

Table 422.—General statistics of college and university libraries: 1976–77 to 1997–98

| Item | 1976–77 ¹ | 1978–79 ¹ | 1981–82 | 1984–85 | 1987–88 | 1991–92 | 1994–95 | 1996–97 | 1997–98 |
|---|----------------------|----------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|---------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| Number of libraries | 3,058 | 3,122 | 3,104 | 3,322 | 3,438 | 3,274 | 3,303 | 3,408 | 3,658 |
| General collection transactions, in thousands | — | — | — | — | — | — | 183,123 | 186,545 | 175,409 |
| Reserve collection transactions, in thousands | — | — | — | — | — | — | 48,380 | 44,189 | 40,658 |
| Total enrollment, in thousands ² | 11,121 | 11,392 | 12,372 | 12,242 | 12,767 | 14,359 | 14,279 | 14,300 | 14,502 |
| Full-time-equivalent enrollment, in thousands ² | 8,313 | 8,348 | 9,015 | 8,952 | 9,230 | 10,361 | 10,348 | 10,402 | 10,217 |
| Collections, thousands of units | | | | | | | | | |
| Number of volumes at end of year | 481,442 | 519,895 | 567,826 | 631,727 | 718,504 | 749,429 | 776,447 | 806,717 | 878,906 |
| Number of volumes added during year | 22,367 | 21,608 | 19,507 | 20,658 | 21,907 | 20,982 | 21,544 | 21,346 | 24,551 |
| Number of serial subscriptions at end of year | 4,670 | 4,775 | 4,890 | 6,317 | 6,416 | 6,966 | 6,212 | 5,709 | ³ 10,908 |
| Microform units at end of year | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1,062,082 |
| Electronic units at end of year ⁴ | — | — | — | — | — | — | 465 | 983 | 3,473 |
| Library staff, in full-time equivalents (FTE) | | | | | | | | | |
| Total staff in regular positions ⁵ | 57,087 | 58,416 | 58,476 | 58,476 | 67,251 | 67,166 | 67,433 | 67,581 | 68,337 |
| FTE student enrollment per FTE staff | 145.6 | 142.9 | 154.2 | 153.1 | 137.2 | 154.3 | 153.5 | 153.9 | 149.5 |
| Librarians and professional staff | 23,308 | 23,676 | 23,816 | 21,822 | 25,115 | 26,341 | 26,726 | 27,268 | 30,041 |
| Other paid staff | 33,779 | 34,740 | 34,660 | 38,026 | 40,733 | 40,421 | 40,381 | 40,022 | 38,026 |
| Contributed services | — | — | — | — | 1,403 | 404 | 326 | 291 | 270 |
| Student assistants | — | — | — | — | 33,821 | 29,075 | 28,411 | 27,998 | 28,373 |
| Hours of student and other assistance, in thousands | 39,950 | 39,552 | 40,068 | 28,360 | — | — | — | — | — |
| Library operating expenditures (excluding capital outlay) | | | | | | | | | |
| Operating expenditures, total, in thousands | \$1,259,637 | \$1,502,158 | \$1,943,769 | \$2,404,524 | \$2,770,075 | \$3,648,654 | \$4,013,333 | \$4,301,815 | \$4,592,657 |
| Salaries ⁶ | 698,090 | 824,438 | 1,081,894 | 1,156,138 | 1,451,551 | 1,889,368 | 2,021,233 | 2,147,842 | 2,314,380 |
| Hourly wages | 68,683 | 79,535 | 100,847 | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Fringe benefits | — | — | — | 231,209 | — | — | — | — | — |
| Preservation | 22,521 | 25,274 | 30,351 | 32,939 | 34,144 | 43,126 | 46,554 | 45,610 | 42,919 |
| Furniture/equipment | — | — | — | — | — | — | 55,915 | 56,128 | 57,013 |
| Computer hardware/software | — | — | — | — | — | — | 128,128 | 157,949 | 164,379 |
| Utilities/networks/consortia | — | — | — | — | — | — | 81,106 | 85,113 | 89,618 |
| Information resources | 373,699 | 450,180 | 561,199 | 750,282 | 891,281 | 1,197,293 | 1,348,933 | 1,499,249 | 1,600,995 |
| Books and serial backfiles-paper | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 514,048 |
| Books and serial backfiles-electronic | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 28,061 |
| Current serials- paper | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 849,399 |
| Current serials- electronic | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 125,470 |
| Audiovisual materials | — | — | — | — | — | 23,879 | 28,753 | 28,879 | 30,623 |
| Document delivery/interlibrary loan | — | — | — | — | — | — | 12,238 | 17,645 | 19,309 |
| Other collection expenditures | 373,699 | 450,180 | 561,199 | 750,282 | 891,281 | 1,173,414 | 1,307,942 | 1,452,725 | 34,086 |
| Other library operating expenditures | 96,643 | 122,731 | 169,478 | 233,957 | 393,099 | 518,867 | 331,463 | 309,925 | 323,354 |
| Operating expenditures per FTE student | 152 | 180 | 216 | 269 | 300 | 352 | 388 | 414 | 450 |
| Operating expenditures per FTE student in constant 1997–98 dollars | 418 | 425 | 371 | 411 | 419 | 412 | 417 | 421 | 450 |
| Operating expenditures, total, in percents | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Salaries ⁶ | 55.4 | 54.9 | 55.7 | 48.1 | 52.4 | 51.8 | 50.4 | 49.9 | 50.4 |
| Hourly wages | 5.5 | 5.3 | 5.2 | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Fringe benefits | — | — | — | 9.6 | — | — | — | — | — |
| Preservation | 1.8 | 1.7 | 1.6 | 1.4 | 1.2 | 1.2 | 1.2 | 1.1 | 0.9 |
| Information resources | 29.7 | 30.0 | 28.9 | 31.2 | 32.2 | 32.8 | 33.6 | 34.9 | 34.9 |
| Other library operating expenditures ⁷ | 7.7 | 8.2 | 8.7 | 9.7 | 14.2 | 14.2 | 14.9 | 14.2 | 13.8 |
| Library operating expenditures as percent of total institutional expenditures for educational and general purposes | 3.8 | 3.7 | 3.5 | 3.4 | 3.2 | 3.0 | 2.8 | — | — |

—Not available.

¹ Includes data for U.S. territories.² Fall enrollment for the academic year specified.³ Includes microform and electronic serials.⁴ Electronic files, formerly labeled "Computer files."⁵ Excludes student assistants.⁶ Includes expenditures for fringe benefits (except for 1984–85 and 1987–88), salary equivalents of contributed services staff, and hourly wages for 1996–97 and 1997–98.⁷ Includes furniture/equipment, computer hardware/software, and utilities/networks/consortia as well as expenditures classified above as "other library operating expenditures."

NOTE: Detail may not sum to totals due to rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, *Library Statistics of Colleges and Universities*, various years; and Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System, "Academic Library Survey," various years, and "Fall Enrollment Survey 1997." (This table was prepared July 2001.)