



BROADBANDUSA

CONNECTING AMERICA'S COMMUNITIES



Hearst Free Library

BTOP Public Computing Center Goals and Objectives

Montana's project promotes three BTOP statutory purposes:

- 1) provide improved access to broadband service to consumers residing in under-served areas of the country;
- 2) provide broadband education, awareness, training, access, equipment, and support to libraries; and,
- 3) stimulate the demand for broadband, economic growth, and job creation.

Objectives

- 1) increase broadband speeds at participating libraries up to 21 mbps;
- 2) cut wait times in half by increasing the total number of workstations and expanding library operation hours;
- 3) improve access by purchasing ADA compliant software, hardware, and furniture, and through minor renovation projects aimed at increasing accessibility of computing center facilities;
- 4) offer courses to increase computer literacy; and
- 5) provide Internet and library resources to rural Montana using a mobile computer lab.

Successes

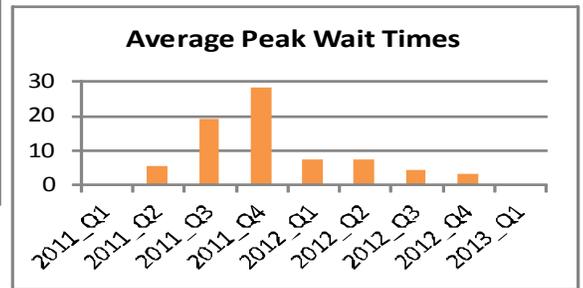
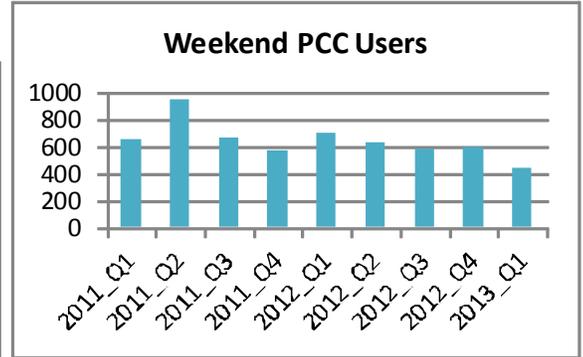
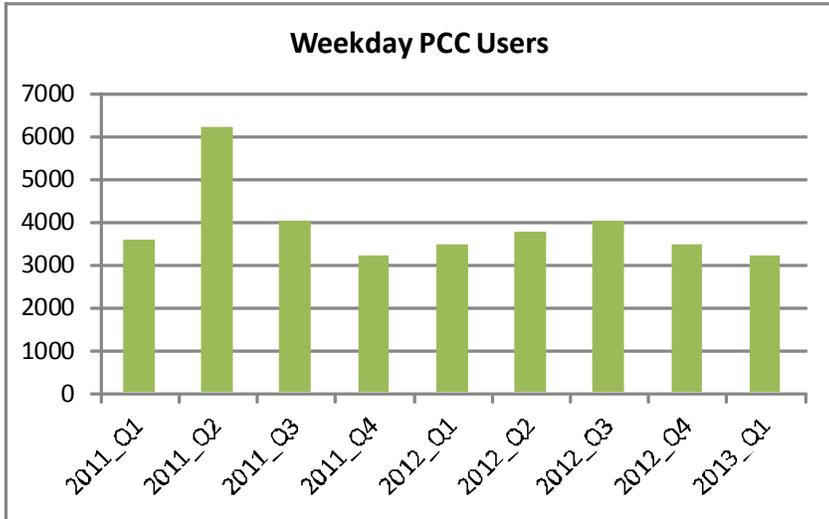
Internet Service Provider	Original Broadband Speed	Current Speed (mbps)
Dunne Communications/RF Wave	1.50	31.00

Hearst Free Library Computing Center Now Offers...

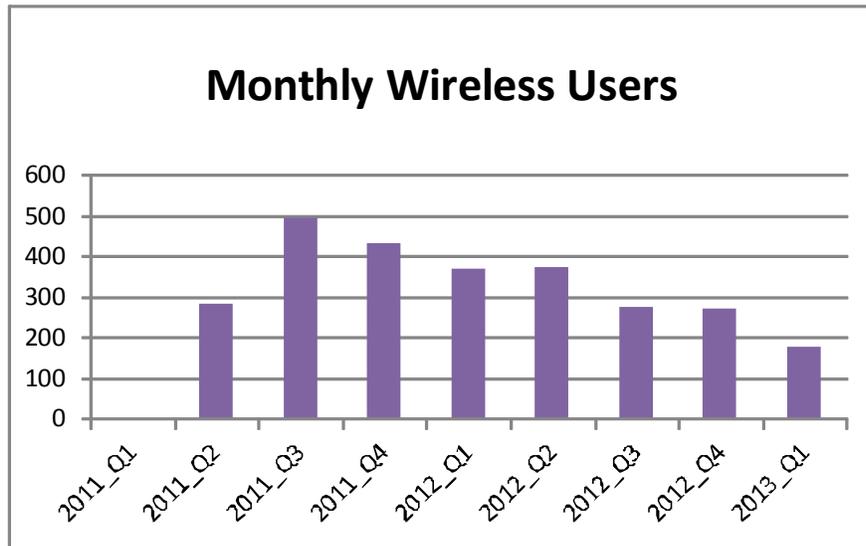
- ◆ 5 desktop computers
- ◆ 5 laptop computers
- ◆ 2 children's computers
- ◆ 2 ZoomText 10 low vision software
- ◆ 1 ZoomText Camera with stand
- ◆ 2 low dexterity mice
- ◆ 2 low vision keyboards
- ◆ 2 Bierley magnification mice
- ◆ 10 privacy screens
- ◆ 1 LaserJet printer
- ◆ 1 scanner
- ◆ iPad
- ◆ Kindle Keyboard
- ◆ Kindle Fire
- ◆ Nook Tablet
- ◆ Samsung Galaxy Tab
- ◆ Google Nexus
- ◆ Coby Snapp digital video camera

- > Articles about the availability of these new resources ran in the Anaconda Leader (Nov 30) and the Montana Standard (Dec 6).
- > Laptops checked out 31 times in March. I am still working with staff and patrons to understand that laptops are computers like any other (that is, there are no operational differences between a laptop and a 'regular' computer).
- > Cards and bookmarks available at the senior center and Job Service office.
- > Weekly computer help sessions at the senior center continue to be successful with 1-4 attendees.

Public Computer Center Usage



Patrons who have taken advantage of public wireless access



Benefitting from Technology Training

Length of Program (per hour basis)	Number of Patron Training Hours	Number of Library Staff Training Hours
73.49	806	78