Subject Visualization: Subject Classifications

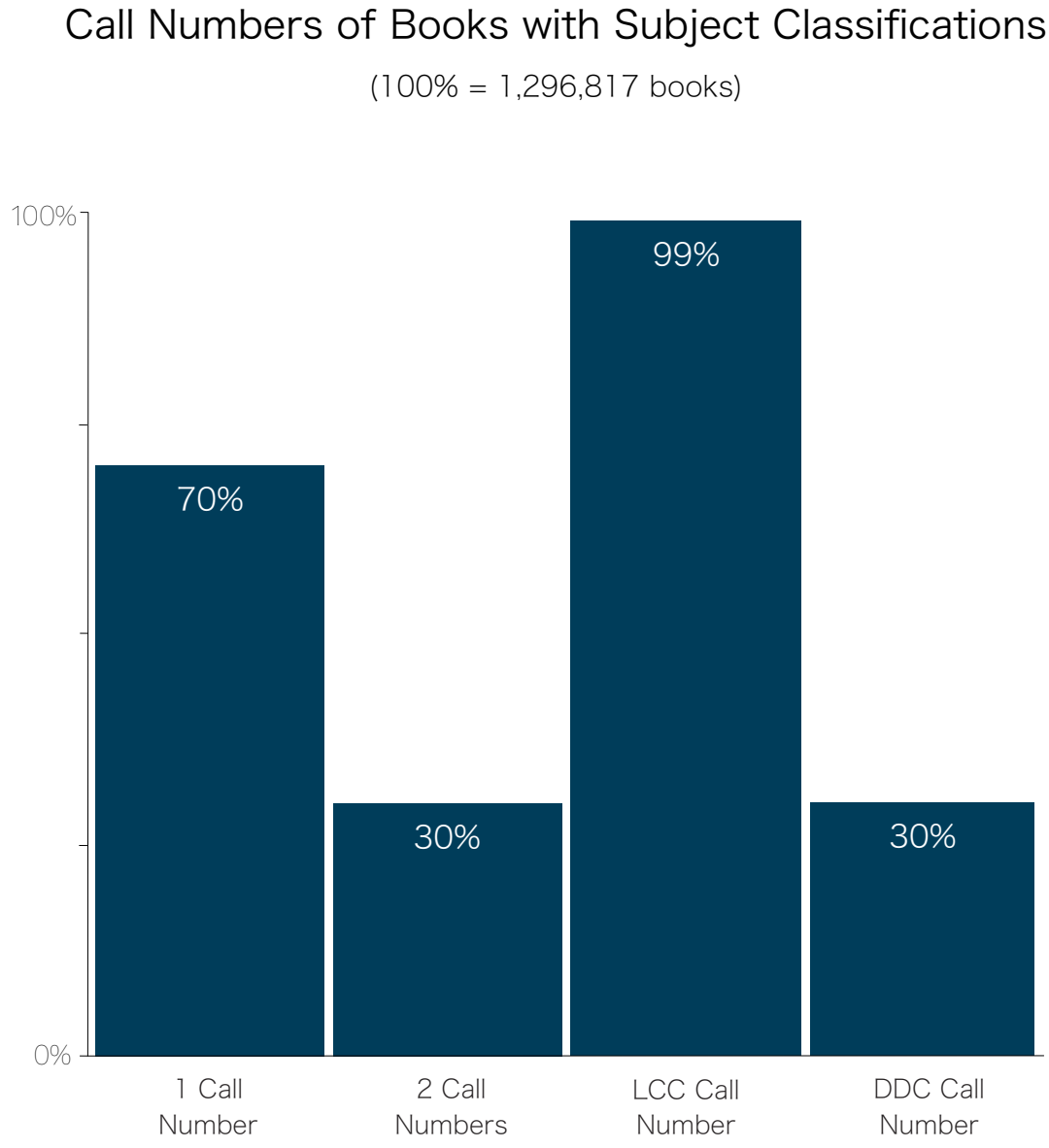
What are subject classifications?

Subject classifications enable the organization of and the search for books in libraries. Classification schemes encode the subjects that books address as letters and numbers. The catalog of the University of Edinburgh Library uses the Dewey Decimal Classification (DDC) and Library of Congress Classification (LCC) schemes.

What are call numbers?

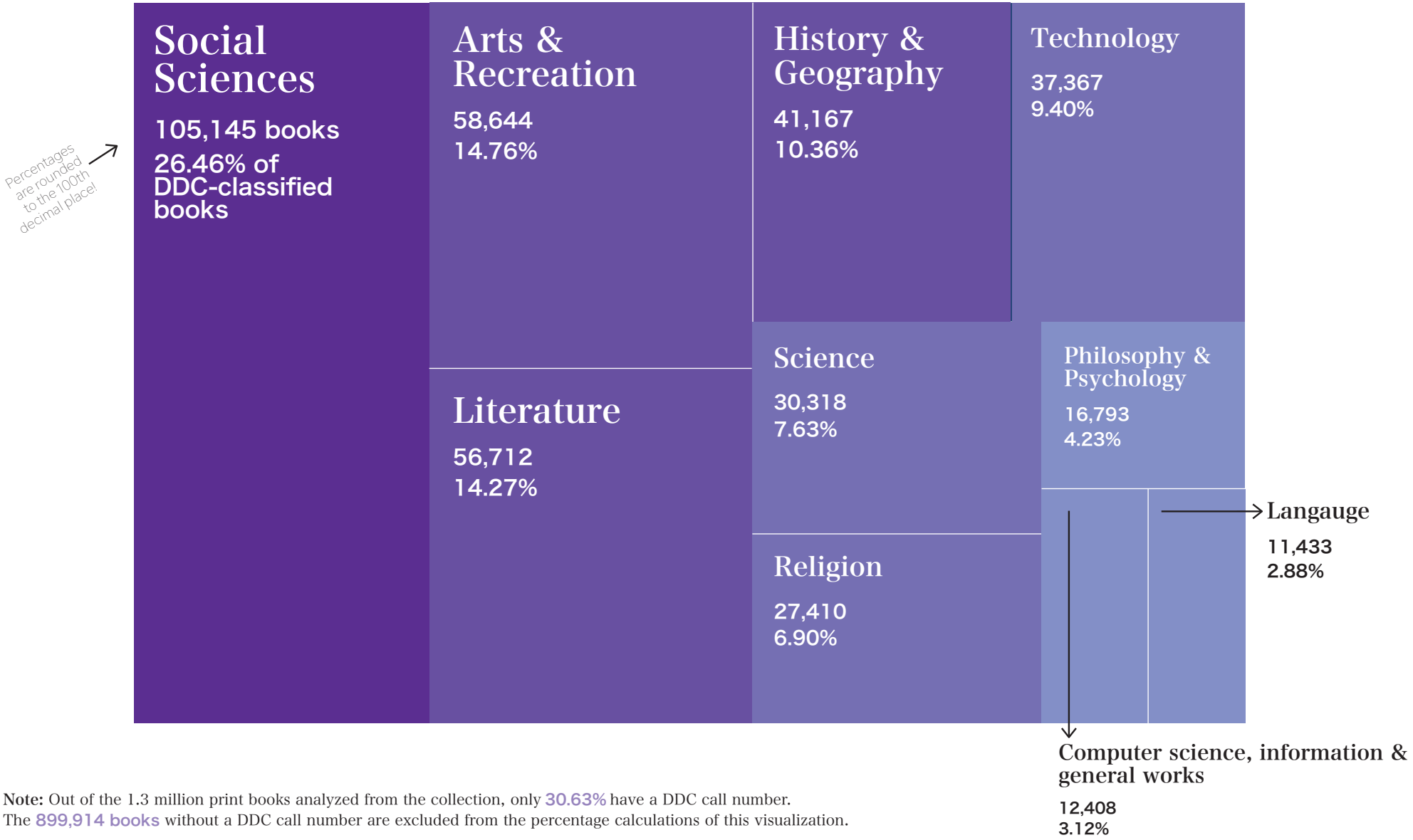
Cataloguers give each library book a call number based on the subjects covered in the book. In the University of Edinburgh Library catalog, two types of call numbers appear: Dewey Decimal Classification call numbers and Library of Congress Classification call numbers.

Out of the **1,297,31** print books analyzed from the University of Edinburgh Library, only **494** (**0.05%**) have no call number, and hence no subject classification.



