

# **Western Australian Schools 2009-2015**

What the My School website tells us

**An analysis of school funding and staffing trends in Western Australia's schools  
over recent years based on data published on the My School website**

**Bernie Shepherd AM FACE**

**August 2016**



© Australian Education Union  
120 Clarendon Street Southbank  
Victoria 3006  
[aeu@aeufederal.org.au](mailto:aeu@aeufederal.org.au)

## Author

Bernie Shepherd AM FACE is a retired educator with a long career in teaching and curriculum development in Science. He was the founding principal of the first public senior high school in NSW and a founding member of the NSW Board of Studies. Since retirement, he continues to be active in educational matters as a researcher, writer, consultant and mentor. With his colleague, Chris Bonnor, he has published a number of papers on matters of education policy, the most recent being "*The uneven playing field – the State of Australia's schools*", published by the Centre for Policy Development: <http://cpd.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2016/05/The-State-of-Australias-Schools.pdf>

## Contents

Author.....	2
Introduction .....	3
Socio-Educational Advantage in Western Australia.....	3
Government funding of Western Australia's schools .....	5
Staffing of Western Australian government schools.....	8
Appendices .....	10
1. Enrolments and staffing by electorate .....	10
2. Funding change by electorate.....	12
Disclaimer .....	13

## Introduction

The purpose of this paper is to examine what the data from the *My School* website<sup>1</sup> can show us about how the administration and funding of Western Australian Schools – government schools in particular – has been working out on the ground over the period 2009 -2015. This period covers most of the time since the Liberal Party formed government under the leadership of Colin Barnett.

Western Australia has a diverse range of schools, many with considerable challenges. In a circumstance where remoteness and high proportions of indigenous students are understood to be factors associated with lower educational outcomes, almost 20% of WA schools are classified as remote or very remote and around one-third of those schools report an indigenous enrolment of 75% or higher.

## Socio-Educational Advantage in Western Australia

The *My School* website includes a measure of each school's degree of socio-educational advantage (SEA). This measure takes account of key factors in students' family backgrounds (parents' occupation, school education and non-school education) that have been shown to have an influence on students' educational outcomes at school. In addition to these student-level factors, research has shown that the school-level factors referred to in the introduction influence the degree of educational advantage or disadvantage experienced by students.

The magnitude of these combined effects is presented on the *My School* website in two forms: first, in a profile of the school population in terms of the four "Quarters" of SEA calculated for the nation as a whole<sup>2</sup>. The second form is a numerical Index of Community Socio-Educational Advantage (ICSEA)<sup>3</sup> for each school.

To inform our picture of WA's schools, we can compare the distribution of SEA in the Government, Catholic and Independent sectors and also look at how SEA is distributed geographically within the state.

In Figure 1, Q1 represents families with the lowest degree of socio-educational advantage and Q4 the highest. It is clear that the quarters are unevenly spread among the three sectors: Government schools have around half the proportion of Q4 families and around double (Catholic) or triple (Independent) the proportion of Q1 families compared to non-government schools.

The striking feature in the geographic distribution of SEA (Figure 2) is the not altogether surprising finding that the highest proportion of Q4 students (30.8%) is to be found in Metropolitan areas, while the highest proportion of Q1 students (46.2%) is in remote schools. Not surprising; because remoteness in itself is an important factor in SEA and also because more than a quarter of the schools in non-Metropolitan locations have indigenous enrolments of 25% or more – also an important SEA determinant.

If student need is, as is often claimed, a major factor in allocating funding support to schools, we would expect school funding to reflect these distributions of SEA.

---

<sup>1</sup> <http://www.myschool.edu.au/>

<sup>2</sup> The quarters are calculated using only the student-level factors of educational advantage.

<sup>3</sup> For further explanation, see [http://www.acara.edu.au/\\_resources/About\\_icsea\\_2014.pdf](http://www.acara.edu.au/_resources/About_icsea_2014.pdf)

