Composition of and Data for Compiling the CUHK Hong Kong Quality of Life Index

HEALTH SUB-INDEX
1. Life expectancy at birth (in years) refers to the expectancy of life at birth for males and females.
2. Public expenditure on health as a proportion (in percent) of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP).
3. Average patient days (per person) refer to the number of days stayed in hospitals for treatment per person.
4. Stress index refers to the stress that the Hong Kong people are facing (base rate = 100).
5. General life satisfaction index refers to the degree of satisfaction of Hong Kong people with their current lives (base rate = 100).

SOCIAL SUB-INDEX
6. Freedom of speech index refers to public attitude towards freedom of speech in Hong Kong (base rate = 100).
7. Press criticism index refers to the frequency of criticisms on the Hong Kong Corporations, the Hong Kong SAR Government, and the People’s Republic of China Government by the press (base rate = 100).
8. Government performance index refers to the degree of satisfaction of Hong Kong people with the performance of Hong Kong SAR Government (base rate = 100).
9. Overall crime rate (per 1,000 population) refers to the total number of violent and non-violent crimes reported per 1,000 population.
10. Public expenditure on education as a proportion (in percent) of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP).
11. Enrolment rate of the relevant age groups (age 17-20) for First-Year-First Degree (FYFD) places of UGC-funded programmes (in percent).

CULTURE & LEISURE SUB-INDEX
12. Cultural programmes attendance index (per 1,000 population) refers to the number of attendances of indoor cultural programmes organized at the venues of the Leisure and Cultural Services Department per 1,000 population.
13. Recreation and sport activities participation index (per 1,000 population) refers to the number of participants of recreation and sport activities organized or subvented by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department per 1,000 population.
14. Overseas travel index (per person) refers to the number of departures by the airport per person.

ECONOMIC SUB-INDEX
15. Housing affordability ratio refers to the annual average of affordable property price (i.e. average property price times 39.9 sq. feet, divided by monthly medium income times 12).
16. Real rental index refers to the real rental index of the Hong Kong property market.
17. Unemployment rate refers to the seasonally adjusted unemployment rate (in percent).
18. Index of current economic conditions refers to the public attitude towards the economic conditions in Hong Kong.
19. Real wage index refers to the real wages for employees up to supervisory level (excluding managerial and professional employees) in all selected industry sectors.
ENVIRONMENTAL SUB-INDEX

20. Air quality index refers to the annual air quality of all general stations.

21. Water index refers to the percentage of the inland waters of Hong Kong graded as ‘good’ and ‘excellent’ by the monitoring stations.

22. Noise index (per 1,000 population) refers to the number of noise complaints received by the Environmental Protection Department and the Police Force per 1,000 population.

23. Recycle rate of municipal solid waste refers to the recycle rate of solid domestic waste, and commercial and industrial waste (in percent).

Notes:

(1) The real wage index is derived by deflating the nominal wage indices by the CPI(A).

Sources:
Stress index, general life satisfaction index, freedom of speech index, government performance index and index of current economic conditions are compiled based on the results of telephone survey conducted by the Hong Kong Institute of Asia-Pacific Studies, CUHK. The press criticism index is compiled based on the content analysis of six major local newspapers. Data for all other indices are obtained from the government and related institutions.