



**AEU National Principals Committee
State of Our Schools Survey 2005**

Summary Report

November 2005

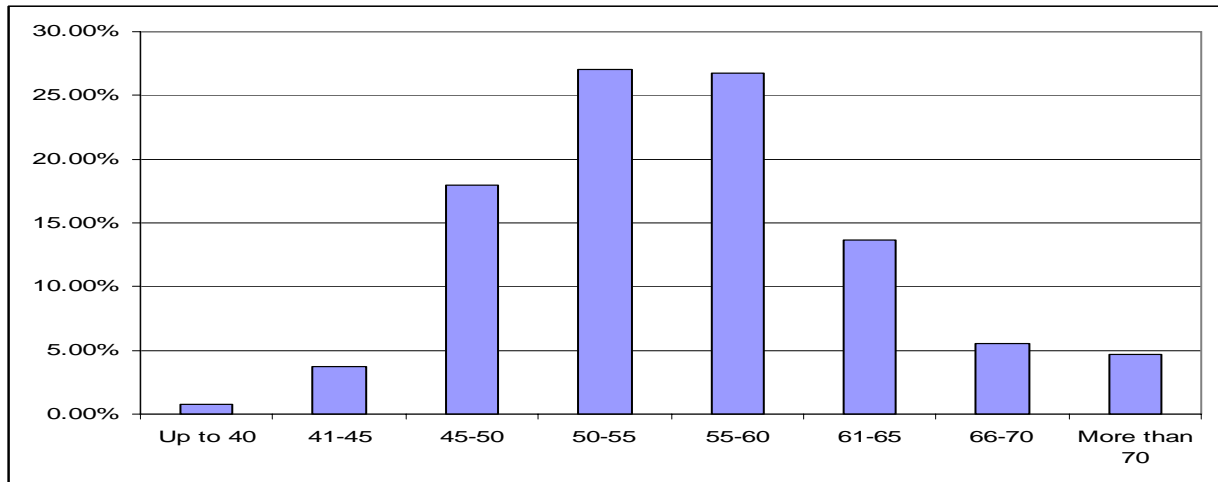
Prepared by Roy Martin
Federal Research Officer

This survey of principals in public schools was conducted between 5 September and 14th October 2005. There were 1107 valid responses. The following table gives approximate responses rates in states and territories and by type of school. Caution should be exercised in using figures where numbers are low.

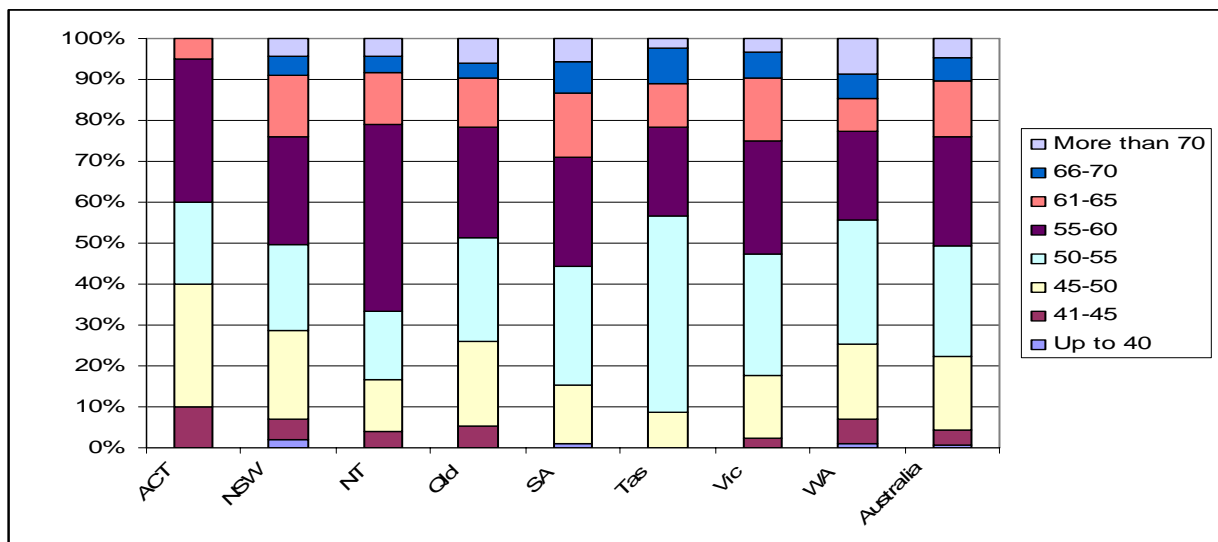
	ACT	NSW	NT	Qld	SA	Tas	Vic	WA	Aust
Primary	13	242	20	90	85	32	218	75	775
Primary/Secondary	1	6	3	10	7	9	11	12	59
Secondary	6	41	2	20	11	9	75	26	190
Special	1	13		1	3	2	22	13	55
Other	1	6	2	2	5	1	5	3	25
Total Responses	22	308	27	123	111	53	331	129	1104
Schools	97	2192	150	1185	602	233	1618	808	6885
Overall Response rate	23%	14%	18%	10%	19%	23%	20%	16%	16%

1. Workloads

1.1 How many hours would you work in an average week? (Australia)

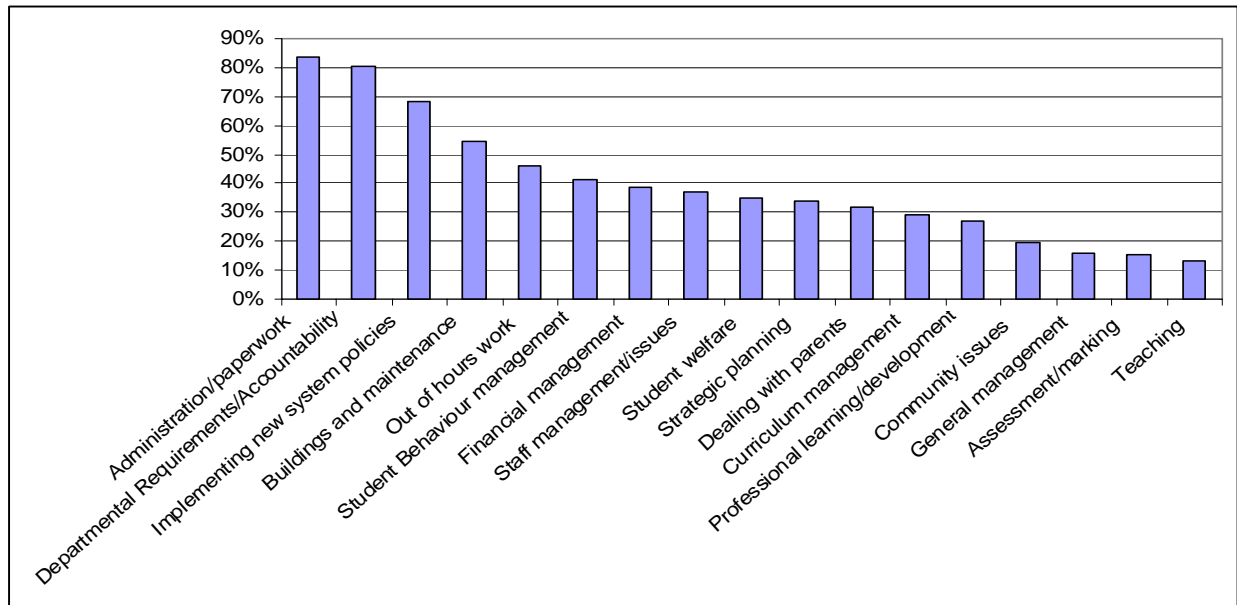


(States and territories)

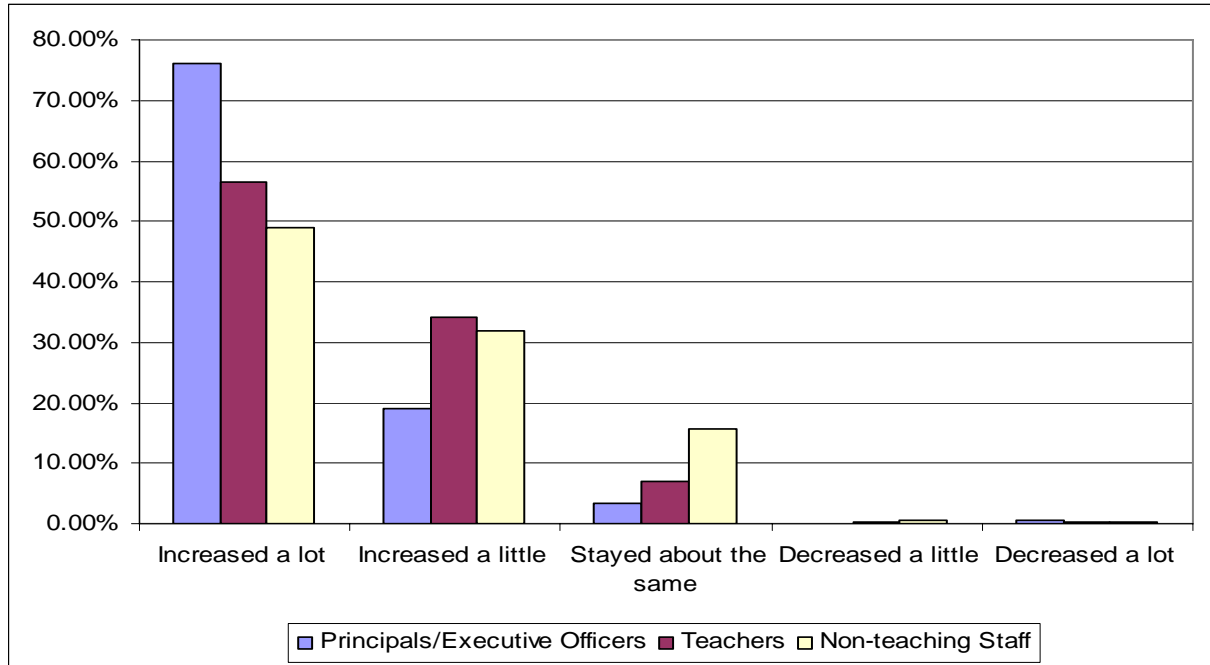


	ACT	NSW	NT	Qld	SA	Tas	Vic	WA	Australia
Up to 40	0.00%	2.01%	0.00%	0.00%	0.96%	0.00%	0.00%	0.87%	0.78%
41-45	10.00%	5.03%	4.17%	5.22%	0.00%	0.00%	2.30%	6.09%	3.70%
45-50	30.00%	21.48%	12.50%	20.87%	14.42%	8.70%	15.46%	18.26%	17.93%
50-55	20.00%	21.14%	16.67%	25.22%	28.85%	47.83%	29.61%	30.43%	27.00%
55-60	35.00%	26.17%	45.83%	26.96%	26.92%	21.74%	27.63%	21.74%	26.71%
61-65	5.00%	15.10%	12.50%	12.17%	15.38%	10.87%	15.46%	7.83%	13.65%
66-70	0.00%	4.70%	4.17%	3.48%	7.69%	8.70%	6.25%	6.09%	5.56%
More than 70	0.00%	4.36%	4.17%	6.09%	5.77%	2.17%	3.29%	8.70%	4.68%

