

2022

**THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY FOR THE
AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY**

Education Directorate Half Yearly Performance Report (31 December 2021)

**Presented by
Yvette Berry MLA
Minister for Education and Youth Affairs
February 2022**

Output Class 1: Public School Education

Description

Public primary school education spans the years from preschool to year 6. It is available, on average, for eight years with a preschool age of four years and a kindergarten starting age of five years. Learning opportunities in the primary years are designed to allow each student to experience success and achieve high quality learning outcomes. Public high school education covers the years 7 to 10. ACT public high schools offer a broad and comprehensive education across all key learning areas. Public secondary college education covers years 11 and 12, offering courses catering for a broad range of student needs and interests.

A range of programs are available in ACT public schools for students with a disability. These include access to specialist schools, specific classes or units in mainstream schools and participation in mainstream classes with the support to access the additional support in mainstream classes.

	2021-22 Target	Pro-rata half-yearly Target	2021-22 Result	Percentage variance from the target ^a	Explanation of material variance ($\pm 10\%$ or higher)
Cost (\$'000) ^a					
1.1 Public Primary School Education	520,633	260,317	266,395	2.3%	
1.2 Public High School Education	241,252	120,626	126,404	4.8%	
1.3 Public Secondary College Education	149,166	74,583	73,659	(1.2%)	
1.4 Disability Education in Public Schools	100,815	50,408	51,299	1.8%	
Total Output Class 1	1,011,866	505,933	517,757	2.3%	
Controlled Recurrent Payments (\$'000) ^a					
1.1 Public Primary School Education	428,413	214,207	238,539	11.4%	Note 1
1.2 Public High School Education	213,247	106,624	118,735	11.4%	Note 1
1.3 Public Secondary College Education	135,790	67,895	75,608	11.4%	Note 1
1.4 Disability Education in Public Schools	97,976	47,488	52,882	11.4%	Note 1
Total Output Class 1	872,426	436,213	485,764	11.4%	Note 1

Notes to indicator description

a. The variance has been calculated on the basis of a pro-rata half-yearly target.

Notes to variances

1. The variance is due primarily to drawdown of cash in December 2021 to pay the first payroll in January 2022 as well as drawdown for workers compensation and insurance premiums for the full year.

Output Class 1: Public School Education	2021-22 Target	Pro-rata half yearly Target	2021-22 Half Year Result	Percentage variance from the target	Explanation of material variance (±10% or higher)
Accountability Indicators					
Early childhood education					
a. Number of enrolments in preschool in public schools	4,700	Not Applicable (N/A)	4709	0.19%	
b. Number of enrolments of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students in preschool in public schools	275	N/A	321	16.7%	Note 1
School participation					
a. Attendance rate of public school students in year 1 to year 10	92%	N/A	92%	-	
Education and care services					
a. Assessment and ratings completed within legislated timeframes	100%	N/A	90%	(10%)	Note 2
b. Annual compliance audit is delivered in full ^a	100%	50%	26%	(25%)	Note 3
Disability education					
a. Individual Learning Plans completed for students in special and mainstream schools who access special education services	100%	N/A	Result measured in second half of the financial year.		Note 4
Senior secondary education					
a. Percentage of year 10 students in public schools who proceed to public secondary college education	92%	N/A	Result measured in second half of the financial year.		Note 5
b. Percentage of year 10 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students in public schools who proceed to public secondary college education	92%	N/A	Result measured in second half of the financial year.		Note 5
c. Apparent retention of all public-school students from year 7 to year 12	N/A	N/A	Discontinued indicator.		Note 6
d. Percentage of all year 10 students in public schools who proceed to year 12 at a public senior secondary college	85%	N/A	Result measured in second half of the financial year.		
e. Percentage of year 10 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students who proceed to year 12 at a public senior secondary college	85%	N/A	Result measured in second half of the financial year		
f. Percentage of all year 12 students in public schools who received an ACT Senior Secondary Certificate	90%	N/A	86%	(4.4%)	
g. Percentage of year 12 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students in public schools who received an ACT Senior Secondary Certificate	90%	N/A	67%	(25.6%)	Note 7
Average cost (\$) per student per annum in public ^a:					
a. Preschool	8,275	4,138	4,179	1.0%	-
b. Primary school	17,771	8,886	9,148	3.0%	-
c. High school	21,090	10,545	11,050	4.8%	-
d. Secondary college	23,461	11,731	11,585	(1.2%)	-
e. Special school	78,045	39,023	39,714	1.8%	-
f. Mainstream School student with a disability	31,486	15,743	16,021	1.8%	-

