

STATISTICAL REPORT

Business and Economic Databases Access in Academic Business Libraries.

Donald Schnedeker

Donald Schnedeker is the Library Director for the Johnson Graduate School of Management Library, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY 14853 (E-mail: dws2@cornell.edu).

This column will report on access to business and economic databases and database aggregationsⁱ in academic business libraries. The data comes from surveys of separately housed academic business libraries conducted in the winter 2000 and the fall of 2001.

This report covered subscription services. Many libraries now catalog or provide links to free or public Web sites, but this column does not include free or public Web sites that provide business information. The databases accessed in academic business libraries are presented in both alphabetic (Table 1) and ranked (Table 3) lists. Both tables include two years of data for comparison.

Access to electronic business information is changing rapidly. Many articles have been written on the selection and evaluation of electronic resources for libraries. These articles emphasize the collection and evaluation of information on potential database acquisitions and the role of the selector. Davis provides an extensive list of criteria for selecting databases including reputation of authors, publishers and producers, content (scope and breadth), format and special features, technological concerns, access methods, archiving, Licensing limitations, user definition, use capabilities and restrictions, and contractual restrictions.ⁱⁱ Holleman suggests applying traditional selection criteria, quality,

relevancy, aesthetic and technical aspects and cost, to electronic resource.ⁱⁱⁱ Thornton discusses the impact of consortia purchasing on the individual selector.^{iv}

While it is clear that librarians share information across institutions, this sharing is generally considered an informal activity and has not been included in the selection criteria of the evaluation process for electronic resources. As higher education becomes more competitive, schools compete for students and faculty. As librarians it is very useful to know what our colleagues at other schools are doing. This information can enlighten the decision making process as we evaluate new databases. This column provides valuable information on the acceptance of business and economic databases in academic business libraries.

The compiled responses of the libraries participating in this survey provide the librarian an opportunity to benchmark the electronic access to electronic business information offered at their institution. Reviewing the database selections of peer institutions should be one of the tools of the database selector.

The Survey

In the Fall 2001, thirty-six libraries responded to a survey on library statistics including database access. Thirty-four academic business libraries responded to the 1999/00 survey conducted the previous year. For convenience, the survey combined databases and aggregations into a single list for the respondent.

In 2000, the respondents were presented with a list of 103 databases and database aggregations. In 2001, this list was updated and expanded to 107 databases and database aggregations. The respondents were asked to answer the following questions:

1. Does your library have access to this database?
2. Do you subscribe to the CD ROM version?
3. Do you access this database through the Web?
4. Do end-users have to pay a fee for access to this database?
5. Do you access this database through a database aggregator, like Dialog, Proquest, and Lexis? If so, which aggregator do you use?

At least one respondent reported accessing all of the 103 electronic information resources listed in the 2000 survey and all but one of the 107 databases listed in the 2001 survey.

In 2000, the survey showed that the thirty-four responding libraries were providing access to an average 37.8 databases. In 2001, the thirty-six responding libraries averaged 40.8 databases from the survey. This demonstrates that academic business libraries are continuing to add database access.

The list of databases and aggregations was based on information reported in the previous survey. Some effort is made to update the names of the databases and aggregations. An alphabetical list of databases and aggregations is included in Table 1. Table 1 also includes the number of responding libraries that reported accessing that resource and comparison data from each database's listing in the 1999/2000 survey.

Generally, we observe very modest changes in database access from 2000 to 2001. This probably reflects the somewhat conservative nature of academic libraries and the programs that they serve. A few databases made significant gains among the respondents. These included EIU Country Reports growing from 13 subscribers to 23; Netlibrary, from 13 to 23; Valueline from 12 to 21; MCB's Emerald Library from 10 to 19 and finally, the EBSCO Business Source products from 10 to 18 (including Business Source premier and Business Source Elite.) These changes probably reflect the respondents' reactions to forces in the business information marketplace, including price, content and service.

Several electronic resources made their first appearance in the 2000/01 survey. These new additions included Source OECD with 21 subscribers, Sports Business Research Network (19), Gale's Business & Company Resource Center (16), Forrester (11), Jupiter (9), PsycArticles (8), Multex (7), S&P's Market Insight (7), Comperio (6). These new additions reflect new products and vendors' efforts to penetrate the academic market.

In addition to adding databases to the survey, an effort was made to include different versions of product offerings. For instance, ABI/Inform became ABI/Inform Global and ABI/Inform Research and EBSCO Business Source became EBSCO Business Source Premier and EBSCO Business Source Elite. This change was implemented at the request of the respondents who wanted to know which versions of these database products their colleagues were purchasing.

