



Danish  
Library  
Statistics  
2006

# The Danish Libraries & Library Statistics 2006

The main purpose of this publication is to give a brief introduction to the libraries in Denmark and an overall perspective of Danish library statistics.

## The Danish library concept

The Danish library system is based on the concept of the citizen's fundamental right to knowledge and information. Basically the library service is free of charge, but in certain cases libraries can demand payment for special services.

The Danish library system is characterised by extensive and well-functioning cooperation, both within the individual library sector and between the different library types.

## The Danish Ministry of Culture and the Danish Library Agency

The Danish Library Agency is an agency under the Ministry of Culture and the central body at government level in all matters concerning libraries.

The Agency advises the government on the organisation, coordination and strategy for the Danish library service and gives professional advice to ministers and public authorities, as well as local authorities, libraries and information services etc. The Agency plays an active part in international cooperation within the field of libraries, documentation and information.

The Agency administers the Act regarding library services and the Danish Public Lending Right Act, as well as a number of statutory government grants for library purposes and is responsible for retrieving and collating statistical information about Danish libraries. The Agency furthermore acts as secretariat for Denmark's Electronic Research Library.

## General figures about Denmark

Area	43,094 km <sup>2</sup>
Local authorities	271
Counties*	16

\*Including the metropolitan municipalities of Copenhagen and Frederiksberg

## Population 1.7. 2006

Adults	4,489,031
Children (0-13)	945,444
Total	5,434,475

## Public Libraries

All local authorities in the country must either alone or in co-operation with other local authorities run a public library with departments for children and adults.

The figures below do not include school libraries.

In each county one public library functions as the county library. The county library acts as the regional superstructure undertaking interlibrary loans and joint projects for the libraries in the region.

The public libraries are administered under the provisions of the Act regarding library services. The first library act was passed in 1920 and the current act dates from May 2000.

According to the Act the task of public libraries is to promote information, education and cultural activity by placing books and other media at the disposal of the public. When selecting material, the library must ensure quality, impartiality and topicality.

Libraries fulfil these objectives by offering a combination of books, serials, talking books, recorded music and electronic information resources (including Internet), to the public. All local authorities provide access to the Internet via the public libraries.

In all 4,773 PCs are available to the public in the Danish public libraries, which is the equivalent of one PC for every 1,139 inhabitants. All the public libraries are connected to the Internet.

### Public libraries

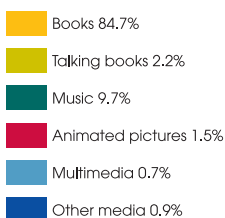
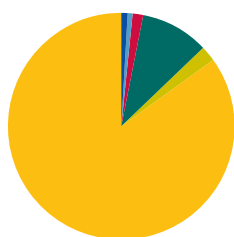
#### Service points 2006

Main libraries	221
Branch libraries	420
Mobile libraries	40
<b>Total</b>	<b>681</b>

#### Staff 2006

Librarians	2,253
Assistants	2,007
Other staff	473
<b>Total FTE</b>	<b>4,733</b>

## Public libraries Stock 2006

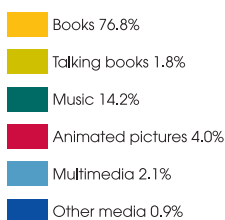
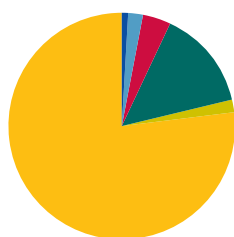


Books	23,793,328
Talking books	621,885
Music	2,726,866
Animated pictures	435,180
Multimedia	213,471
Other media	275,950
<b>Total</b>	<b>28,066,680</b>
Stock per capita	5.16

## Serial subscriptions

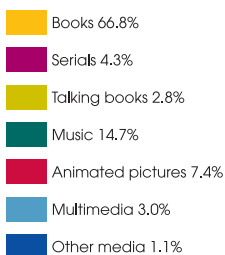
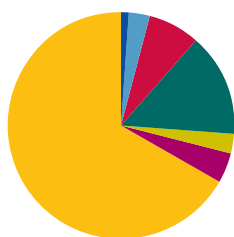
<b>Total</b>	<b>156,890</b>
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## Public libraries Additions 2006



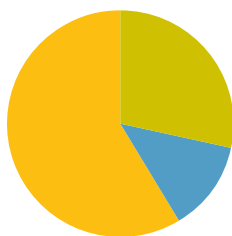
Books	1,664,236
Talking books	39,218
Music	308,453
Animated pictures	88,711
Multimedia	45,531
Other media	20,698
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,166,847</b>
Additions per capita	0.39

Public libraries  
Loans incl. renewals 2006



Books	48,636,483
Serials	3,124,727
Talking books	2,005,235
Music	10,739,709
Animated pictures	5,363,459
Multimedia	2,204,092
Other media	769,792
<b>Total</b>	<b>72,843,497</b>
Loans per capita	13.40

Public libraries  
Operating expenditure 2006



Salaries*	1,724,480
Media*	379,863
Other expenditure*	836,732
<b>Total*</b>	<b>2,941,075</b>
Expenditure per capita**	541
Income generated by the library*	347,884

\* 1,000 DKK

\*\* DKK

# Research Libraries

Danish research libraries are government institutions.

