

TABLE 5-4 The Urban Hierarchy in Snohomish County, Washington

| | Type of Place | | |
|---|---------------|---------|--------|
| | Town | Village | Hamlet |
| Number of places | 4 | 9 | 20 |
| Average population | 2,433 | 948 | 417 |
| Average number of establishments per place | 149 | 54.4 | 6.9 |
| Average number of functions per place | 59.8 | 32.1 | 5.9 |
| Average number of establishments per function | 2.5 | 1.7 | 1.2 |

Source: Brian J. L. Berry and William Garrison, "The Functional Bases of the Central Place Hierarchy," *Economic Geography* 34, pp. 145-54, ©1958, Clark University.

TABLE 5.2

Prevalence of Selected Functions in Central Places of Snohomish County, Washington

| TYPE OF FUNCTION ^a | NUMBERS OF PLACES IN CLASS HAVING AT LEAST ONE ESTABLISHMENT | | |
|-------------------------------|--|--------------|-----------|
| | Hamlets (20) | Villages (9) | Towns (4) |
| Filling stations | 17 | 9 | 4 |
| Food stores | 7 | 9 | 4 |
| Churches | 8 | 9 | 4 |
| Restaurants | 6 | 9 | 4 |
| Elementary schools | 13 | 9 | 4 |
| Physicians | 0 | 6 | 4 |
| Appliance stores | 0 | 8 | 4 |
| Barber shops | 5 | 9 | 4 |
| Insurance agencies | 0 | 5 | 3 |
| Drugstores | 2 | 9 | 4 |
| Lawyers | 0 | 5 | 4 |
| Apparel stores | 0 | 6 | 4 |
| Banks | 2 | 7 | 4 |
| Dry cleaners | 1 | 4 | 4 |
| Jewelry stores | 0 | 4 | 4 |
| Department stores | 1 | 3 | 4 |
| Hospitals and clinics | 0 | 1 | 3 |
| Public accountants | 0 | 1 | 3 |

^aFunctions are ranked from smallest to largest by estimated minimum threshold population size.

Source: Brian J. L. Berry and William L. Garrison, "The Functional Bases of the Central-Place Hierarchy," *Economic Geography*, April 1958, table 2, P. 150.

generated by our simple example of central place theory. Comparing Figure 5-8 to Figure 5-7, there are two similarities. First, the larger the city size, the smaller the number of cities with a similar population. Second, as we move down the ranking to smaller cities, the difference in size between two successive cities decreases.