

# 水清價廉 Pricing System

香港用戶為優質食水供應  
繳付低廉的費用

Hong Kong consumers pay  
less for their fresh water

- 水費低廉  
Low charges

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- 釐定水費  
Setting charge

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- 收入  
Revenue

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- 運作成本  
Operating cost

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- 收費準則  
Charging basis





## 水費低廉

香港用戶為優質食水供應所繳付的費用，比世界其他大城市廉宜得多。

許多國家現時都趨向取消對水費的各類補貼，但香港卻仍維持遠低於實際生產成本的供水收費。

本港住宅用戶的水費採用四級收費機制，並按用戶每四個月的用水量計算。

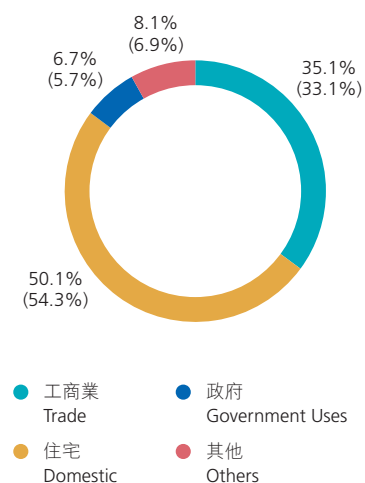
第一級的用水量是免費的，每個住戶可獲免費供水12立方米。這個供水額是根據公屋住戶的平均家庭人數所需的最低用水量而訂定的。

其餘三級的用水量按遞增方式收費。自從上次在一九九五年二月調整水費以來，我們採用的收費原則如下：第二級的用水量為31立方米，須在扣除來自差餉的補貼後按成本收費；第三級的用水量為19立方米，完全按成本收費；第四級為住戶其餘的用水量，這個級別的水費按懲罰性收費徵收，收費率約比第三級高40%。

因此，現時的住宅用戶有17%，即接近38萬個家庭無須繳交水費，有27%每月支付25元或以下的水費，只有23%繳付75元以上的水費。這些數字顯示，本港家庭的水費開支，平均只佔每月開支總額的0.25%。

2003/04年度水費收入  
(按用戶類別劃分)  
Water Charge Received  
(By Sectors) 2003/04

百分比 Percentage



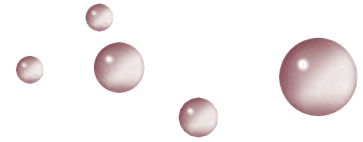
水費收入 (按用戶類別劃分)  
Water Charge Received (By Sectors)

百萬元 \$Million

財政年度 Financial Year	1994/95	1995/96	1996/97	1997/98	1998/99	1999/00	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04
工商業 Trade	1,052	1,038	1,044	986	938	942	920	888(919)	753(915)	<b>800(891)</b>
住宅 Domestic	1,012	1,118	1,138	1,185	1,245	1,266	1,268	1,180(1,317)	617(1,362)	<b>1,143(1,460)</b>
政府 Government Uses	141	164	150	143	149	158	169	144(144)	149(149)	<b>153(153)</b>
其他 Others	204	219	224	206	196	202	215	214(215)	195(199)	<b>184(185)</b>
總收入 Total	2,409	2,539	2,556	2,520	2,528	2,568	2,572	2,426(2,595)	1,714(2,625)	<b>2,280(2,689)</b>

