

PUBLIC LIBRARIES AND THE INTERNET 2008: STUDY RESULTS AND FINDINGS

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NATIONAL SYSTEM LEVEL DATA

This section details the study findings for national system level data. A brief discussion of the findings follows each table.

Funding Technology and Public Access Services

Figure 41: Percentage of Public Library Systems That Applied for an E-rate Discount by Metropolitan Status and Poverty.

	Metropolitan Status			Poverty Level			Overall
	Urban	Suburban	Rural	Low	Medium	High	
Applied	53.7% (n=334)	29.8% (n=836)	40.7% (n=2,312)	36.2% (n=2,945)	55.2% (n=500)	61.7% (n=37)	38.2% (n=3,482)
Another organization applied on the library's behalf	9.2% (n=57)	16.1% (n=451)	12.0% (n=681)	13.7% (n=1,113)	7.5% (n=68)	13.1% (n=8)	13.1% (n=1,189)
Did not apply	35.2% (n=219)	50.3% (n=1,412)	42.4% (n=2,409)	45.7% (n=3,721)	33.6% (n=305)	23.3% (n=14)	44.4% (n=4,040)
Do not know	2.1% (n=13)	3.9% (n=109)	4.8% (n=272)	4.4% (n=359)	3.6% (n=33)	3.3% (n=2)	4.3% (n=394)

Weighted missing values, n=82

The percentages shown in Figure 41 of library systems applying for E-Rate discounts are similar to the percentages found in the 2006-2007 survey. Overall, 44.4 percent of libraries did not apply for the E-rate discount. Medium (55.2 percent) and high poverty (61.7 percent) libraries were most likely to apply. Suburban libraries (50.3 percent) and low poverty libraries (45.7 percent) are the least likely to apply for the E-rate discount.

Figure 42: Percentage of Public Library Systems Receiving E-rate Discount by Category and by Metropolitan Status and Poverty.

E-rate Discount Categories	Metropolitan Status			Poverty Level			Overall
	Urban	Suburban	Rural	Low	Medium	High	
Internet connectivity	61.2% (n=235)	52.6% (n=677)	55.3% (n=1,646)	53.5% (n=2,163)	64.3% (n=362)	74.4% (n=32)	55.0% (n=2,557)
Telecommunications services	93.0% (n=358)	86.3% (n=1,111)	84.6% (n=2,520)	84.5% (n=3,416)	94.1% (n=530)	100.0% (n=43)	85.8% (n=3,989)
Internal connections cost	20.3% (n=78)	11.0% (n=141)	6.2% (n=184)	7.7% (n=310)	15.8% (n=89)	11.6% (n=5)	8.7% (n=404)

Will not total to 100%, as respondents could select more than one option.
Weighted missing values, n=23

Figure 42 illustrates the categories to which libraries apply their E-rate discount. The highest percentage utilize E-rate funds toward telecommunication services (85.8 percent) with most urban (93 percent) and high poverty (100 percent) reporting this usage. Relatively few outlets apply these funds to internal connection costs (8.7 percent total), with rural (6.2 percent) and low poverty (7.7 percent) the least likely to do so. These percentages are consistent with the 2006-2007 survey findings.

Figure 43: Public Library System Reasons for Not Applying for E-rate Discounts by Metropolitan Status and Poverty.

Reasons	Metropolitan Status			Poverty Level			Overall
	Urban	Suburban	Rural	Low	Medium	High	
The E-rate application process is too complicated	29.5% (n=62)	41.2% (n=549)	40.9% (n=920)	40.2% (n=1,403)	43.5% (n=127)	15.4% (n=2)	40.4% (n=1,532)
The library staff did not feel the library would qualify	9.5% (n=20)	12.6% (n=168)	8.3% (n=186)	10.0% (n=350)	8.2% (n=24)	*	9.9% (n=374)
Our total E-rate discount is fairly low and not worth the time needed to participate in the program	43.3% (n=91)	43.5% (n=581)	35.7% (n=802)	39.7% (n=1,386)	27.7% (n=81)	50.0% (n=6)	38.8% (n=1,473)
The library receives it as part of a consortium, so therefore does not apply individually	5.2% (n=11)	12.7% (n=170)	7.3% (n=164)	8.7% (n=302)	14.0% (n=41)	15.4% (n=2)	9.1% (n=345)
The library was denied funding in the past	3.8% (n=8)	5.2% (n=69)	5.3% (n=119)	5.0% (n=174)	6.5% (n=19)	23.1% (n=3)	5.2% (n=196)
The library did not apply because of the need to comply with CIPA's filtering requirements	40.5% (n=85)	32.2% (n=429)	30.5% (n=685)	31.7% (n=1,105)	29.8% (n=87)	50.0% (n=6)	31.6% (n=1,198)
The library has applied for E-rate in the past, but no longer finds it necessary	6.7% (n=14)	9.2% (n=123)	8.8% (n=197)	8.7% (n=305)	8.9% (n=26)	15.4% (n=2)	8.8% (n=333)
Other	20.5% (n=43)	17.5% (n=234)	24.5% (n=550)	21.6% (n=752)	24.7% (n=72)	23.1% (n=3)	21.8% (n=827)

Will not total to 100%, as respondents could select more than one option.

Weighted missing values, n=247

Key: *: Insufficient data to report

Figure 43 summarizes the reasons library outlets indicated for not applying for the E-rate discount. The vast majority of categories show very similar percentages as compared to the 2006-2007 survey, although there has been a drop of urban outlets reporting the application process is too complicated (29.5 percent, down from 36.1 percent last year), as well as an increase in urban libraries not applying due to CIPA requirement (40.5 percent, up from 36.1 percent last year). Overall, the two most common reasons for not applying for the E-rate discount are the application process being too complicated (40.4 percent) and the low discount provided being not worth the time required to participate (38.8 percent).

A large percentage (21.8 percent overall) of library systems responded that they did not apply for the E-Rate discount for other reasons. Of those systems, 44.2 percent stated that they receive the services for free, either directly from the provider or another entity that pays for the service on their behalf. The second largest category, comprised of 10.8 percent of responses, was that the system either did not know anything about the E-Rate program, often because of a new director, or they did not know how to complete the application.

