



FPI 2013: Approaching the Finish Line

By Maggie Kinnaman

When you read this article, there will be just a few short weeks left to complete your APPA Facilities Performance Indicators (FPI) survey for 2013, which closes on December 16, 2013. Remember that you can contact Christina Hills or me with any specific survey or data questions. Our contact information can be found at the end of this article.

IT'S GETTING BETTER ALL THE TIME

I'd like to call your attention to some enhancements that have been added to the survey this year:

- In **module 2** (thanks to Rolly Maelwas, facilities asset management coordinator with the Northern Alberta Institute of Technology located in Alberta, Canada), we're including a worksheet to determine the average adjusted age of your campus buildings. Rolly has incorporated a weighting factor that takes into consideration the GSF of buildings and also the impact of recapitalization on the average adjusted age of buildings.

I encourage you to take a look at this new addition.

- In **module 4a** of the custodial section, participants requested data on custodial supplies, so a new enhancement to capture this data has been added.
- Additionally in **module 4a**, within the energy/utilities section, questions have been added related to expenditures associated with operating a district utilities plant and also the associated FTEs.
- Finally, in **module 4a**, two "Other" sections have been added. The first is used to capture typical facilities related expenditures and FTE. Included are such services as trash removal, special events setups, moving and storage, and window washing. The second captures GSF, expenditures, and FTE for services that may be aligned under facilities management for administrative convenience, but are not true facilities management services. Services included could be public safety, telecommunications, mail services, and environmental health and safety.



- We've also added a new report to help participants identify missing data, or data that has been filled in with a zero. Many participants have requested such a report to help them identify what might be missing in their data set. They may look at the home page of the survey and see the % complete gauge at something less than 100 percent and wonder what they might have missed. This report provides a "reality check" prior submittal of the final survey data. Missing data should be your primary focus of this report, but data points with input of zero should also be checked. Some of that input may be totally valid, but other data points might have been marked zero in error.

I encourage you to request a data review from APPA as you complete each

module within the survey. This will generate a data check, giving you feedback regarding the overall integrity of your data. You will want to get this feedback sooner rather than later so that you're able to make corrections.

Even in instances where you have no data outliers or audits, you may in fact have data that is conflicting from module to module. An example of this could be in module 5 where there is an ever-increasing needs index but the investment rate is well over minimum for the past five years. In concept, investments over minimum tend to reduce your needs index.

SURVEY DEADLINE:
DECEMBER 16, 2013
6:00 P.M. EASTERN

www.appa.org/research/fpi

HITTING THE FINAL SUBMIT BUTTON

Before final submission, I always recommend that submitters look at their live reports and use them to tell their story. If the data doesn't support the story that you've been telling on your campus, go back and review your data to determine whether you need to change your data, or change your story. Once the two are congruent, and you have no unresolved audit alerts or outliers, then hit that final submit button.

Use your time wisely when completing the FPI survey. Mid-December is right around the corner. Remember that once the survey closes, the data set is locked down and all subsequent changes to the data set can only be made by the data scrubber.

Give yourself adequate time to you reach the FPI finish line having conducted a thorough review of your entire data set. Data accuracy in your FPI survey then is transformed into a credible report that helps support the story that is yours to tell key campus decision makers.

After all, buildings and infrastructure are the largest capital asset on any campus, and it's your job as facilities manager to inform key decision makers the state of those assets. Help to ensure that your story is backed up by sound, credible FPI data. 

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You can also contact Christina Hills at christina@appa.org with any questions.



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