



2009 IFLA Ranking Report

Library Name in English	All Visits per Capita
1,000,000 and over	
1 Los Angeles Public Library (US)	42.37
2 Hong Kong Public Libraries (CN)	27.56
3 Toronto Public Library (CA)	16.36
4 Brisbane City Council Library Services (AU)	14.71
5 San Jose Public Library (US)	14.01
6 New York Public Library (US)	11.65
7 San Diego Public Library (US)	8.95
8 Singapore, The National Library Board of (SG)	8.84
9 Queens Borough Public Library (US)	8.07
10 Las Vegas-Clark County Library District (US)	7.96
11 Brooklyn Public Library (US)	7.25
12 Free Library Of Philadelphia (US)	7.16
13 Berlin Public Library (DE)	5.00
14 Barcelona Libraries Consortium (ES)	4.82
15 Prague, The Municipal Library of (CZ)	4.49
16 Montréal Public Library (CA)	4.37
17 Harris County Public Library (US)	3.77
18 Budapest, Metropolitan Ervin Szabó Library (HU)	2.00
19 Vienna Public Library (AT)	1.65
20 Bucharest, Metropolitan Library of (RO)	0.19
Average	
Average	10.06
Selected Total	
Selected Total	201.17
Median	
Median	7.60

Library Name in English	All Visits per Capita
999,999 – 750,000	
1 Charlotte Mecklenburg Library (US)	85.29
2 Indianapolis-Marion County Public Library (US)	62.18
3 San Francisco Public Library (US)	41.07
4 Columbus Metropolitan Library (US)	21.60
5 Edmonton Public Library (CA)	18.05
6 Ottawa Public Library (CA)	12.46
7 Stockholm Public Library (SE)	11.69
8 Jacksonville Public Library (US)	11.65
9 Memphis Public Library and Information Center (US)	8.86
10 Amsterdam Public Library (NL)	6.12
11 Zagreb City Libraries (HR)	3.83
Average	
Average	25.71
Selected Total	
Selected Total	282.79
Median	
Median	12.46



2009 IFLA Ranking Report

Library Name in English	All Visits per Capita
749,000 – 500,000	
1 Seattle Public Library (US)	23.26
2 Helsinki City Library (FI)	22.87
3 Boston Public Library (US)	18.59
4 Vancouver Public Library (CA)	17.18
5 Copenhagen Public Libraries (DK)	12.73
6 Milwaukee Public Library (US)	8.19
7 Gold Coast City Council Library Services (AU)	7.58
8 Rotterdam Library (NL)	7.27
9 Dresden Public Libraries (DE)	6.91
10 Dublin City Libraries (IE)	5.95
11 Oslo Public Library (NO)	5.91
12 Bremen Public Library (DE)	5.87
13 Düsseldorf Public Libraries (DE)	4.42
14 Hannover Public Library (DE)	2.89
15 Oklahoma Metropolitan Library System (US)	1.77
16 Riga Central Library (LV)	1.66
17 Vilnius City Library (LT)	1.35
Average	
9.08	
Selected Total	
154.41	
Median	
6.91	
Library Name in English	All Visits per Capita
Under 500,000	
1 Halifax Public Libraries (CA)	11.66
2 Manchester City Council Libraries (GB)	10.07
3 Cleveland Public Library (US)	9.73
4 Toledo-Lucas County Public Library (US)	8.17
5 Yarra Plenty Regional Library Service (AU)	6.83
6 Utrecht Public Library (NL)	6.06
7 Tallinn Central Library (EE)	3.22
8 Zurich Pestalozzi Library (CH)	2.78
9 Toulouse Public Library (FR)	2.75
Average	
6.81	
Selected Total	
61.26	
Median	
6.83	

All Visits (in-person and virtual) per Capita Summary values for all population groupings

Average	12.27
Total	699.63
Variance - 25% above average	15.34
Variance - 25% below average	9.21
Median	7.96
Lower Quartile - 25%	12.73
Upper Quartile - 75%	4.49



