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Arlington, VA



Depository Library Council & Federal Depository Libraries  
FEDERAL DEPOSITORY  
LIBRARY CONFERENCE



#FDLConference

# 2017 Biennial Survey of Depository Libraries: Results and Actions

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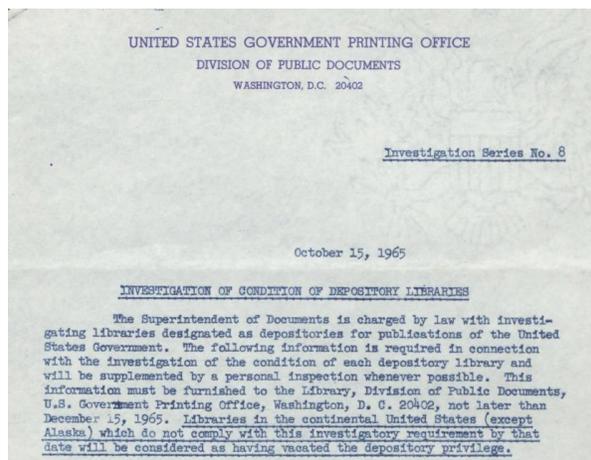
# Session Outline

- Introduction
- History of Biennial Surveys
- 2017 Biennial Survey
  - Methodology
  - Results / What Did We Learn?
- Future Surveys
- Questions?

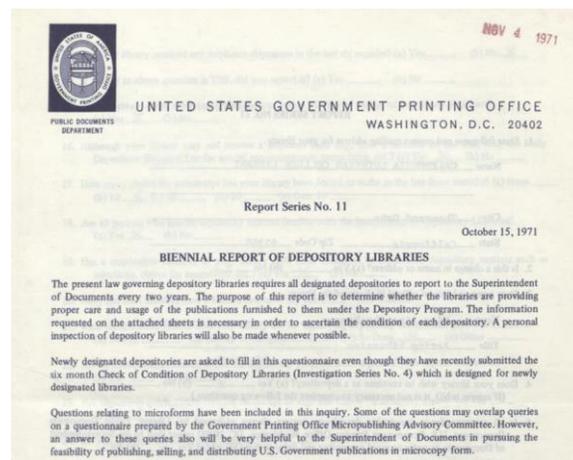


# Biennial Survey History

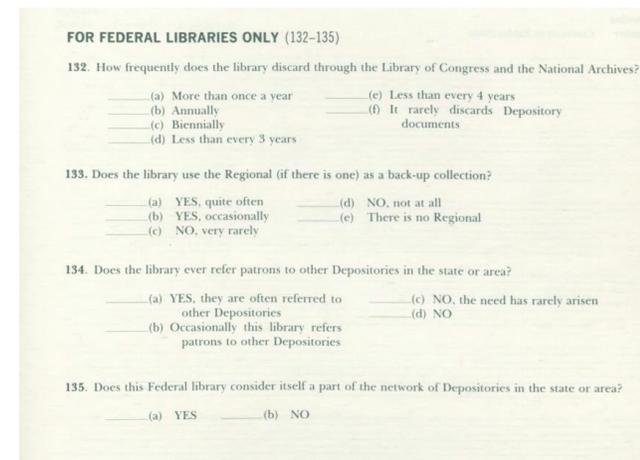
- First Biennial Survey conducted in 1947
- 44 USC §1909
- Different names, formats, and questions over the years



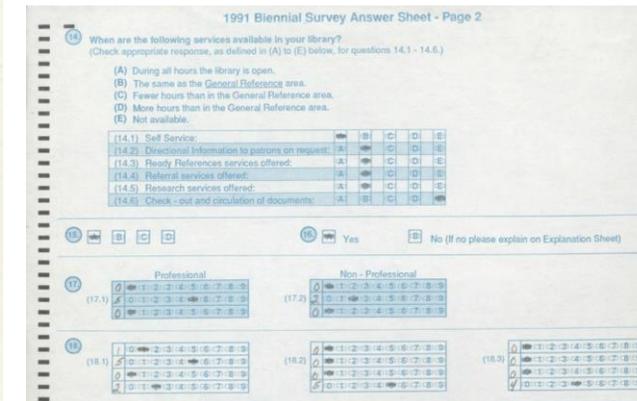
Investigation Series No. 8 - 1965



Report Series No. 11 - 1971



1982 – 135 questions!



1991 – Scantron...



# 2017 Biennial Survey

- Open from October 23, 2017 to November 30, 2017
- 1,095 responses received from 1,143 active depositories (96% return rate)
  - GPO follows up with non-responders
- New in 2017 survey
  - Questions about collection size and cataloging
  - Region reports
  - (Still working on: Biennial Survey map)



# New Questions in 2017 Biennial Survey

- Have you read / any questions about LRPR?
- Questions for depositories with tangible formats
  - Estimated collection sizes: paper, microfiche, tangible electronic (CD/DVDs, etc.)
  - Weeding plans
  - How much of the depository collection is cataloged?



# Region Reports

- Were provided to each regional
- Are now available in the File Repository on FDLP.gov:  
<https://www.fdlp.gov/file-repository/about-the-fdlp/biennial-survey/2017-biennial-survey>
- Helps regional coordinators understand their selectives
  - Who responded to the survey?
  - Where are the large collections? Who is weeding?
  - What issues are their selectives facing?
- Should we do them again?



# Region Report - example

Library responses questions 18 through 23

Note: Responses that were "Select all that apply" have been abbreviated.

FDL #	Paper	Microfiche	DVDs, CD- ROMs, VHS tapes, and floppy diskettes	Question 21. In general, would you say that the tangible depository collection currently reflects:	Question 22. My library plans to weed the tangible collection to: (Select all that apply)	Question 23. How much of your tangible collection would you estimate is fully cataloged? For example, "50%"
0067A	81,000	128,160	111	A collection of resources that needs to be weeded in a large-scale weeding project.	Remove all material when online equivalents are available Remove all superseded material Remove most of the tangible depository material (in accordance with state or region processes)	50%
0068	12651 linear feet	1489 linear feet	142 linear feet	A collection of resources that needs to be weeded in a small to medium sized, targeted weeding project.	Remove some tangible depository material (in accordance with state or region processes)	Not more than 50%.
0068A	500 +	None	60	A collection of resources that needs to be weeded in a large-scale weeding project.	Remove some tangible depository material (in accordance with state or region processes)	97%
0068B	1806 linear feet plus 10,874 maps in drawers	77drawers (standard fiche cabinets)	692 titles 2888 items	The general resources my library needs to meet the information needs of future and current researchers. No major weeding projects are planned.	Not Applicable – We are not planning on weeding the tangible depository collection.	20% overall; 100% 2007-present acquisitions (except microfiche)
0069	2.5 million paper publications	5.1 million microfiche	3500	A comprehensive research collection. No major weeding projects are planned.	Not Applicable – We are not planning on weeding the tangible depository collection.	65%
0069B	500 items	5500 microfiche	2400 CDs	A collection of resources that needs to be weeded in a large-scale weeding project.	Remove all superseded material Remove most of the tangible depository material (in accordance with state or region processes)	95% or more
0070	End of fiscal year 2016-17: 115,134 print items with an additional 25,245 maps	14,152 titles 53,964 pieces	254 CDs 228 DVDs 0 floppy discs 0 VHS 0 microcards	The general resources my library needs to meet the information needs of future and current researchers. No major weeding projects are planned.	Remove some material when online equivalents are available Remove some superseded material	86%



# Methodology

- Of the survey's 23 questions:
  - Quantitative – 11
  - Quantitative with a qualitative (open-ended) component – 8
  - Qualitative – 4
- Data matching and clean-up
  - Excel data into SAS, match-merged with library demographic identifiers
  - Grouping data from “select all that apply” questions
- Question analysis in Excel
  - Pivot tables
  - Coding of open-ended responses



# Why did you do it that way?

- Some results given by library type
- Multiple charts/chart types used
- Coding
- Collection size categories are different for the different format types
- Results provided by state
- Comparisons provided to past surveys



# Some of the interesting results...

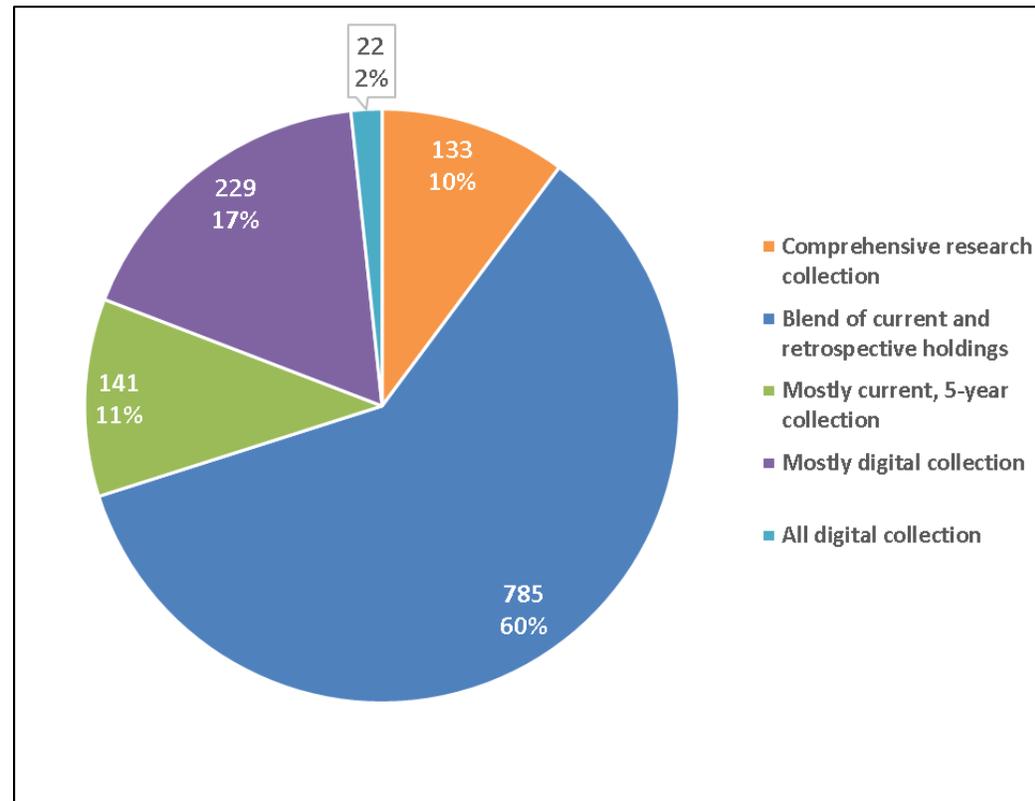
- Plan to remain in the FDLP? 91% “yes”
- As compared to past years:

	<b>2017</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2011</b>
<b>Total “No” Responses</b>	17	15	17	17

- Many libraries who responded “no” in the past are still in the FDLP



# Describe your depository collection characteristics

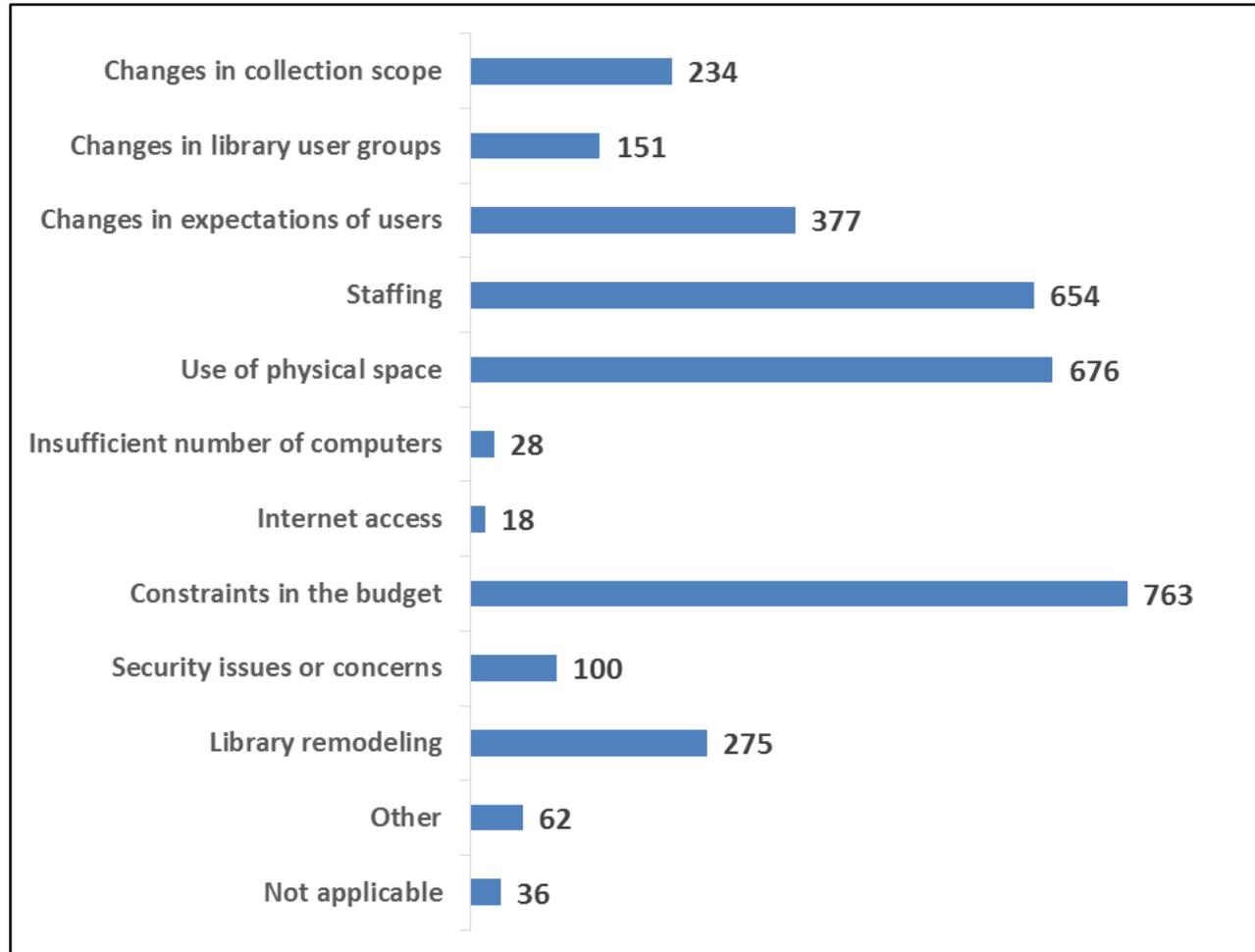


- Digital has not won yet...22 libraries identify as all digital



# What are the biggest issues facing your library?

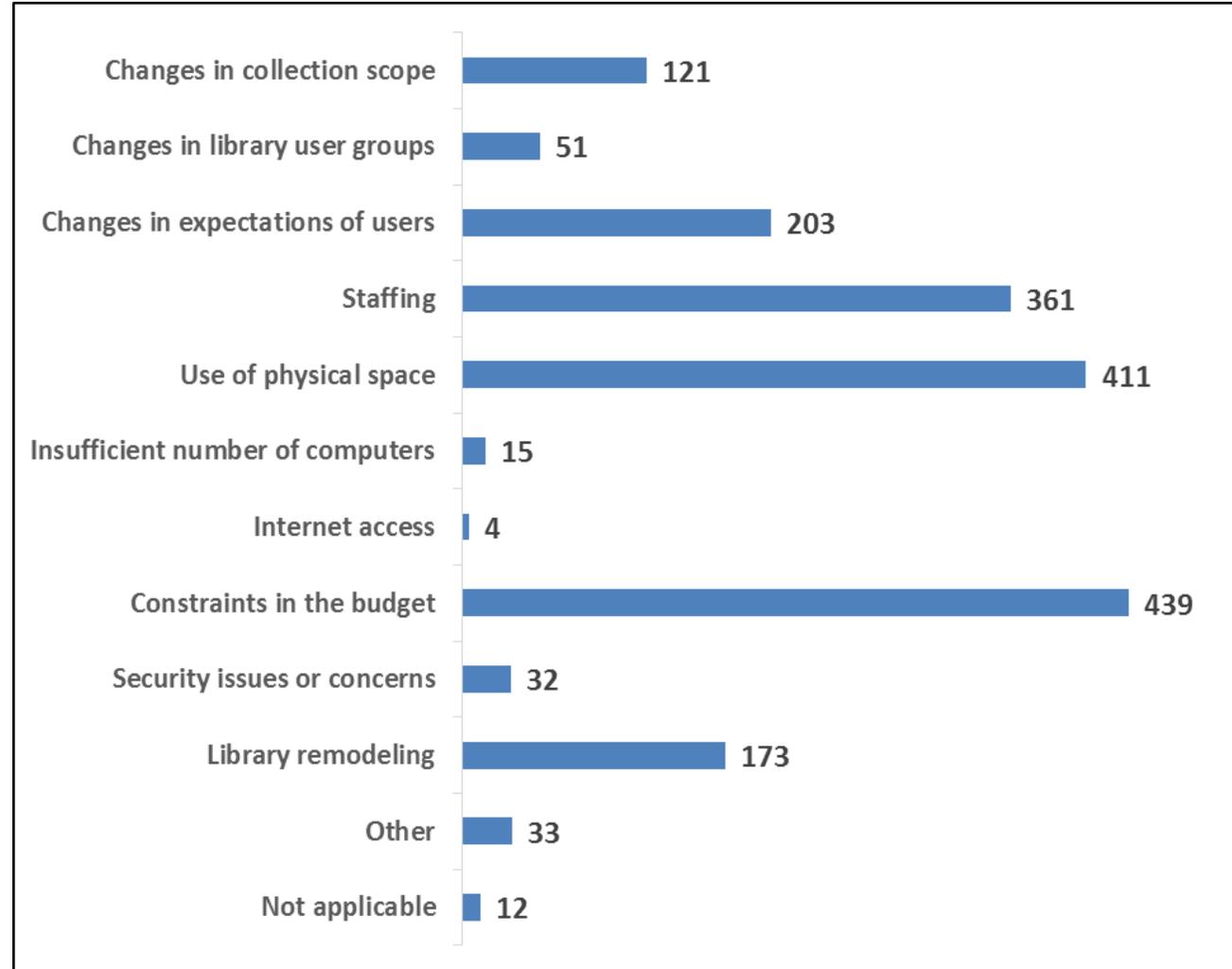
