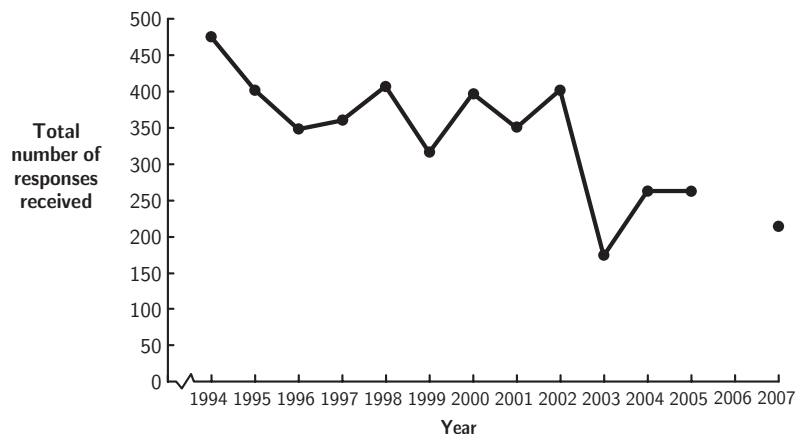


# School Book Spending Survey 1989–2007

1. All dollar values are GST exclusive and inflation adjusted using 3rd quarter figures to September 2007 dollar values.
2. The results are compiled from returns to a survey which went to all schools belonging to the NZ School Trustees' Association in a regular mail-out in early 2007. Responses were received from 227 schools, representing 10% of all New Zealand state schools. Comparison of school characteristics with Ministry of Education data from 1 July 2007 roll returns shows that the survey provides a fair representation of all New Zealand state schools.

3. Between 1997 and 2003 the number of responses received was relatively constant, in the 300–400 range. In 2003 the survey suffered a large dip in the response rate, although there was some improvement in subsequent years. Although schools in this year's sample appear to be representative of all New Zealand state schools with respect to decile, type (secondary schools are slightly under-represented), size and location, results based on such a small response should be interpreted with caution.

**School Survey responses 1994-2007**



4. The survey was not sent out in 2006. This means that for 2005 we have used the budget data provided in 2005, rather than the actual data that would have been provided in 2006. This gave greater continuity between the 2004 and 2005 data than between other years (with the exception of 2006 and 2007) as the *same* schools provided the data for both years. It has the disadvantage of not using the actual amounts spent, but the advantage of filling what would otherwise be a gap in the time series.
5. While schools can isolate library spending relatively easily, book purchases for classrooms were often included in curriculum area budgets, particularly for secondary schools. Library spending can also include IT materials spending. This indicates that the material should be used with caution.
6. The survey has now been run over 17 years, so that we have built up reasonable length series of the data. However, these series are “noisy”, in that there is considerable (random) variation between years, and it can be difficult to detect longer-term trends in the data. To address this, we include smoothed series (spline curves) that show possible trends more clearly as well as graphs of the raw data.

## Primary School Book/IT Spending

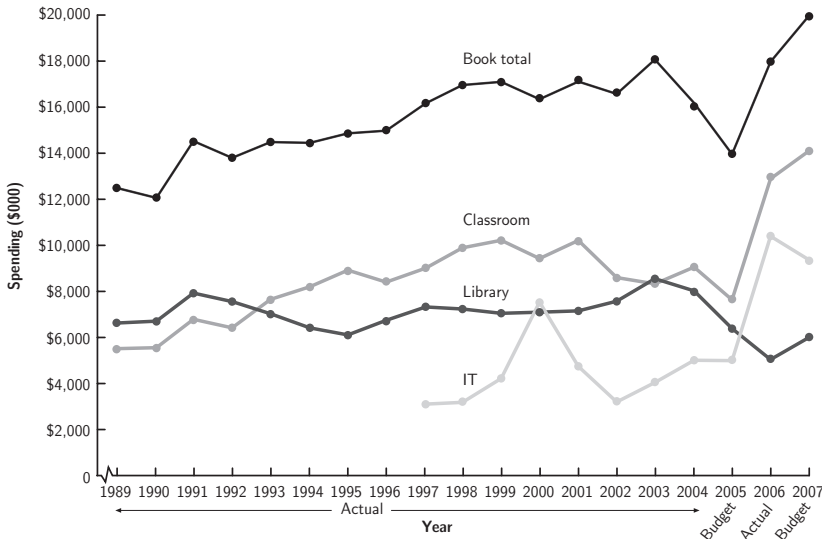
**Total** book spending (covering both classroom and library book spending) is up by 43% since 1989. Trends in the overall spending on books since 1989 show an increase over time, with marked increases occurring in 1991, 1997, and 1998. The new 2006 figures show a slight increase from 2004 in overall spending.

