

COMSTOCK TOWNSHIP LIBRARY

2023 ANNUAL REPORT



We welcome our community to learn, grow, and explore through a variety of resources, technology, and opportunities for lifelong learning.

Library Year in Review

I'm pleased to present this comprehensive summary of the Comstock Township Library's achievements and activities throughout 2023. It was a year marked by growth, strategic planning, and a commitment to enhancing our services to the community.

Overall Growth

In 2023, the library experienced growth across various metrics. Checkouts for materials, library visits, and program attendance all had significant increases, showcasing the growing engagement of the community with the library. Specifically, material checkouts went up by 27%, while library visits and program attendance both went up by 15% over the previous year.

Strategic Planning

In February, we embarked on a strategic planning process that spanned several months, ending in November. Under the direction of a strategic planning coordinator, we gathered data through surveys, community stakeholder interviews, and Board and staff retreat sessions. The entire planning process involved careful consideration of our goals, mission, and future direction. The resulting *Strategic Purpose and Goals* document sets the stage and focus for our continued growth and development in the coming years.

Leadership Changes

The year saw changes in leadership within the Adult and Youth Services Departments. While the transitions were challenging, they

also brought forth new ideas and perspectives. We appreciate the contributions of the former staff members and welcome the fresh insights of our new Department Heads.

Staff Training Day

A significant milestone in 2023 was offering the first annual staff training day! The day featured presentations on autism awareness and strategies for managing and preventing stress and burnout. This initiative reflects our commitment to fostering a supportive and informed work environment for our dedicated library staff.

Special Programs

We were honored to host Kai Harris, author of *What the Fireflies Knew*, as part of the Michigan Notable Books author tour through the Library of Michigan. Her talk in April was a great success, with a large number of attendees and positive reviews. Additionally, our end of summer reading Party in the Park and the December Holiday Open House were both resounding successes, bringing the community together in celebration.

Innovation in Services

We expanded the popular Discovery Kit collection and introduced a portable videogaming system in the Youth Department, offering a new experience for our younger patrons. The update of our automation system, TLC, modernized our operations, enabling features such as

automatic renewals and timely notices for expiring library card accounts.

Community Outreach

One of our proudest projects was the introduction of Dolly Parton's Imagination Library program to children in our service area. With 112 participants signed up so far, this program delivers a book to the homes of children from birth through 5 years of age each month, fostering a love of books and reading from an early age.

Infrastructure Improvements

Improvements made included the replacement of all public computer stations, the relocation of the computer servers to a new dedicated server room with added equipment protections, and the installation of gutters on the front of the building to mitigate water issues. The update in lighting in the storytime room now allows for a more versatile and inclusive environment.

Looking forward to 2024

As we reflect on the accomplishments of 2023, we anticipate the implementation of our strategic goals in the coming year. The library remains dedicated to serving as a vibrant hub for the community, fostering learning, growth, and exploration. We are grateful to our patrons, staff, and Board for their continued support, and look forward to another successful year!

