



BOISE PUBLIC LIBRARY

MAYOR: Lauren McLean | DIRECTOR: Jessica Dorr

Boise Public Library Board of Trustees Regular Meeting Agenda

Wednesday, May 14, 2025, 11:30 a.m. • Main Library, Marion Bingham Room,
715 S. Capitol Blvd., Boise, ID 83702

Public can attend the meeting in person or via YouTube at the following link:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCJo0NAsCybsN0DtzuAI3LGA>

BOARD OF TRUSTEES Rebecca Lemmons, President Ron Pisaneschi, Vice President Reshma Kamal Brian Klene Nicole Trammel Pantera	MISSION The Boise Public Library's mission is to provide access and opportunity for everyone by connecting people to ideas, information, and community.
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MAIN LIBRARY
715 S. Capitol Blvd., Boise, Idaho 83702
P: 208-972-8200 | TTY: 800-377-3529

LIBRARY! AT
BOWN CROSSING
P: 208-972-8360

LIBRARY! AT
COLE & USTICK
P: 208-972-8300

LIBRARY! AT
COLLISTER
P: 208-972-8320

LIBRARY! AT
HILLCREST
P: 208-972-8340

BOISE CITY COUNCIL: Colin Nash (President), Meredith Stead (President Pro Tem), Kathy Corless, Jimmy Hallyburton, Jordan Morales, Luci Willits

BOISEPUBLICLIBRARY.ORG

AGENDA

Boise Public Library Board of Trustees Regular Meeting Agenda

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1. Call to Order and Introductions

2. Communications

None

3. Minutes-Action Item

April 9, 2025, Regular Meeting

4. Consent Agenda-Action Item

All matters on the consent agenda are considered routine and may be approved in a single motion. A trustee may ask that an item be removed from the consent agenda and considered separately.

a. Payment of Bills and Payroll

b. Financial Reports

Year-to-Date through March 31, 2025

Gift Fund activity for March 2025

5. Reports

a. Friends of the Boise Public Library

b. Boise Public Library Foundation

c. Library Director including administration and management

6. Requests for Reconsideration- Action Item

Requests for the move, or removal of materials are brought to the Board for reconsideration at the Library Board President's discretion.

a. Stolen Focus: Why You Can't Pay Attention – and How to Think Deeply Again by
Johann Hari

7. Old Business

a. Boise Public Library Policy Review:

Section 4.00, Use of the Library-Action Item

Library Public Services Senior Manager Sarah Kelley-Chase will continue the review of section 4.00 of the Boise Public Library Policy Manual with the Trustees, specifically section 4.07, Confidentiality of Records. Recommended changes to section 4.07 are included in the meeting packet. A motion to approve the recommended changes will be requested.

Section 5.00, Collection Development & Maintenance-Action Item

Staff will review recommended changes to policy 5.02, Reconsideration of Materials included in the meeting packet. A motion to approve the recommended changes will be requested.

Recommended changes to regulation 5.01c, The Nature and Quality of Materials; exhibit 5.02a, Request for Reconsideration of Library Materials; and the addition of exhibit 5.02b are also included in the meeting packet. Regulation and exhibit changes do not require the Board's approval and are included for information purposes only.

This continues the Library Board of Trustees annual policy review for Fiscal Year 2025 as stipulated by the Board's bylaws.

8. New Business

None

9. Selection of Trustee to Review Payment Vouchers

Trustee review for vouchers by Pantera.

10. Selection of Meeting Date

Next regular meeting on Wednesday, June 11, 2025.

11. Adjourn

Any person needing special accommodations to participate in the above notice meeting should contact the library administration office at 208-972-8258 no later than three working days before the scheduled meeting.

BOISE PUBLIC LIBRARY

Library Director's Report

May 2025

Operations

Hours and Services Status

All locations experienced normal operations during April without the need for adjustments to hours or services for any reason.

Board Data

As part of an ongoing effort to improve the statistics being reported to the Board of Trustees, we've made some updates to the information provided. Updated slides are in this month's packet and an overview of these changes can be found on page 11.

FY26 Budget Update

The City Council Budget Workshop for FY26 will be held on Tuesday, May 20th at 8:30am. A link to the meeting can be found on the city's website: [Boise City Council - Budget Workshop | Event | City of Boise](#).

Board of Trustee Recruitment

The City of Boise opened a call for applicants for the Library Board of Trustees on April 2nd. Twelve applications were received in total during the three-week application window. Applications are currently being reviewed to confirm eligibility. We remain on track to have a new trustee approved in June so that we have five members again in July.

Board Engagement

Please join us for the Summer Reading and Learning Celebration on Saturday, May 17th from 10am to 2pm at J.U.M.P.



Administration and Management Reports:

Spring Author Visit Series

This spring Boise Public Library partnered with Rediscovered Books to offer a series of author visits for the public. The series kicked off on Saturday, March 1st with a visit from teen authors [Alison Ames](#) and [Cynthia Hand](#) for a conversation about piracy, dark fantasy, and Ames's new novel, *The Devourer*. On Thursday, March 13th, the Library! at Hillcrest hosted author and historian [Buddy Levy](#) for a discussion about his newest book, *Realm of Ice and Sky: Triumph, Tragedy, and History's Greatest Arctic Rescue*. New York Times bestselling children's book author [Kate Messner](#) visited the Downtown Library on Saturday, March 15th to chat about her new book, *History Smashers: Earth Day*.

The Library hosted four author visits in April, beginning with bestselling author [Jonathan Stroud](#) for a talk about the newest book in his *The Legendary Scarlett & Browne* series: *The Legendary Scarlett and Browne* on Tuesday, April 1st. It was an honor to welcome [Dr. Maurice Hornocker](#) to the Library for a conversation

with Idaho Public Television's Marcia Franklin about his life and work on Friday, April 4th. Dr. Hornocker is a wildlife biologist best known for advancing knowledge of the elusive mountain lion's behavior and ecology. During his 55 years of research in Idaho and around the world, he published numerous scientific papers and books. Now, in his mid-90s, Hornocker was recognized for his contributions to the wildlife conservation field with the 2024 Aldo Leopold Memorial Award.

On Thursday, April 17th, in partnership with [Idaho Trails Association](#), the Library welcomed former National Park Ranger and current firefighter paramedic [Kevin Grange](#) for an informative presentation about his new book *Grizzly Confidential*. And finally, on Wednesday, April 30th [author Colleen AF Venable and artist Honie Beam](#) visited the Library! at Hillcrest for a talk about adapting the ever-popular Junie B. Jones children's books to the graphic novel medium. The author series was attended by over 300 people.

Boise Depot Centennial

The [Boise Depot](#) turned 100 in April! Boise Public Library joined departments from across the city to celebrate with fun and informative outreach during the Family Day on Sunday, April 13th. There were activities for all ages, including local vendors, model trains, classic cars, food trucks, and guided tours of the Depot. Staff from the Library! at Hillcrest, Youth Services, and Information Services took the Library's Excite Trike loaded with books about trains and transportation, shared a craft with families, and engaged with 362 visitors. On the evening of Wednesday, April 16th staff attended the 100th Birthday Celebration to share Library material and resources and spoke to 235 people during the "roaring 1920's" themed event.

Film Screening: *Among Neighbors*

In partnership with the [Council for Holocaust Awareness of Idaho \(CHAI\)](#) the Downtown Library hosted a screening of the award-winning feature documentary *Among Neighbors* on Tuesday, April 22nd. Combining evocative hand-drawn animation with revelatory interviews and verité footage, *Among Neighbors* examines Jewish-Polish relations through the story of Gniiewoszów, a small, rural town where Jews and Polish Catholics lived side by side for centuries. The screening was attended by 41 people and was followed by a thoughtful and informative discussion.

Programming

- Library staff participated in Earth Day celebrations with both the City of Boise and at parks near each of the library locations where trees were planted as last year's Summer Reading community prizes.
- All branch locations hosted a series of Community Helpers Storytimes, allowing children to hear from different public workers each week, including the Forest Service, the United States Postal Service, Republic Services, and Valley Regional Transit.
- The Library! at Hillcrest's Free Swap was a success with 184 people attending over two days.
- Information Services' Sewing 101 series wrapped up a total of seven classes. Feedback from one participant was the compliment "it was the best series of classes I've done at this library."
- An Information Services Librarian presented to a very enthusiastic crowd at the Osher Institute about what the library has to offer and has been asked to make it into an annual presentation.
- Youth Services staff hosted a Family Literacy Party downtown where preschoolers and family members learned about available activities and how they can practice early literacy skills every day.

- Youth Services staff hosted Pokémon Prom for teens, who got to play games and do Pokémon related crafts, have a dance party, enjoy themed snacks, and stay after hours at the Library.

Staff Development

- Staff from the different branches attended a training put on by [Project Learning Tree](#). The training focused on e-STEM, or environmental STEM, for school age kids.
- A Library Assistant from Library! at Bown Crossing attended an Outdoor STEAM training hosted by the [Idaho Forest Products Commission](#).
- Youth Services staff hosted the first Storytellers Meetup for library staff, and representatives from all branches were able to attend and share ideas about felt (flannel) stories, a popular storytelling technique used in libraries, schools, and early childhood settings.
- Youth Services staff attended an [Urban Libraries Council \(ULC\)](#) training on the Teen Brain as well as [Idaho Commission for Libraries \(ICfL\)](#) Teen Convening to learn how to better include youth in the conversations and planning of programs, spaces, and more within the library.

Community Partners

- Information Services and Library! at Hillcrest wrapped up their annual tax event partnerships from January-April. Boise State University's [Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program \(VITA\)](#) helped 452 people at the Downtown Library and AARP helped 629 people at the Library! at Hillcrest.
- Library! at Bown Crossing and the Meridian Library District jointly hosted the Treasure Valley Pokémon TCG Tournament at ABU Games. The Tournament saw Pokémon competitors from across the valley face off in a double-elimination game play tournament. Over 170 players and supporters came out for the event.
- Library! at Cole and Ustick staff facilitated a four-day afterschool STEAM Club at McMillan Elementary School, and Youth Services staff went to Family STEM nights at Washington and Cynthia Mann Elementary Schools.
- Youth Services and Circulation staff joined Head Start for a family night at Zoo Boise and shared library resources with over 200 kids and caregivers.
- Youth Services and Information Services staff participated in the Arts & History [Between Two Murals](#) program at the Erma Hayman House.

Communications

Monthly Email Newsletter: [April](#)

- Sent April 2nd, 8344 successful deliveries
- Content included articles on: Community Helpers Month, the new Writer-in-Residence, Library seeking new Board of Trustees member, author visits, "Between Two Murals" artist talk, Beneficial Bugs, Self-care workshops, National Geographic and the Friends book sale.
- 57.61% read the newsletter (4807 out of 8344 sent) / Click Rate 10.01% (481)

Ultimate Book Nerd Newsletter: [April UBN](#)

- Sent April 29th, 1075 successful deliveries
- Open/Read Rate: 65.86% (708) / Click Rate 12.15% (86)

Other Significant Marketing Outreach

- The Welcome Campaign has launched for New Library Card enrollees! It is a series of 4 emails each new cardholder will receive welcoming them to the Library and informing them of all the great services and programs we offer. It will also encourage them to sign up for our monthly newsletter and follow us on social media. (Also, we now have 13,699 people on our newsletter distribution list!)
- Summer Reading Program Guide was published and distributed on April 30th
- Summer Reading Learning Celebration digital billboards are up in 8 locations around Boise, courtesy of Lamar. After the celebration the creative will shift to the Summer Reading Program and then BCAF. This is a great new partnership!

DOWNTOWN LIBRARY IMPROVEMENTS, COLE & USTICK BOOK SORTER & LIBRARY FACILITEIS PLANNING PROJECT STATUS REPORT

Project Start Date:	Summer 2022	Estimated Finish Date:	Ongoing
Project Manager:	Lindsay Erb	Department:	Library

PROJECT STATUS:

Period Covered:	April 2025
Project Summary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <u>Downton Library</u> numerous major repair and maintenance items that need to be addressed to give the library another 10+ years of life, along with space reconfigurations to better serve the public. This work will consist of a program of projects to occur over several years based on project prioritization and budget. ▪ <u>Cole & Ustick Library</u> new book auto sorter and tenant improvements. ▪ <u>Library Facilities Master Planning</u> to address facilities needs for the next 20 years which will be utilized to aid in future decisions about location, size, design and functions of library facilities as well as to better understand staffing needs and potential funding options.
DOWNTOWN LIBRARY IMPROVEMENTS UPDATE	<p><u>1st Floor Renovations and Deferred Maintenance:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Project Scope: Includes 1st story portion of building only which includes renovations to information desk, Hayes auditorium, collections, and youth services areas. ✓ Deferred maintenance / building systems upgrades will be part of this project scope which includes updates and modifications to the existing mechanical, electrical and plumbing. <p>Status:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construction Documents are in for plan review with the City of Boise. CM Co is preparing bid packages and engaging in RFI's from bidders with CT. • Electrical gear lead time is 12 – 18 months, bid opening for this early package occurred on 03.25.25 and contracting and submittal review has started. GMP passed through council 4.29.25. • Construction start is estimated to begin late summer dependent on lead times / submittal / bid results and budget review. Pre-Construction logistics are ongoing with PW / Library leadership team. Furniture Planning is ongoing. • Exterior Window improvements scope of work has been moved to brick repairs that will bid out after the first floor project bids. <p><u>Major Parking Lot Replacement</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Project Scope: Includes replacing existing parking lot storm drainage system and reconfiguring vehicular access, circulation, parking, bike / pedestrian traffic, geothermal line replacement feeding library, landscaping, and site amenities (Book Drop location). ✓ South end of parking lot to be completed late Spring 2025 per status update below. <p>Status:</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Schematic design is complete, and pricing received from CM Co for FY27 budget request preparation. • The South end of parking lot will be completed with CCDC work at Anne Frank Memorial and greenbelt re-alignment project at end of 8th Street to tie geothermal line connecting Capitol Blvd and 8th Street lines into existing line feeding the library. Construction is currently underway. • Need to engage Arts and History and Community engagement to support with existing and future art opportunities and wayfinding signage <p><u>Brick repairs/ Window Replacements</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Project Scope: Repair exterior cracks in mortar & window replacement for 2nd – 4th floors. <p>Status:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plan to bid out after 1st floor renovations are complete. • Work is tentatively planned to begin Fall 2025, pending budget is aligned with bidding climate. <p><u>Elevator Replacement – 4 story</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Project Scope: Replace elevator in 4 story with an MRL traction system. This will remove the hydraulic mechanics and replace car completely to have a better overall performance and eliminate the risk of down time due to unexpected underground leaks. There is anticipated energy savings with this type of installation. <p>Status:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elevator report was completed in 2022 with recommendations for elevator improvements over the next 4-7 years. • Design has begun. Permit submission slated for mid summer 2025 with construction to start September 2025.
<p>COLE & USTICK AUTOSORTER UPDATE</p>	<p>Scope: Installation of new book auto sorter and tenant improvements to accommodate new auto sorter and staff model update.</p> <p>Status:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Autosorter delivery and installation is scheduled for December 2025. • Tenant improvements on track to begin early summer. • Construction documents under review for permit.
<p>LIBRARY FACILITIES PLANNING UPDATE</p>	<p>Scope: Assess space utilization, develop and implement a community engagement process to ensure alignment with strategic planning goals and the community, develop recommendations/ alternatives to close the gap with cost estimates, develop various models for new facilities including recommended approach and locations, sizes, and types which includes options for phasing and preparing a 20-year implementation schedule.</p> <p>Status:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community listening sessions were a success and a follow up meeting with Group 4 has been scheduled to share information learned through CE process and move forward with the draft of the final deliverable.

Overall Project Health	<p><u>Summary:</u></p> <p>Downtown Library: 1st floor renovations with deferred maintenance items along with exterior brick repairs and window replacements are anticipated to be completed this year. Major parking lot replacement construction is estimated to begin in fiscal year 2027 when funding is available.</p> <p>Cole & Ustick Library: On budget, but behind schedule with delivery and installation estimated in Dec 2025.</p> <p>Library Master Facilities Planning: On budget & schedule</p>
Highlights	<p>Downtown Library: Estimated construction start for late summer / early fall pending final bid results. Plans have been shared with City Council, Library Board of Trustees, and public.</p> <p>Cole & Ustick Library: Permit under review.</p> <p>Library Master Facilities Planning: Meetings to wrap up deliverable are scheduled.</p>

PROJECT COMPONENTS:

Component	Notes
Scope	Public Works is continuing to review the program of projects to determine proper prioritization based on the information provided in the condition assessment report, efficiencies, and budget.
Budget	The budget will continue to be monitored as we receive estimates and bids to determine the work that can be completed this fiscal year. We have City contingency set aside for each project to ensure we have funding for any potential change orders during construction.
Schedule	Any project specific schedule delays will be noted in the bid package updates section.
Risks	Construction market challenges, including finding multiple bidders and pricing. 1 st floor renovation project will include deferred maintenance and full electrical replacement for the building. Electricians are in high demand with large scale projects under construction in the valley. Pending tariffs could cause spikes in construction costs.
Resources	

SCOPE MANAGEMENT:

Status	Discussion
Accomplished	<p>Downtown Library:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Auto sorter room construction • Roof replacement & lighting upgrades along parapet • 4th floor & partial 1st floor tenant improvement • Minor Parking Repairs • East & West stair railing work • Visioning work to establish alignment for interior design materials & finishes • Fire pump replacement

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Restroom/ plumbing construction work (1st through 4th floors- 4 Story Portion)
Planned	Downtown Library: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1st floor renovations and building systems upgrades • Exterior brick repairs/ window replacements • Major parking lot replacement • Elevator Replacement

BOARD REPORT DATA CHANGES OVERVIEW

Additions to the Board Report

- Page 14: Patron Visits Fiscal Year to Date Last Month
 - Located at the top left corner of In-Person Visits Page 24
- Page 15: Active Cardholders by Month – Depicted on Page 21
- Page 16: Active Cardholders by Month and Branch – Depicted on Page 22
 - Also, we created a consistent color scheme across all branches!
- Page 17: Digital Audiences by Month – Depicted on Page 33
- Page 18: Digital and Physical Historic side by side – Depicted on Page 36

In-Person Visits

- Page 24 & 25: In-Person Visits – Changed to Fiscal Year
 - Top left YTD last month

Active Card Holders

- Page 15: Active Card Holder Definition
- Page 21: Active Card Holder by Month zoomed view – 60k to 75k
- Page 22: Active Cardholder by Month and Branch

Digital Circulation

- Page 33: Digital Audiences by Month
- Page 34: Digital Circulation zoomed view 60k to 140k

Digital and Physical Circulation

- Page 36: Digital and Physical Historic side by side

Programs

- Page 42: All Branches Program Attendees FY 25
- Page 43: Events by Audience – Changed to Fiscal Year
- Page 44: Program Attendance FY24 – FY25



