

State Detail Tables: Rural Libraries in America

The State Detail Tables in this workbook provide state-level data points aligned with those included in the IMLS infographic "Rural Libraries in America." Data for these tables are publicly available from the IMLS Data Catalog, located here: <https://www.imls.gov/research-tools/data-collection>. In addition to datasets, the data catalog provides access to data file user's guides, reports, and state profile pages.

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Terminology: Public Libraries Survey (PLS) data are collected at two levels. The "Administrative Entity" (AE) level is the primary level, and is used for tables 2-7. We use the term "library systems" to reference AEs here and in the infographic. "Outlets" are a secondary level of data collection for the PLS, for which we use the term "Library points of service."

Analysis Notes: Consistent with other official statistics associated with the PLS, the computations in this workbook include those libraries that met the Federal-State Cooperative System (FSCS) definition of a library located in the 50 states and the District of Columbia. Also, data from libraries that were closed or temporarily closed during the relevant fiscal year were not included.

FSCS Definition: A public library is established under state laws or regulations to serve a community, district, or region. Under this definition, a public library must, at a minimum, meet the following criteria:

- Contain an organized collection of printed or other library materials, or a combination thereof;
- Have paid staff;
- Have an established schedule in which the services of the staff are available to the public;
- Have the facilities necessary to support such a collection, staff, and schedule; and
- Be supported in whole or in part with public funds.

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Table 1. Number of Rural Library Points of Service by Type and State, FY2017

State Abbrev.	Number of Rural Library Points of Service ¹				Non-Rural Points of Service	Total Points of Service	Percent Rural	Type of Point of Service in Rural Areas ²		
	Fringe	Distant	Remote	All Rural				Central	Branch	Bookmobiles
National	927	3,102	2,149	6,178	10,999	17,177	36.0%	3,782	2,284	112
AK	0	4	53	57	21	78	73.1%	47	10	0
AL	24	71	32	127	176	303	41.9%	100	23	4
AR	8	69	43	120	118	238	50.4%	11	109	0
AZ	16	24	39	79	152	231	34.2%	25	52	2
CA	37	69	52	158	1016	1,174	13.5%	7	146	5
CT	4	29	68	101	170	271	37.3%	45	54	2
DE	41	16	0	57	175	232	24.6%	56	1	0
DC	0	0	0	0	26	26	0.0%	0	0	0
DE	6	0	0	6	28	34	17.6%	3	2	1
FL	26	43	8	77	472	549	14.0%	2	73	2
GA	26	62	13	101	304	405	24.9%	4	97	0
HI	0	1	6	7	45	52	13.5%	0	6	1
IA	12	235	170	417	146	563	74.1%	404	12	1
ID	5	32	52	89	69	158	56.3%	53	32	4
IL	33	187	37	257	544	801	32.1%	228	28	1
IN	30	134	9	173	281	454	38.1%	92	78	3
KS	10	79	169	258	114	372	69.4%	237	21	0
KY	11	68	32	111	164	275	40.4%	49	34	28
LA	22	73	28	123	234	357	34.5%	12	106	5
MA	62	42	0	104	362	466	22.3%	101	3	0
MD	18	16	0	34	176	210	16.2%	1	31	2
ME	18	94	58	170	63	233	73.0%	169	1	0
MI	53	155	81	289	362	651	44.4%	168	120	1
MN	14	57	83	154	209	363	42.4%	61	91	2
MO	11	73	70	154	234	388	39.7%	56	97	1
MS	9	71	55	135	104	239	56.5%	12	123	0
MT	3	10	70	83	40	123	67.5%	54	29	0
NC	32	92	17	141	267	408	34.6%	9	128	4
ND	0	4	63	67	25	92	72.8%	57	5	5
NE	2	43	142	187	75	262	71.4%	185	0	2
NH	36	95	24	155	72	227	68.3%	155	0	0

Table 1. Number of Rural Library Points of Service by Type and State, FY2017

State Abbrev.	Number of Rural Library Points of Service ¹				Non-Rural Points of Service	Total Points of Service	Percent Rural	Type of Point of Service in Rural Areas ²		
	Fringe	Distant	Remote	All Rural				Central	Branch	Bookmobiles
National	927	3,102	2,149	6,178	10,999	17,177	36.0%	3,782	2,284	112
NJ	19	2	0	21	419	440	4.8%	9	12	0
NM	7	8	27	42	74	116	36.2%	40	2	0
NV	2	5	28	35	52	87	40.2%	7	27	1
NY	71	236	34	341	737	1,078	31.6%	322	17	2
OH	44	158	3	205	561	766	26.8%	56	147	2
OK	6	31	45	82	134	216	38.0%	55	27	0
OR	5	33	47	85	139	224	37.9%	42	42	1
PA	31	60	13	104	539	643	16.2%	82	19	3
RI	12	2	0	14	59	73	19.2%	10	4	0
SC	12	54	2	68	157	225	30.2%	4	60	4
SD	6	19	86	111	34	145	76.6%	86	22	3
TN	23	58	21	102	185	287	35.5%	78	24	0
TX	26	83	90	199	674	873	22.8%	154	45	0
UT	2	12	26	40	100	140	28.6%	14	18	8
VA	28	85	19	132	246	378	34.9%	28	95	9
VT	18	75	39	132	36	168	78.6%	129	2	1
WA	15	50	40	105	256	361	29.1%	16	87	2
WI	13	131	88	232	232	464	50.0%	196	36	0
WV	17	47	23	87	93	180	48.3%	46	41	0
WY	1	5	44	50	28	78	64.1%	5	45	0

Notes:

¹Rural areas are subdivided based on distance from an urban area. Fringe: Census-defined rural territory that is less than or equal to 5 miles from an Urbanized Area, as well as rural territory that is less than or equal to 2.5 miles from an Urban Cluster. Distant: Census-defined rural territory that is more than 5 miles but less than or equal to 25 miles from an Urbanized Area, as well as rural territory that is more than 2.5 miles but less than or equal to 10 miles from an Urban Cluster. Remote: Census-defined rural territory that is more than 25 miles from an Urbanized Area and more than 10 miles from an Urban Cluster.

