2021 Biennial Survey of Depository Libraries

Poster presentation by:
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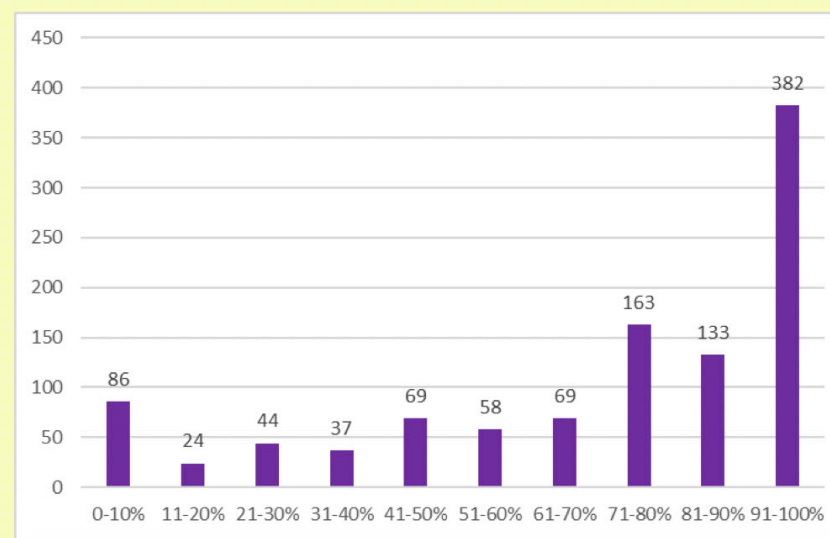
Introduction and Methods

- Every two years, GPO conducts the Biennial Survey of Depository Libraries, and examines the results to evaluate trends and current issues. The Biennial Survey also fulfills 44 U.S. Code §1909's requirements for the Superintendent of Documents to report on conditions at depository libraries.

- The questions and full dataset of responses for the 2021 Biennial Survey of Depository Libraries are available at the bottom of this page on the FDLP.gov File Repository.

- The questions for the 2021 Biennial Survey of Depository Libraries were developed by LSCM staff in collaboration with the Depository Library Council (DLC), the advisory group to the Director of GPO, and the Superintendent of Documents. The survey was open from January 26, 2022 – March 23, 2022.

- The survey was sent to 1,113 libraries and the report dataset contains 1,065 responses, for a 96% return rate.
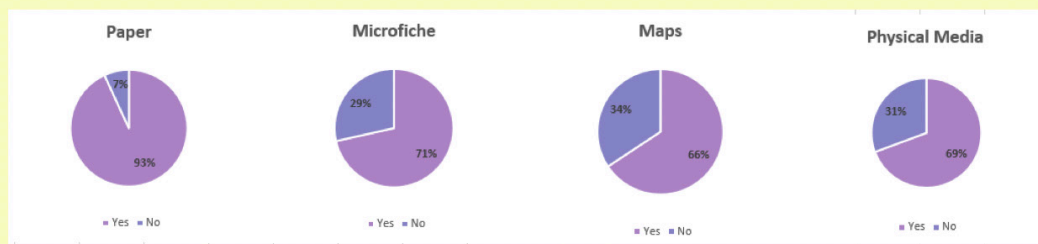
TANGIBLE COLLECTIONS

A majority of depository libraries still have tangible FDLP material in their collections, stored in various places and under varying levels of bibliographic control.

- Integrated in open stacks with other library collections
- Located in closed stacks
- Located in consortial shared print archive
- Located in offsite storage
- Located in open stacks in a designated area within the library
- Located in separate housing outside of my institution (For example: Selective or Shared Housing Agreement, Shared regional collection across state lines, etc.)
- Located in separate housing within my institution (For example: Branch library, Map library, other department, etc.)
- N/A, my library has no tangible FDLP collection

Q16a – My tangible FDLP collection is primarily...
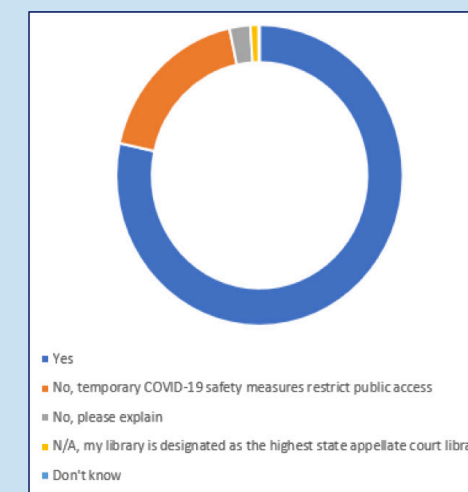
Paper | Microfiche | Maps | Physical Media

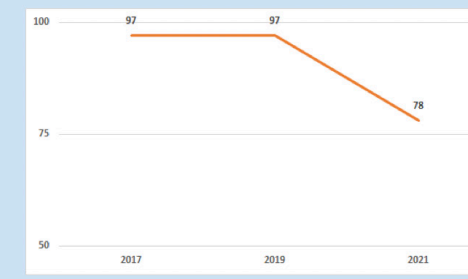**Q14 - Does your library have tangible depository material in any format?**

Q21 - How much % of your tangible collection (paper, microfiche, etc.) would you estimate is cataloged?

