

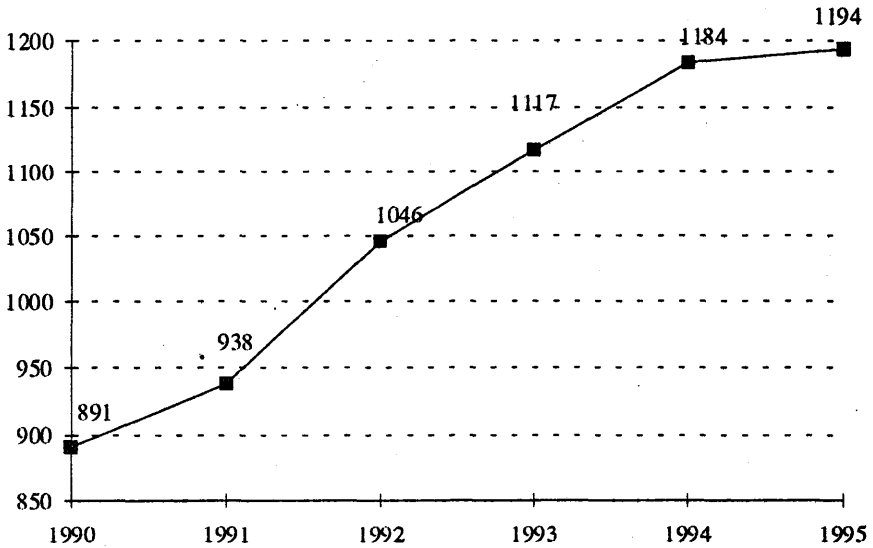
Turkish Public Libraries at a Glance

Ayhan Kaygusuz*

The Turkish public library system consists of public, children's, mobile and manuscripts libraries. The General Directorate of Libraries of the Ministry of Culture is responsible for the public library services in Turkey. As the school library system does not work very well, the Turkish public libraries have to serve as school libraries as well.

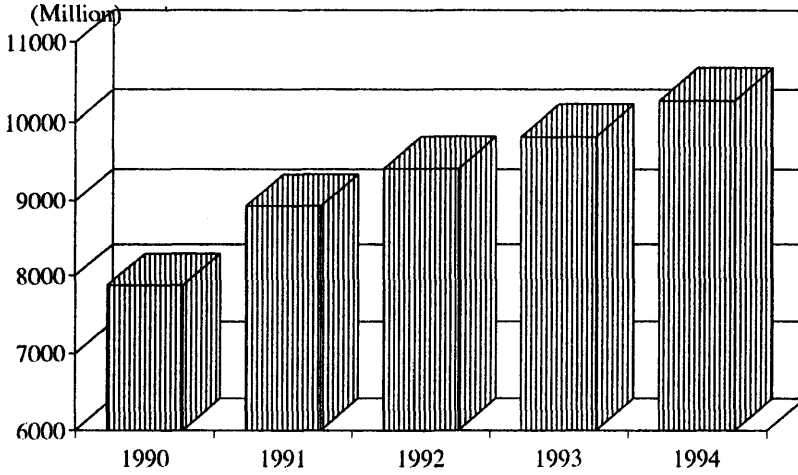
The following graphs aim to convey statistical information about public libraries in Turkey.

Number of Public Libraries (1990-1995)

