County of Fresno
Public Library
Sally Gomez, Director and County Librarian

NEWS RELEASE

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Fresno County Residents Borrow More Than $120 Million Worth of eBooks and Audiobooks

Fresno County, CA – Fresno County readers have now borrowed more than 10 million eBooks and audiobooks through the Fresno County Public Library, a milestone reached by only 10 other California library systems.

At an average retail price of $12 per title, those checkouts add up to more than $120 million worth of digital books, all available at no cost with a Library card.

“Digital borrowing has changed when and where residents can use the Library,” said Sally Gomez, County Librarian and Director of the Fresno County Public Library. “They can download a book from home, listen during their commute, or find their next read at any hour. That convenience matters, and so does the money people save by borrowing instead of buying.”

Digital borrowing has grown by nearly 50% in just three years, with annual checkouts increasing from approximately 1 million to nearly 1.5 million. Digital books now account for approximately 47% of all materials borrowed from the Library.

When the Library introduced eBooks in 2011, residents borrowed 33 titles on the first day. Today, they average more than 4,000 digital books per day, from a collection that has grown to more than 128,000 eBook and audiobook titles and more than 172,000 copies.

So, what have Fresno County residents been reading and listening to?

The audiobook edition of *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer’s Stone* is the Library’s most popular digital title of all time, with more than 10,400 checkouts. It also tops the Library’s eBook list with more than 4,400 checkouts.

James Patterson is the Library’s most checked-out digital author, with more than 126,000 checkouts, followed by Nora Roberts, J.K. Rowling, David Baldacci, and Rick Riordan.

Cardholders can borrow eBooks and audiobooks at any time through Libby, the OverDrive reading app. Fresno County residents who need a Library card can sign up in person at any of the Library’s 33 locations. More information is available at fresnolibrary.org.

About Fresno County Public Library
For over 100 years, the Fresno County Public Library has been a place to connect, grow, and be inspired. With 33 branches countywide, the Library offers free access to books, technology, educational programs, and community resources for all ages. To learn more, visit fresnolibrary.org.

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