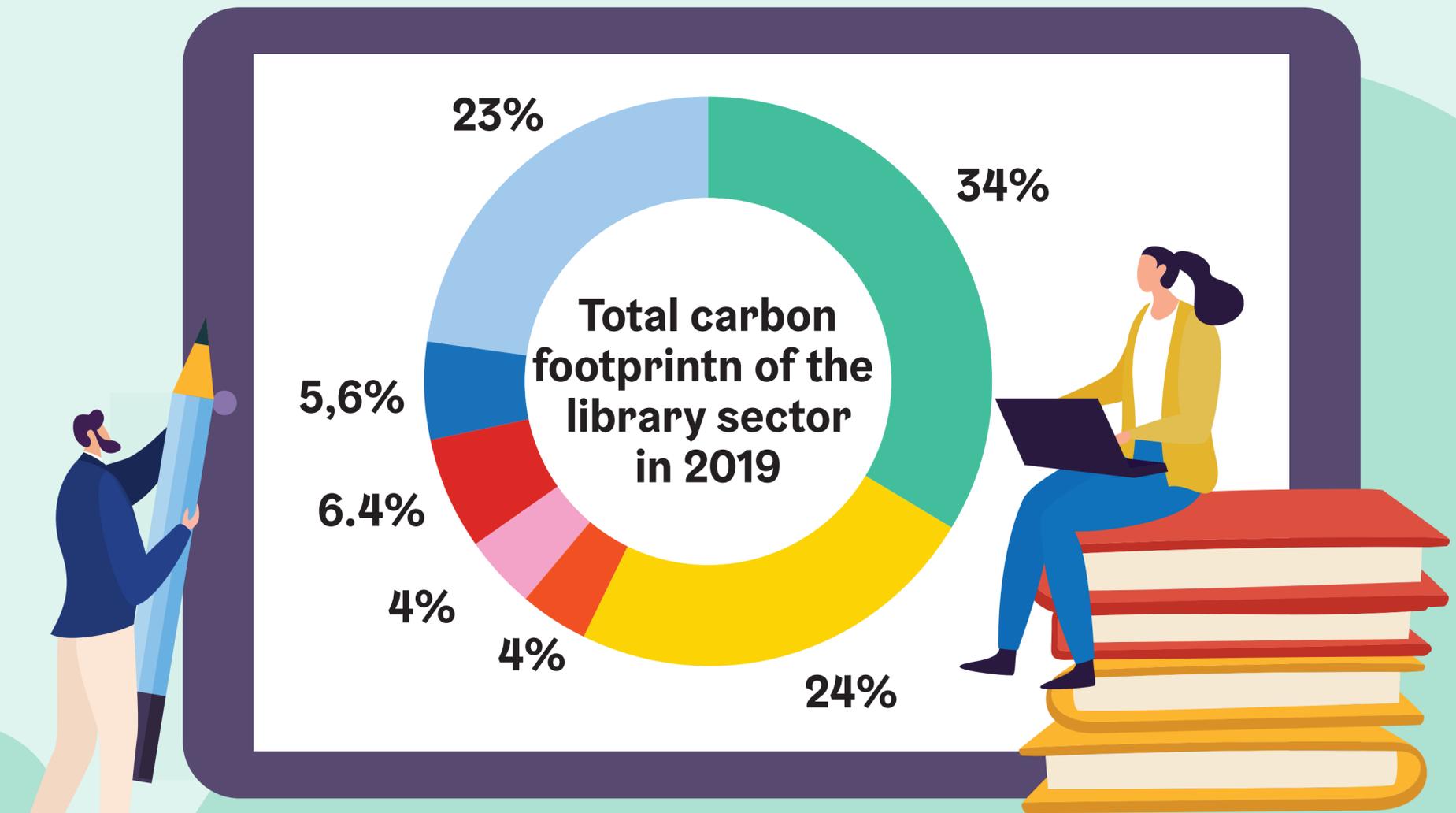


The carbon footprint of your library

The carbon footprint of your library is very moderate, on average 32 tonnes of CO₂e – this corresponds to the annual emissions of 3130 Finns.

The majority of library emissions arise from the building itself and its daily activities: heating, electricity and waste management account for more than 60 per cent of all library emissions.

In other respects, library activities are environmentally friendly: the share of material and other purchases is approximately 25% of the emissions. Material transportation, mobile libraries and commuting account for 16% of the emissions.



- Heating
- Electricity
- Waste
- Mobile libraries
- Transport
- Commuting
- Book purchases
- E-book purchases
- Other purchases



A visit to the library keeps carbon emissions under control

The use of library services promotes a 1.5-degree lifestyle and the objectives of the Paris Agreement on climate change

Your library supports climate action



1.5°C



- The library is located within a short and easy distance.
- The library includes countless books, magazines and other material, such as music.
- The library offers premises, information technology and other devices for sharing.
- The library borrows items that are not used on a daily basis.

You can influence the carbon footprint of your own library use

- How you make your way to the library impacts the carbon footprint of your visit.
- Collect your reservations and return your loans on time to improve material circulation and reduce unnecessary transportation. Also keep in mind e-materials and e-services; they reduce the need for logistics.
- Sharing premises, information technology and other equipment is environmentally friendly.
- Borrowing items reduces the need to own them – in many libraries you can use a sewing machine, borrow sports equipment or a power drill and use digital devices.



CO₂ emissions of different forms of transport per passenger-kilometre.



243.8
g/CO₂/pkm



17.7
g/CO₂/pkm



0
g/CO₂/pkm



The carbon handprint of a library card

Libraries produce carbon handprint for their customers as the customers are able to reduce their carbon footprint by using library services.

The carbon handprint of a borrowed library book is the difference in the emissions of a purchased book and a borrowed book, 0.7 kg CO₂e.

When this figure is multiplied by the total number of book loans of libraries and divided by the number of borrowers, the carbon handprint of the library card is obtained.

We look forward to seeing you at the library!



Public libraries are committed to the UN's Sustainable Development Goals

Our key objectives are:

3. Health and well-being: Reading promotes well-being and library card holders live longer.

4. Good education: Libraries support the reading and lifelong learning of children, young people and adults alike. The environmental aspect is included in all library activities, from storytime to art exhibitions and events.

10. Fighting inequality: Public libraries provide free-of-charge basic service that is available to all. Libraries do not tolerate any form of bullying or discrimination. Libraries are responsible employers.

11. Sustainable cities and communities: Libraries follow municipal environmental guidelines and many libraries have their own environmental programme, certificate or ecological subsidy system.

12. Responsible consumption: Libraries are pioneers in circular economy and act as sharing economy platforms. Libraries offer premises and tools for sharing, reducing the need for consumption.

13. Climate actions: Libraries recycle and conserve energy. Libraries provide up-to-date and reliable information on environmental issues and help to find information.



'Yleisten kirjastojen ympäristötietoisuus 2020-luvulle' (Bringing environmental awareness of public libraries to the 2020s) project

<https://sdgs.un.org/goals>

Reading is a low-emission recreational activity with a positive carbon handprint.

The carbon footprint of a book consists of the emissions associated with its materials, manufacturing and transportation. A purchased book is often read by just one person.

The carbon handprint of a borrowed book consists of the positive impact of the borrowing on the book's emissions. A library book is read often, up to 100 times before it is removed from the library collection and recycled.



Using library services is an environmental act



Visit to the library

0.6 kg
CO₂e.



Movie night for two
at the cinema

0.5 kg
CO₂e.



Bag of candies

0.5 kg
CO₂e.



Emissions related to reading (kg CO₂e)