1.2 Please indicate any areas where you have workload concerns.



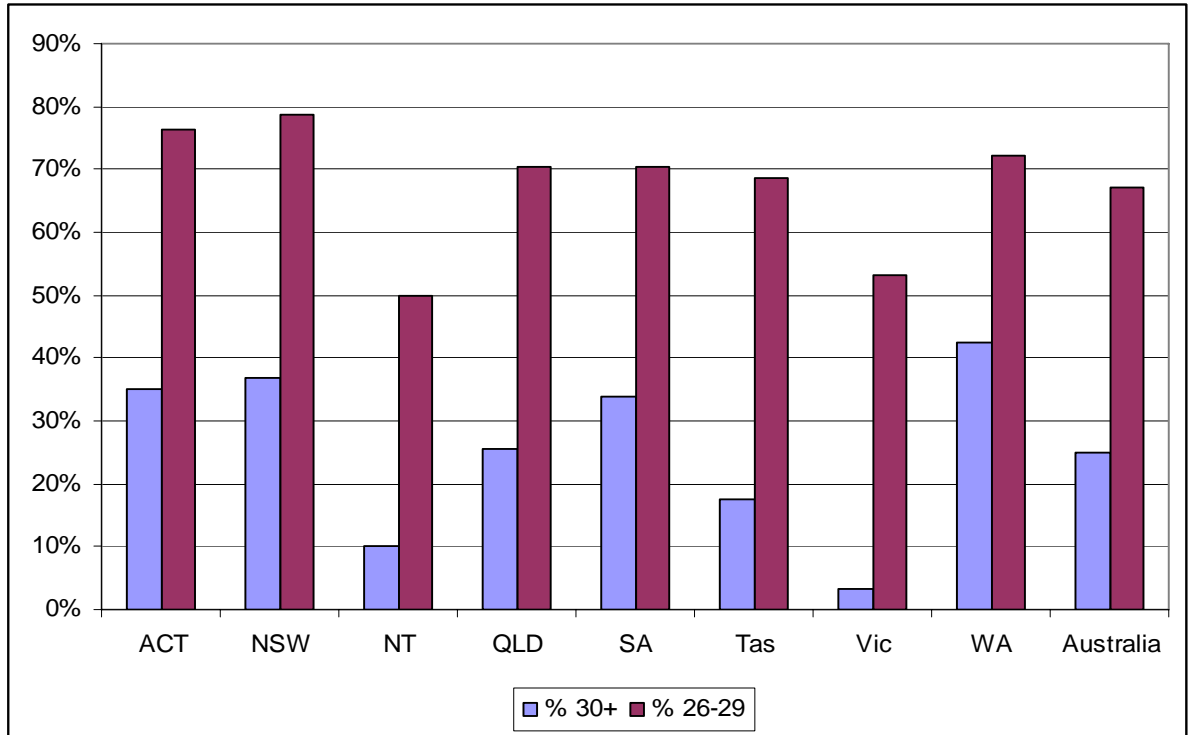
1.3 Over the past 3 years, has the overall workload increased or decreased for principal class officers/executive staff, teaching staff and non-teaching staff in your school?



	Principals/Executive Officers	Teachers	Non-teaching Staff
No answer	1.08%	1.63%	2.62%
Increased a lot	75.97%	56.64%	48.96%
Increased a little	18.97%	34.15%	31.89%
Stayed about the same	3.43%	6.96%	15.72%
Decreased a little	0.09%	0.36%	0.54%
Decreased a lot	0.45%	0.27%	0.27%

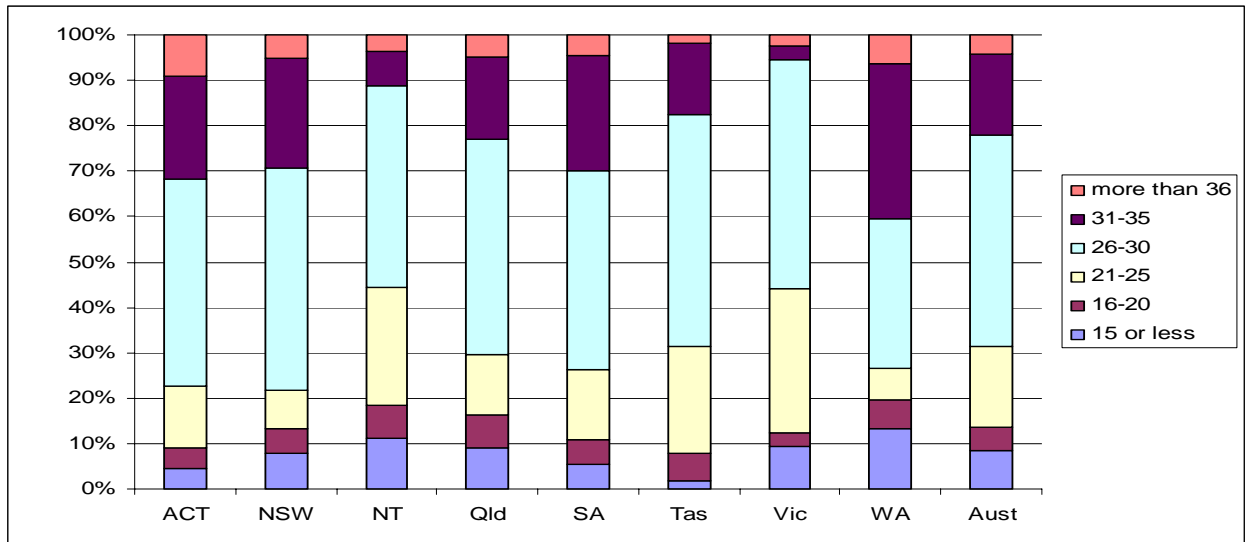
2 Class sizes

2.1 Do you have any classes at your school with 30+ students and 26-29 students



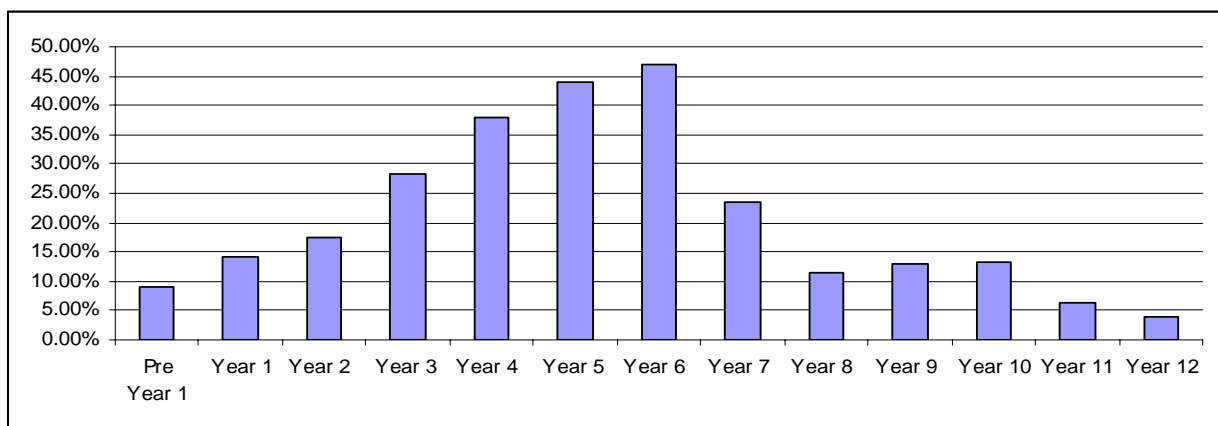
	ACT	NSW	NT	QLD	SA	Tas	Vic	WA	Aust
% 30+	35.00%	36.78%	10.00%	25.69%	34.00%	17.39%	3.40%	42.61%	24.89%
% 26-29	76.19%	78.67%	50.00%	70.25%	70.30%	68.63%	53.05%	72.03%	67.18%

2.2 What is the largest class size in your school?



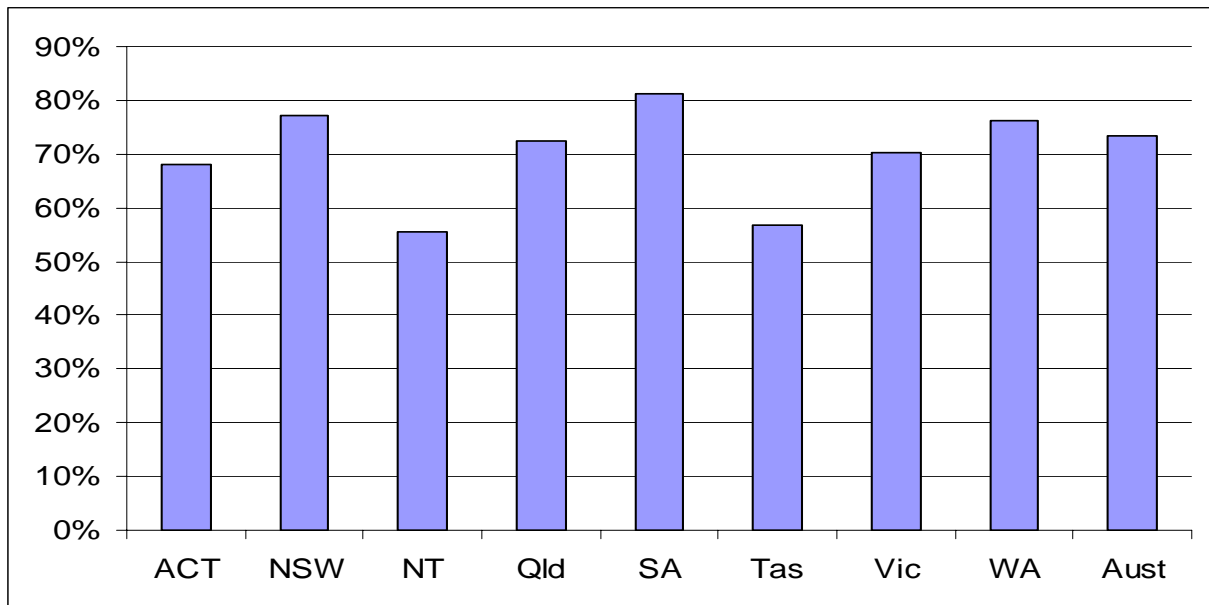
	ACT	New South Wales	Northern Territory	Queensland	South Australia	Tasmania	Victoria	Western Australia	Australia
15 or less	4.55%	7.89%	11.11%	9.02%	5.45%	1.96%	9.35%	13.28%	8.57%
16-20	4.55%	5.26%	7.41%	7.38%	5.45%	5.88%	3.12%	6.25%	5.07%
21-25	13.64%	8.55%	25.93%	13.11%	15.45%	23.53%	31.78%	7.03%	17.70%
26-30	45.45%	49.01%	44.44%	47.54%	43.64%	50.98%	50.47%	32.81%	46.73%
31-35	22.73%	24.01%	7.41%	18.03%	25.45%	15.69%	2.80%	34.38%	17.60%
more than 36	9.09%	5.26%	3.70%	4.92%	4.55%	1.96%	2.49%	6.25%	4.33%

