

**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:** 215
Program: 5.1
Division/Agency: National Library of Australia
Topic: NLA – visitation numbers
Hansard Page ECA: 19 (27/5/09)

Senator BIRMINGHAM asked:

Senator BIRMINGHAM—Do you keep specific visitation numbers?

Ms Fullerton—We certainly do, yes.

Senator BIRMINGHAM—How have they changed, year on year?

Ms Fullerton—We have a slight increase in numbers coming into the library in general. Use of the reading rooms is going up as is use of the collections. Requests for items to be used in the reading room are increasing significantly. We do chart every aspect of our use, not just people coming into the library.

Senator BIRMINGHAM—Again, if you could take on notice and provide some year-on-year data for those figures, that would be helpful.

Answers:

Financial Year	Main & Newspaper Reading Room entries	
	Full year	Variation from Previous Year
2008-09	689,283 (to 24/6/09)	+4%
2007-08	662,776	+3%
2006-07	645,779	-3%

Financial Year	Use of the collection – collection deliveries onsite and offsite	
	Full year	Variation from Previous Year
2008-09	291,865 (to 24/6/09)	+9%
2007-08	268,408	-18%
2006-07	325,592	-11%