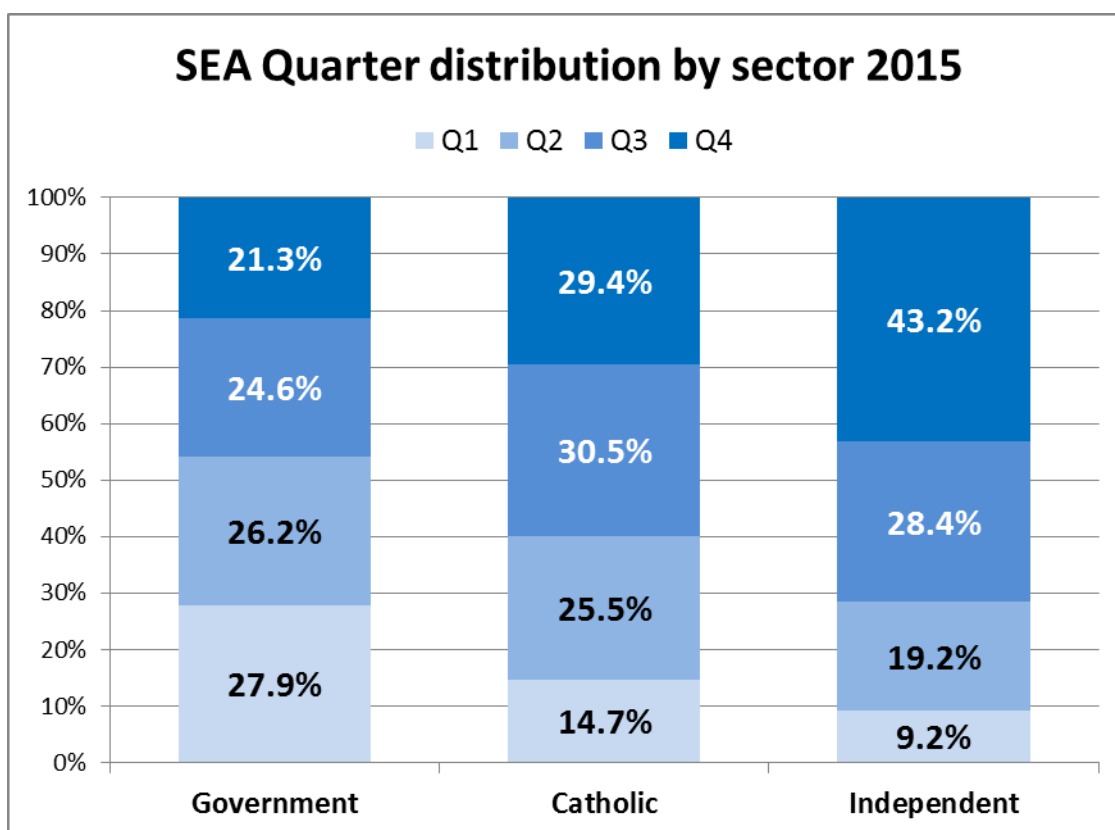


Figure 1 Socio-educational advantage quarter distribution for Western Australia's schools in 2015 by sector.  
Source: *My School* website, 2016

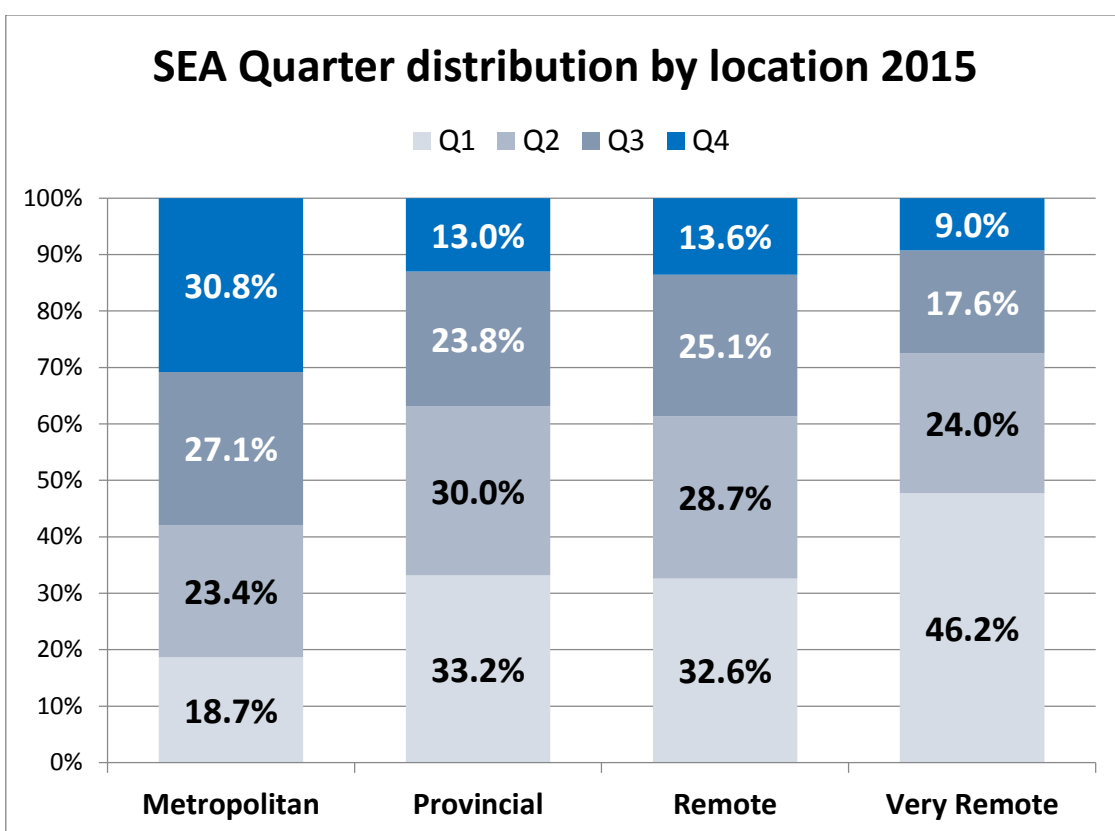


Figure 2: Socio-educational advantage quarter distribution for Western Australia's schools in 2015 by location.  
Source: *My School* website, 2016

## Government funding of Western Australia's schools

The My School website provides financial information about schools, including the amounts received from public (i.e Australian and WA Government) and private sources (fees, parent contributions, etc). The following analysis considers school funding data reported by WA schools over the period 2009-2012, expressed in 2014 dollars<sup>4</sup>.

