AUSTRALIAN PUBLIC LIBRARIES STATISTICAL REPORT
2006 - 2007

Final Report

Compiled by Public Library Services

State Library of Queensland

March 2009

Foreword

The National Library and the State and Territory libraries throughout Australia are represented by the peak body, National & State Libraries Australasia (NSLA). NSLA members also represent the interests of the public library networks within their States and Territories. The public library network, represented by 1,513 public library service points across Australia, provides information, collections and services to meet the information needs of the general public including those of diverse user groups. While the ongoing demands for print and audio media continue to be met, the public library network is assisting to break down the digital divide through increasing the scope and availability of digital materials, equipment and associated training. For the first time expenditure on Electronic Resources has been identified separately, ensuring trends can be measured in future years.

The Australian Public Libraries Statistical Survey is a NSLA project that identifies and measures the usage and activities of Australia's public library services. The survey highlights the range of services provided by public libraries across the National, State and Territory libraries. NSLA publishes national public library statistics on a regular basis, and highlights are accessible at http://www.nsla.org.au/

2009

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Australia's public libraries provide quality information services that support lifelong learning to the Australian community, significantly impacting on the cultural and information industry.

Access to services is provided through a network of 1,513 public library service points (1,432 fixed point libraries and 81 mobile libraries) throughout Australia, one service point for every 13,890 persons. Over 68% of public libraries are open for more than 30 hours each week, with more than 30% of libraries being open more than 45 hours per week.

Usage of libraries has continued to increase with 183 million items being lent to the 9.9 million members of Australia's public libraries. Over 111 million visits by customers were recorded in 2006-2007 (9.3 million visits per month), reflecting the strong growth in customer visits per head of population from 4.61 to 5.32 in the five year period.[1]

Library services were delivered by 8,268 (FTE) staff employed in Australian Public libraries and library collections of more than 40 million items (1.9 items per person) were made available for the use of the community. Over $105 million was spent on ensuring that these collections remain up to date and relevant.

Public libraries have continued to support the ever growing demand for access to information technology and resources, with an overall increase in the number of public access Internet terminals. A total of 7,524 terminals provide Internet access, and in addition a further 1,436 public access computer terminals were provided for word processing, CD-ROM use etc.

Total expenditure on public libraries has increased from $615 million in 2002-2003 to $757 million in 2006-07, representing a 23% increase. Expressed on a per capita basis, funding for public libraries has increased by 16% over the same period to $36.05.

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[1] Western Australia reported visitor figures for the first time in 2005-2006.

Table 1 – Services

	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07
Total loans	173,982,739	176,275,147	176,409,857	178,740,362	182,934,975
Loans per capita	8.8	8.8	8.7	8.7	8.7
Reported information enquiries	8,819,593	8,728,814	9,211,093	10,194,879	9,737,346
Information enquiries per 1,000 persons	444	478	453	495	463
Internet terminals per 10,000 persons	2.5	2.7	3.0	3.3	3.6

Table 2 – Customers

	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07
Customers	91,583,823	95,221,932	95,145,429	108,124,046	111,738,333
Customers per month	7,631,985	7,935,161	7,928,786	9,010,337	9,311,528
Customer visits per capita	4.61	4.74	4.68	5.25	5.32
Registered Library Members	9,713,801	9,918,540	10,033,152	9,903,233	9,882,493
Members as a percentage of total population	49%	49%	49%	48%	47%
Percentage Adult Members	80%	81%	82%	83%	83%
Percentage Junior Members	20%	19%	18%	17%	17%

Table 3 – Collections & Resources

	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07
Total number of library materials	38,529,265	39,318,951	40,031,892	40,462,313	40,033,893
Total number of Public Access Internet terminals	5,015	5,301	5,965	6,456	7,142
Number of Public Access Computers for Word Processing etc	1,323	978	1,154	1,628	1,418
Library materials per capita	1.9	2.0	2.0	2.0	1.9
Total library materials expenditure	$89.36m	$93.34m	$99.01m	$104.36m	$105.46m
Library materials expenditure per capita	$4.50	$4.64	$4.87	$5.07	$5.02
Average percentage of resources purchased in last 5 years[2]	49.3%	47.1%	47.6%	47.4%	52.2%

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[2] This measure is not an overall national percentage, rather an average of the available figures from the states and territories that report this measure. It has not been reported consistently during the 5 year period.

Table 4 – Service Points

	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07
Number of Service Points (including each mobile library[3] as a single service point)	1,466	1,503	1,487	1,522	1,513
Population served per service point	13,560	13,379	13,669	13,537	13,890
Service Points per 100,000 persons	7.4	7.5	7.3	7.4	7.2
Libraries open more than 45 hrs per week[4]	30%	30%	30%	31%	30%
Libraries open 30 to 44 hrs per week	38%	39%	39%	38%	38%
Libraries open 10 to 29 hrs per week	23%	23%	23%	23%	24%
Libraries open less than 10 hrs per week	9%	8%	8%	8%	8%
Percentage of service points with Internet terminals[5]	70%	74%	87%	91%	92%

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[3] 81 mobile libraries visit 1,355 locations.

[4] Victoria is unable to provide the range of opening hours and has been excluded from the percentage measures.

[5] Percentages for years 2002-03 to 2003-04 do not accurately reflect the national average. NSW was only able to supply individual Library Service details for these years, resulting in a very low percentage being recorded. Since 2004-2005 the national figure has been adjusted to reflect the correct NSW figure.

Table 5 – Staff

	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07
Total Staff (full time equivalent)	6,908	7,735	7,922	8,107	8,269
Population served per staff member	2,878	2,600	2,566	2,541	2,542
Staff members (FTE) per 10,000 persons.	3.48	3.85	3.90	3.94	3.93
Loans per full-time equivalent staff member	25,186	22,790	22,269	22,047	22,124

Table 6 – Expenditure (including the purchase of library materials)

	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07
Total Expenditure on Public Library Services	$615.31m	$651.01m	$694.12m	$743.19m	$757.57m
Total Public Library expenditure per capita	$30.96	$32.37	$34.15	$36.07	$36.05