## Overall responses





# What are the biggest issues facing your library?

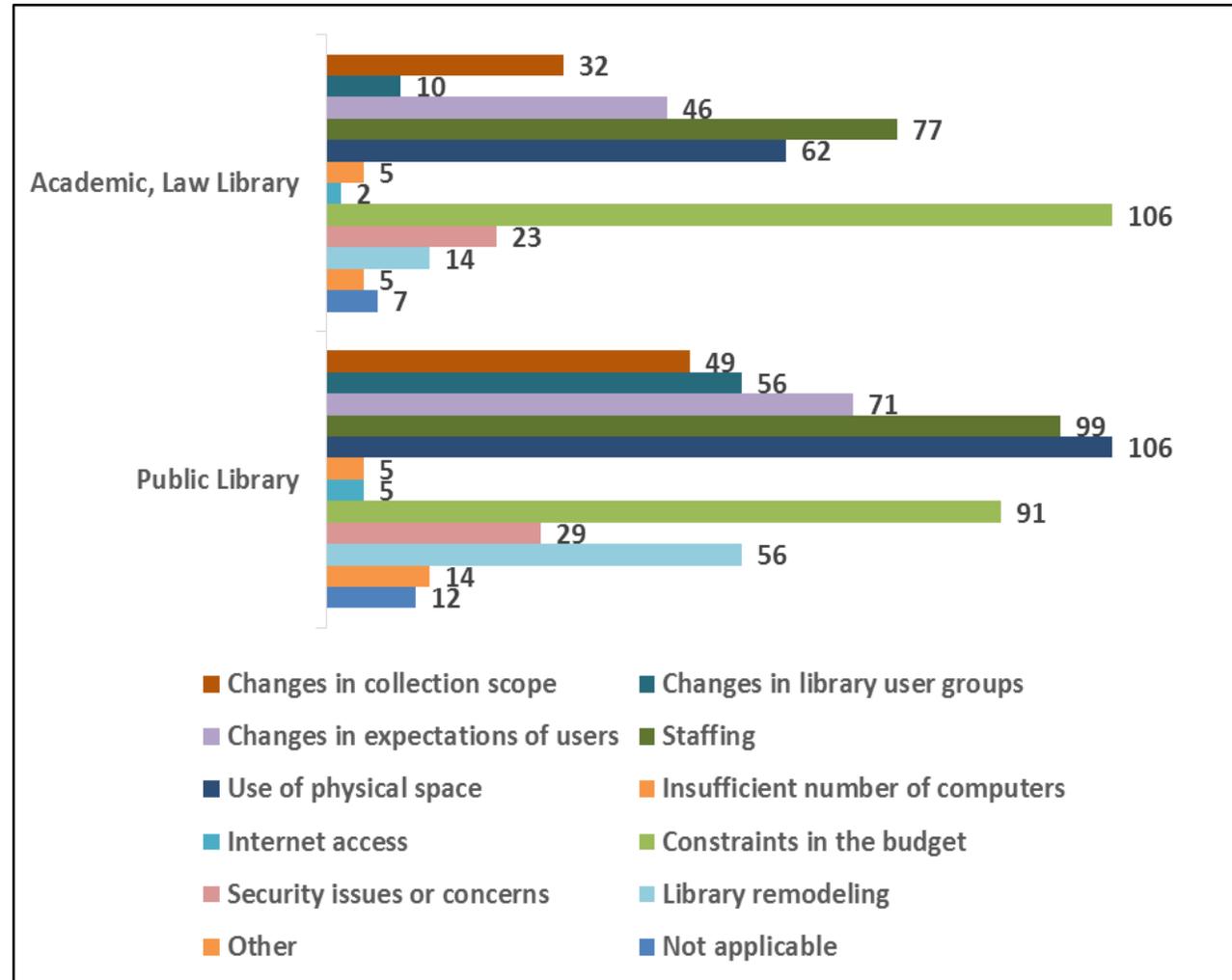
## Academic, General libraries





# What are the biggest issues facing your library?

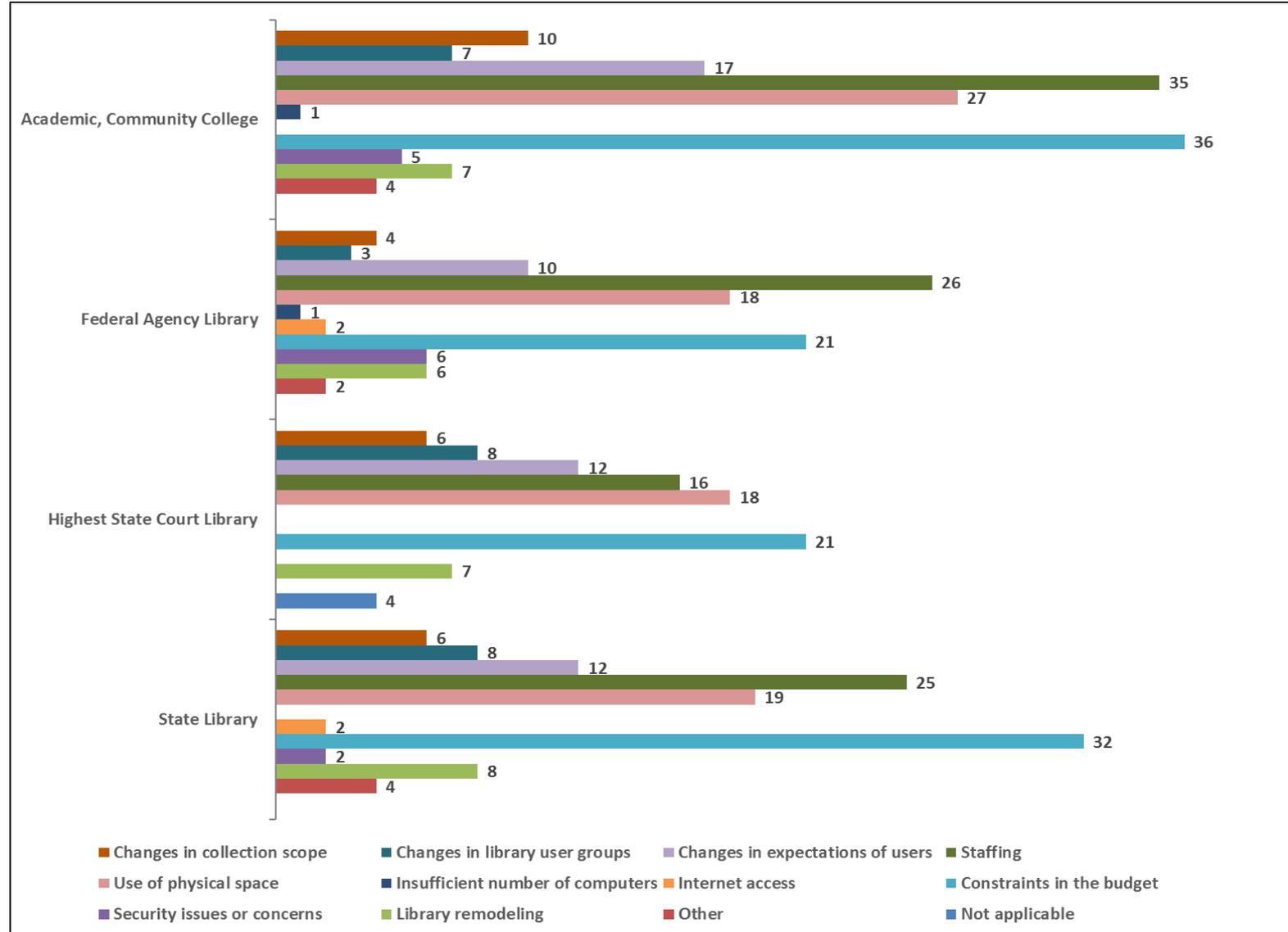
## Other library types (1 of 3)





## What are the biggest issues facing your library?

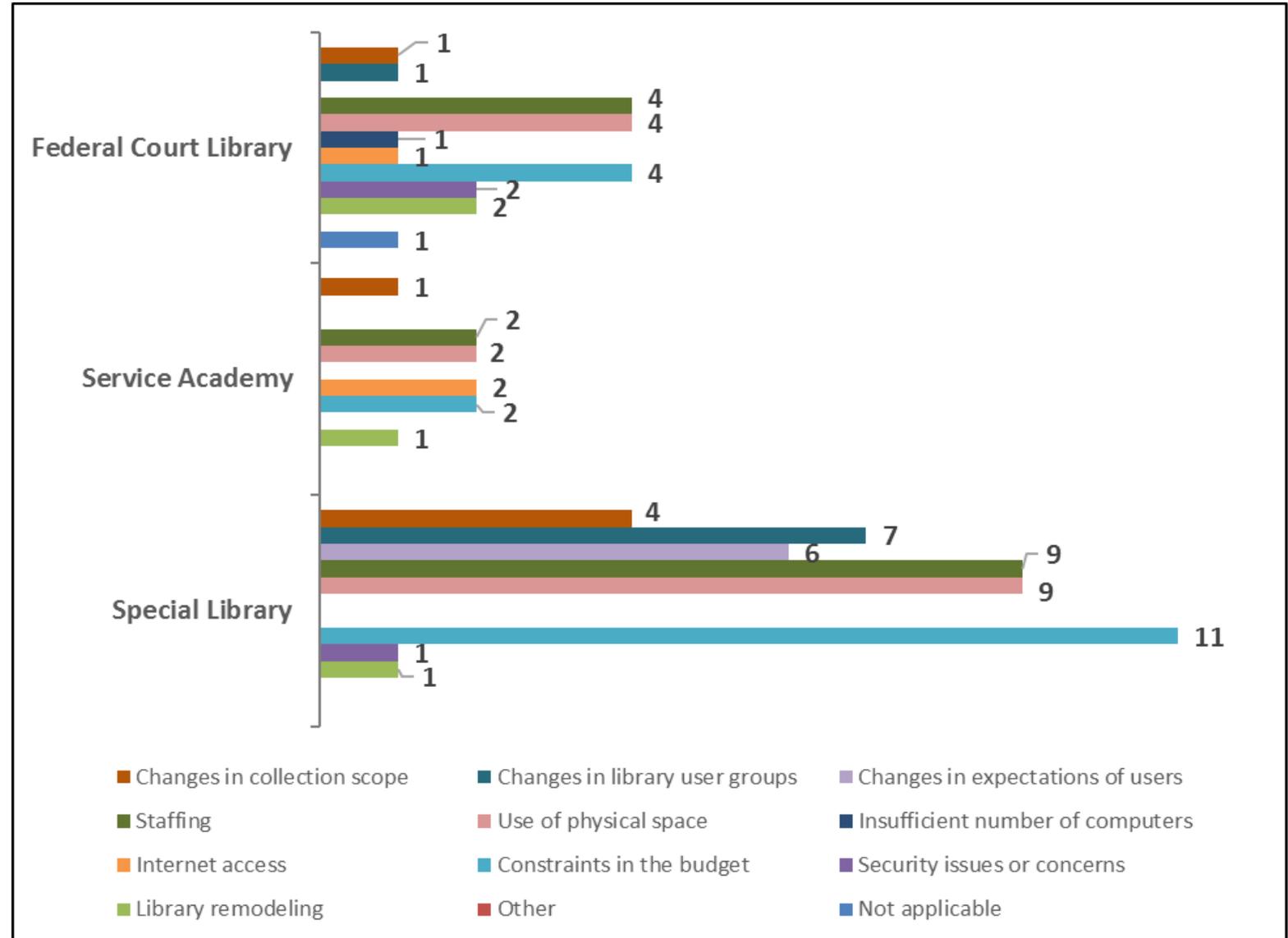
### Other library types (2 of 3)





