Usage Statistics of Electronic Resources: A Comparison of Vendor Supplied Usage Data

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The City University of New York (CUNY)
2014 ARL Library Assessment Conference
University of Washington, Seattle
August 4-6, 2014
What I will Cover Today

1. Nature and type of usage statistics reports and data available from database vendors
2. Project goal, scope and methodology
3. Data type and features of usage statistics reports
4. Usage statistics consultation source for effective practical assessment
5. Significance of this source and future plans
The project was sponsored by PSC–CUNY Research Grant from Research Foundation of the City University of New York
Usage Statistics for E-resources

- Sources of usage data for e-resources
  - Database vendor supplied usage data reports
  - Web server statistics
  - Google analytics
  - More

This project focuses on: Database vendor supplied usage data reports
Challenges in Vendor Supplied Usage Statistics

- Inconsistent data
- Partial or incomplete data
- Variations in usage statistics from vendor to vendor

Significant planning effort is required to make statistics usable for evaluation and assessment
To build a usage statistics consultation source for librarians and professionals interested in planning, evaluating and collecting usage statistics using their preferred criteria for data from vendor supplied usage reports for effective assessment.
Scope and Methodology

- In-depth analysis of electronic resource’s vendor supplied usage data reports.
- Comparison of more than 150 databases subscribed by BMCC - CUNY
- Important parameters being considered: Data types & definitions, data for access platforms, features, availability of usage reports in local, national and international standards, sufficiency of data and the extent of data mining
Types of Vendor Supplied Reports

Overwhelming Data

- COUNTER Reports
- ICOLC Reports
- SUSHI Reports
- Standard Reports
- More
Data Types and Categories in Vendor Supplied Usage Reports

- Full text retrieval,
- Session length,
- Retrieval,
- Read speaker/Listen
- Browse,
- Number of successful fulltext,
- Unique article request,
- Queries,
- Activities,
- Site visits,
- Logs,
- Smart link to,
- Total views,
- Unique users,
- Custom link,
- Hits,
- Sessions,
- Image/Video,
- Item requests,
- Searches,
- Playback,
- Total IP,
- Peak SU,
- Section requests
- Total usage,
- Created,
- Duration,
- Full content unit reached/request,
- All TOC,
- Profile,
- Current issue TOC,
- Journal usage,
- Title level search,
Data Definitions

What is what?
Features of Vendor Supplied Usage Reports

- **Formats**
  - PDF
  - HTML
  - CSV
  - Excel
  - Text
  - more

- **Availability**
  - Schedule a report
  - Generate a report
  - Display on screen

- **Date Range**
  - Calendar year
  - Custom range
Vendor Supplied Usage Data for Access Platforms

Does vendor provide usage data for ADA compliant access?

Does vendor provide usage data for emerging technology access platforms and devices?
Usage Statistics Consultation Source for Practical Assessment

- Detailed analysis and comparison of different reports, data categories, definitions and features to aid in effective assessment of library’s electronic resources
- It will be available on CUNY Academic Commons

Designed to support faculty initiatives and build community
Significance

Benefits for Libraries

- Libraries can evaluate or reevaluate categories in which they require data to support and conduct effective assessments of e-resources
- Request desired data categories from database vendors

Benefits for Vendors

- Helpful tool for vendors to plan ahead for providing usage data in categories’ that libraries need for their resource assessments
Future Plan to Sustain this Source

Usage consultation source will continue to be updated after the completion of this project depending on availability of resources and future access to electronic resources available at BMCC
Thank you!

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