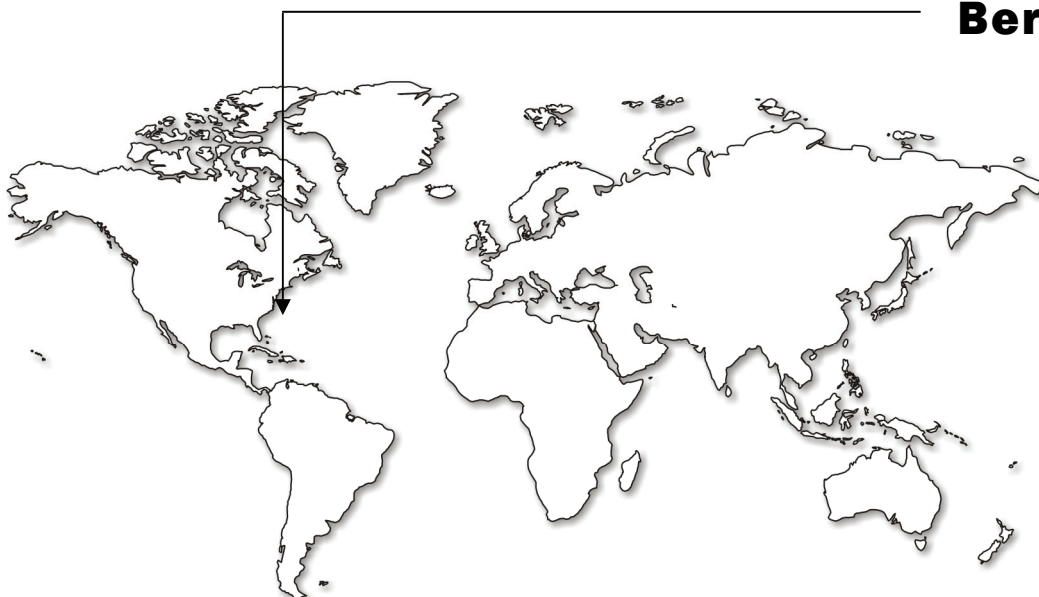# Bermuda

Responding institution:
Bermuda National Library

Bermuda is responding to the World Report for the first time, reporting on 2 public library service points and an estimated 21 research libraries (including 1 university research library, 20 school libraries and no government-funded research libraries).

Internet penetration for Bermuda is estimated at 65% (*CIA World Factbook,* 2007 edition). According to the respondent, Internet access is 81-100% for users of all library types. Although very little local content is available on the Internet, a great deal of content on it is available in local languages.

According to the respondent and the 2007 *CIA World Factbook*, an estimated 98% of the population are literate. Bermuda participated in an Adult Literacy and Life Skills Survey and less than 2% of adults failed the core exercises of reading, writing, learning and language difficulties.

There have been no incidents that adversely affect freedom of access to information, and no anti-terror legislation has been passed that might negatively impact on library users.

Public libraries and school libraries offer their users Internet access free of charge. The Bermuda College Library has free Internet access for members, but there is a membership fee of BM$30 (the equivalent of US$30). The state and other library authorities have not made any extra funding available for Internet access in the library system over the last two years.

The respondent has indicated that the library association is not in favour of filtering information on library Internet terminals, and that there is not widespread use of filtering software in the country's libraries.

Regarding other areas of special focus, libraries in Bermuda have been involved in promoting HIV/Aids awareness, but not in providing HIV/Aids information to members of the community who are unable to read.

Libraries do not have special programmes focusing on the promotion of women's literacy or women's access to topics such as social information, the economy, education, health and family planning.

The respondent has indicated that the library association is currently not active. A code of ethics has therefore not been adopted and it is not the intention to do so. The IFLA Internet Manifesto and the Glasgow Declaration have also not been adopted. According to the respondent, there is no intention of adopting either of these within the next two years.

User privacy and anti-terror legislation
No anti-terror legislation has been passed in Bermuda that would adversely affect the intellectual freedom of library users. The respondent is of the opinion that if such legislation were to be passed, it would not impact on user privacy. Moreover, the keeping of user records will not affect the freedom of expression of the

individual library user as long as the information can remain confidential.

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

According to the respondent, there have been no reported violations of intellectual freedom, but no sources have been suggested to verify this.

HIV/Aids awareness

Libraries have been involved in programmes promoting HIV/Aids awareness, although book displays and posters have not been used in recent years. According to the respondent, Bermuda has at least one organisation that promotes HIV/Aids awareness. (It has not been indicated whether there is cooperation between this organisation and the libraries.) Libraries have also not been involved in programmes to provide HIV/Aids information to members of the community who are unable to read. Television commercials on HIV/Aids testing are shown daily.

Women and freedom of access to information

Libraries in Bermuda do not have special programmes promoting women's literacy or women's access to topics such as social information, the economy, education, health and family planning. Women scored well in the Adult Literacy and Life Skills Survey. According to the respondent, young black males, however, seem to be the target group most in need of such programmes. Libraries are also not involved in promoting women's access to topics such as social information, the economy, education, health and family planning. No reasons have been offered.

IFLA Internet Manifesto

As the library association is not active, the IFLA Internet Manifesto has not been adopted. The respondent has indicated that it is not planned to adopt the Manifesto within the next two years.

IFLA Glasgow Declaration on Libraries, Information Services and Intellectual Freedom

The library association is not active and therefore the IFLA Glasgow Declaration has not been adopted. It is also not the intention to do so within the next two years.
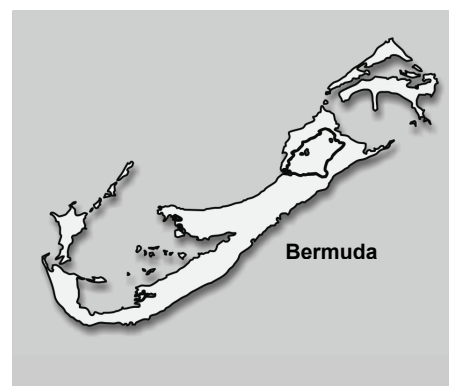
Ethics

As the library association is not active, a code of ethics has not been adopted. According to the respondent, it is not planned to adopt such a code within the next two years.

Main indicators

Country name:	Bermuda
Population:	66 163 (July 2007 est.)
Main language:	English (official), Portuguese
Literacy:	98%
Literacy reported by respondent:	Guesstimate of 98%

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

Bermuda

Libraries and Internet access

Bermuda participated for the first time in the IFLA/FAIFE World Report in 2007. No comparisons can therefore be made with previous reports.

Library services

Estimated number of public libraries*:	2
Estimated number of school libraries:	20
Estimated number of university libraries:	1
Estimated number of government-funded research libraries:	0
Source for these numbers:	Bermuda National Library

Internet access

Population online**:	42 000 users as of Dec. 2006 (65.0%)
Percentage of public libraries offering Internet access to users:	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 little
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
Is the use of filtering software widespread in your country's libraries:	No
Is it free of charge for library users to access the Internet on library computers:	Yes, in public libraries and school libraries; the Bermuda College Library offers free access to members, but the membership fee is BM$30 (the equivalent of US$30)
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

* 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.