

single room counts as heavily as a city library system with a central library and many branches. Hence, the data provide only an indication of the distribution of library agencies (and not facilities) by size of community.

Based on extrapolations of data from the 1964 library survey,² the approximate distribution of publicly owned library buildings by date of construction is shown below:

Construction period:	Proportion of all buildings (percent)
Before 1905.....	16
1905 to 1924.....	22
1925 to 1960.....	48
1961 or later.....	14
	100

TABLE 5.—Distribution of public library agencies by population of area served

Population category:	Number of libraries
500,000 and over.....	36
100 to 499,999.....	228
50,000 to 99,999.....	333
10,000 to 49,999.....	1,575
5,000 to 9,999.....	910
Below 5,000.....	3,182
Total.....	6,264

Source: Unpublished data in files of U.S. Office of Education for forthcoming publication, *Statistics of Public Libraries, 1962*.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

The fact that so many libraries built during the "Carnegie era" are still in use and that some 38 percent of existing library buildings are more than 40 years old is evidence of a substantial backlog of needed construction for replacement. These needs, of course, must be added to needs for expansion of existing plant, which have been mentioned earlier.

Almost all of the public libraries are owned by public bodies. Of the estimated 56.5 million square feet of space occupied for public library purposes in 1965, approximately 49 million square feet (or 86.7 percent) were owned by cities, counties, towns, special districts, public authorities, or local public bodies. About 6 million square feet (or 10.6 percent) were leased from private owners for library uses. As already noted, approximately 1.5 million square feet (or 2.7 percent) were owned by State governments.

Estimated current replacement value of State and locally owned facilities and structures in 1965 is \$1,262.5 million.³ Estimated current replacement value of furniture and equipment in rented quarters is \$22.5 million.

B. COSTS AND USER CHARGES

1. COSTS

In 1965 new public library buildings cost about \$25 per square foot. Additions to existing buildings cost about \$20 per square foot, and remodeling and alterations about \$8 per square foot.³ Costs varied

² Unpublished data in files of U.S. Office of Education for publication, *Survey of Public Library Building Facilities, 1963-64*.

³ These figures include costs of land, site development, architects' fees, construction, and initial equipment.