



**BALTIMORE COUNTY
PUBLIC LIBRARY**

**Trending &
Benchmark Report
2019**

BCPL In Context

Trending and Benchmarking

Trending and benchmarking reports are valuable tools for any organization. When viewed within the context of similar organizations, we can more easily see what our strengths are and where our greatest potential remains. By viewing trends over time in this same context, we can see where we're in line — or not — with others in the industry. We must also keep in mind that even amongst organizations of similar size or resources, there may be environmental factors that aren't expressed in numbers but still play a part in the performance of the organization. The metrics tell the first part of the story, but if the goal is to move the needle on the numbers, we must then look deeper into what factors are influencing that area.

Data in This Report

All data in this report comes from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) Public Libraries Survey. Single-year data is for Fiscal Year 2017, which is the most current year publicly available as of August 2019. Trend data reflects Fiscal Years 2013 - 2017.

National Peer Group | At a Glance



Library System	Community Served
● Baltimore County Public Library	Baltimore County, MD; not including Baltimore City
● Charlotte Mecklenburg Library	Mecklenburg County, NC; including the city of Charlotte
● Enoch Pratt Free Library	Baltimore City, MD
● Indianapolis-Marion County Public Library	Marion County, IN; including the city of Indianapolis
● Jacksonville Public Library	Duval County, FL; including the city of Jacksonville
● Metropolitan Library System	Oklahoma County and Oklahoma City, OK
● Montgomery County Public Libraries	Montgomery County, MD
● Nashville Public Library	Davidson County, TN; including the city of Nashville
● Ocean County Library	Ocean County, NJ
● Pierce County Library System	Pierce County, WA; including the city of Tacoma
● Sno-Isle Libraries	Snohomish and Island Counties, WA
● Saint Louis County Library	Saint Louis County, MO; not including the city of Saint Louis

National Peer Group | At a Glance

National Peer Group Determination

Baltimore County Public Library's national peer libraries have been identified using IMLS data from FY 2016-2017, the most recent year publicly available in August 2019. Peers are determined as those that fall within a similar range of the following three operating conditions:













1. Service area population (+/- 35%)
2. Total operating expenditures (+/- 35%)
3. Number of branches, including central and branch libraries (+/- 20%)

Within the peer group, Baltimore County falls in the mid-range for service area population, near the top for total operating expenditures, and near the low end for number of branches.

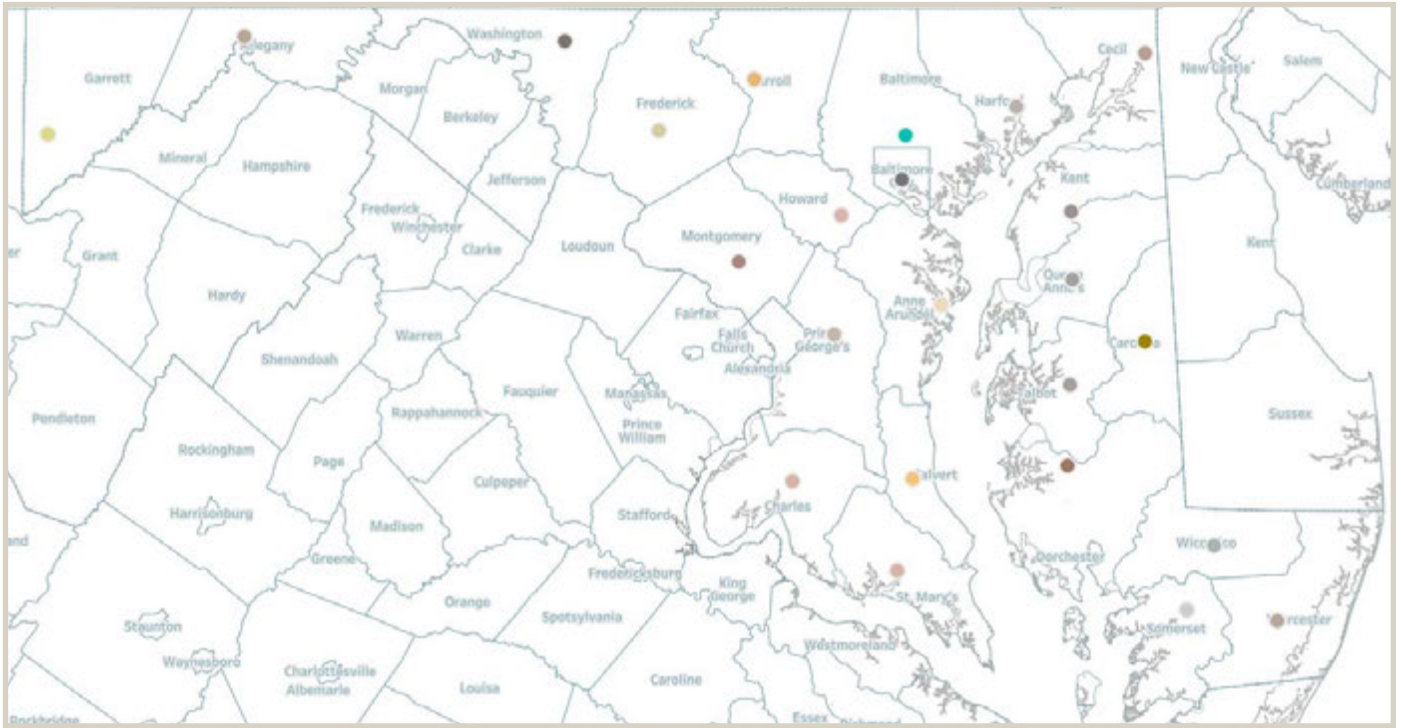
Of Note

The most comparable systems to Baltimore County, using these criteria, are Indianapolis-Marion County Public Library, Sno-Isle Libraries and Saint Louis County Library.

One peer system, Saint Louis County, shares with Baltimore County the geographical quality of serving an urban/suburban county directly adjacent to but not including a major U.S. city. Salt Lake County was removed from the peer group in FY17 due to a budget increase above the calculated range.

	Population	Operating Expenditures	Branches
	832,468	\$42,544,735	19
	1,076,837	\$39,455,375	20
	611,648	\$41,549,100	22
	950,082	\$43,635,978	24
	937,934	\$33,617,475	21
	787,958	\$36,368,589	19
	1,058,810	\$39,433,631	22
	691,243	\$34,492,540	21
	597,943	\$36,505,393	21
	876,764	\$30,769,488	20
	801,633	\$43,479,824	22
	996,726	\$45,424,466	20

Maryland Libraries | At a Glance



Maryland Libraries

Maryland's 24 public library systems represent each of the 23 counties and Baltimore City. All Maryland libraries share a robust reciprocal borrowing agreement and strong collaborative efforts on statewide policy and funding initiatives. However, reflective of the state's diverse geography and demographics, there is a wide range in library system size and resources.

Maryland Libraries Peer Group





Throughout the detail sections of this report, trend charts are shown for several measures. These charts show Baltimore County's change over time in particular areas, within the context of its peers. In order to facilitate readability, Maryland libraries have been limited to a radius of two counties in any direction around Baltimore County. This peer group includes Anne Arundel, Carroll, Cecil, Frederick, Harford, Howard, Montgomery and Prince George's counties, as well as Enoch Pratt Free Library in Baltimore City.

Of note, two Maryland systems, Enoch Pratt and Montgomery County, are also included in Baltimore County's national peer group.




















