

COCHISE COUNTY

2019/20

by the numbers



450,583

Physical items circulated countywide

48,082

Ebook and digital audio checkouts

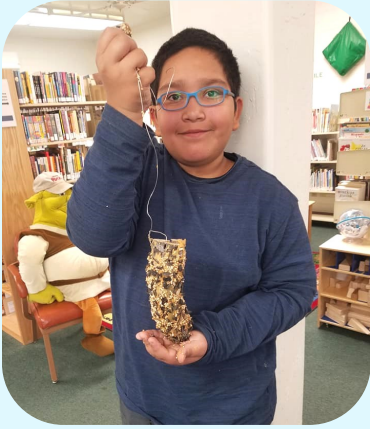


↗ 42,321

Items transferred between libraries

LIBRARY DISTRICT

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Busy branches

The rural branch libraries in Bowie, Elfrida, Portal, Sunizona, and Sunsites checked out 39,490 items between July 2019 and June 2020. The branches hosted 24,579 wifi sessions and 3,339 public computer sessions, as well as 17,757 visits from the public. 1,648 people attended in-person library programs.

Challenging times

In March 2020, libraries across Cochise County closed their buildings in response to the COVID-19 public health emergency, and Library District and branch staff came together to find new ways to provide core services.

Along with a renewed focus on digital collections and programs, the rural branch libraries have introduced curbside pickup service, expanded wi-fi access from outside library buildings, and redesigned summer reading programs on a grab-and-go model. Countywide library courier service and modified delivery service for homebound residents were restored in June. The rural branch libraries continue working to extend public services while prioritizing safety.



Growing collections and partnerships

With assistance from vendors, member libraries, and grant funding, the Library District more than doubled the countywide collection of ebooks and digital audiobooks in March and April, boosting the collection to more than 10,000 unique titles. In late May, the Library District partnered with several other Arizona library systems to offer county residents access to 50,000 additional titles. This change was facilitated by ebook vendor OverDrive, at no cost to participating libraries.