

**MEDIA RELEASE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**The Hong Kong Computer Society Announces Results of**  
**"Survey on Internet Habits of Hong Kong Youth"**

*78% Use Mobile Phones Most Commonly for Internet and 30% Go Online for More Than 4 Hours A Day  
The Youth Mainly Go Online for Social Media; Most of Them Do Not Make Online Friends with Strangers  
Over 50% of Teenagers Shop Online; With No Regular Password Resetting Habit  
Teenagers in HK, Shanghai and Taiwan Share Similar Internet Habits; But Different Payment Tools*

**August 8, 2018. Hong Kong** - The Hong Kong Computer Society ("HKCS") conducted a "Survey on Internet Habits of Hong Kong Youth" with Hong Kong teenage students participating in its recently organised "Shanghai – Hong Kong – Taiwan Youth IT Summer Camp 2018". According to survey, it was found that 78% of the young people used smartphones most commonly for Internet, seconded by personal computer; 30% of them will even go online for more than four hours a day, and mainly for social media. Half of the interviewed teenagers shopped via Internet in the past month, and whereas they have no habit of changing their passwords regularly.

HKCS also conducted the same survey with 20 teenagers from Shanghai and 17 from Taiwan who participated in the summer camp. The results showed that the youths from the two straits shared a wide range of similar Internet habits as those of Hong Kong youths, including smartphones are the most commonly used device for Internet, surfing the Internet for one to three hours daily on average, main purpose of surfing the Internet is for social media, and there is no habit for changing passwords on a regular basis. Meanwhile, although online consumptions are mainly for shopping, the differences lie on the payment tools being used, among which Hong Kong teenagers mainly used Alipay and credit cards, the very majority of those in Taiwan pay by cash on delivery, and the very majority of the youths in Shanghai use Wechat Pay for transactions.

**30% of Hong Kong Teenagers Surf the Internet for More Than Four Hours a Day**

Regardless of Hong Kong, Shanghai and Taiwan, mobile phones are the most commonly used devices for Internet by the youth. In Hong Kong, among those teenagers being interviewed, 78% take mobile phones as the most commonly used devices for Internet, followed by computers. Meanwhile, 67.5% of the teenagers in Hong Kong spend an average of one to three hours a day online, while 30% of the interviewed even spend four hours or more a day.

For teenagers in Shanghai and Taiwan, they spend from one to three hours on Internet daily on average, like those in Hong Kong.

**Question: What kind of devices do you use to access the Internet?  
The number of teenagers answering mobiles phones are as follow:**

Options	HK Youth		Shanghai Youth		Taiwan Youth	
	Count	Percentage	Count	Percentage	Count	Percentage
Commonly used	17	20.48%	2	89.47%	2	11.76%
Most commonly used	65	78.31%	17	10.53%	13	76.48%
Rarely used	1	1.21%	0	0%	2	11.76%
Do not use	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Question: On average, how many hours do you go online every day on average?**

Options	HK Youth		Shanghai Youth		Taiwan Youth	
	Count	Percentage	Count	Percentage	Count	Percentage
<1 hour	2	2.41%	2	10%	4	23.53%
1-3 hours	56	67.47%	15	75%	8	47.06%
4 hours or above	25	30.12%	3	15%	5	29.41%
<b>Total</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Online Consumption is Mainly for Leisure Activities such as Shopping, Entertainment and Games**

Among the Hong Kong teenagers being interviewed, 40% of them found social media as the main purpose for Internet surfing, followed by learning and doing homework, instant messaging, and entertainment. Although 60% of Hong Kong teenagers surveyed pointed out that they had used online consumption in the past month, shopping was not the main reason for it. Nearly 50% of the respondents spent less than HK\$500 on online consumption in the past month, and leisure activities such as online shopping, online entertainment and gaming account for the majority, whereas only 19.3% are used for learning or reading.

