



# **VCAA Statistical Report**

**February 2015**

**Special Provision – VCE external assessments,  
2009–2014**

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## **Titles**

VCAA Statistical Report, February 2015  
Special Provision – VCE external assessments, 2009–2014

## **Introduction**

This report provides statistical information on Special Provision related to VCE external assessments for the period from 2009 to 2014. This includes information on applications for Special Examination Arrangements (SEAs) and Derived Examination Score (DES). The statistics for SEAs exclude students with three examinations timetabled on one day. The statistics for DES are based on individual applications and exclude cases where a DES was approved due to either three examinations timetabled on one day or examination irregularities<sup>1</sup>.

The statistical information presented in this report is based on snapshots taken from the VCAA Assessment Processing System (APS). Figures extracted from snapshots provide more comparable statistical information over time. The 2014 figures are based on a snapshot as at 15 January 2015.

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<sup>1</sup> Examination Irregularities are events which materially interrupt and adversely impact a student's performance in an examination and which are outside the student's control.

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## **Executive Summary**

### **Overview of Special Provision related to VCE external assessments**

- A high proportion of students that apply for Special Examination Arrangements (SEAs) have their applications approved.
- A high proportion of students that apply for a Derived Examination Score (DES) have their applications approved.

### **Special Examination Arrangements - Student Applications and Approvals (see page 9)**

- The overall number of students that applied for SEAs has been steadily increasing. In 2014, there were 3,724 students that applied for SEAs, an increase of 35.9% from 2,741 in 2009.
- The overall number of students with approved SEAs has been steadily increasing. In 2014, there were 3,596 students with approved SEAs, an increase of 42.5% from 2,523 in 2009.
- From the students that applied for SEAs, a high proportion of the applications were approved. The overall proportion of applications approved has been steadily increasing. In 2014, the overall proportion of applications approved was 96.6%, an increase of 4.6 percentage points from 2009.

### **Breakdown on Special Provision categories for SEA Applications (see page 12)**

- The most common categories of approved SEAs are Significant Health Impairment followed by Emergency Applications<sup>2</sup>.
- The proportion of approved SEAs for Significant Health Impairment has grown from 36% in 2009 to 58% in 2014.
- The proportion of approved SEAs for Emergency Applications was 25% in 2014.

### **Derived Examination Score – Applications, Approvals and DES Used (see page 14)**

- From 2009–2014, there was a peak in the number of applications for a DES of 4,856 in 2010, however after 2011 the number of applications has started to decline. In 2014, there were 3,717 applications for a DES.
- The number of applications approved for a DES has remained relatively stable from 2009–2012. In 2014, there were 2,782 (74.8%) approvals for a DES.
- For approved applications, the number where the DES was used has remained relatively stable from 2009–2012. In 2014, from the 2,782 applications that were approved, the DES was used in 2,063 (74.2%) of these.

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<sup>2</sup> Special Examination Arrangements for a student experiencing a sudden illness or accident around the examination period.

### **Breakdown on Special Provision categories for DES Applications (see page 18)**

- The most common categories<sup>3</sup> of applications for a DES are acute illness/circumstances and chronic illness/circumstances, which combined accounted for 71.6% of all applications in 2014.
- The highest proportion of approved applications is in the death category (family member/close friend before or during exams). In 2014, there were 94.4% approved applications.
- In 2014, for approved applications, the highest proportion of approvals where the DES was used was in the psychological (81.8%) and chronic illness/circumstances (81.0%) categories.

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<sup>3</sup> Please refer to Section 5, Table 6 for further details on the specific DES categories (eg, acute illness/circumstances).

## **Section 1: Overview of Special Provision related to VCE external assessments**

This section provides background information on Special Provision related specifically to VCE external assessments.

### **Background**

The VCAA Special Provision policy aims to provide students in defined circumstances with the opportunity to participate in and complete their secondary level studies.

