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1 研究背景、目的及方法

研究背景

1.1 社聯曾於1996、2003及2012年研究香港低開支/基層住户的開支模式。在1996年,社聯分析了1994/95年度《住戶開支統計調查》的數據,以探討當時「赤貧户」的特徵和生活狀況。於2003年,社聯則分析1999/2000年度的調查結果,並探討1994/95及1999/2000年度期間基層住戶的住戶特徵及開支模式的轉變。事隔十年,2012年的報告延續過去的主線,並分析住屋類型對住戶開支的影響。

延續上述三次研究,本研究分析2009/10及2014/15年度兩次調查的結果,以比較過去五年基層住户開支模式的轉變,並力求探究貧窮住戶的開支模式、貧窮住戶的收支平衡及香港食物匱乏的情況。

研究目的

1.2 本研究的目的是以開支的角度分析香港的貧窮現況。現時,政府以住戶入息中位數的一半為貧窮線,入息低於此水平的住戶則被視為貧窮。這是基於「相對貧窮」(relative poverty)的概念而衍生的分析工具,因為界定貧窮的標準會因應入息中位數的變化而改變,並不反映住戶實際的生活質素。此外,住戶收入較易受短期因素(例如失業)影響而波動,加上部分住戶可以透過積蓄應付生活所需,因此現時以收入為指標的貧窮線並不能全面反映貧窮住戶的生活水平。

為彌補單單使用住戶收入多寡來定義貧窮的不足,本研究從住戶開支的角度出發,以香港政府統計處在 2009/10及2014/15年度進行的《住戶開支統計調查》的數據¹,分析過去五年貧窮住戶每月在食物、房屋及 教育等方面的開支和整體的收支平衡。是次研究旨在加深我們對香港基層住戶生活質素的了解,並藉此提出 改善本港低下階層生活質素的建議。

研究方法:《住户開支統計調查》

1.3 本研究的數據源自政府統計處在2009/10及2014/15年度發表的《住户開支統計調查》。該調查以全港非綜援住戶為受訪對象,統計處會在全港以地區、房屋類型及統計期作分層隨機抽樣屋宇單位,要求住戶以日記方式紀錄兩星期內所有開支。「住戶」的定義是家庭住戶(domestic household) – 即一群住在同一屋宇單位內共同分享生活所需的人士,但他們不一定有親戚關係。

以下是以上兩次調查的隨機抽樣樣本單位規模、參與數目及回應率:

表1.1 兩次調查的隨機抽樣樣本單位規模、參與數目及回應率

| | 2009/10 | 2014/15 |
|------------|---------|---------|
| 隨機抽樣樣本單位規模 | 7,697 | 9,416 |
| 參與數目 | 5,959 | 6,812 |
| 回應率 | 77.4% | 72.3% |

^{2009/10}及2014/15年度的「住戶開支統計調查」數據反映全港170萬及189萬住戶的開支模式。

1.4 本研究會以住戶各項開支為依變項(dependent variable),而以開支組別為主要自變項(independent variable); 然後我們根據住戶總開支的排列,將住戶分為十一個開支組別,包括0-5%、5%以上-10%、10%以上-15%、 15%以上-20%、20%以上-30%、30%以上-40%、40%以上-50%、50%以上-60%、60%以上-70%、 70%以上-80%及80%以上-100%。²

此外,本研究的分析也會以住戶收入、住户人數及房屋類型為自變項。

1.5 由於缺乏足夠的原始數據,我們未能就雙變項關係之強弱進行統計分析,亦未能就數據的誤差作出估計。讀者在分析及使用有關數據時,應留意可能出現的誤差,亦可參考統計處在「開支調查」報告中估計各商品或服務開支比重的相對標準誤差(relative standard error)(見表1.2)。但須留意,因為報告中使用的開支項目在不同章節經過整合,表1.2的數據未能反映某些開支項目的誤差,例如除住屋和食物開支以外的「其他開支」。

表1.2 各項商品或服務開支比重的相對標準誤差

| | 相對標準 | 準誤差(%) |
|---------------------------------------|---------|---------------|
| | 2009/10 | 2014-2015 |
| 食品 | 0.60 | 0.71 |
| 住屋 | 0.89 | 1.04 |
| 電力、燃料及水 | 1.67 | 0.87 |
| | 4.58 | 4.53 |
| · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · | 3.40 | 2.33 |
| 耐用物品 | 2.22 | 2.64 |
| 雜項物品 | 2.47 | 1.81 |
| 交通 | 2.03 | 2.13 |
| 雜項服務 | 1.25 | 1.59 |

1.6 採用本研究的結果時,有以下各點需要注意:

第一,《住戶開支統計調查》的結果並不包括申領綜合社會保障援助(綜援)的住戶。另外,在2014/15年度住戶開支統計調查期間,政府曾推出一次性的紓困措施減低了住戶的開支³。除特別註明外,本研究所載的住戶開支是指住戶獲上述措施減免後的實際開支。

² 為簡化內文,本報告以後描述不同開支組別部分會省略「以上」字眼,即「5%-10%」代表「5以上-10%」。如此類推。

³ 這些措施包括在 2015年4月至9月期間生效的差餉寬減(每季最高值 2,500元)、 政府代繳 2015年8月公營房屋租金,以及部分住戶尚未用完政府由 2008年9月起提供累積最多 9,000元的電費補貼。

第二,《住戶開支統計調查》涵蓋了租用居所及業主自住居所的住户。而自置戶的住屋開支是採用「租金等值法」計算出來的。根據「租金等值法」,自置戶的房屋開支,是假定其居所是租住而非自置的情況下,所需支付的估計租金。「租金等值」估計,是差餉物業估價署參照在類似地區而有近似特徵和質量的居所的市值租金後制定的。所以在調查中自置户的房屋開支,並不是他們每月需付的實際房屋支出。此外,《住戶開支統計調查》在計算住戶收入時,亦會以「租金等值法」把自置戶實際未有收取的租金收入視為收入。

第三,本研究從《住戶開支統計調查》中抽取數據時,採用了2015年的官方貧窮線來界定住戶是否貧窮,並 非以2014/15年度《住戶開支統計調查》期間不同人數住戶入息中位數的一半作指標。然而,由於收入的數 據經過統計處的舍入,不同人數住戶的貧窮線最終如下:

表1.3 按住戶人數劃分的貧窮線,2014-2015年度

| 住戶人數 | 貧窮線 (港元) |
|---------|----------|
| 一人住户 | 3,500 |
| 二人住户 | 8,500 |
| 三人住户 | 14,000 |
| 四人住户 | 17,000 |
| 五人住户 | 18,000 |
| 六人或以上住户 | 19,000 |

第四,本研究在引用《住户開支統計調查》的數據分析貧窮住戶時,由於該調查不包括綜援住戶,以及由 於部分原本實際收入低於貧窮線的自置居所住戶,在調查計算其隱性租金收入後,該住戶的收入會高於貧 窮線,因此《住户開支統計調查》所統計的貧窮住戶數目會較《香港貧窮情況報告》公佈的計數據低,兩 者的差異如下:

表1.4 住戶開支統計調查及香港貧窮情況報告的貧窮住戶數目2015

| | 住户開支統計調查 | 香港貧窮情況報告 |
|-----------|----------|----------|
| 非綜援貧窮住戶數目 | 166,300 | 328,000 |
| 整體貧窮住戶數目 | NA | 392,400 |

第五,本研究主要採用2014/15年度《住户開支統計調查》的數據作分析,如前述,該調查的受訪對象為全港非綜援住戶,因此本報告的大部分分析都不包括綜援住戶的狀況。然而,除了《住戶開支統計調查》外,本研究部分章節亦有採用《2015年貧窮住戶的開支模式》資料文件的數據,該文件所用的開支數據代表包括綜援住戶在內的所有香港住戶,反映了整體(貧窮)住戶在2015年的開支情況。在本報告中,採用了此文件的圖表將會註明數據來自《2015年貧窮住戶的開支模式》資料文件。如非註明,數據將依舊來自2014/15年度《住戶開支統計調查》。

分析不同住户組別的開支模式變化

1.7 為了分析不同住户組別的開支模式變化,我們先按住户人數將整體住户劃分成五個組別,然後將每一個住户人數組別內的住户按其每月平均開支由最低至最高順序排列,由最低5%開始,到5%以上-10%、10%以上-15%、15%以上-20%、20%以上-30%、30%以上-40%、40%以上-50%、50%以上-60%、60%以上-70%、70%以上-80%及80%以上-100%共11個開支組別(見圖1.1及1.2)。

首四個開支組別只分別涵蓋了5%的住戶,目的是為更細緻了解低開支住戶的開支模式,觀察低開支住戶的開支變化。

圖1.1 不同開支組別的劃分



圖1.2 11個開支組別分佈

| 最低 | >5% | >10% | >15% | >20% | >30% | >40% | >50% | >60% | >70% | >80% |
|----|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|-------|
| 5% | -10% | -15% | -20% | -30% | -40% | -50% | -60% | -70% | -80% | -100% |

在每個開支組別中,我們分別列出該組別的每月平均總開支,食物開支(包括外出用膳和購買食材)、房屋開支(包括租金連差餉及地租、管理費及其他住屋雜費和保養住所材料)和其他開支(食物和房屋以外的開支,見表1.2),以了解不同開支組別的生活水平。(見圖1.3)

圖1.3 住户每月平均總開支的分佈

食物開支 住户每月平均總開支 房屋開支 其他開支

分析基層住户的食物開支變化

1.8 在分析住戶的食物開支和貧窮的關係時,學術界經常引用德國統計學家恩格爾(Ernst Engel)在19世紀的研究 發現。恩格爾(Chai & Moneta, 2010)在分析比利時不同收入家庭的開支時,發現家庭的收入越少,其用於購買食物的支出佔家庭總開支的比例(又稱為恩格爾係數)就越高(見圖1.4)⁴。這個規律被稱為「恩格爾定律」。

恩格爾認為,一個國家的恩格爾係數若超過0.5,代表這是個貧窮的國家,0.3則表示這個國家已進入小康階段,若降至0.2以下則代表這是個富裕社會。參考恩格爾定律,美國學者奧珊斯基(Mollie Orshansky)在1958年把恩格爾係數高於0.33 的家庭(則超過三分一的每月開支用於購買食物)定義為貧窮。

值得注意的是,消費習慣和福利制度對住戶的開支分佈有重大影響。套用恩格爾係數來定義貧窮時,要留意使用的標準是否合適。以香港為例,由於私樓租金和售價高昂,私樓住戶的食物開支佔總開支比例相對較低(詳見第2章),這可能只是租住私樓的貧窮住戶為應付基本房屋需要,被逼壓縮食物開支的結果。因此,要釐清食物開支和貧窮的關係,較為保險的做法是界定食物開支的絕對標準,低於標準者則被視為食物匱乏,亦即當作貧窮的一種面向(詳見第5章)。

圖1.4 恩格爾的研究結果

Family type

| Category of expenditure | 1. On relief | 2. Poor but independent | 3. Comfortable |
|--|--------------|-------------------------|----------------|
| Nourishment (Nahrung)% | 70.89 | 67.37 | 62.42 |
| Clothing (Kleidung)% | 11.74 | 13.16 | 14.03 |
| Housing (Wohnung)% | 8.72 | 8.33 | 9.04 |
| Heating and lighting etc. (Heizung)% | 5.63 | 5.51 | 5.41 |
| Appliances and means for work etc. (Geräte)% | 0.64 | 1.16 | 2.31 |
| Intellectual education etc. (Erziehung)% | 0.36 | 1.06 | 1.21 |
| Public safety etc. (öffentliche Sicherheit)% | 0.15 | 0.47 | 0.88 |
| Health, recreation, self-maintenance etc. | 1.68 | 2.78 | 4.30 |
| (Gesundheitspflege)% | | | |
| Personal service (Dienstleistungen)% | 0.19 | 0.16 | 0.40 |
| Total on all wants (Bedürfnisse zusammen) | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| Average income (francs) | 565 | 797 | 1198 |
| Average expenditure (francs) | 649 | 845 | 1214 |
| Minimum expenditure (francs) | 370 | 440 | 541 |
| Maximum expenditure (francs) | 1256 | 1769 | 2823 |

來源: Chai & Moneta, 2010

⁴ 事實上,恩格爾所使用的字眼並非食物,而是營養品(Nahrung),包括食物、酒精、菸草等等。

分析基層住户的房屋和教育開支

- **1.9** 近年社會人士亦十分關心私樓租金上升對基層家庭的影響。本研究亦會特別探討居於公共房屋與居於私人樓宇的住户在開支模式上的分別,尤其是房屋開支高企對居於私人樓宇的基層住户的開支模式的影響。
- 1.10 近年社會亦出現「輸在起跑線」的討論,指基層家庭長大的兒童因為教育和其他學習開支不及富裕家庭,以 致日後難以與他人競爭。就此,我們亦會分析基層家庭的教育開支,比較有兒童的非貧窮和貧窮住戶教育開 支的差距。

