

# Broadband Needs Assessment for California Public Libraries November, 2013

Gerald Maginnity  
California State Library

178 out of 183 library jurisdictions responded, a 97% return rate.

883 out of 1115 branches responded, a 79% return rate.

The findings paint a picture of public libraries across California laboring to provide reliable Internet connectivity, at very low speeds.

- More than 25% of responding California public libraries (227) make do with a “Very Slow” connection to the Internet which is 1.5 Mbps or slower.
- 52% of responding California public libraries (431) report connecting at 10 Mbps or slower.
- 71% of responding California public libraries (589) report connecting at speeds at or below 20 Mbps.
- In total, fewer than 5% (34) of responding California public libraries report operating at speeds of 500 Mbps or above.

## *Estimates of Library Spending on Internet Connectivity*

	Estimate of Actual	Projection to All
Low Annual	\$8,486,580.00	\$12,944,646.65
Estimate	\$9,428,904.00	\$14,381,980.79
High Annual	\$12,362,880.00	\$18,857,197.26

- 27 percent of the library facilities operate at consumer-level speeds of 1.5 Mbps or slower, and spend over **\$1.1 million per year**.
- 14 percent spend **\$475,000 per year** to provide 5 Mbps service.
- 44 percent of the library facilities spend over **\$5.5 million per year** for Internet connectivity that is 50 Mbps or less.
- 13 percent of public libraries report spending **\$2.1 million per year** for 100 Mbps through 500 Mbps of connectivity.
- Fewer than 2 percent report use of *Gigabit (1000 Mbps)* network connections, paying over **\$120,000** per year for Internet connectivity.

- speeds of 1.5 Mbps or slower.
  - **\$4110 per megabit annually**
- *Gigabit (1000 Mbps)* network connections.
  - **\$10 per megabit annually**