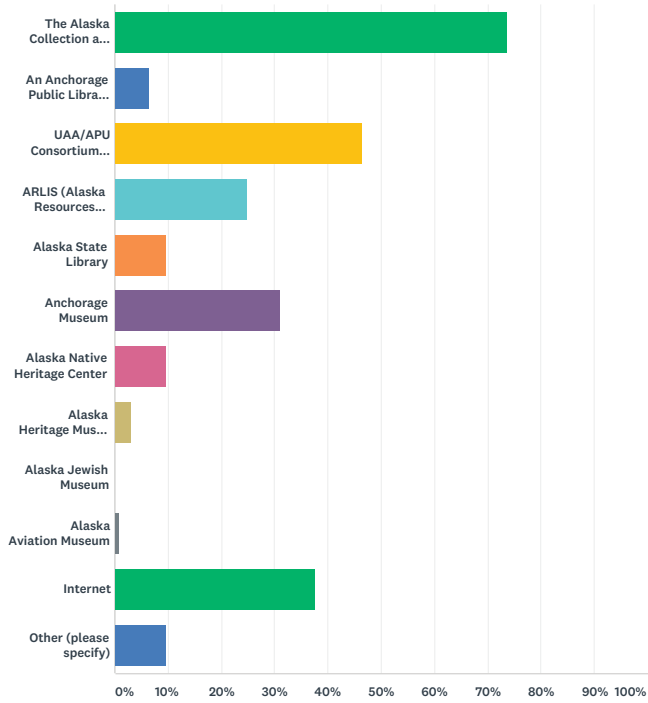


Alaska Collection at Loussac Library

Q1 What are the places you most commonly go to for Alaska historical and cultural information? Select up to three.

Answered: 125 Skipped: 0



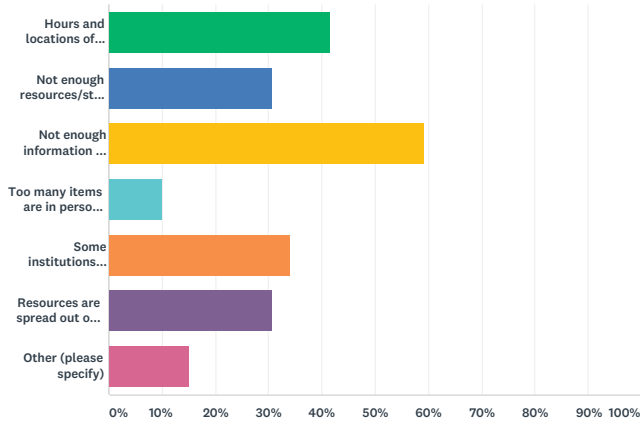
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
The Alaska Collection at Loussac Library	73.60%	92
An Anchorage Public Library neighborhood library	6.40%	8
UAA/APU Consortium Library	46.40%	58
ARLIS (Alaska Resources Library & Information Services)	24.80%	31
Alaska State Library	9.60%	12
Anchorage Museum	31.20%	39
Alaska Native Heritage Center	9.60%	12

Alaska Collection at Loussac Library

Alaska Heritage Museum (Wells Fargo)	3.20%	4
Alaska Jewish Museum	0.00%	0
Alaska Aviation Museum	0.80%	1
Internet	37.60%	47
Other (please specify)	9.60%	12
Total Respondents: 125		

Q2 What are the barriers for researching Alaska historical and cultural information? Check all that apply.

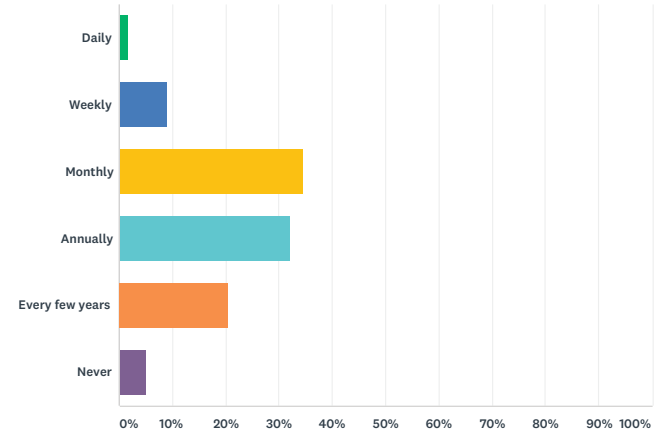
Answered: 120 Skipped: 5



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	Count
Hours and locations of institutions are not convenient	41.67%	50
Not enough resources/staff expertise to meet needs	30.83%	37
Not enough information is digitized	59.17%	71
Too many items are in personal collections	10.00%	12
Some institutions require paid parking	34.17%	41
Resources are spread out over too many institutions	30.83%	37
Other (please specify)	15.00%	18
Total Respondents: 120		

Q3 Prior to the water leak in December 2017, how frequently did you use the Alaska Collection (materials and resources) at Loussac Library?