2.3 Which year level is that class?

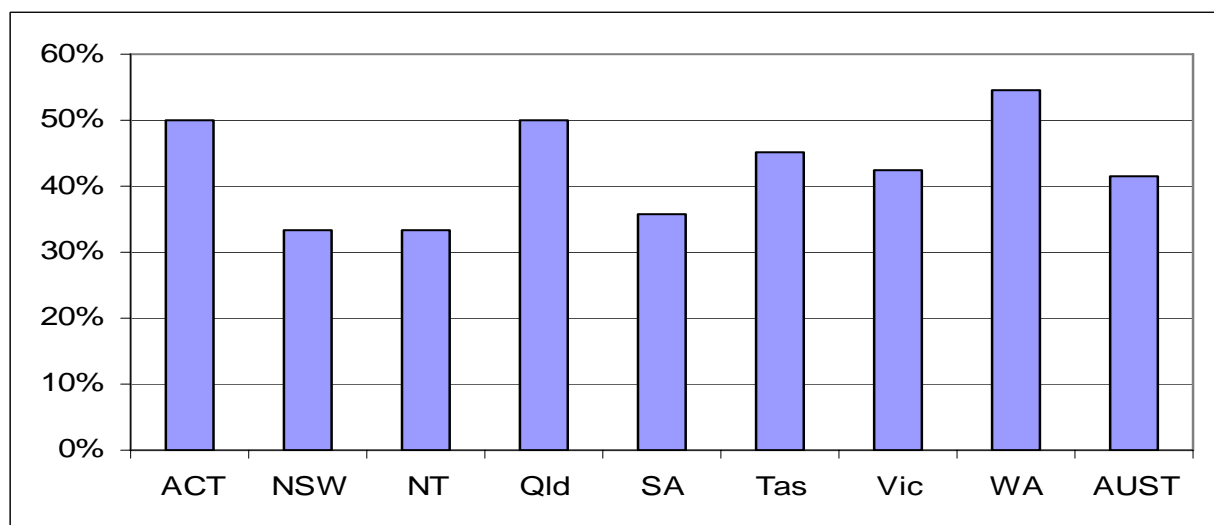


3 Staffing

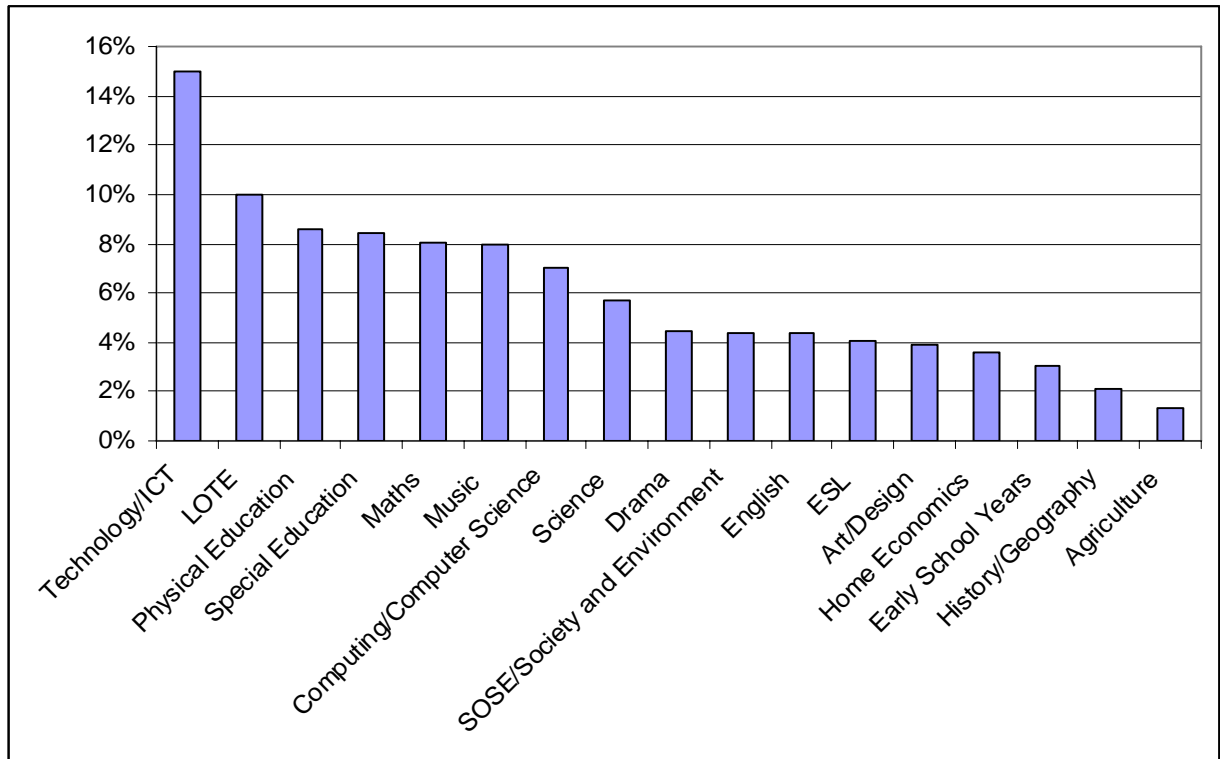
3.1 Do department of education staffing policies make it difficult to staff programs according to need?



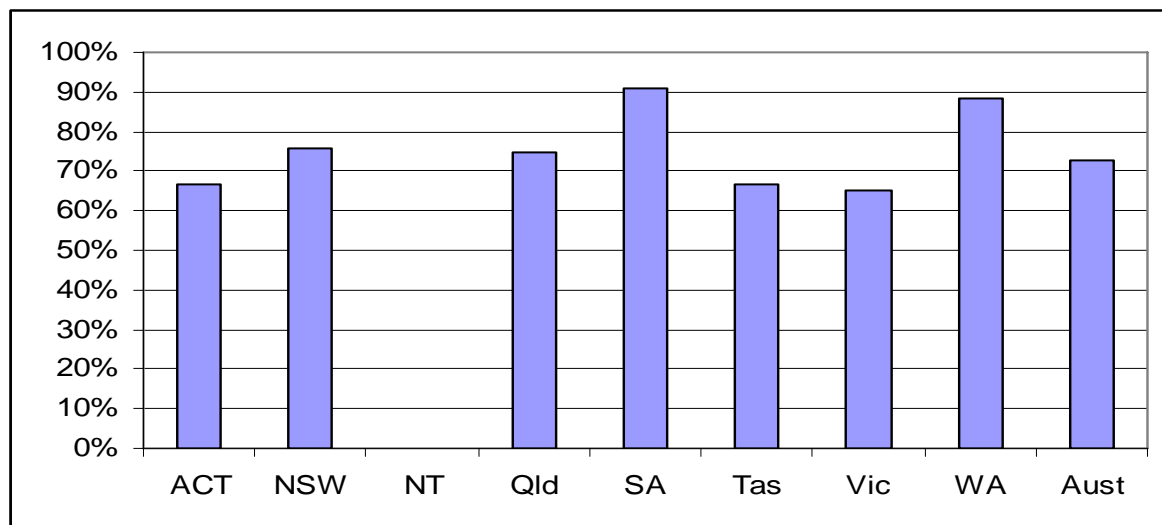
3.2 Does your school have any programs being taught by teachers who are not fully qualified in the curriculum and teaching areas concerned? (All schools)



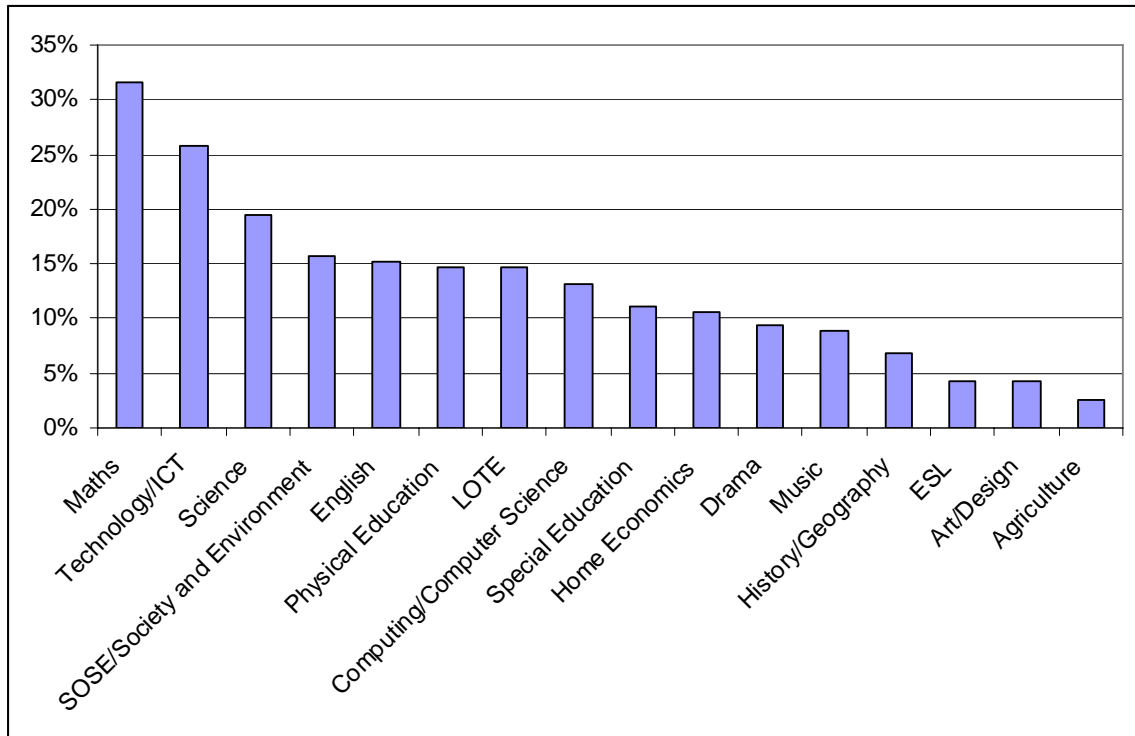
3.3 If yes, please specify the curriculum areas involved. (Australia, All Schools)



3.4 Does your school have any programs being taught by teachers who are not fully qualified in the curriculum and teaching areas concerned? (Secondary schools)

