

COMSTOCK TOWNSHIP LIBRARY

2024 ANNUAL REPORT



We welcome our community to learn, grow, and explore through a variety of resources, technology, and opportunities for lifelong learning.

Library Year in Review

I'm pleased to present this summary of activities, statistics, and achievements from the past year at the Library. 2024 was a year of moderate growth with a 5% increase in material checkouts, a 12% increase in program attendance, and with library visits remaining steady.

Beyond the numbers, we focused on expanding collections and services, strengthening community partnerships, and enhancing access to resources for all.

Community Outreach

Adding a dedicated Outreach Librarian to the staff proved one of the most exciting developments in 2024, allowing us to begin expanding library services out beyond the building walls. Library staff attended the Merrill Park Farmers Market events over the summer and contributed to the Fall Fest celebration in partnership with Comstock Parks and Recreation. These and other outreach events allowed us to connect with more residents in new ways. To further support library engagement, we increased librarian staff hours, allowing more time for program development, marketing, and work on organizing the Library's local history collection.

Program Highlights

Our events this year continued to draw enthusiastic participation. Local author Bonnie Jo Campbell's author visit and reading from her latest book, *Once Upon a River*, was a highlight, with many attendees and glowing feedback. The end-of-summer reading party at Robert Morris Park was another great success, bringing families

together to celebrate a season of reading. Our solar eclipse program, hosted in collaboration with the Kalamazoo Astronomical Society, was one of the most popular programs of the year, with strong attendance and an overwhelming demand for eclipse glasses. We also offered a community shred truck day event in the fall and the Holiday Open House in December drew a large, engaged crowd.

Collections & Reading

Library collections remained a top priority, with the growth of the Discovery Kit, Storytime Kit, and Vox book collections, as well as the addition of digital magazines and the launch of a new online language-learning program, Transparent Languages. We continued our partnership with Dolly Parton's Imagination Library, helping to distribute 2,968 free books to young readers in the community.

Improvements

Technology and infrastructure improvements helped ensure better access and efficiency. We upgraded all staff computer workstations, added an additional Wi-Fi access point in the Heritage Meeting Room, and switched to a new online events calendar system, significantly improving its functionality and user experience.

Special Programs

Community health and safety remained an area of focus. We continued distributing free COVID-19 tests from the Michigan Department of Health & Human Services and added an outdoor naloxone rescue kit

distribution box, free of charge through the COPE Network, providing critical resources to those in need.

Welcome New Neighbors

Finally, we welcomed new neighbors when the Comstock Schools Administration team moved their offices into the old Township Hall space. This shift has allowed for enhanced opportunities to partner with the Schools in our efforts to serve and support students, further reinforcing the Library's role as an important community resource.

Looking Forward to 2025

As we look ahead, we remain committed to connecting with our community in new and innovative ways, working to make library services accessible to all, and fostering a love of reading and learning with all our patrons.

Thank you to our patrons, staff, and community partners for another great year at the Library!

