

Census of ACT public schools

August 2020

This publication provides information on students enrolled in Canberra public schools at 7 August 2020.

Release date: 18 September 2020

Introduction

This publication presents the results from the Canberra school census conducted on Friday 7 August 2020. The census covers enrolments in public schools from preschool to year 12.

This publication also presents information on the number of persons of school age who undertook school equivalent courses through home education or the Canberra Institute of Technology.

Student enrolments

At August 2020 census, there were 50,331 students enrolled in Canberra public schools. This represented an increase of 1,309 enrolments (2.7%) since August 2019. From August 2016 to August 2020, enrolments increased by 5,414 students (12.1%).

There were:

- 32,000 students enrolled in public primary schools. This represents an increase of 790 enrolments (2.5%) since August 2019.
 - preschool enrolments decreased by 37 students (0.8%) to 4,679 students,
 - kindergarten to year 6 enrolments increased by 827 students (3.1%) to 27,321 students.
- 11,889 students enrolled in public high schools, an increase of 227 enrolments (1.9%) from August 2019 to August 2020.
- 6,442 students enrolled in public colleges, an increase of 292 enrolments (4.7%) from August 2019 to August 2020.

Table 1: Enrolments by level of schooling, 2016 to 2020^{1, 2}

Level of schooling	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Preschool	4,603	4,677	4,679	4,716	4,679
Primary (K-6)	23,695	24,855	25,864	26,494	27,321
High	10,373	10,666	11,164	11,662	11,889
College	6,246	6,368	6,252	6,150	6,442
Total all schools	44,917	46,566	47,959	49,022	50,331

1. Includes a small number of students who attended two schools who are counted as two enrolment episodes in the census.

2. Includes students from specialist schools.

3. High school is used in the ACT to describe the junior secondary level of education of the Australian Standard Classification of Education and includes enrolments of students in years 7-10.

4. College is used in the ACT to describe the senior secondary level of education of the Australian Standard Classification of Education and includes enrolments of students in years 11-12, and Older students.

Enrolments of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students

At August 2020 census, there were 2,092 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and young people enrolled in Canberra public schools. This represents an increase of 60 enrolments (3.0%) since August 2019. Enrolments of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students increased by 315 students (17.7%) since August 2016.

Table 2: Enrolments Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students by level of schooling, 2016 to 2020^{1, 2}

Level of schooling	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Preschool ³	251	289	256	291	278
Primary (K-6)	905	933	993	1,021	1,063
High	406	422	452	505	496
College	215	206	211	215	255
Total all schools	1,777	1,850	1,912	2,032	2,092

1. Includes a small number of students who attended two schools who are counted as two enrolment episodes in the census.

2. Includes students from specialist schools.

3. Includes 3, 4 and 5 year-old children.

Enrolments of students with special needs

At August 2020 census, there were 2,647 students, representing 5.3 percent of the student population, accessing special education programs at either mainstream or specialist public schools. This was an increase of 117 students (4.6%) compared with the August 2019 census and an increase of 392 enrolments (17.4%) since August 2016.

Table 3: Enrolments of students with special needs by level of schooling, 2016 to 2020¹

Level of schooling	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Primary	1,297	1,379	1,404	1,480	1,563
High	670	631	672	743	770
College	288	303	320	307	314
Total all schools	2,255	2,313	2,396	2,530	2,647

1. Includes students who meet the ACT Student Disability Criteria, including those students not formally assessed at the time of the census.

Student enrolments by gender

Table 4 shows the number and proportion of male and female enrolments across various school levels from 2016 to 2020. Overall, there were proportionally more male (51.9%) than female (48.0%) students. There were proportionally more male than female students in all levels of schooling, with the greatest proportional difference being at the high school level where 52.9 percent were males and 46.9 percent were females.

