



## Analysis of Development and Changes in Reading Interests Using Online Libraries

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### ABSTRACT

The problem often faced by people in Indonesia is the decreasing level of public interest in reading information. This information is obtained from various sources, one of which is from libraries. In the current digital era, the development and changes in reading interest have begun to shift from regular libraries to digital libraries or what are often called Online Libraries. Digital libraries are quite flexible and provide many conveniences to their users. This study uses a quantitative method with a descriptive approach. This study aims to analyze the development and changes in reading interest using digital libraries or Online Libraries. The results of this study indicate the influence of digital libraries on the level of reading interest. If the number of digital libraries increases, there will be a decrease in reading interest. Likewise, if the number of libraries decreases, there will be an increase in reading interest

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### ARTICLE INFO

**Article History:**

*Submitted/Received 08 Jan 2023*

*First Revised 13 Feb 2023*

*Accepted 23 Mar 2023*

*First online 05 May 2023*

*Publication Date 31 May 2023*

**Keyword:**

*Development,  
digital library,  
reading interest,  
change,  
society*

## 1. INTRODUCTION

If the Covid-19 pandemic brings changes to society, including in the world of education, the home learning method is implemented by utilizing information technology as much as possible. The problem of learning resources arises which is a concern for teachers and parents at home. As many as 31.80% of students have difficulty in obtaining information sources for learning at home. The elements of online learning are driven by technology and depend on internet facilities, educational institutions can collaborate with the telecommunications industry to subsidize internet subscription fees or provide free browsing data to students and instructors as part of their corporate social responsibility. This makes researchers and schools work together to create digital library services so that learning runs optimally. The advantages offered in the library include being accessible anywhere and anytime by teachers and students, providing information sources for learning according to needs, and fairly easy settings for school librarians (Hadiapurwa et al., 2021).

Libraries play an important role in learning, because the function of libraries as learning resources is very prominent. Libraries are not only useful as learning resources, but also provide references to improve students' learning processes. Libraries as a bridge of knowledge seem to be increasingly marginalized by technological advances, therefore libraries must improve themselves, so as not to lose their readers or consumers. Libraries need to be revived by building more modern systems and excellent service. to its readers, then libraries, campuses or reading parks (Public Libraries) for the community need to be improved, both physically and by completing popular books, and making their applications online, accessible wherever their readers are (Apendi, 2020).

Not only that, the library is also in increasing the motivation to learn someone who has an interest in reading from the person himself. This is the background that the role and function of the library is as a center for developing self-literacy. Therefore, one of the developments of literacy in a person can be based on the distribution of book references or knowledge by providing library assistance needed by users. With the advancement of modern life, we can find libraries very easily. Currently, there are several digital libraries that have exactly the same purpose as the physical libraries that we often encounter, but in digital libraries we can search for information that we have never known easily to search and research data using the Information and Communication Technology (ICT) development model (Gianto, 2017).

It can be explained that a digital library is a concept using the internet and information technology in library management. Fahmi, (2015) also explains that a digital library is a system consisting of hardware, software, electronic collections, management staff, use, organization, work mechanisms and services by utilizing various types of information technology. In other words, digital libraries really need stable internet communication services, so that users get more interesting information to read. Digital libraries are in the spotlight through the many benefits they offer, which in the past were invisible or non-existent, meaning they were not directly useful to the public. Digital libraries show potential by providing richer and freely accessible electronic content and online services with high quality. In the future, the use of digital library services will continue to grow exponentially. Libraries have taken steps by adapting current practices and undertaking new initiatives in digital services such as references, bibliographic guides, provision of subscription information sources, course reserves, free e-books, OER (open educational resources) materials, and the Bridgewater State University (BSU) repository (Mehta & Wang, 2020).

The development of digital libraries with easy-to-understand definitions is too broad and imprecise, digital libraries need to be thought of in the future so that librarians can carry out their mission in the digital world. Their goal is to provide access to information that can be understood by users, in addition to being able to preserve useful information resources for future generations (Seadle & Greifeneder, 2007).