As is the case elsewhere, WA Government schools are funded largely by the state government, with contributions from the Australian government. Catholic schools are funded largely by the Australian government, with amounts from parents and the state government. Independent schools are funded largely by private sources and the federal government, with contributions from state government.

Recurrent income is money received by a school for expenditure relating to ongoing operating costs of the school (e.g. teaching and non-teaching staff salaries, school operating costs).

		WA Government recurrent funding per student (2014 dollars)						Net Change 2009-14 (2014 dollars)	% change 2009-14 (2014 dollars)
		2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014		
All	All locations	\$ 9,510	\$ 9,260	\$ 9,250	\$ 9,336	\$ 9,084	\$ 8,799	-\$711	-7.5%
	Metropolitan	\$ 8,375	\$ 8,250	\$ 8,254	\$ 8,314	\$ 8,070	\$ 7,846	-\$529	-6.3%
	Provincial	\$10,543	\$10,178	\$10,163	\$10,295	\$10,074	\$ 9,826	-\$717	-6.8%
	Remote	\$16,951	\$15,920	\$15,981	\$16,254	\$15,962	\$15,113	-\$1,837	-10.8%
	Very Remote	\$20,210	\$19,080	\$19,067	\$19,351	\$19,212	\$18,559	-\$1,650	-8.2%
Government	All locations	\$13,077	\$12,586	\$12,552	\$12,496	\$12,136	\$11,690	-\$1,388	-10.6%
	Metropolitan	\$11,771	\$11,448	\$11,415	\$11,303	\$10,939	\$10,564	-\$1,207	-10.3%
	Provincial	\$13,992	\$13,392	\$13,413	\$13,458	\$13,135	\$12,753	-\$1,239	-8.9%
	Remote	\$19,404	\$18,056	\$18,233	\$18,543	\$18,119	\$17,185	-\$2,218	-11.4%
	Very Remote	\$23,301	\$21,828	\$21,600	\$22,087	\$22,005	\$21,274	-\$2,026	-8.7%
Catholic	All locations	\$ 2,875	\$ 3,071	\$ 3,075	\$ 3,114	\$ 3,146	\$ 3,113	\$238	8.3%
	Metropolitan	\$ 2,852	\$ 3,054	\$ 3,051	\$ 3,095	\$ 3,141	\$ 3,099	\$247	8.7%
	Provincial	\$ 2,895	\$ 3,080	\$ 3,087	\$ 3,089	\$ 3,090	\$ 3,081	\$186	6.4%
	Remote	\$ 2,733	\$ 2,898	\$ 2,926	\$ 3,090	\$ 3,025	\$ 3,044	\$311	11.4%
	Very Remote	\$ 3,970	\$ 4,139	\$ 4,435	\$ 4,361	\$ 4,314	\$ 4,358	\$388	9.8%
Independent	All locations	\$ 2,473	\$ 2,609	\$ 2,671	\$ 2,757	\$ 2,741	\$ 2,770	\$296	12.0%
	Metropolitan	\$ 2,425	\$ 2,541	\$ 2,590	\$ 2,684	\$ 2,687	\$ 2,713	\$288	11.9%
	Provincial	\$ 2,542	\$ 2,722	\$ 2,819	\$ 2,917	\$ 2,832	\$ 2,859	\$316	12.4%
	Remote	\$ 2,555	\$ 3,782	\$ 3,438	\$ 3,443	\$ 3,176	\$ 3,238	\$683	26.7%
	Very Remote	\$ 5,513	\$ 6,321	\$ 7,273	\$ 6,249	\$ 5,842	\$ 6,113	\$600	10.9%

Table 1: Western Australian government recurrent funding to all schools, 2009-2014.

Source: My School website 2011-16<sup>5</sup>

Table 1 shows the distribution of WA government recurrent funding to schools since 2009 and up to 2014 (the most recent available) by sector and by geo-location. For all schools, there has been a net reduction in real terms over the period of the order of \$700 per student or around 7.5%.

There is a profound disparity in the distribution of this change, however. The element which stands out most clearly is that the reduction has been carried entirely within the government

<sup>4</sup> The inflation rate for school costing is difficult to determine precisely. An estimate of 3.5% pa has been used.

<sup>5</sup> Includes only schools with published finance data. Special schools are not included in this or other analyses.

sector (-10.6%, or almost \$1400 per student). By contrast, grants to non-government schools have seen a net per-student *increase* over the period of 8.3% (Catholic) and 12.0% (Independent). It is hard to present this finding in any other way than to say that money is being taken from the government school students and (some of it) given to the non-government school students.

This finding runs counter to the sector distribution of socio-educational need discussed earlier and clearly evident in Table 1. The vast majority of the most disadvantaged students have been de-funded while the schools with the highest proportion of already advantaged students have received increases.

The geographic distribution of the funding change is similarly difficult to reconcile with the patterns of advantage/disadvantage. The largest cuts have occurred among the Remote and Very Remote schools, with the smallest cut happening in the Metropolitan schools. Again, the government schools in all locations had the deepest cuts and the non-government schools saw several of the largest increases in their more remote schools.

