

PUBLIC LIBRARIES

Chapter 7 Public Libraries

Data Quality

Some libraries reported under Other Major Non Specialised would have been reported as Public Libraries in other countries - so the public library totals for Poland and Spain in particular may be comparatively understated here. This is discussed further in chapter 9.

There was uncertainty in the survey instructions whether or not 'Loan Transactions' were to include or to exclude Items issued for use on the Premises. This sub total was excluded from the entry for France but may have been included elsewhere.

Response

Non responding countries are Italy, the Netherlands, Switzerland, Luxembourg and Liechtenstein. In population terms this represents a shortfall of 16% weighted for population.

Administrative Units

There is an enormous variation in the size of administrative unit having responsibility for the library service. This reflects both the structure of local government in different countries and also decisions on which tier of local administration is charged with the library service. The range in **Population per Administrative Unit** is very wide. At one end we find large units (UK average 300,000, Ireland 100,000, Lithuania 60,000 with Portugal, Sweden Slovenia and Denmark averaging between 20,000 - 50,000). At the other extreme we find several countries averaging below 5,000 population (Iceland, Czech Republic, Bulgaria, Slovak Republic, Estonia, Hungary & Poland).

There can also be substantial variation within a country. For example, there are five very large municipal authorities in France (Paris + four exceeding 300,000 population) while the average for the country (16,000) is brought down by myriad very small municipalities (1,141 below 5,000 population) - and this despite a theoretical policy to have communes of less than 10,000 served at departmental level.

There are usually strong pressures for public libraries to be administered by local municipal institutions. Whilst there are opportunities for small library authorities to co-operate among themselves in sharing stock and participating in technological development, technology has been moving towards systems and opportunities that require a reasonably large operational base - and the question must be put whether such small library authorities as exist in most European countries can effectively deliver services in the next century. Many library managers would argue that this is difficult or impossible.

Recommendation The Commission should consider sponsoring bench marking studies to examine the pros and cons of larger units - with particular reference to their ability to apply modern technology. This would include study of consortia arrangements between smaller authorities.

Service Points

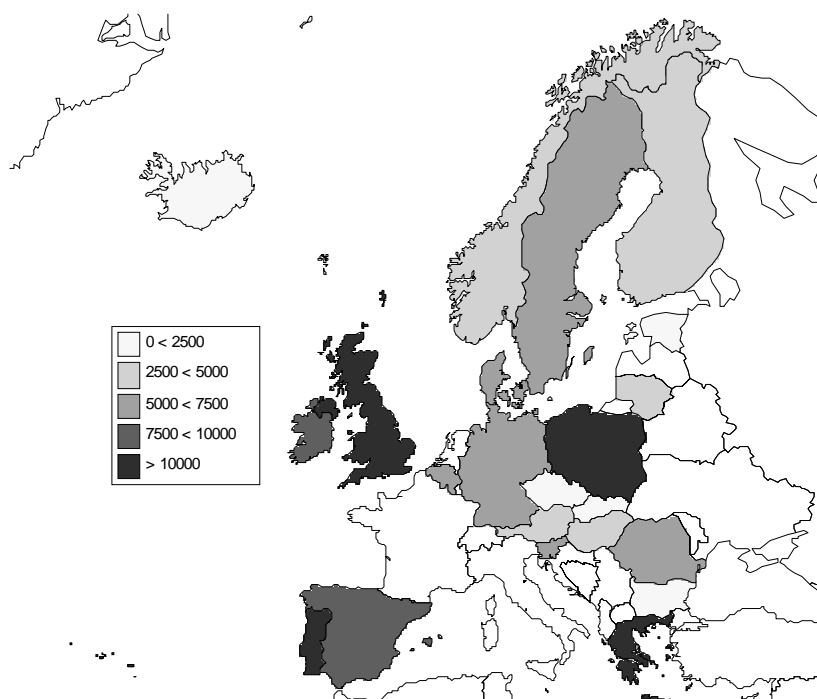
Population per Service Point In contrast to the Administrative Units the size of service points shows more homogeneity. With the exception of high but decreasing figures for Portugal (65,000 falling to 35,000) the Population per Service point lies mainly between 4,000 - 12,000 with geographical factors explaining much of the variation: as expected densely populated countries show higher population per service point than countries with smaller population spread over large area (Norway, Finland, Austria, Iceland). However, the figures for Eastern Europe are generally at a much lower level – Poland, Romania and Slovenia excepted. Where there are no unusual geographical features, figures below 3,000 would seem to many observers to be unrealistically low for the delivery of an effective and modern public library service.

Another way of making this point occurs when looking at the Average Staff per Service Point. This ratio varies from 0.6 to 6.1 – with a median in 1998 of 2.6. How effective can service points be with less than two staff, especially when the service point represents the whole library authority?

Table 7.1 Responder Population per Service Point = [Line 21 ÷ Line 3]

Public		1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998
1-31	All States	5,303	5,653	5,895	5,990	6,079	6,213	6,370	6,461
1-10	CEE	2,764	3,054	3,258	3,342	3,420	3,558	3,654	3,687
11-31 ex EFTA	EU	7,416	7,713	7,919	7,974	8,060	8,130	8,315	8,452
19,21,24,28	EFTA	3,163	3,204	3,290	3,361	3,442	3,518	3,611	3,718
13,16,19,24,27	Northern Europe	4,129	4,249	4,414	4,514	4,621	4,683	4,790	4,898
Rest	Central Europe	7,022	7,367	7,615	7,694	7,816	7,946	8,169	8,349
18,20,25,26	Southern Europe	8,647	8,789	8,843	8,820	8,800	8,726	8,829	8,869
3,5,6	Baltic States	1,977	2,100	2,180	1,915	2,194	2,261	2,286	2,319
1,2,4,7-10	Eastern Europe	2,856	3,170	3,393	3,523	3,576	3,728	3,835	3,867
1	Bulgaria	1,776	1,839	1,890	1,935	1,952	1,993	2,070	2,124
2	Czech Republic	1,242	1,269	1,291	1,304	1,326	1,352	1,385	1,406
3	Estonia	1,850	1,867	1,903	1,888	1,930	1,905	1,968	1,970
4	Hungary	2,563	2,632	2,688	2,815	2,582	2,853	2,881	2,881
5	Latvia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
6	Lithuania	2,255	2,380	2,449	1,793	2,405	2,503	2,470	2,529
7	Poland	3,713	5,219	6,757	7,738	8,714	9,807	10,841	10,841
8	Romania	7,346	7,205	7,165	7,117	7,070	7,019	6,946	6,946
9	Slovak Republic	1,599	1,655	1,660	1,666	1,677	1,681	1,684	1,675
10	Slovenia	6,839	6,460	6,346	6,653	6,640	6,681	6,673	6,632
11	Austria	3,616	3,927	4,204	3,860	3,712	4,066	4,004	4,117
12	Belgium	5,493	5,456	5,740	6,374	6,768	6,676	6,498	6,498
13	Denmark	5,220	5,380	5,394	5,456	5,527	5,861	5,936	6,259
15	Ireland	9,686	10,144	10,138	10,161	10,037	10,480	10,420	9,966
16	Finland	3,660	3,738	4,034	4,148	4,228	4,173	4,249	4,347
17	France	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
18	Greece	11,896	11,875	11,853	11,831	11,809	11,859	11,908	11,958
19	Iceland	1,242	1,292	1,299	1,458	1,463	1,490	1,478	1,478
20	Italy	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
21	Liechtenstein	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
22	Luxembourg	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
23	Netherlands	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
24	Norway	3,489	3,520	3,632	3,657	3,759	3,848	3,965	4,102
25	Portugal	65,384	66,321	63,545	54,384	52,356	48,806	44,726	35,531
26	Spain	8,053	7,985	7,916	7,847	7,747	7,604	7,649	7,649
27	Sweden	4,635	4,850	5,043	5,171	5,337	5,341	5,499	5,499
28	Switzerland	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
29	UK	10,966	11,142	11,205	11,300	11,459	11,378	12,671	12,794
31	Germany	5,318	5,726	6,010	6,103	6,257	6,429	6,544	6,763

Map 7.1 Responder Population per Service Point = [Line 21 ÷ Line 3]

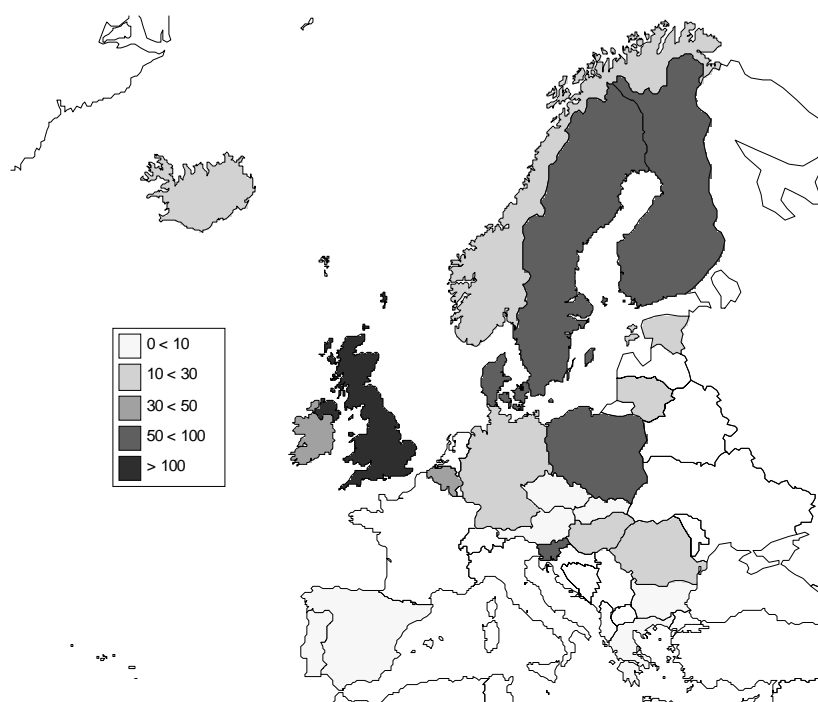


Volumes per Service Point and Transactions per Service Point also show a huge variation between countries - and for largely the same reasons. **The Transactions per Service Point** Table 7.2 is particularly telling in what it reveals about the geographic arrangements combined with levels of lending activity. Among Eastern European countries, for instance, Poland and Slovenia - with large increases since 1991 and above 40,000 annual issues per service point. - stand out as similar to Western European countries with a tradition of high lending (Denmark, Finland, Sweden, UK and Ireland). Most countries with low figures are increasing: particularly notable are Estonia (+ 116 %), Portugal (+ 100 % in 1997), Iceland (+ 41 %). Lithuania (+ 50 %), Romania (+ 32 %) and Austria (+ 34 %). Spain shows no change in the very low level reported.

Table 7.2 Transactions per Service Point = [Line 17 ÷ Line 3] (000s)

Public		1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998
1-31	All States	24.5	26.7	28.1	28.9	29.2	30.3	30.8	30.8
1-10	CEE	10.0	11.5	12.4	13.3	13.7	14.5	15.1	15.3
11-31 ex EFTA	EU	36.3	38.4	39.8	40.2	40.4	41.4	41.9	41.8
19,21,24,28	EFTA	15.2	16.1	17.0	17.3	17.9	18.8	18.8	16.7
13,16,19,24,27	Northern Europe	47.1	49.8	52.4	53.8	55.5	58.0	58.6	56.7
Rest	Central Europe	37.8	40.2	41.8	42.2	42.4	43.7	44.4	44.7
18,20,25,26	Southern Europe	22.7	23.5	24.0	24.1	24.0	24.2	24.2	23.9
3,5,6	Baltic States	11.0	11.8	12.0	12.1	12.9	14.6	15.9	16.6
1,2,4,7-10	Eastern Europe	9.9	11.4	12.5	13.5	13.8	14.5	15.0	15.2
1	Bulgaria	3.8	3.8	3.9	4.1	4.1	4.2	4.3	3.9
2	Czech Republic	6.8	6.9	7.1	7.3	7.4	7.7	8.0	8.5
3	Estonia	9.6	10.6	12.0	14.0	15.7	17.6	19.6	20.8
4	Hungary	9.0	9.5	9.7	10.1	9.3	10.3	10.4	10.4
5	Latvia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
6	Lithuania	10.0	10.4	10.4	10.6	11.4	12.8	14.2	15.0
7	Poland	16.3	24.1	31.7	38.0	43.2	48.7	53.0	53.0
8	Romania	8.8	9.6	10.3	10.6	10.9	11.2	11.7	11.7
9	Slovak Republic	7.1	7.2	7.5	8.0	8.1	8.1	8.1	8.1
10	Slovenia	31.7	36.6	37.5	40.1	42.9	45.3	48.1	52.2
11	Austria	6.1	6.5	7.3	7.5	7.4	7.8	7.8	8.2
12	Belgium	35.7	35.2	37.5	43.4	46.0	45.7	46.0	46.0
13	Denmark	85.9	87.4	88.0	86.5	86.8	94.5	96.3	88.9
15	Ireland	34.4	36.6	36.6	35.7	35.6	36.3	35.5	35.9
16	Finland	65.7	72.0	79.3	83.6	84.9	85.4	85.0	85.2
17	France	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
18	Greece	1.8	1.9	2.0	2.0	2.1	2.1	2.2	2.2
19	Iceland	7.8	8.6	9.4	11.3	11.5	11.5	11.1	11.1
20	Italy	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
21	Liechtenstein	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
22	Luxembourg	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
23	Netherlands	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
24	Norway	16.5	17.3	18.3	18.3	19.0	20.0	20.0	17.7
25	Portugal	4.6	5.6	6.1	7.0	7.5	8.5	9.2	5.9
26	Spain	4.5	4.5	4.4	4.3	4.4	4.4	4.3	4.3
27	Sweden	37.4	39.7	41.7	43.3	46.7	49.0	50.0	50.0
28	Switzerland	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
29	UK	115.3	113.9	112.4	110.1	107.9	104.1	111.2	107.5
31	Germany	18.6	21.1	22.7	23.2	23.7	24.9	25.3	26.7

Map 7.2 Transactions per Service Point = [Line 17 ÷ Line 3] (000s)



Service Points - Trend Over the seven years service points have decreased by 17 per cent. This average is much influenced by the position in Poland (decrease from 10,300 to 3,565). But most countries show decreases between 8 and 15 per cent. In broad terms this trend reflects increasing ease of travel for people to get to the library and moves to adapt to new technology - although, in particular instances, it usually appears as response to budget cuts and can engender much local opposition. In some CEE countries large numbers of libraries in factories and similar workplaces were closed in the first half of this period.

