

1999 Annual Medical Center questionnaire of Library and Computer use

Highlights	2
Background information	4
Methodology	4
Response rates	4
Comparisons with previous surveys	5
Library use	6
Frequency of library use	6
Reasons for using the library	6
Where people use library resources	6
Computer use	7
Frequency of computer use	7
Computer ownership	7
Type of computer used	7
Uses of computers	8
Where people use computers	9
Usefulness of resources	9
Where people go for computer support	10
New services	10
Use of computers in teaching	10
Perceptions of library and computing services	11
Expertise of staff	12
Value from and time using computing and library resources	13
Communications mechanisms	17

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Highlights

Library use

- An estimated 84% (+/-3%) of the Medical Center has used library resources in the past six months. Significantly more faculty (98%) and students (100%) and fewer administrative M&P staff (70%) and C&T staff (66%) had used library resources.
- More than 50% of the Medical Center uses the libraries to locate research information, copy or read a particular article or book, and locate clinical information.
- Students commonly access library resources from the Medical Library (87%) and home (64%); faculty from their offices (72%), home (52%), and the Medical Library (55%); M&P staff from the Medical Library (49%) and their offices (81%); C&T staff from the Medical Library (89%); and Hospital staff from the Medical Library (59%) and the Hospital floor (66%).
- One-third more faculty, students and M&P staff use library resources from off-campus in 1999 (56%) than in 1998 (42%).

Computer use

- An estimated 99% (margin of error +/-1%) of the Medical Center has used a computer (or had one used by someone on their behalf) in the past six months.
- People commonly use computers in their offices (59%), home (69%) and the Medical Library (44%). Hospital staff also commonly use computers on Hospital floors (89%).
- More than 50% of the Medical Center uses computers for electronic mail, word processing, the Internet, MEDLINE, preparing presentations, Orbis, electronic journals, remote access, locating research information, and Current Contents. For the first time, more people use electronic mail (96%) than word processors (91%).
- Ninety percent (+/-2%) of the Medical Center either owns a computer or has primary use of a Hospital- or University-owned computer. An estimated 72% (+/-4%) of the Schools of Medicine and Nursing faculty, staff and students owns their own computer.
- The most useful resources are word processors, electronic mail, MEDLINE, external Web resources, and remote access, which respondents feel are significantly more useful than other resources. MicroMedex, reporting systems and tools (CRS, Brio, etc.) and palmtops are significantly less useful than other resources.
- Taking into account both a resource's usefulness and the number of people using it, the most valued resources are word processors, electronic mail, MEDLINE, and the Internet. The least valued resources are palmtops and reporting systems and tools.
- Faculty and postdoctoral fellows who teach at least one course per year regularly use email (61% use) but not the Web (8% use) for their courses.

Perceptions of library and computing services

- The three most commonly used services are the Library Information Desk (48%), the ITS-Med Help Desk (44%), and the Microcomputer Support Center (42%).
- Respondents rate the expertise of Media Services staff significantly higher than Central ITS staff.
- About one-third (37%) of respondents receive more value from library resources than last year, compared with 10% who receive less value this year. For computing resources, 56% receive more value this year and 6% less.

- Respondents feel the value they receive from computing resources has increased more in the last year than the value they receive from library resources. They also feel the time spent using computing resources has increased more in the last year than time spent using library resources. Respondents feel the value they receive from library resources has increased more than the time spent using them. There was no significant difference between time and value for computing resources.
- Two-thirds of the Medical Center would like toll-free dial-up to the Yale network and to be able to send and receive faxes over the network.
- Electronic mailings are preferred by more people (58%) than any other communications mechanism.
- People most prefer to get help from colleagues (67%) and the ITS-Med Help Desk (63%).

Background information

Methodology

We selected a random, stratified sample of faculty, postdoctoral fellows, University M&P staff, University C&T staff, students, and residents. Faculty, postdoctoral fellows, C&T staff and M&P staff were drawn from the University's Human Resources database. Students were drawn from student enrollment lists supplied by their registrars. Residents were supplied by the House Staff Office.

We mailed people up to three copies of the survey, over a period of 10 weeks, until they returned a complete survey. People who did not respond to any of the three mailings were telephoned up to three times and asked to either return the survey or complete it over the phone.

