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I worked in an academic library for 37 years. The annual statistics for academic libraries were very helpful. We were able to see how we compared with other similar institutions, and we could use that data to identify goals for improvement, a critical component of our recurring re-accreditation process. The data provided a recognized and rational basis for planning to improve services, facilities, technologies and staffing, and to justify the library's requests within the academic institution. It is an important management tool that should not be eliminated.