Sincerely,

Emily Kubash
Director, Comstock Township Library

2024 Library Board

Karen Jameson, President

Joseph Calvaruso, Vice President

Shari Donovan, Secretary/Treasurer

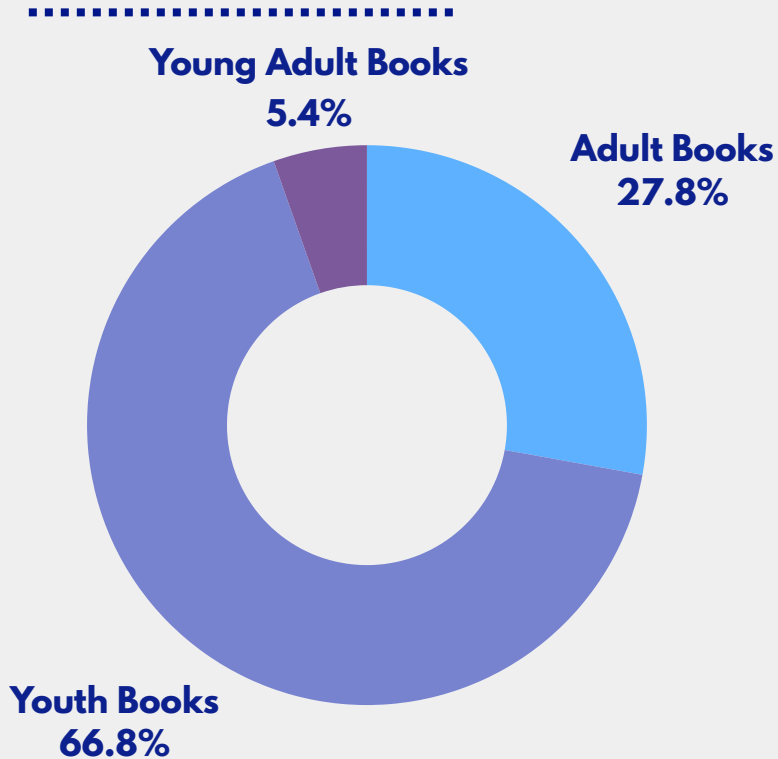
Andrea Clark, Trustee

Felicia Sidney, Trustee

James VanSweden, Trustee

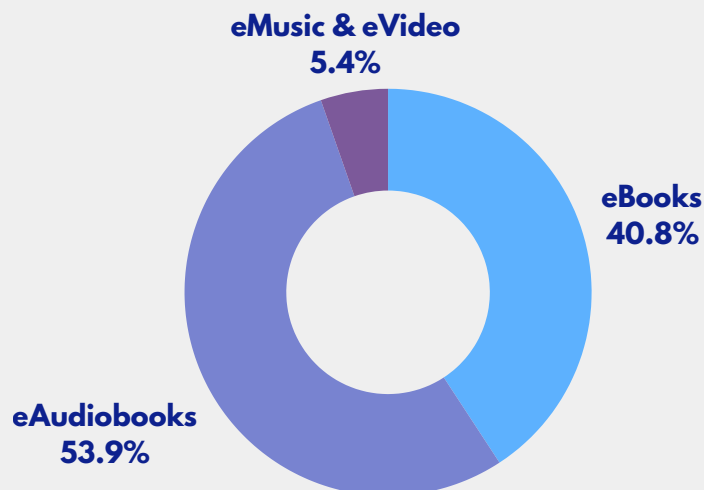
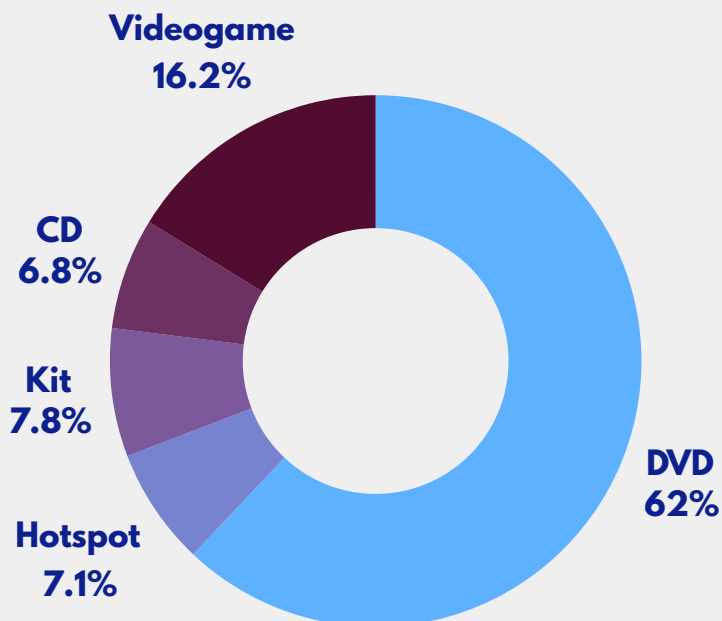
2024 CIRCULATION

Book checkouts: 86,514



Digital checkouts: 19,624

AV & Special Collection checkouts: 16,427



Total checkouts: 122,565



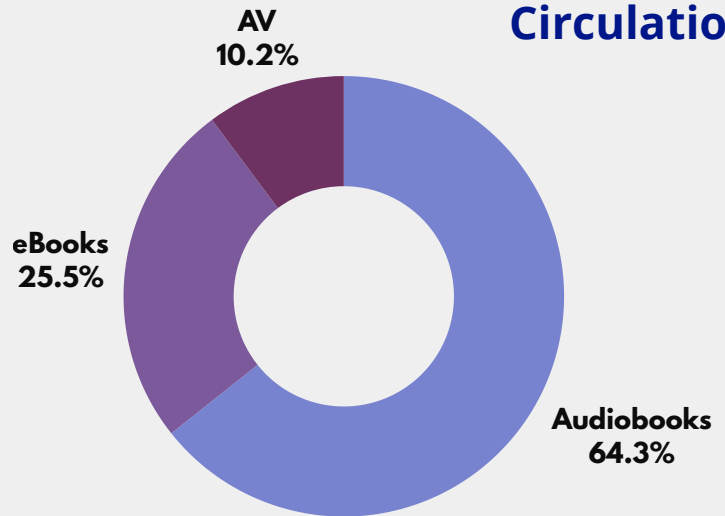
2024 DIGITAL LIBRARY USAGE



Hoopla



Circulation



Hoopla Details

- Pay per each circulation
- Set a monthly budget to control costs
- Titles in collection are pre-selected
- All items available at any time

