Highlights

• Out of 115 ARL university libraries, 74 responded to this survey.¹

• Law libraries reported median values of 461,436 volumes held and 230,259 titles. Also, these libraries employed the full-time equivalent of 1,770 staff members in the fiscal year 2014–2015.

• Responding libraries reported total expenditures of $217,487,754.² As seen in the graph below, library materials expenditures made up the largest portion of the total, with approximately 47% of aggregated expenses falling under a materials-related category.

• Law libraries reported a total of $15,633,813 in one-time resource purchases and $82,161,233 in ongoing resource purchases.


Salaries & Wages 44.76%
Other Operating 7.80%
Library Materials 47.44%

¹ Eighty-three ARL university libraries included data for a law library in the 2014–2015 ARL Statistics. Among them, Alberta, British Columbia, Calgary, Laval, McGill, Manitoba, Ottawa, Pittsburgh, Queens, Saskatchewan, SUNY-Buffalo, and Wayne State did not complete this survey. Colorado completed this survey but did not include law library data in the ARL Statistics. Rutgers has two administratively independent law libraries, which respond separately to this survey; they are aggregated together in the ARL Statistics. Pennsylvania State University also has two administratively independent law libraries, which respond separately to this survey; they are aggregated together in the ARL Statistics.

² This figure includes Canadian universities, whose expenditures were converted to US dollars at the rate of 1.1739 Can$ = 1 US$, the average monthly noon exchange rate published in the Bank of Canada Review for the period July 2014–June 2015.