

# Library Building Program

## Middletown Public Library

Middletown, Rhode Island • December 2024

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# Library Building Program

Middletown Public Library • 2024

## Middletown, Rhode Island

Middletown, in Newport County, occupies approximately 15 square miles in the middle section of Aquidneck Island. Prior to European settlement beginning in 1638, the island was used by the Narragansett Indians as a hunting and fishing ground. Middletown was originally part of Newport until 1743, when it became a separate town with Portsmouth to the north and Newport to the southwest. The area was primarily farms, rural estates, and summer retreats through the 19th century.

The population grew steadily in the late 1800s into the 20th century; tourism flourished with improved roads and the advent of the automobile. World War II brought a strong military presence to Middletown, with a 72% increase in population in the 1950s. This growth slowed dramatically in 1974 when most Navy personnel left Rhode Island. The majority of agricultural land was converted to military, commercial, and residential use during the 20th century.<sup>1</sup>

Bounded by three bodies of water, Narragansett Bay on the west, the Sakonnet River on the east, and Rhode Island Sound on the south, Middletown is an ocean community with all the amenities of seaside living. The community's diverse labor force and convenient transportation facilities make it an excellent location for business development. One of the most desirable aspects of Middletown, whether it be for business interest or residence, is its livability in the form of recreational and cultural activities.<sup>2</sup>

## Population demographics

Census data from 2020 shows 6,804 households with a population of 17,075 people in the town. The racial makeup of the town was 79.0% White, 7.7% Black or African American, 0.2% American Indian and Alaska Native, 2.8% Asian, 0.4% Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander, and 7.1% Two or More Races. Hispanic or Latino of any race were 9.5% of the population.

Children under the age of 5 made up 5.1% of the population, while 18.8% were under the age of 18. People over 65 comprised 19.7% of residents, which is an increase of almost 2% from 2010. There were 48.5% males and 51.5% females.

In 2020 dollars, the median household income was \$81,094 and the per capita income for the town was \$43,766. About 6.2% of the population were below the poverty line. 94.8% of

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<sup>1</sup> *Historic and Architectural Resources of Middletown, Rhode Island: A Preliminary Report*

<sup>2</sup> Middletown website (<https://www.middletownri.com/>)

residents over 25 were high school graduates. While 93.7% of households have a computer at home, the percentage falls to 86.7% with broadband internet.

### Library History, Governance, and Operations

The institution now known as the Middletown Public Library began as the Miantonoma Circulating Library, established by Middletown citizens on January 28, 1848. Stock was sold for \$1/share. At that time, the library consisted of a small collection of books kept in locked bookcases at the Oliphant Schoolhouse. At about the same time, another group started the Middletown Free Library, and in 1875 the two libraries were joined. A timeline of library history gleaned from local history resources in the library’s collection follows:

1848	The Miantonoma Circulating Library opened in the former District #1 schoolhouse
1875	The Middletown Free Library Association was combined with the Miantomoma Library
1903	The family of Joseph Bailey donated \$2500 to erect a library in his memory at the corner of West Main Road and Oliphant Lane
1932	Town government began to financially support the library
1978	The Middletown Free Library Association transferred ownership of the library to the Town of Middletown
1979	The Middletown Public Library opened in a new facility at 700 West Main Road in the former Navy Anchorage Day Care Center
1987	The Middletown Public Library became a member of the Cooperating Libraries Automated Network, now known as Ocean State Libraries
2002	The Middletown Public Library renovated and expanded its space to make the building accessible

As of December 2024, the library is open for a 54-hour, six-day week; the library is closed on Sundays. The circulation of physical materials during Fiscal Year 2024 (7/1/2023-6/30/2024) was 91,336, and electronic circulation was 43,759. There were 94,769 library visits, surpassing the numbers from 2019, demonstrating a recovery from the pandemic statistics.

In November of 2024, the Middletown Public Library Board of Trustees adopted new mission and vision statements:

## Mission Statement

*Middletown Public Library provides a safe and inclusive space that serves our community by providing free access to information, materials, and programs, both within and beyond our walls, delivered by a welcoming and knowledgeable staff.*

## Vision Statement

*Middletown Public Library strives to be the heart of the community by inspiring curiosity, connecting people, and enriching lives.*

In order to fulfill this stated mission and vision, the Middletown Public Library has determined that its current facility is no longer adequate to serve the community.

## Library Statistics and Demographics

At the end of FY2024, the library's collection of physical materials comprised 64,003 items, 90% of which are books and periodicals. The remainder includes audio/video materials and a Library of Things. Adult materials make up 72% of the collection, while 25% are designated for children and 3% for young adults. There are 3.76 physical items per capita. The library's statewide consortium provides access to over 250,000 electronic resources including e-books, e-audiobooks, and e-video.

Middletown has a high number of registered borrowers, with 49% of residents holding valid library cards compared to 33% statewide. Visits per capita are also high, with 5.55 visits each year per resident. On the other hand, reference transactions are very low – only 0.09 per capita in 2021 compared to 0.47 statewide. This suggests that Middletown's service model should concentrate on popular materials and fiction, along with general research and reference materials.

Circulation of physical materials for 2024 showed a slight decrease, but use of electronic materials has significantly increased, by 28% since 2019. An analysis of collection use by format, subject area, and age of material would be helpful in curating the collections by local use, reflecting the needs of the community.

Programming statistics are increasing: in 2024, the Middletown Public Library provided 303 on-site programs, more than three times the number in 2022 and 19 more than the 2019 pre-pandemic number. It is anticipated that programming for all ages will continue to be a priority, and spaces should be designed accordingly.

Technology use is also recovering, though use of in-library PCs is still only 5,079 as compared to 11,116 in 2019. However, use of the network by personal devices is higher, with 12,150 wireless sessions compared to 10,786 in 2019. This suggests that the need for fixed public computers is declining, while robust broadband internet has become even more essential.

Technology continues to play an ever-increasing role in public library services and should be carefully considered in planning for the future.

### Existing Library Facility

- Originally built: During WWII, as a Navy daycare center
- Renovation: 1978 (conversion to a library); 2002 (expansion and accessibility upgrades)
- Gross Square Footage: approximately 13,000
- Parking: 65 total spaces
  - 56 regular spaces
  - 5 dedicated accessible spaces
  - 4 dedicated EV charging stations

The library building is situated in a central commercial area on a very busy highway, Route 114/West Main Road. This site has potential for expansion, but the building's condition is such that substantial renovation would be required. The town conducted a formal assessment of all municipal buildings in 2018 and determined that major repairs are needed.<sup>3</sup> Two localized floor collapses since the 2002 addition indicate that the structure is failing in places.



A master plan for the surrounding area, written in 2011, includes information about the library. It states:

- Library is ±9,000 sf and maxing out on space
- Need for more parking
- Facility has undergone recent and ongoing repairs
- Library was converted from a prior use and is in poor condition<sup>4</sup>

The master plan further recommends that “A new library could...serve as a gateway entrance to Middletown and could incorporate recreation and green space as a public amenity...”<sup>5</sup>

<sup>3</sup> Middletown, Rhode Island Facilities Condition Assessment/Library, 2018

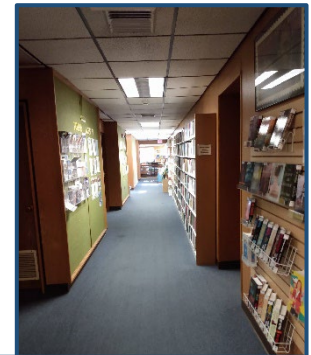
<sup>4</sup> The West Main/Coddington Development Center Master Plan, Vanasse Hangen Brustin, Inc., p. 29

<sup>5</sup> The West Main/Coddington Development Center Master Plan, Vanasse Hangen Brustin, Inc., p. 57

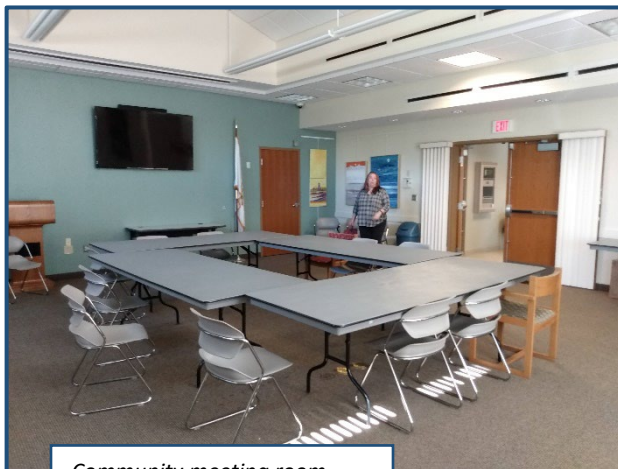
## On-Site Observations

The library is overcrowded, with most of the space devoted to shelving for physical collections and computers; there is little space for seating. The building is functionally split in two, with the children's area far away from the main library. This is a benefit from a noise standpoint, but it can be difficult for people who wish to take advantage of both areas.

In 2002, the library was renovated to add the current meeting/program room and two accessible restrooms, and to improve accessibility in general. However, in the past two decades, services have changed dramatically. Public libraries are no longer primarily about storage of physical collections; they are gathering places for lifelong learning, with activities and programs continuously expanding.



Corridor to children's area



Community meeting room

The existing facility hinders good library service in the following ways:

- Poor sightlines throughout
- Inadequate natural light
- Low ceilings
- Little space for seating
- Inadequate program space
- Inadequate restrooms
- Very small teen/YA space
- Only one very small study room
- Only one heavily used meeting/program room for adults and teens

## Community Engagement

In the summer of 2022, the Middletown Public Library conducted a survey of the community to determine what library services will be needed in the next several years, in preparation for planning of a new library building. The survey was available throughout the month of July, and 63 verified responses were received. Three follow-up community input sessions were then conducted to delve more deeply into the responses. The first session, on Tuesday, September 20 in the evening, was in person at the library, while the other two sessions were hybrid and were held on Thursday, September 22 in the evening and on the afternoon of Sunday, September 25. Topics explored included:

- Attendees' visitation of Middletown Public Library and other neighboring libraries
- Favorite and least favorite aspects of MPL
- Difficulties accessing or finding spaces or services

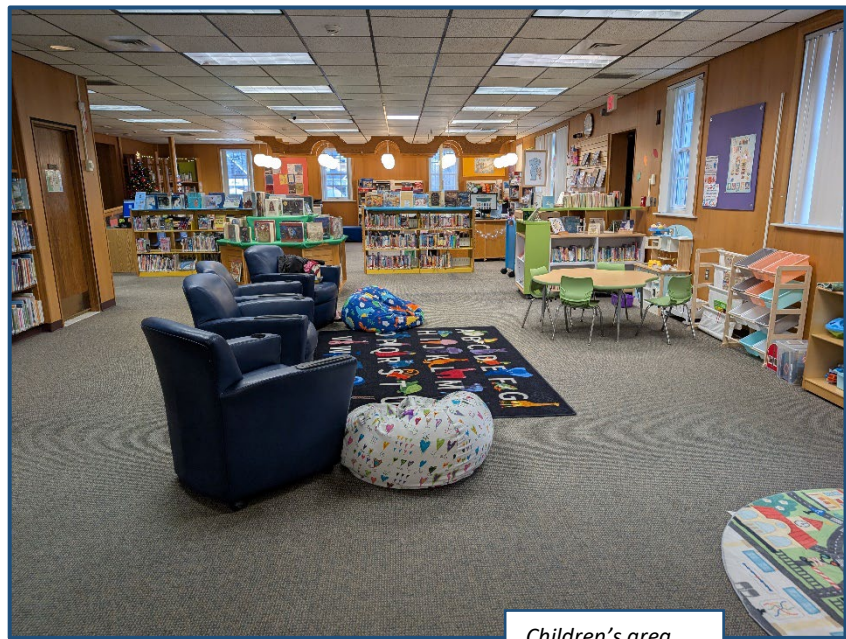
- Suggested improvements, including new services or spaces
- The library’s role in the community

Three additional meetings were held in October 2024, with library trustees, staff, and the Friends of the Library group. In these sessions, changes related to the leadership of a new library director and post-pandemic community needs were discussed.

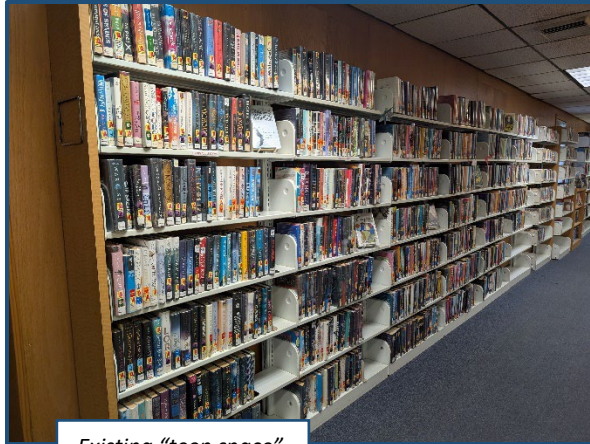
During this community engagement process, it became clear that Middletown Public Library is a well-used and needed community service in Middletown. A strong core group voiced their support of the library, and additional residents stated opinions about current services and the library space.

Survey respondents and meeting attendees were overwhelmingly positive about library services and very appreciative of the staff, but many expressed a desire for improvement of the facility. Several people stated that they visited other neighboring libraries because of additional services and better spaces; one respondent called the building “dense and uninviting”. More room for programs, performances, and activities would be welcomed, as well as increased natural light and a more open feel. Other common requests were for group or individual study rooms and an innovation center for creative activities. The community garden was cited several times as an asset to be retained, and a call for more outdoor programming space and an improved HVAC system reflected response to the COVID-19 pandemic and changes in public space use that will continue for years to come.

Youth services are a core function of all public libraries, and the children’s area is one of the most heavily used sections in Middletown. Community members stressed the importance of retaining and strengthening these services with enhanced space for collections, play, and educational activities.







Existing “teen space”

Young adults between the ages of 11 and 15 can be a challenge to serve, and this age group often stops using the library regularly unless they have a space in which they feel comfortable – a place they can call their own, while remaining safe and supervised. The current teen collection is located in a hallway between the main library and the children’s area, and no seating or program space is available.

Technology use is evolving, with a decline in the use of fixed library-owned PCs and more people bringing their personal devices for use with the library’s broadband internet. The current configuration, with all adult public PCs in one central location, is no longer appropriate.

A strong desire for multiple meeting rooms of various sizes was expressed. Middletown has few public meeting spaces, and the demand for places to meet with groups or for quiet study is high. Middletown patrons often visit other nearby libraries for this purpose.

Community respondents indicated that the library’s role in the community over the next several years is a strong one: as a place where all are welcome and comfortable, for information seekers, lifelong learners, and families.

The full text of the 2022 survey questions and a graphic analysis of the responses can be found in Appendix A.

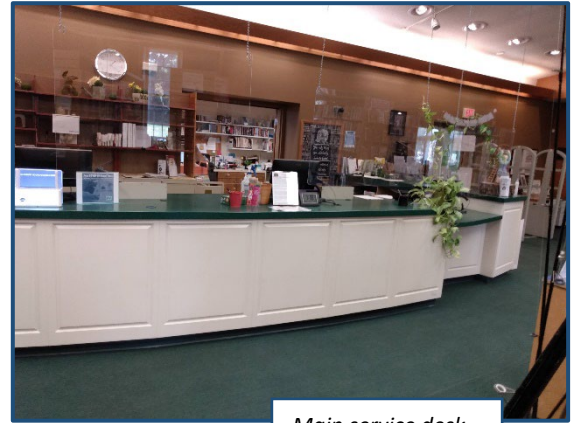
## The New Middletown Public Library

### General Requirements

The Middletown Public Library will be built for maximum flexibility for future reconfiguration; openness and excellent sightlines are a priority. The library will be a safe and secure place for people of all ages to work and visit.

