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PRESS RELEASE

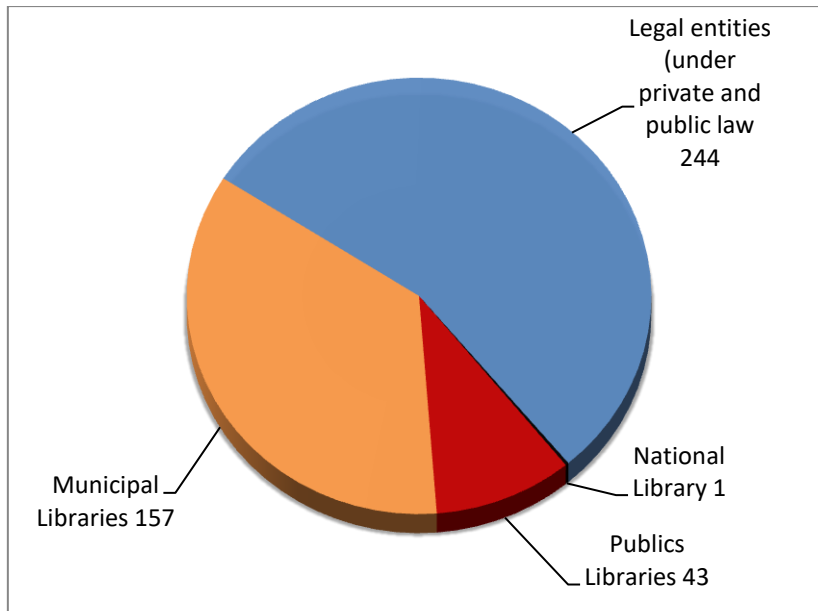
SURVEY ON LIBRARIES OF GREECE, 2016

The Hellenic Statistical Authority (ELSTAT) announces the data of the Survey on Libraries of Greece conducted for the year 2016.

The Survey on Libraries of Greece (excluding school libraries) is a census survey conducted every two years and records important information concerning libraries, such as: their legal status, the type of the library, the existence of branches and mobile units, collections of books, journals and manuscripts, data on personnel, facilities and equipment of the library, library traffic and services provided to readers, classification of library material, information on audiovisual material and on the access of the library to electronic documentation over the Internet.

This survey covers all libraries, excluding school libraries. In 2016, the total number of libraries **amounted to 445**, encompassing the National Library of Greece, 43 public libraries, 157 municipal libraries and 244 libraries of legal persons (under public and private law). Out of the total number of libraries, 233 are general libraries and 212 are specialised libraries, the majority of which are university libraries. These libraries have 153 branches and 33 mobile units.

Graph 1. Number of libraries by legal status



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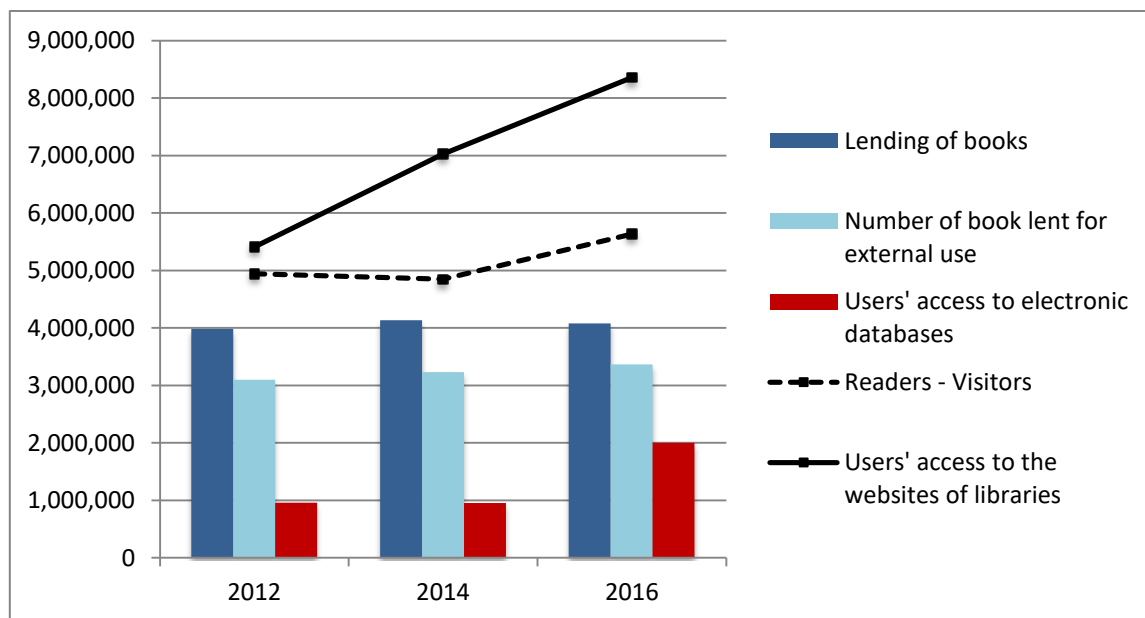
As regards library traffic and lending of books, the following comparative data are observed for the years 2016/2014 and 2014/2012:

- an increase of 16.1 % and a decrease of 1.9 %, respectively, in the number of readers-visitors;
- a decrease of 1.4 % and an increase of 3.8 %, respectively, in the number of books lent;
- an increase of 4.1 % and 4.3 %, respectively, in the lending of books for external use;
- an increase of 109.5 % and a decrease of 0.5 %, respectively, in the access of users to electronic databases;
- an increase of 19.0 % and 29.9 %, respectively, in the access of users to websites of libraries (Table 1, Graph 2).

Table 1: Library traffic and lending of books, 2012, 2014 and 2016

COLLECTIONS	2012	2014	2016	Change (%) 2012/2014	Change (%) 2016/2014
Readers — visitors	4,942,328	4,848,431	5,630,785	-1.9	16.1
Lending of books	3,983,386	4,136,525	4,079,796	3.8	-1.4
Thereof books lent for external use	3,099,011	3,232,540	3,363,564	4.3	4.1
Users' access to electronic databases	960,629	956,206	2,003,093	-0.5	109.5
Users' access to the websites of libraries	5,411,292	7,026,788	8,359,301	29.9	19.0

Figure 2. Library traffic- lending of books, 2012, 2014 and 2016



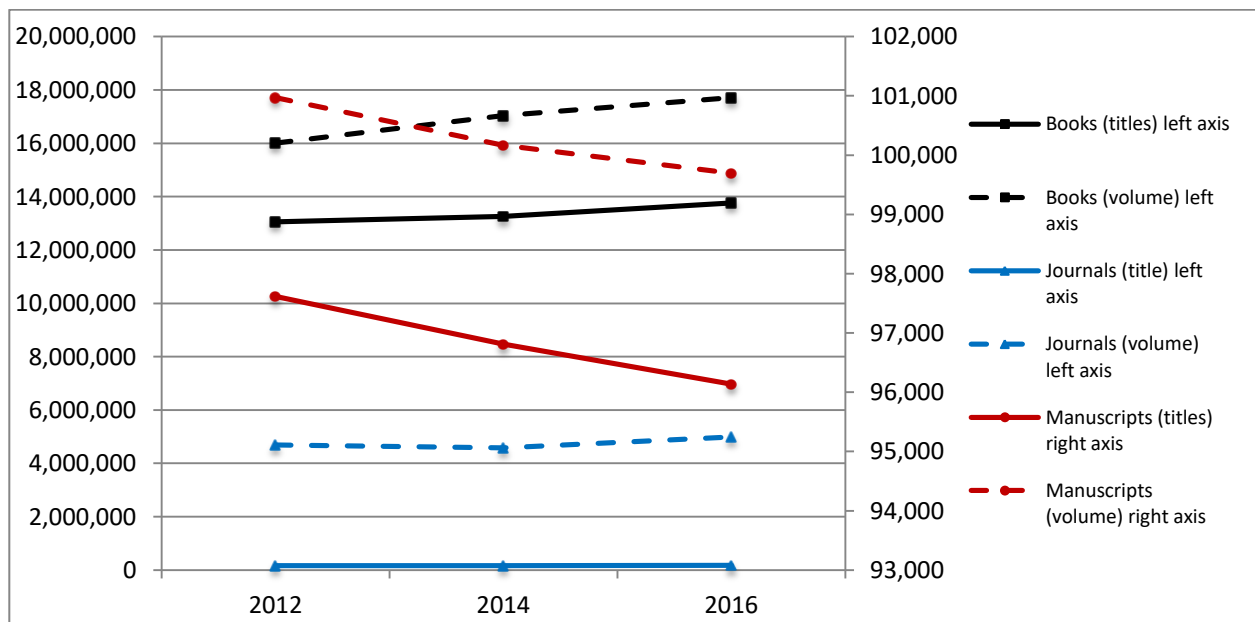
As regards the collections of books, journals and manuscripts the following comparative data are observed for the years 2016/2014 and 2014/2012:

- books: an increase of 3.8 % and 1.5 %, respectively, in titles and an increase of 4.0 % and 6.5 %, respectively, in the number of volumes;
- journals: an increase of 7.5 % and a decrease of 1.5 %, respectively in titles and an increase of 8.9 % and a decrease of 2.1 %, respectively, in the number of volumes;
- manuscripts: a decrease of 0.7 % and 0.8 %, respectively, in the number of titles and a decrease of 0.5 % and 0.8 %, respectively, in the number of volumes (Table 2, Graph 3).