2009 IFLA Ranking Report

Library Name in English	Circulation per Capita
1,000,000 and over	
1 San Jose Public Library (US)	14.58
2 Toronto Public Library (CA)	12.49
3 Queens Borough Public Library (US)	10.18
4 Las Vegas-Clark County Library District (US)	9.82
5 Brisbane City Council Library Services (AU)	9.57
6 Hong Kong Public Libraries (CN)	8.77
7 Harris County Public Library (US)	7.61
8 Brooklyn Public Library (US)	7.01
9 New York Public Library (US)	6.53
10 Singapore, The National Library Board of (SG)	6.47
11 Montréal Public Library (CA)	6.09
12 San Diego Public Library (US)	5.60
13 Prague, The Municipal Library of (CZ)	5.28
14 Free Library Of Philadelphia (US)	4.30
15 Los Angeles Public Library (US)	4.08
16 Vienna Public Library (AT)	3.37
17 Budapest, Metropolitan Ervin Szabó Library (HU)	2.77
18 Barcelona Libraries Consortium (ES)	2.71
19 Berlin Public Library (DE)	1.18
20 Bucharest, Metropolitan Library of (RO)	0.00
Average	6.42
Selected Total	128.41
Median	6.28

Library Name in English	Circulation per Capita
999,999 – 750,000	
1 Columbus Metropolitan Library (US)	19.50
2 Indianapolis-Marion County Public Library (US)	19.29
3 Edmonton Public Library (CA)	15.36
4 San Francisco Public Library (US)	12.67
5 Ottawa Public Library (CA)	11.77
6 Charlotte Mecklenburg Library (US)	7.97
7 Zagreb City Libraries (HR)	5.67
8 Amsterdam Public Library (NL)	5.60
9 Stockholm Public Library (SE)	5.39
10 Memphis Public Library and Information Center (US)	2.26
11 Jacksonville Public Library (US)	0.00
Average	9.59
Selected Total	105.48
Median	7.97



2009 IFLA Ranking Report

Library Name in English	Circulation per Capita
749,000 – 500,000	
1 Seattle Public Library (US)	19.79
2 Vancouver Public Library (CA)	16.03
3 Helsinki City Library (FI)	15.92
4 Copenhagen Public Libraries (DK)	14.46
5 Gold Coast City Council Library Services (AU)	14.04
6 Dresden Public Libraries (DE)	10.60
7 Oklahoma Metropolitan Library System (US)	8.53
8 Düsseldorf Public Libraries (DE)	8.23
9 Hannover Public Library (DE)	7.89
10 Bremen Public Library (DE)	6.52
11 Rotterdam Library (NL)	6.19
12 Boston Public Library (US)	5.78
13 Milwaukee Public Library (US)	5.03
14 Oslo Public Library (NO)	4.45
15 Dublin City Libraries (IE)	4.34
16 Riga Central Library (LV)	3.60
17 Vilnius City Library (LT)	2.56
Average	9.06
Selected Total	153.96
Median	7.89
Under 500,000	
1 Cleveland Public Library (US)	16.08
2 Toledo-Lucas County Public Library (US)	15.87
3 Halifax Public Libraries (CA)	12.73
4 Yarra Plenty Regional Library Service (AU)	11.12
5 Utrecht Public Library (NL)	7.94
6 Zurich Pestalozzi Library (CH)	7.44
7 Toulouse Public Library (FR)	6.35
8 Manchester City Council Libraries (GB)	4.55
9 Tallinn Central Library (EE)	4.35
Average	9.60
Selected Total	86.44
Median	7.94

Circulation per Capita
Summary values for all population groupings

Average	8.32
Total	474.29
Variance - 25% above average	10.40
Variance - 25% below average	6.24
Median	7.01
Lower Quartile - 25%	11.77
Upper Quartile - 75%	4.55