BOISE PUBLIC LIBRARY

Library Statistics Report to the Board of Trustees | April 2025

Additions to the Report



Patron Visits FYTD Through Last Month

Cardholders by Month FY25

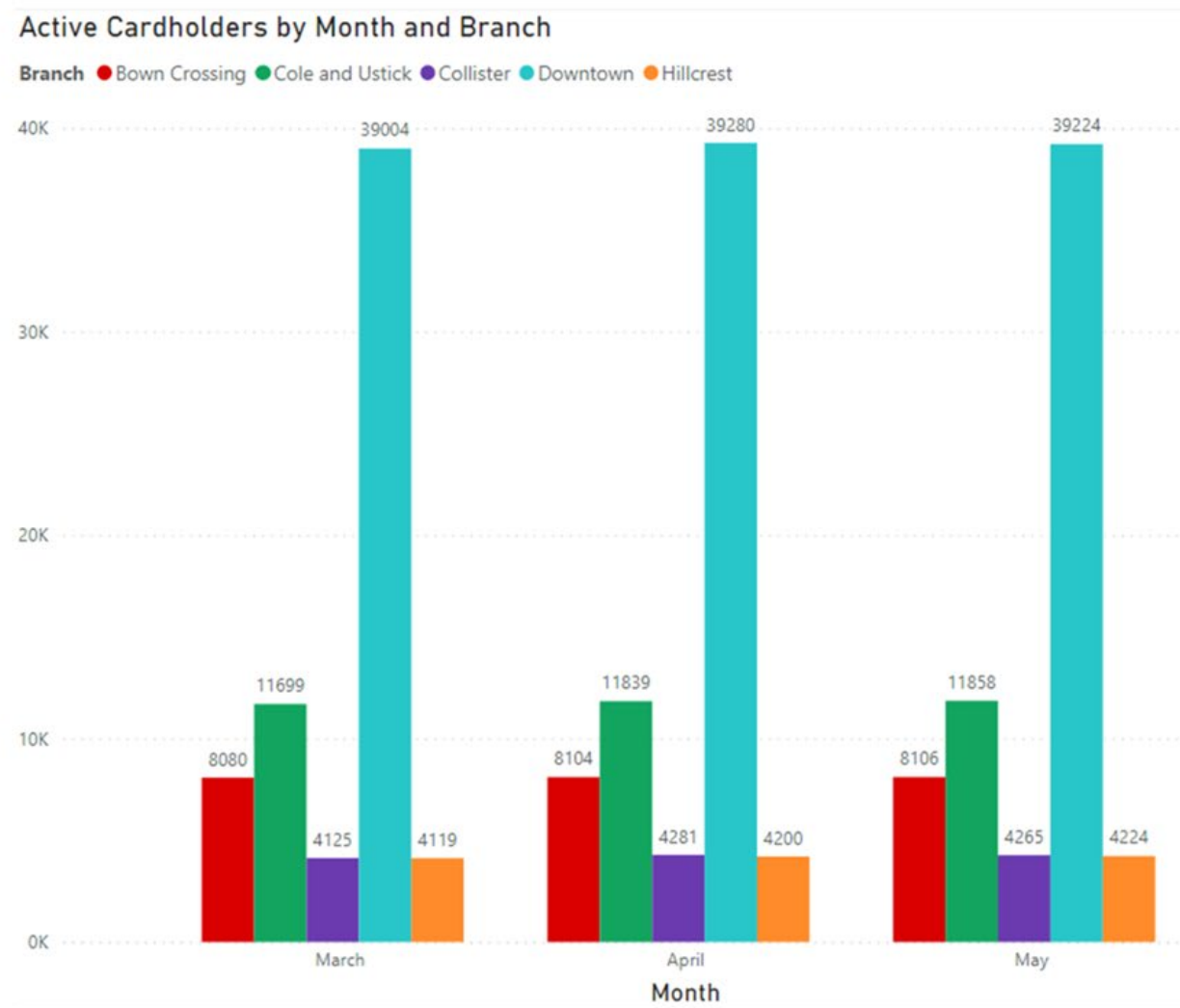


Active Cardholders by Month

Definition: An active cardholder is a library user who currently has a valid unexpired card and can checkout books or use other library services

Cardholders by Month and Branch

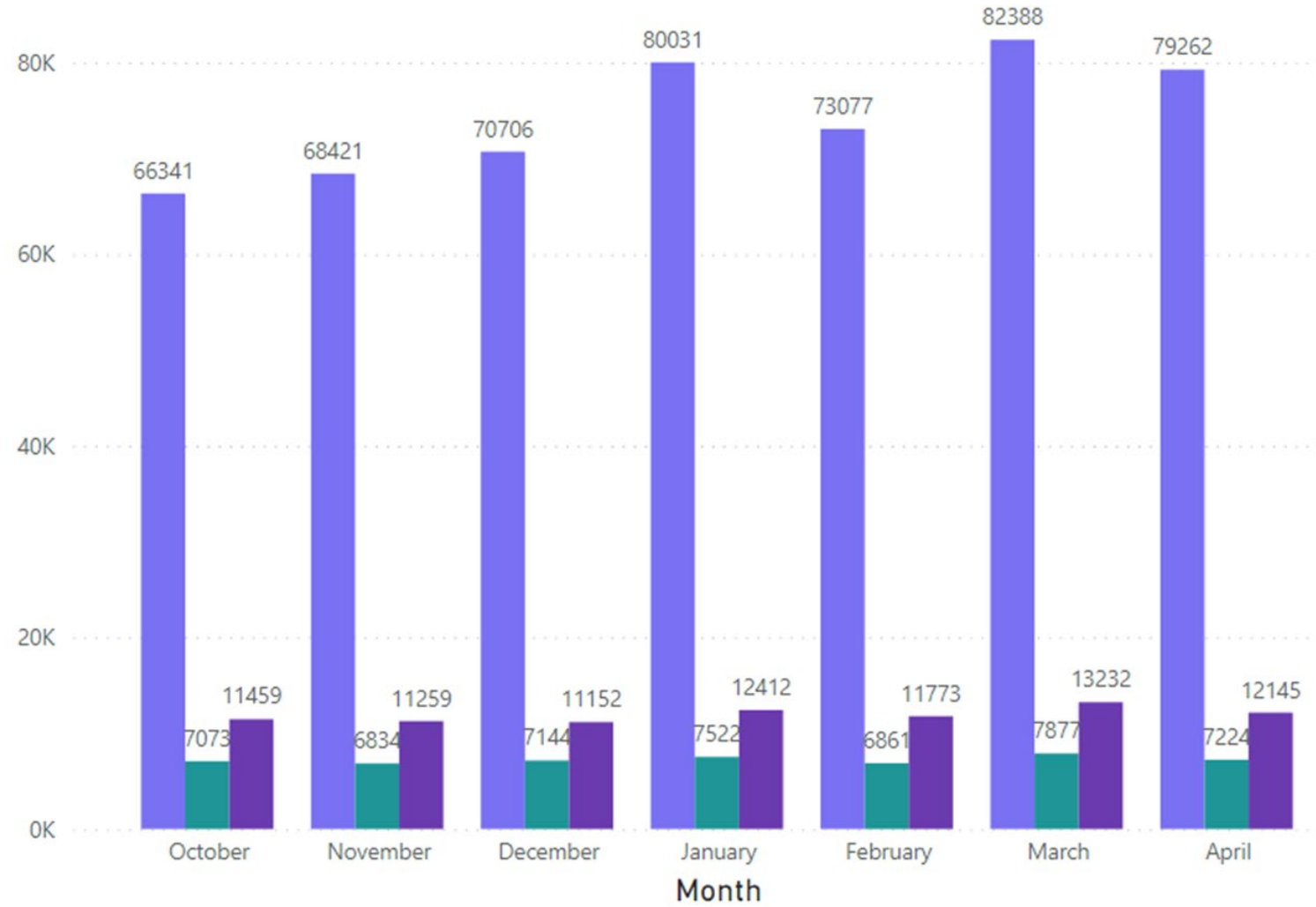
Definition: An active cardholder is a library user who currently has a valid unexpired card and can checkout books or use other library services



