

RHODE ISLAND

Rhode Island has 49 public library systems with 73 physical locations and two bookmobiles to serve over 1 million residents. Rhode Island's public libraries are primarily organized as non-profit association or agency libraries (53.1 percent). The rest are organized as municipal government libraries (46.9 percent).*

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

EXPENDITURES (library system data)	RHODE ISLAND	U.S.
Total operating expenditures per capita*	\$41.57	\$33.24
CONNECTIVITY (library outlet/branch data)		
Libraries offer <i>only</i> free access to computers and the Internet in their communities	54.9%	71.4%
Average number of computers	9.8	11.1
Always sufficient computers available	31.4%	18.9%
Factors limiting library adding computers		
	<i>Space</i>	90.0%
	<i>Cost</i>	80.3%
Maximum Internet connection speed		
	<i>Less than 1.5 Mbps</i>	11.7%
	<i>1.5 Mbps</i>	45.8%
	<i>More than 1.5 Mbps</i>	11.9%
Always adequate connection speed	10.0%	39.9%
Wireless availability	100.0%	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>	90.0%
	<i>Provide services for job seekers</i>	87.3%
	<i>Provide computer & Internet skills training</i>	37.1%
	<i>Provide education resources & databases for adult/CE students</i>	50.7%
	<i>Provide education resources & databases for students in higher ed</i>	21.1%
Internet services available		
	<i>Licensed databases</i>	100.0%
	<i>Homework resources</i>	90.1%
	<i>Digital/virtual reference</i>	57.7%
	<i>e-books</i>	77.5%
	<i>Audio content</i>	94.4%
Library offers IT training for patrons	83.1%	90.3%
Library staff helps patrons understand and use e-government services, as needed	92.9%	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.