Table 4: Number of enrolments by level of schooling and sex/gender, 2016 to 2020^{1, 2, 3}

Level of schooling	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Primary					
Male	14,703	15,292	15,830	16,181	16,612
Female	13,595	14,238	14,707	15,020	15,377
Subtotal primary	28,298	29,532	30,543	31,209	32,000
Proportion male (%)	52.0	51.8	51.8	51.8	51.9
Proportion female (%)	48.0	48.2	48.2	48.1	48.1
High					
Male	5,360	5,549	5,858	6,154	6,284
Female	5,013	5,117	5,300	5,495	5,580
Subtotal high	10,373	10,666	11,158	11,164	11,889
Proportion male (%)	51.7	52.0	52.5	55.1	52.9
Proportion female (%)	48.3	48.0	47.5	49.2	46.9
College					
Male	3,039	3,136	3,030	3,008	3,212
Female	3,207	3,232	3,186	3,111	3,205
Subtotal college	6,197	6,246	6,368	6,252	6,442
Proportion male (%)	49.0	50.2	47.6	48.1	49.9
Proportion female (%)	51.8	51.7	50.0	49.8	49.8
All schooling levels					
Male	22,267	23,102	23,963	25,343	26,108
Female	21,249	21,815	22,571	23,626	24,162
Indeterminate/Intersex/Unspecified	na	na	32	48	61
Proportion male (%)	51.2	51.4	51.5	51.5	51.9
Proportion female (%)	48.8	48.6	48.5	48.4	48.0
Total all schools	43,516	44,917	46,566	49,017	50,331

1. Includes a small number of students who attended two schools who are counted as two enrolment episodes in the census.

2. Includes students from specialist schools.

3. Subtotals and totals include students reported as Indeterminate/Intersex/Unspecified.

na – Not applicable.

Table 5: Number and proportion of enrolments by level of schooling and gender, 2020^{1, 2, 3}

Level of schooling	Males	Females	Total Persons
Primary			
Preschool	2,406	2,270	4,676
Kindergarten	2,265	2,019	4,284
Year 1	2,163	1,972	4,135
Year 2	2,140	1,971	4,111
Year 3	1,953	1,874	3,827
Year 4	1,948	1,838	3,786
Year 5	1,915	1,777	3,692
Year 6	1,822	1,656	3,478
Subtotal primary	16,612	15,377	32,000
High			
Year 7	1,586	1,435	3,021
Year 8	1,644	1,414	3,058
Year 9	1,555	1,409	2,964
Year 10	1,499	1,322	2,821
Subtotal high	6,284	5,580	11,889
College			
Year 11	1,768	1,683	3,451
Year 12	1,437	1,420	2,857
Older	7	102	109
Subtotal college	3,212	3,205	6,442

Total all schooling levels

Males	Females	Indeterminate/Intersex/Unspecified	Total Persons
26,108	24,162	61	50,331

1. Includes a small number of students who attended two schools who are counted as two enrolment episodes in the census.

2. Includes students from specialist schools.

3. Due to the small numbers of students, year level totals exclude students reported as Indeterminate/Intersex/Unspecified to prevent possible identification; however subtotals include the Indeterminate/Intersex/Unspecified category.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander student enrolments by year level

Table 6 shows the number and proportion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander student enrolments across the levels of schooling. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students represented 4.2 percent of total enrolments across all levels of schooling.

Table 6: Number and proportion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander enrolments and Non-Indigenous students by level of schooling and year level, 2020^{1, 2, 3}

Level of Schooling	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students	Proportion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students (%)	non-Indigenous	Total
Primary				
Preschool ⁴	278	5.9	4,401	4,679
Kindergarten	185	4.3	4,102	4,287
Year 1	151	3.6	3,986	4,137
Year 2	172	4.2	3,940	4,112
Year 3	131	3.4	3,697	3,828
Year 4	152	4.0	3,635	3,787
Year 5	151	4.1	3,541	3,692
Year 6	121	3.5	3,357	3,478
Subtotal primary	1,341	4.2	30,659	32,000
High				
Year 7	124	4.1	2,901	3,025
Year 8	131	4.3	2,931	3,062
Year 9	121	4.1	2,850	2,971
Year 10	120	4.2	2,711	2,831
Subtotal high	496	4.2	11,393	11,889
College				
Year 11	145	4.2	3,319	3,464
Year 12	89	3.1	2,780	2,869
Older	21	19.3	88	109
Subtotal college	255	4.0	6,187	6,442
Total all schools	2,092	4.2	48,239	50,331