Public Access Funding Findings

As with the 2006-2007 survey, the 2007-2008 asked public libraries to identify their current and anticipated next fiscal year operating and technology funding expenditures. The intent of these questions was to explore public library funding sources for major expenditures in staffing, collections, and “other” categories of expenditures – including public access technology. As with the 2006-2007 survey, respondents to the 2007-2008 survey had difficulty in responding to these questions. Indeed, the response rate for some questions declined by as much as 50 percent compared with other system-level questions. This decline suggests several factors – the library does not have, nor does it anticipate, expenditures from a funding source; or, the library was unable to determine easily the expenditures for the categories asked – both type of expenditure and source of funding for the expenditure. Thus, the data presented below are best viewed as estimates of operating and technology expenditures.

Operating Expenditures

Figure 44: Fiscal Year 2007 Public Library System Average Total Operating Expenditures by Type and Funding Source.

Sources of Funding	Fiscal Year 2007		
	Salaries (including benefits)	Collections	Other Expenditures
Local/county	\$949,479 (n=6,722)	\$237,208 (n=5,784)	\$350,518 (n=5,711)
State (including state aid to public libraries, or state-supported tax programs)	\$136,398 (n=3,087)	\$53,628 (n=3,637)	\$62,820 (n=3,392)
Federal	\$2,668 (n=2,243)	\$2,072 (n=2,077)	\$9,063 (n=2,263)
Fees/fines	\$18,548 (n=2,484)	\$18,806 (n=2,882)	\$38,147 (n=3,278)
Donations/local fund raising	\$53,145 (n=2,536)	\$21,094 (n=3,484)	\$37,283 (n=3,503)
Grants (local, state or national grant programs)	\$16,695 (n=2,349)	\$7,383 (n=2,526)	\$14,990 (n=2,799)
Private foundation grants (e.g. Gates, Carnegie)	\$9,489 (n=2,305)	\$4,844 (n=2,350)	\$13,036 (n=2,779)
Reported average total	\$1,186,422	\$345,035	\$525,857
Reported average percent	57.7%	16.8%	25.6%

The numbers in Figure 44 show what public library systems reported as their average expenditures by source of funding and major expenditure categories of salaries, collections, and other expenditures for fiscal year 2007. As is consistent with national estimates of library expenditures, libraries responding to this survey rely most heavily on local/county funding to pay for all expenditure categories. Federal sources provide the least funding. When compared with figures reported in the 2006-2007 study, salaries funded by local/county were less than participating library systems anticipated, with an overall average of just under \$950,000 this year, versus an anticipated \$1,279,118 reported in the 2006-2007 survey (a decline of 25.8

percent).¹ A new addition to all of the operating expenditure figures is private foundation grants as a source of funding, and the averages show this source as providing more funds than federal sources across all expenditure categories. The real impact of private foundation grants will not be known until another year of data are collected.

Figure 45: Fiscal Year 2008 Public Library System Average Total Operating Expenditures by Type and Funding Source.

Sources of Funding	Fiscal Year 2008		
	Salaries (including benefits)	Collections	Other Expenditures
Local/county	\$1,070,645 (n=6,223)	\$744,634 (n=5,350)	\$392,450 (n=5,372)
State (including state aid to public libraries, or state-supported tax programs)	\$147,983 (n=2,780)	\$57,461 (n=3,296)	\$71,992 (n=3,085)
Federal	\$2,892 (n=1,971)	\$2,639 (n=1,869)	\$10,001 (n=2,013)
Fees/fines	\$18,023 (n=2,206)	\$21,782 (n=2,616)	\$41,832 (n=3,058)
Donations/local fund raising	\$63,989 (n=2,291)	\$25,672 (n=3,158)	\$46,971 (n=3,206)
Grants (local, state or national grant programs)	\$8,694 (n=2,063)	\$6,580 (n=2,224)	\$13,491 (n=2,444)
Private foundation grants (e.g. Gates, Carnegie)	\$7,334 (n=2,009)	\$4,940 (n=2,090)	\$10,039 (n=2,500)
Reported average total	\$1,319,560	\$863,708	\$586,776
Reported average percent	47.6%	31.2%	21.2%

When compared with Figure 44, Figure 45 suggests that library systems are anticipating slightly more local/county funds for salaries, and substantially more local/county funds for collections in fiscal year 2008. Being more variable, fewer libraries anticipate funding from private foundation grants to pay for other expenditures than in fiscal year 2007.²

Figures 46 through 57 show the average operating expenditures that library systems reported for fiscal year 2007, as well as their anticipated expenditures for fiscal year 2008, based on funding source and expense category. These figures are presented by metropolitan status and poverty level.

The data in Figures 38 through 49 suggest the following:

- Rural systems anticipate a slight decrease in federal funding across all categories (\$779 overall, for a 20.7 percent decrease), as well as a significant decrease, on average, for private funding grants (\$4,111 for a 40.7 percent decrease) to help with “other” expenditures (see Figures 46 and 47);

¹ Libraries Connect Communities: Public Library Funding & Technology Access Study 2006-2007. Figures 39-40.

² Ibid.

- Suburban systems anticipate a substantial drop (\$24,011 overall, for a 60.4 percent decrease) in local, state, and national grant funds to help pay for salaries in fiscal year 2008 (see Figures 48 and 49);
- Urban systems expect a large increase in local or county sources in fiscal year 2008 to pay for salaries and other expenditures (\$1,711,693 overall, for a 18.6 percent increase), and anticipate a decrease (\$30,942 overall, for a 21.3 percent decrease) in private foundation funding supporting salaries and other expenditures (see Figures 50 and 51);
- Low poverty systems anticipate an increase (\$181,815 overall, for a 15.2 percent increase) of in local/county funding across all categories in fiscal year 2008. Although low poverty systems also expect slightly more federal funding (\$2,286 overall), this funding is still the smallest in proportion with other funding sources (see Figures 52 and 53);
- Medium poverty systems report an expected increase in funding coming from fees and fines (\$47,151 overall, for a 25.0 percent increase), and more libraries reported directing those funds to “other” expenditures (\$27,198 overall, for a 24.5 percent increase) rather than staff or collection (see Figures 54 and 55); and
- High poverty systems indicate an expected increase in donations and local fundraising (\$48,482 overall, for a 20.8 percent increase) to help support all expenditures in fiscal year 2008 (see Figures 56 and 57).

