

**Senate Standing Committee on Environment, Communications and The Arts
Legislation Committee**

Answers to questions on notice

Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts portfolio

Budget Estimates, May 2009

Outcome:	5	Question No:	202
Program:	5.1		
Division/Agency:	Arts Division		
Topic:	Arts – staff numbers		
Hansard Page ECA:	49 (27/5/09)		

Senator TROETH asked:

Senator TROETH—I have one very general question relating to the arts. Mr Tucker, perhaps you will be able to answer this question. How many employees are there in the arts program for the department?

Mr Tucker—I do not have the numbers directly in front of me. I can take that on notice. It is probably of the order of about 200.

Answer:

Arts Division has an average staffing level of 111, Culture Division an average staffing level of 73 and National Portrait Gallery an average staffing level of 57 for 2009-10.

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Budget Estimates, May 2009

Outcome:	5	Question No:	203
Program:	5.1		
Division/Agency:	Culture Division		
Topic:	National Indigenous Television (NITV) – possible cut off of digital TV trial run by Broadcast Australia in Sydney		
Hansard Page ECA:	Written Question on Notice		

Senator LUDLAM asked:

1. Given that this could happen as early as August 2009, how would the Government go about continuing to provide free to air terrestrial access to NITV for the biggest single Indigenous population (Sydney) if the trial did close?
2. Is the Department and the Government aware that currently only around 220,000 Australians have guaranteed terrestrial access free to air to the NITV service and that approximately 75% of Australia's indigenous population have to subscribe to a pay TV service to get access to it? (recognising that the terrestrial free to air access to it in Sydney for the 2m people in that city with digital free to air equipment is on a trial basis only).

Answer/s:

1. The Government funds NITV to acquire, commission and produce Indigenous television content. It is up to NITV to negotiate access arrangements for this content in a commercial environment.
2. Funding of \$48.5 million was provided to NITV over four years to 30 June 2010. The NITV pilot is to be reviewed during 2009. The extent to which NITV provided free to air access will be examined as part of that review.

The NITV service is currently delivered via satellite through the Imparja Television narrowcast service which includes an estimated 35,000 direct-to-home viewers, as well as an estimated audience of approximately 185,000 through terrestrial retransmission at 160 remote communities.

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Budget Estimates, May 2009

Outcome:	5	Question No:	210
Program:	5.1		
Division/Agency:	Culture Division		
Topic:	Art Indemnity Australia – touring exhibitions		
Hansard Page ECA:	6 (27/5/09)		

Senator BIRMINGHAM asked:

Senator BIRMINGHAM—How many exhibitions between the \$20 million value and the \$50 million value have you provided indemnity to under the existing program in the past year or two?

...

Ms Bassar—Sorry, I thought you asked the ones that were over that. You mean under the value threshold?

Senator BIRMINGHAM—Yes. ...Under \$50 million, that is right, between \$20 million and \$50 million.

...

Senator BIRMINGHAM—If you could provide us on notice with the last few years' details of how many exhibitions have been supported and what the values of those exhibitions were, so that we can at least see. If there were only two over \$50 million in the last year and there were 10 under \$50 million, then there seems to be a problem that we are shutting out the bulk of the market.

Answer:

Over the last three years, only one of the eight indemnified exhibitions was valued at between \$20 million and \$50 million. This exhibition was *Cook's Pacific Encounters* which was valued at \$36.29 million. This exhibition was at the National Museum of Australia from May to October 2006. One exhibition, *National Treasures from Australia's Great Libraries* was valued at \$109.13 million. The other six exhibitions indemnified during the last three years were valued at between \$300 million and \$800 million.

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The details and the value of these exhibitions is as follows:

Year	Exhibition	Venue	Works value
2008-09 to 2009-10	American Impressionism and Realism	Queensland Art Gallery	\$642.48 million
2008-09	Degas: Master of French Art	National Gallery of Australia	\$419.78 million
2007-08	Picasso and his collection	Gallery of Modern Art, Queensland	\$691.61 million
2007-08	Turner to Monet	National Gallery of Australia	\$803.07 million
2005-06 to 2006-07	Constable: Impressions of land, sea and sky	National Gallery of Australia	\$332.32 million
2005- 06 to 2007-08	National Treasures from Australia's Great Libraries	National Library of Australia and State and Territory libraries	\$109.13 million
2005-06 to 2006-07	Cook's Pacific Encounters	National Museum of Australia	\$36.29 million
2005-06 to 2006-07	Picasso: love and war	National Gallery of Victoria	\$627.86 million