A Tiger's Tale: Boosting All-Electronic Document Usage at a Liberal Arts University

July 30, 2021

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Albert S. Cook Library, Towson University



Access to Federal Documents

TODAY:

- □ Towson University;
- Libguides for federal documents;
- Quick LibGuide Project;



- □ Analysis under lockdown conditions;
- □ Possible future courses of action.



Access to Federal Documents

- □ 1863: Towson University founded as Maryland Normal School;
- □ 1979: Joined the FDLP; 5-6% Selective Depository;
- □ 1999: Left the FDLP due to renovation; completed de-accession in 2004;
- □ 2005-2010: Maintained a document liaison;
- UMCP Regional Depository began a monthly document load;
- □ September 11, 2011: Cook Library rejoined as an all-electronic depository;
- □ College Park included TU in monthly load;



72,715 PURL Records linked the day we rejoined;
2016: Migrated from in-house to LibGuides;
2020: Pandemic lockdown. Full reactivation, post-pandemic: July 7, 2021;
2021: Tenth Depository Anniversary: 169,986 PURL Records now available.
20,675 non-depository electronic books purchased;
(not including PDA and eBook aggregators.)



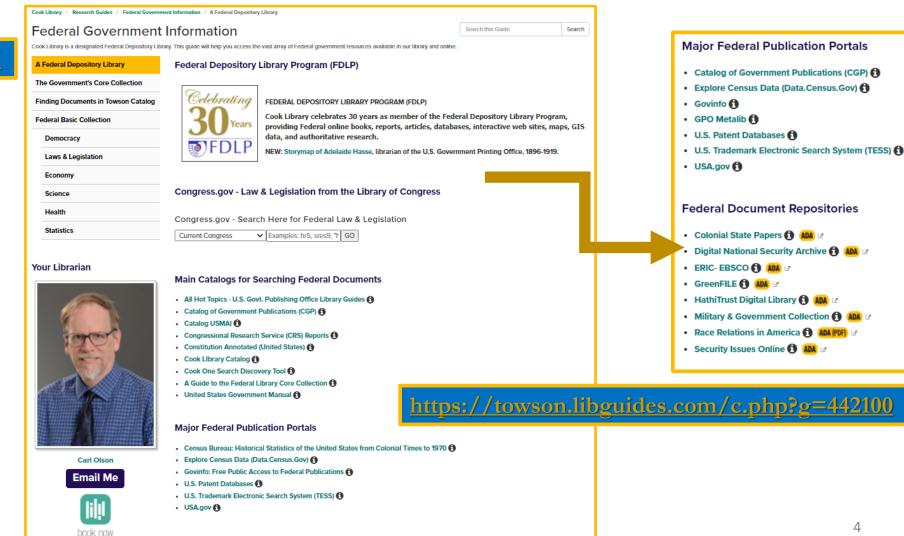
Research Guides

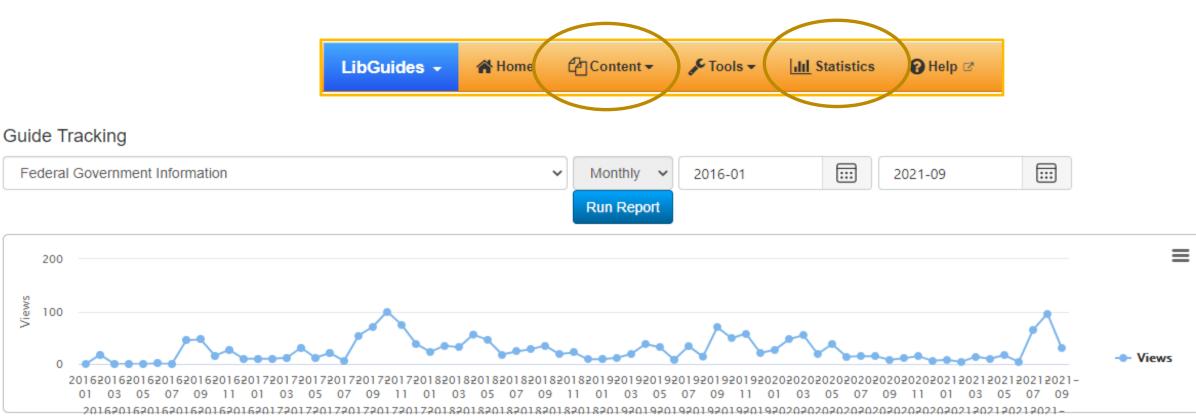
Access via LibGuides

https://libraries.towson.edu/

Home Page \rightarrow Research Guides \rightarrow Subject Guides \rightarrow Federal Government Information









200

100

Views

