BELLINGHAM PUBLIC LIBRARY **NOTICE OF MEETING**

BOARD OF LIBRARY TRUSTEES **REGULAR MEETING**

of TUESDAY, MARCH 15, 2022, 3:30 p.m.

Publication of the agenda and the approximate times are a guide to, and not a limitation on, the activities of Trustees.

The Library Board of Trustees will participate in the March Board Meeting remotely through an online web-based meeting platform. Per Washington State Proclamation 20-28, in-person attendance at meetings is prohibited at this time.

The Board meeting will be streamed live via Zoom at 3:30 p.m. on Tuesday, March 15, 2022. You may view the meeting from a PC, Mac, iPad, iPhone or Android device from the following link:

www.cob.org/lbot
Meeting ID: 916 8904 4189
Password: 7323
For Technical Assistance please contact Katie @ knbray@cob.org

Or join by phone:
Dial (for higher quality, dial a number based on your current location):
US: +1 253 215 8782 OR +1 669 900 6833 OR +1 312 626 6799 OR +1 929 205 6099
OR +1 346 248 7799 OR +1 301 715 8592
Webinar ID: 916 8904 4189 Password: 7323

Please note there will be no public comment taken at the meeting. Instead, community members are respectfully asked and encouraged to submit comments by e-mail to librarytrustees@cob.org.

AGENDA **TIME (approx.)**

1. **Call to order and introductions** 2 min

2. **Approve/modify agenda** 1 min

3. **Public comment (from email)** 2 min
   Per Washington State Proclamation 20-28, in-person attendance at meetings is prohibited at this time. Please note there will be no public comment taken at the meeting. Instead, community members are respectfully asked and encouraged to submit comments by e-mail to librarytrustees@cob.org.

4. **Consent agenda (see packet materials)** 5 min
   All matters listed on the consent agenda are considered routine and may be approved in a single motion. A trustee may ask that an item be removed from the consent agenda and considered separately.
   - **Communications and FYI**
   - **Minutes:** February 15, 2022: Regular board meeting
   - **Library performance & activity measures:** February 2022
   - **Financial reports**
     Claims: February 2022
     YTD report: February 2022

5. **Reports** 10 min
    - Board Chair
    - Library Board members
    - City Council liaison
    - Friends of Bellingham Public Library
    - Library Director (see packet materials)

Time check: 3:50

6. **Pandemic response update** 10 min
    - Rebecca Judd, Director

7. **Board trustee replacement** 10 min
    - Rick Osen, Board Chair

Time check: 4:10

8. **Facilities committee update** 10 min
    - Rick Osen, Board Chair

9. **Fundraising committee update (see packet materials)** 10 min
    - Library Giving Day, April 6, 2022; Rick Osen, Board Chair

10. **New business** 3 min

11. **Action items for next meeting** 2 min

Time check: 4:35

12. **Adjourn**

Next Regular Library Board Meeting: Tuesday, April 19, 2022 – 3:30 p.m.
Zoom meeting – Bellingham, Washington

If you require a sign interpreter or other hearing accommodation, please allow the library 48 hours notice. Order of agenda items may be adjusted.

Library Board
March 15, 2022
Consent Agenda
Communications & FYI

Ukraine's libraries are offering bomb shelters, camouflage classes and, yes, books

By Bill Chappel

March 9, 2022 NPR

Ukraine's libraries are offering bomb shelters and camouflage classes : NPR

Library Board
March 15, 2022
Consent Agenda
Communications & FYI

2717 Walnut St.
Bellingham, WA. 98225
March 7, 2022

Hello, Board Members!

Because of my high sensitivity to EMF's, I am unable to use a cellular phone. A letter from my M.D. supports this fact.

Losses everyday come with this disability, but the Public Library, a hub of the way the average person communicates with others by computer, could "step in" to offer me assistance.

I have found the

availability of the Meeting Rooms a wonderful accommodation to the cellular phones all around me when I sat down.

Today, working in the lovely Meeting Room #1, with its beautiful natural light, I realized that I needed to make a short local call, which I had to go to the City Hall Building in order to do. I wasn't sure if Staff would lock my STUDY door while I phoned.

Please accommodate my handicap by providing a landline for my occasional 5 minute use.

I'll see you at the Zoom meeting!

Chaplain Lynne Lahr

Bellingham Public Library

Regular Meeting of the Library Board of Trustees
Tuesday, February 15, 2022 – Zoom meeting
3:30 p.m.

Minutes of Actions and Decisions of the Library Board of Trustees of the Bellingham Public Library as authorized by RCW 27.12.210 and SEC. 7.02 Charter of the City of Bellingham.

Board Members Present:	Rick Osen, Jim McCabe, Rebecca Craven and Kristy Van Ness
Board Members Absent:	Vernon (Damani) Johnson
Library Staff:	Rebecca Judd, Annette Bagley, Bethany Hoglund, Jon McConnel, Jennifer Vander Ploeg, Katie Bray and Wendy Jenkins
Others Present:	Kristina Michele Martens, City Council Liaison; Leigh Ann Giles and Jennie Tuckerman, Friends of BPL Co-Presidents

Call to order and introductions: Regular session was called to order at 3:30 p.m. by Chair, Rick Osen.

Approve/modify agenda: Jim McCabe moved to approve the agenda. Rebecca Craven seconded. Motion carried.

Public comment: No comments.

Consent agenda: Rebecca Craven asked why, in the year-to-date report, no budget was showing for the automated materials handler. Wendy explained that the budget for the handler is tied to a contract and purchase order. The City has a process of reaching out to departments to verify that a contract/PO needs to be reappropriated into the new budget. This process isn't complete yet. Once it is, the budget for the handler will be added.

Rebecca Judd asked the Trustees if they continued to find the 2019 column in the performance and activity measures helpful for comparison. The Trustees affirmed it is helpful.

Jim McCabe moved to approve the January 18, 2022, Regular meeting minutes and the January 2022 performance and activity measures and financial reports. Kristy Van Ness seconded. Motion carried.

Board Chair report:

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- Rick reported that he and Rebecca Judd attended the Friends' January board meeting. The Friends' Annual Membership meeting will be held on Saturday, April 23, 2022, at 10:00 a.m.
- On January 26, Rick and Rebecca Judd met with Kristina Michelle for a Library orientation. He expressed appreciation for her serving as our Council liaison.
- On February 3, Rick and Rebecca Judd had their monthly meeting with the Mayor. They use this opportunity to update him on current projects – at this time it concerned the move to an all-curbside service model due to a surge in Omicron cases. Rick added that today we reopened for in-person services.

Board member reports:
- No reports.

City Council liaison report:
- No report.

Friends of BPL report:
- Leigh Ann thanked Rebecca and library staff for accepting donations during curbside service. This worked well in keeping backroom workers busy.
- As Rick mentioned earlier, the Friends' Annual Meeting will be held on Saturday, April 23, 2022. Leigh Ann announced that Rick, Rebecca, Katie Bray and Jeff Jewel, Photo Archive Research Technician for Whatcom Museum, will all be presenting at the meeting. Jeff plans to present on the history of the Library. This year marks the 70th anniversary of the Friends group and the 50th anniversary of the first big book sale. They haven't decided whether the meeting will be in-person or virtual.
- Jennie, reporting from Hawaii, shared about a book mobile located outside her building. The book mobile is run by a Friends group that is not currently associated with a library. They are supporting literacy by providing free book circulation from a charming old RV.
- Jennie added that, since 1952, the Friends have raised and contributed over $1.6 million dollars to the Bellingham Public Library!

Library Director report:
- Rebecca reported on a pending 0.7 FTE increase for the library: the position vacated by Sally's retirement (mentioned in the Director's Report) will be switched from a 0.50 FTE Collections Service position to a 1.0 FTE Librarian I position; the current 0.8 Librarian I position will be increased to a 1.0 FTE position – both increases were included for a first and second reading at City Council on February 7. Final Council approval is scheduled for February 28.
- Work on the land acknowledgement has been moving forward. Rebecca hopes to have more information to report to the board soon.
- February is Black History Month – the Library has a display and Librarian-curated reading lists available on our website to honor the month.
- Many Whatcom READS events are coming up. Full details can be found on the Whatcom READS website. *An Evening with Michael Christie – In Person* is scheduled for March 4 at 7:00 p.m. at the Mount Baker Theatre. Following the event, a virtual recording will be shared via the Whatcom READS website. Free advance registration is available through the MBT online box office. Seating will be spaced, in pairs, to allow

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social distancing. The 2020 Whatcom READS event was the last big event before the pandemic shutdowns in March 2020.

- Ryan Dowd, who wrote *The Librarian's Guide to Homelessness*, provides training across the country. He will be offering a full day of in-person training, available to all community members, at the Mount Baker Theatre on May 20, 2022 (divided into 2 opportunities – a morning session and an afternoon session). Rebecca will provide more information when available.
- WCLS' Special Election proposition to establish the Birch Bay Library Capital Facility Area did not get the 60% approval needed for it to pass. WCLS is looking at alternative funding plans.
- In the packet are links to two articles:
    - Education Week's *Librarians Fight Back Against Efforts to Ban Books in Schools* – locally, Bellingham School District fended off a challenge, last spring, to change school policy.
    - Library Journal's *Charlotte Mecklenburg Addresses Digital Divide with 20,000 Computers and Free Neighborhood Wi-Fi* has many similarities with the small Reconnect program mentioned in the Director's Report, including the Linux operating system.

OPMA (Open Public Meetings Act) update:

- Wendy provided an overview of this law and its requirements: "The Washington Open Public Meetings Act, codified in chapter 42.30 RCW, requires that all meetings of governing bodies of public agencies, including cities, counties, and special purpose district, be open to the public."

  Trustees are required to take OPMA training within three months of taking office and to take refresher training every four years. To accomplish this, Wendy emails links to video and PowerPoint training options, the Trustee views the training, signs and returns a certificate acknowledgement, and Wendy updates a tracking spreadsheet.

Pandemic response update:

- Rebecca reported our doors are back open! She thanked staff for their hard work on making this service model shift. She also thanked Jen for providing the curbside activity graphs for the Director's Report. We were able to pass out N95 masks, provided through the city, during curbside service. Rebecca expressed appreciation to the librarian group for staffing a table to answer patron questions.
- Governor Inslee has announced an upcoming press conference with a timeline for eliminating the mask mandate – more information will be provided when available.

Statistical Trends: Inputs and Outputs through 2021:

- Jon McConnel provided a reprise presentation of last February's Statistical Trends with updated 2021 data (*see Attachment #1 for Statistical Trends: Inputs and Outputs through 2021, including slides and notes. All Attachments are at the end of the minutes).*

Facilities committee update:

- Rick reported a Facilities Master Plan contract with Godfrey's Associates is in process, pending Washington State business license approval. Godfrey's is a full-time library

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consulting firm (the other three firms were primarily architect consultants). The Facilities committee was able to have a first meeting with the consultants. An onsite visit is tentatively scheduled for March to see how our current facilities operate.

The Committee also met with Jon McConnel and Chris Behee, Planning Senior GIS Analyst for the city. City data will feed into the planning process.

An updated timeline for the Facilities Master Plan will be needed, given the difficulties with the business license. Even if the final report is not ready in June, it is expected that there will be enough work completed to inform the biennial budget process for 2023-2024.

Fundraising:

- Fundraising committee update: Rick reported that he and Rebecca Judd met with Senior Assistant City Attorney Sarah Chaplin and Finance Director Andy Asbjornsen to determine Trustee fundraising guidelines. Sarah is doing some research before we proceed with a planned giving process.

  Library Giving Day is April 6, 2022 – Annette is working on publicity and will also be providing some language Trustees and Friends can share with personal contacts.

  Rick attended a webinar this morning, *Estate Planning Basics*, presented by the Foundations of King County Library System and Seattle Public Library. They are significant Foundations with many full-time staff members. Kristy added that she has a link to previous webinars – she will forward the link to Wendy (who can be contacted if interested).

- Whatcom Community Foundation annual distribution: The library received the 2022 Annual Designated Grant Distribution, totaling $18,296.07. Rick recalled that former Trustee Rachel Myers announced, at the March 2018 board meeting, a new (but nameless at the time) endowment established for the library. Included in this year's grant is the first distribution for this endowment – the Dorothy and Harris Gonsalves Bellingham Public Library Endowment (an obituary for Dorothy Gonsalves is included in the February board packet). Of the $2,317.16 distribution, 80% is for the purchase of travel related books, Spanish language books, and/or to establish and maintain a reading nook; 20% to benefit the Fairhaven Branch Library.

  Rick requested the board delay the decision on how to best spend the remaining $15,978.91 annual grant distribution until after Library Giving Day.

  At last month's meeting, the board voted to place the $162,225 Bragg-Muldrow distribution into the spendable portion of the endowment to have available for future facility needs – we will use part of these funds to pay for the Facilities Master Plan consultant.

New Business:

- No new business.

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Action items for next meeting:

- Facilities committee update
- Fundraising committee update – Library Giving Day, April 6, 2022

Meeting adjourned at 4:44 p.m.

Next Regular Library Board Meeting – March 15, 2022 – Zoom meeting – 3:30 p.m.

Chair, Library Board of Trustees

ATTEST
Secretary, Library Board of Trustees

Attachments:

- Attachment #1: Statistical Trends: Inputs and Outputs through 2021 (slides & notes)

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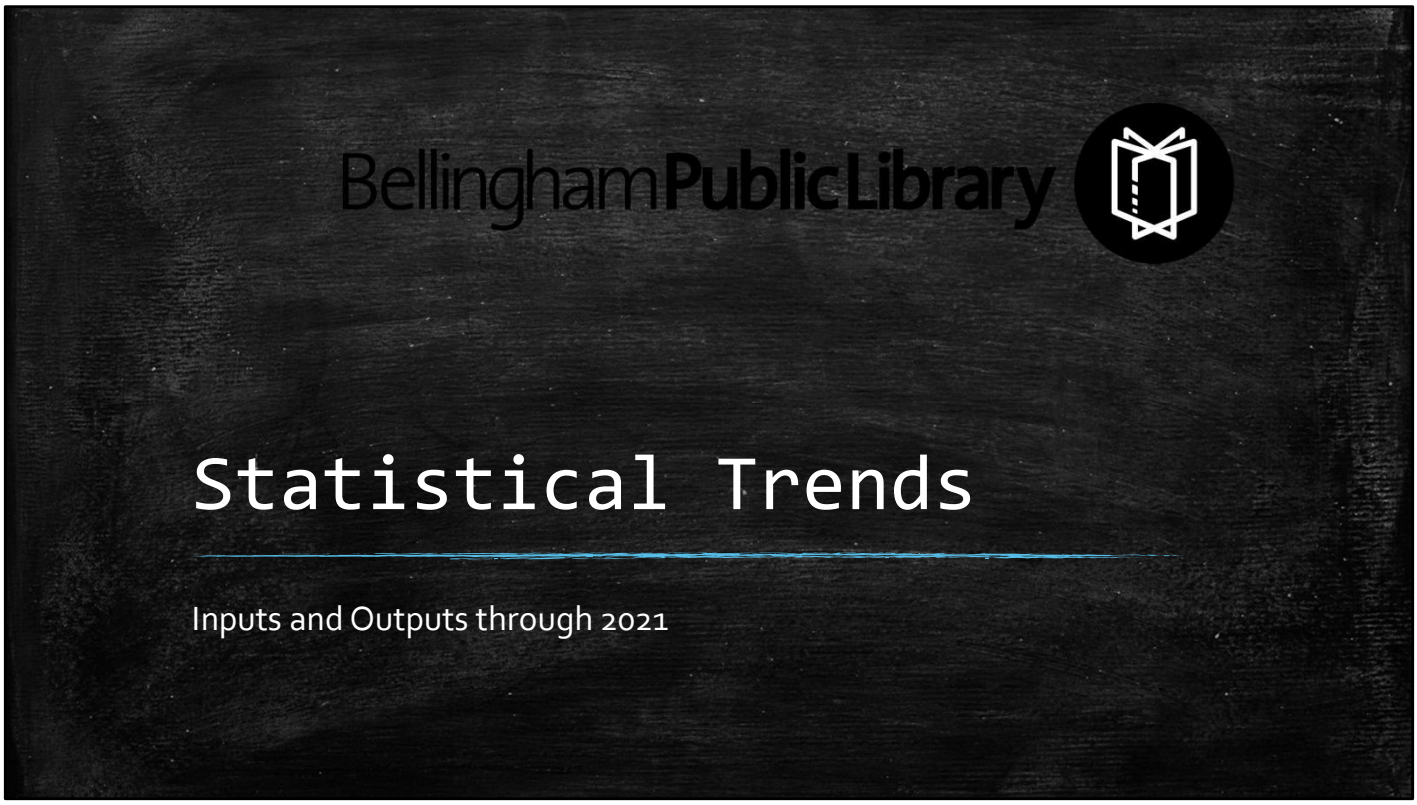


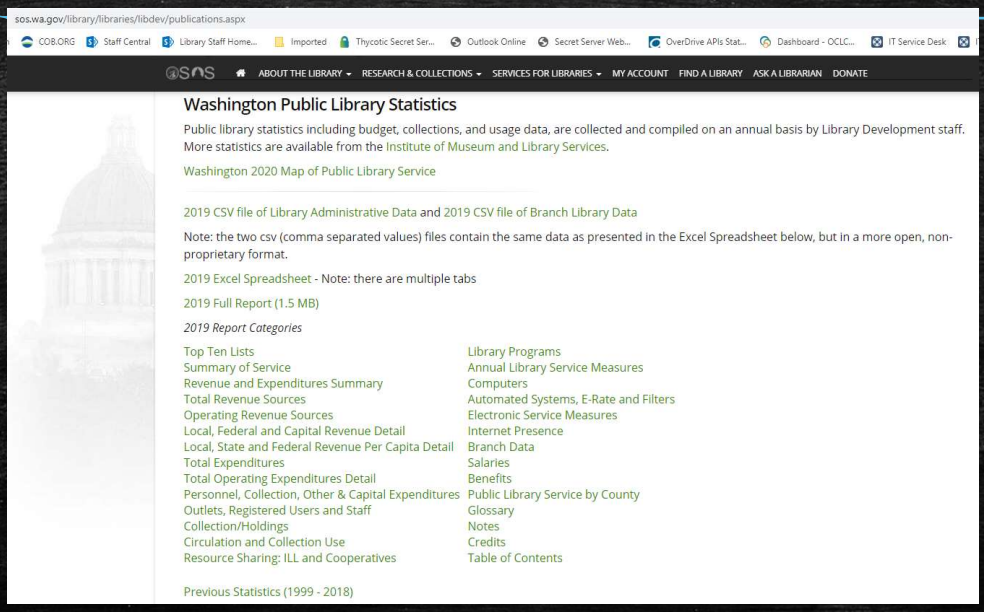
It's a new year, we have a new City Council liaison, and we thought it would be helpful to provide an update to the run-down shared last winter of some of the statistics we report. Last year we reported through 2019; this year I'm pulling in both 2020 (reported to the State Library and subsequently published) and some data from 2021 (not yet reported to the State Library). The 2021 data comes from the Jan. 2022 Board Reports of BPL and Whatcom County Library System, and also from some reports I've run in anticipation of the State Library's annual report instructions.

RCW 27.12.260: Annual Report of Trustees

- At the close of each year the board of trustees of every library shall make a report to the legislative body of the governmental unit wherein the board serves, showing the condition of their trust during the year, the sums of money received for the library fund from taxes and other sources, the sums of money expended and the purposes of the expenditures, the number of books and periodicals on hand, the number added during the year, the number retired, the number loaned out, and such other statistics and information and such suggestions as they deem of public interest. A copy of this report shall be filed with the state librarian.
- [1935 c 119 § 12; RRS § 8226-12. Prior: 1909 c 116 § 8; 1901 c 166 § 8.]

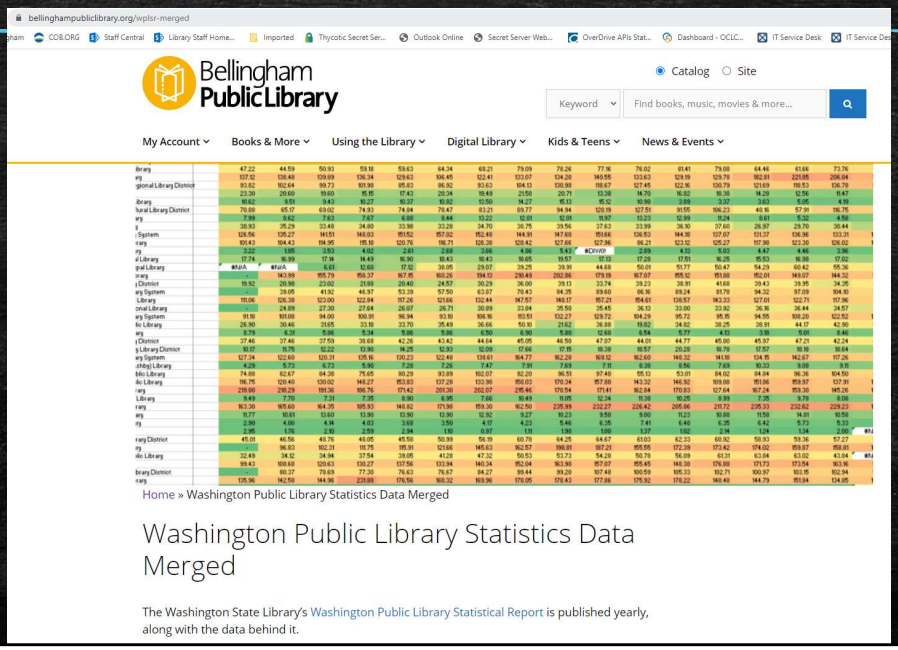
Libraries in Washington State are required to submit metrics to their sponsoring jurisdictions, and to the State Librarian. Nowadays there's an online tool to submit stats. Used to be a paper form….

Washington Public Library Statistics



The Washington State Library collects the submitted data, cleans it up, does some analysis, and publishes each year's data online. They also pass the data along to the federal Institute for Museum and Library Services for their Public Libraries Survey.

Merged!



