project | OUTCOME
MEASURING THE TRUE IMPACT OF LIBRARIES

Fiscal Year 2026 Report*

73
INSTITUTIONS USING PROJECT OUCTOME

34
STATES REPRESENTED

1,696
SURVEYS CREATED

34,192
RESPONSES COLLECTED

Project Outcome for Academic Libraries is a FREE online toolkit designed to help libraries understand and share the impact of essential library programs and services by providing simple surveys and an easy-to-use process for measuring and analyzing outcomes. Participating libraries are also provided with the resources and training support needed to apply their results and confidently advocate for their library's future. Project Outcome's standardized surveys allow libraries to aggregate their outcome data and analyze trends by service topic, program type, and over time. Academic libraries can see how the outcomes of their programs and services compare across their institution, Carnegie Class, and nation.

Usage by Survey Topic



LIBRARY TECHNOLOGY

7 SURVEYS
215 RESPONSES



DIGITAL & SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

7 SURVEYS
68 RESPONSES



RESEARCH

19 SURVEYS
187 RESPONSES



EVENTS/PROGRAMS

58 SURVEYS
575 RESPONSES



SPACE

15 SURVEYS
494 RESPONSES



INSTRUCTION

1,585 SURVEYS
32,626 RESPONSES



TEACHING SUPPORT

5 SURVEYS
27 RESPONSES

* Data in this report includes all immediate and follow-up surveys and responses from institutions in the United States and covers the period September 1, 2025 - August 31, 2026.

Implementing the ACRL Project Outcome toolkit changed the library's assessment approach to our largest instructional program. This led to standardization and consistency across the research and instruction department. As a result, the library established new learning criteria to better support first-year and new transfer students, many of whom identify as first generation and Hispanic/Latino. **- Martha Hood and Juliana Espinosa**

Learn More About Project Outcome

Interested in using Project Outcome for Academic Libraries to measure outcomes at your library? Sign up for a free account today at acrl.projectoutcome.org to get started!

High Impact Practices

In 2024, ACRL added the NSSE High-Impact Practices (HIP) as a taggable feature in the toolkit. Since the launch, 65 institutions have used the feature, and collected 13,909 responses. Students reported the highest scores for the Research with Faculty HIP, with an average score of 4.4. No schools have tagged their surveys with the Internship/Field Experience or Study Abroad HIPs in the toolkit yet. Learn more about this valuable feature by reading this resource (login required).

Learning Community
4.2
Total Responses for : 9,669
Carnegie Average: n/a
National Average: n/a
Total Average: 4.2

Culminating Senior Experience
4.2
Total Responses for : 1,207
Carnegie Average: n/a
National Average: n/a
Total Average: 4.2

Research with Faculty
4.4
Total Responses for : 1,011
Carnegie Average: n/a
National Average: n/a
Total Average: 4.4

Service-Learning
4.2
Total Responses for : 2,022
Carnegie Average: n/a
National Average: n/a
Total Average: 4.3

The Learning Community HIP is the most popular in terms of responses, accounting for 69.5% of total HIP responses, and the chart below shows the results from immediate instruction surveys that have been tagged with this HIP. 90% of respondents agree or strongly agree that they learned something new that will help me succeed in class, 88% of respondents agree or strongly agree that they feel more confident about completing the assignment, 90% of respondents agree or strongly agree that they intend to apply what I just learned, and 89% of respondents agree or strongly agree that they are more aware of the library's resources and services. These results suggest that the learning community the library creates greatly benefits a student's academic experience and success.

