

MaineHealth

MaineHealth Knowledge Connection

Maine Medical Center

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The Rapid Increase of Digital Resources and Research Used at the Maine Medical Center Library and the Nation: Since the Beginning of the COVID 19 Pandemic

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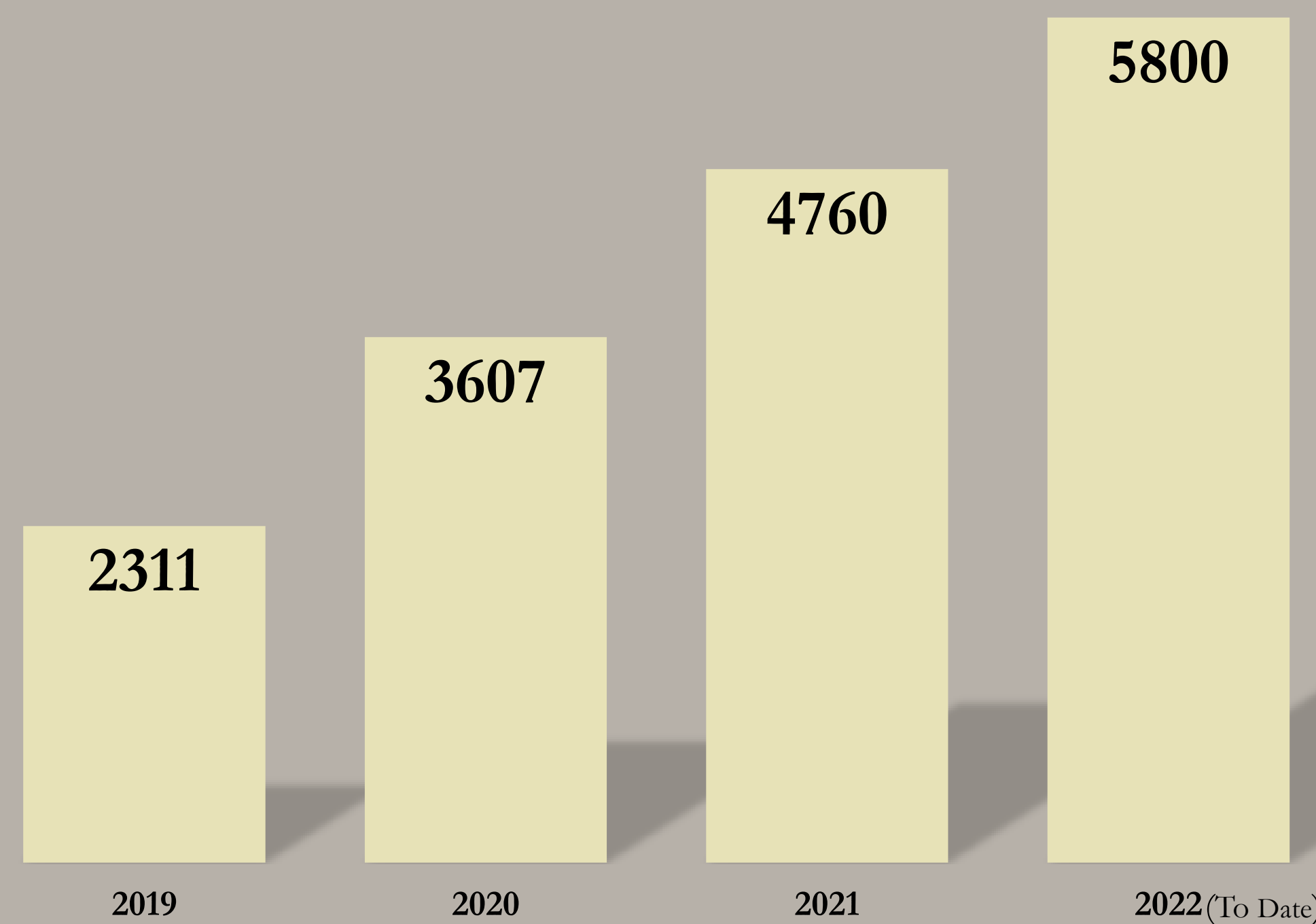


