



Atlanta University Center Robert W. Woodruff Library

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HBCU Library Alliance Digital Collection Use Statistics FY2014-FY2022

Use Statistics

Use data collection for the HBCU Library Alliance digital collection (<https://hbcudigitallibrary.auctr.edu/digital>) began in July 2013, providing eight complete years of data. Three data points are collected for each of the 23 collections: page views, unique visitors, and visits. For ease in viewing the aggregated tables, only page views are included here. Table 1 includes page views by institution for each fiscal year with totals for all collections in the last row. Table 2 shows the percentage change from year to year. The chart in Table 3 shows the decline in use between 2013 and 2015, but since 2017 the collection has seen a steady increase in use. Use between FY20 and FY21 saw a significant 60 percent increase. Southern University and A&M College, Lincoln University and Virginia State are consistently among the most used collections. Use during the first six months of the current fiscal year (Jul 2021-Dec 2021) continues to be strong as shown in Table 4.

Table 1: HBCU LA Digital Collection by Institution- Page Views

HBCU Collection	PAGE VIEWS BY FISCAL YEAR								TOTAL
	FY14	FY15	FY16	FY17	FY18	FY19	FY20	FY21	
Alabama State University	3,719	2,981	2,149	2,092	2,155	1,377	1,771	2,095	18,339
Atlanta University Center	5,254	4,744	3,410	2,886	3,799	3,708	4,672	7,933	36,406
Bennett College for Women	2,835	1,879	1,575	1,331	1,328	981	1,296	1,516	12,741
Bowie State University	2,375	2,310	1,736	1,418	1,611	2,014	2,642	3,097	17,203
Fisk University Library	15,560	10,637	8,554	8,680	9,230	10,539	11,648	31,659	106,507
Grambling State University	2,980	2,317	1,662	1,267	1,357	1,036	1,121	1,769	13,509

Hampton University Library	4,003	3,846	2,991	3,050	2,985	1,984	1,729	2,810	23,398
Lincoln University – Missouri	1,969	1,748	1,571	1,354	1,202	769	1,356	2,831	12,800
Lincoln University of Pennsylvania	7,059	4,907	4,458	4,910	6,639	21,326	18,906	43,380	111,585
Meharry Medical College	3,665	2,843	2,147	1,826	2,221	634	957	1,210	15,503
Miles College	2,721	2,011	1,478	1,287	1,392	454	751	816	10,910
Morehouse School of Medicine	2,586	2,850	1,713	1,504	1,302	1,001	1,687	3,034	15,677
North Carolina Central University	5,538	5,196	3,402	3,513	3,876	4,024	6,517	7,712	39,778
Paine College	4,071	3,446	3,649	2,224	2,278	1,287	1,692	2,073	20,720
South Carolina State University	3,632	3,499	2,272	2,195	2,107	908	1,132	1,611	17,356
Southern University and A&M College	27,194	22,246	12,965	11,034	11,540	13,084	20,548	21,168	139,779
Southern University at Shreveport	4,701	3,691	1,618	1,442	2,420	1,684	596	884	17,036
St. Augustine's College	1,953	1,583	1,205	1,022	913	532	991	938	9,137
Tennessee State University	6,774	4,945	3,848	3,205	3,904	2,095	4,052	4,666	33,489
Texas Southern University	2,210	1,805	1,518	1,665	1,406	1,923	2,345	5,569	18,441
Tuskegee University Library	6,706	4,798	3,523	3,075	2,949	2,548	5,231	5,997	34,827
University of the District of Columbia	5,473	4,501	3,598	3,402	3,084	3,635	3,993	6,395	34,081
Virginia State University	11,274	11,283	8,188	7,445	9,065	13,399	17,853	22,439	100,946
TOTAL	134,252	110,066	79,230	71,827	78,763	90,942	113,486	181,602	860,168

Source: Google Analytics

Definitions of Metrics Captured by Google Analytics:

Page Views: An instance of a page being loaded by a browser. The page view metric is the total number of pages viewed; repeated views of a single page are also counted.

