Missouri Public Library Survey: Fiscal Year 2014 Statewide Summary

**Reporting Period:** 10/2012 to 10/2014
**Public Library Districts Reporting:** 150

- Municipal-Voted Tax: 69
- County: 47
- City Budget: 15
- Regional: 8
- City-County: 6
- Consolidated: 5

**Population Served:** 5,476,144
91.4% of state population

**Stationary Public Service Outlets:** 362
**Bookmobiles:** 27

## Tax-Supported Libraries by Legal Basis

- Municipal Voted: 46%
- County: 31%
- City Budget: 10%
- Regional: 5%
- City-County: 4%
- Consolidated: 4%

### Library Services

Annual visits have increased over fiscal years 2011 through 2014 by 3.5%, which could be partially attributable to requisite reporting in FY13 and FY14. However, visits in fiscal year 2014 totaled 29.5 million, which is a decrease of 764,000 (2.5%) from FY 2013. Computer sessions on library owned personal computers over the same four year time period decreased by 5.6% and followed an overall downward trend. Wireless sessions and accesses with patron owned equipment were counted for the first time in FY14 and amounted to 1.3 million sessions with 98 libraries contributing to this total.

Per capita visits were equivalent to each Missouri resident visiting a library 4.93 times. If distributed equally among the 362 library outlets, each outlet would have an average of 81,584 visits per location over the fiscal year. Of the 5,988,927 Missouri citizens, 3.3 million or 54.9% of the total population are registered borrowers. These 3.3 million patrons checked out an average of 16.9 items per registered borrower in FY 2014.

Total circulation encompassed over 55.7 million items with children’s circulation accounting for over 18.4 million items or 33 percent of the total. Likewise, of the 89,503 programs offered by public libraries, 46,818 were for children aged 11 and under. The children’s programs had a total attendance of over 1.6 million. Roughly 600 programs taught English to non-English or limited English speaking persons to meet a need in library communities.

Over 3.6 million reference transactions were completed for patrons. Reference transactions include information contacts which involve the knowledge, use, recommendations, interpretation, or instruction in the use of one or more information sources by a member of the library staff. Through interlibrary loan (ILL), libraries...
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provided 335,277 materials to other libraries and borrowed 372,666 materials from other libraries to include academic and out-of-state entities. Both ILL loans and borrowing decreased with lending going down 10% and borrowing dropping by 26.7 percent, mostly due to a counting error at a large library in FY2013.

Collections

The cumulative collection of public libraries was 19.3 million items. This total was comprised of 16,795,429 print materials, 1,066,290 physical and downloadable audio units, 1,136,516 physical and downloadable video units, and 33,921 print subscriptions. If distributed equally to the 362 library outlets, each item would be checked out an average of 2.89 times.

Libraries held 273,974 electronic books for their patrons which is a 5.1% increase over FY13. The collection figures do not include consortia or database held electronic materials, which had been included in prior years. Although these are very popular with library patrons, the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) definitions currently exclude consortia held items and many types of electronic materials in the library collection. While the overall statewide collection numbers appear to be shrinking, it is more likely that the traditional physical materials are being replaced by electronic materials that are not being counted in the Public Library Survey. As an example of what is not currently being included in IMLS counts, member libraries of Missouri Libraries to Go (MOLIB2GO) have access to over 14,000 e-books, 3,400 downloadable audio books, and 273 downloadable videos. The number of databases and consortia, not their contents, were collected and amounted to 2,745 statewide or 18 databases and consortia per library district.

Staffing

Missouri public libraries employed the equivalent of 3,140 full-time employees which is one full-time equivalent (FTE) per 1,744 persons in the Legal Service Area or LSA (with equal distribution). This is one less FTE than FY13, but still 39 fewer than FY11. The largest 13 libraries have 2,295 FTE, which equals one FTE per 1,575 persons and the remainder of the state has 845 FTE or one FTE per 2,204 persons in the LSA.

There are 286 librarians and 180 staff members with an American Library Association (ALA) accredited master’s degree in Library Science (MLS) or Library and Information Science (MLIS). This breaks down to one librarian with a MLS/MLIS per 19,147 persons in the LSA. However, the 13 largest libraries employ 71.3 percent of Missouri’s MLS librarians, 92.2
percent of the MLS staff, and 73 percent of all FTE employees. Statewide, 9,967 volunteers donated their time to a local library.

**Operating Revenue**

**Statewide Totals**

- Operating Revenues: $243,616,410
- Local Revenue: $223,182,602
- State Revenue: $4,033,130
- Federal Revenue: $2,212,267
- Other Revenue: $14,188,411
- LSA Per Capita Revenue: $44.49

Total local operating revenue (local revenue plus other local revenue (synonymous with other revenue)) comprised 97.44 percent of total income in FY 2014. Total operating revenue increased 13.5 million dollars from FY13 to FY14, with local revenue increasing over 13.2 million dollars, reported state revenue increasing by approximately $350,000, federal revenue increased by over $395,000, and other local revenue declined by $492,600. Within the other revenue category the 9,500-14,000 population group saw a 3.39% increase due to large one-time donations at two libraries.

The breakdown of total per capita revenue ($44.49) was State revenue of $0.74, Federal funds of $0.40, other local revenue of $2.59, and local revenue of $40.76. Whereas statewide per capita revenue was $40.68, it was $52.93 (6.8% increase) for the library group with a LSA over 75,000 persons and $28.11 (0.01% increase) for libraries serving less than 75,000 persons. When the state Equalization grant is removed from total operating revenue, the libraries serving less than 75,000 persons have per capita revenue of $27.79 and libraries over 75,000 LSA have $52.90 per capita. Statewide per capita revenue increased by $2.45, but was offset by a $2.32 increase in per capita expenditures. Statewide revenue equated to $8.25 per visit and $4.37 per circulation.
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Operating Expenditures

Statewide Totals

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Value</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Operating Expenditures:</td>
<td>$221,656,362</td>
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<tr>
<td>Staff Expenditures:</td>
<td>$134,527,719</td>
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<tr>
<td>Collection Expenditures:</td>
<td>$32,710,567</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Expenditures:</td>
<td>$54,418,076</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LSA Per Capita Expenditures:</td>
<td>$40.48</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Cumulatively, public libraries spent 60.7 percent of operating revenue on employee related costs, which is a 0.7% decrease from FY13. Libraries serving an LSA over 75,000 spent 78.9 percent of the total personnel costs statewide and 61 percent of their operating expenditures on personnel. Libraries with LSA populations 74,999 and under spent 59.4 percent of their operating expenditures on personnel. Collection expenditures amounted to 14.8 percent of the statewide total operating expenditures, with electronic materials accounting for 24.8 percent of the total collection expenditures. Electronic materials spending increased by $418,646 when compared to FY13.

While the statewide per capita operating expenditures was $40.48, it was $48.09 for the library group with a LSA over 75,000 persons and $25.70 for libraries serving 74,999 or less. FY13 Per capita expenditures increased by $2.32, which is a 5.7% increases. Statewide expenditures equated to $7.51 per visit and $3.98 per circulation.

Operating Expenditures by Category and LSA Population-FY14

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1 Population served is the Legal Service Area of the library.
2 Population and per capita figures based on 2010 decennial census population numbers.