## What are the biggest issues facing your library?

### Other library types (3 of 3)

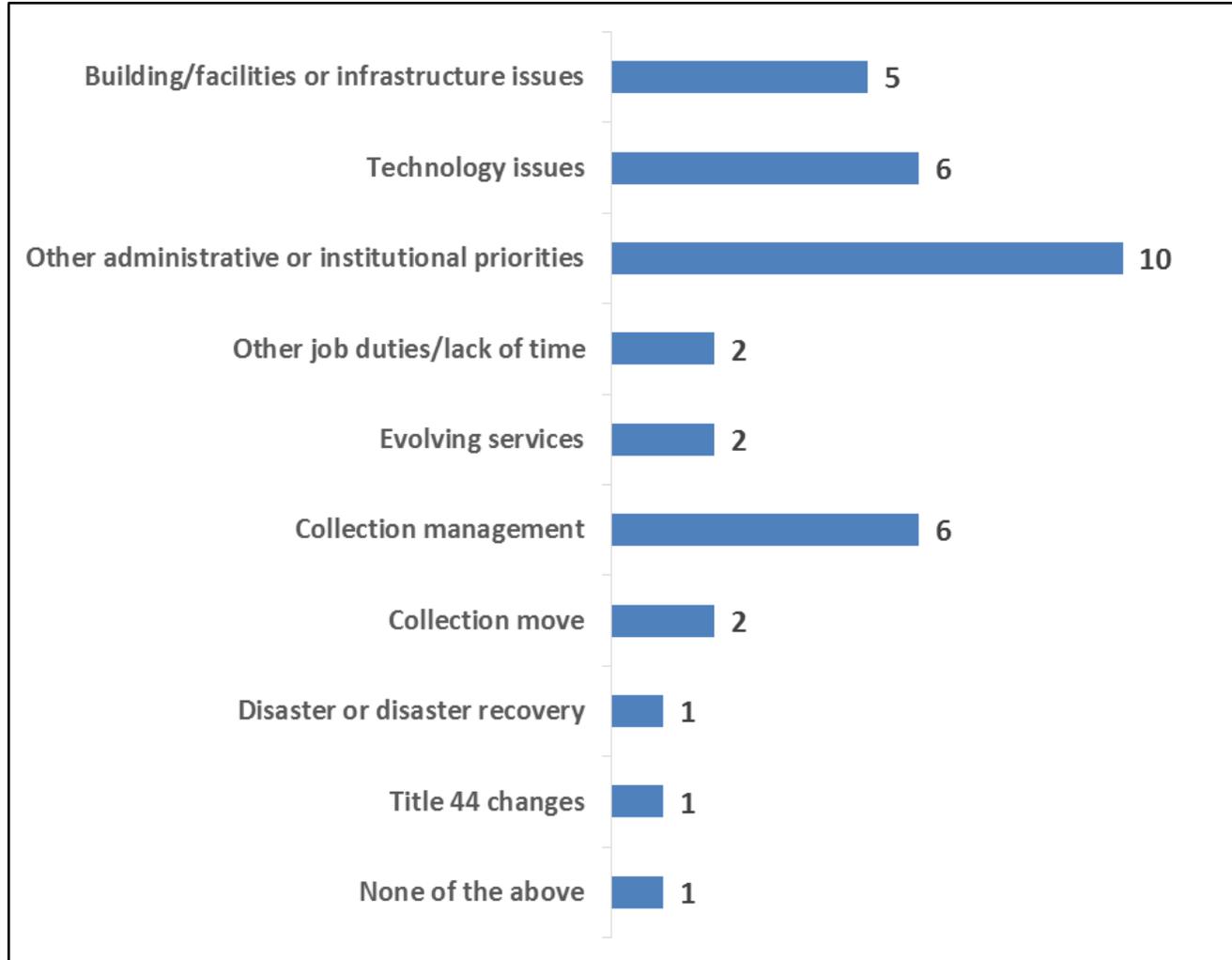




# What are the biggest issues facing your library?

**Academic, general  
libraries**

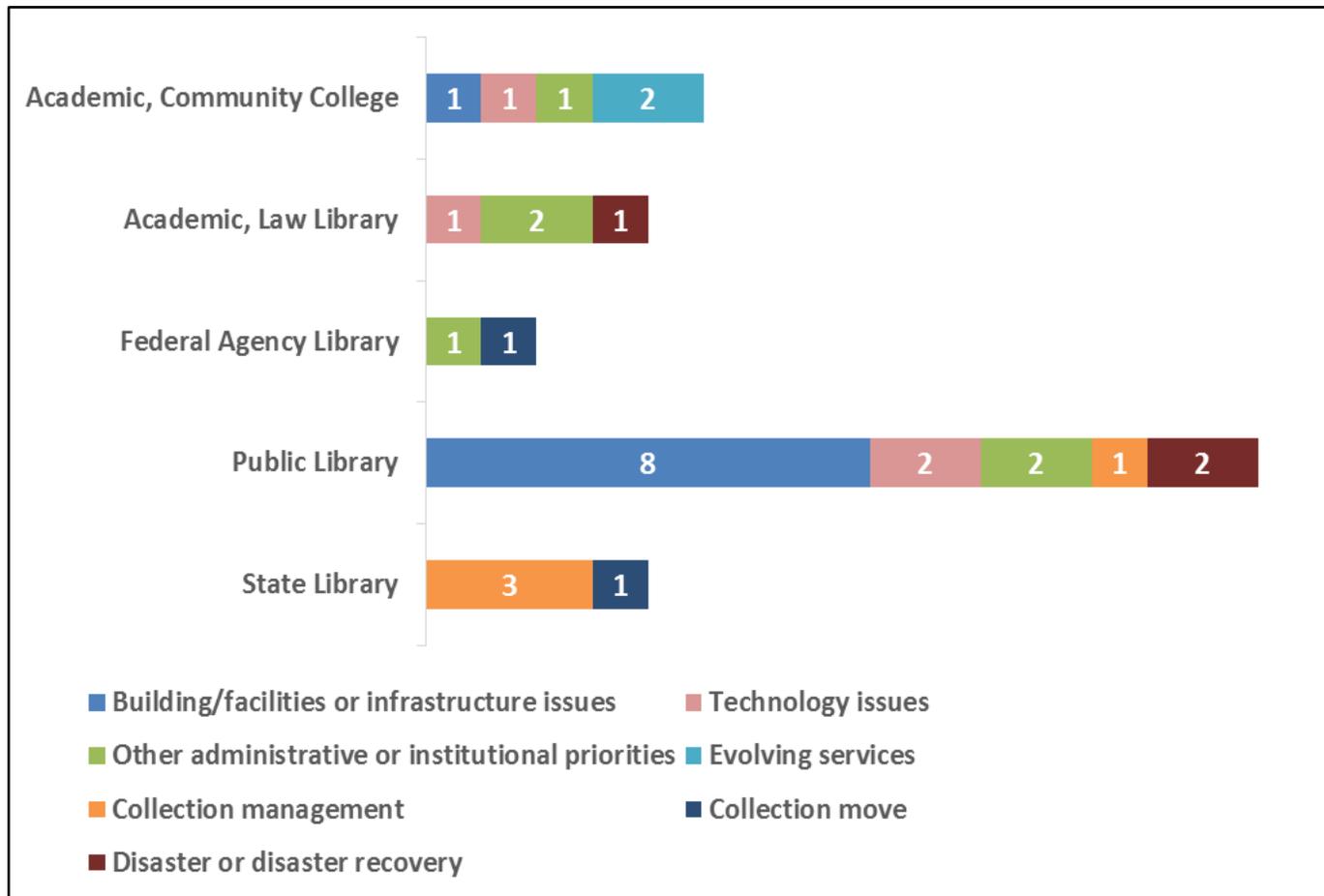
**Other – further responses**





# What are the biggest issues facing your library?

