

Accessing Summary Library Diversity Data for Your State

Prior to accessing the summary library diversity data for your state, you may want to review the document [Identifying Diverse Library Markets](#) to better understand how diversity data were calculated.

How is a Library Identified as Serving a Diverse Population?

There are 20 different socioeconomic or demographic variables (factors) collected by either the 2010 Census or the 2010 ACS 5-year estimates that can be correlated with population diversity. These 20 variables are 1) sex, 2) race, 3) age, 4) Hispanic origin, 5) households with children, 6) housing type, 7) education, 8) linguistic isolation, 9) language X age, 10) poverty X age, 11) median household income, 12) households with social security income, 13) households with public assistance, 14) per capita income, 15) median rent, 16) median home value, 17) number working at home, 18) household X race, 19) vehicle X occupancy, and 20) public transportation usage.

If there is one block group within a library outlet's market area (i.e., within a two-mile radius) that is identified as having diversity in a particular factor (e.g., greater than 11.3% of its population is between the ages of zero to five), then the library outlet is identified as serve a diverse population for that factor (i.e., age in this particular example). There may be more than one category for a factor in which the library qualifies (e.g., that same block group may also have more than 17.15% of its population older than 75) or there may be multiple block groups within a library's market area that serves a diverse population relative to age. This project ignores the number of times a particular library outlet may qualify for a particular diversity factor and just simply have a "yes" or "no" for a particular factor.

Why is a Summary Library Diversity Data File Needed?

There are 16,808 public library outlets in the Institute of Museum and Library Services public library database for 2010 that were classified as either 'CE' (Central Library Entity) or 'BR' (Branch Outlet). Other library services that did not have a fixed location (e.g., bookmobiles) or that were not drive-to outlets (e.g., Books-by-Mail) were not included in this study.

Almost 85% of U.S. public library outlets (14,200) serve at least one type of diversity factor. Because of this large number, there is a summary library diversity file for each state that lists each outlet within the state identified by the iMapLibraries project as serving some form of diversity. **This list of outlet is not an all-inclusive list of library outlets for a state. Only library outlets within the state that met the diversity criteria in at least one diversity factor are included in the summary file.**

To obtain the library diversity summary file for your state, go to the imapLibraries.org website and click on the Diversity Data tab near the top of the web page. Go to the Download Data section and click on the name of your state. The first file name under the state box that will appear is Summary. Click on 'Summary' to download library diversity summary table for your state. If you want to print the file out, be sure to use a printer that has legal-sized (8 ½ X 14 inches) paper.

Interpreting Your State's Library Diversity Summary File

Below is a copy of the library diversity summary sheet for Delaware. Other states' summary sheets should look similar but will obviously contain different library outlets and associated data.

