

## EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

### SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE - QUESTIONS ON NOTICE 2003-2004 ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES HEARING

**Outcome:** 1  
**Output Group:** 1.1 – Funding for Schools

#### DEST Question No. E827\_04 – Amended

Senator Carr provided in writing.

*Refers to DEST question E424\_04*

#### Question:

1. Please provide information on the method by which an “average” or overall AGSRC figure is calculated from the Primary, Secondary and Targeted components of the index.
2. Please explain on what basis the Targeted AGSRC is calculated.
3. Can you confirm that, for grants provided at January 2004, the AGSRC levels were:
  - Primary 7.2%
  - Secondary 7.4%
  - Targeted 5.6%.
4. Is an “average AGSRC” (however termed) calculated from the above? In what way? What is the purpose of this “average” index? How is it used?
5. How much money goes to each of Government, Catholic and Independent school sectors, Australia-wide, on the basis of the latest round of supplementation?

#### Answer:

##### *Average Government School Recurrent Costs (AGSRC) Index and AGSRC Amounts*

1. National averages of recurrent costs from States and Territories are used to determine a primary AGSRC amount and secondary AGSRC amount (for general recurrent grants) and the AGSRC Index (for targeted programmes). An average of the AGSRC Index, AGSRC primary amount and AGSRC secondary amount is not calculated.
2. The AGSRC Index is applied to supplement targeted grants for government and non-government schools under the *States Grants (Primary and Secondary Education Assistance) Act 2000*. The AGSRC Index is based on data published by the Ministerial Council on Education, Employment, Training and Youth Affairs (MCEETYA). Redundancy payments, user cost of capital, depreciation, and Australian Government recurrent specific purpose payments are excluded from the calculation of the AGSRC Index.
3. The AGSRC primary and secondary amounts and AGSRC Index for 2003 (which provide initial funding levels for 2004 grants) are as follows:

Year	Primary AGSRC Amount		Secondary AGSRC Amount		AGSRC Index
		Increase since 2002		Increase since 2002	
	\$		\$		
2003	6,056	7.1%	8,021	7.4%	5.6%

4. No.

5. Following 2003 supplementation, funding provided under the *States Grants (Primary and Secondary Education Assistance) Act 2000*, including general recurrent grants, targeted grants and capital grants in 2003 is estimated as follows:

Government: \$2.0 billion

Non-government: \$4.0 billion

A split by Catholic and independent sectors is not available.