

Multnomah County Library Survey

Here are the results of the Multnomah County Library survey on funding.

Multnomah County conducted this survey from July 6 to July 31 to gather the public's views on how to best fund library services. Below are the statistical results of the survey. Three of the questions (***numbers 4, 6 and 8**) allowed survey takers to provide detailed responses. To see those responses in their entirety, download the document **fullsurvey.pdf**, which is available at web.multco.us

Q1. Which of the 19 branches do you and your family use most? (Please check all that apply)

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Albina Library	9.3%	1887
Belmont Library	16.8%	3392
Capitol Hill Library	4.6%	936
Central Library	33.1%	6697
Fairview/Columbia Library	2.3%	472
Gregory Heights Library	4.3%	870
Gresham Library	8.2%	1665
Hillsdale Library	10.0%	2022
Holgate Library	5.5%	1120
Hollywood Library	17.4%	3530
Kenton Library	5.8%	1169
Midland Library	9.1%	1845
North Portland Library	8.2%	1663
Northwest Library	6.7%	1365
Rockwood Library	2.5%	514
Sellwood-Moreland Library	6.8%	1370
St. Johns Library	4.8%	976
Troutdale Library	2.8%	568
Woodstock Library	9.1%	1838
	answered question	20244
	skipped question	120

Q2. How often do you visit the library?

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Daily	3.8%	749
Weekly	48.7%	9696
Monthly	28.8%	5743
Not monthly, but within the last six months	14.7%	2930
Hardly ever	3.4%	687
Never	0.2%	41
Don't know	0.4%	70
	answered question	19916
	skipped question	448

Q3. How do you and your family use the Multnomah County Library system? (Please check all that apply)

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Check out books and other media	98.7%	19481
Programs for young and school-aged children	17.0%	3364
Programs for seniors	3.4%	669
Resources for job seekers	6.7%	1328
Programs for small business owners	2.6%	508
Programs for English language learners	1.2%	228
Computer access	19.3%	3802
Other (please specify)	11.4%	2252
	answered question	19731
	skipped question	633

Q4. How well used is your local library?

*

Answer Options	Response Count
	16303
answered question	16303
skipped question	4061

**Q5. Please rank the following in order of personal importance: (“1” being most important)
*Your rankings will automatically be reordered upon your selection.**

Answer Options	1	2	3	4	5	6	Rating Average	Response Count
Programs for young and school-aged children: story hours for babies and toddlers, programs for parents to teach their children to read, summer reading and more.	13.3% 2512	21.8% 4122	23.7% 4478	19.6% 3711	11.9% 2255	9.8% 1845	3.24	18923
All branches and Central Library open at least six days a week.	27.7% 5231	28.7% 5436	16.2% 3063	8.0% 1520	11.4% 2147	8.0% 1515	2.71	18912
All branches and Central Library open with full hours - seven days a week.	23.2% 4383	10.9% 2054	10.2% 1930	8.8% 1664	8.9% 1680	38.1% 7202	3.84	18913
Programs for senior citizens: Computer classes and book delivery for those who are home-bound.	1.6% 297	6.8% 1290	16.0% 3026	29.0% 5480	31.6% 5970	15.1% 2859	4.27	18922
Programs and resources for jobseekers, small business owners, homework help for students and English language learners.	2.1% 402	8.4% 1591	16.9% 3193	25.6% 4845	27.7% 5238	19.3% 3657	4.26	18926
Current Materials: new books, magazines, electronic versions of books, large print versions of book, access to paid search engines for research and other library materials.	32.3% 6107	23.5% 4439	17.1% 3241	9.0% 1708	8.6% 1633	9.5% 1790	2.67	18918
							answered question	18934
							skipped question	1430

Q6. What is the biggest threat to our local libraries?

*

Answer Options	Response Count
	14633
answered question	14633
skipped question	5731

Q7. All in all, how important are local library services compared with other local public services?

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Very important	76.0%	14327
Somewhat important	20.6%	3884
Not too important	1.9%	361
Not at all important	0.5%	99
Don't know	1.0%	188
	answered question	18859
	skipped question	1505

Q8. Why are they that level of importance to you?

*

Answer Options	Response Count
	15441
answered question	15441
skipped question	4923

Q9. Looking forward to the future, here are options for consideration for public library funding. Please rank the following three choices: (1 being the most desirable) *Your rankings will automatically be reordered upon your selection.

Answer Options	1	2	3	Rating Average	Response Count
<p>MAINTAIN CURRENT LEVY & LIMITED Library SERVICE - The current three-year levy (passed by voters in May at a rate of \$0.89 per \$1,000 of assessed value) resulted in a fourteen percent cut in hours and staff, even with a special subsidy from Multnomah County. All libraries have shortened hours and are closed on Mondays. Weekly, the library is open only 44 hours - down from 57 hours/week. Property tax levies, like that for the libraries, are subject to compression by other tax measures (meaning not all taxes can be collected due to property tax restrictions) and reserves have been used up.</p>	25.4% 4695	23.0% 4257	51.6% 9541	2.26	18493
<p>INCREASE COST OF LEVY FOR FULL SERVICE RESTORATION - Multnomah County voters can restore library hours and services by renewing the temporary local option levy and increasing the rate to \$1.19 per \$1,000 of assessed value (because the full rate cannot be collected due to property tax rules) , this levy requires at least \$10 million in subsidy from Multnomah County's General budget which is also funded by your property tax dollars.</p>	13.1% 2428	61.3% 11337	25.6% 4728	2.12	18493
<p>Establish a LIBRARY DISTRICT to restore library services and fully fund library services into the future - Multnomah County voters can establish a library district. The district under consideration would establish a permanent funding rate of \$1.22 per \$1,000 of assessed value. Because a district is subject to very little ompression" from other property tax measures it would be a more stable funding source and would not require additional funding from Multnomah County's general fund budget."</p>	61.5% 11370	15.7% 2899	22.8% 4224	1.61	18493

answered question 18493
skipped question 1871

Q10. If the Multnomah County Board of Commissioners decides to place a measure to establish a Library District they could choose to put it on the ballot in November 2012 or November 2014. Some people say that we should vote on a Library District sooner so we don't have to suffer an additional 2 years of reduced library hours and services. Other people say that we should wait until 2014 because voters just passed a renewal of the levy and there will be other funding measures for schools on the ballot this fall. Tell us what you think.

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Place a measure to establish a Library District in 2012	49.7%	9120
Place a measure to establish a Library District in 2014	38.7%	7093
Don't place a measure to establish a Library District	11.6%	2130
	answered question	18343
	skipped question	2021