Middletown is committed to sustainable, resilient building practices, and the library should be planned and built for high energy efficiency, no fossil fuel use, and consideration for life cycle costs. The building must be welcoming and fully accessible to everyone, regardless of disability or identity.

Service desks will be flexible and should not function as a barrier between staff and patrons. Ergonomics will be considered in the design of all workstations.



*Main service desk*

The design will prioritize acoustics, natural light, and easy access to power and lighting appropriate to each space and its functions. Robust wireless internet will be available throughout the library, including the parking lot and outdoor program areas.

The design will include an “after-hours” zone that can be locked off for use when the library is closed. This zone will include the Lobby and Vestibule, largest meeting spaces, kitchenette, and restrooms.

Materials and systems will be selected and installed for easy cleaning and maintenance, and the HVAC system should incorporate the ability to operate ventilation independently of heating and cooling, with a dedicated outdoor air system and a filtration level of at least MERV-13.

All restrooms will be gender-inclusive in accordance with Rhode Island law. A family restroom will be provided in the children’s area, and a staff-only restroom will be located adjacent to the staff break room.

Adequate storage space in the form of closets and/or cabinetry will be provided in each space as needed.

## Area Descriptions

The following section includes a summary chart of the planned spaces, followed by details for each programmatic area. Spaces are presented in alphabetical order, and adjacencies are listed in the details for each area.

### Programmatic Areas

Area	Existing Library SF	New Library SF	Collections	Open seats	Computer seats	Program seats	Staff seats
Administrative office/reception	0	200		2			1
Adult fiction	1,493	2,880	38,040	4			
Adult nonfiction	1,360	2,400	32,700	4			
Adult Services	128	200		1			1
Adult Services office	0	160					2
Assistant Director's office	0	160		2			1
Book Drop room	90	120					
Bookstore	234	800		5			1
Bookstore Workroom	0	400					3
Borrower Services office	0	160					2
Borrower Services Workroom	646	950					9
Children's Program Room	0	600				30	
Children's Room	2,036	2,500	15,140	25			2
Conference room	0	600				30	
Custodial workroom	60	160					2
Data room	72	200					2
Delivery/Receiving	0	200					
Director's office	165	240		6			1
General seating	0	3,200		120			
Innovation center	0	650				30	
Kitchenette	0	200					
Library of Things	0	120					
Lobby and Vestibule	693	500		8			
Local History	336	400	900	14			
Main service desk/self-check	233	300					3
Meeting/performance	812	2,000				110	
New materials	30	100	400	2			
Public computers	120	300			6		
Staff break room	39	220					12

Storage	165	300					
Study rooms – 2 person (4)	88	340				8	
Study rooms – 6 person (2)	0	260				12	
Teen room	42	1,200	6,500	20			1
Teen Program room	50	160				8	
Youth Services office	0	160					2
<b>Total Programmed Space</b>	<b>8,892</b>	<b>23,340</b>	<b>93,680</b>	<b>205</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>228</b>	<b>45</b>
Unassigned @ 30%	4,500	7,002					
<b>Gross Square Footage</b>	<b>13,147</b>	<b>30,342</b>					
<b>Parking Spaces</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>75*</b>					

\*Based on the standard of one parking space for every 400 gross square feet of building

Area Designation	<b>Administrative Office/Reception</b>
Functions Performed	Lockable reception area for administrative assistant/receptionist and waiting area for visitors
Occupancy	3
Public Service Desk	
User Seating	3
Furnishings	Desk with adjustable height chair Locking 2-3 drawer file cabinet Visitor seating for 2
Shelving	
Book Capacity	
Equipment	Staff computer Telephone
Close Proximity To	Director's office Assistant Director's office
Distant From	
Area Required	200 sf
Architectural Details	Natural light Good acoustical separation Resilient flooring Half glass wall with shades  <i>Note: the Administrative office, Director's office, and Assistant Director's office should be arranged to form an administrative suite</i>

Area Designation	<b>Adult Fiction</b>
Functions Performed	Shelving for adult fiction collection, including print, audiovisual, and large print materials
Occupancy	Varies
Public Service Desk	
User Seating	4
Furnishings	Padded bench
Shelving	Library shelving – fixed and/or mobile (proportion to be determined) Fixed shelving should have raised bottom shelf
Book Capacity	38,040
Equipment	2 OPAC stations
Close Proximity To	Main service desk; Browsing – new collection
Distant From	Children’s area
Area Required	2,880 sf
Architectural Details	Good lighting Appropriate signage Resilient flooring

Area Designation	<b>Adult Nonfiction</b>
Functions Performed	Shelving for adult nonfiction collection, including periodicals
Occupancy	Varies
Public Service Desk	
User Seating	4
Furnishings	Padded bench Table & chair for magnifier station
Shelving	Library shelving – fixed and/or mobile (proportion to be determined) Adjustable shelving to accommodate items of various heights Fixed shelving should have raised bottom shelf
Book Capacity	32,700
Equipment	2 OPAC stations
Close Proximity To	Adult Services; Local History; Quiet Study
Distant From	Children’s area Main Service Desk
Area Required	2,400 sf
Architectural Details	Good lighting Appropriate signage Resilient flooring Windows with adjustable shades/blinds to control glare

Area Designation	<b>Adult Services</b>
Functions Performed	Staff station for patron assistance with information requests and technology
Occupancy	2
Public Service Desk	Flexible, modular service desk with space for one staff workstation. Desk should be adjustable height for ergonomics and ADA compliance, and adequate storage should be provided below the countertop and behind the desk.
User Seating	2 – one for staff (adjustable height) and one for a patron
Furnishings	2 file cabinets
Shelving	15 linear feet of shelving for reference collection
Book Capacity	65
Equipment	Staff computer Telephone
Close Proximity To	Public Computers Local History Adult Nonfiction Adult Services Office
Distant From	Children's area Quiet areas
Area Required	200 sf
Architectural Details	Good lighting Appropriate signage Resilient flooring <i>Note: The service desk should have excellent sightlines to all public computers</i>



Area Designation	<b>Adult Services Office</b>
Functions Performed	Lockable staff office for 2 librarians
Occupancy	2
Public Service Desk	
User Seating	2
Furnishings	2 adjustable height desks 4'x6' worktable File cabinet Coat rack or closet Adequate storage
Shelving	Perimeter shelving
Book Capacity	50
Equipment	Staff computer Telephone
Close Proximity To	Adult Services
Distant From	
Area Required	160 sf
Architectural Details	Natural light Good acoustical separation Resilient flooring Half glass wall with shades between office and Adult Services area

Area Designation	<b>Assistant Director's Office</b>
Functions Performed	Lockable staff office for Assistant Library Director
Occupancy	3
Public Service Desk	
User Seating	3 – 1 desk chair (adjustable height) and 2 for other staff and/or patrons
Furnishings	Adjustable height desk with chair 2 side chairs 2 file cabinets Coat rack or closet Adequate storage
Shelving	Perimeter shelving
Book Capacity	50
Equipment	Staff computer Telephone
Close Proximity To	Main Service Desk Direct access to public area
Distant From	
Area Required	160 sf
Architectural Details	Natural light Good acoustical separation Resilient flooring  <i>Note: the Administrative office/reception, Director's office, and Assistant Director's office should be arranged to form an administrative suite</i>

Area Designation	<b>Book Drop room</b>
Functions Performed	Room for bins receiving returned library materials
Occupancy	0
Public Service Desk	
User Seating	
Furnishings	Return bins
Shelving	Wall-mounted shelving
Book Capacity	240
Equipment	Through-wall book return slots – number and type TBD
Close Proximity To	Borrower Services workroom
Distant From	
Area Required	120 sf
Architectural Details	Fire-rated enclosure required for this room

Area Designation	<b>Bookstore</b> (operated by the Friends of the Library)
Functions Performed	Lockable space for display and sales of used books, cards, DVDs, CDs, audio books, puzzles, framed art and other products
Occupancy	8-10
Public Service Desk	Modular 7' service desk with adjustable height section for ergonomics and ADA compliance Adequate secure storage below with adjustable height chair
User Seating	6
Furnishings	1 adjustable height staff chair Padded bench for patrons Small table and 2 chairs for children Bulletin board Locked display case for rare items
Shelving	Library shelving – fixed and/or mobile (proportion to be determined) Fixed shelving should have raised bottom shelf
Book Capacity	8000
Equipment	PC for sales; telephone; security alarm
Close Proximity To	Bookstore Workroom Lobby (with book cart or small shelving unit outside the Bookstore door for continuous display of free items)
Distant From	Quiet areas
Area Required	800 sf
Architectural Details	Good lighting Appropriate signage Resilient flooring Adequate ventilation 2 points of entry/exit

Area Designation	<b>Bookstore Workroom</b>
Functions Performed	Lockable space for sorting, storage, and processing of bookstore stock and supplies
Occupancy	4
Public Service Desk	
User Seating	3
Furnishings	4'x6' worktable with 2 adjustable height chairs Counter with sink and storage for supplies Desk with adjustable height chair Locking 2-3 drawer file cabinet
Shelving	Library shelving – fixed and/or mobile (proportion to be determined) Shelving should have raised bottom shelf Existing shelving unit to be reused is approximately 3.5' x 6'
Book Capacity	1000
Equipment	PC Telephone
Close Proximity To	Bookstore Delivery/Receiving
Distant From	Quiet areas
Area Required	400 sf
Architectural Details	Good lighting Resilient flooring Lockable door between workroom and bookstore Exterior door

Area Designation	<b>Borrower Services Office</b>
Functions Performed	Lockable staff office for 2 librarians
Occupancy	2
Public Service Desk	
User Seating	2
Furnishings	2 adjustable height desks 4'x6' worktable File cabinet Coat rack or closet Adequate storage
Shelving	12 linear feet of perimeter shelving
Book Capacity	50
Equipment	Staff computer Telephone
Close Proximity To	Main Service Desk Borrower Services Workroom
Distant From	Youth Services
Area Required	160 sf
Architectural Details	Natural light Good acoustical separation Resilient flooring Half glass wall with shades between office and workroom

Area Designation	<b>Borrower Services Workroom</b>
Functions Performed	Lockable workroom for Borrower Services staff
Occupancy	9
Public Service Desk	
User Seating	9 adjustable height desk chairs
Furnishings	7 modular adjustable height workstations 2 4'x6' worktables with 2 adjustable height chairs Coat rack or closet Counter with sink and lockable cabinets (approx. 24 linear feet) 10 book carts
Shelving	4 mobile shelving units 6 bays 84" library shelving
Book Capacity	
Equipment	7 staff computers with space for barcode scanners and receipt printers Telephones Printer/scanner/copier DVD polishing machine
Close Proximity To	Main Service Desk Delivery/Receiving
Distant From	Children's Room
Area Required	950 sf
Architectural Details	Counter with sink, lockable drawers, and space for safe Resilient flooring Adjacent storage closet

Area Designation	<b>Children's Program Room</b>
Functions Performed	Children's program space
Occupancy	60 children and adults
Public Service Desk	
User Seating	30
Furnishings	Adjustable height, flip-top tables for 30 for children's crafts and activities Floor cushions for 30 Mobile storage carts for supplies
Shelving	
Book Capacity	
Equipment	Mobile charging cart with 10 laptops/tablets
Close Proximity To	Children's Room Family Restroom
Distant From	Quiet Reading Current Periodicals Adult Quiet Study Adult Services
Area Required	600 sf (including 100 sf storage closet)
Architectural Details	Good lighting Appropriate signage Resilient flooring Good acoustical control Large storage room for art supplies, puppets, story time musical instruments, props, costumes



Area Designation	<b>Children’s Room</b>	
Functions Performed	Space for children from birth to age 11 to learn and play Shelving for children’s collection	
Occupancy	50 children and adults	
Public Service Desk	Flexible service desk for Youth Services staff (2 stations/adjustable height chairs) with adequate storage	
User Seating	27	
Furnishings	4 child-size round tables, 2 for toddlers and 2 for older children 4 lounge seats for adults Varied fun, casual seats for children Play equipment – puppets, soft toys, puzzle table, 2 lego tables, etc. Interactive toddler wall	
Shelving	Library shelving – fixed and/or mobile (proportion to be determined) Adjustable shelving to accommodate items of various heights Book bins for item types designated below 4 flexible units for themed displays	
Book Capacity	Type of Book	Type of shelving
	Picture Books 8,500	Front Facing Book bins
	Early Readers 1,250	Front Facing Book bins
	Chapter Books and NF 5,200	Adjustable shelves
	Stem Kits 40	Open Shelving
	DVD – 50, Audio 50	Mobile shelves
	Vox 100	Mobile shelves
Equipment	1 OPAC station Wall-mounted digital screen for rotating signage & information 4 children’s computers, 2 for young children and 2 for older children; each computer should accommodate 2 seats Child-size self-check station	
Close Proximity To	Children’s Program Room Family Restroom	
Distant From	Quiet Reading Current Periodicals Adult Quiet Study Adult Services	
Area Required	2,500 sf	
Architectural Details	Good lighting Appropriate signage Resilient flooring Good acoustical control Zones for varied levels of activity Zones for different age groups Adequate storage	

Area Designation	<b>Conference Room</b>
Functions Performed	Board meetings, staff meetings, medium-sized group meetings
Occupancy	30
Public Service Desk	
User Seating	30
Furnishings	6 flexible fliptop tables and chairs on casters
Shelving	
Book Capacity	
Equipment	Wall-mounted screen for projection/collaboration Hearing loop
Close Proximity To	Lobby Meeting Room Public Restrooms
Distant From	Children's Area
Area Required	600 sf
Architectural Details	Partial glass walls for oversight Good acoustical control Access to kitchenette <i>Note: Lobby, Restrooms, Meeting/Performance Space, Conference Room, Kitchenette, and Bookstore should be included in the after-hours zone</i>

Area Designation	<b>Custodial Workroom</b>
Functions Performed	Lockable workroom for custodial staff with storage
Occupancy	2
Public Service Desk	
User Seating	2 adjustable height desk chairs
Furnishings	Adjustable height desk; 4'x6' worktable; file cabinet;
Shelving	4 heavy duty mobile shelving units; industrial shelving for custodial supplies
Book Capacity	
Equipment	Workstation for BMS/lighting system access Telephone Wet/dry vac Vacuum cleaner Toolbox Miscellaneous cleaning equipment
Close Proximity To	Mechanical Room Delivery/Receiving
Distant From	Youth Services
Area Required	160 sf
Architectural Details	Mop sink with drain (or adjacent janitor's closet) Resilient flooring

Area Designation	<b>Data Room</b>
Functions Performed	Space for servers, networking equipment, security systems, and management consoles
Occupancy	2
Public Service Desk	
User Seating	2
Furnishings	Server rack Desk with adjustable height office chair
Shelving	1 bay industrial shelving
Book Capacity	
Equipment	1 staff workstation Servers, switches, monitoring consoles as needed
Close Proximity To	Technical Services Delivery/Receiving
Distant From	Children's Room Lobby
Area Required	200 sf
Architectural Details	Good lighting Climate control Good acoustical control

