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香港公共圖書館服務概覽  
An Overview of the Public Library Services in Hong Kong

# 香港公共圖書館服務概覽

## An Overview of the Public Library Services in Hong Kong

圖書館是通往資訊與知識寶庫的門戶。在香港，康樂及文化事務署負責提供公共圖書館服務。本文介紹香港的公共圖書館服務、其使用情況，以及最新的發展。

Libraries provide a gateway to the world of information and knowledge. In Hong Kong, the Leisure and Cultural Services Department is responsible for the provision of public library services. This article gives an overview of the provision, utilisation and latest developments of the public library services in Hong Kong.

本文內的統計數字是根據康樂及文化事務署的資料來源所得。如對本文有任何查詢，請聯絡康樂及文化事務署統計組  
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Statistics presented in this article are based on the data source from the Leisure and Cultural Services Department. Enquiries on this article may be directed to the Statistics Unit, Leisure and Cultural Services Department  
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# 香港公共圖書館服務概覽

## An Overview of the Public Library Services in Hong Kong

### 1. 引言

1.1 根據《聯合國教育、科學及文化組織公共圖書館宣言》中所載的信念，公共圖書館是開展教育、傳播文化和提供資訊的有力工具，也是在人民的思想中樹立和平觀念和豐富人民大眾精神生活的重要工具。

1.2 香港的公共圖書館服務由康樂及文化事務署（康文署）負責提供，以滿足社會在知識、資訊和研究方面的需求；支持市民終身學習、持續進修和善用餘暇；以及推廣本地文學藝術。

1.3 本文介紹香港的公共圖書館服務、其使用情況，以及最新的發展<sup>1</sup>。

### 2. 香港公共圖書館

2.1 香港公共圖書館由 70 間固定圖書館和 12 間流動圖書館所組成（截至 2022 年年底）。這些不同規模及類型的圖書館平均分布於香港各個區域，並通過一個綜合圖書館自動化系統連接起來，為不同年齡及階層的人士提供便捷的圖書館服務。（表 1）

2.2 在 70 間固定公共圖書館當中，30 間（佔總數的 42.9%）位於新界區；24 間（34.3%）位於九龍區；以及 16 間（22.9%）位於港島區。（表 1）

<sup>1</sup> 本文所載列的統計數字為截至 2022 年 12 月的數字。

### 1. Introduction

1.1 The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) Public Library Manifesto proclaims the belief in the public library as a living force for education, culture and information, and as an essential agent for the fostering of peace and spiritual welfare through the minds of men and women.

1.2 Provision of public library services in Hong Kong is under the purview of the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD). The Department aims to provide public library services to meet the community's need for knowledge, information and research; to support life-long learning, continuous education and profitable use of leisure time; and to promote local literary arts.

1.3 This article gives an overview of the provision, utilisation and latest developments of the public library services in Hong Kong<sup>1</sup>.

### 2. Hong Kong Public Libraries

2.1 The Hong Kong Public Libraries (HKPL) consists of 70 static and 12 mobile libraries as at the end of 2022. These libraries, of different scales and types, are evenly located over the territory. They are interconnected by an integrated automated library system to provide convenient access to library services for people of all age groups and walks of life. (Table 1)

2.2 Among the 70 static public libraries, 30 (42.9% of the total) are located in the New Territories; 24 (34.3%) in Kowloon; and 16 (22.9%) on Hong Kong Island. (Table 1)

<sup>1</sup> Statistics included in this article are as at December 2022.