Sincerely,

Emily Kubash
Director, Comstock Township Library

Library Board

Karen Jameson, President

Joseph Calvaruso, Vice President

Shari Donovan, Secretary

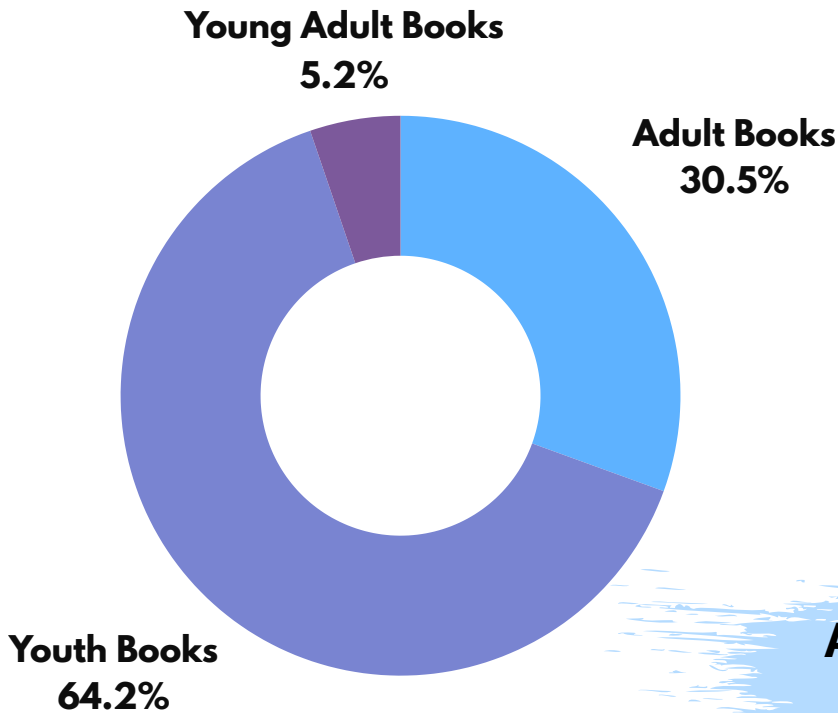
Andrea Clark, Trustee

Felicia Sidney, Trustee

James VanSweden, Trustee

CTL 2023 CIRCULATION

Book checkouts: 87,236

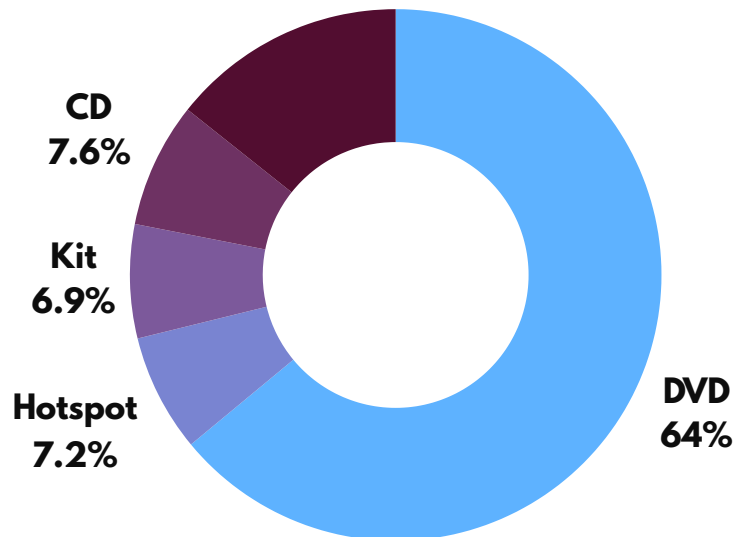


Collection Size:

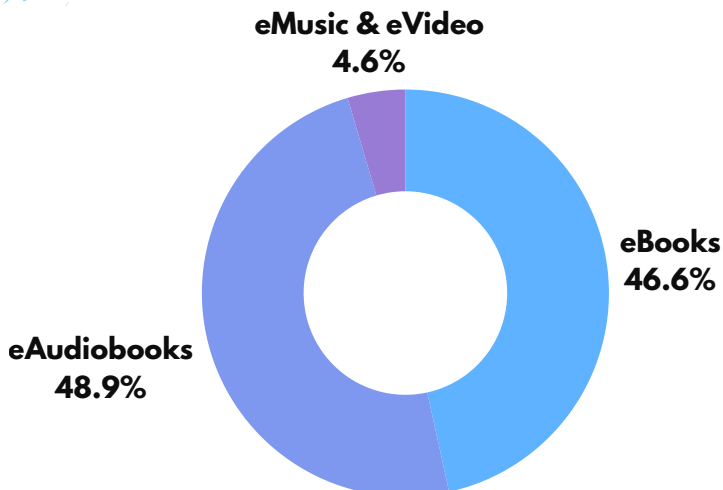
27,735 Adult Books
21,361 Youth Books
4,041 Young Adult Books
5,200 AV & Special Items
3,161,997 Digital Items

AV & Special Collection checkouts: 11,781

Videogame
14.3%



Digital checkouts: 18,009



Total checkouts: 117,026

2023 LIBRARY USAGE

CTL had 59,139 patron visits in 2023



Staff answered 29,155 reference questions



4,813 active library card users



We provided 7,271 patrons with internet access

3,082 Facebook Page Likes
We reached 67,484 people



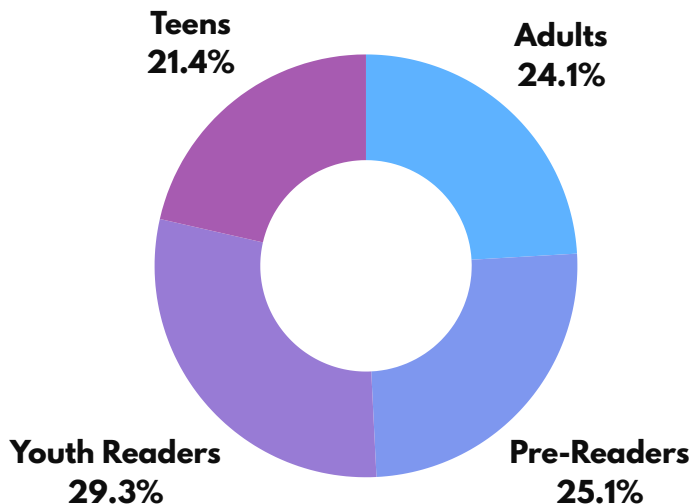
362 Instagram followers
We reached 368 people

