

Minnesota Public Libraries



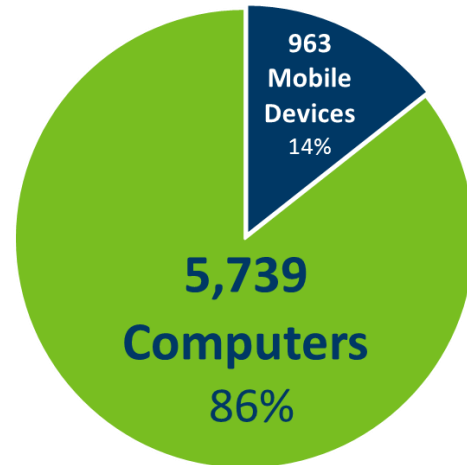
There's a public library in each of Minnesota's 87 counties. Public libraries serve as centers for learning, innovation and inspiration in communities across Minnesota.

Internet Access

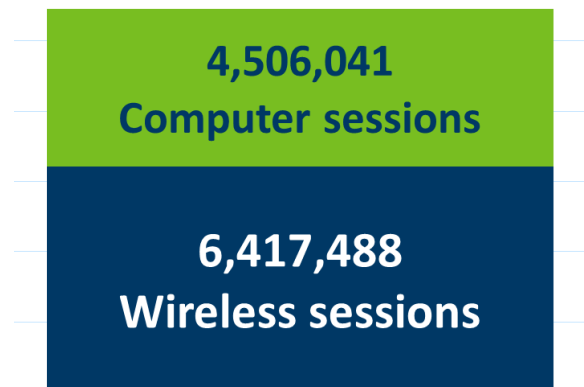
Public libraries serve as community centers for internet access and digital literacy providing instruction and bridging the digital divide.

Computers

Public libraries provide 6,702 computers and mobile devices for public use. 98 percent of public library locations offer free wireless internet access.



Number and percent of public access computers and mobile devices in public libraries



Number of public computer and wireless sessions

Individuals spent almost 11 million sessions on library computers and wireless networks in 2017. Almost 70 percent of public libraries tally other computer usage like word processing, spreadsheets and other applications in addition to internet sessions.

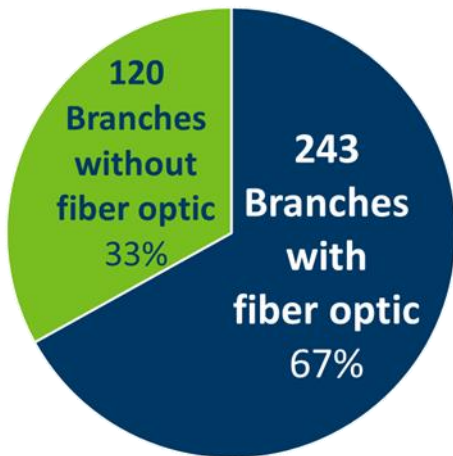
Telecommunication connectivity

Fiber optic and Cat.6 wiring provide higher quality internet connectivity.

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Fiber optic

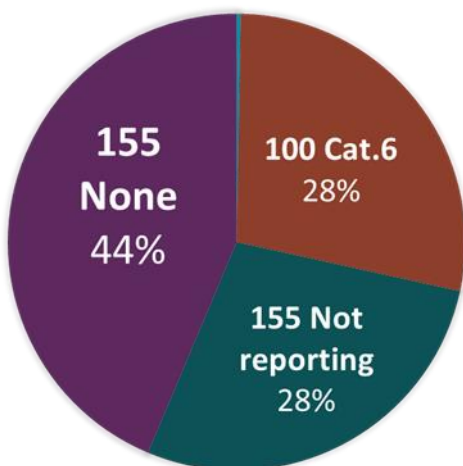
Almost three-quarters of public libraries have fiber optic telecommunication cabling connected to their building.



Number and percent of library locations with fiber optic cabling

Cat.6

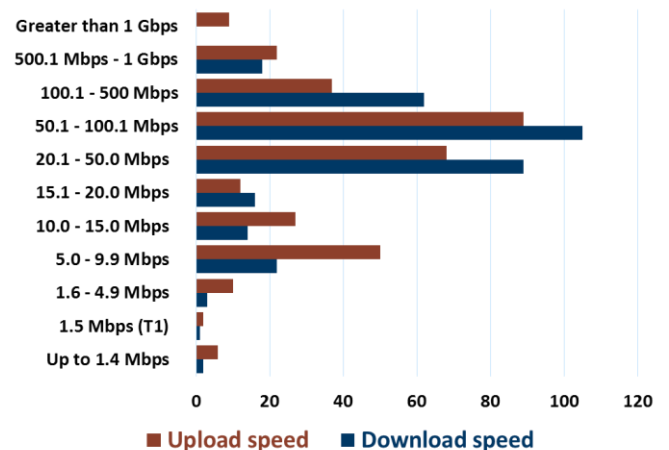
More than a quarter of public libraries have Cat.6 wiring within their buildings.



Number and percent of library locations with Cat.6 wiring within the building

Internet speed

Most public library locations have Internet speeds over 20 megabits per second (Mbps) with the greatest number falling within 50 and 100 Mbps. The Federal Communications Commission service standard is 25 Mbps download and 3 Mbps upload speeds.



Number of library locations by internet upload and download speeds

Source: Minnesota Public Library Report, 2017

Minnesota public libraries are required by Minnesota Statutes, section 134.13, to submit annual reports to the Minnesota Department of Education. Data is also submitted to the Institute of Museums and Library Services for the Public Libraries in the United States Survey.

Statistics include input and output measures related to facilities, services, programs, collections, staffing, hours of operation, and income and expenditures. Statistical information is used by public libraries and policymakers to plan and implement services that meet the needs of their communities.

Data for 2017 was submitted February through April 2018 using an online survey. All regional library

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systems and 99 percent of public library administrative entities in Minnesota completed the survey. (Watonwan County Library did not report.)

For information about the 2017 Minnesota Public Library Report or historical data, please contact:

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