

Biennial Report | 2022-2024

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About the State Library of North Carolina

The State Library of North Carolina is a Division of the North Carolina Department of Natural and Cultural Resources with four Sections. These Sections are the SLNC Accessible Books and Library Services, the SLNC Government and Heritage Library, the SLNC Library **Development**, and the **SLNC Administration**.

SLNC Accessible Books and Library Services provides physical and digital materials, programs, and services to qualifying residents of North Carolina who have a reading or print disability. SLNC Government and Heritage Library is a hybrid library that is the permanent repository for state government publications, and collects and provides information about North Carolina government, history, culture, people, and environment. SLNC Library Development provides services to libraries across North Carolina, including the administration of state and federal grants, continuing education, a library catalog and resource sharing consortia, certification for public librarians, and statewide library programs and services. SLNC Administration includes administrative support, budget, the human resources liaison, and the communications team for the State Library.

All sections of the State Library of North Carolina serve individuals or institutions across all 100 North Carolina counties.



Between July 2022 and June 2024, SLNC Accessible Books & Library Services (ABLS) continued to serve patrons in all 100 North Carolina counties, increased the size of its collections, increased use among patrons, and introduced new technologies at no cost to the patron. It provided outreach throughout the state to spread the word about its available services. It also conducted a robust volunteer program that helped in many ways, particularly, by creating audio recordings of North Carolina books and magazines in the library's own studios.

Public services provided customer service tailored to patron requests via phone, email, chat service, and in-person visits.

During the course of these two years, ABLS collaborated with numerous other institutions. for programming and outreach and provided unique programming such as a writing contest and seasonal reading programs for adults and children. To focus on young patrons, ABLS hosted a regional braille literacy competition through the Braille Challenge in February 2023 and February 2024.

Overview of Services

State Library of North Carolina's Accessible Books & Library Services (ABLS) provides library materials, programs, and services free of charge to people with visual, physical, or reading disabilities that prevent them from using standard print books. It served approximately 10,000 individuals of all ages and institutions statewide. This library belongs to a national network of libraries coordinated by the Library of Congress's National Library Service for the Blind & Print Disabled (NLS).

The Collection

As of June 2024, the ABLS collection included 160,919 titles. This extensive collection provided the types of books one would find in a public library: genres such as literary novels, science fiction novels, mysteries, and general nonfiction in audio, braille, and large print formats for those unable to use standard print books. Over 10,000 titles in different formats were added in each of the two fiscal years covered in this report.

The collection also included a wide range of literature available in languages other than English, such as Spanish, French, Russian, Hindi, Navajo, Japanese, Hebrew, Chinese, and Swahili. The library distributed books, magazines, and equipment via the US Postal Service's Free Matter for the Blind program, and there was no charge to patrons for returning items through US mail.

Audio books and magazines were also distributed electronically through a digital system called **Braille and Audio Reading Download (BARD)**.



A stack of talking books organized in the ABLS warehouse

North Carolina Books and Magazines



An ABLS staff member working on a talking book project at the in-house studio

The ABLS library building included two inhouse studios where volunteers recorded books and magazines about North Carolina, books by North Carolina writers, and North Carolina magazines. Magazines included: Carolina Country; Our State: Celebrating North Carolina; North Carolina Historical Review; and Wildlife in North Carolina. The studios also recorded Tar Heel Talk, the SLNC ABLS newsletter.

Public Services

SLNC ABLS had five full-time reader advisors, and a four-person Patron Processing unit to handle transactions with patrons and the public from across the state. Patron Processing primarily handled patron applications and patron record updates. Reader advisors provided customer service in-person and via phone calls, emails, chat service, and US mail correspondence; they also selected books for patrons tailored to each patron's preferences.

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Public Services Stats, 2022-2023

2023-2024

Technology



A talking book player (left) and cartridge inside a mailing case.

Audio Devices

Patrons had several options for listening to audio books:

- Digital players that played audio books from cartridges mailed to patrons and loaded with eight or more books per cartridge, and/or books downloaded from BARD onto thumb drives.
- Android phones, iPhones, iPads, or Kindle Fire devices that played audio books using free apps designed for them.
- Windows PCs, using BARD Express, an application that allowed them to download and listen to titles.



The BARD Mobile app displayed on an iPhone

Braille E-Readers

Zoomax braille e-reader devices were provided by National Library Service for the Blind and Print Disabled through ABLS for any patron who requested them. In 2023/24, ABLS sent out over 200 e-readers. These e-readers had tiny tactile pins that moved up and down mechanically to form braille words

so that a patron could access braille e-books and magazines using the BARD system, which made available over 16,000 braille titles.

Volunteer and Outreach Services

Volunteers



An ABLS staff member engaging with a family at a public event

The ABLS volunteer program coordinated the volunteers who recorded books and magazines, assisted with braille production of materials, performed administrative work, and helped with mailings.



ABLS volunteers at the 2024 Volunteer Recognition Luncheon

In Fiscal Year 2022/23, a total of 65 volunteers worked 3,373 hours. Twenty studio volunteers recorded 34 magazines, six digital books, and four online newsletters.

In Fiscal Year 2023/24, a total of 65 volunteers worked a total of 4,154 hours. 34 studio volunteers recorded 50 magazines and eight digital books and four online newsletters.

Through funding from the Friends of ABLS organization, the library co-hosted a volunteer recognition luncheon both years to recognize the volunteers for their work.

Outreach

ABLS staff included two positions dedicated to outreach activities: an Outreach Librarian and an Outreach Specialist.

Between 2022-2024, the Outreach Specialist provided presentations throughout the state virtually and in-person at Division of Services for the Blind Daily Living Skills events, retirement communities, and public libraries. He attended low vision resource

fairs and low vision group meetings as well. He also provided tours to numerous groups, including new public library directors at the State Library's New Public Library Orientation. During the 2023/2024 fiscal year, he spoke to approximately 226 people.

He provided presentations at conferences for the North Carolina Library Association, NC Chapters of the National Federation of the Blind in Charlotte and the North Carolina Council of the Blind's at-large virtual group, and also in-person at that organization's annual meeting in Greensboro.

In summer 2024, SLNC ABLS Volunteer and Outreach Services hosted an intern through the 2024 Historically Black Colleges and Universities/Minority Institutions of Higher Education (HBCU/MIHE) Summer Internship Program. She provided support to volunteers, contributed to the ABLS newsletter, reached out to potential community organizations that could benefit from ABLS service, and also participated in outreach events, including the Summer Reading Kickoff.

Braille Challenge

On February 11, 2023, ABLS hosted its first Eastern North Carolina Braille Challenge.



Participants at the 2024 Eastern NC Braille Challenge at the School for the Blind

This event was part of a national braille literacy competition organized by the Braille Institute in California. The Eastern North Carolina event was held at the NC Department of Natural and Cultural Resources building in Raleigh. In addition to the competition itself, the event included programs for parents/ guardians about summer activities available to students and featured a visit by animals from the North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences. Twelve students attended, along with parents, and over thirty volunteers. Student scores are compared nationally, so students at each competition aren't only competing against the individuals at their location, but against all who are participating across the country. One participant at the 2023 Eastern North Carolina Braille Challenge went on to the national competition in 2023.

On February 19, 2024, ABLS hosted its second Eastern North Caroline Braille Challenge at the Governor Morehead School in Raleigh. With the help of over thirty volunteers from Governor Morehead School, NC Department

of Natural & Cultural Resources, and NC Services for the Blind. 21 contestants participated, and one student from this group was among the highest scorers nationally for her age group. She later attended the National Braille Challenge event in California was awarded second place nationally.



A Braille Challenge participant walking through a cane tunnel

Seasonal and Monthly Programs

Book Discussion Groups

ABLS staff led two monthly book discussion groups, one hybrid in-person/virtual group in Raleigh and another by conference call with a group in the Charlotte area.

Seasonal Reading Programs

ABLS hosted Summer Reading and Winter Reading contests both years. The Friends of ABLS provided prizes to top readers and those who read above a certain number of books for these contests.

Writing Contest

A contest for best original stories, novel excerpts, poems, songs, and more was organized by the library. The Friends of ABLS provided prizes for the top award winners. The top three award winning pieces and the honorable mentions had their work recorded in the ABLS recording studios and the collection of pieces were made available through the library as circulating audio materials.

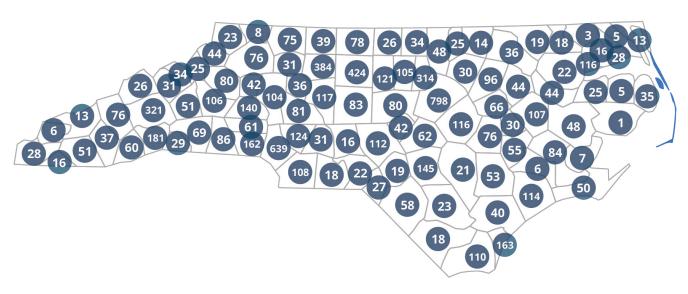
Collaborations

Programs and outreach activities offered opportunities for collaborating with other groups who work with existing and potential SLNC ABLS patrons. During both years, ABLS collaborated with several organizations, including Governor Morehead School for the Blind, Braille Institute, Eye Shine Foundation, and North Carolina Division of Services for the Blind.

ABLS also partnered with North Carolina Reading Service for the podcast Heard Any Good Books Lately? Through this podcast, the most popular books checked out of the library were discussed. It included book reviews from sources such as the Raleigh News & Observer book section and The Week Magazine. The podcast was linked to the SLNC ABLS website and was also available on the North Carolina Reading Service's website.