Table 2: HBCU LA Digital Collection - All Collections Total Page Views, Year-to-Year Percentage Change FY 2014 - FY 2021

Fiscal Year	Total Page Views	% Change
FY14	134,252	
FY15	110,066	-18.00%
FY16	79,230	-28.00%
FY17	71,827	-9.30%
FY18	78,763	9.70%
FY19	90,942	15.50%
FY20	113,486	24.80%
FY21	181,602	60.02%
FY22 (Jul21-Dec 21)	59,479	

Table 3: HBCU LA Digital Collection Use – Total Page Views by Fiscal Year

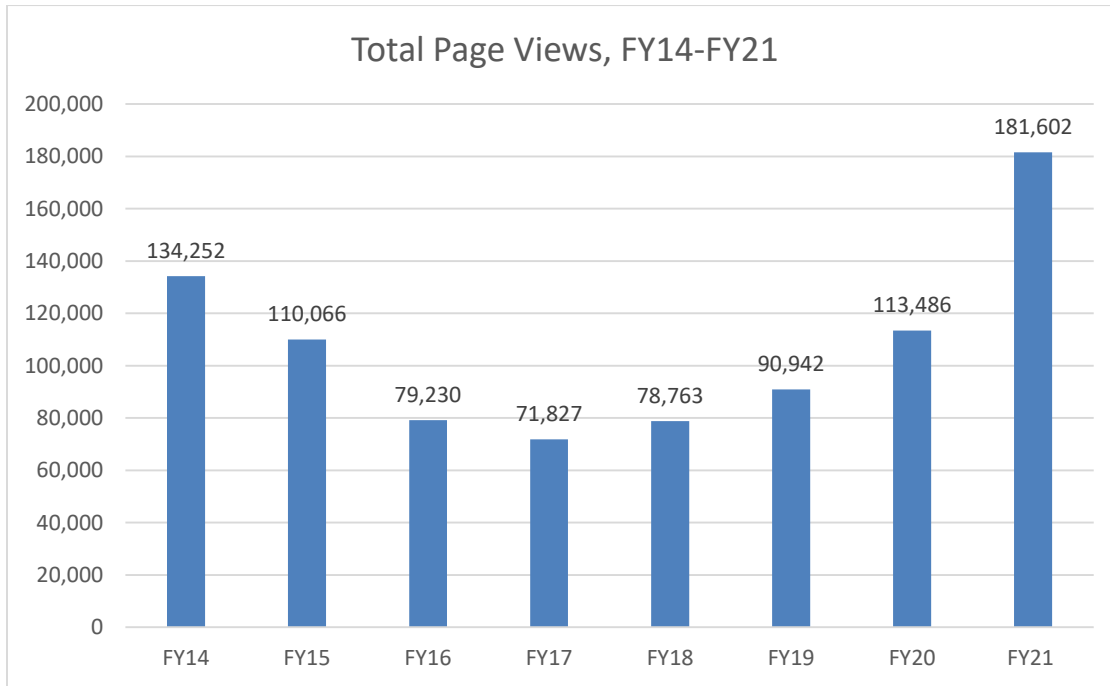
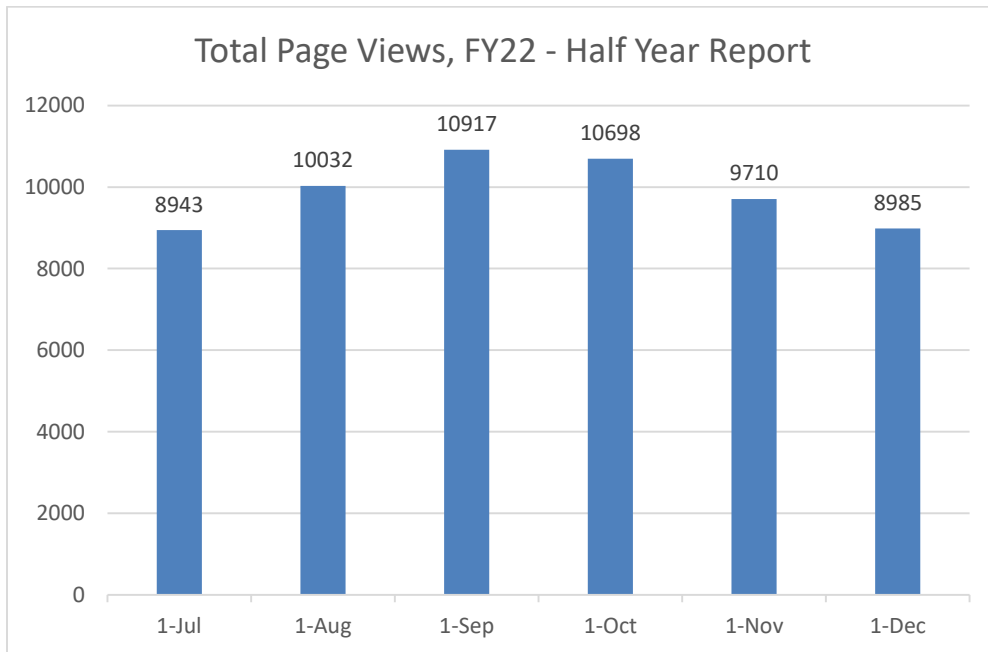