**Classroom** book spending increased 117% between 1989 and 2006. After a decrease between 2001 and 2005, there was a marked increase in 2006 and the 2007 budget is higher still.

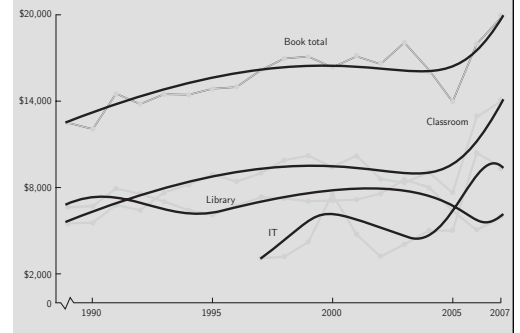
**Library** book spending has decreased by 24% between 1989 and 2006, having overall remained fairly constant up to 2000, perhaps increasing slightly between about 2000 and 2005, and then decreasing markedly.

**IT** spending has increased by 249% since 1997-98. This time series appears to be more volatile than the others, with a peak year in 2000 and another in 2006.

**Total spending on primary resources 1989-2007: data**

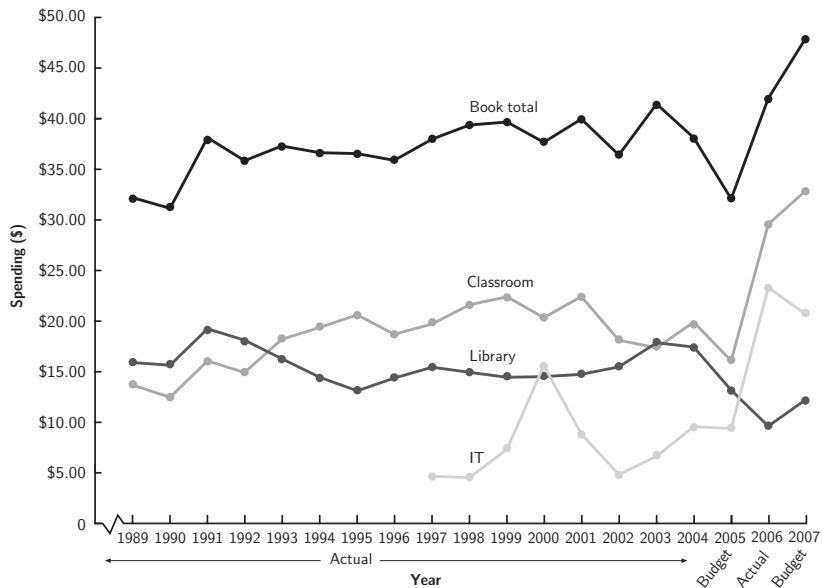


**Total spending on primary resources 1989-2007: trends**

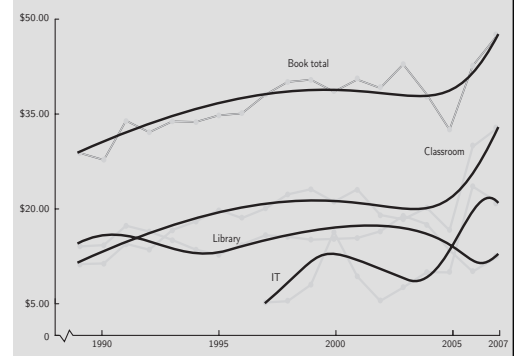


	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005 Budget	2006	2007 Budget
<b>Classroom</b>	5,947	5,464	6,714	6,338	7,591	8,148	8,877	8,351	8,965	9,862	10,193	9,389	10,186	8,551	8,274	9,012	7,572	12,904	14,132
<b>Library</b>	6,549	6,595	7,847	7,484	6,927	6,335	6,026	6,669	7,257	7,167	6,977	7,027	7,085	7,472	8,479	8,034	6,413	4,956	5,954
<b>(IT)</b>									2,979	3,057	4,107	7,471	4,708	3,124	3,887	4,915	4,893	10,410	9,313
<b>BOOK</b>	12,495	12,059	14,561	13,822	14,518	14,483	14,902	15,020	16,222	17,029	17,170	16,416	17,271	16,621	18,151	16,238	13,985	17,860	20,087

**Spending per primary student 1989-2007: data**



**Spending per primary student 1989-2007: trends**



	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005 Budget	2006	2007 Budget
<b>Classroom</b>	15.23	13.97	17.26	16.21	19.21	20.28	21.42	19.66	20.60	22.33	23.05	21.16	23.07	19.13	18.44	20.76	17.27	29.60	32.61
<b>Library</b>	16.77	16.87	20.16	19.13	17.46	15.78	14.56	15.71	16.69	16.23	15.78	15.84	16.05	16.72	18.90	18.51	14.62	11.37	13.74
<b>(IT)</b>									6.85	6.72	9.29	16.84	10.66	6.99	8.66	11.32	11.16	23.88	21.49
<b>Total</b>	32.00	30.84	37.42	35.34	36.67	36.06	35.98	35.37	37.29	38.56	38.83	37.00	39.10	35.86	40.46	37.41	31.89	40.97	46.35

**Total** book spending per student was 28% more in 2006 than in 1989, and has shown a gradual rate of increase throughout the period. The rate of increase was fastest up to the mid-1990s, and since then has been slow, with a possible increase in rate from 2006.

Per student spending on **classroom** books increased between 1989 and 2003 by 94%, with a marked increase in 2006 and 2007.

Per student spending on **library** books was 32% less than in 1989. This series shows a peak in spending in about 2003.

Spending on **IT** was 249% higher in 2006 than in 1997. Note the volatility in this series too, with a peak in 2000 and a rapid increase in 2006 and 2007.

