

Collection Benchmark Sample #1

Circulation Benchmark for Public Library Adult Audio Book Collection

- Fiction Titles
 - 10-12 checkouts within 1 year of purchase
 - 5-6 checkouts per year in years 2-5
 - 1-2 checkouts per year in years 5+
- Popular Non-Fiction (bestsellers, self help, biography, etc.)
 - 8-10 checkouts within a year of purchase
 - 4-5 checkouts per year in years 2-5
 - 1-2 checkouts per year in years 5+
- Informational Non-Fiction (language instruction, Shakespeare/Poetry, etc.)
 - 5-6 checkouts within 1 year of purchase
 - 3-4 checkouts per year in years 2-4
 - 1-2 checkouts per year in years 5+

Age Benchmark for Public Library Adult Audio Book Collection

75% of the collection – 5 years or newer

20% of the collection – 5 to 10 years old

5% of the collection greater than 10 years old

Among the 5% of oldest items, the circulation benchmark still applies. However, classic titles, foreign language instruction, and other less time-sensitive subjects may remain appropriate to the collection longer.

Audio books are more susceptible to damage due to the delicate nature of discs, so the majority of the materials will fall into the newer category due to more frequent condition-related weeding.

Collection Benchmark Sample #2

Circulation Benchmark for Public Library Teen Fiction Collection

- 3:1 holds to copies ratio
- 4-6 circulations in the first six months
- 3-4 circulations per year in years 1-3
- 1-2 circulations per year in years 3+

Age Benchmark for Public Library Teen Fiction Collection

75% of the collection – 2 years or newer

20% of the collection – 2-5 years

5% of the collection – greater than 5 years

Collection Benchmark Sample #3

Circulation Benchmark for Public Library Youth Video Recording Collection

- Popular and current feature films: 20-25 circulations per year, from purchase to weeding
- Non-fiction and general interest films: 10-15 per year, from purchase to weeding

Age Benchmark for Public Library Youth Video Recording Collection

75% of the collection – 3 years or newer

20% of the collection – 3-5 years old

5% of the collection – greater than 5 years

*Note: Age in this context relates to the date the material was added to the collection, not necessarily its publication date. Older publication date titles, such as Disney classics, for example, are relevant to the collection but for reasons of format fragility, need to be recently added to the collection.