



SCHOOLS

AUSTRALIA
PRELIMINARY

EMBARGO: 11:30AM (CANBERRA TIME) WED 14 JAN 1998

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INQUIRIES

- For information about other ABS statistics and services, please refer to the back page of this publication.
- For further information about these and related statistics, contact Wendy Howe on Canberra (02) 6252 6304 or any ABS State office.

NOTES

SCOPE

The statistics in this publication relate to government and non-government schools, full-time students and schools staff, and were collected through the National Schools Statistics Collection, which was established through the work of the Ministerial Council on Education, Employment, Training and Youth Affairs Taskforce on School Statistics.

Explanatory Notes and a Glossary are presented at the back of this publication.

SYMBOLS AND OTHER USAGE

ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics
FTE	Full-time equivalent
NSSC	National Schools Statistics Collection
—	nil or rounded to zero

W. McLennan
Australian Statistician

MAIN FEATURES

SCHOOLS

In August 1997 there were 9,609 schools operating in Australia. Of these 7,029 (73.2%) were government schools operated by the State Directors-General of Education (or equivalent) and 2,580 (26.8%) were non-government schools.

STUDENTS

There were 3,171,624 full-time students attending these schools in August 1997. Of these, 2,230,052 (70.3%) attended government schools and 941,572 (29.7%) were attending non-government schools.

The number of full-time students attending government schools in 1997 increased by 8,495 (0.4%) from 1996, while the number of full-time students attending non-government schools increased by 20,114 (2.2%).

STAFF

There was the equivalent of 145,571 full-time teaching staff in government schools in August 1997, an increase of 1,622 (1.1%) from 1996, while teaching staff in non-government schools totalled 61,523 full-time equivalent units, an increase of 1,500 (2.5%).

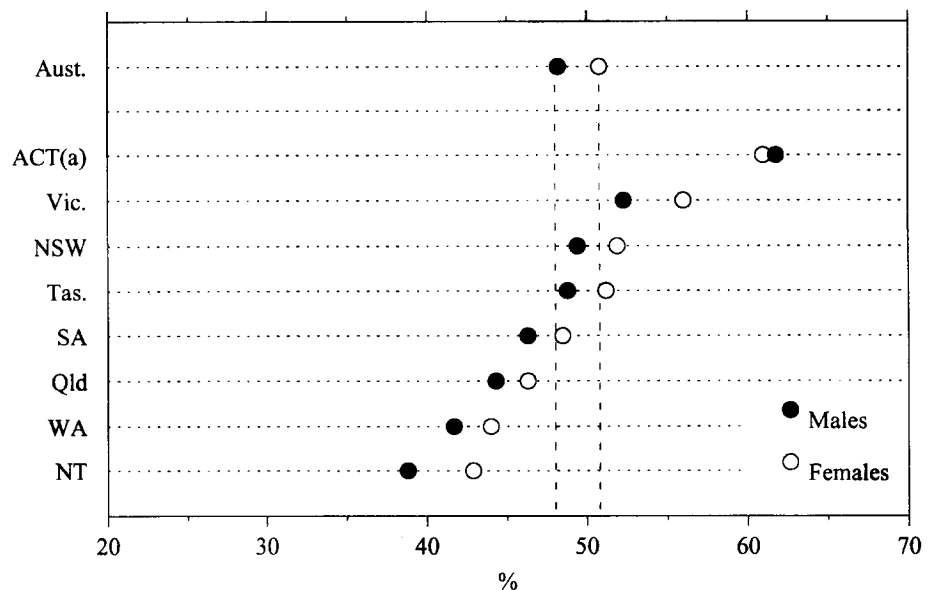
AGE PARTICIPATION RATES

The age participation rate for full-time students attending primary or secondary schools, at the Australia level, was 92.6% for 15 year olds, 60.2% for 17 year olds and 1.8% for 19 year olds. Overall rates for 15 to 19 year olds varied from a high of 61.4% in the Australian Capital Territory to a low of 40.7% in the Northern Territory.

APPARENT RETENTION RATES

The apparent retention rate of secondary school students to Year 12, at the Australia level, rose slightly to 71.8% in 1997.

PARTICIPATION RATES OF FULL-TIME STUDENTS AGED 15 TO 19 YEARS



(a) The ACT figures include some students who are not ACT residents.

TABLE 1. NUMBER OF SCHOOLS BY CATEGORY OF SCHOOL

	Government schools	Non-government schools			Total	All schools
		Anglican	Catholic	Other		
New South Wales	2,186	41	593	248	882	3,068
Victoria	1,661	31	494	159	684	2,345
Queensland	1,309	23	272	122	417	1,726
South Australia	641	14	107	75	196	837
Western Australia	767	12	151	101	264	1,031
Tasmania	222	3	37	27	67	289
Northern Territory	144	1	15	13	29	173
Australian Capital Territory (a)	99	3	30	8	41	140
Total — 1997	7,029	128	1,699	753	2,580	9,609
1996	7,088	124	1,694	724	2,542	9,630

(a) Includes 1 government primary school in Jervis Bay Territory. See Explanatory Notes, paragraph 6 for further details.