- Assets (Links and Databases) can retrieve sites by URL or domain;
- □ Statistics: graphs the access to a given guide, and to individual assets;
- Graduate Student Orientation Federal & Maryland Libguide featured documents;
- Geography 281: Incorporated Places in Maryland, Spring & Fall, 2019, Spring 2020;
- □ Maryland State Depository separated out in 2019;
- □ Lower activity due to non-returning freshmen and sophomores, post-pandemic.

5





- □ Post-Pandemic Usage of Federal Government Publications LibGuide;
- Geography of Maryland moved to separate course guide by early 2020;
- GSA Orientation closed due to the pandemic;
- $\hfill\square$ More of a boost as the campus reopened in August 2021;

- □ Asset List can be filtered for various uses:
- □ Search '.gov' in the URL field;
- □ Sort by Mapping Count;
- \Box Healthy People 2020 is the most widely placed;
- □ CDC Wonder is 2nd; RxNORM is 3rd;
- **T**U has a College of Health Professions (CHP).
- □ The CHP has accelerated graduation;





LibApps: Statistics
Defaults to Guides;
Tracks Assets;
Each version is a separate publication;
Search every iteration;

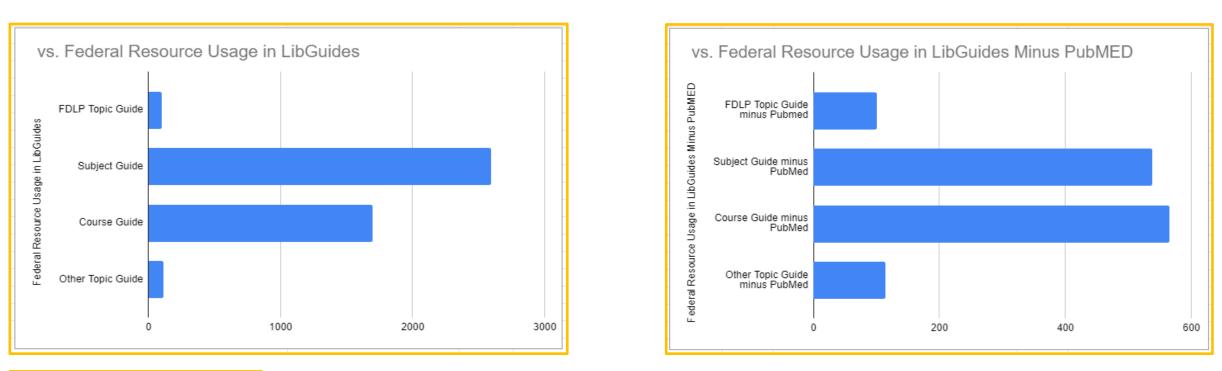




- Cleanup: Update FDLP Topic Guide;
- Compare Usage for:
 - FDLP Topic Guide Resources;
 - Subject Guides (Health, Business, etc.)
 - Course Guides (BIOL204; etc.);
 - Other Topic Guides (Archives; etc.);
- Statistics: Search by major asset;
- 105 sites in Federal LibGuide;
- Limit to usage in the past year.



