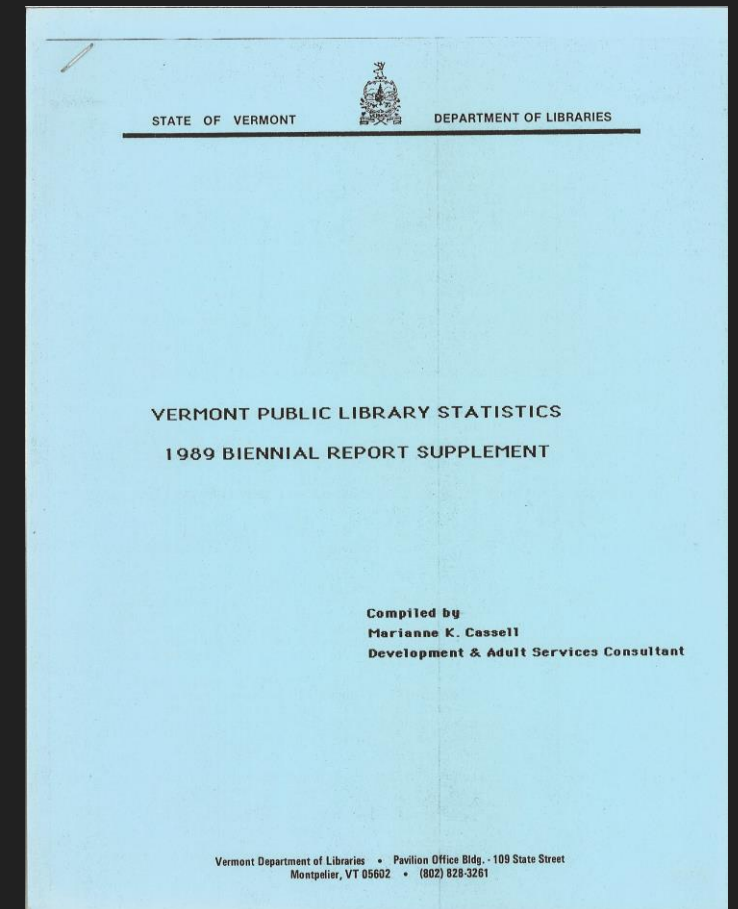


2023 Annual Report Data

Friday, Sept. 27, 2024
Virtual

What is the Annual Report?

- The report is a statistical overview of a year in the life of a public library.
- It provides data on all aspects of libraries, state and nationwide.
- The survey is administered by the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), in collaboration with the state and territorial libraries.



Who Uses the Info in the Report?

National

- Institute of Museum and Library Services
- Federal Government
- Other State and Public Libraries Nationwide

State

- VT Department of Libraries
- State Government

Local

- Individual Libraries
- Members of the Public

First off, Thanks!

Thanks to the directors, library staff, and everyone else who work on submissions.

We know it's a big project on top of everything else you're doing to keep a library running, and we truly appreciate it.



Cheesecake the cat

2023 Annual Report

- The 2023 Annual Report data was collected in early 2024.
- We received data from 148 of VT's 187 public libraries.
- Quick reminder - Fiscal years vary. Most libraries reported on Jan-Dec 2022, or Jul 2022-June 2023, but a few reported on Jan-Dec 2023 or other periods.

What Does the Data Look Like?

Vermont Public Libr
Sort columns by clicking arrow ic

Library	Adult Registered Borrowers	Children Registered Borrowers	Total Registered Borrowers	Borrowers Divided by Allotted Pop.	Annual Visits	Annual Visits Divided by Allotted Pop.	Reference Questions	Tech Training	Adult eBook Circ	Teen/YA eBook Circ	Children's eBook Circ	Total eBook Circ	Adult eAudiobook Circ	Teen/YA eAudiobook Circ	Children's eAudiobook Circ	Total eAudiobook Circ	All Other Downloadable Items	Total Electronic	Electronic Circ Divided by Allotted Pop.	Database Usage	Adult Physi
Albany Town	865	120	985	0.95	712	0.69	30	3													177
Alburgh Public			657	0.35	10,310	5.55	506	112										367	0.20		318
Alden Balch Memorial					600	0.42	52	12	6	3	0	0	50	3	2	0	0	64	0.04		219
Arvin A. Brown Public	679	291	970	0.39	2,700	1.10	648	0	230	0	14	244						488	0.20		8
Baldwin Memorial					3,166	2.64	136	0													206
Barnet Public	424	36	460	0.30	2,270	1.48	460	25				170				701	0	871	0.57		263
Barton Public	668	146	814	0.59	11,452	8.33	1,560	113	644	83	76	803	746	73	139	958	0	1,761	1.28		264
Baxter Memorial			406	0.27	3,428	2.29	200	40				294				870		1,164	0.78		253
Bent Northrop Memorial	614	251	865	0.45	12,198	6.35						468				924	0	1,392	0.73		343
Brainerd Memorial	150	0	150	0.06	600	0.26	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		400
Brookfield Free Public			198	0.14	980	0.67	125	0				138				486	0	624	0.43		247
Cabot Public			378	0.23	5,824	3.56	1,040	23				203				895	0	1,098	0.67		279
Calef Memorial	261	173	434	0.40	2,462	2.28	379	0									0	0			185
Cavendish Fletcher Community			604	0.44	6,510	4.72	498	12	117	15	8	140	92	2	2	96	459	695	0.50		235
Chelsea Public	978	180	1,158	0.89	4,888	3.77															222
Chittenden Public			524	0.39	2,441	1.82	390	8				424				526	0	950	0.71		227
Cornwall Free Public			318	0.30	513	0.48	0	0										1,396	1.31		180
Craftsbury Public	1,876	276	2,152	1.79	13,468	11.20	2,184	37				259				1,096	1,004	2,359	1.96		219
Cutler Memorial			1,008	0.85	5,126	4.30	260	104										2,017	1.69		618
Davies Memorial	284	83	367	0.25	498	0.34	52	15													254
Dorset Village Public			970	0.51	4,817	2.55	389	12										1,943	1.03		335
Dover Free			2,617	2.13	7,078	5.77	200	50	292	1	87	380	993	6	229	1,228	549	2,157	1.76		244
Fairlee Public	612	108	720	0.62	5,617	4.85	857	20	485	19	23	527	497	31	142	670	0	1,197	1.03		203
Fletcher Memorial	1,272	90	1,362	0.60			25					1,038				2,088	0	3,126	1.37		406
Grand Isle Free	560	61	621	0.28	2,302	1.05	34	5	798	33	34	865	700	35	35	770	0	1,635	0.75		687
Groton Free Public	459	77	536	0.41	1,791	1.37	40	27	318	22	50	390	843	28	161	1,032		1,422	1.09		224
Guilford Free	610	178	788	0.34	1,909	0.83	9	0	36	0	0	36									392
Haston	734	251	985	0.63	3,220	2.07	307	0				229				512	236	977	0.63		263
Huntington Public	842	124	966	0.52	4,448	2.41	1,100											6,212	3.37		311
Island Pond Public			814	0.45	3,484	1.95	100	0										80	0.04		307
Jaquith Public			950	0.58	5,548	3.41	387	30									0	1,375	0.85		299
John W. Simpson Memorial	859	119	978	0.81	1,372	1.14	40	4													203
Lincoln	816	166	982	0.71	5,730	4.14	1,555	20				307				1,172	0	1,479	1.07		234
Lydia Taft Pratt	487		487	0.22	1,471	0.66	80	35	243	6	6	255	356	34	62	452	0	707	0.32		387
Mary L. Blood Memorial			220	0.21													0				1381
Montpelier Town	105	73	178	0.35	3,560	2.58	2,300	20				842				917	0	1,370	1.04		8

