Fast Facts



Unwanted robocalls

Nearly half of all U.S. cell phone traffic will be unwanted robocalls in 2019, according to a report by First Orion. This is a dramatic increase from about 4 percent scam calls in 2017 and about 29 percent in 2018. "That number is projected to reach 44.6 percent by early 2019."

First Orion, "Nearly 50% of U.S. Mobile Traffic Will Be Scam Calls by 2019," First Orion Corp. (blog), September 12, 2018, https://firstorion.com/nearly-50-of-u-s-mobile-traffic-will-be-scam-calls-by-2019 (retrieved March 5, 2019).



Library acquisition patterns

A recent study of 154 academic libraries by Ithaka S+R found from the period 2014 to 2017 "library material expenditures increased in real terms, with more than 70 percent of expenditures going toward ongoing resources and between 16 and 21 percent going toward one-time resources. All degree-granting institutional types experienced a decline in their average print book expenditures." Katherine Daniel, Joseph J. Esposito, and Roger C. Schonfeld, "Library Acquisition Patterns," Ithaka S+R, January 29, 2019, https://doi.org/10.18665/sr.310937 (retrieved March 5, 2019).



Library publishing

"Most library publishers report partnering with campus departments (80 percent) and individual faculty (78 percent). Many also partner with graduate students (57 percent) and undergraduate students (57 percent). A minority of library publishers partner with the university press (29 percent)."

"Library Publishing Directory 2019," The Library Publishing Coalition, https://librarypublishing.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/LPDirectory_2019.pdf (retrieved March 5, 2019).



Postsecondary enrollment

In fall 2017, of the approximately 20.1 million students enrolled at Title IV institutions, about 17.1 million were undergraduates, and about 3 million were graduate students. Of the undergraduate students, 63 percent were enrolled in four-year institutions, 35 percent in two-year institutions, and 2 percent in less-than-two-year institutions. Of the approximately 1.5 million full-time, first-time bachelor's degree-seeking undergraduate students in fall 2016, about 1.2 million (81 percent) remained enrolled in fall 2017.

Scott A. Ginder, Janice E. Kelly-Reid, and Farrah B. Mann, Enrollment and Employees in Postsecondary Institutions, Fall 2017; and Financial Statistics and Academic Libraries, Fiscal Year 2017: First Look (Provisional Data) (NCES 2019-021rev), January 22, 2019, U.S. Department of Education, Washington, D.C.: National Center for Education Statistics, https://nces.ed.gov/pubs2019/2019021REV.pdf (retrieved March 5, 2019).



English-taught bachelor's programs in Europe

In less than a decade, Europe as a whole has witnessed a 50-fold increase in the number of English-taught bachelor's programs (ETBs) in institutions of higher education. "Switzerland—where almost all institutions offer such programs—is the country where ETBs are the most widespread across the higher education sector, followed by the Netherlands (75 percent) and Denmark (70 percent). Romania (9 percent), France (13 percent), and Poland (14 percent) are the countries with the lowest proportion of higher education institutions offering ETBs."

Ann-Malin Sandstrom, "English-Taught Bachelor's Programs in Europe," International Higher Education, no. 96, Winter 2019 (December 5, 2018): 12–13, https://doi.org/10.6017/ihe.2019.96.10775 (retrieved March 5, 2019).

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

C&RL News April 2019 248