



Indianola Public Library

Serving Indianola since 1884



annual report

FY-2021



Programs & Services

Ask us!

6,344

Questions answered

Personalized Help

Librarians answered 6,344 questions -- from "what was the average rainfall last year" to "how do you pronounce the word rancid".

Services Offered

The library offers free test proctoring, research assistance, computer help, home delivery for home-bound residents, and curbside pickup.

Online Presence

15,375

wifi sessions

31,646

website hits

13,002

ipl app launches

Programs

In response to COVID concerns, the library offered virtual programs for much of the year, such as online trivia and book clubs.

In-person programs began again in June with the popular Summer Reading Program for all ages. Game night, Mario Kart tournaments, trivia, craft activities, and book clubs met in person.



3,313

online views

1,860

attending in-person

Crafts to Go

Originally started as a response to the cancellation of children's programs, craft and activity kits for kids became so popular with patrons that we have continued this service.

Adventure Passes

Funded by the Friends of the Library, patrons can check out family passes to the Blank Park Zoo, Science Center, Children's Museum, and Botanical Gardens.

Subscription Boxes

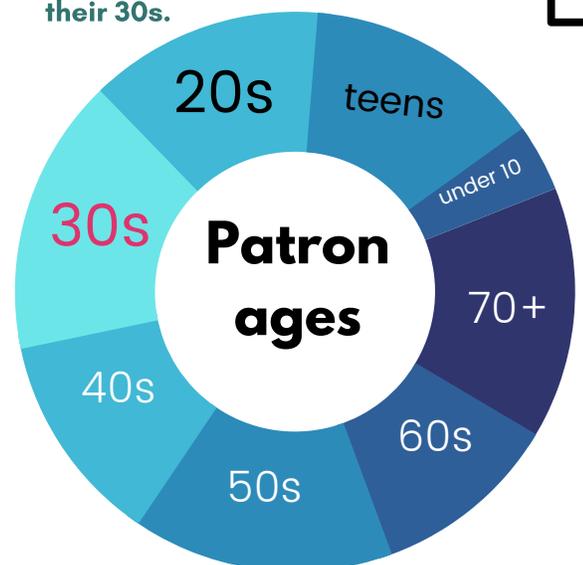
Originally started when the building was closed, the popularity of subscription boxes have prompted this service to continue. Librarians hand-pick books based on patrons' preference.

Library Card Holders

10,638



IPL's top users are those in their 30s.





Library Collections

Collections

The library strives to offer a diverse collection for all ages. In addition to books, the library offers digital materials, games, puzzles, DVDs, books on CD, family history materials, and streaming videos.

Library of Things

In addition to more than doubling the library's popular games collection, we added a Library of Things which includes items such as wifi hot spots, a radon detector, laser level, and telescope for checkout. This also includes fun items such as outdoor games, a metal detector, and kites.

Game & Puzzle Collection

Due to their popularity, the library increased its games collection. Circulation for games increased 60% in FY-21.

60%
circulation increase

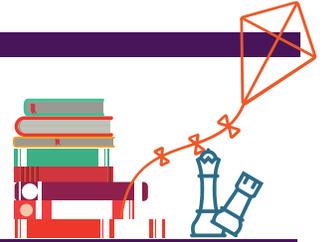


114,544
items borrowed



129,313

Number of items



Collection Size

The library had 129,313 items in FY-21. This is an ever-shifting collection in which less popular collections, such as large print books are downsized to make room for more in-demand collections.

Due to the building size, any new item purchased requires an existing item to be removed.

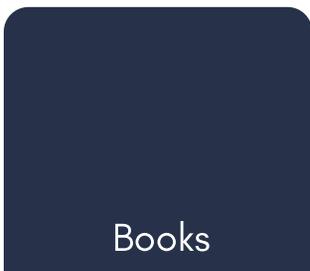
Collection Composition

Digital materials are the largest portion of the library's collection.



Usage

Physical items account for **74%** of checkouts



Eliminated Late Fees

In FY-21 the Library Board eliminated late fees for books and DVDs, removing a barrier to access and joining a nationwide trend of libraries going fine-free.





Library Building



207 North B St.

Built in **1984**, the library building is 10,650 sq. feet. It is a one-story building with one program/meeting room and a partial basement. Its defining feature is a skylight that divides the building to create an atrium.



39,383

The number of people entering the library in FY-21 was 39,383.

The busiest month was June with 7,452 visitors.

Open
7
days a week

Expanded Hours

In FY-21 the library expanded its hours to include more evening hours and to be open Sunday afternoons.

Work from Home Space

The library continues to be a popular place for adults to work from home, and this has increased since COVID.

COVID Response

Although the building was closed for 10 weeks, curbside pickup was still available and patrons could enter the building to use the public computers, use the wifi and browse.

Community Fridge

In partnership with Helping Hand, a small refrigerator in the east lobby provides free food for the community.



Library Building

Capital Improvement Plan

Maintaining the library's aging building is a priority and is reflected in the library's long-term Capital Improvement Plan:

- Boiler replacement
- HVAC replacement
- Tuckpointing
- Parking lot repairs
- Energy-efficient lighting
- Accessible circulation desk
- Entryway flooring replacement
- Carpet replacement
- Roof replacement
- Bathroom renovations
- Security system installation



FY-21 Building Costs

Utilities	\$18,816
Janitorial	\$17,869
Maintenance	\$9,800
Insurance	\$5,428
Grounds	\$2,097
Repairs	\$1,924
Beautification	\$248
Total	\$56,182

Repairs

FY-21 included repairs to the library's sump pump, bathroom hand dryers, and automatic door.

