

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**HAB299****(Question Serial No. 4856)**Head: (95) Leisure and Cultural Services DepartmentSubhead (No. & title): (-) Not SpecifiedProgramme: (5) Public LibrariesControlling Officer: Director of Leisure and Cultural Services (Vincent LIU)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home AffairsQuestion:

Regarding the public library services of the Leisure and Cultural Services Department, please tabulate the numbers of fiction and non-fiction books in Chinese and English withdrawn in the past 3 years by publication year (before 1950, 1950s to 1960s, 1960s to 1970s, 1970s to 1980s, 1980s to 1990s, 1990s to 2000s, 2000s to 2010s, 2010s to 2020s).

Number of Chinese books withdrawn	Publication year							
According to Lai Yung-hsiang Classification Scheme	Before 1950	1950s to 1960s	1960s to 1970s	1970s to 1980s	1980s to 1990s	1990s to 2000s	2000s to 2010s	2010s to 2020s
000-099								
100-199								
200-299								
300-399								
400-499								
500-599								
600-699								
700-799								
800-899								
900-999								
Number of English books withdrawn	Publication year							
According to Dewey Decimal Classification Scheme	Before 1950	1950s to 1960s	1960s to 1970s	1970s to 1980s	1980s to 1990s	1990s to 2000s	2000s to 2010s	2010s to 2020s
000-099								
100-199								
200-299								

300-399								
400-499								
500-599								
600-699								
700-799								
800-899								
900-999								

Asked by: Hon CHAN Tanya (LegCo internal reference no.: 423)

Reply:

The total numbers of Chinese books, English books and non-print materials withdrawn in the past 3 years are at Annex. As the books withdrawn by the Hong Kong Public Libraries are only categorised as Chinese books, English books and non-print materials without further sub-categorisation into fiction/non-fiction, classification scheme or publication year, there is no record of the breakdown figures.

**Total Numbers of Chinese Books, English Books and Non-print Materials⁽¹⁾
Withdrawn in the Past 3 Years**

Financial Year	Number of Chinese Books Withdrawn (’000 items)	Number of English Books Withdrawn (’000 items)	Number of Non-print Materials⁽¹⁾ Withdrawn (’000 items)
2017-18	370	118	26
2018-19 ⁽²⁾	352	107	54
2019-20 ⁽²⁾ (Up to February 2020)	67	16	8

Notes

- (1) Non-print materials refer to multimedia materials.
- (2) The numbers of books/materials withdrawn in 2019-20 are lower than those in 2018-19 since the withdrawal of some books/materials for 2019-20 has yet to be approved.

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