

Changes to the FY2026 Annual Report

Overview:

- Revisions: 1 data element
- Deletions: 11 data elements
- Additions: 3 data elements

Revisions:

1. Definition for Outlet Type Code (C_OUT_TY) was revised to note that a separate outlet record must be created for each bookmobile.

Deletions:

1. E16a – E16g: Daily Hours Open to the Public (Sunday – Saturday)
We decided to streamline and are collecting “Hours Open in a Typical Week” instead of daily hours beginning FY26.
2. G1: License Number (bookmobile)
3. G4: Is the vehicle owned by state or locally? (bookmobile)
4. G9: Hours on the Road Per Week (but not serving patrons) (bookmobile)
5. Data Element 606, Number of Synchronous In-Person Onsite Program Sessions (ONPRO)
6. Data Element 608, Number of Synchronous Virtual Program Sessions (VIRPRO)
7. Data Element 616, Synchronous In-Person Onsite Program Attendance (ONATTEN)
8. Data Element 618, Synchronous Virtual Program Attendance (VIRATTEN)
9. **O37: (Data Element 620), Total Number of Asynchronous Program Presentations (TOTPRES)**
10. **O38: (Data Element 630), Total Views of Asynchronous Program Presentations within 30 Days (TOTVIEWS)**

These two bold items (TOTPRES, TOTVIEWS) are true deletions not to be collected at the federal level anymore. Library systems are free to continue to collect this data if they choose.

Note from IMLS: Delete four data elements related to synchronous in-person onsite and virtual program sessions and attendance. Retain synchronous offsite program sessions and attendance and revise them to be reported as subsets of Total Programs and Total Program Attendance.

JUSTIFICATION: Implementing the onsite, offsite, and virtual programming items as a parallel set to age categories—each summing to the total—has proven to be challenging and burdensome. Since the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, the relevance of virtual programming also seems to have declined. FY23 data show that approximately 64% of AEs reported zero virtual programs or attendance, with an additional 11% reporting fewer than 10 virtual programs. In 18 states, at least 75% of AEs reported no virtual programming

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activity. Anecdotal feedback suggests that offsite programming is the most valuable of the three to continue tracking. Reporting offsite programs and attendance as a subset of total programs and attendance would simplify data collection. States may still choose to collect offsite data by age group, but this level of detail would not be reflected in the federal PLS.

11. Data Element 712, Number of Bookmobiles in the Bookmobile Outlet Record (L_NUM_BM) – this number is now calculated automatically based on how many Bookmobile outlets are associated with the system.

Additions:

1. Total Number of Meeting Spaces Available to the Public (TOTMEET)
 2. Number of Reservable Meeting Spaces Available to the Public (RESMEET)
 3. Number of Times Members of the Public Reserved Meeting Spaces (RESERVES)
- These three items are optional for FY26 but will be required beginning FY27.**