

Author Full Name : Charles Cobine**Received Date :** 06/12/2024 02:38 PM**Comments Received :**

I oppose the plan to end the collection of data about academic libraries. I work in a university library, am an advocate for libraries in general. Our university library is one of the largest systems in the U.S., and it serves a vast regional public and beyond with its electronic collections. I support the continued collection of data on academic libraries, because it provides important context for policy decisions. It is simply not true that all information is free and available online, particularly for our audiences who do important research. A vaccine for COVID-19 is just one phenomenally significant product of the research of my home institution, the university where I work, and researchers rely on library services and collections. Please continue to collect this data, so that there is continuity for future longitudinal studies of academic libraries in our country. Libraries are important to our economy and to a functioning democracy. This collection of data remains absolutely necessary.