



# Wisconsin Libraries

## By the Numbers

## Wisconsin Residents Use Libraries

- 44.8 million physical items checked out
- 1.5 million uses of public internet computers
- 15.5 million wireless internet uses
- 7.5 million BadgerLink successful retrievals
- 1.7 million attendees at public library events
- 7.9 million eBooks, e-audiobooks, and videos downloaded

2022 Data. Source: Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction

Wisconsin has one of the most active collections of eBooks and digital audiobooks in the nation.

### 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

## School Media & Technology Centers

- Serve 823,804 students
- Support technology instruction and classroom teachers
- Primary funding source is Common School Fund

2022-2023 September enrollment. Source: Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction.

## Wisconsin College & University Libraries

- Serve nearly 450,000 students and their local communities
- Support traditional, online, and University of Wisconsin Flexible Option
- Provide research support for more than \$4.3 billion in federal grant research

Source: Universities of Wisconsin, Wisconsin Technical College System 2022-2023 Fact Book Student Data, and the National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics.

## Special Libraries

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



# The Benefits of Wisconsin Public Libraries

## 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 through summer reading programs, teaching research skills, and 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 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

## The Benefits 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

