




TO: The Library Advisory Commission
FROM: Jim Blanton 
DATE: January 19, 2016
SUBJECT: Annual Benchmark Cities Report for 2015

The enclosed report describes where the Louisville Free Public Library ranks among our comparison cities on 15 service benchmarks. This study is compiled annually at the request of the Library Advisory Commission. Library jurisdictions were selected that met two criteria: proximity to Louisville and service populations in a range on either side of our own.

The data is compiled from the annual statistical report of the Public Library Data Service. This is a voluntary, self-reporting survey. This year's report reflects Fiscal Year 2013-14 data from 16 libraries.

Also at the request of the Library Commission, two summary tables have been continued from previous reports. The "Summary of Rankings" table shows how each library did across the board, and ranks the libraries in an un-weighted total score. The last page in the report, "Progress over Time," shows how Louisville Free Public Library has ranked on each measure over the 17 years this study has been compiled.

Louisville's standing in these comparisons changed very little this year. Our ranking was higher in two measures and lower in three. Our combined score was down from 197 to 199, but the change was not enough to move us in the overall rankings. Our average ranking last year was 13.53 and that changed to 13.27.

BENCHMARK CITIES

LIBRARY NAME	JURISDICTION POPULATION
ATLANTA - FULTON PUBLIC LIBRARY	1,014,894
CHARLOTTE & MECKLENBURG COUNTY	991,867
CINCINNATI & HAMILTON COUNTY, PUBLIC LIB. OF	802,374
CLEVELAND PUBLIC LIBRARY	398,453
COLUMBUS METROPOLITAN LIBRARY	859,505
CUYAHOGA COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY	616,527
DAYTON METRO LIBRARY	458,677
INDIANAPOLIS-MARION COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY	877,389
LEXINGTON PUBLIC LIBRARY	308,428
LOUISVILLE FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY	741,096
MEMPHIS/SHELBY COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY	829,986
MILWAUKEE PUBLIC LIBRARY	599,164
NASHVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY	658,602
SAINT LOUIS COUNTY	859,148
SAINT LOUIS PUBLIC	319,294
TOLEDO-LUCAS COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY	441,815
AVERAGE	673,576

TOTAL LIBRARY INCOME PER CAPITA

LIBRARY NAME	TOTAL INC PER CAPITA
CLEVELAND PUBLIC LIBRARY	\$137.78
CUYAHOGA COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY	\$105.50
SAINT LOUIS PUBLIC	\$78.43
TOLEDO-LUCAS COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY	\$78.77
COLUMBUS METROPOLITAN LIBRARY	\$84.91
CINCINNATI & HAMILTON COUNTY, PUBLIC LIB. OF	\$67.81
DAYTON METRO LIBRARY	\$60.76
SAINT LOUIS COUNTY	\$60.35
LEXINGTON PUBLIC LIBRARY	\$48.87
INDIANAPOLIS-MARION COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY	\$47.44
MILWAUKEE PUBLIC LIBRARY	\$41.31
NASHVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY	\$38.65
CHARLOTTE & MECKLENBURG COUNTY	\$34.35
ATLANTA - FULTON PUBLIC LIBRARY	\$24.74
LOUISVILLE FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY	\$23.06
MEMPHIS/SHELBY COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY	\$18.02
MEDIAN	\$54.61

LOCAL GOVERNMENT INCOME PER CAPITA

LIBRARY NAME	LOCAL GOV INC PER CAP
SAINT LOUIS PUBLIC	\$74.65
CUYAHOGA COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY	\$67.44
CLEVELAND PUBLIC LIBRARY	\$63.07
SAINT LOUIS COUNTY	\$56.83
COLUMBUS METROPOLITAN LIBRARY	\$51.85
LEXINGTON PUBLIC LIBRARY	\$44.96
TOLEDO-LUCAS COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY	\$44.58
INDIANAPOLIS-MARION COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY	\$38.62
NASHVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY	\$36.57
MILWAUKEE PUBLIC LIBRARY	\$36.39
CHARLOTTE & MECKLENBURG COUNTY	\$27.34
ATLANTA - FULTON PUBLIC LIBRARY	\$23.44
DAYTON METRO LIBRARY	\$23.25
LOUISVILLE FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY	\$20.47
CINCINNATI & HAMILTON COUNTY, PUBLIC LIB. OF	\$20.16
MEMPHIS/SHELBY COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY	\$17.45
MEDIAN	\$37.60

POPULATION PER TOTAL STAFF FTE

LIBRARY NAME	POP PER STAFF FTE
CLEVELAND PUBLIC LIBRARY	759
SAINT LOUIS PUBLIC	925
CUYAHOGA COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY	1,070
CINCINNATI & HAMILTON COUNTY, PUBLIC LIB. OF	1,256
COLUMBUS METROPOLITAN LIBRARY	1,318
DAYTON METRO LIBRARY	1,407
TOLEDO-LUCAS COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY	1,427
CHARLOTTE & MECKLENBURG COUNTY	1,493
SAINT LOUIS COUNTY	1,744
LEXINGTON PUBLIC LIBRARY	1,860
MILWAUKEE PUBLIC LIBRARY	1,896
INDIANAPOLIS-MARION COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY	2,033
NASHVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY	2,134
MEMPHIS/SHELBY COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY	3,023
LOUISVILLE FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY	3,096
ATLANTA - FULTON PUBLIC LIBRARY	3,859
MEDIAN	1,618

POPULATION PER LIBRARIAN FTE

LIBRARY NAME	POP PER LIBRARIAN
CHARLOTTE & MECKLENBURG COUNTY	2,575
CLEVELAND PUBLIC LIBRARY	3,480
TOLEDO-LUCAS COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY	3,575
CINCINNATI & HAMILTON COUNTY, PUBLIC LIB. OF	4,449
CUYAHOGA COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY	4,485
DAYTON METRO LIBRARY	4,986
SAINT LOUIS PUBLIC	6,261
INDIANAPOLIS-MARION COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY	7,162
LEXINGTON PUBLIC LIBRARY	7,181
COLUMBUS METROPOLITAN LIBRARY	7,724
MILWAUKEE PUBLIC LIBRARY	7,989
MEMPHIS/SHELBY COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY	8,737
NASHVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY	8,840
ATLANTA - FULTON PUBLIC LIBRARY	10,149
SAINT LOUIS COUNTY	10,326
LOUISVILLE FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY	11,556
MEDIAN	7,172