For the youths in Shanghai and Taiwan, social media is also the main purpose for Internet surfing, followed by learning and doing homework, instant messaging and entertainment. There are less than half of the respondents who had online consumption in the past month, and shopping is the major types of online consumptions for all.

**Question: What is your purpose for surfing the Internet? (mostly)**

Options	HK Youth		Shanghai Youth		Taiwan Youth	
	Count	Percentage	Count	Percentage	Count	Percentage
Learning and doing homework	17	20.48%	3	15%	3	17.65%
Social media	34	40.96%	7	35%	5	29.41%
Instant messaging	11	13.26%	4	20%	1	5.88%
Entertainment	17	20.48%	5	25%	3	17.65%
Gaming	4	4.82%	1	5%	4	23.53%
Shopping	0	0%	0	0%	1	5.88%
<b>Total</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Question: Have you had any online consumption last month?**

Options	HK Youth		Shanghai Youth		Taiwan Youth	
	Count	Percentage	Count	Percentage	Count	Percentage
None	34	40.96%	9	52.94%	10	58.83%
Spent \$100 or below	14	16.87%	3	17.65%	3	17.65%
Spent \$101-\$300	16	19.28%	5	29.41%	2	11.76%
Spent \$301-\$500	11	13.25%	0	0%	0	0%
Spent \$501-\$1,000	4	4.82%	0	0%	1	5.88%
Spent \$1,000 or above	4	4.82%	0	0%	1	5.88%
<b>Total</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Question: Which is accounted for your major online consumption? (Choose more than one if suitable)**

Options	HK Youth		Shanghai Youth		Taiwan Youth	
	Count	Percentage	Count	Percentage	Count	Percentage
Online entertainment	15	12.61%	2	10.53%	2	15.38%
Gaming	28	23.53%	1	5.26%	0	0%
Shopping	44	36.97%	11	57.89%	7	53.85%
Learning and reading	23	19.33%	5	26.32%	4	30.77%
No online consumption	9	7.56%	0	0%	0	0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>119</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>100%</b>

On online payment, young people in Hong Kong use more diversified methods, with Alipay and affiliated credit cards, however, as the major means, accounting for a total of 50% of the counts. Meanwhile, vast majority of those in Taiwan pay by cash on delivery, and majority of those in Shanghai settle via Wechat Pay.

**Question: What is the major method you use for online payment? (Choose more than one if suitable)**

Option	HK Youth		Shanghai Youth		Taiwan Youth	
	Count	Percentage	Count	Percentage	Count	Percentage
Cash on delivery	9	9.38%	0	0%	10	76.93%
Affiliated credit card	20	20.83%	0	0%	1	7.69%
PayPal	11	11.46%	0	0%	0	0%
Wechat Pay	12	12.50%	19	100%	0	0%
Alipay	30	31.25%	0	0%	1	7.69%
Prepaid card	14	14.58%	0	0%	1	7.69%
<b>Total</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>100%</b>

## Half of the Teenagers Do Not Change Personal Passwords Regularly

According to the survey, regardless for respondents in Hong Kong, Shanghai or Taiwan, nearly half of the youths interviewed do not have the habit of changing their personal passwords on a regular basis.

**Question: Do you have a habit of changing your personal password regularly?**

Options	HK Youth		Shanghai Youth		Taiwan Youth	
	Count	Percentage	Count	Percentage	Count	Percentage
None	41	49.41%	14	70%	9	52.95%
Change monthly	5	6.02%	3	15%	2	11.76%
Change every 2-3 months	13	15.66%	2	10%	1	5.88%
Change every 4-6 months	9	10.84%	0	0%	2	11.76%
Change every 6 months or above	15	18.07%	1	5%	3	17.65%
<b>Total</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>100%</b>

In terms of making friends via the Internet, most of the interviewees make online friends with acquaintances. Only for about 20% of the respondents, that more than half of their online friends are people who they have only met on the Internet but never in person.

