



2009

4220.0

SCHOOLS, PRELIMINARY AUSTRALIA

EMBARGO: 11.30AM (CANBERRA TIME) THURS 28 JAN 2010

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INQUIRIES

For further information about these and related statistics, contact the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070.

NOTES

ABOUT THIS RELEASE

This release contains a summary of state, territory and national data for the broad categories of schools, students and staff at the 2009 school census date of the 7th August. More detailed data, including derived participation and progression measures, will be published in *Schools, Australia* (cat. no. 4221.0), due for release in March 2010, or in the detailed Data Cubes and spreadsheets subsequently published on the ABS website.

SOURCE DATA

These data are sourced from the (*non-finance*) *National Schools Statistics Collection* (NSSC), which is a joint undertaking of the various state and territory departments of education, the Australian Government Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations (DEEWR), the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS), and the Ministerial Council for Education, Early Childhood Development and Youth Affairs (MCEECDYA). The scope of the collection is bound by the definitions of schools, students and staff which is available on request in the ABS *Notes, Instructions and Tabulations* (NIT). See also the Glossary of this publication.

CHANGES AFFECTING THIS RELEASE

In 2009, improvements were made to the student enrolment data collection process for government schools in the Northern Territory. This enabled better identification of duplicate student records, which were removed. This change will affect comparisons with previous years, of all data showing numbers of students or drawing on these numbers, for the Northern Territory and Australia.

In addition, Tasmanian education underwent a significant restructure of post-year 10 education in 2009. This reform, entitled *Tasmania Tomorrow*, created three new statutory organisations (called the *Tasmanian Academy*, the *Tasmanian Polytechnic* and the *Tasmanian Skills Institute*) from the merger of state government colleges (years 11 and 12) and TAFE Tasmania. In 2009 four of Tasmania's eight government colleges, along with TAFE Tasmania, were restructured and brought under the authority of the Tasmanian Academy and the Tasmanian Polytechnic. The four remaining colleges continued under the authority of the Tasmanian Department of Education (TDE) and will transition to the new structure by 2012. Census data from the Tasmanian Polytechnic and the Tasmanian Academy were combined with TDE data to provide the NSSC submission for Tasmanian government schools. TDE undertook a process of data collection, cleaning, reconciliation and application of scope to ensure that the data provided to the NSSC fully complied with collection definitions.

ROUNDING AND CONFIDENTIALITY

Where estimates have been rounded, discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and totals. Small values in tables have been perturbed to protect confidentiality.

CAUTION

The statistics in this release are preliminary and are subject to change.

Brian Pink
Australian Statistician

ABBREVIATIONS

ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics
ACT	Australian Capital Territory
Aust.	Australia
FTE	full-time equivalent
no.	number
NSSC	National Schools Statistics Collection
NSW	New South Wales
NT	Northern Territory
Qld	Queensland
SA	South Australia
Tas.	Tasmania
TAFE	Technical and Further Education
VET	vocational education and training
Vic.	Victoria
WA	Western Australia

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NUMBER OF SCHOOLS, by affiliation—level of schooling, states and territories(a)

	<i>NSW</i>	<i>Vic.</i>	<i>Qld</i>	<i>SA</i>	<i>WA</i>	<i>Tas.</i>	<i>NT</i>	<i>ACT</i>	<i>Aust.</i>
	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.
GOVERNMENT									
Primary schools									
2008	1 642	1 198	934	428	507	140	56	57	4 962
2009	1 634	1 180	929	421	510	139	62	55	4 930
Secondary schools									
2008	369	253	177	72	97	39	15	17	1 039
2009	370	252	178	72	99	37	15	17	1 040
Combined schools									
2008	66	58	92	76	95	26	75	6	494
2009	66	67	91	75	95	26	70	7	497
Special schools									
2008	112	76	47	20	69	5	5	4	338
2009	111	76	47	20	67	5	5	4	335
CATHOLIC									
Primary schools									
2008	417	379	195	68	111	25	7	23	1 225
2009	417	379	196	68	111	24	7	23	1 225
Secondary schools									
2008	130	87	63	10	25	5	3	5	328
2009	130	86	61	10	15	5	3	5	315
Combined schools									
2008	32	13	25	22	21	7	5	2	127
2009	32	14	26	22	30	8	5	2	139
Special schools									
2008	7	8	6	2	2	—	—	—	25
2009	7	9	6	2	2	—	—	—	26
INDEPENDENT									
Primary schools									
2008	85	49	37	39	40	4	4	3	261
2009	82	48	36	38	43	5	4	3	259
Secondary schools									
2008	27	20	10	13	9	2	7	—	88
2009	25	19	11	12	8	2	7	—	84
Combined schools									
2008	195	134	121	44	83	23	10	10	620
2009	196	136	123	46	82	22	10	10	625
Special schools									
2008	27	13	6	1	6	1	—	1	55
2009	27	13	6	1	5	1	—	1	54
ALL SCHOOLS									
2008	3 109	2 288	1 713	795	1 065	277	187	128	9 562
2009	3 097	2 279	1 710	787	1 067	274	188	127	9 529