ABLS PATRONS PER COUNTY

AS OF MAY 2024



Caption: The ABLS Patrons per County chart illustrates patrons per county as of May 2024. See this chart's source data and details below.

- Alamance, 119
- Alexander, 41
- Alleghany, 7
- Anson, 19
- Ashe, 24
- Avery, 25
- Beaufort, 50
- Bertie, 23
- · Bladen, 22
- Brunswick, 100
- Buncombe, 314
- Burke, 102
- Cabarrus, 125
- Caldwell, 83
- Camden, 5
- Carteret, 58
- · Caswell, 26
- Catawba, 130
- Chatham, 80

- · Cherokee, 28
- Chowan, 15
- Clay, 15
- Cleveland, 86
- Columbus, 17
- Craven, 82
- Cumberland, 149
- Currituck, 15
- Dare, 36
- Davidson, 120
- Davie, 33
- Duplin, 53
- Durham, 305
- Edgecombe, 43
- Forsyth, 376
- Franklin, 32
- Gaston, 164
- Gates, 3
- Graham, 6

- Granville, 55
- Greene, 30
- Guilford, 424
- Halifax, 36
- Harnett, 59
- Haywood, 79
- Henderson, 177
- Hertford, 17
- Hoke, 22
- Hyde, 1
- Iredell, 102
- Jackson, 33
- Johnston, 114
- Jones, 6
- Lee, 38
- Lenoir, 55
- Lincoln, 57
- Macon. 54
- Madison, 55

- Martin, 30
- McDowell, 45
- Mecklenburg, 637
- Mitchell, 35
- Montgomery, 16
- Moore, 107
- Nash, 93
- New Hanover, 152
- Northampton, 20
- Onslow, 117
- Orange, 104
- Pamlico, 8
- Pasquotank, 26
- Pender, 42
- Perquimans, 14
- Person, 33
- Pitt, 103
- Polk, 27
- Randolph, 81

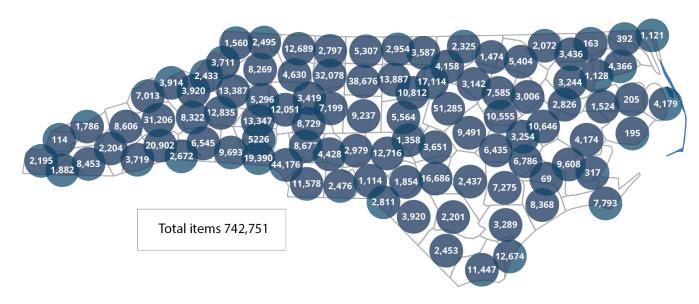
- Richmond, 20
- Robeson, 52
- Rockingham, 75
- Rowan, 79
- Rutherford, 68
- Sampson, 20
- Scotland, 26
- Stanly, 29
- Stokes, 38

- Surry, 74
- Swain, 13
- Transylvania, 59
- Tyrrell, 5
- Union, 104
- Vance, 27
- Wake, 831
- Warren, 13
- Washington, 26

- Watauga, 44
- Wayne, 75
- Wilkes, 76
- · Wilson, 64
- Yadkin, 29
- Yancey, 37
- Totals, 7,919

ABLS CIRCULATION PER COUNTY

JUNE 2023 - JUNE 2024



Caption: The ABLS Circulation per County chart illustrates circulated materials per county from June 2023 to June 2024. See this chart's source data below:

- Alamance, 13,887
- Alexander, 5,296
- Alleghany, 2,495
- Anson, 2,476
- Ashe, 1,560
- Avery, 2,433
- Beaufort, 4,174
- Bertie, 3,244
- Bladen, 2,201

- Brunswick, 11,447
- Buncombe, 31,206
- Burke, 12,835
- Cabarrus, 8,677
- Caldwell, 13,387
- Camden, 392
- Carteret, 7,793
- Caswell, 2,954
- Catawba, 13,347

- Chatham, 5,564
- Cherokee, 2,195
- Chowan, 1,128
- Clay, 1,882
- Cleveland, 9,693
- Columbus, 2,453
- Craven, 9,608
- Cumberland, 16,686
- Currituck, 1,121

- Dare, 4,179
- Davidson, 7,199
- Davie, 3,419
- Duplin, 7,275
- Durham, 17,114
- Edgecombe, 3,006
- Forsyth, 32,078
- Franklin, 3,142
- Gaston, 19,390

- Gates, 163
- Graham, 114
- Granville, 4,158
- Greene, 3,254
- Guilford, 38,676
- Halifax, 5,404
- Harnett, 3,651
- Haywood, 8,606
- Henderson, 20,902
- Hertford, 3,436
- Hoke, 1,854
- Hyde, 195
- Iredell, 12,051
- Jackson, 2,204
- Johnston, 9,491
- Jones, 69
- Lee, 1,358
- Lenoir, 6,786
- Lincoln, 5,226
- Macon, 8,453
- Madison, 7,013
- Martin, 2,826
- McDowell, 8,322
- Mecklenburg, 44,176

- Mitchell, 3,920
- Montgomery, 2,979
- Moore, 12,716
- Nash, 7,585
- New Hanover, 12,674
- Northampton, 2,072
- Onslow, 8,368
- Orange, 10,812
- Pamlico, 317
- Pasquotank, 2,182
- Pender, 3,289
- Perquimans, 2,184
- Person, 3,587
- Pitt, 10,646
- Polk, 2,672
- Randolph, 9,237
- Richmond, 1,114
- Robeson, 3,920
- Rockingham, 5,307
- Rowan, 8,729
- Rutherford, 6,545
- Sampson, 2,437
- Scotland, 2,811
- Stanly, 4,428

- Stokes, 2,797
- Surry, 12,689
- Swain, 1,786
- Transylvania, 3,719
- Tyrrell, 205
- Union, 11,578
- Vance, 2,325
- Wake, 51,285
- Warren, 1,474
- Washington, 1,524
- Watauga, 3,711
- Wayne, 6,435
- Wilkes, 8,269
- Wilson, 10,555
- Yadkin, 4,630
- Yancey, 3,914
- Totals, 742,751



The State Library of North Carolina's **Government and Heritage Library** (GHL) is a hybrid library that offers in-person and virtual library services and collections.

Between 2022-2024, the library provided direct reference and information services and resources to support the operational needs of state government and research needs of the public related to North Carolina government, history, demographics, statistics, and cultural heritage, including family history. It served as the permanent repository for state agency publications and collected, preserved, and provided public access to current and historical state publications in print and digital formats. SLNC GHL served as a coordinating agency of the State Data Center, responsible for providing direct reference and research services, access tools, and training for librarians, state employees, and the public related to state demographic and statistical data.

SLNC GHL has been comprised of two branches: **Content and Information Delivery** (reference and access services, outreach

and education, and digital information management services) and Content Management and Access (cataloging, collection development, State Publications Clearinghouse, and acquisitions). SLNC GHL was an active member of NC Cardinal, (see page 16 for additional information about NC Cardinal) a consortium of North Carolina public libraries that share an online catalog and integrated library system (ILS) and share resources with member libraries.

Digital Collections and Digital Initiatives



The NC Digital Collections website home page

The library collaborated with the State Archives of North Carolina on shared digital collections (NC Digital Collections), state government agency website archiving, and digital preservation. One of the major initiatives this biennium was the move of the digital collections from one digital asset management system (CONTENTdm) to another (Quartex). The reason for the migration was that Quartex is a more accessible, searchable, and user-friendly platform.

In moving the digital materials to a new platform, all of the URLs for individual publications changed. As such, this resulted in a lower number of pageviews for the collections for FY2022-23 and FY2023-24 than in previous years. The total pageviews were 6,198,891. It was several months before search engines like Google were able to fully index the site. To help ensure the digital publications remained accessible, library staff updated the approximately 12,000 URLs in the library's online catalog and other tools to provide access points to the digital publications. Additionally, staff provided lists of the new state publications' URLs to State Publications Clearinghouse depository libraries so they could similarly replace links in their online catalogs.

Work to digitize and make additional state documents available online continued, and 144,309 pages were digitized between July 2022 and June 2024. Through a collaborative project with the North Carolina Legislative

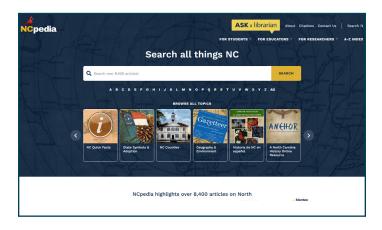
Library, SLNC GHL staff began to digitize superseded state statutes and added them to the North Carolina Digital Collections.

North Carolina Website and Social Media Archives

State government agency websites and social media were preserved and made available through the North Carolina Website and Social Media Archives (https://www.webarchives.ncdcr.gov). The North Carolina Website and Social Media Archives website received 13,173 pageviews, and the archived sites themselves had 358,458 pageviews between July 2022 and June 2024.

The digital storage originally purchased for digital preservation for the SLNC GHL and State Archives was at end of life in this biennium. As the teams investigated new solutions, the storage had a catastrophic failure. Fortunately, the Library and Archives utilized a cloud based digital preservation system and service, and the no archived digital publications managed by SLNC GHL were lost.

NCpedia and ANCHOR



The NCpedia online encylopedia home page

NCpedia and ANCHOR (A North Carolina History Online Resource) proved to be heavily used resources for students, educators, and researchers. The sites had 9,554,269 visitors to the over 8,000 articles available. The content management system used for NCpedia and ANCHOR required updating, and the sites needed improved functionality in order to be fully accessible on mobile devices. SLNC GHL contracted with a third party vendor to update the content management system and redesign the sites. This initiative was not completed until December 2024 (beyond the biennium covered.)

