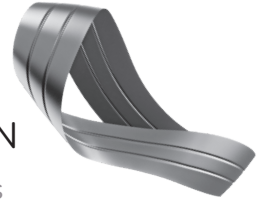


INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS SNAPSHOT

2022 EDITION
LATEST AVAILABLE
FACTS AND FIGURES



The Independent school sector is a diverse and growing group of non-government schools. This is a snapshot of the key characteristics of the Independent school sector, those who are enrolled and those who work in independent schools.

The Independent school figures in this snapshot include Independent Catholic schools, except where otherwise indicated.

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL SECTOR:

BROAD CHOICE FOR PARENTS

STRONG COMMUNITY LINKS

DIVERSITY OF SCHOOL TYPE,
SIZE AND FOCUS

AUTONOMOUS GOVERNANCE
ARRANGEMENTS

COMPREHENSIVE ACCOUNTABILITY

SCHOOL METRICS

In 2021, there were 1,187 Independent schools of which 140 were boarding schools. Most Independent schools are co-educational.

SIZE OF INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS

FEWER THAN 50 STUDENTS	12%
50 — 199 STUDENTS	26%
200 — 999 STUDENTS	42%
1,000 — 1,999 STUDENTS	18%
2,000 OR MORE STUDENTS	26 SCHOOLS OR 2%

NUMBER OF INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS

PRIMARY	225	19%
SECONDARY	72	6%
COMBINED	752	63%
SPECIAL SCHOOLS	138	12%
TOTAL	1,187	100%

TYPE OF INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS

BOYS' SCHOOLS	4%
GIRLS' SCHOOLS	6%
CO-EDUCATIONAL SCHOOLS	90%

1,187



INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS

562



AVERAGE NUMBER
OF STUDENTS ENROLLED AT
AN INDEPENDENT SCHOOL

391



AVERAGE NUMBER OF
STUDENTS ENROLLED AT
A GOVERNMENT SCHOOL

SCHOOL PROFILE

Independent schools have diverse religious or philosophical affiliations. They represent a range of approaches to teaching and learning.



83%

INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS WITH A RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION

AFFILIATIONS OF INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS BY NUMBER OF ENROLMENTS

AFFILIATION	NUMBER OF SCHOOLS	STUDENTS FTE	STUDENTS FTE %
ANGLICAN	154	162,876	24.4
NON-DENOMINATIONAL	235	94,732	14.2
CHRISTIAN	159	81,482	12.2
UNITING CHURCH IN AUSTRALIA	44	52,105	7.8
ISLAMIC	49	43,906	6.6
CATHOLIC	52	43,170	6.5
LUTHERAN	80	42,479	6.4
BAPTIST	41	24,682	3.7
INTER-DENOMINATIONAL	23	18,018	2.7
SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST	44	15,454	2.3
PRESBYTERIAN	13	11,932	1.8
STEINER	50	9,720	1.5
JEWISH	19	9,319	1.4
PENTECOSTAL	20	8,755	1.3
ASSEMBLIES OF GOD	11	7,307	1.1
MONTESSORI	40	4,995	0.7
OTHER CATHOLIC	8	3,761	0.6
GREEK ORTHODOX	8	3,712	0.6
BRETHREN	7	3,194	0.5
OTHER ORTHODOX	6	2,347	0.4
OTHER RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION*	15	5,941	0.9
OTHER**	109	17,372	2.6

* OTHER RELIGIOUS AFFILIATIONS INCLUDE CHURCHES OF CHRIST, ANANDA MARGA, HARE KRISHNA AND SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

