

2010 SCHOOL LIBRARIES COUNT!

SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT
ON DIGITAL RESOURCES



SURVEY BACKGROUND

In 2007, the American Association of School Librarians (AASL) initiated an annual survey of school library programs. The development of this longitudinal survey project was mandated by the AASL Board as part of the association's strategic plan with the goal to provide research and statistics to be used at the national, state and local levels when advocating for School Library Programs. The survey was developed through the AASL Research & Statistics committee with AASL Board review and final approval.

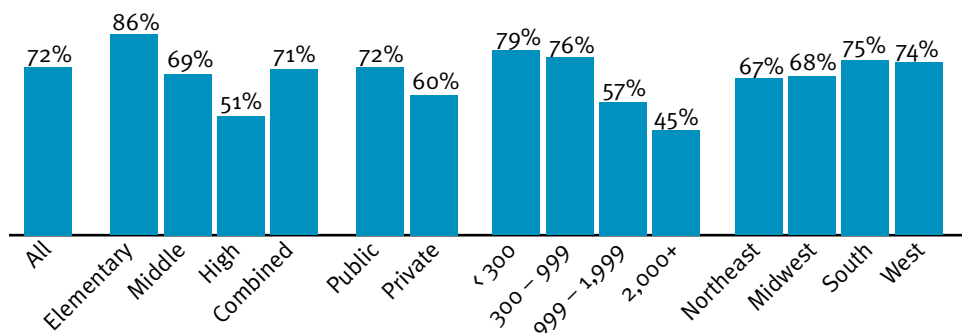
In addition to annual survey questions, starting in 2008 AASL began adding a series of questions that change annually and address a current issue within the school library field. In 2010 AASL focused these questions on Digital Content and Resources. This report summarizes those findings.

2010 marked the fourth year of AASL's "School Libraries Count!" survey, with 5,191 respondents. The results represent a ± 1.4 percentage points at the 95% confidence level.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS: MOVING HARD COPY TO DIGITAL CONTENT

- The majority of those surveyed (72%) have moved less than five percent of previous hard copy materials to digital content. Elementary schools and those with enrollment of less than 999 students are the least likely to have moved their materials.
- Only a scarce few schools (4%) report moving 25% or more of their materials to digital content. Schools with enrollment of 2,000 or more and High Schools are the most likely to have moved hard copy materials to digital content.

PERCENT OF SCHOOLS THAT REPORTED LESS THAN 5% CONTENT MOVED TO DIGITAL



ACCESS TO DATABASE SUBSCRIPTIONS

- Nearly one in two schools (49%) report that their libraries have more than five database subscriptions. This trend is stronger among schools with high enrollment, private schools, the Northeast, Midwest and areas with high poverty.

TEACHERS PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND DIGITAL CONTENT

- School library staff, along with technology staff, are the most frequently mentioned sources of providing professional development for teachers in the use of digital content.

Six in ten (61%) say school library staff provide professional development for teachers in the use of digital content.

Nearly as many (57%) report that technology staff would also provide professional development for teachers.

Fewer report relying on district level library/technology staff (49%) or outside vendors (34%).

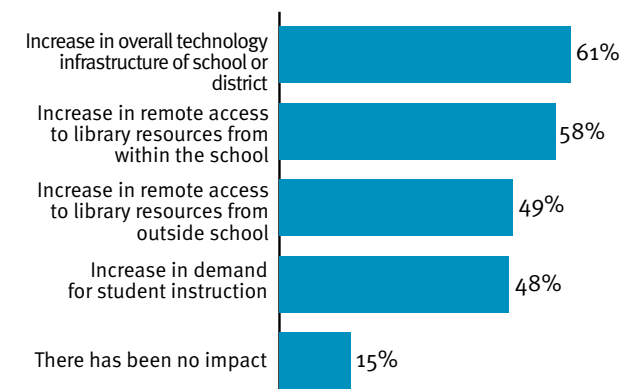
- The majority of library staff already spend time training teachers on the use of digital resources.

Seven in ten school library staff (71%) spend between one and six hours or more a week training teachers on digital resources, with more than half (54%) spending between 1 and 2 hours.

