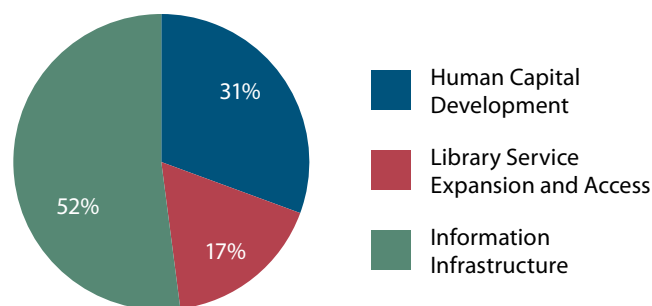


# LSTA GRANTS TO STATES PROFILE: OHIO



## Projects by Strategy, FY 2003–2006



This fact sheet provides information about the State Library Administrative Agency, LSTA Grants to States programs by category, expenditures by fiscal year (2003–2006), interview highlights with the chief officer, and the program goals for 2008–2012.

## State Library Administrative Agency Information

<b>Agency name</b>	State Library of Ohio
<b>Agency governance</b>	Under the executive branch and reports to an independent board appointed by the Department of Education
<b>Population served in 2006</b>	11,458,390
<b>FY 2006 total expenditures</b>	\$21,725,000
<b>Grants to States allotment total for FY 2003–2006</b>	\$22,508,704
<b>Chief Officer</b>	Joanne Budler, State Librarian
<b>Web site</b>	www.library.ohio.gov

## Interview Highlights with the Chief Officer, Joanne Budler

### Greatest Program Impact in the Last Five Years:

1. Automation of school libraries: We have automated 85–90 percent of the systems.
2. Statewide programs: without LSTA we could not have done 24/7 Virtual Reference. We needed big money for the equipment and software for implementing the service. We have found that when people really want an authoritative answer, they go to a librarian.

### Delivery of Library Services:

“Public libraries in Ohio have state LLGSF (Library and Local Government Support Funds), so they don't rely heavily on LSTA. This funding was based on personal income tax but has been changed in the last year. It is now called the Public Library Fund (PLF) and is 2.22 percent of the general state revenue.

“The basic LSTA requests here are more cutting edge than I've seen elsewhere; e.g., Hamilton County did a

## Program Data by Fiscal Year, FY 2003–2006

Ohio	FY 2003	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2006	All Years
<b>Total allotment</b>	\$5,505,038	\$5,643,905	\$5,667,969	\$5,691,792	\$22,508,704
<b>Number of projects reported</b>	68	63	38	50	219
<b>Largest project amount</b>	\$597,747	\$876,296	\$1,298,574	\$1,394,374	
<b>Median project amount</b>	\$21,906	\$21,084	\$41,221	\$23,753	

digitization project and wanted a cutting-edge scanner. With the schools we've been responsible for major automation; over 11–12 years we've used \$14.5 million of LSTA for school automation.”

**Challenges in the Coming Five Years:**

1. Funding: The state library took a 10 percent cut last year and there's another 10 percent coming. In the middle of all our planning for cuts, we were asked to adjust for an additional 4.75 percent cut this year. We're really hurting! It's true for public libraries too. Frozen support hurts even our libraries. And now the PLF is based on general state revenue which is in crisis.
2. Perceptions: People love libraries, but they don't understand the potential of libraries. We have a problem with marketing what we do.
3. Privacy: That's becoming an issue beyond the Internet.

**Program Goals for 2008–2012**

- To ensure that all libraries use technology to improve services and facilitate access to materials and information resources for all residents.
- Facilitate and conduct continuing education and training opportunities for library staff. All training will address the priorities of the LSTA legislation with particular emphasis on strengthening the abilities of library staff to access library resources and information to benefit the library user.
- Encourage libraries to provide information and access to library services to those having difficulty using the library.
- Support the role libraries play in children's lives, particularly children at risk, birth to age 5, and their ongoing success in school and as lifelong learners.

**Exemplary Project:  
University of Cincinnati/Netwellness**

<b>Project title</b>	Resource Sharing/ADAM Health Encyclopedia
<b>Library</b>	University of Cincinnati/ NetWellness
<b>LSTA Funds Expended FY06</b>	\$25,000
<b>Total Cost FY06</b>	\$75,000
<b>Program Category</b>	Library Service Expansion and Access

The purpose of NetWellness is to provide health information directly to the consumer via the Internet. One of the first health sites on the Internet, NetWellness is a non-profit service providing health and medical information directly to the public from Ohio's three research-intensive academic medical centers (University of Cincinnati, Ohio State University, and Case Western Reserve University). NetWellness covers a full range of health topics in an easy-to-understand format with information for all age groups and diverse populations, including minorities and the underserved. NetWellness provides the knowledge needed to increase prevention, enhance provider/patient communication, and reduce health care costs. Funds from this grant covered half of NetWellness's annual cost for ADAM, which is a key element of NetWellness. NetWellness has over one million visitors per month. During the project period, ADAM received more than 1,634,339 page views, making it the second most widely used tool on NetWellness, second only to the Ask an Expert questions and answers.