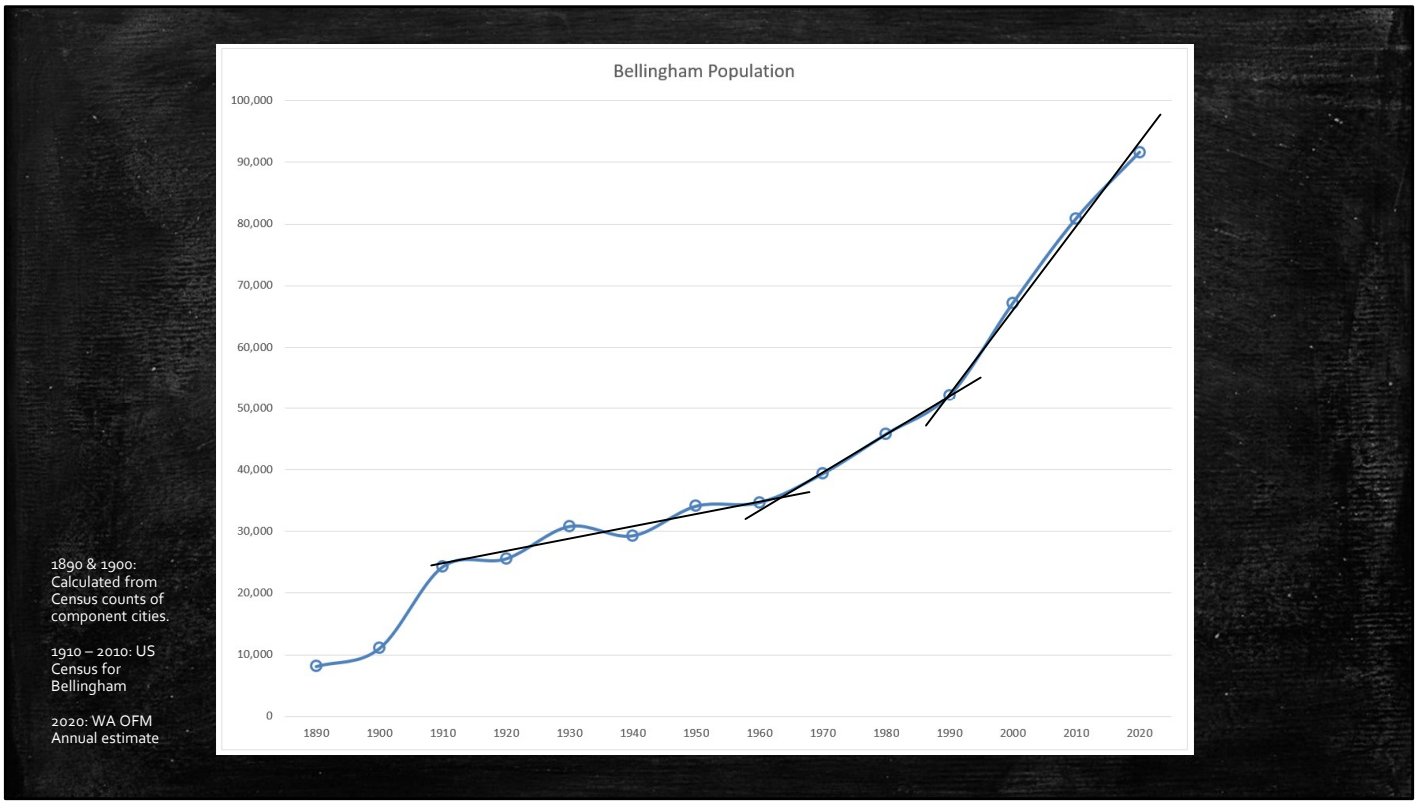
Search for 'public library statistics' on BPL's website.

In 2013 the Board of the Whatcom County Library System asked for a report on 10-year data trends in comparison to other comparable libraries. I pulled together 10 years of the Washington data and prepared a tool that would allow for comparisons, as well as making it fairly easy to change which libraries are being compared. I've been adding new data ever since. You can download the Excel file from the BPL website.

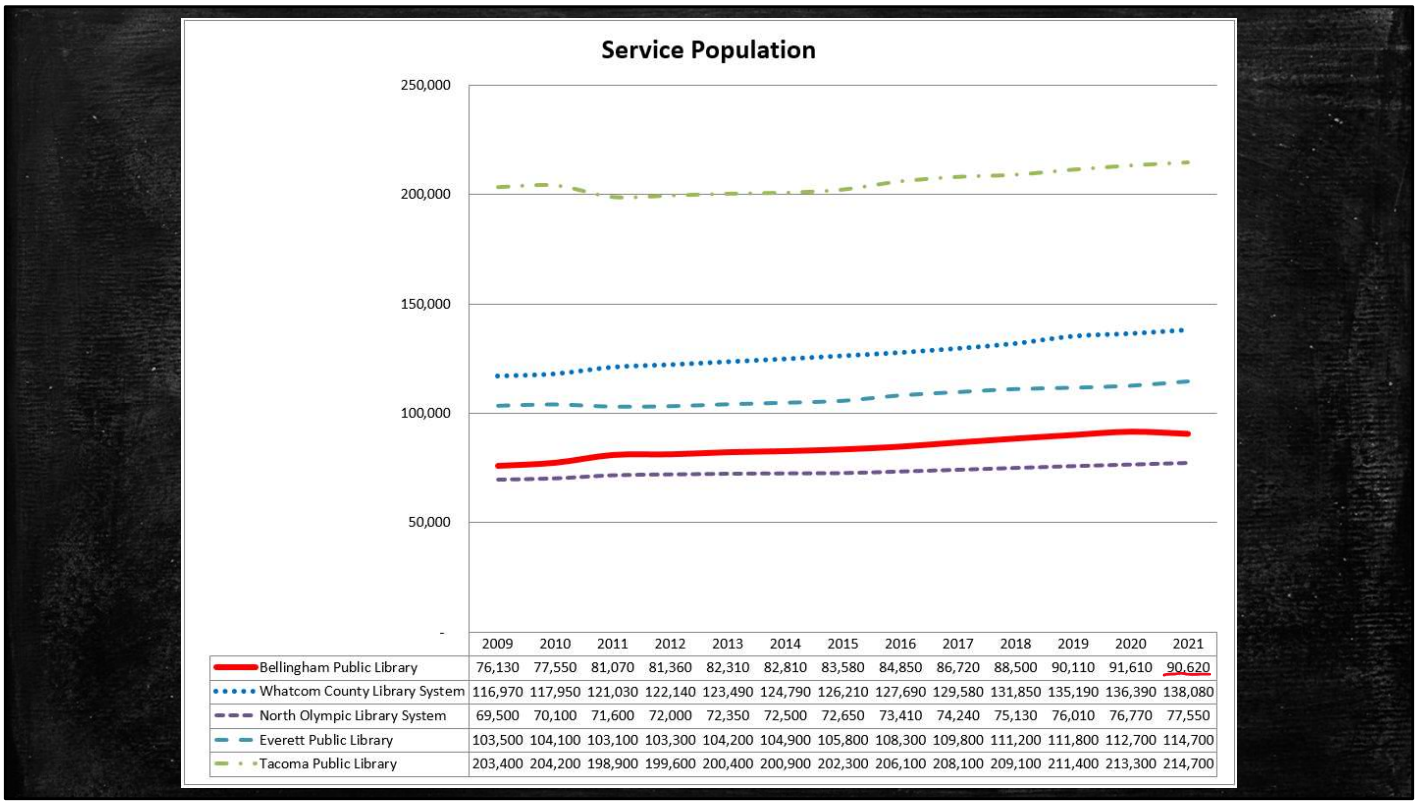
Definitions

- LSA: Legal Service Area
  - The geographic area a public library serves.
- Service Population
  - Residents of the LSA
- SARS CoV-2 and COVID 19
  - What we've been dealing with since March 2020
  - SARS CoV-2 is the virus
  - COVID 19 is the disease

These terms are helpful to know when discussing library stats

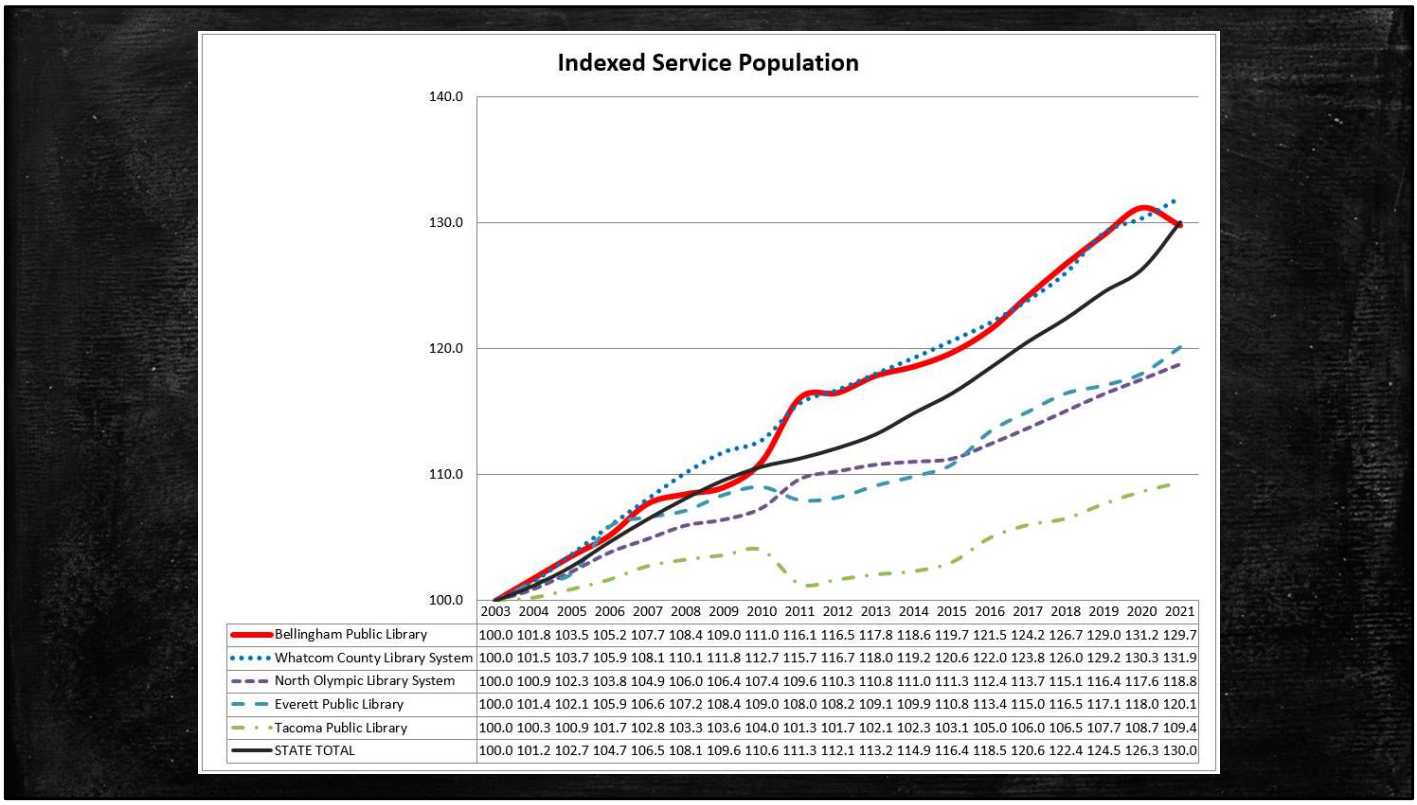


First, some data that doesn't come from the State Library. This chart shows the Legal Service Population for Bellingham (starting in 1903…). This shows that over the past 110 years Bellingham has had three phases of growth: (first line) 1910 – 1960 was slow. (second line) 1960 to 1990 sped up a bit. (third line) 1990 to 2010 growth really took off. The 2020 value is the OFM estimate, which turns out to have been a little high.
How does this relate to library services? It tracks who we should be serving, and we can compare other service metrics to it.



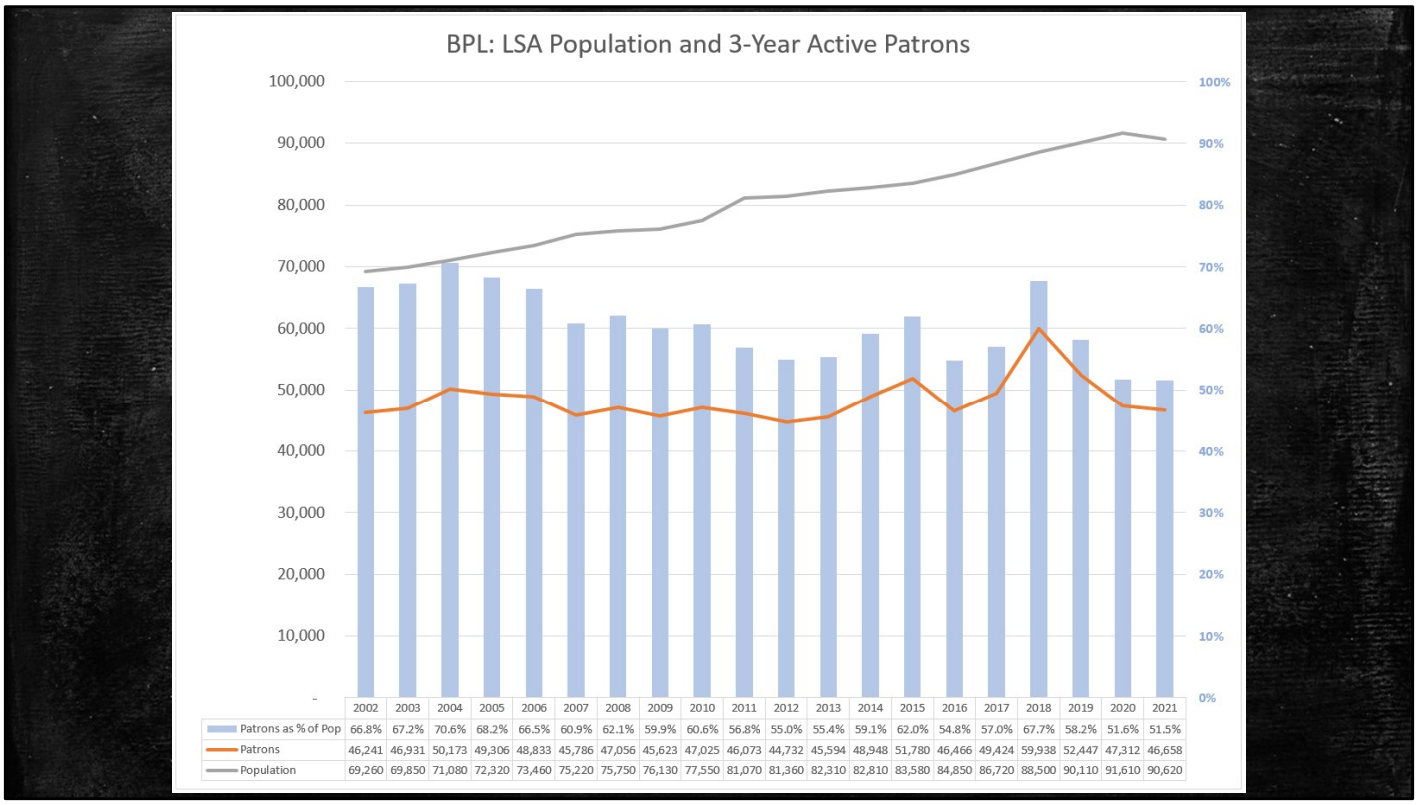
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Bellingham Public Library	76,130	77,550	81,070	81,360	82,310	82,810	83,580	84,850	86,720	88,500	90,110	91,610	90,620
Whatcom County Library System	116,970	117,950	121,030	122,140	123,490	124,790	126,210	127,690	129,580	131,850	135,190	136,390	138,080
North Olympic Library System	69,500	70,100	71,600	72,000	72,350	72,500	72,650	73,410	74,240	75,130	76,010	76,770	77,550
Everett Public Library	103,500	104,100	103,100	103,300	104,200	104,900	105,800	108,300	109,800	111,200	111,800	112,700	114,700
Tacoma Public Library	203,400	204,200	198,900	199,600	200,400	200,900	202,300	206,100	208,100	209,100	211,400	213,300	214,700

This is an example of a comparison chart from the merged data file. It shows LSA Population from 2009-2021 for five libraries. A new estimate of population is generated yearly by the Washington Office of Financial Management. From 2009 to 2020 they estimate Bellingham grew by 15,000 residents. That takes into account births, death, people moving in and out of the city, and Annexations – the City does occasionally get bigger, taking land away from unincorporated Whatcom County. The 2021 value is informed by the 2020 US Census results. It's clear that OFM slightly over-estimated Bellingham's growth over the past decade, as the 2021 estimate is down by 990.



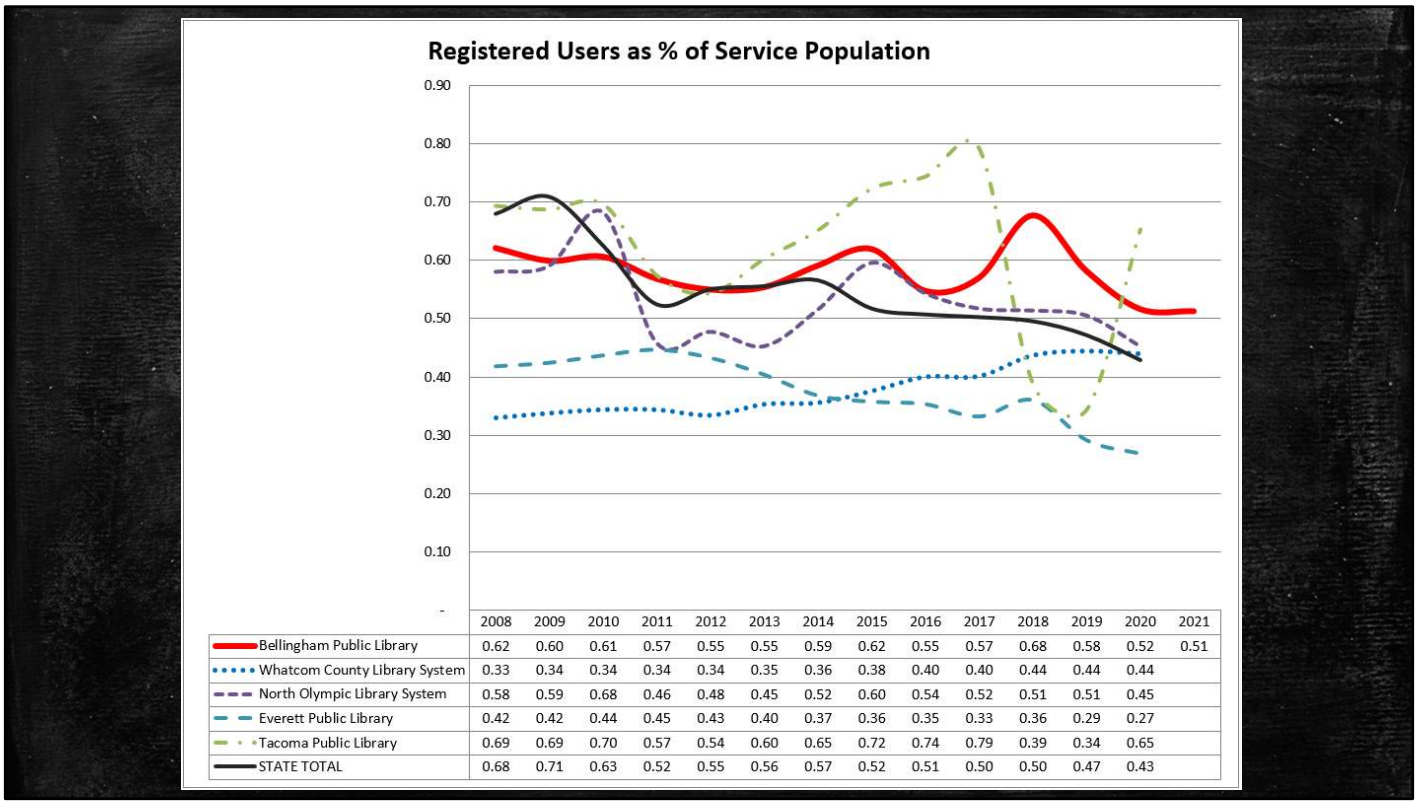
	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Bellingham Public Library	100.0	101.8	103.5	105.2	107.7	108.4	109.0	111.0	116.1	116.5	117.8	118.6	119.7	121.5	124.2	126.7	129.0	131.2	129.7
Whatcom County Library System	100.0	101.5	103.7	105.9	108.1	110.1	111.8	112.7	115.7	116.7	118.0	119.2	120.6	122.0	123.8	126.0	129.2	130.3	131.9
North Olympic Library System	100.0	100.9	102.3	103.8	104.9	106.0	106.4	107.4	109.6	110.3	110.8	111.0	111.3	112.4	113.7	115.1	116.4	117.6	118.8
Everett Public Library	100.0	101.4	102.1	105.9	106.6	107.2	108.4	109.0	108.0	108.2	109.1	109.9	110.8	113.4	115.0	116.5	117.1	118.0	120.1
Tacoma Public Library	100.0	100.3	100.9	101.7	102.8	103.3	103.6	104.0	101.3	101.7	102.1	102.3	103.1	105.0	106.0	106.5	107.7	108.7	109.4
STATE TOTAL	100.0	101.2	102.7	104.7	106.5	108.1	109.6	110.6	111.3	112.1	113.2	114.9	116.4	118.5	120.6	122.4	124.5	126.3	130.0

A different way to look at the LSA Population numbers is to show the rate of change relative to a start point. The WA OFM had an estimated rate of growth for Bellingham during the oughts that was proven by the 2010 Census to be too low – hence the bump up for 2011. At that point our growth diverged from the State overall growth rate estimate. Everett and Tacoma's both went down. Now the 2021 number is down from 2020, meaning that OFM's growth estimate was too high during the 'teens. Our growth from 2003 to 2021 has returned to being the same rate as the State as a whole.



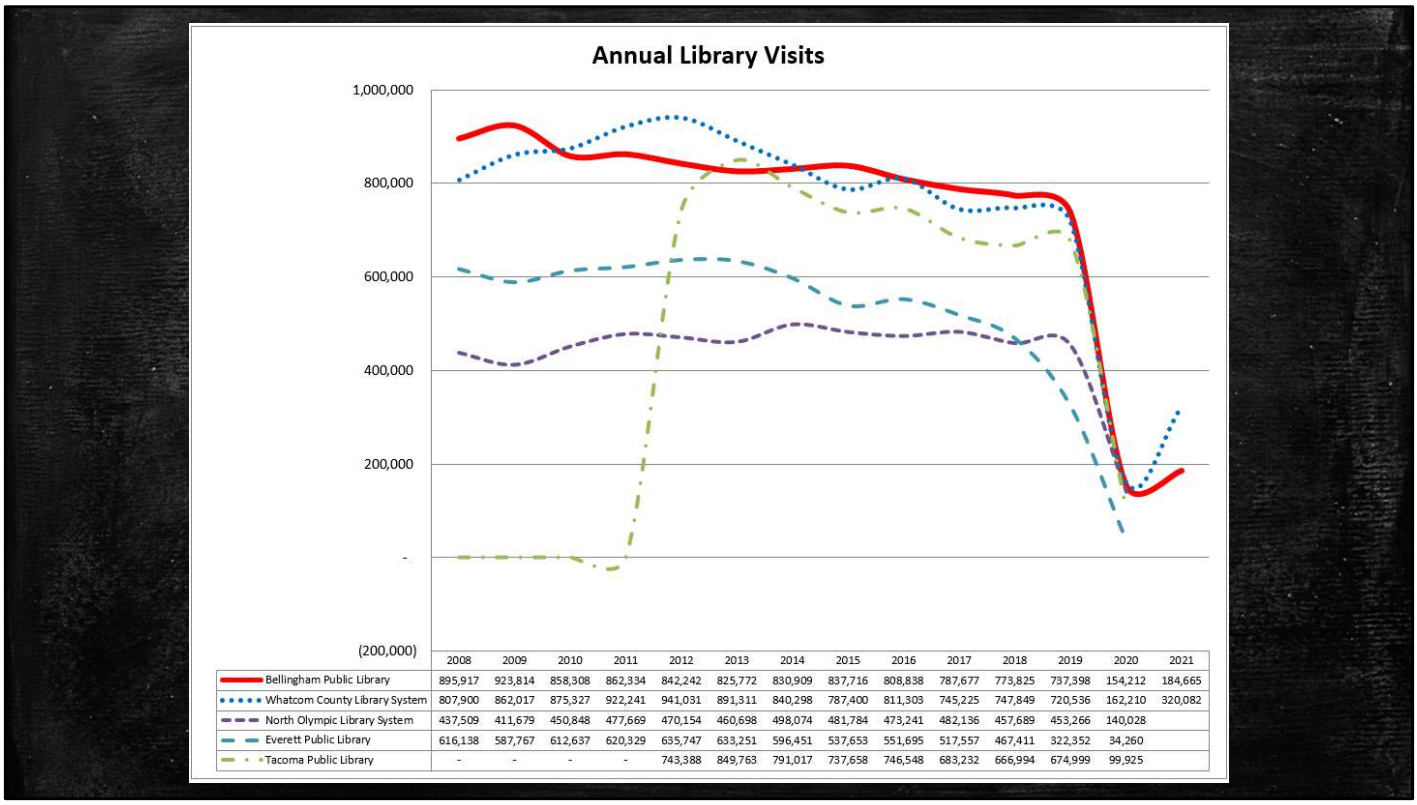
	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Patrons as % of Pop	66.8%	67.2%	70.6%	68.2%	66.5%	60.9%	62.1%	59.9%	60.6%	56.8%	55.0%	55.4%	59.1%	62.0%	54.8%	57.0%	67.7%	58.2%	51.6%	51.5%
Patrons	46,241	46,931	50,173	49,306	48,833	45,786	47,056	45,623	47,025	46,073	44,732	45,594	48,948	51,780	46,466	49,424	59,938	52,447	47,312	46,658
Population	69,260	69,850	71,080	72,320	73,460	75,220	75,750	76,130	77,550	81,070	81,360	82,310	82,810	83,580	84,850	86,720	88,500	90,110	91,610	90,620

This chart isn't in the merged workbook. It shows the OFM pop. est's with our reported 3-Year Active Patrons, and the annual rate of cardholdership. Our rate has fallen since 2002 from about 65% to about 52%. 2018 was an anomaly caused by not de-duplicating students with both a personal card and a ConnectED card.
This shows BPL over time – how does our rate of cardholders compare with other libraries?