分析基層住户的收支平衡

1.11 立法會在 2016年 11月發佈了《香港家庭面對的財務挑戰》的研究簡報,該研究發現不少中低收入住戶入不敷支。而金融管理局(Lui & liu, 2015)的數據同樣顯示,過去十年香港住戶的其他個人借貸(信用卡債務和住宅按揭以外的借貸)佔家庭債務的比例持續增加,相信當中有部分住戶是以舉債形式來應付生活所需。為此,我們特意分析貧窮線以下住戶的收支平衡狀況,檢視基層住戶的收支狀態。

全書結構

1.12 在餘下的章節,我們會從各方面分析香港住戶的開支模式。在第二章,我們論及整體香港住戶的開支模式,並進一步分析當中不同人數住戶、不同開支組別住戶和不同住屋類型住戶的開支模式的異同。在第三章,我們則主力研究貧窮住戶的開支模式,比較他們和一般香港住戶的異同,並研究低開支住戶和低收入住戶的關聯。承接第三章有關收入和開支的討論,第四章將研究貧窮住戶的收支平衡,以探討香港基層住戶入不敷支的情況。第五章則會以食物匱乏為貧窮的標準,分析香港一般住戶和貧窮住戶的食物匱乏現象。在第六章綜合全書的發現後,我們會在第七章提出針對性的政策建議。

2 整體住户的開支模式

整體住户的開支模式

- **2.1** 本章節將概覽全港所有非綜援住戶的開支狀況,而根據過去兩次《住户開支統計調查》數據,我們將不同人數及不同開支組別的住户的每月平均總開支及食物、房屋及其他開支的水平列載於附錄。
- **2.2** 表2.1是以住戶人數劃分的香港整體住戶開支分佈。在2014/15年度,香港住戶每月平均花費27,627元,當中最大的開支是房屋開支,佔總開支的35.8%;其次為房屋和食物以外的其他開支,佔36.8%;最後是食物開支,佔27.3%。

表2.1 按住戶人數劃分的住戶平均每月食物、房屋和其他開支及其佔總開支的百分比,2014 - 2015年度

| | 一人住戶 | 二人住戶 | 三人住戶 | 四人住戶 | 五人或 以上住戶 | 整體住戶 |
|------|---------|---------|---------|---------|-------------|---------|
| 食物 | 3,638元 | 5,996元 | 7,815元 | 9,255元 | 11,337元 | 7,554元 |
| 長1// | (22.7%) | (26.8%) | (29.0%) | (28.7%) | (25.4%) | (27.3%) |
| p.e | 7,569元 | 9,445元 | 9,600元 | 10,073元 | 13,767元 | 9,894元 |
| 房屋 | (47.3%) | (42.3%) | (35.7%) | (31.2%) | (30.8%) | (35.8%) |
| 甘州 | 4,803元 | 6,894元 | 9,503元 | 12,944元 | 19,611元 | 10,179元 |
| 其他 | (30.0%) | (30.9%) | (35.3%) | (40.1%) | (43.9%) | (36.8%) |
| 總開支 | 16,010元 | 22,335元 | 26,918元 | 32,272元 | 44,715元 | 27,627元 |

2.3 如從住戶人數分析,一人住戶的每月平均開支為16,010元,而二人、三人、四人和五人或以上住戶分別為22,335元、26,918元、32,272元和44,715元。住戶人數越高,總開支會隨之遞增,但上升的幅度卻越來越少,例如二人和三人住戶總開支的差距是近6,000元,而三人和四人住戶則只是約4,500元。詳細的解釋可見2.4。

再從開支項目分析,食物開支佔不同人數住戶總開支的比例相約,由一人住戶的22.7%上升到五人或以上住戶的25.4%,維持在大約兩成至三成的水平。然而,房屋開支則隨著住戶人數增加而大幅減少,由一人住戶的47.3%急降至五人或以上住戶的30.8%。相反,其他開支佔總開支的比例則隨住戶人數增加而上升,由一人住戶的30.0%,上升到五人或以上住戶的43.9%。

因此,一人住戶的房屋開支比例最高,佔總開支的47.3%。食物和房屋開支則合計佔一人住戶和二人住戶的總開支接近七成(一人住戶:70.0%,二人住戶:69.1%),這變相擠壓了他們的其他開支。

規模經濟和住戶的人均開支

2.4 一般而言,住戶的整體開支隨住戶人數增加而遞增,但人均開支卻會隨之而遞減。原因十分簡單,因為多人同住時某些較固定的開支可以共同承擔,亦可以透過共同採購而減低部分開支,這個現象被稱為規模經濟效應(economies of scale)。

從表2.2可見,當住戶人數由一人增加到四人住戶,人均開支由16,010元陸續下降至8,068元,跌幅接近一倍。由於五人或以上住戶的平均開支是以五人計算,可能因此而導致其人均開支沒有隨住戶人數增加而下降。

表2.2 按住戶人數劃分住戶人均每月食物、房屋和其他開支,2014 - 2015年度^

| | 一人住戶 | 二人住戶 | 三人住戶 | 四人住戶 | 五人或 以上住戶* |
|------|---------|---------|---------|---------|--------------|
| ⇔#lm | 2.620= | 2,998元 | 2,605元 | 2,314元 | 2,267元 |
| 食物 | 3,638元 | (82.4%) | (71.6%) | (63.6%) | (62.3%) |
| | 7.500= | 4,723元 | 3,200元 | 2,518元 | 2,753元 |
| 房屋 | 7,569元 | (62.4%) | (42.3%) | (33.3%) | (36.4%) |
| #W | 4.000= | 3,447元 | 3,168元 | 3,236元 | 3,922元 |
| 其他 | 4,803元 | (71.8%) | (66.0%) | (67.4%) | (81.7%) |
| 4カ田士 | 16.010= | 11,168元 | 8,973元 | 8,068元 | 8,943元 |
| 總開支 | 16,010元 | (69.8%) | (56.0%) | (50.4%) | (55.9%) |

^{*} 五人以上住戶作五人計算

2.5 外國研究發現,不同類型開支的規模經濟效應有所差異(Dudek, 2014)。如果該開支是用於公共財(例如房屋)⁵,規模經濟效應會較強;相反,如果開支是用於私有財(例如食物和個人娛樂)⁶,規模經濟效應會較弱。

香港的住戶開支模式亦吻合這個發現。從表2.2可以看到,人均食物開支(私有財)由一人住戶的3,638元跌至四人住戶的2,314元,跌幅超過三成半。而人均房屋開支(公共財),則由一人住戶的7,569元,跌至四人住戶的2,518元,跌幅接近六成半,遠超人均食物開支隨住戶人數增加帶來的下跌。

[^] 括號內是該人數住戶的該項開支佔一人住戶該項開支的比例,例如二人住戶的人均每月食物開支是2,998元,是一人住戶每月食物開支3.638元的82.4%。

⁵ 公共財是指能被多人共同消費的商品,而每人獲得的滿足感不是源於其他人滿足感的減少。

⁶ 私有財是指不能被多人分享和共同消費商品。

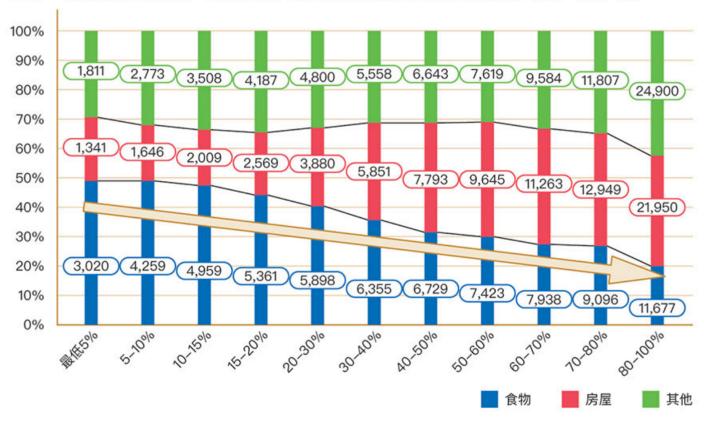
不同開支組別的住戶開支變化

2.6 圖2.1是2014/15年度按開支組別劃分的整體住戶開支分佈。我們把住戶的開支組別由低至高從左到右排列, 縱軸由上至下是其他開支、住屋開支和食物開支佔總開支的比例。

從圖中可見,基層住户的開支模式有以下特點:

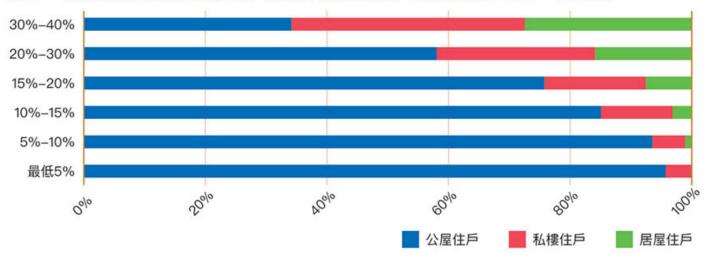
- i. 食物開支佔總開支非常高的比例,尤其是屬最低幾個開支組別的住戶。以最低5%開支組別為例,食物開支佔總開支的比例接近50%。
- ii. 扣除食物和房屋後,其他開支佔總開支的比例較低,例如屬最低5%開支組別的住戶的其他開支只佔總開支的30%。
- **2.7** 圖2.1亦顯示了另一個趨勢。當住戶的開支組別越高,食物開支佔總開支的比例則越低,符合恩格爾定律所描述的情況。





2.8 值得留意的是,當住戶的開支組別由15-20%轉到20-30%,房屋開支的比例開始大增。現象背後的成因,是屬較高開支組別的住戶較多居住在私人樓宇,拉高了這些開支組別的平均房屋開支(見圖2.2)。

圖2.2 按開支組別和住屋類型劃分的住戶數目佔不同開支組別住戶總數的百分比,2014 - 2015年度



為了更仔細分析這個現象,我們在下一節將會分析在同一開支群組中,公屋和私樓住戶開支模式的異同。

住屋類型對住戶開支的影響

2.9 從圖2.3可見,公屋住戶所屬的開支組別越高,房屋開支佔總開支的比例則越低,而且跌幅非常大。原因是公屋租金開支在不同開支組群中差距相對不大,例如開支最低5%的公屋住戶平均整體開支為6,084元,平均房屋開支為1,310元,但最高開支組別住戶的平均整體開支為58,515元,平均房屋開支為2,478元。前者上升了9.6倍,後者只上升了1.9倍。

圖2.3 按開支組別劃分的公屋住戶平均每月食物、房屋和其他開支及其佔總開支的百分比,2014 - 2015年度



此外,隨著開支組別的提升,公屋住戶其他開支佔總開支的比例即會急升。從圖2.3 可見,最低開支的5%公屋住戶的其他開支佔總開支不足三成。然而在中等水平的30%-40%住戶組別,該比例提升到四成;到了最高開支的80-100%住戶組別,該比例則提升至接近七成。

2.10 對比公屋住戶,私樓住戶房屋開支隨總體開支大致按比例上升,使房屋開支佔總開支的比例維持在大約三成半到四成半(見圖2.4),私樓住戶的實際房屋開支和房屋開支佔總開支比例均高於同一開支組別的公屋住戶。以開支組別15% – 20%的住戶為例,公屋住戶要付出總開支的13.4%(1,594元)作房屋開支,但私樓住戶卻要付出總開支的40.0%(4,805元)作房屋開支,兩者的實際差距超過3,000元。

