

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)369

(Question Serial No. 7141)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

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

Programme: (3) Market Management and Hawker Control

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

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please advise this Committee on:

- (1) the number of convicted cases in the past 5 years in relation to the prosecutions instituted by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department against environmental hygiene related offences, with a breakdown by type of hawkers (licensed hawkers, unlicensed hawkers, market stalls, ...);
- (2) the number of inspections conducted by the Department in relation to hawkers, pitches and market stalls, the number of prosecutions instituted, the number of convicted cases, as well as the manpower and administrative charges involved, in each of the past 5 years (please set out the information in tabular form); and
- (3) the estimated number of unlicensed hawkers in each of the past 5 years, with a breakdown by district.

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando (LegCo internal reference no.: 7702)

Reply:

- (1) Information on the number of convictions on licensed and unlicensed hawkers, and market stalls in public markets for the past 5 years (from 2014 to 2018) is provided at Annex I.
- (2) The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) does not keep separate statistics on the number of inspections to licensed hawker stalls and public market stalls. Information on the number of prosecutions and convictions against licensed hawkers or public market tenants, as well as the manpower and expenditure incurred in hawker control and management of public markets in the past 5 years (from 2014 to 2018) is provided at Annex II.

Taking enforcement actions is part of the duties of the Department's hawker control and market management staff. Further breakdown on the manpower and expenditure on prosecution is not available.

- (3) The information on the estimated number of unlicensed hawkers in 18 districts over the past 5 years (from 2014 to 2018) is provided at Annex III.

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**Number of convictions on licensed
and unlicensed hawkers, and market stalls in public markets
(2014 – 2018)**

Calendar year	No. of Convictions		
	Licensed hawkers	Unlicensed hawkers	Market stalls
2014	5 805	28 206	1 214
2015	5 622	23 473	1 523
2016	3 431	14 372	1 911
2017	3 201	6 270	1 916
2018	2 838	4 859	1 637

**Enforcement actions
against licensed hawkers and public market tenants**

Calendar year	Licensed hawkers		Public market tenants	
	Number of prosecutions	Number of convictions	Number of prosecutions	Number of convictions
2014	5 183	5 805	1 291	1 214
2015	4 493	5 622	1 658	1 523
2016	3 787	3 431	2 065	1 911
2017	3 765	3 201	1 893	1 916
2018	3 733	2 838	1 697	1 637

Note : Prosecutions instituted in a year may be convicted in the following year.

**Manpower and expenditure incurred in
hawker control and management of public markets**

Financial Year	Licensed Hawkers		Public Markets	
	Number of staff	Expenditure (\$ million)	Number of staff	Expenditure (\$ million)
2014-15	2 209	951.8	384	741.0
2015-16	2 210	1,025.2	376	720.4
2016-17	2 243	1,108.8	390	840.0
2017-18	2 264	1,074.2	386	807.1
2018-19	2 264	1,148.0 (revised estimate)	416	853.1 (revised estimate)

Estimated number of unlicensed hawkers

District	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Central and Western	148	143	143	141	142
Wan Chai	27	26	16	39	41
Eastern	130	55	48	48	59
Southern	41	49	42	33	30
Islands	15	15	16	18	16
Yau Tsim Mong	302	281	295	301	273
Sham Shui Po	281	411	388	460	523
Kowloon City	63	64	64	61	61
Wong Tai Sin	36	35	49	16	15
Kwun Tong	56	100	79	63	63
Kwai Tsing	69	68	63	63	61
Tsuen Wan	9	7	6	2	3
Tuen Mun	54	51	51	45	44
Yuen Long	40	26	22	28	36
North	79	72	72	62	57
Tai Po	33	35	29	23	22
Shatin	47	42	31	52	46
Sai Kung	10	8	16	10	17
Inside Housing Estates*	40	106	24	9	2
Total	1 480	1 594	1 454	1 474	1 511

Remark: * Figures provided by Housing Department. No further breakdown by district is available.