1. Includes a small number of students who attended two schools who are counted as two enrolment episodes in the census.

2. Includes students from specialist schools.

3. The category 'non-Indigenous' includes students whose Indigenous status was reported as not stated.

4. Includes 3, 4 and 5 year-old children.

- Nil.

Student enrolments

Tables 7 to 9 report the distribution of student enrolments by year level, network and school.

Table 7 shows that the proportion of enrolments in North/Gungahlin (31.6%) was the highest across public primary schools followed by Belconnen (25.5%), South/Weston (25.4) and Tuggeranong (17.5%).

Table 7: Number of primary school level enrolments by year level, network and school, 2020^{1, 2}

Primary schools	P	K	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	Total
Belconnen Network									
Aranda Primary School	60	76	76	75	87	87	88	83	632
Charnwood-Dunlop School	94	54	43	47	41	30	47	39	395
Charnwood-Dunlop School IEC	na	26	na	1	4	2	6	2	41
Evatt Primary School	47	53	43	48	49	29	46	29	344
Florey Primary School	85	61	64	52	55	60	62	59	498
Fraser Primary School	84	82	71	85	73	71	70	70	606
Giralang Primary School	44	52	45	37	45	43	36	33	335
Hawker Primary School	40	43	39	46	52	49	53	58	380
Kaleen Primary School	67	72	67	68	63	71	70	63	541
Kingsford Smith School	67	52	61	56	56	67	79	80	518
Kingsford Smith Koori Preschool	14	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	14
Latham Primary School	44	66	57	46	37	39	44	40	373
Macgregor Primary School	88	93	84	71	55	76	88	56	611
Macquarie Primary School	40	35	52	40	51	41	53	33	345
Maribyrnong Primary School	84	74	82	78	66	73	53	67	577
Miles Franklin Primary School	79	75	67	75	76	68	75	79	594
Mount Rogers Primary School	95	87	96	70	74	70	58	54	604
Southern Cross Early Childhood School	88	52	39	37	na	na	na	na	216
Weetangera Primary School	59	67	64	72	76	74	47	67	526
Subtotal Belconnen	1,179	1,120	1,050	1,004	960	950	975	912	8,150
North/Gungahlin Network									
Ainslie School	43	45	63	57	50	45	46	42	391
Amaroo School	130	99	148	159	159	150	158	148	1,151
Campbell Primary School	66	39	54	37	58	53	43	47	397
Cranleigh School	12	13	10	8	10	15	10	16	94
Franklin School	132	81	74	57	51	37	na	na	432
Gold Creek School	121	90	94	86	80	74	75	67	687
Harrison School	133	150	162	170	158	161	182	176	1,292
Jervis Bay School	18	9	2	4	5	5	1	2	46
Lyneham Primary School	88	54	66	72	56	75	69	77	557
Majura Primary School	87	104	93	115	92	95	97	88	771
Margaret Hendry School	129	115	76	46	44	38	32	19	499
Neville Bonner Primary School	152	135	120	132	107	89	85	76	896
Ngunnawal Primary School	127	90	110	80	81	89	72	65	714
Ngunnawal Koori Preschool	21	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	21
North Ainslie Primary School	88	91	88	102	82	93	74	85	703
North Ainslie Primary School IEC	na	9	2	6	3	3	4	1	28
O'Connor Cooperative School	21	17	12	20	na	na	na	na	70
Palmerston District Primary School	128	127	123	96	87	90	87	57	795
Palmerston District Primary School IEC	na	18	1	3	1	1	2	2	28
Turner School	58	60	70	67	86	59	73	79	552
Subtotal North/Gungahlin	1,554	1,346	1,368	1,317	1,210	1,172	1,110	1,047	10,124