## All other library types – further responses



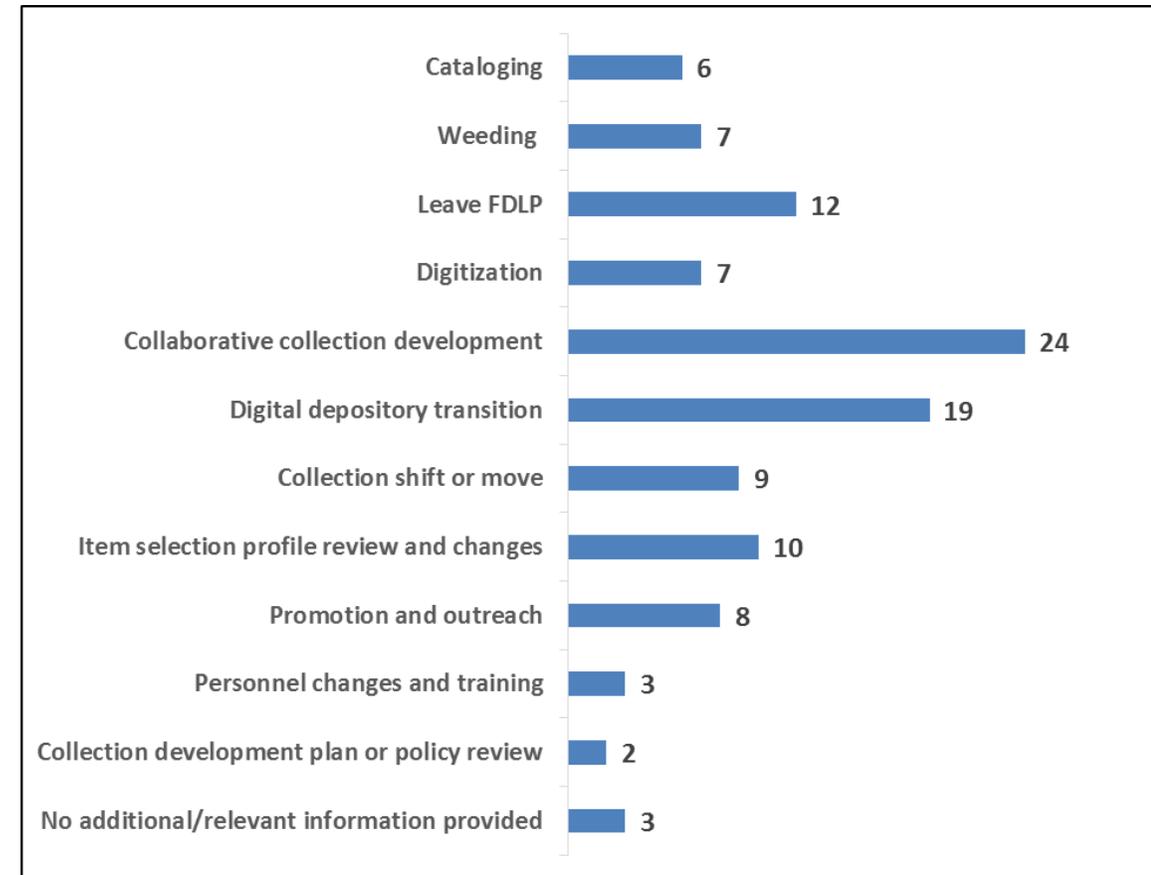
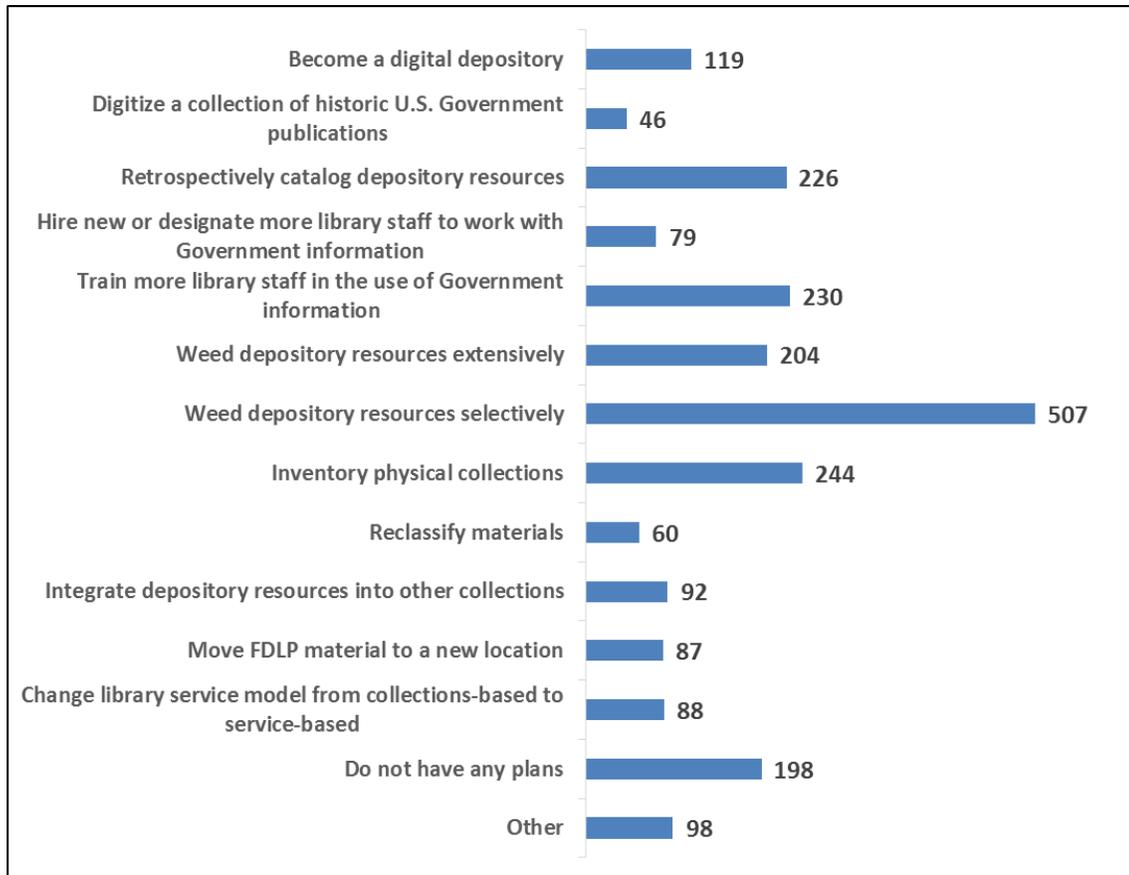
## Comparison over time

	2017	2013	2011
<b>Top Three Issues Libraries Are Facing</b>	Number of Observations	Number of Observations	Number of Observations
Constraints in the budget	763	877	933
Use of physical space	676	645	616
Staffing	654	647	612



