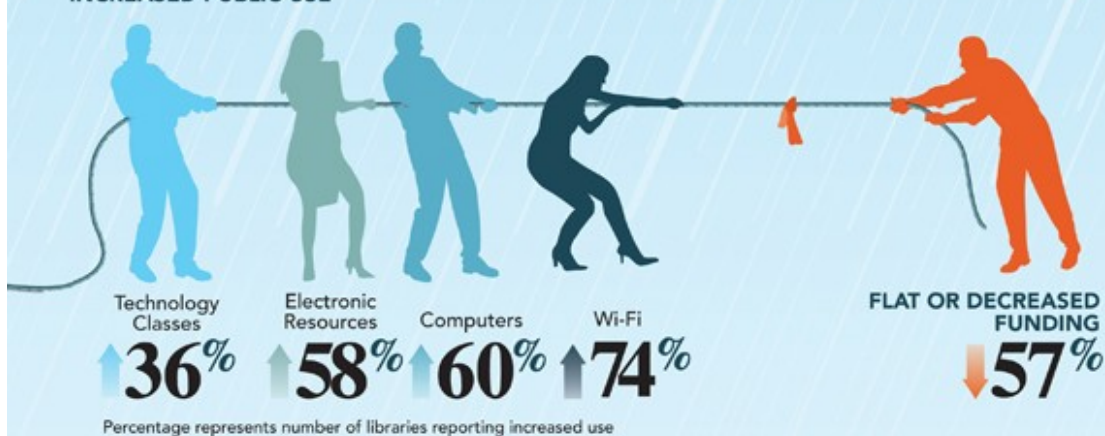


U.S. Public Libraries WEATHER the STORM

Public libraries continue to transform lives by providing critical services and innovative solutions to technology access, in spite of years' worth of cumulative budget cuts.

The U.S. Public Library Challenge: Use vs. Funding, FY2011-2012

INCREASED PUBLIC USE



23 states report cuts in state funding to public libraries in 2011

3RD YEAR IN A ROW

40%

of states report decreased public library support



35% of Americans do not have high-speed Internet access at home¹



62%

of public libraries report being the only provider of free public access to computers and the Internet in their community.

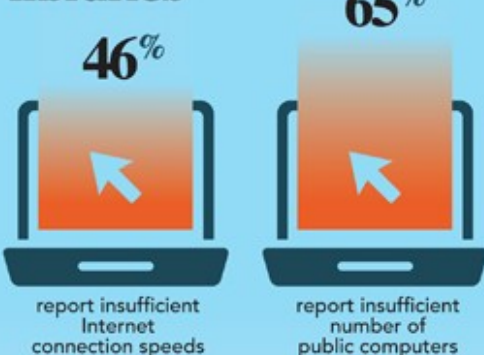
¹Pew Internet & American Life, February 2012

Decreased Budgets, Decreased Services

PERCENTAGE OF LIBRARIES REPORTING FLAT OR DECREASED BUDGETS



Supply cannot meet Demand at public libraries



WHAT'S HOT and SUNNY

@ your library[®]

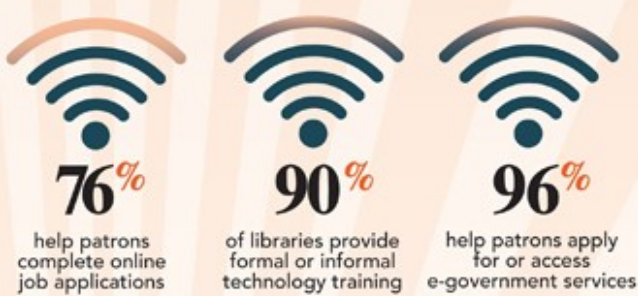
E-books! E-books! E-books!

PERCENTAGE OF LIBRARIES THAT OFFER E-BOOKS



BONUS!
39% of libraries offer e-readers for check-out!

Public libraries provide the digital resources and training essential to full participation in the nation's economy.



Mobile Technology

A small—but growing—group of libraries are going mobile to enhance access to library services and increase community interaction



Libraries are part of the solution for those in search of the digital connection and skills required by today's competitive global marketplace. However, unless strategic investments in U.S. public libraries are broadened and secured, libraries will not be able to continue to provide the innovative and critical services their communities need and demand.

Libraries Connect Communities: Public Library Funding & Technology Access Study, 2011-2012
www.ala.org/plinternetfunding

Conducted by the American Library Association and the Information Policy & Access Center, University of Maryland