The discussion so far has focussed on WA government funding only. All schools receive at least some federal government funding as well, so it is useful to consider the total of public funding and how it has been directed over the period. The figures in Table 2 are the sum of Australian and WA governments' funding as reported by the schools, converted to the value of 2014 dollars.

		All Government recurrent funding per student (2014 dollars)						Net Change 2009-14 (2014 dollars)	% change 2009-14 (2014 dollars)
		2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014		
All	All locations	\$12,825	\$12,659	\$12,654	\$12,755	\$12,600	\$12,344	-\$481	-3.8%
	Metropolitan	\$11,472	\$11,450	\$11,429	\$11,481	\$11,330	\$11,157	-\$315	-2.7%
	Provincial	\$13,994	\$13,641	\$13,693	\$13,867	\$13,777	\$13,567	-\$426	-3.0%
	Remote	\$20,911	\$19,788	\$20,082	\$20,443	\$20,292	\$19,519	-\$1,392	-6.7%
	Very Remote	\$27,364	\$26,755	\$26,845	\$27,518	\$27,441	\$26,218	-\$1,145	-4.2%
Government	All locations	\$14,941	\$14,444	\$14,358	\$14,343	\$14,115	\$13,572	-\$1,370	-9.2%
	Metropolitan	\$13,397	\$13,109	\$12,985	\$12,905	\$12,671	\$12,238	-\$1,159	-8.7%
	Provincial	\$15,970	\$15,253	\$15,278	\$15,400	\$15,221	\$14,781	-\$1,188	-7.4%
	Remote	\$22,092	\$20,566	\$20,874	\$21,178	\$21,009	\$19,998	-\$2,094	-9.5%
	Very Remote	\$27,920	\$26,673	\$26,647	\$27,382	\$27,342	\$25,435	-\$2,485	-8.9%
Catholic	All locations	\$ 9,616	\$10,095	\$10,255	\$10,515	\$10,480	\$10,773	\$1,157	12.0%
	Metropolitan	\$ 8,980	\$ 9,416	\$ 9,552	\$ 9,782	\$ 9,768	\$10,076	\$1,096	12.2%
	Provincial	\$10,129	\$10,577	\$10,812	\$10,933	\$11,056	\$11,257	\$1,128	11.1%
	Remote	\$14,064	\$15,058	\$15,596	\$16,438	\$16,369	\$16,841	\$2,777	19.7%
	Very Remote	\$24,587	\$27,261	\$27,629	\$27,657	\$27,069	\$27,870	\$3,284	13.4%
Independent	All locations	\$ 7,840	\$ 8,230	\$ 8,391	\$ 8,516	\$ 8,570	\$ 8,892	\$1,051	13.4%
	Metropolitan	\$ 7,439	\$ 7,794	\$ 7,936	\$ 8,034	\$ 8,079	\$ 8,317	\$878	11.8%
	Provincial	\$ 8,748	\$ 9,244	\$ 9,407	\$ 9,616	\$ 9,677	\$10,101	\$1,353	15.5%
	Remote	\$13,947	\$15,264	\$14,991	\$14,908	\$14,155	\$16,227	\$2,280	16.3%
	Very Remote	\$24,431	\$27,012	\$28,512	\$29,474	\$29,694	\$34,548	\$10,117	41.4%

Table 2: Total public recurrent funding (i.e. state and federal) for Western Australian schools 2009-2014.

Source: My School website, 2011-2016

We can see that, even when federal funding is added in, not much has changed. While the drop in funding, when averaged over all schools, is less than before (3.8%, compared to 7.5%) the brunt of it is still borne by the WA government schools (-9.2% or -\$1,370 per student)

rather than the Catholics (+12.0% or +\$1,157 per student) and the Independents (+13.4% or +\$1,051 per student).

Again, the geographic distribution is difficult to understand in any reference frame built on student need. Among the government schools, the more distant schools have had the largest cuts and among the non-government schools, the more distant schools have had the largest gains in public funding. The average student in a remote government school in 2014 received the equivalent of around \$2,100 *less* in public recurrent funding than they would have received in 2009, while the equivalent students in non-government schools received between \$2,280 and \$2,777 *more* from public sources than they would have received in 2009.

As with the earlier discussion, regardless of what the rationale or criteria may have been, the combined effect of decisions by both levels of government has seen public funding taken from government school students and used to fund non-government school students. It is almost as if the distribution of need was the reverse of what the evidence shows.

Public funding alone is not the end of the story. By their nature, non-government schools have access to other funding sources in ways and to an extent that most government schools do not. Net recurrent income of schools as reported on My School is the sum of recurrent income from all sources, including fees, fundraising and contributions of all kinds from parents and the school's community, less certain deductions that schools are permitted to make.

Table 3 lists the net recurrent income for WA schools over the period, broken down as before.