COUNTY	LIBRARY	Age	Education	HH_Income	HH_w_Children	HH_w_Basic	Hispanic	Home_Voice	Housing	Lang/Age	Lang/Lit	Media_Bent	PC_Income	Power/Wage	Pub_Asst	Pub_Transport	Pub_Race	Pub_Sex	Social_Security	Work_Vehicles	Work_Home	Grand Total
KENT COUNTY, DE	DE0020-002 - SMYRNA PUBLIC LIBRARY, 107 SOUTH MAIN STREET, SMYRNA	1		1	1					1	1				1	1	1	1	1	1	1	11
	DE0029-002 - DOVER PUBLIC LIBRARY, 45 SOUTH STATE STREET, DOVER	1		1						1					1	1						4
	DE0032-004 - KENT COUNTY LIBRARY, 2319 S. DUPONT HIGHWAY, DOVER	1		1	2					2	1				2	2	2	2	1	1	2	19
NEW CASTLE COUNTY, DE	DE0015-002 - NEW CASTLE PUBLIC LIBRARY, 424 DELAWARE STREET, NEW CASTLE	1		1	1					1	1											6
	DE0022-007 - WILMINGTON INSTITUTE LIBRARY, 10 EAST TENTH STREET, WILMINGTON	1	1	1	1	1		1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	19
	DE0022-009 - NORTH WILMINGTON LIBRARY, 3400 NORTH MARKET STREET, WILMINGTON	1	1	1	1	1		1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	18
	DE0022-010 - WOODLAWN LIBRARY, 2101 WEST SIXTH STREET, WILMINGTON	1	1	1	1	1		1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	18
	DE0026-002 - CORBIT CALLOWAY MEMORIAL LIBRARY, 115 HIGH STREET, ODESSA	1									1	1			1	1						5
	DE0027-002 - DELAWARE CITY PUBLIC LIBRARY, 250 FIFTH STREET, DELAWARE CITY	1								1												2
	DE0046-002 - APPOQUIMINK PUBLIC LIBRARY, 219 NORTH BROAD STREET, MIDDLETOWN	1								1		1										5
	DE0046-003 - BEAR PUBLIC LIBRARY, 101 GOVERNORS PLACE, BEAR	1	1	1	1	1			1	1	1				1	1	1					9
	DE0046-004 - KIRKWOOD HIGHWAY PUBLIC LIBRARY, 6000 KIRKWOOD HIGHWAY, WILMINGTON	1	1	1	1	1			1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	15
	DE0046-005 - HOCKESSIN PUBLIC LIBRARY, 1041 VALLEY ROAD, HOCKESSIN	1	1	1	1	1			1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	11
	DE0046-006 - CLAYMONT PUBLIC LIBRARY, 1303 GREEN STREET, CLAYMONT	1			1	1				1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	10
	DE0046-007 - BRANDYWINE HUNDRED BRANCH, 3406 CONCORD PIKE, WILMINGTON	1	1	1	1	1			1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	13
	DE0046-008 - NEWARK FREE LIBRARY, 750 LIBRARY AVENUE, NEWARK	1	1	1	1	1			1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	13
	DE0046-009 - ELSMERE PUBLIC LIBRARY, 30 SPRUCE AVENUE, WILMINGTON	1	1	1	1	1			1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	16
NEW CASTLE COUNTY, DE Total		12	9	8	8	11	6	13	11	11	7	8	5	7	8	7	2	7	14	6	160	
SUSSEX COUNTY, DE	DE0002-002 - FRANKFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY, 8 MAIN STREET, FRANKFORD	1	1			1	1			1	1											3
	DE0003-002 - GEORGETOWN PUBLIC LIBRARY, 123 WEST PINE STREET, GEORGETOWN	1	1			1	1			1	1					1	1	1	1	1	1	9
	DE0009-002 - LAUREL PUBLIC LIBRARY, 101 EAST FOURTH STREET, LAUREL	1									1	1										3
	DE0010-002 - LEWES PUBLIC LIBRARY, 111 ADAMS AVENUE, LEWES	1								1	1									1	1	5
	DE0011-002 - MILFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY, 11 S.E. FRONT STREET, MILFORD	1			1	1					1											4
	DE0013-002 - MILLSBORO PUBLIC LIBRARY, 217 WEST STATE STREET, MILLSBORO	1									1											2
	DE0017-002 - REHOBOTH BEACH PUBLIC LIBRARY, 226 REHOBOTH AVENUE, REHOBOTH BEACH	1	1	1	1	1			1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	11
	DE0018-002 - SEAFORD DISTRICT LIBRARY, 600 N MARKET ST EXT, SEAFORD	1								1	1				1	1						4
	DE0019-002 - SELBYVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY, 11 MAIN & MCCABE STREET, SELBYVILLE	1								1	1											1
	DE0023-002 - BRIDGEVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY, 600 SOUTH CANNON STREET, BRIDGEVILLE	1												1								1
	DE0028-002 - DELMAR PUBLIC LIBRARY, 101 NORTH BI-STATE BLVD, DELMAR									1												1
	DE0030-004 - MILTON PUBLIC LIBRARY, 121 UNION STREET, MILTON	1	1	1	1	1			1	1	1											3
	DE0030-007 - SOUTH COASTAL LIBRARY, 43 KENT AVENUE, BETHANY BEACH	1	1	1	1	1		1	1	1	1		1			1				1	1	12
SUSSEX COUNTY, DE Total		7	3	2	5	1	3	7	4	3	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	4	3	2	55
Grand Total		20	12	8	11	18	1	9	20	17	15	7	10	9	11	12	11	4	12	19	8	234

The summary file lists all the library outlets within the state serving at least one type of user diversity. The outlets are grouped by counties in alphabetical order (or parishes for Louisiana or census areas and boroughs for Alaska). Each library is listed with its state-assigned library identification number as well as its name, address, and city. If you do NOT find your library outlet listed under the appropriate county, then your library outlet does not meet the diversity criteria being used by this study for any of the 20 diversity factors although it still serves a unique mix of library users.

Following the library name, there are 20 columns (e.g., Age through Work_Home), with each column corresponding to one of the 20 diversity factors. If there is a '1' in a column for a particular library, then that type of user diversity is potentially served by that library outlet. The more '1's for a library outlet, the greater the potential library user diversity that is served by that outlet. The last column, Grand Total, simply is the sum of how many of the diversity factors could be served by that outlet. The maximum value is 20 because that is the maximum number of diversity factors being used at this point.

There is a summation of the number of each diversity factor for each county at the end of the listing of all the library outlets within each county, as well as a grand total for the entire state at the very end of the summary file. Looking at these numbers, one can look at diversity factors such as the predominant diversity factor within a particular county or the entire state as well as which counties potentially serve the most diverse user population.

These scores can potentially be used to identify the library outlets nationwide that have the most diversity within their market area (e.g., all libraries with scores of 18 or higher) or identify the particular library outlets or library systems within a particular state that serves the most diverse population.

What If My Library Outlet Isn't Listed?

Don't worry. Everyone can participate in the iMapLibraries project and provide us with their ideas and feedback on how to best serve library users in the diversity of library markets across the country. You don't have to serve a diverse library user population as defined by iMapLibraries in order to help us.

Remember that a public library outlet may serve an extremely diverse population but not be listed because the diversity breakpoints were calculated using national data rather than state data. Your particular outlet may have the highest diversity for some diversity factor within hundreds of miles.

Also, keep in mind that the data used were collected during the 2009 – 2010 timeframe and some even earlier for the ACS 5-year file. Local demographics and socioeconomic conditions can change rapidly and the data used during that time period may simply not reflect the reality of today.