

Rediscovering Your Federal Documents

or How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love Docs

Andrew says start here!



Helping Patrons and Students Rediscover Federal Documents

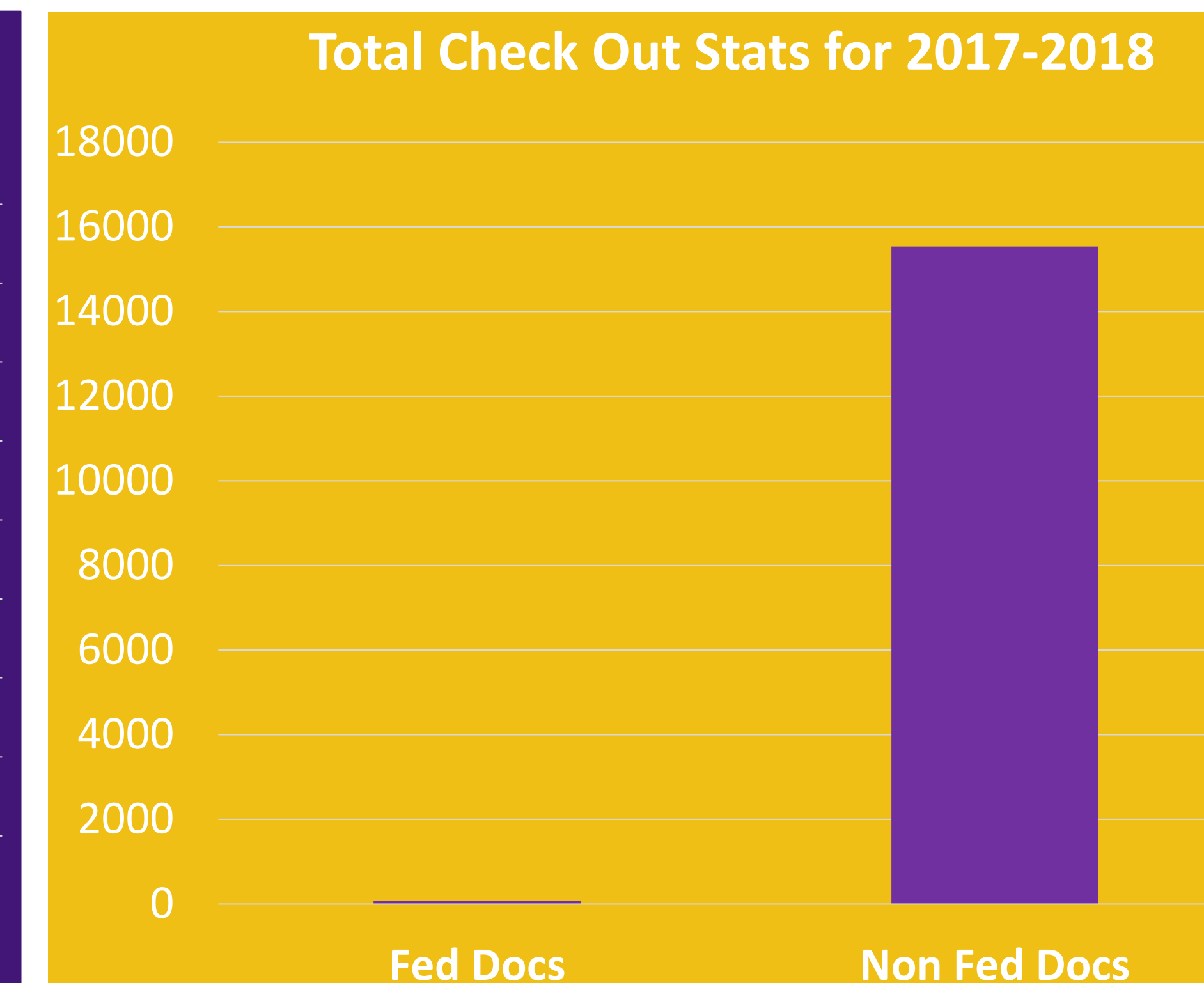