Book Stock and Loans

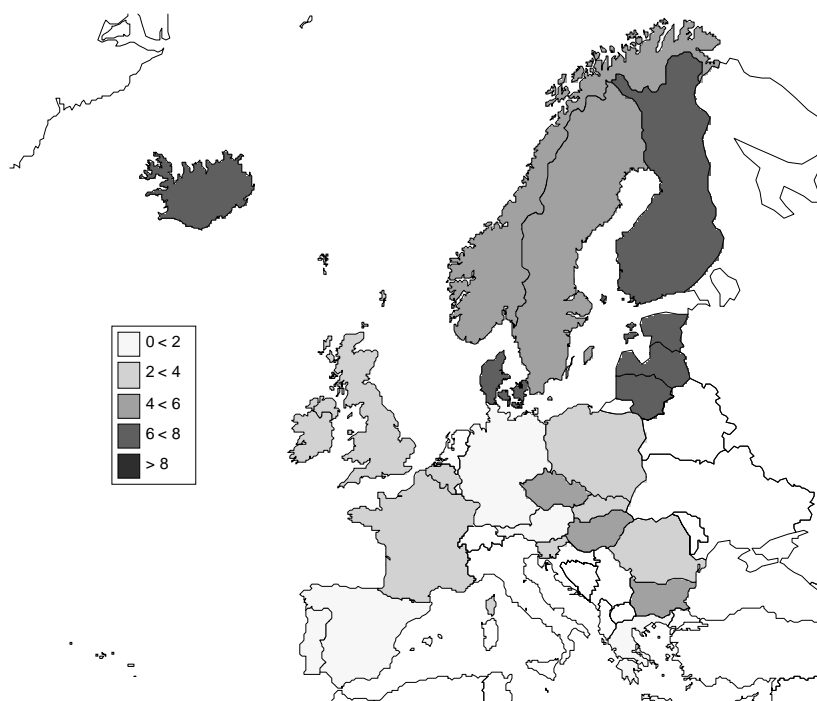
The statistics provided from responding countries are almost complete. Taken together they provide a valuable and unique picture of the main activity of European public libraries, how this varies between countries and on the main trends.

There is relative stability over the period 1991 - 1998: book stock decreased overall by only 1 per cent and loans (including audio-visual) increased by 4 per cent. However, the averages overall conceal more than they reveal - and more detailed consideration of the results is essential.

Table 7.3 Books and Bound Periodicals per 1,000 Population = [Line 4 ÷ UN Pop (all ages) × 1,000] (000s)

Public		1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998
1-31	All States	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.4
1-10	CEE	3.8	3.8	3.8	3.8	3.8	3.8	3.8	3.8
11-31 ex EFTA	EU	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0
19,21,24,28	EFTA	4.7	4.8	4.8	4.9	4.9	4.9	4.9	4.9
13,16,19,24,27	Northern Europe	5.8	5.8	5.8	5.8	5.8	5.7	5.7	5.7
Rest	Central Europe	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.1	2.1	2.0	2.0
18,20,25,26	Southern Europe	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.4
3,5,6	Baltic States	7.4	7.2	6.9	6.5	6.4	6.3	6.3	6.4
1,2,4,7-10	Eastern Europe	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.6	3.6	3.6	3.6
1	Bulgaria	5.0	5.0	4.9	4.8	4.8	4.7	4.7	4.6
2	Czech Republic	5.2	4.9	5.2	5.3	5.2	5.2	5.2	5.3
3	Estonia	7.0	6.9	6.9	6.5	6.7	6.8	6.9	7.0
4	Hungary	3.8	3.8	3.9	3.9	4.1	4.3	4.3	4.3
5	Latvia	7.9	7.6	7.1	6.6	6.4	6.1	5.8	6.0
6	Lithuania	7.2	7.0	6.8	6.4	6.4	6.3	6.3	6.5
7	Poland	3.6	3.5	3.5	3.6	3.6	3.6	3.5	3.5
8	Romania	2.0	2.0	2.1	2.1	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2
9	Slovak Republic	3.7	3.7	3.6	3.6	3.6	3.6	3.6	3.6
10	Slovenia	2.6	2.7	2.7	2.8	2.9	3.0	3.2	3.3
11	Austria	1.0	1.1	1.0	1.1	1.2	1.1	1.1	1.2
12	Belgium	2.9	2.9	2.9	3.0	3.0	3.1	3.2	3.2
13	Denmark	6.4	6.4	6.3	6.3	6.2	6.1	6.1	6.1
15	Ireland	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.3	3.3	3.2	3.0	3.1
16	Finland	7.1	7.2	7.3	7.3	7.3	7.3	7.3	7.3
17	France	1.8	1.9	1.9	2.0	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2
18	Greece	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	0.9	0.9	0.9
19	Iceland	6.9	7.1	7.2	7.2	7.4	7.7	7.5	7.5
20	Italy	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
21	Liechtenstein	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
22	Luxembourg	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
23	Netherlands	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
24	Norway	4.5	4.6	4.7	4.7	4.7	4.8	4.7	4.7
25	Portugal	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.8	0.9	0.9	0.7
26	Spain	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.9	0.9	0.9	1.0	1.0
27	Sweden	5.3	5.2	5.2	5.0	5.1	5.0	5.0	5.0
28	Switzerland	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
29	UK	2.4	2.4	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.2
31	Germany	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.5	1.5	1.4	1.4

Map 7.3 Books and Bound Periodicals per 1,000 Population = [Line 4 ÷ UN Pop (all ages) × 1,000] (000s)



We look first at the two 'per capita' ratios Volumes in stock Table 7.3 and Loans Table 7.4. (When combined these give the Stock Turn ratio - the average number of loans achieved by the stock.) While Book Stock per head varies considerably, there very few countries where it is below an average of 2 (Austria, Spain and Portugal). But this statistic includes both stock held for reference and not available for loan and also old stock that has lost its main appeal. This must largely explain what we find when we look at Loan Transactions per capita where there is a wider range between countries that have an intensive lending 'business' and those that do not.

There is no general pattern. Features, and therefore potential action to bring up low performing countries towards the European average, differ from country to country. But study of these statistics in the bench marking sense by individual countries is likely to be very productive - as illustrated by these examples:

Bulgaria has a good stock level and a reasonable loan rate - but its stock turn is low and its additions per capita are very low: the stock figures may be exaggerated and/or the stock will be old and unattractive.

Portugal and Greece show very low levels of activity on all counts, but there have been substantial increases over the period (Portugal's loans up almost threefold).

Estonia's loans increased by 83 per cent: no increase in stock and additions, but they were at a high level throughout.

Spain's loans at a low level with hardly any change in the period and lower levels of acquisitions.

Slovenia and Lithuania show substantial increase in loans (54 per cent, 26 per cent respectively) with improved Stock Turn and high and increasing levels of additions to stock (30 per cent, 54 per cent).

Austria (16 per cent), Iceland (19 per cent) and other small countries also show significant increases in Loans.

Turning to the larger countries and those in Scandinavia that have traditionally enjoyed a high level of popularity for their public libraries, the most remarkable change has been in France - where Loans have increased by 37 per cent and are now above the European average. The level of book additions in France is still reported as below average.

Both Finland and Sweden report increases in loans without any expansion in book stock and with a significant drop in additions - indicating greater efficiency and/or pressure to concentrate on more popular material. Denmark's loan figures show no change and stay at a very high level.

In the UK there has been a serious decline in loans - greater than the fall in book additions - but from a relatively very high base. Although not shown in these statistics, internal UK reports show that this decline is concentrated on adult fiction - traditionally much higher than in continental Europe - and is not shown at all in the children's section.

Germany shows steady increase in loans with reduced bookstock.

What generalisations can be drawn from this survey?

First, there is evidence to show a huge difference in the scale of public library operations between those countries which have had a well resourced public library service for many years and those countries without this historical tradition. This is not a question of country size but more of geography and cultural tradition. (Denmark and Finland are small countries with the most developed public library operations of all.) In Eastern Europe and the Baltic States there is also wide diversity though fewer countries at the minimum level.

Second, there are some countries developing their public libraries from a low base showing significant increases since 1991 - and others with no apparent development. Many countries have a long way to go to begin to match the activity levels accepted as normal elsewhere. The much publicised pressures on library budgets in countries with highly resourced services does not yet seem to have affected lending rates except in the UK.

Third, there are obvious connections between high levels of stock, loans and additions to stock - which can be studied in the statistical database. A more significant unknown is the level of library activity that is not reflected in loans statistics. Consulting material on the premises is not well measured: in principle it, and the provision of reference information, may be more common in some countries with low lending figures. However, there is no suggestion in professional circles that this is likely to be a major factor.

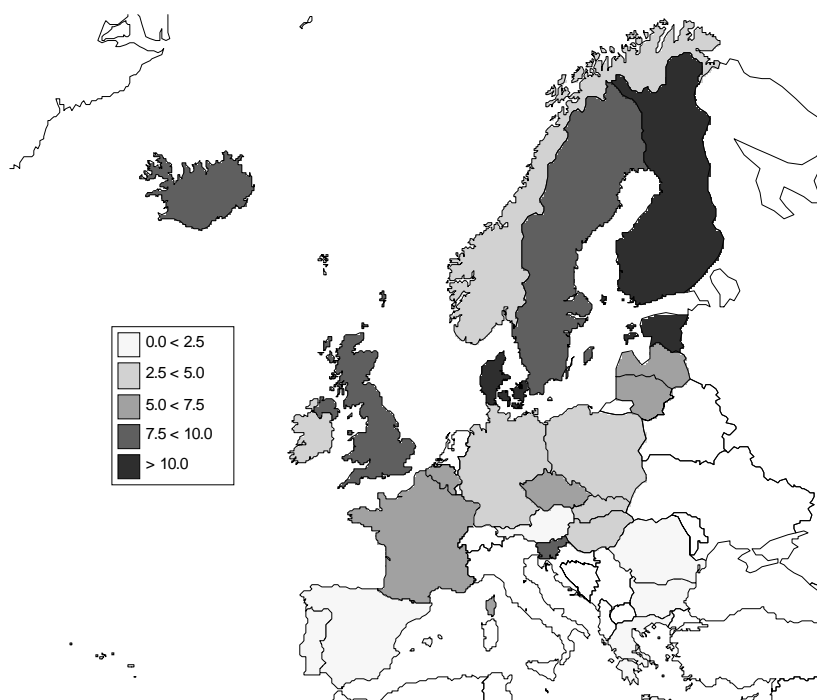
Fourth, there are well publicised initiatives to develop networking, IT and the internet in public libraries. So far this does not seem to have diminished the take up of traditional services. (In the UK loans fell long before public libraries had heard of the internet!)

Table 7.4 traces the history in Loans per head of population - the best single index of public library activity. This supports in detail the comments made above regarding both the absolute levels of activity and changes since 1991.

Table 7.4 Transactions per 1,000 Sector Population = [Line 17 ÷ UN Pop (all ages) × 1,000] (000s)

Public		1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998
1-31	All States	4.7	4.8	4.9	4.9	4.9	5.0	5.0	4.9
1-10	CEE	3.6	3.7	3.8	4.0	4.0	4.1	4.1	4.2
11-31 ex EFTA	EU	5.0	5.1	5.1	5.2	5.2	5.3	5.2	5.1
19,21,24,28	EFTA	4.8	5.0	5.2	5.2	5.2	5.4	5.2	4.5
13,16,19,24,27	Northern Europe	11.4	11.7	11.9	12.0	12.2	12.6	12.4	11.8
Rest	Central Europe	5.5	5.6	5.6	5.7	5.6	5.7	5.6	5.6
18,20,25,26	Southern Europe	2.6	2.7	2.7	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.7
3,5,6	Baltic States	5.6	5.6	5.5	5.5	5.8	6.4	6.8	7.1
1,2,4,7-10	Eastern Europe	3.5	3.6	3.7	3.8	3.9	3.9	3.9	3.9
1	Bulgaria	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	1.8
2	Czech Republic	5.5	5.4	5.5	5.6	5.6	5.7	5.8	6.0
3	Estonia	5.2	5.6	6.2	7.2	7.9	8.9	9.5	10.0
4	Hungary	3.5	3.6	3.6	3.7	3.7	3.6	3.6	3.6
5	Latvia	7.3	7.3	6.8	6.1	6.2	6.8	7.0	7.0
6	Lithuania	4.5	4.4	4.3	4.4	4.7	5.2	5.7	5.9
7	Poland	4.4	4.6	4.7	4.9	5.0	5.0	4.9	4.9
8	Romania	1.2	1.3	1.4	1.5	1.5	1.6	1.7	1.7
9	Slovak Republic	4.4	4.4	4.5	4.8	4.8	4.8	4.8	4.8
10	Slovenia	4.8	5.8	6.1	6.2	6.6	6.9	7.4	8.0
11	Austria	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.9	2.0	1.9	2.0	2.0
12	Belgium	6.5	6.5	6.5	6.8	6.8	6.8	7.1	7.1
13	Denmark	16.7	16.5	16.6	16.2	16.1	16.6	16.8	14.8
15	Ireland	3.5	3.6	3.6	3.5	3.5	3.6	3.6	3.6
16	Finland	17.7	19.2	19.7	20.3	20.3	20.7	20.3	20.0
17	France	3.7	4.1	4.3	4.5	4.6	5.0	5.1	5.1
18	Greece	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
19	Iceland	6.3	6.7	7.3	7.8	7.9	7.8	7.5	7.5
20	Italy	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
21	Liechtenstein	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
22	Luxembourg	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
23	Netherlands	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
24	Norway	4.7	4.9	5.0	5.0	5.1	5.2	5.1	4.4
25	Portugal	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2
26	Spain	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6
27	Sweden	8.0	8.2	8.3	8.5	8.9	9.3	9.2	9.2
28	Switzerland	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
29	UK	10.7	10.5	10.3	10.1	9.8	9.5	9.1	8.7
31	Germany	3.5	3.7	3.8	3.9	3.9	4.0	4.0	4.1

Map 7.4 Transactions per 1,000 Sector Population = [Line 17 ÷ UN Pop (all ages) × 1,000] (000s)



Relationship between Loans, Stock and Additions The two scattergrams show most dramatically the extreme variation between countries in levels of lending as well as the more obvious relationship with Book Stock and Book Additions. (Data are for 1997.) The relationship of loans with additions (figure 1) is even stronger than that between loans and stock (figure 2).

