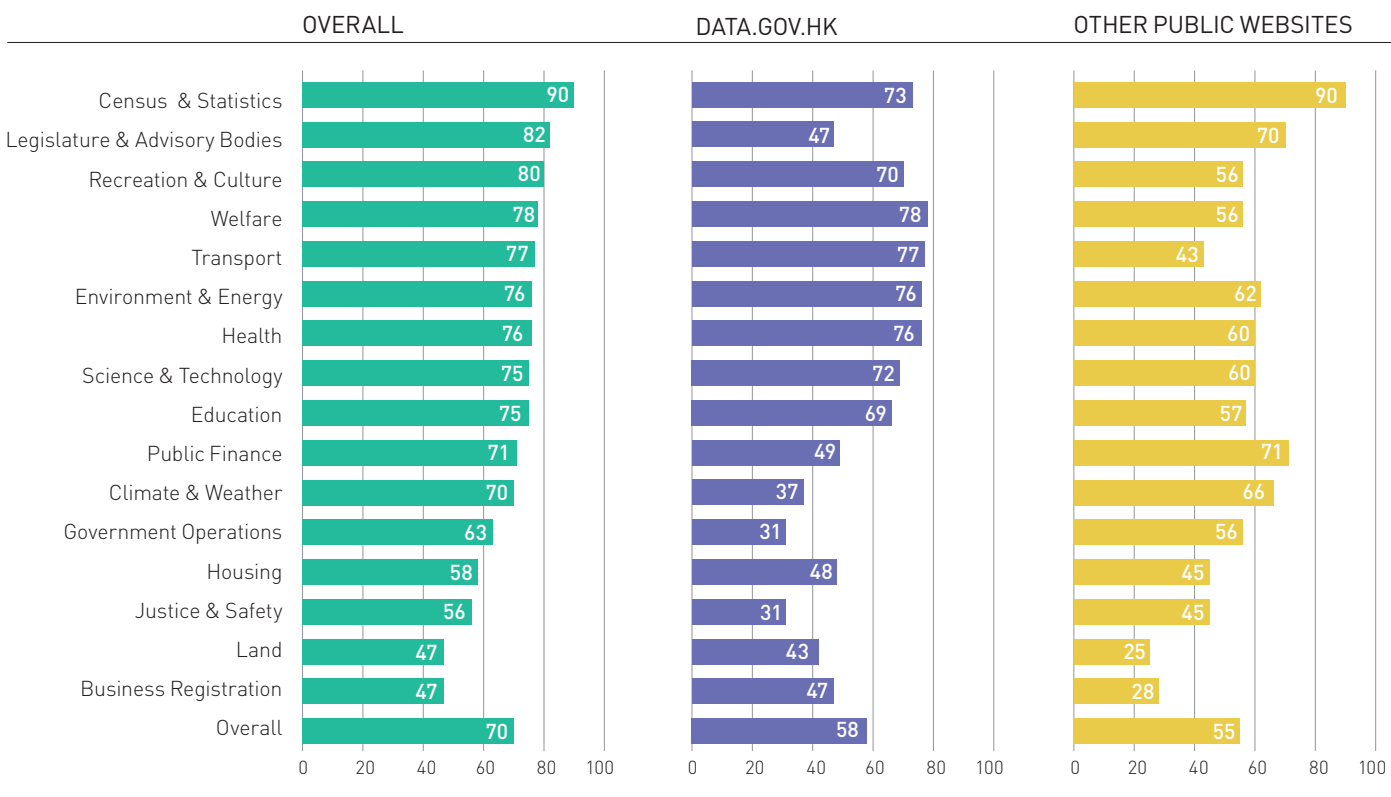
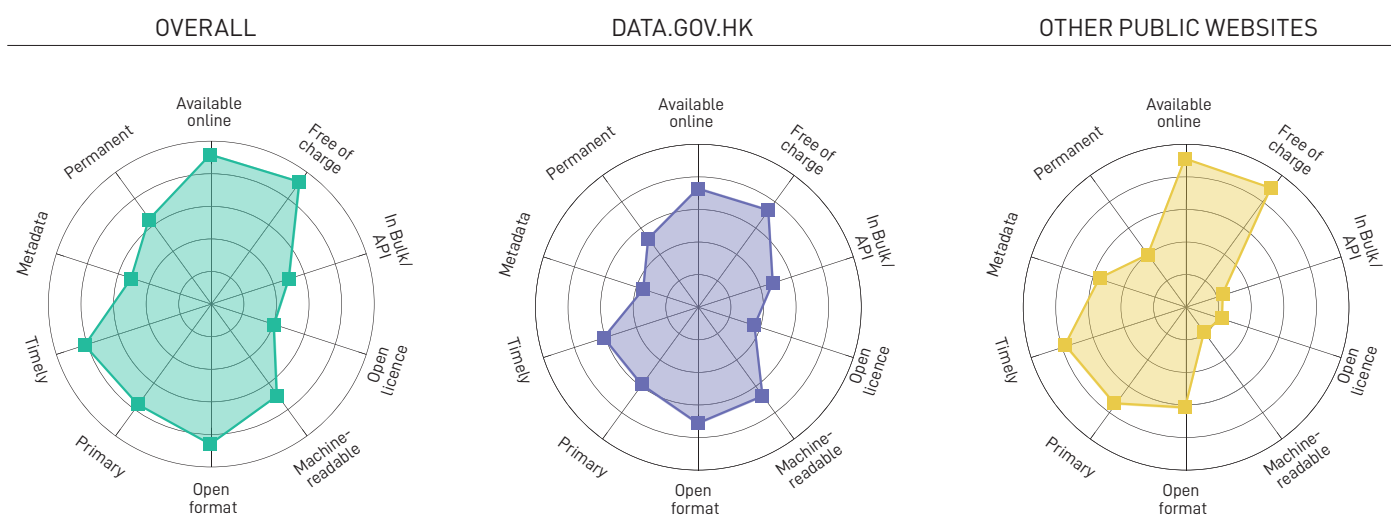


