



Budget 2007–08

A new generation of schools

A vision for Victorian education

Last year the Government committed \$1.9 billion TEI under *The Victorian Schools Plan* to transform education infrastructure, including rebuilding or modernising 500 schools over the next four years and all remaining schools within ten years.

The Government's vision is to continue to create a sustainable government school system which offers:

A modern and responsive curriculum



World-class teaching and learning environments for schools and the community

Access to the latest technology



Genuine choice for students and families

Progress towards achieving our goals

The Government has invested an additional \$6.1 billion in schools since 1999 in addition to its substantial investment in training and skills in Victoria. This includes 7300 additional teachers and staff employed in Victorian schools since 1999.

- ✓ Class sizes are now at their lowest in over a decade.
- ✓ Prep to Year 2 class sizes are down to 20.7 from 24.3 in 1999.
- ✓ The senior school curriculum has been broadened with more than 12,000 enrolments in the Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning (VCAL).
- ✓ Every young person is now guaranteed a place at school, TAFE or an Adult and Community Education provider to complete Year 12 or its equivalent.

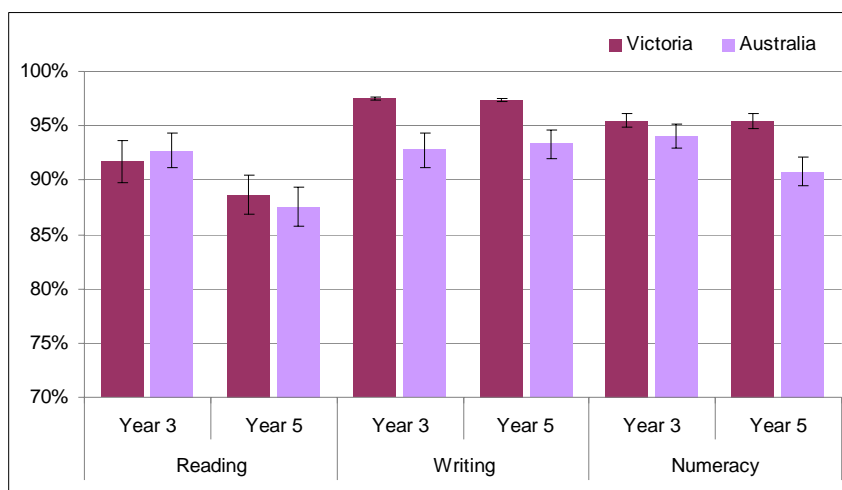
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Literacy and numeracy

Literacy and numeracy results are at or above the national average.

In 2005:

- ✓ more than 91 per cent of Year 3 students achieved the national benchmarks in reading, writing and numeracy.
- ✓ more than 95 per cent of students in Year 5 achieved the writing and numeracy benchmarks and 88.7 per cent achieved the reading benchmark.

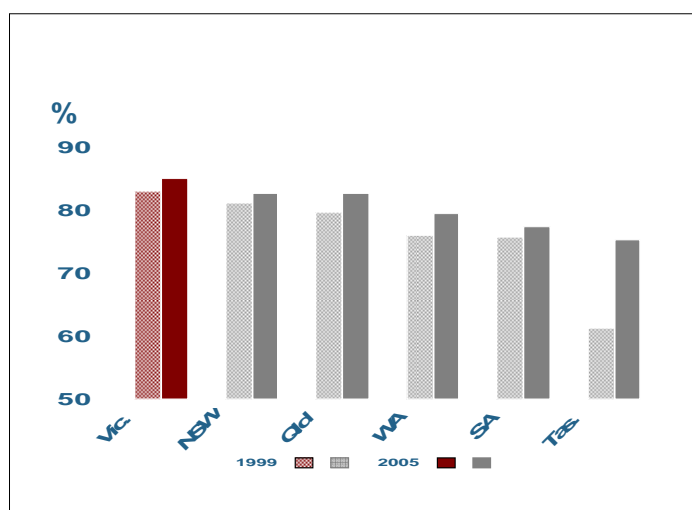


Year 12 completion rates

Victoria's Year 12 completion rate is higher than the national average.