Table 7: Number of primary school enrolments by year level, network and school, 2020^{1,2} (continued)

Primary schools	P	K	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	Total
South/Weston Network									
Arawang Primary School	65	74	60	77	69	68	77	68	558
Chapman Primary School	87	80	69	81	84	76	81	73	631
Charles Weston School	111	94	100	87	63	54	51	36	596
Curtin Primary School	66	50	55	82	73	68	74	76	544
Duffy Primary School	65	60	63	59	66	54	44	48	459
Farrer Primary School	44	45	43	48	53	53	60	49	395
Forrest Primary School	42	71	75	83	85	80	73	92	601
Garran Primary School	44	78	78	88	94	94	106	80	662
Hughes Primary School	44	46	48	43	50	53	69	58	411
Hughes Primary School IEC	na	21	7	4	4	7	2	4	49
Lyons Early Childhood School	39	37	18	9	na	na	na	na	103
Malkara School	11	6	11	7	14	8	11	5	73
Mawson Primary School	63	64	68	76	56	69	39	53	488
Narrabundah Early Childhood School	67	23	18	12	na	na	na	na	120
Narrabundah Koori Preschool	20	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	20
Red Hill Primary School	88	101	92	105	109	121	102	107	825
Telopea Park School	na	83	82	85	87	82	78	81	578
Torrens Primary School	81	58	67	57	72	66	76	61	538
Yarralumla Primary School	74	67	55	62	62	43	59	43	465
Subtotal South/Weston	1,011	1,058	1,009	1,065	1,041	996	1,002	934	8,116
Tuggeranong Network									
Bonython Primary School	44	46	51	70	38	60	55	46	410
Calwell Primary School	64	40	41	37	31	33	37	35	318
Caroline Chisholm School	31	46	38	39	36	48	37	37	312
Charles Conder Primary School	98	80	62	76	51	51	52	39	509
Fadden Primary School	43	41	45	40	35	36	43	50	333
Gilmore Primary School	31	29	13	21	14	20	15	12	155
Gordon Primary School	111	63	67	62	59	69	55	52	538
Gowrie Primary School	35	43	42	41	50	41	45	32	329
Isabella Plains Early Childhood School	88	43	30	27	na	na	na	na	188
Monash Primary School	62	63	68	44	68	63	57	65	490
Namadgi School	79	62	52	51	48	55	43	59	449
Richardson Primary School	29	19	22	26	19	14	12	15	156
Richardson Koori Preschool	19	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	19
Taylor Primary School	44	46	60	51	49	45	35	25	355
Theodore Primary School	41	38	39	37	35	42	45	40	317
Wanniassa Hills Primary School	57	56	44	71	48	57	40	43	416
Wanniassa Hills Primary School IEC	na	14	3	3	2	na	na	na	22
Wanniassa School	43	34	33	30	34	35	34	35	278
Wanniassa Koori Preschool	16	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	16
Subtotal Tuggeranong	935	763	710	726	617	669	605	585	5,610
Subtotal public primary schools	4,679	4,287	4,137	4,112	3,828	3,787	3,692	3,478	32,000

1. Includes a small number of students who attended two schools who are counted as two enrolment episodes in the census.

2. Includes students from specialist schools.

IEC - Intensive English Centre.

na - Not applicable.

Table 8 shows that the proportion of high school level enrolments in North/Gungahlin (33.1%) was the highest across public primary schools followed by South/Weston (29.1%), Belconnen (23.5%), and Tuggeranong (14.3%).

