

PISCATAWAY public library

2016 Annual Report



Executive Summary

In 2016, the Piscataway Public Library increased services to the community in a range of areas. The library now offers ESL classes six days a week, assisted by eleven community volunteers. In February, two library patrons who are refugees from Ethiopia - Sinidu Mohammed and her mother, Zufan Ahemmed Ali - came back to share exciting news with Special Populations Librarian Kate Baker. After completing ESL classes at the library and learning the basics of English conversation and writing, Sinidu was recently hired to work at a local hospital.

The citizenship classes continue and students are obtaining citizenship and thanking the library for this free class addressing a community need.

The library hosted its *Second Annual New Jersey Makers Day* with great success. As the event has grown, the library's own Emerging Technologies Librarian, Doug Baldwin, now serves as President of the statewide *New Jersey Makers Day* organization. Our support of STEM education continues to deepen. In 2016, the *Summer Maker Camp* was expanded to K-12 with the support of grant funding from Cognizant, in 2017 it will once again be K-12 but with PSEG joining Cognizant in supporting this popular program.

Our staff was recognized across the state, including the library director serving as the president of the New Jersey Library Association (NJLA), Maureen Donohue selected as a Rising Star by NJLA, and a number of other staff served as committee chairs and executive board members for the state association.

In 2016, our library once again benefitted from generous support. Piscataway Township renovated the public bathrooms at the Westergard branch as well as installed a new roof. The Friends of the Library provided funding for new carpeting at the Westergard Branch, along with funding for the Museum Pass Program and a number of library programs.

We would like to thank all the people who support the library, particularly the Township of Piscataway, the Friends of Piscataway Public Library, private donors, the library staff and the Board of Trustees.

James K. Keehbler, Library Director

Mission Statement

Piscataway Public Library is committed to engaging minds, building connections, and creating opportunities for individual and community-wide growth.

WE PROMISE

Welcoming Experiences. We understand that no matter how valuable our resources and expertise may be, they will not be accessible to you without mutual respect and appreciation. We prioritize the maintenance of a safe, clean, and friendly environment for all.

Accountability. We strive for transparency, and promise to put the Piscataway Township community and leadership at the forefront of our decision-making. We hold ourselves accountable to all those we serve, particularly providing cost-effective delivery of quality services and maximizing library and community resources through outreach, partnerships, and mutually-beneficial joint ventures.

Responsiveness. We promise to respond to community needs, and to provide support in times of stress or disaster. Through consistent training and staff development, the library will regularly evaluate and explore emerging technologies, trends, services and populations. We will pursue open partnerships in order to support our community.

Equal Access. The library's doors are open to everyone. We are dedicated to intellectual freedom, open-mindedness, and eliminating any existing or potential barriers to access of information, particularly embracing diversity in cultural and socioeconomic backgrounds.

Excellence. We promise excellence in customer service. We promise to provide training opportunities and support to a passionate, innovative, engaged staff, and we hold ourselves and our workplace to a high standard in order to grow and share knowledge, ideas, and information.

Opportunity, Connection and Collaboration. Through traditional library service, outreach and community partnerships, we aim to provide the space to support individuals and groups in their engagement with social and recreational activities, the freedom of expression and thought, and opportunities for giving back. We actively create and support conditions for sharing and collaboration as well as innovation and creativity.

Renovations

The Westergard Branch of the Library was closed for seven weeks in the fall of 2016. During this closure, the roof was replaced, the bathrooms were updated, the front sidewalks and handicap accessible ramp was redone, the outside book drops were replaced, the parking lot repainted, and the carpet in the main area of the library was replaced.

The 35-year-old roof had not been replaced since the Westergard Branch first opened in 1981. The new roof is much more efficient - keeping the building cooler in the summer and warmer in the winter - and reduces energy costs.

The public restrooms also received a makeover. The restrooms were completely gutted, before receiving new tile, new floors, and all new fixtures. The toilets, hand dryers, sinks, and soap dispensers are all equipped with no-touch sensors that allow them to operate automatically.

During the time that our building was closed to the public, the Department of Public Works took the opportunity to resurface the front sidewalks and corresponding handicap accessible ramps. They also added standard red studded pads to the sidewalks which help prevent pedestrians from slipping, especially during inclement weather. DPW also refreshed the parking lot by re-painting the lines, staff spots, and handicap spots.



Pictured above (L to R): Kate Jagers, James Keebler, Mayor Wahler, Maggie Serpico, Anne Gordon, and Allen McGinley

We purchased new outside book returns, replacing the old stainless steel receptacles. The new book returns are easy to spot with their bright blue color!

Thanks to a generous donation by the Friends of the Library, we were also able to replace the carpet throughout the entire main area of the library. This carpet had not previously been replaced since the Westergard Branch originally opened in 1981. A ribbon-cutting ceremony was held with Piscataway Mayor Brian Wahler and Library Trustee Anne Gordon on November 29.

Adult Services

2016 HIGHLIGHTS

- Received funding from the Friends of the Library to start a Museum Pass Lending program, including Grounds for Sculpture, Morris Museum, and the Intrepid Sea, Air and Space Museum.
- Partnered with the Middlesex County Cultural and Heritage Commission (MCCHC) to provide Artist-in-Residence series. Also received a gift of \$1,400 for programming from MCCHC.
- Collaborated with the Piscataway Township Director of Aging to host a Health Fair with over 18 health-related agencies
- Celebrated *Welcoming Week* with a Multicultural Food Experience, hosted by the Library's Diversity Committee
- Collaborated with Piscataway Township and the Historical Society to plan town-wide events in celebration of Piscataway's 350th birthday.
- Doug Baldwin, Emerging Technologies Librarian, received a 2016 New Jersey Library Association Library Service Award.



2016 graduates of the Library's citizenship classes

Teen Services

2016 HIGHLIGHTS

- Presented a seven week Computer Science Club at Westergard Library using Google CS curriculum. Participants were aged 9-14 with nearly 100% attendance!
- Teen services librarians visited middle schools 9 times, recommending books to over 1,800 students. They also visited the high school for 2 library card sign-up days.
- Introduced a new program called Novel Engineering that combines engineering with literacy. Students use existing literature as the basis for engineering design challenges that help them identify problems, design realistic solutions, and engage in the engineering design process.
- Received a \$2,000 grant from IEEE to create and loan 6 career-oriented Science Kits (MiY-Sci) at both branches.
- Obtained a grant from *Cognizant* to coordinate the 3rd annual Summer of Make for students entering grades K-12. Grant included the hiring of a Maker Coach, and co-facilitation of 17 STEM workshops throughout the summer.
- Facilitated Piscataway Library Robotics Team in Wonder League Robotics Competition.