Created a consistent color scheme across branches throughout packet

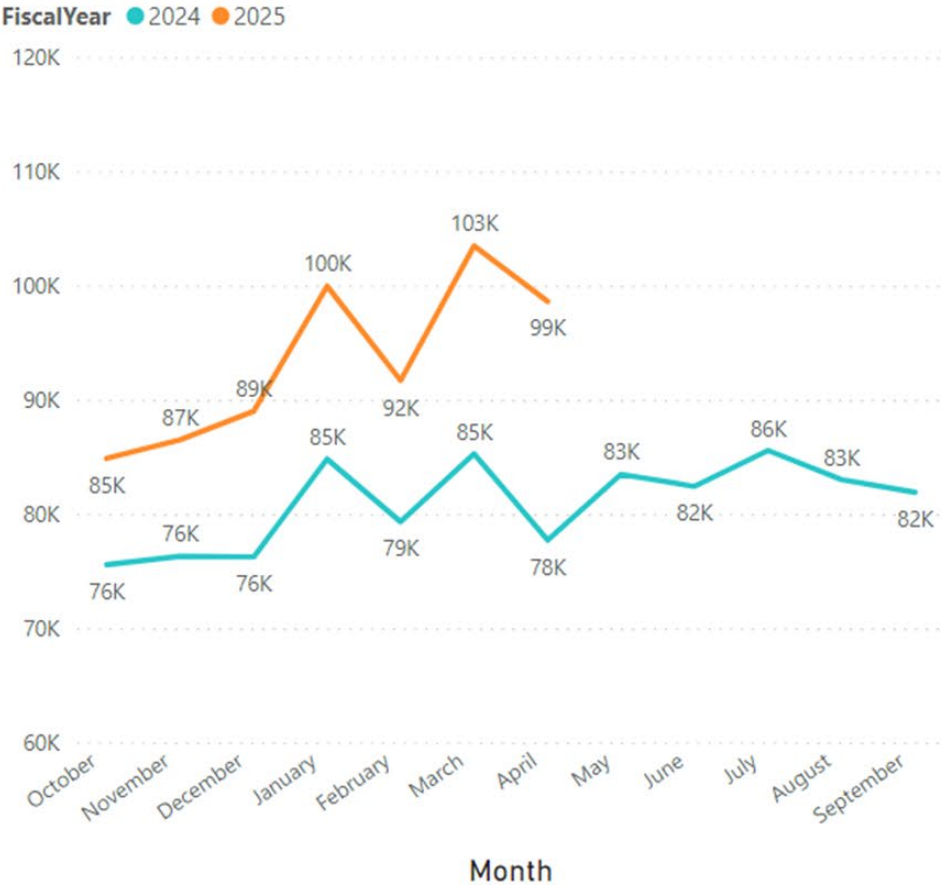
Digital Audiences by Month - FY25

Audience ● Adult ● Teen ● Youth

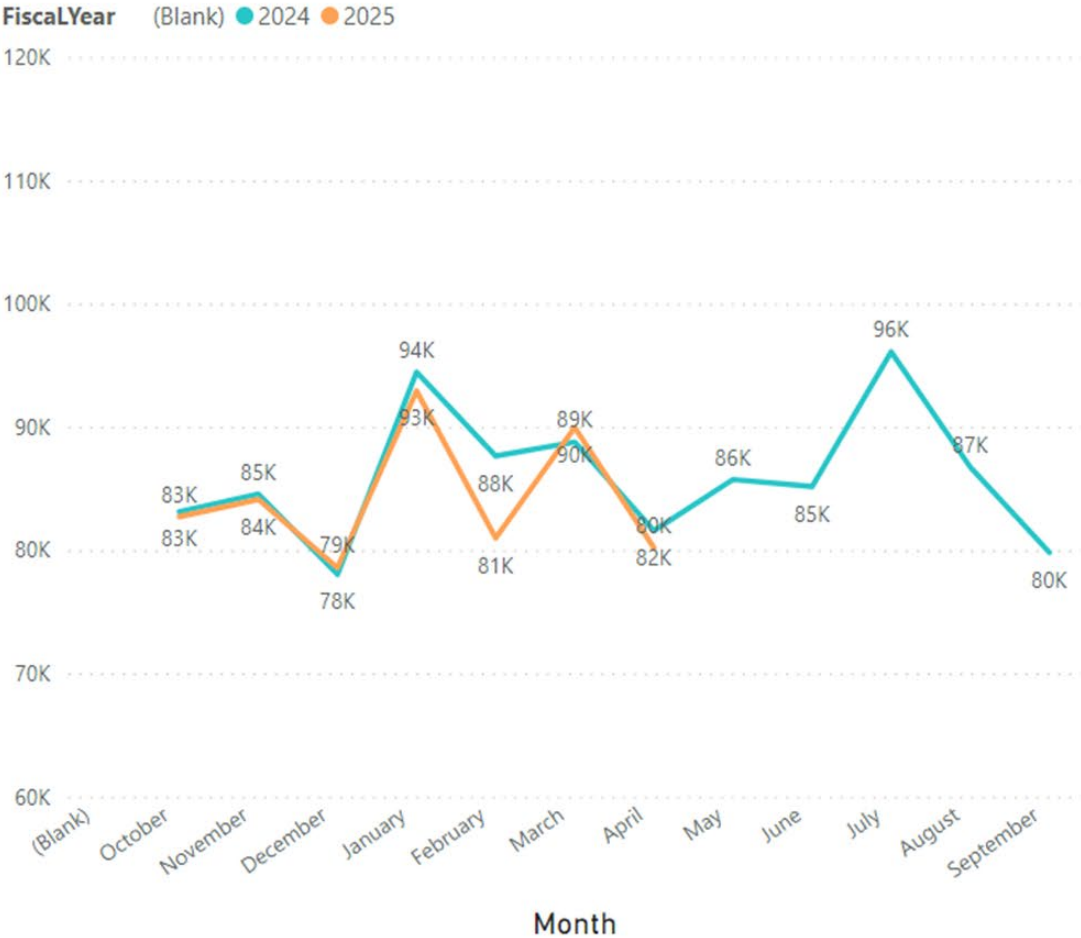


Digital Audiences by Month

Digital Circulation Historic

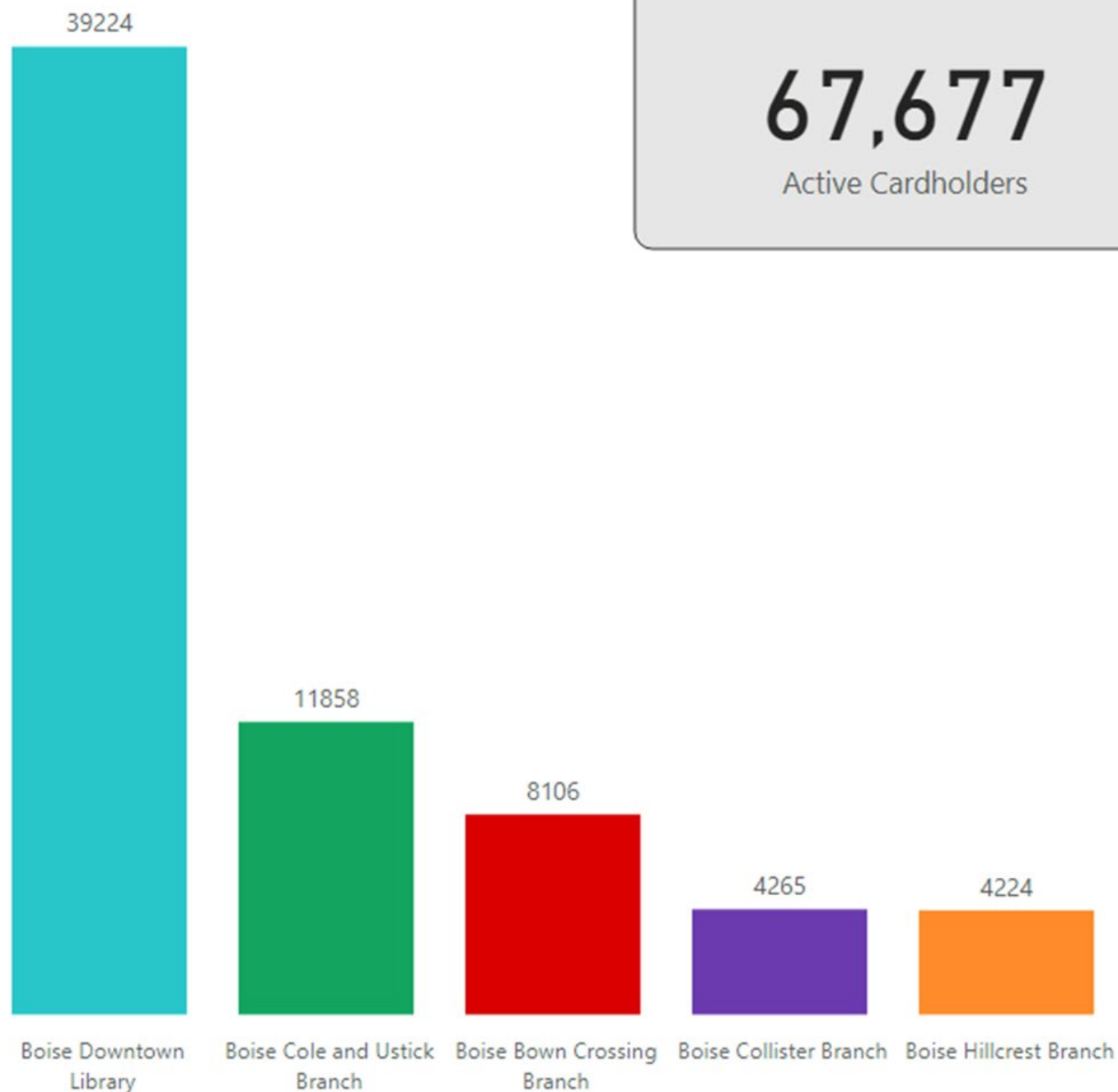


Physical Circulation Historic



Active Cardholders

Active Card Holders

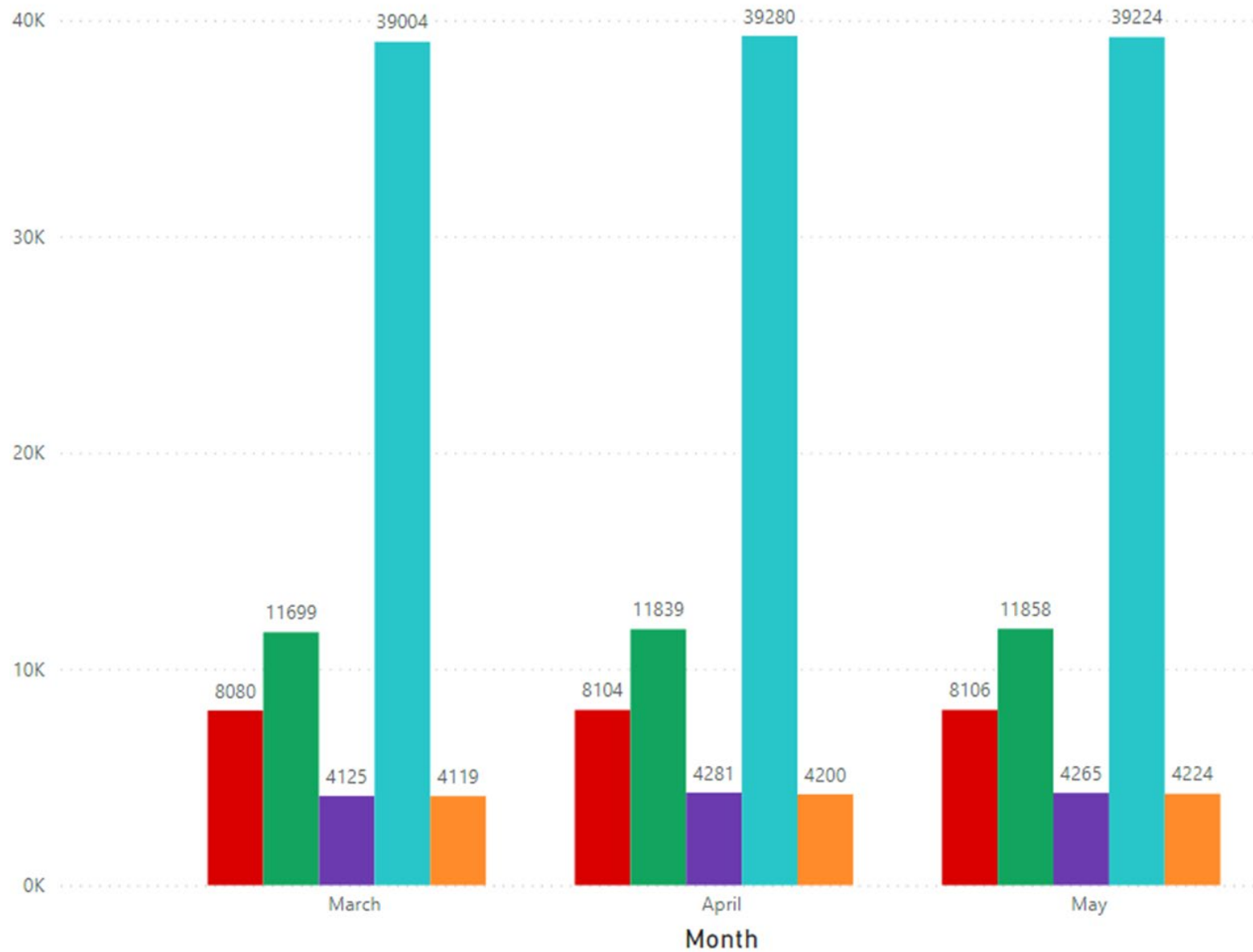


Cardholders by Month FY25



Active Cardholders by Month and Branch

Branch ● Bown Crossing ● Cole and Ustick ● Collister ● Downtown ● Hillcrest



In-Person Visits

249,216

YTD through Last Month

62,572

Prior Month

59,894

Prior Month Prior Year

+4%

Month Percent Change

440,511

YTD Fiscal

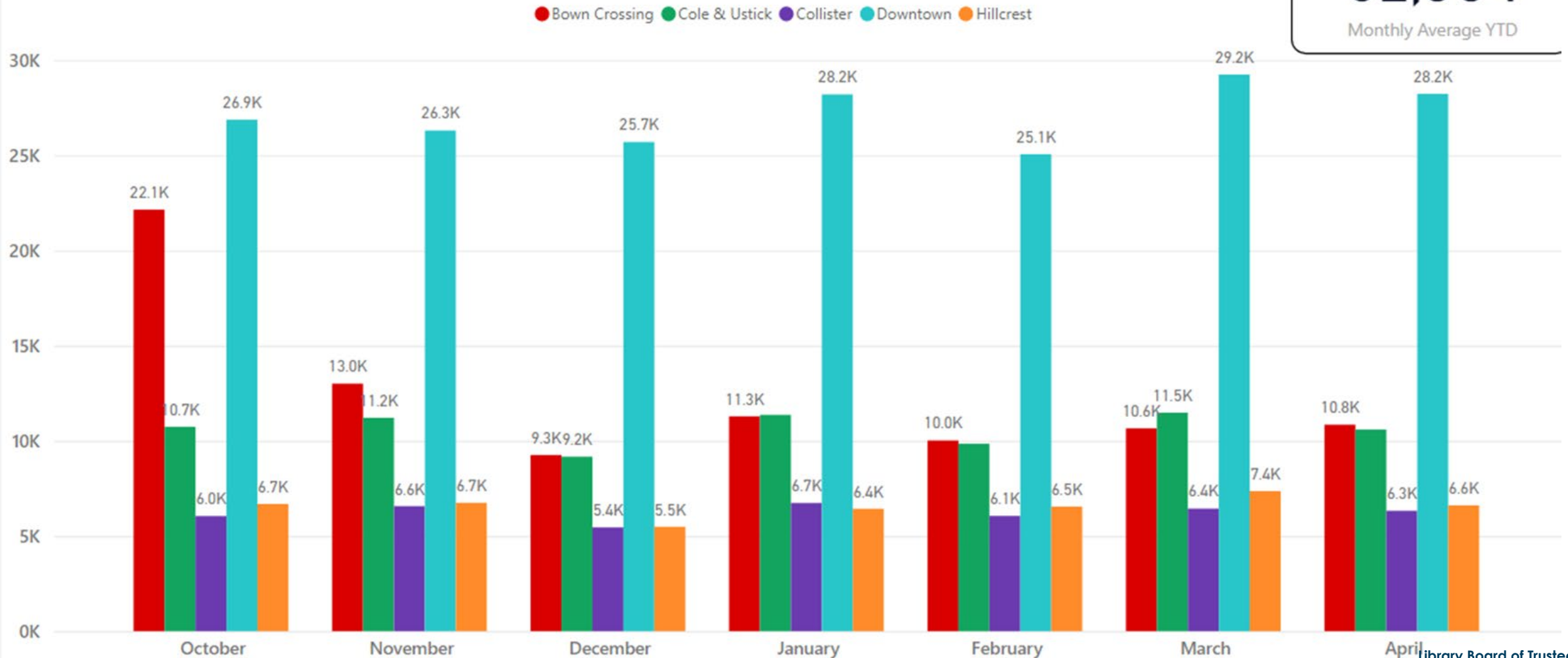
421,601

LastYTD Fiscal

+4%

YTD Percent Change

In-Person Visits Fiscal Year25



62,572

Prior Month

