

Senate Committee: Education and Employment

QUESTION ON NOTICE Supplementary Budget Estimates 2016 - 2017

Outcome: Schools and Youth

Department of Education and Training Question No. SQ16-000988

Senator Collins, Jacinta asked on 20 October 2016, Proof Hansard page 57.

Report on Government Services

Question

Senator JACINTA COLLINS: Could you adjust Commonwealth figures to be comparing like for like?

Mr Cook: You would do it the other way around actually. You would take the user cost of capital out of the state figures, because Commonwealth funding is not used for government.

Senator JACINTA COLLINS: Did those figures you gave us include it?

Mr Cook: For the state—because the RoGS report is state per student funding, including user cost of capital.

Senator JACINTA COLLINS: Yes.

Mr Cook: The Commonwealth funding does not have a user cost of capital component in it, because we do not provide capital funding to state governments for state schools. I am explaining to you that they are two slightly different buckets. I do not have the state funding with user cost of capital taken out to compare like with like.

Senator O'NEILL: Do you have a set of figures that would allow me to compare like with like?

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

Answer

The following table provides a comparison of average per-student expenditure in government schools by jurisdiction, sourced from Productivity Commission Report on Government Services (2016). The notional user cost of capital has been removed from state and territory expenditure on government schools, to assist with comparison.

Average real per-student expenditure on government schools (2014 prices)

	Australian Government (\$/FTE)			State and Territory Governments* (\$/FTE)		
	2004–05	2013–14	Growth (%)	2004–05	2013–14	Growth (%)
NSW	1,244	2,024	62.6	11,364	12,253	7.8
VIC	1,218	1,998	64.1	9,840	9,826	-0.1
QLD	1,263	2,013	59.4	10,224	11,117	8.7
WA	1,157	1,934	67.1	12,233	13,639	11.5
SA	1,257	2,214	76.1	11,768	12,802	8.8
TAS	1,284	2,376	85.1	11,413	12,554	10.0
ACT	1,166	1,947	67.0	13,449	15,481	15.1
NT	1,747	4,691	168.5	16,397	16,297	-0.6

* The user cost of capital has been removed from state and territory expenditure

Note: Values are in real terms (2014 prices)

Source: Productivity Commission (2016), Report on Government Services. Tables 4A.13 and 4A.20