Overall, therefore, the data show a range of expenditure trends by fiscal year, metropolitan status, and poverty.

Figure 46: Fiscal Year 2007 Rural Public Library System Average Total Operating Expenditures Type and Funding Source.

Sources of Funding	Fiscal Year 2007		
	Salaries (including benefits)	Collections	Other Expenditures
Local/county	\$212,109 (n=4,171)	\$48,998 (n=3,471)	\$85,580 (n=3,447)
State (including state aid to public libraries, or state-supported tax programs)	\$49,450 (n=1,898)	\$15,327 (n=2,224)	\$21,599 (n=1,997)
Federal	\$1,928 (n=1,388)	\$675 (n=1,262)	\$1,153 (n=1,334)
Fees/fines	\$2,867 (n=1,524)	\$3,571 (n=1,792)	\$9,103 (n=1,958)
Donations/local fund raising	\$7,745 (n=1,595)	\$4,894 (n=2,184)	\$10,080 (n=2,136)
Grants (local, state or national grant programs)	\$3,659 (n=1,445)	\$2,995 (n=1,543)	\$5,675 (n=1,711)
Private foundation grants (e.g. Gates, Carnegie)	\$3,640 (n=1,420)	\$2,946 (n=1,479)	\$10,108 (n=1,712)
Reported average total	\$281,398	\$79,406	\$143,298
Reported average percent	55.8%	15.8%	28.4%

Figure 47: Fiscal Year 2008 Rural Public Library System Average Total Operating Expenditures by Type and Funding Source.

Sources of Funding	Fiscal Year 2008		
	Salaries (including benefits)	Collections	Other Expenditures
Local/county	\$229,205 (n=3,872)	\$51,757 (n=3,195)	\$97,600 (n=3,258)
State (including state aid to public libraries, or state-supported tax programs)	\$57,704 (n=1,707)	\$16,343 (n=2,008)	\$24,055 (n=1,806)
Federal	\$1,378 (n=1,209)	\$526 (n=1,126)	\$1,073 (n=1,196)
Fees/fines	\$2,507 (n=1,343)	\$3,869 (n=1,625)	\$9,464 (n=1,860)
Donations/local fund raising	\$6,718 (n=1,448)	\$5,374 (n=1,978)	\$8,961 (n=1,955)
Grants (local, state or national grant programs)	\$2,261 (n=1,266)	\$2,188 (n=1,357)	\$7,489 (n=1,495)
Private foundation grants (e.g. Gates, Carnegie)	\$3,458 (n=1,233)	\$2,659 (n=1,286)	\$5,997 (n=1,548)
Reported average total	\$303,231	\$82,716	\$154,639
Reported average percent	56.1	15.3%	28.6%

Figure 48: Fiscal Year 2007 Suburban Public Library System Average Total Operating Expenditures by Type and Funding Source.

Sources of Funding	Fiscal Year 2007		
	Salaries (including benefits)	Collections	Other Expenditures
Local/county	\$1,006,449 (n=2,049)	\$219,313 (n=1,849)	\$353,126 (n=1,809)
State (including state aid to public libraries, or state-supported tax programs)	\$119,524 (n=970)	\$41,219 (n=1,126)	\$44,250 (n=1,100)
Federal	\$823 (n=711)	\$1,403 (n=671)	\$4,943 (n=730)
Fees/fines	\$28,982 (n=791)	\$14,470 (n=901)	\$36,056 (n=1,058)
Donations/local fund raising	\$7,347 (n=783)	\$11,474 (n=1,063)	\$18,557 (n=1,087)
Grants (local, state or national grant programs)	\$25,330 (n=746)	\$7,103 (n=797)	\$7,277 (n=853)
Private foundation grants (e.g. Gates, Carnegie)	\$4,351 (n=717)	\$2,706 (n=701)	\$6,116 (n=855)
Reported average total	\$1,218,136	\$297,688	\$470,325
Reported average percent	61.3%	15.0%	23.7%

Figure 49: Fiscal Year 2008 Suburban Public Library System Average Total Operating Expenditures by Type and Funding Source.

Sources of Funding	Fiscal Year 2008		
	Salaries (including benefits)	Collections	Other Expenditures
Local/county	\$1,042,221 (n=1,889)	\$226,114 (n=1,721)	\$377,749 (n=1,681)
State (including state aid to public libraries, or state-supported tax programs)	\$114,974 (n=879)	\$45,831 (n=1,020)	\$38,337 (n=994)
Federal	\$1,521 (n=621)	\$774 (n=607)	\$2,514 (n=634)
Fees/fines	\$28,889 (n=704)	\$15,279 (n=810)	\$35,261 (n=935)
Donations/local fund raising	\$8,951 (n=693)	\$14,525 (n=959)	\$18,610 (n=983)
Grants (local, state or national grant programs)	\$2,608 (n=653)	\$4,772 (n=696)	\$8,319 (n=746)
Private foundation grants (e.g. Gates, Carnegie)	\$3,121 (n=621)	\$2,505 (n=642)	\$5,868 (n=762)
Reported average total	\$1,202,285	\$309,800	\$486,658
Reported average percent	60.2%	15.5%	24.3%

Figure 50: Fiscal Year 2007 Urban Public Library System Average Total Operating Expenditures by Type and Funding Source.