2023 Data - Totals

Hours, Visits, and Borrowers

(% changes from 2022)

- Library Hours Open - 230,442 (up 3%)
That total is more hours than 26 all-night convenience stores, open every day of the year.
- Annual Visits - 2,136,870 (up 23%)
This averages out to every single Vermonter visiting libraries more than 3.3 times in a year.
- Registered Borrowers - 273,291 (down 1%)
Ignoring duplication, that's about 42% of the state's population.

2023 Data - Totals

Circulation and Usage

- Physical Circulation - 3,046,054 (up 6%)
That's the equivalent of every single book in Fletcher Free's collection being checked out more than 26 times.
- eBook/eAudiobook Circulation - 724,580 (up 8%)
Assuming an average of 3 hours of length, this content provided over 2.1 million hours of entertainment for patrons during their commutes and time in waiting rooms.
- Database Usage - 287,738 (not comparable with 2022)
Assuming the New York Times publishes 150 original (non-syndicated) articles a day, this would be the equivalent of reading more than 5 years of issues in their entirety.

2023 Data - Totals

Interlibrary Loan

- Provided - 83,867 (up 7%)
- Received - 94,426 (up 7%)

At \$12.00 per item, it would have cost Vermont libraries over \$1.1 million to purchase these items independently.

2023 Data - Totals

Programming

- Programs (In-Person and Virtual) - 26,174 (up 51%)
If you ran fast enough, you could attend an average of 71 library programs in Vermont every day.
- Program Attendance - 338,888 (up 64%)
This averages to more than 900 attendees statewide every day of the year.
- Non-Library Sponsored Programs - 9,427 (up 30%)
This averages to more than 181 programs statewide hosted every week.

2023 Data - Totals

Items in the Collection

- Print - 2,466,905 (down 7%)
Assuming an average of 1.5 pounds, that would weigh more than 12 blue whales.
- Physical Video - 217,335 (down 3%)
Assuming an average of 1.5 hours and watching 24 hours a day, it would take you more than 37 years to finish this movie marathon.
- Physical Audio - 102,823 (down 12%)
Assuming an average of 3 hours of content and 60 mph of speed, you'd have entertainment for a road trip to the moon and back 38 times.
- Non-Traditional Physical Items - 10,213 (down 4%)
If we imagine these are all puzzles, and assuming it takes four hours to solve one, it would take you more than 4.5 years to complete them all.

2023 Data - Totals

Computer Use and Reference Questions

- Public Computer Sessions - 155,008 (up 30%)
That averages out to more than 650 sessions every day of the year.
- WiFi Sessions - 905,664 (up 21%)
If patrons had to buy a \$3.00 cup of coffee to use the public WiFi, this would have cost them over \$2.7 million in total.
- Reference Questions - 229,947 (up 7%)
If you spent 1 minute on each question, it would take you 159 full 24-hour days to answer all of these.

2023 Data - Medians

General (Hours, Visits, and Borrowers): (% changes from 2022)

- Population: 1,853
Ranges from 278 to 44,646 residents
- Hours Open: 1,612 per year / 31 per week (+19%)
Ranges from 255 to 3,016 hours
- Registered Borrowers: 1,055 (+2%)
Ranges from 141 to 17,288 patrons
- Annual Visits: 5,845 (+28%)
Ranges from 75 to 193,772 visits
- Reference Questions: 427 (+6%)
Ranges from 0 to 27,493 questions



Ainsworth Public Library in Williamstown

2023 Data - Medians

Facilities:

- Year Building was Built: 1912
Ranges from 1781 to 2021
- Square Footage: 2,713
Ranges from 527 to 48,348 sq. ft.

