INSTITUTE of Museum and Library SERVICES

2023-2027 Five-Year Plans: Common Topics

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2023 Grants to States Conference – Seattle, WA

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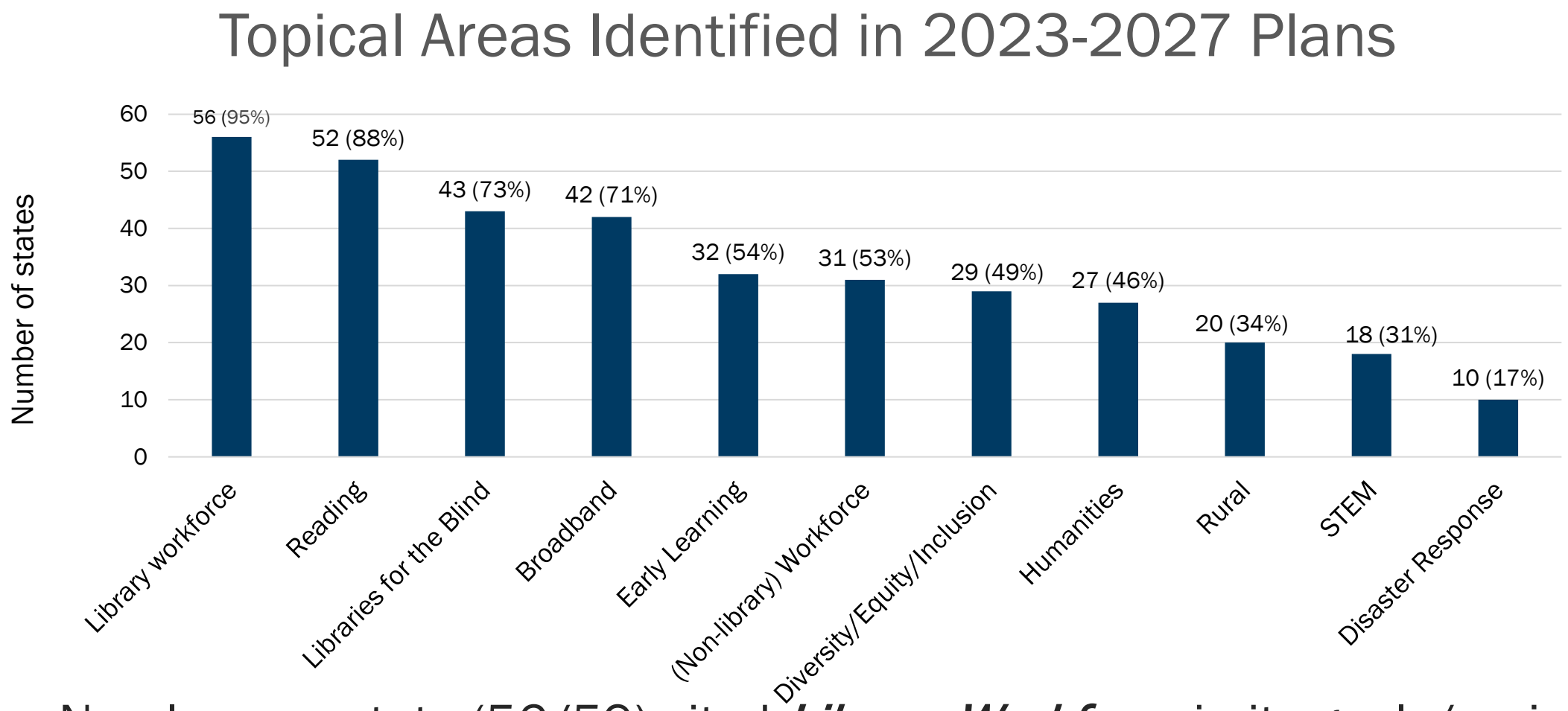
Topical Areas in Plan Goals/Projects

