

So, you want to
go fine-free?



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Budget Data to consider

What is the impact on your revenue?

How many of your overdue fines go unpaid?



How much of your fines are from overdue vs. lost items?

Helping preserve your capital investments in collections



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REVENUE

OVERDUE VS.
LOST

ARE FINES PAID?

RETURNED ITEMS

Overdue fines are no longer a sustainable source of revenue

For many public libraries, **revenue from overdue fines account for less than 1%** of the library's overall budget.

Fines revenue is declining. More library users are borrowing e-books (which are automatically returned on the due date) and libraries use emails and automatic reminders of due-date reminders to increased on time returns.

Responsible stewardship of the library's finances require a **reexamination of the sustainability of fines and fees.**



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In 2019, Whitestone Public
Library collected **\$401.80**
in overdue fees.

If overdue fees are less than \$1000 or 1% of revenue,
is it worth the staff time and barriers?



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From 2015 to 2019,
Woodstock Public Library
saw a **decrease of 44%** in
overdue fines revenues.



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Source

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Compare your fees

How much of your fees come from **overdue fees**? How much comes from **lost fees**?

A **lost fee** pays to replace an item that isn't returned, and **is still charged to patrons even if you go 'fine-free'**.

If over 80% of your fine revenue comes from lost items, the impact of removing overdue fees is much less.



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Are your fines paid?

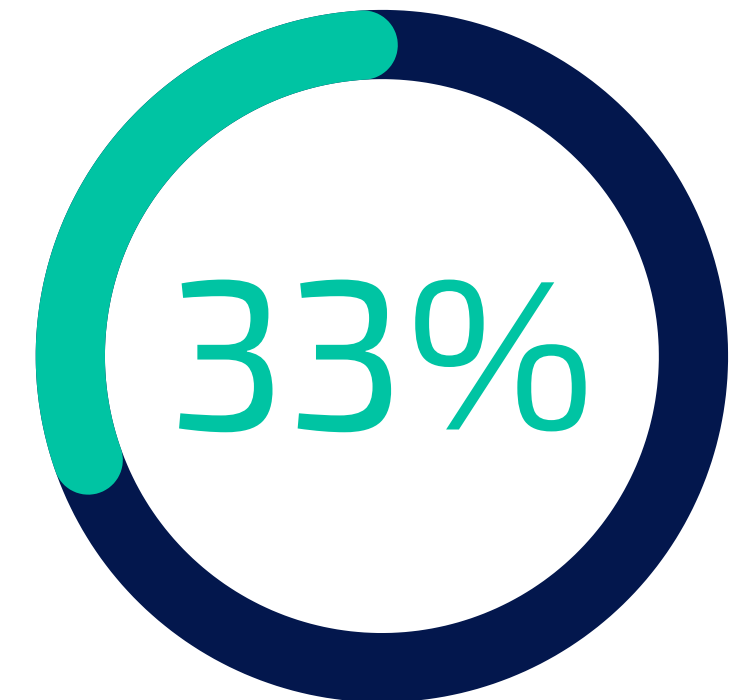
In a typical year at the Perth & District Union Public Library:



are written off



are waived



are paid



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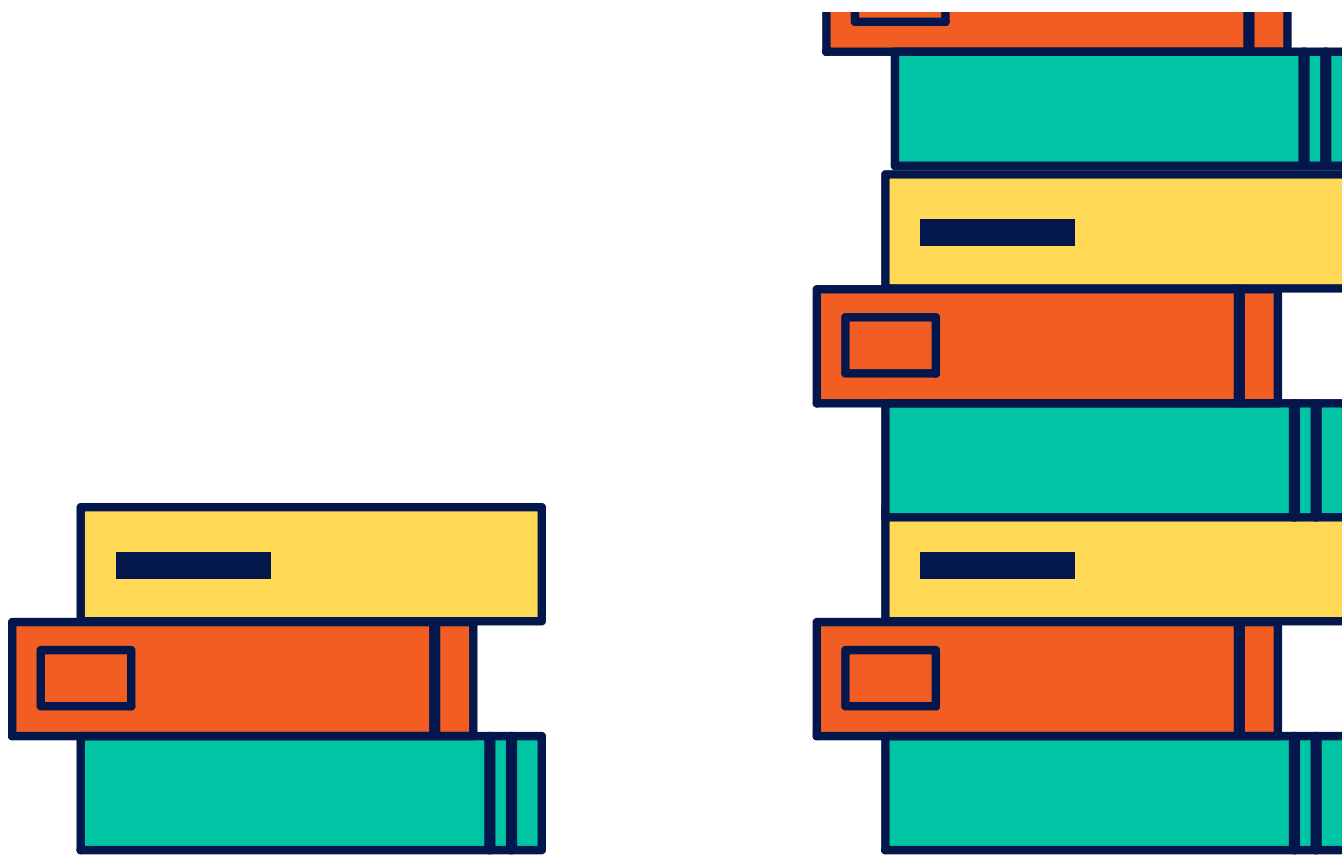
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Making sure books are returned



Everyone in our community supports the library through their tax dollars.

Many long overdue books are never returned because people are fearful of the fine that they would have to pay.

The Chicago Public Library saw a 240% increase in returned books in the month after they eliminated fines in September of 2019.



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**This new model
provides a stronger
incentive to return
books to the library,
preserving the
investment in book
collections.**



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Learn more at

accessola.com/fines-free-libraries



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