Children's Services

2016 HIGHLIGHTS

- Received a \$400 grant from the Elks to give away paperback books to children at the Summer Reading carnival.
- Expanded programs offered on Saturdays, which have been well-attended, including Donuts with Dad, and Mother's Day Tea.
- Promoted diversity through programs that highlighted Chinese New Year, Black History Month, and Sign Language Story Time.
- Offered several popular programs and services for children with special needs including Gaming, SNAP (Special Needs Active Play), PEEP (for preschoolers), and work with Piscataway High School's SAIL program.
- Hosted an end-of-summer carnival with attendance of over **1,000 people!**
- Presented several very well-attended summer programs including Magic Show (192), Mammal Mania (106), Sciencetelling (91), and BONK! (91).
- Visited public and private schools, preschools, and summer camps for **204** total outreach visits, seeing over **5,300** children!
- The Children's Department blog The Sandbox was viewed over 5,000 times in 2016.
- Coordinated 98 summer volunteers who donated a total of 1,684 hours, and 96 school year volunteers who worked a total of 191 hours.

Public Programs

John F. Kennedy Library

Department	# of Programs	Attendance
Adult	602	4,151
Teen	34	474
Children's	225	7,525
<i>Totals</i>	<i>861</i>	<i>12,150</i>

Johanna Westergard Library

Department	# of Programs	Attendance
Adult	142	678
Teen	57	889
Children's	132	2,654
<i>Totals</i>	<i>331</i>	<i>4,221</i>

eContent Statistics

Downloadable Materials	2014	2015	2016	Two Year Difference
eAudio Books	3833	4683	4756	+24%
eBooks	8534	9820	8525	0%
Zinio (Digital Magazines)	2423	2483		

Most Popular Books for Adults 2016

Patterson, James, NYPD Red 4

Patterson, James, Private Paris

Patterson, James, Cross Justice

Evanovich, Janet, Tricky Twenty Two

Patterson, James, 15th Affair

Sparks, Nicholas, See Me

Lee, Harper, To Kill a Mockingbird

Grisham, John, Rogue Lawyer

Hoag, Tami, The Bitter Season

Patterson, James, Alert

Most Popular Books for Children 2016

Kinney, Jeff, Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Cabin Fever

Kinney, Jeff, Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Dog Days

Kinney, Jeff, Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Greg Heffley's Journal

Kinney, Jeff, Diary of a Wimpy Kid: The Long Haul

Kinney, Jeff, Diary of a Wimpy Kid: The Last Straw

Kinney, Jeff, Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Hard Luck

Kinney, Jeff, Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Rodrick Rules

Kinney, Jeff, Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Old School

Kinney, Jeff, Diary of a Wimpy Kid: The Third Wheel

Dr. Seuss, Hop on Pop

Most Popular Teen Books 2016

Alexander, Kwame, The Crossover

Johnston, E.K., The Story of Owen: Dragon Slayer of Trondheim

Hopkinson, Deborah, Titanic : voices from the disaster

Woodson, Jacqueline, Brown Girl Dreaming

Green, John, The Fault in Our Stars

Roth, Veronica, Divergent

Asher, Jay, Thirteen Reasons Why

Roth, Veronica, Allegiant

Telgemeier, Raina, Smile

Sheinkin, Steve, Most dangerous : Daniel Ellsberg and the secret history of the Vietnam War

Public Computer Usage

2016	# of Logins	Total Hours	# of Sessions
Kennedy Branch	9,923	14,952	28,116
Westergard Branch	8,495	13,262	26,075

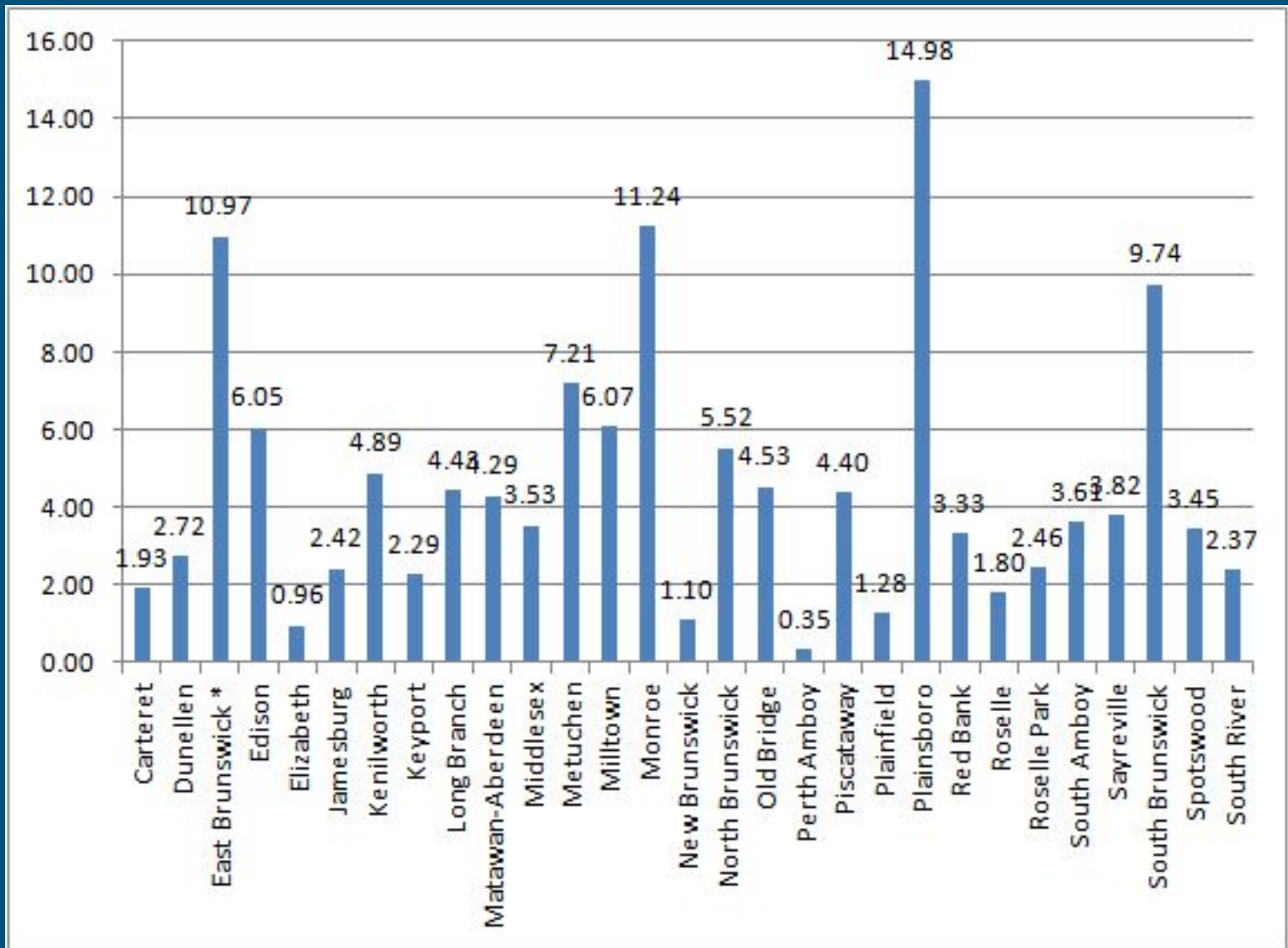
Card Holders - 2016

Piscataway Library Card Profile	Card Holders
Residents Adult	17538
Residents Juvenile	6073
Non Resident	870
Total	24481

These numbers do not reflect the following:

