

Senate Committee: Education and Employment

**QUESTION ON NOTICE
Additional Estimates 2016 - 2017**

Outcome: Agency: ACARA

Department of Education and Training Question No. SQ17-000055

Senator Collins, Jacinta asked on 01 March 2017, Proof Hansard page 38

ACARA - Quartile information

Question

Senator JACINTA COLLINS: Let me ask you these questions for you to take on notice, please: what proportion of metropolitan schools have (a) more than 50 per cent of their students in the bottom two quartiles of SES; (b) more than 75 per cent of their students in the bottom two quartiles; and (c) more than 95 per cent of their students in the bottom two quartiles.

Mr Randall: Just so we are correct: our indicator for the quartiles is socio-educational advantage, or ICSEA, which is not SES. If you are asking me SES, I do not have that; if you are asking me SEA, that is on My School and I can answer that. It is a distinct difference.

Senator JACINTA COLLINS: I understand.

Mr Randall: I can give you the quartile breakdowns. My understanding is that you are asking me to give you a summary of the quartile information we have on My School, which is about the SEA, the indicator of socio- educational advantage.

Answer

The Australian Curriculum Assessment & Reporting Authority (ACARA) has provided the following response:

In 2016 ACARA used the ABS geolocation standard that does not include a classification of Metropolitan.

The closest fit between Metropolitan schools in the Ministerial Council on Education, Employment, Training and Youth Affairs (MCEETYA) and the ABS geolocation standard is to amalgamate major cities and inner regional.

If major cities and inner regional were grouped, then on *My School*:

- a. 51.9 per cent of major cities/inner regional schools have more than 50 per cent of their students in the bottom two SEA quarters in 2016.
- b. 20.6 per cent of major cities/inner regional schools have more than 75 per cent of their students in the bottom two SEA quarters in 2016.
- c. 1.0 per cent of major cities/inner regional schools have more than 95 per cent of their students in the bottom two SEA quarters in 2016.