

Catholic Schooling in Australia

2019 SNAPSHOT

Catholic schools

Australia's **1,746 Catholic schools** educate more than **764,000 children** and employ over **96,000 teaching and non-teaching staff**.

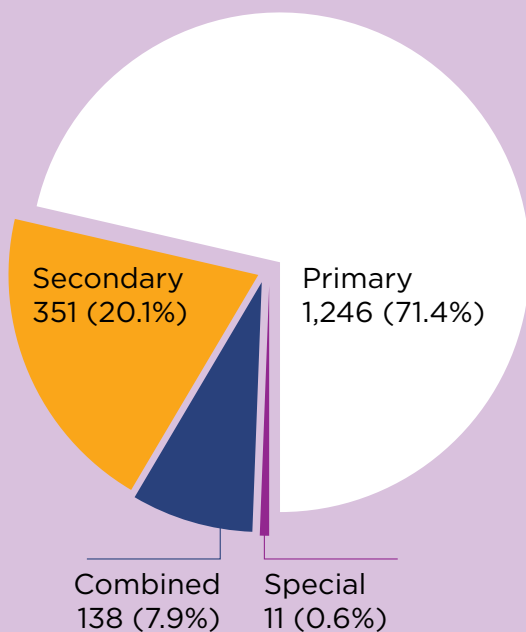
While 66% of students are Catholic, **Catholic schools** offer the choice of a **holistic, balanced and affordable education** to all Australian families.

Almost 40% of **Catholic schools** are **outside major metropolitan areas**, including majority indigenous schools, boarding schools and sole-provider schools.

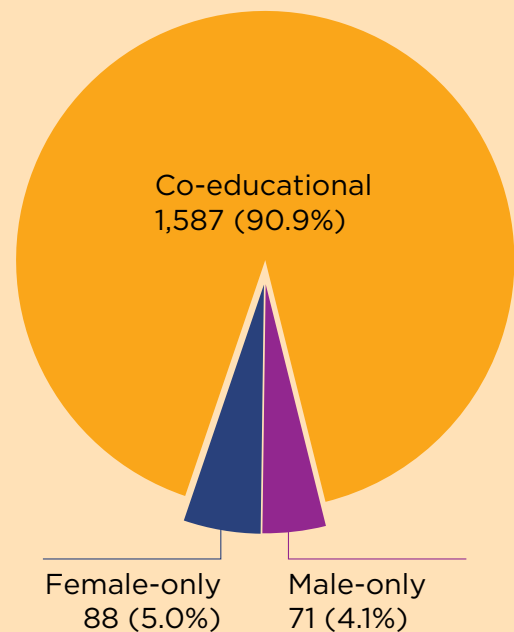
Catholic schools welcome students from disadvantaged backgrounds and have growing proportions of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students and students with disabilities.

Catholic schools have been part of Australia's education story for **200 years**.

Number of Catholic schools 2018



Type of Catholic schools 2018

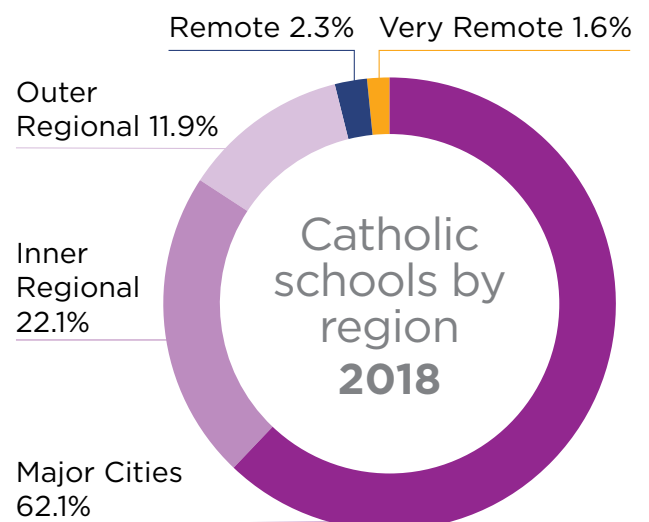


Total 1,746 (100%)

Governance

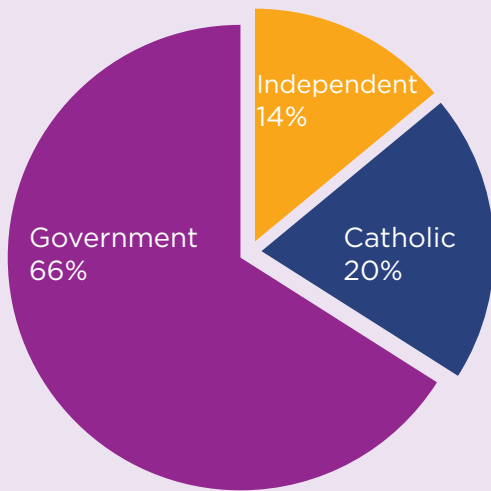
Most Catholic schools are run by Catholic Dioceses, each headed by a Bishop and supported by Catholic school authorities. Diocesan schools educate the majority (93%) of Catholic school students.