Table 1

Academic Business Library Statistics, 2000/2001

Databases, 2000/2001		(36 Libraries reporting)	Databases, 1999/2000		(34 Libraries reporting)
	Databases	Libraries with Access		Databases	Libraries with Access
1	ABI/Inform Global	29	1	ABI/Inform	33
2	ABI/Inform Research	7	2	Academic Index	12
3	Academic Index	10	3	Accounting & Tax Index	6
4	Accounting & Tax Index	6	4	Amer. Manufacturers Directory	2
5	Amer. Mfgs. Directory	1	5	Article First	18
6	Article First	18	6	Bloomberg	27
7	Bloomberg Financial Markets	25	7	Bridge	12
8	Books 24x7	5	8	Business & Industry	23
9	Bridge/Telerate	8	9	Business & Management Practices	8
10	Business & Company Resource Center (Gale)	16	10	Business Index	2
11	Business & Industry (RDS)	28	11	Business InfoSuite (Gale)	2
12	Business & Mgt. Practices	8	12	Business Periodicals Index	7
13	Business Index (Gale)	5	13	Business Periodicals Ondisc	6
14	Business Infosuite (Gale)	1	14	Career Search	7
15	Business Periodicals Index	7	15	CCH Internet Tax Service	18
16	Business Periodicals Ondisc	4	16	Choices II	13
17	CareerSearch	10	17	Citibase	5
18	CCH Internet Tax Service	21	18	CompactDisclosure (Primark)	24
19	Choices II (Simmons)	14	19	Corporate Affiliations Directory	13
20	Citibase	4	20	Corporate Profiles	3
21	Compact Disclosure (Primark)	21	21	CorpTech Directory	12
22	Comperio	6	22	CRSP	19
23	Corp. Affiliations Directory	11	23	DataStar	3
24	CRSP	23	24	Datastream	21
25	Data Star	2	25	DataTimes	3
26	Data Times	2	26	Dialog Web	18
27	Datastream	24	27	Dow Jones Interactive	31
28	Dialog Web	13	28	Dun's Business Locator	1
29	Duns Business Locator	3	29	Dun's MM Directory	12
30	Duns MM Directory	16	30	EBSCO's Business Source	10
31	EBSCO Business Source Elite	8	31	EconLit	28
32	EBSCO Business Source Premier	10	32	Economic Literature DB	7
33	EconLit	34	33	EIU Country Data	9
34	Economic Literature DataBase	6	34	EIU CountryReports	13
35	EIU Business Intl newsletters	8	35	EIU News	8
36	EIU Country Data	13	36	EIU Views	10
37	EIU Country reports	23	37	Extel	5
38	EIU Views Wire	7	38	F&S Index	4
39	Extel	1	39	FARS	7
40	F&S Index (Gale)	2	40	First Call	11

41	Factiva	30	41	FIS Online	18
42	FARS	13	42	Gale	7
43	First Call	9	43	GAPRO (Primark)	9
44	FIS Online (Moody's)	22	44	Gartner	6
45	Forrester	11	45	General Business file	9
46	GA Pro (LaserD, Primark)	9	46	Global Access (Primark)	25
47	Gale Business Resources	6	47	Global Market Information	5
48	Gartner Intraweb	12	48	Hoovers	23
49	General Business File	11	49	IBES	13
50	Global Access (Primark)	24	50	IFS (International Financial Statistics)	17
51	Global Market Information Database (Euromonitor)	13	51	Infotrac Online	9
52	Hoovers	25	52	Investext	20
53	IBES	13	53	ISI Emerging Markets	15
54	Infotrac (IAC)	10	54	JSTOR	29
55	Intl. Financial Statistics	22	55	Kalorama (MarketResearch.com)	8
56	Investext Plus (Research Bank Web)	25	56	Lexis-Nexis Academic Universe	29
57	ISI Emerging Markets	20	57	Lexis-Nexis Classic	17
58	JSTOR	33	58	MCB (Emerald)	10
59	Jupiter	9	59	Morningstar	12
60	Lexis-Nexis Academic Universe	34	60	National Newspaper Index	6
61	Lexis-Nexis Classic	24	61	National Trade Data Bank	26
62	Market Insight (S&P)	7	62	NBER Working Papers	21
63	MarketResearch.com	6	63	NetLibrary	13
64	MCB-Emerald	19	64	New York Times	19
65	Morningstar	15	65	Newspaper Abstracts	15
66	Multex	7	66	Nikkei	4
67	National Newspaper Index (IAC)	3	67	OECD Index	5
68	NBER Working Papers	27	68	OneSource	7
69	NetLibrary	23	69	PAIS International	25
70	Newspaper Abstracts (Proquest)	16	70	Phonedisc	1
71	Nikkei	2	71	Political Risk	10
72	NY Times	16	72	Profiles in Bus. & Mgt.	2
73	OneSource	8	73	Prompt	9
74	PAIS International	30	74	Proquest Direct	20
75	Political Risk Yearbook	8	75	PsycInfo	29
76	Profiles in Bus. & Mgt.	2	76	PWRresearcher	6
77	Prompt (Gale)	9	77	Reference USA	17
78	Proquest Direct	19	78	Research Bank Web	10
79	Psyc Articles	8	79	Reuters	6
80	Psyc Info	32	80	RIA	4
81	Reference USA (Amer. Business Directory)	15	81	S&P Corporate Text	2
82	Research Bank Web (Investext)	17	82	S&P Global Vantage	11
83	Research Insight Global (Global Vantage)	12	83	S&P NetAdvantage	12
84	Research Insight NA (Compustat PC)	16	84	S&P Research Insight	18
85	Reuters	11	85	SDC	14
86	RIA	7	86	Social Science Citation Index	29
87	S&P Corporate Text	1	87	Statistical Masterfile	5

