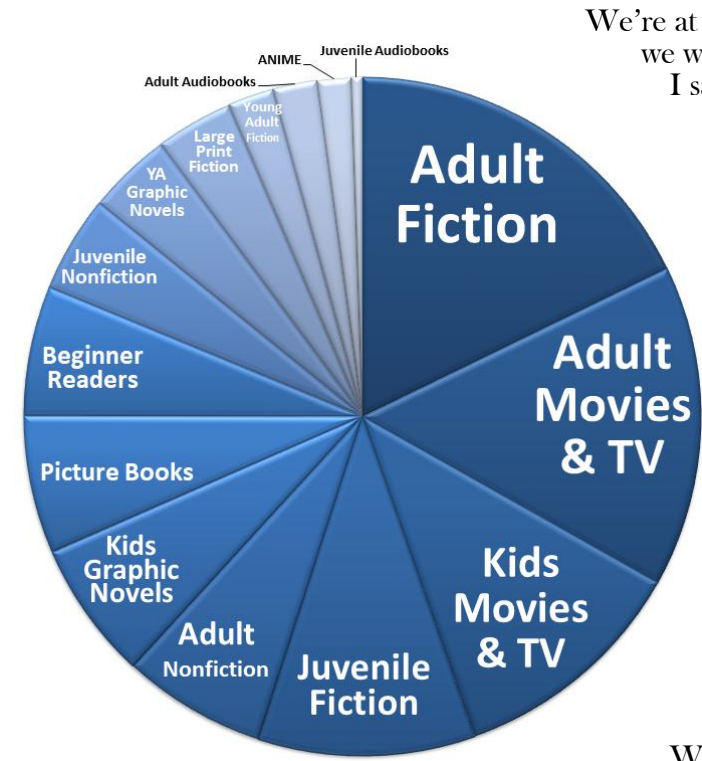


The graph to the left shows the success of each section. It's the number of circulations divided by the number of copies in each section. Again this year we can see that a large selection doesn't mean a successful collection. The kids' graphic novels still rule! There are only 650 titles, but they garnered 1,609 circulations! That's a successful collection!

Other juvenile collections are holding their own as well. Our Summer Program still brings in the readers, even if there's no on-site program to attend. We worked very hard this year to make it feel like an event even with few activities to attend. "Amazing Reader" signs were offered to both kids and adults. Online programs and take-n-make crafts kept us connected with participants.

Space is still a big issue for us. In order to add new items to various collection areas we have to weed old items. That's not easy when the section is made up of so many series. This is a problem especially in Adult Fiction, Large Print, and Adult Audiobooks. There's no room for growth but we can't weed the beginning of a series. But, based on the trending numbers, it's time to add more new audiobooks and large print. New items revive a collection, the more the better, so we're trying some new authors (more series, because that's what's in demand) and we're eager to get your suggestions!

The FY22 collection budget is going to be one of the hardest to juggle because our regular collection funding sources, grants, are being used for repairs to the building instead. Even our Friends of the Library membership requests are encouraging donors to mark a box if they want their membership funds to go towards building repairs. This may impact our programs, because traditionally Friends funds were used to cover visiting performers and large program expenses.



We're at an interesting juncture with our collection. Two years ago we worried about DVD circulations surpassing book circulations. I say worried, because we still feel like "books are what we do" despite the demand for other formats and despite our efforts to offer our patrons everything they want. We still want them to want to read. It's a hard thing to let go of, even with the world swinging ever more towards the mixed media content now everywhere. We struggle with it in programming too. Is it okay to show a Scholastic short, bigger than life on the wall in our meeting room, in conjunction with the books at StoryTime? After all, the videos we're using are literally the book images turned into animation, and the narrator is reading the book aloud. Should we be encouraging the screen time involved in watching our own programs that are being offered online? Is listening to an audiobook reading? What about a podcast? Is gaming, whether online or IRL (in real life) beneficial to the growth of a young mind, or the continued enrichment and maintenance of an aging mind? Collection, Programs, Activities, Gaming, Coding, Creation, Engagement, Entertainment. There's so much our Library can offer and it's so difficult to quantify and assess.

We need input. To keep up, we need to focus this year on an in-depth community assessment, utilizing focus groups to garner as much community input as possible. We meet the needs of a lot of people. They demonstrate that every time they check out materials or attend an event. But there's a large part of our community we never see. The Library is a community resource. Let's make sure we're enriching everyone's lives. We're past due on a strategic effort to communicate with our community and plan for future Library services. Let's use 2022 to correct that issue with a new strategic plan for the Library.

**Chariton Public Library**  
 803 Braden Ave. Chariton IA 50049  
 641-774-5514 (FAX 641-774-8695)  
 murphy@chariton.lib.ia.us  
 www.chariton.lib.ia.us



## Chariton Public Library FY21 Report

### Mission Statement

The Chariton Public Library offers information and entertainment to educate, inspire and enrich our community. At the Library, people of all ages and backgrounds gather together to share experiences, celebrate ideas, and create. Children develop a love of reading, families find a place to play, and lifelong learners never run out of new things to discover.