Fifty Nine (59) Religious Institute Catholic schools are run independently. These schools educate about 50,000 students, or 7% of all Catholic school students.



Catholic school enrolments

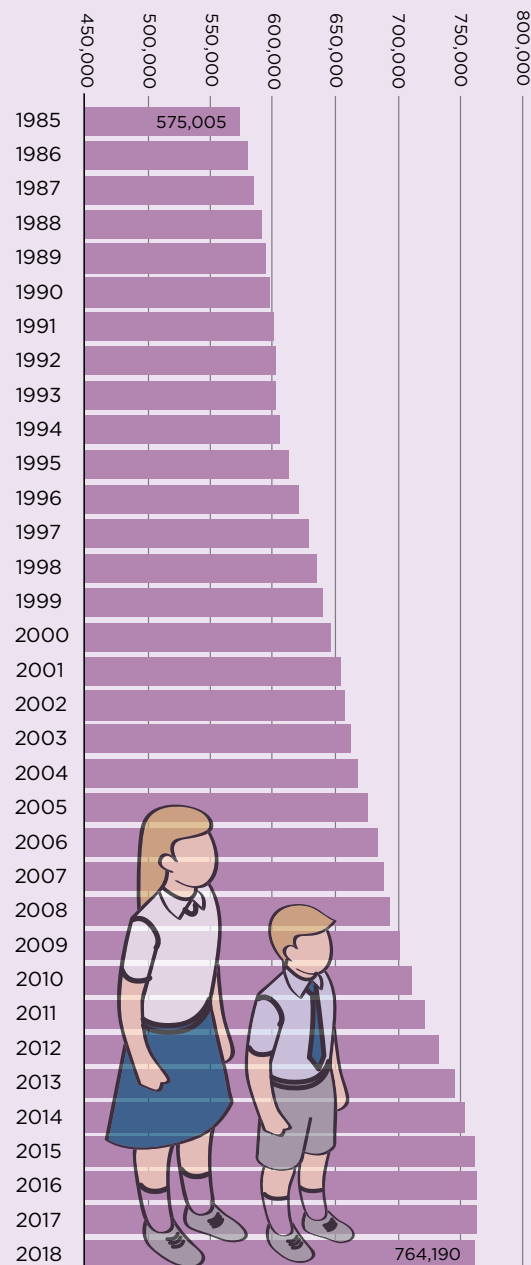
Sector shares of Australian student enrolments 2018



Catholic full time equivalent (FTE) enrolments by education level 2018

	PRIMARY STUDENTS	SECONDARY STUDENTS	ALL STUDENTS
Total	402,904	361,286	764,190
Indigenous students in Catholic schools			23,045 (3.0%)
Boarding students in Catholic schools			5,369 (0.7%)
Overseas students in Catholic schools			1,546 (0.2%)
Students with disability in Catholic schools			137,746 (18.0%)
• Quality Differentiated Teaching Practice			37,412 (4.9%)
• Supplementary			77,037 (10.1%)
• Substantial			19,818 (2.6%)
• Extensive			3,480 (0.5%)

Growth in Catholic school enrolments 1985-2018



Catholic Schools and Dioceses across Australia 2018

	DIOCESE	SCHOOLS	STUDENT FTE
ACT &	Armidale	24	6,032
New South Wales	Bathurst	34	9,502
	Broken Bay	53	24,680
	Canberra-Goulburn	59	24,624
	Lismore	46	18,410
	Maitland-Newcastle	57	19,317
	Parramatta	87	47,209
	Sydney	171	87,311
	Wagga Wagga	31	8,476
	Wilcannia-Forbes	19	2,643
	Wollongong	46	24,210
Northern Territory	Darwin	18	4,794
Queensland	Brisbane	167	95,084
	Cairns	29	11,057
	Rockhampton	42	16,995
	Toowoomba	33	10,083
	Townsville	33	13,704
South Australia	Adelaide	89	41,667
	Port Pirie	13	3,781
Tasmania	Hobart	38	14,875
Victoria	Ballarat	64	18,258
	Melbourne	332	152,864
	Sale	44	18,733
	Sandhurst	55	18,593
Western Australia	Broome	13	1,342
	Bunbury	26	9,134
	Geraldton	11	3,580
	Perth	112	57,232
Total	Australia	1,746	764,190

Catholic school staff and teachers

Teaching and non-teaching staff employed in Catholic schools 2018

Total number of staff (full-time + part-time)	96,098
FTE (full-time equivalent) staff	77,035

Teachers (FTE) in Catholic schools by education level and gender 2018

	Primary Teachers	Secondary Teachers	Special Teachers	All Teachers
Female	21,026	17,579	127	38,733
Male	4,036	11,529	36	15,601
Total	25,063	29,108	163	54,334

Funding

Recurrent Funding 2018

The Australian government contributes around half (55%) of all recurrent funding to Catholic schools. State governments contribute 16% and the rest comes from parents and school communities.