**Question: Are the people who communicate with you on the Internet usually friends who you know in real world, or friends who you have only met through the Internet but never in person?**

Options	HK Youth	
	Count	Percentage
None of them are people who I have met through the Internet but never in person	34	40.96%
Half of them or more are people who I have met through the Internet but never in person	18	21.69%
Less than half of them are people who I have met through the Internet but never in person	31	37.35%
<b>Total</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>100%</b>

Ir. Stephan Lau, JP, Secretary General (Honorary), Hong Kong Computer Society said, "Nowadays, mobile phones have become the most commonly used tools for Internet for young people in Hong Kong. The main purpose of surfing the Internet is for social media, followed by learning and entertainment. Among them, more than half of the young people interviewed have conducted online consumption, and leisure consumption such as shopping, online entertainment and gaming accounted for their major consumption. Meanwhile, half of their online transactions were settled via Alipay and credit cards. Companies engaged in Internet content provider, cultural and creative industries, e-commerce, and e-education can take these survey results as reference."

Ir Lau said: "We read from the news about theft of personal online accounts from time to time, however, for those in Hong Kong, Shanghai and Taiwan, only half of the interviewees have the habit of changing their personal passwords on a regular basis. This is obviously insufficient to protect their online privacy, whereas publicity and education on this aspect should be strengthened in the future."

"However, a point which is worth encouraging is that, most of the young people in Hong Kong do not communicate with strangers who they have only met on the Internet but never in person. This is believed to help prevent the happening of online traps." Added Ir. Lau.

Ir Lau pointed out that, "Although the number of people interviewed in Hong Kong is less than 100 this time, nevertheless, they are all young people who are enthusiastic about IT learning, thus I believe the survey possesses a decent degree of representativeness. And this time, through the "Shanghai – Hong Kong – Taiwan Youth IT Summer Camp 2018", we did not only enable the exchanges with elite students from Shanghai and Taiwan, but also collect their views that helped depicting the Internet habits of the future generations of the three sides of the strait. It also helps us understand their views on Internet applications, allowing us to compare the similarities and differences, which in turns, providing us with significance effects."

Co-organised by the Hong Kong Computer Society, the Shanghai Computer Society, and the IMA Information Managers Association (Taiwan), and co-sponsored by PCCW and HKT, the "Shanghai – Hong Kong – Taiwan Youth IT Summer Camp 2018" was held in Shanghai from July 29 to August 2, 2018.

With "Smart Service Living" as the theme for this year's camp, this already the 18<sup>th</sup> year for this summer camp this year. It aimed to encourage young people from Shanghai, Hong Kong and Taiwan to utilize the latest information and communication technology to create the smart technology service living.

The activities of this year's IT Summer Camp include: inviting students to participate in the seminars, sharing and exploring ways to improve the quality of life through the latest Smart IT, demonstrating the caring of the younger generation to the society. In addition, through the digital workshops, this is to enhance the interest and knowledge in the use of IT of the young people from Shanghai, Hong Kong and Taiwan.

In the conference, there were also a series of visits, including, a visit to Shanghai Hudong Container Terminal Co., Ltd., to know about how Shanghai Port has been digitalized; attended a smart grid introduction at Shanghai Waigaoqiao No. 3 Power Plant; and a visit to the Information Technology Infrastructure Project as well as the Park of the Shanghai Disneyland, and also a tour to the digitalized infrastructures of the campus of the Shanghai University.

These visits aimed to widen the understanding, perception and vision of the new generation on the applications of smart IT in living.

## **About the Hong Kong Computer Society (HKCS)**

Founded in 1970, the Hong Kong Computer Society (HKCS) is a recognised non-profit professional organisation focused on developing Hong Kong's Information Technology (IT) profession and industry. Their members come from a broad spectrum of Hong Kong's IT community, from corporations to like-minded individuals, all coming together to raise the profile and standards of the IT profession and industry. As a well-established IT professional body, the Society is committed to professional and industry development as well as community services to ensure the IT sector continues to make a positive impact on peoples' lives with three main goals, namely, 1) talent cultivation and professional development, 2) industry development and collaboration, and 3) the effective use of IT in our community.

