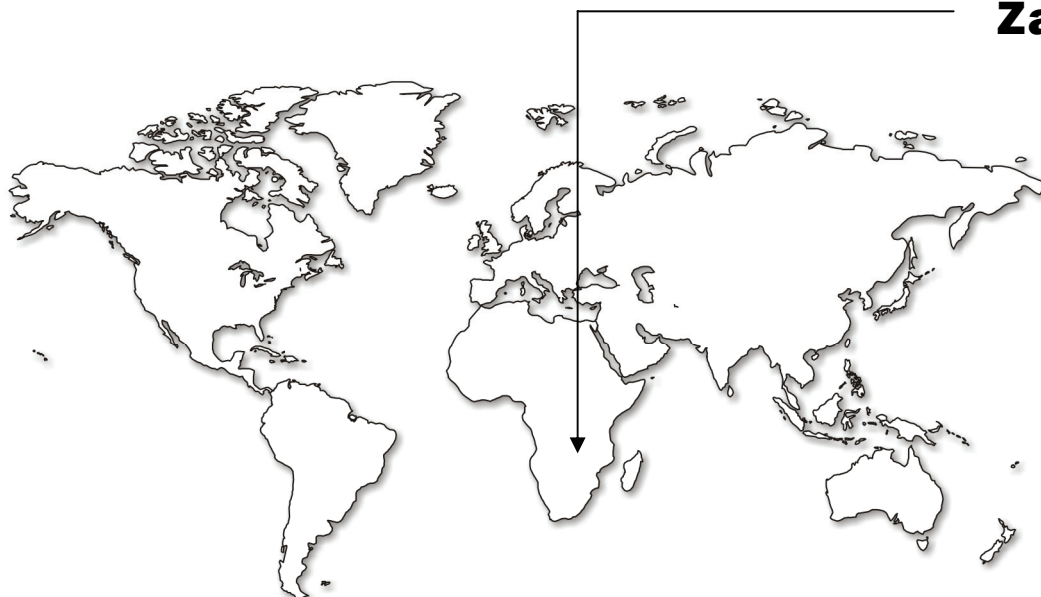


## Zambia




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**Responding institution:**  
**Zambia Library Association**

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Zambia responded twice previously: in 2001 and 2005. There are an estimated 16 public libraries in Zambia, as well as 156 school libraries and 68 university libraries. The number of government-funded research libraries is given as 4.

Internet penetration is currently low in Zambia, with only 2% of the population being Internet users. Less than 20% of all public libraries and 21-40% of all school libraries offer Internet access to their users. Of the university libraries 61-80% offer Internet access, as do 41-60% of the government-funded libraries.

Internet access is free of charge in school libraries, but a nominal fee is charged in all other libraries. It has been indicated that the state has made no extra funding available to improve Internet access in the last two years. Very little local content is available on the Internet and practically no content is available in local languages. The literacy rate is given as 45% (the 2007 *CIA World Factbook* sets it at 80.6%).

Although the library association is in favour of filtering information to a certain extent (e.g. for children), the use of filtering software is not widespread in libraries. The reason given is that this facility is not available.

National Library Week in 2006 was dedicated to HIV/Aids awareness. No special programmes exist for people who are unable to read.

Libraries have no special programmes focusing on the promotion of women's literacy, and none that focus specifically on women's access to certain topics.

The library association has not adopted the IFLA Internet Manifesto or the Glasgow Declaration, and no code of ethics has been adopted.

### **User privacy and anti-terror legislation**

No anti-terror legislation has been passed. It is felt that such legislation would impact on user privacy, but that keeping user records would not affect the freedom of expression of the individual Internet library user.

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

The respondent has indicated that there have been incidents that affect intellectual freedom, but has not provided details. The following incidents are reported by third-party sources.

The 2006 Amnesty International report states that "in general, 2006 saw less harassment of the media by the government than 2005, although the press remained subject to censorship, especially around election time".

The government rejected the Freedom of Information Bill, which would compel public officials to release certain types of government information (<http://thereport.amnesty.org/eng/Regions/Africa/Zambia>). In effect, this means that citizens are denied the right to access certain public information (<http://www.ifex.org/fr/content/view/full/70551/>).

The OpenNet Initiative reports that, in 2006, the Zambian government forcibly shut down and revoked the licence of a radio station that broadcasted opposition views (<http://opennet.net/research/regions/ssafrica>).

#### **HIV/Aids awareness**

The respondent has indicated that the theme for National Library Week in 2006 was dedicated to HIV/Aids awareness. No special programmes exist for those members of the community who cannot read, as “facilities are unavailable”.

#### **Women and freedom of access to information**

Libraries in Zambia have no special programmes that focus on the promotion of women’s literacy, and no

programmes that focus specifically on women’s access to certain topics (e.g. social information, the economy, education, health and family planning).

#### **IFLA Internet Manifesto**

The IFLA Internet Manifesto has not yet been adopted, but the respondent has indicated that it will be adopted within the next two years.

#### **IFLA Glasgow Declaration on Libraries, Information Services and Intellectual Freedom**

The Glasgow Declaration has not yet been adopted, but should be within the next two years.

#### **Ethics**

No code of ethics has been adopted.

### Main indicators

Country name:	Zambia
Population:	11 477 447 (July 2007 est.)
Main language:	English (official), major vernaculars – Bemba, Kaonda, Lozi, Lunda, Luvala, Nyanja, Tonga – and about 70 other indigenous languages
Literacy:	80.6%
Literacy reported by respondent:	45%

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

Zambia contributed to the World Report series in 2005 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*:	16 (2005: 20)
Estimated number of school libraries:	156
Estimated number of university libraries:	68
Estimated number of government-funded research libraries:	4
Source of these numbers:	Zambia Library Services (ZLS)

#### Internet access

Population online**:	231 000 Internet users as of Sept. 2005 (2.0%) (2005: 0.6%)
Percentage of public libraries offering Internet access to users:	Less than 20% (2005: Less than 20%)
Percentage of school libraries offering Internet access to users:	21-40%
Percentage of university libraries offering Internet access to users:	61-80%
Percentage of government-funded research libraries offering Internet access to users:	41-60%
In your estimate, how much local content*** is available on the Internet:	Very little
<i>To what degree is content on the Internet available in local languages:</i>	Nothing, or practically nothing
Is the library association in favour of filtering information on library Internet terminals:	Yes, to a certain degree (2005: No)
Is the use of filtering software widespread in your country's libraries:	No (2005: No)
Is it free of charge for library users to access the Internet on library computers:	Yes, in school libraries; users pay a nominal fee in all other libraries (2005: No)
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: Yes)

\* Public library service points, including branch libraries.

\*\* Online population numbers are from Internet World Stats ([www.internetworldstats.com](http://www.internetworldstats.com)).

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