括號內數字為實際水費收入加上水費寬減額。

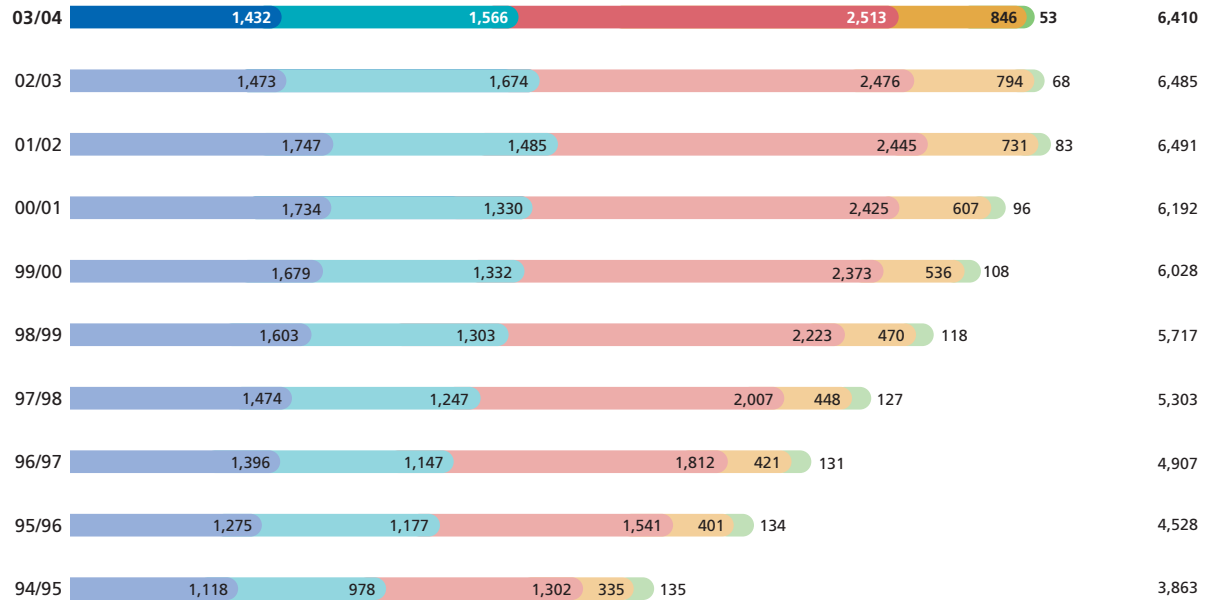
Figures in brackets are water charges received without concession.



## 運作成本分析 Analysis of Operating Costs

百萬元 \$Million

財政年度 Financial Year



● 員工費用 Staff Cost    ● 運作及行政費用 Operating & Admin. Expenses    ● 購買廣東省原水費用 Purchase of Guangdong Water    ● 折舊 Depreciation    ● 政府貸款利息 Interest on Government Loan

### Low charges

For the high quality of their fresh water supply, Hong Kong consumers pay a great deal less than what it costs in most major cities in the world.

Unlike the growing trend in many other countries, where the aim is for removal of all forms of subsidy, Hong Kong continues to supply water far below actual production cost.

Domestic rate for water is based on a four-tier system, which in turn is based on four months' consumption.

For the first tier, a free supply of 12 cubic metres is provided to each household, which is the minimum seen to be necessary for use by reference to the average household size in public housing.

The three other tiers are charged at progressively higher rates. Since

the last revision of water charges in February 1995, the basis has been as follows: 31 cubic metres at cost after taking into account the government subsidy through rates for the second; 19 cubic metres on a non-subsidy basis for the third, and finally a punitive rate roughly 40 percent above the third for the rest.

As a result, 17 per cent of our domestic accounts, i.e. about 380 000 households pay no water



### 釐定水費

本署每年會草擬水費建議，提交「水務帳目委員會」審議。該委員會由財經事務及庫務局常任秘書長(庫務)擔任主席，其他委員包括水務署署長及政府其他高層人員。

我們在釐定水費時，主要會考慮補貼水平及財務上的影響，並避免住宅用戶與其他類別用戶之間出現補貼的情況。

如有任何調整水費的建議，須先提交行政會議審議，然後進行立法程序。

### 補貼

年內，政府通過從差餉收入撥出款項、寬減水費、向用戶免費供水及承擔經營帳目赤字，提供了約40.95億元的補貼。其實，每年從水費所得的收入，都無法彌補輸入東江原水的費用。

### 凍結水費的結果

自一九九五年二月用水收費遭凍結以來，從水費所得的收入總額只因用水量有少量增長而輕微上升。我們竭力提高運作效率，以收窄虧損幅度。

### 寬減水費

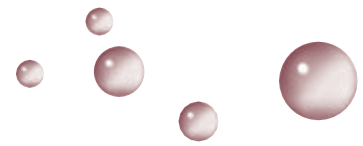
為減輕嚴重急性呼吸系統綜合症爆發對經濟的影響，政府於二零零三年八月起推行為期4個月的水費寬減計劃，這是繼二零零三年三月底結束的一年期水費寬減計劃後，政府再推出的寬減計劃。