2009 IFLA Ranking Report

Library Name in English	Circulation
1,000,000 and over	
1 Hong Kong Public Libraries (CN)	61,662,386
2 Singapore, The National Library Board of (SG)	32,274,923
3 Toronto Public Library (CA)	31,271,072
4 Queens Borough Public Library (US)	23,492,195
5 New York Public Library (US)	22,975,277
6 Brooklyn Public Library (US)	17,272,770
7 Los Angeles Public Library (US)	16,524,292
8 San Jose Public Library (US)	14,918,873
9 Las Vegas-Clark County Library District (US)	13,744,009
10 Harris County Public Library (US)	11,485,172
11 Brisbane City Council Library Services (AU)	10,274,596
12 Montréal Public Library (CA)	9,870,948
13 San Diego Public Library (US)	7,706,431
14 Prague, The Municipal Library of (CZ)	6,784,858
15 Free Library Of Philadelphia (US)	6,530,662
16 Vienna Public Library (AT)	5,655,159
17 Budapest, Metropolitan Ervin Szabó Library (HU)	4,739,634
18 Barcelona Libraries Consortium (ES)	4,390,993
19 Berlin Public Library (DE)	4,073,188
20 Bucharest, Metropolitan Library of (RO)	--
Average	
Average	16,086,707
Selected Total	
Selected Total	305,647,438
Median	
Median	11,485,172

Library Name in English	Circulation
999,999 – 750,000	
1 Indianapolis-Marion County Public Library (US)	17,186,739
2 Columbus Metropolitan Library (US)	16,526,936
3 Edmonton Public Library (CA)	12,014,589
4 San Francisco Public Library (US)	10,849,582
5 Ottawa Public Library (CA)	10,692,133
6 Charlotte Mecklenburg Library (US)	7,093,974
7 Zagreb City Libraries (HR)	4,549,884
8 Stockholm Public Library (SE)	4,469,024
9 Amsterdam Public Library (NL)	4,445,644
10 Memphis Public Library and Information Center(US)	1,841,515
11 Jacksonville Public Library (US)	--
Average	
Average	8,967,002
Selected Total	
Selected Total	89,670,020
Median	
Median	8,893,054



2009 IFLA Ranking Report

Library Name in English	Circulation
749,000 – 500,000	
1 Seattle Public Library (US)	11,914,050
2 Vancouver Public Library (CA)	9,886,149
3 Helsinki City Library (FI)	9,286,900
4 Copenhagen Public Libraries (DK)	7,637,575
5 Gold Coast City Council Library Services (AU)	7,227,671
6 Oklahoma Metropolitan Library System (US)	6,114,327
7 Dresden Public Libraries (DE)	5,415,975
8 Düsseldorf Public Libraries (DE)	4,832,399
9 Hannover Public Library (DE)	4,096,785
10 Rotterdam Library (NL)	3,633,000
11 Boston Public Library (US)	3,587,136
12 Bremen Public Library (DE)	3,572,008
13 Milwaukee Public Library (US)	3,034,805
14 Oslo Public Library (NO)	2,561,991
15 Riga Central Library (LV)	2,540,992
16 Dublin City Libraries (IE)	2,198,265
17 Vilnius City Library (LT)	1,433,518
Average	5,233,738
Selected Total	88,973,546
Median	4,096,785

Library Name in English	Circulation
Under 500,000	
1 Toledo-Lucas County Public Library (US)	6,991,660
2 Cleveland Public Library (US)	6,873,457
3 Halifax Public Libraries (CA)	4,746,449
4 Yarra Plenty Regional Library Service (AU)	3,707,162
5 Toulouse Public Library (FR)	2,889,140
6 Zurich Pestalozzi Library (CH)	2,828,053
7 Utrecht Public Library (NL)	2,421,572
8 Manchester City Council Libraries (GB)	2,200,796
9 Tallinn Central Library (EE)	1,757,179
Average	3,823,941
Selected Total	34,415,468
Median	2,889,140

Circulation

Summary values for all population groupings

Average	9,431,027
Total	518,706,472
Variance - 25% above average	11,788,783
Variance - 25% below average	7,073,270
Median	6,530,662
Lower Quartile - 25%	10,849,582
Upper Quartile - 75%	3,587,136



