2023
Community Report

Kent District Library

KDL is honored to receive the Jerry Kline Community Impact Prize. Nationally awarded by *Library Journal*, the honor recognizes a public library as a vital community asset. KDL's application highlights the library's engagement with local municipalities, sustainable operations, and robust array of library programs and services.

We exist to further all people.

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On the cover: Patrons Samara and Eli attend a Storytime at the Kentwood (Richard L. Root) Branch in the summer of 2023.

There are a million things I love about Kent District Library. I love our authenticity, our passion, our work ethic. But if I had to choose my favorite thing about KDL, it would be that we lead with our heart. We really do. Many businesses have to focus on sales, inventory and product development, but we have the luxury of working as hard as we can to connect our hearts with the hearts of those we serve. It is a huge honor and a huge responsibility.

2023 was a big year for us at KDL. Passing our operating millage with overwhelming support means so much for the community. No matter what happens in your life or in our world during the next 15 years, one thing is certain... you will have a library in your community ready to meet your needs and make you feel welcome.

We celebrated some great accomplishments this past year – revamping our 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten program, issuing over 20,000 new library cards, launching a Picture Book CORE Collection, adding an Express Library at the Grattan Township Offices – but our most meaningful successes came from the connections we made with people. KDL staff members shared stories, laughs and book recommendations with people. They were and always will be a friendly face, a source of comfort and a listening ear to so many.

Kent District Library serves as a "third place" in the community, a place where people feel they belong when they are not at home or work, where people can gather, learn and connect. A record number of people attended our programs in 2023, highlighting the value of free entertainment and education. We provide a welcoming environment that transcends so many boundaries, fostering a sense of belonging and community.

No matter who you are, no matter what you believe, no matter where you came from, you are welcome here.

Come connect with us,

Lance Werner
Executive Director

2023 at a Glance

JANUARY

- **Let It Snow returned.** Over 3,700 participants read books from various reading categories and over 2,700 completed the program and earned a free mug.
- **KDL celebrated a record-breaking one million digital book checkouts in 2022.** This milestone illustrated the continued growth in and importance of KDL lending digital ebooks and audiobooks.

FEBRUARY

- **Winners of the 11th annual Write Michigan Short Story Contest were announced.** Over 1,200 writers from across the state entered the contest.
- **KDL began accepting entries for the annual Write Michigan Teen Poetry Contest**, open to teens in grades 6-12 living in Kent County. It is a great opportunity for teens to share their writing and win a cool prize.

MARCH

- **The Grand Rapids Chamber partnered with Kent District Library to support minority business growth.** The partnership supports connection to resources and expansion of collaborative workspaces.
- **KDL celebrated new play spaces with the "*Find Your Knook Challenge*."** Families were invited to submit pictures of their children in one of the new WonderKnook playspaces for a chance to win a prize. The interactive WonderKnook playspaces contain unique materials, toys and activities intentionally designed to help young children get ready to read and learn.

APRIL

- **Grattan Twp. announced the new Express Library to bring KDL services closer to home for residents**. With the Express Library, patrons can check out and return items at their convenience.
- **The KDL Lab Expo took place at the Grandville Branch**. KDL Lab showcased a variety of STEAM experiences and partnered with local STEAM experts to provide hours of challenges and pure STEAM fun.

MAY

- **Community Engagement Manager Sara Proaño received a prestigious "Mover and Shaker" Award from *Library Journal*.**
- **The Talking Book and Braille Center celebrated its 50th anniversary and launched new technology.** TBBC now offers Braille eReaders to patrons.

JUNE

- **Patrons of all ages embarked on a Summer Wonder journey of reading, learning and exploring through the great outdoors!** KDL teamed up with Kent County Parks to offer a spectacular summer of outdoor discovery, scavenger hunts, reading, STEAM activities and lots of fun for everyone.
- **KDL Executive Director Lance Werner was named the 2023 winner of ALA's Ernest A. DiMattia Award for Innovation and Service to Community and Profession.** The award recognizes a librarian who demonstrates leadership in anticipating emerging trends in services, products and technologies that will enhance the library's position in its community.
- **By popular demand, KDL expanded its CORE Collection to include picture books.** The Picture Book CORE Collection, available at all KDL branches, consists of 100 of the top circulating, perennially popular titles KDL has to offer. No holds are allowed, so you are practically guaranteed to find a good read.
- **KDL partnered with Feeding America of West Michigan to provide summer meals at 15 KDL branches and the Bookmobile.** Lunches for students ages 2-18 (or up to age 26 for people with disabilities) were available Monday through Friday at various times for no cost.

JULY

- **The Kelloggsville Branch, located in Kelloggsville High School, turned five!** The branch celebrated with a Birthday Bash that included snacks, balloon animals, crafts, games, library and Bookmobile tours, and even a foam party!
- **As part of Summer Wonder, KDL teamed up with Kent County Parks to present "Find Curi!"** Families went on an outdoor scavenger hunt through local parks to find Curi, KDL's Summer Wonder mascot.
- **StoryWalks were available at three local parks.** StoryWalk® encourages kids (and adults!) to enjoy reading and the outdoors at the same time. Walk along, read along… just follow the signs!

AUGUST

- **Summer Wonder success!** Over 20,000 people participated, with over 18,000 completing the challenge.
- **Live phone interpreting services are now offered in more than 200 languages, ensuring greater access to KDL collections, programs and services.** Through this new over-the-phone service, patrons who speak languages other than English are now able to connect with KDL staff members.

SEPTEMBER

- **The 12th annual Write Michigan Short Story Contest began accepting entries.** This statewide contest gives Michigan writers of all ages the chance to get published and win cash prizes.
- **KDL Vibes Fest was held at the Cascade Twp. Branch.** The music festival featured West Michigan artists from the KDL Vibes Collection.
- **Christine Beachler and Early Bird Books were awarded with the 2023 Literacy Champion Awards.** Beachler, a Media Center Specialist at Lowell Area Schools, received the individual award, and Early Bird Books received the organization award.
- **A programming series on mental wellness was offered in partnership with Wedgwood Christian Services and other mental health providers.**

OCTOBER

- **Kent District Library and World Affairs Council of Western Michigan presented Voices of Indigenous Peoples for Community and Healing,** a free program series for adults. The series shed light on challenges facing indigenous groups and the work done to maintain and advocate for their cultural and political identity.
- **A revamped 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten program was launched** to help children fall in love with reading and prepare them for school. The updated program introduces an online tracking option, includes a book with early literacy activities and features Michigan woodland animals.

NOVEMBER

- **Voters overwhelmingly approved KDL's millage renewal with a 76.9% acceptance rate.** Voters approved the new, lower rate of 1.1 mills, which reflects a reduction of 10.9% off KDL's previous millage rate of 1.2355 mills.
- **Kent District Library won the 2023 Jerry Kline Community Impact Prize.** KDL plans to reinvest $250,000 in prize money into the community in two different ways – by supporting library expansion projects and establishing a scholarship fund.
- **The 12th annual Write Michigan Short Story Contest closed with over 1,150 entries.**

DECEMBER

- **The Let It Snow Reading Club returned.** Adults and teens (ages 11+) who read or listen to six books from the Let It Snow reading categories between December 1 and February 29 earn a collectible Let It Snow mug.
- **On the Same Page, a community reading initiative, was announced.** The program brings people together around one book, *Tom Lake* by Ann Patchett, and will end with a celebratory "Meet the Author" event.

Meeting Needs:
Many Ways, Many People

Join us on a journey through the transformative impact of KDL over the past year. Our **Community Report** serves as a testament to our unwavering commitment to meeting the diverse needs of our community, and this year, we draw inspiration from Abraham Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs – a psychological framework that resonates profoundly with our mission.

Self-Actualization
Desire to become the most that one can be

Esteem
Respect, self-esteem, status, recognition, strength, freedom

Social Needs
Friendship, intimacy, family, sense of connection

Safety and Security Needs
Personal security, employment, resources, health, prosperity

Physiological Needs
Air, water, food, shelter, sleep, clothing, reproduction

At the foundation of Maslow's pyramid lies the **physiological needs** essential for survival. KDL, much like a wellspring of knowledge, addresses this fundamental tier by providing a haven for learning and exploration in addition to providing essential needs for individuals.

FEEDING AMERICA West Michigan | GATHER 2 GROW

Gather 2 Grow summer meal program – We partnered with Feeding America to serve over 20,000 meals to children in 2023.

Shelter – The library is a haven for people who are unhoused or experiencing power outages or extreme temperatures.

Hygiene lockers – Every KDL branch has a hygiene locker stocked with items like tampons, deodorant, oral hygiene products and more. People can take what they need.

Our **comprehensive collection** of resources, from books and digital media to expertly curated programs, serves as the lifeblood that nourishes the minds of our patrons.

Moving upward, we delve into the **safety and security needs** crucial for personal well-being. The library is not merely a repository of information; it is a sanctuary for our community. With a commitment to fostering an inclusive and welcoming environment, we strive to ensure that everyone feels secure in their pursuit of knowledge, free from judgment or discrimination in addition to seeking socio-economic advancement.

Economic stability initiatives – KDL teams up with community partners to create initiatives and programming for the head of household to break the cycle of poverty. To promote financial stabilization, KDL has focused on five pillars: entrepreneurship, career exploration, adult education, job attainment and professional development.

WonderKnook Playspaces – Available at all 20 branches, these interactive playspaces contain unique materials, toys and activities intentionally designed to help young children get ready to read and learn.

As we ascend the pyramid, we encounter the **social needs** that bind us together. KDL serves as a social nexus – a space where connections are forged and ideas are exchanged. Our innovative programs and collaborative initiatives foster a sense of belonging, reinforcing the library as a communal anchor that transcends socio-economic and cultural boundaries.

World Affairs Council of Western Michigan Partnership – KDL partners with WACWM each year to present a programming series to help attendees engage thoughtfully with the world. The 2023 series focused on voices of indigenous people.

Over-the-Phone Interpretation (OPI) service – OPI is available in over 250 languages.

