

How We Compare 2015: North American Libraries Serving a Population Over 2 Million

Library Systems	Population Served	# of Branches	Square Footage	Sq. Ft./Capita	Total Visits	Visits/Capita	Total Circulation	Circ/Capita
Los Angeles Public Library	3,928,864	72	858,572	0.22	14,093,505	3.59	15,800,499	4.02
New York Public Library	3,239,253	87	1,443,683	0.45	14,036,518	4.33	23,321,931	7.20
Chicago Public Library	2,700,000	79	1,815,272	0.67	9,438,150	3.50	10,181,253	3.77
Toronto Public Library	2,615,060	100	1,789,863	0.68	18,153,058	6.94	32,505,963	12.43
Brooklyn Public Library	2,504,700	59	714,431	0.29	8,699,341	3.47	15,204,523	6.07
Miami-Dade Public Library System	2,496,435	49	771,952	0.31	5,744,565	2.30	4,809,151	1.93
Queens Borough Public Library	2,321,580	62	630,000	0.27	11,287,000	4.86	13,587,000	5.85
Houston Public Library	2,201,027	41	596,402	0.27	3,911,932	1.78	4,264,125	1.94
Average	2,750,865	69	1,077,522	0.40	10,670,509	3.85	14,959,306	5.40
Maximum	3,928,864	100	1,815,272	0.68	18,153,058	6.94	32,505,963	12.43
Minimum	2,201,027	41	596,402	0.22	3,911,932	1.78	4,264,125	1.93
Median	2,559,880	67	815,262	0.30	10,362,575	3.55	14,395,762	4.94

Source: Public Library Data Service (PLDS) 2016 (based on 2015 data) sorted by population served.