

**NEW ZEALAND
UNIVERSITY LIBRARY
STATISTICS 2002**

**CONZUL
Council of New Zealand University
Librarians
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NEW ZEALAND UNIVERSITY LIBRARY STATISTICS 2002

Scope

The universities included and their abbreviations are:

AU	University of Auckland
AUT	Auckland University of Technology
CU	University of Canterbury
DU	University of Otago
HU	University of Waikato
LIU	Lincoln University
PU	Massey University
WU	Victoria University of Wellington

Auckland University of Technology has been included from 2000. The libraries of the University of Otago's Christchurch and Wellington Schools of Medicine are not included.

These statistics relate to the period 1 January to 31 December 2002. Student numbers are from the full year MoE return. University staff figures come from the July MoE returns. The figures for library staff represent establishments for 2002.

CP is used where libraries cannot provide any data.

The scope and arrangement of the statistics is based on that used by CAUL, the Council of Australian University Librarians, 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.

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

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 few years. The combined university libraries' collections are a significant national asset and almost \$90 million was spent in total on university libraries in 2002.

Opening hours remained static in most libraries in 2002 and overall seating per EFT student remained the same, although individual universities had minor ups and downs with seating numbers.

Total loans for the universities combined declined again in 2002, as did loans per FTE, with only one university recording an increase. This is most likely because

of the increasing use of electronic resources, which are not reflected in loan statistics.

The total number of items obtained through interloan or document supply increased marginally in 2002, but the pattern for individual libraries was variable.

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. Consequently not all libraries are maintaining these statistics and some of the ratios are not available for 2002. For serials the number of current titles is the most useful indicator, and for 2002 the combined total continues to rise. This is due to university libraries being able to purchase large aggregated collections of electronic journals through consortia purchasing. All the universities now have more electronic journals than print ones.

Combined collection expenditure per FTE decreased for the first time since 1997, though it increased in three of the universities. This reflects the higher exchange rate for the NZ dollar, especially late in 2002, as well as cut-backs in two universities.

Total library staff numbers increased in 2002, although staff per 100 FTE user population continues to decline. The 6.5% increase in overall student numbers was not matched by staff increases.

Library expenditure per FTE was almost unchanged from 2001, largely as a consequence of the decline in collection expenditure per FTE noted above. Library expenditure as a percentage of total university income has declined fractionally overall, although it increased in three of the universities.

Table 2, *University Library Key Performance Indicators 2002*, 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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