Maryland Libraries | At a Glance

Library System		Population	Operating Expenses	Branches
	Baltimore County Public Library	832,468	\$42,544,735	19
	Allegany County Library System	71,615	\$2,022,386	6
	Anne Arundel County Public Library	573,235	\$24,764,434	15
	Calvert Library	91,502	\$4,516,048	4
	Caroline County Public Library	33,193	\$1,778,102	3
	Carroll County Public Library	167,781	\$11,003,625	7
	Cecil County Public Library	102,746	\$6,096,453	7
	Charles County Public Library	159,700	\$5,346,999	4
	Dorchester County Public Library	32,162	\$992,120	2
	Enoch Pratt Free Library	611,648	\$41,549,100	22
	Frederick County Public Libraries	252,022	\$13,594,276	8
	Harford County Public Library	252,160	\$20,483,055	11
	Howard County Library System	321,113	\$23,794,324	7
	Kent County Public Library	19,384	\$984,454	3
	Montgomery County Public Libraries	1,058,810	\$39,433,631	22
	Prince George's County Memorial Library System	912,756	\$27,204,918	19
	Queen Anne's County Free Library	49,770	\$2,053,934	2
	Ruth Enlow Library of Garrett County	29,233	\$1,479,083	5
	St. Mary's County Library	112,667	\$3,852,748	3
	Somerset County Library	25,918	\$827,062	3
	Talbot County Free Library	37,103	\$1,701,936	2
	Washington County Free Library	150,578	\$4,875,778	8
	Wicomico Public Library	102,923	\$2,639,794	3
	Worcester County Library	51,690	\$3,270,733	5

National & Maryland Peers | Statistical Detail

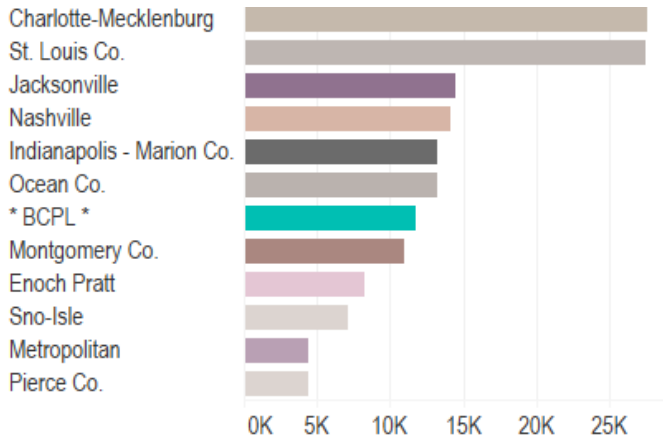
		Programs per 1,000 People	Program Attendance per 1,000 People	Total Hours Open	Visits per Capita
	Baltimore County Public Library	14.17	366.42	66,748	5.68
National Peer Group					
	Charlotte-Mecklenburg Library	25.61	374.55	61,912	3.13
	Enoch Pratt Free Library	13.44	210.62	42,474	2.52
	Indianapolis-Marion County Public Library	13.96	634.41	75,750	4.21
	Jacksonville Public Library	15.41	252.17	49,712	3.63
	Metropolitan Library System	5.65	122.73	63,700	3.83
	Montgomery County Public Libraries	10.37	247.77	54,962	4.36
	Nashville Public Library	20.43	500.03	53,736	5.23
	Ocean County Library	22.09	440.48	54,460	3.67
	Pierce County Library System	5.02	125.66	52,890	2.39
	Sno-Isle Libraries	8.93	250.82	63,350	4.08
	St. Louis County Library	27.55	755.22	65,817	5.07
Maryland Peer Group					
	Anne Arundel County Public Library	9.79	375.16	49,380	4.17
	Carroll County Public Library	40.27	1,050.05	21,528	6.11
	Cecil County Public Library	14.28	393.00	18,038	4.09
	Frederick County Public Libraries	26.06	810.68	19,918	4.15
	Harford County Public Library	23.88	1,033.17	30,208	6.79
	Howard County Library System	26.26	1,053.66	17,813	5.78
	Prince George's County Memorial Library System	7.82	171.59	40,985	2.67

National & Maryland Peers | Statistical Detail

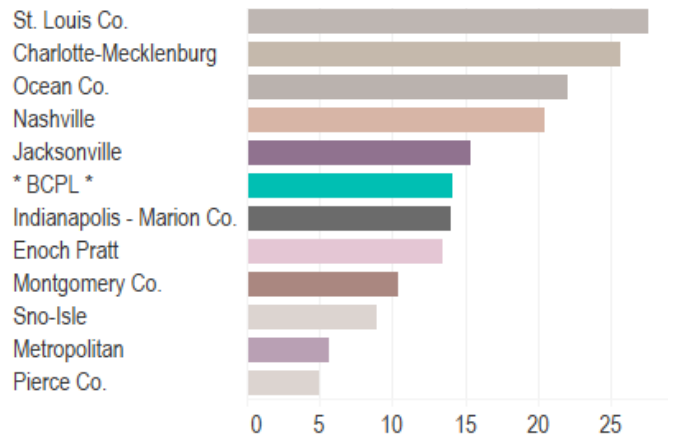
	Circulation per Capita	e-Circulation per Capita	Public PCs available per 5,000 People	PC Sessions per Capita	Staffing (FTEs) per 25,000 People
	12.85	0.97	2.76	0.65	15.29
	5.61	1.15	3.93	0.62	9.73
	1.80	0.18	7.47	1.82	17.21
	15.19	2.13	3.45	0.88	12.68
	5.45	0.35	5.54	0.72	10.64
	7.25	1.68	2.21	1.02	12.63
	9.02	0.65	2.54	0.37	9.14
	7.03	1.62	7.10	0.92	13.31
	6.80	0.50	3.61	0.63	16.77
	7.07	1.30	3.31	0.49	7.90
	13.30	2.46	2.86	0.89	11.48
	13.60	1.34	2.92	1.01	12.39
	8.60	0.73	2.75	1.01	12.56
	22.18	0.91	3.28	1.05	22.95
	9.28	0.63	5.30	1.38	16.79
	8.95	0.81	5.02	1.01	12.60
	14.66	1.40	9.76	1.57	22.51
	22.98	2.99	4.39	1.81	27.87
	4.96	0.89	3.64	0.70	9.37