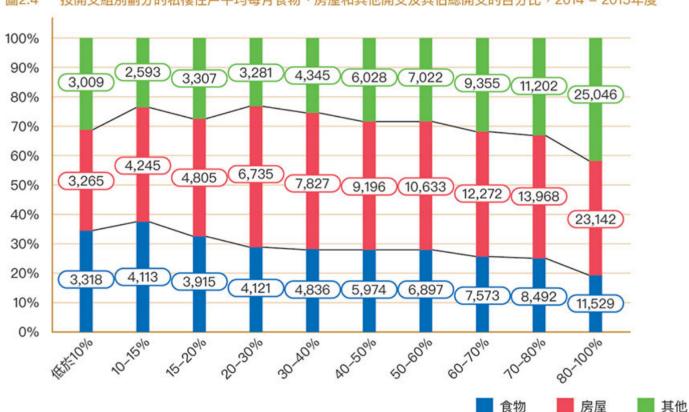


圖2.4 按開支組別劃分的私樓住戶平均每月食物、房屋和其他開支及其佔總開支的百分比,2014 - 2015年度

注:由於樣本不足,無法顯示最低5%的開支組別的數據,只能與5-10%的組別合併成最低10%開支組別

為應付龐大的房屋開支,私樓住戶要壓縮他們的食物和其他開支,以致他們的其他開支只佔總開支的兩成半到四成,而食物開支則佔三成半到兩成不等。以開支組別15% – 20%的住戶為例,公屋住戶的食物開支和其他開支佔總開支比例分別為48.5%(5,757元)和38.0%(4,519元)。而再同一開支組別,私樓住戶的食物開支和其他開支佔總開支比例分別為32.5%(3,915元)和27.5%(3,307元),實際食物開支和其他開支分別比公屋住戶低約1,800元和1,200元。

2.11 另一值得留意的觀察是,在30%以下的各私樓住戶開支組別中,食物和其他開支的相距不大,例如20%-30%開支組別的其他開支,只比10%或以下組別高200多元;20-30%組別的食物開支,亦與10%-15%的組別相約,反映基層私樓住戶的開支增加,主要是用於解決房屋需要,並無額外開支用於食物或其他方面。

過去五年香港住戶房屋開支的變化

2.12 過去五年,私人樓宇的租金節節攀升。為了闡述租金上升對一般住戶的影響,我們會以最低50%開支組別的住戶為對象,即香港非綜援住戶中開支較低的一半住戶,分析其房屋開支的變動。

從表2.3可見,過去五年私樓住戶的平均房屋開支由5,397元增至7,608元,增幅為41.0%;而公屋住户的平均房屋開支則由1,100元增至1,568元,增幅為42.5%。雖然兩者的增幅相約,但由於公屋租金較低,以致私樓住戶和公屋住戶房屋開支的差距進一步擴大,由2009/10年度的4,297元急升至2014/15年度的6,040元。

過去五年私人樓宇租金的攀升,亦使得整體私樓住戶的房屋開支佔總開支的比例由42.1%增加至44.4%。如果按住戶人數而言,租金上升對人數較少的住戶影響較大,在2014/15年度一人和二人住戶的房屋開支均突破了總開支的一半。私樓住戶房屋開支對人數較少住戶的影響,值得我們關注。

表2.3 按年度、住戶人數和住屋類型劃分最低50%開支組別住戶的平均每月房屋開支和其佔總開支的百分比

| | 2009/ | 10年度 | 2014/ | 15年度 |
|--|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| | 公屋住戶 | 私樓住戶 | 公屋住戶 | 私樓住戶 |
| 1.45 | 856元 | 3,849元 | 1,041元 | 4,951元 |
| 一人住戶 | (19.5%) | (52.6%) | (19.0%) | (56.0%) |
| - 14= | 995元 | 5,354元 | 1,360元 | 7,525元 |
| 二人住戶 | (14.5%) | (49.2%) | (15.3%) | (53.4%) |
| -14= | 1,052元 | 5,572元 | 1,647元 | 7,664元 |
| 三人住戶 | (10.9%) | (41.1%) | (13.1%) | (43.9%) |
| m.1.4-c | 1,231元 | 5,883元 | 1,818元 | 8,588元 |
| 四人住戶 | (10.4%) | (37.9%) | (12.0%) | (40.0%) |
| -1-01-4-C | 1,414元 | 6,225元 | 1,995元 | 8,840元 |
| 五人或以上住戶 | (9.9%) | (33.2%) | (10.8%) | (34.0%) |
| ************************************** | 1,100元 | 5,397元 | 1,568元 | 7,608元 |
| 整體住戶 | (11.7%) | (42.1%) | (13.2%) | (44.4%) |

長者住戶的開支模式

2.14 表2.4比較了整體一人和二人住戶和全部成員均超過65歲的一老和二老住戶的每月平均開支。

表2.4 按住戶人數和住戶類型劃分的住戶的平均每月食物、房屋和其他開支及其佔總開支的百分比,2014 – 2015年度

| | X | 住戶 | 二人 | 住戶 |
|--------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| | 一老住戶 | 整體住戶 | 二老住戶 | 整體住戶 |
| - Alba | 2,660元 | 3,638元 | 4,497 元 | 5,996元 |
| 食物 | (26.8%) | (22.7%) | (25.0%) | (26.8%) |
| ėe. | 7,307元 | 7,569元 | 9,549元 | 9,445元 |
| 房屋 | (56.8%) | (42.3%) | (58.1%) | (42.3%) |
| ## | 2,159元 | 4,803元 | 2,763元 | 6,894元 |
| 其他 | (16.4%) | (30.0%) | (12.4%) | (30.9%) |
| 總開支 | 12,127元 | 16,009元 | 16,808元 | 22,334元 |

從表中可見,老人住戶的食物開支比一般住戶低。一老住戶的每月平均食物開支為2,660元,比一般一人住戶的3,638元低近1,000元;二老住戶的每月平均食物開支為4,497元,比一般住戶的5,996元低近1,500元。

同時,老人住戶的其他開支亦比一般住戶低,而兩者之間的差距比食物開支還要大。一老住戶的每月平均其 他開支為2,159元,比一般一人住戶的4,803低近2,600元;二老住戶的每月平均其他開支為2,763元,比一般 住戶的6,894元低近4,100元。

由此可見,老人住戶的開支水平比一般住戶低,反映老人住戶並無大量資產來維持高開支水平的生活。有關收入貧窮的長者住戶的開支水平分析,可詳見3.7和3.8。

2.15 本章主要分析不同開支水平住戶及不同類型住戶的開支模式,為了進一步分析基層住戶的開支模式,下一節 我們將以收入低於貧窮線以下住戶為分析對象。

3 貧窮住戶的開支模式

- **3.1** 為進一步了解基層住戶的開支模式,本章將加入收入為切入點,分析低收入住戶的開支模式。我們參考政府 貧窮線的定義,把收入低於貧窮線水平的住戶界定為貧窮,並分析這些住戶的開支模式。
- 3.2 本章採用代表全港整體住戶的《2015年貧窮住戶的開支模式》資料文件的數據,分析收入貧窮住戶的開支模式。除此以外,本章的數據亦會包含只從2014/15年度《住戶開支統計調查》取得的數據,閱讀本節時務必留意。兩者的區別,請參考1.6。

整體貧窮住戶的開支模式

3.3 表3.1是按開支項目劃分的整體貧窮住戶和全港整體住戶的平均每月開支及其佔總開支比例。

表3.1 按開支項目劃分的整體貧窮住戶和全港整體住戶平均每月開支及其佔總開支比例,2015年度

| | 整體貧窮住戶 | 全港整體住戶 |
|-------|-----------------|----------------|
| 食物 | 4,500元 (31.4%) | 7,200元 (27.7%) |
| 房屋 | 5,700 元 (39.7%) | 9,300元 (35.6%) |
| 交通 | 600元 (4.0%) | 1,900元 (7.4%) |
| 娛樂及文化 | 200元 (1.5%) | 1,100元 (4.3%) |
| 醫療 | 600元 (4.0%) | 900元 (3.4%) |
| 教育 | 800元 (5.3%) | 1,200元 (4.8%) |
| 其他 | 2,000元 (14.2%) | 4,500元 (16.8%) |
| 總開支 | 14,400元 | 26,100元 |
| 住戶人數 | 2.6 | 2.8 |

資料來源:《2015年貧窮住戶的開支模式》資料文件

從表中可見,食物和房屋是貧窮住戶的兩大開支項目,分別佔總開支的31.4%和39.7%。剩下的開支項目,如交通、娛樂及文化、醫療和教育開支,只佔貧窮住戶總開支的1.5%到5.3%不等。對比之下,全港整體住戶的食物和房屋開支只佔總開支的27.7%和35.6%,交通、娛樂及文化、醫療和教育等開支則佔總開支的3.4%到7.4%不等,這反映貧窮住戶不論在絕對數額,及相對整體開支的比例上,都只有較少資源應付這些其他方面的需要。

值得關注的是,貧窮住戶的人均每月交通開支只有約230元,而全港整體住戶的人均每月交通開支約680元。可見貧窮住戶可能因為資源有限而縮減交通開支,因而減少和親友聯繫和參與社區活動,出現「社會排斥」的情況。

3.4 前一段落是分析整體貧窮住戶與非貧窮住戶的開支模式比較,以下將分析貧窮住戶中不同組群的開支模式。表3.2是按住戶人數劃分的貧窮住戶的各項開支及其佔總開支的比例。總體而言,一如2.2所言,房屋開支佔住戶總開支的比例隨著住戶人數增加而遞減,而食物和其他開支則相反。

表3.2 按住戶人數劃分的貧窮住戶平均每月食物、房屋和其他開支及其佔總開支的百分比,2015年度

| | 一人住戶 | 二人住戶 | 三人住戶 | 四人或 以上住戶 |
|-----|---------|----------|---------|----------|
| 食物 | 2,200元 | 3,900元 | 5,200元 | 6,300元 |
| 良初 | (23.4%) | (28.5%) | (32.7%) | (36.8%) |
| 房屋 | 5,100元 | 6,600元 | 5,700元 | 4,400元 |
| 厉怪 | (54.3%) | (48.2%) | (35.8%) | (25.7%) |
| 其他 | 2,100元 | 3,200元 | 5,000元 | 6,400元 |
| 共心 | (22.3%) | (23.4%) | (31.4%) | (37.4%) |
| 總開支 | 9,400元 | 13,700 元 | 15,900元 | 17,100元 |

資料來源:《2015年貧窮住戶的開支模式》資料文件

- 3.5 另外有兩點值得注意:一,一人貧窮住戶的房屋開支比例最高,佔總開支的54.3%,這跟他們不能與他人分擔住屋開支,而且較難入住公屋有關;二,不少貧窮住戶的總開支均比相應住戶人數住戶的貧窮線高(2015的貧窮線為一人住戶3,800元、二人住戶8,800元、三人住戶14,000元),反映貧窮住戶入不敷支的情況嚴重(分析詳見第4章)。
- 3.6 再從貧窮住戶的住屋類型分析(見表3.3),貧窮公屋住戶的每月房屋開支平均為1,500元,佔其總開支的15.6%, 貧窮私樓租戶的平均每月房屋開支為6,500元,佔其總開支的42.5%,兩者差距達5,000元。食物開支方面, 在住戶人數相同的情況下,雙方的平均每月開支同樣為4,300元,而貧窮公屋住戶和貧窮私樓租戶的其他開 支則分別為3,800元和4,500元。

表3.3 按住屋類型劃分的貧窮住戶平均每月食物、房屋和其他開支及其佔總開支的百分比,2015年度

| | 貧窮公屋住戶 | 貧窮私樓租戶* |
|-----|-----------------|----------------|
| 食物 | 4,300元 (44.8%) | 4,300元 (28.1%) |
| 房屋 | 1,500 元 (15.6%) | 6,500 元(42.5%) |
| 其他 | 3,800元 (39.6%) | 4,500元(29.4%) |
| 總開支 | 9,600元 | 15,300元 |

* 包含免租戶和居所由僱主提供的住戶

資料來源:《2015年貧窮住戶的開支模式》資料文件

整體而言,貧窮私樓租戶的總開支遠較貧窮公屋住戶高,如兩者的收入大至相等,則代表貧窮私樓租戶可以儲蓄的機會較少,甚至有較大機會入不敷支,需要動用積蓄應付生活。此外,雖然貧窮私樓租戶的總開支比公屋住戶高5,700元,但絕大部分高出的開支都用於支付房屋開支,反映基層私樓租戶的額外所得主要用於應付房屋需要。

收入貧窮住戶"與低開支的關係

3.7 過去有關貧窮和退休保障的討論中,有論點認為香港只量度收入貧窮,忽略了部分低收入住戶因擁有高資產而實際開支水平不低,因此香港貧窮人口的數字有機會被高估。我們特意從2014/15年度《住戶開支統計調查》中抽取數據,分析貧窮住戶同時落入低開支狀況的比率。本研究以低於全港最低開支20%住戶為低開支的標準。

表3.4 按住戶類性劃分的非綜援貧窮住戶屬開支最低20%組別的比例,2014-2015年度

| 住戶類型 | 整體住戶 | 有長者住戶 |
|--------------------|---------|--------|
| 屬最低20%開支組別的非綜援貧窮住戶 | 128,000 | 60,000 |
| 非綜援貧窮住戶總數 | 173,000 | 74,000 |
| 百分比 | 74.0% | 81.1% |

