

**Senate Committee: Education and Employment**

**QUESTION ON NOTICE  
Budget Estimates 2015 - 2016**

**Outcome: Schools and Youth**

**Department of Education and Training Question No. SQ15-000365**

Senator Sinodinos asked on 04 June 2015, Proof Hansard page 102

***Increase in funding over 20 years***

**Question**

Senator SINODINOS: Maybe this one is more to take on notice. We have been increasing spending—this is across the board politically—on schools during the last 20 years, have we not?

Mr Cook: Yes. That is right. I think the figure we were using that Senator Wright was asking for from, I think

2003 to about 2011 or 2012 represents a 44.1 per cent increase. The funding continues to increase.

Senator SINODINOS: Sure. I am asking for the last 20 years.

Mr Cook: I will have to take that on notice.

Senator SINODINOS: Take that on notice. Is there a national funding agreement around all this, or have we got a series of agreements with particular states and territories? What is going on here?

**Answer**

According to the Report on Government Services (RoGS), total Australian Government recurrent expenditure increased from \$20.688 billion to \$47.941 billion, or by 132 per cent, over the period 1999–2000 to 2012–2013.

Funding data provided in RoGS prior to 1999–2000 cannot be directly compared due to a move from cash to accrual accounting in 1999–2000.