

**Health, Welfare & Food Bureau**  
**SARS Bulletin**  
**(9 June 2003)**

**Summary of Cases**

On 8 June, 4 more patients with SARS had recovered from the disease and been discharged from hospitals, hence increasing the total number of recovered patients to 1,364 (i.e., 78% of all 1,752 SARS cases). There were 101 SARS patients remaining in hospitals, in which 35 patients were undergoing convalescence before discharge and 20 patients were receiving treatment in the intensive care units. There were also 7 suspected cases under treatment, and the cumulative total of fatal cases was 287.

2. No new SARS case was confirmed on 8 June. Since 16 May, the daily number of newly confirmed SARS cases has fallen below 5 for the 24<sup>th</sup> consecutive day, and the average number of newly confirmed cases in the past week was 1 per day.

3. Out of the 1,752 confirmed cases, 386 involved health care workers or medical students. A breakdown of their status is as follows: -

<b>Patient Status</b>	<b>Number of cases</b>	<b>As a % of total cases</b>
Recovered and discharged	359	93%
Under treatment in hospital	19 <sup>(1)</sup>	5%
Deceased	8 <sup>(2)</sup>	2%
<b>Total</b>	<b>386</b>	<b>100%</b>

4. Figure 1 (on page 2) is the epidemic curve of 8 June showing the onset dates of 1,728 confirmed SARS patients (the dates of onset of the remaining 24 cases are to be confirmed). Figure 2 (on page 2) shows distribution of cases by age group and gender. Among them, 22% are health care workers, including doctors (4%),

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<sup>1</sup> Three of these patients are receiving treatment in Intensive Care Units.

<sup>2</sup> Including 6 staff of public hospitals and 2 private medical practitioners.

nurses (12%) and other health care workers (6%). Most sick health care workers (98%) had onset dates before 12 May (i.e. 4 weeks ago), and the remaining 2% had onset dates between 17 to 31 May. About 90% of the sick health care workers were staff of the public sector. The onset dates of sick health care workers in the public sector spanned from February to May, while 88% of the cases in the private health care sector had onset dates in March.