National Peer Group | Programming Detail

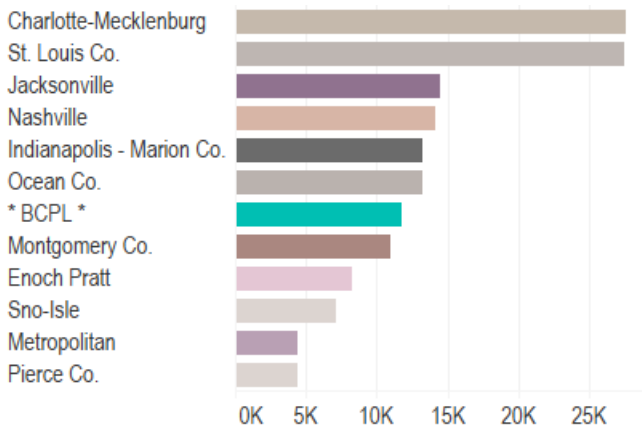
Total Programs



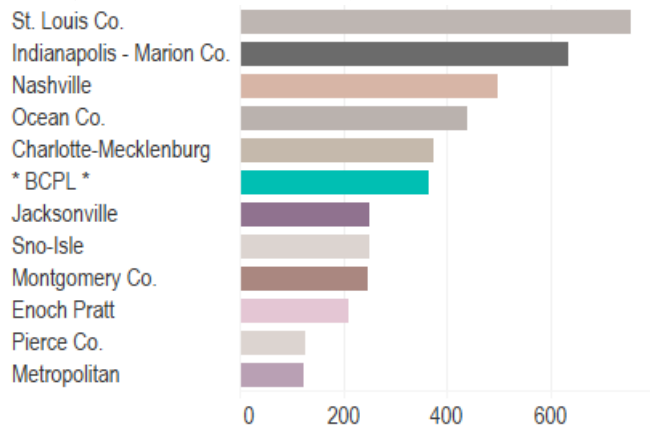
Programs per 1,000 People



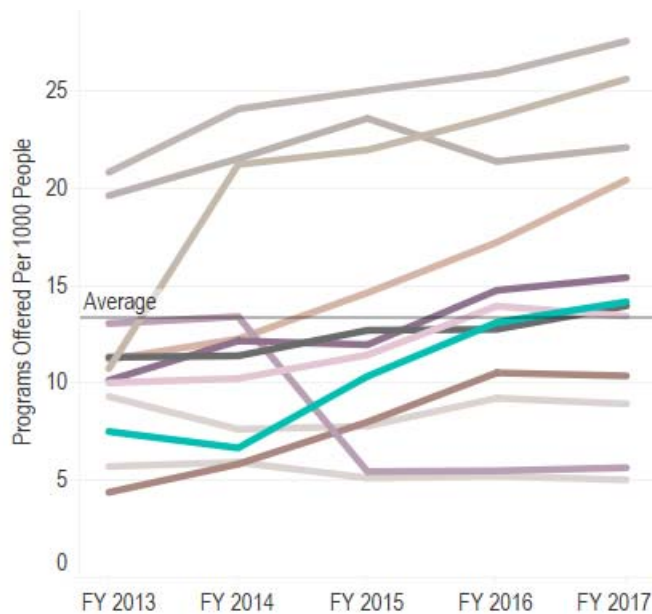
Total Program Attendance



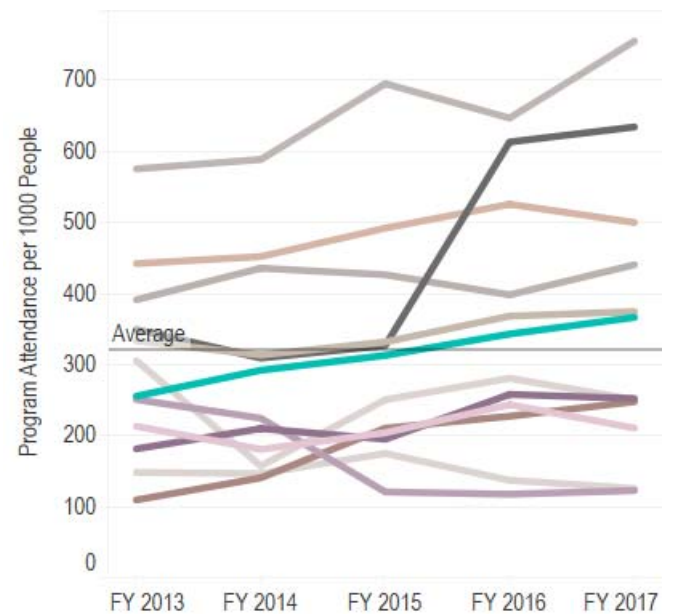
Program Attendance per 1,000 People



Programs per 1,000 People: Trend

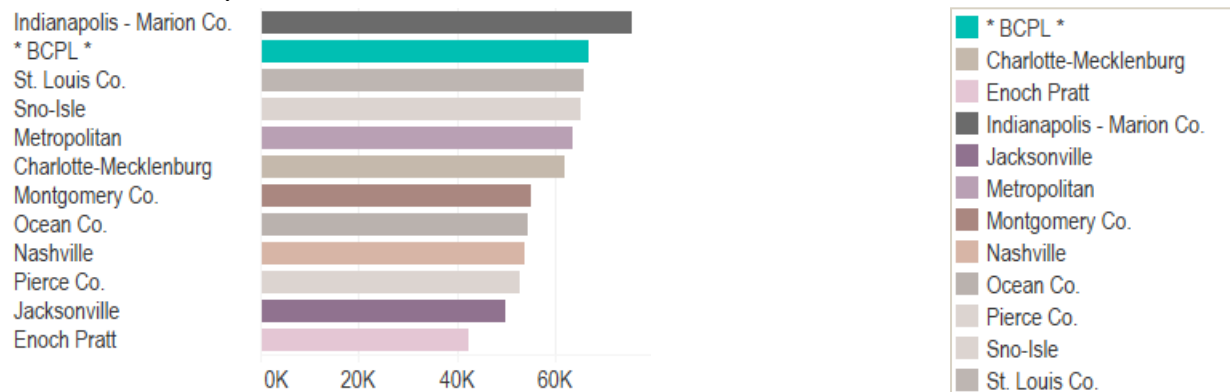


Program Attnd. per 1,000 People: Trend

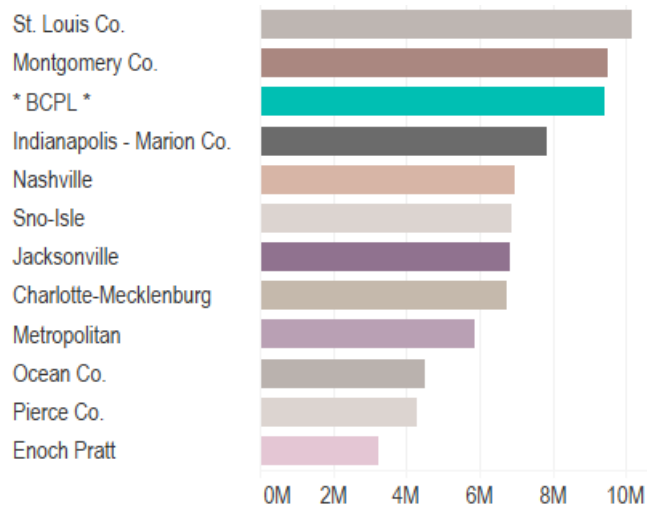


National Peer Group | Hours & Visits Detail

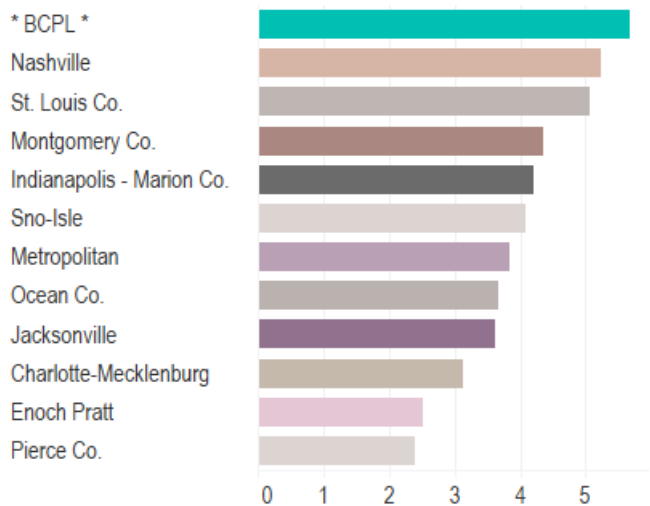
Total Hours Open to the Public



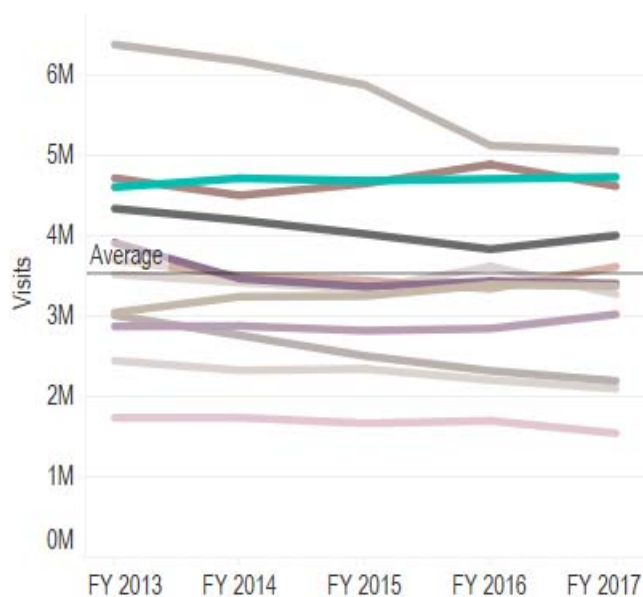
Total Library Visits



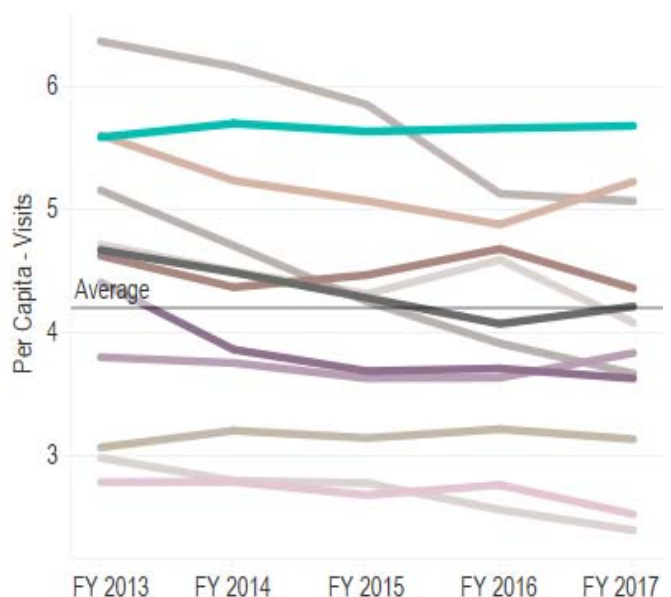
Library Visits per Capita



Total Library Visits: Trend

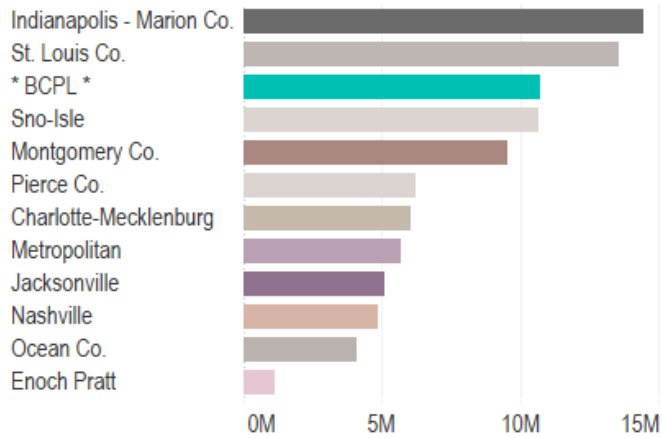


Library Visits per Capita: Trend

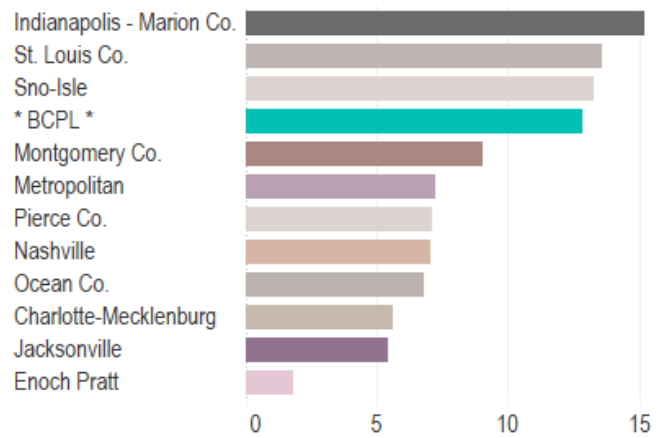


National Peer Group | Circulation Detail

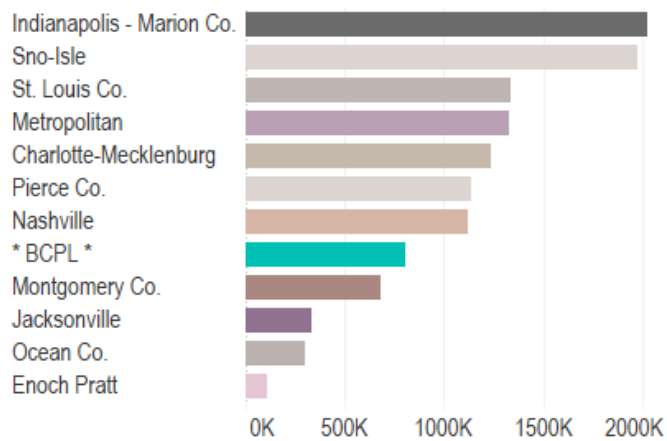
Total Circulation



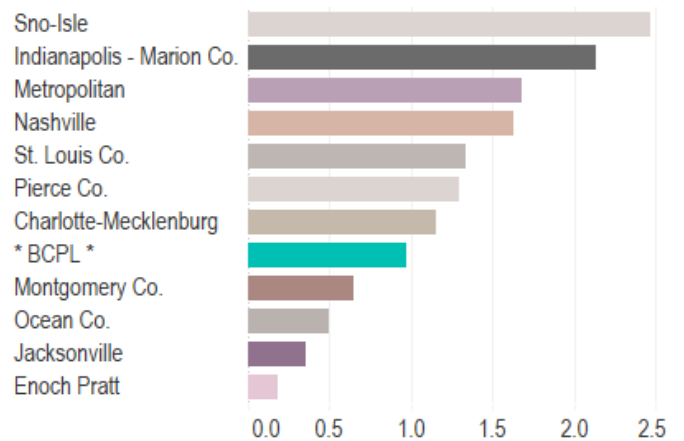
Circulation per Capita



