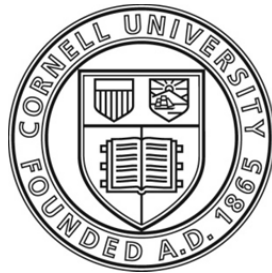


# Cornell University Library Trends 2005/06 – 2010/11



Cornell University  
Library

# Cornell University Library Trends

## 2005/06 – 2010/11

The Cornell University Library Annual Statistics Report is prepared by Assessment & Communication.  
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April 2012

## Introduction

Dear Reader,

You're holding (or, more likely, pulling up on your screen) the new incarnation of the Cornell University Library Annual Statistical Report. Because the LibPAS system allows us to store all our performance data and make ad hoc queries to meet the decision-making needs of library staff, we can now focus this publication entirely on its most interesting function: to document system-wide changes and uncover and track major library trends. The data tables and graphs tell our most compelling stories:

- Electronic resources continue to be a major growth area in the number of titles available, the level of use, and with just over 60% of our collection expenditures now going toward them.
- Although the use of physical items continues to wane, it still tops a million transactions a year. After increasing for 8 out of the 9 years previously reported, the use of equipment dropped this year, and the use of laptops in specific dropped for the second year in a row.
- Interlibrary borrowing of print material has continued to increase significantly since 2009/2010. It coincides with two related developments: the library catalog showing volumes that the Library does not own, and the decrease in physical volumes added to the collection.
- Information and research transactions between librarians and the Cornell community continued to recover some of the ground lost in earlier years and now stand at about 84,000 a year.
- Our physical libraries are bustling with over 4 million visits, while our virtual library saw about 10 million visits from outside of the library buildings.
- Total library expenditures (adjusted for inflation) have decreased by 6% in the past five years.
- Non-student library staff decreased by 15.2% over the past five years.

There are only a few places where including data from the Weill Medical College in NYC was not possible – these are noted as such.

This report represents the collaboration of many CUL staff who contributed data and their time and insights. Direct data providers are acknowledged at the end of the report. Linda Miller of Assessment and Communication led the data collection and produced this report.

We hope you find our compilation informative.

Sincerely,

Zsuzsa Koltay

Director, Assessment and Communication  
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**CORNELL UNIVERSITY LIBRARY TRENDS**  
**2005/06 – 2010/11**  
**(July 1 – June 30)**

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## COLLECTIONS

### Data table

(back to online TOC)

CUL continued to emphasize electronic resources over print for ease of access. The number of new print volumes added has declined, but the increase of e-book titles more than makes up for this, showing that the gain of intellectual content keeps increasing. The number of current print serial titles held has decreased to less than half in four years. The Annex now holds 39.4% of all of CUL's print volumes. Selected data are illustrated on the next page.

	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08		2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	1 year % change	5 year % change
								Incr/(Decr)	Incr/(Decr)
<b>Print Volumes</b> <sup>1</sup>	7,708,728	7,829,835	7,943,148	New counting methodology	7,712,667	7,726,220	7,803,262	1.0%	u/a
Estimated volumes added new FY (subset of print volumes)	132,029	132,739	128,624		132,299	118,294	104,862	(11.4%)	u/a
<b>Video Tapes and DVDs</b> <sup>1</sup>	32,170 *	34,238 *	37,530		38,808	41,285	43,465	5.3%	u/a
<b>Sound Recordings</b> <sup>1</sup>	115,765	118,475 *	122,062		104,740	107,179	109,659	2.3%	u/a
<b>Archival &amp; Manuscript Materials (in cu./linear ft.)</b>	70,271	71,353	72,511		73,613	76,682	77,779	1.4%	10.7%
<b>Estimated Current Serial Titles (e and non-e overlap removed)</b>	u/a	88,000	93,000		94,000	99,000	101,000	2.0%	u/a
Non-Electronic <sup>2</sup>	u/a	47,000	48,000		u/a	34,500	21,400	(38.0%)	u/a
Electronic	u/a	50,000	55,000		65,400	70,500	83,100	17.9%	u/a
<b>E-books (excludes Medical and books created in collaboration with Google)</b> <sup>3</sup>	u/a	u/a	391,897		518,000	642,103	680,782	6.0%	u/a

\* = corrected figure

u/a = unavailable

<sup>1</sup> Starting in 2008/09, counts for these measures for Ithaca/Geneva are based on queries of the Library catalog. These online counts differ from the earlier manual counts in several ways. For example, they exclude any items that have not yet been barcoded.

<sup>2</sup> For the most recent years, in addition to cancellations and the shift to electronic, current non-electronic serial title counts have decreased significantly due to record cleanup projects and more precise counting methodologies.

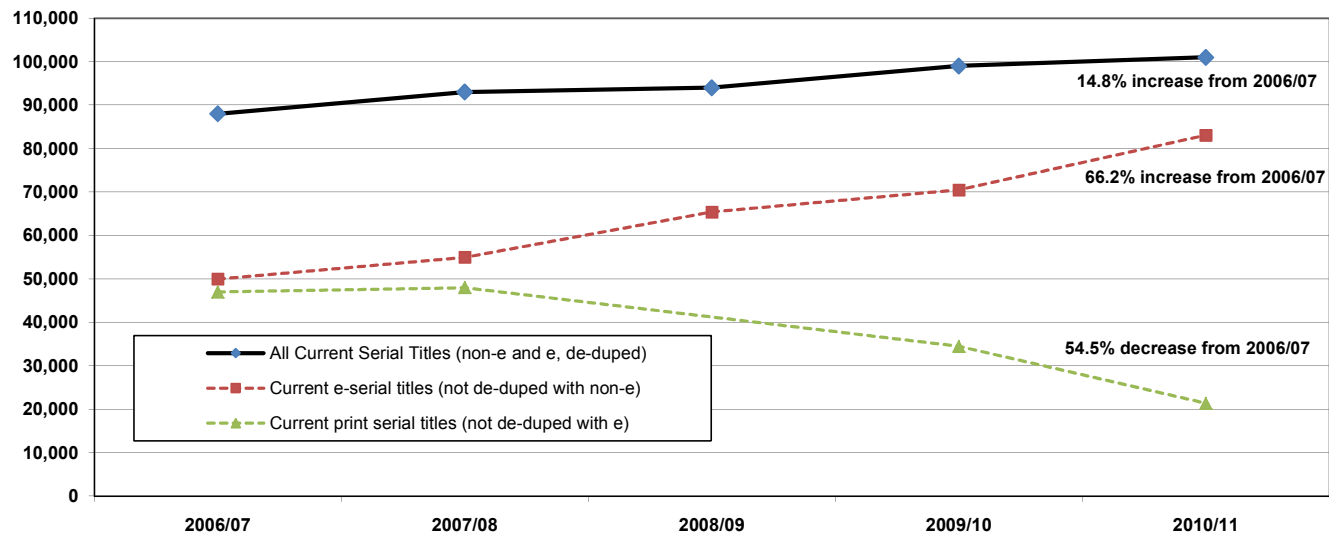
<sup>3</sup> Increases in e-book counts reflect when records were added to the online catalog and so do not always reflect the year the titles were purchased.