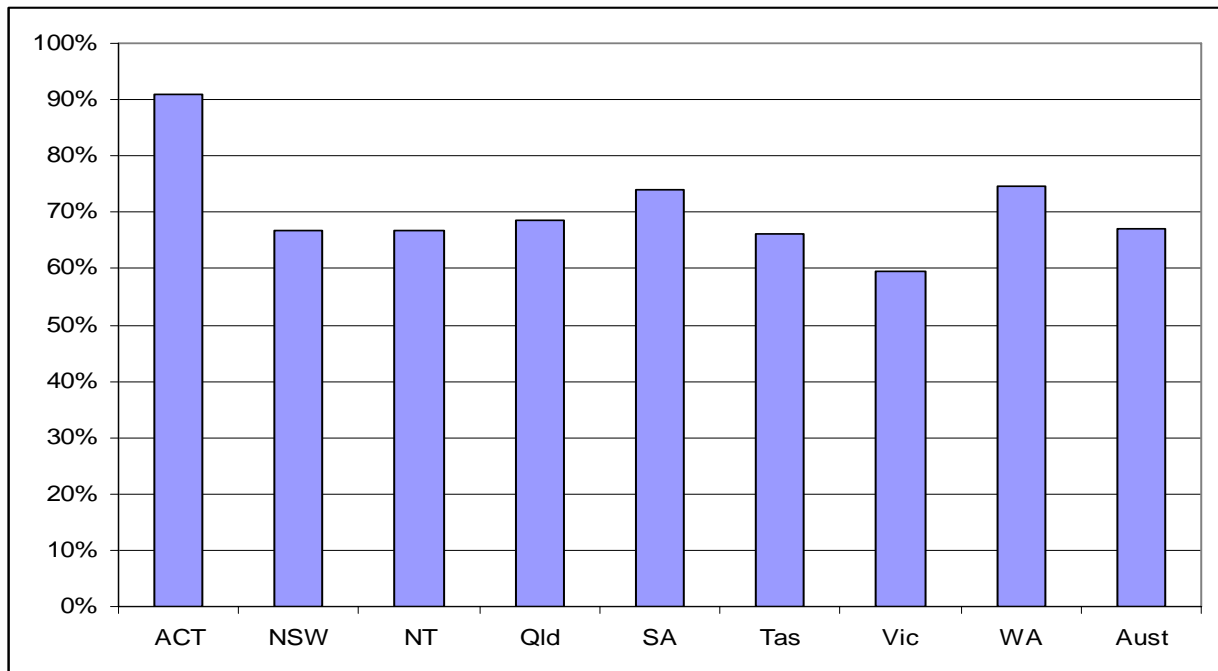


3.5 If yes, please specify the curriculum areas involved. (Australia, Secondary schools)

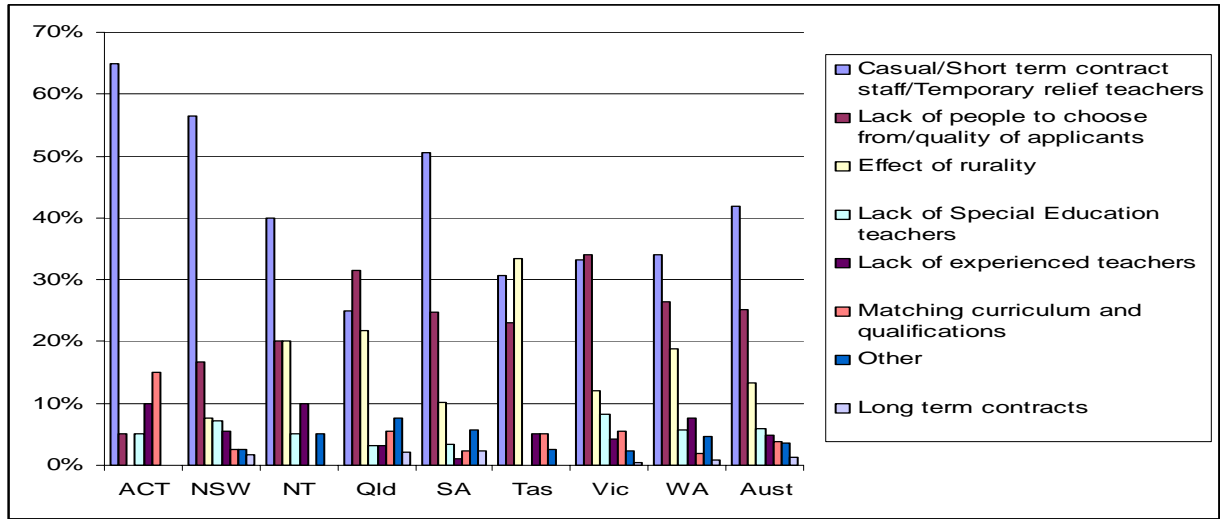


4. Teacher Supply

4.1. Has your school experienced any teacher supply problems over the previous year?

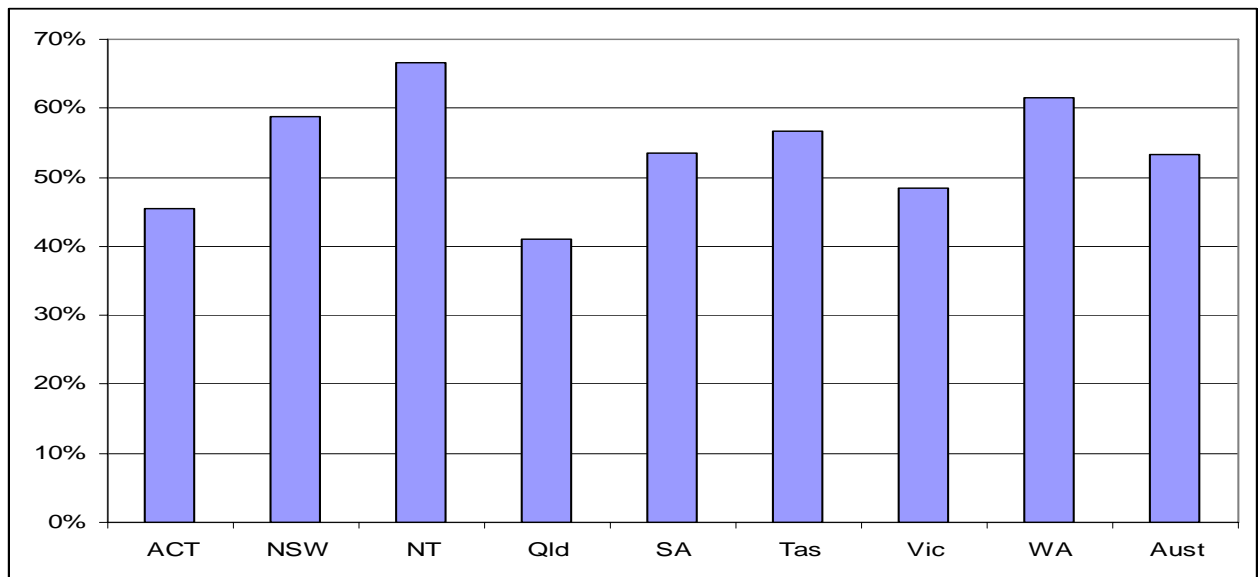


4.2. If you are experiencing teacher supply problems, which is the main problem facing your school?



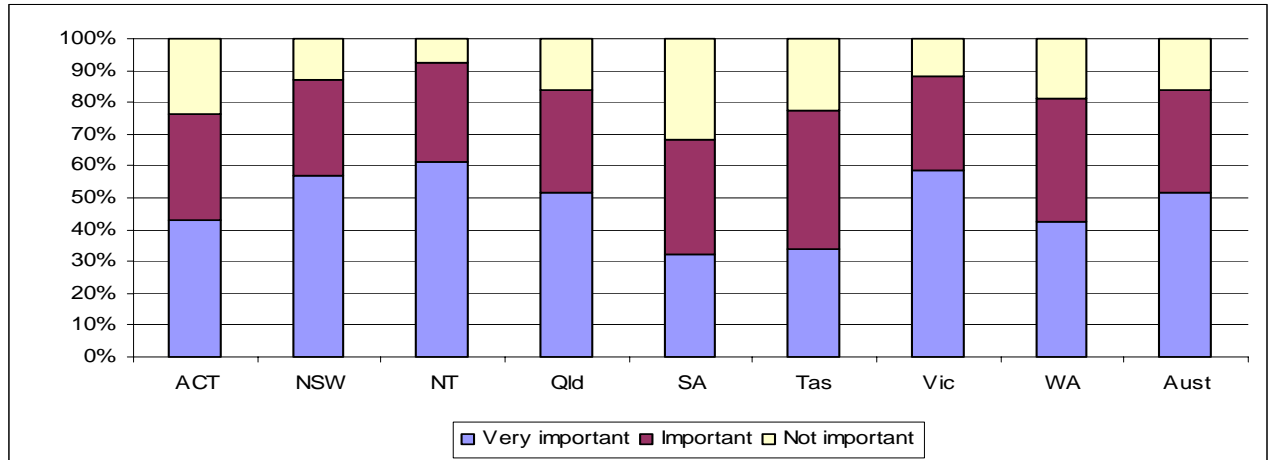
	ACT	NSW	NT	Qld	SA	Tas	Vic	WA	Aust
Cas/short term/Temp Relief Teachers	65.00%	56.49%	40.00%	25.00%	50.56%	30.77%	33.18%	33.96%	41.85%
Choice/Quality	5.00%	16.74%	20.00%	31.52%	24.72%	23.08%	34.10%	26.42%	25.18%
Effect of rurality	0.00%	7.53%	20.00%	21.74%	10.11%	33.33%	11.98%	18.87%	13.38%
Lack of Sp.Ed. Teachers	5.00%	7.11%	5.00%	3.26%	3.37%	0.00%	8.29%	5.66%	5.96%
Lack of Exp. Teachers	10.00%	5.44%	10.00%	3.26%	1.12%	5.13%	4.15%	7.55%	4.87%
Matchi Curr & Qaul	15.00%	2.51%	0.00%	5.43%	2.25%	5.13%	5.53%	1.89%	3.89%
Other	0.00%	2.51%	5.00%	7.61%	5.62%	2.56%	2.30%	4.72%	3.65%
Long Term contracts	0.00%	1.67%	0.00%	2.17%	2.25%	0.00%	0.46%	0.94%	1.22%

