



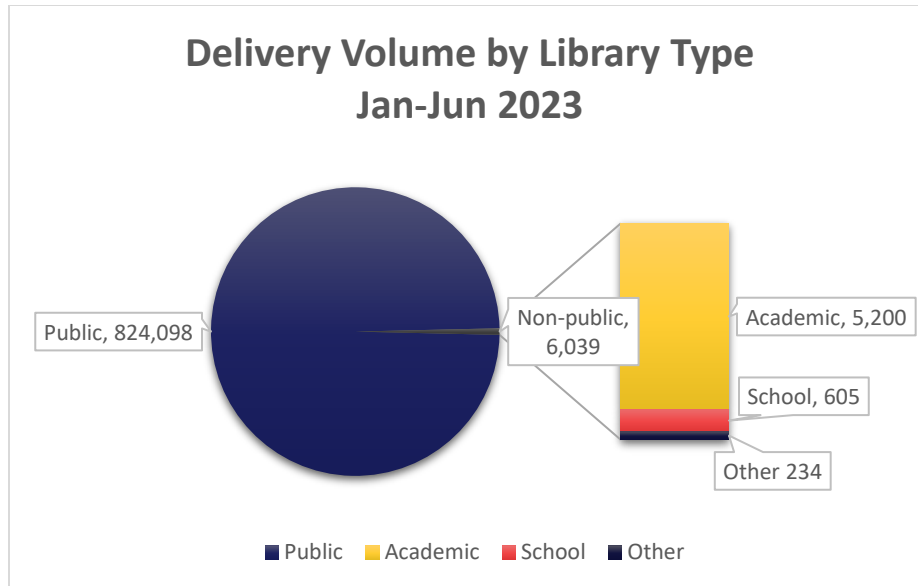
Libraries of Rhode Island Delivery Item Count: Spring 2023

About the Survey

The Libraries of Rhode Island (LORI) delivery network is comprised of a variety of libraries across Rhode Island, including public, school, higher education, government, specialty, and independent libraries. The statewide delivery service, funded by the Office of Library & Information Services is provided to certified members of the Libraries of Rhode Island (LORI) network for interlibrary loan and other resource sharing activities. Delivery item counts are held biannually, typically in April and October. The goal of the survey is to provide a general overview of the entire network, specifically examining the volume of material handled by the network's delivery system.

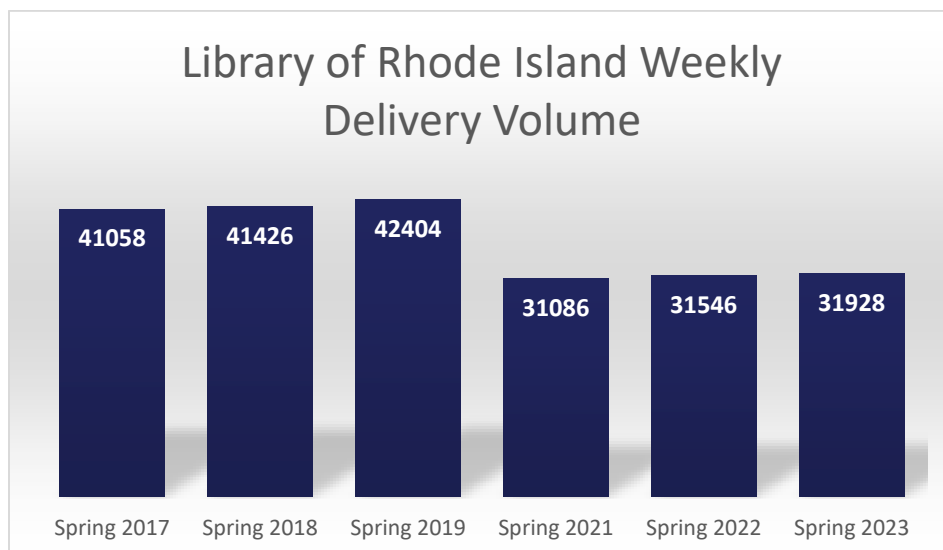
Survey Summary

122 library facilities that receive OLIS LORI Delivery services reported their out-going item counts for the week of April 30 to May 6, 2023. Additional data was collected for school and public libraries from RILINK and Ocean State Libraries respectively. As the biannual survey represents only a snapshot of the total volume of library items delivered across the entire Libraries of Rhode Island delivery network, the data reported by libraries and supplemental data collected was used to extrapolate the delivery activity for a 6-month span, from January 2023 to June 2023.



As illustrated in the chart above, nearly all (99%) of the items moving through the statewide delivery system between January and June of 2023 were initiated from public libraries. While typically the public library delivery item volume far exceeds that of other libraries within the network, this year that disparity was more significant with the decrease in interlibrary loan activity from school libraries due to technical issues with their integrated library system’s ILL module.

The following are results drawn from this and previous spring item count surveys, highlighting the number of items transported through the delivery network in one week.



This data demonstrates the lasting depreciative effects of the pandemic on circulation, but does not suggest when those numbers may return to pre-pandemic levels.