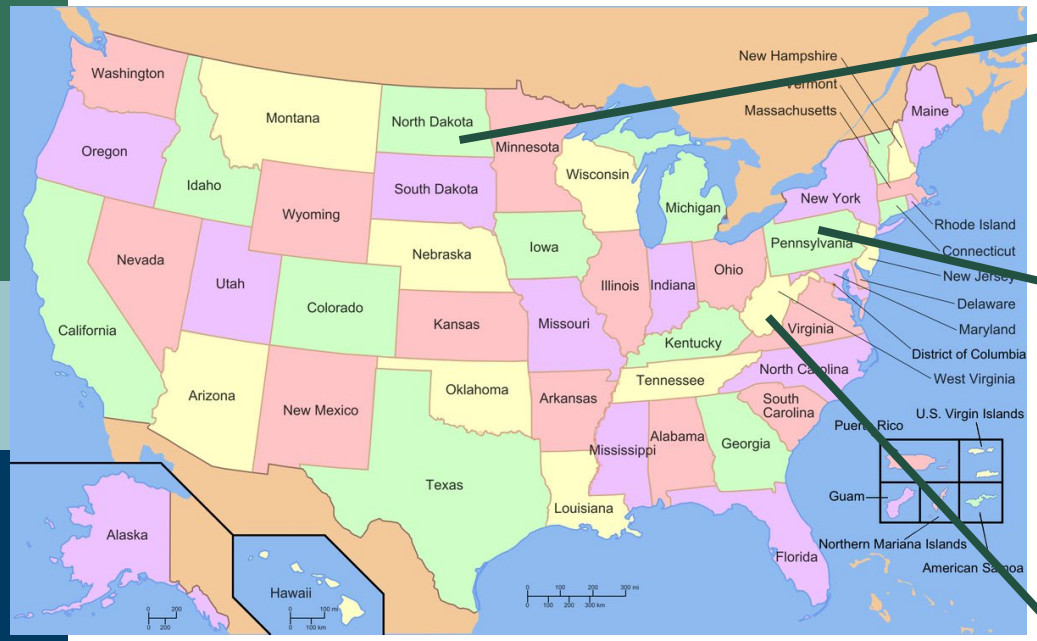


Nearly every state (56/59) cited ***Library Workforce*** in its goals/projects.

Topic: Library Workforce

Number of References: 56

Thematic Insight: This category is nearly universal for staff professional development & training



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ND: Provide MLIS grants and professional development grants to librarians and library science students.

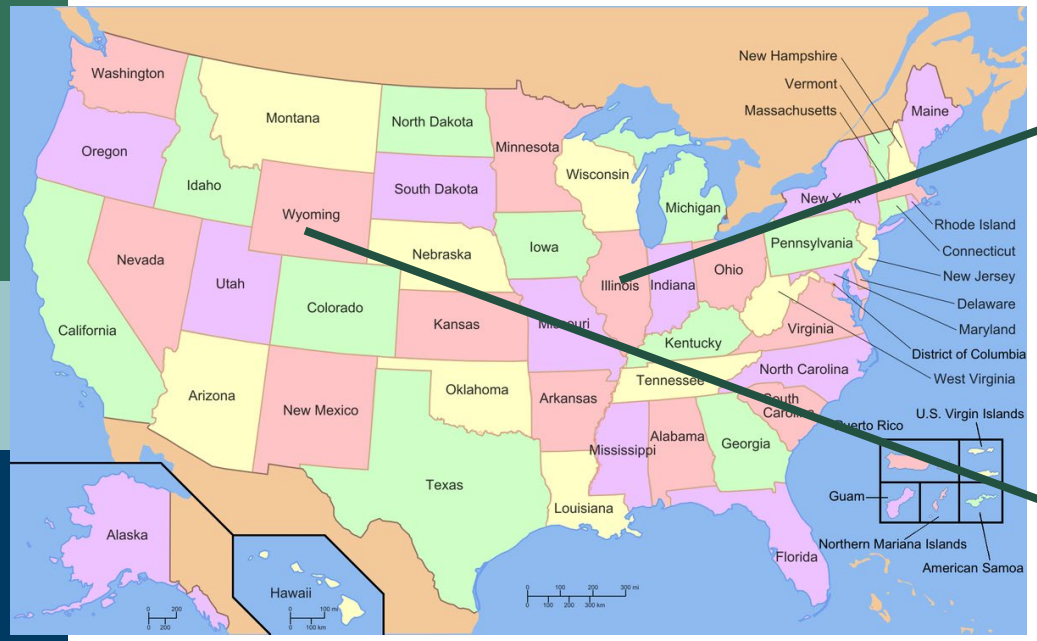
PA: Coordinate with education providers to elevate libraries and library workforce as valuable, professional contributors by building expertise, practice, and recognition of good work.