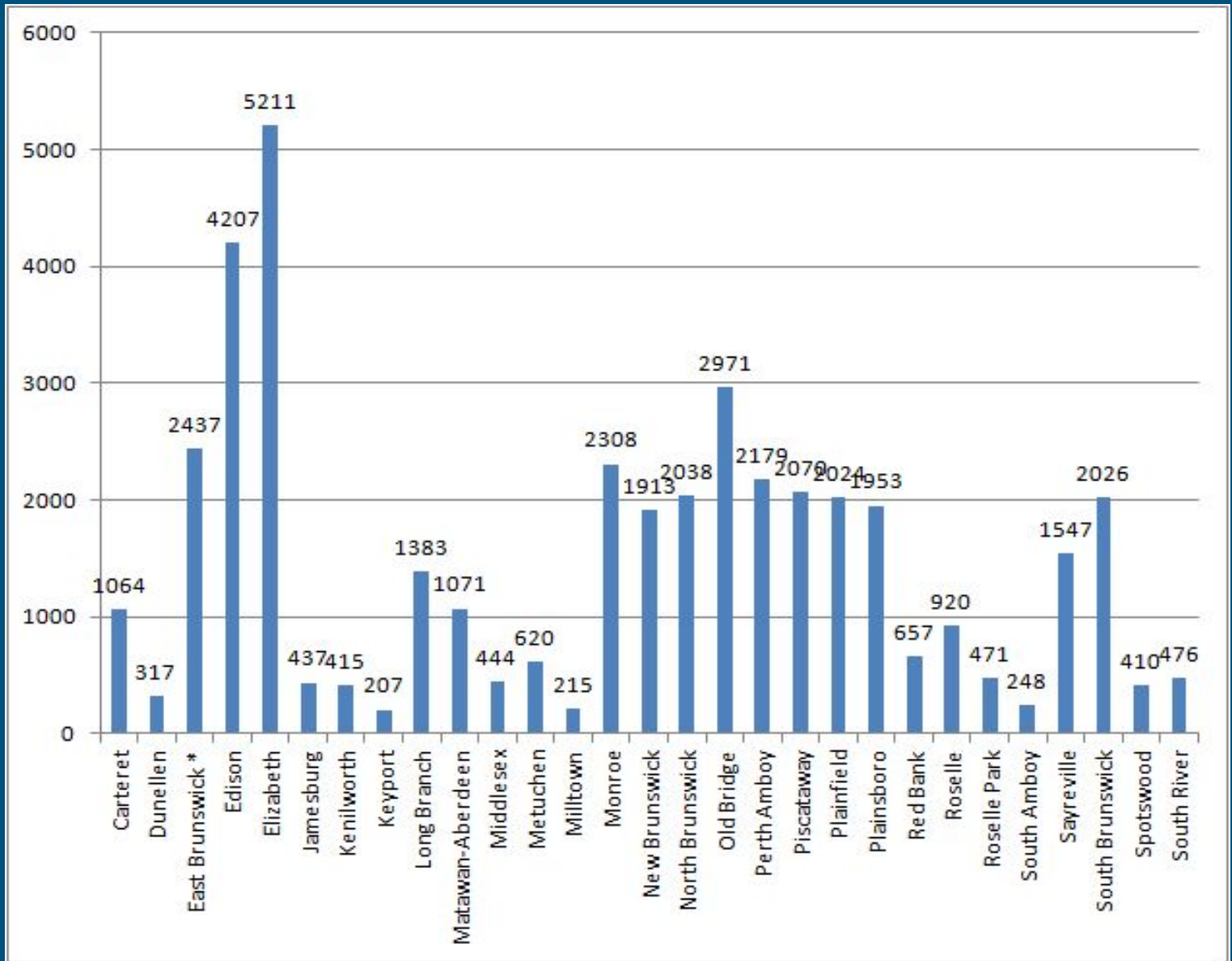
- Use of the public computers
- Use of the meeting rooms
- Attendance at library programs
- Use of the wireless network

Total Circulation Per Capita - 2016 LMXAC Libraries



* East Brunswick joined LMXAC in early 2016

New Users - 2015 LMXAC Libraries



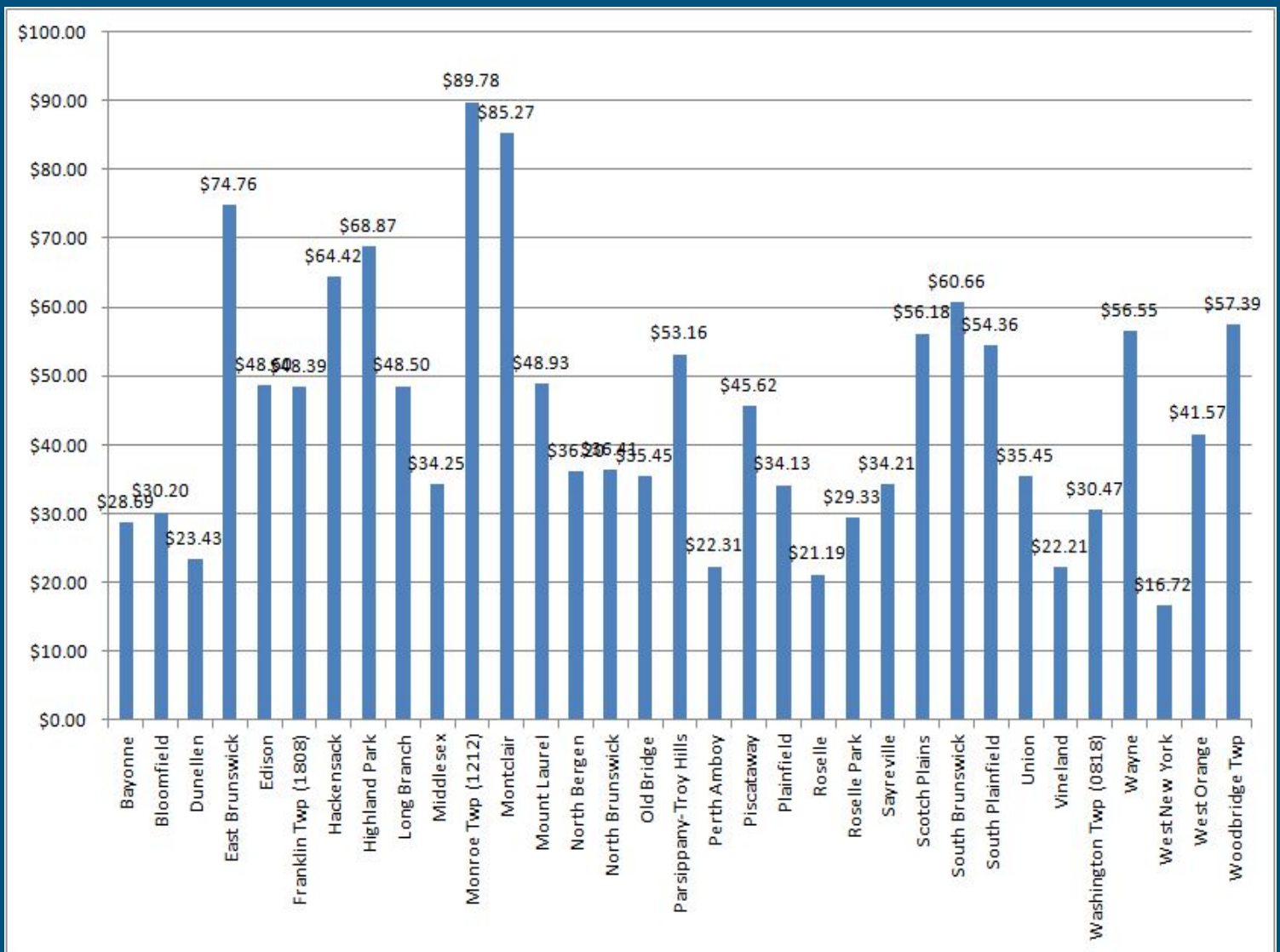
* East Brunswick joined LMXAC in early 2016