Table 8: Number of high school level enrolments by year level, network and school, 2020^{1, 2, 3}

High Schools	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Total
Belconnen Network					
Belconnen High School	139	132	131	121	523
Canberra High School	218	223	209	219	869
Kingsford Smith School	115	118	106	98	437
Melba Copland Secondary School	161	129	139	104	533
University of Canberra High School Kaleen	123	118	112	83	436
Subtotal Belconnen	756	720	697	625	2,798
North/Gungahlin Network					
Amaroo School	215	228	185	190	818
Black Mountain School	16	24	26	19	85
Campbell High School	161	199	173	171	704
Dickson College IEC	11	6	10	1	28
Gold Creek School	142	149	148	141	580
Gungahlin College ⁴	na	na	na	29	29
Harrison School	154	170	161	120	605
Lyneham High School	261	245	298	277	1,081
Subtotal North/Gungahlin	960	1021	1001	948	3,930
South/Weston Network					
Alfred Deakin High School	218	213	220	232	883
Melrose High School	223	193	227	170	813
Mount Stromlo High School	200	202	174	181	757
Telopea Park School	245	231	217	249	942
The Woden School	16	19	21	14	70
Subtotal South/Weston	902	858	859	846	3,465
Tuggeranong Network					
Calwell High School	94	108	97	104	403
Caroline Chisholm School	101	118	88	80	387
Erindale College ⁴	na	na	na	56	56
Lanyon High School	98	99	97	76	370
Namadgi School	63	71	80	53	267
Wanniassa School	51	67	52	43	213
Subtotal Tuggeranong	407	463	414	412	1,696
Subtotal public high schools	3,025	3,062	2,971	2,831	11,889

1. High school is used in the ACT to describe the junior secondary level of education of the Australian Standard Classification of Education and includes enrolments of students in years 7-10.

2. Includes a small number of students who attended two schools who are counted as two enrolment episodes in the census.

3. Includes students from specialist schools.

4. Students in year 10 at Erindale College and Gungahlin College participate in early access college programs

IEC - Intensive English Centre.

na – Not applicable.

Table 9 shows that the proportion of college level enrolments in South/Weston (32.0%) was the highest across public primary schools followed by North/Gungahlin (28.6%), Belconnen (20.5%), and Tuggeranong (18.8%).

Table 9: Number of college level enrolments by year level, network and school, 2020^{1, 2, 3}

Colleges	Year 11	Year 12	Older ⁴	Total
Belconnen Network				
Hawker College	246	194	-	440
Melba Copland Secondary School	128	81	-	209
University of Canberra Senior Secondary College Lake Ginninderra	345	327	2	674
Subtotal Belconnen	719	602	2	1,323
North/Gungahlin Network				
Black Mountain School	16	13	-	29
Dickson College	393	279	-	672
Dickson College Secondary IEC	9	-	-	9
Gungahlin College	612	521	-	1,133
Subtotal North/Gungahlin	1,030	813		1,843
South/Weston Network				
The Canberra College	542	425	-	967
The Canberra College - CCCares	19	26	107	152
Narrabundah College	479	448	-	927
The Woden School	8	8	-	16
Subtotal South/Weston	1,048	907	107	2,062
Tuggeranong Network				
Erindale College	332	238	-	570
Lake Tuggeranong College	335	309	-	644
Subtotal Tuggeranong	667	547	0	1,214
Subtotal public colleges	3,464	2,869	109	6,442

1. College is used in the ACT to describe the senior secondary level of education of the Australian Standard Classification of Education and includes enrolments of students in years 11-12, and Older students.

2. Includes a small number of students who attended two schools who are counted as two enrolment episodes in the census.

3. Includes students from specialist schools.

4. See explanatory note on page 14.

IEC - Intensive English Centre.

- Nil.

Students to teacher ratio

Table 10 shows students to teacher ratios for Canberra public schools. The students to teacher ratio takes account of all teaching resources allocated to support students. Students to teacher ratios are calculated by dividing the total Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) students by the FTE teaching staff.

