



ULC ANNUAL FORUM 2023

Friday, October 27
#ULCForum2023

Wifi Name: Hyatt_Meeting | Password: library23

The Future of ULC



Brooks Rainwater
President and CEO
Urban Libraries Council



Roosevelt Weeks
Director
Austin Public Library
ULC Board Chair

#ULCForum23

Our Reach

171

MEMBER
LIBRARIES

44 STATES &
PROVINCES

are represented in ULC membership

2,700+

LIBRARY BRANCHES

Our Reach



42,000+
LIBRARY STAFF THAT
CAN BENEFIT FROM
ULC MEMBERSHIP



SERVICE
POPULATION:
105M



ULC member libraries serve nearly 30% of the
entire population of the U.S. and Canada!

#ULCForum23

National Recognition of Members



LA County Library



Toledo Lucas County Public Library

2023 IMLS Medalists

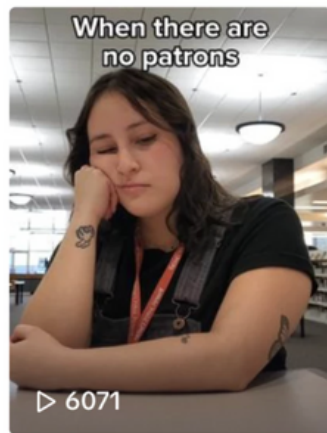
National Recognition of Members

How the Milwaukee Public Library became a social media star, inspiring global love of libraries

WUWM 89.7 FM | By [Maayan Silver](#)
Published August 2, 2023 at 1:03 PM CDT
Updated August 7, 2023 at 11:54 AM CDT



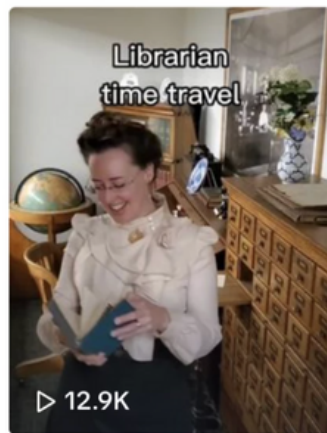
▶ LISTEN • 24:23



Haven't been to the publ...



The August issue of Milw...



This year marks the 125t...



Don't worry, she got ano...



In the Media



Urban Libraries Council
@UrbanLibCouncil

#ICYMI - On Saturday, ULC President & CEO @BrooksRainwater sat down with @CapehartJ to talk about the devastating impacts of book bans on young readers, marginalized authors and librarians across America. Watch the full segment: buff.ly/3yBuUFy

 **The Saturday/Sunday Show with Jonathan ...** @weekendcap... · Mar 11
"We've really seen an acceleration of book bans across the country...Librarians are feeling incredibly challenged. @BrooksRainwater on the right-wing attacks on libraries. "We haven't seen anything like this since the McCarthy era."
#SaturdayShow



GOVERNING
THE FUTURE OF STATES AND LOCALITIES

STATE AND LOCAL POLITICS AND POLICY

Public Libraries Step Up Help as Food Insecurity Rises

Pandemic assistance to families at risk of food insecurity has ended. As a "hunger cliff" looms, programs in public libraries can fill gaps.

March 13, 2023 • Carl Smith



Students pick up free lunches at the Mason Square Public Library in Springfield, Mass. (Don Treeger/TNS)

The Washington Post
Democracy Dies in Darkness

Rooftops, cafes and Zoom rooms: Libraries evolve to serve remote workers

Centrally located and replete with resources, libraries have become a favorite co-working space for workers in the hybrid era



By [Taylor Telford](#)

June 29, 2023 at 6:00 a.m. EDT



ULC Member Engagement

- More than 100 events in 2023
- 4,000 ULC participants in online and in-person events
- 99% of member libraries have actively participated in these events, through listserv, monthly member calls or issue-specific action teams.