2.3 香港的公共圖書館網絡提供多項不同的服務和設施。所有公共圖書館均免費提供予兒童與成人外借圖書館資料的服務，此外，大部分公共圖書館也有提供其他服務和設施。這些服務和設施包括報章及期刊閱覽服務、參考及資訊服務、電腦及資訊中心、多媒體資料圖書館、學生自修室、推廣活動及集體借閱服務。

2.4 大體來說，全港 82 間公共圖書館按其服務範圍和規模及館藏量分為 5 個不同等級：

- (i) 香港中央圖書館；
- (ii) 6 間主要圖書館；
- (iii) 31 間分區圖書館；
- (iv) 32 間小型圖書館；以及
- (v) 12 間流動圖書館。

2.5 香港中央圖書館於 2001 年 5 月啓用，是本港最大的公共圖書館，館藏量超過 280 萬項，也是本港主要的資訊及文化中心。除了基本的圖書館設施及服務外，香港中央圖書館亦設有由 6 個專科部門組成的中央參考圖書館、青少年圖書館、玩具圖書館、地圖圖書館、藝術資源中心，以及展覽館和演講廳等可供租用的設施。（表 1）

2.6 香港共有 6 間主要圖書館，即大會堂公共圖書館、九龍公共圖書館、沙田公共圖書館、荃灣公共圖書館、屯門公共圖書館和屏山天水圍公共圖書館。除提供全面的圖書館服務外，每一間主要圖書館均闢設參考圖書館。31 間分區圖書館是公共圖書館網絡的主要骨幹，為 18 區市民提供多元化的圖書館服務及設施。32 間小型圖書館則為所屬地區的讀者提供基本圖書館服務，以進一步支援公共圖書館服務。（表 1）

2.7 而流動圖書館主要是為居住在沒有固定圖書館的地區及偏遠地區的市民提供方便快捷的圖書館服務。（表 1）

2.3 A wide range of services and facilities are provided by the public library network in Hong Kong. While free lending of library materials for children and adult are available from all the public libraries, other services and facilities are also offered by most of the public libraries. Such services and facilities include newspapers and periodicals services, reference and information services, computer and information centres, multi-media libraries, students' study rooms, extension activities and block loan services.

2.4 Broadly speaking, the 82 public libraries are classified into 5 tiers according to their scope and level of services, and size of collection :

- (i) Hong Kong Central Library (HKCL);
- (ii) 6 major libraries;
- (iii) 31 district libraries;
- (iv) 32 small libraries; and
- (v) 12 mobile libraries.

2.5 The HKCL, opened in May 2001, is the largest public library in Hong Kong holding more than 2.8 million items of library materials. It is also a major information and cultural centre in Hong Kong. In addition to basic library facilities and services, HKCL provides a central reference library of 6 subject departments, a young adult library, a toy library, a map library, an arts resource centre and hiring facilities comprising an exhibition gallery and a lecture theatre. (Table 1)

2.6 There are 6 major libraries in Hong Kong, namely, City Hall Public Library, Kowloon Public Library, Sha Tin Public Library, Tsuen Wan Public Library, Tuen Mun Public Library and Ping Shan Tin Shui Wai Public Library. In addition to comprehensive library services, each major library provides a dedicated reference library. The 31 district libraries, as the major backbone of the public library network, offer a wide range of library services and facilities in the 18 districts. The public library services are further supported by the 32 small libraries which provide basic library services to users at the local communities. (Table 1)

2.7 In addition, the mobile libraries enable people living in areas without static libraries and those living in remote areas to gain access to library services in a convenient manner. (Table 1)

表 1 2022 年按地區劃分的公共圖書館主要統計數字  
Table 1 Principal statistics for public libraries by region, 2022

地區 Region	圖書館種類 Type of library	圖書館數目 Number of libraries	書籍數目 Number of books	多媒體資料數目 Number of multimedia materials
港島區 HK Island	中央圖書館 Central Library	1	2 410 152	424 903
	主要圖書館 Major libraries	1	531 956	73 660
	分區圖書館 District libraries	6	948 246	141 760
	小型圖書館 Small libraries	8	594 622	53 364
	小計 Sub-total	16	4 484 976	693 687
九龍區 Kowloon	主要圖書館 Major libraries	1	673 385	83 247
	分區圖書館 District libraries	10	1 727 262	248 552
	小型圖書館 Small libraries	13	903 447	81 511
	小計 Sub-total	24	3 304 094	413 310
新界區 New Territories	主要圖書館 Major libraries	4	1 900 752	235 135
	分區圖書館 District libraries	15	2 850 383	313 942
	小型圖書館 Small libraries	11	414 251	41 231
	小計 Sub-total	30	5 165 386	590 308
全港 18 區 18 districts in Hong Kong	流動圖書館 Mobile libraries	12	452 569	42 457
<b>總計 Total</b>		<b>82</b>	<b>13 407 025</b>	<b>1 739 762</b>