Area Designation	<b>Delivery/Receiving</b>
Functions Performed	Space for deliveries with direct exterior access; shared with Bookstore Workroom and Borrower Services Workroom
Occupancy	2
Public Service Desk	
User Seating	
Furnishings	Worktable or counter for processing deliveries for library and bookstore 6 book carts One bay of perimeter shelving
Shelving	One bay 84" adjustable library shelving
Book Capacity	
Equipment	
Close Proximity To	Borrower Services Workroom Bookstore Workroom
Distant From	
Area Required	200 sf
Architectural Details	Good lighting Resilient flooring Adequate ventilation Double doors to exterior for receiving deliveries and donations, large enough to accommodate delivery of wooden pallets with a hand-operated lift Lockable 3' wide (min) doors to Borrower Services Workroom and Bookstore Workroom

Area Designation	<b>Director's Office</b>
Functions Performed	Lockable staff office for Library Director
Occupancy	7
Public Service Desk	
User Seating	7 – 1 desk chair (adjustable height) and 6 for other staff and/or patrons
Furnishings	Adjustable height desk 4'x6' worktable 2 file cabinets Coat rack or closet Conference table for 6 Adequate storage
Shelving	Perimeter shelving
Book Capacity	50
Equipment	Staff computer Telephone
Close Proximity To	Main Service Desk Direct access to public area
Distant From	
Area Required	240 sf
Architectural Details	Natural light Good acoustical separation Resilient flooring  <i>Note: the Administrative office/reception, Director's office, and Assistant Director's office should be arranged to form an administrative suite</i>

Area Designation	<b>General Seating</b>
Functions Performed	General seating distributed among adult collections and spaces
Occupancy	120
Public Service Desk	
User Seating	120
Furnishings	40 2-person tables with chairs/carrels 40 lounge seats/study pods 20 small side tables
Shelving	
Book Capacity	
Equipment	
Close Proximity To	Adult collections and spaces
Distant From	Youth Services
Area Required	3,200 sf
Architectural Details	Task lighting Access to power should be provided at all seating areas Adjustable window treatments to respond to lighting needs at different times of the day

Area Designation	<b>Innovation Center</b>
Functions Performed	Creative design and technology projects, STEM activities, classroom instruction
Occupancy	30
Public Service Desk	
User Seating	30
Furnishings	Flexible, adjustable height flip-top tables; adjustable height chairs Mobile storage cabinets Mobile laptop/tablet charging cart (24 device capacity) Mobile cart for 3D printers (2) Perimeter counters & storage cabinets
Shelving	
Book Capacity	
Equipment	24 laptops/tablets Wall-mounted large screen TV Audio system 3D printers (2) Heat press Vinyl cutter Tabletop sewing machines (number to be determined)
Close Proximity To	Teen Room Public Computers
Distant From	Quiet Reading Adult Quiet Study Youth Services
Area Required	650 sf (including 150 sf for storage closet)
Architectural Details	Adjacent closet with industrial shelving for storage of various equipment and supplies Adequate ventilation for all equipment Overhead power reels or multiple floor boxes Sink with counter <i>Note: This area must be planned for maximum flexibility to accommodate future technologies</i>



Area Designation	<b>Kitchenette</b>
Functions Performed	Kitchen services for Conference Room and Meeting/Performance Space
Occupancy	2
Public Service Desk	
User Seating	
Furnishings	
Shelving	
Book Capacity	
Equipment	Kitchen counters with sink and cabinets above and below Refrigerator Microwave Toaster Oven Telephone
Close Proximity To	Lobby Meeting/Performance Space Conference Room
Distant From	
Area Required	200 sf
Architectural Details	Access from Meeting/Performance Space and lobby or corridor Good acoustical separation Resilient flooring <i>Note: Lobby, Restrooms, Meeting/Performance Space, Conference Room, Kitchenette, and Bookstore should be included in the after-hours zone</i>

Area Designation	<b>Library of Things</b>
Functions Performed	Display shelving for nontraditional circulating items <i>Note: this area should be planned for maximum flexibility to accommodate future items</i>
Occupancy	Varies
Public Service Desk	
User Seating	
Furnishings	
Shelving	Flexible, adjustable shelving and racks to accommodate items of various shapes and heights Shelving should have raised bottom shelf
Book Capacity	
Equipment	
Close Proximity To	Main Service Desk
Distant From	Children's area
Area Required	120
Architectural Details	Good lighting Appropriate signage Resilient flooring

Area Designation	<b>Lobby and Vestibule</b>
Functions Performed	Main public entrance with small double door vestibule and space for people waiting for pickup or to enter the Meeting/Performance Space
Occupancy	Up to 30
Public Service Desk	
User Seating	8
Furnishings	2 padded benches 4 lounge seats Public bulletin board Town bulletin board Expandable Giving Tree (donor recognition) Literature rack 2 flexible flip-top tables with stacking chairs for use when needed
Shelving	80 linear feet of mobile or wall-mounted shelving for free and sale books adjacent to Bookstore entrance
Book Capacity	
Equipment	Wall-mounted screen for digital signage and announcements People counter Art hanging system Security cameras Annunciator panel and fire detection equipment Lock-off system for after-hours zone Water fountain with bottle-filling station
Close Proximity To	Meeting/Performance Space Conference Room Restrooms Bookstore Main Service Desk
Distant From	Children's area Quiet areas
Area Required	500 sf
Architectural Details	Adjacent vestibule with walk-off mat Directional signage Signage for Bookstore and adjacent shelving <i>Note: Lobby, Restrooms, Meeting/Performance Space, Conference Room, Kitchenette, and Bookstore should be included in the after-hours zone</i>

Area Designation	Local History
Functions Performed	Seating and shelving for local history collection and Middletown government publications/records Quiet study
Occupancy	14
Public Service Desk	
User Seating	14
Furnishings	6 2-person flexible fliptop tables to allow for easy reconfiguration, with chairs on casters 2 lounge seats
Shelving	Perimeter library shelving, some with locking doors with ventilation grates for securing rare items (proportion to be determined) Adjustable shelving to accommodate items of various heights Shelving should have raised bottom shelf
Book Capacity	900
Equipment	
Close Proximity To	Adult Services
Distant From	Children's Room Lobby
Area Required	400 sf
Architectural Details	Good lighting Windows with adjustable shades/blinds to prevent glare Archival climate control Ceiling fan Acoustical separation

Area Designation	<b>Main Service Desk/Self-Check</b>
Functions Performed	Check-in/check-out of library materials and other patron transactions
Occupancy	3-4
Public Service Desk	Flexible, modular service desk with space for three staff workstations; each workstation should be adjustable height for ergonomics and ADA compliance; a return slot/bin and adequate storage should be provided below the work surface
User Seating	3 staff
Furnishings	3 adjustable height chairs 2 book carts
Shelving	Counter with shelving/cabinets below behind the desk for documents and supplies 36 linear feet of mobile shelving for patron access hold pickup adjacent to self-check stations
Book Capacity	30
Equipment	3 staff computers with space for RFID pads, barcode scanners, and receipt printers Telephones Wall mounted TV for digital signage and announcements 2 patron self-check kiosks/stations with RFID pads, barcode scanners, and receipt printers
Close Proximity To	Lobby New Materials Borrower Services Workroom
Distant From	Children's area Quiet areas
Area Required	300 sf
Architectural Details	Good lighting Appropriate signage Resilient flooring <i>Note: this service desk should have excellent sightlines to collections, seating, and other patron areas</i>

Area Designation	<b>Meeting and Performance Space</b>
Functions Performed	Large public meetings and performances
Occupancy	100 (seated in rows) plus presenter space
Public Service Desk	
User Seating	110
Furnishings	12 flexible floptop 4-person tables 20 padded conference chairs 80 lightweight stacking chairs Mobile lectern Mobile coat rack
Shelving	
Book Capacity	
Equipment	Movable partition system to subdivide the room into smaller spaces Projection system and screen Hearing loop system
Close Proximity To	Lobby Conference Room Public Restrooms
Distant From	Children's Area
Area Required	2,000 sf (including 400sf storage closet)
Architectural Details	Excellent acoustic control for performances Access to kitchenette Large storage closet for tables/chairs, lectern, coat rack, and stage risers Small closet for AV equipment Zoned & dimmable lighting Electrical floor boxes to accommodate multiple configurations Minimal natural light with blackout shades for light control  <i>Notes: This space must be planned for maximum flexibility The movable partition system must be of sufficient quality to provide acoustical separation. Lobby, Restrooms, Meeting/Performance Space, Conference Room, Kitchenette, and Bookstore should be included in the after-hours zone</i>

Area Designation	<b>New Materials</b>
Functions Performed	Display shelving for recent acquisitions
Occupancy	Varies
Public Service Desk	
User Seating	2
Furnishings	Padded bench
Shelving	Mobile library shelving Shelving should have raised bottom shelf
Book Capacity	400
Equipment	
Close Proximity To	Main Service Desk; Adult Self-Check
Distant From	Children's area
Area Required	100 sf
Architectural Details	Good lighting Appropriate signage Resilient flooring

Area Designation	<b>Public Computers</b>
Functions Performed	General public computer use
Occupancy	8
Public Service Desk	
User Seating	6
Furnishings	Flexible tables for two or four with privacy dividers separating each workstation Adjustable height chairs with casters <i>Note: Workstations may be located together or dispersed among adult seating, but all must be within sightline of Adult Services desk</i>
Shelving	
Book Capacity	
Equipment	6 public desktop computers Networked printer/scanner/copier & print release station Coin/card payment system
Close Proximity To	Adult Services
Distant From	Youth Services Quiet Study Rooms Main Service Desk
Area Required	300 sf
Architectural Details	Adjustable window treatments to prevent glare Hard wiring for PCs and printer <i>Note: this area should be planned for maximum flexibility to accommodate future technology</i>



Area Designation	<b>Staff Break Room</b>
Functions Performed	Space for staff breaks and secure storage of personal items
Occupancy	12
Public Service Desk	
User Seating	12
Furnishings	Table or counter & chairs for 4 2 lounge chairs 6 additional stacking chairs Kitchen counter Lockers
Shelving	
Book Capacity	
Equipment	Telephone Refrigerator Microwave Toaster oven Bulletin board Lockers for 20 staff members
Close Proximity To	Adjacent staff-only restroom
Distant From	Main Service Desk
Area Required	220 sf
Architectural Details	Good lighting Sink with counter and kitchen cabinets Provide adjacent staff-only restroom but do not allow restroom to open directly into the break room area Adequate ventilation to exhaust food smells

Area Designation	<b>Storage</b>
Functions Performed	Shelving for stored items such as periodical backfiles, seasonal collections, supplies, etc.
Occupancy	1
Public Service Desk	
User Seating	Library and/or industrial shelving (proportions and quantity TBD)
Furnishings	
Shelving	
Book Capacity	
Equipment	
Close Proximity To	Adult Services Adult Nonfiction
Distant From	
Area Required	300
Architectural Details	Good lighting Adequate ventilation Resilient flooring  <i>Note: this may be one large storage room or several smaller ones adjacent to the relevant areas</i>

Area Designation	<b>Study Rooms – 2 person (4)</b>
Functions Performed	Study or small meetings
Occupancy	2
Public Service Desk	
User Seating	2
Furnishings	Flexible, flip-top table and chairs Chairs should be compatible with chairs in main space in case extra chairs are needed for meetings
Shelving	
Book Capacity	
Equipment	
Close Proximity To	Quiet Reading Adult Services
Distant From	Children’s Area Lobby
Area Required	340 sf (85 sf each)
Architectural Details	Partial glass walls for oversight Good acoustical control Good ventilation

Area Designation	<b>Study Rooms – 6 person (2)</b>
Functions Performed	Study or small meetings
Occupancy	6
Public Service Desk	
User Seating	6
Furnishings	Flexible, flip-top table and chairs Chairs should be compatible with chairs in main space in case extra chairs are needed for meetings
Shelving	
Book Capacity	
Equipment	
Close Proximity To	Quiet Reading Adult Services
Distant From	Children’s Area Lobby
Area Required	260 sf (130 sf each)
Architectural Details	Partial glass walls for oversight Good acoustical control Good ventilation

Area Designation	<b>Teen Room</b>
Functions Performed	Space for young adults/teens to gather and interact with independence and autonomy Shelving for young adult collection <i>Note: Design and furnishing decisions should be made with input from the Teen Advisory Group.</i>
Occupancy	25
Public Staff	1
Public Service Desk	Small, flexible service point for Teen Librarian
User Seating	20
Furnishings	6 2-person tables – flexible to allow for easy reconfiguration 4 lounge seats 1 booth
Shelving	Library shelving – fixed and/or mobile (proportion to be determined) Adjustable shelving to accommodate items of various heights Shelving should have raised bottom shelf 4 flexible units for face-out shelving and themed displays
Book Capacity	6,500 20 STEM kits 50 board and video games
Equipment	1 OPAC station Wall-mounted large screen TV
Close Proximity To	Teen Program Room Innovation Center
Distant From	Quiet Reading Current Periodicals Adult Quiet Study Adult Services
Area Required	1,200 sf
Architectural Details	Good lighting Appropriate signage Resilient flooring Glass walls for oversight Good acoustical control

Area Designation	<b>Teen Program Room</b>
Functions Performed	Gaming and other programs
Occupancy	12
Public Service Desk	
User Seating	8
Furnishings	8 gaming chairs 2 flip-top tables with stacking chairs
Shelving	
Book Capacity	
Equipment	Wall-mounted screen and gaming consoles
Close Proximity To	Teen Room
Distant From	
Area Required	160 sf
Architectural Details	Partial glass walls for oversight Good ventilation

Area Designation	<b>Youth Services Office</b>
Functions Performed	Lockable staff office for Youth Services Librarians
Occupancy	2
Public Service Desk	
User Seating	2 adjustable height desk chairs
Furnishings	2 adjustable height desks 4'x6' worktable File cabinet Coat rack or closet Adjacent storage closet
Shelving	Perimeter shelving
Book Capacity	50
Equipment	Staff computer Telephone
Close Proximity To	Children's Room Teen Room  <i>Note: Ideally, this office will be located between the Children's Room and the Teen Room</i>
Distant From	
Area Required	160 sf
Architectural Details	Natural light Good acoustical separation Resilient flooring Half glass wall with shades Adjacent closet with shelves for supplies, toys, equipment

## Final Thoughts

Historical statistics, community input, and observational data all highlight the fact that the Middletown Public Library is an essential service. The building it occupies was adapted over 60 years ago from a former Navy daycare center, and six decades of continuous use have revealed its shortcomings. These have been compounded as library services have evolved from the simple lending of books to the current range of information and learning-based activities. Residents of Middletown and surrounding areas, along with frequent visitors, would be well served by a new, expanded Middletown Public Library. In the words of one Middletown resident:

*Why do libraries still matter? Libraries are one of the few places where families can go without someone trying to sell them something. Libraries spark imagination, love of learning, and curiosity among the young and the old. Libraries are the rungs on the ladder to success in education and in life.<sup>6</sup>*

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<sup>6</sup> Alex Ellermann, Letter to the Editor, Newport Daily News, May 5, 2022, © GateHouse Media Inc.