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(a) For definitions of terms, see Glossary.

NUMBER OF FULL-TIME AND FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT STUDENTS, by affiliation—level of schooling, states and territories(a)

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas. (b)	NT(c)	ACT	Aust. (c)
	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.
FULL-TIME STUDENTS									
GOVERNMENT									
Primary									
2008	430 057	310 835	308 771	105 080	150 842	33 475	18 460	18 546	1 376 066
2009	430 826	312 144	310 327	104 106	152 265	32 923	18 173	18 843	1 379 607
Secondary									
2008	304 585	224 324	171 079	57 393	80 105	24 805	10 715	15 482	888 488
2009	304 875	224 932	174 288	58 601	81 234	24 581	10 318	15 479	894 308
CATHOLIC									
Primary									
2008	124 122	99 341	73 218	28 011	36 750	7 365	2 723	8 822	380 352
2009	123 774	100 415	75 539	28 081	37 231	7 390	2 821	8 815	384 066
Secondary									
2008	114 712	86 325	51 410	18 884	27 662	6 697	2 083	8 452	316 225
2009	115 578	87 419	52 631	19 058	28 149	6 778	1 918	8 501	320 032
INDEPENDENT									
Primary									
2008	63 391	44 812	50 577	23 166	25 664	3 930	2 172	3 372	217 084
2009	64 158	45 698	52 665	23 750	27 132	3 844	2 235	3 573	223 055
Secondary									
2008	71 684	72 696	51 407	18 927	28 634	5 319	2 904	4 505	256 076
2009	71 737	73 316	52 538	19 836	29 844	5 391	3 024	4 589	260 275
TOTAL									
Primary									
2008	617 570	454 988	432 566	156 257	213 256	44 770	23 355	30 740	1 973 502
2009	618 758	458 257	438 531	155 937	216 628	44 157	23 229	31 231	1 986 728
Secondary									
2008	490 981	383 345	273 896	95 204	136 401	36 821	15 702	28 439	1 460 789
2009	492 190	385 667	279 457	97 495	139 227	36 750	15 260	28 569	1 474 615

FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT (FTE) STUDENTS

GOVERNMENT									
Primary									
2008	430 057	311 023	309 683	105 089	150 842	33 477	18 473	18 549	1 377 193
2009	430 826	312 363	311 383	104 116	152 265	32 931	18 185	18 848	1 380 917
Secondary									
2008	305 722	225 422	172 116	60 216	80 596	25 662	10 845	15 482	896 060
2009	305 830	226 322	175 421	61 447	81 676	25 729	10 428	15 483	902 334
CATHOLIC									
Primary									
2008	124 126	99 417	73 250	28 016	36 750	7 367	2 723	8 824	380 473
2009	123 780	100 493	75 564	28 085	37 241	7 394	2 821	8 818	384 195
Secondary									
2008	114 753	86 382	51 460	19 037	27 671	6 701	2 083	8 456	316 542
2009	115 616	87 475	52 687	19 186	28 149	6 778	1 918	8 503	320 311
INDEPENDENT									
Primary									
2008	63 462	44 908	50 662	23 204	25 853	3 938	2 172	3 443	217 642
2009	64 211	45 782	52 725	23 992	27 343	3 858	2 235	3 634	223 781

(a) For definitions of terms, see Glossary.

(b) While Tasmanian education underwent a significant restructure of post-year 10 education in 2009, processes were undertaken, by the Tasmanian Department of Education, to ensure that data provided fully complied with collection definitions. See Notes section of this publication for more detail.