### Service Responses:

**Information Access** - The Library endeavors to deliver access to the most accurate and up-to-date information available. Computers with a variety of software and accessories are available for public use. Utilizing all available resources, a skilled and conscientious staff will assist community members in accessing information on any subject. Individuals of all ages may pursue their interest for lifelong learning in order to enjoy self-directed personal growth and development. (Technology, Personnel)

**Current Topics and Titles** - The Library strives to fulfill the community's appetite for information about popular cultural and social trends and the desire for satisfying recreational experiences, by offering materials by the most popular authors and on a wide variety of subjects as soon as they become available. It is a place where community members enjoy access to materials which inform and entertain them, in the form of traditional printed materials, audio-visual materials, and electronic resources. (Collection)

**The Gathering Place** - The Library is a place where the community gathers and interacts. The Library facility offers accommodations for meetings and programs, displays of items, information, and events important to the community, and comfortable reading and lounging areas. Every effort will be made to ensure that the Library itself is a safe, convenient, and inviting public space for all individuals and groups in the community to pursue lifelong learning, develop new skills and enjoy. (Facility)

Programs

STEAM

Educational Collection

Parenting Collection

Reference Assistance

Community Activities

Arts & Recreation

History & Culture

Home & Health

The Sciences

Popular Collection

BOOKS

MOVIES & TV SERIES

AUDIOBOOKS

TECHNOLOGY & TECH HELP

computers, printers, scan, fax, email, laminator

Digital Collection

BRIDGES e-content

STATE LIBRARY DATABASES

Chariton Newspaper ARCHIVES

LIBRARY



General Statistics	
Days Open	291
Visitor Count	15,120
Patron Count	3,812
Patron Cards Issued	167
Patron Cards Weeded	870
Computer Uses	3,218
Meeting Room Uses	2
MAKERSPACE Uses	3
Total Circulation (w/o SILO ILLs)	24,856
BRIDGES Registrations	47
BRIDGES Active Individuals	969
BRIDGES Items Circulated	5,640
Website Visits	2,838
Website Actions	10,766

Patron Circulations	
Chariton Adult	10,349
Chariton Child	3,795
Institutional/Special	1,079
In-House Cards	131
Rural Adult	6,479
Rural Child	1,000
Russell Adult	461
Russell Child	201
Lucas Adult	218
Lucas Child	220
Williamson Adult	110
Williamson Child	0
Derby Adult	61
Derby Child	0
Out Of County	930

Collection Category Circulations	
Adult Fiction	4,459
Large Print	928
Adult Nonfiction	1,666
Magazines	1
Adult Audiobooks	560
Adult Video	3,738
Picture Books	1,585
Beginner Readers	1,811
Juvenile Fiction	3,713
Juvenile Nonfiction	1,124
Juvenile Audiobooks	130
Juvenile Videos	2,803
Young Adult Books	1,564
YA Anime Video	375
PUZZLES	10
Educational Bins	389
Local Interlibrary Loans	178
	25,034

We were open 45 days more than in FY20  
Visitor Count dropped by 10,257!!! We don't know whether to attribute this to COVID in general, or to the lack of programming which usually brings families in every week, or both.  
We weeded all patrons who hadn't picked up their RED CARD since the new cards were made available in 2007. We needed the card stock for new patrons.  
We issued 19 more cards than in FY20.  
In FY21 we weeded 30% of our cardholders. See above.  
With only 6 computers available due to COVID distancing, our computer use dropped by 1,712, but computer use has been dropping anyway, due to smartphones.  
We had only a couple of meeting room uses due to COVID.  
We had only 3 MakerSpace uses due to COVID. These 3 uses were a single person working on their own.  
Our total circulation dropped by 5,939.

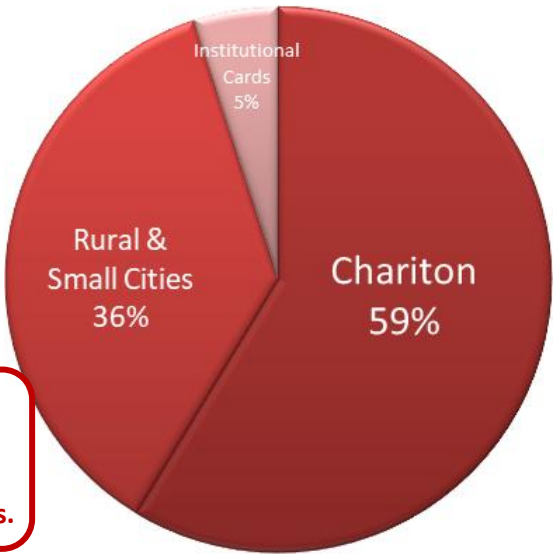
47 people registered for BRIDGES.  
Active BRIDGES users remained steady.  
Our BRIDGES circulations grew by 505,  
only 4 of them were downloadable videos,  
332 of them were downloadable magazines.

