

Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment - Education

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE Budget Estimates 2014-2015

Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth

Department of Education Question No. ED0331_15

Senator Kroger asked on 4 June 2014 , Hansard page 124

Question

Breakdown of Chaplaincy programme

Senator KROGER: Have you done a breakdown of the take-up of those? We talked earlier on about lower socioeconomic schools. So on the basis of SES grading has that been taken a step further in the breakdown? It would be interesting to know to what extent it is increasing the capacity of schools that might have lower SES and have particular needs. Is it increasing their capacity? Mr Cook: That is work we would have to do, and we can actually do it. I am happy to take it on notice. We know that particularly for the non-government sector. For the government sector it is more challenging because the government schools do not have an SES score like the non-government schools do. Senator KROGER: Yes, of course. That is right. Mr Cook: For government schools we can give information around location, remoteness and those sorts of things, but it will be more difficult to give government school information about low SES. Senator KROGER: Given that over 75 per cent of the uptake is in the government schools, I do not mean this to be an onerous job that will take some poor person in the department away from their real job for a week or two weeks. Are there parameters you could punch in to determine whether that is an indicator, in terms of the sorts of schools that it is supporting? Mr Cook: I am happy to take it on notice. We will have a look at some of the information on the My School website, which does give you some demographic information on all schools around socio economic—I had forgotten about that; Ms Paul reminded me. We can look at that and it will give us information about the breakdown of students with disabilities, Indigenous students and all those sorts of things. We can look at some of those things.

Answer

On 19 June 2014 the High Court of Australia found the National School Chaplaincy and Student Welfare Programme (NSCSWP) to be invalid. Implications of the High Court decision on a future programme are being considered.

The tables below provide a summary of characteristics from schools that participated in the former National School Chaplaincy and Student Welfare Programme (NSCSWP).

Feedback to the department from schools via progress reports and through monitoring visits, and research such as the *Evaluation of YouthCARE Chaplaincy Services in Western Australia, Final Report*, conducted by the Centre for Vulnerable Children at the University of Western Australia, provide evidence that schools in the NSCSWP generally benefited from the presence of a chaplain or student welfare worker.

The summaries do not provide an indication of changes to a school's capacity due in part to the number of variables involved, the absence of baseline comparison data and changes in data collection and formulas.

Summary data for schools that participated in the former NSCSWP is provided based on the following measures:

- ICSEA – This scale is comprised of Socio-Educational Advantage (SEA), remoteness (school's location) and the percentage of Indigenous student enrolment.
- IRSED – This scale is based upon data variables from the census associated with economic disadvantage including household income, educational and skills attainment and housing occupation arrangements.
- SES – This scale is for non-government schools and does not include specific measures of regionality or Indigenous status.

Summary of school characteristics

NSCSWP Schools*	Government	Catholic	Independent
Number of campuses	2,648	398	465
Average ICSEA	977	1,029	1,054
Average IRSED	980	969	996
Average SES score	n/a	97	100

**Note: Not every campus that participated in the NSCSWP has an ICSEA score*

Demographic information about schools that participated in the former NSCSWP is provided on the following characteristics:

- Percentage of students who identify as Indigenous
- Percentage of students with a Language background other than English
- School size

This information is contained in the following tables.

NSCSWP Schools - Percentage of students who identify as Indigenous

Students who identify as Indigenous	Government	Catholic	Independent	Total
0-10 %	1936	312	321	2569
11-20 %	385	23	22	430
21-30 %	125	4	8	137
31-40 %	46	3	4	53
41-50 %	31	1	0	32
51-60 %	8	1	1	10
61-70 %	7	1	1	9
71-80 %	4	2	1	7
81-90 %	6	1	0	7
91-100 %	21	4	9	34
no data available	79	46	98	223
Total	2648	398	465	3511

NSCSWP Schools - language background other than English

Language background other than English	Government	Catholic	Independent	Total
0-10 %	1277	203	189	1669
11-20 %	334	62	87	483
21-30 %	174	23	53	250
31-40 %	115	9	18	142
41-50 %	81	6	8	95
51-60 %	44	4	8	56
61-70 %	29	7	6	42
71-80 %	20	2	3	25
81-90 %	29	2	6	37
91-100 %	9	5	18	32
no data available	536	75	69	680
Total	2648	398	465	3511

NSCSWP Schools – school size

School size	Government	Catholic	Independent	Total
1-15 FTE students	27	1	1	29
16-50 FTE students	172	21	26	219
51-150 FTE students	390	57	71	518
151-300 FTE students	542	83	80	705
301-500 FTE students	609	90	94	793
501-1000 FTE students	689	104	132	925
more than 1000 FTE students	193	42	59	294
no data available	26	0	2	28
Total	2648	398	465	3511