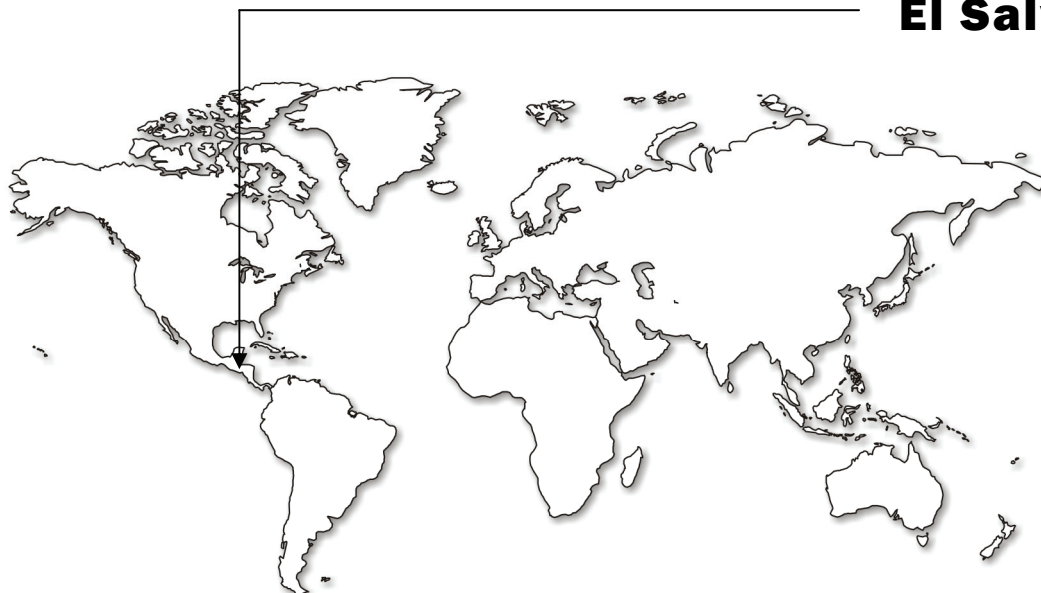


El Salvador



Responding institution:

El Salvador Library Association (ABES)

This is El Salvador's first response to the World Report. There are 225 public library service points in the country, 26 university libraries, as well as libraries attached to 4 specialised and 7 technological institutes, and 32 government research libraries. No figure for school libraries has been given.

In the public and government libraries, Internet access is 21-40%, while at school libraries it is less than 20%. A figure of 81-100% is given for university libraries, where the cost of Internet access is included in the students' registration fees. In other libraries, the cost of Internet access is included in the service provided. There is an average amount of local content available on the Internet in local languages. According to the respondent, the literacy rate is 80%.

ABES is in favour of some degree of filtering of information on the Internet, and software for this purpose is found in some of the country's libraries in order to protect children. According to the respondent, there is no legislation that affects user privacy, but keeping user records would have an effect. The respondent has reported no incidents that may affect access to information.

A code of ethics was adopted in 1999 and is available on the Internet. The respondent has indicated that neither the Internet Manifesto nor the Glasgow Declaration has been adopted by ABES, but that the

Glasgow Declaration will be adopted within the next two years.

User privacy and anti-terror legislation

According to the respondent, there is no legislation that affects user privacy. It is felt that keeping user records would affect user privacy.

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

According to the respondent, there have been no incidents of violation of intellectual freedom. Independent reports, however, record attacks on journalists in spite of the guarantee of press freedom under El Salvador's Constitution. Self-censorship and problems relating to access to information have led to a call for reforms to existing laws and the introduction of others.

Sources:

<http://www.ifex.org/da/content/view/full/83419/>

http://www.rsf.org/article.php3?id_article=18264

HIV/Aids awareness

Libraries are not involved in HIV/Aids awareness programmes, as this is done by the Health Ministry and private institutions.

Women and freedom of access to information

Libraries do not offer special literacy programmes for women, as this is coordinated by non-governmental organisations and the state.

IFLA Internet Manifesto

The Manifesto has not been adopted, but the respondent has indicated the intention to adopt it within the next two years.

IFLA Glasgow Declaration on Libraries, Information Services and Intellectual Freedom

The Glasgow Declaration has not been adopted either,

but the library association intends to do so within the next two years. Some of its principles have already been implemented.

Ethics

The library association adopted a code of ethics in 1999, which is available at <http://www.abes.org.sv>.

Main indicators

Country name:	El Salvador
Population:	6 948 073 (July 2007 est.)
Main language:	Spanish, Nahua (among some Amerindians)
Literacy:	80.2%
Literacy reported by respondent:	80%

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

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

Library services

Estimated number of public libraries*:	225
Estimated number of school libraries:	No data provided
Estimated number of university libraries:	26 universities, 4 specialised institutes and 7 technological institutes
Estimated number of government-funded research libraries:	32
Source of these numbers:	Minister of Education (MINED). <i>Institutional Evaluation 2004-2006, October 2006</i> ; webpages consulted and telephone consultations

Internet access

Population online**:	587 500 Internet users as of Sept. 2005 (9.1%)
Percentage of public libraries offering Internet access to users:	21-40%
Percentage of school libraries offering Internet access to users:	Less than 20%
Percentage of university libraries offering Internet access to users:	81-100%
Percentage of government-funded research libraries offering Internet access to users:	21-40%
In your estimate, how much local content*** is available on the Internet:	Average
To what degree is content on the Internet available in local languages:	Average
Is the library association in favour of filtering information on library Internet terminals:	Yes, to a certain degree
Is the use of filtering software widespread in your country's libraries:	Yes, to a certain degree – to protect children
Is it free of charge for library users to access the Internet on library computers:	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

* 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.