

Estherville Public Library

FY23 ANNUAL REPORT

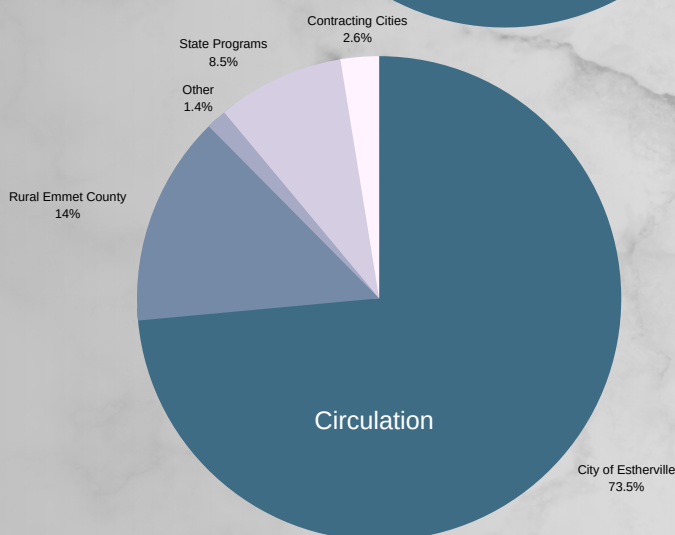
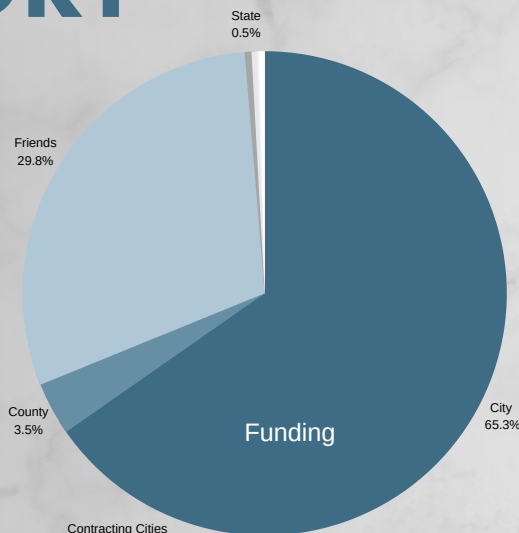


FUNDING

The Estherville Public Library is fortunate to have strong community support. This past year has been a perfect example, as the Community Room Renovation Project was completed thanks to over \$216,000 in local donations and grants given to our Friends of the Library organization.

Emmet County accounts for 3.5% of our income while rural residents account for 14% of our physical circulation.

In recent years, out of 99 counties, Emmet County has moved up to number 92 in cents-per-thousand and number 63 in per capita funding for libraries. Average per capita is \$22.47, while Emmet County is currently at \$15.24.



PEOPLE

18,555 people came through the doors of the EPL in the 2022-2023 Fiscal Year, and we saw over 13,000 logins to our wireless internet from personal devices.

Those who checked out physical items saved \$235,000 this past year. This does not account for savings related to digital items, computer and office equipment access, or any of our other services.



PROGRAMS

The number of programs offered for the public was 164 in FY23. Nearly 2,000 people attended these live programs, while even more took part in reading incentives and passive events such as our Story Walks throughout downtown.



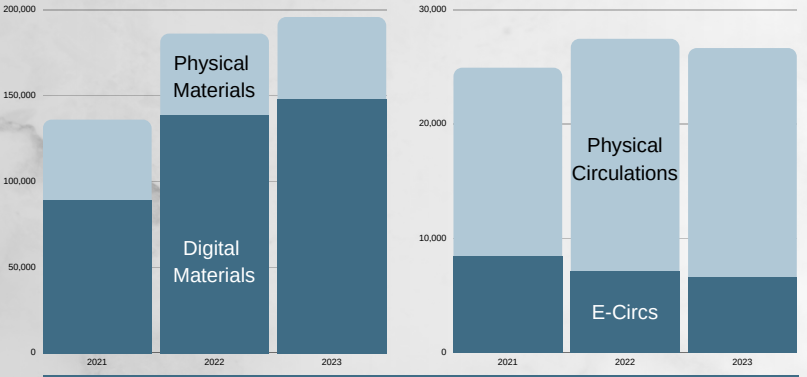
In recent years, several steps have been taken to preserve our beautiful Carnegie facility and the resources within. We've tackled restoration and polishing of the meteorite slice, a new HVAC system, paint updates throughout much of the facility, and a complete renovation of the Community Room.



IMAGINATION LIBRARY



Currently, 215 children (birth to age 5) are actively served by this Friends-sponsored project across Emmet County.



USAGE

We are now seeing a trend back towards physical items as electronic usage stabilizes. The number of visits has increased by 27% this year over last year. Program attendance has increased by 28%, as well. As seen in the above graphic, our digital materials are now well past double the number of our physical selections.



With offerings such as 24/7 wireless internet, online card applications, and permanent curbside service, the EPL will continue to evolve to meet users' needs.

