

# Using the ICIRN *Essential Nursing Resources List* to Evaluate Library Collections

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## Objective

- To evaluate libraries' online nursing collections for how their resources align with the Interagency Council on Information Resources in Nursing (ICIRN) *Essential Nursing Resources (ENR)* list.

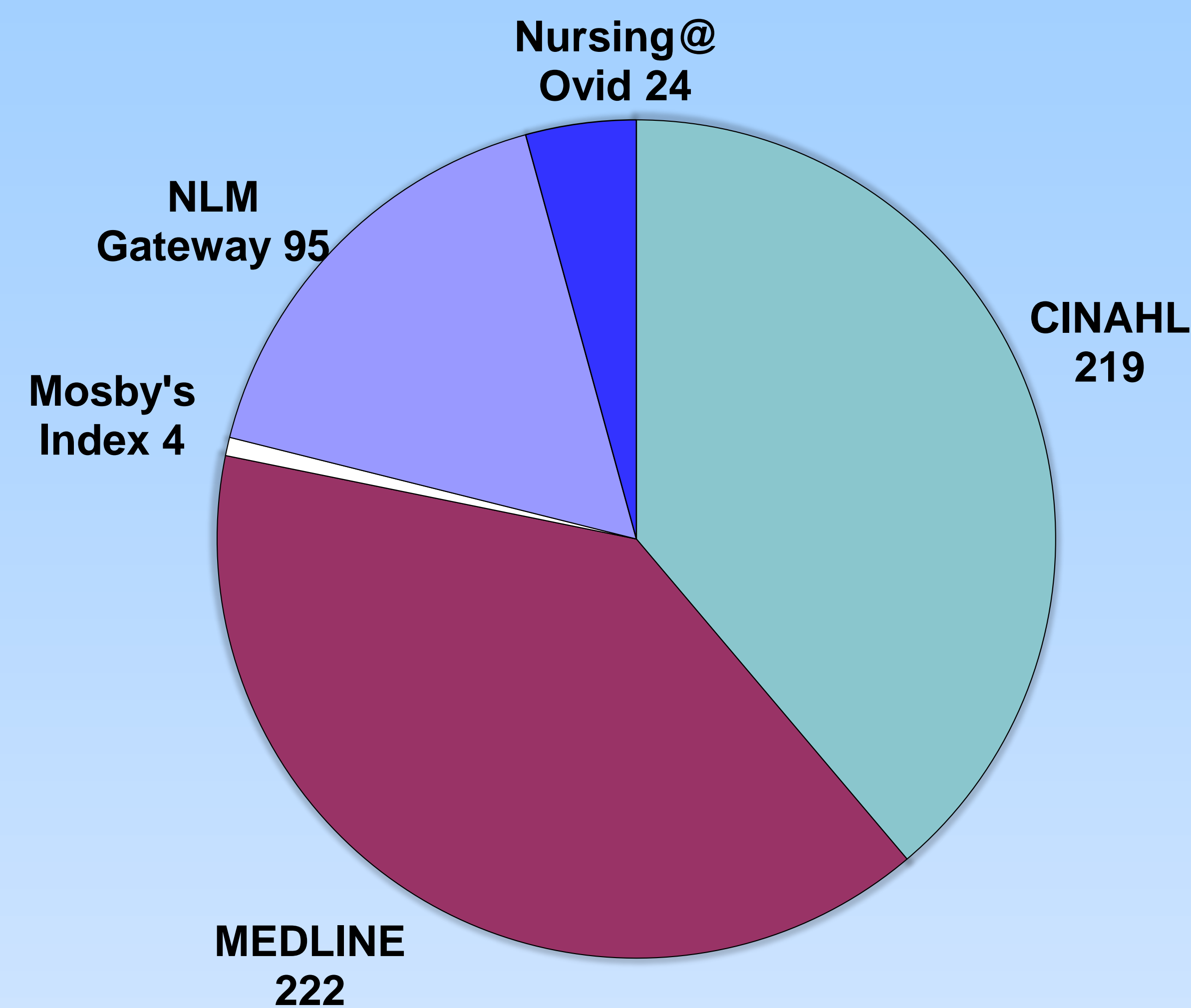
## Methods

- A random sample of 235 nursing programs was created from 571 Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) accredited schools. Data on the level of degrees was collected from the CCNE.
- Data was collected between April 2013-September 2013.
- Library collections from these programs were compared to free and subscription-based resources from the following categories: Complementary and Alternative Medicine, Consumer Health and Patient Education, Databases and Indexes, Drugs, and Evidence-Based Nursing.
- Non-government websites (i.e. non-profit and for profit websites) and print resources were excluded. Resources from outside the U.S. also were excluded except for the Joanna Briggs Institute.
- The Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education provided institutional data (ex. total number of students).
- The National Network of Libraries of Medicine (NN/LM) directory was searched to determine if these libraries were members.
- Resources not on the ENR list were also recorded.

