

# → Fast Facts

## → Music file sharing

Despite claims by some recording industry sources, music file sharing has no statistically significant effect on purchases of the average album, according to a study by Felix Oberholzer of Harvard Business School and Koleman Strumpf of the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill. While there has been a reduction in sales in the music industry, file sharing can explain a tiny fraction, if any, of the decline. Moreover, the movie, software, and games industries have continued to grow despite active file sharing of those products.

Felix Oberholzer and Koleman Strumpf, "The Effect of File Sharing on Record Sales An Empirical Analysis," [www.unc.edu/~cigar/papers/FileSharing\\_March2004.pdf](http://www.unc.edu/~cigar/papers/FileSharing_March2004.pdf) April 16, 2004.

## → Public libraries in the United Kingdom

For the last seven years, use of the public library service in the United Kingdom has fallen each year. Use of museums and archives, however, has doubled in the same time period. A recent report suggests that, at the current rate of decline, there may be no public libraries in the United Kingdom in 15 years, unless there is a fundamental change in the structure of the library service. Among the recommendations of the independent report are to triple spending on books and other reading material and to increase opening hours by 50 percent. There are exceptions to the decline. For example, the small town of Hay-on-Wye in Wales has managed to increase the number of visitors and the quantity of books borrowed from its local library.

Tim Coates, "Who's in charge? Responsibility for the Public Library Service," *Libri-Charity for Libraries*, [www.rwevans.co.uk/libri/Who%27s%20in%20char\\_e\\_\(as%20printed\).pdf](http://www.rwevans.co.uk/libri/Who%27s%20in%20charge_(as%20printed).pdf), April 28, 2004. Darren Devine, "Hay library bucks UK decline," *icWales*, [tinyurl.com/2y936](http://tinyurl.com/2y936), April 28 2004

## → Used book market

According to a new report based on a survey by Book Hunter Press, the used book market has changed rapidly in recent years. There are an estimated 8,000 to 10,000 used book dealers in the United States. Sales by used book dealers in 2003 reached an estimated \$769 million. This represents a drop of about 8 percent since 2001. Eighty percent of 2003 used book market sales were made by open shops as opposed to Internet-only stores. Open shops accounted for 50 percent of the dealers in the survey. The year 2002 was the first year that online sales generated more than half of all used book sales for the 827 dealers in the survey.

Susan Siegel and David S. Siegel, "A Portrait of the Used Book Market," 2004, [www.bookhunterpress.com/index.cgi/survey.html](http://www.bookhunterpress.com/index.cgi/survey.html), May 3, 2004

## → Teacher facts

There are 6.2 million teachers in the United States, 71 percent of whom are women. Ninety-eight percent of preschool and kindergarten teachers are women, while women comprise only 46 percent of postsecondary teachers. Elementary and secondary school teachers in California receive the highest average salary (\$54,300), while those in South Dakota received the lowest pay (\$31,300). Meanwhile, the average annual salary paid to private college professors is \$101,200.

U.S. Census Bureau, April 22, 2004. "Special Edition - Teacher Appreciation Week," [www.census.gov/Press-Release/www/releases/archives/facts\\_for\\_features\\_special\\_editions/001737.htm](http://www.census.gov/Press-Release/www/releases/archives/facts_for_features_special_editions/001737.htm), May 3, 2004.

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