International higher education rankings
The Times Higher Education World Reputation Rankings are based on a survey of more than 10,000 scholars from around the world. The 2016 results list Harvard, MIT, Stanford, Cambridge, and Oxford as the top five universities worldwide in terms of prestige. The top countries represented in the World Reputation Rankings are the United States, United Kingdom, and Germany, followed by China, France, Japan, and The Netherlands tied for fourth place.

Digital media consumption
“Total digital media usage has nearly tripled since 2010, and since 2013 it’s up 35 percent, with smartphone (usage) having grown 78 percent and contributing to 92 percent of the total increase in time spent. Tablet (usage) is also seeing very strong growth over that 2-year period at 50 percent, while desktop (usage) is down slightly.”
The majority of consumer health information is acquired via mobile devices.

Challenged books
The top ten most challenged books of 2015 were:
1. Looking for Alaska, by John Green
2. Fifty Shades of Grey, by E. L. James
3. I Am Jazz, by Jessica Herthel and Jazz Jennings
4. Beyond Magenta: Transgender Teens Speak Out, by Susan Kuklin
5. The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time, by Mark Haddon
6. The Holy Bible
7. Fun Home, by Alison Bechdel
8. Habibi, by Craig Thompson
10. Two Boys Kissing, by David Levithan

The nation’s report card
The National Assessment of Educational Progress reported the 2015 Mathematics and Reading Assessments for Grade 12 students in the United States. The average mathematics score for 12th-grade students in 2015 was lower than 2013 by about 2 points. The average reading score was not significantly different from 2013. The average mathematics score for English-language learners increased significantly (by 6 points) from 2013.

Web browser usage
Google Chrome is now the most popular web browser platform for both desktop and mobile applications. Internet Explorer is a close second for desktop while Safari is in second place for mobile applications. Firefox ranks third for desktop at about 10 percent of browser usage. The Android browser is third for mobile at about 8 percent.

Gary Pattillo is reference librarian at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, e-mail: pattillo@email.unc.edu