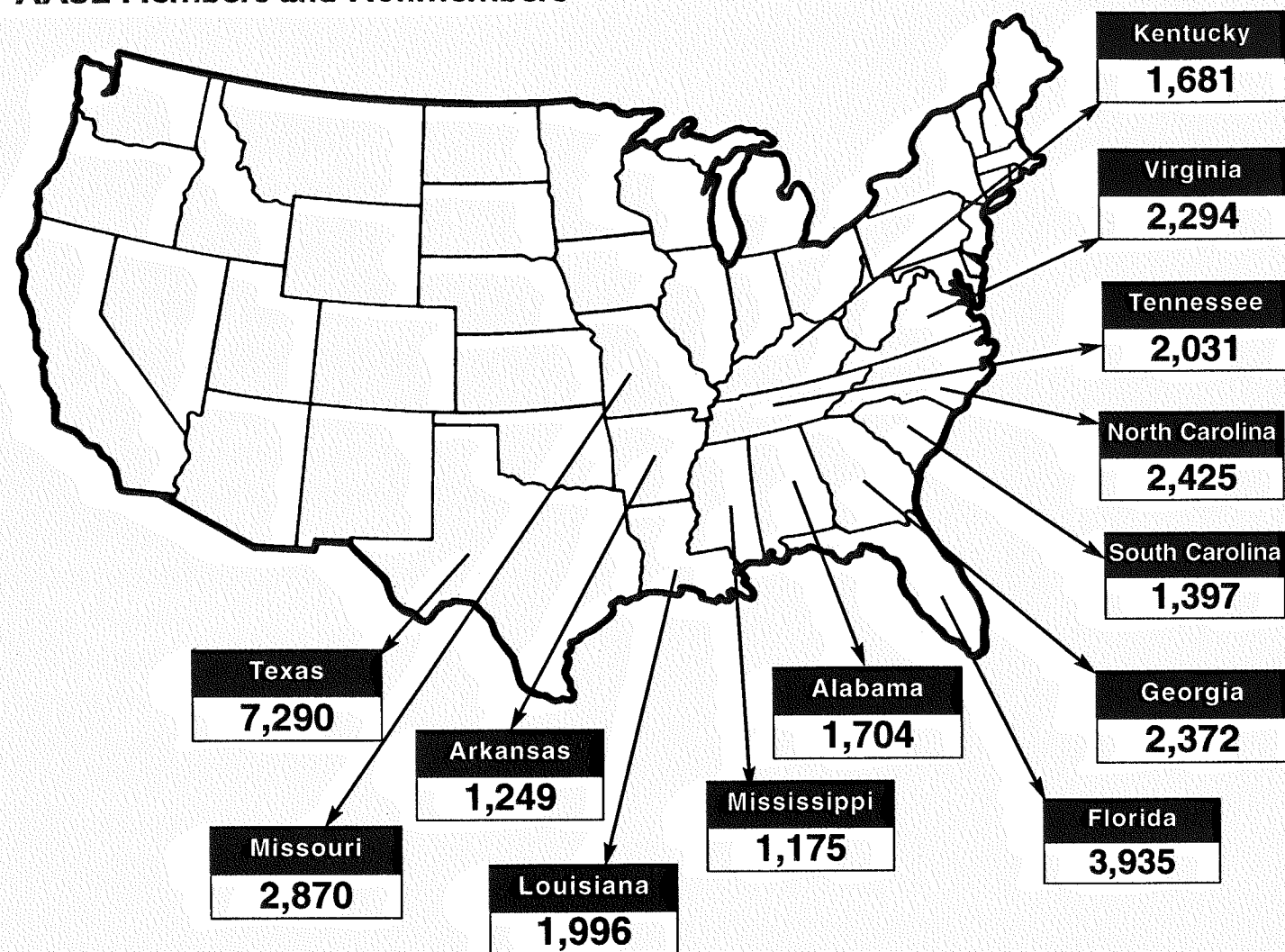


**Schools Located in Southeast Region of U.S.
AASL Members and Nonmembers**



Elementary and Secondary Schools in the Southeastern Region of the United States

Southeastern States	Number of Schools Private and Public)	% Having Library Media Centers
Alabama	1,704	97%
Arkansas	1,249	100%
Florida	3,935	97%
Georgia	2,372	100%
Kentucky	1,681	96%
Louisiana	1,996	94%
Mississippi	1,175	93.6%
Missouri	2,870	97.6%
North Carolina	2,425	97.8%
South Carolina	1,397	97.4%
Tennessee	2,031	96.9%
Texas	7,290	94.7%
Virginia	2,294	96.2%

