

## Statistics FAQ

September 5, 2012

### Collections

*Q1. How are electronic books to be counted?*

A1. Count those e-books owned by or leased/paid for and for which there is a catalog record in the library catalog.

*Q2. How do we count government documents that are held in federal depositories?*

A2. If there are records in your catalog, you may count them as volumes held and as titles.

*Q3. Can we count those titles in our catalog that are for collections we do not own, but to which we provide access (CRL, international or local partners)?*

A3. No.

### Expenditures

*Q23. How do we count one-time payments for backfiles?*

A23. Backfile payments and one-time electronic purchases should be recorded in (7a).

*Q24. Is there any place to record fringe benefit payments?*

A24. Report fringe benefit payments in question 10 and your institution's designated percent for fringe benefits in question 11.

*Q25. What capital expenditures can be included in operating expenditures (9)?*

A25. Temporarily reallocated funds from other budget lines during a specific fiscal year may be included as operating expenditures. Capital expenditures are usually made to acquire or upgrade physical assets such as property, buildings, or equipment. One-time capital expenditures like a major renovation or a new building should not be included as an operating expenditure.

### ARL Investment Index

*Q26. Will the definition for professional staff used to construct the investment index be made more specific?*

A26. No, as the current definition works well across many ARL institutions in a satisfactory fashion. The expenditures correlate highly with all the variables included in the Investment Index. The Investment Index was determined through factor analysis of all the ARL Statistics variables and it led to the inclusion of four variables: total expenditures, expenditures for library materials, expenditures for professional staff, and professional plus support staff. The Investment Index correlates with the ARL Membership Criteria Index.