2.8 康文署透過增加圖書館的數目及豐富圖書館館藏，不斷改善公共圖書館服務。公共圖書館的數目由 2012 年的 77 間，增加至 2022 年的 82 間。此外，圖書館的書籍及多媒體資料亦由 2012 年的 1 290 萬項增加至 2022 年的 1 510 萬項。（表 2）

2.9 康文署亦推出試驗計劃，在港島、九龍及新界三個地點各設一個「自助圖書館站」，提供 24 小時借閱、歸還、繳款及領取預約圖書館資料服務

2.8 The LCSD continuously improves its public library services through increasing the number of libraries and enriching its library collection. The network expanded to 82 public libraries in 2022, as compared with 77 in 2012. Besides, the stock of library books and multimedia materials grew from 12.9 million in 2012 to 15.1 million in 2022. (Table 2)

2.9 Moreover, the LCSD has launched a pilot scheme to set up three Self-service Library Stations, one each on Hong Kong Island, in Kowloon and the New Territories. These stations provide round-the-clock services, such as borrowing, return, payment and pickup of reserved library materials.

**表 2 2012 年及 2018 年至 2022 年公共圖書館主要統計數字**  
**Table 2 Principal statistics for public libraries, 2012 and 2018 to 2022**

服務／設施 Services/Facilities	2012	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
圖書館數目 Number of libraries	77	82	82	82	82	82
圖書館館藏 Library stock	12 854 666	14 973 783	15 098 781	15 057 052	15 212 665	15 146 787
書籍 Books	11 131 420	13 117 002	13 266 575	13 264 289	13 440 591	13 407 025
多媒體資料 Multimedia materials	1 723 246	1 856 781	1 832 206	1 792 763	1 772 074	1 739 762

### 3. 圖書館電子資源

3.1 在 2022 年，香港公共圖書館擁有約 49 萬冊電子書，另備有 83 個電子資料庫，提供不同類別的參考資料、統計資料和專門資料。此外，香港公共圖書館亦提供超過 11 400 小時數碼化視聽資料及 630 萬頁數碼化印刷資料。（表 3）

### 3. Library E-Resources

3.1 In 2022, the HKPL had about 490 000 e-book titles and 83 e-databases featuring different reference materials, statistical information and thematic information. In addition, over 11 400 hours of digitised audio/visual materials and 6.3 million pages of digitised printed materials were made available in the HKPL. (Table 3)

**表 3 2012 年及 2018 年至 2022 年公共圖書館電子資源主要統計數字**  
**Table 3 Principal statistics for electronic resources of public libraries, 2012 and 2018 to 2022**

電子資源 Electronic resources	2012	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
電子書數目 Number of e-books	139 900	294 500	338 100	378 100	418 400	491 500
電子資料庫數目 Number of e-databases	61	76	77	78	82	83
數碼館藏 Digital collection						
數碼化影音資料數目 Number of digitised audio/visual materials	8 488	10 223	10 547	10 837	11 169	11 475
數碼化印刷資料數目 (百萬頁) Number of digitised printed materials (million pages)	2.51	6.31	6.31	6.31	6.31	6.33

3.2 香港公共圖書館的登記讀者可隨時隨地經香港公共圖書館網站 ([www.hkpl.gov.hk](http://www.hkpl.gov.hk)) 免費閱覽所有電子書和 40 個線上資料庫。其餘 43 個電子資料庫，可供市民於圖書館的開放時間內在指定圖書館使用。

