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The Next Generation Depository Library: Addressing Public Access to Government Publications in the Electronic Era

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The Next Generation Depository Library:
Addressing Public Access to Government
Publications in the Electronic Era

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U.S. Documents (Titles) Received by Criss Library at UNO

	Paper	Microfiche	Combined
FY 1998-1999	5,594	8,294	13,888
FY 2000-2001	4,385	3,428	7,813
FY 2002-2003	3,208	3,213	6,421
FY 2004-2005	2,259	2,108	4,467
FY 2006-2007*	1,817	1,925	3,742

*FY 2006-2007 through April 2007.

The decline is leveling off, but the combined number is down between 70% and 75% from FY 98-99 through FY 06-07.

Is Being a U.S. Depository Still Worth the Effort?

Libraries may reasonably answer “Yes” or “No,” but

- Consider the significance of government information to users.
- The overall quality of physical receipts is higher, because most marginal items have been dropped from the program.
- Significant items remain unavailable electronically; for example, most hearings of the House and Senate Armed Services Committees.
- Always respond within the context of your library’s mission.

Cataloging Electronic Documents to Maintain Local Access

- Catalog records which link to electronic documents not only provide access, but they also place government information within the full continuum of a library's resources.
- GPO's PURL service greatly reduces link maintenance. It's not perfect, but it works very well.
- GPO's *New Electronic Titles* provides an easy way to identify and select electronic documents.

Electronic Documents (Titles) Cataloged by Criss Library at UNO

	U.S.	Nebraska	Combined
FY 2005-2006	1,340	479	1,819
FY 2006-2007*	1,678	412	2,090

*FY 2006-2007 through April 2007

Now, let's look at some records....