

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. E847_04

Senator Carr provided in writing on 18 February 2004.

Refers to Budget Papers 2003-04

Question:

Please provide figures on the shares of funding for government and non-government schools for 2003 or 2004, as has been done in previous Budget papers:

Government schools: Commonwealth and States/Territories (previously around 12% Commonwealth; 88% States)

Non-government schools: Commonwealth; States/Territories; private (previously around 40% Commonwealth; 17% States; 43% private).

Why was this information omitted from this year's Budget Papers?

Answer:

Share of Funding for government and non-government schools

The share of funding to school sectors is set out in the table below, based on 2001-02 National Schools Statistics Collection (NSSC) data provided by MCEETYA and 2002 Financial Questionnaire data held by DEST:

	Australian Government	States and Territories	Private Funding
Government Schools	11%	89%	
Non-government Schools	41%	16%	43%

The NSSC for 2001-02 figures include notional user cost of capital for all States and Territories and a notional payroll tax figure for those States and Territories that do not charge payroll tax to government schools authorities. This has inflated the States contributions when compared to previous years.

Given the large variations in year on year data in the NSSC, due mainly to different reporting and accounting methodologies alone, it was considered that it was better to exclude these figures from the Budget Papers rather than provide potentially misleading information.