

The Triage Approach Where the Law Libraries Fit In

Types and Numbers of Self-represented Litigants

Estimate the numbers of the different types of self-represented litigants within your own library for the brainstorming exercise. Take the handout home and do a real count within your own library to get a more accurate figure for real planning purposes.

Two factors, the difficulty of the case itself and the ability and preparation of the litigant, cause self-represented litigants to fall into different groups:

| Date: | Number | Percentage |
|---|--------|------------|
| Those who can do the work themselves, usually with access to a law library. | | |
| Those who, with the aid of prepared forms or electronic systems, can do the work themselves. | | |
| Those who, with limited advice from an agency, such as a small claims advisor, family court facilitator, can do the work themselves. | | |
| Those who, with limited legal representation through unbundled legal services, can do the work themselves. | | |
| Those who cannot complete the work themselves with these aids and who then must use a law library to finish their work. | | |
| Those who would prefer to use a law library in addition to completing the work through services themselves in order to improve their understanding. | | |
| Those who cannot do the work themselves without full service representation from a lawyer. | | |
| Remarks | | |