Figure 7.1 Additions and Transactions data correlated

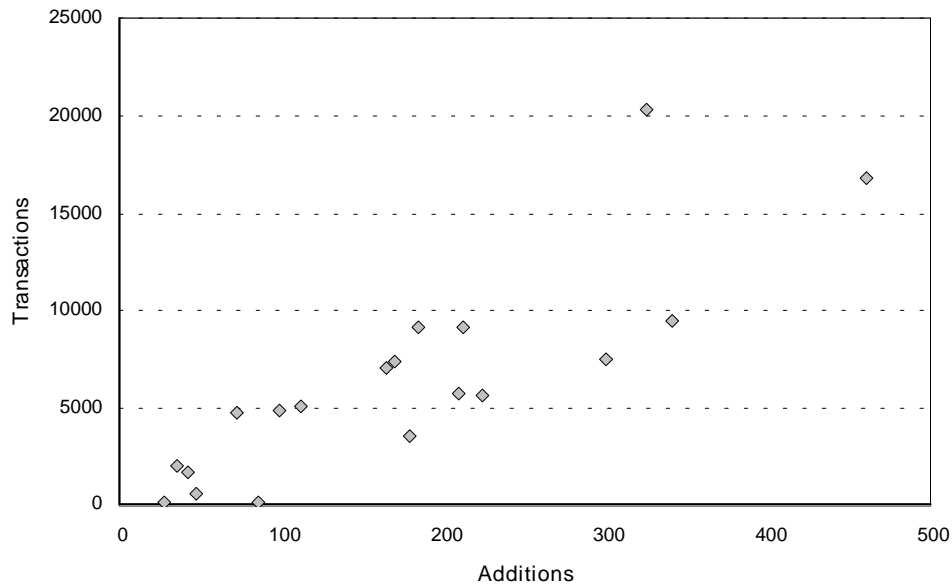


Figure 7.2 Stocks and Transactions data correlated

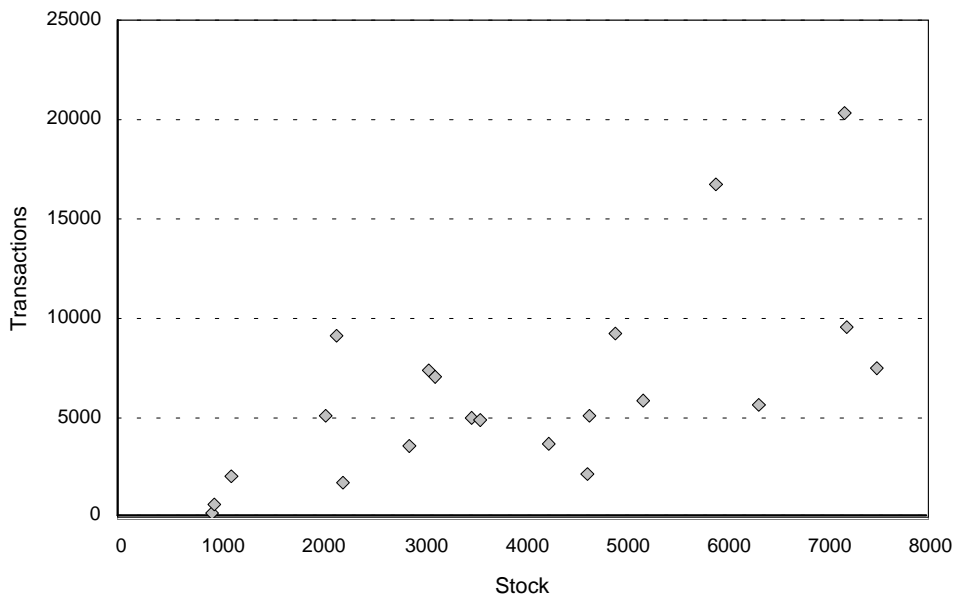


Table 7.5 Stock Turn = [Line 17 ÷ { Line 4 + Line 9 }]

Public		1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998
1-31	All States	1.8	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.9
1-10	CEE	0.9	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.1	1.1	1.1
11-31 ex EFTA	EU	2.4	2.4	2.5	2.5	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.4
19,21,24,28	EFTA	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	0.9
13,16,19,24,27	Northern Europe	1.9	1.9	1.9	2.0	2.0	2.1	2.0	1.9
Rest	Central Europe	2.6	2.6	2.7	2.6	2.5	2.6	2.6	2.6
18,20,25,26	Southern Europe	1.8	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.8
3,5,6	Baltic States	0.7	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.9	1.0	1.1	1.1
1,2,4,7-10	Eastern Europe	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1
1	Bulgaria	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4
2	Czech Republic	0.9	1.0	0.9	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.1
3	Estonia	0.7	0.8	0.9	1.1	1.2	1.3	1.4	1.4
4	Hungary	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5	Latvia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
6	Lithuania	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.9	0.9
7	Poland	1.2	1.3	1.3	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.4
8	Romania	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7
9	Slovak Republic	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.3
10	Slovenia	1.8	2.2	2.2	2.1	2.2	2.2	2.3	2.3
11	Austria	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
12	Belgium	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1
13	Denmark	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.5	2.5	2.2
15	Ireland	1.1	1.2	1.1	1.0	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1
16	Finland	2.4	2.5	2.6	2.6	2.6	2.7	2.6	2.5
17	France	1.9	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.0	2.1	2.2	2.2
18	Greece	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
19	Iceland	0.9	0.9	1.0	1.1	1.1	1.0	1.0	1.0
20	Italy	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
21	Liechtenstein	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
22	Luxembourg	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
23	Netherlands	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
24	Norway	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	0.9
25	Portugal	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
26	Spain	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6
27	Sweden	1.4	1.5	1.5	1.6	1.7	1.8	1.7	1.7
28	Switzerland	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
29	UK	4.3	4.2	4.2	4.2	4.0	3.9	3.8	3.8
31	Germany	2.0	2.2	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.5	2.5	2.6

Regional variation There are significant variations between regions - as illustrated in the following table. The scale of operation is substantially lower in Eastern Europe, and also in Southern Europe, than in the Baltic States and the rest of the EU. A simple correlation says this may reflect the sunshine factor - more cold dark nights for reading in the North than around the Mediterranean - but there will be other factors, historical and social, at work. The high stock levels reported for Eastern Europe - without corresponding book additions and loans - suggest much old stock that has lost its shine.

Table 7.6 Material provision & loans by region - 1998 data

<i>Region</i>	<i>Book stock per capita</i>	<i>Book Additions per capita</i>	<i>Loans per capita</i>
Eastern Europe	3.6	0.09	3.9
Southern Europe	1.4	0.09	2.7
Central Europe	2.0	0.15	5.6
Baltic States	6.4	0.25	7.1
Northern Europe	5.7	0.38	11.8
TOTAL	2.4	0.13	4.9

Acquisition of material

Some comments have already been made with reference to the cases cited above. In more general terms we look first at additions of books and audio-visual materials together.

Table 7.7 Book & Bound Periodical Additions per 1,000 Sector Population = [Line 11 ÷ UN Pop (all ages) × 1,000]

Public		1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998
1-31	All States	145	140	140	138	135	137	134	131
1-10	CEE	136	123	135	111	106	114	102	100
11-31 ex EFTA	EU	144	141	138	141	140	139	137	137
19,21,24,28	EFTA	249	256	266	283	267	293	301	220
13,16,19,24,27	Northern Europe	309	301	289	297	292	308	308	284
Rest	Central Europe	158	155	152	156	154	153	150	149
18,20,25,26	Southern Europe	94	93	91	92	92	93	94	91
3,5,6	Baltic States	196	192	195	200	230	225	229	251
1,2,4,7-10	Eastern Europe	131	118	130	104	96	105	92	88
1	Bulgaria	97	122	100	66	51	36	36	29
2	Czech Republic	272	194	352	221	157	283	209	176
3	Estonia	342	342	364	367	364	302	342	355
4	Hungary	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5	Latvia	182	174	162	151	148	143	169	174
6	Lithuania	145	141	148	164	231	249	224	262
7	Poland	155	140	128	112	112	104	99	99
8	Romania	49	49	55	49	51	47	43	43
9	Slovak Republic	90	90	90	90	92	98	73	67
10	Slovenia	131	114	114	127	149	163	170	188
11	Austria	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
12	Belgium	156	148	152	148	177	165	165	165
13	Denmark	381	403	390	414	420	480	462	439
15	Ireland	113	105	122	164	144	181	179	187
16	Finland	409	360	335	317	315	317	325	312
17	France	104	101	91	102	108	114	113	112
18	Greece	19	21	22	24	25	27	28	28
19	Iceland	249	256	266	283	267	293	301	300
20	Italy	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
21	Liechtenstein	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
22	Luxembourg	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
23	Netherlands	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
24	Norway	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	214
25	Portugal	30	34	29	39	44	60	87	52
26	Spain	56	56	56	51	51	50	48	48
27	Sweden	241	231	214	225	218	212	212	212
28	Switzerland	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
29	UK	228	224	225	222	208	193	184	192
31	Germany	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Map 7.7 Book & Bound Periodical Additions per 1,000 Sector Population = [Line 11 ÷ UN Pop (all ages) × 1,000]

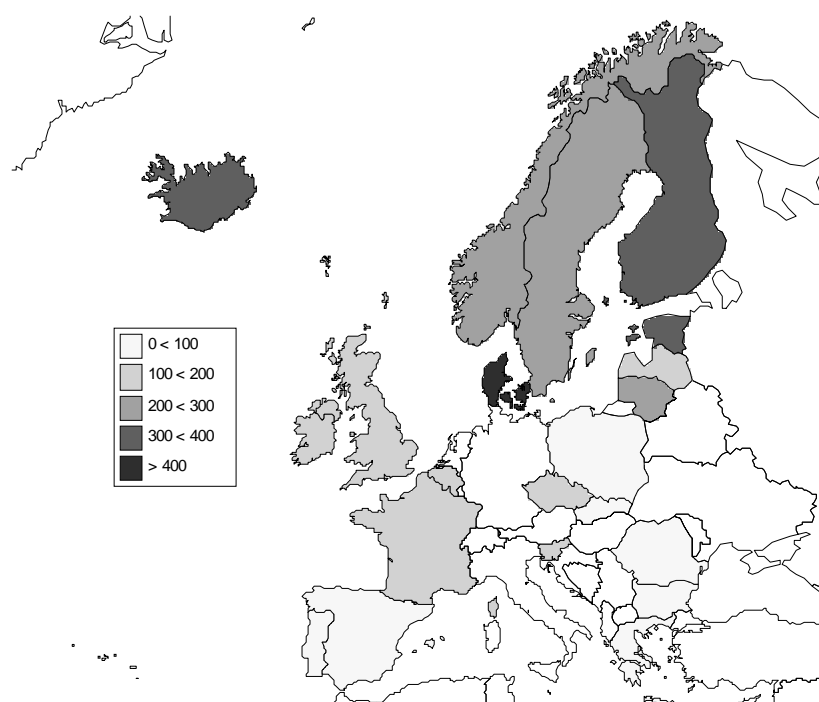
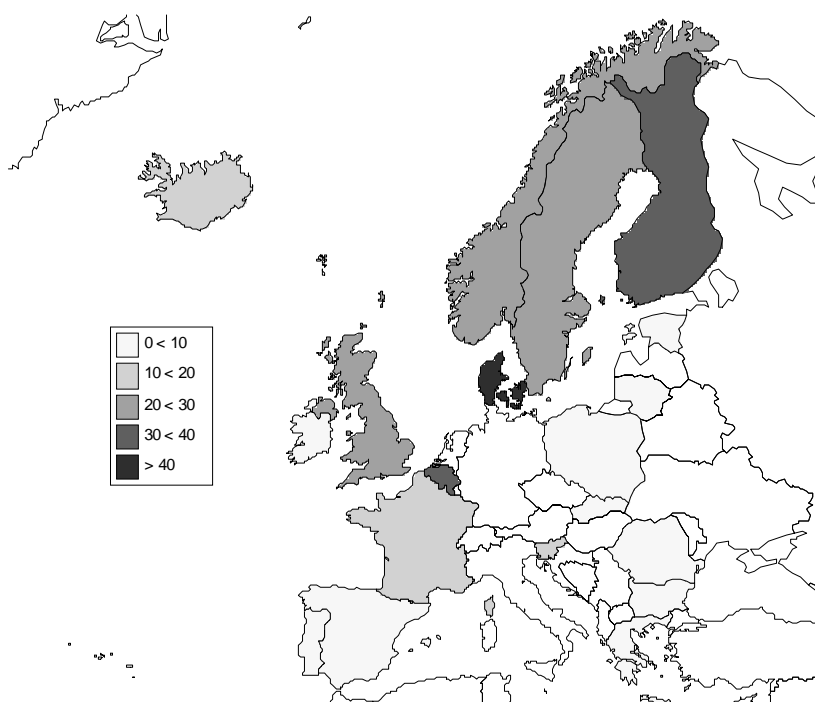