The underlying principle of the VCAA Special Provision policy is to ensure that the most appropriate, fair and reasonable arrangements and options are available for students to demonstrate their capabilities if their learning and assessment programs are affected by illness, impairment or personal circumstances.

Special Provision should provide equivalent, alternative arrangements for students but not confer an advantage to any student over other students.

There are two types of Special Provision available to students completing VCE external assessments:

- Special Examination Arrangements (SEAs)
- Derived Examination Score (DES).

The VCAA is responsible for determining eligibility and for granting approval for both SEAs and DES application processes.

This report provides statistical information on the SEAs and DES application processes.

## **Section 2: Overview of the Special Examination Arrangements Application Process**

This section provides background information on the Special Examination Arrangements (SEAs) application process.

### **Background**

Special Examination Arrangements may be approved to meet the needs of students who have disabilities, illnesses or other circumstances that would affect their ability to access a VCE external assessment.

The VCAA recognises that some students with a disability, as defined in the Disability Discrimination Act 1992 (Cwlth), or illness may require Special Examination Arrangements to enable them to access the examination/test questions and communicate their responses in a timed external assessment.

In designing and approving SEAs, the VCAA is mindful of the need to balance the competing demands of providing students with the opportunity to perform at their optimum with the need to preserve the academic integrity of the assessment process.

The VCAA considers each application for SEAs on the basis of the independent medical and/or educational assessments, any history of school-based Special Provision and recommendations provided with the application, and the VCAA's own assessment.

The fact that a student has a disability and/or illness does not automatically entitle them to SEAs.

The prime consideration is the impact of that disability and/or illness on the student's capacity to undertake the external assessments and, if necessary, what reasonable adjustments can be made to enable the student to complete the external assessments on the same basis as students who do not have a disability and/or illness.

SEAs are available for VCE external assessments and the General Achievement Test (GAT), although only a small number are attributed to the GAT.

### **Eligibility for Special Examination Arrangements**

Students are eligible for SEAs if it can be demonstrated that their capacity to access a VCE external assessment is impaired due to:

- severe health impairment
- significant physical disability
- hearing impairment
- vision impairment
- specific learning disorder (presented in this report as learning disability)
- severe language disorder.

## **Types of Special Examination Arrangements**

Special Examination Arrangements may take the form of:

- extra working time (extra reading and/or writing time) not exceeding 10 minutes per hour and to be used in addition to the ‘scheduled writing time’ of the VCE external assessment. In specific or exceptional circumstances, the VCAA may approve ‘extra working time’ in excess of 10 minutes per hour.
- rest breaks not exceeding 10 minutes per hour of the ‘total examination writing time’ (is the scheduled writing time plus any ‘extra working time’ approved for the VCE external assessment). In exceptional circumstances, the VCAA may approve ‘unlimited rest breaks’ to facilitate management of a significant medical or physical condition. Students may decide how to manage their allocation, and decide when and how long each break will be, with the supervisor noting the start and end times on the Special Examination Arrangements Rest Break Log Sheet. The rest break allocation displayed on the VASS Special Examination Arrangements Advice Slip should not be exceeded. Students must be offered the full allocation of writing time in addition to the time taken for rest breaks.
- alternative format examination papers such as enlarged print, electronic text and Braille (students with vision impairment may be eligible to apply for an exemption from the GAT because Braille and some other alternative format papers are not available for that external assessment).
- permission to use technological aids such as a computer or Microlink for a student with hearing impairment.
- a reader and/or a scribe.
- a clarifier, if the student has hearing impairment or severe language disorder.
- an alternative examination venue, such as a separate room, a home or a hospital.