2 Comparative Data

2.1 Items lent

Overall, lending from libraries has increased by 5.1% over the past five years, with a slight 2.3% increase from the previous year. The strongest growth was achieved in the ACT (23% increase), with only Western Australia (-2.4%) and Queensland (-0.4%) reporting declines during this period. All states and territories reported an increase in items lent from the previous year.
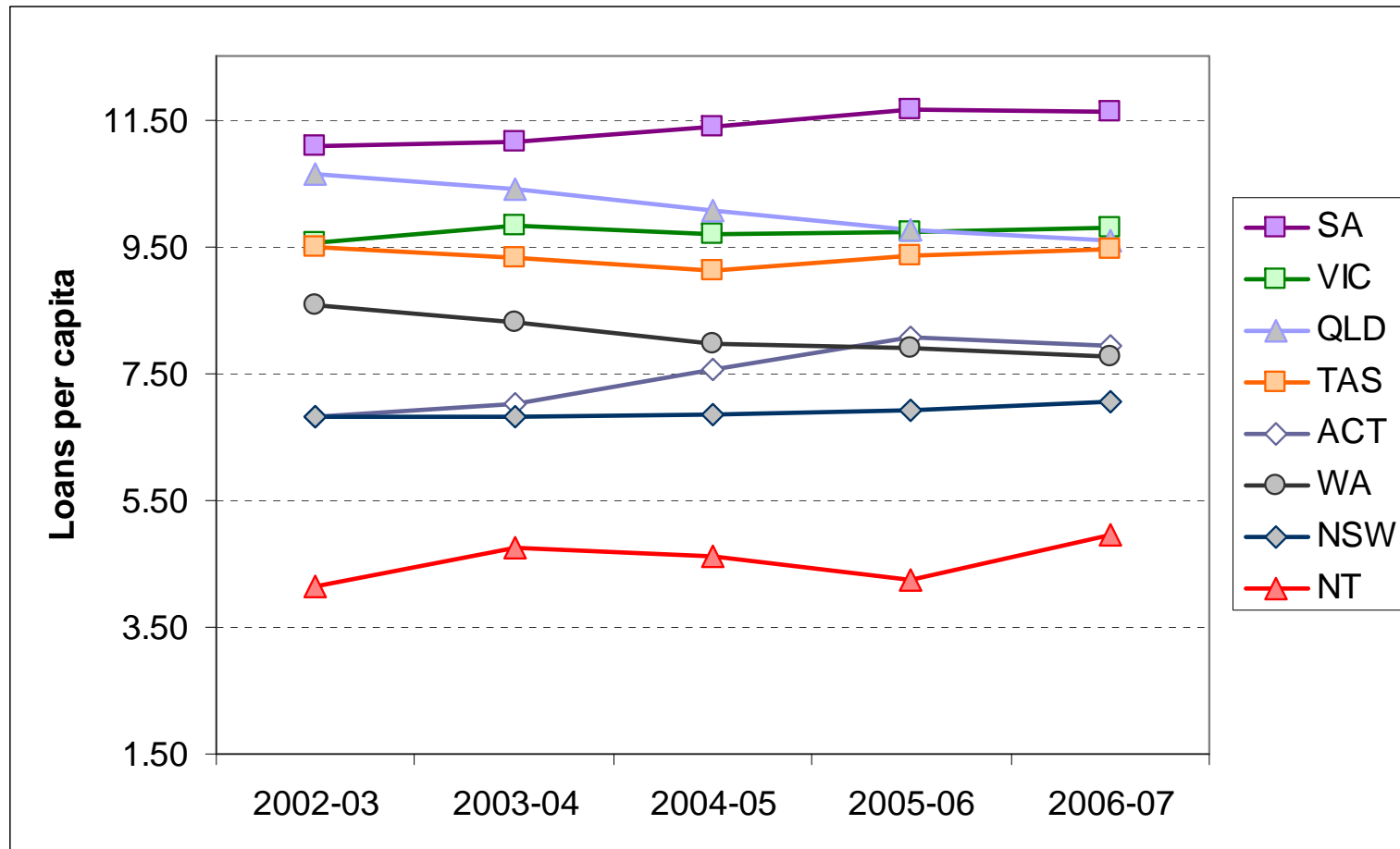
Table 7 — Total items lent

	ACT	NSW	NT	QLD	SA	TAS	VIC	WA	Australia
2002-03	2,195,794	45,513,455	822,236	40,337,151	16,940,087	4,528,392	46,904,962	16,740,662	**173,982,739**
2003-04	2,274,116	45,777,024	946,790	40,411,410	17,086,189	4,493,263	48,843,028	16,443,327	**176,275,147**
2004-05	2,453,143	46,335,942	932,982	39,930,225	17,562,163	4,420,969	48,743,783	16,030,650	**176,409,857**
2005-06	2,648,366	47,317,223	875,876	39,577,161	18,139,631	4,565,061	49,454,767	16,162,277	**178,740,362**
2006-07	2,701,306	48,664,526	1,068,102	40,168,087	18,434,372	4,666,366	50,891,985	16,340,231	**182,934,975**
Change over 5 year period	23.0%	6.9%	29.9%	-0.4%	8.8%	3.0%	8.5%	-2.4%	5.1%
Change to previous year	2.0%	2.8%	21.9%	1.5%	10.1%	2.2%	2.9%	1.1%	2.3%
% of national	1.5%	26.6%	0.6%	22.0%	10.1%	2.6%	27.8%	8.9%	

Table 8 – Items lent per capita

Over the past five years the overall Australian total for loans per capita has declined slightly (0.5%), though the most significant reductions have been recorded in Queensland (-9.6%) and Western Australia (-9.5%). South Australia continues to report the highest loans per capita (11.63), with Victoria, Queensland and Tasmania above the national total of 8.71.

	ACT	NSW	NT	QLD	SA	TAS	VIC	WA	Australia
2002-03	6.80	6.81	4.14	10.62	11.09	9.49	9.54	8.57	**8.75**
2003-04	7.02	6.80	4.74	10.41	11.14	9.32	9.82	8.30	**8.77**
2004-05	7.54	6.84	4.60	10.07	11.39	9.11	9.71	7.98	**8.68**
2005-06	8.05	6.93	4.24	9.76	11.67	9.34	9.71	7.88	**8.68**
2006-07	7.95	7.06	4.97	9.60	11.63	9.46	9.78	7.76	**8.71**
Change over 5 year period	**16.9%**	**3.8%**	**19.9%**	**-9.6%**	**4.9%**	**-0.3%**	**2.5%**	**-9.5%**	**-0.5%**
Change to previous year	**-1.3%**	**1.9%**	**17.2%**	**-1.6%**	**-0.3%**	**1.3%**	**0.7%**	**-1.5%**	**0.3%**

Figure 1 – Items lent per capita

2.2 Expenditure on Public Library Services

Total expenditure on public libraries has grown significantly over the past five years, with an overall increase of 23% bringing the Australian total to over $757 million. Funding increases have occurred in all states and territories except the Northern Territory (-28%), with the largest increases recorded in South Australia (30%), Queensland (27%) and New South Wales (26%). Expenditure increases in both the Australian Capital Territory and Western Australia matched the national increase of 23%.

Table 9 – Expenditure on Public Library Services (including the purchase of library materials)

	ACT[6]	NSW	NT	QLD	SA	TAS	VIC	WA	Australia
2002-03	$9.40m	$213.53m	$7.91m	$122.43m	$49.63m	$12.13m	$134.61m	$65.76m	**$615.38m**
2003-04	$13.97m	$224.89m	$5.36m	$133.45m	$52.82m	$13.35m	$135.30m	$71.87m	**$651.01m**
2004-05	$13.97m	$240.51m	$6.27m	$139.67m	$57.55m	$13.52m	$144.93m	$77.71m	**$694.12m**
2005-06	$14.89m	$256.42m	$6.43m	$156.58m	$60.73m	$15.18m	$144.73m	$88.26m	**$743.19m**
2006-07	$11.59m	$269.52m	$5.69m	$155.07m	$64.32m	$14.81m	$155.92m	$80.66m	**$757.57m**
Change over 5 year period	23%	26%	-28%	27%	30%	22%	16%	23%	23%
Change to previous year	-22%	5%	-12%	-1%	6%	-2%	8%	-9%	2%