Table 7.8 Audio Visual Materials Additions per 1,000 Sector Population = [Line 12 ÷ UN Pop (all ages) × 1,000]

Public		1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998
1-31	All States	11	10	11	12	13	13	13	13
1-10	CEE	3	3	3	2	2	2	2	2
11-31 ex EFTA	EU	13	13	14	15	16	16	16	16
19,21,24,28	EFTA	8	9	14	14	14	14	15	27
13,16,19,24,27	Northern Europe	28	27	28	29	28	31	30	31
Rest	Central Europe	14	14	15	17	18	17	18	18
18,20,25,26	Southern Europe	7	7	8	8	9	9	9	9
3,5,6	Baltic States	2	2	2	2	2	1	2	2
1,2,4,7-10	Eastern Europe	3	3	3	2	2	2	2	2
1	Bulgaria	2	1	1	1	1	1	0	0
2	Czech Republic	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
3	Estonia	2	2	3	0	1	2	2	3
4	Hungary	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5	Latvia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
6	Lithuania	2	2	2	2	2	0	1	1
7	Poland	4	5	5	4	4	4	3	3
8	Romania	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
9	Slovak Republic	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
10	Slovenia	8	10	14	4	11	7	7	14
11	Austria	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
12	Belgium	16	2	21	21	27	26	34	34
13	Denmark	44	44	41	45	44	53	51	48
15	Ireland	5	4	5	7	4	9	7	7
16	Finland	45	43	43	43	42	42	41	39
17	France	11	12	11	13	14	14	13	13
18	Greece	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
19	Iceland	8	9	14	14	14	14	15	15
20	Italy	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
21	Liechtenstein	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
22	Luxembourg	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
23	Netherlands	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
24	Norway	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	27
25	Portugal	0	1	1	2	2	3	5	3
26	Spain	2	2	2	2	2	3	3	3
27	Sweden	18	17	18	18	19	20	20	20
28	Switzerland	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
29	UK	21	22	22	25	26	23	24	24
31	Germany	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Map 7.8 Audio Visual Materials Additions per 1,000 Sector Population = [Line 12 ÷ UN Pop (all ages) × 1,000]



Audio visual

In public libraries this heading covers audio cassettes, audio CDs, and videos. Audio cassettes include talking books - which are increasingly separated in detailed library statistics. We have asked for CD ROMs to be reported separately, but in many returns they are included in audio visual: the quantities are not large enough to produce significant distortion.

The relationship between books and audio visual material is of considerable interest. The general trend towards increased lending of audio visual material has continued strongly since 1991 so that the share of audio-visual has gone up by 30 per cent. However, in 1998 books were still by far the dominant medium - as is shown in the following table.

Table 7.9 Audio visual resources compared to Books

	<i>1991</i>	<i>1998</i>	<i>% change</i>
Book stock (m.)	1,180	1,172	-1%
Audio visual stock (m.)	49	61	24%
Total stock (m.)	1,229	1,233	
Audio visual as proportion	4.0%	5.2%	30%
Book additions (m.)	69.9	62.7	-9%
Audio visual additions (m.)	5.2	6.3	21%
Audio visual as proportion	6.9%	9.0%	30%

Stock and additions in millions of units - grossed up totals for all Europe.

In some countries there were dramatic increases in additions: they have more than doubled in Portugal, have just about doubled in Belgium, Iceland and Greece, and they increased in Ireland by 53 per cent and in France by 20 per cent.

Other Stock

Current Periodicals In public libraries these represent newspapers and magazines much more than learned journals. The statistics for titles and subscriptions need to be looked at together - as many countries returned only one figure. The trends show no overall pattern. There is, however, diversity in the level of provision. Small countries like Greece and Estonia - as well as the Scandinavian countries - report levels vastly higher than France and the UK, for instance.

Manuscripts and microforms show no decline in holdings since 1991. Part of the reason for variation here will lie in different demarcations of responsibility between national libraries, archive offices and the public library.

Access to stock

It was hoped that the survey would give some useful indication through the inclusion of two new questions. Of the nine replies all but Romania showed more than two thirds of stock on **open access** - with several estimates above 85 per cent. The move to Open Access has been a major achievement of this half century. There were only six replies to the question on the **Percentage of Catalogue records automated**. Neither of these data types figure in traditional library statistics - and some might argue that the data are more appropriately collected by periodic sample survey than by a formal annual statistical count. However, both items feature in the proposals to update ISO 2789 *Library Statistics*. In future LIBECON should encourage estimates, based on sample survey as an alternative to accumulated data. These features are vital and essential elements in a modern public library service.

IT and Networked Information

Four questions were included in the survey to gather information on this. They were all new and it was no surprise to find most respondents at a loss to respond. However, they are all specified for the revisions to ISO 2789 and a more complete response can be anticipated in future years - either from formal counts, from sample surveys within the country, or from special Europe wide surveys. Because there were so few responses the grossed up totals should be ignored this time.

A count of **CD ROMs** was supplied by eleven countries. In every case there was a marked increase particularly in the years 1995-1998. This is hard evidence that CD ROMs have developed an important presence in Scandinavia and the UK, that they are significant in Spain and France, and that they are beginning to find a niche in Eastern Europe.

Only seven countries answered on the number of **work stations for users**. As expected, where countries did reply, they all showed large increases at the end of the period. This corroborates the well publicised initiatives for public libraries to provide Internet access for their users - which is likely to become much more widespread in future. Statistics of this type are essential to monitor such developments.

Even fewer countries managed to give financial data to show spending on such new developments. Data on the **cost of automation** came from Romania, the Slovak Republic, Norway, Iceland and the UK. Except for Norway the responses show increases since 1991.

Only Belgium and the UK gave data throughout the period on the **cost of electronic information**. There it has increased vastly since 1991, but it is interesting to compare its present level with the spend on print materials. In Belgium in 1998 it was 1.1 per cent and in the UK it was 0.5 per cent - not yet very significant in the overall scheme of things, though figures for 1999, when available, may well show a more substantial proportion.

Inter Library Loans

Paradoxically it is the best resourced countries that show high levels of inter library lending - thus demonstrating (1) the importance of user expectations rather than stock adequacy and (2) that the necessary collaboration between libraries only comes after decades of practice in interchange. This must be the explanation for what appear, for instance, to be such low and static figures for France, Spain, and Romania.

The extent of inter library lending is influenced by user expectations, by the availability of an efficient mechanism to deliver the product, by libraries' willingness to make it available (including the incidence and level of charges), by the comparative size of public library entities, and by the way the resulting traffic is counted. It would be interesting in future studies if each country were to add commentary on these points to aid interpretation of the data.

Use and Users

There are three measures reported: Transactions (already discussed above), Visits and Registered Members. Technically they each have problems and imperfections.

Loan transactions can be distorted by the way renewals are handled in IT systems, by variation in loan periods, and by the failure to reflect use of material on library premises. The visit count relies on automatic recording methods or statistical sampling and can be distorted by local building features. The count of registered members depends for its accuracy on keeping the membership files up to date - which is inherently difficult even when tackled conscientiously. The very high UK figure for registered members is derived, not from accumulated library statistics, but from comprehensive market research asking the question whether responders had a current library ticket.

When taken together these counts present a broad picture which is valuable both in comparing results between countries and in showing trends. A summary of selected columns from the database is reproduced here as Table 7.10 to illustrate this commentary.

Table 7.10 TRENDS & COMPARISONS IN LOANS, VISITS, MEMBERSHIP

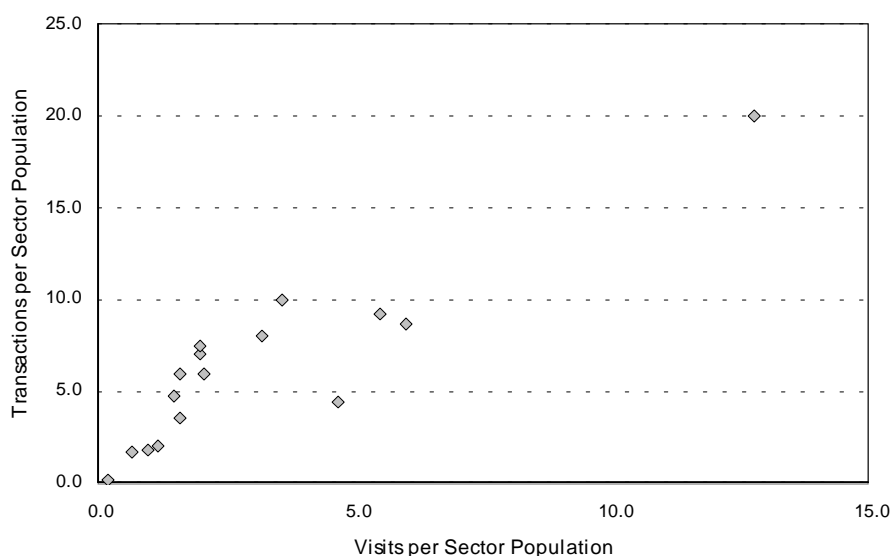
	Registered Members per 1,000 Population		Transactions per Member		Transactions per 1,000 Population		Visits per 1,000 Population	
	1991	1997	1991	1997	1991	1997	1991	1997
All States	226	244	20.6	20.3	4,659	4,957	4,707	4,512
CEE	151	149	24.0	27.6	3,621	4,124	1,183	1,349
EU	245	270	20.2	19.2	4,956	5,191	5,755	5,437
EFTA	336	301	14.2	17.4	4,781	5,249	3,957	4,421
Northern Europe	309	324	36.8	38.4	11,383	12,448	6,329	6,815
Central Europe	269	282	20.3	20.0	5,460	5,643	5,852	5,460
Southern Europe	193	238	13.7	11.7	2,639	2,788	5,268	5,007
Baltic States	249	217	22.4	31.5	5,570	6,844	1,618	2,212
Eastern Europe	143	144	24.2	27.2	3,463	3,907	1,148	1,280
Bulgaria	134	102	16.1	20.4	2,149	2,081	1,189	1,485
Czech Republic	156	136	35.0	42.5	5,462	5,792	1,399	1,428
Estonia	232	266	22.3	35.7	5,186	9,507	1,546	3,282
Hungary	142	133	24.6	27.3	3,490	3,631	1,775	1,632
Latvia	268	199	27.3	35.1	7,327	6,962	2,046	2,080
Lithuania	242	210	18.5	26.9	4,475	5,660	1,343	1,860
Poland	179	188	24.6	26.2	4,398	4,924	...	...
Romania	79	87	15.2	19.0	1,202	1,659	511	682
Slovak Republic	143	142	30.8	34.0	4,420	4,816	1,460	1,406
Slovenia	174	227	27.6	32.5	4,805	7,391	2,291	3,163
Austria	105	117	16.1	16.9	1,692	1,972	1,008	1,188
Belgium	199	239	32.7	29.6	6,507	7,073	...	...
Denmark	...	...	...	...	16,653	16,796	...	...
Ireland	224	248	15.5	14.4	3,461	3,560	...	...
Finland	454	500	39.1	40.6	17,749	20,314	10,614	12,768
France	205	214	18.2	23.8	3,727	5,090	...	...
Greece	...	...	...	...	154	185	175	232
Iceland	336	301	18.8	25.0	6,310	7,519	...	1,985
Italy	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Liechtenstein	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Luxembourg	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Netherlands	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Norway	...	...	...	...	4,696	5,093	4,205	4,555
Portugal	60	322	1.2	0.6	70	207	...	...
Spain	140	160	4.0	3.5	560	560	...	...
Sweden	...	...	...	...	8,040	9,201	5,387	5,488
Switzerland	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
UK	590	602	18.1	15.1	10,695	9,115	7,023	6,266
Germany	112	125	31.0	31.8	3,465	3,967	...	...

There is much greater variation between countries than is indicated by the grossed up regional averages.

The very wide differences in Loans per capita are made up of differences, firstly in Registered Members and, secondly in Loan Transactions per member. To increase lending activity both components need to be addressed. For example, notable increase in activity in Portugal - from a very low base - appears to be due solely to increased membership and not to an increased borrowing rate for those members.

Visits per capita correspond closely to Loan transactions.

Figure 7.3 Loans and Visits data correlated



Trends Activity is falling in the UK; elsewhere it is either static or increasing. Others will be better placed to detail the reasons for increased activity where this is apparent. Obviously there is more scope for increases in a country starting from a low base. Apart from that there is no obvious explanation why some countries appear to be developing and others not. What these figures do show, however, is that countries generally show increases on all three counts (membership, loans and visits) or they are static on all three. (The Portuguese example quoted above is an exception to this.)

Looking at individual countries' increases Estonia and Slovenia stand out on all counts. Other countries with significant relative increases include: Austria, Belgium, France, Romania, Greece and Finland.