TABLE 2. NUMBER OF SCHOOLS BY TYPE OF SCHOOL

	Primary	Secondary	Combined primary and secondary	Special	Total
Victoria	1,717	379	153	96	2,345
Queensland	1,236	266	169	55	1,726
South Australia	593	104	115	25	837
Western Australia	668	132	167	64	1,031
Tasmania	178	47	52	12	289
Northern Territory	102	16	50	5	173
Australian Capital Territory (a)	94	31	10	5	140
Australia — Government	5,199	1,099	408	323	7,029
Non-government	1,574	418	534	54	2,580
Total	6,773	1,517	942	377	9,609

(a) Includes 1 government primary school in Jervis Bay Territory. See Explanatory Notes, paragraph 6 for further details.

TABLE 3. AGE PARTICIPATION RATES: ALL SCHOOLS (PERCENT OF RELEVANT POPULATION)

Age (in years)	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT(a)	Australia
15	92.5	94.8	89.6	92.3	91.4	97.3	80.2	105.5	92.6
16	77.8	86.3	78.6	81.4	74.1	74.3	68.1	98.5	80.1
17	65.0	73.5	47.7	52.6	39.9	55.7	39.4	88.5	60.2
18	14.1	15.7	6.7	7.0	5.9	11.7	10.9	27.0	11.9
19	1.8	2.2	1.4	1.7	1.7	2.2	2.9	3.2	1.8
15-19	50.6	54.1	45.3	47.4	42.8	50.0	40.7	61.4	49.5

(a) The ACT rate which exceeds 100% is mainly due to enrolments by students who are not ACT residents.

TABLE 4. NUMBER OF FULL-TIME STUDENTS BY CATEGORY OF SCHOOL AND YEAR OF EDUCATION

Year of education	Government schools	Non-government schools			Total	All schools		Persons
		Anglican	Catholic	Other		Males	Females	
NEW SOUTH WALES								
Primary								
Kindergarten (a)	66,132	1,033	17,323	4,652	23,008	45,919	43,221	89,140
Year 1	66,818	952	17,832	4,530	23,314	46,212	43,920	90,132
Year 2	65,022	1,074	17,741	4,420	23,235	45,099	43,158	88,257
Year 3	62,667	1,276	17,002	4,462	22,740	43,568	41,839	85,407
Year 4	61,826	1,261	16,679	4,475	22,415	42,787	41,454	84,241
Year 5	62,012	1,541	16,663	4,807	23,011	43,447	41,576	85,023
Year 6	61,324	1,683	16,792	4,818	23,293	43,132	41,485	84,617
Ungraded	7,341	8	136	617	761	5,298	2,804	8,102
Total primary	453,142	8,828	120,168	32,781	161,777	315,462	299,457	614,919
Secondary								
Year 7	56,872	2,820	18,848	6,008	27,676	43,118	41,430	84,548
Year 8	56,990	2,820	18,291	5,671	26,782	42,724	41,048	83,772
Year 9	57,138	2,909	18,234	5,770	26,913	42,673	41,378	84,051
Year 10	54,516	2,753	17,530	5,590	25,873	40,927	39,462	80,389
Year 11	42,486	2,857	14,393	4,797	22,047	31,197	33,336	64,533
Year 12	33,808	2,640	12,952	4,132	19,724	25,345	28,187	53,532
Ungraded	7,965	33	207	271	511	5,099	3,377	8,476
Total secondary	309,775	16,832	100,455	32,239	149,526	231,083	228,218	459,301
Total	762,917	25,660	220,623	65,020	311,303	546,545	527,675	1,074,220
VICTORIA								
Primary								
Preparatory (a)	44,886	980	14,946	3,403	19,329	33,365	30,850	64,215
Year 1	45,156	895	15,412	3,241	19,548	33,261	31,443	64,704
Year 2	42,401	894	14,393	3,170	18,457	31,383	29,475	60,858
Year 3	43,740	957	14,537	3,304	18,798	31,873	30,665	62,538
Year 4	42,440	1,072	14,154	3,363	18,589	31,157	29,872	61,029
Year 5	42,166	1,312	13,938	3,665	18,915	31,355	29,726	61,081
Year 6	42,030	1,433	13,868	3,846	19,147	31,286	29,891	61,177
Ungraded	1,954	—	62	520	582	1,670	866	2,536
Total primary	304,773	7,543	101,310	24,512	133,365	225,350	212,788	438,138
Secondary								
Year 7	38,265	2,748	14,144	6,082	22,974	31,297	29,942	61,239
Year 8	38,351	2,895	13,953	5,899	22,747	31,305	29,793	61,098
Year 9	37,799	3,089	13,404	5,848	22,341	30,797	29,343	60,140
Year 10	36,626	3,234	12,798	5,999	22,031	29,368	29,289	58,657
Year 11	32,925	3,179	11,257	5,836	20,272	25,884	27,313	53,197
Year 12	26,765	3,098	10,326	5,297	18,721	21,170	24,316	45,486
Ungraded	2,972	—	99	398	497	2,124	1,345	3,469
Total secondary	213,703	18,243	75,981	35,359	129,583	171,945	171,341	343,286
Total	518,476	25,786	177,291	59,871	262,948	397,295	384,129	781,424