People did not complete the survey for the following reasons: left the Medical Center, out of town, on leave, unlisted telephone number, or did not return the phone calls. A preliminary analysis to determine whether people who returned their surveys earlier had different patterns of library or computer use than later respondents revealed no significant differences, suggesting that non-participation was unrelated to the survey's content.

group	population	sample	responded	response rate
pa students	64	10	9	90%
grad students	414	20	16	80%
nursing students	141	10	7	70%
eph student	171	10	8	80%
med students	486	20	14	70%
ladder faculty	633	20	12	60%
other faculty	1965	17	6	35%
research faculty	439	20	15	75%
admin M&P	497	20	14	70%
other M&P	328	20	11	55%
research M&P	404	20	17	85%
admin C&T	866	20	10	50%
other C&T	302	20	7	35%
research C&T	209	20	12	60%
post doc	1017	20	13	65%
residents	388	40	6	15%
nurses	1200	24	14	58%
total	7936	331	191	58%
faculty & postdocs	4054	77	46	60%
students	1276	70	54	77%
C&T staff	1377	60	29	48%
M&P staff	1229	60	42	70%
Hospital staff	1588	64	20	31%

Response rates

The overall response rate was 58% in 1999, 71% in 1998, 74% in 1997, 85% in 1996 and 80% in 1995.

Human Resources classifies faculty into three groups called ladder (teaching faculty), research, and other, and C&T and M&P staff into three groups called administrative, research, and other. Population estimates given in this report were derived by weighting the responses according to their population N's.

Comparisons with previous surveys

Results from the 1999 survey were compared with the 1998 survey:

- People are receiving increasingly more value from electronic journals from 1997 to 1999 (F(2,316)=4.75, p<.01). They are also using electronic journals more (50% in 1997 vs. 67% in 1999) (χ^2 =9.74, p<.01)
- People are receiving less value from CCSS and remote access while traveling.
- More respondents use the EPH library in 1999 (14%) than in previous years (8%) (χ^2 =9.9, p<.05).
- More respondents use library resources from home or off-site office locations in 1999 (50%) than in previous years (32%) (χ^2 =20.89, *p*<.001). Use of library resources in the Medical Library has declined from 1995 (91% of library users came to the Medical Library) to 1999 (70%) (χ^2 =21.79, *p*<.001).

Library use

An estimated 84% (+/-3%) of the Medical Center has used library resources in the past six months.

Significantly more students (100%) and fewer M&P's (72%) used library resources (χ^2 =21.0, p<.001).

Frequency of library use

several times a day	6%
at least once a day	18%
at least once a week	27%
at least once a month	22%
once or twice	12%
never	16%

Reasons for using the library

Purpose	Medical Center	Comments
		Significantly fewer residents (59%) and M&P staff (70%) and
to find information on a particular	75% +/-3%	more students (95%) use library resources for this reason
research question		$(\chi^2 = 19.2, p < .001).$
to copy or read a particular article or	62% +/-4%	
book I've heard about		
to find information on a particular	59% +/-4%	Significantly more Hospital staff (92%) chose this reason
clinical question		$(\chi^2 = 13.6, p < .01).$
to prepare for a course I am	48% +/-4%	Significantly more students (65%) and fewer M&P staff (17%)
teaching/taking		chose this reason (χ^2 =16.9, <i>p</i> <.01).
to use reference or text books	45% +/-4%	
to browse the latest journal issues	34% +/-4%	Significantly more faculty (57%) chose this reason (χ^2 =9.8,
		<i>p</i> <.05).
to request materials from other libraries	21% +/-4%	
to find funding opportunities	15% +/-3%	

Where people use library resources

Location	Medical Center	Comments
Medical Library	68% +/-4%	Significantly more students (86%) use library resources here
		$(\chi^2 = 16.1 \ p < .01).$
	47% +/-4%	Significantly more students (65%) and fewer C&T staff (15%)
home or off-campus office		use library resources here (χ^2 =13.4, <i>p</i> <.01).
	45% +/-4%	Significantly more faculty (77%) & M&P staff (81%) and fewer
University office		residents (0%) use library resources here (χ^2 =31.7, p<.001).
	19% +/-3%	Significantly more Hospital staff (67%) and fewer M&P and
Hospital floor		C&T staff (0%) use library resources here (χ^2 =33.9, <i>p</i> <.001).
Hospital Office	19% +/-2%	Significantly more Hospital staff (33%) and faculty (27%) use
		library resources here (χ^2 =16.8, <i>p</i> <.01).
EPH Library	12% +/-3%	
Nursing Library	7% +/-2%	
outpatient care setting	4% +/-2%	
while traveling	4% +/-2%	

Computer use

An estimated 99% (margin of error +/-1%) of the Medical Center has used a computer (or had one used by someone on their behalf) in the past six months.

