



Wisconsin Libraries

By the Numbers

Wisconsin Residents Use Libraries

- 26 million physical items checked out (averaging 1 million per week)
- 1 million uses of public internet computers
- 7.6 million wireless internet uses
- 33 million BadgerLink searches conducted
- 1 million attendance at public library events
- 6.9 million eBooks, e-audiobooks, and videos downloaded

2020 Data. Source: Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction and WiLS.

Wisconsin has one of the nation's largest and most active collections of eBooks and digital audiobooks.

Did You Know?

For most Wisconsin communities, the public library is the primary place for public access to hi-speed Internet.

Public Library Systems

- Serve 381 libraries
- Offer technology infrastructure and training
- Coordinate delivery of books statewide
- Provide online catalogs and digital resources
- Supplement local library budgets
- Provide continuing education opportunities
- Offer consulting and leadership

Wisconsin College & University Libraries

- Serve over 314,000 enrolled students and their local communities
- Support traditional, online, and University of Wisconsin Flexible Option
- Provide research support for \$1 billion in federal grant research

2020 Data. Source: National Center for Education Statistics and National Science Foundation.

School Media & Technology Centers

- Serve nearly 830,000 students
- Support technology instruction and classroom teachers
- Primary funding source is Common School Fund

2020-2021 September enrollment. Source: Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction.

Special Libraries

- Serve a variety of industries:
 - Health care
 - Government
 - Research institutions
 - Business



Wisconsin Libraries

Strengthen Communities

Communities Need

- Reliable, affordable resources
- Access to information
- Learning opportunities
- Gathering spaces

Libraries Offer

- Cost-effective sources for books, digital resources, and technology access
- Free and reliable access to the Internet and published materials
- Resources, programs, and expertise to increase individual, business, and community knowledge
- Places for gathering to learn and connect

The Benefit of Wisconsin Public Libraries



Literacy

- Offering early literacy programs such as 1000 Books Before Kindergarten to help ensure children are ready for school
- Participating in partnerships with schools to help improve student literacy by expanding resources, increasing reading comprehension, teaching research skills, helping develop information and financial literacy
- Providing important resources for homeschool families



Workforce Development

- Partnering with the state's Workforce Development Centers to extend resources and services to job seekers in 381 communities throughout Wisconsin
- Offering online classes and other learning opportunities designed to increase skills of people seeking employment opportunities or other career advancements
- Providing meeting spaces to conduct interviews both in-person and via technology



Information Technology

- Providing technology training to residents who need assistance
- Offering reliable, hi-speed internet access and wi-fi hotspots to ensure residents have reliable broadband access
- Offering spaces for innovation centers and creative learning labs designed to maximize in-person learning opportunities using technology not readily accessible to individual residents
- Offering spaces for community meetings designed to bring residents together to solve problems and create stronger relationships

The Benefit of Wisconsin Specialized Libraries



Knowledge, Creativity, & Learning

- Access to creative application of information and data
- Ability to efficiently acquire, analyze, manage, and apply information and data
- Access to cutting-edge research, consultation services, and learning spaces to experiment and innovate
- Support for business development in biotechnology, engineering, computer science, agriculture, biofuels, health care, and more

