

Neighbours in Numbers: Understanding ethnic minority community in Yuen Long and Kwai Tsing

左鄰右里：元朗及葵青的少數族裔社群數據

Summary of findings of community survey

社區調查結果概要



香港社會服務聯會
The Hong Kong Council of Social Service

TABLE OF CONTENTS

01 PRAISE and Research Background

Prologue	1
About PRAISE	3
About Our Research	4
Community Survey Framework	5

02 Research Findings

Our Respondents in Community Survey	7
Education	9
Employment	13
Health	19
Housing	21
Social and Political Participation	25

03 Summary

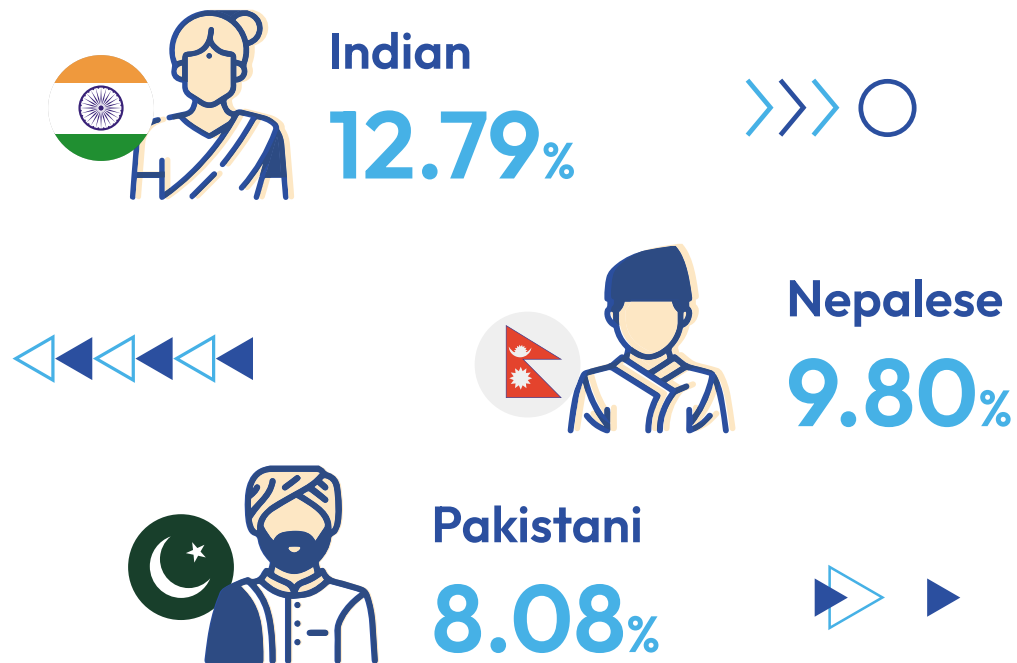
Epilogue: Key Takeaways	33
Limitations	34
Acknowledgment	35

PROLOGUE

Hong Kong is home to more than 300,000 ethnic minorities (EM), constituting 4.1% of the total population in 2021 (excluding foreign domestic workers). However, our community has yet been as inclusive as it should be for them to enjoy equal opportunities, resources and support for a better well-being. With the support of the Kadoorie Charitable Foundation, The Hong Kong Council of Social Service (HKCSS) therefore has launched a few research initiatives under PRAISE since 2021, including the Hong Kong Inclusion and Diversity (HKiD) Index and its supplementary community survey in Kwai Tsing and Yuen Long. These efforts are expected to provide evidence for various stakeholders to embark on discussion and, more importantly, take actions for building an inclusive and diverse society of Hong Kong.

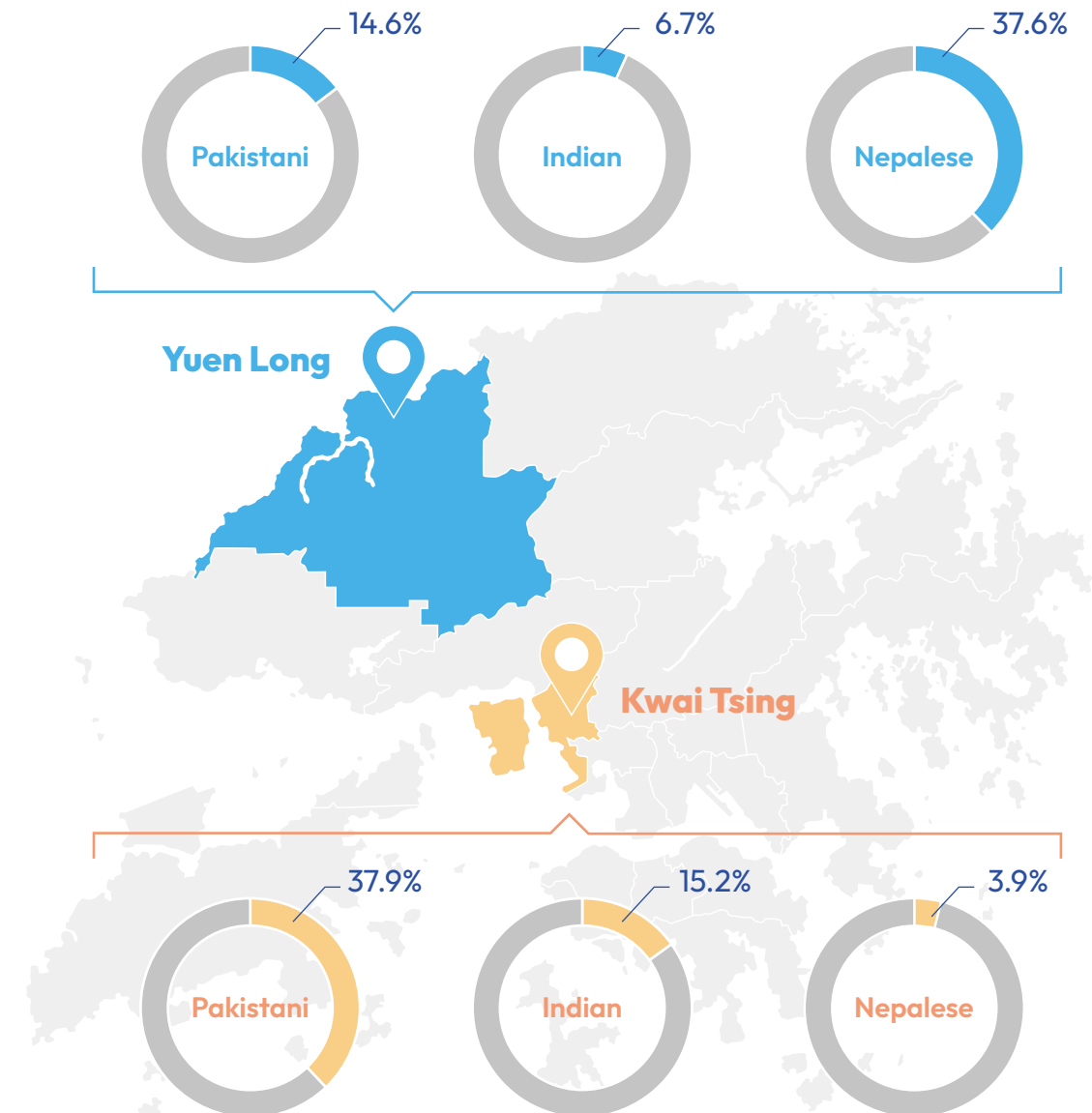
South Asians are one of the largest ethnic minorities (EM) of HK resident groups. They contribute to more than 30% of the whole EM population in Hong Kong. It is also one of the major expanding ethnic groups in Hong Kong. Its population has increased remarkably from 65,521 to 101,969 in 10 years.

Percentage of 3 major groups of South Asians in Hong Kong ethnic minority population¹



¹According to the definition provided by the Census and Statistics Department, "South Asian" encompasses five distinct groups, namely Indians, Pakistanis, Nepalese, Bangladeshis, and Sri Lankans. Among these, Indians, Nepalese, and Pakistanis constitute the major South Asian communities in Hong Kong.

Percentage of 3 major South Asian groups in Yuen Long and Kwai Tsing EM population



Source: 2021 Population Census – Thematic Report: Ethnic Minorities, Census and Statistics Department

ABOUT PRAISE

Project for Adaptation, Inclusion and Social integration for Ethnic minorities (PRAISE), funded by Kadoorie Charitable Foundation, is a collaboration project between The Hong Kong Council of Social Service (HKCSS) and two social service operators in Yuen Long and Kwai Tsing. It aims to create a generational change within the EM community as well as promote EM empowerment and social inclusion in Hong Kong.

Project Objectives

1. Build a network of inclusive community in the two districts
2. Provide psycho-social support to South Asian families and individuals and channel mainstream service access according to their needs
3. Raise the awareness of South Asians for better health management and lifestyles and better access to proper family and educational support
4. Identify and to build capacity of model families and youth leaders in the two districts who would be able to:
 - a. Tackle their issues by accessing corresponding community resources
 - b. Be enablers and role models to assist other South Asian families and young people to do so

Project Focus



ABOUT OUR RESEARCH



The Hong Kong Inclusion and Diversity (HKiD) Index and Community Survey attempt to describe how inclusive and diverse our society has been at different points in time for the ethnic minorities in Hong Kong.

1. Assess the social inclusion in the local community in different life domains
2. Identify the needs of EM through observation

A. Community survey

- 1  Primary data of the 2 service districts within the project's pilot phase
- 2  "Snowballing" method: Sampling 25 Chinese and 25 EM households as seeds in Yuen Long and Kwai Tsing district to fill in the questionnaire. Participants were invited to refer 1-2 person who meet our sampling criteria to complete the questionnaire
- 3  Sampling criteria:
 1. Age>15
 2. Hong Kong resident
 3. Living, working, or studying in Yuen Long or Kwai Tsing
- 4  Data collected by face-to-face interview and phone interview
- 5  Period of data collection: March 2022 to October 2022
- 6  Yuen Long: 100 completed questionnaires from EM & 133 completed questionnaires from Chinese
Kwai Tsing: 100 completed questionnaires from EM & 100 completed questionnaires from Chinese

B. HKiD Index

- 1  Focus Groups: 2 rounds of focus groups with service providers, service users and other stakeholders discussing issues and domains considered relevant to be included in the Index.
- 2  HKiD Expert Group consultation: Experts from academia, social service, public service, and business forming the Expert Group to confirm the items of Index and objective indicators to be included
- 3  A list of objective indicators was finally established and correspondingly data were sought from more than 40 government bureaus, departments, institutions and public organizations. Published sources data would also be consulted.