住宅用戶和非住宅用戶可得的水費及排污費最高寬減額，分別為334元及2,666元。

### 收入

水務收入分別來自一般水費、各項收費、牌照及代客戶進行工程的收費、政府用水，以及按金的帳面利息收入。

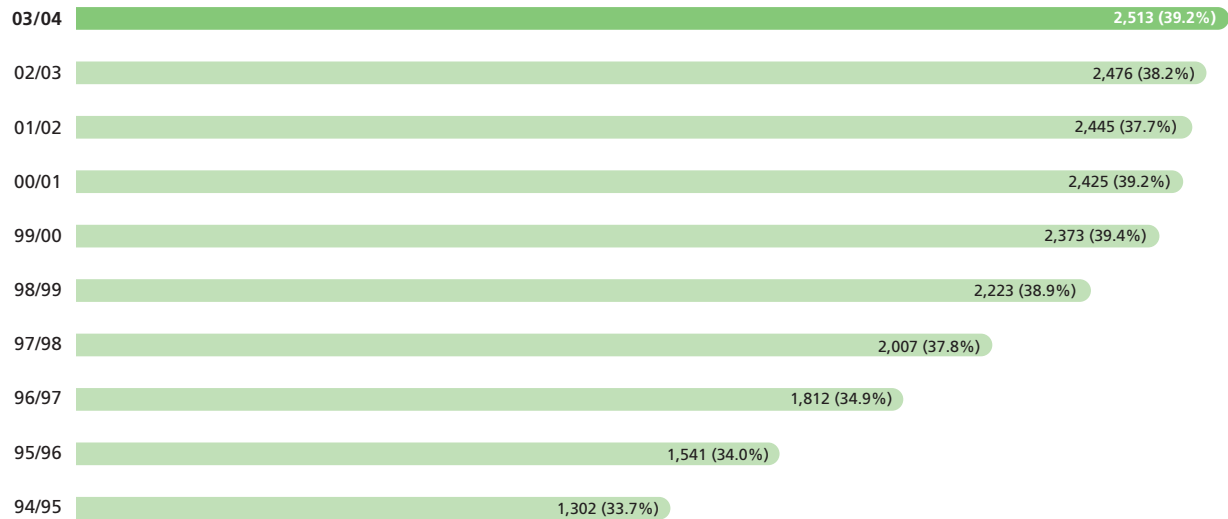
▲ 以新式數據記錄儀進行抄錶讀數。  
Meter reading with the new data logger.



## 全年購水開支在整體運作開支中所佔比例 Annual Expenditure on Purchase of Guangdong Water and Proportion of Annual Total Operating Expenditure

百萬元 \$Million

財政年度 Financial Year



bill; 27 per cent pay \$25 or less a month, and only 23 per cent pay more than \$75 a month. This means that on average, the Hong Kong household bill for water comes to only 0.25 per cent of total monthly expenditure.

### Setting charges

Proposals for water tariff are worked out on a yearly basis and placed before the Waterworks Accounts Committee, which is chaired by the Permanent Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury (Treasury) and includes the Director of Water Supplies and other senior Government officers.

Major considerations in setting the tariff include subsidy level, financial implications and the intention to avoid cross-subsidisation between domestic and other users.

Any proposal for change in the water tariff is first put before the Executive Council and then has to go through the legislative process.

### Subsidy

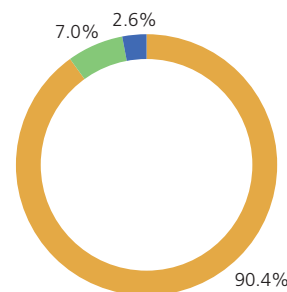
In the year under review, the government subsidy, including the contribution from annual rates, special concessions, free allowances to domestic consumers, and operating account deficit

amounted to \$4,095 million. In fact, the annual revenue from chargeable supplies has not been able to cover the cost of raw water from Dongjiang.

### Freeze effect

Owing to the freeze on charges since February 1995, total revenue from water tariff increased only marginally as a result of increased consumption. Effort is being made to offset some of the deficit through higher efficiency.

