Data obtained from the 2015 Public Library Survey, Summer Reading Program, and MOREnet.

Public Libraries in Action

- 44.1 Million Visits
  - 28.4 million visits to library outlets
  - 15.7 million virtual visits

- 61.6% of Missouri citizens have a library card to 361 public library outlets

Summer Reading

- Summer reading programs enhance student achievement and prevent fall-off of reading skills
- 197,949 children and teens attended summer reading programs in 2015

Access to Services

- Public libraries are open the equivalent of 101 years each calendar year
- 93,515 programs were offered in 2014

- In FY15 over 82 million searches were conducted in online resources at public libraries, schools, and colleges. These resources provide access to both scholarly and general interest information.
These state funds are used to meet match and maintenance of effort requirements for Missouri to receive federal funding through the Library Services and Technology Act.

The Missouri Constitution specifies that funds will be appropriated each year to support public libraries. Libraries use these funds for books and other materials, programs, staff, and other costs. In FY2015, funding provided $.50 per person, while in FY2016, only $.13 per person was appropriated.

Internet access services are heavily used in public libraries. These funds support the costs paid by libraries for internet access and technical support through MOREnet. Funds also pay for online resources used by people in public libraries and by K-12 and college students and teachers.

Public libraries use these funds to purchase books, eBooks, magazines, DVDs, audiobooks and other items to support learning and research by children, students, and adults.