



Responding institution:
Norwegian Library Association

Norway responded to the World Report in 2001, 2003 and 2005. This report refers to 832 public libraries and 3 596 research libraries (3 196 school libraries and 320 university libraries). The respondent has mentioned that most research libraries are government funded, but has not provided a figure for such libraries.

Internet penetration is very high, with 81-100% of all public libraries and research libraries offering Internet access free of charge. Very much local content is available on the Internet, and a large percentage of content is available in Norwegian. Literacy is 100%.

The library association does not favour the filtering of information on library terminals. There are occasional debates on filtering, but the normal policy is that the library staff takes action if any misuse occurs.

Norway ranked sixth in the Annual Worldwide Press Freedom Index in 2006. No anti-terror legislation has been passed, and it is felt that such legislation would impact on user privacy. Similarly, it is felt that keeping user records would affect the freedom of expression of the individual Internet library user. No incidents of violation of intellectual freedom have been reported since 2003. A code of ethics was adopted in 2006, as well as the IFLA Internet Manifesto and the IFLA Glasgow Declaration.

User privacy and anti-terror legislation

There has been no anti-terror legislation passed in the

country that adversely affects libraries or their users. The respondent has indicated that keeping user records does affect the freedom of expression of the individual Internet library user.

Reported incidents/violations of intellectual freedom in the past two years

There have been no reported violations of intellectual freedom in the past two years.

HIV/Aids awareness

Libraries in Norway are involved in programmes to raise awareness of HIV/Aids. Special libraries within the national medical and health authorities are gathering and distributing information, information resources and special literature about HIV/Aids.

Women and freedom of access to information

No libraries have participated in promoting women's literacy or women's access to information.

IFLA Internet Manifesto

The IFLA Internet Manifesto has been adopted.

IFLA Glasgow Declaration on Libraries, Information Services and Intellectual Freedom

The Glasgow Declaration has been adopted.

Ethics

The library association adopted a code of ethics in 2006 (see <http://www.norskbibliotekforening.no/article.php?id=1462&p=180>).

Main indicators

Country name:	Norway
Population:	4 627 926 (July 2007 est.)
Main language:	Bokmål Norwegian (official), Nynorsk Norwegian (official), small Sami and Finnish-speaking minorities (Sami is official in six municipalities)
Literacy:	100%
Literacy reported by respondent:	100%

Population figures, language and literacy are from the
CIA World Factbook, 2007 edition
<https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/index.html>.



Libraries and Internet access

Norway contributed to the World Report series in 2005, 2003 and 2001. The following section compares data and answers from 2007 with the 2005 IFLA/FAIFE World Report and adds context from the respondent's estimates, where possible.

Library services

Estimated number of public libraries*:	832 (2005: 890)
Estimated number of school libraries:	3 196
Estimated number of university libraries:	320
Estimated number of government-funded research libraries:	No number given; most research libraries are government funded
Source of these numbers:	Norwegian Archive, Library and Museum Authority (ABM-utvikling)

Internet access

Population online**:	3 140 000 Internet users as of March 2005 (67.4%) (2005: 68%)
Percentage of public libraries offering Internet access to users:	81-100% (2005: 81-100%)
Percentage of school libraries offering Internet access to users:	81-100%
Percentage of university libraries offering Internet access to users:	81-100%
Percentage of government-funded research libraries offering Internet access to users:	81-100%
In your estimate, how much local content*** is available on the Internet:	Very much
To what degree is content on the Internet available in local languages:	Very much
Is the library association in favour of filtering information on library Internet terminals:	No (2005: No)
Is the use of filtering software widespread in your country's libraries:	No – there are occasionally debates on filtering in libraries in order to protect children, but normal library policy is that the staff takes action if there is any misuse of the PCs (2005: No)
Is it free of charge for library users to access the Internet on library computers:	Yes, in all libraries (2005: Yes, in all libraries)
Has the state or other library authorities made any extra funding available for Internet access in the library system of your country in the last two years:	No (2005: No)

* Public library service points, including branch libraries.

** Online population numbers are from Internet World Stats (www.internetworldstats.com).

*** Local content is defined as content that originates in the country.