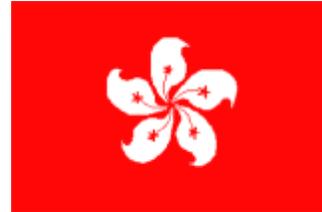


# Hong Kong



## Introduction

Hong Kong is predominately Chinese with a population of approximately 5.9 million as of 1992. There are two official languages, Chinese and English. Hong Kong has no official religion. Hong Kong operates under a capitalist form of government. . Hong Kong was ceded to the United Kingdom in 1898 at the culmination of the Opium War. It remained a British Crown Colony until 1997 when it was returned to China.

As part of China, Hong Kong is now an economic and cultural bridge between the capitalist West and the Communist East. There is little doubt that changes will take place within Hong Kong over the next few years. One change that is already apparent is a transition from an English speaking to Chinese speaking populous. Whether this will reduce the worldwide luster of Hong Kong is yet to be determined.

## Fun Fact

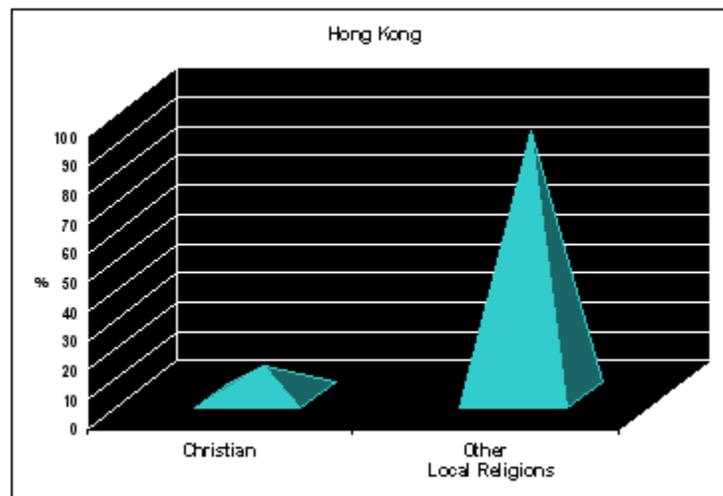
In business dealing with Westerners, the Chinese often chose a nickname. Don't be surprise if during your business dealing with the Chinese they ask to consult with a fengshui man (a geomancer). A fengshui man may be brought in determine good luck dates or the proper special arrangement for a building or office. This individual's opinion should be observed.

# Geert Hofstede Analysis Hong Kong

[Click Here for Geert Hofstede country scores](#)

The Geert Hofstede analysis for Hong Kong is almost identical to that of other Asian countries. Where Hong Kong differs dramatically is in their Uncertainty Avoidance factors. Most Asian countries rank fairly high in this category, however in Hong Kong they tend to be greater risk takers. The highest-ranking factor is Long-term Orientation, which reflects their emphasis on relationships. [More Details](#)

## Religion in Hong Kong



\* WORLD FACTBOOK 2002

## Appearance

- The color red is considered a lucky color in Hong Kong.
- When dressing for a business meeting select a red tie to impress your host.
- The color white is synonymous with death.
- It is common in China to show one's surprise or dismay by sucking air in quickly and loudly through the lips and teeth. If you have been shown this gesture, it would be advisable to modify your request. Your host is obviously displeased.

## Behavior

- The toast is an integral part of the culture in Hong Kong.
- All countries have a standard toast however each country has a different pronunciation for the word toast. Ganbei is the popular Chinese toast. It means dry glass or bottoms up.
- Everyone is expected to drink a toast.
- The guest of honor makes the first toast.
- Follow the lead of your host when dining.
- Do not blow your nose at the table or in public.
- Do not rub your chopstick together before dining. It implies that you have been given poor quality chopsticks that may have splinters.
- It is impolite to refuse to drink. Even if you do not drink, accept it and toast with your host.
- Drinking helps to relax the host and is an important part of the relationship building phase in Chinese business culture.
- Bar hopping and *karoke* are standard means of entertainment. Be prepared to be taken out on the town almost every night during your stay in Hong Kong.
- At close of trip, have a dinner for your host as show of respect.

## Communications

- The handshake is fairly common in Hong Kong, however a slight bow will show a sign of respect.
- A round of applause may greet you during your visit. The Chinese like to applaud. You are expected to return the applause out of respect.
- Because Hong Kong is so densely populated the Chinese tend to converse very closely together.
- Silence is held in high regard in Hong Kong. Allow your host to contemplate without interruption.

- Names are usually written in the following order the last name first, middle name second and the first name last.
- Use titles with names whenever possible.
- Appointments are recommended.
- Punctuality is expected.
- Use only black and white materials for presentations, as colors are very significant.
- Patience is important. The Chinese do not make business decisions quickly.