



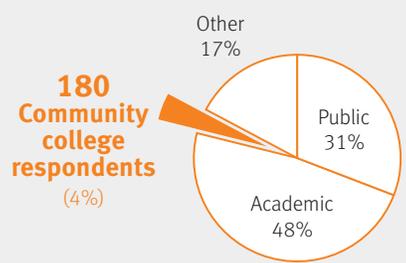
# A SNAPSHOT OF PRIORITIES & PERSPECTIVES

## U.S. Community College Libraries



OCLC conducted a member survey to understand librarians' top priorities, current key initiatives, thoughts on service and top methods for keeping current on happenings in the library field. 180 community college library staff participated in the survey.

### Respondents by library type



Total respondents (n=4,168)

### Most community college library staff:

- Consider licensed e-collections and e-books to be their top priority and current initiative
- Believe their current library location structure will be the same in five years
- Rely mostly on listservs and email to stay current – a few use social media.

Community college library staff are less likely than other academic library and public library staff to expect that a national digital library will exist in the next five years.

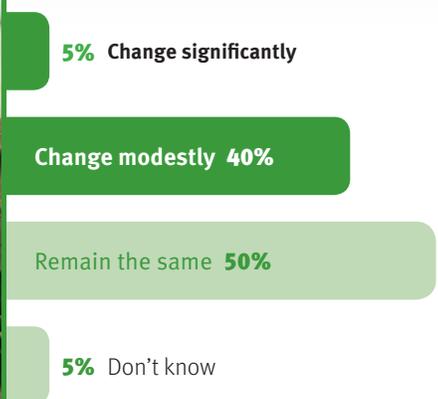
Community college libraries are distinctively putting more focus on outreach and library instruction and their back-end office technology compared to other academic libraries.

If you would like to read similar reports about other U.S. academic libraries and public libraries, see the reports at [www.oclc.org/reports](http://www.oclc.org/reports).

**Staff are split on faculty's future use of library.** Community college library staff believe that conducting research and borrowing materials are the main reasons why faculty use the library today. And just under half of them expect those reasons to change over the next five years.



### The primary reason faculty use the library in five years will...



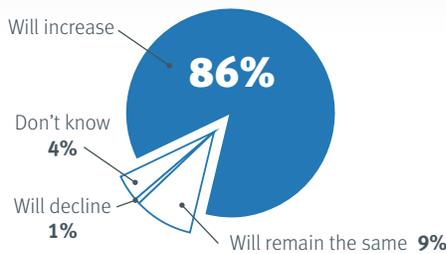
**45%** Anticipate a change in the top reason faculty use the library.

# More online traffic and more nontraditional service points

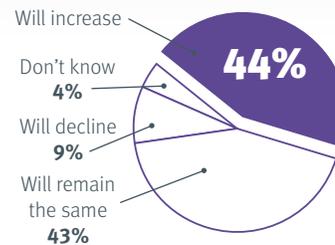
Most community college library staff expect use of the online library to grow in the next two years while fewer expect foot traffic to increase. Ideally, about a third would like to serve their communities with new and additional service points.

**Use of the online library will increase:** A large majority of community college library staff expect the number of unique online visitors to their library to increase in the next two years. Fewer than half, however, expect an increase in visits to their physical libraries.

**86%** expect use of the online library will increase



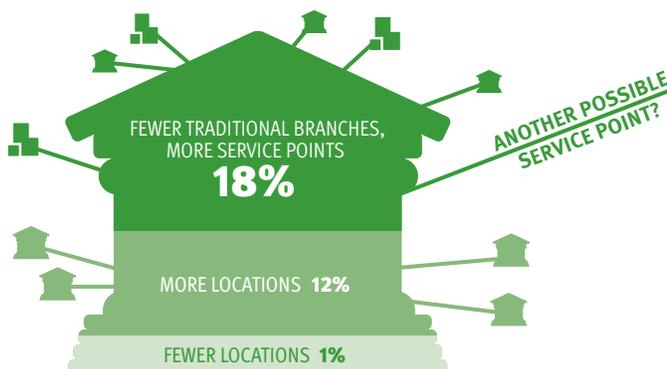
**44%** expect use of the physical library will increase



**Most staff want the same number of library locations in five years:** The majority of community college library staff would ideally like the make-up of their service points to stay the same while some would like to see a change. Opinions on the likelihood and timing of a national (or large-scale) digital library are still forming.

