

**Table 429.—Public libraries, books and serial volumes, library visits, and reference transactions, by state: 1996**

State	Number of public libraries	Number of books and serial volumes <sup>1</sup> (in thousands)	Number of books and serial volumes per capita	Library visits per capita <sup>2</sup>	Circulation per capita	Public library reference transactions per capita <sup>3</sup>	State	Number of public libraries	Number of books and serial volumes <sup>1</sup> (in thousands)	Number of books and serial volumes per capita	Library visits per capita <sup>2</sup>	Circulation per capita	Public library reference transactions per capita <sup>3</sup>
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
<b>United States .....</b>	<b>8,946</b>	<b>711,013</b>	<b>2.8</b>	<b>4.0</b>	<b>6.5</b>	<b>1.1</b>							
Alabama .....	205	8,359	2.1	3.3	3.9	0.5	Missouri .....	148	20,408	4.1	4.3	7.9	1.0
Alaska .....	85	2,024	3.3	4.8	6.3	0.7	Montana .....	82	2,547	3.1	3.7	6.1	0.7
Arizona .....	40	8,096	2.0	4.6	6.5	1.1	Nebraska .....	230	4,941	3.5	5.2	7.6	0.7
Arkansas .....	37	4,925	2.2	2.5	4.2	0.4	Nevada .....	23	3,556	2.2	3.8	5.0	0.8
California .....	171	59,913	1.9	3.7	4.7	1.1	New Hampshire .....	229	5,092	4.4	4.7	7.4	0.8
Colorado .....	108	9,833	2.6	4.8	8.4	1.4	New Jersey .....	307	30,049	3.8	4.8	6.0	1.0
Connecticut .....	195	14,265	4.4	6.0	8.3	1.2	New Mexico .....	72	4,002	3.0	5.4	5.5	0.8
Delaware .....	30	1,412	2.1	3.4	4.7	0.6	New York .....	740	73,727	4.4	5.2	7.3	1.9
District of Columbia ...	1	2,813	5.2	3.7	2.8	2.4	North Carolina .....	75	14,269	2.0	3.5	5.6	0.9
Florida .....	98	24,329	1.7	—	5.4	2.2	North Dakota .....	79	2,012	3.7	4.1	7.2	0.8
Georgia .....	55	13,498	1.9	2.8	4.6	0.8	Ohio .....	250	43,239	3.9	5.1	12.4	1.5
Hawaii .....	1	3,553	3.0	2.9	6.2	0.7	Oklahoma .....	114	5,644	2.2	4.3	6.3	0.7
Idaho .....	106	3,219	3.2	5.1	7.7	0.9	Oregon .....	124	7,213	2.4	—	10.0	0.8
Illinois .....	617	38,886	3.7	5.2	7.7	1.4	Pennsylvania .....	460	25,318	2.2	3.2	4.7	0.7
Indiana .....	238	21,531	4.2	5.6	10.5	1.6	Rhode Island .....	50	4,276	4.3	5.6	6.8	0.9
Iowa .....	529	11,393	4.0	5.0	8.8	—	South Carolina .....	40	6,817	1.9	2.9	4.4	1.1
Kansas .....	324	9,589	4.6	5.4	9.7	1.3	South Dakota .....	112	2,513	4.7	5.1	8.9	—
Kentucky .....	116	7,506	2.1	3.0	5.4	0.5	Tennessee .....	141	7,999	1.5	2.6	3.9	0.8
Louisiana .....	65	10,145	2.3	2.6	4.3	0.7	Texas .....	500	34,118	2.0	2.8	4.3	0.9
Maine .....	268	5,359	5.2	—	7.7	—	Utah .....	70	5,065	2.7	4.5	9.3	1.2
Maryland .....	24	14,964	3.0	3.5	9.0	1.3	Vermont .....	197	2,692	5.1	—	7.0	—
Massachusetts .....	370	29,053	4.8	—	7.3	—	Virginia .....	90	16,672	2.6	4.5	7.4	1.1
Michigan .....	383	25,876	2.8	3.8	5.4	0.9	Washington .....	69	15,656	2.9	—	10.0	—
Minnesota .....	130	13,302	2.9	4.9	9.6	1.3	West Virginia .....	97	4,862	2.7	3.6	4.6	0.9
Mississippi .....	47	5,180	1.9	2.4	3.2	0.4	Wisconsin .....	381	17,008	3.3	5.4	9.0	1.2
							Wyoming .....	23	2,294	4.8	5.2	7.6	1.2

<sup>1</sup> Some data are different from other tables due to a different population base.

<sup>2</sup> The total number of persons entering the library for whatever purpose during the year.

<sup>3</sup> A reference transaction is an information contact which involves the knowledge, use, recommendations, interpretation or instructions in the use of one or more information sources by a member of the library staff.

—Response rate less than 70 percent.

NOTE.—Totals may be underestimated due to nonresponse.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, *Public Libraries in the United States: FY 1996*. (This table was prepared July 1999.)