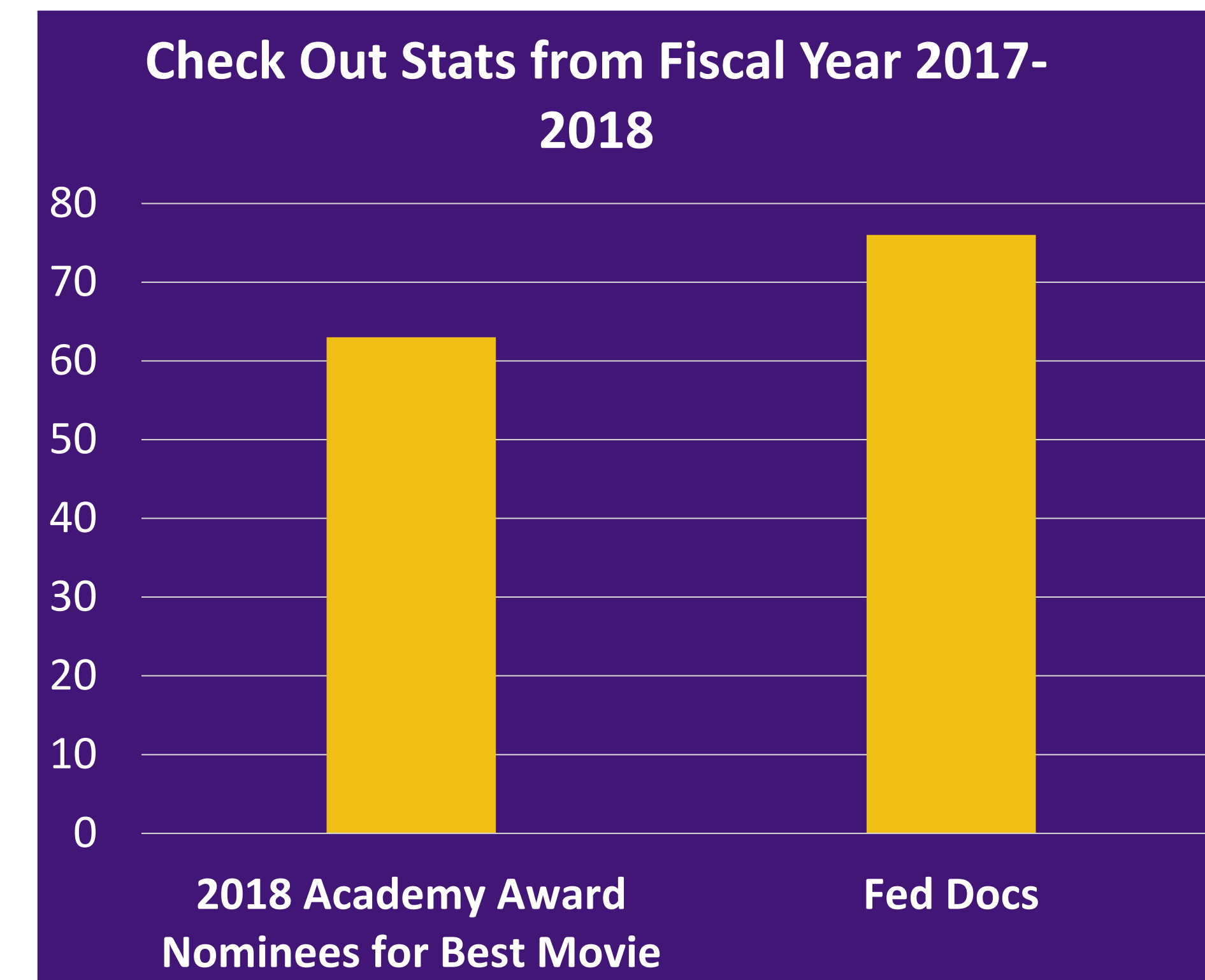
Federal Documents are a valuable tool for patrons and students alike! They can be used as a **primary source of information** for a project or used to find information about **federal grants**.