Outreach, Education, and Reference



A GHL staff member sharing an interactive state trivia display with visitors at a public event

Coming out of the pandemic, GHL continued to offer both virtual and in person programming. Additionally, staff presented at and attended 102 educational events reaching 3,798 individuals. Recordings of virtual

presentations by GHL were also made available for on-demand viewing through the SLNC Academy, offered through the Niche Academy platform."

(See page 20 for additional information about the SLNC Academy.)

SLNC GHL provided reference service to 8,414 patrons through email, chat, and walk-in service. It issued 10,525 library cards to North Carolina residents. The card enabled patrons not only to check materials out of the GHL, but also provided online access to subscription databases that allowed for off-site access.

SLNC GHL participated in the Department of Natural and Cultural Resources's America 250 Committee to plan for the commemoration of the 250th anniversary of the American Revolution. Planning started in advance of the anniversary date in order to highlight the state's deep resources about its role in the Revolution.



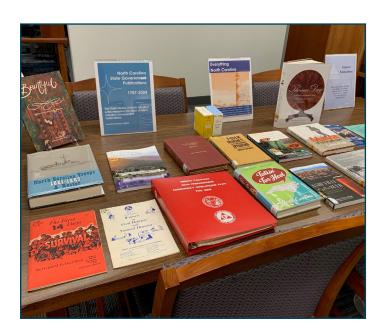
GHL staff members hosting NC Trivia Night with state of NC trivia afficianados at the Raleigh Times

Excel High School

The SLNC GHL managed scholarships to Excel High School, an online, accredited high school program for adults wishing to return to school to complete a high school diploma. Excel High School offered unlimited tutoring and educational resources in a large number of languages. The State Library began providing scholarships in the fall of 2023 through a grant through Library Services and Technology Act funds from the Institute of Museum and Library Services. Thirty scholarships were available to applicants in Wayne, Halifax, Northampton, and Hertford Counties. The scholarships went quickly, and interest was expressed from across the state. As such, the Department of Natural and Cultural Resources was able to direct additional funds to obtain another 130 scholarships to offer to North Carolina residents interested in the program.

Scholarship recipients were able to use online resources from the SLNC GHL and from their local public libraries to assist with their studies. The public libraries in New Hanover, Wayne, and Halifax counties hosted graduation ceremonies so program graduates in their areas could celebrate completing their education and obtaining their diploma with family and friends. As of June 2023, 11 scholarship recipients had graduated and earned their diplomas through the Excel High School program. As of June 2023, there were 72 scholarship recipients enrolled and actively pursuing their diplomas, and 38 working through the required prework in order to enroll.

Collections



A Display of North Carolina State Government publications, and a display on "All Things North Carolina" at the GHL

SLNC GHL purchased titles related to North Carolina culture, history, and genealogy. Print and digital state government publications continued to be collected and added. This resulted in more than 4700 new titles being added to the SLNC GHL holdings between July 2022 and June 2024.

Some SLNC GHL materials had to remain onsite and could not be loaned. Over 27,000 items were used onsite by researchers during this period.

To ensure its collections were available to all North Carolina residents, SLNC GHL loaned materials through the **NC Cardinal consortium and interlibrary loan services**.

Over 8,400 items were loaned from SLNC GHL

to individuals, either directly from the library, through resource sharing with NC Cardinal, or through interlibrary loan. Items were loaned to individuals in at least 65 counties in North Carolina.



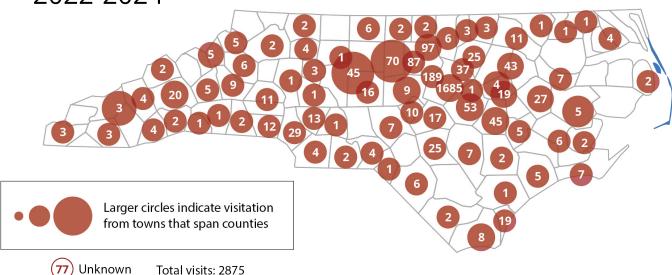
A snapshot of GHL's collection of rarest titles

Electronic Resources

SLNC GHL licensed additional databases from AM Digital and other vendors related to early history. These databases included digitized resources about American Indian histories and culture, American Indian newspapers, American history, historical newspapers, slavery and abolition, frontier life, and life at sea. Other popular subscription databases remained available through SLNC GHL related to historical research, including Ancestry Library Edition, Fold3, JSTOR, New York Amsterdam News, and more. Between July 2022 and June 2024, the library had 515,846 pageviews of its subscription electronic databases.

GOVERNMENT & HERITAGE LIBRARY IN-PERSON VISITORS

2022-2024



Caption: Government and Heritage Library In-Person Visitors, 2022-2024 illustrates in-person visitors to the Government and Heritage Library from towns and cities across North Carolina. See source data on the next page.

Unknown, 77	Durham County, 1	Hillsborough, 13	Mills River, 1
Aberdeen, 4	Durham, 1	Hillsbourough, 1	Mint Hill, 3
Ahoskie, 1	Ebony, 1	Holly Springs, 19	Mocksville, 3
Angier, 10	Eden, 1	Hope Mills, 2	Montrose, 1
Apex, 72	Efland , 1	Hubert, 1	Mooreseville, 1
Asheboro, 9	Elizabeth City, 3	Hudson, 3	Morehead City, 1
Asheville, 15	Ellenboro, 1	Huntersville, 1	Morganton, 7
Bahama, 2	Ellerbe, 1	Huntsville, 1	Morrisvile, 1
Beaufort, 4	Elm City, 4	Jackson County, 1	Morrisville, 7
Belmont, 1	Emerald Isle, 1	Jacksonville, 3	Mt. Airy, 2
Benson, 4	Faison, 1	Jamesville, 3	Mt. Holly, 4
Blowing Rock , 1	Farmville, 3	Jonas Ridge, 2	Murphy, 2
Boone, 4	Fayetteville, 22	Kenly, 2	Nags Head, 2
Brevard, 4	Fayettville, 1	Kernersville, 3	Nashville, 3
Buies Creek, 5	Four Oaks, 1	King, 1	New Bern, 6
Burgaw, 1	Franklin, 3	Kinston, 3	New Hill, 2
Burlington, 9	Franklinton, 1	Knightdale, 24	New London, 1
Butner, 1	Fuquay, 2	La Grange, 2	Newland, 2
Cameron, 1	Fuquay Varina, 3	Laurenburg, 2	Newport, 1
Candler, 3	Fuquay-Varina, 49	Laurinburg, 1	Newton Grove, 2
Canton, 1	Gainsville, 1	Leland, 1	Oak Ridge, 5
Carrboro, 11	Garland, 1	Lenoir, 3	Old Fort, 1
Cary, 189	Garner, 61	Lexington, 2	Orange, 1
Chapel Hill, 60	Gastonia, 7	Llano, 1	Oxford, 3
Charlotte, 23	Gates, 1	Louisburg, 3	Peachland, 2
Chattanooga, 1	Goldsboro, 44	Lumberton, 2	Pembroke, 3
Cherokee, 1	Graham, 6	Macclesfield, 1	Pikeville, 1
Chocowinity, 1	Greensboro, 25	Macon, 1	Pine Level, 1
Claremont, 1	Greenville, 21	Madison, 3	Pinehurst, 1
Clayton, 27	Hamlet, 1	Maggie Valley, 3	Pittsboro, 7
Coats, 1	Hamptonville , 2	Marion, 4	Pleasant Garden, 2
Columbus, 1	Harrisburg, 2	Mars Hill, 2	Raleigh, 1416
Concord, 11	Henderson, 3	Mebane, 17	Ramseur, 2
Cornelius, 2	Hendersonville, 1	Micro, 1	Randleman, 5
Davenport, 1	Henrico, 1	midd level, 1	Reidsville, 2
Denver, 4	Hertford, 1	Middlesex, 13	Richlands, 1
Dunn, 1	Hickory, 6	Middlsex, 2	Riegelwood, 2
Durham, 93	High Point, 13	Millers Creek, 1	Roanoke Rapids, 8

Robersonville, 3
Rockingham, 2
Rocky Mount, 7
Rolesville, 3
Rougemont, 1
Salisbury, 1
Sampson County, 2

Sampson County, 2 Sanford, 10 Santa Rosa, 2 Shallotte, 1 Shannon, 1 Shelby, 2 Siler City, 2 Smithfield, 17 Snow Camp, 3 South Port, 1

Stem, 2

Southport, 1

Spruce Pine, 1

Sugar Mountain, 2 Summerfield, 3 Supply, 2

Tallahassee, 2
Tarboro, 2
Teachey, 2
Timberlake, 2
Vandemere, 2
Wake County, 1
Wake Forest, 37

Wake Forest, 37 Warrenton, 2 Washington, 4 Waxhaw, 2 Weaverville, 2 Wendell, 18

Wesley Chapel, 1 West End, 1 Whatham, 1 Whitakers, 15 Whittier, 2

Wilksboro, 1

Williamston, 1

Willow Springs, 1 Wilmington, 18

Wilson, 19 Winnabow, 2

Winston-Salem, 27

Winterville, 3

Wrightsville Beach, 1

Yadkinville, 1 Yanceyville, 2 Youngsville, 21

Zebulon, 7

Total: 2888



The **SLNC Library Development** (LD) section provided support, resources, and services to help libraries across the state in meeting the needs of their communities as those needs evolved through project development and management, consulting services, and grant administration. Consultants provided their expertise in the following areas: adult services and digital literacy; continuing education; data analysis and communications; federal programs; public library management; and youth services. LD administered grant funds appropriated by the state to the Aid for Public Libraries fund, and by the federal Institute of Museum and Library Services through the Library Services and Technology Act Grant to States program. LD also managed the NC Cardinal library catalog and resource sharing consortium.

