



**Tracking Study**  
**Public Views on Media and Public Opinion**  
**Survey Results**

*【In order to enable the sample to reflect more closely the characteristics of the Hong Kong population, all data in this survey were weighted against the gender-age distribution of those aged 18 or above released by the Census and Statistics Department. Due to the process of weighting and rounding off of decimal place, the sum of individual items in the tables may be different to the total.】*

**Table 1: There is suggestion that nowadays some news organizations would downplay or even not report sensitive information and opinions. This situation is what people call “self-censorship”. Do you think there is self-censorship in Hong Kong press?**

**【If respondents answer “yes”, ask about the level of severity】**

	Yes, very serious %	Yes, Somewhat serious %	Yes, a little bit serious %	Completely no %	No View/ Refuse %	Total % (N)
2008	2.6	12.2	31.3	40.7	13.2	100.0 (1023)
2010	3.3	15.8	30.1	39.0	11.8	100.0 (1007)
2012	3.3	17.7	32.3	38.4	8.4	100.0 (1016)
2014	8.7	25.4	27.2	27.4	11.3	100.0 (1037)
2016	13.7	30.3	23.2	21.8	11.0	100.0 (1012)
2019	10.7	30.1	26.6	20.2	12.5	100.0 (1010)





**Table 2: Do you think whether the Hong Kong press has undertaken the following self-censorship practices? You can give a score from 1 to 5, with 1 being “completely no” and 5 being “very often”.**

**【Respondents who answered “completely no” or “No view/ refuse” in Table 1 do not need to answer this question】**

	Mean *(N)					
	Downplay negative information about the HKSAR government	Downplay negative information about the central government	Do not report negative information about the HKSAR government	Do not report negative information about the central government	Tend to support the HKSAR government in news coverage	Tend to support the central government in news coverage
2008	3.01 (459)	3.02 (454)	2.68 (458)	2.89 (458)	2.92 (462)	2.77 (457)
2010	2.98 (488)	3.06 (491)	2.69 (493)	2.85 (491)	2.90 (493)	2.84 (488)
2012	2.94 (532)	3.00 (522)	2.76 (527)	2.87 (528)	2.93 (529)	2.69 (531)
2014	3.18 (619)	3.02 (621)	2.85 (619)	2.88 (616)	2.77 (617)	2.59 (615)
2016	3.26 (666)	3.21 (666)	2.94 (669)	2.95 (664)	2.99 (661)	2.87 (663)
2019	3.23 (670)	3.38 (665)	2.80 (672)	3.11 (668)	2.94 (670)	2.99 (668)

\* Don't know / Refuse are not included in the calculation of the mean.





**Table 3: The following are some institutions, organizations or channels of public opinion expression. Do you think whether they are able to represent citizens' opinions? You can give a score of from 0 to 10, with 0 being "absolutely unable" and 10 being "absolutely able".**

**【The order of items is randomized by computer】**

	Mean *(N)								
	Political parties	Legislators	Current affairs commentators	Newspapers	TV news	Radio phone-in programs	Opinion survey institutes	HKSAR government	Social movement
2008	4.88 (942)	5.16 (951)	5.82 (969)	5.73 (978)	6.32 (1000)	5.92 (908)	5.82 (968)	5.34 (995)	-
2010	4.42 (941)	4.62 (958)	5.65 (970)	5.48 (972)	6.00 (974)	5.60 (923)	5.60 (965)	4.84 (983)	5.19 (962)
2012	4.46 (955)	4.69 (978)	5.58 (988)	5.44 (991)	6.01 (996)	5.65 (938)	5.65 (978)	4.55 (1006)	5.22 (973)
2014	4.08 (1008)	4.10 (1011)	4.51 (1018)	4.56 (1012)	4.43 (1013)	4.82 (991)	5.54 (1027)	3.79 (1027)	5.23 (1014)
2016	4.03 (967)	4.06 (975)	4.48 (986)	4.30 (978)	4.01 (979)	4.93 (947)	5.22 (983)	3.27 (1002)	4.88 (986)
2019	4.21 <sup>#</sup> (970)		4.47 (979)	4.53 <sup>#</sup> (980)		4.78 (937)	5.15 (964)	-	4.76 (981)

\* Don't know / Refuse are not included in the calculation of the mean.

# In 2019, the question items were changed to "Political parties and legislators" and "Newspapers and TV news".

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