COMMUNITY SURVEY FRAMEWORK

4 Aspects



7 Domains



This survey aims to assess the challenges faced by ethnic minorities in 3 key areas:

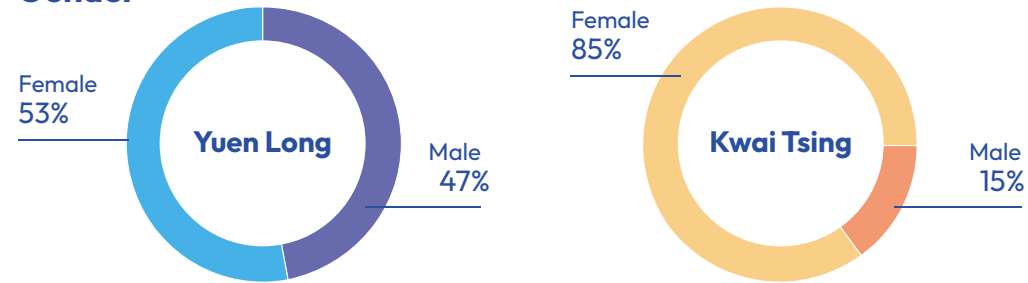
- 1) The level of difficulty they experience in the domain concerned
- 2) The sufficiency of choices of service or support available to them
- 3) The availability of service and support

EM participants were asked to rate on a scale of 0 to 10 among the above key areas in various domains as they currently experienced and as they expected they would be experiencing in 10-year time.

In this research brief, only the findings of Education, Employment, Health, Housing, and Social and Political Participation are reported based on the data collected from Yuen Long and Kwai Tsing. On different sections the survey data of Yuen Long and Kwai Tsing will be contextualized in the bigger context of Hong Kong using the secondary data we successfully obtained.

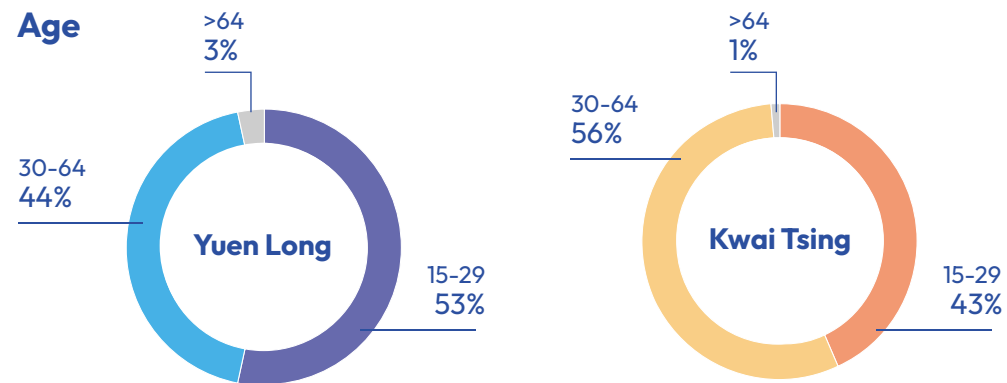
OUR RESPONDENTS IN COMMUNITY SURVEY

Gender



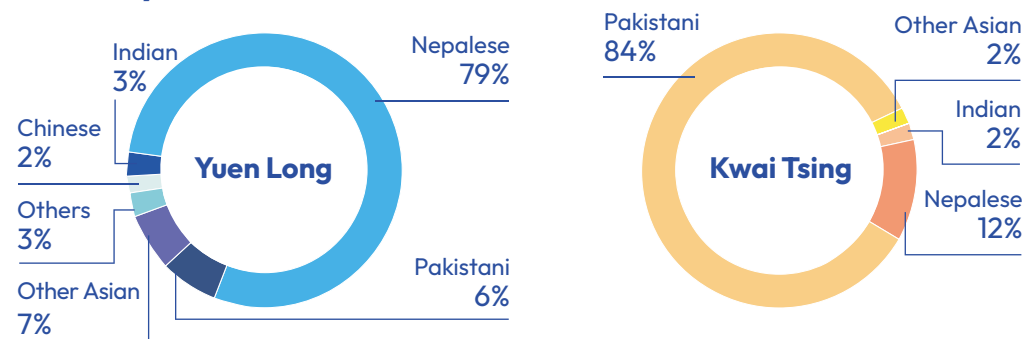
53% are female and 47% are male in the Yuen Long community survey. On the other hand, 85% are female and 15% are male in community survey of Kwai Tsing.

Age



In Yuen Long, more than half the respondents are young adults, aged between 15-29 years old. In Kwai Tsing, 56% of the respondents are aged between 30-64 years old. The next largest age group is 15-29 years old, representing 43% of the respondents.

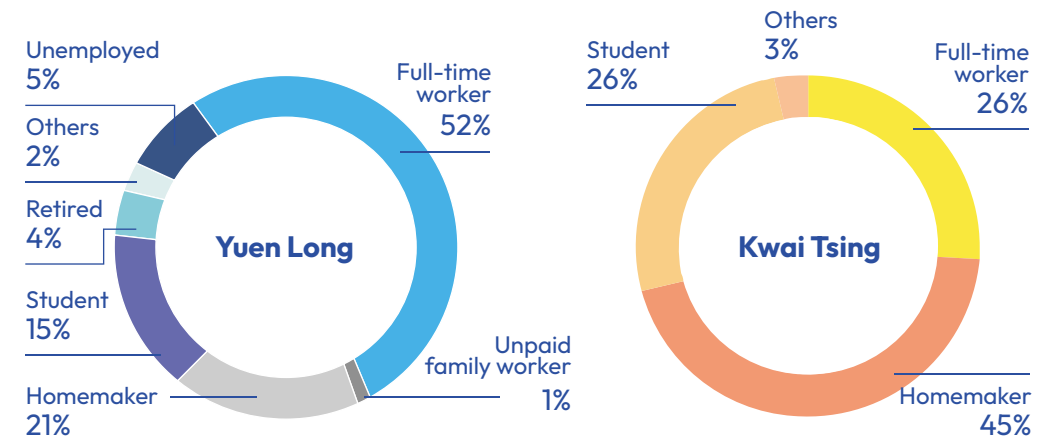
Ethnicity²



The majority ethnic group in the Yuen Long community survey is Nepalese, comprising 82% of the Yuen Long's EM sample. In Kwai Tsing community survey, the majority ethnic group is Pakistani, representing 85% of the Kwai Tsing's respondent.

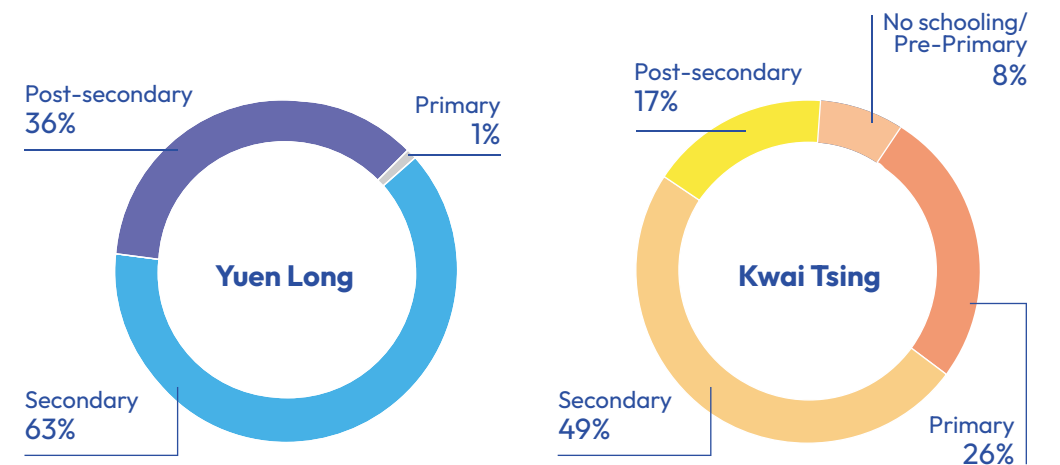
² Multiple-response question. Respondent can choose more than one ethnic, which the sum may add up to more than 100%

Employment Status



In Yuen Long, more than half of the respondents are full-time employees, around 20% of the respondents are homemakers, while 15% are students. In Kwai Tsing, the largest group are home-maker, representing 44% of the respondents.

Education Attainment



The largest group of the respondents in Yuen Long have a secondary education level, accounting for approximately 63%, another 36% of the respondents have a post-secondary education level. For the Kwai Tsing district, 49% of the respondents have a secondary education level, 26% of the respondents have a primary education level.

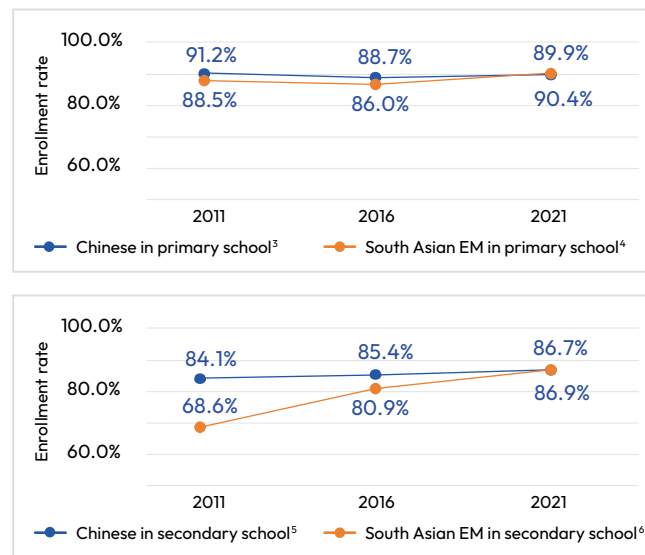


EDUCATION

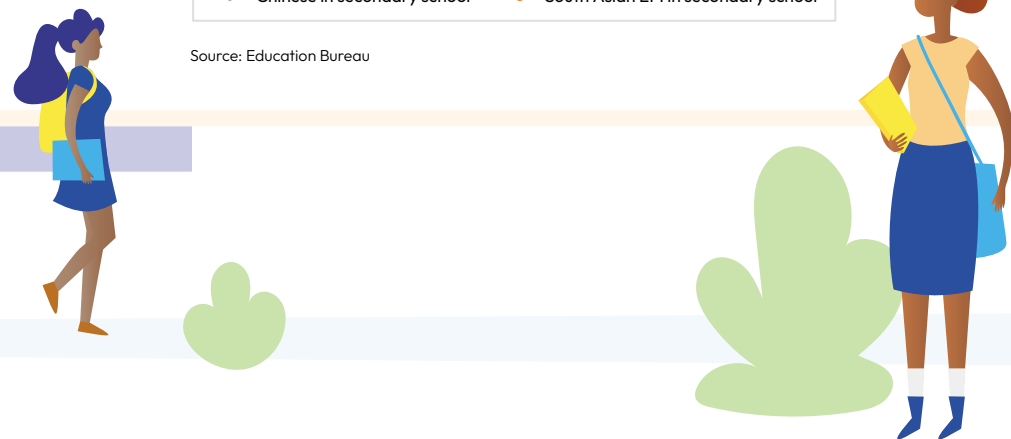
Compulsory and free education ensures children in Hong Kong access to school. However, for the children in the EM community, they face lots of challenges in their learning in school, especially with the adoption of Chinese as medium of instruction and curriculum. It is also difficult for them to pass the Chinese requirement for local university entrance examination.