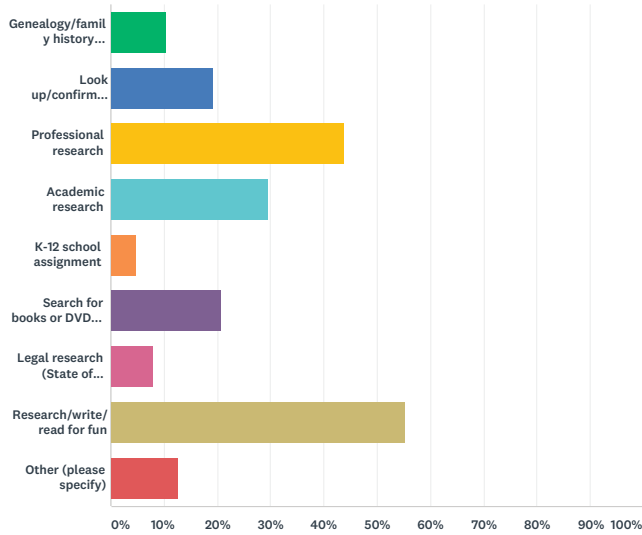
Answered: 122 Skipped: 3



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	Count
Daily	1.64%	2
Weekly	9.02%	11
Monthly	34.43%	42
Annually	31.97%	39
Every few years	20.49%	25
Never	4.92%	6
Total Respondents: 122		

Q4 When you use the Alaska Collection, what is your primary purpose? Select up to three.

Answered: 125 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Genealogy/family history research	10.40%	13
Look up/confirm factual info for a brochure, program guide, exhibit, etc.	19.20%	24
Professional research	44.00%	55
Academic research	29.60%	37
K-12 school assignment	4.80%	6
Search for books or DVDs for fun	20.80%	26
Legal research (State of Alaska or MOA code)	8.00%	10
Research/write/read for fun	55.20%	69
Other (please specify)	12.80%	16
Total Respondents: 125		

Q6 Under what circumstances do you use the Alaska Collection instead of another resource?

Answered: 100 Skipped: 24

RESPONSES
If I cannot find info online
it's 'my library' and open 7 days per week
If I need information on a large topic, not just a factoid or quick reference answer.
Availability
When digital remote access materials on the subject are unavailable.
Not sure
When I can't get to another institution.
Always.
When the information is on non-digital items
I appreciated the vast amount of resources and preferred the Loussac due to ease of access and the breadth of resources.
Anchorage-specific searches
When the resources are one of a kind, when the collection is in one place (as old city directories), because of the ease of accessing the Alaska Collection.
When the Alaska Collection has the resource that I need
Loussac is more convenient so I use it.
When it's convenient (hours)
I go to the library anyways, so it's never inconvenient for me.
Most of the time.
When I'm physically there it's easy to do research I might have missed otherwise
easier access other collections
N/A
when the item is located most conveniently in the Alaska Collection
ease of accessibility
Looking for a specific book in your collection
Convenience and proximity
n/a
As the largest Alaska Collection in the Anchorage area, it is centrally located in Midtown Anchorage where it can be conveniently used for my larger, in-depth research projects. The parking is convenient and the collection itself was very well organized in the Alaska Room and of a size that was easy to research and retrieve books. I would not have been able to complete my contract research projects on schedule without relying on the Municipality of Anchorage's public library to maintain this excellent, publicly-owned Alaska Collection.
anytime
AK Collection utilized during regular Library visits.
location, convenience

Alaska Collection at Loussac Library

convenience
liked the quiet area and easy central access
They have a book and no one else does/ I'm already in the building
When working a specific project
Alaska resources convenient to find and use.
It is centralized
Rarely do
Rarely do
Convenient location, better hours, accessibility of materials
Depends on what the project demands.
Only if the Alaska collection does not have what I need
When I can't find what I need online.
When I am at Loussac anyway
When I needed to find newspaper articles using the microfiche
working in anchorage
meet people for private quiet conversation
When the material is solely located there.
The Alaska Collection has resources not available elsewhere in Anchorage.
The Alaska Collection is my preferred resource.
Availability of resources
when they have information that no one else has
If the AK Collection has the particular resource I need.
Internet is often lacking in detailed information
I really like the space it was in, how it was somewhat separated from the main library. It wasn't quieter and less busy
When it is more convenient to stay in midtown (often) and when I am looking for things about Anchorage, and/or when I don't want to struggle with parking
When I need older materials that aren't available online
Content, Resource availability
when i can't find the info online or want paper
it has best book collection in city
I use the Alaska collection in concert with other resources.
close & because I think you may have the information and another source is less likely to have it
Alaska Collection is my preferred first stop for research
Books, newspapers etc that are not digitized
Convenience
I prefer physical books to the internet, so any time I have questions or want to learn more the Alaska Collection is there for me
When information I'm looking for is not available online.
If I cannot find the information I need from the Internet or digital collections.
Whenever something I need is located there
For information of a nature specific to Anchorage history.

