

**Senate Standing Committee on Economics**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**Treasury Portfolio**

Budget Estimates 3-5 June 2008

**Question: bet 6**

**Topic:                    Petrol Prices**

**Hansard Page:        Written**

**Senator Brown asked:**

1. Does the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission have information on the relationship between fuel (in particular petrol) prices and consumption?
2. In particular, in the last year, what has been the Australian Consumer response to rising prices in terms of fuel consumption, vehicle preference (eg. the type of vehicle, size of motor and type of fuel) and use of alternative such as walking, cycling or public transport?
3. Is there any evidence that these factors are influenced by concerns for the environment?

**Answer:**

1. The ACCC does not collect data on the consumption of various fuels in Australia. Any reference to fuel consumption by the ACCC is sourced from publicly available information obtained from other government agencies, industry and associations.
2. The ACCC does not have information on consumers' vehicle preferences and the use of alternatives such as walking, cycling and public transport.
3. The ACCC is not in a position to comment to what extent vehicle preferences, walking, cycling and public transport have been influenced by concerns for the environment.