4.3. Has the teacher supply problem become worse over the previous year?



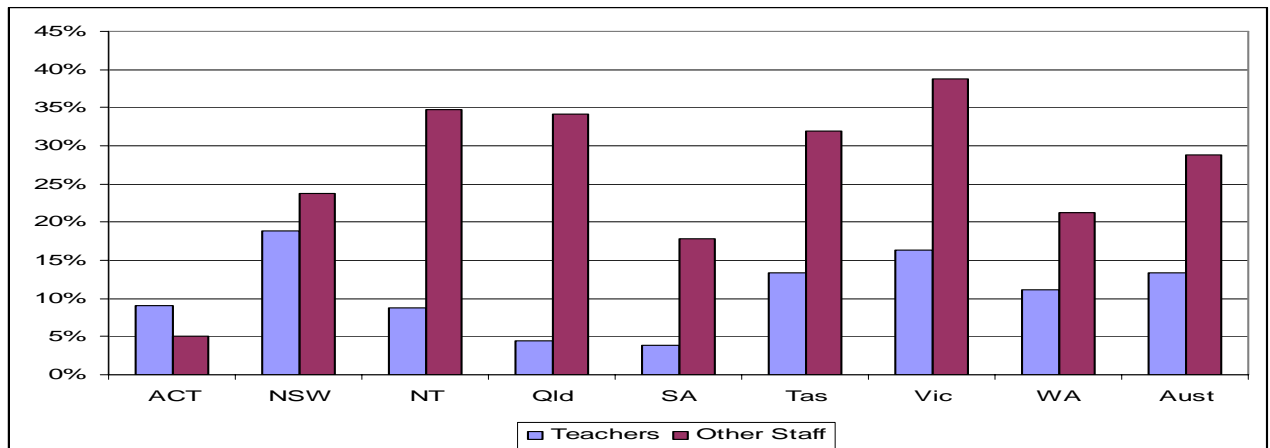
5. School Raised Funds

5.1. How important are school-raised funds for the running of your school?



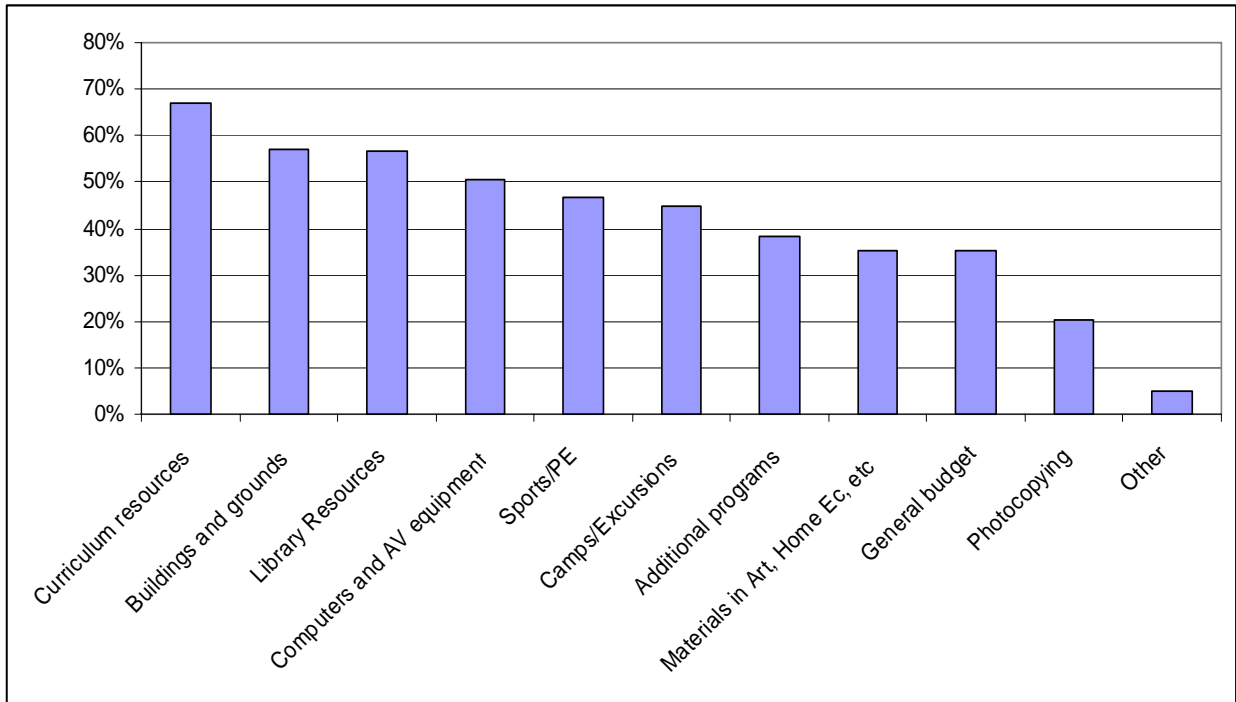
	ACT	NSW	NT	Qld	SA	Tas	Vic	WA	Aust
Very important	42.86%	57.00%	61.54%	51.69%	32.41%	33.96%	58.33%	42.62%	51.40%
Important	33.33%	30.00%	30.77%	32.20%	36.11%	43.40%	29.63%	38.52%	32.46%
Not important	23.81%	13.00%	7.69%	16.10%	31.48%	22.64%	12.04%	18.85%	16.14%

5.2. Do you use school raised funds for the payment of any staff?



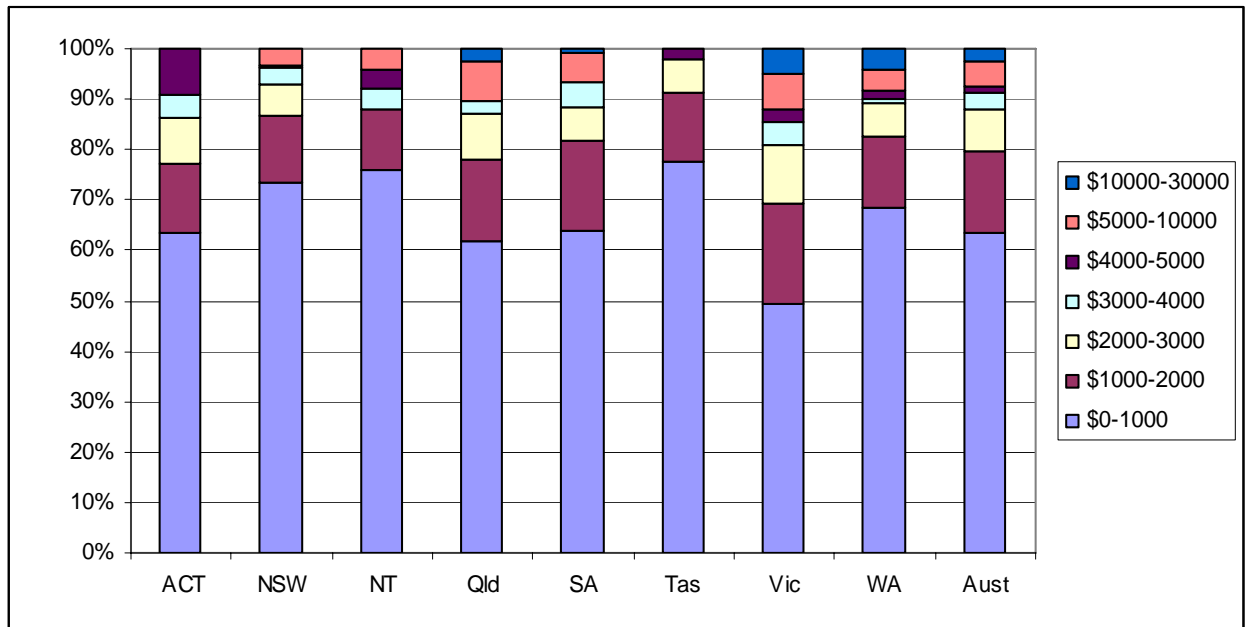
	ACT	NSW	NT	Qld	SA	Tas	Vic	WA	Aust
Teachers	9.09%	18.82%	8.70%	4.50%	3.92%	13.33%	16.38%	11.11%	13.40%
Other Staff	5.00%	23.79%	34.78%	34.21%	17.82%	31.91%	38.70%	21.24%	28.80%

5.3. What else do you use school raised funds for? (Australia)



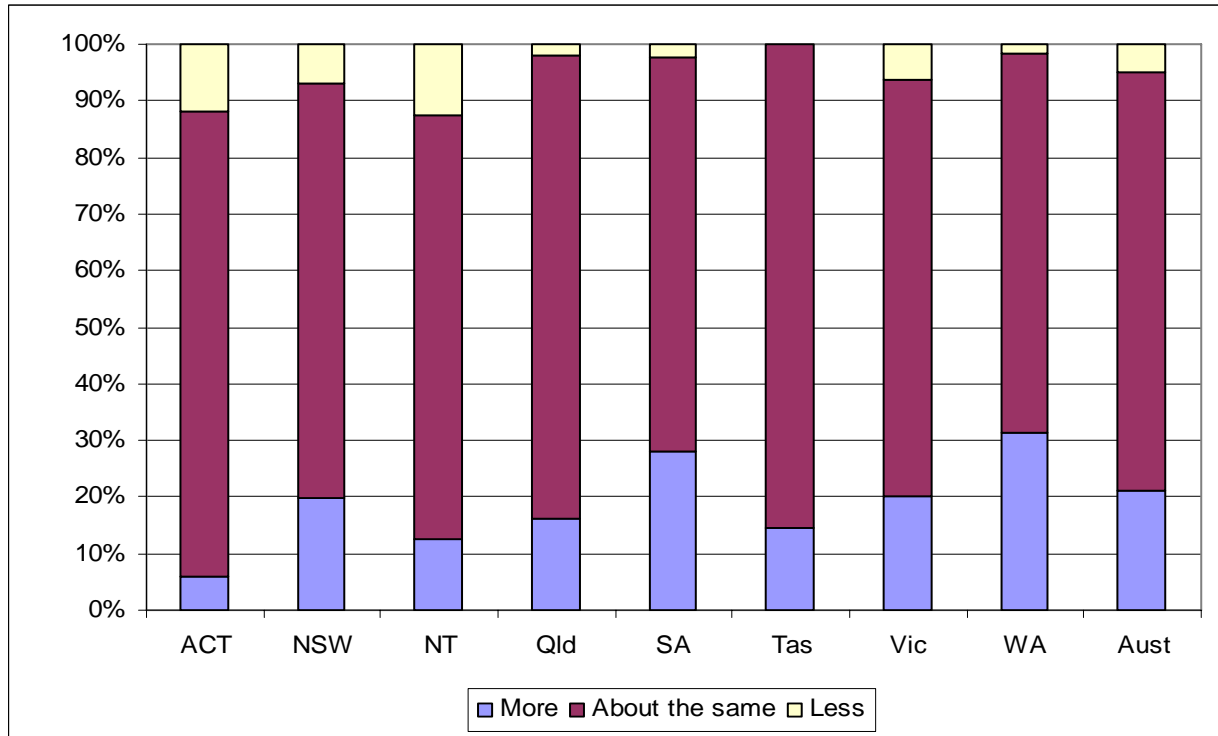
6. Advertising and Promotion

6.1. Approximately how much (\$) did your school spend on advertising and marketing last year?



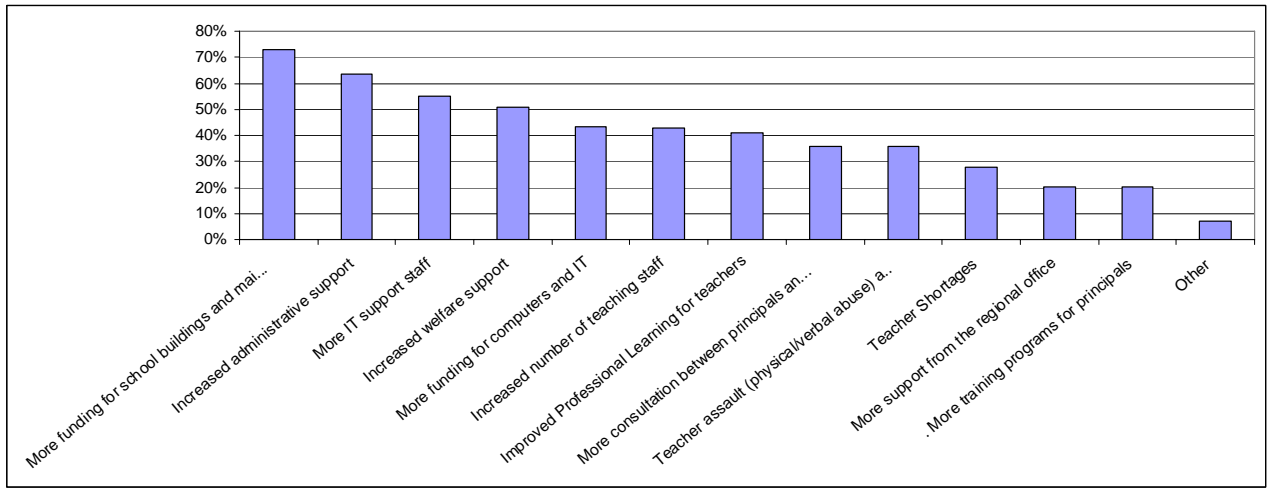
	ACT	NSW	NT	Qld	SA	Tas	Vic	WA	Aust
\$0-1000	63.64%	73.40%	76.00%	61.86%	64.08%	77.78%	49.32%	68.60%	63.56%
\$1000-2000	13.64%	13.48%	12.00%	16.10%	17.48%	13.33%	20.07%	14.05%	16.14%
\$2000-3000	9.09%	6.03%	0.00%	9.32%	6.80%	6.67%	11.56%	6.61%	8.12%
\$3000-4000	4.55%	3.55%	4.00%	2.54%	4.85%	0.00%	4.42%	0.83%	3.37%
\$4000-5000	9.09%	0.35%	4.00%	0.00%	0.00%	2.22%	2.72%	1.65%	1.49%
\$5000-10000	0.00%	3.19%	4.00%	7.63%	5.83%	0.00%	6.80%	4.13%	4.95%
\$10000-30000	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	2.54%	0.97%	0.00%	5.10%	4.13%	2.38%

