

# British Library Funding Dynamics and Inflation Impact

## A 25-year overview

Tidy Tuesday / Pydy Tuesday Weekly Data Analysis  
Week: 15-07-2025

Exploratory Data Analysis using Python

### Dataset Credits:

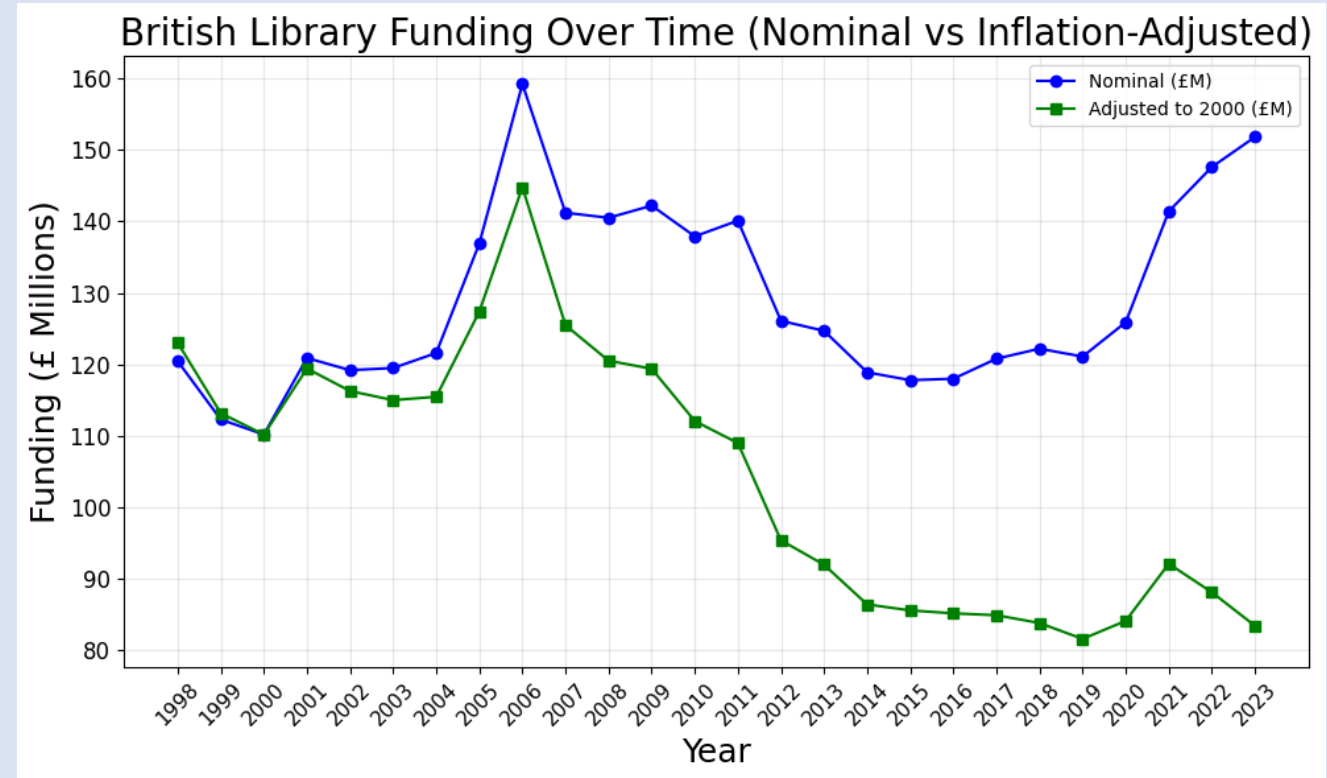
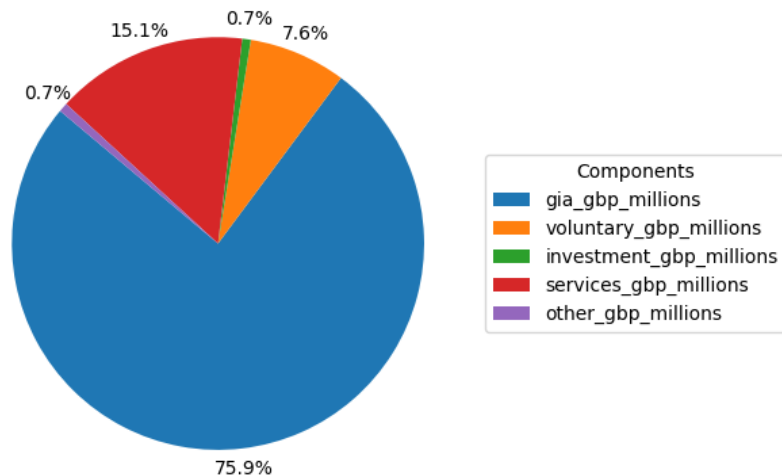
- Andy Jackson (Data Compiling)
- David Rosenthal (2017 Blog)
- Jon Harmon, DSLC (Curator)

