



Head Librarian Report

September 25, 2025

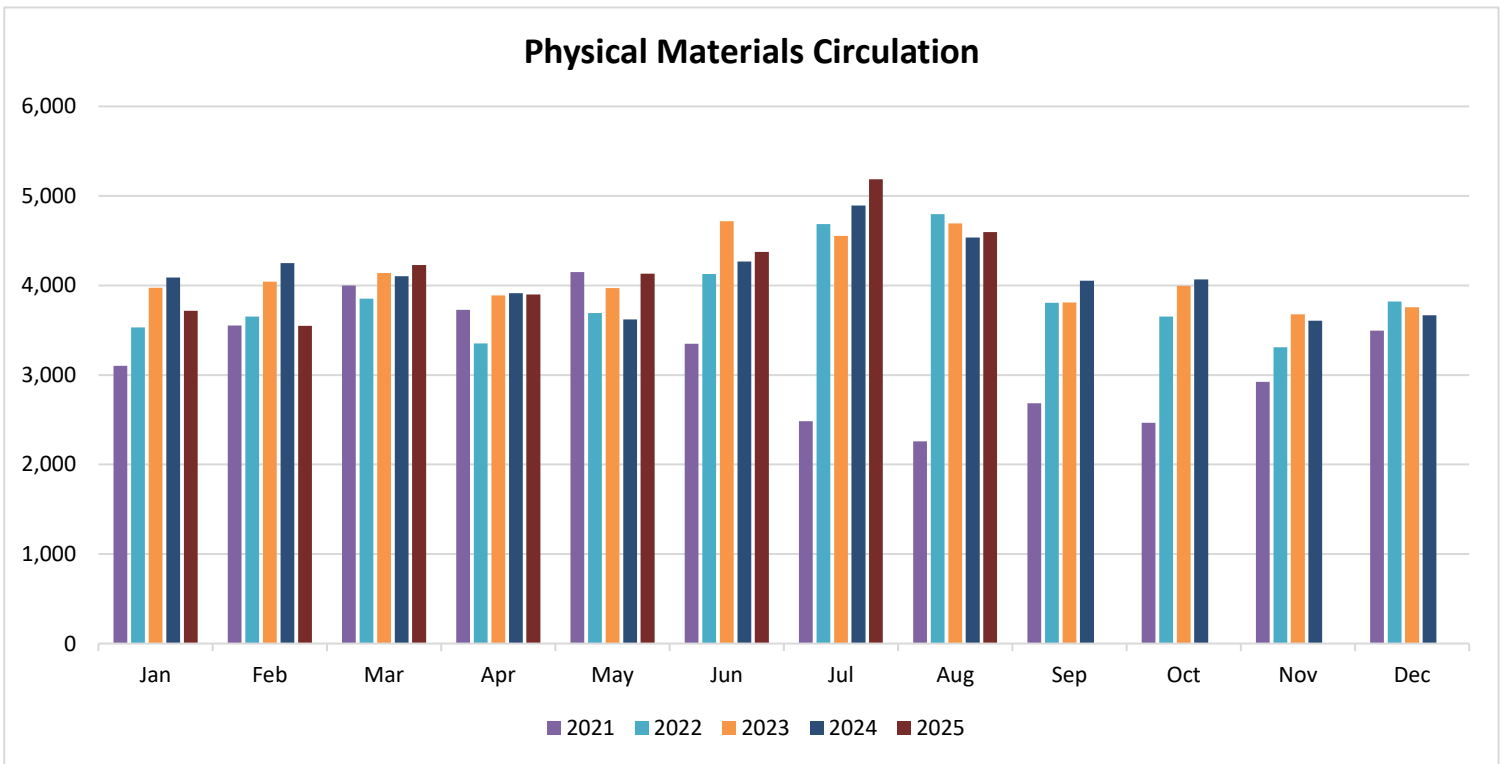
Operations

Paoli Library’s new Circulation and Children’s Programming Assistant, Danielle, started last week. She will be working at the circulation desk and helping with children’s programs. Stop by and say “hi” if you get a chance!

