

The Seattle Public Library recently conducted a public survey in 8 languages that asked Seattle residents about their perceptions of the Library, how Library use had shifted during COVID-19 and preferred Library hours. We received more than **4,600 responses**, which generally matched the City’s demographics. The results, summarized below, will inform how we expand levy-supported open hours and more. Find more at spl.org/Levy. Thank you!

Most Respondents View the Library as Essential

SPL is essential, like roads, schools and utilities



SPL improves the overall quality of life in the city



SPL is particularly important for people with less access to resources and opportunities



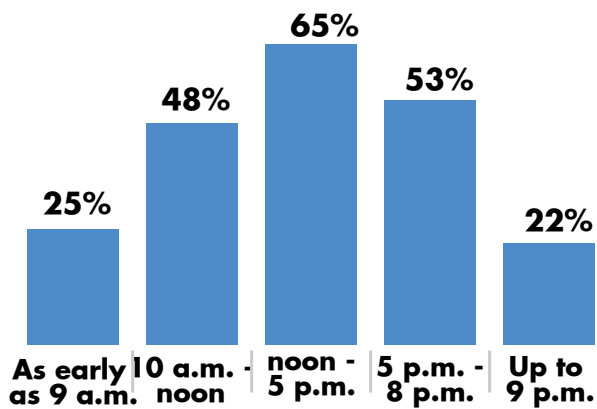
SPL is welcoming to all



Responses by Branch

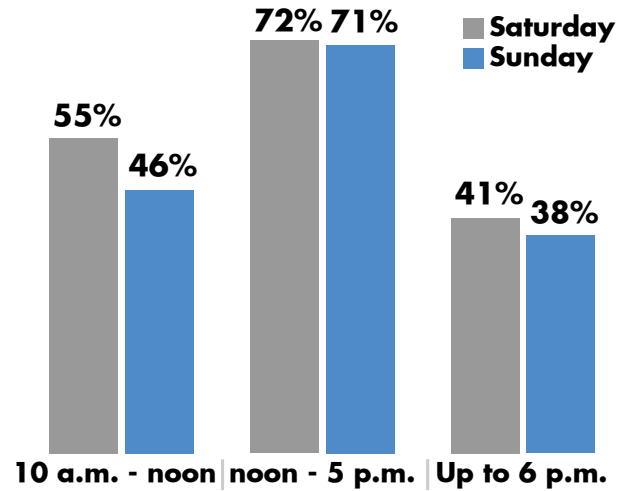


Weekday Preferences by Time of Day



Survey respondents indicated that they were most likely to visit the Library between noon and 5 p.m. during the week.

Weekend Preferences by Time of Day



On the weekend, survey respondents indicated they were most likely to visit between noon and 5 p.m, followed by morning hours.

Other Key Findings

Most survey respondents prefer Library open hours that reflect the needs of their neighborhoods over the same schedules citywide.

Most respondents ranked providing books and materials as the most important Library service. Neighborhoods in Southeast Seattle ranked welcoming spaces, computer access and supportive services as more important than in other parts of the city.

Respondents indicated that they were more likely to visit the Library on the weekend. Saturday was the most popular day of the week, followed by Sunday and Friday.

Overall, Mondays were the least popular day, but there were differences between neighborhoods. Patrons at NewHolly, Rainier Beach and Columbia branches preferred Mondays over Sundays.

Respondents supported exchanging some open hours for 24/7 access to physical materials (e.g. holds pick-up lockers), but with the least support in Southeast Seattle.

About the Library Levy

The 2019 Library Levy, which Seattle voters overwhelmingly approved in August 2019, is a seven-year, \$219.1 million property tax levy to maintain and enhance Library services. It supplements city funding to support core Library services, including open hours, collection development, technology services, children's programming, building maintenance and seismic retrofit projects.

Read about the levy and its most recent accomplishments at www.spl.org/Levy.