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

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

Did You Know?

- 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 of Public Instruction.

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

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.

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

Wisconsin College & University Libraries

Special Libraries

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

2020-2021 September enrollment. Source: Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Communities Need</th>
<th>Libraries Offer</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reliable, affordable resources</td>
<td>Cost-effective sources for books, digital resources, and technology access</td>
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<tr>
<td>Access to information</td>
<td>Free and reliable access to the Internet and published materials</td>
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<td>Learning opportunities</td>
<td>Resources, programs, and expertise to increase individual, business, and community knowledge</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gathering spaces</td>
<td>Places for gathering to learn and connect</td>
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</table>

**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