Analysis and Presentation By:  
Saumita Haldar

# British Library Funding – Over the Years

- **Funding Range: 110M – 160M**
- **Average Funding: around 130M**
- **Highest Funding in the year 2006**
- **Widening Inflation gap**

Average Contribution of Funding Components over 25 Years (1998-2023)

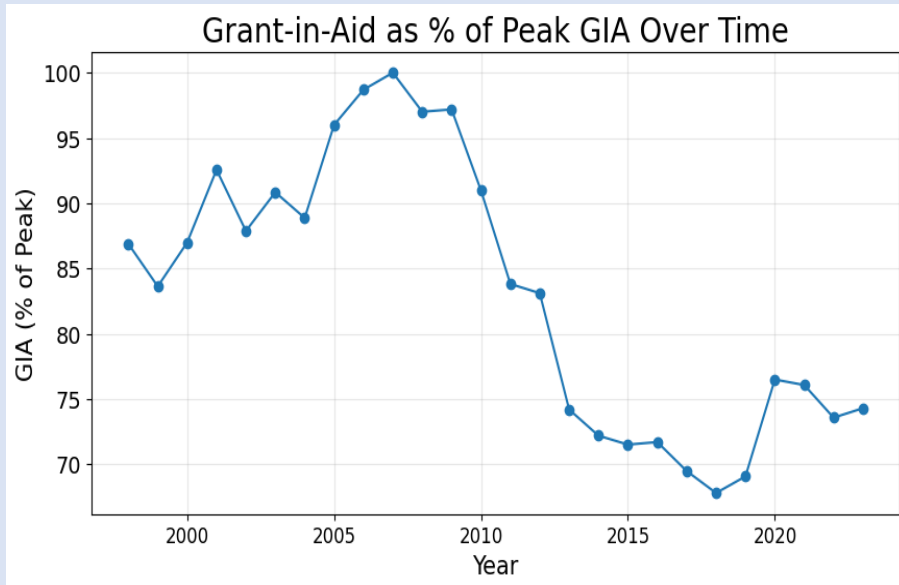


➤ **Highest Contributor: Grant-in-Aid (GIA)**  
(core funding from the UK Government)

➤ **Other Significant Contributor: Services**  
(Main part being the document supply service, which started out as the National Lending Library for Science and Technology)

