

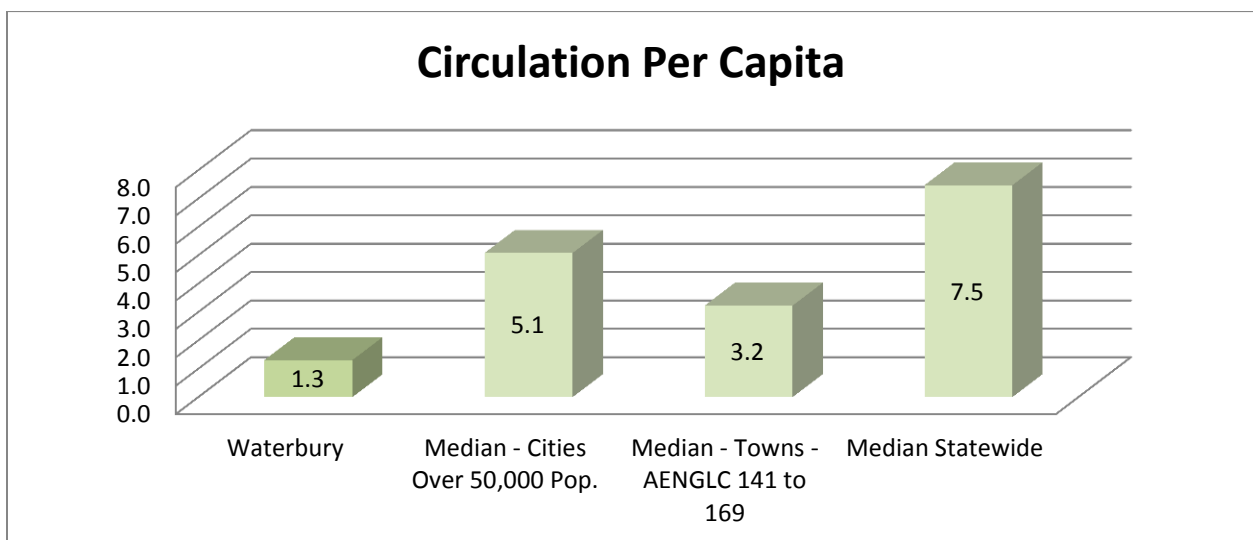
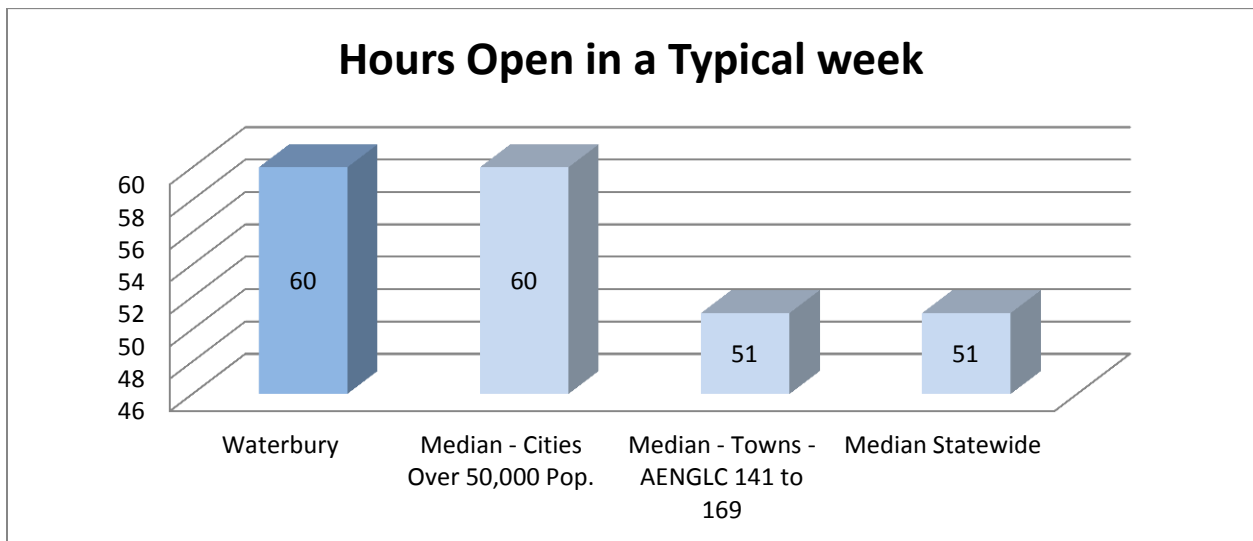
Director's Report to the Board of Agents, Silas Bronson Library