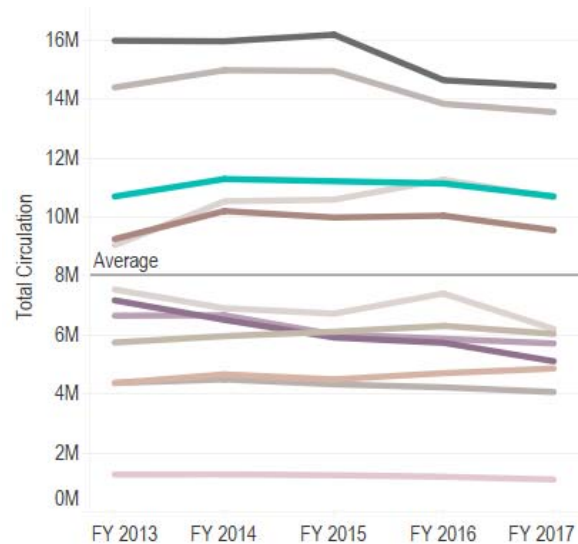
e-Circulation



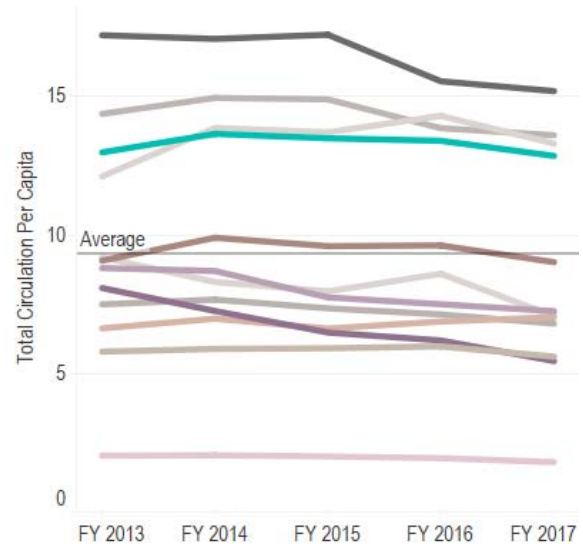
e-Circulation per Capita



Total Circulation: Trend

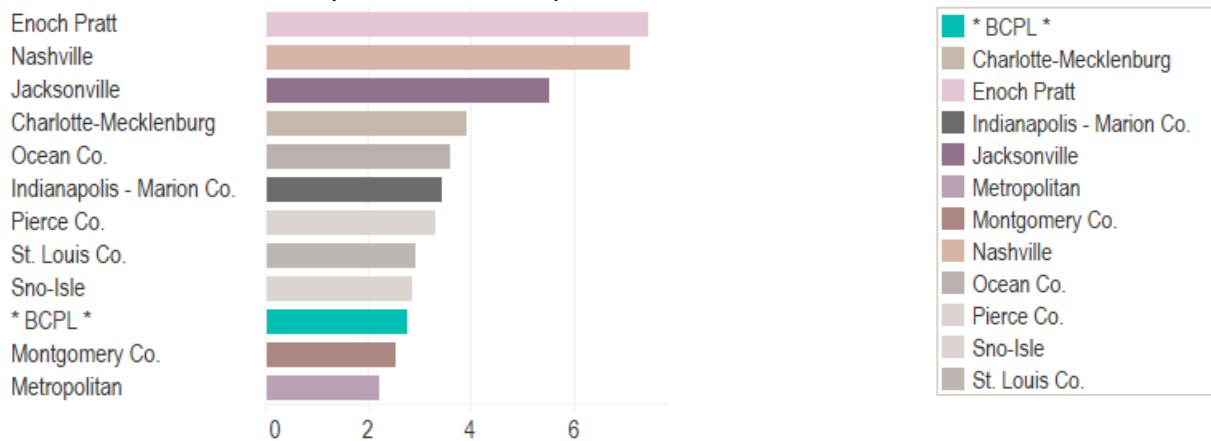


Circulation per Capita: Trend

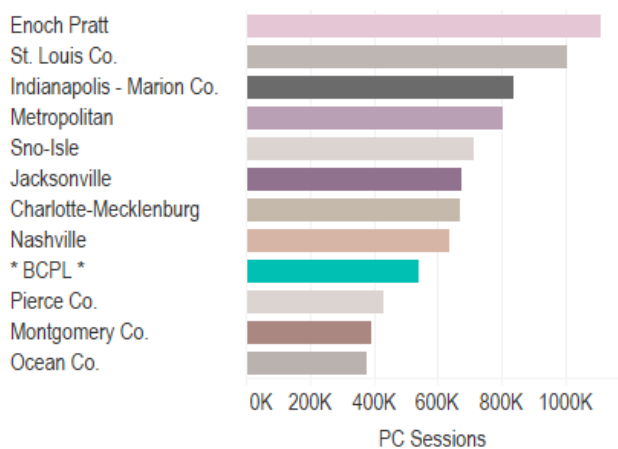


National Peer Group | Public PC & Session Detail

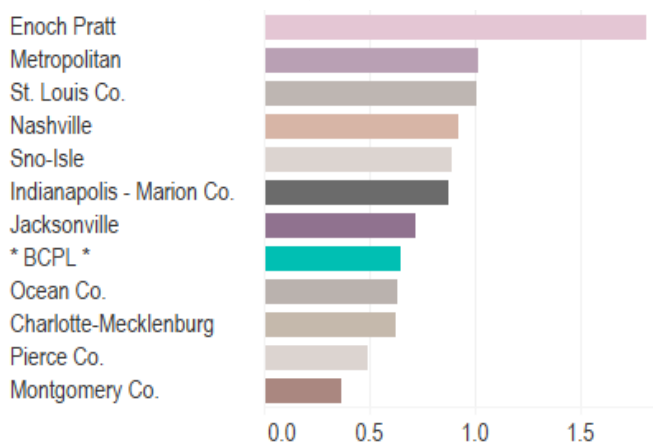
Public PCs Available per 5,000 People



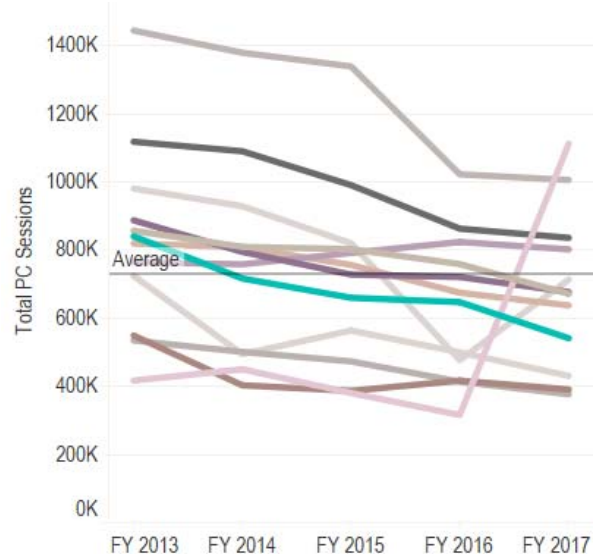
Total PC Sessions



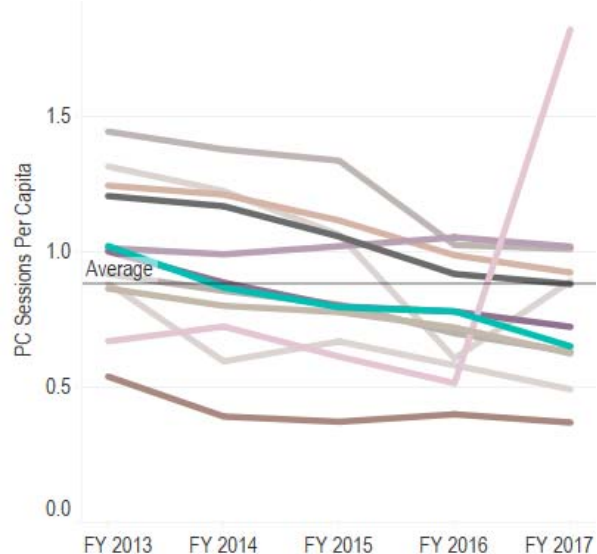
PC Sessions per Capita



Total PC Sessions: Trend

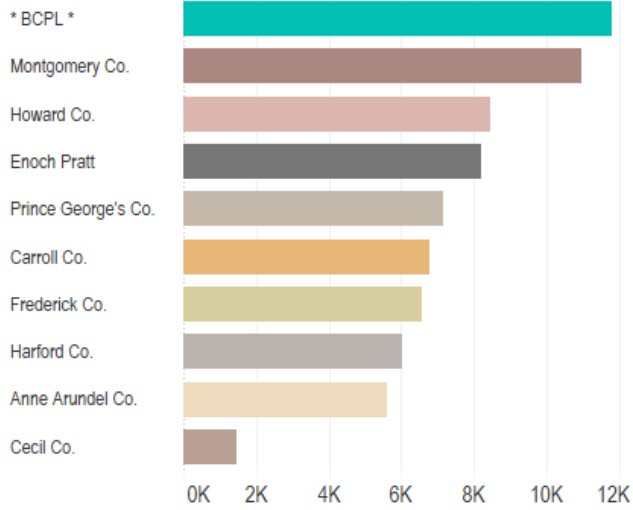


PC Sessions Per Capita: Trend

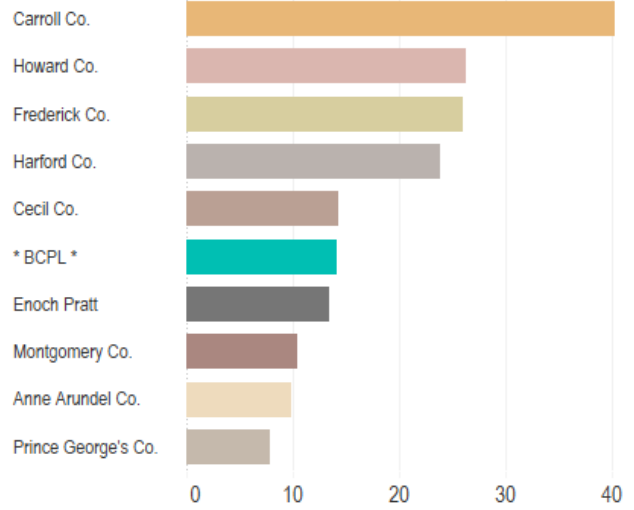


Maryland Libraries | Programming Detail

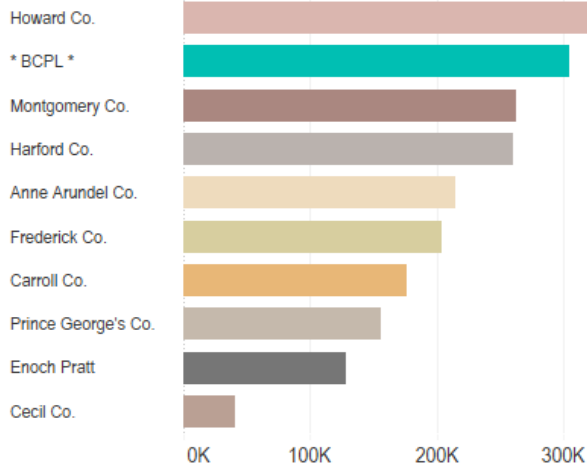
Total Programs



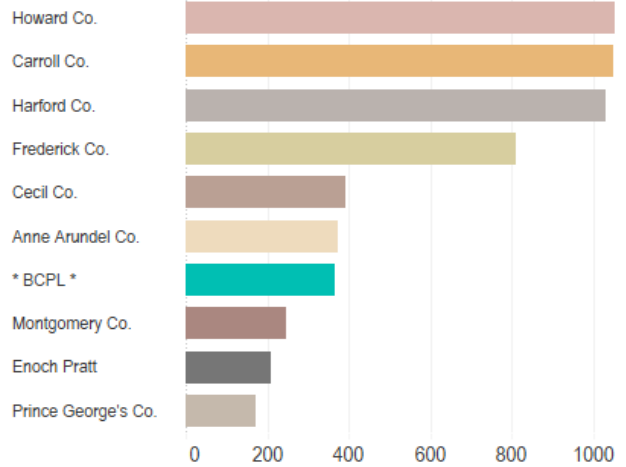
Programs per 1,000 People



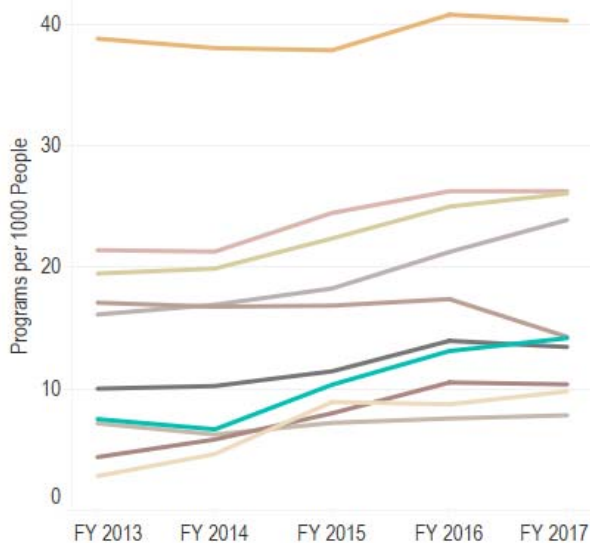
Total Program Attendance



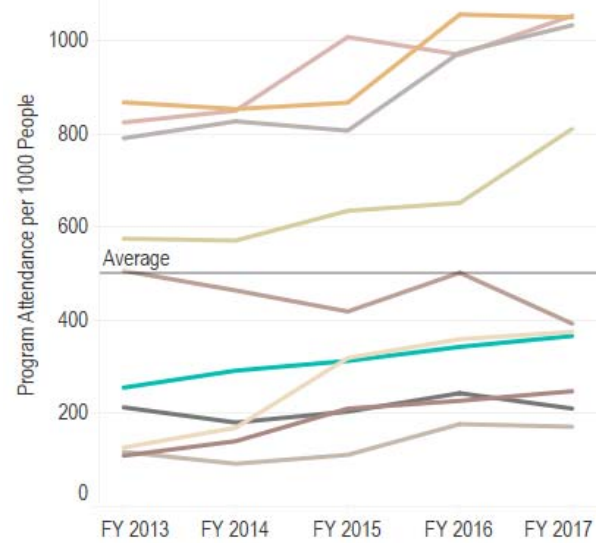
Program Attendance per 1,000 People



Programs per 1,000 People: Trend