3.8 從表3.4可見,在非綜接貧窮住戶中,有近七成半(74.0%)同樣為低開支住戶(開支為全港最低的20%),顯示香港大部分貧窮人士,實際開支水平亦偏低。有長者的非綜接貧窮住戶中,則更有81.1%屬低開支住戶。由此可見,認為大多數貧困長者因有大量資產而可維持較高開支的說法,與事實不乎。

貧窮住戶的教育開支

3.9 近年來,貧富差距和跨代貧窮的討論越演越烈,更出現了所謂「贏在起跑線」或「輸在起跑線」的討論,意思指家境出身較好的學童因為有較多資源,在教育制度內的競爭中遠勝貧窮家庭出身的學童。

^{7 《}住戶開支統計調查》只包括非綜援的住戶,此外在計算低收入貧窮住戶的人數時,由於在《住戶開支統計調查》中,有自住物業住戶的隱性租金收入,亦會視為該住戶的收入,因此有部分有自住物業的貧窮住戶,會因而不被計算作貧窮住戶。

表3.5 按經濟狀況和住戶特徵劃分的有兒童住戶的平均每月教育開支*及其佔總開支比例,2014/15年度

| 住戶類型 | 非綜援貧窮住戶 | 非綜援非貧窮住戶 |
|----------------|------------|--------------|
| 有0 - 6 歲兒童住戶 | 782 (5.9%) | 2,828 (7.1%) |
| 有7- 14 歲兒童住戶 | 795 (6.1%) | 3,289 (8.8%) |
| 整體有14歲或以下兒童的住戶 | 803 (6.1%) | 2,921 (7.7%) |

^{*} 只包括學費和其他教育開支

3.10 從表3.5可見,在有0-6歲兒童的住戶中,貧窮住戶的平均教育開支為782元,佔總開支的5.9%;非貧窮住戶的開支平均為2,828元,佔總開支的7.1%。在有7-14歲兒童的家庭中,貧窮住戶的平均教育開支為795元, 佔總開支的6.1%%;非貧窮住戶的平均教育開支為3,289元,佔總開支的8.8%。

整體而言,在有14歲或以下兒童的住戶中,非綜援貧窮住戶的教育開支比非綜援非貧窮住戶低近2,100元,差 距接近四倍。這或是導致貧窮住戶的學童「輸在起跑線」,以致日後教育機會較少的重要原因。此外,貧窮 住戶教育開支佔總開支的比例和非貧窮家庭的相距不遠,反映他們同樣重視子女教育,但礙於資源有限,只 能投放較少資源於學童身上。

4 貧窮住戶的收支平衡

4.1 一如3.5所言,我們發現貧窮住戶的平均每月開支均比官方的貧窮線高,可能反映不少住戶實際上入不敷支⁸,過著朝不保晚的生活。為了解貧窮住戶的收支平衡,我們從《2015 年貧窮住戶的開支模式》和2014/15年度《住戶開支統計調查》中抽取數據,計算非綜援貧窮住戶的收支水平。

貧窮住戶的收支平衡

表4.1 按選定群組劃分的入不敷支非綜緩貧窮住戶的數目和百分比及其入不敷支持續超過一年的比例,2015年度

| | 經濟活躍住戶 | 經濟不活躍住戶 | 長者住戶 | 整體非綜援 貧窮住戶 |
|-------------------------|--------|---------|--------|---------------|
| 入不敷支 住戶的數目 | 70,200 | 96,100 | 51,200 | 166,300 |
| 入不敷支 住戶的比例 | 39.2% | 65.6% | 57.5% | 51.1% |
| 入不敷支 持續超過一年 住戶的比例 | 37.6% | 65.1% | 65.0% | 53.5% |

資料來源:《2015年貧窮住戶的開支模式》資料文件

- **4.2** 從表4.1可見,非綜緩貧窮戶中有166,300戶入不敷支,佔該組別51.1%。當中經濟活躍住戶的入不敷支比例為39.2%,比經濟不活躍住戶的65.6%低近兩成半。長者住戶入不敷支的比率則為57.5%,略高於經濟不活躍的住戶。
- **4.3** 此外,入不敷支並不是大部分非綜接貧窮住戶在調查期間的短暫狀況。從表4.1可見,入不敷支持續超過一年 住戶的比例,與調查期間入不敷支住戶的比例相約,反映非綜接貧窮住戶入不敷支的情況持續。

根據資料文件,接近一半(46.7%)的入不敷支住戶表示,大部分或全部住戶成員沒有從事經濟活動是入不敷支的主因,吻合表4.1中經濟不活躍住戶入不敷支較為嚴重的情況。該報告亦顯示,為了應對入不敷支的情況,62.1%的住戶是依靠積蓄和不定期投資,而增加就業、減少開支或借貸應付的住戶,以及靠其他人的財政支持的住戶,分別只有12.2%和11.8%。

⁸ 入不敷支亦可能與收入調查上的誤差有關。根據美國國家統計局的研究(Abwod and Stinson, 2011),市民在調查中,偏向少報自己的收入,當中不同族群、教育程度者平均會少報10%—35%的薪金。現時香港未有相關研究。

表4.2 按住戶人數和經濟活躍程度劃分的非綜緩貧窮住戶的平均每月收支平衡,2014 - 2015年度

| | 一人住戶 | 二人住戶 | 三人住戶 | 四人住戶 | 五人或以上 住戶 | 整體 |
|---------|---------|---------|---------|------|-------------|---------|
| 經濟不活躍住戶 | *** | -2,901元 | -4,433元 | *** | *** | -3,262元 |
| 經濟活躍住戶 | *** | -2,893元 | -989元 | *** | *** | -499元 |
| 整體貧窮住戶 | -3,016元 | -2,899元 | -1,667元 | 155元 | 691元 | -1,621元 |

^{***}者為樣本太少而沒有提供的數據

4.4 在入不敷支的金額上,從表4.2可見,非綜緩貧窮住戶入不敷支的情況嚴重,整體每月平均每戶收入低於開支超過1,600元。明顯地,經濟不活躍住戶的入不敷支情況比經濟活躍住戶嚴重,前者每月平均收入低於開支近3,262元,後者則只是499元,相差近2,800元。

此外,住戶人數較高的住戶明顯收支平衡狀況較佳,這可以與他們的在職成員較多和分擔開支的規模經濟效應較強有關。

4.5 非綜接貧窮住戶入不敷支的原因,除了沒有收入或收入太低,亦可能與他們的房屋開支較高有關。就此,我們從2014/15年度《住戶開支統計調查》抽取樣本,分析非綜接貧窮住戶中私樓租戶和公屋住戶的入不敷支情況。

表4.3 按住屋類型劃分的入不敷支非綜援貧窮住戶的數目和百分比,2014 - 2015年度

| 住戶數目 | 私樓租戶 | 公屋住戶 |
|--------|--------|---------|
| 入不敷支住戶 | 18,000 | 66,000 |
| 住戶總數 | 24,000 | 136,000 |
| 百分比 | 75.0% | 48.5% |

從表4.3中可見,非綜接貧窮私樓租戶的入不敷支比例為75.0%,比非綜接貧窮公屋住戶的48.5%高出近27%,可見房屋開支較高和入不敷支有明顯的關聯。

5 貧窮住户的食物匱乏

5.1 在第二章和第三章,我們看到基層住户大部分的開支都用在食物和住屋兩大範疇,不少居住在私樓的基層住戶為了應付房屋開支,被迫壓縮食物開支。

食物開支的標準

5.2 在第一章,我們曾經討論食物開支變化和貧窮的關係,美國學者奧珊斯基(Mollie Orshansky)把食物開支超過 總開支三分一的住戶定義為貧窮。然而,不同地區的消費習慣和福利制度對住戶的開支分佈有重大影響。為 減少爭議,本章會採用絕對標準,定義為食物匱乏的住戶。

為了量度香港基層住户的食物匱乏情況,我們根據樂施會《基本生活開支與貧窮線研究》,訂出香港住戶的食物開支標準(見表5.1)。樂施會先諮詢營養師的意見,以及透過問卷調查和焦點小組訪問而收集到的看法,為不同年齡組別人士定出一份符合基本均衡營養的膳食餐單,然後再計算購買這些餐單內的食物所需的最低平均價錢。最後,他們根據2011人口普查中不同人數住戶的年齡分佈加權,得出不同住戶人數的食物開支標準。

我們在這基礎上,再根據2014/15年度中《住戶開支統計調查》中不同住戶人數中收入最低的20%住户的食物開支和2014/15年度的物價指數調整此基數,作為不同住戶人數食物開支的最低標準(見表5.1)。

表5.1 按住戶人數劃分的每月食物開支標註,2014-2015年度

| 住戶人數 | 食物開支標準^ | 經調整後的食物開支標準* |
|------------|-----------------|--------------|
| 一人住户 | 1,696 (成人) | 1,696 |
| 一人任 | 1,065 (60歲以上長者) | 1,065 |
| 二人住户 | 3,109 | 3,012 |
| 三人住户 4,651 | | 4,057 |
| 四人住户 | 6,345 | 4,908 |
| 五人以上住户 | 7,708 | 5,811 |

- * 根據統計處2014/15年度《住戶開支統計調查》最低20%收入組別中,二人、三人、四人、五人或以上住戶的人均食物開支和一人住戶食物開支的比例調整。
- ^ 樂施會《基本生活開支與貧窮線研究》的數字,調整至2014/15年度物價水平。

食物開支低於標準住戶的住戶特徵

5.3 我們以表5.1的數據作標準,從2014/15年度《住戶開支統計調查》中抽取了食物開支低於該水平的住户作分析,並把這些住戶定義為食物匱乏。

表5.2 按住户人數劃分的食物匱乏住户數目,2014-2015年度

| | 一人住戶 | 二人住戶 | 三人住戶 | 四人住戶 | 五人或以上 住戶 | 整體 |
|----------|---------|---------|---------|---------|-------------|-----------|
| 食物匱乏住戶數目 | 21,000 | 91,000 | 73,000 | 58,000 | 28,000 | 272,000 |
| 全港相應住户總數 | 233,000 | 497,000 | 515,000 | 430,000 | 217,000 | 1,892,000 |
| 住户比例 | 9.0% | 18.3% | 14.2% | 13.5% | 12.9% | 14.4% |

從表5.2可見,全港共有約27萬2千個住戶食物匱乏,牽涉全港非綜援住戶的14.4%,情況不可不謂嚴重。

表5.3 按住户人數劃分的食物匱乏非綜援貧窮住户數目,2014 - 2015年度

| | 一人住戶 | 二人住戶 | 三人住戶 | 四人住戶 | 五人或以上 住戶 | 整體 |
|----------|--------|--------|--------|--------|-------------|---------|
| 食物匱乏住戶數目 | *** | 21,000 | 20,000 | 17,000 | *** | 71,000 |
| 貧窮住户總數 | 25,000 | 49,000 | 45,000 | 42,000 | 11,000 | 173,000 |
| 住户比例 | *** | 42.9% | 44.4% | 40.5% | *** | 41.0% |

^{***}者為樣本太少而沒有提供的數據

- **5.4** 非綜接貧窮住戶中,有近四成一(41.0%)的住戶食物匱乏(見表5.3)。這7萬1千個非綜接貧窮住戶連溫飽也不足以應付,情況令人擔憂。
- 5.5 如果按住屋類型劃分,7萬1千個食物開支低於標準的非綜援貧窮住戶中,居住公屋的有54,000戶,而居住私樓有12,000戶,分別佔該類型樓宇的貧窮人口的39.7%和50.0%(見表5.4)。由此可見,私樓租戶很可能因為房屋開支較高,逼使他們要壓縮食物開支來應付。

表5.4 按住屋類型劃分的非綜援食物匱乏的貧窮住戶數目和百分比,2014 - 2015年度

| | 公屋住户 | 私樓租户 |
|---------------|---------|--------|
| 食物匱乏非綜援貧窮住戶數目 | 54,000 | 12,000 |
| 非綜援貧窮住戶數目 | 136,000 | 24,000 |
| 百分比 | 39.7% | 50.0% |

6 總結

整體情況

6.1 基層住戶的食物與房屋開支佔總開支的比例相當高,只有較少資源可用於個人發展或提升生活質素。除此以外,一人和二人住戶因為規模經濟效應較弱的關係,食物與房屋開支佔總開支的比例同樣高企。