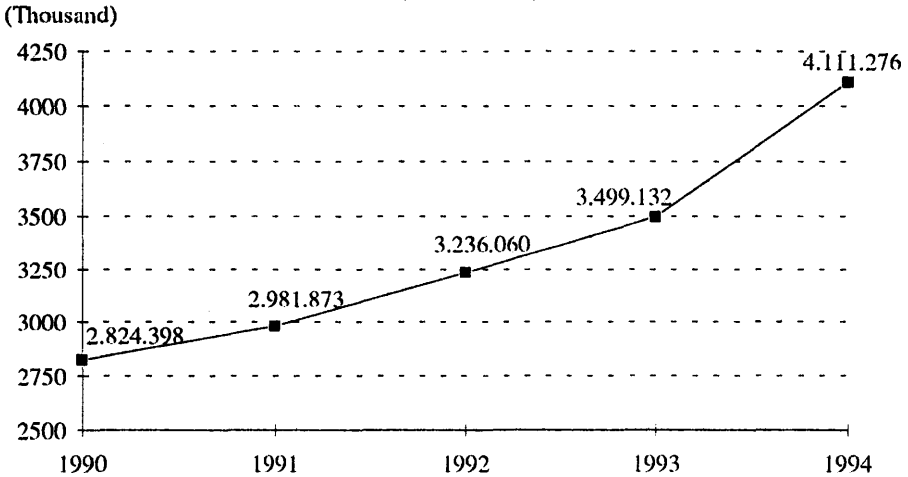


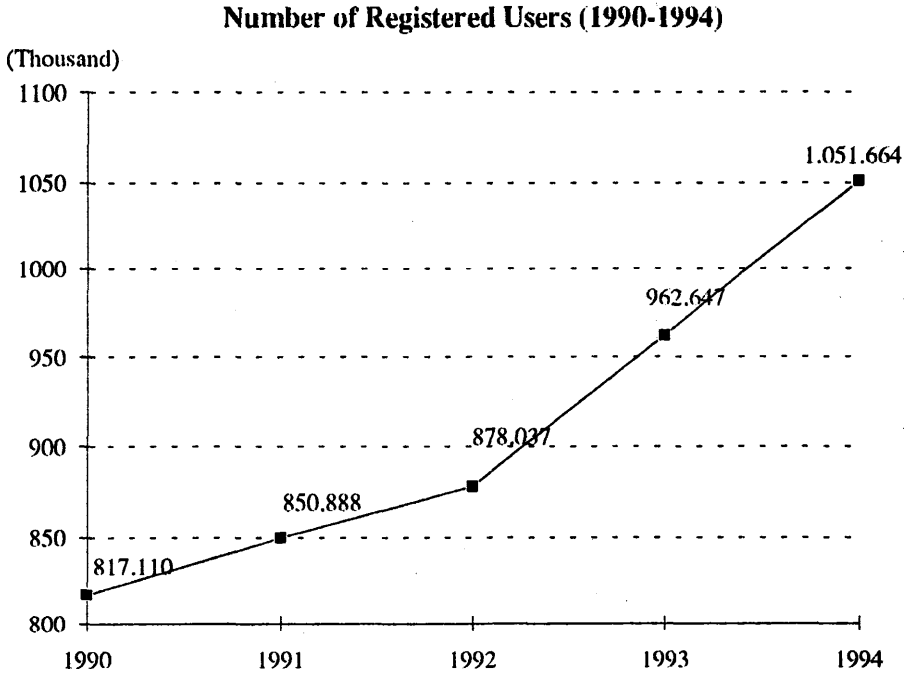
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Book Stock of the Public Library System (1990-1994)



Number of Items Checked Out (1990-1994)



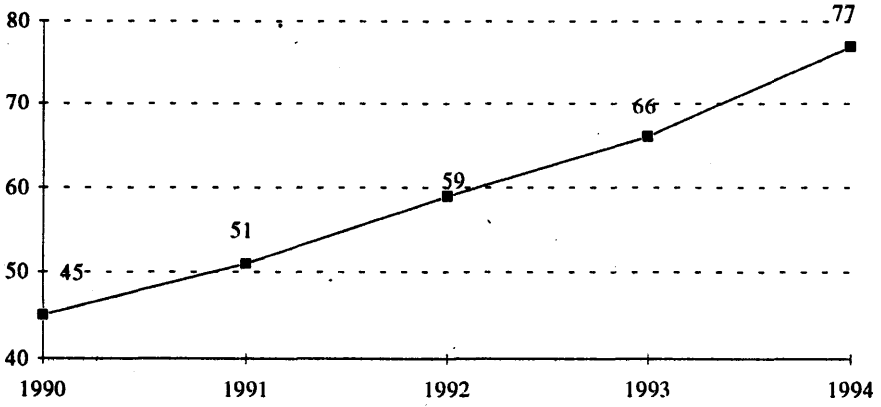


Mobile Libraries

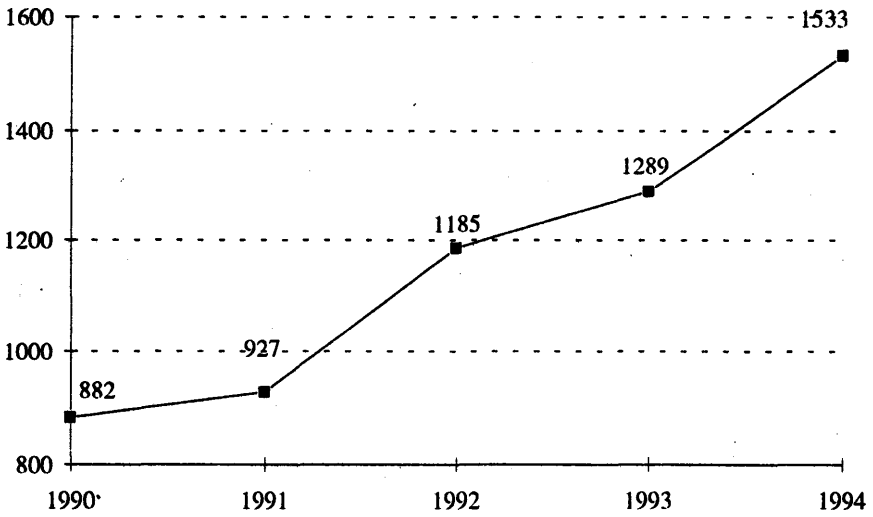
Turkey has an area of 779,452 square kilometers and 41 per cent of the the total population (61 millions) lives in rural areas. There are 79 provinces, 829 districts, 688 towns and 35545 villages in Turkey. It is not possible to build public libraries in every town and village. However, public library system takes library services to towns and villages in which public libraries have yet to be built.