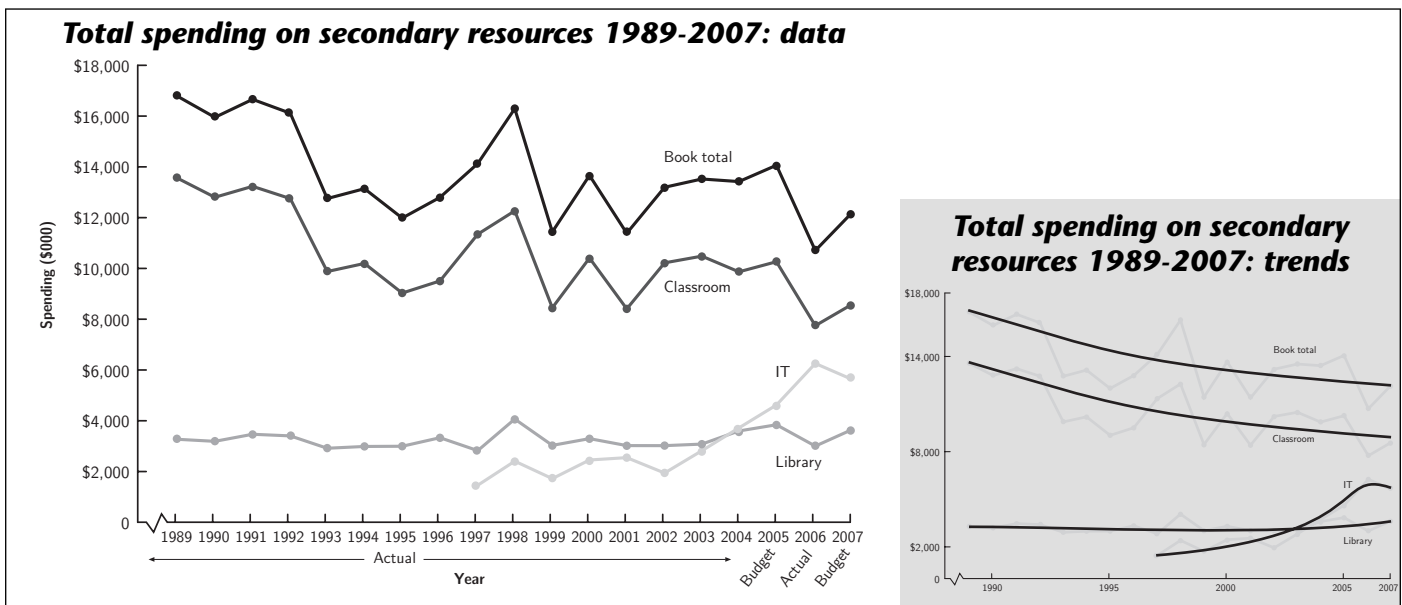
## Secondary School Book/IT Spending

**Total** book spending in secondary schools on books is 36% lower than it was in 1989. The decrease in spending was most rapid until the mid-1990s, and since then has remained almost constant, with perhaps some indication