

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CSB070**

**(Question Serial No. 2582)**

Head: (120) Pensions

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) Public and Judicial Service Pension Benefits

Controlling Officer: Director of Accounting Services (Susanna CHEUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Civil Service

Question:

The aim of this programme is to make provision for the payment of public and judicial service pension benefits. In this connection, would the Government inform this Committee of:

1. the number of public and judicial service pensioners and the average annual amount of pension per pensioner in the past 3 financial years and the estimated figures for the coming financial year;

Amount of monthly pension	Number of pensioners				Average annual amount of pension per pensioner (\$)			
	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
Below \$5,000								
\$5,001-\$10,000								
\$10,001-\$30,000								
\$30,001-\$50,000								
\$50,001-\$100,000								
\$100,001 or above								

2. the number of recipients of widows' and orphans'/surviving spouses' and children's pensions and the average annual amount of pension per recipient in the past 3 financial years and the estimated figures for the coming financial year;

Amount of monthly pension	Number of recipients				Average annual amount of pension per recipient (\$)			
	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
Below \$5,000								
\$5,001-\$10,000								
\$10,001-\$30,000								
\$30,001-\$50,000								
\$50,001-\$100,000								
\$100,001 or above								

3. the estimated number of public and judicial service officers retiring in 2024-25 and the number of those who will take the option of extending their service, with a breakdown by government department;
4. the number of recipients of widows' and orphans'/surviving spouses' and children's pensions who were subject to pension suspension in the past 3 financial years; and
5. the number of public and judicial service pensioners whose pensions were ceased, suspended, reduced or cancelled in the past 3 financial years and the specific reasons for that?

Asked by: Hon LAU Ip-keung, Kenneth (LegCo internal reference no.: 37)

Reply:

1. The number of public and judicial service pensioners and the average amount of pension in the past 3 financial years are tabulated below:

Amount of monthly pension	Number of pensioners			Average annual amount of pension per pensioner (\$)		
	2021-22 Financial Year (Actual)	2022-23 Financial Year (Actual)	2023-24 Financial Year (Revised Estimate)	2021-22 Financial Year (Actual)	2022-23 Financial Year (Actual)	2023-24 Financial Year (Revised Estimate)
\$5,000 or below	34 694	33 201	31 947	36,211	36,406	36,505
\$5,001–\$10,000	29 232	29 709	30 010	85,940	85,943	85,638
\$10,001–\$30,000	67 940	70 828	73 633	207,073	207,803	208,201
\$30,001–\$50,000	13 364	14 721	16 050	450,583	448,129	445,955
\$50,001–\$100,000	4 754	5 302	5 916	759,436	759,833	758,527
Above \$100,000	233	282	364	1,410,262	1,416,451	1,465,618

The 2024-25 estimate is based on the overall general profile of the civil service. Hence, there is no breakdown of the relevant figures.

2. The number of recipients of widows' and orphans'/surviving spouses' and children's pensions and the average amount of pension in the past 3 financial years are tabulated below:

Amount of monthly pension	Number of recipients			Average annual amount of pension per recipient (\$)		
	2021-22 Financial Year (Actual)	2022-23 Financial Year (Actual)	2023-24 Financial Year (Revised Estimate)	2021-22 Financial Year (Actual)	2022-23 Financial Year (Actual)	2023-24 Financial Year (Revised Estimate)
\$5,000 or below	6 177	6 229	6 343	34,435	34,495	34,861
\$5,001–\$10,000	3 233	3 547	3 725	85,660	84,959	85,273
\$10,001–\$30,000	1 458	1 625	1 752	191,732	190,171	189,628
\$30,001–\$50,000	128	142	164	448,022	446,699	445,430
\$50,001–\$100,000	26	31	36	731,056	721,235	726,282
\$100,001 or above	Not applicable					

The 2024-25 estimate is based on the overall general profile of recipients of the widows' and orphans'/surviving spouses' and children's pensions. Hence, there is no breakdown of the relevant figures.

