OCLC conducted a member survey to understand librarians' top priorities, current key initiatives, thoughts on service and top methods for keeping current on happenings in the library field.

Most Dutch library staff:

- Anticipate the top reason users, students and faculty are using their library will change in five years
- Consider licensed electronic collections/e-books (academic library staff) and visibility of collections (public library staff) to be their top priorities
- Rely on library industry journals to keep informed about library trends.

Implementing discovery solutions is the most popular initiative for the current year.

Borrowing books and materials and completing assignments are perceived to be the top reasons users, students and faculty use the library today.

If you would like to read similar reports about libraries in Germany, the UK or the U.S., see the reports at www.oclc.org/reports.

Respondents by library type

Academic 40%
Public 27%
Special 20%
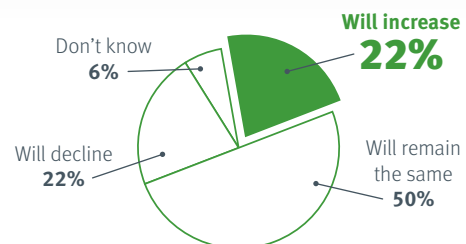Other 13%

Total respondents (n=152)

Use of the online library will increase

Over three-fourths of the Dutch library staff expect use of the online library to increase in the next two years. Far fewer, however, expect an increase in foot traffic to their physical locations.

85% expect use of the **online library** will increase

85%
Will increase
Don't know 6%
Will decline 1%
Will remain the same 8%
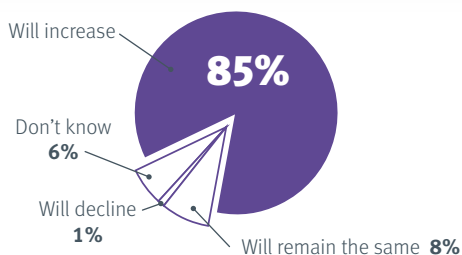
22% expect use of the **physical library** will increase

Will increase 22%
Don't know 6%
Will decline 22%
Will remain the same 50%

User demand expected to change

Dutch academic library staff surveyed feel the primary reason faculty use the library is to borrow books and materials, and for students, the top reason is for completing assignments. Dutch public library staff believe the top reason for library use is to borrow books and materials.
Most expect those reasons to change over the next five years.

The primary reason users, faculty and students use the library in five years will...

16% Change significantly

Change modestly **48%**

Remain the same **33%**

3% Don't know

64%

Anticipate a change in the top reason users, faculty and students use the library.

Increased demand for accessing online resources in 2017. Today, Dutch academic library staff indicate the primary reason faculty use the library is to access/borrow books/materials and the primary reason students use the library is to complete assignments. Dutch public library staff feel the primary reason users currently use the library is to access/borrow books/materials. The majority of Dutch library staff surveyed anticipate the primary reason users, faculty and students use the library will change in the next five years. Accessing online databases/journals is expected to be among the top reasons public library users, faculty and students use the library in 2017.

Primary reason for using the library today...

FACULTY	STUDENTS	PUBLIC LIBRARY USERS
1. Access/borrow books/materials	1. Complete assignments	1. Access/borrow books/materials
2. Access online databases/journals	2. Work on projects together	2. Read for leisure
3. Access/borrow journals/articles	3. Use computers	3. Use computers

Primary reason for using the library in the next five years...
Accessing online databases/journals is expected to be among the top reasons for all three user groups.

FACULTY	STUDENTS	PUBLIC LIBRARY USERS
1. **Access online databases/journals**	1. Complete assignments	1. Access/borrow books/materials
2. Access/borrow books/materials	2. **Access online databases/journals**	2. **Access online databases/journals**
3. Get assistance from librarian	3. Work on projects together	3. Read for leisure

Top priorities: visibility and e-content
Top initiative: discovery

Dutch public libraries are focused on visibility and forming community partnerships as their top priorities. Dutch academic libraries are focused on licensed e-collections/ebooks as their first priority. Digital initiatives and implementing a discovery solution are among the top current initiatives among Dutch libraries.

Top priorities: Visibility of the library's collection and forming community partnerships are the top priorities for public library staff, while licensed electronic collections/e-books is the top priority for many academic library staff.