BRIDGES gives our patrons access to  
98,331 Downloadable Ebooks  
36,369 Downloadable Audiobooks  
3,856 Downloadable Magazine Issues  
683 Downloadable Videos

Dropped by over 3,000  
Increased by 384  
Increased by 417  
Staff cards used to track items in-house, Display and Repair.  
Dropped by over 1,000  
Dropped 80  
Dropped 272  
Increased 9  
Dropped 137  
Increased 119  
Increased 73  
Dropped 137  
Increased 53  
Stayed the same  
Dropped 629

Circulations  
related to  
Funding  
Sources

Institutional Cards are those held by  
educators, childcare providers, and  
elder-care and special-needs services  
providers. They have variable lending  
periods and are never charged late fees.

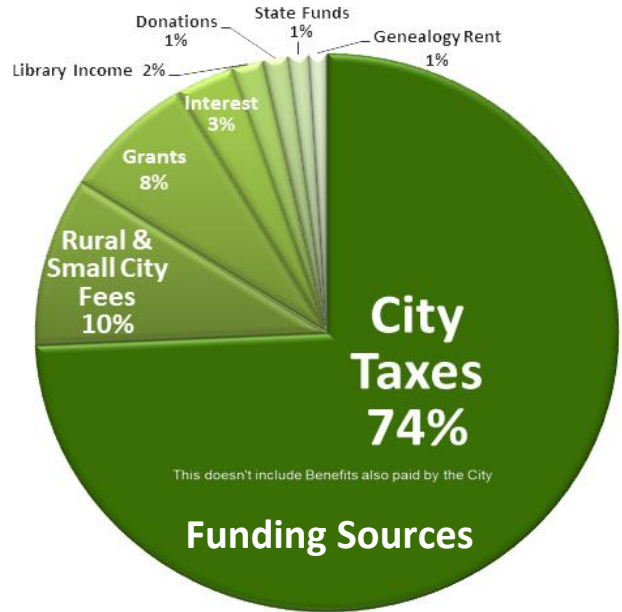


Dropped 1,120 Noticeably, some of our most frequent adult fiction borrowers, older ladies, stopped coming in.  
Dropped 151  
Dropped 94  
Has dropped every year and now they're GONE. We no longer purchase or circulate magazines.  
Dropped 371  
Dropped 2,995 Again, a few of our older adults who would come in weekly to get DVDs have not been visiting the Library due to COVID and other health concerns.  
Dropped 1,131 We believe this drop is due to the lack of programming and COVID. Some families continued to visit. Others started going to other area libraries instead.  
Dropped 428  
Increased 518  
Increased 66  
Dropped 13  
Dropped 1,044 Again, we believe this drop is in part due to families using other libraries that were still offering programming during COVID.  
Dropped 455  
Increased 53

We're trying Puzzles and Games out as circulating items. Look for an increase next year.  
Big Circulation Numbers! These Themed Boxes of Items go out to classrooms, homeschoolers, childcare providers and other groups. The Program Coordinator creates and assembles the sets.  
Jumped from 59/ Free is good. Most of our Interlibrary Loans are now carried on a van route that visits all public libraries in Iowa. Thank you State Library for eliminating postal fees!!  
This is the total circulation, including local patrons checking out Interlibrary Loan items.

Technology – what do we offer and who's using it?  
Currently we offer 4 public access PCs and 12 Chrome devices.  
The majority of their use is either kids playing online games or folks needing to print something – forms or labels. Often the printed item needs to be sent right back in after they've filled it out, and we FAX or scan it for them. A few people come in to print directly from a USB drive. We also have some folks who come in every day to spend an hour or two online. Our biggest tech draw is free Wi-Fi. Inside and outside the building you'll see people on their devices at all hours.  
Mainstay Systems Inc., our new tech support provider, is doing a complete overhaul of the Library's network. This will improve speed and security for everyone.

Printing Fees  
account for  
47% of our  
Daily  
Income!



COLLECTION	YEAR
Adult Books Added	462
Juv Books Added	284
YA Books Added	145
Adult Audio Added	62
Juv Audio Added	0
YA Audio Added	0
Adult Video Added	148
Juv Video Added	129
YA Video Added	59
Mag Subscriptions Added	0
PUZZLES	10
EdBINS/Books ADDED	924
Total Added	2225
Adult Books Weeded	20
Juv Books Weeded	589
YA Books Weeded	0
Adult Audio Weeded	0
Juv Audio Weeded	0
YA Audio Weeded	0
Adult Video Weeded	19
Juv Video Weeded	19
YA Video Weeded	0
Mag Subs Weeded	0
PUZZLES	0
EdBINS/Bin Books	1
Total Weeded	648

