



香 港 中 文 大 學
社 會 研 究 中 心

The Hostel Need of the Students
of The Chinese University of Hong Kong

Angela Kan and Pedro Ng

SOCIAL RESEARCH CENTRE
THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY
OF HONG KONG

Suggested citation:

Kan, Angela and Pedro Ng. 1974. *The Hostel Need of the Students of The Chinese University of Hong Kong*. Hong Kong: Occasional Paper No. 39, Social Research Centre, The Chinese University of Hong Kong.

THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG
SOCIAL RESEARCH CENTRE

The Hostel Need of the Students
of The Chinese University of
Hong Kong

by

Angela Kan

Pedro Ng

June, 1974

PREFACE

This study has been undertaken by the Social Research Centre of the Chinese University of Hong Kong to assemble those facts about the students of the University that are relevant for assessing the degree to which additional hostel accommodation ought to be provided at the University. While the final decision to build more hostels, and how many, lies in the hands of the authorities concerned, the purpose of this study is primarily to provide a comprehensive and accurate pool of information in this regard to serve as reference and guideline for decision-makers. We certainly hope that, as much as possible and practical, utilization of the findings contained in this report will be made in the effort to work out a sound hostel building programme which to our understanding is among the highest priority undertakings of the University.

The study was supported by a special grant from the University given to the Social Research Centre, Mr. K.K. Li, Administrative Assistant of the Office of Physical Development, rendered considerable assistance during the formulation of the survey questionnaire. Mr. S.L. Wong, Chairman of the Sociology Department and Dean of Social Science of Chung Chi College, who masterminded the Chung Chi College hostel need survey in 1971-72, was most helpful in improving and polishing the questionnaire used in the present survey. The physical preparation of the questionnaires was made possible through the assistance of Mrs. Amy Mok of the General and Public Affairs Section. Cooperation of the

registries of the three Colleges was instrumental in the distribution and collection of the questionnaires during student registration period in September, 1973.

At various stages of this study, both the Office of Physical Development of the University and the Hostel Selection Committees of the three Colleges have given us access to relevant documents and records which have aided the overall study design as well as the interpretation of the data. Useful information was also obtained from interviews with several hostel wardens. We are grateful in particular to the service and assistance of a number of staff of the Social Research Centre in the process of producing this report: Miss Suen So-lin, Computer Programmer,, for her vital role in data processing; Dr. Y.K. Chan, Research Specialist, for designing and preparing the map in Chapter V; Miss Chung Ching-ngor, Research Assistant, for her patience in proofreading, and Mrs. Yue Lee Kam-wan, for her fine work in typing the final manuscript.

The operation of the study, including data analysis and drafting of the report, was carried out by Miss Angela Kan, Research Specialist of the Social Research Centre, under the supervision of Dr. Pedro Ng, Deputy Director of the Centre, who finalized the report.

CONTENTS

I.	Introduction	1
II.	Methodology	8
III.	Living Conditions	14
IV.	Studying Environment	26
V.	Socioeconomic Characteristics of Students' Families	37
VI.	Residential Distribution and Commuting Pattern	52
VII.	Overall Measurement of Hostel Need	59
VIII.	General Living Conditions in Off-campus Accommodations	73
IX.	Summary and Conclusion	85

APPENDICES

A.	Survey Questionnaire	A1
B.	Supplementary Tables	B1
C.	Housing Situation in Hong Kong	C1

TABLES

1-1	Distribution of hostel applicants and those accepted by college and year	5
2-1	Percentage distribution of current place of residence	10
3-1	Type of housing of students' families by students' present place of residence	16
3-2	Floor space per person in students' homes by Group	20
3-3	Type of sleeping place at home by Group	22
4-1	Usual places of study at home by Group	27
4-2	Answers to the question "Are there environmental factors which affect your study adversely?" by Group	29
4-3	Type of disturbing factors in the students' families affecting adversely their studying	30
4-4	Discrepancy between desired and actual study time by Group	33
5-1	Occupational types of students' fathers by Group .	39
5-2	Father's annual income by father's occupation	40
5-3	Total family annual income by Group	44
5-4	Number of family members by total family annual income	45
5-5	Monthly rent by total family monthly income	48
5-6	Number of siblings in school by Group	50
6-1	District distribution of students' families by Group and average one-way commuting time from various districts to the university campus	53
6-2	Average commuting time (one-way) between home and campus by present place of residence	57
7-1	Hostel need index score by Group	62

7-2	Hostel need index score by floor space per person	65
7-3	Hostel need index score by type of bedroom	67
7-4	Hostel need index score by commuting time	68
7-5	Hostel need index score by year of student	70
7-6	Hostel need index score by sex of student	71
8-1	Floor space per person for students living in other residences compared with their homes	75
8-2	Preferred place of residence by Group	79
8-3	Answers by Groups to "What would you consider - hostel residence or commuting - if your bursary application is not affected by your residing status?"	81
8-4	Hostel preference versus accommodation in Shatin or Taipo under different cost conditions	82
8-5	Distribution of students having personal or familial problems that prevented them from taking up hostel residence	84
9-1	Changes of students' living conditions over time as reflected from the Chung Chi College Survey 1971-72 and the present Survey	88
9-2	Father's occupation shown in the Chung Chi College Survey 1971-72 compared with that found in this Survey	89
B-1a	Percentage distribution of current place of residence among respondents by college and faculty .	B1
B-1b	Percentage distribution of current place of residence among respondents by year and sex	B2
B-2	Type of housing of students' families by Group	B3
B-3	Floor space per person in students' families by type of housing	B4
B-4	Type of housing of students' families by period of construction	B5
B-5	Average length of residence by type of housing of students' families	B6
B-6	Number of households living together by Group	B7

B-7	Sleeping places for students having no own or shared bedrooms by Group	B8
B-8	Conditions of students' beds at home by Group	B9
B-9	Type of disturbing factor mentioned as most critical by Group	B10
B-10	Number of children aged under 7 in the living quarter by Group	B11
B-11	Answers to the question "On a bright day, is it necessary to turn on lights when you study" by Group	B12
B-12	Amount of study time desired by Group	B13
B-13	Amount of desired study time by faculty of the students	B14
B-14	Discrepancy between desired and actual study time by faculty of the students	B14
B-15	Amount of desired study time by year of the students	B15
B-16	Discrepancy between desired and actual study time by faculty of the students	B15
B-17	Statements best representing students' view of the library as a place for study by Group	B16
B-18	Time spent in the university/college library during a normal school day (excluding days with exceptionally few classes) by Group	B17
B-19a	Father's occupation by father's industry.	B18
B-19b	Type of industry of students' fathers by Group ...	B19
B-20	Percentage distribution of the occupational types and annual income of the students' mothers	B20
B-21	Number of unmarried, working siblings living together in the family	B21
B-22	Annual income from other sources (excluding parents' earnings)	B21
B-23	Terms of tenure of the living quarters of students' families by Group	B22
B-24	Amount of rent paid monthly by students' families by Group	B23

B-25	Number of "trip-legs" (modes of transportation) normally taken by students who presently live at home, to commute to the University	B24
B-26	Average monthly expenses on transportation	B24
B-27	Preference for commuting or hostel residence by Group when transportation expenses are about the same as hostel fees	B25
B-28a	Hostel Need Index Score by type of housing	B26
B-28b	Hostel Need Index Score by number of children aged under 7 in the living quarter	B27
B-29	Hostel Need Index Score by way of internal partitioning	B28
B-30	Hostel Need Index Score by number of households in the same living quarter	B28
B-31	Hostel Need Index Score by type of bed	B29
B-32	Hostel Need Index Score by use of the bed	B29
B-33	Hostel Need Index Score by usual place of study ..	B30
B-34	Hostel Need Index Score by whether interferences and disturbances are present	B30
B-35	Location and type of housing among students living in off-campus accommodations	B31
B-36	The person(s) with whom the students live and the length of residence among students living in off-campus accommodations	B32
B-37	Internal partitioning and the type of bedroom in other residences compared with homes of students living there	B33
B-38	Conditions of bed in other residences compared with those in homes of students living there	B34
B-39	Monthly rent paid by students living in off-campus accommodations	B35
B-40	Preferred place of residence by faculty of student	B35
B-41	Preferred place of residence by year of student ..	B36

B-42	Preferred place of residence by sex of student ...	B36
B-43	Answers to "Can you afford hostel fees - if you want to live in hostels - when you are not offered any bursaries?"	B37
B-44	Reasons preventing students from taking up hostel residence	B37

CHAPTER I. INTRODUCTION

Statement of the problem

The scarcity of dormitory places has always been a problem with the Chinese University. The moving of United College and New Asia College out to Shatin to form the big campus complex in the past two years has accelerated the acuteness of the problem. The need for more dormitories has become a very pressing issue to students, the University, and the Government.

The purpose of this study is to provide objective information which may serve as reference for an accurate assessment of the need for additional hostel accommodation in the Chinese University.

To what degree or for what percentage of the student body the University should provide accommodation is a constantly raised question that is now receiving increasing attention. As in previous years, the number of hostel applications for 1973-74 far exceeded that the present hostels together can accommodate. Even many of those students who did not apply probably would have done so if the 'competition' were not so keen. That is, they are not necessarily those for whom campus residence is not an urgent need. They may simply be discouraged from application when they had failed once. Indeed, it may be wondered if many students have to wait until they reach their third or even fourth year in their university career before they stand a better chance of getting hostel accommodation.

The accommodation issue is tied up with housing and traffic problems of Hong Kong. Since the University is located in a relatively isolated area, at least half an hour by train or bus from town, with hardly any adequate alternative accommodation in its vicinity, the transportation factor alone would make campus residence highly worthy of consideration. Moreover, the high degree of overcrowdedness, sharing, noisiness and lack of privacy generally found in the living environment of the families of the lower socio-economic status groups from which a great number of the students come, constitute a rather unfavourable setting for reading and study.

Thus it is quite likely that a higher campus residence rate than the current one may be needed. It is to this issue that the information generated from this study will principally address. The concern is basically about whether living conditions at home and the time needed to commute between the students' homes and the campus are such that the extent to which the students can benefit from the purposes, both academic and social, of university education, might be unfavourably affected and hence additional accommodation on campus would be necessary to alleviate the situation.

Needless to say, we should not overlook the educational potentiality of hostel life. In addition to students' formal learning, university administrators must recognize the equal importance of activities outside the classroom to the personal development of students both socially and intellectually. In this respect, hostels provide the most congenial and relaxed environment for students to share with each other in the process of learning and growth.

In order to provide a fuller picture of the accommodation problem of the Chinese University, the following section is designed to provide a cursory overview of the provision of hostels in meeting the demands of the students. After that, another section is devoted to discuss the criteria used to select students whose needs are considered as comparatively exigent.

Demand and Supply

There are altogether seven hostels in the three Colleges of the University,¹ providing accommodation for 42.4 per cent (1185 spaces) of the total student body enrolled in the academic year 1973-74. Thus, of the 2032 students (72.8 per cent of total student body) who submitted hostel applications in 1973-74, only 58.3 per cent were granted residence on the campus.

Table 1.1 shows the distribution of hostel applicants and admittants by college and year. The following observations may be made:

(1) The proportion of students who apply for hostel accommodation has increased from 69.5 per cent (1971-72) to 75 per cent (1973-74) in Chung Chi College, and from 61.7 per cent to 69 per cent for the same period in United College. No such comparison is applicable in the case of New Asia College since it moved to the Shatin campus only in 1973. Nevertheless, as

¹ The hostels are Ying Lin Tang, Hua Lien Tang, Ming Hua Tang, Theology hostel, and Wen Lin Tang of Chung Chi College; New Asia Student Hostel and the Adam Schall Hostel of United College. The six Romney-hut student hostels, providing 500 temporary dormitory places are not included. The first 166 places were occupied, 142 males and 24 females, in March 1974.

many as 74.4 per cent of New Asia's students applied for hostel residence in 1973-74. Thus, the demand for hostel accommodation as indicated by hostel application is quite comparable in its substantiality and is increasing appreciably over just a few years' time. This demand is increasing not just in absolute terms following the increase in student enrolment but also relatively even when the increase in student enrolment is taken into account.

(2) While the demand for hostel accommodation is increasing, hostel spaces have not been increased significantly or sufficiently to adequately meet the increasing demand. Even with the addition of a fifth hostel in 1973 to its original four, Chung Chi could only barely maintain the same acceptance rate, i.e., about 64 per cent of its hostel applicants. At both New Asia and United, a change in accommodation arrangement in the hostels was adopted to take in more hostel applicants. Even so, New Asia could only accept 54 per cent of its applicants, and United only 57 per cent. Thus, while the proportion of hostel applicants who actually obtain residence may at best have remain roughly stable over the period 1971-74, more and more applicants had to be rejected.

In light of these facts alone, although the University on the whole is supplying accommodation for about 40 per cent of its students, the question of adequacy must still be raised and studied carefully when close to three-quarters, or probably more in the near future, of the University's student body demand and compete for campus residence. The question is even more compli-

cated when one must not overlook the likelihood that many of those who do not take the trouble to submit a hostel application could be just as needy for hostel accommodation, if not more so, as those who do. Indeed, such likelihood is part of the concern of this study.

TABLE 1-1 DISTRIBUTION OF HOSTEL APPLICANTS AND THOSE ACCEPTED BY COLLEGE AND YEAR^a

<u>College</u>	<u>Student enrolment</u>	<u>Hostel applicants</u>		<u>Applicants accepted</u>		
		<u>Number</u>	<u>% of student enrolment</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>% of applicants</u>	<u>% of student enrolment</u>
<u>Chung Chi</u>						
1971-72	897	623	69.5	401	64.4	44.7
1972-73	905	678	74.9	426	62.8	47.1
1973-74	948	709	74.8	451	63.6	47.6
<u>New Asia^b</u>						
1973-74	900	670	74.4	360	53.7	40.0
<u>United</u>						
1971-72	720	444	61.7	248	55.9	34.5
1972-73	816	505	61.9	247	48.9	30.3
1973-74	945	653	69.1	374	57.3	39.6

Notes:

- a) New Asia College moved to the University campus in Shatin in September, 1973. Hostel record kept so far is for 1973-74 only.
- b) A change in the accommodation arrangement at the New Asia College hostel has been implemented so that double rooms now accommodate three instead of two students each and single rooms two instead of one.

Criteria for selection of students for hostel accommodation

In view of the acute shortage of hostel places and the increasing demand for campus residence, the Selection Committees¹ of the three Colleges have to adopt selection criteria so that the most needy cases will be given higher priority than others.

Conditions of home environment and accessibility to the campus are the two basic criteria indicating the residential need for each applicant. Included are thus consideration of the type of housing, size of family, number of households sharing the same dwelling unit, space per person, distance from campus, amount of time required for commuting, and the availability of public transportation. However, special consideration will be given to those who apply for residence on medical and compassionate grounds; those whose families are not in Hong Kong; those who serve as executives in Student Unions, or other extra-curricular activities; and final year students who live relatively far and have never had the chance to be hostel residents. In cases where there are more applicants with similar residential need than spaces available and when all other things are considered to be equal, priority would be given to more senior students; applicants who have not had the chance to be hostel residents; and those who have odd class and laboratory hours.

¹ The Selection Committees for Hostel Residents among the three Colleges are working parties responsible to handle, review and select appropriate applicants for hostel accommodation. The Committee usually includes student representatives, hostel wardens, Dean of students and Assistant Dean of students.

Most of the personnel handling hostel applications felt that, in the process of selection, it was difficult to strike a balance in many cases and to be fair to all.¹ They agreed that owing to shortage of hostel places, selecting residents on the criteria of immediate needs, such as unfavourable home environment, long commuting time, physical handicap and other reasons often fails to accommodate even only those who are most needy according to the said criteria. Besides, selecting residents under the constraint of insufficient hostel accommodation can hardly maximize students' benefiting from the educational value of hostel life when it is available to only a very limited proportion of the student population. Under the present principles of selection, some students are excluded from hostel residence throughout their university years whereas a number of others are automatically qualified for a place in the four years.

¹ Based on informal interviews with members of the Selection Committees of the three Colleges.

CHAPTER II. METHODOLOGY

Survey Questionnaire

Given the situation just mentioned where the "demand" for hostel accommodation, as suggested by application figures, apparently far exceeds the supply currently available, this survey has particularly important policy implications in its attempt to provide detailed objective information on the basis of which a realistic assessment of the need for additional hostel accommodation at the Chinese University may be based. To achieve this goal, this survey was carried out as a sequel to a previous similar survey done in Chung Chi College of the University during the academic year 1971-72.¹ A questionnaire, substantially modified on that of the Chung Chi College survey, was constructed which contains six main sections and 55 items (see Appendix A). The scope of the questionnaire includes students' personal characteristics, living conditions, socio-economic background, factors affecting their studies, transportation conditions, subjective desirability and other alternatives concerning hostel residence.

The population for the survey is the total enrolled undergraduate student body of the three Colleges of the University for the academic year 1973-74. To ensure a higher return rate, the questionnaire was administered at the same time when the students were undergoing registration in early September, 1973.

¹ The data of the survey was analysed in the report "The Nest of the Future 'Elite' - A Survey on the Living Conditions of Chung Chi College Students" by Paul Wong, Pedro Ng and S.L. Wong, Chung Chi College, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, August, 1972.

A total of 2657 questionnaires¹ were returned and subsequently handed to the Social Research Centre for data processing and analysis. Sixty-six of them had to be cancelled because of incompleteness and inconsistency in answering the questions.² The outcome is a total of 2591 questionnaires computerized for analysis.

Assumption governing the analysis of data

We assume that information to be gathered for this survey ought to be from not any particular group of students but different groups of students because the matter of hostel accommodation is at least potentially relevant to all students although possibly to varying degrees. Of course, it is conceivable that not everybody applies for hostel accommodation in a given year. It does not follow, however, that those who do not apply in a given year in fact have no need for hostel accommodation. There may be special factors which account for their non-application. Ignoring these students in this survey may thus lead to an inaccurate assessment of students' hostel need.

For the purposes of this survey, we distinguished five groups of students comprising the total student population.

They are:

¹ According to the Registrar, the total enrollment as at September 1973 was 2793. Hence, there were 136 students either did not fill in and return the questionnaire, or they made their registration at a later date.

² More males than females, more students from upper classes than the lower classes are among those that are cancelled.

- Group I - those who applied in the current academic year (1973-74) for hostel accommodation and have been accepted in one of the seven hostels;
- Group II - those who presently reside at home and did not apply for hostel accommodation in the same year;
- Group III - those who presently reside at home, applied for hostels accommodation in the same year, but were rejected;
- Group IV - those who presently reside at other residence and did not apply for hostel accommodation in the same year;
- Group V - those who presently reside at other residence, applied for hostel accommodation in the same year, but were rejected.

Such group identification has been built into the questionnaires to permit analysis of data by group. A breakdown of our respondents by group is shown in Table 2.1.

TABLE 2-1 PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF CURRENT PLACE OF RESIDENCE

	<u>N</u>	<u>%</u>
Group I (in hostels)	889	34.5
Group II (home, did not apply)	766	29.7
Group III (home, applied but rejected)	762	29.5
Group IV (other residence did not apply)	45	1.7
Group V (other residence applied, but rejected)	118	4.6
Total	2580	100.0

No answer : N = 11

Using the aggregate data without breaking into groups we may construct a fairly complete picture of where the students stand on various measurements of hostel need. Making comparison across the five groups as distinguished in the above allows us to see whether there are any special characteristics in such matters as housing conditions and family background within each group that may be associated with the students' being hostel residents or commuters. We may also identify the seriousness of hostel need among those who applied for hostel accommodation but were rejected assuming that these students would remain anxious for hostel accommodation until the latter is provided. We may also compare the seriousness of hostel need between those staying at home and those residing at other residence assuming that there were special reasons governing the actions taken by the latter group of students.

Further, the group analysis would test our proposition that those students who have not applied for hostel accommodation are not necessarily those who need no such accommodation on campus. Overall, the aggregate and the group data would permit us to attempt to answer questions concerning students' hostel need from various angles and in various ways. We believe that this mode of analysis will do greater justice to those students whose need for hostel accommodation might otherwise be overlooked.

Plan of Analysis

Largely using the group approach as stated above, we shall present the analyses of the data in the following chapters. They are addressed to those aspects of the students' living and commuting patterns which bear directly on their need to live away from home which in turn relates closely to, as we shall indicate, their need for hostel accommodation.

Our first concern, in the next chapter, is basically a description of students' living conditions at home in terms of such aspects as the type of housing students' families live in; the degree of crowdedness and extent of sharing with other households, and the kinds of room partitioning. We are also interested in examining to what extent the students have to share their bedrooms with others or even to sleep in places other than a bedroom.

In Chapter 4, we shall focus on the conditions of the home that relate directly to studying activities. Thus, we shall examine the kinds of distractions and disturbances students experience in their environment that make concentration on their studies difficult. The extent to which the libraries of the University are considered as more convenient and desirable for study as compared with home will also be examined.

Closely associated with living conditions are questions concerning the socio-economic background of the students' families. We will, in Chapter 5, sketch the pattern of occupation and income distribution of students' parents as well as the degree to which the family income is spent for rent and support of siblings in schools.

Since the need for hostel accommodation on campus is presumably partly established on how far away students live, one would want to know the spatial distribution of our students over the various districts in Hong Kong, and the variations in time needed to commute between students' homes and the campus while taking into account differences in transportation means and routes? The answers to these questions, which will be presented in Chapter 6, reflect the extent of physical inconvenience experienced by students if they have to commute everyday.

To constitute a composite measure of the degree of hostel need among the students, a quantitative 'Hostel Need Index' was constructed composing of 13 items pooled from the objective items in the questionnaire. We shall then examine the distribution of the index scores among our respondents and their variations across different groups of students. This will be reported in Chapter 7.

In Chapter 8, we shall portray the general living conditions of the relatively small group of students, numbering 163 among our respondents, who live in residences other than home or hostels. The data -- including the type of housing, kind of room partitioning, amount of usable space, rent, and studying environment -- will help us understand the quality of existing alternative accommodations that students are likely to get should they choose to live away from home.

Finally, several questions bearing direct relevance to hostel policy will be examined. These include: Would students prefer commuting or living in hostels if transportation expenses are about the same as hostel fees? if the amount of financial support from bursaries is independent of the student's residence status? and if nearby off-campus accommodation is available at comparable cost?

CHAPTER III. LIVING CONDITIONS

Since home living conditions are among the central concerns in admitting students to hostel residence and in assessing whether there ought to be more hostels to meet students' needs, attention is drawn to this aspect in the beginning of the analysis.