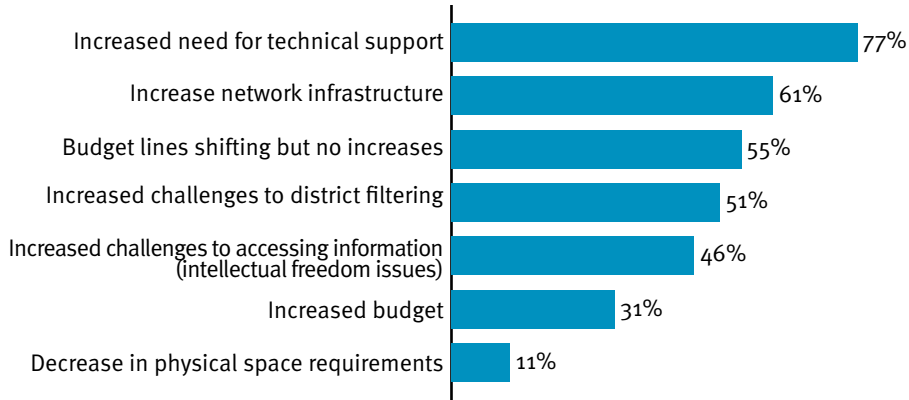
IMPACT OF DIGITAL CONTENT ON SCHOOL LIBRARY NEEDS

- Increased digital content has an important impact on access needs and school library support, with six in ten of those surveyed reporting an increase in overall technology infrastructure in schools (61%).
- Few report (15%) that increased digital content is having no impact at all on access needs and school library support.
- With the growing use of digital content, the vast majority of school librarians believe there will be an increased demand for technical support (77%) and network infrastructure (61%).
- More than half believe budget lines will shift but without increases (55%), while a third believe budget lines will increase due to the impact of the digital content.

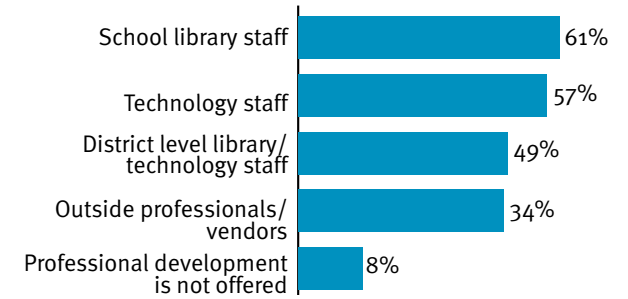
PERCEIVED IMPACT OF INCREASED DIGITAL CONTENT ON ACCESS NEEDS AND SCHOOL LIBRARY SUPPORT



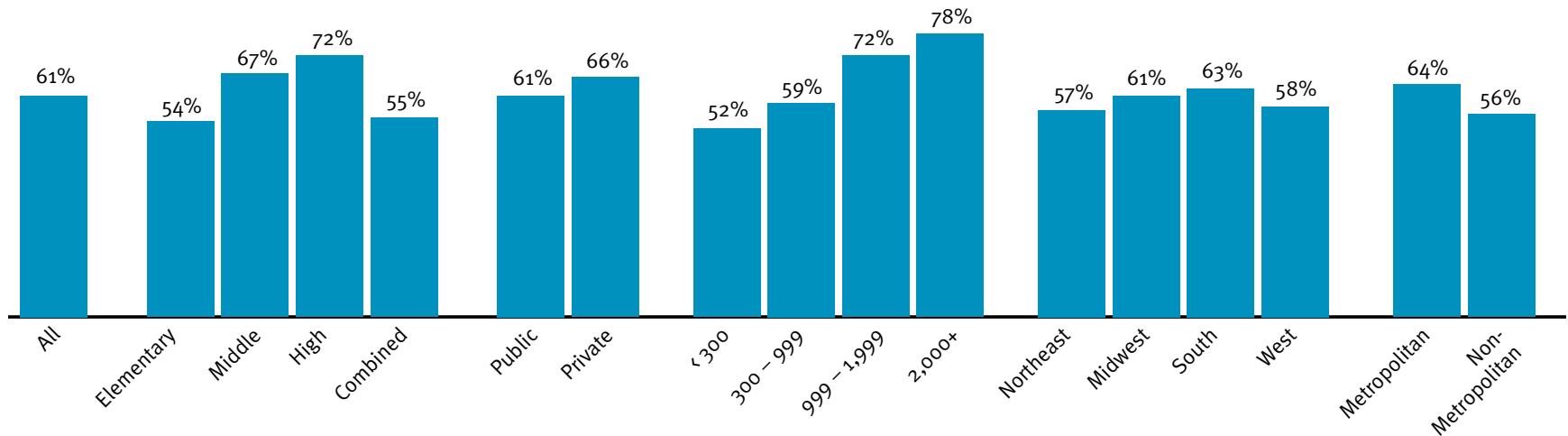
PERCEIVED IMPACT OF DIGITAL CONTENT OVER THE NEXT 5 YEARS



SOURCE OF PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR TEACHERS ON DIGITAL CONTENT



PERCENT OF SCHOOLS WITH SCHOOL LIBRARY STAFF AS SOURCE FOR DIGITAL CONTENT PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT





THE MISSION OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL LIBRARIANS IS TO ADVOCATE EXCELLENCE, FACILITATE CHANGE, AND DEVELOP LEADERS IN THE SCHOOL LIBRARY FIELD.

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION
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