LD provided resources and training to library staff statewide related to current community issues, such as workforce development, community literacy, digital skills, and more. LD also provided access to hundreds of on-

demand learning opportunities and live learning sessions, in addition to supporting the state's library workforce by awarding scholarships for local library staff to attend library conferences and professional development opportunities. LD also facilitated information sharing and community building among library staff by facilitating 12 listservs and via a public newsletter.

LD Program Highlights

Federal Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) Grants

90 libraries across the state were awarded a total of \$5,565,416 in grant funds from the State Library of North Carolina with funds from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) through the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) to support new or expanded library programs and services, as well as limited ongoing projects. The grants were awarded based on criteria that advanced

the State Library of North Carolina's goals of Community Engagement, Equitable Access, and Responsive Organizations. These projects supported the critical work of libraries, including developing adult literacy programs, providing learning opportunities for health and wellness, creating welcoming spaces for neurodiverse individuals, and broadening access to materials through digitization and preservation.

Committed to supporting the state's library workforce, the State Library awarded \$150,336 in scholarship grants for 83 local library staff to attend library conferences and professional development opportunities from July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2024.

- Mini-Grants Community Partnerships for Literacy Mini-Grants supported the creation of literacy and learning centers in local community places. In collaboration with community partners such as shelters, hair salons, laundromats, and social services offices, libraries fostered an environment of familial and intergenerational learning in their communities. The State Library of North Carolina awarded eight projects in April 2024, totaling \$65,982.00.
- Project Grant Mini-Grants Project Grant mini-grants supported Project Grant & nutrition programming for North Carolina's public libraries. This opportunity funded grants to public libraries to purchase

mobile teaching kitchens, supplemental programming materials, and appropriate safety supplies. The State Library of North Carolina awarded eleven projects in December 2022, totaling \$166,945.00.



Funded by a Community Parternship for Literacy Mini-grant, the Davidson Literacy Center project was a collaboration between the Davidson County Public Library and the Davidson County Department of Social Services. The grant funded two literacy centers, (pictured above) located within Social Services facilities, and provided furnishings, educational toys, and books.



Funded by a Community Partnership for Literacy Mini-Grant, Neuse Regional Libraries worked with the Friends of the Homeless Shelter to establish an Early Literacy space for unhoused families. This space (pictured above) included technology with learning software in both English and Spanish specifically for ages 2-8, shelving and books at PreK-3 levels, and manipulatives to encourage creativity and foster motor skills development.

Public Librarian Certification

The NC Public Librarian Certification Commission certified 248 public librarians between July 2022 and June 2024. Commission meetings were held quarterly to review applications and discuss Certification policies and procedures.

NC Cardinal

The NC Cardinal online library catalog and resource sharing consortium allowed NC residents to search the collections of all

member libraries and seamlessly request materials be delivered to their local library. The shared, integrated library system software facilitated access to 8 million items held in the collections of 53 participating public libraries serving 65 counties. More than 22 million items were checked out between July 1, 2022 and June 30, 2024 and more than 1.2 million items were shared among member libraries through resource sharing.

Southeast Collaborative Conference

The State Library of North Carolina partnered with the state library agencies in Georgia, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Virginia to host the 5th annual Southeast Collaborative Online Conference March 14-16, 2024. This event was hosted via the WHOVA conference app and provided access to 21 pre-recorded webinars on various library topics. 1,527 people from around the world attended the event. All webinars were recorded and could be watched on -demand via the conference YouTube channel.

SLNC Academy

The State Library of North Carolina's continuing education program utilized a learning management platform called Niche Academy to make recorded webinars and other learning resources available on-demand through a site called SLNC Academy, which had 118,637 views from July 2022 to June

2024. Content was added on a monthly basis to further support learning and professional development for library staff.

Aid to Public Libraries Fund

In 2023, the Aid to Public Libraries Fund had its largest increase since inception (1941) of \$3.7 million in recurring funds. This brought the annual appropriation up to \$18 million. The Aid to Public Libraries fund provided support to 84 eligible public library systems "to improve, stimulate, increase and equalize public library service to the people of the whole State." (NCGS §125-7).

Funds were distributed to all qualifying public libraries through the Aid to Public Libraries Funds in by FY2022-23 and FY2023-24.

State Fiscal Recovery Funds (SFRF) Aid to Public Libraries

In 2021 the North Carolina General Assembly allocated \$10 million of the American Rescue Plan State Fiscal Recovery Funds (SFRF) from the U.S. Department of the Treasury that had come to North Carolina to be distributed to public libraries that qualify for State Aid to Public Libraries.

Initial disbursements went to all 84 qualifying public library systems between 2022-2024, once Memorandum of Agreements were in place with the library systems. A final disbursement from the funds is scheduled to be distributed in FY2024/25.

Digital Readiness Grant, Governor's Emergency Education Relief (GEER) Fund

The following information is extracted or summarized from: Alcantara, J, & Davis, R. (2023). Andrea Harris Task Force Digital Readiness Grant Progress Year 2. North Carolina State University.

The goal of the Digital Readiness grant funded project was to provide lifelong learning services to individuals in need through their local libraries' use of Digital Navigators. The Andrea Harris Task Force allocated funds to the State Library to be administered to libraries to provide digital navigation services through libraries in targeted areas of North Carolina.

During 2021-2022 the Digital Navigator pilot program implemented the Digital Literacy Toolkit in three county libraries (Hoke, Iredell, and Duplin).

During year two (2022-2023), Duplin County Library, Fontana Regional Library (serving Jackson, Macon, and Swain counties), Iredell County Public Library, Sandhill Regional Library (serving Anson, Hoke, Montgomery, Moore, and Richmond counties) and Wilson County Library participated. Program activities included the hiring of digital navigators, providing digital devices to the community, and providing training on digital skills to communities using Northstar Digital Literacy. There were challenges experienced by participating libraries as well as in the

State Library. Some participating libraries experienced difficulty in hiring qualified digital navigators, so program implementation was delayed. At the State Library, turnover in key program management positions impacted program support for participating libraries. However, libraries were able to provide some devices or services to patrons, and successfully delivered digital skills trainings. One library in particular, Iredell County Library, created a partnership with a charter school that led to success throughout year two in teaching digital skills and providing digital devices that would benefit students and the school in years to come.

Fontana Regional Library was able to use the resources provided through the grant to support the Spanish-speaking community, strengthening the relationship between the community and Digital Navigator.

NorthStar Digital Literacy

This resource was offered in public libraries through a license funded by the State Library of North Carolina, and it provided essential digital literacy learning for adults, helping North Carolina residents evaluate and identify gaps in digital skills, and providing self-paced lessons to meet accepted digital literacy standards.

NorthStar's digital literacy assessments covered essential areas where users can earn certificates, demonstrating their competency

in Essential Computer Skills, Essential Software Skills, and Using Technology in Daily Life. These tools were ideal for libraries planning digital skills classes, digital navigator services, or those wanting to proctor NorthStar assessments and offer self-directed learning options for patrons. Furthermore, the self-directed learning and assessments also provided an excellent option for staff professional development, supporting libraries in creating a tech-savvy workforce.

Libraries across North Carolina had seen significant engagement and success with NorthStar Digital Literacy. From July 1, 2022, to June 30, 2024, 1,409 unique learners accessed the NorthStar from 40 public library locations. During this period, learners completed 2,289 hours of online learning and passed 5,477 assessments with a score of 85% or better. Additionally, the program had awarded 981 certificates to proctored learner assessments.

As participation in NorthStar Digital Literacy grew, public libraries statewide continued to foster digital literacy and skills development, empowering North Carolinians to succeed in an increasingly digital world.

Springshare LibGuides

This resource was offered to public and community college libraries through a license funded by the State library of North Carolina, and it is a tool that allows public and community college library staff to create and

share online content, making library resources and services more accessible to users. LibGuides is an easy-to-use platform that supported libraries in offering information in web and mobile-friendly formats, even serving as a full website solution for some. With varying levels of technical expertise across libraries, LibGuides ensured consistent, professional online access to programs and resources. This platform helped libraries stay relevant in the digital age, connecting communities to essential information and services.

Collaborative Summer Library Program (CSLP)

The State Library of North Carolina collaborated with the Collaborative Summer Library Program (CSLP), a nonprofit organization that supports literacy, education, and science through summer reading events in public libraries across the United States. Through this partnership, state library agencies and other entities developed a unified and high-quality promotional and programming product for summer learning. North Carolina libraries had access to the same artwork, incentives and publicity materials, in addition to an extensive manual of programming and promotional ideas. By combining resources and working to produce materials designed for CSLP members, public libraries in participating states or systems purchased posters, reading logs, bookmarks, certificates and a variety of reading incentives

at significant savings.

ReadSquared

This resource was offered to public libraries through a license funded by the State Library of North Carolina. ReadSquared is a fully customizable software and content solution for libraries to help boost patron engagement, elevate visibility of summer reading programs, and generate valuable engagement reports. Public library staff utilized this resource to create their own book lists and link them directly to their library catalog, as well as programs that include gamified elements, curriculum-aligned missions, and leaderboards. Public library users participated in online reading programs, such as 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten and Summer Library reading challenges.

