

MISSISSIPPI

Mississippi has 50 public library systems with 236 physical library locations and two bookmobiles to serve almost 2.9 million residents. Mississippi's public libraries are organized as county/parish libraries (34 percent), as multi-jurisdictional libraries (34 percent), and as jointly operated city/county libraries (26 percent).*

More state tables are available online at www.ala.org/plinternetfunding.

EXPENDITURES (library system data)	MISSISSIPPI	U.S.
Total operating expenditures per capita*	\$13.57	\$33.24
CONNECTIVITY (library outlet/branch data)		
Libraries offer <i>only</i> free access to computers and the Internet in their communities	83.3%	71.4%
Average number of computers	9.1	11.1
Always sufficient computers available	11.4%	18.9%
Factors limiting library adding computers		
	<i>Space</i>	74.0% 75.9%
	<i>Cost</i>	85.8% 77.4%
Maximum Internet connection speed		
	<i>Less than 1.5 Mbps</i>	24.2% 21.9%
	<i>1.5 Mbps</i>	38.0% 25.5%
	<i>More than 1.5 Mbps</i>	26.9% 44.5%
Always adequate connection speed	31.5%	39.9%
Wireless availability	74.8%	76.4%
INTERNET SERVICES (library outlet/branch data)		
Internet services critical to role of library		
	<i>Provide education resources & database for K-12 students</i>	97.3% 78.6%
	<i>Provide services for job seekers</i>	55.9% 65.9%
	<i>Provide computer & Internet skills training</i>	22.7% 35.5%
	<i>Provide education resources & databases for adult/CE students</i>	67.3% 49.5%
	<i>Provide education resources & databases for students in higher ed</i>	60.6% 37.4%
Internet services available		
	<i>Licensed databases</i>	99.1% 89.6%
	<i>Homework resources</i>	84.2% 79.6%
	<i>Digital/virtual reference</i>	35.4% 62.4%
	<i>e-books</i>	22.9% 55.4%
	<i>Audio content</i>	63.1% 72.9%
Library offers IT training for patrons	85.2%	90.3%
Library staff helps patrons understand and use e-government services, as needed	76.4%	80.5%

* Institute of Museum and Library Services. *Public Libraries Survey: Fiscal Year 2006*. Washington, DC: IMLS, 2008. http://harvester.census.gov/imls/pubs/pls/pub_detail.asp?id=121.