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DATASETS PERFORMANCE



INDICATORS COMPARISON



Indicator Comparison	1. Available online	2. Free of charge	3. In Bulk/ API	4. Open license	5. Machine-readable	6. Open format	7. Primary	8. Timely	9. Metadata	10. Permanent	(11) Identifier	(12) Human-readable
Overall	9.13	9.24	5.03	4.07	6.90	8.51	7.52	8.04	5.08	6.38	4.15	6.53
data.gov.hk	7.27	7.35	4.83	3.65	6.75	7.13	5.87	6.07	3.52	5.18	3.01	4.07
other public sources	9.02	8.93	2.43	2.38	1.98	6.23	7.38	7.73	5.51	3.88	3.74	9.02

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		1 Available online	2 Free of charge	3 In Bulk/API	4 Open license	5 Machine-readable	6 Open format	7 Primary	8 Timely	9 Metadata	10 Permanent	(11) Identifier	(12) Human-readable
Average	Overall	9	9	5	4	7	8	8	8	5	6	4	7
A Census & Statistics	90	10	10	5	5	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
		10 10	10 10	6 5	5 5	7 10	9 10	9 10	10 10	3 10	5 10	1 10	9 10
B Public Finance	71	9	10	3	4	5	10	9	10	6	6	6	10
		6 9	6 10	3 3	3 4	5 5	6 10	6 9	6 10	3 6	5 6	3 6	1 10
C Legislature & Advisory Bodies	82	10	10	6	4	10	10	9	9	5	10	3	7
		6 10	6 10	4 3	2 4	6 4	6 5	5 10	5 9	2 6	6 9	3 5	3 10
D Government Operations	63	10	10	3	4	4	6	9	10	4	3	1	9
		4 10	4 10	2 2	2 4	4 1	4 6	3 9	4 10	3 4	3 0	0 2	1 10
E Justice & Safety	56	9	9	3	4	5	9	5	6	4	3	3	8
		5 9	5 8	3 2	3 2	5 0	5 5	1 5	3 6	1 5	1 4	0 5	3 9
F Business Registration	47	5	5	4	5	5	5	5	5	3	5	5	3
		5 6	5 5	4 1	5 1	5 0	5 3	5 5	5 3	3 3	5 0	5 5	3 5
G Land	47	7	7	3	3	5	7	5	6	4	1	6	4
		6 4	6 4	3 1	3 0	5 3	6 4	4 3	4 3	4 3	2 0	6 2	3 3
H Housing	58	9	9	6	3	5	6	4	5	6	6	3	5
		6 8	6 8	5 3	3 1	5 1	5 5	4 5	4 6	4 6	6 3	0 4	3 10
I Transport	77	9	9	7	3	9	9	9	9	7	8	5	4
		9 9	9 9	7 2	3 0	9 0	9 3	9 6	9 9	7 3	8 3	3 4	4 9
J Welfare	78	9	10	5	5	10	10	9	9	3	8	5	5
		9 10	10 10	5 3	5 5	10 1	10 3	9 6	9 9	3 8	8 1	5 3	5 10
K Education	75	10	10	6	4	8	9	8	8	4	10	0	8
		9 10	9 10	6 3	4 1	9 0	9 6	8 8	6 10	4 4	9 5	0 0	6 10
L Health	76	10	10	6	5	9	9	6	9	3	9	0	7
		10 10	10 10	6 2	5 4	9 2	9 9	6 9	9 8	3 4	9 3	0 0	7 10
M Recreation & Culture	80	10	10	8	5	8	10	10	8	7	4	8	6
		8 10	8 10	8 0	4 2	8 0	8 10	8 10	8 7	6 7	4 0	8 6	4 10
N Environment & Energy	76	10	10	6	5	9	10	8	8	4	8	3	6
		10 10	10 10	6 5	5 0	9 4	10 5	8 8	8 5	4 8	8 8	3 0	6 10
O Climate & Weather	70	10	10	6	3	3	9	8	10	6	6	3	6
		5 10	5 10	5 4	3 3	5 0	5 9	4 8	3 10	3 6	0 6	5 0	0 9
P Science & Technology	75	10	10	6	5	8	8	9	8	4	7	7	7
		9 10	9 10	6 2	5 5	9 0	9 7	7 9	6 8	4 5	6 5	5 6	6 10
Overall	70	9	9	5	4	7	8	8	8	5	6	4	7
		7 9	7 9	5 2	4 2	7 2	7 7	6 7	6 8	3 6	5 4	3 4	4 9