## Appendix A: Survey Questions and Results

1. How often have you visited the Middletown Public Library in person this year? (Use the answer that most closely aligns with your experience)
  - a. Daily
  - b. More than once a week
  - c. Weekly
  - d. Monthly
  - e. Seldom
  - f. Never (if so, why?)
2. Do you visit other neighboring libraries? If so, which?
3. What do you typically use the library for? (Select all that apply)
  - a. Borrow print materials (books, magazines)
  - b. Borrow A/V materials (DVDs, CDs)
  - c. Borrow digital resources (e-books, downloadable audiobooks, etc.)
  - d. Find government services or documents
  - e. Find or read materials in the library
  - f. Use a public computer, printer or copy machine
  - g. Enjoy the space
  - h. Hang out with friends
  - i. Study or do homework
  - j. Get help from a librarian or other library staff
  - k. Get assistance for personal electronic device
  - l. Genealogical and local history research
  - m. Wi-Fi connection
  - n. Get information about community services and activities
  - o. Attend a class, program, or meeting
  - p. Other—write in:
  - q. None of the above
4. What is your favorite area in the Middletown library? Why?
5. What is your least favorite area in the Middletown library? Why?
6. What would you like to do in the library that you can't now?
7. Do you have trouble entering or accessing any spaces or collections in the library?  
Please describe.
8. Have you ever had trouble finding a particular space or area in the library? Please give details.
9. What changes or improvements to space, furniture, equipment would make the library more functional or appealing to you? Please give details.
10. What additional types of service and space would you like to have in the library?
  - a. More collections (books, DVDS, audiobooks)

- b. More space for programs
- c. More individual or group study space
- d. More quiet space
- e. More art program/display or exhibit space
- f. More space for children's services/programs
- g. A separate space for teen services/programs
- h. More services/programs for seniors
- i. Classes or lectures
- j. Discovery or maker space
- k. More collections and services in languages other than English
- l. Nontraditional collections such as tools, seeds, toys, etc.
- m. Other – write in:

11. What do you foresee the public library's role being to your community in the next ten years?

- a. Welcoming, comfortable and safe place
- b. Family friendly place for children of all ages and their family and caregivers
- c. Accepting place for teenagers
- d. Place for new immigrants
- e. Center for lifelong learning (such as writing, programming, and/or literacy and other basic skills)
- f. Early literacy center for children birth to five
- g. Center for information about community, government, and social services
- h. Resource for reliable information
- i. Resource for job development, health/wellness, wealth and other life choices
- j. Homework center
- k. Innovation hub for creating, making, or fixing things and sharing what you do
- l. Other – write in:
- m. None of the above

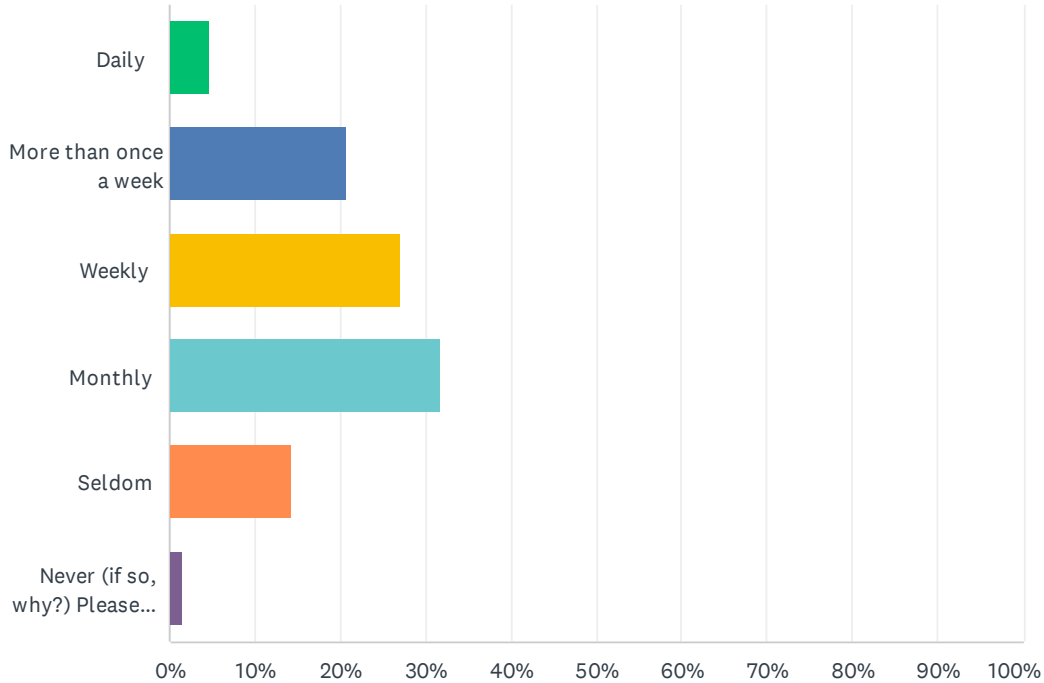
#### Optional demographic information

1. What is your gender?
  - a. Male
  - b. Female
  - c. Nonbinary
  - d. Other
  - e. Prefer not to answer
2. Which category best describes you?
  - a. American Indian or Alaska Native
  - b. Asian
  - c. Black or African American

- d. Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin
  - e. Middle Eastern or North African
  - f. Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
  - g. White
  - h. Other – write in:
  - i. Prefer not to answer
3. How old are you?
- a. 0-10
  - b. 11-14
  - c. 15-17
  - d. 18-22
  - e. 23-29
  - f. 30-39
  - g. 40-49
  - h. 50-64
  - i. 65-74
  - j. 75+
4. What is your marital status?
- a. Single
  - b. Married
  - c. Divorced
  - d. Widowed
5. Do you have children?
- a. Yes
  - b. No
  - c. Other – write in:
6. If yes, how old are your children? (select all that apply)
- a. 0-5
  - b. 6-10
  - c. 11-14
  - d. 15-17
  - e. 18+
7. What is your highest level of education?
- a. Less than high school diploma
  - b. High school graduate
  - c. Some college
  - d. College graduate
  - e. Post-graduate degree

# Q1 How often have you visited the Middletown Public Library in person this year? (Please select the answer that most clearly aligns with your experience)

Answered: 63 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Daily	4.76%	3
More than once a week	20.63%	13
Weekly	26.98%	17
Monthly	31.75%	20
Seldom	14.29%	9
Never (if so, why?) Please provide explanation in comments field below	1.59%	1
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>63</b>

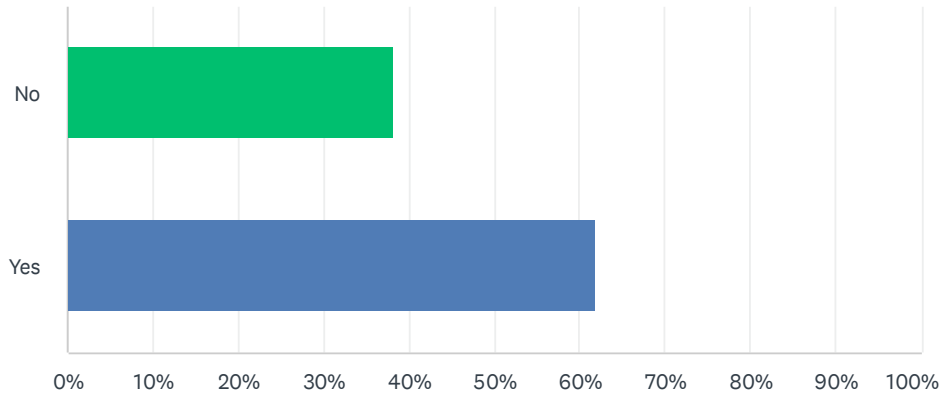
#	ADDITIONAL COMMENTS	DATE
1	I had moved to the area just as covid hit, but now plan on visiting about once or twice per week	7/23/2022 12:33 PM
2	No longer in school but it was vital during that time.	7/22/2022 2:03 PM
3	Newport is equally as far with a better selection	7/22/2022 11:32 AM
4	I work 3 days per week at MLP	7/18/2022 10:52 AM
5	I am an employee	7/13/2022 6:51 PM

## Middletown Public Library Community Use Survey

6	I use Portsmouth as it is more convenient to my commute.	7/8/2022 6:44 PM
7	I have internet on my phone & at home, & honestly I'm not much of a reader.	7/7/2022 9:54 PM
8	Have a prominent area where patrons can submit suggestions.	7/6/2022 10:59 AM
9	Monthly at a minimum.	7/6/2022 10:22 AM
10	More like two or three times a month	7/6/2022 7:12 AM
11	Love this library!	7/5/2022 7:20 PM
12	Tend to go to the library more in the second half of the year, which just started.	7/5/2022 4:11 PM

## Q2 Do you visit neighboring libraries? If yes, which neighboring libraries do you visit? Please answer in the field below.

Answered: 63 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
No	38.10%	24
Yes	61.90%	39
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>63</b>

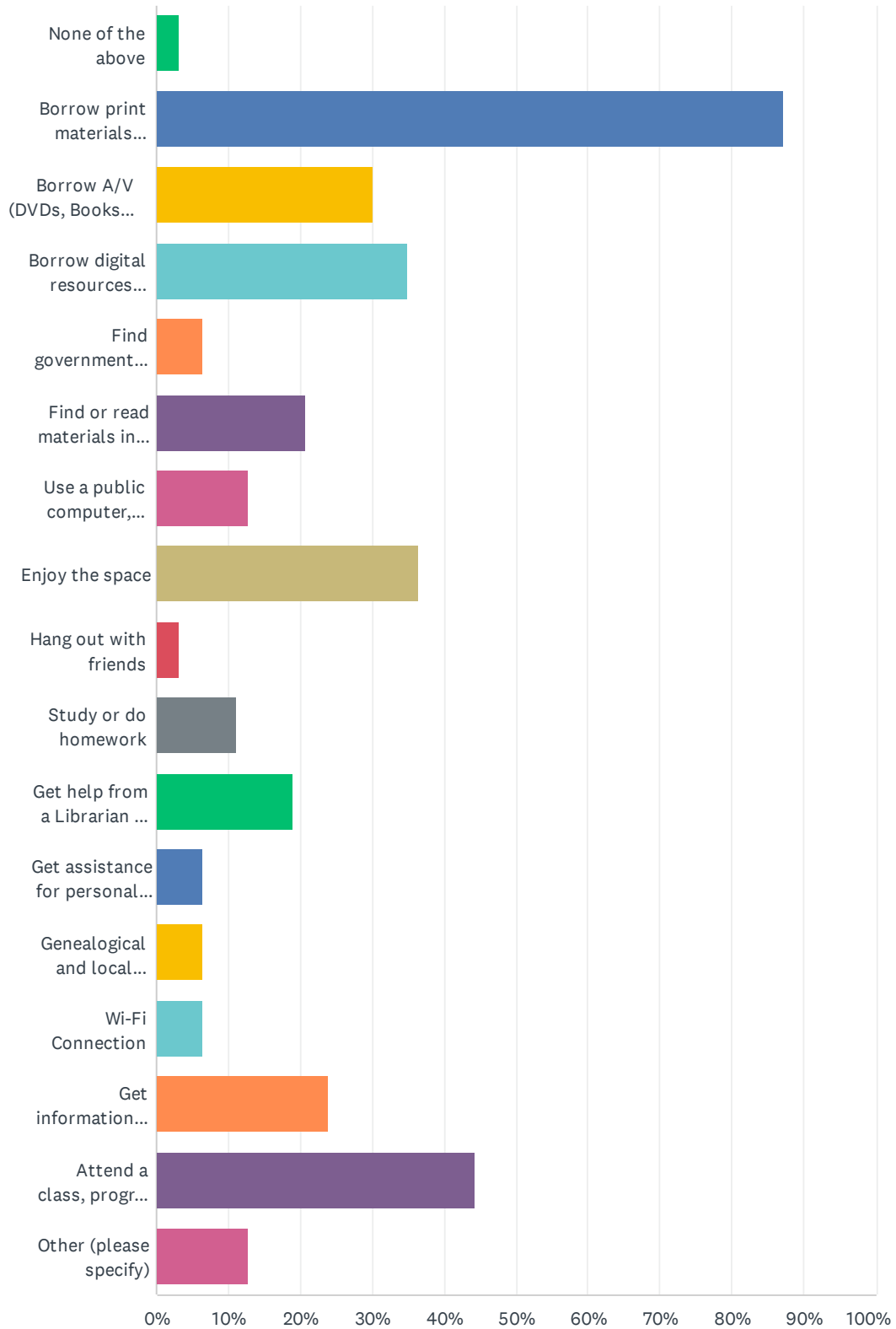
#	NEIGHBORING LIBRARIES	DATE
1	Newport	7/30/2022 1:20 PM
2	Newport, Portsmouth	7/29/2022 4:26 PM
3	Newport, Portsmouth	7/28/2022 6:56 AM
4	Portsmouth and Bristol	7/26/2022 10:57 AM
5	Newport Public Library	7/26/2022 9:10 AM
6	Newport	7/26/2022 7:33 AM
7	Jamestown, Barrington, Salve Regina	7/25/2022 12:39 PM
8	Newport, Portsmouth	7/23/2022 9:27 AM
9	Newport	7/22/2022 11:32 AM
10	Portsmouth Public Library	7/18/2022 10:52 AM
11	Newport	7/15/2022 11:29 AM
12	Newport	7/13/2022 4:43 PM
13	Newport, Portsmouth, Tiverton	7/12/2022 7:56 PM
14	Newport and Portsmouth	7/12/2022 2:18 PM
15	Newport	7/11/2022 8:00 PM
16	newport	7/11/2022 5:17 PM
17	Newport, Portsmouth	7/11/2022 8:18 AM

## Middletown Public Library Community Use Survey

18	Newport - children's library	7/9/2022 12:01 PM
19	REDWOOD LIBRARY	7/8/2022 11:02 PM
20	Portsmouth	7/8/2022 6:44 PM
21	Newport, RI and Portsmouth, RI	7/8/2022 1:00 PM
22	Newport	7/8/2022 12:34 PM
23	Newport	7/7/2022 7:53 AM
24	Newport, Portsmouth	7/7/2022 7:39 AM
25	Newport	7/6/2022 2:46 PM
26	Portsmouth, Newport, North & South Kingston,	7/6/2022 10:59 AM
27	Newport	7/6/2022 10:22 AM
28	Portsmouth	7/6/2022 8:45 AM
29	Newport	7/5/2022 10:39 PM
30	Newport	7/5/2022 8:20 PM
31	Newport, Portsmouth	7/5/2022 5:15 PM
32	Portsmouth and Newport for activities and tutoring	7/5/2022 4:55 PM
33	Peacedale, Portsmouth, Newport	7/5/2022 4:11 PM
34	Tiverton	7/5/2022 3:32 PM
35	Somerset	7/5/2022 2:30 PM
36	Portsmouth	7/5/2022 12:48 PM
37	Newport and Portsmouth	7/5/2022 12:15 PM
38	Rogers Free, Barrington	6/30/2022 8:15 PM

