



**NCLIS**

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**March 2008**

### **Public Libraries (US National Center for Education Statistics, FY 2005)<sup>1</sup>**

Public libraries are largely locally funded by many types of jurisdictions such as cities, counties, and consolidated regional consortia. Data include those from 50 states, the District of Columbia and outlying areas. There were a total of 9,198 public libraries (administrative units) in the US. There were 16,543 service points (including branches and bookmobiles) holding 815,605,000 books and bound periodicals, 1,830,000 subscriptions, 8,950,000 ebooks, and spending a total of (US) \$9,066,040,000. Total circulation was 2,063,000,000. Total paid FTE library staff was 137,855. There were a total of 185,179 computer terminals available to the public.

### **School Library Media Centers (NCES, 1999-2000)<sup>2</sup>**

Schools (elementary, junior high school, and high school) have students in grades K-12 (ages about 5-18). The term “media centers” reflects the changing role of school libraries to include more diverse materials than just printed matter.

There were 110,000 schools with 50,000,000 students. 84,000 of the schools were publicly funded and 27,000 privately funded.

There were 94,000 schools with library media centers (77,000 in public schools and 17,000 are in private schools.) 92 percent of public and 63 percent of private schools had library media centers, and 97 percent of students in public schools and 82 percent in private schools were in schools with library media centers.

### **School Library Media Centers (NCES, 1993-1994)<sup>3</sup>**

Total expenditures were \$828,292,000, excluding salaries, and locally budgeted expenditures for collections were \$498,577,000. Number of book volumes held (1992-93): 879,000,000.

Number added during the year: 32,000,000.

There were 72,160 school library media specialists, and a total of 164,600 staff (headcount).

<sup>1</sup> The National Center for Education Statistics is a part of the US Department of Education. NCES and its predecessors have published statistics on libraries since 1876. It surveys other aspects of education as can be seen at its Web site at: <http://nces.ed.gov/>. These summary data are from the State Summary/State Characteristics data file, FY2005. ([http://harvester.census.gov/imls/pubs/pls/pub\\_detail.asp?id=116](http://harvester.census.gov/imls/pubs/pls/pub_detail.asp?id=116)). As of October 1, 2007, the collection of public library data are transferred to the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) (<http://harvester.census.gov/imls/index.asp>)

<sup>2</sup> The Status of Public and Private School Library Media Centers in the United States: 1999–2000. (<http://nces.ed.gov/pubs2004/2004313.pdf>)

<sup>3</sup> School Library Media Centers, 1993-94 (<http://nces.ed.gov/pubs98/98282.pdf>)

### **Academic Libraries (NCES, 2004)<sup>4</sup>**

Academic libraries are associated typically with individual postsecondary 2-year and 4-year institutions.

In Fiscal Year 2004, there were 3,653 academic libraries.

94,100 FTE staff worked in academic libraries in 2004. Of these, 32,200 were librarians, 6,300 other professional staff; 36,800 were other paid staff; and 25,000 were student assistants.

Total expenditures were \$5,751,000,000. \$2,913,000,000 went to salaries and wages and \$2,158,000,000 was spent on information resources. These libraries held 982,600,000 volumes and circulations were 155,100,000.

### **State Library Agencies (NCES, FY 2005)<sup>5</sup>**

State libraries are libraries funded by the 50 states and the District of Columbia that is "the official agency of a state that is charged by state law with the extension and development of public library services throughout the state and that has adequate authority under state law to administer state plans in accordance with the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) (P.L. 208)." Because of the diverse nature of state laws, the functions of these libraries are also quite diverse.

These libraries employed 3,580 (FTE).

State libraries had 461,000 book and serial volumes and their total expenditures were \$1,068,000,000. Amount spent on collections was \$24,700,000.

### **(Very) Rough Totals**

With these numbers we can do some calculations based on data from different years we get an asynchronous estimate of the following:

- There were about 106,900 libraries in these four categories.
- They had a total of 2,677,666,000 volumes.
- Public, academic, and state libraries employed 235,535 FTE employees. School library media centers employed 166,000 (headcount) in 1993-94.
- And they spent \$16,713,000,000 (US) a year.

<sup>4</sup> First Look: Academic Libraries: 2004 (<http://nces.ed.gov/pubs2007/2007301.pdf>)

<sup>5</sup> First Look: State Library Agencies: Fiscal Year 2005

([http://harvester.census.gov/imls/pubs/stla/pub\\_detail.asp?id=112](http://harvester.census.gov/imls/pubs/stla/pub_detail.asp?id=112)). As of October 1, 2007, the collection of the State Library Agencies' data is also transferred to IMLS.