In spite of the difficulties, many of the EM youths are able to speak fluent Cantonese and many of them are studying Chinese in school. Many of them act as the “communication channel” between their families and the local society. Based on the administration data, enrolment in school, from primary to tertiary education, has increased steadily for children and youths in the EM community in the past decade (Graph 1).

Graph 1: Estimated enrollment rate of Ethnic Minority in Hong Kong



Source: Education Bureau

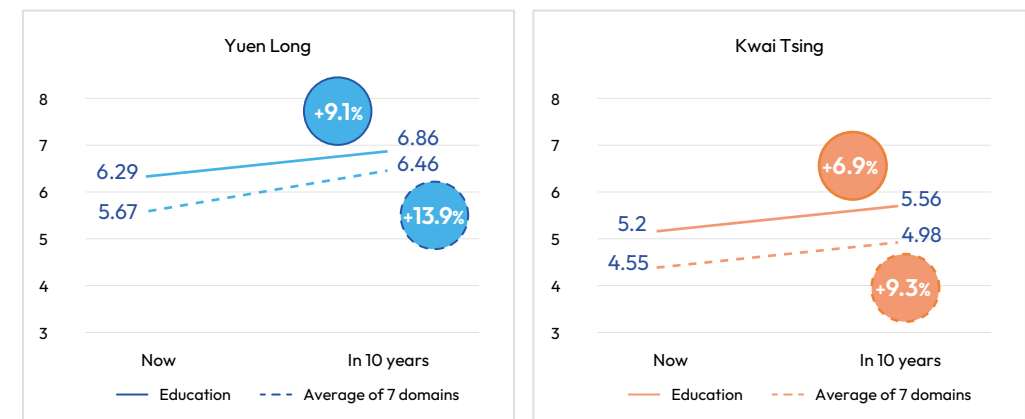


³ The total number of Chinese aged 6-11 who have attended primary school education level/ Total population of 6-11 Chinese
⁴ The total number of South Asian EM aged 6-11 who have attended primary school education level/ Total population of 6-11 South Asian EM
⁵ The total number of Chinese aged 12-17 who have attended secondary school education level/ Total population of 12-17 Chinese
⁶ The total number of South Asian EM aged 12-17 who have attended secondary school education level/ Total population of 12-17 South Asian EM

Equal opportunity to access education in Hong Kong seems to have led to high rating in terms of availability of education. In both Yuen Long and Kwai Tsing district, EM rated rather favorably in terms of availability of education as compared with services in other domains. They also expected that in 10-year time there would be improvement in the availability of education. (Graph 2)

Among 7 domains, EM gave a very high rating on availability of service and support in education, both currently and in the expected future. The rating is the highest across all 7 life domains covered in the survey.

Graph 2: Rating⁷ of Ethnic Minority respondents on availability of service or support in education



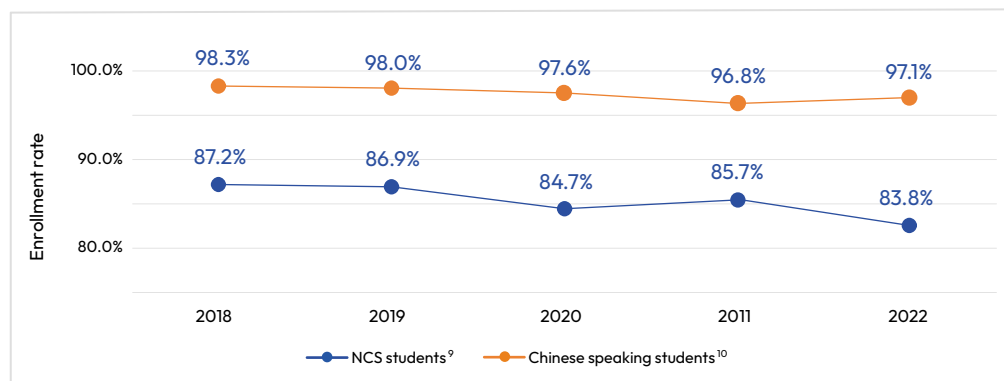
Source: Community Survey



⁷ Respondents were asked to rate on a scale of 0-10, with 0 the lowest and 10 the highest

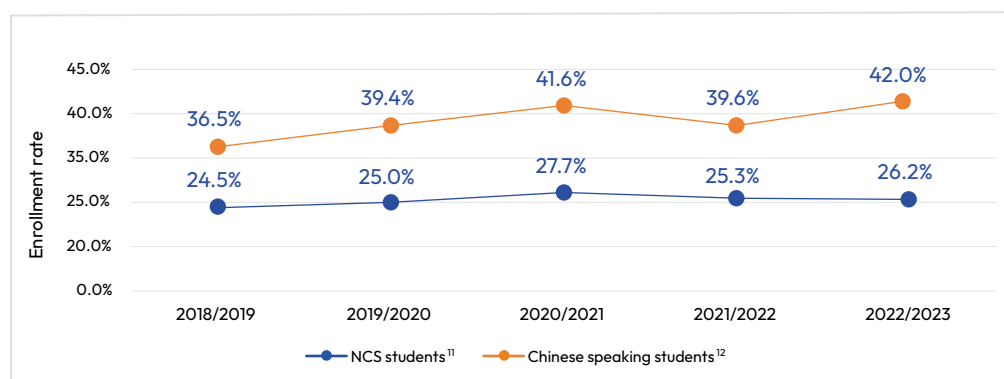
Equal opportunity does not lead to equal outcome. Graph 3 shows that there is obvious difference between non-Chinese speaking (NCS)⁸ and Chinese speaking students in terms of taking DSE, which is publicly recognized qualification for tertiary level education in HK. Graph 4 shows that although the percentage of NCS students entering UGC-funded programme is on an increase over time, it is still way less than that of Chinese speaking students.

Graph 3: Estimated percentage of NCS students and Chinese speaking students taking HKDSE examination



Source: Hong Kong Examinations and Assessment Authority

Graph 4: Estimated percentage of school candidates entering HKDSE enrolled in UGC-funded post-secondary education



Source: University Grants Committee and Education Bureau

⁸ Non-Chinese Speaking (NCS) students are those whose first language is not Chinese, regardless of their race. In general, the term "NCS", instead of "ethnic minority", is used in administrative data on education.

⁹ Number of NCS school candidates entering the HKDSE/ Total NCS Form 6 student

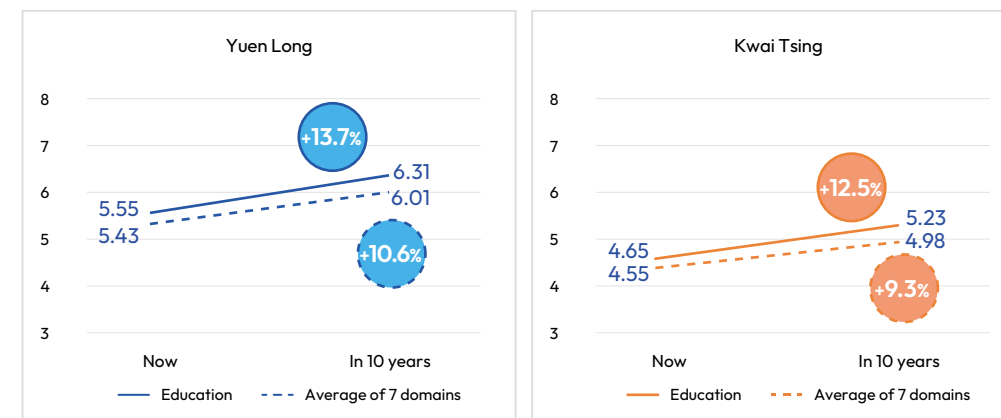
¹⁰ Number of Chinese speaking school candidates entering the HKDSE/ Total Chinese speaking Form 6 student

¹¹ Number of Chinese speaking students enrolled in UGC/Number of Chinese speaking school candidates entering for the DSE in last 4 years

¹² Number of NCS students enrolled in UGC/Number of NCS school candidates entering for the DSE in last 4 years

Despite the education outcome is not desirable, EM respondents expressed an optimistic expectation in our survey in terms of sufficiency of choice in education in 10 years, though EM respondents from Yuen Long rated only 5.55 and those from Kwai Tsing rated only 4.65 on a scale of 0-10 for sufficiency of education currently (Graph 5). EM reported in our community survey that the current sufficiency of choice in education and in 10-year time was higher than average.

Graph 5: Rating of Ethnic Minority respondents on sufficiency of choice in education



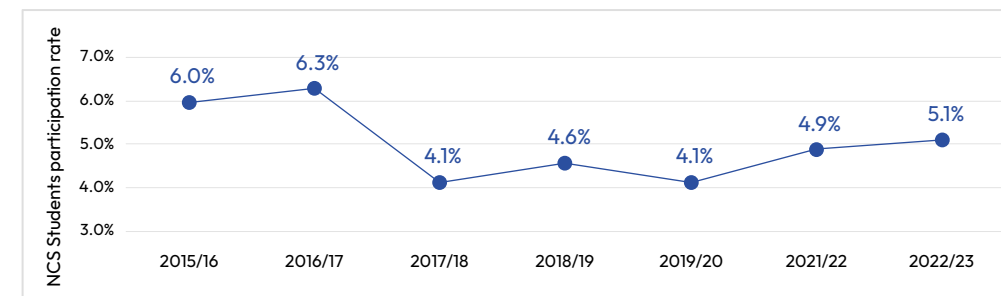
Source: Community Survey

Service or support for NCS students in education

There are some educational supports for NCS students in the city. However, data shown in Graph 6 indicates that the participation rate of one of these supports, namely Student Support Programme (SSP), has been extremely low so far.

Since 2007, tertiary institutes have set up Chinese Language Learning Support Centers in different locations. These centers provide additional programs after school or during holidays to help NCS students improve their language skills, especially those who started learning Chinese late.