Concerts for the Community – This program provides families who would otherwise not have access, due to financial barriers, an opportunity to enjoy and be inspired by the Fifth Third Bank Summer Concerts at Frederik Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Park.

Storytimes – These programs are designed to promote early literacy skills and help young children fall in love with books and reading. Storytimes are available in multiple languages, including American Sign Language.

Grattan Express Library – The Grattan Township Express Library is a self-serve library collection that offers books, movies and games for checkout.

The **esteem needs**, which Maslow places near the pinnacle, underscore the importance of achievement, recognition and confidence. We empower individuals to realize their potential and celebrate their accomplishments.

Summer Wonder, 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten and Let It Snow – These reading programs help people of all ages discover a love of books, learning and reading.

Summer WONDER | 1KB4K 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten | LET IT Snow 2024 WINTER READING CLUB

Write Michigan Short Story Contest and Teen Poetry Contest – Library contests encourage people to get creative, show off their talents and be celebrated.

KDL Vibes – Provides a platform to support local artists and provides exposure to listeners in the community.

Finally, at the apex of Maslow's pyramid, we find **self-actualization** – the fulfillment of one's highest potential. KDL, as a beacon of enlightenment, strives to be the catalyst that propels individuals towards self-discovery and the realization of their aspirations.

KDL Scholarship – We are offering a new scholarship program for individuals who are enrolling in college or vocational training programs.

Literacy Champion Award – The annual award goes to one individual and one organization who does or has done something exceptional to promote literacy.

Christine Beachler

Kate Purvis
Early Bird Books

Volunteerism – In 2023, adults and teens donated over 6,000 hours of volunteer time to make KDL even more impactful and engaging.

When KDL partners with community organizations, we enhance outreach, foster collaboration, strengthen community bonds and have a better understanding of local needs. One of our favorite partners is Treetops Collective, a cross-cultural organization that connects with and invests in New American (refugee) women leaders, together transforming our communities into places of belonging.

Treetops Collective

- **Language Learning** – Though KDL was already providing Mango Languages, a language-learning tool, it didn't work well for refugees in our community because it was word-based, and some of these people could not read or write. Treetops Collective requested that we offer Rosetta Stone, which is image-based and could be utilized by Treetops Collective members. We are thrilled to now offer this service.

- **Mentorship Program** – KDL staff members are encouraged to be a mentor in the community for one hour a week on work time. Many people mentor through Affinity Mentoring, but some KDL staff members mentor a refugee through Treetops Collective.

- **Event partnerships** – Training and outreach events put on by Treetops Collective with KDL support provide opportunities to sign up for library cards, introduce people to what the library has to offer, share stories, play games and join forces for a combined goal. Treetops Collective also participates in the Concerts for the Community program that introduces refugees to world-class cultural events at Frederik Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Park.

- **Little Free Library** – KDL set up and stocks a Little Free Library at Treetops Collective, ensuring that their members always have books to read.

A concert at Frederik Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Park. Some guests attended free through Concerts for the Community

"As an organization that is focused on creating a more welcoming community and providing connections and opportunities to our newcomer community of refugees and immigrants, our partnership with KDL has been a gift to our work. I always joke with my husband that the second I step into a local branch, I feel so excited to pay taxes!

The library is truly a community space where everyone is treated as equals and as (KDL Community Engagement Manager) Sara Proaño so beautifully reminds us at our summer picnic each year, 'The staff works for you!' From being responsive to our request about language learning and accessibility in their acquisition of Rosetta Stone, to bringing the Bookmobile and activities to our annual summer picnic, to ensuring our local refugee community has library cards, to co-hosting our 'Say No to the Single Story' Book Club reminding our community that each perspective and lived experience is unique and valuable and that there is SO much to learn from each other – KDL truly spreads welcome alongside Treetops!"

– Tarrah Carnahan
Executive Director and Co-founder, Treetops Collective

Strategic Plan

In 2023, we wrapped up a three-year strategic plan that was based on a cascading framework that maintained a clear focus on top-line organizational goals and strategies with the efforts of all teams aligned. The overarching goals were:

- Align all library services, staffing makeup and partnerships to be reflective and inclusive of the diverse communities we serve.
- Increase the value delivered to the community by focusing on demonstrated needs.
- Evaluate and streamline operational, environmental and fundraising processes to ensure a sustainable library.

Details for each initiative and results are online at **kdl.org/strategic-plan-2021-2023.**

Now we've launched a new three-year plan that outlines our purpose, vision, business goals, annual operational initiatives and core values. It serves as a lens to assess all ideas and determine priorities.

These strategic goals will guide us to live out our core values: to be an inclusive, authentic, positive, courageous and helpful presence in each community we serve. Successfully living out our core values ultimately helps us to achieve our purpose — to further all people.

Annual reports typically look back at the previous year, but here's a glimpse at the future, with our three pillars of focus and 2024 initiatives.

Strengthening Community

We will celebrate distinctive communities by proactively prioritizing meaningful partnerships and patron relationships, finding commonalties with our neighbors, and intentionally connecting resources.

INITIATIVE #1: Evaluate community partnerships by accessing data to establish reciprocity and shared goals, develop a partnership intake process and prioritize relationships and partnerships at the branch and system levels to reveal where there may be gaps or overlaps. Create a "Who Is My Community" map for each branch so key partnerships are highlighted and communicated.

INITIATIVE #2: Assess each in-branch experience to optimize engagement opportunities and to encourage gathering as well as one-on-one engagement between patrons, and between staff and patrons. Find ways to make the branch a destination.

Technology

We will proactively explore evolutions in the ever-changing technological landscape to optimize resources, enhance services and embrace education on adoption.

INITIATIVE #3: Get acquainted with the esport and gaming community to better understand where the library is best positioned to take steps toward providing access as well as creating opportunity regarding gaming educational curriculum, programming, and spaces to accommodate. Develop a testing lab at the KDL Service Center and determine where the first esports branch lab will be.

INITIATIVE #4: Invest in technologies to further streamline operational processes to reallocate staff time to better serve and connect with patrons. Conduct a time study and create a detailed time reallocation plan to ensure systemwide priorities remain aligned.

Core Programming

Our programming will be strategically focused on defining and providing exciting, valuable core programs that give people access to experience and invite further exploration of KDL's services and spaces.

INITIATIVE #5: Hold a galvanizing community read program (*On the Same Page*) to engage current patrons and, more importantly, attract new people in our service area to KDL with all the library has to offer. In addition, focus on events that are guaranteed to bring our community together and find commonalities.

INITIATIVE #6: Revamp the Mission: Read program or create a replacement school-aged program to address third grade reading deficits. Focus on creating a timely, achievable and sustainable program to go in effect fall 2024. Leverage and strengthen school partnerships and market to students who are especially vulnerable.

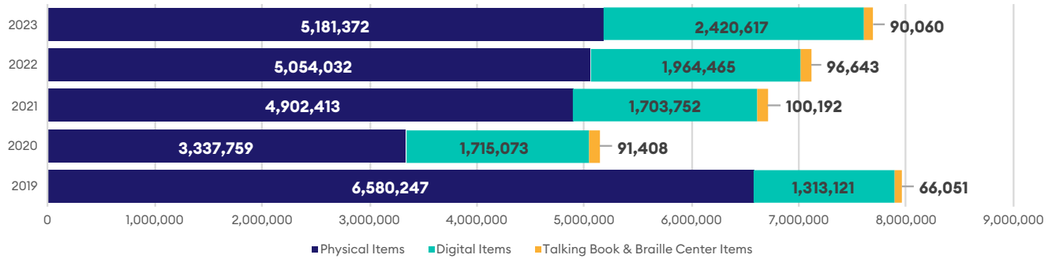
Return on Investment

Library users saved $92,451,356 in 2023 by checking out physical materials and digital items. The return on investment for taxpayers is much greater when you add the value derived from using computers, printers, study rooms, programs, outreach services, online databases and the personal service of library staff.

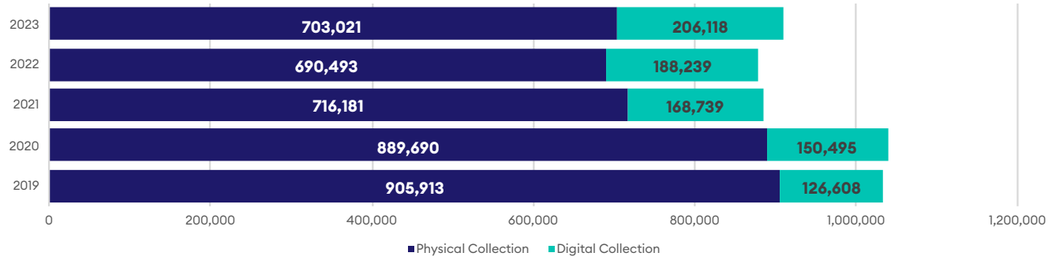
	2022	2023
Physical Items Checked Out (does not include renewals)	2,747,973	2,801,914
Total Estimated Value of Physical Items Checked Out	$53,416,086	$55,377,873
Users Who Checked Out Physical Items	75,765	79,226
Average Value per User for Physical Items	**$705**	**$699**
Digital Items Checked Out	1,964,465	2,420,617
Total Estimated Value of Digital Items Checked Out	$31,783,041	$37,073,483
Users Who Checked Out Digital Items	49,408	53,651
Average Value per User for Digital Items	**$643**	**$691**
Total Average Value per User for Physical and Digital Items	**$1,348**	**$1,390**