食物開支方面

6.2 在2014/15年度,有接近7.1萬戶貧窮住戶出現食物匱乏的情況,佔貧窮住戶的41.0%。

房屋開支方面

- **6.3** 比較同一開支組別,基層私樓住戶的房屋開支佔總開支的百分比遠高於公屋住戶。同樣比較同一開支組別,基層私樓住戶的食物開支水平較公屋住戶為低,而總開支則較高。
- 6.4 過去數年,私人樓宇的租金節節攀升。以最低50%開支組別的住戶為例,整體私樓住戶的房屋開支佔總開支的比例由2009/10年度的42.1%增加至2014/15年度的44.4%。其中人數較少的住戶受的影響較大,一人和二人住戶的房屋開支均突破了總開支的一半。

教育開支方面

6.5 貧窮住戶和非貧窮住戶的教育開支差距甚大,這或許是導致貧窮家庭的學童「輸在起跑線」,以致日後其教育機會較少的重要原因。

低開支住戶和低收入住戶的關聯

6.6 在2014/15年度,有74.0%的非綜接貧窮住戶屬全港開支最低的20%住户,顯示大部分貧窮人士的生活開支 偏低。

貧窮住戶的收支平衡

- **6.7** 在2014/15年度,貧窮住戶平均每月開支高於收入約3,000元,而經濟活躍住戶的開支高於收入約500元。為了應對入不敷支的情況,62.1%的住戶依靠積蓄和不定期投資來應付。
- 6.8 私樓住戶入不敷支的比例比公屋住戶高,顯示基層住戶入不敷支或與他們的房屋開支較高有關。

7 政策建議

有關房屋方面

在本研究中,我們了解到居於私人樓宇的基層住戶因為房屋開支較大,使得他們要壓縮其他開支應付,以致投放在食物和其他開支的比例較公屋住戶低。

7.1 加快增建公屋,縮短公屋輪候時間,並檢視現時公屋政策對一人住戶的影響:

公共房屋是一項能直接解決基層人士房屋需要的措施。本研究反映基層人士如能減低房屋開支,他們便可以 投放更多資源到其他生活範疇,例如購買更多食物或增加對子女教育的支持。但現時公屋的輪候時間過長, 截止2017年12月底約有155,100宗一般公屋申請,及127,800配額及計分制下的非長者一人申請。現時一般公 屋申請平均輪候時間為4.7年,單身非長者公屋申請人的輪候時間則更長,令不少未能入住公屋的單身人士只 能到私人市場尋找出租居所,負擔昂貴的房屋開支。

- 政府應該加建公共房屋,縮短公屋輪候時間,讓有需要的基層住戶可以減輕房屋開支負擔。
- → 研究亦顯示租住私人樓宇的一二人家庭房屋開支最高,政府應考慮單身公屋申請者的處境,檢視公屋計分制度對基層一人住戶的影響,讓有需要的單身人士可入住公屋以改善生活情況。
- ▶ 除了增加公屋供應,政府亦應研究推出另類房屋的可能,例如批出土地作合作社房屋或過渡性房屋,向市民提供不同住屋選擇。

7.2 提高綜援的租金津貼和恢復非公屋非綜援住戶生活津貼:

近年通脹持續,加上私人樓宇租金大幅上升,居於私樓的基層住戶的負擔十分沈重。儘管領取綜援的住戶可以申請租金津貼,但租金津貼未能完全補貼不少基層住戶的租金開支。為此,基層住戶要額外動用綜援的標準金額來應付屋租,變相等同壓縮他們的日常開支。

- ▶ 政府可考慮於下年度恢復非公屋非綜援住戶生活津貼(俗稱N無津貼),減輕租住私樓的基層住戶的負擔。
- 政府亦可考慮提高綜援的租金津貼,使得租住私樓的基層綜援住戶不用以綜援標準金額補貼租金開支。
- 基層面對更頻繁的逼遷問題,而租金上升,亦另到市民搬遷時要繳付的按金、佣金開支上升。現時綜援制度中並無給予健全成人租金津貼、按金津貼及搬遷費的津貼,建議綜援制度應增加上述津貼,解決市民面對逼遷時的困境。

有關食物匱乏方面

在本研究中,我們了解到食物開支是基層住戶的一大開支,當食物價格上升時,基層住戶所受的影響亦較大。近年私人樓宇租金節節攀升,使得基層住戶要節衣縮食來應付。政府應實行不同措施減輕食物價格上升對基層住戶的影響。

7.3 改善現有短期食物援助計劃:

過去研究顯示,短期食物援助服務能有效減少市民的食物開支,而且相較其他社會保障措施更能即時滿足服 務使用者的需要。

然而,現時短期食物援助計劃並沒有恆常化,持續性成疑。建議政府應考慮把食物援助服務納入恆常的資助項目,以確立短期食物援助服務在現時社會保障系統中所擔當的獨特功能。

7.4 加強資助食物回收計劃:

香港每日丟棄不少食物,而現時有不少民間團體透過食物回收計劃,把這些食物轉化捐贈有需要人士。 雖然政府在減少食物浪費上,應以源頭減廢作為優先目標,但考慮到短期內難以徹底解決香港剩食的情況。 因此政府應鼓勵食物回收與捐贈,使得被棄置的食物資源能為市民所享用。

▶ 建議政府改善食物回收的政策,包括在每區設立食物回收的隊伍,及為回收及轉贈的團體提供更多資助及營運/儲藏的處所,並訂立「好撒瑪利亞人法」,使捐贈食物的商戶以及回收食物的團體,可在符合一定處理食物的條件下免於刑責。

7.5 開設「社區飯堂」:

過去研究發現,不少長者及人數少的住戶在家煮食甚為不便,但他們又難以負擔外出進膳的開支。

政府可考慮增加熱食服務,在全港十八區每區資助開設至少有一間「社區飯堂」,為有需要的基層家庭提供 廉宜及具營養的飯餐。

有關支援低收入在職家庭方面

在本研究中,我們發現不少基層住戶並沒有領取綜援,但每月的開支水平很低。政府雖於2016年推出了「低收入在職家庭津貼」,鼓勵低收入在職人士更積極工作,然而現時受惠人數未如人意。

7.6 改善現有低收入補貼制度:

在本研究中,我們發現不少在職基層住戶並沒有領取綜援,但每月的支出水平很低。政府亦於2016年推出了「低收入在職家庭津貼」(現稱在職家庭津貼),鼓勵低收入在職人士更積極工作,然而現時申領人數與預期有非常大的落差。

此外研究亦發現居住於私人樓宇的市民,即使收入較高,但在扣除房屋開支下其他方面的活生質素反而較低,因此建議調高居於私樓市民領取低津的入息門檻,並給予他們額外生活補貼。

有關長者退休保障方面

本研究發現有不少長者入不敷支,而大多數收入貧窮的長者,亦屬於低開支的20%住户開支組別,反映他們不少雖 然依靠儲蓄來維持每月的必要開支,但實際上生活水平同樣偏低。

7.7 實行全民退保休保障制度:

研究發現有不少長者入不敷支,而大多數收入貧窮的長者,亦屬於低開支的20%住户組別。反映他們必須依 靠儲蓄來維持開支,同時開支處於較低水平,因此要維持他們有尊嚴的退休水活,必須給予他們足夠及固定 的現金收入支援。

雖然政府在2017施政報告中提出向合資格的長者提供「高額長者生活津貼」,並放寬現行「長者生活津貼」 的資產上限,但仍未徹底解決現制度下,持續性、覆蓋性及公平性不足的問題。

政府應該全面檢討退休制度,盡快引入全民退休保障制度,長遠確保清貧長者的生活。

有關基層市民入不敷支狀況方面

研究發現,有不少貧窮市民長期入不敷支,相信他們必須透過借貸或動用儲蓄過活。

7.8 資產為本的扶貧政策

現時香港的扶貧計劃,除了兒童發展基金外,大多沒有引入資產建設的概念,並不鼓勵受助人積累資產。例如香港的不同援助制度都設有資產審查制度,而且部分制度所訂的門檻甚為苛刻,當市民因資產超額而脫離援助網後,可能會沒有足夠的資產應付收入/開支波動帶來的衝擊。

7.9 調查基層住戶的債務問題

數據亦顯示現時香港借貸的情況不斷上升,政府應進行研究,包括調查他們動用於償還貸款佔其開支的比例,了解市民借貸對貧窮人士生活帶來的影響,

8 Summary

The Hong Kong Council of Social Service
Research on Expenditure Patterns of Grassroots Households (2014–2015)

Summary of findings

1. Aim, Background, and Methodology of the Research

- 1.1 Based on statistics from the Census and Statistic Department's Household Expenditure Survey (HES) of 2009/10 and 2014/2015⁹, the Hong Kong Council of Social Service (HKCSS) analyzed the average monthly household expenditure of grassroots households on food, housing, and other expenditure. With the findings, the Council proposed a list of policy recommendations to improve the livelihood of grassroots households in Hong Kong. This research follows the "Research on expenditure pattern of low expenditure/grassroots households in Hong Kong" done by the Council in 1996, 2003, and 2013.
- 1.2 There are a few points to note. First, HES does not cover households receiving CSSA. Yet, to have an overall analysis on poor households' expenditure¹⁰, figures from the "Expenditure Patterns of Poor Households in 2015" Information Paper will be incorporated into our report. Unlike HES, figures in the report represent all (poor) households in Hong Kong. Unless specified, figures in the report are from the two HES. Second, in calculating the housing expenditure of a household which owns the quarters it occupies, a rental equivalence approach is adopted to approximate their rent in accordance to market level. Third, as income provided by the Census and Statistic Department are rounded to different level, the poverty line of households by different household size adopted in this report are as follows:

Table 1.1 Poverty line adopted in the study by household size

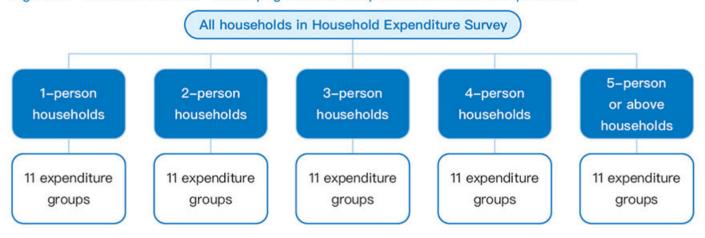
| Household size | Poverty line (\$) |
|----------------------|-------------------|
| One-person | 3,500 |
| Two-person | 8,500 |
| Three-person | 14,000 |
| Four-person | 17,000 |
| Five-person | 18,000 |
| Six-person and above | 19,000 |

During the survey period of 2014/15 HES, the household expenditure was lowered by a number of Government's one-off relief measures. These measures included the rates concession (up to \$2,500 per quarter) which was effective during the period from April to September 2015; Government's payment of public housing rentals in August 2015; and the Government's electricity charge subsidy provided since September 2008, of maximum cumulative of \$9,000 that was not yet used up by some households. Household expenditure figures in this report refer to the actual expenditure incurred by households upon enjoying the above-mentioned waivers/concessions

[&]quot;Poor households" refers to households living below the poverty line.

1.3 We first divided households into 5 groups according to household size. The households in each household group are then divided into 11 expenditure groups according to their average monthly household expenditure, include: 0–5%, 5% and above–10%, 10% and above–15%, 15% and above–20%, 20% and above–30%, 30% and above–40%, 40% and above–50%, 50% and above–60%, 60% and above–70%, 70% and above–80%, and 80% and above –100% (see Figure 1.1).

Figure 1.1 Research method — classifying households by household size and expenditure



The 11 Expenditure groups (from low to high):

| lowest 5% | 5% and | 10% and | 15% and | 20% and | 30% and | 40% and | 50% and | 60% and | 70% and | 80% and |
|--------------|--------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| | above | above | above | above | above | above | above | above | above | above |
| | -10% | -15% | -20% | -30% | -40% | -50% | -60% | -70% | -80% | -100% |

1.4 In each expenditure group, we analyzed their total expenditure and expenditure on food, housing, transportation, and other expenditure (Figure 1.2), in order to understand the expenditure patterns of the different expenditure groups especially that of low expenditure groups.

Figure 1.2 Research method – analyzing the expenditure of grassroots households



¹¹ For simplicity, the report will use "5%–10%" to represent the expenditure group "5% and above—10%" and so forth.

2. Expenditure patterns of households in general

- 2.1 The average monthly expenditure of households collected from the two HES was tabulated by household size and expenditure group in the appendix.
- 2.2 Table 2.1 shows the expenditure patterns of households in Hong Kong by household size. From Table 2.1, we can see that food expenditure took a relatively equal proportion among households with different household size. However, housing expenditure decreased drastically when household size increased, while other expenditure increased when household size increased.

