

→ Fast Facts



Bilingual benefits

“Bilingual older adults typically have better performance on tasks of executive control (in the brain) than do their monolingual peers.” There is a difference in brain network connectivity between bilinguals and monolinguals. This suggests that bilingual language experience begun in childhood and continued throughout adulthood influences brain networks in ways that may provide benefits in later life.

Cheryl L. Grady, Gigi Luk, Fergus I. M. Craik, and Ellen Bialystok, “Brain network activity in monolingual and bilingual older adults,” *Neuropsychologia*, 66, 170–181, January 2015, doi:10.1016/j.neuropsychologia.2014.10 (retrieved November 2, 2015).



Library outcomes

Freshman and sophomore students using the university library as a place to study are more likely to have positive outcomes as measured by retention, graduation, and grade point average. Junior and senior undergraduates see positive outcomes when using the library as an information resource, rather than only as a place to study.

John K. Stemmer and David M. Mahan, “Investigating the Relationship of Library Usage to Student Outcomes,” *College & Research Libraries*, accepted May 26, 2015; anticipated publication date May 1, 2016, Manuscript# crl15-704, <http://crl.acrl.org/content/early/2015/06/11/crl15-704.full.pdf+html> (retrieved November 6, 2015).



Digital Federal Register

The U.S. Government Publishing Office is joining the National Archives’ Office of the Federal Register to make every issue of the *Federal Register* available digitally to the public. Approximately 14,587 individual issues, which go back to 1936, will be digitized. The digitization is expected to be completed in 2016. Currently, digital versions dating from 1994 to the present are available on GPO’s Federal Digital System.

“GPO to Digitize Two Million Pages of the *Federal Register*,” Federal Depository Library Program, October 14, 2015, www.fdlp.gov/news-and-events/2394-gpo-to-digitize-two-million-pages-of-the-federal-register (retrieved November 2, 2015).



PLOS (Public Library of Science) progress

PLOS published more than 33,000 articles in 2014 for a total of more than 135,000 articles published since its inception. The organization sees more than 11.6 million article views per month. More than 1.9 million articles are downloaded each month. Authors from more than 190 countries—including 57 Nobel laureates—have contributed to PLOS.

“2014-15 PLOS progress update,” PLOS. <https://www.plos.org/about/plos/progress-update> (retrieved November 6, 2015).



Web browser usage

The Chrome web browser now represents more than half of all desktop, tablet, and console web browser usage on the Internet. Internet Explorer has continued its decline in usage and is now tied with Firefox at about 15 percent. While Safari represents about 9 percent of desktop, tablet, and console web browser usage, it jumps to 12 percent when mobile usage is included. Chrome also dominates among mobile browsers, but the UC browser now comes in second at about 17 percent of usage as of October 2015.

StatCounter Global Stats, <http://gs.statcounter.com> (retrieved November 6, 2015).

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