2009 IFLA Ranking Report

Library Name in English	Registered Users as a % of Population
1,000,000 and over	
1 New York Public Library (US)	77.05%
2 San Jose Public Library (US)	67.37%
3 Harris County Public Library (US)	58.12%
4 Brooklyn Public Library (US)	55.03%
5 Hong Kong Public Libraries (CN)	53.86%
6 Toronto Public Library (CA)	49.78%
7 Las Vegas-Clark County Library District (US)	48.26%
8 San Diego Public Library (US)	47.19%
9 Barcelona Libraries Consortium (ES)	45.62%
10 Singapore, The National Library Board of (SG)	41.04%
11 Brisbane City Council Library Services (AU)	40.20%
12 Queens Borough Public Library (US)	37.72%
13 Free Library Of Philadelphia (US)	34.65%
14 Los Angeles Public Library (US)	33.82%
15 Montréal Public Library (CA)	22.46%
16 Budapest, Metropolitan Ervin Szabó Library (HU)	16.96%
17 Prague, The Municipal Library of (CZ)	13.03%
18 Vienna Public Library (AT)	9.72%
19 Bucharest, Metropolitan Library of (RO)	3.78%
20 Berlin Public Library (DE)	2.60%
Average	37.91%
Median	40.62%

Library Name in English	Registered Users as a % of Population
999,999 – 750,000	
1 Charlotte Mecklenburg Library (US)	82.37%
2 Jacksonville Public Library (US)	74.11%
3 Edmonton Public Library (CA)	58.10%
4 Indianapolis-Marion County Public Library (US)	56.89%
5 Columbus Metropolitan Library (US)	56.35%
6 Memphis Public Library and Information Center (US)	50.97%
7 San Francisco Public Library (US)	43.21%
8 Zagreb City Libraries (HR)	43.13%
9 Ottawa Public Library (CA)	32.56%
10 Amsterdam Public Library (NL)	20.60%
11 Stockholm Public Library (SE)	0.00%
Average	47.12%
Median	50.97%

Library Name in English	Registered Users as a % of Population
749,000 – 500,000	
1 Boston Public Library (US)	87.61%
2 Seattle Public Library (US)	72.97%
3 Milwaukee Public Library (US)	65.80%
4 Oklahoma Metropolitan Library System (US)	57.00%
5 Vancouver Public Library (CA)	55.02%
6 Gold Coast City Council Library Services (AU)	51.31%
7 Helsinki City Library (FI)	36.34%
8 Copenhagen Public Libraries (DK)	35.26%
9 Dublin City Libraries (IE)	31.41%
10 Rotterdam Library (NL)	18.40%
11 Dresden Public Libraries (DE)	13.49%
12 Hannover Public Library (DE)	11.54%
13 Bremen Public Library (DE)	9.98%
14 Düsseldorf Public Libraries (DE)	9.57%
15 Riga Central Library (LV)	9.55%
16 Vilnius City Library (LT)	9.40%
17 Oslo Public Library (NO)	0.00%
Average	33.80%
Median	31.41%

Library Name in English	Registered Users as a % of Population
Under 500,000	
1 Cleveland Public Library (US)	116.94%
2 Toledo-Lucas County Public Library (US)	72.49%
3 Halifax Public Libraries (CA)	44.13%
4 Yarra Plenty Regional Library Service (AU)	38.13%
5 Manchester City Council Libraries (GB)	25.62%
6 Utrecht Public Library (NL)	19.79%
7 Tallinn Central Library (EE)	17.52%
8 Zurich Pestalozzi Library (CH)	17.09%
9 Toulouse Public Library (FR)	15.51%
Average	40.80%
Median	25.62%

Registered users as percentage of population
Summary values for all population groupings

Average	38.92%
Variance - 25% above average	48.65%
Variance - 25% below average	29.19%
Median	38.13%
Lower Quartile - 25%	55.03%
Upper Quartile - 75%	17.09%