Table 2.1 Average monthly expenditure of all households by expenditure groups, 2014/15

| | 1-person | 2-person | 3-person | 4-person | 5-person or above |
|--------------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|-------------------|
| Food Europediture (6) | 3,638 | 5,996 | 7,815 | 9,255 | 11,337 |
| Food Expenditure (\$) | (22.7%) | (26.8%) | (29.0%) | (28.7%) | (25.4%) |
| Harrian Franciskum (6) | 7,569 | 9,445 | 9,600 | 10,073 | 13,767 |
| Housing Expenditure (\$) | (47.3%) | (42.3%) | (35.7%) | (31.2%) | (30.8%) |
| Other Francistus (6) | 4,803 | 6,894 | 9,503 | 12,944 | 19,611 |
| Other Expenditure (\$) | (30.0%) | (30.9%) | (35.3%) | (40.1%) | (43.9%) |
| Total Expenditure (\$) | 16,010 | 22,335 | 26,918 | 32,272 | 44,715 |

- 2.3 Owing to economies of scale, 1–person and 2–person households had a higher expenditure per capita, spending almost 70% of their expenditure on housing and food.
- 2.4 If we divide households according to their expenditure groups and housing types, the following patterns can be observed (see fig. 2.1 and fig. 2.2):
- Households in the lowest few expenditure groups spent a larger proportion of their total expenditure on food and housing.
- Households living in public rental housing spent less and a smaller proportion of their expenditure on housing, and vice versa on food and other expenditure, compared to households living in private housing.
- Proportion of expenditure spent on food decreased across expenditure groups, in both groups of households living in private and public rental housing.
- Housing expenditure took a relative equal proportion of total expenditure in all expenditure groups for households living in private housing.

Fig. 2.1 Expenditure patterns of households living in public rental housing by expenditure groups, 2014/15

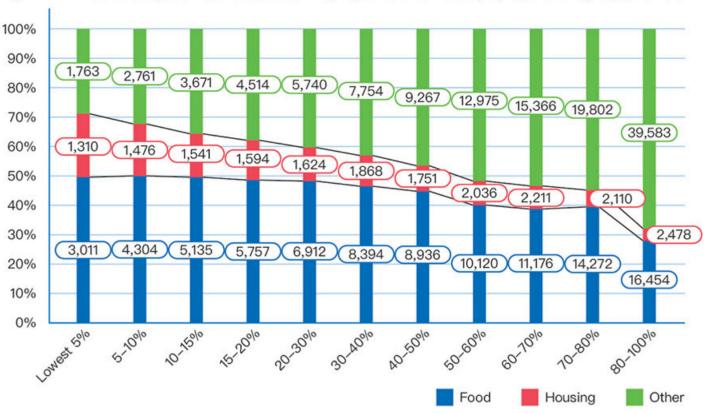
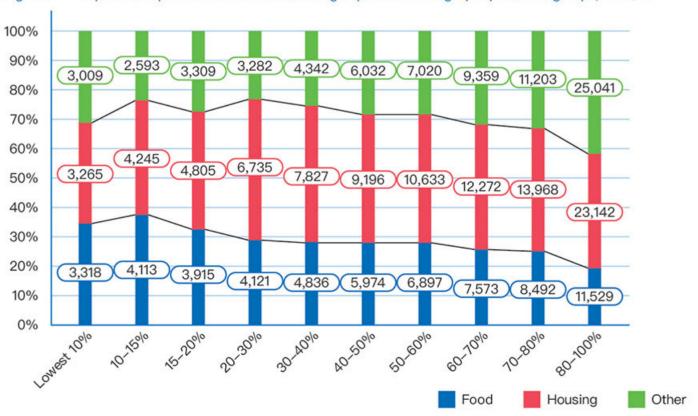


Fig. 2.2 Expenditure patterns of households living in private housing by expenditure groups, 2014/15



2.5 In the past five years, rent of private housing has increased a lot. From Table 2.2, we can see that 1-person and 2-person households were severely affected by such an increase, spending more than half of their total expenditure on housing.

Table 2.2 The Housing expenditure of the lowest 50% households and its share of their total expenditure by time period, by housing types and by household size

| | 2009 | 2009/10 | | /15 |
|---------------|-----------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|
| | Public rental housing | Private housing | Public rental housing | Private housing |
| 4 (0) | 856 | 3,849 | 1,041 | 4,951 |
| 1-person (\$) | (19.5%) | (52.6%) | (19.0%) | (56.0%) |
| 0 (0) | 995 | 5,354 | 1,360 | 7,525 |
| 2-person (\$) | (14.5%) | (49.2%) | (15.3%) | (53.4%) |
| 0 (0) | 1,052 | 5,572 | 1,647 | 7,664 |
| 3-person (\$) | (10.9%) | (41.1%) | (13.1%) | (43.9%) |
| 4 (0) | 1,231 | 5,883 | 1,818 | 8,588 |
| 4-person (\$) | (10.4%) | (37.9%) | (12.0%) | (40.0%) |
| 5-person or | 1,414 | 6,225 | 1,995 | 8,840 |
| above (\$) | (9.9%) | (33.2%) | (10.8%) | (34.0%) |
| 0 11 (0) | 1,100 | 5,397 | 1,568 | 7,608 |
| Overall (\$) | (11.7%) | (42.1%) | (13.2%) | (44.4%) |

3. The expenditure patterns of poor households

3.1 To further our understandings on poor households, figures from the "Expenditure Patterns of Poor Households in 2015" Information Paper, which represent the overall poor households in Hong Kong, will be analyzed here.

Table 3.1 Average monthly expenditure of different types of households by expenditure groups, 2015

| | | Poor household | | Overall | |
|------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|---------|---------|--|
| | Public rental housing | Private rental housing | Overall | | |
| Food | 4,300 | 4,300 | 4,500 | 7,200 | |
| expenditure (\$) | (44.8%) | (28.1%) | (31.3%) | (27.7%) | |
| Housing | 1,500 | 6,500 | 5,700 | 9,300 | |
| expenditure (\$) | (15.6%) | (42.5%) | (39.6%) | (35.6%) | |
| Other | 3,800 | 4,500 | 4,200 | 9,600 | |
| expenditure (\$) | (39.6%) | (29.4%) | (29.2%) | (36.8%) | |
| Total expenditure (\$) | 9,600 | 15,300 | 14,400 | 26,100 | |

Source: "Expenditure Patterns of Poor Households in 2015" Information Paper

- 3.2 From Table 3.1, we can see that poor households in general spent more than 70% of their total expenditure on food and housing in 2014/15, which was much higher that of an average household in Hong Kong (63.3%). And for poor households living in public rental housing, they spent less in general and on housing than their counterpart living in private rental housing, enabling them to spend a larger proportion of expenditure on food and other expenditure.
- 3.3 In the debate of elderly poverty, some scholars argued that elderly may have enough assets to support their living even if they have no or low income. Yet, statistics from 2014/15 HES (see Table 3.2) shows that over 81.1% of the non-CSSA poor households with elderly member belonged to the lowest 20% expenditure group, suggesting the above mentioned situation is not very common.

Table 3.2 Percentage share of low-expenditure households over poor households, 2014/15

| Household types | Overall | Households with elderly member |
|--|---------|--------------------------------|
| Non-CSSA households which belonged to the lowest 20% expenditure group | 128,000 | 60,000 |
| Total no. of non-CSSA poor households | 173,000 | 74,000 |
| Percentage | 74.0% | 81.1% |

3.4 In recent years, "Lose at the starting line" has become a buzzword as people believed that non-poor households have more resources for their kids. From Table 3.3, we can see that this argument makes some sense as there is a huge gap on education spending between poor and non-poor households.

Table 3.3 Education expenditure* of households having member(s) aged below 15 by economic status and household characteristics, 2014/15

| Household types | Non-CSSA poor households | Non-poor non-CSSA households | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------|--|--|
| With children aged between 0 - 6 | 782 (5.9%) | 2,828 (7.1%) | | |
| With children aged between 7 - 14 | 795 (6.1%) | 3,289 (8.8%) | | |
| With children aged between 0 – 14 | 803 (6.1%) | 2,921 (7.7%) | | |

^{*} Only includes school fees and other education expenses.

4. Income expenditure of poor households

4.1 From Table 4.1, we can see that there were 166,300 non-CSSA poor households with expenditure exceeding income in 2015. And as expected, economic active households were less likely falling into an overspent situation.

Table 4.1 No. of non-CSSA poor households with expenditure exceeding income by household characteristics, 2015

| | Economic active | Economic inactive | Elderly households | Overall |
|--|-----------------|-------------------|-----------------------|---------|
| No. of households | 70,200 | 96,100 | 51,200 | 166,300 |
| Share over total no. of households | 39.2% | 65.6% | 57.5% | 51.1% |
| Share of household with this situation lasted for more than 1 year | 37.6% | 65.1% | 65.0% | 53.5% |

Source: "Expenditure Patterns of Poor Households in 2015" Information Paper

- 4.2 According to the information paper, over 46.7% of these overspent households said "Most/all household members are economically inactive" was the major reason of expenditure exceeding income. 62.1 % of them relied on savings or irregular investment to support their living.
- 4.3 Retrieving data from the 2014/15 HES, 75.0% of poor households renting private housing was overspent, while 48.5% of households living in public rental housing was overspent, showing that higher housing expenditure may be a factor that led to overspending.

5. Food deprivation in poor households

5.1 In chapter 2 and chapter 3, we found that poor households spent a large proportion of their spending on food. Yet, to support their housing need, poor households renting private housing have less to spend on food. To assess food deprivation in Hong Kong, we set an absolute food budget for households with different household size, referencing a study conducted by Oxfam in 2013 with adjustment.

Table 5.1 No. of non-CSSA poor households deprived of food, 2014/15

| | 1-person | 2-person | 3-person | 4-person | 5-person or above | Overall |
|---|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------------------|---------|
| No. of non-CCSA poor households with food deprivation | *** | 21,000 | 20,000 | 17,000 | *** | 71,000 |
| Total no. of non-CSSA poor households | 25,000 | 49,000 | 45,000 | 42,000 | 11,000 | 173,000 |
| Percentage (household) | *** | 42.9% | 44.4% | 40.5% | *** | 41.0% |

^{***}not enough samples

It is discovered that 41.0% of non-CSSA poor households was deprived of food in 2014/15.

6. Summary

The situation of grassroots households

6.1 Grassroots households spent a large proportion of expenditure on food and housing, with limited resources left for self-development or improving their living standard. Owing to economies of scale, 1-person and 2-person households also spent a large proportion of expenditure on food and housing.

On food expenditure

6.2 In 2014/2015, seventy-one thousand non-CSSA poor households were deprived of food.

On housing expenditure

- 6.3 Comparing the same expenditure group, the housing expenditure of grassroots households living in private housing was much higher than that of grassroots households in public rental housing. Vice-versa for food expenditure.
- 6.4 During past few years, rent of private housing increased significantly. Taking the lowest 50% expenditure group as an example, housing expenditure of households living in private housing increase from taking 42.1% of their total expenditure in 2009/10 to taking 44.4% of their total expenditure in 2014/15. For 1-person and 2-person households, their housing expenditure has exceeded 50% of their total expenditure in 2014/15.

On education expenditure

6.5 There was a gap between the education expenditure of poor and non-poor households. Youth growing up in a poor household may "lose at the starting line", having lower education achievement when they grow up.

Correlation between poor and low-expenditure households

6.6 In 2014/15, 74.0% of non-CSSA poor households were also low-expenditure households (belongs to the lowest 20% expenditure group). It is believed that most of the poor households did not have assets to support a higher living standard.

Income-expenditure balance of poor households

- 6.7 In 2014/15, more than 50% of non-CSSA poor household were overspent. To make ends meet, 62.1% of these overspent households relied on saving and investment.
- 6.8 Households renting private housing were more likely to overspend than households living in public rental housing.

7. Discussion and Recommendations

On Housing

In this study, we found that grassroots households living in private housing spent a large proportion of their expenditure on housing. They may have to squeeze other expenditure, including food expenditure, to meet the housing cost.

- 7.1 Increase the provision of public rental housing and examine the impact of current policy of PRH on 1-person households: The Public Rental Housing is an effective policy tool to meet the housing need of the grassroots. With housing need settled, the grassroots can allocate more resources to other aspects of living and hence improve their standard of living.
- The government should increase the supply of public housing.
- The government should examine the impact of the existing policy towards 1–person household applicants of PRH.
- The government should explore the possibility of alternative housing, including but not limited to cooperative housing and transitional housing.
- 7.2 Provide subsidies to grassroots households living in private housing: There are many grassroots families currently living in private housing. Inflation and high rising of rent in recent years increased their burden. Yet, the One–off Living Subsidy for low–income households not living in public housing and not receiving CSSA supported by the Community Care Fund was not regularized. Also, even though CSSA households renting private housing are entitled to rent allowance, the allowance is not enough to cover their rental expense.
- The government shall re-launch the One-off Living Subsidy for low-income households not living in public housing and not receiving CSSA in the coming financial year.
- The government should increase the rent allowance under CSSA.