LD Data July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2024

- Orchestrated the expansion and daily management of the NC Cardinal Consortium, which made the combined resources of participating public libraries available through a shared catalog, and added 3 library systems between July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2024 to cover 65 counties serving 4,806,303 residents or 44% of residents. During this period, NC Cardinal facilitated the borrowing of 22,022,687 items and shipped 1,189,514 items between member libraries.
- Distributed \$42,097,467 in state and

- federal funds from sources other than Institute of Museum and Library Services to public libraries impacting all 100 counties from July 1, 2022- June 30, 2024.
- Provided access to hundreds of ondemand learning opportunities through subscription services and SLNC hosted 53 live events (online and in-person) with 572 live attendees from July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2024.
- Facilitated information sharing and community building among 1,678 library staff across 12 listservs and a public newsletter viewed over 67,000 times.
- LD administered federal funds through grant awards, made possible by funding from the federal Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA). LSTA grants were awarded in response to specific needs of public, academic and community college libraries. These federal funds were investments that helped libraries deliver relevant and up-to-date services to their communities.

In the last certified federal fiscal year, October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2023, LD leveraged \$4,553,963 federal funds to provide:

- \$1,276,563 in subgrants to libraries serving 54 counties. These subgrants supported work towards locally identified needs and helped secure an additional \$263,758 in local matching funds to support library service
- \$3,277,400 dollars towards statewide

services resulting in:

- Digitization and digital access services through support of the Digital Heritage Center
- Lifelong learning and literacy support through NC Cardinal Library consortium, NC Kids e-materials consortium, and NorthStar Digital Literacy training
- Enhanced quality and capacity of local library services through the NC Cardinal consortium, professional development for library staff including new director orientations, Springshare LibGuides, Gale Analytics, and ReadSquared, all of which increase access to information and services to NC residents.

LD Service Engagement between July 1, 2022 and June 30, 2024**

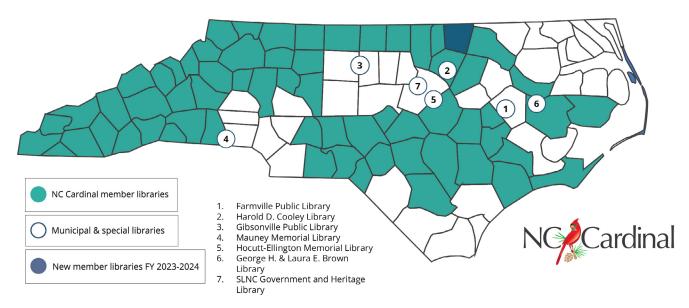
- 62% public libraries were NC Cardinal members.
- 100% Community College libraries and 91% public libraries used Springshare's LibGuides through SLNC's subscription.
- 48% of public libraries used Collaborative Summer Learning Program materials and resources during their last summer program.
- 68% of public libraries utilized
 ReadSquared to track participation in
 reading programs, challenges and more.
- 62% of public libraries made Northstar digital literacy learning available through

SLNC's subscription.

- 73% of public libraries, 21% of community college libraries, and 21% of 4-year academic libraries received a LSTA sub-grant.
- ** Based on 84 public libraries, 58 community college libraries, and 53 4-year academic libraries.

NC CARDINAL MEMBER LIBRARIES

AS OF JUNE 2024



Caption: The NC Cardinal Member Libraries chart illustrates NC Cardinal Member Libraries as of June 2024. See the list of member libaries below.

- **Burke County**
- Caldwell County
- **Carteret County**
- Caswell County
- Harold D. Cooley Library
- **Cleveland County**
- **Cumberland County**
- **Davidson County**
- **Davie County**
- **Duplin County**
- Farmville Public Library
- Fontana Regional Library
- Forsyth County
- Franklin County
- Gibsonville Public Library
- **Granville County**

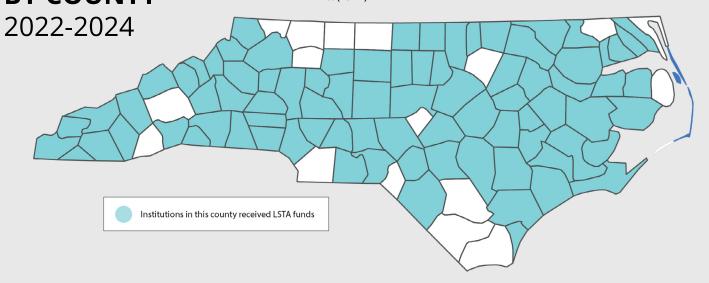
- Halifax County
- Harnett County
- **Haywood County**
- **Henderson County**
- **Hocutt-Ellington Memorial** Library
- **Iredell County**
- Johnston County
- Lee County
- Madison County
- Mauney Memorial Public Library
- McDowell County
- Nantahala Regional Library
- Neuse Regional Library
- Northwestern Regional

- **Onslow County**
- Perry Memorial Library
- Person County
- **Polk County**
- **Robeson County**
- **Rockingham County**
- **Rutherford County**
- Sampson-Clinton
- Sandhill Regional
- **Scotland County**
- Stanly County Public Library
- State Library of NC and Affiliated Government Libraries
- Transylvania County
- Warren County
- Wayne County



LSTA FUNDS RECEIVED BY COUNTY

Grant awards were made possible by funding from the federal Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology



Caption: The LSTA Funds Received by County chart illustrates which counties received LSTA Funds. See institution, county, grant type, and award amounts below:

LSTA FUNDS RECEIVED BY INSTITUTION

2022-2024

Institution	County	Type of Grant	Award Amount
ALAMANCE COMMUNITY COLLEGE	Alamance	Project Grant	\$22,183.00
ALAMANCE COMMUNITY COLLEGE	Alamance	Scholarship Grant	\$848.00
ALAMANCE COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARIES	Alamance	Scholarship Grant	\$1,700.00
ALAMANCE COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARIES	Alamance	Scholarship Grant	\$2,500.00
ALEXANDER COUNTY LIBRARY	Alexander	Scholarship Grant	\$1,500.00
APPALACHIAN REGIONAL LIBRARY	Ashe, Watauga,	WilkesScholarship Grant	\$1,500.00
APPALACHIAN REGIONAL LIBRARY	Ashe, Watauga,	WilkesProject Grant	\$10,000.00
APPALACHIAN REGIONAL LIBRARY	Ashe, Watauga,	WilkesProject Grant	\$34,832.00
APPALACHIAN REGIONAL LIBRARY	Ashe, Watauga,	WilkesProject Grant	\$35,272.00
APPALACHIAN REGIONAL LIBRARY	Ashe, Watauga,	WilkesProject Grant	\$22,000.00
APPALACHIAN REGIONAL LIBRARY	Ashe, Watauga,	WilkesProject Grant	\$17,000.00
APPALACHIAN STATE UNIVERSITY	Watauga	Project Grant	\$25,010.00
AVERY-MITCHELL-YANCEY REGIONAL LIBRAR	Y Avery, Mitchell,	YanceyScholarship Grant	\$1,500.00
AVERY-MITCHELL-YANCEY REGIONAL LIBRAR	Y Avery, Mitchell,	YanceyScholarship Grant	\$1,500.00
AVERY-MITCHELL-YANCEY REGIONAL LIBRAR	RYAvery, Mitchell,	YanceyScholarship Grant	\$2,500.00
	Beaufort, Hyde,	,	
BEAUFORT COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE.	Tyrrell, Washing	gtonProject Grant	\$6,650.00
BHM REGIONAL LIBRARY	Beaufort, Hyde,	MartinProject Grant	\$8,650.00
BHM REGIONAL LIBRARY	Beaufort, Hyde,	MartinScholarship Grant	\$1,000.00
BRASWELL MEMORIAL PUBLIC LIBRARY	Nash, Edgecom	beProject Grant	\$9,750.00
CABARRUS COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY	Cabarrus	Scholarship Grant	\$300.00
CAPE FEAR COMMUNITY COLLEGE	New Hanover, F	PenderScholarship Grant	\$2,369.00
CARTERET COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARIES	Carteret	Project Grant	\$28,686.00
CASWELL COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY	Caswell	Project Grant	\$25,002.00