Table 10: Students to teacher ratio by school, 2020¹

School Name	Teaching staff FTE (excl preschool staff)	Student FTE (excl preschool enrolments)	Students to teacher ratio
Ainslie School	19.8	348.0	17.6
Alfred Deakin High School	64.0	881.8	13.8
Amaroo School	131.2	1,839.0	14.0
Aranda Primary School	35.3	572.0	16.2
Arawang Primary School	29.1	493.0	17.0
Belconnen High School	43.6	523.0	12.0
Black Mountain School	27.9	113.6	4.1
Bonython Primary School	27.7	366.0	13.2
Calwell High School	33.0	403.0	12.2
Calwell Primary School	19.0	254.0	13.4
Campbell High School	57.1	702.5	12.3
Campbell Primary School	20.2	331.0	16.4
Canberra College, The	76.6	1,118.6	14.6
Canberra High School	66.4	868.4	13.1
Caroline Chisholm School	60.4	668.0	11.1
Chapman Primary School	36.1	542.8	15.0
Charles Conder Primary School	27.3	411.0	15.1
Charles Weston School	37.4	484.3	12.9
Charnwood-Dunlop School	27.4	342.0	12.5
Cranleigh School	19.1	79.7	4.2
Curtin Primary School	30.8	477.6	15.5
Dickson College	60.4	708.2	11.7
Duffy Primary School	29.0	394.0	13.6
Erindale College	50.0	616.7	12.3
Evatt Primary School	26.0	296.3	11.4
Fadden Primary School	24.6	290.0	11.8
Farrer Primary School	23.8	351.0	14.7
Florey Primary School	30.4	412.4	13.6
Forrest Primary School	37.4	559.0	14.9
Franklin School	26.2	300.0	11.5
Fraser Primary School	33.3	522.0	15.7
Garran Primary School	34.2	618.0	18.1
Gilmore Primary School	14.0	124.0	8.9
Giralang Primary School	22.9	291.0	12.7
Gold Creek School	86.8	1,146.0	13.2

Table 10: Students to teacher ratio by school, 2020¹ (continued)

School Name	Teaching staff FTE (excl preschool staff)	Student FTE (excl preschool enrolments)	Students to teacher ratio
Gordon Primary School	33.5	427.0	12.7
Gowrie Primary School	24.3	294.0	12.1
Gungahlin College	83.9	1,130.0	13.5
Harrison School	118.0	1,763.6	14.9
Hawker College	37.0	436.0	11.8
Hawker Primary School	22.4	339.6	15.2
Hughes Primary School	29.2	416.0	14.2
Isabella Plains Early Childhood School	9.2	100.0	10.9
Jervis Bay School	8.0	28.0	3.5
Kaleen Primary School	28.1	474.0	16.9
Kingsford Smith School	74.3	887.4	11.9
Lake Tuggeranong College	52.5	624.1	11.9
Lanyon High School	36.2	370.0	10.2
Latham Primary School	23.2	329.0	14.2
Lyneham High School	75.4	1,081.0	14.3
Lyneham Primary School	30.7	468.6	15.2
Lyons Early Childhood School	8.6	64.0	7.4
Macgregor Primary School	40.1	522.2	13.0
Macquarie Primary School	22.7	304.6	13.4
Majura Primary School	41.2	684.0	16.6
Malkara School	16.8	61.0	3.6
Margaret Hendry School	25.3	370.0	14.6
Maribyrnong Primary School	34.4	493.0	14.3
Mawson Primary School	32.8	425.0	12.9
Melba Copland Secondary School	64.2	742.0	11.6
Melrose High School	61.2	813.0	13.3
Miles Franklin Primary School	31.0	515.0	16.6
Monash Primary School	34.5	428.0	12.4
Mount Rogers Primary School	33.1	508.4	15.3
Mount Stromlo High School	63.8	756.2	11.9
Namadgi School	57.2	636.4	11.1
Narrabundah College	63.1	927.0	14.7
Narrabundah Early Childhood School	8.2	53.0	6.5
Neville Bonner Primary School	53.8	744.0	13.8
Ngunnawal Primary School	47.4	586.2	12.4
North Ainslie Primary School	39.2	642.2	16.4
O'Connor Cooperative School	6.6	48.8	7.4
Palmerston District Primary School	44.0	695.0	15.8
Red Hill Primary School	44.8	737.0	16.5
Richardson Primary School	12.1	124.7	10.3

