



Queensland
Government

OFFICE OF ECONOMIC AND STATISTICAL RESEARCH

INFORMATION BRIEF

SCHOOLS AUSTRALIA: 2005

ABS 4221.0

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Main Features

Full-time students annual change:

Queensland	↑	1.3%
Australia	↑	0.5%

Teaching staff (full-time equivalent) annual change:

Queensland	↑	1.3%
Australia	↑	1.1%

Student to teaching staff ratio (full-time equivalent):

	Primary	Secondary
Queensland	15.7	12.8
Australia	16.2	12.2

Apparent retention rate year 7/8 to year 12:

	2003	2004	2005
Queensland	81.5%	81.2%	79.9%
Australia	75.4%	75.7%	75.3%

Apparent retention rate year 10 to year 12:

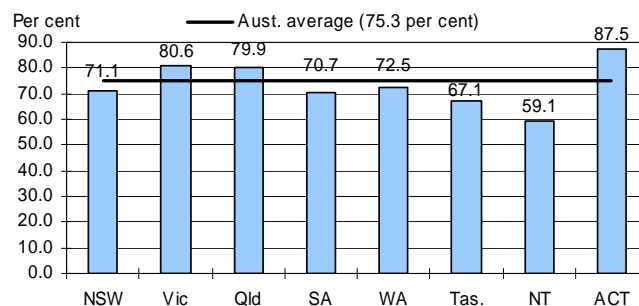
	2003	2004	2005
Queensland	81.5%	80.8%	79.3%
Australia	76.9%	77.2%	76.5%

Commentary

- In August 2005, there were 1,734 schools in Queensland, of which 73.8% (1,280) were government schools and 26.2% (454) were non-government schools.
- Of the 1,734 schools in Queensland in 2005, 1,206 (69.6%) were primary schools, 262 (15.1%) were secondary schools, 216 (12.5%) were combined primary/secondary schools and 50 (2.9%) were special schools. While the numbers of primary and secondary schools have remained about the same since 1995, the number of combined schools has increased from 163 to 216 over this period.
- Queensland had 647,254 full-time students attending schools in 2005, 19.3% of the Australian total. Of these, (69.7%) attended government schools and (30.3%) attended non-government schools. The proportion of full-time students attending non-government schools has increased significantly in recent years, up by 8.7 percentage points since 1980.
- The number of part-time school students in Queensland increased from 4,812 to 4,950 (up 2.9%) over the past year. The number of Australian part-time students also decreased, to 25,073 (down 4.1%).
- The apparent retention rate from the first year of secondary school to year 12 in Queensland was 79.9% (75.3% in Australia). Only the Australian Capital Territory (87.5%) and Victoria (80.6%) recorded higher apparent retention rates (Figure 1). In

Queensland the rate for males was 75.3% and for females it was 84.7%.

Figure 1: Apparent retention rates, year 7/8 of secondary school to year 12, states and territories, 2005



- The apparent retention rate from year 10 to year 12 in Queensland was 79.3% (76.5% for Australia). The rate for males was 75.1%; for females it was 83.5%.
- For the 2005 school year, there were 37,968 full-time Indigenous students in Queensland, 28.1% of the total number of Indigenous students in Australia.
- In 2005, the full-time equivalent student to teaching staff ratio for Queensland primary schools was 15.7 (15.5 for government schools and 16.3 for non-government schools). The primary school ratio for Queensland was the lowest of all states (only Australian Capital Territory and Northern Territory were lower).
- For Queensland secondary schools, the full-time equivalent student to teaching staff ratio was 12.8 in 2005. This ratio was slightly higher than that measured in Australia as a whole (12.2).
- Queensland schools employed the equivalent of 45,062 full-time teaching staff in 2005. Of this total, 24,815 were employed in primary schools and 20,247 in secondary schools.
- Of full-time equivalent primary school teaching staff in Queensland, the female to male ratio has increased from 2.8 in 1995 to 3.6 in 2005. Similarly for full-time equivalent secondary school teaching staff the female to male ratio has increased from 1.1 in 1995 to 1.3 in 2005 (Figure 2).

Figure 2: Full-time equivalent school teaching staff, female to male ratio, Queensland, 1995 to 2005

