
Public Libraries Data, 1988: [United States]

United States Department of Education
National Center for Education Statistics

ICPSR 2211

PUBLIC LIBRARIES DATA, 1988: [UNITED STATES]

(ICPSR 2211)

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National Center for Education Statistics

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DATA COLLECTION DESCRIPTION

United States Department of Education. National Center for Education Statistics

PUBLIC LIBRARIES DATA, 1988: [UNITED STATES] (ICPSR 2211)

SUMMARY: The purpose of this survey was to identify the cooperative library organizations within the United States and to gather information about these organizations. In this survey the Federal/State Cooperative System for Public Library Data collected 34 basic data items for each library and 7 identifying items. The data items include number of service outlets, full-time equivalent staff, income, operational expenditures, capital outlay, library collection, public service hours per week, services per typical week, and inter-library loans. Forty-four states and the District of Columbia agreed to participate in this program.

UNIVERSE: State library agencies in 44 states and the District of Columbia.

NOTE: The codebook and data collection instrument are provided by ICPSR as a Portable Document Format (PDF) file. The PDF file format was developed by Adobe Systems Incorporated and can be accessed using PDF reader software, such as the Adobe Acrobat Reader. Information on how to obtain a copy of the Acrobat Reader is provided on the ICPSR Web site.

EXTENT OF COLLECTION: 1 data file + machine-readable documentation (PDF) + SAS data definition statements + SPSS data definition statements

EXTENT OF PROCESSING: REFORM.DOC/ SCAN/ CONCHK.PR/ DDEF.ICPSR/ UNDOCCHK.ICPSR

DATA FORMAT: Logical Record Length with SAS and SPSS data definition statements

File Structure: rectangular

Cases: 7,910

Variables: 45

Record Length: 492

Records Per Case: 1

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PART I - SURVEY SUMMARY

1. TITLE

Public Library data, 1988

2. DESCRIPTION

The Federal/State Cooperative System for Public Library Data collected 34 basic data items for each library and 7 identifying items. The data items include number of service outlets, full-time equivalent staff, income, operational expenditures, capital outlay, library collection, public service hours per week, services per typical week, and inter-library loans. Forty-four States and the District of Columbia agreed to participate in this program, so the data included on this tape represent those States.

3. SURVEY METHODOLOGY Also see Appendix A

1. UNIVERSE OR SAMPLE

Universe in 44 States and the District of Columbia

2. RESPONDENTS

7910 libraries

3. DATE OF COVERAGE

See Appendix B

4. FREQUENCY OF SURVEY

Annual

5. RESPONSE RATE

100% in responding States

4. HIGHLIGHTS

The 7955 records include 45 summary records (one for each State and the District of Columbia) plus data for the 7910 libraries.

5. RELATED STUDIES Public library data, 1987

6. SURVEYS

7. PUBLICATIONS

~~IF SPONSORING AGENCY IS NOT OERI (Specify)~~

RECORD LAYOUT FOR 1988 PUBLIC LIBRARY SURVEY FILE

General notes concerning this record layout

1. The 1988 Public Library Survey file consists of data which were submitted by State library offices in 44 States and the District of Columbia. Each record represents a 'reporting entity' or 'library' as defined by each State official. In addition, a 'state summary' record for each State was created by summing the individual data fields for each state and storing the sum(s) in the appropriate data field(s) in the summary record.
2. The sole exception to the sums recorded in the summary record is population served. Because adjacent libraries may have overlapping service areas where several libraries count the same population, that is, a county library system and a city library system within that same county would serve the city population, the computed sum for the State population exceeds the actual population of the State. Each State library agency was accorded the opportunity to provide an unduplicated count at the State level for the total population served to replace the sum of the individual library statistics. Fourteen of the 44 States provided these data; for the remainder, the sum of the individual library responses was unduplicated, and, therefore, used as the State total. Thus, the State total of population served contains no duplication.
3. The data field names are those used as variable names in the corresponding file.
4. Some data field codes or ranges may refer to generally recognized or accepted external coding systems, i.e., the FIPS and Post office state codes which are readily available in other documents.
5. Those numeric data fields which were reported as zeroes indicate a zero value for this field in the record. If the State was unable to supply the data for a given field, Not Collected (-1), Not Available (-2), or Not Reported (-3 or -4) was indicated.