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Library Name in English	Visits per Capita
1,000,000 and over	
1 Singapore, The National Library Board of (SG)	7.61
2 San Jose Public Library (US)	7.47
3 Toronto Public Library (CA)	7.01
4 Hong Kong Public Libraries (CN)	6.20
5 Queens Borough Public Library (US)	6.18
6 Brisbane City Council Library Services (AU)	6.02
7 Brooklyn Public Library (US)	5.36
8 Las Vegas-Clark County Library District (US)	5.10
9 San Diego Public Library (US)	4.46
10 New York Public Library (US)	4.41
11 Los Angeles Public Library (US)	3.96
12 Montréal Public Library (CA)	3.88
13 Harris County Public Library (US)	3.77
14 Barcelona Libraries Consortium (ES)	3.77
15 Free Library Of Philadelphia (US)	3.69
16 Prague, The Municipal Library of (CZ)	1.81
17 Budapest, Metropolitan Ervin Szabó Library (HU)	1.54
18 Vienna Public Library (AT)	0.83
19 Berlin Public Library (DE)	0.43
20 Bucharest, Metropolitan Library of (RO)	0.09
Average	4.18
Selected Total	83.63
Median	4.19

Library Name in English	Visits per Capita
999,999 – 750,000	
1 Columbus Metropolitan Library (US)	9.61
2 San Francisco Public Library (US)	8.16
3 Edmonton Public Library (CA)	7.19
4 Stockholm Public Library (SE)	7.00
5 Indianapolis-Marion County Public Library (US)	6.72
6 Charlotte Mecklenburg Library (US)	6.55
7 Jacksonville Public Library (US)	5.90
8 Ottawa Public Library (CA)	5.51
9 Amsterdam Public Library (NL)	5.31
10 Zagreb City Libraries (HR)	3.83
11 Memphis Public Library and Information Center (US)	3.63
Average	6.31
Selected Total	69.41
Median	6.55



2009 IFLA Ranking Report

Library Name in English	Visits per Capita
749,000 – 500,000	
1 Seattle Public Library (US)	12.09
2 Helsinki City Library (FI)	11.01
3 Vancouver Public Library (CA)	10.44
4 Copenhagen Public Libraries (DK)	7.40
5 Boston Public Library (US)	6.13
6 Gold Coast City Council Library Services (AU)	5.64
7 Dublin City Libraries (IE)	5.01
8 Rotterdam Library (NL)	4.95
9 Oslo Public Library (NO)	4.39
10 Milwaukee Public Library (US)	4.08
11 Dresden Public Libraries (DE)	3.46
12 Hannover Public Library (DE)	2.89
13 Düsseldorf Public Libraries (DE)	2.40
14 Bremen Public Library (DE)	2.39
15 Riga Central Library (LV)	1.62
16 Vilnius City Library (LT)	1.35
17 Oklahoma Metropolitan Library System (US)	0.00
Average	
Average	5.02
Selected Total	
Selected Total	85.26
Median	
Median	4.39

Library Name in English	Visits per Capita
Under 500,000	
1 Cleveland Public Library (US)	9.73
2 Toledo-Lucas County Public Library (US)	8.17
3 Manchester City Council Libraries (GB)	6.46
4 Halifax Public Libraries (CA)	6.04
5 Utrecht Public Library (NL)	4.43
6 Yarra Plenty Regional Library Service (AU)	4.06
7 Zurich Pestalozzi Library (CH)	2.78
8 Tallinn Central Library (EE)	2.47
9 Toulouse Public Library (FR)	1.72
Average	
Average	5.10
Selected Total	
Selected Total	45.86
Median	
Median	4.43

Visits per Capita

Summary values for all population groupings

Average	4.99
Total	284.15
Variance - 25% above average	6.23
Variance - 25% below average	3.74
Median	4.95
Lower Quartile - 25%	6.55
Upper Quartile - 75%	3.46