Graph 6: NCS Students participation rate in SSP for NCS Students (after-school Chinese classes) over total NCS students



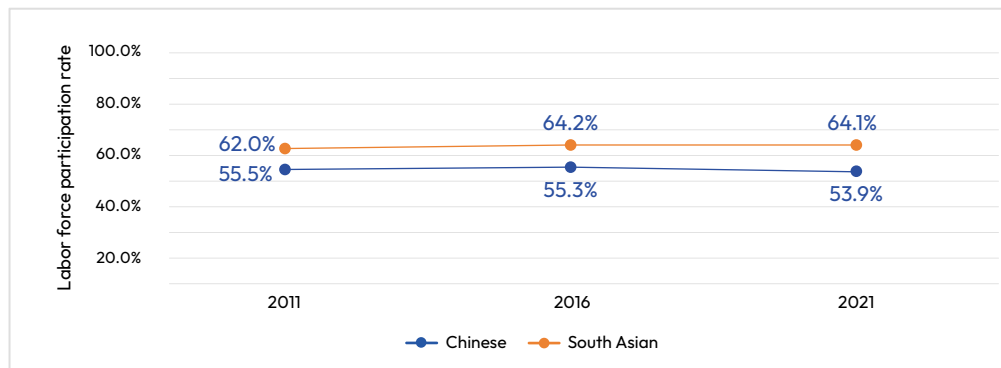
Source: Education Bureau



EMPLOYMENT

Based on the labour force participation rate, the employment situation of the EM seems to be more favorable than that of the Chinese over time. Graph 7 shows clearly that the labour force participation rate of the EM is way higher than that of Chinese.

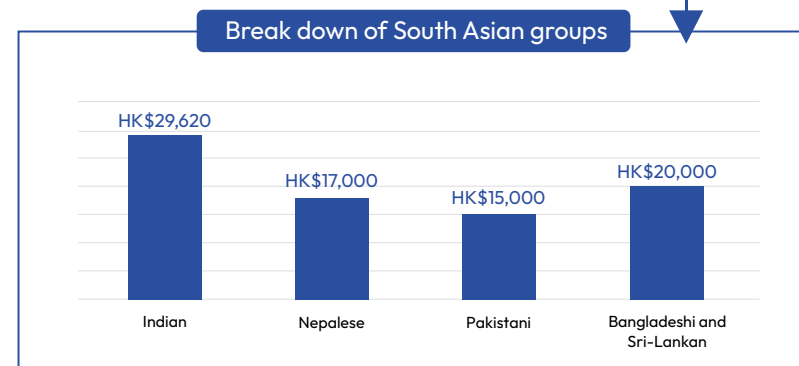
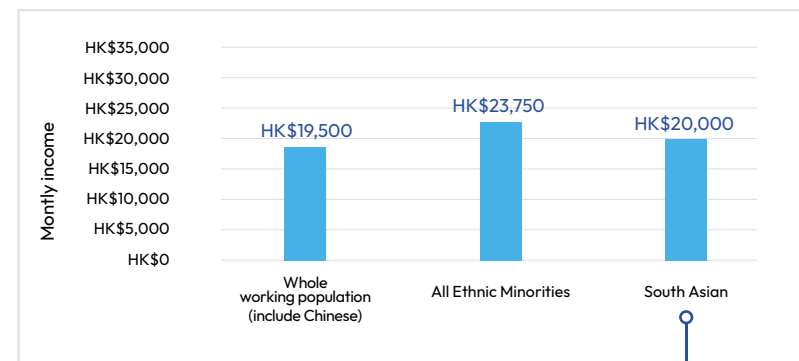
Graph 7: Labor force participation rate of Ethnic Minorities and Chinese



Source: Education Bureau

Access to labour market is one thing. Access to well-paid and quality jobs is quite another. Less access to higher education restricts career development of some EM while low or irrelevant qualifications of the older generation may only earn them low-skilled and low-paying casual jobs (Graph 8). We often heard that in order to earn more income, some individuals are compelled to engage in “3D jobs”—dirty, dangerous, and demeaning occupations. Consequently, EM teenagers often have to prematurely leave school to support their families, especially in some families, some boys are expected to earn fast money. Therefore, the labor force participation of EM is higher than that of Chinese. Yet once in these 3D jobs, there are minimal opportunities and time available for vocational upskilling, and lead to less chance of social upward mobility.

Graph 8: Monthly median income by ethnicity (not including domestic helper)

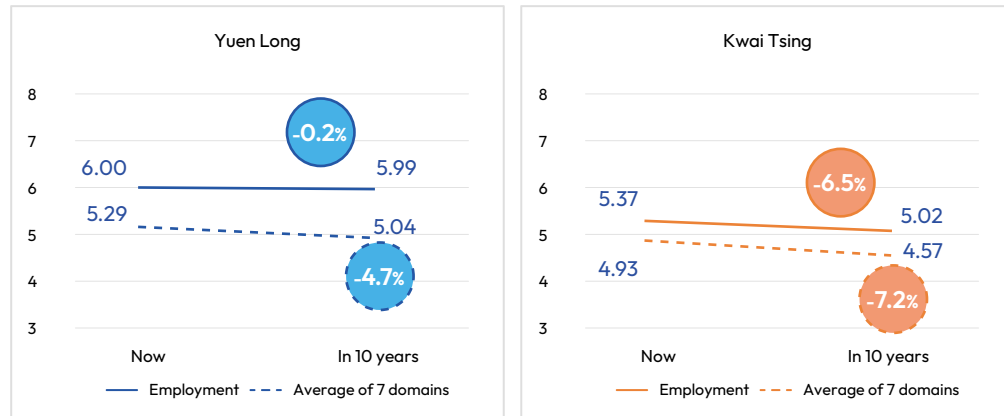


Source: Census and Statistics Department



Despite a general optimism among EM respondents in both districts, as shown by their rating in other domains, is observed in our survey, EM respondents rated employment the second biggest difficulty among all life domains, both in present and in future. They also expected little improvement in 10-year time (Graph 9).

Graph 9: Rating of Ethnic Minority respondents on difficulty in employment



Source: Community Survey

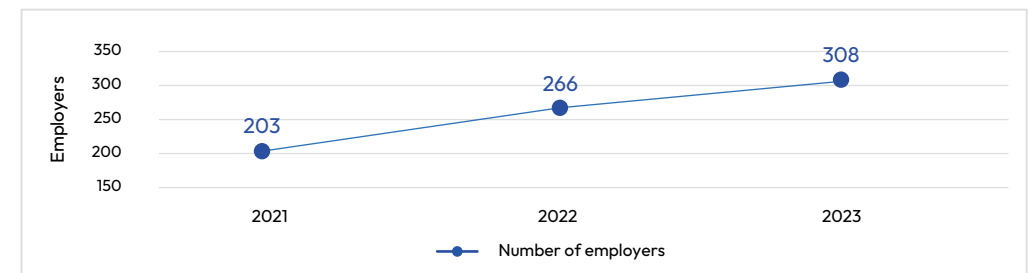
Service or support in employment

Support by Employers

Service or support in employment for EM community is not lacking but there seems to be still big room for improvement. The most effective means is considered to be support directly provided by the employers. While we do not have data to assess how majority of employers have been doing, employers signing up for **Racial Diversity and Inclusion Charter (RDIC, or in below, the Charter) of Equal Opportunities Commission** remain very small in number (Graph 10).

The Charter is supposed to encourage and promote racial diversity and inclusion workplace, the Charter aims to give interested employers a checklist of policies and practices to assess how inclusive they are.

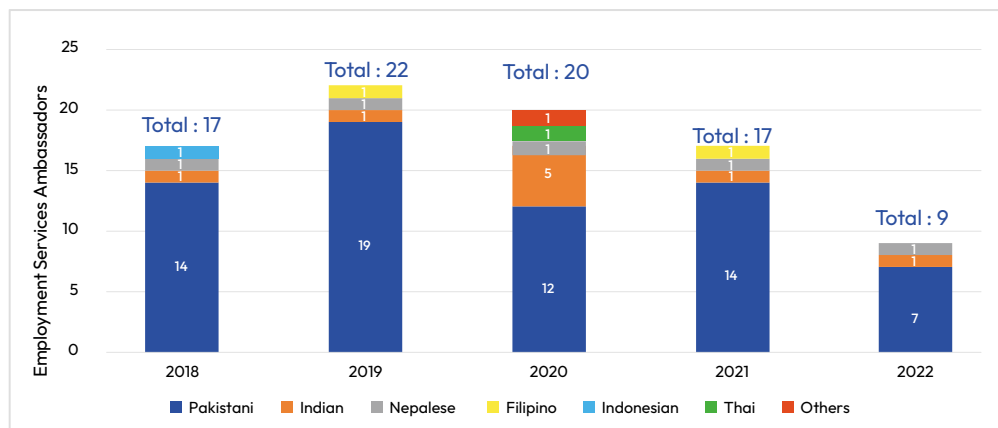
Graph 10: Number of employers who sign the RDIC



Support by government or other bodies

Since 2014, under the **Employment Services Ambassador Programme for Ethnic Minorities**, the Labor Department employs Employment Service Ambassadors as a trainee from the Youth Employment and Training Program. They are supposed to provide and promote employment services for job seekers of ethnic minorities in Job Centers and Recruitment centers of the Labor Department. However, the number of Ambassadors engaged is neither large nor increasing over time (Graph 11).

Graph 11: Number of working EM Employment Services Ambassadors at Labour Department job centres by ethnicity



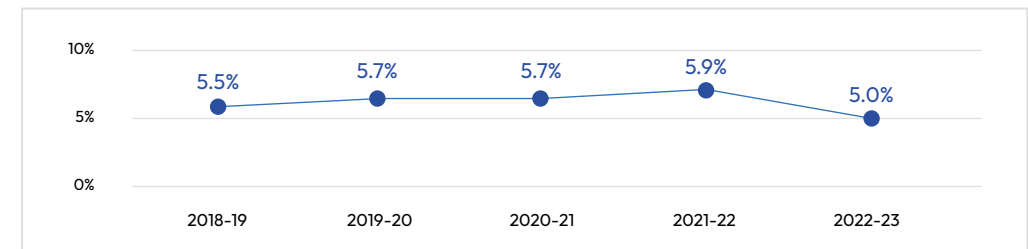
Source: Labour Department



The training courses by Employees Retraining Board (ERB) for Ethnic Minorities are supposed to broaden ethnic minorities' opportunities through the provision of suitable training and employment services. As the EM population increases over time, the training courses offered by ERB for EM specifically kept increasing until 2022-23, when there was quite significant drop.