Subject Visualization: Dewey Decimal Classification

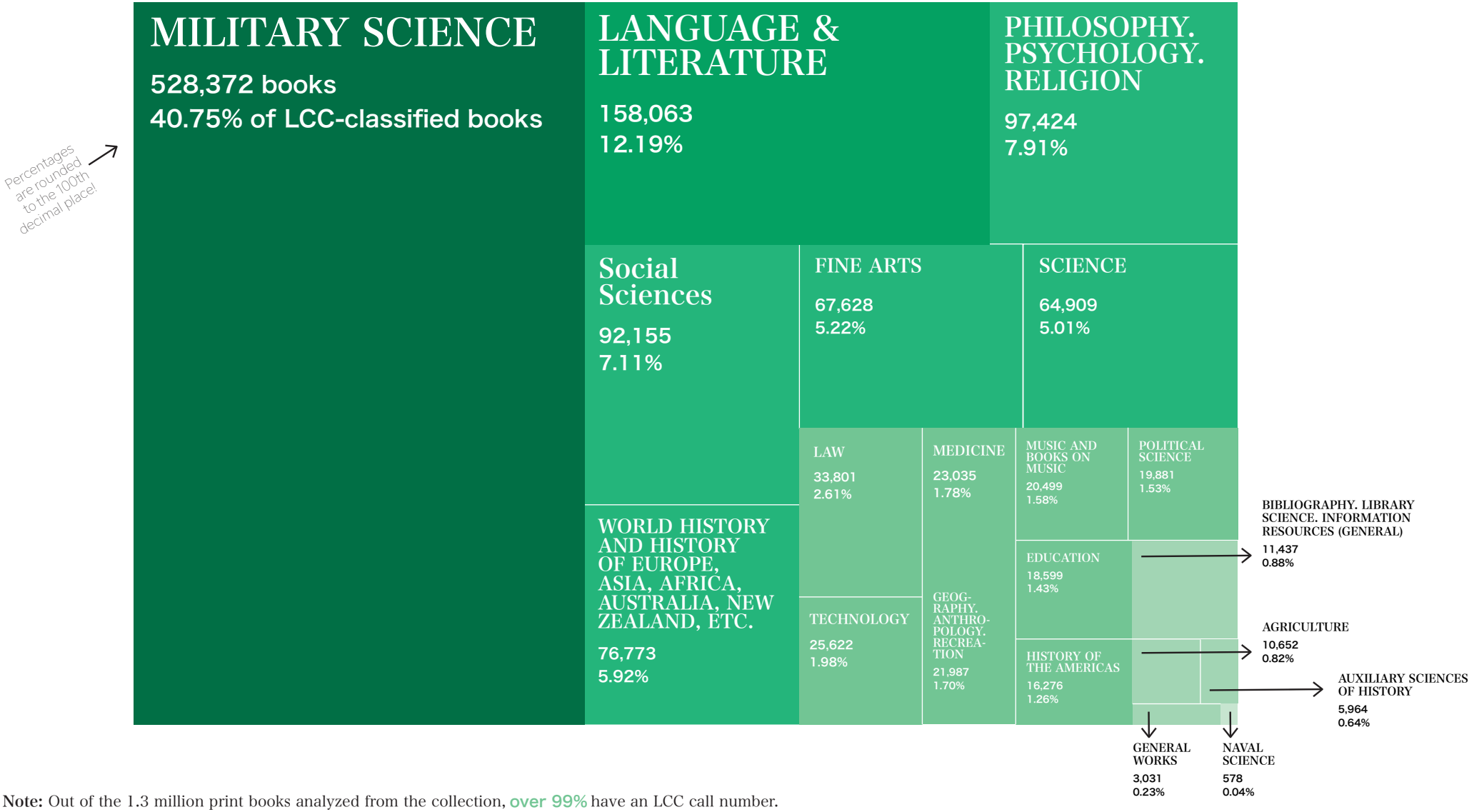
University of Edinburgh Library Books by Dewey Decimal Classification (DDC) Main Class



Note: Out of the 1.3 million print books analyzed from the collection, only 30.63% have a DDC call number.
The 899,914 books without a DDC call number are excluded from the percentage calculations of this visualization.