** OTHER INCLUDES SPECIAL SCHOOLS, INTERNATIONAL SCHOOLS, INDIGENOUS SCHOOLS, AND COMMUNITY SCHOOLS.



SCHOOL LOCATIONS



66%

MAJOR CITIES



31%

REGIONAL CITIES



3%

REMOTE REGIONS

GOVERNANCE

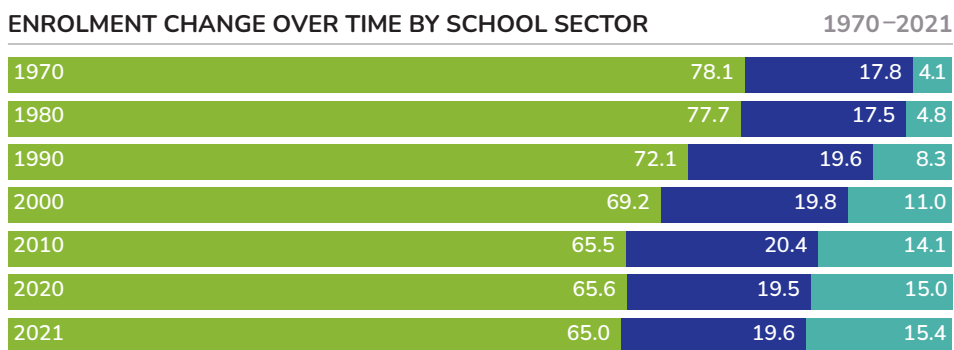
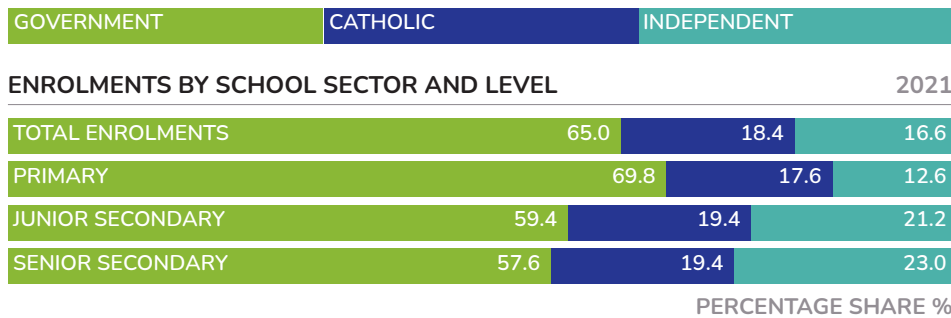
Independent schools are generally not-for-profit institutions founded by groups in the community. They are primarily accountable to their parent and school communities.

About 17 per cent of Independent schools operate within approved system authorities. These include the Anglican, Lutheran or Seventh Day Adventist Systems.

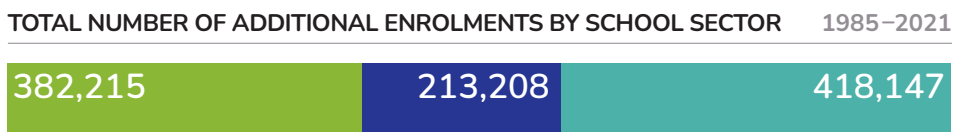
All Independent schools are registered with the relevant state or territory education authorities and comply with relevant state and federal education legislation and regulation.

STUDENT ENROLMENTS

The rate of growth of the Independent school sector has been increasing. In 2021, enrolments in Independent schools grew by 3.1%.



SHOWN AS PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL ENROLMENTS. ENROLMENT FIGURES ARE SOURCED FROM ABS WHERE INDEPENDENT CATHOLIC SCHOOLS ARE INCLUDED IN CATHOLIC SCHOOL CATEGORY.



FIGURES ARE SOURCED FROM ABS WHERE INDEPENDENT CATHOLIC SCHOOLS ARE INCLUDED IN CATHOLIC SCHOOL CATEGORY.

	ENROLMENTS IN INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS			2021
	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL	
PRIMARY	142,851	142,094	284,955	
SECONDARY	192,292	190,012	382,304	
TOTAL	335,153	332,106	667,259	

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITY IN INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS		2021
SUPPORT PROVIDED WITHIN A QUALITY DIFFERENTIATED TEACHING PRACTICE		52,728
SUPPLEMENTARY		52,108
SUBSTANTIAL		16,129
EXTENSIVE		4,963

NCCD FIGURES ARE BASED ON ABS WHERE INDEPENDENT CATHOLIC SCHOOLS ARE INCLUDED IN CATHOLIC SCHOOL CATEGORY. MORE INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE AT WWW.NCCD.EDU.AU.