59,894

Prior Month Prior Year

+4%

Month Percent Change

440,511

YTD Fiscal

419,348

LastYTD Fiscal

+5%

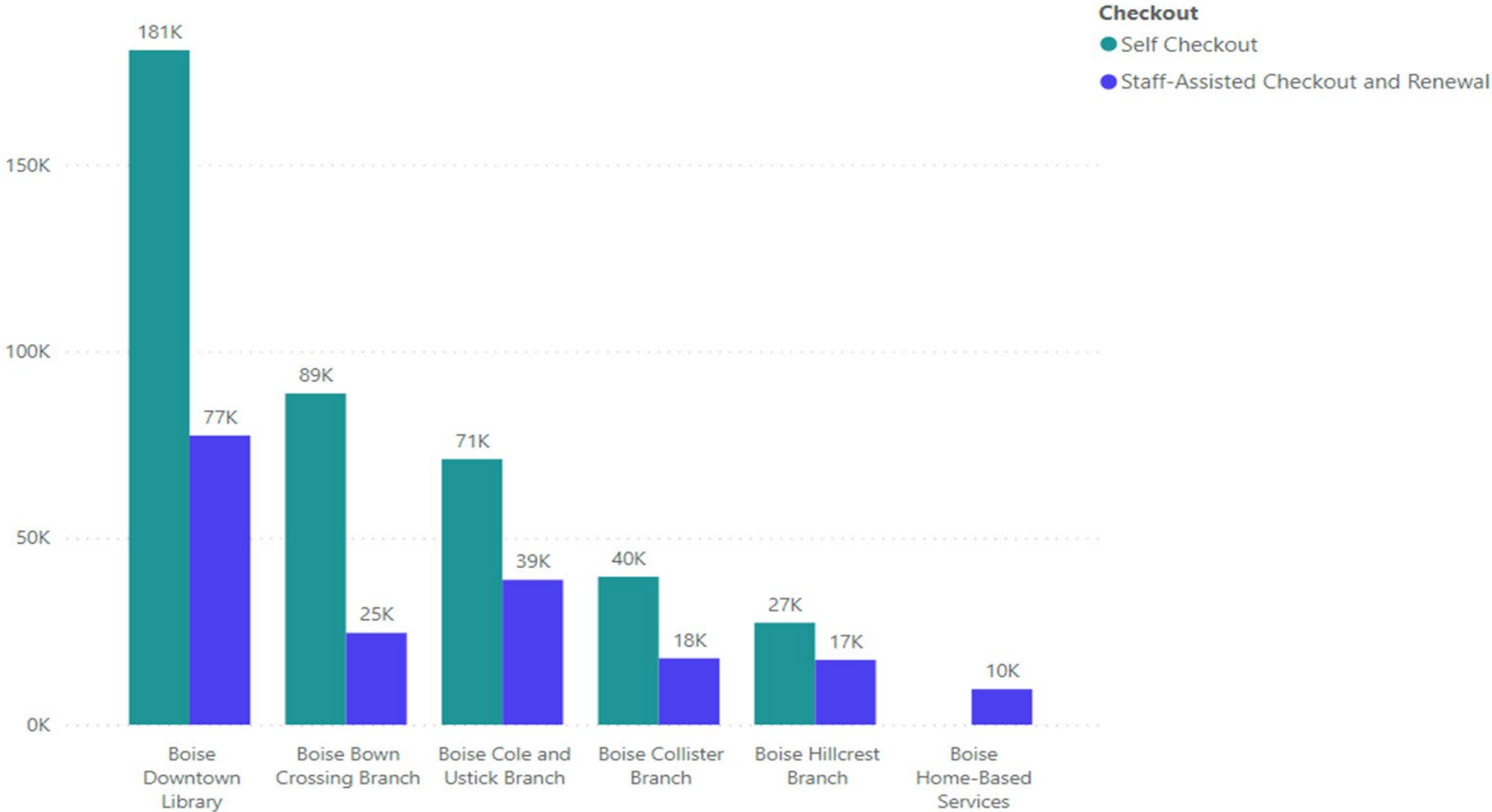
YTD Percent Change

Total In-Person Visits by Year



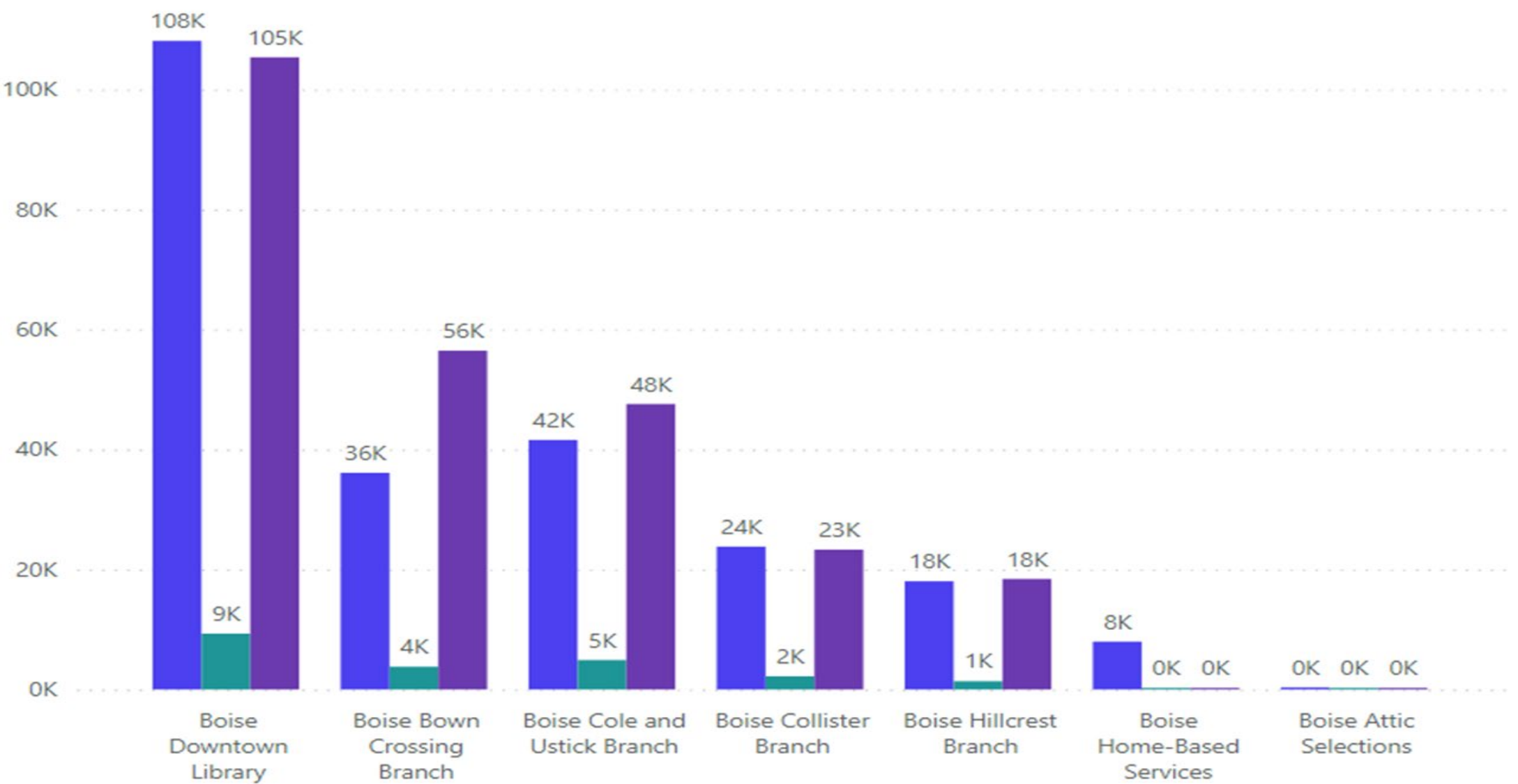
Physical Circulation

Physical Circ by Location FYTD25

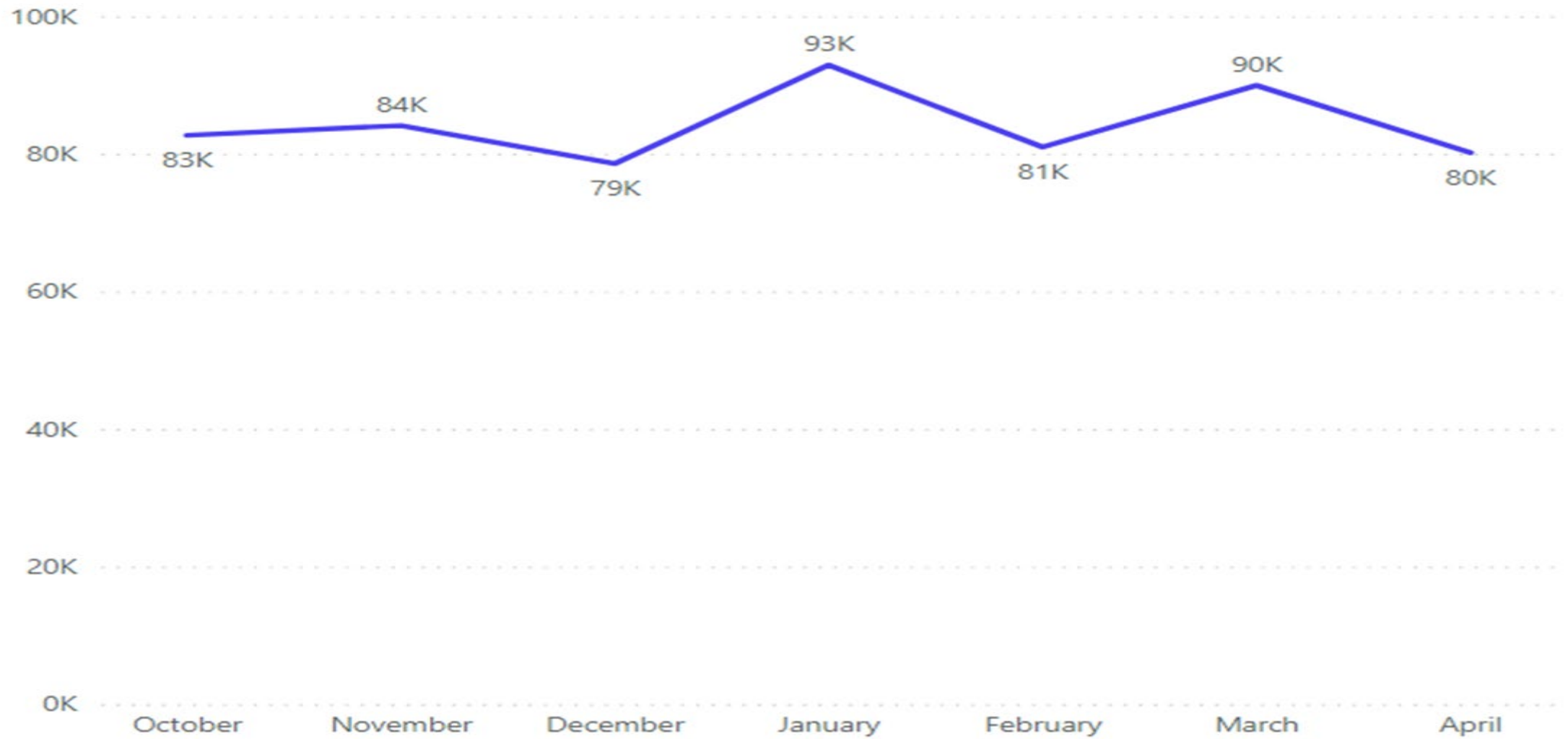


Physical Circulation by Audience FYTD '25

Audience ● Adult ● Teen ● Youth

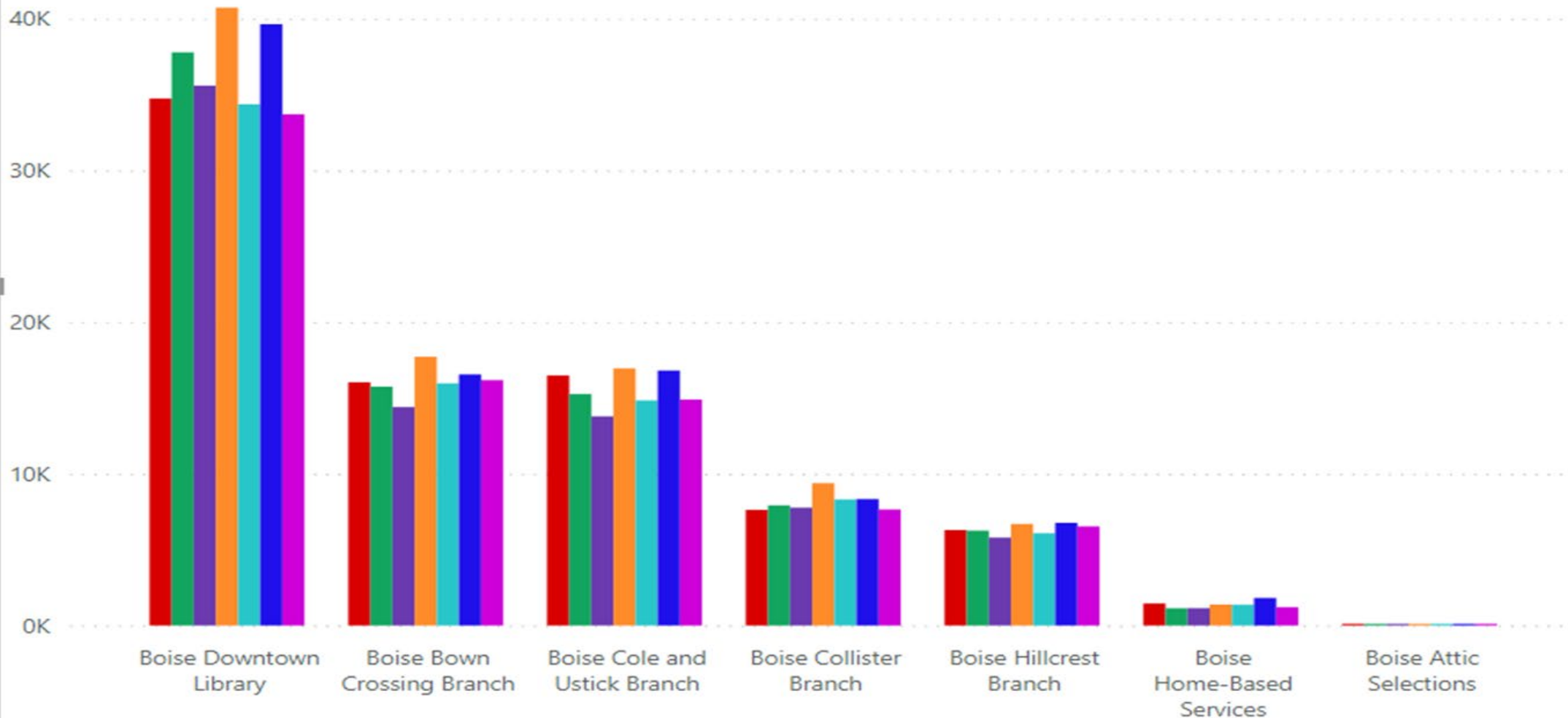


Physical Circulation - Fiscal Year '25



Physical Circulation for Fiscal Year '25

Month ● October ● November ● December ● January ● February ● March ● April

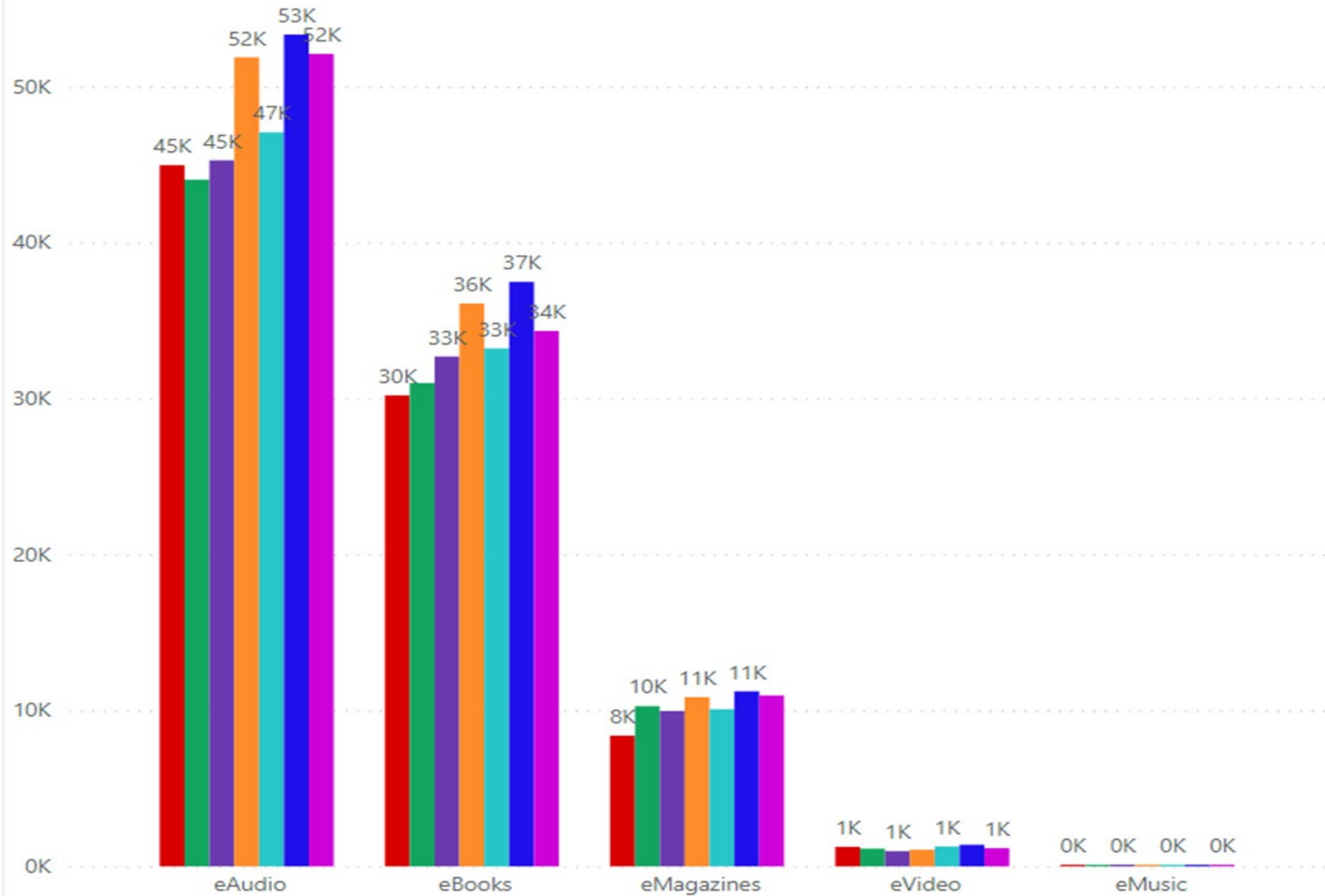


Digital Circulation

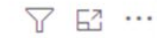
Digital Circulation by Format FY '25



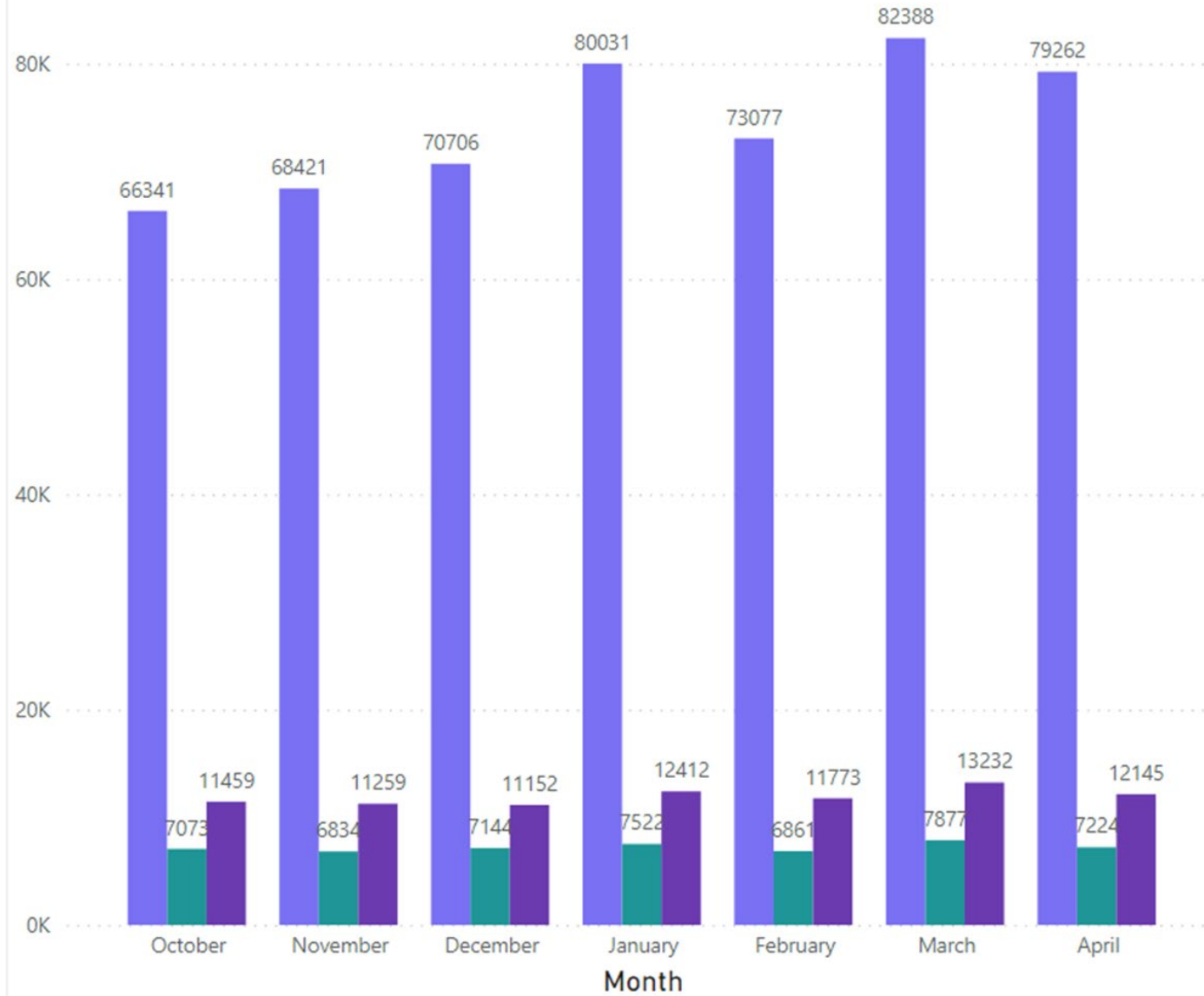
Month ● October ● November ● December ● January ● February ● March ● April