Frequency of computer use

several times a day	72%
at least once a day	18%
at least once a week	7%
at least once a month	2%
less often or not at all	1%

Computer ownership

An estimated 90% +/-2% of the Medical Center and 95% +/-2% of the Schools of Medicine and Nursing either owns a computer or has primary use of a Hospital- or University-owned computer. An estimated 65% +/-4% of the Medical Center own their own computer.

Type of computer used

Overall, an estimated 44% +/-4% of the Schools of Medicine and Nursing uses Macintoshes and 69% +/-4% uses Windows PC's.

	Maci	ntosh	Windows PC	
	1998	1999	1998	1999
Faculty	37%	53%	71%	58%
Postdoctoral fellows	43%	50%	57%	70%
Students	43%	40%	50%	66%
M&P staff	21%	38%	78%	79%
C&T staff	23%	37%	73%	78%

Uses of computers

Purpose	Medica	al Center	Comments
electronic mail	96%	+/-1%	Significantly fewer Hospital staff (82%) use electronic mail (χ^2 =12.9, <i>p</i> <.05).
word processor	91%	+/-2%	Significantly fewer Hospital staff (71%) use word processors $(\chi^2 = 18.4, p < .001)$.
external Web resources	87%	+/-3%	
Yale Web resources	81%	+/-3%	Significantly more M&P staff (97%) and fewer Hospital staff (59%) use Yale web resources (χ^2 =14.4, <i>p</i> <.01).
MEDLINE	80%	+/-3%	Significantly more faculty (96%) and fewer C&T staff (50%) use MEDLINE (χ^2 =19.3 <i>p</i> <.001).
prepare presentations	73%	+/-4%	Significantly more faculty (91%) use computers to prepare presentations (χ^2 =15.5, p<.01).
Orbis	71%	+/-4%	Significantly more students (88%) use Orbis (52%) (χ^2 =13.2, p <.01).
electronic journals	66%	+/-4%	
remote access	60%	+/-4%	Significantly more faculty (91%) and students (84%) and fewer C&T staff (33%) use remote access (χ^2 =31.4, <i>p</i> <.001).
find information on a particular research question	58%	+/-4%	Significantly more students (85%) and fewer C&T (33%) & Hospital staff (38%) use computers to look for research information (γ^2 =28.6, p<.001).
find information on a particular clinical question	49%	+/-4%	Significantly fewer C&T staff (11%) use computers to look for clinical information (χ^2 =16.2, <i>p</i> <.01).
analyze research data	48%	+/-4%	Significantly more faculty (78%) and fewer Hospital staff (12%) use computers to analyze research data (χ^2 =21.6, p<.001).
organizational tool (record-keeping, scheduling, budgeting)	47%	+/-4%	
major campus mainframes	46%	+/-4%	Significantly more students (79%) use mainframes (χ^2 =19.1, <i>p</i> <.001).
CCSS	44%	+/-4%	Significantly more Hospital staff (100%) use CCSS (χ^2 =31.3, p <.001).
access patient care records	40%	+/-4%	Significantly more Hospital staff (88%) use computers to access patient care records (χ^2 =26.1, <i>p</i> <.001).
prepare for a course taking/teaching	39%	+/-4%	Significantly more students (62%) use computers to prepare for a course (χ^2 =17.2, <i>p</i> <.01).
medical education software	32%	+/-4%	
prepare grant proposals	31%	+/-4%	Significantly more faculty (74%) use computers to prepare grant proposals (χ^2 =30.9, <i>p</i> <.001).
MicroMedex	30%	+/-4%	Significantly more Hospital staff (59%) use MicroMedex (χ^2 =9.9, p <.05).
access admin systems	27%	+/-4%	Significantly more M&P staff (72%) use computers to access administrative systems (χ^2 =12.6, <i>p</i> <.05).
Web of Science	26%	+/-4%	
molecular biology computing	26%	+/-4%	
scheduling	26%	+/-3%	
find funding opportunities	25%	+/-3%	Significantly more faculty (57%) use computers to find funding opportunities (χ^2 =21.8, <i>p</i> <.001).
remote access while travelling	24%	+/-4%	
business management systems	23%	+/-4%	Significantly more M&P staff (53%) use business management systems (χ^2 =18.9, <i>p</i> <.001).
reporting systems & tools (CRS, Brio, etc.)	22%	+/-4%	Significantly more M&P staff (49%) use reporting systems & tools $(\chi^2=17.2, p<.01)$.
palm tops	19%	+/-3%	