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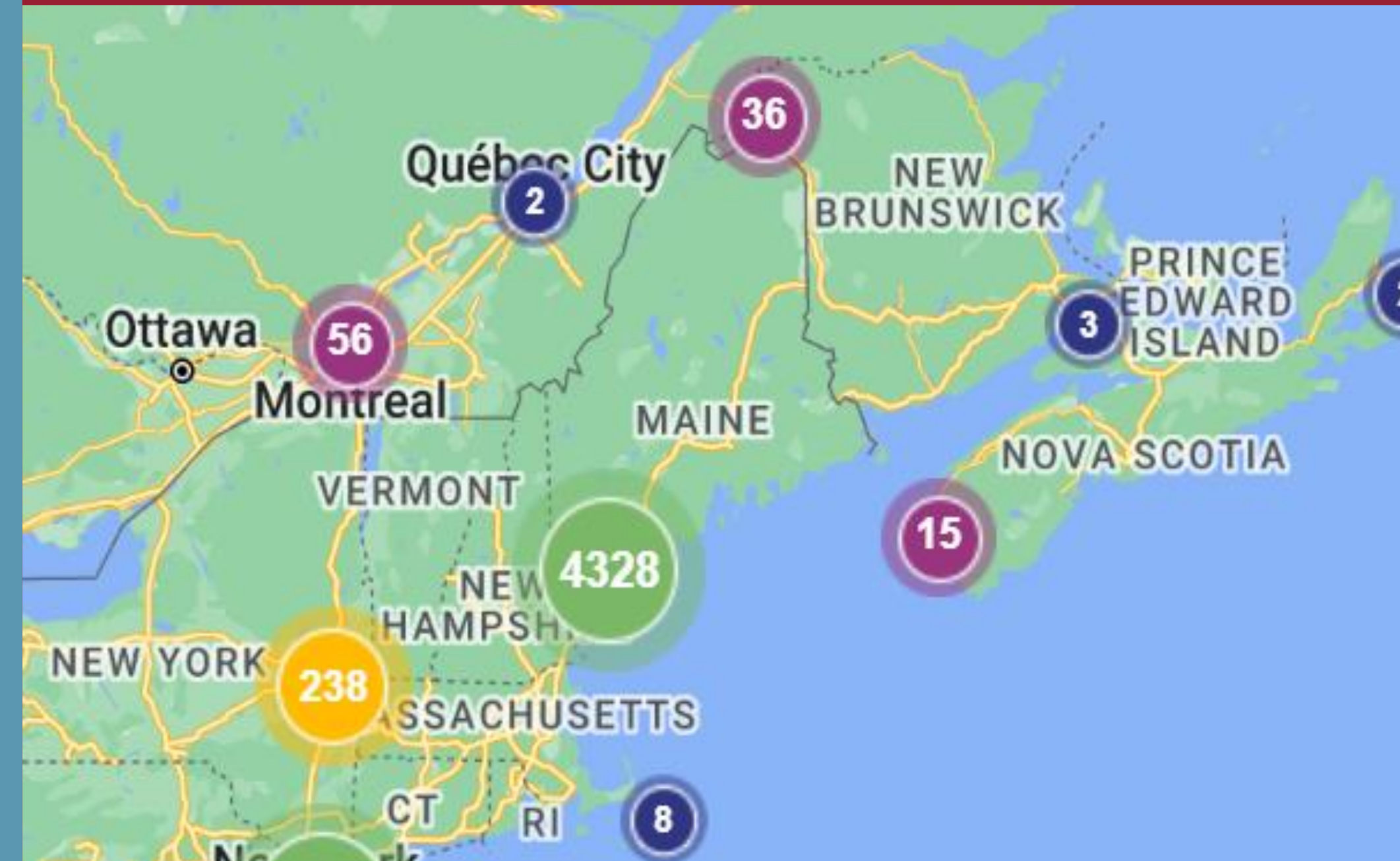
Abstract

Health science resources have increasingly become accessible to researchers, health care professionals, and health scientists. With the current technology available in the healthcare settings affiliated with all MaineHealth, authors of various publications can share their knowledge with others across the globe. The COVID 19 pandemic created a situation that not only increased the need for technological communication and accessibility at a rapid pace, but the situation also created an alternative outlet for those in a medical library to utilize needed information pertaining to their position through the crisis of the pandemic.

Accessed Publications by MaineHealth Researchers via Knowledge Connection



On the Map



This year's downloads from the MaineHealth Knowledge Connection as of September 2022

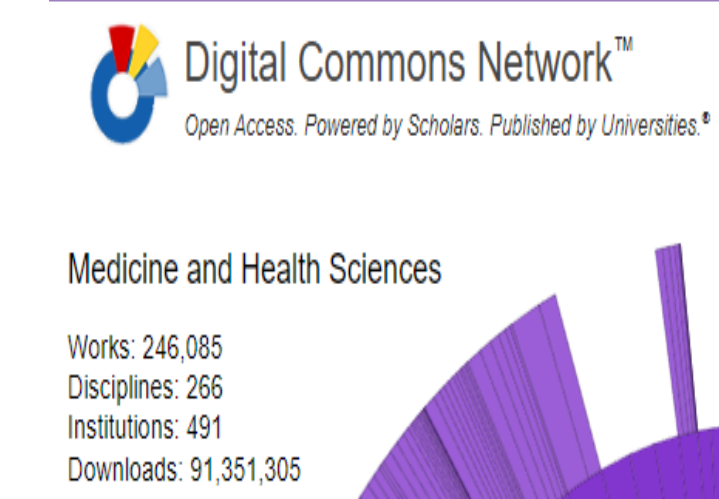
Quick Facts

- **Digital publication downloads increased rapidly for MaineHealth Knowledge Connection researchers since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic in-house and across the globe**
- **There have been over 100 works published by MaineHealth authors pertaining to COVID-19 accessed worldwide**
- **84% Increase of virtual and/or online services reported from a national survey of health science librarians***
- **Digital resources are expected to continuously rise in utilization over the next decade**

