

2014

# Erie County Tax Payers Return on Investment

For every \$1 funded,  
Buffalo & Erie County Public Libraries  
return a minimum of  
**\$5.75 in services to the community.**

## Borrower Savings



7,397,296 items borrowed  
(all formats) X  
\$9.66 (average retail value)  
= \$71,457,879

## Computers Use, WiFi & Tech Class Savings



819,788 computer sessions  
X  
\$12 per hour (average  
retail value)  
= \$9,837,456

219,239 WiFi  
sessions X  
\$5 per hour  
(average retail value)  
= \$1,096,195

3,680 Technology  
class attendees X  
\$74 per hour  
(average retail value)  
= \$272,320

## Program Attendance



175,019 program attendees  
(80,368 adults/families and  
94,651 children/teens ) X  
\$8.00 (average retail cost)  
= \$1,400,152

## Reference Questions, Interlibrary Loans & Online Database Downloads



576,372 Reference  
questions asked X  
\$15 per hr. (average  
retail value)  
= \$8,645,580

1,759 Interlibrary  
loan requests X  
\$30 per item  
(average retail value)  
= \$52,770

2,473,380 Database  
downloads X  
\$15 per item  
(average retail value)  
= \$37,100,700

## Dollar Value of your Library Services



\$71,457,879 Materials Borrowed  
+  
\$9,837,456 Computer Use  
+  
\$1,096,195 WiFi Sessions  
+  
\$272,320 Technology Class Attendance  
+  
\$1,400,152 Program Attendance  
+  
\$8,671,965 Reference Questions asked & Interlibrary loans  
+  
\$37,100,700 Online Database Downloads  
=  
\$129,836,667 Comparative Total Retail Value of Library Services  
÷  
\$22,588,324 Library Tax  
=  
\$5.75 in services



Estimated Retail Value of items from Maine State Library: <http://www.maine.gov/msl/services/calexplanation.htm>, with exception of:

- 1) Audio Books: Based upon average price of Audio version of top 5 from NY Times best sellers for 2/11/2015
- 2) Music Download: Estimated Retail value for Apple iTunes Store: \$.69, \$.99 and \$1.29 each
- 3) 2 night Redbox rental (movies borrowed from the library are free for 7 days)
- 4) CDs Borrowed - Average price of Billboard's 5 albums of 2014 from Amazon, Target & Walmart
- 5) WiFi Session - Pasadena PL Calculator - \$5 per 1 hour session, Rocky River PL - \$5 hour of high speed internet access
- 6) Average cost to obtain a copy of full text article from database site. For those online resources that provide full text articles, average cost is \$15.00. In many cases only citation is available. (Ebsco, Eric, Elsevier, Jstor)
- 7) Program Attendance - Cost for an afternoon matinee at an area movie theatre

The calculator worksheet has been adapted from original downloadable spreadsheet by the Massachusetts Library Association and then adapted for the web by Chelmsford Public Library. Maine State Library added extra accessibility coding and reformatting for ease of reading online. This spreadsheet requires either Microsoft Excel or the Excel Viewer. [Use of the calculator graphic is restricted since MSL has permission only for their site.]

2/25/2015