[6] Reported funding increases in the ACT during the 5 year period are due to the construction of a new library, including additional funding for collections.
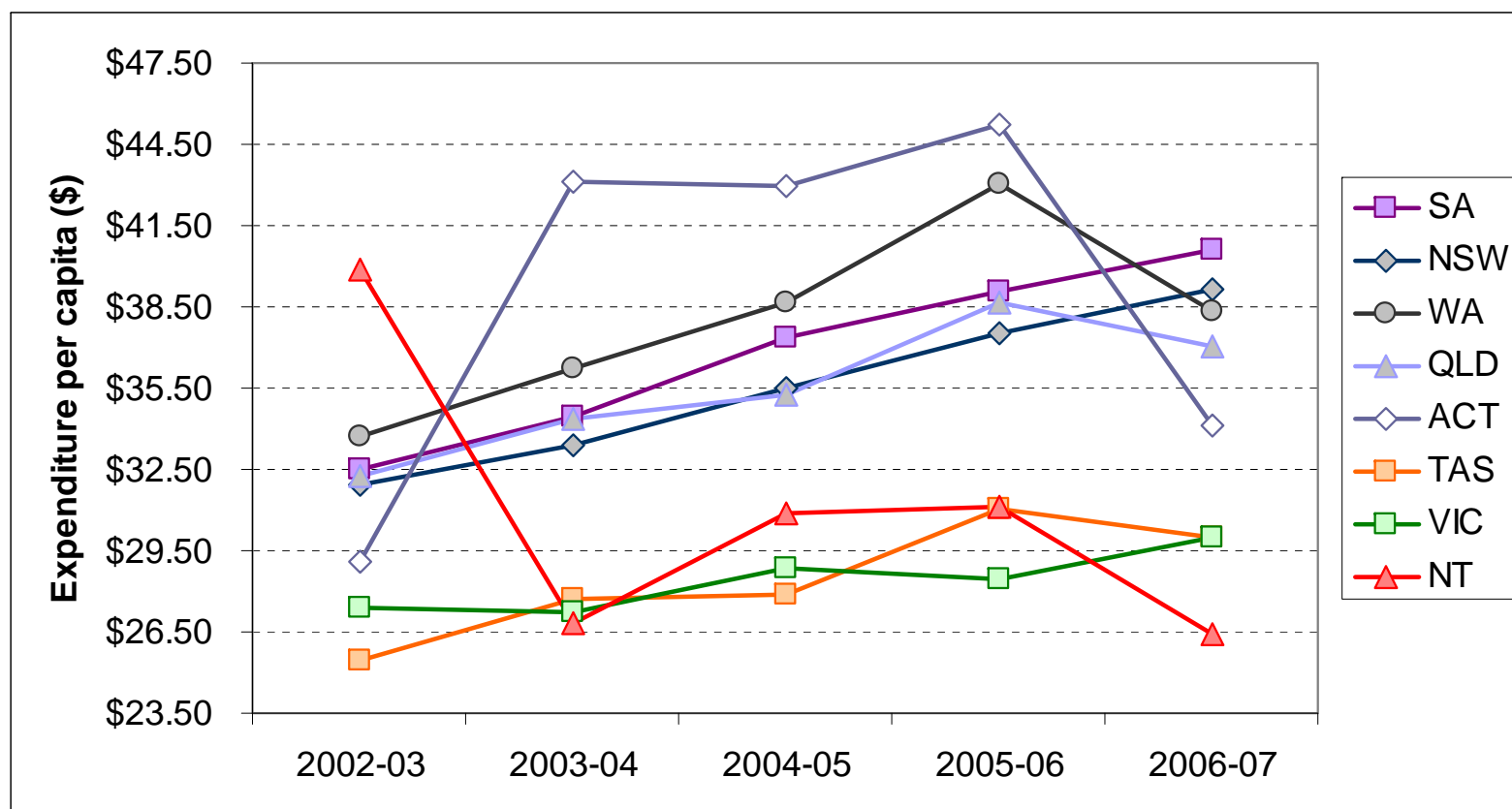
Total expenditure per capita across Australia has grown by 16% to $36.05. South Australia has the highest expenditure per capita of $40.59, while the lowest figure of $26.44 is recorded in the Northern Territory.

Table 10 – Total Expenditure per capita (including the purchase of library materials)

	ACT[7]	NSW	NT	QLD	SA	TAS	VIC	WA	Australia
2002-03	$29.10	$31.93	$39.87	$32.30	$32.50	$25.42	$27.37	$33.68	**$30.97**
2003-04	$43.12	$33.41	$26.82	$34.38	$34.43	$27.70	$27.21	$36.26	**$32.37**
2004-05	$42.92	$35.50	$30.91	$35.23	$37.32	$27.85	$28.86	$38.66	**$34.15**
2005-06	$45.22	$37.56	$31.14	$38.63	$39.06	$31.05	$28.43	$43.02	**$36.07**
2006-07	$34.09	$39.12	$26.44	$37.08	$40.59	$30.02	$29.95	$38.30	**$36.05**
Change over 5 year period	17%	23%	-34%	15%	25%	18%	10%	14%	16%
Change to previous year	-25%	4%	-15%	-4%	4%	-3%	5%	-11%	-0.06%

[7] Reported increases during the 5 year period due to construction of a new library, including additional funding for collections.

Figure 2 – Expenditure on Public Library Services per capita (including the purchase of library materials)

2.3 Expenditure on Library Materials

Expenditure on library materials has grown by 19% over the five year period from 2002-03 to 2006-07, with all states and territories recording increases. The Northern Territory and South Australia both recorded increases of over 30%.