January 26, 2016

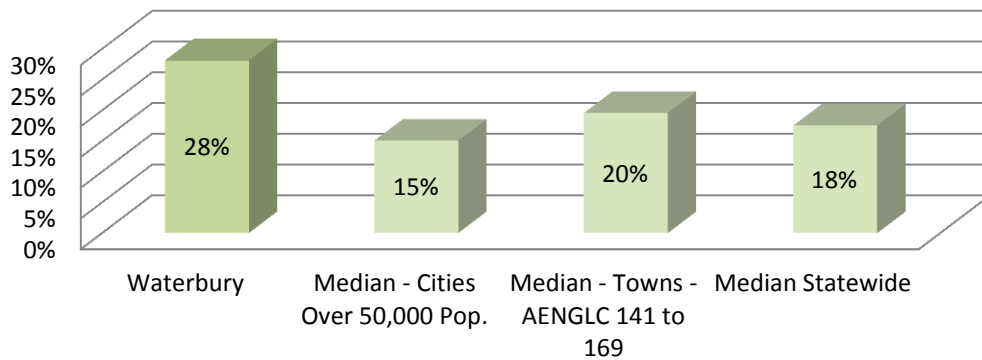
Raechel Guest, Director

Annual State Library Statistical Report

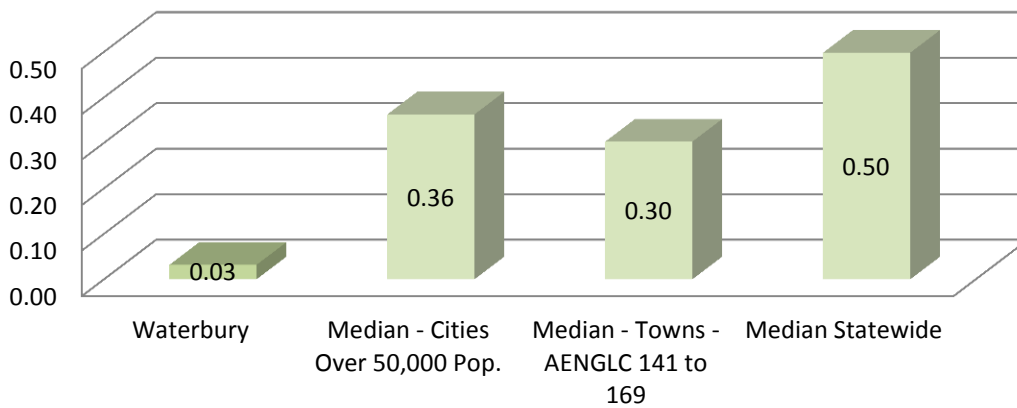
The State Library has released the results of its annual public library survey, showing figures for FY2015. The data can be found on their website. I have included some of the comparative data here.



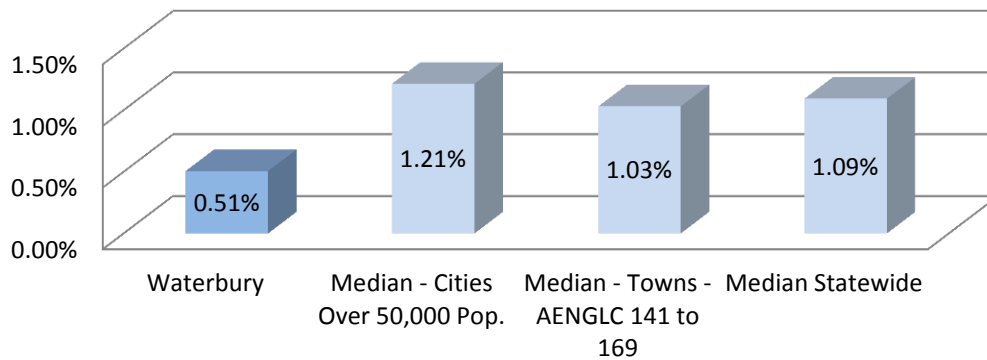
% of Circulation by a Town's Residents That Is Occurring in Other Towns



