Circulation of books, eBooks, Interlibrary Loan and Reserves (including a small number of non-circulating laptops and iPads) are shown in Figure 13. In FY20 the library migrated to the new Ex Libris catalog platform and performed eBook linking and cleanup, which explains the spike in eBook "views" in Figure 9. COVID-19 caused a sharp decline in circulation of physical items; however, students continued to use eBooks. Utilizing circulation data, the department was able to identify the expanded need for digital materials. This is in part to accommodate for the global pandemic, as well as an increased student and faculty online presence.
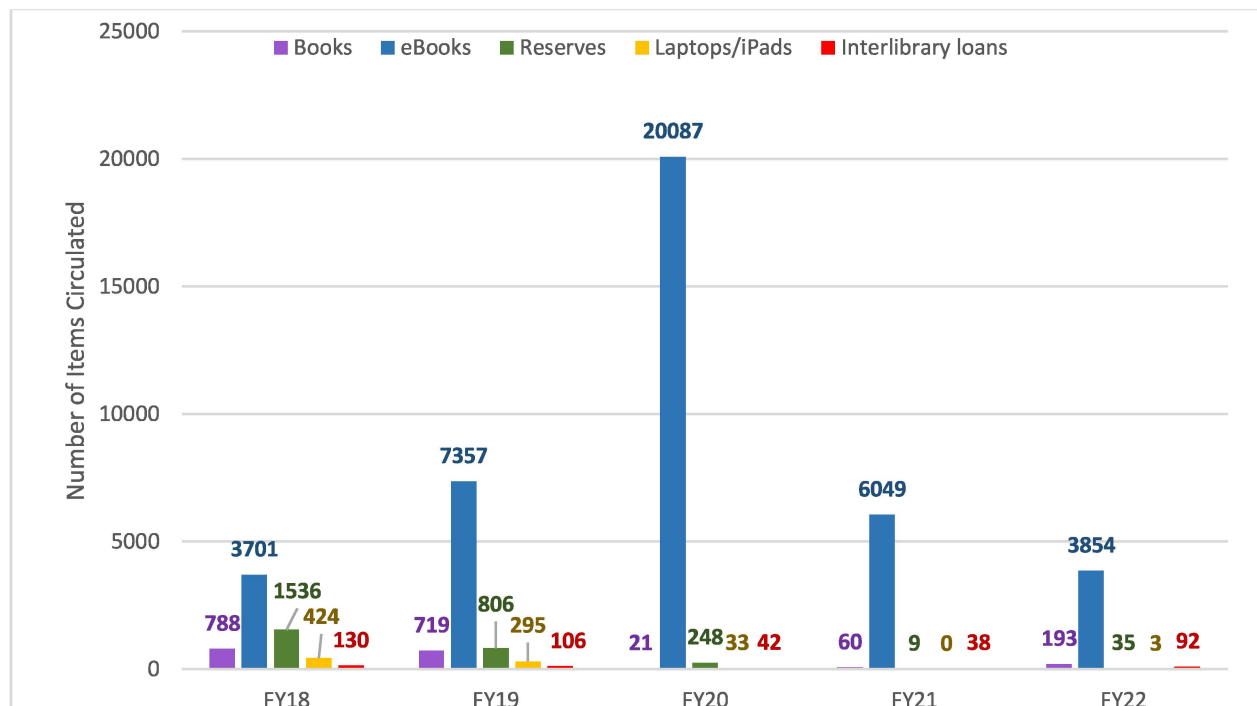

Figure 13. Circulation of Books, eBooks & Reserves.
Increased usage numbers due to staff maintenance of collection within Alma Primo

Databases comprise the bulk of the library's collections. The library is part of a consortium which provides access to twenty-one different databases. The majority of these databases contain general content, as well as some special topics such as business, history, education, health and nursing, psychology, and government. Cerro Coso subscribes to thirteen additional databases which cover topics such as history, literature, arts and sciences, and religion and philosophy. It also subscribes to Films on Demand, a database dedicated to film content.

Figures 14 and 15 show overall database usage and usage by popularity. Database searches showed a marked increase during FY20, likely due to increased virtual services from the global pandemic and campus closures. This was followed by a steady decline in FY21 and FY22. This decline in usage can be

attributed to the decline in enrollments of the college. Library staff continually evaluates the benefits of each individual database within the collection through usage statistics, faculty input, and cost effectiveness. Over the past five years, the library has eliminated some underperforming databases, such as Annals of American History, Current Biography Illustrated, Nature, and Scientific American. It has also tested others, such as Ferguson's Career Guidance Center.