Grassroots have to move more frequently for cheaper rent. Various expenses may incur, including removal and deposit. Yet, healthy CSSA adult recipient are not entitled to the subsidies of these expense. Such restrictions have to be removed.

On Food

In the study, we found that food expenditure took up a large proportion of the monthly budget of grassroots households. The rise in food price had significant impact on grassroots households. The government should help these families to cope with their difficulties, especially at times of high inflation.

- **7.3** Improving existing food assistance program: Although a food assistance program was set up by the government, the service period is too short and the service is not regularized. Also, there is no government policies to promote food recycling and donation at community level.
- The government shall consider extending the service period of existing food assistance program from 8 weeks to more and regularizing the program.
- 7.4 Supporting food recycling program: Tons of edible food are dumped every day. Some NGOs are running recycling program to collect edible food for the poor. Although the government should target at reducing food waste at its source, in short run recycling program is still a feasible way to reduce food waste.
- The government should promote food recycling and donation at community level by policy initiatives, such as pushing forward the drafting of "Good Samaritan law" and providing space for the storage and distribution of food.
- 7.5 Set up "Community Hot Meal Kitchen" to serve the elderly and small size households: It is comparatively less economical nor convenient for elderly and small-size households to prepare meals at home. However, it is even more expensive for them to have meals outside.
- The government can subsidize the setting up of "Community Hot Meal Kitchen", for instance one in each district to serve nutritious meals with reasonable price for the grassroots in need.

Assisting grassroots households

Quite a number of working grassroots households did not receive CSSA. To increase the working incentive of the poor, the Low Income Working Families Assistance (LIFA) was also launched in 2017. However, it is not as effective as expected.

- 7.6 Low Income Subsidy: Compared with household living in public rental housing at the same income level, people living in private households may have a low living standard owing to higher housing cost.
- LIFA should provide special subsidies for households living private housing.

Old Age Income Protection

In the study, it is found that a large proportion of elderly cannot make ends meet or belong to the lowest 20% expenditure group. They rely on their saving, different allowances, and support from family members to make their living.

- 7.7 Universal Pension Scheme: Although the government is going to add a higher tier of assistance under the Old Age Living Allowance, Universal Pension Scheme is a better choice in terms of sustainability and coverage.
- The government should examine the existing pension system and introduce universal pension scheme to improve the livelihood of elderly in the long run.

Expenditure exceeding income

In this study, it is discovered that a significant proportion of grassroots household are spending more than what they can earn, they have to use their saving or borrow money to cover their expense.

- 7.8 Problems of asset-based poverty eradication policies: Almost all existing social security programs have assets limit, applicants are encourage to spend their saving before asking for help. Once they leave the safety net, they may have enough asset to support their living.
- This problem has to be addressed when formulating new program or evaluating existing program.
- 7.9 Excessive borrowing: Data suggest that other personal loan takes up a higher percentage in household debt in recent years.
- The government should study the situation and examine its effect.

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附錄 Appendix

2009/10年度一人住戶的平均每月食物、房屋及其他開支及佔平均每月總開支的百分比
Average monthly household expenditure on Food, Housing, and Other Expenditure of 1-person households and as percentage to average monthly household expenditure, 2009/10

| | 食物支出(元) Food Expenditure (\$) | 房屋支出(元) Housing Expenditure (\$) | 其他支出(元) Other Expenditure (\$) | 總開支(元) Average Monthly Household Expenditure (\$) | 住戶數目 No. of Households |
|-------------------|-------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|--|------------------------------|
| 整體住戶 Overall | 2,967 22.4% | 5,869 44.4% | 4,383 33.2% | 13,219 | 220,000 |
| 最低5% Lowest 5% | 873 42.7% | 714 34.9% | 456 22.3% | 2,043 | 11,000 |
| 5–10% | 1,497 49.6% | 696 23.1% | 826 27.4% | 3,019 | 11,000 |
| 10–15% | 1,680 47.3% | 987 27.8% | 887 25.0% | 3,554 | 11,000 |
| 15–20% | 2,078 47.2% | 1,143 26.0% | 1,179 26.8% | 4,400 | 11,000 |
| 20-30% | 1,949 35.8% | 1,827 33.6% | 1,662 30.5% | 5,438 | 22,000 |
| 30–40% | 2,163 29.5% | 3,211 43.8% | 1,964 26.8% | 7,338 | 22,000 |
| 40–50% | 2,228 24.6% | 4,419 48.8% | 2,415 26.6% | 9,062 | 23,000 |
| 50-60% | 2,531 22.8% | 5,980 54.0% | 2,569 23.2% | 11,080 | 21,000 |
| 60–70% | 3,219 23.9% | 6,860 50.9% | 3,407 25.3% | 13,486 | 22,000 |
| 70–80% | 3,491 20.8% | 8,052 47.9% | 5,267 31.3% | 16,810 | 22,000 |
| 80–100% | 5,519 17.6% | 13,321 42.6% | 12,439 39.8% | 31,279 | 44,000 |

總開支的數額為各分項開支(即食物支出、房屋開支及其他支出)相加的總數,因為捨入問題,此數據與香港政府統計處所提供的相關總開支數據或 有輕微差異。

2009/10年度二人住戶的平均每月食物、房屋及其他開支及佔平均每月總開支的百分比

Average monthly household expenditure on Food, Housing, and Other Expenditure of 2-person households and as percentage to average monthly household expenditure, 2009/10

| | 食物支出(元) Food Expenditure (\$) | 房屋支出(元) Housing Expenditure (\$) | 其他支出(元) Other Expenditure (\$) | 總開支(元) Average Monthly Household Expenditure (\$) | 住戶數目 No. of Households |
|-------------------|-------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|--|------------------------------|
| 整體住戶 Overall | 4,828 26.2% | 6,670 36.2% | 6,920 37.6% | 18,418 | 437,000 |
| 最低5% Lowest 5% | 1,603 49.9% | 746 23.2% | 864 26.9% | 3,213 | 22,000 |
| 5–10% | 2,483 49.9% | 1,116 22.4% | 1,380 27.7% | 4,979 | 22,000 |
| 10–15% | 2,955 46.6% | 1,390 21.9% | 2,001 31.6% | 6,346 | 22,000 |
| 15–20% | 3,219 43.0% | 2,088 27.9% | 2,179 29.1% | 7,486 | 22,000 |
| 20–30% | 3,232 35.3% | 3,382 36.9% | 2,542 27.7% | 9,156 | 43,000 |
| 30–40% | 3,492 30.9% | 5,097 45.1% | 2,708 24.0% | 11,297 | 44,000 |
| 40–50% | 4,206 31.7% | 5,163 39.0% | 3,885 29.3% | 13,254 | 44,000 |
| 50-60% | 4,741 30.1% | 6,595 41.9% | 4,407 27.9% | 15,743 | 43,000 |
| 60-70% | 5,515 30.1% | 7,196 39.3% | 5,610 30.6% | 18,321 | 44,000 |
| 70–80% | 5,898 26.7% | 8,488 38.4% | 7,727 35.0% | 22,113 | 44,000 |
| 80–100% | 8,050 19.3% | 14,100 33.8% | 19,620 47.0% | 41,770 | 87,000 |

總開支的數額為各分項開支(即食物支出、房屋開支及其他支出)相加的總數,因為捨入問題,此數據與香港政府統計處所提供的相關總開支數據或有輕微差異。

2009/10年度三人住戶的平均每月食物、房屋及其他開支及佔平均每月總開支的百分比

Average monthly household expenditure on Food, Housing, and Other Expenditure of 3-person households and as percentage to average monthly household expenditure, 2009/10

| | 食物支出(元) Food Expenditure (\$) | 房屋支出(元) Housing Expenditure (\$) | 其他支出(元) Other Expenditure (\$) | 總開支(元) Average Monthly Household Expenditure (\$) | 住戶數目 No. of Households |
|-------------------|-------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|--|------------------------------|
| 整體住戶 Overall | 5,920 29.1% | 6,789 33.4% | 7,630 37.6% | 20,339 | 427,000 |
| 最低5% Lowest 5% | 2,666 51.5% | 866 16.7% | 1,649 31.9% | 5,181 | 21,000 |
| 5–10% | 3,602 50.1% | 995 13.8% | 2,597 36.1% | 7,194 | 22,000 |
| 10–15% | 4,041 46.8% | 1,578 18.3% | 3,008 34.9% | 8,627 | 21,000 |
| 15–20% | 4,123 42.2% | 2,594 26.5% | 3,054 31.3% | 9,771 | 22,000 |
| 20-30% | 4,370 37.8% | 2,969 25.7% | 4,229 36.5% | 11,568 | 42,000 |
| 30-40% | 5,278 38.4% | 3,742 27.2% | 4,741 34.5% | 13,761 | 43,000 |
| 40-50% | 5,248 33.0% | 5,478 34.5% | 5,163 32.5% | 15,889 | 43,000 |
| 50-60% | 5,722 31.6% | 6,313 34.9% | 6,057 33.5% | 18,092 | 43,000 |
| 60–70% | 6,493 31.0% | 6,887 32.9% | 7,579 36.1% | 20,959 | 42,000 |
| 70–80% | 7,049 29.0% | 8,055 33.2% | 9,174 37.8% | 24,278 | 43,000 |
| 80–100% | 8,930 21.3% | 15,770 37.7% | 17,166 41.0% | 41,866 | 85,000 |

總開支的數額為各分項開支(即食物支出、房屋開支及其他支出)相加的總數,因為捨入問題,此數據與香港政府統計處所提供的相關總開支數據或有輕微差異。

2009/10年度四人住戶的的平均每月食物、房屋、交通及其他開支及佔平均每月總開支的百分比 Average monthly household expenditure on Food, Housing, and Other Expenditure of 4-person households and as percentage to average monthly household expenditure, 2009/10

| | 食物支出(元) Food Expenditure (\$) | 房屋支出(元) Housing Expenditure (\$) | 其他支出(元) Other Expenditure (\$) | 總開支(元) Average Monthly Household Expenditure (\$) | 住戶數目 No. of Households |
|-------------------|-------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|--|------------------------------|
| 整體住戶 Overall | 7,025 28.6% | 7,345 29.9% | 10,209 41.6% | 24,579 | 431,000 |
| 最低5% Lowest 5% | 3,388 49.3% | 1,021 14.8% | 2,468 35.9% | 6,877 | 22,000 |
| 5–10% | 4,185 45.9% | 1,578 17.3% | 3,347 36.8% | 9,110 | 21,000 |
| 10–15% | 4,941 46.9% | 1,686 16.0% | 3,905 37.1% | 10,532 | 22,000 |
| 15–20% | 4,916 41.0% | 2,687 22.4% | 4,377 36.5% | 11,980 | 21,000 |
| 20–30% | 5,472 39.3% | 3,417 24.5% | 5,040 36.2% | 13,929 | 43,000 |
| 30–40% | 5,866 36.1% | 4,675 28.8% | 5,712 35.1% | 16,253 | 43,000 |
| 40–50% | 6,646 35.8% | 5,006 27.0% | 6,915 37.3% | 18,567 | 44,000 |
| 50-60% | 7,241 33.6% | 6,387 29.6% | 7,925 36.8% | 21,553 | 43,000 |
| 60–70% | 7,766 31.2% | 7,391 29.7% | 9,748 39.2% | 24,905 | 43,000 |
| 70–80% | 8,326 28.5% | 8,937 30.6% | 11,922 40.9% | 29,185 | 44,000 |
| 80–100% | 10,139 19.7% | 17,208 33.5% | 24,077 46.8% | 51,424 | 85,000 |