Digital Audiences by Month - FY25



Audience ● Adult ● Teen ● Youth

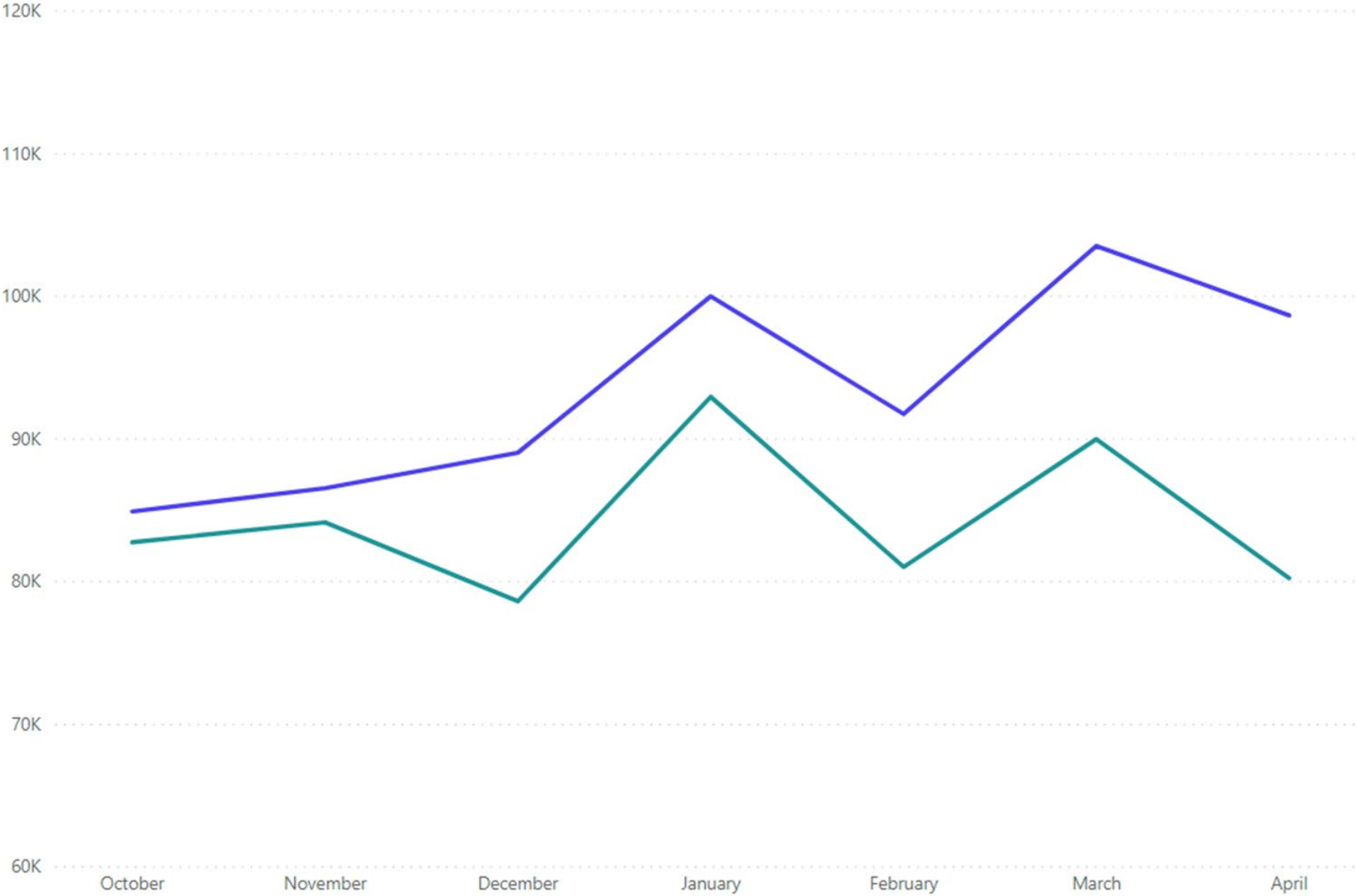


Digital Circulation by Month - FY25

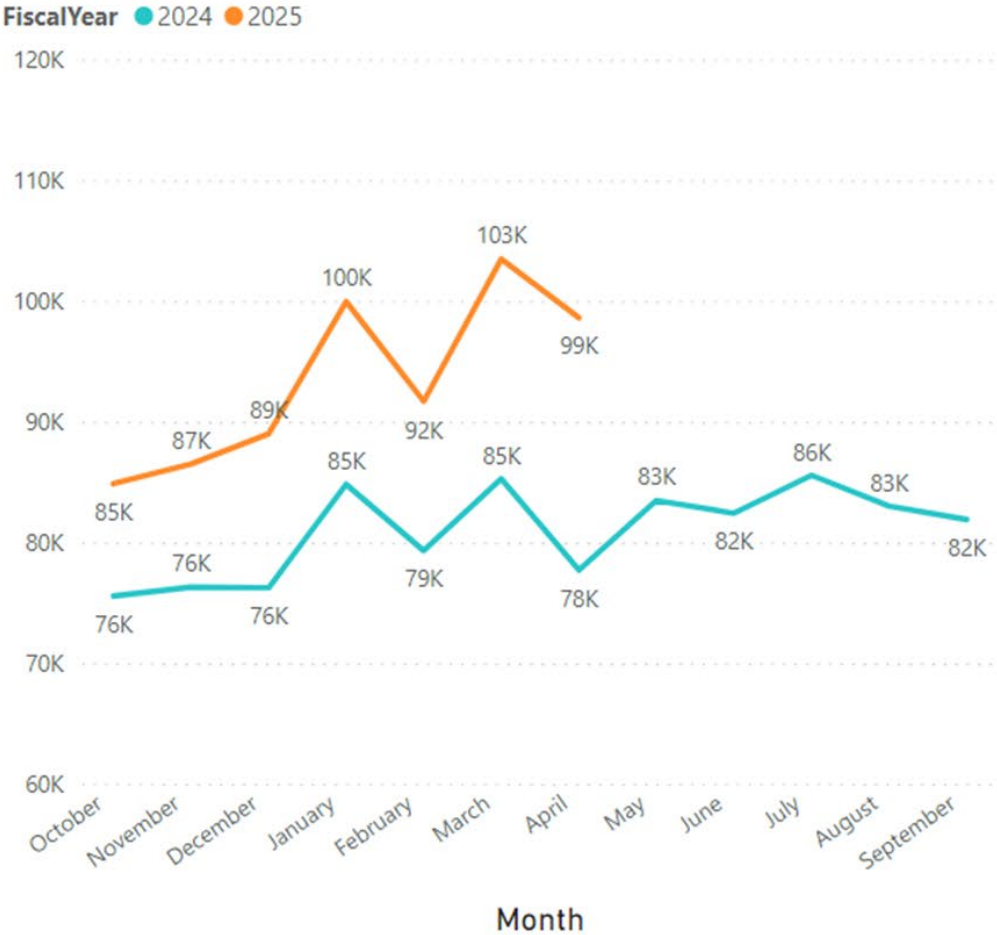


Physical and Digital Circulation FY25

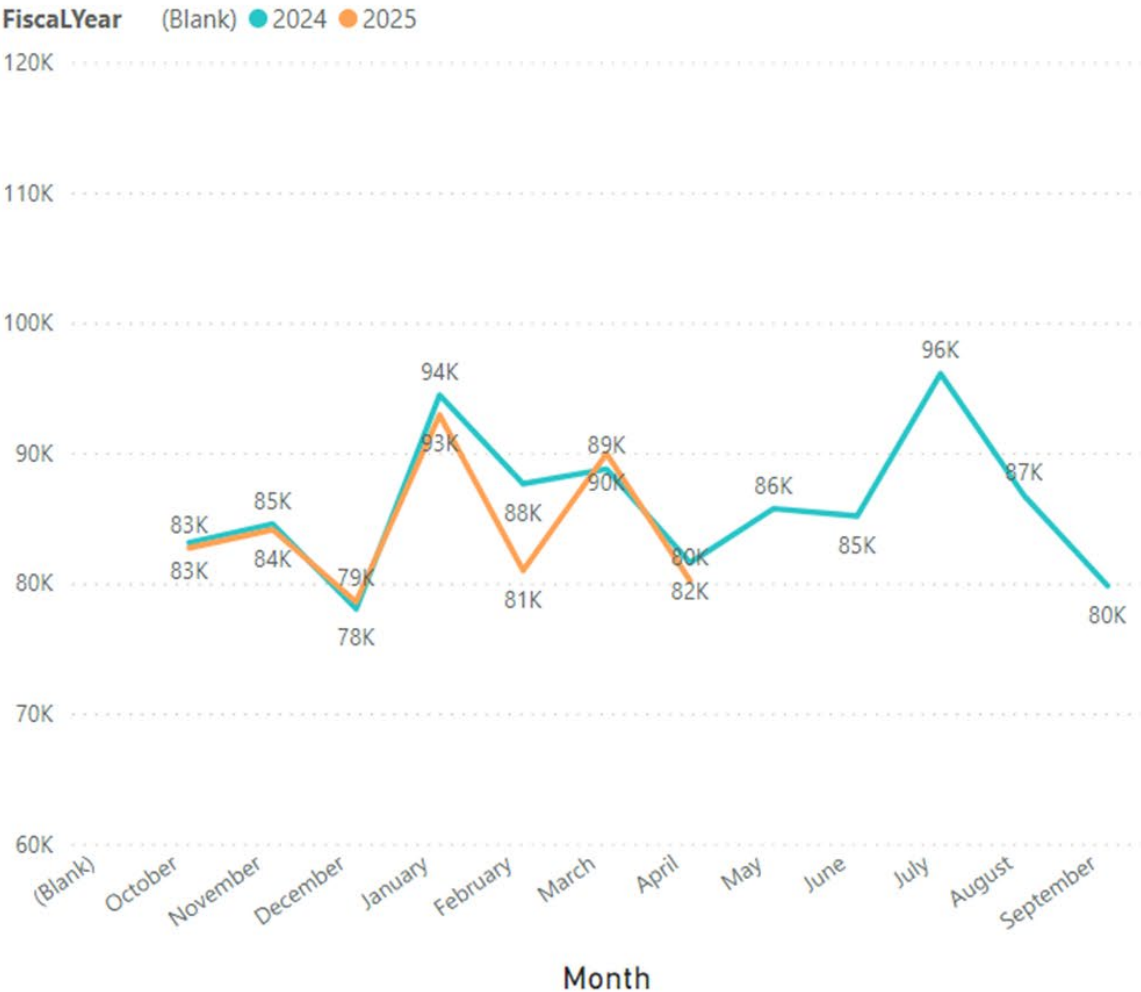
Digital Physical



Digital Circulation Historic



Physical Circulation Historic



Reference

Question Count by Desk and Location FY25



Location ● Circulation ● Desk ● Info Services ● Youth Services

30K

25K

5.9K

20K

18.2K

15K

10K

10.7K

5K

8.4K

0K

4.1K

3.9K

Downtown Library

Library! at Cole & Ustick

Library! at Collister

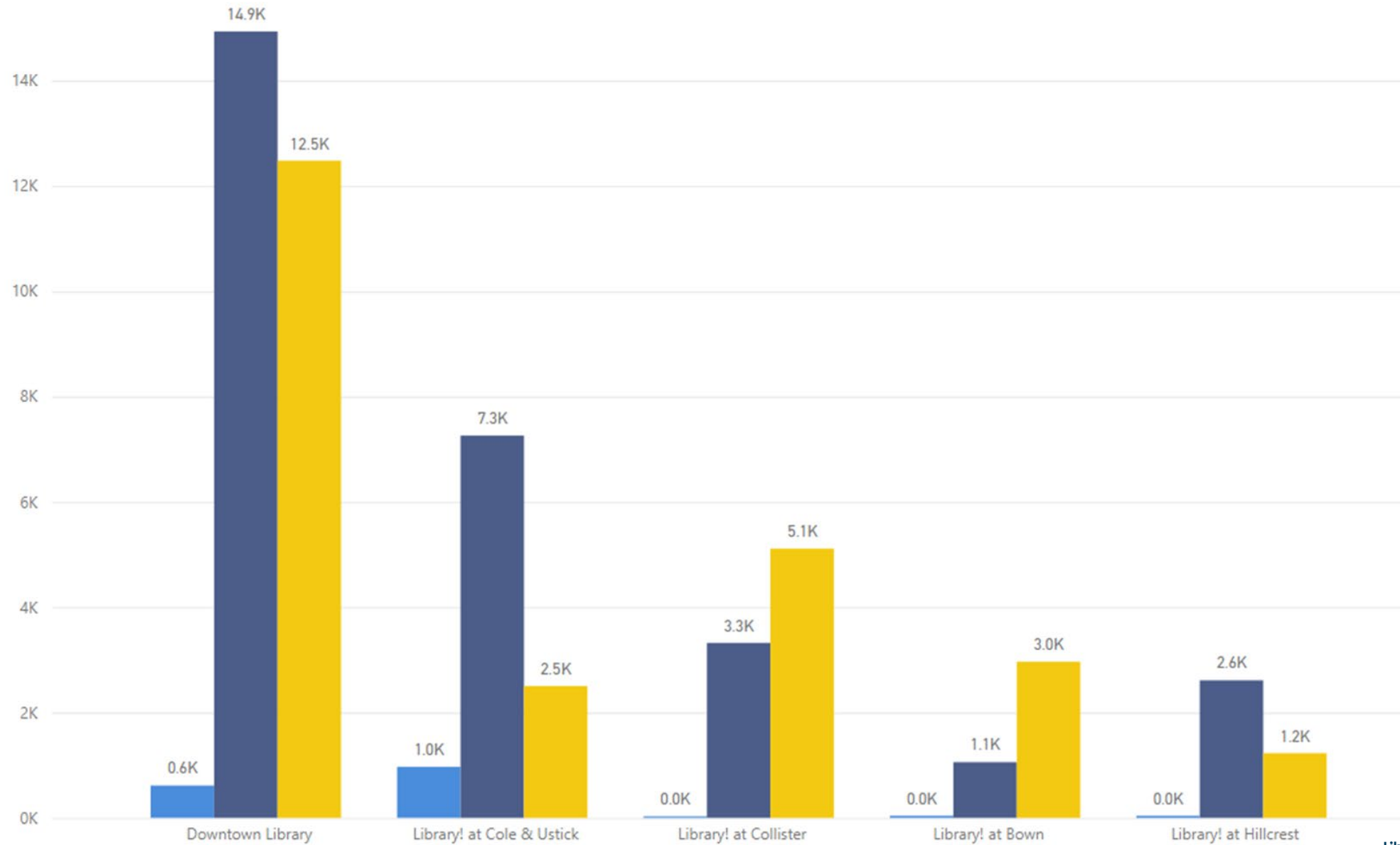
Library! at Bown

Library! at Hillcrest

3.8K

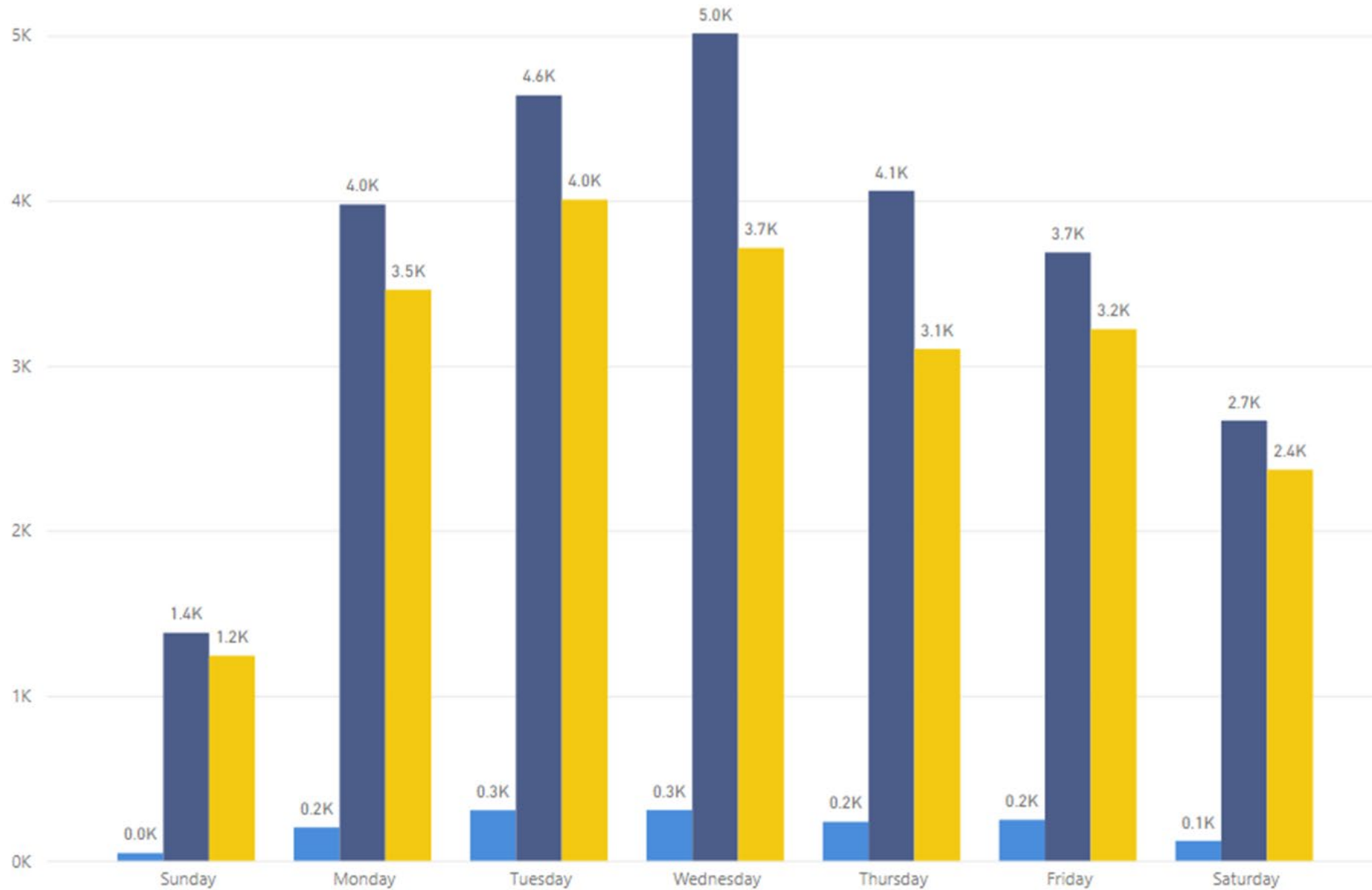
Question Type by Location FY25

Question Kind ● Curbside Holds Pickup ● Directional ● Reference



Question Type by Day of Week FY25

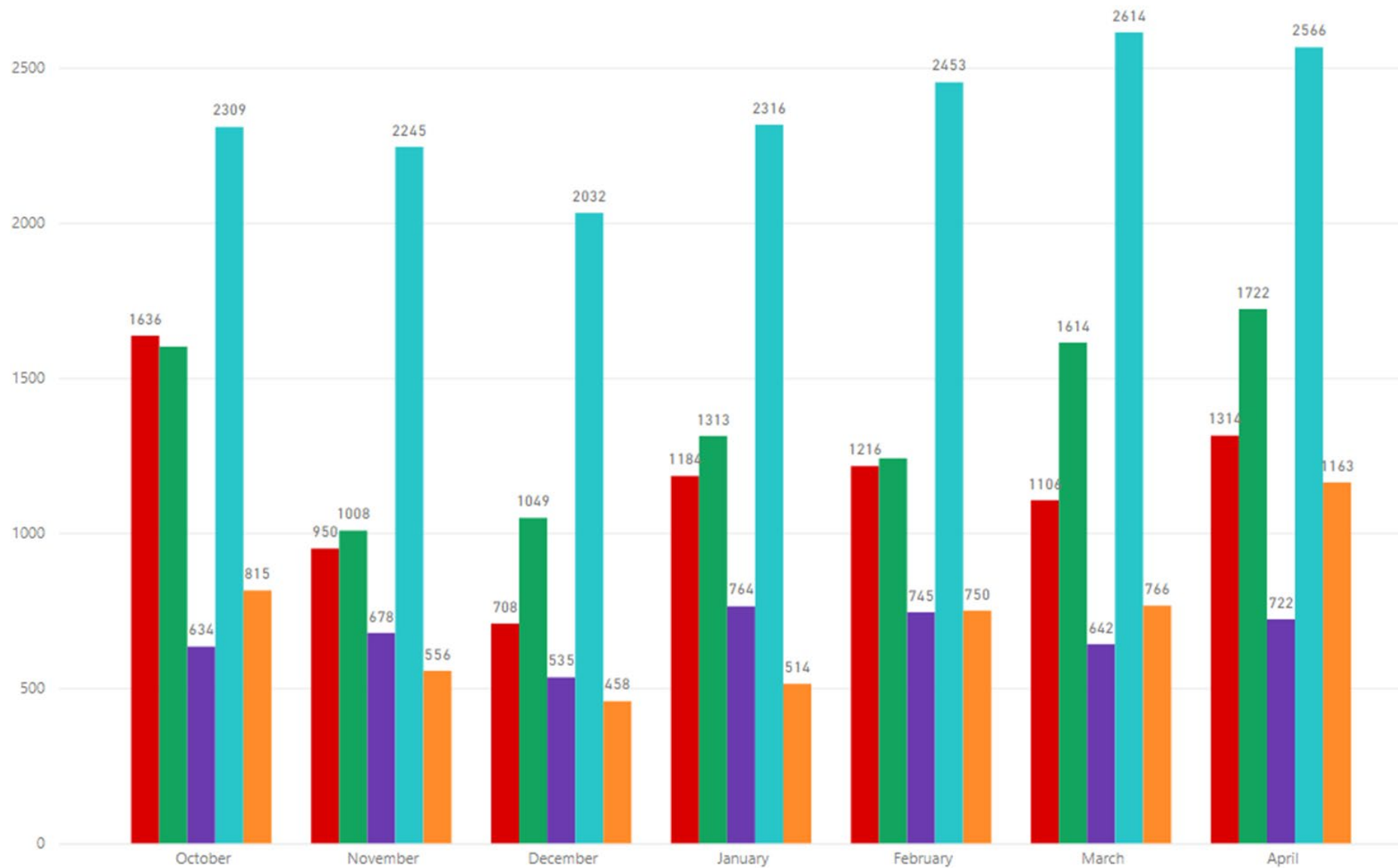
Question Kind ● Curbside Holds Pickup ● Directional ● Reference