Staffing:

- Total Paid Staff Hours per Week: 57 (+14%)
Ranges from 0 (volunteer run) to 940 staff hours
- Volunteer Hours per Week: 8 (+30%)
Ranges from 0 to 108 volunteer hours



Reading Public Library

2023 Data - Medians

Income:

- Local Tax Support: \$78,002 (+18%)
Ranges from \$0 to \$2.4 million
- Other Income: \$11,384 (-12%)
Ranges from \$0 to \$714,330

Expenses:

- Material Expenses: \$9,307 (+2%)
Ranges from \$155 to \$231,879
- Staff Expenses: \$64,674 (+5%)
Ranges from \$0 to \$2,017,794
- Other Expenses: \$20,720 (-4%)
Ranges from \$0 to \$308,594



Craftsbury Public Library

2023 Data - Medians

Collection:

- Physical Circ: 8,544 (+18%)
Ranges from 202 to 351,251 circs
- Electronic Circ: 1,842 (+14%)
Ranges from 0 to 87,308 circs
- Physical Books in Collection: 12,887 (+3%)
Ranges from 2,078 to 112,984 books

Interlibrary Loan:

- ILL Provided: 300 (+23%)
Ranges from 0 to 5,545 items
- ILL Received: 331 (+22%)
Ranges from 0 to 7,594 items



Norman Williams Public Library in Woodstock

2023 Data - Medians

Computers:

- Public Computer Sessions: 423 (+35%)
Ranges from 0 to 22,299 sessions
- WiFi Sessions: 2,400 (+60%)
Ranges from 5 to 105,840 sessions

Programming:

- Programs: 110 (+52%)
Ranges from 0 to 1,070 programs
- Program Attendance: 1,337 (+64%)
Ranges from 0 to 18,956 attendance



Leach Public Library in Irasburg

2023 Data – Medians by Year

Survey Year	Pop.	Weeks Open	Hours Open	Square Footage	Librarian Hours	Total Staff Hours	Local Tax Support*	Per Capita Tax Support	Other Local Income	Total Grants	Total Revenue
2018	1,849	52	1,560	2,700	33	48	\$48,949	\$27.02	\$9,907	\$1,015	\$80,020
2019	1,907	52	1,550	2,700	35	49	\$48,991	\$27.78	\$9,496	\$743	\$83,104
2020	1,918	39	1,281	2,713	35	51	\$65,790	\$29.62	\$9,446	\$590	\$89,422
2021	1,867	33	600	2,713	38	50	\$74,944	\$30.55	\$10,111	\$2,020	\$93,843
2022	1,880	52	1,352	2,720	40	50	\$66,000	\$30.15	\$13,066	\$8,366	\$108,463
2023	1,853	52	1,612	2,713	40	57	\$78,002	\$31.25	\$11,384	\$3,623	\$110,563

* Though medians are typically a good fit for our data, they can shift up or down depending on exactly which and how many libraries respond. For example, anomalies in Local Tax Support from 2021-2023 seem to be due to these year-to-year variations.

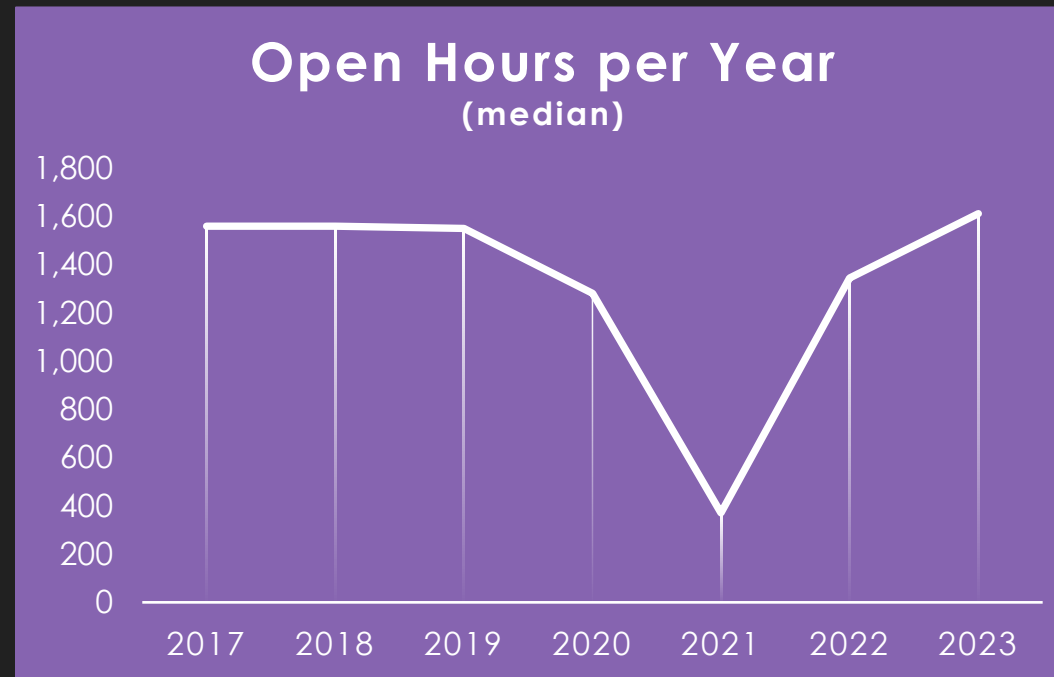
2023 Data – Medians by Year

Survey Year	Collection Expenses	Staff Expenses	Other Expenses	Registered Patrons	Visits	Per Capita Visits	Physical Circ	eCirc
2018	\$9,123	\$47,414	\$19,700	978	7,991	3.99	9,075	921
2019	\$8,323	\$49,046	\$18,991	1,010	8,625	3.83	8,526	1,189
2020	\$8,653	\$52,765	\$18,616	1,102	6,046	2.76	7,881	1,202
2021	\$8,823	\$57,409	\$19,596	1,095	1,571	0.72	6,121	1,528
2022	\$9,064	\$61,120	\$21,627	1,025	4,543	1.94	7,181	1,605
2023	\$9,307	\$64,674	\$20,270	1,055	5,845	2.59	8,544	1,842

