



Public Libraries & Workforce Development

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What does State Library Services do?

Yes!

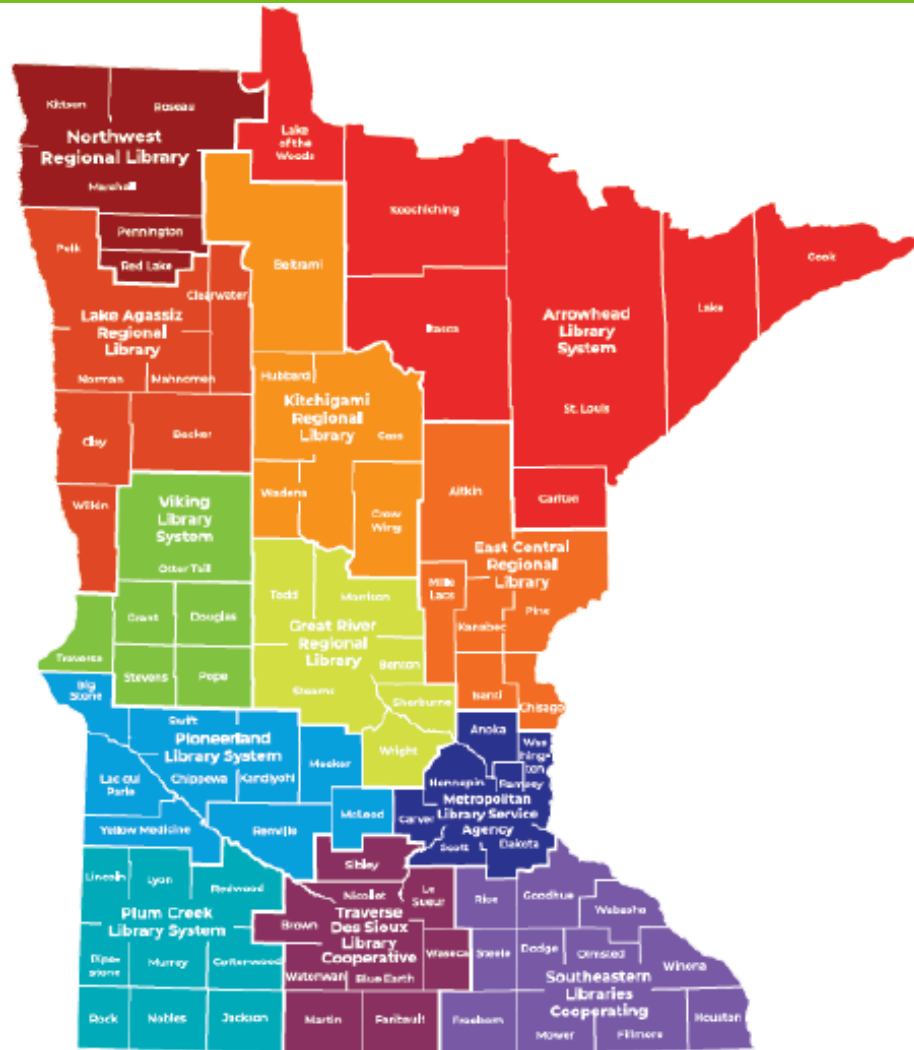
- ✓ Administer state aid, state grants, and federal aid to public libraries
- ✓ Coordinate learning opportunities for librarians
- ✓ Collect public library usage data
- ✓ Manage the MN Braille & Talking Book Library

No!