Specifically, we will reflect the living conditions of students' families in terms of three main aspects, namely, the type of housing, the degree of overcrowding and sharing, and the students' individual sleeping place.

Type of Housing

In Hong Kong, the type of housing is to some degree a rough indication of socioeconomic status and of living conditions generally. A broad distinction is usually made between "public housing" and "private housing." The former includes resettlement estates, and Government and Government-assisted low cost housing estates, all built after 1954. These generally accommodate people in low-income groups as well as people whose previous living quarters have been destroyed by fire or have been declared unsafe as a result of age or other reasons. Such estates usually consist of high-rise and densely populated buildings many of which have limited facilities. Approximately 40 per cent of Hong Kong's population are accommodated in public housing. Private housing includes a wide variety of apartment and tenement multi-storey buildings built by private concerns and enterprises. Usually containing more living space per unit (although population density

can also be quite high), private housing's rents are typically far higher than those for public housing. A more detailed description of the housing situation in Hong Kong is given in Appendix C.

As indicated in Table 3.1, 34.4 per cent of our respondents come from homes in public housing, and 52.1 per cent from homes in private housing (not counting industrial/commercial hostels, civil servant quarters, and independent houses). In addition, there are another 3.2 per cent whose families live in rooftop cottages and squatter huts the conditions of which are often very unsatisfactory and even deplorable. Table 3.1 also shows that, 42.7 per cent and 38.2 per cent of those admitted to hostels are respectively from public and private housing homes, thus suggesting that such students apparently receive somewhat better consideration when applying for hostels than students from private housing homes. (Indeed, we found that 56 per cent of applicants from public housing homes were granted hostel admission as compared with 30 per cent of those from private housing homes.)

Let us next consider the average floor space per person for different types of housing, their period of construction, and their mode of internal partitioning as further characterization of the students' living conditions.

TABLE 3-1 TYPE OF HOUSING OF STUDENTS' FAMILIES
BY STUDENTS' PRESENT PLACE OF RESIDENCE^a

<u>Type of housing of family</u>	<u>Hostels</u>	<u>Home</u>	<u>Other Residence</u>	<u>Total</u>
Public housing				
Low cost housing	22.0	20.5	28.8	21.5
Resettlement estates	20.7	9.0	8.6	12.9
Private housing				
Apartment & tenement buildings	34.9	50.1	40.3	44.4
Commercial/residential mansions	3.3	9.9	9.4	7.7
Industrial/commercial hostels	0.5	1.2	1.4	1.0
Civil servant quarters	2.7	2.4	2.2	2.5
Houses (with/without garden)	1.0	1.0	0.0	1.0
Rooftop cottages	0.9	0.5	0.7	0.6
Squatter huts	4.7	1.6	1.4	2.6
Others ^b	9.4	3.8	7.2	5.9
Total	100.1%	100.0%	100.0%	100.1%
	(817)	(1470)	(139)	(2426)
No answer	(49)	(58)	(24)	(131)

^a 23 students whose families are not in Hong Kong and 11 students whose place of residence cannot be identified are not included in this table and subsequent tables in which the group classification is used.

^b includes a large number of stone houses, especially in the New Territories, floating accommodations, convent, and other unclassified residences.

The standard amount of living space per person (adult) currently used by the authorities in allocating residential units in public housing estates is 35 square feet.¹ Using this as a baseline, our findings show that 69 per cent and 25 per cent of our respondents living respectively in resettlement estates and low cost housing estates are suffering from sub-standard conditions of living. (If 45 square feet per person is used as a baseline, these percentages would be 87 per cent and 60 per cent respectively.) Furthermore, as many as 53 per cent and 41 per cent of students living respectively in rooftop cottages and squatter huts are in a similar situation. Indeed, the median floor space per person for resettlement estates and rooftop cottages is 29 square feet and 32 square feet respectively. Private housings (apartment and tenement buildings, commercial/residential mansions) are not much better, for while their median floor space per person is approximately 60 square feet, there are still roughly 17 per cent of our students from such housings who live in units offering no more than 35 square feet per person. (See Table B-3 in Appendix B.)

Owing to the rapidly rising population and the concomitant increasing scarcity of residential land, housings erected after 1960, both private and public, are typically high-rise units. With relatively few exceptions, the total floor space for a residential unit in these buildings tends to be consider-

¹ A standard of 24 square feet per adult was formerly practised in the earliest types of resettlement estates until the turn of this decade.

ably smaller than that in buildings built prior to, say, 1948.¹ Of those students' families living in private apartment and tenement buildings and commercial/residential mansions, over 64 per cent live in structures built after 1960 (see Table B-4 in Appendix B).

The mode of internal partitioning within residential units indicates partially the degree to which privacy is attainable and the possibility of insulation from noise, both of which have some impact on the ease and convenience with which students can study at home. Partitioning that is not "permanent," that is, not sealing different rooms or parts of the residential unit apart from one another by means of ceiling-to-floor partitioning, tends to have negative effects in terms of privacy and noise insulation. This type of partitioning may consist of wooden or fibre-board screens, or even simply curtains. Although a good number of private housing units contain permanent partitioning, there are still, according to our findings, 35 per cent of students' homes in apartment and tenement buildings and 51 per cent of those in commercial/residential mansions which have only non-permanent internal partitioning. For resettlement estates and low cost housing estates, the figures are, respectively, 46 per cent and 64 per cent. Most of the remaining homes in these public estates in fact do not have any internal partitioning at all, which means that the residential unit is living room, dining room, and bedroom, all in one.

¹ In fact, it is not uncommon to find residential units in the newer buildings as small as 400 square feet in area.

Degree of overcrowding and sharing

Sharing the flat or living quarter with other households can be found in private apartment and tenement buildings. Sharing may unfavourably affect the privacy and the studying environment of the students. Our results indicate that 19 per cent of the students' families share the quarter with one or more other households, some to the extent of four or above (see Table B-6 in Appendix B).

The degree of overcrowding, as measured by the floor space per person according to Groups, is presented in Table 3-2. The lower the floor space per person, the higher would be the degree of overcrowding and consequently probably the greater would be the need for hostel residence. From the median space per person, it is obvious that the degree of overcrowding at home is highest among those who have applied, regardless whether the student is admitted or not. They have an average of approximately 45 square feet per person. The slight difference between those who have been admitted to hostels and those who have not (Group I, III, V) is not significant. In fact, if we use 45 square feet per person as a baseline to visualize the degree of living density of our students' homes, about half of the homes of students who have applied for hostel accommodation may be considered as "substandard" in terms of space.

TABLE 3-2 FLOOR SPACE PER PERSON IN STUDENTS' HOMES BY GROUP

Floor Space Per Person	Group I (in hostels)	Group II (home, did not apply for hostels)	Group III (home, applied for hostels but rejected)	Group IV (other residence, did not apply for hostels)	Group V (other residence, applied for hostels, but rejected)	All Groups
24 sq. ft. or less	13.5%	8.0%	10.7%	18.4%	13.9%	11.1%
25-44 sq. ft.	37.4	25.1	38.7	26.3	38.6	34.0
45-84 sq. ft.	32.6	37.0	35.4	36.9	39.7	35.1
85-124 sq. ft.	8.1	13.3	7.7	18.5	4.0	9.5
125 sq. ft. or more	8.4	16.4	7.5	0.0	4.0	10.2
Total	100.0% (832)	99.8% (704)	100.0% (732)	100.1% (38)	100.2% (101)	99.9% (2407)
Median Floor Space Per Person	44.6 sq. ft.	61.4 sq. ft.	45.5 sq. ft.	50.0 sq. ft.	46.8 sq. ft.	49.1 sq. ft.
No Answer	(34)	(62)	(30)	(7)	(17)	(150)

For those who did not apply for hostel accommodation, the average floor space per person at home is a bit higher, as indicated by 61.4 square feet for Group II students (who stay at home) and 50.0 square feet for Group IV students (who live in other residences). Nevertheless, as many as one-third of Group II students and 44.7 per cent of Group IV students have families living in homes with 45 square feet or less floor space per person. Therefore, regardless of whether the student is admitted to a hostel or whether the student has never applied for hostel accommodation for some reason, this situation of rather meagre living space per person is quite prevalent among our students.

Students' Sleeping Places

A bedroom represents a place of privacy which the student can also use for study. If he shares a bedroom with some other people he may be unfavourably affected in his study. Further, if he sleeps in a place other than a bedroom, we may assume that he not only lacks privacy for study but is also subject to certain kinds of inconvenience. It is therefore relevant to know how our students fare regarding the type of sleeping place.

As indicated in Table 3-3, only 8.4 per cent of our respondents reported that they have their own bedrooms, either permanently partitioned or not; 47.0 per cent share their bedrooms with others (usually with two to four persons) and 44.6 per cent have to sleep in places other than a bedroom or places, because of their multiple uses, can hardly be called a bedroom.

TABLE 3-3 TYPE OF SLEEPING PLACE AT HOME BY GROUP

Sleeping Place	Group I (in hostels)	Group II (home, did not apply for hostels)	Group III (home, applied for hostels but rejected)	Group IV (other residence, did not apply for hostels)	Group V (other residence, applied for hostels, but rejected)	All Groups
Own bedroom, permanent (partition)	5.5%	10.7%	4.9%	2.6%	2.9%	6.7%
Own bedroom, not permanent	1.3	3.2	0.9	2.6	0.0	1.7
Shared bedroom, permanent	29.0	35.6	32.8	34.2	18.5	31.8
Shared bedroom, not permanent	13.3	16.1	16.2	18.4	15.5	15.2
Other places	51.0	34.5	45.2	42.1	63.1	44.6
Total	100.1% (859)	100.1% (759)	100.0% (754)	99.9% (38)	100.0% (103)	100.0% (2513)
No Answer	(7)	(7)	(8)	(7)	(45)	(44)

Over half of the students sleeping in places other than a bedroom have, in fact, no partitioning within their dwelling. Such cases are typical in Government low-cost housings and resettlement estates. Besides, living rooms by day are treated as bedrooms by night among a quarter of our students who have no own or shared bedrooms. Other places used for sleeping by these students include corridors, cocklofts, and balconies. (See Table B-7 in Appendix B.)

Comparing the students residing in hostels (Group I) and those who are living at home, including those who applied for hostels but were rejected (Groups II and III), we notice that the likelihood for a student to share his bedroom with others at home is quite similar -- higher, in fact, among those living at home (approximately 50 per cent against 42 per cent for the hostel group). Also, while as high as 51 per cent of the hostel group would have to sleep in places other than a bedroom or places not properly called a bedroom at home, the situation is not much better among the home groups (34.5 per cent for Group II and 45 per cent for Group III). This thus suggests that whether or not students apply for and get admitted to hostels, they largely tend to be quite similarly "deprived" in not having a proper bedroom at home. Among those students who live in other alternative residences, the degree of this deprivation at their homes is just as acute or even more so as almost two-thirds of those whose hostel application was unsuccessful would have to sleep in places other than a proper bedroom if they remained at home.

It follows, therefore, that if sharing a bedroom with others at home or, particularly, having to sleep in places other than a proper bedroom at home is in part indicative of hostel need, then our finding in one way supports our proposition, as mentioned earlier, that those students who do not apply for hostel accommodation are not necessarily those who have no need for hostels, and that those whose hostel application was rejected could well be as needy for hostels as those who got admitted.

Summary

The typical picture of housing conditions in Hong Kong is one characterized by high living density and thus very meagre living space per person, especially in public housing estates and many private housings as well. With few exceptions, anywhere from approximately one-third to four-fifths of our students from various types of housing have homes offering no more than 45 square feet floor space per person.

Having one's own bedroom is very rare while sharing a bedroom with others and sleeping in all sorts of places other than a bedroom are quite prevalent. This is generally true of our students' homes, regardless of whether the student is currently residing in a hostel on the campus or at home, or whether he has applied for hostel accommodation or not. If the purpose of hostel accommodation is, among other things, to provide a better living environment that is more conducive to the students' academic pursuits, then indications from our findings up to this

point are that the cases of a great number of students presently not residing in the hostels have to be more carefully considered, and that more hostels than what are available at present would be needed.

CHAPTER IV. STUDYING ENVIRONMENT

Since study is a major concern of students, we wish to probe further into certain aspects in the students' environment which bear more directly on the students' studying activities. The aspects we will examine in this chapter include: the extent to which the students have their own study place, the interferences and disturbances students encounter in their study at home, the amount of time needed for self-study and the discrepancy between the desired and actual time set aside for such activity; and finally, the extent to which campus libraries are utilized as a place for study.

Place of study

The fact that most students share their bedrooms with others at home or have to sleep in places other than bedrooms, as mentioned above, leads us to wonder if most of them also do not have exclusive use of a room for study. Indeed, as shown in Table 4-1, only 3 per cent of our students have proper rooms for study. As many as 43 per cent of them study in their own or shared bedrooms and 36 per cent in their living rooms or some other parts of the living unit (e.g., corridor, balcony, cockloft). Another 18 per cent, because of no partitioning in the dwelling place, have to study in the midst of various other activities (e.g., other family members watching television).

TABLE 4-1 USUAL PLACES OF STUDY AT HOME BY GROUP

	Group I (in hostels)	Group II (home, did not apply)	Group III (home, applied but rejected)	Group IV (other residence, did not apply)	Group V (other residence, applied but rejected)	All Groups
Study room	3.0%	5.2%	2.1%	0.0%	1.0%	3.3%
Bedroom	42.7	48.7	39.2	44.4	23.3	42.6
Living room	21.5	20.8	23.3	22.2	29.1	22.2
Other ^a	12.7	12.8	16.3	16.7	13.6	13.9
Flat without any partitioning	20.1	12.5	19.1	16.7	33.0	18.0
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
	(846)	(746)	(743)	(36)	(103)	(2474)
No Answer	(20)	(20)	(19)	(9)	(15)	(83)

^a includes places like corridor, balcony, cockloft, etc.

Comparison of the five groups shows that those students whose hostel applications were rejected (Groups III and V) tend to be most deprived in that they generally lack a proper study place. Compared with the students already residing in hostels, (1) even fewer of them have their own study rooms at home, (2) more of them have to study in the living room or other parts of the home, and (3) the extent to which their homes are unpartitioned is the same or even greater. Thus, those students whose hostel applications were rejected apparently have just as much hostel need as those admitted. Even among those students who did not apply for hostels, the situation of study places is remarkably similar. Indeed, one must bear in mind that in densely populated dwellings in Hong Kong, it is only inevitable that useable space has to be shared at the expense of privacy and whatever available space is often multipurpose in use.

Interferences and Disturbances

Table 4-2 shows the variations of answers by Groups to the question "Are there environmental factors which affect your study adversely?" Over four-fifths of our respondents replied in the affirmative, especially among those whose hostel applications were turned down, with 90 per cent for students staying at home (Group III) and 92 per cent living in other residences (Group V) who did so.

TABLE 4-2 ANSWERS TO THE QUESTION "ARE THERE ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS WHICH AFFECT YOUR STUDY ADVERSELY?" BY GROUP

	Group I (in hos- tels)	Group II (home, did not apply)	Group III (home, ap- plied but rejected)	Group IV (other resi- dence, did not apply)	Group V (other resi- dence, applied but rejected)
Yes	87.7%	69.9%	89.9%	86.1%	92.4%
No	12.3	30.1	10.1	13.9	7.6
Total	100.0% (846)	100.0% (745)	100.0% (744)	100.0% (36)	100.0% (105)
No Answer	(20)	(21)	(18)	(9)	(13)

The students were then asked to list in the order of severity three factors that they considered as affecting their study adversely. These were later grouped by us into the following categories:

- (1) Noises from TV and radio within the household.
- (2) Noises from family members, such as conversation and arguments, mah jong game and small children running around, etc.
- (3) Noises from neighbors, include gossips, quarrels, TV and radio, mah jong game, etc.
- (4) Noises from street traffic, playgrounds or factories in vicinity, commercial districts, markets, etc.
- (5) Unsatisfactory living conditions, including inadequate ventilation and sunlight, crowdedness, inconvenience and limitation resulting from living with others (e.g., cannot study late).
- (6) Travelling difficulties, such as much time wasted in travelling to and from the University.
- (7) Personal problems.
- (8) Other factors.

TABLE 4-3 TYPE OF DISTURBING FACTORS IN THE STUDENTS' FAMILIES AFFECTING ADVERSELY THEIR STUDYING*

Type of Disturbing Factor	Mentioned as the most critical	Mentioned as second most critical	Mentioned as third most critical
Noises from TV & radio	33.7%	21.5%	11.2%
Noises from family members	20.3	26.9	23.7
Noises from neighbors	19.4	16.7	24.7
Noises from street	17.9	11.2	21.3
Unsatisfying living conditions	7.4	21.9	14.4
Travelling difficulties	-	0.6	0.6
Personal problems	1.2	1.1	3.0
Other	0.1	0.1	1.1
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
	(1336)	(1073)	(465)
No Answer	(839)	(1102)	(1710)

* Not applicable cases = 416

From the results shown in Table 4-3, the most noticeable factor affecting the students' study is what may be considered as "internal noises" (TV, radio in the same household and family members) since some form of internal noise was mentioned as the most critical factor by 54 per cent of our respondents. In fact, the percentage is higher among any non-hostel group than among

the hostel residents, being 54 per cent or above in the former versus 52 per cent in the latter (see Table B-9 in Appendix B). This is another indication that those students who are not in the hostels (either because they did not apply or their application was unsuccessful) may be just as likely or even more so to face unfavourable conditions at home which at least in part argue for their need for hostels.

In addition to internal noises, which was also mentioned as the second most critical disturbing factor by 48 per cent of our respondents, there were well over one-third (37 per cent) of our respondents who attributed the most disturbing factor to some kind of noise from neighbours or the street. Not to be overlooked is the fact that of those students who mentioned a second most disturbing factor, 22 per cent pointed to some form of unsatisfactory living condition which is often closely related to the various noise factors.

Living in crowded conditions, with all the attendant noises created by inhabitants in their movement, conversation and home entertainment (television, radio, games), is already bad enough for students to concentrate on their studies. The fact that many of our students live in congested areas where street selling prevails in the midst of heavy traffic only makes the situation worse.

For additional data on the studying environment of the students, the reader is referred to Tables B-10 and B-11 in Appendix B.

Loss of Study Time

Admittedly, it is not easy to determine what factors are directly responsible for the loss of any study time on the part of the students, not to mention the fact that there is no simple standard of how much study time is necessary against which loss is calculated or is meaningful. Moreover, there is a high tendency to set ideals higher than what is possible in reality. Nevertheless, we asked our respondents to estimate how much time per day they consider as necessary for their studies and how much time per day they actually have for their studies. The discrepancy between the two estimates gives us a rough idea of how much study time the students might have lost as a result of various factors such as commuting or certain interferences and disturbances at home. Since some students may need more time to study than others, such as among students of upper classes and in the Science Faculty (see Tables B-13, B-14, B-15 and B-16 in Appendix B), and the amount of study time actually available varies so much, only the discrepancy between the two (desired and actual) enables us to make some meaningful comparisons however limited they still remain.

As shown in Table 4-4, the average discrepancy between desired and actual study time is around two-and-half hours per day. Indeed, almost half (46 per cent) of the students experience discrepancy of two to four hours per day, especially among those whose hostel applications were unsuccessful as somewhat over half of them have such a discrepancy. Another 10 per cent of the students experience a discrepancy as high as four hours or more

TABLE 4-4 DISCREPANCY BETWEEN DESIRED AND ACTUAL STUDY TIME BY GROUP

Discrepancy per day (hours)	Group I (in hostels)	Group II (home, did not apply)	Group III (home, applied but rejected)	Group IV (other residence, did not apply)	Group V (other residence, applied but rejected)	All Groups
Less than 2 hrs.	21.3%	27.6%	21.1%	33.3%	19.1%	23.2%
2 hrs. - less than 3 hrs.	31.1	27.3	32.9	26.2	37.3	30.7
3 hrs. - less than 4 hrs.	17.9	10.3	18.3	16.7	18.2	15.7
4 hrs. - less than 5 hrs.	6.4	4.5	6.9	2.4	8.2	6.0
5 hrs. or more	4.0	3.5	4.9	---	5.4	4.2
No discrepancy	19.3	26.7	15.9	21.4	11.8	20.2
Total	100.0% (792)	99.9% (707)	100.0% (706)	100.0% (42)	100.0% (110)	100.0% (2357)
Median (hours)	2.62	2.33	2.64	2.23	2.67	2.54
No Answer	(74)	(59)	(56)	(3)	(8)	(200)

a day, which is rather serious if the students' estimates are reasonably correct. (For amount of study time desired by different Groups, see Table B-12 in Appendix B.)

Since great numbers of our students live in homes the conditions of which tend not to facilitate studying, as evidences presented in the last chapter indicate, libraries on the campus become the chief, if not the only, places for studying. Thus, the extent to which students utilize University or College libraries for this purpose is a partial but important reflection of their need for an alleviation of their present conditions. In this regard, campus residence could, among other things, allow students maximum use of their libraries, and thus in turn minimize any discrepancy between desired and actual amounts of study time.

Our findings show that 42 per cent of our respondents felt that "studying at home or other places is definitely not as good as in the library," while another 34 per cent agreed that "studying in the library is somehow better than at home or other places." Thus, over three-quarters of the students tend to feel rather positively about the library as a place for study. What is most striking is that such feeling is especially prevalent (82 to 87 per cent) among those who applied for hostel accommodation (Groups I, III, and V), whether finally admitted or not. (See Table B-17 in Appendix B)

The question "On a normal school day (excluding days with exceptionally few classes), how much time do you spend in the University/College library?" was asked of students other than those

of the first year. (First year students did not yet have the appropriate experience for answering this question.) A larger average amount of time was found among those students who had applied for hostel accommodation (more than 2½ hours a day). In fact, compared with students who did not apply for hostels, more of these students (18 to 26 per cent) spend as much as four hours or more a day in the library. (See Table B-18 in Appendix B.) Although the evidence we have does not really provide a full explanation of the difference in the time spent in the library across the various groups, we can reasonably believe that those students whose home conditions are most unfavourable for study, other things being equal, would tend to put in as much time as possible in the library.

Summary

We have in this chapter presented a number of facts pertaining to the students' conditions related to study. First and foremost, it is very rare for students to have a study room to themselves. The usual place to study is their bedrooms, which are often shared with other members of the family, or other parts of the flat where one cannot expect much privacy or efficiency. Second, and this is consistent with the first, our students are almost as a rule subject to an array of inconveniences and disturbances which make studying difficult. These hindrances are usually noises in the household (which is often crowded), or noises from neighbours and the environs. Third, probably as a result of such hindrances compounded by having to commute

(commuting will be discussed in a later chapter), students typically have less time for study than is ideal or desirable. Lastly, probably much of whatever available study time is spent in a library on the campus which to the majority of students is a better place to study than any other place. Admittedly, the possible loss of study time probably cannot be eliminated by hostel residence since, for one thing, one could always desire for more study time however much time one actually has. Be that as it may, the first two sets of facts alone, i.e., those concerning study place and disturbances, ought to be given due consideration in the provision of additional hostel residences since these residences normally constitute a studying environment (or are part of such an environment) far better than many students' homes.

CHAPTER V. SOCIOECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS OF STUDENTS' FAMILIES

The aim in this chapter is to provide information on the socioeconomic characteristics of the students' families in order to yield a better perspective with which to view the students' living conditions at home and to gauge the students' need for hostel accommodation. Emphasis will be given to the sources and amount of family income and areas of family expenses. It is hoped that such knowledge will enable us to have a clearer notion of the life styles of our students.

We will first describe the occupation and income of the students' fathers who are usually the principal breadwinners of the families. The total family income will also be discussed in relation to the total number of family members. A section will be devoted to the household expenditure, in terms of the amount of rent paid and educational expenses which can only be indirectly reflected by the number of brothers and sisters still attending school.

Father's occupation and income

Occupations are classified into seven types in this survey, as follows:

- (1) professionals (e.g., lawyers, medical doctors, accountants, teachers, engineers, nurses, etc.);
- (2) managerial and administrative executives (e.g., owners, executives and supervisory personnel of department stores, restaurants and factories);
- (3) small business owners (e.g., hawkers, owners of newspaper stands and fruit stands);

- (4) sales workers and clerical personnel (e.g., salesmen and cashiers, typists, clerks, receptionists and telephone operators, etc.);
- (5) 'upper' blue collar skilled workers (e.g., machine operators, technicians, foremen, and taxi-drivers);
- (6) 'lower' blue collar semi-skilled and unskilled workers (e.g., factory operatives, building construction workers, sanitary workers, janitors, and transportation workers); and
- (7) other unclassified occupations

The percentage distribution of the types of occupation of the fathers of the five groups of our students is shown in Table 5.1. Not included in the percentaging are, of course, those students whose fathers are retired or unemployed (18 per cent of all respondents) and those whose fathers are deceased or not in Hong Kong (11 per cent). The three occupational groups with the highest proportions of participants are semi-skilled manual workers, small business owners, and sales and clerical personnel. Together they account for occupations of two-thirds (67 per cent) of the fathers of our respondents. The pattern stays much the same within each of the five groups of students. Among some groups, as many as 70 per cent or more are engaged in the three types of occupations mentioned. Thus, our students typically come from families engaged in occupations that are relatively low in social prestige and, as presently shown, carry meagre financial rewards.

TABLE 5-1 OCCUPATIONAL TYPES OF STUDENTS' FATHERS BY GROUP

Occupational Type	Group I (in hostels)	Group II (home, did not apply)	Group III (home, applied but rejected)	Group IV (other residence, did not apply)	Group V (other residence, applied but rejected)	All Groups
Professionals	12.1%	14.1%	10.6%	0.0%	13.5%	12.1%
Managerial and administrative executives	6.1	11.2	10.9	11.4	5.4	9.1
Small business owners	20.7	21.8	19.5	22.2	16.2	20.5
Clerical and sales personnel	20.1	16.6	20.4	29.6	25.7	19.5
Skilled manual workers	9.9	11.4	9.9	3.7	10.8	10.3
Semi-skilled and unskilled workers	29.6	23.2	27.7	25.9	28.4	27.0
Other	1.5	1.8	1.0	7.4	0.0	1.4
Total	100.0% (618)	100.1% (518)	100.0% (538)	99.9% (27)	100.0% (74)	99.9% (1775)
Retired or unemployed	(153)	(134)	(121)	(8)	(27)	(443)
Deceased or not in Hong Kong	(95)	(93)	(75)	(5)	(14)	(282)
No answer	(0)	(21)	(28)	(5)	(3)	(57)

TABLE 5-2 FATHER'S ANNUAL INCOME BY FATHER'S OCCUPATION

Father's Annual Income (Dollars)	Semi-skilled & Unskilled Manual Workers	Skilled Manual Workers	Sales and Clerical Personnel	Small Business Owners	Managerial & Administrative Executives	Professionals	Other	All Occupations
4,000 or less	5.9%	2.8%	3.0%	2.9%	0.0%	0.5%	0.0%	3.2%
4,001 - 7,000	30.9	11.7	25.2	15.6	2.2	6.4	13.0	19.2
7,001 - 10,000	48.3	44.1	30.5	30.0	1.5	16.3	21.7	32.7
10,001 - 13,000	11.2	23.5	20.8	25.1	5.8	17.3	21.7	17.7
13,001 - 16,000	1.7	7.8	9.8	10.1	8.8	16.3	17.4	8.2
16,001 - 19,000	0.4	4.5	3.9	3.7	5.1	6.9	4.4	3.4
19,001 - 22,000	1.1	1.7	3.2	5.2	7.3	10.9	4.4	4.1
22,001 - 25,000	0.4	2.2	1.5	3.7	22.6	11.4	13.0	4.8
25,001 or more	0.0	1.7	2.1	3.7	46.7	13.9	4.4	6.8
Total	99.9% (472)	100.0% (179)	100.0% (337)	100.0% (347)	100.0% (137)	99.9% (202)	100.0% (23)	100.1% (1697)
Median income	7,817	9,412	9,142	10,191	24,566	14,728	12,101	9,543
No answer	(6)	(3)	(10)	(17)	(25)	(13)	(2)	(76)

As indicated in Table 5-2, the median annual income of all occupational groups considered is \$9,543 (roughly \$800 per month). There are, as can be expected, considerable differences among the various occupations. The median annual income of managerial and administrative executives is the highest (\$24,566) and is more than three times that of semi-skilled and unskilled workers (\$7,817). However, the former group constitutes no more than one-tenth of the economically active fathers while the latter represents over a quarter. The median annual incomes of the three most sizeable groups, namely, semi-skilled and unskilled manual workers, clerical and sales personnel, and small business owners, are approximately \$8,000, \$9,000, and \$10,000, respectively. At best, this means that two-thirds of the economically active fathers (summing these three groups) on the average earn no more than \$830 a month -- in fact often considerably less.

Total Family Income

In order to arrive at a more complete picture of the total family income, contributions from working mothers and working siblings should also be considered.

Seventeen per cent of the students' mothers are gainfully employed, half of whom as semi-skilled and unskilled manual workers (see Table B-19 in Appendix B). On the average, these mothers contribute \$5,400 a year or \$450 a month to the family income.

Our respondents were asked to indicate the number of siblings who are working (either part-time or full-time), single,¹ and residing in the same household. About half of our students have such siblings the number of which is one in most cases (see Table B-21 in Appendix B). Precisely how much contribution such working siblings make to the family income is not easily or clearly determinable since, among other reasons, our respondents may not be totally knowledgeable about how much their working siblings make and how much of such earnings can adequately be considered as part of the family's income. However, our respondents were asked to report family incomes other than those earned by their parent(s). These other incomes may be earned by working siblings or derived from some other sources. For those students (roughly 37 per cent of total) who reported such other incomes, extra-parental contribution to the family income is on the average \$7,615 a year or roughly \$635 a month. (see Table B-22 in Appendix B).

Given the limited extent to which there are earnings by working mothers, working siblings, or other sources, the father is thus typically the main, if not the sole, breadwinner in the family. The total family income, on the whole, is therefore not too much higher than the father's income.

¹ The contribution of married working siblings to the family income is more problematic because of their own commitments and responsibilities.

From the distribution of total family incomes shown in Table 5-3, a few points can be highlighted. First, the modal annual income ranges from \$7,000 to \$10,000. This applies to almost a quarter (23.8 per cent) of our students' families. Second, over half (53 per cent) of our respondents' families make no more than \$13,000 a year, which amounts to just a little more than \$1,000 a month. With the rapidly rising cost of living in Hong Kong, this level of income is hardly adequate to support a family in which probably several children are attending school.¹ Third, the five groups of students are reasonably similar in the distribution of family incomes. Thus the percentages of families making no more than \$13,000 a year among the five groups are 60.7 per cent (Group I), 47.4 per cent (Group II), 49.9 per cent (Group III), 58.1 per cent (Group IV) and 49.5 per cent (Group V). This underscores the fact that, generally speaking, the students of the Chinese University of Hong Kong come from families that are not at all well to do.

Without the knowledge of the size of the student's family, the total family income would be a poor indicator of the family financial situation. Table 5-4 cross-tabulates the family annual income with the number of family members. It can be noted that the family size first increases steadily from an average (median) of 3.8 persons among the income group of \$4,000 or less to 6.5 persons for families earning \$13,001 to \$16,000 a year. Beyond that income level, the average family size levels off at 6.5

¹ The readers are reminded that the present survey was carried out in September 1973 before the oil crisis and general world inflation have their full grip on the life of the Hong Kong citizens.

TABLE 5-3 TOTAL FAMILY ANNUAL INCOME BY GROUP

Annual Income (Dollars)	Group I (in hostels)	Group II (home, did not apply)	Group III (home, applied but rejected)	Group IV (other residence, did not apply)	Group V (other residence, applied but rejected)	All Groups
4,000 or under	3.2%	2.0%	1.4%	0.0%	1.1%	2.2%
4,001 - 7,000	12.9	5.4	6.7	6.5	7.7	8.5
7,001 - 10,000	26.9	19.3	24.0	29.0	26.4	23.8
10,001 - 13,000	17.7	20.7	17.8	22.6	14.3	18.5
13,001 - 16,000	10.9	12.0	15.5	12.9	14.3	12.8
16,001 - 19,000	4.8	8.0	6.7	6.5	9.9	6.6
19,001 - 22,000	6.6	8.7	9.0	12.9	8.8	8.2
22,001 - 25,000	4.5	6.7	5.1	6.5	5.5	5.4
25,001 or more	12.4	17.1	13.8	3.2	12.1	14.0
Total	99.9% (661)	99.9% (550)	100.0% (567)	100.1% (31)	100.1% (91)	100.0% (1900)
Median income	11,193	13,637	13,018	11,930	13,116	12,507
No answer ^a	(205)	(216)	(195)	(14)	(27)	(657)

^a Many of these are students whose fathers are retired, unemployed, deceased, or not in Hong Kong.

TABLE 5-4 NUMBER OF FAMILY MEMBERS BY TOTAL FAMILY ANNUAL INCOME

Total Family Annual Income (Dollars)	1 - 3 persons	4 - 5 persons	6 - 7 persons	8 - 9 persons	10 or more persons	Total	Median Number of Family Members (persons)	Average Income Per Person Per Month
4,000 or less	36.6%	24.4%	29.3%	7.3%	2.4%	100.0% (41)	3.8	\$88 or less
4,001 - 7,000	19.7	32.5	28.0	14.6	5.1	99.9 (157)	4.9	\$97
7,001 - 10,000	7.0	25.2	39.1	21.1	7.5	99.9 (440)	5.8	\$122
10,001 - 13,000	5.9	23.0	38.3	24.2	8.6	100.0 (339)	6.1	\$157
13,001 - 16,000	2.5	15.6	42.0	28.4	11.5	100.0 (243)	6.5	\$186
16,001 - 19,000	4.0	20.8	35.2	32.0	8.0	100.0 (125)	6.5	\$224
19,001 - 22,000	1.3	17.1	42.1	25.7	13.8	100.0 (152)	6.5	\$263
22,001 - 25,000	2.0	25.5	37.3	26.5	8.8	100.1 (102)	6.1	\$321
25,001 or more	4.6	21.4	36.3	25.6	12.2	100.1 (262)	6.4	\$321 or more
All income groups	6.7	22.7	37.7	23.8	9.2	100.1 (1861)	6.1	approx. \$170

persons and tends to drop somewhat among the two highest income groups (upwards of \$22,001 a year). Using the average family size, an income index expressed in terms of average monthly income per person was calculated for each income group and is shown in the last column in Table 5-4. It can be noted that the average income per person varies directly with the total family income. Also, as pointed out earlier, somewhat over half of our students' families on the whole earn no more than \$13,000 a year, which means, after taking family size into account, no better than an average of \$157 per person per month. In fact, for the two lowest income groups, the family income could be as meagre as under \$100 per person per month which, by practically any criterion in Hong Kong, is poverty indeed. Taking all income groups as a whole, the average family annual income is a little under \$13,000. Since the overall average family size is 6.1 persons,¹ the overall average per person per month income is thus in the vicinity of \$170. Accordingly, the household budget of our students' families should typically be very tight.

Some Main Areas of Family Expenses

The patterns of occupation of students' fathers and total family income are fairly rough guidelines for knowing the socio-economic strata from which students come. To further substantiate such knowledge, which may serve as reference for gauging students' need for hostels on campus, we shall examine two areas of family

¹ The average household size in Hong Kong is 4.5 persons, or 5.1 persons when single-person households are excluded, according to the 1971 Population and Housing Census.

expenses, namely, house rent and, in an indirect way, support of children's education. These areas are among the most obvious and substantial categories of expenses.

1. Amount of rent paid in relation to family income

More than two-thirds (71 per cent) of our respondents reported that their families are renting their dwellings (see Table B-23 in Appendix B). The proportion of such students is even higher among hostel residents and those who currently live in other residences, being three-quarters or more. Also, a higher degree of home ownership by families is to be found among students who did not apply for hostel accommodation and who currently live at home. At the same time, the rent-paying families among this group of students tend to pay higher rents than those among other groups (see Table B-24 in Appendix B). Thus, the median monthly rent paid by families of this group is \$207 compared with, for example, \$130 paid by families of the hostel residents. Since a large proportion of students in hostels are from either the resettlement estates or Government low cost housings (see Chapter III) where rents are generally low, it is expected that this group pay less rent than others.¹ Indeed, almost one-fifth of them pay no more than \$50 per month.

¹ According to the 1971 Population and Housing Census, 86 per cent of the residents in public housings paid less than \$100 monthly on rent and the median rent was calculated as \$41 per month. In private housing, the range of rent paid by households was wider than in public housing, varying from less than \$50 to well over \$1,000 per month. The median rent for private housing was \$152.

TABLE 5-5 MONTHLY RENT BY TOTAL FAMILY MONTHLY INCOME*

Monthly Rent (Dollars)	333 or less	334-583	584-833	834-1083	1084-1333	1334-1583	1584-1833	1834-2083	2084 or more	All Income Groups
Less than 50	37.0%	22.0%	12.1%	10.8%	6.9%	2.4%	10.8%	0.0%	0.0%	13.0%
50 - 149	40.7	43.6	39.6	38.5	33.3	25.3	23.1	21.9	17.6	36.3
150 - 249	20.4	22.7	26.4	20.5	21.6	10.8	20.0	18.8	12.2	21.6
250 - 349	1.9	6.2	8.9	13.3	17.7	18.1	12.3	12.5	10.8	10.4
350 - 449		3.3	6.2	6.7	7.8	9.6	9.2	3.1	10.8	6.1
450 - 549		1.8	3.2	5.1	4.9	10.8	7.7	12.5	13.5	4.8
550 - 649		0.4	2.4	3.1	2.0	12.1	3.1	12.5	2.7	2.9
650 - 749			0.5	1.5	2.9	1.2	0.0	3.1	4.1	1.0
750 - 849			0.3	0.0	2.0	4.8	7.7	9.4	12.2	1.9
850 or more			0.3	0.5	1.0	4.8	6.2	6.3	16.2	2.0
Total	100.0% (54)	100.0% (273)	99.9% (371)	100.0% (195)	100.1% (102)	99.9% (83)	100.1% (65)	100.1% (32)	100.1% (74)	100.0% (1249)
Median rent	\$82	\$114	\$146	\$154	\$196	\$313	\$231	\$325	\$438	\$150
Median rent as approximate percentage of income ^a	27%	24%	21%	16%	16%	21%	14%	17%	20%	19%

* Those students whose families do not pay rent and those who did not respond to family income or rent or both are excluded from the table.

^a Mid-points of income categories are used as bases of percentages except in the categories "\$333 or less" and "\$2084 or more" where \$300 and \$2200 are used.

Table 5-5 shows the monthly rent cross-tabulated against total family monthly income. The median rent is expressed as an approximate percentage of family income for each income group. Such percentages vary considerably from one income group to another. With some irregularities, families earning upwards of \$584 a month tend to spend, generally speaking, 20 per cent of their total income on rent. However, those families earning \$583 or less a month (i.e., the lowest income groups) are apparently in a worse situation, for they have to spend something like 24 per cent or more of their income on rent.

2. Number of siblings attending school

As shown in Table 5-6, having one to four siblings (including the respondent himself) still in school is quite common. In fact this applies to 81.5 per cent of the respondents. (The average family size is six. See Table 5-4.) When the five student groups are examined separately, the situation remains about the same. As a matter of fact, those students who applied for hostels unsuccessfully as well as those who did not apply for hostels have slightly higher proportions who have up to four siblings attending school. This is especially the case among those living at other residences. Furthermore, there are quite a few students, in all groups who have five or more siblings attending school. Considering the fact that as much as a quarter of the family income, on the average, has to be spent on rent alone, having to also support several children's schooling is not likely to be easy.

TABLE 5-6 NUMBER OF SIBLINGS IN SCHOOL BY GROUP

No. of Siblings in School	Group I (in hostels)	Group II (home, did not apply)	Group III (home, applied but rejected)	Group IV (other residence, did not apply)	Group V (other residence, applied but rejected)	All Groups
1-2 persons	40.8%	46.1%	41.5%	50.0%	44.9%	43.0%
3-4 persons	38.3	37.5	39.0	36.8	43.9	38.5
5-6 persons	18.7	13.5	16.9	10.5	10.3	16.1
7 persons or more	2.3	2.8	2.6	2.6	0.9	2.5
Total	100.1% (835)	99.9% (711)	100.0% (703)	99.9% (38)	100.0% (107)	100.1% (2394)
Median (persons)	3.5	3.3	3.5	3.1	3.3	3.3
No answer	(31)	(55)	(59)	(7)	(11)	(163)

Summary

We have in this chapter examined certain socioeconomic characteristics of our respondents' families in order to place the findings reported in the previous two chapters in a somewhat clearer context. Two-thirds of the students' fathers are engaged in what may be considered as lower-middle to lower social class occupations which yield incomes of typically no more than \$10,000 a year or just slightly better. Families at these relatively low income levels have to spend about a quarter of their income on rent (over 70 per cent of students' families rent their dwellings), let alone educational expenses for an average of three to four children attending school. The degree to which they may face financial difficulties is therefore not hard to imagine.

CHAPTER VI. RESIDENTIAL DISTRIBUTION
AND COMMUTING PATTERN

In the present chapter, we shall examine the spatial distribution of the students and the average times taken to commute from various districts to the University campus.

Table 6-1 shows the residential distribution of students' families by present place of residence. On the whole, 31 per cent, 58 per cent, and 11 per cent of our students' families are in Hong Kong Island, Kowloon, and the New Territories, respectively.¹ Based on the transportation times reported by students who presently live at home, the average commuting time (one way) from each district to the University campus was calculated. This is shown in the last column of the table. In order to grasp some idea of the typical amount of commuting time spent by the majority of the student body, supposing that everybody has to commute, let us select some districts with large concentrations of students for illustration. The average one-way commuting time for the three major "student districts" on Hong Kong Island (North Point/Shaukiwan; Wanchai/Causeway Bay; Western District -- accounting for more than three quarters of all students whose homes are on Hong Kong Island) is at least 90 minutes. In the case of Kowloon, the average one-way commuting time ranges from 79 minutes to 110 minutes for four of the five most populous student districts (Cheung

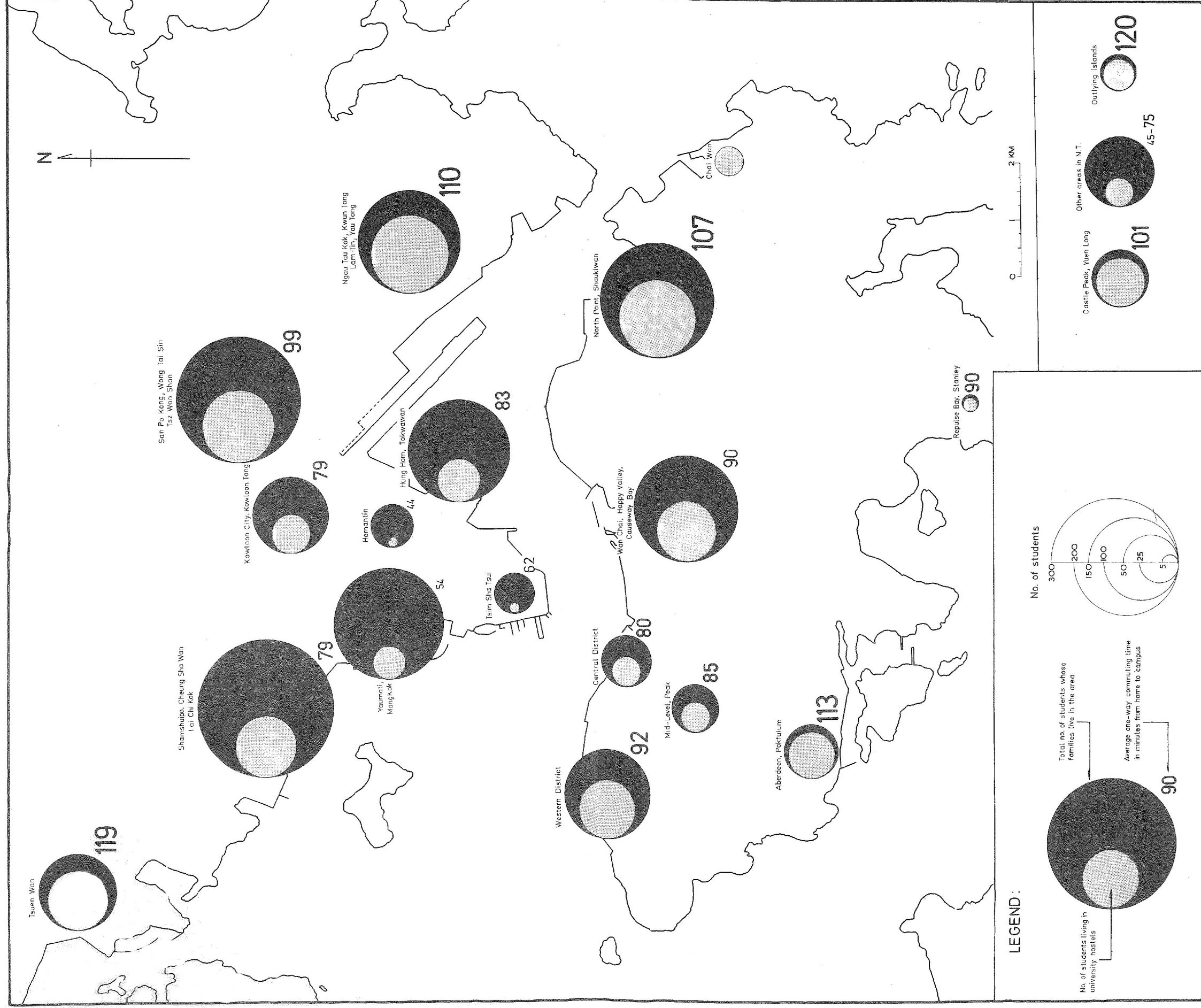
¹ In the hostel need survey carried out at Chung Chi College of the University in 1971-72, the distribution was 37 per cent, 53 per cent, and 10 per cent in Hong Kong, Kowloon, and the New Territories, respectively.

