

BY THE NUMBERS

Georgia's public libraries FY2024

LIBRARY IMPACT

At the end of FY24, Georgia's public libraries comprised 408 facilities in 60 library systems, and 44% of Georgians were library cardholders. Library card partnerships between schools and libraries expanded into 18% more school districts, improving access for students.

Georgia's libraries provided books and other materials to meet the needs of Georgians, and library circulation increased 8%. Strong interest in e-materials continued, with over 2.3 million more downloadable items checked out, which led to significant usage increases in ebooks and emagazines (29%), downloadable audiobooks (29%), and e-music (over 50%). Additional funding in the last few years has allowed library systems to invest in high demand electronic devices for circulation to the public to facilitate work and study, resulting in this year's almost 100% increase in take-home tablet usage.

Almost 200,000 more preschoolers and their caregivers attended young children's programs in FY24 than in the prior year, with a total of over 743,000 attendees at programs targeted at the 0-5 age group. By conducting over 26,000 engaging and educational programs (up 32%) for preschoolers and families, libraries strengthened early literacy in Georgia's communities.

GENERAL INFORMATION

■ Population	11,151,364
<i>FY2024 estimate, Governor's Office of Planning and Budget</i>	
■ Total library cardholders	4,907,368
■ Percent of population holding library cards	44%
■ Public library systems	60
■ Total facilities, including libraries, bookmobiles and central offices	408
■ Total paid library staff (FTE)	2,845
■ State-certified public librarians	594

TECHNOLOGY

■ Total public-access internet computers	9,860
<i>includes more than 6,200 GPLS-hosted cloud computers</i>	
■ Total user sessions of public-access internet computers, excl. wireless	4,133,709
■ Total wireless sessions	6,865,297
■ Average broadband speed	733 Mbps
<i>minimum speed of 45 Mbps / maximum speed of 5 Gbps</i>	

LIBRARY USAGE

■ Total hours buildings open	854,664
■ In-person visits	18,204,458
■ Virtual visits (via library websites)	27,319,374
■ Total library visits	45,523,832
■ Community members who used meeting rooms	393,599
■ Bookings of reservable spaces	269,825
■ Total materials circulation	34,926,550
■ Physical materials circulation	24,683,063
■ Ebook circulation	4,013,860
■ Other downloadable audiovisual circulation <i>movies, music, audiobooks, etc.</i>	4,986,508
■ Emagazine circulation	1,243,119
■ Youth materials circulation	14,967,852
■ GLS (talking book) circulations	591,003
■ GALILEO usage via public libraries	1,072,391

PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES

■ In-person programs	92,054
■ In-person attendance	2,027,734
■ Virtual programs (live & recorded)	1,421
■ Virtual attendance/views	59,125
■ Self-directed activities <i>such as take-home crafts and story strolls</i>	17,444
■ Self-directed patron participation	594,495

HOLDINGS

■ Books and magazines	13,455,767
■ Audios (incl. downloadable)	3,370,062
■ DVDs and videos (incl. downloadable)	1,634,359
■ Ebooks	4,104,319

Source: Georgia Public Library Service statistics
Fiscal Year 2024 (July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024)

Data subject to Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS)
review during FY20424 Public Libraries Survey (spring 2025)



JANUARY 2025

ANNUAL FUNDING IN GEORGIA

for Public Library Services (July 2023 - June 2024)

LOCAL

■ Direct revenue from Local Government	\$133,519,926
■ Local Government on-behalf	\$63,874,846
■ Library fees and donations	\$13,500,121

Local funding: \$210,894,893

Georgia ranks 48th per capita in the nation.

STATE

■ State Grants to Libraries	\$39,223,312
■ GLS / IT / PINES	\$3,083,470
■ Resource Sharing (GALILEO) and support	\$4,892,033
■ GCSU Sandra Deal Grant	\$138,000
■ Other State Funding to Libraries	\$82,843
■ Georgia Humanities Grant	\$7,980

State funding: \$47,427,638

Georgia ranks 11th per capita in the nation.

FEDERAL

■ IMLS - LSTA State Programs grant expenditures*	\$5,882,599
■ Other Federal Funding to Libraries	\$83,109

Federal funding: \$5,965,708

OTHER

■ USAC (E-Rate) funds	\$365,181
■ Other Grants to Libraries	\$101,907

Other funding: \$467,088

Source:
Rankings based on latest (2022) national Public Libraries Survey data.

* 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.

\$210,894,893

Local 79.7%

\$47,427,638

State 17.9%

\$5,965,708

Federal 2.3%

\$467,088

Other <1%

\$264,755,327

Total Funding for Public Library Services

Georgia ranks 49th per capita in the nation.

ADDITIONAL LIBRARY SUPPORT

awarded for FY24 by the General Assembly

Capital Projects	\$11,125,000
Technology Grants	3,595,000
MRR Facilities Grants	\$3,000,000

Total FY24 Bond Funding \$17,720,000



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