- ✗ Manage public library systems
- ✗ Maintain a statewide library catalog
- ✗ Coordinate interlibrary delivery
- ✗ Provide statewide access to databases and ebook collections
- ✗ Develop a statewide digital archive

Minitex

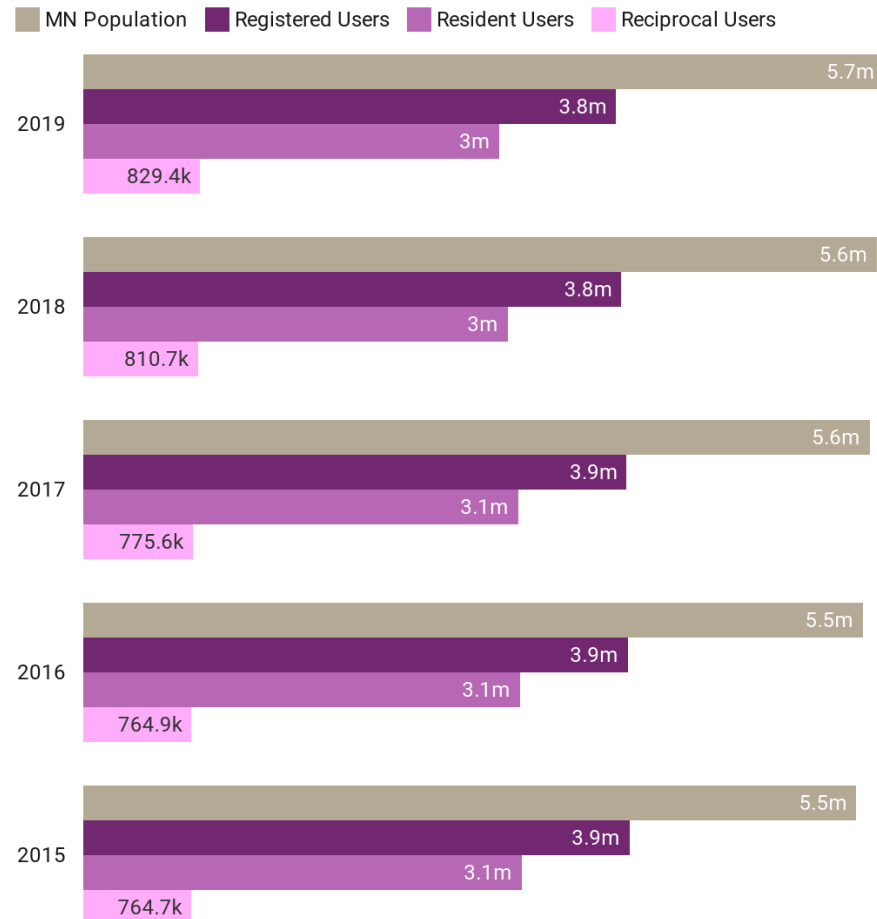
Fast Facts



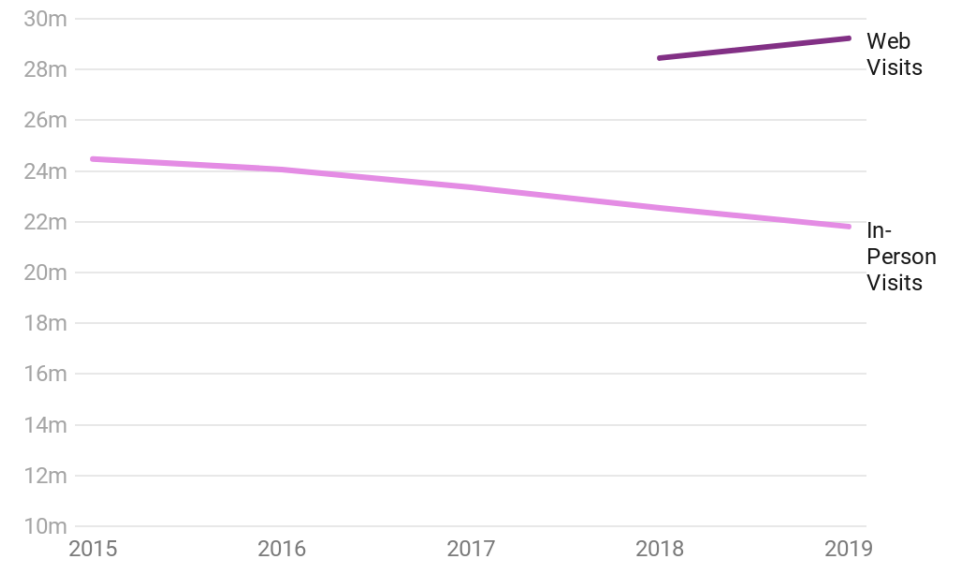
- 12 regional public library systems
 - Consolidated: ECRL, GRRL, KRLS, LARL, NWRL, PLS
 - Federated: ALS, MELSA, PCLS, TDS, SELCO, VLS
- 356 public library locations
- 8 bookmobiles
- At least one library in every county

Who's Using Public Libraries?

