2019 SDL Needs Assessment Survey Specific ProQuest Products

We asked respondents to rate the individual ProQuest products that are included in the SDL package. The chart on this page shows the overall results. Research Library and CultureGrams received the highest rating while ProQuest Learning: Literature and PTSD Pubs (a free add-on) received the lowest.



We also looked at individual products by type of library. This requires a whole series of charts. On all of these charts (the one above, and the ones to follow), the "zero" line is the division between the red and blue colors. That division forms a straight line on the charts. So for products where the values are mostly positive (like Research Library), there will be much more blank space on the left side of the chart than on the right, because most of the values fall onto the right side. It gives some of the charts a distinctly lopsided look, but that is due to the actual values being expressed. For graphic clarity, we dropped the "No opinion" responses as being equivalent to having just skipped the question.





















Many of these charts demonstrate responses that one might expect: for instance, the K-12 oriented resources—SIRS Discoverer, eLibrary, CultureGrams—are indeed rated higher by their intended audience. But there are at least a few mild surprises, such as the uniformly strong rating of Research Library, the primary aggregated periodical database in the package, despite a strong plurality (47.5%) of K-12 respondents indicating elsewhere (see the Aggregated Periodical Database report) that they consider such a resource to be "Merely nice to have" and over 15% as "No longer essential."

It also seems a bit surprising that ABI/INFORM Trade & Industry is scored so much higher by academic respondents than by those from public libraries. Likewise the U.S. Newsstream. In retrospect, one wishes for a separate rating of some of the key national newspapers that are included, such as the *Wall Street Journal* (which is exclusive to ProQuest), the *New York Times*, and the *Washington Post*.

Clearly, ProQuest Learning: Literature is the least valued component with the possible exception of PTSD Pubs, which is a free add-on, and costs nothing to include. The Literature product, together with the History database, which rates only slightly stronger among K-12 respondents, are still presented on the somewhat dated Chadwyck-Healey platform/interface.

Overall, one is pleased to see the majority of the current ProQuest package products displaying significantly more blue than red on these informative charts.