

Kosciusko County Statistics

THE NEED FOR LITERACY

Kosciusko County, Indiana, has a population over 78,560. Hispanics comprise approximately 8% of the population.

Kosciusko County has an estimated 9% adult illiteracy rate. This percentage translates to 5,500 people over age 16 needing improvement in basic prose literacy.

Nearly 15% of the adult population does not have a high school diploma or equivalency diploma.

The poverty rate in 2014 was 12.0%, and the poverty rate for children under eighteen was 16.7%. The median household income in 2014 was \$54,068. Single parent households numbered 2,151. In 2014, Food Stamp recipients totaled 6,751.

The Free and Reduced Lunch Recipients numbered 6,531. A school enrollment of 13,816 indicates that 47% of students were on the Free and Reduced Lunch Program.

In 2014, Kosciusko County had an unemployment rate of 4.9%. This percentage has improved in recent years.

(Stats Indiana; stats.indiana.edu/profiles/; National Assessment of Adult Literacy)



Kosciusko Literacy Services Annual Report 2015



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To make a lasting improvement in society, the cycle of poverty and illiteracy needs to be broken. Education is the best defense against poverty, and literacy is the foundation of all education.

Literacy is the cornerstone of personal and societal freedom and liberty.
—Cynthia L. Cates

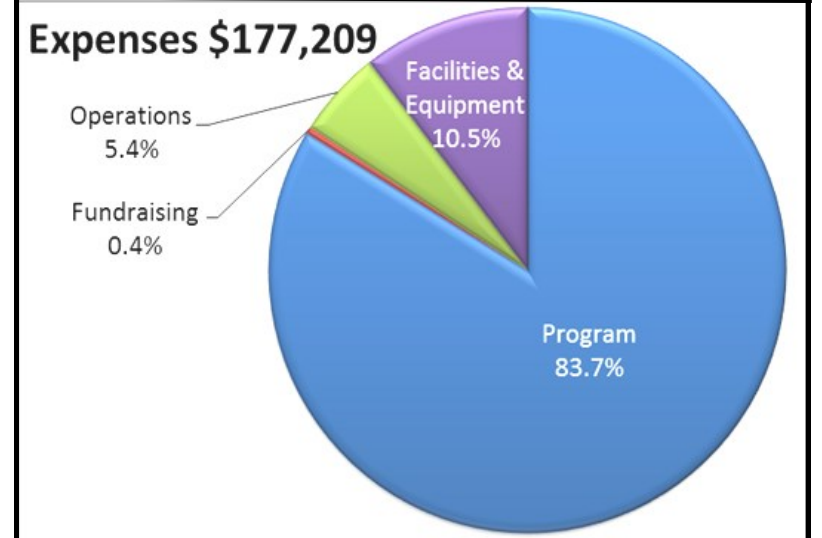
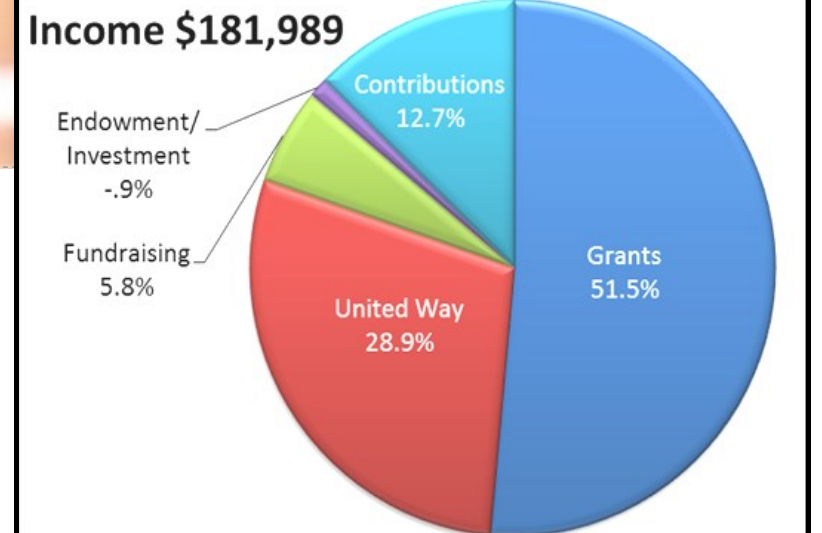
Kosciusko Literacy Services
*Building our community,
one reader at a time.*

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THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING LITERACY!

Gifts above \$30,000

First Book National Book Bank
United Way of Kosciusko County

Gifts of \$3,000 to \$15,000

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Esther Pfeleiderer Charitable Trust
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Ramsey and Wiggins, In-Kind Gift
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Special Thanks to

The Kosciusko Literacy Services
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Outgoing Board Member,
Julie Frew
Bell Memorial Public Library
Milford Public Library
North Webster Public Library
Pierceton Public Library
Syracuse Public Library
Warsaw Community Public Library
The Altrusa Club of Warsaw
Gateway Education Center Staff
and Students
The Kiwanis Club of Warsaw
Warsaw Adult Education
Donna Bower
Dr. Dennis Gaerte
Kosciusko County Jail Staff
Community Partners of Read to
Grow Children's Book Club

HIGHLIGHTS

From 2009 to 2014, the increase of third grade children on the Free and Reduced Lunch Program passing standardized reading tests show a 96.3% correlation rate to the percentage of children who were enrolled in Read to Grow Children's Book Club.

The 2015 ISTEP changes resulted in a decline in the passing rate of third grade children on the Free and Reduced Lunch Program. However, the passing rate in Kosciusko County was 7.8% higher than that of the State.

In collaboration with Warsaw Adult Education and WorkOne, 59 adults earned an Indiana High School Equivalency Diploma, and three completed the requirements for Workplace Certification.

250 adults enrolled at Warsaw Adult Education improved their education level.

978 children from low-income homes each received monthly book selections in Read to Grow Children's Book Club.

Parents of children enrolled in Read to Grow Children's Book Club read a combined 15,962 hours to their children.



Volunteer Tutors

Peggy Anuta

Christie Beldon

Ken Beres

Jonathan Beres

Nick Diggins

Kent Dresh

Zak Gammara

Joel Harter

Doreen King
Blanche Louthain

Jason Susec

&

Sue Williamson

Opening books opens the world!