(c) In 2009, changes to the processing of Northern Territory enrolment data will affect comparisons with previous years of all numbers drawing on student data for the Northern Territory. See Notes section of this publication for more detail.

NUMBER OF FULL-TIME AND FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT STUDENTS, by affiliation—level of schooling, states and territories(a) *continued*

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.(b)	NT(c)	ACT	Aust.(c)
	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.
.....									
FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT (FTE) STUDENTS <i>cont.</i>									
INDEPENDENT									
Secondary									
2008	71 830	72 754	51 441	19 150	28 638	5 322	2 921	4 509	256 565
2009	71 916	73 354	52 592	19 964	29 846	5 403	3 046	4 592	260 713
TOTAL									
Primary									
2008	617 645	455 348	433 595	156 309	213 445	44 782	23 368	30 815	1 975 307
2009	618 816	458 638	439 672	156 193	216 849	44 183	23 241	31 300	1 988 893
Secondary									
2008	492 304	384 557	275 018	98 403	136 905	37 684	15 849	28 447	1 469 167
2009	493 361	387 151	280 699	100 597	139 671	37 910	15 391	28 578	1 483 358

(a) For definitions of terms, see Glossary.

(b) While Tasmanian education underwent a significant restructure of post-year 10 education in 2009, processes were undertaken, by the Tasmanian Department of Education, to ensure that data provided fully complied with collection definitions. See Notes section of this publication for more detail.

(c) In 2009, changes to the processing of Northern Territory enrolment data will affect comparisons with previous years of all numbers drawing on student data for the Northern Territory. See Notes section of this publication for more detail.

NUMBER OF INDIGENOUS AND NON-INDIGENOUS FULL-TIME STUDENTS, by affiliation—level of schooling, states and territories(a)

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas. (b)	NT(c)	ACT	Aust. (c)
	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.
INDIGENOUS FULL-TIME STUDENTS									
GOVERNMENT									
Primary									
2008	23 857	4 897	26 203	5 209	12 998	2 439	8 699	572	84 874
2009	24 620	5 035	26 685	5 391	13 049	2 667	8 447	653	86 547
Secondary									
2008	15 339	2 940	12 278	2 485	6 231	1 908	4 206	326	45 713
2009	15 929	3 102	12 672	2 588	6 182	2 031	3 873	376	46 753
NON-GOVERNMENT									
Primary									
2008	3 142	487	2 905	600	2 223	368	1 290	152	11 167
2009	3 355	514	3 212	624	2 171	391	1 315	127	11 709
Secondary									
2008	2 267	517	3 273	340	1 391	302	1 698	127	9 915
2009	2 571	572	3 541	404	1 404	330	1 581	129	10 532
TOTAL									
Primary									
2008	26 999	5 384	29 108	5 809	15 221	2 807	9 989	724	96 041
2009	27 975	5 549	29 897	6 015	15 220	3 058	9 762	780	98 256
Secondary									
2008	17 606	3 457	15 551	2 825	7 622	2 210	5 904	453	55 628
2009	18 500	3 674	16 213	2 992	7 586	2 361	5 454	505	57 285
NON-INDIGENOUS FULL-TIME STUDENTS									
GOVERNMENT									
Primary									
2008	406 200	305 938	282 568	99 871	137 844	31 036	9 761	17 974	1 291 192
2009	406 206	307 109	283 642	98 715	139 216	30 256	9 726	18 190	1 293 060
Secondary									
2008	289 246	221 384	158 801	54 908	73 874	22 897	6 509	15 156	842 775
2009	288 946	221 830	161 616	56 013	75 052	22 550	6 445	15 103	847 555
NON-GOVERNMENT									
Primary									
2008	184 371	143 666	120 890	50 577	60 191	10 927	3 605	12 042	586 269
2009	184 577	145 599	124 992	51 207	62 192	10 843	3 741	12 261	595 412
Secondary									
2008	184 129	158 504	99 544	37 471	54 905	11 714	3 289	12 830	562 386
2009	184 744	160 163	101 628	38 490	56 589	11 839	3 361	12 961	569 775
TOTAL									
Primary									
2008	590 571	449 604	403 458	150 448	198 035	41 963	13 366	30 016	1 877 461
2009	590 783	452 708	408 634	149 922	201 408	41 099	13 467	30 451	1 888 472
Secondary									
2008	473 375	379 888	258 345	92 379	128 779	34 611	9 798	27 986	1 405 161
2009	473 690	381 993	263 244	94 503	131 641	34 389	9 806	28 064	1 417 330

(a) For definitions of terms, see Glossary.