Sources of Funding	Fiscal Year 2007		
	Salaries (including benefits)	Collections	Other Expenditures
Local/county	\$6,844,485 (n=502)	\$1,716,462 (n=464)	\$2,351,904 (n=454)
State (including state aid to public libraries, or state-supported tax programs)	\$965,450 (n=219)	\$400,169 (n=286)	\$411,546 (n=295)
Federal	\$18,974 (n=143)	\$17,393 (n=144)	\$77,280 (n=199)
Fees/fines	\$111,672 (n=168)	\$183,794 (n=189)	\$263,470 (n=262)
Donations/local fund raising	\$740,365 (n=158)	\$213,844 (n=237)	\$318,038 (n=279)
Grants (local, state or national grant programs)	\$95,233 (n=158)	\$45,064 (n=186)	\$110,543 (n=236)
Private foundation grants (e.g. Gates, Carnegie)	\$81,013 (n=168)	\$30,125 (n=170)	\$64,462 (n=212)
Reported average total	\$8,857,192	\$2,606,851	\$3,597,243
Reported average percent	58.8%	17.3%	23.9%

Figure 51: Fiscal Year 2008 Urban Public Library System Average Total Operating Expenditures by Type and Funding Source.

Sources of Funding	Fiscal Year 2008		
	Salaries (including benefits)	Collections	Other Expenditures
Local/county	\$8,239,411 (n=462)	\$1,903,333 (n=433)	\$2,668,671 (n=433)
State (including state aid to public libraries, or state-supported tax programs)	\$1,089,304 (n=195)	\$409,203 (n=268)	\$492,653 (n=285)
Federal	\$21,880 (n=141)	\$28,564 (n=135)	\$94,314 (n=183)
Fees/fines	\$101,223 (n=159)	\$211,324 (n=181)	\$294,861 (n=262)
Donations/local fund raising	\$870,007 (n=150)	\$255,964 (n=221)	\$429,312 (n=267)
Grants (local, state or national grant programs)	\$92,484 (n=145)	\$48,680 (n=171)	\$76,850 (n=203)
Private foundation grants (e.g. Gates, Carnegie)	\$55,059 (n=155)	\$32,916 (n=161)	\$59,474 (n=191)
Reported average total	\$10,469,378	\$2,889,984	\$4,116,135
Reported average percent	59.9%	16.5%	23.6%

Figure 52: Fiscal Year 2007 Low Poverty Public Library System Average Total Operating Expenditures by Type and Funding Source.

Sources of Funding	Fiscal Year 2007		
	Salaries (including benefits)	Collections	Other Expenditures
Local/county	\$725,932 (n=6,020)	\$201,293 (n=5,152)	\$267,949 (n=5,075)
State (including state aid to public libraries, or state-supported tax programs)	\$88,565 (n=2,715)	\$35,568 (n=3,175)	\$44,010 (n=2,987)
Federal	\$1,364 (n=1,986)	\$942 (n=1,828)	\$6,402 (n=1,978)
Fees/fines	\$16,255 (n=2,216)	\$14,702 (n=2,570)	\$28,522 (n=2,917)
Donations/local fund raising	\$58,185 (n=2,257)	\$20,389 (n=3,130)	\$36,069 (n=3,129)
Grants (local, state or national grant programs)	\$16,858 (n=2,075)	\$5,738 (n=2,254)	\$11,586 (n=2,478)
Private foundation grants (e.g. Gates, Carnegie)	\$7,781 (n=2,027)	\$4,387 (n=2,085)	\$11,608 (n=2,428)
Reported average total	\$914,940	\$283,019	\$406,146
Reported average percent	57.0%	17.6%	25.3%

Figure 53: Fiscal Year 2008 Low Poverty Public Library System Average Total Operating Expenditures by Type and Funding Source.

Sources of Funding	Fiscal Year 2008		
	Salaries (including benefits)	Collections	Other Expenditures
Local/county	\$841,659 (n=5,579)	\$223,040 (n=4,775)	\$312,290 (n=4,778)
State (including state aid to public libraries, or state-supported tax programs)	\$93,683 (n=2,444)	\$43,423 (n=2,883)	\$51,900 (n=2,708)
Federal	\$1,517 (n=1,756)	\$2,109 (n=1,654)	\$7,368 (n=1,766)
Fees/fines	\$14,565 (n=1,967)	\$16,796 (n=2,334)	\$29,675 (n=2,727)
Donations/local fund raising	\$68,503 (n=2,069)	\$25,634 (n=2,851)	\$46,827 (n=2,859)
Grants (local, state or national grant programs)	\$8,063 (n=1,834)	\$4,156 (n=1,983)	\$11,434 (n=2,160)
Private foundation grants (e.g. Gates, Carnegie)	\$5,395 (n=1,783)	\$4,115 (n=1,871)	\$8,123 (n=2,233)
Reported average total	\$1,033,385	\$319,273	\$467,617
Reported average percent	56.8%	17.5%	25.7%

Figure 54: Fiscal Year 2007 Medium Poverty Public Library System Average Total Operating Expenditures by Type and Funding Source.

Sources of Funding	Fiscal Year 2007		
	Salaries (including benefits)	Collections	Other Expenditures
Local/county	\$2,579,674 (n=659)	\$459,562 (n=593)	\$934,554 (n=595)
State (including state aid to public libraries, or state-supported tax programs)	\$498,941 (n=352)	\$161,867 (n=437)	\$201,691 (n=383)
Federal	\$9,282 (n=242)	\$8,184 (n=234)	\$24,225 (n=266)
Fees/fines	\$38,869 (n=257)	\$39,246 (n=295)	\$110,753 (n=333)
Donations/local fund raising	\$10,498 (n=265)	\$22,472 (n=333)	\$44,966 (n=350)
Grants (local, state or national grant programs)	\$12,997 (n=250)	\$8,932 (n=251)	\$42,971 (n=299)
Private foundation grants (e.g. Gates, Carnegie)	\$22,282 (n=262)	\$6,946 (n=246)	\$23,262 (n=329)
Reported average total	\$3,172,543	\$707,209	\$1,382,422
Reported average percent	60.3%	13.4%	26.3%

Figure 55: Fiscal Year 2008 Medium Poverty Public Library System Average Total Operating Expenditures by Type and Funding Source.

