



INDIANA
LIBRARY
FEDERATION

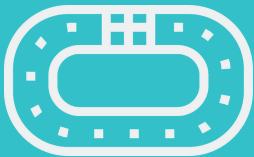
INDIANA LIBRARY FEDERATION 2026

Libraries Have Strong Support from Hoosiers



A Family enjoys using Public Library services in Johnson County, Indiana

20,000,000
PHYSICAL BOOKS
AVAILABLE



ENOUGH TO GO 1,000
LAPS AROUND THE
INDY 500 TRACK, IF
LAID END TO END

Every Hoosier Should Have Access to a Local Public Library

98% of Indiana residents overwhelmingly support ensuring every individual has access to a public library. Libraries are viewed as essential community institutions that support reading, learning, workforce development, civic participation, and community connection.

Public libraries support reading and learning by providing Hoosiers with print and digital materials, reading programs like summer reading and **1000** books before Kindergarten, book clubs and more. Wifi, database access, computer classes, and programs all support Hoosiers with their information needs.

Additionally, public libraries serve as community hubs, allowing residents, community groups, nonprofits, and local organizations to gather for meetings, educational programs, and cultural events. Libraries support civic participation by providing access to reliable information, voter resources, and government services, while also supporting workforce development through job search assistance, technology access, digital literacy training, and career development resources. Through these services, libraries strengthen both individual opportunity and community well-being.

Hoosiers Trust Public Libraries

Survey responses show that Hoosiers trust and use their public libraries. They also have confidence in librarians, library governance, and the stewardship of public funds.

83% of Hoosiers polled support funding public libraries and another 71% of those polled believe libraries use taxpayer dollars efficiently with 72% stating that libraries provide a greater value than they cost. Few other public services or entities demonstrate such strong user value as public libraries do.

Furthermore, of those polled 73% rate their local public libraries positively with 65% of those stating they use their local public libraries frequently or occasionally. Once again these data show that Hoosiers value their local public library.

Finally, Hoosiers show a strong support for the principals of intellectual freedom with 74% of Hoosiers trust librarians to make decisions about library collections and 88% of those polled oppose criminalizing librarians for the work they do in making information available to their communities.



A South Bend resident uses the free computer services provided at St. Joe County Public Library

22,293,461
TOTAL LIBRARY VISITS



**MORE THAN 4 TIMES
THE AMOUNT OF CORN
ACREAGE HARVESTED
IN INDIANA IN 2025**

About the Data

Developed and coordinated by the Indiana Library Federation Advocacy Committee, the Indiana Library Federation (ILF) Polling Project was conducted in April 2026 and is a comprehensive statewide survey that provides an in-depth look at how Hoosiers view public and school libraries.

The survey gathered responses from 800 Indiana residents representing rural, suburban, and urban communities. The poll was funded by the Midwest Collaborative for Library Services (MCLS) and the ILF, and developed with strategic guidance from EveryLibrary and Taft Public Affairs. The Survey carries a margin of error of ± 3.5 percent.

Learn more here: inlf.memberclicks.net/2026-ilf-polling-project