

# Quotable Facts About Vermont Public Libraries

In 2004-05...

- Vermonters visited their public libraries 3,296,033 times - more than 9,000 visits per day, and 12% more than last year
- Vermont adults, teens, and children could access 2,748,238 books in public libraries – more than four books per person
- Vermont public librarians answered over 400,000 reference questions
- The average Vermonter checked out almost 7 items from a local public library
- In addition to books, public libraries offered nearly 225,000 audiovisual items – videos, DVDs, audio-books, and music
- Nearly 800,000 internet and other searches were conducted on public libraries' 781 computers
- Vermont's public libraries spent \$3.29 per capita on library materials while the average fiction book cost \$25.84 (latest data available) .
- Vermont's public libraries spent \$25.41 per capita on their operations
- Vermont's public libraries employed 311.5 FTE staff  
This is more than the number of licensed auctioneers (222) in the state but much less than the number of dentists (547).
- It cost an average of \$3.78 to circulate each item in our public libraries.

*Compiled by Marianne Kotch, Director, Public Library Support Services, Vermont Department of Libraries, February, 2006, with help from Steve Fesenmeir of the WV Library Commission*