WV: Library staff and vested partners are trained and have competencies to meet library users' current and future needs with evolving services and resources.

Topic: Reading

Number of References: 52

Thematic Insight: Literacy promotion/engagement for all ages with summer reading called out specifically



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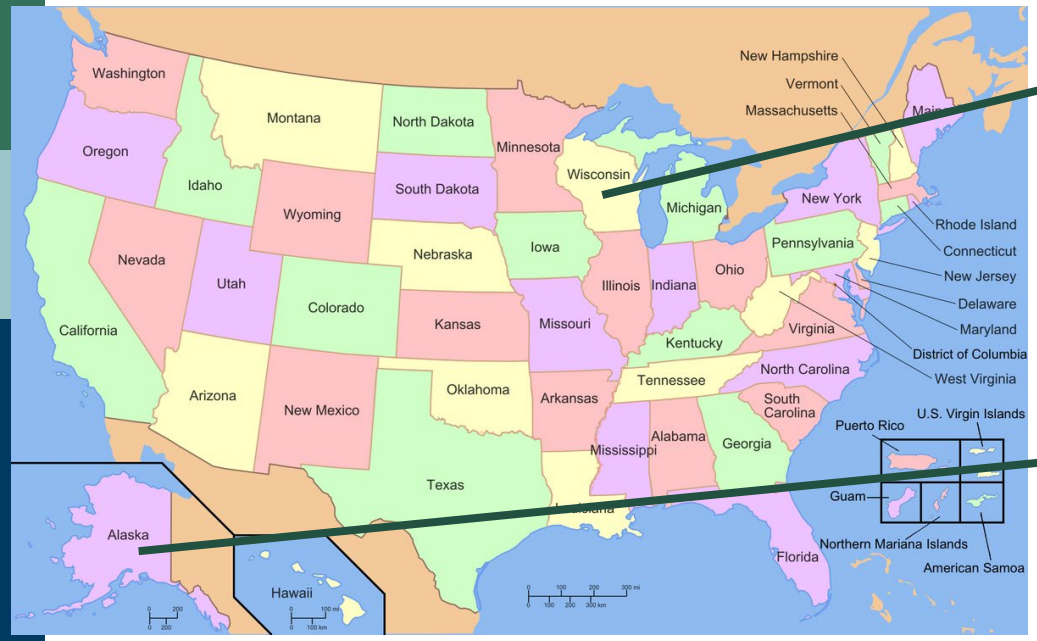
IL: Strategies and opportunities are expected to include support for initiatives that engage readers of any age or ability in formal and independent reading including but not limited to book discussions, family reading nights, and reading clubs, including support for children and family.

WY: Support the reading and learning interests of those 2,500 individuals voluntarily or involuntarily confined to any of the state institutions with subsidies to sustain the library collections in those facilities.

Topic: Broadband

Number of References: 42

***Thematic Insight*:** nearly universal commitment to making broadband widely available through infrastructure updates, investments in equipment, training, and partnerships to expand broadband networks