	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Bellingham Public Library	0.62	0.60	0.61	0.57	0.55	0.55	0.59	0.62	0.55	0.57	0.68	0.58	0.52	0.51
Whatcom County Library System	0.33	0.34	0.34	0.34	0.34	0.35	0.36	0.38	0.40	0.40	0.44	0.44	0.44	
North Olympic Library System	0.58	0.59	0.68	0.46	0.48	0.45	0.52	0.60	0.54	0.52	0.51	0.51	0.45	
Everett Public Library	0.42	0.42	0.44	0.45	0.43	0.40	0.37	0.36	0.35	0.33	0.36	0.29	0.27	
Tacoma Public Library	0.69	0.69	0.70	0.57	0.54	0.60	0.65	0.72	0.74	0.79	0.39	0.34	0.65	
STATE TOTAL	0.68	0.71	0.63	0.52	0.55	0.56	0.57	0.52	0.51	0.50	0.50	0.47	0.43	

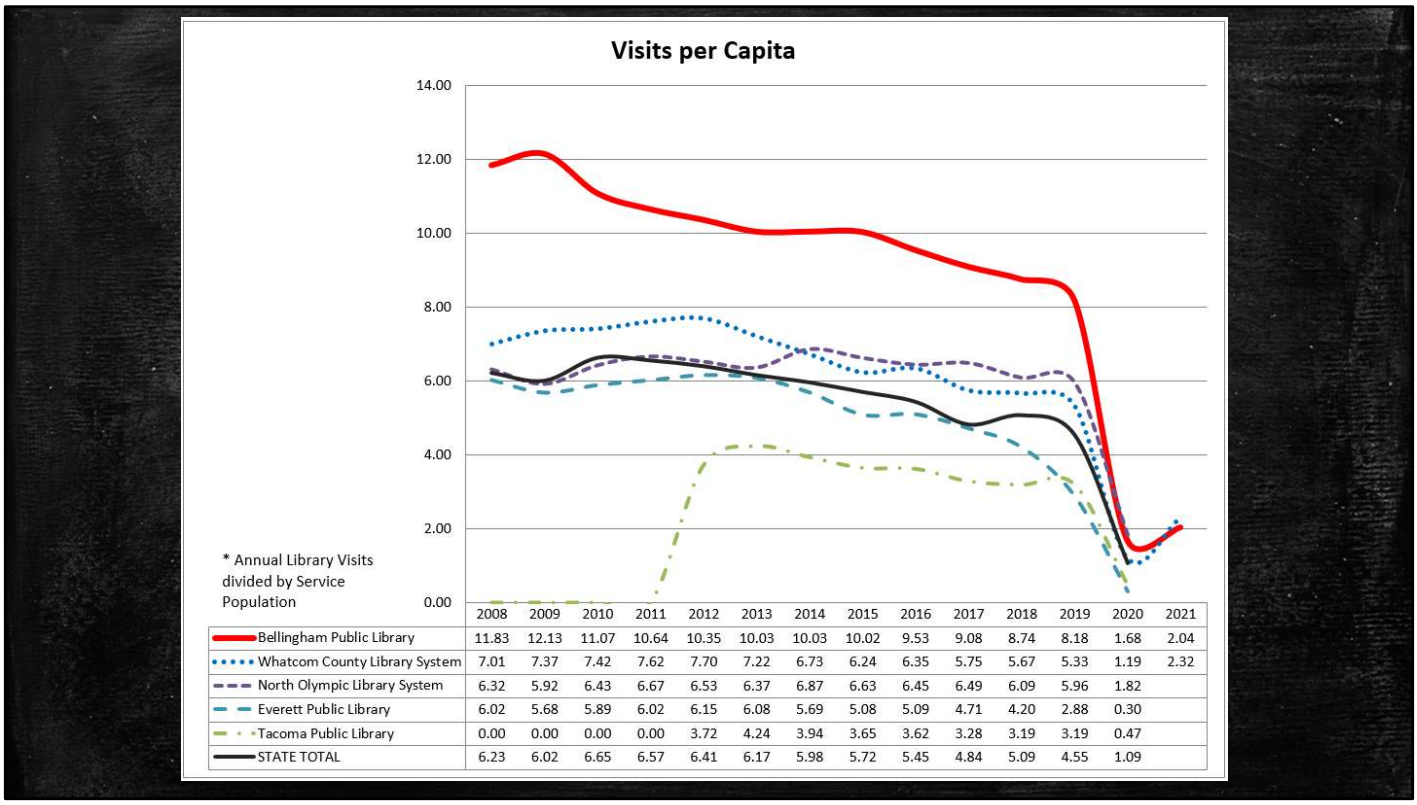
Here's that data from 2008-2020 compared to a few other libraries in the State. Our cardholder base has held steadier than that of the state as a whole. WCLS is catching up with us! No big change in 2021 due to the pandemic.



	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Bellingham Public Library	895,917	923,814	858,308	862,334	842,242	825,772	830,909	837,716	808,838	787,677	773,825	737,398	154,212	184,665
Whatcom County Library System	807,900	862,017	875,327	922,241	941,031	891,311	840,298	787,400	811,303	745,225	747,849	720,536	162,210	320,082
North Olympic Library System	437,509	411,679	450,848	477,669	470,154	460,698	498,074	481,784	473,241	482,136	457,689	453,266	140,028	
Everett Public Library	616,138	587,767	612,637	620,329	635,747	633,251	596,451	537,653	551,695	517,557	467,411	322,352	34,260	
Tacoma Public Library	-	-	-	-	743,388	849,763	791,017	737,658	746,548	683,232	666,994	674,999	99,925	

One thing we normally track is bodies in and out of our locations, divided by two to represent a 'Visit'. BPL's visits have been trending down since 2009.
2020 was a real dive with COVID 19, but we started to climb out of the hole in 2021, though not as rapidly as WCLS. As long as we recover over the long-run we'll be ok. In fact, I'd rather have a delay on this metric until the pandemic is truly behind us.

Note that our count of visits is higher than those of some cities with larger populations, like Everett and Tacoma.

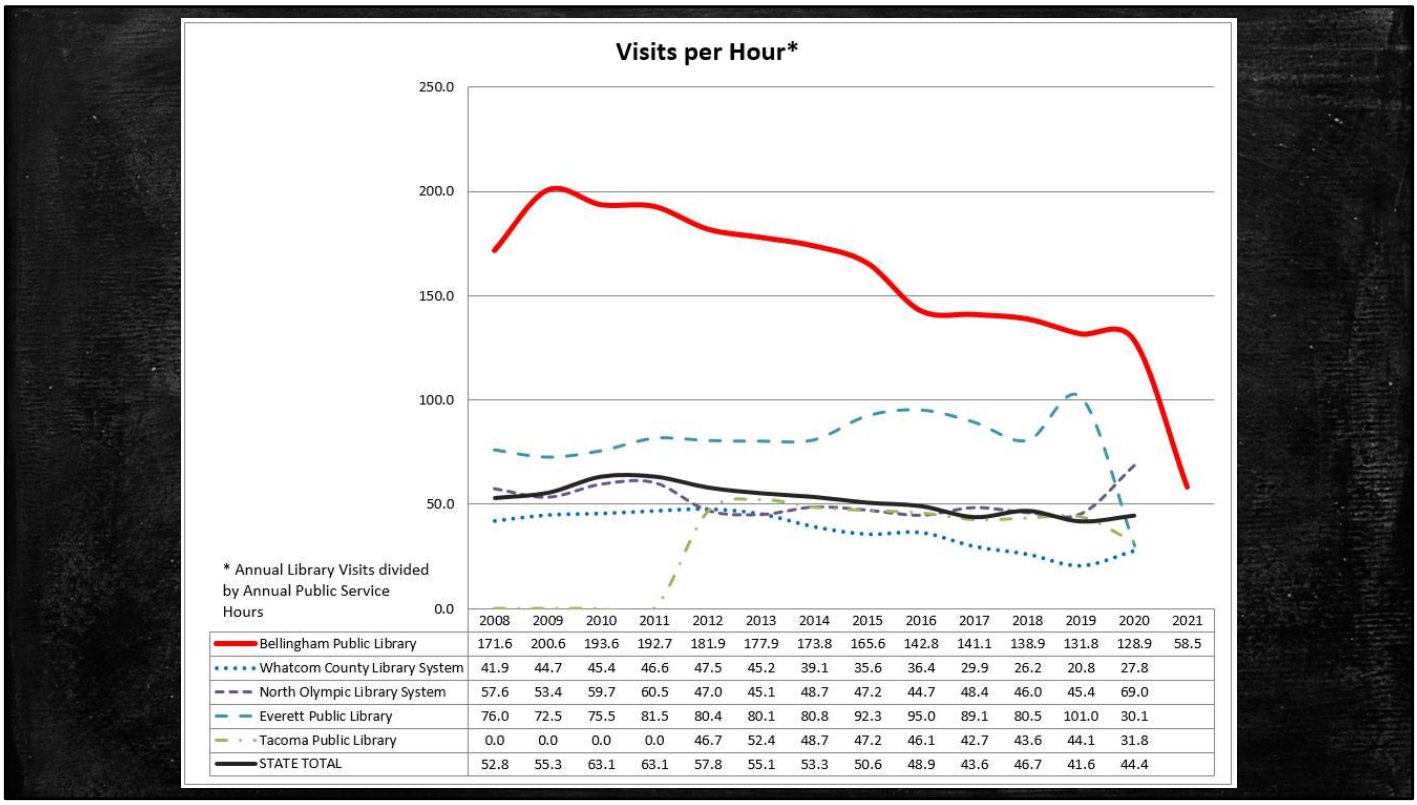


	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Bellingham Public Library	11.83	12.13	11.07	10.64	10.35	10.03	10.03	10.02	9.53	9.08	8.74	8.18	1.68	2.04
Whatcom County Library System	7.01	7.37	7.42	7.62	7.70	7.22	6.73	6.24	6.35	5.75	5.67	5.33	1.19	2.32
North Olympic Library System	6.32	5.92	6.43	6.67	6.53	6.37	6.87	6.63	6.45	6.49	6.09	5.96	1.82	
Everett Public Library	6.02	5.68	5.89	6.02	6.15	6.08	5.69	5.08	5.09	4.71	4.20	2.88	0.30	
Tacoma Public Library	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3.72	4.24	3.94	3.65	3.62	3.28	3.19	3.19	0.47	
STATE TOTAL	6.23	6.02	6.65	6.57	6.41	6.17	5.98	5.72	5.45	4.84	5.09	4.55	1.09	

When you normalize by population, BPL has really stood out! Some years we're twice the State average.

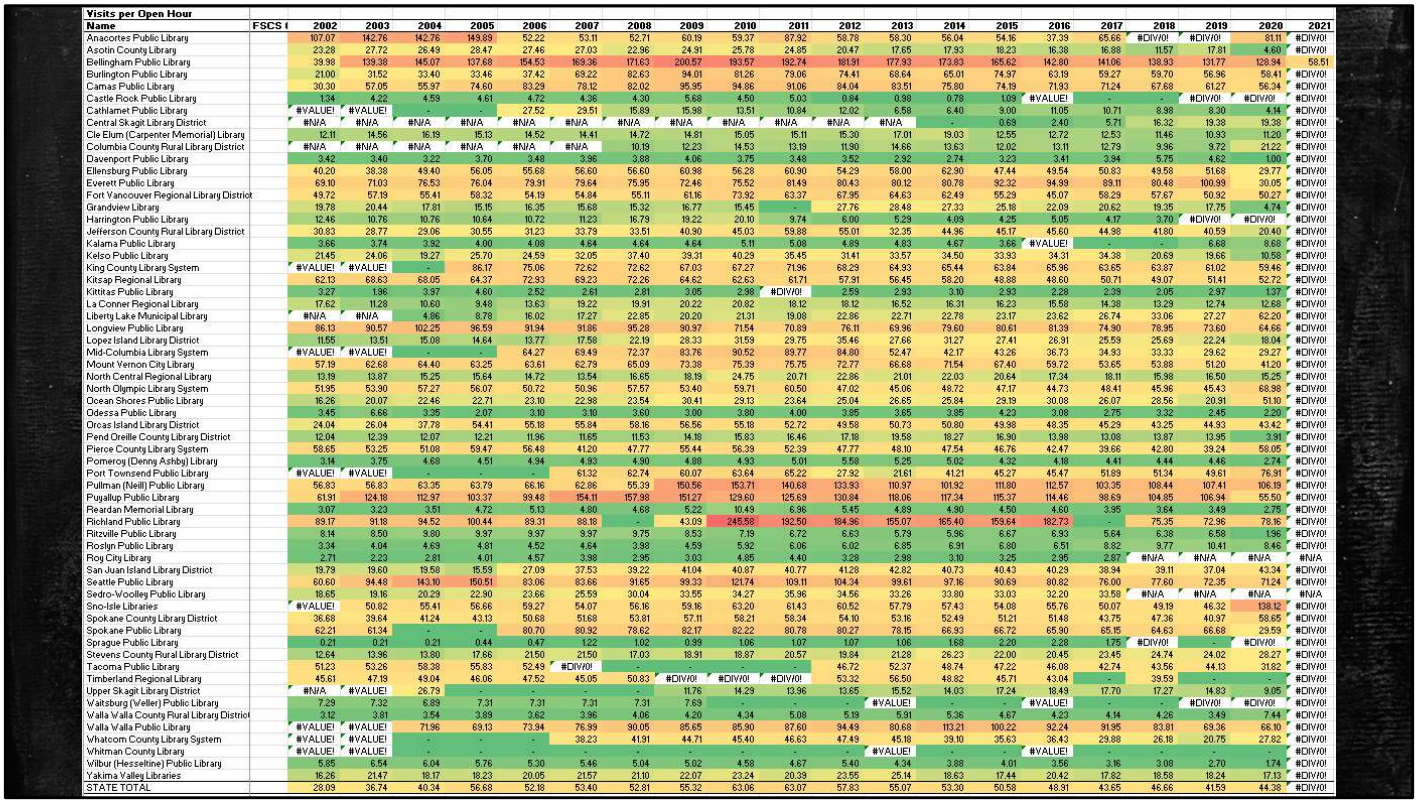
For 2020 and '21 we dropped an enormous amount, even when curbside visits are counted.

In 2021 WCLS saw a value for visits per capita that was higher than BPL's for the first time in this timeseries.



	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Bellingham Public Library	171.6	200.6	193.6	192.7	181.9	177.9	173.8	165.6	142.8	141.1	138.9	131.8	128.9	58.5
Whatcom County Library System	41.9	44.7	45.4	46.6	47.5	45.2	39.1	35.6	36.4	29.9	26.2	20.8	27.8	
North Olympic Library System	57.6	53.4	59.7	60.5	47.0	45.1	48.7	47.2	44.7	48.4	46.0	45.4	69.0	
Everett Public Library	76.0	72.5	75.5	81.5	80.4	80.1	80.8	92.3	95.0	89.1	80.5	101.0	30.1	
Tacoma Public Library	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	46.7	52.4	48.7	47.2	46.1	42.7	43.6	44.1	31.8	
STATE TOTAL	52.8	55.3	63.1	63.1	57.8	55.1	53.3	50.6	48.9	43.6	46.7	41.6	44.4	

Visits per Open Hour are even more exceptional. We're more like 3 times the State average.
We didn't collapse in 2020 because our open hours contracted in line with the drop in Visits.
We tanked in 2021 because we added more hours and only increased visits by a bit. It's to be expected in a pandemic, when people don't want to crowd together.
(Hours aren't yet available from WCLS)