### Section 3: Special Examination Arrangements Statistics

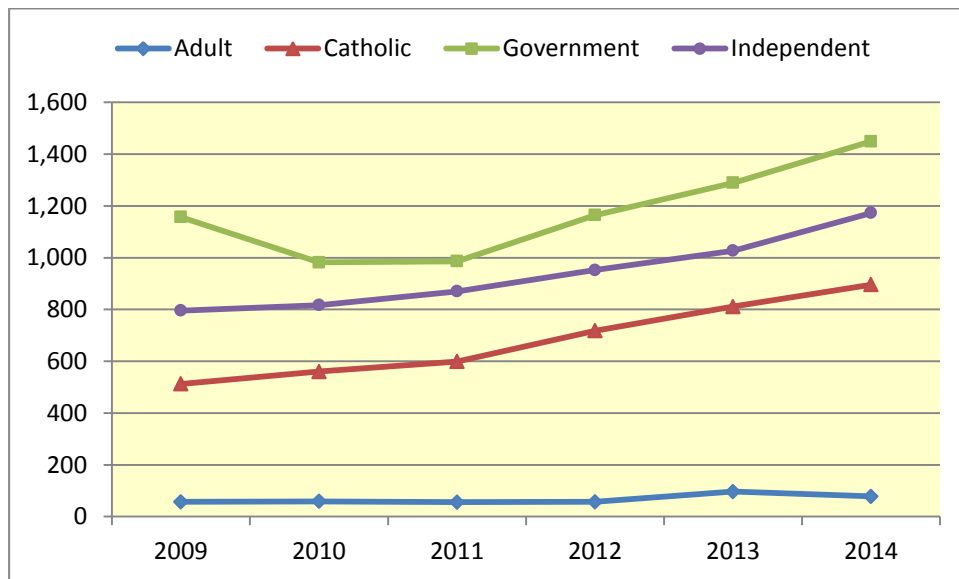
This section provides information on the number of students that applied for Special Examination Arrangements (SEAs) and the number that were approved, as well as a breakdown on categories for SEAs. The statistics for SEAs exclude students with three examinations timetabled on one day. Information on sector is based on the student’s home school or home provider.

#### Number of Student Applications and Approvals

The overall number of students that applied for SEAs has been steadily increasing (see Table 1). In 2014, there were 3,724 students that applied for SEAs, an increase of 35.9% from 2,741 in 2009. From 2011, there have been large increases across the three major sectors, that is, the Catholic, government and independent sectors.

The overall number of students with approved SEAs has been steadily increasing (see Table 1). In 2014, there were 3,596 students with approved SEAs, an increase of 42.5% from 2,523 in 2009. From 2012, there have been large increases across the three major sectors, that is, the Catholic, government and independent sectors.