Programs

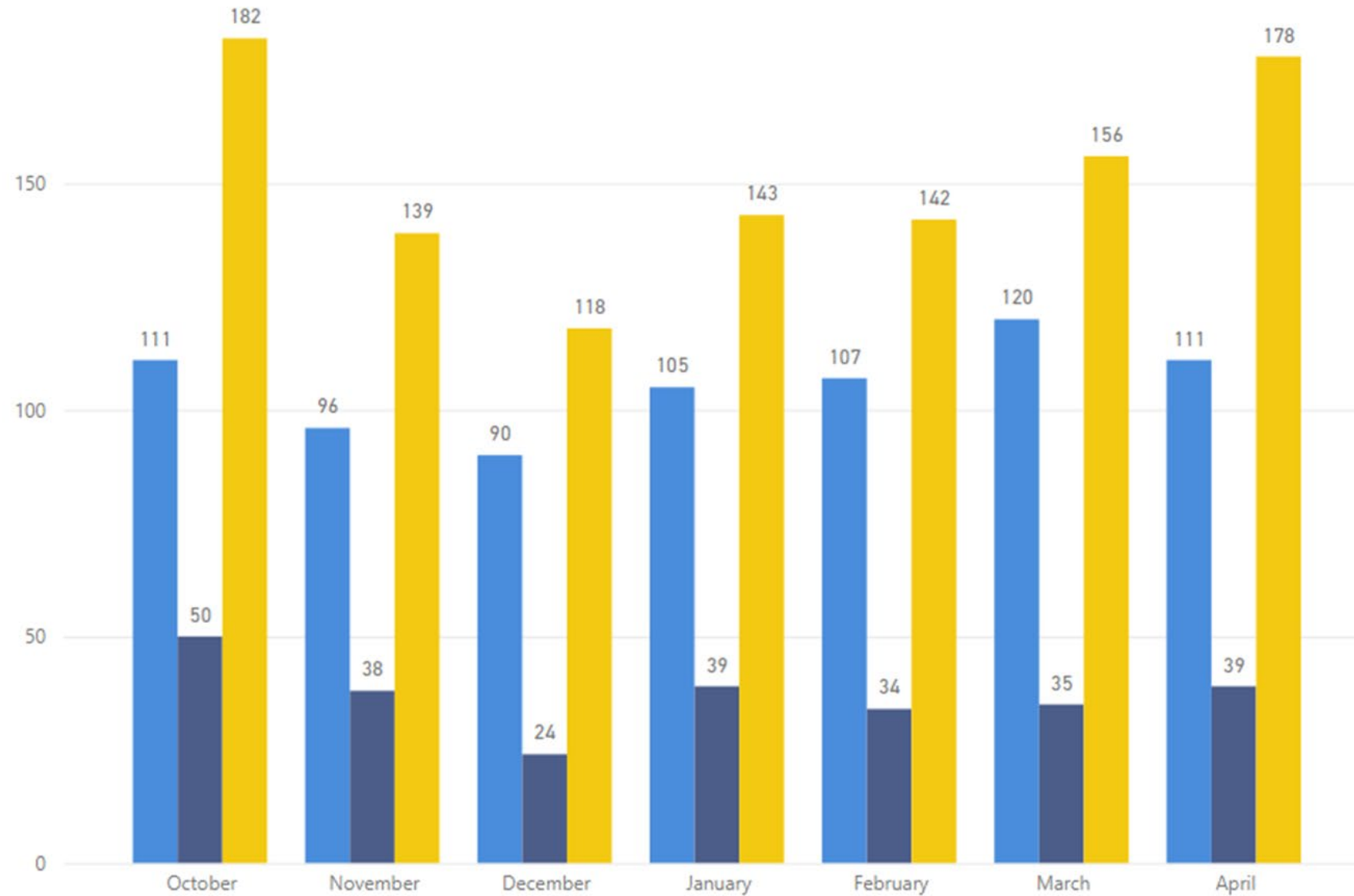
All Branches Program Attendees FY 25

Branch ● Bown ● C&U ● Collister ● Downtown ● Hillcrest



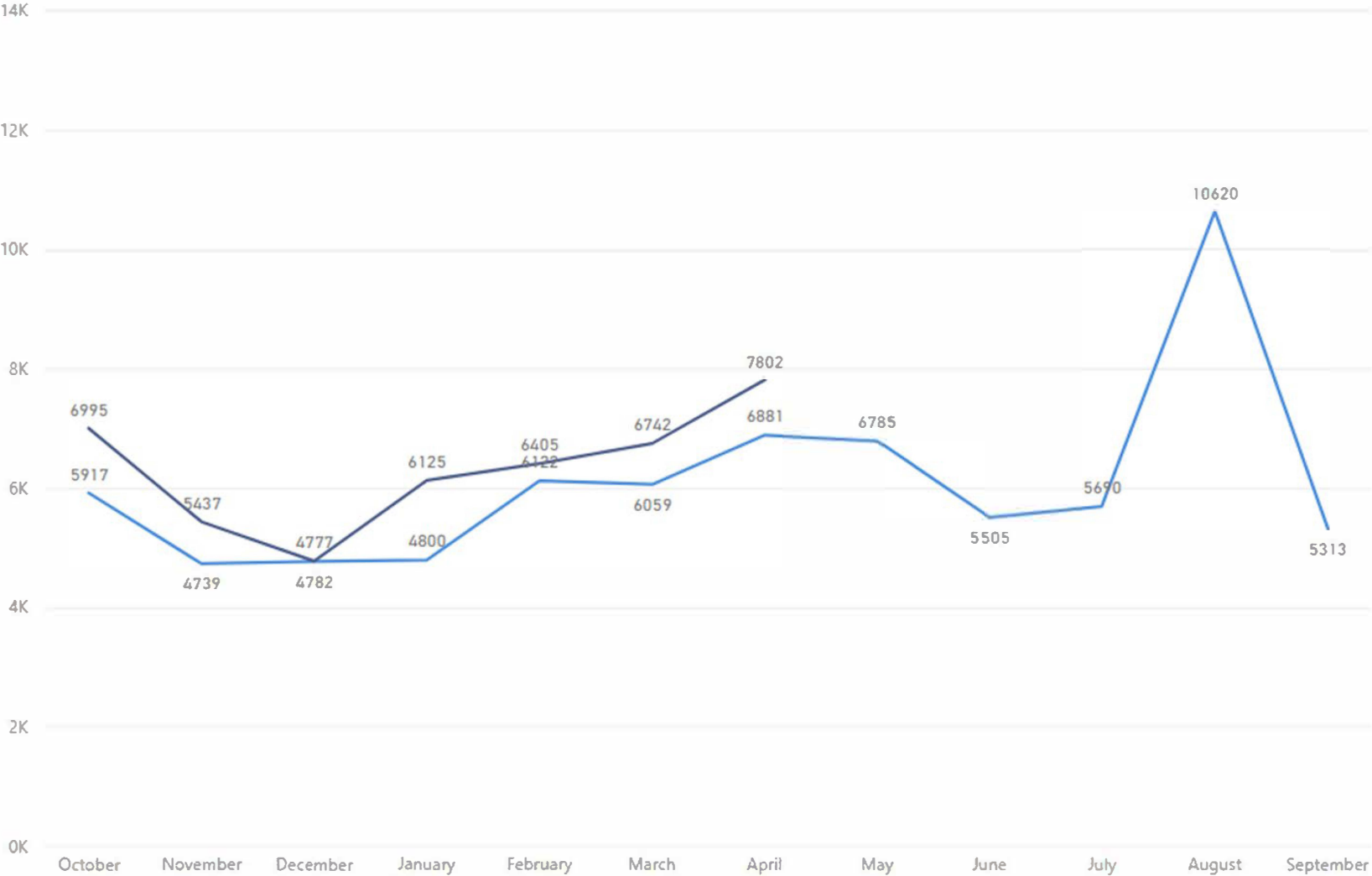
Events by Audience FY25

Audience_Types ● Adults (18 & Over) ● Teens (12-17) ● Youth



Program Attendance FY24-FY25

FiscalYear ● 2024 ● 2025



Rec'd in
mail

4-7-25

K. Stalder

Document Type: Exhibit
Number: 5.02a
Effective: 03-01-11
Revised: 05-08-2024
Last Reviewed: 05-08-2024

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION OF MATERIALS FORM

This form can be used to request reconsideration of Materials the Boise Public Library makes available. If your request is made pursuant to Idaho Code § 18-1517B, the “Children’s School and Library Protection Act,” and you are alleging that the Material is Material Harmful to Minors, fill out and submit Section 1 and Section 2 of this form. Doing so will constitute the Written Notice required by Idaho Code § 18-1517B(3). If you are not alleging the Material is Material Harmful to Minors, you only need to fill out and submit Section 1.

A completed Request for Reconsideration of Materials or Written Notice can be submitted by the following means. Only one means of submission is required.

A. Physical mail to:

Boise Public Library
ATTN: Acquisitions Manager – Material Challenge
715 S. Capitol Blvd.
Boise, ID 83702

B. E-mail to:

materialchallenge@cityofboise.org

C. Facsimile to:

1 (208) 384-4025

D. To submit in-person, the completed Request for Reconsideration of Materials or Written Notice can be given to a Library staff member at any service desk at all Boise Public Library locations.

Upon submission of this form, it will become a public record. The Boise Public Library will evaluate if any redactions to personal information contained in the form are required by Idaho law prior to making the completed form publicly available.

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION OF MATERIALS

Please fill out the requested information to the best of your ability. The information you provide will be an important part of the Boise Public Library's review of the Materials. If you need additional space to answer the questions, you may attach additional pages.

I. Section 1 – Request for Reconsideration of Materials.

a. Information about the Material.

- i. Title: 3000 Focus
- ii. Author/Performer: Johann Hari
- iii. Publisher/Copyright Date: 2022
- iv. Item Barcode: 31150 01799 2112

b. Information about the requestor.

- i. Name: Cheryl Sonnenberg
- ii. Email Address: Cheryl2346@outlook.com
- iii. Telephone Number: 208 546 8374
- iv. Preferred means of contact: Email
- v. Are you a minor? Y / ☒ N
- vi. Are you filing this request on behalf of a dependent minor? Y / ☒ N
- vii. Do you represent an organization? Y / ☒ N
 - a. If so, which organization? _____
- viii. Do you have legal representation? Y / ☒ N
 - a. If so, who are they and how do we contact them? _____
- ix. Are you a Boise Public Library cardholder? Y / ☒ N Nampa, Idaho
- x. Did you obtain the Material from the Boise Public Library? ☒ Y / N
- xi. Did you check out, request, or use the Material that is the subject of this request? ☒ Y / N

c. Information about the request.

- i. To what in the Material do you object? Why do you object? (Please be specific; for example, cite pages and specific passages. Use additional sheet if necessary.)

Profanity: The subject matter in this book is relative, well researched and discusses ways to correct the 2 harmful effects of social media on memory and other problems related to it. He interviewed experts and reviewed massive scientific research. Much love

- starts using profanity to punctuate his points
 certainly this level of emphasis is not needed.
 If it were only "damn" or "hell" which he used
 I would not complain but when 3-4 times using
 "F---" word.
- ii. Did you read, view or listen to the entire Material? _____
- iii. If not, what parts did you read, view or listen to? I read about
the pages of 280+ pages I stopped reading the book
- iv. What do you feel would be the result of reading, viewing, or listening to this Material? As a researched professional I felt
his communication of concerns he was trying to
- v. What parts of the Material do you think are accurate and valuable? _____
His research seemed solid. He even developed
compared conflictive study to show offenses
the subject needed more research when
using profanity
there
- vi. What do you believe the theme of this Material to be? To show
the significant negative effect social the
media is making on human beings better
ways to influence
- vii. Are you aware of judgments of this Material by professional critics? _____
No
- viii. For what age group would you recommend this Material? Adults,
Parents
- ix. What action are you requesting the library take in regard to this Material? _____
I certainly review the book using the library procedure
I electronically relate my concerns to the author
- x. Is there additional information that the Library Board should be aware of while reviewing your request? None

Cheryl Gannenberg

Signature

Date

April 2, 2025

By signing this section of the form I understand that I am making a formal request to the Boise Public Library about a Material they have made available. I acknowledge that this document will become a public record as soon as it is received by library staff and will be posted to the library's website.

II. Section 2 – Complaints Alleging Material Harmful to Minors.

FILLING OUT AND SUBMITTING THIS SECTION OF THE FORM CONSTITUTES WRITTEN NOTICE PURSUANT TO THE “CHILDREN’S SCHOOL AND LIBRARY PROTECTION ACT.”

[] Initial this box and fill out this section if you intend for this form to constitute Written Notice pursuant to Idaho Code § 18-1517B(3). By initialing this box, you affirm your belief that the Materials are Materials Harmful to Minors as defined by Idaho Code and Boise Public Library policy, and you request the Materials be relocated to a section designated for adults only within sixty (60) days of the Boise Public Library’s receipt of this notice.

Idaho Code defines material harmful to minors as:

“Harmful to minors” includes in its meaning the quality of any material or of any performance or of any description or representation, in whatever form, of nudity, sexual conduct, sexual excitement, or sado-masochistic abuse, when it:

(a) Appeals to the prurient interest of minors as judged by the average person, applying contemporary community standards; and

(b) Depicts or describes representations or descriptions of nudity, sexual conduct, sexual excitement, or sado-masochistic abuse which are patently offensive to prevailing standards in the adult community with respect to what is suitable material for minors and includes, but is not limited to, patently offensive representations or descriptions of:

(i) Intimate sexual acts, normal or perverted, actual or simulated; or

(ii) Masturbation, excretory functions or lewd exhibition of the genitals or genital area. Nothing herein contained is intended to include or proscribe any matter which, when considered as a whole, and in context in which it is used, possesses serious literary, artistic, political or scientific value for minors[.]”

Idaho Code § 18-1514(6).

The following subdefinitions found in Idaho Code § 18-1514 apply to the above definition of “harmful to minors:

“Minor” means any person less than eighteen (18) years of age.

“Nudity” means the showing of the human male or female genitals, pubic area or buttocks with less than a full opaque covering, or the showing of the female breast with less than a full opaque covering of any portion thereof below the top of the nipple, or the depiction of covered male genitals in a discernibly turgid state.

“Sexual conduct” means any act of masturbation, homosexuality, sexual intercourse, or physical contact with a person’s clothed or unclothed genitals, pubic area, buttocks or, if such person be a female, the breast.

“Sexual excitement” means the condition of human male or female genitals when in a state of sexual stimulation or arousal.

“Sado-masochistic abuse” means flagellation or torture by or upon a person who is nude or clad in undergarments, a mask or bizarre costume, or the condition of being fettered, bound or otherwise physically restrained on the part of one who is nude or so clothed.

“Material” means anything tangible which is harmful to minors, whether derived through the medium of reading, observation or sound.

“Performance” means any play, motion picture, dance or other exhibition performed before an audience.

“Promote” means to manufacture, issue, sell, give, provide, deliver, publish, distribute, circulate, disseminate, present, exhibit or advertise, or offer or agree to do the same.

“Knowingly” means having general knowledge of, or reason to know, or a belief or reasonable ground for belief that warrants further inspection or inquiry.

“School” means any public or private school providing instruction for students in kindergarten through grade 12.

a. Complainant’s Information.

i. Name: _____

ii. Address: _____

b. Complaint Information.

i. Please fill out Section I of this form. The information you provide will be an important part of the Boise Public Library’s review of the Materials.

ii. How did you, or your dependent Minor, obtain the Material? Please include the format of the Material and the Boise Public Library location the Material was obtained.

[CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE]

- iii. In what ways do you believe the challenged Material meets the definition of Material Harmful to Minors? Please state the basis of the claims and provide all explanation that may be helpful.

I doubt children would read this book. Perhaps high school students may if doing research for a report or research on social media.

- a. How does the Material appeal to the prurient interests of minors, as judged by the average person applying contemporary community standards?

Name for children

- b. In what ways is the Material patently offensive to prevailing standards in the adult community with regard to what is suitable for Minors?

Conservative adults would find
such profanity objectionable

- c. Does the Material, when considered as a whole and in the context in which it is used possess serious literary, artistic, political or scientific value for Minors? Why or why not?

Not to minors - material targets
adults

Signature Angel L. Swannenberg Date April 7, 2020

By signing this section of the form I understand that I am making a formal complaint to the Boise Public Library about a Material they have made available. I acknowledge that this document will become a public record as soon as it is received by library staff and will be posted to the library's website.



BOISE PUBLIC LIBRARY

MAYOR: Lauren McLean | DIRECTOR: Jessica Dorr

MEMO

TO: Rebecca Lemmons, Board President
FROM: Jessica Dorr, Library Director
CC: Boise Public Library Board of Trustees
DATE: 4/17/2025
RE: Request for Reconsideration – *Stolen Focus: Why You Can't Pay Attention – and How to Think Deeply Again*

Overview

On April 7, 2025, Library Staff received a Request for Reconsideration form regarding *Stolen Focus: Why You Can't Pay Attention – and How to Think Deeply Again* by Johann Hari. This memo provides an overview of the title and its circulation history, an analysis of the title using Boise Public Library's policies, and a recommendation to the Board for consideration in the May meeting.

Background

Stolen Focus: Why You Can't Pay Attention – and How to Think Deeply Again by Johann Hari was first published in 2022. After receiving the Request for Reconsideration, staff searched the collection and found that the Boise Public Library owns five copies of the title with a copy at each of our five locations. All copies are in the adult non-fiction collection. Since the five copies were added to the collection in 2022, they have checked out 171 times.

Requestor

The requestor indicated on the Request for Reconsideration form they are a Nampa Public Library cardholder. The barcode included to identify the copy of *Stolen Focus: Why You Can't Pay Attention – and How to Think Deeply Again* shows the requestor is referencing a Boise Public Library book. Additionally, the requestor used the Boise Public Library Request for Reconsideration form and mailed their request to the Boise Public Library. While Nampa Public Library also owns a copy of this title, we can safely assume the requestor obtained a copy of a Boise Public Library book through the Lynx Library Consortium. As such we followed the review process as outlined in "The Children's School and Library Protection Act" and applicable policies.

The requestor did not indicate they are a parent or guardian of a minor who obtained the material.

MAIN LIBRARY
715 S. Capitol Blvd., Boise, Idaho 83702
P: 208-972-8200 | TTY: 800-377-3529

LIBRARY! AT
BOWN CROSSING
P: 208-972-8360

LIBRARY! AT
COLE & USTICK
P: 208-972-8300

LIBRARY! AT
COLLISTER
P: 208-972-8320

LIBRARY! AT
HILLCREST
P: 208-972-8340

BOISE CITY COUNCIL: Colin Nash (President), Meredith Stead (President Pro Tem), Kathy Corless, Jimmy Hallyburton, Jordan Morales, Luci Willits

[BOISEPUBLICLIBRARY.ORG](https://www.boisepubliclibrary.org)

Library Board of Trustees
May 14, 2025
Page 51

Request regarding *Stolen Focus: Why You Can't Pay Attention – and How to Think Deeply Again*

Staff reviewed *Stolen Focus: Why You Can't Pay Attention – and How to Think Deeply Again* based on the concerns raised in the Request for Reconsideration form:

- Profanity
- Review the book using library procedures

The requestor additionally asked the Library to “electronically relate my concerns to the author.”

Based on staff review, the material meets the following criteria for a work of non-fiction, regardless of format, outlined in the [Collection Development and Maintenance Policy \(5.01\)](#):

Helps people know more about themselves and their world	meets
Encourages informal self-education	meets
Meets the diverse informational needs and recreational interests of all people in the community	meets
Stimulates thoughtful participation in the affairs of the community, the country, and the world	meets
Gives access to a variety of opinions on matters of current interest and encourage freedom of expression	meets
Supports educational, civic, and cultural activities within the community;	n/a
Aids in learning and improving job-related skills	n/a
Assists the individual to grow intellectually and enjoy life more fully	meets

Based on staff review, the material meets the following criteria for a work of fiction, regardless of format, outlined in the [The Nature and Quality of Materials Regulation \(5.01c\)](#):

Suitability of physical form for library use	meets
Suitability of subject and style for intended audience	meets
Present and potential relevance to community needs	meets
Appropriateness of medium to content	meets
Insight into human and social condition	meets
Importance as a document of the times	meets
Relation to existing collection and other material on subject	n/a
Reputation and/or significance of author	meets
Skill, competence, and purpose of author	meets
Attention of critics, reviewers, and public	meets
Currency	meets
Affordability	meets
Scope and authority of subject matter	meets
Comprehensiveness and depth of treatment	meets
Objectivity	meets
Accuracy and logic of presentation	meets
Clarity of style	meets



Representation of challenging, though extreme or minority, point of view	n/a
Scarcity of information in subject field	meets
Self-published materials are generally not added due to lack of editor oversight and fact checking	Not self-published

Recommendation

Staff acknowledge that *Stolen Focus: Why You Can't Pay Attention – and How to Think Deeply Again* contains profanity, which can be offensive to members of our community. It has also been well reviewed by professionals (see page 4) and has been popular with our community as seen in the number of checkouts.

Based on these findings, staff recommend keeping *Stolen Focus: Why You Can't Pay Attention – and How to Think Deeply Again* in the adult non-fiction collection.

Regarding the request that library staff electronically relate concerns about the profanity to the author, we plan to follow-up with the requestor to provide the book publisher's email address as well as the author's website, which includes social media contact options, so the requester can personally share her concerns.

Penguin Random House contact: consumerservices@penguinrandomhouse.com
 Author's website with social media contact options: <https://johannhari.com/>

Stolen Focus: Why You Can't Pay Attention – and How to Think Deeply Again was published in the United States by Crown, an imprint of Random House, a division of Penguin Random House LLC, New York. We will also include a physical mailing address for the requestor's information.

Crown Publishing Group
 1745 Broadway
 New York, NY 10019-4396



Professional Reviews:**Publishers Weekly** (11/08/2021):

Journalist Hari (*Lost Connections*) explores a growing "crisis"--people's inability to focus their attention for extended periods--in this provocative study. He presents data that suggests students switch tasks once every 65 seconds, while adults in offices tend to remain focused on one thing for just three minutes. There are costs to this decrease in attention span, he suggests, from both an intellectual and a productivity perspective, as studies have shown that workers' IQ dropped by an average of 10 points when they faced frequent "technological distraction" in the form of emails and phone calls. Hari lays out a wide array of environmental factors at play in this decline: technology companies promote innovations to keep people glued to their screens; there's a large-scale sleep deprivation issue (40% of Americans are chronically sleep-deprived); and overall stress levels have increased--meanwhile, "deteriorating diets and rising pollution" do little to help. Although Hari addresses some actions that readers can take (such as locking phones up in a safe and taking six months off social media), he concludes that the issue is beyond individuals and is a regulatory problem--but his call that people need to band together to build "a movement to reclaim our attention" feels somewhat nebulous. Still, it's a comprehensive and chilling lay of the land. (*Jan.*) Copyright 2021 Publishers Weekly, LLC Used with permission.

