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***LIBRARY JOURNAL/SCHOOL LIBRARY JOURNAL SURVEY REPORTS  
ON EBOOK USE IN U.S. LIBRARIES NOW AVAILABLE***

**New York, New York, December 22, 2010**—Between 2002 and 2009, ebook sales in the United States had the highest growth rate of any book category. In an effort to gain insight into the effect of ebooks on the future of public, academic, and school libraries, *Library Journal* and its sister publication *School Library Journal* commissioned a unique survey of librarians in August 2010. Three reports distilling the responses of over 1800 librarians by market—*Survey of Ebook Penetration and Use in U.S. Public Libraries*, *Survey of Ebook Penetration and Use in U.S. Academic Libraries*, and *Survey of Ebook Penetration and Use in U.S. School Libraries*—are now available for purchase from Media Source, Inc., parent company of *Library Journal* and *School Library Journal*.

“There is enormous interest among librarians in providing their users with robust and easy-to-use ebook collections. At the same time, the ebook landscape for libraries can be confusing,” said Brian Kenney, Editorial Director of *Library Journal* and *School Library Journal*. “These reports provide a comprehensive look at of the state of ebooks in three library markets while pointing out the limitations of ebooks in libraries—as well as the enormous opportunity this format represents. Anyone setting strategic directions for ebooks—publishers, distributors, or librarians—needs these reports.”

According to the reports, ebooks solve some problems for libraries because they don’t wear out, get damaged, or require storage space; they don’t need to be replaced and they are not easily misplaced or lost by careless users. In addition, ebooks can “circulate” remotely, allowing libraries to serve those who can’t physically come to the library. Some of the disadvantages of ebooks noted by surveyed librarians were lack of a universally compatible format, user-unfriendliness, high cost, and lack of technical and consumer support.

The following data from the LJ/SLJ reports reveals interesting trends in ebook usage by markets:

- Seventy-two percent of public librarians said they currently offer ebooks, and 32 percent of those not currently offering them plan to in the next twelve months.
- Academic librarians are committed to ebooks, with 94 percent of those surveyed saying they currently offer them, and half of those who don’t plan to in the next few years.
- About a third of polled school librarians offer ebooks to users, with the likelihood of carrying ebooks increasing by grade level.

**ABOUT *LIBRARY JOURNAL***

Founded in 1876, *Library Journal* is one of the oldest and most respected publications covering the library field. Over 100,000 library directors, administrators, and staff in public, academic, and special libraries read *LJ*. *Library Journal* reviews over 8,000 books, audiobooks, videos, databases, Web sites annually, and provides coverage of technology, management, policy, and other professional concerns.

**ABOUT *SCHOOL LIBRARY JOURNAL***

*School Library Journal* is the most influential publication serving the largest market for new children's and young adult books and is the only full-service publication serving the youth and school library market. It reaches over 35,000 elementary, middle/junior, and senior high school librarians and youth service librarians in public libraries. SLJ educates its readers to become leaders in technology, reading, and information literacy.

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