**69%** of community college library staff would ideally like the same number of locations in five years.

**31%** would like a change in service points.



**30%** think there will be a national digital library used by their faculty and students in the next five years

- 36% think it will happen in more than five years
- 31% don't know when it will happen
- 3% think it will never happen

### OTHER ACADEMICS

**41%** think there will be a national digital library used by their faculty and students in the next five years

“Developing library services to new locations which have no physical library and only a part-time physical librarian on campus.”

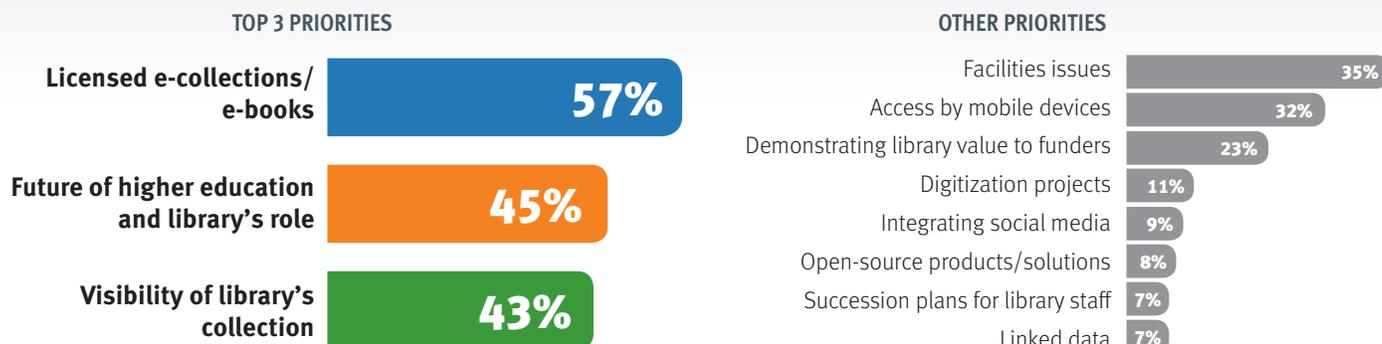
COMMUNITY COLLEGE LIBRARIAN

# Licensed e-content: top priority and initiative

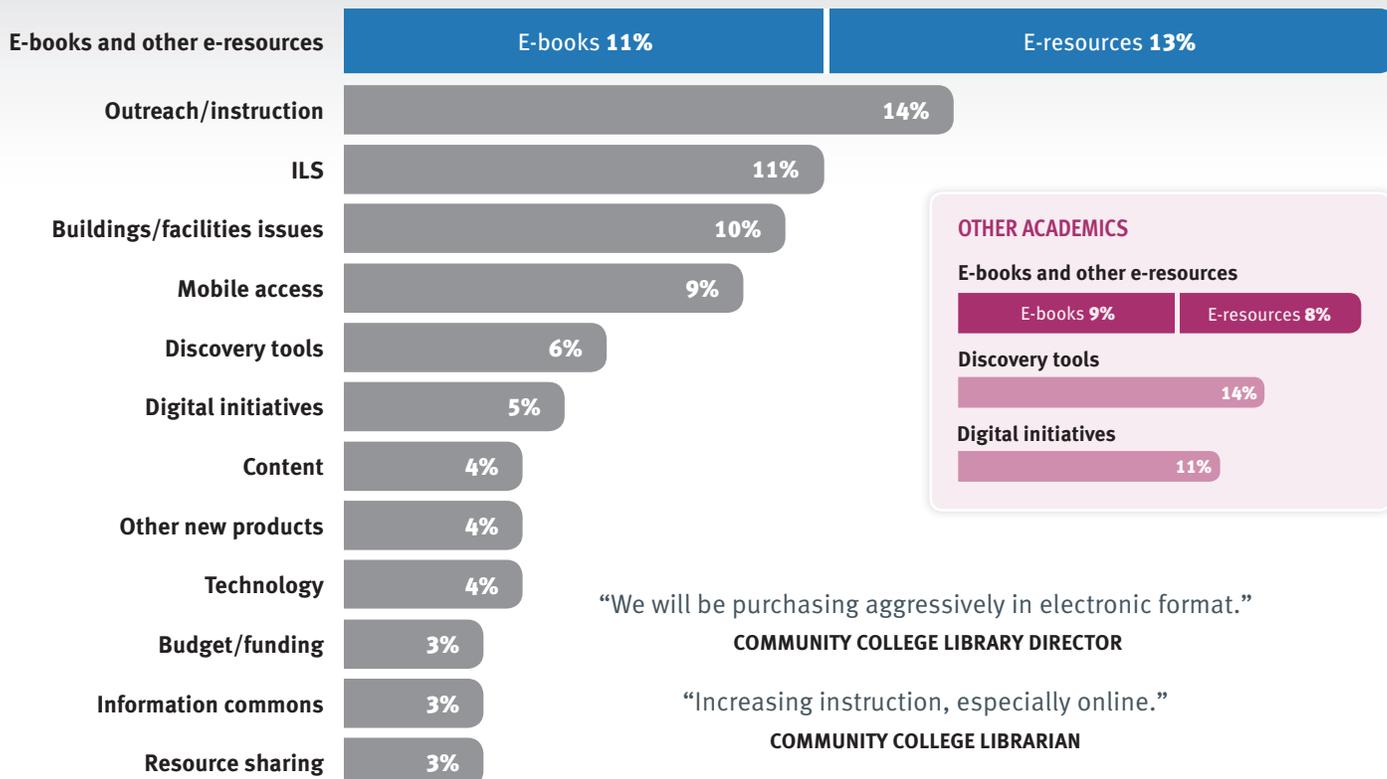
Community college libraries are focused on delivering e-content as one of their top priorities and as a key current strategic initiative.