For more details, please visit <http://www.hkcs.org.hk>.

For more details about Shanghai – Hong Kong – Taiwan Youth IT Summer Camp 2018, please visit <https://itcamp.hkcs.org.hk>.

## **About PCCW**

PCCW Limited (PCCW) is a Hong Kong-based company which holds interests in telecommunications, media, IT solutions, property development and investment, and other businesses.

The Company holds a majority interest in HKT Trust and HKT Limited (collectively "HKT"), Hong Kong's premier telecommunications service provider. HKT meets the needs of the Hong Kong public and local and international businesses with a wide range of services including local telephony, local data and broadband, international telecommunications, mobile, and other telecommunications businesses.

PCCW also owns a fully integrated multimedia and entertainment group in Hong Kong, PCCW Media. PCCW Media operates the largest local pay-TV operation, Now TV, and is engaged in the provision of the over-the-top (OTT) video service under the Viu brand in Hong Kong and other places in the region. Through HK Television Entertainment Company Limited, PCCW also operates a domestic free television service in Hong Kong. Also wholly-owned by the Group, PCCW Solutions is a leading information technology outsourcing and business process outsourcing provider in Hong Kong and mainland China.

# # #

Issued by: Hong Kong Computer Society  
For Media Enquiry: Please contact Mr. Davis Man of Man Communications Limited at  
852-2862 0042

## **Appendix I: Results of "Survey on Internet Habits of Hong Kong Youth"**

**Appendix I: Results of "Survey on Internet Habits of Hong Kong Youth"**  
 (Total number of effective questionnaires: Hong Kong 83, Shanghai 20, Taiwan 20)

**Q1. On average, how many hours do you go online every day on average?**

Options	HK Youth		Shanghai Youth		Taiwan Youth	
	Count	Percentage	Count	Percentage	Count	Percentage
<1 hour	2	2.41%	2	10%	4	23.53%
1-3 hours	56	67.47%	15	75%	8	47.06%
4 hours or above	25	30.12%	3	15%	5	29.41%
<b>Total</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Q2a. What kind of devices do you use to access the Internet? (Mobile Handset)**

Options	HK Youth		Shanghai Youth		Taiwan Youth	
	Count	Percentage	Count	Percentage	Count	Percentage
Commonly used	17	20.48%	2	89.47%	2	11.76%
Most commonly used	65	78.31%	17	10.53%	13	76.48%
Rarely used	1	1.21%	0	0%	2	11.76%
Do not use	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Q2b. What kind of devices do you use to access the Internet? (PC)**

Options	HK Youth		Shanghai Youth		Taiwan Youth	
	Count	Percentage	Count	Percentage	Count	Percentage
Commonly used	50	60.24%	14	70%	7	41.18%
Most commonly used	14	16.87%	0	0%	3	17.65%
Rarely used	16	19.28%	5	25%	6	35.29%
Do not use	3	3.61%	1	5%	1	5.88%
<b>Total</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Q3a. What is your purpose for surfing the Internet? (mostly)**

Options	HK Youth		Shanghai Youth		Taiwan Youth	
	Count	Percentage	Count	Percentage	Count	Percentage
Learning and doing homework	17	20.48%	3	15%	3	17.65%
Social media	34	40.96%	7	35%	5	29.41%
Instant messaging	11	13.26%	4	20%	1	5.88%
Entertainment	17	20.48%	5	25%	3	17.65%
Gaming	4	4.82%	1	5%	4	23.53%
Shopping	0	0%	0	0%	1	5.88%
<b>Total</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Q3b. What is your purpose for surfing the Internet? (second mostly)**