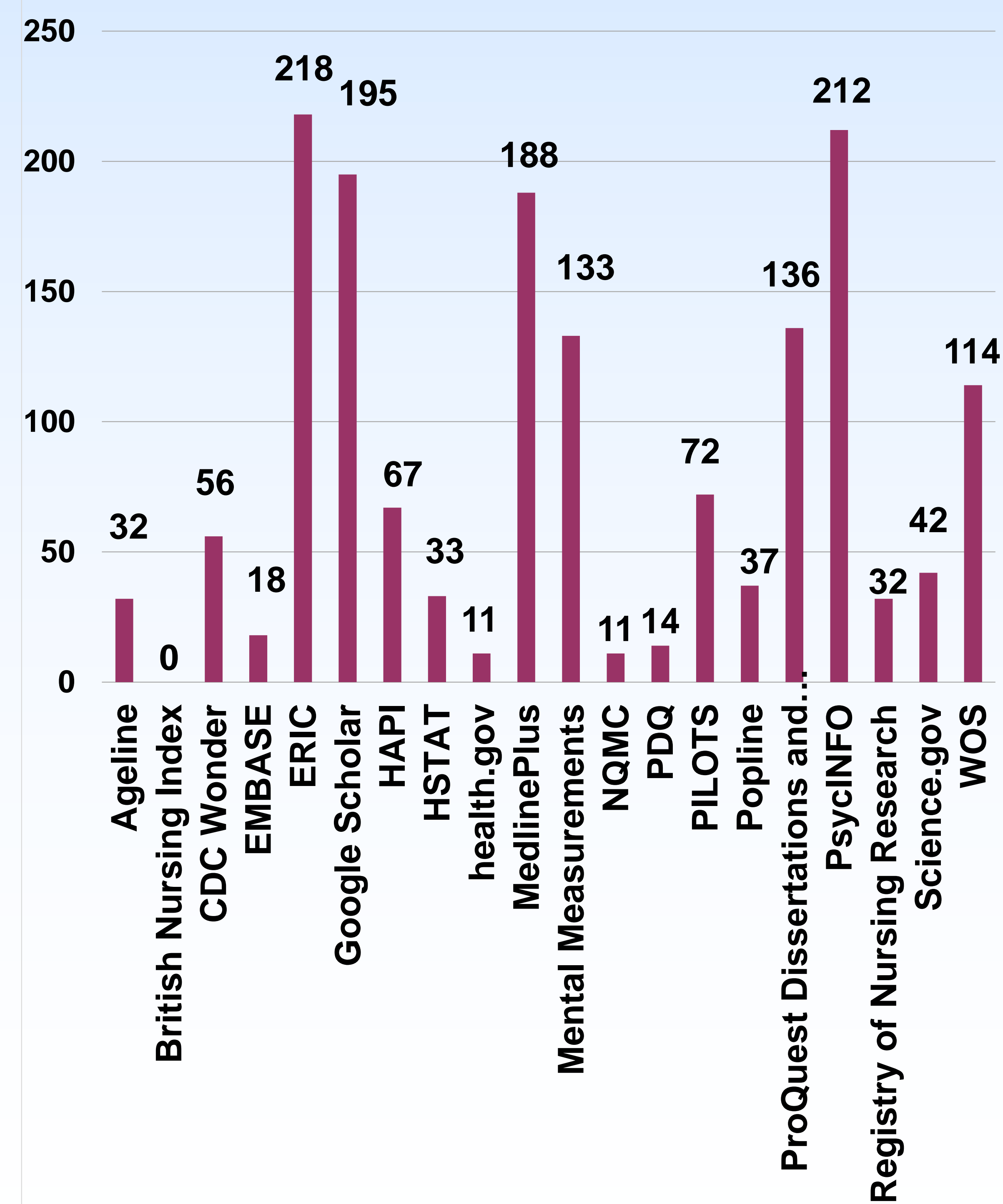
## Results

- 225 was the final number of library websites examined. 2 schools were excluded because they were not in the U.S. 8 schools were excluded because the library resources were not listed on the library website or were behind a proxy server.
- 113 (50%) programs had both BSN and MSN programs. 61 (27%) were BSN only while 41 (18%) had BSN, MSN, and DNP programs.
- 6 colleges had nursing programs only. 38 also had medical schools.
- 74 schools (33%) had a total student population between 1,001-5,000. 2 schools were not included in the Carnegie Classification.
- 125 (55%) libraries were members of the NN/LM while 101 (45%) were not members.
- NN/LM members listed NLM or government resources more frequently on their websites compared to non-NN/LM libraries.