Alaska Collection at Loussac Library

i don't, I use the alaska collection.
Familiarity, easy access to collection, no cost
Better hours and good collection of books
It has an excellent collection of newspapers on microfilm.
Convenient location for me, a good variety of materials, particularly newspapers
Doing research on early Anchorage families I used the microfilmed city council minutes and the microfilmed newspapers for event research as well as obituaries. Although some newspapers were available at the University Library at times when Loussac's Alaska room was not open, most of my work was done at Loussac.
If I can't obtain the materials through ARLIS
Birth and Death records..Who is buried in the Anchorage. Mom. Cemetery and Newspaper records
when it has an item that I am seeking; also information particular to Anchorage
If they have the item I need, especially if it's digitized.
Hours of operation, parking, beautiful area and convenience
Consult with librarians for subject expertise, research recommendations.
research historical info re: Alaska
When a book or document or chart is held by the Alaska Collection. If it is held by ARLIS I would go there. If there is a choice and I can't check it out, then I would choose the Loussac due to the ease of access; parking is free and easy and it is closer to my home and work. I also like the study carrels and the quietness of the Alaska Room for concentrated research.
if using a primary source or is not available online
When I have an Alaska history or science question
When the resource is uniquely held by Loussac
depends on resources available at Loussac or ARLIS
Use expertise of their staff. When what they have is unique. The size of the collection compared to other institutions. The hours that they are open with free parking.
When I need a librarian to help me with records research
Convenience of resources in one place; free parking; knowledgeable and helpful staff with specialized knowledge of resources
When I want a quiet space to work or research. I might go to another resource, and then come to the AK Collection to sit down and actually reflect on it.
All my research is geared toward Alaskana and the circumpolar North
When I want primary resources and/or public information.
When looking for books written about early Alaskans or about historic events in Alaska
It is the most convenient when I need to access particular books in connection with my professional research.
If I was at Loussac, I would go to Alaska Collection. Otherwise, I would order holds on books that can be checked out on library catalog to a place it was easy for me to get to after work.
N/A
Interest in local history
When the resource isn't available at another location
When I can't find it at my home library. I used to use it regularly--or rather I used to use the knowledge of one of the now-retired Alaskana librarians.
When the Alaska Collection may have what I'm looking for.

Q7 Under what circumstances do you use another resource instead of the Alaska Collection?

Answered: 101 Skipped: 23

RESPONSES
Not sure
UAA sometimes
When I need a quick answer. Or if it's 3 am. That happens a lot.
Availability
When digital remote access materials are available on the subject and/or are available at my closest library location.
Not sure
If it's in a different format, or it's not available in the Alaska Collection
Never.
If I'm not in Anchorage or if it's online
When the Public Library is closed.
coverage of collection
When it is easily access online, or when the item is an original located in another place.
When another collection has the resource that I need
I don't.
See above; also it's easier to access ADN and internet
My mood
When it's not available.
If it's at the Consortium Library
when the Alaska collection has what the other collections don't
Having access to an Alaska Native person share information with me.
If the item is not located in the Alaska Collection
more research
Can find the info online
Convenience and proximity and cost
background research
When the water leak occurred, I had to make some adjustments and use the Alaska Collection at the University of Alaska Anchorage and, to a lesser extent, the non-circulating Alaska Collection at the Anchorage Museum.
none
After hours.
desperation
loussac closed
When the items are only available at another location. Example arris and mining
They have the book I need

to expand resources and deepen research more AND...ALSO
Resource is unique to the other institution.
Arils has mining maps
Easier
Easier
If item is not found in the Alaska Collection
If I can't find what I need in the Alaska Collection.
Only if the Alaska collection does not have what I need
When I can't get downtown to visit the AK Collection.
My neighbourhood library
When the library is closed
when i can't find what i need in the collection
broaden my horizons
If it is available elsewhere in town or through library loan
When the materials are available online or at other institutions and not in the Alaska Collection.
One of the set of resources always considered
When the Alaska Collection does not have the books or other resources I'm looking for.
Availability of resources
when they have information digitized that is available
If I cannot find it in the AK Collection; I prefer it to Consortium/ARLIS because of parking/convenience.
When out of state or in a time crunch
For when I can't finding what I'm looking for, or need something quickly (then I use the Internet)
When I want to spend the day working in a physically comfortable, well-ventilated, and well-lit space.
Searching ADN or item is not available at Loussac
Resource availability
when don't have time to go to library
it has archival collections and historic photographs
If I'm unable to locate what I'm looking for in the Alaska Collection.
Because I think they may have the information and you may not
If I cannot find what I am looking for
State library photo collection is very comprehensive
Ease of use
When there's limited time I'll turn to the internet mostly.
When I can find information online.
Convenience.
Whenever something I need is located there
When the information I need is of a specialized nature, such as that found at ARLIS.
I don't.
Easier access, familiarity

Alaska Collection at Loussac Library

If Anchorage info, photos or other items were what I was looking for

In Anchorage it is the only one I use.

For collections I can't find at Loussac.

I used the internet at home, specifically ancestry.com, for some research, although I used Loussac's internet genealogy sources for Canadian and other foreign sources. I used the Anchorage Museum particularly for historical photographs and for John Bagoy's family files. I also used some sources at the University of Alaska, Anchorage, archives for original material deposited there. I also used Vilda for historical Alaska photos.

ARLIS is more convenient, and they deliver, so I go to that resource first.

DON'T

When the other resource focuses upon an area that I am interested in; fo example the Ickes Collection at UAF, or the film collection at AMIPA

If it's more accessible.

Internet is the fastest

Only on rare occasions when materials I want aren't there; or if it's closed.

those not related to AK

When it is only available at that institution.

convenience

When the library does not have the necessary sources

When the resource is held by multiple institutions

depends on which resource is available and where

If the other institution had something the Alaska Collection did not.