2023 Data – Medians by Year

Survey Year	Programs	Program Attendance	Program Attendance Per Capita	Public Comp Uses	WiFi Sessions
2018	138	1,516	0.64	1,055	689
2019	133	1,574	0.68	949	1,200
2020	107	1,193	0.62	604	1,500
2021	37	400	0.13	100	1,400
2022	72	815	0.30	313	1,500
2023	110	1,337	0.48	423	2,400

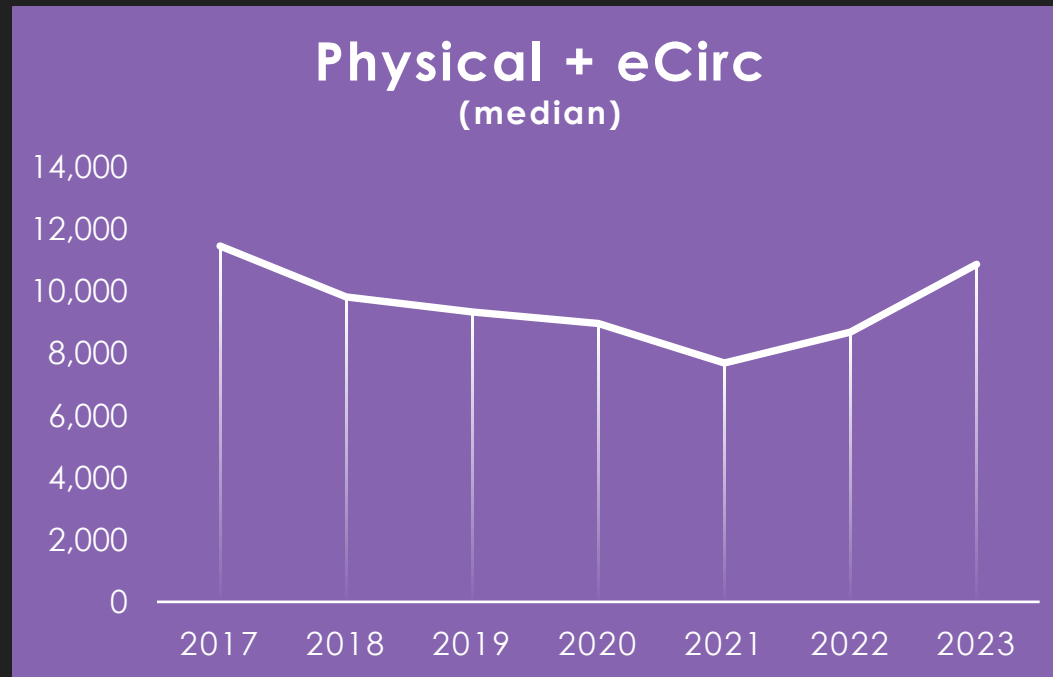
2023 Data – Trends



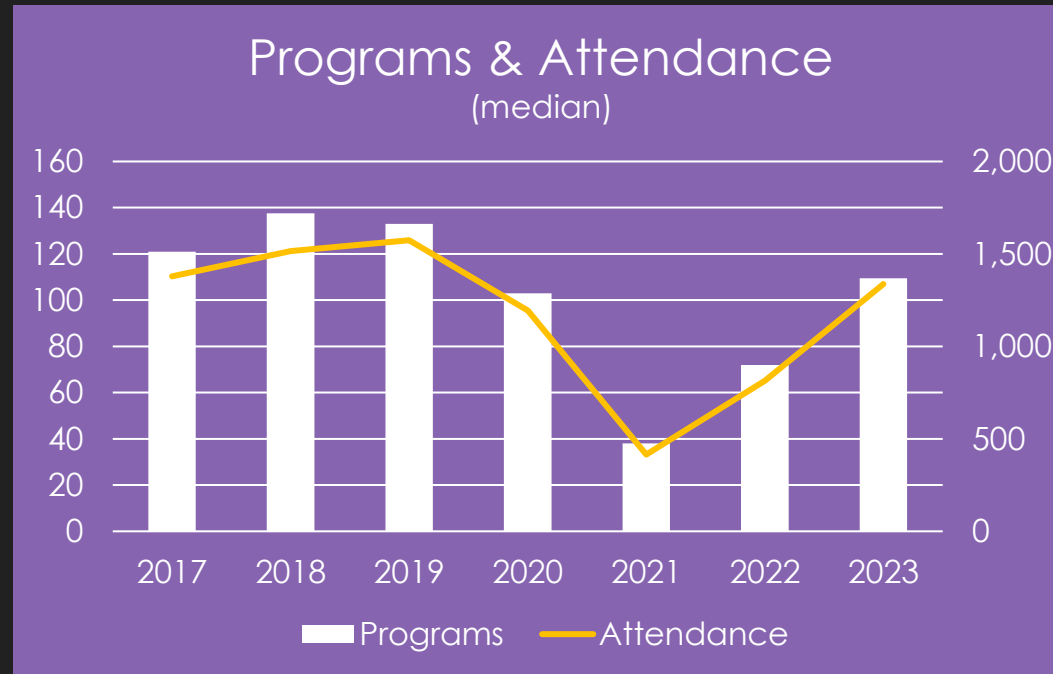
2023 Data – Trends



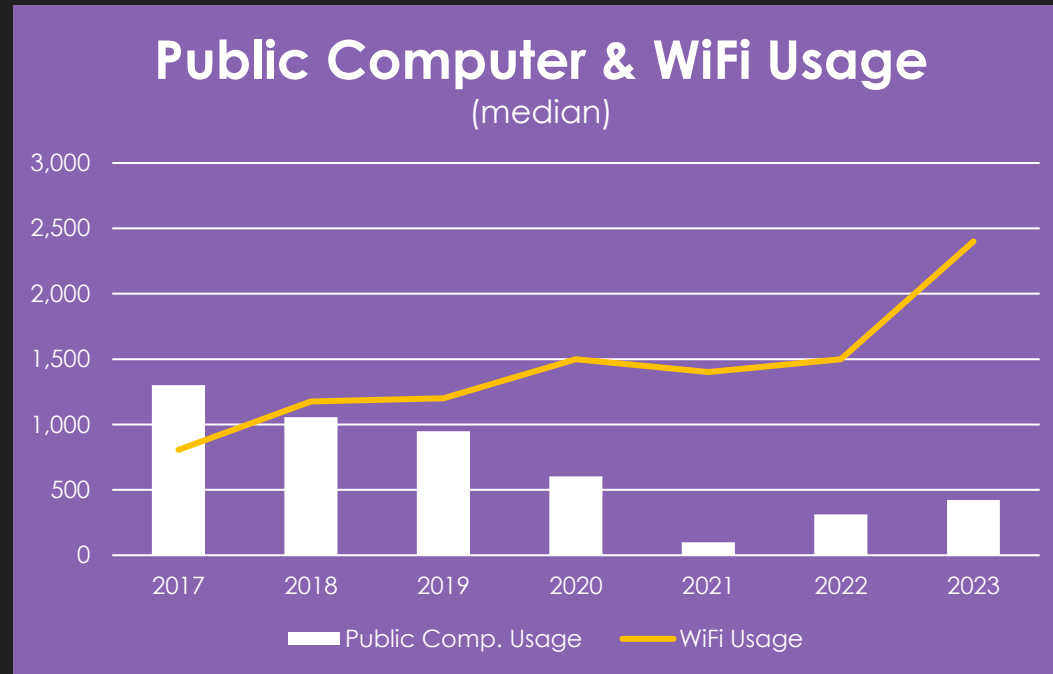
2023 Data – Trends



2023 Data – Trends



2023 Data – Trends



How Can I Work With The Data?

1. You can find the Vermont data on our website, either in Excel or Google Sheets - <https://libraries.vermont.gov/services/news/public-library-statistics>
2. Start with what you want to see or show
3. Find comparable libraries - By population, revenue, staff, library type, or any other relevant detail
4. Use the spreadsheet (or ask Josh)

Public Library Statistics

The Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) collects statistics for public libraries nationwide. These stats include all aspects of the library, including finance, collections, circulation, programming, and more. Each year, Vermont public libraries submit their data to the Department of Libraries ([read more about that process here](#)). Data is submitted to IMLS, who publishes national data (roughly 2 years behind). The Department makes statewide stats available below.

If you have any questions, please email [Joshua Muse](mailto:Joshua.Muse).

Vermont Public Library Statistics

FY2023

- [Statistics Spreadsheet](#) (Excel - Click on the arrow icon in each column header to sort by that field. Tabs break out libraries by population and municipal/incorporated.)