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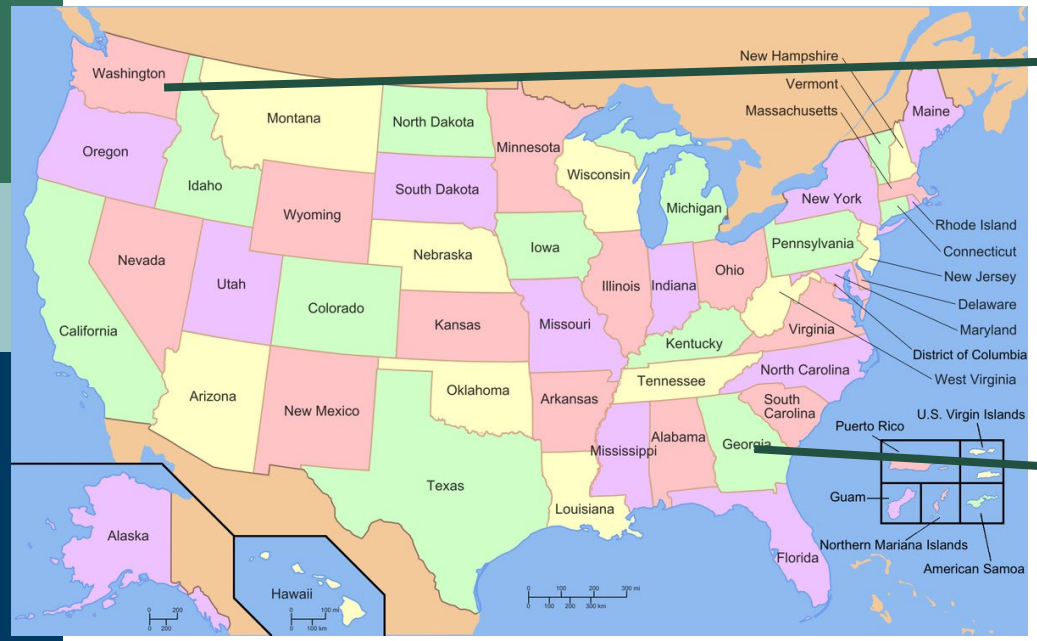
WI: Support for libraries' efforts to help residents find quality and secure internet service to support their access to online resources and services.

AK: All Alaskans will have access to reliable, low-cost, high-speed telecommunications in libraries and communities.

Topic: Early Learning

Number of References: 32

***Thematic Insight*:** Early literacy, Caregiver/family engagement



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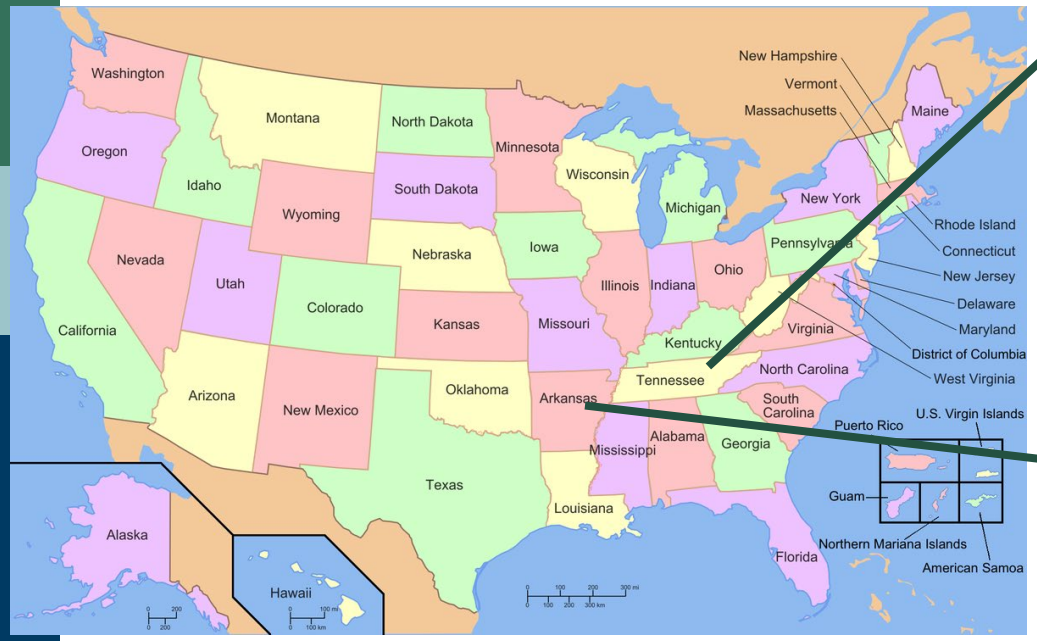
WA: The Youth Services project facilitates learning, interaction, and sharing of best practices for library staff in early learning and youth services; Coordination efforts: Work together on projects and activities to further early learning

GA: GPLS is exploring partnerships to address the literacy needs of pre-readers (birth to 4) as a core responsibility of public libraries, building on the strong foundation of early literacy and family programming and the Prime Time Family Reading Time©