### Q3 What do you typically use the Library for? (Please select all that apply)

Answered: 63 Skipped: 0





## Middletown Public Library Community Use Survey

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
None of the above	3.17%	2
Borrow print materials (Books, Magazines)	87.30%	55
Borrow A/V (DVDs, Books on CD, Music CDs, Playaways)	30.16%	19
Borrow digital resources (e-books, downloadable audiobooks, etc)	34.92%	22
Find government services or documents	6.35%	4
Find or read materials in the Library	20.63%	13
Use a public computer, printer or copy machine	12.70%	8
Enjoy the space	36.51%	23
Hang out with friends	3.17%	2
Study or do homework	11.11%	7
Get help from a Librarian or other Library Staff	19.05%	12
Get assistance for personal electronic device	6.35%	4
Genealogical and local history reserach	6.35%	4
Wi-Fi Connection	6.35%	4
Get information about community services and activities	23.81%	15
Attend a class, program or meeting	44.44%	28
Other (please specify)	12.70%	8
Total Respondents: 63		

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	We enjoyed using it for baby/toddler storytime/play	7/26/2022 9:10 AM
2	Visit with the librarians	7/25/2022 12:39 PM
3	borrow museum passes	7/11/2022 5:17 PM
4	Museum tickets	7/9/2022 12:01 PM
5	ATTEND BOOK SALES; PICK UP "NEWPORT THIS WEEK"	7/8/2022 11:02 PM
6	My wife is a regular on-site patron of the library while I am more inclined to read and view library offerings online via Hoopla and Kanopy, resp. We've both attended many diverse presentations in the meeting room over the years.	7/8/2022 9:27 PM
7	I have used the library to proctor tests for area students applying to schools that need special testing requirements	7/7/2022 7:39 AM
8	Kids programs	7/5/2022 12:15 PM

## Q4 What is your favorite area in the Middletown Library?

Answered: 63 Skipped: 0

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Area?	100.00%	63
Why?	84.13%	53

#	AREA?	DATE
1	Books on CD	7/30/2022 1:20 PM
2	Mystery section	7/29/2022 4:26 PM
3	New arrivals. Also biographies	7/28/2022 6:56 AM
4	n/a	7/27/2022 9:20 AM
5	Circulation	7/26/2022 10:57 AM
6	Children's Room	7/26/2022 9:10 AM
7	New Books	7/26/2022 7:33 AM
8	The Computers	7/25/2022 5:44 PM
9	All	7/25/2022 3:09 PM
10	Circulation Desk	7/25/2022 12:39 PM
11	The comfortable sitting areas	7/23/2022 12:33 PM
12	My favorite area in the library is everywhere but usually I like to sit at one of the tables and read.	7/23/2022 11:00 AM
13	Reading room	7/23/2022 9:27 AM
14	the Young adult section	7/22/2022 5:19 PM
15	N/A	7/22/2022 2:03 PM
16	Haven't really spent time in the library - just go there to collect books that o have reserved online.	7/22/2022 12:59 PM
17	Free book rack	7/22/2022 11:32 AM
18	NA	7/19/2022 12:05 PM
19	New Book, 7 day Express and the displays	7/18/2022 10:52 AM
20	Having a meeting room is great for the public. Also used books, etc. Good selection of resources	7/15/2022 11:29 AM
21	Newspaper/Magazine area	7/13/2022 6:51 PM
22	New books	7/13/2022 4:43 PM
23	New books shelves	7/12/2022 7:56 PM
24	The childrens room	7/12/2022 4:46 PM
25	Circulation desk	7/12/2022 2:18 PM
26	Mystery section	7/11/2022 8:00 PM
27	The garden out back.	7/11/2022 6:52 PM

## Middletown Public Library Community Use Survey

28	New books	7/11/2022 5:17 PM
29	New books	7/11/2022 10:59 AM
30	Children's area	7/11/2022 8:18 AM
31	New books	7/9/2022 2:18 PM
32	around the corner from the copier	7/9/2022 12:01 PM
33	MYSTERIES	7/8/2022 11:02 PM
34	children's section	7/8/2022 9:27 PM
35	New books	7/8/2022 6:44 PM
36	The bookstore	7/8/2022 1:00 PM
37	Reading Area (magazines)	7/8/2022 12:34 PM
38	None	7/7/2022 9:54 PM
39	Reserved Book section	7/7/2022 10:21 AM
40	The inside front	7/7/2022 7:53 AM
41	Children's Area	7/7/2022 7:39 AM
42	Stacks	7/6/2022 2:46 PM
43	Self checkout	7/6/2022 2:42 PM
44	Newspaper reading section	7/6/2022 10:59 AM
45	Lending	7/6/2022 10:22 AM
46	Don't have one	7/6/2022 8:45 AM
47	7 day book rental	7/6/2022 7:22 AM
48	Circulation	7/6/2022 7:12 AM
49	Children's Room	7/5/2022 10:39 PM
50	Front desk + new books in the front	7/5/2022 8:31 PM
51	Child area	7/5/2022 8:20 PM
52	Kid's computers	7/5/2022 8:03 PM
53	Check out	7/5/2022 7:42 PM
54	Fiction and books on display	7/5/2022 7:20 PM
55	Adult fiction	7/5/2022 5:15 PM
56	Children's area	7/5/2022 4:55 PM
57	Children's	7/5/2022 4:11 PM
58	Unsure	7/5/2022 3:32 PM
59	Children	7/5/2022 2:30 PM
60	Children's	7/5/2022 12:48 PM
61	Kids	7/5/2022 12:15 PM
62	Children's area	7/2/2022 4:48 PM
63	Childrens	6/30/2022 8:15 PM
<b>#</b>	<b>WHY?</b>	<b>DATE</b>
1	I love to listen to the CDs in the car and in the house	7/30/2022 1:20 PM

## Middletown Public Library Community Use Survey

2	I mostly read mysteries	7/29/2022 4:26 PM
3	N/A	7/27/2022 9:20 AM
4	Staff	7/26/2022 10:57 AM
5	Comfortable, well organized, friendly staff	7/26/2022 9:10 AM
6	To print out information I Need and The Reading Area to Read the latest Magazines.	7/25/2022 5:44 PM
7	Inviting and good offerings	7/25/2022 3:09 PM
8	Returns&check-out; get assistance from the librarians	7/25/2022 12:39 PM
9	It is quiet and pleasant to read without distractions	7/23/2022 12:33 PM
10	It's very peaceful	7/23/2022 11:00 AM
11	Peace and quiet	7/23/2022 9:27 AM
12	because it has the books I like to read	7/22/2022 5:19 PM
13	Free books	7/22/2022 11:32 AM
14	I find it very interesting to see what new books area available! Also, the displays provide information on books, new products and services, both new and existing!	7/18/2022 10:52 AM
15	Bright natural light	7/13/2022 6:51 PM
16	Like to see what's new	7/13/2022 4:43 PM
17	Quick access to recently published books	7/12/2022 7:56 PM
18	When my child was younger, we spent hours and hours there every week. He's outgrown the childrens room now, but we still spend a lot of time at the library - and that room is still my favorite.	7/12/2022 4:46 PM
19	Friendly and helpful satff	7/12/2022 2:18 PM
20	Most books that I read are in this genre.	7/11/2022 8:00 PM
21	I enjoy the fact that the library has an outdoor natural space.	7/11/2022 6:52 PM
22	find unexpected materials	7/11/2022 5:17 PM
23	Love to read new fiction with good reviews	7/11/2022 10:59 AM
24	Spacious enough for its purpose	7/11/2022 8:18 AM
25	I like to read	7/9/2022 2:18 PM
26	casual, more like home and more quiet	7/9/2022 12:01 PM
27	my childre and grandkids spent many play times there	7/8/2022 9:27 PM
28	Fun to see what is new!	7/8/2022 6:44 PM
29	A wide variety of affordable books, DVDs, CDs, etc. to choose from	7/8/2022 1:00 PM
30	Comfortable chairs, quiet	7/8/2022 12:34 PM
31	I order books online. I get to peek at what other patrons are reading!	7/7/2022 10:21 AM
32	Tons of things to look at and ponder. Very creatively set up and added to regularly.	7/7/2022 7:53 AM
33	It is larger than the other areas - more spacious	7/7/2022 7:39 AM
34	Lots of books to browse	7/6/2022 2:46 PM
35	I just walk in, get my book, and walk out,	7/6/2022 2:42 PM
36	Read regional & local daily & Sunday newspapers + magazines	7/6/2022 10:59 AM
37	Just don't	7/6/2022 8:45 AM
38	Great selections of new books	7/6/2022 7:22 AM

## Middletown Public Library Community Use Survey

39	The friendly librarians!	7/6/2022 7:12 AM
40	My kids love exploring the books and activities when available.	7/5/2022 10:39 PM
41	The people are very nice + I can get the latest books!	7/5/2022 8:31 PM
42	Welcoming	7/5/2022 8:20 PM
43	Quiet	7/5/2022 8:03 PM
44	That's all I do. Pick up my books	7/5/2022 7:42 PM
45	I like to see new books available	7/5/2022 7:20 PM
46	It contains the kind of material in which I am most interested	7/5/2022 5:15 PM
47	I've been bringing my kids there since they were babies	7/5/2022 4:55 PM
48	I have kids.	7/5/2022 4:11 PM
49	Visits with grandchild	7/5/2022 2:30 PM
50	My kids enjoy it	7/5/2022 12:48 PM
51	Great resource for early readers and boom series	7/5/2022 12:15 PM
52	I love working in the children's area of the library!	7/2/2022 4:48 PM
53	homey	6/30/2022 8:15 PM

## Q5 What is your LEAST favorite area in the Middletown Library?

Answered: 63 Skipped: 0

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Area?	96.83%	61
Why?	53.97%	34

#	AREA?	DATE
1	not applicable	7/30/2022 1:20 PM
2	children's room	7/29/2022 4:26 PM
3	Restrooms	7/28/2022 6:56 AM
4	n/a	7/27/2022 9:20 AM
5	Have none.	7/26/2022 10:57 AM
6	unsure	7/26/2022 9:10 AM
7	community room	7/26/2022 7:33 AM
8	None	7/25/2022 5:44 PM
9	none	7/25/2022 3:09 PM
10	I love ALL the areas of the library	7/25/2022 12:39 PM
11	Do not have onen	7/23/2022 12:33 PM
12	I don't have a least favorite area.	7/23/2022 11:00 AM
13	None	7/23/2022 9:27 AM
14	none	7/22/2022 5:19 PM
15	N/A	7/22/2022 2:03 PM
16	See answer above.	7/22/2022 12:59 PM
17	Bathrooms	7/22/2022 11:32 AM
18	NA	7/19/2022 12:05 PM
19	Low book shelving	7/18/2022 10:52 AM
20	Turning into the parking lot from the south!	7/15/2022 11:29 AM
21	YA area	7/13/2022 6:51 PM
22	Like all areas	7/13/2022 4:43 PM
23	None	7/12/2022 7:56 PM
24	Not sure I have a least favorite.	7/12/2022 4:46 PM
25	YA	7/12/2022 2:18 PM
26	Conference room	7/11/2022 8:00 PM
27	The computers are in the middle of the library.	7/11/2022 6:52 PM
28	NA	7/11/2022 10:59 AM
29	Meeting space w/tables	7/11/2022 8:18 AM

## Middletown Public Library Community Use Survey

30	Outside	7/9/2022 2:18 PM
31	children's area	7/9/2022 12:01 PM
32	none	7/8/2022 11:02 PM
33	none really	7/8/2022 9:27 PM
34	Don't have one.	7/8/2022 6:44 PM
35	All areas are wonderful!	7/8/2022 1:00 PM
36	Fiction Stacks	7/8/2022 12:34 PM
37	Back of the non-fiction section	7/7/2022 10:21 AM
38	None	7/7/2022 7:53 AM
39	computer ara	7/7/2022 7:39 AM
40	Tables	7/6/2022 2:46 PM
41	None	7/6/2022 2:42 PM
42	Tiny desk areas	7/6/2022 10:59 AM
43	Children	7/6/2022 10:22 AM
44	Don't have one	7/6/2022 8:45 AM
45	Entrance	7/6/2022 7:22 AM
46	N/A	7/6/2022 7:12 AM
47	N/A	7/5/2022 10:39 PM
48	n/a	7/5/2022 8:31 PM
49	Bathrooms	7/5/2022 8:20 PM
50	No area	7/5/2022 8:03 PM
51	None	7/5/2022 7:42 PM
52	none	7/5/2022 7:20 PM
53	n/a	7/5/2022 5:15 PM
54	Quiet rooms	7/5/2022 4:55 PM
55	Adult	7/5/2022 4:11 PM
56	The kids section	7/5/2022 3:32 PM
57	Computers	7/5/2022 2:30 PM
58	Non	7/5/2022 12:48 PM
59	Restrooms	7/5/2022 12:15 PM
60	I don't have a least favorite area (they're all pretty great!).	7/2/2022 4:48 PM
61	teen	6/30/2022 8:15 PM
<b>#</b>	<b>WHY?</b>	<b>DATE</b>
1	I have no use for it.	7/29/2022 4:26 PM
2	Need to expand	7/28/2022 6:56 AM
3	n/a	7/27/2022 9:20 AM
4	unsure	7/26/2022 9:10 AM
5	not very welcoming	7/26/2022 7:33 AM

## Middletown Public Library Community Use Survey

6	The entire library is a resource for anything & everything I want to do	7/25/2022 12:39 PM
7	Outdated	7/22/2022 11:32 AM
8	I think better shelving would help patrons with physical limitations.	7/18/2022 10:52 AM
9	Not enough space	7/13/2022 6:51 PM
10	No bad areas	7/13/2022 4:43 PM
11	There is no where for teens to hang out, study or socialize.	7/12/2022 2:18 PM
12	The space feels sterile and uninviting.	7/11/2022 8:00 PM
13	Not enough privacy or quiet for computer use.	7/11/2022 6:52 PM
14	silly question	7/11/2022 5:17 PM
15	Not spacious, not private	7/11/2022 8:18 AM
16	It would be nice to sit outside	7/9/2022 2:18 PM
17	not enough for toddlers to do.... like Newport library with puzzles, houses, stuffed animals, etc.	7/9/2022 12:01 PM
18	all areas serve a useful purpose	7/8/2022 9:27 PM
19	Dark	7/8/2022 12:34 PM
20	I don't hate the town library, I just don't have a reason to use it	7/7/2022 9:54 PM
21	crowded, dark	7/7/2022 10:21 AM
22	Not enough privacy	7/7/2022 7:39 AM
23	Too crowded	7/6/2022 2:46 PM
24	They are close to other patrons	7/6/2022 10:59 AM
25	Just don't	7/6/2022 8:45 AM
26	People smoking outside the door	7/6/2022 7:22 AM
27	N/A	7/6/2022 7:12 AM
28	N/A	7/5/2022 10:39 PM
29	?	7/5/2022 8:20 PM
30	all places in the Library are important	7/5/2022 5:15 PM
31	We could use more of them	7/5/2022 4:55 PM
32	Dense and uninviting.	7/5/2022 4:11 PM
33	Old	7/5/2022 12:15 PM
34	terrible location	6/30/2022 8:15 PM



