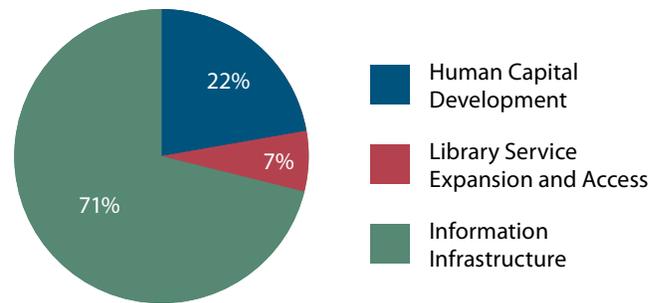


# LSTA GRANTS TO STATES PROFILE: IOWA



## Projects by Strategy, FY 2003–2006



This fact sheet provides information about the State Library Administrative Agency, LSTA Grants to States programs by category, expenditures by fiscal year (2003–2006), interview highlights with the chief officer, and the program goals for 2008–2012.

## State Library Administrative Agency Information

<b>Agency name</b>	State Library of Iowa
<b>Agency governance</b>	Under the State Department of Education
<b>Population served in 2006</b>	2,967,270
<b>FY 2006 total expenditures</b>	\$5,821,000
<b>Grants to States allotment total for FY 2003–2006</b>	\$7,242,894
<b>Chief Officer</b>	Mary Wegner, State Librarian
<b>Web site</b>	<a href="http://www.statelibraryofiowa.org">www.statelibraryofiowa.org</a>

## Interview Highlights with the Chief Officer, Mary Wegner

### Greatest Program Impact in the Last Five Years:

1. The continuing program with the biggest impact is statewide resource sharing and the virtual union catalog and interlibrary loan system that we developed. Requests go to the smallest, closest, like-type libraries, so that small libraries as well as large ones loan as well as borrow.
2. We use LSTA funds for databases, which are available to colleges, universities, and public libraries. The department of education buys the same ones for K–12, so it's a continuation of resources for the kids.
3. Training for librarians using LSTA-funded staff has also had a great impact. We have direct state aid tied to state standards, and continuing education is part of the standards. Successful training efforts have included Telling the Library Story, which helps librarians think of the role of the library in the community and to demonstrate the value of the library; the

## Program Data by Fiscal Year, FY 2003–2006

Iowa	FY 2003	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2006	All Years
<b>Total allotment</b>	\$1,668,229	\$1,806,556	\$1,858,287	\$1,909,822	\$7,242,894
<b>Number of projects reported</b>	16	5	5	5	31
<b>Largest project amount</b>	\$575,767	\$558,622	\$630,856	\$682,657	
<b>Median project amount</b>	\$9,309	\$528,337	\$356,859	\$505,624	

summer library program; early childhood literacy; the public library's role in information literacy; and more.

**Delivery of Library Services:**

“There’s continuing emphasis on local control. We have 543 independent municipal public libraries and virtually no library systems. That makes training and continuing education a big job for the State Library. It has been easy to get consensus to spend LSTA funds on statewide projects. It’s easy to be critical of having so many small libraries, but the correlation between size and quality is not absolute. We think about the critically important role that the public libraries play in their communities—whether large or small—and develop our programs to serve the range of libraries that we have.

“The state is divided into seven service areas; each regional service office has a couple of professionals. We collaborate with them, but they don’t report to the State Library; the seven have a separate line in the state budget.”

**Challenges in the Coming Five Years:**

1. Addressing the whole idea of larger units of services vs. local control. We’re dealing with 99 counties, 900 towns.
2. Funding more generally for the State Library and local libraries. There are also funding equity issues, a wide variance in per capita support levels from town to town and between city and county.
3. There’s strong interest in State Library development of a statewide open-source shared automation system.
4. Librarians say to us “help us keep up with technology.”

**Program Goals for 2008–2012**

- Provide expanded, equitable access to library information, materials and services to all Iowans.
- Sustain a state of lifelong learners by developing early literacy skills, a love of reading and information literacy skills.
- Promote resource sharing and partnerships as a way for libraries to provide cost-effective, high-quality service to Iowans.

- Develop libraries’ capacity to provide excellent service to Iowans.

**Exemplary Project: State Library of Iowa**

<b>Project title</b>	Statewide Leadership
<b>Library</b>	State Library of Iowa
<b>LSTA Funds Expended FY06</b>	\$682,657
<b>Total Cost FY06</b>	\$682,657
<b>Program Category</b>	Information Infrastructure

The State Library of Iowa strengthens libraries by providing state-level leadership, coordination, and planning. Library Development provides Iowa libraries with consulting services on statewide programs, technology, books and reading and other library issues by phone, e-mail, and onsite contacts. Libraries received consulting in the areas of library law, E-Rate, literacy, advocacy, and funding. The State Library defines high-quality library service, monitors libraries’ progress in improving services to Iowans, and provides incentives to Iowa public libraries for improving.