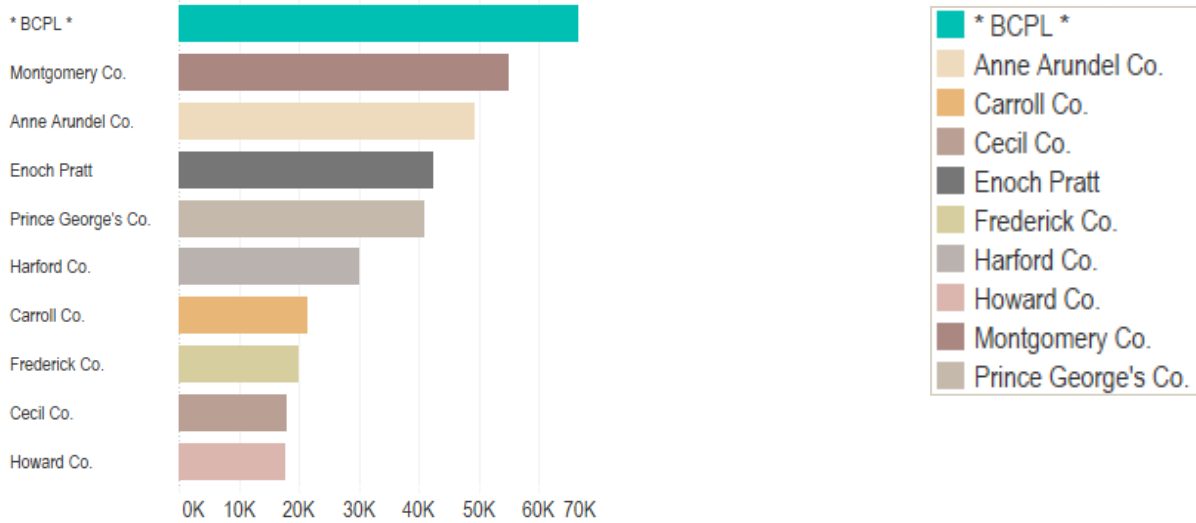


Program Attnd. per 1,000 People: Trend

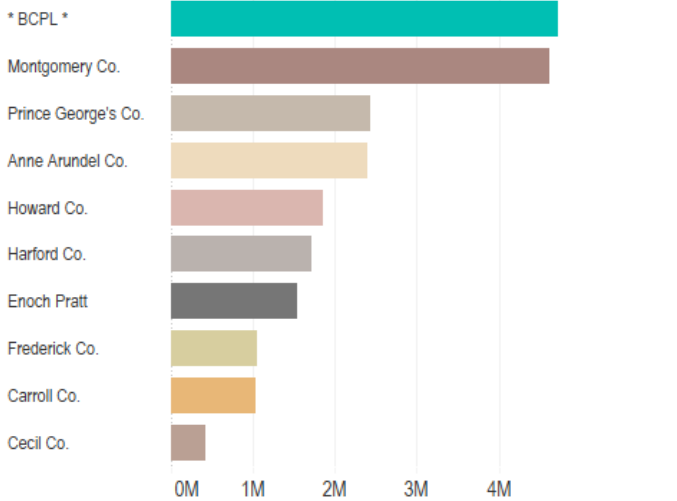


Maryland Libraries | Hours & Visits Detail

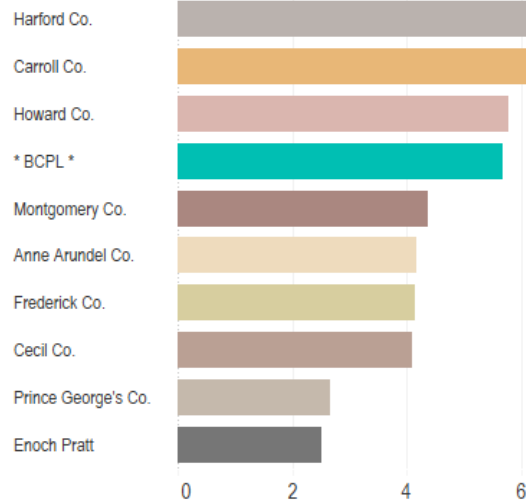
Total Hours Open to the Public



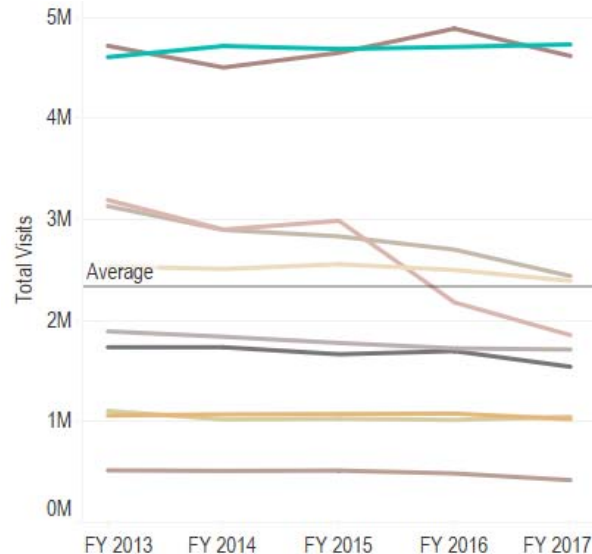
Total Visits



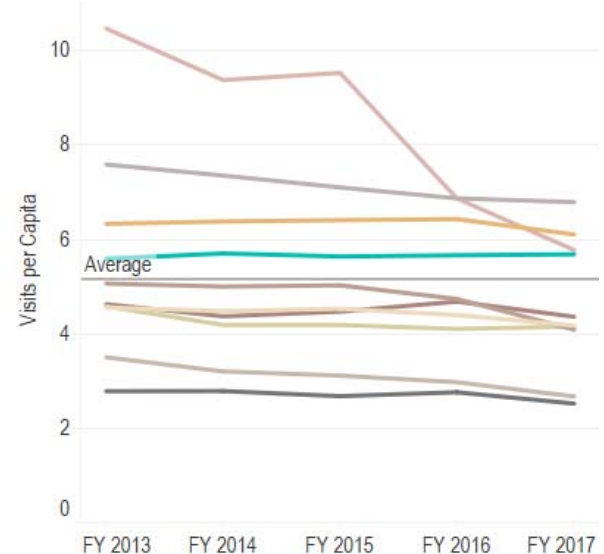
Visits per Capita



Total Visits: Trend

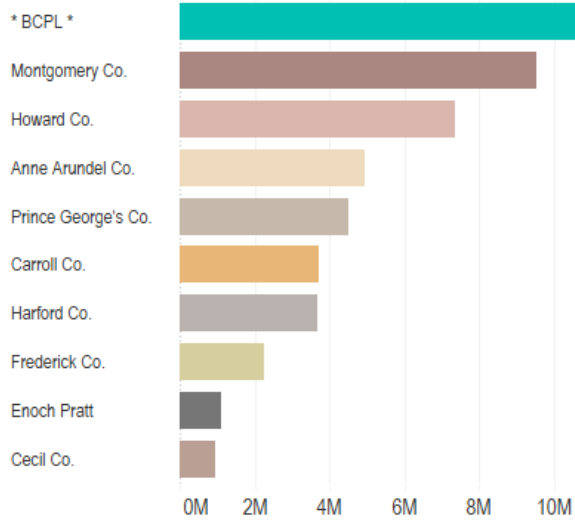


Visits Per Capita: Trend

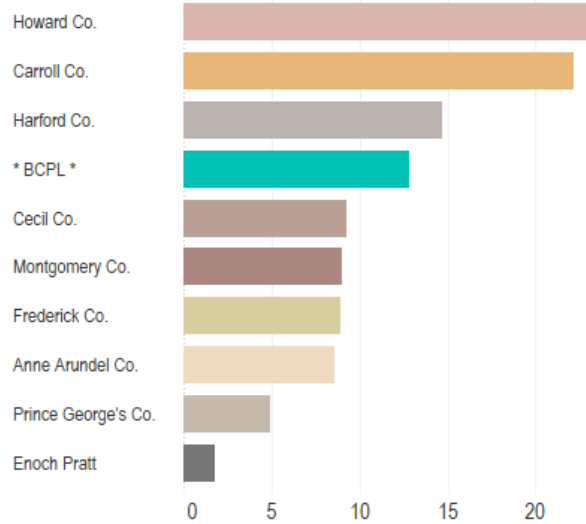


Maryland Libraries | Circulation Detail

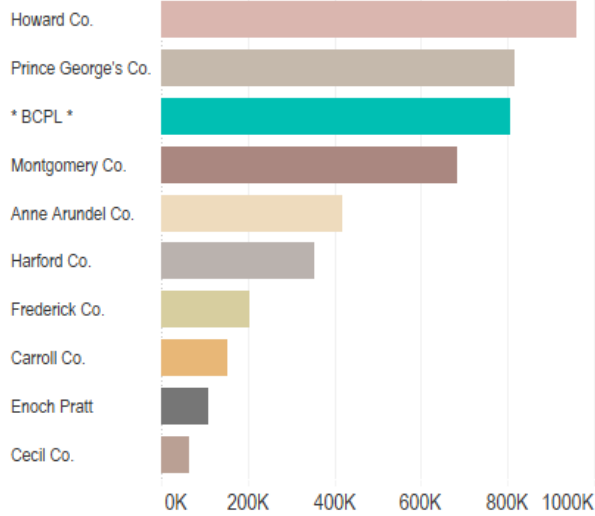
Total Circulation



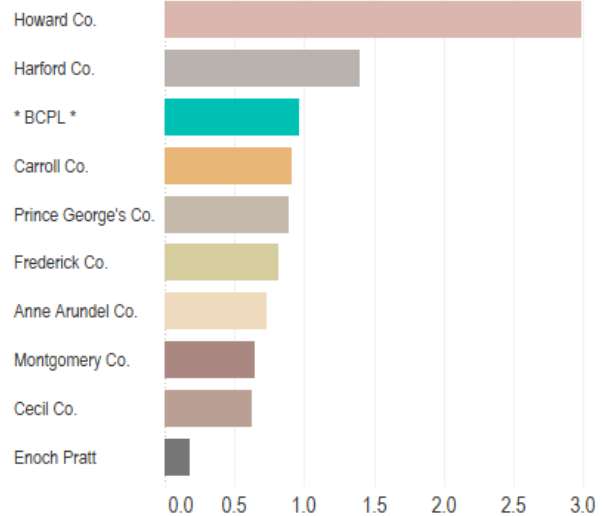
Circulation per Capita



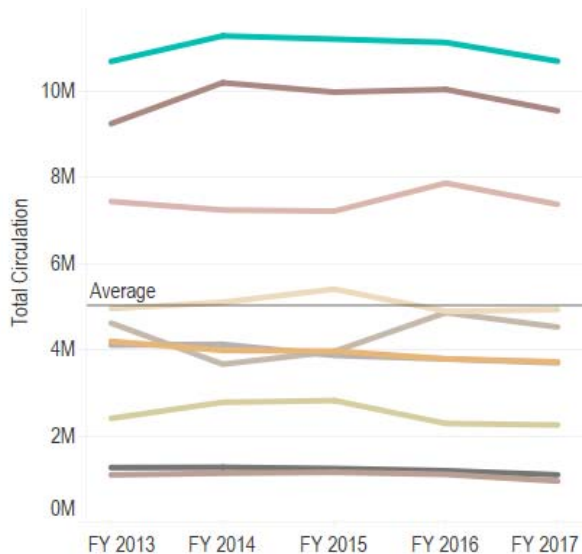
Total e-Circulation



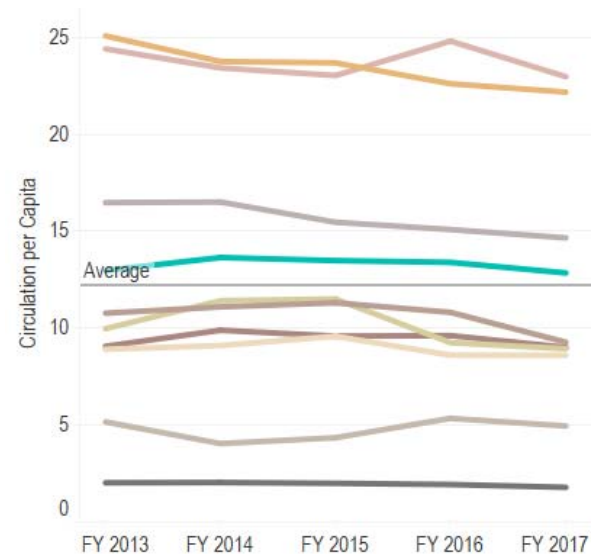
e-Circulation per Capita



Total Circulation: Trend

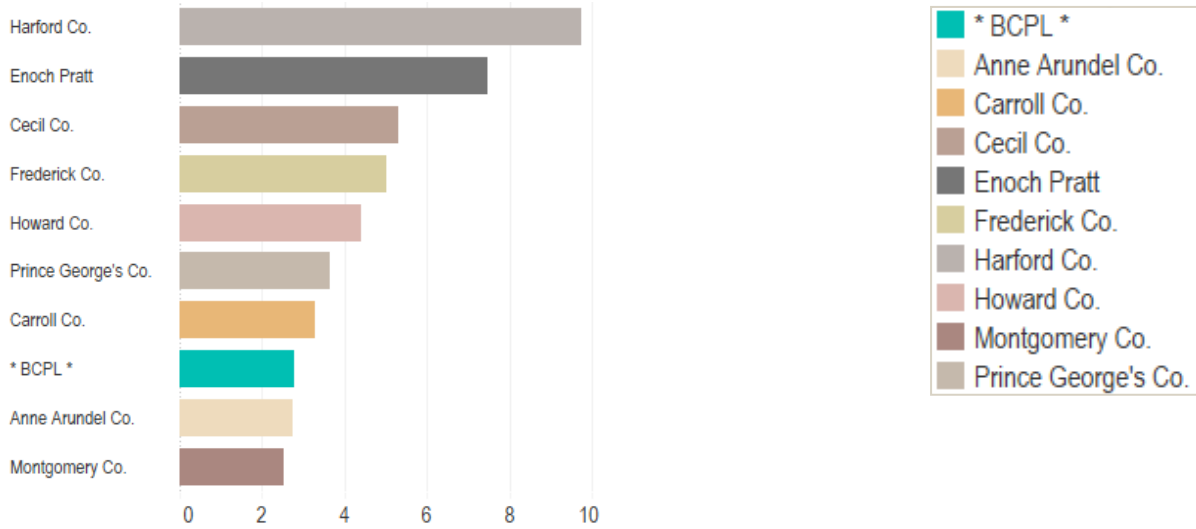


Circulation per Capita: Trend

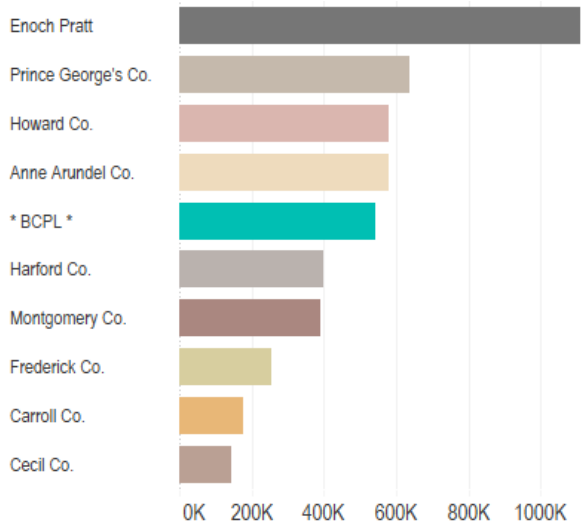


Maryland Libraries | Public PC & Session Detail

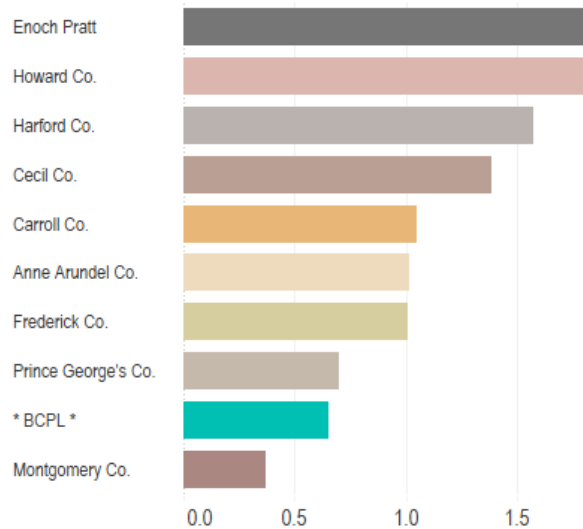
Public PCs Available per 5,000 People



