

# → **Fast Facts**

## → **Academic library budgets**

The results of a survey delivered at a recent Charleston Conference indicate that more than one-third of academic libraries have received budget cuts of at least 5 percent. In two years, about 31 percent of library leaders expect their total library budgets to shrink, while about 40 percent predict budgets will remain the same, and about 28 percent expect an increase. More than half of respondents said they would accelerate the shift to e-only resources. Libraries in North America indicated they spent 25.5 percent of their budgets on print books; 25.3 percent on databases; 44 percent on print and electronic serials; and 5.2 percent on e-books.

Norman Oder, "Study: In Downturn, Academic Libraries To Focus on Value, ROI," *Library Journal*, November 5, 2009 [cited November 9, 2009]. Available from [www.libraryjournal.com/article/CA6705634.html](http://www.libraryjournal.com/article/CA6705634.html).

## → **Best of the best-of lists**

Looking for that special best-of-2009 list? Fimoculous.com collects them all. Hundreds of lists in 38 categories from "advertising" to "words" are organized and linked to dozens of media sources. Currently there are 86 best-of lists in the "books" category, aggregating sources such as *The Atlantic*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *The New Yorker*, Amazon, *The Economist*, and more. The site maintains linked lists back to 2001.

Fimoculous.com [cited January 6, 2010]. Available from [www.fimoculous.com/year-review-2009.cfm](http://www.fimoculous.com/year-review-2009.cfm).

## → **Academic Libraries: 2008**

The "Academic Libraries: 2008 First Look" report summarizes services, staff, collections, and expenditures of academic libraries in two- and four-year degree-granting postsecondary institutions in the United States. The nation's 3,827 academic libraries held 1,052,531,290 books, serial backfiles, and other paper materials, including government documents at the end of FY 2008. There were 138.1 million circulation transactions from their general collections. About 22 million documents were lent or borrowed from other libraries and commercial services. The libraries employed 93,438 full-time equivalent staff. Two hundred and twenty-six academic libraries held 1 million or more books, serial backfiles, and documents. In 2008, academic libraries' expenditures totaled \$6.8 billion.

T. Phan, L. Hardesty, C. Sheckells, and D. Davis (2009), "Academic Libraries: 2008 (NCES 2010-348)," National Center for Education Statistics, Institute of Education Sciences, U.S. Department of Education. Washington, D.C. [cited January, 2010]. Available from [nces.ed.gov/pubs2010/2010348.pdf](http://nces.ed.gov/pubs2010/2010348.pdf).

## → **Pearltrees**

Pearltrees is a collaborative network that let users create, enrich, and share the world of their interests with an intuitive graphical interface. "We call it a human-powered interest network because its content is made and organized by its community. Use Pearltrees to keep at hand the contents you find everyday on the Web, to discover new content from people who share your interests, to drive them through your own Web and contribute to the first human-powered organization of the Web."

pearltrees, [www.pearltrees.com](http://www.pearltrees.com) [cited December 8, 2009].

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