Comparative Statistics

- Comparative Statistics on the following slides utilize statistics from the New Jersey State Library.
(http://www.njstatelib.org/services_for_libraries/resources/statistics/2015-library-data/)
- The most recent statistics available from the NJ State Library are 2015 for the selected libraries.
- The library has added the 2016 value for Piscataway Public Library to each slide.

Library Expenditures Per Capita - 2015

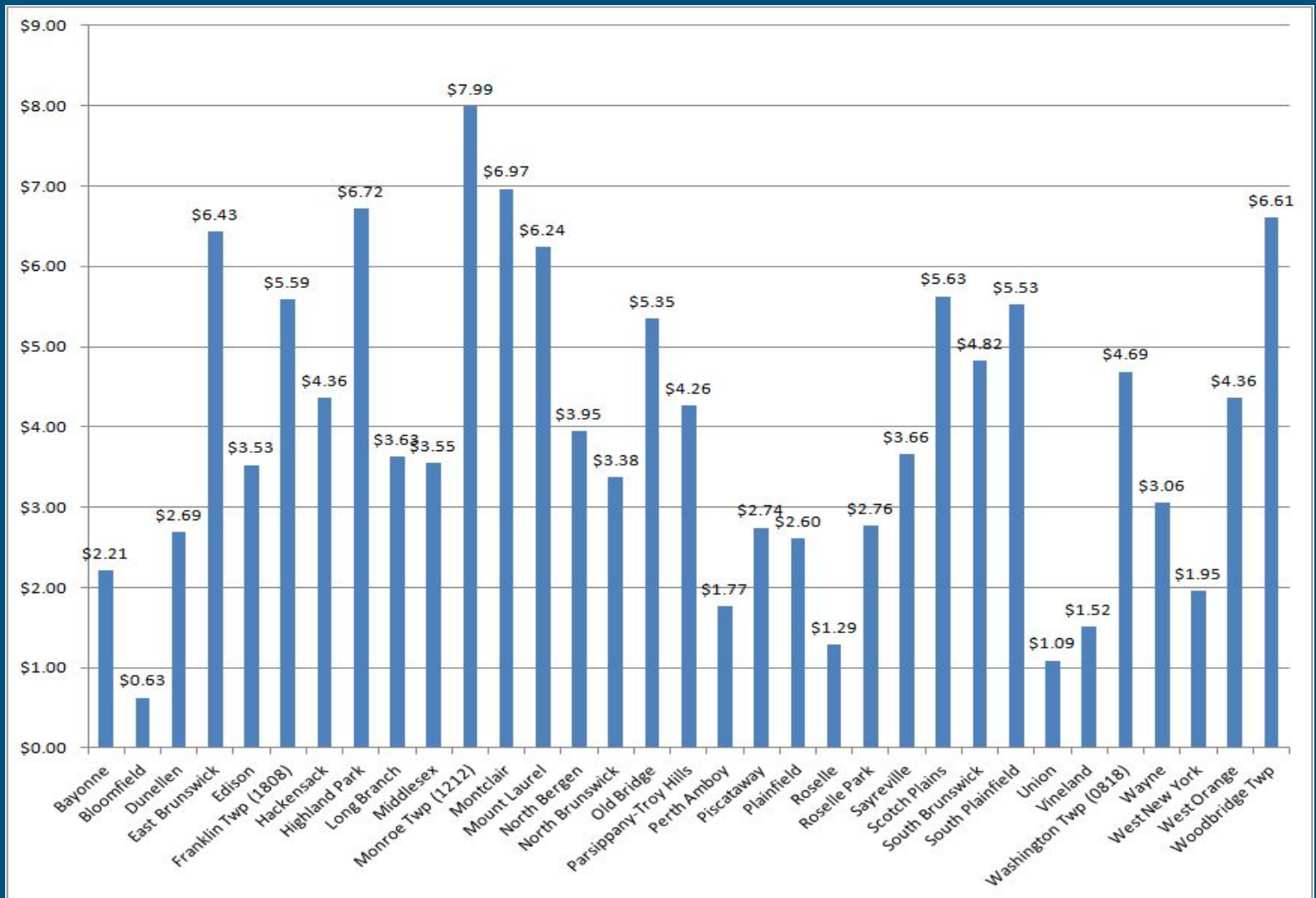
Piscataway 2016: \$46.35



* Piscataway Public Library includes two locations: Kennedy and Westergard Libraries