Where people use computers

Location	Medical Center	Comments
	69% +/-4%	Significantly more students (88%) use computers here (χ^2 =16.2,
home or off-campus office		<i>p</i> <.01).
	59% +/-4%	Significantly more C&T (94%) and M&P staff (89%) and fewer
University office		students (44%) use computers here (χ^2 =58.1, p<.001).
	44% +/-4%	Significantly more students (85%) and fewer Hospital (12%) and
Medical Library		M&P staff (31%) use computers here (χ^2 =40.7, p<.001).
	32% +/-4%	Significantly more Hospital staff (88%) and fewer M&P staff
Hospital floor		(3%) use computers here (χ^2 =49.0, <i>p</i> <.001).
Hospital office	19% +/-3%	
outpatient care setting	16% +/-3%	
		Significantly more students (25%) and fewer Hospital and C&T
while traveling	10% +/-3%	staff (0%) use computers while traveling (χ^2 =13.6, <i>p</i> <.01).
EPH Library	8% +/-2%	
Nursing Library	5% +/-2%	

Usefulness of resources

Respondents rated the usefulness of 18 electronic resources using the following five-point scale:

1=crucial to my work

2=extremely useful

3=somewhat useful

4=not very useful

5=useless

Mean rating	Resource	
1.40	word processor	
1.51	electronic mail	
1.70	MEDLINE	
1.78	External Web resources	
1.93	Remote access	
2.00	major campus mainframes	
2.15	Yale Web resources	
2.23	Electronic Journals	
2.46	CCSS	
2.48	Orbis	
2.57	molecular biology computing	
2.78	Web of Science	
2.78	Medical education software	
2.81	Remote access while travelling	
2.90	BMS	
3.26	MicroMedex	
3.36	Reporting systems & tools (CRS, Brio, etc.)	
3.87	Palm tops	

The most useful resources were word processors, electronic mail, MEDLINE, external Web resources and remote access, which respondents felt were significantly more useful than other resources (F(17,167)=21.16, p<.001). Palm tops, reporting systems and tools, and MicroMedex were rated as significantly less useful than other resources.

Where people go for computer support

The survey asked respondents where they preferred to go for computing help. Hospital staff were dropped from these analyses because they rarely use ITS-Med.

Preferred source of help	Schools of Medicine & Nursing	Comments	
	estimate		
informally via colleagues	65% +/-4%		
phone-in help desk	62% +/-4%	Significantly fewer students (39%) preferred the phone-in	
		help desk (χ^2 =9.8, <i>p</i> <.05).	
training classes	44% +/-4%	Significantly fewer students (27%) preferred classes	
		$(\chi^2 = 9.8, p < .05).$	
web sites	38% +/-4%		
books & manuals	38% +/-4%		
walk-in help desk	32% +/-4%	Significantly more students (61%) preferred the walk-in	
		help desk (χ^2 =21.0, <i>p</i> <.001).	

