

# ALA American Library Association

## *U.S. Libraries Complete Education for All Ages, Jump-Start Employment, and Empower Individuals—All at No Charge to Users*

**Libraries by the Numbers** (based on most current national data available, 2010-2013)

### **A Few Critical Facts that Everyone Should Know about Libraries**

- 77 million – Number of Americans ages 14 or older who use libraries computers and internet access in a year
- 70% -- Percentage of rural libraries reporting that they are the only providers of free Internet access and public computers in their communities; 62% of all libraries report this is the case.
- 56% -- Percentage of internet users without home access who state that public libraries' basic technological resources (such as computers, internet, and printers) are “very important” to them.

### **Libraries Complete Education for All Ages**

- 77% -- Percentage of K-12 teachers who assign Internet-required homework.
- 70% -- Percentage of parents who report their children use the public library; 77% of student library users ages 12-17 use the library for homework
- 32.5 million -- Number of people of all ages who use library technology resources to help them achieve their educational goals in a year

### **Libraries Jump-Start Employment**

- 92% -- Percentage of libraries that provide access to online job databases and resources
- 76% -- Percentage of libraries that help people complete job applications online
- 30 million -- Number of people who use library computers and internet access for employment or career purposes in a year
- 47% of job seekers say help finding or applying for a job is a “very important” library service to them and their families.

### **Libraries Empower People in Other Ways, as Well**

- 97% -- Percentage of public libraries that help people apply for E-government services
- 71% -- Percentage of public libraries that help people complete E-government forms
- 26 million -- Number of people who state that libraries serve as the connection to government information, services and resources; among these persons; more than half sought help from a specific government official or agency in a year

#### *Data sources*

[Opportunity for All](#)

[Public Library Funding & Technology Access Study](#)

[Pew Internet Project](#)

[Public Library Survey](#)

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