Table 11 – Expenditure on Library Materials

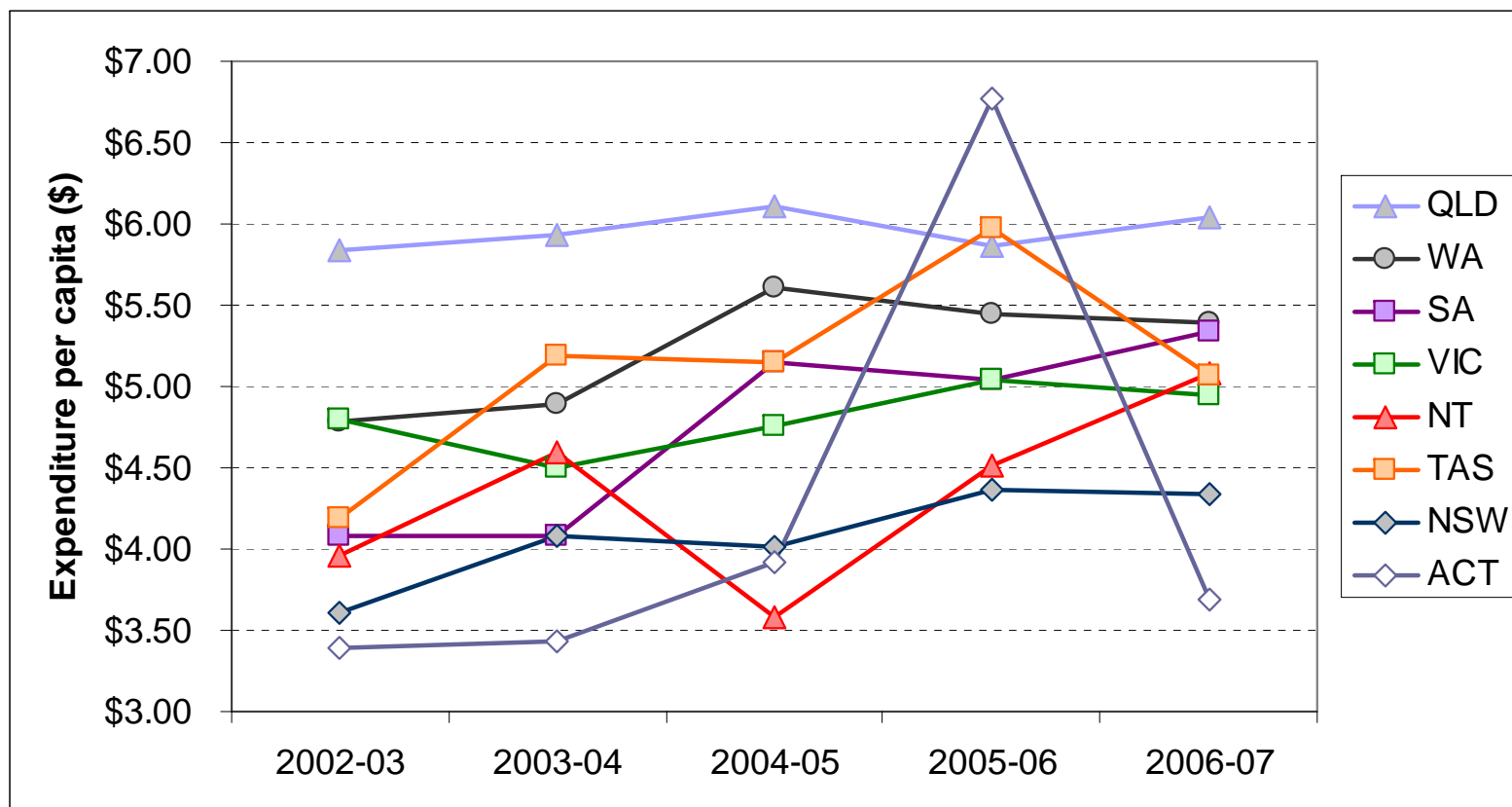|	ACT[8]	NSW	NT	QLD	SA	TAS	VIC	WA	Australia
2002-03	$1.10m	$24.17m	$0.79m	$22.16m	$6.24m	$2.00m	$23.58m	$9.34m	**$89.36m**
2003-04	$1.11m	$27.45m	$0.92m	$23.03m	$6.26m	$2.50m	$22.37m	$9.69m	**$93.34m**
2004-05	$1.30m	$27.17m	$0.73m	$24.23m	$7.93m	$2.50m	$23.91m	$11.28m	**$99.01m**
2005-06	$2.23m	$29.84m	$0.93m	$23.77m	$7.83m	$2.92m	$25.66m	$11.17m	**$104.38m**
2006-07	$1.25m	$29.84m	$1.09m	$25.25m	$8.45m	$2.50m	$25.72m	$11.35m	**$105.46m**
Change over 5 year period	14%	23%	39%	14%	36%	25%	9%	21%	18%
Change to previous year	-44%	0%	17%	6%	8%	-14%	0%	2%	1%

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[8] For the ACT, additional funding allocated 20005/06 for library materials in conjunction with construction of a new library. A corresponding fall in per capita terms is reflected in Table 12.

Per capita expenditure on library materials also increased by 12% over the same period, with all states and territories recording increases. The highest increase recorded in South Australia (31%).

Table 12 – Expenditure on Library materials per capita

	ACT	NSW	NT	QLD	SA	TAS	VIC	WA	Australia
2002-03	$3.39	$3.61	$3.97	$5.84	$4.08	$4.19	$4.80	$4.79	**$4.50**
2003-04	$3.43	$4.08	$4.60	$5.93	$4.08	$5.18	$4.50	$4.89	**$4.64**
2004-05	$3.92	$4.01	$3.58	$6.11	$5.14	$5.15	$4.76	$5.61	**$4.87**
2005-06	$6.77	$4.37	$4.52	$5.86	$5.04	$5.97	$5.04	$5.45	**$5.07**
2006-07	$3.68	$4.33	$5.07	$6.04	$5.33	$5.07	$4.94	$5.39	**$5.02**
Change over 5 year period	9%	20%	28%	3%	31%	21%	3%	13%	12%
Change to previous year	-46%	-1%	12%	3%	6%	-15%	-2%	-1%	-1%

Figure 3 – Expenditure on Library Materials per capita

2.4 Expenditure on Electronic Resources

2006-2007 represents the second year that expenditure on Electronic Resources has been listed as a separate measure. Meaningful comparisons still cannot be drawn from the figures as the reporting compliance of each state and territory is inconsistent. The large increase reported for Queensland is a reflection of greater reporting at the individual library service level for this category of expenditure within the state.

Expressed as a percentage of total collection expenditure, the Australian Capital Territory allocated the highest proportion of funds to electronic resources at 19%, with New South Wales the least at 2%.

Table 13– Expenditure on Electronic Resources

	ACT	NSW	NT	QLD[9]	SA[10]	TAS	VIC[11]	WA	Australia
2005-06	$173,358	$596,287	$152,442	$240,466	$198,415	$156,730	$845,754	$360,932	**$2,724,384**
2006-07	$233,804	$691,568	$71,000	$1,205,766	$266,526	$226,483	$1,005,806	$509,811	**$4,210,764**
Per capita	$0.69	$0.10	$0.33	$0.29	$0.17	$0.46	$0.19	$0.24	**$0.20**
Change to previous	35%	16%	-53%	401%	34%	45%	19%	41%	**55%**
%'age of Collection Expenditure	19%	2%	7%	5%	3%	9%	4%	4%	**4%**
2005-06 %'age of Collection Expenditure	8%	2%	16%	1%	3%	5%	3%	3%	**3%**

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[9] Queensland figure includes $278,600 for state wide consortium purchasing.

[10] South Australian figure includes $174,000 for state wide consortium purchasing.

[11] The Victorian figure published in the 2005-06 bulletin was incorrect and has been corrected in this bulletin.