## Q6 What would you like to do in the Library that you can't now?

Answered: 45 Skipped: 18

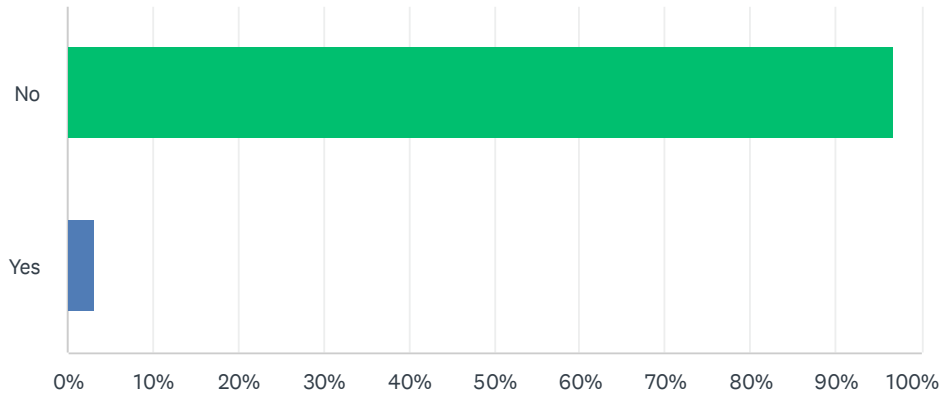
#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Cafe, classical music performances, robotics, a patio with relaxing chairs, a giant chess set and seeds to plant a garden! Modeled on Beyone Books CBS Sunday morning July 24th. On you tube	7/30/2022 1:20 PM
2	Can't think of anything	7/29/2022 4:26 PM
3	They have just started a Adult Book Club. Great!	7/26/2022 10:57 AM
4	More open space for children to play or read comfortably	7/26/2022 9:10 AM
5	sit and read in a comfortable space - with windows - the library doesn't have enough windows and natural light	7/26/2022 7:33 AM
6	Nothing...love the library as it is.	7/25/2022 3:09 PM
7	Use an outdoor veranda with seating & tables.	7/25/2022 12:39 PM
8	Nothing	7/23/2022 12:33 PM
9	Have a specific section for teens to hang out instead in addition to the kids and adults section	7/22/2022 5:19 PM
10	N/A	7/22/2022 2:03 PM
11	N/A	7/22/2022 12:59 PM
12	Programs for older kids/tweens	7/22/2022 11:32 AM
13	Nothing	7/19/2022 12:05 PM
14	Have a space for small group meetings.	7/13/2022 6:51 PM
15	Attend more childrens programs	7/13/2022 4:43 PM
16	NA	7/12/2022 7:56 PM
17	Nothing comes to mind!	7/11/2022 8:00 PM
18	Sit down in a quiet area with truly comfortable chairs to read.	7/11/2022 6:52 PM
19	possibly see unusual movies	7/11/2022 5:17 PM
20	Library feels cramped	7/11/2022 8:18 AM
21	In bad weather (too hot, rainy, cold) a place for toddlers to go that is educational yet entertaining. Check out Newport children's library section, It is nice that in middletown the children's section is separate from adult. For retired adults, have a weekly session of interest that would get them out of the house and socialize over a topic of interest. Perhaps bills before that federal or state government of importance to them. Perhaps the police talking about scams that they should be aware of. Perhaps different people bringing in pictures of thair trips abroad and discussinsg them. Also gardening discussions, also family tree research Just providing another outlet besides the senior center to spend time outside the home with other people.	7/9/2022 12:01 PM
22	Nothing.	7/8/2022 6:44 PM
23	Day trips to points of interest in the state. There are a wide variety of offerings—it is a matter of fitting them into one's schedule.	7/8/2022 1:00 PM
24	I'd like to see more things for younger kids. Like card game tournaments or indoor events for rainy days. Anything that gets kids off devices.	7/7/2022 9:54 PM
25	More space for tutoring, small group meetings	7/7/2022 10:21 AM

## Middletown Public Library Community Use Survey

26	Nothing else	7/7/2022 7:53 AM
27	I would like the library to be a refuge from the busy world. A place to go to learn, connect, and build relationships.	7/7/2022 7:39 AM
28	Bring a project to work on on a large table	7/6/2022 2:46 PM
29	Nothing that I know of	7/6/2022 2:42 PM
30	I just want to borrow books	7/6/2022 10:22 AM
31	Can't think of anything	7/6/2022 8:45 AM
32	Yoga class Watercolor class Photography class	7/6/2022 7:22 AM
33	N/A	7/6/2022 7:12 AM
34	More kids activities as well as play areas like Newport has	7/5/2022 10:39 PM
35	Have informative meetings foe the Senior Citizens in collaboration with the Senior center	7/5/2022 8:31 PM
36	Watch movie's	7/5/2022 8:03 PM
37	No opinion	7/5/2022 7:42 PM
38	I would enjoy more adult activities where I could meet more people my age.	7/5/2022 7:20 PM
39	n/a	7/5/2022 5:15 PM
40	Maybe add a coffee shop?	7/5/2022 4:55 PM
41	Are there genealogical resources? I would use them. I would like a larger circulating collection & more homeschool resources.	7/5/2022 4:11 PM
42	I wish it felt more comfortable to bring my children there	7/5/2022 3:32 PM
43	Cafe	7/5/2022 12:15 PM
44	Nothing that I can think of off the top of my head.	7/2/2022 4:48 PM
45	Have a teen space, Have a outside space for activities.	6/30/2022 8:15 PM

### Q7 Do you have trouble entering or accessing any space or area in the Library? If yes, please describe below.

Answered: 63 Skipped: 0

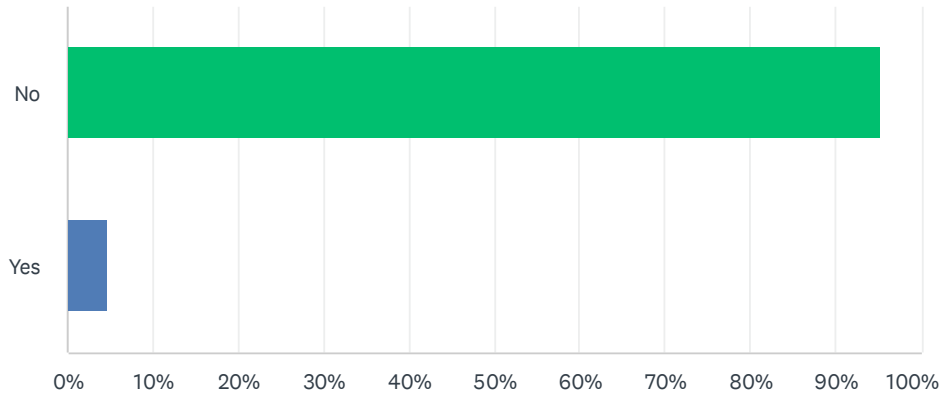


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
No	96.83% 61
Yes	3.17% 2
TOTAL	63

#	DESCRIPTION	DATE
1	DVD section is small, books are too high or too low, many areas are narrow for wheelchairs or baby strollers.	7/12/2022 2:18 PM

### Q8 Have you ever had trouble finding a particular space or area in the Library? If yes, please give details below.

Answered: 63 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
No	95.24% 60
Yes	4.76% 3
TOTAL	63

#	DETAILS	DATE
1	Yes library is too small	7/5/2022 8:20 PM
2	Sometimes there aren't enough quiet spaces to work.	7/5/2022 4:55 PM
3	Teen area	6/30/2022 8:15 PM

## Q9 What changes or improvements to space, furniture, or equipment would make the Library more functional or appealing to you? Please give details.

Answered: 63 Skipped: 0

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	See above	7/30/2022 1:20 PM
2	A bigger space for the large print books. The current area is too small.	7/29/2022 4:26 PM
3	More small meeting rooms please! Places that would be appropriate for tutoring and small conferences.	7/28/2022 6:56 AM
4	In general a brighter feel would be great. I know the current building is pretty old.	7/27/2022 9:20 AM
5	Larger area for DVD, TV Series, etc.	7/26/2022 10:57 AM
6	More open, bright spaces	7/26/2022 9:10 AM
7	It needs more windows. It needs more easy chairs to sit down in - It just needs to be bigger and have more space - especially since the pandemic, no one wants to be in a cramped space with other people. You want to spread out a bit	7/26/2022 7:33 AM
8	A Bigger area for more DVDs,CDs and audio Books. Also, a larger area for Young Adult materials and study area.	7/25/2022 5:44 PM
9	Love it as it is. And love being able to park close by to enjoy library's amenities.	7/25/2022 3:09 PM
10	An outdoor, shaded veranda with chairs and tables More computers New & cleaned carpets Better HVAC systems so they don't breakdown	7/25/2022 12:39 PM
11	Perhaps more seating areas/desks to spread out materials on	7/23/2022 12:33 PM
12	maybe have more couches and more comfortable seating.	7/23/2022 11:00 AM
13	None	7/23/2022 9:27 AM
14	better furniture and an easier way to print stuff	7/22/2022 5:19 PM
15	.	7/22/2022 2:03 PM
16	All looks good to me.	7/22/2022 12:59 PM
17	Needs to be bigger, more space to read your books	7/22/2022 11:32 AM
18	none	7/19/2022 12:05 PM
19	Ergonomic workspaces	7/18/2022 10:52 AM
20	Being able to darken the community room for presentations. Windows are great, but better darkening would facilitate presentations	7/15/2022 11:29 AM
21	There seems to be a need for additional quiet work study areas with privacy/zoom meetings.	7/13/2022 6:51 PM
22	I really like the library as it is.	7/13/2022 4:43 PM
23	More comfortable chairs, More restroom space, more private space for computer use	7/12/2022 7:56 PM
24	Maybe better signage to indicate the different sections.	7/12/2022 4:46 PM
25	Better lighting, more open space, a space for teens, more study rooms, another meeting room, a bigger area for DVDs	7/12/2022 2:18 PM
26	Perhaps additional places to charge I-pads, etc.	7/11/2022 8:00 PM

## Middletown Public Library Community Use Survey

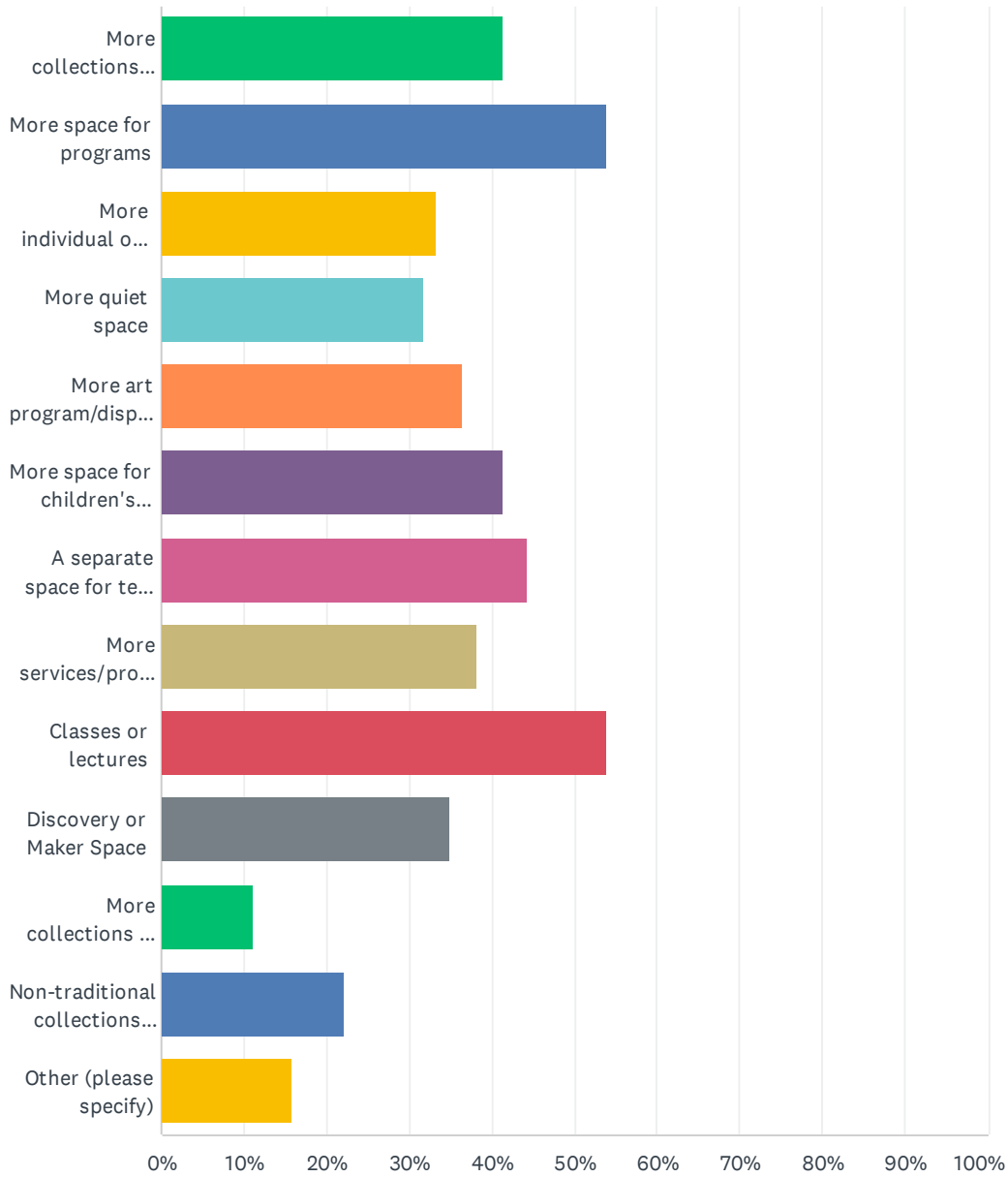
27	Better chairs for reading, computer room, bigger teen area, bigger children's area, more meeting rooms and quiet areas. Bigger space for borrowed materials. Community garden.	7/11/2022 6:52 PM
28	lights over the stack are mis-aligned but that would be a super major project to remedy	7/11/2022 5:17 PM
29	Our library is in desperate need of a new up-to-date building.	7/11/2022 10:59 AM
30	The library needs to be more spacious. The footprint of the library is too small. It's hard to get comfortable there because it feels like a closet no matter where I go, except the children's room	7/11/2022 8:18 AM
31	Outdoor space	7/9/2022 2:18 PM
32	Children's area should be separated into toddlers and older. Toddlers should have more interactive things for them. Puzzles, magnets that they can do numbers or some type of learning. It should feel more like the Newport library where they feel like staying. For older children, not sure if you would want to offer after school study space.	7/9/2022 12:01 PM
33	???	7/8/2022 11:02 PM
34	maybe better AV in the meeting room	7/8/2022 9:27 PM
35	More room in the stacks.	7/8/2022 6:44 PM
36	A larger bookstore.	7/8/2022 1:00 PM
37	More open space; more meeting rooms of different sizes	7/8/2022 12:34 PM
38	Honestly nothing! Even though I don't go often, when I do it's like a dose of nostalgia. It's hasn't changed since I was a kid (aside from the internet.) It brings me back to being a kid again & although outside other places have come & gone; inside that library, it's always been the same.	7/7/2022 9:54 PM
39	Improve the lighting in the stacks.	7/7/2022 10:21 AM
40	I trust in my answers to the other questions	7/7/2022 7:53 AM
41	Larger main space with comfortable chairs and tables. An enclosed or private computer area	7/7/2022 7:39 AM
42	Make it feel more open. Have more private areas to read	7/6/2022 2:46 PM
43	I can't think of any.	7/6/2022 2:42 PM
44	I would enjoy a larger reading area. Can we keep newspapers for a longer time? More space & shelves to display DVDs.	7/6/2022 10:59 AM
45	The lowest shelves aren't comfortable to access or easy to see.	7/6/2022 10:22 AM
46	None at this time	7/6/2022 8:45 AM
47	More computers Research tools for genealogy	7/6/2022 7:22 AM
48	N/A	7/6/2022 7:12 AM
49	Make the childrens room more fun and appealing to kids such as the Newport library. Decorations, play area ect.	7/5/2022 10:39 PM
50	More spacious between aisles of books	7/5/2022 8:31 PM
51	New library as town promised as centerpiece of town center. A hotel does not serve or educate our community	7/5/2022 8:20 PM
52	More area's to sit.	7/5/2022 8:03 PM
53	No opinion	7/5/2022 7:42 PM
54	n/a	7/5/2022 7:20 PM
55	It's great as is	7/5/2022 5:15 PM
56	Please don't make it any smaller. Please stop taking away our open field spaces to create more commercial spaces. We don't need them.	7/5/2022 4:55 PM
57	Improved lighting	7/5/2022 4:11 PM