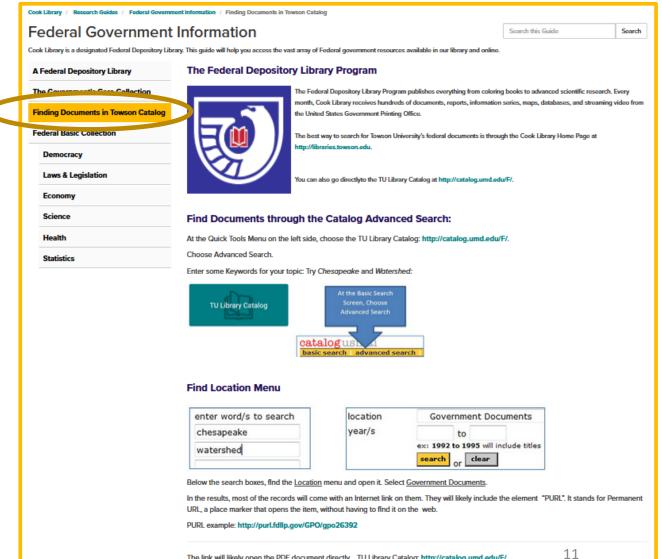
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5	Budget of the United States	Federal Government Information	2						
6	Bureau of Economic Analysis	Federal Government Information	1	Business	1				
7	Bureau of Economic Analysis	Federal Government Information	0	Business	2				
8	Bureau of Labor Statistics	Federal Government Information	0	Economics	1			OER Sources	8
9	Catalog of Government Publications	Federal Government Information	9						
10	CDC Wonder	Federal Government Information	2	Health	101	Health	16		
11	Census QuickFacts	Federal Government Information	0			Business	4		
12	Census Small Business Builder	Federal Government Information	1	Entrepreneurship	1				
13	Childstats	Federal Government Information	0	Education Special Education	15	EDUC	44		
14	Chronicling America	Federal Government Information	1	History	29	History	13		
15	CIA World Factbook	Federal Government Information	1	International Studies	23				
16	<u>Clinicaltrials.gov</u>	Federal Government Information	0	Health Sciences Nursing	3				
17	Code of Federal Regulations	Federal Government Information	1	Law	1				
18	Compilation of Presidential Documents	Federal Government Information	0						
19	Congress.gov	Federal Government Information	14	Law	2	Towson Seminar: the U.S. Constitution Political Science: American National Government Health: Intro to Public Health	181		
20	Congressional Directory	Federal Government Information	0						
21	Congressional Record	Federal Government Information	0						
22	Congressional Research Service Reports	Federal Government Information	3	Child Resources	0	Law	0		
23	Constitution (National Archives)	Federal Government Information	0	Law	2				
24	Constitution Annotated	Federal Government Information	0						
25	Constitution of the United States: Analysis & Interpre	Federal Government Information	0						
26				Audiology Deaf Health Occupational Therapy Physician Assistant Speech Language					
	Data.gov	Federal Government Information	1	Education	80			Data	41





Lopsided preference access via Subject & Course Guides;
Subject & Course Guides reach the students by library instruction;
Course Guides gain when excluding the outliers (PubMED Central and PubMED.gov);
Topic Guides reach students at point of need;

- □ Finding documents in Towson Catalog;
- □ Screen shots to CatalogUSMAI;
- Directions to Advanced Search;
- □ Search terms;
- Limiters to PURL-linked publications.







- Home Page
- Library Catalog
- Advanced Search
 - Keywords
 - Collections
- Documents!



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- Home Page
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- Documents!



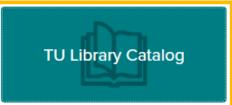
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- Home Page
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author	United States. Congress. House. Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. Subcommittee on Railroads, Pipelines, and Ha Materials, author.	AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRESS
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format	Book	(117-6)
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location	Towson University(1,10)	COMMITTEE ON
internet link	https://purl.fdlp.gov/GPO/gpo156269	TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE
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author	Library of Congress. Congressional Research Service, issuing body.	MARCH 10, 2021
edition	[Library of Congress public edition].	Printed for the use of the
series	Report / Congressional Research Service ; R44388	Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure
published	2018	2 ⁶ 2
format	Electronic Resources (all) Electronic Resources (online)	<u>E62</u>
subject	Federal aid to transportation United States. Railroads Passenger traffic Finance Law and legislation United States. Moresee full record	Available online at: https://www.govinfo.gov/committee/house-transportation?path browsecommittee/chamber/house/committee/transportation
location	Towson University(1/0)	
internet link	https://purl.fdlp.gov/GPO/gpo120709	14



