

# NEW ZEALAND UNIVERSITY LIBRARY STATISTICS 2008

## Scope

Statistics for all New Zealand universities are included in this publication.

Names of the universities and their abbreviations are:

Auckland	University of Auckland
AUT	Auckland University of Technology
Canterbury	University of Canterbury
Lincoln	Lincoln University
Massey	Massey University
Otago	University of Otago
Victoria	Victoria University of Wellington
Waikato	University of Waikato

The libraries of the University of Otago's Christchurch and Wellington Schools of Medicine and Health Sciences are not included.

These statistics relate to the period 1 January to 31 December 2008. Student and staff numbers are from the Ministry of Education (MoE) return. The figures for library staff represent levels for 2008.

CP is used where libraries cannot provide any data.

New Zealand University Library Statistics are accessible from the CONZUL website (<http://www.nzvcc.ac.nz/aboutus/sc/conzul/statistics>).

The scope and arrangement of the statistics is based on that used by the Council of Australian University Librarians (CAUL), for the Australian and New Zealand university library statistics published in *Australian Academic and Research Libraries*, and on the CAUL website (<http://www.caul.edu.au/stats/>), with some additional figures as requested by New Zealand university libraries. As a result of recommendations from a NZ Universities statistics working group in 2008, some columns which provided some further detail have been removed in order to more closely align the NZ statistics with the Australasian figures in CAUL.

All libraries collect and maintain extensive data relating to their own internal processes. This CONZUL data set provides benchmarking possibilities within New Zealand, while the CAUL set extends this to an Australasian comparison. A recent enhancement to include currency conversion in the CAUL dataset has strengthened the case to move even closer to producing only a single data set, rather than maintaining the present two. This obviously will need discussion by CONZUL and the New Zealand Vice-Chancellors' Committee.

Note that while consistency of data between institutions is aimed at, this requires co-operation and agreement on definitions. While there is some familiarity with the tools available for use with electronic serials, the move now to encompass e-books is posing some challenges.

## Trends in University Library Key Statistics and Ratios

Table 1, Trends in Overall University Library Key Statistics and Ratios, is an attempt to show the overall picture of university library services and collections for the last five years.

Overall student and staff numbers have increased by 1.4% from 2007. However, total library staff numbers have decreased by 1.5%, with a slight increase in the number of professional library positions.

Overall, seat numbers have remained the same.

The total number of loans have decreased by 4.3%, with only one institution recording any increase. All institutions report a significant drop in print Reserve collection loans (17% overall).

Interloan traffic continued to decrease overall, with all libraries reporting decreases in items received, and only three libraries having increases in items supplied

Average numbers attending information literacy and instruction courses have decreased by 8%, although this will have been influenced by a reorganisation of information literacy delivery at one institution.

Metrics for use of electronic services should be treated with caution. Not every library provides returns for these columns and figures may not be comparative between institutions. CAUL does not collect statistics in this area.

Total library expenditure per FTE continues to increase.

With the increasing use of electronic resources, the number of physical volumes or items in a collection is becoming less useful as an indicator of its value. Collection expenditure per FTE is still increasing, and the percentage of that allocated to electronic resources has climbed to 61% of the total collection expenditure. All but one institution recorded an increase in collection expenditure per FTE.

Comparisons with NZ and Australian university libraries is possible through the Council of Australian University Librarians' interactive website at <http://www.caul.edu.au/stats/> and with the US Association of Research Libraries interactive website at <http://fisher.lib.virginia.edu/arl/index.html>

Table 2, University Library Key Performance Indicators 2008, includes some key ratios on a per EFTS (students only) and per FTE (staff plus students) basis, enabling comparisons to be made between universities.

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### Compilation

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