RECORD LAYOUT FOR 1988 PUBLIC LIBRARY SURVEY RAW FILE

SAS Variable Name	Field Length	Record Position	Data Type	Description
FKEY_POST	02	001-002	AN	This is a two character Post Office state code
FKEY_SEQ	04	003-006	AN	This is a four character sequence number which was assigned by NCES in positions 001-006 to the record supplied by the State, e.g. AK0001. This sequence number started with 0001 for each state and was assigned sequentially. The number portion of the state summary record is 0000 in all cases.
PUB_FIPS	02	007-008	AN	This is a 2 character FIPS state code
PUB_SEQ	04	009-012	AN	This is identical to FKEY_SEQ so that either 001-006 or 007-012 can be used for sorting the file.
LIB_CODE	20	013-032	AN	Library code as provided by the State. If none was provided, FSCS and the sequence number, as indicated above was inserted in this field.
LIB_NAME	45	033-077	AN	Name of library
LIB_ADDR	35	078-112	AN	Address of library
LIB_CITY	17	113-129	AN	City
LIB_ZIP	05	130-134	AN	ZIP Code
LIB_ZIP4	04	135-138	AN	'Plus 4' portion of ZIP code
LIB_PHONE	10	139-148	AN	Telephone number, including area code without punctuation, i.e., 2023576371
SER_POP	11	149-159	N	Population of legal service area
SERVICE OUTLETS				
SER_NUM_CN	05	160-164	N	Number of central libraries
SER_NUM_BR	05	165-169	N	Number of branch libraries
SER_NUM_EM	05	170-174	N	Number of bookmobiles
SER_NUM_OT	05	175-179	N	Number of other service outlets

FTE STAFF

FTE_LIB_MS	11	180-190	N	Number of FTE employees holding the title of librarian with a masters degree from an American Library Association accredited program. This field consists of 8 integer and 2 decimals with an explicit decimal point.
FTE_LIB_TO	11	191-201	N	Total number of FTE employees holding the title of librarian. This field consists of 8 integers and 2 decimals with an explicit decimal point.
FTE_OTH_PD	12	202-213	N	All other paid FTE employees. This field consists of 9 integers and 2 decimals with an explicit decimal point.
FTE_TOT_PD	12	214-225	N	Total paid FTE employees. This field consists of 9 integers and 2 decimals with an explicit decimal point. It is the sum of FTE_LIB_TO and FTE_OTH_PD.

INCOME

INC_LOCAL	11	226-236	N	Income from local government
INC_STATE	11	237-247	N	Income from State government
INC_FED	11	248-258	N	Income from Federal government
INC_OTHER	11	259-269	N	Income from sources other than governmental
INC_TOTAL	12	270-281	N	Total Income. This is the sum of INC_LOCAL, INC_STATE, INC_FED, and INC_OTHER.

OPERATIONAL EXPENDITURES

OPX_SALARY	11	282-292	N	Salaries and wages
OPX_BENFIT	11	293-303	N	Employee benefits
OPX_TOT_ST	11	304-314	N	Total staff expenditures. This is the sum of OPX_SALARY and OPX_BENFIT.
OPX_TOT_CL	11	315-325	N	Total expenditures on collection

OPERATIONAL EXPENDITURES (continued)

OPX_OTH	11	326-336	N	All other operating expenditures
OPX_TOTAL	12	337-348	N	Total operating expenditures. This is the sum of OPX_TOT_ST, OPX_TOT_CL and OPX_OTH.

CAPITAL OUTLAY

CAP_OUTLAY	11	349-359	N	Capital outlay
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LIBRARY COLLECTION

COL_BOOKS	11	360-370	N	Number of books and serial volumes
COL_AUDIO	11	371-381	N	Number of audio materials
COL_FILM	11	382-392	N	Number of films
COL_VIDEO	11	393-403	N	Number of video materials
COL_C_SERL	11	404-414	N	Number of current serial subscriptions

PUBLIC SERVICE HOURS PER WEEK

PS_UNDUP	08	415-422	N	Unduplicated public service hours per week. This field consists of 6 integers and one decimal with an explicit decimal point.
PS_DUP	10	423-432	N	Duplicated public service hours per week. This field consists of 8 integers and one decimal with an explicit decimal point.