²There were no books-by-mail outlets in rural areas, although it should be noted that books-by-mail programs are generally designed to provide library services to populations that may experience physical challenges in accessing library services including individuals in rural areas. There were two books-by-mail outlets in non-rural areas.

SOURCE: IMLS, Public Libraries Survey, FY 2017. Data elements C_OUT_TY, LOCALE from the Public Library Outlet Data File (PLS_FY2017_Outlet_puout17a) were used to produce this table. Terminology: Library points of service refer to "Outlets" in the Public Libraries Survey (PLS) data.

Table 2. Population Served by Rural Library Systems by State, FY 2017

State Abbrev.	Library Systems				Population Served by Library Systems		
	Total	Rural	Non-Rural	Percent Rural	Rural	Non-Rural	Percent Rural
National	9,045	4,013	5,032	44.4%	30,000,911	282,655,814	9.6%
AK	61	48	13	78.7%	89,078	556,136	13.8%
AL	218	104	114	47.7%	942,327	3,682,684	20.4%
AR	60	24	36	40.0%	804,503	1,839,424	30.4%
AZ	90	31	59	34.4%	467,891	6,498,005	6.7%
CA	184	14	170	7.6%	532,360	38,974,941	1.3%
CT	113	58	55	51.3%	366,660	5,082,976	6.7%
DE	181	55	126	30.4%	239,108	3,133,382	7.1%
DC	1	0	1	0.0%	NA	693,972	NA
DE	21	4	17	19.0%	128,913	823,166	13.5%
FL	81	9	72	11.1%	848,052	19,592,478	4.1%
GA	63	12	51	19.0%	1,342,681	9,165,372	12.8%
HI	1	0	1	0.0%	NA	1,428,557	NA
IA	535	405	130	75.7%	676,443	2,393,338	22.0%
ID	102	56	46	54.9%	300,081	1,123,897	21.1%
IL	622	232	390	37.3%	658,721	11,055,933	5.6%
IN	236	101	135	42.8%	710,426	5,389,721	11.6%
KS	319	238	81	74.6%	305,489	2,197,058	12.2%
KY	119	53	66	44.5%	795,991	3,640,983	17.9%
LA	67	20	47	29.9%	520,102	4,164,234	11.1%
MA	368	100	268	27.2%	347,238	6,432,228	5.1%
MD	24	4	20	16.7%	287,627	5,641,187	4.9%
ME	228	169	59	74.1%	480,768	677,450	41.5%
MI	397	179	218	45.1%	1,501,810	8,344,078	15.3%
MN	137	71	66	51.8%	1,275,798	4,252,831	23.1%
MO	148	70	78	47.3%	862,473	4,610,449	15.8%
MS	52	25	27	48.1%	1,391,934	1,577,718	46.9%
MT	82	56	26	68.3%	211,654	776,879	21.4%
NC	81	23	58	28.4%	1,695,585	8,460,357	16.7%
ND	74	59	15	79.7%	125,764	558,758	18.4%
NE	235	185	50	78.7%	168,375	1,402,588	10.7%
NH	222	155	67	69.8%	415,451	913,250	31.3%

Table 2. Population Served by Rural Library Systems by State, FY 2017

State Abbrev.	Library Systems				Population Served by Library Systems		
	Total	Rural	Non-Rural	Percent Rural	Rural	Non-Rural	Percent Rural
NJ	286	8	278	2.8%	67,613	8,593,950	0.8%
NM	87	40	47	46.0%	64,847	1,431,522	4.3%
NV	22	10	12	45.5%	102,285	2,850,053	3.5%
NY	756	323	433	42.7%	970,900	18,407,211	5.0%
OH	251	71	180	28.3%	1,075,547	10,434,920	9.3%
OK	119	56	63	47.1%	195,759	3,036,879	6.1%
OR	131	47	84	35.9%	338,847	3,217,326	9.5%
PA	453	84	369	18.5%	876,503	11,550,798	7.1%
RI	48	10	38	20.8%	63,230	994,622	6.0%
SC	42	11	31	26.2%	756,181	3,896,179	16.3%
SD	111	88	23	79.3%	533,058	254,026	67.7%
TN	186	80	106	43.0%	768,360	5,716,870	11.8%
TX	540	157	383	29.1%	842,161	24,716,906	3.3%
UT	74	21	53	28.4%	87,977	2,916,807	2.9%
VA	92	34	58	37.0%	1,340,280	6,977,048	16.1%
VT	162	128	34	79.0%	236,247	342,076	40.9%
WA	62	23	39	37.1%	1,507,368	5,693,263	20.9%
WI	381	201	180	52.8%	911,445	4,871,833	15.8%
WV	97	51	46	52.6%	604,645	1,248,349	32.6%
WY	23	10	13	43.5%	164,355	421,146	28.1%

Notes:

NA indicates Not applicable. Hawaii and the District of Columbia are each served by one library system with many points of service (see Table 1).

SOURCE: IMLS, Public Libraries Survey, FY 2017. Data elements LOCALE_MOD and POPU_UND from the Public Library System Data File (PLS_FY2017_AE_pupld17a) were used to produce this table. Terminology: Library systems refer to Administrative Entities (AEs) in Public Libraries Survey (PLS) data.