Total Materials Spending Per Capita - 2015

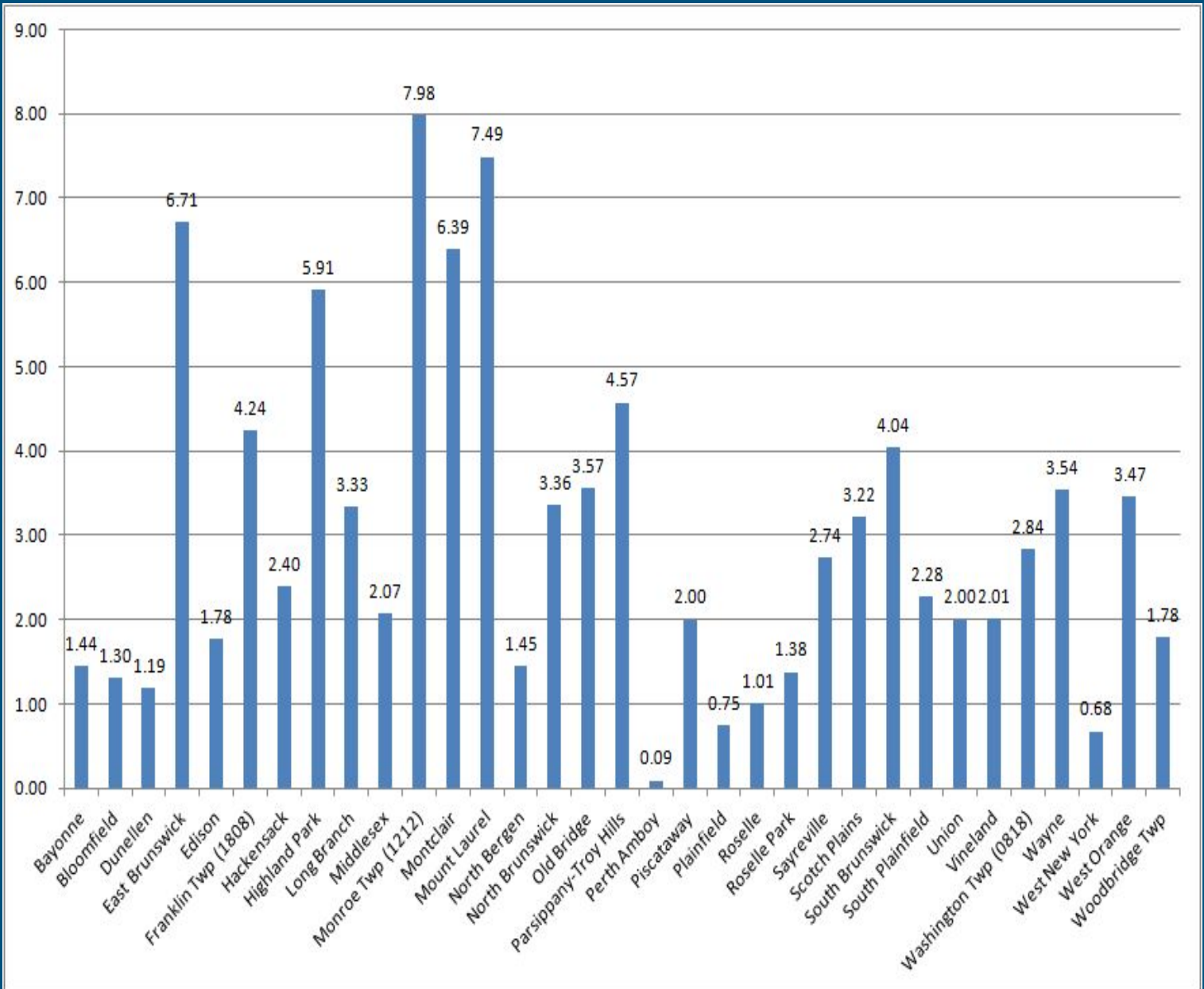
Piscataway 2016: \$2.30 *



* Building maintenance repair costs reduced spending on materials

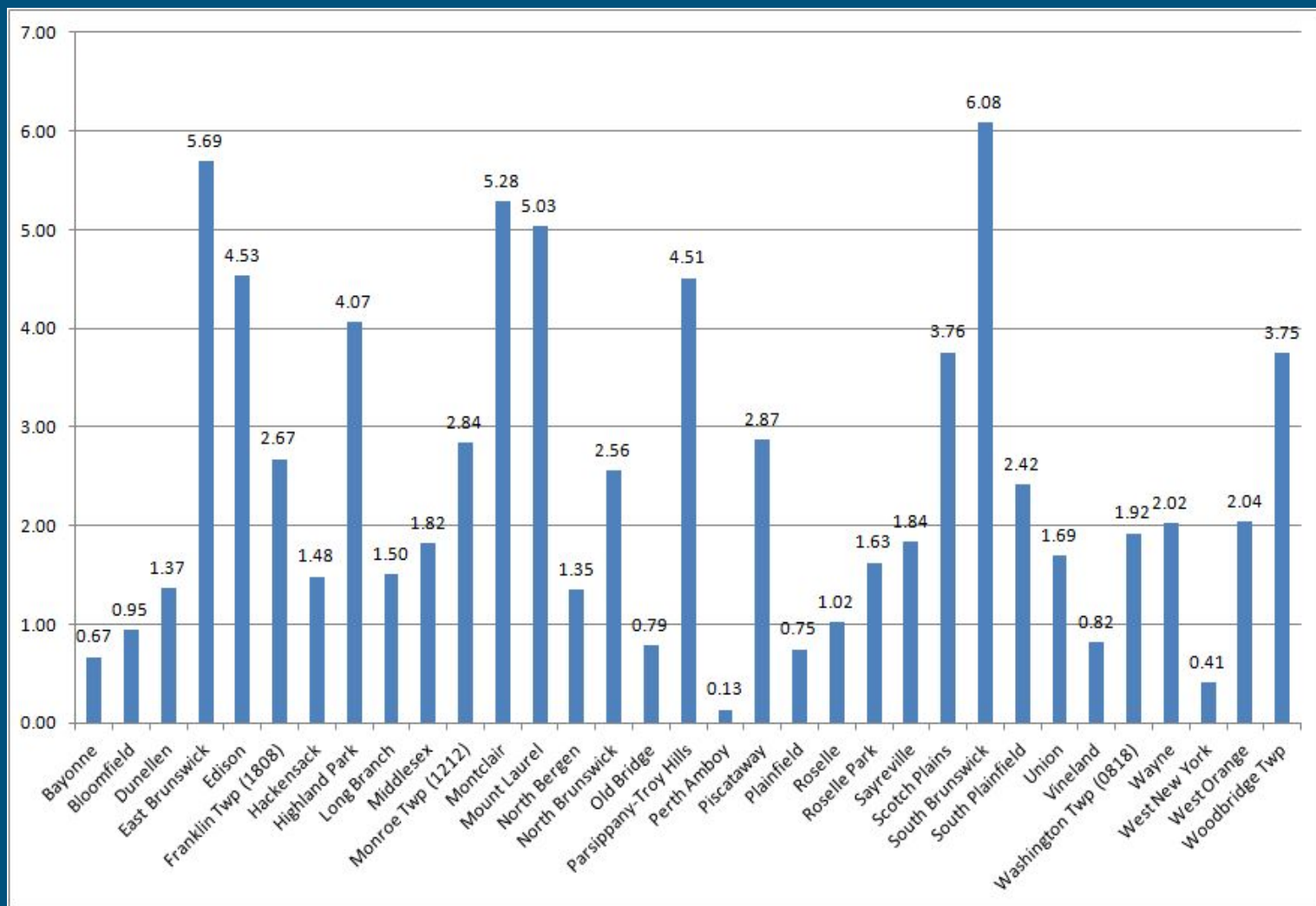
Total Adult Circulation Per Capita - 2015

