# Library Value Calculator - Fiscal Year Data Sources

Overview

This document provides comprehensive citations and sources for all data used in the Library Value Calculator's fiscal year statistics. The calculator demonstrates the economic value of library services by applying market-rate valuations to actual usage data collected through various reporting systems.

Data Sources for Fiscal Year Data

**Florida Annual Statistical Report**

* Official state-mandated reporting system for Florida public libraries
* Provides standardized metrics across all library systems

**Internal Library Systems**

* **LibCal**: Space and equipment booking management system
* **Internal Data Dashboard**: Real-time analytics platform
* **Statistics Folder Tabulation Worksheets**: Compiled monthly usage data

Detailed Data Source Citations

**Books Borrowed per Month**

**Source:** Florida Annual Statistical Report  
**Item Reference:** Item #83 [Books – Physical Units]

**Service Value: $16  
Values Explained: Average retail price of a new paperback book.**

* [How Much Does a Book Cost | Book Pricing Guide 2025](https://ebookwritingexperts.com/blog/how-much-does-a-book-cost)
  + Hardcover Books ($20 - $35)
  + Paperback Books ($10 - $20)
  + Children’s Books ($8 - $20)
* [Average Cost of Hardcover Book 2025 – Latest Cost – Real-Time Price Insights](https://latestcost.com/average-cost-of-hardcover-book/)
  + Hardcover Book ($20 - $35)
  + Textbooks & Academic Hardcover ($50 - $150+)
  + Children’s Hardcover Books ($10 - $25)
  + Special Editions and Collectors’ Hardcover ($40 - $100+)
  + Used Hardcover Books ($5 - $20)

**DVDs Borrowed per Month**

**Source:** Florida Annual Statistical Report  
**Item References:** Item #79 [Video – Downloadable Units] + Item #85 [Video – Physical Units]

**Service Value:** $10 **Values Explained:** Matches typical purchase cost for a new or recent DVD.

* [*How Much Does a DVD Cost?*](https://www.computerhope.com/issues/ch000328.htm)
  + Blank Disc ($0.20 - $0.40)
  + Movie Disc ($5.00 - $40.00)
  + Game Disc ($10.00 - $60.00)
* [*BLS Data Viewer*](https://data.bls.gov/dataViewer/view/timeseries/CUUR0000SS31022)
  + Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): Video discs & other media
    - Jan 2023 – Jul 2025: Minimum 33.467, Maximum 45.867

**Audiobooks Borrowed per Month**

**Source:** Florida Annual Statistical Report  
**Item References:** Item #78 [Audio – Downloadable Units] + Item #74 [Video – Physical Units]

**Service Valu**e: $25 **Values Explained:** Reflects average price for full-length audiobooks from Audible or **publishers.**

* [Membership Plans & Pricing | Audible.com](https://www.audible.com/ep/memberbenefits)
  + Audible Plus costs $7.95/month after a 30-day trial
  + Audible Premium Plus costs $14.95/month and includes 1 credit per month for any premium selection title
* [Audiobook Pricing Guide](https://publishdrive.com/guide-to-audiobook-prices.html)
  + For 1 to 3-hour audiobooks, prices typically range between $7-$10, with longer works priced higher
* [Audiobook Statistics By Sales, Listeners and Demographics (2025)](https://coolest-gadgets.com/audiobook-statistics/)
  + Globally, the U.S. leads the market, projected to generate USD 3.4 billion in revenue by 2024, with an average revenue per user (ARPU) of USD 5.46.

**eBooks Borrowed per Month**

**Source:** Florida Annual Statistical Report  
**Item Reference:** Item #77 [Electronic Books (eBooks)]

**Service Value:** $6 **Values Explained:** Reflects average cost of popular consumer eBooks (not free/public domain).

* [Amazon Best Sellers: Best Kindle Store](https://www.amazon.com/Best-Sellers-Kindle-Store/zgbs/digital-text)
  + Browse the top 20–50 bestsellers and note the price range. Most will fall between $2.99 and $14.99.
* [eBooks Statistics By Revenue, Sales and Facts [2025\*]](https://coolest-gadgets.com/ebooks-statistics/)
  + “The average eBook price was around USD 8.50 in 2024, with bestsellers generally priced higher.”

**Meeting Room Usage Hours per Month**

**Source:** LibCal (Stats > Spaces)  
**Data Collection Points:**

* Braden River Library: Meeting Rooms
* Central Library: Large Group Rooms
* Island Library: Meeting Rooms
* Palmetto Library: Group Rooms
* Rocky Bluff Library: Meeting Rooms
* South Manatee Library: Meeting Rooms
* Lakewood Ranch Library: Large Group Rooms

**Service Value:** $30 **Values Explained**: Based on hourly rental rates of comparable private meeting spaces in community centers.