System-Wide Statistics

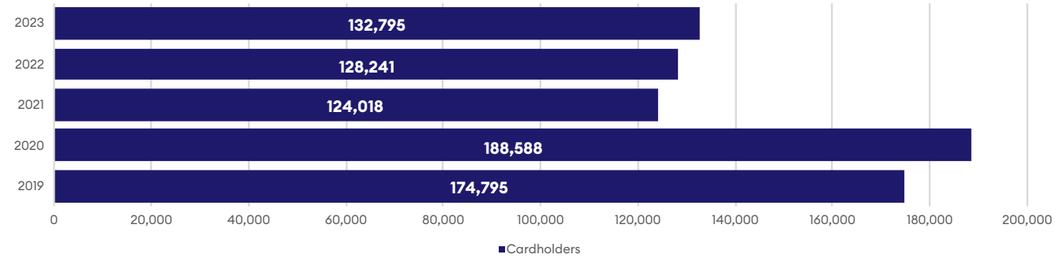
Physical and Digital Circulation



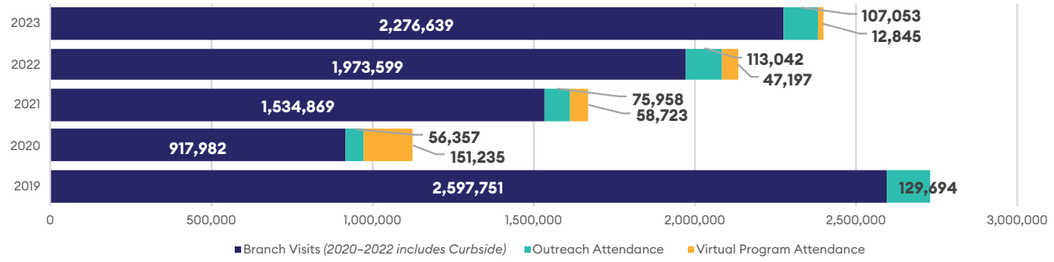
Collection Items



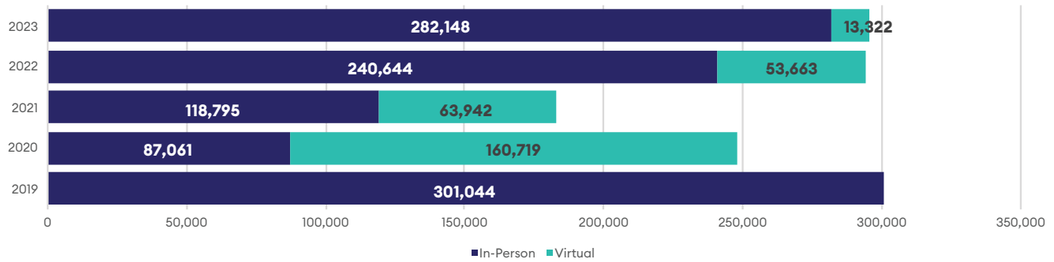
KDL Active Cardholders



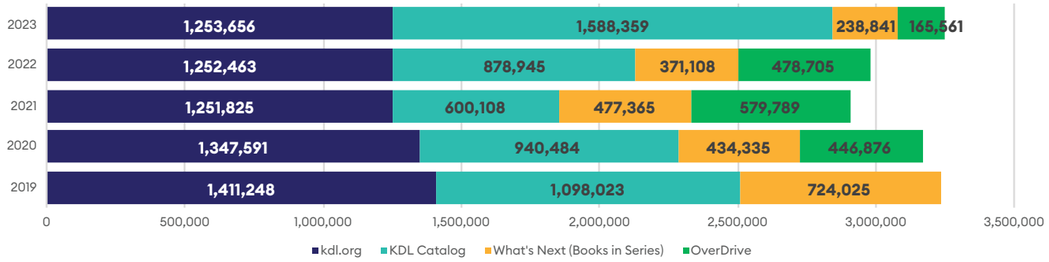
People Served



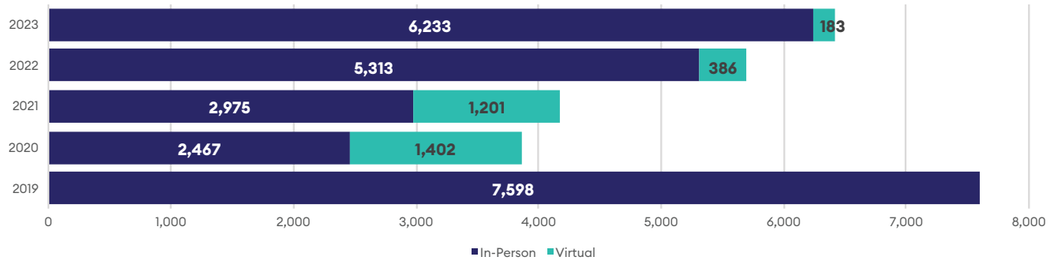
Program and Outreach Attendance



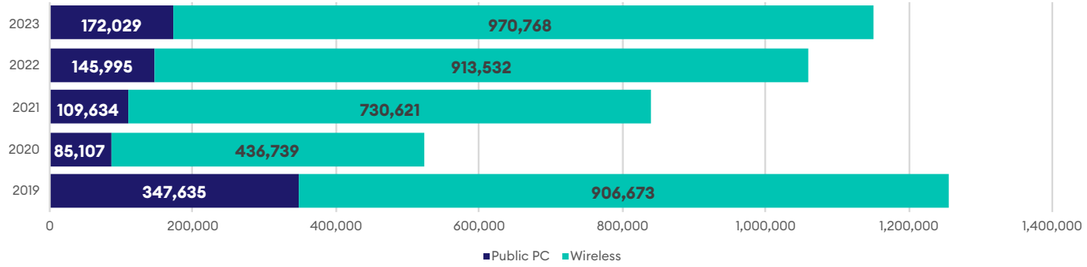
Online Visits



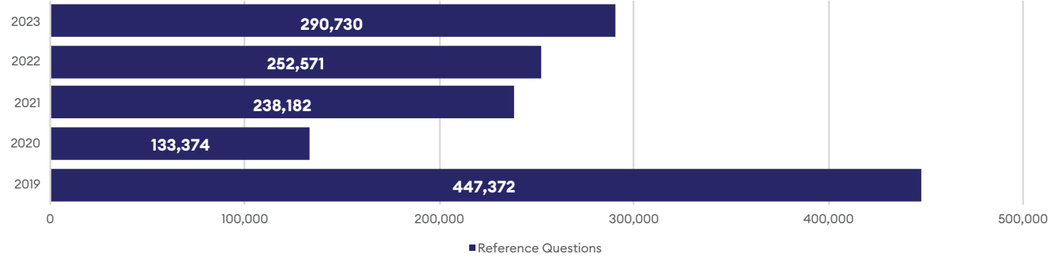
Program and Outreach Events



Computer Log-Ins



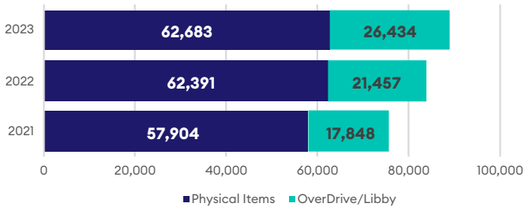
Reference Questions



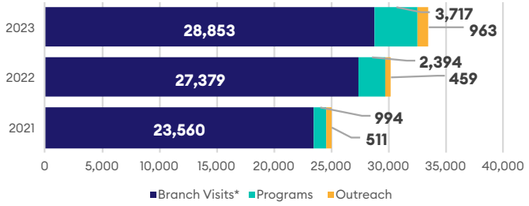
Alpine Township Branch Statistics

Regional Manager I: .....Liz Knapp
Regional Manager II: .....Craig Buno
Physical Collection Size: .....10,633 (1.5% of total)
Building Size: .....4,862 sq ft
Public Computers: 6
Staff: .....4.4 FTEs
Open Hours: .....40 hrs/wk

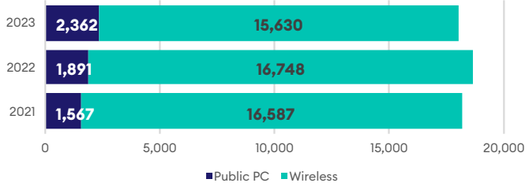
Circulation



People Served



Computer Log-Ins

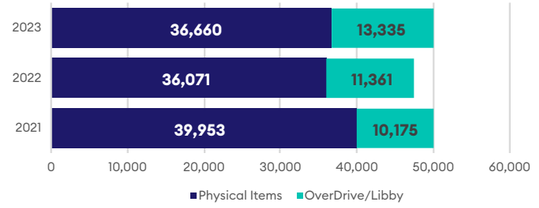


* 2021–2022 includes curbside visits

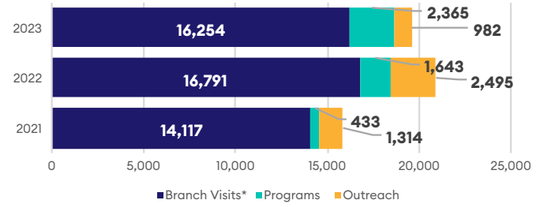
Alto Branch Statistics

Regional Manager I: .....Kurt Lardie
Regional Manager II: .....Dave Palma
Physical Collection Size: .....11,351 (1.6% of total)
Building Size: .....5,795 sq ft
Public Computers: 3
Staff: .....3.425 FTEs
Open Hours: .....38.5 hrs/wk

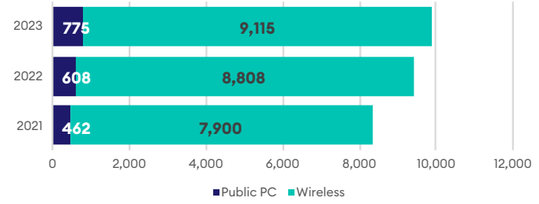
Circulation



People Served



Computer Log-Ins

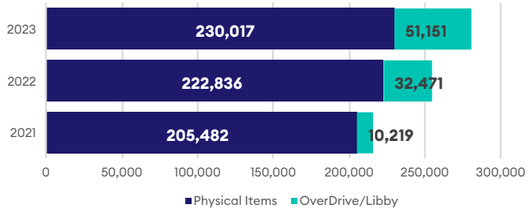


* 2021–2022 includes curbside visits

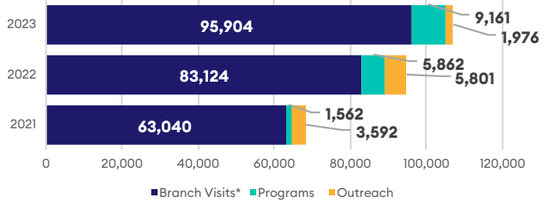
Amy Van Andel Library Statistics

Regional Manager I: .....Scott Ninemeier
Regional Manager II: .....Shaunna Martz
Physical Collection Size: .....25,012 (3.6% of total)
Building Size: .....25,786 sq ft
Public Computers: 8
Staff: .....8.9 FTEs
Open Hours: .....49 hrs/wk