Barbershop Books Pilot Program for Libraries

Participating Libraries:

- Cleveland Public Library
- Columbus Metropolitan Library
- Shreve Memorial Library
- Charlotte Mecklenburg Library

Supported by:



INSTITUTE of
Museum and Library
SERVICES



Building Equity: Amplify Summer Learning

Supported by:



INSTITUTE of
Museum and Library
SERVICES

Participating Libraries:

- Algona Public Library
- Boise Public Library
- Boston Public Library
- Cedar Rapids Public Library
- Central Arkansas Library System
- Cincinnati & Hamilton Public Library
- Edmonton Public Library
- Enoch Pratt Free Library
- Evansville Vanderburgh Public Library
- Halifax Public Libraries
- Harris County Public Library
- Jersey City Free Public Library
- La Porte County Public Library
- Lexington Public Library
- Milton Public Library
- Orange County Library System
- Pima County Public Library
- Portland Public Library
- Public Library of Youngstown & Mahoning County
- San Mateo County Libraries
- Schaumburg Township District Library
- Scottsdale Public Library



Creating Youth Opportunities Initiative

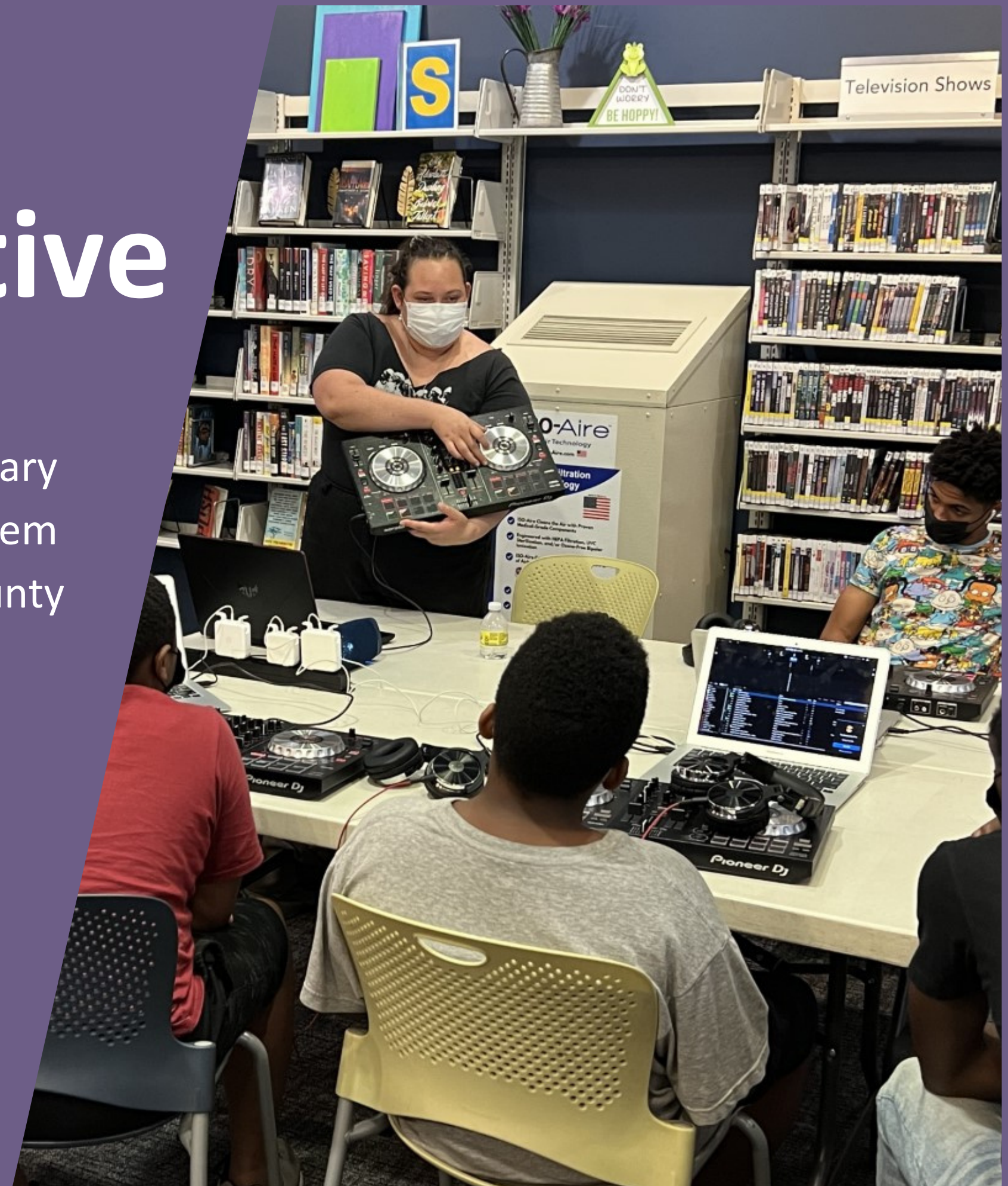
Participating Libraries:

- Cedar Rapids Public Library
- Chicago Public Library
- Columbus Metropolitan Library
- DC Public Library
- Enoch Pratt Free Library
- Greensboro Public Library
- Memphis Public Libraries
- Oak Park Public Library
- Pioneer Library System
- Prince George's County Memorial Library
- Richmond Public Library (Va.)



Supported by:

Walmart.org



Innovations Initiative

2023 TOP INNOVATORS:

- Cambridge Public Library
- Dallas Public Library
- Kansas City Public Library
- Las Vegas-Clark County Library District
- Los Angeles Public Library
- Louisville Free Public Library
- Prince George's County Memorial Library System
- Queens Public Library



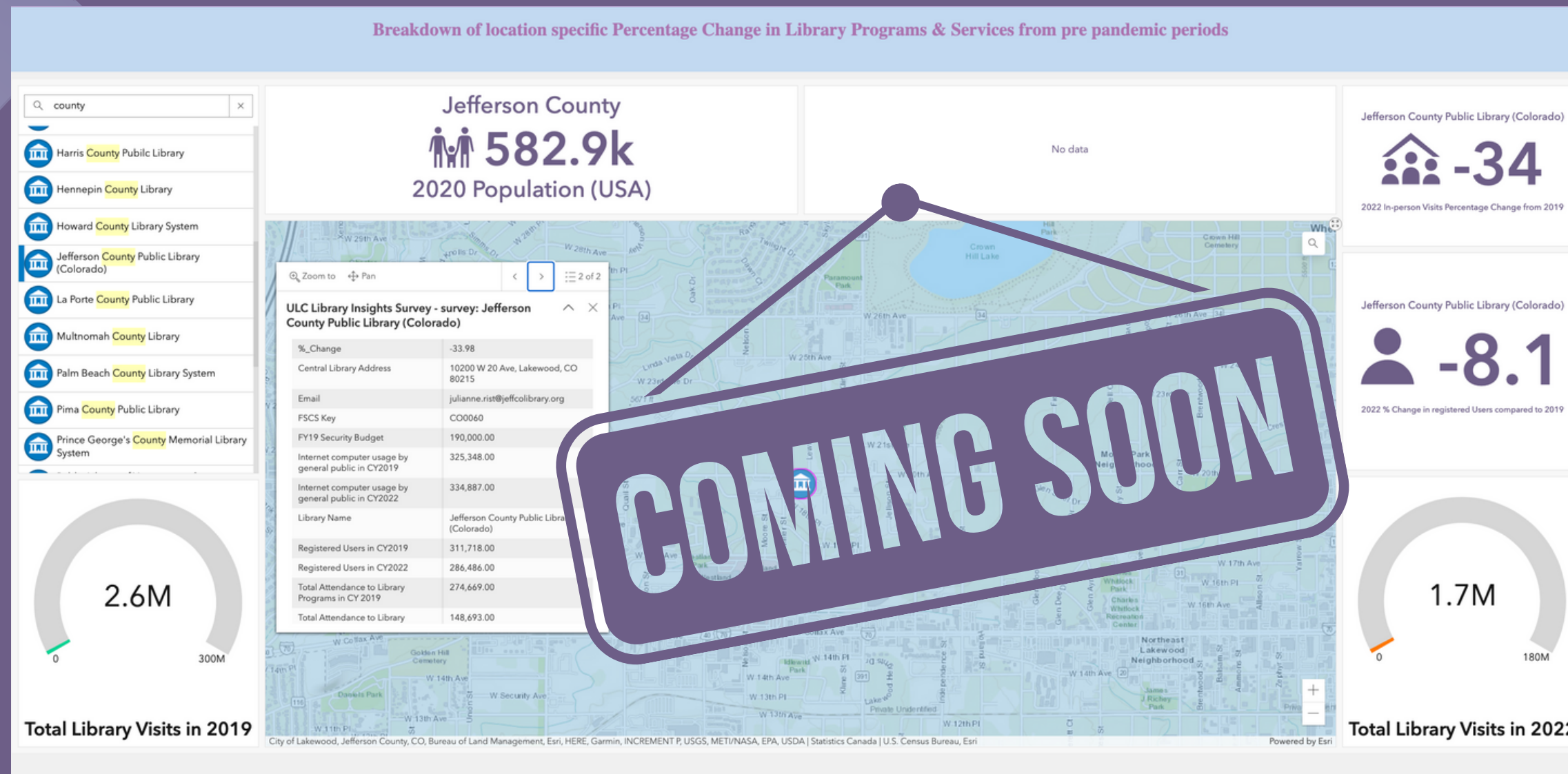
Innovations Initiative

2023 HONORABLE MENTIONS:

- Alameda County Library
- Baltimore County Public Library
- Chesterfield County Public Library
- Edmonton Public Library
- Richmond Hill Public Library
- Salt Lake County Library
- San Diego Public Library
- Tampa-Hillsborough County Public Library



