

HEALDSBURG REGIONAL LIBRARY



Service Area Map + Demographics

2000 Service Area Population: 18,550
 2025 Service Area Population: 22,842

Population by Age:

0-4 years	5%
5-19 years	17%
20-44 years	32%
45-64 years	24%
65+	23%

Population by Ethnicity:

White	80%
Black + African-American	1%
American Indian	1%
Asian	1%
Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	0%
Other	13%
Two or More Races	4%

Hispanic or Latino* 28%

Recommendations
 Strategy: Improvement
 Building Area: 15,800-17,400 sf

*The Hispanic or Latino designation reflects a cultural heritage and not an ethnic group. Therefore, this designation is reported separately from ethnicity.

Library Profile

The Healdsburg Regional Library opened in 1987. In addition to the general collection, Healdsburg offers a Wine Library with a focus on the business, science, and history of the industry. A high school, junior high school, and elementary school are within walking distance of the library.

Almost one-third of Healdsburg patrons surveyed visit other library branches, especially Windsor and Central Santa Rosa. Nearly one-fourth of patrons at Healdsburg reported that they currently (or would like to) use materials in Spanish, partially reflecting the fact that Healdsburg’s service area includes one of the highest Hispanic/Latino populations (28%) in the County.

Library Needs

Seating at Healdsburg is within guidelines, and is heavily used. Public computers, however, are provided below recommended standards, and many patrons also want a place to plug in their personal laptops. The Spanish language collection and display for new or featured materials particularly suffer from the short supply of shelving. The 1,400 square foot area occupied by the Wine Library is at capacity, necessitating the use of storage and closed stacks for certain materials. Parking is inadequate during periods of high use; patrons overflow into the parking lots of neighboring businesses.

Healdsburg Regional Library patrons described their library in this way...

Liked most:	Improvements needed:
+ Friendly staff	- More books
+ Location and convenience	- More computers
	- Longer hours

Service	Current	Future
Population served	18,550	22,842
Building size	11,700 sf	15,800 – 17,400 sf
Collection	45,006 vols.	52,100 – 57,600 vols.
Computers	11	20 – 25
Seats	101 seats	90 – 100 seats
Group study area	0 seats	15 – 20 seats
Storytelling space	0 seats	25 – 30 seats
Meeting room	86 seats	95 - 100 seats

Recommendations

The Healdsburg Regional Library contains a special collection in the Wine Library that is used by scholars, wine industry members, and tourists. The Wine Library is an outgrowth of a working relationship between the Sonoma County Library and the wine industry and is currently staffed part-time by a Sonoma County Librarian. The Master Plan recommends that this special collection remain integrated in the Healdsburg Regional Library.

The present site is limited and, at times, there is not sufficient parking on site. The proposed library expansion is likely to require major site remodeling and construction of a new library building. Another possibility would be the procurement of a new library site in the same general area of Healdsburg.

Implementation

The Healdsburg Regional Library has sufficient area for its present service area population, placing it in priority Group 3 in terms of its relative needs. However, planning for future expansion should begin now so that anticipated growth and changes in the service area population can be addressed in a timely manner, and to position the town of Healdsburg to take advantage of opportunities as they arise.

Prior to proceeding with construction, an update of library service needs and a building program should be prepared by experienced professionals. These should be undertaken as part of a focused predesign study setting out project requirements, budget and schedule in detail. From this information a site feasibility study should be developed that addresses opportunities at the current site and other site options.



Healdsburg Regional Library

What residents said:

"Reading=knowledge=joy of learning=ideas"

survey respondent

"I'm French, and Internet e-mail keeps me in touch with people back home."

survey respondent

"The library is not very important. I get most everything I need online, or I go out and buy it."

survey respondent

"It's one of the few places left for quiet reading, thinking, writing, and relief from our talking, selling, noisy world. And BOOKS!"

survey respondent