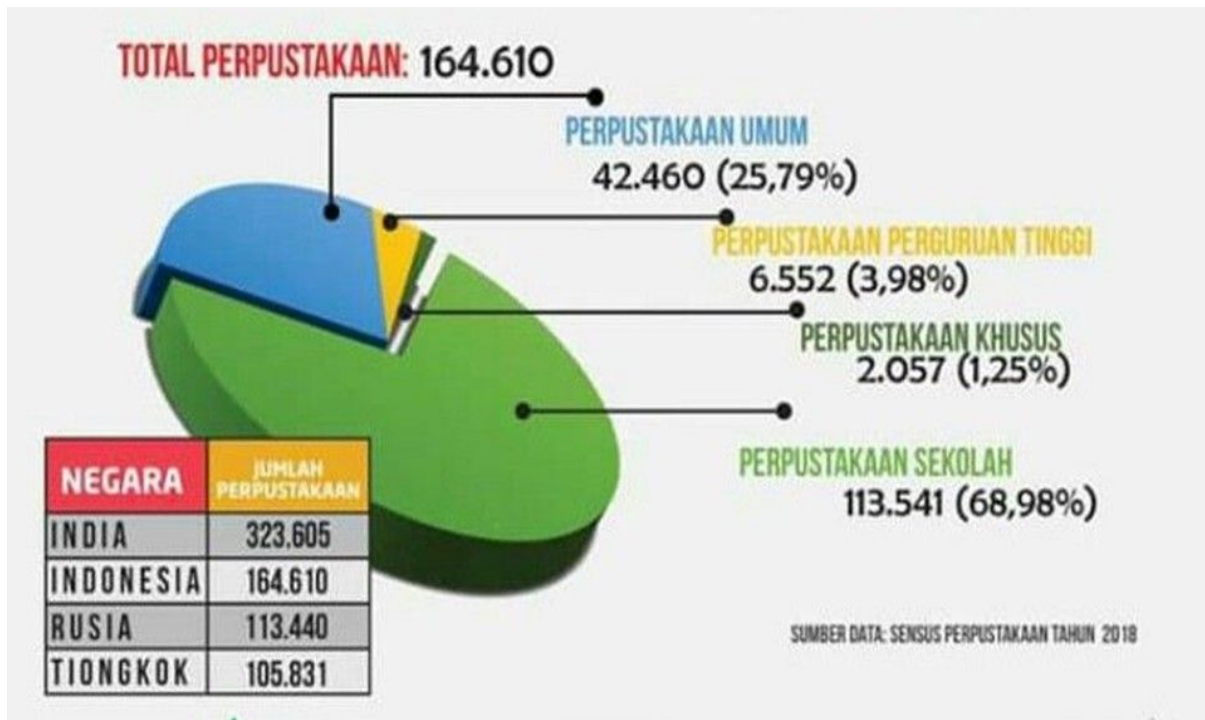
Digital library standards are generally almost the same as non-digital library standards, as stated in Article 11 of Law No. 43 of 2007 concerning Libraries (collection standards, infrastructure standards, service standards, library staff standards, implementation standards, management standards), but more emphasis is placed on digital collections and services. The specific standards for digital libraries in terms of numbers have not yet been clearly determined, so a special working meeting is needed to determine their standardization. Some standards that need attention are as follows; Six-ware standardization, Digital collection standardization, Digital content collection standardization, Scanning process standardization, Initial standardization of organizational sub-units and initials of collection types, Digital file content standardization (including content and access level), and Digital file security standardization (Susanto, 2010).

## 2. METHODS

Contains how data is collected, data sources and data analysis. The method used in this study is a qualitative method according to Creswell (1998) used because the problem being studied is very complex and researchers want a deeper understanding of the development and changes in reading interest. In addition, according to Bogdan & Bikkle (1992), qualitative research is a research process that produces descriptive data in the form of voice or writing to produce the behavior of people being observed. This study uses a library method. The library method is taken from various sources in the library and can also be sourced from the internet by collecting data and information. Sources that can be used are the results of previous research can be in the form of journals and articles related to the problem to be solved, can also be in the form of reference books. Activities in this method are carried out systematically to collect data, process, then conclude data in order to get answers to existing problems (Sari & Asmendri, 2020). The procedure in library research according to Zed (2008), namely choosing a general idea that is in accordance with the research topic, looking for appropriate information and data, emphasizing the focus of the research taken, searching for and finding the reading materials needed and classifying the reading materials, reading then making the necessary notes, reviewing and expanding the reading again, and finally classifying the reading materials again and then starting to write a research report.

