

National Survey Progress to 27/6

Overview

On April 27th, the five surveys forms were finalized and forwarded to the printing and Web-survey teams. The printing process was quite complex and time consuming as it involved nine different document types totaling approximately 60 000 documents, most of which required overprinting with Survey Codes. Printing was completed on May 23rd, and the last of the 5669 survey parcels dispatched on May 26th. The Web survey went 'live' on May 20th and is accessible via our website at www.simerr.une.edu.au. The first responses to the web survey were received on May 23rd, and the first paper returns received on May 30th. The final date for returns is July 8th.

Presently, research teams from the hubs of SiMERR Australia are finalizing the ethical and logistical negotiations associated with Phase Two of the project, before traveling to schools to conduct the focus groups interviews. Reports from Phase Two should be filed with the National Centre by August 31st.

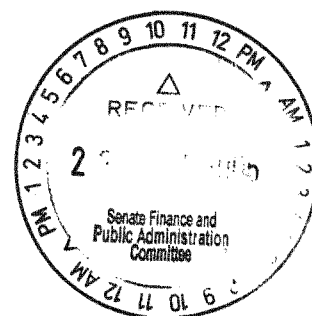
This section provides a snapshot of responses as at June 27, with some descriptive breakdowns across state, sectors and geographical locations. Greater detail is provided for the Web data since they are more readily analysed.

Snapshot of Survey Responses

Table 1 shows the overall survey response from schools and individuals. The school response rate at this stage is about 18 percent. The target response rate by the eighth of July is 20-25 percent, which the literature suggests is about average for a postal survey of this size.

Table 1. Survey returns by mode (as at 27 June)

	Surveys
Web	859
Paper	1559
Total	2418



Survey returns by type

A breakdown of returns by mode and survey type is shown in Table 2.

Table 2. Survey returns by type (as at 27 June)

	Primary	Secondary Science	Secondary IC	Secondary Mat	Parents
Web	247	139	88	107	278
Paper	736	173	77	203	370
Total	983	312	165	310	648

Survey returns by location

Figure 5 shows the proportion of Web survey responses by state and territory. Returns are being received from all over Australia, roughly in proportion to representation.

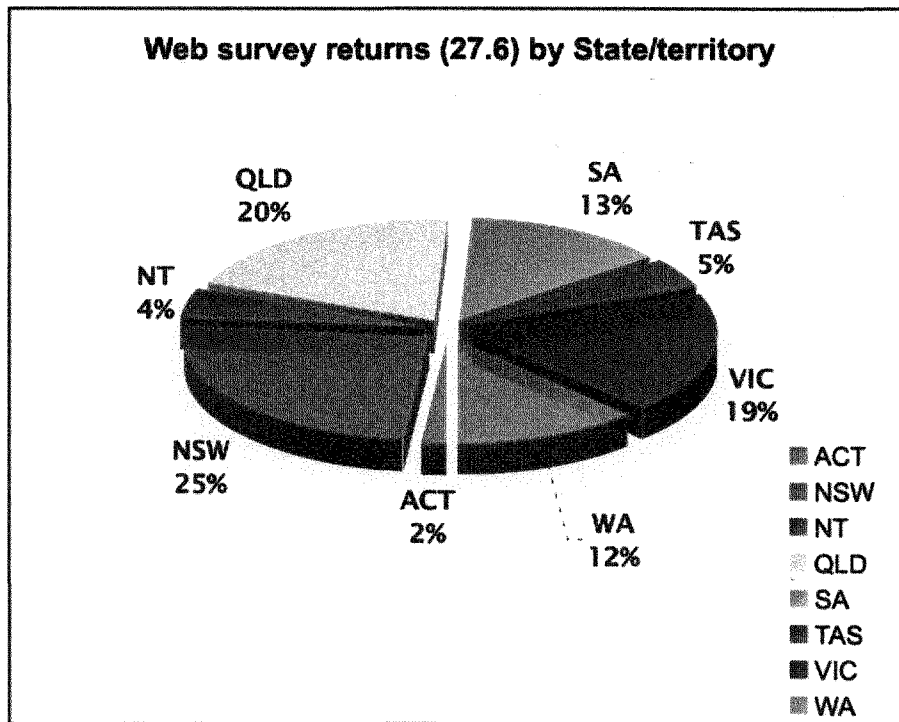


Figure 5. Breakdown of school web responses by state or territory

Figure 6 shows the web responses from schools in different MSGLC categories. Responses are generally in proportion to target school location, though the smaller than anticipated response from remote areas may reflect the lower level of Internet access.

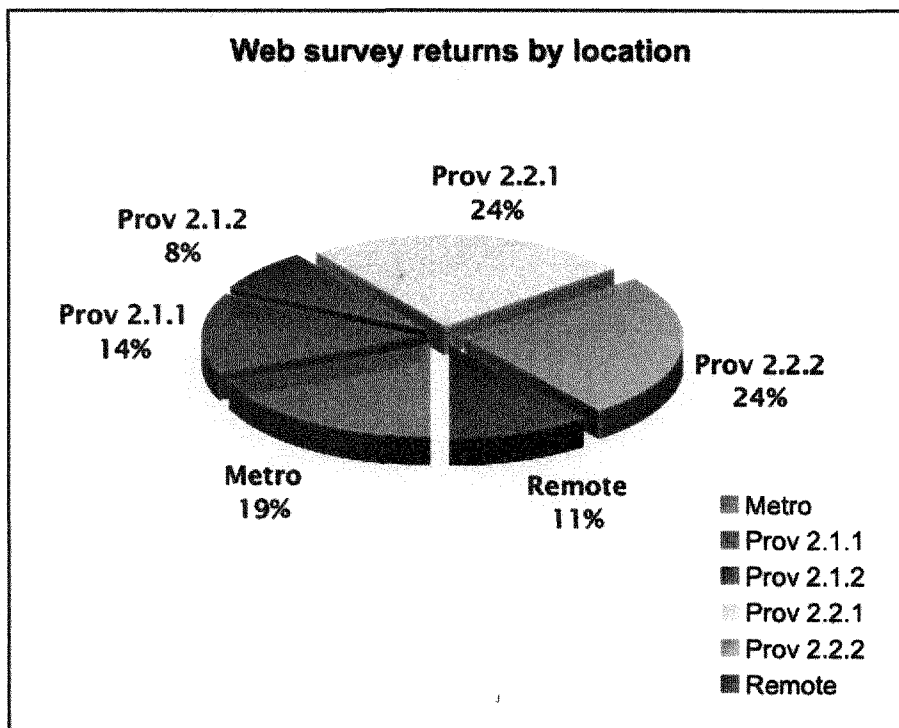


Figure 6. Web survey returns by MSGLC category