Welcome to our 2015 Public Libraries Data Digest. Now in its eighth year, the Data Digest’s goal is to highlight some of the strengths and challenges within our public libraries. We are 112 strong. If one is counting branches and non-reporting community libraries, South Dakota has over 150 libraries.

The Data Digest reflects the aggregated statistics and data which we collect annually from our 112 reporting public libraries including their branches. With the assistance of the US Census department, individual public library data is forwarded to the IMLS, Institute of Museum and Library Services. National statistics can be located at the following site: http://1.usa.gov/1PwF8w1.

Individuals may obtain a copy of their local public library’s annual statistics by contacting the State Library or requesting a digital or print copy from your local library. Our hope is that local library boards will use this South Dakota snapshot of library services as a means to communicate to their governing bodies and to the communities they serve.

Use the Data Digest to compare with other local service assessments while creating new goals and building toward a stronger, more deeply informed, engaged and enriched body of citizens.

We welcome your questions and comments.

Daria Bossman
State Librarian
Director of the Office of State Library
Department of Education
South Dakota public libraries employ 603 staff & 870 volunteers who work 15,129 hours every week.

Every day South Dakota public libraries...

- **10,701 visitors**
- **904 questions**
- **15,971 items**
- **745 attendees @ 34 programs**
- **2,022 hours on library computers**

11% of South Dakota residents live in communities not served by a public library.

45% of South Dakota residents own a library card.
Library services are changing

Between 2013 and 2014 more people attended library programs and used library technology services. With more digital content available, library users enjoy at-home access to library materials.

A library is the only single place you can go to learn something new, be comforted, terrified, thrilled, saddened, overjoyed, or excited all in one day. And for free.

–Amy Neftzger

Perhaps no place in any community is so totally democratic as the town library. The only entrance requirement is interest.

–Lady Bird Johnson
Half of SD public libraries serve communities of less than 2,000.

Per capita facts*

- 5.1 average number of library visits
- 5.8 items in public library collections
- 7.3 public computers per 5k pop.
- 7.6 items checked out

*Per capita population is based on unduplicated population of legal service areas.

The only thing that you absolutely have to know, is the location of the library. --Albert Einstein
Libraries will get you through times of no money better than money will get you through times of no libraries.

-- Anne Herbert

**Per capita population is based on unduplicated population of legal service areas.**

### FY 2013 national & regional per capita comparisons**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>SD</th>
<th>MN</th>
<th>ND</th>
<th>NE</th>
<th>WY</th>
<th>Nat'l</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Operating expenses</td>
<td>$31.69</td>
<td>$37.37</td>
<td>$25.13</td>
<td>$33.76</td>
<td>$54.01</td>
<td>$35.96</td>
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<tr>
<td>Print materials</td>
<td>$3.86</td>
<td>$2.75</td>
<td>$3.60</td>
<td>$3.85</td>
<td>$4.27</td>
<td>$2.54</td>
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<tr>
<td>Library visits</td>
<td>5.44</td>
<td>4.71</td>
<td>3.45</td>
<td>5.66</td>
<td>6.30</td>
<td>4.79</td>
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<tr>
<td>Registered users</td>
<td>.54</td>
<td>.79</td>
<td>.43</td>
<td>.68</td>
<td>.66</td>
<td>.57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total circulation</td>
<td>9.47</td>
<td>10.12</td>
<td>6.51</td>
<td>8.75</td>
<td>8.65</td>
<td>7.78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public internet computers/ 5,000 population</td>
<td>6.72</td>
<td>5.55</td>
<td>5.68</td>
<td>9.67</td>
<td>7.48</td>
<td>4.57</td>
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</table>

**Institute of Museum and Library Services, Public Libraries Survey, FY2013**
95% of South Dakota public libraries’ revenue comes from local governments.

South Dakota public libraries spent $4.26 in new library materials per resident.

**Income & Expenses**

- **Local government operating income**: $24,000,000
- **County**: 15%
- **School district**: 2%
- **Tribal, college or other**: 1%
- **City/town**: 82%

**Operating expenditures**

- **Staff**: 68%
- **Collections**: 13%
- **Other**: 19%
- **Average per capita**: $32

**Collection expenditures**

- **Print**: 58%
- **Digital including ebooks & audio**: 22%
- **Other**: 20%

- **Total operating expenditures**: $3,244,135

95% of South Dakota public libraries’ revenue comes from local governments.
services

SD libraries are open an average of 35 hours per week.

The most important asset of any library goes home at night—the library staff.

-- Timothy Healy

6 million items circulated

33% of total circulation is children's books.

RIGHT: Shayna Monnens, Youth Services Librarian, Spearfish

BELOW: Jerald Goehring, Library Assistant, North Sioux City Public Library

How important are these library services to you and your family?