3.3 為方便市民使用數碼館藏，香港公共圖書館的「多媒體資訊系統」提供即時使用數碼化資料的服務，輯錄的資料包括舊照片、舊地圖、香港的舊報紙、手稿等。

3.4 為善用流動通訊技術以提供圖書館服務，康文署於 2014 年推出「我的圖書館」流動應用程式，讓讀者登入個人帳戶，並搜尋、預約及續借圖書館資料。此外，香港公共圖書館的「多媒體資訊系統」網站及「電子資源」專頁均可以讓讀者在線上閱覽數碼館藏、電子書庫和電子資料庫內經互聯網使用的資料。

3.2 Registered borrowers in the HKPL could access all e-books and 40 online databases via the HKPL's website ([www.hkpl.gov.hk](http://www.hkpl.gov.hk)) free-of-charge anywhere anytime. The remaining 43 e-databases are licensed for use at designated libraries during opening hours.

3.3 To facilitate the use of digital collection, HKPL's "Multimedia Information System"(MMIS) offers instant access to digitised materials, such as old photos, old maps, old Hong Kong newspapers, manuscripts, etc.

3.4 To embrace mobile communication technology in offering library services, the "My Library" mobile app was launched in 2014 to allow readers to access personal accounts, and search, reserve and renew library materials. Moreover, HKPL's MMIS website and "Electronic Resources" webpage allow readers to browse the digital collections, e-book collections and remote access materials in the e-databases online.

#### 4. 公共圖書館服務的使用情況

4.1 在 2022 年，香港公共圖書館的登記讀者約有 480 萬名。在該年內，全港 82 間公共圖書館共借出約 2 350 萬項書籍及 52 萬項多媒體資料。（表 4）

4.2 網上圖書館服務一直廣受市民大眾歡迎。在 2022 年，網上續借數目約為 900 萬次，而網上預約數目則為 44 萬次。此外，使用多媒體資訊系統的次數錄得可觀升幅，由 2012 年的 220 萬次上升至 2022 年的 750 萬次。（表 4）

#### 4. Utilisation of public library services

4.1 The HKPL had about 4.8 million registered borrowers in 2022. During the year, some 23.5 million items of books and 0.52 million items of multimedia materials were borrowed from the 82 public libraries in Hong Kong. (Table 4)

4.2 Online library services have all along been popular among the public. In 2022, the number of Internet renewals reached some 9.0 million and the number of Internet reservations was 0.44 million. In addition, the number of usage of MMIS recorded a salient increase from 2.2 million in 2012 to 7.5 million in 2022. (Table 4)

表 4 2012 年及 2018 年至 2022 年公共圖書館服務的使用情況

Table 4 Usage of public library services, 2012 and 2018 to 2022

服務／設施 Services/Facilities	2012	2018	2019	2020*	2021*	2022*
登記讀者人數 Number of registered borrowers	4 086 926	4 609 564	4 682 082	4 709 764	4 770 105	4 819 957
外借書籍數目 <sup>^</sup> Number of books borrowed <sup>^</sup>	53 302 835	46 248 956	43 470 392	23 074 326	28 240 126	23 542 943
外借多媒體資料數目 <sup>^</sup> Number of multimedia materials borrowed <sup>^</sup>	2 396 715	1 354 181	1 163 300	543 537	677 303	519 862
網上續借數目 Number of Internet renewals	16 309 220	18 954 558	17 131 456	10 518 231	10 819 654	9 010 766
網上預約數目 Number of Internet reservations	923 835	949 962	861 309	442 997	562 720	442 790
多媒體資訊系統使用次數 Number of usage of Multimedia Information System (MMIS)	2 246 752	5 555 617	5 649 411	7 087 059	7 300 904	7 516 186

註釋：<sup>^</sup> 外借圖書館資料的數目有所下降的原因包括：(i) 由於部分圖書館閱讀環境有所改善，到館人流因而增加，愈來愈多讀者選擇在圖書館內閱讀／使用圖書館資料而不外借；及(ii) 學校對集體借閱服務的需求減少，因為現在很多學校已擁有自己的圖書館館藏。

\* 2020-2022 年的使用情況受 2019 冠狀病毒疫情影響。

Notes：<sup>^</sup> Reasons for the decrease in the number of library materials borrowed include: (i) patronage of some public libraries has increased along with enhancements in their reading environment, such that more and more users prefer reading/using the library items on the spot at these libraries to borrowing them; and (ii) demand for block loan service from schools has decreased as many of them have their own collection of library materials.

