

FAST **FACTS**

Recent Statistics from The Library Research Service

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Technology Trends for Colorado School Library Media Programs, 1994-98

A first look at 1998 data on school library media (LM) programs in Colorado reveals some encouraging trends about the role of technology in those programs. From 1994 to 1998, the percentage of LM programs making various technologies available to their clients—both teachers and students—increased dramatically.

Highlights:

- Since 1994, Internet access for students almost quadrupled. While only one in six LM programs provided Internet access for students in 1994, four out of five provide students access to the World Wide Web today.
- The Access Colorado Library and Information Network (ACLIN), available in only two out of five schools in 1994, is now available to all schools that provide web access.
- Computers with modems, local and district catalogs, and online database searching are also more common in 1998 than in 1994, as are “basic” technology items, such as touch-tone telephones, photocopiers, and fax machines.

Table 1 ■ Types of Technology Reported by Colorado Library Media Programs, 1998 and 1994 Percentages and Percent Change

Ranked by percent reporting in 1998

Type of Technology	1998	1994	Percent Change
Touch-tone telephone	91%	78%	17%
Internet/Web access for LMC staff	85%	24%	254%
Internet/Web access for teachers	84%	21%	300%
Computer with modem	81%	69%	17%
Internet/Web access for students	79%	16%	394%
Photocopier in the LMC	60%	43%	40%
Locally automated, stand-alone catalog	58%	46%	26%
Online searching of remote databases	38%	29%	31%
District-wide automated catalog	38%	23%	65%
Fax machine in the LMC	37%	18%	106%

These figures are based on 255 questionnaires returned from a 300 school sample (an 85 percent response rate) representing all public schools in the state. For complete results of the survey, watch the Library Research Service web site, www.lrs.org, in late September or early October 1998. An announcement of that posting will be sent to several relevant listservs, including libnet, k12, and lmnet.

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