Preview: Library Insights Survey

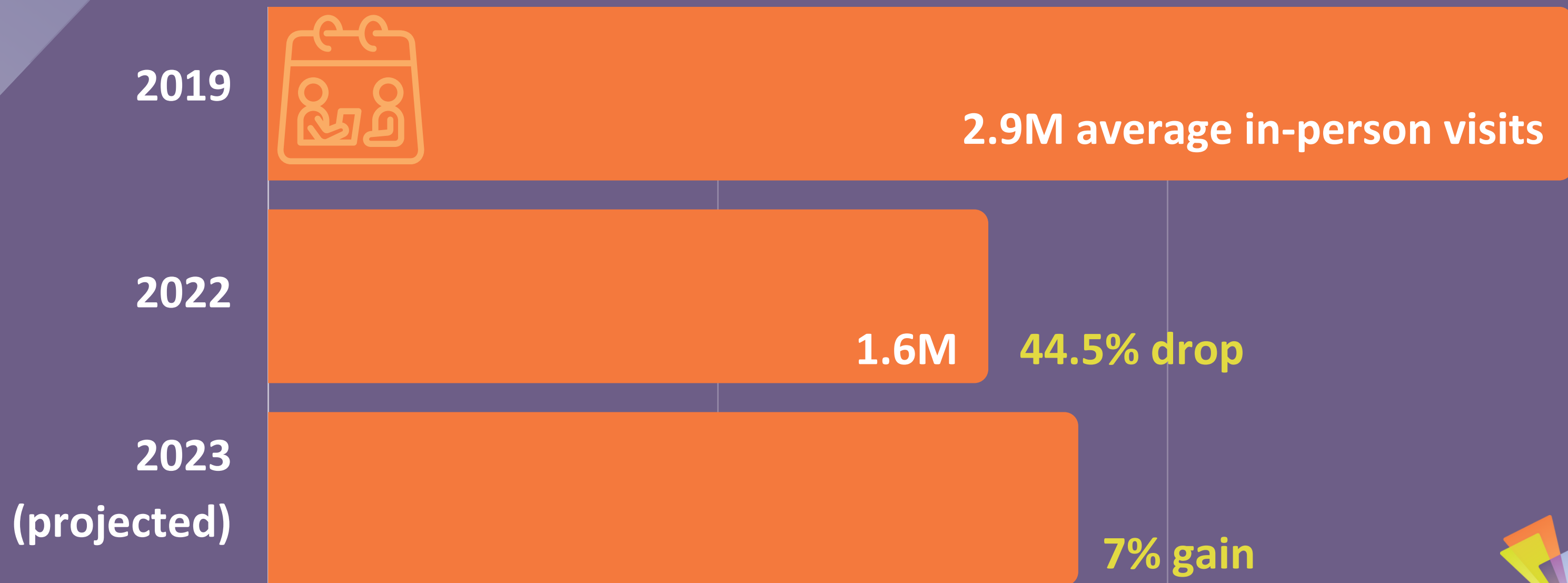


Nearly 100 ULC members provided data for their libraries:

- Attraction and Attendance
- Location Experience / Use of Space
- Programs and Service
- Staffing and Budget