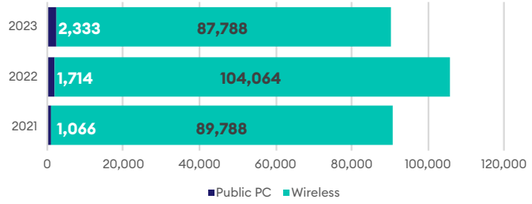
Circulation



People Served



Computer Log-Ins

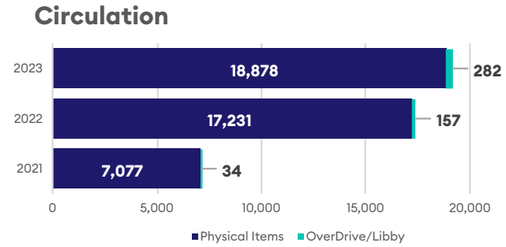


* 2021–2022 includes curbside visits

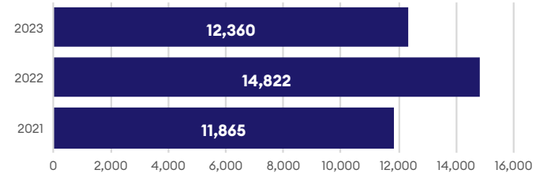
Bookmobile Statistics

Community Engagement Manager: .....Sara Proaño
Physical Collection Size: .....5,602 (0.8% of total)
Vehicle Size: .....306 sq ft
Public Computers: 0
Staff: .....3.0 FTEs
Open Hours: .....Varies

Circulation



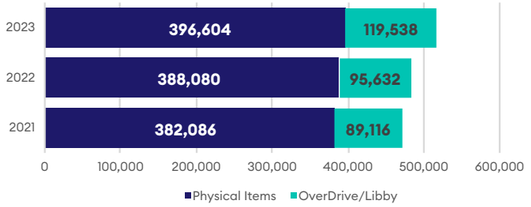
People Served



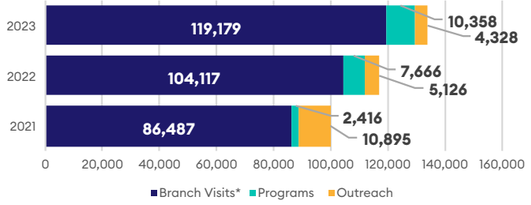
Byron Township Branch Statistics

Regional Manager I: .....Josh Bernstein
Regional Manager II: .....Eric DeHaan
Physical Collection Size: .....45,955 (6.5% of total)
Building Size: .....13,600 sq ft
Public Computers: 8
Staff: .....9.05 FTEs
Open Hours: .....54.5 hrs/wk

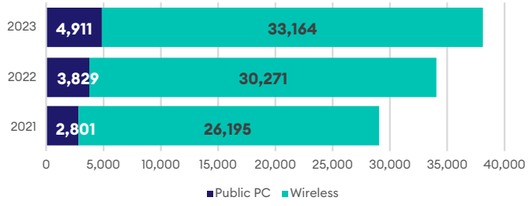
Circulation



People Served



Computer Log-Ins

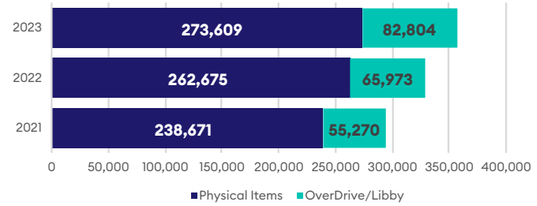


* 2021–2022 includes curbside visits

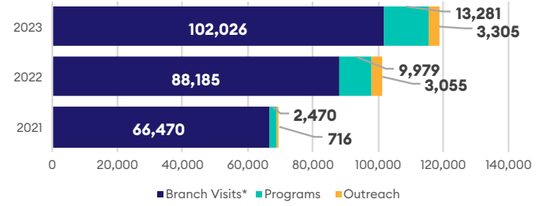
Caledonia Township Branch Statistics

Regional Manager I: .....Lulu Brown
Regional Manager II: .....Ashley Smolinski
Physical Collection Size: .....29,257 (4.2% of total)
Building Size: .....15,464 sq ft
Public Computers: 14
Staff: .....7.4 FTEs
Open Hours: .....49 hrs/wk

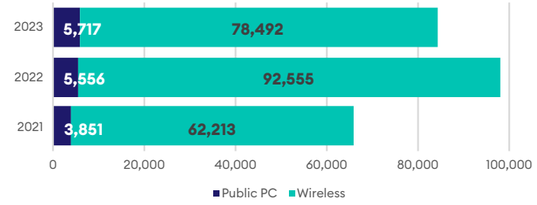
Circulation



People Served



Computer Log-Ins

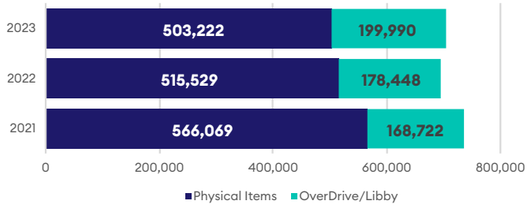


* 2021–2022 includes curbside visits

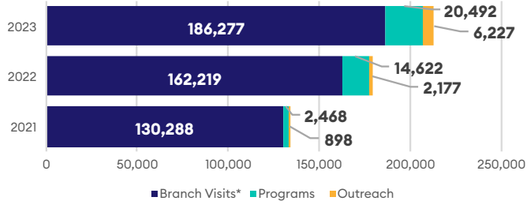
Cascade Township Branch Statistics

Regional Manager I: .....Lulu Brown
Regional Manager II: .....Ashley Smolinski
Physical Collection Size: .....63,214 (9.0% of total)
Building Size: .....30,400 sq ft
Public Computers: 12
Staff: .....14.7 FTEs
Open Hours: .....62 hrs/wk

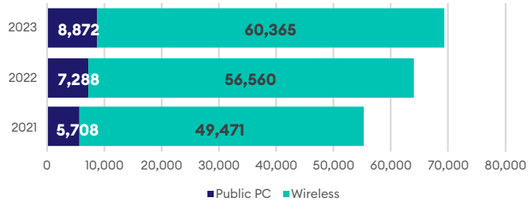
Circulation



People Served



Computer Log-Ins

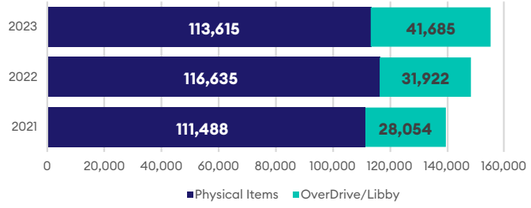


* 2021–2022 includes curbside visits

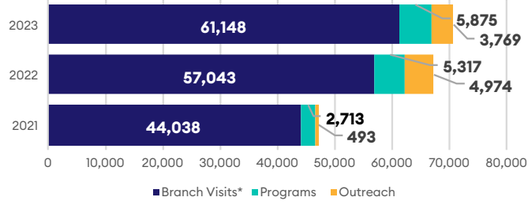
Comstock Park Branch Statistics

Regional Manager I: .....Penni Zurgable
Regional Manager II: .....Tricia Hetrick
Physical Collection Size: .....14,445 (2.1% of total)
Building Size: .....4,095 sq ft
Public Computers: 7
Staff: .....6.65 FTEs
Open Hours: .....45.5 hrs/wk

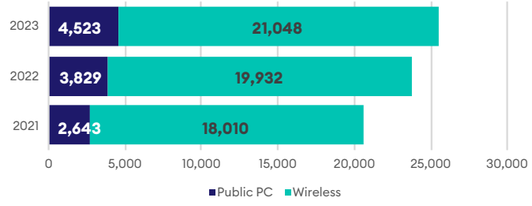
Circulation



People Served



Computer Log-Ins

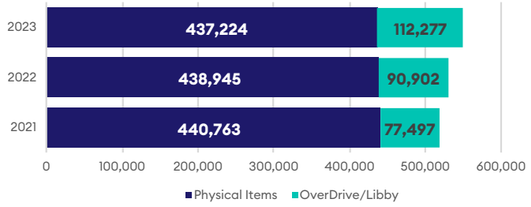


* 2021–2022 includes curbside visits

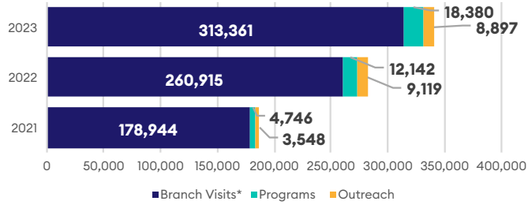
East Grand Rapids Branch Statistics

Regional Manager I: .....Scott Ninemeier
Regional Manager II: .....Shaunna Martz
Physical Collection Size: .....49,425 (7% of total)
Building Size: .....26,950 sq ft
Public Computers: 22
Staff: .....14.3 FTEs
Open Hours: .....62 hrs/wk