Sources of Funding	Fiscal Year 2008		
	Salaries (including benefits)	Collections	Other Expenditures
Local/county	\$2,762,656 (n=603)	\$512,086 (n=539)	\$939,229 (n=555)
State (including state aid to public libraries, or state-supported tax programs)	\$557,549 (n=319)	\$152,290 (n=384)	\$218,343 (n=353)
Federal	\$10,003 (n=204)	\$3,991 (n=199)	\$25,504 (n=229)
Fees/fines	\$49,177 (n=224)	\$48,891 (n=263)	\$137,951 (n=302)
Donations/local fund raising	\$19,277 (n=209)	\$20,045 (n=289)	\$44,678 (n=325)
Grants (local, state or national grant programs)	\$11,101 (n=208)	\$10,277 (n=219)	\$30,065 (n=260)
Private foundation grants (e.g. Gates, Carnegie)	\$22,372 (n=212)	\$10,580 (n=204)	\$26,642 (n=251)
Reported average total	\$3,432,135	\$758,160	\$1,395,353
Reported average percent	61.4%	13.6%	25.0%

Figure 56: Fiscal Year 2007 High Poverty Public Library System Average Total Operating Expenditures by Type and Funding Source.

Sources of Funding	Fiscal Year 2007		
	Salaries (including benefits)	Collections	Other Expenditures
Local/county	\$7,273,289 (n=43)	\$1,064,628 (n=38)	\$2,087,396 (n=41)
State (including state aid to public libraries, or state-supported tax programs)	\$249,267 (n=21)	\$449,867 (n=25)	\$194,675 (n=22)
Federal	\$72,557 (n=14)	\$43,151 (n=16)	\$73,406 (n=19)
Fees/fines	\$6,316 (n=11)	\$281,685 (n=17)	\$180,309 (n=27)
Donations/local fund raising	\$48,909 (n=14)	\$100,525 (n=22)	\$83,676 (n=24)
Grants (local, state or national grant programs)	\$41,538 (n=24)	\$169,991 (n=20)	\$18,364 (n=22)
Private foundation grants (e.g. Gates, Carnegie)	\$16,224 (n=16)	\$28,047 (n=19)	\$17,439 (n=22)
Reported average total	\$7,708,100	\$2,137,894	\$2,655,265
Reported average percent	61.7%	17.1%	21.2%

Figure 57: Fiscal Year 2008 High Poverty Public Library System Average Total Operating Expenditures by Type and Funding Source.

Sources of Funding	Fiscal Year 2008		
	Salaries (including benefits)	Collections	Other Expenditures
Local/county	\$7,302,479 (n=41)	\$1,056,236 (n=37)	\$2,395,251 (n=40)
State (including state aid to public libraries, or state-supported tax programs)	\$264,403 (n=17)	\$171,680 (n=29)	\$189,842 (n=24)
Federal	\$91,229 (n=11)	\$41,700 (n=16)	\$73,253 (n=17)
Fees/fines	\$5,194 (n=14)	\$261,282 (n=19)	\$185,831 (n=29)
Donations/local fund raising	\$64,914 (n=13)	\$117,860 (n=19)	\$98,818 (n=22)
Grants (local, state or national grant programs)	\$38,486 (n=22)	\$187,941 (n=22)	\$18,802 (n=24)
Private foundation grants (e.g. Gates, Carnegie)	\$26,143 (n=14)	\$32,457 (n=14)	\$17,005 (n=17)
Reported average total	\$7,792,848	\$1,869,156	\$2,978,802
Reported average percent	61.6%	14.8%	23.6%

Technology-Related Operating Expenditures

Figures 58 through 65 outline the average anticipated technology-related operating expenditures for fiscal year 2008. Figure 50 shows the overall averages, and the subsequent figures present the expenditures by metropolitan status and poverty level. As with Figures 45-57, private foundation grants is a new funding source participants were asked to report. Additionally, hardware and software were combined as an expenditure category in 2007-2008, whereas these were collected separately in 2006-2007. Outside vendors also was added as a new category in 2007-2008.

Figure 58 details the average expected technology-related operating expenditures for all public libraries in fiscal year 2008. Similar to overall library expenditures, local/county funding as a source for technology-related expenditures is prevalent. However, local/county funding for technology-related salaries is actually anticipated to drop by more than \$12,000 from the average in the 2006-2007 study for anticipated fiscal year 2007 and over \$18,000 from the fiscal year 2006 average.³

Expenditures for hardware and software from local/county sources, donations, and government grant funding sources are anticipated to decline in FY2008. This drop may be due to a number of factors, including

- 1) the cyclical nature of this type of expenditure (i.e., replacements and additions occur every 3-4 years);
- 2) a reduction in costs as overall reductions in the costs of technologies occur;
- 3) the shifting of technology expenditures away from tax support, including government grants, to other sources of funding, and
- 4) capital expenditures for renovations of existing buildings or construction of new ones.

State funding is expected to increase slightly for fiscal year 2008 to help with salary expenditures, as well as telecommunications. Local/county funding will aid public library systems with paying for outside vendors to the greatest degree in fiscal year 2008.

³ Ibid., Figures 53-54.

Figure 58: Fiscal Year 2008 Public Library System Average Total Technology-Related Operating Expenditures by Type and Funding Source.

Fiscal Year 2008				
Sources of Funding	Salaries (including benefits)	Outside Vendors	Hardware/Software	Telecommunications
Local/county	\$78,502 (n=3,321)	\$29,299 (n=3,449)	\$35,673 (n=4,388)	\$17,379 (n=4,363)
State (including state aid to public libraries, or state-supported tax programs)	\$9,765 (n=1,917)	\$5,608 (n=1,851)	\$8,023 (n=2,098)	\$3,230 (n=1,877)
Federal	\$254 (n=1,690)	\$916 (n=1,585)	\$661 (n=1,622)	\$8,007 (n=1,821)
Fees/fines	\$699 (n=1,759)	\$669 (n=1,661)	\$1,848 (n=1,716)	\$560 (n=1,684)
Donations/local fund raising	\$654 (n=1,775)	\$1,921 (n=1,757)	\$1,560 (n=2,163)	\$664 (n=1,821)
Grants (local, state or national grant programs)	\$5 (n=1,647)	\$10 (n=1,552)	\$29 (n=1,539)	\$28 (n=1,593)
Private foundation grants (e.g. Gates, Carnegie)	\$351 (n=1,721)	\$367 (n=1,624)	\$4,521 (n=2,246)	\$295 (n=1,657)
Reported average total	\$90,230	\$38,790	\$52,315	\$30,163
Reported average percent	42.7%	18.3%	24.7%	14.3%

Figures 59 through 65 present the technology-related operating expenditures by metropolitan status and poverty level. Although many of the system types show a decrease in hardware and software operating expenditures over what was reported last year, some of this could be accounted for by the following:⁴

- Some hardware expenditures are paid from capital revenue, as in the case a major renovation or a new branch opening, and therefore would not be reported as an operating expenditure.⁵
- Technology-related expenditures tend to be cyclical in nature with replacements, upgrades, and additions occurring on a 3-4 year cycle.
- Actual technology costs (i.e., hardware) can decrease over time due to market forces.