- □ Library Catalog;
- □ Advanced Search;

- □ Keywords;
- □ Location;
- Documents!
- \Box or-r-r NOT;
- □ 170K PURLs;
- □ 21K eBooks.

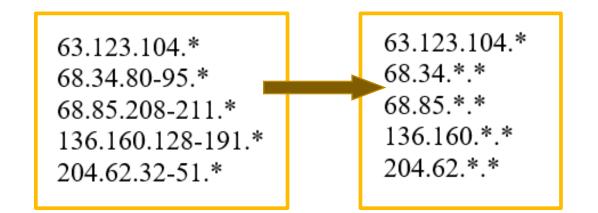


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Lockdown Project: PURL Analysis

- \Box 2020 17 months of retrievals in the library proper;
- Using the FDLP PURL Usage Report Webinar, June 2019;
- https://www.fdlp.gov/fdlp-purl-usage-report-analyzingusage-of-digital-fdlp-resources;
- □ Searched for PURLs on library IP's for 17 months;
- □ Truncated IP addresses retrieved results from USMAI
- □ Edited out hits from other USMAI;



Does not include non-library IP's;

Cleaned up double-click retrievals;

Got 214 clean hits from 17 monthly reports;



Table 1: Timestamps

• Evening hours predominate;

□ Late-night activity during extended hours or 24/7 space.



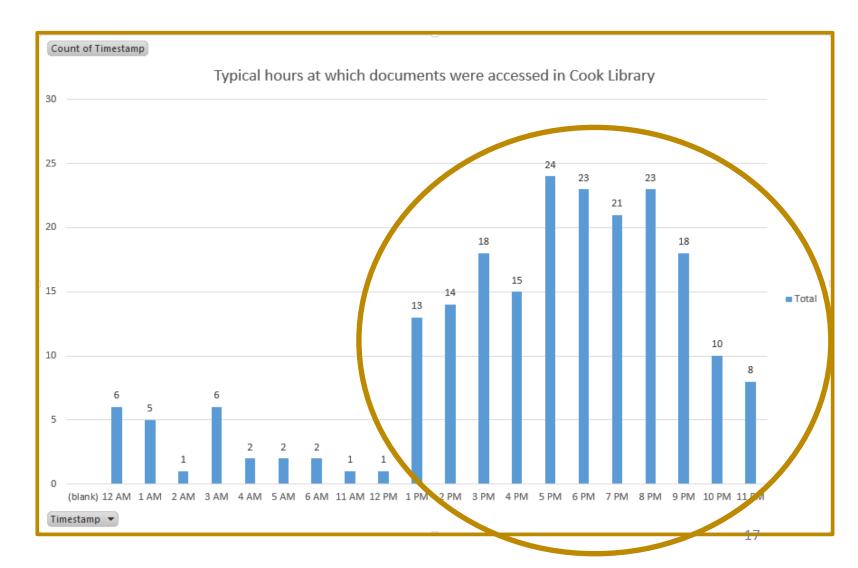
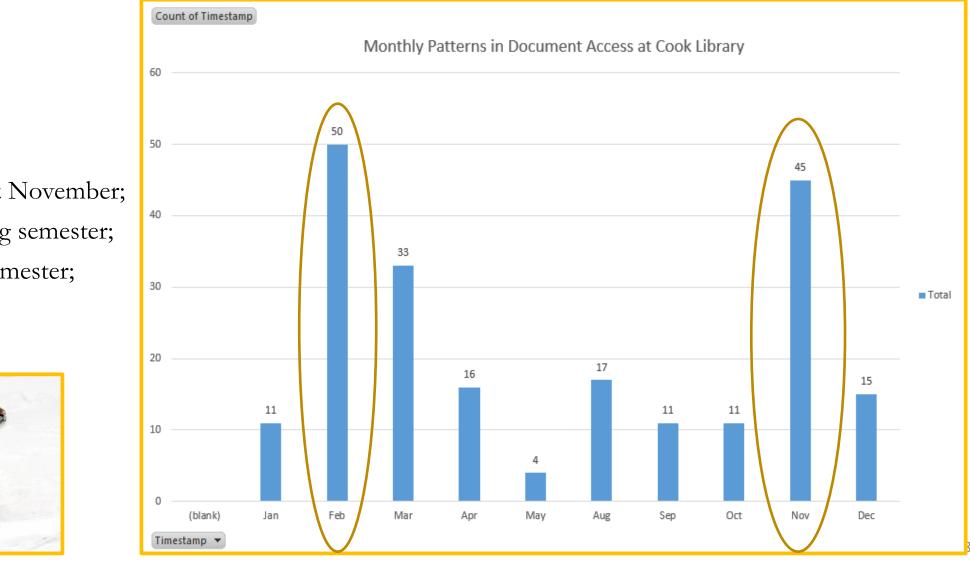