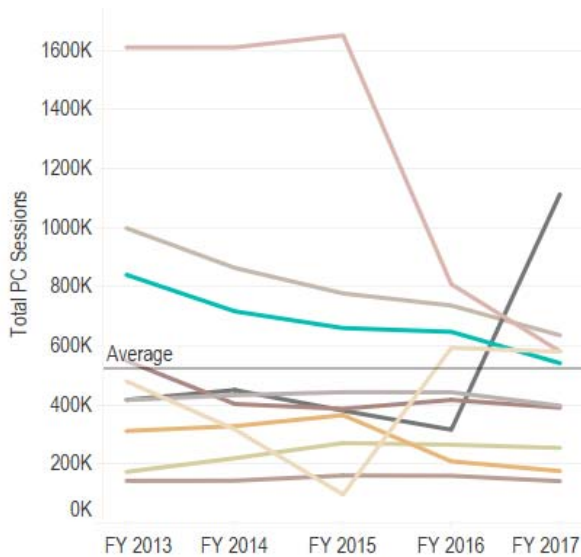
Total PC Sessions



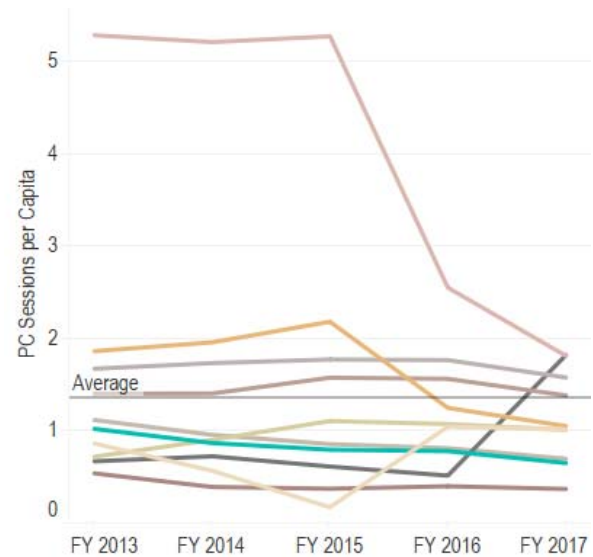
PC Sessions per Capita



Total PC Sessions: Trend



PC Sessions per Capita: Trend



National & Maryland Peers | Budget Detail

Operating Revenue						
		Local	State	Federal	Other	Total
●	Baltimore County Public Library	32,850,587	8,127,625	178,459	2,633,987	43,790,658
National Peer Group						
●	Charlotte-Mecklenburg Library	36,443,398	612,394	81,682	2,647,782	39,785,256
●	Enoch Pratt Free Library	14,457,900	8,376,800	367,090	16,330,610	39,532,400
●	Indianapolis-Marion County Public Library	37,722,157	3,295,015	301,073	2,623,181	43,941,426
●	Jacksonville Public Library	31,983,745	874,255	87,000	660,272	33,605,272
●	Metropolitan Library System	35,703,098	255,051	-	2,410,440	38,368,589
●	Montgomery County Public Libraries	36,643,226	6,178,408	54,905	1,183,703	44,060,242
●	Nashville Public Library	33,735,024	136,059	12,812	1,285,392	35,169,287
●	Ocean County Library	36,352,799	249,449	-	771,623	37,373,871