■ overall
■ data.gov.hk
■ other public websites

SUMMARY

Open data is data that can be freely used, shared, and built-on by anyone for any purpose. Government data is the most important source of open data. It is regarded as an instrument to improve government transparency and openness, and a source to better public service delivery, business development and civic innovation, among others¹

The Hong Kong Open Data Index is developed by the Internet Society Hong Kong Chapter as an assessment tool to test the openness of public data. Built on 19 established open data standards at international and regional levels, the Index consists of 12 indicators (including two non-scoring indicators) to evaluate data in the city across 16 categories covering 69 types of datasets. The assessment results and analyses are aimed to inform the advocacy work by civil society and the business sector, and to help the government improve the open data policies and practices.

KEY FINDINGS

Highlights:

- The Hong Kong government's open data portal data.gov.hk is not more "open" than other public websites, mainly because it maintains fewer datasets than the Index is expecting compared to average governmental websites. The types of datasets that are not found on the portal but available on other websites are: calls for tender, bills & legislation, Legislative Council meetings, government contact points, declarations of interest, judiciary & judgements, travel alerts, public housing (including waiting time and allocation status), hiking trails, wind, rainfall distribution.
- Individual government departments adopt inconsistent standards for publishing data across their websites and in the open data portal, confusing users and potentially discouraging data reuse.
- Individual government departments adopt inconsistent standards for publishing data across their websites and in the open data portal, confusing users and potentially discouraging data reuse.

Good practices observed:

- **Availability** – The Hong Kong government and other public organisations have released most types of data online that are set out by major international open data initiatives and expected by local stakeholders, so as the online availability is scored 9.13 out of 10.
- **Best practices** – A few organisations and data platforms— such as Census and Statistics Department, Legislative Council, and a newly launched platform Hong Kong GeoData Store—have set good examples of how open data should be managed and presented.
- **Timely and Primary** – The published data are fairly timely and primary as the datasets in Hong Kong score 8.04 and 7.52 out of 10 on these two indicators respectively.
- **Machine-readability** – The datasets in Hong Kong perform moderately in machine-readability, scoring 6.9 out of 10 overall, thanks to the fact that most datasets published via the portal data.gov.hk are machine-readable.

Some gaps identified:

- **Availability** – Data in the five categories of land, business registration, justice & security, housing, and government operations are significantly less open than other datasets. Datasets regarding ownership of lands and businesses are not freely available.
- **Open license** – The copyright licenses are not only inconsistent across datasets and platforms, but also lack explicitness and clarity about the extent that the public are authorised to use the data.
- **Metadata** – The metadata that accompany the datasets to summarise their basic information are not comprehensive enough, as the majority of the datasets are not denoted with their initial publication date, coverage period, theme and key words, etc.
- **Historical records** – The historical records/archives of published data are not properly maintained and presented online.
- **API** – Very few datasets come with an Application Programming Interface (API).

RECOMMENDATIONS

Immediate action

We also have developed a few steps that government departments in Hong Kong can take immediately to improve data openness.

- **Machine-readability.** Make the data readily available in both human- and machine-readable forms.
- **Core metadata.** Supplement metadata elements including the publication date, coverage period, theme and key words, data owners and maintainers etc.
- **Context.** Prepare an abstract description for each dataset published on the open data portal, to explain the contents, context, analytical limitations etc.
- **Primary.** Audit the published datasets to ensure their quality and granularity.
- **Historical records.** Archive dated copies when a dataset is updated, and make the archives available at a stable and searchable online location.

Comprehensive measures

We have identified more comprehensive measures that the government may consider to better manage the data opening process and thereby boosting availability and usability of the data.

- Establish an interactive public participation platform on the public sector information (PSI) portal data.gov.hk to facilitate a user-centric and demand-driven process to enhance data availability.
- Set up an interdepartmental task force to coordinate and standardise the data publication practices across official websites and the open data portal, in particular to identify and tackle issues that may jeopardise data usability.