6.2. Was this more or less than last year?

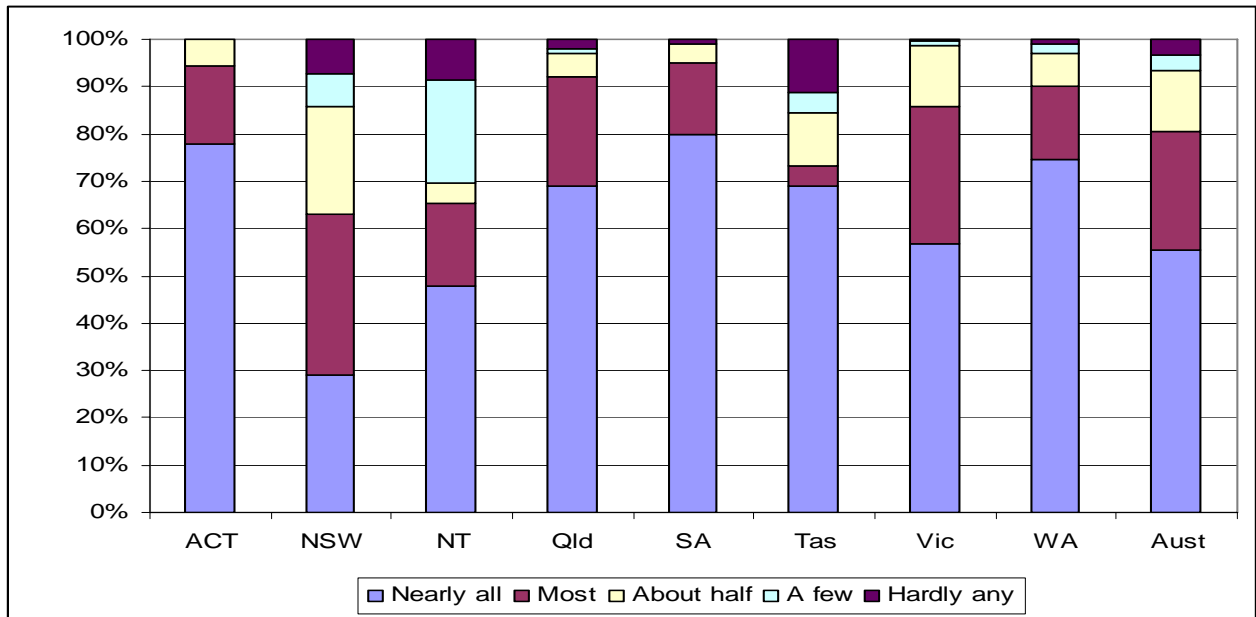


	ACT	NSW	NT	Qld	SA	Tas	Vic	WA	Aust
More	5.88%	19.84%	12.50%	16.19%	28.05%	14.63%	20.21%	31.25%	21.04%
About the same	82.35%	73.15%	75.00%	81.90%	69.51%	85.37%	73.63%	66.96%	73.97%
Less	11.76%	7.00%	12.50%	1.90%	2.44%	0.00%	6.16%	1.79%	4.99%

7. Please indicate your 5 most important concerns from the issues listed.



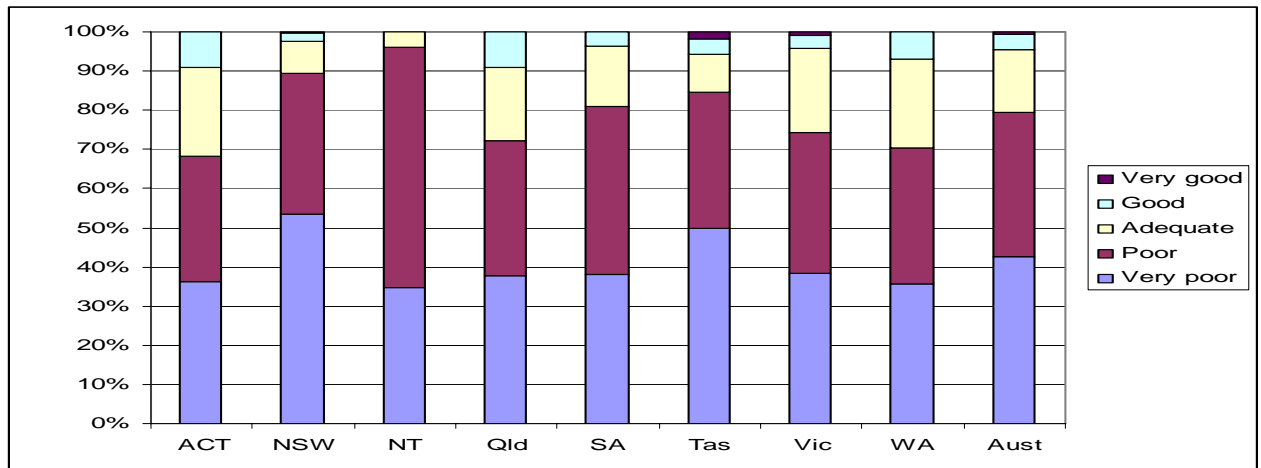
8. How many children who started school this year attended preschool?



	ACT	NSW	NT	Qld	SA	Tas	Vic	WA	Aust
Nearly all	77.78%	29.01%	47.83%	68.93%	79.80%	68.89%	56.64%	74.51%	55.40%
Most	16.67%	33.97%	17.39%	23.30%	15.15%	4.44%	29.30%	15.69%	25.11%
About half	5.56%	22.90%	4.35%	4.85%	4.04%	11.11%	12.89%	6.86%	12.78%
A few	0.00%	6.87%	21.74%	0.97%	0.00%	4.44%	0.78%	1.96%	3.30%
Hardly any	0.00%	7.25%	8.70%	1.94%	1.01%	11.11%	0.39%	0.98%	3.41%

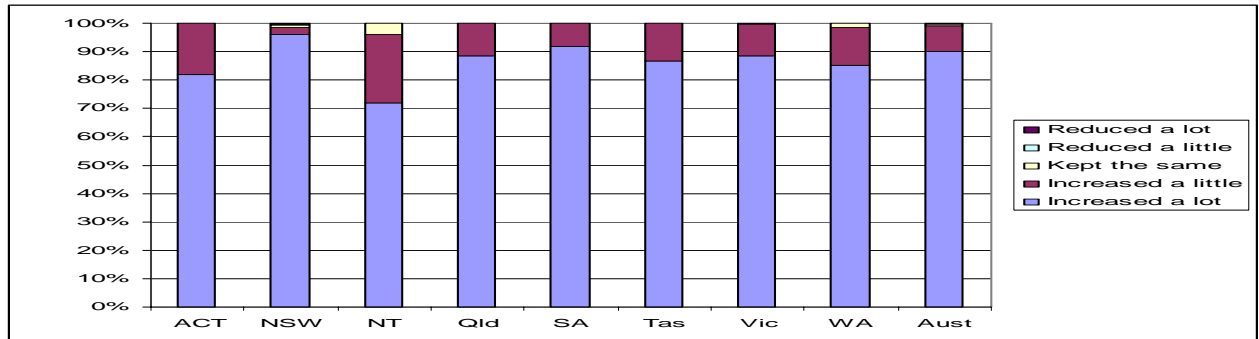
9. Australian Government Performance

9.1. How would you rate the Australian government's performance in regard to public education over the last few years?



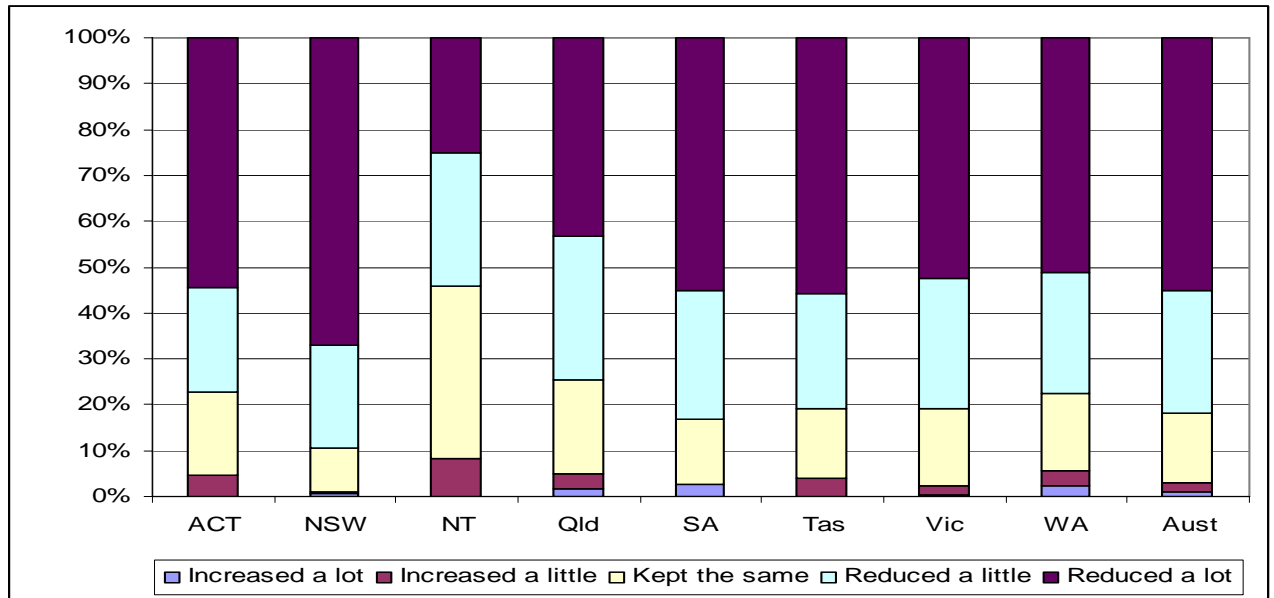
	ACT	NSW	NT	Qld	SA	Tas	Vic	WA	Aust
Very poor	36.36%	53.47%	34.62%	37.70%	38.18%	50.00%	38.41%	35.66%	42.58%
Poor	31.82%	35.97%	61.54%	34.43%	42.73%	34.62%	35.98%	34.88%	36.81%
Adequate	22.73%	8.25%	3.85%	18.85%	15.45%	9.62%	21.34%	22.48%	16.03%
Good	9.09%	1.98%	0.00%	9.02%	3.64%	3.85%	3.35%	6.98%	4.12%
Very good	0.00%	0.33%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	1.92%	0.91%	0.00%	0.46%