Table 10: Students to teacher ratio by school, 2020¹ (continued)

School Name	Teaching staff FTE (excl preschool staff)	Student FTE (excl preschool enrolments)	Students to teacher ratio
Southern Cross Early Childhood School	10.8	127.6	11.8
Taylor Primary School	23.2	311.0	13.4
Telopea Park School	103.9	1,519.4	14.6
Theodore Primary School	25.6	276.0	10.8
Torrens Primary School	31.6	457.0	14.4
Turner School	43.2	494.0	11.4
University of Canberra High School Kaleen	37.0	436.0	11.8
University of Canberra Senior Secondary College Lake Ginninderra	49.8	654.8	13.2
Wanniassa Hills Primary School	23.9	381.0	16.0
Wanniassa School	40.3	447.6	11.1
Weetangera Primary School	30.6	467.0	15.3
Woden School, The	21.8	85.4	3.9
Yarralumla Primary School	25.4	391.0	15.4
Canberra public schools total	3,427.30	45,544.7	13.3

¹ Excludes preschool students and preschool teaching staff.
FTE – Full-Time Equivalent.

Non-school education

It is recognised that there are alternative educational pathways for students to undertake school level courses other than by attending an ACT public or non-government school. At August 2020, 351 children and young people were home educated in the ACT, an increase of 13.2 percent since August 2019. This increase may reflect parents and carers choosing to home educate their children during the COVID epidemic.

In addition, a further 184 students who were of school age undertook school equivalent courses at the Canberra Institute of Technology, a decrease of 21.4 percent since August 2019.

Explanatory Notes

Reference date

The 2020 August census was conducted on Friday 7 August 2020.

Scope and coverage

The August census included all ACT public schools providing primary, secondary and specialist education. Jervis Bay School was included in Canberra public primary schools as the ACT Education Directorate administers the Jervis Bay School for the Australian Government under a service agreement.

Collection

Canberra public school census data was electronically downloaded from the Directorate's centralised administrative systems.

Student enrolments

The census included students who were officially enrolled in a school on census day and who were active in a primary, secondary or specialist education program at that school. Students who were absent for more than four continuous school weeks prior to census date were included if the principal received written documentation signed by the guardian indicating that the student was to return to school on or before 21 August 2020.

Primary school level

The primary school level of schooling included students from preschool to year 6, unless 'K-6' was specified. Preschool level data also included students who were attending a preschool program as an early entry student.

High school level

The high school level of schooling is equivalent to the lower secondary level of education of the Australian Standard Classification of Education and includes students in years 7, 8, 9 and 10. A small number of year 10 students undertake early access programs at an ACT college.

College level

The college level of schooling is equivalent to the senior secondary level of education of the Australian Standard Classification of Education and includes students in years 11 and 12 as well as those students defined as older. A small number of year 10 students undertake early access programs at an ACT college.

Older students (O)

Students in public schools aged 18 years by 31 December in the year prior to the commencement of their college studies, but not aged 20 years or over on 31 January in the year of commencement of their college studies, are classified as Older (O).

Introductory English Centres

Introductory English Centres (IECs) are for students who require intensive full-time English language instruction. There were five IECs in the primary sector, conducted at Charnwood-Dunlop School, Hughes Primary School, North Ainslie Primary School, Palmerston District Primary School and Wanniasa Hills Primary School. There was one IEC in the secondary sector, conducted at Dickson College.

Specialist schools

Specialist schools cater for students with a moderate to profound intellectual disability, severe Autism Spectrum Disorder or with multiple disabilities that require intensive levels of support.

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