Table 4: FY22 (July 2021-Dec 2021)



Background

In 2005, through funding made available by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, the HBCU Library Alliance (HBCU LA) began a five-year partnership with SOLINET (now LYRASIS), Cornell University, and nine historically black colleges and universities (HBCUs) to expand access to the founding documents of HBCUs. As a result of this partnership, the participating libraries gained expertise in digitization standards, metadata creation, and digital preservation methodologies. An outcome of this partnership was the creation of the HBCU Library Alliance digital collection, *A Digital Collection Celebrating the Founding of the Historically Black College and University*. It was the expectation that as the project progressed, the number of participating libraries would increase so that documents from each of the 105 HBCU institutions would be represented in the digital collection. By 2010, the number of institutions contributing to the digital collection rose to 23. The number has remained stable since.

The AUC Woodruff Library has been involved in this initiative since the beginning, as a contributing institution and in hosting the portal and providing technical support. In the years since inception, the HBCU LA digital collection (<http://hbcudigitallibrary.auctr.edu/>) has grown from approximately 9,000 images to 16,391 images from 23 HBCUs. In 2017, the AUC Woodruff Library migrated the HBCU LA Digital Collection to the hosted version of CONTENTdm eliminating the need to maintain servers onsite. The license allows a maximum of 30 GB of storage space; currently, the collection takes up 22.945 GB and storage is 76.5% full. When storage exceeds 80% OCLC recommends moving to the next license tier.

Collection Scope

The initial collection scope included documents representing the institutional history and founding of participating libraries. Each of the participants were permitted to upload approximately 1,000 access images to create their collections. Most institutions remained well under that target, some marginally exceeded, and one greatly exceeded. Table 1 below shows the disbursement of images by institution.

Table 5: Size of Collections by Institution

Institution	Number of Images
The Early History of Alabama State University	21
Bennett College History	47
Bowie State University - Historical Images Collection	20
A Celebration of Fisk University Through Photographs, Programs and Publications	596
Grambling State Black-Gold Collections	186
Digital Library of Hampton University	15
Digital Collection of Robert W. Woodruff Library (AUC)	1,222
52 Steps, the Journey of Lincoln University of Missouri	166
The History of Southern University at Shreveport Louisiana	20
Johnson C. Smith University Historical Collection	0
Lincoln University of Pennsylvania's Early Records Online	9,866
Meharry Medical College Digital Collection	50
Miles College, The Beginning	20
Morehouse School of Medicine Digital Archives	653
North Carolina Central University Digital Collection	105
Paine College Library Digital Collection	98

Institution	Number of Images
Celebrating Founding Years of Excellence at Historic St. Augustine's College	31
South Carolina State University Historical Collection	10
Southern University and A&M College	626
Tennessee State University Library Digital Collections	772
Texas Southern University Digital Collection	215
Tuskegee University Libraries Digital Collections	162
UDC Digital Archives Collection	256
Virginia State University Digital Archives Collection	1,187

*Report prepared by Christine Wiseman, Assistant Director Digital Services, AUC Woodruff Library.
02/22/2022*