



Literary Review for Sharon Public Library

Overview

A literature search yielded the following three key resources:

- Who Uses Libraries and What They Do at Their Libraries by John B. Horrigan
- Library Usage and Engagement by John B. Horrigan
- Libraries are Dealing with New Demand for Books and Services During the Pandemic by Thomas Wilburn

Key Findings

Who Uses Libraries and What They Do at Their Libraries by John B. Horrigan

This article by Pew Research Center provides demographic information for website patrons. Below is a summary of the highest percentage categories:

- Women, parents with minors, 16-29 and 30-49 age groups, \$75,000 or more household income, college or higher-level education, black/non-hispanic, and suburban or urban community types (Horrigan, 2015).

Library Usage and Engagement by John B. Horrigan

This article by Pew Research Center provides usage data for the most common library website tasks. Below is a summary in order of the highest percentage use to the lowest:

- Search the library catalog for print books, audiobooks, ebooks, CDs or DVDs; reserve or place holds on print books, audiobooks, ebooks, CDs or DVDs; renew a book, DVD or CD; conduct research or get homework help; use an online database; read book reviews or get book recommendations; borrow or download an ebook; check for or pay overdue fines (Horrigan, 2016).

Libraries are Dealing with New Demand for Books and Services During the Pandemic by Thomas Wilburn

This article by NPR reports on the increase of people obtaining library cards and the increased demand for digital material since March 9th. Lending data provided by the library's free service called OverDrive also shows there has been a huge spike across the country in the following items:

- 100% increase in children's ebooks, 50% increase in weekly library ebooks, 50% increase in juvenile/young adult fiction ebooks, more than a third increase in adult fiction ebooks, and 14% increase in audiobooks (Wilburn, 2020).