The number of cardholders at Minnesota public libraries remains ~66% of the state's population.

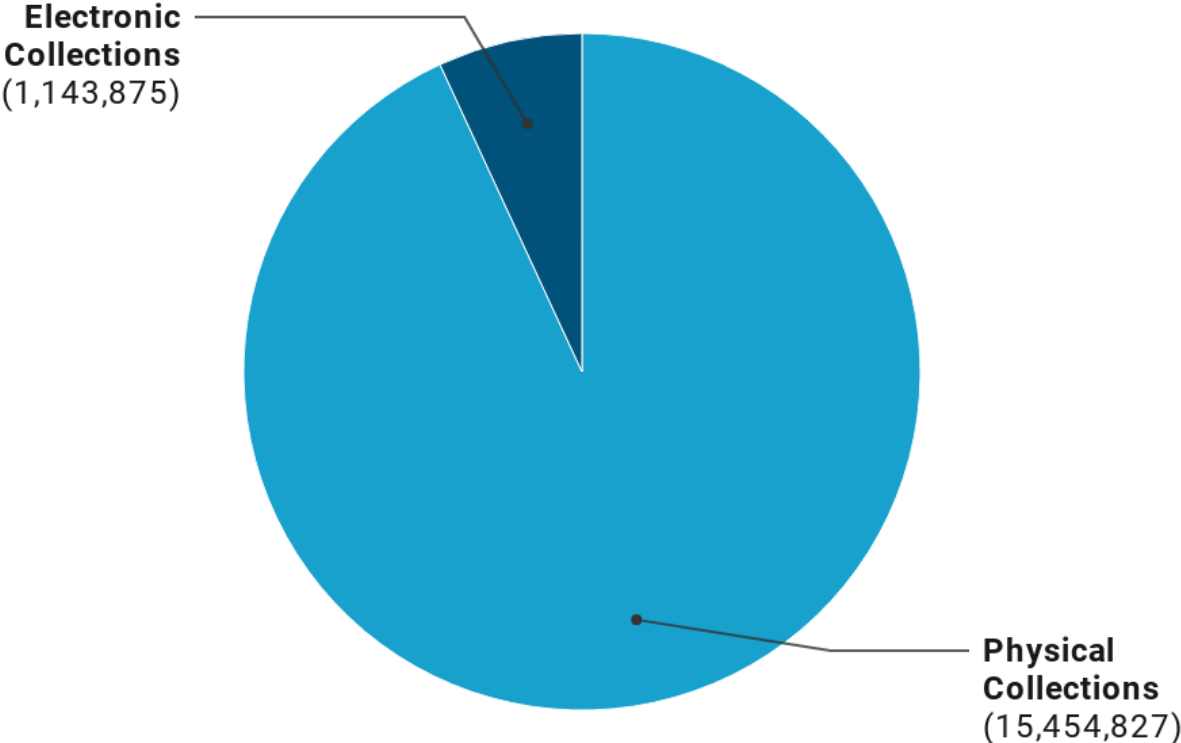


In-person visits are steadily decreasing as library users access digital resources.