Figure 1

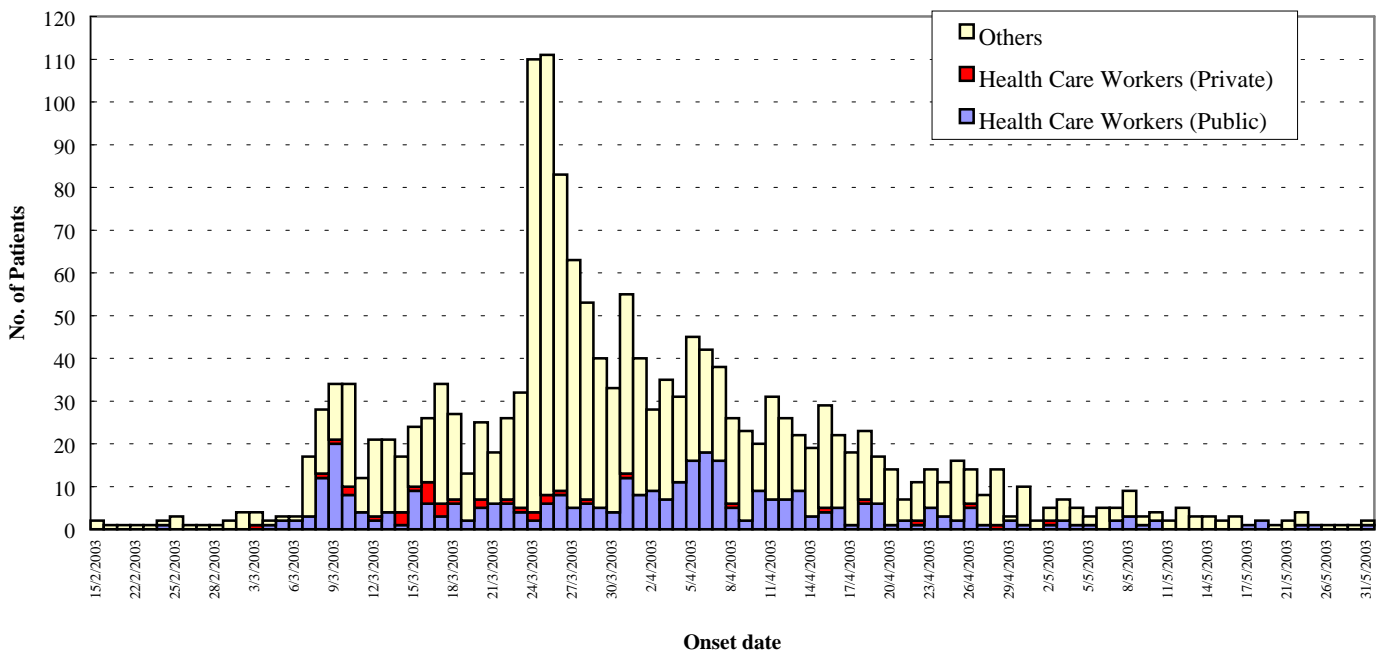
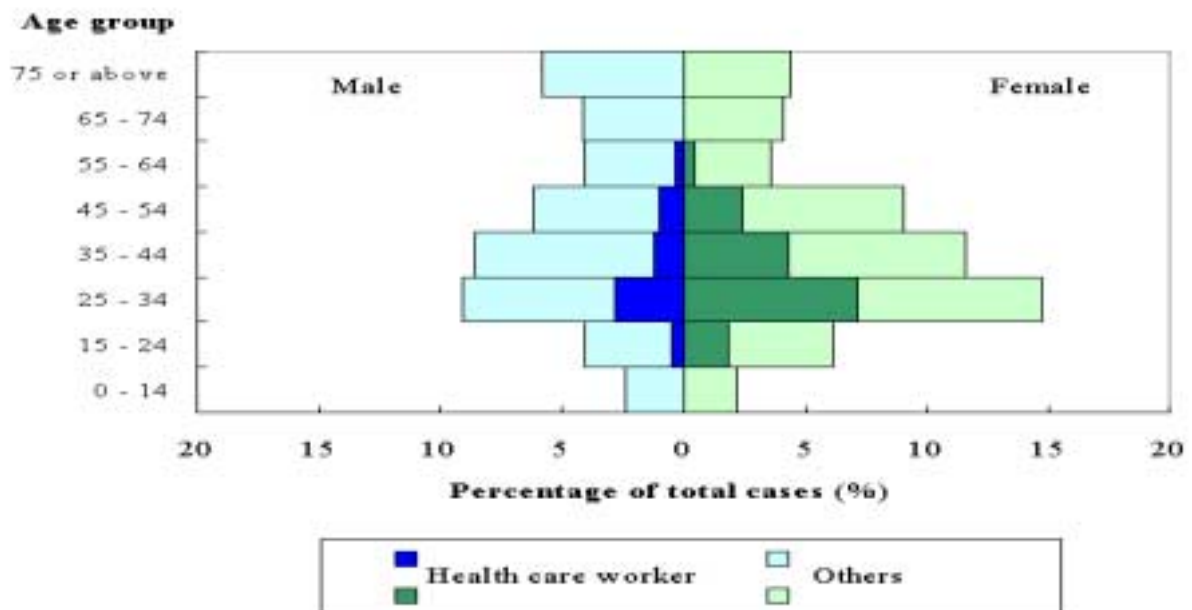
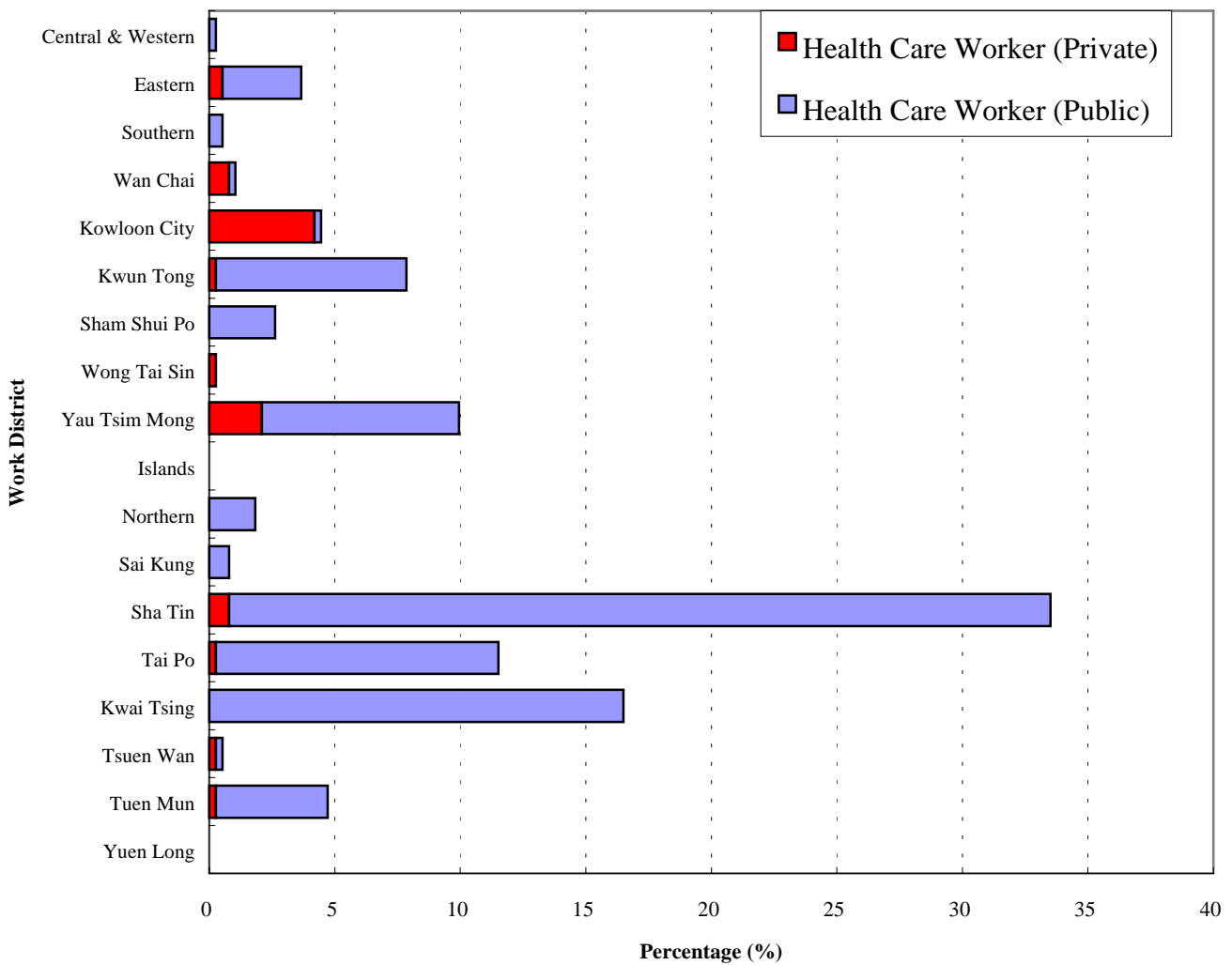


