

# Primary Source Usage Report

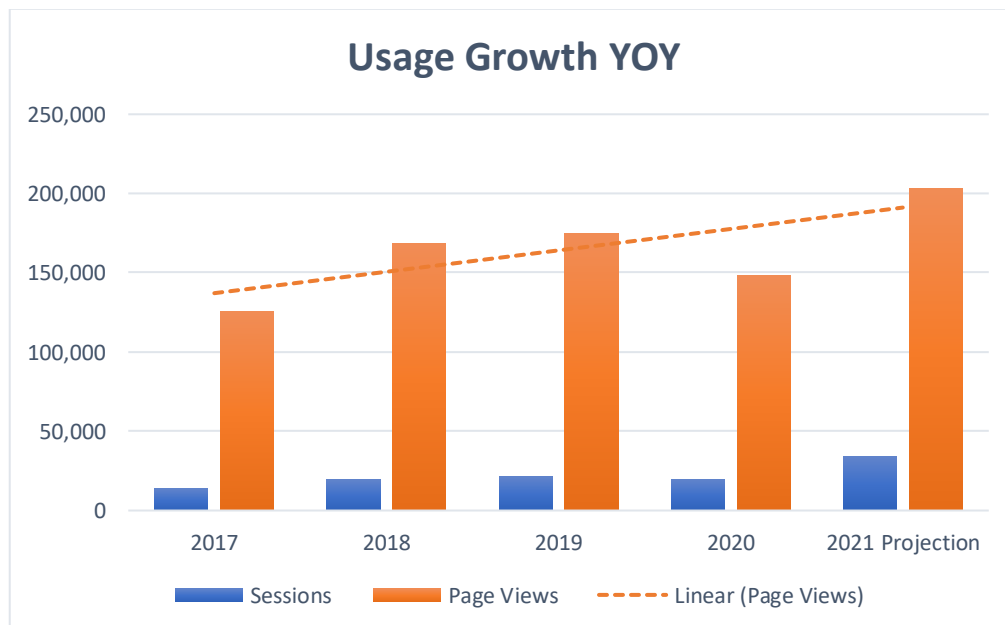
This report looks at use of Adam Matthew collections across ASERL member institutions. It covers the period **1 January 2017 to 31 October 2021**.<sup>1</sup>

## Total Use

The below table shows the number of sessions, page views, and downloads for each year for full-access resources across ASERL member institutions, and in total. The 2020 numbers run up to 31 October:

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021 YTD	Total Use
Sessions	14,187	19,585	21,508	19,853	28,595	103,728
Page Views	125,700	168,619	174,605	148,385	169,433	786,742
Documents Downloaded	2,812	5,393	7,738	6,163	4,319	26,425
Pages Downloaded	173,980	243,466	916,032	768,270	215,386	2,317,134

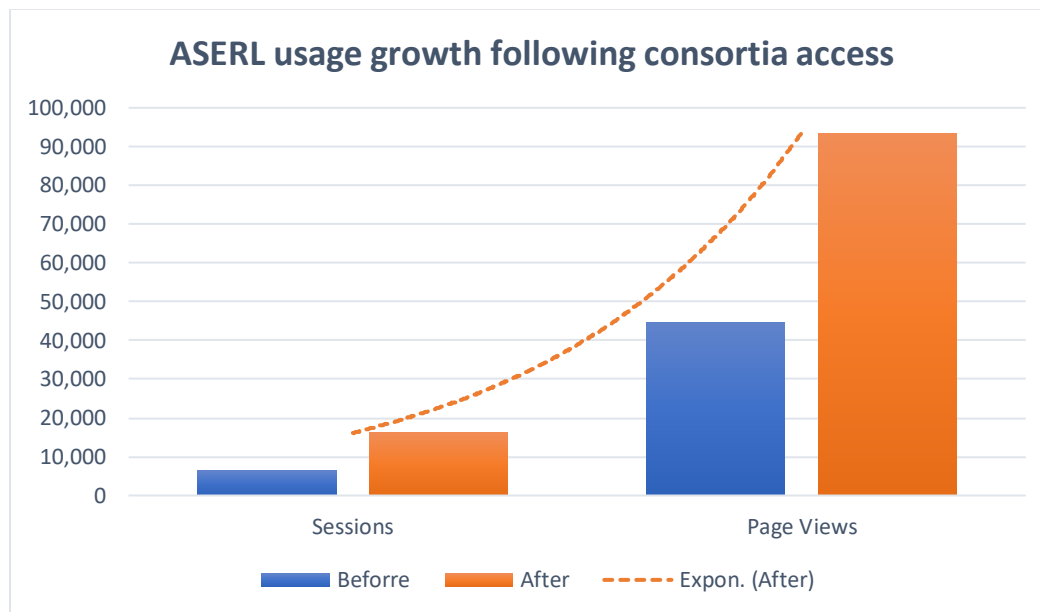
Since 2017, usage across ASERL member institutions has grown year-over-year. The only exception is the year 2020, when March usage was affected by mid-semester campus closures, and a technical error in our platform meant some Proxy usage from the Fall semester was missed. In 2021, at the current rate, **sessions and page views are projected to exceed previous years' metrics**, reflecting the impact of the wider consortial access since end of May. You can see year-over-year usage across ASERL visualised in the chart below, measured in sessions and online page views:



<sup>1</sup> Please be aware that at the start of 2021 we identified an error with our analytics platform, which meant that some Proxy usage was being missed by the platform. As a result, usage figures for the period between 2 September 2020 and 11 February 2021 may be lower than actual use.

## Usage Growth Since 28 May

**Consortia access can unlock usage** both at member institutions already using Adam Matthew databases and institutions new to database access. The following graph shows the **increase in page views and sessions in the five months following consortial access**, and the usage in the same five-month period in 2020, before the consortia-wide investment:



The **impact of consortia access on usage across member institutions was immediate and substantial**. When compared to the same five-month period in 2020 (28 May to 27 October), the first five months of consortia access saw significant growth across all usage metrics:

- Sessions increased by **153.6%**
- Page views increased by **109.6%**
- Pdf downloads increased by **84.4%**
- Pdf page downloads increased by **61.0%**

First and foremost, consortial acquisitions represent large financial savings for member institutions in purchasing individual titles. However, usage metrics following ASERL's group-purchase make clear the immediate impact consortial acquisitions have in increasing the numbers of people accessing content. This suggests that there were educational needs at member institutions not being met prior to consortial access making a wider range of sources available to users.

*It is clear that a **consortial acquisition model presents best value across the group** when the financial savings made per institution are measured against the number of students, researchers and other end-users positively impacted by opened database access.*