3.1%

GROWTH IN ENROLMENTS



667,259

TOTAL NUMBER OF STUDENTS IN INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS



16,662

INDIGENOUS STUDENTS



4,541

OVERSEAS STUDENTS



14,141

BOARDING STUDENTS



125,927

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITY

SOURCES OF INCOME

Most of the income of Independent schools comes from families. Governments save an estimated \$5.5 billion in funding due to the contribution from families and other private sources.



\$5.5 BILLION

SAVINGS TO GOVERNMENT



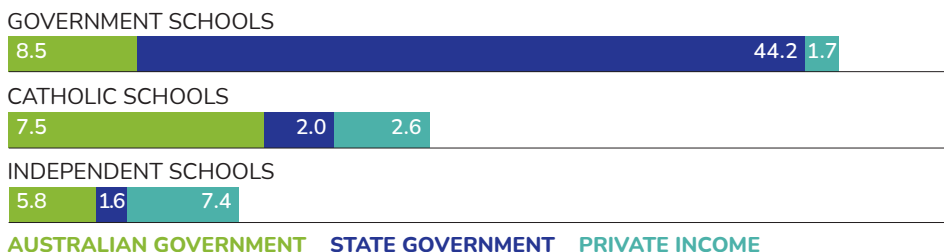
\$5,025

MEDIAN ANNUAL FEE
2020

GOVERNMENT FUNDING OF INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS

Government funding for schools is provided by the Australian Government and state and territory governments. The Australian Government is the main government funding source for non-government schools, providing 78% of total government recurrent funding while states and territories provide 22%. State and territory governments are the main funding source for government schools. The proportions of private/government funding vary greatly from school to school.

RECURRENT FUNDING FOR SCHOOL EDUCATION \$ BILLION FY 2019–20



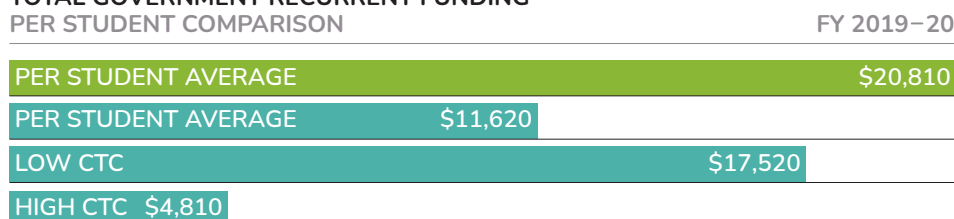
AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT STATE GOVERNMENT PRIVATE INCOME

FUNDING MODEL

The current funding model for schools, the Schooling Resource Standard (SRS) comprises base funding plus loadings to address educational disadvantage. Base funding for Independent schools is adjusted according to the school community's estimated capacity to contribute (CTC) to the costs of education, assessed on parental income tax data. This methodology is known as the Direct Measure of Income (DMI). Schools with a higher CTC score receive less per capita base funding.

- LOADINGS:
- SCHOOL LOCATION
 - SCHOOL SIZE
 - SOCIO-EDUCATIONAL DISADVANTAGE
 - INDIGENEITY
 - LOW ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY
 - STUDENTS WITH DISABILITY

TOTAL GOVERNMENT RECURRENT FUNDING PER STUDENT COMPARISON



GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS

ALL GOVERNMENT SOURCES. THE AMOUNT OF FUNDING RECEIVED FROM ALL GOVERNMENT SOURCES VARIES SIGNIFICANTLY DEPENDING ON THE CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE SCHOOL.