Table 3. Library System Staffing and Patron Questions Answered, FY 2017

State Abbrev.	Number of Library Systems		Total Staff FTE		Total Staff FTE per 25,000 people		Library Systems with One FTE Staff			
	Rural	Non-Rural	Rural	Non-Rural	Rural	Non-Rural	Rural		Non-Rural	
							Number	Percent	Number	Percent
National	4,013	5,032	14,214.5	127,916.2	11.85	11.31	1555	38.7%	107	2.1%
AK	48	13	91.1	208.5	25.57	9.37	25	52.1%	0	0.0%
AL	104	114	209.5	1,486.7	5.56	10.09	47	45.2%	4	3.5%
AR	24	36	242.9	855.9	7.55	11.63	4	16.7%	1	2.8%
AZ	31	59	168.0	1,974.6	8.98	7.60	5	16.1%	1	1.7%
CA	14	170	126.2	11,924.8	5.93	7.65	2	14.3%	1	0.6%
CT	58	55	263.1	2,989.0	17.94	14.70	12	20.7%	1	1.8%
DE	55	126	171.0	2,030.0	17.87	16.20	9	16.4%	2	1.6%
DC	0	1	NA	508.0	NA	18.30	NA	NA	0	0.0%
DE	4	17	56.1	280.1	10.88	8.51	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
FL	9	72	411.3	5,928.8	12.12	7.57	0	0.0%	2	2.8%
GA	12	51	360.2	2,344.1	6.71	6.39	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
HI	0	1	NA	558.0	NA	9.77	NA	NA	0	0.0%
IA	405	130	455.3	1,303.1	16.83	13.61	236	58.3%	2	1.5%
ID	56	46	193.4	634.8	16.12	14.12	22	39.3%	1	2.2%
IL	232	390	482.5	8,276.1	18.31	18.71	75	32.3%	7	1.8%
IN	101	135	669.0	3,792.7	23.54	17.59	10	9.9%	1	0.7%
KS	238	81	334.4	1,405.0	27.37	15.99	138	58.0%	0	0.0%
KY	53	66	484.6	1,870.5	15.22	12.84	3	5.7%	0	0.0%
LA	20	47	303.0	2,426.0	14.56	14.56	1	5.0%	0	0.0%
MA	100	268	235.1	3,608.5	16.93	14.02	39	39.0%	8	3.0%
MD	4	20	156.4	3,232.2	13.59	14.32	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
ME	169	59	225.3	464.6	11.72	17.15	103	60.9%	2	3.4%
MI	179	218	745.6	4,102.2	12.41	12.29	27	15.1%	1	0.5%
MN	71	66	448.9	1,785.6	8.80	10.50	19	26.8%	1	1.5%
MO	70	78	365.4	2,787.2	10.59	15.11	24	34.3%	1	1.3%
MS	25	27	388.7	488.9	6.98	7.75	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
MT	56	26	99.6	268.6	11.76	8.64	18	32.1%	0	0.0%
NC	23	58	546.1	2,513.0	8.05	7.43	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
ND	59	15	58.7	185.7	11.66	8.31	40	67.8%	0	0.0%
NE	185	50	172.3	625.3	25.58	11.14	128	69.2%	0	0.0%
NH	155	67	295.9	548.8	17.81	15.02	56	36.1%	2	3.0%

Table 3. Library System Staffing and Patron Questions Answered, FY 2017

State Abbrev.	Number of Library Systems		Total Staff FTE		Total Staff FTE per 25,000 people		Library Systems with One FTE Staff			
	Rural	Non-Rural	Rural	Non-Rural	Rural	Non-Rural	Rural		Non-Rural	
							Number	Percent	Number	Percent
NJ	8	278	33.7	4,511.8	12.45	13.13	3	37.5%	13	4.7%
NM	40	47	83.2	592.9	32.06	10.35	13	32.5%	2	4.3%
NV	10	12	49.8	767.1	12.16	6.73	1	10.0%	0	0.0%
NY	323	433	649.4	12,173.1	16.72	16.53	126	39.0%	9	2.1%
OH	71	180	780.8	8,330.1	18.15	19.96	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
OK	56	63	81.7	1,659.1	10.44	13.66	30	53.6%	1	1.6%
OR	47	84	170.6	1,726.3	12.58	13.41	26	55.3%	5	6.0%
PA	84	369	263.2	4,406.7	7.51	9.54	22	26.2%	9	2.4%
RI	10	38	32.6	612.6	12.90	15.40	0	0.0%	1	2.6%
SC	11	31	210.0	1,741.9	6.94	11.18	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
SD	88	23	180.5	172.1	8.46	16.94	50	56.8%	1	4.3%
TN	80	106	200.4	1,763.2	6.52	7.71	33	41.3%	2	1.9%
TX	157	383	341.0	6,558.2	10.12	6.63	62	39.5%	16	4.2%
UT	21	53	51.7	1,240.1	14.68	10.63	11	52.4%	2	3.8%
VA	34	58	601.6	3,563.6	11.22	12.77	1	2.9%	0	0.0%
VT	128	34	170.6	189.5	18.05	13.85	70	54.7%	2	5.9%
WA	23	39	759.6	3,170.2	12.60	13.92	10	43.5%	4	10.3%
WI	201	180	498.3	2,562.3	13.67	13.15	44	21.9%	0	0.0%
WV	51	46	180.0	459.8	7.44	9.21	10	19.6%	2	4.3%
WY	10	13	116.4	308.7	17.70	18.32	0	0.0%	0	0.0%

Notes:

NA indicates Not applicable. Hawaii and the District of Columbia are each served by one library system with many points of service (see Table 1). Staff are reported as full time equivalents (FTE) not headcount.