TABLE 6-1 DISTRICT DISTRIBUTION OF STUDENTS' FAMILIES BY GROUP AND AVERAGE ONE-WAY COMMUTING TIME FROM VARIOUS DISTRICTS TO THE UNIVERSITY CAMPUS

District	Group I (in hostels)	Group II (home, did not apply)	Group III (home, applied but rejected)	Group IV (other residence, did not apply)	Group V (other residence, applied but rejected)	All Groups	Average One-way Commuting Time (min.) ^a
(HONG KONG ISLAND)	(339)	(127)	(261)	(12)	(31)	(770)	
North Point/Shaukiwan	115	33	78	3	13	242	107
Wanchai/Happy Valley/ Tai Hang/Causeway Bay	65	52	84	4	8	213	90
Western District	62	16	60	4	4	146	92
Aberdeen/Pokfulum	44	5	7	0	1	57	113
Central District	18	11	17	1	3	50	80
Mid-levels & Peak	18	10	13	0	2	43	85
Chaiwan	14	0	0	0	0	14	--
Repulse Bay/Stanley	3	0	2	0	0	5	90
(KOWLOON)	(359)	(552)	(441)	(21)	(64)	(1437)	
Cheung Sha Wan/ Shamshuipo/ Lai Chi Kok	71	139	111	5	20	346	79
Wong Tai Sin/San Po Kong/Tsz Wan Shan/ Choi Hung/Ping Shek	97	68	111	3	15	294	99
Yamatani/Mongkok	20	138	54	5	7	224	54
Hunghom /Tokwawan	32	86	72	4	9	203	83
Ngau Tau Kok/Kwun Tong/Sau Mau Ping/ Lam Tin/Yau Tong	108	37	44	4	7	200	110
Kowloon City/Kowloon Tsai/Kowloon Tong	27	40	35	0	6	108	79
Howantin	2	22	8	0	0	32	44
Tsim Sha Tsui	2	22	6	0	0	30	62
(NEW TERRITORIES)	(150)	(68)	(46)	(4)	(7)	(275)	
Tsuen Wan	68	11	27	1	2	109	119
Castle Peak/Yuen Long	47	4	7	1	2	61	101
Fanling /Sheung Shui	10	19	6	0	2	37	68
Outlying Islands	17	0	3	1	1	22	120
Shatin	1	18	2	0	0	21	35
Taipo	3	16	1	1	0	21	45
Clear Water Bay	4	0	0	0	0	4	--
TOTAL	848	747	748	37	102	2482	85
No Answer	(18)	(19)	(74)	(8)	(16)	(75)	

^a The calculation of average one-way commuting time is based on time reports given by students living at home.

DISTRIBUTION OF CHINESE UNIVERSITY STUDENTS AND AVERAGE ONE-WAY COMMUTING TIME



Sha Wan and environs; Wong Tai Sin and environs; Hunghom/Tokwawan; Kwun Tong and environs -- with 73 per cent of Kowloon students). In addition, 62 per cent of all students whose homes are in the New Territories come from the districts of Tsuen Wan, Castle Peak, and Yuen Long, for which a trip to the University campus on the average takes 101 to 119 minutes. Thus, having to spend as much as one hour and a half each way commuting between home and campus is quite common among our students if they do not obtain hostel accommodation. Judging from the physical distances of many of these various districts alone, an hour and a half each way between home and campus could seem more than what might be necessary. However, it must be pointed out that typically there is no direct transportation and thus students would have to take multiple "trip-legs" involving various combinations of bus, light bus, tram, ferry boat, and train. In fact, as many as 66 per cent of those who currently live at home and who thus commute regularly between home and campus normally have to undergo three or more trip-legs each way (see Table B-25 in Appendix B). Considerable traffic jams are commonplace, especially in those districts with high population density (e.g., Western District, Wanchai, Mongkok, Shamshuipo) and during rush hours. Thus, extra time must be allowed for delays in traffic, not to mention time required by waiting in queues and walking between points to get on different modes of transportation. Furthermore, the morning trains going to the University are usually very crowded (especially when there are China-bound passengers) so that students may want to arrive at the Kowloon Terminus earlier in order to stand a better chance of finding a seat.

Consequently, it should not be surprising that students living in Yaumati/Mongkok have to spend 54 minutes on the average, and those in Tsimshatsui just about an hour, to get to the University although students in these two districts are relatively close to the Mongkok and Kowloon train stations respectively. Even in the New Territories towns of Shatin and Taiipo which are geographically closest to the University, the average one-way commuting times are 34.5 minutes and 45 minutes respectively. Although the journey from Shatin and Taiipo to the University is no more than 15 minutes and 20 minutes, respectively, by either train or bus, sufficient time must be allowed for walking from home (which could be quite a distance from the town centre) to the bus stop or train station and for waiting at the station as well. The map on page 54 is designed to show graphically the distribution of students' families by district, the proportion of hostel residents to commuters by district, and the average one-way commuting times in minutes from the various districts to the University.

Since living relatively far away from the University is a reasonable factor constituting hostel need, we would expect to find a rather high proportion of such students among those already accepted in hostels. Indeed, as shown in Table 6-2, the homes of 76 per cent of the students currently residing in hostels are located in districts more than an hour and a half away from the campus. However, it should also be noted that as many as 44 per cent of the commuters have to spend about the same amount of time to come to the campus. Their situation will not be relieved unless measures are taken by the University to provide more students with hostel residence.

TABLE 6-2. AVERAGE COMMUTING TIME (ONE-WAY) BETWEEN HOME AND CAMPUS BY PRESENT PLACE OF RESIDENCE*

Average Commuting Time (minutes)	Present Residence		All Students
	In Hostels	At Home or Other Residence	
Under 75 minutes ^a	4.5%	20.1%	14.7%
75 - 89 minutes ^b	19.6	35.7	30.2
90 - 104 minutes ^c	32.0	27.1	28.8
105 minutes and above ^d	44.0	17.1	26.3
Total	100.1%	100.0%	100.0%
	(848)	(1634)	(2482)

* This table is based on data shown in Table 6-1. The average one-way commuting time between home and campus is based on reports of those students who currently live at home.

^a includes districts: Tsim Sha Tsui, Yaumati, Mongkok, Homantin, Shatin, Taipo, Fanling and Sheung Shui

^b includes districts: Central District, Mid-level and Peak, Hunghom, Tokwawan, Cheung Sha Wan, Shamshuipo, Kowloon City and Kowloon Tong

^c includes districts: Western District, Wanchai, Causeway Bay, San Po Kong, Wong Tai Sin, Tsz Wan Shan, Castle Peak and Yuen Long

^d includes districts: North Point, Shaukiwan, Chaiwan, Aberdeen, Pokfulum, Ngau Tau Kok, Kwun Tong, Sau Mau Ping, Lam Tin, Yau Tong and Tsuen Wan etc.

Transportation expenses for commuting between home and campus amounts to HK\$40 to \$50 a month on the average (see Table B-26 in Appendix B). Asked whether they would prefer commuting or living in hostel if transportation expenses are about the same as hostel fees, 92 per cent of our respondents replied that they would prefer hostel residence. In fact, such preference is held by practically all those students who applied for hostels for 1973-74, whether successfully or not, and by somewhat more than three-quarters of those who did not apply (see Table B-27 in Appendix B). Since the current hostel fees average around \$60 a month (\$500 to \$600 per academic year) which is fairly close to what students generally pay for transportation, such a preference is actually conceived and stated not in a totally hypothetical context. Indeed, this near-unanimous preference for hostel residence seems to be saying something quite negative about the desirability of commuting (e.g., inconvenience, time wastage, physical fatigue, etc.).

The foregoing observations of the spatial distribution of the students and the commuting pattern indicate that there are a considerable number of students whose need for hostels may well have to be looked into, based upon the realization of what it means and what it takes to commute, if nothing else. Given the increasingly aggravating situation in the urban areas of Hong Kong in terms of traffic congestion and population density, commuting is likely to be an even more acute problem than it now already is. A substantial increase in hostel provision seems to be the only amelioration in sight.

CHAPTER VII. OVERALL MEASUREMENT OF HOSTEL NEED

We have acquired thus far a fairly good idea of the general living conditions, studying environment, commuting pattern and socioeconomic characteristics of our students' families. One can conceive of the kinds of difficulties many of them are likely to face in terms of lack of facilitation in their studies if no hostel residence is available to them. Having presented such a picture, it is desirable for us to further devise a composite overall measure to quantify in some short-hand fashion, for reference purposes, the degree of hostel need.

Assuming that a number of objective items among those mentioned in the previous chapters are concerned with different dimensions of hostel need, it would be possible to pool these items together to form a composite quantitative index which we shall call the Hostel Need Index. In this chapter, we shall first describe the construction of this Hostel Need Index. We shall then show the distribution of the index scores among our respondents and how these scores may be interpreted in terms of several major components of the index. Finally, we shall look into the variation of the index scores with the year in college and sex of the students as these may shed light on the question of who the more needy students are.

The Hostel Need Index

The Hostel Need Index is composed of thirteen items centered around the conditions in which the students live. The items and their corresponding score values are listed as follows:

<u>Item</u>	<u>Minimum Score</u> (Low Need)	<u>Maximum Score</u> (High Need)
(1) Permanent Internal Partitioning	1 (yes)	2 (no)
(2) Number of households sharing the same living quarter	1 (one household)	2 (two or more households)
(3) Any children aged 7 or under in the living quarter	1 (no)	2 (yes)
(4) Floor space per person ^a	1 (125 sq. ft. or more)	9 (24 sq. ft. or less)
(5) Exclusive use of a bedroom ^b	1 (own bedroom)	6 (no bedroom of any sort)
(6) Windows in bedroom	1 (yes)	2 (no)
(7) Fully partitioned (ceiling to floor) bedroom	1 (yes)	2 (no)
(8) Type of the bed and its use ^c	3 (permanent and for personal use)	6 (permanent, multipurpose; not permanent, personal use; not permanent multipurpose)
(9) Place for self study	1 (study room or bedroom)	2 (somewhere else)
(10) Need to turn on lights on bright days	1 (no)	2 (yes)

^a The intermediate categories cover intervals of 20 sq. ft. each from categories 2 through 4 and 10 sq. ft. each from categories 5 through 8.

^b The intermediate category, "a bedroom shared with others," is scored 3.

^c On the assumption that whether a student has exclusive use of a permanent bed is a matter of basic necessity which bears directly on the consideration of his hostel need, the item is weighted thrice. That is, the item is assigned a contribution to the total index somewhat more than its proportional share for conceptual reasons.

(11) Interferences and disturbances present in environment	1 (no)	2 (yes)
(12) Disturbing factors ^d	1 (travelling difficulties, personal reasons)	4 (internal noises, such as noises from TV, radio and other members of family)
(13) Commuting time ^e	1 (below 15 minutes)	9 (120 minutes or above)

By adding up the thirteen item scores, the highest score possible is 50 while the lowest is 15. Since some of the items were unanswered or inapplicable, all actual total scores obtained were converted to percentages of whatever the highest possible score was -- either 50 or some smaller value. Thus standardized, the final Hostel Need Index score varies from the vicinity of 40 points to a possible maximum of 100 points. Comparison of Hostel Need Index scores among all respondents is then possible.

Since the response to the thirteen items were coded in such a way that a higher value corresponds to some kind of 'deprivation' in facilities or living conditions which in turn reflects a certain dimension of hostel need, a higher index score would indicate a higher hostel need. If a student gets an index score of, say, 60, then he is likely to be "deprived" on probably half of the items-- if all thirteen items apply, that is. If the score is 75, he is likely to be on the "deprived" side of probably nine to ten of the thirteen items. With this rough guideline, we are able to make some interpretation of the distribution of the index scores.

^d Category 2 is "unsatisfactory living conditions" and category 3 is "external noises such as noises from neighbours, streets, markets, traffic, etc."

^e The intermediate categories cover intervals of 15 minutes each.

TABLE 7-1 HOSTEL NEED INDEX SCORE BY GROUP

Hostel Need Index Score	Group I (in hostels)	Group II (home, did not apply)	Group III (home, applied but rejected)	Group IV (other residence, did not apply)	Group V (other residence, applied but rejected)	All Groups
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Less than 40	1.8%	4.3%	0.5%		1.0%	2.1%
40 - 49	8.3	12.8	4.2	2.6	2.9	8.1
50 - 59	13.5	20.9	12.8	21.0	3.8	15.3
60 - 69	18.2	26.2	20.7	31.6	24.0	21.8
70 - 79	27.2	19.0	28.1	31.6	25.0	25.0
80 - 89	24.0	14.9	26.3	7.9	33.7	22.1
90 or more	7.0	1.8	7.3	5.3	9.6	5.6
Total	100.0% (853)	99.9% (759)	99.9% (757)	100.0% (38)	100.0% (104)	100.0% (2511)
Median	72.0	63.6	73.2	67.3	76.3	71.1
No answer ^a	(13)	(7)	(5)	(7)	(14)	(46)

^a Those students who have no answers to six or more of the thirteen items comprising the Index are excluded from the table.

Distribution and Meaning of Hostel Need Index Score

Measuring hostel need in the way mentioned, we found that over half (52.7 per cent) of our respondents scored 70 points or more while about three-quarters (74.5 per cent) of them had scores of 60 or above, as shown in Table 7-1. Using the interpretation suggested in the preceding section, one can see that these rather substantial proportions of students can be regarded as having considerable to high hostel need. In other words, three-quarters of our students are "deprived" on at least half of the *items* of the Index.

Comparing the five groups of students shows that the average (median) Hostel Need Index scores are higher among those students whose hostel applications were unsuccessful (Group III: 73; Group V: 76) and the hostel residents (72) than among those who did not apply for hostels in 1973-74 (Group II: 64; Group IV: 67). In fact, there are more of those whose hostel applications were unsuccessful who score 70 points and above on the Index (62 per cent among those living at home and 68 per cent among those living at other residences) than of those living in the hostels (58 per cent). If 70 points and above on the Index may be regarded as indicating fairly high need for hostels, then this is substantive evidence supporting our proposition that those whose hostel applications were unsuccessful could well be just as needy for hostel accommodation as those who were admitted. Indeed, the former turned out to be even more needy. Furthermore, even among those students who, for various reasons, did not apply for hostels in 1973-74, the proportion scoring 70 and above on

the Index is quite sizeable, being 36 per cent among those living at home and 45 per cent among those living elsewhere. This thus confirms our assumption that those students who do not apply for hostels in a given year are not necessarily those who have no need at all for hostel accommodation.

Having described the distribution of the Hostel Need Index scores, we then turn to interrelating the Index with some selected components of the Index in order to show what variations in the Index scores could mean as well as in some limited way demonstrate the validity of the Index. The selected components are: (1) floor space per person, (2) type of sleeping place, and (3) travel time between home and campus. They are selected because they are some of the major aspects in considering students' hostel need, and also because they are items with more variability in response categories compared to most of other items in the Index, which makes the interrelationship between the Index and the items more easily discernible. Cross-tabulation of the Hostel Need Index with other components are shown in Appendix B (Tables B-28 to B-34).

(1) Hostel Need Index and Floor Space per person

As shown in Table 7-2, the Index and floor space per person are negatively correlated. That is, the higher a student scores on the Hostel Need Index the more likely he comes from a home with very little floor space per person. The median Index score, indicating the average degree of hostel need, increases systematically from 44 to 85 as we move up the scale of crowdedness. Indeed, it can be calculated from the data in Table 7-2 that as many as 87 per cent

TABLE 7-2 HOSTEL NEED INDEX SCORE BY FLOOR SPACE PER PERSON*

Hostel Need Index Score	Floor Space Per Person (sq. ft.)										All
	24 or less	25-34	35-44	45-64	65-84	85-104	105-124	125-144	145 or more		
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	
Less than 40						1.2%		7.5%	26.5%	2.2%	
40 - 49				0.4	6.5	18.6	38.1	52.5	48.2	8.3	
50 - 59	0.3	1.8	13.1	34.9	50.9	44.4	35.0	19.9	15.0		
60 - 69	6.5	6.1	21.5	37.2	38.4	25.1	15.9	3.8	5.4	21.6	
70 - 79	11.5	33.6	43.2	35.9	18.2	3.6	1.6	1.3	25.2		
80 - 89	54.2	47.7	31.0	13.5	2.0	0.6			22.4		
90 or more	27.9	12.3	2.5						5.4		
Total	100.1%	100.0%	100.0%	100.1%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.1%	100.1%
Median	(262)	(375)	(442)	(541)	(307)	(167)	(63)	(80)	(166)	(2403)	
	84.9	81.1	75.2	68.8	61.3	54.9	51.7	47.1	43.9	70.2	

* Cases with no information on floor space per person are excluded from this table

of all those students whose homes provide a floor space per person of less than 45 square feet score 70 or above on the Index.

Conversely, of all students scoring 70 or above on the Index, 74 per cent come from such homes. This illustrates very well that a score of 70 or above on the Index may indeed be regarded as indicating fairly high hostel need.

Using 70 on the Index as our cutting point in identifying high hostel need, we can examine Table B-28 (in Appendix B) for further interest. High scores of hostel needs are more likely to be found among the types of housings whose conditions are the most crowded and unsatisfactory. They are in the order of resettlement estates, rooftop cottages, Government low-cost housing and the squatter huts. The data also support the prevalence of the higher hostel needs among households that have no internal partitioning (Table B-29) and greater extent of sharing (Table B-30).

(2) Hostel Need Index and Type of Sleeping Place

From the cross-tabulation of the Hostel Need Index and type of sleeping place, as shown in Table 7-3, we can see that as the Index score increases, we find more and more students who do not have exclusive use of a bedroom and who do not sleep in a bedroom. Indeed, 90 per cent of those who do not sleep in a bedroom score 70 or above on the Index. The average (median) score for these students is 81, while that for those who have their own bedrooms at home is only 47. Further, those students scoring 70 or above on the Index contain the vast majority (e.g., around 90 per cent) of those whose beds at home have to be packed up or

TABLE 7-3 HOSTEL NEED INDEX SCORE BY TYPE OF BEDROOM*

Hostel Need Index Score	Type of Bedroom			All
	own bedroom	shared bedroom	no bedroom	
Less than 40	21.0%	0.8%	0.0%	2.2%
40 - 49	35.5	10.7	0.1	8.2
50 - 59	28.0	25.6	1.4	15.2
60 - 69	11.7	35.8	8.8	21.9
70 - 79	3.7	21.4	32.8	24.9
80 - 89	0.0	5.6	44.2	22.1
90 or more	0.0	0.1	12.7	5.6
Total	99.9%	100.0%	100.0%	100.1%
	(214)	(1192)	(1105)	(2511)
Median	47.2	62.6	80.6	70.1

* Cases with no information on type of bedroom are excluded in this table.

are used for some other purposes during daytime, but contain just under half of those whose beds are permanent and for own use only (see Tables B-31 and B-32 in Appendix B). Thus, students with relatively crude sleeping facilities at home are generally more likely to score high on the Index. It is then quite credible to say that scores of 70 or above on the Index do indicate a substantially high degree of hostel need. The pattern of higher scores being more likely to be found among the more "deprived" students also applies to such criteria as place of study and presence of interferences (see Tables B-33 and B-34 in Appendix B).

TABLE 7-4 HOSTEL NEED INDEX SCORE BY COMMUTING TIME

Hostel Need Index Score	One-way Commuting Time (minutes)										120 or more	ALL
	Less than 15	15-29	30-44	45-59	60-74	75-89	90-104	105-119	120 or more	ALL		
Less than 40	87.5%	22.6%	9.1%	4.9%	2.2%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	2.4%
40 - 49	12.5	12.9	24.5	14.8	11.7	9.0	4.3	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.4	8.1
50 - 59		19.4	28.2	28.6	21.2	13.9	14.5	7.7	5.6	5.6	5.6	15.8
60 - 69		35.5	20.9	30.2	25.2	28.7	24.3	20.9	13.8	13.8	13.8	23.7
70 - 79		9.7	11.8	14.8	25.9	25.6	26.7	28.6	27.5	27.5	27.5	23.9
80 - 89			5.5	6.6	13.9	22.8	26.3	32.4	34.2	34.2	34.2	21.3
90 or more							3.9	9.9	18.6	18.6	18.6	4.8
Total	100.0%	100.1%	100.0%	99.9%	100.1%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.1%	100.0%	100.1%	100.0%
	(8)	(31)	(110)	(182)	(274)	(324)	(255)	(182)	(269)	(269)	(269)	(1635)
Median	Less than 40	56.5	54.8	59.6	64.9	68.5	71.6	76.3	79.8	79.8	79.8	69.0

Note: Cases with no information on commuting time, including students who live in hostels, are not included in this table.

(3) Hostel Need Index and Commuting Time between Home and Campus

Table 7-4 presents the cross-tabulation of the Hostel Need Index Score with one-way commuting time between home and campus. We notice first that, in general, the longer the commuting time the higher the average Index score. Among those students who spend an hour or more to commute from home to campus, upwards of 40 per cent (though 80 per cent for those spending two hours or more) score 70 or above on the Index. Alternatively, of all those students who score 70 or above on the Index, 92 per cent have to spend an hour or more commuting each way. If we take 60 points on the Index as a baseline, the percentage spending this much commuting time is still as high as 88 per cent. Thus, a score of 60 points on the Index, though perhaps not as strongly as 70 points or above, also serves to indicate a sufficiently high degree of hostel need.

