

Preliminary statistics of public library operations for the year 1956 appear in Table 1. These cover the activities of 825 public libraries in Canada.

1.—Summary Statistics of Public Libraries by Province 1956

Province or Territory	Libraries	Volumes	Circulation	Borrowers	Full-Time Staff	Trained Staff ¹
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
Newfoundland.....	2	206,961	609,963	51,071	32	6
Prince Edward Island.....	2	99,951	235,408	9,094	11	4
Nova Scotia.....	14	285,163	1,164,730	85,047	56	26
New Brunswick.....	11	143,015	285,417	22,443	21	3
Quebec.....	38	1,402,380	1,768,074	114,144	178	102
Ontario.....	490	5,176,940	20,302,493	1,163,224	1,086	337
Manitoba.....	17	261,228	1,440,622	61,701	80	18
Saskatchewan.....	73	445,051	1,382,752	82,982	93	24
Alberta.....	119	752,498	2,739,946	160,456	121	36
British Columbia.....	53	992,960	5,484,289	274,628	325	91
Northwest Territories.....	3	9,300	1,280	1,220	—	—
Yukon Territory.....	3	10,540	8,262	201	—	—
Totals.....	825	9,785,987	35,423,236	2,026,211	2,003	647

¹ Librarians with Bachelor of Library Science degrees.

Of the 825 libraries surveyed in 1956, 101 were in cities of 10,000 population or over, and these employed the bulk of the full-time staff members of all public libraries. Median annual salaries in city libraries varied with the size of the city as follows:—

<u>Staff</u>	Cities with Populations of—		
	10,000- 24,999	25,000- 99,999	100,000 Or over
	\$	\$	\$
Chief librarian.....	3,771	4,929	6,750
Deputy chief librarian.....	3,583	4,333	5,250
Head of branch or division.....	3,400	3,868	4,212
Other librarians.....	3,083	3,292	3,569
Other professional staff.....	2,250	3,188	2,792
Library assistants.....	1,881	2,039	2,439
Clerical staff.....	1,500	2,063	2,149

In addition to the primary task of circulating reading material, public libraries undertake varied special services. City libraries in 1956 lent 104,235 films and 116,474 records, organized 166 art exhibits, presented 293 radio and drama shows and had 11,317 public film showings with total attendance of over 3,000,000 persons. About 4,741 story hours for children were presented, usually on Saturday mornings.

Regional Library Service.—Regional library service, or an adaptation thereof, now functions in Newfoundland, Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, Ontario, Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia. In addition, the first regional library supervisor has been appointed in New Brunswick to organize a regional system originating in Moncton and designed eventually to provide library service for the counties of Westmorland, Albert and Kent. In February 1956, a program of provincial grants to regional libraries was announced in Manitoba and the Provincial Library is fostering regional library development in that Province.