Source: U.S. Dept of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, Schools and Staffing, 1993-94, 1994-95, Private School Survey, 1993-94, Common Core of Data Survey Prepared October 1996

Miling Business with Southern Hospitality

(Continued from page 1)

With teachers, school library media specialists, and school administrators in attendance from all across the country, networking at the conference will provide unique opportunities to exchange distinct viewpoints and share regional approaches to everything from day-to-day operations to ongoing challenges.....*unleashing the power of diversity.*

After successful conferences in the Northeast, Northwest and Midwest, Southeastern members and nonmembers alike will be able to take full advantage of educational and networking opportunities right in their own backyard. The driving distance for many surrounding states can be as minimal as a 2 1/2 hour jaunt. For those who don't want

to miss out on any of the conference activities, arrive early or stay late for an abundance of cultural tours, because conference hotel rates are low. An average stay per night is \$75, making an extended stay with family or friends very affordable. The AASL headquarters hotel is the Sheraton Birmingham, conveniently connected to the Birmingham-Jefferson Civic Center, making all conference activities easily accessible under one roof! To accommodate those attending from greater distances, AASL will secure the lowest possible airfares with a Saturday stay over. Travel Technology Group, is the official AASL travel agent. Airfare over conference dates is not available at this time.

More than 300 companies exhibited at the 1997 conference

Birmingham... The Misunderstood City

Birmingham was carefully chosen as the official conference site for numerous reasons. Besides its wealth of social opportunities, the southeast is a membership stronghold for AASL. A third of our membership is located in this region (see corresponding map and chart). As in the past, the AASL national conference is host to many nonmembers who look to our national conferences to provide the latest information in the school library media field.

Birmingham, known as the Magic City, is located in the heart of the South, home to nearly one million people who live, work, and play amongst the rich wooded foothills of the Appalachian Mountains. Forests and breathtaking gardens complement the cultural attractions that are a well known part of its burgeoning skyline. Elegant dining, specialty shopping, theater attractions, and after hours entertainment in Six Corners South provide the chance to relax after a day filled with professional and personal activities. And for the more adventurous visitors, remarkable golf courses, zoos, and sporting events, promise to give guests a work out, thanks to a year round moderate climate.

Visitors experience the best Southern hospitality around, whether touring the *Southern Living* magazine kitchens, or dining on a traditional Southern style breakfast buffet at the Antebellum Home and Gardens, a graceful

two story mansion boasting Southern decorative arts. For homestyle lunches, the Furnace Master's Inn Restaurant located in the Tannehill Historical State Park's Iron and Steel Museum is a favorite.

To experience noteworthy Southern history, visit the Birmingham Civil Rights Institute. It will enlighten even the most well versed individual on the prominent role that Birmingham played during the civil rights movement.

To fully enjoy the gentle climate, Birmingham offers many outdoor forms of entertainment, year round. To please your eyes and to experience some of the most aromatic smells, the Birmingham Botanical Gardens is home to a Southern array of blossoms on over 80 acres, with 24 different gardens, including the Japanese Gardens complete with a ceremonial teahouse. Just hop across the street to see nearly one thousand wild animals in their domestic habitats at the Birmingham Zoo.

On the lighter, cultural side, Birmingham is the stage for many theater attractions, from ballets to children's productions, from orchestra performances to many diverse museums highlighting the essence of this Southern city.

More than 93% of all schools in Southeast U.S. have Library Media Centers

Visit our web site - www.ala.org/aasl/birmingham