SERVICES PER TYPICAL WEEK

SVC_ATTND	11	433-443	N	Attendance in library
SVC_INUSE	11	444-454	N	In-library use of materials
SVC_REFS	11	455-465	N	Reference transactions

CIRCULATION

CIRCULATN	11	466-476	N	Total circulation transactions
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INTER-LIBRARY LOANS

ILL_OUT	08	477-484	N	Loans to other libraries
ILL_IN	08	485-492	N	Loans from other libraries

METHODOLOGY

The State library agencies were given a computer program, DECTOP, (Data Entry, Conversion, Table Output Program). This program provided the State with the ability for direct data entry from their questionnaires or to assemble their existing machine-readable data in a given format (see attached). These data could be a Lotus 1-2-3 file, a dBase file, or an ASCII file. DECTOP edited their data, summarized it, tabulated it, and provides listings. The data include 41 data elements, including 34 basic data items and 7 library identification fields.

The States submitted data for each public library in the State. These data were for the latest 12 months available for each library in July 1989. This could have been calendar year 1988 or whatever fiscal year was used by the State in its own data collection. Primarily, the time period was calendar or fiscal 1988, although, for some few States, the latest data available covered calendar year 1987.

Forty-four States and the District of Columbia responded with machine-readable data during July and August 1989. The remaining States (Alabama, Georgia, Kansas, Maine, Nevada, and Tennessee) have indicated they will respond to this annual survey in 1990. The current data encompassed 7,910 libraries, or 88.6 percent of the unofficial total of 8,923 libraries in the 50 States and District of Columbia in 1988.

Because adjacent libraries may have overlapping service areas where several libraries count the same population, that is, a county library system and a city library system within that same county would serve the city population, the computed sum for the State population exceeds the actual population of the State. Each State library agency was accorded the opportunity to provide an unduplicated count at the State level for the total population served to replace the sum of the individual library statistics. Fourteen of the 44 States provided these data; for the remainder, the sum of the individual library responses was unduplicated, and, therefore, used as the State total. Thus, the State total of population served contains no duplication.

This is the second year in the development of a national system, and, for 25 States and the District of Columbia, the first time data have been submitted to the Federal government. The remaining States submitted their 1987 data in July 1988. Analyses of the data indicate that individual States may not be gathering their data using precisely the same set of definitions as recommended by the FSCS Task Force (variable by State and item). Such a situation might be expected in a new national system. The FSCS Task Force will be addressing these issues and, as a result, the uniformity of the data will improve. Other problems in these data related to the creation of a new national system include:

1. Some of the States disregarded the error messages provided by DECTOP on arithmetic. Thus, the data submitted by these States contains individual libraries with total income or total expenditures not equal to the sum of the parts. This is, of course reflected in their State summary data and in the total for the 44 States and District of Columbia data.

METHODOLOGY (continued)

2. A few of the States included data for library cooperatives, federations, and systems which are duplicative of the individual library data. In addition, one State included data for the State library agency.

3. Some States included capital income or monies remaining from the previous year in "other income" which also affected the total income for the public library in the current year.

4. Some of the States did not follow instructions reporting on the difference between zeroes and nonresponse categories (see RESPONSE RATES below). Zeroes were treated as good responses, and, therefore, in derived computations, such as per capita population served, led to inaccuracies in the computation.

5. Some items, such as attendance in library, in-library use of materials, and reference transactions, were requested on a typical week basis. A few libraries submitted their data on a per annum basis and the State personnel did not correct the data to a typical week basis.

RESPONSE RATES

The 44 States and the District of Columbia that responded supplied data for all data items for all libraries, insofar as possible. If unable to supply the data, the State indicated "data not collected" (-1), "data not available" (-2), or "data not reported" (-3). DECTOP revised all blank data cells to "data not reported" (-4).

Appendix A

The States were asked to submit the latest 12 months of data available for each library in their State in machine readable format during the months of July and August 1989 (July 1-August 31) as part of a pilot project begun by the American Library Association. Only 44 States and the District of Columbia submitted their machine-readable data during the window period; thus the data on this tape represent only those responding States. States which did not respond are Alabama, Georgia, Kansas, Maine, Nevada and Tennessee. The 7,910 libraries on this tape represent 88.6 percent of the total of 8,923 libraries in the 50 States and District of Columbia. It is expected that all 50 States and the District of Columbia will respond to this annual survey in 1990.

Appendix B

Latest 12 months of data available for each library in July 1989. This could have been calendar year 1988 or whatever fiscal year is used by the State or by the particular library for their own data collection. Primarily, the time period was calendar or fiscal 1988, although, for some States, the latest data available covered calendar year 1987.