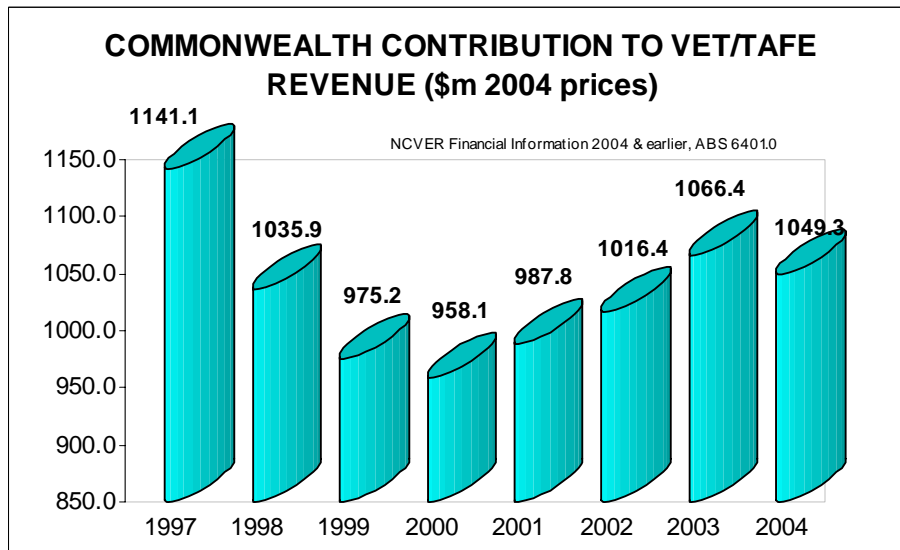


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The VET Funding Squeeze

As shown in the following table, in real terms aggregate Commonwealth funding for VET decreased by 8% from 1997 to 2004. (State government funding increased marginally.) This figure reflects an improvement in the funding situation after a series of even leaner years from 1998-2002.



When funding is considered in relation to the actual hours of VET delivered, an even starker picture of the pressures being felt by TAFE is gained. Since the Howard Government was elected VET funding has fallen in real terms by 14%. State Government funding has declined by 15% and Commonwealth Government funding by 24%.