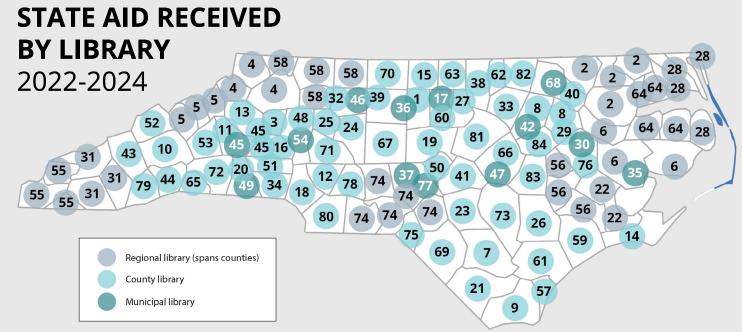
CATAWBA COLLEGE			
CATAWBA COLLEGE			
CATAWBA COUNTY LIBRARY			
CATAWBA COUNTY LIBRARY			
CATAWBA COUNTY LIBRARY	Catawba	Project Grant	\$43,659.00
CATAWBA COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY			
CHAPEL HILL PUBLIC LIBRARY			
CHAPEL HILL PUBLIC LIBRARY			
CHARLOTTE MECKLENBURG LIBRARY			
CHATHAM COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY			
CHATHAM COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY	Chatham	Project Grant	\$17,000.00
CHATHAM COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY	Chatham	Scholarship Grant	\$2,500.00
CLEVELAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE	Cleveland	Project Grant	\$52,353.00
CLEVELAND COUNTY LIBRARY	Cleveland	Project Grant	\$100,000.00
CRAVEN-PAMLICO REGIONAL LIBRARY	Craven, Pamlico	Project Grant	\$27,930.00
CRAVEN-PAMLICO REGIONAL LIBRARY			
CUMBERLAND COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY			
CUMBERLAND COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY	Cumberland	Project Grant	\$135,713.00
DAVIDSON COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY	Davidson	Scholarship Grant	\$3,000.00
DAVIDSON COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY	Davidson	Scholarship Grant	\$3,000.00
DAVIDSON COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY	Davidson	Project Grant	\$9,920.00
DAVIDSON COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY	Davidson	Project Grant	\$12,750.00
DAVIE COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY	Davie	Scholarship Grant	\$1,500.00
DUPLIN COUNTY LIBRARY	Duplin	Project Grant	\$10,000.00
DURHAM COUNTY LIBRARY			
DURHAM COUNTY LIBRARY			
EAST CAROLINA UNIVERSITY	 Pitt	Project Grant	\$49,415.00
EAST CAROLINA UNIVERSITY	 Pitt	Scholarship Grant	\$2,252.00
ELIZABETH CITY STATE UNIVERSITY	Camden, Pasquotank	Project Grant	\$60,155.00
ELIZABETH CITY STATE UNIVERSITY			
ELIZABETH CITY STATE UNIVERSITY			
FARMVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY	 Pitt	Project Grant	\$28,224.00
FONTANA REGIONAL LIBRARY			
FONTANA REGIONAL LIBRARY			
FONTANA REGIONAL LIBRARY			
FORSYTH COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY			
FORSYTH TECHNICAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE			
FORSYTH TECHNICAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE			
FORSYTH TECHNICAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE			
GARDNER-WEBB UNIVERSITY			
GASTON COLLEGE			
GASTON COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY			
GASTON COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY			
GIBSONVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY			
GIBSONVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY			
GIBSONVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY			
GRANVILLE COUNTY LIBRARY		•	•
GREENSBORO COLLEGE			
GUILFORD COLLEGE			
HALIFAX COUNTY LIBRARY			
HALIFAX COUNTY LIBRARY			
HARNETT COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY			
HARNETT COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY			
HAYWOOD COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY	Haywood	Scholarship Grant	\$1,500.00

HAYWOOD COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY	Haywood	Project Grant	\$6,576.00
HAYWOOD COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY			
HAYWOOD COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY			
HAYWOOD COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY			
HENDERSON COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY			
HICKORY PUBLIC LIBRARY			
HIGH POINT PUBLIC LIBRARY	Guilford	Project Grant	\$36,000.00
HOCUTT-ELLINGTON MEMORIAL LIBRARY			
IREDELL COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY			
LINCOLN COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY	Lincoln	Project Grant	\$41,339.00
LINCOLN COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY	Lincoln	Project Grant	\$50,000.00
MADISON COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARIES			
MADISON COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARIES	Madison	Project Grant	\$17,000.00
MADISON COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARIES			
MAUNEY MEMORIAL LIBRARY			
MAUNEY MEMORIAL LIBRARY			
MCDOWELL COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY			
MCDOWELL TECHNICAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE			
MCDOWELL TECHNICAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE	.McDowell	Scholarship Grant	\$1,878.00
METHODIST UNIVERSITY	Cumberland	Project Grant	\$7,351.00
METHODIST UNIVERSITY			
MONTGOMERY COMMUNITY COLLEGE			
MOORESVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY			
MOORESVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY	Iredell	Scholarship Grant	\$1,143.00
NANTAHALA REGIONAL LIBRARY	Cherokee, Clay, Grahan	n .Scholarship Grant	\$1,500.00
NEUSE REGIONAL LIBRARIES	Greene, Jones, Lenoir	Scholarship Grant	\$1,500.00
NEUSE REGIONAL LIBRARIES	Greene, Jones, Lenoir	Project Grant	\$8,375.00
NEUSE REGIONAL LIBRARIES	Greene, Jones, Lenoir	Project Grant	\$30,805.00
NEUSE REGIONAL LIBRARIES	Greene, Jones, Lenoir	Project Grant	\$12,117.00
NEUSE REGIONAL LIBRARIES			
NEW HANOVER COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY	New Hanover	Project Grant	\$20,625.00
NEW HANOVER COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY	New Hanover	Scholarship Grant	\$3,362.00
NORTH CAROLINA A&T STATE UNIVERSITY,			
F. D. BLUFORD LIBRARY		Project Grant	\$99,891.00
NORTH CAROLINA A&T STATE UNIVERSITY, F. D.			
BLUFORD LIBRARY	Guilford	Project Grant	\$74,060.00
NORTH CAROLINA AGRICULTURAL			
AND TECHNICAL STATE UNIVERSITY,			
F. D. BLUFORD LIBRARY	Guilford	Project Grant	\$31,902.00
NORTH CAROLINA STATE UNIVERSITY			
ON BEHALF OF NCSU LIBRARIES			
ONSLOW COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY			
ONSLOW COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY			
ORANGE COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY	_	•	
ORANGE COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY	_	•	
ORANGE COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY			
PERRY MEMORIAL LIBRARY			
PERRY MEMORIAL LIBRARY			
PERRY MEMORIAL LIBRARY			
PERSON COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY	Person	Project Grant	\$23,000.00

AT WILMINGTON......New Hanover.....Scholarship Grant......\$1,743.00

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA

Institution	County	Type of Grant	Award Amount
WAKE FOREST UNIVERSITY	Forsyth	Scholarship Grant	\$2,500.00
WAKE FOREST UNIVERSITY			
WAKE TECHNICAL COMMUNITY	-		
COLLEGE LIBRARIES	Wake	Project Grant	\$100,000.00
WARREN COUNTY MEMORIAL LIBRARY	Warren	Project Grant	\$28,500.00
WARREN COUNTY MEMORIAL LIBRARY	Warren	Project Grant	\$16,968.00
WARREN COUNTY MEMORIAL LIBRARY	Warren	Project Grant	\$10,000.00
WAYNE COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY	Wayne	Scholarship Grant	\$3,000.00
WAYNE COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY	Wayne	Project Grant	\$10,000.00
WAYNE COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY	Wayne	Project Grant	\$44,902.00
WAYNE COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY	Wayne	Project Grant	\$50,000.00
WAYNE COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY	Wayne	Scholarship Grant	\$2,136.00
WESTERN CAROLINA UNIVERSITY	Jackson	Project Grant	\$9,310.00
WESTERN CAROLINA UNIVERSITY	Jackson	Scholarship Grant	\$1,977.00
WILSON COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY	Wilson	Project Grant	\$9,902.00
WILSON COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY	Wilson	Project Grant	\$49,999.00
WILSON COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY	Wilson	Project Grant	\$17,000.00



Caption: The State Aid Received by Library chart illustrates the reach of State Aid across North Carolina from 2022-2024... See details below:

#	Library	County	22/23	23/24	Grand Total
1	ALAMANCE COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARIES	Alamance Bertie, Gates,	\$203,079	. \$240,612	\$443,691
2	ALBEMARLE REGIONAL LIBRARY	Hertford, Northampton	\$400,953	. \$469,854	\$870,807
3	ALEXANDER COUNTY LIBRARY	Alexander	\$97,245	. \$114,594	\$211,839
4	APPALACHIAN REGIONAL LIBRARY	Ashe, Watauga, Wilkes	\$394,826	. \$466,569	\$861,395
5	AVERY-MITCHELL-YANCEY REGIONAL LIBRARY	Avery, Mitchell, Yancey	\$315,924	. \$369,833	\$685,757
6	BEAUFORT-HYDE-MARTIN REGIONAL LIBRARY	Beaufort, Hyde, Martin	\$315,794	. \$334,858	\$650,652
7	BLADEN COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY	Bladen	\$94,225	. \$110,212	\$204,437
8	BRASWELL MEMORIAL PUBLIC LIBRARY	Nash, Edgecombe	\$141,000	. \$165,397	\$306,397
9	BRUNSWICK COUNTY LIBRARY	Brunswick	\$160,344	. \$189,531	\$349,875
10	BUNCOMBE COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARIES	Buncombe	\$246,406	. \$287,714	\$534,120
11	BURKE COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY	Burke	\$145,745	. \$168,319	\$314,064
12	CABARRUS COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY	Cabarrus	\$221,239	. \$265,242	\$486,481
13	CALDWELL COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY	Caldwell	\$140,701	. \$164,016	\$304,717
14	CARTERET COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEM.	Carteret	\$112,443	. \$132,267	\$244,710
15	CASWELL COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY	Caswell	\$88,455	. \$103,047	\$191,502
16	CATAWBA COUNTY LIBRARY	Catawba	\$157,080	. \$185,912	\$342,992
17	CHAPEL HILL PUBLIC LIBRARY	Orange	\$32,839	. \$38,779	\$71,618
18	CHARLOTTE MECKLENBURG LIBRARY	Mecklenburg	\$682,386	. \$741,136	\$1,423,522
19	CHATHAM COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARIES	Chatham	\$106,052	. \$124,649	\$230,701
20	CLEVELAND COUNTY MEMORIAL LIBRARY	Cleveland	\$155,295	. \$180,030	\$335,325
21	COLUMBUS COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY	Columbus	\$117,784	. \$140,036	\$257,820
22	CRAVEN-PAMLICO REGIONAL LIBRARY	Craven, Pamlico	\$288,948	. \$341,646	\$630,594
23	CUMBERLAND COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY	Cumberland	\$364,738	. \$427,315	\$792,053
24	DAVIDSON COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEM	Davidson	\$205,088	. \$243,156	\$448,244
25	DAVIE COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY	Davie	\$97,302	. \$115,060	\$212,362

