

**Senate Standing Committee on Education Employment and Workplace
Relations**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Budget Estimates 2013-2014**

Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth

DEEWR Question No. EW0003_14

Senator Back provided in writing.

Question

Catholic education - funding shares

Funding shares

1. What share of public funding for school education is estimated for each year for Catholic education?
2. Does the funding share include non-systemic Catholic schools?
3. How does this relate to 16.8 per cent which was apparently the share of public funding for Catholic schools in 2009?
4. Why was 2009 chosen as a comparison year?

Answer

1. What share of public funding for school education is estimated for each year for Catholic education?

The following table provides an estimate of the share of total public funding for the Catholic sector in those States where agreement has been reached for the new funding arrangements. These shares are influenced by the relative level of disadvantage in each State and the historical levels of public funding.

Catholic systems (signed states only)	Proportion of total public funding			
	2014	2015	2016	2017
NSW	16.5%	16.7%	16.7%	16.7%
VIC	22.3%	22.4%	22.5%	22.7%
SA	14.6%	14.9%	15.1%	15.4%
TAS	14.2%	14.6%	14.9%	15.2%
ACT	16.4%	17.0%	17.6%	18.2%
Total (signed states)	18.2%	18.4%	18.5%	18.6%

2. Does the funding share include non-systemic Catholic schools?

Funding for non-systemic Catholic schools will still be calculated on a per student basis, for both the base amount and loadings, consistent with all other schools and systems.

However, non-systemic Catholic schools are not part of state Catholic education systems, therefore the final outcome for these schools will be finalised through ongoing negotiations with the state funding partners and in consultation with the Independent Schools Council of Australia.

3. How does this relate to 16.8 per cent which was apparently the share of public funding for Catholic schools in 2009?

Based on the estimates that underpinned the then-Prime Minister's announcement of the on 14 April 2013, Catholic systemic schools would receive at least 16.8 per cent of the total public funding in 2019. It should be noted that the final share of public recurrent funding for the sector would ultimately depend on the schools and student characteristics in 2019 as well as the participation of states and territories in the new funding arrangements.

4. Why was 2009 chosen as a comparison year?

The Review Panel conducted its initial modelling based on 2009 financial data from My School.