

# Hong Kong rankings

## Overview

Hong Kong has achieved impressive progress as Asia's world city, which is reflected in various international rankings covering a range of areas.

## Economy and business

- **World No.1 for investment environment; Asia-Pacific No.1 and World No.2 for enterprise conditions** (Legatum Institute: Legatum Prosperity Index 2023)
- **World No.2 freest economy** (Canada-based Fraser Institute: Economic Freedom of the World 2023 Annual Report)
- **World No.2 for infrastructure & market access** (Legatum Institute: Legatum Prosperity Index 2023)
- **World No.3 for economic quality** (Legatum Institute: Legatum Prosperity Index 2023)
- **World No.3 for emerging ecosystem** (US-based Startup Genome: The Global Startup Ecosystem Report 2024)
- **World No.5 and Asia-Pacific No. 2 for competitiveness** (International Institute for Management Development (IMD): World Competitiveness Yearbook 2024)
- **World top 10 business environment** [World Bank Group (World Bank): Business Ready 2024 Report]
- **Asia-Pacific No.6 for corporate governance** (CG Watch 2023 compiled by Asian Corporate Governance Association and CLSA Limited)

## Finance

- **World No.3 and Asia-Pacific No.1 global financial centre** (UK-based Z/Yen and China Development Institute from Shenzhen: Global Financial Centres Index released in September 2024)
- **Leading investment hub: World No.4 and World No. 5** for foreign direct investment inflows and outflows respectively in 2023 (UNCTAD: World Investment Report 2024)
- **World's 7<sup>th</sup> largest and Asia's 4<sup>th</sup> largest stock market** by market capitalisation among exchanges at end-July 2024 (US\$3,985 billion)
- **World No.6 for Initial Public Offering (IPO) funds raised** in 2023
- **World's largest offshore RMB hub** with total deposits of RMB 1,185.6 billion (end-July 2024)
- **Highest concentration of insurers in Asia** (over 150 authorised insurers)

## Innovation and Technology

- **Asia-Pacific No.4 and World No.10 for digital competitiveness** (IMD: World Digital Competitiveness Ranking 2023)
- **World No.2 and Asia-Pacific No.1** lowest taxed data centre market (Cushman & Wakefield: 2024 Global Data Center Market Comparison)
- **Asia-Pacific No.2 and World No. 12** hub for development of new technology (Smart Centres Index by UK-based Z/Yen released in May 2024)
- **Asia-Pacific No.2 and World No.3 for digital intelligence** (Digital Intelligence Index 2020)

compiled by US-based The Fletcher School at Tufts University and Mastercard)

- **South East Asia & Oceania No.5 and World No.18 for innovation performance** (World Intellectual Property Organization: Global Innovation Index 2024)
- Among **World's Top 20** smart cities (IMD: Smart City Index 2024)

### **Transport and infrastructure**

- **World No.1 air cargo hub** (Airports Council International: Air Cargo Traffic 2023)
- **Airport of the Year 2022** (Air Cargo Week: World Air Cargo Awards 2022)
- **Asia's Leading Airport** and **China's Leading Airport** (World Travel Awards 2024)
- **World No.4 international maritime centre** (Xinhua and Baltic Exchange: 2024 Xinhua-Baltic International Shipping Centre Development Index)
- **World No.1 public transit system** (Oliver Wyman Forum in partnership with University of California, Berkeley: Urban Mobility Readiness Index 2023)