of a slight increase since about 2000 and possible decrease again after 2005.

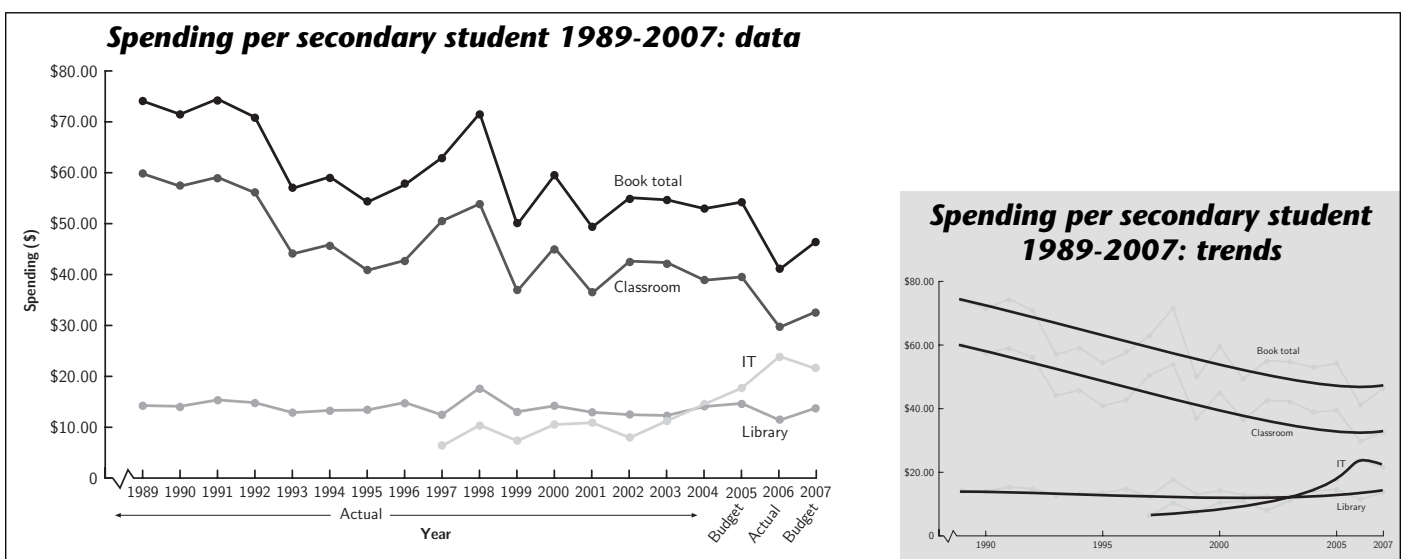
**Secondary classroom** book spending in 2006 was 43% lower than in 1989. This area of spending has shown some volatility, but basically has been steadily decreasing over time.