		Net Recurrent Income per student						Net Change 2009-14 (2014 dollars)	% change 2009-14 (2014 dollars)
		2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014		
All	All locations	\$14,885	\$14,648	\$14,668	\$14,790	\$14,697	\$14,489	-\$396	-2.7%
	Metropolitan	\$13,925	\$13,811	\$13,815	\$13,901	\$13,799	\$13,697	-\$229	-1.6%
	Provincial	\$15,131	\$14,705	\$14,788	\$14,967	\$14,956	\$14,722	-\$409	-2.7%
	Remote	\$21,677	\$20,579	\$20,869	\$21,178	\$21,101	\$20,297	-\$1,380	-6.4%
	Very Remote	\$27,901	\$27,552	\$27,553	\$28,231	\$28,294	\$27,055	-\$846	-3.0%
Government	All locations	\$15,496	\$15,030	\$14,918	\$14,876	\$14,632	\$14,079	-\$1,417	-9.1%
	Metropolitan	\$13,976	\$13,719	\$13,561	\$13,465	\$13,208	\$12,770	-\$1,206	-8.6%
	Provincial	\$16,455	\$15,755	\$15,771	\$15,850	\$15,662	\$15,206	-\$1,248	-7.6%
	Remote	\$22,628	\$21,157	\$21,470	\$21,678	\$21,552	\$20,509	-\$2,119	-9.4%
	Very Remote	\$28,470	\$27,298	\$27,233	\$27,932	\$27,889	\$25,950	-\$2,521	-8.9%
Catholic	All locations	\$12,645	\$12,669	\$13,035	\$13,163	\$13,577	\$13,810	\$1,165	9.2%
	Metropolitan	\$12,371	\$12,353	\$12,735	\$12,761	\$13,254	\$13,530	\$1,159	9.4%
	Provincial	\$12,071	\$12,053	\$12,403	\$12,668	\$12,931	\$12,985	\$914	7.6%
	Remote	\$16,151	\$16,679	\$17,273	\$18,264	\$18,609	\$18,899	\$2,749	17.0%
	Very Remote	\$25,488	\$27,705	\$27,736	\$27,896	\$28,042	\$28,636	\$3,148	12.3%
Independent	All locations	\$14,910	\$15,324	\$15,456	\$16,144	\$16,152	\$16,914	\$2,004	13.4%
	Metropolitan	\$15,355	\$15,666	\$15,818	\$16,575	\$16,456	\$17,212	\$1,857	12.1%
	Provincial	\$12,219	\$12,713	\$12,871	\$13,255	\$13,781	\$14,303	\$2,084	17.1%
	Remote	\$16,195	\$20,636	\$18,258	\$18,613	\$17,351	\$19,854	\$3,660	22.6%
	Very Remote	\$24,039	\$31,289	\$32,493	\$33,900	\$35,009	\$40,256	\$16,217	67.5%

Table 3: Net recurrent funding from all sources, less allowed deductions, for Western Australian schools 2009-2014.  
Source: My School website, 2011-2016



Since the ability of most government schools to access private sources of funding is limited, it is to be expected that the inclusion of those private sources will exacerbate the already large disparities in public funding between government and non-government schools. That is indeed the case.

While the average government school student in a metropolitan school had the equivalent of \$1,200 *less* spent on their education overall in 2014 compared to 2009, the average Catholic student had \$1,159 *more* available and the average Independent school student \$1,857 more.

## Staffing of Western Australian government schools

When we follow the money available to government schools as recurrent funding, we find that the vast bulk of it is expended in the form of salaries for teaching and non-teaching staff. Thus, changes in funding typically reflect changes in school staffing, which in turn usually relate to changes in school enrolment. For this reason, it is useful to consider changes in school enrolment and staffing over the period in question from 2009 to 2015.

Since enrolment is a key determinant of staffing, it is necessary to consider these two variables together. There is a number of ways in which this can be done. For the purposes of this report we will examine the numbers of students enrolled per teacher. This is usually referred to as the student / teacher (S/T) ratio and we will be looking at variations in this number for government schools across the period in question.

WA Government Schools Enrolment FTE							% Change 2009-15
2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	
226,979.2	236,096.7	240,984.6	245,392.9	260,800.4	268,743.9	276,653.0	21.9%

Table 4(a): WA government school enrolments 2009-2015.  
Source: My School Website 2010-16

WA's government schools reported enrolments over the period 2009-2015 as shown in Table 4(a) above as full-time equivalents (FTE). The reported figures indicate a net increase in enrolment of almost 22% over six years. Although there is not an exact correspondence between the two variables, such an increase in enrolments would lead us to expect a similar increase in teaching staff over the period.

WA Government Schools Teaching Staff FTE							% Change 2009-15
2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	
15,647.0	16,451.7	16,476.2	16,932.4	17,271.0	17,191.6	17,827.0	13.9%

Table 5(b): WA government school teaching staff; 2009-2015.  
Source: My School Website 2010-16

In fact, Table 4(b) indicates that the actual change in staffing is only around two-thirds of the enrolment increase, at 13.9%. This suggests a probable increase in the overall S/T ratio for government schools. See Table 4(c).