The Chester County Library network went down on September 16th. Wi-Fi, public computers, and member library telephone system were unavailable, as well as files on the county drives and CCLS email accounts. However, the circulation software was unaffected, and we were able to handle circulation transactions via mobile hotspots. We were also able to hold most regular programs that did not require Wi-Fi. As of September 23rd, public Wi-Fi and phone systems have been restored. Access to email and files on the county servers will take longer to restore (timeline TBD). Staff have been doing a great job of working through the changes and making sure services to patrons run as smoothly as possible.

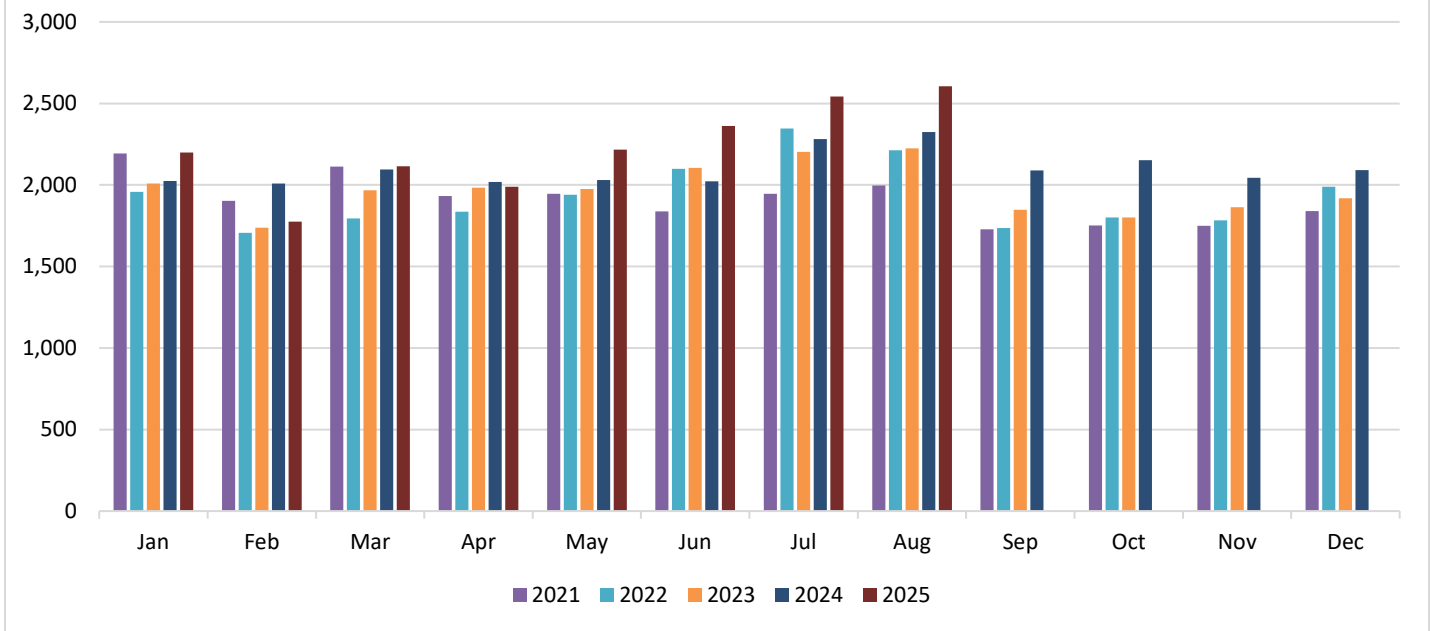
Circulation

In August 2025, circulation of physical materials was 4,595, and circulation of e-materials was 2,605.