Integrating database usage into more courses and communicating with faculty and students on the reliability of materials, will help to increase database usage and ensure students are utilizing authoritative and credible resources within their coursework.
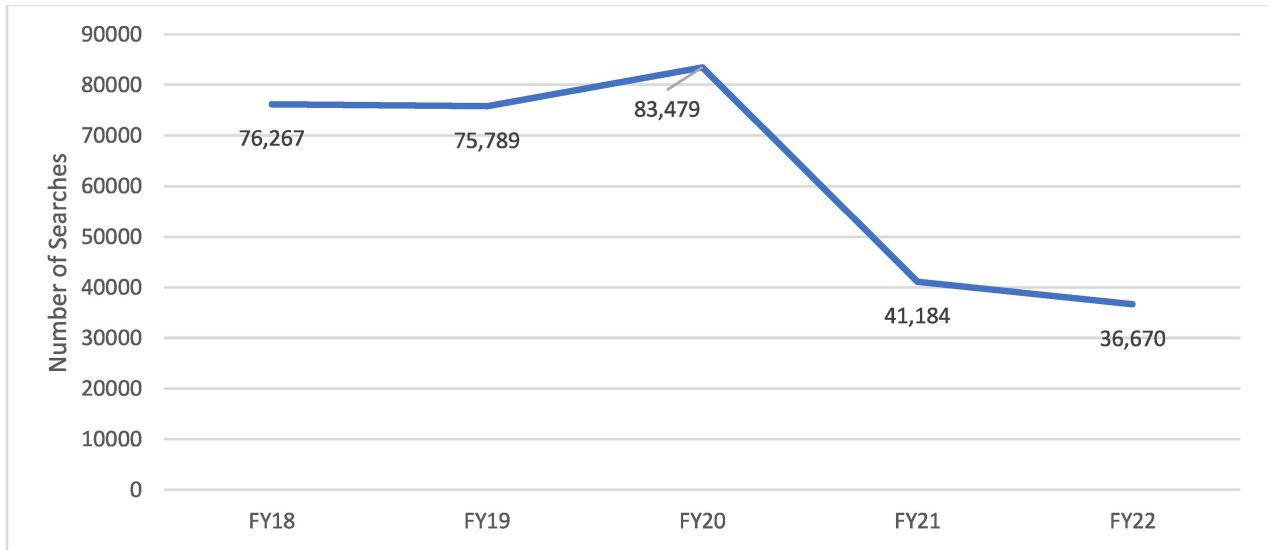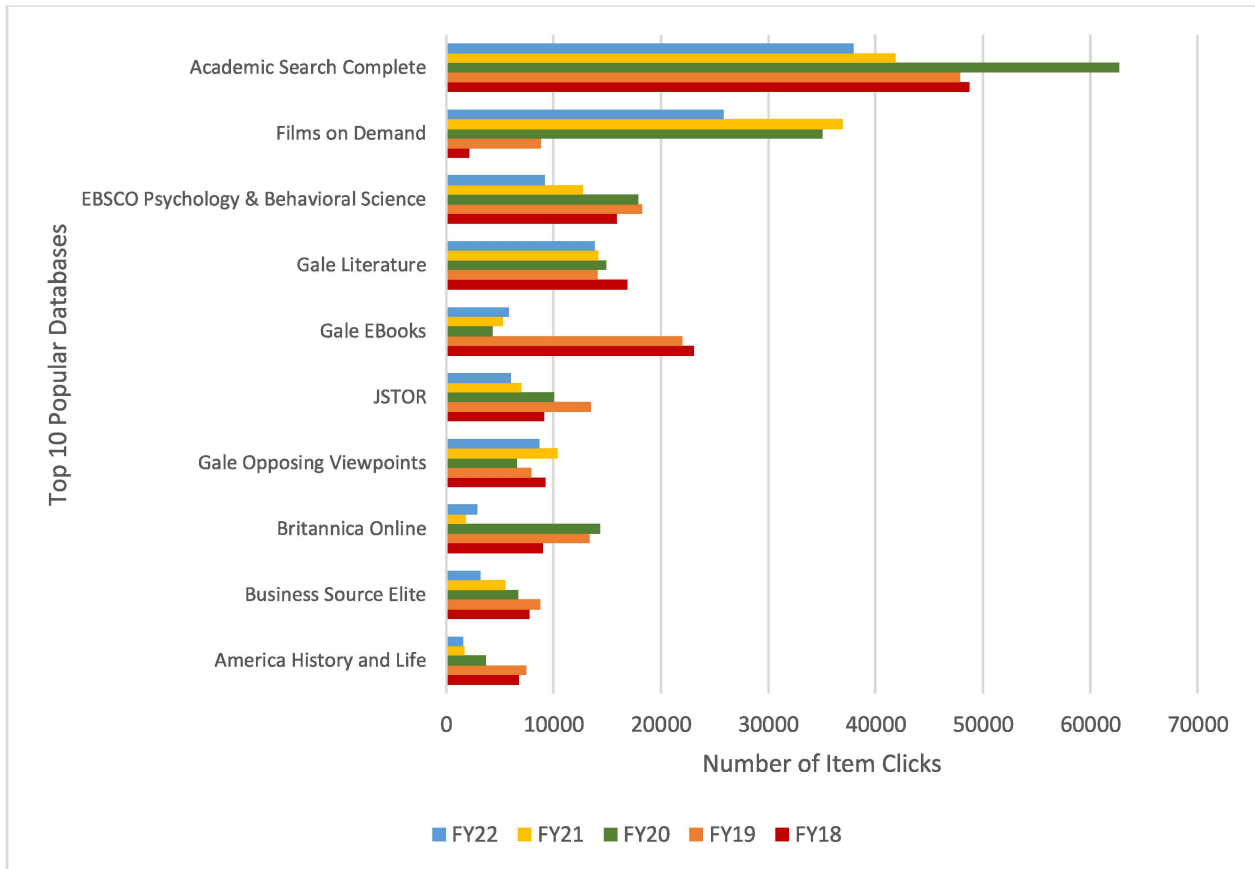

Figure 14. Total Database Searches

Figure 15. Top 10 Databases