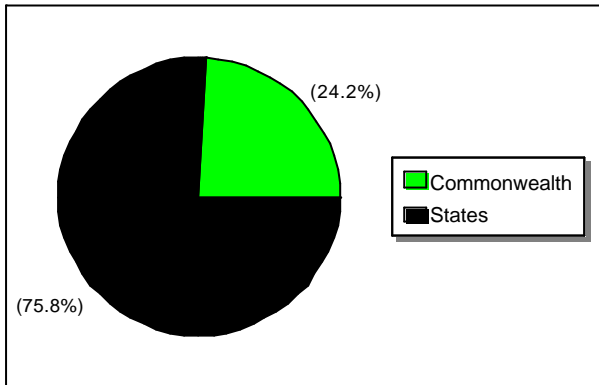




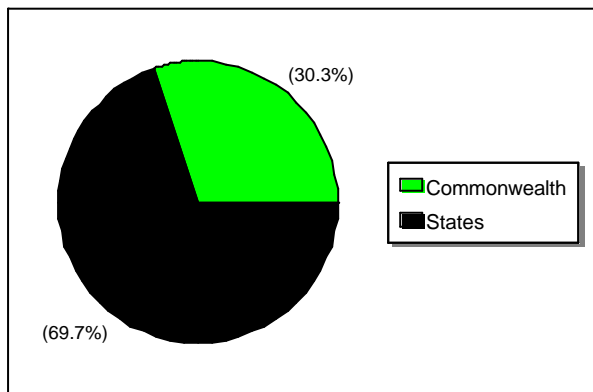
HOW BIG IS THE COMMONWEALTH ROLE IN SCHOOLS?

Under the previous Federal Government the Commonwealth role changed quite dramatically, as the charts below show.

TOTAL GOVERNMENT OUTLAYS ON AUSTRALIAN SCHOOLS - 1983-84 (1989-90 constant prices)



TOTAL GOVERNMENT OUTLAYS ON AUSTRALIAN SCHOOLS - 1993-94 (1989-90 constant prices)



In government schools this was because the Commonwealth increased expenditure whilst State/Territory expenditure went down slightly, as shown in the following table:

REAL PER STUDENT OUTLAYS - GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS - (1989-90 constant prices) \$ PER STUDENT

	88-89	89-90	90-91	91-92	92-93	93-94	Change
Commth	689	607	658	750	787	829	20%
State	3019	3127	3188	3163	3086	3011	-1%
Total	3708	3734	3846	3913	3873	3930	3%

Over the five years to 1993-94 some states actually reduced their per student expenditure, as shown below:

REAL PER STUDENT OUTLAYS ON GOVERNMENT SCHOOLING (1989-90 = 100) \$ PER STUDENT

	89/90	90/91	91/92	92/93	93/94	Change
NSW	3739	3849	3778	3828	4085	9%
VIC	4524	4351	4373	4543	4282	-5%
QLD	3675	4001	3797	3928	3957	8%
SA	4336	4437	4389	4567	4860	12%
WA	4059	3997	3973	4049	4219	4%
TAS	4688	4110	3919	4138	4339	-7%
NT	5637	5903	6081	5982	6218	10%
ACT	4590	4830	4159	4479	4706	3%
AUS	4039	4109	4037	4147	4230	5%

State/territory expenditure also tends to go up and down, whilst the Commonwealth expenditure has until now grown steadily (see chart on next page)

REFERENCES

Marginson, S., Martin, R., and Williamson, J., 1995, Creating an Education Nation, Australian Education Union, Melbourne.

WHY DO THE STATES AND TERRITORIES KEEP SAYING SCHOOLS ARE THEIR RESPONSIBILITY WHEN THEY DO NOT FULFILL THAT RESPONSIBILITY?

TRENDS IN REAL PER STUDENT EXPENDITURE BY STATE - (1989-90 =100) PER STUDENT

