



THE LILEAD PROJECT: A STUDY OF SCHOOL DISTRICT LIBRARY SUPERVISORS

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OVERVIEW

The school district library supervisor is an important voice at the district level to advocate for and support equitable library and information services for all schoolchildren. The Lilead Project is the first national workforce study since the 1960s to examine the work of supervisors. This study aims to illuminate the supervisors' roles and responsibilities, the challenges they face, and their value in their districts.

RESEARCH QUESTIONS

- What are the supervisors' **titles** and job?
- What are their **demographics, knowledge, and skills**?
- What are their **roles and responsibilities**?
- What are their greatest **challenges** and needs?

STUDY DESIGN

Methodology
Quantitative electronic survey; 58 questions in four categories: Office & School District; Task & Responsibilities; Program Changes; and Personal Information

Setting and Participants
290 districts in 50 states, including the 280 districts with student populations of 25,000 or more, plus the largest districts in each of the 10 states not represented in the largest population.

Response
166 district library supervisors took the survey over the course of 6 weeks (61% response rate).

FUTURE RESEARCH

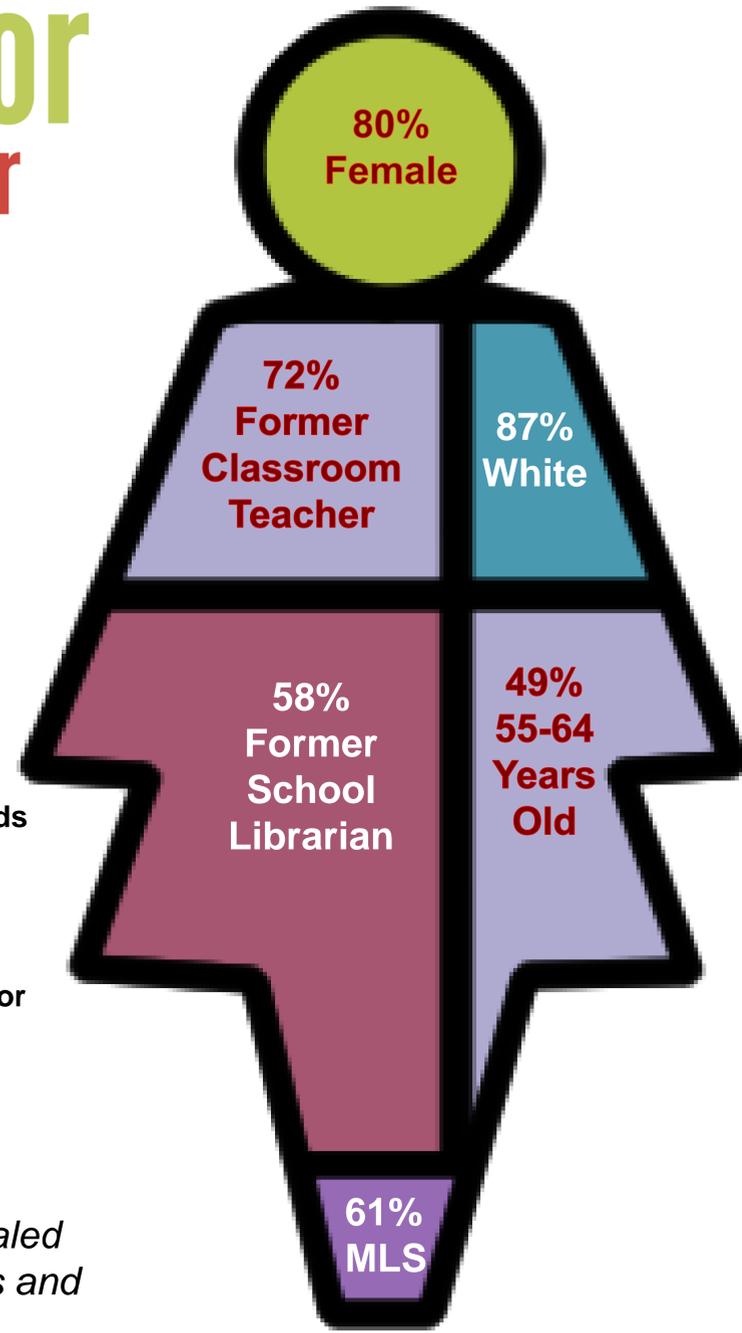
Little empirical data exist about the district library supervisor. The goal of The Lilead Project is to collect the baseline data necessary for future research about the profession.

FINDINGS

TITLES



DEMOGRAPHICS AND KNOWLEDGE



CHALLENGES

- 42% report funding for building-level programs decreased
- 78% report the emphasis on content standards increased
- 61% report the emphasis on information literacy increased
- 42% report staffing for building-level programs decreased

"I am now the only credentialed librarian for 38,000 students and 2,500 teachers."

-Survey respondent

RESPONSIBILITIES

- Not my responsibility
- Advisor on tasks or decisions
- Responsible for tasks or decisions