Options	HK Youth		Shanghai Youth		Taiwan Youth	
	Count	Percentage	Count	Percentage	Count	Percentage
Learning and doing homework	18	21.69%	3	15%	1	5.88%
Social media	20	24.10%	3	15%	1	5.88%
Instant messaging	19	22.89%	2	10%	8	47.06%
Entertainment	11	13.25%	1	5%	5	29.42%
Gaming	14	16.87%	9	45%	1	5.88%
Shopping	1	1.20%	2	10%	1	5.88%
<b>Total</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Q3c. What is your purpose for surfing the Internet? (third mostly)**

Options	HK Youth		Shanghai Youth		Taiwan Youth	
	Count	Percentage	Count	Percentage	Count	Percentage
Learning and doing homework	27	32.53%	8	40%	4	23.53%
Social media	9	10.84%	1	5%	5	29.41%
Instant messaging	21	25.30%	1	5%	0	0%
Entertainment	14	16.87%	5	25%	1	5.88%
Gaming	8	9.64%	1	5%	4	23.53%
Shopping	4	4.82%	4	20%	3	17.65%
<b>Total</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Q4. Do you have a habit of changing your personal password regularly?**

Options	HK Youth		Shanghai Youth		Taiwan Youth	
	Count	Percentage	Count	Percentage	Count	Percentage
None	41	49.41%	14	70%	9	52.95%
Change monthly	5	6.02%	3	15%	2	11.76%
Change every 2-3 months	13	15.66%	2	10%	1	5.88%
Change every 4-6 months	9	10.84%	0	0%	2	11.76%
Change every 6 months or above	15	18.07%	1	5%	3	17.65%
<b>Total</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Q5. Have you had any online consumption last month?**

Options	HK Youth		Shanghai Youth		Taiwan Youth	
	Count	Percentage	Count	Percentage	Count	Percentage
None	34	40.96%	9	52.94%	10	58.83%
Spent \$100 or below	14	16.87%	3	17.65%	3	17.65%
Spent \$101-\$300	16	19.28%	5	29.41%	2	11.76%
Spent \$301-\$500	11	13.25%	0	0%	0	0%
Spent \$501-\$1,000	4	4.82%	0	0%	1	5.88%
Spent \$1,000 or above	4	4.82%	0	0%	1	5.88%
<b>Total</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Q6. Which is accounted for your major online consumption? (Choose more than one if suitable)**

Options	HK Youth		Shanghai Youth		Taiwan Youth	
	Count	Percentage	Count	Percentage	Count	Percentage
Online entertainment	15	12.61%	2	10.53%	2	15.38%
Gaming	28	23.53%	1	5.26%	0	0%
Shopping	44	36.97%	11	57.89%	7	53.85%
Learning and reading	23	19.33%	5	26.32%	4	30.77%
No online consumption	9	7.56%	0	0%	0	0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>119</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Q7. What is the major method you use for online payment? (Choose more than one if suitable)**

Option	HK Youth		Shanghai Youth		Taiwan Youth	
	Count	Percentage	Count	Percentage	Count	Percentage
Cash on delivery	9	9.38%	0	0%	10	76.93%
Affiliated credit card	20	20.83%	0	0%	1	7.69%
PayPal	11	11.46%	0	0%	0	0%
Wechat Pay	12	12.50%	19	100%	0	0%
Alipay	30	31.25%	0	0%	1	7.69%
Prepaid card	14	14.58%	0	0%	1	7.69%
<b>Total</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Q8. Are the people who communicate with you on the Internet usually friends who you know in real world, or friends who you have only met through the Internet but never in person?**

Options	HK Youth	
	Count	Percentage
None of them are people who I have met through the Internet but never in person	34	40.96%
Half of them or more are people who I have met through the Internet but never in person	18	21.69%
Less than half of them are people who I have met through the Internet but never in person	31	37.35%
<b>Total</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>100%</b>

- End of the Survey -