# What are your near-term plans?

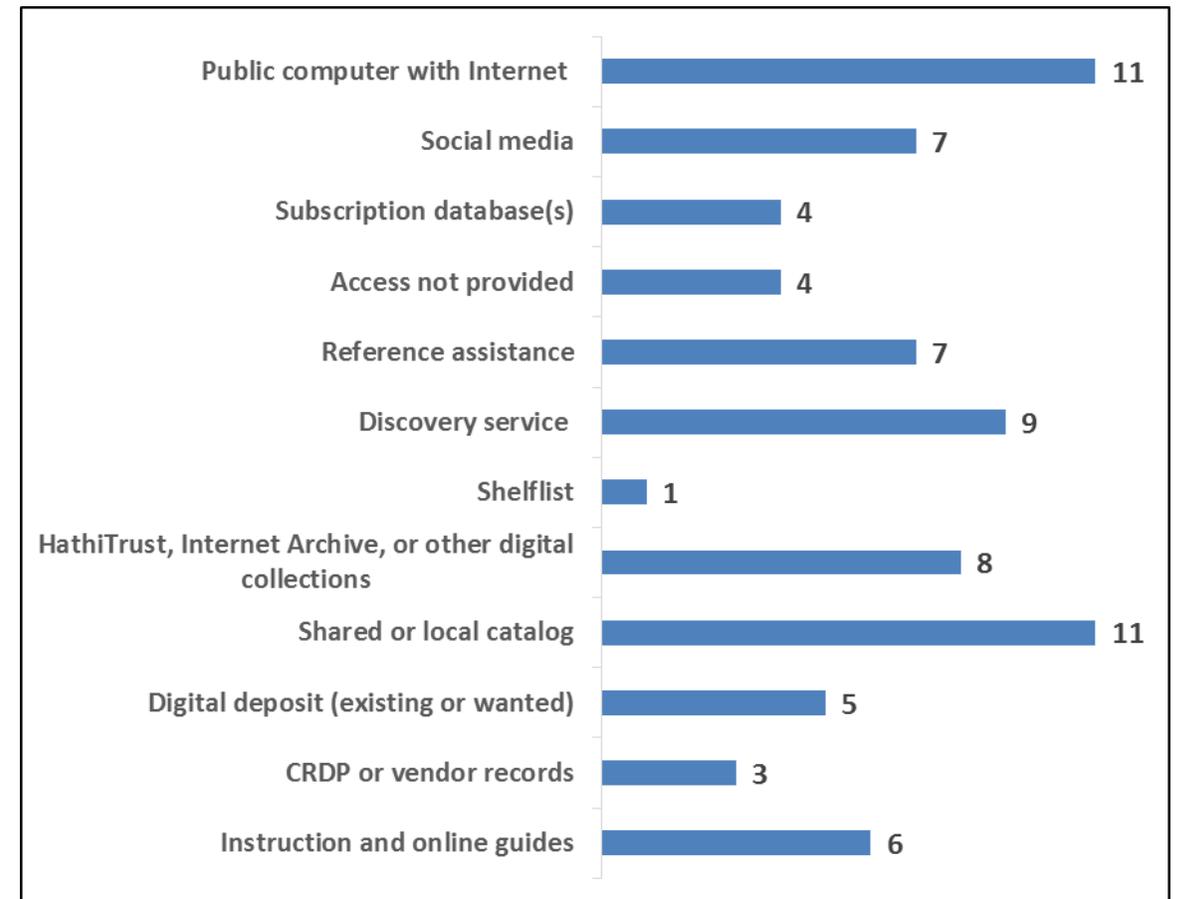
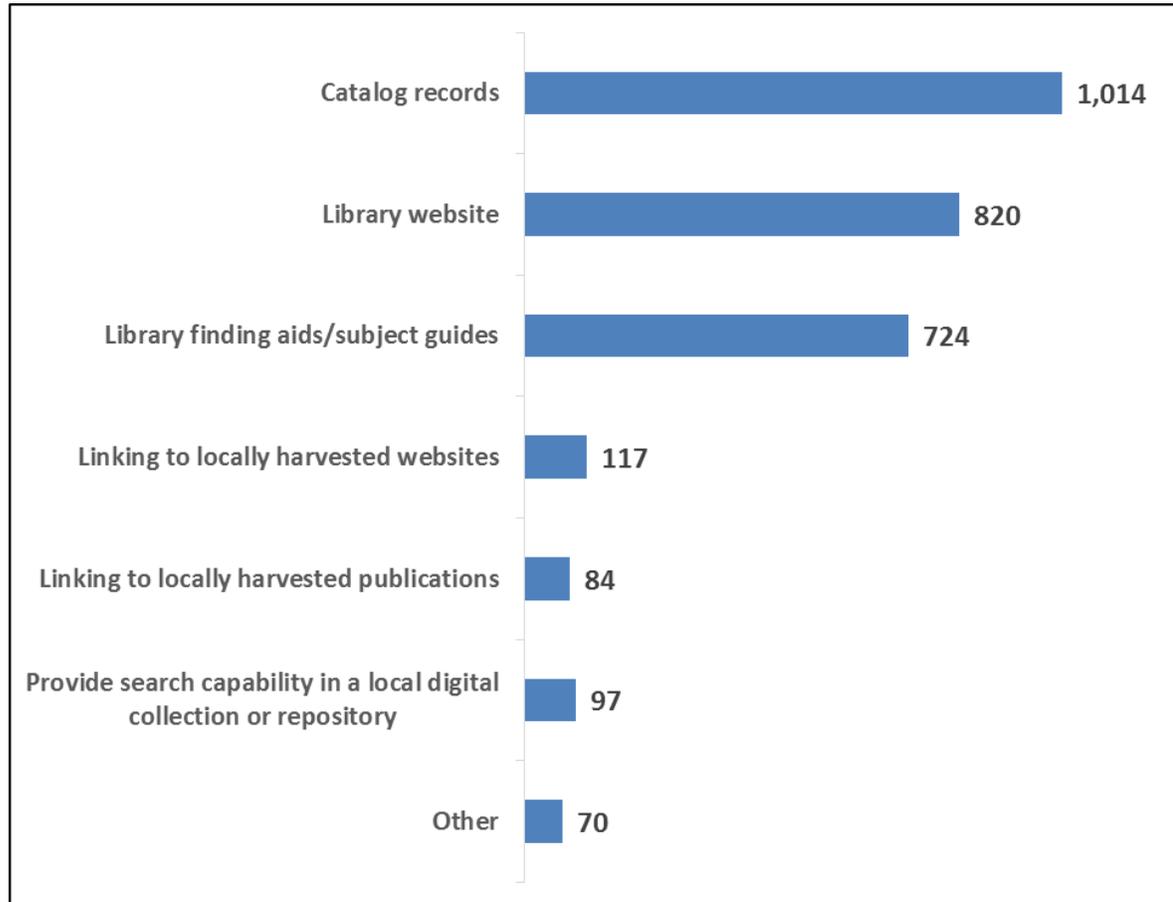
## Other – further responses





# How do you provide access to online resources?

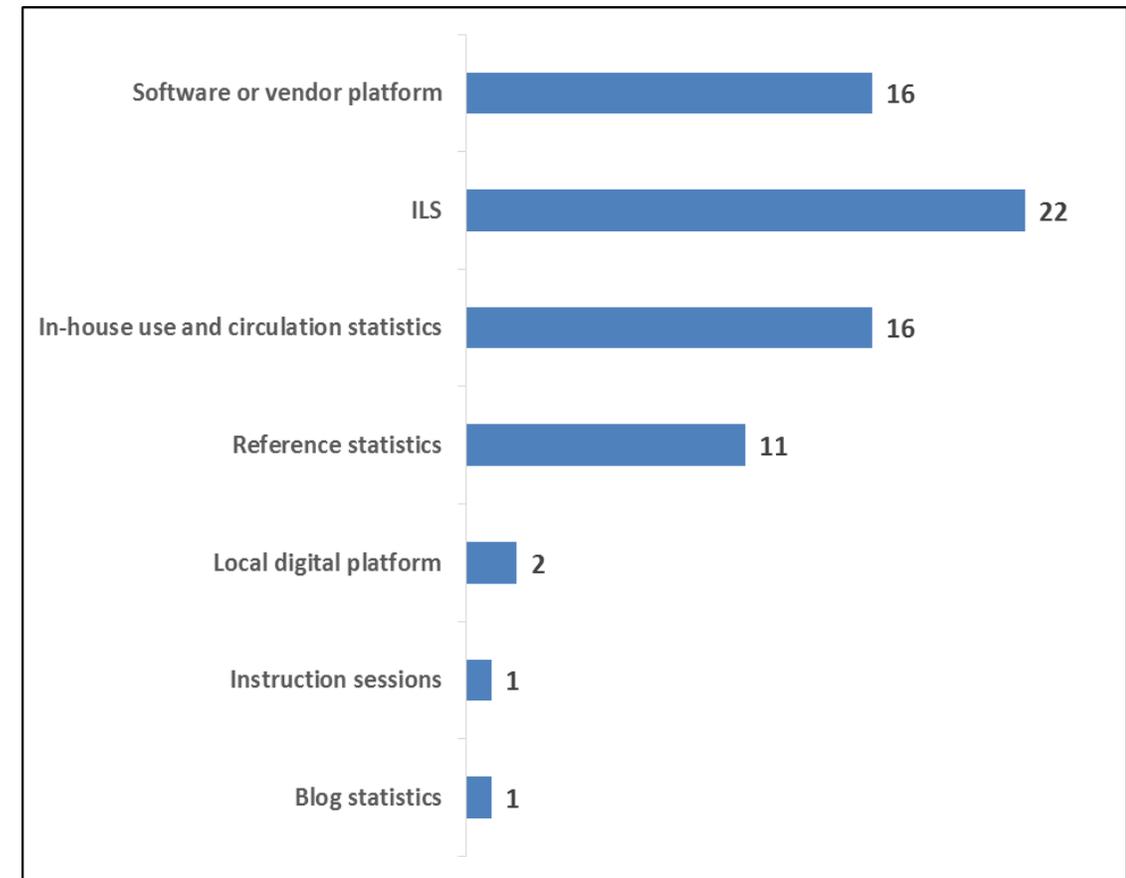
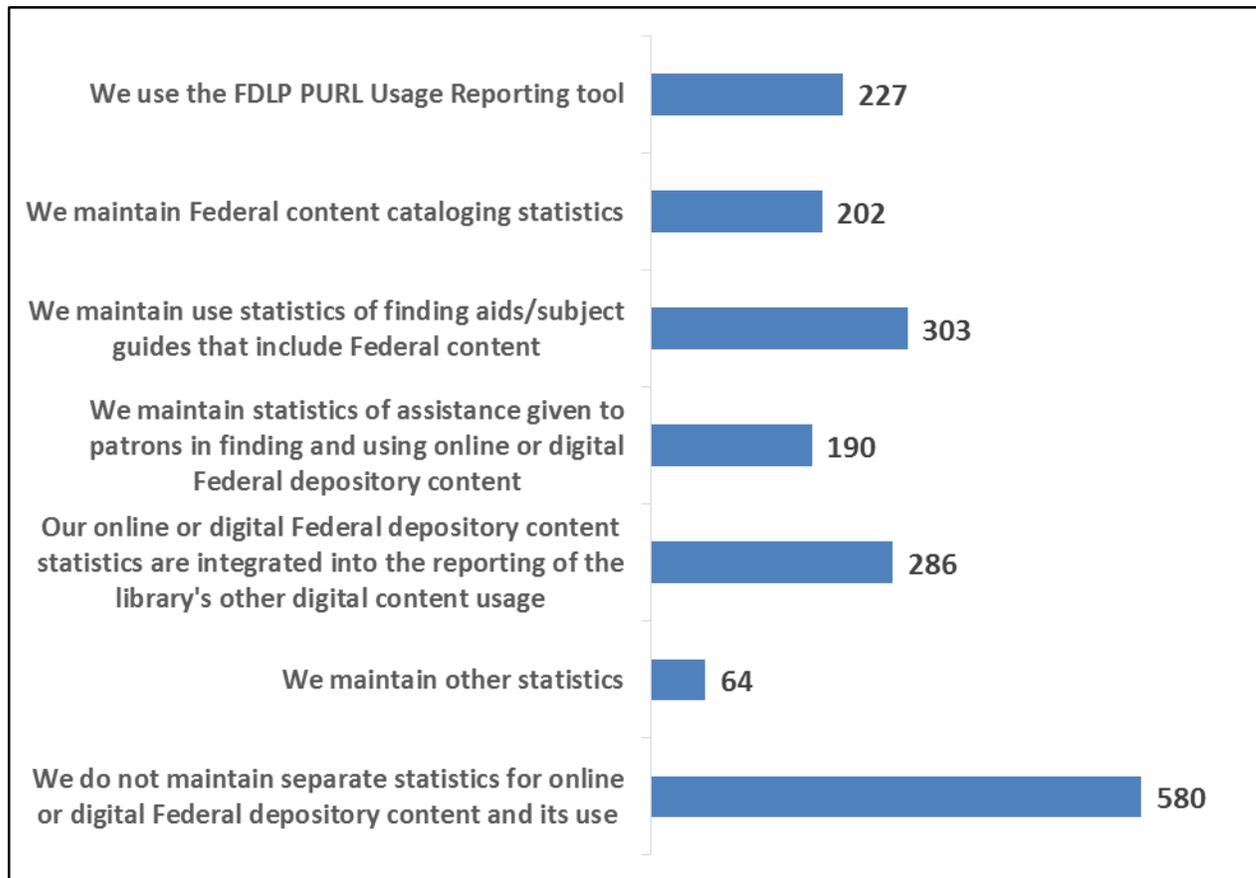
## Other – further responses