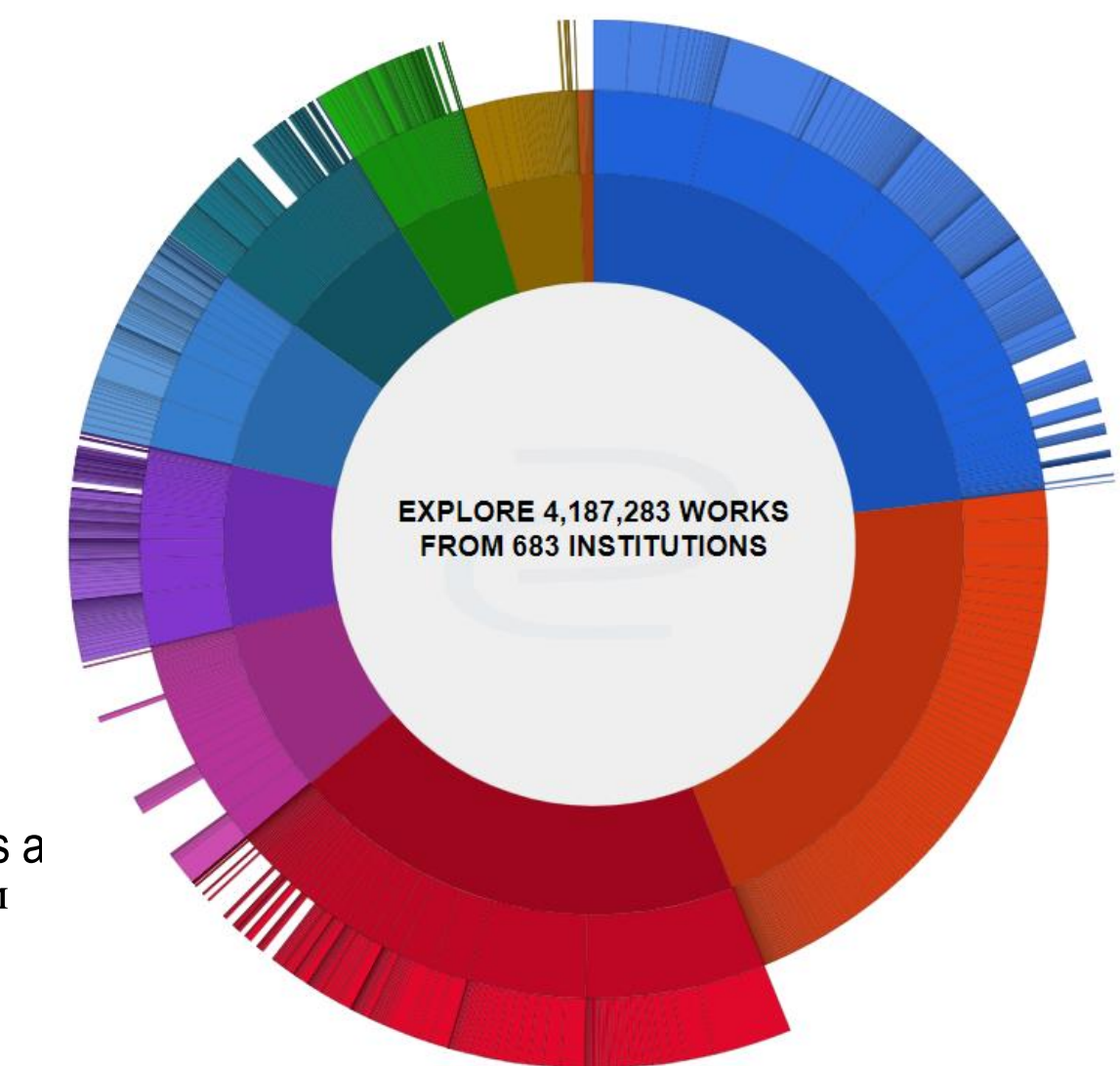
*205 Academic health sciences librarians participated, and the survey covered March 2020-March 2021 during the COVID-19 pandemic

Conclusion

- Future goals of medical and health science librarians should include prioritizing digital publications and accessibility
- Health science libraries have played a crucial role in providing resources and education to those providing care through the COVID-19 pandemic
- As we move on from the information age, digital resources will continue to be a preferred method for research and publication



*MaineHealth Knowledge Connection is a part of the Digital Commons Network™



References

- Charbonneau DH, Vardell E. The impact of COVID-19 on reference services: a national survey of academic health sciences librarians. *J Med Libr Assoc.* 2022 Jan 1;110(1):56-62. doi: 10.5195/jmla.2022.1322. PMID: 35210963; PMCID: PMC8830370.
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