These factors require additional exploration as the Public Library Funding and Technology Access Study continues.

⁴ Ibid., Figures 55-66.

⁵ Capital expenditures are specifically defined in the Institute of Museum and Library Services public library statistics program documentation. IMLS maintains the same definitions determined in the federal public library survey program previously administered by the National Center for Education Statistics. Please (*next page*) consult *Public Libraries in the United States: Fiscal Year 2005*. Appendix B, Survey Questionnaire for a full definition. http://harvester.census.gov/imls/pubs/pls/pub_detail.asp?id=116#

Figures 59 through 64 suggest the following with regards to public library technology-related expenditures when compared with FY2007 anticipated expenditures reported in the 2006-2007 report by metropolitan status and poverty:

Metropolitan Status:

- Rural libraries, unlike their suburban and urban counterparts, anticipate increases in local/county funding to support technology-related salaries (\$23,655 in FY2008 compared with \$19,147 reported last year as anticipated for FY2007). A 12.5 percent decrease is anticipated in donations to fund hardware and software in FY2008 (\$1,184 anticipated for FY2008, compared with \$1,353 anticipated in FY2007).⁶ (see Figure 59 this report, Figure 56 in the 2006-2007 report).
- Suburban systems expect spending far less from local/county funding sources for technology staff salaries (down an estimated 40 percent in FY2008 over FY2007) and telecommunications costs (down 48 percent from FY2007). A sharp decrease over both fiscal year 2006 and 2007 in donations and government grants to support hardware and software expenditures also is anticipated in FY2008.
- Urban outlets report an increase in expected local/county funding for salaries, but a decrease in telecommunications support from this source. A substantial amount of funding from all sources was being directed toward outside vendor expenses in FY2008. Urban libraries reported about 19 percent of local/county funding and about 20 percent in overall funding being directed to outside vendors. An increase can be seen over the last two fiscal years in average funding from federal sources to support technology staff salaries, while considerably fewer dollars from donations/local fundraising are being directed to that expenditure. Hardware and software expenditures also saw dramatic shifts in funding – considerable improvement in local/county funding and significant declines in non-tax support (especially grants) from what was reported in FY2006 and 2007. Private foundation grants, reported individually in the 2007-08 report, are expected to account for less than 50 percent of the overall grant support previously reported (see Figure 61).

Poverty Status:

- Low poverty systems report modest but steady increases in use of federal funding sources to support technology-related telecommunications costs since fiscal year 2006, yet fewer dollars from local/county sources. A steady decline in local/county funding for technology-related staff salaries also was reported (\$82,026 in FY2006 versus \$59,482 anticipated in FY2008). Support of hardware/software expenses from local/county sources has declined, but state and grant support has increased since FY2006.⁷

⁶ See Figure 59 in this year's study and Figure 56 in the "Libraries Connect Communities: Public Library Funding and Technology Access Study 2006-2007" report.

⁷ See Figure 62 in this year's report and Figures 61-62 in the "Libraries Connect Communities: Public Library Funding and Technology Access Study 2006-2007."

- Medium poverty outlets report a decline in all sources of revenue to support technology-related expenditures since FY2006. The most significant declines were in tax revenue (local/county, state and federal funding) to support hardware and software expenditures and technology-related staff salaries. Fewer donation dollars are being directed toward hardware and software expenditures since FY2006, and libraries in the medium poverty strata anticipate almost no government grants (local, state or national) to support technology-related expenditures in FY2008.⁸

High poverty outlets expect substantial increases in local/county revenue for technology-related staff salaries over both of the previous two fiscal years, but declines in support for hardware/software and telecommunications expenditures. In fact, local/county support for telecommunications expenses have declined about 63 percent from anticipated funding for FY2007 and about 43 percent over FY2006.⁹ Strong federal support for outside vendor and hardware/software expenses was anticipated in FY2008, but a continued decline in federal tax support for telecommunications expenditures since FY2006. Donation/local fundraising dollars for technology-related expenditures have declined since FY2006, with no anticipated support for hardware/software or telecommunications in FY2008. Similar to medium poverty libraries, government grants will be essentially non-existent in fiscal year 2008, and modest support from private foundation grants for outside vendors and hardware and software expenditures.

Overall, there is very little expected increase from any funding source to cover technology-related expenses faced by public library systems in fiscal year 2008. While private foundation grants are somewhat replacing a large percentage of funding by government grants, most systems will be encountering an overall decline in funding for technology related operating expenditures in 2008 over fiscal year 2007.

⁸ See Figure 63 in this year's report and Figures 63-64 in the "Libraries Connect Communities: Public Library Funding and Technology Access Study 2006-2007."

⁹ See Figure 64 in this year's report and Figures 65-66 in the "Libraries Connect Communities: Public Library Funding and Technology Access Study 2006-2007."

Figure 59: Fiscal Year 2008 Rural Public Library System Average Total Technology-Related Operating Expenditures by Type and Funding Source.