Among Americans ages 16+ who have ever used a public library or had a household member use a public library, the percentage who say these services are...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Very Important</th>
<th>Somewhat Important</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Books and media</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>27</td>
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<tr>
<td>Librarian assistance</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>32</td>
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<tr>
<td>Having a quiet, safe place</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>24</td>
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<tr>
<td>Research resources</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Programs for youth</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Internet, computers, printers</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Programs for adults</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Help applying for gov't services</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Help finding, applying for job</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Pew Research Center's Library Services Survey, 2013
programs @ your library

12,440 program events in SD public libraries.

11% more programs than last year.

12% more young adults attended programs than last year.

22 average attendees per program.

88% libraries hosted summer reading programs.

More than 11,000 people served by one-to-one programs such as homebound delivery, test protoring and tutoring.

TOP: Jackson County Library Heroes event
LEFT: Siouxland Libraries Bookwalk event
RIGHT: Emil M. Larson Library kids event
South Dakota libraries building "digitally inclusive" communities*

*2014 Digital Inclusion Survey

Student Sam Mertz (pictured with his father and Custer librarian Doris Ann Mertz) used Learning Express Library to study and boost his ACT score by 5 points making him eligible for more scholarships and his appointment to the Naval Academy.

internet

public computers @ your library

SD libraries facilitate Internet access in all kinds of ways!

83% of SD libraries have webpages where users can get library information, access their catalog, access State Library resources and even download ebooks and audio books.

42% of SD libraries provide online access to their catalogs.

Use of public access computers was up by more than 9% from the previous year.
DATA DIGEST 2015

100% of SD public libraries provide in-house access to these electronic resources through the South Dakota State Library.**

**BELOW: Adults using a public terminal for research at Custer Public Library.

**BELOW RIGHT: Girls playing games on educational computers at Brookings Public Library.

**Electronic resources are purchased with federal LSTA grant funds.

connection
Public library trustees, your job is important to the success of the library!

Library Board members are either appointed by the city or the county for staggered three-year terms. The function of the library board is to set policy, approve the annual budget, and hire the library director. Trustees should be local citizens who are involved in your community. It’s important that they be familiar with the library’s offerings, services and staff.

A good board of trustees:
- attends all meetings
- supports library policies that offer impartial service to all
- advocates for improved library service
- represents the diversity of the community
- invites new members to participate
- networks with community leaders and organizations
- complies with the legal authority under which the library operates
- knows library trends and standards

What do you have to know to be a good library trustee?

The State Library offers many educational opportunities for trustees. This past year library trustees took part in two online programs, Trustee Academy and Short Takes for Trustees, hosted by PLA/ALA.

All library directors received information on the South Dakota Library Trustee Wiki, a resource with a wealth of information for current, new and future trustees: http://sdstatelibrary.wikispaces.com
Did you know?

26% South Dakota public libraries have a Friends of the Library group or Foundation.

42% public libraries participated in the Trustee Academy or Short Takes trainings provided by the South Dakota State Library.

30% South Dakota public libraries have been accredited since 2010.

There are more than 650 appointed trustees in South Dakota’s 112 public libraries.

LOWER LEFT: Potter County Free Library trustees learned CPR from local emergency professionals.

LOWER RIGHT: Avon Public Library trustees and staff gather to discuss plans to launch SD Titles to Go in their community.

BELOW: Trustee Judy Brisbine (far right), from Woonsocket Community Library participated in Jump Start 2015 in Huron.
Library Institute is in its 28th year.

Public Library Institute, coordinated by the State Library, is a four-year continuing education program for public librarians, support staff and trustees of public libraries. Institute is a voluntary program for South Dakota public librarians who do not hold a degree in library studies. Students meet for a week in June to
attend classes on a South Dakota college campus and do additional coursework online between summers. Courses are led by State Library staff and guest presenters. Students who attend all four years will study the areas of administration, governance, collection development, reference, young adult and children’s services.

In Summer 2015, 30 students attended Library Institute at Dakota State University. This year’s studies focused on library administration and governance. Students learned about budgeting, policy making and strategic planning, South Dakota laws, and using library data for evaluation and budget requests.

Graduates of the program earn a certificate in Public Library Management.

Six students graduated in 2015:

Ashley Cortney,  
Edgemont Public Library

Cindy Girard,  
Hill City Public Library

Edith Hooper,  
Hot Springs Elementary School

Melissa Hutmacher,  
Cozard Memorial Library, Chamberlain

Nina Loper,  
Bison Public Library

Doris Ann Mertz,  
Custer County Library

LEFT: 2015 Library Institute Class, held at Dakota State University, Madison, SD.

RIGHT: Graduating 2015 Institute students with State Librarian, Daria Bossman, and Continuing Education Coordinator, Kathleen Slocum.

achievement
Thank you for supporting your local public library!

The information contained in this digest reflects the activity of 112 main libraries, 32 branch libraries, and 5 bookmobiles providing service in South Dakota.

State data comprises information collected and submitted via the 2015 Public Libraries Survey for public libraries' fiscal year completed December 31, 2014.