



Dollar value of your library services

Materials Borrowed \$51,321,113
 +
 Computer Use \$2,578,308
 +
 WiFi Use \$2,373,361
 +
 Program Attendance \$3,729,717
 +
 Info Seeker Questions \$2,147,925
 +
 Online Database Downloads \$22,676,550

Total Retail Value of Library Services \$84,826,974

2020 Library Tax/Erie County Funding \$25,409,158

\$3.34

in services for every \$1 funded



Erie County Population (based on 2010 Census) 919,040. Value per capita \$92.30 per resident.



How much money did Erie County residents save in 2020 by using Library services?

Borrower Savings Over \$51,321,113!

4,431,875 x \$11.58 = \$51,321,113
 Total circulation Estimated retail value¹ Total savings

Computer User Savings Over \$2,578,308!

214,859 x \$12/hr = \$2,578,308
 Computer sessions Estimated retail cost to reserve a computer Total savings

WiFi User Savings Over \$2,373,361!

298,536 x \$7.95 = \$2,373,361
 WiFi sessions Estimated retail cost per session² Total savings



1) Average cost top 3 titles from NY Times best sellers - 1/27/2019.
 Music download estimated retail value, Apple iTunes Store: \$.69, \$.99, \$1.29 each.
 2 night Redbox rental (movies borrowed from library free for 7 days).
 Average cost of Billboards 2021 Top 5 albums @ Amazon, Target & Walmart
 2) WiFi session - Boingo.com approx. \$7 per hour.

In Library & Virtual Program Attendee Savings Over \$3,729,717!

81,805 + 321,844 = 403,649
 In Library attendees Virtual attendees Total attendees

403,649 x \$9.24 = \$3,729,717
 Attendees Estimated retail cost of program³ Total savings

Info Seeker Savings Over \$2,147,925!

143,195 x \$15.00 = \$2,147,925
 Questions Estimated retail value Total savings

Online Database User Savings Over \$22,676,550!

1,511,770 x \$15.00 = \$22,676,550
 Total # of articles Estimated retail value to access articles online⁴ Total savings

3) Average cost children's and adult matinee tix @ Regal Cinema - Elmwood Center.
 4) Average cost text article from database site. For online resources that provide full text articles, average cost is \$15.00. Many cases only citation available. (Elsevier, Jstor)

This worksheet is adapted from Massachusetts Library Association, Chelmsford Public Library and Maine State Library.

For every **\$1** funded,



the Buffalo & Erie County Public Library returns

a minimum of **\$3.34** in services!

Buffalo & Erie County Public Libraries added to the **quality of life** in our great community during the COVID-19 pandemic.



In 2020, during a pandemic year, there were **1.25** million visits



Libraries are important; they bring people and ideas together and are unique in their offerings. This past pandemic year, residents of Erie County had free access to over 3.3 million resources and reference materials including books, e-content, virtual programs and more. Some services and hours were curtailed during the year. The Library's website (www.BuffaloLib.org) and WiFi provided 24/7 access to information.

The enclosed information quantifies the value of just a few of the FREE library services available to all.



Erie County Taxpayers 2020

Your Library . . . A Great Return on Your Investment