## COLLECTIONS

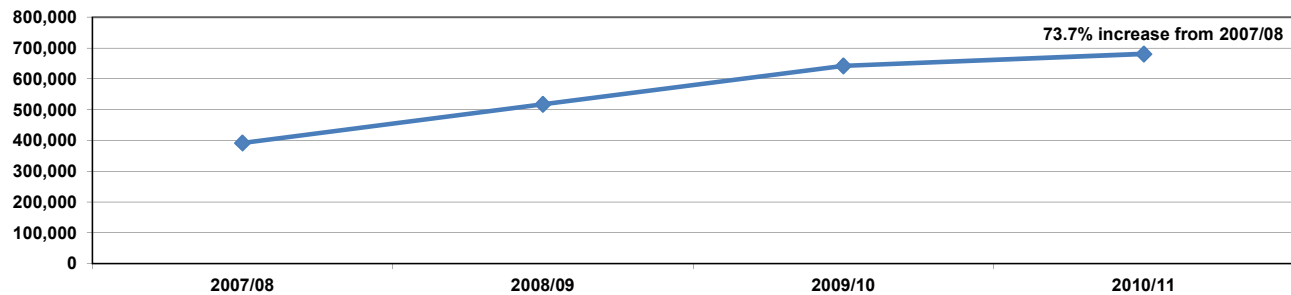
### Graphs

(back to online TOC)

#### CURRENT SERIAL TITLE TRENDS



#### E-BOOK TRENDS (excludes Medical College)



## COLLECTIONS USE & DELIVERY

### Data table

(back to online TOC)

In 2010, journal article downloads showed a slight increase from 2009 to almost 5 million (more information on next page). At the same time, in 2010/11, the downward trend in physical circulation continued, with total circulations and renewals at just over 1 million. Renewals dropped at a higher rate than charges, only in part due to the fact that items are now charged out to staff for a year. All types of physical transactions dropped, even equipment use; it was the first year non-laptop equipment use was down, and the second year in a row that laptop use was down (by 9.4 and 21.2% respectively in 2010/11). On the other hand, in an improving search and delivery environment, Library-to-Library and Faculty Office Delivery (convenience services) and ILL borrowing were up. 2010/11 was the first year that CUL was a net ILL borrower. Selected data are illustrated on the next few pages.

	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	1 year % change Incr/(Decr)	5 year % change Incr/(Decr)
<b>E-Resource Downloads</b>								
				[2008]	[2009]	[2010]		
Journal article downloads (PDF and HTML)	u/a	u/a	u/a	4,124,525	4,927,312	4,938,001	0.2%	u/a
<b>Physical Circulation</b>								
Total Physical Circulation Charges & Renewals	1,339,680 *	1,282,861	1,266,144	1,321,393	1,175,923	1,013,930	(13.8%)	(24.3%)
Total Charges	775,890	756,435	775,375	794,095	728,302	647,596	(11.1%)	(16.5%)
Total Renewals	563,790	526,426	490,769	527,298	447,621	366,334	(18.2%)	(35.0%)
General Collections Charges & Renewals	1,034,811	967,988	893,290	881,600	762,407	646,062	(15.3%)	(37.6%)
Reserves Charges & Renewals	141,090	151,414	146,448	149,476	118,462	114,751	(3.1%)	(18.7%)
Non-laptop equipment Charges & Renewals	80,242	84,490	125,222	165,524	174,904	158,428	(9.4%)	97.4%
Laptops Charges & Renewals	83,537 *	78,969	101,184	124,793	120,150	94,689	(21.2%)	13.3%
<b>Physical Delivery</b>								
<b>Library-to-Library and Faculty Office Delivery (the Medical College does not participate) (most of these counts are included in the physical circulation counts above)</b>								
Library-to-Library Delivery (filled requests)	19,234	25,009	25,772	27,190	26,282	33,100	25.9%	72.1%
Faculty Office Delivery (filled requests)	1,280	3,743	4,873	5,689	6,610	7,047	6.6%	450.5% <sup>2</sup>
<b>Interlibrary Loans</b>								
<b>(some of the lending counts are included in the physical circulation counts above)</b>								
<b>Interlibrary Loans (filled requests) (the Medical College does not participate in Borrow Direct)</b>								
Lending	65,422	62,902	60,064	60,910	54,536	51,667	(5.3%)	(21.0%)
Traditional	43,661	39,673	34,802	35,922	31,902	27,317	(14.4%)	(37.4%)
Borrow Direct	21,761	23,229	25,262	24,988	22,634	24,350	7.6%	11.9%
Borrowing	40,340	38,625	37,678	37,669	43,824	54,036	23.3%	34.0%
Traditional	22,226	20,503	19,109	18,412	22,380	25,791	15.2%	16.0%
Borrow Direct	18,114	18,122	18,569	19,257	21,444	28,245	31.7%	55.9%
<b>Total physical borrowing, lending and delivery transactions</b>	<b>1,465,956</b>	<b>1,413,140</b>	<b>1,394,531</b>	<b>1,452,851</b>	<b>1,307,175</b>	<b>1,159,780</b>	<b>(11.3%)</b>	<b>(20.9%)</b>

\* = corrected/adjusted count

<sup>1</sup> WorldCat became CUL's main catalog in June of 2009. Borrow Direct transitioned to a new system in fall of 2010, bringing new benefits including the option to renew items through the CUL catalog. The Library-to-Library Delivery service was expanded to include videos, DVDs, journals and serials, audios, and computer disks. In addition, the Olin Library-to-Library Delivery count increased significantly with construction on the Olin Fire Safety Improvement Project.

<sup>2</sup> Faculty Office delivery started 10/24/05.

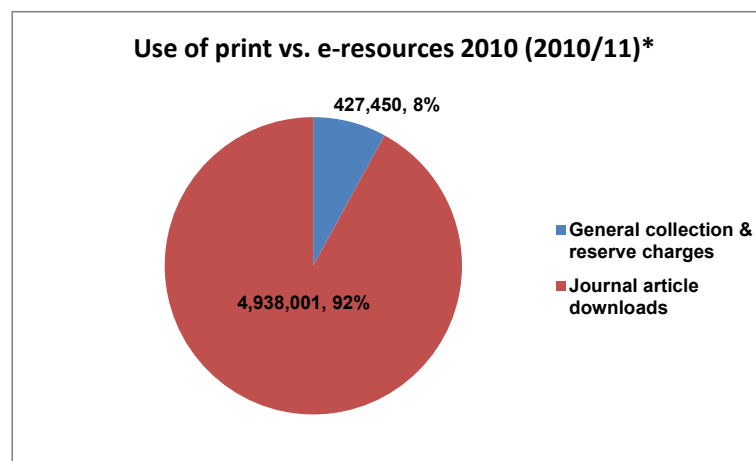
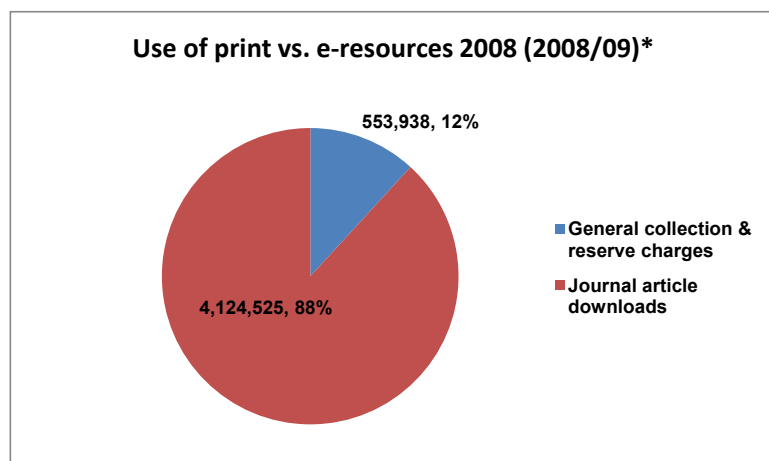


## COLLECTIONS USE & DELIVERY

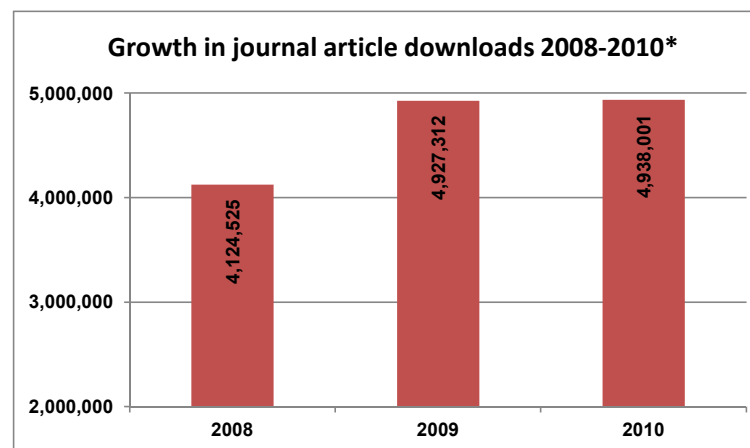
### Graphs (continued on next three pages)

(back to online TOC)

The pie charts below show the relative size of print circulation (general collection and reserve charges) and e-journal article downloads. It is not a fully valid comparison, but helps to show a more rounded view of the use of library resources.



