South Dakota Public Libraries 2021



South Dakota's Public Libraries Adapted to Meet the Needs of Communities During the Pandemic

Buildings were closed but service continued

Due to the Coronavirus pandemic, South Dakota public libraries were open to the public 40% fewer hours in 2020. 96% of SD public libraries closed temporarily during the Coronavirus pandemic.

Despite limited public service hours, libraries were visited 1.5 million times. **86% continued to provide public services** even while the library building was closed.

Computers and Internet remained a service priority

62% of libraries intentionally provided Wi-Fi access to users outside the library building.

90% of SD public libraries provide

Wi-Fi access. Library Wi-Fi was used 500,000 times.

Virtually all public libraries deliver computer and internet access. Library public computers were used an average of 156 hours each.

Library materials were checked out online and delivered curbside

100% of libraries increased access to digital materials. Circulation of ebooks and downloadable audiobooks increased 15%.

85% of libraries provided curbside service to patrons.

Library users checked out more than 4 million items. Children's materials accounted for 1.5 million or 38% of total circulation.

Libraries expanded programming options

40% of libraries provided live virtual programs via the internet. Libraries hosted more that 7,300 in-person and virtual programs.

56% of libraries created and posted recorded programs via the internet. Library staff created an additional 1,500 recorded library programs that were viewed 207,000 times.

Library staff prepared activities that could be done outside the library like story walks and take-home kits. 55,000 people participated in 3,700 different library-sponsored activities.

Library staff assisted 60,000 people in planned one-to-one programs such as literacy activities, homebound delivery, and curbside assistance.



Statistics in this publication represent statewide data collected from the 2020 South Dakota Public Libraries Survey for fiscal year completed December 31, 2020.

National/Regional Comparisons FY2019 Per capita*	SD RANKING **	SD	MN	NE	ND	wy	USA
Total Operating Revenue	32	\$36.71	\$43.10	\$40.78	\$31.46	\$55.56	\$44.88
Total Operating Expenditures	33	\$35.16	\$41.69	\$38.61	\$31.83	\$55.61	\$41.90
Collection Expenditures	28	\$4.34	\$4.30	\$5.06	\$4.06	\$4.62	\$4.51
FTE Staff per 25,000 population	31	11.5	10.1	13.1	9.4	17.4	11.4
Registered Users	38	0.48	0.67	0.65	0.37	0.63	0.55
Reference Transactions	43	0.47	0.54	0.39	0.51	0.78	0.69
Library Visits	22	4.8	3.9	4.5	3.0	5.4	3.9
Total Circulation	22	7.5	9.1	8.6	5.2	7.8	6.9
Program Attendance per 1,000 population	29	429	281	539	386	624	394
Public Computers per 5,000 population	7	7.3	5.0	8.8	5.3	7.8	4.7
Public Computer Use Sessions	2	1.2	0.7	1.0	0.6	1.1	0.7
Wireless Sessions	28	1.2	1.4	2.2	3.1	0.8	1.7
OTHER RATIOS:		SD	MN	NE	ND	WY	USA
MLS degreed librarians as % of total FTE staff	49	25.8	64.7	28.7	38.8	31.1	66.8
Computer user sessions per public computer	14	840	684	582	542	693	748

*Per capita population is based on unduplicated population of legal service areas. **Ranking includes the 50 states and the District of Columbia.



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