

US readers turn increasingly to digital books, study finds

27 December 2012



Jeff Bezos CEO of Amazon introduces new Kindle Paper white electronic book during a press conference on September 06, 2012 in Santa Monica, California. US readers are increasingly opting for digital books instead of ink-and-paper editions, according to a Pew Research Center study.

US readers are increasingly opting for digital books instead of ink-and-paper editions, according to a Pew Research Center study released on Thursday.

The share of US adults reading electronic books rose to 23 percent in November from 16 percent the same time last year, according to the Pew study.

Meanwhile, ranks of people age 16 or older turning to pages of printed books fell to 67 percent from 72 percent, the findings indicated.

Overall, 75 percent of US adults read books in one form or another in a slight slip from the 78 percent figure seen late in 2011, according to the [Pew Internet and American Life Project](#).

The growing popularity of e-books was in step with the hot trend in tablet computers, whether they are

dedicated [reading devices](#) such as Kindles or Nooks or multi-purpose Internet portals such as Apple [iPads](#) or Google Nexus devices.

The portion of US adults with some kind of tablet jumped to 33 percent late this year, as compared with 18 percent as 2011 came to an end, according to the Pew study.

Understandably, the number of people borrowing e-books from US libraries also rose, findings indicated.

People in higher education and income brackets were more likely to be e-book readers, as were those between the ages of 30 and 49, according to Pew.

The findings were based on a survey taken between October 15 and November 10.

(c) 2012 AFP

APA citation: US readers turn increasingly to digital books, study finds (2012, December 27) retrieved 12 April 2021 from <https://phys.org/news/2012-12-readers-increasingly-digital.html>

This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.