WHAT QUESTIONS WERE NEW THIS TIME?

Questions change each survey to address contemporary situations. The 2021 survey included questions on the COVID-19 pandemic and Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI). The pandemic brought the percentage of libraries open to the public down temporarily.

- Yes
- No, temporary COVID-19 safety measures restrict public access
- No, please explain
- N/A, my library is designated as the highest state appellate court library
- Don't know

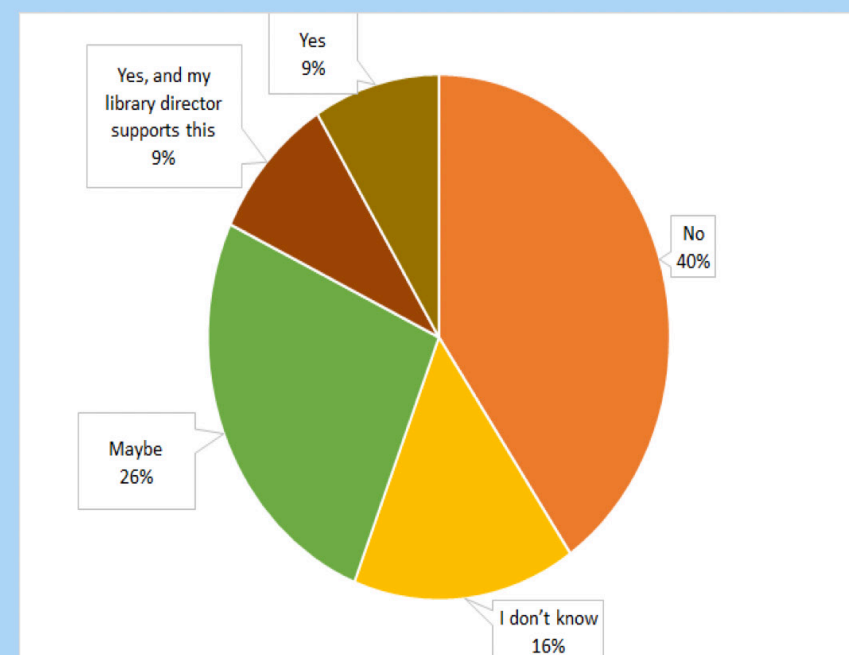**Q03 - Can anyone enter the library and use Federal Government depository resources free of charge at your library?**

Percentage of FDLs Open to the Public 2017-2021

Collection development / Displays / Staff training / Hiring decisions / Catalog and tool enhancements / Programs for the public / Human library programs / Does not apply / Other, please explain
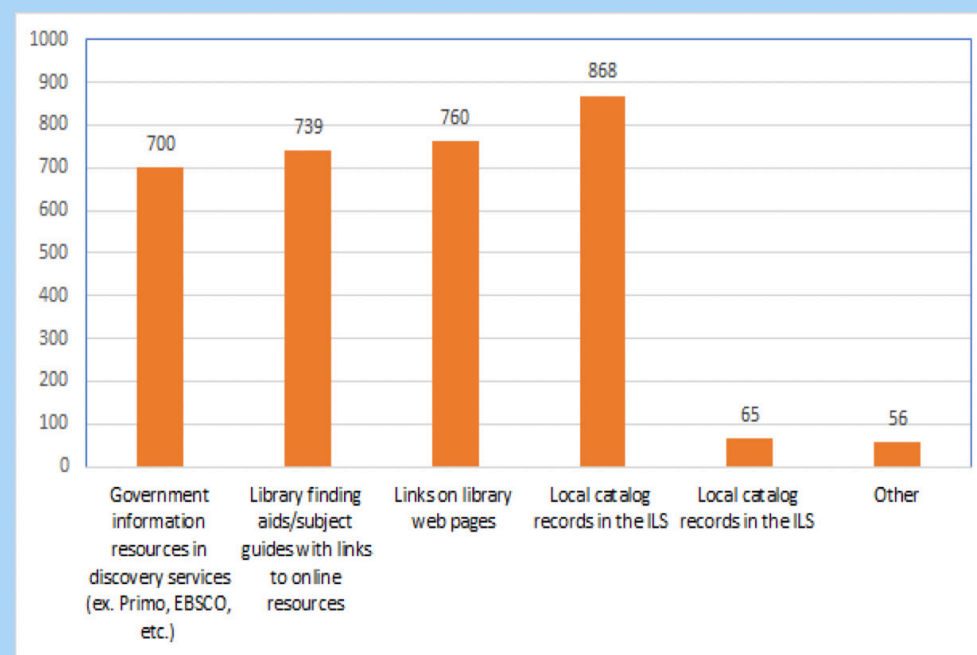
Q09 - My library is actively working to increase diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) through ...