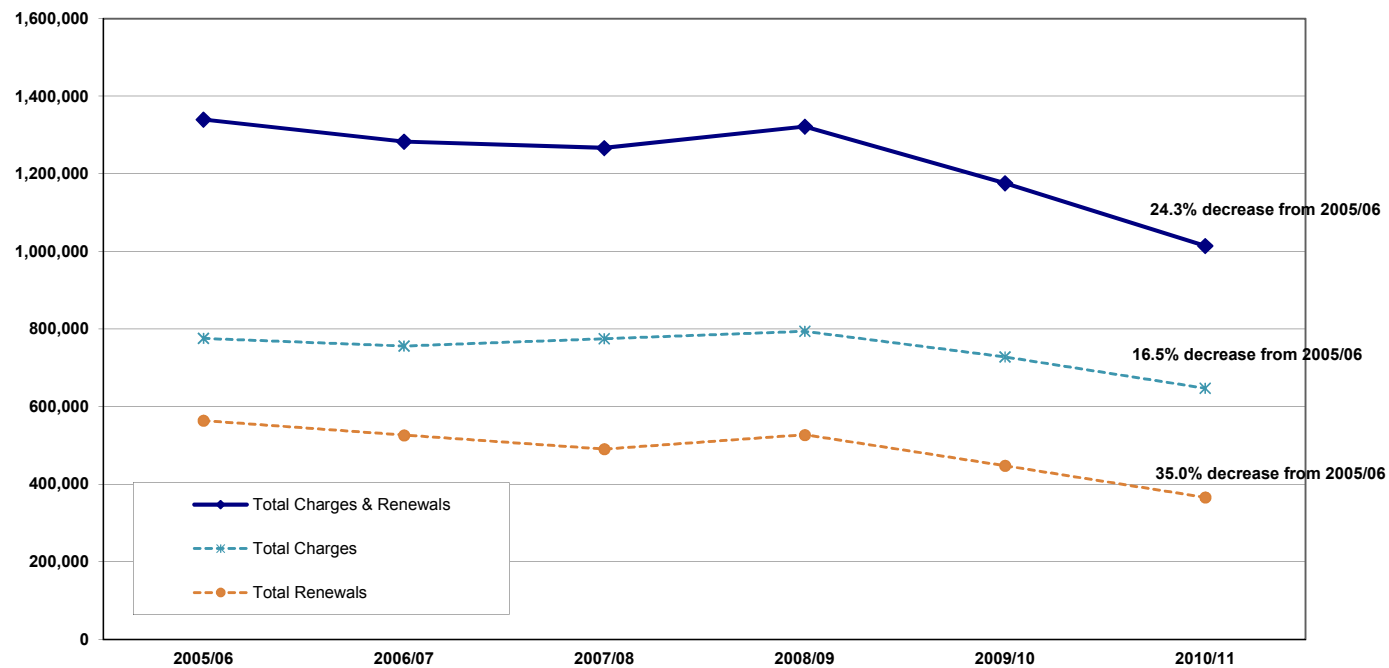
\*The journal article download counts include only e-journal use from publishers/vendors that produced COUNTER-like or reasonably trustworthy download statistics at the time. These numbers are for HTML and PDF downloads for the calendar year, while the physical circulation counts are for the fiscal year.



## COLLECTIONS USE & DELIVERY

Graphs (continued)  
(back to online TOC)

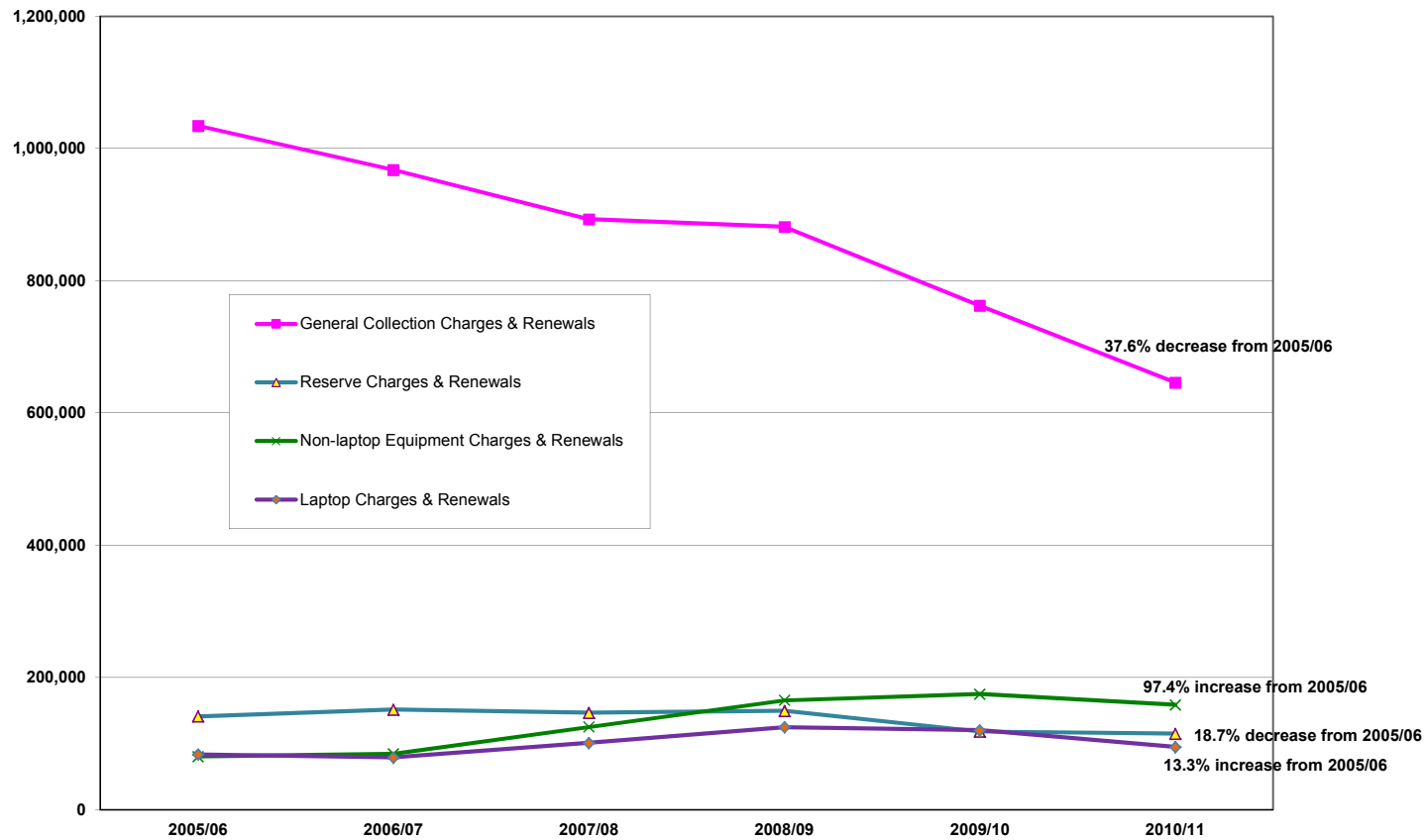
### PHYSICAL CIRCULATION TRENDS - CHARGES VS. RENEWALS



## COLLECTIONS USE & DELIVERY

Graphs (continued)  
(back to online TOC)