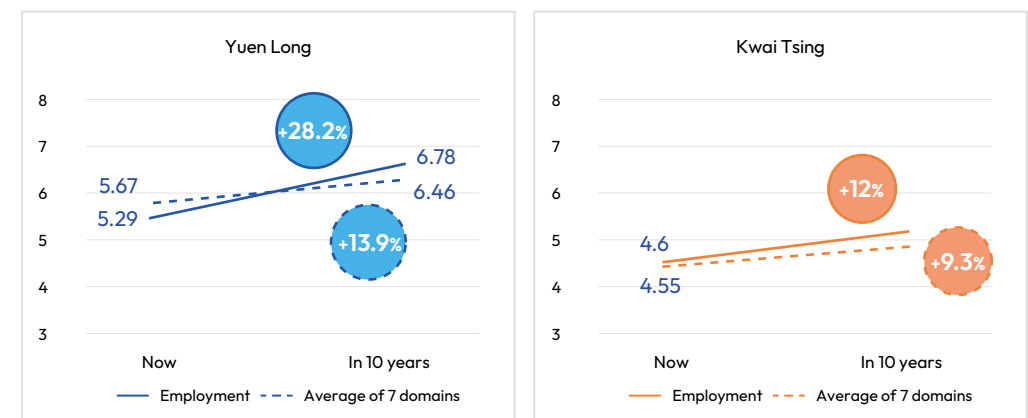
While the support in employment is not very remarkable, EM respondents in our survey were optimistic in terms of availability of service or support in employment. Kwai Tsing respondents reported that service and support is more available in employment than the average of all life domains. While Yuen Long respondents gave employment the second lowest rating on availability service or support, they expected that it would have the biggest improvement in 10-year time.

Graph 12: Number of ERB's Training Courses for Ethnic Minorities over the total number of ERB courses



Source: Employees Retraining Board

Graph 13: Rating of Ethnic Minority respondents on availability of service or support in employment



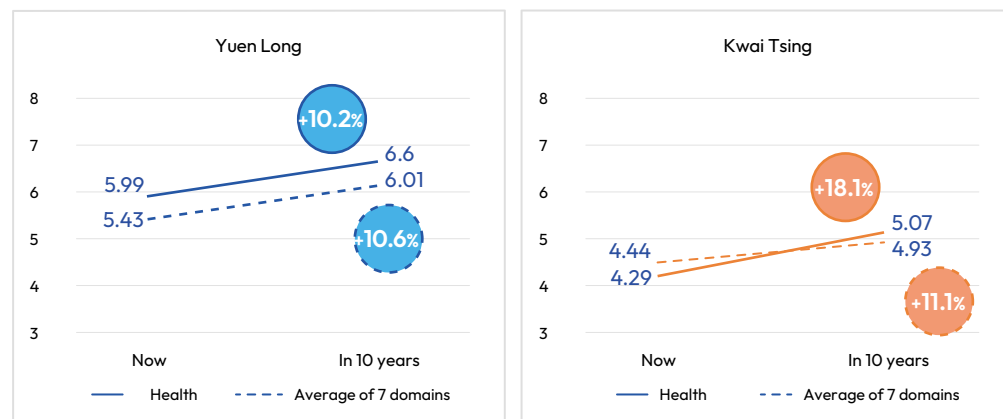
Source: Community Survey

HEALTH

Hong Kong has one of the finest healthcare systems in the world. All Hong Kong permanent residents, including ethnicity minorities, could access to public health service at a reasonable price. However, in the community survey, EM from different districts were giving contrasting response on service and support in health domain. Sufficiency of choice and availability were rated by Yuen Long EM respondents as the best or nearly the best among all 7 domains both currently and in 10-year time. They also expected that these two areas would be improved in the future (Graph 14 & 15).

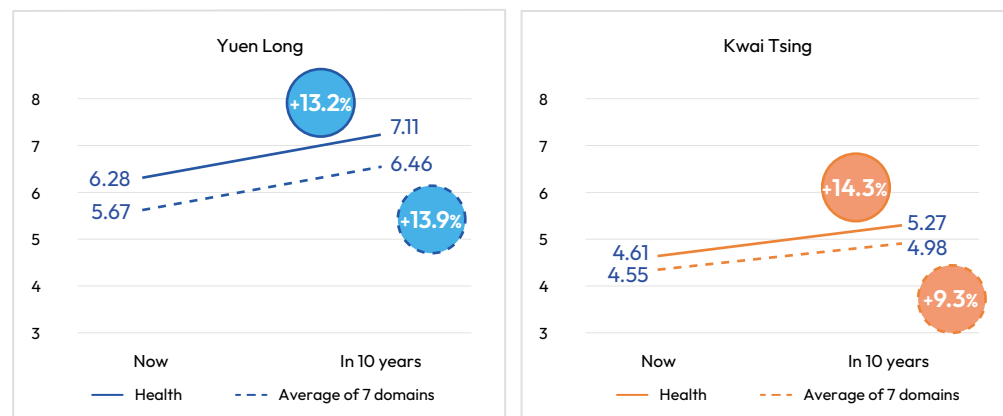
On the other hand, Kwai Tsing EMs reported that sufficiency of choice and availability in health service and support are just around average of all seven domains. However, they were quite optimistic that these two areas would be improved the most among all life domains which makes it the second-best life domain in 10 years (Graph 14 & 15).

Graph 14: Rating of Ethnic Minority respondents on sufficiency of choice in health



Source: Community Survey

Graph 15: Rating of Ethnic Minority respondents on availability service or support in health



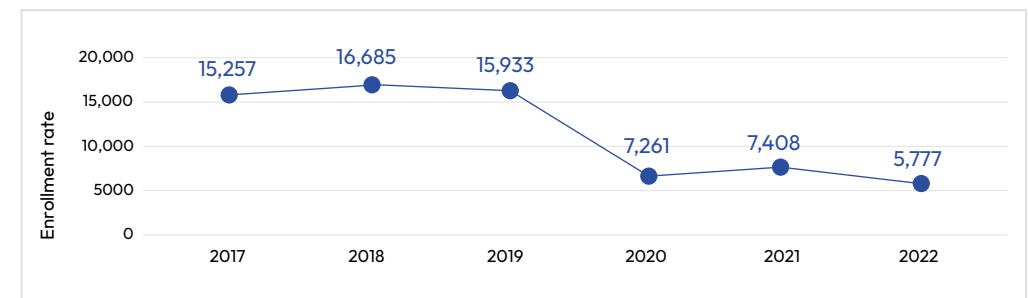
Source: Community Survey

Nevertheless, their opinion cannot be checked against administrative data. Key statistics related to health of the EM community, such as vital statistics and infant vaccination rate, are not available. Their overall health situation is yet to be explored.

Service or support in health

To support the EM community, the Hospital Authority has been providing interpretation services covering 17 languages in their hospitals and clinics. However, the use rate of this service remains at a low level. As shown in Graph 16, the number of completed interpretation services never exceed 20,000 each year during 2017-2022, and there has been a declining trend since 2018.

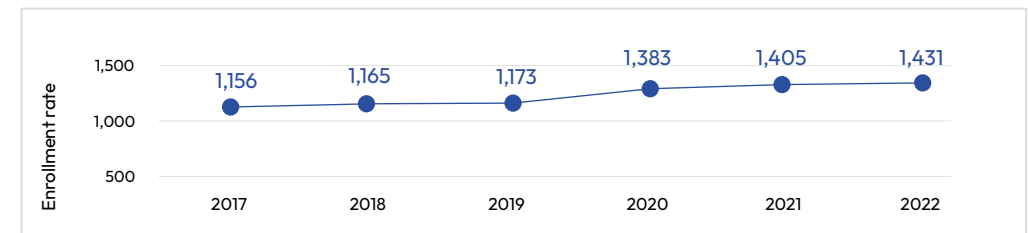
Graph 16: Number of completed medical interpretation services by Hospital Authority per year



Source: Hospital Authority

In addition to interpretation service, HA has been producing health related publications in 18 languages, including Urdu, Punjabi, Bengali and Hindi. The number of multiple language publications published kept increasing over time but still low in number considering the increasing population of EM (Graph 17).

Graph 17: The number of publications in Ethnic Minority languages by Hospital Authority

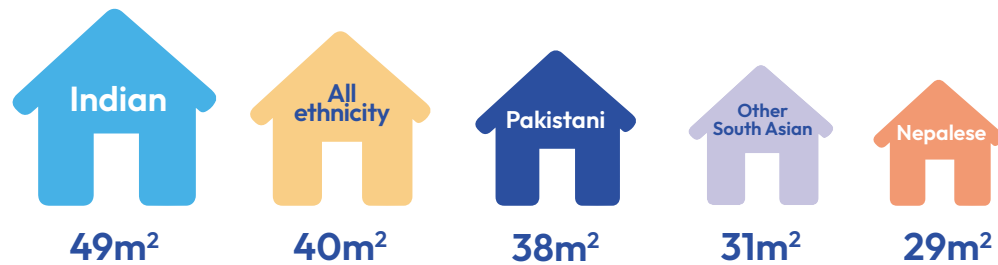


Source: Hospital Authority

HOUSING

Housing remains a big challenge to many of the households in Hong Kong, regardless of ethnicity. However, EM community members are hit harder compared to the general public, according to frontline experiences. For example, the EM community generally have larger family sizes, resulting in need of bigger flats. But in fact, South Asian households (except Indian households) are living in smaller space than the overall population (Graph 18).

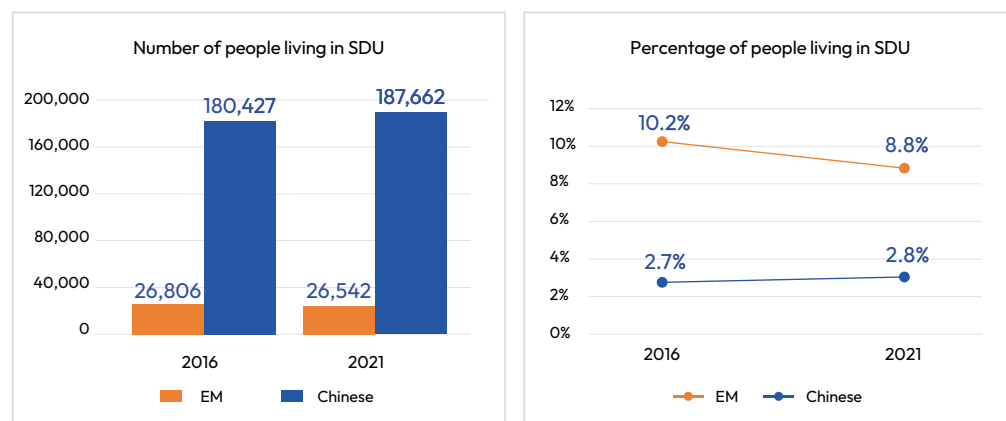
Graph 18: Median floor area of accommodation by ethnic group



Source: 2021 Population Census Thematic Report: Ethnic Minorities, Census and Statistics Department

They also lack market information and face language barriers and result in hardship of finding affordable and appropriate housing. On the other hand, some landlords have shown reluctance to lease properties to EM families, leaving them with limited options and forcing them to accept less desirable housing conditions, like higher rents and poorer living environment. Also, many EMs have to live in subdivided units. The rate of EM living in subdivided units is way higher than that of Chinese (Graph 19).