Kirkus Reviews:

A deep dive into one of today's most pertinent psychological problems. As Hari demonstrates, the fractured state of your attention span has more insidious causes and more drastic outcomes than you ever imagined. Tormented by his own inability to focus, the author traveled the world to speak to researchers and also abandoned his phone and computer to spend three months screen-free in Provincetown. The latter was liberating, enabling him to once again read books, have creative thoughts, and sleep well. Unfortunately, these effects didn't last long once he reconnected. As he learned from expert interviews, the causes of our attention issues are so vast that telling someone they can improve their plight by making personal adjustments is known as cruel optimism, "when you take a really big problem with deep causes in our culture--like obesity, or depression, or addiction--and you offer people, in upbeat language, a simplistic individual solution." The trouble is not just in our devices, but in our air, food, workplaces, the way we raise children, the surveillance of our lives by corporations, and more. Social media is especially dastardly, and Hari offers numerous appalling examples: Because feeling angry is more likely to keep your attention than any other emotion, YouTube has recommended videos by belligerent conspiracy theorist Alex Jones, such as the one claiming Sandy Hook was faked, 15 billion times. In Brazil, Facebook was used to swing an election in a way that sounds eerily familiar: filling people's heads "full of grotesque falsehoods, to the point where they can't distinguish real threats to their existence (an authoritarian leader pledging to shoot them) from nonexistent threats (their children being made gay by penises painted on baby bottles)." Systemic change is the key to any possible solution, but some of Hari's suggestions sound like more cruel optimism. Still, the author brings to light many important issues. Bristling with facts and ideas expressed in a high-energy, cliffhanger style. COPYRIGHT(2022) Kirkus Reviews, ALL RIGHTS RESERVED. (Online Review)



Boise Public Library

Policy Review May 14, 2025

Policy items reviewed and presented are as follows:

SECTION 4.00, *Use of the Library*

- Policy 4.07, Confidentiality of Records

SECTION 5.00, *Collection Development and Maintenance*

- Policy 5.01, Collection Development and Maintenance
 - Exhibit 5.01a, Library Bill of Rights
 - Exhibit 5.01b, Freedom to Read Statement
 - Regulation 5.01c, The Nature and Quality of Materials
- Policy 5.02, Reconsideration of Materials
 - Exhibit 5.02a, Request for Reconsideration of Library Materials
 - Exhibit 5.02b, Written Notice of Complaint Alleging Material Harmful to Minors

Staff Recommendations:

Section 4.00, *Use of the Library*, subsection 4.07 of the Boise Public Library Policy Manual is presented to the Library Board for review. Recommended changes to Policy 4.07, Confidentiality of Records, are included. A motion to approve the recommended changes is requested.

Section 5.00, *Collection Development and Maintenance*, of the Boise Public Library Policy Manual is presented to the Library Board for review. Recommended changes to Policy 5.02, Reconsideration of Materials, are included. A motion to approve the recommended changes is requested.

Recommended changes to regulation 5.01c, The Nature and Quality of Materials; exhibit 5.02a, Request for Reconsideration of Library Materials; and the addition of exhibit 5.02b are included. Regulation and exhibit changes do not require Board approval and are included for informational purposes only.

Document Type:	Policy
Number:	4.07
Effective:	03-01-2011
Revised:	04-10-2024 05-14-2025
Last Reviewed:	04-10-2024 05-14-2025

CONFIDENTIALITY OF RECORDS

Library user privacy is an important issue for public libraries, with a specific emphasis on circulation records and collection usage. Public libraries have earned a reputation as one of the most trusted government entities in public surveys because of the approach they take to protect library user information. There are also specific laws that govern how, when, and by whom user information can be accessed.

Pursuant to Idaho Code, Section 74-108, circulation records and other records ~~created by the library that identifying the names of a library user's general reading history with specific materials~~ are confidential in nature. All Library employees are hereby advised that such records shall not be made available to any agency of state, federal, or local government except pursuant to such process, order, or subpoena as may be authorized under the authority of, and pursuant to, federal, state, or local law relating to civil, criminal, or administrative discovery procedures or by legislative investigatory power. No library employee may release information about an individual's circulation record to a private individual unless it is the personal record of the individual patron making the request, or, the personal circulation record of the requesting patron's legal dependent.

The Library may generate various forms of ephemeral records with patron phone numbers, addresses, and/or email addresses for administrative and/or various business purposes such as telephone or email reference requests and questions, patron hold requests, program requests, PC reservations, etc. These records may exist in hard copy or electronic form and are destroyed on a regular and routine basis.

This policy is not to be interpreted as restricting in any way the Library's own right to use circulation records or other borrower's records in its course of conducting normal library business. Additionally, the Library does not share library user data with other City Departments or outside organizations for any purpose other than to enhance library user experience at the Boise Public Library.

Document Type:	Policy
Number:	5.01
Effective:	03-01-2011
Revised:	05-10-2023
Last Reviewed:	12-13-2023

COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT AND MAINTENANCE

The purpose of this policy is to articulate the role of the Library's collection in the community and provide direction to staff members in their role as selectors. The Board endorses and incorporates as a part of this policy the American Library Association's Library Bill of Rights (Exhibit 5.01a) and Freedom to Read Statement (Exhibit 5.01b).

The Board recognizes that the citizens of Boise possess widely diverse and separate interests, backgrounds, cultural heritages, social values and needs. This policy is designed to support the Library's mission and service priorities, within budgetary and space limitations, and serve the needs of all citizens of Boise regardless of age, sex, race, religious creed, national origin, ancestry, physical or mental disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, or political or social views. This policy is meant to document current collection management policy and further public understanding of the purpose, nature and philosophy behind the library's collection management practices. This policy includes all material in any format.

The Collection Development staff will continually assess the collection using the associated board approved policies and regulations. Selectors choose popular materials for varying levels of entertainment, education, reading levels, age level interests, differing social/religious customs and languages. The collection offers users a variety of formats, viewpoints and subjects.

Specifically, staff will acquire, make available, and encourage the use of materials in all media that:

1. help people know more about themselves and their world;
2. encourage informal self-education;
3. meet the diverse informational needs and recreational interests of all people in the community;
4. stimulate thoughtful participation in the affairs of the community, the country, and the world;
5. give access to a variety of opinions on matters of current interest and encourage freedom of expression;
6. support educational, civic, and cultural activities within the community;
7. aid in learning and improving job-related skills; and
8. assist the individual to grow intellectually and enjoy life more fully.

There is no single standard which can be applied in all cases when making an acquisition decision. Each type of material will be considered in terms of its own kind of excellence and the audience for which it is intended. Some materials will be judged primarily in terms of artistic merit, scholarship, or value as human documents; others will be selected to satisfy the recreational and entertainment needs of the community. Some materials evaluated are subject to widespread or local demand; items experiencing such demand may be added to the collection even though they do not meet

the general and specific criteria routinely used by staff in making selection decisions.

The Board encourages public input on Library collections and invites Boise residents to make recommendations for purchases. Such recommendations will be given serious consideration by Library staff in accordance with the general and specific criteria used in making selection decisions. Due to budget considerations, the Library may add only one format of a title (e.g. a physical print book may be offered rather than a digital audiobook).

The Director or designee shall examine the collection regularly for the purpose of selection, assessment and retention of materials. The same criteria will be used in weeding materials from the collection as are used in their acquisition. The collection is not intended to be archival in nature. Worn, damaged, and outdated materials as well as unnecessary duplicate copies are weeded from the collection on a regular basis. Due to space limitations, materials may also be withdrawn if they are not used or are superseded by a new edition or a more authoritative work on the same subject. Items may also be deleted if a more desirable format has been added to the collection.

The ultimate responsibility for selection rests with the Director, who operates within the framework of this policy.

Document Type:	Exhibit
Number:	5.01a
Effective:	03-01-2011
Revised:	03-09-2022
Last Reviewed:	12-13-2023

LIBRARY BILL OF RIGHTS

The American Library Association affirms that all libraries are forums for information and ideas, and that the following basic policies should guide their services.

- I. Books and other library resources should be provided for the interest, information, and enlightenment of all people of the community the library serves. Materials should not be excluded because of the origin, background, or views of those contributing to their creation.
- II. Libraries should provide materials and information presenting all points of view on current and historical issues. Materials should not be proscribed or removed because of partisan or doctrinal disapproval.
- III. Libraries should challenge censorship in the fulfillment of their responsibility to provide information and enlightenment.
- IV. Libraries should cooperate with all persons and groups concerned with resisting abridgment of free expression and free access to ideas.
- V. A person's right to use a library should not be denied or abridged because of origin, age, background, or views.
- VI. Libraries which make exhibit spaces and meeting rooms available to the public they serve should make such facilities available on an equitable basis, regardless of the beliefs or affiliations of individuals or groups requesting their use.
- VII. All people, regardless of origin, age, background, or views, possess a right to privacy and confidentiality in their library use. Libraries should advocate for, educate about, and protect people's privacy, safeguarding all library use data, including personally identifiable information.

Adopted June 19, 1939, by the ALA Council; amended October 14, 1944; June 18, 1948; February 2, 1961; June 27, 1967; January 23, 1980; January 29, 2019.

Inclusion of "age" reaffirmed January 23, 1996.

*For more information about the **Library Bill of Rights** please visit the American Library Association (ALA) website at ala.org.*

Document Type:	Exhibit
Number:	5.01b
Effective:	03-01-2011
Revised:	03-09-2022
Last Reviewed:	12-13-2023

FREEDOM TO READ STATEMENT

The freedom to read is essential to our democracy. It is continuously under attack. Private groups and public authorities in various parts of the country are working to remove or limit access to reading materials, to censor content in schools, to label "controversial" views, to distribute lists of "objectionable" books or authors, and to purge libraries. These actions apparently rise from a view that our national tradition of free expression is no longer valid; that censorship and suppression are needed to counter threats to safety or national security, as well as to avoid the subversion of politics and the corruption of morals. We, as individuals devoted to reading and as librarians and publishers responsible for disseminating ideas, wish to assert the public interest in the preservation of the freedom to read.

Most attempts at suppression rest on a denial of the fundamental premise of democracy: that the ordinary individual, by exercising critical judgment, will select the good and reject the bad. We trust Americans to recognize propaganda and misinformation, and to make their own decisions about what they read and believe. We do not believe they are prepared to sacrifice their heritage of a free press in order to be "protected" against what others think may be bad for them. We believe they still favor free enterprise in ideas and expression.

These efforts at suppression are related to a larger pattern of pressures being brought against education, the press, art and images, films, broadcast media, and the Internet. The problem is not only one of actual censorship. The shadow of fear cast by these pressures leads, we suspect, to an even larger voluntary curtailment of expression by those who seek to avoid controversy or unwelcome scrutiny by government officials.

Such pressure toward conformity is perhaps natural to a time of accelerated change. And yet suppression is never more dangerous than in such a time of social tension. Freedom has given the United States the elasticity to endure strain. Freedom keeps open the path of novel and creative solutions, and enables change to come by choice. Every silencing of a heresy, every enforcement of an orthodoxy, diminishes the toughness and resilience of our society and leaves it the less able to deal with controversy and difference.

Now as always in our history, reading is among our greatest freedoms. The freedom to read and write is almost the only means for making generally available ideas or manners of expression that can initially command only a small audience. The written word is the natural medium for the new idea and the untried voice from which come the original contributions to social growth. It is essential to the extended discussion that serious

thought requires, and to the accumulation of knowledge and ideas into organized collections.

We believe that free communication is essential to the preservation of a free society and a creative culture. We believe that these pressures toward conformity present the danger of limiting the range and variety of inquiry and expression on which our democracy and our culture depend. We believe that every American community must jealously guard the freedom to publish and to circulate, in order to preserve its own freedom to read. We believe that publishers and librarians have a profound responsibility to give validity to that freedom to read by making it possible for the readers to choose freely from a variety of offerings.

The freedom to read is guaranteed by the Constitution. Those with faith in free people will stand firm on these constitutional guarantees of essential rights and will exercise the responsibilities that accompany these rights.

We therefore affirm these propositions:

1. *It is in the public interest for publishers and librarians to make available the widest diversity of views and expressions, including those that are unorthodox, unpopular, or considered dangerous by the majority.*

Creative thought is by definition new, and what is new is different. The bearer of every new thought is a rebel until that idea is refined and tested. Totalitarian systems attempt to maintain themselves in power by the ruthless suppression of any concept that challenges the established orthodoxy. The power of a democratic system to adapt to change is vastly strengthened by the freedom of its citizens to choose widely from among conflicting opinions offered freely to them. To stifle every nonconformist idea at birth would mark the end of the democratic process. Furthermore, only through the constant activity of weighing and selecting can the democratic mind attain the strength demanded by times like these. We need to know not only what we believe but why we believe it.

2. *Publishers, librarians, and booksellers do not need to endorse every idea or presentation they make available. It would conflict with the public interest for them to establish their own political, moral, or aesthetic views as a standard for determining what should be published or circulated.*

Publishers and librarians serve the educational process by helping to make available knowledge and ideas required for the growth of the mind and the increase of learning. They do not foster education by imposing as mentors the patterns of their own thought. The people should have the freedom to read and consider a broader range of ideas than those that may be held by any single librarian or publisher or government or church. It is wrong that what one can read should be confined to what another thinks proper.

3. *It is contrary to the public interest for publishers or librarians to bar access to writings on the basis of the personal history or political affiliations of the author.*

No art or literature can flourish if it is to be measured by the political views or private lives of its creators. No society of free people can flourish that draws up lists of writers to whom it will not listen, whatever they may have to say.

4. *There is no place in our society for efforts to coerce the taste of others, to confine adults to the reading matter deemed suitable for adolescents, or to inhibit the efforts of writers to achieve artistic expression.*

To some, much of modern expression is shocking. But is not much of life itself shocking? We cut off literature at the source if we prevent writers from dealing with the stuff of life. Parents and teachers have a responsibility to prepare the young to meet the diversity of experiences in life to which they will be exposed, as they have a responsibility to help them learn to think critically for themselves. These are affirmative responsibilities, not to be discharged simply by preventing them from reading works for which they are not yet prepared. In these matters values differ, and values cannot be legislated; nor can machinery be devised that will suit the demands of one group without limiting the freedom of others.

5. *It is not in the public interest to force a reader to accept the prejudgment of a label characterizing any expression or its author as subversive or dangerous.*

The ideal of labeling presupposes the existence of individuals or groups with wisdom to determine by authority what is good or bad for others. It presupposes that individuals must be directed in making up their minds about the ideas they examine. But Americans do not need others to do their thinking for them.

6. *It is the responsibility of publishers and librarians, as guardians of the people's freedom to read, to contest encroachments upon that freedom by individuals or groups seeking to impose their own standards or tastes upon the community at large; and by the government whenever it seeks to reduce or deny public access to public information.*

It is inevitable in the give and take of the democratic process that the political, the moral, or the aesthetic concepts of an individual or group will occasionally collide with those of another individual or group. In a free society individuals are free to determine for themselves what they wish to read, and each group is free to determine what it will recommend to its freely associated members. But no group has the right to take the law into its own hands, and to impose its own concept of politics or morality upon other members of a democratic society. Freedom is no freedom if it is accorded only to the accepted and the inoffensive. Further, democratic societies are more safe, free, and creative when the free flow of public information is not restricted by governmental prerogative or self-censorship.

7. *It is the responsibility of publishers and librarians to give full meaning to the freedom to read by providing books that enrich the quality and diversity of thought and expression. By the exercise of this affirmative responsibility, they can demonstrate that the answer to a "bad" book is a good one, the answer to a "bad" idea is a good one.*

The freedom to read is of little consequence when the reader cannot obtain matter fit for that reader's purpose. What is needed is not only the absence of restraint, but the positive provision of opportunity for the people to read the best that has been thought and said. Books are the major channel by which the intellectual inheritance is handed down, and the principal means of its testing and growth. The defense of the freedom to read requires of all publishers and librarians the utmost of their faculties, and deserves of all Americans the fullest of their support.

We state these propositions neither lightly nor as easy generalizations. We here stake out a lofty claim for the value of the written word. We do so because we believe that it is possessed of enormous variety and usefulness, worthy of cherishing and keeping free. We realize that the application of these propositions may mean the dissemination of ideas and manners of expression that are repugnant to many persons. We do not state these propositions in the comfortable belief that what people read is unimportant. We believe rather that what people read is deeply important; that ideas can be dangerous; but that the suppression of ideas is fatal to a democratic society. Freedom itself is a dangerous way of life, but it is ours.

This statement was originally issued in May of 1953 by the Westchester Conference of the American Library Association and the American Book Publishers Council, which in 1970 consolidated with the American Educational Publishers Institute to become the Association of American Publishers.

Adopted June 25, 1953, by the ALA Council and the AAP Freedom to Read Committee; amended January 28, 1972; January 16, 1991; July 12, 2000; June 30, 2004.

For more information about the Freedom to Read Statement please visit the American Library Association (ALA) website at ala.org.

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05-14-2025
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05-14-2025

THE NATURE AND QUALITY OF MATERIALS

To build a collection of merit and significance consistent with the Library's mission and strategic objectives, the Director or designee will evaluate materials against general and specific criteria; selections are made in accordance with one or more of these criteria:

General Criteria

1. suitability of physical form for library use
2. suitability of subject and style for intended audience
3. present and potential relevance to community needs
4. appropriateness of medium to content
5. insight into human and social condition
6. importance as a document of the times
7. relation to existing collection and other material on subject
8. reputation and/or significance of author
9. skill, competence, and purpose of author
10. attention of critics, reviewers, and public
11. currency
12. affordability
13. materials created primarily by Artificial Intelligence (AI) without clear human involvement will not be added to the collection due to their lack of coherence, factual accuracy, and quality.

Specific Criteria for Works of Non-Fiction, Regardless of Format

1. scope and authority of subject matter
2. comprehensiveness and depth of treatment
3. objectivity
4. accuracy and logic of presentation
5. clarity of style
6. representation of challenging, though extreme or minority, point of view
7. scarcity of information in subject field
8. self-published materials are generally not added due to lack of editor oversight and fact checking

Specific Criteria for Works of Fiction, Regardless of Format

1. representation of important movement, genre, trend, or national culture
2. vitality and originality
3. artistic presentation
4. sustained interest
5. effective characterization and/or a realistic portrayal of life
6. authenticity of historical or social setting
7. representation of diverse points of view

8. entertaining and imaginative appeal to the general-interest reader

Staff will also consider the adequacy and availability of materials in other community agencies when making selection decisions. To avoid unnecessary duplication of materials, established special collections that are available for public and/or professional use (e.g., public universities; State Law Library, corporate libraries) will be considered the primary sources for academic and specialized materials. Library materials are selected for the general reader rather than the specialist.

Although the Library attempts to provide material on many subjects and grade levels, no attempt is made to match the collection to a particular curriculum. The provision of curriculum-related materials is generally the responsibility of the schools or homeschooling family. The Library may provide materials that supplement and enrich curriculum-related materials when community demand indicates the need for resources for individual use as opposed to school classroom use. Materials may be purchased to meet these needs to the extent funds allow without creating a collection imbalance in other areas.

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RECONSIDERATION OF MATERIALS

The Boise Public Library is committed to upholding the rights of library users to freely access quality materials that inform, educate, enlighten, and encourage critical thinking. Boise Public Library’s Collection Development and Maintenance Policy 5.01, the Library Bill of Rights Exhibit 5.01a, the Freedom to Read Statement Exhibit 5.01b, and the Nature and Quality of Materials Regulation 5.01c all embody this commitment.

Only narrowly defined categories of speech are not protected by the First Amendment. For example, obscenity is not protected speech, and neither is “material harmful to minors,” which is a subset of obscenity. If materials do not meet one of the narrowly defined categories of unprotected speech, they are speech protected by the First Amendment.