#	Library	County	22/23	23/24	Grand Total
26	DUPLIN COUNTY LIBRARY	Duplin	\$119,113	. \$136.976	\$256.089
27	DURHAM COUNTY LIBRARY	•			
		Camden, Currituck,	····		
28	EAST ALBEMARLE REGIONAL LIBRARY	, ,	\$421.097	. \$492.100	\$913.197
29	EDGECOMBE COUNTY MEMORIAL LIBRARY	•			
30	FARMVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY	_			
31	FONTANA REGIONAL LIBRARY				
32	FORSYTH COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY				
33	FRANKLIN COUNTY LIBRARY	Franklin	\$125,255	. \$148,890	\$274,145
34	GASTON COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY	Gaston	\$248,588	. \$291,570	\$540,158
35	GEORGE H. AND LAURA E.				
	BROWN PUBLIC LIBRARY	Beaufort	\$8,413	. \$9,776	\$18,189
36	GIBSONVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY	Alamance, Guilford	\$6,996	. \$7,954	\$14,950
37	GIVEN MEMORIAL LIBRARY & TUFTS ARCHIVE	Moore	\$7,702	. \$8,861	\$16,563
38	GRANVILLE COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM	Granville	\$116,888	. \$137,272	\$254,160
39	GREENSBORO PUBLIC LIBRARY	Guilford	\$368,866	. \$391,567	\$760,433
40	HALIFAX COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM	Halifax	\$101,443	. \$119,010	\$220,453
41	HARNETT COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY	Harnett	\$191,144	. \$220,395	\$411,539
42	HAROLD D. COOLEY LIBRARY	Nash	\$4,541	. \$5,590	\$10,131
43	HAYWOOD COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY	Haywood	\$113,645	. \$135,067	\$248,712
44	HENDERSON COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY				
45	HICKORY PUBLIC LIBRARY				
46	HIGH POINT PUBLIC LIBRARY	Guilford	\$88,512	. \$106,874	\$195,386
47	HOCUTT ELLINGTON MEMORIAL LIBRARY	-			
48	IREDELL COUNTY LIBRARY	Iredell	\$155,677	. \$183,702	\$339,379
49	JACOB MAUNEY MEMORIAL LIBRARY				
50	LEE COUNTY LIBRARY				
51	LINCOLN COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY				
52	MADISON COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY	Madison	\$85,342	. \$99,714	\$185,056
53	MCDOWELL COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY		•	•	•
54	MOORESVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY				
55	NANTAHALA REGIONAL LIBRARY	•			
56	NEUSE REGIONAL LIBRARIES				
57	NEW HANOVER COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY		\$208,722	. \$241,450	\$450,172
		Alleghany, Stokes,			
58	NORTHWESTERN REGIONAL LIBRARY	_			
59	ONSLOW COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY				
60	ORANGE COUNTY LIBRARY	· ·			
61	PENDER COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY				
62	PERRY MEMORIAL LIBRARY				
63	PERSON COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY		\$95,594	. \$114,225	\$209,819
		Chowan, Perquimans,	+070.050	+ / / 0 / 5 0	+0.4.4.00
64	PETTIGREW REGIONAL LIBRARY	•			
65	POLK COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARIES	POIK	\$81,248	. \$95,589	\$1/6,83/
66	PUBLIC LIBRARY OF JOHNSTON	lahaataa	#240 4E7	¢257 222	# 47F 670
<i>(</i> 7	COUNTY & SMITHFIELD				
67	RANDOLPH PUBLIC LIBRARY	ĸandoipn	190,08/	. ÞZZð,I3U	\$423,817

#	Library	County	22/23	23/24	Grand Total
68	ROANOKE RAPIDS PUBLIC LIBRARY	Halifax	\$14,730	\$16,374	\$31,104
69	ROBESON COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY	Robeson	\$201,547	\$237,081	\$438,628
70	ROCKINGHAM COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY	Rockingham	\$148,584	\$172,423	\$321,007
71	ROWAN PUBLIC LIBRARY	Rowan	\$190,616	\$227,512	\$418,128
72	RUTHERFORD COUNTY LIBRARY	Rutherford	\$126,639	\$146,934	\$273,573
73	SAMPSON-CLINTON PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEM	Sampson	\$123,690	\$145,694	\$269,384
		Anson, Hoke, Montgomery	/ ,		
74	SANDHILL REGIONAL LIBRARY SYSTEM	Moore, Richmond	\$550,041	\$644,610	\$1,194,651
75	SCOTLAND COUNTY MEMORIAL LIBRARY	Scotland	\$103,116	\$119,265	\$222,381
76	SHEPPARD MEMORIAL LIBRARY	Pitt	\$202,972	\$235,790	\$438,762
77	SOUTHERN PINES PUBLIC LIBRARY	Moore	\$8,314	\$9,729	\$18,043
78	STANLY COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY	Stanly	\$119,532	\$140,815	\$260,347
79	TRANSYLVANIA COUNTY LIBRARY	Transylvania	\$92,069	\$107,174	\$199,243
80	UNION COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY	Union	\$211,384	\$250,537	\$461,921
81	WAKE COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARIES	Wake	\$667,500	\$787,447	\$1,454,947
82	WARREN COUNTY MEMORIAL LIBRARY	Warren	\$84,340	\$97,985	\$182,325
83	WAYNE COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY	Wayne	\$167,153	\$195,193	\$362,346
84	WILSON COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY	Wilson	\$138,718	\$161,994	\$300,712

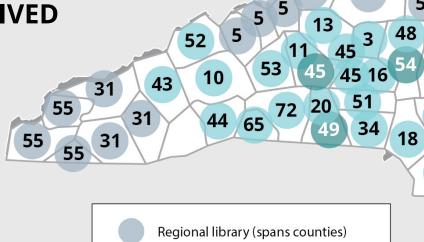
- 1. ALAMANCE COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARIES \$114,886
- 2. ALBEMARLE REGIONAL LIBRARY \$218.608
- 3. ALEXANDER COUNTY LIBRARY \$53.511
- 4. APPALACHIAN REGIONAL LIBRARY \$216.982
- 5. AVERY-MITCHELL-YANCEY REGIONAL LIBRARY \$172,012
- 6. BEAUFORT-HYDE-MARTIN REGIONAL LIBRARY \$170.350
- 7. BLADEN COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY \$52,118
- 8. BRASWELL MEMORIAL PUBLIC LIBRARY \$77,909
- 9. BRUNSWICK COUNTY LIBRARY \$89,046
- 10. BUNCOMBE COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARIES \$143,075
- 11. BURKE COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY \$81,803
- 12. CABARRUS COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY \$126,545
- 13. CALDWELL COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY \$79,330
- 14. CARTERET COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEM \$61,746
- 15. CASWELL COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY \$48,192
- **16. CATAWBA COUNTY LIBRARY** \$89,471
- 17. CHAPEL HILL PUBLIC LIBRARY \$54,775
- 18. CHARLOTTE MECKLENBURG LIBRARY \$406,105
- 19. CHATHAM COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARIES \$60,023
- 20. CLEVELAND COUNTY
 MEMORIAL LIBRARY \$87,033
- 21. COLUMBUS COUNTY PUBLIC
- LIBRARY \$64,552
 22. CRAVEN-PAMLICO REGIONAL
- LIBRARY \$157,165

 23. CUMBERLAND COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY \$208,498
- 24. DAVIDSON COUNTY PUBLIC
- LIBRARY SYSTEM \$116,353
 25. DAVIE COUNTY PUBLIC
- LIBRARY \$53,650
 26. DUPLIN COUNTY LIBRARY

\$66,628

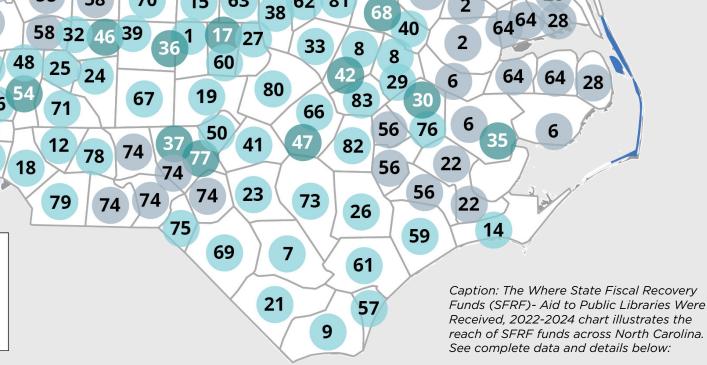
27. DURHAM COUNTY LIBRARY \$153,182





County library

Municipal library



62 81

28. EAST ALBEMARLE REGIONAL LIBRARY \$230,016

2022-2024

- 29. EDGECOMBE COUNTY
 MEMORIAL LIBRARY \$66,354
- **30. FARMVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY** \$38,130
- **31. FONTANA REGIONAL LIBRARY** \$189,840
- 32. FORSYTH COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY \$196,014
- **33. FRANKLIN COUNTY LIBRARY** \$68,438
- 34. GASTON COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY \$142,871
- 35. GEORGE H. AND LAURA E. BROWN PUBLIC LIBRARY \$41,133
- 36. GIBSONVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY \$40.128
- 37. GIVEN MEMORIAL LIBRARY & TUFTS ARCHIVE \$40,557
- 38. GRANVILLE COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM \$64,899