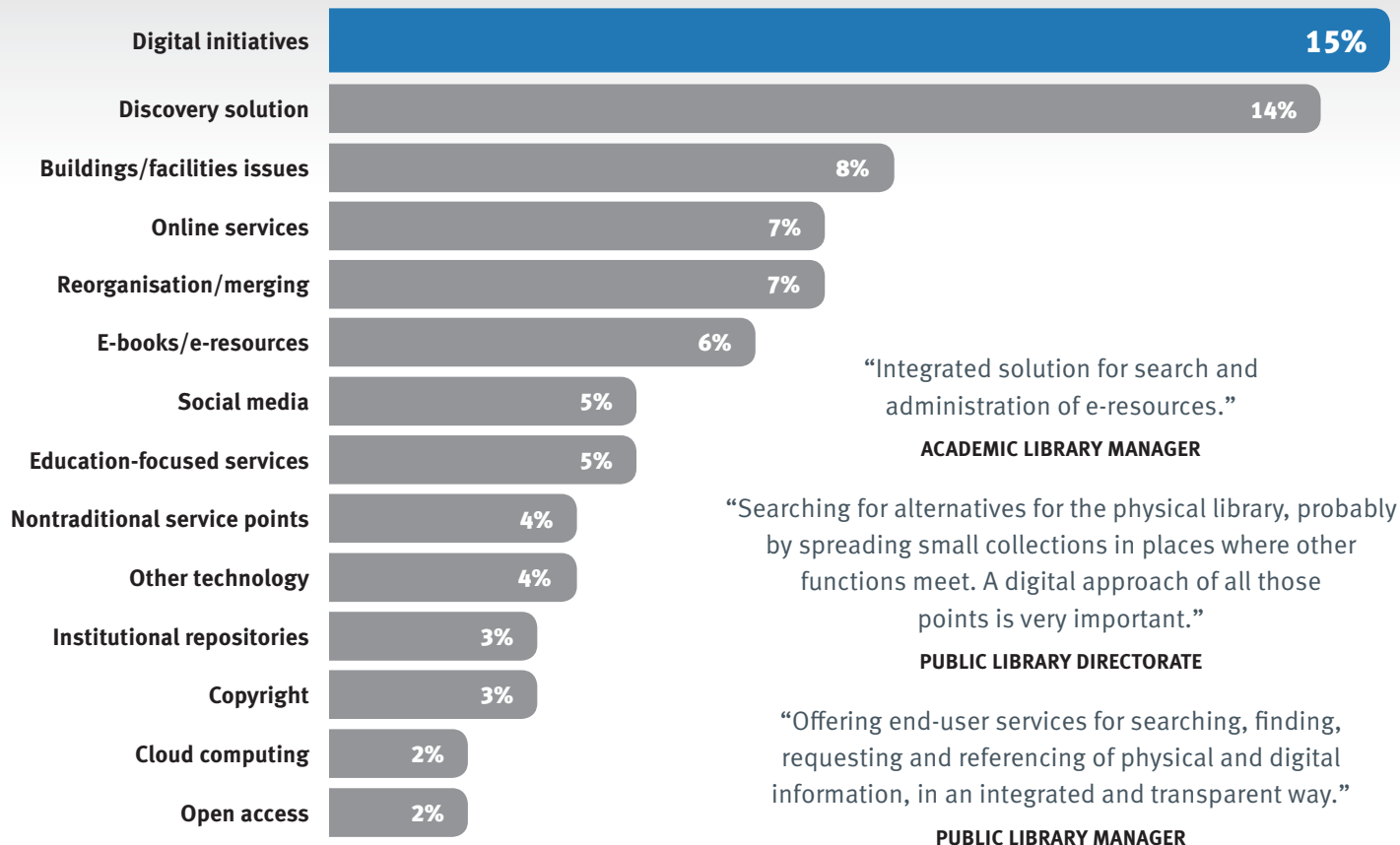## Top priorities by library respondents in the Netherlands

ACADEMIC LIBRARIES

1. Licensed electronic collections/e-books
2. Digitisation projects
3. Visibility of the library's collection

PUBLIC LIBRARIES

1. Visibility of the library's collection
2. Forming community partnerships
3. Demonstrating library value to local government

Variety of initiatives today: Digital initiatives and discovery solutions are among the most popular new initiatives this year.

