

MLA Social Networking Survey

Summer 2007

In what type of library/institution do you work?		
Hospital library	150	30%
Academic health sciences library	243	49%
Health-related corporate library	12	2%
Specialty health library (e.g., veterinary, mental health)	10	2%
Not in a library environment (e.g., vendor of library materials)	11	2%
Not working; I'm a student in library school	4	1%
Not working; I'm retired	1	0%
Other	64	13%
Total	495	

How many years have you been in the library or health information field?		
3 years or less	66	13%
4 to 10 years	99	20%
11-20 years	133	27%
21 years or more	193	39%
Do not wish to provide	2	0%
Total	493	

Please indicate the number of full-time employees in your library:		
In a one-person library	91	19%
2 to 5 staff	94	19%
5 to 10 staff	54	11%
11 to 20 staff	46	10%
20 to 40 staff	98	20%
41 to 60 staff	54	11%
More than 60 staff	46	10%
Total	483	

What is your opinion of the importance of the following technologies for sections, chapters, and SIGs of MLA?	Very Important	Somewhat important	Neutral	Little importance	Not important at all	Don't know	Total Resonnes
Blogs	135 28%	218 45%	83 17%	29 6%	13 3%	8 2%	486
Wikis	129 26%	197 40%	107 22%	40 8%	9 2%	9 2%	491
Media Sharing	97 20%	181 37%	136 28%	40 8%	12 2%	20 4%	486
RSS News Feeds	174 36%	171 35%	83 17%	35 7%	11 2%	13 3%	487
Instant Messaging	47 10%	95 20%	140 29%	109 23%	73 15%	20 4%	484
Web-based office tools	125 26%	177 37%	110 23%	39 8%	10 2%	23 5%	484
Social Networking Service	77 16%	154 32%	133 27%	58 12%	39 8%	24 5%	485

How often do you use the following collaborative software in your professional life?	Daily	Weekly	Monthly	Occasionally	Never	Don't know	Total Responses
Blogs	154 32%	99 20%	47 10%	126 26%	61 13%	0 0%	487
Wikis	38 8%	145 30%	84 17%	128 26%	92 19%	1 0%	488
Media Sharing	19 4%	66 14%	79 16%	150 31%	155 32%	13 3%	482
RSS News Feeds	165 34%	85 17%	37 8%	83 17%	114 23%	3 1%	487
Instant Messaging	86 18%	57 12%	18 4%	63 13%	258 53%	3 1%	485
Web-based office tools	64 13%	79 16%	65 13%	100 21%	165 34%	13 3%	486
Social Networking Service	39 8%	55 12%	48 10%	122 26%	206 43%	8 2%	478

Does your work network block access to any of the following Websites		
Blogger / Blogspot (e.g., MLA member Lori Zipper's Patient Safety blog)	27	5%
Bloglines	21	4%
Wordpress.com blogs (e.g., OMG tuna is kewl)	15	3%
Blogs installed on individual sites (e.g., Mark Funk's MLA President's blog)	14	3%
del.icio.us	20	4%
Facebook	89	18%
flickr (e.g., MLA annual meeting photos from Dale Prince)	33	7%
LinkedIn	21	4%
MySpace (e.g., any of the "medical librarian" MySpace pages).	97	20%
Wikipedia (e.g., the MLA entry on Wikipedia).	8	2%
Hospital Libraries Section Wiki Space on Wikispaces.com.	10	2%
YouTube (e.g., a tour of Northwestern University's Galter Health Sciences Library).	79	16%
Podcasts (e.g., the NLM director's weekly update)	16	3%
Chat/IM	74	15%
No Websites or applications are blocked	325	66%
	495	

How often do you use the following collaborative software in your personal life?	Daily	Weekly	Monthly	Occasionally	Never	Don't know	Total Responses
Blogs	120 25%	75 15%	29 6%	117 24%	142 29%	1 0%	484
Wikis	29 6%	72 15%	66 14%	140 29%	174 36%	1 0%	482
Media Sharing	42 9%	83 17%	58 12%	121 25%	172 36%	6 1%	482
RSS News Feeds	117 24%	73 15%	31 6%	85 17%	177 36%	1 0%	484
Instant Messaging	80 16%	47 10%	27 6%	69 14%	259 53%	1 0%	483
Web-based office tools	28 6%	56 12%	47 10%	93 19%	249 51%	7 1%	480
Social Networking Service	56 12%	64 13%	45 9%	94 20%	219 46%	2 0%	480