



UNITED STATES of AMERICA



Compiled by Dr Nancy Everhart, March 2014; edited by Lesley Farmer July 2016

Population and literacy levels	<p>Population: 321,368,864 (July 2015)</p> <p>Literacy Rate: 99% Male 99%; Female 99%</p> <p>Definition: age 15 and over can read and write</p> <p>Languages: English 79.2%, Spanish 12.9%, other Indo-European 3.8%, Asian and Pacific island 3.3% (2011 est.) Source: CIA World Factbook</p>
Overview of education and school library situation	<p>Classbase: Education system in the USA</p>

	<p>School libraries are in most schools in the United States. The pattern of staffing varies as it is under state control. Only a handful of states require a full-time certified school librarian in their school library by law. Where this is not required, principals and school boards have wide latitude as to employ someone who is not certified in library media such as a classroom teacher. In some instances clerks or even volunteers run the library either with supervision by a librarian who may travel to several schools, or on their own. When the economy downturned, more school librarians were furloughed and local organizations promoted the link found in the research between the presence of a certified school librarian and higher achievement test scores but with limited success. As the economy is improving, some schools are re-staffing the school library with a certified school librarian.</p> <p>Several IASL conferences have been held in the USA since the organisation's inception:</p> <p>1976 in Annapolis Junction, Maryland with the theme: <i>Crucial issues in school library development</i></p> <p>1984 in Honolulu, Hawaii with the theme: <i>School libraries/ media centers - Partners in education</i></p> <p>1988 in Kalamazoo, Michigan with the theme: <i>Great expectations: Standards, innovative programs, new technology</i></p> <p>1991 in Everett, Washington with the theme: <i>School libraries in a diverse world</i></p> <p>1994 in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania with the theme: <i>Literacy: Traditional, cultural, technology</i></p> <p>1999 in Birmingham, Alabama with the theme: <i>Unleash the Power: Knowledge, Technology, Diversity</i></p> <p>2008 in San Francisco, California</p> <p>2017 IASL conference is planned for Long Beach, California with the theme: <i>Learning without borders</i></p>
Links to important associations/contacts	<p>American Association of School Librarians</p> <p>American Library Association</p>

	<p>Association for Library Service to Children</p> <p>Association of Educational Communications and Technology</p> <p>Young Adult Library Services Association</p> <p>Children's Literature New England/The Examined Life</p>
School Librarian Training	<p>Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation</p> <p>ALA and AASL: Assuring quality in school librarianship education programs</p> <p>AASL-CAEP School Librarianship Education Programs</p>
Particular issues and needs of the country	Economy, unemployment, immigration reform
Famous authors	<p>Judy Blume, Beverly Cleary, Kate DiCamillo, Neil Gaiman, Theodore Geisel (Dr. Seuss), Maira Kalman, Ursula Le Guin, Lois Lowry, Gregory Maguire, Gary Paulsen, Katherine Paterson, Patricia Polacco, Brian Selznick, Naomi Shiba Nye, Laurence Yep</p> <p><i>Picture Books:</i> Margaret Wise Brown, Eric Carle, Ed Emberley, Jules Feiffer, Wanda Gág, Ezra Jack Keats, Sill Martin Jr., Maurice Sendak, Esphyr Slobodkina, Mo Willems</p> <p>Source: World through picture books - IFLA</p>
Links to literature of the country	<p>Center for Children's Books</p> <p>Children's Literature Association</p>

	International Children's Digital Library International Children's Digital Library - USA World through picture books - IFLA
Links to SL programs or advocacy tools	American Association of School Librarians Advocacy Toolkits School Library Research Summarized
News/Reports	Pennsylvania School Library Project School Library Journal School Library Research KnowledgeQuest American Libraries The Top 50 School Library Blogs UNESCO International Bureau of Education - Europe and North America links including world data on the education in each country and contacts

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