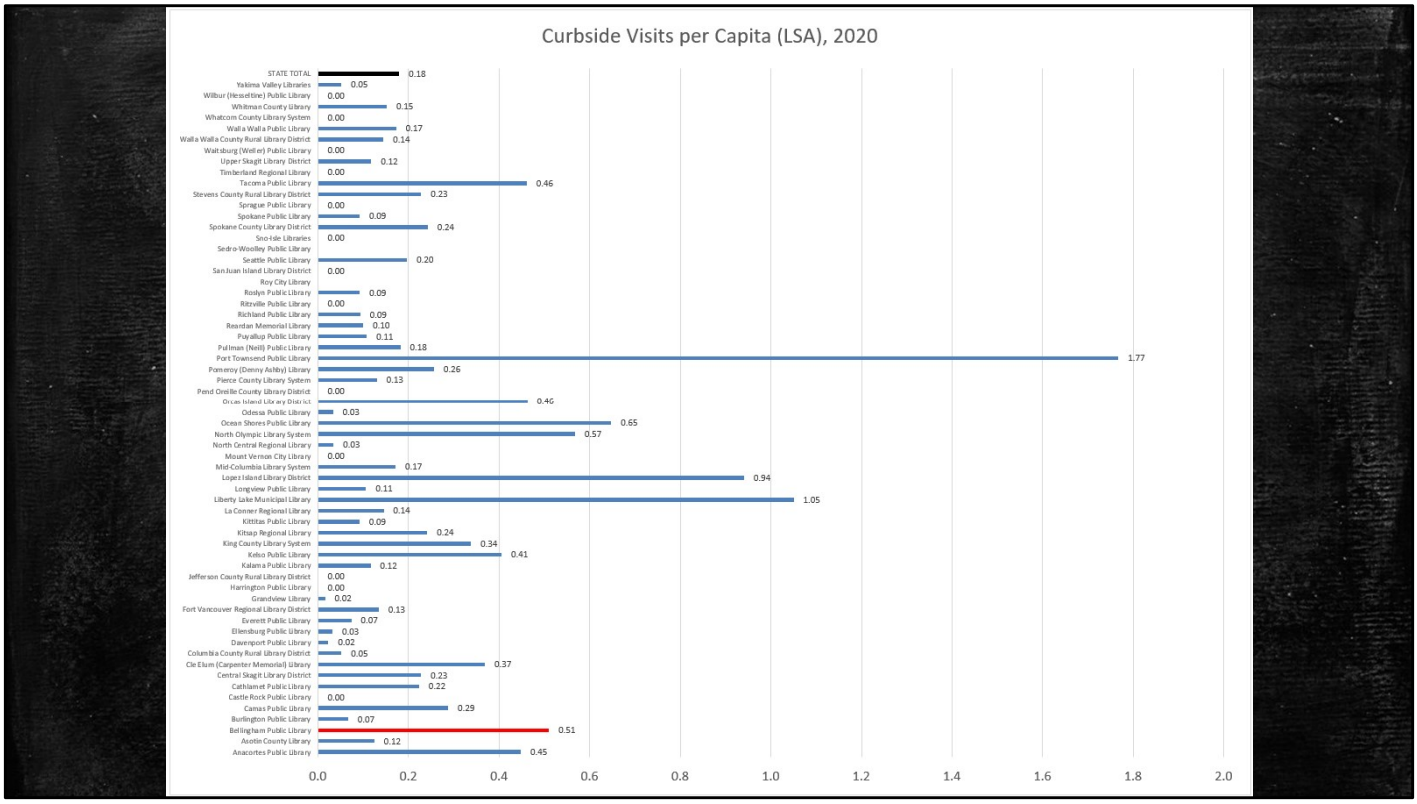


Visits per Open Hour																				
Name	FSCS I	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Anacortes Public Library		107.07	142.76	142.76	149.89	52.22	53.11	52.71	60.19	59.37	87.92	58.78	58.30	56.04	54.16	37.39	65.66	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!	81.11	#DIV/0!
Asotin County Library		23.28	27.72	26.49	28.47	27.46	27.03	22.96	24.91	25.78	24.85	20.47	17.65	17.93	18.23	16.38	16.88	11.57	17.81	4.60	#DIV/0!
Bellingham Public Library		39.98	139.38	145.07	137.68	154.53	169.36	171.63	200.57	193.57	192.74	181.91	177.93	173.83	165.62	142.80	141.06	138.93	131.77	128.94	58.51
Burlington Public Library		21.00	31.52	33.40	33.46	37.42	69.22	82.63	94.01	81.26	79.06	74.41	68.64	65.01	74.97	63.19	59.27	59.70	56.96	58.41	#DIV/0!
Camas Public Library		30.30	57.05	55.97	74.60	83.29	78.12	82.02	95.95	94.86	91.06	84.04	83.51	75.80	74.19	71.93	71.24	67.68	61.27	56.34	#DIV/0!
Castle Rock Public Library		1.04	4.22	4.59	4.61	4.72	4.26	4.30	5.68	4.50	5.03	0.84	0.98	0.78	1.03	#VALUE!	-	-	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!
Cathlamet Public Library		#VALUE!	#VALUE!	-	-	27.52	29.51	15.89	15.98	13.51	10.84	12.02	6.58	6.40	9.00	11.05	10.71	8.98	8.30	4.14	#DIV/0!
Central Skagit Library District		#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	-	0.69	2.40	5.71	16.32	19.38	19.38	#DIV/0!
Cle Elum (Carpenter Memorial) Library		12.11	14.56	16.19	15.13	14.52	14.41	14.72	14.81	15.05	15.11	15.30	17.01	19.03	12.55	12.72	12.53	11.46	10.93	11.20	#DIV/0!
Columbia County Rural Library District		#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	10.19	12.23	14.53	13.19	11.90	14.66	13.63	12.02	13.11	12.79	9.96	9.72	21.22	#DIV/0!
Davenport Public Library		3.42	3.40	3.22	3.70	3.48	3.96	3.88	4.06	3.75	3.48	3.52	2.92	2.74	3.23	3.41	3.94	5.75	4.62	1.00	#DIV/0!
Ellensburg Public Library		40.20	38.38	49.40	56.05	55.68	56.60	56.60	60.98	56.28	60.90	54.29	58.00	62.90	47.44	49.54	50.83	49.58	51.68	29.77	#DIV/0!
Everett Public Library		69.10	71.03	76.53	76.04	79.91	79.64	75.95	72.46	75.52	81.49	80.43	80.12	80.78	92.32	94.99	89.11	80.48	100.99	30.05	#DIV/0!
Fort Vancouver Regional Library District		49.72	57.19	55.41	59.32	54.19	54.84	55.11	61.16	73.92	63.37	67.95	64.63	62.49	55.29	45.07	58.29	57.67	50.92	50.27	#DIV/0!
Grandview Library		19.78	20.44	17.81	15.15	16.35	15.68	15.32	16.77	15.45	-	27.76	28.48	27.33	25.18	22.09	20.62	19.35	17.75	4.74	#DIV/0!
Harrington Public Library		12.46	10.76	10.76	10.64	10.72	11.23	16.79	19.22	20.10	9.74	6.00	5.29	4.09	4.25	5.05	4.17	3.70	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!
Jefferson County Rural Library District		30.83	28.77	29.06	30.55	31.23	33.79	33.51	40.90	45.03	59.88	55.01	32.35	44.96	45.17	45.60	44.98	41.80	40.59	20.40	#DIV/0!
Kalama Public Library		3.66	3.74	3.92	4.00	4.08	4.64	4.64	4.64	5.11	5.08	4.89	4.83	4.67	3.66	#VALUE!	-	-	6.68	8.68	#DIV/0!
Kelso Public Library		21.45	24.06	19.27	25.70	24.59	32.05	37.40	39.31	40.29	35.45	31.41	33.57	34.50	33.93	34.31	34.38	20.69	19.66	10.58	#DIV/0!
King County Library System		#VALUE!	#VALUE!	-	86.17	75.06	72.62	72.62	67.03	67.27	71.96	68.29	64.93	65.44	63.84	65.96	63.65	63.87	61.02	59.46	#DIV/0!
Kitsap Regional Library		62.13	68.83	68.05	64.37	72.93	69.23	72.28	64.62	62.63	61.71	57.91	56.45	59.20	49.88	48.60	50.71	49.07	51.41	52.72	#DIV/0!
Kittitas Public Library		3.27	1.96	3.97	4.60	2.52	2.61	2.81	3.05	2.98	#DIV/0!	2.59	2.93	3.10	2.93	2.28	2.39	2.05	2.97	1.37	#DIV/0!
La Conner Regional Library		17.62	11.28	10.60	9.48	13.63	19.22	19.91	20.22	20.82	18.12	18.12	16.52	16.31	16.23	15.58	14.38	13.29	12.74	12.68	#DIV/0!
Liberty Lake Municipal Library		#N/A	#N/A	4.86	8.78	16.02	17.27	22.85	20.20	21.31	19.08	22.86	22.71	22.78	23.17	23.62	26.74	33.06	27.27	62.20	#DIV/0!
Longview Public Library		86.13	90.57	102.25	96.59	91.94	91.86	95.28	90.97	71.54	70.89	76.11	69.96	79.60	80.61	81.39	74.90	78.95	73.60	64.66	#DIV/0!
Lopez Island Library District		11.55	13.51	15.08	14.64	13.77	17.58	22.19	28.33	31.59	29.75	35.46	27.66	31.27	27.41	26.91	25.59	25.69	22.24	18.04	#DIV/0!
Mid-Columbia Library System		#VALUE!	#VALUE!	-	-	64.27	69.49	72.37	83.76	90.52	89.77	84.80	52.47	42.17	43.26	36.73	34.93	33.33	29.62	29.27	#DIV/0!
Mount Vernon City Library		57.19	62.68	64.40	63.25	63.61	62.79	65.09	73.38	75.39	75.75	72.77	66.68	71.54	67.40	59.72	53.65	53.88	51.20	41.20	#DIV/0!
North Central Regional Library		13.19	13.87	15.25	15.64	14.72	13.54	16.65	18.19	24.75	20.71	22.86	21.01	22.03	20.64	17.34	18.11	15.98	16.50	15.25	#DIV/0!
North Olympic Library System		51.95	53.90	57.27	56.07	50.72	50.96	57.57	53.40	59.71	60.50	47.02	45.06	48.72	47.17	44.73	48.41	45.96	45.43	68.98	#DIV/0!
Ocean Shores Public Library		16.26	20.07	22.46	22.71	23.10	22.98	23.54	30.41	29.13	23.64	25.04	26.65	25.84	29.19	30.08	26.07	28.56	20.91	51.10	#DIV/0!
Odessa Public Library		3.45	6.66	3.35	2.07	3.10	3.10	3.60	3.00	3.80	4.00	3.85	3.65	3.95	4.23	3.08	2.75	3.32	2.45	2.20	#DIV/0!
Orcas Island Library District		24.04	26.04	37.78	54.41	55.18	55.84	58.16	56.56	55.18	52.72	49.58	50.73	50.80	49.98	48.35	45.29	43.25	44.93	43.42	#DIV/0!
Pend Oreille County Library District		12.04	12.39	12.07	12.21	11.96	11.65	11.53	14.18	15.83	16.46	17.18	19.58	18.27	16.90	13.98	13.08	13.87	13.95	3.91	#DIV/0!
Pierce County Library System		58.65	53.25	51.08	59.47	56.48	41.20	47.77	55.44	56.39	52.39	47.77	48.10	47.54	46.76	42.47	39.66	42.80	39.24	58.05	#DIV/0!
Pomeroy (Denny Ashby) Library		3.14	3.75	4.68	4.51	4.94	4.93	4.90	4.88	4.93	5.01	5.59	5.25	5.02	4.32	4.18	4.41	4.44	4.46	2.74	#DIV/0!
Port Townsend Public Library		#VALUE!	#VALUE!	-	-	-	61.32	62.74	60.07	63.64	65.22	27.92	21.61	41.21	45.27	45.47	51.89	51.34	49.61	76.91	#DIV/0!
Pullman (Neill) Public Library		56.83	56.83	63.35	63.79	66.16	62.86	55.39	150.56	153.71	140.68	133.93	110.97	101.92	111.80	112.57	103.35	108.44	107.41	106.19	#DIV/0!
Puyallup Public Library		61.91	124.18	112.97	103.37	99.48	154.11	157.98	151.27	129.60	125.69	130.84	118.06	117.34	115.37	114.46	98.69	104.85	106.94	55.50	#DIV/0!
Reardan Memorial Library		3.07	3.23	3.51	4.72	5.13	4.80	4.68	5.22	10.49	6.96	5.45	4.89	4.90	4.50	4.60	3.95	3.64	3.49	2.75	#DIV/0!
Richland Public Library		89.17	91.18	94.52	100.44	89.31	88.18	-	43.09	245.58	192.50	184.36	155.07	165.40	159.64	182.73	-	75.35	72.96	78.16	#DIV/0!
Ritzville Public Library		8.14	8.50	9.80	9.97	9.97	9.97	9.75	8.53	7.19	6.72	6.63	5.79	5.96	6.67	6.93	5.64	6.38	6.58	1.96	#DIV/0!
Roslyn Public Library		3.34	4.04	4.63	4.81	4.52	4.64	3.88	4.59	5.92	6.06	6.02	6.85	6.91	6.80	6.51	8.82	9.77	10.41	8.46	#DIV/0!
Roy City Library		2.71	2.23	2.81	4.01	4.57	3.98	2.95	3.03	4.95	4.40	3.28	2.98	3.10	3.25	2.95	2.87	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
San Juan Island Library District		19.79	19.60	19.58	15.59	27.09	37.53	39.22	41.04	40.87	40.77	41.28	42.82	40.73	40.43	40.29	38.94	39.11	37.04	43.34	#DIV/0!
Seattle Public Library		60.60	94.48	143.10	150.51	83.06	83.66	91.65	99.33	121.74	109.11	104.34	99.61	97.16	90.69	80.82	76.00	77.60	72.35	71.24	#DIV/0!
Sedro-Woolley Public Library		18.65	19.16	20.29	22.90	23.66	25.59	30.04	33.55	34.27	35.96	34.56	33.26	33.80	33.03	32.20	33.58	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
Sno-Isle Libraries		#VALUE!	50.82	55.41	56.66	59.27	54.07	56.16	59.16	63.20	61.43	60.52	57.79	57.43	54.08	55.76	50.07	49.19	46.32	138.12	#DIV/0!
Spokane County Library District		36.68	39.64	41.24	43.13	50.68	51.68	53.81	57.11	58.21	58.34	54.10	53.16	52.49	51.21	51.48	43.75	47.36	40.97	58.65	#DIV/0!
Spokane Public Library		62.21	61.34	-	-	80.70	80.92	78.62	82.17	82.22	80.78	80.27	78.15	66.93	66.72	65.90	65.15	64.63	66.68	29.59	#DIV/0!
Sprague Public Library		0.21	0.21	0.21	0.44	0.47	1.22	1.02	1.02	0.99	1.06	1.07	1.07	1.06	1.58	2.20	2.28	1.75	#DIV/0!	-	#DIV/0!
Stevens County Rural Library District		12.64	13.96	13.80	17.66	21.50	21.50	17.03	18.91	18.87	20.57	19.84	21.28	26.23	22.00	20.45	23.45	24.74	24.02	28.27	#DIV/0!
Tacoma Public Library		51.23	53.26	58.38	55.83	52.49	#DIV/0!	-	-	-	-	46.72	52.37	48.74	47.22	46.08	42.74	43.56	44.13	31.82	#DIV/0!
Timberland Regional Library		45.61	47.19	49.04	46.06	47.52	45.05	50.83	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!	53.32	56.50	48.82	45.71	43.04	-	39.59	-	-	#DIV/0!
Upper Skagit Library District		#N/A	#VALUE!	26.79	-	-	-	-	11.76	14.29	13.96	13.65	15.52	14.03	17.24	18.49	17.70	17.27	14.83	9.05	#DIV/0!
Waitsburg (Weller) Public Library		7.29	7.32	6.89	7.31	7.31	7.31	7.31	7.69	-	-	-	#VALUE!	-	-	#VALUE!	-	-	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!
Walla Walla County Rural Library District		3.12	3.81	3.54	3.89	3.62	3.96	4.06	4.20	4.34	5.08	5.19	5.81	5.26	4.67	4.23	4.14	4.26	3.49	7.44	#DIV/0!
Walla Walla Public Library		#VALUE!	#VALUE!	71.96	69.13	73.94	76.99	90.05	85.65	85.90	87.60	94.49	80.68	113.21	100.22	92.24	91.95	83.81	69.36	66.10	#DIV/0!
Whatcom County Library System		#VALUE!	#VALUE!	-	-	-	38.23	41.91	44.71	45.40	46.63	47.49	45.18	39.10	35.63	36.43	29.88	26.18	20.75	27.82	#DIV/0!
Whitman County Library		#VALUE!	#VALUE!	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	#VALUE!	-	-	#VALUE!	-	-	-	-	#DIV/0!
Wilbur (Hesseltine) Public Library		5.85	6.54	6.04	5.76	5.30	5.46	5.04	5.02	4.58	4.67	5.40	4.34	3.88	4.01	3.56	3.16	3.08	2.70	1.74	#DIV/0!
Yakima Valley Libraries		16.26	21.47	18.17	18.23	20.05	21.57	21.10	22.07	23.24	20.39	23.55	25.14	18.63	17.44	20.42	17.82	18.58	18.24	17.13	#DIV/0!
STATE TOTAL		28.09	36.74	40.34	56.68	52.18	53.40	52.81	55.32	63.06	63.07	57.83	55.07	53.30	50.58	48.91	43.65	46.66	41.59	44.38	#DIV/0!

And in fact when you compare Visits per Open Hour across all 60 public libraries in Washington, we are far above every other library (excluding a few questionable years at Richland). This may suggest that we have demand for more open hours throughout our Library.

Even in 2020 we were 2nd only to Sno-Isle, due to their Visits not dropping as deeply as their Hours Open.

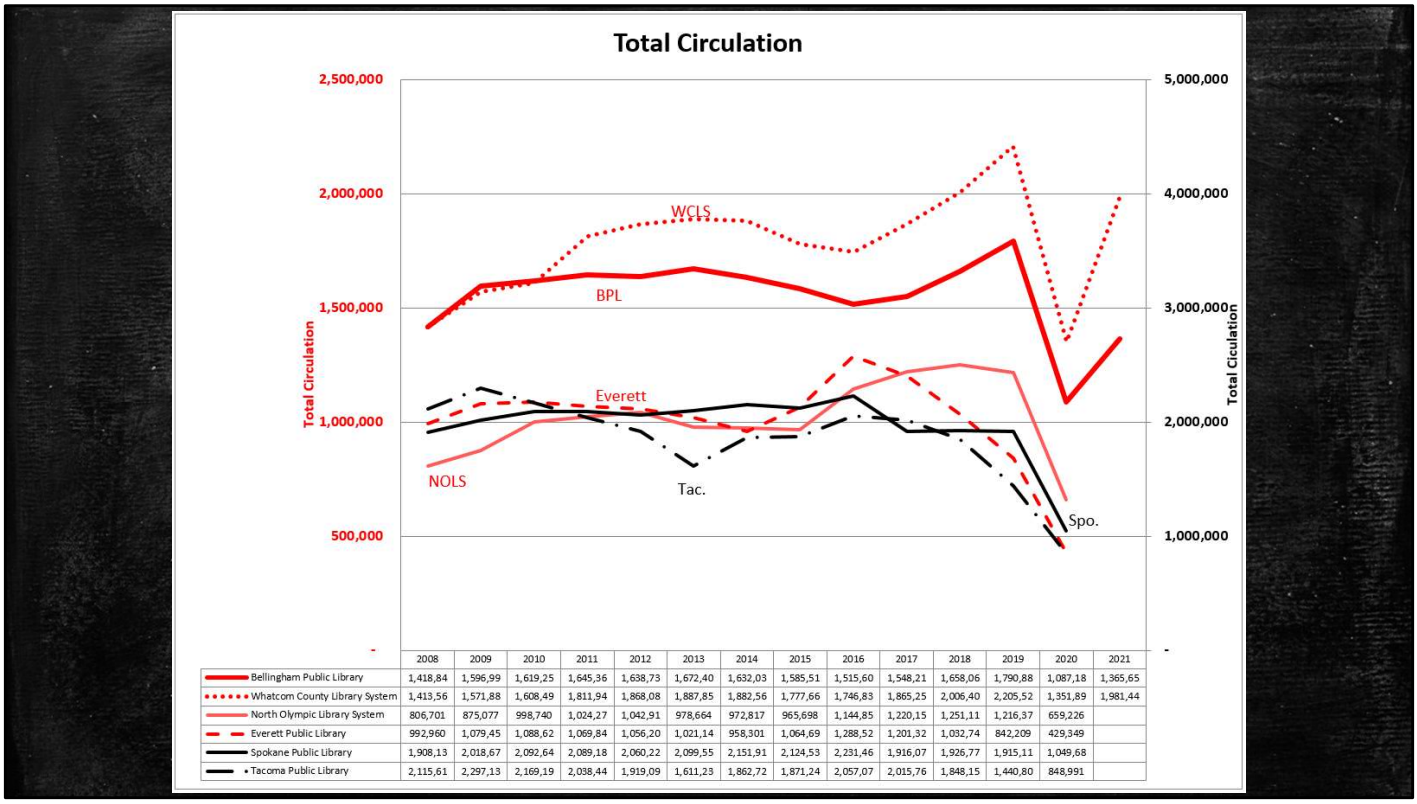
Speaking of Curbside…



The pandemic has led to changes in what data the Institute for Museum and Library Services (IMLS) and the State Libraries are asking libraries to report. Added for 2020 were over a dozen new questions specifically related to service during the pandemic. Offering 'curbside' service was a common option for libraries, and we were asked to report on whether or not we offered curbside service, and if so, how many hours of curbside services were offered, and how many patron visits we had.

So here we have all 60 WA public libraries and a calculation of how many Curbside Visits per Capita each offered. BPL was in the top 10% (6th). WCLS did not report a count of curbside visits.

Patrons do more than just visit our buildings, though, and we try to measure other sorts of use, like how many things our patrons borrow.

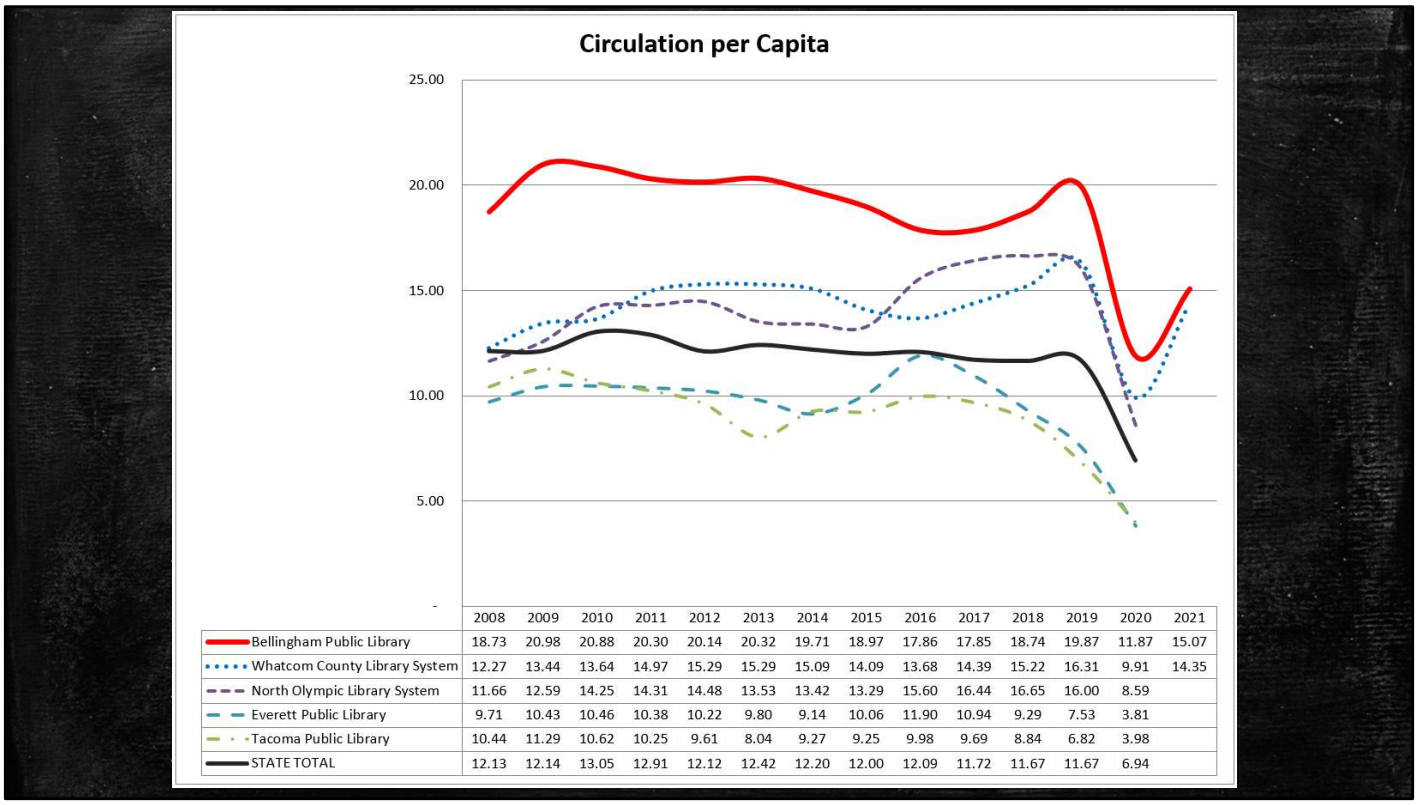


	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Bellingham Public Library	1,418,84	1,596,99	1,619,25	1,645,36	1,638,73	1,672,40	1,632,03	1,585,51	1,515,60	1,548,21	1,658,06	1,790,88	1,087,18	1,365,65
Whatcom County Library System	1,413,56	1,571,88	1,608,49	1,811,94	1,868,08	1,887,85	1,882,56	1,777,66	1,746,83	1,865,25	2,006,40	2,205,52	1,351,89	1,981,44
North Olympic Library System	806,701	875,077	998,740	1,024,27	1,042,91	978,664	972,817	965,698	1,144,85	1,220,15	1,251,11	1,216,37	659,226	
Everett Public Library	992,960	1,079,45	1,088,62	1,069,84	1,056,20	1,021,14	958,301	1,064,69	1,288,52	1,201,32	1,032,74	842,209	429,349	
Spokane Public Library	1,908,13	2,018,67	2,092,64	2,089,18	2,060,22	2,099,55	2,151,91	2,124,53	2,231,46	1,916,07	1,926,77	1,915,11	1,049,68	
Tacoma Public Library	2,115,61	2,297,13	2,169,19	2,038,44	1,919,09	1,611,23	1,862,72	1,871,24	2,057,07	2,015,76	1,848,15	1,440,80	848,991	

This compares BPL's total circulation to 3 libraries with similar-sized circulation, and 2 libraries, Spokane and Tacoma, with larger circulation, shown on a 2nd Y-Axis. BPL had a few years of declining circulation in the middle 20-teens, but the 3 years to 2019 saw increases when ebooks are included.

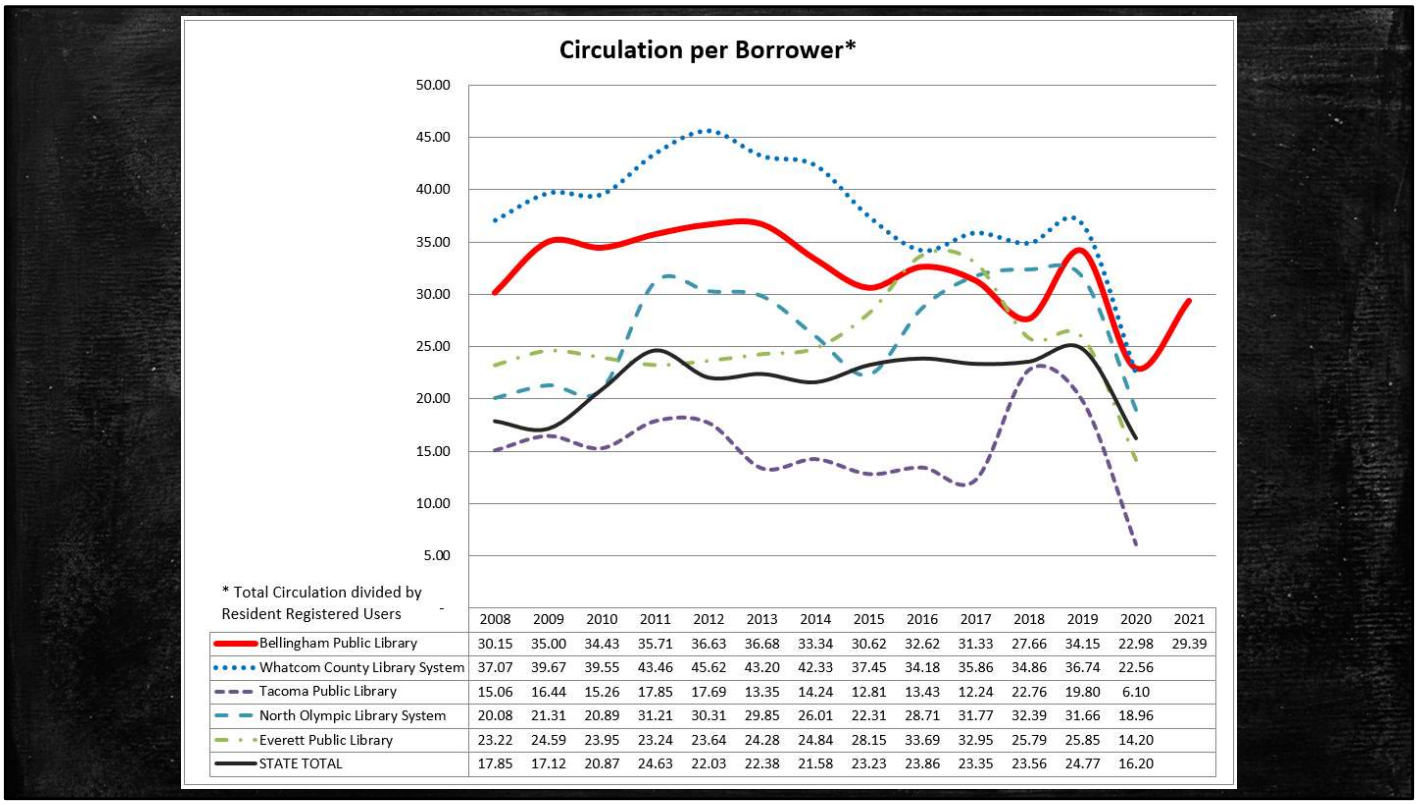
2020 was a disaster, literally, but honestly circulation didn't drop as much as I'd feared. The bounce in 2021 is really remarkable, considering how much of the year we were curbside-only.