New services

The survey listed 10 possible new services and asked respondents which they would use if they were available

New service	Schools of Medicine &	Comments
	Nursing estimate	
toll-free dial-up access to Yale network	67% +/-4%	Significantly more students (88%) and fewer
		C&T's (44%) would use this service
		$(\chi^2 = 17.8, p < .001).$
network fax	67% +/-4%	
access to Hospital information systems	44% +/-4%	
optical form scanning	44% +/-4%	
encryption	43% +/-4%	
voice recognition	29% +/-4%	
videoconferencing	22% +/-4%	
small database development	21% +/-4%	Significantly fewer students (6%) and more
		M&P's (32%) would use this service
		$(\chi^2 = 9.6, p < .05).$
pager access via web page	17% +/-3%	
palm top/PDA support	15% +/-3%	

Use of computers in teaching

The survey asked respondents who teach at least one course per year about their use of computers in teaching. Ten faculty answered the questions, with a \pm 11% margin of error.

Use email to communicate with students	70%
Don't use email now to communicate with students, but plan to	10%
Have a Web site I've developed for my course(s)	10%
Plan to develop a Web site for my course(s)	0%
Use other Web sites for course materials and/or assignments	10%
Use medical education software in course(s)	10%

Perceptions of library and computing services

The survey asked respondents about 13 services, asking them to indicate whether they used them and to rate the expertise of staff providing the service. The services were:

- training sessions offered by the Medical Library
- training sessions offered by ITS-Med
- training sessions offered by central campus ITS
- on-site visits by computing support staff (Desktop Support)
- ITS-Med programming support (includes Administrative Systems)
- Help and advice from Microcomputer Support Center staff (MCSC)
- Computing Help Desk phone line (785-3200)
- Medical Library Information Desk
- Medical illustration services provided by ITS-Med
- Photography services provided by ITS-Med
- Web design services provided by ITS-Med
- Video production services provided by ITS-Med
- Audio Visual services provided by ITS-Med

Use of services

% of Schools of Noticing & Nursing		Commente
Service	using	; Comments
Library Reference Desk	48% +/-4%	
Help Desk	44% +/-4%	Significantly fewer students (10%) and more M&P staff (69%) used this service (χ^2 =31.1, <i>p</i> <.001).
MCSC	42% +/-4%	
Desktop Support	37% +/-4%	Significantly fewer students (4%) and more M&P (58%) and C&T staff (57%) used this service (χ^2 =33.2, <i>p</i> <.001).
Photography	29% +/-4%	Significantly fewer students (4%) and more faculty (48%) used this service (χ^2 =20.7, <i>p</i> <.001).
Medical illustration	22% +/-3%	
Audio visual	18% +/-3%	
ITS-Med training	17% +/-3%	Significantly fewer students (4%) and more M&P staff (30%) used this service (χ^2 =10.9, <i>p</i> <.05).
Library training sessions	14% +/-4%	
ITS-Med programming	13% +/-3%	
ITS-Central training	9% +/-2%	Significantly fewer students (0%) and more M&P staff (23%) used this service (χ^2 =16.8, <i>p</i> <.01).
Video production	7% +/-2%	
Web design	6% +/-2%	
Library on-site visits	3% +/-2%	

Expertise of staff

Expertise ratings are shown below. Respondents rated Media Services expertise significantly higher than Central ITS (F(4,109)=3.35, p<.05).



Expertise of services

Value of services

Combining use and usefulness is one way to compare the value of various services, as shown below:



Value of library and computing services - 1999

Value from and time using computing and library resources

The survey asked respondents how the value from and time spent using library and computing resources has changed in the past year.

	library re	sources	computing resources		
	value	time	value	time	
more since last year	17%	27%	28%	27%	
somewhat more	20%	28%	28%	28%	
about the same	53%	36%	38%	36%	
somewhat less	4%	3%	3%	3%	
less than last year	6%	6%	3%	6%	

The value of library resources increased more for students than for M&P staff (F(4,131)=4.04, p<.01. The increase of time spent using library resources increased more for students than for M&P staff, C&T staff and Hospital staff (F(4,132)=4.61, p<.01.

Respondents felt the value they receive from computing resources has increased more in the last year than the value they receive from library resources (t (131)=2.94, p<.01). They also felt the time spent using computing resources has increased more in the last year than time spent using library resources (t (131)=4.80, p<.001). Respondents felt the value they receive from library resources has increased more than the time spent using them(t (131)=3.97, p<.001). There was no significant difference between time and value for computing resources.