The Hostel Need Index and the Year and Sex of the students

We noted at the beginning of this chapter that as many as 74.5 per cent of our respondents scored 60 or above on the Hostel Need Index, which has been shown to be an indication of considerable to high hostel need. The question arises whether there is any difference in hostel need between lower and upper years, and between male and female students in the University. The data related to this question are Tables 7-5 and 7-6.

TABLE 7-5 HOSTEL NEED INDEX SCORE BY YEAR OF STUDENT

Hostel Need Index Score	Year of Students				All
	First	Second	Third	Fourth	
Less than 40	0.8%	2.0%	2.5%	4.0%	2.2%
40 - 49	6.2	8.5	8.6	10.3	8.2
50 - 59	15.0	14.5	17.7	13.5	15.2
60 - 69	22.5	19.7	20.9	24.9	21.9
70 - 79	26.0	27.7	21.8	23.0	24.9
80 - 89	25.3	22.7	20.9	17.8	22.1
90 or more	4.2	4.9	7.5	6.5	5.6
Total	100.0%	100.0%	99.9%	100.0%	100.1%
	(759)	(696)	(559)	(505)	(2519)
Median	71.1	70.9	69.1	67.9	70.1

From Table 7-5, we find that the percentage of students with relatively high hostel need (60 or above on the Index) is highest among the first year students (78 per cent) and lowest among the fourth year students (72 per cent). However, the proportion of the former group admitted to hostels is much smaller than that of the latter. As shown in Table B-1a (in Appendix B), only 15.5 per cent of the first year students compared with over half (57.1 per cent) of the fourth year students are accommodated in hostels in the University. Among the first year students, as high as three quarters of those who applied had to be rejected. Thus, while lower classmen are probably more needy of hostels,

they do not stand a very good chance of getting admitted into the hostels until their later years of University life. (This, apparently, is due to the serious insufficiency of hostel space at present.)

TABLE 7-6 HOSTEL NEED INDEX SCORES BY SEX OF STUDENT

<u>Hostel Need Index Score</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>All</u>
Less than 40	1.3%	3.7%	2.2%
40 - 49	5.1	14.0	8.2
50 - 59	12.8	19.6	15.1
60 - 69	20.7	24.2	21.9
70 - 79	27.0	20.7	24.9
80 - 89	26.0	14.8	22.2
90 or more	7.0	3.0	5.6
Total	99.9%	100.0%	100.1%
	(1651)	(864)	(2515)
Median	72.7	64.3	70.1

At present, a higher proportion (44.1 per cent) of female students is being accommodated in hostels, compared with only 29.5 per cent of male students (see Table B-1a in Appendix B). However, the need for hostel residence according to sex, as revealed in Table 7-6, is just the reverse. A total of 63 per cent of the female students, as compared with 81 per cent of the males, can be considered as having relatively high hostel need, scoring 60 or above on the Index.

Summary

In the present chapter, we have demonstrated how a composite overall measure, the Hostel Need Index, was devised to quantify the degree of hostel need on the basis of thirteen objective items used in the survey questionnaire. By cross-tabulating scores on this Index with several component items of the Index, we have shown how the Index may be interpreted in terms of the degree of crowdedness at home (floor space per person), the type of sleeping place, and the commuting time between students' homes and campus. Living at homes well over an hour away from the campus with little average floor space per person (such as not more than 65 square feet per person) and with no adequate bedroom to sleep in, together with various other relatively "deprived" conditions, is clearly indicative of substantial need for hostel accommodation. Our findings showed that about three-quarters of our respondents can be considered as belonging to such a level of hostel need. We also found that while high-need students are especially concentrated in the first and second years, chances are that, on account of limited hostel spaces presently available, they have to wait until they are in upper years before they are more likely to be offered hostel accommodation. Besides, in spite of higher needs of the male students as revealed in our findings, their chances of being admitted to hostels will remain to be much lower than that of the female students unless more hostel spaces are made available to them.

CHAPTER VIII. GENERAL LIVING CONDITIONS IN OFF
-CAMPUS ACCOMMODATIONS AND STUDENTS'
PREFERENCE FOR HOSTEL RESIDENCE

The findings presented so far have centered around a number of indications of unfavourable living conditions at home and inconvenience in commuting between home and campus. On the basis of these evidences, it seems that the "needy" students are those who need to live away from home at some place where such conditions can be significantly improved. We have in the previous chapters said that such students have a need, at least a potential one, for hostel accommodation on the campus. However, it may be argued that unfavourable conditions at home and difficulties thereof do not necessarily mean therefore that hostel accommodation for students is a "must" since there is the possibility of off-campus accommodations.

Admittedly, the "need to live away from home" as such should be distinguished from the "need to live on campus." Part of the distinction involves the question of whether or not alternative places of residence in town or in the vicinity of the University can ameliorate the unfavourable conditions that students face if they do not live away from home. If such places can be readily obtained with all relevant conditions suitable and feasible to the students themselves, then the two "needs" are very different indeed. If, however, such places cannot be so readily obtained and are not any better than students' homes even when they are available, then the two "needs", for all practical purposes, become substantively equivalent despite their conceptual difference.

To deal with this issue, we shall first examine the general living conditions of those students who are currently living away from home. We shall then supplement such information by reviewing students' personal preferences regarding residence when both cost and location are taken into consideration.

General Living Conditions in Off-campus Accommodations

Only 163 of our respondents (about 6 per cent) currently live in a place other than home or the campus. Three-quarters of them live in the New Territories towns of Shatin and Taiipo, both of which are relatively close to the University. The types of housing characterizing these alternative residences are mostly stone houses (one to two storeys high) and flats in private buildings.¹ Details are shown in Table B-35 in Appendix B.

Sharing the living quarter together with three to four fellow students is common (63 per cent). Some of them live with friends or relatives (see Table B-36a). The length of residence in these accommodations is less than a year on the average (see Table B-36b).

¹ Many students rent stone houses in the two villages - Chek Nai Ping (赤泥坪) and Cheung Shue Tan (樟樹灘) which are within walking distance from the Campus. Despite the closeness, the road is hazardous at night, especially for girls. Flats in private buildings are usually located near the market towns of Taiipo and Shatin.

Floor Space Per Person

Table 8-1 shows the comparison of floor space per person in students' homes and present residences, among students who are residing in off-campus accommodations. The average floor space in the present residence is slightly above 50 square feet per person which is somewhat better than the conditions at home.

TABLE 8-1 FLOOR SPACE PER PERSON FOR STUDENTS LIVING IN OTHER RESIDENCES COMPARED WITH THEIR HOMES

Floor Space Per Person (sq. ft.)	Did not apply for hostels		Applied for hostels but rejected	
	Other Residence	Home	Other Residence	Home
44 or under	26.3%	34.7%	43.8%	52.5%
45 - 64	26.3	23.7	32.3	25.8
65 - 84	21.1	13.2	12.5	13.9
85 or over	26.3	18.5	11.4	8.0
Total	100.0%	100.1%	100.0%	100.2%
	(38)	(38)	(96)	(101)
Median (sq. ft.)	62.5	50.0	48.3	43.7
No answer	(7)	(7)	(22)	(17)

When we compare those off-campus residents who did not apply for hostels with those who applied unsuccessfully, we find that the homes of the former group tend to be somewhat more spacious (50 square feet per person) than those of the latter (44 square feet per person), but there remains a very sizeable proportion in both groups having homes that are very crowded by

Hong Kong standards. We also find that both groups of students tend to live in off-campus residences that are somewhat more spacious than their own homes, particularly among those who did not apply for hostels, but it must be pointed out that this is only a small minority among the off-campus residents. Besides, the apparent improvement in average floor space per person in this case from 50 square feet to 62.5 square feet is not too significant anyway despite the existence of a few cases of exceptionally spacious accommodation (e.g., 125 square feet or more per person). Clearly, the degree of "spaciousness" on the whole is still rather low. Altogether, there are still 39 per cent of the off-campus residents whose alternative accommodations offer no more space than 45 square feet per person. As mentioned, three-quarters of the off-campus residents live in Taipo and Shatin (including a couple of villages near the campus) where the typical pattern is for several students to share part of a stone house or a flat. For one thing, these structures are mostly relatively small. For another, the tendency is to have more fellow students to share the same room in order to minimize the rent per person. Consequently, this type of alternative accommodation could become quite crowded, and turns out to compare unfavourably with accommodation in campus hostels.¹

¹ The average floor space per person in student hostels ranges from 65 square feet to 70 square feet. In the hostels of United and New Asia Colleges, typically three students share a bedroom of 200 square feet while double rooms in the hostels of Chung Chi College are each 130 square feet to 145 square feet in area.

In addition to the condition of space, we found that 62 per cent of the off-campus residences do not have permanent partitioning compared with just under 40 per cent of the homes of these residents. About 50 per cent of these residences are not partitioned into bedrooms, much similar to the pattern of these students' own homes. (See Table B-37 in Appendix B.) As to the condition of beds, it may be noted that 44 per cent of these students have to pack up their beds at their off-campus residence during daytime, which is more common than the case at their homes (where the corresponding figure is 33 per cent).¹ Also, one-third of these students reported that their beds at the off-campus residence are multi-purpose in use while fewer of them (29 per cent) so reported on their bed condition at home. (See Table B-38 in Appendix B.)

A few of the off-campus residents do not have to pay rent for their accommodation, probably because they are staying with relatives. The majority (62 per cent) of those who do pay rent are paying anywhere from \$50 to \$150 per person a month, and close to a third (30 per cent) are paying upwards of \$150 a month (see Table B-39 in Appendix B). Whereas hostel fees on the campus are currently charged at the rate of \$350 to \$600 per annum or \$40 to \$67 per month during the academic year,² it is clear that living off-campus away from home is considerably more expensive in rents alone, not to mention commuting expenses.

¹ Having to pack up a bed during daytime suggests a constraint of space utilization.

² The hostel fees are \$500-\$600 per annum for double bedrooms, and \$350 - \$500 per annum for 3-person bedrooms.

Indications from the above evidences are that living away from home has no real and substantial advantage over living at home in terms of general living conditions. Whatever slight gains in space tend to be counteracted by such "deprivations" as lack of proper partitioning and lack of adequate sleeping facilities. Indeed, the lack of adequate toilet and bathroom facilities is also not unfrequent, especially in many stone houses of villages in Shatin and Taipo. The fact that three-quarters of off-campus residents live in Shatin and Taipo, despite unsatisfactory living conditions, seems to suggest that the main reason for living away from home anyway is an attempt to be closer to the campus. However, the high cost (relative to living in hostels or staying at home) on top of the fact there are not that many such accommodations in either Shatin or Taipo after all tend to make it rather difficult for such alternative off-campus accommodations to be a practical solution to the "need" problem.

Students' Preference for Hostel Residence

Much has been said about the objective assessment of the extent of hostel need among the students. In this section we will turn to the other side of the coin and consider the students' subjective preference which should not be overlooked in the process of decision-making. Students were asked to choose, under various specified conditions, their preferred place of residence -- the hostel, home, or other residence.

(1) Unconditional preference

The first question given to our respondents pertaining to residence preference is: "Where would you like to live in the foreseeable future while attending this University?" Table 8-2 shows a breakdown of the preferred places of residence by the present place of residence. A total of 78.5 per cent of the respondents prefer living in hostels. The highest percentages showing such preference were found among students who currently live in hostels (99 per cent), and then those who applied for hostels but were rejected (around 80 per cent). Even among those who did not apply for hostels there were over half who expressed a desire to live in hostels, which indicates that had it not been for the keen competition they probably would have applied. This also supports our proposition that those students who have not applied for hostel accommodation are not necessarily those who need no such accommodation at all.

TABLE 8-2 PREFERRED PLACE OF RESIDENCE BY GROUP

Place of Residence	Group I (in hostels)	Group II (home, did not apply)	Group III (home, applied but rejected)	Group IV (other residence, did not apply)	Group V (other residence, applied but rejected)	All Groups
Hostel	98.9%	50.7%	83.8%	53.3%	79.5%	78.5%
Home	0.5	46.5	9.7	2.2	0.0	16.9
Other residence	0.5	2.9	6.4	44.4	20.5	4.7
Total	99.9 (887)	100.1% (762)	99.9% (761)	99.9% (45)	100.0% (117)	100.1% (2572)
No Answer	(2)	(4)	(5)	(0)	(1)	(12)

Preference to live in hostels and off-campus accommodations are somewhat higher among students of the Science Faculty than those of the other Faculties (see Table B-40 in Appendix B). Using year in the University as a criterion, we found that the proportions of students preferring hostels are quite similar across the four years, being not less than 77 per cent in any given year (see Table B-41). Further, no significant difference in residence preference was found between male and female students (see Table B-42).

(2) Residence preference when student finance support stays unaffected by residence status

Our respondents were then asked to indicate their residence preference when the amount of student finance support or bursaries is not affected by whether they stay at home, on campus, or off campus elsewhere. Several points can be highlighted from the findings shown in Table 8-3. First, almost all (94 per cent) of the current hostel residents would want to stay in the hostels. Second, the vast majority (over 90 per cent) of those who made unsuccessful hostel applications in 1973-74 would consider hostel residence (and thus would probably continue to apply for the following year). In fact, this is about 10 per cent more than when they were asked to indicate their "unconditional" preference. Third, even among those who did not apply for hostels in 1973-74, there were at least 63 per cent who said they would consider hostel residence, which is also at least 10 per cent more than when they expressed their unconditional preference. Overall, there are as many as 84.5 per cent of the respondents who indicated

that they would give serious thought to hostel residence. The demand for hostels (using subjective preference here as a surrogate for "demand") is thus very high indeed when students are told that student finance support has nothing to do with residence status. At the same time, however, one-quarter of the respondents indicated that they cannot afford hostel fees while another 45 per cent said that they can barely afford if no financial assistance is offered to them (see Table B-43 in Appendix B).

TABLE 8-3 ANSWERS BY GROUP TO "WHAT WOULD YOU CONSIDER -- HOSTEL RESIDENCE OR COMMUTING -- IF YOUR BURSARY APPLICATION IS NOT AFFECTED BY YOUR RESIDENCE STATUS?"

	Group I (in hos- tels)	Group II (home, did not apply)	Group III (home, applied but re- jected)	Group IV (other residence, did not apply)	Group V (other residence, applied but re- jected)	All Groups
Stay as a commuter	/	37.0%	5.3%	34.2%	8.0%	13.3%
Consider hostel residence	/	63.0	94.7	65.8	92.0	51.6
Stay as a hostel resident	93.6	/	/	/	/	32.9
Consider commuting	6.4	/	/	/	/	2.2
Total	100.0% (846)	100.0% (696)	100.0% (712)	100.0% (41)	100.0% (112)	100.0% (2407)
No answer	(43)	(70)	(50)	(4)	(6)	(173)

(3) University hostels versus accommodation in Shatin or Taipo

We mentioned earlier in this chapter that given the unfavourable living conditions of most of the off-campus accommodations, we do not think that they can serve as adequate alternatives to hostel accommodation. In the survey, the students were given the option to choose among (1) campus hostels, (2) accommodations in Shatin, and (3) accommodations in Taipo. As disclosed strikingly in Table 8-4, an overwhelming majority of the students prefer living in campus hostels to off-campus accommodations when the cost is the same or when the cost of off-campus residence is higher. This confirms our contention that even when alternative off-campus accommodation is available at such places as Shatin or Taipo, closer to the University than any other place in the New Territories or Kowloon, such accommodation does not constitute a practical solution to students' need.

TABLE 8-4 HOSTEL PREFERENCE VERSUS ACCOMMODATION IN SHATIN OR TAIPO UNDER DIFFERENT COST CONDITIONS

(a) When cost is about the same

<u>Preferred Place of Residence</u>	
Hostel	96.4%
Shatin	2.0
Taipo	1.6
	<hr/>
Total	100.0%
	(2457)
No Answer	(134)

(b) When cost in Shatin or Taiipo is higher than in hostels

<u>Preferred Place of Residence</u>	
Hostel	97.2%
Shatin	1.7
Taiipo	1.1
	<hr/>
Total	100.0%
	(2422)
No Answer	(169)

Will Additional Hostels Become Unwanted?

Based on the findings presented above regarding hostel preference, one can almost conclude that there is a high degree of potential serviceability of additional hostel accommodation on the campus. Nevertheless, one may still want to ascertain whether there are any students who, despite their own willingness and intention to live in hostels, might be discouraged or prevented from taking up hostel residence for personal or familial reasons. In addition, for similar reasons, some current hostel residents might experience various inconveniences or difficulties.

Table 8-5 indicates that the worry of having too few students to live in the additional hostels is practically unnecessary, since 87.5 per cent of the respondents said that they had no such problems. Only a very small proportion (12.5 per cent) of the respondents -- mostly those who did not apply for hostels in 1973-74 -- reported personal or familial problems that have prevented them from taking up hostel residence despite

their willingness or that have caused them (for those already living in hostels) certain inconveniences. Holding part-time jobs in town and having to take care of aged parents or younger siblings at home together account for 57 per cent of the reasons given by these students. Personal problems (e.g., health, adjustment, etc.) and higher expenses were mentioned by another 22 per cent. Parental objection was given as a reason by less than 8 per cent of the cases. The reader is referred to Table B-44 in Appendix B for details.

TABLE 8-5 DISTRIBUTION OF STUDENTS HAVING PERSONAL OR FAMILIAL PROBLEMS THAT PREVENTED THEM FROM TAKING UP HOSTEL RESIDENCE

	Group I (in hos- tels)	Group II (home, did not apply)	Group III (home, applied but re- jected)	Group IV (other residence, did not apply)	Group V (other residence, applied but re- jected)	All Groups
Have Problems	5.6%	26.6%	7.3%	20.0%	5.3%	12.5%
Have no Problems	94.4	73.4	92.7	80.0	94.7	87.5
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
	(820)	(708)	(722)	(40)	(113)	(2403)
No Answer	(69)	(58)	(40)	(5)	(5)	(177)

Thus, while there are some students who, for various reasons, may find it difficult or at least inconvenient to live in hostels in spite of their possible need and preference, their number is by no means large enough to warrant any fear that additional hostels to be built will be unwanted. That being the case, the lack of adequate alternative accommodation, the high costs of such accommodation, and the prevalence of students' preference for hostels all add weight to the evidences presented in the previous chapters suggesting that a hostel building programme at the Chinese University will be a worthwhile undertaking.

CHAPTER IX SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

Throughout this study, we have addressed ourselves to the question of to what extent a campus residence rate higher than the current one should be adopted in the Chinese University of Hong Kong. This study was set out to frame together a picture of essentially how the students of the University live. Our mission has been the collection of a set of relevant facts which hitherto have not been systematically available to serve as reference for authorities concerned with determining to what extent the University needs to build more student hostels.

Major findings

The demand for hostels is highly, though not totally, affected by the housing and transportation problems of Hong Kong. The analysis developed from these two angles has given us some concrete and objective data to assess the degree of need for providing hostel accommodation to students. With few exceptions, anywhere from approximately one-third to four-fifths of our students from various types of housing have homes offering no more than 45 square feet floor space per person. Since most of the students have to either share a bedroom with others or sleep in all sorts of places other than a bedroom, they are almost as a rule subject to an array of inconveniences and disturbances which make studying difficult.

Such unfavourable living conditions are aggravated by the inconveniences resulting from commuting. Having to spend as much as three hours a day commuting between home and campus is quite common among our students if they do not obtain hostel accommodation. Moreover, as many as two-thirds of those who currently live at home have to undergo three or more trip-legs each way.

To provide a "short-hand" way of measuring the degree to which our students can be considered as in need of hostel accommodation, a composite and additive Hostel Need Index was constructed and index scores for our respondents were computed, taking into account such aspects as travel time between students' homes and campus, floor space per person and types of sleeping place. Living at homes well over an hour away from campus with little average floor space per person (such as not more than 45 square feet per person) and with no adequate bedroom to sleep in, together with various other relatively 'deprived' conditions, is clearly indicative of substantial need for hostel accommodation. Our findings showed that about three-quarters of our respondents can be considered as belonging to such a level of hostel need.

The group identification that was built into the questionnaire allowed us to compare the seriousness of hostel need among hostel residents, those who applied for hostels but were rejected, and those who did not apply. We can also identify the seriousness of hostel need among those staying at home and those residing at other residences. The findings support the proposition that those students who have not applied for hostel accommodation are not necessarily those who need no such accommodation on campus.

High hostel need is prevalent among students regardless of whether the student is currently residing in a hostel on campus or at home, or whether he has applied for hostel accommodation or not.

The findings concerning the living conditions of students currently living in other residences (mostly in Shatin and Taipo) shows that such places offer little or no improvement over conditions at home, other than that they are closer to the University (i.e., Shatin and Taipo). These alternative accommodations incur higher costs relative to hostels and engender problems of their own (e.g., inconvenience for girls, safety considerations, sanitation facilities in certain places, etc.). Consequently, alternative off-campus accommodation can only relieve the "need" problem to a very limited degree, and the "need to live on campus" becomes both substantial and pressing.

Change Over Time

The survey on the hostel need of Chung Chi College students was carried out in 1971-72. Assuming that the student body of Chung Chi College in 1971-72 reasonably well approximated that of the whole University then, granting all deficiencies in so doing, we could compare certain results from the Chung Chi College survey with those of the present study to shed some light on the change of the socioeconomic background, living conditions and the studying environment among students of the Chinese University over time. Such comparison would be useful for a consideration of the demand on hostel residence in the Chinese University in the near future.

Table 9-1 shows the changes of students' living conditions over time as reflected from the former Chung Chi College survey on hostel need in 1971-72 and the present survey. The proportion of students residing in public housing has increased from 26.7 per cent to 34.4 per cent. As found in the present survey, the average floor space per person is lowest in public housing. It is thus not surprising that the percentage of students' families living in highly crowded conditions (below 45 square feet of floor space per person) has increased from 30.6 per cent to 45.1 per cent. Also, the percentage of students having their own bedrooms and their own study rooms has decreased from a level that was already quite low.