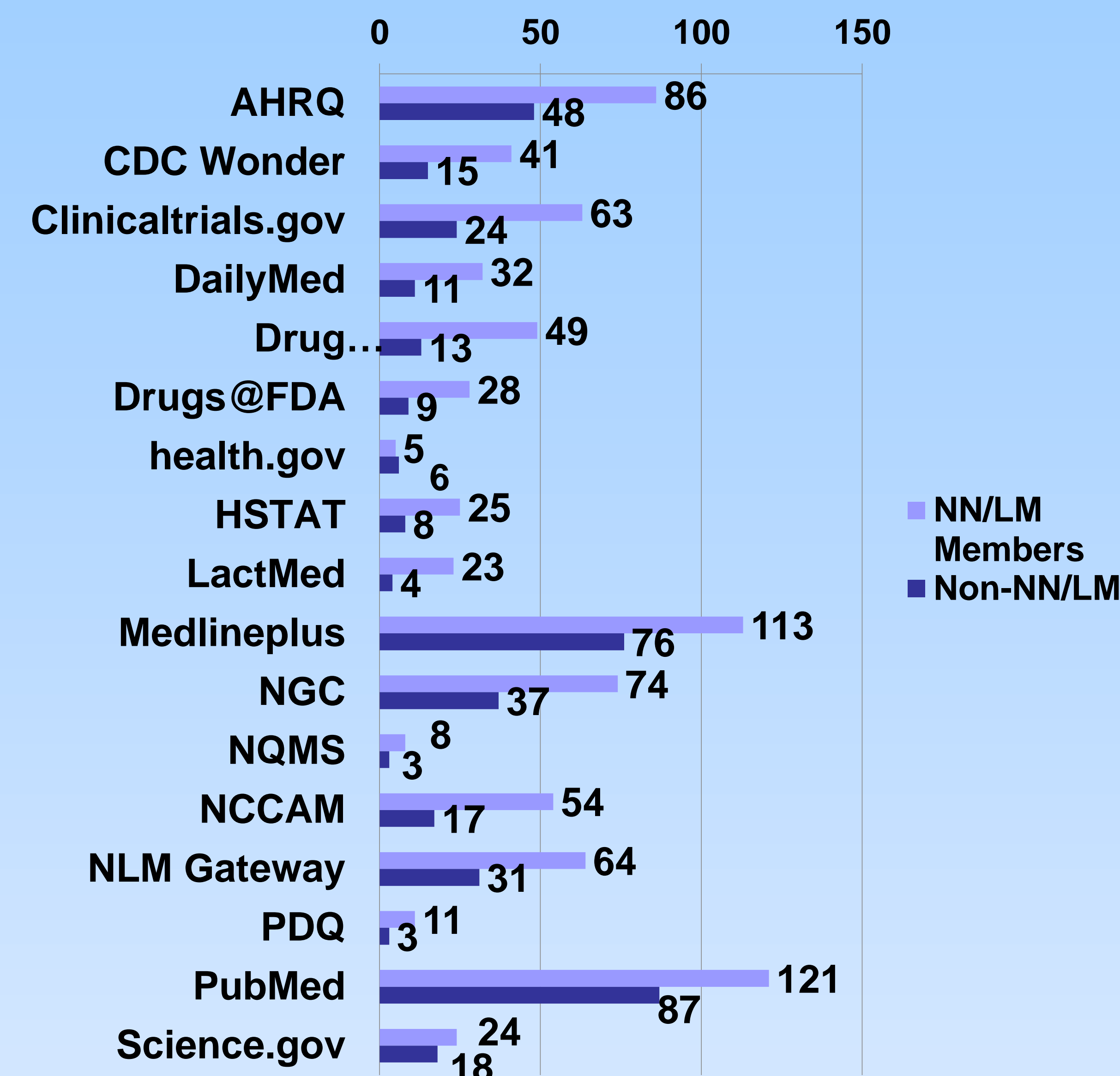
ENR Core Resources Found on Library Websites



