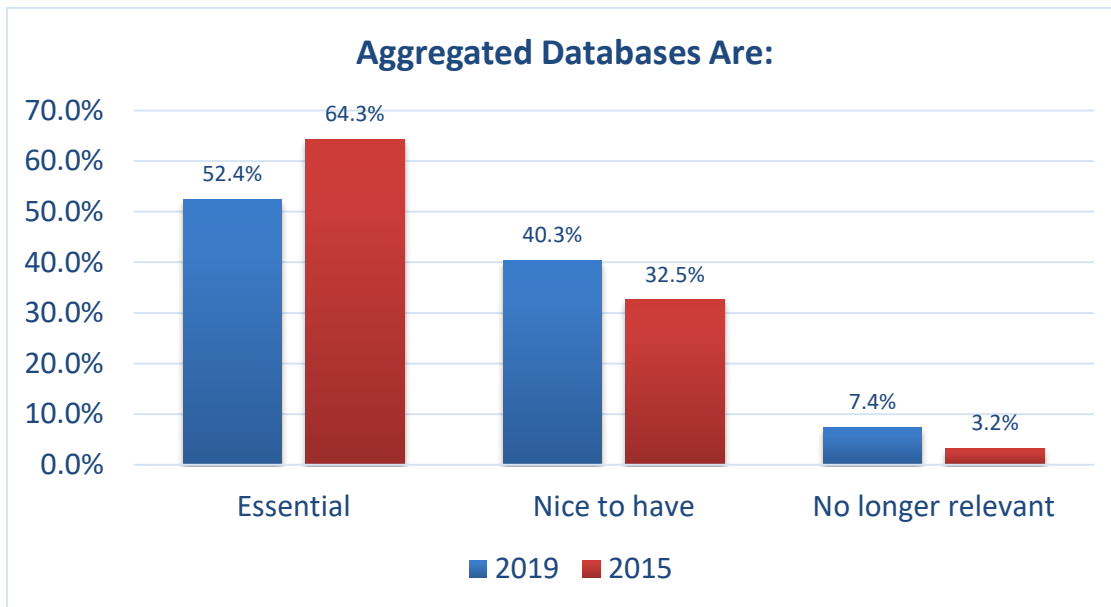# 2019 SDL Needs Assessment Survey
Aggregated Periodical Databases

The current resource package from ProQuest focuses on 3 components:

- Aggregated periodical databases
- Newspapers
- K-12 Resources

In the first "Top Level Results" report, the topic of aggregated periodical databases was briefly addressed by presenting a version of the following chart:

Aggregated Databases Are:

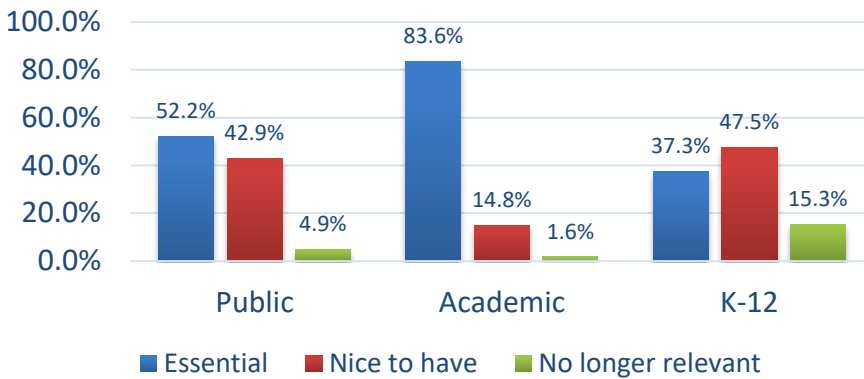|	Essential	Nice to have	No longer relevant
2019	52.4%	40.3%	7.4%
2015	64.3%	32.5%	3.2%

This report goes further, and shows how different constituent groups respond to this topic. First by type of library, and then by library position, and finally by decision making roles. This data is definitely relevant to crafting the RFP, and to building the next set of resource packages for Washington libraries.

The first chart on the next page shows the 2019 response percentages by library type. Obviously, those working in academic libraries are the most likely to regard periodical databases as essential. Just over half of those working in public libraries are of that opinion, while K-12 library staff have the lowest response rate in the essential category. These responses dovetail with the data from the Top Level Report in which almost 55% of respondents preferred that the SDL project offer the ability to pick and choose products, and 28% supported the idea of offering different products to different library types.
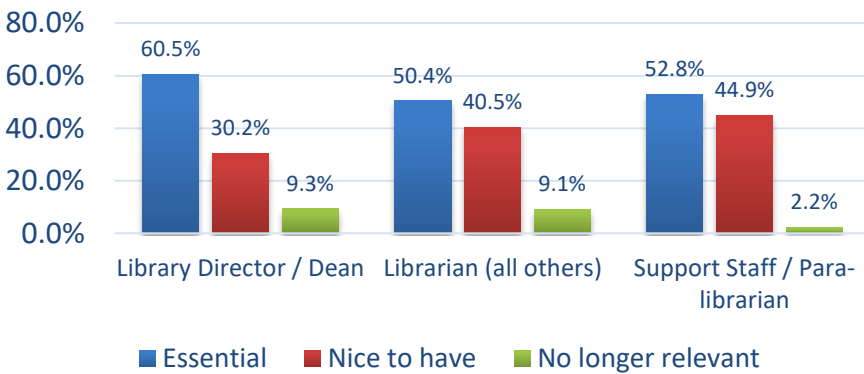
The next chart shows results by position: director/dean, other librarian, or support staff. All three categories show a majority who feel that aggregated periodical databases are essential. Likewise in the final chart that provides the view by decision-making role.

To recapitulate, there is at least one fairly dramatic contrast here: while the academic respondents largely agree (83.6%) that aggregated periodical databases are essential, only 52% and 37% of public and K-12 respondents, respectively, concurred. What might this mean for a package that offers more choices or different options for different types of libraries?

**View of Aggregated Databases
by Library Type (2019)**

	Public	Academic	K-12
Essential	52.2%	83.6%	37.3%
Nice to have	42.9%	14.8%	47.5%
No longer relevant	4.9%	1.6%	15.3%

■ Essential ■ Nice to have ■ No longer relevant

**View of Aggregated Databases
by Position (2019)**

	Library Director / Dean	Librarian (all others)	Support Staff / Para-librarian
Essential	60.5%	50.4%	52.8%
Nice to have	30.2%	40.5%	44.9%
No longer relevant	9.3%	9.1%	2.2%

■ Essential ■ Nice to have ■ No longer relevant

**View of Aggregated Databases
by Role in Decision Making (2019)**

	Directly responsible	Influence selection	Do not have any influence
Essential	57.4%	51.6%	49.2%
Nice to have	32.7%	41.5%	45.0%
No longer relevant	9.9%	6.9%	5.8%

■ Essential ■ Nice to have ■ No longer relevant