

How Much Does Your Library Benefit Your Community?

Nebraska (statewide)

Total operating revenue (cost to residents): **\$64,618,635**

Total amount that residents would spend without a library: **\$287,943,514**

Population of library legal service area (population served): **1,591,793**

Average annual cost per resident: **\$41**

What would it cost if the library did not exist? The following shows what residents would pay for some of the materials and services provided by the library. The number of uses are based on 2018-19 fiscal year statistics.

Category	Number of Uses/Circulation	Average Cost	What Residents Would Spend On Their Own
Adult Items (non-electronic)	5,593,282	\$20.00	\$111,865,640
Adult Electronic Items (eBooks and Audiobooks)	1,601,017	\$9.99	\$15,994,160
Children's Items (non-electronic)	6,069,744	\$15.00	\$91,046,160
Children's Electronic Items (eBooks and Audiobooks)	392,716	\$9.99	\$3,923,233
Computer Uses	1,618,989	\$29.40	\$47,598,277
Wi-Fi Uses	3,503,209	\$5.00	\$17,516,045
Total Amount That Residents Would Spend Without a Library			\$287,943,514
Total Operating Revenue (Cost to Taxpayers)			\$64,618,635
Savings			\$223,324,879

Libraries also offer programs and other services, which are valuable to the community but are difficult to assign a value. Here are the number of programs offered by the Nebraska (statewide) in the 2018-19 fiscal year, and number of attendees:

Programs (Audience)	Number of Programs	Number of Attendees
Children's	23,979	681,969
Young Adult	3,311	41,577
Adult	8,933	131,027
Total	36,223	854,573

Explanation of Calculations/Values

Adult Items (non-electronic)	\$20.00 (average price of new purchase of hardbacks, paperbacks, CD's, and DVD's)
Adult Electronic Items (eBooks and Audiobooks)	\$ 9.99 (typical download from Amazon or similar services, although the average price of Audiobooks is between \$20 and \$30)
Children's Items (non-electronic)	\$15.00 (average price of children's hardbacks, paperbacks, CD's and DVD's)
Children's Electronic (eBooks and Audiobooks)	\$ 9.99 (typical download from Amazon or similar service)
Computer Use	\$29.40 (Office supply store cost (e.g. Kinkos) for 1 hour @ .49/minute)
Wi-Fi Use	\$5.00 (Restaurants provide free Wi-Fi with purchase. \$5.00 represents an average purchase during visit)

LIBRARY SERVICES PROVIDED THAT ARE **NOT** INCLUDED IN THESE CALCULATIONS:

Meeting Room Use
Library Programs (Adult, Young Adult, Children's, and Early Literacy)
Reference Transactions
Use of Databases/Electronic Collections
Use of Newspapers and Magazines (both paper and electronic)
Computer/Electronic Device Training and Assistance
Homework Help
Outreach Programs
Use of Makerspace Equipment