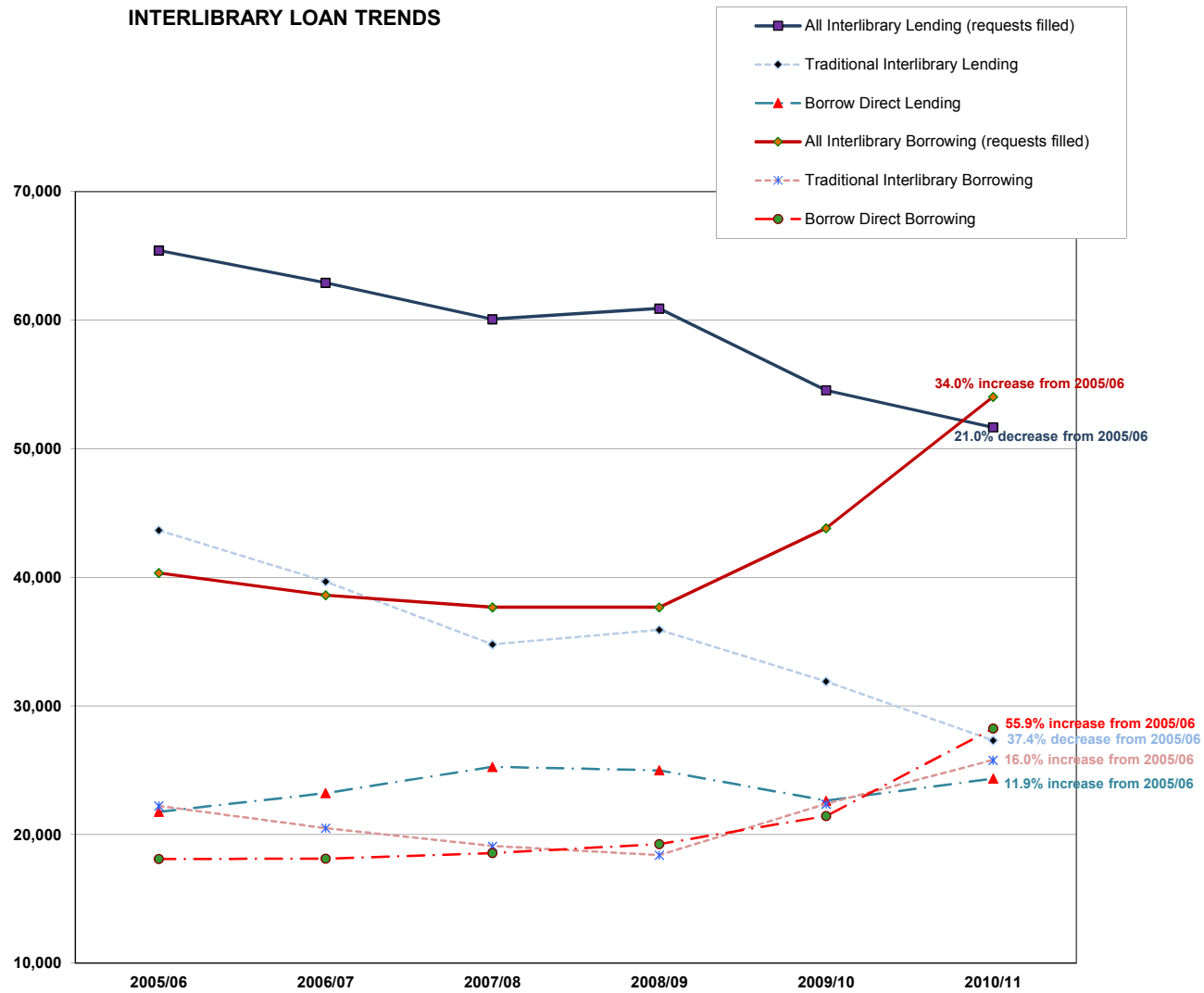
### PHYSICAL CIRCULATION TRENDS - CHARGES & RENEWALS BY COLLECTION TYPE



## COLLECTIONS USE & DELIVERY

### Graphs (continued)

(back to online TOC)



## INFORMATION AND INSTRUCTION CONTACTS WITH PATRONS

### Data table

(back to online TOC)

2010/11 was the first full year CUL used Count It (a locally created data collection system) to track its information contacts with patrons. Counts before 2010/11 are not totally comparable as Count It tracks some outreach efforts. Variations in how data is collected across the units has decreased. About half of the units' information transaction counts were extrapolated from CUL's 12 random sampling weeks. As expected, the information transaction count increased from 2009/10. The ratio of electronic to non-electronic transactions decreased slightly, reflecting a decrease in Chat transactions. Some of the decrease in presentations to groups was due to the fact that all consultations and tours for one user are now being counted as information transactions, and that there was a greater effort to record co-taught sessions only once. In addition, information fairs are no longer counted in presentations to groups (since 2009/10). The data includes some of the new breakouts tracked through Count It. 90% of information transactions were under 20 minutes and 98% were answered from within the library; and 56% of the presentations to group sessions were course-related or part of credit bearing courses taught or co-taught by library staff.

							1 year % change	5 year % change
							Incr/(Decr)	Incr/(Decr)
<b>Information Transactions</b>								
						84,397	6.4%	u/a ^
<b>Information Transactions breakouts</b>								
<b>Mode</b>								
Electronic						22,141	(0.5%)	u/a ^
Non-electronic						62,256	9.6%	u/a ^
Cannot be categorized						0	u/a	u/a ^
<b>Duration (face-time spent with users)</b>								
Under 5 minutes						35,802	u/a	u/a
5-14 minutes						35,419	u/a	u/a
15-19 minutes						4,805	u/a	u/a
20-59 minutes						6,950	u/a	u/a
60+ minutes						1,421	u/a	u/a
<b>Location answered</b>								
In library						83,171	u/a	u/a
Outside library, on campus						542	u/a	u/a
Off campus						684	u/a	u/a
<b>Presentations To Groups - sessions</b>						1,557	(14.4%)	(11.6%)
Instruction Sessions								
Course related						539	u/a	u/a
Your own credit bearing course						336	u/a	u/a
Workshops						310	u/a	u/a
Other						190	u/a	u/a
<b>Tours</b>								
<b>Presentations to Groups - participants</b>						22,413	(8.8%)	(9.9%)
Instruction sessions								
Tours								