Staffing

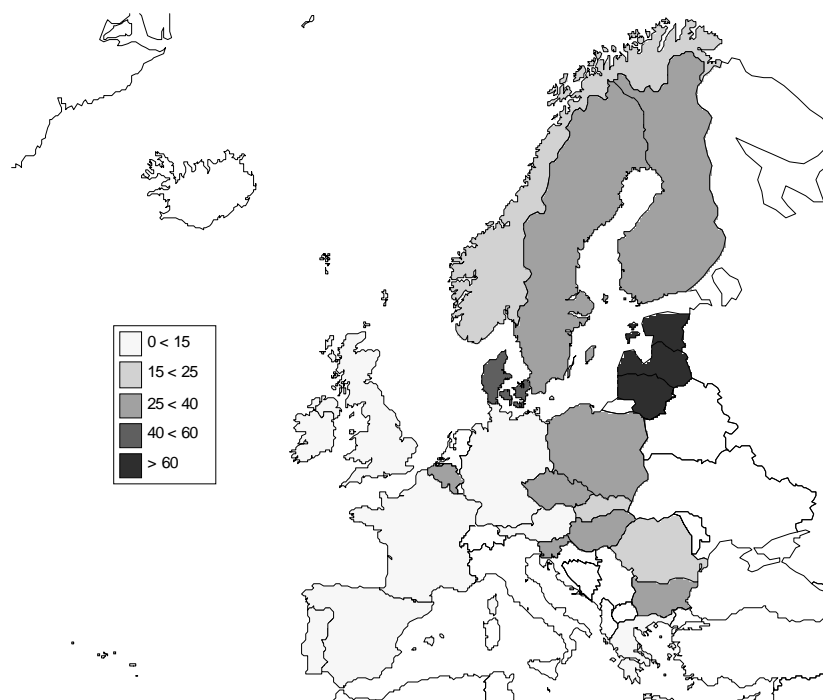
Trained librarians (or Professional staff) are generally at a level of between 20 and 45 per 100,000 population. Very much higher figures are reported from Lithuania (111) and Estonia (76). At the lower level France (13) and the UK (11) are above Germany (10), Austria (9), Spain (10), Portugal (9) and Ireland (8). This variation is very high - even though, to some extent, a lower ratio can be expected in larger countries where a higher average population per service point can produce economies of scale.

Generally movement over time in this index is not at all dramatic: however, annual changes, though small, are seldom reversed and can have a significant effect over seven years, viz. falls in Czech Republic, Slovak Republic, Sweden and the UK and increases in Portugal, Greece, Hungary, Romania, Belgium and France. In general the trend for all countries is converging.

Table 7.11 Trained Librarians per 100,000 Sector Population = [Line 22 ÷ UN Pop (all ages) × 100,000]

Public		1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998
1-31	All States	17.4	17.1	16.9	17.0	17.1	16.9	17.4	16.9
1-10	CEE	32.9	32.1	30.8	31.1	31.1	31.1	30.9	30.8
11-31 ex EFTA	EU	12.8	12.7	12.7	12.8	12.8	12.6	13.3	12.7
19,21,24,28	EFTA	20.7	20.6	21.1	20.9	21.9	21.0	21.7	21.9
13,16,19,24,27	Northern Europe	31.9	31.2	30.7	30.2	30.2	30.0	30.0	30.5
Rest	Central Europe	12.3	12.3	12.3	12.4	12.5	12.2	12.9	12.1
18,20,25,26	Southern Europe	10.5	10.5	10.6	10.8	11.0	10.9	11.5	11.1
3,5,6	Baltic States	83.6	80.6	76.6	82.1	75.9	76.4	75.2	75.6
1,2,4,7-10	Eastern Europe	28.7	28.2	27.1	27.0	27.5	27.5	27.3	27.3
1	Bulgaria	31.7	31.6	29.7	30.3	30.1	30.0	28.2	28.9
2	Czech Republic	42.8	42.1	41.1	40.3	40.5	36.9	36.3	35.9
3	Estonia	82.1	78.2	77.2	77.8	79.5	81.9	76.2	76.5
4	Hungary	28.6	28.2	28.9	27.8	29.7	32.6	30.6	30.6
5	Latvia	78.6	76.0	67.8	66.7	63.2	63.0	62.0	62.5
6	Lithuania	87.8	84.8	82.6	94.6	83.1	83.3	83.9	84.3
7	Poland	31.1	31.1	27.3	27.7	28.4	28.5	29.0	29.0
8	Romania	16.8	16.9	17.3	17.6	18.4	19.2	19.4	19.4
9	Slovak Republic	33.1	25.1	32.3	29.7	25.2	23.0	20.7	20.3
10	Slovenia	27.5	27.9	28.9	30.0	31.1	31.2	31.5	30.2
11	Austria	8.7	8.9	9.4	9.1	10.0	8.8	9.7	9.0
12	Belgium	22.3	23.3	23.7	25.0	25.2	26.2	26.6	26.6
13	Denmark	44.3	43.6	43.8	43.6	43.8	44.0	43.2	45.4
15	Ireland	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.3	7.6	7.5	7.4	7.5
16	Finland	34.3	33.0	31.8	30.8	29.7	29.8	29.6	29.4
17	France	10.9	11.0	11.6	12.0	12.2	12.7	13.1	13.0
18	Greece	7.5	8.0	8.5	9.0	9.5	10.0	10.4	10.4
19	Iceland	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
20	Italy	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
21	Liechtenstein	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
22	Luxembourg	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
23	Netherlands	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
24	Norway	20.1	20.0	20.4	20.1	21.2	20.3	20.8	21.1
25	Portugal	3.5	3.8	4.5	5.8	6.4	7.2	8.7	8.5
26	Spain	9.9	9.8	9.8	9.6	9.7	9.5	9.7	9.6
27	Sweden	29.1	28.4	27.4	27.1	26.9	26.7	27.0	26.9
28	Switzerland	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
29	UK	13.2	12.9	12.7	12.4	12.2	11.6	11.2	11.1
31	Germany	11.3	11.2	10.7	10.8	10.8	10.2	12.1	10.0

Map 7.11 Trained Librarians per 100,000 Sector Population = [Line 22 ÷ UN Pop (all ages) × 100,000]



The appropriate operational ratios of productivity are **‘Total Staff per 100,000 population’** and **‘Transactions per member of total staff’**:

These show:

Expanding from an average base: Slovenia, Lithuania, Romania, Belgium, France

Expanding from a low base: Portugal and, to a lesser extent, Greece.

Experiencing cuts in resources but mostly maintaining activity levels: Denmark, Finland, Sweden, Poland, Czech Republic.

Experiencing cuts in resources and consequently lower performance levels: UK.

Generally showing little change: remaining countries.

‘Transactions per member of Total Staff’, to some extent reflects the effectiveness of automation and economies of scale that allow higher staff productivity. The ratio may also conceal the extent of information and other non lending services for which no credit is given in the transaction count. As with other comparisons in this section of the report, the analysis points to features of interest which are only a starting point for further policy investigation.

Table 7.12 Total Staff per 100,000 Sector Population = [Line 24 ÷ UN Pop (all ages) × 100,000]

Public		1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998
1-31	All States	34.2	33.9	33.5	33.8	34.0	34.6	34.1	34.5
1-10	CEE	44.6	43.5	42.5	43.1	43.0	43.0	42.6	42.6
11-31 ex EFTA	EU	30.9	30.8	30.6	30.8	31.0	31.9	31.4	31.9
19,21,24,28	EFTA	43.7	43.6	44.2	43.5	45.7	44.4	44.1	44.6
13,16,19,24,27	Northern Europe	77.5	75.2	72.8	71.1	70.9	70.4	68.8	69.7
Rest	Central Europe	31.4	31.4	31.3	31.4	31.7	32.7	32.1	32.8
18,20,25,26	Southern Europe	21.9	21.9	22.0	22.5	22.9	23.4	23.4	23.5
3,5,6	Baltic States	105.2	102.2	97.6	118.2	98.0	97.6	97.0	97.0
1,2,4,7-10	Eastern Europe	39.7	38.7	38.1	37.9	38.7	38.7	38.3	38.3
1	Bulgaria	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
2	Czech Republic	51.9	50.9	49.8	49.5	49.3	44.3	42.5	42.2
3	Estonia	102.3	99.4	99.6	100.0	103.3	107.6	100.4	100.9
4	Hungary	35.9	35.7	36.1	33.6	36.8	40.6	38.3	38.3
5	Latvia	92.6	89.5	80.9	79.4	75.5	75.1	73.7	74.3
6	Lithuania	115.4	112.4	108.5	165.0	111.7	109.1	112.0	111.2
7	Poland	49.5	47.1	46.1	46.0	46.4	46.0	46.1	46.1
8	Romania	18.7	19.1	19.5	19.6	20.7	21.6	22.2	22.2
9	Slovak Republic	41.5	41.7	37.5	37.6	37.5	38.0	36.9	36.0
10	Slovenia	34.2	34.4	35.7	37.2	38.0	38.7	39.3	39.1
11	Austria	14.1	16.1	17.6	18.6	20.6	19.2	20.2	19.6
12	Belgium	34.3	35.7	36.4	38.3	38.6	40.6	40.7	40.7
13	Denmark	105.4	101.7	101.0	98.9	97.6	96.3	93.3	97.9
15	Ireland	38.2	37.5	37.6	38.4	38.0	36.4	35.9	37.5
16	Finland	92.7	89.5	87.0	84.7	83.6	83.5	82.9	81.9
17	France	27.3	28.2	30.3	30.5	32.2	33.9	34.7	34.7
18	Greece	14.7	15.4	16.1	16.8	17.4	18.0	18.6	18.5
19	Iceland	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
20	Italy	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
21	Liechtenstein	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
22	Luxembourg	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
23	Netherlands	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
24	Norway	42.5	42.4	42.9	42.2	44.2	42.9	42.6	43.0
25	Portugal	7.9	8.2	8.9	11.8	12.7	13.9	16.5	14.3
26	Spain	14.2	13.9	14.0	14.3	14.5	14.4	14.4	14.4
27	Sweden	69.7	67.6	62.9	61.1	60.9	61.0	59.1	59.1
28	Switzerland	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
29	UK	48.6	48.0	47.0	46.9	46.1	45.1	44.0	43.6
31	Germany	22.0	21.6	20.3	20.2	19.9	22.4	20.7	23.0

Map 7.12 Total Staff per 100,000 Sector Population = [Line 24 ÷ UN Pop (all ages) × 100,000]

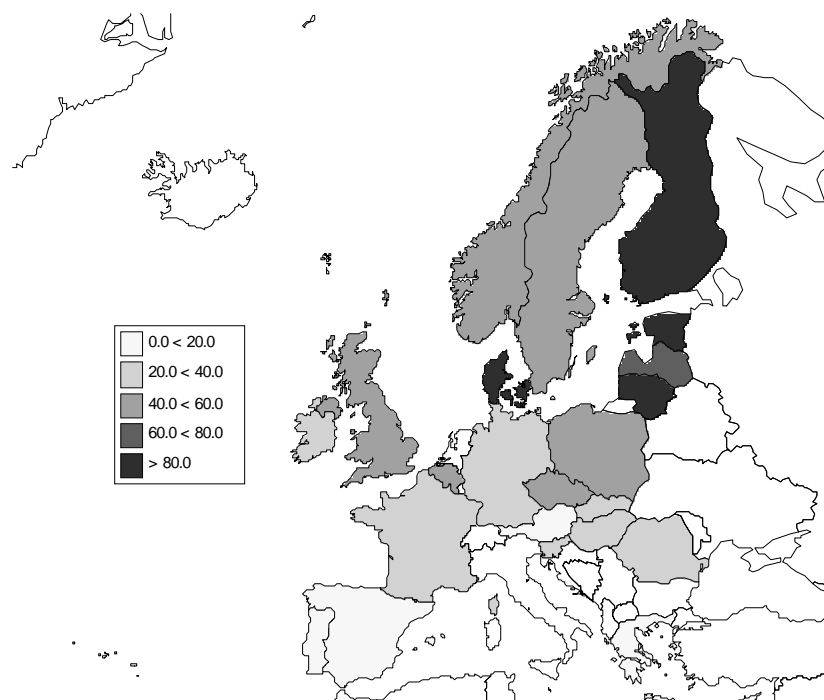
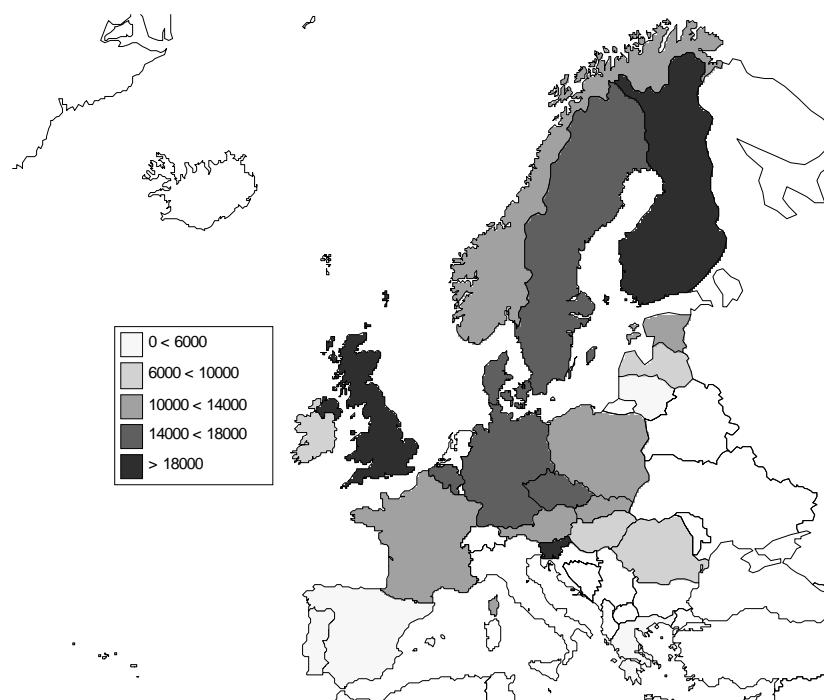


Table 7.13 Transactions per Member of Total Staff = [Line 17 ÷ Line 24]