- [Statistics Spreadsheet](#) (Google Sheets. break out libraries by population and municipal/incorporated.)
- [Simplified Statistics Spreadsheet](#) (Excel - this leaves out most of the questions with subcategories)
- [Statistics Summary and Analysis](#)

FY2022

Dec 2023 - We corrected an error with the *Other Grants* column in all versions of the spreadsheet.

- [Statistics Spreadsheet](#) (Excel - Click on the arrow icon in each column header to sort by that field. Tabs break out libraries by population and municipal/incorporated.)
- [Statistics Spreadsheet](#) (Google Sheets. break out libraries by population and municipal/incorporated.)
- [Simplified Statistics Spreadsheet](#) (Excel - this leaves out most of the questions with subcategories)
- [Statistics Summary and Analysis](#)

FY2021

Feb 2024 - We corrected an error which effected the programming numbers for five libraries, and another which impacted the averages for the expense categories.

- [Statistics Spreadsheet](#) (Excel - Click on the arrow icon in each column header to sort by that field. Tabs break out libraries by fiscal year, population, and municipal/incorporated.)
- [Statistics Spreadsheet](#) (Google Sheets. Tabs break out libraries by fiscal year, population, and municipal/incorporated.)
- [Statistics Summary and Analysis](#) (PDF)

FY2020

- [Statistics Spreadsheet](#) (Excel - Click on the arrow icon in each column header to sort by that field. Tabs break out libraries by fiscal year and population.)
- [Statistics Spreadsheet](#) (Google Sheets. Tabs break out libraries by fiscal year and population.)
- [Narrative Responses](#) (PDF) - What successes have you had this year? What's new at your library?

How Can I Work With The Data?

