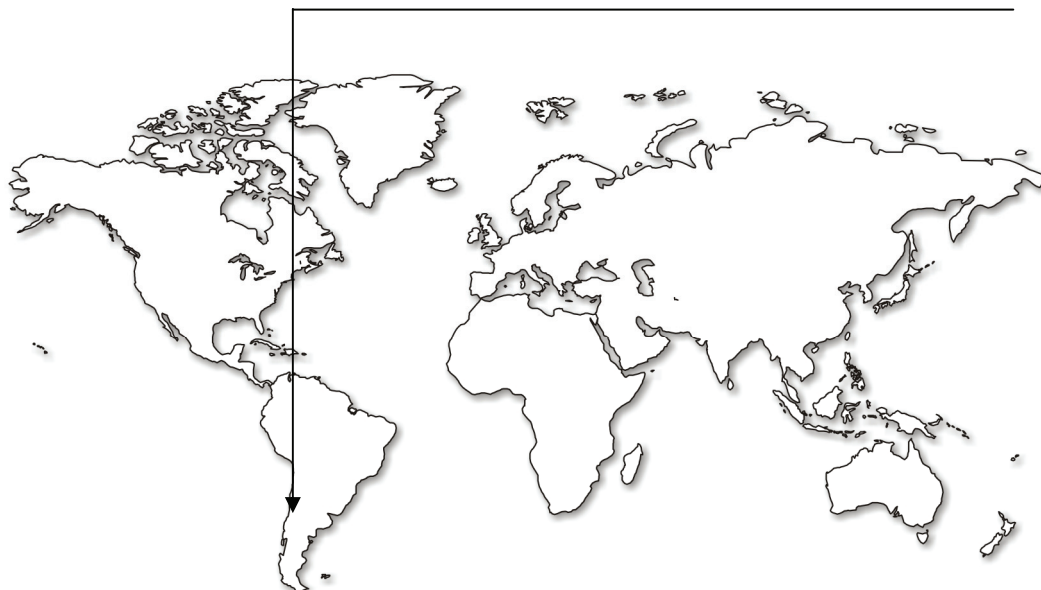


Chile



Responding institutions:

Bibliotecas Escolares/CRA and Biblioteca Nacional/Subdirección de Bibliotecas Públicas

Chile is responding for the fourth time since 2001. This response concerns 526 public library service points and 2 929 school libraries. No estimates have been provided for university and government-funded research libraries. In 2005, an estimated 500 public library service points were reported, with no indication of the number of research libraries.

It is estimated that 81-100% of public and university libraries and 61-80% of school libraries offer Internet access to their users. (No statistics for the estimated number of university libraries have been provided, and also no estimates of the level of Internet access for research libraries.) According to the 2005 report, 81-100% of the country's public and research libraries provided access to the Internet for their users.

Internet penetration for Chile is estimated at 47.8%. This reflects a steady increase compared with the 20% reported in 2003 and 24.5% in 2005. There appears to be very little coverage of local content and local languages. The respondents have estimated the literacy rate at 95.8%.

Access to the Internet is free of charge to users of school and public libraries. (No information on the other library types has been provided.) During the last two years the state and other library authorities have, in some instances, made extra funding available for

Internet access. According to the respondents, the state of Chile and the local governments supply all financing for the functioning of "Programa Biblioredes", which provides public and free access to the Internet through 378 public libraries. It has been implemented since 2002. Governmental funds have been used for the "Red Enlaces" sending computers to schools.

According to the respondents, the library community in Chile is not in favour of filtering information on library Internet terminals. The use of filtering software is also not widespread in the country. (This is in contrast to the 2005 response, when it was indicated that the library community was supporting the use of filtering software in the country's libraries to protect computers from spam, spyware and viruses, as well as to protect children.)

Regarding special areas of focus, the respondents have indicated that libraries in Chile are not troubled by anti-terror legislation and there have been no incidents of violation of intellectual freedom. Some incidents have, however, been noted by third-party sources.

Contrary to 2005, public libraries in Chile have been involved in programmes promoting HIV/Aids awareness by acquiring bibliographic material about the topic. They do not have programmes to provide HIV/Aids information to members of the community who cannot read.

