



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

LA County Library Surpasses 3 Million eBook and Audiobook Checkouts in 2020

Top 15 Public Library System Worldwide in Total Digital Circulation via OverDrive

LOS ANGELES (January 12, 2021) – [LA County Library](#) announced today that it reached a record-breaking 3,109,225 digital book checkouts via [OverDrive](#) in 2020, a 34% increase from 2019, making it one of the top 15 public library systems worldwide for total annual digital circulation. This accomplishment illustrates the continued growth and importance of library digital lending of eBooks and audiobooks, especially in a year with building closures due to the global pandemic. LA County Library is one of 102 public library systems worldwide that surpassed 1 million checkouts.

LA County Library has been providing readers 24/7 access to eBooks and audiobooks for several years through [OverDrive](#) and its award-winning [Libby reading app](#). Reader interest and usage has grown every year.

"At LA County Library, we pride ourselves on removing barriers to access, and we are always working toward expanding and supporting our digital library, adding more content, and making it easier to find and use," said Skye Patrick, Library Director. "The tremendous increase in checkouts of eBooks and audiobooks this year illuminates their growing importance to the people we serve, who want to be able to access library materials, wherever they are. This digital access has been especially important this year, when access to library buildings has been limited."

The highest-circulating title LA County Library readers borrowed through OverDrive in 2020 was *Becoming* by Michelle Obama. The top-circulating genre, romance, represents the most popular in a vast catalog that also includes thrillers, mystery, biography/autobiography, and children/young adult.

The top 10 eBook titles borrowed through LA County Library's digital collection in 2020:

1. *Where the Crawdads Sing* by Delia Owens
2. *Becoming* by Michelle Obama
3. *Educated* by Tara Westover
4. *Little Fires Everywhere* by Celeste Ng
5. *Crazy Rich Asians* by Kevin Kwan
6. *The Giver of Stars* by Jojo Moyes
7. *City of Girls* by Elizabeth Gilbert
8. *American Dirt* by Jeanine Cummins
9. *Nine Perfect Strangers* by Liane Moriarty
10. *The Silent Patient* by Alex Michaelides

The top 5 audiobook titles borrowed through LA County Library's digital collection in 2020:

1. *Becoming* by Michelle Obama
2. *The New Jim Crow* by Michelle Alexander
3. *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone* by J. K. Rowling
4. *The Subtle Art of Not Giving a F*ck* by Mark Manson
5. *Where the Crawdads Sing* by Delia Owens
6. *Educated* by Tara Westover
7. *Talking to Strangers* by Malcolm Gladwell
8. *You Are a Badass* by Jen Sincero
9. *1984* by George Orwell
10. *Girl, Wash Your Face* by Rachel Hollis

Readers in Los Angeles County just need a valid library card or [digital library card](#) to access digital books from LA County Library's OverDrive-powered digital collection. Readers can use any major device, including Apple^(R), Android[™], Chromebook[™] and Kindle^(R) (US only). Visit LACountyLibrary.OverDrive.com or download the [Libby app](#) to get started and borrow eBooks and audiobooks anytime, anywhere.

About LA County Library

Founded in 1912, LA County Library is one of the largest and most innovative library systems in the US. It offers free public resources including books, music, multimedia materials, computer and internet access, and educational and recreational services to 3.4 million residents across 3,000 square miles through its 86 libraries and mobile fleet of 18 vehicles, including 3 Bookmobiles, 6 MākMōs (maker mobiles), 1 Reading Machine, and 8 outreach vehicles. LA County Library is dedicated to reducing barriers and increasing access to and equity of public services for all. To learn more, visit LACountyLibrary.org and follow @LACountyLibrary on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#).

About OverDrive

OverDrive strives to create “a world enlightened by reading.” Serving a growing network of 65,000 libraries and schools in 84 countries, OverDrive delivers the industry's largest digital catalog of ebooks, audiobooks, magazines and other content through award-winning apps. The [Libby](#) reading app for libraries is one of *Popular Mechanics'* 20 Best Apps of the Decade, while the student reading app [Sora](#) is one of *TIME's* Best Inventions of 2019. Founded in 1986, OverDrive is based in Cleveland, Ohio USA and was named a Certified B Corp in 2017. www.overdrive.com

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