

PEOPLE POWER OUR GROWTH

A Community Growth Report

A Message to Our Community

Over the past four years, the J. Robert Jamerson Memorial Library has grown in ways we're proud to share with the community we serve. This report highlights how your library is being used, how that use has changed since 2022, and what it means for Appomattox County.

The numbers below tell a simple story: more neighbors are walking through our doors, joining our programs, checking out books, and discovering new resources than ever before. That growth reflects both a community re-engaging with its library and a dedicated staff working to meet rising demand across every service we offer.

The sections that follow share year-by-year data on programming, new library card sign-ups, checkouts, and our growing collection — a look at what your library has been building, together with you.

Our Growth, 2022–2026: At a Glance

These figures compare 2022 (a year still shaped by pandemic-era restrictions) to 2026. The growth reflects our community fully re-engaging with the library, supported by a staff dedicated to serving Appomattox County.

+605% Program Attendance 967 → 6,817	+341% New Borrowers 153 → 675	+247% Programs Offered 72 → 250	+275% Community Outreach 4 → 15 events
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Section 1: A Library Growing With Its Community

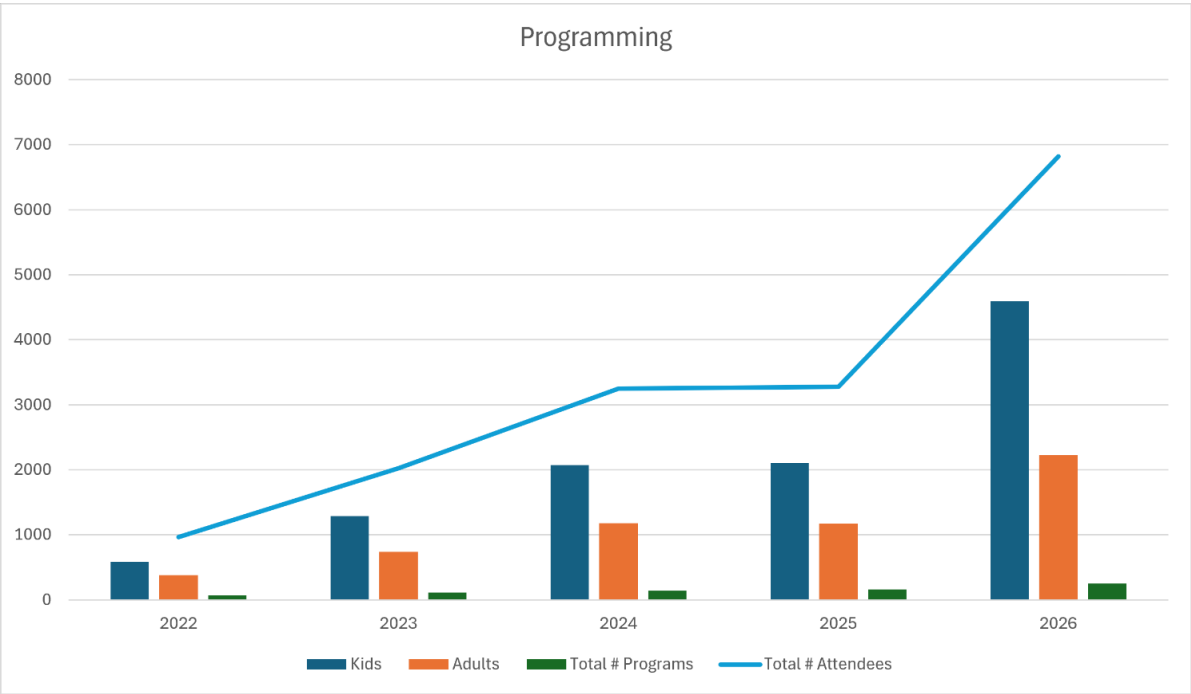
Behind every number in this report is a person: a neighbor who found a new favorite book, a child who attended a program, a family that discovered a free resource they didn't know existed. Every program, every new library card, and every outreach event reflects the library's commitment to serving Appomattox County.