Libraries in Chile have been involved in special programmes for promoting women's literacy and women's access to information. According to the

respondents, it is the policy of public libraries to provide services to all community groups and especially to women. Social information and information on the economy, education, health and family planning are covered in the bibliographic collections. Information about health, housing, education and public services is also directed to women. (It is not quite clear how “bibliographic collections” should be interpreted, e.g. referring to catalogues or bibliographic databases.)

There is no indication whether the library community in Chile has adopted a code of ethics or whether there is any intention to adopt such a code. The same applies to the adoption of the IFLA Internet Manifesto and the IFLA Glasgow Declaration. In the 2005 report, it was indicated that the library community had adopted a code of ethics, as well as the IFLA Internet Manifesto and the IFLA Glasgow Declaration.

User privacy and anti-terror legislation

No anti-terror legislation has been passed in Chile. Although the respondents do not offer an opinion on whether such legislation, if adopted, would impact on user privacy, they are of the opinion that the keeping of library user records would affect the individual Internet library user’s freedom of expression. According to the respondents, the reading done by a person is a private matter. Some political changes could, for example, affect persons who read books that may formerly have been acceptable under a different political regime, but which are later prohibited under an authoritarian system.

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

According to the respondents there have been no incidents of reported violations of intellectual freedom. Third-party sources have, however, noted some concerns about the violation of intellectual freedom and especially human rights in Chile. Some concerns have been expressed about human rights violations (e.g. <http://web.amnesty.org/report2006/chl-summary-eng>; and <http://thereport.amnesty.org/page/1101/eng/>).

According to Reporters Without Borders (http://www.rsf.org/IMG/pdf/rapport_en_bd-4.pdf), Chile has a

good name for press freedom compared with some other Latin American countries. There are, however, still concerns about the dictatorship of General Augusto Pinochet, who died on 10 December 2006 without being tried for murdering some 3 000 people during his rule, including 68 journalists and media assistants. Several TV journalists were attacked by his supporters on the eve of his funeral. It appears as if journalists are still meeting a wall of silence about his regime. Many complain of a persistent lack of diversity in the media and of the poor treatment of journalists, including newspaper and TV reporters. (This is echoed by another report available at <http://www.rsf.org/IMG/pdf/report.pdf>.)

Other concerns about journalists include death threats from political groups, such as Neo-Nazi groups, and physical attacks (http://www.rsf.org/article.php3?id_article=15726; http://www.rsf.org/article.php3?id_article=17901; http://www.rsf.org/article.php3?id_article=21450). In April 2007, efforts by the Supreme Court to restrict press reporting were also reported to be considered unconstitutional (http://www.rsf.org/article.php3?id_article=21450).

HIV/Aids awareness

The respondent did not complete the first part of this section, but indicated that libraries are not involved in providing HIV/Aids information to members of the community who cannot read.

Women and freedom of access to information

Women’s literacy and women’s access to information are promoted by libraries in Chile.

IFLA Internet Manifesto

No response has been provided on the adoption of the IFLA Internet Manifesto.

IFLA Glasgow Declaration on Libraries, Information Services and Intellectual Freedom

No response has been provided on the adoption of the IFLA Glasgow Declaration.

Ethics

No response has been provided on the adoption of a code of ethics.

Main indicators

Country name:	Chile
Population:	16 284 741 (July 2007 est.)
Main language:	Spanish
Literacy:	95.7%
Literacy reported by respondents:	95.8%

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

Chile 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 respondents' estimates, where possible.

Library services

Estimated number of public libraries*:	526 (2005: ca. 500)
Estimated number of school libraries:	2 929
Estimated number of university libraries:	No data provided
Estimated number of government-funded research libraries:	No data provided
Source of these numbers:	Ministry of Education, School Libraries/CRA-UCE

Internet access

Population online**:	6 700 000 Internet users as of Dec. 2005 (42.4%) (2005: 24.5%)
Percentage of public libraries offering Internet access to users:	81-100% (2005: 81-100%)
Percentage of school libraries offering Internet access to users:	61-80%
Percentage of university libraries offering Internet access to users:	81-100%
Percentage of government-funded research libraries offering Internet access to users:	No data provided
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 little
Is the library association in favour of filtering information on library Internet terminals:	No (2005: Yes, to protect children and also to protect against spam, spyware and viruses)
Is the use of filtering software widespread in your country's libraries:	No (2005: Yes, to a certain degree)
Is it free of charge for library users to access the Internet on library computers:	Yes, in public libraries and in school libraries (2005: Yes)
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:	Yes (2005: Yes)

* 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.