Table 2: Collections of books, journals and manuscripts of libraries, 2012, 2014 and 2016

COLLECTIONS		2012	2014	2016	Change (%) 2014/2012	Change (%) 2016/2014
<i>Books</i>	<i>Titles</i>	13,057,064	13,256,701	13,763,239	1.5	3.8
	<i>Volumes</i>	16,001,428	17,037,827	17,711,223	6.5	4.0
<i>Journals</i>	<i>Titles</i>	162,009	159,619	171,555	-1.5	7.5
	<i>Volumes</i>	4,685,205	4,584,584	4,992,510	-2.1	8.9
<i>Manuscripts</i>	<i>Titles</i>	97,616	96,812	96,138	-0.8	-0.7
	<i>Volumes</i>	100,970	100,166	99,696	-0.8	-0.5

Graph 3: Collections of books, journals and manuscripts of libraries, 2012, 2014 and 2016

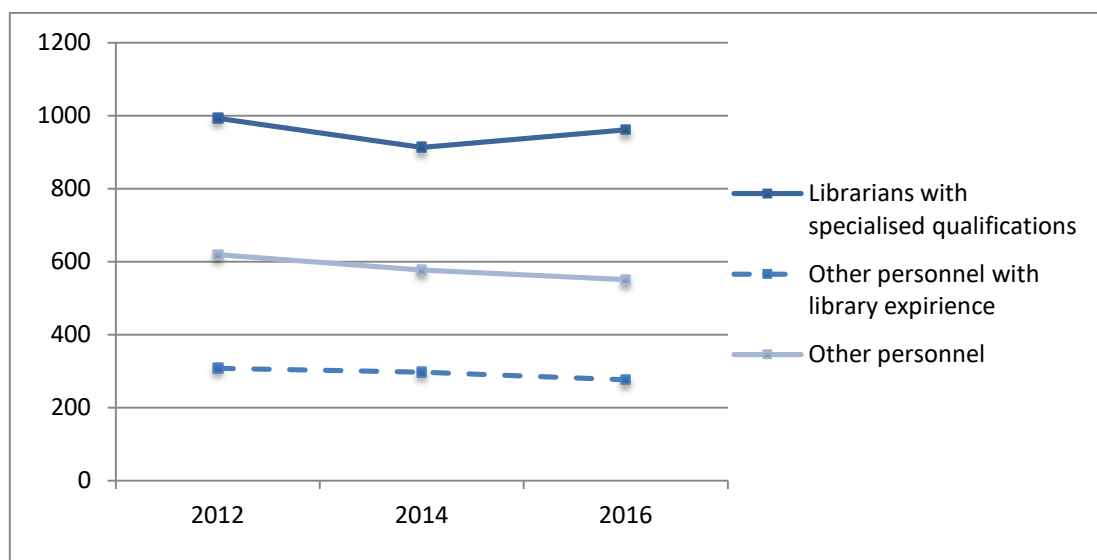


With regard to personnel employed in the libraries, when comparing the years 2016 with 2014 and 2014 with 2012, an increase of 0.1 % and a decrease of 6.9 %, respectively, is recorded in the total number of personnel employed in libraries. More specifically, the number of “librarians with specialized qualification” increased by 5.3 % while decreased by 8.1 %, respectively, and the “other personnel with library experience” showed a decrease of 7.1 % and 3.6 %, respectively. Finally, a decrease of 4.5 % and 6.8 %, respectively, was observed in the “other personnel” of the libraries.

Table 3: Library personnel, 2012, 2014 and 2016

PERSONNEL	2012	2014	2016	Change (%) 2014/2012	Change (%) 2016/2014
Librarians with specialised qualifications	993	913	961	-8.1	5.3
Other personnel with library experience	308	297	276	-3.6	-7.1
Other personnel	619	577	551	-6.8	-4.5
Total number of persons employed	1920	1787	1788	-6.9	0.1

Graph 4. Library personnel, 2012, 2014 and 2016



EXPLANATORY NOTES

Survey on libraries of Greece (excluding school libraries)

The Survey on Libraries of Greece (excluding school libraries) is being conducted since 1970, every two years, collecting data from the National Library of Greece, university libraries and municipal libraries and libraries of other public and private bodies.

Legal framework

Law 3832/2010, as amended and in force.

Reference period

The year 2016.

Methodology

It is a census survey.

Information about the survey

“Title” means the name of a work (book, periodical, etc) which may consist of one or several volumes, e.g. an encyclopedia is a title that has many volumes. A “volume” means every bound physical book, many volumes comprising a monograph.

References

More information on the Survey on Libraries of Greece for 2014, as well as information from previous years can be found on the website of the Hellenic Statistics Authority (www.statistics.gr) under Population/Social conditions/Culture, libraries.