

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)130

(Question Serial No. 1020)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the inspections to food premises by the Department in the past three years (i.e. from 2012-13 to 2014-15), please advise on the number of inspections conducted, the number and nature of cases of irregularities detected, the types of premises involved and the districts in which these premises were located, as well as the number of warnings issued and prosecutions instituted.

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (Member Question No. 37)

Reply:

The required statistics are given below -

	<u>2012</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>2014</u>
(a) Number of inspections to licenced food premises	204 384	203 007	208 380
(b) Number of prosecutions instituted against licenced food premises	4 231	3 687	2 599
(c) Number of warnings issued under the licensing regime for breach of licensing requirements/conditions	1 203	1 211	1 223

The breakdown by nature of irregularities is at Annex. There are no separate statistics on the types and locations of premises involved.

**Breakdown of Prosecutions Instituted against Licensed Food Premises
in 2012, 2013 and 2014**

Nature of Irregularities	No. of Prosecutions		
	2012	2013	2014 ^(Note)
Dirty food premises / presence of vermins, live birds or animals	9	15	6
Dirty equipment and utensils	15	27	13
Food not protected from risk of contamination	6	7	3
Sub-standard fish tank water	1	3	0
Improper storage of open food	164	132	93
Use of open space for scullery / food preparation / storage of food utensils	259	171	144
Dirty food room / improper repair of food room	64	56	38
Dirty toilet	1	0	0
Alteration of premises or fittings	14	12	4
Alteration to the approved layout of the premises	116	136	207
Sale of restricted food without permission	19	17	10
Operating other types of unlicensed food business	9	7	24
Extension of food business beyond licensed area ^(Note)	1 350	1 044	610
Obstruction of public places ^(Note)	2 173	2 048	1 410
Other irregularities such as smoking in food room, sale of fresh and chilled meat at the same premises, sale of food unfit for human consumption, sale of food which was not of the nature, substance or quality demanded by the purchaser and fresh meat containing preservative etc.	31	12	37
Total	4 231	3 687	2 599

Note : The decrease in the number of prosecutions against licensed food premises was attributable mainly to the decrease in the number of cases of illegal extension of food business area and obstruction of public places by licensed food premises in 2014.