Notes to indicator description

a. The variance for these indicators has been calculated on the basis of a pro-rata half-yearly target.

Notes to variances

1. The variance is a result of an increase in the enrolments of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students in public preschools that was greater than anticipated.

2. The variance is a result is due to the suspension of assessments of two individual services due to compliance actions that needed to be undertaken by the Regulatory Authority, therefore they did not meet the 60-day legislated timeframe.
3. The variance is a result of the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the early child education and care (ECEC) sector in the ACT. Compliance audits were suspended between 1 August 2021 and 6 December 2021. 10 of the 39 scheduled reportable compliance audits for the year were completed between 1 July 2021 and 31 December 2021. The ongoing impact of COVID-19 has meant that audits may need to be rescheduled at short notice if a service is closed due to exposure.
4. The result is not measured in the half-yearly Statement as the Individual Learning Plans audit is conducted in term 2 of the school year and is reported in the End of Year Statement.
5. To measure the result for these indicators, data from February census is required which is not available at the time of preparing the half-yearly Statement. Data from February census is usually available in term 2 of the school year.
6. This indicator has been discontinued for 2021-22 onwards as it provides limited useful information concerning retention of public school students to year 12. The capped result has been 100 per cent for a number of years and is expected to be 100% for ACT public schools into the future. This is a consequence of the transfer of students who completed year 7 in ACT non-government schools or NSW high school into ACT public colleges for years 11 and 12. This results in a mismatch between numerator and denominator and the proportion is >100 per cent.
7. Variance can be impacted due to the proportionally smaller number of year 12 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students. A total of 134 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Students were enrolled in year 12 at the February 2021 census (including Older O and O2), and 90 students received ACT Senior Secondary Certificate leading to the 67 per cent completion rate. The small number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students can result in large percentage variances due to changes in circumstances and must therefore be interpreted with caution.

Output Class 2: Non-government Education

Output 2.1: Non-government Education

Description

The Directorate contributes to the maintenance of standards in non-government schools and home education through compliance and registration, and the accreditation and certification of senior secondary courses through the Board of Senior Secondary Studies. The Directorate also undertakes the administration and payment of the Commonwealth and ACT Government grants.

	2021-22 Target	Pro-rata half yearly Target	2021-22 Result	Percentage variance from the target	Explanation of material variance ($\pm 10\%$ or higher)
Cost (\$'000) ^a	5,172	2,586	1,430	(44.7%)	Note 1
Controlled Recurrent Payments (\$'000) ^a	4,485	2,243	1,886	(15.9%)	Note 1
Accountability Indicators					
a. Grants paid within the required period of receiving funds from the Commonwealth Government	100%	N/A	100%	-	
b. Notification of outcome of home education registration application within legislated timeframe ^b	100%	N/A	100%	-	

Notes to indicator description

- a. The variance for these indicators has been calculated on the basis of a pro-rata half-yearly target.
- b. This new indicator will report the Education Directorate's compliance with section 131(7) of the *Education Act 2004*. Section 131 (7) requires the Director-General to notify parents of a home education registration decision no later than 28 days after a complete application has been received by the Director-General.

Notes to variances

1. The variance is primarily due to the timing of payments associated with the National School Chaplaincy Program National Partnership and the National Assessment Program Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN).