



2012 and 2011 Library Jurisdictional Comparisons

Canadian Libraries Serving a Population Over 500,000 sorted by population

Source: Canadian Urban Libraries Council (CULC) 2012 and 2011 data.

Library Systems	Population Served		# of Branches		Population Served / Branch		Square Footage		Square Footage / Capita	
	Rank 2012	Rank 2011	Rank 2012	Rank 2011	Rank 2012	Rank 2011	Rank 2012	Rank 2011	Rank 2012	Rank 2011
Toronto Public Library	1	2,791,140	1	2,790,200	1	98	1	98	1	1,857,610
Montréal, Bibliothèque de	2	1,701,782	2	1,649,519	2	44	2	44	2	686,423
Calgary Public Library	3	1,120,225	3	1,090,936	7	18	8	17	5	460,630
Ottawa Public Library	4	935,073	4	927,118	3	33	3	33	4	449,536
Edmonton Public Library	5	812,201	5	812,201	8	17	8	17	6	432,777
Mississauga Library System	6	741,000	6	738,000	7	18	8	18	7	395,166
Winnipeg Public Library	7	704,800	7	691,800	6	20	6	20	8	342,701
Vancouver Public Library	8	652,419	8	644,214	5	22	5	22	3	499,953
Brampton Library	9	540,145	10	523,911	9	6	9	6	10	123,636
Hamilton Public Library	10	535,234	9	531,057	4	24	4	24	1	318,683

Library Systems	Collection Size		Collection Size / Capita		Materials Budget		Materials Budget / Capita		Items added / Capita	
	Rank 2012	Rank 2011	Rank 2012	Rank 2011	Rank 2012	Rank 2011	Rank 2012	Rank 2011	Rank 2012	Rank 2011
Toronto Public Library	1	10,622,556	1	11,129,221	2	3.81	2	3.99	5	\$6.20
Montréal, Bibliothèque de	2	4,192,209	2	4,119,345	4	2.46	4	2.50	-	\$4.04
Calgary Public Library	5	2,205,985	4	2,280,260	8	1.97	7	2.09	3	\$6,666,413
Ottawa Public Library	4	2,331,407	3	2,355,859	3	2.49	3	2.54	2	\$6,732,900
Edmonton Public Library	6	1,703,089	6	1,823,093	5	2.10	6	2.24	4	\$5,529,150
Mississauga Library System	8	1,280,116	8	1,325,554	9	1.73	9	1.80	9	\$2,431,500
Winnipeg Public Library	7	1,473,382	7	1,594,188	6	2.09	5	2.30	7	\$2,958,934
Vancouver Public Library	3	2,703,133	5	2,635,846	1	4.14	1	4.09	10	\$4,945,661
Brampton Library	10	679,818	10	636,630	10	1.26	10	1.22	8	\$2,856,949
Hamilton Public Library	9	1,070,425	9	1,077,439	7	2.00	8	2.03	6	\$4,065,106



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Library Systems	Total Circulation		Circulation / Capita		Total Visits		Visits / Capita		In library use			
	Rank	2012	Rank	2011	Rank	2012	Rank	2011	Rank	2012	Rank	2011
Toronto Public Library	1	32,032,036	1	33,252,235	6	11.48	6	11.92	1	18,872,588	1	19,064,857
Montréal, Bibliothèque de	3	11,290,038	5	10,475,369	10	6.63	10	6.35	2	6,610,659	2	6,527,744
Calgary Public Library	2	17,121,718	2	17,006,665	1	15.28	2	15.59	4	5,724,008	4	5,350,000
Ottawa Public Library	4	11,172,085	4	11,156,138	5	11.95	5	12.03	6	4,882,750	6	5,275,850
Edmonton Public Library	5	10,397,618	3	13,372,504	4	12.80	1	16.46	5	4,905,885	5	5,303,482
Mississauga Library System	7	7,301,788	7	7,725,096	8	9.85	8	10.47	7	4,515,250	7	4,753,900
Winnipeg Public Library	10	5,585,216	10	5,367,912	9	7.92	9	7.76	9	2,692,447	9	2,689,454
Vancouver Public Library	6	9,969,158	6	9,983,426	2	15.28	3	15.50	3	6,576,190	3	6,523,630
Brampton Library	9	6,051,036	9	5,905,285	7	11.20	7	11.27	10	1,989,551	10	2,092,269
Hamilton Public Library	8	6,980,582	8	6,906,628	3	13.04	4	13.01	8	3,788,300	8	4,089,150