**Top priorities:** Delivering e-content is a top priority for many community college library staff, while the future of higher education and the library's role in that future, as well as visibility of the library's collection, round out the top three priorities.

## Top priorities by community college library respondents



**E-content dominates initiatives today:** E-content—e-books and other e-resources—and library outreach and instruction are the most popular new initiatives this year.

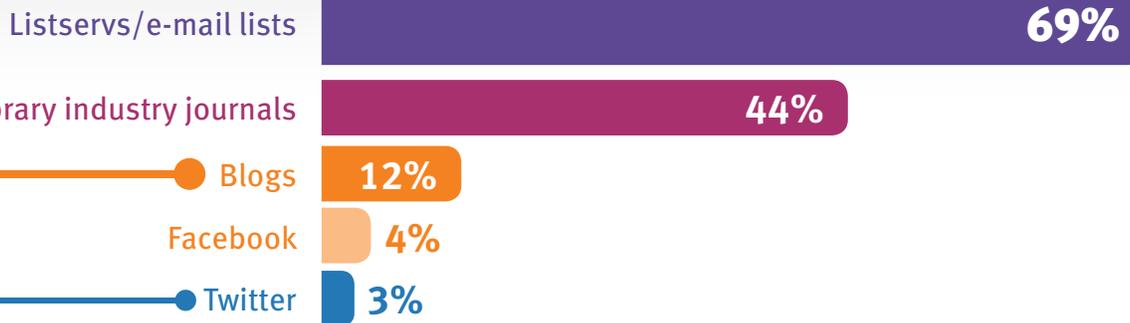


# Listservs still hot

Community college library staff rely primarily on listservs/e-mail lists for library information.

**Listservs are top information sources:** Listservs/e-mail lists top the list of sources for staying informed about the library industry among community college library staff. Nearly half consider industry journals as a top source. Few follow Twitter to stay informed.

## Community college library respondents



### Twitter yet to take off

**84%**  
do not use  
Twitter as a way  
to keep up with  
library trends

### Most-followed Twitter handles

- *Library Journal* (@LibraryJournal) **7%**
- *ALA TechSource* (@ALA\_TechSource) **5%**
- *American Libraries* (@amlibraries) **5%**
- *The Chronicle of Higher Education* (@chronicle) **5%**
- *OCLC* (@oclc) **5%**
- *Sarah Houghton-Jan* (@TheLiB) **5%**

### Fewer than half of community college library staff read blogs

**41%**  
read blogs  
to keep  
current with  
library trends

#### Top 6 blogs

- *Annoyed Librarian* (Library Journal)
- *Library Technology Guides* (Marshall Breeding)
- *Librarian in Black* (Sarah Houghton-Jan)
- *Librarian.net* (Jessamyn West)
- *BlogJunction* (WebJunction)
- *Stephen's Lighthouse* (Stephen Abram)

### Top journals read



- *Library Journal* **53%**
- *The Chronicle of Higher Education* **51%**
- *American Libraries* **32%**

“Colleagues share the blogs, journals, listserv info they gather mostly via e-mail.”

COMMUNITY COLLEGE LIBRARY DIRECTOR

“I don’t use Twitter.”

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