This again doesn't really show the intensity of circulation at BPL, though. Again it helps to use per Capita-type comparisons….



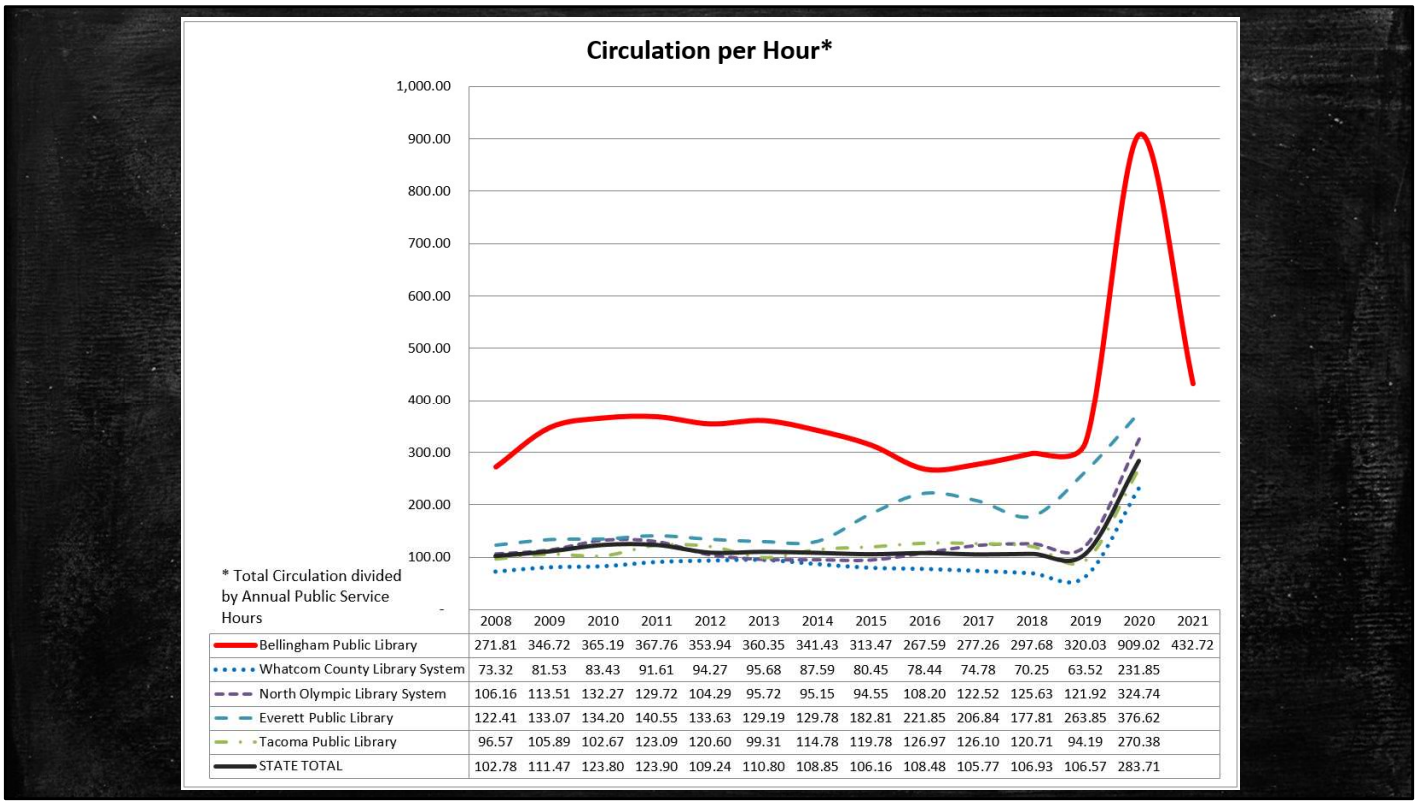
	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Bellingham Public Library	18.73	20.98	20.88	20.30	20.14	20.32	19.71	18.97	17.86	17.85	18.74	19.87	11.87	15.07
Whatcom County Library System	12.27	13.44	13.64	14.97	15.29	15.29	15.09	14.09	13.68	14.39	15.22	16.31	9.91	14.35
North Olympic Library System	11.66	12.59	14.25	14.31	14.48	13.53	13.42	13.29	15.60	16.44	16.65	16.00	8.59	
Everett Public Library	9.71	10.43	10.46	10.38	10.22	9.80	9.14	10.06	11.90	10.94	9.29	7.53	3.81	
Tacoma Public Library	10.44	11.29	10.62	10.25	9.61	8.04	9.27	9.25	9.98	9.69	8.84	6.82	3.98	
STATE TOTAL	12.13	12.14	13.05	12.91	12.12	12.42	12.20	12.00	12.09	11.72	11.67	11.67	6.94	

Circulation per Capita is a common metric, which shows us well above the State average. These libraries kept their same order on this measure during the first year of the pandemic. It'll be interesting to see how much the others regained in 2021. BPL recovered a little under halfway.



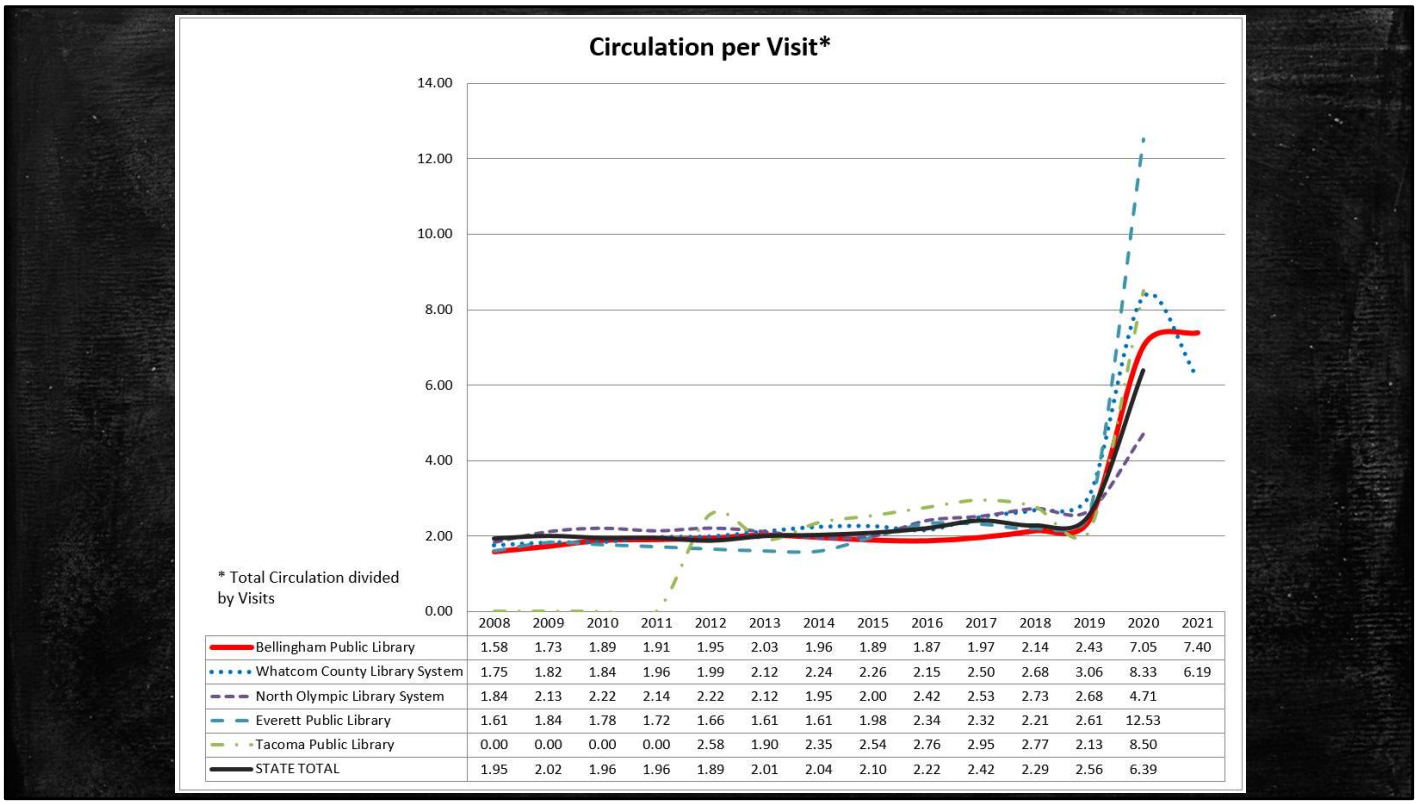
	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Bellingham Public Library	30.15	35.00	34.43	35.71	36.63	36.68	33.34	30.62	32.62	31.33	27.66	34.15	22.98	29.39
Whatcom County Library System	37.07	39.67	39.55	43.46	45.62	43.20	42.33	37.45	34.18	35.86	34.86	36.74	22.56	
Tacoma Public Library	15.06	16.44	15.26	17.85	17.69	13.35	14.24	12.81	13.43	12.24	22.76	19.80	6.10	
North Olympic Library System	20.08	21.31	20.89	31.21	30.31	29.85	26.01	22.31	28.71	31.77	32.39	31.66	18.96	
Everett Public Library	23.22	24.59	23.95	23.24	23.64	24.28	24.84	28.15	33.69	32.95	25.79	25.85	14.20	
STATE TOTAL	17.85	17.12	20.87	24.63	22.03	22.38	21.58	23.23	23.86	23.35	23.56	24.77	16.20	

Circulation per Borrower is a less-common comparison. WCLS's cardholders had been borrowing at a higher rate than BPL's cardholders, both well above the State average, but the pandemic evened us up for 2020. .



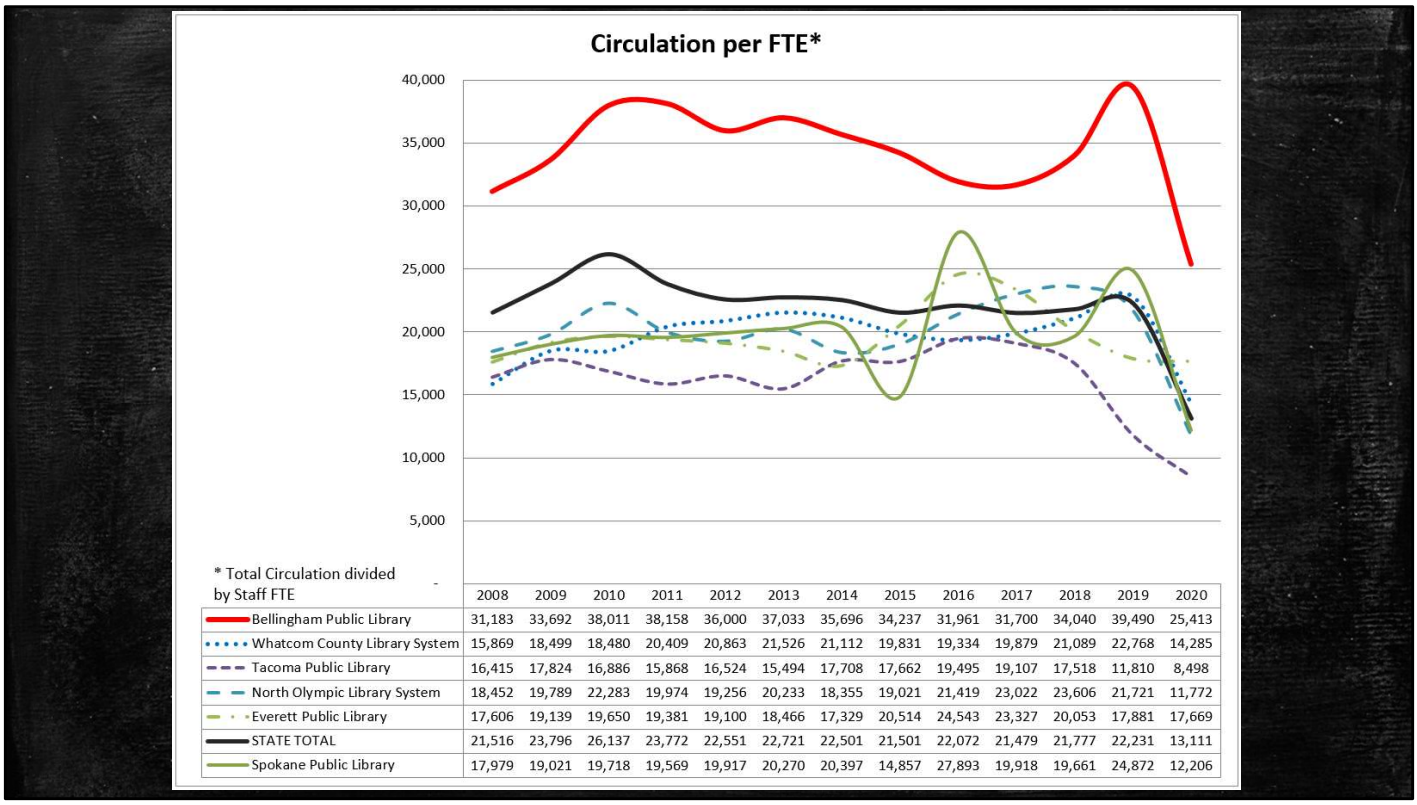
	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Bellingham Public Library	271.81	346.72	365.19	367.76	353.94	360.35	341.43	313.47	267.59	277.26	297.68	320.03	909.02	432.72
Whatcom County Library System	73.32	81.53	83.43	91.61	94.27	95.68	87.59	80.45	78.44	74.78	70.25	63.52	231.85	
North Olympic Library System	106.16	113.51	132.27	129.72	104.29	95.72	95.15	94.55	108.20	122.52	125.63	121.92	324.74	
Everett Public Library	122.41	133.07	134.20	140.55	133.63	129.19	129.78	182.81	221.85	206.84	177.81	263.85	376.62	
Tacoma Public Library	96.57	105.89	102.67	123.09	120.60	99.31	114.78	119.78	126.97	126.10	120.71	94.19	270.38	
STATE TOTAL	102.78	111.47	123.80	123.90	109.24	110.80	108.85	106.16	108.48	105.77	106.93	106.57	283.71	

Do we seem busy? Yes! Circulation per Hour puts us well outside the norm, again suggesting that use of our available hours is much more intense than in many other libraries.
2020 was extraordinary, while 2021 return to a point more in the realm of sustainable workload.



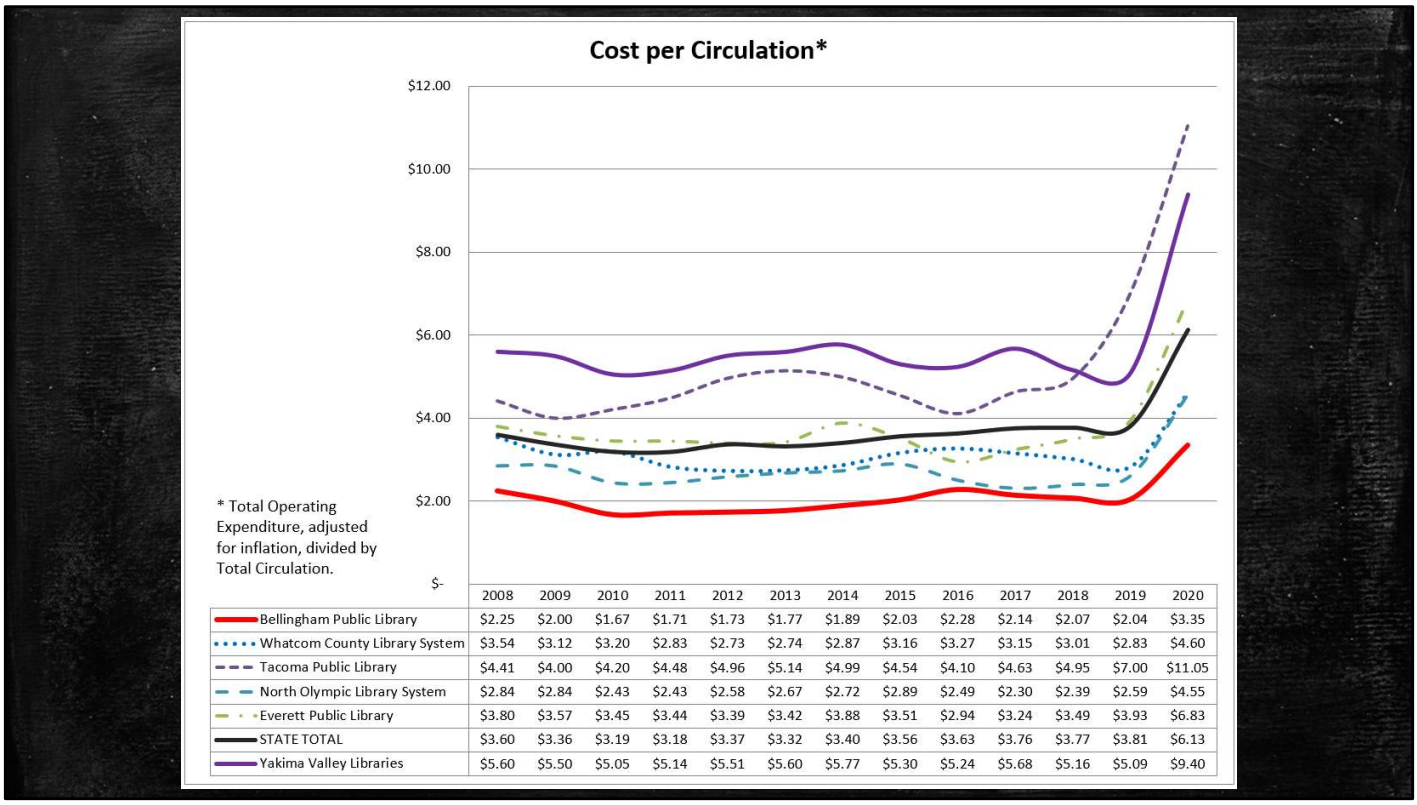
	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Bellingham Public Library	1.58	1.73	1.89	1.91	1.95	2.03	1.96	1.89	1.87	1.97	2.14	2.43	7.05	7.40
Whatcom County Library System	1.75	1.82	1.84	1.96	1.99	2.12	2.24	2.26	2.15	2.50	2.68	3.06	8.33	6.19
North Olympic Library System	1.84	2.13	2.22	2.14	2.22	2.12	1.95	2.00	2.42	2.53	2.73	2.68	4.71	
Everett Public Library	1.61	1.84	1.78	1.72	1.66	1.61	1.61	1.98	2.34	2.32	2.21	2.61	12.53	
Tacoma Public Library	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.58	1.90	2.35	2.54	2.76	2.95	2.77	2.13	8.50	
STATE TOTAL	1.95	2.02	1.96	1.96	1.89	2.01	2.04	2.10	2.22	2.42	2.29	2.56	6.39	

A major driver of that change was a change in patron behavior from borrowing about 2 items per visit, to borrowing from 5 - 12 items per visit. The State average leapt up to 6.4 from 2; both BPL and WCLS saw large increases in 2020. WCLS decreased in 2021, while BPL increased a little bit more. Both during curbside and after, with in-person visits, we see people borrowing more items at once, and visiting less frequently. Note that 'Total Circulation' includes e-materials. A comparison based on physical materials would likely be a little bit different, but not hugely.



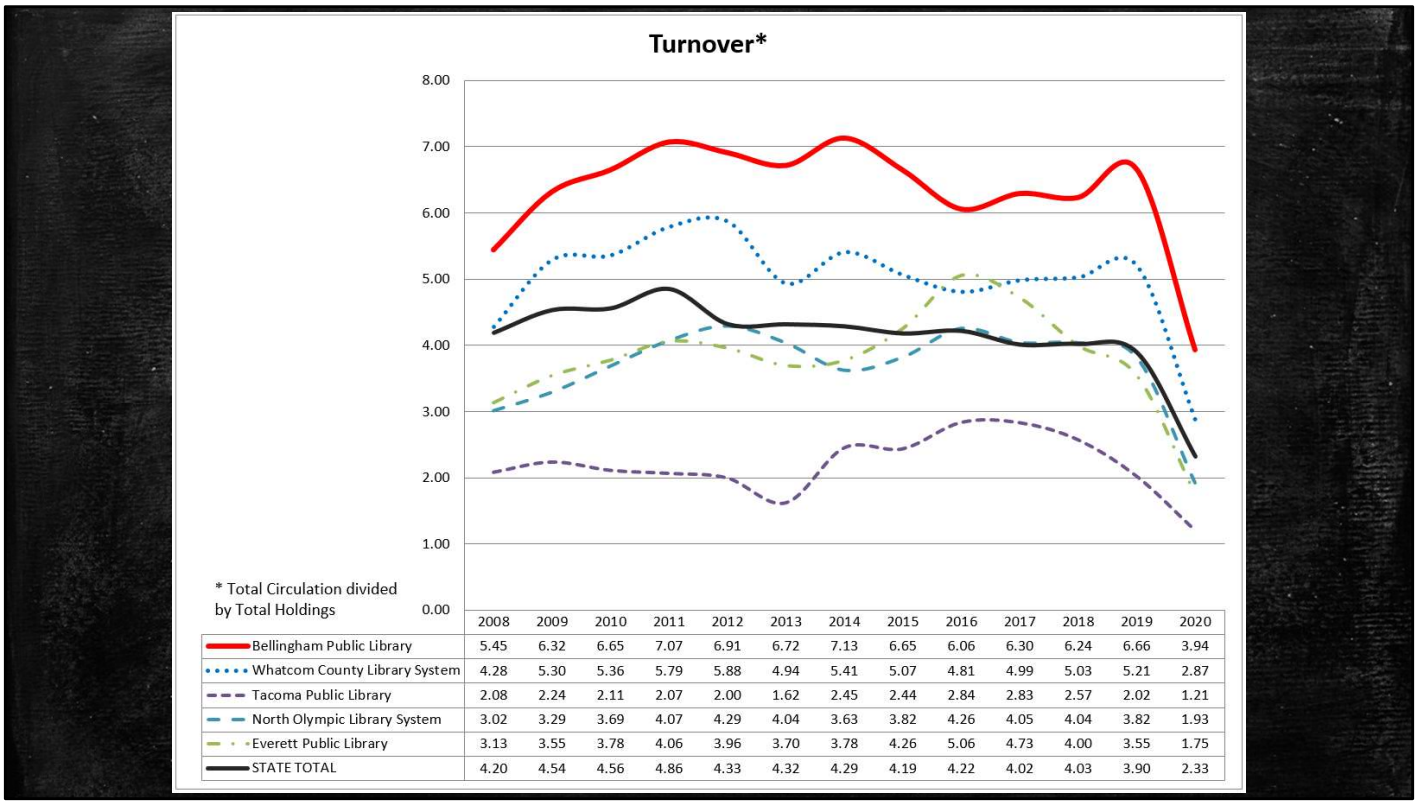
* Total Circulation divided by Staff FTE	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Bellingham Public Library	31,183	33,692	38,011	38,158	36,000	37,033	35,696	34,237	31,961	31,700	34,040	39,490	25,413
Whatcom County Library System	15,869	18,499	18,480	20,409	20,863	21,526	21,112	19,831	19,334	19,879	21,089	22,768	14,285
Tacoma Public Library	16,415	17,824	16,886	15,868	16,524	15,494	17,708	17,662	19,495	19,107	17,518	11,810	8,498
North Olympic Library System	18,452	19,789	22,283	19,974	19,256	20,233	18,355	19,021	21,419	23,022	23,606	21,721	11,772
Everett Public Library	17,606	19,139	19,650	19,381	19,100	18,466	17,329	20,514	24,543	23,327	20,053	17,881	17,669
STATE TOTAL	21,516	23,796	26,137	23,772	22,551	22,721	22,501	21,501	22,072	21,479	21,777	22,231	13,111
Spokane Public Library	17,979	19,021	19,718	19,569	19,917	20,270	20,397	14,857	27,893	19,918	19,661	24,872	12,206

Are we efficient with our use of employees? Yes!
Running curbside service takes a lot more staff time per circulation, but even with our drop in efficiency, other libraries dropped as much or more.