\* Usage in 2020-2022 were affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

4.3 2018 年至 2022 年按外借書籍種類劃分的分析顯示，中文書籍比英文書籍較受讀者歡迎。（表 5）

4.4 在 2022 年，外借書籍的總數約 2 350 萬項，當中約 1 800 萬項（76.2%）為中文書籍。約 38.0% 的外借中文書籍屬「語言學及文學」，當中以「小說」（佔外借中文書總數的 15.2%）最受歡迎。外借的英文書籍當中，以「兒童圖畫書」最受歡迎（佔外借英文書總數的 28.0%），其次是「兒童小說」（17.4%）和「語言學」（15.0%）。（表 5）

4.3 Analysis by type of books borrowed from 2018 to 2022 indicated that Chinese books were more popular than English books. (Table 5)

4.4 In 2022, the number of books borrowed by the public totalled about 23.5 million items, of which some 18.0 million items (76.2%) were Chinese books. About 38.0% of Chinese books borrowed by the public were “Language and literature”, of which “Fiction” (15.2% of the total Chinese books borrowed) was the most popular. Of the English books borrowed, “Picture books” was the most popular (28.0% of the total English books borrowed), followed by “Junior fiction” (17.4%) and “Language” (15.0%). (Table 5)

表 5 2018 年至 2022 年按種類劃分外借書籍的次數  
Table 5 Number of books borrowed by type, 2018 to 2022

(千次)  
(thousands)

種類 Type	2018	2019	2020*	2021*	2022*
<b>中文書籍</b> Chinese books					
語言學及文學 Language and literature	13 500 (37.7%)	12 130 (35.9%)	6 353 (35.6%)	8 216 (38.1%)	6 818 (38.0%)
小說 Fiction	5 640 (15.7%)	5 026 (14.9%)	2 624 (14.7%)	3 358 (15.6%)	2 734 (15.2%)
翻譯小說 Translated fiction	2 580 (7.2%)	2 427 (7.2%)	1 313 (7.3%)	1 605 (7.4%)	1 295 (7.2%)
其他 ^ Others ^	5 280 (14.7%)	4 676 (13.8%)	2 416 (13.5%)	3 252 (15.1%)	2 789 (15.5%)
應用科學 Technology	4 040 (11.3%)	3 478 (10.3%)	1 873 (10.5%)	2 092 (9.7%)	1 643 (9.2%)
兒童圖畫書 Picture books	5 350 (14.9%)	5 673 (16.8%)	3 351 (18.8%)	4 150 (19.2%)	3 489 (19.4%)
社會科學 Social science	2 691 (7.5%)	2 641 (7.8%)	1 522 (8.5%)	1 756 (8.1%)	1 390 (7.7%)
自然科學 Pure science	2 422 (6.8%)	2 415 (7.1%)	1 363 (7.6%)	1 707 (7.9%)	1 486 (8.3%)
其他 Others	7 827 (21.8%)	7 463 (22.1%)	3 405 (19.1%)	3 638 (16.9%)	3 125 (17.4%)
小計 Subtotal	35 829 (100.0%) [77.5%]	33 798 (100.0%) [77.8%]	17 868 (100.0%) [77.4%]	21 558 (100.0%) [76.3%]	17 951 (100.0%) [76.2%]
<b>英文書籍</b> English books					
語言學 Language	2 256 (21.6%)	2 010 (20.8%)	894 (17.2%)	1 117 (16.7%)	836 (15.0%)
兒童圖畫書 Picture books	2 594 (24.9%)	2 383 (24.6%)	1 306 (25.1%)	1 751 (26.2%)	1 565 (28.0%)
兒童小說 Junior fiction	1 591 (15.3%)	1 524 (15.8%)	845 (16.2%)	1 174 (17.6%)	975 (17.4%)
社會科學 Social science	672 (6.5%)	617 (6.4%)	371 (7.1%)	425 (6.4%)	333 (6.0%)
應用科學 Technology	649 (6.2%)	595 (6.1%)	351 (6.7%)	414 (6.2%)	352 (6.3%)
其他 Others	2 657 (25.5%)	2 543 (26.3%)	1 440 (27.7%)	1 802 (27.0%)	1 531 (27.4%)
小計 Subtotal	10 420 (100.0%) [22.5%]	9 672 (100.0%) [22.2%]	5 207 (100.0%) [22.6%]	6 682 (100.0%) [23.7%]	5 592 (100.0%) [23.8%]
<b>總計</b> <b>Total</b>	<b>46 249</b> <b>[100.0%]</b>	<b>43 470</b> <b>[100.0%]</b>	<b>23 074</b> <b>[100.0%]</b>	<b>28 240</b> <b>[100.0%]</b>	<b>23 543</b> <b>[100.0%]</b>

