

Sample Fermi Problems

1. Estimate the total number of hairs on your head.
2. In the 1989 Loma Prieta earthquake in California, approximately 2 million books fell off the shelves at the Stanford University Library. About how many part-time students would it take to put the books back up on the shelves in two weeks?
3. Estimate the total number of 8.5 x 11 sheets of paper used at Newton North High School in one year.
4. If the land area of Earth was divided up equally for each person on the planet, about how much would you get?
5. How many piano tuners are there in NYC?

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