Library Systems	In library use / Capita		Reference requests		Reference requests / Capita		Programs Offered		Programs Offered / Capita			
	Rank	2012	Rank	2011	Rank	2012	Rank	2011	Rank	2012	Rank	2011
Toronto Public Library	1	2.56	2	2.79	1	2,380,327	1	2,380,327	4	0.85	4	0.85
Montréal, Bibliothèque de	9	1.31	9	1.50	5	827,127	5	827,127	8	0.49	8	0.50
Calgary Public Library	3	2.32	4	2.39	2	1,532,752	2	1,532,752	3	1.37	2	1.40
Ottawa Public Library	5	1.91	5	2.13	6	632,050	6	632,050	5	0.68	6	0.68
Edmonton Public Library	7	1.60	7	1.59	3	1,350,367	3	1,350,367	1	1.66	1	1.66
Mississauga Library System	4	2.00	3	2.62	9	333,900	9	333,900	9	0.45	9	0.45
Winnipeg Public Library	8	1.54	8	1.55	8	346,909	8	346,909	7	0.49	7	0.50
Vancouver Public Library	2	2.44	1	2.95	4	901,585	4	901,585	2	1.38	3	1.40
Brampton Library	10	0.58	10	0.92	7	423,950	10	151,593	10	0.78	10	0.29
Hamilton Public Library	6	1.62	6	1.94	10	151,593	7	423,950	6	0.28	5	0.80



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Library Systems	Program Attendance				Program Attendance / Capita				Annual Hours of Library Service				Annual Hours of Library Service / Capita				Annual Hours of Library Service / Branch			
	Rank	2012	Rank	2011	Rank	2012	Rank	2011	Rank	2012	Rank	2011	Rank	2012	Rank	2011	Rank	2012	Rank	2011
Toronto Public Library	1	769,534	1	865,495	4	0.28	2	0.31	1	263,375	1	263,323	1	0.094	1	0.094	4	2,688	6	2,687
Montréal, Bibliothèque de	2	397,422	2	305,070	5	0.23	7	0.18	2	119,094	2	120,300	7	0.070	6	0.073	5	2,707	4	2,734
Calgary Public Library	3	315,457	3	270,992	3	0.28	4	0.25	3	93,463	6	54,168	5	0.083	9	0.050	10	5,192	1	3,186
Ottawa Public Library	6	214,143	6	204,714	7	0.23	5	0.22	4	80,113	3	80,113	4	0.086	4	0.086	3	2,428	8	2,428
Edmonton Public Library	4	282,702	4	251,624	2	0.35	3	0.31	7	52,552	7	51,648	9	0.065	8	0.064	9	3,091	2	3,038
Mississauga Library System	7	138,179	7	118,087	8	0.19	8	0.16	6	54,350	5	54,350	6	0.073	5	0.074	8	3,019	3	3,019
Winnipeg Public Library	9	74,127	9	73,073	9	0.11	9	0.11	9	47,825	9	47,825	8	0.068	7	0.069	2	2,391	9	2,391
Vancouver Public Library	5	246,716	5	240,233	1	0.38	1	0.37	5	59,715	4	57,408	2	0.092	3	0.089	6	2,714	7	2,609
Brampton Library	10	50,738	10	46,720	10	0.09	10	0.09	10	16,750	10	16,150	10	0.031	10	0.031	1	2,792	5	2,692
Hamilton Public Library	8	123,059	8	113,842	6	0.23	6	0.21	8	48,962	8	48,362	3	0.091	2	0.091	7	2,040	10	2,015