Initiative	Percentage
Digital initiatives	15%
Discovery solution	14%
Buildings/facilities issues	8%
Online services	7%
Reorganisation/merging	7%
E-books/e-resources	6%
Social media	5%
Education-focused services	5%
Nontraditional service points	4%
Other technology	4%
Institutional repositories	3%
Copyright	3%
Cloud computing	2%
Open access	2%

"Integrated solution for search and administration of e-resources."
ACADEMIC LIBRARY MANAGER

"Searching for alternatives for the physical library, probably by spreading small collections in places where other functions meet. A digital approach of all those points is very important."
PUBLIC LIBRARY DIRECTORATE

"Offering end-user services for searching, finding, requesting and referencing of physical and digital information, in an integrated and transparent way."
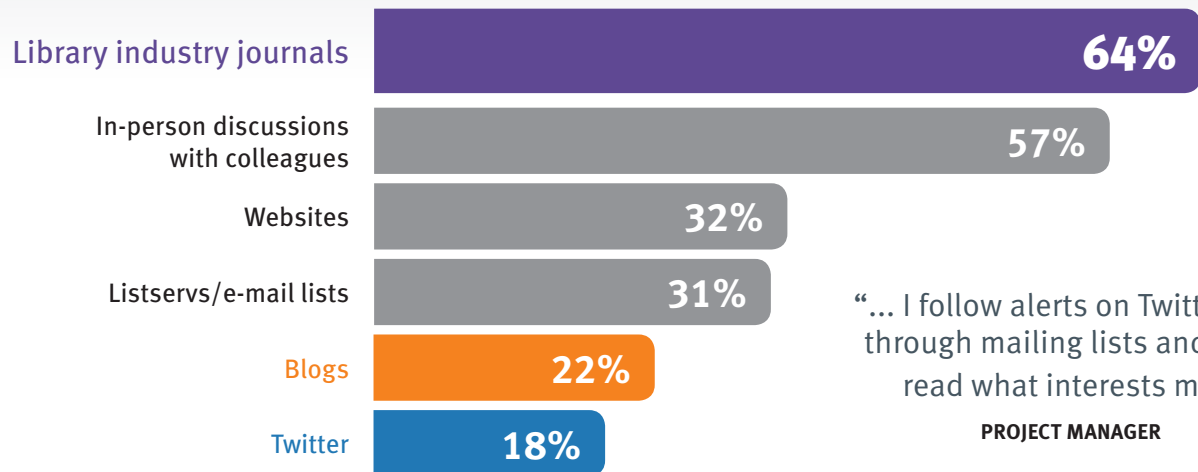**PUBLIC LIBRARY MANAGER**

Journals keep library staff informed

Dutch library staff rely primarily on library industry journals to stay informed.

Library industry journals are top sources of information: Library industry journals top the list of sources Dutch library staff rely on for staying informed about the library industry. More than half of the staff also rely on in-person discussions with colleagues.

Percentage of Dutch library staff who selected the following sources as one of their top three

- Library industry journals — **64%**
- In-person discussions with colleagues — **57%**
- Websites — **32%**
- Listservs/e-mail lists — **31%**
- Blogs — **22%**
- Twitter — **18%**

"… I follow alerts on Twitter and through mailing lists and then read what interests me."
PROJECT MANAGER

Do Dutch library staff read blogs and journals or follow Twitter to stay informed?

The majority of Dutch staff read journals

92%
read journals
to keep current with
library trends

Top 3 journals

- InformatieProfessional
- Digitale Biblioteek
- Bibliotheekblad

Just over a third of Dutch library staff read blogs

37%
read blogs
to keep current
with library trends

Top 3 blogs

- Zeemanspraat (Bert Zeeman)
- mijns inziens (Edwin Mijnsbergen)
- Jan Klerk

Twitter yet to take off

69%
do not use Twitter
as a way to keep up
with library trends

Most-followed Twitter handles

- Bibliotheek20 (@bibliotheek20)
- BertZeeman (@UBABert)
- Bibliotheekblad (@Bibliotheekblad)

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