When i'm looking for photograph, I use VILDA or Anchorage Museum. When I want general learning opportunities, I got to Museum or Heritage Center

To supplement research; when the other libraries/museums have special collections of resources unavailable elsewhere

As necessary

I will ILL materials if there isn't a copy available

When I want photos or items from a private collection

When I can get information on the internet

If looking for historical/archival photographs I search online; and if I need to revisit records previously used at a different facility I tend to return to that facility.

Depends on convenience. If I am somewhere that has an Alaska collection and I need something, I would use that collection first. I always check the internet. Getting to the Alaska Collection at Loussac was problematic because I had to adhere to their schedule, which had limited hours.

Always, I don't have easy access to browse the AK collection.

Subjects which are not Alaskana

when I can't gain access to the Alaska collection due to it being closed earlier than the rest of library, or when I need help from a specialist to the collection.

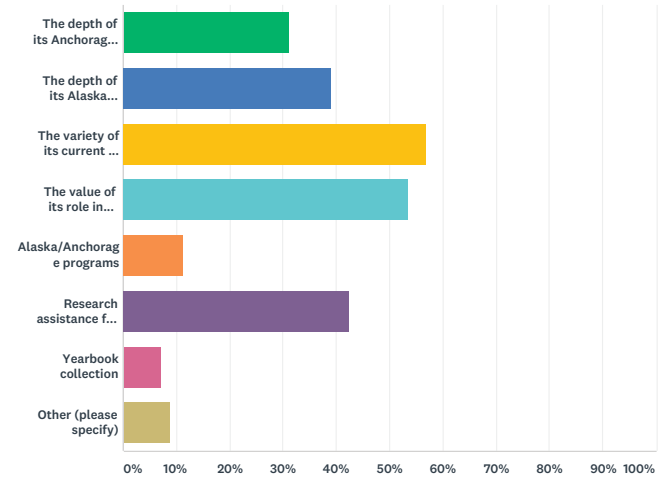
Ease of access, hours of the facility, ability to talk to a person about finding what I'm after.

When the Alaska Collection does not have what I'm looking for

Alaska Collection at Loussac Library

Q8 What do you like best about the Alaska Collection? Select up to three.

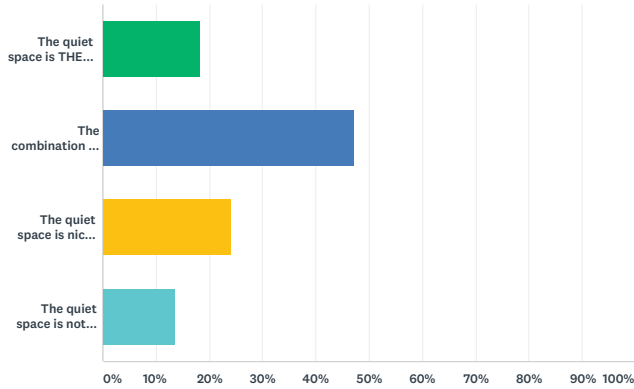
Answered: 125 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
The depth of its Anchorage municipal materials	31.20% 39
The depth of its Alaska state materials	39.20% 49
The variety of its current and historical materials	56.80% 71
The value of its role in Anchorage history	53.60% 67
Alaska/Anchorage programs	11.20% 14
Research assistance from Librarians	42.40% 53
Yearbook collection	7.20% 9
Other (please specify)	8.80% 11
Total Respondents: 125	

Q9 How important to you is the aspect of quiet space in the Alaska Wing and Ann Stevens Room? Select one.

Answered: 125 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
The quiet space is THE reason I use the Alaska Wing.	18.40% 23
The combination of resources and quiet space is most important to me.	47.20% 59
The quiet space is nice to have, but not the main reason I use the Alaska Wing.	24.00% 30
The quiet space is not an important factor for me.	13.60% 17
Total Respondents: 125	

Q10 In what ways could the Alaska Collection at Loussac Library address a need that is not currently being met in the community? Be specific.

Answered: 78 Skipped: 46

RESPONSES
Not sure
classes on subject areas that we may not know about Anchorage and AK holdings
Listed resource for elementary teachers
More discussions on Alaska history
Not sure.
Have a single collection gathered of old Alaskan knowledge of plants, animals, and winter, survival, and living off the grid before it was called that. Would be popular with prepping enthusiasts as well as history buffs and could teach new generation about how old time Alaskans handled the climate.
Knowledge about Alaska's history is so important especially with our transient population- it's nice to have a place where resources are available to the public.
With a dedicated Alaskan librarian, APL could provide superior service and outreach that doesn't exist in the state.
By better publicizing what is in the collection, perhaps with a special brochure.
Sometimes I wish for a separate catalog to make it easier to find materials.
There is no quiet space at the library any more.
?
Having indigenous representatives to give community lectures or discussions would remind the public that Alaska Native people are alive and well today. It would also act as additional exposure for the collection.
Displays of collection. Show us what you have!
Advertise the contents of the collection so people know what's there
I think it's current purpose as stated meets a need. I do not see an unmet need.
Working with other resource holders to digitize items. Maps especially. Also, trying to bring in materials from other Boroughs would be really helpful. Anchorage school district, for example, has hundreds of documents going back to the 1960s (or so). Not so much for other locales in the state.

