

The number of general beds in Hospital Authority (HA) per 1 000 population by hospital cluster in 2012-13 (excluding infirmary, mentally ill and mentally handicapped beds)

Hospital cluster	Number of general beds per 1 000 population in 2012-13 (as at 31 March of the year)
Hong Kong East	2.5
Hong Kong West	5.3
Kowloon Central	5.9
Kowloon East	2.2
Kowloon West	2.7
New Territories East	2.6
New Territories West	2.0
HA Overall	2.9

Note:

While the ratio of beds per 1 000 population varies among clusters, the difference in such a ratio cannot be used to compare the level of service provision directly among the clusters because:

- in planning for its services, HA has taken into account a number of factors, including the increase of service demand as a result of population growth and demographic changes, advancement of medical technology, manpower availability as well as organisation of services of the clusters and hospitals and the service demand of local community. Population is only one of the factors under consideration;
- patients may receive treatment in hospitals other than those in their own residential districts; and some specialised services are available only in certain hospitals, and hence certain clusters, and the beds in these clusters are providing services for patients throughout the territory.