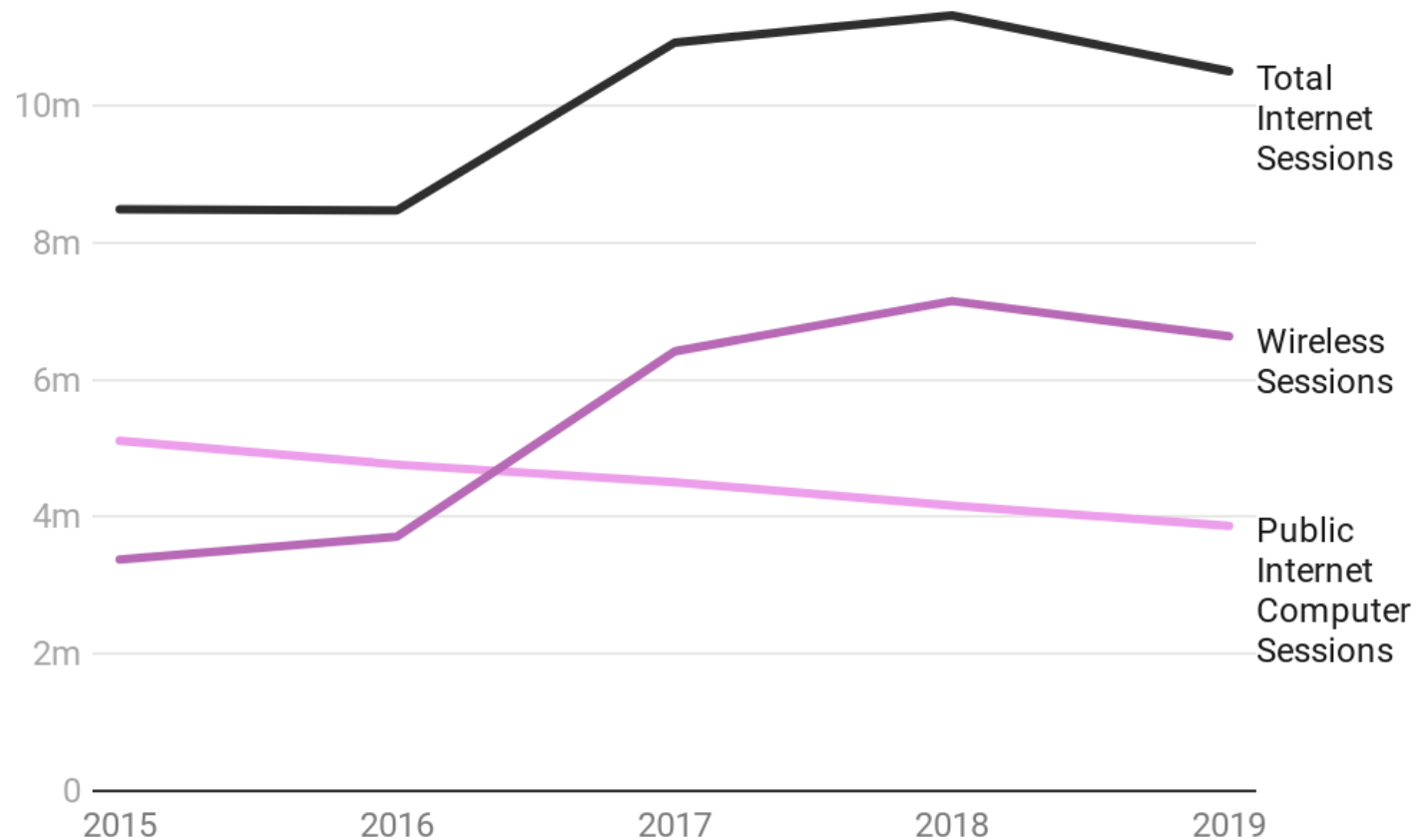


In 2019, holdings are still mostly physical.