Alaska Collection at Loussac Library

If the hours for the Alaska Collection were adjusted so that some evening hours were available, it would provide a better opportunity for students, teachers, parents, and the general public to use the collection. If you adjusted the hours, for instance, by closing on Mondays, and being open in the evening one or two days per week, it would make the collection more accessible to a larger group of users. For example, the Atwood Resource Center at the Anchorage Museum is closed on Mondays to give the staff extra time to do their own work. The National Archives at Seattle offers evening hours to researchers to increase public access to its archival holdings. You might check the Alaska Historical Collections in Juneau website to see if they offer evening hours. I believe that Elmer E. Rasmuson Library, University of Alaska Fairbanks, offers evening hours to increase usage by the citizens of Fairbanks and other non-academic users. Closure on Mondays would also give the Alaska Collection staff at Loussac Library a concentrated core or block of time to do collection development, acquire new titles by reviewing the "Alaskana" column in Alaska History News (Alaska Historical Society), reviewing press announcements from the University of Alaska Press and other publishers, and handling other services. Also, the staff could give workshops on how to use the collection and, especially, prepare an online tutorial that might help teachers, students, and parents (especially the core group that should have a greater awareness of local community history) learn more about Alaska history. I would explore training opportunities with the Anchorage School District by giving an annual workshop to K-12 teachers who teach Alaska History & Studies (a required State of Alaska educational curriculum course that is offered in grades 9-12).
Return the Alaska Wing to public service ASAP. Don't jam it into existing space inside the rest of the already utilized library square footage.
A safe comfortable meeting zone
no comment
More materials and digitized.
more materials digitized
Keep the Alaska Collection together in the Alaska Wing with professional experienced staff.
Use what you have to rein in spending other people's money
Use what you have to rein in spending other people's money
No ideas.
Digitize and advertise what there is,
It would be helpful to have more copies of different materials that could be lent through branch libraries.
No opinion
??
not being given attention
Either collecting or curating groups of materials for community/neighborhood level histories or interest (i.e. Fairview or Government Hill history)
Digitizing historic Anchorage newspapers and making them accessible to researchers. They could be uploaded to Newspapers.com or Newspaperarchive.com to be made accessible. There are currently no Anchorage historic newspapers on either of these sites and they would be extremely useful to researchers as these sites are keyword searchable.
Not as in depth
Having subject matter experts (historians/researchers) on hand is something none of the other repositories are doing.
The Alaska Collection and Alaska Wing provide a unique environment for conducting historical research on the state.
More integration with other institutions that have historic and cultural resources information.
I am not sure if interlibrary loan is available to obtain State Library materials, but that would help me.

Alaska Collection at Loussac Library

Pamphlet or information on website or poster that explains why the Alaska Collection is important and how they could use it/what information they could find.
There are no research librarians at the Consortium library who have a depth of knowledge about the sources that could be referenced. The Alaska Collection used to have that, and it was hugely helpful
Should be available during all open hours
More history research focused, staff being knowledgeable about AK history/library materials; programs addressing AK history
..
be a center for students, and have school groups come so they know about it and will use it when they have to take their semester course in AK studies to graduated
A quiet, dedicated space for researchers must be maintained, properly staffed, and possess access to the materials necessary for research.
I don't know of any
Many people don't even know it's there. Reach out via social media etc to let people know what is available and how to find it.
Be more visible - move the collection or integrate into the larger collection
No comment
Increase the days and hours that a person can access the Alaska Collection.
I think many in the community don't know what's available there and the importance of preserving it
It would be most helpful if more of the materials could be digitized and/or indexed for easier access.
It does fill a need. It is a quite space to find Anchorage and Alaskan information. No one else does that very well.
Not sure
I think digitizing items is a great way to keep the collection accessible and used more by everyone.
Longer hours.
Perhaps longer hours.
It's a place to do research where you can talk to friendly, knowledgeable staff. It fills a void that the National Archives left behind.
Maybe a door to get to the AK Room. Although it would be nice to have near the Genealogy Section, there is NOT enough room!
by digitizing its materials
Serve as a link among the various collections.
Contemplative space.
The Alaska Collection has--or had--a unique combination of pleasant surroundings, expert research help, free parking, and a comprehensive collection. Most important to me was the expert research help. Google, and generalist librarians, are not adequate!
open longer
I don't understand the question. I see the Alaska Collection as meeting the needs of research in primary sources like the newspapers, magazines, and especially the rare and quite old books. For example, I used to use the library's copy of Lewis & Drydens Maritime History of the Pacific Northwest. Also, there are items like the high school year books that are only available to the public at the library. And the early city and borough records. Additionally, there are many state and city studies, plans, and scoping documents that are only at the Loussac. It's a varied and important source of historical primary sources. ARLIS, APU and UAA all maintain various collections on Alaska history. I check them all.

Alaska Collection at Loussac Library

adapting the space to appeal to Alaska's global connections--the neighborhood, the round architectural design, and the Loussac users reflect Alaska's global connections...

Keep the AK collection together so things are easy to find; keep knowledgeable librarians in charge of the collection; parking is easier as is the location, but hrs that the AK room is open is a limiting factor, but not enough to warrant moving the collection to the genealogy section.

Provide a quiet place to do in depth research with Alaskan materials with expert staff, long hours and free parking.