# How do you track usage of online resources?

## Other – further responses





# Print collection sizes

None

Extra small – Up to 10,000

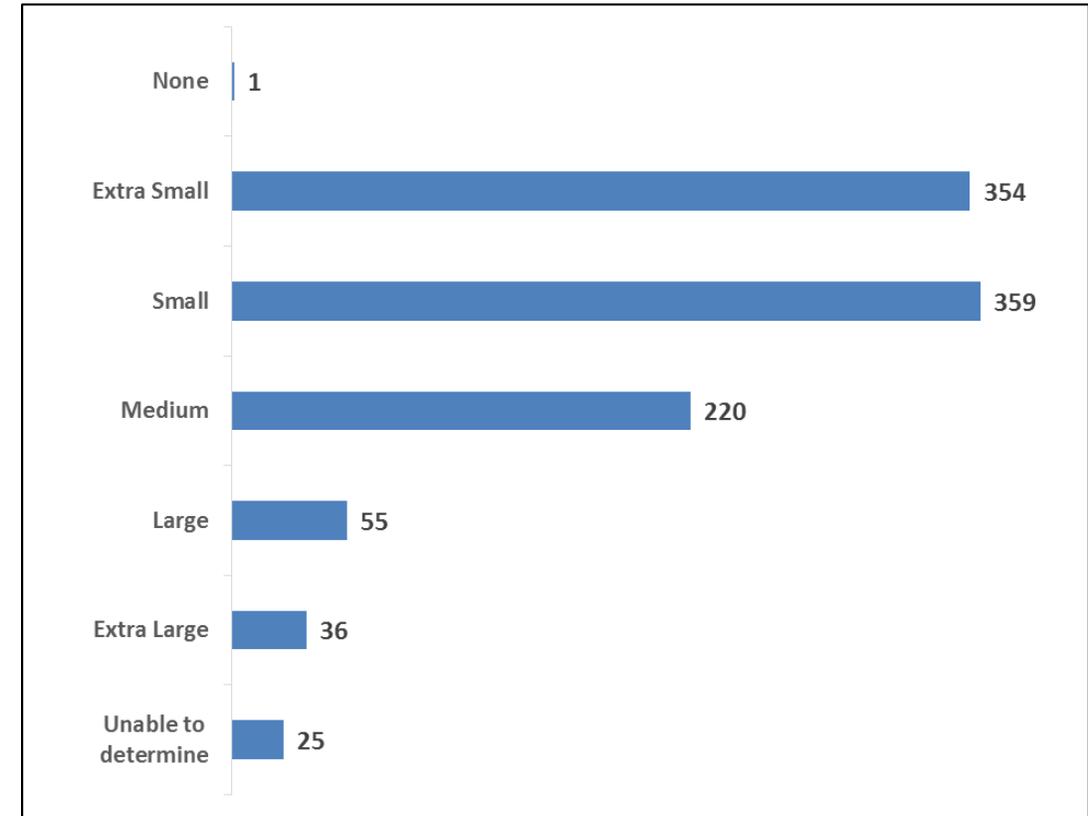
Small – 10,001 to 100,000

Medium – 100,001 to 500,000

Large – 500,001 to 1,000,000

Extra large – Over 1,000,000

Unable to determine





# Microfiche collection sizes

None

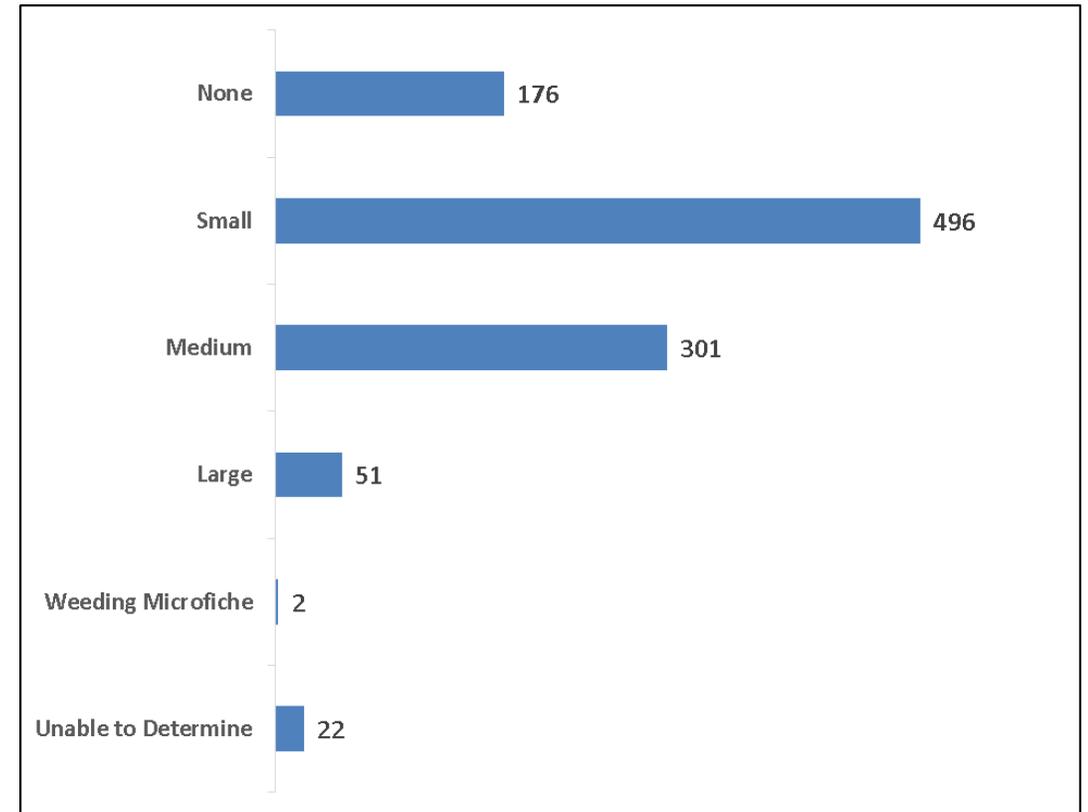
Small – 1 to 100,000 sheets

Medium – 100,001 to 1,000,000 sheets

Large – Over 1,000,000 sheets

Weeding microfiche

Unable to determine





# Tangible electronic collection sizes

None

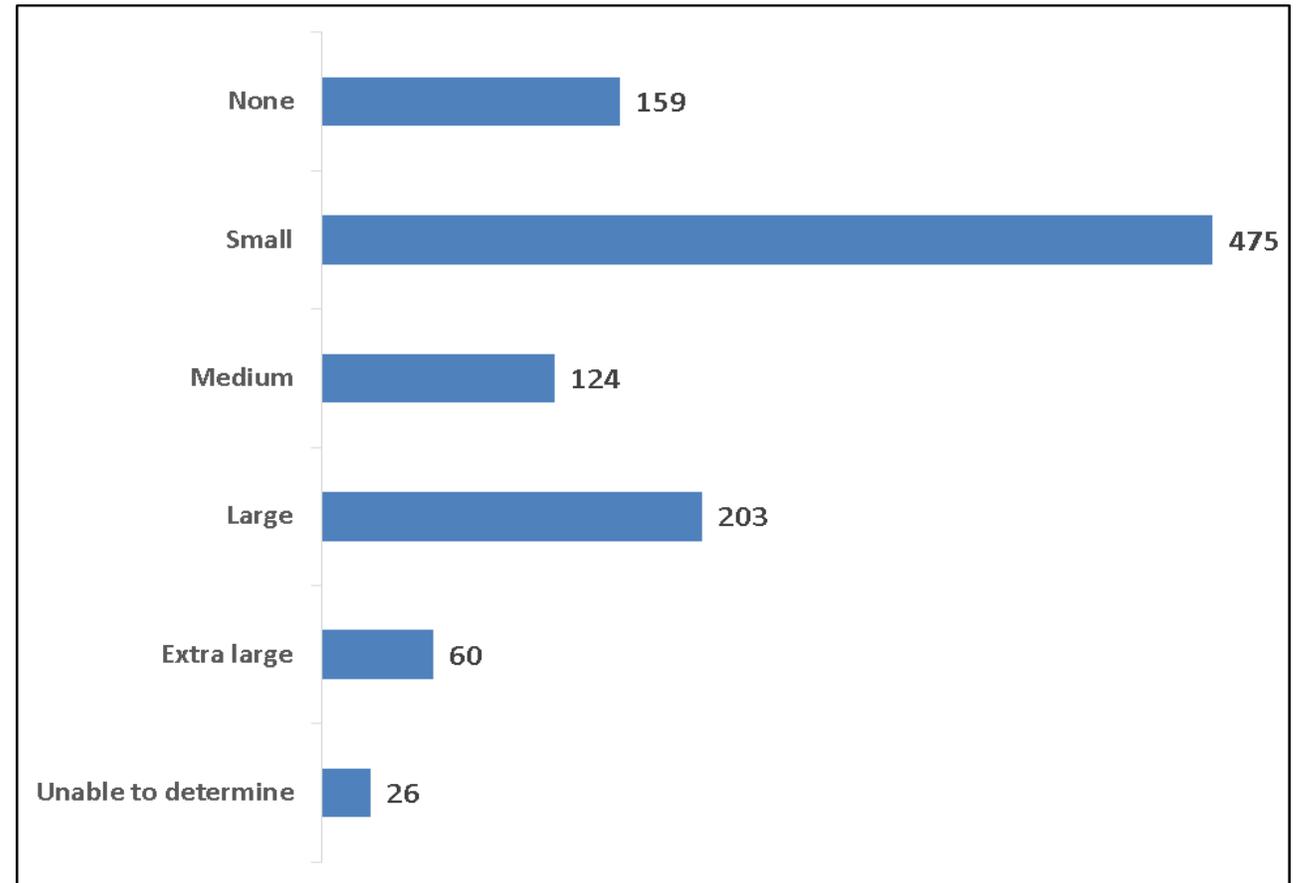
Small – 1 to 500

Medium – 501 to 1,000

Large – 1,001 to 5,000

Extra Large – Over 5,000

Unable to determine





# How much of your collection is cataloged?

0% to 25%

26% to 50%

51% to 75%

76% to 100%

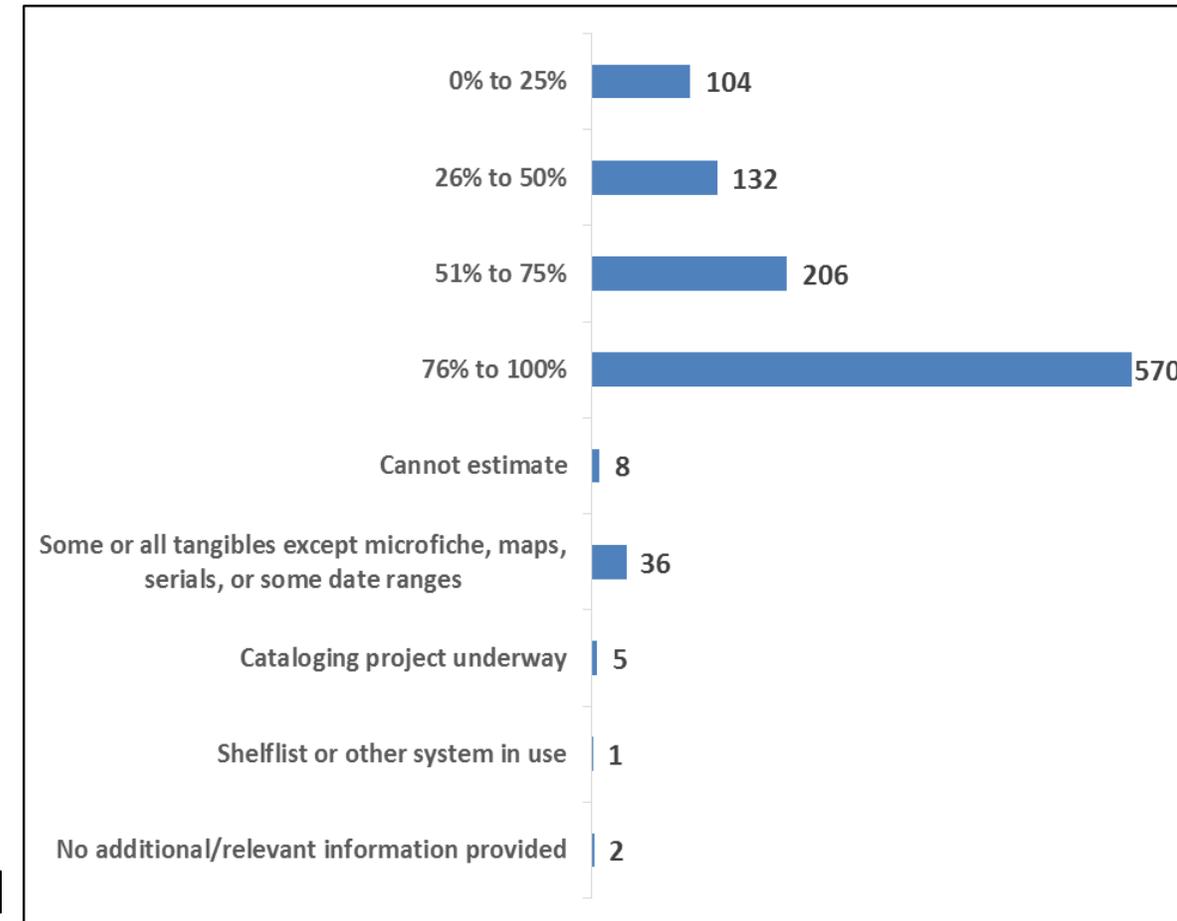
Cannot estimate

Some or all tangibles cataloged except  
microfiche, maps, serials, or  
some date ranges

Cataloging project underway

Shelflist or other system in use

No additional/relevant information provided





# How much of your collection is cataloged?

State	0% to 25%	26% to 50%	51% to 75%	76% to 100%	Cannot estimate	Some or all tangibles except microfiche, maps, serials, or some date ranges	Cataloging project underway	Shelflist or other system in use	No additional/relevant information provided	Total
