

# Fast Facts about Wisconsin Public Libraries 2010

Over the last 5 years, public library visits have increased by over 10% and circulation has increased 15%. The number of paid library staff decreased 0.6%. Public library staff per capita has decreased 2.6% over this period.

In comparison with other states, Wisconsin ranks 8th in per capita circulation, but 22nd for total operating revenue and 21st for total operating expenditures per capita.

Six out of ten state residents are registered library users. These library users made over 35 million visits to Wisconsin public libraries in 2010. Season attendance for Brewer home games in 2010 was 2.8 million.

The average number of user visits **per week** to Wisconsin public libraries is 676,000. Season attendance at Packer home games is about 566,000.

Over 65 million items were circulated by Wisconsin's public libraries in 2010. Wisconsin ranks 8th in per capita circulation nationally.

On average, 1.25 million items are checked out of Wisconsin public libraries each week. More than one-third of these circulations are children's materials.

Each year 9 million items are shared between libraries to fill requests for materials not available locally. Wisconsin ranks 1st nationally in per capita interlibrary loans. Resource sharing coordinated by public library systems and the DPI is a model for how to use public resources efficiently.

Wisconsin has 385 public libraries and 80 public library branches. Almost all of these libraries will serve any Wisconsin resident. All of Wisconsin's public libraries have voluntarily chosen to participate in one of the state's regional public library systems that provide efficiencies through sharing and consolidation of services.

The average per capita municipal and county property taxes paid by Wisconsin residents for public library operations in 2010 was \$36.27. Wisconsin ranks 18th in per capita local and county tax support.

Nearly all of Wisconsin public libraries offer wireless Internet access to library users. Over 93% of Wisconsin public libraries provide access to licensed electronic books and downloadable audio and video files.

Every Wisconsin library and citizen has access to thousands of online newspapers, magazines and books through the DPI's BadgerLink service.

Over 98% of Wisconsin public libraries help people access and use employment resources, including help with job searches, creating resumes, and submitting employment applications

Programs provided by public libraries and directed toward children had attendance of over 1.6 million. Summer library program attendance for children and young adults was nearly 500,000.