註釋：^ 包括中國文學、東方文學、西方文學、詩詞、戲劇等。

Notes : ^ Including Chinese literature, Oriental literature, Western literature, poetry, drama, etc.

\* 2020-2022 年的數字受 2019 冠狀病毒病疫情影響。  
圓括號內數字顯示在相應的小計中所佔比重的百分比。

\* Figures in 2020-2022 were affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.  
Figures in round brackets refer to percentage shares of respective subtotals.

方括號內數字顯示在總計中所佔比重的百分比。  
由於數字經四捨五入，分項總和未必與總數相等。

Figures in square brackets refer to percentage shares of total.  
Figures may not add up to the total due to rounding.

## 5. 最新發展

5.1 香港公共圖書館正開發全新的「智慧圖書館系統」，以取代現有的「新世代綜合圖書館系統」和「多媒體資訊系統」，更廣泛應用資訊及通訊科技，並採用無線射頻識別技術的自助服務設施。新系統將涵蓋不同範疇的服務及工作，包括實體圖書館及資料管理、電子圖書館及以電子方式提供服務、內部運作及支援，以及更廣泛應用智慧城市方案等。

5.2 「智慧圖書館系統」會分階段完成及投入服務。自 2022 年 10 月起，新自助服務設施已陸續開始在圖書館提供服務，包括應用無線射頻識別技術的自助借書機及自助服務機等。新設施讓讀者有更佳的自助體驗，增加他們對服務的滿意度，並簡化處理借還圖書館資料的流程。

## 6. 總結

6.1 香港公共圖書館在社區傳遞資訊、推廣閱讀及支援終身學習方面，一直擔當着重要的角色。

6.2 隨着智能電話及平版電腦日漸普及，以及市民的閱讀模式有所轉變，香港公共圖書館會持續致力發展一個既均衡而又涵蓋紙本書刊及電子資源的「混合型」館藏以切合市民的需要。

## 5. Latest developments

5.1 The brand new “Smart Library System” is being developed by the HKPL for replacing the “Next Generation Integrated Library System” and “Multimedia Information System”, with wider use of information and communications technology and self-service facilities enabled with Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) technology. The new system will cover different aspects of library services and tasks, including physical library and material management; e-Library and e-Delivery services; internal operations and support; and wider adoption of smart city solutions, etc.

5.2 The “Smart Library System” will be completed for delivering services in phases. Starting from October 2022, new self-service equipment, including self-checkout machines enabled with RFID technology and self-service kiosks, etc., have gradually commenced services at libraries. The equipment can further increase patrons’ satisfaction with a better self-service experience, and streamline the workflow of processing checkout and return of library materials.

## 6. Conclusion

6.1 The HKPL has been playing an important role in the dissemination of information, promotion of reading and the supporting of life-long learning in the community.

6.2 In view of the growing popularity of smart phones and tablets, and the changes in the reading pattern of the public, the HKPL will continue to devote its efforts to develop a balanced and “mixed” library collection which covers printed books and e-resources to meet the needs of the public.