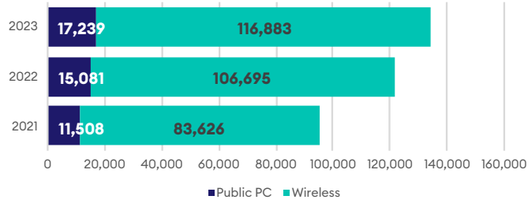
Circulation



People Served



Computer Log-Ins

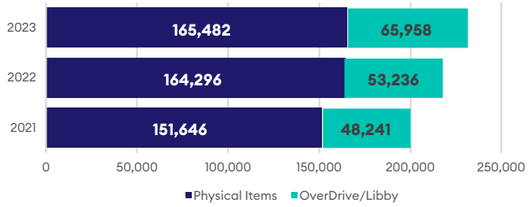


* 2021–2022 includes curbside visits

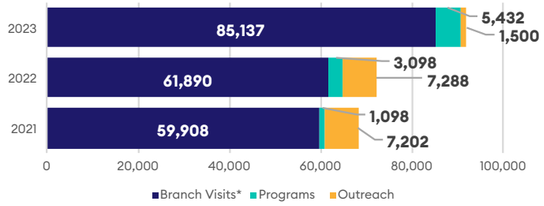
Englehardt (Lowell) Branch Statistics

Regional Manager I: .....Kurt Lardie
Regional Manager II: .....Dave Palma
Physical Collection Size: .....23,763 (3.4% of total)
Building Size: .....8,771 sq ft
Public Computers: 11
Staff: .....7.8 FTEs
Open Hours: .....46.5 hrs/wk

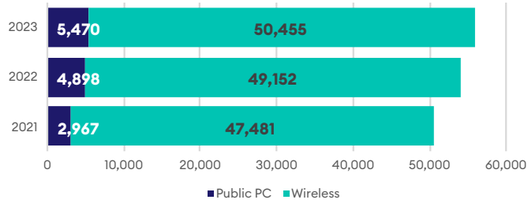
Circulation



People Served



Computer Log-Ins

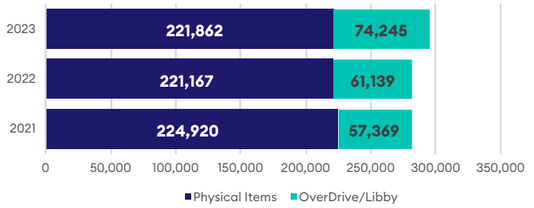


* 2021–2022 includes curbside visits

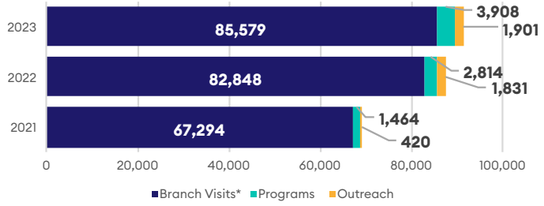
Gaines Township Branch Statistics

Regional Manager I: .....Kiosha Jeltema
Regional Manager II: .....Angela Culp
Physical Collection Size: .....36,404 (5.2% of total)
Building Size: .....10,400 sq ft
Public Computers: 18
Staff: .....8.8 FTEs
Open Hours: .....54 hrs/wk

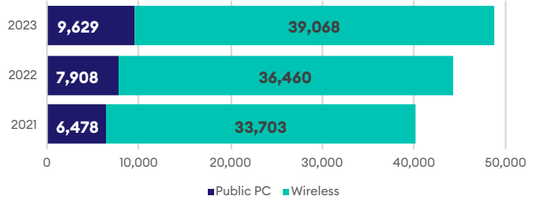
Circulation



People Served



Computer Log-Ins

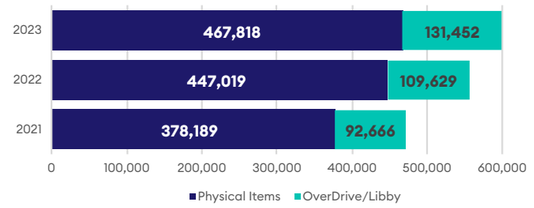


* 2021–2022 includes curbside visits

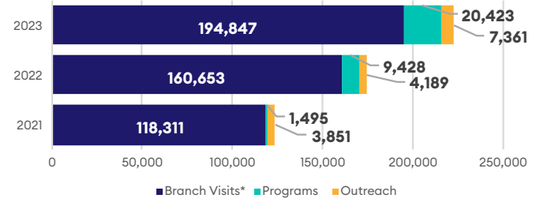
Grandville Branch Statistics

Regional Manager I: .....Josh Bernstein
Regional Manager II: .....Eric DeHaan
Physical Collection Size: .....58,585 (8.3% of total)
Building Size: .....26,535 sq ft
Public Computers: 16
Staff: .....13.5 FTEs
Open Hours: .....62 hrs/wk

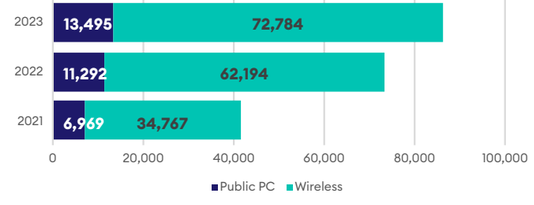
Circulation



People Served



Computer Log-Ins



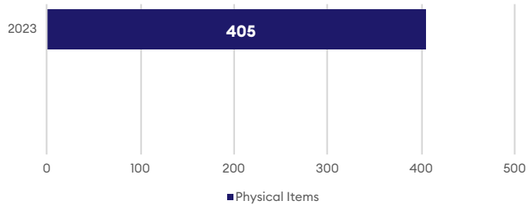
* 2021–2022 includes curbside visits

Grattan Township Express Library

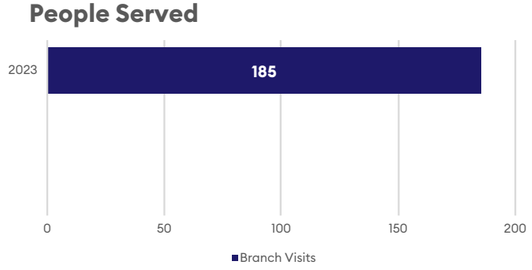
The Grattan Township Express Library opened in May 2023.

Regional Manager I: .....Kurt Lardie
Regional Manager II: .....Dave Palma
Physical Collection Size: .....417 (0.06% of total)
Building Size: .....N/A
Public Computers: .....N/A
Open Hours: .....28 hrs/wk

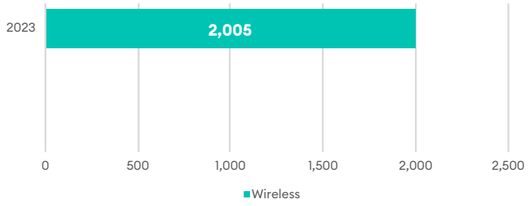
Circulation



People Served



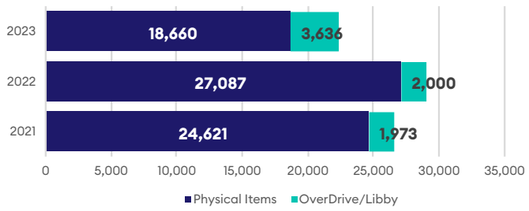
Computer Log-Ins



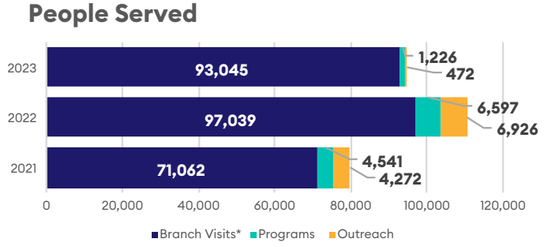
Kelloggsville Branch Statistics

Regional Manager I: .....Anjie Christiansen
Regional Manager II: .....Karen Small
Physical Collection Size: .....8,265 (1.2% of total)
Building Size: .....6,500 sq ft
Public Computers: 10
Staff: .....2.9 FTEs
Open Hours, School Year: ....14.5 hrs/wk
Open Hours, Summer: .....31 hrs/wk

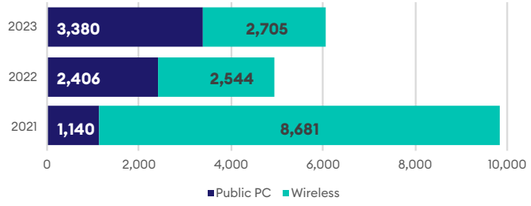
Circulation



People Served



Computer Log-Ins

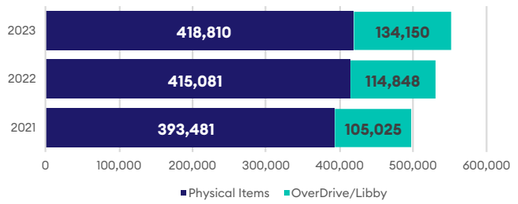


* 2021–2022 includes curbside visits

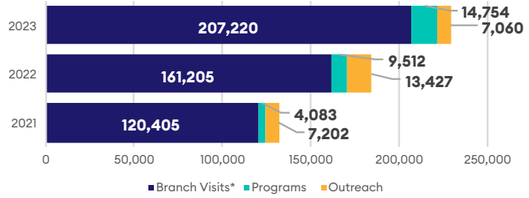
Kentwood (Richard L. Root) Branch Statistics

Regional Manager I: .....Kiosha Jeltema
Regional Manager II: .....Angela Culp
Physical Collection Size: .....60,235 (8.6% of total)
Building Size: .....45,489 sq ft
Public Computers: 40
Staff: .....15.4 FTEs
Open Hours: .....62 hrs/wk

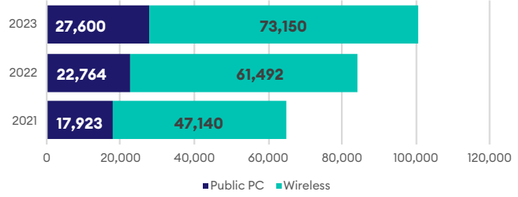
Circulation



People Served



Computer Log-Ins

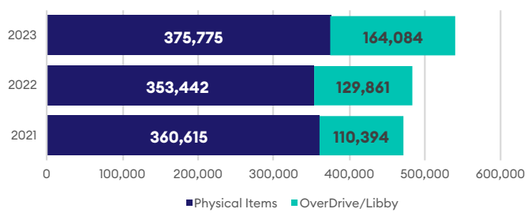


* 2021–2022 includes curbside visits

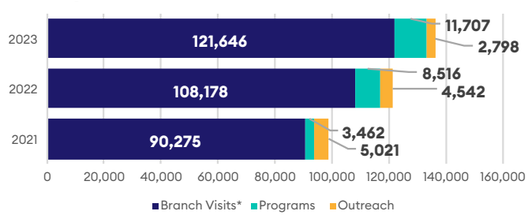
Krause Memorial (Rockford) Branch Statistics

