Audiovisual Media in Schools, 1962

In 1961, a few years after the National Defense Education Act (NDEA) had taken effect, the Bureau of Social Science Research conducted a national survey of the prevalence of various types of AV equipment and materials in U.S. schools. The results are reported in detail in:

> Godfrey, Eleanor P. *The State of Audiovisual Technology, 1961-1966*. Monograph No. 3. Washington DC: DAVI, National Education Association, 1967.

Table 1 is based on Tables 9 and 10 in Godfrey (1967). It indicates what percentage of school buildings has various types of hardware, and how many teachers share each piece of equipment.

Table 1. Types of AV Equipment at Schools and Teachers per Item

Type of equipment	Percent of Schools Reporting Item		Number of Teachers per Unit of Equipment	
	Elementary	Secondary	Elementary	Secondary
Record player	98%	100%	2 teachers/item	9 teachers/item
16mm film projector	95	100	11	12
Slide-filmstrip projector	95	98	8	12
Tape recorder, reel-to-reel	76	99	12	11
Radio	74	76	7	19
Opaque projector	61	76	16	30
Television set	40	52	8	22
Overhead projector	20	56	18	37
Language laboratory	4	42	n/a	n/a

Table 2 is based on Table 2 in Godfrey (1967). It indicates the raw number of pieces of software owned by all school districts. The discussion following the table gives a more meaningful picture of the distribution of AV materials among school districts.

Table 2. AV Materials Owned by School Districts

Types of AV Material	Number of items owned by school districts
Filmstrips	7,335,700 prints 6,253,500 titles
Phonograph records	3,043,100 records
2 x 2 slides	1,286,300 slides
16mm films	741,600 prints 544,700 titles
Audio tape recordings	445,800 tapes

According to Godfrey (1967): "Filmstrips were far and away the most popular and most numerous district-owned material; the majority of the school systems in all but the very smallest size category had filmstrip libraries, and 65 percent of these libraries contained 100 or more titles. On the other hand, film libraries were concentrated in districts with 6,000 or more pupils, and only systems with 12,000 or more students had enough film titles to supply the majority of the requests from their schools" (p. 21).