●	Pierce County Library System	29,289,948	7,585	87,140	1,386,548	30,771,221
●	Sno-Isle Libraries	41,786,188	-	-	953,901	42,740,089
●	St. Louis County Library	48,240,102	662,152	153,760	3,907,304	52,963,318
Maryland Peer Group						
●	Anne Arundel County Public Library	20,228,900	3,752,175	9,400	932,608	24,923,083
●	Carroll County Public Library	8,473,830	1,813,396	283,292	714,129	11,284,647
●	Cecil County Public Library	5,082,767	1,173,644	195,688	321,049	6,773,148
●	Frederick County Public Libraries	8,493,759	2,194,110	41,641	2,603,967	13,333,477
●	Harford County Public Library	16,644,574	2,827,167	38,056	966,019	20,475,816
●	Howard County Library System	19,543,923	2,973,199	326,736	950,175	23,794,033
●	Prince George's County Memorial Library System	19,615,000	9,077,164	69,655	1,052,212	29,814,031

National & Maryland Peers | Budget Detail

Operating Expenditures					Capital Funds	
	Staffing	Materials	Other	Total	Revenue	Expenditures
●	30,398,790	7,510,968	4,634,977	42,544,735	1,608,000	1,608,000
●	26,138,127	4,006,293	9,310,955	39,455,375	3,314,461	3,314,461