Piscataway 2016: 2.07



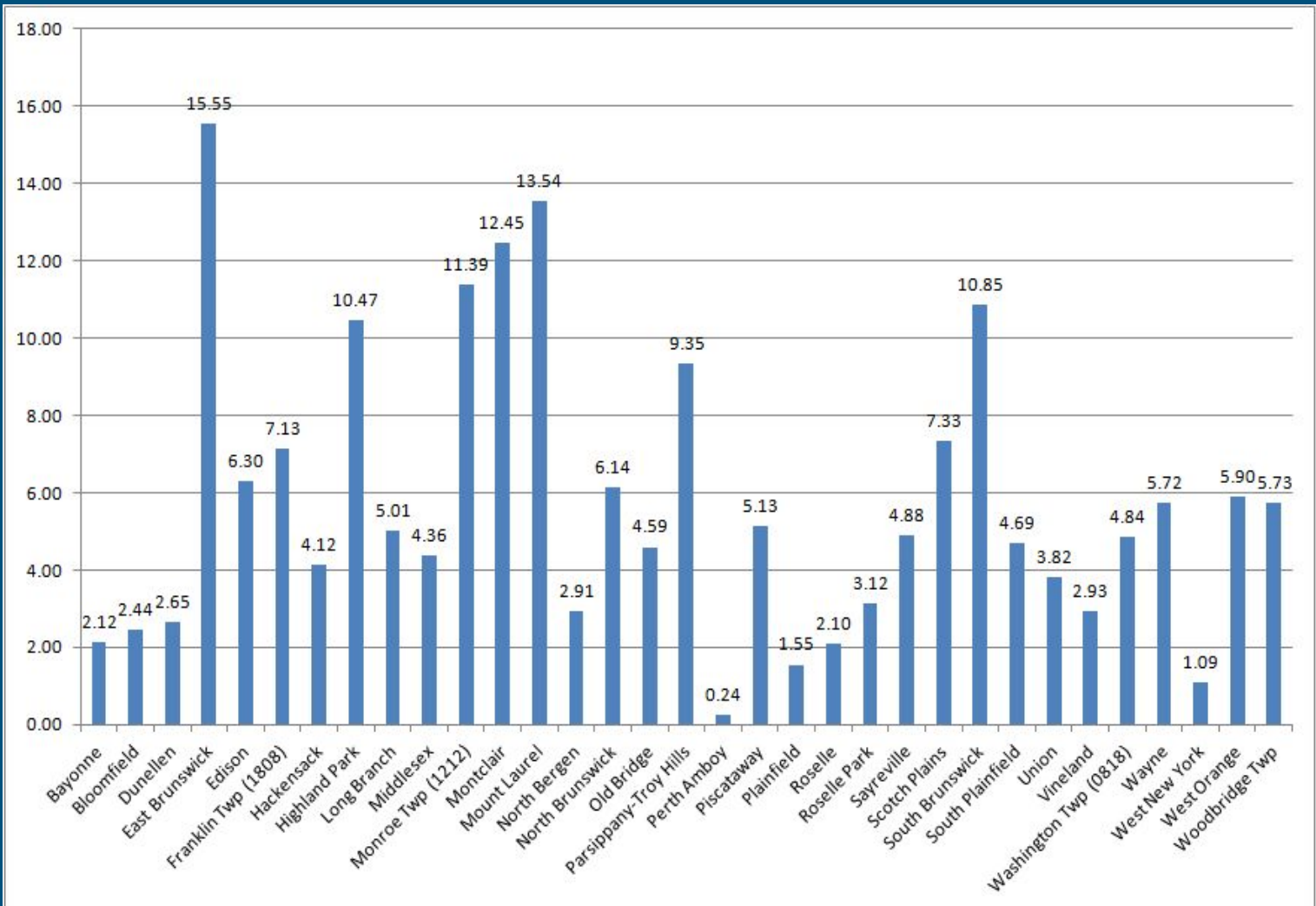
Total Children's Circulation Per Capita - 2015

