

THE ARL MEMBERSHIP CRITERIA INDEX, 2004-05

The ARL Membership Criteria Index is a summary measure of relative size among the university library members of the Association and its sole purpose is to serve as a membership criterion that is quantitative in nature in addition to other qualitative evidence. Both qualitative and quantitative factors support the assessment of research libraries within the Association.

The five variables used in the index were determined by factor analysis of 22 variables originally and represent the elements in which ARL university libraries most resemble one another.¹ They do not attempt to measure a library's services, quality of collections, or success in meeting the needs of users; in comparing any individual library to ARL medians or other ARL members, evaluations must always be made within the context of local goals and characteristics.

The index is calculated using five data elements:

- number of volumes held
- number of volumes added (gross)
- number of current serials received
- total operating expenditures
- number of professional plus support staff

The index scores are rounded to three decimal places, which may give the appearance of identical scores (and thus ranks) for some institutions; in fact, when the complete principal component score is calculated, it is extended to at least five places. Each institution has a unique result and place in the rank order. Information about index scores and formulae from earlier years as well as excel versions of the index tables are available at: <http://www.arl.org/stats/factor.html>

The formula for 2004-05, based upon the 34 founding members, is:²

$$\begin{aligned} & .449766 \times \text{log of volumes held} \\ + & .365633 \times \text{log of volumes added (gross)} \\ + & .476575 \times \text{log of current serials} \\ + & .489405 \times \text{log of total library expenditures} \\ + & .494003 \times \text{log of total professional plus support staff} \\ - & 27.639982 \end{aligned}$$

Decisions on membership issues are being dealt by the ARL Membership Committee which has the responsibility for articulating the principles and tenets of ARL membership, reviews membership criteria, recommends new members to the Board for approval by the full membership, and reviews and makes recommendations on membership status. Principles and procedures for Membership in the Association of Research Libraries are available at <http://www.arl.org/stats/qualcov.html>. For more information on the ARL Membership Committee agenda, please contact Julia Blixrud, Assistant Executive Director, External Relations (jblix@arl.org). For any questions regarding the methodology used to develop the ARL membership criteria index or any other aspect of the ARL Statistics and Measurement Program, contact Martha Kyrillidou (martha@arl.org).

¹ The 5-variable index was adopted as a membership criterion in May 1987 by the ARL membership. Previous membership criteria were based on a 10-variable index, which had been adopted by the membership in May 1980. The elements used in the 10-variable index were: (1) number of volumes held, (2) number of volumes added (gross), (3) number of microform units held, (4) number of current serials received, (5) expenditures for library materials, (6) expenditures for binding, (7) total salary and wage expenditures, (8) other operating expenditures, (9) number of professional staff, and (10) number of support staff.

² "log" refers to the natural logarithm, [ln].