Regional Manager I: .....Jennifer German
Regional Manager II: .....Laura Youells
Physical Collection Size: .....44,639 (6.3% of total)
Building Size: .....9,500 sq ft
Public Computers: 11
Staff: .....10.125 FTEs
Open Hours: .....54.5 hrs/wk

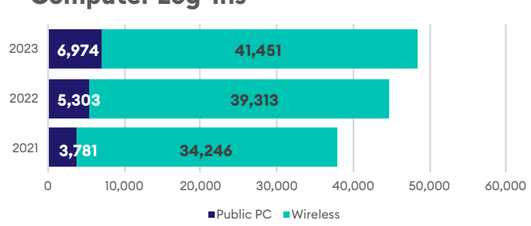
Circulation



People Served



Computer Log-Ins

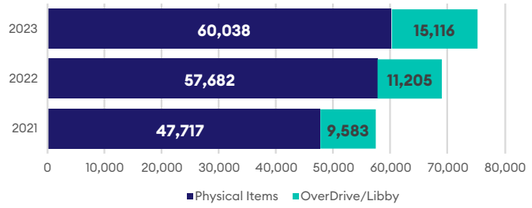


* 2021–2022 includes curbside visits

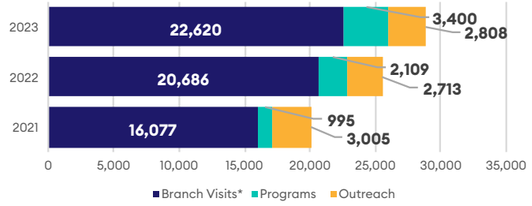
Nelson Township Branch Statistics

Regional Manager I: .....Jennifer German
Regional Manager II: .....Laura Youells
Physical Collection Size: .....15,166 (2.2% of total)
Building Size: .....8,736 sq ft
Public Computers: 12
Staff: .....4.55 FTEs
Open Hours: .....42 hrs/wk

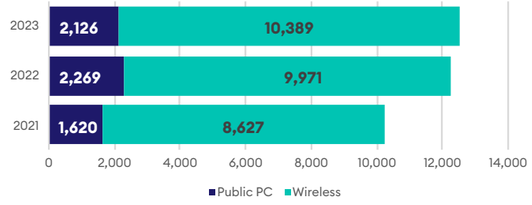
Circulation



People Served



Computer Log-Ins

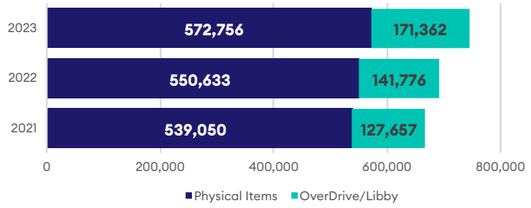


* 2021–2022 includes curbside visits

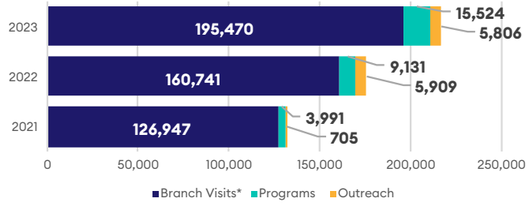
Plainfield Township Branch Statistics

Regional Manager I: .....Penni Zurgable
Regional Manager II: .....Tricia Hetrick
Physical Collection Size: .....71,188 (10.1% of total)
Building Size: .....26,420 sq ft
Public Computers: 22
Staff: .....14.425 FTEs
Open Hours: .....62 hrs/wk

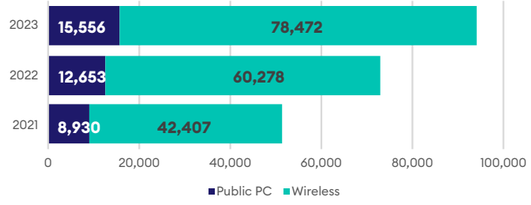
Circulation



People Served



Computer Log-Ins

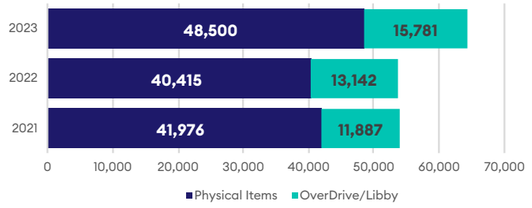


* 2021–2022 includes curbside visits

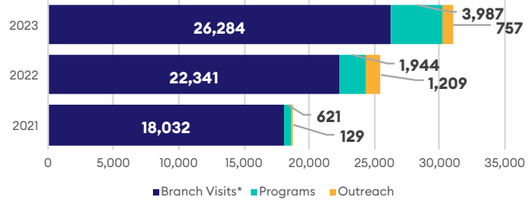
Spencer Township Branch Statistics

Regional Manager I: .....Jennifer German
Regional Manager II: .....Laura Youells
Physical Collection Size: .....11,407 (1.6% of total)
Building Size: .....2,000 sq ft
Public Computers: 6
Staff: .....3.95 FTEs
Open Hours: .....40 hrs/wk

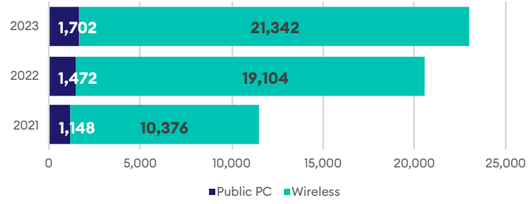
Circulation



People Served



Computer Log-Ins

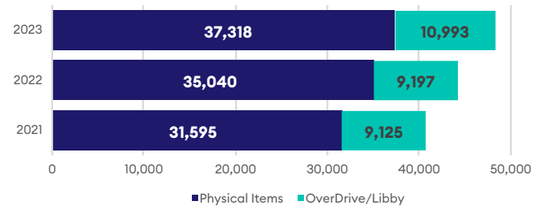


* 2021–2022 includes curbside visits

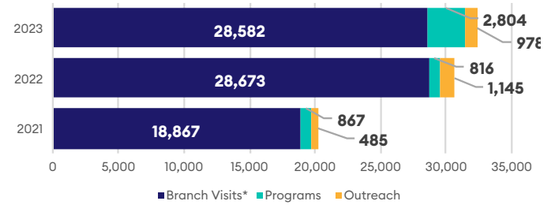
Tyrone Township Branch Statistics

Regional Manager I: .....Liz Knapp
Regional Manager II: .....Craig Buno
Physical Collection Size: .....9,080 (1.3% of total)
Building Size: .....4,239 sq ft
Public Computers: 8
Staff: .....4.175 FTEs
Open Hours: .....35.5 hrs/wk

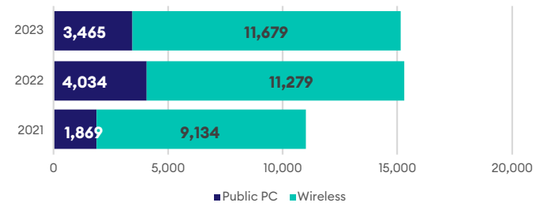
Circulation



People Served



Computer Log-Ins

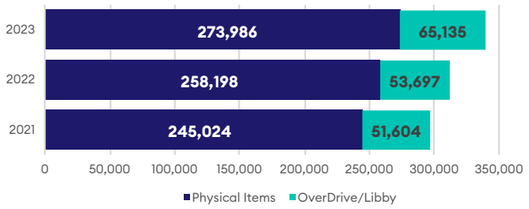


* 2021–2022 includes curbside visits

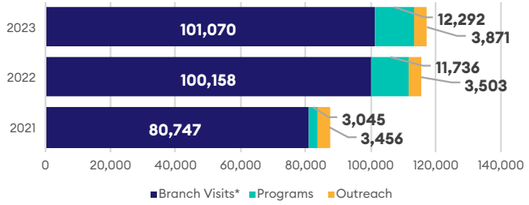
Walker Branch Statistics

Regional Manager I: .....Liz Knapp
Regional Manager II: .....Craig Buno
Physical Collection Size: .....38,357 (5.5% of total)
Building Size: .....8,898 sq ft
Public Computers: 11
Staff: .....7.775 FTEs
Open Hours: .....57 hrs/wk

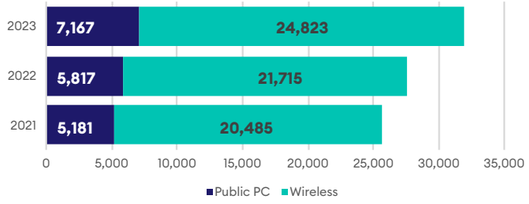
Circulation



People Served



Computer Log-Ins

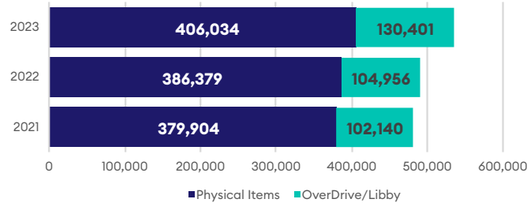


* 2021–2022 includes curbside visits

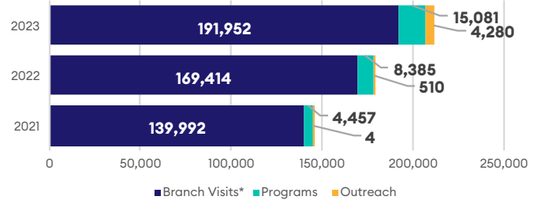
Wyoming Branch Statistics

Regional Manager I: .....Anjie Christiansen
Regional Manager II: .....Karen Small
Physical Collection Size: .....63,615 (9.0% of total)
Building Size: .....48,950 sq ft
Public Computers: 23
Staff: .....16.2 FTEs
Open Hours: .....62 hrs/wk