WA Government Schools Student/Teaching Staff Ratio							% Change 2009-15
2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	
14.5	14.4	14.6	14.5	15.1	15.6	15.5	7.0%

Table 6(c): WA government school Student/Teacher ratio; 2009-2015.  
Source: My School Website 2010-16



Over the period in question, the value of the ratio has increased by 7% or 1.0 student per teacher. What this means on the ground in a school of, say 300 students, is that the staff of the school will have been reduced by around 1.4 teachers. Looked at another way, class sizes will have increased over that period.

Another perspective is gained when we consider that over the same period, Catholic schools took the opportunity to reduce their S/T ratio by 3.4% and Independent schools by 4.9%.

## Appendices

### 1. Enrolments and staffing by electorate

[Location: M – Metropolitan; P – Provincial; R – Remote; VR – Very Remote]

Electorate	Location	Students FTE		Student FTE change 2008-15		Teaching staff FTE		Teaching staff FTE change 2008-2015	
		2009	2015	FTE	%	2009	2015	FTE	%
Albany	P	4292.8	4395.0	102.2	2.4%	291	288.5	-2.5	-0.9%
Armadaale	M	4922.8	5157.5	234.7	4.8%	357	334.5	-22.5	-6.3%
Balcatta	M	2535.7	2851.7	316.0	12.5%	179	180.8	1.8	1.0%
Baldivis	M	1845.8	5305.6	3,459.8	187.4%	108	295.5	187.5	173.6%
Bassendean	M	3877.0	3828.2	-48.8	-1.3%	259	243.9	-15.1	-5.8%
Bateman	M	3564.5	4274.6	710.1	19.9%	213	250.2	37.2	17.5%
Belmont	M	2506.4	2787.3	280.9	11.2%	183	188	5.0	2.7%
Bicton	M	2835.0	3537.5	702.5	24.8%	184	212.7	28.7	15.6%
Bunbury	P	4862.0	6497.8	1,635.8	33.6%	320	416.5	96.5	30.2%
Burns Beach	M	6196.6	5673.9	-522.7	-8.4%	388	332	-56.0	-14.4%
Butler	M	3382.6	6270.5	2,887.9	85.4%	203	362.8	159.8	78.7%
Cannington	M	4165.6	4872.3	706.7	17.0%	300	310.3	10.3	3.4%
Carine	M	5196.2	6040.1	843.9	16.2%	319	360.4	41.4	13.0%
Central Wheatbelt	P/R	4792.8	5287.0	494.2	10.3%	421	408.6	-12.4	-2.9%
Churchlands	M	4342.0	6041.0	1,699.0	39.1%	263	351.4	88.4	33.6%
Cockburn	M	2591.2	3075.2	484.0	18.7%	153	182	29.0	19.0%
Collie-Preston	P	4770.2	5055.8	285.6	6.0%	335	329.9	-5.1	-1.5%
Cottesloe	M	1274.0	2149.6	875.6	68.7%	71	124.9	53.9	75.9%
Darling Range	M	2142.4	4322.3	2,179.9	101.8%	122	258.2	136.2	111.6%
Dawesville	P	2775.2	3004.6	229.4	8.3%	159	167.8	8.8	5.5%
Forrestfield	M	3371.4	3611.4	240.0	7.1%	215	224.8	9.8	4.6%
Fremantle	M	4362.6	4706.0	343.4	7.9%	316	326.1	10.1	3.2%
Geraldton	P	4130.7	4568.6	437.9	10.6%	308	305.2	-2.8	-0.9%
Girrawheen	M	3844.6	5435.0	1,590.4	41.4%	255	330.7	75.7	29.7%
Hillarys	M	2014.2	2243.9	229.7	11.4%	115	127.5	12.5	10.9%
Jandakot	M	3310.0	4089.6	779.6	23.6%	203	236	33.0	16.3%
Joondalup	M	5154.0	5464.5	310.5	6.0%	318	350.7	32.7	10.3%
Kalamunda	M	4278.6	4766.9	488.3	11.4%	271	285.8	14.8	5.5%
Kalgoorlie	P/R/VR	4520.8	4968.0	447.2	9.9%	354	364.5	10.5	3.0%
Kimberley	R/VR	4582.6	5304.5	721.9	15.8%	420	461.7	41.7	9.9%
Kingsley	M	5810.2	5882.8	72.6	1.2%	371	371.5	0.5	0.1%
Kwinana	M	4332.2	6658.8	2,326.6	53.7%	284	417.6	133.6	47.0%
Mandurah	P	1757.4	3782.8	2,025.4	115.2%	109	238.6	129.6	118.9%
Maylands	M	2377.4	2982.4	605.0	25.4%	166	181.1	15.1	9.1%
Midland	M	4033.2	4123.1	89.9	2.2%	288	266.5	-21.5	-7.5%
Mirrabeeka	M	3403.6	3170.2	-233.4	-6.9%	260	228.8	-31.2	-12.0%