\* = corrected/adjusted count

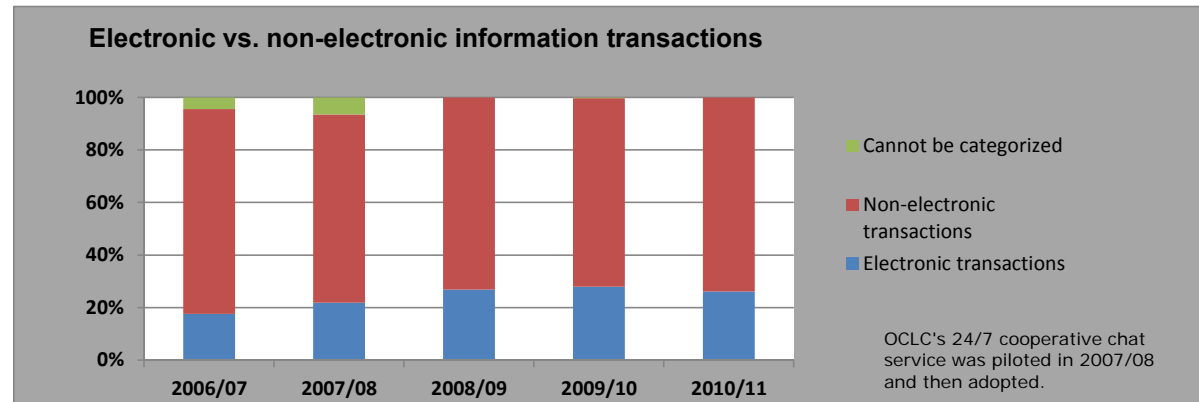
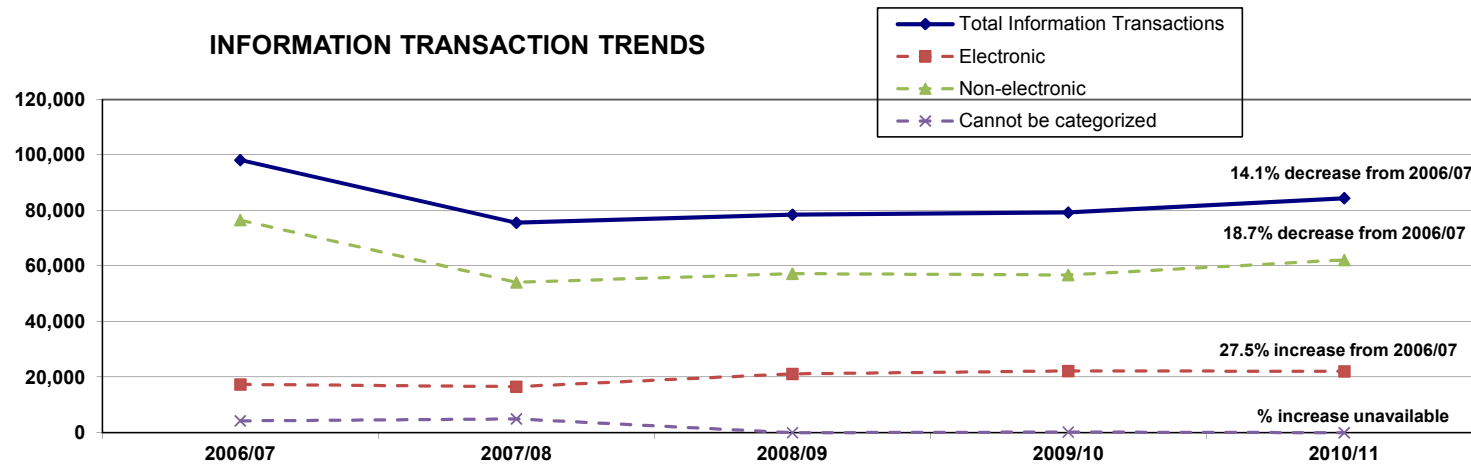
u/a = unavailable

^ = The figures for 2005/06 are unavailable due to an error in reporting; a significant number of directional transactions were mistakenly included.

## INFORMATION AND INSTRUCTION CONTACTS WITH PATRONS

Graphs (continued on next two pages)

(back to online TOC)

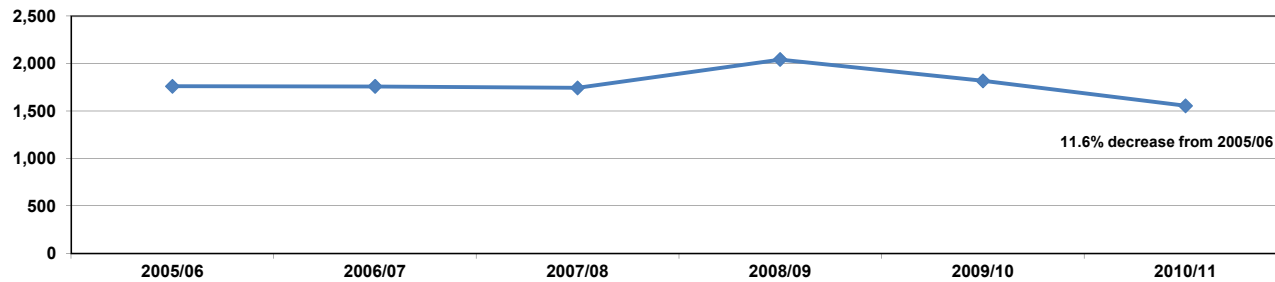


## INFORMATION AND INSTRUCTION CONTACTS WITH PATRONS

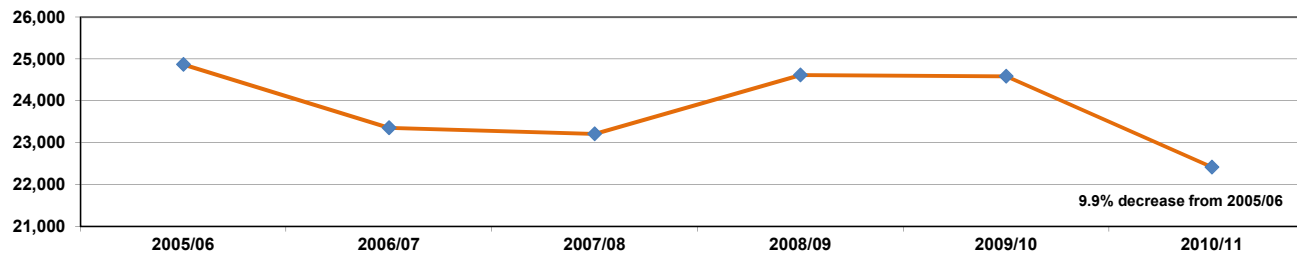
### Graphs (continued)

(back to online TOC)

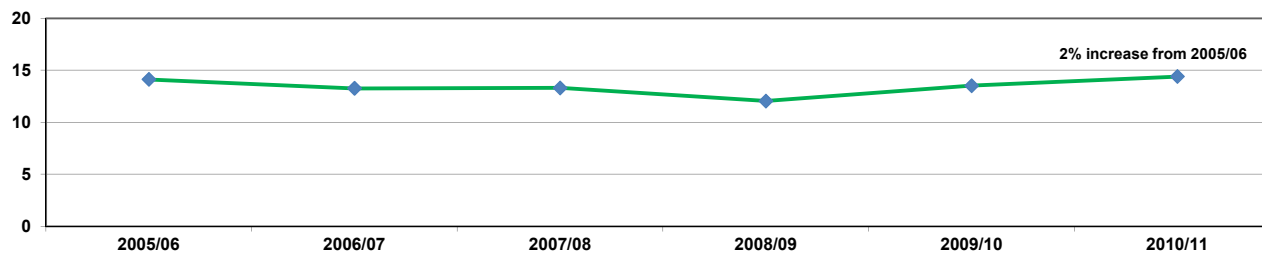
**PRESENTATIONS TO GROUPS - SESSIONS**



**PRESENTATIONS TO GROUPS - PARTICIPANTS**



**PRESENTATIONS TO GROUPS - PARTICIPANTS PER SESSION**

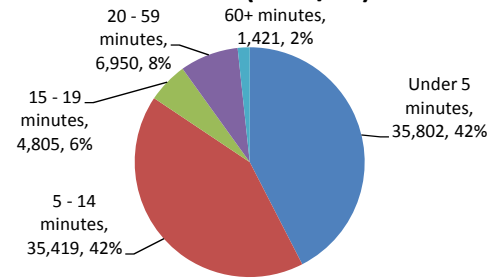


## INFORMATION AND INSTRUCTION CONTACTS WITH PATRONS

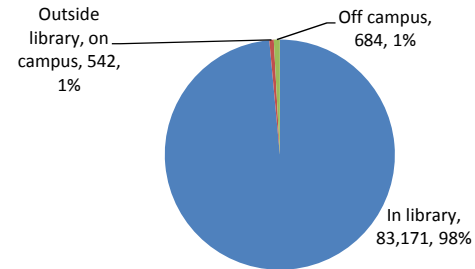
### Graphs (continued)

(back to online TOC)

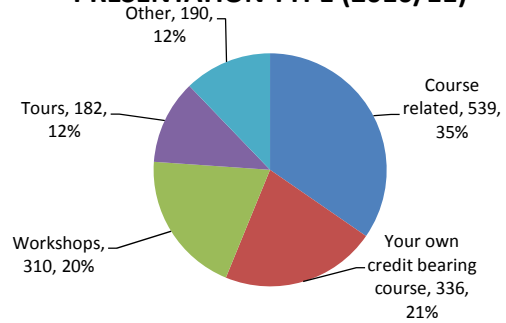
**INFORMATION TRANSACTIONS - BY DURATION (2010/11)**



**INFORMATION TRANSACTIONS - BY LIBRARY STAFF LOCATION (2010/11)**



**PRESENTATIONS TO GROUPS - BY PRESENTATION TYPE (2010/11)**





## ACCESS, FACILITIES AND STAFFING

### Data table

(back to online TOC)

In 2010/11, virtual visits (sessions to library-hosted web sites from outside of library buildings) were up -- nearing 10 million. However, interpreting this large increase is difficult. More web sites are now covered and wireless use from within library buildings still cannot be excluded. In addition, CUL officially launched CULite (the Library's mobile interface) in March of 2010. In the physical realm, in-person visits were up to almost 4.5 million, but except for a slight increase in the number of computers, all other facilities and space indicators were down. Physical visits represented only 30% of the total physical and estimated virtual visits. The decrease in the number of staff FTE slowed in 2010/11. The Library now operates with 15.2% fewer staff than it did five years ago. Note that staffing counts exclude any temporarily vacant lines and short-term staff. Sponsored Programs FTE (a subset of total FTE) are tracked here for the first time. Selected data are illustrated in the following pages.

