

# Chapter 19

## Usage of Electronic Resources by the Faculty Members of Autonomous Colleges Affiliated to Mahatma Gandhi University, Kerala

**Neethu Mohanan**

*St. Joseph's Training College, India*

**K. Thankamani**

*Saveetha University, India*

### **ABSTRACT**

*E-resources are vital in every walk of life, academic or otherwise. E-resources can be found in a variety of forms, such as electronic databases, journals, online books, OPACs, etc. Due to their excellence in every way, including accessibility and aesthetic appeal, these resources are gradually displacing the information gathering practices of academics. The purpose of the survey is to examine the awareness and use of electronic resources by faculty members of autonomous colleges affiliated to Mahatma Gandhi University, Kerala, India. 350 faculty members were given a structure questionnaire; 326 of those filled and returned it. Only questionnaires that have been properly completed and returned were used in this study. 26.69% of the 326 respondents in total visit the library twice every week. Most respondents are familiar with electronic books, journals, theses and dissertations, and conference proceedings. It should be highlighted that preparing for assignments and lectures*

DOI: 10.4018/979-8-3693-5807-8.ch019

*accounts 33.4% of all e-resource usage.*

## **INTRODUCTION**

Information serves as the fundamental basis for acquiring knowledge, advancing society, and making decisions. It influences individuals' opinions, and creativity and fosters efficient communication. Having access to precise, up-to-date, trustworthy, and pertinent information is essential for creating informative citizens, economic growth, academic progression, and the rise of cultures and civilizations. The emergence of the Internet has fundamentally transformed the process of seeking and collecting information by establishing an extensive and interconnected network of data. Consequently, the handling and retrieval of data have experienced substantial transformations, resulting in corresponding modifications to the approaches used for gathering, arranging, storing, retrieving, and transmitting information. Electronic resources facilitate expedited retrieval of information, hence simplifying the tasks of locating, categorizing, and scrutinizing data. This has optimized research, communication, and knowledge dissemination on a worldwide level, revolutionizing how society engages with information.

The utilization of electronic resources in the academic community has undergone substantial growth in the teaching-learning and research process, as well as in our personal and professional daily routines. Electronic books, journals, databases, reference sources, reports, etc. play an important part in the higher education system. Electronic resources properly cater to the distinct requirements of students, faculty, and research scholars efficiently. Furthermore, e-resources possess the capacity to augment students' information needs by offering a wider range of learning experiences through the provision of diverse tasks or exercises, rendering courses more interactive, engaging, and dynamic. E-resources often enhance students' ability to understand concepts more clearly by providing or hyperlinking several resources for the courses so that students can easily access, and experience content without encountering many difficulties in accessing and understanding

Electronic resources are pivotal in advancing the academic community in contemporary times. The utilization of electronic resources in academic libraries is increasingly sought after due to the dynamic characteristics of interoperability and flexibility exhibited by e-resources in contrast to print resources. This elucidates the reason behind the surge in electronic resource subscriptions and the decline in print resource subscriptions. Integrating e-resources into library resources is progressively alleviating the strain on print materials. The phenomenon above has resulted in various libraries' worldwide distribution of electronic materials through mail and social media platforms. The creation of electronic resource centers greatly assists

20 more pages are available in the full version of this document, which may be purchased using the "Add to Cart" button on the publisher's webpage: [www.igi-global.com/chapter/usage-of-electronic-resources-by-the-faculty-members-of-autonomous-colleges-affiliated-to-mahatma-ghandi-university-kerala/367961](http://www.igi-global.com/chapter/usage-of-electronic-resources-by-the-faculty-members-of-autonomous-colleges-affiliated-to-mahatma-ghandi-university-kerala/367961)

## Related Content

---

### Analysis of Success Factors of Introducing SAP System for ERP Implementation in Small and Midsize Enterprises in Taiwan

Hsin-Ju Weiland Chia-Liang Wei (2011). *International Journal of Digital Library Systems* (pp. 1-37).

[www.irma-international.org/article/analysis-success-factors-introducing-sap/51650](http://www.irma-international.org/article/analysis-success-factors-introducing-sap/51650)

### Tools and Techniques for Digital Conversion

Pravin Kumar Choudhary (2010). *Developing Sustainable Digital Libraries: Socio-Technical Perspectives* (pp. 64-89).

[www.irma-international.org/chapter/tools-techniques-digital-conversion/42737](http://www.irma-international.org/chapter/tools-techniques-digital-conversion/42737)

### Exploring the E-Discovery Tools on the Use of Library Collections by Users

M. Natarajan (2016). *E-Discovery Tools and Applications in Modern Libraries* (pp. 122-137).

[www.irma-international.org/chapter/exploring-the-e-discovery-tools-on-the-use-of-library-collections-by-users/159527](http://www.irma-international.org/chapter/exploring-the-e-discovery-tools-on-the-use-of-library-collections-by-users/159527)

### E-Readers & E-Books in Public Libraries: Measuring Library Patron Expectations

James Hutter (2012). *International Journal of Digital Library Systems* (pp. 48-59).

[www.irma-international.org/article/readers-books-public-libraries/73648](http://www.irma-international.org/article/readers-books-public-libraries/73648)

### Commercial and Open Access Integrated Information Search Tools in Indian Libraries

Sangeeta N. Dhamdhereand Ramdas Lihitkar (2016). *E-Discovery Tools and Applications in Modern Libraries* (pp. 41-55).

[www.irma-international.org/chapter/commercial-and-open-access-integrated-information-search-tools-in-indian-libraries/159522](http://www.irma-international.org/chapter/commercial-and-open-access-integrated-information-search-tools-in-indian-libraries/159522)