In FY22, Georgia’s public libraries comprised 409 facilities in 60 library systems. Libraries were fully open again after the pandemic significantly impacted 2020 and 2021. Most data points saw increases as patrons returned to library buildings throughout the state.

In-person visits were up 80% from FY21. Electronic materials such as ebooks and downloadable audio books checked out 50% more than pre-pandemic. Over 1 million patrons enjoyed in-person programs during FY22, an increase of almost 100% over the prior year.

WiFi sessions increased to 5.5 million, a record high for Georgia public libraries, providing individuals with valuable access to the internet to work, study, and apply for jobs.

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**GENERAL INFORMATION**

- Population — 10,922,820
  (FY2022 estimate, Governor’s Office of Planning and Budget)
- Total library cardholders — 4,453,092
- Percent of population holding library cards — 40.8%
- Public library systems — 60
- Total facilities, including libraries, bookmobiles and central offices — 409
- Total paid library staff (FTE) — 2,781
- State-certified public librarians — 579

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**TECHNOLOGY**

- Total public-access Internet computers — 10,529 (includes more than 6,000 GPLS-hosted cloud computers)
- Total user sessions of public-access internet computers, excluding wireless — 3,463,156
- Total wireless sessions used — 5,518,398
- Average broadband speed: 512Mbps; minimum speed of 42Mbps/maximum speed of 5Gbps

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**LIBRARY USAGE**

- Total hours buildings open — 853,287
- Patron visits — 14,198,612
- Virtual visits (via library websites) — 23,124,083
- Total visits - 37,322,695
- Community members who used meeting rooms — 208,186
- Total materials circulation — 29,971,643
- Physical materials circulation — 23,377,900
- E-book circulation — 3,154,905
- Other downloadable audiovisual (movies, music, audiobooks, etc.) circulation — 3,438,838
- Youth materials circulation — 13,451,220
- GLS (talking book) circulations — 624,698
- GALILEO usage via public libraries — 914,041

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**PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES**

- In-person programs - 49,462
- In-person attendance - 1,058,864
- Virtual programs (live & recorded) - 10,155
- Virtual Attendance/Views - 1,243,422
- Self-directed activities (such as take-home crafts and story walks) - 14,315
- Self-directed patron participation - 391,430

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**HOLDINGS**

- Books and magazines — 13,632,806
- Audios (incl. downloadable) — 3,205,455
- DVDs and videos (incl. downloadable) — 1,180,386
- E-books — 3,884,442
**ANNUAL FUNDING IN GEORGIA**
for Public Library Services (July 2021 - June 2022)

### Local: $188,326,129
Georgia ranks 48th per capita in the nation.

- Direct revenue from Local Government: $128,315,454
- Local Government on-behalf: $50,787,604
- Library fees and donations: $9,223,071

### State: $46,441,074
Georgia ranks 11th per capita in the nation.

- State Grants to Libraries: $34,190,560
- GLASS/IT/PINES: $2,912,121
- Resource Sharing (GALILEO) and support: $4,200,050
- Technology Grant: $5,000,000
- GCSU Sandra Deal Grant: $127,641
- GA Humanities Grant: $10,703

### Federal: $9,901,107

- IMLS-LSTA State Programs grant expenditures*: $5,308,658
- IMLS - ARPA**: $4,034,885
- IMLS - CARES**: $178,871
- Other Federal Funding to Libraries: $378,693

**State funds and Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) funds provide public libraries with statewide services such as GLS, GALILEO, PINES, email and Internet access.**

**The American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA) and Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act allocated funding to IMLS to enable libraries, museums, and organizations serving tribal communities to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus, including by expanding digital network access, purchasing Internet accessible devices, and providing technical support services to their communities.**

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**ADDITIONAL LIBRARY SUPPORT**
awarded for FY22 by the General Assembly

| Capital Projects | $9,740,000 |
| MRR Facilities Grants | $1,860,000 |
| Total FY22 Bond funding | $11,600,000 |

*Sources: Georgia Public Library Statistics Fiscal Year 2022 (7/1/21 through 6/30/22; data subject to Institute of Museum and Library Services [IMLS] review during spring 2023 Public Library Survey); IMLS rankings based on latest (2020) survey data.*

Updated 2/2023