(b) While Tasmanian education underwent a significant restructure of post-year 10 education in 2009, processes were undertaken, by the Tasmanian Department of Education, to ensure that data provided fully complied with collection definitions. See Notes section of this publication for more detail.

(c) In 2009, changes to the processing of Northern Territory enrolment data will affect comparisons with previous years of all numbers drawing on student data for the Northern Territory. See Notes section of this publication for more detail.

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NUMBER OF FULL-TIME TEACHING AND OTHER IN-SCHOOL STAFF, by affiliation—states and territories(a)

	<i>NSW</i>	<i>Vic.</i>	<i>Qld</i>	<i>SA</i>	<i>WA</i>	<i>Tas.</i>	<i>NT</i>	<i>ACT</i>	<i>Aust.</i>
	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.
GOVERNMENT									
Teaching staff									
2008	54 593	42 821	40 189	12 739	19 521	4 880	2 486	2 802	180 031
2009	54 683	43 054	41 353	12 746	19 761	5 030	2 633	2 862	182 122
Other staff									
2008	20 086	16 922	24 929	6 629	12 796	2 921	1 468	904	86 655
2009	20 275	18 254	25 706	6 705	13 651	2 986	1 538	1 028	90 143
NON-GOVERNMENT									
Teaching staff									
2008	31 541	28 392	17 320	7 553	9 897	2 093	896	1 945	99 637
2009	31 552	28 868	17 703	7 675	10 262	2 166	907	1 990	101 123
Other staff									
2008	13 373	12 608	11 092	3 646	5 740	1 255	689	815	49 218
2009	14 194	13 006	11 635	3 850	6 160	1 292	705	936	51 778
TOTAL									
2008	119 593	100 743	93 530	30 567	47 954	11 149	5 539	6 466	415 541
2009	120 704	103 182	96 397	30 976	49 834	11 474	5 783	6 816	425 166

(a) For definitions of terms, see Glossary.

NUMBER OF FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT (FTE) TEACHING STAFF, by affiliation—level of schooling, states and territories(a)

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.
GOVERNMENT									
Primary									
2008	27 007.2	19 858.3	19 956.0	6 802.7	9 839.9	2 153.4	1 514.3	1 362.1	88 493.9
2009	27 133.5	19 889.1	20 225.9	6 753.6	9 985.9	2 219.5	1 496.9	1 357.0	89 061.4
Secondary									
2008	24 612.0	19 056.1	13 423.8	4 772.7	6 898.7	1 968.3	841.8	1 283.8	72 857.3
2009	24 585.2	19 046.1	13 794.4	4 762.8	6 998.4	1 989.9	987.8	1 339.6	73 504.1
CATHOLIC									
Primary									
2008	6 788.1	6 068.6	4 072.8	1 656.8	2 017.9	388.4	174.9	475.5	21 643.0
2009	6 776.4	6 096.1	4 121.1	1 646.9	2 101.7	397.0	186.7	474.5	21 800.4
Secondary									
2008	8 886.2	6 877.2	4 006.2	1 540.1	2 155.2	502.3	167.3	612.1	24 746.6
2009	8 871.7	6 914.9	4 159.4	1 577.5	2 199.1	506.8	170.5	607.1	25 007.0
INDEPENDENT									
Primary									
2008	4 401.0	3 539.6	3 057.1	1 496.2	1 674.4	298.4	140.4	232.7	14 839.8
2009	4 425.3	3 614.4	3 119.9	1 532.4	1 738.4	304.1	139.0	256.9	15 130.4
Secondary									
2008	7 187.2	7 354.5	4 448.5	1 730.5	2 626.0	505.2	278.7	395.1	24 525.7
2009	7 067.4	7 429.8	4 463.4	1 760.1	2 748.0	519.3	303.2	401.3	24 692.5
TOTAL									
Primary									
2008	38 196.3	29 466.5	27 085.9	9 955.7	13 532.2	2 840.2	1 829.6	2 070.3	124 976.7
2009	38 335.2	29 599.6	27 466.9	9 932.9	13 826.0	2 920.6	1 822.6	2 088.4	125 992.2
Secondary									
2008	40 685.4	33 287.8	21 878.5	8 043.3	11 679.9	2 975.8	1 287.8	2 291.0	122 129.6
2009	40 524.3	33 390.8	22 417.2	8 100.4	11 945.5	3 016.0	1 461.5	2 348.0	123 203.6

(a) For definitions of terms, see Glossary.

FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT (FTE) STUDENT/TEACHING STAFF RATIOS, by affiliation—level of schooling, states and territories(a)

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas. (b)	NT(c)	ACT	Aust. (c)
GOVERNMENT									
Primary									
2008	15.9	15.7	15.5	15.4	15.3	15.5	12.2	13.6	15.6
2009	15.9	15.7	15.4	15.4	15.2	14.8	12.1	13.9	15.5
Secondary									
2008	12.4	11.8	12.8	12.6	11.7	13.0	12.9	12.1	12.3
2009	12.4	11.9	12.7	12.9	11.7	12.9	10.6	11.6	12.3
CATHOLIC									
Primary									
2008	18.3	16.4	18.0	16.9	18.2	19.0	15.6	18.6	17.6
2009	18.3	16.5	18.3	17.1	17.7	18.6	15.1	18.6	17.6
Secondary									
2008	12.9	12.6	12.8	12.4	12.8	13.3	12.5	13.8	12.8
2009	13.0	12.7	12.7	12.2	12.8	13.4	11.2	14.0	12.8
INDEPENDENT									
Primary									
2008	14.4	12.7	16.6	15.5	15.4	13.2	15.5	14.8	14.7
2009	14.5	12.7	16.9	15.7	15.7	12.7	16.1	14.1	14.8
Secondary									
2008	10.0	9.9	11.6	11.1	10.9	10.5	10.5	11.4	10.5
2009	10.2	9.9	11.8	11.3	10.9	10.4	10.0	11.4	10.6
TOTAL									
Primary									
2008	16.2	15.5	16.0	15.7	15.8	15.8	12.8	14.9	15.8
2009	16.1	15.5	16.0	15.7	15.7	15.1	12.8	15.0	15.8
Secondary									
2008	12.1	11.6	12.6	12.2	11.7	12.7	12.3	12.4	12.0
2009	12.2	11.6	12.5	12.4	11.7	12.6	10.5	12.2	12.0

(a) For definitions of terms, see Glossary.

(b) While Tasmanian education underwent a significant restructure of post-year 10 education in 2009, processes were undertaken, by the Tasmanian Department of Education, to ensure that data provided fully complied with collection definitions. See Notes section of this publication for more detail.

(c) In 2009, changes to the processing of Northern Territory enrolment data will affect comparisons with previous years of all numbers drawing on student data for the Northern Territory. See Notes section of this publication for more detail.

APPARENT RETENTION RATES OF FULL-TIME STUDENTS , by affiliation—states and territories(a)

	<i>NSW</i>	<i>Vic.</i>	<i>Qld</i>	<i>SA</i>	<i>WA</i>	<i>Tas. (b)</i>	<i>NT(c)</i>	<i>ACT</i>	<i>Aust. (c)</i>
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
YEAR 7/8 TO YEAR 12									
Government									
2008	64.6	71.9	70.3	64.7	68.2	61.3	55.6	95.9	68.1
2009	66.3	73.2	72.8	69.1	69.2	61.3	53.8	99.5	70.0
Total									
2008	69.6	79.4	78.0	74.4	73.6	64.8	56.0	85.2	74.5
2009	71.3	80.2	79.4	78.5	74.8	63.8	54.8	86.8	75.9
YEAR 10 TO YEAR 12									
Government									
2008	67.6	74.2	70.7	66.0	67.6	61.8	74.6	96.6	70.1
2009	68.9	75.5	72.4	68.9	67.9	62.2	68.6	100.4	71.4
Total									
2008	72.2	80.9	77.5	74.3	72.2	64.9	66.5	86.4	75.6
2009	73.5	81.2	78.6	77.5	73.4	64.1	62.3	88.7	76.6

(a) For definitions of terms, see Glossary.

(b) While Tasmanian education underwent a significant restructure of post-year 10 education in 2009, processes were undertaken, by the Tasmanian Department of Education, to ensure that data provided fully complied with collection definitions. See Notes section of this publication for more detail.

