

Databases Access in Academic Business Libraries.

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This article will report on database access in the College and University Business Library statistics survey¹. The information reported in this article is based on the CUBL survey conducted in the Fall of 1997. The data was collected for the fiscal year, 1996/97. In the case of database access, the information presented in this article may appear somewhat dated. As the CUBL survey data is presented, an effort will be made to discuss the changes that are taking place in database access in academic business libraries and in academic libraries in general.

These results should be of interest to corporate and academic business librarians as well as library and business school administrators.

In addition to the report on database access in academic business libraries, Appendix (no.) to this article will include the summary statistics from the CUBL survey.

Where to begin:

¹ The survey is conducted annually, with thirty-two academic business libraries (see Appendix 1) responding to the survey. The participants represent academic business libraries supporting MBA programs with 'separately-housed' library facilities.

This year twenty-nine academic libraries responded to the 1996/97 CUBL survey. The survey includes a section on database access. For a list of 109 databases and database aggregations, the participating libraries were asked to answer the following questions:

Does your library have access to this database?

Do you subscribe to the CD ROM version?

Do you access this database through the Web?

Do end-users have access for a fee or for free?

Do you access this database through a database aggregator, like Dialog, OCLC, RLIN?

If so, which aggregator do you use?

Illustration 1.

9. Databases

Database	Please check all columns that apply				
	Does your library access database?	Do you subscribe to the CD ROM version?	Do you access this database through the Web?	Do end-users have access for fee or free?	Do you access through a database aggregator, like Dialog, OCLC, RLIN? Which one(s)?
ABI/Inform					
Academic Index					
Accounting & Tax Index					

The list of databases included 109 databases based on information reported in the 1995/96 survey. This list of databases focuses on business and economics information resources. In some cases, general social science databases are included. At the same time an effort was made to edit out general databases that are widely access in academic libraries and focus on the business and economics databases. Additional space was provided for participants to add databases that were not included in this list. Sixteen information resources were added to the original list. Nine of the original information resources were no longer (See Appendix)

The twenty-nine respondents reported accessing 116 of these electronic information resources. Seven information resources were added to the original list. The list of databases/information resources accessed is included in Appendix no. The list also includes the number of responding libraries that reported accessing that resource.

The Most Popular Electronic Resources in Academic Business Libraries

College & University Business Library Statistics, 1996/97

Database	Number of Libraries
ABI Inform	29
Nexis / Lexis	25
Dow Jones	23
Econlit	22
STAT USA	21
WorldScope	21
WSJ	21
D/SEC	20
NTDB	20
PsycInfo	19
Dialog	18
PAIS International	18
Bloomberg	17
Business and Industry	17
Investext	17
Amer. Business Directory	15
Uncover	15

The twenty-nine libraries responding to the CUBL survey reporting accessing 116 electronic information sources from this list. Table 1 lists the information resources accessed by more than half of the respondents. The seventeen resources included in this list account for 42% of the total number (808) of electronic resources accessed by responding libraries as reported in this survey.

With this information one begins to see that a consensus of core academic information resources is being developed. For the remaining (99) information resources included in the survey, no more than half of the participants in the survey are providing access to them.

Overall, the median responding library provided access to 29 electronic information resources from the list of 125. Libraries in the upper quartile provided access to 37 or more resources while libraries in the lower quartile provided access to 17 or less resources from this list.

Aggregations are compilations of electronic resources, data files, reports, journals and other electronic information. Aggregations meet two criteria. First, they are distributed by a single agency or group (an aggregator) with responsibility for maintaining the collection and selecting resources to be included in the aggregation. Second, they are prepared and distributed as a collection.²

Selecting electronic information resources for academic business libraries.

With the overall list of electronic information resources and their ranking based on the number of libraries responding from this survey, one can start to define a core list of information resources for an academic business library. Since these responding library represent a wide range of business programs, library facilities, it is interesting to look at the differences electronic access based on the size of the library's acquisitions expenditures. For 28 of the libraries that provided data on acquisitions expenditures were

² William H. Walters, Samuel G. Demas, Linda Stewart and Jennifer Weintraub, Guidelines for Collecting Aggregations of Web Resources. (Working paper) Albert R. Mann Library, Cornell University, Ithaca, N.Y. 14853.

divided into quartiles based on their acquisitions expenditures. While libraries with higher acquisitions expenditures tend to provide access to more electronic resources.

