

WISCONSIN PUBLIC LIBRARIES

Library Funding 101



Primary Source: Municipal Appropriations

Municipalities are the main source of public library funding in Wisconsin. Municipalities make up 63% of the state's total funding for its 381 public libraries (based on 2019 annual report data).

Home County Payments

The next biggest supporter is a library's home county. Home counties make up 23% of the state's total funding for public libraries.



Payments from Other Counties

Wisconsin public libraries can bill adjacent counties for providing library service to residents across the border. These payments make up only 2% of the state's total funding for public libraries.

All Other Sources

Gifts, donations, fines, & fees and miscellaneous funds make up the final 12% of library funds. Miscellaneous funds vary between libraries, and may include e-rate reimbursement, library system grants, contract income, and carryover.

