

WASHINGTON

Washington has 65 public library systems with 330 physical locations and 25 bookmobiles to serve over 6.2 million residents. Washington's public libraries are primarily organized as municipal government libraries (64.6 percent). The rest are organized as library districts (35.4 percent).*

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

EXPENDITURES (library system data)	WASHINGTON	U.S.	
Total operating expenditures per capita*	\$46.86	\$33.24	
CONNECTIVITY (library outlet/branch data)			
Libraries offer <i>only</i> free access to computers and the Internet in their communities	76.3%	71.4%	
Average number of computers	8.2	11.1	
Always sufficient computers available	8.6%	18.9%	
Factors limiting library adding computers	<i>Space</i>	83.5%	75.9%
	<i>Cost</i>	46.6%	77.4%
Maximum Internet connection speed	<i>Less than 1.5 Mbps</i>	14.9%	21.9%
	<i>1.5 Mbps</i>	26.9%	25.5%
	<i>More than 1.5 Mbps</i>	52.8%	44.5%
Always adequate connection speed	47.8%	39.9%	
Wireless availability	90.1%	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>	80.5%	78.6%	
<i>Provide services for job seekers</i>	69.9%	65.9%	
<i>Provide computer & Internet skills training</i>	24.5%	35.5%	
<i>Provide education resources & databases for adult/CE students</i>	38.3%	49.5%	
<i>Provide education resources & databases for students in higher ed</i>	33.6%	37.4%	
Internet services available	<i>Licensed databases</i>	98.8%	89.6%
	<i>Homework resources</i>	70.3%	79.6%
	<i>Digital/virtual reference</i>	71.9%	62.4%
	<i>e-books</i>	47.8%	55.4%
	<i>Audio content</i>	67.5%	72.9%
Library offers IT training for patrons	96.6%	90.3%	
Library staff helps patrons understand and use e-government services, as needed	87.5%	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.