Public		1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998
1-31	All States	13,508	13,936	14,236	14,270	14,126	14,130	14,207	13,818
1-10	CEE	8,114	8,635	8,973	9,230	9,317	9,494	9,683	9,774
11-31	ex EFTA	15,857	16,184	16,438	16,376	16,153	15,999	16,051	15,506
19,21,24,28	EFTA	11,018	11,510	11,707	11,847	11,400	12,017	11,779	10,064
13,16,19,24,27	Northern Europe	14,711	15,583	16,313	16,765	16,947	17,589	17,796	16,607
Rest	Central Europe	17,154	17,358	17,544	17,466	17,110	16,820	16,927	16,311
18,20,25,26	Southern Europe	11,950	12,233	12,335	12,103	11,928	11,868	11,698	11,457
3,5,6	Baltic States	5,285	5,484	5,624	5,334	6,015	6,620	7,161	7,383
1,2,4,7-10	Eastern Europe	8,722	9,308	9,662	10,072	9,973	10,069	10,184	10,252
1	Bulgaria	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
2	Czech Republic	10,519	10,655	11,029	11,295	11,281	12,870	13,634	14,274
3	Estonia	5,087	5,729	6,348	7,391	7,890	8,586	9,912	10,469
4	Hungary	9,809	10,075	9,992	10,719	9,806	8,890	9,462	9,462
5	Latvia	7,912	8,159	8,375	7,631	8,223	9,076	9,441	9,422
6	Lithuania	3,858	3,895	3,921	3,599	4,254	4,693	5,122	5,343
7	Poland	8,876	9,814	10,176	10,651	10,683	10,799	10,603	10,603
8	Romania	6,430	6,985	7,363	7,639	7,449	7,348	7,557	7,557
9	Slovak Republic	10,657	10,479	12,050	12,778	12,872	12,688	12,975	13,388
10	Slovenia	13,561	16,482	16,561	16,189	17,002	17,499	18,318	20,129
11	Austria	11,967	10,301	9,893	10,476	9,686	10,027	9,622	10,116
12	Belgium	18,998	18,062	17,963	17,800	17,584	16,858	17,379	17,379
13	Denmark	15,621	15,967	16,164	16,037	16,086	16,741	17,377	14,524
15	Ireland	9,278	9,616	9,599	9,158	9,346	9,514	9,495	9,604
16	Finland	19,350	21,520	22,595	23,800	24,031	24,518	24,135	23,929
17	France	12,888	13,483	13,161	13,599	13,061	13,722	13,638	13,638
18	Greece	1,047	1,037	1,027	1,019	1,011	1,004	997	997
19	Iceland	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
20	Italy	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
21	Liechtenstein	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
22	Luxembourg	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
23	Netherlands	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
24	Norway	11,125	11,614	11,774	11,835	11,411	12,092	11,871	10,008
25	Portugal	882	1,039	1,080	1,089	1,137	1,256	1,255	1,160
26	Spain	3,930	4,041	4,006	3,840	3,924	4,039	3,894	3,894
27	Sweden	11,561	12,091	13,145	13,697	14,350	15,037	15,394	15,394
28	Switzerland	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
29	UK	21,617	21,301	21,349	20,784	20,406	20,297	19,966	19,276
31	Germany	15,917	17,058	18,592	18,760	19,051	17,301	18,622	17,172

Map 7.13 Transactions per Member of Total Staff = [Line 17 ÷ Line 24]



FINANCIAL RESULTS

Expenditure

There are two particularly interesting types of ratio: 'Type of expenditure as % of Total Expenditure' and 'Average Cost of a unit of resource'. These apply particularly to the main expenditure heads of staff and materials.

These mainstream statistics are shown in Tables 7.14 and 7.15.

Table 7.14 Expenditure on Staff per 1,000 Sector Population = [Line 25 ÷ UN Pop (all ages) × 1,000] (€s)

Public		1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998
1-31	All States	5,360	5,556	5,659	5,936	6,173	6,516	6,862	6,985
1-10	CEE	445	533	619	708	737	809	918	996
11-31 ex EFTA	EU	6,619	6,843	6,948	7,284	7,571	7,979	8,369	8,501
19,21,24,28	EFTA	10,804	11,192	11,434	11,643	12,304	12,985	14,007	14,127
13,16,19,24,27	Northern Europe	22,422	20,995	18,948	19,622	20,751	21,922	22,107	22,563
Rest	Central Europe	6,390	6,831	7,203	7,571	7,807	8,202	8,727	8,866
18,20,25,26	Southern Europe	4,334	4,450	4,447	4,621	4,859	5,168	5,389	5,443
3,5,6	Baltic States	548	535	377	649	785	1,081	1,381	1,778
1,2,4,7-10	Eastern Europe	437	532	639	713	733	787	881	933
1	Bulgaria	168	244	370	285	281	253	315	320
2	Czech Republic	151	442	814	922	943	1,140	1,158	1,182
3	Estonia	841	743	532	1,122	1,295	1,939	2,296	2,577
4	Hungary	1,022	1,455	1,483	1,745	1,572	1,499	1,699	1,699
5	Latvia	315	335	411	735	932	1,052	1,270	1,277
6	Lithuania	592	589	289	392	473	747	1,080	1,793
7	Poland	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
8	Romania	138	66	73	76	97	110	116	116
9	Slovak Republic	205	233	452	497	540	617	703	729
10	Slovenia	3,259	2,901	3,013	3,183	4,022	4,324	4,902	5,616
11	Austria	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
12	Belgium	9,495	10,056	10,525	11,300	11,198	11,498	12,836	12,833
13	Denmark	30,528	30,557	31,875	32,336	33,703	34,611	34,631	35,965
15	Ireland	5,458	5,667	5,617	6,057	5,836	6,993	7,755	8,127
16	Finland	27,990	23,661	19,103	21,019	24,507	24,720	24,149	24,925
17	France	5,551	6,107	6,986	7,684	8,591	9,342	9,644	9,595
18	Greece	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
19	Iceland	9,320	10,378	10,818	10,203	10,285	11,528	13,460	13,410
20	Italy	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
21	Liechtenstein	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
22	Luxembourg	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
23	Netherlands	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
24	Norway	10,941	11,266	11,472	11,714	12,375	12,989	13,925	14,034
25	Portugal	420	528	560	790	882	972	1,175	1,019
26	Spain	2,302	2,231	2,013	1,908	2,099	2,352	2,295	2,287
27	Sweden	20,479	18,953	15,207	15,552	15,461	17,638	17,953	17,926
28	Switzerland	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
29	UK	9,245	9,202	8,989	9,416	9,078	9,489	11,226	11,616
31	Germany	4,480	5,246	5,771	5,853	6,054	6,163	5,883	5,989

Map 7.14 Expenditure on Staff per 1,000 Sector Population = [Line 25 ÷ UN Pop (all ages) × 1,000] (€s)

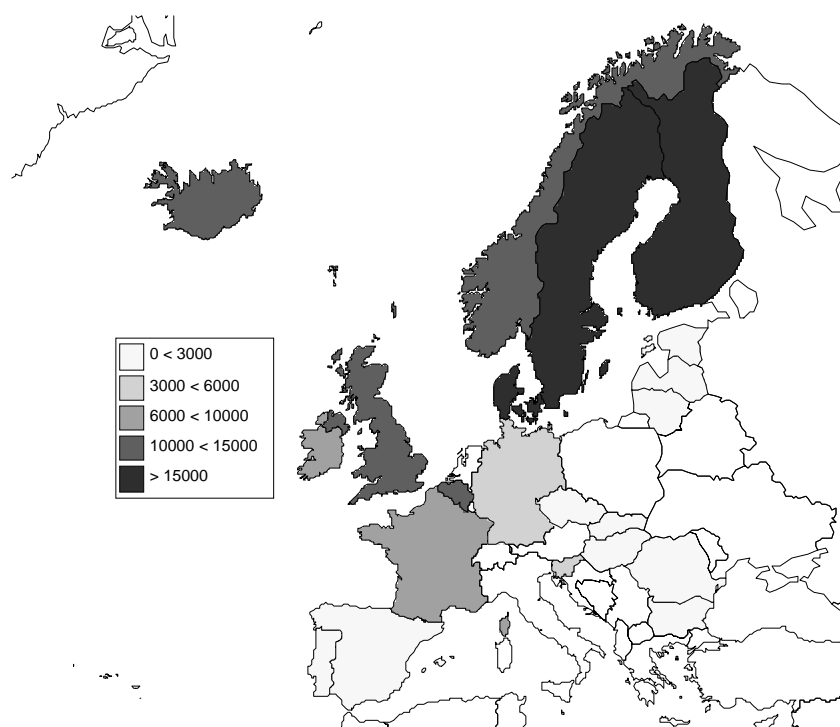
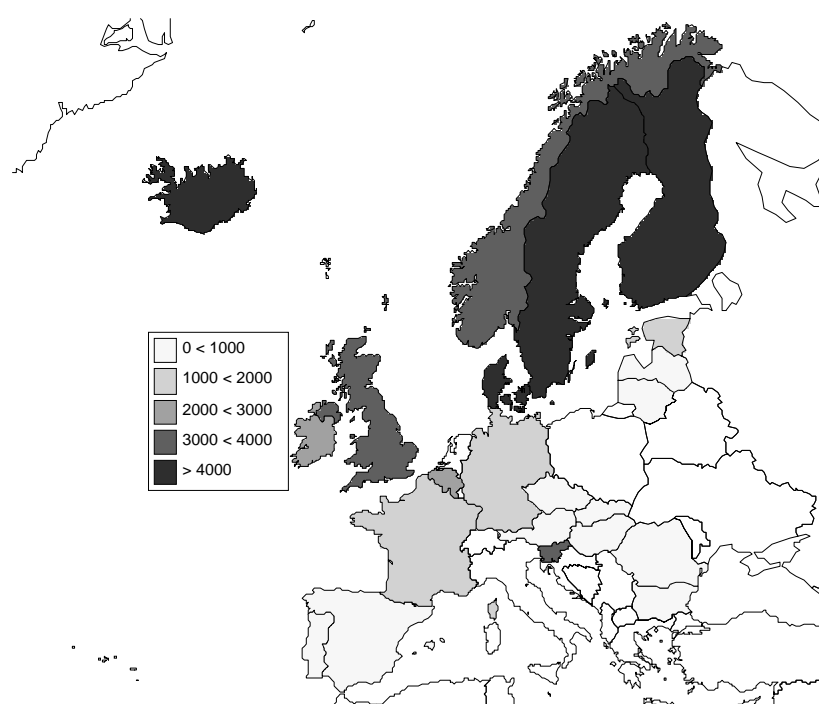


Table 7.15 Cost of Stock Acquisition per 1,000 Sector Population = [Line 26 ÷ UN Pop (all ages) × 1,000] (€s)

Public		1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998
1-31	All States	1,572	1,534	1,511	1,502	1,534	1,544	1,588	1,589
1-10	CEE	138	161	183	225	257	261	295	308
11-31 ex EFTA	EU	1,937	1,876	1,838	1,814	1,839	1,853	1,896	1,896
19,21,24,28	EFTA	3,233	3,406	3,448	3,420	3,700	3,601	3,769	3,686
13,16,19,24,27	Northern Europe	6,445	6,146	5,473	5,312	5,789	5,981	5,814	5,841
Rest	Central Europe	1,899	1,869	1,892	1,881	1,877	1,867	1,943	1,939
18,20,25,26	Southern Europe	1,240	1,182	1,150	1,124	1,139	1,154	1,186	1,181
3,5,6	Baltic States	159	190	138	236	325	378	528	600
1,2,4,7-10	Eastern Europe	137	158	187	224	252	252	277	285
1	Bulgaria	39	61	68	47	58	46	102	51
2	Czech Republic	131	190	303	396	420	429	418	436
3	Estonia	322	503	360	703	902	1,143	1,740	1,869
4	Hungary	215	306	312	367	331	324	359	359
5	Latvia	76	81	99	177	224	257	316	332
6	Lithuania	151	136	73	83	157	146	172	259
7	Poland	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
8	Romania	30	16	27	32	42	35	35	35
9	Slovak Republic	71	117	202	204	222	236	207	180
10	Slovenia	1,562	1,351	1,560	1,796	2,332	2,611	2,826	3,144
11	Austria	640	613	608	598	586	593	606	630
12	Belgium	1,849	1,639	1,938	1,936	2,151	2,283	2,400	2,400
13	Denmark	7,718	7,904	8,049	7,418	8,985	9,122	9,102	9,115
15	Ireland	1,373	1,238	1,274	1,367	1,628	1,906	2,123	2,056
16	Finland	10,562	8,929	7,262	6,769	7,226	7,384	6,345	6,549
17	France	1,397	1,478	1,588	1,649	1,697	1,824	1,828	1,819
18	Greece	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
19	Iceland	4,474	4,860	5,202	5,352	4,811	4,780	5,608	5,587
20	Italy	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
21	Liechtenstein	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
22	Luxembourg	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
23	Netherlands	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
24	Norway	3,172	3,325	3,341	3,295	3,617	3,507	3,625	3,545
25	Portugal	78	95	113	112	111	154	285	227
26	Spain	767	676	631	586	587	596	590	588
27	Sweden	4,980	4,934	3,989	4,232	4,192	4,602	4,686	4,679
28	Switzerland	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
29	UK	3,267	3,178	3,144	3,164	2,934	2,814	3,092	3,154
31	Germany	1,319	1,266	1,246	1,159	1,209	1,155	1,128	1,084

Map 7.15 Cost of Stock Acquisition per 1,000 Sector Population = [Line 26 ÷ UN Pop (all ages) × 1,000] (€s)



The **proportion of expenditure spent on staff** is within the band 40 - 80 per cent for all responses, with 45 - 60 per cent the most popular range. The **proportion of expenditure spent on materials** varies between 10 - 33 per cent. Much of the variation between countries will be due to different conventions on the inclusion or exclusion of overhead charges from other local authority services and to differences in the treatment of depreciation.

Avoiding these complications in reporting Total Expenditure it is instructive to consider the trends here with trends for staff directly related to trends for materials. Countries' results can be grouped as follows:

Table 7.16 TRENDS IN PROPORTIONAL SPENDING: Materials Costs and Employee Costs

<i>Materials up / steady, Employees up</i>	<i>Materials down Employees up</i>	<i>Materials down, Employees down</i>	<i>Variable &/or constant proportions</i>
Czech Republic	Slovak Republic	Romania	Bulgaria **
Estonia	Finland	Sweden	Hungary
Latvia	Germany	Spain	Lithuania
Slovenia	UK *		Belgium
France			Denmark
Portugal			Eire
			Iceland
			Norway

* Decrease in Materials only in last 2 years

** Trend unclear: some extreme fluctuations

Constant proportions are generally to be welcomed. Where in many countries there has been budgetary pressure to control or reduce staff costs, one would ideally hope to find this accompanied by productivity gains from automation and also by maintenance of the spend on materials for the benefit of users. It is too early to expect significant diversion of funds from conventional materials to electronic - though this can be anticipated in future years.