## Middletown Public Library Community Use Survey

58	Brighter separate kids area	7/5/2022 3:32 PM
59	Larger browsing section	7/5/2022 2:30 PM
60	A teen centered space would be great.	7/5/2022 12:48 PM
61	Cafe area, craft room for kids, lounge seating for kids, play room for kids	7/5/2022 12:15 PM
62	I think it would be nice if the adult fiction section was separated into more genres (fiction, romance, fantasy, science fiction, horror, etc.).	7/2/2022 4:48 PM
63	Maker Space for Teens to spend more time creating and less time getting into trouble.	6/30/2022 8:15 PM

### Q10 What additional types of service and space would you like to have in the Library? Please select all that apply.

Answered: 63 Skipped: 0





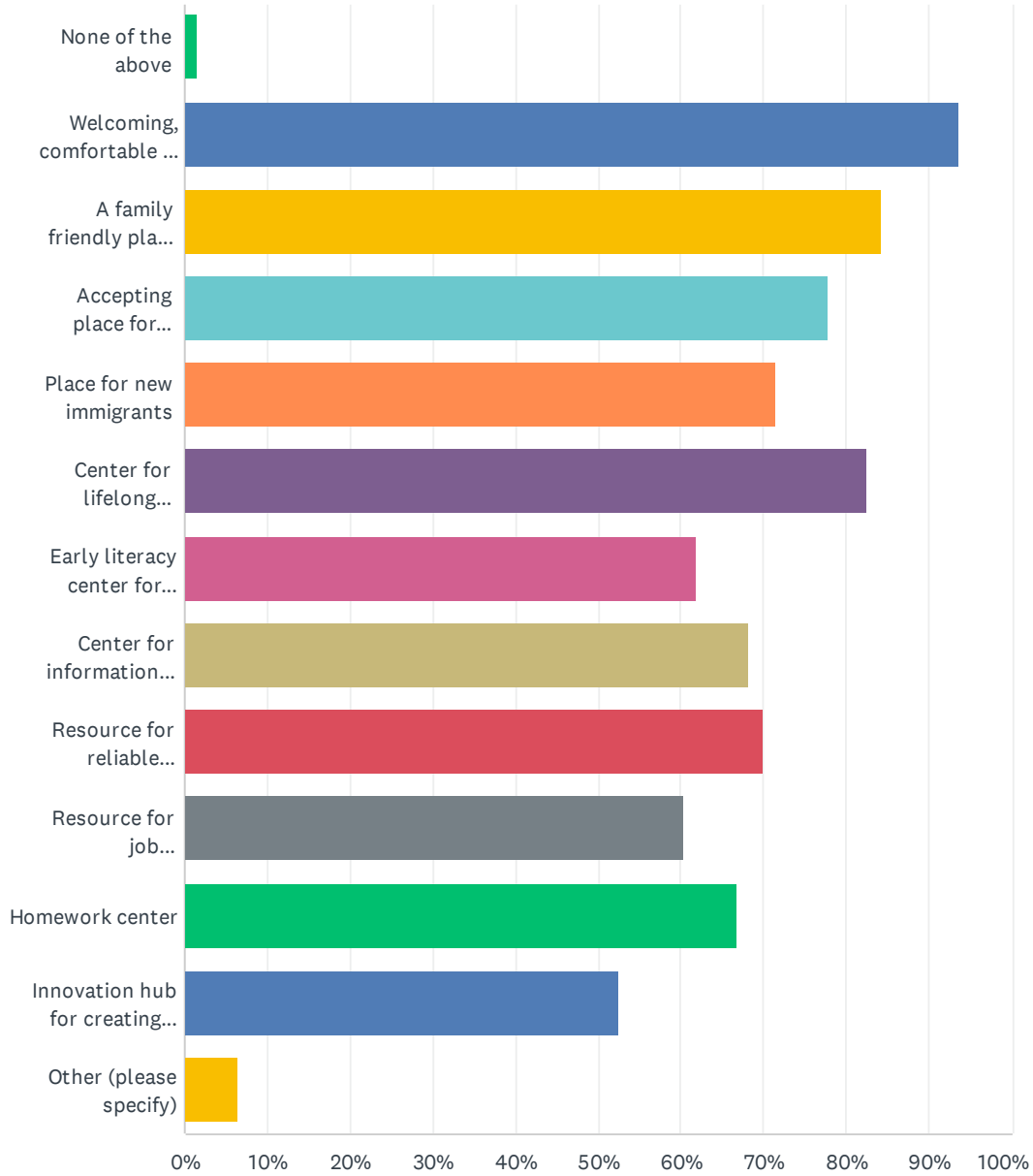
Middletown Public Library Community Use Survey

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
More collections (Books, DVDs, audiobooks)	41.27%	26
More space for programs	53.97%	34
More individual or group study space	33.33%	21
More quiet space	31.75%	20
More art program/display or exhibit space	36.51%	23
More space for children's services/programs	41.27%	26
A separate space for teen services/programs	44.44%	28
More services/programs for seniors	38.10%	24
Classes or lectures	53.97%	34
Discovery or Maker Space	34.92%	22
More collections and services in languages other than English	11.11%	7
Non-traditional collections such as tools, seeds, toys, etc.	22.22%	14
Other (please specify)	15.87%	10
Total Respondents: 63		

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Check out the Charleston, SC library	7/30/2022 1:20 PM
2	Multiple large community rooms;outdoor shaded veranda	7/25/2022 12:39 PM
3	NA	7/19/2022 12:05 PM
4	Community Garden	7/11/2022 6:52 PM
5	An outdoor social area would be great, where people can sit and meet	7/11/2022 8:18 AM
6	Establish a learning program similar to the highly successful and popular OLLI (Osher Lifelong Learning Institute) at URI but for all ages not only for seniors with state-of-the art audiovisual classrooms. Or, partner with the OLLI organization to develop the program. I would gladly volunteer to help out.	7/8/2022 9:27 PM
7	Displays of collections from library staff/members.	7/8/2022 1:00 PM
8	Art & crafts classes	7/7/2022 7:53 AM
9	More room for the Bookstore. More space for library staff in which to work.	7/6/2022 10:59 AM
10	More story time events	7/5/2022 2:30 PM

### Q11 What do you foresee the Public Library's role being to your community in the next ten years? Please select all that apply.

Answered: 63 Skipped: 0



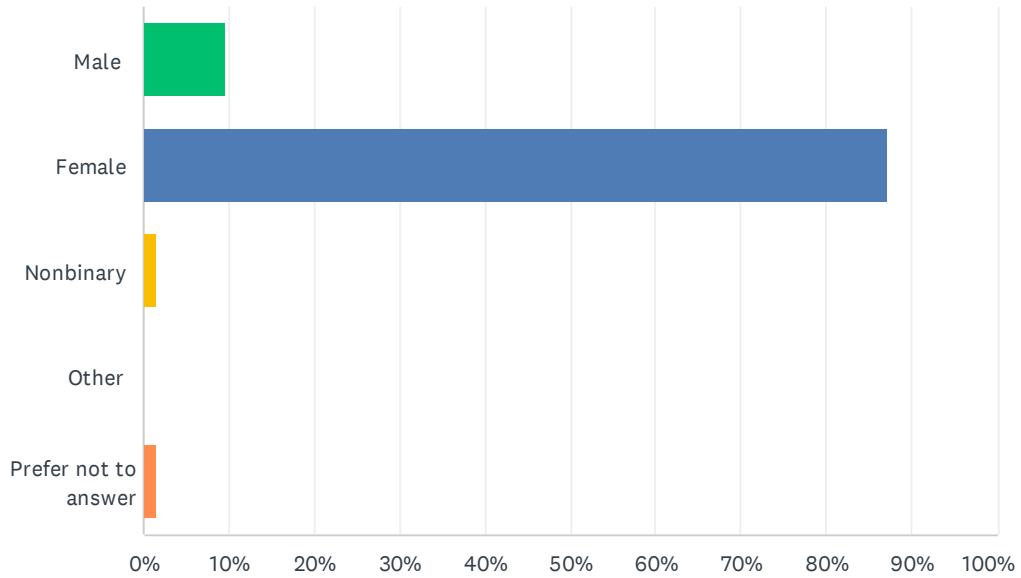
## Middletown Public Library Community Use Survey

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
None of the above	1.59%	1
Welcoming, comfortable and safe place	93.65%	59
A family friendly place for children of all ages, and their families and caregivers	84.13%	53
Accepting place for teenagers	77.78%	49
Place for new immigrants	71.43%	45
Center for lifelong learning (such as writing, programming, and/or literacy and other basic skills)	82.54%	52
Early literacy center for children birth to five	61.90%	39
Center for information about community, government, and social services	68.25%	43
Resource for reliable information	69.84%	44
Resource for job development, health/wellness, wealth and other life choices	60.32%	38
Homework center	66.67%	42
Innovation hub for creating, making, or fixing things and sharing what you do	52.38%	33
Other (please specify)	6.35%	4
Total Respondents: 63		

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Place for speakers,artists & musicians	7/25/2022 12:39 PM
2	Community Adult Learning Center, tech career training	7/7/2022 10:21 AM
3	Classes of all kinds, classes in learning how to make use of iPhone and smart phones!	7/7/2022 7:53 AM
4	Community room(s)	7/6/2022 10:59 AM

## Q12 What is your gender?

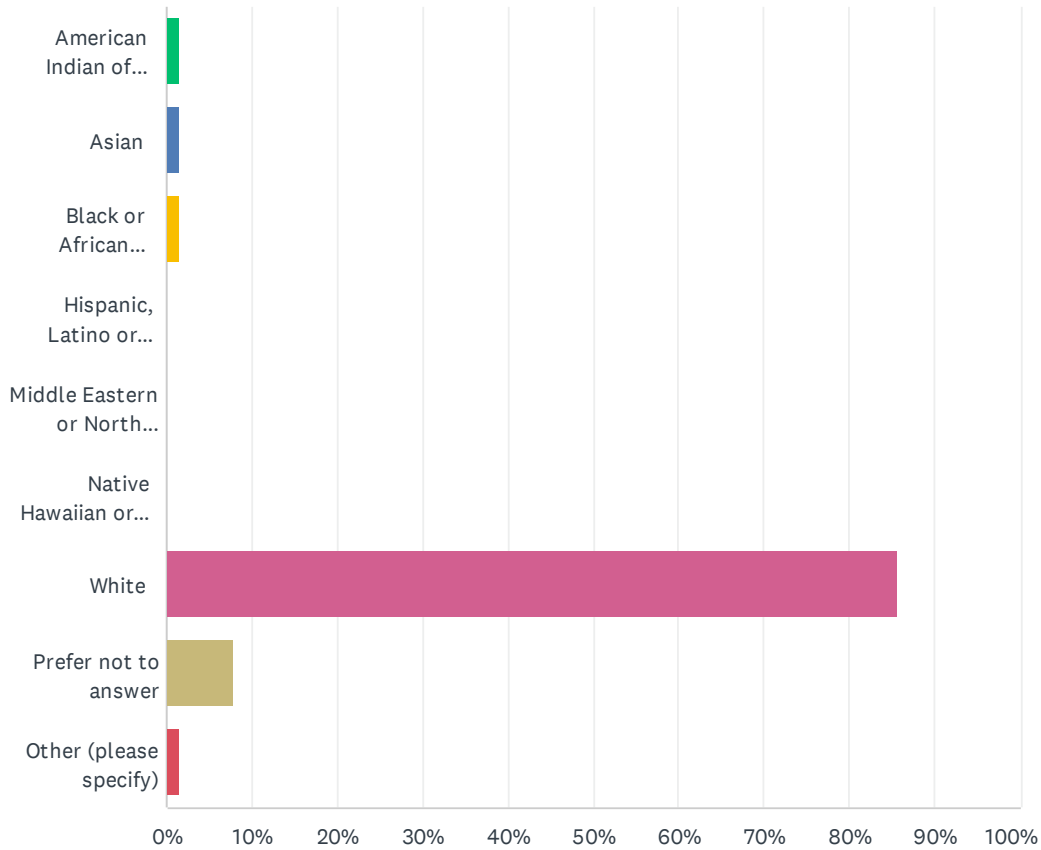
Answered: 63 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Male	9.52%	6
Female	87.30%	55
Nonbinary	1.59%	1
Other	0.00%	0
Prefer not to answer	1.59%	1
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>63</b>

## Q13 Which category best describes you?

Answered: 63 Skipped: 0

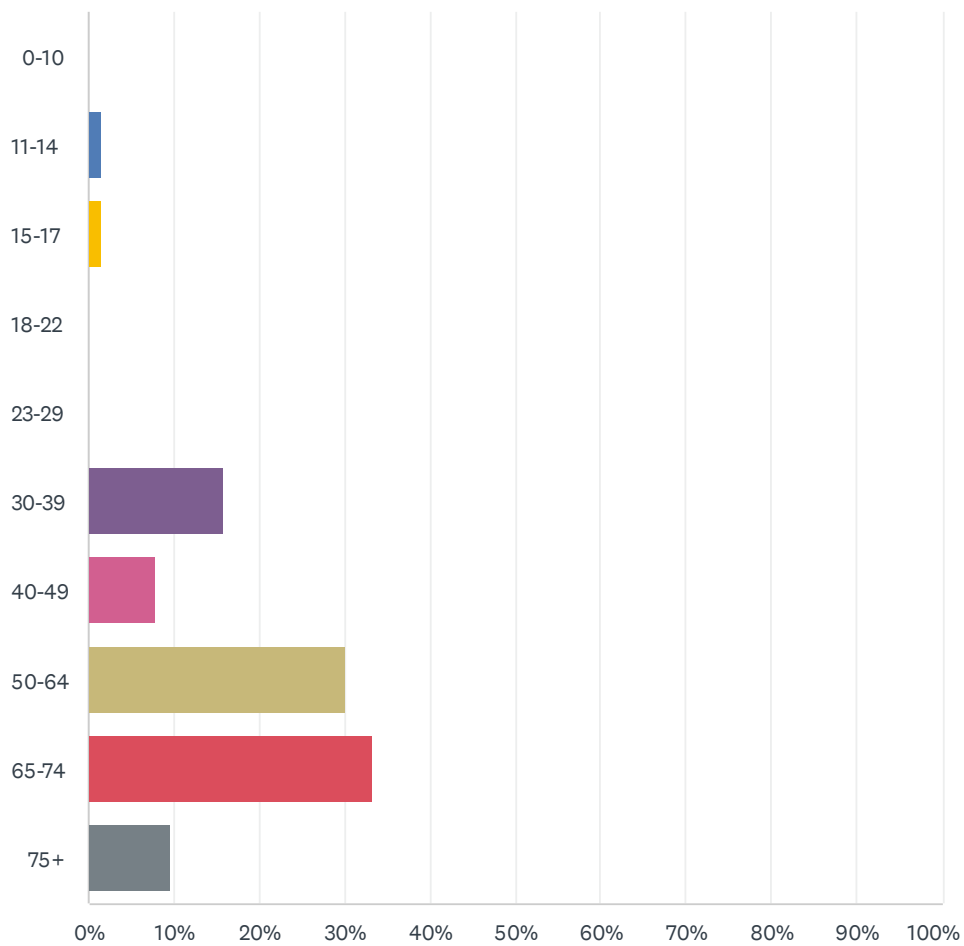


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
American Indian of Alaska Native	1.59%	1
Asian	1.59%	1
Black or African American	1.59%	1
Hispanic, Latino or Spanish Origin	0.00%	0
Middle Eastern or North African	0.00%	0
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	0.00%	0
White	85.71%	54
Prefer not to answer	7.94%	5
Other (please specify)	1.59%	1
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>63</b>