	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Bellingham Public Library	$2.25	$2.00	$1.67	$1.71	$1.73	$1.77	$1.89	$2.03	$2.28	$2.14	$2.07	$2.04	$3.35
Whatcom County Library System	$3.54	$3.12	$3.20	$2.83	$2.73	$2.74	$2.87	$3.16	$3.27	$3.15	$3.01	$2.83	$4.60
Tacoma Public Library	$4.41	$4.00	$4.20	$4.48	$4.96	$5.14	$4.99	$4.54	$4.10	$4.63	$4.95	$7.00	$11.05
North Olympic Library System	$2.84	$2.84	$2.43	$2.43	$2.58	$2.67	$2.72	$2.89	$2.49	$2.30	$2.39	$2.59	$4.55
Everett Public Library	$3.80	$3.57	$3.45	$3.44	$3.39	$3.42	$3.88	$3.51	$2.94	$3.24	$3.49	$3.93	$6.83
STATE TOTAL	$3.60	$3.36	$3.19	$3.18	$3.37	$3.32	$3.40	$3.56	$3.63	$3.76	$3.77	$3.81	$6.13
Yakima Valley Libraries	$5.60	$5.50	$5.05	$5.14	$5.51	$5.60	$5.77	$5.30	$5.24	$5.68	$5.16	$5.09	$9.40

How about our value for the dollar? Well, if your measure is circulation, we're exceptional. Many libraries spend much more per circulation.
Our 2020 Cost per Circ. rose to just below where the State average was pre-pandemic.

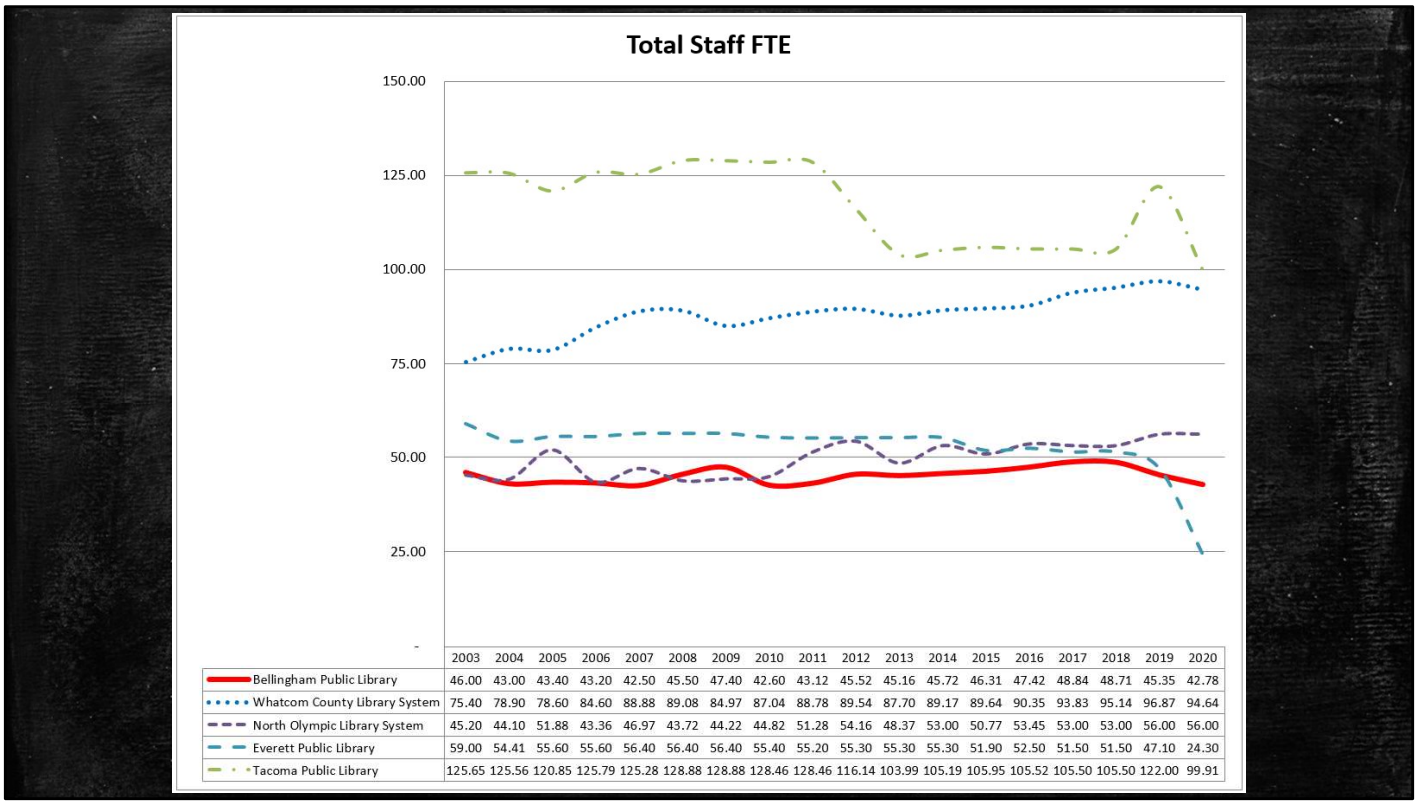


	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Bellingham Public Library	5.45	6.32	6.65	7.07	6.91	6.72	7.13	6.65	6.06	6.30	6.24	6.66	3.94
Whatcom County Library System	4.28	5.30	5.36	5.79	5.88	4.94	5.41	5.07	4.81	4.99	5.03	5.21	2.87
Tacoma Public Library	2.08	2.24	2.11	2.07	2.00	1.62	2.45	2.44	2.84	2.83	2.57	2.02	1.21
North Olympic Library System	3.02	3.29	3.69	4.07	4.29	4.04	3.63	3.82	4.26	4.05	4.04	3.82	1.93
Everett Public Library	3.13	3.55	3.78	4.06	3.96	3.70	3.78	4.26	5.06	4.73	4.00	3.55	1.75
STATE TOTAL	4.20	4.54	4.56	4.86	4.33	4.32	4.29	4.19	4.22	4.02	4.03	3.90	2.33

Is our collection getting used, or is it sitting around getting dusty? Turnover provides a way to look at intensity of use of the collection. Ours has been substantially above the State average for over a decade. This shows our collection is getting substantial use relative to other libraries in the state.

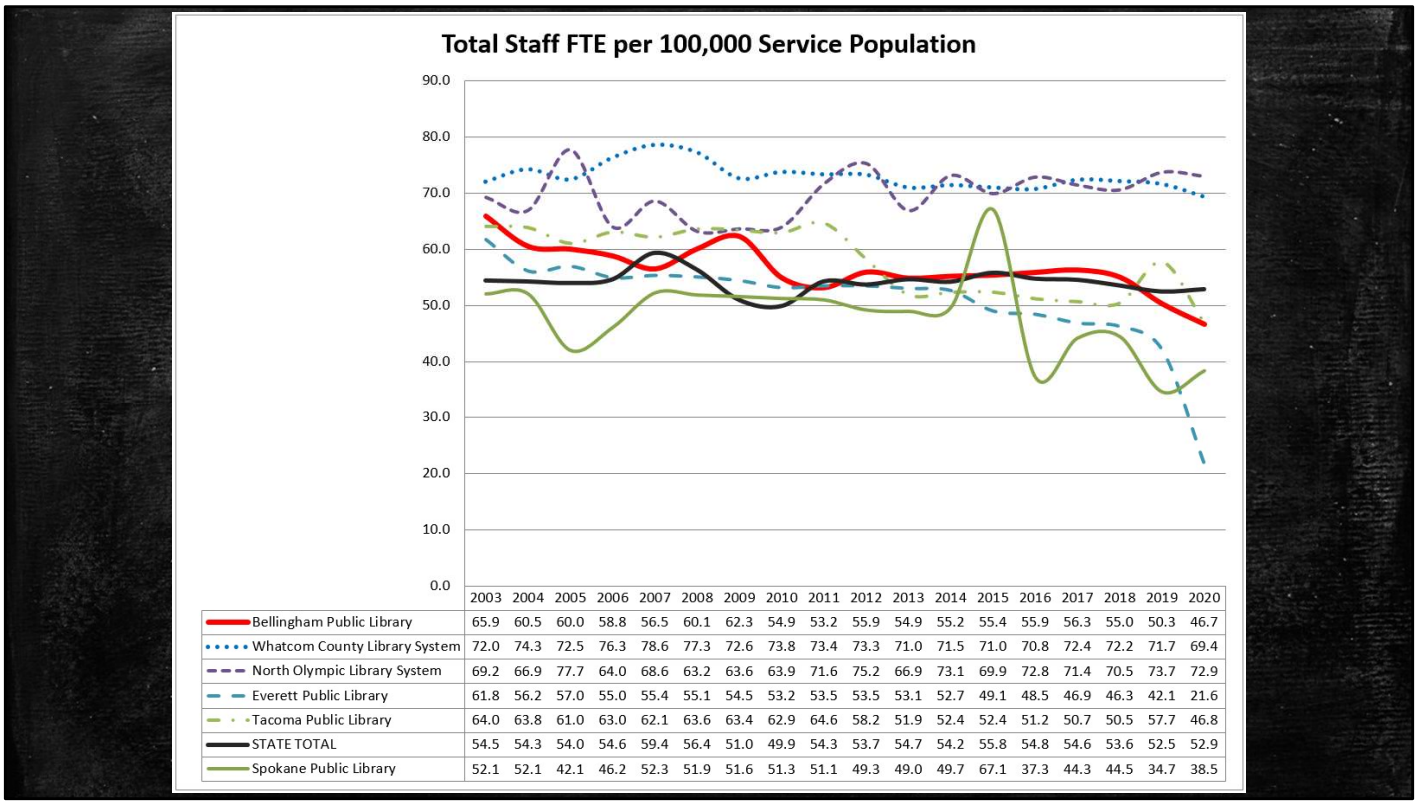
In 2020 our Turnover dropped to where the State average was pre-pandemic. We should pick back up in the 2021 data.

Total Holdings include e-materials. The State Library provides us with the correct counts from Overdrive, and we haven't received that info. yet (2/7/22).



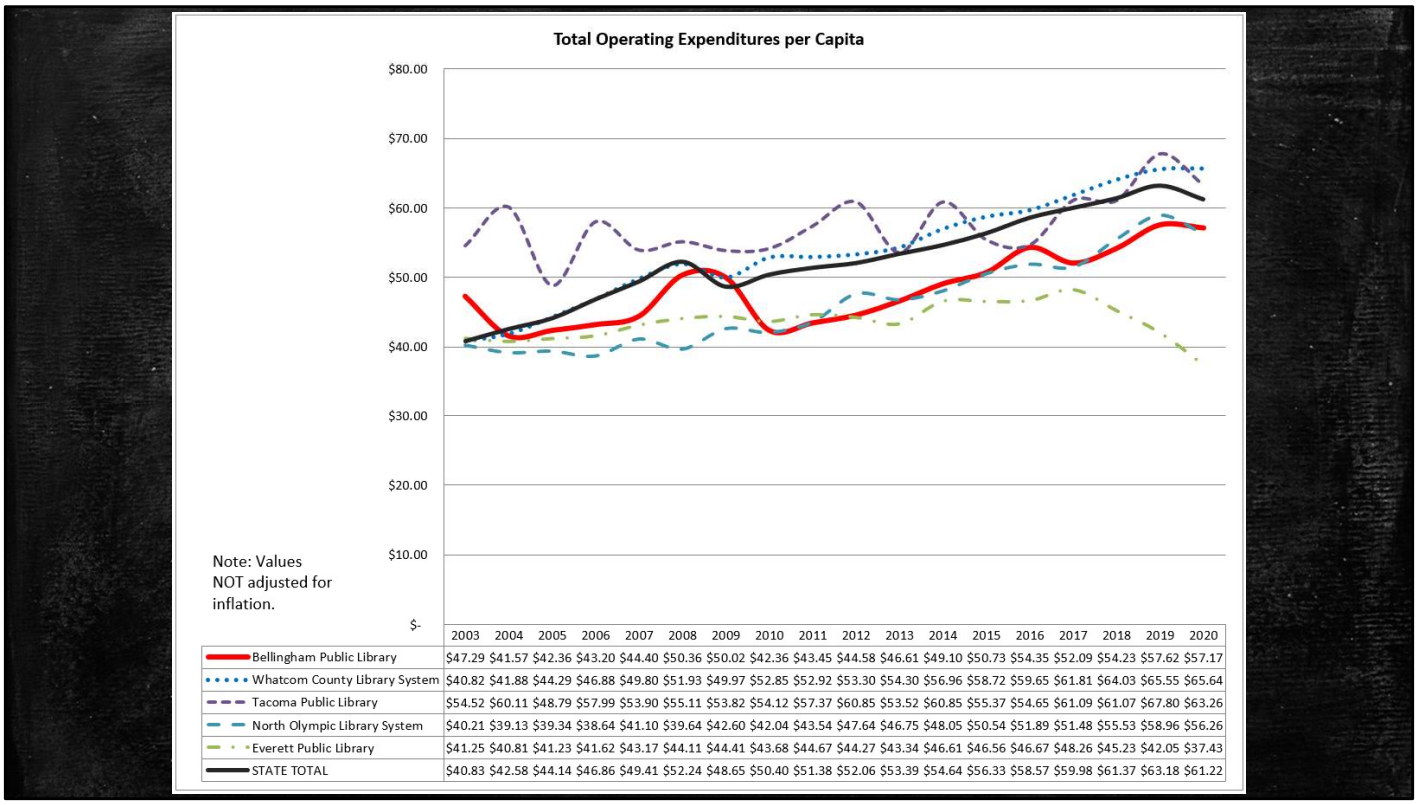
	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Bellingham Public Library	46.00	43.00	43.40	43.20	42.50	45.50	47.40	42.60	43.12	45.52	45.16	45.72	46.31	47.42	48.84	48.71	45.35	42.78
Whatcom County Library System	75.40	78.90	78.60	84.60	88.88	89.08	84.97	87.04	88.78	89.54	87.70	89.17	89.64	90.35	93.83	95.14	96.87	94.64
North Olympic Library System	45.20	44.10	51.88	43.36	46.97	43.72	44.22	44.82	51.28	54.16	48.37	53.00	50.77	53.45	53.00	53.00	56.00	56.00
Everett Public Library	59.00	54.41	55.60	55.60	56.40	56.40	56.40	55.40	55.20	55.30	55.30	55.30	51.90	52.50	51.50	51.50	47.10	24.30
Tacoma Public Library	125.65	125.56	120.85	125.79	125.28	128.88	128.88	128.46	128.46	116.14	103.99	105.19	105.95	105.52	105.50	105.50	122.00	99.91

How about staff – how do we compare to others? We're pretty low compared to this group.
The pandemic had greater impacts on some libraries, less on others. BPL had relatively minor impacts.



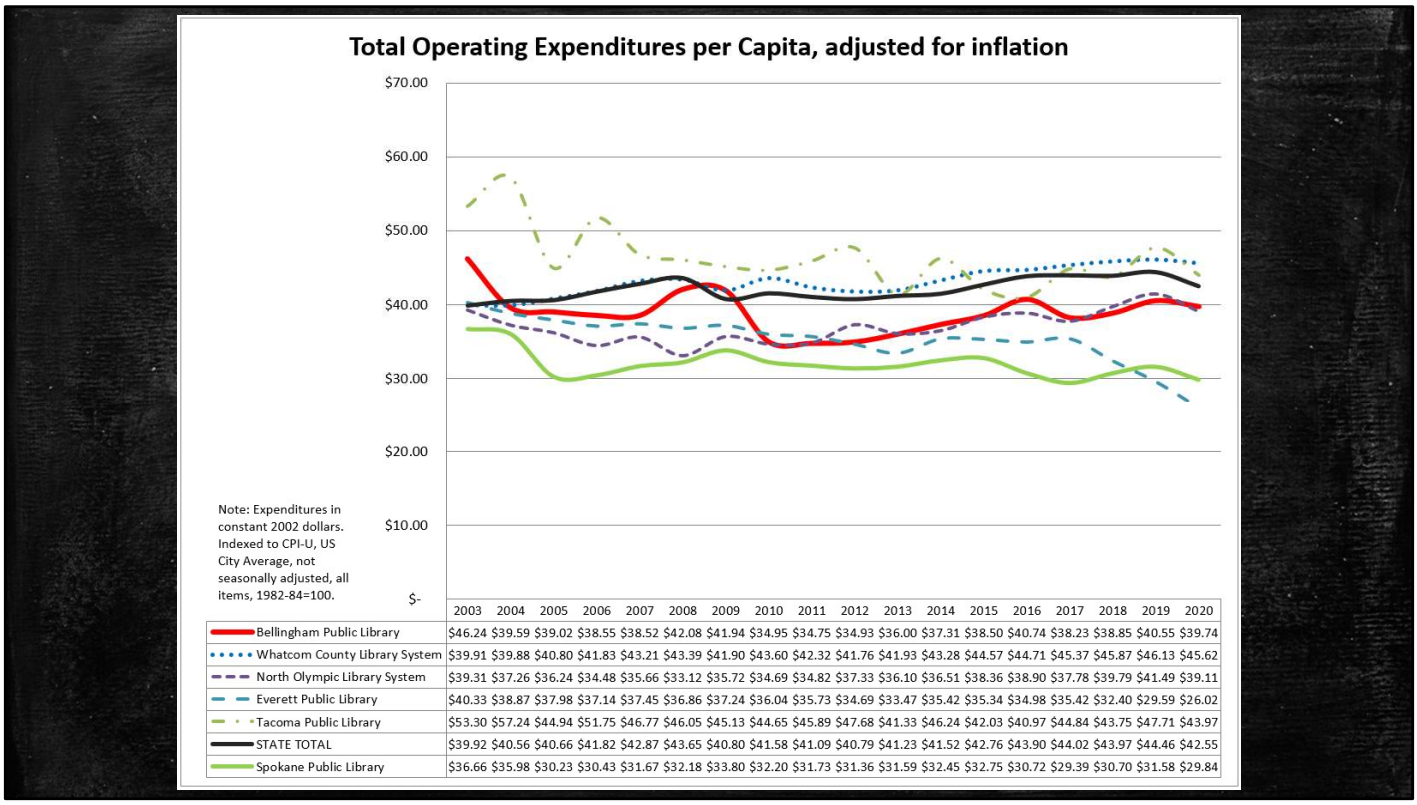
	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Bellingham Public Library	65.9	60.5	60.0	58.8	56.5	60.1	62.3	54.9	53.2	55.9	54.9	55.2	55.4	55.9	56.3	55.0	50.3	46.7
Whatcom County Library System	72.0	74.3	72.5	76.3	78.6	77.3	72.6	73.8	73.4	73.3	71.0	71.5	71.0	70.8	72.4	72.2	71.7	69.4
North Olympic Library System	69.2	66.9	77.7	64.0	68.6	63.2	63.6	63.9	71.6	75.2	66.9	73.1	69.9	72.8	71.4	70.5	73.7	72.9
Everett Public Library	61.8	56.2	57.0	55.0	55.4	55.1	54.5	53.2	53.5	53.5	53.1	52.7	49.1	48.5	46.9	46.3	42.1	21.6
Tacoma Public Library	64.0	63.8	61.0	63.0	62.1	63.6	63.4	62.9	64.6	58.2	51.9	52.4	52.4	51.2	50.7	50.5	57.7	46.8
STATE TOTAL	54.5	54.3	54.0	54.6	59.4	56.4	51.0	49.9	54.3	53.7	54.7	54.2	55.8	54.8	54.6	53.6	52.5	52.9
Spokane Public Library	52.1	52.1	42.1	46.2	52.3	51.9	51.6	51.3	51.1	49.3	49.0	49.7	67.1	37.3	44.3	44.5	34.7	38.5

But when you normalize for population, we're right at the State average. Remember, though, that our circulation is bounds above other libraries on a per capita basis… Because we're part of the City, some of our needs are met by City staff who aren't reflected in the Staff FTE metric. That work IS captured in our Operating Expenditures, though, due to charge-backs within the City budget.