# A dig into the funding sources

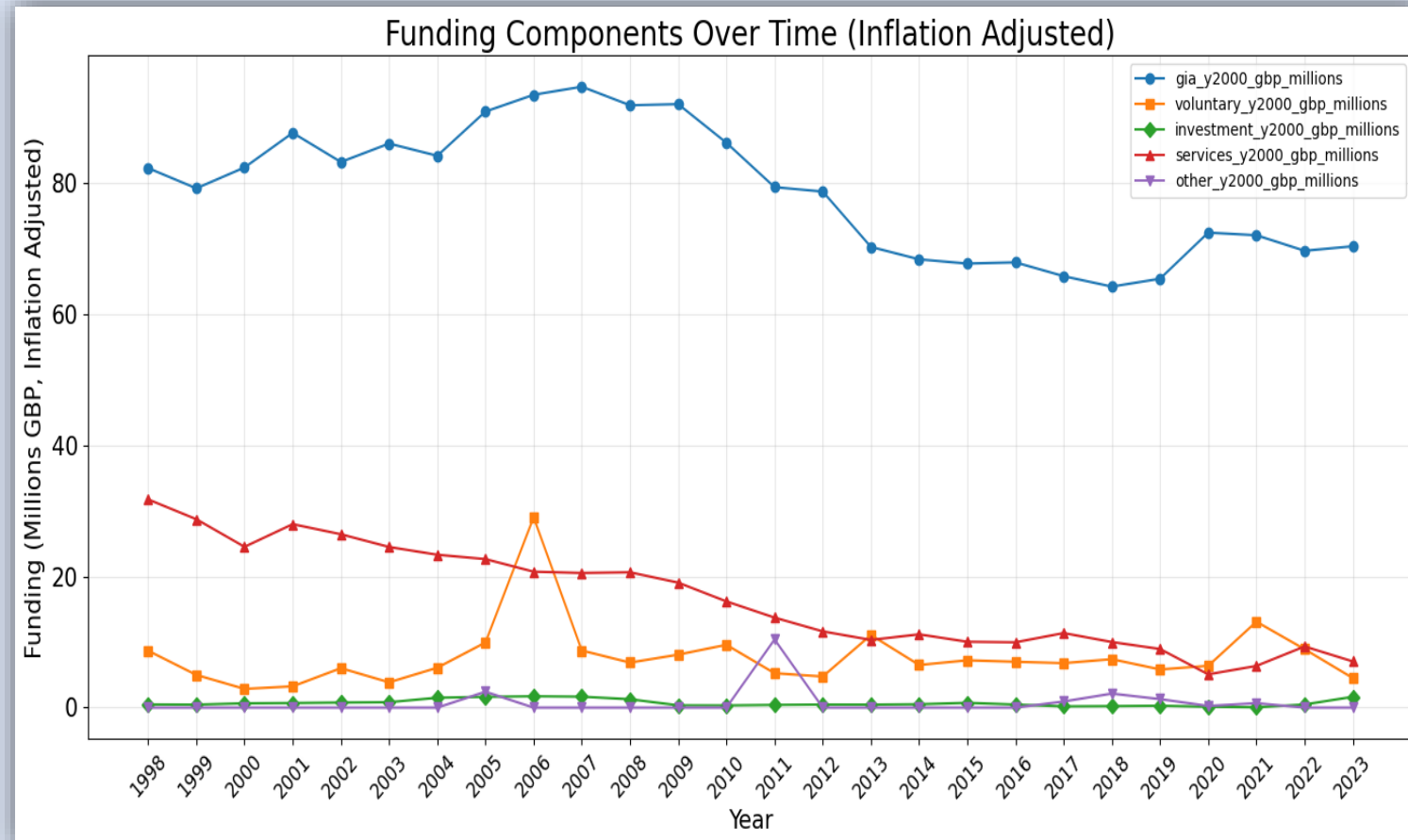
## Grant-in-Aid the Highest Contributor