Focus on Anchorage history and find ways to bring history to life and engage people in activities. and/or get more specialized and market the service to MOA/SOA agencies and businesses.

It is the easiest place for most people to access, has free parking, and has librarians with experience working with the public.

The Alaska collection contains most all of the information that I use in my research and offers a comfortable space and time to review the material

Off the top of my head, I have no response to this question.

Maybe as a place to offer training on how to research Alaska materials to the public. No such service exists at UAA or any other library.

I don't know.

More microfilm of Alaskan newspapers

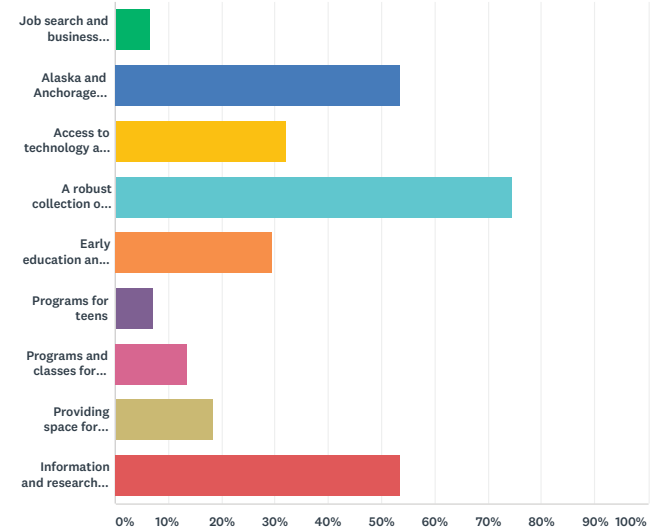
I think that between the many institutions in Anchorage that have Alaskan collections, there's things that are available at only one institution. So in some respects, it's a gap-filler for me, although that discounts the collection as a whole which is not my intent. I guess I mean that all the institutions are gap fillers for each other.

No opinion

Alaska Collection at Loussac Library

Q11 The Anchorage Public Library has many needs to meet with limited resources. What do you think should be the Library's top priorities? Select up to 3.

Answered: 125 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Job search and business resources	6.40% 8
Alaska and Anchorage history resources	53.60% 67
Access to technology and Internet	32.00% 40
A robust collection of books and media (hard copy and digital)	74.40% 93
Early education and children's programs	29.60% 37
Programs for teens	7.20% 9
Programs and classes for adults (history, culture, arts, civics)	13.60% 17
Providing space for community gathering	18.40% 23
Information and research assistance	53.60% 67
Total Respondents: 125	

Q12 Do you have other thoughts or suggestions to share?

Answered: 74 Skipped: 50

RESPONSES

There needs to be more heavily enforced "quiet" spaces as opposed to spaces for collaboration and study with others

Keep AK collection together, don't break it up and mix with non-AK stuff, digitized things that no other library has, history is important, less than the hottest fiction author

I know you're limited on staff, but I wish the Alaska collection was available in the evenings. It always closed so early; I was never able to visit it due to work hours.

?

Saving Alaska history is important.

No.

Love this open-to-suggestion format!

Thank you!

It was difficult to choose just three top priorities in #11 because the public library should serve all kinds of needs and people- young children, teens, seniors, those without access to technology, books and materials of all sorts. I am a senior who has taken grandchildren and now great grandson to your library, who uses all kinds of the resources myself (general books, genealogy collection, how to books, both personal and academic research). Thank you for being versatile and easy to access.

Would it be possible to partner with the Anchorage Museum for historical materials/research? When I think of history, I think of the museum over the library.

The rotunda and the reading room were very special places, beautiful, study-conducive, and classic. Please do not destroy the atmosphere and refurbish them in the cheap ugly style of the rest of the library.

I haven't been in the Alaska Collection since before the remodel, so this may no longer be a valid thought, but I always thought getting to that downstairs collection was a pain.

I understand that there are limited resources but the Alaska wing has provided a wonderful quiet space for research and writing that I've used since the library opened I hope that this space continues to be available for study and research in the future. I think the physical space is as important as the materiel- it would be great to digitize materials. Staff have always been helpful and appreciated!

Thank you for soliciting feedback as you work to strengthen the collection.

I love my library!

"Welcoming everyone" doesn't mean letting people who are high as kites wander the library or congregate outside the main entrance. This alienated another section of your patrons that I might hope you wish to welcome equally.

I use the Loussac Library two or three times a week. Your facilities are consistently fantastic and your staff is beyond reproach. I look forward to my visits every time.

I would recommend that professional librarians continue to provide reference service to the Alaska Collection. Due to the complexity and variety of reference questions asked by a very diverse group of users (e.g., K-12 students, undergraduate and graduate students, teachers, parents, academic and scholarly researchers, documentary film producers, environmental researchers, municipal and other government employees, anthropologists, local historians, genealogists, etc.), it can be difficult for paraprofessionals to answer many reference questions. Reference librarians are in the best position to answer reference questions as they have better knowledge of the collections and specialized reference sources. Also, reference librarians can make referrals to other Alaska Collections, as needed, in Fairbanks, Juneau, Seattle, etc.

No

Quiet space and maintenance of Historical Alaskan Culture are/were well supported with the setup prior to the pipe burst damage. Shame to see valuable square footage un-utilized.