Piscataway 2016: 2.59



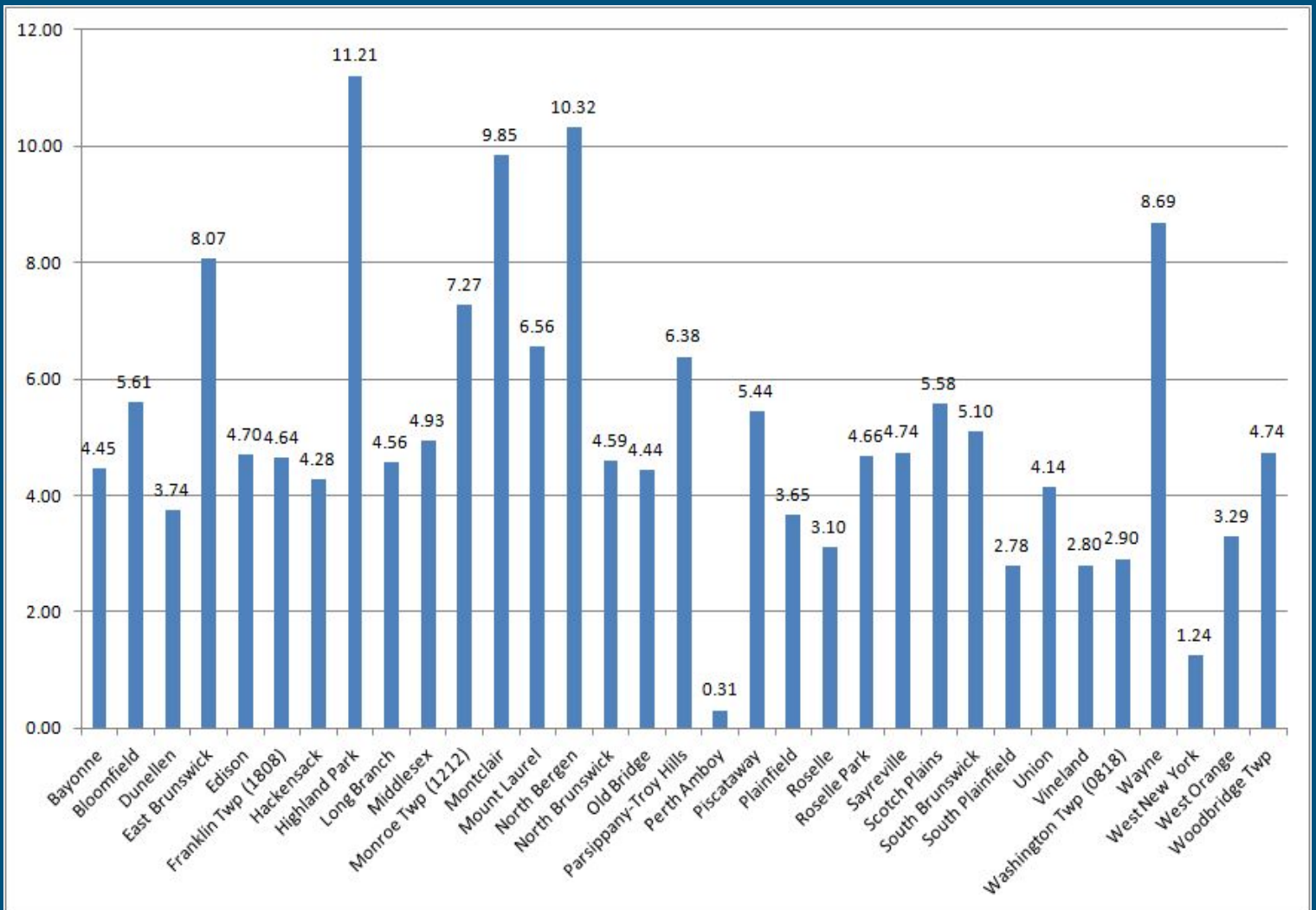
Total Circulation Per Capita - 2015

Piscataway 2016: 4.91



Library Visits Per Capita - 2015

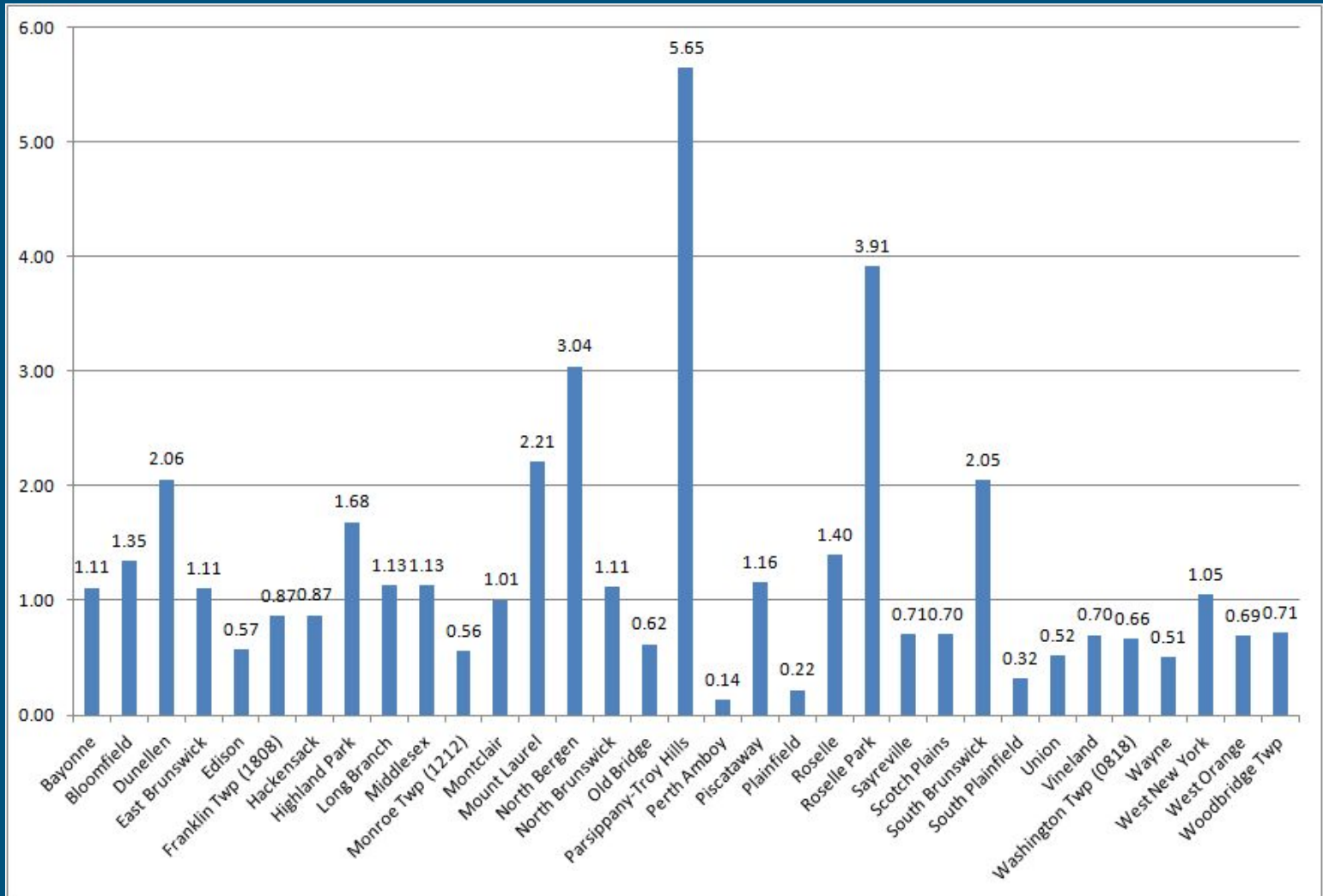
Piscataway 2016: 5.30 *



* The Westergard Branch was closed for six weeks due to renovations.

Public Internet Uses Per Capita - 2015

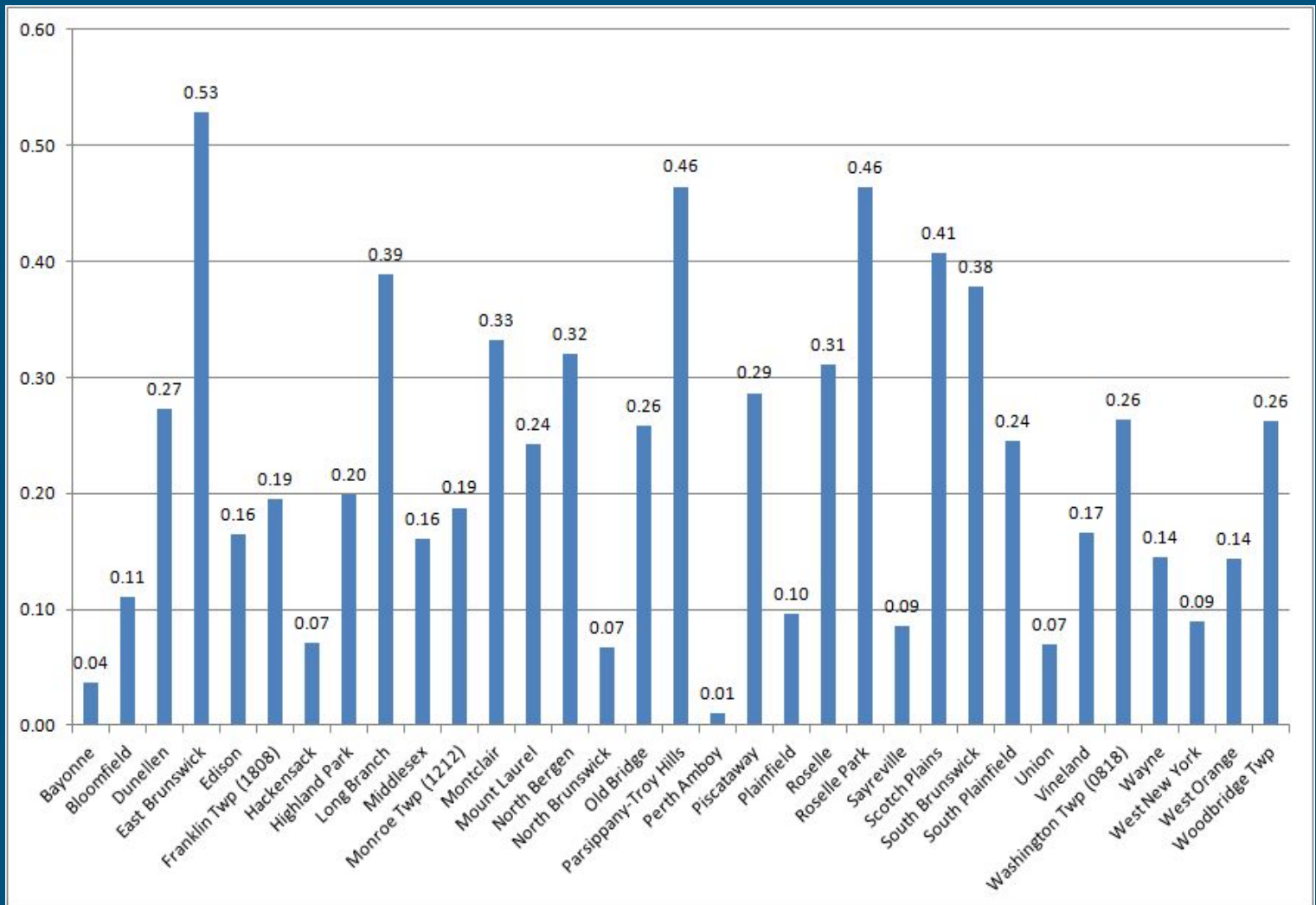
Piscataway 2016: .97 *



* The Westergard Branch was closed for six weeks due to renovations.