3. The number of public and judicial service officers retiring in 2024-25 financial year estimated by bureau/department (B/D) is shown in the Annex. As regards the estimated number of officers applying for extension of service, we cannot forecast the relevant figures since the officers concerned may apply for extension having regard to their own circumstances or the operational needs of the relevant B/Ds, and that their applications are also subject to approval.
4. According to the relevant legislation, payment of pensions will be suspended if the recipient is adjudicated bankrupt or is declared insolvent. In the past 3 financial years, a total of 2 recipients have had their dependant pension suspended upon being adjudicated bankrupt.
5. In the past 3 financial years (i.e. from 2021-22 to 2023-24 (up to 31 December 2023)), the Government has exercised the power under the relevant provisions of the Pensions Ordinance (Cap. 89) or the Pension Benefits Ordinance (Cap. 99) to cancel, reduce or refuse to grant the deferred pension of a total of 9 civil servants who have retired or left service. The specific reasons include:
  - (i) the officer retired during disciplinary proceedings brought against him by the Government, or resigned from the service to avoid such disciplinary proceedings;
  - (ii) conviction of any offence in connection with the public service under the Government, being an offence which is certified by the Chief Executive to have been gravely injurious to Hong Kong or to be liable to lead to serious loss of confidence in the public service; and
  - (iii) conviction of any offence under Part II of the Prevention of Bribery Ordinance (Cap. 201), being an offence related to the person's previous public service under the Government.

We do not maintain the number of judicial service pensioners whose pensions were ceased, suspended, reduced or cancelled and the specific reasons.

**Estimated Number of Public and Judicial Service Officers Retiring in  
Financial Year 2024-25 by Bureau/Department**

<b>Bureau/Department</b>	<b>Financial Year Estimated Number</b>
Chief Executive's Office	3
Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department	15
Architectural Services Department	36
Audit Commission	9
Auxiliary Medical Service	2
Buildings Department	32
Census and Statistics Department	57
Civil Aid Service	3
Civil Aviation Department	13
Civil Engineering and Development Department	64
Companies Registry	16
Correctional Services Department	244
Customs and Excise Department	213
Department of Health	225
Department of Justice	48
Drainage Services Department	69
Electrical and Mechanical Services Department	28
Electrical and Mechanical Services Trading Fund	99
Environmental Protection Department	67
Fire Services Department	345
Food and Environmental Hygiene Department	189
Government Flying Service	9
Government Laboratory	13
Government Logistics Department	26
Government Property Agency	6
Government Secretariat: Civil Service Bureau	24
Government Secretariat: Commerce and Economic Development Bureau	9
Government Secretariat: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau	3
Government Secretariat: Culture, Sports and Tourism Bureau	12

<b>Bureau/Department</b>	<b>Financial Year Estimated Number</b>
Government Secretariat: Development Bureau (Planning and Lands Branch)	2
Government Secretariat: Development Bureau (Works Branch)	12
Government Secretariat: Education Bureau	167
Government Secretariat: Environment and Ecology Bureau (Environment Branch)	5
Government Secretariat: Environment and Ecology Bureau (Food Branch)	1
Government Secretariat: Financial Services and the Treasury Bureau (Financial Services Branch)	3
Government Secretariat: Financial Services and the Treasury Bureau (Treasury Branch)	6
Government Secretariat: Health Bureau	2
Government Secretariat: Home and Youth Affairs Bureau	4
Government Secretariat: Innovation, Technology and Industry Bureau	3
Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Commission	10
Government Secretariat: Labour and Welfare Bureau	2
Government Secretariat: Office of the Government Chief Information Officer	20
Government Secretariat: Offices of the Chief Secretary for Administration and Financial Secretary	15
Government Secretariat: Overseas Economic and Trade Offices	2
Government Secretariat: Security Bureau	3
Government Secretariat: Transport and Logistics Bureau	3
Highways Department	81
Home Affairs Department	53
Hong Kong Observatory	13
Hong Kong Police Force	629
Housing Department	357
Immigration Department	215
Information Services Department	11
Inland Revenue Department	76
Intellectual Property Department	4
Joint Secretariat for the Advisory Bodies on Civil Service and Judicial Salaries and Conditions of Service	1
Judiciary	48

<b>Bureau/Department</b>	<b>Financial Year Estimated Number</b>
Labour Department	23
Land Registry	20
Lands Department	186
Legal Aid Department	19
Leisure and Cultural Services Department	331
Marine Department	45
Office for Film, Newspaper and Article Administration	1
Office of the Communications Authority	10
Official Receiver's Office	15
Planning Department	24
Post Office	194
Public Service Commission Secretariat	2
Radio Television Hong Kong	12
Rating and Valuation Department	37
Registration and Electoral Office	13
Secretariat, Commissioner on Interception of Communications and Surveillance	1
Social Welfare Department	199
Trade and Industry Department	24
Transport Department	52
Treasury	25
University Grants Committee	1
Water Supplies Department	134
Working Family and Student Financial Assistance Agency	39

Note: The above estimated figures do not include 382 ex-civil servants/civil servants transferred to the Hospital Authority retiring in the financial year 2024-25.

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