TABLE 9-1 CHANGES OF STUDENTS' LIVING CONDITIONS OVER TIME AS REFLECTED FROM THE CHUNG CHI COLLEGE SURVEY 1971-72 AND THE PRESENT SURVEY

	Hostel Need Survey on students of Chung Chi College 1971-72	Hostel Need Survey on students of the Chinese University 1973-74
Percentage of students residing in public housing	26.8%	34.4%
Percentage of students' homes having an average floor space of less than 45 square feet per person	30.6%	45.1%
Percentage of students having their own bedrooms	13.2%	8.4%
Percentage of students having exclusive use of study rooms	7.4%	3.3%

TABLE 9-2 FATHER'S OCCUPATION SHOWN IN THE CHUNG
CHI COLLEGE SURVEY 1971-72 COMPARED
WITH THAT FOUND IN THIS SURVEY

Occupational Type	Hostel Need Survey on Students of Chung Chi College 1971-72	Hostel Need Survey on Students of the Chinese University 1973-74
Professionals ^a	9.1%	12.1%
Managerial and admin- istrative executives	20.1	9.1
Small business owners	15.2	20.5
Clerical and sales personnel	27.1	19.5
Skilled manual workers	7.3	10.3
Semi-skilled and un- skilled workers	21.3	27.0
Other	0.0	1.4
Total	100.1% (409)	99.9% (1775)
Retired and unemployed	(47)	(443)
No answer ^b	(101)	(339)

^a include educators at all levels

^b include students' fathers who are deceased or not in Hong Kong and those who did not respond to the question.

Moreover, a comparison of fathers' occupations in 1971-72 and in 1973-74, as shown in Table 9-2, demonstrates that more working class families (37.3 per cent) are now sending their children to the University than two years ago (28.6 per cent).

The above figures directly and indirectly point to the fact that university education is no longer the monopoly of the upper classes since more and more children of the lower income families are being admitted to the University. At the same time, considering the unfavourable living conditions of the lower income families, hostel residence is becoming a more serious issue than ever before.

A further indication of an increasing proportion of students from lower income families is shown by the relatively high hostel need (scoring 60 or over on the Hostel Need Index) among first year students than among the students of senior years (78 per cent of the former compared with 72 per cent of the latter).¹ Despite their greater demand on hostel residence, the first year students do not stand a very good chance of getting admitted into the hostels until their later years of University life because of the present shortage of hostel accommodation.

What level of Student Residency will be Required?

On the basis of the findings presented in this report, a fairly good case can be made for the addition of hostel places beyond the present level. The question to be asked, **then**, is: "What level of student residency will be required?" While this question is not a purely academic one, our findings do provide some summary figures worthy of attention in an attempt to work out an answer. The following four percentages are particularly important:

¹ See Table 7-5 on p.70.

Application rate for hostels 1973-74 (number of applicants relative to the total student enrolment)	72.8%
High Hostel Need Index Score (scoring 60 or above)	74.5%
Hostels as preferred place of residence in the foreseeable future	78.5%
Willingness to live in hostels when given the chance (students having no personal or familial problems that might prevent them from taking up hostel residence)	87.5%

We should first point out that on the basis of the wide discrepancy between the present residency level (42.4 per cent of enrolment) and the hostel application rate (72.8 per cent of enrolment, likely to increase), the addition of hostel places is practically indisputable. Second, the hostel application rate only indicates those students who came forward to express their need for hostels. The higher percentages of hostel preference (78.5 per cent) and willingness to live in hostels (87.5 per cent) show that some students, despite their need and desire for hostels, were discouraged from application. In fact, we have found that over half of those who did not apply also expressed their desire to live in hostels. In view of these facts, a target of 75 per cent hostel residency is strongly recommended. With the likely continuing increase of students coming from families in the low socioeconomic levels and living in conditions often unfavourable for personal study purposes, such a target is perhaps only a conservative one.

At the same time, in addition to the pragmatic function of hostel residence, we should not overlook its educational value. The issue of student hostel residence can indeed be tied with the nature and function of higher education itself. University education has been widely conceived as both "collegiate" and "residential" almost by nature. It is recognized that the community life of the residential setting is an important, if not indispensable, part of the education it could offer. It is the context in which the student learns to balance personal needs and group demands and where he is initiated into ways of thinking and behaving that have important psychological, social, and educational consequences.

It remains, thus, for the authorities concerned with policy-making and financial support to review the situation of hostel accommodation in the Chinese University of Hong Kong with all due considerations, and to take whatever action that is both necessary and appropriate in light of the information herein submitted.

APPENDIX A

Survey Questionnaire on Students'
Living Conditions of the Chinese
University of Hong Kong

Please put a "✓" in the appropriate (). Use arabic numerals when number are required.

I. Individual Data

(1.1) College :	1 ()	Chung Chi	2 ()	New Asia	3 ()	United
(1.2) Faculty :	1 ()	Arts	2 ()	Science	3 ()	Commerce & Social Science
(1.3) Year :	1 ()	First	2 ()	Second	3 ()	Third 4 () Fourth
(1.4) Sex :	1 ()	Male	2 ()	Female		

Note: Before answering Question 1.5, please read carefully the following definitions for "home" and "other residence".

"Home" - (1) If you have a family in Hong Kong (including any combination of the following:- brothers & sisters, parents, and certain relatives where applicable), the place where your family live is your "home", although you may or may not usually live with your family members.

(2) If you have no family, and have to live with certain relatives or guardians from whom you obtain financial support, the place where the said relatives or guardians live is also considered to be your "home".

"Other residence" - (1) If you live away from your family or a "home" as defined above, where you live is considered to be "other residence".

(2) If you have no family or any "home" as defined above, the

place in which you live is considered to be "other residence".

(3) A hostel of this University is not regarded as "other residence".

(1.5) Where are you living at present or during this semester? (Resident students or potential resident students should answer "hostel")

- 1 () Hostel
- 2 () Home (did not apply for a hostel space)
- 3 () Home (applied for a hostel space, but application was rejected)
- 4 () Other residence (did not apply for a hostel space)
- 5 () Other residence (applied for a hostel space, but application was rejected)

(1.6) Where would you like to live in the foreseeable future while attending this University? (You may want to continue to stay where you are living at present, or you may consider changing your residence.)

- 1 () Hostel
- 2 () Home
- 3 () Other residence

(1.7) If you live in an "other residence" at present, what type of residence is it?

- 1 () the home of my relative(s)
- 2 () the home of my friend
- 3 () a rented cubicle for myself
- 4 () a rented cubicle shared with friend(s) (not student(s) in this University)
- 5 () a rented cubicle shared with fellow student(s)
- 6 () other (please specify)

(1.8) Were you a resident student before? 1 () Yes 2 () No

II. Conditions of Home/Other Residence

The following questions concern conditions in your "Home" and/or "Other residence" (if this applies). Note:

- (a) Resident students or students living at "home", should answer under column (A) only.
- (b) Students who have a "home" but live in an "other residence" should answer under both columns (A) and (B).
- (c) Students who do not have a "home" and live in an "other residence" should answer under column (B) only.

Please refer to Question (1.5) in Section I for definition of "home" and "other residence."

Questions	(A) Home	(B) Other Residence
(21.) Address		
(2.2) Type of living quarter: Use the appropriate Code-number by referring to Table (1)		

Table (1) Type of Living Quarter

1.	Low-cost Housing	2.	Resettlement Estate	3.	Commercial Residential Mansion
6.	Civil Servant Quarters	7.	House (with/without garden)	8.	Rooftop Cottage
		9.	Squatter-hut	10.	Other (specify)

Questions	(A) Home	(B) Other residence
(2.3) Is there permanent partitioning inside the living quarter?	() Yes () No	() Yes () No
(2.4) Is the living quarter owned by your family?	() Yes () No	
(2.5) If your family owns the living quarter, is it purchased by instalments?	() Yes () No	
(2.6) Total monthly payment (including instalment and other charges)	HK\$	
(2.7) If the living quarter is rented, how much is the monthly rental (including other charges)?	HK\$	HK\$
(2.8) How many households are living together in your living quarter?		
(2.9) How many children under 7 are there in the living quarter?		
(2.10) Total number of people (including those of other households) in your living quarter?		
(2.11) Total area of your living quarter, whether it is occupied by your family or shared with other households)		
(2.12) Total area occupied by your family (If your family occupies the whole flat, this answer should be the same as in 2.11)		
(2.13) How long have you lived in the present living quarter?	___ year(s) ___ month(s)	___ year(s) ___ month(s)
(2.14) When was your living quarter built?	1 () 2 () 3 () 4 ()	Pre-2nd World War 1948-60 1961-70 1971 or after
(2.15) Please indicate the district where your living quarter located. (Please refer to Table (2))	()	()

Table (2) Districts

	10	Central District	11	Western District	12	Mid-Levels and Peak
Hong Kong Island	13	Wanchai, Happy Valley, Tai Hang and Causeway Bay	14	North Point and Shaukiwan	15	Pokfulum and Aberdeen
	16	Chaiwan	17	Repulse Bay, Deep Water Bay and Stanley		
	20	Tsim Sha Tsui	21	Yaumati and Mongkok	22	Homantin
Kowloon	23	Hunglum and Tokwawan	24	Cheung Sha Wan, Shamshuipo and Lai Chi Kok	25	Kowloon City, Kowloon Chai (including Kowloon Tong)
	26	San Po Kong, Wong Tai Sin, Tsz Wan Shan, Choi Hung and Ping Shek	27	Ngau Tau Kok, Kwun Tong, Sau Mau Ping, Lam Tin & Yau Tong (including Junk Bay)		
	30	Clear Water Bay	31	Tsuen Wan	32	Castle Peak and Yuen Long
New Territories	33	Shatin	34	Taipo	35	Fanling, Sheung Shui, and Shataukok
	36	Outlying Islands (Lantau, Cheung Chau, Ping Chau)				

Question	(A) Home	(B) Other Residence
(2.16) Type of bedroom (If your answer is 3, go to question (2.21))	1 () own bedroom 2 () sharing bedroom with others 3 () neither of the above	1 () own bedroom 2 () sharing bedroom with others 3 () neither of the above
(2.17) If you share a bedroom with others, how many persons, including yourself, so share?	Person	Person
(2.18) Is your bedroom formed by permanent partitioning?	Length: _____ ft. Width: _____ ft. Area: _____ sq. ft.	Length: _____ ft. Width: _____ ft. Area: _____ sq. ft.
(2.19) Is your bedroom formed by permanent partitioning?	1 () Yes 2 () No	1 () Yes 2 () No
(2.20) Are there windows in your bedroom?	1 () Yes 2 () No	1 () Yes 2 () No

Questions	(A) Home	(B) Other Residence
(2.21) If you do not have your own bedroom or one that you share with others, where do you sleep?	1 () Living Room 2 () Corridor 3 () Mezzanine Floor 4 () Balcony 5 () Flat has no partitioning (such as in government low-cost housing or resettlement estate) 6 () Other places (please specify)	1 () 2 () 3 () 4 () 5 () 6 ()
(2.22) How many persons share the above place (Q.2.21) for sleeping purposes?	persons	persons
(2.23) Your bed is	1 () permanent 2 () packed up during day time	1 () 2 ()
(2.24) Your bed is	1 () for your own use only 2 () multi-purpose in use (e.g. as a settee during day time)	1 () 2 ()

III. Family Members

- (3.1) Do you have father at home? 1 () Yes 2 () Not in Hong Kong 3 () Deceased
- (3.2) Do you have mother at home? 1 () Yes 2 () Not in Hong Kong 3 () Deceased

(3.3) Number of family members _____

Number of brothers and sisters _____ (including yourself)

Number of relatives _____

Number of other members _____

Total number of family members
(including parents) _____

(3.4) Employment status of parents/guardians

1 () Father or 2 () Guardian

1 () Employed, part-time

2 () Employed, part-time

3 () Self-employed, full-time

4 () Self-employed, part-time

5 () Unemployed (not retired)

6 () Retired

Mother

1 () Employed, full-time

2 () Employed, part-time

3 () Self-employed, full-time

4 () Self-employed, part-time

5 () Housewife

(3.5) Occupations and Income of Parents/Guardians (Please answer in detail)

Father/Guardian

Industry: _____

Occupation: _____

Annual Income: HK\$ _____ (approximately)

Annual Income from Other Members: HK\$ _____

Total Family Annual Income: HK\$ _____

Mother (Not applicable to Housewife)

Industry: _____

Occupation: _____

Annual Income: HK\$ _____ (approximately)

Annual Income from Other Members: HK\$ _____ (approximately)

Total Family Annual Income: HK\$ _____ (approximately)

(3.6) Please fill in the following table the appropriate number of brothers and sisters who are living with you. (Fill in an "0" for not-applicable cases)

In School		Not Married	Married
		___ Person(s)	___ Person(s)
Employed	Full-time	___ Person(s)	___ Person(s)
	Part-time	___ Person(s)	___ Person(s)
	Part-time Worker & Part-time schooling	___ Person(s)	___ Person(s)
Not employed and also not in school		___ Person(s)	___ Person(s)

IV. Conditions of Study

Note: If there are answers in (A) & (B) columns, please note that:

- (a) Resident students or students living at "home" should answer under Column (A).
- (b) Students who have a "home" but live in an "other residence" should answer under both Column (A) & (B).
- (c) Students who do not have a "home" and live in an "Other residence" should answer under Column (B) only.

Questions	(A) Home	(B) Other Residence
<p>(4.1) Where do you usually study (check one box only) For those who live in an "other residence" but have "home", Column (A) means: Where would you usually study if you have to do so at home?</p>	<p>1 () Study room (if the study room is also the bedroom, please "bedroom.") 1 () 2 () Bedroom 2 () 3 () Living room 3 () 4 () Corridor 4 () 5 () Balcony 5 () 6 () Mezzanine floor 6 () 7 () Flat without any partitioning 7 () 8 () Others (Please specify) 8 ()</p>	
<p>(4.2) On a bright day, is it necessary to turn on lights when you study?</p>	<p>1 () Yes 2 () No</p>	<p>1 () Yes 2 () No</p>
<p>(4.3) Are there environmental factors which affect your study adversely?</p>	<p>1 () Yes 2 () No</p>	<p>1 () Yes 2 () No</p>
<p>(4.4) If there are environmental factors (including factors inside and outside of the living quarter) which affect your study adversely please list them according to their degree of disturbance.</p>	<p>Most disturbing _____ Second most disturbing _____ Third most disturbing _____</p>	<p>Most disturbing _____ Second most disturbing _____ Third most disturbing _____</p>
<p>(4.5) How much time per day do you think is needed for study?</p>	<p>About _____ hours</p>	
<p>(4.6) How much time per day do you actually have for study?</p>	<p>About _____ hours</p>	

(4.7) Which of the following statements most closely represents your view of the library as a place for study:

- 1 () Studying at home or other places is definitely not as good as in the library.
- 2 () Studying in the library is somehow better than at home, or other places.
- 3 () Studying at home, or other places is as good as in the library.
- 4 () I prefer studying at home or other places.

(4.8) (First year students need not answer this question)

During a normal school day (excluding days with exceptionally few classes), how much time do you spend in the University/College Library?

About _____ hours

V. Transportation Conditions (Resident students should answer Question 5.3 only)

(5.1) Put a "✓" in the appropriate boxes in the following table to indicate the modes of transportation you normally take from "home" or "other residence" to the Shatin campus. Also write in those boxes the time (in minutes) normally required for each of the modes of transportation that applies.

HONG KONG	CROSSING HARBOUR	KOWLOON & NEW TERRITORIES
Bus 1 ride <input type="checkbox"/> 2 rides <input type="checkbox"/> 3 rides <input type="checkbox"/> min. _____ Public Light Bus <input type="checkbox"/> min. _____ Tram <input type="checkbox"/> min. _____ Cross-Harbour Bus <input type="checkbox"/> min. _____ Walking (including that required for change of means of transport) <input type="checkbox"/> min. _____ Waiting <input type="checkbox"/> min. _____ Others (private car, "pak-pai", etc.) <input type="checkbox"/> min. _____	Edinburch Square to Tsimshatsui <input type="checkbox"/> min. _____ Central District to Jordan Road <input type="checkbox"/> min. _____ Manchai to Jordan Road <input type="checkbox"/> min. _____ Other routes (please describe) <input type="checkbox"/> min. _____ _____ min. _____	Bus 2 rides <input type="checkbox"/> 3 rides <input type="checkbox"/> min. _____ Public Light Bus <input type="checkbox"/> min. _____ Train <input type="checkbox"/> min. _____ Walking (including that required for change of means of transport) <input type="checkbox"/> min. _____ Waiting <input type="checkbox"/> min. _____ Others (private car, "pak-pai", etc.) <input type="checkbox"/> min. _____
(A) Total _____ min.	(B) Total _____ min.	(C) Total _____ min.

Grand total (A) + (B) + (C) = _____ min.

(5.2) Monthly expenses on transportation is approximately HK\$ _____

(5.3) If transportation expenses are about the same as hostel fees, which of the following would you prefer:

- 1 Commuting
 2 Living in hostel

VI. Other Questions concerning Hostel Residence

(6.1) If you have no bursaries, and you want to be a resident student at the same time:

- 1 you definitely cannot afford hostel fees
- 2 you can barely afford hostel fees
- 3 hostel fees are not much of a problem
- 4 hostel fees are definitely not a problem

(6.2) Suppose you intend to apply for bursaries, the amount of which is not affected by whether you are a resident student or not, what would you do?

- 1 continue to commute
- 2 consider applying for hostel accommodation
- 3 continue to be a resident student (for resident student only)
- 4 consider changing to commuting (for resident student only)

(6.3) Suppose you are allocated a hostel space and at the same time have obtained suitable accommodation in Shatin or Taipo, what would you prefer under the following conditions (A and B)?

A. The cost of off-campus accommodation is about the same as student hostel accommodation on campus
(Please choose one answer only)

- 1 prefer accommodation in Shatin
- 2 prefer accommodation in Taipo
- 3 prefer a hostel space on campus

B. The cost of off-campus accommodation is higher than that of student hostel accommodation on campus
(Please choose one answer only)

- 1 prefer accommodation in Shatin
- 2 prefer accommodation in Taipo
- 3 prefer a hostel space on campus

(6.4) Despite their willingness to live in hostels, some students cannot do so because of certain personal or familial reasons. For similar reasons, some resident students might experience various inconveniences or difficulties. Are you in any such situation?

- 1 Yes
- 2 No

VI. (6.5) Please state the reasons in detail if your answer to Question (6.4) above is "YES".

(6.6) If you have any other information you consider relevant to this questionnaire, please state here.

APPENDIX B

TABLE B-1a PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF CURRENT PLACE OF RESIDENCE AMONG RESPONDENTS BY COLLEGE AND FACULTY

<u>College</u>	Group I (in hostels)	Group II (home, did not apply)	Group III (home, applied but rejected)	Group IV (other residence, did not apply)	Group V (other residence, applied but rejected)	Total
Chung Chi	43.3%	25.6%	27.2%	1.1%	2.8%	100.0% (871)
New Asia	35.0 ^a	30.6	28.7	1.2	4.5	100.0% (825)
United	25.2 ^a	32.9	32.6	2.8	6.5	100.0% (884)
<u>Faculty</u>						2580
Humanities	36.8%	30.8	26.9%	1.7%	3.8%	100.0% (712)
Science	34.3	25.0	32.2	2.0	6.5	100.0% (769)
S. Science & Commerce	33.0	32.3	29.3	1.6	3.8	100.0% (1096)
						<u>2577</u>

No answer = 14

^a The actual percentages of hostel residents at New Asia College and United College are higher since rearrangement of room accommodation in their hostels was implemented after the administration of the questionnaire of this survey.

TABLE B-1b PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF CURRENT PLACE OF RESIDENCE AMONG RESPONDENTS BY YEAR AND SEX

	Group I (in hostels)	Group II (home, did not apply)	Group III (home, applied but rejected)	Group IV (other residence, did not apply)	Group V (other residence, applied but rejected)	Total
<u>Year</u>						
1st	15.5%	37.7%	44.0%	0.8%	2.1%	100.1% (769)
2nd	31.2	32.7	24.9	3.5	7.8	100.1% (716)
3rd	43.5	22.4	28.4	0.9	4.9	100.1% (575)
4th	57.1	21.7	16.1	1.7	3.5	100.1% (517)
			No answer = 14			<u>2577</u>
<u>Sex</u>						
Male	29.5%	29.7%	32.1%	2.3%	6.4%	100.0% (1695)
Female	44.1	29.6	24.6	0.7	1.0	100.0% (878)
						<u>2573</u>

No answer = 18

TABLE B-2 TYPE OF HOUSING OF STUDENTS' FAMILIES BY GROUP

Type of Housing of Family	Group I (in hostels)	Group II (home, did not apply)	Group III (home, applied but rejected)	Group IV (other residence, did not apply)	Group V (other residence, applied but rejected)	All Groups
Apartment building	26.5%	37.6%	30.7%	1.4%	3.8%	100.0% (1077)
Govt. low cost housing	34.5	24.4	33.4	1.3	6.3	99.9% (521)
Resettlement estate	53.8	17.5	24.8	1.3	2.5	99.9% (314)
Commercial residential mansion	14.5	33.3	45.2	3.8	3.2	100.0% (186)
Industrial/commercial hostel	16.7	20.8	54.2	0.0	8.3	100.0% (24)
Civil servant quarters	36.7	30.0	28.3	3.3	1.7	100.0% (60)
House (with/without garden)	34.8	34.8	30.4	0.0	0.0	100.0% (23)
Rooftop cottage	46.7	26.7	20.0	0.0	6.7	100.1% (15)
Squatter hut	60.3	23.8	12.7	0.0	3.2	100.0% (63)
Other	53.8	23.1	16.1	3.5	3.5	100.0% (143)
Total	33.7% (817)	30.2% (732)	30.4% (738)	1.6% (40)	4.1% (99)	100.0% (2426)
No answer	(49)	(34) ¹	(24)	(5)	(19)	(131)

TABLE B-3 FLOOR SPACE PER PERSON IN STUDENTS' FAMILIES BY TYPE OF HOUSING

Floor Space per person	Type of Housing*										Total
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	
24 sq. ft. or less	5.3%	33.1%	8.0%	5.5%	8.3%	3.4%	0.0%	33.3%	20.3%	9.8%	10.9%
25 - 34 sq. ft.	19.4	36.1	9.4	13.1	16.7	1.7	0.0	20.0	20.3	8.9	15.5
35 - 44 sq. ft.	35.2	17.7	12.1	19.1	20.8	15.5	0.0	0.0	15.3	13.8	18.6
45 - 64 sq. ft.	30.9	9.2	20.8	30.1	16.7	12.1	13.6	33.3	16.9	26.8	22.2
65 - 84 sq. ft.	7.1	3.3	17.5	15.3	16.7	6.9	9.1	13.3	13.6	19.5	12.8
85 - 104 sq. ft.	1.6	0.7	10.6	8.2	4.2	13.8	22.7	0.0	5.1	10.6	7.1
105 - 124 sq. ft.	0.2	0.0	5.0	1.1	0.0	8.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.4	2.7
125 - 144 sq. ft.	0.0	0.0	5.5	4.4	4.2	10.3	4.5	0.0	0.0	2.4	3.2
145 sq. ft. or more	0.2	0.0	11.1	3.3	12.5	27.6	50.0	0.0	8.5	5.7	7.0
Total	99.9%	100.1%	100.0%	100.1%	100.1%	99.9%	99.9%	99.9%	100.0%	99.9%	100.0%
Median	(505)	(305)	(1027)	(183)	(24)	(58)	(22)	(15)	(59)	(123)	(2321)
No answer	(20)	(8)	(52)	(5)	(0)	(2)	(1)	(0)	(4)	(11)	(103)

* A) Govt. Low Cost Housing B) Resettlement Estates C) Apartment Buildings D) Commercial/Residential Mansions E) Industrial/Commercial Hostel F) Civil Servant Quarters G) Houses (with/without garden) H) Rooftop Cottages I) Squatter Huts J) Others (includes stone houses etc.)