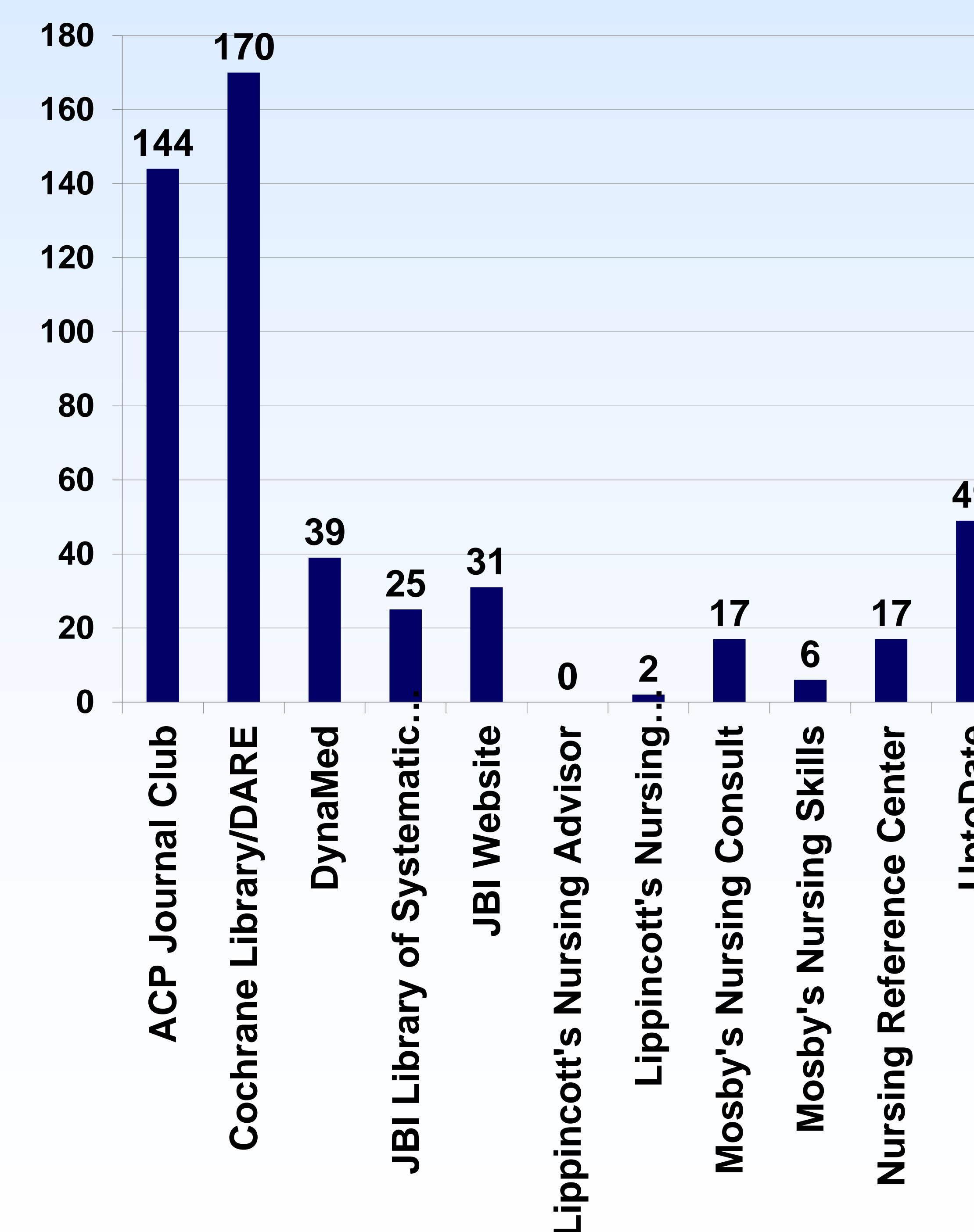
ENR Specialized Resources Found on Library Website



Government Resources Available through NN/LM Library Websites vs Non-NN/LM Libraries



Evidence Based/Point-of-Care Tools on Library Websites



Sample of Resources Not on ENR Resources List	Number of Libraries
PsycArticles	178
Science Direct	150
CQ Researcher	144
Health Source Nursing Academic Edition	142
Health Source Consumer Edition	104
PubMed Central	92
ProQuest Nursing and Allied Health Source	82
Consumer Health Complete	57
AccessMedicine	41
Scopus	33
LexiComp	28

## Discussion

- More outreach needs to be done with non-NN/LM libraries for either membership recruitment or promoting government resources such as LactMed.
- While there are more subscriptions to point-of-care tools traditionally geared towards physicians such as DynaMed, it may be due to the institution having additional health sciences programs.

## Limitations

- Some resources may have not been recorded due to how they were categorized or their location on library websites.

## Conclusions

- The majority of libraries do provide access to core or specialized databases such as CINAHL and multiple versions of MEDLINE.
- NN/LM members are including government resources such as MedlinePlus on their resource guides or database lists.
- Additional resources should be considered for the ENR's next update.

## References

Schnall, J. G., & Fowler, S. (ed.) (2012). *Essential Nursing Resources*. Retrieved from <http://www.icirn.org/Homepage/Essential-Nursing-Resources.aspx>