Subject Visualization: Library of Congress Classification

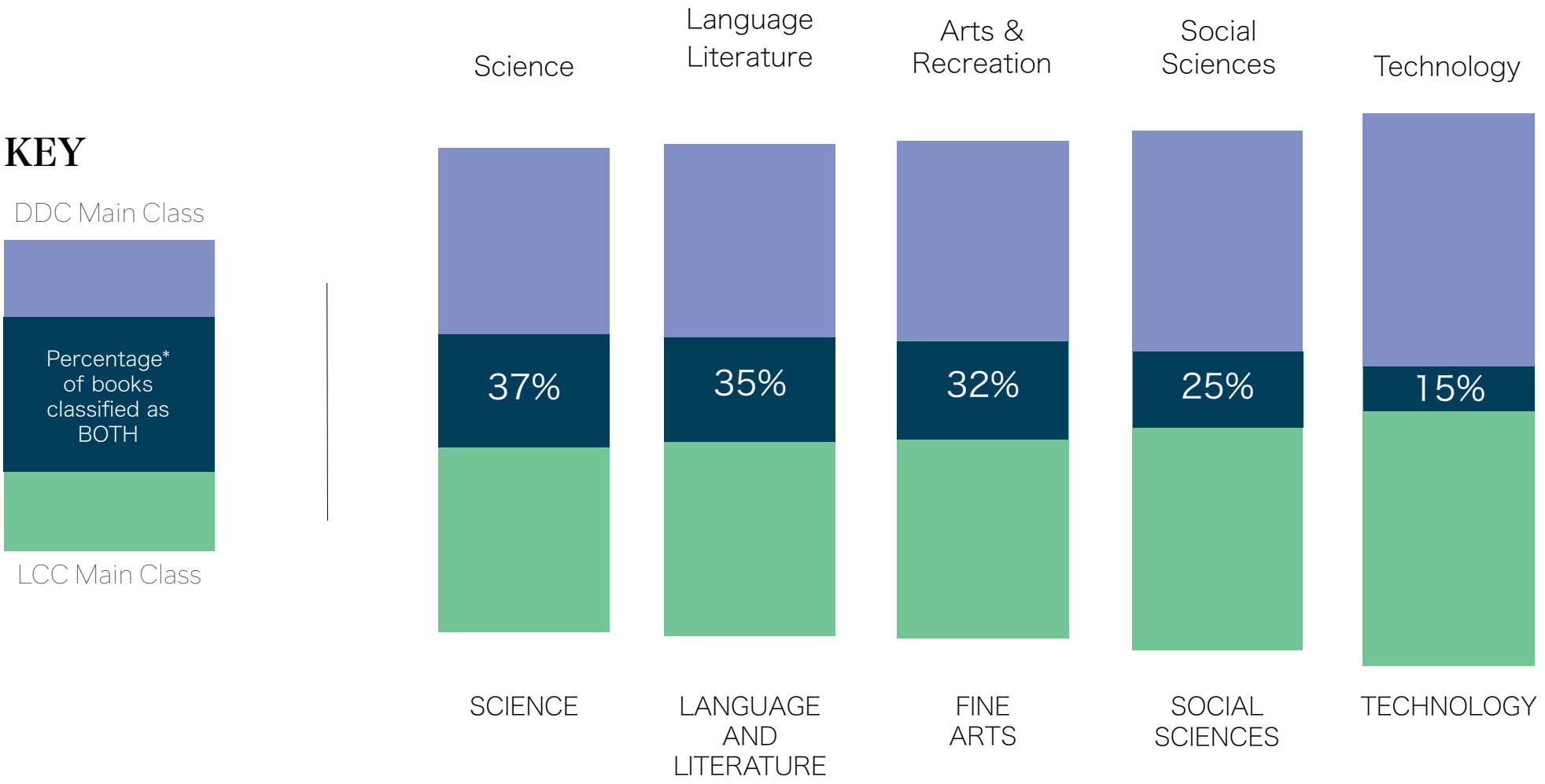
University of Edinburgh Library Books by Library of Congress Classification (LCC) Main Class



Note: Out of the 1.3 million print books analyzed from the collection, over 99% have an LCC call number.
The 665 books without an LCC call number are excluded from the percentage calculations of this visualization.

Subject Visualization: DDC and LCC Overlap

Several DDC and LCC main classes have similar names. However, classes with similar names do not include the same books. The visualization below illustrates the overlap in books' classification across DDC and LCC main classes with similar names.



*Percentage calculated relative to the sum of books classified as the DDC class, LCC class or both DDC and LCC classes.