

EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE - QUESTIONS ON NOTICE 2005-2006 SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES HEARING

Outcome: 1

Output Group: 1.1 – Funding for schools

DEST Question No. E592_06

Senator Nettle provided in writing.

Question:

Could the Minister supply a list of postcodes in Australia, and for each postcode the population weighted average socio-economic status of the residents of that postcode area?

Answer:

Population weighted average socio-economic status of residents by postcode

The Department of Education, Science and Training does not hold data on the population weighted average socio-economic status of residents within postcode areas.

General recurrent funding for non-government schools is based on the socioeconomic status (SES) of the school community. The SES funding model involves linking student residential addresses to Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) national Census data to obtain a socioeconomic profile of the school community and measure its capacity to support the school.

The SES methodology used by the Australian Government to determine non-government schools' funding entitlements measures the income, education and occupation levels of residents within a Census Collection District (CD). The CD is the smallest spatial unit in the Australian Standard Geographical Classification. In urban areas CDs average about 220 dwellings. In rural areas the number of dwellings per CD reduces as population densities decrease. The SES score for each CD in Australia, based on the 2001 ABS Population Census, is available at

<http://schoolgrg.dest.gov.au/Help/SESInfo/FundingArrangements2005-08.asp>