●	26,187,133	2,969,345	12,392,622	41,549,100	985,698	985,698
●	23,692,233	6,667,076	13,276,669	43,635,978	26,283,297	15,329,247
●	18,382,570	4,364,186	10,870,719	33,617,475	514,154	177
●	22,827,589	5,880,954	9,660,046	38,368,589	-	1,675,742
●	31,497,465	6,299,857	1,636,309	39,433,631	40,206,000	11,861,016
●	20,297,252	5,171,237	9,024,051	34,492,540	2,496,864	2,496,864
●	27,347,154	3,407,973	5,750,266	36,505,393	-	-
●	21,845,018	3,818,597	5,105,873	30,769,488	1,085,723	1,613,946
●	31,092,218	6,009,135	6,378,471	43,479,824	-	746,951
●	26,473,862	7,383,106	11,567,498	45,424,466	80,945,474	21,939,424
●	19,336,404	3,353,174	2,074,856	24,764,434	19,692,000	19,692,000
●	8,191,997	1,493,654	1,317,974	11,003,625	8,839	176,297
●	4,271,135	637,908	1,187,410	6,096,453	349,695	355,481
●	9,135,337	1,507,697	2,951,242	13,594,276	4,227,307	3,542,205
●	14,532,662	2,739,681	3,210,712	20,483,055	2,930,040	852,944
●	17,706,671	2,727,880	3,359,773	23,794,324	3,961,000	3,961,000
●	19,297,793	2,970,744	4,936,381	27,204,918	1,304,993	107,706