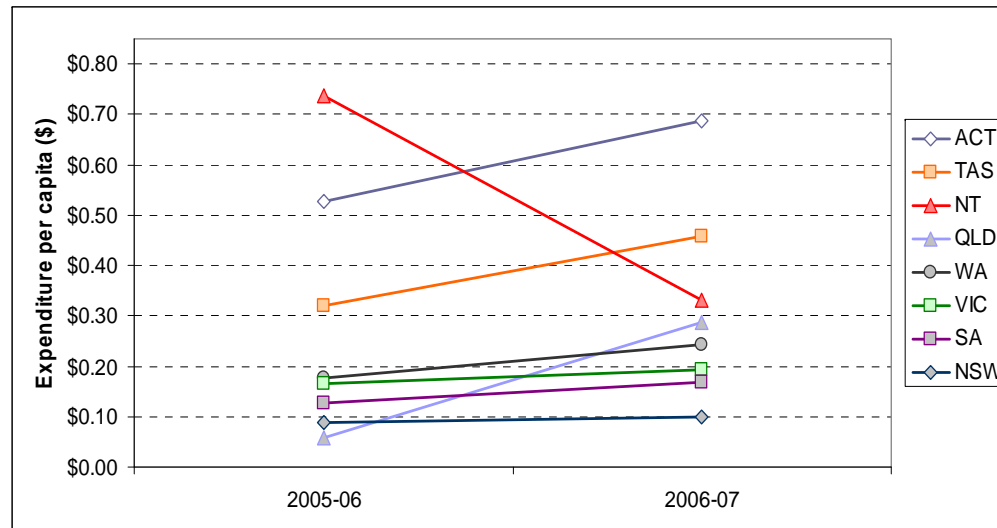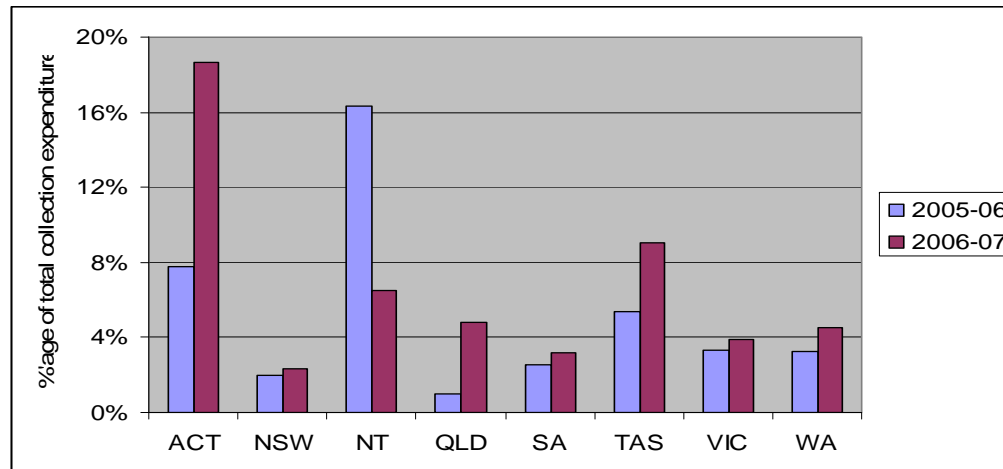# Figure 4 – Expenditure on Electronic Resources per capita

Figure 5 – Expenditure on Electronic Resources as percent of total collection expenditure

2.5 Public Access Internet Terminals

The number of public access Internet terminals provided nationally has continued to grow, with over 7,524 available, an increase of 49% since 2002-2003. News South Wales has the largest number of terminals at 2,216, followed by Queensland at 1,781.

Table 14 – Total Public Access Internet Terminals provided in Australian Public Libraries (including mobile libraries)

	ACT	NSW	NT	QLD	SA	TAS[12]	VIC	WA	Australia
2002-03	65	1,630	68	900	518	145	1,170	570	**5,066**
2003-04	72	1,773	70	976	586	173	1,154	570	**5,374**
2004-05	77	1,963	122	1,194	628	192	1,251	630	**6,057**
2005-06	72	2,082	133	1,388	636	424	1,354	676	**6,765**
2006-07	72	2,216	96	1,781	685	462	1,476	736	**7,524**
Change over 5 year period	**11%**	**36%**	**41%**	**98%**	**32%**	**219%**	**26%**	**29%**	49%
Change to previous year	**0%**	**6%**	**-28%**	**28%**	**8%**	**9%**	**9%**	**9%**	11%

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[12] Tasmania's figures have been revised since the 2005-06 bulletin to include co-located access centres which have been integrated into the public library network. The changes to the overall national figures since 2002-03 have been revised for this bulletin only.
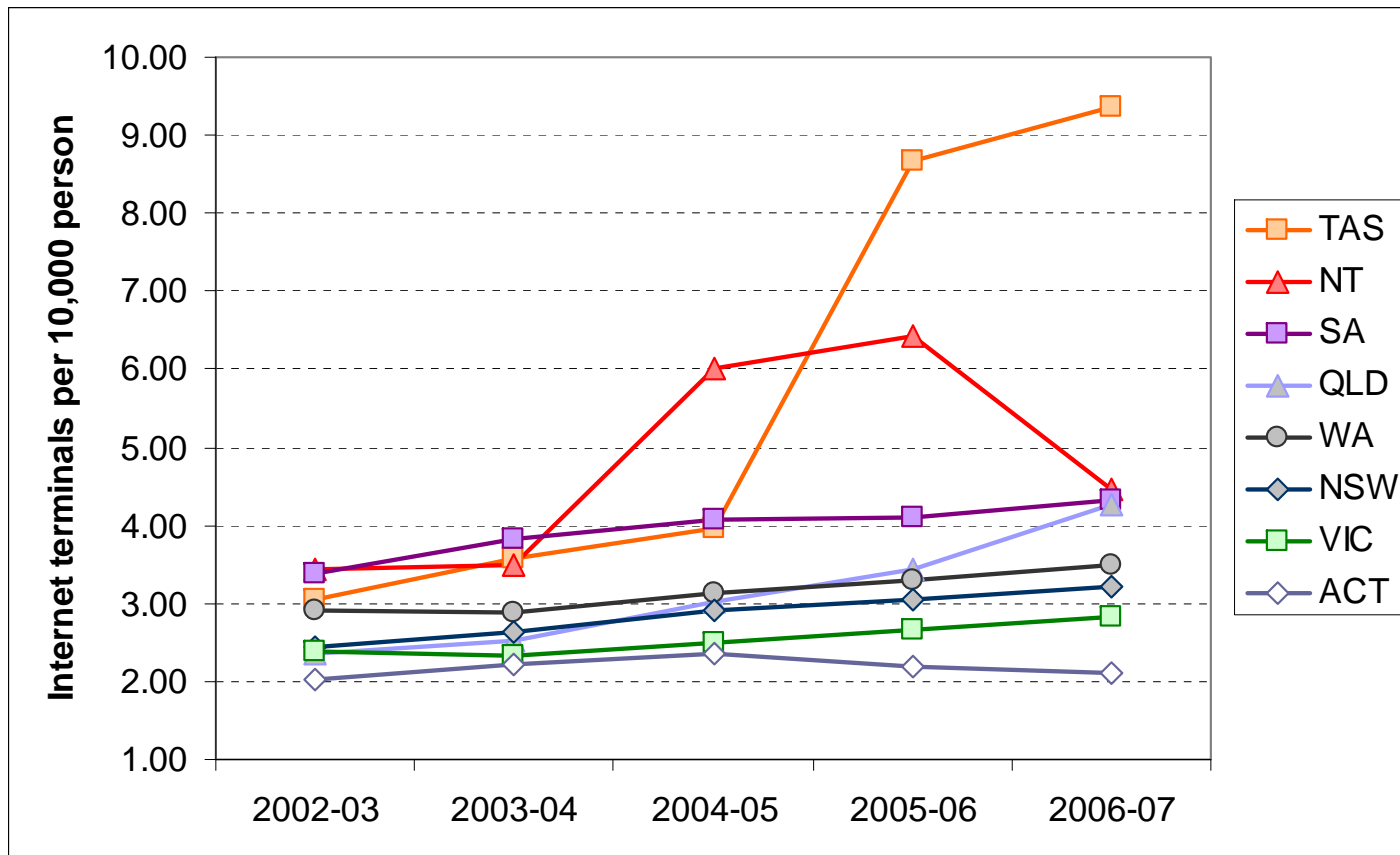
Expressed as the number of public access terminals per 10,000 persons the national total is 3.58, an increase of 40% over the same period. With the exception of the Northern Territory, all other states and territories have recorded an increase in this measure, the largest being in Tasmania (208%) and the smallest in the Australian Capital Territory (5%). Tasmania provides the highest number of terminals per capita with 9.37 terminals per 10,000 persons.