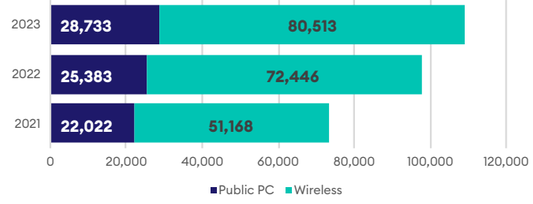
Circulation



People Served



Computer Log-Ins



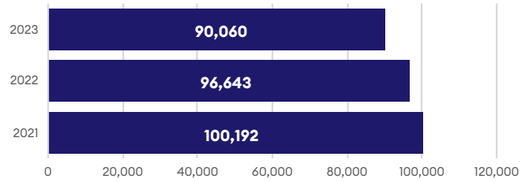
* 2021–2022 includes curbside visits

Talking Book and Braille Center

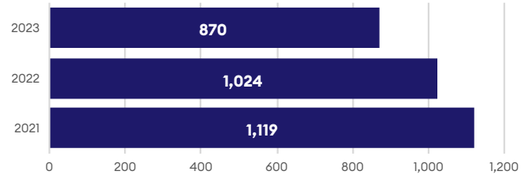
Accessibility and Inclusion Specialist:
Shelley Roossien

The Talking Book & Braille Center (TBBC) is a national program that provides accessible reading material to anyone who cannot read standard print because of a visual or physical impairment. Kent District Library's TBBC serves Kent, Ionia and Montcalm counties under the direction of the Bureau of Services for Blind Persons Braille & Talking Book Library. In addition to providing Braille and audio materials (including audiobooks, described movies and audio magazines) to TBBC patrons, KDL has a suite of adaptive technology that includes a CCTV, a Braille embosser, a text-to-speech scanner and an accessible computer equipped with a large print keyboard, screen reading and Braille translation software packages.

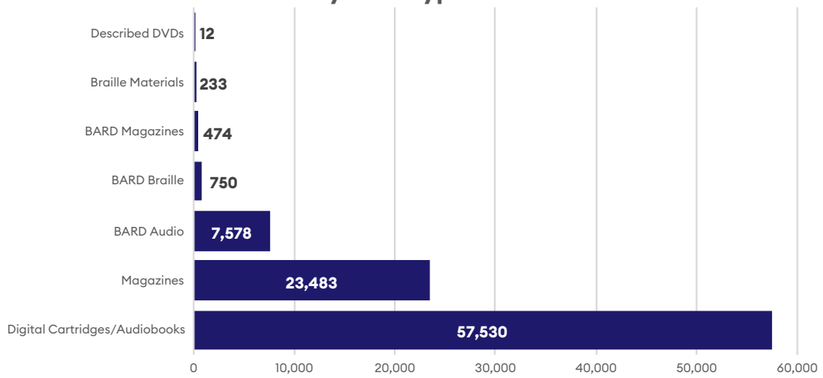
Circulation



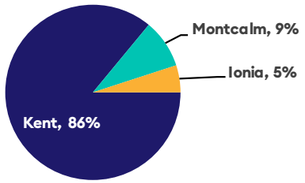
Active Borrowers



Circulation by Item Type

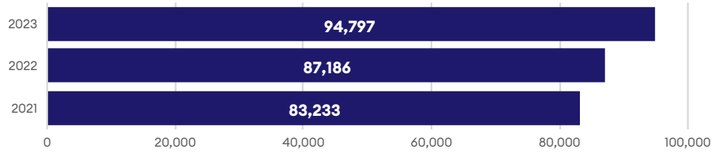


Borrowers by County

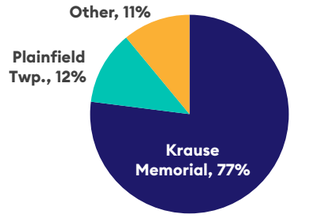


Municipalities in the Kent District Service Area

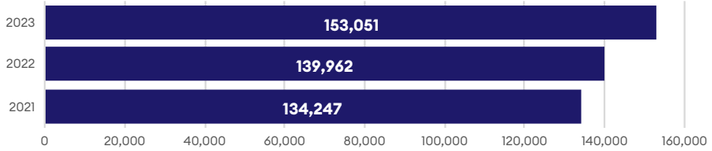
Circulation by Algoma Township Residents



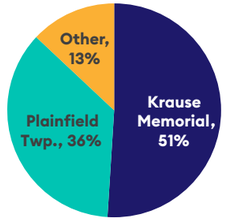
Preferred KDL Location



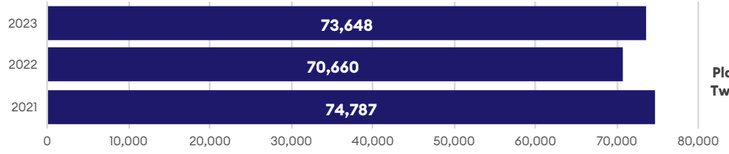
Circulation by Cannon Township Residents



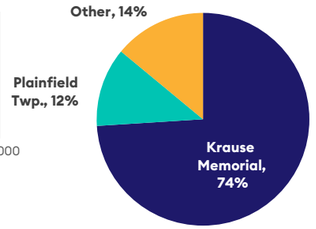
Preferred KDL Location



Circulation by Courtland Township Residents

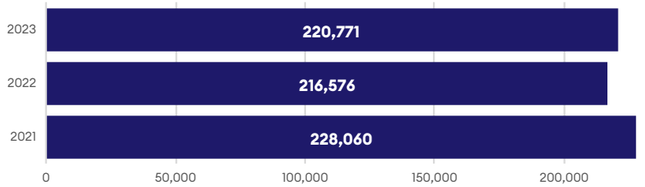


Preferred KDL Location



Municipalities in the Kent District Service Area

Circulation by Grand Rapids Township Residents



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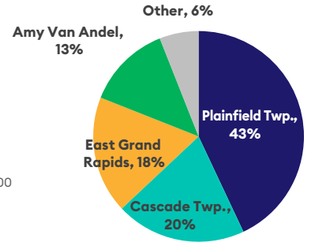
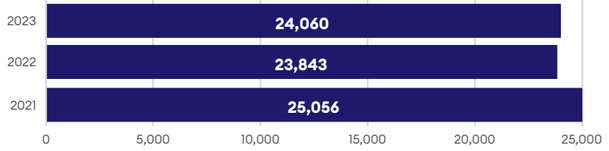


Circulation by Grattan Township Residents



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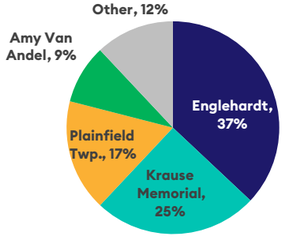
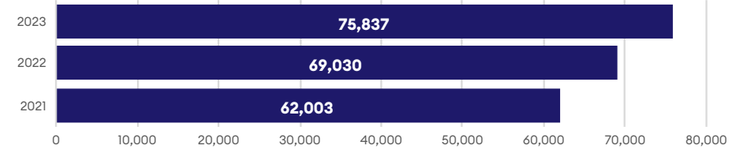
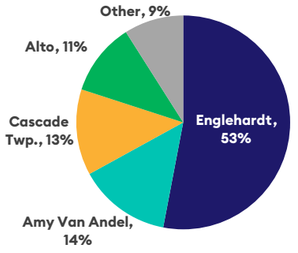


Circulation by Lowell Township Residents

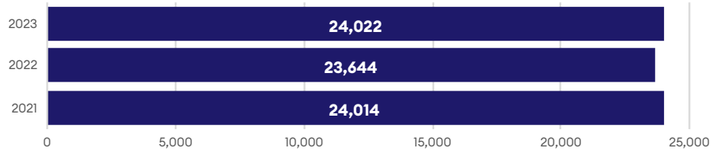


Preferred KDL Location

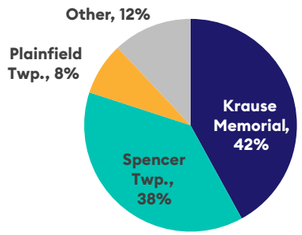


Municipalities in the Kent District Service Area

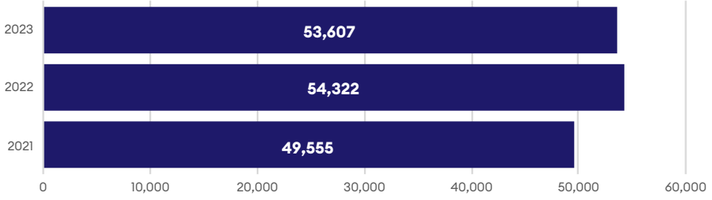
Circulation by Oakfield Township Residents