2009 IFLA Ranking Report

Library Name in English	Visits
1,000,000 and over	
1 Hong Kong Public Libraries (CN)	43,627,574
2 Singapore, The National Library Board of (SG)	37,973,019
3 Toronto Public Library (CA)	17,554,470
4 Los Angeles Public Library (US)	16,041,407
5 New York Public Library (US)	15,508,120
6 Queens Borough Public Library (US)	14,260,202
7 Brooklyn Public Library (US)	13,225,122
8 San Jose Public Library (US)	7,642,745
9 Las Vegas-Clark County Library District (US)	7,144,046
10 Brisbane City Council Library Services (AU)	6,470,155
11 Montréal Public Library (CA)	6,284,226
12 San Diego Public Library (US)	6,143,281
13 Barcelona Libraries Consortium (ES)	6,119,285
14 Harris County Public Library (US)	5,689,050
15 Free Library Of Philadelphia (US)	5,606,201
16 Budapest, Metropolitan Ervin Szabó Library (HU)	2,645,133
17 Prague, The Municipal Library of (CZ)	2,329,655
18 Berlin Public Library (DE)	1,481,570
19 Vienna Public Library (AT)	1,395,357
20 Bucharest, Metropolitan Library of (RO)	179,811
Average	10,866,021
Selected Total	217,320,429
Median	6,377,191

Library Name in English	Visits
999,999 – 750,000	
1 Columbus Metropolitan Library (US)	8,141,349
2 San Francisco Public Library (US)	6,984,879
3 Indianapolis-Marion County Public Library (US)	5,986,190
4 Charlotte Mecklenburg Library (US)	5,836,636
5 Stockholm Public Library (SE)	5,802,469
6 Edmonton Public Library (CA)	5,623,814
7 Jacksonville Public Library (US)	5,257,939
8 Ottawa Public Library (CA)	5,005,050
9 Amsterdam Public Library (NL)	4,216,364
10 Zagreb City Libraries (HR)	3,069,378
11 Memphis Public Library and Information Center(US)	2,958,666
Average	5,352,976
Selected Total	58,882,734
Median	5,623,814



2009 IFLA Ranking Report

Library Name in English	Visits
749,000 – 500,000	
1 Seattle Public Library (US)	7,279,791
2 Vancouver Public Library (CA)	6,439,349
3 Helsinki City Library (FI)	6,420,000
4 Copenhagen Public Libraries (DK)	3,909,663
5 Boston Public Library (US)	3,806,437
6 Rotterdam Library (NL)	2,908,000
7 Gold Coast City Council Library Services (AU)	2,900,594
8 Dublin City Libraries (IE)	2,533,900
9 Oslo Public Library (NO)	2,525,629
10 Milwaukee Public Library (US)	2,459,129
11 Dresden Public Libraries (DE)	1,770,478
12 Hannover Public Library (DE)	1,501,000
13 Düsseldorf Public Libraries (DE)	1,409,769
14 Bremen Public Library (DE)	1,309,419
15 Riga Central Library (LV)	1,144,927
16 Vilnius City Library (LT)	757,956
17 Oklahoma Metropolitan Library System (US)	-
Average	3,067,253
Selected Total	49,076,041
Median	2,529,765

Library Name in English	Visits
Under 500,000	
1 Cleveland Public Library (US)	4,157,400
2 Toledo-Lucas County Public Library (US)	3,597,147
3 Manchester City Council Libraries (GB)	3,124,610
4 Halifax Public Libraries (CA)	2,251,504
5 Yarra Plenty Regional Library Service (AU)	1,354,951
6 Utrecht Public Library (NL)	1,351,276
7 Zurich Pestalozzi Library (CH)	1,057,242
8 Tallinn Central Library (EE)	997,010
9 Toulouse Public Library (FR)	782,921
Average	2,074,896
Selected Total	18,674,061
Median	1,354,951

Visits

Summary values for all population groupings

Average	6,142,023
Total	343,953,265
Variance - 25% above average	7,677,528
Variance - 25% below average	4,606,517
Median	4,033,532
Lower Quartile - 25%	6,420,000
Upper Quartile - 75%	1,770,478