Table 2: Monthly Patterns



Largest use:

- □ February & November;
- □ Early Spring semester;
- □ Late Fall semester;



Table 3: Access by Agency

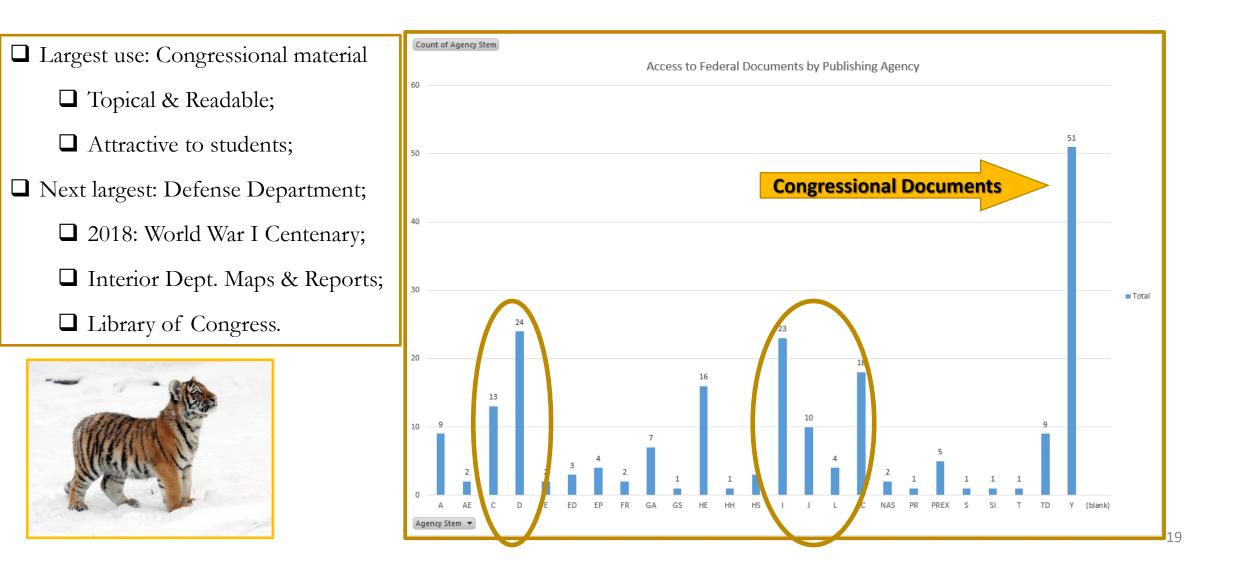


Table 4: SuDoc Agency/Stem



Table 4: Clusters in Access

G Spikes:

