

Québec's
public
libraries:
More vital
than ever
to their
communities!

2021 EDITION


In 2019, before COVID-19, Québec's public libraries had observed a steady improvement in their performance indicators. As is the case for all cultural institutions, the years 2020 and 2021 obviously show a decline in those indicators because of the pandemic and the complete closing of libraries during the first stay-at-home period. Despite this, Québec's public libraries have remained vital and vibrant, continuing to prove how essential they are to the communities they serve.



1,042
public libraries

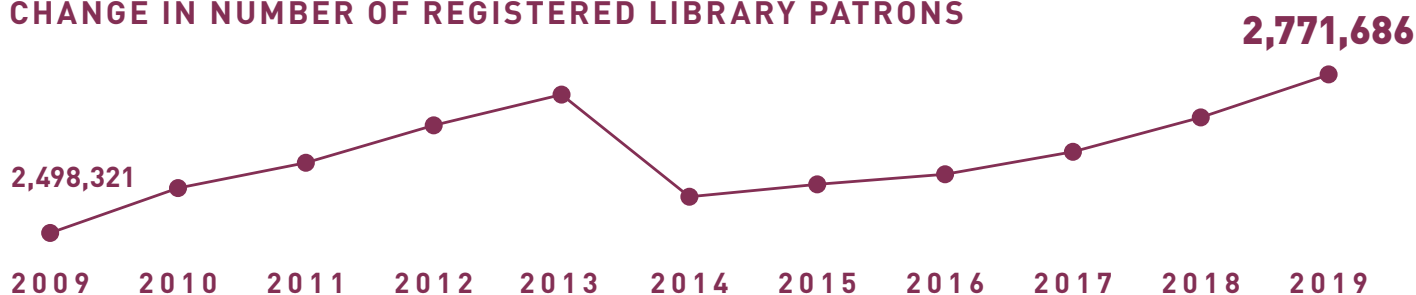


96.4%
OF QUEBECERS
have access to a library
in their city or town.

In 2019,
2,771,686
QUEBECERS → **32.4%** 
had a library membership. **OF THE POPULATION**

From 2009 to 2019, more and more Quebecers took out library memberships

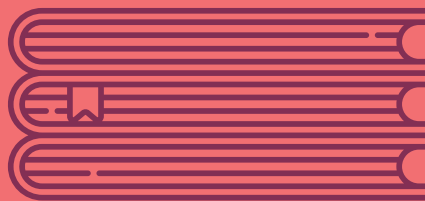
CHANGE IN NUMBER OF REGISTERED LIBRARY PATRONS



The initial data available for 2020 point to an increase in memberships, allowing new patrons to benefit from services online or remotely.

More than
28.5

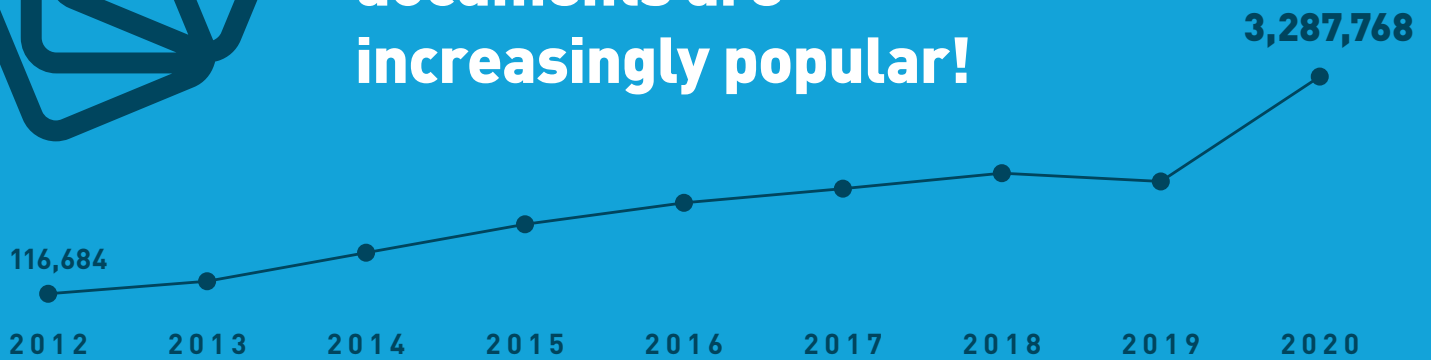
MILLION
DOCUMENTS
available all over Quebec



→ **Books, movies,
videogames
and more!**



Loans of digital documents are increasingly popular!