Cntd over

Electorate	Location	Students FTE		Student FTE change 2008-15		Teaching staff FTE		Teaching staff FTE change 2008-15	
		2009	2015	FTE	%	2009	2015	FTE	%
Moore	P/R	4079.0	3675.1	-403.9	-9.9%	347	308.5	-38.5	-11.1%
Morley	M	3974.4	4258.3	283.9	7.1%	276	286.2	10.2	3.7%
Mount Lawley	M	956.0	3188.1	2,232.1	233.5%	56	199	143.0	255.4%
Murray-Wellington	P	2965.8	4280.7	1,314.9	44.3%	208	277.6	69.6	33.5%
Nedlands	M	4062.4	5547.2	1,484.8	36.5%	272	345.2	73.2	26.9%
North West Central	VR	2526.6	2709.1	182.5	7.2%	214	231.1	17.1	8.0%
Perth	M	888.4	1988.4	1,100.0	123.8%	60	116.6	56.6	94.3%
Pilbara	R/VR	5931.8	6466.0	534.2	9.0%	482	476.6	-5.4	-1.1%
Riverton	M	6675.6	8349.6	1,674.0	25.1%	411	501.5	90.5	22.0%
Rockingham	M	4813.2	5116.8	303.6	6.3%	311	311.7	0.7	0.2%
Roe	P/R/VR	6603.3	6296.4	-306.9	-4.6%	528	474.2	-53.8	-10.2%
Scarborough	M	1529.4	1953.3	423.9	27.7%	86	110.4	24.4	28.4%
South Perth	M	2483.4	3561.0	1,077.6	43.4%	162	223.5	61.5	38.0%
Southern River	M	4524.6	6471.3	1,946.7	43.0%	290	396.1	106.1	36.6%
Swan Hills	M	4287.6	7739.6	3,452.0	80.5%	268	468.9	200.9	75.0%
Thornlie	M	4597.6	4890.1	292.5	6.4%	301	311.6	10.6	3.5%
Vasse	P	3171.6	4083.3	911.7	28.7%	195	243.9	48.9	25.1%
Victoria Park	M	1395.0	2695.2	1,300.2	93.2%	117	163.5	46.5	39.7%
Wanneroo	M	3820.6	5033.8	1,213.2	31.8%	232	299.9	67.9	29.3%
Warnbro	M	6784.2	7630.5	846.3	12.5%	419	456.3	37.3	8.9%
Warren-Blackwood	P	5681.7	6100.4	418.7	7.4%	423	411.5	-11.5	-2.7%
West Swan	M	1681.4	1915.5	234.1	13.9%	104	110.8	6.8	6.5%
Willagee	M	3103.2	2998.6	-104.6	-3.4%	218	196	-22.0	-10.1%

## 2. Funding change by electorate

[Location: M – Metropolitan; P – Provincial; R – Remote; VR – Very Remote]

Electorate	Location	WA Gov't recurrent funding per student			WA Gov't Recurrent funding change per student 2009-14 (2014 dollars)	
		2009	Inflation-adjusted to 2014 dollars	2014	\$	%
Albany	P	\$ 11,393	\$ 13,531	\$ 12,455	-\$1,076	-8.0%
Armadale	M	\$ 10,917	\$ 12,966	\$ 11,678	-\$1,288	-9.9%
Balcatta	M	\$ 12,178	\$ 14,464	\$ 12,095	-\$2,369	-16.4%
Baldivis	M	\$ 7,998	\$ 9,500	\$ 8,337	-\$1,163	-12.2%
Bassendean	M	\$ 10,836	\$ 12,870	\$ 11,370	-\$1,499	-11.6%
Bateman	M	\$ 9,014	\$ 10,706	\$ 9,704	-\$1,002	-9.4%
Belmont	M	\$ 11,798	\$ 14,012	\$ 11,846	-\$2,166	-15.5%
Bicton	M	\$ 9,658	\$ 11,471	\$ 10,448	-\$1,023	-8.9%
Bunbury	P	\$ 10,221	\$ 12,140	\$ 11,974	-\$166	-1.4%
Burns Beach	M	\$ 9,116	\$ 10,827	\$ 10,081	-\$746	-6.9%
Butler	M	\$ 8,516	\$ 10,114	\$ 9,722	-\$392	-3.9%
Cannington	M	\$ 10,572	\$ 12,557	\$ 11,875	-\$681	-5.4%
Carine	M	\$ 9,098	\$ 10,805	\$ 10,157	-\$648	-6.0%
Central Wheatbelt	P/R	\$ 15,624	\$ 18,557	\$ 16,154	-\$2,402	-12.9%
Churchlands	M	\$ 8,935	\$ 10,612	\$ 9,343	-\$1,268	-12.0%
Cockburn	M	\$ 9,666	\$ 11,480	\$ 10,790	-\$691	-6.0%
Collie-Preston	P	\$ 11,371	\$ 13,505	\$ 12,489	-\$1,016	-7.5%
Cottesloe	M	\$ 10,013	\$ 11,892	\$ 10,239	-\$1,653	-13.9%
Darling Range	M	\$ 8,877	\$ 10,543	\$ 9,681	-\$861	-8.2%
Dawesville	P	\$ 8,428	\$ 10,009	\$ 9,360	-\$650	-6.5%
Forrestfield	M	\$ 9,636	\$ 11,445	\$ 10,546	-\$899	-7.9%
Fremantle	M	\$ 11,804	\$ 14,020	\$ 12,799	-\$1,221	-8.7%
Geraldton	P	\$ 12,037	\$ 14,296	\$ 13,476	-\$820	-5.7%
Girrawheen	M	\$ 10,087	\$ 11,981	\$ 10,107	-\$1,873	-15.6%
Hillarys	M	\$ 9,138	\$ 10,854	\$ 10,182	-\$671	-6.2%
Jandakot	M	\$ 9,022	\$ 10,715	\$ 9,828	-\$887	-8.3%
Joondalup	M	\$ 9,495	\$ 11,277	\$ 10,777	-\$500	-4.4%
Kalamunda	M	\$ 9,653	\$ 11,464	\$ 10,565	-\$899	-7.8%
Kalgoorlie	P/R/VR	\$ 14,150	\$ 16,805	\$ 15,175	-\$1,631	-9.7%
Kimberley	R/VR	\$ 20,007	\$ 23,762	\$ 19,661	-\$4,101	-17.3%
Kingsley	M	\$ 9,632	\$ 11,440	\$ 11,115	-\$325	-2.8%
Kwinana	M	\$ 9,876	\$ 11,730	\$ 10,209	-\$1,520	-13.0%
Mandurah	P	\$ 9,014	\$ 10,705	\$ 10,596	-\$110	-1.0%
Maylands	M	\$ 10,396	\$ 12,347	\$ 10,765	-\$1,582	-12.8%
Midland	M	\$ 11,277	\$ 13,394	\$ 11,981	-\$1,413	-10.5%
Mirrabooka	M	\$ 12,735	\$ 15,125	\$ 13,463	-\$1,662	-11.0%