88	S&P NetAdvantage	17	88	Statistical Universe	25
89	SafariBooks (Proquest)	2	89	StatUSA	28
90	SDC (Securities Data Co.)	17	90	Survey of Buying Power	2
91	Source OECD	21	91	Tablebase	19
92	Sports Business Research Network (SBRnet)	19	92	Telerate(Bridge)	5
93	STAT USA	33	93	Tradeline	2
94	Statistical Masterfile	3	94	Uncover	21
95	Statistical Universe	33	95	US Private	3
96	Survey of Buying Power	2	96	US Public	3
97	Tablebase (RDS)	25	97	Valueline	12
98	Tradeline	0	98	Wilson Bus. Abstracts	12
99	Uncover	11	99	World Marketing Data & Statistics	4
100	Value Line	21	100	WorldBank Econ. Indicators	7
101	Web of Science (ISI)	31	101	WorldData	3
102	Wilson Bus. Absts.	11	102	Worldscope	24
103	World Marketing Data & Statistics (Euromonitor)	6	103	WSJ	21
104	WorldBank Econ. Indicators	9			
105	WorldData	1			
106	Worldscope (D/Global)	19			
107	WSJ	24			

The survey form also included space for the respondent to add additional databases and aggregations. Thirteen of respondents added eighty unique information resources to the original list. Some of these additions fall outside of the scope of the survey. They include resources from computer science, government, and law. Other additions reflect the unique programs at a particular institution. Many of the “write-in” additions are new products that have been picked up by one of the respondents in the past year. Table 2 is a list of the databases with two or more ‘write-in votes.’ Business librarians who are unfamiliar with these products may want to investigate them. They may add value to your current offering of databases.

Table 2

Additional Databases	'Write-in votes'
S&P Execucomp	5
Faulkner Advisory	4
Reuters Business Insight	4

TAQ	4
World Bank Development Indicators	4
CCH Internet Research Network (Human Resources & labor Law)	3
Galante's Capital Private Equity Directory	3
Global Financial database	3
MediaMark MRI Reporter	3
SSRN (Social Science Research Network)	3
Wall Street Transcript	3
DRI/ McGraw Hill	2
EIU Country Commerce	2
Info Tech Trends	2
Market Research Monitor	2
Recap.com	2
S&P DRI	2

The Most Popular Databases and Database Aggregations

In order to benchmark your libraries electronic business information resources, it is useful to have a ranking of the most widely accessed resources. Table 3 lists all databases and database aggregations listed in the 1999/00 and 2000/01 surveys ranked by the number of libraries providing access. In 2000/01 the responding libraries continued to add database access. The thirty-six libraries in the survey provided access to an average of forty databases in the survey. This is up from an average of thirty-eight databases for thirty libraries in 1999/00.

In 1999/00 top twenty databases were available in twenty-one or more libraries while in 2000/01 the top twenty databases were available in twenty-four or more libraries. To some extent this reflects the increase in the number of respondents from 34 to 36. If the 80/20 rule, also known as the Pareto Principle,^v applies to database use, we can hypothesize that these twenty databases account for approximately 80% of the business database use at these institutions.