過去三年工作綱領開支 Expenditure by Programme Areas for the past three years				2003/04年度工作綱領開支 Expenditure by Programme Areas for 2003/04	
財政年度 Financial Year	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04	百分比 Percentage	
	(百萬元) (\$Million)	(百萬元) (\$Million)	(百萬元) (\$Million)		
供水(策劃及分配) Water Supply (Planning & Distribution)	4,772.4	4,817.0	<b>4,829.6</b>	90.4%	
水質控制 Water Quality Control	160.3	160.9	<b>137.3</b>	2.6%	
客戶服務 Customer Services	367.0	390.1	<b>372.8</b>	7.0%	
	5,299.7 (+3.7%)	5,368.0 (+1.3%)	<b>5,339.7</b> <b>(-0.5%)</b>		



- 供水(策劃及分配)  
Water Supply (Planning & Distribution)
- 客戶服務  
Customer Services
- 水質控制  
Water Quality Control

去年，扣除水費寬減額，從一般水費及政府用水所得的收益增加了2.4%，至26.89億元。年內的總收入，包括政府從差餉收入撥出的補貼，以及寬減水費和免費供水的補貼，共達55.85億元，減少了2%。

### 運作成本

總運作成本減少了1.2%，至64.10億元。

購買東江水的開支達25.13億元，佔運作成本的39%以上。

### 各工作綱領的開支

就工作綱領而言，總開支減少了0.5%，至53.40億元。

由於採用不同的會計制度，運作成本與各工作綱領的實際開支有所不同。



### 收費準則

本署會按照水錶錄得的用水量向客戶徵收水費。

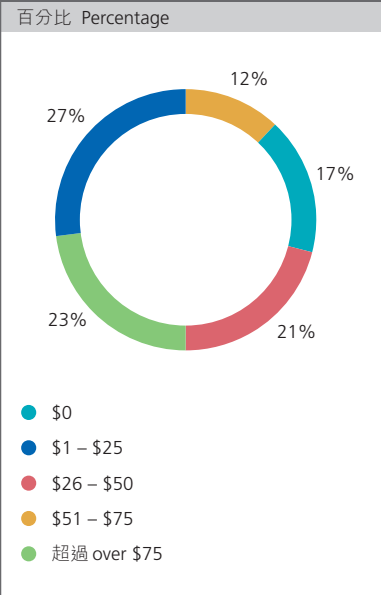
本港233萬個住宅用戶及26萬個低用水量的非住宅用戶每4個月抄錶一次，而5 028個高用水量的非住宅用戶則按月抄錶。

▲ 使用新式抄錶數據記錄儀是提高工作效率的另一例子。  
Use of new meter reading data loggers are another example of improved efficiency.



客戶統計 Accounts Statistics	
客戶數目 (截至2004年3月31日止) Number of Accounts (as at March 31, 2004)	
住宅 Domestic	2,325,475
商業 Trade	232,800
政府 Government	10,972
沖廁用水 Flushing	22,314
其他 Miscellaneous	1,800
<b>合計 Total</b>	<b>2,593,361</b>

2003/04年度住宅用戶  
每月水費分佈圖  
Distribution of Household  
Average Monthly Bill  
2003/04



## Concession

To help ease the financial effect of the SARS outbreak on the public, a special four-month concession (in addition to the special one-year concession that ended in March 2003) was given from August 2003.

The maximum concession on water and sewage charges was \$334 for domestic, and \$2,666 for non-domestic users.

## Revenue

Revenue from water is derived from chargeable supplies, fees, licences and reimbursable work, government use and notional interests from deposits.

Excluding the effect of concessions, revenue from

chargeable supplies and government use increased by 2.4 per cent to \$2,689 million. Total revenue, including contributions from rates as well as revenue from concessions and free allowance for the year, came to \$5,585 million, a decrease of 2 per cent.

## Operating costs

Total operating costs declined by 1.2 per cent to \$6,410 million.

The cost of Dongjiang water came to \$2,513 million, which was more than 39 per cent of operating costs.

## Programme area costs

Total expenditure in terms of programme areas declined by 0.5 per cent to \$5,340 million.

Due to the difference in accounting basis, the operating costs and actual expenditure in programme areas are not identical.

## Charging basis

Charges for fresh water are based on metered consumption.

Meters for 2.33 million domestic accounts and 0.26 million non-domestic accounts with low usage are read every four months; 5 028 non-domestic accounts with large consumption are read monthly.