Upper Q	Number of libraries providing access Total responses
Total Library Materials	
ABI Inform	7
Dow Jones	7
Nexis / Lexis	7
PsycInfo	7
Bloomberg	6
Business Periodicals Ondisc	6
Datastream	6
Dialog	6
Econlit	6
Investext	6
New York Times	6
NTDB	6
PAIS International	6
SSCI	6
WorldScope	6
Morningstar	5
S&P Compustat PC +	5
Uncover	5

Quartile 3	Number of libraries providing access Total responses
Total Library Materials	
ABI Inform	7
D/SEC	7
Dow Jones	7
Econlit	7
Amer. Business Directory	6
Nexis / Lexis	6
STAT USA	6
Academic Index	5
Bloomberg	5
Business and Industry	5
GPO	5
NTDB	5
PAIS International	5
PsycInfo	5
WSJ	5

Quartile 2	Number of libraries providing access
Library Material expenditures	
Total Library Materials	
ABI Inform	7
Business and Industry	5
D/SEC	5
Econlit	5
Nexis / Lexis	5
PAIS International	5
WorldScope	5

Quartile 1	Number of libraries providing access Total responses
Total Library Materials	
ABI Inform	7
Nexis / Lexis	6
STAT USA	6
Dow Jones	5
NTDB	5
WorldScope	5
WSJ	5

Appendix

Summary Statistics from the 1996/97 CUBL survey.

**College & University Business Library Statistics,
1996/97**

College or University	Volumes held June 30, 1996	Volumes added-gross	Volumes withdrawn	Volumes added - net	Volumes held June 30, 1997	Total vols. in College or University
Lower Quartile	43,737	1,411	158	292	46,070	2,369,065
Median	115,231	3,212	520	1,369	115,523	4,000,000
Upper Quartile	151,396	4,629	2,699	3,336	156,541	6,120,000
No. of Libraries Reporting	29	29	29	29	29	29

**College & University Business Library
Statistics, 1996/97**

College or University	Current serial subs. purchased	Serials recd, not purchased	Current serials recd.	Microforms	Computer files
Lower Quartile	672	0	882	198,843	17
Median	1,005	20	1,142	303,599	235
Upper Quartile	1,741	241	2,177	472,296	1,357
No. of Libraries Reporting	22	22	29	26	26

College & University Business Library Statistics, 1996/97

College or University	Monographs	Serials	Computer files	Other materials	Misc.	Total Library Materials
Lower Quartile	\$28,000	\$108,935	\$19,959	\$500	\$3,600	\$226,249
Median	\$40,234	\$190,324	\$50,304	\$4,155	\$18,000	\$307,291
Upper Quartile	\$76,317	\$239,028	\$71,106	\$10,929	\$41,357	\$444,509
No. of Libraries Reporting	29	29	25	22	25	28

College & University Business Library Statistics, 1996/97

College or University	Total Library Materials	Binding	Other Operating exp.	Total Salaries and wages	Total Library exp.
Lower Quartile	\$226,249	\$912	\$11,000	\$223,031	\$412,109
Median	\$307,291	\$10,585	\$26,639	\$288,206	\$637,751
Upper Quartile	\$444,509	\$15,925	\$57,938	\$415,641	\$819,306
No. of Libraries Reporting	28	20	19	26	28

College & University Business Library Statistics, 1996/97

College or University	Librarians FTE	Other professionals FTE	Support Staff FTE	Students FTE	Total FTE Staff	Hours open each week
Lower Quartile	2.0	0.0	2.0	3.0	10.3	87.5
Median	3.0	0.0	3.8	4.8	13.4	92.5
Upper Quartile	4.6	1.0	6.0	6.3	17.4	99.0
No. of Libraries Reporting	29	29	29	29	29	29

College & University Business Library Statistics, 1996/97

College or University	Hours of prof. reference service	Hours of information service	Reference transactions	No. of presentation sessions	Attendance at presentations
Lower Quartile	40.0	0.0	2,892	28	652
Median	45.0	17.5	9,809	45	999
Upper Quartile	60.0	38.8	20,280	104	1,375
No. of Libraries Reporting	29	26	23	27	28

College & University Business Library Statistics, 1996/97

College or University	Total no. items circulated	No. of reserve items circulated	In-house use of materials	Turnstile or door count
Lower Quartile	14,089	10,946	1,853	129,127
Median	19,264	13,979	20,261	224,205
Upper Quartile	26,047	27,593	83,649	389,409
No. of Libraries Reporting	25	21	17	20

College & University Business Library Statistics, 1996/97

College or University	Library (Sq. Ft.)	No. of reader spaces	No. of copiers	No. of Microform readers	No. of reader printers	No. of computer workstations	No. of video players
Lower Quartile	11,159	175	3	1	2	9	0
Median	19,849	288	4	2	3	20	1
Upper Quartile	30,345	364	5	4	5	31	2
No. of Libraries Reporting	29	28	28	28	28	29	29

College & University Business Library Statistics, 1996/97

College or University	FT graduate (MBA, MS)	PT graduate (MBA,MS)	No. of Ph.D. students	FT instructional faculty	FT undergrads at college or university	FT graduate at college or university
Lower Quartile	327	0	26	55	5,900	3,909
Median	489	0	66	83	12,000	5,136
Upper Quartile	696	288	93	105	22,000	9,400
No. of Libraries Reporting	29	22	28	29	29	29