The pandemic has led to a surge in digital loans.

The Pretnumerique.ca platform, used by Québec libraries to lend e-books to patrons, hit the 15-million-loan milestone on October 15, 2021!

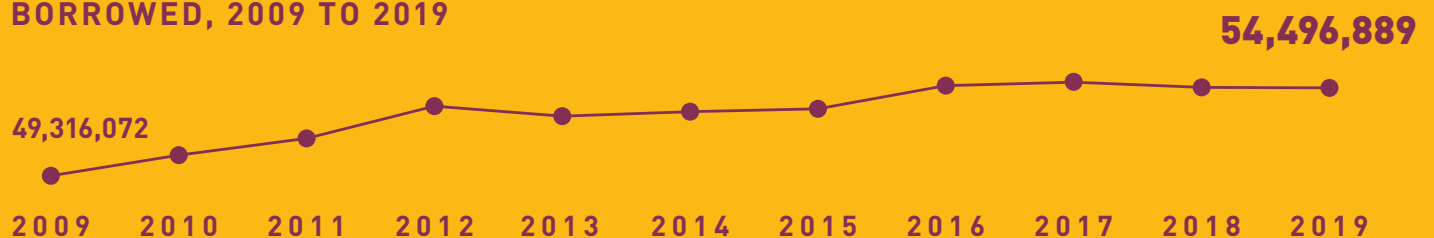


In 2019, Quebecers borrowed

54,496,889 DOCUMENTS.



CHANGE IN NUMBERS OF DOCUMENTS BORROWED, 2009 TO 2019





More than **1M**

CHILDREN
enjoyed a guided
ACTIVITY
at their library in 2019.



A major economic driver!

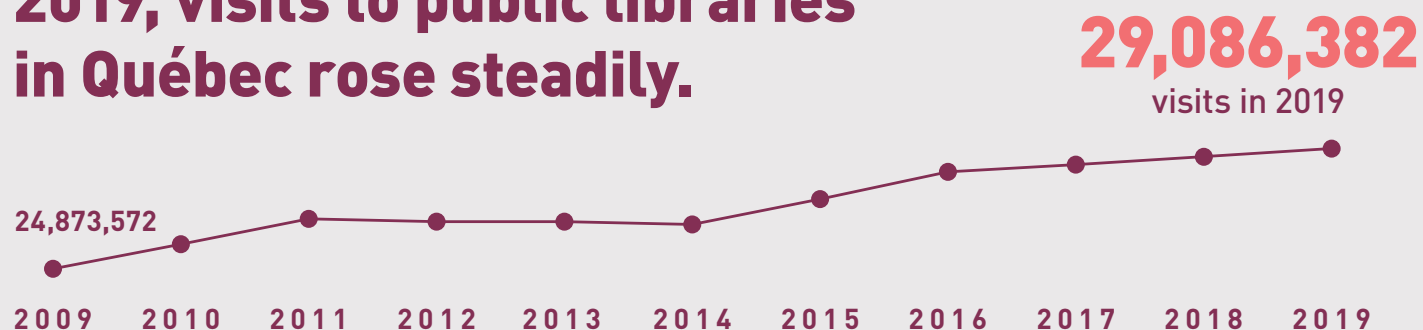
In 2019, public libraries purchased

\$45.4 M

WORTH OF DOCUMENTS
from accredited booksellers in Québec.

Our preliminary estimates for 2020 show no decrease in purchases despite the library closings, thanks to investments by municipalities and the Ministère de la Culture et des Communications du Québec, along with the hard work put in by library teams to enrich their collections.

2019, visits to public libraries in Québec rose steadily.



2 3 R D E D I T I O N

OCT. 16-23, 2021

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