

Did you know?

FACTS ABOUT GEORGIA'S PUBLIC LIBRARIES
2008

During FY2007, every dollar that was invested in Georgia's public libraries provided a return on investment of \$5.56.

In FY2007, Georgians checked out almost 41 million items from their public libraries.

More than 1.5 million kids attended one of the 42,000 events that Georgia's public libraries offered for children in FY2007.

Public libraries are the number one point of online access for people without Internet connections at home, school or work.

100% of Georgia's public libraries provide free high-speed Internet access to the public.

Almost 6,000 public-access workstations are currently available at Georgia's public libraries.

In FY2007, almost 257,000 individuals used public-access computers at Georgia's public libraries each week — for a total of 13.36 million annual users.

The most recent poll conducted for the American Library Association found 91% of respondents expect libraries to be needed in the future, despite the increased availability of information via the Internet.

Americans visit libraries more than twice as often as movie theaters.



Sources: ALA Office for Research & Statistics, Georgia Public Library Statistics FY2006 and FY2007, U.S. Census Bureau, Consumer Electronics Association

Georgians rely on public libraries for education, information and entertainment.

The number of annual visitors to Georgia's public libraries in FY2007 far exceeds the number of visitors to many of the state's other attractions — **combined**.

Georgia's public libraries: **35.7 million**

Overnight visitors to City of Savannah: **7 million**

Stone Mountain Park: **4 million**

Georgia Aquarium: **3.5 million**

Atlanta Braves: **2.75 million**

Events at Georgia Dome: **1.46 million**

Events at Georgia World Congress Center: **1 million**

University of Georgia and Georgia Tech home football games: **1 million**

Zoo Atlanta: **712,000**

Atlanta Motor Speedway: **500,000**

Savannah's St. Patrick's Day Festival: **400,000**



Sources: Georgia Public Library Statistics FY2007, Atlanta Convention & Visitors Bureau, Savannah Convention & Visitors Bureau, Stone Mountain Park, Major League Baseball, Atlanta Business Chronicle, ESPN, Zoo Atlanta

Georgians value the benefits their public library cards provide.

Georgia population: **9.1 million**

Georgia total households: **3.8 million**

Number of Georgians with library cards: **3.6 million**

Number of Georgians with PINES cards: **1.8 million**

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, Georgia Public Library Statistics FY2007

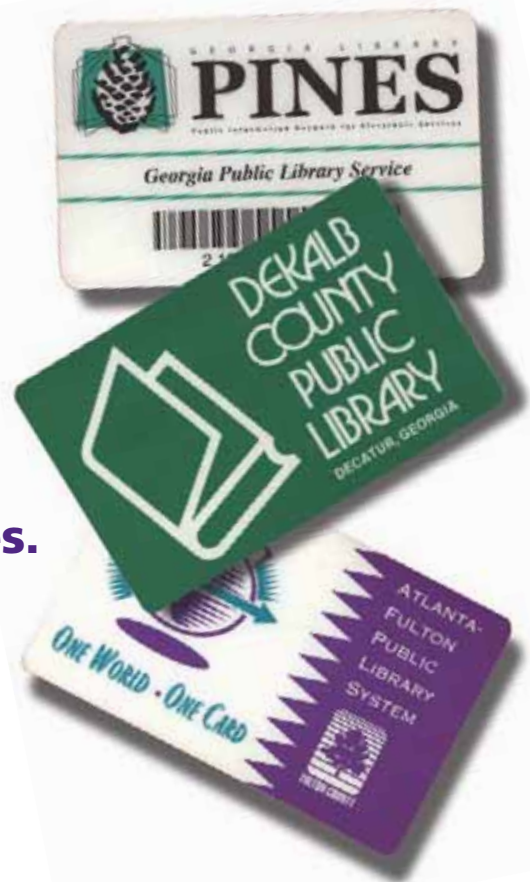
Georgians believe public libraries are a vital part of their communities.

3,018 Georgians work in public libraries.

2,500+ Georgians volunteer with public libraries as members of local "Friends of the Library" organizations.

1,400+ Georgians serve as trustees for local public libraries.

Source: Georgia Public Library Statistics FY2007



Public libraries are accessible to virtually every community in Georgia.



In Georgia, there are:

384 public library branches and service outlets

328 public golf courses

172 Publix grocery stores

168 Starbucks stores

128 Wal-Mart stores

64 state parks and state historic sites

Sources: Georgia Public Library Statistics FY2007, Georgia Department of Economic Development, various retailers' Web sites and annual reports

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