

Local Hold vs All Copies Filling Holds

Assumptions made in the calculations: Holds as of 10/19/2019; books were checked out for 21 days and remained out for the full 21 days (no early returns, no overdues); there is a 2-day transit/sitting on shelf period between checkouts; no new holds placed; no holds cancelled, suspended, etc.; no change in number of copies.

Patterson: Juror # 3

Free-floating copies	17
Lucky Day copies	6
Local hold copies	22
Total copies	45
Holds	104
Days to clear holds using only free-floating and Lucky Day copies	104.0
Days to clear holds using all copies	53.2

Galbraith: Lethal White

Free-floating copies	2
On order copies	1
Lucky Day copies	1
Local hold copies	7
Total copies	11
Holds	28
Days to clear holds using only free-floating and Lucky Day copies	214.7
Days to clear holds using all copies	58.5

Carlson: Ship of Fools

Free-floating copies	2
On order copies	1
Lucky Day copies	0
Local hold copies	1
Total copies	4
Holds	24
Days to clear holds using only free-floating and Lucky Day copies	276.0
Days to clear holds using all copies	138.0

Woodward: Fear (regular print)

Free-floating copies	16
On order copy	1
Lucky Day copies	1
Local hold copies	8
Total copies	26
Holds	134
Days to clear holds using only free-floating and Lucky Day copies	181.3
Days to clear holds using all copies	118.5

Macomber: Alaskan holiday

Free-floating copies	13
In processing	1
Lucky Day copies	3
Local hold copies	11
Total copies	28
Holds	28
Days to clear holds using only free-floating and Lucky Day copies	40.3
Days to clear holds using all copies	23.0

Flynn: Red war

Free-floating copies	5
Lucky Day copies	
Local hold copies	7
Total copies	12
Holds	32
Days to clear holds using only free-floating and Lucky Day copies	147.2
Days to clear holds using all copies	61.3

Not surprisingly, the more copies available to fill holds, the faster the list was cleared; in most of the examples, the hold queue is filled twice as fast using all copies. This clearly benefits the patrons who place things on hold. However, it also benefits the patrons who browse: the faster the list is cleared, the faster a library's copy is back to its own New Book Shelf for browsing.