總開支的數額為各分項開支(即食物支出、房屋開支及其他支出)相加的總數,因為捨入問題,此數據與香港政府統計處所提供的相關總開支數據或有輕微差異。

2009/10年度五人或以上住戶的的平均每月食物、房屋、交通及其他開支及佔平均每月總開支的百分比 Average monthly household expenditure on Food, Housing, and Other Expenditure of 5-person or above households and as percentage to average monthly household expenditure, 2009/10

| | 食物支出(元) Food Expenditure (\$) | 房屋支出(元) Housing Expenditure (\$) | 其他支出(元) Other Expenditure (\$) | 總開支(元) Average Monthly Household Expenditure (\$) | 住戶數目 No. of Households |
|-------------------|-------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|--|------------------------------|
| 整體住戶 Overall | 8,496 25.3% | 9,334 27.8% | 15,700 46.9% | 33,530 | 212,000 |
| 最低5% Lowest 5% | 3,860 47.7% | 1,117 13.8% | 3,112 38.5% | 8,089 | 11,000 |
| 5–10% | 5,187 46.4% | 2,070 18.5% | 3,914 35.0% | 11,171 | 10,000 |
| 10–15% | 5,298 41.4% | 2,127 16.6% | 5,367 41.9% | 12,792 | 11,000 |
| 15–20% | 5,637 39.2% | 3,603 25.1% | 5,127 35.7% | 14,367 | 11,000 |
| 20-30% | 6,612 39.1% | 3,604 21.3% | 6,698 39.6% | 16,914 | 21,000 |
| 30–40% | 7,106 36.0% | 5,193 26.3% | 7,443 37.7% | 19,742 | 21,000 |
| 40–50% | 8,110 35.0% | 5,595 24.2% | 9,440 40.8% | 23,145 | 21,000 |
| 50-60% | 8,659 33.2% | 6,829 26.2% | 10,619 40.7% | 26,107 | 22,000 |
| 60-70% | 9,251 29.7% | 7,861 25.3% | 13,987 44.9% | 31,099 | 21,000 |
| 70–80% | 9,430 25.8% | 10,788 29.5% | 16,306 44.6% | 36,524 | 21,000 |
| 80–100% | 12,985 16.2% | 24,731 30.9% | 42,253 52.9% | 79,969 | 42,000 |

總開支的數額為各分項開支(即食物支出、房屋開支及其他支出)相加的總數,因為捨入問題,此數據與香港政府統計處所提供的相關總開支數據或有輕微差異。

2014/15年度一人住戶的平均每月食物、房屋及其他開支及佔平均每月總開支的百分比 Average monthly household expenditure on Food, Housing, and Other Expenditure of 1-person households and as percentage to average monthly household expenditure, 2014/15

| | 食物支出(元) Food Expenditure (\$) | 房屋支出(元) Housing Expenditure (\$) | 其他支出(元) Other Expenditure (\$) | 總開支(元) Average Monthly Household Expenditure (\$) | 住戶數目 No. of Households |
|-------------------|-------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|--|------------------------------|
| 整體住戶 Overall | 3,638 22.7% | 7,569 47.3% | 4,803 30.0% | 16,010 | 233,000 |
| 最低5% Lowest 5% | 1,065 46.2% | 773 33.6% | 465 20.2% | 2,303 | 12,000 |
| 5–10% | 1,765 46.3% | 983 25.8% | 727 19.1% | 3,475 | 12,000 |
| 10–15% | 2,109 48.4% | 1,183 27.2% | 1,064 24.4% | 4,356 | 11,000 |
| 15–20% | 2,522 49.8% | 1,248 24.6% | 1,295 25.6% | 5,065 | 12,000 |
| 20-30% | 3,050 46.3% | 1,662 25.2% | 1,882 28.5% | 6,594 | 23,000 |
| 30-40% | 2,846 32.6% | 3,789 43.4% | 2,105 24.1% | 8,740 | 24,000 |
| 40–50% | 2,907 25.5% | 5,676 49.8% | 2,819 24.7% | 11,402 | 23,000 |
| 50-60% | 3,141 22.9% | 8,002 58.3% | 2,575 18.8% | 13,718 | 23,000 |
| 60–70% | 3,465 20.6% | 9,920 59.0% | 3,433 20.4% | 16,818 | 23,000 |
| 70-80% | 4,318 20.4% | 11,513 54.4% | 5,325 25.2% | 21,156 | 24,000 |
| 80–100% | 6,508 17.4% | 16,659 44.6% | 14,194 38.0% | 37,361 | 46,000 |

總開支的數額為各分項開支(即食物支出、房屋開支及其他支出)相加的總數,因為捨入問題,此數據與香港政府統計處所提供的相關總開支數據或有輕微差異。

2014/15年度二人住戶的平均每月食物、房屋及其他開支及佔平均每月總開支的百分比 Average monthly household expenditure on Food, Housing, and Other Expenditure of 2-person households

and as percentage to average monthly household expenditure, 2014/15

| | 食物支出(元) Food Expenditure (\$) | 房屋支出(元) Housing Expenditure (\$) | 其他支出(元) Other Expenditure (\$) | 總開支(元) Average Monthly Household Expenditure (\$) | 住戶數目 No. of Households |
|-------------------|-------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|--|------------------------------|
| 整體住戶 Overall | 5,996 26.8% | 9,445 42.3% | 6,894 30.9% | 22,335 | 497,000 |
| 最低5% Lowest 5% | 2,196 50.3% | 1,119 25.7% | 1,047 24.0% | 4,362 | 25,000 |
| 5–10% | 3,084 49.8% | 1,383 22.3% | 1,725 27.9% | 6,192 | 25,000 |
| 10–15% | 3,771 49.2% | 1,755 22.9% | 2,139 27.9% | 7,665 | 25,000 |
| 15–20% | 4,209 45.9% | 2,011 21.9% | 2,949 32.2% | 9,169 | 25,000 |
| 20-30% | 4,303 37.3% | 4,064 35.2% | 3,163 27.4% | 11,530 | 49,000 |
| 30-40% | 4,691 32.8% | 6,300 44.0% | 3,330 23.3% | 14,321 | 50,000 |
| 40-50% | 5,094 29.6% | 7,753 45.0% | 4,381 25.4% | 17,228 | 50,000 |
| 50-60% | 5,888 29.0% | 9,731 48.0% | 4,669 23.0% | 20,288 | 49,000 |
| 60–70% | 6,163 26.5% | 11,339 48.8% | 5,733 24.7% | 23,235 | 50,000 |
| 70–80% | 6,422 24.0% | 12,711 47.4% | 7,675 28.6% | 26,808 | 50,000 |
| 80–100% | 10,410 21.6% | 19,761 41.0% | 18,082 37.5% | 48,253 | 99,000 |

總開支的數額為各分項開支(即食物支出、房屋開支及其他支出)相加的總數,因為捨入問題,此數據與香港政府統計處所提供的相關總開支數據或有輕微差異。

2014/15年度三人住戶的平均每月食物、房屋及其他開支及佔平均每月總開支的百分比

Average monthly household expenditure on Food, Housing, and Other Expenditure of 3-person households and as percentage to average monthly household expenditure, 2014/15

| | 食物支出(元) Food Expenditure (\$) | 房屋支出(元) Housing Expenditure (\$) | 其他支出(元) Other Expenditure (\$) | 總開支(元) Average Monthly Household Expenditure (\$) | 住戶數目 No. of Households |
|-------------------|-------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|--|------------------------------|
| 整體住戶 Overall | 7,815 29.0% | 9,600 35.7% | 9,503 35.3% | 26,918 | 515,000 |
| 最低5% Lowest 5% | 3,167 49.0% | 1,403 21.7% | 1,889 29.2% | 6,549 | 26,000 |
| 5–10% | 4,623 50.2% | 1,593 17.3% | 2,991 32.5% | 9,207 | 26,000 |
| 10–15% | 5,509 49.8% | 2,043 18.5% | 3,512 31.7% | 11,064 | 25,000 |
| 15–20% | 5,909 46.9% | 2,360 18.7% | 4,329 34.4% | 12,598 | 26,000 |
| 20-30% | 5,996 39.9.% | 3,911 26.0% | 5,126 34.1% | 15,033 | 52,000 |
| 30–40% | 6,592 36.8% | 5,666 31.6% | 5,677 31.7% | 17,935 | 51,000 |
| 40–50% | 6,858 33.1% | 7,522 36.3% | 6,314 30.5% | 20,694 | 51,000 |
| 50-60% | 7,569 32.0% | 8,944 37.8% | 7,132 30.2% | 23,645 | 52,000 |
| 60–70% | 8,399 30.4% | 9,885 35.8% | 9,350 33.8% | 27,634 | 52,000 |
| 70-80% | 9,615 29.3% | 12,282 37.4% | 10,907 33.2% | 32,804 | 51,000 |
| 80–100% | 11,771 21.0% | 22,060 39.4% | 22,091 39.5% | 55,922 | 103,000 |

總開支的數額為各分項開支(即食物支出、房屋開支及其他支出)相加的總數,因為捨入問題,此數據與香港政府統計處所提供的相關總開支數據或有輕微差異。

2014/15年度四人住戶的平均每月食物、房屋及其他開支及佔平均每月總開支的百分比 Average monthly household expenditure on Food, Housing, and Other Expenditure of 4-person households and as percentage to average monthly household expenditure, 2014/15

| | 食物支出(元) Food Expenditure (\$) | 房屋支出(元) Housing Expenditure (\$) | 其他支出(元) Other Expenditure (\$) | 總開支(元) Average Monthly Household Expenditure (\$) | 住戶數目 No. of Households |
|-------------------|-------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|--|------------------------------|
| 整體住戶 Overall | 9,255 28.7% | 10,073 31.2% | 12,944 40.1% | 32,272 | 430,000 |
| 最低5% Lowest 5% | 3,987 50.6% | 1,589 20.2% | 2,300 29.2% | 7,876 | 22,000 |
| 5–10% | 5,390 47.8% | 2,054 18.2% | 3,840 34.0% | 11,284 | 21,000 |
| 10–15% | 6,306 47.1% | 2,070 15.5% | 5,008 37.4% | 13,384 | 22,000 |
| 15–20% | 6,282 40.2% | 3,782 24.2% | 5,569 35.6% | 15,633 | 21,000 |
| 20–30% | 7,616 42.4% | 4,263 23.8% | 6,069 33.8% | 17,948 | 43,000 |
| 30–40% | 8,398 38.2% | 6,031 27.4% | 7,549 34.3% | 21,978 | 43,000 |
| 40-50% | 8,525 32.6% | 8,599 32.9% | 9,043 34.6% | 26,167 | 43,000 |
| 50-60% | 9,129 30.4% | 9,745 32.5% | 11,149 37.1% | 30,023 | 43,000 |
| 60-70% | 9,959 29.4% | 11,503 33.9% | 12,442 36.7% | 33,094 | 43,000 |
| 70–80% | 11,063 28.2% | 12,841 32.7% | 15,342 39.1% | 39,246 | 43,000 |
| 80–100% | 13,447 20.8% | 21,513 33.2% | 29,756 46.0% | 64,716 | 86,000 |

總開支的數額為各分項開支(即食物支出、房屋開支及其他支出)相加的總數,因為捨入問題,此數據與香港政府統計處所提供的相關總開支數據或有輕微差異。

2014/15年度五人或以上住戶的的平均每月食物、房屋及其他開支及佔平均每月總開支的百分比 Average monthly household expenditure on Food, Housing, and Other Expenditure of 5-person or above households and as percentage to average monthly household expenditure, 2014/15

| | 食物支出(元) Food Expenditure (\$) | 房屋支出(元) Housing Expenditure (\$) | 其他支出(元) Other Expenditure (\$) | 總開支(元) Average Monthly Household Expenditure (\$) | 住戶數目 No. of Households |
|-------------------|-------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|--|------------------------------|
| 整體住戶 Overall | 11,337 25.4% | 13,767 30.7% | 19,611 43.9% | 44,715 | 217,000 |
| 最低5% Lowest 5% | 4,680 45.7% | 1,806 17.6% | 3,752 36.6% | 10,238 | 12,000 |
| 5–10% | 6,741 48% | 2,345 16.7% | 4,947 35.2% | 14,033 | 10,000 |
| 10–15% | 6,781 41.6% | 3,275 20.1% | 6,230 38.3% | 16,286 | 11,000 |
| 15–20% | 7,921 42.8% | 3,455 18.7% | 7,124 38.5% | 18,500 | 11,000 |
| 20–30% | 9,084 40% | 5,107 22.5% | 8,491 37.4% | 22,682 | 21,000 |
| 30-40% | 9,317 35% | 7,125 26.8% | 10,143 38.2% | 26,585 | 22,000 |
| 40-50% | 10,766 33.6% | 9,195 28.7% | 12,036 37.6% | 31,997 | 22,000 |
| 50-60% | 11,863 30.5% | 12,973 33.4% | 13,997 36.0% | 38,833 | 21,000 |
| 60-70% | 11,651 24.9% | 15,277 32.7% | 19,807 42.4% | 46,735 | 22,000 |
| 70–80% | 15,161 27.7% | 16,508 30.2% | 23,055 42.1% | 54,724 | 22,000 |
| 80–100% | 16,355 16.6% | 33,263 33.7% | 49,094 49.7% | 98,712 | 43,000 |

總開支的數額為各分項開支(即食物支出、房屋開支及其他支出)相加的總數,因為捨入問題,此數據與香港政府統計處所提供的相關總開支數據或有輕微差異。



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The Hong Kong Council of Social Service

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