## 3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

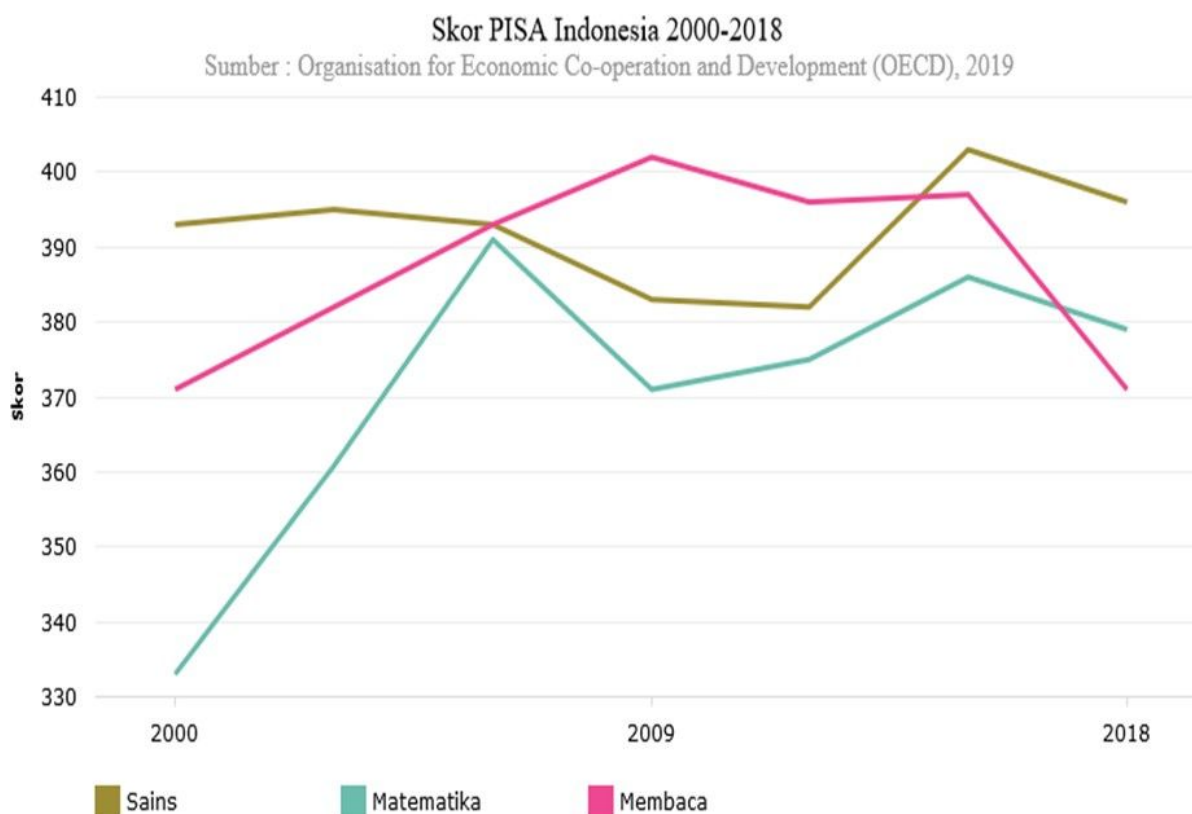
The results and discussion of this study are from the analysis of scientific sources found in accordance with the focus of the research discussed. There are several national and international journals and books that support the writing of the results of this article. The information is analyzed for its content to find a relationship with the focus of the research, from which conclusions can be drawn that can be used to update related scientific knowledge.



**Figure 1.** Diagram of the Number of Libraries in the Four Countries of the World.

In Figure 1, the data from the survey and it is already seen that the number of libraries from the four countries, namely India, Indonesia, Russia and China, has different values. Indonesia is in second place with the largest number of libraries in the world. This should be able to refute the information circulating, which says that the reading interest of the people in Indonesia is low. What should happen is that with the increase in the number of libraries, the people's reading interest will also increase. But the reality is the opposite. The cause of this is related to the habit of reading books.

Someone who has a target of reading one book or one chapter of a book every day, is certain that their reading interest will increase. However, someone who is lazy to read books and does not give a target like the example above, then in the future the person's reading interest will decrease. It can be concluded that a person's reading interest does not depend on how many libraries they have, but on the habit of reading books. The use of Online Libraries can make it easier to meet the information desired by users and speed up the process of exchanging information. Both online libraries and regular libraries, in the end the functionality of both types of libraries still has its weaknesses and advantages. Figure 2. Graph of the Development of Reading Interest, Science and Mathematics (OECD, 2019).



**Figure 2.** Reading, Science and Mathematics Interest Development Graph

Based on Figure 2, the Score graph is presented from the Organization for Economic Co-Operation and Development (OECD, 2019), from 2000 to 2018. In this discussion, what will be discussed is the graph of the development of reading interest. In the span of 2000, reading interest increased due to the limited use of online libraries and the rare public who wanted to visit the library every time to look for information references. Therefore, the reading interest graph has increased.