(a) Pre-year 1 comprises Kindergarten in New South Wales and the Australian Capital Territory, Preparatory in Victoria and Tasmania, Reception in South Australia and Transition in the Northern Territory.

TABLE 4. NUMBER OF FULL-TIME STUDENTS BY CATEGORY OF SCHOOL AND YEAR OF EDUCATION —continued

Year of education	Government schools	Non-government schools				All schools		
		Anglican	Catholic	Other	Total	Males	Females	Persons
QUEENSLAND								
Primary								
Year 1	39,646	651	8,014	2,795	11,460	26,307	24,799	51,106
Year 2	39,247	625	8,030	2,720	11,375	26,087	24,535	50,622
Year 3	38,170	633	7,874	2,665	11,172	25,261	24,081	49,342
Year 4	37,427	635	7,634	2,697	10,966	24,701	23,692	48,393
Year 5	36,598	805	7,682	2,762	11,249	24,545	23,302	47,847
Year 6	37,254	872	7,657	2,950	11,479	25,074	23,659	48,733
Year 7	37,291	1,177	7,658	3,301	12,136	25,365	24,062	49,427
Ungraded	1,514	—	56	644	700	1,356	858	2,214
<i>Total primary</i>	<i>267,147</i>	<i>5,398</i>	<i>54,605</i>	<i>20,534</i>	<i>80,537</i>	<i>178,696</i>	<i>168,988</i>	<i>347,684</i>
Secondary								
Year 8	32,898	2,255	9,249	5,585	17,089	25,673	24,314	49,987
Year 9	34,115	2,368	9,385	5,596	17,349	26,372	25,092	51,464
Year 10	32,007	2,206	8,915	5,559	16,680	24,799	23,888	48,687
Year 11	25,950	2,060	7,630	5,041	14,731	19,989	20,692	40,681
Year 12	21,561	1,781	6,841	4,493	13,115	16,725	17,951	34,676
Ungraded	1,585	—	1	341	342	1,117	810	1,927
<i>Total secondary</i>	<i>148,116</i>	<i>10,670</i>	<i>42,021</i>	<i>26,615</i>	<i>79,306</i>	<i>114,675</i>	<i>112,747</i>	<i>227,422</i>
Total	415,263	16,068	96,626	47,149	159,843	293,371	281,735	575,106
SOUTH AUSTRALIA								
Primary								
Reception (a)	15,676	610	3,428	1,677	5,715	11,147	10,244	21,391
Year 1	14,280	515	3,132	1,578	5,225	10,035	9,470	19,505
Year 2	14,565	537	2,992	1,565	5,094	10,081	9,578	19,659
Year 3	14,661	530	3,012	1,507	5,049	10,209	9,501	19,710
Year 4	14,377	548	2,891	1,512	4,951	9,960	9,368	19,328
Year 5	14,540	586	2,921	1,549	5,056	9,957	9,639	19,596
Year 6	14,802	597	3,032	1,573	5,202	10,134	9,870	20,004
Year 7	14,399	727	3,025	1,704	5,456	10,223	9,632	19,855
Ungraded	1,512	2	46	67	115	985	642	1,627
<i>Total primary</i>	<i>118,812</i>	<i>4,652</i>	<i>24,479</i>	<i>12,732</i>	<i>41,863</i>	<i>82,731</i>	<i>77,944</i>	<i>160,675</i>
Secondary								
Year 8	13,607	970	3,500	2,042	6,512	10,265	9,854	20,119
Year 9	13,196	945	3,426	1,958	6,329	9,959	9,566	19,525
Year 10	12,097	953	3,239	1,967	6,159	9,208	9,048	18,256
Year 11	10,372	805	2,925	1,999	5,729	7,922	8,179	16,101
Year 12	7,060	752	2,364	1,637	4,753	5,558	6,255	11,813
Ungraded	1,367	—	65	19	84	845	606	1,451
<i>Total secondary</i>	<i>57,699</i>	<i>4,425</i>	<i>15,519</i>	<i>9,622</i>	<i>29,566</i>	<i>43,757</i>	<i>43,508</i>	<i>87,265</i>
Total	176,511	9,077	39,998	22,354	71,429	126,488	121,452	247,940

(a) Pre-year 1 comprises Kindergarten in New South Wales and the Australian Capital Territory, Preparatory in Victoria and Tasmania, Reception in South Australia and Transition in the Northern Territory.