Physical Materials Circulation													
Year	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	
2018	5,109	4,630	5,128	4,654	4,735	5,846	5,886	6,019	5,162	5,227	5,370	4,842	
2019	5,604	5,057	5,098	4,926	4,983	5,854	6,274	5,906	4,958	4,979	5,097	4,584	
2020	5,243	4,992	2,556	55	24	1,041	2,727	3,435	3,345	3,038	2,710	2,793	
2021	3,101	3,551	4,001	3,726	4,149	3,349	2,485	2,259	2,683	2,467	2,923	3,497	
2022	3,531	3,653	3,854	3,354	3,693	4,128	4,685	4,798	3,807	3,654	3,311	3,822	
2023	3,974	4,041	4,139	3,889	3,970	4,716	4,554	4,691	3,811	3,995	3,677	3,757	
2024	4,088	4,249	4,102	3,912	3,620	4,268	4,893	4,534	4,052	4,066	3,606	3,668	
2025	3,716	3,550	4,228	3,900	4,131	4,376	5,186	4,595					

E-Materials Circulation

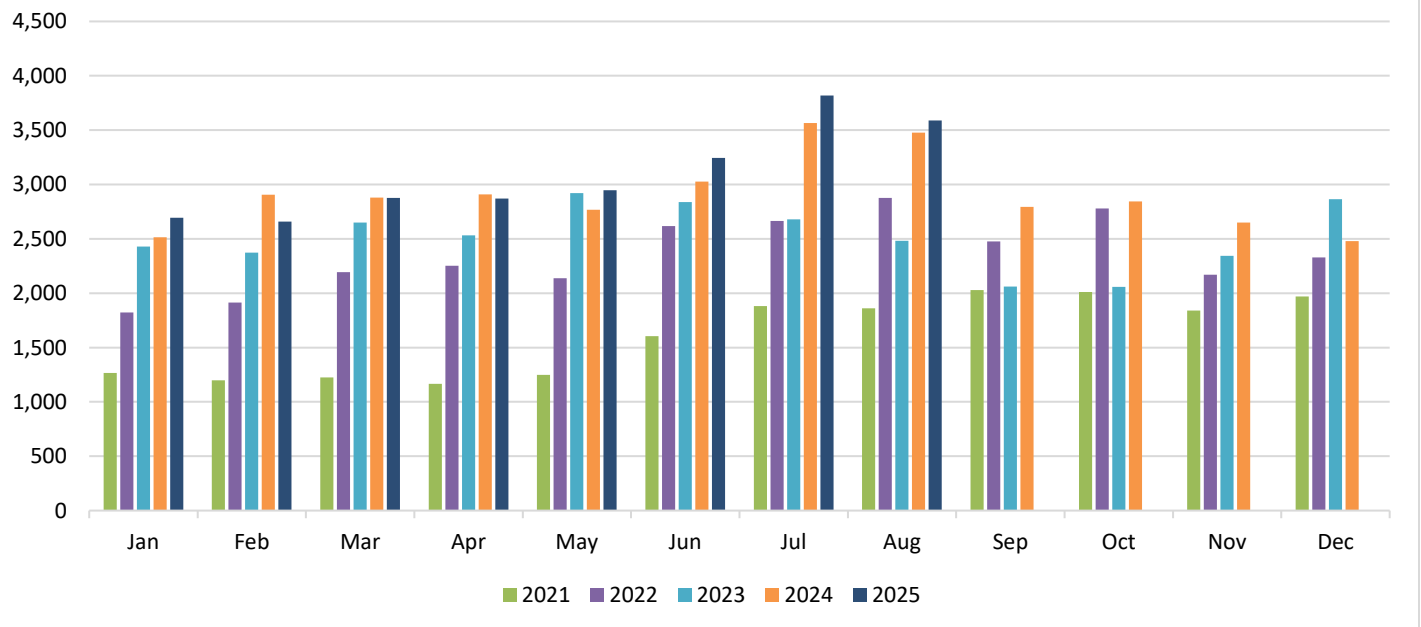


E-Materials Circulation													
Year	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	
2018	819	688	935	940	894	880	1,016	971	898	998	906	977	
2019	1,125	1,155	1,199	1,223	1,305	1,402	1,461	1,342	1,328	1,297	1,111	1,316	
2020	1,391	1,331	1,431	1,875	2,171	1,937	2,101	1,852	1,567	1,657	1,704	1,971	
2021	2,193	1,902	2,112	1,932	1,946	1,838	1,946	1,996	1,727	1,751	1,749	1,839	
2022	1,958	1,706	1,795	1,835	1,940	2,098	2,346	2,213	1,735	1,801	1,783	1,988	
2023	2,009	1,737	1,967	1,983	1,975	2,104	2,202	2,224	1,847	1,800	1,864	1,918	
2024	2,024	2,009	2,095	2,019	2,031	2,022	2,282	2,324	2,090	2,151	2,043	2,092	
2025	2,198	1,775	2,114	1,989	2,216	2,361	2,543	2,605					

Visitor Count

In August 2025, 3,589 visits were recorded for Paoli Library.

Visitor Count



Visitor Count													
Year	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	
2019	4,454	4,204	4,714	4,740	4,496	4,987	5,356	5,390	4,422	4,407	4,505	3,747	
2020	4,400	4,168	2,047	13	16	575	1,185	1,309	1,302	1,255	987	1,275	
2021	1,266	1,199	1,224	1,166	1,248	1,606	1,882	1,860	2,029	2,010	1,839	1,969	
2022	1,823	1,914	2,194	2,251	2,139	2,617	2,665	2,875	2,476	2,779	2,169	2,330	
