

TABLE 4.—*Distribution of public library units (excluding bookmobiles), 1962*

	Total	Central libraries	Branches	Stations
Total.....	23,020	6,264	5,725	11,031
Alabama.....	528	75	89	364
Alaska.....	24	23	1	1
Arizona.....	121	35	11	75
Arkansas.....	355	53	130	172
California.....	1,419	179	627	613
Colorado.....	199	91	38	70
Connecticut.....	311	188	91	32
Delaware.....	25	18	3	4
District of Columbia.....	18	1	17	1
Florida.....	214	115	84	15
Georgia.....	899	87	187	625
Hawaii.....	41	4	20	17
Idaho.....	75	66	3	6
Illinois.....	718	395	114	209
Indiana.....	551	239	128	184
Iowa.....	497	330	92	75
Kansas.....	225	192	22	11
Kentucky.....	588	73	76	439
Louisiana.....	381	55	292	34
Maine.....	196	177	7	12
Maryland.....	132	23	95	14
Massachusetts.....	937	351	228	358
Michigan.....	1,041	264	222	555
Minnesota.....	665	183	103	379
Mississippi.....	305	57	129	119
Missouri.....	863	147	126	590
Montana.....	111	47	36	28
Nebraska.....	219	184	24	11
Nevada.....	25	17	7	1
New Hampshire.....	240	202	22	16
New Jersey.....	614	296	122	196
New Mexico.....	39	35	4	1
New York.....	1,078	95	879	104
North Carolina.....	1,039	97	203	739
North Dakota.....	62	48	8	6
Ohio.....	2,685	249	403	2,033
Oklahoma.....	93	63	15	15
Oregon.....	256	94	76	86
Pennsylvania.....	1,201	297	126	778
Rhode Island.....	84	80	11	13
South Carolina.....	547	50	102	395
South Dakota.....	119	79	12	28
Tennessee.....	1,276	22	189	1,065
Texas.....	426	205	137	84
Utah.....	89	50	36	3
Vermont.....	164	145	11	8
Virginia.....	135	64	47	24
Washington.....	334	93	169	72
West Virginia.....	280	37	26	217
Wisconsin.....	452	283	65	104
Wyoming.....	89	21	43	25
Canal Zone.....	11	1	3	7
Guam.....	1	1	1	1
Puerto Rico.....	19	7	12	1
Virgin Islands.....	4	1	3	1

Source: Unpublished data in files of U.S. Office of Education for forthcoming publication, *Public Library Statistics, 1962*. Part 2. Data are for libraries reporting in this survey and not for entire universe.

It is noteworthy that, despite the recent steady growth in the number of public library units in the United States, the aggregate number of separate library agencies and library systems has remained relatively constant, as indicated by table 3. This is the result of a trend for small independent libraries to join library systems in order to broaden their tax base and improve service. Despite this trend toward consolidation, however, many small communities and library districts continue to operate independently. As a result, approximately one-half of the public library agencies in 1962 were located in places of less than 5,000 population. This is reflected in the data summarized in table 5. In this table a village library in a