SOURCE: IMLS, Public Libraries Survey, FY 2017. Data elements LOCALE_MOD, POPU_UND, and TOTSTAFF from the Public Library System Data File

(PLS_FY2017_AE_pupld17a) were used to produce this table. Terminology: Library systems refer to Administrative Entities (AEs) in Public Libraries Survey (PLS) data.

Table 4. Rural Library System Visits, Circulation, and Patron Questions Answered, FY 2017

State Abbrev.	Number of Rural Library Systems	Visits		Total Circulation		Circulation of Children's Materials		Patrons' Questions Answered	
		Number (in 1,000s)	Per Person	Number (in 1,000s)	Per Person	Number (in 1,000s)	Per Person	Number (in 1,000s)	Per Person
National	4,013	117,345	3.91	166,295	5.54	54,371	1.81	17,846	0.59
AK	48	981	11.02	1,071	12.02	259	2.91	79	0.89
AL	104	1,274	1.35	1,804	1.91	487	0.52	352	0.37
AR	24	2,222	2.76	2,700	3.36	684	0.85	216	0.27
AZ	31	1,182	2.53	1,547	3.31	306	0.65	167	0.36
CA	14	2,318	4.36	2,499	4.69	815	1.53	161	0.30
CT	58	2,586	7.05	2,929	7.99	1,035	2.82	266	0.72
DE	55	1,321	5.52	1,829	7.65	639	2.67	123	0.51
DC	0	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
DE	4	511	3.97	610	4.73	159	1.23	24	0.19
FL	9	3,082	3.63	5,975	7.05	1,505	1.77	538	0.63
GA	12	3,245	2.42	4,065	3.03	1,628	1.21	725	0.54
HI	0	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
IA	405	3,672	5.43	4,442	6.57	1,583	2.34	289	0.43
ID	56	1,474	4.91	2,531	8.43	1,052	3.51	172	0.57
IL	232	3,100	4.71	3,971	6.03	1,341	2.04	327	0.50
IN	101	3,873	5.45	5,641	7.94	1,995	2.81	434	0.61
KS	238	2,391	7.83	2,807	9.19	1,143	3.74	431	1.41
KY	53	2,973	3.73	5,170	6.49	1,457	1.83	558	0.70
LA	20	1,546	2.97	3,010	5.79	451	0.87	600	1.15
MA	100	2,255	6.49	3,080	8.87	997	2.87	210	0.60
MD	4	1,418	4.93	2,455	8.53	875	3.04	454	1.58
ME	169	1,904	3.96	2,301	4.79	825	1.72	174	0.36
MI	179	6,107	4.07	7,867	5.24	2,292	1.53	777	0.52
MN	71	4,604	3.61	7,595	5.95	2,390	1.87	561	0.44
MO	70	2,449	2.84	3,560	4.13	893	1.03	437	0.51
MS	25	4,539	3.26	3,277	2.35	1,042	0.75	806	0.58
MT	56	1,135	5.36	1,170	5.53	331	1.57	180	0.85
NC	23	4,487	2.65	4,622	2.73	1,684	0.99	1,206	0.71
ND	59	362	2.88	518	4.12	249	1.98	39	0.31
NE	185	1,286	7.64	1,599	9.49	725	4.31	227	1.35
NH	155	2,042	4.91	2,912	7.01	984	2.37	243	0.59

Table 4. Rural Library System Visits, Circulation, and Patron Questions Answered, FY 2017

State Abbrev.	Number of Rural Library Systems	Visits		Total Circulation		Circulation of Children's Materials		Patrons' Questions Answered	
		Number (in 1,000s)	Per Person	Number (in 1,000s)	Per Person	Number (in 1,000s)	Per Person	Number (in 1,000s)	Per Person
NJ	8	385	5.70	193	2.85	110	1.63	26	0.38
NM	40	435	6.71	267	4.12	83	1.28	53	0.81
NV	10	500	4.88	488	4.77	169	1.65	83	0.81
NY	323	5,006	5.16	5,907	6.08	1,762	1.81	732	0.75
OH	71	5,410	5.03	11,798	10.97	4,235	3.94	1,224	1.14
OK	56	699	3.57	1,604	8.19	412	2.10	236	1.21
OR	47	1,725	5.09	3,340	9.86	476	1.41	360	1.06
PA	84	2,285	2.61	3,069	3.50	1,194	1.36	344	0.39
RI	10	220	3.48	307	4.85	102	1.61	18	0.29
SC	11	2,126	2.81	1,932	2.56	695	0.92	248	0.33
SD	88	1,946	3.65	3,338	6.26	1,575	2.95	151	0.28
TN	80	2,287	2.98	2,992	3.89	962	1.25	310	0.40
TX	157	2,982	3.54	3,441	4.09	1,153	1.37	584	0.69
UT	21	494	5.61	615	6.99	293	3.33	59	0.67
VA	34	4,730	3.53	7,061	5.27	2,460	1.84	809	0.60
VT	128	1,451	6.14	1,534	6.49	640	2.71	210	0.89
WA	23	7,030	4.66	14,011	9.30	4,722	3.13	748	0.50
WI	201	4,721	5.18	7,578	8.31	2,441	2.68	535	0.59
WV	51	1,700	2.81	1,943	3.21	535	0.88	200	0.33
WY	10	875	5.33	1,324	8.06	527	3.21	140	0.85

Notes:

NA indicates Not applicable. Hawaii and the District of Columbia are each served by one library system with many points of service (see Table 1).

