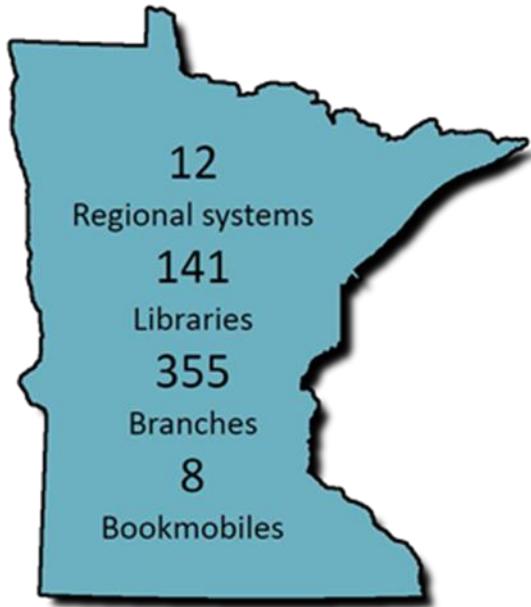


## Minnesota Public Libraries



*Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 134. Public and Multitype Libraries* allows the governing body of any city or county to establish and maintain public library service for the use of its residents. Minnesotans support public libraries through local property taxes and state income taxes.

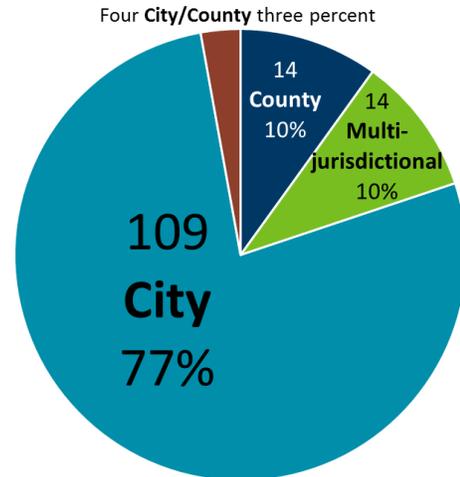
Public library services are available in all 87 counties. There are 141 public libraries and twelve regional public library systems in Minnesota. Twenty-seven libraries have multiple branches. Combined there are 355 library locations and eight bookmobiles serving communities and neighborhoods across the state.

### Administrative Structure

Most libraries are members of a regional system. Regional systems are either *consolidated* serving as

the administrative headquarters for all member libraries or *federated* with member libraries that have independent administrations. There are five unaffiliated libraries that do not belong to a regional system.

### Legal Basis



Number and percent of libraries by governing authority

Most public libraries are operated by municipal governments. Fewer are operated by county governments. Some are operated jointly by two or more units of local government such as a city, county or school district.

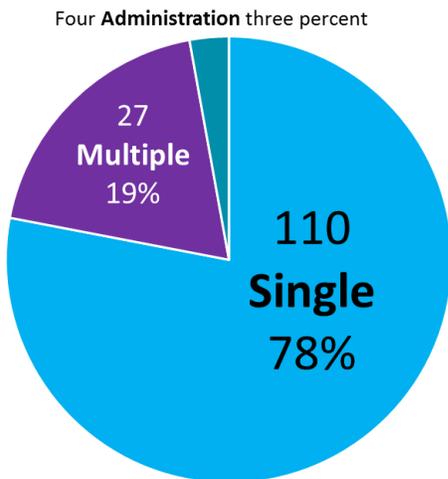
### Governance



Number and percent of libraries with a board, trustees are elected or appointed, and whether the board is advisory or governing

Almost all of Minnesota’s public libraries have a board of trustees. Most boards have trustees that are appointed by the governing authority, usually a city council or county board. Only four boards have elected members. A majority of libraries have *governing boards*, i.e., they have the authority to control the budget, make policy and hire staff. About a third of public libraries have *advisory boards*, i.e., they offer recommendations on budget, policy and hiring staff to the governing authority, i.e., a city council or county board.

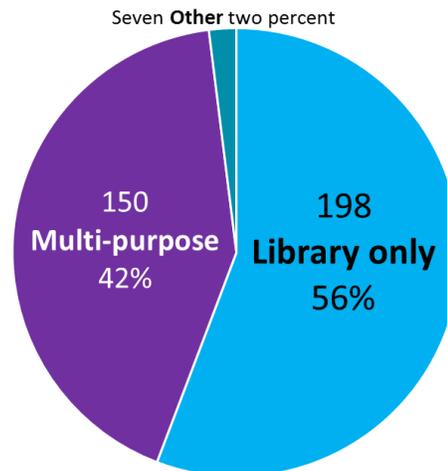
## Outlets



Number and percent of libraries by location type

Most public libraries serve their communities from one building that functions solely as a library. Fewer libraries have multiple branches. Four libraries serve as administrative headquarters with some public services such as a bookmobile or books-by-mail program.

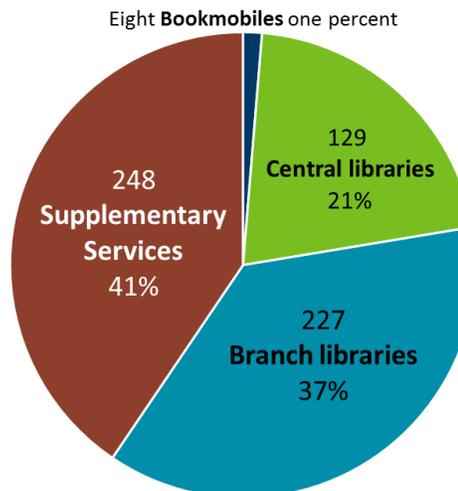
## Facility Type



Number and percent of libraries by building type

A majority of public libraries are housed in a single-purpose library building built to serve as a library. Most of the others are housed in a multi-purpose building that was constructed to include the library along with other government agencies or businesses or where the library was included at a later date. *Other* includes administrative offices separate from a library.

## Service Outlets



Number and percent of libraries by service outlet type

## Minnesota Public Libraries, Administrative Structure

Minnesota has eight bookmobiles, 129 central libraries and 227 branch libraries. (Some library systems have all branches without a central library.) Supplementary services provide reference or circulate materials in other locations like a kiosk or online homework help.

### **Source: Minnesota Public Library Report, 2017**

Minnesota public libraries are required by Minnesota Statutes, section 134.13, to submit annual reports to the Minnesota Department of Education. Data is also submitted to the Institute of Museums and Library Services for the Public Libraries in the United States Survey.

Statistics include input and output measures related to facilities, services, programs, collections, staffing, hours of operation, and income and expenditures. Statistical information is used by public libraries and policymakers to plan and implement services that meet the needs of their communities.

Data for 2017 was submitted February through April 2018 using an online survey. All regional library systems and 99 percent of public library administrative entities in Minnesota completed the survey. (Watonwan County Library did not report.)

For information about the 2017 Minnesota Public Library Report or historical data, please contact:

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State Library Services  
1500 Highway 36 West  
Roseville, MN 55113-4266