9.2. Should Australian Government funding for public schools be increased/reduced?



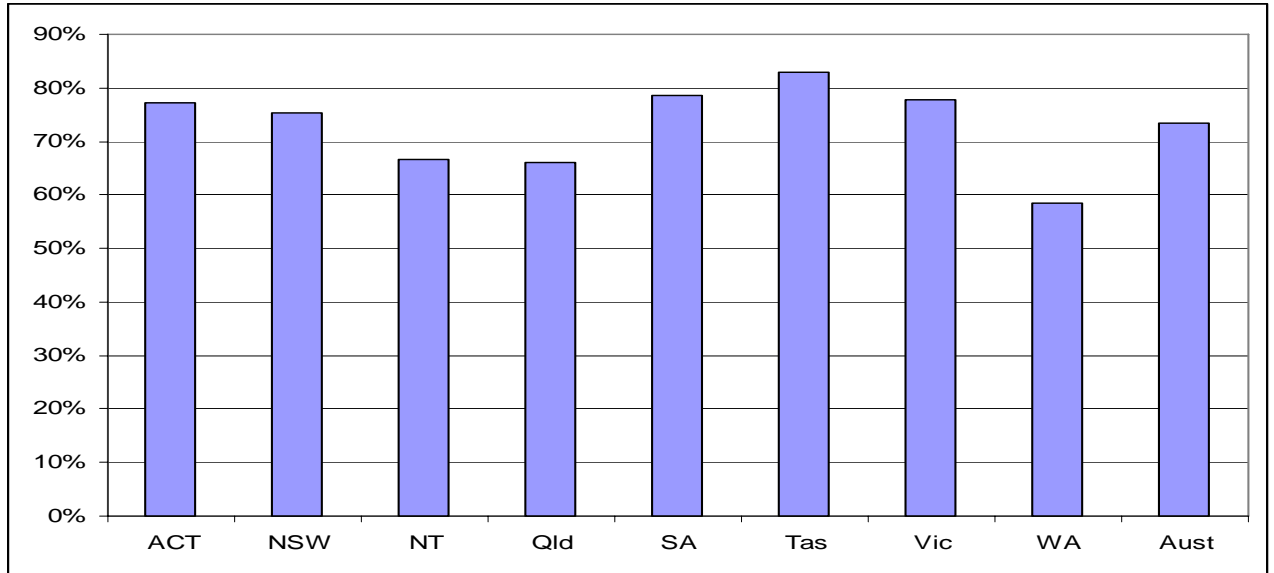
	ACT	NSW	NT	Qld	SA	Tas	Vic	WA	Aust
Increased a lot	81.82%	96.07%	72.00%	88.62%	91.96%	86.79%	88.65%	85.16%	90.04%
Increased a little	18.18%	2.30%	24.00%	11.38%	8.04%	13.21%	11.04%	13.28%	9.14%
Kept the same	0.00%	0.98%	4.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.31%	1.56%	0.64%
Reduced a little	0.00%	0.33%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.09%
Reduced a lot	0.00%	0.33%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.09%

9.3. Should Australian Government funding for private schools be increased/reduced?



	ACT	NSW	NT	Qld	SA	Tas	Vic	WA	Aust
Increased a lot	0.00%	0.66%	0.00%	1.69%	2.80%	0.00%	0.31%	2.40%	1.03%
Increased a little	4.55%	0.33%	8.33%	3.39%	0.00%	3.85%	1.86%	3.20%	1.86%
Kept the same	18.18%	9.57%	37.50%	20.34%	14.02%	15.38%	17.08%	16.80%	15.38%
Reduced a little	22.73%	22.44%	29.17%	31.36%	28.04%	25.00%	28.26%	26.40%	26.47%
Reduced a lot	54.55%	67.00%	25.00%	43.22%	55.14%	55.77%	52.48%	51.20%	55.27%

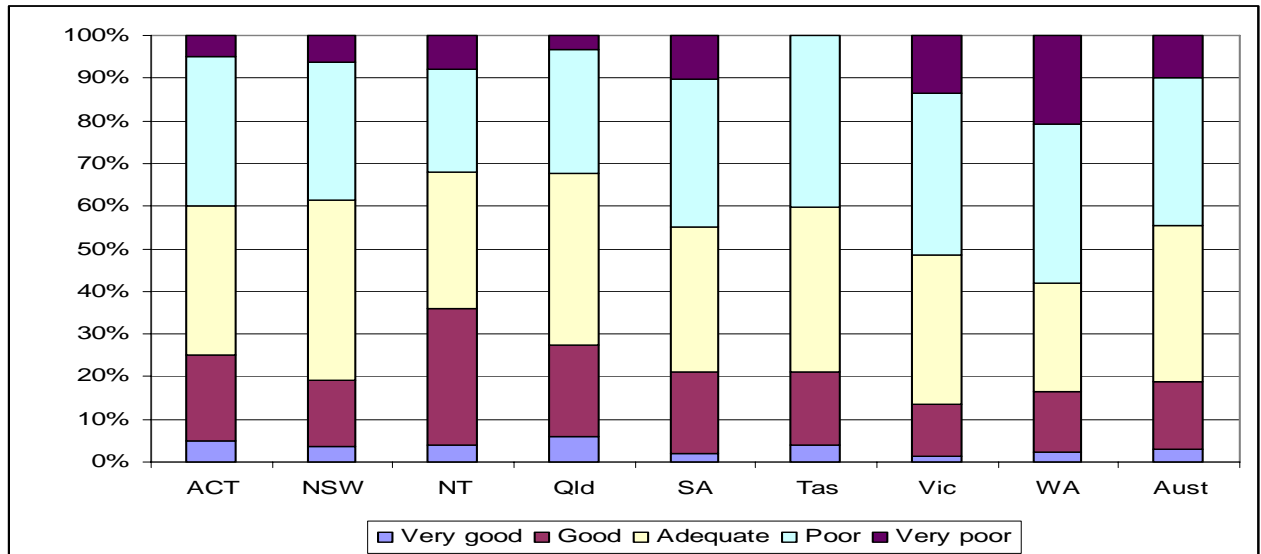
9.4. Have you applied for a grant under the Australian Government *Investing in Our Schools* Program this year?



	ACT	NSW	NT	Qld	SA	Tas	Vic	WA	Aust
Yes	77.27%	75.32%	66.67%	66.13%	78.57%	83.02%	77.64%	58.46%	73.53%
No	22.73%	23.70%	29.63%	31.45%	20.54%	16.98%	19.34%	40.00%	24.66%
N/A	0.00%	0.97%	3.70%	2.42%	0.89%	0.00%	3.02%	1.54%	1.81%

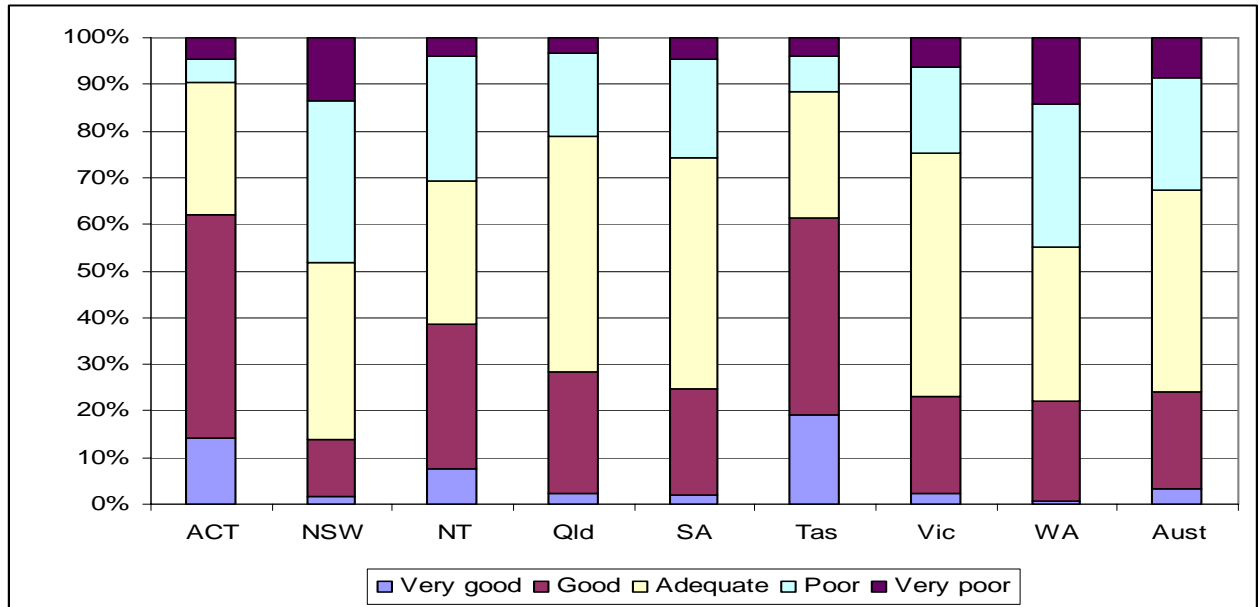
10. State or Territory Government Performance

10.1. How would you rate your Department of Education (or equivalent) in terms of responding to the concerns of principals?



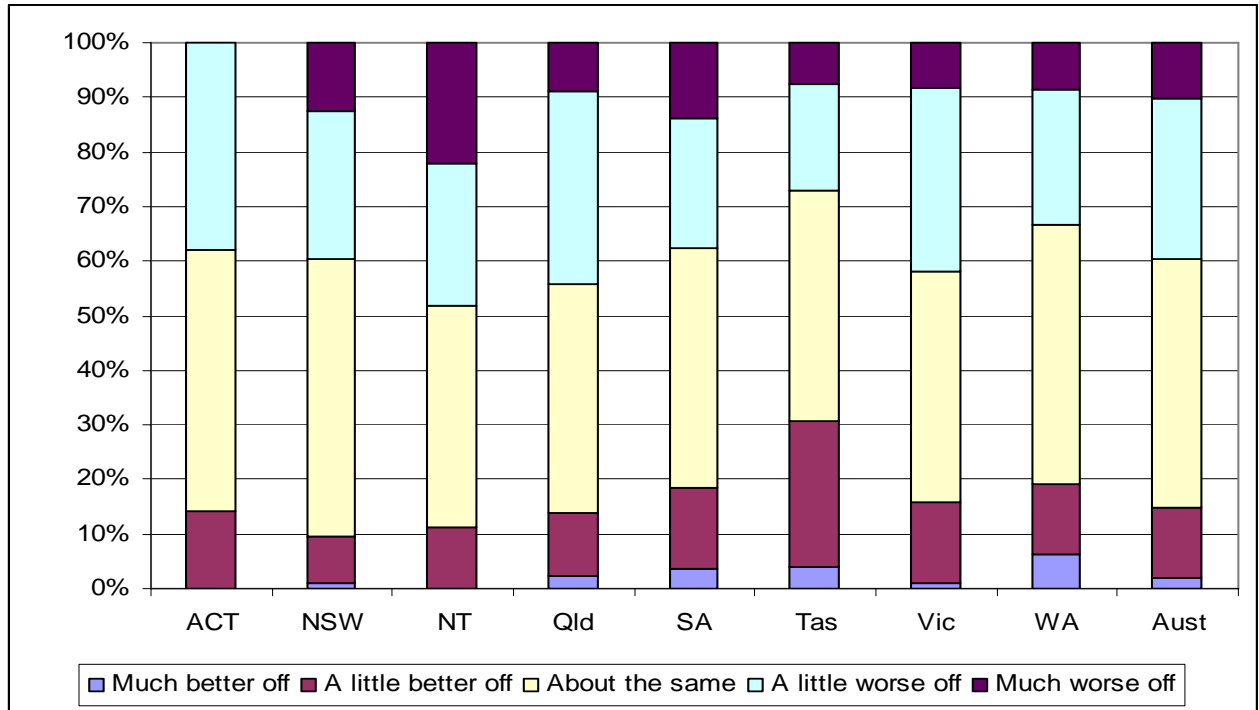
	ACT	NSW	NT	Qld	SA	Tas	Vic	WA	Aust
Very good	5.00%	3.64%	4.00%	5.79%	1.83%	3.85%	1.23%	2.38%	2.87%
Good	20.00%	15.56%	32.00%	21.49%	19.27%	17.31%	12.31%	14.29%	16.02%
Adequate	35.00%	42.05%	32.00%	40.50%	33.94%	38.46%	35.08%	25.40%	36.48%
Poor	35.00%	32.45%	24.00%	28.93%	34.86%	40.38%	37.85%	37.30%	34.72%
Very poor	5.00%	6.29%	8.00%	3.31%	10.09%	0.00%	13.54%	20.63%	9.91%

