

**REFERENCE ROUND TABLE
TEXAS LIBRARY ASSOCIATION**

**REPORT TO THE RRT EXECUTIVE BOARD
ON THE
TEXAS REFERENCE SOURCES
MAY 2002 EMAIL SURVEY**

**John C. Hepner
General Editor
Texas Reference Sources**

**TLA Annual Assembly
21-23 July 2002
Austin, Texas**

SURVEY TEXT:

I need your advice! In preparing the next edition of **Texas Reference Sources**, a few issues need resolution. Please indicate your preferences for the following options:

1. Publication format: (rank 1-3 in order of preference, 1=most preferred)
 Web (HTML) only (open access)
 Print only
 Both Web and Print

2. Would your library purchase a **print** copy?
If print only Yes No Maybe
If web and print Yes No Maybe
Type of library: Academic Public School Other

3. Should prices for available items be included in an entry?
Yes No No preference

Thank you for your advice!

John C. Hepner
General Editor
Texas Reference Sources

RESPONSES TO TRS EMAIL SURVEY

Survey sent 6 May 2002, 10 a.m. to newsletter email directory addresses.
Responses received by 21 June 2002.

1. Publication format: (rank 1-3 in order of preference, 1=most preferred)

	1	2	3
Web (HTML) only	<u> 17 </u>	<u> 23 </u>	<u> 28 </u>
Print only	<u> 7 </u>	<u> 24 </u>	<u> 31 </u>
Both Web and Print	<u> 60 </u>	<u> 13 </u>	<u> 4 </u>

2. Would your library purchase a **print** copy?

If print only	
Yes	<u> 51 </u>
No	<u> 1 </u>
Maybe	<u> 21 </u>
If web and print	
Yes	<u> 37 </u>
No	<u> 7 </u>
Maybe	<u> 32 </u>
Type of library:	
Academic	<u> 41 </u>
Public	<u> 31 </u>
School	<u> 5 </u>
Other	<u> 7 </u>

3. Should prices for available items be included in an entry?

Yes	<u> 60 </u>
No	<u> 11 </u>
No Preference	<u> 11 </u>

TOTAL RESPONSES: 84

NOTES:

2 additional responses were blank
Some respondents did not answer all questions.

RESPONSES TO TRS EMAIL SURVEY

1. Publication format (rank 1-3 in order of preference, 1=most preferred)

RANK	1	2	3	Totals
Web (HTML) only (open access)	17	23	28	68
Print only	7	24	31	62
Both Web and Print	60	13	4	77
Totals	84	60	63	207

Format preferences by type of library:

FORMAT	WEB ONLY	PRINT ONLY	WEB AND PRINT	Totals
1 ACAD	10	3	28	41
1 PUB	6	4	21	31
1 SCH			5	5
1 OTHER	1		6	7
2 ACAD	12	9	7	28
2 PUB	8	11	6	25
2 SCH		3		3
2 OTHER	3	1		4
3 ACAD	12	18		30
3 PUB	13	11	3	27
3 SCH	3			3
3 OTHER		2	1	3
Totals	68	62	77	207

COMMENTS:

"Both Web and Print ****TO REACH WIDER AUDIENCE*****"

2. Would your library purchase a print copy?

If print only:

TYPE	ACAD	PUB	SCH	OTHER	TOTAL
YES	23	25	1	2	51
NO		1			1
MAYBE	12	4	3	2	21
Totals	35	30	4	4	73

If web and print:

TYPE	ACAD	PUB	SCH	OTHER	TOTAL
YES	23	10	2	2	37
NO	5	2			7
MAYBE	12	16	2	2	32
Totals	40	28	4	4	76

COMMENTS:

"MY LIBRARY IS PRIMARILY A VIRTUAL LIBRARY"

"It really depends on the content of the material - its authority, accuracy and presentation rather than if it is print or Web based. The next consideration would be cost."

"***depends on price***"

"The reference supervisors choose all of the ref bks, and the electronic resources committee chooses web materials; I'm neither, so I don't know."

"It being on the web for free probably would not dissuade us from wanting one on hand."

"depends on demand & price"

3. Should prices for available items be included in an entry?

TYPE	ACAD	PUB	SCH	OTHER	TOTAL
YES	28	25	3	4	60
NO	3	5	1	2	11
NO PREFERENCE	9	1		1	11
Totals	40	31	4	7	82

COMMENTS:

"that either no price or a range key be used."

"Prices change too much"

"Prices change too rapidly."

"Prices would probably date the book too quickly"

"We'd have to check our suppliers for prices and discounts, anyway."

"PRICES CHANGE TOO OFTEN and/or ITEMS GO O.P.; ADDRESS/EMAIL of PUBLISHER would help"

"(TOO MUCH WORK)"

Total responses: 84 (plus 2 blank) [Some did not answer all questions]

ACAD 41
PUB 31
SCH 5
OTHER 7