2023	2,430	2,373	2,649	2,532	2,920	2,838	2,678	2,483	2,062	2,059	2,344	2,864	
2024	2,513	2,905	2,879	2,908	2,768	3,026	3,565	3,476	2,794	2,843	2,649	2,479	
2025	2,695	2,660	2,875	2,872	2,948	3,243	3,819	3,589					

Programs

August 2025 Programs		
Audience	# of Programs	Attendance
Adults (18+)	9	70
Children (0-11)	19	616
Young Adults (12-17)	5	45
General Interest (All Ages)	3	373
Grand Total	36	1,104

Programs Offered				
Month	2023	2024	2025	
January	30	20	26	
February	17	21	27	
March	34	21	34	
April	24	32	40	
May	36	24	32	
June	49	32	31	
July	25	29	40	
August	32	30	36	
September	36	24		
October	18	32		
November	31	24		
December	13	23		
Total	345	312	266	

Programs Attendance				
Month	2023	2024	2025	
January	354	489	369	
February	201	251	450	
March	525	286	398	
April	342	541	890	
May	522	504	737	
June	811	907	990	
July	336	554	908	
August	476	877	1,104	
September	506	480		
October	259	612		
November	391	481		
December	161	420		
Total	4,884	6,402	5,846	

Youth Programs

Report respectfully submitted by Sarah Roeske, Youth Services Librarian, MLIS

August 2025 Overview

Summer Reading ended on August 19th with the Willistown Country Fair, a lively celebration that drew 219 people for one last day of end-of-summer fun. At the library's table, I connected with families and community members by handing out free books to encourage continued reading, candy as a small treat, and calendars highlighting our upcoming fall programs. The fair provided a great opportunity not only to close out the Summer Reading Program on a festive note, but also to promote the library's role as a year-round resource.

August was also the time for me to distribute the Summer Reading Survey, designed to gather feedback and identify areas for growth in next year's program. The survey remained open for three weeks and produced useful insights, with 16 patrons taking the time to respond (6.7% of summer reading participants). Their feedback is attached on page 5 for your review.