Topic: Non-library Workforce

Number of References: 31

***Thematic Insight*:** Partnerships with workforce entities; job or digital skills training; making information accessible, quite a variety of topics



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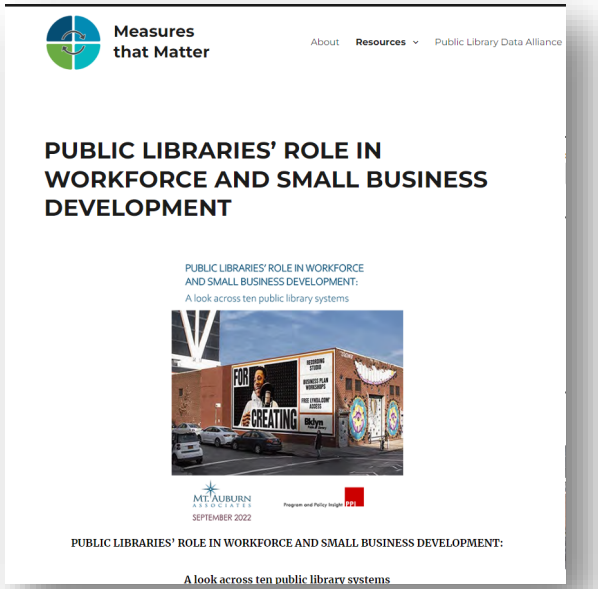
TN: The Library & Archives partners with state agencies such as the Department of Economic and Community Development and the Comptroller of the Treasury to provide grants to local libraries to support workforce development efforts.

AR: Traveler Statewide Digital Resource Program: The project benefits Arkansas residents with free access to a comprehensive digital collection suitable for educational, research and workforce development activities.

Commercial Break

IMLS-funded report through COSLA, released Sept 2022



Key insights:

- Libraries primarily fill workforce gaps & are not main drivers
- Libraries play a critical role in digital access and 101 training, work not always incorporated into workforce centers
- Services offered range widely and are specific to community needs
- Library structure of where/who/when programs and services are offered vary significantly – there is no universal format

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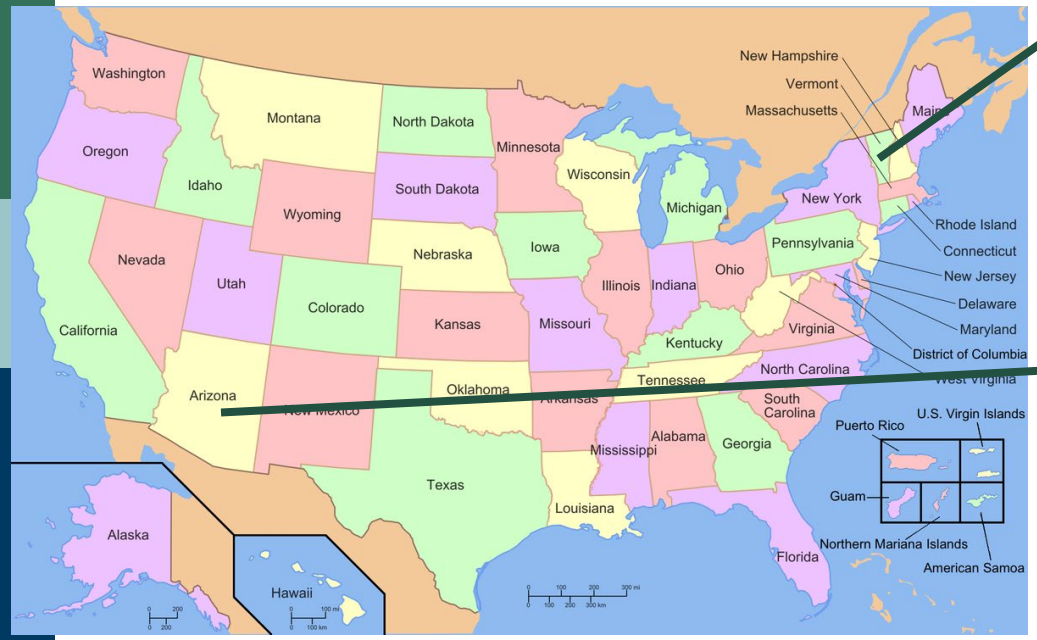
Read the full report here!:

- https://measuresthatmatter.net/research/public-libraries-role-in-workforce-and-small-business-development-a-look-across-ten-public-library-systems/

Topic: Humanities

Number of References: 27

***Thematic Insight*:** Digitization and preservation of materials; Civic engagement programming; Heritage-based activities



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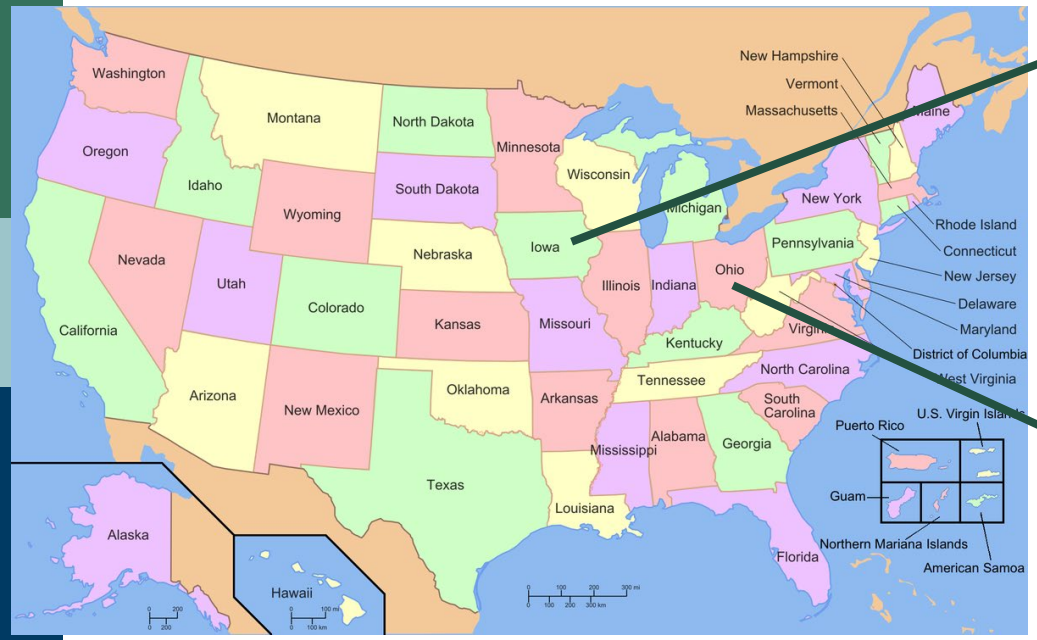
VT: Public Performance Licenses: This project enables libraries to legally offer public performances of a wide array of cinematic content by underwriting the cost of public performance licensing.

AZ: The State Library will use LSTA funds to provide model programs, resources, and materials to support libraries with community conversation projects such as America250…Produced in partnership with Arizona Humanities, the State Library helps provide FRANK Talks in Arizona libraries. These face-to-face events are free, thought-provoking, expert-facilitated discussions on important issues facing Arizona communities. They are structured to encourage discussion and inspire people to practice the skills of citizenship.

Topic: Rural & Hard-to-Reach Populations

Number of References: 20

Thematic Insight: Targeting programs/access for rural communities, e.g. bookmobiles, mail programs, expansion of digital materials



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IA: Explore collaboration with Rural Shrink Smart to develop tools to help small and shrinking communities actively plan for shrinkage before population loss affects quality of life.

OH: Particular focus will be given to ensuring inclusion of those in rural locales and those disadvantaged by their income levels, physical disabilities, and racial or language differences…It may include projects like Guiding Ohio Online, a project that places digital literacy trainers in rural Ohio libraries to deliver digital literacy training through computer classes, one-on-one computer assistance, outreach, and volunteer recruitment.

Activity

Speed Challenge

Instructions:

IMLS will start a 2-minute timer for each topic identified in 2023-2027 Plans, listed below. States will “race” around the table (in-person)/full room (virtual) to share/chat about activities, programs, or projects they are funding in each category. They then get 30 seconds to pick the most “unique.”

Report out:

Count of programs identified & most unique.