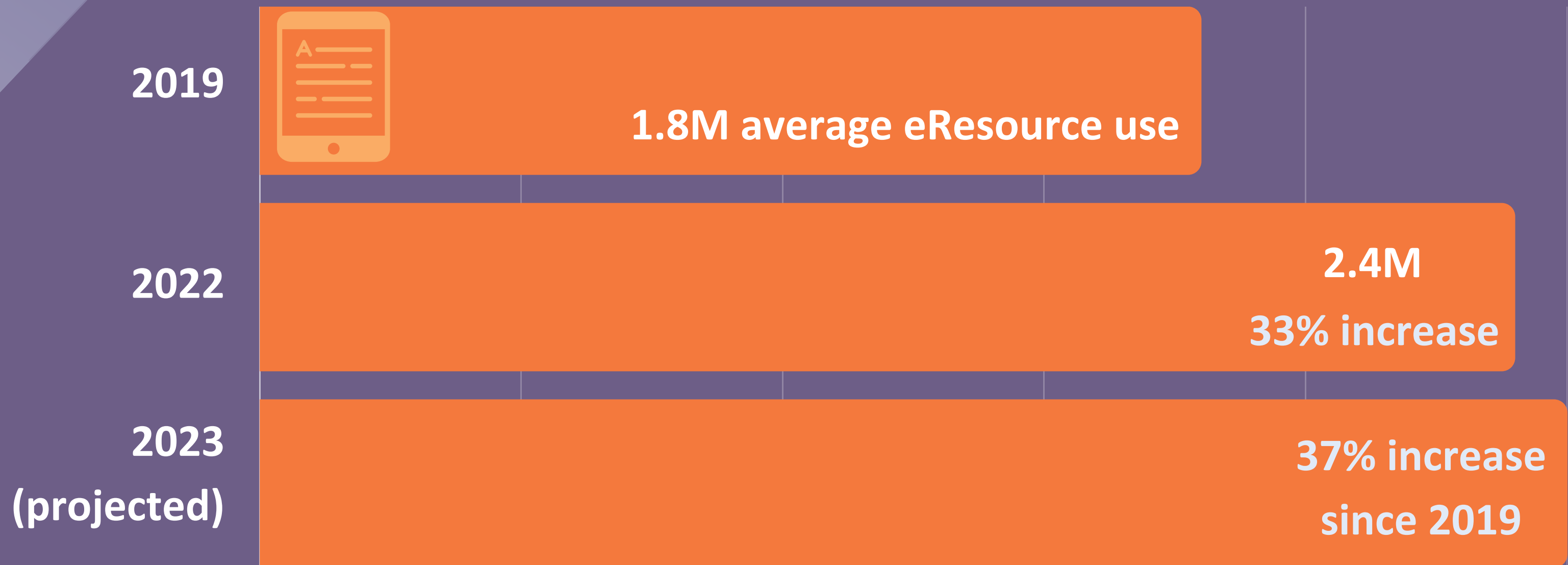
Preview: Library Insights Survey

In-person visits to libraries are gradually recovering from pandemic lows



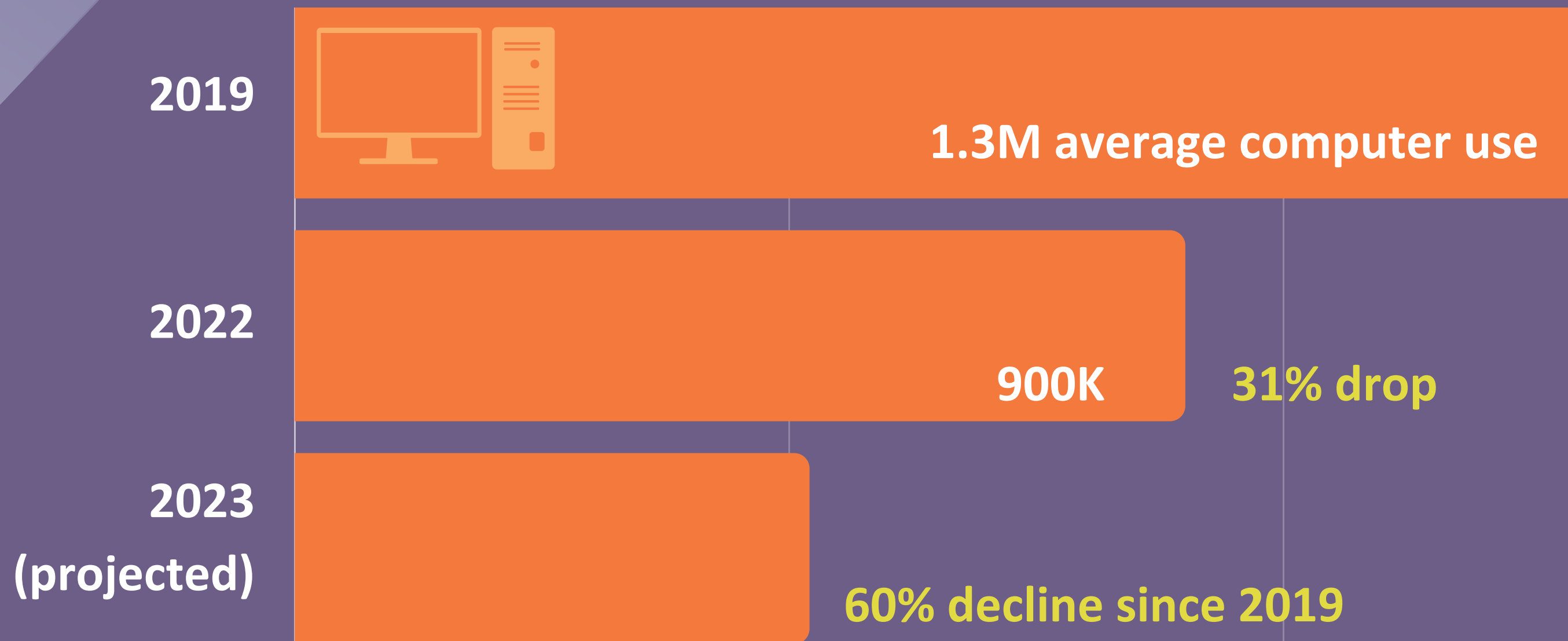
Preview: Library Insights Survey

