Rural libraries in Georgia transform lives and communities
Georgia Public Library Service empowers libraries to improve the lives of all Georgians. We provide scalable library technology and services; staff training, consulting, and best practices; grant administration and more to create equity in library experience for patrons, no matter where they live.

Georgia Public Library Service is the state library administrative agency and a unit of the Board of Regents, University System of Georgia.

407 public libraries in Georgia across all 159 counties
Georgia’s Public Libraries are **ANCHORS** in rural communities
As Georgia works to improve access to Internet for all residents, public libraries are here to fill the gap: all 407 public libraries have high-speed internet.
Broadband in Libraries

Libraries in Georgia average broadband speeds of 100 mbps – 1G, regardless of location.

Georgia’s libraries stay connected to support education, research, government, workforce & economic development in all communities.
Average Broadband Speeds

Average System Speed in Mbps

- 30 to 50
- 50 to 100
- 100 to 200
- 200 to 300
- 300 to 500
- 500 to 1,000
- 1,000 to 2,000
- 2,000 to 4,000

Source: [www.georgialibraries.org](http://www.georgialibraries.org)

Empowering libraries to improve the lives of all Georgians
GPLS provided nearly $1.7 million in library technology funding to rural library systems in 2018.
“Libraries exist to help people succeed during every phase of their life.”

- Julie Walker, Georgia state librarian
Support for *Entrepreneurs* and *Small Businesses*
“We help hardworking people overcome challenges to achieve their American Dream.”

- George Giannoumous, library volunteer
This workshop helped me understand the importance of branding my business. I also learned that good branding is a process and doesn't happen overnight. This means when I create my plan, I need to be patient while waiting to see the benefits.

Small Business Incubator, Twin Lakes Library System, Milledgeville, GA
“This library workshop game me lots of valuable information. I'm going to make some changes to my social media presence. Specifically, I'm going to begin by incorporating calls to action.”

Debi Yorke, Co-Owner
Juke N Jive Creamery

Attended SCORE workshop at Hall County Blackshear Place Library

www.georgialibraries.org  Empowering libraries to improve the lives of all Georgians
Rural Libraries open the **WORLD** to their patrons
Our nationally-recognized PINES system provides statewide lending of 11 million free library materials, creating equitable access to information in all 159 Georgia counties.
Our statewide Summer Reading Program provides **free educational and cultural enrichment activities** to **keep children engaged academically**, so they are **ready to learn** when they go back to school.
Partnerships with Georgia State Parks, Georgia Aquarium, Zoo Atlanta, Chattahoochee Nature Center, Center for Puppetry Arts and more provide free programming for public library patrons while saving Georgia families more than $13 million in the last 10 years.
Public libraries in Georgia offer so much more than books. Many libraries provide access to 3-D printers, scanners, and other "makerspace" equipment.

Use this map to find a library system with a makerspace near you!

Some locations offer makerspace services, programs, and/or equipment; contact your library for more information.
All you need is your library card to access eRead Kids, a collection of nearly 15,000 digital books to encourage early literacy!
Libraries are for Everyone.

Georgia Libraries for Accessible Statewide Services (GLASS) promotes the use of assistive technology and accessible reading materials for those who are blind or whose physical abilities require the use of books and magazines in audio format or in braille.
Libraries are a worthwhile INVESTMENT
Georgia Public Libraries

Quick Look - Fiscal Year 2017

- 4,268,918 Georgians own library cards!
- 2701 FTES Full Time Equivalent Employees
- 63 State Certified Public Librarians
- 407 Facilities
- 63 Library Systems
- 9 Bookmobiles
- 854,977 Hours Open
- 70,229,128 VISITS
- 28,830,607 In Person | 41,398,521 Virtual

Services and Activities
- 35,517,426 Total Check Outs
- 2,859,201 people attended over 96,093 programs
- 1,732,140 GALILEO Usage via Public Libraries
- 15,623,674 Youth Materials Check Outs
- 454,631 Talking Book Check Outs

Technology in Libraries
- 9,541 Public-Access Internet Computers
- 12,199,464 User Sessions
- 4,837,150 Wireless Sessions

www.georgialibraries.org

Data subject to Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) review during Spring 2018 Public library Survey
Summer meal service at many libraries.
"From this library, you cannot say: 'I do not have internet. I do not have a computer. I do not have access to information.' **Because from this library, you have everything.**"

-Miguel Vicente, South Georgia Regional Library director
“Libraries exist to help people succeed during every phase of their life.”

- Julie Walker, Georgia state librarian
With your free Georgia public library card, you can build marketable job skills, research for your next school assignment, learn a language, get free admission to great places across Georgia, build literacy and much more.

Find your local library at georgialibraries.org
#Georgialibs

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