

School Library Data Project



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Overview

- History, Mission & Goals
- Data Sources
- Areas of Focus
- What's Next?

History

- **The SLIDE Project**

- What is SLIDE?
- SLIDE Team:
 - Project Director: Debra Kachel
 - Principal Investigator: Keith Curry Lance

- **Concerns**

- Trends in School Librarianship
- Inadequate data representing Illinois



Website: <https://libslide.org/>

Project Mission & Objectives

Mission

Examine the status of libraries in Illinois schools, including library staff, collections, population and budget and build a renewable data resource to capture this data.

Objective #1

Collect school library data for the purpose of:

- ▶ Identifying and locating libraries in Illinois schools
- ▶ Identifying school library staff, including number, role, and credentials (professional and educational)
- ▶ Examining the financial support for school libraries in Illinois
- ▶ Assessing the collection size and resources of school libraries

Objective #2

Create a renewable data resource for the purpose of:

- ▶ Collecting and storing data for school libraries in Illinois
- ▶ Displaying school library data via an online dashboard
- ▶ Serving as a resource to connect and empower school librarians



Data Collection

- **Data Sources**

- National
- State
- Regional Library System
- Local

- **Data Accessibility**

- Availability
- Degrees of Difficulty



NCES

- District Level Data
- Convenient Access
- Incomplete
- Outdated



RAILS/IHLS/L2

- District and School Level Data
- Convenient Access
- Incomplete



ISBE

- School Level Detail
- Restricted Access
- Incomplete



SCHOOLS

- School Level Data
- Most Restricted
- Most Accurate
- Time Intensive
- Reliable



ISL

- District Level Data
- Convenient Access
- Incomplete



DISTRICTS

- District and School Level Data
- Restricted Access
- Incomplete

Areas of Focus

Library Staff

- Position Titles
- Education & Training
- Certification
- Population Served
- Employment Status
(full-time, part-time, etc.)
- Responsibilities

Library Finances

- School Library Budget
- District Library Budget
- Library Funding Sources
 - District Budget
 - Grants
 - Other

Library Collection

- Physical & Digital Assets
- Subscription Services
- Consortia/Membership
- Collection & Inventory Systems



What's Next?

- Advocacy, Advocacy, Advocacy!
- Fall 2022 School Library Survey
- School Libraries Database & Dashboard Tool

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