eResources continue to be very popular for library patrons



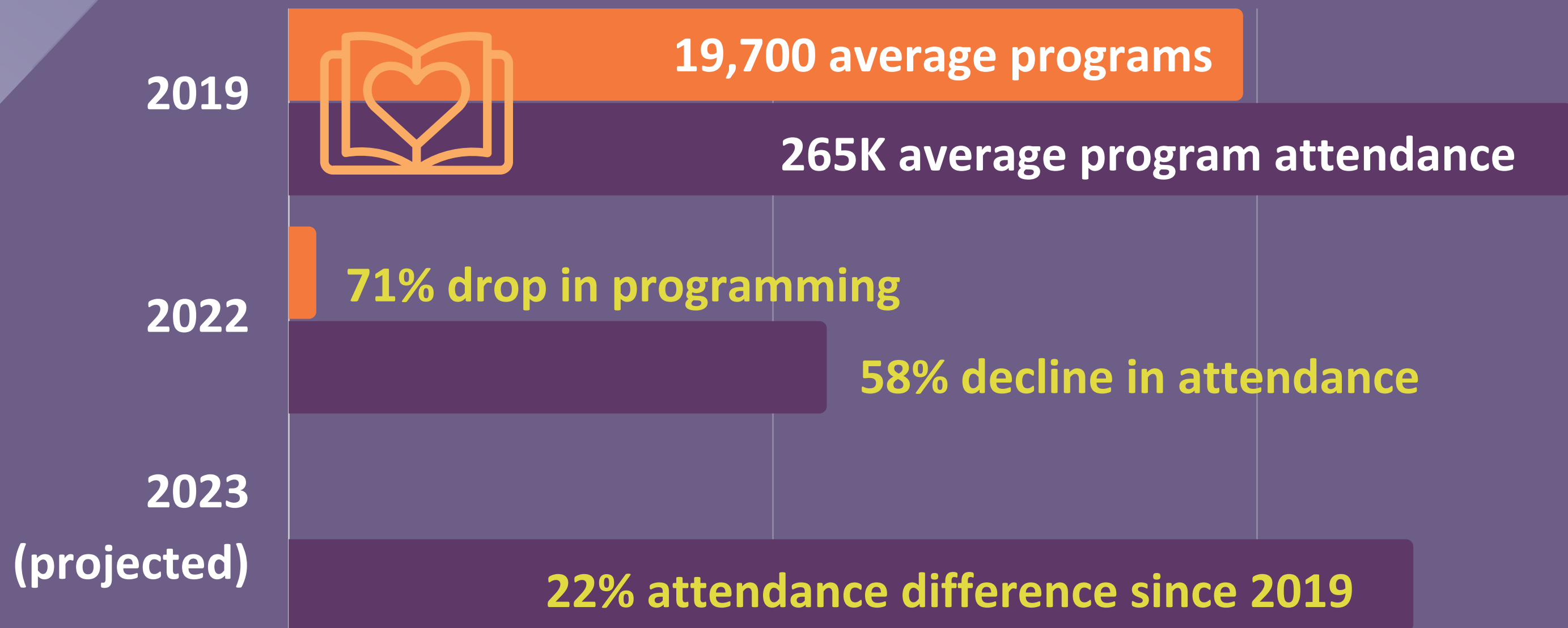
Preview: Library Insights Survey

Post-pandemic computer usage is significantly evolving



Preview: Library Insights Survey

Has program design caught up with post-pandemic demand?



Preview: Library Insights Survey

Library budgets are expected to continue to see some growth

2019



\$42M average library budget

2022

\$45M
8% increase



Thank you, Strategic Planning Task Force!