Children's Program Attendance Per Capita - 2015

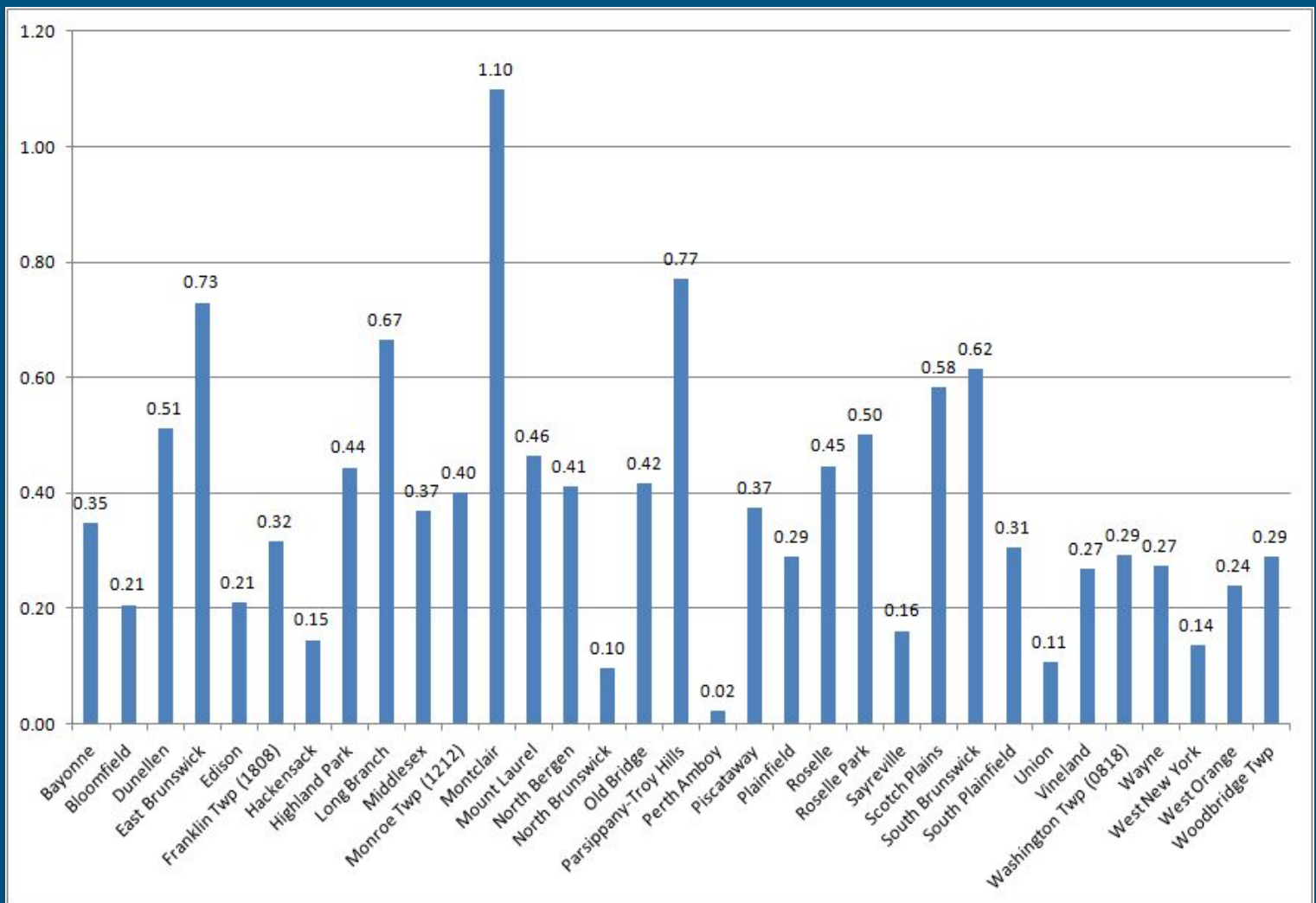
Piscataway 2016: .28 *



* The Westergard Branch was closed for six weeks due to renovations.

Total Program Attendance Per Capita - 2015

Piscataway 2016: .42



Calendar Year Budgets 2015 & 2016

DESCRIPTION	CY 15	CY 16
Postage	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00
Printing & Binding	\$0.00	\$0.00
Building Maintenance	\$24,000.00	\$20,500.00
Vehicle Repair & Maintenance	\$200.00	\$0.00
Equipment Repair & Maintenance	\$500.00	\$500.00
Prof. & Consulting Services	\$4,500.00	\$4,500.00
Books	\$112,000.00	\$112,000.00
Janitorial Supplies	\$4,000.00	\$3,700.00
Library Supplies/Office Supplies	\$11,000.00	\$13,000.00
Conferences & Meetings	\$0.00	\$0.00
Education & Training	\$2,400.00	\$2,500.00
Professional Assoc. Dues	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00
Travel	\$3,200.00	\$3,500.00
Honors & Awards	\$0.00	\$0.00
Equipment & Furniture	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00
Plumbing, A/C, Heating	\$9,000.00	\$15,000.00
Data Processing Equipment	\$2,000.00	\$5,000.00
Electricity	\$114,000.00	\$122,000.00
Water	\$8,425.00	\$8,700.00
Telephone	\$9,800.00	\$10,000.00
Printer Maintenance	\$7,000.00	\$7,000.00
Gas - Heating	\$20,535.00	\$22,000.00
Periodicals	\$10,500.00	\$10,500.00
Non Print - Technology	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
Non Print - Adult	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00
Non Print - Juv	\$6,250.00	\$6,250.00
Adult/YA Programs	\$6,100.00	\$6,100.00
Juv Programs	\$4,000.00	\$4,000.00
Admin Programs	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
Library Automation	\$76,000.00	\$74,500.00
	\$466,910.00	\$482,750.00
Medical Insurance	\$379,243.00	\$364,121.00
Medical Exams	\$0.00	
Social Security	\$122,847.00	\$127,949.00
Unemployment		
Salary & Wages	\$1,588,000.00	\$1,648,040.31
Personnel	\$2,090,090.00	\$2,140,110.31
Total	\$2,557,000.00	\$2,622,860.31

2017 Goals

- Continue *Community Conversations* to determine areas of need
- Increase income to *Piscataway Library Foundation*
- Host 4th Annual Summer Maker Camp for Piscataway children, K-12
- Partner with Piscataway Rotary on *Memorial Day Family Event*
- Expand reach of ESL and Citizenship Classes
- Continue to explore grant opportunities to increase service to the community