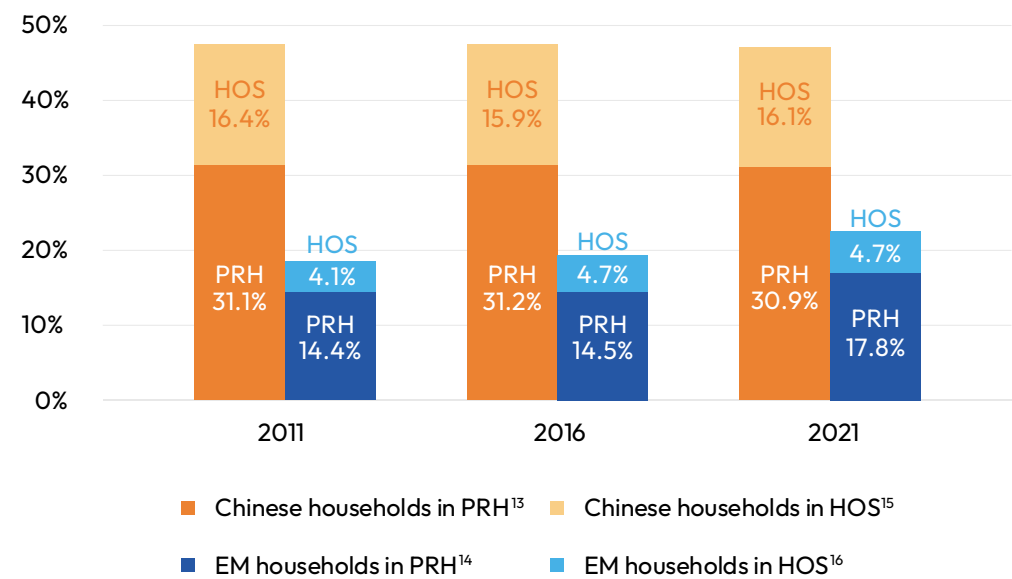
Graph 19: Number of Ethnic Minorities living in subdivided units as compared with that of Chinese



Source: 2021 Population Census - Thematic Report: Persons Living in Subdivided Units, Census and Statistics Department

For ordinary EM households who cannot afford adequate housing, public housing, including Public Rental House (PRH) and Home Ownership Scheme (HOS), could be a better choice. However, as we could see in official data, EM households seem to have relatively less access to public housing when comparing with Chinese households. As shown in Graph 20, in spite of an increasing rate of EM households living in Public Rental Housing, this rate has been consistently lower than that of Chinese households over time. Also, the rate of EM households living in flat purchased under HOS is only one third of the rate of Chinese households.

Graph 20: Estimated percentage of households of Ethnic Minorities living in public housing as compared with that of Chinese

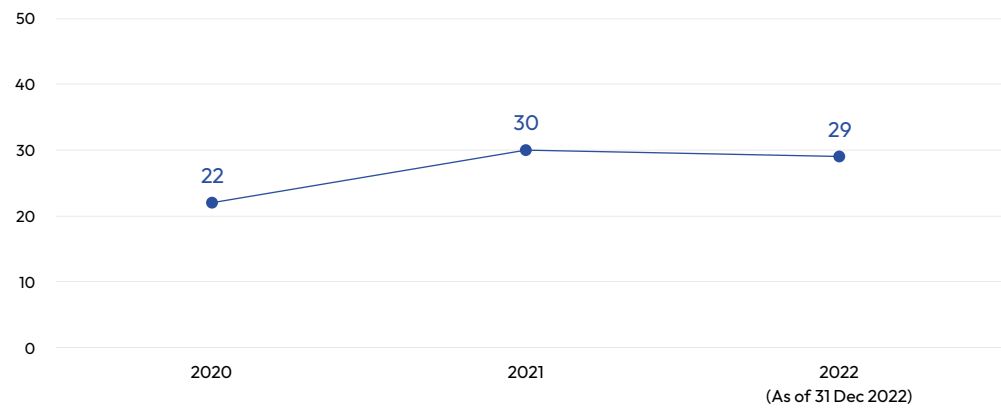


Source: Census and Statistics Department

¹³ Number of Chinese households living in PRH/ Total number of Chinese households
¹⁴ Number of EM households living in PRH/ Total number of EM households
¹⁵ Number of Chinese households purchased under HOS/ Total number of Chinese households
¹⁶ Number of EM households purchased under HOS/ Total number of EM households

Although the Housing Authority, just like Hospital Authority, provides interpretation service to people in need, including applicants of public housing, there were only a few cases of completed interpretation service provided (Graph 21).

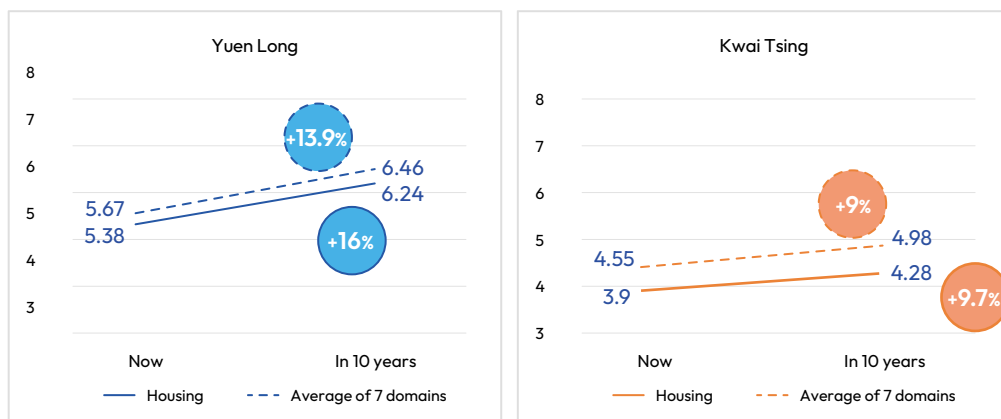
Graph 21: Number of completed interpretation services by Housing Authority per year



Source: Housing Authority

Regardless of district, EM respondents of the community survey also rated that the available services and support in housing was not high and the rating was less than the average of all life aspects, both in the present and in the future (Graph 22).

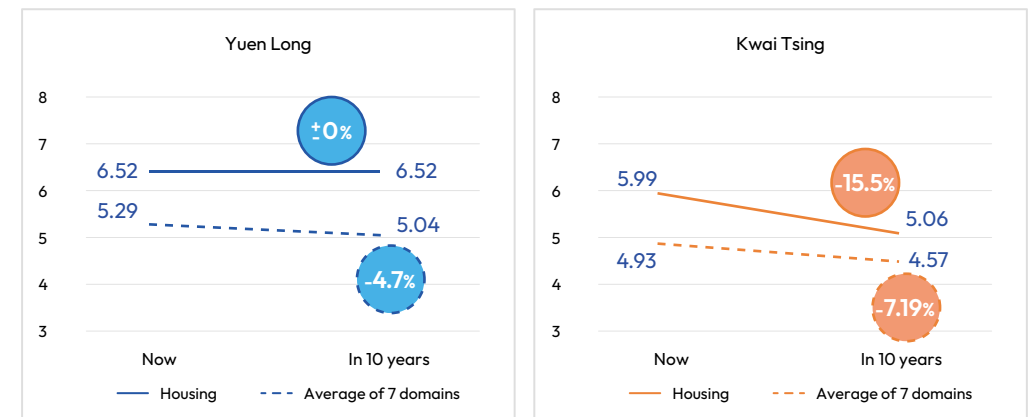
Graph 22: Rating of Ethnic Minority respondents on availability service or support in housing



Source: Community Survey

Thus, it is not surprising that EM respondents from both districts find housing the most difficult domain of life among all other life aspects, no matter now or 10 years later (Graph 23).

Graph 23: Rating of Ethnic Minority respondents on difficulty in housing



Source: Community Survey





SOCIAL AND POLITICAL PARTICIPATION

Ethnic minorities seem to be disconnected from the broader social fabric of the community, exhibiting a sense of apathy towards social issues that affect their rights and relying on others to address their problems. It is observed that many of the EM seem to have enjoyed lesser access to participation in society, even for those who were born and raised here.

Unfortunately, there is lack of administrative data to show the situation of ethnic minorities in the Social and Political Participation domain. The only obtainable data regarding EM participation in Hong Kong is their representation as members of advisory statutory bodies. But the data were reported as a range due to the figures were based on staff observations by the corresponding authority (Graph 24).

Graph 24: Estimated number of advisory statutory bodies (ASBs) with Ethnic Minority members over that of the total number of ASBs

	2021	2022
Percentage of ASBs with EM member(s)	7.75 ~ 9.49%	7.77~ 9.52%

Source: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau & Home and Youth Affairs Bureau