- **39. GREENSBORO PUBLIC LIBRARY** \$215,606
- 40. HALIFAX COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM \$55,550
- 41. HARNETT COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY \$108,352
- **42. HAROLD D. COOLEY LIBRARY** \$38,488
- 43. HAYWOOD COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY \$62.175
- 44. HENDERSON COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY \$83,421
- **45. HICKORY PUBLIC LIBRARY** \$54.835
- **46. HIGH POINT PUBLIC LIBRARY** \$92,035
- 47. HOCUTT ELLINGTON
 MEMORIAL LIBRARY \$47,277
- **48. IREDELL COUNTY LIBRARY** \$89,113
- 49. JACOB MAUNEY MEMORIAL LIBRARY \$43,218
- **50. LEE COUNTY LIBRARY** \$68,882

51. LINCOLN COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY \$71,247

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LIBRARY \$46,481
53. MCDOWELL COUNTY PUBLIC

52. MADISON COUNTY PUBLIC

- LIBRARY \$59,554
 54. MOORESVILLE PUBLIC
- LIBRARY \$55,727

 55. NANTAHALA REGIONAL LIBRARY \$169.199
- **56. NEUSE REGIONAL LIBRARIES** \$192,254
- 57. NEW HANOVER COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY \$120,587
- 58. NORTHWESTERN REGIONAL LIBRARY \$262,567
- **59. ONSLOW COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY** \$143,809
- **60. ORANGE COUNTY LIBRARY** \$63,336
- 61. PENDER COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY \$62,484
- **62. PERRY MEMORIAL LIBRARY** \$59,654

- 63. PERSON COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY \$54,374
- **64. PETTIGREW REGIONAL LIBRARY** \$200,588
- **65. POLK COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARIES** \$44,029
- 66. PUBLIC LIBRARY OF JOHNSTON COUNTY & SMITHFIELD \$123,979
- **67. RANDOLPH PUBLIC LIBRARY** \$112,022
- **68. ROANOKE RAPIDS PUBLIC LIBRARY** \$44,253
- 69. ROBESON COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY \$115,570
- 70. ROCKINGHAM COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY \$84,380
- 71. ROWAN PUBLIC LIBRARY \$109.834
- 72. RUTHERFORD COUNTY LIBRARY \$70,448
- 73. SAMPSON-CLINTON PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEM \$69,049

74. SANDHILL REGIONAL LIBRARY SYSTEM \$301,674

28

28

- 75. SCOTLAND COUNTY MEMORIAL LIBRARY \$58,956
- **76. SHEPPARD MEMORIAL LIBRARY** \$114,356
- 77. SOUTHERN PINES PUBLIC LIBRARY \$40,580
- 78. STANLY COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY \$67,062
 79. UNION COUNTY PUBLIC
- LIBRARY \$120,545

 80. WAKE COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARIES \$391,788
- 81. WARREN COUNTY MEMORIAL LIBRARY \$46,195
- 82. WAYNE COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY \$95.467
- 83. WILSON COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY \$76,763

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State Library Administration

North Carolina state government experienced capacity issues, with record vacancy rates across state agencies, particularly between July 1, 2022-June 30, 2023. The State Library of North Carolina, too, had record vacancy rates during this time which factored into the structural placement of several grants and projects. The SFRF Non-recurring Aid to Public Libraries funds were managed and distributed by State Library Administration instead of Library Development. The Libraries Strengthening Connections project also was structurally placed in State Library Administration rather than Library Development.

State Library Commission

The State Library Commission met twice a year, on November 18, 2022, April 14, 2023, December 8, 2023, and May 24, 2024. There was one appointed position that remained open between July 1, 2022 and June 30, 2024, and that is the President Pro Tempore of the Senate Appointee position. The members of the State Library Commission during this period were:

- **Tammy Baggett** (Gubernatorial Appointee)
- Mary Bartlett (Gubernatorial Appointee)
- **Dawn Behrend** (NC Library Association Vice President in 2022-23, President in 2023-24)

- **Brigitte Blanton** (NC Public Library Directors Association representative)
- Theresa Cade (Gubernatorial Appointee)
- Rachel Fuerst (Gubernatorial Appointee)
- Lara Luck, beginning July 2023 (NC Library Association Vice President)
- **Lee Ann Minton** (Speaker of the House Appointee)
- Julianne Moore (NC Public Library Directors Association representative)
- Melanie Morgan, beginning January 2023 (NC Public Library Directors Association representative)
- **Barbara Pendry** (Gubernatorial Appointee)
- **Dorothy Rapp** (Gubernatorial Appointee)
- Jimi Rider (Gubernatorial Appointee)
- **Libby Stone**, through June 2023 (NC Library Association President)
- Karen Wallace, through December 2022 (NC Public Library Directors Association representative)
- **Dr. Ricky Woods** (Gubernatorial Appointee)

State Aid for Public Libraries Formula Review

One special topic brought to the Commission was the State Aid for Public Libraries formula. The State Aid for Public Libraries formula has been reviewed approximately every ten years and had last been reviewed in 2013. The formula that was in use had been utilized.

by the State Library of North Carolina since 1983. The Commission decided it was time to review the formula again and make a recommendation as to whether to continue with the current formula or recommend an alternative formula for consideration by the State Library of North Carolina to the Secretary of the Department of Natural and Cultural Resources.

A planning team was created which reported to the State Library Commission. The planning committee's charge was to develop a process through which the formula would be reviewed. This committee was approved in April 2023. The planning committee included Mary Bartlett and Dr. Ricky Woods of the State Library Commission, and Amber Westall Briggs, Susan Brown, and Ross Holt of the NC Public Library Directors Association. The formula review process was developed and approved in December 2023.

The formula review process included developing a larger committee and also utilizing a consultant to facilitate the committee meetings and conduct research to assist the committee in evaluating the formula. Formula review committee members were also approved in December 2023. Formula review committee members included Mary Bartlett, Rachel Fuerst, and Dr. Ricky Woods of the State Library Commission, and Sarah Greene, Ross Holt, Marian Lytle, Johnnie Pippin, Jennifer Sackett, Joan Sherif, Franklin Shook, and April Young of the NC Public Library Directors Association. The North Carolina State University Friday Institute's Program Evaluation and Educational Research group was selected as the consultant for the project. The committee had its first meeting on June 21, 2024 in Raleigh at the NC Department of Natural and Cultural Resources building. The plan was to review the formula and have a recommendation for the State Library Commission for consideration by June 2025.

Special Project Highlight: Libraries Strengthening Connections

As trusted anchor institutions, public libraries are ideally situated to implement digital literacy and skills support and programming for North Carolina residents. The North Carolina Department of Information Technology through its Office of Digital Equity and Literacy (ODEL) awarded the State Library of North Carolina grant funding to expand a network of digital navigators through public libraries. This project, named Libraries Strengthening Connections (LSC), launched in April 2023 with the hiring of the project coordinator.

LSC provided training, resources, tools, and programming to library staff in rural libraries focused on expanding digital skills and knowledge. The intended outcome was for library staff to be better equipped and prepared to assist community members with questions and requests for assistance related to digital devices, access, and skills.

The project provided training through the use of Northstar Digital Literacy, a nationally established online literacy platform, and one-on-one library staff support from LSC Digital Facilitators. The LSC team had four Digital Facilitators and the project coordinator through June 2024.

Five library systems participated through June 2024. These systems included the Franklin County Library System, Mauney Memorial Library in Kings Mountain, Robeson County

Public Library, Rockingham County Public Library, and the Rutherford County Library System.

The success of the project was seen in the overall average learning gains (4.1%) for all staff who underwent the Northstar training and assessments. 67% of participating staff indicated that completing the training through Northstar improved their confidence in helping patrons with digital devices or resources.

Participating Staff Learning Using Northstar Digital Learning Platform as of June 30, 2024

Library	Total Staff	Learning Hours	Assessments Passed (≥85%)	Learning Gains (avg latest score/avg original score)
Franklin County Library	21	47	318	+2.82%
Mauney Me- morial (Kings Mountain)	7	20	109	+5.65%
Robeson Coun- ty Public Library	26	131	466	+4.05%
Rockingham County Public Library	19	12	27	+6.11%
Rutherford County Library	16	27	264	+2.06%

The project was anticipated to continue through December 2026. Project data and participant feedback were important factors in setting project objectives and changes for subsequent years. The number of library systems that would participate in the project was anticipated to expand.

Remembering Cotina Iones, Director of SLNC **Library Development**

Cotina Jones, SLNC Director of Library Development, passed away on February 16, 2023. Cotina had served as SLNC Director of Library Development since June of 2021, and had worked in libraries in North Carolina for over 25 years. She previously worked at the Cumberland County Public Library between 2019 and June 2021, serving as the Deputy Director and Interim Director for the library system there. She had also previously worked as a branch manager for the Granville County Library System. Other positions she had held included Assistant Director of Library Services at North Carolina Central University, and Health Sciences Librarian and Special Projects Coordinator at Winston-Salem State University. She had also previously worked as a school librarian and was active in a number of professional and community organizations.

Cotina's professionalism, humor, dedication, and incredible knowledge have been missed by her colleagues at the State Library and throughout the state.