TABLE 4. NUMBER OF FULL-TIME STUDENTS BY CATEGORY OF SCHOOL AND YEAR OF EDUCATION —continued

Year of education	Government schools	Non-government schools			Total	All schools		
		Anglican ^a	Catholic	Other		Males	Females	Persons
WESTERN AUSTRALIA								
Primary								
Year 1	20,601	383	4,574	1,443	6,400	13,769	13,232	27,001
Year 2	21,225	418	4,586	1,365	6,369	14,175	13,419	27,594
Year 3	20,676	431	4,508	1,367	6,306	13,864	13,118	26,982
Year 4	20,765	473	4,494	1,384	6,351	13,920	13,196	27,116
Year 5	20,339	509	4,465	1,335	6,309	13,677	12,971	26,648
Year 6	20,717	625	4,295	1,423	6,343	13,908	13,152	27,060
Year 7	20,631	773	4,245	1,511	6,529	13,804	13,356	27,160
Ungraded	134	—	11	142	153	165	122	287
Total primary	145,088	3,612	31,178	9,970	44,760	97,282	92,566	189,848
Secondary								
Year 8	18,502	1,500	5,068	2,074	8,642	14,011	13,133	27,144
Year 9	18,400	1,616	4,997	2,042	8,655	14,009	13,046	27,055
Year 10	17,391	1,642	4,814	2,131	8,587	13,259	12,719	25,978
Year 11	14,592	1,572	4,254	1,835	7,661	11,171	11,082	22,253
Year 12	11,463	1,433	3,406	1,477	6,316	8,294	9,485	17,779
Ungraded	639	—	82	299	381	556	464	1,020
Total secondary	80,987	7,763	22,621	9,858	40,242	61,300	59,929	121,229
Total	226,075	11,375	53,799	19,828	85,002	158,582	152,495	311,077
TASMANIA								
Primary								
Preparatory (a)	5,391	95	971	356	1,422	—3,420	3,393	6,813
Year 1	5,453	79	1,109	346	1,534	3,589	3,398	6,987
Year 2	5,290	84	1,037	391	1,512	3,508	3,294	6,802
Year 3	5,309	102	1,069	335	1,506	3,472	3,343	6,815
Year 4	4,795	119	1,010	398	1,527	3,273	3,049	6,322
Year 5	4,201	137	1,060	415	1,612	3,018	2,795	5,813
Year 6	5,140	178	1,065	390	1,633	3,423	3,350	6,773
Ungraded	84	—	—	62	62	92	54	146
Total primary	35,663	794	7,321	2,693	10,808	23,795	22,676	46,471
Secondary								
Year 7	5,168	313	1,141	505	1,959	3,609	3,518	7,127
Year 8	5,139	354	1,118	491	1,963	3,556	3,546	7,102
Year 9	5,102	345	1,121	474	1,940	3,578	3,464	7,042
Year 10	5,052	333	1,051	510	1,894	3,533	3,413	6,946
Year 11	3,870	299	815	328	1,442	2,570	2,742	5,312
Year 12	2,821	299	669	261	1,229	1,938	2,112	4,050
Ungraded	106	—	—	1	1	58	49	107
Total secondary	27,258	1,943	5,915	2,570	10,428	18,842	18,844	37,686
Total	62,921	2,737	13,236	5,263	21,236	42,637	41,520	84,157

(a) Pre-year 1 comprises Kindergarten in New South Wales and the Australian Capital Territory, Preparatory in Victoria and Tasmania, Reception in South Australia and Transition in the Northern Territory.

