

New Research Shows Ohioans Strongly Value Libraries

New research shows overwhelming bipartisan support for Ohio's public libraries, with voters saying these services are essential to everyday life. The research, conducted by Public Opinion Strategies, examined voter attitudes toward libraries and local funding. The findings reveal overwhelming appreciation for library services and strong bipartisan agreement that libraries are worth the investment. In fact, libraries rank among the most trusted and highly-valued public services in Ohio. Learn more about the poll at olc.org.

Key findings:



90% of Ohioans say public libraries are important to their local community.



87% say they get their money's worth from library services for the taxes they pay — including 83% of Republicans, 85% of Independents and 93% of Democrats.



71% believe libraries provide many of the most basic services people rely on every day.



More than two-thirds can recall a specific time their library helped them personally.



Return on Investment:

Independent economic analysis shows that every \$1 invested in Ohio's libraries returns more than \$4 in value — generating over \$3 billion in statewide economic impact.



48.1M

Ohioans make 48.1 million library visits in a year.

251

public library systems.

7.4M

7.4 million Ohioans have library cards.

153.7M

Ohioans borrowed, downloaded or streamed public library materials 153.7 million times in a year.

23.4M

23.4 million Wi-Fi sessions in a year.