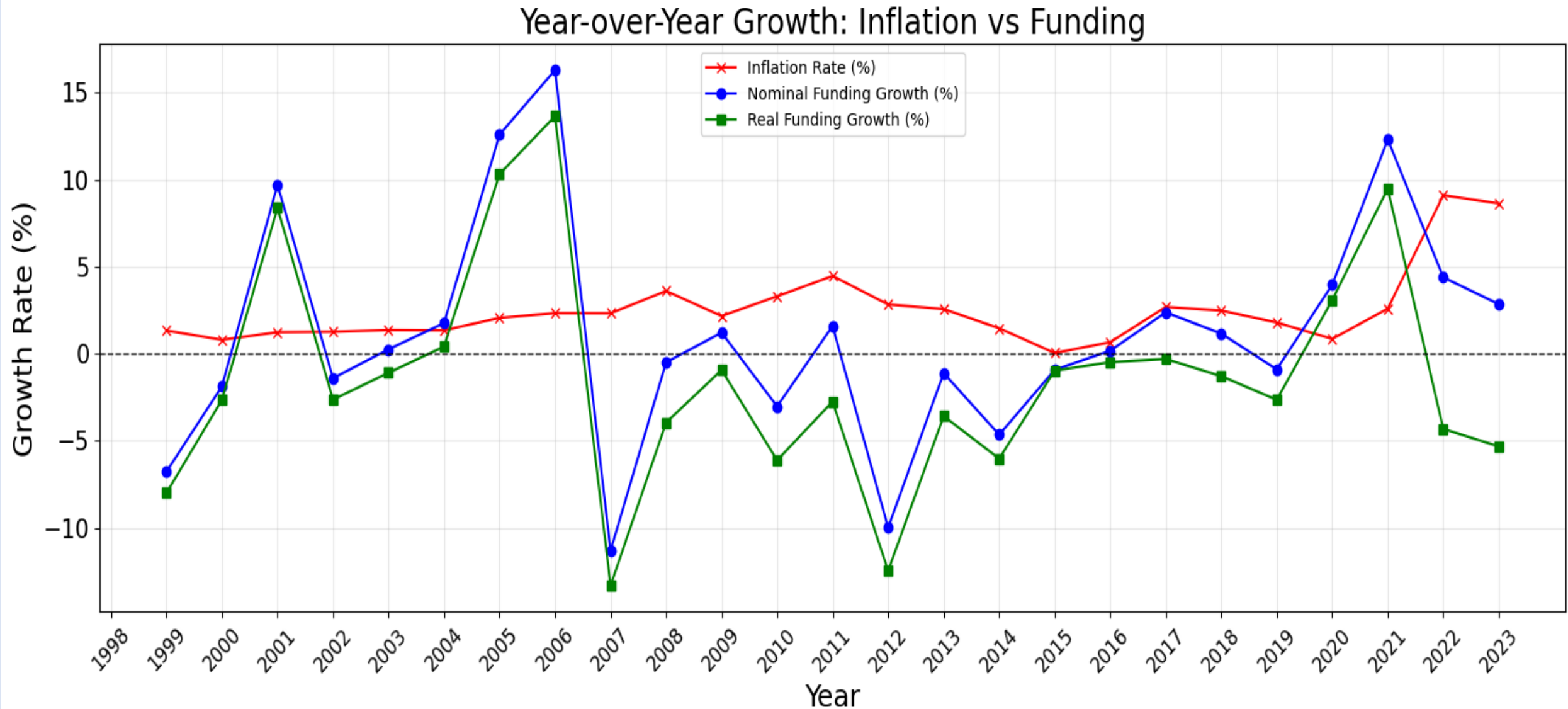
- Peak around 2006-07
- Lowest around 2017-19
- On a drop between 2010-19
- Rise in 2020, fairly stagnant