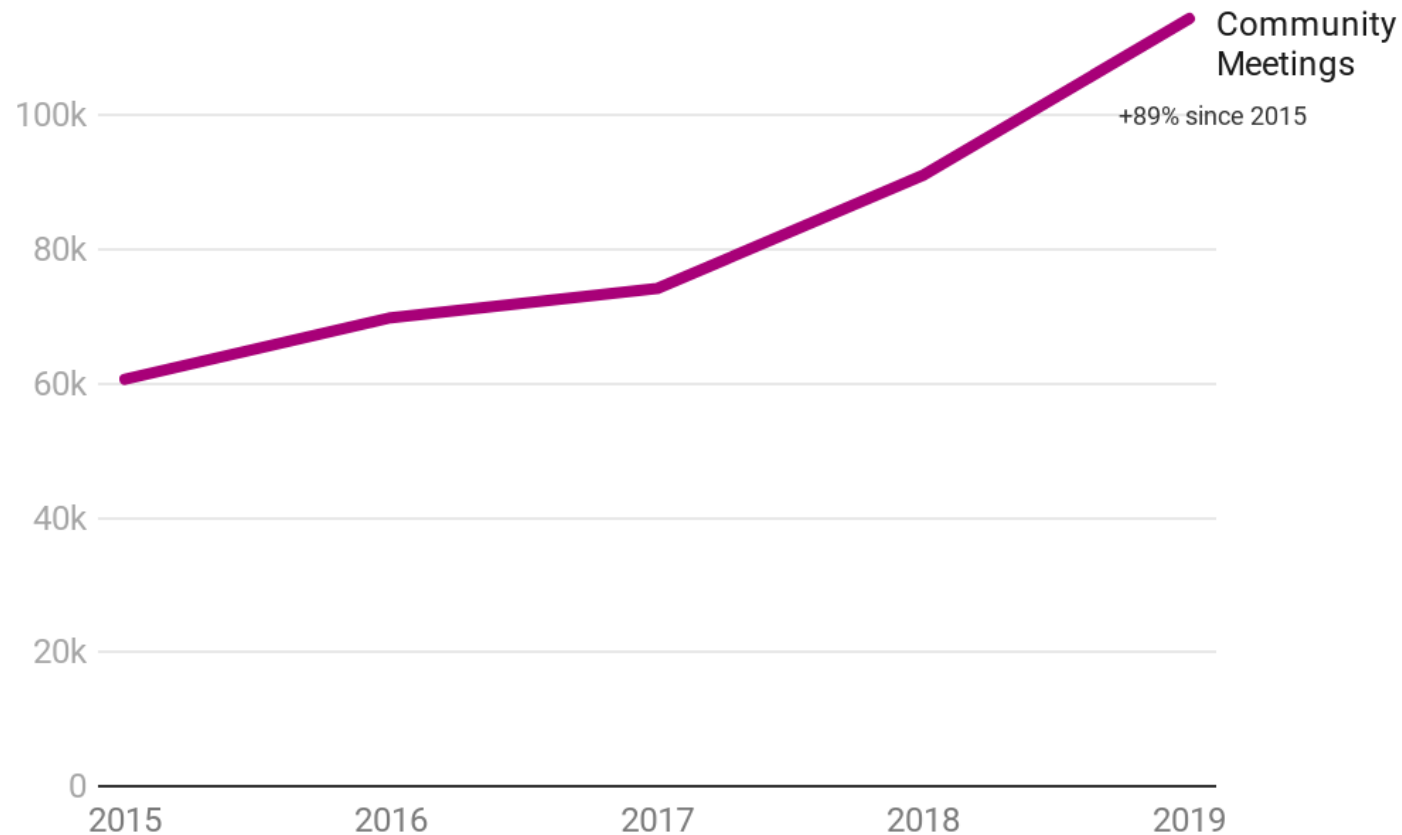
Physical collections includes print and audiovisual. Electronic collections includes ebooks, downloadable audio and video, and databases.



Internet usage in public libraries saw a slight decline in 2019 overall.