Brian Bannon



Brigitte Blanton



Paula Brehm-Heeger



Joey Crawford



Heidi Daniel



Karl Dean



**Mary Lomax-
Ghirarduzzi**



Pilar Martinez



Darren Solomon



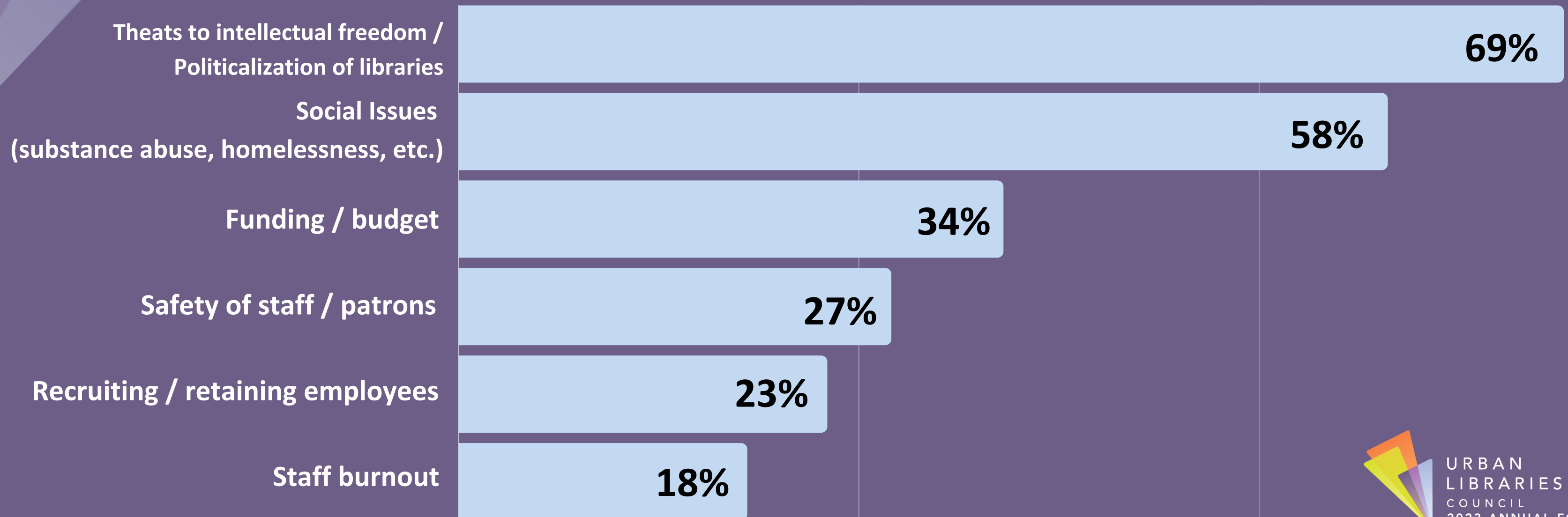
Roosevelt Weeks

Strategic Planning Process



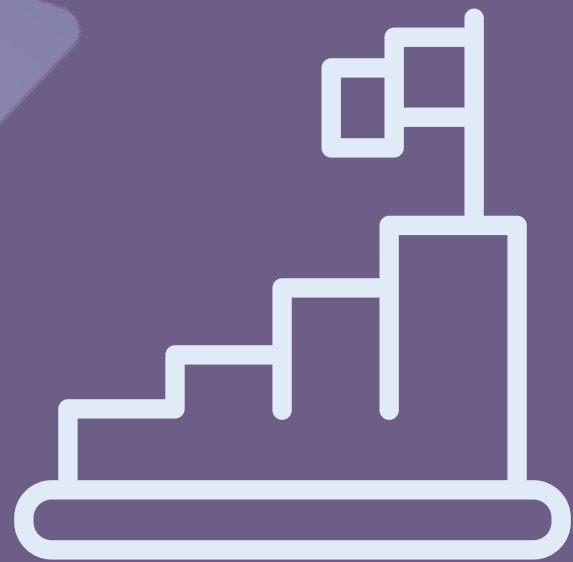
Developing the Strategic Plan

What are the top trends or challenges that will have the greatest impact on the urban library community in the next 3-5 years?



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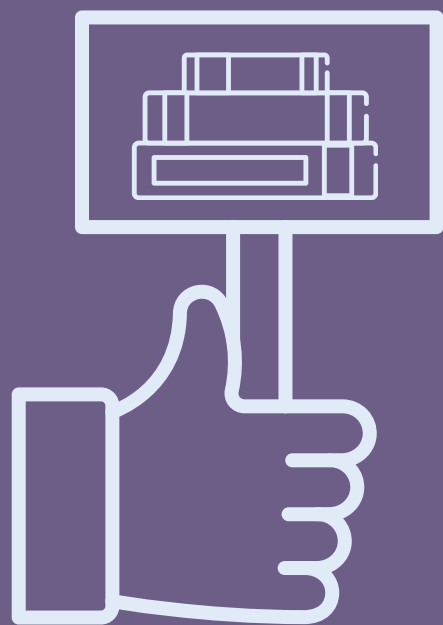
Anticipated Strategic Priorities



Further support for
the urban library
professional



Center the
transformative
role of urban
libraries



Drive advocacy
for urban libraries



URBAN
LIBRARIES
COUNCIL
2023 ANNUAL FORUM

PEOPLE | POWER | PLACE

TODAY'S URBAN PUBLIC LIBRARY