The Australian government sets the amount of funding to educate a child according to the Schooling Resource Standard (SRS). Funding for each student comprises a 'base' amount plus loadings to address six areas of educational disadvantage:

- Students with disability
- Indigeneity
- Low English language proficiency
- Socio-educational disadvantage
- School location
- School size

While educational disadvantage loadings are publicly funded for students in all sectors, government contributions to the 'base' amount reduces according to non-government school parents' capacity to contribute (CTC) school fees.

The **Australian Education Act** states that Catholic schools are required to fund between 10% and 80% of the base amount. The size of the contribution depends on where students live and the socio-economic status (SES score) of their community. Schools from poorer areas do not contribute more than ten per cent. A few schools, such as majority indigenous schools, special schools and sole provider schools, do not have to contribute.

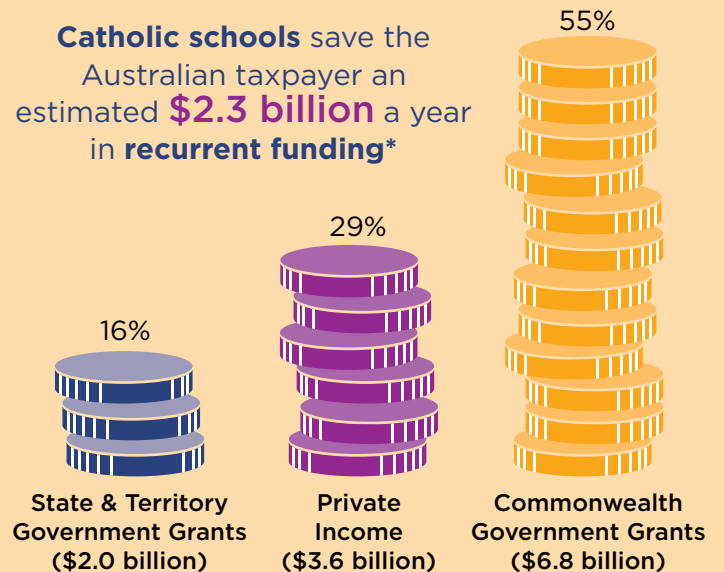
Like state government school systems, Catholic school systems – one in each state or territory – distribute recurrent funding to meet the educational needs of the students who attend diocesan schools within their jurisdictions.

Capital Funding 2018

Catholic schools raise the majority (89%) of capital funds for development work such as buildings, grounds and equipment from parents and school communities. Governments also distribute a small proportion of capital funds to disadvantaged Catholic schools through Block Grant Authorities which publish lists of schools and projects which have received grants.

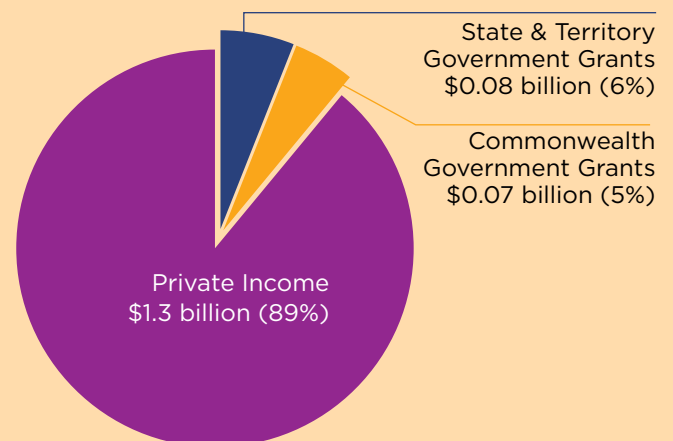
Sources of Recurrent Funding, 2017

Catholic schools save the Australian taxpayer an estimated **\$2.3 billion** a year in recurrent funding*



* Estimate based on legislated school SES capacity to contribute percentages, excluding non-systemic Catholic schools.

Sources of Capital Funding, 2017



Catholic schools save the Australian taxpayer and estimated **\$1.3 billion** a year in capital funding