ARL MEMBERSHIP INDEX, 2004-05 – RANKED BY INDEX VALUE

RANK	INSTITUTION	INDEX	RANK	INSTITUTION	INDEX
1	HARVARD	2.51	58	GEORGETOWN	-1.06
2	YALE	1.67	59	LAVAL	-1.12
3	TORONTO	1.31	60	OKLAHOMA STATE	-1.12
4	COLUMBIA	1.27	61	LOUISIANA STATE	-1.12
5	MICHIGAN	1.24	62	COLORADO	-1.13
6	CALIF., BERKELEY	1.16	63	SUNY-BUFFALO	-1.17
7	ILLINOIS, URBANA	0.93	64	NOTRE DAME	-1.19
8	CALIF., LOS ANGELES	0.78	65	BROWN	-1.20
9	CORNELL	0.78	66	NEBRASKA	-1.20
10	TEXAS	0.62	67	DARTMOUTH	-1.28
11	WISCONSIN	0.57	68	BOSTON COLLEGE	-1.29
12	PENNSYLVANIA STATE	0.49	69	WAYNE STATE	-1.30
13	INDIANA	0.42	70	BOSTON	-1.32
14	PRINCETON	0.40	71	MISSOURI	-1.32
15	WASHINGTON	0.32	72	WESTERN ONTARIO	-1.33
16	MINNESOTA	0.21	73	FLORIDA STATE	-1.35
17	NORTH CAROLINA	0.17	74	ROCHESTER	-1.39
18	NEW YORK	0.16	75	SOUTHERN ILLINOIS	-1.39
19	CHICAGO	0.05	76	MIT	-1.43
20	ALBERTA	0.04	77	PURDUE	-1.43
21	PENNSYLVANIA	-0.04	78	YORK	-1.44
22	VIRGINIA	-0.08	79	HAWAII	-1.46
23	PITTSBURGH	-0.08	80	ILLINOIS, CHICAGO	-1.47
24	BRITISH COLUMBIA	-0.13	81	CALIF., SANTA BARBARA	-1.51
25	OHIO STATE	-0.18	82	CALIF., IRVINE	-1.51
26	RUTGERS	-0.20	83	GEORGE WASHINGTON	-1.56
27	FLORIDA	-0.22	84	ALABAMA	-1.57
28	TEXAS A&M	-0.23	85	MASSACHUSETTS	-1.57
29	NORTH CAROLINA STATE	-0.29	86	NEW MEXICO	-1.57
30	JOHNS HOPKINS	-0.30	87	TEMPLE	-1.58
31	IOWA	-0.30	88	IOWA STATE	-1.58
32	DUKE	-0.34	89	LOUISVILLE	-1.59
33	ARIZONA	-0.36	90	SYRACUSE	-1.59
34	NORTHWESTERN	-0.40	91	WASHINGTON STATE	-1.63
35	MONTREAL	-0.42	92	MANITOBA	-1.65
36	GEORGIA	-0.49	93	CALIF., RIVERSIDE	-1.69
37	WASHINGTON U.-ST. LOUIS	-0.49	94	HOUSTON	-1.74
38	SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA	-0.54	95	SUNY-ALBANY	-1.80
39	CALIF., SAN DIEGO	-0.58	96	COLORADO STATE	-1.81
40	EMORY	-0.59	97	SASKATCHEWAN	-1.81
41	ARIZONA STATE	-0.59	98	OHIO	-1.81
42	MCGILL	-0.61	99	VIRGINIA TECH	-1.85
43	KANSAS	-0.62	100	AUBURN	-1.89
44	UTAH	-0.72	101	TULANE	-1.90
45	MICHIGAN STATE	-0.77	102	QUEEN'S	-1.91
46	MARYLAND	-0.85	103	DELAWARE	-1.93
47	CINCINNATI	-0.88	104	GEORGIA TECH	-1.93
48	OKLAHOMA	-0.89	105	OREGON	-1.98
49	TENNESSEE	-0.92	106	SUNY-STONY BROOK	-1.99
50	BRIGHAM YOUNG	-0.94	107	CASE WESTERN RESERVE	-2.01
51	VANDERBILT	-0.96	108	RICE	-2.01
52	MIAMI	-0.97	109	MCMASTER	-2.03
53	CALIF., DAVIS	-0.98	110	WATERLOO	-2.27
54	KENTUCKY	-0.98	111	KENT STATE	-2.47
55	TEXAS TECH	-0.98	112	HOWARD	-2.50
56	SOUTH CAROLINA	-1.04	113	GUELPH	-2.87
57	CONNECTICUT	-1.04			