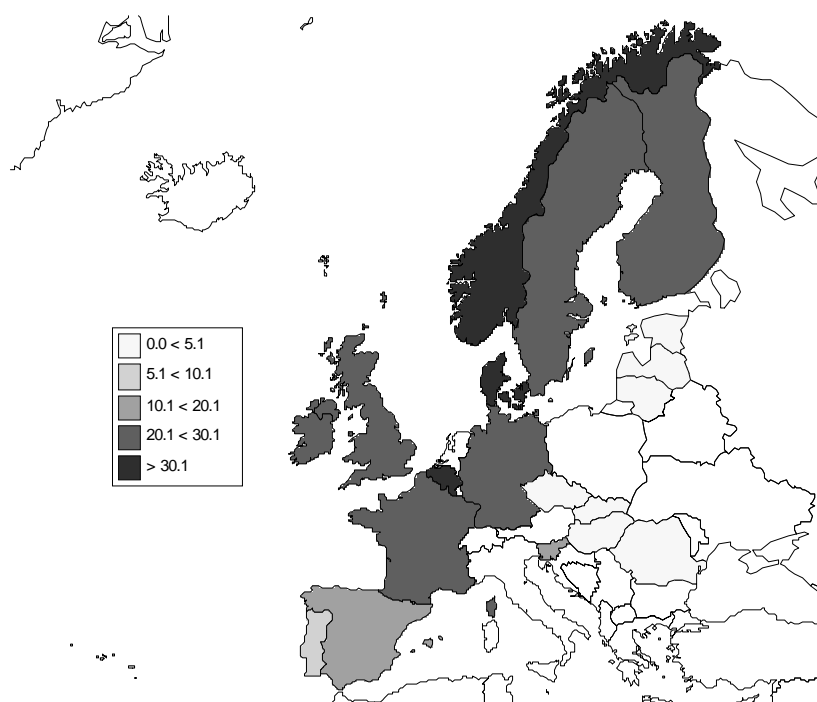
The type of trend analysis across countries explored here is necessarily at a superficial level. It should, however, serve to illustrate the sort of bench marking and international comparison exercises that can be enlightening for policy makers to undertake in each country - and for which this statistical database is designed.

In the **average staff cost per member of staff** (i.e. salary levels) we find three distinct groups reporting very different results. In 1998 Eastern European and Baltic countries (except Slovenia) are in the €1,000 - €5,000 range; Slovenia, Portugal and Spain occupy an intermediate position; other countries fall between €20,000 - €35,000. As the purchasing power of the Euro varies, so these variations will reflect differences in the standard of living between countries. But, as already discussed in chapter 4, the main factor is the low pay of librarians relative to the economy in CEE states.

Table 7.17 Employee Expenditure per Member of Staff = [Line 25 ÷ Line 24] (€000s)

Public		1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998
1-31	All States	15.5	16.2	16.6	17.3	17.8	18.4	19.7	19.8
1-10	CEB	1.0	1.2	1.5	1.7	1.7	1.9	2.2	2.3
11-31 ex EFTA	EU	21.2	21.8	22.2	23.0	23.7	24.3	25.9	25.9
19,21,24,28	EFTA	24.9	25.8	25.9	26.7	26.8	29.0	31.4	31.2
13,16,19,24,27	Northern Europe	29.0	27.9	25.9	27.3	28.9	30.7	31.6	31.8
Rest	Central Europe	20.1	21.3	22.4	23.3	23.7	24.1	26.2	26.0
18,20,25,26	Southern Europe	19.6	20.2	20.0	20.2	20.9	21.7	22.6	22.8
3,5,6	Baltic States	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.6	0.8	1.1	1.4	1.9
1,2,4,7-10	Eastern Europe	1.1	1.4	1.7	1.9	1.9	2.0	2.3	2.4
1	Bulgaria	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
2	Czech Republic	0.3	0.9	1.6	1.9	1.9	2.6	2.7	2.8
3	Estonia	0.8	0.8	0.5	1.2	1.3	1.9	2.4	2.7
4	Hungary	2.9	4.1	4.1	5.0	4.2	3.7	4.4	4.4
5	Latvia	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.9	1.2	1.4	1.7	1.7
6	Lithuania	0.5	0.5	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.7	1.0	1.6
7	Poland	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
8	Romania	0.7	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
9	Slovak Republic	0.5	0.6	1.2	1.3	1.4	1.6	1.9	2.0
10	Slovenia	9.2	8.2	8.2	8.4	10.4	11.0	12.1	14.1
11	Austria	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
12	Belgium	27.7	28.1	28.9	29.5	29.0	28.3	31.5	31.5
13	Denmark	28.6	29.6	31.1	32.1	33.7	34.8	35.8	35.3
15	Ireland	14.6	15.1	15.0	15.8	15.4	18.4	20.7	21.7
16	Finland	30.5	26.6	21.9	24.7	29.1	29.3	28.7	29.9
17	France	19.2	20.3	21.5	23.3	24.6	25.5	25.8	25.8
18	Greece	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
19	Iceland	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
20	Italy	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
21	Liechtenstein	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
22	Luxembourg	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
23	Netherlands	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
24	Norway	25.9	26.7	26.8	27.7	27.9	30.1	32.5	32.3
25	Portugal	5.3	6.5	6.3	6.7	7.0	7.0	7.1	7.1
26	Spain	16.2	16.1	14.4	13.3	14.5	16.4	16.0	16.0
27	Sweden	29.4	28.0	24.0	25.1	25.0	28.5	30.0	30.0
28	Switzerland	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
29	UK	18.7	18.7	18.6	19.4	18.9	20.2	24.6	25.7
31	Germany	20.6	24.3	28.2	28.5	29.9	26.9	27.6	25.3

Map 7.17 Employee Expenditure per Member of Staff = [Line 25 ÷ Line 24] (€000s)

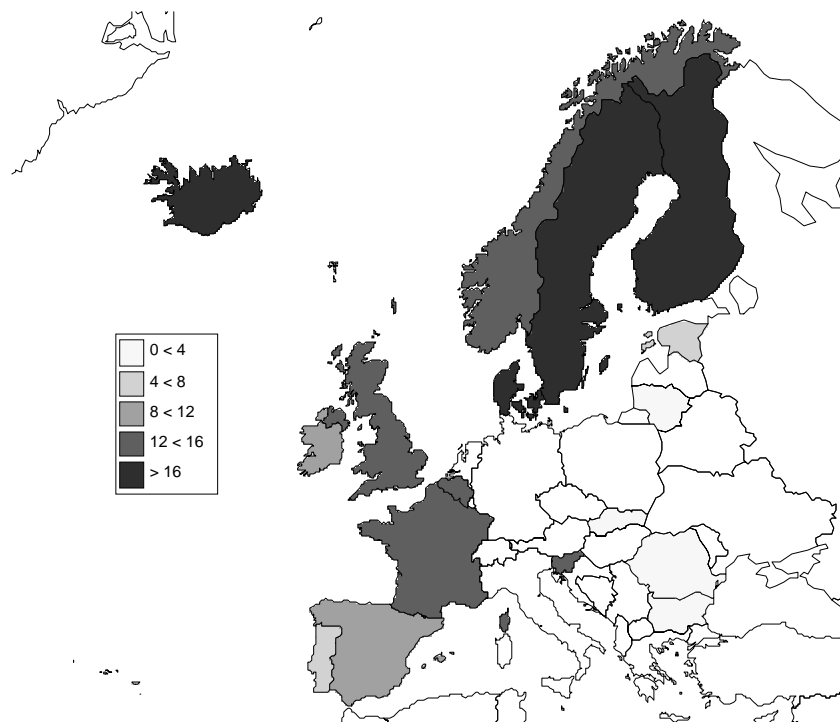


Another statistic that does not depend on the level of library activity is the **average cost per item acquired**. A similar pattern of variability is found - with Eastern Europe and Portugal showing averages below €4 (Estonia €5.2); Spain and Ireland €10 - €12; all other countries reporting running from €14 - €20. To some extent this will reflect lower prices charged for books in Eastern and Southern Europe, the commercial 'quality' of those books, and the volume of CDs and videos acquired.

Table 7.18 Average Cost per Item Acquired = [Line 26 ÷ { Line 11 + Line 12 }] (€s)

Public		1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998
1-31	All States	10.1	10.2	10.0	10.0	10.4	10.3	10.8	11.0
1-10	CEE	1.0	1.3	1.3	2.0	2.4	2.2	2.8	3.0
11-31	ex EFTA	12.3	12.2	12.1	11.6	11.8	12.0	12.4	12.4
19,21,24,28	EFTA	12.6	12.9	12.3	11.5	13.2	11.7	11.9	14.9
13,16,19,24,27	Northern Europe	19.1	18.7	17.3	16.3	18.1	17.6	17.2	18.5
Rest	Central Europe	11.0	11.1	11.3	10.9	10.9	11.0	11.6	11.6
18,20,25,26	Southern Europe	12.3	11.8	11.7	11.2	11.3	11.3	11.5	11.8
3,5,6	Baltic States	0.8	1.0	0.7	1.2	1.4	1.7	2.3	2.4
1,2,4,7-10	Eastern Europe	1.0	1.3	1.4	2.1	2.6	2.3	2.9	3.2
1	Bulgaria	0.4	0.5	0.7	0.7	1.1	1.2	2.8	1.8
2	Czech Republic	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
3	Estonia	0.9	1.5	1.0	1.9	2.5	3.8	5.1	5.2
4	Hungary	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5	Latvia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
6	Lithuania	1.0	1.0	0.5	0.5	0.7	0.6	0.8	1.0
7	Poland	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
8	Romania	0.6	0.3	0.5	0.6	0.8	0.7	0.8	0.8
9	Slovak Republic	0.8	1.3	2.2	2.2	2.4	2.4	2.8	2.7
10	Slovenia	11.3	10.8	12.2	13.6	14.6	15.3	15.9	15.5
11	Austria	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
12	Belgium	10.8	10.9	11.2	11.4	10.5	12.0	12.0	12.0
13	Denmark	18.2	17.7	18.7	16.1	19.4	17.1	17.8	18.7
15	Ireland	11.6	11.3	10.0	8.0	11.0	10.1	11.4	10.5
16	Finland	23.2	22.2	19.2	18.8	20.2	20.6	17.3	18.6
17	France	12.2	13.1	15.6	14.3	13.9	14.2	14.5	14.5
18	Greece	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
19	Iceland	17.4	18.3	18.6	18.0	17.2	15.6	17.8	17.8
20	Italy	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
21	Liechtenstein	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
22	Luxembourg	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
23	Netherlands	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
24	Norway	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14.7
25	Portugal	2.6	2.7	3.8	2.7	2.4	2.4	3.1	4.1
26	Spain	13.2	11.6	10.8	11.0	11.0	11.4	11.7	11.7
27	Sweden	19.3	19.9	17.2	17.4	17.7	19.8	20.2	20.2
28	Switzerland	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
29	UK	13.1	12.9	12.7	12.8	12.5	13.0	14.9	14.6
31	Germany	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Map 7.18 Average Cost per Item Acquired = [Line 26 ÷ { Line 11 + Line 12 }] (€s)



In looking at all the other financial statistics the levels from most Eastern European and Baltic countries appear very low when expressed in euros and compared with Western Europe. They can only be used when allowance is made for their local purchasing power - particularly with regard to staff salaries. The remainder of this commentary will therefore focus on Scandinavia and Europe west of the Danube where the distortions of currency rates and inflation are on a much smaller scale.

Levels of Total Expenditure per capita

For historical and cultural reasons there are very wide differences. These are conveniently considered by looking principally at the 1998 data and by setting countries into four groups. It is particularly unfortunate that we do not yet have the data to place Italy, the Netherlands and Switzerland in these categories.

Top spenders This group spends between €30,000 - €60,000 per 1,000 head of population - with staff costs above €15,000 and materials mostly above €5,000. Countries included are:

DENMARK
FINLAND (although much reduced since 1991)
SWEDEN

High spenders This group spends between €10,000 - €30,000 per 1,000 head of population - with Staff Costs above €5,000 and Materials spend at or above €2,000. In approximate order of total expenditure the countries in this group are:

ICELAND
NORWAY
UK (increase below inflation since 1991)
BELGIUM **
EIRE
FRANCE **
SLOVENIA (rate of increase since 1991 well above average)
GERMANY

** Although France and Belgium have not reported Total Expenditure, there are estimates for their spending on Staff and Materials separately. Since total expenditure cannot be less than these minimum figures, they clearly qualify for this category.

Low spenders Countries with total expenditure per 1,000 head of population below €10,000.