* [Find Unique Team Meeting Venues in Bradenton, FL, USA | Peerspace](https://www.peerspace.com/s/?a=team-meeting&location=bradenton--fl--usa&bbox_of_interest=%5b27.5228639,-82.690687,27.4551589,-82.47929909999999%5d)
  + The price range for Meeting Rooms and Board/Community Rooms $20-$60
* [Bradenton Hourly Spaces | LiquidSpace](https://liquidspace.com/search?Address=bradenton%2C%20fl%20us&IsFullTextSearch=true&SpaceTypes=67&ReservationMethod=0&ReservationLengthMinutes=60&SortOrder=0&OverrideDefaultMemberGroups=true)
  + The price range for Meeting Spaces and Event Spaces is $20-$189 per hour
* [Meeting Cost Calculator](https://www.omnicalculator.com/everyday-life/meeting-cost)
  + “The average meeting room costs range between $30 and $250 in the US.”

**Study Room Usage Hours per Month**

**Primary Source:** Internal Data Dashboard > Study Room Usage > Hours Booked  
**Alternative Source:** Tabulation Worksheet in Statistics Folder

**Service Value**: $10 **Values Explained:** Aligns with value of private study rooms or co-working quiet spaces per hour.

* [Find Unique Coworking Space Venues in Bradenton, FL, USA | Peerspace](https://www.peerspace.com/s/?a=coworking-space&location=bradenton--fl--usa&bbox_of_interest=%5b27.5228639,-82.690687,27.4551589,-82.47929909999999%5d)
  + The price range for Coworking Rooms is $20-$60
* [Bradenton Hourly Desks | LiquidSpace](https://liquidspace.com/search?Address=bradenton%2C%20fl%20us&IsFullTextSearch=true&SpaceTypes=4&ReservationMethod=0&ReservationLengthMinutes=60&SortOrder=0&OverrideDefaultMemberGroups=true)
  + The price range for Coworking/Desk spaces is $25-$30/day-pass or $7-$11/hour

**Archive Lab Usage Hours per Month**

**Source:** LibCal (Stats > Spaces)  
**Data Collection Points:**

* Location: Archive Lab

**Service Value:** $45 **Values Explained:** Based on commercial digitization services (VHS transfer, slide scanning, etc.) including staff support.

Space 1) 8mm/Super 8 Film Reel & Microform

* [Convert 8mm Film & Super 8 to Digital | Legacybox](https://legacybox.com/products/8mm-super8)
  + $69.98 for up to 2 items, $319.98 for up to 10 Items
* [Pricing Details for Scanning & Transfer Services | ScanCafe](https://www.scancafe.com/pricing)
  + $0.34 / foot

Space 2) Cassette & Video (VHS/Camcorder)

* [What We Digitize – Legacybox](https://legacybox.com/pages/what-we-digitize#tapes)
  + $69.98 for up to 2 items, $319.98 for up to 10 Items
* [Pricing Details for Scanning & Transfer Services | ScanCafe](https://www.scancafe.com/pricing)
  + $28 / tape

Space 3) Photo, Slide, Negative & Document Scanning

* [What We Digitize – Legacybox](https://legacybox.com/pages/what-we-digitize#tapes)
  + $69.98 for up to 2 items, $319.98 for up to 10 Items
* [Pricing Details for Scanning & Transfer Services | ScanCafe](https://www.scancafe.com/pricing)
  + Photography $0.48 / image
  + Small, Medium, and Large Formats: $1.48 / Item, $2.48 / Item, $5.48 / Item

Space 4) Wide Format & Book Scanning

* [Paid Order Form | Book Scanning: Affordable Consumer Book Scanning Services](https://boundbookscanning.com/paid-order-form/)
  + Non-destructive (Bound) Book Scanning Calculator:
    - $21.95 for First Book + $14.95 per Additional Book + $0.09 per Page
  + Destructive Book Scanning Pricing Calculator:
    - $13.95 for First Book + $6.95 per Additional Book + $0.06 per Page

**Wi-Fi Use Hours per Month**

**Source:** Florida Annual Statistical Report  
**Calculation Method:** Sum of [Public Service Hours Per Year] across all Library Branches

**Service Value: $4  
Values Explained: Reflects value of secure high-speed internet access in public/commercial spaces.**

