

2022 Quotable Facts Colorado Public Libraries

Discover your public library's potential...

In Colorado there are over 263 public library locations. That is more public libraries than King Soopers, City Market, and Safeway grocery stores combined!

Together the libraries have over 11 million physical items in their collections.

That's more than 200 times the movie and TV show titles on Netflix, Prime Video, Max, Disney+ and Hulu combined.

Colorado public libraries provide many services beyond their collections. In 2022, more than 80,000 programs were offered for children, teens, and adults.

A total of 34,130 items are available in libraries of things across Colorado. A "library of things" can include outdoor games, tools and equipment, household items, technology and gadgets.

All of these materials and services resulted in more than 17 million visits to public libraries in 2022. That's 3 times more visitors than Colorado's four national parks combined!

Programs had an attendance of 1.6 million. If each attendee had bought a movie ticket instead, their total ticket cost would be roughly \$17 million.

Library users asked more than 2 million reference questions and checked out materials more than 53 million times.

3,563 library staff make all of this possible. 61% of libraries have fewer than 10 staff members.

But libraries don't work by themselves. 93% of Colorado libraries reported partnering with groups or organizations to better serve their communities in 2022.

A partnership with Colorado Parks and Wildlife allowed libraries to circulate 8,387 backpacks containing free state park passes and exploration kits in 2022.

Libraries are evolving to increase access. Colorado libraries provide access to millions of e-books, e-audiobooks, streamable songs, movies and TV shows.

In 2022, 92% of libraries provided one-on-one help with technology and library visitors used internet computers 2.3 million times.

Over half of Colorado public libraries provided automatic renewals in 2022 and 81% did not charge fees or fines for late items.

Keep exploring your Colorado public library's potential:

Colorado State Library: www.cde.state.co.us/cdelib

Library Research Service: www.LRS.org

Colorado Virtual Library: www.coloradovirtuallibrary.org

Libraries Learn: www.librarieslearn.org

Library Jobline: www.libraryjobline.org

Colorado Historic Newspapers Collection: www.coloradohistoricnewspapers.org

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