Categories:

- Non-Library Workforce
- Rural or Hard-to-Reach Populations
- Broadband
- Early Literacy (ignoring Storytime & Summer Reading)

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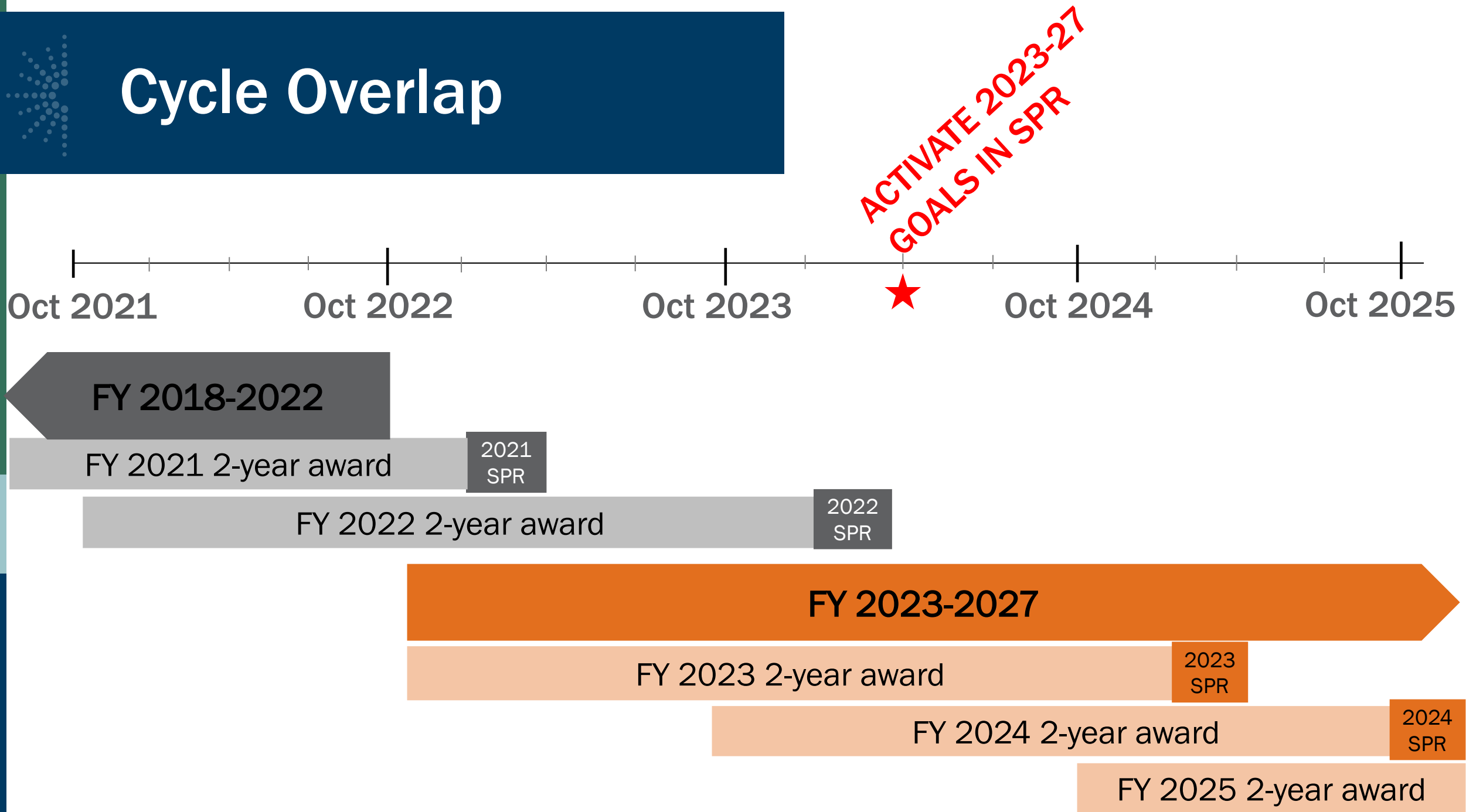
Administrative Updates

5 Year Plan: Major Milestones

- September 30, 2022: Five-year plans accepted
- October 1, 2022: Five-year plan period begins
- Summer 2024: SLAAs will change goals in the SPR
- January 30, 2025: FFY 2023 report due in the SPR

Cycle Overlap