Data on per person visits, circulation, and reference transactions (patron questions answered by library staff) are included in the annual Digest of Education Statistics. The 2019 online table is: 701.60 accessible at: https://nces.ed.gov/programs/digest/current_tables.asp

SOURCE: IMLS, Public Libraries Survey, FY 2017. Data elements LOCALE_MOD, POPU_UND, VISITS, TOTCIR, KIDCIRCL, and REFERENC from the Public Library System Data File (PLS_FY2017_AE_pupld17a) were used to produce this table. Terminology: Library systems refer to Administrative Entities (AEs) in Public Libraries Survey (PLS) data.

Table 5. Rural Library System Collections by Type, FY 2008 and FY 2017

State Abbrev.	Number of Rural Library Systems	Books (in 1,000s)		eBooks (in 1,000s)		Audio Items (in 1,000s)			Video Items (in 1,000s)		
		FY 2008	FY 2017	FY 2008	FY 2017	FY 2008	FY 2017 Downloadable	FY 2017 Physical	FY 2008	FY 2017 Downloadable	FY 2017 Physical
National	4,013	121,901	100,133	4,118	154,453	6,486	65,246	4,223	7,363	2,024	8,976
AK	48	806	774	2	620	34	351	26	80	0	116
AL	104	2,581	1,940	110	1,226	75	250	48	90	16	100
AR	24	1,909	1,766	2	509	60	715	59	61	27	123
AZ	31	958	780	49	679	47	686	55	82	48	148
CA	14	1,794	1,395	3	305	77	34	71	100	0	116
CT	58	1,528	1,417	10	475	104	133	95	96	13	158
DE	55	2,346	1,530	5	414	106	267	81	136	3	139
DC	0	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
DE	4	195	168	0	95	12	23	13	20	3	43
FL	9	2,740	1,492	29	230	158	48	105	237	8	226
GA	12	3,923	2,428	1	91	164	40	90	213	0	190
HI	0	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
IA	405	5,145	4,758	4	10,595	189	4,871	141	318	15	417
ID	56	1,498	1,335	4	190	70	96	53	84	0	101
IL	232	4,448	4,287	52	5,663	144	1,081	130	210	20	298
IN	101	4,401	3,729	13	3,762	213	1,225	169	334	71	404
KS	238	3,205	3,013	2	23,955	88	5,398	75	205	3	274
KY	53	2,360	2,247	28	4,931	108	992	78	154	97	229
LA	20	2,516	1,565	32	349	73	86	43	113	20	114
MA	100	2,122	1,875	34	4,513	156	642	118	171	65	233
MD	4	740	663	3	192	56	107	47	72	4	69
ME	169	2,579	2,608	0	1,541	84	942	90	114	32	191
MI	179	6,622	5,428	23	2,144	319	1,172	217	381	88	427
MN	71	3,956	3,146	1,133	2,114	193	365	184	271	0	336
MO	70	2,966	2,937	33	1,278	77	210	81	117	16	178
MS	25	2,149	2,595	1	343	80	17	88	104	17	175
MT	56	1,212	1,013	137	930	50	633	36	55	0	83
NC	23	3,672	3,110	101	1,555	129	187	97	161	11	171
ND	59	971	965	0	491	22	563	17	28	18	38
NE	185	2,004	2,095	77	3,113	58	1,559	45	93	0	112
NH	155	2,934	2,503	39	3,313	108	2,768	107	149	38	229

Table 5. Rural Library System Collections by Type, FY 2008 and FY 2017

State Abbrev.	Number of Rural Library Systems	Books (in 1,000s)		eBooks (in 1,000s)		Audio Items (in 1,000s)			Video Items (in 1,000s)		
		FY 2008	FY 2017	FY 2008	FY 2017	FY 2008	FY 2017 Downloadable	FY 2017 Physical	FY 2008	FY 2017 Downloadable	FY 2017 Physical
NJ	8	235	148	0	51	16	169	16	11	15	20
NM	40	401	561	0	110	14	27	20	22	0	45
NV	10	432	361	2	12	21	4	25	31	0	46
NY	323	5,736	4,980	56	4,470	414	1,286	212	406	43	492
OH	71	6,776	4,561	118	18,846	458	6,488	256	551	438	515
OK	56	1,197	843	0	1,115	37	254	15	57	20	47
OR	47	2,026	1,408	0	1,833	167	995	89	142	0	134
PA	84	2,192	1,981	0	1,092	92	1,585	78	120	189	156
RI	10	407	239	0	539	18	183	11	30	7	25
SC	11	2,110	1,594	13	243	96	37	53	99	0	102
SD	88	1,699	1,642	13	919	56	343	55	79	0	79
TN	80	1,667	1,576	13	9,421	86	4,094	64	101	223	129
TX	157	4,543	2,922	61	1,381	199	230	101	251	25	214
UT	21	1,074	474	0	446	82	472	29	49	30	33
VA	34	4,401	3,030	206	3,175	210	1,764	153	186	100	249
VT	128	1,548	1,399	0	119	71	68	67	85	0	123
WA	23	3,848	2,611	7	1,037	313	368	176	271	3	362
WI	201	4,387	3,781	1,698	32,041	945	9,357	242	496	202	566
WV	51	1,753	1,643	0	1,877	49	11,971	49	59	98	116
WY	10	1,191	818	0	111	88	90	51	67	0	83

Notes:

NA indicates Not applicable. Hawaii and the District of Columbia are each served by one library system with many points of service (see Table 1).

Differentiation of downloadable and physical audio and video materials was initiated with the FY2010 PLS.