In 2022, the library offered 72 programs serving 967 people. By 2026, that grew to 250 programs serving 6,817 attendees — more than triple the programming volume and more than seven times the participation. Checkouts have held 45–54% above our 2022 baseline for four straight years. We're grateful to everyone in our community who has made this growth possible by using and supporting the library.

Section 2: Programming — More Ways to Connect

Library programming is where our community comes together, and it's where our growth has been most exciting — a 247% increase in programs offered and a 605% increase in attendance since 2022.

- Children's programming attendance grew from 585 (2022) to 4,592 (2026) — a 685% increase.
- Adult programming attendance grew from 382 to 2,225.
- Outreach events in the community grew from 4 to 15, bringing the library beyond our walls.



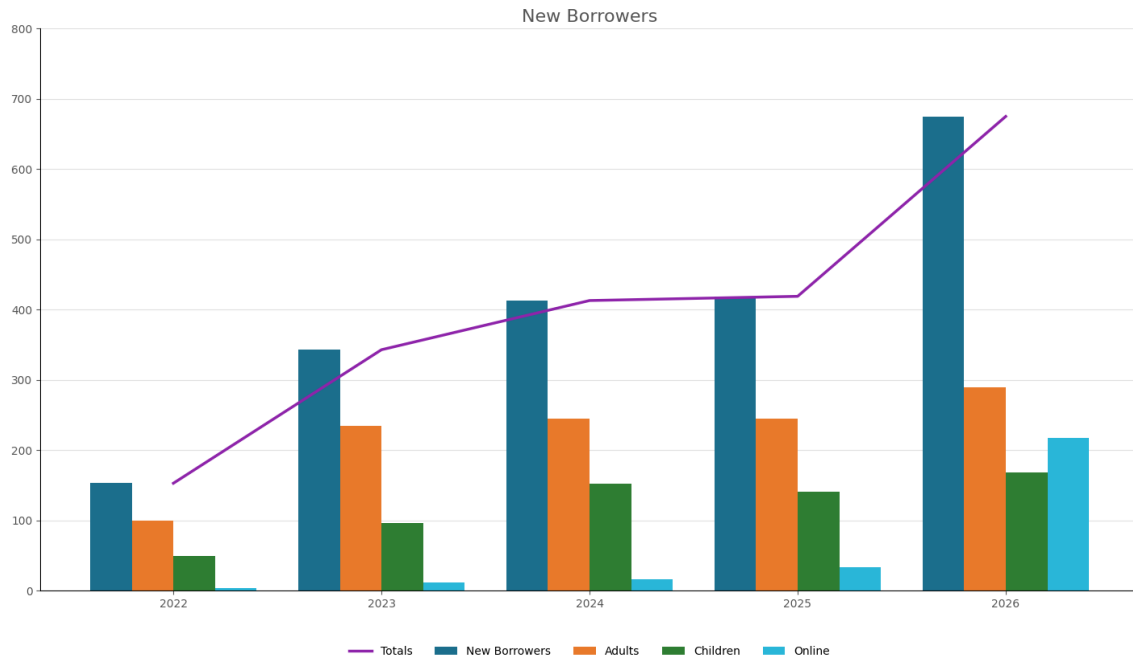
Programs offered and total attendance, 2022–2026

Year	Kids Attendance	Adult Attendance	Programs Offered	Total Attendees	Outreach Events
2022	585	382	72	967	4
2023	1,289	735	112	2,024	2
2024	2,070	1,177	139	3,247	4
2025	2,104	1,171	156	3,275	7
2026	4,592	2,225	250	6,817	15

Section 3: New Library Cards — Welcoming New Neighbors

New library card sign-ups grew from 153 in 2022 to 675 in 2026 — a 341% increase. Over five years, the library welcomed a combined 2,003 new cardholders.

