

MONTANA

Montana has 50 public library systems with 236 physical locations and two bookmobiles to serve 900,000 residents. Montana's public libraries are primarily organized as municipal government libraries (36.3 percent) and county libraries (33.8 percent). The rest are organized as multi-jurisdictional libraries (13.8 percent) and jointly operated city/county libraries (16.3 percent).*

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

EXPENDITURES (library system data)	MONTANA	U.S.	
Total operating expenditures per capita*	\$19.89	\$33.24	
CONNECTIVITY (library outlet/branch data)			
Libraries offer <i>only</i> free access to computers and the Internet in their communities	79.6%	71.4%	
Average number of computers	8.0	11.1	
Always sufficient computers available	20.8%	18.9%	
Factors limiting library adding computers	<i>Space</i>	66.3%	75.9%
	<i>Cost</i>	80.0%	77.4%
Maximum Internet connection speed	<i>Less than 1.5 Mbps</i>	44.7%	21.9%
	<i>1.5 Mbps</i>	9.6%	25.5%
	<i>More than 1.5 Mbps</i>	28.4%	44.5%
Always adequate connection speed	48.0%	39.9%	
Wireless availability	69.4%	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>	57.1%	78.6%
	<i>Provide services for job seekers</i>	65.3%	65.9%
	<i>Provide computer & Internet skills training</i>	35.7%	35.5%
	<i>Provide education resources & databases for adult/CE students</i>	38.8%	49.5%
	<i>Provide education resources & databases for students in higher ed</i>	29.6%	37.4%
	Internet services available	<i>Licensed databases</i>	98.0%
	<i>Homework resources</i>	71.4%	79.6%
	<i>Digital/virtual reference</i>	62.2%	62.4%
	<i>e-books</i>	50.0%	55.4%
	<i>Audio content</i>	57.1%	72.9%
Library offers IT training for patrons		82.7%	90.3%
Library staff helps patrons understand and use e-government services, as needed		80.6%	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.