42,209 Website visits

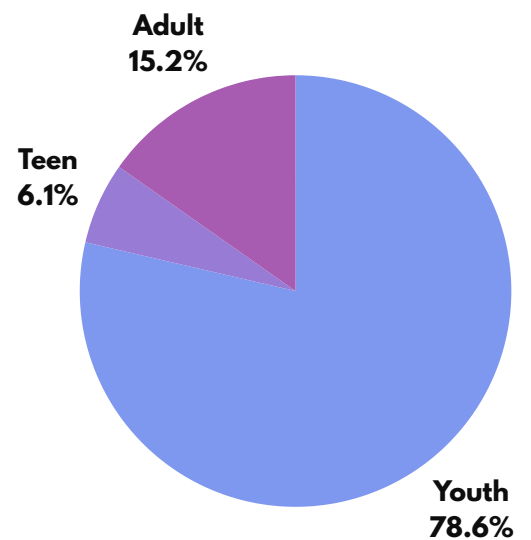


We offered 396 programs in 2023 with 8,690 people attending

Summer Reading Program



Program Attendance



569 patrons participated in SRP!

2023 DIGITAL LIBRARY USAGE

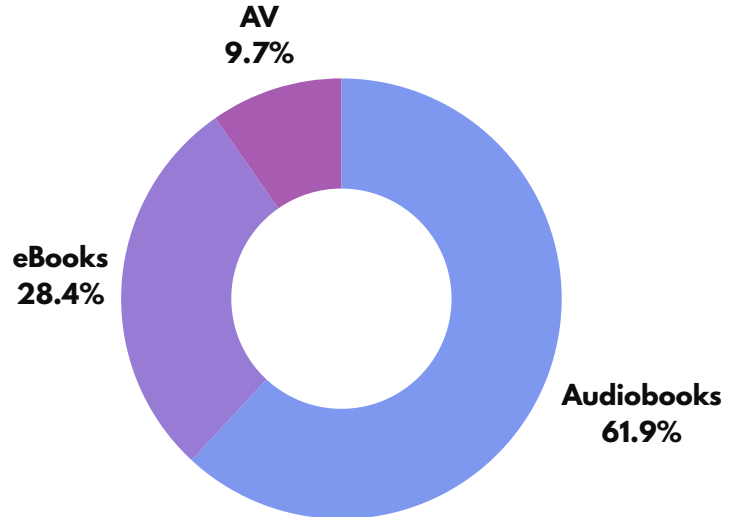
Hoopla

Collection Size:
3,132,762 titles

Amount spent:
\$19,196

414 Unique Users

Circulation



Hoopla Details

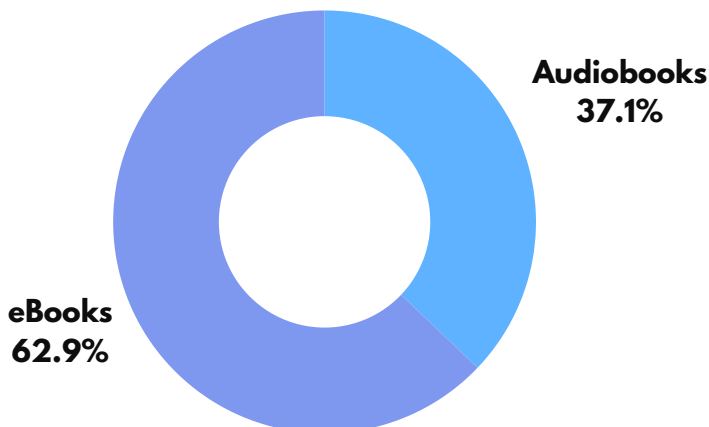
- Pay per each circulation
- Set a monthly budget to control costs
- Titles in collection are pre-selected
- All items available at any time

Libby Details

- Each title purchased individually by staff or through group purchase
- Can borrow items when they are checked in
- Place holds on checked out items

Libby

Circulation



Collection Size:
29,235 titles

Amount spent:
\$11,081

416 Unique Users