In 2005:

- ✓ 85 per cent of 20–24 year olds had successfully completed Year 12 or its educational equivalent.



Budget Overview and Highlights

| | |
|--------------------|---------------|
| Asset program | \$555m |
| Output initiatives | \$349m |
| TOTAL | \$904m |

- ✓ Record asset investment of \$555.1m TEI
- ✓ \$204.6m TEI for modernisation projects in 83 school communities
- ✓ \$123.2m TEI for an unprecedented school rebuilding program in rural and regional Victoria
- ✓ \$113.1m to assist needy non-government schools
- ✓ \$27.6m to promote excellence in maths and science

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BUDGET PRIORITIES

Building a new generation of schools

- ➔ \$204.6m TEI for modernisation projects at 83 schools
 - including \$58m for 18 schools in rural and regional Victoria
- ➔ \$93.3m TEI to commence eight regeneration projects benefiting 24 school communities
- ➔ \$27m TEI to construct or complete four replacement schools
 - includes two replacement schools in rural and regional areas
- ➔ \$50m TEI to construct or complete seven new schools in growth corridors
- ➔ \$13.5m TEI to secure the future of six small rural schools
 - replacing relocatable facilities with new, permanent buildings
- ➔ \$50m TEI to redevelop 30 technical wings at secondary schools and renew equipment at all secondary schools
- ➔ \$3.3m TEI to redevelop 16 science classrooms across Victoria
 - a total of 63 science room redevelopments funded in 2007–08 as part of the Government's commitment to redevelop 200 science classrooms over the next four years
- ➔ \$10m TEI to build a sports school at Maribyrnong
- ➔ \$1m TEI to begin planning for the new select entry schools in metropolitan Melbourne
- ➔ \$35 m TEI to purchase land for future schools
 - land for four proposed new schools and site extensions in growth areas
- ➔ \$10m in 2006–07 for priority maintenance works at government schools



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BUDGET PRIORITIES

Supporting teachers to deliver excellence

➔ \$35m over four years for 300 Teacher Assistants

- cutting red tape and providing more support for teachers

➔ \$31.8m over two years to complete Phases 2 and 3 of the Teaching and Learning Innovation Fund

- continuation of 450 secondary school teachers to support excellence as part of the Leading Schools Fund

➔ \$48.6m over three years for the Schools for Innovation and Excellence initiative

- continuing to improve student participation and achievement in the middle years
- support for the Ultranet

Continuing to support needy non-government schools

➔ \$83.1m over four years to continue to support needy non-government schools

- continuing to improve literacy, numeracy and retention rates

➔ \$30m over four years to assist needy non-government schools to upgrade their facilities

Focusing on mathematics and science

➔ \$11.1m in 2006–07 in grants for maths and science equipment

- grants of up to \$55,000 for government secondary schools and \$10,000 for primary schools

➔ \$1.4m over six years for 150 science graduate scholarships

- encouraging more science graduates to train in education and teach in government schools

➔ \$1.8m over six years to train experts in their fields to become teachers

- 50 places in the Career Change Program



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BUDGET PRIORITIES

Building excellence in languages

→ \$5.4m over four years to build the language skills of thousands of Victorian students

- Increased funding per student for After Hours Community Language Schools from \$100 to \$120
- One-off boost of \$300,000 for teacher professional development programs in After Hours Community Language Schools
- Ongoing support for five Victorian School of Languages Centres in regional Victoria



Promoting healthy students with Free Fruit Friday

→ \$11.1m over four years for Free Fruit Friday

- Boosting fruit consumption by Victorian children by providing free fruit for students in Prep to Year 2 once a week

A world-class e-learning environment

→ \$60.5m TEI to link all government schools to a virtual Ultranet

- Online teaching and learning system across government schools
- Single information point for parents, student and teachers
- Reducing the administrative burden for schools

→ \$7m TEI to further enhance computer access in government schools



Supporting students and families

→ \$79.9m over four years to extend the Primary Welfare Officers initiative

- continuation of the highly successful LFS 2002 initiative
- Supporting students most in need



An additional **\$904 million** invested in education

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