

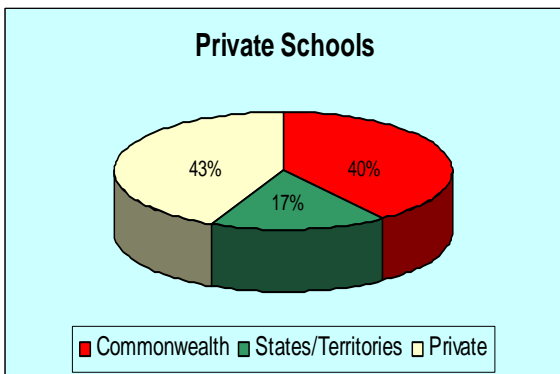
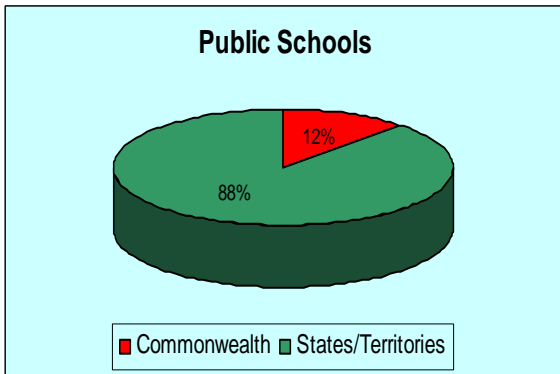


SCHOOLS FUNDING – BASIC FACTS

Where Does The Money Come From?

The sources of funding to public and private schools are shown in Graph 1.

Graph 1



How Much Does Each Get?

Table 1, based on figures in the 2003 Federal Budget, shows the dollar amounts represented by this.

Table 1

	Public Schools	Private Schools
Commonwealth	\$2262m (12%)	\$4373m (40%)
State and Territory	\$16588m (88%)	\$1859m (17%)
Private		\$4701m (43%)
Total	\$18850m	\$10933m
% of total	63%	37%

Source: Calculated from Budget Paper No. 1, pp6-19, 2003

What Does This Mean in Per Student Terms?

Table 2 Divides the Totals by the Number of Students in each sector in 2003. It shows that expenditure per private school student is nearly \$2000 more than that on public school students.

Table 2

	Public	Private
Total \$m	\$18850m	\$10933m
Students	2254632	1063988
\$ Per Student	\$8361	\$10275

Source: Enrolments from ABS Schools,4221.0 Feb 2004

Australian Government Funding

As can be seen from the figures above, the Australian Government gives a disproportionate share of its funding to private schools. In its

funding proposals for the next quadrennium (2005-2008) only 31% of its expenditure on schools goes to public schools. It is funding private schools at an average of about \$4000 for each student, whilst public schools get less than \$1000 per student.

Thus its unfair funding distribution between public and private schools is the major

contributor to the fact that private students have more spent on their education.

The Australian Government is using its school funding dollars to make inequities greater when it should be seeking to make them smaller.

For further information on these and other issues please see other Fact Sheets in this series at:
<http://www.aefederal.org.au/Debates/schoolscampaign.html>

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