SOURCE: IMLS, Public Libraries Survey, FY 2017. Data elements LOCALE_MOD, BKVOL, EBOOK, AUDIO_DL, AUDIO_PH, VIDEO_DL, and VIDEO_PH from the Public Library System Data File (PLS_FY2017_AE_pupld17a) were used to produce this table. The FY 2008 IMLS, Public Libraries Survey, data elements were LOCALE, BKVOL, EBOOK, AUDIO, and VIDEO from the Public Library System Data File (PLS_FY2008_AE_pupld08a). Terminology: Library systems refer to Administrative Entities (AEs) in Public Libraries Survey (PLS) data.

Table 6. Rural Library System Programs Offered and Program Attendance, FY 2008 and FY 2017

State Abbrev.	Number of Visits, FY 2017	Total Programs		Percentage change over FY 2008	Percent of visits FY 2017	Total Program Attendees		Percentage change over FY 2008	Children's Programs, FY 2017		Number young adult programs
		FY 2008	FY 2017			FY 2008	FY 2017		Number	Percent of all FY 2017 programs	
National	117,344,516	555,035	742,078	33.7%	10.7%	11,234,975	12,501,806	11.3%	422,592	56.9%	61,094
AK	981,378	5,117	6,270	22.5%	9.1%	71,153	89,461	25.7%	3,913	62.4%	749
AL	1,274,446	5,881	7,832	33.2%	10.3%	121,591	131,697	8.3%	4,087	52.2%	676
AR	2,222,488	9,238	10,639	15.2%	10.0%	175,831	222,529	26.6%	6,566	61.7%	1,432
AZ	1,182,107	5,940	9,318	56.9%	10.5%	112,478	124,504	10.7%	3,751	40.3%	670
CA	2,318,475	7,883	7,072	-10.3%	7.9%	210,657	183,197	-13.0%	3,896	55.1%	639
CT	2,585,880	8,573	12,975	51.3%	7.8%	184,114	201,167	9.3%	7,664	59.1%	1,369
DE	1,320,836	10,997	11,028	0.3%	14.2%	196,090	187,082	-4.6%	6,543	59.3%	668
DC	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
DE	511,355	1,575	2,805	78.1%	8.6%	30,006	43,839	46.1%	1,746	62.2%	346
FL	3,082,361	14,783	21,479	45.3%	10.7%	266,224	329,535	23.8%	9,884	46.0%	2,585
GA	3,244,678	14,772	13,713	-7.2%	10.5%	427,584	339,402	-20.6%	7,413	54.1%	1,195
HI	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
IA	3,671,624	20,000	34,980	74.9%	14.6%	355,324	534,694	50.5%	20,700	59.2%	2,552
ID	1,473,730	8,113	9,845	21.3%	14.6%	191,655	214,668	12.0%	6,439	65.4%	1,072
IL	3,099,866	14,681	20,081	36.8%	9.1%	308,524	281,925	-8.6%	11,674	58.1%	1,833
IN	3,872,624	26,738	32,332	20.9%	14.2%	512,007	549,030	7.2%	17,677	54.7%	3,409
KS	2,390,575	10,372	23,168	123.4%	14.7%	218,051	351,804	61.3%	15,632	67.5%	2,840
KY	2,972,731	16,970	24,039	41.7%	17.4%	341,260	515,871	51.2%	12,715	52.9%	1,809
LA	1,545,939	10,129	7,106	-29.8%	8.7%	202,983	135,113	-33.4%	3,911	55.0%	737
MA	2,254,727	11,398	17,768	55.9%	10.5%	205,257	236,382	15.2%	8,365	47.1%	1,125
MD	1,418,460	4,734	6,000	26.7%	7.7%	139,743	108,892	-22.1%	3,934	65.6%	396
ME	1,903,639	12,594	20,959	66.4%	12.8%	166,214	244,042	46.8%	10,958	52.3%	1,242
MI	6,107,092	22,779	32,939	44.6%	10.6%	490,060	648,679	32.4%	18,032	54.7%	2,334
MN	4,603,700	14,889	19,125	28.5%	7.9%	301,140	362,411	20.3%	12,265	64.1%	1,755
MO	2,448,593	5,978	13,958	133.5%	9.2%	114,357	225,759	97.4%	8,893	63.7%	906
MS	4,538,744	10,335	13,502	30.6%	8.4%	242,866	380,769	56.8%	7,870	58.3%	852
MT	1,135,212	3,927	7,521	91.5%	7.7%	74,442	87,648	17.7%	4,459	59.3%	573
NC	4,486,871	20,880	23,763	13.8%	9.1%	453,170	408,008	-10.0%	14,315	60.2%	1,387
ND	362,478	1,266	3,592	183.7%	15.1%	26,457	54,722	106.8%	2,441	68.0%	574
NE	1,285,857	6,143	10,976	78.7%	16.2%	116,483	208,398	78.9%	6,895	62.8%	1,050
NH	2,041,859	15,869	26,318	65.8%	15.9%	254,084	324,596	27.8%	14,057	53.4%	1,178

Table 6. Rural Library System Programs Offered and Program Attendance, FY 2008 and FY 2017

