

Impact

We were curious about the value our library provides to the citizens of Hutchinson. We wondered what savings modest use of the library would provide to a family with children by asking the following question:

If a family used the library once or twice a month for the following products and services, how much would they save over purchasing the same?

- 1 meeting room use (\$50)
- 12 storytimes (\$7 per child per program)
- 6 preschool outreach visits (\$28 per visit)
- 1 adult program (\$15 per attendee)
- 12 uses of staff support (\$7 per interaction)
- 24 children's books (\$17 per book)
- 24 ebook or audio downloads (\$12 per item)
- 5 hours of library computer use (\$12 per hour)

If the family purchased the items and services, the total yearly cost from the list above would be \$1,157

However, the property tax this family would pay for library services is only \$110.76

The ratio is almost 10-1, for a value of more than \$9 for every \$1 in property tax paid!

Sample library service dollar values derived from the Syracuse University true value calculator found here: <https://truevalue.ischool.syr.edu/calculator/>

This example assumes the family's home is assessed at \$150,000.

Amounts shown in this sample are for the item or activity only and do not include the cost for processing, administrative, staff training, or maintenance.



**HUTCHINSON
PUBLIC LIBRARY**

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**HUTCHINSON
PUBLIC
LIBRARY**

ESTABLISHED IN 1901
CELEBRATING 125 YEAR OF
SERVICE IN 2026

TAX COMPARISON

The citizens of the City of Hutchinson spend approximately \$58.69 per capita in taxes for library services.

That amount is less than communities we are often compared to, such as Salina, which spends approximately \$69.95 per capita in taxes for library services.

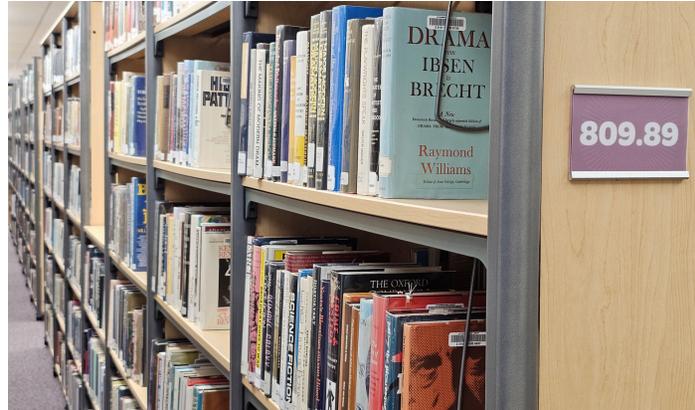
Per capita spending is calculated by adding general fund property tax + benefits fund property tax and dividing by the official service area population listed for each library.

The Hutchinson Public Library's mission is to inspire learning, cultivate growth, share knowledge, and strengthen our community.

MATERIALS

Our 35,315 card holders borrowed 224,011 items from our physical collection and 123,179 items from our digital collection in 2025.

Our door count exceeded 142,000 visitors in the building this year.



SPACES

Our Library Makerspace was visited by, on average, 24 patrons per day.

Our free community meeting rooms were used well over 1,000 times in 2025 as space for everything from quiet study to music practice to club meetings and author visits.



PROGRAMS

In 2025, HPL produced 776 programs with a total attendance of over 22,600 children, youth, and adults.

Our Children's Outreach Coordinator delivered 378 storytimes to day cares this year!



SERVICES

We answered over 25,000 research and reference questions in 2025!

We loaned 6,079 items to other libraries through Inter-library loan.

We issued 3,038 items through HPL's 24/7-access pickup lockers.