**Figure 1: Number of students with approved SEAs by sector, 2009–2014**

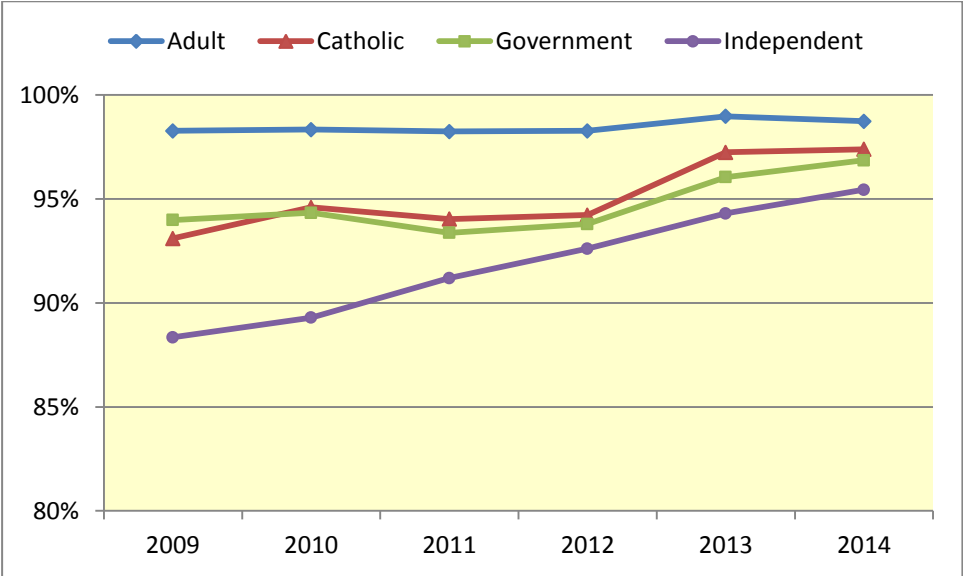


Note: Other Providers not included

## Percentage of Student Approvals

A high proportion of SEA applications was approved (see Table 1). The overall proportion of applications approved has been steadily increasing. In 2014, the overall proportion of applications approved was 96.6%, an increase of 4.6 percentage points from 2009. The proportion of applications approved is similar in the Catholic and government sectors, with applications approved slightly lower in the independent sector. Although the adult sector has a high proportion of applications approved, the number of students applying is much smaller than the other sectors.

**Figure 2: Percentage of students with applications approved by sector, 2009–2014**



Note: Other Providers not included

**Table 1: Number of student applications and approvals by sector, 2009–2014**

SECTOR	Number of Student Applications						Number of Student Approvals						Percentage Approved					
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
<b>Adult</b>	58	60	57	58	98	79	57	59	56	57	97	78	98.3%	98.3%	98.2%	98.3%	99.0%	98.7%
<b>Catholic</b>	551	592	637	762	834	920	513	560	599	718	811	896	93.1%	94.6%	94.0%	94.2%	97.2%	97.4%
<b>Government</b>	1,231	1,041	1,056	1,241	1,342	1,496	1,157	982	986	1,164	1,289	1,449	94.0%	94.3%	93.4%	93.8%	96.1%	96.9%
<b>Independent</b>	901	915	954	1,028	1,089	1,229	796	817	870	952	1,027	1,173	88.3%	89.3%	91.2%	92.6%	94.3%	95.4%
<b>Other Providers</b>	0	0	0	0	1	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	100.0%	N/A
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,741</b>	<b>2,608</b>	<b>2,704</b>	<b>3,089</b>	<b>3,364</b>	<b>3,724</b>	<b>2,523</b>	<b>2,418</b>	<b>2,511</b>	<b>2,891</b>	<b>3,225</b>	<b>3,596</b>	<b>92.0%</b>	<b>92.7%</b>	<b>92.9%</b>	<b>93.6%</b>	<b>95.9%</b>	<b>96.6%</b>

## Breakdown on Special Provision Categories for SEA Applications

The most common categories of approved SEAs are Significant Health Impairment followed by Emergency Application. The proportion of approved SEAs for Significant Health Impairment has grown from 36% in 2009 to 58% in 2014. Of the approved SEAs, 25% were accounted for by Emergency Applications in 2014.

**Table 2: Number and percentage by category of approved SEAs, 2009–2014**

<b>CATEGORY</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2014</b>
<b>Emergency Application</b>	823	775	826	837	795	890
<b>Hearing Impaired</b>	56	41	67	43	57	46
<b>Learning Disability</b>	243	251	263	290	368	361
<b>Severe Language Disorder</b>	30	18	6	7	9	25
<b>Significant Health Impairment</b>	920	1,211	1,244	1,590	1,865	2,100
<b>Significant Physical Disability</b>	84	66	53	64	62	112
<b>Visually Impaired</b>	38	54	52	60	69	62
<b>Bushfires 2009</b>	329	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>Other</b>	0	2	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,523</b>	<b>2,418</b>	<b>2,511</b>	<b>2,891</b>	<b>3,225</b>	<b>3,596</b>
	<b>Percentage by category of approved SEAs</b>					
<b>Emergency Application</b>	33%	32%	33%	29%	25%	25%
<b>Hearing Impaired</b>	2%	2%	3%	1%	2%	1%
<b>Learning Disability</b>	10%	10%	10%	10%	11%	10%
<b>Severe Language Disorder</b>	1%	1%	0%	0%	0%	1%
<b>Significant Health Impairment</b>	36%	50%	50%	55%	58%	58%
<b>Significant Physical Disability</b>	3%	3%	2%	2%	2%	3%
<b>Visually Impaired</b>	2%	2%	2%	2%	2%	2%
<b>Bushfires 2009</b>	13%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>Other</b>	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>

## **Section 4: Overview of the Derived Examination Score (DES) Application Process**

This section provides background information on the Derived Examination Score (DES) application process.