### **Education and talent**

- **5 universities in World Top 100:** Times Higher Education World University Rankings 2025/Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) World University Rankings 2025: HKU (35<sup>th</sup>/17<sup>th</sup>), CUHK (44<sup>th</sup>/36<sup>th</sup>), HKUST (66<sup>th</sup>/47<sup>th</sup>), CityU (80<sup>th</sup>/62<sup>nd</sup>) and PolyU (84<sup>th</sup>/57<sup>th</sup>)
- **5 universities in Top 25 in Asia:** Times Higher Education Asia University Rankings 2024/QS World University Rankings: Asia 2024/US News and World Report: Best Global Universities Rankings 2024-2025: HKU (6<sup>th</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup>/6<sup>th</sup>), CUHK (10<sup>th</sup>/10<sup>th</sup>/5<sup>th</sup>), HKUST (12<sup>th</sup>/15<sup>th</sup>/19<sup>th</sup>), CityU (15<sup>th</sup>/17<sup>th</sup>/12<sup>th</sup>) and PolyU (19<sup>th</sup>/23<sup>rd</sup>/9<sup>th</sup>)
- **4 universities in World Top 10 most international universities:** Times Higher Education World University Rankings 2024: CityU (1<sup>st</sup>), HKU (6<sup>th</sup>), HKUST (9<sup>th</sup>) and PolyU (10<sup>th</sup>)
- **3 "young" universities in World Top 10:** Times Higher Education Young University Rankings 2024: HKUST (3<sup>rd</sup>), CityU (4<sup>th</sup>) and PolyU (7<sup>th</sup>)
- **3 EMBA programmes in World Top 25:** Financial Times EMBA Ranking 2023: Kellogg-HKUST EMBA programme (No.1); CUHK Business School EMBA Programme (No.23); HKU/Fudan MBA (International) programme (No.24). QS EMBA Rankings 2024 (Joint Programmes): Kellogg-HKUST EMBA programme (No.6); HKU/Fudan MBA (International) programme (No.15)
- In 2022, The Economist rated the **HKU's MBA programme No.1 in Asia**
- **World No.1 for 3 subjects:** Hospitality and Tourism Management (PolyU), Library and Information Science (CityU) and Management (PolyU) (ShanghaiRanking's Global Ranking of Academic Subjects 2023)
- **World No. 3 and Asia No.1 for dentistry:** HKU's Faculty of Dentistry ranked 3<sup>rd</sup> in the world and 1<sup>st</sup> in Asia (QS World University Rankings by Subject 2024)
- **World No.1 and Asia No.1 for education:** HKU's Faculty of Education ranked 1<sup>st</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> in US News and World Report: Best Global Universities Rankings by Subjects 2024-2025, Times Higher Education World Rankings by Subject 2024; and 1<sup>st</sup> in Asia in QS World University Rankings by Subject 2024
- **World No.8 and Asia No.1 for nursing:** CUHK's The Nethersole School of Nursing ranked 8<sup>th</sup> in the world and 1<sup>st</sup> in Asia in QS World University Rankings by Subjects 2024
- **World No.10 and Asia No.3 for data science and artificial intelligence:** HKUST's data science and artificial intelligence programme ranked 10<sup>th</sup> in the world and 3<sup>rd</sup> in Asia in QS World University

Rankings by Subjects 2024

- **Asia No.1 subjects:** Arts and Humanities (HKU), Endocrinology and Metabolism (CUHK), Gastroenterology and Hepatology (CUHK), Immunology (HKU), Infectious Diseases (HKU), Microbiology (HKU), Public, Environmental and Occupational Health (HKU) and Social Sciences and Public Health (PolyU) (US News and World Report: Best Global Universities Rankings by Subjects 2024-2025); Performing Arts (Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts) Dentistry (HKU), Education and training (HKU) and Nursing (CUHK) (QS World University Rankings by Subject 2024)
- **Asia No.2 and World No.9 for talent competitiveness** (IMD: World Talent Ranking 2024)

### **Safety, security, rule of law, leisure**

- **World No.3 most preferred seat for arbitration** (Queen Mary University of London: International Arbitration Survey 2021)
- **World No.4 and Asia No.1** global city (Schroders Global Cities Index 2024)
- **World No.5 and Asia No. 2** for entrepreneurs to live in (UK tech company SumUp: The Best cities for entrepreneurs to live in 2024)
- **Asia No.2 and World No.17 for Control of Corruption, Asia No.3 for Rule of Law and Regulatory Quality** (World Bank: Worldwide Governance Indicators, 2023 updates)
- **World No.6 for order and security and World No.9 for absence of corruption** (2023 World Justice Project Rule of Law Index)
- **Asia-Pacific No.2 and World No.14** least corrupt place among 180 countries/territories (Transparency International: Corruption Perceptions Index 2023)
- **World No.4 for human development** based on life expectancy, access to knowledge and standard of living (United Nations' 2023/2024 Human Development Index)
- **World No.2 for success in developing human capital** based on health, education and survivability (World Bank: Human Capital Index 2020)
- **World No.8 safest city; World No.1 and No.3 for Infrastructure Security and Health Security, respectively** (The Economist Intelligence Unit's Safe Cities Index 2021)
- **World's No.10 and Asia's No.4** leading global city (A.T. Kearney's 2023 Global Cities Index)
- **World's No.3** best business city (Business Traveller Asia-Pacific Awards 2023)
- Among **World's "Coolest Neighbourhoods"** for four consecutive years: Kowloon City (2024); Sheung Wan (2023); Wan Chai (2022); Sai Kung (2021) (Time Out magazine index survey)
- **World's No.2 "Coolest Street"** in 2024 : **Hollywood Road** in Central, Hong Kong Island (Time Out magazine index survey)

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