

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FSTB(Tsy)132****(Question Serial No. 4104)**Head: (76) Inland Revenue DepartmentSubhead (No. & title): ()Programme: Not specifiedControlling Officer: Commissioner of Inland Revenue (WONG Kuen Fai)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Financial Services and the TreasuryQuestion:

1. Please provide this Committee the number of Tax Returns-Individuals (BIR60) and Property Tax Returns (BIR57 and BIR58) issued by the Inland Revenue Department (IRD) involving letting properties in the past five years in the table below:

Financial year	No. of Tax Returns-Individuals (BIR60)	No. of BIR60 involving letting solely-owned properties

Financial year	No. of Property Tax Returns (BIR57)	No. of BIR57 involving letting jointly owned or co-owned properties

Financial year	No. of Property Tax Returns (BIR58)	No. of BIR58 involving letting properties held by corporation and bodies of persons

2. The Bureau, in a reply to the question (FSTB(Tsy)022) raised by Hon CHAN Tanya in the last financial year, pointed out that "if there is a change in ownership of a property during a year, the rental income of the property concerned may be reported in more than one tax return (BIR60 / BIR57 / BIR58)". Please provide the number of Tax Returns-Individuals (BIR60) and Property Tax Returns (BIR57 and BIR58) which involves letting of properties and there is a change in ownership of the property reported in more than one tax return. Please set out in the tables below:

Financial year	For the tax return BIR60 involving letting of properties, number of case involved “a change in ownership during a year, the rental income of the property concerned may be reported in more than one tax return”

Financial year	For the tax return BIR57 involving letting of properties, number of case involved “a change in ownership during a year, the rental income of the property concerned may be reported in more than one tax return”

Financial year	For the tax return BIR58 involving letting of properties, number of case involved “a change in ownership during a year, the rental income of the property concerned may be reported in more than one tax return”

Asked by: Hon CHAN Tanya (LegCo internal reference no.: 65)

Reply:

- The following table sets out the numbers of Tax Returns-Individuals (BIR60) and Property Tax Returns (BIR57 and BIR58) issued by the Inland Revenue Department (IRD) and the respective numbers of tax returns BIR60 / BIR57 / BIR58 involving letting properties in the past 5 years (Note 1):

Financial Year	No. of Tax Returns – Individuals (BIR60) (Notes 2 & 3)	No. of BIR60 involving solely-owned letting properties (Note 2)
2014/15	2 770 000	123 000
2015/16	2 830 000	130 000
2016/17	2 930 000	140 000
2017/18	2 920 000	146 000
2018/19	2 990 000	158 000

Financial Year	No. of Property Tax Returns (BIR57) (Notes 2 & 4)	No. of BIR57 involving jointly owned or co-owned letting properties (including at least one individual owner) (Note 2)
2014/15	152 000	129 000
2015/16	150 000	130 000
2016/17	150 000	131 000
2017/18	149 000	130 000
2018/19	151 000	131 000

Financial Year	No. of Property Tax Returns (BIR58) (Notes 2 & 4)	No. of BIR58 involving letting properties held by corporation and bodies of persons (Note 2)
2014/15	9 000	6 000
2015/16	9 000	6 000
2016/17	10 000	6 000
2017/18	10 000	6 000
2018/19	10 000	6 000

Note 1: As the assessment work for the year of assessment 2018/19 is still in progress, we provide the relevant information for the past 5 financial years starting from 2014/15.

Note 2: Tax Return – Individuals (BIR60) allows individual taxpayer to report his / her employment income, rental income from solely-owned properties (i.e. 100% ownership), profits from sole proprietorship businesses, and election for Personal Assessment (if applicable). If a taxpayer is the sole owner of one or more than one property, he/she has to report in BIR 60 the rental income derived from all solely-owned properties during a year of assessment (i.e. from 1 April in a year to 31 March in the next). If there is a change in ownership of a property during a year, the rental income of the property concerned may be reported in more than one tax return (BIR60 / BIR57 / BIR58).

Note 3: The IRD may not issue Tax Return-Individuals (BIR60) to an individual annually if the individual does not have any chargeable income. Such individuals include owner with no rental income from his/her solely-owned property.

Note 4: The IRD may not issue Property Tax Returns (BIR57 / BIR58) to property owners annually if the properties jointly owned or co-owned or held by corporations and bodies of persons are not let out for rental purpose.

2. The IRD does not have the relevant statistics.

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