TABLE 4. NUMBER OF FULL-TIME STUDENTS BY CATEGORY OF SCHOOL AND YEAR OF EDUCATION —continued

Year of education	Government schools	Non-government schools				All schools		
		Anglican	Catholic	Other	Total	Males	Females	Persons
NORTHERN TERRITORY								
Primary								
Transition (a)	2,914	—	496	235	731	1,858	1,787	3,645
Year 1	2,839	—	486	202	688	1,829	1,698	3,527
Year 2	2,755	—	493	180	673	1,742	1,686	3,428
Year 3	2,470	—	436	146	582	1,558	1,494	3,052
Year 4	2,428	—	450	174	624	1,564	1,488	3,052
Year 5	2,230	—	418	139	557	1,380	1,407	2,787
Year 6	2,133	—	412	128	540	1,389	1,284	2,673
Year 7	2,092	—	412	197	609	1,361	1,340	2,701
Ungraded	489	—	4	12	16	323	182	505
<i>Total primary</i>	<i>20,350</i>	<i>—</i>	<i>3,607</i>	<i>1,413</i>	<i>5,020</i>	<i>13,004</i>	<i>12,366</i>	<i>25,370</i>
Secondary								
Year 8	1,569	216	465	195	876	1,239	1,206	2,445
Year 9	1,568	192	278	157	627	1,061	1,134	2,195
Year 10	1,267	155	244	154	553	910	910	1,820
Year 11	1,396	98	182	95	375	842	929	1,771
Year 12	896	58	97	75	230	508	618	1,126
Ungraded	1,248	—	136	355	491	904	835	1,739
<i>Total secondary</i>	<i>7,944</i>	<i>719</i>	<i>1,402</i>	<i>1,031</i>	<i>3,152</i>	<i>5,464</i>	<i>5,632</i>	<i>11,096</i>
Total	28,294	719	5,009	2,444	8,172	18,468	17,998	36,466
AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY (b)								
Primary								
Kindergarten (a)	3,255	101	1,185	155	1,441	2,446	2,250	4,696
Year 1	3,254	98	1,254	156	1,508	2,460	2,302	4,762
Year 2	3,193	102	1,233	159	1,494	2,392	2,295	4,687
Year 3	3,092	131	1,200	145	1,476	2,326	2,242	4,568
Year 4	3,068	133	1,227	152	1,512	2,327	2,253	4,580
Year 5	2,926	160	1,287	141	1,588	2,338	2,176	4,514
Year 6	3,171	189	1,297	147	1,633	2,462	2,342	4,804
Ungraded	73	—	—	—	—	48	25	73
<i>Total primary</i>	<i>22,032</i>	<i>914</i>	<i>8,683</i>	<i>1,055</i>	<i>10,652</i>	<i>16,799</i>	<i>15,885</i>	<i>32,684</i>
Secondary								
Year 7	2,773	470	1,497	132	2,099	2,480	2,392	4,872
Year 8	2,694	478	1,457	147	2,082	2,432	2,344	4,776
Year 9	2,921	457	1,452	113	2,022	2,536	2,407	4,943
Year 10	2,742	493	1,354	131	1,978	2,407	2,313	4,720
Year 11	3,438	452	978	—	1,430	2,517	2,351	4,868
Year 12	2,934	439	937	—	1,376	2,185	2,125	4,310
Ungraded	61	—	—	—	—	30	31	61
<i>Total secondary</i>	<i>17,563</i>	<i>2,789</i>	<i>7,675</i>	<i>523</i>	<i>10,987</i>	<i>14,587</i>	<i>13,963</i>	<i>28,550</i>
Total	39,595	3,703	16,358	1,578	21,639	31,386	29,848	61,234

(a) Pre-year 1 comprises Kindergarten in New South Wales and the Australian Capital Territory, Preparatory in Victoria and Tasmania, Reception in South Australia and Transition in the Northern Territory. (b) Includes 1 government primary school in Jervis Bay Territory with 92 students. See Explanatory Notes, paragraph 6 for further details.