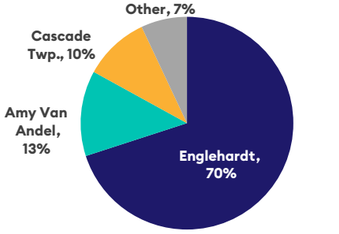
Preferred KDL Location



Circulation by Vergennes Township Residents

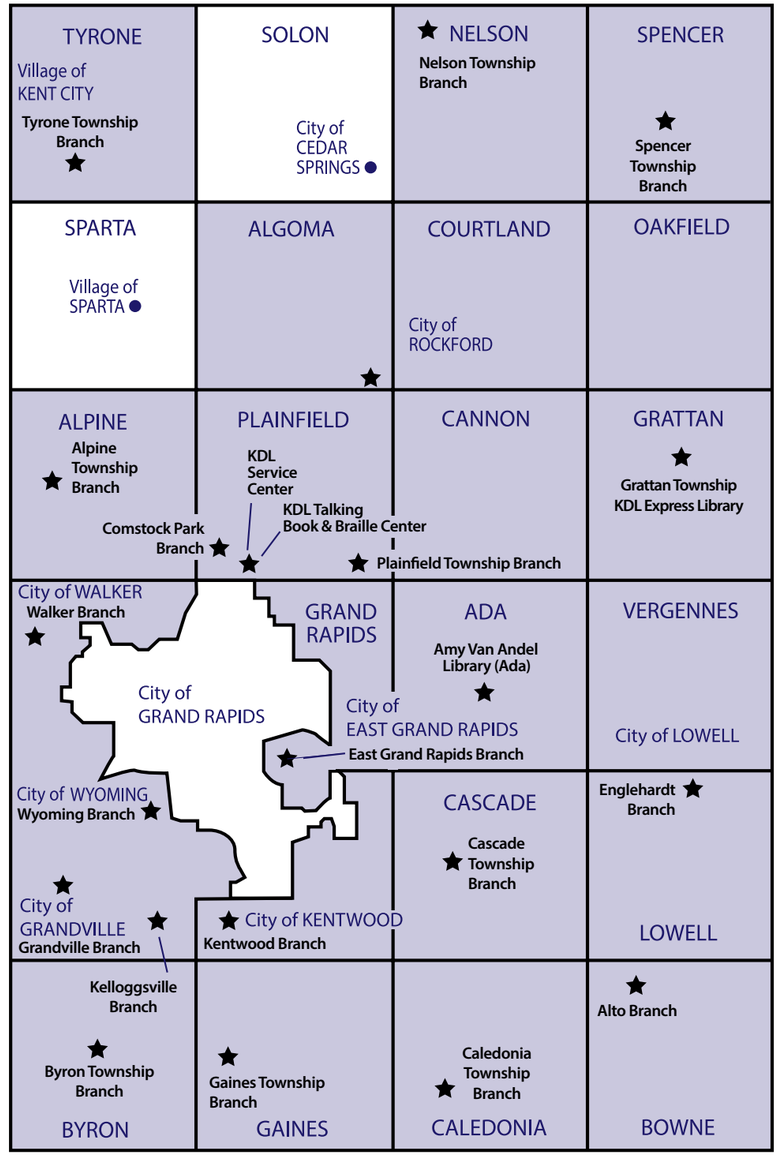


Preferred KDL Location



Kent District Library Service Area

The KDL service area includes all of Kent County except for the City of Grand Rapids, City of Cedar Springs, Solon Township, Sparta Township, the Village of Sparta and the portion of Bowne and Caledonia Townships within the Thornapple Kellogg school district.



Peer Comparison – National (2021 Institute of Museum and Library Services data)

Kent District Library ranks #1 for program attendance and in the top 5 for physical and electronic circulation per capita compared to budget and population peer

Library	City	ST	Population of Legal Service Area	Total Operating Exenditures (millions)	Per Capita Data: Operating Expenditures	Physical Circulation	Circulation of Electronic Materials	Library Visits	Program Attendance	Public Internet Users	Wi-Fi Sessions	Books and Other Printed Materials	Collection Expense
Kent District Library	**Comstock Park**	**MI**	**439,194**	**$25.1**	**$57**	**7.8**	**3.1**	**1.8**	**0.6**	**0.2**	**1.0**	**1.7**	**$10**
Population (+/- 25,000)			**KDL Rank >**	**7th**	**7th**	**3rd**	**3rd**	**7th**	**1st**	**7th**	**4th**	**7th**	**3rd**
Oakland Public Library	Oakland	CA	459,396	$39.1	$85	2.9	1.4	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.0	$5
Virginia Beach Public Library	Virginia Beach	VA	453,410	$21.6	$48	2.3	1.3	0.8	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.9	$4
Dayton Metro Library	Dayton	OH	452,238	$30.4	$67	6.3	2.6	2.6	0.0	0.5	0.7	1.6	$9
Monmouth County Library	Manalapan	NJ	446,303	$14.0	$31	4.2	1.2	1.2	0.1	0.0	0.0	3.2	$5
Sarasota County Public Libraries	Sarasota	FL	441,508	$13.0	$30	4.2	1.1	2.3	0.2	0.2	0.3	1.7	$3
Dakota County Library	Eagan	MN	439,822	$13.9	$32	8.5	2.0	2.1	0.0	0.2	0.7	1.4	$5
East Baton Rouge Parish Library	Baton Rouge	LA	439,729	$37.8	$86	3.1	2.3	2.8	0.3	0.5	1.7	3.1	$13
Pinal County Library District	Florence	AZ	439,128	$1.7	$4	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	$1
Santa Clara County Library	Campbell	CA	438,509	$54.0	$123	9.6	7.2	0.8	0.1	0.0	0.6	3.3	$21
Jefferson Parish Library	Metairie	LA	432,346	$18.8	$44	1.9	0.6	2.1	0.0	0.2	0.6	1.6	$6
Toledo-Lucas County Public Library	Toledo	OH	428,505	$36.6	$85	5.0	2.7	3.0	0.1	0.5	1.2	3.7	$10
Greensboro Public Library	Greensboro	NC	425,703	$9.3	$22	1.1	1.5	1.1	0.0	0.1	0.0	1.5	$3
Live Oak Public Libraries	Savannah	GA	425,703	$10.3	$24	1.6	0.4	0.9	0.0	0.2	1.2	1.1	$2
Richland County Public Library	Columbia	SC	416,147	$27.7	$67	2.1	3.4	0.4	0.3	0.1	0.2	1.6	$9
Budget (+/- $1,000,000)			**KDL Rank >**	**6th**	**5th**	**3rd**	**3rd**	**3rd**	**1st**	**2nd**	**3rd**	**3rd**	**2nd**
Howard County Library System	Ellicott City	MD	323,196	$25.8	$80	8.3	2.9	1.1	0.2	0.2	0.0	2.3	$8
City of St. Louis Municipal Library District	St. Louis	MO	319,294	$25.8	$81	5.2	1.5	1.6	0.1	0.2	2.3	7.8	$7
Charleston County Public Library System	Charleston	SC	408,235	$25.7	$63	3.2	2.6	1.3	0.1	0.2	0.5	1.5	$8
Wake County Public Libraries	Raleigh	NC	1,085,297	$25.7	$24	5.1	2.0	0.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.4	$4
Timberland Regional Library	Tumwater	WA	534,805	$25.2	$47	3.8	2.7	3.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	1.1	$9
Douglas County Libraries	Castle Rock	CO	369,287	$24.7	$67	12.0	4.0	3.1	0.1	0.2	1.7	1.2	$10
Fort Vancouver Regional Library District	Vancouver	WA	528,850	$24.4	$46	5.4	3.3	0.9	0.0	0.1	0.7	1.1	$6

State Comparison (2021-2022 Michigan Public Library Statistics for 12 largest libraries)

Library	Collection Turnover*	Number of Registered Borrowers	% of Operating Expenditures On Materials	Total Annual Visits	Total Circulation (All Materials)	Circulation of Electronic Materials	Total Operating Expenditures	Total Operating Income	Total Program Attendance (in-person and virtual)	Public PC Sessions	Wi-Fi Sessions
Kent District Library	**5.3**	**124,018**	**16.6%**	**1,479,641**	**6,330,730**	**1,428,317**	**$27,160,680**	**$27,043,326**	**182,737**	**109,634**	**730,621**
KDL Michigan Ranking	**2nd**	**2nd**	**2nd**	**1st**	**1st**	**1st**	**2nd**	**2nd**	**1st**	**1st**	**1st**
Ann Arbor District Library	9.3	74,996	9.9%	909,101	5,593,863	662,787	$16,978,492	$18,658,756	41,306	48,273	509,600
Capital Area District Libraries	2.1	86,026	16.3%	414,482	1,859,250	659,969	$11,262,329	$12,468,737	47,138	39,253	33,163
Clinton-Macomb Public Library	3.1	151,390	15.9%	227,195	1,128,219	162,670	$6,205,250	$8,867,403	17,595	19,351	28,602
Detroit Public Library	0.1	123,025	3.5%	121,824	261,432	172,904	$27,505,702	$33,348,455	24,765	56,929	69,713
Genesee District Library	1.5	121,148	19.4%	457,214	1,011,792	423,808	$8,517,527	$10,100,560	35,822	61,173	40,112
Grand Rapids Public Library	1.2	45,654	13.7%	310,520	1,207,512	472,879	$11,310,166	$11,991,155	9,081	51,752	133,386
Jackson District Library	2.1	59,002	13.2%	(not avail.)	1,180,297	225,794	$8,099,356	$9,741,256	43,855	29,741	31,331
Monroe County Library System	1.7	17,854	9.1%	325,804	662,088	156,207	$7,761,969	$7,869,225	30,875	26,294	19,012
Saint Clair County Library System	1.0	51,875	11.3%	212,680	510,754	107,761	$4,450,569	$5,258,381	4,325	14,399	9,632
Sterling Heights Public Library	1.3	64,287	10.4%	114,189	460,384	117,431	$2,809,608	$2,809,608	11,800	23,140	18,982
Warren Public Library	1.3	66,274	11.8%	153,239	507,421	35,677	$4,579,803	$4,867,376	17,614	20,225	73,267

*Collection turnover indicates how often items in the collection are borrowed. It's calculated by dividing the total circulation by the total number of items. Higher collection turnover indicates a more healthy and robust use of the collection.

Kent District Library

814 W. River Center Dr. NE, Comstock Park, MI 49321 // **kdl.org**

Kent District Library is a public library system operating 20 branch libraries, an Express Library and a Bookmobile that serve more than 439,000 residents of 27 different municipalities throughout Kent County. KDL enriches lives by providing information, ideas and excitement. It is an IRS-designated 501(c)(3) nonprofit supported by millage dollars and private donations. KDL is a member of the Lakeland Library Cooperative. For more information, visit kdl.org.

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