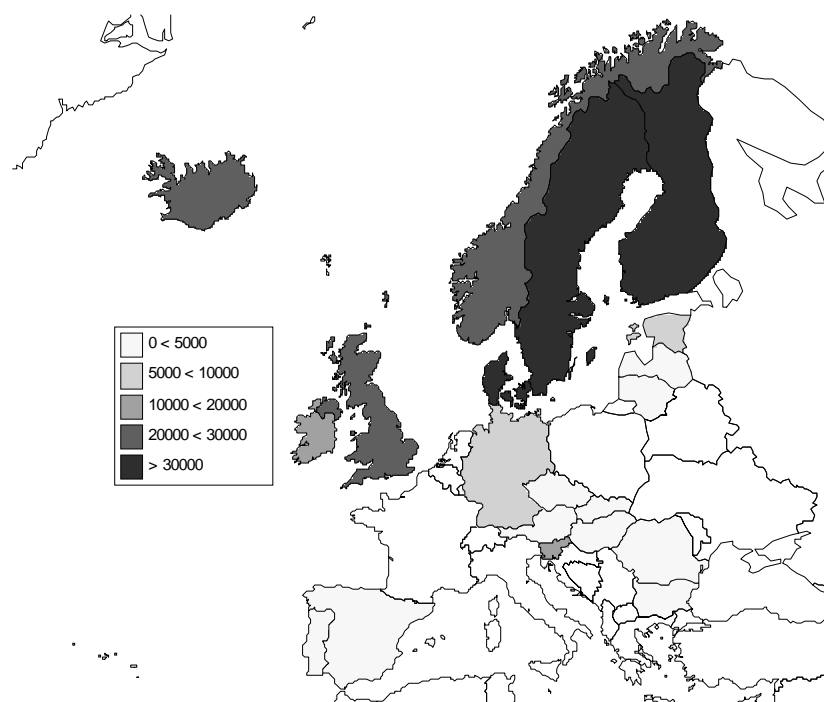
AUSTRIA (has not kept up with inflation rate)
SPAIN (has not kept up with inflation rate)
PORTUGAL (increased threefold since 1991)

ALL OTHER CEE STATES

Table 7.19 Total Expenditure per 1,000 Sector Population = [Line 32 ÷ UN Pop (all ages) × 1,000] (€s)

Public		1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998
1-31	All States	10,668	10,983	10,992	11,216	11,464	12,012	12,701	13,100
1-10	CEE	898	1,115	1,460	1,610	1,780	1,914	2,197	2,333
11-31 ex EFTA	EU	13,284	13,640	13,530	13,745	13,990	14,641	15,423	15,909
19,21,24,28	EFTA	17,884	17,991	18,773	20,066	21,271	22,186	23,469	23,370
13,16,19,24,27	Northern Europe	44,056	41,931	37,939	39,702	41,475	43,880	44,308	45,058
Rest	Central Europe	12,891	13,554	13,862	14,007	14,127	14,688	15,720	16,278
18,20,25,26	Southern Europe	8,380	8,554	8,434	8,554	8,803	9,309	9,707	9,938
3,5,6	Baltic States	1,062	1,121	977	1,449	1,786	2,295	2,960	3,714
1,2,4,7-10	Eastern Europe	885	1,114	1,499	1,622	1,779	1,884	2,137	2,223
1	Bulgaria	221	330	471	357	367	328	429	397
2	Czech Republic	763	1,065	2,209	2,375	2,658	2,695	2,877	2,869
3	Estonia	1,197	1,296	1,263	2,316	2,676	3,781	4,921	5,722
4	Hungary	1,792	2,553	2,603	3,061	2,759	2,641	2,957	2,957
5	Latvia	630	670	822	1,470	1,864	2,103	2,483	2,553
6	Lithuania	1,193	1,165	595	720	924	1,304	1,867	3,050
7	Poland	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
8	Romania	228	105	125	136	172	191	213	213
9	Slovak Republic	400	472	1,001	965	1,154	1,359	1,458	1,430
10	Slovenia	6,200	5,818	6,664	7,293	9,155	9,841	10,873	12,074
11	Austria	4,161	3,987	3,951	3,887	3,810	3,857	3,999	4,249
12	Belgium	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
13	Denmark	48,104	48,469	50,852	52,724	55,711	57,598	57,933	59,619
15	Ireland	9,538	9,415	9,309	10,241	10,249	11,803	13,298	13,666
16	Finland	52,811	44,643	36,152	38,502	43,103	43,276	42,139	43,493
17	France	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
18	Greece	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
19	Iceland	18,640	20,351	21,848	20,653	22,943	24,174	28,042	27,937
20	Italy	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
21	Liechtenstein	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
22	Luxembourg	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
23	Netherlands	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
24	Norway	17,916	19,001	19,607	19,982	21,058	21,895	22,967	22,852
25	Portugal	560	684	762	1,075	1,110	1,685	1,779	1,455
26	Spain	3,487	3,380	3,004	2,844	3,058	3,353	3,279	3,267
27	Sweden	40,638	39,052	31,834	33,036	32,767	37,133	37,488	37,432
28	Switzerland	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
29	UK	18,754	18,648	18,090	17,686	16,758	17,170	20,269	21,240
31	Germany	7,617	8,751	9,373	9,241	9,389	9,595	9,317	9,882

Map 7.19 Total Expenditure per 1,000 Sector Population = [Line 32 ÷ UN Pop (all ages) × 1,000] (€s)



Electronic Materials and Automation

Questions under these two heads were asked for the first time in this survey. In future there should be returns from many more countries. Despite the few responses this time, the replies that were received contain interesting information.

On 'Electronic Materials' Romania responded for 1996 and 1997 and the Slovak Republic for 1998 only. Full returns came from two countries showing a very large rise towards the end of the six years. However, these are significant in showing that, in 1997, Electronic Materials were 0.7 per cent of all Materials Acquisition in the UK and 1.1 per cent in Belgium. The absolute percentage figure is as yet very low.

The costs of 'Automation', as a percentage of total expenditure in 1998, amounted to:

Romania	1.0 per cent
Iceland	2.0 per cent
Norway	2.3 per cent
UK	3.1 per cent

There was no increase during the period in Norway; in the UK it went up by 50 per cent; in Iceland it trebled; and in Romania it started at zero.

Premises

Questions on premises and refurbishment were included in previous surveys - so respondents have had notice that information on this would be requested. 7 positive replies were received on 'Premises and Related Costs', 4 on 'New Buildings & Refurbishment' charged to revenue. There was some evidence of increasing premises costs charged to revenue but it was not strong.

Capital payments

The survey asked for a new breakdown into four categories: New Buildings & refurbishment, Stock acquisition, Automation and Other. In the event so few replies were received in these categories that they are not included on the database. However, on total Capital Payments 13 positive replies were received - to which should be added Belgium whose high figures were included as Revenue.

The overall estimate shows the level of Capital Payments at €448 million where the Total Revenue Expenditure was €6,279 - a ratio of 7.1 per cent.

As with other operating and spending statistics there is much variation between countries. Generally the better resourced countries also spend more on capital - with France, Finland, Iceland and Belgium reporting particularly high levels. There are also notably high and increasing levels reported by Czech Republic, Estonia, Slovenia and Portugal.

Income

The overall statistics for Total Income are not very significant: one way or another all public libraries have to meet their expenditure budgets and they do not indulge in deficit or profit financing except in occasional years. It is therefore appropriate for this exercise to focus on those elements of particular concern to library management - namely the income sources of 'Fines, Fees & charges' and 'Other income'. These are the divisions adopted for this survey. There was a reasonable response to these questions - from which it can be deduced that 'Fines, Fees & Charges' have increased since 1991 from 2.6 per cent of total income to 5.0 per cent - and that 'Other Income' has increased from 2.8 per cent to 5.3 per cent.

The rise in ‘Other Income’ may include substantial contributions to development projects from corporations such as Soros and from government agencies outside the normal funding stream.

Most countries that responded showed increasing trends - particularly the following:

COUNTRIES with substantially increased INCOME SOURCES

<i>Other income</i>	<i>Fines, fees & charges</i>
Czech Republic	Czech Republic
Estonia	Lithuania
Hungary	Romania
Slovak Republic	Slovak Republic
Denmark	Slovenia
Iceland	Belgium
UK	Finland
	France
	UK

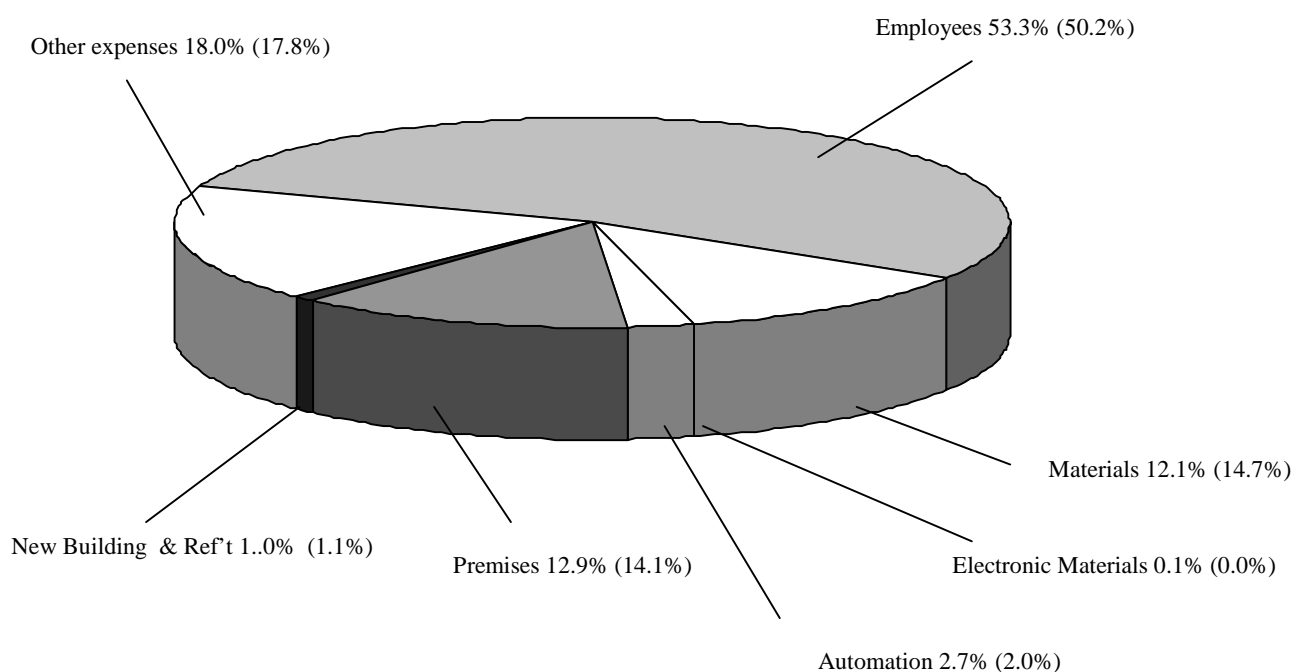
Summary of financial results

Financial analyses including summaries are presented for All Countries, EU and CEE countries. The same cautionary qualifications relating to the data as have been explained in previous chapters apply.

Table 7.20 Public Libraries Expenditure and Income - All States

Responses No.	%	EXPENDITURE	1991 € millions	1998 € millions	%ge Change	1991 %	1998 %
21	75	Employees	2,585	3,348	30	50.2	53.3
22	77	Materials	758	762	1	14.7	12.1
4	26	Electronic materials	0.8	4.6	475	0.0	0.1
5	24	Automation	103	167	62	2.0	2.7
7	30	Premises	726	808	11	14.1	12.9
10	38	New Building & Ref't	58	60	3	1.1	1.0
21	63	Other expenses	914	1,130	24	17.8	18.0
20	59	TOTAL EXPENDITURE	5,146	6,279	22	99.9	100.1
INCOME							
15	37	Institutional	4,870	5,632	16	94.6	89.7
13	44	Fees & Charges	135	316	134	2.6	5.0
13	32	Other income'	142	331	133	2.8	5.3
12	51	CAPITAL PAYMENTS	353	448	27		

Figure 7.4 Public Libraries Expenditure & Income in 1998 - All States (see Table 7.20)
(1991 percentage shown in brackets)



In analysing these charts and Tables 7.20, 7.21 and 7.22 it is useful to bear in mind that price inflation between 1991 and 1998 ran at some 20 per cent in Western Europe, and there was a similar rate of inflation in the price of commercial books. Therefore the financial returns would have to show 20 per cent increase simply to maintain spending in real terms. This seems to have been virtually achieved for all states - but the results for EU States on their own, at 19 per cent, are not above the inflation rate.

In analysing the component categories it is clear that spending has increased on Automation and on Employees at the expense of Materials, Premises and the 'Other expenses' category.

The increase in Capital Payments appears to be stronger in CEE and EFTA countries than in the EU.

The increase in specific sources of Income - from 5.4 per cent to 10.3 per cent - is remarkable.

Table 7.21 Public Libraries Expenditure and Income - EU States only

Responses		1991	1998	%ge	1991	1998
No.	% EXPENDITURE	€ millions	€ millions	change	%	%
12	80 Employees	2,415	3,080	28	49.8	53.4
13	82 Materials	707	687	-3	14.6	11.9
2	27 Electronic materials	0.7	4.3	514	0.0	0.1
3	25 Automation	91	160	76	1.9	2.8
5	32 Premises	683	743	9	14.1	12.9
7	42 New Building & Ref't	57	53	-7	1.2	0.9
12	65 Other expenses	893	1,037	16	18.4	18.0
11	62 TOTAL EXPENDITURE	4,846	5,764	19	100.0	100.0
INCOME						
7	38 Institutional	4,605	5,183	13	95.0	89.9
7	48 Fees & Charges	113	285	152	2.3	4.9
5	30 Other income'	128	295	130	2.6	5.1
7	55 CAPITAL PAYMENTS	330	403	22		

Table 7.22 Public Libraries Expenditure and Income - CEE States only

Responses		1991	1998	%ge	1991	1998
No.	% EXPENDITURE	€ millions	€ millions	change	%	%
9	60 Employees	47.3	105.0	122	49.6	42.7
9	65 Materials	14.7	32.5	121	15.4	13.2
2	100 Electronic materials	0.0	0.0	**	0.0	0.0
2	6 Automation	0.0	1.0	**	0.0	0.4
2	6 Premises	10.0	41.8	318	10.5	17.0
3	21 New Building & Ref't	0.7	5.8	729	0.7	2.4
9	62 Other expenses	22.6	60.0	165	23.7	24.4
9	62 TOTAL EXPENDITURE	95.3	246.1	158	99.9	100.1
INCOME						
8	59 Institutional	83.6	205.9	146	87.7	83.7
6	39 Fees & Charges	3.8	13.4	253	4.0	5.4
8	59 Other income'	7.9	26.8	239	8.3	10.9
5	36 CAPITAL PAYMENTS	8.4	25.0	198		