## What led to the peak in 2006?

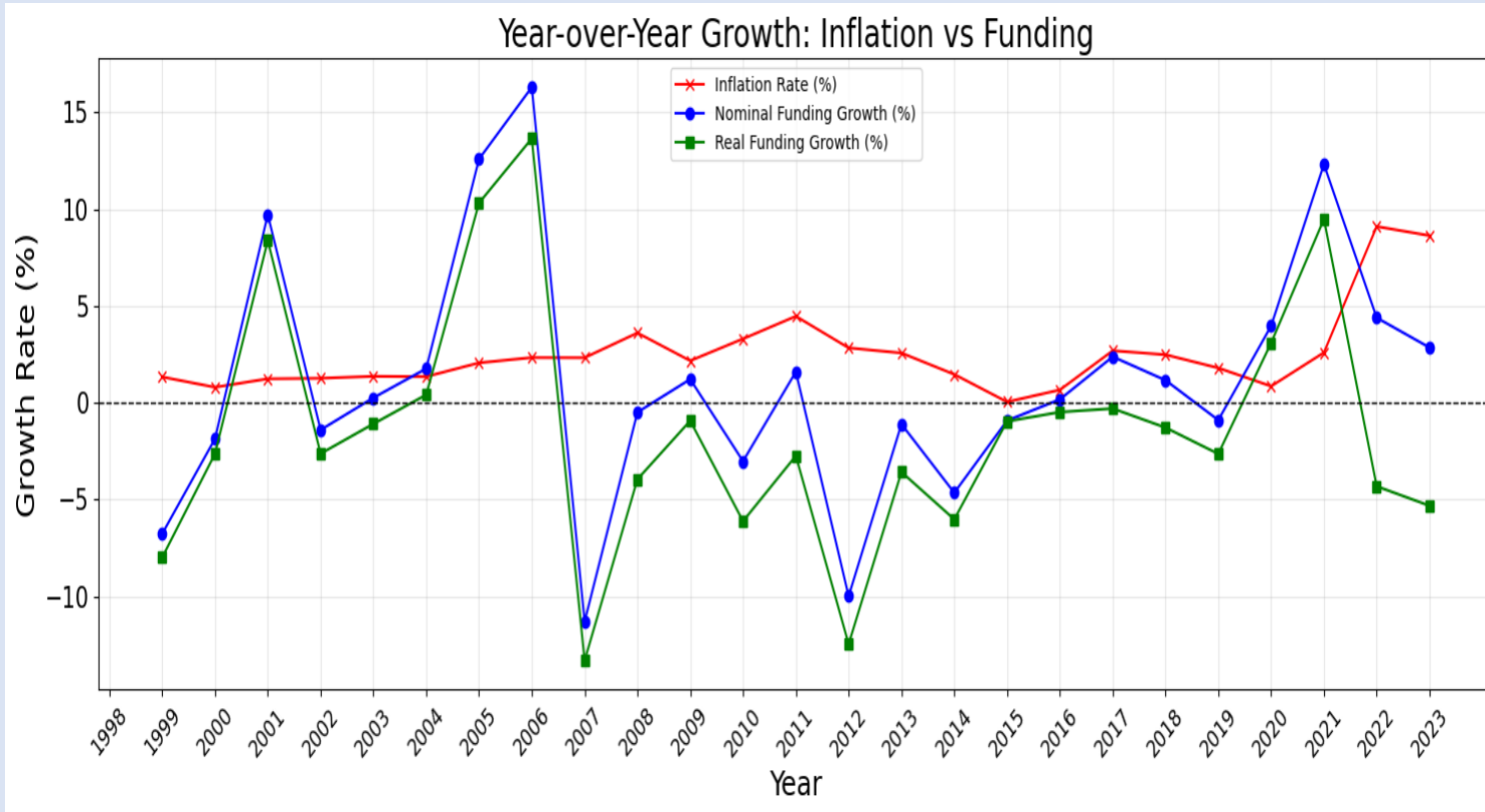
- **Voluntary contributions saw a spike in 2006 which led to the record high total funding of 160M**



# Race and Pace with Inflation



# Navigating Price Dynamics – Funding v/s Inflation



- **2006 Peak Funding**
- **Inflation outpaces increases during 2007 – 2014**
- **Purchasing Power adjusts in 2015-16**
- **Funding ahead of inflation in 2020-21**
- **Inflation record high in 2022 (post-COVID pandemic) leading to a dip again**

**Nominal funding rebounded post-2020,  
but Real value remains under pressure from Inflation**

