Tracking Online Document Usage from Your Catalog: Using statistics to demonstrate the value of government publications

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Available at: https://works.bepress.com/susan_kendall/43/
Tracking Online Document Usage from Your Catalog

Using statistics to demonstrate the value of government publications

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Reasons for tracking usages

1. Usage shows how government publications support students’ & faculty’s research.
2. Statistics can become a part of the assessment & evaluation done during accreditation visits.
3. Data can show how government publications can inform the public in news-worthy events.
1. Usage shows how government publications support students’ & faculty’s research.

In April, 2010, we had students in Health Sciences researching breast cancer. Several government publications were accessed. Here are two of our most requested government publications that month:

Title: Inflammatory breast cancer [electronic resource] : questions and answers.
Publication Information: [Bethesda, Md.]: National Cancer Institute, [2006]

Permanent Link for this Title

Online access and related links:

Title: Screening mammograms [electronic resource] : questions and answers.
Publication Information: [Bethesda, Md.]: National Cancer Institute, [2007]

Permanent Link for this Title

Online access and related links:

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2. Statistics can become a part of the assessment & evaluation done during accreditation visits.

At San José State, the library was asked for a 5 year review to present to the University Faculty Senate. Statistics from e-Government Publications were an important part of the report.
3. Data can show how government publications can inform the public in news-worthy events.

Recent reports on the safety of bottled water and their plastic containers led to a GAO study being one of our top accessed e-government publications in April, 2010.
Accessing eGovPubs 2005-2009

Yearly Totals of e-govpubs accessed from SJLibrary catalog

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Steps to producing our statistics report

The following slides are from a presentation given at the NASIG conference May 20, 2005 by Susan Kendall and Celia Bakke
Government Publications Architecture

**Front-end**
- `stat_govpub.htm`
  - Parameters receive:
    - `bibNum`
    - `vendor url`

**Back-end**
- Collects data:
  - `bibNum`
  - `suDoc #`
  - `class`
  - `title`

Stores data:
- `bibNum`
- `suDoc #`
- `class`
- `title`

* Extract data using cfhttp to initiate a one-way request from information from a remote server (the library catalog) `http://mill1.sjlibrary.org/search/.bibNum/.bibNum/1,1,1,B/marc~bibNum`

**Client**
- Programming languages: COLDFUSION, HTML, CSS
- Database: Microsoft SQL Database (MS SQL DB)

**Redirect to vendor website**

Lyna Nguyen
Government Publications Architecture

Programming languages: COLDFUSION, HTML, CSS
Database: Micosoft SQL Database (MS SQL DB)

Front-end

stat_govPub.htm
- login/logoff
- view by month & year
- sort by: a-z, suDocs, highest hits
- search by bibNum, suDocs#, title

Back-end

Retrieves/Groups/Counts data:
- count
- bibNum
- suDoc #
- class
- title

Stats GovPub_(month).txt (text file)
Stores hit data:
- bibNum

MS SQL DB Server
- connect to db
- query data
- extract data
- read file

user submits
display to web browser

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Lyna Nguyen
Steps to Modifying the Bibliographic Record

1. Identify the Bibliographic Record
2. One of our most accessed records this Spring Semester:

TITLE: Miss Atom Bomb
Identify the Bibliographic Record Number

B35936691 – Bibliographic Record Number

856 field →
Then add the bibliographic record number to the prefix

The prefix is: http://univ-intranet.sjlibrary.org/scripts/database_statistics/stat_govpub.htm?id=35936691
Find the URL for the record

The 856 field will have the URL address

http://purl.access.gpo.gov/GPO/LPS101060

SJSU
Then add tracking information

856 40 |uhttp://www.sjlibrary.org/scripts/stat_govpub.htm?id=35936691&path=http://purl.access.gpo.gov/GPO/LPS101060|xSJSU
Overall Database changes:

✓ Search records in the database using Review Files

- Initial search strategies:
  - 856 has “GPO” (Bibliographic records search)
  - Since most of these records have a “purl”, records are grouped into one review of batch changes.
Next step:

- Use a script/macro to copy the bibliographic record number for each record
- Add the prefix to the URL.
- Also consider using a “do loop” in the script to perform batch changes
- Majority of records can be batch processed with the script

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Time required for initial run

• 37,000 bibliographic records / 50,000 entries
• 2 weeks to run initial database change
• Many records had non standard URLs attached
On-going monthly maintenance

- Search for records to be changed after downloading monthly Marcive records
- Use script to do an automatic search
- Scan the records to check URLs
- Run a script/macro to batch change the records

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On-going monthly maintenance and time consideration

- Total staff time: less than 10 minutes
- Total Machine time: less than 2 hours
Program can sort by the number of “hits”
Program can sort by Title:

Government Publications Statistics

Month: January, February, March

Sort By: Alphabetical Order

Search: BibNum, Title, SuDocs

Year: 2010

Selected Month(s): April

Today Date: July 29, 2010

List 1 - 100 of 515 records

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bib. #</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>SuDocs#</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>38769852</td>
<td>Addressing the mental health</td>
<td>HE 20.402:M 52/5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>32749922</td>
<td>Advancing stem cell science w</td>
<td>PREX 15.2:ST 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>34296698</td>
<td>An Act to Amend the Robert T.</td>
<td>AE 2.110:109-308</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>35943294</td>
<td>Arapaho National Wildlife Ref</td>
<td>I 49.442:AR 1/9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>37352702</td>
<td>Attention deficit hyperactivity</td>
<td>HE 20.3062:AT 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>36289413</td>
<td>Black carbon research bill</td>
<td>Y 1.1/5:110-489</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>38769906</td>
<td>Bottled water</td>
<td>GA 1.13:GAO-09-810</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Program can sort by SuDocs Number

### Government Publications Statistics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Sort By</th>
<th>Search</th>
<th>BibNum</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>SuDocs#</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January</td>
<td>SuDocs Order</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Riparian systems</td>
<td>A 57.56/2:45</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>February</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Effect of whey protein on bod</td>
<td>A 77.716/3W 57/</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>March</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Citing records in the Nationa</td>
<td>AE 1.113:17/2007</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year: 2010</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Code of federal regulations.</td>
<td>AE 2.106/3:1/2/</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Selected Month(s): April</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Brown v. Board of Education 5</td>
<td>AE 2.110:107-41</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>An Act to Amend the Robert T.</td>
<td>AE 2.110:109-308</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Guide to securing legacy IEEE</td>
<td>C 13.10:800-48/REV.1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
What I’ve learned from our usage statistics project:

- Our e-govpubs continued to be accessed via the catalog.
- The catalog is still a viable point for accessing information.
- With our statistics, we have made a case for the Chancellor’s Office to consider funding the Marcive program “Documents without Shelves” for all 23 CSU libraries.
I would like to acknowledge the work done by:

Shirley Hwang, Lyna Nguyen, Celia Bakke and April Gilbert from SJSU University Library