AVERAGE GOVERNMENT RECURRENT FUNDING PER STUDENT

FY 2019–20



SOURCES OF INCOME



PRIVATE SOURCES
OF FUNDING



ALL GOVERNMENT
SOURCES

The majority of Independent school funding (recurrent and capital) comes from private sources.

MAIN SOURCES OF CAPITAL FUNDING

On average, parents and school communities provide 87% of capital funding. The amount of capital funding from private sources in 2020 was \$1.07 billion.

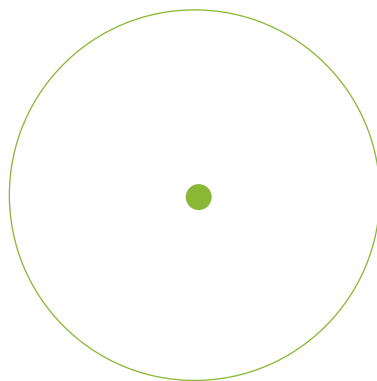


87%

\$1.07 BILLION

PRIVATE SOURCES
PARENTS AND DONORS

Most capital funding is sourced through borrowing, fund raising, levies on parents or school reserves.



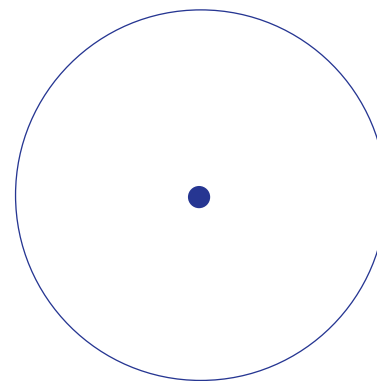
7%

\$85 MILLION

AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT
CAPITAL GRANTS PROGRAM

Australian Government grants are distributed to Independent schools on a needs basis through Block Grant Authorities, with priority given to disadvantaged school communities with the least capacity to raise funds.

It is estimated that grants for the Independent sector in 2021 will total approximately \$71 million.



6%

\$68 MILLION

STATE AND TERRITORY
GOVERNMENTS

State and territory government assistance for capital funding is limited. Some states and territory governments provide capital grants and several also provide interest subsidy arrangements.

SCHOOL TEACHERS

Independent schools employ more than 18.6% of all teachers in Australian schools. The ratio of student to teachers in Independent schools is the lowest of the school sectors.



18.6%

TEACHERS EMPLOYED BY INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS

TEACHERS IN THE INDEPENDENT SECTOR BY GENDER AND LEVEL (FTE) 2021

	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE
PRIMARY TEACHERS	4,225	16,234	20,459		
PER CENT %	20.6	79.4	100		
SECONDARY TEACHERS	14,974	21,291	36,265		
PER CENT %	41.3	58.7	100		

54,925

NUMBER OF TEACHERS FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT

60,821

NUMBER OF TEACHERS FULL-TIME AND PART-TIME

110,400

NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES

STUDENT TO TEACHER RATIOS

CHANGE 1980 – 2021

INDEPENDENT CATHOLIC SCHOOLS ARE INCLUDED WITH CATHOLIC SCHOOLS.

	GOVERNMENT				NON-GOVERNMENT	
	PRIMARY	SECONDARY	PRIMARY	CATHOLIC SECONDARY	PRIMARY	INDEPENDENT SECONDARY
1980	20.2	12.2	23.9	16.6	17.3	13.3
2021	14.4	12.4	15.4	12.2	14.0	10.5

SOURCES: FIGURES IN SNAPSHOT ARE DERIVED FROM DATA PROVIDED BY THE AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS, THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, SKILLS AND EMPLOYMENT, THE PRODUCTIVITY COMMISSION AND THE AUSTRALIAN CURRICULUM, ASSESSMENT AND REPORTING AUTHORITY. SOME FIGURES MAY NOT ADD DUE TO ROUNDING. FUNDING FIGURES IN THE SNAPSHOT USE THE LATEST AVAILABLE FINANCIAL DATA WHICH IS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2019–21, OR FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR 2021.

INDEPENDENT
SCHOOLS
AUSTRALIA