Library Systems	Total use ¹				Total Use / Annual Hours of Library Service				Total use / Capita				E-visits				Percentage of E-visits to Total Use			
	Rank	2012	Rank	2011	Rank	2012	Rank	2011	Rank	2012	Rank	2011	Rank	2012	Rank	2011	Rank	2012	Rank	2011
Toronto Public Library	1	97,250,094	1	98,614,003	7	369	7	374	3	34.84	4	35.34	1	25,951,430	1	23,403,526	4	26.7%	4	23.7%
Montréal, Bibliothèque de	6	24,191,611	7	21,661,799	10	203	10	180	10	14.22	10	13.13	8	2,801,631	10	1,043,140	10	11.6%	10	4.8%
Calgary Public Library	2	36,388,933	3	33,603,165	6	389	3	620	5	32.48	7	30.80	5	8,700,047	5	5,564,901	5	23.9%	7	16.6%
Ottawa Public Library	3	31,325,055	2	35,389,777	5	391	6	442	4	33.50	3	38.17	2	11,393,583	2	14,993,219	2	36.4%	1	42.4%
Edmonton Public Library	4	29,248,218	4	32,304,217	2	557	2	625	2	36.01	2	39.77	4	8,786,348	4	9,033,029	3	30.0%	3	28.0%
Mississauga Library System	7	23,965,283	6	24,900,391	4	441	5	458	6	32.34	5	33.74	3	8,841,290	3	9,218,962	1	36.9%	2	37.0%
Winnipeg Public Library	9	13,344,829	10	12,068,439	9	279	9	252	9	18.93	9	17.44	9	2,692,447	9	1,630,816	7	20.2%	9	13.5%
Vancouver Public Library	5	27,095,766	5	26,698,485	3	454	4	465	1	41.53	1	41.44	6	5,251,691	6	5,173,939	8	19.4%	6	19.4%
Brampton Library	10	12,375,283	9	12,399,696	1	739	1	768	8	22.91	8	23.67	10	2,650,000	8	2,620,641	6	21.4%	5	21.1%
Hamilton Public Library	8	17,236,091	8	17,092,689	8	352	8	353	7	32.20	6	32.19	7	2,861,150	7	2,621,500	9	16.6%	8	15.3%



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Library Systems	Total Expenditure		Cost / Use ²		Cost / Capita							
	Rank	2012	Rank	2011	Rank	2012	Rank	2011	Rank	2012	Rank	2011
Toronto Public Library	1	\$181,122,296	1	\$196,767,444	3	\$1.86	3	\$2.00	2	\$64.89	2	\$70.52
Montréal, Bibliothèque de	2	\$76,106,014	2	\$76,857,777	1	\$3.15	1	\$3.55	5	\$44.72	6	\$46.59
Calgary Public Library	3	\$49,506,108	7	\$38,774,603	9	\$1.36	10	\$1.15	8	\$44.19	9	\$35.54
Ottawa Public Library	5	\$46,848,249	3	\$50,145,899	5	\$1.50	6	\$1.42	4	\$50.10	4	\$54.09
Edmonton Public Library	6	\$43,493,726	5	\$44,612,714	6	\$1.49	7	\$1.38	3	\$53.55	3	\$54.93
Mississauga Library System	7	\$32,999,768	6	\$39,480,994	7	\$1.38	5	\$1.59	6	\$44.53	5	\$53.50
Winnipeg Public Library	8	\$27,303,355	8	\$26,692,858	2	\$2.05	2	\$2.21	9	\$38.74	7	\$38.58
Vancouver Public Library	4	\$47,903,831	4	\$48,402,383	4	\$1.77	4	\$1.81	1	\$73.42	1	\$75.13
Brampton Library	10	\$16,464,592	10	\$15,298,678	10	\$1.33	8	\$1.23	10	\$30.48	10	\$29.20
Hamilton Public Library	9	\$23,709,449	9	\$19,997,712	8	\$1.38	9	\$1.17	7	\$44.30	8	\$37.66

Notes:

1. Total use includes: Annual In Person Visits, Annual Circulation, Interlibrary Loans borrowed, Interlibrary Loans loaned, In-House Use of Library Materials, Program Attendance, Reference Transactions, E-visits, Use of Electronic Databases, Public Wireless Connections, User Sessions on Library Computer Workstations.

2. Cost / Use is calculated using Total Expenditure divided by Total use. Expense Total includes Salaries & Benefits, Other Expenditures, Expense Total Materials and Value City Services.

Mitigating factors include:

- The range of services provided by the library system. Toronto Public Library offers a comprehensive range of library services including research and reference, district and neighbourhood libraries to address the needs of Toronto's diverse population.
- The age and location of the physical infrastructure which can impact the efficiency of service delivery. At amalgamation, Toronto Public Library inherited an existing infrastructure, from 7 municipalities, with strong neighbourhood advocacy to maintain the status quo. The branch infrastructure was not rationalized to address the new municipal boundary to efficiently meet the current geographic and population needs of the City; Newer municipalities, such as Calgary and Brampton are developing an infrastructure based on current service needs factoring in new development, population density, transportation patterns and the location of other city services.
- The inherent operational and capital costs and inefficiencies associated with an aging infrastructure with non standard facility design and multiple floors
- The range of support services included within the library's operating budget. The current Canadian Public Library Statistical Report does not include a methodology to standardize the cost base for libraries and there are differences in what is included in statistical measures and how the measures are counted with most differences in newer electronic measures.