In April 2024, the Idaho legislature passed House Bill 710, which established Idaho Code § 18-1517B, which refers to itself as the “Children’s School and Library Protection Act.” The Act provides a private cause of action for any parent or legal guardian of a minor to sue the library if the minor obtains material from the library that the minor, parent, or legal guardian considers to be “material harmful to minors.” Additionally, the Act provides an opportunity for the Idaho Attorney General or county prosecuting attorneys to sue libraries if they make available “material harmful to minors.”

The Boise Public Library and libraries across the state of Idaho have steadfastly maintained that they do not have materials in their collections that are harmful to minors. Libraries seek to provide educational, informational, and recreational resources to kids and adults that help them better understand themselves and the world, not to cause harm.

The “Children’s School and Library Protection Act” asks libraries to restrict access to materials based on the complaint of a single person despite the Constitutional analysis applying community and reasonable person standards to determine whether the material really is harmful to minors. While the “Children’s School and Library Protection Act” asks libraries to restrict access to materials based on a single complaint, the library must also comply with First Amendment requirements. In addition to the community and reasonable person standards, the First Amendment strongly disfavors government discrimination of materials based on content or viewpoint.

The burden is on the censor to prove that specific material meets the definition of “material harmful to minors.” The Library Board will fairly and impartially adjudicate claims that materials in the collection meet the statutory definition of “material harmful to minors” but

will apply the statutory definition closely to ensure access to protected speech is not illegitimately restricted. Adequate procedural safeguards, including judicial determinations, are necessary to ensure protected speech is not infringed.

The Boise Public Library is very mindful of First Amendment rights to free speech guaranteed to persons in the United States of America, including the right to access information. The Boise Public Library acknowledges and appreciates the fundamental role this right plays in upholding the democratic system of government in America by helping to inform and provide critical thinking skills to the electorate, and to educate minors that are yet to reach voting age but must be informed and capable of critical thinking when they reach voting age.

With the foregoing in mind, this policy details who can request the reconsideration of materials the Boise Public Library makes available, the options for doing so, and the procedures the Library Board will take to review such requests. In addition to requests for reconsideration of materials based on the allegation that such materials are harmful to minors, library users may submit a request for reconsideration of materials that they do not believe meet the criteria in the Library Collection Development and Maintenance Policy for other reasons as well.

- a. Definitions. The following terms, as used in this policy, have the following definitions.
 - i. Library Board – The Boise Public Library Board of Trustees as established and defined by Idaho Code Title 33, Chapter 26 and Boise City Code Title 2, Chapter 7.
 - ii. Material – As defined in Idaho Code § 18-1514(7) means anything tangible which is harmful to minors, whether derived through the medium of reading, observation or sound.
 - iii. Material Harmful to Minors – As defined in Idaho Code § 18-1514(6) and read in conjunction with U.S. Supreme Court caselaw, means material that contains nudity, sexual conduct, sexual excitement, or sado-masochistic abuse that a) appeals to the prurient interest of minors as judged by the average person, applying contemporary community standards; b) depicts or describes nudity, sexual conduct, sexual excitement, or sado-masochistic abuse that is patently offensive to prevailing standards in the adult community with respect to what is suitable material for minors including patently offensive representations or descriptions of intimate sexual acts, normal or perverted, actual or simulated or masturbation, excretory functions or lewd exhibition of the genitals or genital area; and c) when considered as a whole, and in context in which it is used, does not possess serious literary, artistic, political or scientific value for a legitimate minority of normal, older minors. “Nudity,” “sexual conduct,” “sexual excitement,” and “sado-masochistic abuse” as used herein are as defined in Idaho Code § 18-1514.
 - iv. Prurient Interest – As defined by the U.S. Supreme Court, prurient interest means a shameful or morbid interest in nudity, sex, or excretion, and goes substantially beyond customary limits of candor in description or representation of such matters, and does not include a normal, healthy interest in sex.

- v. Request for Reconsideration of Materials – A request for the Library Board to reconsider whether material in the Boise Public Library collection meets the standards of the Collection Development and Maintenance Policy 5.01 and related exhibits and regulations. ~~or whether the material meets the definition of Material Harmful to Minors.~~ The request should be made using the form available as Exhibit 5.02a. Any A City of Boise resident or non-resident who owns property within the City of Boise ~~person~~ may submit a Request for Reconsideration of Materials.
 - vi. Written Notice of Complaint Alleging Material Harmful to Minors hereafter referred to as Written Notice – No specific form is required, but the notice must be in writing and must request the relocation of material the complainant considers to be Material Harmful to Minors to a section designated for adults only within sixty (60) days of the library's receipt of the written notice. Completing and submitting ~~Sections 1 and 2 of~~ Exhibit 5.02b will constitute Written Notice, but use of Exhibit 5.02b is not required. Only a minor who obtained Material Harmful to Minors from the Boise Public Library or their parent or legal guardian can submit a Written Notice.
- b. Procedure for submitting a Request for Reconsideration of Materials or a Written Notice.
- i. The Request for Reconsideration of Materials form and the Written Notice form will be available at each Boise Public Library branch location and on the Boise Public Library's website.
 - ~~ii. A Request for Reconsideration can be submitted by a City of Boise resident or by a non-resident who owns property within the City of Boise.~~
 - ~~iii.~~ ii. A completed Request for Reconsideration of Materials or Written Notice can be submitted by the following means. Only one means of submission is required.
 - A. Physical mail to:

Boise Public Library
ATTN: Acquisitions Manager – Material Challenge
715 S. Capitol Blvd.
Boise, ID 83702
 - B. E-mail to:

materialchallenge@cityofboise.org
 - C. Facsimile to:

1 (208) 384-4025
 - D. To submit in-person, the completed Request for Reconsideration of Materials or

Written Notice can be given to a Library staff member at any service desk at all Boise Public Library locations.

~~iv.~~iii. It is the responsibility of the person submitting the Written Notice or Request for Reconsideration of Materials to comply with all requirements of the “Children’s School and Library Protection Act,” the Idaho Tort Claims Act, and any other applicable laws or court rules to maintain their ability to seek judicial review.

c. Procedure for Library Board review of a Request for Reconsideration of Materials or a Written Notice.

Book challenges are time-consuming endeavors. The material must be considered as a whole and individual passages cannot be taken out of context. Supporting materials should also inform the analysis. Library Board deliberation must be done openly on the record at noticed meetings, which are additional time pressures that must be accommodated within the 60 day window provided by the “Children’s School and Library Protection Act.” Given the limited library resources available, and the potentially unlimited challenges authorized by the “Children’s School and Library Protection Act,” it may not be feasible for the Library Board to review all material challenges within 60 days of receipt of the challenge.

The Library Board will aim to respond to every challenge, but a complainant can appeal a Library Board decision regarding a Written Notice regardless of how thoughtful or adequate the Library Board’s response is, and whether there is any Library Board decision at all. Further, the “Children’s School and Library Protection Act” does not direct judges to review or give the Library Board’s decision any deference. Given the review framework of the “Children’s School and Library Protection Act” and library resource constraints, the Board President, in consultation with the Library Board as practicable, shall prioritize responding to good faith requests that present potentially meritorious claims.

- i. All Library Board procedures to review a Request for Reconsideration of Materials or a Written Notice shall comply with all applicable provisions of the Idaho Public Records Act, Idaho Open Meetings Law, and all other applicable laws necessary to ensure a fair and open deliberative process and an impartial decision based on the evidence submitted.
- ii. If the Library Board does not issue a final written decision within sixty (60) days of receipt of a Request for Reconsideration of Materials or a Written Notice, the submission is denied.
- iii. The Library Board shall endeavor to issue a written decision within sixty (60) days of receipt of the submission explaining the Library Board’s rationale for approving or denying the submission.
 - A. The Library Director shall endeavor to submit a written response to the submission and a recommended Library Board decision within twenty-eight (28) days of receipt.

- B. The Library Board shall give the Library Director's written response and recommended decision substantial deference.
- iv. The Library Board can adopt the Library Director's written response and recommended decision as its own, with or without modification, or the Library Board can issue its own decision.
 - A. The Library Board shall always take the most narrowly tailored action necessary.
 - B. If the Library Board decides to remove material from the collection, or move the material to an adult access only area, or restrict access in any way, there is no right of appeal to the courts under the "Children's School and Library Protection Act." Being that the decision to censor materials is unappealable and the decision not to censor materials is appealable, the Library Board will exercise due restraint when limiting or removing access to materials.
- v. The Library Board President has discretion to:
 - A. determine whether and when to call a special meeting for the Library Board to deliberate on and decide, or adopt findings on, a Request for Reconsideration of Materials or a Written Notice.
 - B. determine whether additional procedures beyond the written filings specified herein are necessary to adequately review a Request for Reconsideration of Materials or a Written Notice, and if so, order such additional procedures.
 - i. Examples of additional procedures the Board President may require include oral presentations by the complainant and the Library Director, or public testimony.
 - C. determine the order of deliberation on any Request for Reconsideration of Materials or Written Notice and its placement on the Library Board agenda.
- vi. Library administration shall maintain a case file for each Request for Reconsideration of Materials or Written Notice submitted. The case file will be publicly available via the library's website. The Boise Public Library will evaluate if any redactions to personal information contained in a written filing are required by Idaho law prior to making the document publicly available. The case file shall include, as applicable:
 - A. the Request for Reconsideration,
 - B. the Written Notice,

- C. the library director's written response and proposed Board decision,
- D. any public comments received on the submission within sixty (60) days of receipt of the submission,
- E. any adopted minutes of a meeting that reflect Library Board deliberation on the challenge, and
- F. any interim or final orders or decisions of the Library Board.

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05-14-2025
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05-14-2025

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION OF MATERIALS FORM

This form can be used by City of Boise residents or by non-residents who own property within the City of Boise to request reconsideration of Materials the Boise Public Library makes available. If your request is made pursuant to Idaho Code § 18-1517B, the “Children’s School and Library Protection Act,” and you are alleging that the Material is Material Harmful to Minors, fill out and submit form 5.02b. Section 1 and Section 2 of this form. Doing so will constitute the Written Notice required by Idaho Code § 18-1517B(3). If you are not alleging the Material is Material Harmful to Minors, ~~you only need to~~ fill out and submit this form. Section 1.

A completed Request for Reconsideration of Materials ~~or Written Notice~~ can be submitted by the following means. Only one means of submission is required.

A. Physical mail to:

Boise Public Library
ATTN: Acquisitions Manager – Material Challenge
715 S. Capitol Blvd.
Boise, ID 83702

B. E-mail to:

materialchallenge@cityofboise.org

C. Facsimile to:

1 (208) 384-4025

D. To submit in-person, the completed Request for Reconsideration of Materials ~~or Written Notice~~ can be given to a Library staff member at any service desk at all Boise Public Library locations.

Upon submission of this form, it will become a public record. The Boise Public Library will evaluate if any redactions to personal information contained in the form are required by Idaho law prior to making the completed form publicly available.

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REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION OF MATERIALS

~~P~~ If you are a City of Boise resident or non-resident who owns property within the City of Boise, please fill out the requested information to the best of your ability. The information you provide will be an important part of the Boise Public Library's review of the Materials. If you need additional space to answer the questions, you may attach additional pages.

H.I. Section 1—Request for Reconsideration of Materials.

a. Information about the Material.

- i. Title: _____
- ii. Author/Performer: _____
- iii. Publisher/Copyright Date: _____
- iv. Item Barcode: _____

b. Information about the requestor.

- i. Name: _____
- ii. Email Address: _____
- iii. Telephone Number: _____
- iv. Preferred means of contact: _____
- v. Are you a minor? Y / N

~~vi. Are you filing this request on behalf of a dependent minor? Y / N~~

~~vii.~~ vi. Do you represent an organization? Y / N

a. If so, which organization? _____

~~viii. Do you have legal representation? Y / N~~

~~. If so, who are they and how do we contact them? _____~~

~~x.vii.~~ vii. Are you a Boise Public Library cardholder? Y / N

~~xi.viii.~~ viii. Did you obtain the Material from the Boise Public Library? Y / N

~~xii.ix.~~ ix. Did you check out, request, or use the Material that is the subject of this request? Y / N

c. Information about the request.

- i. To what in the Material do you object and why? ~~Why do you object?~~
(Please be specific; for example, cite pages and specific passages. Use

[CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE]

additional sheet if necessary.)

-
- ii. Did you read, view or listen to the entire Material? _____
- iii. If not, what parts did you read, view or listen to? _____
-
- iv. What do you feel would be the result of reading, viewing, or listening to this Material? _____
-
- v. What parts of the Material do you think are accurate and valuable? _____
-
- vi. What do you believe the theme of this Material to be? _____
-
- vii. Are you aware of judgments of this Material by professional critics? _____
-
- viii. For what age group would you recommend this Material? _____
-
- ix. What action are you requesting the library take in regard to this Material? _____
-
- x. Is there additional information that the Library Board should be aware of while reviewing your request? _____
-

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Signature

Date

By signing this section of the form I understand that I am making a formal request to the Boise Public Library about a Material they have made available. I acknowledge that this document will become a public record as soon as it is received by library staff and will be posted to the library's website.

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Document Type: Exhibit
Number: 5.02b
Effective:
Revised:
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WRITTEN NOTICE OF COMPLAINT ALLEGING MATERIAL HARMFUL TO MINORS

Pursuant to Idaho Code § 18-1517B, the “Children’s School and Library Protection Act,” this form can be used to allege that the title you are submitting is Material Harmful to Minors. Filling out and submitting this form will constitute the Written Notice required by Idaho Code § 18-1517B(3). Only a minor who obtained Material Harmful to Minors from the Boise Public Library or their parent or legal guardian can submit a Written Notice.

A completed Written Notice can be submitted by the following means. Only one means of submission is required.

A. Physical mail to:

Boise Public Library
ATTN: Acquisitions Manager – Material Challenge
715 S. Capitol Blvd.
Boise, ID 83702

B. E-mail to:

materialchallenge@cityofboise.org

C. Facsimile to:

1 (208) 384-4025

D. To submit in-person, the completed Written Notice can be given to a Library staff member at any service desk at all Boise Public Library locations.

Upon submission of this form, it will become a public record. The Boise Public Library will evaluate if any redactions to personal information contained in the form are required by Idaho law prior to making the completed form publicly available.

**FILLING OUT AND SUBMITTING THIS FORM CONSTITUTES WRITTEN NOTICE
PURSUANT TO THE “CHILDREN’S SCHOOL AND LIBRARY PROTECTION ACT.”**

[CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE]

[] Initial this box and fill out this section if you intend for this form to constitute Written Notice pursuant to Idaho Code § 18-1517B(3). By initialing this box, you affirm your belief that the Materials are Materials Harmful to Minors as defined by Idaho Code and Boise Public Library policy, and you request the Materials be relocated to a section designated for adults only within sixty (60) days of the Boise Public Library's receipt of this notice.

Idaho Code defines material harmful to minors as:

“Harmful to minors” includes in its meaning the quality of any material or of any performance or of any description or representation, in whatever form, of nudity, sexual conduct, sexual excitement, or sado-masochistic abuse, when it:

(a) Appeals to the prurient interest of minors as judged by the average person, applying contemporary community standards; and

(b) Depicts or describes representations or descriptions of nudity, sexual conduct, sexual excitement, or sado-masochistic abuse which are patently offensive to prevailing standards in the adult community with respect to what is suitable material for minors and includes, but is not limited to, patently offensive representations or descriptions of:

(i) Intimate sexual acts, normal or perverted, actual or simulated; or

(ii) Masturbation, excretory functions or lewd exhibition of the genitals or genital area. Nothing herein contained is intended to include or proscribe any matter which, when considered as a whole, and in context in which it is used, possesses serious literary, artistic, political or scientific value for minors[.]”

Idaho Code § 18-1514(6).

The following subdefinitions found in Idaho Code § 18-1514 apply to the above definition of “harmful to minors:

“Minor” means any person less than eighteen (18) years of age.

“Nudity” means the showing of the human male or female genitals, pubic area or buttocks with less than a full opaque covering, or the showing of the female breast with less than a full opaque covering of any portion thereof below the top of the nipple, or the depiction of covered male genitals in a discernibly turgid state.

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“Sexual conduct” means any act of masturbation, homosexuality, sexual intercourse, or physical contact with a person’s clothed or unclothed genitals, pubic area, buttocks or, if such person be a female, the breast.

“Sexual excitement” means the condition of human male or female genitals when in a state of sexual stimulation or arousal.

“Sado-masochistic abuse” means flagellation or torture by or upon a person who is nude or clad in undergarments, a mask or bizarre costume, or the condition of being fettered, bound or otherwise physically restrained on the part of one who is nude or so clothed.

“Material” means anything tangible which is harmful to minors, whether derived through the medium of reading, observation or sound.

“Performance” means any play, motion picture, dance or other exhibition performed before an audience.

“Promote” means to manufacture, issue, sell, give, provide, deliver, publish, distribute, circulate, disseminate, present, exhibit or advertise, or offer or agree to do the same.

“Knowingly” means having general knowledge of, or reason to know, or a belief or reasonable ground for belief that warrants further inspection or inquiry.

“School” means any public or private school providing instruction for students in kindergarten through grade 12.

a. Complainant’s Information.

i. Name: _____

ii. Address: _____

iii. Email Address: _____

iv. Telephone Number: _____

v. Preferred means of contact: _____

vi. Are you a minor? Y / N

vii. Are you filing this request on behalf of a dependent minor? Y / N

viii. Do you represent an organization? Y / N

a. If so, which organization? _____

ix. Do you have legal representation? Y / N

a. If so, who are they and how do we contact them? _____

[CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE]

- x. Are you a Boise Public Library cardholder? Y / N
- xi. Did you obtain the Material from the Boise Public Library? Y / N
- xii. Did you check out, request, or use the Material that is the subject of this request? Y / N
- xiii. How did you, or your dependent Minor, obtain the Material? Please include the format of the Material and the Boise Public Library location the Material was obtained.

b. Information about the material:

- i. Did you read, view or listen to the entire Material? _____
- ii. If not, what parts did you read, view or listen to? _____
- iii. Are you aware of judgments of this Material by professional critics? _____
- iv. In what ways do you believe the challenged Material meets the definition of Material Harmful to Minors? Please state the basis of the claims and provide all explanation that may be helpful.

a. How does the Material appeal to the prurient interests of minors, as judged by the average person applying contemporary community standards?

b. In what ways is the Material patently offensive to prevailing standards in the adult community with regard to what is suitable for Minors?

c. Does the Material, when considered as a whole and in the context in which it is used possess serious literary, artistic, political or scientific value for Minors? Why or why not?

v. Is there additional information that the Library Board should be aware

[CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE]

of while reviewing your request? _____

Signature

Date

By signing this section of the form I understand that I am making a formal complaint to the Boise Public Library about a Material they have made available. I acknowledge that this document will become a public record as soon as it is received by library staff and will be posted to the library's website.