

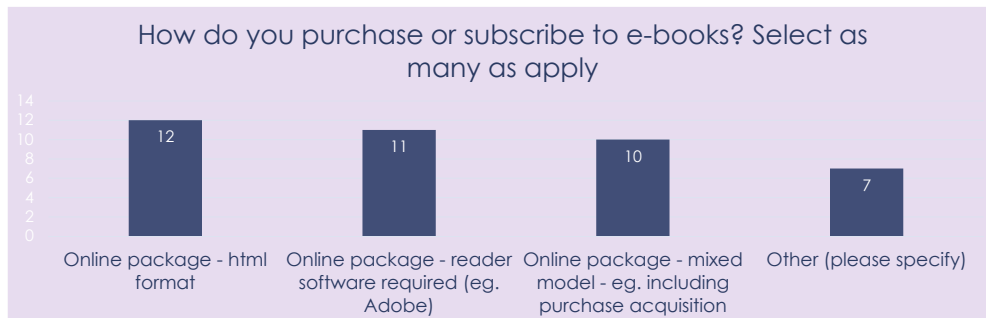
## VHLC Book Survey for Librarians 2019

- Sent to all VHLC member libraries May 2019
- 24 responses – 17 metro-based institutions, 7 regional-based
- 22 libraries provided e-books/online books to clients

## Libraries not providing e-books

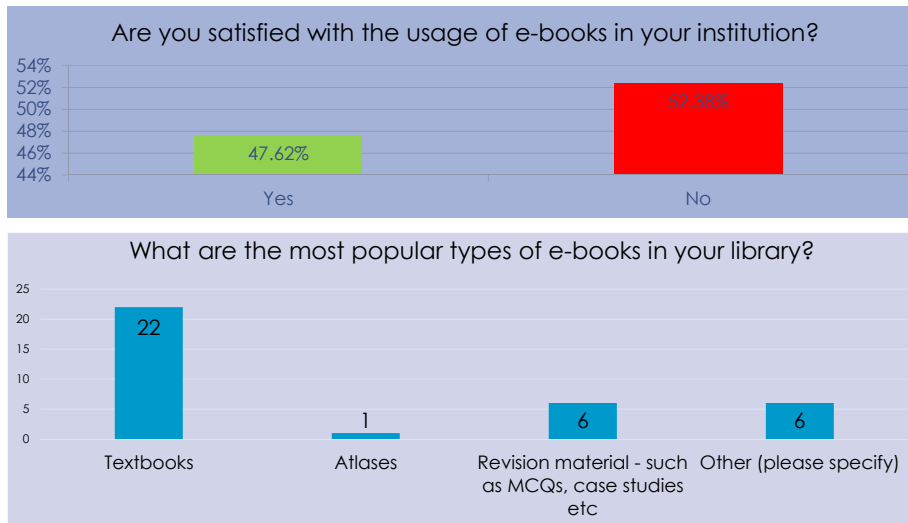
- The 2 libraries that did not provide e-books cited cost factors as a reason
- They were unsure about future prospects for providing e-books
- They reported no decline in print book usage over the last 5 years

## VHLC Book Survey for Librarians 2019

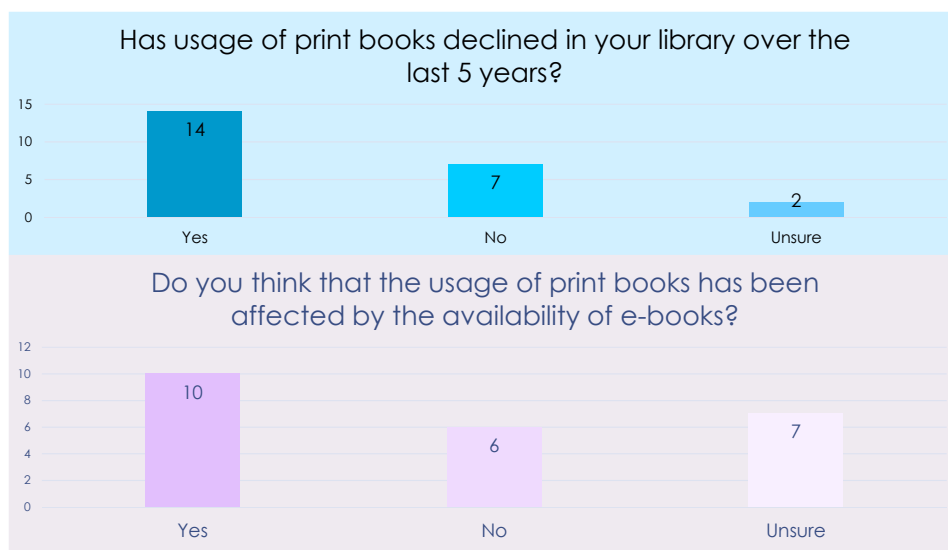


Other specified models included single title purchase and patron driven acquisition

## VHLC Book Survey for Librarians 2019



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Are there particular subjects or formats of print books that have retained usage despite the availability of e-book versions?

Answers included:

- Critical care and emergency medicine
- Leading and key medical texts, and well known authors in particular areas.
- Books read cover to cover such as the On Call series.
- Literature on leadership and business skills.
- Nursing, allied health, O&G,
- Medical texts tend to be requested in print more so than allied health fields.
- Revision material/study guides.
- Nursing text books
- Student texts are still borrowed. The basic texts, MCQs, case studies etc.

## VHLC Book Survey for Librarians 2019

Conclusions:

- ❖ Half the respondents were not happy with e-book usage stats in their library
- ❖ Usage of print books is declining, but it's not entirely clear if e-books are the main cause of this
- ❖ The variety of platforms and access methods for e-books may be a barrier for clients.  
See Edith Cowan University study –  
Nicole Johnston & A.M. Salaz (2019) Exploring the reasons why university students prefer print over digital texts: an Australian perspective.  
Journal of the Australian Library and Information Association, 68:2, 126-145

Questions?

