

**Senate Committee: Education and Employment**

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

**Outcome: Schools and Youth**

**Department of Education and Training Question No. SQ17-000239**

Senator Hanson-Young, Sarah provided in writing.

***Students with disabilities***

**Question**

Please provide the number of students with disabilities in Government, Catholic and Independent schools by state/territory and Australia for 2014–2016.

**Answer**

2014 and 2015 data published in the Report on Government Services is available at [www.pc.gov.au/research/ongoing/report-on-government-services](http://www.pc.gov.au/research/ongoing/report-on-government-services). Figures are available for 'government' and 'non-government' schools only, not separated into Catholic and independent sectors.

Data from the Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability (NCCD) was released for the first time by Education Council in 2016, based on the 2015 collection. The NCCD uses a broad definition of disability based on the *Disability Discrimination Act 1992*. As a result, the numbers of students reported as having a disability in the NCCD is greater than those reported in other collections. This approach aims to ensure that the collection reflects the diversity of students with disability in Australian schools and the variety of ways that schools and systems support their additional needs, including through making adjustments within quality teaching practice.

The NCCD report is available on the Education Council website<sup>i</sup>. Data by sector is published by percentage of students at the national level only.

2016 data is not yet publicly available from either source.

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<sup>i</sup><http://www.educationcouncil.edu.au/site/DefaultSite/filesystem/documents/Accessible%20version%20of%20Improving%20educational%20outcomes%20report.pdf>