Online registrations saw the most dramatic growth, surging from just 4 in 2022 to 218 in 2026 — a 5,350% increase, reflecting how many neighbors are now discovering and using the library's digital resources.

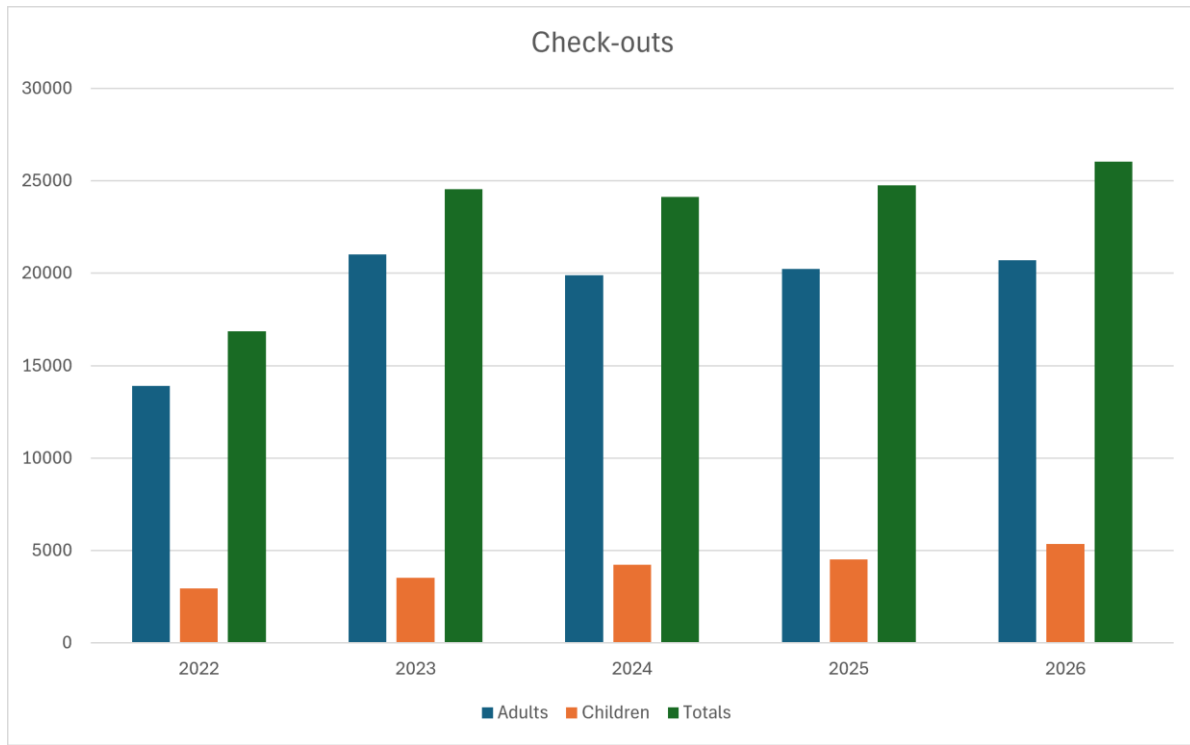


New borrower registrations, 2022–2026

Year	New Adult Borrowers	New Child Borrowers	Online Registrations	Total New Borrowers
2022	100	49	4	153
2023	235	96	12	343
2024	245	152	16	413
2025	245	141	33	419
2026	289	168	218	675

Section 4: Checkouts — Books and More, Flying Off the Shelves

Total checkouts jumped from 16,871 in 2022 to 24,537 in 2023 and have held strong ever since — 26,045 in 2026, still 54% above 2022 levels. Children's checkouts have grown every single year, an 81% increase since 2022.