Giving up the toe will make it easier to lose the foot. Losing a resource or space is hard to get back

no comment

more older books and more political view points event if they are old and not modern. We need to see history to learn our errors from it.

Grateful for the breath and depth and preservation...of the history of Alaska (oral histories in collection?) Up date on success of preservation of materials from flood situation?

I urge the Municipality of Anchorage to house the Alaska Collection in the Alaska Wing of the Loussac Library.

Rein in spending. Instead of "nice things" use money improving the collections.

Rein in spending. Instead of "nice things" use money improving the collections.

Do lose history

Question 11 is impossible to answer.

When I was attending UAA, the librarians in Special Collections were a great help.

no

use Ann Stevens room as possible extra income/revenue for renting it out to private events/parties

The library system has stepped up to fulfill a variety of needs beyond just having books on shelves and the municipality should fully support the library's mission and goals for outreach and education.

Really appreciate the fact that this resource is here and is accessible.

I need (professionally), appreciate, and LOVE Anc PLs, and especially the AK Collection. Thank you for your work.

I hope the Alaska collection will be put back it into original location after the repairs are made. Thank you for offering this survey to us

If libraries and archives don't protect historical resources, there will soon be no historical resources.

Not at this time except to say that it would be a shame to lose all (or even part) access to materials unavailable anywhere else. The Alaska Collection is unique to our state and is used by our citizens as well as researchers from outside the state.

I know it's hard to balance programming needs vs material needs - but if the public library can't afford to keep the AK collection and/or staff it with knowledgeable librarians, maybe they can make a deal to move it to UAA/APU Consortium Library - ARLIS?

I like that the Alaska Collection has a separate physical space

I hope the library realizes what an asset its Alaskan collection is

A library should first and foremost be a repository of information, books, and literacy to benefit the community and facilitate the community's ability to learn its history, locate literary resources, and participate in local decision making. Anything beyond this runs the risk of straying from its primary mission.

No

no

Question number 11 is too hard, I tried selecting them all because there's not a subject on that list less important than another. I cannot stress enough, the library is too important. I can't narrow that one down to just 3!!!

Not at this time.

It is unfortunate that the library (MOA) has to charge for use of its' community rooms.

Alaska Collection at Loussac Library

I've heard rumors that management has a goal to move the Alaska collection to the UAA/APU library, PLEASE don't do that. It's more accessible at Loussac. And I have to say, the Alaska Wing is one of my favorite places. I've always looked forward to coming there to do my research.

I appreciate the digital and downloadable resources the library has, as well as the physical materials. I'd like to see the library not spread itself so thin, trying to do so many diverse things and not doing its core job as well as it should. Focus on materials, library-specific services (LL, research assistance), and meeting space. Kids programs are good, as is job assistance for adults.

If there is only enough money to support three efforts on the previous list, then the ones I selected would be my choices. But if there was room for more, I would select first the children's programming option, then the space for community events option.

The staff in the Alaska room are so helpful. It is always a pleasure to visit the area. I live in Seward and get to Anchorage 3 or 4 times a year and always use the Alaska room when I am in town.

The "sacred" copies of the Anchorage Times, that is the actual hard copy editions in bound volumes, are in need of repair or replication. There is probably more information about historical Anchorage in those pages than any other source, but newsprint is deteriorating and microfilm is extremely difficult to use for research. The hard copies of the actual papers are much better when you're not exactly sure what you're looking for.

I have always greatly appreciated the help and the suggestions I have received from the staff at the Alaska room.

I have really appreciated the Loussac's Alaska Collection over the years.

I would like to see the Genealogy Section improved as well as the AK Section. After all many Alaskans are not born in the state therefore other genealogical books providing information from other states need to be addressed. After all the Library, like public schools should be for the people of Anchorage and not be considered as a money maker. It is about time the people get some FREE perks!

I would not want to see valuable and rare historical items made available for circulation within the general public. I would like to see more attention paid to the protection and ongoing preservation of the Alaska Collection as well as its complete digitization.

I also think information and research assistance is very valuable - picking only 3 was tough!

Continue collection Alaskana, selected by an Alaska Collection librarian with subject expertise. Library administration needs to encourage involvement of that librarian--or librarians--in the community of others working on current Alaska topics, especially including history and culture. Librarians need to have subject expertise!

no

Job searching can be done at the several state Job Centers in the city. Teen and childrens programs are offered by schools, churches, and other public and private places. Programs and classes for adults likewise are offered at a variety of venues. Only a library stores, maintains and makes books, magazines, DVDs, documents, etc. available to the public. This is their only purpose and it is one that no one else does. If resources are limited, those resources should be devoted solely to the main purpose of the library: keeping the heart of civilization/s information safe and making it accessible. Internet capacity likewise is available in many places but should not divert resources from the main purpose of the library, again I emphasize books, newspapers, magazines etc. Well preserved and maintained libraries are essential to students, researchers, and for the enjoyment of our cultural written and recorded history. Only a library performs this duty. Don't dilute it with other activities that are otherwise available.

I love the idea of libraries as spaces for participatory history. Developing programs that speak to such activities make the library a lively rather than static space...

Adequate staffing is the most important thing in a research library, to give assistance.