The databases at the bottom of Table 3 are resources that are accessed in only a few libraries. When you have programmatic needs that are not being met by any electronic resources, the bottom of the list is the place to look. One of the responding libraries may have identified a database that will satisfy your unmet need. These selections reflect some unique characteristics of particular library programs. First, some of these libraries are early adapters who have started to access some of the newer products on the market. A few selections from the bottom of this list may move up next year. A second group of the selections from the bottom of the ranked list are databases acquired to meet unique local or programmatic needs. A third category of selections is the expensive databases that are only affordable to select institutions.

Table 2

Academic Business Library Statistics, 2000/2001

Database Ranking, 2000/2001		(36 Libraries reporting)	Database Ranking, 1999/2000		(34 Libraries reporting)
	Databases	Libraries with Access		Databases	Libraries with Access
1	EconLit	34	1	ABI/Inform	33
2	Lexis-Nexis Academic Universe	34	2	Dow Jones Interactive	31
3	JSTOR	33	3	JSTOR	29
4	STAT USA	33	4	Lexis-Nexis Academic Universe	29
5	Statistical Universe	33	5	PsycInfo	29
6	Psyc Info	32	6	Social Science Citation Index	29
7	Web of Science (ISI)	31	7	EconLit	28
8	Factiva	30	8	StatUSA	28
9	PAIS International	30	9	Bloomberg	27
10	ABI/Inform Global	29	10	National Trade Data Bank	26
11	Business & Industry (RDS)	28	11	Global Access (Primark)	25
12	NBER Working Papers	27	12	PAIS International	25
13	Bloomberg Financial Markets	25	13	Statistical Universe	25
14	Hoovers	25	14	CompactDisclosure (Primark)	24
15	Investext Plus (Research Bank Web)	25	15	Worldscope	24
16	Tablebase (RDS)	25	16	Business & Industry	23
17	Datastream	24	17	Hoovers	23

18	Global Access (Primark)	24	18	Datastream	21
19	Lexis-Nexis Classic	24	19	NBER Working Papers	21
20	WSJ	24	20	Uncover	21
21	CRSP	23	21	WSJ	21
22	EIU Country reports	23	22	Investext	20
23	NetLibrary	23	23	Proquest Direct	20
24	FIS Online (Moody's)	22	24	CRSP	19
25	Intl. Financial Statistics	22	25	New York Times	19
26	CCH Internet Tax Service	21	26	Tablebase	19
27	Compact Disclosure (Primark)	21	27	Article First	18
28	Source OECD	21	28	CCH Internet Tax Service	18
29	Value Line	21	29	Dialog Web	18
30	ISI Emerging Markets	20	30	FIS Online	18
31	MCB-Emerald	19	31	S&P Research Insight	18
32	Proquest Direct	19	32	IFS (International Financial Statistics)	17
33	Sports Business Research Network (SBRnet)	19	33	Lexis-Nexis Classic	17
34	Worldscope (D/Global)	19	34	Reference USA	17
35	Article First	18	35	ISI Emerging Markets	15
36	Research Bank Web (Investext)	17	36	Newspaper Abstracts	15
37	S&P NetAdvantage	17	37	SDC	14
38	SDC (Securities Data Co.)	17	38	Choices II	13
39	Business & Company Resource Center (Gale)	16	39	Corporate Affiliations Directory	13
40	Newspaper Abstracts (Proquest)	16	40	EIU CountryReports	13
41	NY Times	16	41	IBES	13
42	Research Insight NA (Compustat PC)	16	42	NetLibrary	13
43	Duns MM Directory	16	43	Academic Index	12
44	Morningstar	15	44	Bridge	12
45	Reference USA (Amer. Business Directory)	15	45	CorpTech Directory	12
46	Choices II (Simmons)	14	46	Dun's MM Directory	12
47	Dialog Web	13	47	Morningstar	12
48	EIU Country Data	13	48	S&P NetAdvantage	12
49	FARS	13	49	Valueline	12
50	Global Market Information Database (Euromonitor)	13	50	Wilson Bus. Abstracts	12
51	IBES	13	51	First Call	11
52	Gartner Intraweb	12	52	S&P Global Vantage	11
53	Research Insight Global (Global Vantage)	12	53	EBSCO's Business Source	10
54	Corp. Affiliations Directory	11	54	EIU Views	10
55	Forrester	11	55	MCB (Emerald)	10
56	General Business File	11	56	Political Risk	10
57	Reuters	11	57	Research Bank Web	10
58	Uncover	11	58	EIU Country Data	9
59	Wilson Bus. Absts.	11	59	GAPRO (Primark)	9
60	Academic Index	10	60	General Business file	9
61	CareerSearch	10	61	Infotrac Online	9
62	EBSCO Business Source Premier	10	62	Prompt	9
63	Infotrac (IAC)	10	63	Business & Management Practices	8
64	First Call	9	64	EIU News	8