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	I am a member of the human race	7/6/2022 10:59 AM

# Q14 How old are you?

Answered: 63 Skipped: 0

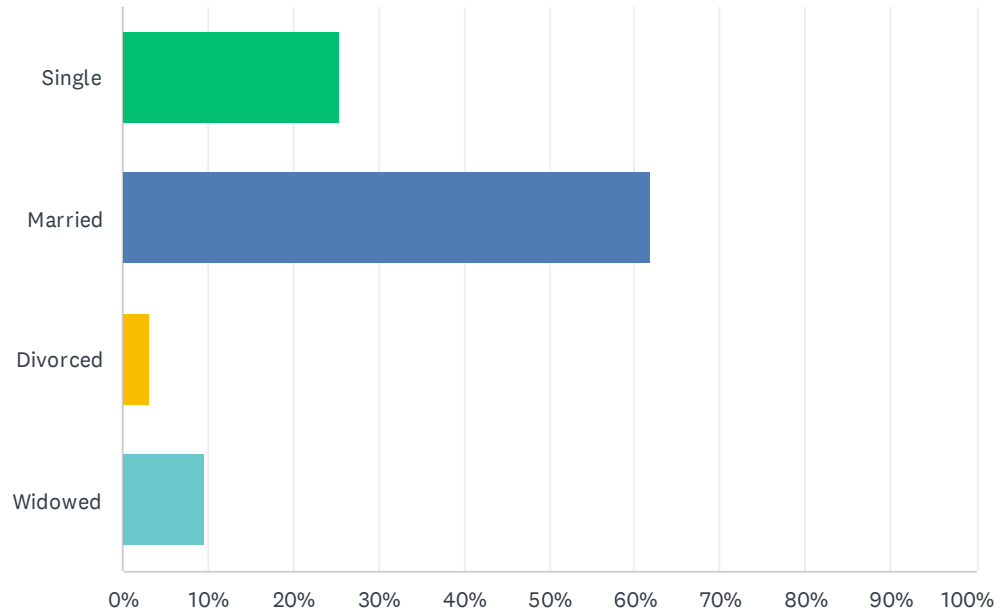


## Middletown Public Library Community Use Survey

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
0-10	0.00%	0
11-14	1.59%	1
15-17	1.59%	1
18-22	0.00%	0
23-29	0.00%	0
30-39	15.87%	10
40-49	7.94%	5
50-64	30.16%	19
65-74	33.33%	21
75+	9.52%	6
TOTAL		63

## Q15 What is your marital status?

Answered: 63 Skipped: 0

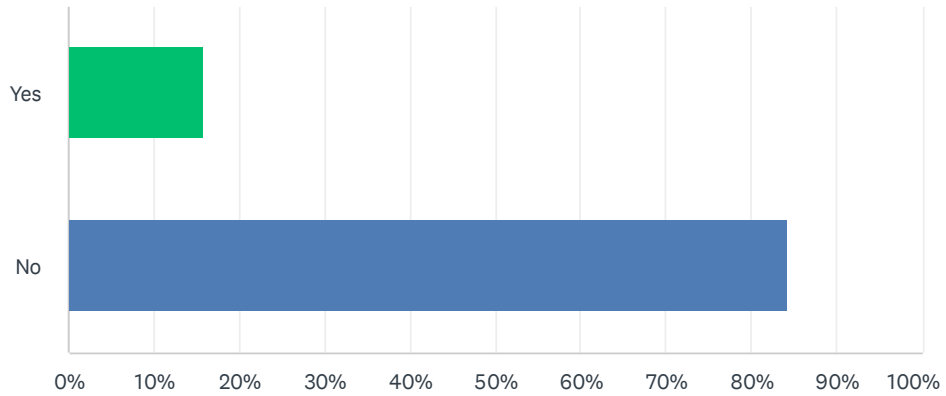


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Single	25.40%	16
Married	61.90%	39
Divorced	3.17%	2
Widowed	9.52%	6
TOTAL		63



### Q16 Are you a member of the military or a military family?

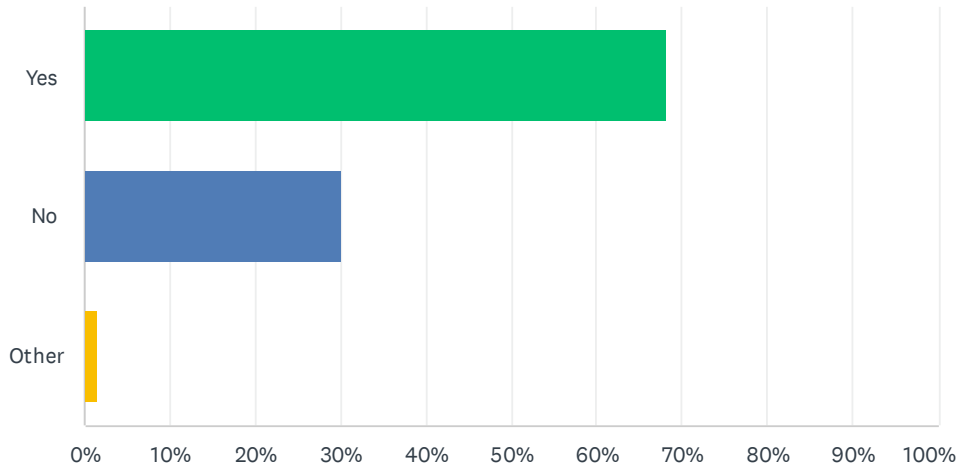
Answered: 63 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	15.87%	10
No	84.13%	53
TOTAL		63

## Q17 Do you have children?

Answered: 63 Skipped: 0

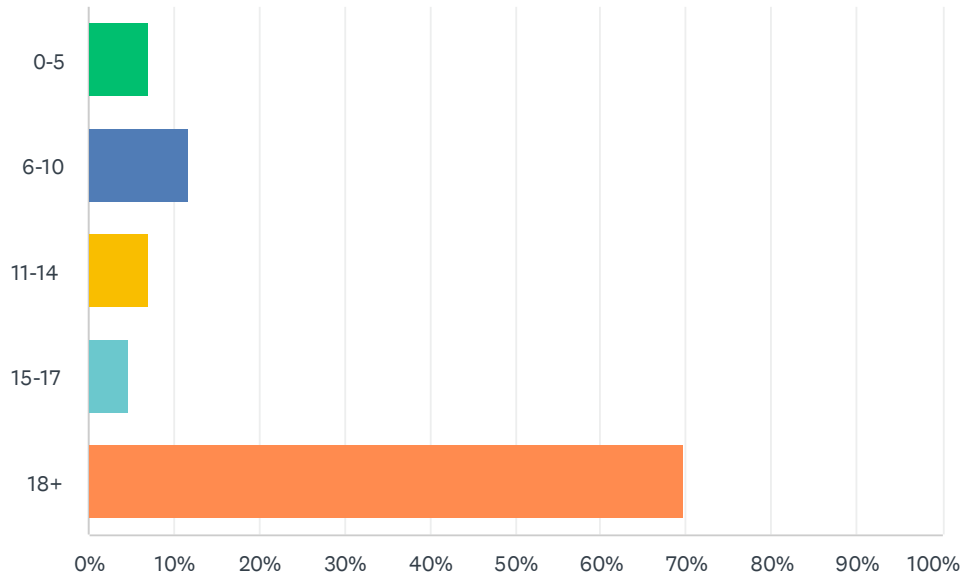


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Yes	68.25% 43
No	30.16% 19
Other	1.59% 1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>63</b>

#	OTHER	DATE
1	Grandchildren	7/7/2022 7:53 AM

## Q18 If yes, how old are your children?

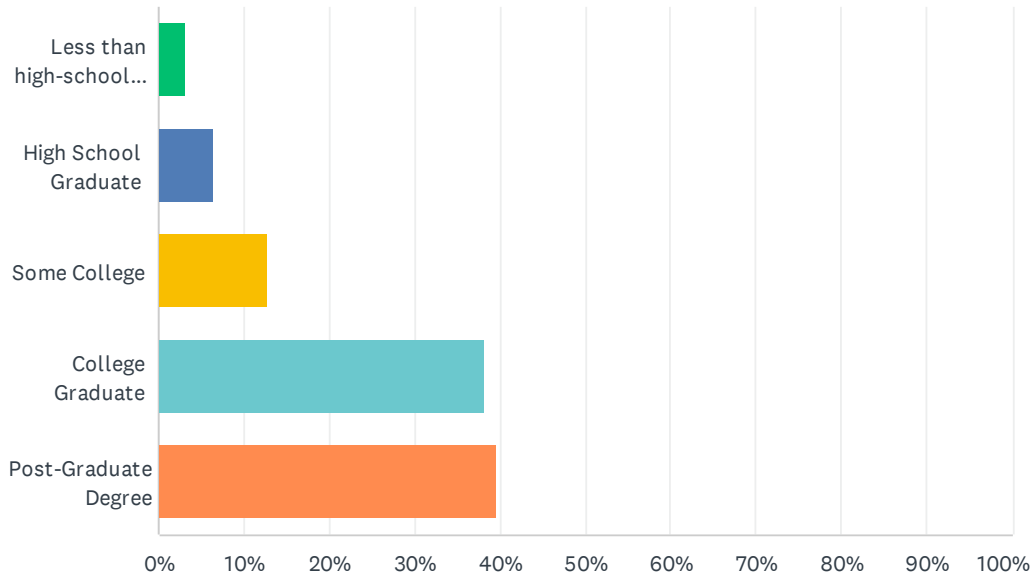
Answered: 43 Skipped: 20



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
0-5	6.98%	3
6-10	11.63%	5
11-14	6.98%	3
15-17	4.65%	2
18+	69.77%	30
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>43</b>

## Q19 What is your highest level of education?

Answered: 63 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Less than high-school diploma	3.17%	2
High School Graduate	6.35%	4
Some College	12.70%	8
College Graduate	38.10%	24
Post-Graduate Degree	39.68%	25
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>63</b>

## Q20 Please feel free to tell us something we did not ask.

Answered: 22 Skipped: 41

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Our library has a wonderful staff of caring, helping and informative people.	7/30/2022 1:20 PM
2	The library is such a valuable resource! Please continue to serve the public in the friendly and helpful ways that you do. I doubt that the everyone in our community knows how many different kinds of help and information are available at their local library. Consider expanding your hours. I know you're understaffed, and stretched. Additional employees would be the best improvement.	7/28/2022 6:56 AM
3	Your staff is great. Friendly, professional and so welcoming.	7/26/2022 10:57 AM
4	the street entrance to the library parking lot makes it almost inaccessible. There should be a traffic light or at least a blinking yellow light that would allow people to safely enter and exit the parking lot - particularly new drivers and older drivers	7/26/2022 7:33 AM
5	We need a bigger library, plenty of parking, more children's programs, and it would be nice if the new library had two floors if possible. It's important for the community to have a better library to come to rather than another hotel. If the Town is going to disregard our opinions the come next election time, some people need to be voted out !	7/25/2022 5:44 PM
6	Can't begin to express how important I feel the public library is to the well-being of the community. I would recommend never skimping on money or resources provided to and through the public library.	7/25/2022 3:09 PM
7	Thank you for offering this survey for input for the new library.	7/18/2022 10:52 AM
8	Would like to see the community garden area continue to exist and possibly an outdoor area for programs and/or playground.	7/13/2022 6:51 PM
9	I am against the plan to demolish the current library. I think the library is great as is.	7/13/2022 4:43 PM
10	The library is an essential resource in our community. It is a place where citizens can come together to share ideas, learn and communicate. It saddens me that there is a plan to downsize and/or make the library a less prominent part of the community. If anything, we need to invest in expanding the offerings of our local library. My youngest son loves to read, in part because of the time we spent at the library in his early life, and the time and attention he received from the children's librarian. (Note: question #18 only allows you to select one age range. I have 2 children who fall into 2 separate ranges.)	7/12/2022 4:46 PM
11	The library should be the centerpiece of the new "town center". It should not be a shrunk down, back row, after thought. I am very disgusted with the current plan.	7/11/2022 8:00 PM
12	I don't see plans for a community garden, which will be sorely needed. Please do not forget this space. Spaces such as these are already too few.	7/11/2022 6:52 PM
13	Libraries are an extraordinary resource. There is no bias - no agenda. They provide information. The staff at Middletown is extraordinary. Each goes out of the way to be helpful & kind.	7/11/2022 5:17 PM
14	A large percentage of Middletown residents, including myself, would like the library to be the center and focal point of Middletown Center. I know the town is focused on revenues, but the revenues should be for us and for the things we want. How can we work together for a library and town center that the residents want?	7/11/2022 8:18 AM
15	I am opposed to building a hotel and commercial businesses on the proposed Middletown Center property. I would much rather the emphasis be on diverse (not the usual mainstream sports) recreational and educational facilities (e.g. indoor beach volleyball court(s),, badminton courts, chess, pickleball, roller skating, regulation 9 ft pool tables, ping pong tables, cafeteria or food trucks, etc.) In short, a place for Middletowners to enjoy not a source of revenue for the town and certain businessmen.	7/8/2022 9:27 PM

## Middletown Public Library Community Use Survey

16	The entire staff does a wonderful job—keep up the great work!	7/8/2022 1:00 PM
17	The library should be double its current size, with a performance hall, community center and educational classrooms to make it the heart of the Middletown Center.	7/7/2022 10:21 AM
18	I love our libraries	7/7/2022 7:53 AM
19	The library is reflection of our community and what we value. Do we value free access to information? Do we support those new to our community who need assistance? Do we see ourselves as lifelong learners? I am a former librarian and am think the Middletown Library is and should continue to be a vital part of our community. My name is Ruth Donahue and my email is donahueruth@gmail.com	7/7/2022 7:39 AM
20	I want the library to have a LARGE campus surrounded by open space with a few sturdy picnic tables with benches and storage space for gardeners and LOTS of parking space + more electric car stations.....a shaded open-sided area for reading relaxing outdoors.	7/6/2022 10:59 AM
21	Continue with the website online. My husband + I are always downloading the ebooks as we are avid readers of books!	7/5/2022 8:31 PM
22	I tried to sign up for online events for kids through the mobile app but I'm having trouble accessing them	7/5/2022 3:32 PM