The AK collection should not be moved to the genealogy section because the two subjects are not related. Keep the AK collection together where there is more security for one-of-a-kind items and with staff knowledgeable in AK history.

The Alaska Collection was built by an expert staff over a long period of time. It would be a shame to water down the collection and not have staff who are familiar enough with it to offer expert reference help.

Alaska Collection at Loussac Library

The Alaska Room has, for the 30 + years that I have been using it for historical research, always been a special place, combining resources with knowledgeable library specialists who have always been very helpful in finding resources.

History resources are part of "A robust collection of books and media" above. The Alaska Collection should be managed to continue the mission it has had for generations.

I find the possibility of not having the Alaska Collection available to the community alarming especially now with so much of Alaskan history archives having been sent out of state

Not at present. But I think this survey is a good thing!

Not really.

I think many items should be transferred to the tribes of origin or to Universities.

Library is doing a good job.

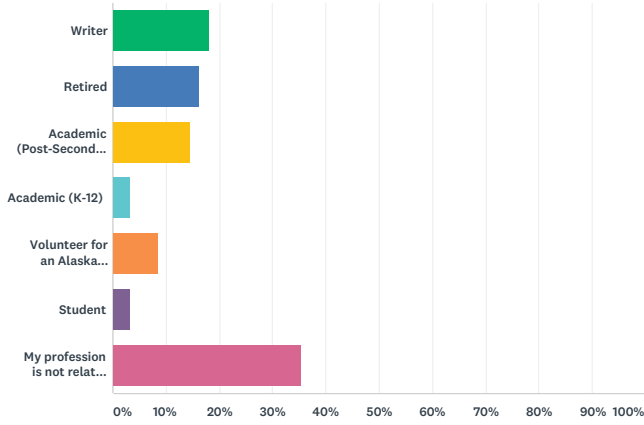
Overall, I feel that the Alaska collection is a vastly under utilized asset for our community. I believe that this is what sets our community apart from others and makes it unique. Instead of trying to be like "everywhere else" I believe that the Loussac should double down its efforts to engage young kids and get them to care about their place in the community and history.

Please evaluate what types of work might be being done adequately (or near adequately) by other institutions in the area with similar missions. Rather than trying to duplicate those responsibilities and expending a great deal of time and money in improving them, look into partnering with those other institutions in those responsibilities. I'm looking around Anchorage and not seeing any institution with a full time Alaskana librarian. Rather than trying to have a position focused solely on that at APL--that ship seems to have sailed as it has for the other institutions that used to have them statewide--is it worth looking into a cooperatively funded position that could serve all of them? Or could this even be done at a statewide level? We have a joint catalog covering a lot of the state, we have SLED, we have all these other statewide resources, maybe it's time to start looking into one or two statewide Alaskana library experts. I was in an Alaskana selection session at AKLA this year and several of the attendees, especially those from small public libraries in AK, expressed a need for somebody to go to when building/developing/maintaining a core Alaskan and local collection for their community; and there's really nobody right now in the state that can help out with that. So maybe this is an opportunity. (Clarification: I'm talking about Alaskan books, journals, grey lit, and other media, not archival stuff. There's way more archivists in this state than Alaskana librarians and the two don't do the same thing. The real need is in Alaskana published.) Like with the catalog, a shared position with responsibilities across town or across the state, the costs would be potentially within the reach of far more libraries if one or two people could be funded by and serve all.

Bulldoze the Alaska Wing so that no one (starting, but hardly ending, with me) ever again has to hike all of the way over their in order to access the Alaska Collection. Instead, put the ENTIRE collection on the third floor

Q13 What is your profession?

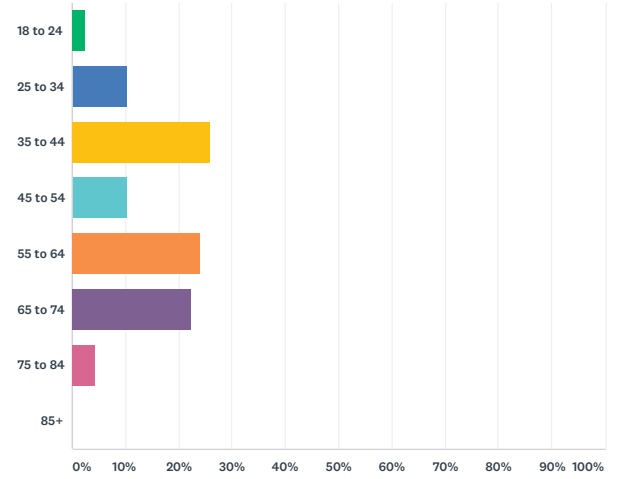
Answered: 116 Skipped: 9



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Writer	18.10% 21
Retired	16.38% 19
Academic (Post-Secondary)	14.66% 17
Academic (K-12)	3.45% 4
Volunteer for an Alaska history/culture/arts institution	8.62% 10
Student	3.45% 4
My profession is not related to my interest in the Alaska Collection	35.34% 41
TOTAL	116

Q14 What is your age?

Answered: 116 Skipped: 9



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
18 to 24	2.59% 3
25 to 34	10.34% 12
35 to 44	25.86% 30
45 to 54	10.34% 12
55 to 64	24.14% 28
65 to 74	22.41% 26
75 to 84	4.31% 5
85+	0.00% 0
TOTAL	116