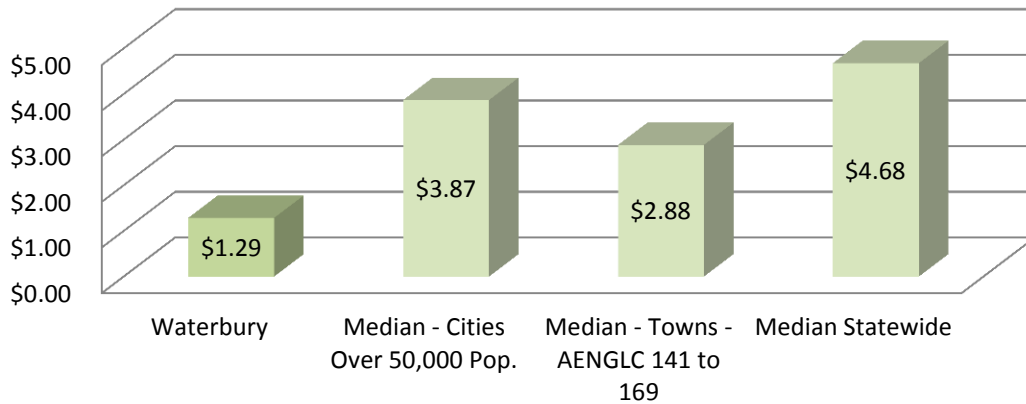
Program Attendance Per Capita



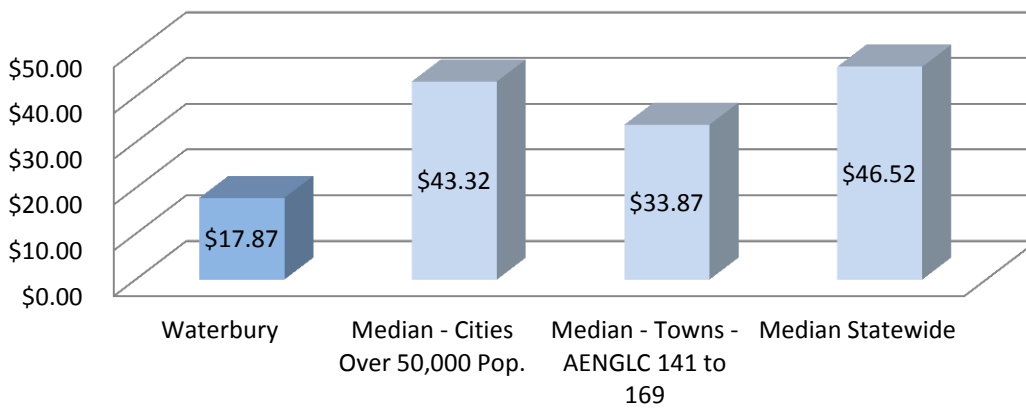
Municipal Appropriation for the Library as a % of All Municipal Revenue



Library Materials Expenditure Per Capita

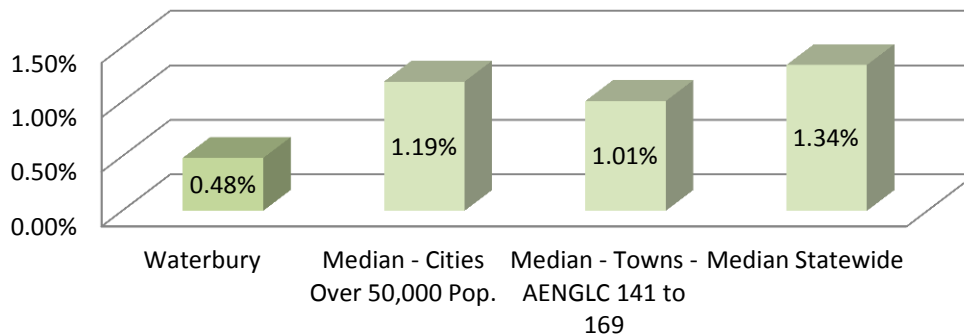


Operating Expenditures Per Capita



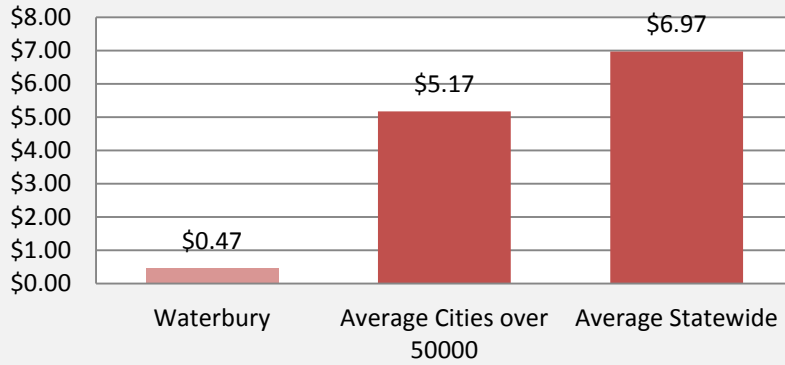
Community Commitment Index

(A measure of a community's financial commitment to the library, dividing the library's total operating expenditures by all municipal revenue)