65	GA Pro (LaserD, Primark)	9	65	Kalorama (MarketResearch.com)	8
66	Jupiter	9	66	Business Periodicals Index	7
67	Prompt (Gale)	9	67	Career Search	7
68	WorldBank Econ. Indicators	9	68	Economic Literature DB	7
69	Bridge/Telerate	8	69	FARS	7
70	Business & Mgt. Practices	8	70	Gale	7
71	EBSCO Business Source Elite	8	71	OneSource	7
72	EIU Business Intl newsletters	8	72	WorldBank Econ. Indicators	7
73	OneSource	8	73	Accounting & Tax Index	6
74	Political Risk Yearbook	8	74	Business Periodicals Ondisc	6
75	Psyc Articles	8	75	Gartner	6
76	ABI/Inform Research	7	76	National Newspaper Index	6
77	Business Periodicals Index	7	77	PWRResearcher	6
78	EIU Views Wire	7	78	Reuters	6
79	Market Insight (S&P)	7	79	Citibase	5
80	Multex	7	80	Extel	5
81	RIA	7	81	Global Market Information	5
82	Accounting & Tax Index	6	82	OECD Index	5
83	Comperio	6	83	Statistical Masterfile	5
84	Economic Literature DataBase	6	84	Telerate(Bridge)	5
85	Gale Business Resources	6	85	F&S Index	4
86	MarketResearch.com	6	86	Nikkei	4
87	World Marketing Data & Statistics (Euromonitor)	6	87	RIA	4
88	Books 24x7	5	88	World Marketing Data & Statistics	4
89	Business Index (Gale)	5	89	Corporate Profiles	3
90	Business Periodicals Ondisc	4	90	DataStar	3
91	Citibase	4	91	DataTimes	3
92	Duns Business Locator	3	92	US Private	3
93	National Newspaper Index (IAC)	3	93	US Public	3
94	Statistical Masterfile	3	94	WorldData	3
95	Data Star	2	95	Amer. Manufacturers Directory	2
96	Data Times	2	96	Business Index	2
97	F&S Index (Gale)	2	97	Business InfoSuite (Gale)	2
98	Nikkei	2	98	Profiles in Bus. & Mgt.	2
99	Profiles in Bus. & Mgt.	2	99	S&P Corporate Text	2
100	SafariBooks (Proquest)	2	100	Survey of Buying Power	2
101	Survey of Buying Power	2	101	Tradeline	2
102	Amer. Mfgs. Directory	1	102	Dun's Business Locator	1
103	Business Infosuite (Gale)	1	103	Phonedisc	1
104	Extel	1			
105	S&P Corporate Text	1			
106	WorldData	1			
107	Tradeline	0			

Summary

This report presents survey data on access to databases and database aggregations. The value of the information presented in this article lies in the comparison of the ranked lists presented above with the reader's institutional access. A review of the databases at the bottom of the ranked list may turn up a potential candidate to meet unique library needs. With the development of the Internet, the development of electronic information and the distribution and access to this information is changing rapidly. This survey points out that academic business libraries are moving to take advantage of the new content and new functionality that is being developed by information providers.

NOTES

ⁱ Aggregations are compilations of electronic resources, data files, reports, journals and other electronic information. Aggregations meet two criteria. First, they are distributed by a single agency or group (an aggregator) with responsibility for maintaining the collection and selecting resources to be included in the aggregation. Second, they are prepared and distributed as a collection. See, William H. Walters, Samuel G. Demas, Linda Stewart and Jennifer Weintraub. *Guidelines for Collecting Aggregations of Web Resources*. (Working Paper) Albert R. Mann Library, Cornell University, Ithaca, N.Y. 14853, [1998].

ⁱⁱ Davis, Trisha L., "The evolution of selection activities for electronic resources." *Library Trends* 45(3) Winter 1997:391-403.

ⁱⁱⁱ Holleman, Curt, "Electronic resources: are basic criteria for the selection of materials changing?" *Library Trends* 48(4) Spring 2000:694-710.

^{iv} Thornton, Glenda A., "Impact of electronic resources on collection development, the roles of librarians and library consortia." *Library Trends* 48(4) Spring 2000:842-856.

^v The Pareto Principle was popularized by Joseph Juran. See, Zairi, Mohamed, "Juran, Joseph M." in *International Encyclopedia of Business & Management* 3:2246-2247, edited by Malcolm Warner. New York: Routledge, 1996.