Fiscal Year 2008				
Sources of Funding	Salaries (including benefits)	Outside Vendors	Hardware/Software	Telecommunications
Local/county	\$23,655 (n=1,902)	\$6,716 (n=1,995)	\$9,346 (n=2,586)	\$4,513 (n=2,606)
State (including state aid to public libraries, or state-supported tax programs)	\$5,938 (n=1,163)	\$1,165 (n=1,116)	\$2,701 (n=1,250)	\$1,021 (n=1,158)
Federal	\$39 (n=1,028)	\$96 (n=956)	\$95 (n=966)	\$902 (n=1,120)
Fees/fines	\$369 (n=1,074)	\$310 (n=1,005)	\$687 (n=1,034)	\$543 (n=1,015)
Donations/local fund raising	\$470 (n=1,106)	\$572 (n=1,079)	\$1,184 (n=1,388)	\$479 (n=1,141)
Grants (local, state or national grant programs)	\$6 (n=500)	\$12 (n=948)	\$35 (n=944)	\$33 (n=971)
Private foundation grants (e.g. Gates, Carnegie)	\$384 (n=1,063)	\$311 (n=982)	\$2,856 (n=1,418)	\$299 (n=1,015)
Reported average total	\$30,861	\$9,182	\$16,904	\$7,790
Reported average percent	47.7%	14.2%	26.1%	12.0%

Figure 60: Fiscal Year 2008 Suburban Public Library System Average Total Technology-Related Operating Expenditures by Type and Funding Source.

Fiscal Year 2008				
Sources of Funding	Salaries (including benefits)	Outside Vendors	Hardware/Software	Telecommunications
Local/county	\$73,922 (n=1,098)	\$33,427 (n=1,191)	\$35,121 (n=1,431)	\$14,737 (n=1,396)
State (including state aid to public libraries, or state-supported tax programs)	\$11,224 (n=621)	\$4,201 (n=600)	\$5,399 (n=700)	\$2,123 (n=602)
Federal	\$38 (n=557)	\$33 (n=528)	\$551 (n=546)	\$1,967 (n=581)
Fees/fines	\$952 (n=576)	\$1,130 (n=546)	\$2,288 (n=568)	\$565 (n=560)
Donations/local fund raising	\$260 (n=567)	\$777 (n=568)	\$1,232 (n=653)	\$459 (n=573)
Grants (local, state or national grant programs)	\$4 (n=549)	\$7 (n=514)	\$17 (n=506)	\$21 (n=525)
Private foundation grants (e.g. Gates, Carnegie)	\$37 (n=554)	\$257 (n=536)	\$3,687 (n=679)	\$342 (n=541)
Reported average total	\$86,437	\$39,832	\$48,295	\$20,214
Reported average percent	44.4%	20.4%	24.8%	10.4%

Figure 61: Fiscal Year 2008 Urban Public Library System Average Total Technology-Related Operating Expenditures by Type and Funding Source.

Fiscal Year 2008				
Sources of Funding	Salaries (including benefits)	Outside Vendors	Hardware/Software	Telecommunications
Local/county	\$418,291 (n=322)	\$182,082 (n=263)	\$221,188 (n=371)	\$120,569 (n=361)
State (including state aid to public libraries, or state-supported tax programs)	\$36,305 (n=134)	\$48,241 (n=136)	\$65,507 (n=148)	\$30,623 (n=118)
Federal	\$3,516 (n=104)	\$13,189 (n=102)	\$6,215 (n=109)	\$102,866 (n=121)
Fees/fines	\$2,585 (n=110)	\$1,654 (n=110)	\$10,145 (n=114)	\$694 (n=109)
Donations/local fund raising	\$4,865 (n=101)	\$21,120 (n=110)	\$7,599 (n=122)	\$3,734 (n=107)
Grants (local, state or national grant programs)	--	\$8 (n=90)	\$45 (n=88)	\$14 (n=97)
Private foundation grants (e.g. Gates, Carnegie)	\$1,698 (n=103)	\$1,447 (n=106)	\$25,215 (n=149)	--
Reported average total	\$467,260	\$267,741	\$335,914	\$258,500
Reported average percent	35.1%	20.1%	25.3%	19.4%

Key: -- : No data to report

Figure 62: Fiscal Year 2008 Low Poverty Public Library System Average Total Technology-Related Operating Expenditures by Type and Funding Source.

Fiscal Year 2008				
Sources of Funding	Salaries (including benefits)	Outside Vendors	Hardware/Software	Telecommunications
Local/county	\$59,482 (n=2,912)	\$22,475 (n=3,081)	\$24,401 (n=3,899)	\$12,322 (n=3,862)
State (including state aid to public libraries, or state-supported tax programs)	\$7,939 (n=1,700)	\$4,891 (n=1,625)	\$6,151 (n=1,847)	\$1,508 (n=1,676)
Federal	\$134 (n=1,518)	\$105 (n=1,419)	\$391 (n=1,453)	\$7,963 (n=1,630)
Fees/fines	\$605 (n=1,577)	\$622 (n=1,475)	\$1,323 (n=1,531)	\$567 (n=1,496)
Donations/local fund raising	\$432 (n=1,595)	\$699 (n=1,579)	\$1,296 (n=1,976)	\$460 (n=1,638)
Grants (local, state or national grant programs)	\$5 (n=1,480)	\$11 (n=1,392)	\$29 (n=1,387)	\$31 (n=1,432)
Private foundation grants (e.g. Gates, Carnegie)	\$271 (n=1,542)	\$323 (n=1,453)	\$4,061 (n=2,019)	\$312 (n=1,488)
Reported average total	\$68,868	\$29,126	\$37,652	\$23,163
Reported average percent	43.4%	18.3%	23.7%	14.6%

Figure 63: Fiscal Year 2008 Medium Poverty Public Library System Average Total Technology-Related Operating Expenditures by Type and Funding Source.

Fiscal Year 2008				
Sources of Funding	Salaries (including benefits)	Outside Vendors	Hardware/Software	Telecommunications
Local/county	\$202,783 (n=374)	\$88,789 (n=337)	\$129,393 (n=454)	\$51,905 (n=464)
State (including state aid to public libraries, or state-supported tax programs)	\$21,516 (n=198)	\$11,053 (n=211)	\$21,009 (n=234)	\$17,523 (n=186)
Federal	\$13 (n=159)	\$2,762 (n=154)	\$1,318 (n=156)	\$6,627 (n=175)
Fees/fines	\$1,583 (n=169)	\$1,098 (n=174)	\$6,031 (n=171)	\$534 (n=174)
Donations/local fund raising	\$1,057 (n=167)	\$13,611 (n=166)	\$4,617 (n=176)	\$2,676 (n=170)
Grants (local, state or national grant programs)	*	*	\$26 (n=141)	*
Private foundation grants (e.g. Gates, Carnegie)	\$1,120 (n=166)	\$289 (n=158)	\$8,473 (n=212)	\$157 (n=157)
Reported average total	\$228,072	\$117,602	\$170,867	\$79,422
Reported average percent	38.3%	19.7%	28.7%	13.3%

Key: *: Insufficient data to report

Figure 64: Fiscal Year 2008 High Poverty Public Library System Average Total Technology-Related Operating Expenditures by Type and Funding Source.