	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	1 year % change	5 year % change
							Incr/(Decr)	Incr/(Decr)
<b>Access</b>								
Virtual visits	u/a	u/a	u/a	7,701,219	6,840,206	9,987,899	46.0%	u/a
Physical visits	3,846,633 *	3,660,310 *	3,696,817 *	3,471,767	4,236,585	4,478,097	5.7%	16.4%
<b>Facilities</b>								
Staffed Service Points	54	55	55	45	42	40	(4.8%)	(25.9%)
User Seats	5,088	5,060	5,685	5,679	5,581	5,563	(0.3%)	9.3%
Net Square Footage	771,656	771,656	812,064	809,920	798,106	790,620	(0.9%)	2.5%
Public Computers	u/a	u/a	924	1,052	1,074	1,077	0.3%	u/a
Desktops	u/a	u/a	742	835	844	853	1.1%	u/a
Laptops	u/a	u/a	182	217	230	224	(2.6%)	u/a
<b>Staffing FTE</b>								
Academic Staff	125	124	126	125	115	115	0.4%	(7.3%)
Non-Academic Staff	349	341	335	312	289	287	(0.7%)	(18.0%)
Exempt	101	96	94	92	88	90	1.4%	(11.2%)
Non-Exempt	249	245	241	220	200	197	(1.7%)	(20.7%)
<b>Total non-student staff</b>	474	464	461	437	404	402	(0.4%)	(15.2%)
Students	115	118	121	120	110	111	0.4%	(3.3%)
<b>Subset of Staffing FTE</b>								
Sponsored Programs FTE	u/a	u/a	u/a	u/a	u/a	20	u/a	u/a

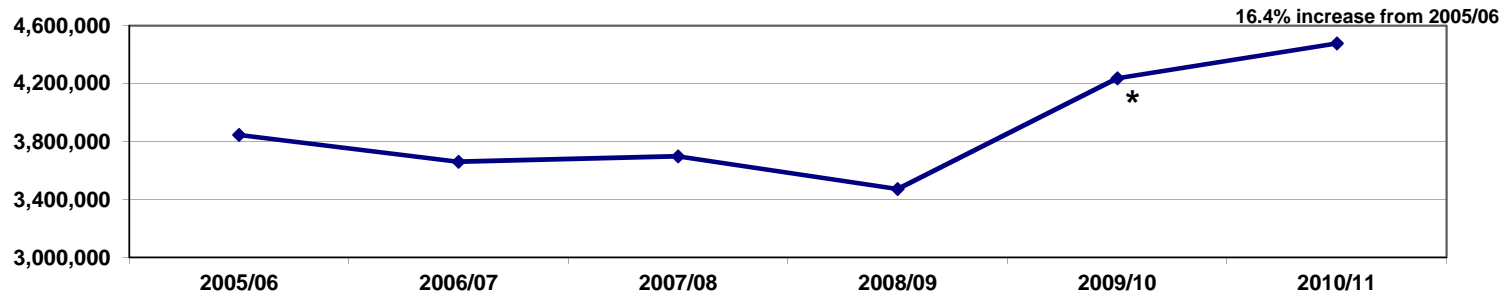
\* = corrected/adjusted count

## ACCESS, FACILITIES AND STAFF

### Graphs (continued on next page)

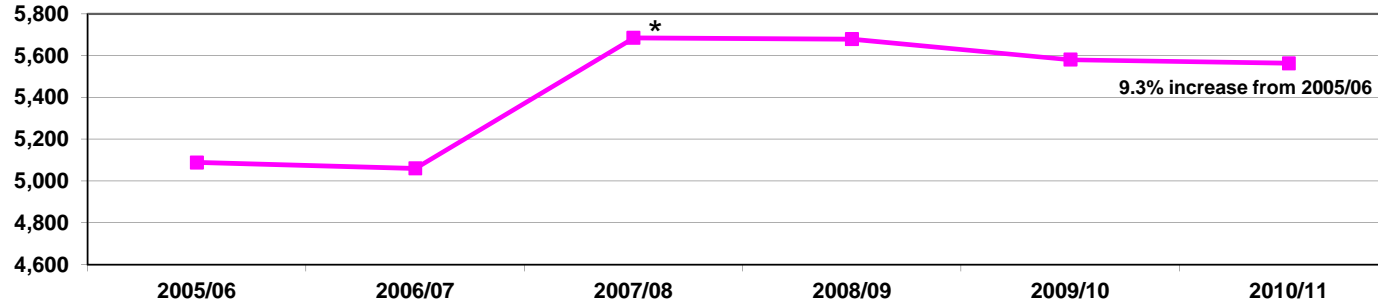
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#### IN-PERSON LIBRARY VISITS



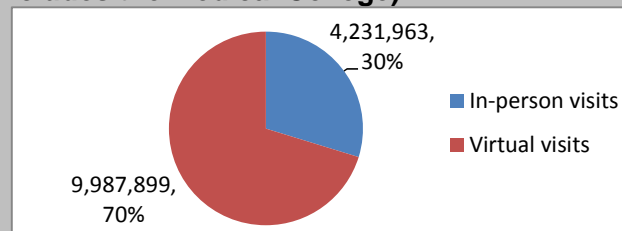
\* Mann Library was able to report an extrapolated visit count for the first time in 2009/10 and a full count for the first time in 2010/11. If not for the addition of Mann's count, the 2010/11 figure would have represented a 11.4% decrease from 2005/06. The significant increase in user seats in 2007/08 reflects in largest part the completion of Mann Library's renovation.

#### USER SEATS



#### In-person vs. virtual visits in 2010/11 (excludes the Medical College)

This graph shows in-person visits and virtual visits (estimated use of library-hosted Web pages from outside of the library buildings). It is not a fully valid comparison\*\*, but it helps to show a more rounded view of the use of the library.

