

Update on Annual Statistics

47th Survey

We opened up the 47th *Annual Statistics of Medical School Libraries in the United States and Canada* in August 2024. There were no major changes to the Annual and Salary survey instruments this year, but the committee did make many small changes to instructions based on feedback from survey participants. We are also running the Resource and Services survey, a survey we run every 3-4 three years.

The survey deadline is November 8, 2024, but we anticipate we will need to extend that. A major goal is to have the survey results available to the membership earlier than in previous years.

Statistics Editor

All of our work on these surveys is greatly enhanced by the work of our award-winning editor, Steve Squires. We are grateful for his efforts, and for the budget support from AAHSL that makes it happen. We will continue to need a paid statistics editor, and Steve Squires has indicated his willingness to continue on for another cycle. We request that this position is funded.

46th Survey:

This spring, we released the data for the 46th *Annual Statistics of Medical School Libraries in the United States and Canada*. There were two surveys: The Annual/Descriptive Survey and the Salary Survey.

A goal for this year was to get the data out to the membership much earlier than in recent years. Our editor has worked hard on this, and libraries have been responsive in getting answers to him..

Of the surveys:

- Annual Survey: 131 libraries have submitted data for the 46th survey.
 - Last year, the final total was 130, so another slight increase.
 - We received data from 88% of AAHSL Board of Director libraries, up from 71% last year. Thank you.
- Salary Survey: 121 libraries have submitted.
 - Last year the final total was 124, so a slight dip, but still a typical total.
- Some questions the committee has been considering:
 - Note overall the number of negative percentage changes (e.g., in personnel counts, some services, some expenditures).

- Are these percentage changes what we would expect? If not, why not?
- How much is due to the COVID effect?
- Do the changes suggest inconsistencies in reporting?
- Does the overall picture suggest we are not asking the right questions to capture changes in our services and resources?
- How much does the change in the mix of libraries answering each year affect the percentages?

Thank you.



Matt Wilcox
Chair, AAHSL Assessment and Statistics Committee