In addition to the survey, August was a very active month. Looking at the entire Summer Reading period—June, July, and August—there was a clear upward trend in attendance among children and teens. Altogether, this summer brought in

more than 2,000 attendees. Reaching that milestone is something I'm both proud of and excited to build on in future years.

Looking Forward

In September I will be starting a new storytime on Friday mornings at 10am just for the babies! Paoli's storytime group recently had a baby boom, so this felt like the perfect time to bring back this program. My First Storytime will focus on infants and babies from birth through the time they're walking, ensuring that they have a safe space to themselves to explore and play without the big kids overhead. We will be doing gentle rhymes, shorter stories, more singing, and tummy time play after so the parents and caregivers can have time to get to know one another.

Looking further ahead I have some fun programs planned including:

- Spot The Fake: How To Survive School Without Using AI
- K-Pop Karaoke
- Back to School Clothing Swap for parents



Eloise made her first library card! She has Been a storytime kiddo since she was 2!



Preschoolers and Kindergarteners made "hug button" bracelets for their first day of school, giving matching ones to their moms for comfort.



Tuesday Storytime continues to draw a huge crowd!

Adult Programs

We had a blast wrapping up the summer with Art in the Park: Making Mosaics! Attendees demonstrated their creative flair by making mosaic stepping stones. We also learned how to use coloring as a calming mindfulness practice, and painted beautiful silhouettes during our Adult Paint Along. Patrons at the monthly Cook & Connect Cookbook Club continue to impress with their culinary creations! This month, patrons baked their way through *The Big Book of Bread*, with delicious results!

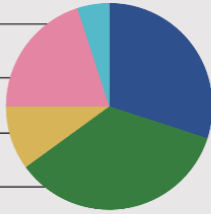


Summer Reading Survey Results

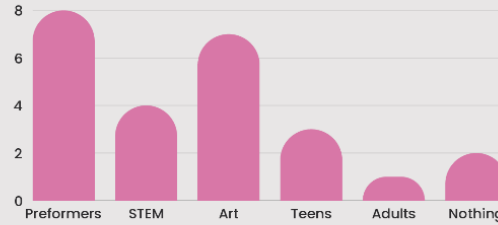
2025 STATISTICAL GRAPH ANALYSIS

Demographics

Baby	30%
Elementary	35%
Teen	10%
Adult	20%
N/A	5%



What Patrons Want More Of

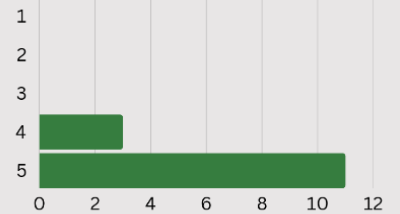


Overall Rating



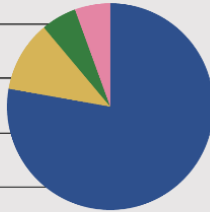
16 Results

4.79



Ease of Access

Very Easy	30%
Somewhat Easy	35%
Neutral	10%
Somewhat Difficult	20%
Very Difficult	5%



Comments

- Miss Sarah works so hard on all of the summer reading for so many age groups, and it shows. You can see all the care and thoughtfulness and it makes for such a good experience for my kids. I loved the ability for my son's younger sibling to be able to participate with him! The summer reading for babies is genius. Thank you so much!
- Ms. Sarah does such a great job and is so good with the kids!
- My child loved Storytime with Sarah, you can see how much they enjoy doing it
- We love Miss Sarah!
- Sarah has been so great and always plans the most fun activities!
- We couldn't visit an event with ruffles tickets. I sent letter for my kids from you by myself with thank you letter and some prizes. They were so excited about prizes and did with enthusiasm all tasks so we decided don't upset them and send the letter and prizes. So it will be good if you will have presents for all kids. It can be not big just stickers, pencils and any small things.
- Increase elementary age programs
- The ticket system felt over-complicated compared to previous years
- I appreciate the variety of new fiction and the creative displays. You already have a good balance of options for all ages.