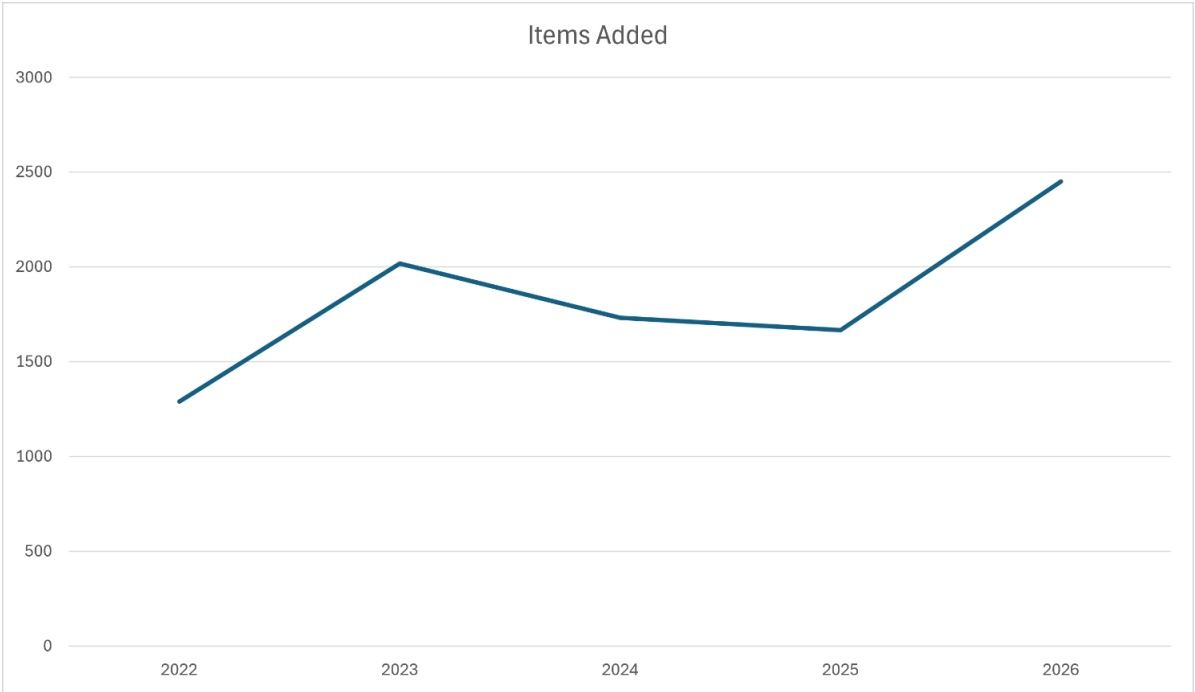


Checkouts by year, 2022–2026

Year	Adult Checkouts	Children's Checkouts	Total Checkouts
2022	13,915	2,956	16,871
2023	21,012	3,523	24,537
2024	19,905	4,226	24,131
2025	20,230	4,528	24,759
2026	20,705	5,340	26,045

Section 5: Our Collection — Growing Every Year

Between 2022 and 2026, the library added 9,161 new items to the collection — an average of roughly 1,832 new books, movies, and other materials per year. New acquisitions reached their highest level in 2026, with 2,451 items added — more choices for every reader in our community.



New items added by year, 2022–2026

Year	New Items Added
2022	1,291
2023	2,019
2024	1,733
2025	1,667
2026	2,451

Thank You, Appomattox County

This growth wouldn't be possible without you. Program attendance up 605%. New library cards up 341%. Checkouts sustained 45–54% above baseline for four consecutive years. Every one of these numbers represents a member of our community choosing to walk through our doors, and we're grateful for that trust.

If you haven't visited recently, we'd love to see you. Whether you're looking for your next great read, a program for your family, or simply a welcoming place to spend an afternoon, the library is here for you. Stop by, ask a staff member what's new, or check our calendar of upcoming events — we'd love to help you discover everything your library has to offer.

With gratitude,
Cindy Scheu, Library Director