

Greetings from the IMLS Office of Policy, Planning, Research, and Communication. The Research and Statistics group is happy to bring you the second Public & State Library Survey Quarterly Newsletter. Following are a few items of interest from the second quarter.

## Second Quarter FY 2009

**PLS Data:** The FY 2007 PLS imputed data files were released on the web May 14, 2009. This year's PLS data release occurred six months earlier than last year's release of the PLS! Of course, this could not have happened without the hard work of all involved, including: the Chief Officers, State Data Coordinators, other State Library staff, the Library Statistics Working Group, and the Census Public Library Survey team.

Link here for FY 2007 PLS Data:

<http://harvester.census.gov/imls/data/pls/index.asp>

**Data Elements:** Two new and two changed data elements were passed in April 2009 by the PLS State Data Coordinators (SDCs). The new data elements are Number of Young Adult (YA) Programs and Young Adult Program Attendance (age 12-18). The young adult age range follows the guidelines of the Young Adult Library Services Association (YALSA). The age for Number of Children's Programs and Children's Program Attendance were changed from 14 and under to 11 and under. IMLS will begin collecting these items in the FY 2009 survey for those states able to do so. IMLS informed the following organizations/agencies of the new YA data elements: YALSA, Public Library Association (PLA), ALA - Association for Library Service to Children (ALSC), and NCES Library Statistics Program

[Click here](#) for the data elements definitions and 4 year implementation cycle.



## In the Works

IMLS will become a Garmin GPS developer to create Points of Interest (POIs) files for people interested in accessing more information about libraries on their personal GPS device. This IMLS Public Library POI will be made available free of charge to the public.



## Calendar

### FY 2008 StLA Survey

- Survey closeout was February 17, 2009 and all states submitted their data by the deadline. Census has completed the edit review process and has begun running the draft tables.
- August 2009: FY 2008 imputed data files released on web
- October 2009: *State Library Agency Survey FY 2008* report released on web

### PLS Survey

- June 18, 2009: The Library Statistics Working Group will be meeting in Washington, DC.
- December 2009: SDC Conference. There will be a half-day orientation training for new SDCs. The general conference will be 2 days. The conference will be held in Washington, DC. **IMLS is soliciting ideas from SDCs for conference sessions. Please contact Kim Miller ([kmiller@imls.gov](mailto:kmiller@imls.gov)) with your ideas.**

### FY2007 PLS Survey

- April 2, 2009: FY 2007 PLS unimputed data files released on web in search and compare tools
- May 14, 2009: FY 2007 imputed data files released on web
- June 2009: *Public Libraries in the United States: Fiscal Year 2007* report release on web

### FY2008 PLS Survey

Reporting group and fiscal cycle	Survey due date
<b>Group #1</b> (July–June)	April 15, 2009
<b>Group #2</b> (Oct–Sept, Jan–Dec)	July 29, 2009
<b>Group #3</b> (January–December)	August 26, 2009

All states in group one have submitted their data. Group two states are beginning to submit.

## Census Corner

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Census Bureau Team – We have recently had a change in responsibilities at the Census Bureau. Patty O'Shea is now Public Libraries Survey Program Manager and Dissemination Program Manager. Cindy Sheckells is now State Library Agencies Survey Program Manager and the Academic Libraries Survey Program Manager.

Census Bureau staff are developing edits for the new Young Adult data elements, starting collection in the FY 2009 PLS survey.

December SDC Conference – WebPLUS training plans: Training will concentrate on the Match component. Checks will be added to the Match process to help the State Data Coordinators determine whether a “new” Administrative Entity/Outlet is really a “Newly Created” (Birth) or if it should be a “Restore” (Reopen a Closed Administrative Entity/Outlet). Also, new structure change codes will be added for “Temporary Closure” and “Restore Temporary Closure” to help minimize incorrect coding and improve the historical tracking system.

## Recent Research Using PLS & StLA Data

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**New Variables Added to PLS Data File.** The 2007 PLS data includes several new variables based on the geographic location of libraries in the data file. The new variables are: longitude, latitude, FIPS state code, FIPS county code, FIPS place code, Census tract, Census block and match centroid, and Congressional District. Definitions for these new variables can be found in the [data file documentation](#) on page 23.

**PLS data and the Rural Broadband Initiative.** The Research and Statistics group at IMLS is merging several different social and economic indicators to the 2007 Public Library Survey data, including county-level unemployment statistics, 2008 foreclosure rates, empowerment/enterprise zone designation, etc. In addition to these community indicators we hope to fold in library broadband data that the Gates Foundation earlier this year. This analysis is designed to help state and local librarians to make the case that libraries are actively engaged in community technology solutions, but need more support to meet current and future demand. Once we have collected and merged the information we are happy to send it back to you in a single table with ideas about how it could be used for planning or resource development. Please contact Kim if you would like to receive the merged data tables [kmiller@imls.gov](mailto:kmiller@imls.gov).

## State's Corner

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Nebraska: *NCompass*, the Nebraska Library Commission's quarterly newsletter, spring edition 2009, featured an article called “*NCompass Live Update*” with John Felton, State Data Coordinator and Kathryn Brockmeier. John and Kathryn had demonstrated data collection tools (check out the abacus in the picture) in a January 21 *NCompass Live* session. [Click here](#) for the Spring 2009 newsletter (pdf).

Please email Kim Miller ([kmiller@imls.gov](mailto:kmiller@imls.gov)) if you have items where you've used the data and would like to share for the newsletter.

## Links

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**PLS Wiki:** <http://plsc.pbworks.com>  
The [FY2008 PLS log](#) is updated weekly.

**Please have your webmasters update the links to the Public Libraries Search and Compare tools to IMLS for the most current information:**

- **Search for Public Libraries:**  
<http://harvester.census.gov/imls/search/index.asp>
- **Compare Public Libraries:**  
<http://harvester.census.gov/imls/compare/index.asp>

**StLA Wiki:** <http://stlasurvey.pbworks.com>  
The final [FY 2008 StLA Survey data file control log](#) is posted on the wiki.

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