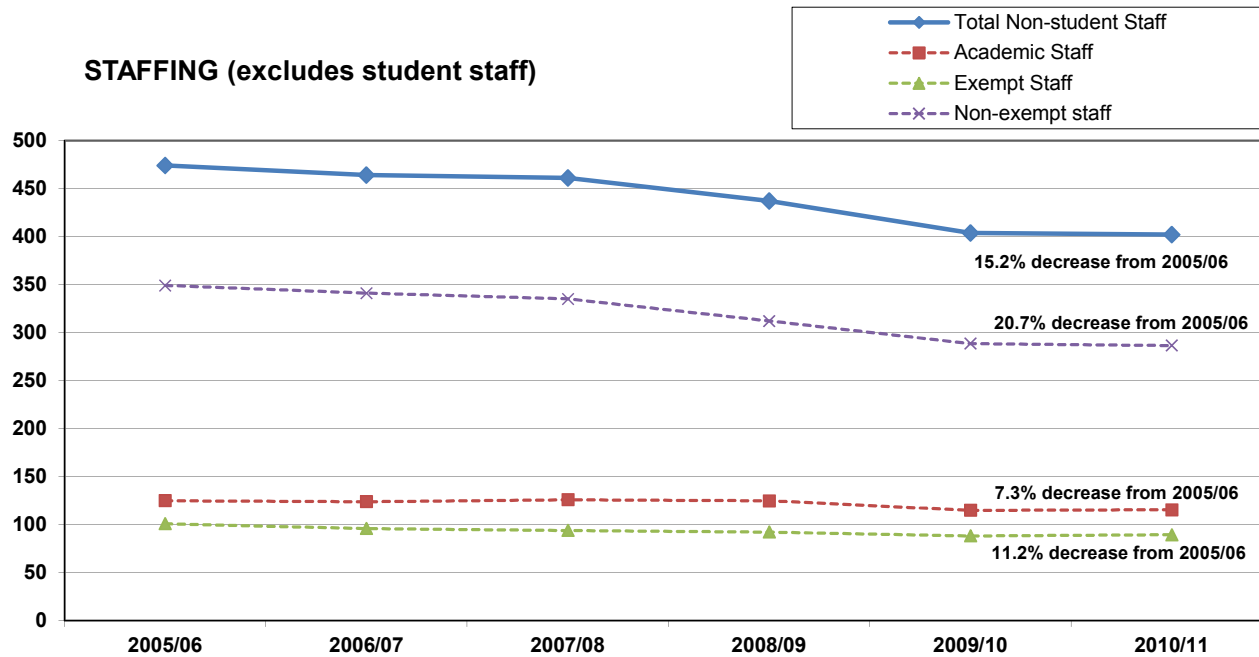


\*\*Online use excludes use of pages not covered by CUL's local Logs System (e.g., licensed resources accessed directly, Web sites on college servers, some newer sites); virtual counts cannot exclude wireless use from within the libraries; most physical visit counts reported include library staff; gate counts are unavailable for three units; and, in general, tracking both of these counts is an inexact science.

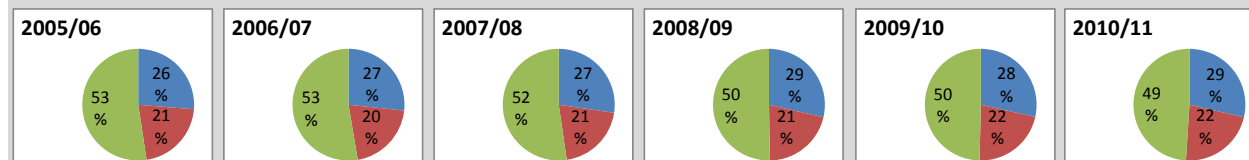
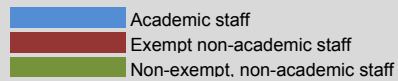
## ACCESS, FACILITIES AND STAFFING

### Graphs (continued)

(back to online TOC)



### Non-student staff by staff type



## EXPENDITURES

### Data table

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This table first shows total expenditures<sup>1</sup>, then provides some adjusted and breakout figures to put the those figures in context. Total expenditures increased slightly from 2009/10, and showed a 4.6% increase from 2005/06. The 2010/11 returns to the university (some \$38,113 reported here<sup>2</sup>) were much smaller than those for 2008/09 and 2009/10 (\$1,489,600 and \$1,921,933 respectively). However, the CPI adjusted total expenditures decreased by 6% from 2005/06. Likewise, the 28.9% increase from 2009/10 in Sponsored Programs expenditures is larger than the increase of total expenditures from 2009/10. E-materials expenditures were 60.7% of total materials expenditures in 2010/11. Selected data are illustrated on the next few pages.

	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	1 year % change	5 year % change
							Incr/(Decr)	Incr/(Decr)
<b>Total expenditures</b>	\$51,665,687	\$53,661,817	\$56,710,562	\$56,678,222	\$53,383,068	\$54,039,212	1.2%	4.6%
<b>Total expenditures adjusted for inflation</b>								
CPI Inflation adjusted total expenditures (1982-1984 dollar base value)	\$25,466,017	\$25,757,672	\$25,916,727	\$26,277,157	\$24,491,564	\$23,940,605	(2.2%)	(6.0%)
<b>Total expenditures minus returns to the university/colleges</b>	ua/na	ua/na	ua/na	\$55,188,622	\$51,461,135	\$54,001,099	4.9%	u/a
<b>Total expenditures divided into staffing, materials and general operating</b>								
Staffing expenditures (including benefits)				\$32,025,646	\$29,160,178	\$29,611,930	1.5%	u/a
Materials expenditures (including shipping & binding)				\$17,817,888	\$16,473,369	\$17,515,453	6.3%	u/a
General operating				\$6,834,688	\$7,749,521	\$6,911,829	(10.8%)	u/a
<b>Other subsets</b>								
Estimated Electronic Materials Expenditures (subset of materials expenditures)				\$8,689,730	\$9,546,493	\$10,637,434	11.4%	u/a
Sponsored programs expenditures (subset of staffing, materials and general operating expenditures)				\$1,555,194	\$2,627,969	\$3,388,230	28.9%	u/a

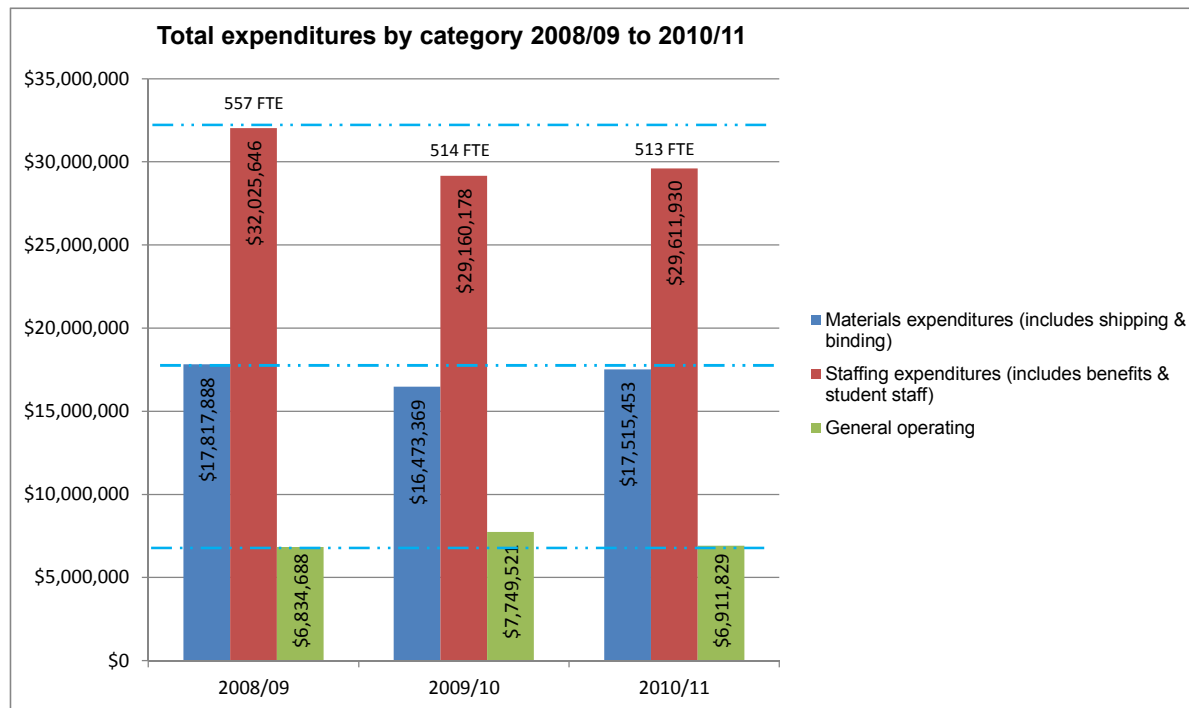
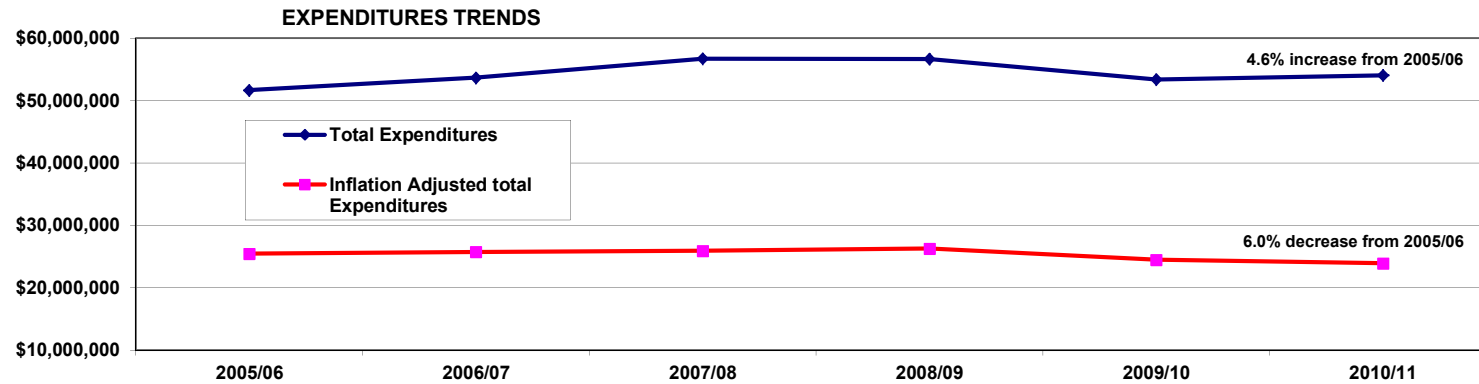
ua/na = unavailable or not applicable