Alabama	3	4	7	5		1				20
Alaska				6						6
Arizona	1	1	3	6						11
Arkansas	1	3	1	8		1				14
California	7	7	12	40			1			67
Colorado	2	2	7	7		1				19
Connecticut	1	1	4	10	1					17
Delaware		1	1	1						3
District of Columbia	3	1	5	17						26
Florida	2	3	6	17		2				30
Georgia	1	3	2	16		1				23
Guam		2								2
Hawaii	3	1		2				1	1	8

Look at the report to see the rest of the states!



# Some Identified Actions for GPO

- **See the report for a full list**
- Plan targeted outreach
  - GPO on the Go visits to Federal libraries and libraries who identified public access limits
  - New webinars on topics highlighted by the survey responses
- Continue partnerships and identify new ones, especially for cataloging and digitization
  - More digitized content in **govinfo**
  - Fill gaps in the CGP
  - More Preservation Stewards/FIPNet participants



# Future surveys

- Next Biennial Survey is 2019
- Hope to continue longitudinal analysis where we can
- Change the survey design for better clarity as needed
- Suggestions for improving existing questions?
- Suggestions for new questions to add?

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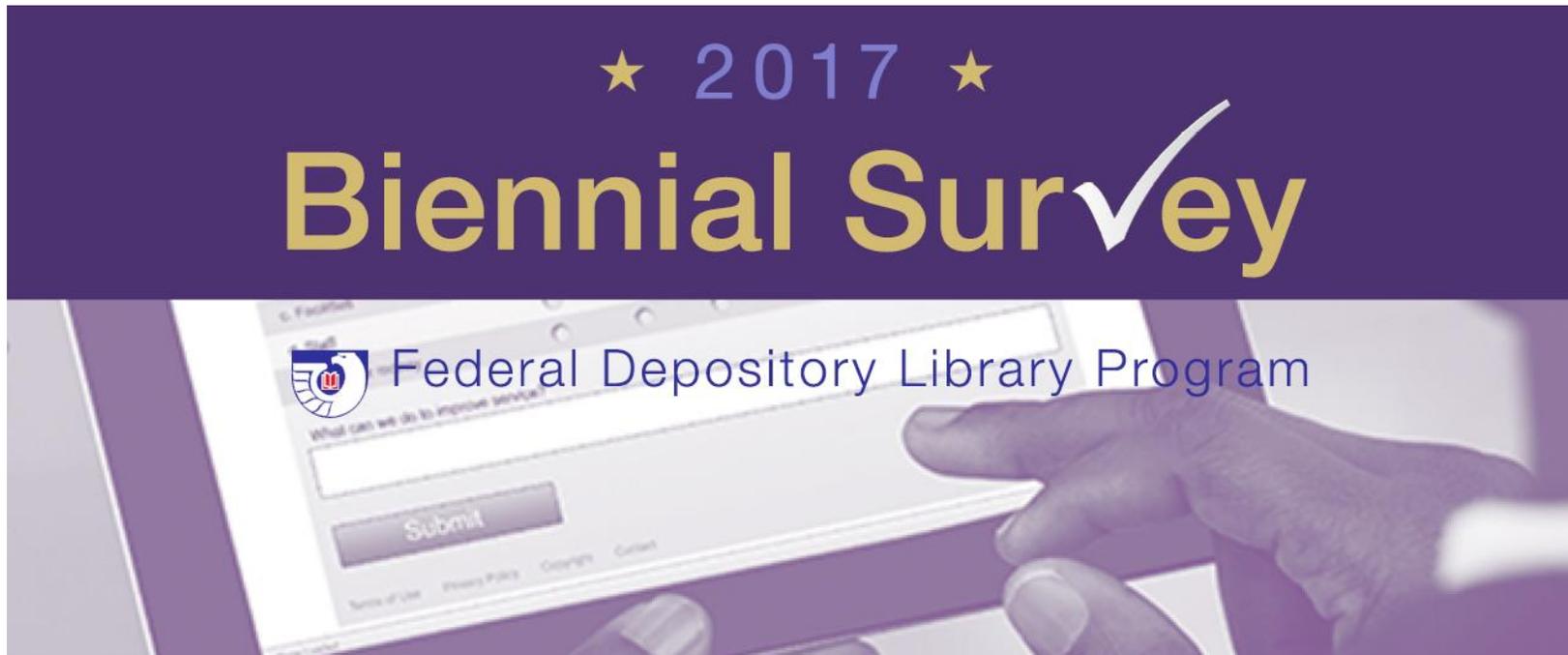


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# Questions?



Contact us: [fdlpoutreach@gpo.gov](mailto:fdlpoutreach@gpo.gov)  
202-512-1119