TABLE 4. NUMBER OF FULL-TIME STUDENTS BY CATEGORY OF SCHOOL AND YEAR OF EDUCATION—continued

Year of education	Government schools	Non-government schools			Total	All schools		Persons
		Anglican	Catholic	Other		Males	Females	
AUSTRALIA								
Primary								
Pre-year 1 (a)	138,254	2,819	38,349	10,478	51,646	98,155	91,745	189,900
Year 1	198,047	3,573	51,813	14,291	69,677	137,462	130,262	267,724
Year 2	193,698	3,734	50,505	13,970	68,209	134,467	127,440	261,907
Year 3	190,785	4,060	49,638	13,931	67,629	132,131	126,283	258,414
Year 4	187,126	4,241	48,539	14,155	66,935	129,689	124,372	254,061
Year 5	185,012	5,050	48,434	14,813	68,297	129,717	123,592	253,309
Year 6	186,571	5,577	48,418	15,275	69,270	130,808	125,033	255,841
Year 7(Qld.SA.WA.NT)	74,413	2,677	15,340	6,713	24,730	50,753	48,390	99,143
Ungraded	13,101	10	315	2,064	2,389	9,937	5,553	15,490
<i>Total primary</i>	<i>1,367,007</i>	<i>31,741</i>	<i>351,351</i>	<i>105,690</i>	<i>488,782</i>	<i>953,119</i>	<i>902,670</i>	<i>1,855,789</i>
Secondary								
Year 7(NSW.Vic..Tas..ACT)	103,078	6,351	35,630	12,727	54,708	80,504	77,282	157,786
Year 8	169,750	11,488	53,101	22,104	86,693	131,205	125,238	256,443
Year 9	170,239	11,921	52,297	21,958	86,176	130,985	125,430	256,415
Year 10	161,698	11,769	49,945	22,041	83,755	124,411	121,042	245,453
Year 11	135,029	11,322	42,434	19,931	73,687	102,092	106,624	208,716
Year 12	107,308	10,500	37,592	17,372	65,464	81,723	91,049	172,772
Ungraded	15,943	33	590	1,684	2,307	10,733	7,517	18,250
<i>Total secondary</i>	<i>863,045</i>	<i>63,384</i>	<i>271,589</i>	<i>117,817</i>	<i>452,790</i>	<i>661,653</i>	<i>654,182</i>	<i>1,315,835</i>
Total — 1997	2,230,052	95,125	622,940	223,507	941,572	1,614,772	1,556,852	3,171,624
1996	2,221,557	91,945	615,572	213,941	921,458	1,600,743	1,542,272	3,143,015

(a) Pre-year 1 comprises Kindergarten in New South Wales and the Australian Capital Territory, Preparatory in Victoria and Tasmania, Reception in South Australia and Transition in the Northern Territory.

TABLE 5. APPARENT RETENTION RATES (a) OF SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS TO YEAR 12

Year	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Australia
1995	69.1	75.0	76.3	71.4	71.2	59.7	42.7	91.1	72.2
1996	67.7	75.3	76.5	68.4	70.7	53.1	41.0	91.3	71.3
1997	67.2	76.3	77.9	66.9	71.6	58.6	42.0	91.6	71.8

(a) See the Glossary for details of apparent retention rates.

TABLE 6. SCHOOL STAFF (FTE (a)) BY CATEGORY OF SCHOOL AND SEX

Sex	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT (b)	Australia
TEACHING STAFF									
GOVERNMENT									
Males	17,064	12,117	8,907	4,431	5,331	1,496	563	681	50,590
Females	32,339	22,071	17,813	7,497	9,004	2,840	1,525	1,890	94,981
Persons	49,403	34,189	26,720	11,928	14,335	4,337	2,089	2,571	145,571
NON-GOVERNMENT									
Males	7,035	5,977	3,964	1,701	2,003	516	181	453	21,828
Females	13,370	11,451	6,326	2,762	3,646	886	370	883	39,695
Persons	20,404	17,428	10,290	4,463	5,649	1,402	551	1,336	61,523
TOTAL TEACHING STAFF									
Males	24,098	18,095	12,870	6,132	7,334	2,012	744	1,134	72,418
Females	45,709	33,522	24,140	10,259	12,650	3,727	1,896	2,773	134,675
Persons	69,807	51,617	37,010	16,391	19,984	5,739	2,640	3,907	207,094
NON-TEACHING STAFF									
GOVERNMENT									
Males	1,764	593	1,885	697	910	305	149	179	6,482
Females	9,395	6,278	6,444	2,804	3,373	1,007	529	507	30,336
Persons	11,159	6,871	8,330	3,501	4,282	1,311	678	686	36,817
NON-GOVERNMENT									
Males	1,131	1,419	1,012	364	611	152	84	90	4,862
Females	3,705	3,589	2,531	969	1,623	280	205	267	13,167
Persons	4,836	5,008	3,543	1,332	2,234	432	288	357	18,029
TOTAL NON-TEACHING STAFF									
Males	2,895	2,012	2,898	1,061	1,521	457	233	268	11,343
Females	13,100	9,867	8,975	3,773	4,996	1,286	733	774	43,503
Persons	15,995	11,878	11,872	4,833	6,516	1,743	966	1,042	54,846
TOTAL SCHOOL STAFF									
GOVERNMENT									
Males	18,828	12,710	10,792	5,128	6,241	1,801	713	860	57,072
Females	41,734	28,349	24,257	10,301	12,376	3,847	2,054	2,397	125,316
Persons	60,562	41,059	35,049	15,429	18,617	5,648	2,766	3,257	182,388
NON-GOVERNMENT									
Males	8,165	7,396	4,976	2,064	2,614	668	264	542	26,690
Females	17,075	15,040	8,857	3,731	5,269	1,166	575	1,150	52,862
Persons	25,240	22,436	13,833	5,795	7,883	1,834	839	1,693	79,552
TOTAL SCHOOL STAFF									
Males	26,993	20,106	15,768	7,192	8,855	2,469	977	1,402	83,762
Females	58,809	43,389	33,114	14,032	17,645	5,013	2,629	3,547	178,178
Persons	85,802	63,495	48,882	21,224	26,500	7,482	3,606	4,949	261,940

