What’s Different About E-books?

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What is MINES for Libraries®?
Measuring the Impact of Networked Electronic Services (MINES for Libraries®) is an online transaction-based survey that collects data on the purpose of use of electronic resources and the demographics of users. As libraries implement access to electronic resources through portals, collaborations, and consortium arrangements, the MINES for Libraries® protocol offers a convenient way to collect information from users.

MINES for Libraries® aims to:
- Measure the value and impact of digital content
- Determine how specific user populations apply digital content to their work, based on demographic and purpose of use analyses
- Identify where library usage originates in the networked environment and tailor services accordingly

Why Participate?
MINES collects valid survey data not available through vendor-supplied statistics, and can help libraries understand their networked electronic resource usage.

Origins of MINES for Libraries®
MINES for Libraries® was developed by Brinley Franklin and Terry Plum as an online transaction-based survey to supplement a library cost analysis study.

How is the MINES for Libraries® survey conducted?
MINES is a Web-based transactional survey that is presented to the user as the first digital resource is selected for viewing.

NEWS
- 4/14/2014 Library Assessment Conference 2014 Registration Now Open—Deadline July 6
- 6/17/2013 MINES for Libraries®: Measuring the Impact of Networked Electronic Services—Call for Participation

EVENTS
- 9/18/2012 MINES for Libraries® Webcast - United States
- 9/22/2012 ARL/LibQUAL+®/StatsQUAL® Booth #1231 at ALA Annual - Anaheim, CA
- 4/17/2012 ARL Statistics & Assessment Webcast Series

PUBLICATIONS
- Assessing the Value of E-Resources to York University Faculty Using the MINES for Libraries Protocol: An Evolving Landscape
- Library Assessment Using the Tools of StatsQUAL®
- Measuring use of licensed electronic resources: a second iteration of the MINES for Libraries® Survey on Scholars Portal and other resources for the Ontario Council of University Libraries

MORE RESOURCES

MORE EVENTS

MORE NEWS
Research Questions

1. Are e-books used for grant funded research, and, using a mixed-mode survey methodology (web and pen), do e-books and print books support funded research similarly?

2. What is the role of e-book usage in patient care in medical and health sciences libraries?

3. Are the users of e-books similar in demographics to the users of print books?

4. Will the adoption of e-books and the transition from print books to e-books follow the same trajectory as the transition from print journals to ejournals?
Methodology: Intercept or Point-of-use Survey

- Where to intercept?
  - Must be done locally.
- Redirects – especially if locally developed
  - Java
  - php
  - JavaScript
- Proxy services
  - EZproxy
- OpenURL link resolvers
  - SFX (Ex Libris)
  - WebBridge LR (III)
  - 360 Link (Serials Solutions)
- Authentication services – if tied closely to the target
  - Consortia or State-wide services – authentication or proxy
- Router-based solution
  - Most comprehensive
Library Cost Analysis Survey (LCAS)

This short survey will help us to assess the usage of online resources provided by the library. The survey will run once a month for a 2 hour period over the next year. Your responses are very important. After completing the survey, you will be connected to the resource you selected.

Please note that all responses are anonymous.

Location:
[ Select ]

Status:
[ Select ]

Affiliation:
[ Select ]

Purpose for Using Electronic Resources:
- Instruction/Education/Departmental (Non Funded Research)
- Sponsored (Funded) Research Projects
- Other Sponsored Activities (Public Service)
- Other Activities

Answer the following questions only if your purpose is Sponsored (Funded) Research:

Sponsor or fund source name (e.g., NIH, NSF, DOD, Dept of Energy, NASA):

Principal Investigator/researcher:

Name of the grant:

Thank you very much for your participation.

Continue to Resource
What is an e-Book

• For the purposes of this survey, the term e-book was defined as an electronic text publication, excluding journal publications and textbooks, made available for any device (handheld or desk-bound) which includes a screen.
  o (Spec Kit 313: E-Books Collections)

• Digital documents, licensed or not, where searchable text is prevalent, and which can be seen in analogy to a print book (monograph). The use of eBooks is in many cases dependent on a dedicated device and/or a special reader or viewing software.
  o Note 1: eBooks can be lent to users either on portable devices (eBook readers) or by transmitting the contents to the user's PC for a limited time period.
  o Note 2: Doctoral dissertations in electronic format are included.

• Include e-book units, as long as these e-books are owned or leased and have been cataloged by your library. Include electronic books purchased through vendors such as NetLibrary® or Books 24x7, and e-books that come as part of aggregate services. Include individual titles of e-book sets that are treated as individual reference sources. Include locally digitized electronic books and electronic theses and dissertations.
  o ARL - Question 1. Volumes in Library
What is an e-Book Use

• For the purpose of this study, a use of an e-book is counted when a user successfully views or downloads a section (typically a chapter, encyclopedia entry, etc.) of an e-book.
  o COUNTER Code of Practice for e-Resources: Release 4
  o Published April 2012
  o http://www.projectcounter.org/code_practice.html

• Done by inspection of the target URLs captured with the survey.
Web and Pencil

• Mixed mode survey
• Usually compare web survey method to paper survey method
  o Distribution of values
  o Response rates
  o Self-selection bias
  o Evidence of digital divide
  o Validity and reliability
• Not identical
  o Similar activities
• Intercept
6. How many physical library materials did you use, photocopy, or scan while in the library on this visit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Sponsored (Funded) Research Projects</th>
<th>Instruction/Education/Non-Sponsored Research</th>
<th>Other Sponsored Activities</th>
<th>Other Activities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Books</td>
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<tr>
<td>Journals/Periodicals/Newspapers</td>
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<tr>
<td>Microforms /Maps/Multimedia (CDs, DVDs, etc.)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Government Documents</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

7. How many physical library materials did you check out for use outside the library on this visit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Sponsored (Funded) Research Projects</th>
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About the Sample

- E-book usage at 13 academic research libraries between July, 2009 and June, 2013
- More than 6,000 e-book uses were included in the sample.
- The 13 academic research libraries included in the study included:
  - Six main campus libraries with a separate health sciences library that also offered electronic resources, including e-books. At these six libraries (libraries 1-6), users were primarily associated with the main campus.
  - Four health sciences libraries that offered their own electronic resources, including e-books. At these four libraries (libraries 7-10), users were primarily from the health sciences.
  - Three libraries (libraries 11-13) where electronic resources, including e-books, were offered centrally to both main campus and health sciences users.
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E-books are not important to sponsored research. E-journals are the most important.
E-books are important to clinical treatment, especially in Health Science Libraries.
Reverse Trends in E-Resource Usage

E-book usage is lowest with funded research and highest with patient care.
E-Book and Print Book Usage Related to Funded Research

At 10 of 13 libraries, print book use related to funded research was higher than e-book use.
Classifications of E-Book Users and Print Book Users (Main Libraries)

E-books are used heavily by undergraduates although they use print books even more
Affiliations of E-Book users and Print Book Users (Main Libraries)

Trends - Medians

- Percent of E-book Users
- Percent of Print Book Users
Some Closing Thoughts

• While e-journals users’ demographics and purposes of use resembled print journal users, e-book users reflect different demographics patterns of use.

• Further research is needed on the characteristics of e-book use as it becomes more prevalent. For example:
  
  o For example, will funded researchers use of e-books eventually compare to the extent they currently use print books?
  
  o Will the significant use of e-book reference tools by academic patient care providers continue or be replaced by another medium?
  
  o Why are undergraduates a greater percentage of print book users than e-book users?
  
  o Will liberal arts and sciences use of e-books as a percentage of all users increase in the coming years?
Thank You!

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