Table 15 – Public Access Internet terminals per 10,000 persons[13]

	ACT	NSW	NT	QLD	SA	TAS	VIC	WA	Australia
2002-03	2.01	2.44	3.43	2.37	3.39	3.04	2.38	2.92	**2.55**
2003-04	2.22	2.63	3.50	2.51	3.82	3.59	2.32	2.88	**2.67**
2004-05	2.37	2.90	6.02	3.04	4.07	3.96	2.49	3.13	**2.98**
2005-06	2.19	3.05	6.43	3.42	4.09	8.67	2.66	3.30	**3.28**
2006-07	2.12	3.22	4.47	4.26	4.32	9.37	2.84	3.50	**3.58**
Change over 5 year period	5%	32%	30%	80%	27%	208%	19%	20%	40%
Change to previous year	-3%	5%	-31%	24%	6%	8%	7%	6%	9%

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[13] Changes to previously published figures are a result of the revised totals for Tasmania since 2002-03.

Figure 6 – Public Access Internet terminals per 10,000 persons

3 Public Library Services in Australia

Public Library services are delivered by a variety of administrative arrangements. These vary both between and within each State and Territory, ranging from services wholly delivered by the State / Territory through to services wholly delivered by Local Government.

Australian Capital Territory

The Australian Capital Territory is a single administrative entity that combines both State and Local Government functions. Community Service and Information within the Department of Territory and Municipal Services is responsible for the delivery of library services to the community and government.

The ACT Library & Information Service (ACTLIS) delivers public library services to the community and also provides specialist information services through the ACT Government and Assembly Library and ACT Heritage Library. Two ACT public library branches are joint use facilities with ACT Department of Education and Training Colleges.

ACTLIS also monitors the delivery of a range of library and information services, including management of library assets, collection and analysis of performance measures, benchmarking services, developing policy and providing advice for government on library and information services.

All libraries are connected to a high speed network enabling access to the Library Management System, the Internet and a range of Information Resources.

New South Wales

Public library services in New South Wales include a mixture of independent (or stand alone) library services operated by a single local government authority and regional libraries where up to 8 local councils have entered into an agreement under the Library Act to provide a combined service. All 152 local councils in NSW have adopted the *Library Act 1939*. A number of councils were subject to amalgamations and/or boundary changes in 2003-04. Please contact Public Library Services for advice on comparing figures before and/ or after these changes.

The State Library of New South Wales is responsible for administering the *Library Act 1939* and *Library Regulation 2005*. Local councils and their library services are autonomous. The State Government funds public library services via an annual subsidy and grants program. The formula for distributing the State Government funds was revised in 2005 and the new *Public Library Funding Strategy* was approved by the Minister for the 2005/06 financial year. For a description of the Strategy go to pages 70-71 of the *Library Council of NSW Annual Report 2006* at: http://www.sl.nsw.gov.au/annual/

The State Library, Public Library Services division provides a range of services to the New South Wales public library network.

Responsibilities include:

- management of the State funding for public libraries, including the annual grants and subsidies programs;
- monitoring public library compliance with the *Library Act 1939* and the *Library Regulation 2005* and providing advice and guidance;
- collecting, collating and distributing public library statistical and other information;
- providing a professional development program for public library staff;
- providing information and advisory services on all aspects of the provision, control and management of public library services;
- managing a research program on behalf of the public library network; and
- providing specialist advice in the areas of evaluation, information services, services to young people and older persons, multicultural services, and library marketing and promotion.

The State Library also provides extensive reference, information and interlending services to NSW public libraries.

Northern Territory

The Northern Territory is unique in the range of services and support provided to public libraries, including those in small and remote Aboriginal communities. The Northern Territory Government, through Northern Territory Library (NTL), provides direct and indirect funding to enable the operation of all Territory public library services.

NTL provides a centralised model of support to the Public Library Network of the NT (PLNT). The PLNT network comprises 30 public libraries of varying sizes, ranging from the Darwin Public Library Service with 4 branches servicing a population of 73,000 to Peppimenarti a small remote community with a population of 200. In addition, some centralised support services are provided by NTL to a number of secondary schools and college libraries within the Territory.

A Country Borrower Service is operated for those living in small and isolated communities unable to access public libraries. The service is operated in conjunction with the Alice Springs Library in the Red Centre and by NTL in the Top End. The service provides a regular exchange of books and other resources to individuals.

Queensland

In Queensland Local Governments and Indigenous Community Councils offer free library services. The State Library supports these libraries through a strong partnership with Local Government, providing cash grants, support services and collections, access to Queensland wide electronic databases and the operation of the Country Lending Service (CLS) Scheme.

Local Governments operating Independent library services receive cash grants calculated on a weighted per capita formula. The grant is tied to the purchase of library stock with up to 5% being available for the processing of library materials.

Local Governments serving populations of less than 20,000 participate in the Country Lending Service. Under this scheme, State Library provides fully processed book stock in lieu of the above cash grant. This book stock is allocated on the basis of a minimum of one book per capita and is exchanged at the rate of at least 25% per year to ensure freshness of collections.

Indigenous Knowledge Centres offer library services in communities throughout Cape York and the Torres Strait and a further 3 Indigenous Community Councils offer free library services through the Country Lending Service.

The State Library also provides:

- Loans of specialised resources such as community language books and adult literacy materials
- Advisory services, reference services and training on all aspects of public library management
- Distribution Statewide of interlibrary loans
- Facilitation of public library networking and resource sharing

South Australia

There are 140 public libraries in South Australia, representing 69 Local Government Authorities. In the cases where no council exists, the Libraries Board of South Australia provides the full operational subsidy.

Forty-nine of the rural libraries in South Australia are in very small communities. In order to provide appropriate services to these communities, the Libraries Board and the local government authority join with the Department of Education and Children's Services to operate very successful School Community Libraries.

The State Government of South Australia provides funds for the provision of public library services through a five year funding agreement between the State Government and the Local Government Association of South Australia.

The funds allocated to public libraries by the South Australian Government are administered by the Libraries Board of South Australia, under the Libraries Act 1982 and the *Memorandum of Agreement for the Public Library and Community Information.* From these funds, the Libraries Board allocates to libraries an untied operating grant, materials grant, community information grant and the Public Library Services (PLS) budget. The majority of the materials grant is spent through its online e-procurement system, to ensure maximum discounts and efficiencies through economies of scale.

Public Library Services manages the provision of online selection list for libraries to selection from and then manages the acquisitions, cataloguing and distribution of these materials to libraries. Public Library Services also provides free public access to the Internet, on-line

Inter-Library Loans, the state-wide Print disability and LOTE Collections. Staff at Public Library Services undertake a wide range of strategic projects in collaboration with the state's public library network.

Tasmania

The **State Library of Tasmania** provides public library services statewide through a network of seven city libraries, 39 branch libraries (including seven community libraries) and five reference and specialist collections. The network provides all Tasmanian communities with easy access to information to meet their educational, cultural and recreational reading needs.

The State Library's resources include:

- lending and general reference collections

- Tasmaniana and collections of rare and specialist items

- a range of electronic and online information resources.

The libraries are linked by the Tasmanian Automated Library and Information System (TALIS), a statewide, networked and automated catalogue and electronic information service. Eight senior secondary colleges, 170 schools, 13 Institute of TAFE Tasmania libraries, seven community libraries and three agency libraries are also connected to TALIS.