**Library** book spending has been running at a more or less constant level since 1989, but was 8% lower in 2006 than in 1989.

**IT** spending has also gives a reasonably stable time series, with a steady increase since 1997 amounting to a 338% increase overall since 1997. The budget figures for 2007 look as if the upwards trend may be levelling off.



	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005 Budget	2006	2007 Budget
<b>Classroom</b>	13,545	12,781	13,212	12,729	9,851	10,170	9,002	9,480	11,324	12,245	8,422	10,384	8,378	10,194	10,458	9,840	10,238	7,716	8,526
<b>Library</b>	3,234	3,152	3,431	3,367	2,879	2,950	2,958	3,295	2,786	4,031	2,993	3,259	2,984	2,982	3,043	3,561	3,806	2,964	3,592
<b>(IT)</b>									1,420	2,369	1,681	2,416	2,509	1,902	2,781	3,682	4,585	6,224	5,619
<b>BOOK</b>	16,779	15,934	16,643	16,097	12,730	13,120	11,961	12,776	14,111	16,277	11,415	13,643	11,362	13,175	13,502	13,400	14,044	10,679	12,119



	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005 Budget	2006	2007 Budget
<b>Classroom</b>	59.71	57.26	59.01	55.98	43.98	45.79	40.76	42.70	50.44	53.81	36.69	45.20	36.30	42.56	42.28	38.82	39.47	29.60	32.61
<b>Library</b>	14.24	14.10	15.35	14.81	12.86	13.29	13.38	14.84	12.41	17.72	13.03	14.18	12.93	12.45	12.30	14.05	14.67	11.37	13.74
<b>(IT)</b>									6.31	10.41	7.33	10.52	10.87	7.94	11.24	14.52	17.68	23.88	21.49
<b>BOOK</b>	73.95	71.36	74.36	70.79	56.84	59.08	54.14	57.54	62.85	71.54	49.73	59.38	49.23	55.01	54.58	52.86	54.15	40.97	46.35

**Total** book spending per secondary school student in 2006 was 45% lower than in 1989, slightly lower than the previous year. Overall, the series has shown a downward trend since 1989.

Per student **classroom** book spending in 2006 was 50% less than in 1989.

**Library** book spending was 20% lower than in 1989, with a fairly constant but gradual rate of decrease since 1989.

Spending on **IT** per student was 278% higher than in 1997. The overall rate has been that of a relatively steady increase from 2003.

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## ***Trends In School Book Spending***

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Updating resources has been the main emphasis in school book spending for schools since 1997, when we first asked schools about their priorities. Fifty-eight percent of the schools responding said that their main emphasis in their 2006 spending was to update resources, and 58% of respondents named this as their main focus for their 2007 budget. Forty-six percent and 52% said their priority was to maintain resources in 2006 and 2007, respectively: 16% of schools gave equal priority to these two spending aims in 2007.

Overall, book spending has increased in primary schools since schools took control of their own budgets. Book spending in secondary schools has seen two years of increases, but is now slightly lower than in 1989.

There has been a marked shift from spending on books to spending on IT in both the primary and secondary sector.

Volatility, particularly in the secondary school time series, makes it difficult to isolate trends. The low response rate may well be contributing to this.

### **Student-bought curriculum material**

Another reason for the different trends could be an increased reliance on student-bought materials. Thirteen percent of the respondents from schools felt that there was more use of student-purchased curriculum materials than 2-3 years previously. The main use mentioned was workbooks or homework books (13%). None mentioned study guides and revision notes. Five percent mentioned materials for projects or research.