State Abbrev.	Number of Visits, FY 2017	Total Programs		Percentage change over FY 2008	Percent of visits FY 2017	Total Program Attendees		Percentage change over FY 2008	Children's Programs, FY 2017		Number young adult programs
		FY 2008	FY 2017			FY 2008	FY 2017		Number	Percent of all FY 2017 programs	
NJ	385,078	999	2,073	107.5%	7.3%	14,256	27,992	96.4%	902	43.5%	37
NM	435,232	2,815	3,611	28.3%	13.8%	40,031	60,261	50.5%	1,829	50.7%	622
NV	499,560	1,751	1,925	9.9%	8.3%	42,859	41,394	-3.4%	1,650	85.7%	103
NY	5,005,667	37,170	56,543	52.1%	14.4%	583,568	720,681	23.5%	25,055	44.3%	4,541
OH	5,409,508	32,804	33,916	3.4%	13.8%	697,159	744,449	6.8%	23,000	67.8%	2,948
OK	698,858	3,341	4,395	31.5%	10.6%	75,885	74,028	-2.4%	2,315	52.7%	679
OR	1,725,348	10,546	9,207	-12.7%	10.0%	229,228	172,003	-25.0%	6,821	74.1%	538
PA	2,285,446	11,733	17,422	48.5%	10.5%	221,967	240,953	8.6%	10,111	58.0%	1,637
RI	220,285	2,514	2,401	-4.5%	11.2%	35,906	24,626	-31.4%	987	41.1%	156
SC	2,126,171	8,097	10,490	29.6%	7.7%	180,573	164,315	-9.0%	5,247	50.0%	607
SD	1,946,331	4,298	9,159	113.1%	7.5%	99,010	146,137	47.6%	7,175	78.3%	708
TN	2,287,240	5,175	10,518	103.2%	7.2%	142,777	163,909	14.8%	4,536	43.1%	785
TX	2,981,584	22,730	19,077	-16.1%	11.6%	552,192	345,873	-37.4%	10,432	54.7%	2,141
UT	493,575	4,227	2,855	-32.5%	10.1%	103,327	50,035	-51.6%	1,927	67.5%	271
VA	4,729,595	20,656	21,351	3.4%	8.4%	510,545	398,527	-21.9%	12,921	60.5%	1,320
VT	1,451,322	12,415	15,879	27.9%	14.6%	184,837	212,122	14.8%	8,547	53.8%	1,030
WA	7,029,732	18,388	24,272	32.0%	6.4%	379,644	448,762	18.2%	15,051	62.0%	2,273
WI	4,720,616	19,083	29,278	53.4%	9.4%	349,372	445,513	27.5%	15,915	54.4%	1,845
WV	1,699,725	7,462	9,822	31.6%	10.4%	143,810	176,637	22.8%	6,612	67.3%	542
WY	875,318	6,277	6,781	8.0%	13.5%	138,224	117,765	-14.8%	4,864	71.7%	358

Notes:

NA indicates Not applicable. Hawaii and the District of Columbia are each served by one library system with many points of service (see Table 1).

Consistent with the National Center for Education Statistics, children's programs are those intended for patrons 11 years and under and their caretakers and young adult programs are those intended for patrons aged 12-18 years.

SOURCE: IMLS, Public Libraries Survey, FY 2017. Data elements LOCALE_MOD, VISIT, TOTPRO, KIDPRO, YAPRO, and TOTATTEN from the Public Library System Data File (PLS_FY2017_AE_pupld17a) were used to produce this table. The FY 2008 IMLS, Public Libraries Survey, data elements were LOCALE, TOTPRO, and TOTATTEN from the Public Library System Data File (PLS_FY2008_AE_pupld08a). Terminology: Library systems refer to Administrative Entities (AEs) in Public Libraries Survey (PLS) data.

Table 7. Internet Services Provided by Rural Library Systems, FY 2008 and FY 2017

State Abbrev.	Number of Visits, FY 2017	Public Access Internet Computers		Change in Public Access Internet Computers (FY17-FY08)		Library Internet Computer User Sessions				WiFi Sessions	
		Number, FY 2008	Number, FY 2017	Number	Percentage Change	Number, FY 2008	Number, FY 2017	Percent change over FY 2008	Percent of FY 2017 Visits	Number, FY 2017	Percent of FY 2017 Visits
National	117,344,516	40,789	46,166	5,377	13.2%	38,695,013	23,538,215	-39.2%	20.1%	33,636,141	28.7%
AK	981,378	302	410	108	35.8%	335937	212,516	-36.7%	21.7%	253,889	25.9%
AL	1,274,446	982	1,061	79	8.0%	540856	395,455	-26.9%	31.0%	168,998	13.3%
AR	2,222,488	548	817	269	49.1%	783959	416,496	-46.9%	18.7%	136,109	6.1%
AZ	1,182,107	498	674	176	35.3%	431792	246,740	-42.9%	20.9%	148,693	12.6%
CA	2,318,475	523	497	-26	-5.0%	615084	513,969	-16.4%	22.2%	196,801	8.5%
CT	2,585,880	747	1,126	379	50.7%	679882	476,495	-29.9%	18.4%	525,326	20.3%
DE	1,320,836	469	383	-86	-18.3%	428221	145,104	-66.1%	11.0%	18,187	1.4%
DC	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
DE	511,355	71	164	93	131.0%	69069	56,900	-17.6%	11.1%	25,103	4.9%
FL	3,082,361	996	1,060	64	6.4%	1510573	684,645	-54.7%	22.2%	738,099	23.9%
GA	3,244,678	1793	1,340	-453	-25.3%	2785634	964,296	-65.4%	29.7%	259,454	8.0%
HI	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
IA	3,671,624	1816	2,364	548	30.2%	1361917	777,920	-42.9%	21.2%	340,113	9.3%
ID	1,473,730	517	705	188	36.4%	528352	504,881	-4.4%	34.3%	409,693	27.8%
IL	3,099,866	1192	1,600	408	34.2%	731159	478,923	-34.5%	15.4%	254,505	8.2%
IN	3,872,624	1358	1,627	269	19.8%	1218658	629,106	-48.4%	16.2%	960,595	24.8%
KS	2,390,575	1122	1,380	258	23.0%	679002	513,772	-24.3%	21.5%	852,857	35.7%
KY	2,972,731	1045	1,397	352	33.7%	1074636	949,799	-11.6%	32.0%	2,838,881	95.5%
LA	1,545,939	1136	716	-420	-37.0%	1026770	824,593	-19.7%	53.3%	256,565	16.6%
MA	2,254,727	448	590	142	31.7%	370216	276,956	-25.2%	12.3%	346,596	15.4%
MD	1,418,460	267	269	2	0.7%	385502	328,243	-14.9%	23.1%	117,803	8.3%
ME	1,903,639	553	829	276	49.9%	390237	281,054	-28.0%	14.8%	114,072	6.0%
MI	6,107,092	2430	2,864	434	17.9%	2127309	1,207,413	-43.2%	19.8%	1,288,500	21.1%
MN	4,603,700	1223	1,243	20	1.6%	1301612	709,744	-45.5%	15.4%	575,978	12.5%
MO	2,448,593	1150	1,051	-99	-8.6%	808431	564,846	-30.1%	23.1%	129,664	5.3%
MS	4,538,744	898	1,296	398	44.3%	784036	1,046,618	33.5%	23.1%	494,872	10.9%
MT	1,135,212	452	568	116	25.7%	484016	315,610	-34.8%	27.8%	146,941	12.9%
NC	4,486,871	1368	1,752	384	28.1%	1581031	988,643	-37.5%	22.0%	565,249	12.6%
ND	362,478	222	359	137	61.7%	76975	71,009	-7.8%	19.6%	612,222	168.9%
NE	1,285,857	716	1,340	624	87.2%	369120	366,801	-0.6%	28.5%	259,371	20.2%
NH	2,041,859	534	673	139	26.0%	298271	171,674	-42.4%	8.4%	113,417	5.6%