When responses to other questions from the survey were correlated with value ratings, the following factors were significantly correlated with *library* resource increases in value

People who have received more value from library		M&P		Hospital	C&T
resources compared to last year:	Students	staff	Faculty	staff	staff
Spend more time using library resources this year	•	*	•	•	
Use libraries to find clinical information			•		
Use libraries to locate research information	•				
Use library resources at home/off-campus office			•		
Use library resources in a Hospital office			•		
Use library resources in outpatient care setting			•		
Use library resources while traveling			•		
Use computers in the Medical Library		*			
Find MEDLINE useful				•	•
Library reference desk staff had high expertise					•
Library staff had high expertise in onsite visits	•				
Tie-ins with computing:					
Get more value from computing this year	•	*	•	•	
Spend more time using computing resources this year	•	*	•	•	
Use a Macintosh			•		
Use computers in a Hospital office			•		
Use computers in outpatient care settings	•		•		
Use computers on the Hospital floor	•	♦	•		
Use computers to access patient records	•				
Use computers to find clinical information			•	•	
Use computers to prepare grant proposals			•		
Use palmtops		*			
Find email useful		♦			
Use the web		*	•		
Find Yale web resources useful		♦			
Find external web resources useful				•	
Find major campus mainframes more useful	•				
Tie-ins with media services					
AV staff had high expertise			•		

When responses to other questions from the survey were correlated with value ratings, the following factors were significantly correlated with *computing* resource increases in value

People who have received more value from computing		M&P		Hospital	C&T
resources compared to last year:	Students	staff	Faculty	staff	staff
Spend more time using computing resources this year	*	•	*	*	•
Use a Macintosh			*		
Use a Windows computer				*	*
Connect to the campus network while traveling			*		
Use computers at home/off-campus office		•		•	
Use computers for scheduling					•
Use computers in outpatient care settings			٠		
Use computers in University office	*				
Use computers to find funding opportunities					•
Use computers to find research information					•
Use email				•	
Use molecular biology resources			•		
Use more different computing resources			٠		
Use palmtops			٠		
Use the web			•		
Find business management systems useful			٠		
Use business management systems			٠		
Find medical education software useful					•
Find remote access useful				•	
Find Yale web resources useful	•				
Use Desktop Support					•
Use the Help Desk					•
Help Desk staff had high expertise		•			
ITS-Med programmers had high expertise		•			•
ITS-Med training class staff have high expertise			٠		
MCSC staff had high expertise	•				
Prefer getting help books & manuals				•	
Prefer getting help via training classes					•
Prefer getting help via walk-in help desk					•
Prefer getting help via web sites				•	
Tie-ins with media services					
AV staff have high expertise					•
Use Medical Illustration					•
Medical illustration staff had high expertise	•				
Use video production service			٠		
Photography staff have high expertise			٠		
Tie-ins with libraries:					
Get more value from library resources this year	•	•	٠	•	
Spend more time using library resources this year	•		٠		
Use libraries to copy/read articles & books	•				
Use libraries to find research information				•	
Use library resources in the Medical Library			•		
Find electronic journals useful	•				
Find Micromedex useful			•		
Find Orbis useful			•		
Library reference desk staff had high expertise	•		•		



Value of library and computing resources - 1999

Change in value of library and computing resources 1997 - 1999



Combining use and usefulness is one way to compare the value of various resources, as shown below:

Communications mechanisms

The survey listed eight communications mechanisms and asked respondents which they preferred for learning about library and computing services. Forty percent of respondents preferred only one communications mechanism, 29% had two preferred mechanisms, and 15% and three.

Communications mechanism	% of Schoo Medicine Nursing preferrin	ls of & g	
computing news emails (news4u)	58% +/-4%	6	
Connections paper	43% +/-4%	6	Significantly fewer students (20%) preferred this communications mechanism (χ^2 =10.1, <i>p</i> <.05).
Connections Web	30% +/-49	6	
ITS-Med or Library Web	29% +/-49	6	
communications from dept administrator	20% +/-4%	6	Significantly more M&P staff (37%) preferred this communications mechanism (χ^2 =10.3, <i>p</i> <.05).
communications from ITS-Med staff	17% +/-49	6	
communications from Library staff	11% +/-39	6	
communications from Faculty Computing Committee rep	4% +/-29	6	Significantly more M&P staff (14%) preferred this communications mechanism (χ^2 =9.0, <i>p</i> <.05).