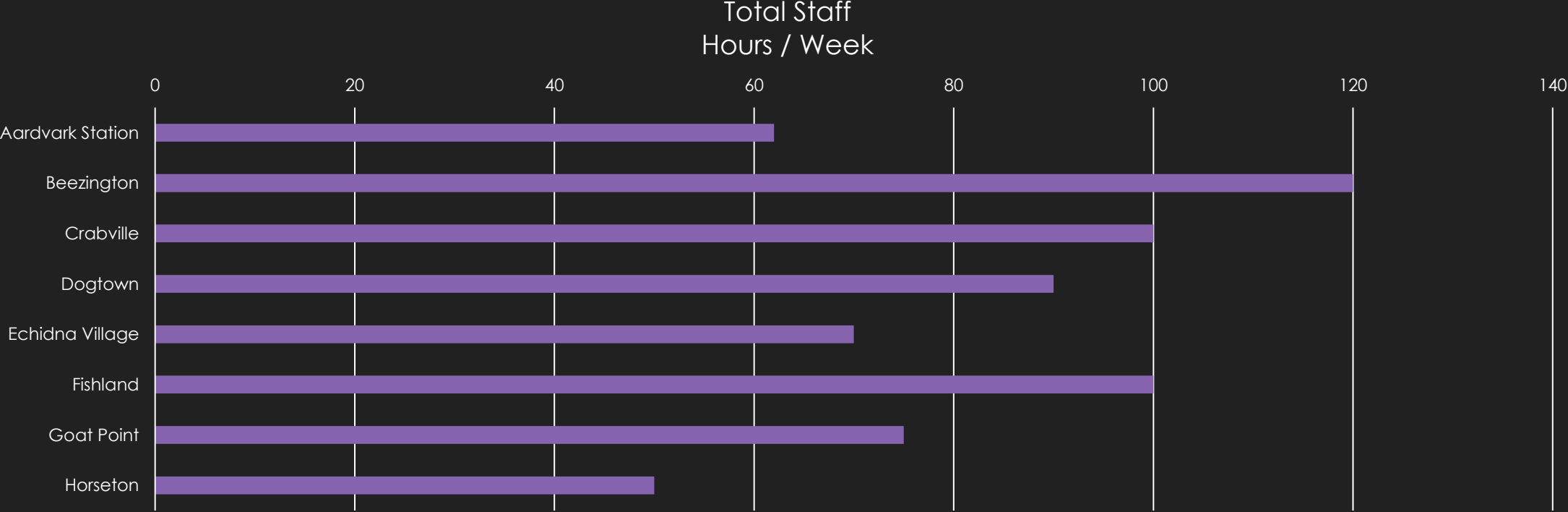
For example, imagine I want to compare my library's staffing with relevant libraries.

1. Start by selecting comparable libraries.
2. This could be in terms of population*, hours open, budget, incorporated vs. municipal, or any other data points.
3. From there, you can use a spreadsheet to see how libraries compare.
4. You could look at totals or per-capita numbers.
5. Based on the results, you can see whether your staffing is out of line with comparable institutions.

How Can I Work With The Data?

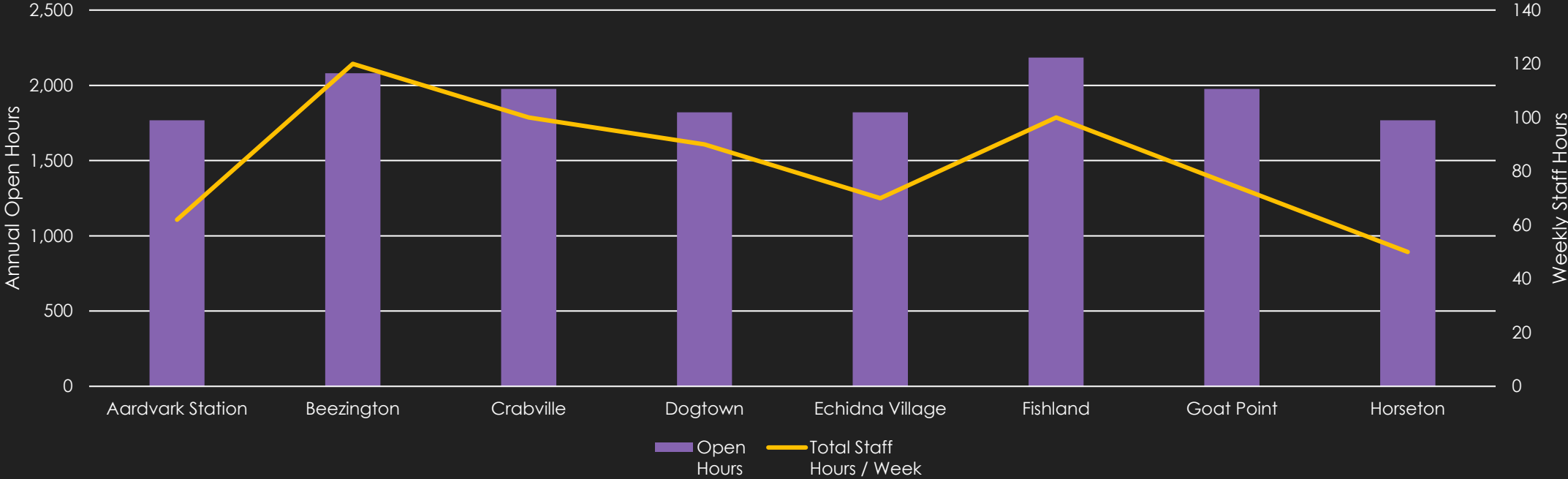
Library	Type	Population	Open Hours	Total Staff Hours / Week	Annual Staff Hours per Capita	Tax Support	Tax Support per Capita
Aardvark Station	Municipal	1,500	1,768	62	2.15	\$65,000	\$43.33
Beezington	Municipal	1,740	2,080	120	3.59	\$130,000	\$74.71
Crabville	Incorporated	1,745	1,976	100	2.98	\$90,000	\$51.58
Dogtown	Municipal	1,620	1,820	90	2.89	\$74,000	\$45.68
Echidna Village	Incorporated	1,543	1,820	70	2.36	\$70,000	\$45.37
Fishland	Municipal	1,603	2,184	100	3.24	\$115,000	\$71.74
Goat Point	Municipal	1,695	1,976	75	2.30	\$65,000	\$38.35
Horseton	Incorporated	1,437	1,768	50	1.81	\$55,000	\$38.27

How Can I Work With The Data?



How Can I Work With The Data?