Cntd over

Electorate	Location	WA Gov't recurrent funding per student			WA Gov't Recurrent funding change per student 2009-14 (2014 dollars)	
		2009	Inflation-adjusted to 2014 dollars	2014	\$	%
Moore	P/R	\$ 15,348	\$ 18,229	\$ 17,569	-\$660	-3.6%
Morley	M	\$ 10,548	\$ 12,528	\$ 12,070	-\$458	-3.7%
Mount Lawley	M	\$ 10,013	\$ 11,892	\$ 10,665	-\$1,227	-10.3%
Murray-Wellington	P	\$ 11,132	\$ 13,221	\$ 11,479	-\$1,742	-13.2%
Nedlands	M	\$ 9,734	\$ 11,561	\$ 10,251	-\$1,310	-11.3%
North West Central	VR	\$ 18,344	\$ 21,787	\$ 18,851	-\$2,935	-13.5%
Perth	M	\$ 9,260	\$ 10,998	\$ 9,095	-\$1,903	-17.3%
Pilbara	R/VR	\$ 14,859	\$ 17,648	\$ 16,488	-\$1,159	-6.6%
Riverton	M	\$ 8,900	\$ 10,570	\$ 9,599	-\$971	-9.2%
Rockingham	M	\$ 9,788	\$ 11,625	\$ 10,300	-\$1,325	-11.4%
Roe	P/R/VR	\$ 14,107	\$ 16,754	\$ 15,439	-\$1,315	-7.8%
Scarborough	M	\$ 9,526	\$ 11,314	\$ 9,725	-\$1,589	-14.0%
South Perth	M	\$ 9,729	\$ 11,555	\$ 10,837	-\$717	-6.2%
Southern River	M	\$ 9,250	\$ 10,987	\$ 10,024	-\$963	-8.8%
Swan Hills	M	\$ 9,563	\$ 11,358	\$ 10,283	-\$1,075	-9.5%
Thornlie	M	\$ 9,815	\$ 11,657	\$ 10,993	-\$665	-5.7%
Vasse	P	\$ 9,962	\$ 11,831	\$ 10,943	-\$888	-7.5%
Victoria Park	M	\$ 12,332	\$ 14,647	\$ 9,446	-\$5,201	-35.5%
Wanneroo	M	\$ 8,405	\$ 9,982	\$ 9,302	-\$681	-6.8%
Warnbro	M	\$ 8,472	\$ 10,062	\$ 9,488	-\$574	-5.7%
Warren-Blackwood	P	\$ 12,579	\$ 14,939	\$ 13,545	-\$1,394	-9.3%
West Swan	M	\$ 9,528	\$ 11,316	\$ 9,864	-\$1,452	-12.8%
Willagee	M	\$ 10,758	\$ 12,778	\$ 11,780	-\$998	-7.8%

## Disclaimer

The tables and graphs in this paper have been prepared from financial and other data published on the ACARA *My School* website ([www.myschool.edu.au](http://www.myschool.edu.au)) over the period 2009 – 2016. The dataset represents over 1000 schools of all types and in all locations across the Western Australia.

The data provides opportunities to examine the detail and impact of government policies in ways not normally possible from other sources.

Where relevant data for a school was incomplete, that school has been excluded from particular calculations. Special schools have also been excluded from this analysis. Such exclusions would have minimal effect on the 'per-student' calculations used throughout this paper. Where it has been possible to validate results in this paper against official sources, they have been found to agree very closely and often exactly.

Notwithstanding these considerations, the data is more than adequate as a basis for examining the general intent, direction and impact of government funding policies over recent years. It is not warranted for any other purpose. ACARA has not endorsed any of the findings or conclusions in this paper.