TABLE B-4 TYPE OF HOUSING OF STUDENTS' FAMILIES BY PERIOD OF CONSTRUCTION

Type of Housing	Period of Construction				1971 or after	Total	No answer
	Pre-War (Before 1948)	1948-60	1961-70				
Apartment building	8.3%	27.5%	53.8%		10.5%	100.1% (1049)	(30)
Government low cost housing	0.0	17.2	73.6		9.1	99.9% (516)	(9)
Resettlement estates	0.0	24.7	69.2		6.2	100.1% (308)	(5)
Commercial residential mansion	4.9	30.3	55.1		9.7	100.0% (185)	(3)
Industrial/commercial hostel	8.3	41.7	41.7		8.3	100.0% (24)	(0)
Civil servants quarters	0.0	37.3	52.5		10.2	100.0% (59)	(1)
House (with/without garden)	13.0	34.8	34.8		17.4	100.0% (23)	(0)
Rooftop cottage	7.1	64.3	21.4		7.1	99.9% (14)	(1)
Squatter hut	6.3	54.0	31.7		7.9	99.9% (63)	(0)
Other	14.4	37.9	42.4		5.3	100.0% (132)	(2)
All types	5.3%	27.1%	58.4%		9.2%	100.0% (2373)	(51)

TABLE B-5 AVERAGE LENGTH OF RESIDENCE BY TYPE
OF HOUSING OF STUDENTS' FAMILIES

<u>Type of Housing</u>	<u>Average (median) Length of Residence (years)</u>
Government low cost housing	8.1
Resettlement estates	7.6
Apartment buildings	6.3
Commercial/residential mansions	5.4
Industrial/commercial hostels	9.3
Civil servants quarters	9.6
House (with/without garden)	7.1
Rooftop cottages	11.0
Squatter huts	11.4
Others	<u>9.3</u>
All types	7.1

TABLE B-6 NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS LIVING TOGETHER BY GROUP

No. of households living together in students' living quarters	Group I (in hostels)	Group II (home, did not apply)	Group III (home, applied but rejected)	Group IV (other residence, did not apply)	Group V (other residence, applied but rejected)	All Groups
Single household	84.9%	79.9%	78.7%	76.3%	75.7%	81.0% (2018)
Two households	6.9	9.1	10.5	5.3	9.7	8.8 (218)
Three households	4.0	5.5	6.5	5.3	5.8	5.3 (132)
Four or more households	4.2	5.5	4.3	13.1	8.8	4.9 (123)
Total	100.0% (850)	100.0% (750)	100.0% (750)	100.0% (38)	100.0% (103)	100.0% (2491)
No answer	(16)	(16)	(12)	(7)	(15)	(66)

TABLE B-7 SLEEPING PLACES FOR STUDENTS HAVING
NO OWN OR SHARED BEDROOMS BY GROUP

Sleeping places other than bedroom	Group I (in hostels)	Group II (home, did not apply)	Group III (home, applied but rejected)	Group IV (other residence, did not apply)	Group V (other residence, applied but rejected)	All Groups
No partitioning ^a within the flat ^a	59.4	53.7%	59.8%	60.0%	59.4%	58.2%
Living room	28.4%	25.1	25.5	13.3	26.6	26.4
Corridor	2.8	2.3	1.8	20.0	4.7	2.7
Cockloft	6.3	13.9	9.6	0.0	1.6	8.8
Balcony	1.2	1.9	1.8	6.7	3.1	1.7
Other places	1.9	3.1	1.5	0.0	4.7	2.2
Total	100.0% (426)	100.0% (259)	100.0% (333)	100.0% (15)	100.1% (64)	100.0% (1097)
No answer	(19)	(10)	(16)	(8)	(16)	(69)
Not applicable ^b	(430)	(500)	(418)	(23)	(39)	(1410)

^a Such as in low-cost housing or resettlement estates.

^b Not applicable cases are those who have own or shared bedrooms.

TABLE B-8 CONDITIONS OF STUDENTS' BEDS AT HOME BY GROUP

Condition of Students' Beds at Home	Group I (in hostels)	Group II (home, did not apply)	Group III (home, applied but rejected)	Group IV (other residence, did not apply)	Group V (other residence, applied but rejected)	All Groups
<u>The bed is</u>						
permanent	72.3%	83.3%	72.4%	77.8%	63.3%	75.2%
packed up during daytime	27.7	16.7	27.6	22.2	36.7	24.8
Total	100.0% (653)	100.0% (540)	100.0% (594)	100.0% (27)	100.0% (79)	100.0% (1893)
No answer	(213)	(226)	(168)	(18)	(39)	(664) ^b
<hr style="border-top: 1px dashed black;"/>						
<u>The bed is</u>						
for personal use only	74.1	80.5	69.6	83.3	67.1	74.4
multi-purpose ^a in use	25.9	19.5	30.4	16.7	32.9	25.6
Total	100.0% (621)	100.0% (518)	100.0% (560)	100.0% (24)	100.0% (73)	100.0% (1796)
No answer	(245)	(248)	(202)	(21)	(45)	(761) ^b

^a Such as used as a settee during daytime.

^b The large numbers of non-response to these two questions are due mainly to a mistake in the order of one section's questions leading to many students' misunderstanding of the context in which the questions were asked.

TABLE B-9 TYPE OF DISTURBING FACTOR MENTIONED AS MOST CRITICAL BY GROUP

Type of Disturbing Factor	Group I (in hostels)	Group II (home, did not apply)	Group III (home, applied but rejected)	Group IV (other residence, did not apply)	Group V (other residence, applied but rejected)
Noises from T.V. and radio	34.3%	38.2%	30.0%	21.1%	35.1%
Noises from family members	17.7	17.8	23.7	36.8	24.6
Noises from neighbors	21.4	17.0	19.7	5.3	21.1
Noises from street	17.7	21.0	16.6	21.1	8.8
Unsatisfying living conditions	7.1	4.6	8.9	15.8	10.5
Personal problems	1.5	1.1	1.1	0.0	0.0
Other	0.2	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total	99.9% (463)	100.0% (348)	100.0% (447)	100.1% (19)	100.1% (57)
Not applicable	(104)	(224)	(75)	(5)	(8)
No answer	(299)	(194)	(240)	(21)	(53)

TABLE B-10 NUMBER OF CHILDREN AGED UNDER 7 IN THE LIVING QUARTER BY GROUP

No. of children aged under 7	Group I (in hostels)	Group II (home, did not apply)	Group III (home, applied but rejected)	Group IV (other residence, did not apply)	Group V (other residence, applied but rejected)	All Groups
None	75.0%	77.6%	72.1%	74.4%	65.5%	74.5%
One	12.3	12.3	13.5	9.3	13.6	12.7
Two	6.6	5.8	8.2	4.7	9.1	6.9
Three and above	6.1	4.1	6.1	11.6	11.8	5.8
Total	100.0% (864)	99.8% (755)	99.9% (754)	100.0% (43)	100.0% (110)	99.9% (2526)
No answer	(2)	(11)	(8)	(2)	(8)	(31)

TABLE B-11
 ANSWERS TO THE QUESTION "ON A BRIGHT DAY, IS IT NECESSARY
 TO TURN ON LIGHTS WHEN YOU STUDY?" BY GROUP

	Group I (in hostels)	Group II (home, did not apply)	Group III (home, applied but rejected)	Group IV (other residence, did not apply)	Group V (other residence, applied but rejected)	All Groups
Yes	46.6%	41.5%	51.6%	45.9%	55.9%	46.9%
No	53.4	58.5	48.4	54.1	44.1	53.1
Total	100.0% (844)	100.0% (743)	100.0% (737)	100.0% (37)	100.0% (102)	100.0% (2463)
No answer	(22)	(23)	(25)	(8)	(16)	(94)

TABLE B-12 AMOUNT OF STUDY TIME DESIRED BY GROUP

Study Time Desired Per day (hours)	Group I (in hostels)	Group II (home, did not apply)	Group III (home, applied but rejected)	Group IV (other residence, did not apply)	Group V (other residence, applied but rejected)	All Groups
2 hours or less	8.6%	12.5%	7.3%	11.9%	10.8%	9.5%
3 - 4 hours	55.2	55.3	56.9	61.9	55.8	55.9
5 - 6 hours	28.5	26.5	28.6	21.4	27.0	27.8
7 hours or more	7.7	5.7	7.1	4.8	6.3	6.8
Total	100.0% (815)	100.0% (719)	99.9% (715)	100.0% (42)	99.9% (111)	100.0% (2402)
Median (hours)	4.59	4.44	4.56	4.00	4.49	4.53
No answer	(51)	(47)	(47)	(3)	(7)	(155)

TABLE B-13 AMOUNT OF DESIRED STUDY TIME BY FACULTY OF THE STUDENTS.

<u>Study Time Desired Per Day (hours)</u>	<u>Humanities</u>	<u>Science</u>	<u>S. Science & Commerce</u>	<u>All</u>
2 hours or less	8.3%	7.8%	11.7%	9.5%
3 - 4 hours	55.7	52.5	58.8	56.0
5 hours or more	36.0	39.8	29.6	34.4
Total	100.0%	100.1%	100.1%	99.9%
	(661)	(737)	(1012)	(2410)
Median (hours)	4.57	4.67	4.39	4.52
No answer	(51)	(32)	(84)	(167)

TABLE B-14 DISCREPANCY BETWEEN DESIRED AND ACTUAL STUDY TIME BY FACULTY OF THE STUDENTS

<u>Discrepancy Per Day (hours)</u>	<u>Humanities</u>	<u>Science</u>	<u>S. Science & Commerce</u>	<u>All</u>
1 hour or less	20.0%	23.2%	25.8%	23.4%
2 hours	32.1	30.0	30.0	30.6
3 - 4 hours	22.5	24.2	19.3	21.7
5 hours or more	4.1	5.2	3.4	4.1
No discrepancy	21.4	17.4	21.5	20.2
Total	100.1%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
	(641)	(730)	(994)	(2365)
Median (hours)	2.60	2.61	2.45	2.54
No answer	(71)	(39)	(102)	(212)

TABLE B-15 AMOUNT OF DESIRED STUDY TIME
BY YEAR OF THE STUDENTS

Study Time Desired Per day (hours)	Year of the Students				All
	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	
2 hours or less	8.0%	12.6%	8.5%	8.9%	9.5%
3 - 4 hours	60.8	54.3	55.9	51.1	56.0
5 hours or more	31.2	33.1	35.5	40.1	34.4
Total	100.0%	100.0%	99.9%	100.1%	99.9%
	(742)	(668)	(526)	(474)	(2410)
Median (hours)	4.43	4.46	4.58	4.69	4.52
No answer	(27)	(48)	(49)	(43)	(167)

TABLE B-16 DISCREPANCY BETWEEN DESIRED AND ACTUAL
STUDY TIME BY FACULTY OF THE STUDENTS

Discrepancy Per day (hour)	Year of the Students				All
	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	
1 hour or less	27.4%	22.7%	22.1%	19.3%	23.4%
2 hours	32.0	30.4	28.9	30.4	30.6
3 - 4 hours	16.0	22.6	23.9	27.0	21.7
5 hours or more	1.4	5.2	6.0	5.0	4.1
No discrepancy	23.3	19.2	19.0	18.4	20.2
Total	100.1%	100.1%	99.9%	100.1%	100.0%
	(735)	(658)	(515)	(457)	(2365)
Median (hours)	2.34	2.59	2.63	2.71	2.54
No answer	(34)	(58)	(60)	(60)	(212)

TABLE B-17 STATEMENTS BEST REPRESENTING STUDENTS' VIEW OF THE LIBRARY AS A PLACE FOR STUDY BY GROUP

Statements	Group I (in hostels)	Group II (home, did not apply)	Group III (home, applied but rejected)	Group IV (other residence, did not apply)	Group V (other residence, applied but rejected)	All Groups
(a) "No matter what the situation is, studying in the library is definitely better than at home or anywhere else."	46.0%	34.1%	45.7%	28.9%	46.6%	42.1%
(b) "It is somehow better to study in the library than at home or anywhere else."	35.8,	29.5	36.2	31.1	40.7	34.2
(c) "Studying at home or anywhere else is as good as in the library."	14.1	27.9	13.6	22.2	6.8	17.9
(d) "I prefer studying at home than in the library."	4.1	8.5	4.4	17.8	5.9	5.8
Total	100.0% (866)	100.0% (756)	99.9% (748)	100.0% (45)	100.0% (118)	100.0% (2533)
No answer	(0)	(10)	(14)	(0)	(0)	(24)

TABLE B-18 TIME SPENT IN THE UNIVERSITY/ COLLEGE LIBRARY DURING A NORMAL SCHOOL DAY (EXCLUDING DAYS WITH EXCEPTIONALLY FEW CLASSES) BY GROUP

Time (Hours)	Group I (in hostels)	Group II (home, did not apply)	Group III (home, applied but rejected)	Group IV (other residence, did not apply)	Group V (other residence, applied but rejected)	All Groups
1 hour or less	26.8%	36.1%	31.0%	27.0%	28.5%	30.3%
2 hours	29.6	29.9	25.9	43.2	37.8	29.6
3 hours	18.7	16.4	17.4	21.6	15.3	17.7
4 hours or more	24.9	17.6	25.6	8.1	18.3	22.4
Total	100.0% (699)	100.0% (438)	99.9% (390)	99.9% (37)	99.9% (98)	100.0% (1662)
Median (hours)	2.79	2.47	2.73	2.53	2.59	2.66
No answer	(48)	(38)	(34)	(2)	(4)	(126)
Not applicable ^a	119	290	338	6	16	769

^a First year students are not counted in this Table.

TABLE B-19a FATHER'S OCCUPATION BY FATHER'S INDUSTRY

Father's Type of Industry	Semi-skilled & Unskilled Manual Workers	Skilled Manual Workers	Sales and Clerical Personnel	Small Business Owners	Managerial & Administrative Executives	Professionals	Others ^c	All Occupations
Manufacturing	42.3%	19.8%	11.4%	23.7%	14.7%	8.5%	0.0%	23.0%
Commerce	5.0	2.2	62.3	44.6	57.1	21.6	0.0	30.7
Public Services ^a	7.1	6.1	11.4	5.0	10.4	59.2	72.0	14.9
Private Services ^b	21.9	14.3	8.8	12.7	5.5	6.1	4.0	13.0
Construction & Engineering	7.3	3.8	0.6	4.1	4.9	2.8	0.0	4.1
Transportation & Communication	14.0	50.5	4.1	5.8	6.1	1.4	0.0	11.7
Others ^c	2.5	3.2	1.5	4.1	1.2	0.5	24.0	2.7
Total	100.1% (480)	99.9% (182)	100.1% (342)	100.0% (363)	99.9% (163)	100.1% (213)	100.0% (25)	100.1% (1768)

Note: Cases with no information on either the occupation or the industry of the students' fathers are excluded from this table.

^a Public services include educational, medical, defence, sanitary, postal services etc.

^b Private services include recreational and sports, hotel and restaurants, personal and household services.

^c Others include employments in fishing agriculture, and miscellaneous industry.

TABLE B-19b TYPE OF INDUSTRY OF STUDENTS' FATHERS BY GROUP

Type of Industry	Group I (in hostels)	Group II (home, did not apply)	Group III (home, applied but rejected)	Group IV (other residence, did not apply)	Group V (other residence, applied but rejected)	All Groups
Manufacturing	21.4%	21.7%	24.5%	23.1%	27.4%	22.7% (405)
Commerce	29.6	29.5	35.1	26.9	30.1	31.2 (557)
Public services ^a	16.1	17.3	11.5	11.5	11.0	14.8 (264)
Private services ^b	13.7	13.7	10.8	23.1	13.7	12.9 (231)
Construction & Engineering	4.2	5.3	2.6	0.0	6.8	4.1 (73)
Transportation & Communication	12.4	9.7	12.4	15.4	9.6	11.5% (206)
Utilities	0.2	0.6	0.7	0.0	0.0	0.5 (8)
Fishing, agri-culture etc.	1.8	1.1	0.9	0.0	1.4	1.3 (23)
Other	0.6	1.0	1.5	0.0	0.0	1.0 (17)
Total	100.0% (621)	99.9% (525)	100.0% (539)	100.0% (26)	100.0% (73)	100.0% (1784)
Retired or unemployed	(153)	(134)	(121)	(8)	(27)	(443)
Deceased or not in H.K.	(95)	(93)	(75)	(5)	(14)	(282)
No answer	(0)	(14)	(27)	(3)	(4)	(48)

^a Public services include educational, medical, defence, sanitary, postal services, etc.

^b Private services include recreation and sports, hotel and restaurants, personal and household services.

TABLE B-20 PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF THE
OCCUPATIONAL TYPES AND ANNUAL
INCOME OF THE STUDENTS' MOTHERS

<u>Occupational Types</u>	<u>%</u>
Semi-skilled and unskilled manual workers	50.4
Skilled-manual workers	8.1
Sales and clerical personnel	6.8
Small business owners	12.4
Managerial and administrative executives	2.7
Professionals	19.4
Other	0.2
Total	100.0%
	(413)
<u>Annual Income (Dollars)</u>	<u>%</u>
4000 or less	35.1
4001 - 7000	31.8
7001 - 10,000	12.0
10,001 - 13,000	7.6
13,001 - 16,000	4.3
16,001 - 19,000	2.5
19,001 - 22,000	2.3
22,001 or more	4.3
Total	99.9%
	(393)
No answer	(20)
Median	\$5,405

TABLE B-21 NUMBER OF UNMARRIED, WORKING SIBLINGS
LIVING TOGETHER IN THE FAMILY

<u>No. of Siblings</u>	<u>%</u>
None	49.4
One	26.2
Two	16.2
Three or more	8.3
Total	100.1%
	(2394)
No answer	(197)

TABLE B-22 ANNUAL INCOME FROM OTHER SOURCES
(EXCLUDING PARENTS' EARNINGS)

<u>Annual Income (Dollars)</u>	<u>%</u>
4000 or less	24.7
4001 - 7000	21.1
7001 - 10,000	20.7
10,001 - 13,000	9.3
13,001 - 16,000	7.8
16,001 - 19,000	3.5
19,001 - 22,000	4.9
22,001 or more	8.1
Total	100.1%
	(955)
Median	\$7615

TABLE B-23 TERMS OF TENURE OF THE LIVING QUARTERS
OF STUDENTS' FAMILIES BY GROUP

Terms of Tenure	Group I (in hostels)	Group II (home, did not apply)	Group III (home, applied but rejected)	Group IV (other residence, did not apply)	Group V (other residence, applied but rejected)	All Groups
Owned, and purchased by instalments	9.3%	11.8%	12.4%	7.9%	5.8%	10.8% (267)
Owned, not purchased by instalment	15.7	24.5	16.8	13.2	12.6	18.5 (455)
Rented	75.0	63.7	70.8	78.9	81.6	70.7 (1741)
Total	100.0% (835)	100.0% (736)	100.0% (751)	100.0% (38)	100.0% (103)	100.0% (2463)
No answer	(43)	(30)	(11)	(2)	(8)	(94)

TABLE B-24 AMOUNT OF RENT PAID MONTHLY BY STUDENTS' FAMILIES BY GROUP

Amount of Rent (monthly)	Group I (in hostels)	Group II (home, did not apply)	Group III (home, applied but rejected)	Group IV (other residence, did not apply)	Group V (other residence, applied but rejected)	All Groups
Less than \$50	19.6%	7.4%	10.2%	6.9%	9.0%	12.7%
\$50 - 149	37.9	30.9	34.5	41.4	32.1	34.8
\$150 - 249	19.6	20.5	20.6	17.2	29.5	20.6
\$250 - 349	7.9	10.8	11.2	13.8	11.5	10.0
\$350 - 449	4.5	9.4	7.3	10.3	6.4	6.9
\$450 - 549	4.3	6.0	6.3	3.5	3.8	5.3
\$550 - 649	2.4	4.8	3.9	0.0	1.3	3.4
\$650 - 749	0.7	2.1	1.2	0.0	2.5	1.3
\$750 - 849	1.4	3.7	1.4	6.9	3.8	2.2
\$850 or more	1.9	4.4	3.3	0.0	0.0	2.9
Total	100.2% (583)	100.0% (434)	99.9% (490)	100.0% (29)	99.9% (78)	100.1% (1614)
Median (\$)	130.3	207.3	175.7	160.0	180.4	162.4
No rent	(209)	(267)	(219)	(8)	(19)	(722)
No answer	(74)	(65)	(53)	(8)	(21)	(221)

TABLE B-25 NUMBER OF "TRIP-LEGS" (MODES OF TRANSPORTATION) NORMALLY TAKEN BY STUDENTS WHO PRESENTLY LIVE AT HOME, TO COMMUTE TO THE UNIVERSITY^a

Number of "Trip-legs" ^b	Group II (home, did not apply)	Group III (home, applied but rejected)	Both Groups
One	8.0%	2.0%	5.0%
Two	39.4	19.3	29.3
Three	40.6	53.3	46.9
Four	8.3	17.7	13.0
Five or more	3.7	7.7	5.7
Total	100.0%	100.0%	99.9%
	(736)	(736)	(1472)
No answer	(29)	(27)	(56)

^a Since responses by students living in "other residences" are somewhat inconsistent and suggest that some of these students had their homes in mind while others their own residences, these students are excluded from this and the following table. Hostel residents were not asked to answer questions on commuting (except the one on preference).

