American Library Association Youth and Library Use Study

Topline

Field Dates: June 13-21, 2007 Sample size: 1,262 youth, aged 8-18

Methodology

Harris Interactive® conducted the study online within the United States between June 13 and 21, 2007 among 1,262 youth, aged 8 - 18. Figures for age, sex, and region were weighted where necessary to bring them into line with their actual proportions in the population. Propensity score weighting was also used to adjust for respondents' propensity to be online.

All surveys are subject to several sources of error. These include: sampling error (because only a sample of a population is interviewed); measurement error due to question wording and/or question order, deliberately or unintentionally inaccurate responses, and nonresponse (including refusals).

With one exception (sampling error) the magnitude of the errors that result cannot be estimated. There is, therefore, no way to calculate a finite "margin of error" for any survey and the use of these words should be avoided.

With pure probability samples, with 100 percent response rates, it is possible to calculate the probability that the sampling error (but not other sources of error) is not greater than some number. With a pure probability sample of 1,262 youth one could say with a ninety-five percent probability that the overall resu

Base: All Respondents

1. Does the community where you live have ...?

A public library and/or library website
A school library and/or libr

Base: Have visited Public library or both in the past year

5 How often do you visit your local public library and/or library web site?

More than once a day	1%
Daily	1%
A couple times a week	14%
A couple times a month	28%
Once a month	12%
A few times a year	32%
Once a year	5%
Not sure	5%

Base: Have visited School library or both in the past year

6 How often do you visit your local school library and/or library's web site?

More than once a day	2%
Daily	7%
A couple times a week	31%
A couple times a month	29%
Once a month	9%
A few times a year	14%
Once a year	2%
Not sure	5%

Base: Have visited Public library or both in the past year

7. When you visit the local public library and/or library website, what do you go there for? Please select all that apply.

11 7	
To borrow books and other materials for my own personal use	78%
To borrow books and other materials for school assignments	67%
To read books there	34%
To use the library website for information and research	34%
To study there	26%
To use the library computers for fun	25%
For events (For example a poetry slam, open mic night, book club,	

For events (For example a poetry slam, open mic night, book club, writers' workshop, Teen Advisory Group meeting, computer workshop, arts & crafts workshop)

To hang out with friends	18%
Other	12%

20%

Base: Have visited School library or both in the past year

8.	When you visit the local school library and/or library website, what do you		
	there for? Please select all that apply.	_	
	To borrow books and other materials for school assignments	75%	
	To borrow books and other materials for my own personal use	60%	
	To use the library website for information and research	46%	
	To study there	42%	
	To read books there	38%	
	To use the library computers for fun	26%	
	To hang out with friends	21%	
	For events (For example a poetry slam, open mic night, book club,		
	writers' workshop, Teen Advisory Group meeting, computer workshop,		
	arts & crafts workshop)	17%	
	Other	9%	

Base: All RespondentsWhich of the following are true for you? I would use my local public library more often if...? Please select all that apply.

It was closer to where I live

38%

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Demographics

Gender Male Female	51% 49%
Age 8	8%
9	9%
10	9%
11	9%
12	9%
13	9%
14	9%
15	10%
16	10%
17	9%
18	9%
Region	
East	21%
Midwest	33%
South	22%
West	24%