Mobile library services in Turkey have improved qualitatively and the number of service points has increased.

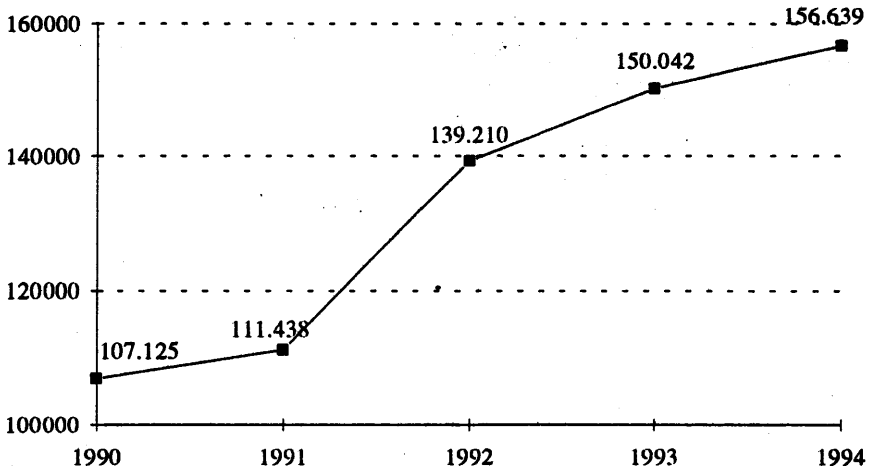
Number of Mobile Libraries (1990-1994)



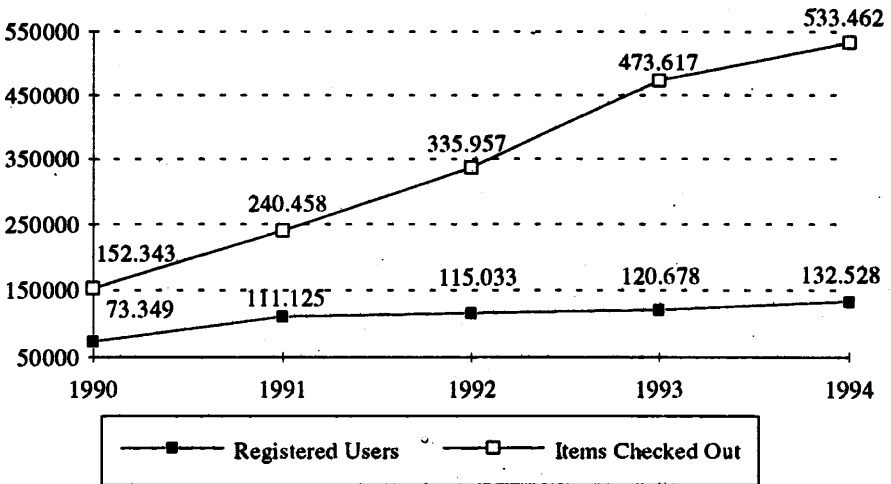
Number of Service Points (1990-1994)



Book Stock of the Mobile Libraries (1990-1994)

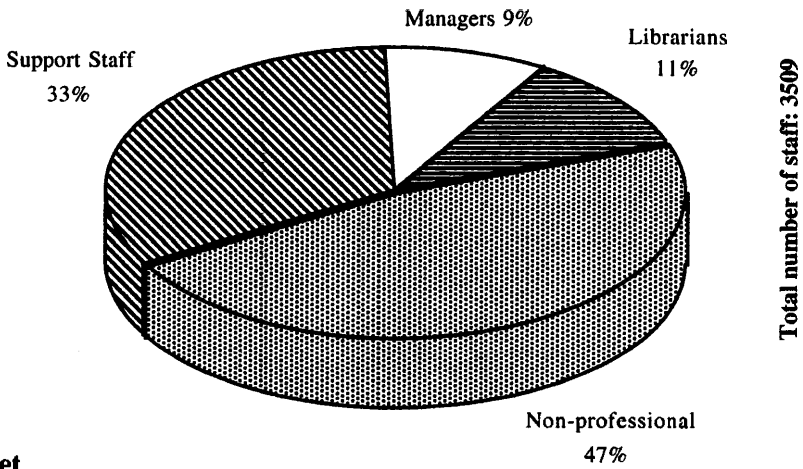


Number of Registered Users and Items Checked Out (1990-1994)



Staff

Composition of the Staff of Turkish Public Libraries (1995)



Budget

The Turkish public library system is financed through the Central Government. The Ministry of Culture receives approximately 0.05% of the total budget of the Central Government.

The Share of the Budget of the General Directorate of Libraries within the Total Budget of the Ministry of Culture 1991-1995 (million Turkish Liras)