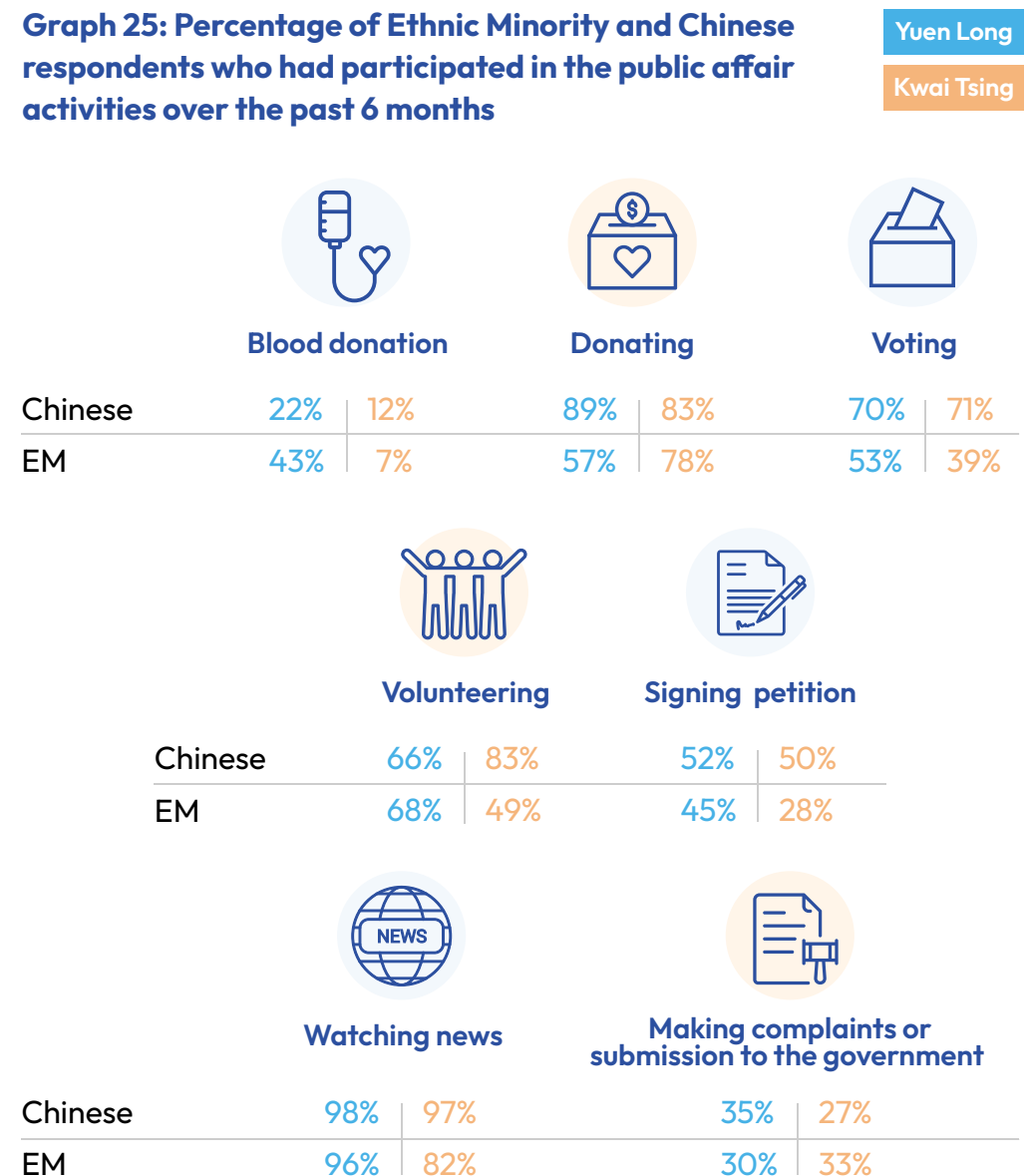


Source: Community Survey

Our community survey provides some data to probe into their pattern of participation. Graph 25 shows the involvement of EM and Chinese in public affairs in both districts. Respondents of ethnic minorities in Yuen Long tend to participate more in blood donation than those of Chinese. On the other hand, Chinese respondents tend to have a higher involvement in donating and voting.

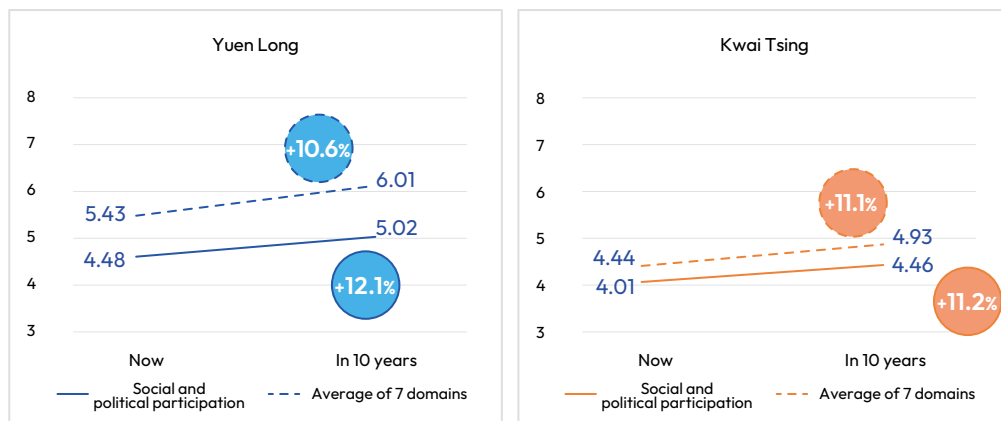
In Kwai Tsing district, Chinese respondents have a higher involvement in participating in the public affair activities. The involvement of Chinese respondents in activities such as voting, volunteering, and signing petitions was significantly higher than that of EM respondents.

Graph 25: Percentage of Ethnic Minority and Chinese respondents who had participated in the public affair activities over the past 6 months



The majority of EM respondents reported that the sufficiency of choices and availability of services or support in the social and political participation was lower than those of the average of all 7 life domains in both districts. Graph 26 shows that EM rated only 4.48 and 4.01 on a scale of 0-10 for Social and Political Participation in Yuen Long and Kwai Tsing respectively, which is the lowest rating across all 7 life domains in both districts. They did not expect much improvement either in 10 years.

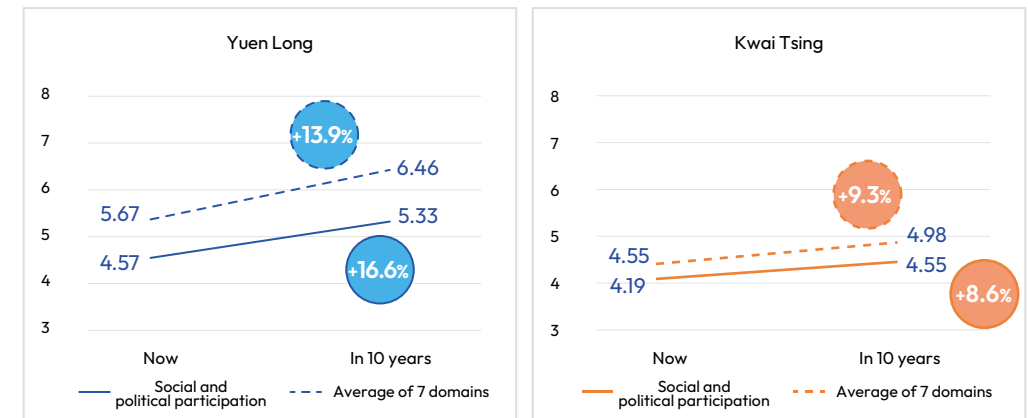
Graph 26: Rating of Ethnic Minority respondents on sufficiency of choice in social and political participation



Source: Community Survey

In Graph 27, EM respondents reported that the availability of services or support in the social and political participation was lower than the average among seven domains in both districts. Also, they did not expect much improvement either in 10 years.

Graph 27: Rating of Ethnic Minority respondents on availability service or support in social and political participation



Source: Community Survey

The data in the community survey indicates that among all 7 life domains social and political participation is the biggest challenge for ethnic minorities in Hong Kong. Although there is an expectation of some improvement in the next decade, they do not believe that there would be much improvement.

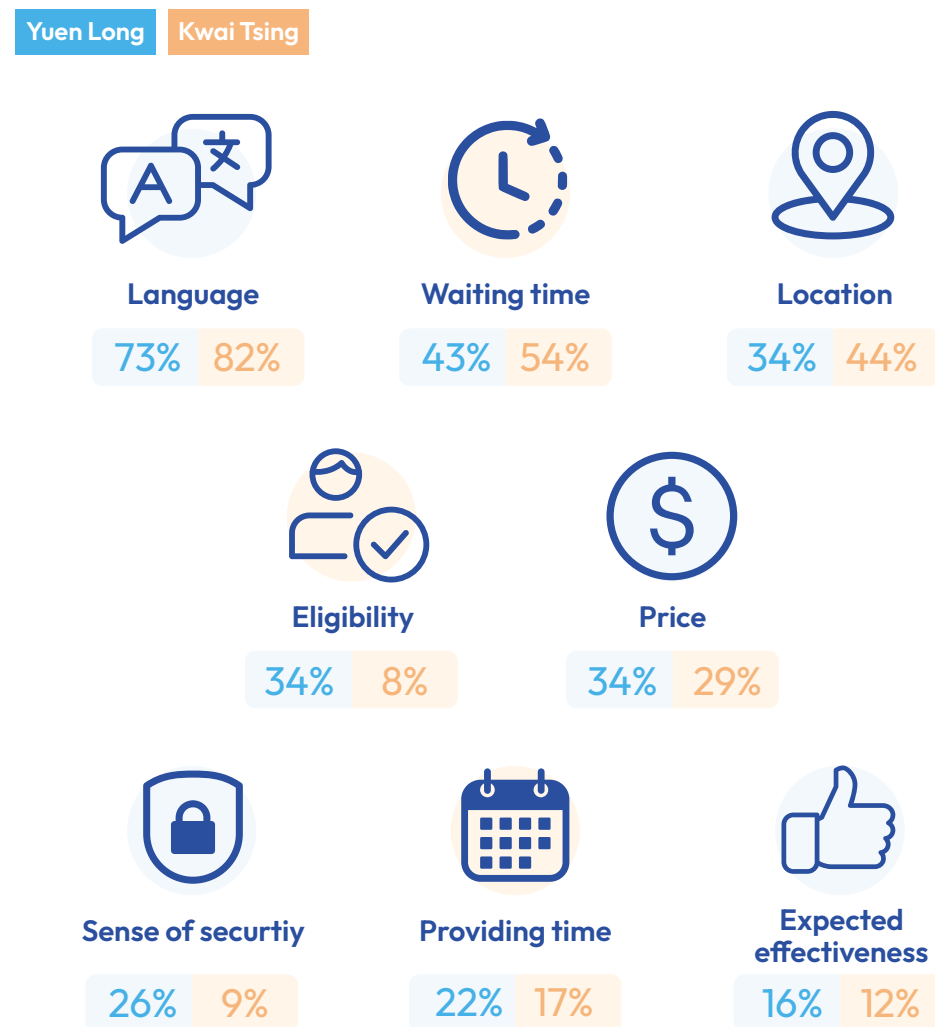


Access to Social Service

Ethnic minorities often find it difficult to access social services due to existing barriers. According to Graph 28, the ethnic minority respondents in the community survey reported that language was the biggest obstacle to accessing social services in both districts.