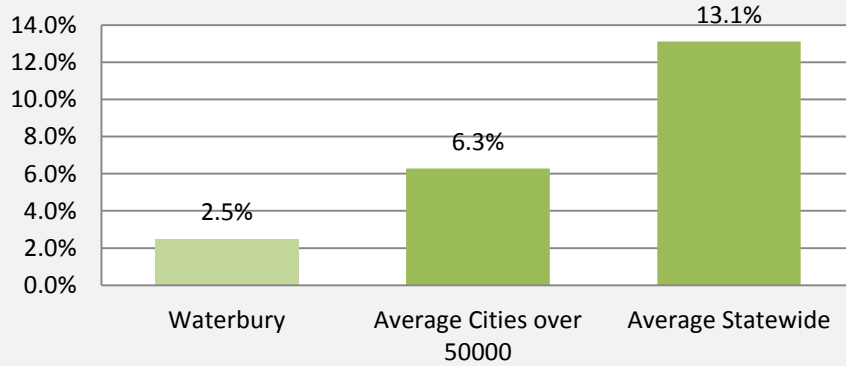
Non-Gov't Income Per Capita, FY2015

(Excludes Town, State, Federal Income)

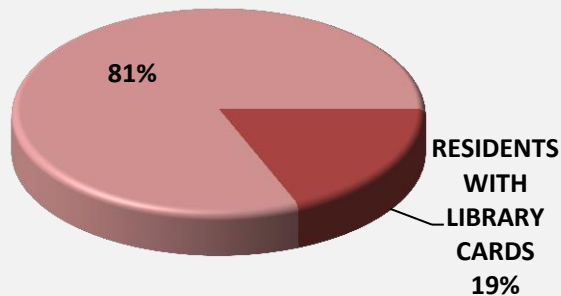


Non-Gov't Income as a % of Total Operating Income, FY2015

(Excludes Town, State, Federal Income)



How Much of Your Town/City Have Library Cards?



Finances & Fundraising

I have submitted our budget proposal for FY17 to the City, requesting increased funding for public wifi, eMedia, building supplies, and library supplies & furnishings. We are one of the most underfunded public libraries in Connecticut, receiving a municipal appropriation of only 0.5% of total city revenues—the state median for large cities and overall is 1.2%. Waterbury is ranked #163 out of 169 for per capita expenditures on public library materials. The requested funding increase is relatively small, but will result in a noticeable improvement in patron services.

The Friends of the Library have donated \$7,200 to support our public programs for the remainder of this fiscal year.

Circulation Division

The new POS system went live on January 15. We are in the process of fine tuning its operation. The next step will be to move the old cash register to the Bunker Hill Branch, and to reposition the POS equipment where the register is now.

We are waiting for an Ethernet adapter to connect the three circulation desk monitors to a computer, in order to make them active. Once they are in service, we will use them to promote upcoming events and display library information for patrons.

December Statistical Reports: Main Library

Total Collection Size: 249,086

Total Items Circulated: 10,439

Total Items Circulated at Other Libraries: 1,068

Total Items Circulated from Other Libraries: 425

December Statistical Reports: Bunker Hill Branch

Total Collection Size: 13,177

Total Items Circulated: 955

Total Items Circulated at Other Libraries: 113

Total Items Circulated from Other Libraries: 389

Public Programs

The Children's Division continues to host weekly and monthly programs for young children. Our collection of LEGOs for the monthly program has grown with recent donations. The winter reading program has seen an increase in participation from last year, with more than 100 children signing up in December.

The regular program roster for adults has been expanded with weekly Scrabble games, daily jigsaw puzzles, and a monthly program featuring the current artist on exhibit in the gallery.

Patron Services

Newspapers are now freely distributed in the Main Reading Room. Prior to this week, patrons were required to surrender their library card or their driver's license in order to read a newspaper. They are now able to pick up the paper from a central table, where there is a sign asking them to return the paper when they are finished with it.

After studying patron use of the public computers and listening to the frustrations encountered by members of the public and staff under the old system, we implemented a revision to the use of the public computers on December 14. Patrons are now given an initial 2-hour block of time; so long as no one is waiting to use a computer, each patron may extend their time for another 2 hours (and again at the end of each 2-hour session).

Staff Updates

Jeffrey Lafontaine, Page, joined our staff in December.