Abstract

Taking advantage of survey method, the present research investigates the study needs and interests of young members in their free time in the public libraries under supervision of Iranian public libraries institution in Tehran. The main goal of the study is to identify and determine the study needs and interests of the mentioned population, and aims to recognize the study purpose, motivation, and interests of young members of the public libraries, as well as to determine the most significant facilities for their free time. Among 53251 young members, 600 of them were selected by clustering sampling method proportionate to size of each zone. The questionnaire was used to collect data. Findings of the study indicated that most members, i.e. 39% of them, visit the libraries in order to pass their free time. Therefore, it can be stated that the libraries have a critical role in filling the free time of library members. In addition, more in-depth analysis of the study findings reveals that in all parts of Tehran, especially in its south and central parts, the libraries play a crucial role in filling the free time of young library members. With abundance distribution of 44.2%, novel is the subject to which most members show interest and pay attention. Sport subjects, art topics, and comic subjects are at next levels with abundance distributions of 20.1%, 15.1%, and 13.6%, respectively.

Keywords: Collection development; Information need; Public libraries; Youth free time; Tehran city.