(c) In 2009, changes to the processing of Northern Territory enrolment data will affect comparisons with previous years of all numbers drawing on student data for the Northern Territory. See Notes section of this publication for more detail.

GLOSSARY

Affiliation	For the purposes of the NSSC, data reporting is restricted to the categories of Government, Catholic and Independent schooling. 'Independent' describes all non-government schooling other than Catholic.
Apparent retention rate	The apparent retention rate (ARR) is the number of school students in a designated level-year of education expressed as a percentage of their respective cohort group in a base year. For example, for the 2009 ARR for year 10 to year 12, the cohort group in the base year would be the number of year 10 students in 2007, and the designated level-year of education would be the number of year 12 students in 2009.
Full-time equivalent (FTE)	This is the addition of those defined as full-time (who have an imputed value of 1.0) with the sum of the imputed values of those defined as part-time (who are assessed as having a value between 0.1 and 0.9). The term can apply to both students and staff.
Level of education	Level of education is split into primary and secondary school education (as defined).
Other in-school staff	Other in-school staff include staff who are active in school but do not spend the majority of their time teaching students. They are broadly grouped into Specialist support, Administrative and clerical, and Building operations and maintenance.
Primary school education	Primary education typically commences at around age five and lasts for seven to eight years. It does not include sessional education such as preschool education. In NSW, Vic., Tas., NT and the ACT, primary education may extend from pre-year 1 to year 6. In Qld, SA, and WA it may extend from pre-year 1 to year 7. Qld introduced a formal pre-year 1 grade of school education in 2007. The structure of schooling in the NT changed in 2008 with year 7 schooling now considered part of secondary education.
School	<p>A school (other than a special school) must satisfy the following criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ its major activity is the provision of full-time day primary or secondary education or the provision of primary or secondary distance education.■ it is headed by a principal (or equivalent) responsible for its internal operation.■ it is possible for students to enrol for a minimum of four continuous weeks, excluding breaks for school vacations. <p>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.</p>
Secondary school education	Secondary education typically commences after completion of primary education, at around age 12 years, and lasts for five or six years. In NSW, Vic., Tas., NT and the ACT, secondary education may extend from year 7 to year 12. In Qld, SA and WA it may extend from year 8 to year 12. Part-time secondary student estimates vary considerably between states and territories, as each education authority has different policy and organisational arrangements. The number of part-time courses available also varies considerably between states and territories. Age level data for part-time students are not published as not all states and territories collect the age of part-time students.
Student	<p>A student is a person who prior to the census date is formally enrolled in a school and active in a course of study other than preschool or TAFE courses. Students not present at school on the NSSC census date were included if they were expected to be absent for less than four continuous weeks (excluding school vacations). Students were excluded if they had left the school or had been absent without explanation for four continuous weeks (excluding school vacations) prior to the census date.</p> <p>Students who are undertaking TAFE, tertiary studies, apprenticeships, work placements, VET in schools or a combination of such pathways, in addition to 'normal' school subjects, are in the scope of the NSSC, regardless of which year of schooling these alternative pathways are undertaken. The workload of both the 'normal' school subject(s) and alternative pathways are aggregated together to determine whether a</p>

GLOSSARY *continued*

Student *continued* student is classified as full-time or part-time and in calculating the full-time equivalent for part-time students.

A full-time student is one who undertakes a workload equivalent to, or greater than, that prescribed for a full-time student of that year level. This may vary between states and territories and from year to year.

A part-time student is one who undertakes a workload less than that specified as full-time.

The full-time equivalent (FTE) of part-time students has been calculated by dividing the student's workload into that which is considered to be a full workload by that state or territory. To calculate the FTE of all students the FTE of part-time students is added to the number of full-time students.

Student/Teaching Staff Ratio The student to teaching staff ratio is the number of full-time students plus full-time equivalent (FTE) of part-time students divided by the number of full-time equivalent (FTE) teaching staff.

Teaching staff Teaching staff are staff who spend the majority of their time in contact with students. They support students either by direct class contact or on an individual basis, and have teaching duties, (ie. are engaged to impart school curriculum). For the purposes of this collection, teaching staff includes principals, deputy principals, campus principals and senior teachers mainly involved in administration. Teacher aides and assistants, and specialist support staff are excluded.

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