

Estimated needs may be accounted for as follows:

Backlog—39.8 million square feet.—This estimate reflects needs reported by public library officials in unpublished data from the U.S. Office of Education's Survey of Public Library Building Facilities, 1963-64. Reports are generally based on American Library Association standards and suggested criteria described earlier in this chapter.

Population growth—15.8 million square feet.—The estimate is based on an allowance of 0.5 square foot per capita and an assumed population increase of 1.5 percent per year.

Obsolescence—12 million square feet.—Because such a large proportion of existing library facilities were built before 1925 this is a conservative allowance, but in view of the large backlog of unmet needs, it seems prudent to assume that no larger proportion of the present buildings will be replaced during this decade.

TABLE 9.—*Capital outlay of public libraries estimated as required to meet needs during the decade 1966-75*

Fiscal year	Estimated construction cost per square foot ¹	Capital outlay (millions)	Estimated square feet to be built (millions)
1966.....	\$25.50	\$140	5.5
1967.....	26.00	145	5.6
1968.....	26.50	166	6.2
1969.....	27.05	177	6.5
1970.....	27.60	188	6.8
1971.....	28.15	200	7.1
1972.....	28.70	207	7.2
1973.....	29.30	220	7.5
1974.....	29.90	228	7.6
1975.....	30.50	236	7.7
Total.....		1,907	67.7

¹ Includes land, site preparation, architects fees, construction and initial equipment. The assumed annual increase in construction costs is 2 percent, which may be unduly optimistic based on recent general trends in the construction industry.

(b) *Distribution of Needs by Population Size of Community*

No reliable estimate of this distribution can be made.

(c) *Spending Agencies for Capital Outlays*

It is anticipated that the great majority of the projected capital outlays will be expended by cities, counties, towns, special library districts, etc. A small proportion, probably not exceeding 2 percent, is expected to be expended by State governments or State library agencies.