Graph 28: Factors affecting Ethnic Minority respondents' willingness to use service or support in the above domains

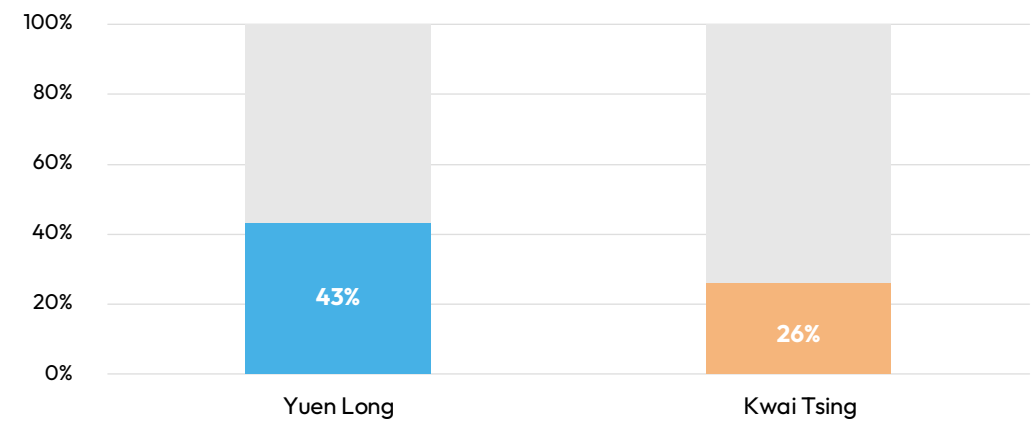
(Respondents may choose more than one factor)



Source: Community Survey

Despite the barriers to accessing social services, only 43% of Yuen Long's ethnic minority and 26% of Kwai Tsing's ethnic minority were informed about the available services and support in the aforementioned domains. Conversely, over half of the ethnic minority respondents in Yuen Long and Kwai Tsing reported that they were not aware of the services and support specifically tailored to their needs (Graph 29).

Graph 29: Percentage of Ethnic Minority respondents informed about the service and support in 7 domains¹⁷



Source: Community Survey



¹⁷ In the survey, respondents were asked "as compared with Chinese with a similar background, how informed do you think you are about service or support in the above domains of life on a scale of 0-10". The higher the score, the more informed of the service or support in 7 domains the respondent perceive to be. Respondents who gave a score higher than 5 are considered being informed about the service and support in 7 domains. Please refer to Page 6 for the 7 domains.

Social Association and Interaction with Chinese

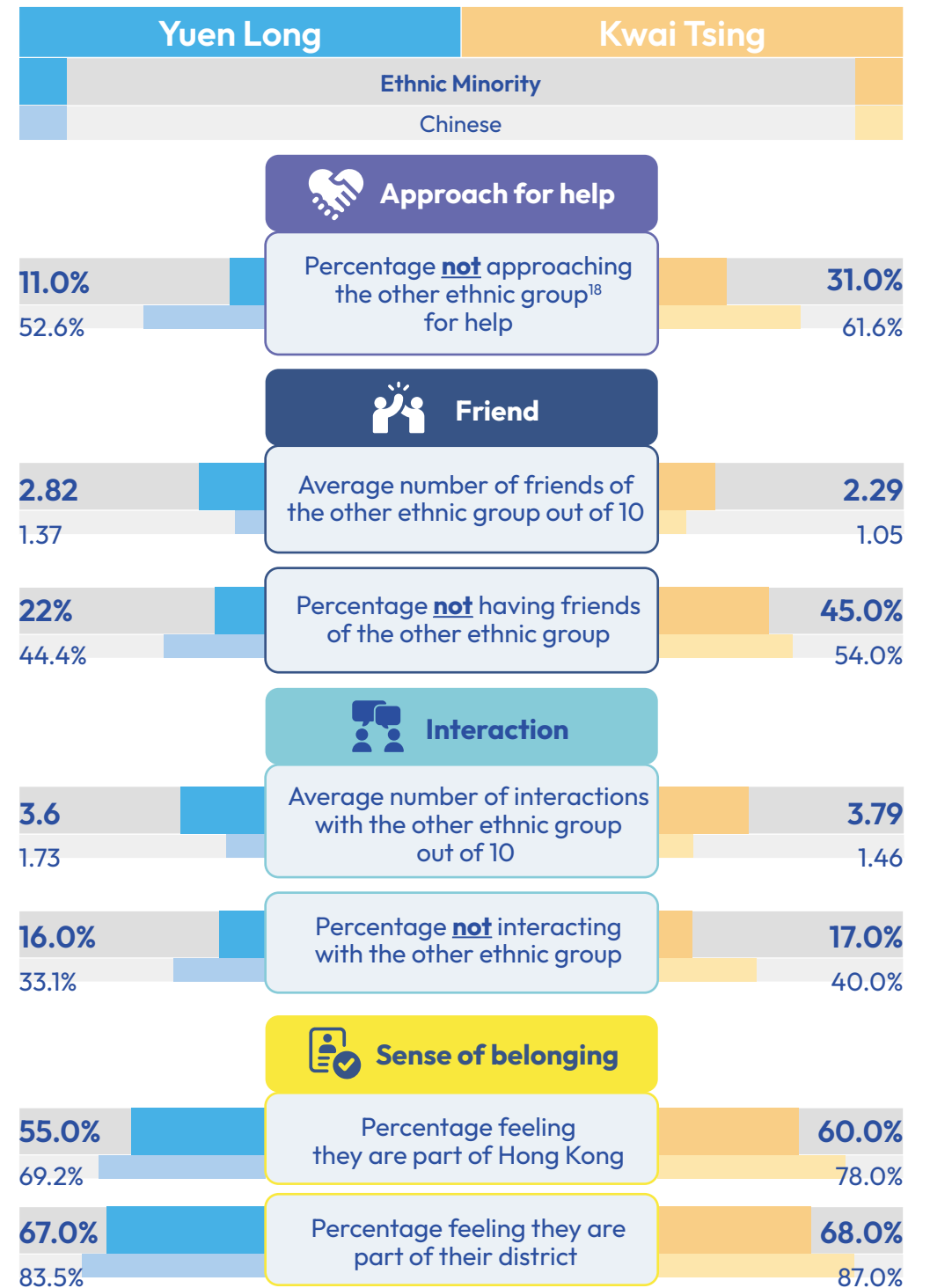
In times of difficulty, ethnic minorities often seek assistance from their own ethnic communities. According to our community survey data, over 10% of ethnic minority respondents in Yuen Long did not engage in interactions with Chinese individuals and therefore might not approach them for help and support, and in Kwai Tsing more than 30% EM would not approach Chinese for help (Graph 30).

But, in terms of daily interactions between Chinese and ethnic minorities, it is observed that ethnic minority respondents tend to have more Chinese friends than Chinese respondents have EM friends. Ethnic minority respondents tend to high frequency of interaction with the Chinese compared to the interaction Chinese respondents have with ethnic minorities (Graph 30).

When comparing the sense of belonging to Yuen Long or Kwai Tsing and Hong Kong between ethnic minority respondents and Chinese respondents in the community survey, it was found that Chinese respondents had a stronger sense of belonging overall. However, both groups have a higher sense of belonging to their own community, i.e. Yuen Long and Kwai Tsing, compared to Hong Kong as a whole (Graph 30).



Graph 30: Social association, interaction and sense of belonging between the Ethnic Minority and the Chinese respondents



Source: Community Survey

¹⁸ In the survey, EM respondents are asked whether they would approach Chinese for help, vice versa. This applies to the whole table.



EPILOGUE : KEY TAKEAWAYS



Present

In the domains of basic livelihood including education, employment, health and housing, although there seems to be not much initial denial of opportunity to access related social institutions, the ethnic minorities in Hong Kong experience more difficulties than the Chinese in the process. In education and employment, for example, school enrollment and labour force participation of the EM are generally comparable to that of the Chinese. However, the process in which they obtain education and they participate in labour market is often a different story of being disadvantaged.

Concerning their social and political participation, EM's participation or footprint is limited. Limited social participation also shapes their social network, which defines their livelihood quite significantly.



Future

Despite having experienced more difficulties, achieved fewer desirable outcomes and got no substantial support, the EM respondents in our survey consistently showed a much higher level of optimism towards the future in terms of the level of difficulty, availability of support and service as well as the sufficiency of choices in these basic life domains. Given the difficulties or challenges they consistently experience, the source of such optimism is unknown and deserves further exploration.

LIMITATIONS

1

Data gaps to be filled

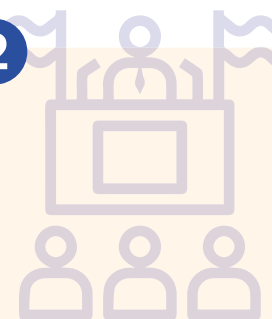
The lack of administration data is itself symptomatic of how the ethnic minorities have been rather invisible if not totally excluded. Administrative data may not capture the complete demographic profile of a population, especially if certain ethnic groups are underrepresented or excluded from official records. Administration data such as school enrollment rate and labor participation rate cannot provide a comprehensive assessment of social inclusivity. However, without these publicly accessible data in terms of ethnicity, we are not able to understand the inclusion in public arena.



2

Issue of representativeness

Due to time and resource constraint, the Community Survey can only cover two districts. Data obtained from the survey therefore can only serve as reference only and should not be interpreted as representing the whole picture of social inclusion in Hong Kong.



3

Homogeneity of respondents

Limited by snowball sampling, many respondents of the community survey share similar characteristics, for example, most of the respondents are female. Opinions from other social groups might not be represented by the survey.





ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The Social Impact Assessment Team of HKCSS expresses deep gratitude to all those who have contributed to the HKiD Index and community survey, including the HKiD Expert Group, HKiD Focus Groups attendants, youth leaders participated in the data collection, parties who have provided data for the HKiD Index, and the members of the public joining the survey.

Our sincere appreciation also goes to the Kadoorie Charitable Foundation for their generous contributions, as well as the collaboration between our two local partners, HKSKH Lady MacLehose Centre and Yuen Long Town Hall. We hope that the findings of these research efforts will make a meaningful contribution to promoting social inclusion.

The Hong Kong Council of Social Service (HKCSS)

The HKCSS is a statutory body established in 1947. Together with our Agency Members, we uphold social justice and equality in our mission to advance the well-being of the Hong Kong community. The HKCSS is committed to building an impact-oriented, collaborative and innovative social service sector, and co-creating a better society with stakeholders across different sectors. The HKCSS has over 510 Agency Members, with service units throughout Hong Kong, providing high-quality social services to those in need.



Neighbours in Numbers: Understanding ethnic minority community in Yuen Long and Kwai Tsing

左鄰右里：元朗及葵青的少數族裔社群數據

Published by

Policy Research & Advocacy
The Hong Kong Council of Social Service



Supervisor

Anthony Wong

Researcher

Tiffany Chan | Daniel Ng | Polar Law

Address

13/F, Duke of Windsor Social Service Building,
15 Hennessy Road, Wanchai, Hong Kong

Telephone

2864 2929

Fax

2864 2999

Website

www.hkcss.org.hk



This project is funded by
The Kadoorie Charitable Foundation
本計劃由嘉道理慈善基金會資助