

The **Yavapai Library Network (YLN)**, is a consortium of 54 academic, public, school, and special libraries established in 1985.

By offering shared resources and generating economies of scale, it allows individual libraries to provide services that are both more robust and more cost-effective than they could provide independently:

- **Patrons of member libraries have access to a shared collection with more than 1.3 million items.** This scale is more typical of library systems serving a much larger county or a medium-sized city.
- **Libraries in YLN benefit from state-of-the-art technology infrastructure and highly skilled IT staff.** These shared resources are provided at a lower cost and with less effort than independently-managed IT departments.
- **YLN creates a community of library staff across the County.** Staff of YLN member libraries share ideas, solve problems together, and focus on a shared mission and set of values.

November 2021

2021 RETURN ON INVESTMENT STUDY

The 235,000+ residents who live in Yavapai County are fortunate to be served by library systems that routinely provide more robust resources than their small size should allow.

This is thanks to the economies of scale generated by the Yavapai Library Network. Yavapai County covers 8,000 square miles in central Arizona, including portions of the Sonoran Desert in a basin to the south and the Colorado plateau to the north. While about 20% of the population lives in Prescott, the largest city and county seat of Yavapai County, most residents live in small rural communities, some of which have a population base of only a few hundred people.

In rural settings across the United States, public and academic libraries generally operate interdependently, relying on local tax bases to fund their services. Through shared services and pooled purchasing, the Yavapai Library Network allows smaller libraries to band together and function as a larger and more efficient institution. This creates significant value for the users of these libraries, whether measured in access to more robust library services, taxpayer cost savings, or return on investment.

YLN saves taxpayer resources and provides a significant return on investment for community members and participating libraries.

\$4.4 million

In average annual taxpayer savings

Return on every \$1.00 invested by member libraries

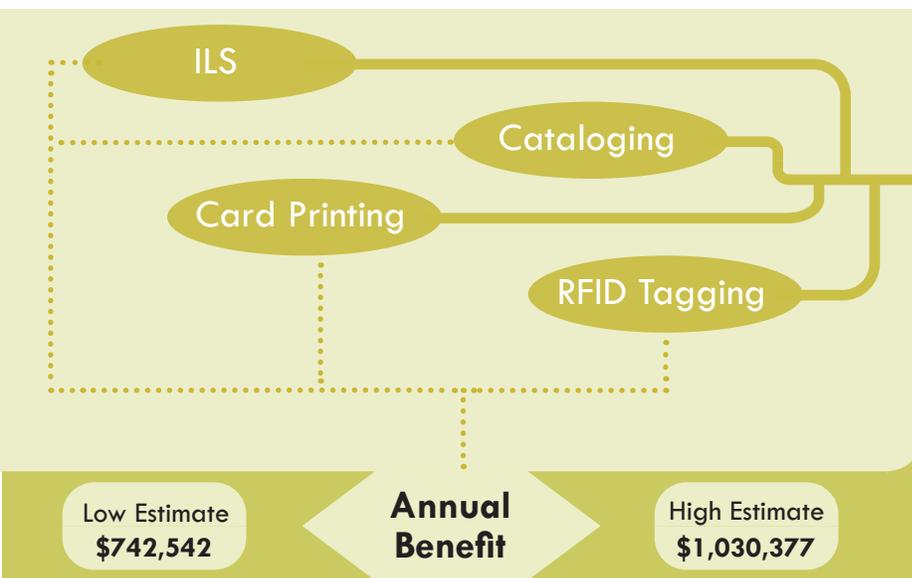
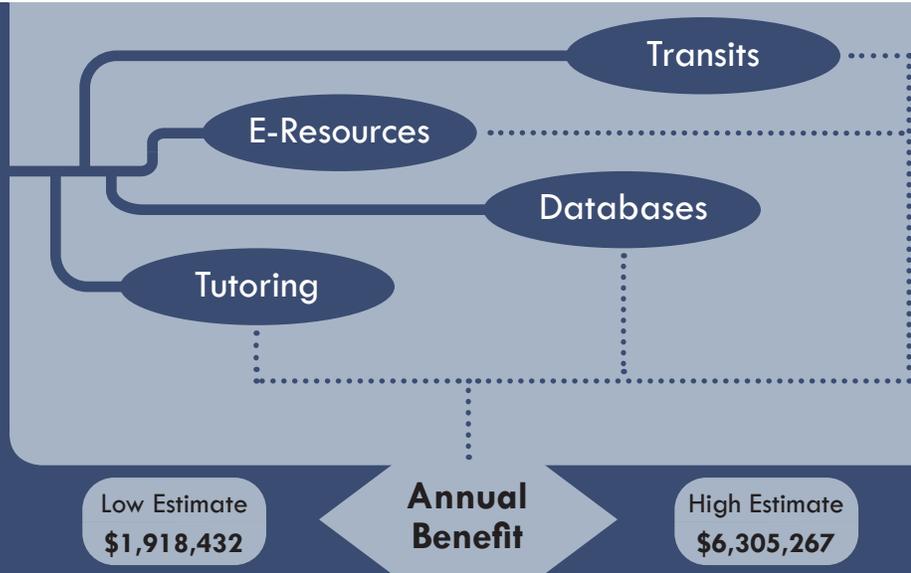
\$6.43



Three Benefit Areas



COLLECTIONS ACCESS



TECHNOLOGY & INFRASTRUCTURE



COLLABORATION & EFFICIENCY

