Independent schools operate autonomously and are not members of government or Catholic systems. All independent schools in NSW are registered by the Board of Studies, Teaching and Educational Standards (BOSTES) and are educationally and financially accountable to their Boards and to the Australian and NSW Governments.

**NSW Enrolments by Sector**

- **Government**
  - Total: 763,698 (65%)
- **Catholic System**
  - Total: 216,809 (19%)
- **Independent**
  - Total*: 187,814 (16%)

**NSW Schools by Sector**

- **Government**
  - Total: 2,165 (68%)
- **Catholic System**
  - Total: 533 (17%)
- **Independent**
  - Total*: 464 (15%)

**Number of NSW Independent Schools by Level**

- **K-12 Combined**
  - Total: 291 (63%)
- **Primary Only (K-6)**
  - Total: 81 (17%)
- **Secondary Only (7-12)**
  - Total: 50 (11%)
- **Special**
  - Total: 42 (9%)

**Enrolments – 5 Year Trend**

- 2010: 174,133
- 2011: 177,359
- 2012: 181,136
- 2013: 184,052
- 2014: 187,814

**Enrolments by State and Sector**

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Sources: Data provided by the Australian Bureau of Statistics, the Australian Government Department of Education and Training, and the Productivity Commission. Depending on the availability of data, enrolment figures are either full-time or full-time equivalent (FTE).

* Independent Catholic school figures are included as independent. Some figures may not add due to rounding.
Socio-economic status (SES) is a measure calculated by the Australian Government Department of Education and Training and used for school funding purposes. Independent schools with a low SES receive more government funding per student than those with a higher SES. SES scores in the above chart have been grouped for convenience and illustration purposes for this publication only. Individual school SES scores are available at www.education.gov.au.