

10–20% surcharge over what a library pays for a print subscription. Following ARL's definition of a serial subscription, journals collected in two formats like this have been counted twice. Furthermore, the elimination of the print subscription may have resulted in discounted subscription fees for the electronic-only title; a library may have access to the electronic-only version of a journal for 90% (or some other fraction) of the print subscription price. Also possibly contributing to the lower serial unit cost are consortial licensing arrangements for electronic journals, where a pooled collection of titles is shared among participating libraries.

Discussions regarding best ways to track research library investment in serials have been posted over the past year on the ARL Survey Coordinators Web page² and the ARL Statistics and Measurement program has emphasized collecting data elements regarding electronic resources in practical and meaningful ways.

Given users' preference for electronic serials and the ubiquitous availability of the electronic format, working groups of ARL member library survey coordinators have voiced their preference for shifting ARL's unit of measurement from serial subscriptions to serial titles and recommend reporting these counts in a non-duplicative fashion, i.e., count a title only once even if there are multiple access points to that title as a result of its electronic accessibility.

For more information regarding the annual ARL Statistics data collection, consult the ARL Statistics Web cast held on December 5, 2006; copies are available on CD by request to stats-ra@arl.org.

For more information about the *ARL Statistics* or to download the data files or a PDF of the publication, please visit <http://www.arl.org/stats/arlstat/>. See below to order print copies of the publication.

Ordering Information

ARL Statistics 2004–05

Martha Kyrillidou and Mark Young, comps. and eds.
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ARL, UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA LIBRARY, AND UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON LIBRARIES COSPONSOR LIBRARY ASSESSMENT CONFERENCE

by Richard Groves, Customer Relations Coordinator,
Statistics & Measurement, ARL

ARL, the University of Virginia Library, and the University of Washington Libraries cosponsored the Library Assessment Conference: Building Effective, Sustainable, Practical Assessment, held in Charlottesville, Virginia, September 25–27, 2006.

The conference brought together more than 200 participants from 36 US states and 8 countries. The attendees—representing 109 libraries, associations, library systems, and vendors—participated in more than 40 paper and panel sessions. The conference also featured 20 poster presentations and 3 plenary sessions on the topics of “Library Performance Measures That Matter,” “Changing User Needs and Perceptions,” and “Organizational Diversity and Climate Assessment.”

Outside the parallel, poster, and plenary sessions the Library Assessment Conference featured workshops, a special tour of Monticello and the Jefferson Library, and a reception held at the University of Virginia Harrison Institute/Small Special Collections Library.

Those not able to attend the conference may download presentations and handouts from the conference Web site.¹ ARL will publish conference proceedings in 2007 and distribute copies to all conference registrants. Copies will also be available for purchase from ARL.

With the generous help of Stephanie Wright of the University of Washington, ARL has added a library assessment blog² to its collection of tools to help build the culture of assessment in libraries. The blog is aimed at assessment librarians and others interested in building effective, sustainable, and practical assessment.

The next Library Assessment Conference will be held at the University of Washington in Seattle, August 4–6, 2008.

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¹ <http://www.arl.org/stats/laconf/>

² <http://libraryassessment.info/>

¹ Martha Kyrillidou and Mark Young, comps. and eds., *ARL Statistics 2004–05* (Washington, DC: ARL, 2006): 21.

² See summaries of discussions held on January 20, 2006, and June 23, 2006, http://www.arl.org/stats/arlstat/coord_mtgs.html.