DIGITAL COLLECTIONS

Access to digital government information and collections is evolving. Depository libraries are working in various ways to help people find the content they need.

Yes 9%
Yes, and my library director supports this 9%
No 40%
Maybe 26%
I don't know 16%

Q12- Is your library interested in receiving FDLP digital publications on deposit from GPO?

Government information resources in discovery services (ex. Primo, EBSCO, etc.): 700
Library finding aids/subject guides with links to online resources: 739
Links on library web pages: 760
Local catalog records in the ILS: 868
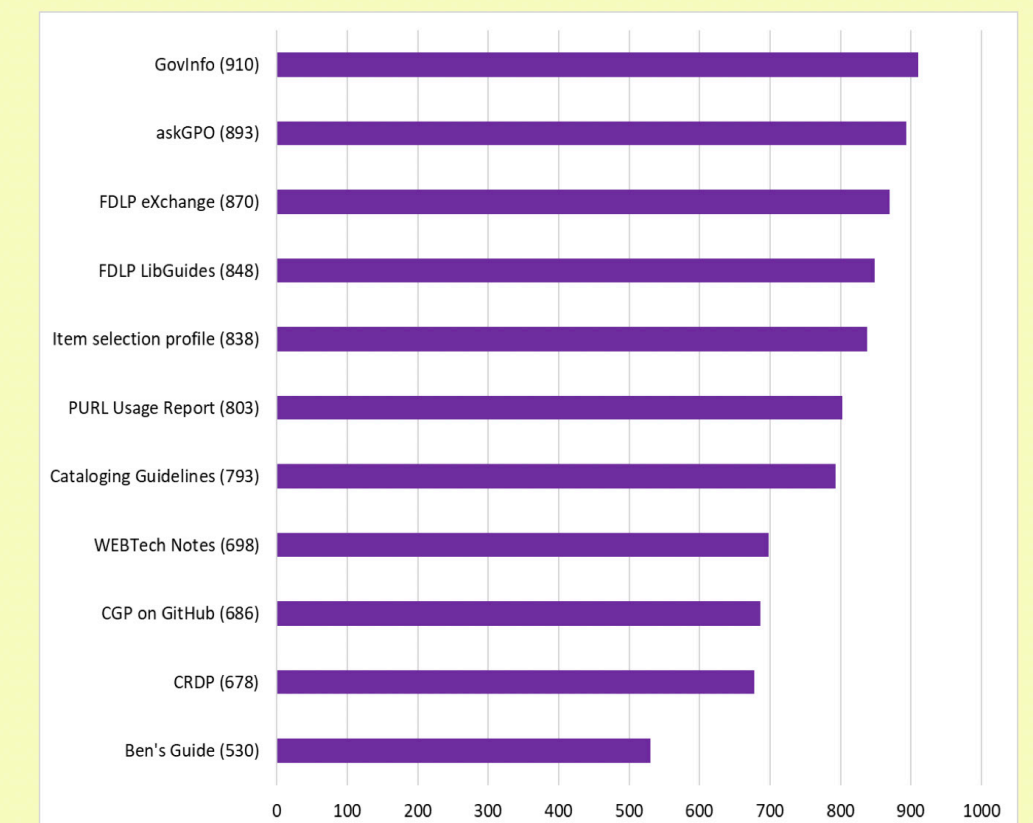Local catalog records in the ILS: 65
Other: 56

Q4 – Other than providing computers for patron usage, how does your library make online Federal depository publications discoverable?

TRAINING...AND MORE TRAINING!

A majority of depository libraries are interested in asynchronous training. The top three most requested topics are GovInfo, askGPO, and FDLP eXchange.

	Average Percentage of FDLs Interested in Training Format
Webcast (pre-recorded)	55%
Tutorial	41%
Webinar (live)	37%
Hands-on	8%

GovInfo (910)
askGPO (893)
FDLP eXchange (870)
FDLP LibGuides (848)
Item selection profile (838)
PURL Usage Report (803)
Cataloging Guidelines (793)
WEBTech Notes (698)
CGP on GitHub (686)
CRDP (678)
Ben's Guide (530)

Q23 - What type of training can GPO provide to enhance your familiarity with Government information and FDLP tools and resources?