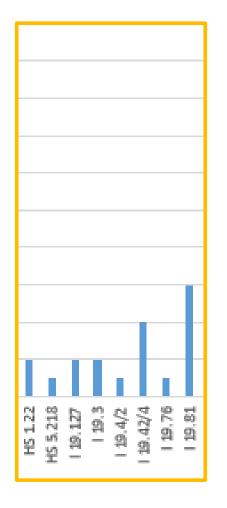
□ I 19.42/4-4: Scientific Investigations Reports

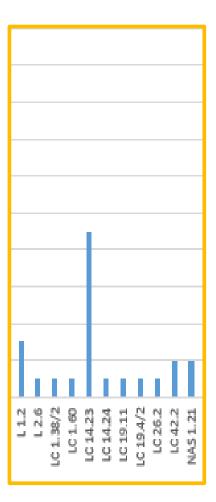
□ I 19.81: USGS Map Explorer;

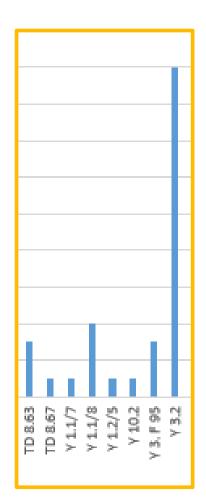
□ LC 14.23: CRS Reports;

Y 3.2: Special Investigations;9/11 Commission is popular.









Agencies Not Accessed:

Farm Credit Administration;
Railroad Retirement Board;
Fdn. For Arts & Humanities;
SEC; FTC; Peace Corps;
Postal Service;



	Agencies Accessed		Agencies Not Accessed
А	Agriculture	В	Broadcasting Board of Governors
AE	National Archives	CC	Federal Communications Commission
С	Commerce Department	CR	Civil Rights Commission
D	Defense Department	FA	Fine Arts Commission
E	Energy Department	FCA	Farm Credit Administration
ED	Education Department	FHF	Federal Housing Financing Board
EP	Environmental Protection Agency	FM	Federal Mediation & Conciliation Service
FR	Federal Reserve Board	FMC	Federal Maritime Commission
GA	Government Accountability Office	FT	Federal Trade Commission
GS	General Services Administration	FTZ	Foreign-Trade Zones Board
HE	Health and Human Services Department	GP	Government Publishing Office
нн	Housing and Urban Development Dept.	IC	Interstate Commerce Commission
HS	Homeland Security	ID	US Agency for International Development
	Interior Department	ITC	International Trade Commission
J	Justice Department	LR	National Labor Relations Board
JU	Judiciary	MS	Merit Systems Protection Board
L	Labor Department	NC	National Capital Planning Commission
LC	Library of Congress	NCU	National Credit Union Administration
NAS	National Aeronautics and Space Administration	NF	Nat. Foundation for the Arts and Humanities
PREX	Executive Office of the President	NMB	National Mediation Board
S	U.S. Department of State	NS	National Science Foundation
SI	Smithsonian Institution	OP	Overseas Private Investment Corporation
т	Treasury Department	Ρ	United States Postal Service
x	Congress	PE	Peace Corps
Y	Congress	PM	Personnel Management Office
		PR	President of the United States
		PRVP	Vice President of the United States
		RR	Railroad Retirement Board
		SBA	Small Business Administration
		SE	Securities and Exchange Commission
		SSA	Social Security Administration
		TD	Transportation Department
		TDA	US Trade and Development Agency
		VA	Veterans Affairs Department

Conclusions

 Most obvious: documents are underutilized (or under-desired);
 Use correlates to research topics and library instruction;
 Specialized documents will need either weeding or promotion;





Suggested Actions – Post-lockdown

□ Summer 2020, changed links to PURLs;

- □ New Topic Guides for use in courses;
- □ Seek to include documents in teaching;
- Search holdings in most and least agency series;
- □ Placement of federal resources in Course Guides;
- □ New Information Literacy Course (tent., Fall 2022);
- □ New video tutorials on documents by subject area;
- □ Avail of GPO resources and personal contacts;



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Thank You!

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