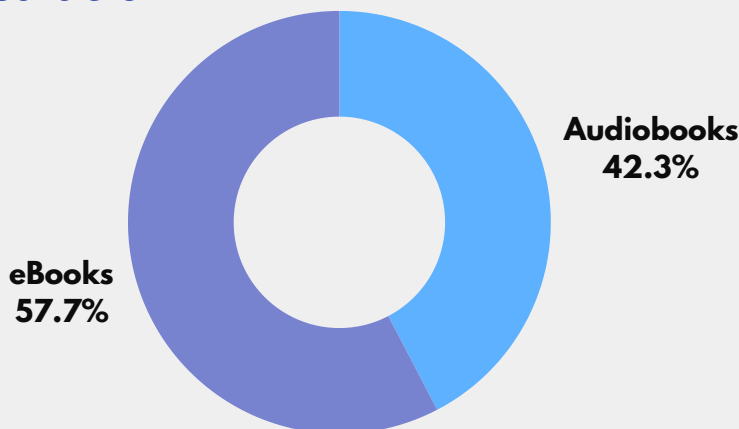
Libby Details

- Each title purchased individually by CTL or through group purchase
- Can borrow items when they are checked in
- Place holds on checked out items

Libby



Circulation



2024 LIBRARY USAGE

CTL had 58,292 patron visits in 2024

Staff answered 20,229 reference questions

4,997 active library card users

3,400 Facebook Interactions
We reached 58,561 people



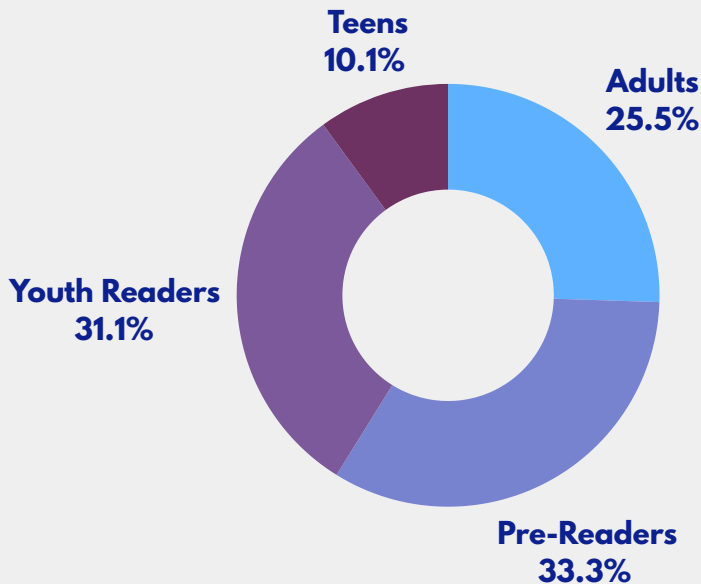
384 Instagram followers
We reached 795 people

26,903 Website visits



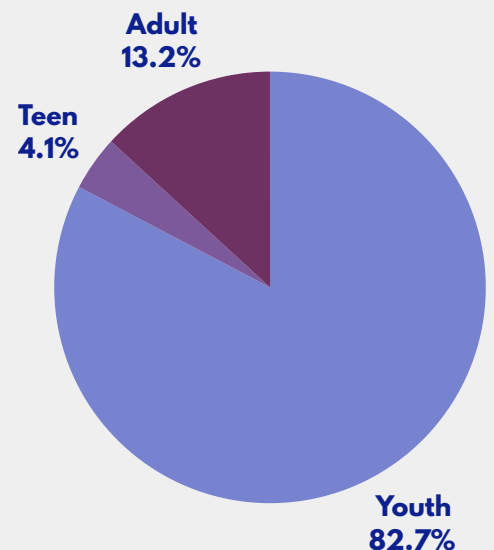
5 offsite programs with
1,637 people attending.

Summer Reading Program



424 onsite programs with
9,707 people attending.

Onsite Program Attendance



537 patrons participated in SRP!