ARL MEMBERSHIP INDEX, 2004-05 – RANKED BY INSTITUTION

RANK	INSTITUTION	INDEX	RANK	INSTITUTION	INDEX
84	ALABAMA	-1.57	52	MIAMI	-0.97
20	ALBERTA	0.04	5	MICHIGAN	1.24
33	ARIZONA	-0.36	45	MICHIGAN STATE	-0.77
41	ARIZONA STATE	-0.59	16	MINNESOTA	0.21
100	AUBURN	-1.89	71	MISSOURI	-1.32
70	BOSTON	-1.32	76	MIT	-1.43
68	BOSTON COLLEGE	-1.29	35	MONTREAL	-0.42
50	BRIGHAM YOUNG	-0.94	66	NEBRASKA	-1.20
24	BRITISH COLUMBIA	-0.13	86	NEW MEXICO	-1.57
65	BROWN	-1.20	18	NEW YORK	0.16
6	CALIF., BERKELEY	1.16	17	NORTH CAROLINA	0.17
53	CALIF., DAVIS	-0.98	29	NORTH CAROLINA STATE	-0.29
82	CALIF., IRVINE	-1.51	34	NORTHWESTERN	-0.40
8	CALIF., LOS ANGELES	0.78	64	NOTRE DAME	-1.19
93	CALIF., RIVERSIDE	-1.69	98	OHIO	-1.81
39	CALIF., SAN DIEGO	-0.58	25	OHIO STATE	-0.18
81	CALIF., SANTA BARBARA	-1.51	48	OKLAHOMA	-0.89
107	CASE WESTERN RESERVE	-2.01	60	OKLAHOMA STATE	-1.12
19	CHICAGO	0.05	105	OREGON	-1.98
47	CINCINNATI	-0.88	21	PENNSYLVANIA	-0.04
62	COLORADO	-1.13	12	PENNSYLVANIA STATE	0.49
96	COLORADO STATE	-1.81	23	PITTSBURGH	-0.08
4	COLUMBIA	1.27	14	PRINCETON	0.40
57	CONNECTICUT	-1.04	77	PURDUE	-1.43
9	CORNELL	0.78	102	QUEEN'S	-1.91
67	DARTMOUTH	-1.28	108	RICE	-2.01
103	DELAWARE	-1.93	74	ROCHESTER	-1.39
32	DUKE	-0.34	26	RUTGERS	-0.20
40	EMORY	-0.59	97	SASKATCHEWAN	-1.81
27	FLORIDA	-0.22	56	SOUTH CAROLINA	-1.04
73	FLORIDA STATE	-1.35	38	SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA	-0.54
83	GEORGE WASHINGTON	-1.56	75	SOUTHERN ILLINOIS	-1.39
58	GEORGETOWN	-1.06	95	SUNY-ALBANY	-1.80
36	GEORGIA	-0.49	63	SUNY-BUFFALO	-1.17
104	GEORGIA TECH	-1.93	106	SUNY-STONY BROOK	-1.99
113	GUELPH	-2.87	90	SYRACUSE	-1.59
1	HARVARD	2.51	87	TEMPLE	-1.58
79	HAWAII	-1.46	49	TENNESSEE	-0.92
94	HOUSTON	-1.74	10	TEXAS	0.62
112	HOWARD	-2.50	28	TEXAS A&M	-0.23
80	ILLINOIS, CHICAGO	-1.47	55	TEXAS TECH	-0.98
7	ILLINOIS, URBANA	0.93	3	TORONTO	1.31
13	INDIANA	0.42	101	TULANE	-1.90
31	IOWA	-0.30	44	UTAH	-0.72
88	IOWA STATE	-1.58	51	VANDERBILT	-0.96
30	JOHNS HOPKINS	-0.30	22	VIRGINIA	-0.08
43	KANSAS	-0.62	99	VIRGINIA TECH	-1.85
111	KENT STATE	-2.47	15	WASHINGTON	0.32
54	KENTUCKY	-0.98	91	WASHINGTON STATE	-1.63
59	LAVAL	-1.12	37	WASHINGTON U.-ST. LOUIS	-0.49
61	LOUISIANA STATE	-1.12	110	WATERLOO	-2.27
89	LOUISVILLE	-1.59	69	WAYNE STATE	-1.30
92	MANITOBA	-1.65	72	WESTERN ONTARIO	-1.33
46	MARYLAND	-0.85	11	WISCONSIN	0.57
85	MASSACHUSETTS	-1.57	2	YALE	1.67
42	MCGILL	-0.61	78	YORK	-1.44
109	MCMASTER	-2.03			

