

Usage of the Goffstown Public Library Narrative with Graphs (graphs & charts follow this narrative)

Program Attendance, 2003—2007: This 5-year look at programming attendance is pretty self-explanatory. We experienced a large leap in attendance from 2005 to 2006 and a better stabilized rate for 2007. The large increase forced us to consider and schedule some of our larger programs at locations outside our library. In 2008 with half the year counted, we have increased program attendance 10.43%.

Total Programs, 2003—2007: This graph goes along with the graph showing attendance. You can see that leap from 2005-2006 here as well, but with a deliberate decrease for 2007. We offered fewer programs that had greater attendance, especially in the youth services area. Our attempt is to provide the best quality programming we can to the most children, resulting in fewer programs but some consistency in attendance. In 2008 we have increased the number of programs by 17.68%.

Annual Summer Reading Program, 2005-2008: The Summer Reading Program has been happening at the Goffstown Public Library for about fifty years. It makes summers our busiest time of year and it has been expanded in 2008 to include all ages. We're proud to offer the best quality programming in the area and our numbers show that our community has been taking note. We have accommodated the increases with just the addition of a part-time summer position in the nine years I have been at the library.

Annual Door Counts: These numbers are counted automatically by an automatic counter at our main entry door. Unfortunately, 2003 and 2004 note a poorly functioning counter until its replacement during 2004. The new automatic counter is much more consistent and efficient and our numbers are much more believable in 2005-2007. To date our door count has increased 11.34% over 2007.

Reference Transactions, 2003—2007: Reference transactions are the number of questions and requests for information we receive from the public. These can be requests for homework assistance, genealogical research, etc. These have fluctuated over the five years but not hugely. To date we have increased reference transactions by 2.57%.

Circulation of Materials by Age Group: The more detail, the harder to display in a graph. Circulation statistics are like that! This one shows a three-year comparison between adults, teens, and children. As you can see, it is a pretty consistent break-out with a total increase over time. This year is no exception; we have increased circulation to date by 9.73%.

Web Site Visits, 2003—2007: This graph gives an indication of the number of hits our library web site has received at www.goffstown.lib.nh.us over the past five years. As you can see, the growth has been tremendous and in 2008 we are already 68.28% above the hits in 2007.

Computer Usage, 2003—2007: This is a service public libraries didn't need to be concerned with twenty-five years ago! Now we cannot provide enough computers to meet the demands of the community. We provide the ability for people to search for jobs, read daily newspapers, complete homework, connect with college professors, take online tests, and much more. To date computer usage has grown nearly 35%.

NOTE: Please email me at dianneh@goffstown.lib.nh.us or call me at 497-2102 if you have questions about anything in the packet.