

**Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment - Education**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE  
Additional Estimates 2013-2014**

**Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth**

**Department of Education Question No. ED0441\_14**

**Senator O'Neill asked on 26 February 2014, Hansard page 91**

**Question**

***Students with disability***

Senator O'NEILL: What is the total population of students that you expect will need funding adjustment because of disability? Mr Hehir: Currently just over five per cent of students receive funding. That is from the ROGS data for students with disability. Senator O'NEILL: Do you have any of that data by jurisdiction? ..... Pg 92: Senator O'NEILL: The number of students receiving funding adjustments currently? Mr Hehir: That is provided in that. Mr Cook: It is five per cent of the total population of Australia. Senator O'NEILL: Is there any variation across jurisdictions? Mr Hehir: There is significant variation between jurisdictions. Senator O'NEILL: If you could provide that in some sort of summary form rather than having to go hunting it down that would be helpful.

**Answer**

Information on funded students with disability as a proportion of the total student population in each jurisdiction, is provided in the table below.

**Table 4A.31 from the Report on Government Services 2014 - Funded students with disability, 2012 (a), (b)**

<b>Total students with disability (c)</b>									
	<b>NSW</b>	<b>VIC</b>	<b>QLD</b>	<b>WA</b>	<b>SA</b>	<b>TAS</b>	<b>ACT</b>	<b>NT</b>	<b>Australia</b>
Government schools	47 081	33 668	26 540	11 736	15 164	3 137	1 845	1 552	140 772
Non-government schools	16 435	11 144	6 849	3 255	3 429	718	602	455	42 888
All schools	63 516	44 812	33 390	14 991	18 593	3 856	2 447	2 007	183 610
<b>Total students (d)</b>									
Government schools	746 874	545 006	498 013	244 874	165 127	56 393	35 584	29 346	2 321 217
Non-government schools	390 477	321 839	249 669	129 328	93 864	23 636	26 522	10 513	1 245 848
All schools	1 137 351	866 845	747 682	374 202	258 991	80 029	62 106	39 859	3 567 065
<b>Students with a disability as a proportion of all students (%)</b>									
	<b>NSW</b>	<b>VIC</b>	<b>QLD</b>	<b>WA</b>	<b>SA</b>	<b>TAS</b>	<b>ACT</b>	<b>NT</b>	<b>Australia</b>
Government schools	6.3	6.2	5.3	4.8	9.2	5.6	5.2	5.3	6.1
Non-government schools	4.2	3.5	2.7	2.5	3.7	3.0	2.3	4.3	3.4
All schools	5.6	5.2	4.5	4.0	7.2	4.8	3.9	5.0	5.1

- (a) To be an eligible student with disability, the student (among other things) must satisfy the criteria for enrolment in special education services or special education programs provided by the government of the state or territory in which the student resides. Data should be used with caution as these criteria vary across jurisdictions, for example, SA data include a large number of students in the communication and language impairment category. This subset of students is not counted by other States/Territories under funded students with disability. Other States/Territories fund these students with other specific programs.
- (b) Excludes Full Fee Paying Overseas students from both the government and non-government sectors as well as students on Christmas and Cocos Islands.
- (c) Total students with disability is the number of full time equivalent students.
- (d) The ABS total student data refer to full time students.

Source: ABS 2013, *Schools Australia 2012*, Cat. no. 4221.0, Canberra; Department of Education (unpublished).