A range of library services are tailored for people with special needs. Resources include large-print books, recorded books, foreign language materials, DVDs, and video and audio formats. These resources are delivered through a volunteer courier system for home library clients and through the integrated library network. Providing people with disabilities with physical access to library services is of major importance.

The Tasmanian Library Advisory Board, the Allport Library and Museum of Fine Arts Management Committee, and the friends groups of particular libraries provide community input into library services. Community groups are supported by providing access to meeting rooms and display areas, and services such as Tasmania Online.

Victoria

There are 44 public library services in Victoria, covering all 79 municipalities. Two types of public library services operate in the State: single service municipalities (30) and regional library corporations (14). Single services are run by their municipalities and are mainly

located in metropolitan Melbourne. Regional libraries are two or more councils which have agreed to provide services jointly. Regional library corporations are constituted under the **Local Government Act 1989** and have the same operating and reporting structures as municipal councils. Services to people with print disabilities are provided through the National Information and Library Service, a joint venture organisation of Royal Victorian Institute for the Blind, Vision Australia Foundation and Royal Blind Society. It is included as a public library service, bringing the total number of public library services in Victoria to 45.

Specific responsibility for public library policy in Victoria rests with the Minister for Local Government who is advised by a Ministerial Advisory Council on Public Libraries. Local Government Victoria, a division of the Department of Planning and Community Development is responsible for administering core public library funding, the collection of public library statistics and benchmarks and regional library corporations legislation, and has as a priority area ongoing networking with public libraries, the State Library of Victoria, and key industry groups.

Under the Libraries Act 1988 the Library Board of Victoria retains the following functions in relation to the wider library network: to oversee cooperation in programs with libraries and information organisations to promote access to library and information resources; to exercise leadership and promote high standards in the provision of library and information services; and to provide advice and information to the Minister on any matter concerning libraries and information organisations. It continues to work collaboratively with the public library network through the coordination by the State Library of Victoria of a range of programs aimed at developing the state-wide provision of library services. These state-wide programs include research projects and business case development; marketing of the public library network; support for the community building role of public libraries; workforce and leadership development initiatives; touring public programs; initiatives to enhance collections and access state-wide.

Western Australia

Public library services in Western Australia are provided through a partnership between the State Government, represented by the Library Board of Western Australia, and local government authorities. Local governments provide the library building, staff and operating costs, while the Library Board is responsible for acquiring and preparing shelf ready stock delivered to public libraries. The Library Board also provides extensive catalogues, indexes, training, consultancy, regional subsidies and back-up services in the form of special collections, information and reference services and inter library loan services.

Library stocks range from less than 1,000 in small country libraries to 60,000 in the largest libraries. The public library stock is treated as an integrated state-wide collection and remains the property of the Library Board of Western Australia. Stock is not allocated to libraries permanently, but is circulated throughout the State on a regular basis. This enables library collections to be constantly refreshed with different stock (new and used) and ensures that collections are not "read out". The State Library acts as a clearinghouse for the circulation of the stock between libraries. Many local governments also provide additional resources to purchase books in demand, journal subscriptions and additional audio-visual resources.

There are 141 local governments in Western Australia, including Christmas Island and the Cocos (Keeling) Islands, operating most of the State's 232 public libraries. In addition some other government and non-government organisations are recognised as "participating bodies" and they provide services to communities and institutions.

4 Data Sources

This statistical report has been compiled on behalf of the National & State Libraries Australasia (CASL) by Public Library Services, State Library of Queensland using data supplied by the authority responsible for public library services in each State and Territory.

The data used to prepare this report is available from each individual State or Territory authority. Please note that it is difficult to use this data to compare library services with each other due to the significant variations in social and geographic criteria applying from State to State and within each State. These conditions create differing demands and needs which affect the type and scope of public library services provided. Further difficulties in comparing data are caused by the diverse service delivery methods used to provide public library services. It should be noted that the data may vary from that published separately by individual States and Territories.

For further information on the data please contact:

Australian Capital Territory

Manager, ACT Library & Information Service
ACTLIS Administration
Macarthur House
Lyneham ACT 2602

New South Wales

Public Library Services
State Library of New South Wales
Macquarie St
Sydney NSW 2000

Northern Territory

Northern Territory Library
Department of Local Government, Housing & Sport
GPO Box 42
Darwin NT 0801

Queensland

Public Library Services
State Library of Queensland
PO Box 3488
South Brisbane Qld 4101

South Australia

Public Library Services
State Library of South Australia
8 Milner St
Hindmarsh SA 5007

Tasmania

Public Library Services
State Library of Tasmania
91 Murray Street
Hobart Tasmania 7000

Victoria

Public Libraries Branch
Local Government Victoria
Level 14, 1 Spring Street
Melbourne, VIC 3000
GPO Box 2392V, Melbourne 3001

Western Australia

The State Library of Western Australia
Alexander Library Building
Perth Cultural Centre
Perth WA 6000

5 2006 - 2007 Data & Indicators

2006 - 2007	ACT	NSW	NT	QLD	SA	TAS	VIC	WA	AUSTRALIA
EXPENDITURE									
Expenditure on Public Libraries (excluding library materials and capital purchases)	$10.34m	$238.64m	$4.56m	$125.15m	$53.76m	$12.31m	$130.19m	$69.30m	$644.26m
Total expenditure on Library Materials	$1.25m	$29.84m	$1.09m	$25.25m	$8.45m	$2.50m	$25.72	$11.35m	$105.46m
Expenditure on Library Materials (excluding Electronic Resources)	$1.02m	$29.15m	$1.02m	$24.05m	$8.18m	$2.28m	$24.72m	$10.84m	$101.25m
Expenditure on Electronic Resources	$0.23m	$0.69m	$0.07m	$1.21m	$0.27m	$0.23m	$1.01m	$0.51m	$4.21m
State Govt. costs directly related to the delivery of public library services not included above	n/a	$1.04m	$0.03m	$4.67m	$2.11m	n/a	n/a	n/a	$7.85m
Total Expenditure on Public Library Services	$11.59m	$269.52m	$5.69m	$155.07m	$64.32m	$14.81m	$155.92m	$80.66m	$757.57m
Total State/Territory costs related to the delivery of public library services	$10.56m	$25.59m	$4.50m	$20.13m	$16.68m	$14.88m	$30.12m	$17.52m	$139.98m
State/Territory Funding as a percentage of Public Library Expenditure	91%	9%	79%	13%	26%	100%	19%	22%	18%
Capital Expenditure on Public Libraries (not including library materials)		$27.12m	$0.02m	$19.41m	$7.37m	$0.70m	$19.15m	$10.13m	$83.94m
STAFF									
No of qualified librarians (fte)	23.5	875.25	16.00	366.26	196.28	45.09	552.90	287.3	2362.60
Total staff (fte)	104.5	2344.91	93.02	1377.45	715.88	160.66	2414.90	1057.29	8268.61
LIBRARY MATERIALS									
Total number of library materials	526,491	13,707,583	384,499	7,949,900	3,779,737	689,165	9,018,198	3,978,320	40,033,893
Percentage of collection purchased in previous 5 years	51.8%	53.4%	n/a	64.0%	42.2%	51.3%	49.5%	53.1%	52.2%

