



# fact sheet

## Public Libraries in Arkansas

*(2009 statistics)*

- More than **1.5 million** registered patrons checked out **13.9 million** items from Arkansas public libraries.
- Reference librarians answered almost **1.8 million** questions from library patrons.
- Public libraries offered **20,292** programs for **554,000** children aged infant to 12-years-old.
- Libraries held **1,210** young adult programs for **30,245** teens.
- Arkansas public libraries hosted **4,551** programs for **140,230** adults.
- Arkansas library patrons used electronic library resources **3.2 million** times. Resources included library resources, online databases, and **2,002** public access computers and laptops.

All of this work was accomplished by **118** ALA-accredited MLS librarians and **924** other paid library employees.

Library employees and services are also supported by local volunteers, administrative and advisory Boards of Trustees, loyal patrons, government officials, businesses and the Arkansas State Library.

Arkansas State Library  
900 West Capitol Avenue, Suite 100  
Little Rock, AR 72201-3108



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## *Traveler* electronic databases

*Traveler* is an LSTA-funded project administered by the Arkansas State Library. Begun in 1997, *Traveler* offers a variety of online databases to academic, public, special and school libraries to provide reliable research to their patrons and students while in the library and, in many cases, remotely from the home or office. These licensed resources are from known reputable sources and are safe for students of all ages.

- *Traveler* is available in 56 public library headquarters locations and in 153 branches.
- Arkansas students use *Traveler* in more than 729 school media centers—332 elementary, 133 middle, 48 junior high, 201 high, and 15 K12 schools.
- College-age students access *Traveler* through libraries at 26 4-year institutions of higher learning, at 30 2-year institutions, and at 4 technical institutes.
- *Traveler* is also available at 39 special libraries throughout Arkansas.
- *Traveler* has resources for all ages in more than 1,000 sites.

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