

# → Fast Facts



## **Academic library pandemic responses**

As of April 6, 2020, 1,067 of 1,259 U.S. academic libraries responding to an Ithaka S+R survey about responses to the COVID-19 pandemic reported that in-person classes had moved to online/remote instruction. Sixty-six institutions reported classes continuing as usual. Of the 1,280 responding to a question about library hours, 457 institutions reported all libraries closed while 359 reported libraries remaining open during their usual hours.

Ithaka S+R, "Live Results - Wolff-Eisenberg + Hinchliffe - All responses," (preliminary data) April 6, 2020, [https://surveys.ithaka.org/results/public/aXR0YW90YWhlLVV5X3E5c3IDWkZjM0ZEVVD4Zi01ZTY5NmZkZDcxZjA3ZjAwMTA0ZmM3ZmY=#/pages/Page\\_5b80c888-79df-4993-afaa-aa746f5f55ee](https://surveys.ithaka.org/results/public/aXR0YW90YWhlLVV5X3E5c3IDWkZjM0ZEVVD4Zi01ZTY5NmZkZDcxZjA3ZjAwMTA0ZmM3ZmY=#/pages/Page_5b80c888-79df-4993-afaa-aa746f5f55ee) (retrieved April 6, 2020).



## **Continuing digital divide**

"Whether people use the [I]nternet varies widely by level of education" in 34 countries surveyed by the Pew Research Center. "Internet use (including smartphone ownership) is particularly rare among people with a lower level of completed education in Nigeria, where only 13 percent of people say they use the [I]nternet, compared with 73 percent of those with more education in that country. In 10 countries surveyed, the difference in reported [I]nternet use between those with lower educational attainment and those with more education is greater than 30 percentage points. In two countries, Italy and Turkey, the higher-lower education difference is quite stark: Everyone in these countries with a higher education level reports using the [I]nternet, compared with only 77 percent and 82 percent, respectively, of those with a lower level of education."

Shannon Schumacher and Nicholas Kent, "8 charts on internet use around the world as countries grapple with COVID-19," April 2, 2020, Pew Research Center, <https://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2020/04/02/8-charts-on-internet-use-around-the-world-as-countries-grapple-with-covid-19> (retrieved April 6, 2020).



## **Library employment**

"In 2018, there were approximately 191,500 librarians, 29,400 library technicians, and 103,000 library assistants employed in public libraries, primary and secondary schools, institutions of higher education, museums and archives, as well as in libraries operated by private corporations, government agencies, religious groups and other organizations."

"Library Professionals: Facts & Figures," May 15, 2019, The Department for Professional Employees, AFL-CIO, [https://www.dpeaflcio.org/factsheets/library-professionals-facts-and-figures#\\_edn1](https://www.dpeaflcio.org/factsheets/library-professionals-facts-and-figures#_edn1) (retrieved April 6, 2020).



## **ACT test**

In 1995, 38 percent of all high school graduates took the ACT. In 2018, 52 percent of high school graduates took the ACT. The average composite score was 20.8 in both years (the minimum score on the ACT is 1 and maximum score is 36).

"Fast facts: ACT scores (897)," 2019, National Center for Education Statistics, U.S. Department of Education, <https://nces.ed.gov/fastfacts/display.asp?id=897> (retrieved April 6, 2020).



## **Historically Black Colleges and Universities**

"In 2018, there were 101 HBCUs located in 19 states, the District of Columbia, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. Of the 101 HBCUs, 51 were public institutions and 50 were private nonprofit institutions. The number of HBCU students increased 47 percent, from 223,000 to 327,000 students, between 1976 and 2010, then decreased 11 percent, to 292,000 students, between 2010 and 2018."

"Fast Facts: Historically Black Colleges and Universities (667)," 2019, National Center for Education Statistics, U.S. Department of Education, <https://nces.ed.gov/fastfacts/display.asp?id=667> (retrieved April 6, 2020).

Gary Pattillo is reference librarian at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, e-mail: [pattillo@email.unc.edu](mailto:pattillo@email.unc.edu)