2006 - 2007	ACT	NSW	NT	QLD	SA	TAS	VIC	WA	AUSTRALIA
SERVICE POINTS									
No. of fixed point libraries	8	369	33	320	134	46	291	231	1,432
No. of mobile libraries	2	22		19	10		27	1	81
No of service points (including mobile libraries)	10	391	33	339	144	46	318	232	1,513
No. of deposit stations (small unstaffed collections)		75			44				119
No. of locations served by mobile libraries	38	321		540	n/a		452	4	1,355
ACCESSIBILITY – number of libraries by time open for public use									
Service Points open 45 hours or more	6	145	3	71	51	8	n/a	75	359
Open 30 - 44 hours	2	125	9	123	75	7	n/a	109	450
Open 10 - 29 hours	0	108	18	92	7	29	n/a	29	283
Open less than 10 hours	0	13	3	53	2	2	n/a	18	91
Total with opening hours specified	8	391	33	339	135	46	0	231	1,183
Not specified	0	0	0	0	9	0	318	1	328
Total Hours per week	403	14,636	821	9,486	5,814	1,160	12,182	8,797	53,299
Check (hours per week x 50 ie less 2 weeks public holidays)	20,150	731,800	41,050	474,300	290,700	58,000	609,100	439,850	2,664,950
Total hours open per annum	20,125	761,050	33,653	474,275	290,681	57,975	609,095	439,870	2,686,724

2006 - 2007	ACT	NSW	NT	QLD	SA	TAS	VIC	WA	AUSTRALIA
USAGE									
Total circulation	2,701,306	48,664,526	1,068,102	40,168,087	18,434,372	4,666,366	50,891,985	16,340,231	182,934,975
Total library visits	1,835,831	34,849,858	1,292,952	18,755,774	11,413,352	2,743,213	33,751,367	7,095,986	111,738,333
Customers per month	152,986	2,904,155	107,746	1,562,981	951,113	228,601	2,812,614	591,332	9,311,528
Number of Reference / Information Enquiries	86,203	3,690,788	10,932	1,766,363	n/a	679,713	2,419,991	1,083,356	9,737,346
MEMBERSHIP									
No. of registered library users	197,612	3,193,858	61,412	1,945,793	936,700	140,425	2,447,818	958,875	9,882,493
Adult Members 65 and over	17,421	189,656				28,668	198,590		434,335
Adult Members under 65 (or age not specified)	136,816	2,295,181	44,562	1,527,901	736,495	67,767	1,462,070	796,254	7,067,046
Young Adult (definition varies usually 15 - 20)	17,855	161,462	5,491						184,808
Junior Members (definition varies usually <15)	22,963	475,123	10,721	413,336	200,205	41,938	254,793	153,857	1,572,936
Not Specified	2,557	12,393	47			1,830	523,100		539,927
Other		60,043	591	4,556		222	9,265	8,764	83,441
Total with age specified	195,055	3,121,422	60,774	1,941,237	936,700	138,373	1,915,453	950,111	9,259,125

2006 - 2007	ACT	NSW	NT	QLD	SA	TAS	VIC	WA	AUSTRALIA
ELECTRONIC INFORMATION SERVICES									
No. of Service Points with Public Access Internet Terminals at 30 June 2007	8	396	13	292	134	45	318	181	1,387
Number of mobile libraries with Public Access Internet Terminals	1	7	n/a	0	1	n/a	12	1	22
Total Public Use computer terminals	119	3,622	145	2,146	1,254	544	2,026	736	10,592
No of Public Access Internet Terminals provided at 30 June 2007	72	2,216	55	1,781	685	462	1,476	736	7,524
Number of Catalogue Terminals provided	30	1,176	26		343	57			1,632
Number of other Public Access Computer Terminals Provided	17	230	5	365	226	25	550		1,436

2006 - 2007 Summary & percentages of Data & Indicators

2006-07	ACT	NSW	NT	QLD	SA	TAS	VIC	WA	Australia
EXPENDITURE									
Total Expenditure on Public Library Services ($m)	$11.59m	$269.52m	$5.69m	$155.07m	$64.32m	$14.81m	$155.92m	$80.66m	$757.57m
Public Library expenditure per capita (excluding library materials)	$30.41	$34.79	$21.37	$31.04	$35.26	$24.95	$25.01	$32.91	$31.03
Library Materials expenditure per capita	$3.68	$4.33	$5.07	$6.04	$5.33	$5.07	$4.94	$5.39	$5.02
STAFF									
No of Librarians (FTE) per 10,000 persons	0.69	1.27	0.74	0.88	1.24	0.91	1.06	1.36	1.12
Total Staff (FTE) per 10,000 persons	3.07	3.40	4.33	3.29	4.52	3.26	4.64	5.02	3.93
Population served per staff member	3,253	2,938	2,311	3,036	2,213	3,070	2,155	1,992	2,542
Loans per FTE staff	25,850	20,753	11,482	29,161	25,751	29,045	21,074	15,455	22,124
LIBRARY MATERIALS									
Library materials per capita	1.5	2.0	1.8	1.9	2.4	1.4	1.7	1.9	1.9
SERVICE POINTS									
Population served per service point	33,990	17,619	6,515	12,337	11,003	10,724	16,369	9,077	13,890
Service Points per 100,000 persons	2.9	5.7	15.3	8.1	9.1	9.3	6.1	11.0	7.2

2006-07	ACT	NSW	NT	QLD	SA	TAS	VIC	WA	Australia
ACCESSIBILITY – Number of libraries by time open for public use									
More than 45 hrs per week	75.0%	37.1%	9.1%	20.9%	37.8%	17.4%	n/a	32.5%	30.3%
30 to 44 hrs per week	25.0%	32.0%	27.3%	36.3%	55.6%	15.2%	n/a	47.2%	38.0%
10 to 29 hrs per week	0.0%	27.6%	54.5%	27.1%	5.2%	63.0%	n/a	12.6%	23.9%
less than 10 hrs per week	0.0%	3.3%	9.1%	15.6%	1.5%	4.3%	n/a	7.8%	7.7%
Ave. hours open per week per service point	40.3	37.4	24.9	28.0	40.4	25.2	38.3	37.9	35.2
USAGE									
Circulation per capita	7.9	7.1	5.0	9.6	11.6	9.5	9.8	7.8	8.7
Customer visits per capita	5.4	5.1	6.0	4.5	7.2	5.6	6.5	3.4	5.3
Loans per volume held	5.1	3.6	2.8	5.1	4.9	6.8	5.6	4.1	4.6
MEMBERSHIP									
Percentage of population who are Library Members	58%	46%	29%	47%	59%	28%	47%	46%	47%
Percentage Adult Members (15 and over)	88%	85%	82%	79%	79%	70%	87%	84%	83%
Percentage Junior Members (<15)	12%	15%	18%	21%	21%	30%	13%	16%	17%
ELECTRONIC INFORMATION SERVICES									
Internet terminals per 10,000 persons	2.1	3.2	4.5	4.3	4.3	9.4	2.8	3.5	3.6
Service points with Internet terminals	80%	100%	100%	86%	93%	98%	100%	78%	93%
Information Enquiries per 10,000 persons	2,536	5,357	508	4,224	n/a	13,779	4,649	5,145	4,634

2006 - 2007	ACT	NSW	NT	QLD	SA	TAS	VIC	WA	Australia
Population June 2007 - Australian Demographic Statistics - 3101.0 - June Quarter 2007 - Excludes Other Territories *Released 04/12/2007*	339,900	6,889,100	215,000	4,182,100	1,584,500	493,300	5,205,200	2,105,800	21,014,900