Open Hours vs. Staff Hours



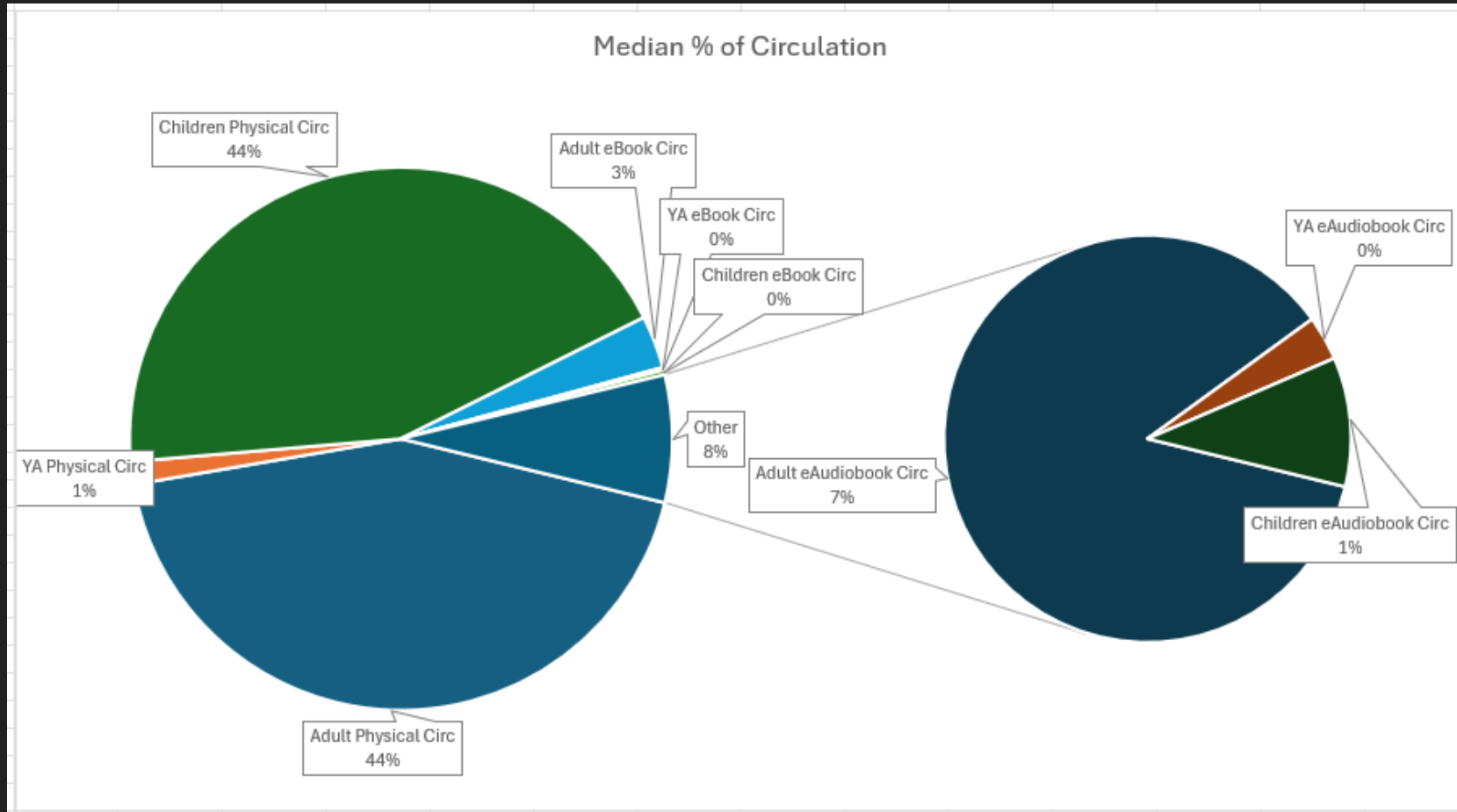
2023 – Data Analysis

Category	Incorporated	Municipal
Local Tax % of Revenue	50.84%	87.33%
Annual Open Hours / Pop.	0.59	0.6
Annual Staff Hours / Pop.	1.23	1.16
Prog. Attend / Pop.	0.41	0.51

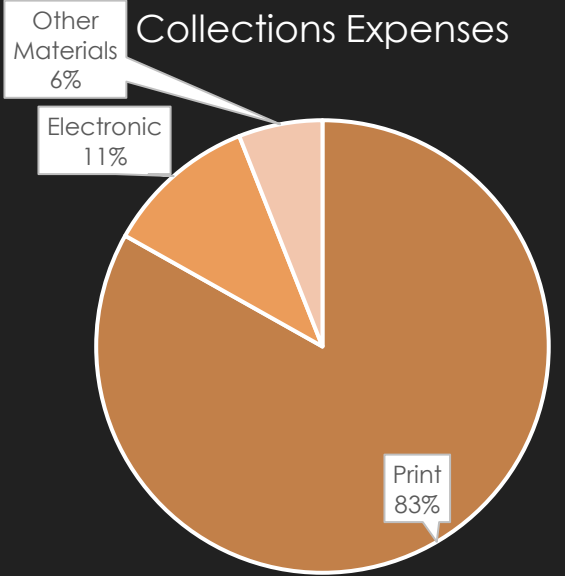
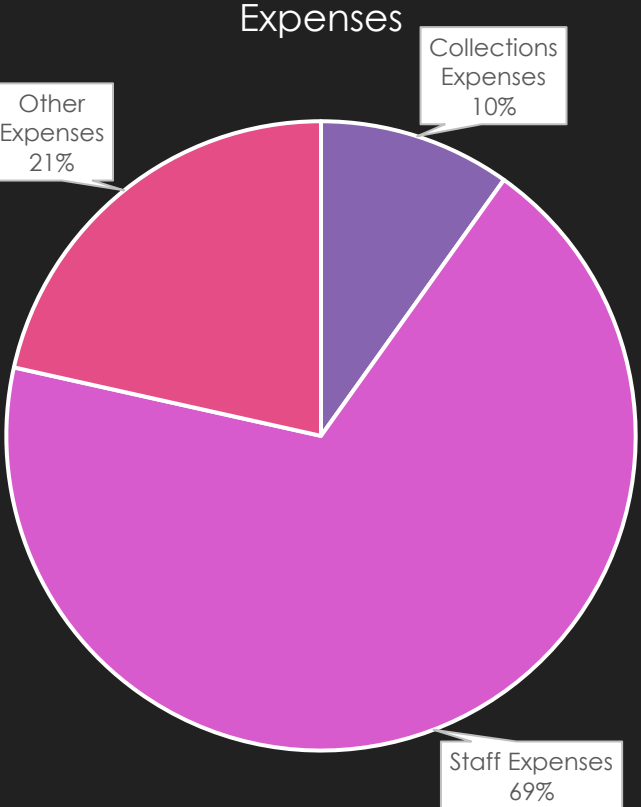
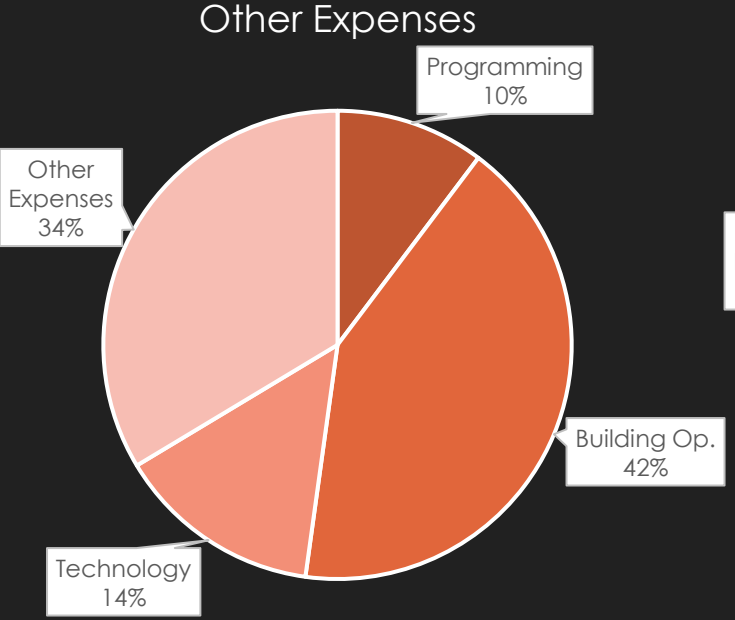
2023 – Data Analysis