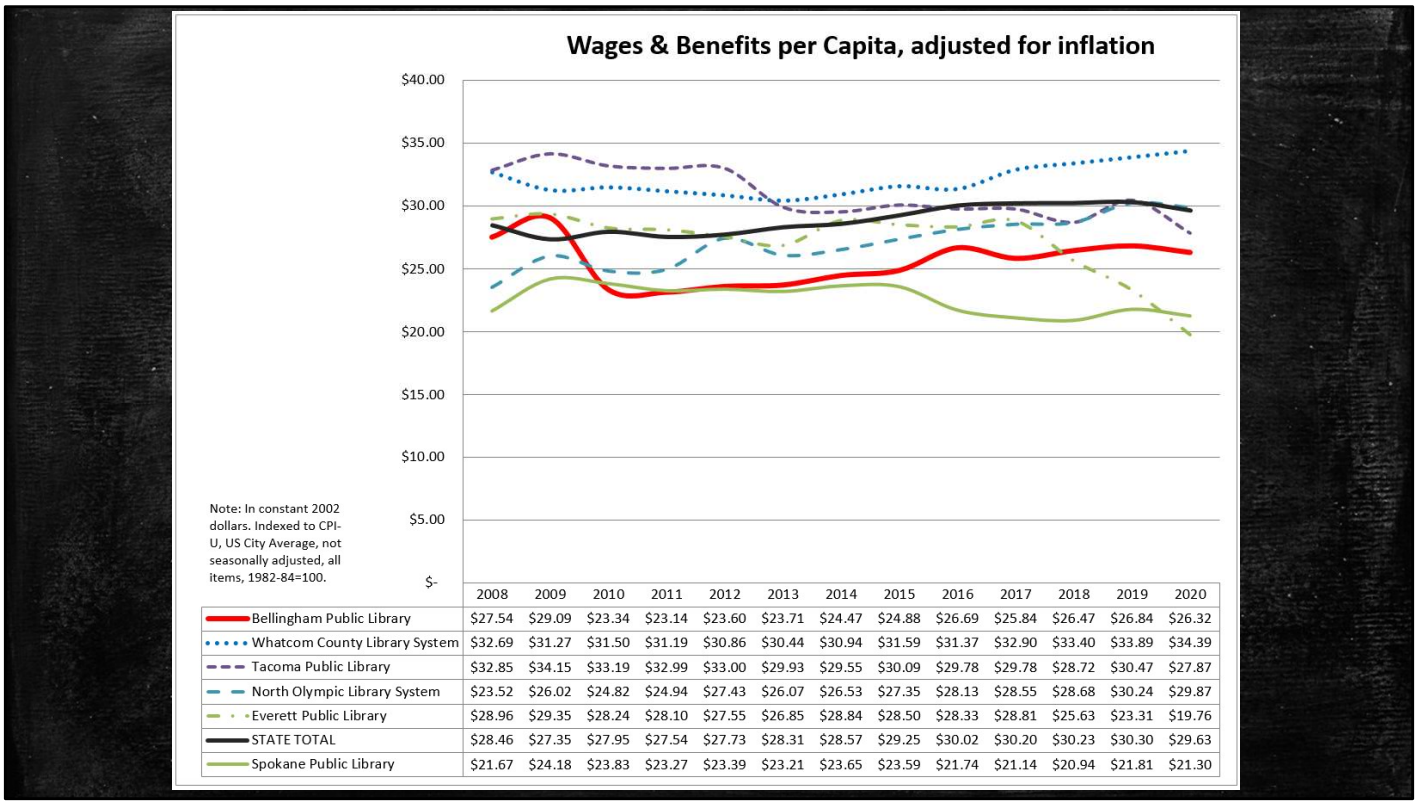
	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Bellingham Public Library	$47.29	$41.57	$42.36	$43.20	$44.40	$50.36	$50.02	$42.36	$43.45	$44.58	$46.61	$49.10	$50.73	$54.35	$52.09	$54.23	$57.62	$57.17
Whatcom County Library System	$40.82	$41.88	$44.29	$46.88	$49.80	$51.93	$49.97	$52.85	$52.92	$53.30	$54.30	$56.96	$58.72	$59.65	$61.81	$64.03	$65.55	$65.64
Tacoma Public Library	$54.52	$60.11	$48.79	$57.99	$53.90	$55.11	$53.82	$54.12	$57.37	$60.85	$53.52	$60.85	$55.37	$54.65	$61.09	$61.07	$67.80	$63.26
North Olympic Library System	$40.21	$39.13	$39.34	$38.64	$41.10	$39.64	$42.60	$42.04	$43.54	$47.64	$46.75	$48.05	$50.54	$51.89	$51.48	$55.53	$58.96	$56.26
Everett Public Library	$41.25	$40.81	$41.23	$41.62	$43.17	$44.11	$44.41	$43.68	$44.67	$44.27	$43.34	$46.61	$46.56	$46.67	$48.26	$45.23	$42.05	$37.43
STATE TOTAL	$40.83	$42.58	$44.14	$46.86	$49.41	$52.24	$48.65	$50.40	$51.38	$52.06	$53.39	$54.64	$56.33	$58.57	$59.98	$61.37	$63.18	$61.22

But still we're below the State average expenditure per capita



	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Bellingham Public Library	$46.24	$39.59	$39.02	$38.55	$38.52	$42.08	$41.94	$34.95	$34.75	$34.93	$36.00	$37.31	$38.50	$40.74	$38.23	$38.85	$40.55	$39.74
Whatcom County Library System	$39.91	$39.88	$40.80	$41.83	$43.21	$43.39	$41.90	$43.60	$42.32	$41.76	$41.93	$43.28	$44.57	$44.71	$45.37	$45.87	$46.13	$45.62
North Olympic Library System	$39.31	$37.26	$36.24	$34.48	$35.66	$33.12	$35.72	$34.69	$34.82	$37.33	$36.10	$36.51	$38.36	$38.90	$37.78	$39.79	$41.49	$39.11
Everett Public Library	$40.33	$38.87	$37.98	$37.14	$37.45	$36.86	$37.24	$36.04	$35.73	$34.69	$33.47	$35.42	$35.34	$34.98	$35.42	$32.40	$29.59	$26.02
Tacoma Public Library	$53.30	$57.24	$44.94	$51.75	$46.77	$46.05	$45.13	$44.65	$45.89	$47.68	$41.33	$46.24	$42.03	$40.97	$44.84	$43.75	$47.71	$43.97
STATE TOTAL	$39.92	$40.56	$40.66	$41.82	$42.87	$43.65	$40.80	$41.58	$41.09	$40.79	$41.23	$41.52	$42.76	$43.90	$44.02	$43.97	$44.46	$42.55
Spokane Public Library	$36.66	$35.98	$30.23	$30.43	$31.67	$32.18	$33.80	$32.20	$31.73	$31.36	$31.59	$32.45	$32.75	$30.72	$29.39	$30.70	$31.58	$29.84

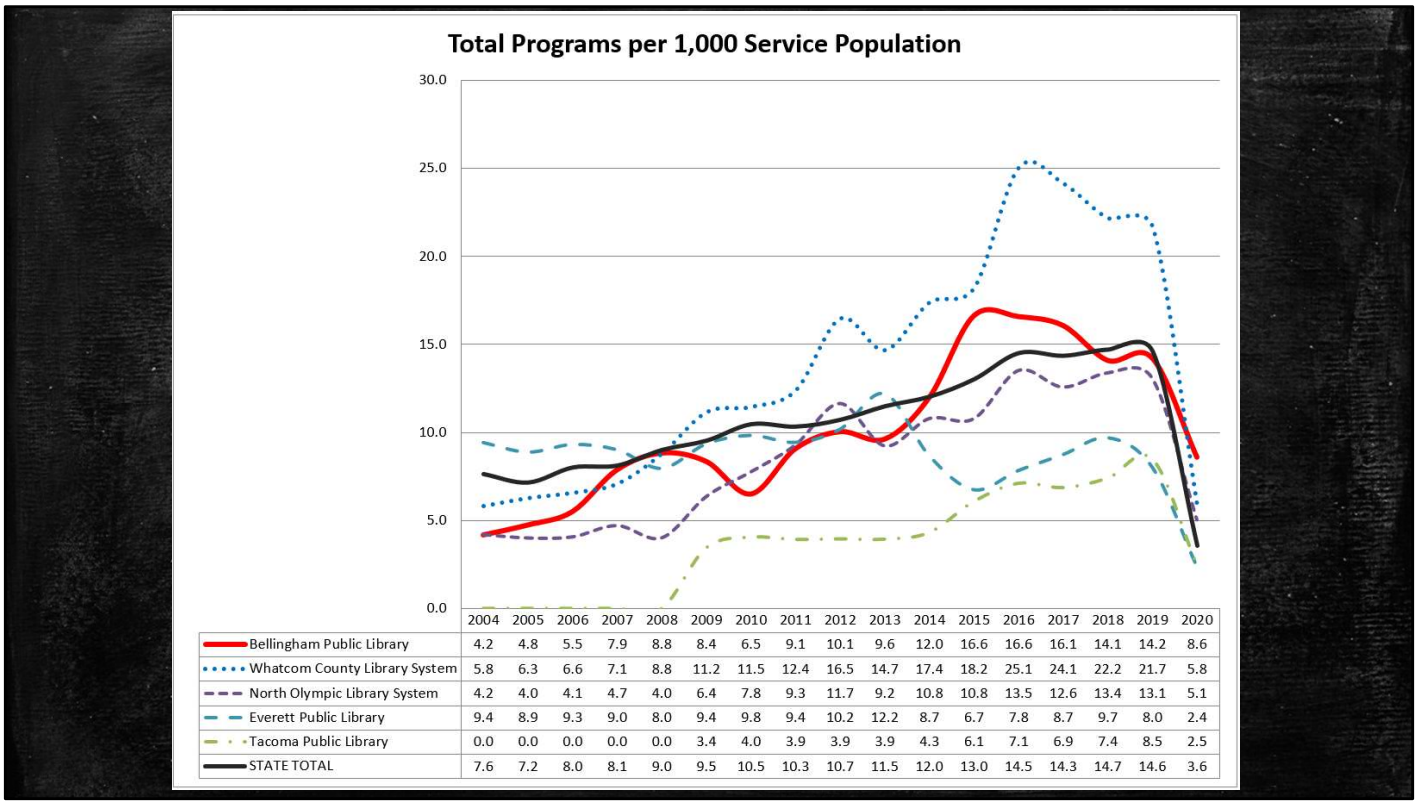
And if you adjust the expenditure values for inflation, our per capita outlays in recent years have been below where we were in 2008, which is in-turn below 2003. But we've been making some progress since hitting a low point in 2011.



	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Bellingham Public Library	$27.54	$29.09	$23.34	$23.14	$23.60	$23.71	$24.47	$24.88	$26.69	$25.84	$26.47	$26.84	$26.32
Whatcom County Library System	$32.69	$31.27	$31.50	$31.19	$30.86	$30.44	$30.94	$31.59	$31.37	$32.90	$33.40	$33.89	$34.39
Tacoma Public Library	$32.85	$34.15	$33.19	$32.99	$33.00	$29.93	$29.55	$30.09	$29.78	$29.78	$28.72	$30.47	$27.87
North Olympic Library System	$23.52	$26.02	$24.82	$24.94	$27.43	$26.07	$26.53	$27.35	$28.13	$28.55	$28.68	$30.24	$29.87
Everett Public Library	$28.96	$29.35	$28.24	$28.10	$27.55	$26.85	$28.84	$28.50	$28.33	$28.81	$25.63	$23.31	$19.76
STATE TOTAL	$28.46	$27.35	$27.95	$27.54	$27.73	$28.31	$28.57	$29.25	$30.02	$30.20	$30.23	$30.30	$29.63
Spokane Public Library	$21.67	$24.18	$23.83	$23.27	$23.39	$23.21	$23.65	$23.59	$21.74	$21.14	$20.94	$21.81	$21.30

And looking just at what we're paying for our employees, the situation is nearly the same – for the past decade we've been below the State average.

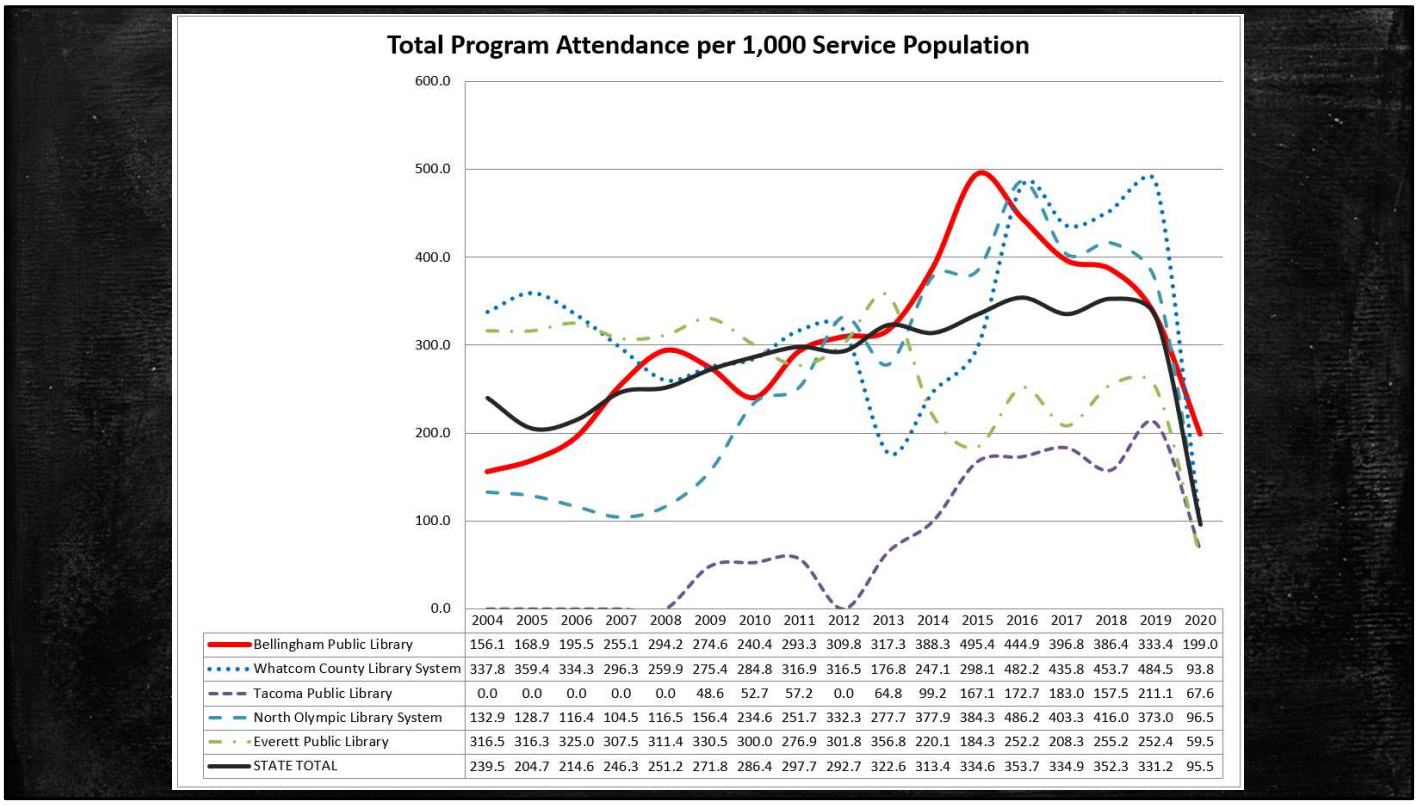
So how are we doing so much? In order to manage all that circulation, we must be not doing a lot of other things that other libraries do, right? Like how about programs for the public?



	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Bellingham Public Library	4.2	4.8	5.5	7.9	8.8	8.4	6.5	9.1	10.1	9.6	12.0	16.6	16.6	16.1	14.1	14.2	8.6
Whatcom County Library System	5.8	6.3	6.6	7.1	8.8	11.2	11.5	12.4	16.5	14.7	17.4	18.2	25.1	24.1	22.2	21.7	5.8
North Olympic Library System	4.2	4.0	4.1	4.7	4.0	6.4	7.8	9.3	11.7	9.2	10.8	10.8	13.5	12.6	13.4	13.1	5.1
Everett Public Library	9.4	8.9	9.3	9.0	8.0	9.4	9.8	9.4	10.2	12.2	8.7	6.7	7.8	8.7	9.7	8.0	2.4
Tacoma Public Library	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.4	4.0	3.9	3.9	3.9	4.3	6.1	7.1	6.9	7.4	8.5	2.5
STATE TOTAL	7.6	7.2	8.0	8.1	9.0	9.5	10.5	10.3	10.7	11.5	12.0	13.0	14.5	14.3	14.7	14.6	3.6

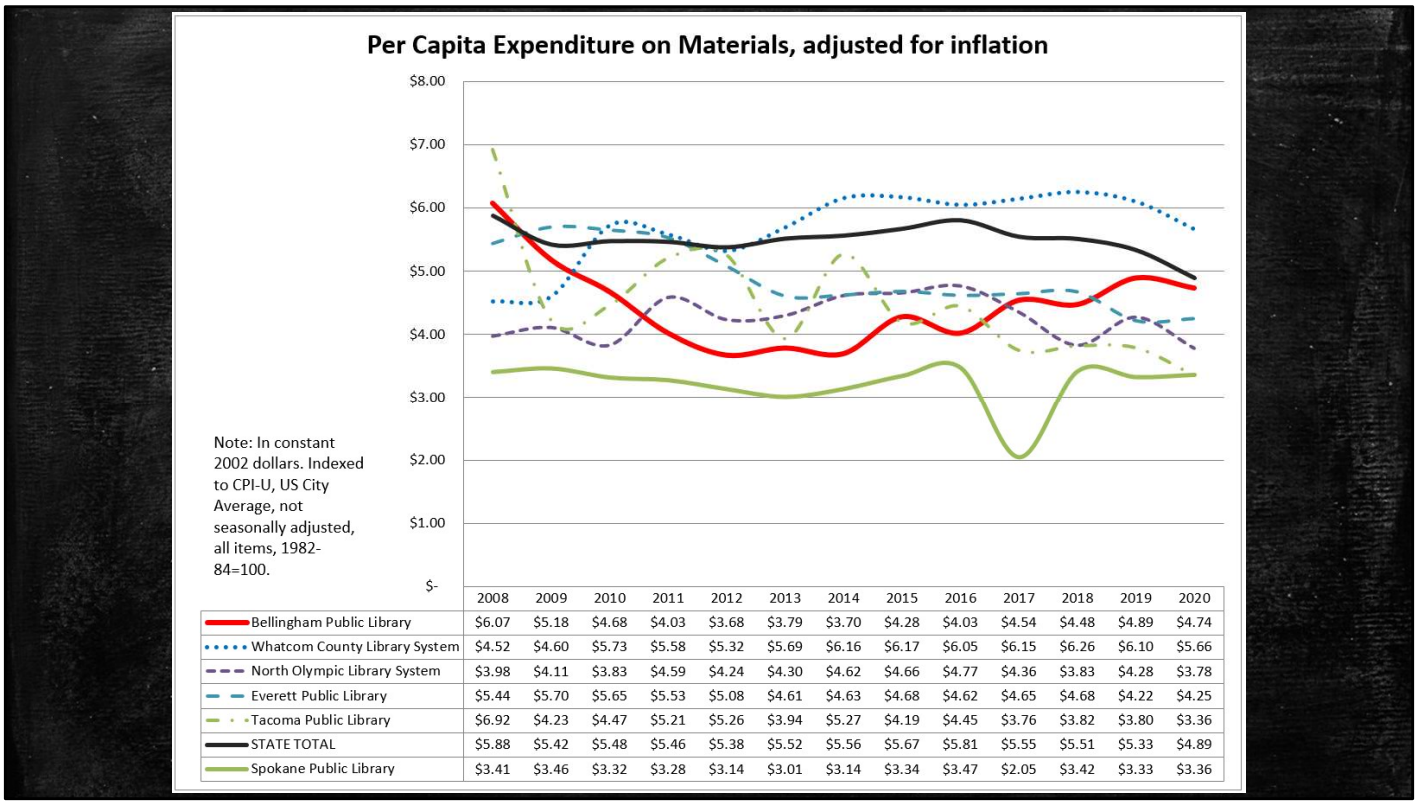
Well, no. We offer programs right around the State average number of programs per capita.
During the first year of the pandemic our number of programs dropped off substantially less than some other libraries and the State average.

Maybe nobody comes to our programs?



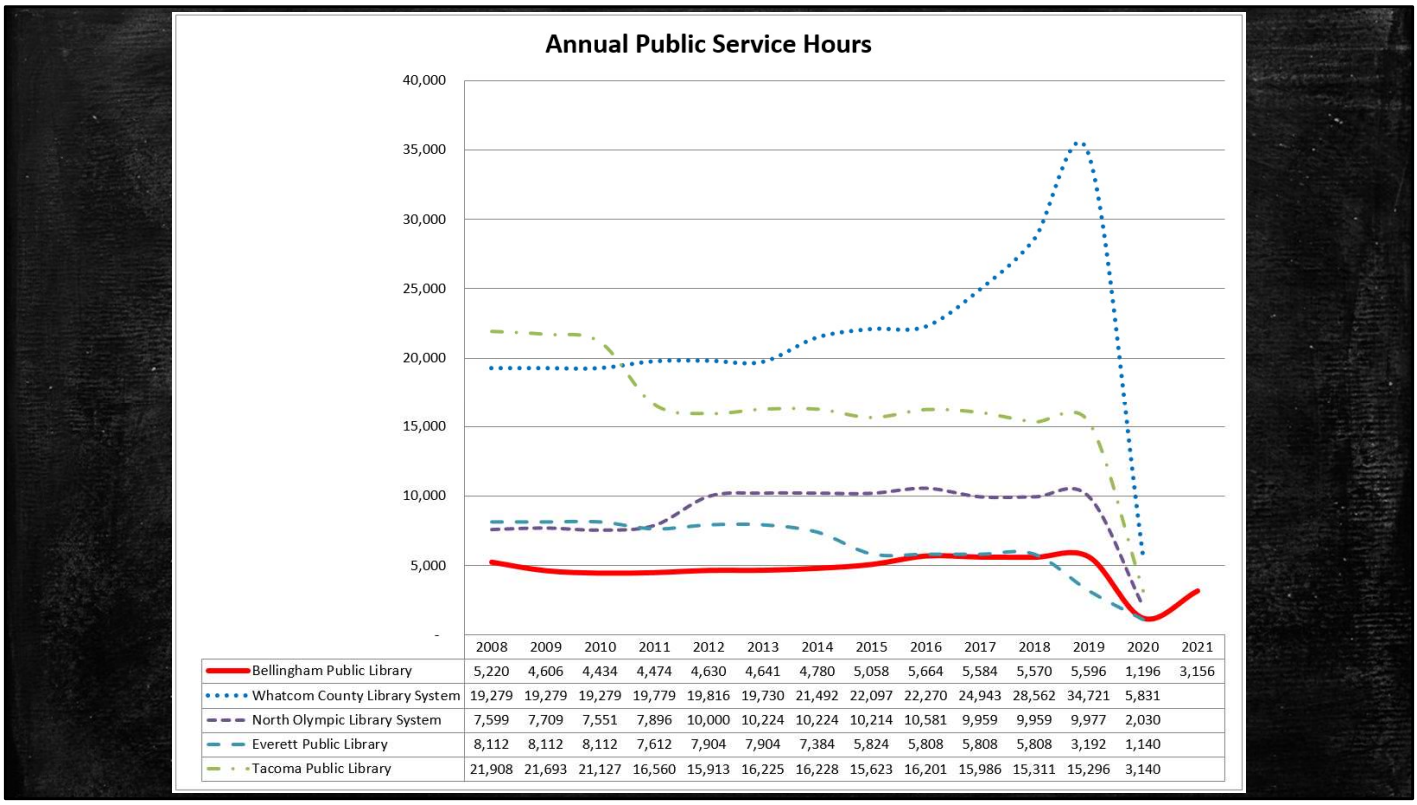
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Bellingham Public Library	156.1	168.9	195.5	255.1	294.2	274.6	240.4	293.3	309.8	317.3	388.3	495.4	444.9	396.8	386.4	333.4	199.0
Whatcom County Library System	337.8	359.4	334.3	296.3	259.9	275.4	284.8	316.9	316.5	176.8	247.1	298.1	482.2	435.8	453.7	484.5	93.8
Tacoma Public Library	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	48.6	52.7	57.2	0.0	64.8	99.2	167.1	172.7	183.0	157.5	211.1	67.6
North Olympic Library System	132.9	128.7	116.4	104.5	116.5	156.4	234.6	251.7	332.3	277.7	377.9	384.3	486.2	403.3	416.0	373.0	96.5
Everett Public Library	316.5	316.3	325.0	307.5	311.4	330.5	300.0	276.9	301.8	356.8	220.1	184.3	252.2	208.3	255.2	252.4	59.5
STATE TOTAL	239.5	204.7	214.6	246.3	251.2	271.8	286.4	297.7	292.7	322.6	313.4	334.6	353.7	334.9	352.3	331.2	95.5

Nope. Similar story for attendance – we're generally right around the State average, per capita, but dropped off less than others during the first year of the pandemic.
How about our expenditure on items for the collection, and digital subscriptions?