Fiscal Year 2007				
Sources of Funding	Salaries (including benefits)	Outside Vendors	Hardware/Software	Telecommunications
Local/county	\$330,535 (n=35)	\$60,232 (n=32)	\$76,342 (n=35)	\$113,768 (n=36)
State (including state aid to public libraries, or state-supported tax programs)	\$50,402 (n=19)	\$6,641 (n=16)	\$32,026 (n=17)	\$17,896 (n=16)
Federal	\$17,849 (n=13)	\$70,108 (n=13)	\$23,812 (n=13)	\$27,890 (n=16)
Fees/fines	\$491 (n=14)	\$191 (n=13)	\$8,186 (n=14)	\$162 (n=14)
Donations/local fund raising	\$23,519 (n=13)	\$449 (n=11)	--	--
Grants (local, state or national grant programs)	--	--	\$142 (n=11)	--
Private foundation grants (e.g. Gates, Carnegie)	--	\$6,491 (n=13)	\$10,392 (n=16)	--
Reported average total	\$422,796	\$144,162	\$150,900	\$159,716
Reported average percent	48.2%	16.4%	17.2%	18.2%

Key: -- : No data to report

Figure 65: Fiscal Year 2008 Public Library System Average Technology-Related Expenditures by Metropolitan Status and Poverty.

Technology-Related Expenditures	Metropolitan Status			Poverty Level			Overall
	Urban	Suburban	Rural	Low	Medium	High	
Staff only hardware	\$62,433 (n=391)	\$10,337 (n=1,434)	\$2,570 (n=2,724)	\$7,225 (n=4,031)	\$34,036 (n=481)	\$19,317 (n=36)	\$10,159 (n=4,549)
Staff only software	\$50,133 (n=351)	\$6,928 (n=1,321)	\$1,312 (n=2,595)	\$4,847 (n=3,787)	\$25,823 (n=446)	\$8,206 (n=33)	\$7,064 (n=4,267)
Public computing hardware	\$80,442 (n=395)	\$12,546 (n=1,569)	\$3,832 (n=3,169)	\$8,319 (n=4,583)	\$46,474 (n=518)	\$43,721 (n=32)	\$12,390 (n=5,133)
Public computing software	\$44,168 (n=354)	\$7,667 (n=1,326)	\$1,316 (n=2,756)	\$5,102 (n=3,943)	\$18,651 (n=462)	\$21,807 (n=32)	\$6,632 (n=4,437)
Telecommunications services (including telephone service, networking costs, possibly e-rate discount)	\$127,905 (n=396)	\$13,246 (n=1,642)	\$3,376 (n=3,438)	\$11,447 (n=4,923)	\$45,193 (n=517)	\$122,670 (n=35)	\$15,341 (n=5,475)
Internet costs (including IP costs, possibly e-rate discount)	\$46,457 (n=339)	\$9,055 (n=1,335)	\$2,519 (n=2,953)	\$6,230 (n=4,139)	\$17,587 (n=458)	\$45,608 (n=30)	\$7,670 (n=4,627)
Wireless access (hard/software)	\$14,414 (n=306)	\$1,106 (n=1,156)	\$383 (n=2,239)	\$1,561 (n=3,287)	\$2,662 (n=389)	\$14,945 (n=25)	\$1,768 (n=3,701)
Instructional technology (video conferencing hard/software, projection equipment)	\$4,968 (n=259)	\$1,084 (n=972)	\$499 (n=1,940)	\$734 (n=2,821)	\$3,491 (n=326)	\$4,255 (n=24)	\$1,044 (n=3,171)
Licensed resources	\$144,462 (n=398)	\$27,360 (n=1,428)	\$5,512 (n=2,625)	\$18,157 (n=3,982)	\$72,925 (n=432)	\$196,316 (n=36)	\$24,933 (n=4,451)
Staff in technology support positions in the library or under contract to the library for such support	\$270,385 (n=357)	\$46,219 (n=1,298)	\$11,449 (n=2,390)	\$34,110 (n=3,581)	\$119,991 (n=430)	\$303,754 (n=33)	\$45,462 (n=4,044)
Staff providing technology-related training to library staff or public other than above	\$81,816 (n=299)	\$7,943 (n=1,039)	\$4,492 (n=2,080)	\$5,265 (n=2,176)	\$30,789 (n=359)	\$97,520 (n=24)	\$12,302 (n=3,418)

The average technology-related expenditures by sources of funding are outlined in Figure 65. As has been the pattern throughout this report, the largest expenditure is on staff (\$45,562). Expenditures on licensed resources (\$24,933) were next largest. An extreme drop can be seen in high poverty systems expecting to spend money on instructional technology (\$4,255 for fiscal year 2008, versus \$142,755 in 2007 and \$165,077 in 2006),¹⁰ although these are components that do not necessarily need updating or replacing on a yearly basis. Wireless access anticipated expenditures are increasing at a great rate, particularly in high poverty and urban areas, which should be expected based on the branch-level findings in this report of wireless access increasing. Licensed resource expenditures, although overall the second largest expenditure, are decreasing, most dramatically in high poverty and urban systems, across all system types. An increase, both overall as well as across most system types, can be seen in staff providing technology-related training to library staff or the public (\$12,302 in FY08, compared with \$8,331

¹⁰ Libraries Connect Communities: Public Library Funding & Technology Access Study 2006-2007. Figures 37-38.

in FY07 and \$7,470 in FY06),¹¹ which is an indication that library systems realize their role in providing technology-related services to the public is increasing.

¹¹ Ibid.