<sup>1</sup> Starting with 2009/10, figures exclude estimated expenditures for the federal share of work-study expenditures (in 2010/11, about \$198,150). In 2007/08, Mann Library operating expenditures were over-reported due to transfers to principle being reported as expenditures.

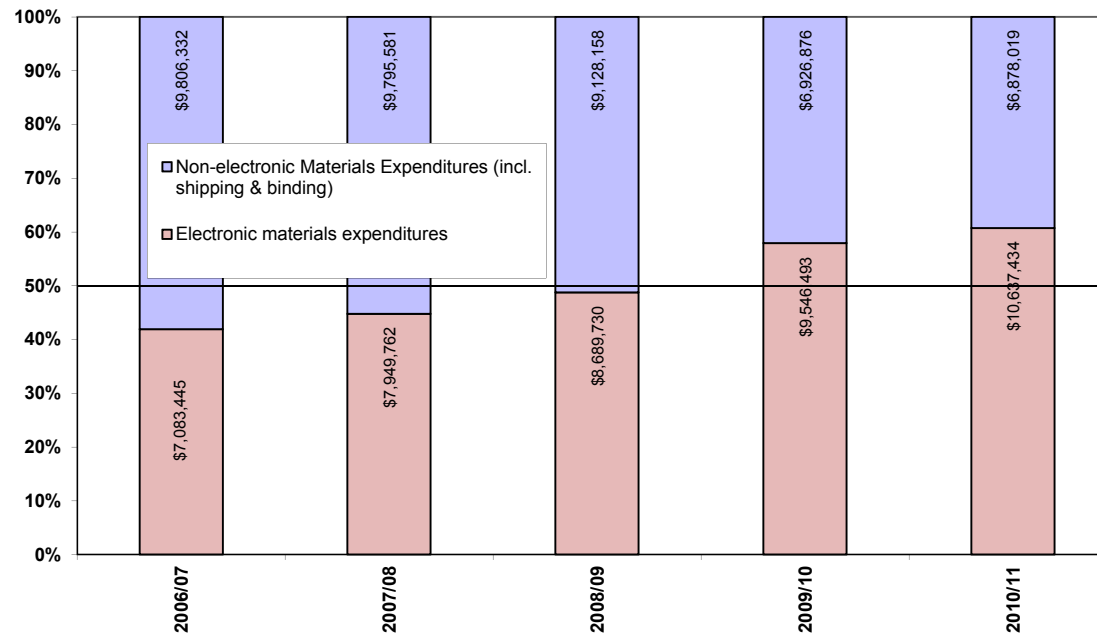
<sup>2</sup> Some returns were mistakenly excluded from total expenditures. The actual figure was \$66,624.

## EXPENDITURES

**Graphs** (continued on next page)  
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**ESTIMATED ELECTRONIC MATERIALS EXPENDITURES COMPARED TO NON-E MATERIALS EXPENDITURES**



## Association of Research Libraries Rankings

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These tables present CUL among its ARL peer institutions through various ARL rankings. ARL implemented its *Library Investment Index* in 2007 and retroactively calculated the data back to 2002/03 for the 113 (and in 2009/10, 115) university libraries. Ranked 13th in 2009/10, CUL fell one rank from 2008/09, and five ranks since 2004/05. The ARL *Library Investment Index* ranking for CUL excludes the Medical Library as that library is not within reasonable commuting distance of Ithaca/Geneva. The sidebar shows what CUL's ranking would have been for 2007/08 through 2009/10 if CUL's Medical Library counts were included for the ranking. All data below are from <http://www.arl.org>.

### Cornell's ARL *Library Investment Index* Rankings

Year	ARL Rank
2004/05	8
2005/06	10
2006/07	10
2007/08	10 *
2008/09	12
2009/10	13

–Index based on: total library expenditures; salaries and wages of professional staff; total library materials expenditures; and professional plus support staff.

\* Corrected figure

### Top 20 ARL *Library Investment Index*-Ranked Libraries, 2009/10

ARL Rank	University	ARL Rank	University
1	Harvard	11	Alberta
2	Yale	12	UCLA
3	Toronto	13	Cornell
4	Columbia	14	North Carolina
5	Michigan	15	Duke
6	New York	16	Pennsylvania
7	UC Berkeley	17	Illinois, Urbana
8	Princeton	18	Texas A&M
9	Penn State	19	Minnesota
10	Texas, Austin	20	Washington

### Cornell's ARL Rankings for Average, Median, and Beginning Professional Salaries

Year	Average Salary	Median Salary	Beginning Salary
2005/06	23	43	23
2006/07	28	43	22
2007/08	33	40	16
2008/09	41	55	28
2009/10	32	46	24
2010/11	32	42	28

–Excludes all law and medical library data, which are reported separately. Salaries of university librarians are not included in calculations of averages and medians.

### Cornell's ARL *Library Investment Index* Rankings if the Medical Library's data is added

Year	ARL Rank
2007/08	8
2008/09	9
2009/10	10

–CUL imputes this count. CUL is the only top ranked ARL library that excludes (per ARL definition) an existing medical library because it is not located within a reasonable commuting distance from the central campus. We impute this ranking to represent CU's full investment in the Library for more accurate peer comparisons.

## Acknowledgements

Assessment & Communication would like to thank the following CUL staff who directly contributed data to make this report possible.

Carole Atkinson  
Carmen Blankinship  
Bonna Boettcher  
Eli Brown  
Adam Chandler  
Ronnie Clark  
Pat Court  
Ann Crowley  
George Dillmann  
Chris Dunham  
Brennen Feint  
Caitlin Finlay  
Michael Fordon  
Mark Funk  
Laura Heisey

Erla Heyns  
Angela Horne  
Bill Kara  
Jesse Koennecke  
Anny Khoubesserian  
Deb Lamb-Deans  
Joanne Leary  
Tami Magnus  
Jean Pajerek  
Joy Paulson  
Fiona Patrick  
Lydia Pettis  
Sharon Powers  
Lyndsi Prignon  
Howard Raskin

Christina Rice  
Steve Rockey  
Don Schnedeker  
Marty Schlabach  
Elizabeth Shepard  
Natalie Sheridan  
Leah Solla  
Jim Spear  
Shannon Spencer (Vet accounting)  
Jill Ulbricht  
Martha Walker  
Terri Whitaker  
Michael Wood  
Cammie Wyckoff

