

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



Arkansas Digital Library Consortium Exceeds One Million Ebook and Audiobook Checkouts in 2021

Top 45 public library consortium worldwide in total digital circulation

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. – January 20, 2022 – [Arkansas Digital Library Consortium](#) (ADLC) announced today that it reached a record-breaking one million digital book checkouts in 2021. For ADLC, this milestone illustrates the continued growth and importance of library digital lending of ebooks and audiobooks, especially after a prolonged period of building closures due to the global pandemic. ADLC, consisting of 35 libraries around the state, is one of 121 public library systems worldwide that surpassed one million checkouts (complete list [here](#)).

ADLC member libraries have been providing readers 24/7 access to ebooks and audiobooks for several years through [OverDrive](#). The award-winning [Libby app](#), the library reading app created by OverDrive, lets readers search ADLC's collection of over 90,000 titles and enjoy them on the device of their choice. Reader interest and usage has grown every year.

Member libraries include Saline County Public Library, Faulkner Van Buren Regional Library System, Craighead County Jonesboro Public Library, Garland County Library, White County Regional Library System and William F. Laman Public Library among [many others](#).

"This exciting milestone reflects more than just a number," said Jennifer Chilcoat, Director of the Arkansas State Library. "It reflects both the unabated love of reading in our communities and the power of libraries working together to share resources. We are confident that this is the first of many such milestones."

The highest-circulating title ADLC readers borrowed in 2021 was *The Four Winds* by Kristin Hannah. The top-circulating genre, romance, represents the most popular in a vast catalog that also includes mystery, biography & autobiography, children/young adult and more.

The top 5 ebook titles borrowed through Arkansas Digital Library Consortium's digital collection in 2021:

1. *The Four Winds* by Kristin Hannah
2. *A Time for Mercy* by John Grisham
3. *Bridgerton Collection, Volume 1* by Julia Quinn

4. *The Return* by Nicholas Sparks
5. *Daylight* by David Baldacci

The top 5 audiobook titles borrowed through Arkansas Digital Library Consortium's digital collection in 2021:

1. *Where the Crawdads Sing* by Delia Owens
2. *Greenlights* by Matthew McConaughey
3. *The Four Winds* by Kristin Hannah
4. *Cold Mourning* by Brenda Chapman
5. *A Time for Mercy* by John Grisham

Readers in Arkansas just need a valid library card from a member library to access digital books from ADLC's OverDrive-powered digital collection. Readers can use any major device, including Apple^(R), AndroidTM, ChromebookTM and Kindle^(R) (U.S. only). Download the Libby app or visit <https://adlc.overdrive.com/> to get started borrowing ebooks and audiobooks anytime, anywhere.

About Arkansas Digital Library Consortium

The Arkansas Digital Library Consortium (ADLC) was formed to facilitate the acquisition and use of digital content by pooling the buying power of Arkansas public libraries. ADLC is administered by the Arkansas State Library and is open to all public libraries within the state.

About OverDrive

OverDrive strives to create "a world enlightened by reading." Serving a growing network of 76,000 libraries and schools in 94 countries, OverDrive delivers the industry's largest digital catalog of ebooks, audiobooks, magazines and other content through award-winning apps. The [Libby](#) reading app for libraries is one of *Popular Mechanics'* 20 Best Apps of the Decade, the [Sora](#) student reading app is one of *TIME's* Best Inventions of 2019, and [Kanopy](#) is the leading streaming video service for libraries and colleges. Acquired in 2021, [TeachingBooks.net](#) offers one of the largest catalogs of supplemental materials that enhance literacy outcomes. Founded in 1986, OverDrive is based in Cleveland, Ohio USA and was named a Certified B Corp in 2017. www.overdrive.com

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