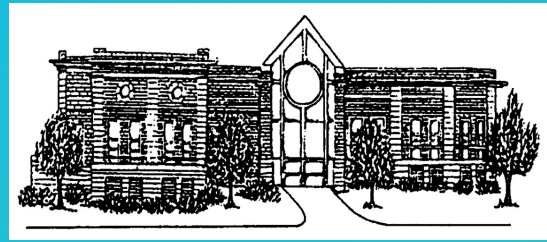
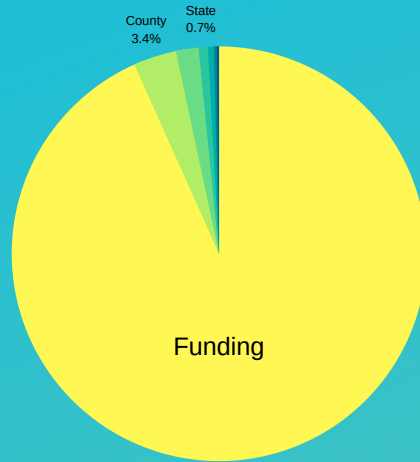


Estherville Public Library

2021 ANNUAL REPORT

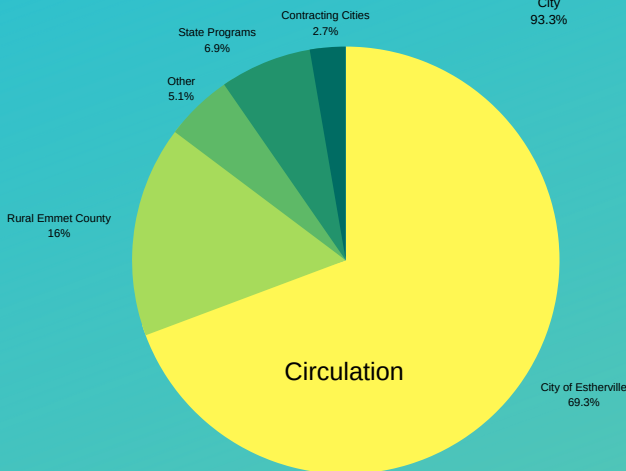


FUNDING



The Estherville Public Library is fortunate to have strong community support, both through tax-supported operating funds and direct community contributions through the Friends organization.

Emmet County accounts for 3.4% of our income while rural residents account for 16% of our physical circulation.



In recent years, Emmet County has moved from the 99th position out of 99 counties in cents-per-thousand library funding to the 98th position last year, and now to 92nd this year. We have also moved from 80, to 72, and now up to 69 out of 99 for per capita funding for libraries. Average per capita is \$41.46, while Emmet County is currently at \$11.97.

PEOPLE

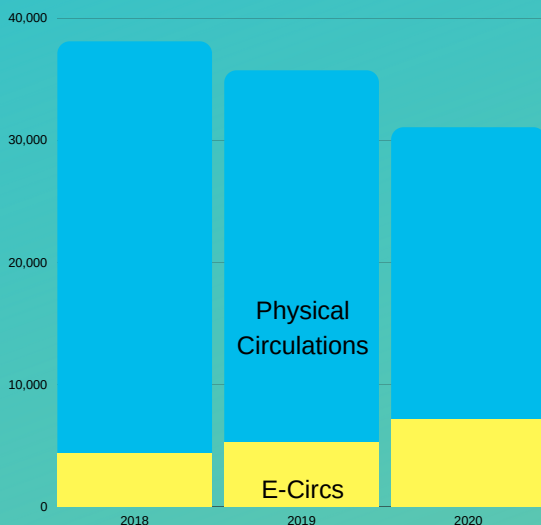
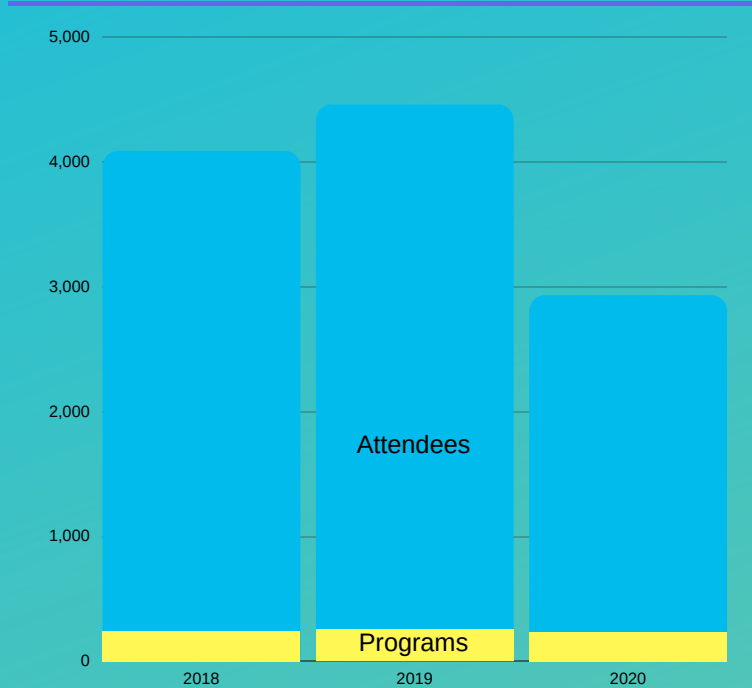
28,894 people came through the doors of the EPL in the 2019-2020 Fiscal Year, which is high considering periodic closings for COVID-19.

Those who checked out physical items saved \$263,498 this past year. This does not account for savings related to digital items, computer and office equipment access, or any of our other services. The library offers an excellent return on the community's investment.



PROGRAMS

The number of programs offered for the public was 235 in 2020. This is virtually the same as the year prior, though we've had to completely re-imagine our delivery models in 2020. We continue to make strides towards providing for this need remotely through kits and online events.



USAGE

While physical circulation was impacted negatively at libraries everywhere due to COVID-19 restrictions, we saw a major surge in the use of our electronic collections.

Our wireless internet has been made available 24/7 and is accessible from our north parking area or on library square.

Curbside check-outs have continued to provide access to materials, and we will work towards new service models such as this one that will allow us to offer what our members need regardless of the circumstances.