Correlation	Population	Total Staff Hours	Local Tax Support	Other Income	Total Revenue	Registered Borrowers	Annual Visits	Electronic Circ	Physical Circ	Computer Sessions	WiFi Sessions	Programs	Program Attendance
Population		0.90	0.91	0.27	0.91	0.92	0.87	0.91	0.80	0.84	0.50	0.67	0.75
Total Staff Hours	0.90		0.93	0.44	0.97	0.89	0.93	0.89	0.81	0.83	0.64	0.75	0.83
Local Tax Support	0.91	0.93		0.18	0.96	0.87	0.87	0.93	0.77	0.84	0.46	0.71	0.78
Other Income	0.27	0.44	0.18		0.44	0.35	0.43	0.23	0.36	0.26	0.41	0.33	0.40
Total Revenue	0.91	0.97	0.96	0.44		0.89	0.91	0.91	0.80	0.85	0.52	0.74	0.82
Registered Borrowers	0.92	0.89	0.87	0.35	0.89		0.87	0.86	0.77	0.80	0.57	0.69	0.78
Annual Visits	0.87	0.93	0.87	0.43	0.91	0.87		0.90	0.90	0.85	0.57	0.65	0.76
Electronic Circ	0.91	0.89	0.93	0.23	0.91	0.86	0.90		0.86	0.83	0.39	0.69	0.72
Physical Circ	0.80	0.81	0.77	0.36	0.80	0.77	0.90	0.86		0.75	0.49	0.58	0.66
Computer Sessions	0.84	0.83	0.84	0.26	0.85	0.80	0.85	0.83	0.75		0.63	0.56	0.64
WiFi Sessions	0.50	0.64	0.46	0.41	0.52	0.57	0.57	0.39	0.49	0.63		0.35	0.52
Programs	0.67	0.75	0.71	0.33	0.74	0.69	0.65	0.69	0.58	0.56	0.35		0.86
Program Attendance	0.75	0.83	0.78	0.40	0.82	0.78	0.76	0.72	0.66	0.64	0.52	0.86	

2023 – Data Analysis





2023 – Data Analysis



Search and Compare Tool

- IMLS Offers a Search and Compare Tool for the Public Library Survey data - <https://www.imls.gov/search-compare>
- The data is from roughly two years old.
- Be aware that rural/city/surburban may not mean exactly what you think.
- Webinar if you are more interested in Search & Compare - <https://www.ripleffect.org/blog/webinar/exploring-public-libraries-survey-data-for-peer-comparisons/>

Search and Compare Tool

Libraries Side-by-Side				
  Page 2 of 2				
HOT SPRINGS COUNTY LIBRARY (WY0015)			POTSDAM PUBLIC LIBRARY (NY0472)	
PROGRAM ATTENDANCE				
	Total	Per 1K People	Total	Per 1K People
Total Program Attendance	949.0	205.3	1,612	118.1
Children's Program Attendance	811.0	175.5	581	42.6
Young Adult Program Attendance	0.0	0.0	0	0.0
All Other Program Attendance	138.0	29.9	1,031	75.5
Asynchronous Program Attendance				
LIBRARY SERVICES				
	Total	Per Person	Total	Per Person
Physical Visits	8,840	1.9	25,625	1.9
Web Visits	-1	-1.0	17,258	1.3
Library Card Holders	5,304	1.1	6,243	0.5
Questions Answered	2,600	0.6	475	0.0
Inter-Library Loans to Other Libraries	460	99.5	3,804	278.6
Inter-Library Loans from Other Libraries	71	15.4	5,706	418.0

Thanks!!!

- Thanks to everyone for attending today!
- And thanks again for all the time and effort that you put into the Annual Report!
- For questions, I'm at joshua.muse@vermont.gov