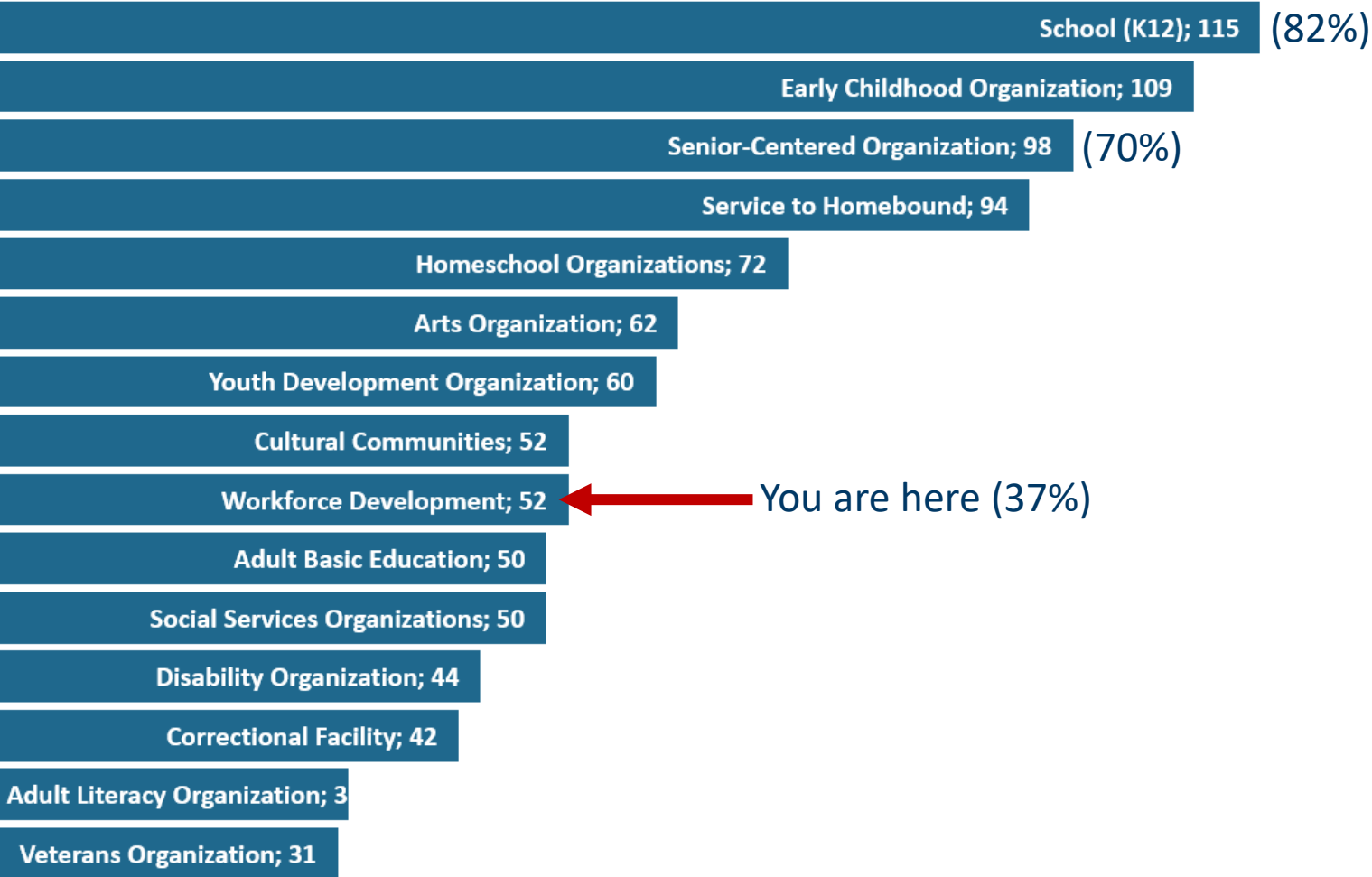


The number of community meetings taking place in libraries almost doubled from 2015 to 2019.



Partnerships & Possibilities

Number of Libraries Doing Outreach with Community Organizations in 2019



Survey for Library Staff

- Similar partnerships underway in NJ, NV, PA, WA, and WI
- Early conversations with regional library system directors:
 - Very excited about doing more in this area!
 - Opportunities: library services expanding beyond building walls; new tech investments; local relationships and trust
 - Challenges: library staff stretched thin; workforce development areas and library regions misaligned; unsure when to connect with county vs. state vs. other

Thank you!

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