Figure 2



5. Figure 3 (on page 3) shows the distribution of sick health care workers by their work district. None of them worked in Yuen Long District or Islands District. Many of them worked in Sha Tin District (34%), Kwai Tsing District (16%), Tai Po District (12%), Yau Tsim Mong District (10%) or Kwun Tong District (8%). About 1% to 5% of them worked in each of the remaining 11 Districts.

Figure 3



## **Ongoing Development**

### *Health Checks at Border Points*

6. Since 29 March, medical posts have been set up at the airport, ports and border points to watch for travellers displaying symptoms of SARS, and all incoming travellers are required to complete a health declaration. To enhance the preventive measures in containing the spread of SARS, temperature checks for all arriving, departing and transit passengers at the Hong Kong International Airport have also been implemented since mid-April. Since 14 April, all close contacts of SARS patients are also barred from leaving Hong Kong during the home confinement period.

7. As regards other control points, arriving passengers via ports and land boundary crossings are subject to temperature screening in addition to health declaration with effect from 26 April. Since mid-May, departing passengers from the Hong Kong Macao Ferry Terminal and the China Ferry Terminal, and all people departing for the Mainland by through trains from the Hung Hom Station are required to undergo temperature checks before leaving Hong Kong.

8. As at 8 June, 2 passengers had been confirmed to have SARS since the implementation of all the above health checking measures.

### *Home Confinement*

9. All household contacts of confirmed or suspected SARS patients are required to undergo home confinement for monitoring and treatment up to a maximum of 10 days. As at 8 June, 16 persons (from 5 households) were under this home confinement requirement. So far, a total of 1,262 persons (from 493 households) had been affected by this requirement, of whom 34 of them were later confirmed to have SARS.

## **Further Information**

10. To empower the public in fighting against the SARS, DH has issued

advices and guidelines on prevention of the disease for various sectors. Publicity programmes have been made to educate the public on all aspects of the disease, including the symptoms, the mode of transmission, the importance of seeking early treatment and various preventive measures namely personal and environmental hygiene. Health education information is available on the 24-hour pre-recorded hotlines (2833 0111) and has been uploaded onto a designated webpage of DH (<http://www.info.gov.hk/info/sars/eindex.htm>). A hotline (187 2222) has also been provided for public enquiries.

Health, Welfare and Food Bureau  
Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region