**Data Dictionary for *PLOD-SurveyData-ForDeposit.csv***

The file PLOD-SurveyData-ForDeposit.csv contains data from the Public Libraries and Open Data (PLOD) survey, which ran between June - August 2019, and was supported by the Open Data Literacy (ODL) projected and the Washington State Library (WSL).

**Survey findings abstract, as written for forthcoming ASIS&T 2020 proceedings:**As the open data movement grows, public libraries must assess if and how to invest resources in this new service area. This paper reports on a recent survey on open data in public libraries across Washington state, conducted by the Open Data Literacy project (ODL) in collaboration with the Washington State Library. Results document interests and activity in open data across small, medium, and large libraries in relation to traditional library services and priorities. Libraries are particularly active in open data through reference services and are beginning to release their own library data to the public. While capacity and resource challenges hinder progress for some, many libraries, large and small, are making progress on new initiatives, including strategic collaborations with local government agencies. Overall, the level and range of activity suggest that Washington state public libraries of all sizes recognize the value of open data for their communities, with a groundswell of libraries moving beyond ambition to action as they develop new services through evolution and innovation.

For more information about the survey, please visit <http://odl.ischool.uw.edu/survey/>. Initial survey results are available on the ODL blog: <https://medium.com/open-data-literacy/public-libraries-open-data-survey-initial-findings-f5d0e666f5aa>, and further results are forthcoming in ASIS&T 2020 proceedings. See survey instrument at end of this dictionary document.

**Data notes:**

Data in PLOD-SurveyData-ForDeposit.csv has been cleaned and deidentified in order to preserve respondent privacy. For cleaning, several extraneous fields have been removed, added by Qualtrics but not employed in our survey. Additionally, all respondents with no survey data (who started the survey, but didn’t complete any questions except the initial consent portion) were removed. For deidentification, all comment fields (Q2, Q4, Q6, Q9, Q10, Q11 — in instrument below) and all respondent contact information (library, name, position, email) were removed. To view complete surveys only, filter to Finished=TRUE.

**Data fields and description:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **FIELD/ATTRIBUTE** | **Description** |
| StartDate | Date on which respondent started survey. |
| EndDate | Date on which respondent ended survey. |
| Progress | Total respondent progress on survey, recorded as a percentage. For those with Finshed=TRUE surveys, this number is 100. For Finished=FALSE surveys, number ranges from 44-60. |
| Duration | Time (in seconds) survey was open for respondent. Note: this is not necessarily an accurate indicator for how long it took a respondent to complete the survey. One survey was open for more than two days — we hope it didn’t take them that long to finish it! |
| Finished | TRUE = Complete survey  FALSE = Incomplete survey (see Progress for percent completed) |
| RecordedDate | Date on which the survey was marked ‘recorded’ - for complete surveys, this happened when the respondent submitted the survey; for incomplete surveys, one month after no activity on the survey. |
| ResponseId | Unique respondent ID randomly generated by Qualtrics. |
| Consent | To move forward with the survey, all respondents had to consent, but this field is still included. |
| ExcerptsAD | In this field, respondents agreed or disagreed as to whether we could share their excerpts. |
| ExcerptType | In this field, respondents selected how their excerpts could be shared. Possible answers:   * My institution may be included in association with my excerpts. * My name may be included in association with my excerpts. * My excerpts may only be used anonymously. |
| ServicePopulation | The library’s estimated service population. Possible answers:   * Under 5,000 * 5,000 - 24,999 * 25,000 - 99,999 * 100,000 - 249,999 * Over 250,000 |
| LibrarySystemYN | If yes, then respondent is answering as a library system.  If no, then respondent is answering as a library branch. |
| Q1\_1-11 | See survey instrument below. |
| Q3\_1-7 | See survey instrument below. |
| Q5\_1-11 | See survey instrument below. |
| Q7\_1-6 | See survey instrument below. |
| Q8 | See survey instrument below. |

**Public Libraries & Open Data (PLOD) Survey 2019 —**

**Survey Instrument**

**CURRENT CONTEXT**

**Q1.** Open data activities relate to many established library roles, including reference service, provision of digital collections, and community programming and engagement. Please indicate the degree to which you agree with the following statements.

**Answer choices:**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Strongly disagree | Disagree | Neutral | Agree | Strongly agree |

**Statements:**

* Our library serves as a gateway to local government information.
* Our library provides information on community activities and resources.
* Our library provides access to local history or other special collections.
* Much of our local and government information is available in digital form.
* Our library offers guidance on how to find or use new information resources.
* Our library offers guidance on the use of information technologies.
* Community members turn to the library with questions about matters of local public interest.
* Our local government turns to the library for help with projects and goals.
* Community interest groups (e.g., chamber of commerce, neighborhood associations, nonprofits) turn to the library for help with projects and goals.
* Our library collects data on library activities and services to inform decision making and planning.
* Our library practices organizational transparency.

**Q2.** Please use this space to tell us more about your statements above.

**INTERESTS & ACTIVITIES**

**Q3.** Considering the interests of your local user community, indicate your library’s likely or current level of activity, on a scale ranging from “Unlikely” to become active to “Highly active” now.

**Answer choices:**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Unsure | Unlikely | Somewhat Likely | Likely | Somewhat Active | Active | Highly Active |

**Interests/Activities:**

* Provide links to open data portals or other open data sources through your website.
* Provide reference assistance for community members on finding or using open data
* Build collections of open data of value to your community
* Offer professional development to library personnel on open data
* Offer programs for the community on the benefits and use of open data
* Collaborate with local government agencies to make their data available to the public
* Publish our library’s data as open data

**Q4.** Please use this space to tell us more about your activities above.

**CAPACITY & RESOURCES**

**Q5.** In relation to the open data interests and activities indicated on the previous page, how important are the following resources, on a scale from “Not important” to “Essential”?

**Answer choices:**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Not important | Low importance | Moderate importance | High importance | Essential |

**Resources:**

* Professional development on open data access, use, and instruction
* Professional development on preparing and publishing datasets
* Professional development on curation and infrastructure for data collections
* New public service position(s) with open data expertise
* New technical position(s) with open data expertise
* Software and tools for preparing and publishing open data
* Access to a platform and support for publishing open data
* Improved library technology for hosting data
* New or improved collaboration with city, state, or other partners
* Grant funding for development and implementation of open data activities
* Increased operating budget

**Q6.** Please use this space to tell us more about your answers above.

**ALIGNMENT**

**Q7.** Please indicate the degree to which you agree with the following statements.

**Answer choices:**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Strongly disagree | Disagree | Neutral | Agree | Strongly agree | Not sure |

**Statements:**

* Open data initiatives align with our library’s mission.
* Open data initiatives align with our community’s interests.
* Open data initiatives align with our library’s current technical proficiency.
* It will be very difficult for our library to prioritize open data initiatives.
* Progress with open data initiatives would require significant new funding.
* Providing leadership for local open data initiatives should be a priority for our library.

**MOVING FORWARD WITH OPEN DATA**

**Q8.** Which types of open data education and support would your library be likely to take advantage of over the next three years?

**Check all that apply:**

* Online webinars
* Online curriculum
* Local or regional in-person workshops
* Short-term open data consultant
* Paid graduate student interns
* Unpaid student practicum or capstone projects
* Community volunteers

**Q9.** Which positions would be most likely to work on open data activities in your library?

**Q10.** What are your library’s greatest barriers to becoming involved in open data?

**Q11.** Please use the space below to share additional comments. For example, you might comment on how open data fits into your library’s priorities, or talk more about your answers to the questions above.