(a) See the Glossary for details of the calculations of FTE. (b) Includes 1 government primary school in Jervis Bay Territory with 6.4 (FTE) teaching staff (2.4 males, 4.0 females) and 3.6 (FTE) non-teaching staff (1.0 male, 2.6 females). See Explanatory Notes, paragraph 6 for further details.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

INTRODUCTION

1 This publication contains preliminary statistics of government and non-government schools, full-time students enrolled and active in a course of study at those schools, and school staff as at August 1997.

2 The National Schools Statistics Collection (NSSC) is a collaborative arrangement between State, Territory and Commonwealth education authorities. A schools statistics committee, of which the ABS is a member, was established in 1979 to improve the quality of education statistics relating to government and non-government primary and secondary education. It has developed a set of concepts, definitions and classifications for use in the NSSC.

SCOPE AND COVERAGE

3 The statistics are compiled, in cooperation with the Ministerial Council on Education, Employment, Training and Youth Affairs, from collections conducted by the State and Territory Departments of Education (government series) and the Commonwealth Department of Employment, Education, Training and Youth Affairs (non-government series).

4 With the implementation of the NSSC concepts, the definitions, classifications and coverage were revised. The new government series was implemented in 1981 and the non-government in 1984.

5 The scope of the NSSC series comprises government and non-government establishments which have as their major activity the administration and/or provision of full-time day primary/secondary education, or primary/secondary education by radio or correspondence.

6 Education services in Jervis Bay Territory are provided by the Australian Capital Territory Department of Education and Training through Commonwealth government funding. For the purposes of the NSSC, figures for Jervis Bay Territory are included in statistics for the Australian Capital Territory. As at August 1997 there was one primary school in Jervis Bay Territory with 92 students, 6.4 full-time equivalent teaching staff and 3.6 full-time equivalent non-teaching staff.

7 More detailed statistics and information about the scope and definitions used in this collection are published in the ABS publication *Schools, Australia* (Cat. no. 4221.0) which is issued annually.

CENSUS DATE

8 The census date for the collection is the Friday nearest to 1 August each year, which for 1997 was 1 August. However, due to administrative reasons, the Northern Territory held its census on 15 August.

GENERAL ACKNOWLEDGMENT

9 This publication draws extensively on information provided freely by education organisations. Their continued cooperation is very much appreciated: without it, the wide range of education statistics published by the ABS would not be available. Information received by the ABS is treated in strict confidence as required by the *Census and Statistics Act 1905*.

RELATED PUBLICATIONS

10 Other ABS publications which may be of interest to users are:

A Directory of Education and Training Statistics (Cat. no. 1136.0) — issued irregularly, latest issue October 1997, released in November 1997

Education and Training in Australia (Cat. no. 4224.0) — issued irregularly, latest issue 1996, released in December 1996

Participation in Education, Australia (Cat. no. 6272.0) — issued annually, latest issue September 1996, released in April 1997

Schools, Australia (Cat. no. 4221.0) — issued annually, latest issue 1996, released in April 1997

Transition From Education to Work, Australia (Cat. no. 6227.0) — issued annually, latest issue May 1997, released in December 1997

11 Additional information can be found in some publications of the Regional Directors in each State and Territory, various publications of the Commonwealth Department of Employment, Education, Training and Youth Affairs, the Ministerial Council on Education, Employment, Training and Youth Affairs and in annual reports of the State Departments of Education. Year Book Australia and the State Year Books also contain commentary and data on education.

12 Current publications produced by the ABS are listed in the *Catalogue of Publications and Products* (Cat. no. 1101.0). The ABS also issues on Tuesdays and Fridays, a *Release Advice* (Cat. no. 1105.0) which lists publications to be released in the next few days. The Catalogue and Release Advice are available from any ABS office.

