles-containing vaccine or confirmed to have measles infection in the past are considered to be immune to measles," a spokesman for the CHP said.

For those with incomplete vaccination, unknown vaccination history or unknown immunity against measles, they are urged to consult their doctor for advice on measles vaccination at least two weeks before departure, as it takes about two weeks after vaccination for antibodies to develop and provide protection against measles.

Pregnant women and women preparing for pregnancy who are non-immune to measles as well as children aged under one year who are not due for the first dose of Measles, Mumps and Rubella (MMR) combined vaccine under the [Hong Kong](#)

[Childhood Immunisation Programme](#), are advised not to travel to places with outbreaks of measles.

"If travellers returning from places with high incidence or outbreak of measles develop symptoms of measles (e.g. fever and rash), they should seek medical advice immediately and avoid contact with non-immune persons, especially pregnant women and infants. They should also report their symptoms and prior travel history to the healthcare workers so that appropriate infection control measures can be implemented at the healthcare facilities to prevent any potential spread," the spokesman appealed.

For outbreak news of measles or the latest travel health advice, please visit the website of DH's [Travel Health Service](#). For more information on measles, the public may call the 24-hour health education hotline 2833 0111 or visit the CHP's [measles page](#).

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## **Pesticide residue exceeds legal limit in sample of Chinese chives**

The Centre for Food Safety (CFS) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department today (June 11) announced that a sample of Chinese chives was found to have pesticide residue at a level exceeding the legal limit. The CFS is following up on the case.

A CFS spokesman said, "The CFS collected the sample of Chinese chives at a supermarket in Quarry Bay for testing under its routine Food Surveillance Programme. The test result showed that the sample contained endosulfan at a level of 0.19 parts per million (ppm), exceeding the maximum residue limit (MRL) of 0.1 ppm.

"Based on the level of pesticide residue detected in the sample, adverse health effects would not be caused under usual consumption."

Generally speaking, to reduce pesticide residues in vegetables, members of the public can rinse vegetables thoroughly under clean running water, and scrub produce with hard surfaces with a clean brush to remove dirt and substances including pesticides and contaminants from the surface and the crevices, when appropriate.

Any person who imports, manufactures or sells any food not in compliance with the requirements of the Pesticide Residues in Food Regulation (Cap 132CM) concerning pesticide residues commits an offence and is liable to a maximum fine of \$50,000 and to imprisonment for six months upon conviction.

Since the regulation came into effect on August 1, 2014, the CFS has

taken over 145,500 samples at import, wholesale and retail levels for testing for pesticide residues. Together with the unsatisfactory sample announced today, a total of 222 food samples (including 214 vegetable and fruit samples) have been detected as having excessive pesticide residues. The overall unsatisfactory rate is less than 0.2 per cent.

The spokesman added that excessive pesticide residues in food may arise from the trade not observing Good Agricultural Practice, e.g. using excessive pesticides and/or not allowing sufficient time for pesticides to decompose before harvesting. The MRLs of pesticide residues in food set in the Regulation are not safety indicators. They are the maximum concentrations of pesticide residues to be permitted in a food commodity under Good Agricultural Practice when applying pesticides. In this connection, consumption of food with pesticide residues higher than the MRLs will not necessarily lead to any adverse health effects.

The CFS will follow up on the unsatisfactory result, including tracing the source of the food in question and taking samples for testing. Investigation is ongoing.