Table 7. Internet Services Provided by Rural Library Systems, FY 2008 and FY 2017

State Abbrev.	Number of Visits, FY 2017	Public Access Internet Computers		Change in Public Access Internet Computers (FY17-FY08)		Library Internet Computer User Sessions				WiFi Sessions	
		Number, FY 2008	Number, FY 2017	Number	Percentage Change	Number, FY 2008	Number, FY 2017	Percent change over FY 2008	Percent of FY 2017 Visits	Number, FY 2017	Percent of FY 2017 Visits
NJ	385,078	58	91	33	56.9%	37028	56,966	53.8%	14.8%	32,581	8.5%
NM	435,232	343	404	61	17.8%	177615	151,460	-14.7%	34.8%	28,707	6.6%
NV	499,560	88	144	56	63.6%	77486	55,067	-28.9%	11.0%	61,125	12.2%
NY	5,005,667	1713	2,043	330	19.3%	1253924	751,253	-40.1%	15.0%	1,134,642	22.7%
OH	5,409,508	1759	1,391	-368	-20.9%	2107130	904,874	-57.1%	16.7%	2,135,287	39.5%
OK	698,858	443	414	-29	-6.5%	397545	304,610	-23.4%	43.6%	441,995	63.2%
OR	1,725,348	550	456	-94	-17.1%	890108	300,893	-66.2%	17.4%	181,212	10.5%
PA	2,285,446	750	784	34	4.5%	448183	261,725	-41.6%	11.5%	267,713	11.7%
RI	220,285	146	131	-15	-10.3%	159238	24,241	-84.8%	11.0%	33,230	15.1%
SC	2,126,171	894	772	-122	-13.6%	1122657	487,444	-56.6%	22.9%	493,117	23.2%
SD	1,946,331	544	670	126	23.2%	446244	418,756	-6.2%	21.5%	428,072	22.0%
TN	2,287,240	852	1,091	239	28.1%	637950	414,001	-35.1%	18.1%	414,523	18.1%
TX	2,981,584	2139	1,634	-505	-23.6%	1426940	624,010	-56.3%	20.9%	309,857	10.4%
UT	493,575	317	200	-117	-36.9%	296153	85,389	-71.2%	17.3%	52,872	10.7%
VA	4,729,595	1202	1,369	167	13.9%	1200700	778,810	-35.1%	16.5%	651,781	13.8%
VT	1,451,322	546	677	131	24.0%	334559	236,550	-29.3%	16.3%	294,290	20.3%
WA	7,029,732	878	1,286	408	46.5%	1678728	1,383,575	-17.6%	19.7%	10,890,091	154.9%
WI	4,720,616	1364	1,623	259	19.0%	1431898	723,150	-49.5%	15.3%	2,535,753	53.7%
WV	1,699,725	505	534	29	5.7%	429278	300,035	-30.1%	17.7%	58,703	3.5%
WY	875,318	322	297	-25	-7.8%	363392	155,185	-57.3%	17.7%	42,037	4.8%

Notes:

NA indicates Not applicable. Hawaii and the District of Columbia are each served by one library system with many points of service (see Table 1).

SOURCE: IMLS, Public Libraries Survey, FY 2017. Data elements LOCALE_MOD, VISIT, GPTEMS, PITUSR, and WIFISESS from the Public Library System Data File (PLS_FY2017_AE_pupld17a) were used to produce this table. The FY 2008 IMLS, Public Libraries Survey, data elements were LOCALE, GPTEMS, and PITUSR from the Public Library System Data File (PLS_FY2008_AE_pupld08a). Terminology: Library systems refer to Administrative Entities (AEs) in Public Libraries Survey (PLS) data.