GLOSSARY

- Age participation rate** The age participation rate is the number of full-time students of a particular age and sex expressed as a proportion of the estimated resident population of the same age and sex. It indicates the proportion of the population who are still at school. In the Australian Capital Territory some rates exceed 100%. This is mainly due to the enrolment of secondary school students who are not residents of the Australian Capital Territory, e.g. from the surrounding New South Wales area.
- Ancillary Education Establishment (AEE)** This is an establishment where the major activity is the provision of aspects of primary, secondary or special education to students supplementary to that provided by schools. AEEs include those education establishments in institutions and hospitals which do not have officially recognised student enrolments. Only student and staff data are included for AEEs.
- Apparent retention rate** This is the percentage of students of a given cohort group who continued to a particular level/year of education. In this publication, apparent retention rates are calculated for full-time students who continued to Year 12 from the commencement of their secondary schooling. Care should be exercised in the interpretation of apparent retention rates since a range of factors affecting calculation have not been taken into account. At the Australia level these include students repeating a year of education, migration and other net changes to the school population. At lower levels of disaggregation, additional factors affecting the data, such as enrolment policies (which contribute to different age/grade structures between States and Territories), inter-sector transfer and interstate movements of students have not been taken into account.
- Part-time students are excluded from apparent retention rates; the effect of this exclusion varies between States and Territories.
- Category of school** Schools/AEEs are classified as being either government or non-government. Non-government schools are classified to three groups: Anglican, Catholic and Other. Included in the Other category are schools with specific religious affiliations (other than Anglican and Catholic) and schools that are interdenominational, non-denominational or which have no religious affiliation.

Full-time equivalent units This is a measure of the total level of staff resources used. The FTE of a full-time staff member (i.e. employed full-time and engaged solely on activities which fall within the scope of this collection) is equal to 1.0. The calculation of FTE for part-time staff is as follows:

- the FTE of part-time staff performing some activities which fall outside the scope of this collection (e.g. preschool or Technical and Further Education) is calculated on the basis of the proportion of time spent on in-scope activities compared with that spent by a full-time staff member solely occupied by in-scope activities; and
- the FTE of part-time staff performing activities which fall solely within the scope of this collection is calculated on the basis of time worked compared with that worked by full-time staff performing similar duties.

Some States and Territories are not able to calculate FTE on a time-spent basis for all staff functions but use wages paid as a fraction of full-time rate, or a resource allocation based formula. Some also use a pro rata formula based on student or teacher numbers to estimate aggregate FTE for some categories of staff.

Level/Year of education Level of education is split into primary and secondary. Year of education comprises Years 1 through 12, plus ungraded primary and ungraded secondary.

Non-teaching staff Staff who provide support services. Included in this category are those engaged as specialist support staff, administrative and clerical staff, maintenance workers etc.

Other education establishments A number of other establishments within the scope of these statistics, but not defined as schools or AEEs include:

- administrative offices which have as their major activity the administration of primary, secondary or special education; and
- teacher resource centres operated by a State Director-General of Education (or equivalent).

Primary education Full-time education which typically commences at around age five and lasts for seven to eight years. It does not include sessional education such as preschool education. In New South Wales, Victoria, Tasmania and the Australian Capital Territory, primary education may extend from Pre-Year 1 to Year 6 (or equivalent). In South Australia and the Northern Territory it may extend from Pre-Year 1 to Year 7 (or equivalent). In Queensland and Western Australia it may extend from Year 1 to Year 7 (or equivalent).

School A school (other than a special school) must satisfy the following criteria:

- its major activity is the provision of full-time day primary or secondary education or the provision of primary or secondary education by radio or correspondence; and
- it is headed by a principal (or equivalent) responsible for its internal operation; and
- it is possible for students to enrol for a minimum of four continuous weeks, excluding breaks for school vacations.

The term school in this publication includes schools in institutions and hospitals, mission schools and similar establishments. The term excludes preschools, kindergarten centres, pre-primary schools or pre-primary classes in or attached to non-special schools, senior technical and agricultural colleges, evening schools, continuation classes and institutions such as business or coaching colleges.

Secondary education Education which typically commences after completion of primary education, at around age 12, and lasts for five or six years. In New South Wales, Victoria, Tasmania and the Australian Capital Territory, secondary education may extend from Year 7 to Year 12 (or equivalent). In Queensland, South Australia, Western Australia, and the Northern Territory it may extend from Year 8 to Year 12 (or equivalent).

Special school A school which provides special instruction for physically and/or mentally disabled or impaired students, or those with social problems. Students must exhibit one or more of the following characteristics before enrolment is allowed:

- mental or physical disability or impairment;
- slow learning ability;
- social or emotional problems; and/or
- in custody, on remand or in hospital.

Note: As from 1990 students attending special schools have not been identified separately and have been allocated to either primary or secondary level of education.

Staff Staff are persons who are involved in the administration or provision of primary or secondary education.

Student A person who is enrolled in a school and active in a course of study at a school. This publication provides details of full-time students only.

Teaching staff

Staff who spend the majority of their time in contact with students and have teaching duties, i.e. are engaged to impart the school curriculum or are engaged in the provision of services for the direct benefit of students. Teaching staff are usually employed under a teacher's award or equivalent. Also included for the purposes of this collection are principals, deputy principals and senior teachers mainly involved in administrative duties.



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ISSN 1034-5671

RRP \$15.50