



平等機會委員會  
EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES COMMISSION

# Equal Opportunities Commission

## Background

Human rights protection is enshrined in the Basic Law and the Bill of Rights Ordinance (Cap.383) in Hong Kong. Specifically, the right to equality is protected by Article 25 of the Basic Law and Article 22 of the Bill of Rights. Since 1996, four Ordinances have been enacted in order to give horizontal effect to the equality provisions in the Basic Law and the Bill of Rights. These are:

- Sex Discrimination Ordinance (Cap. 480)
- Disability Discrimination Ordinance (Cap. 487)
- Family Status Discrimination Ordinance (Cap. 527)
- Race Discrimination Ordinance (Cap. 602)

The Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC) is an independent statutory body set up in 1996 to implement the anti-discrimination Ordinances in Hong Kong.

## Our Vision

Create a pluralistic and inclusive society where there is no barrier to equal opportunities.

## What We Do

Work towards the elimination of discrimination on the grounds of sex, marital status, pregnancy, breastfeeding, disability, family status and race, and strive to eliminate sexual harassment, breastfeeding harassment, as well as harassment and vilification on the grounds of disability and race.

Promote inclusion and diversity, and mainstream the concepts of equality in society.

## Our Strategic Goals

- Instigate a stronger legal framework to protect the community from discrimination;
- Maintain an efficient and effective redress system for discrimination complaints built on a victim-centric approach;
- Develop stronger evidence and knowledge base of discrimination;
- Reduce inequalities for communities at high risks of discrimination; and
- Deliver organisational excellence.

## How We Do It

- Investigate complaints lodged under the four Ordinances, and encourage settlement by conciliation between the parties in dispute.
- Provide legal assistance to eligible applicants.
- Organise public education and publicity programmes to raise awareness and promote better understanding of equal opportunities concepts.
- Commission research studies and baseline surveys to examine trends of discrimination, as well as overall attitudes and perceptions of equal opportunities.
- Advocate policy change, develop policy frameworks and tailor-make training programmes for public and private organisations.
- Keep under review the anti-discrimination Ordinances and submit proposals for amendments to the Government.

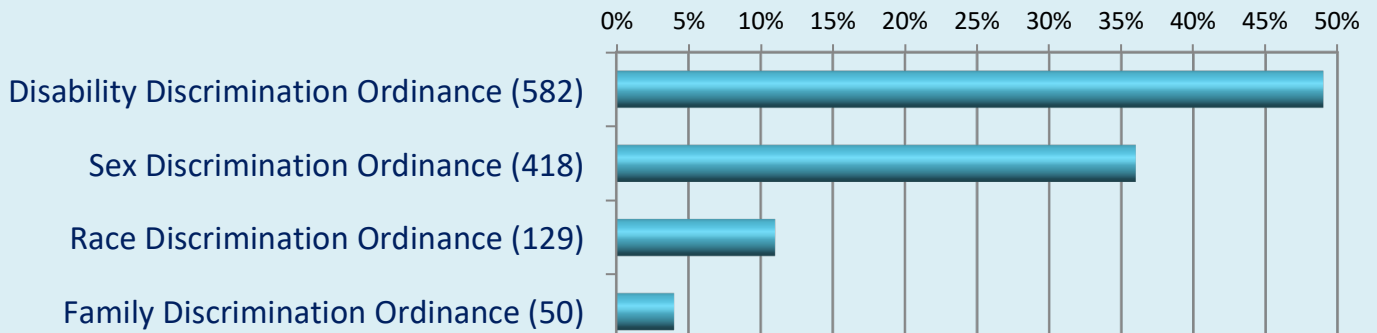


## Contact us:

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## Total Number of Complaints Handled in 2020-21: 1 179



## Work Highlights 2020-21