^b All walking, including that required for change of means of transport, on the same side of the harbour, is counted as one "trip-leg".

TABLE B-26 AVERAGE MONTHLY EXPENSES ON TRANSPORTATION*

Monthly Transportation Expenses (Dollars)	Group II (home, did not apply)	Group III (home, applied but rejected)	Both Groups
Less than 20	21.1%	7.8%	14.4%
20 - 39	32.4	30.5	31.4
40 - 59	21.2	22.0	21.6
60 - 79	13.9	20.9	17.5
80 or above	11.4	18.8	15.1
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
	(726)	(741)	(1467)
Median (\$)	37.8	50.0	43.9
No answer	(40)	(21)	(41)

* See Note a of Table B-25.

TABLE B-27 PREFERENCE FOR COMMUTING OR HOSTEL RESIDENCE BY GROUP WHEN TRANSPORTATION EXPENSES ARE ABOUT THE SAME AS HOSTEL FEES

Preference	Group I (in hostels)	Group II (home, did not apply)	Group III (home, applied but rejected)	Group IV (other residence, did not apply)	Group V (other residence, applied but rejected)	All Groups
Hostel residence	99.6%	76.7%	97.3%	76.2%	99.1%	91.9%
Commuting	0.4	23.3	2.7	23.8	0.9	8.1
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
	(851)	(709)	(731)	(42)	(117)	(2450)
No answer	(15)	(57)	(31)	(3)	(1)	(107)

TABLE B-28a HOSTEL NEED INDEX SCORE BY TYPE OF HOUSING

Hostel Need Index Score	Type of Housing										All Types
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	
Less than 40	0.0%	0.0%	3.7%	1.0%	0.0%	6.8%	13.6%	0.0%	3.2%	1.5%	2.2%
40 - 49	0.6	0.3	13.2	6.4	4.2	32.2	31.8	0.0	7.9	6.6	8.2
50 - 59	4.2	1.3	22.1	15.5	12.5	23.7	36.4	6.7	14.3	25.7	15.0
60 - 69	17.0	6.8	26.9	33.2	16.7	11.9	4.5	26.7	22.2	22.8	21.6
70 - 79	37.9	29.4	18.5	22.5	37.5	18.6	13.6	20.0	15.9	25.0	24.9
80 - 89	33.8	47.7	12.5	16.6	25.0	5.1	0.0	46.7	28.6	13.2	22.5
90 or more	6.5	14.5	3.0	4.8	4.2	1.7	0.0	0.0	7.9	5.1	5.6
Total	100.0% (523)	100.0% (310)	99.9% (1069)	100.0% (187)	100.1% (24)	100.0% (59)	99.9% (22)	100.1% (15)	100.0% (63)	99.9% (136)	100.0% (2408)
Median	76.5	81.6	63.1	67.2	73.4	53.6	50.3	77.3	70.5	66.1	70.2

Note: Cases with no information on type of housing are excluded from this table.

(A) Government Low Cost Housing (B) Resettlement Estate (C) Apartment Building (D) Commercial Residential Mansion (E) Industrial/Commercial Hostel (F) Civil Servant Quarters (G) House (with/without garden) (H) Rooftop Cottage (I) Squatter Hut (J) Other (include stone houses etc.)

TABLE B-28b HOSTEL NEED INDEX SCORE, BY NUMBER OF CHILDREN AGED UNDER 7 IN THE LIVING QUARTER

Hostel Need Index Score	Number of children aged under 7					All
	None	One	Two	Three	Four or above	
Less than 40	2.9%	0.3%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	2.2%
40 - 49	10.0	3.8	3.4	2.6	0.0	8.2
50 - 59	16.6	11.3	10.3	9.0	8.7	15.0
60 - 69	22.3	17.6	27.4	23.1	13.0	21.8
70 - 79	24.8	28.8	26.3	12.8	24.6	25.0
80 - 89	19.7	28.5	24.6	24.6	40.6	22.2
90 or more	3.9	9.7	8.0	17.9	13.0	5.6
Total	100.2% (1859)	100.0% (319)	100.0% (175)	100.0% (78)	99.9% (69)	100.0% (2500)

Note: Cases with no information on number of children aged under 7 are excluded from the table.

TABLE B-29 HOSTEL NEED INDEX SCORE BY
WAY OF INTERNAL PARTITIONING

<u>Hostel Need Index Score</u>	<u>Permanent Partitioning</u>	<u>No Permanent Partitioning</u>	<u>All</u>
Less than 40	3.7%	0.2%	2.1%
40 - 49	14.2	1.0	8.2
50 - 59	21.1	7.4	14.9
60 - 69	24.0	19.4	21.9
70 - 79	19.1	32.4	25.1
80 - 89	15.0	30.9	22.2
90 or more	2.9	8.7	5.5
Total	100.0% (1369)	100.0% (1120)	99.9% (2489)

Note: Cases with no information on way of internal partitioning are excluded from the table.

TABLE B-30 HOSTEL NEED INDEX SCORE BY NUMBER OF
HOUSEHOLDS IN THE SAME LIVING QUARTER

<u>Hostel Need Index Score</u>	Number of Households				<u>Total</u>
	<u>Single</u>	<u>Two</u>	<u>Three</u>	<u>Four or above</u>	
Less than 40	2.6%	0.0%	0.8%	0.0%	2.1%
40 - 49	9.9	1.0	1.5	0.0	8.2
50 - 59	16.6	10.0	7.6	4.8	14.9
60 - 69	21.2	31.5	22.1	16.0	21.9
70 - 79	24.5	26.9	30.5	24.8	25.1
80 - 89	20.7	24.7	28.2	36.0	22.2
90 or more	4.6	5.9	9.2	18.4	5.5
Total	100.1% (2014)	100.0% (219)	99.9% (131)	100.0% (125)	99.9% (2489)

Note: Cases with no information on number of households in same living quarter are excluded from the table.

TABLE B-31 HOSTEL NEED INDEX SCORE
BY TYPE OF BED

Hostel Need Index Score	Type of Bed		All
	Permanent	Packed up during daytime	
Less than 40	1.9%	0.0%	1.4%
40 - 49	7.9	0.2	6.0
50 - 59	17.5	1.5	13.6
60 - 69	24.5	4.8	19.6
70 - 79	26.2	26.6	26.3
80 - 89	18.9	47.7	26.0
90 or more	3.1	19.2	7.1
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
	(1421)	(463)	(1884)
Median	68.3	82.6	72.6

Note: Cases with no information on type of bed are excluded from the table.

TABLE B-32 HOSTEL NEED INDEX SCORE
BY USE OF THE BED

Hostel Need Index Score	Use of the Bed		Total
	For own use only	Multipurpose in use	
Less than 40	2.1%	0.0%	1.5%
40 - 49	8.3	0.2	6.2
50 - 59	17.8	2.6	13.9
60 - 69	22.9	9.8	19.5
70 - 79	25.1	24.3	24.9
80 - 89	19.9	45.5	26.5
90 or more	3.9	17.5	7.4
Total	100.0%	99.9%	99.9%
	(1303)	(457)	(1760)
Median	68.5	81.9	72.6

Note: Cases with no information on uses of the bed are excluded from the table.

TABLE B-33 HOSTEL NEED INDEX SCORE
BY USUAL PLACE OF STUDY

Hostel Need Index Score	Usual Place of Study					All
	Study Room	Bed- room	Living Room	Other	Flat without any parti- tioning	
Less than 40	7.9%	4.4%	0.2%	0.0%	0.0%	2.2%
40 - 49	23.7	15.4	2.6	0.0	2.5	8.1
50 - 59	23.7	26.3	10.4	2.6	4.4	15.3
60 - 69	19.7	29.4	25.5	8.6	11.4	21.8
70 - 79	15.8	14.9	35.0	32.0	32.9	24.9
80 - 89	7.9	7.9	23.3	43.5	36.7	22.2
90 or more	1.3	1.7	3.1	13.3	12.0	5.6
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.1%	100.0%	99.9%	100.1%
	(76)	(1057)	(546)	(625)	(158)	(2462)

Note: Cases with no information on the usual place of study are excluded from the table.

TABLE B-34 HOSTEL NEED INDEX SCORE BY WHETHER INTER-
FERENCES AND DISTURBANCES ARE PRESENT

Hostel Need Index Score	Presence of Interferences		
	Yes	No	All
Less than 40	0.4%	10.7%	2.1%
40 - 49	3.6	30.5	8.1
50 - 59	12.2	29.1	15.0
60 - 69	22.9	16.7	21.9
70 - 79	28.3	8.7	25.0
80 - 89	25.9	4.1	22.3
90 or more	6.8	0.2	5.7
Total	100.1%	100.0%	100.1%
	(2053)	(413)	(2466)

Note: Cases with no information on interferences and disturbances present in environment are excluded in the table.

TABLE B-35 LOCATION AND TYPE OF HOUSING AMONG
STUDENTS LIVING IN OFF-CAMPUS ACCOMMODATIONS

	Other Residence		Total
	did not apply	applied, but rejected	
(a) Districts			
Hong Kong	19.4%	3.5%	7.3%
Kowloon	19.4	15.8	16.7
New Territories	61.1	80.7	76.0
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
	(36)	(114)	(150)
No answer	(9)	(4)	(13)
(b) Type of Housing			
Stone houses	39.0%	52.3%	48.6%
Private buildings	39.0	21.5	26.4
Squatter huts	9.8	18.7	16.2
Others	12.2	7.5	8.8
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
	(41)	(107)	(148)
No answer	(4)	(11)	(15)

TABLE B-36 THE PERSON(S) WITH WHOM THE STUDENTS LIVE
AND THE LENGTH OF RESIDENCE AMONG STUDENTS
LIVING IN OFF-CAMPUS ACCOMMODATIONS

	Other Residence		All
	<u>did not apply for hostels</u>	<u>applied for hostels but rejected</u>	
(a) The Person With Whom the student live			
Friends (fellow students)	47.7%	68.4%	62.7%
Friends (not fellow students)	15.9	14.1	14.6
Relatives	20.6	8.8	12.0
Living by oneself	13.6	7.0	8.9
Other	2.1	1.8	1.9
Total	<u>99.9%</u>	<u>100.1%</u>	<u>100.1%</u>
	(44)	(114)	(158)
No answer	(1)	(4)	(5)
(b) Length of Residence			
½ year or less	41.5%	55.1%	51.1%
½ year - 1 year	34.1	35.7	35.3
More than 1 year	24.4	9.2	13.7
Total	<u>100.0%</u>	<u>100.0%</u>	<u>100.1%</u>
	(41)	(98)	(139)
No answer	(4)	(10)	(14)

TABLE B-37 INTERNAL PARTITIONING AND TYPE OF BEDROOM IN OTHER RESIDENCES COMPARED WITH HOMES OF STUDENTS LIVING THERE

Type of Bedroom	Other Residence		Home		Total
	did not apply for hostels	applied for hostels but rejected	did not apply for hostels	applied for hostels but rejected	
Internal Partitioning					
Permanent	55.6%	31.0%	65.8%	59.6%	61.2%
Not permanent	44.4	69.0	34.2	40.4	38.8
Total	100.0% (45)	100.0% (113)	100.0% (38)	100.0% (104)	100.0% (142)
No answer	(0)	(5)	(7)	(14)	(21)
Own bedroom	20.5%	4.7%	5.2%	2.9%	3.6
Shared bedroom	40.9	39.3	52.6	34.0	39.0
No bedroom	38.6	56.1	42.1	63.0	57.4
Total	100.0% (44)	100.1% (107)	99.9% (38)	99.9% (103)	100.0% (141)
No answer	(1)	(11)	(7)	(15)	(22)

TABLE B-38
 CONDITIONS OF BED IN OTHER RESIDENCES COMPARED
 WITH THOSE IN HOMES OF STUDENTS LIVING THERE

The Bed is	Other Residence			Home		
	did not apply for hostels	applied for hostels but rejected	Total	did not apply for hostels	applied for hostels but rejected	Total
(a) Permanent	70.8%	51.4%	56.4%	77.8%	63.3%	67.0%
Packed up during daytime	29.2	48.6	43.6	22.2	36.7	33.0
Total	100.0% (24)	100.0% (70)	100.0% (94)	100.0% (27)	100.0% (79)	100.0% (106)
No answer	(21)	(48)	(69)	(18)	(39)	(57)
(b) For personal use only	76.2%	64.2%	67.0%	83.3%	67.1%	71.1%
Multi-purpose in use	23.8	35.8	33.0	16.7	32.9	28.9
Total	100.0% (21)	100.0% (67)	100.0% (88)	100.0% (24)	100.0% (73)	100.0% (97)
No answer	(24)	(51)	(75)	(21)	(45)	(66)

TABLE B-39 MONTHLY RENT PAID BY STUDENTS
LIVING IN OFF-CAMPUS ACCOMMODATIONS

Monthly Rent (Dollars)	
Less than 50	8.8%
50 - 149	61.6
150 - 249	23.2
250 or over	6.4
Total	100.0%
	(125)
No answer	(22)
Not applicable	(16)

TABLE B-40 PREFERRED PLACE OF RESIDENCE
BY FACULTY OF STUDENT

Preferred Place of Residence	Faculty		
	Arts	Science	Social Science & Commerce
Hostel	78.8%	80.3%	76.9%
Home	16.6	13.5	19.3
Other Residence	4.5	6.1	3.8
Total	99.9%	99.9%	100.0%
	(709)	(768)	(1092)
No answer	(3)	(1)	(4)

TABLE B-41 PREFERRED PLACE OF RESIDENCE
BY YEAR OF STUDENT

Preferred Place of Residence	Year			
	<u>First</u>	<u>Second</u>	<u>Third</u>	<u>Fourth</u>
Hostel	76.8%	77.4%	82.9%	77.5%
Home	18.0	16.8	12.9	19.6
Other Residence	5.2	5.8	4.2	2.9
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
	(767)	(713)	(574)	(515)
No answer	(2)	(3)	(1)	(2)

TABLE B-42 PREFERRED PLACE OF RESIDENCE
BY SEX OF STUDENT

Preferred Place of Residence	Sex	
	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Hostel	78.0%	79.2%
Home	16.0	18.5
Other Residence	5.9	2.3
Total	99.9%	100.0%
	(1689)	(876)
No answer	(6)	(2)

TABLE B-43 ANSWERS TO "CAN YOU AFFORD HOSTEL FEES
 -- IF YOU WANT TO LIVE IN HOSTELS --
 WHEN YOU ARE NOT OFFERED ANY BURSARIES?"

Definitely cannot afford	25.5%
Can barely afford	44.6
Not much of a problem	24.1
No problem at all	5.7
Total	<u>99.9%</u> (2444)
No answer	(147)

TABLE B-44 REASONS PREVENTING STUDENTS FROM
 TAKING UP HOSTEL RESIDENCE

Having part-time jobs held in town	37.5%
Taking care of aged parents or younger siblings at home	19.3
Lending a hand in family enterprise or cottage industry	6.6
Parental objection	7.7
Having personal reasons ^a	11.6
Higher expenses and unsatisfactory conditions in hostels ^b	10.0
Environment at home is better than hostels	4.6
Others	2.7
Total	<u>100.0%</u> (259)
No answer	(42)

^a Such as married students; students having health problems and those who think that they may have adjustment problems in living with others.

^b "Unsatisfactory conditions" include the problem of inadequate meals, and the problem of noise in hostels.

APPENDIX CHOUSING SITUATION IN HONG KONG

The information presented here is based largely on the Report of Housing Board, 1972 and the Hong Kong Population and Housing Census 1971 Main Report, both published by the Hong Kong Government.

"Living quarter" in the Census means a dwelling unit, either occupied exclusively by one household or shared by a number of households, for living, eating and sleeping. A dwelling unit has to be internally connected, so that the occupants could move between the rooms or cubicles without going outside onto a public corridor, landing or staircase, and has to have direct external access to a street, a public corridor, landing or staircase without going through another household's accommodation.

Types of living quarter as classified by the Census include: self-contained flats and tenement floors in private housing, self-contained and non self-contained units in public housing, house, simple stone structure, quarters in hostels, and commercial/ industrial non-domestic units. For the purpose of our survey, we shall consider two broad types of domestic housings in which most of the students live, namely, private housing and public housing.

Private Housing

A. Types of Private Housing

1. Private self-contained flat -- These are self-contained¹ living quarters in apartment blocks and composite buildings.

Apartment block: a multi-storey building containing separate residential flats, each of which is built with its own entrance, water supply, kitchen, living room, bedroom, and bathroom/toilet, properly partitioned by permanent floor-to-ceiling walls.

Composite building: an apartment block where the flats on the lower floors are built for commercial use.

A small flat has an effective area² of not more than 650 square feet, a medium flat has an effective area of more than 650 square feet but not more than 1,000 square feet, and a large flat has an effective area of more than 1,000 square feet.

2. Private tenement floor -- These are living quarters in multi-storey tenement buildings, each floor of which is built as a single unpartitioned room, usually with a separate kitchen and toilet and sometimes a bathroom. Tenement floors are usually subdivided by non-permanent partitions into cubicles. A small tenement floor has an effective area of not more than 300 square feet, while a large tenement floor has an effective area of more than 300 square feet.

¹ In Hong Kong a self-contained accommodation is defined as a whole living quarter with its own entrance, water supply, kitchen, toilet and/or bathroom.

² Effective floor area means the usable internal floor area of premises excluding parts designed for use as kitchen, lavatories, bathrooms, open balconies, servants' quarters, utility areas, etc.

1. Pre-war Period (before 1948) -- These buildings are usually three to four storeys high. Over-crowding is usually quite acute in pre-war buildings. The rent of such buildings cannot be raised freely owing to a rent-control law instituted immediately after World War II. This law is embodied in the Landlord and Tenant Ordinance of 1947 which restricts the rents by reference to the prewar levels. If the tenant is forced to move he will be compensated according to the number of square feet of floor space in his premises.

2. The 1948 - 1960 Period -- All the buildings built during this period are multi-storied. Those built before 1956 are mostly 6 to 8 storeys high without lifts. In 1956 a change of ordinance permitting multi-ownership of a building led to the emergence of high-rise housings. As there is no control on the charge of rent, landlords can raise the rents by as much as 50 per cent each year and no compensations are paid to the tenants who are forced to move.

3. The Period after 1960 -- Buildings erected after 1960 are likely to be high-rise buildings because of the continuous increase in population alongside with the decreasing amount of land in urban areas. The Rent Increase (Domestic Premises) Control Ordinance 1970 was enacted in June 1970 for the purpose of providing security of tenure for certain tenant of post-war domestic premises, and preventing unreasonable increases in rents. In December 1970 the life of the Ordinance was extended for a further period of two years until 31st May 1974. During this period landlords will be able to impose two further increases, neither of which may exceed 5 per cent. Each increase confers on the tenant one year's security of tenure at the new rent, but the first such increase may not take effect within a period of 2 years from the date of any increase under the principal ordinance.

Public Housing

In our survey we have broadly delineated two types of public housing - the Resettlement Estates and the Government Low-Cost Housing (including the Government Low-Cost Housing estates, estates of the former Housing Authority and those of the Housing Society). The Resettlement Department of the Government and the Housing Authority were merged to form the Housing Department of the Government on April 1, 1973. The Housing Society still remains as a private organization, assisted by the Hong Kong Government with private treaty land grants and low-interest loans.

In the past, various types of public housing varied in purpose, management, physical layout, internal construction, and provision of facilities and services. The present trend with the establishment of the Housing Department is toward more standardization in the quality of accommodation to be provided.

A. Resettlement Estates (Marks I - III)

They are non self-contained units to resettle families displaced from Crown land required for development, families made homeless by the demolition of dangerous buildings, compassionate welfare cases, and certain victims of natural disasters. There is no income limit for those who are qualified to live there. They were built by the Public Works Department for the Resettlement Department. Legal authority for managing urban estates, factories and cottage areas is vested in the Urban Council but day-to-day management is delegated to the Resettlement Department, presently the Housing Department. The designs of the Resettlement blocks are designated "Mark" in architectural terms.

1. Mark I blocks (6 to 7 storeys, built in 1955 - 61) -- Each block is usually H-shaped with communal wash-places and lav in the cross-piece. An access balcony runs all the way around the outside of each floor. An average space of 24 square feet per adult is provided, with each child counted as half an adult.

2. Mark II blocks (7 to 8 storeys, built in 1961 - 64) -- These are similar to Mark I blocks in internal arrangements, except that the ends of the two arms of the 'H' are connected by a screen of perforated bricks, and large rooms with a balcony, water supply and kitchen are provided at each end of the block.

3. Mark III blocks (8 storeys, built in 1964 - 67) -- These have an entirely different design from Marks I and II with room access from an internal corridor. Each room has its own private balcony and water-tap. Toilets are shared between two rooms. Refuse-chutes are provided on each floor.

B. Resettlement Estates (Marks IV - VI)

They are self-contained units, with the same purposes and management as the older Resettlement blocks.

1. Mark IV blocks (16 storeys with lifts, built in 1965 - 69) -- Each room has its own balcony, water-supply and toilet.

2. Mark V blocks (16 storeys built in 1966 - 71) -- These are the later version of Mark IV, but with wider corridors and a greater variety of room sizes closely matching the sizes of the families.

3. Mark VI blocks (16 storeys built in 1969) -- These blocks are similar to those of Mark V but have larger rooms. The standard floor space was increased to 27 square feet for each adult. This was increased to 35 square feet per adult in the 1970 blocks.

C. Government Low-Cost Housing

Government Low-Cost Housing estates were first built in 1963 to provide housing for families living in overcrowded and substandard accommodation and with assessed incomes below \$500 a month (\$600 a month for Kwai Chung Estates). Estates were built by the Public Works Department and formerly managed by the Housing Authority for the Government but are now under the Housing Department. They are self-contained units. Early types are similar to Mark III resettlement blocks; others are 16 storeys high with larger rooms, balcony, water supply, and toilet. Space standard is 35 square feet for each adult.

D. Housing Authority Estates

The purpose is to provide housing for families of moderate means living in overcrowded and substandard accommodation. They are for families with assessed incomes between \$400 and \$900 a month (up to \$1,250 for high rent units). Estates were built and formerly managed by the Housing Authority under the Housing Ordinance (Chapter 283). They are presently under the management of the Housing Department.

They are self-contained units, with 35 square feet for each adult plus kitchen, bathroom, and private balcony.

E. Housing Society Estates

These estates are for families with assessed incomes up to \$1,000 a month (up to \$1,250 a month for high rent units). Estates were built and managed by the Hong Kong Housing Society.

They are self-contained units and similar to those of the Housing Authority.