Primarily they serve higher education and research, but the majority are open to the public.

19 major research libraries are responsible for servicing universities and other institutions of higher education. In addition, a number of research libraries focus on specialised areas of research. Finally, a large number of smaller research libraries are attached to educational establishments.

The Royal Library and the State and University Library in Århus have specific national library functions.

The Royal Library functions both as Denmark's national library - including being a legal deposit library - and as the library of the University of Copenhagen.

The State and University Library in Århus is likewise a legal deposit library. It houses the national media collection and has the overall responsibility for the Danish Central Library for Immigrant Literature and the Danish Repository Library for Public Libraries. The library acts as the national superstructure for the public libraries.

The following figures apply to the 186 research libraries which are funded by the government, open to the public and employ professional librarian(s) on a permanent basis. There are a further 583 smaller research libraries which do not meet these requirements, including 119 institute (departmental) libraries at universities and institutions of higher education.

## Research libraries

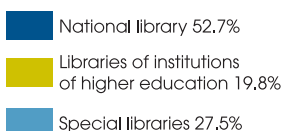
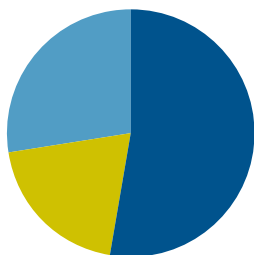
### Number 2006

National library	2
Libraries of institutions of higher education	124
Special libraries	60
<b>Total</b>	<b>186</b>

### Staff 2006

National library	632
Libraries of institutions of higher education	692
Special libraries	195
<b>Total FTE</b>	<b>1,519</b>

Research libraries  
Stock 2006

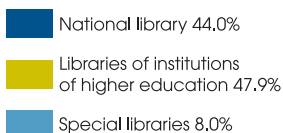
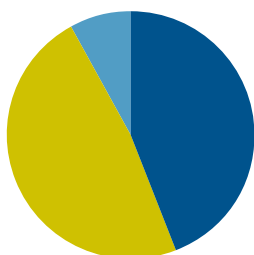


National library	27,833,749
Libraries of institutions of higher education	10,457,450
Special libraries	14,539,576
<b>Total physical units</b>	<b>52,830,775</b>

Serials subscriptions

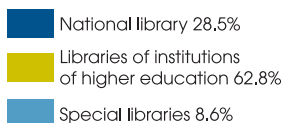
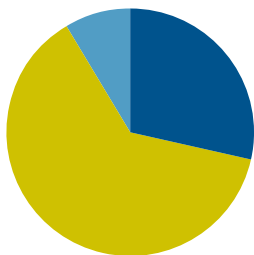
National library	70,129
Libraries of institutions of higher education	25,523
Special libraries	10,222
<b>Total subscriptions</b>	<b>105,874</b>

Research libraries  
Additions 2006



National library	293,238
Libraries of institutions of higher education	319,544
Special libraries	53,534
<b>Total physical units</b>	<b>666,316</b>

**Research libraries**  
Loans incl. renewals 2006



National library	2,699,735
Libraries of institutions of higher education	5,937,820
Special libraries	813,842
<b>Total loans</b>	<b>9,451,397</b>

**Interlibrary loans**

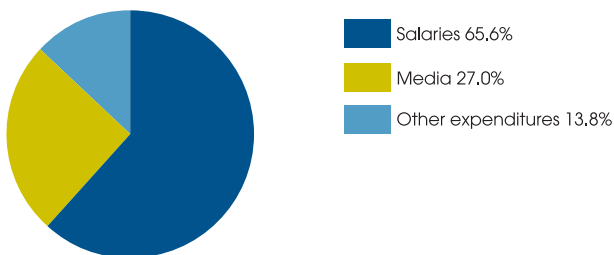
Interlibrary loans supplied

by National library	664,081
by libraries of institutions of higher education	421,928
by special libraries	39,931
<b>Total Interlibrary loans supplied</b>	<b>1,125,940</b>

Interlibrary loans received

by National library	51,468
by libraries of institutions of higher education	146,004
by special libraries	21,999
<b>Total Interlibrary loans received</b>	<b>219,471</b>

Research libraries  
Operating expenditure 2006



Salaries*	540,153
Media*	222,848
Other expenditure*	114,155
<b>Total*</b>	<b>876,792</b>

\* 1,000 DKK

	1,000 DKK	%
National Library	374,485	42.7%
Libraries of institutions of higher education	407,401	46.4%
Special libraries	94,906	10.9%
<b>Total</b>	<b>876,792</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

For further information please visit the homepage  
of the Danish Library Agency: [www.bs.dk](http://www.bs.dk)



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