

## Estimates Committee 2009 Questions Taken On Notice

( 16/6/2009 to 19/6/2009 )

Date: 17/06/2009 Output: Agency Specific  
Sub Output: Whole of Government  
Subject: Whole of Government - web site use/hits - by department

**From:** Mr John Elferink to Dr Chris Burns  
Department of Business and Employment

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**Question:** **4-2**  
Minister, can you provide to this committee, across government and, if possible, breakdown by department, if possible, the visitations of government computers to other servers, that is other websites?

Some background for Hansard, I know that there are reports produced which clock the frequency, or check the frequency, of particular sites being visited by government computers. So we know how many hits there are on Facebook, how many hits there are on the Northern Territory News site, etcetera. Now, if we can produce those reports then we can take great comfort, minister, from the repeated answer we have had in relation to reports of improper use of computers.

Dr BURNS: The original question or request was around having access to the report that was being prepared, and that what I am giving an undertaking. I am not sure it needs to be a question on notice. I have given you that undertaking.

Mr TOLLNER: But now we have learnt, minister, that your department not only does reports on itself, but it does reports on other departments. Obviously, that is the role of the department across government, and that is what we are asking.

Mr CHAIRMAN: Minister, you are comfortable to take that question on notice?

Dr BURNS: I am comfortable in having the question on notice, but I have indicated that the reply to the opposition will be in the context of the report that is formed. And it is already formed as the trigger for the question.

**Answer:**  
Answered On: 19/06/2009

## Department of Business and Employment Response to Question on Notice 4.2

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The filtering system cannot report access by agency – it simply records access for individual users. The filtering system denies access to specific categories of sites eg: Adult/Sexually Explicit, Violence. There are a very large number of website categories. The table below provides details for the 10 most frequently accessed site categories across agencies in January 2009.

Rank	Category	Connections <sup>(1)</sup>	Volume of Web Pages Accessed
1.	Search Engines	3,631,792	2.95 GB
2.	News	3,019,274	3.58 GB
3.	Infrastructure	2,755,173	2.74 GB
4.	Computing and Internet	1,661,030	1.58 GB
5. <sup>(3)</sup>	Streaming Media	1,435,309	816.58 MB
6.	Web-based Email	1,426,369	4.97 GB
7.	Reference	1,091,296	588.82 MB
8. <sup>(2)</sup>	Finance and Investment	1,044,993	589.23 MB
9.	Real Estate	995,373	1.35 GB
10.	Business	772,439	584.11 MB

### Notes

- (1) The number of connections is potentially misleading as some sites refresh approximately every 60 seconds so if a site is open for 30 minutes it would record 30 connections.
- (2) This would include NTG on-line banking transactions.
- (3) Streaming Media sites are filtered out for the large majority of NTG personnel but some personnel have access to these sites because of the nature of their duties. The Streaming Media category includes audio or video streamed over the internet (eg: radio broadcasts) but does not include Adult/Sexually Explicit websites.