

Statistics

SERVICE IN THE READING ROOMS

	Reader desks	Other provision ¹
Seats available for users (at 31 March 2006)		
Humanities Floor 1 and 2 Reading Rooms	424	90
Rare Books and Music Reading Room	282	87
Maps Reading Room	37	21
Oriental and India Office Reading Room (now known as Asian and African Studies Reading Room)	68	46
Manuscripts Reading Room	72	25
Philatelic Collections	1	1
Science Reading Rooms	129	48
Business & IP Centre	67	28
Social Sciences Reading Room	54	24
Newspapers (Colindale)	77	74
Boston Spa Reading Room	76	17
Total	1,287	475

Other Reader services

	2005/06	2004/05
Reader education: training session attendees	880	728
Disability support: number of contacts	461	480

Seats available for users

¹ This includes places for electronic access to the British Library Integrated Catalogue, electronic resource seats, microform readers and carrels.



BIBLIOGRAPHIC SERVICES

	2005/06	2004/05
Records in British Library catalogues and databases (at 31 March 2006)		
British Library Integrated Catalogue ²	11,515,486	11,199,364
Access to archives ²	573,973	551,062
Japanese and Chinese material in original scripts ²	46,441	40,735
Allied and Complementary Medicine (AMED)	195,726	184,393
British National Bibliography (BNB)	2,436,864	2,336,266
Sound Archive Catalogue ²	3,056,900	3,035,698
English Short Title Catalogue	468,647	468,647
Incunabular Short Title Catalogue	29,438	29,438
Electronic table of contents ^{2&3}	27,745,402	25,373,462
International Standard Serial Numbers (ISSN) UK Centre	87,137	74,985
Manuscripts ²	788,548	780,134
Newspapers ²	53,074	52,725
Register of Preservation Surrogates	208,653	203,057
Total⁴	47,206,289	44,329,966

Records in British Library catalogues and databases

² Available via the Library's website

³ A database listing articles and conference papers by title, derived from the top 20,000 research journals. The database is made available through British Library Direct and Zetoc.

⁴ The total does not represent the number of unique records. There is significant overlap between some files, e.g. British National Bibliography and British Library Integrated Catalogue.

COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT

	2005/06	2004/05
Collection holdings (at 31 March 2006)		
Monographs ⁵	13,427,489	13,306,208
Serial titles ⁶	873,071	858,656
Newspaper titles ⁷	56,200	56,248
Manuscripts (single and volumes)	314,914	314,063
India Office records ⁸	391,972	391,699
Philatelic items	8,252,724	8,251,876
Cartographic items	4,317,464	4,310,946
Music scores	1,594,246	1,591,617
Sound discs	1,366,487	1,326,004
Sound tape items	239,263	231,855
Videos	27,582	26,628
Prints and drawings	32,629	32,605
Photographs	273,368	271,049
Patent specifications	57,928,334	55,832,636
Reports in microform	10,203,631	10,153,000
Theses	158,000	155,400
Total	99,457,374	97,110,490

Collection holdings

⁵ The figure for monographs is based on the number of items in the relevant catalogues.

⁶ The figure for serial titles is based on the number of records in the relevant catalogues. Changes of title are therefore counted as separate titles.

⁷ The figure for newspaper titles includes weekly and fortnightly magazines as well as newspapers.

⁸ The archives of the India Office (1858–1947) and its predecessors, including the East India Company (1600–1858).

Website usage 2005/06



Use of www.bl.uk

¹ Unique hosts served is the best approximation available to the number of individual users of the website.

COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT

	2005/06	2004/05
Items received on legal deposit		
Monographs	103,357	82,754
Serial issues	282,352	254,688
Maps and atlases	2,544	2,060
Music scores	1,712	982
Newspaper issues	154,617	154,651
Playscripts	218	230
Total	544,800	495,365
Serial titles received	38,253	36,261
Claims for items not automatically deposited ²	234,440	8,926

Items received on legal deposit

² Automated claiming was resumed in 2005/06 following the transition period to the new British Library Integrated Catalogue in 2004/05, when claiming was not possible.

544,800
items acquired on
legal deposit

STORAGE

	2005/06	2004/05
Kilometres of shelving and percentage occupied		
Working capacity: linear km ³	654.5	654.5
Extent of collection: linear km	624.2	613.9
Percentage occupied	95.37%	93.80%

Kilometres of shelving and percentage occupied

³ Extent of collection represents the linear length of the solid stock, plus the associated growth spaces without which the collection could not be used and added to effectively.

PRESERVATION

	2005/06	2004/05
	£000	£000
Preservation funding		
Grant in aid	7,350	7,220
Donations/external funds	470	90
Sales income	300	390
Total	8,120	7,700

	2005/06	2004/05
Items preserved		
Conservation and/or rebinding ⁴	6,382	7,330
New binding ⁴	43,064	75,292
Minor repairs	22,362	19,412
Boxing/other work ⁴	8,602	17,386
Preservation microfilming	15,891	13,254
Total	96,301	132,674
Book cleaning/linear metres	1,055	6,820

Items preserved

⁴ Conservation, New binding and Boxing/other work figures are substantially reduced from the previous year because the number of items treated externally has been difficult to identify since the implementation of the new Preservation and Conservation Management System in September 2005. This issue is being addressed.

	2005/06	2004/05
Frames		
Preservation microfilming: detailed breakdown		
Newspapers ⁵	16,096,701	13,111,801
Books, periodicals, record volumes, manuscripts	1,582,197	1,633,124
Total	17,678,898	14,744,925

Preservation microfilming: detailed breakdown

⁵ The preservation of newspapers has been given a higher priority and additional funding in 2005/06.