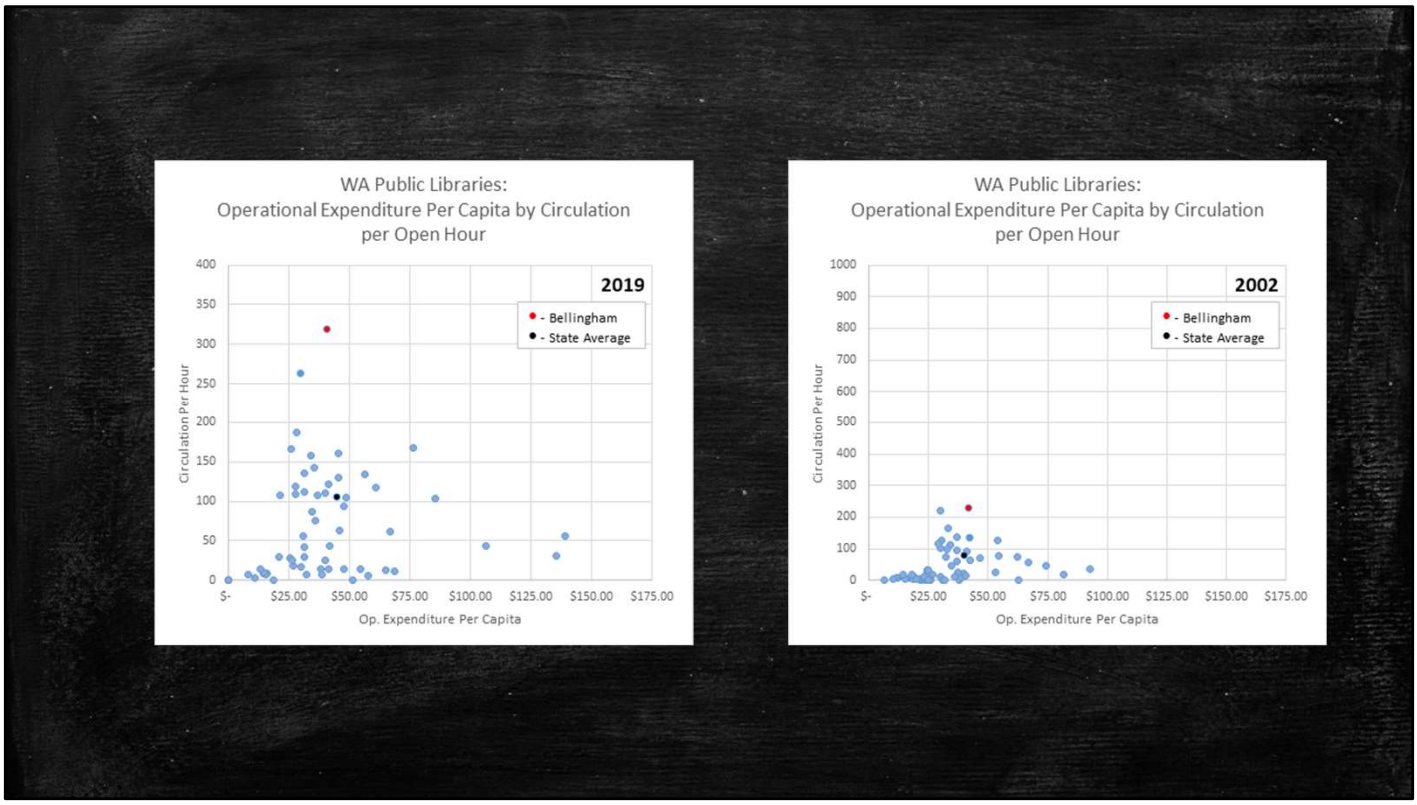
	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Bellingham Public Library	$6.07	$5.18	$4.68	$4.03	$3.68	$3.79	$3.70	$4.28	$4.03	$4.54	$4.48	$4.89	$4.74
Whatcom County Library System	$4.52	$4.60	$5.73	$5.58	$5.32	$5.69	$6.16	$6.17	$6.05	$6.15	$6.26	$6.10	$5.66
North Olympic Library System	$3.98	$4.11	$3.83	$4.59	$4.24	$4.30	$4.62	$4.66	$4.77	$4.36	$3.83	$4.28	$3.78
Everett Public Library	$5.44	$5.70	$5.65	$5.53	$5.08	$4.61	$4.63	$4.68	$4.62	$4.65	$4.68	$4.22	$4.25
Tacoma Public Library	$6.92	$4.23	$4.47	$5.21	$5.26	$3.94	$5.27	$4.19	$4.45	$3.76	$3.82	$3.80	$3.36
STATE TOTAL	$5.88	$5.42	$5.48	$5.46	$5.38	$5.52	$5.56	$5.67	$5.81	$5.55	$5.51	$5.33	$4.89
Spokane Public Library	$3.41	$3.46	$3.32	$3.28	$3.14	$3.01	$3.14	$3.34	$3.47	$2.05	$3.42	$3.33	$3.36

Ah. Well, that's definitely part of it. We've spent less on the Collection, per capita, than the State Average. We've been catching up, in the past few years, though, as the State average has declined while we've trended up.
In 2020 we dropped a bit, but less than the State average did.



	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Bellingham Public Library	5,220	4,606	4,434	4,474	4,630	4,641	4,780	5,058	5,664	5,584	5,570	5,596	1,196	3,156
Whatcom County Library System	19,279	19,279	19,279	19,779	19,816	19,730	21,492	22,097	22,270	24,943	28,562	34,721	5,831	
North Olympic Library System	7,599	7,709	7,551	7,896	10,000	10,224	10,224	10,214	10,581	9,959	9,959	9,977	2,030	
Everett Public Library	8,112	8,112	8,112	7,612	7,904	7,904	7,384	5,824	5,808	5,808	5,808	3,192	1,140	
Tacoma Public Library	21,908	21,693	21,127	16,560	15,913	16,225	16,228	15,623	16,201	15,986	15,311	15,296	3,140	

There has been a slight increase in the number of hours we're open to the public. This dropped dramatically in 2020 but should recover as soon as we're free of the pandemic.



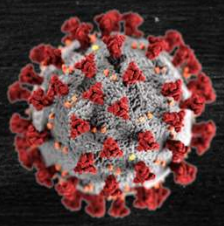
This isn't in the comparison spreadsheet, but is an example of what can be done with the data that it has.

This time-series charts shows Operating Expense per Capita vs Circulation per Open Hour from 2002 to 2020. There's such a jump in Circulation per Hour in 2020 that it's hard to follow. It's likely that the major increase is largely supported by digital circulation, which isn't dependent on buildings being open.

What Else…?

400+ columns of data to play with!

https://www.bellinghampubliclibrary.org/wplsr-merged



Library Board
March 15, 2022
Consent Agenda

Bellingham Public Library
Performance & Activity Measures, 2022

	February			Year to Date		% of change
	2022	2021	2019	2022	2021	YTD
Holdings - Number of materials in the library's collection						
Physical copies added to the collection	1,576	1,466	3,021	4,407	3,937	**11.94%**
Electronic copies purchased by BPL	122	60	1,207	194	135	**43.70%**
Physical copies withdrawn from collection	(340)	(778)	(361)	-731	(6,229)	**-88.26%**
Total physical holdings			181,131	173,030	169,247	**2.24%**
Total electronic holdings in Consortium available to BPL			88,276	119,305	108,988	**9.47%**
Total Holdings (Physical and Electronic)				**292,335**	**278,235**	**5.07%**
Circulation - Number of items checked out or renewed; includes Interlibrary Loan and Outreach activity						
Central Library						
Adult	38,073	30,703	56,660	84,429	56,405	**49.68%**
Youth	31,104	22,283	45,967	70,176	43,026	**63.10%**
Sub-Total Central	**69,177**	**52,986**	**102,627**	**154,605**	**99,431**	**55.49%**
Fairhaven Branch						
Adult	581	33	7,015	1,563	48	**3156.25%**
Youth	438	20	2,560	1,268	23	**5413.04%**
Sub-Total Fairhaven	**1,019**	**53**	**9,575**	**2,831**	**71**	**3887.32%**
Barkley Branch						
Adult	750	0	5,081	1,800	2	**89900.00%**
Youth	694	0	3,436	1,572	2	**78500.00%**
Sub-Total Barkley	**1,444**	**0**	**8,517**	**3,372**	**4**	**84200.00%**
Bellingham Technical College						
Adult		0	71	0	0	
Youth		0	13	0	0	
Sub-Total BTC	**0**	**0**	**84**	**0**	**0**	
Whatcom Community College						
Adult		0	352	0	0	
Youth		0	95	0	0	
Sub-Total WCC	**0**	**0**	**447**	**0**	**0**	
Western Washington University						
Adult		0	507	0	0	
Youth		0	274	0	0	
Sub-Total WWU	**0**	**0**	**781**	**0**	**0**	
Online Services						
Freegal ***Service went live Feb 2, 2022	4,871	0	0	4,871	0	
Kanopy	1,783	2,077	0	3,845	4,290	**-10.37%**
NW Anytime Library Overdrive	28,866	28,261	19,681	60,683	59,692	**1.66%**
eMagazines	2,020	4,555	2,254	4,555	8,117	**-43.88%**
Sub-Total Online	**37,540**	**34,893**	**21,935**	**73,954**	**72,099**	**2.57%**
Total Circulation	**109,180**	**87,932**	**143,966**	**234,762**	**171,605**	**36.80%**
Holds Activity						
Items pulled to fill holds	53,438	54,917	40,272	109,270	95,361	**14.59%**
Services						
Persons Visiting - Number of persons counted as they enter the libraries or visit remote website						
Central Library						
Curbside Service	4,161	5,687		7,170	11,123	**-35.54%**
Adult *** Curbside only until Feb 15, 2022	10,306	0	36,241	21,513	0	
Childrens	2,169	0	9,883	4,484	0	
Fairhaven Branch	2,013	0	5,966	4,497	0	
Barkley Branch	1,780	0	4,091	3,325	0	
Total Persons Visiting	**20,429**	**5,687**	**56,181**	**33,819**	**11,123**	**204.05%**
Website Visits	35,110	34,327	40,919	77,681	71,281	**8.98%**
This count reflects number of visits to www.bellinghampubliclibrary.org						
Bibliocommons Visits	10,792	9,006	11,109	23,535	19,090	**23.28%**
This count reflects number of visits to Bibliocommons						
Total Website Visits	**45,902**	**43,333**	**52,028**	**101,216**	**90,371**	**12.00%**
Computer Usage - Number of sessions						
Central Library						
Adult & Teen (30 terminals)	623	0	4,733	1,305	0	
Childrens (3 terminals)	5	0	144	13	0	
Fairhaven Branch (7 terminals)	50	0	402	148	0	
Barkley Branch (4 terminals)	28	0	232	76	0	
Total Computer Usage	**706**	**0**	**5,511**	**1,542**	**0**	
New Borrowers Registered						
Central Library	374	245	373	796	657	**21.16%**
Fairhaven Branch	7	2	48	14	2	**600.00%**
Barkley Branch	6	0	31	14	0	
Total New Borrowers Registered	**387**	**247**	**452**	**824**	**659**	**25.04%**
Programs - Library sponsored or co-sponsored educational, recreational, or cultural programs						
Programs	24	61	107	40	106	**-62.26%**
Attendees	229	1,326	2,370	407	1,862	**-78.14%**
Volunteer Hours	**154**	**0**	**301**	**324**	**0**	

BELLINGHAM PUBLIC LIBRARY
Board of Library Trustees **FEBRUARY 2022 CLAIMS**

LIST OF CLAIMS AGAINST THE BOARD OF LIBRARY TRUSTEES AND THE CITY OF BELLINGHAM TO BE CONSIDERED AND APPROVED AT THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING OF MARCH 15, 2022, IN ACCORDANCE WITH RCW 27.12.210 AND 27.12.240.

	VENDOR	AMOUNT
Materials, Equipment and Supplies		
Books; DVDs; supplies; masks	Amazon.com	659.91
Books	Baker & Taylor	11,587.18
Office chair	Blackburn Office Equipment	552.27
Books	Center Point Large Print	100.40
PPE supplies	City of Bellingham Warehouse	587.49
Barcodes	Computype Inc	1,111.23
DVDs, CDs, recorded books	Midwest Tape	4,306.13
Office supplies	Office Depot	331.30
Truck fuel	Reisner Distributor	147.55
Shelf brackets	Specialty Store	48.96
Curbside service bags	Webstaurant	1,955.50
Use tax	WSDO	88.83
	Materials, Equipment & Supplies Sub Total	**$21,476.75**
Services and Interfund Charges		
Creative Cloud	Adobe Inc	260.99
Membership	American Library Association	228.00
Preprocessing; logins	Baker & Taylor	3,783.33
Self-checkout software	Bibliotheca	8,334.90
Computer replacement allocation	City of Bellingham Interfund	9,228.20
Facilities Services	City of Bellingham Interfund	50,117.77
Fleet Services	City of Bellingham Interfund	520.83
Mailroom allocation	City of Bellingham Interfund	2,158.83
Purchasing Services	City of Bellingham Interfund	121.78
Risk Management	City of Bellingham Interfund	9,718.58
Technology replacement allocation	City of Bellingham Interfund	1,449.33
Telecom Services	City of Bellingham Interfund	2,243.71
Printing	Copy Source	87.91
Water cooler rental	Crystal Springs	10.87
Barkley keycard install	Gateway Control	3,247.68
Video streaming	Kanopy	48,999.00
Graphic Design	Katrina Lyon	440.00
Freegal music streaming	Library Ideas	23,650.00
Database	Mango Language	4,321.80
Preprocessing	Midwest Tape	608.33
Copier lease and copies	Oasys Inc.	910.73
ILL & tech services	OCLC	2,210.98
eBooks, audiobooks	Overdrive Inc	13,545.94
Ninite security software	Secure by Design	20.00
Barkley operating costs	Talbot Services LLC	533.33
Microfische machine lease	Technology Unlimited	339.46
Technology discount membership	TechSoup	5.00
Hotspot service	Verizon Wireless	1,600.40

ED Roundtable membership	Whatcom Community Foundations	150.00
	Services and Interfund Charges Sub Total	**$188,847.68**

Gift Fund

Book Club kits	Amazon.com	294.60
Books	Baker & Taylor	89.96
Technology replacement allocation	City of Bellingham Interfund	2.17
Anti-Racist Digital media	Overdrive Inc	817.20
	GIFT FUND OUTLAYS Sub Total	**$1,203.93**

TOTAL GENERAL FUND CLAIMS	**$210,324.43**
TOTAL CLAIMS	**$211,528.36**

Library - Budget to Actual - General Fund

February 2022 17% YTD

	YTD Actuals	Budget	Remaining	% Complete
Revenues				
Grants		0		
Print and Copy Fees	506	15,000	14,494	3%
Lost, Damage & Non-resident Borrower Fees	481	16,100	15,619	
Fairhaven Auditorium Rental Fees	0	30,000	30,000	0%
Miscellaneous Revenues	(5)	6,000		
Total Revenue	**982**	**67,100**	**66,118**	**1%**
Expenses				
Salaries and Wages	422,083	2,756,324	2,334,241	15%
Personnel Benefits	190,364	1,297,258	1,106,894	15%
Materials, Equipment and Supplies	29,972	758,450	728,478	4%
Services and Interfund Charges	356,685	1,135,052	778,367	31%
Automated Materials Handler	15,443	0	(15,443)	
Total Expenditure	**1,014,547**	**5,947,084**	**4,932,537**	**17%**

Library - Budget to Actual - Gift Fund

February 2022 17% YTD

	YTD Actuals	Budget	Remaining	% Complete
Revenues				
Donations	24,353	150,000	125,647	16%
Total Revenue	**24,353**	**150,000**	**125,647**	**16%**
Expenses				
Gift Fund expenses	1,312	150,026	148,714	1%
Total Expenditure	**1,312**	**150,026**	**148,714**	**1%**

DIRECTOR'S REPORT FOR March 15, 2022

An important date is just around the corner. March 16, 2022 marks the two-year anniversary of the Library's COVID-19 shutdown. Those who were at the Library on Sunday, March 15 will likely remember the rush of people into our building to checkout as many materials as possible -- and no masks! I also have a strong memory of coming to the Central Library on "Library Snapshot Day" in early April 2020 and taking photos of our dark and empty building. We all have memories from these past two years (work/personal/communal) that stand out. If you would like to take this anniversary moment to capture them, the Library has three opportunities for reflection through the new Peoples' Perspective: COVID-19 in Whatcom County digital archive. These include writing a letter to history, submitting a photo that captures the essence of the pandemic for you, and/or sharing a story verbally through the Whatcom Museum's Story Dome. You can also look through the submissions of others, largely collected in the first six months of the pandemic. The archive will launch on March 16, 2022 – but you can take a sneak peek here. (Rebecca Judd, Library Director)

WELCOME & INCLUDE

Pandemic response. Over the past two years, we have delivered more than 90 weeks of curbside service. At the beginning of this public health emergency, we never imagined that we'd be doing this "temporary" service for this length of time. Our number of curbside users continues to slowly decline as many choose to pick up in-person. We will continue to offer curbside service as long as there are members of our community without access to a vaccine. In addition, mask mandates will lift in Washington state, and for City of Bellingham facilities, on Saturday, March 12. We will continue to offer masks to patrons for optional use. With recent changes to State and City COVID safety guidance, we continue to update the temporary COVID-19 rules of conduct policy. We intend to maintain this until the state of emergency is lifted. (Jen Vander Ploeg, Head of Public Services and Operations)

Collection Services welcomes Carmen Sterk: I am pleased to share the news that Library Assistant Carmen Sterk accepted the position of Interlibrary Loan Specialist in Collection Services. Her start date in the new position was March 1. *Thank you* to those involved in the hiring process, and thanks especially to Processing Specialist Shari Emley for covering the majority of Interlibrary loan duties, in addition to her processing and collection maintenance responsibilities. Carmen will also be providing backup to Wendy for certain critical administrative tasks, such as timesheet processing. (Jon McConnel, Head of Digital Services)

Additional Public Service librarian hours: Thank you to City Council for approving a 0.2 FTE increase in librarian hours, which brings Rob Werner's Public Services Librarian 1 position to 1.0 FTE. This increases our capacity to cover the Help Desk and answer incoming research and reference questions from the public. (Bethany Hoglund, Deputy Library Director)

Library Land Acknowledgement: Staff received excellent feedback on our Land Acknowledgement from Nooksack Tribal Member and WCLS employee Joshua Olsen. We want to take some time to digest the suggestions and hopefully learn more at the upcoming PLA Conference before returning the statement to the Board next month. (Annette Bagley, Head of Community Relations)

ACCESS & OPPORTUNITY

Community outreach vehicle: The new Mitsubishi Outlander hybrid vehicle has arrived! In 2021, Bellingham Public Library received $28,528 in dedicated ARPA funds through the State Library. These funds were used to purchase the new community outreach vehicle, which came in at a total cost of $41,642. The gap in funding will be met with salary savings from the first year of the biennial budget. Right now, the Outlander is at Public Works, awaiting decisions about a library-themed wrap. Also in the works, facilities will be installing a plug-in charging station. (Rebecca Judd, Library Director)

Wi-Fi Hotspots: Wondering what the fallout would be for our hotspot program due to the Sprint/T-Mobile merger? I have been. But wonder no longer! It's fairly minor, thankfully. Mobile Beacon has offered to replace our existing Coolpads, running on Sprint's network, with a new device that will run on T-Mobile's network, for no cost. We believe the new devices will fit in existing cases and hope expenses will be limited to translating a new User Guide and staff time for processing. After a short period of transition, look for the new Alcatel LINKZONE 2. (Jon McConnel, Head of Digital Services)

READ & LEARN

Whatcom READS: *Greenwood* author Michael Christie was in Bellingham Mar. 3 – 5 for five events. On Friday, March 4 he spoke to a delighted audience of nearly 500 people at Mount Baker theater. The program was titled "A Special Evening with Michael Christie" and it was a special evening indeed, thanks to the hard work of BPL and WCLS organizing staff, as well as guest MC Christina Keppie, Director of the Center of Canadian-American Studies at Western Washington University. The crowd was happy to be back to in-person events after two years! BTV recorded the event, which will be edited and posted on the Whatcom READS website. Per tradition, and thanks to the hard work of the book selection committee spearheaded by BPL librarian Suzanne Carlson-Prandini, the 2023 Whatcom READS title was announced at the March 4 Mount Baker Theatre event. It is *The Cold Millions* by Jess Walter, set in Spokane in the early 1900s. A six- minute overview of the novel is available in this literary tour of Spokane with the author: The Cold Millions - A Literary Tour on Vimeo. (Annette Bagley, Head of Community Relations)

Invasion of Ukraine: To provide further context on Ukraine and its history with Russia, Kanopy, the Library's on-demand film streaming service, has carefully curated a collection of documentary and narrative films focused specifically on this country and region. To access this special collection, log in here with your Library card. This information was shared with our patrons via social media, as well as our BPL website and e-newsletter. (Annette Bagley, Head of Community Relations)

Women's History Month is our special BPL theme for March 2022. Staff have collaborated to produce displays of physical materials, as well as a collection of digital resources compiled on our Women's History Month webpage. The webpage information and recommendations will be shared through the Library's e-newsletter, as well as on social media. (Annette Bagley, Head of Community Relations)

INFORM & INVOLVE

Community Voices kits and focus group: Children's Services is continuing to work on developing Community Voices kits, which are book kits that highlight marginalized voices and celebrate the strength, joys and everyday life of diverse lived experiences. Parents, caregivers and educators in our community can use these curated kits as crucial conversation starters with children at varying developmental stages. The first set of kits has a focus on race and ethnicity, specifically how to have first conversations about race. These kits are for children ages birth – 8, with one specifically for babies and toddlers and others for children ages 2 – 8. Our "drafts" of the kits are ready for the next step, which is to engage a focus group of six community members that include parents, educators and members of the Black, Indigenous and People of Color (BIPOC) community. We look forward to building relationships with this focus group and to listening to the feedback, suggestions and ideas generated from this work together. (Bethany Hoglund, Deputy Library Director)

Library Giving Day: Publicity materials are being finalized for Library Giving Day on April 6, 2022 (see packet). Once these are approved, information will be sent to the Board of Trustees and FOBPL to share with their personal contacts. Messages will also be circulated in the Library's e-newsletter and social media channels. The 2022 theme is: **Connect Our Community!** Help the Library Board of Trustees raise funds to curate diverse Community Voices Book Kits and re-establish Community Drop Boxes. (Annette Bagley, Head of Community Relations)

Children's Librarian Bernice Chang reads to her children from a Community Voices book kit

Washington State Library Youth Services "Critical Conversations Club": Children's Library Specialist Julie Mauermann co-led a virtual presentation with Heather Jefferson, Lummi Nation Tribal member and Educator, and Theresa Morrison, Children's Services Coordinator at the Whatcom County Library System entitled "Since Time Immemorial Early Learning Kits – Tribal and Public Library Collaboration." Thank you to Julie for her leadership and collaboration on this project and for sharing the group's learning, relationships, and process with a wider audience of Youth Service Librarians in Washington State. Since Time Immemorial kits are part of our circulating collection and were created to supplement the Since Time Immemorial Curriculum for preschool to early elementary students. (Bethany Hoglund, Deputy Library Director)

Community Health Improvement Plan: Whatcom County's 2022-2026 Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) is published: CHIP-Executive-Summary_final.pdf (healthywhatcom.org) Youth Services staff members Bernice Chang, Jennifer Lovchik and Julie Mauermann and I participated in various portions of the multi-year community effort to build a plan that focuses on youth and family wellness during early childhood and grounds the work in racial equity. Bernice and Jennifer will continue to work on specific actions and strategies with the Child & Youth Mental Health team; Bethany and Julie will continue to work on specific actions & strategies with the Early Learning and Care team. (Bethany Hoglund, Deputy Library Director)

THRIVE & GROW

Facilities: Several new maintenance staff were hired in the Facilities division of Public Works in February, and they are making good progress clearing our older maintenance tickets. Completed work includes items such as: installing the last of the security mirrors on the main floor, fixing the fire alarm panel, re-running power outlets in fiction to support the catalog station, replacing lightbulbs in closed stacks, replacing light switches, and attaching shelving to a wall that was missed in the renovation. Of note, the Barkley Library doors were put onto the City keycard system this past month. (Jen Vander Ploeg, Head of Public Services and Operations)

Closed Stacks: On March 9, Public Works maintenance staff removed 3 *tons* of shelving from the closed stacks area. In addition, Supervisor Alison Kuiken spearheaded an effort to map the closed stack collections for easier staff access. Thank you to everyone who contributed to these efforts. (Jen Vander Ploeg, Head of Public Services and Operations)

Respectfully submitted,
Rebecca Judd

Library Board
March 15, 2022
Item #9
Fundraising committee update

Connect Our Community!

Help the Library Board of Trustees raise funds to curate diverse Community Voices Book Kits, and to re-establish Community Drop Boxes.

Library Giving Day

Wednesday, April 6

DONATE

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Bellingham Public Library