

RUNNING THE NUMBERS: EVALUATING AN EBOOK SHORT TERM LOAN PROGRAM FOR COST- EFFECTIVENESS

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PROBLEM

eBrary offers a variety of purchase options for eBooks:

- Purchase
- DDA/PDA
- 1 Day/7 Day Short Term Loan (STL)

Which one is the best deal for us?

RESEARCH QUESTION

Would NCSU Libraries have saved money over the past 3 years by adding eBooks to our collection as STL instead of DDA?

METHODS

**Analyzed 3 years of DDA eBook stats
from monthly eBrary usage reports**

**We want granular, session-level usage
stats**

**Solution: low-use and high-use
scenarios**

RESULTS

Total Purchase Price DDA (what we actually paid)	\$62,047.22
One Day STL - Min Use Scenario	\$29,196.85
One Day STL - Max Use Scenario	\$61,789.98
Seven Day STL - Min Use Scenario	\$35,784.54
Seven Day STL - Max Use Scenario	\$71,412.62

Cost savings in 3 of 4 models

Let's do it!

BUT...



**Upcoming price changes to short-term loans
from select publishers:**

...we weren't the only ones running the numbers...

CONCLUSIONS

EASY:

Getting started with collections assessment!

You already have lots of data

HARD:

Making sense of vendor usage reports

True cost savings with eBooks