The biggest issue is that **so many patrons and students are unaware of the information contained in Federal Documents**. Even library staff and librarians may not be fully aware of the information that is contained in an **FDP (Federal Depository Library Program) Member**.

What can Federal Documents and Resources do for you?

- Federal **Budget** information
- Planning a trip to a **national park**
- National **Health Statistics**
- **Reports** from various Federal Departments
- Amount of people **killed by bears** in Yellowstone since 1872
 - 8 bear induced fatalities
 - 7 fatalities from Falling trees
- **Code of Laws** of the United States of America
- **Historical books** ranging from United States Architecture to Defense Missions
- Congressional **Hearings**
 - Including impeachment hearings
 - Committee Meetings
- **Zombie** apocalypse survival solutions
- **Presidential Papers**
- Access to the **National Archives**
- How to make **fire**
 - With and without accelerants

Despite all the great information available, not everyone is using the materials!



How to spread awareness?

Government Documents account for .0048% of all the Joyner Library check outs. The check outs are only a bit higher than the 8 movies of the 2018 Academy Award Nominees in our DVD Collection! The number of checkouts is a little skewed, because many federal documents are available online for personal use!

Presentations

Informational Displays*

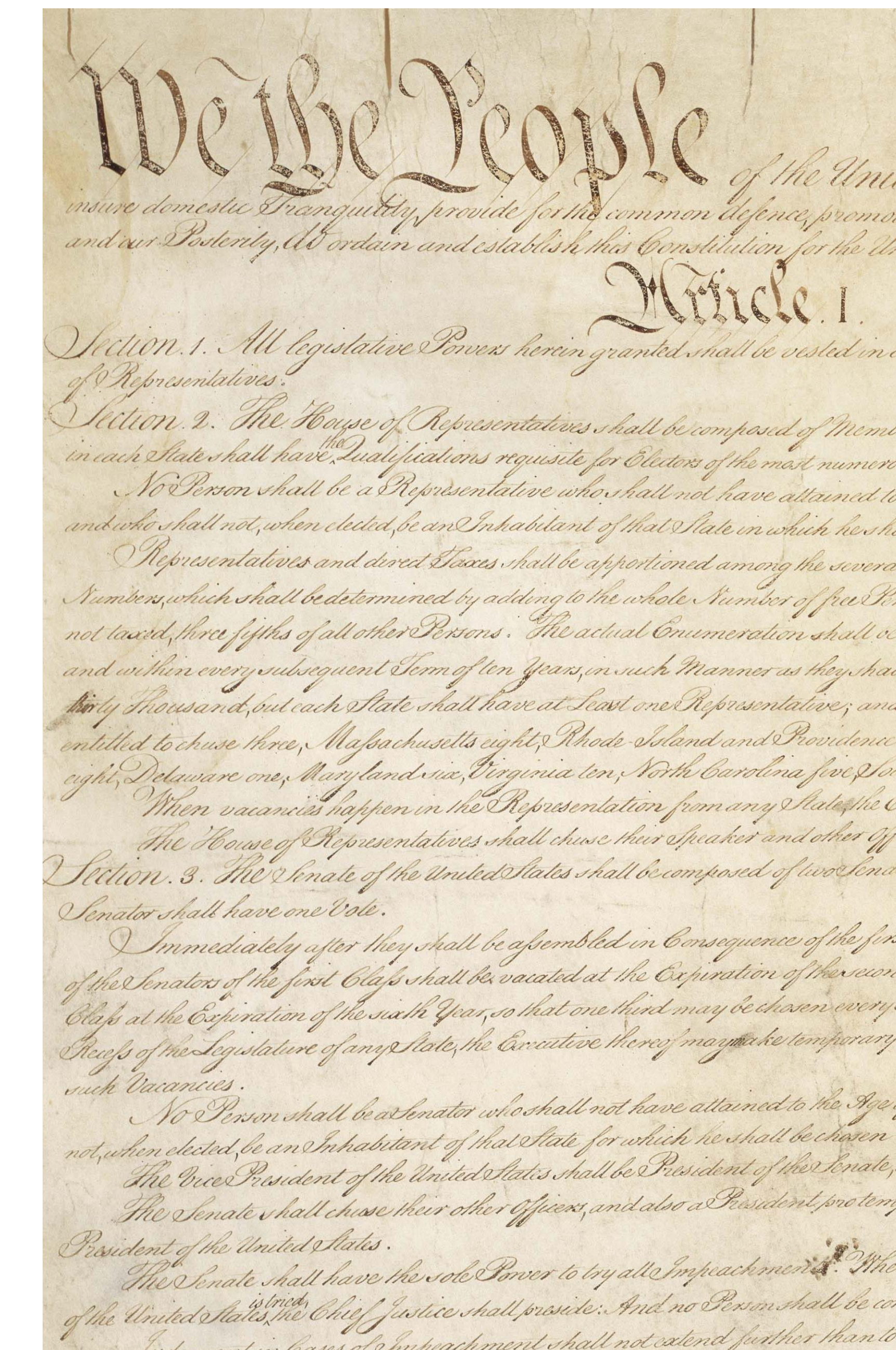
Direct students and patrons to them for research and projects

Presentations are a great way to show what Federal Documents and Federal Resources can provide.

In my time at ECU I have done the following:

- Government Docs and US: Doc Hard (Overview of Fed Docs)
- Government Docs and US: Doc Harder (Budgets)
- Government Docs and US: Doc Hard With a Vengeance (Weather and NOAA)
- Government Docs and US: Live Free or Doc Hard (Constitution and Constitution Day)
- Government Docs and US: A Good Day to Doc Hard (Patents and Trademarks)
- **Affairs of the State: Daring Dalliances and Docs (Illicit and not-as-illicit affairs of our early representatives)
- **Affairs of the State 2: Daring Dalliances and Docs (1860's-1970's)
- **Live and Let Doc: Using Federal Documents to Survive

Most of these presentations were presented to coworkers in an effort to encourage them to spread the word about Fed Documents. The presentations allowed me to be creative while showing some of the awesome research opportunities Fed Docs can provide!



Informational Displays are also helpful at spreading the word about Federal Documents.

For **Constitution Day 2017**, we put up a display providing information about the constitution and handed out free copies of the Constitution to celebrate! I worked with the North Carolina Collection to show the differences between the United States Constitution and the North Carolina State Constitution. Additionally, we had a video on a loop near a display with our copy of the Constitution and other materials. It was a great way to inform our students!

One of the best ways to spread the word of Federal Documents and Resources is to use them!

Mentioning your Fed Doc collection during instruction sessions or during one on one sessions with students or patrons is a great way to encourage Fed Doc usage! Lots of people just need a little push to find all the great information available to them.

Check out **govinfo.gov** or any of the great **.gov** sites available to you when pulling data or information for patrons. If working with a K-12 patron or student, use **bensguide.gpo.gov** for age appropriate government research!



*Buttons count as displays. Buttons have been created for in house events and handed out to attendees
**Available for viewing on http://libguides.ecu.edu/federal_government_information