* [Wi-Fi Pass for $10 for 30 Days - Find a Wi-Fi Hotspot NOW - Xfinity](https://www.xfinity.com/learn/internet-service/wifi)
* [Calculated Values of Library Services | HCPLC](https://hcplc.org/about/calculated?utm_source=chatgpt.com)
  + $4.00 - Sample hourly rate for secure, high-speed, unlimited Wi-Fi from commercial services or internet café
* [Values of Library Materials & Services | Washington-Centerville Public Library](https://www.wclibrary.info/calculator/value/?utm_source=chatgpt.com)
  + $5.00 - Minimum purchase required for 1 visit for a customer at a popular restaurant to access Wi-Fi

**Online Resources/Databases Uses per Month**

**Primary Source:** Internal Data Dashboard > Technology & Online Resources > Total Database Usage  
**Alternative Source:** Digital Information Worksheet in Statistics Folder

**Service Value: $1.49  
Values Explained:** Represents the average cost per use or view across our online services, including Morningstar, Value Line, OverDrive, ProQuest, AtoZdatabases, PressReader, Mango Languages, LinkedIn Learning, and NewsBank.

* [Morningstar](https://www.morningstar.com/mm/investor/affiliate?source=aw&variation=yellow&offerCode=PARTNER1&utm_source=CreditDonkey%20Inc&utm_medium=affiliate&utm_campaign=evergreen&utm_content=96ee34a1c58b46e5aa500b48b965706dZ1&sv1=affiliate&sv_campaign_id=853538&awc=81639_1757517096_f0be03677fc8222a9bfe2fd694de53bf): Finance, Stocks, Mutual Funds, and EFTs
  + Individual) $199 on Yearly Plan (16.58/month) OR $199 on Monthly Plan (34.95/month)
  + [From Library Contracts Table] Cost per use/view: $0.79
* Value Line: Finance, Investing
  + [From Library Contracts Table] Cost per use/view: $0.20
* Overdrive: eBooks and eAudioBooks
  + [From Library Contracts Table] Cost per use/view: $1.42
* Proquest: Genealogy research
  + [From Library Contracts Table] Cost per use/view: $3.48
* AtoZdatabases: Business & Residential Information, Market Research, Job Searching
  + [From Library Contracts Table] Cost per use/view: $0.43
* PressReader: Digital Magazines, Newspaper
  + [From Library Contracts Table] Cost per use/view: $0.63
* [Mango Languages](https://mangolanguages.com/pricing/): Language Learning
  + Individual Yearly Plan) Single Language: $9.99/month, All Languages: $16.67/month
  + Individual Monthly Plan) Single Language: $11.99/month, All Languages: $19.99/month
  + [From Library Contracts Table] Cost per use/view: $3.29
* LinkedIn Learning: Educational Videos, focused on Business, Creative and Technology Skills
  + Individual Courses – Typically $20-$50
  + Monthly Subscription with unlimited course access - $39.99 per month
  + Annual Subscription with Unlimited course access - $299.88 per year ($24.99 per month)
  + [From Library Contracts Table] Cost per use/view: $1.54
* Newsbank: Digital newspapers, Bradenton Herald Access
  + [From Library Contracts Table] Cost per use/view: $2.27
* **Average Cost per View: $1.49**

**Research Questions Asked per Month**

**Source:** Florida Annual Statistical Report  
**Item Reference:** Item #101 [Total Reference Transactions]

**Service Value: $15  
Values Explained: Equivalent to hiring a research assistant or paying for a reference consultation.**

* [Research Assistant Salary: Hourly Rate September 2025 USA](https://www.ziprecruiter.com/Salaries/Research-Assistant-Salary#:~:text=How%20much%20does%20a%20Research%20Assistant%20make%3F%20As,in%20the%20United%20States%20is%20%2421.91%20an%20hour.)
  + Hourly Wage Range ($8.41 - $31.73) and Average $22 / hour
* [What Is the Average Librarian Salary by State in 2025?](https://www.ziprecruiter.com/Salaries/What-Is-the-Average-Librarian-Salary-by-State)
  + Average Hourly Wage in Florida: $23.42

**Technical Instructions and Training Hours per Month**

**Primary Source:** Internal Data Dashboard > Technical Instructions and Training > Hours with Patrons  
**Alternative Source:** Tabulation Worksheet in Statistics Folder

**Service Value:** $25 **Values Explained:** Based on average hourly rate for adult education, digital literacy classes, or technology tutoring through community centers, workforce training, or commercial platforms.

* [Average Tutoring Rate in the USA 2025 | What to Charge](https://www.wise.live/blog/average-tutoring-rate-in-the-usa/?utm_source=chatgpt.com)
  + College-Level Subjects – Online $40-$60 per hour, In-Person $50-$70 per hour
  + STEM (e.g., Coding, Physics) – Online $50-$70 per hour, In-Person $60-$80 per hour

**Computer Use Hours per Month**

**Source:** Internal Data Dashboard > Technology & Online Resources > Computer Usage Hours

**Alternative Source:** Tabulation Worksheet in Statistics Folder

**Service Value:** $12 **Values Explained:** Matches internet café/computer rental rates per hour, especially with MS Office access.

* [RentAComputer.com | Trusted & Reliable Business Technology](https://www.rentacomputer.com/rentals/laptops)
  + Windows Laptop Rentals and Surface Book Rentals start at $90/week
  + Gaming Laptop Rentals start at $176/week
  + Workstation Rentals start at $151/week
* [Compare All Microsoft 365 Plans (Formerly Office 365) - Microsoft Store](https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/microsoft-365/buy/compare-all-microsoft-365-products?msockid=26633b1ab22565bd27a52d78b37264d2)
  + Microsoft 365 Personal $99.99/year

**Program/Class Attendance per Month**

**Source:** Florida Annual Statistical Report  
**Item Reference:** Item #119 [Total Active Programs]  
**Categories:**

* **Child Programs:** [Children Ages 0-5] + [Children Ages 6-11]
* **Teen Programs:** [Young Adult]
* **Adult Programs:** [Adult]

**Values Explained:**

* **Program/Class Attended per Month – Child**
  + **Service Value:** $10.00
  + Estimated value based on costs for enrichment or storytime programs in community centers.
* **Program/Class Attended per Month – Teen**
  + **Service Value**: $13.00
  + Based on creative or educational teen-focused activities (e.g. coding, crafts).
* **Program/Class Attended per Month – Adult**
  + **Service Value:** $17.50
  + Reflects the value of workshops, lectures, or adult education programs elsewhere.

How Service Values Compare with Other Value Use Calculators from Other Libraries

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Library Service** | **Manatee County Library Value Calculator** | **Average Value from Other Library Value Calculators** | **1)** [**New York Library Association**](https://www.nyla.org/library-use-value-calculator-widget)  **2)** [**American Library Association**](https://www.ala.org/advocacy/tools/library-value-calculator)  **3)** [**Billerica Public Library**](https://billericalibrary.org/borrowing/library-value-calculator/) | **4)** [**Southington Public Library**](https://www.southingtonlibrary.org/value-calculator.html) | **5)** [**Jefferson Parish Library**](https://www.jplibrary.net/calculator) | **6)** [**Santa Cruz Public Libraries**](https://www.santacruzpl.org/services/value/) | **7)** [**Maine State Library**](https://www.maine.gov/msl/services/calculator.htm) |
| **Books Borrowed Per Month** | **16** | **19.6** | 17 | 17 | 30 | 20 | 14 |
| **DVDs Borrowed Per Month** | **10** | **10.59** | 9.95 | 10 | 15 | 5 | 13 |
| **AudioBooks Borrowed Per Month** | **25** | **29.39** | 9.95 | 30 | 40 | 40 | 27 |
| **eBooks Borrowed Per Month** | **6** | **11.25** | 15 | 10 | - | 10 | 10 |
| **Meeting Room Usage Hours Per Month** | **30** | **31.25** | 25 | 25 | 50 | - | 25 |
| **Study Room Usage Hours Per Month** | **10** | **-** | - | - | - | - | - |
| **Archive Lab Usage Hours Per Month** | **45** | **-** | - | - | - | - | - |
| **Wi-Fi Use Hours Per Month** | **4** | **9** | - | - | 9 | - | - |
| **Online Learning Users Per Month** | **75** | **-** | - | - | - | - | - |
| **Research Question Asked Per Month** | **15** | **16.2** | 7 | 19.50 | 20 | 15 | 19.50 |
| **Technical Instructions and Training Hours per Month** | **25** | **35** | - | - | 50 | 20 | - |
| **Computer Use Hours per Month** | **12** | **11.8** | 12 | 10 | 15 | 12 | 10 |
| **Program/Class Attended per Month - Child** | **10** | **12.2** | 7 | 12 | 20 | 10 | 12 |
| **Program/Class Attended per Month - Teen** | **13** | **16.4** | 12 | 15 | 30 | 10 | 15 |
| **Program/Class Attended per Month - Adult** | **17.5** | **17** | 15 | 15 | 30 | 10 | 15 |

*Document prepared for Library Value Calculator implementation*  
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