10.2. How would you rate your state or territory government's performance in education over the previous year?



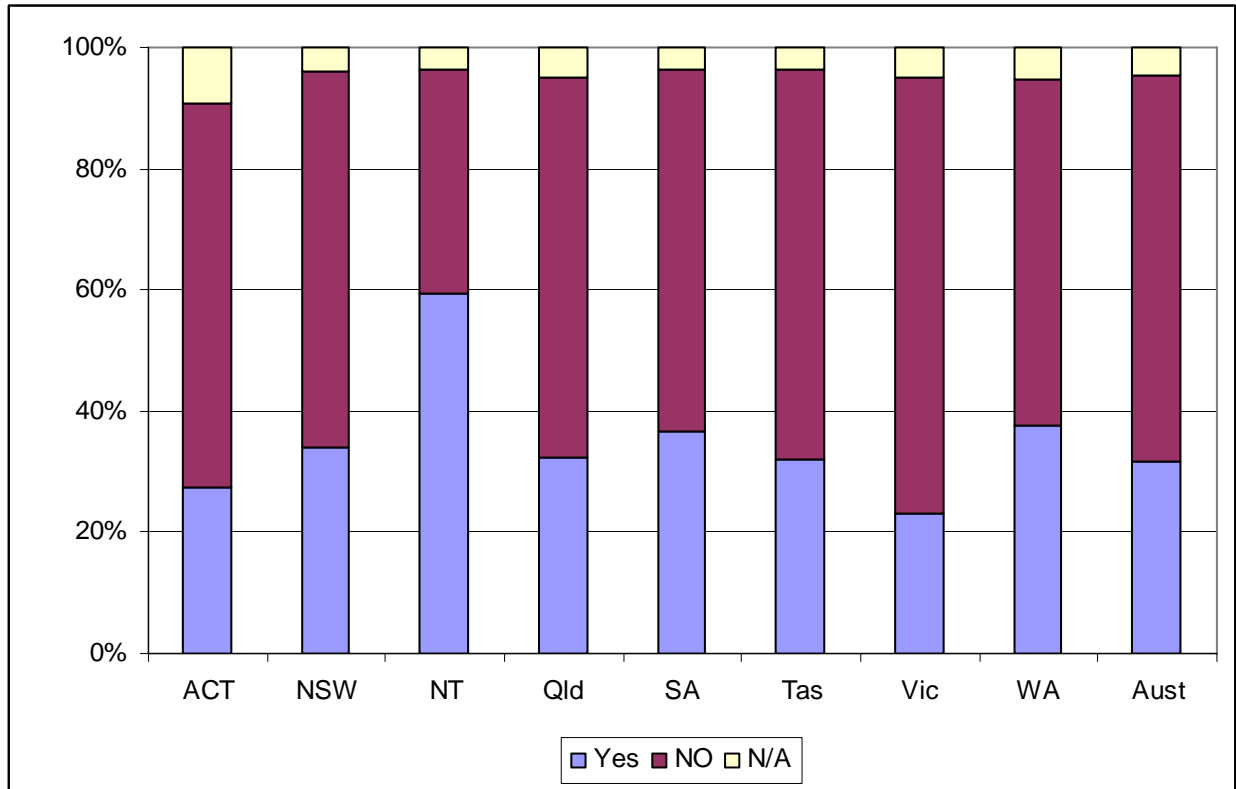
	ACT	NSW	NT	Qld	SA	Tas	Vic	WA	Aust
Very good	14.29%	1.67%	7.69%	2.44%	1.83%	19.23%	2.45%	0.79%	3.14%
Good	47.62%	12.33%	30.77%	26.02%	22.94%	42.31%	20.55%	21.26%	21.03%
Adequate	28.57%	37.67%	30.77%	50.41%	49.54%	26.92%	52.15%	33.07%	43.27%
Poor	4.76%	34.67%	26.92%	17.89%	21.10%	7.69%	18.71%	30.71%	24.08%
Very poor	4.76%	13.67%	3.85%	3.25%	4.59%	3.85%	6.13%	14.17%	8.49%

10.3. In terms of funding and resources is your school better or worse off compared to a year ago?



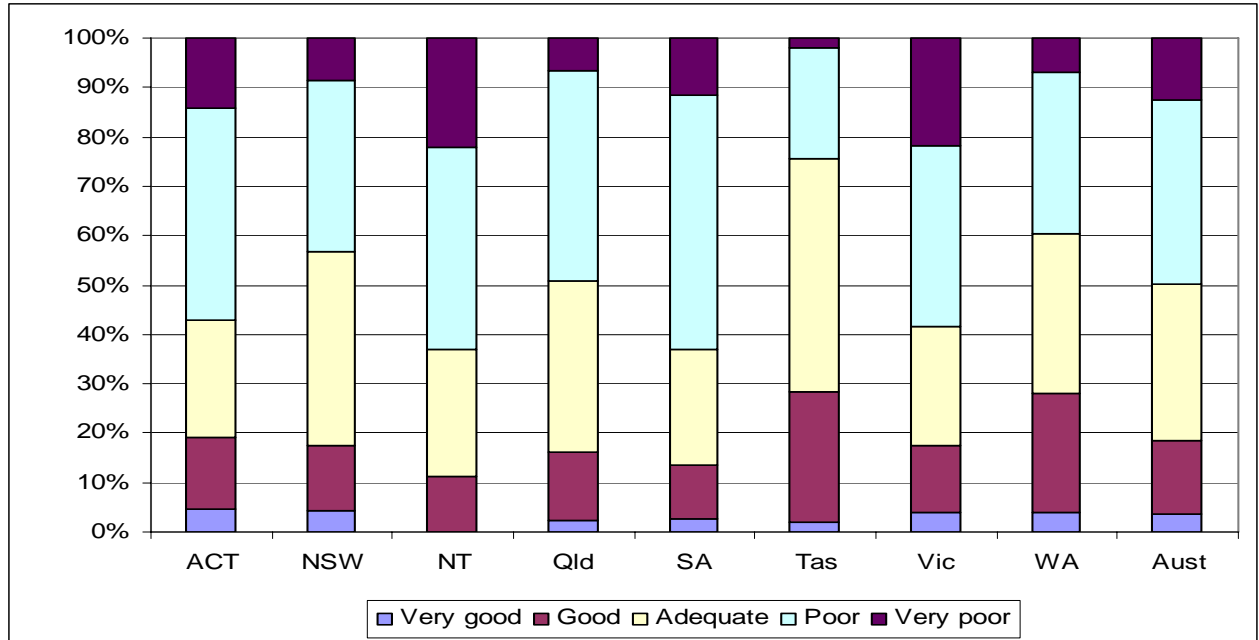
	ACT	NSW	NT	Qld	SA	Tas	Vic	WA	Aust
Much better off	0.00%	0.98%	0.00%	2.42%	3.67%	3.85%	0.91%	6.35%	2.10%
A little better off	14.29%	8.52%	11.11%	11.29%	14.68%	26.92%	14.89%	12.70%	12.90%
About the same	47.62%	50.82%	40.74%	41.94%	44.04%	42.31%	42.25%	47.62%	45.47%
A little worse off	38.10%	27.21%	25.93%	35.48%	23.85%	19.23%	33.74%	24.60%	29.28%
Much worse off	0.00%	12.46%	22.22%	8.87%	13.76%	7.69%	8.21%	8.73%	10.25%

10.4. Do you have sufficient and appropriate resources to ensure quality program delivery in your school?



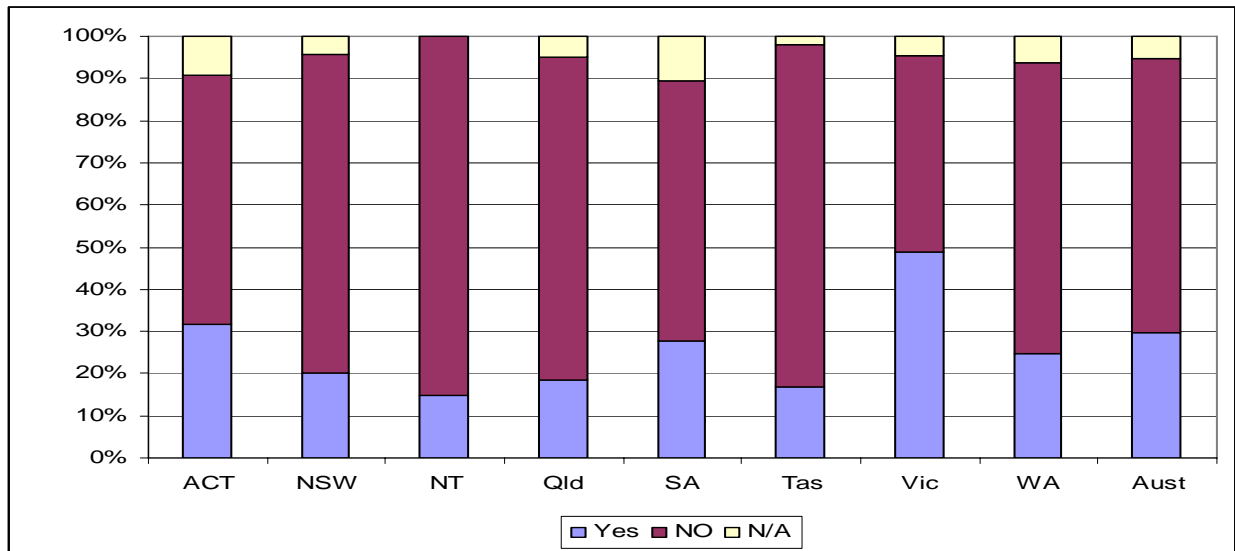
	ACT	NSW	NT	Qld	SA	Tas	Vic	WA	Aust
Yes	27.27	34.09	59.26	32.6	36.61	32.08	23.26	37.69	31.7
NO	63.64	62.01	37.04	62.9	59.82	64.15	71.9	56.92	63.8
N/A	9.09	3.9	3.7	4.84	3.57	3.77	4.83	5.38	4.52

10.5. How would you rate the level of student welfare support provided by your department of education (or equivalent)?



	ACT	NSW	NT	Qld	SA	Tas	Vic	WA	Aust
Very good	4.76%	4.28%	0.00%	2.42%	2.70%	1.89%	3.95%	3.88%	3.55%
Good	14.29%	13.16%	11.11%	13.71%	10.81%	26.42%	13.68%	24.03%	15.03%
Adequate	23.81%	39.47%	25.93%	34.68%	23.42%	47.17%	24.01%	32.56%	31.60%
Poor	42.86%	34.54%	40.74%	42.74%	51.35%	22.64%	36.47%	32.56%	37.25%
Very poor	14.29%	8.55%	22.22%	6.45%	11.71%	1.89%	21.88%	6.98%	12.57%

10.6. Do you feel free to make public comment on educational issues?



	ACT	NSW	NT	Qld	SA	Tas	Vic	WA	Aust
Yes	31.82	20.13	14.81	18.55	27.68	16.98	48.94	24.62	29.81
NO	59.09	75.65	85.19	76.61	61.61	81.13	46.53	69.23	65.04
N/A	9.09	4.22	0	4.84	10.71	1.89	4.53	6.15	5.15

11. Priorities for Additional Funding