The graph in 2009 and so on until 2018 shows a decline in the graph. Interest in reading has decreased because in 2009, there were already online libraries that could be accessed by the public, although the number was not as many as in 2018. While the graph in 2018 experienced a drastic decline. This can happen because online libraries are increasing in frequency, and the general public no longer has difficulty accessing online libraries. However, this is quite surprising. The increasing ease of accessing online libraries, people are becoming increasingly lazy to read because they feel that there are already online libraries that have a lot of information, so they feel that reading will only be a waste of time.

Research (Hyman et al., 2014) discussing electronic reading and digital library technology with a research framework for instructional technology usage is proposed to help better articulate the critical success factors in implementing formal learning using mobile devices, specifically e-readers or tablet computers. In the use of e-readers and tablet computers there is no specific difference between ease of use and the ability of the content on the device to be learned.

This literature review found that tablet computers are preferred over dedicated e-reader devices because they do not offer multi-modal functionality, do not have a strong search and navigation topology, and provide learners with multiple mental models. The ITU

(Instructional technology usage) framework presents a model for educational institutions to consider when developing formal instructional content or implementing a learning management platform that encompasses multiple content formats.

Research from (Ćirić & Ćirić, 2021) shows that there has been a significant increase in the use of smartphones to access digital content during the pandemic. To facilitate this, websites and digital libraries should be designed to adapt (preferably responsive). This digital access will become increasingly popular in the coming years and presents a future way to engage with digital library content. Social media posts promoting digital libraries are successful, and strategies to promote digital content should be used frequently. There are several guidelines or strategies that libraries can follow to respond to future emergencies that affect in-person access to library collections. These can be applied to other hybrid libraries or libraries that have an online presence.

Libraries are commonly used by people in general, from young to adult. It is not uncommon for educators to also use libraries as a substitute place to study. However, in the era of digitalization and technology that is developing very rapidly, libraries are generally not in demand by educators to find learning reference sources. The transition of libraries to digital libraries or what are often called Online Libraries is a library that does not require visitors to come to the place. Digital libraries only require a code, for example, on an ID card as a library visitor or literary writer who wants to upload their writings to the Online Library.

Digital libraries are in the form of websites or mobile apps, depending on the reference source. But the majority of digital libraries are in the form of websites because they are easy to use and do not have to download the library application. Digital libraries have a large collection of online books (E-Books), national and international journals and various archive collections in them. Libraries, both digital and not, certainly have positive and negative impacts. In general, Online Library users have used them to search for references, download, or just read. The positive impact of the Online Library is the ease of accessing documents, archives and references needed by users. In addition, digital libraries are very easy to access, either via mobile phones, laptops or other electronic devices such as computers.

Behind the positive impact of the existence of digital libraries, this also triggers negative impacts. Usually, users feel dizzy if they have to read books through the Online Library because they have to stare at the gadget screen for a long time. Moreover, if you have to read reference sources that have hundreds of pages, it will definitely interfere with concentration and health. Added to that is the lack of rest time when reading the reference sources. This is what causes the interest in reading of Online Library users to decrease, although there are still some users who remain loyal to using the Online Library in searching for information and references. The increasing use of Online Libraries requires their users to search for information Online. In order for us to access the Online Library, we are required to Sign Up or Login to continue searching for learning resources. There are paid Online Libraries, but there are also free ones. It depends on how far we get information about the existing Online Library. With the existence of an online library, a person's interest in reading will increase.

Reading interest is often interpreted as a person's or the general public's desire to know the information they receive. Many users on social media say that reading interest in Indonesia is still low. Among them are people who still believe in fake news or hoaxes, the easy spread of irrelevant information, the emergence of information that is unclear about its source and some people who are easily provoked by emotions due to misunderstandings in digesting incoming information both from within and from outside. The increasing

development of digitalization in libraries accompanied by increasing knowledge and previous research makes digital libraries a primary need for academic practitioners, researchers and scientists who need references for information or previous research.

#### 4. CONCLUSION

It can be concluded that a digital library is a unit with a physical library that has the same library references and knowledge, but a digital library has the advantage of researching library data by having a wide coverage connection. Digital libraries also provide sources of information that can further review reading interests in a way that can be easily understood and can be accessed anywhere and anytime by teachers, students, or the general public who need broader information. Digital libraries are increasing in frequency every month and the general public no longer has difficulty accessing online libraries.

#### 5. AUTHOR'S NOTE

The authors declare that there is no conflict of interest regarding the publication of this article. The authors confirmed that the paper was free of plagiarism.

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