### **Background**

Students who are ill or affected by other personal circumstances at the time of a VCE external assessment and whose result is unlikely to be a fair or accurate indication of their learning or achievement in the study may apply for a DES.

The purpose of a DES is to ensure that a student's final result on an external assessment reflects as accurately as possible the level of achievement that would be expected based on the learning and achievement the student has demonstrated in the study over the year. The DES is designed for students who have completed the course leading to the external assessment but perform below expectations or cannot attend due to adverse circumstances.

### **Eligibility for a Derived Examination Score**

Students are only eligible for a DES for a VCE external assessment if they meet all of the following criteria:

1. They have completed the course of study leading to the external assessment, and have a result for at least one other graded assessment in the same study.
2. They experience the onset of an illness or the occurrence of an injury, personal trauma or serious intervening event in the period before or during a VCE external assessment, that has either prevented them from attending the external assessment or affected their performance during the external assessment.
3. They provide independent professional written evidence that demonstrates the illness, injury, personal trauma or serious intervening event has affected their performance in the external assessment or has prevented them from attending the external assessment.

A 'personal trauma' may include, but is not limited to, the death or serious illness of a family member, an accident involving a family member, or a family break-up.

A 'serious intervening event' may include, but is not limited to, an accident on the way to or at an external assessment, attendance at a funeral of a family member or other person of close relationship, or the required attendance at a court proceeding.

### **DES versus Achieved External Assessment Score**

For each approved application for a specific external assessment, the VCAA will:

- calculate a range of possible DES scores, which will be calculated statistically from the student's other assessments, including:
  - moderated School-based Assessments
  - GAT component scores
  - other external assessment if applicable
  - indicative grades provided by the school
- record the DES as the final score if the DES is greater than the achieved external assessment score
- use this final score to determine the grade for the external assessment.

Therefore for approved applications, the student will receive the score from either the DES or external assessment which is most favourable. For the purpose of this report if the score is the result of the DES, the DES will be considered as “used”.

## **Section 5: Derived Examination Score Statistics**

This section provides information on student applications and applications approved for a Derived Examination Score (DES). For approved applications, information is also provided for when the DES was used. The statistics for DES are based on individual applications and exclude students with three examinations timetabled on one day and examination irregularities. Information on sector is based on the student’s home school or home provider.

### **Number of Applications, Approvals and DES Used**

There was a peak in the number of applications for a DES of 4,856 in 2010, however after 2011 the number of applications has started to decline. In 2014, there were 3,717 applications for a DES (see Table 3). From 2013, there has been a large decline in the number of applications. This is most likely due to the discontinuation of the June VCE examinations. This has also affected the subsequent percentages where the DES has been approved and used.

The number of applications approved for a DES has remained relatively stable from 2009–2012. In 2014, there were 2,782 approvals for a DES.

For approved applications, the number where the DES was used has remained relatively stable from 2009–2012. In 2014, from the 2,782 applications that were approved, the DES was used in 2,063 of these.

### **Percentage of Approvals and DES Used**

From 2009–2014, the overall proportion of applications approved for a DES has fluctuated. (see Table 4). In 2014, there were 74.8% applications approved.

For approved applications, the proportion where the DES was used has remained fairly stable with a slight increase in 2014. In 2014, the DES was used in 74.2% of approved applications. For the remaining 25.8% of approved applications, the student achieved a score in the final external assessment that was greater than predicted with the DES.

Although there has been some fluctuation in approved applications in the Catholic, government and independent sectors, the proportion where the DES was used has remained fairly stable, except for in 2014 where there was a slight increase in the government and independent sectors.

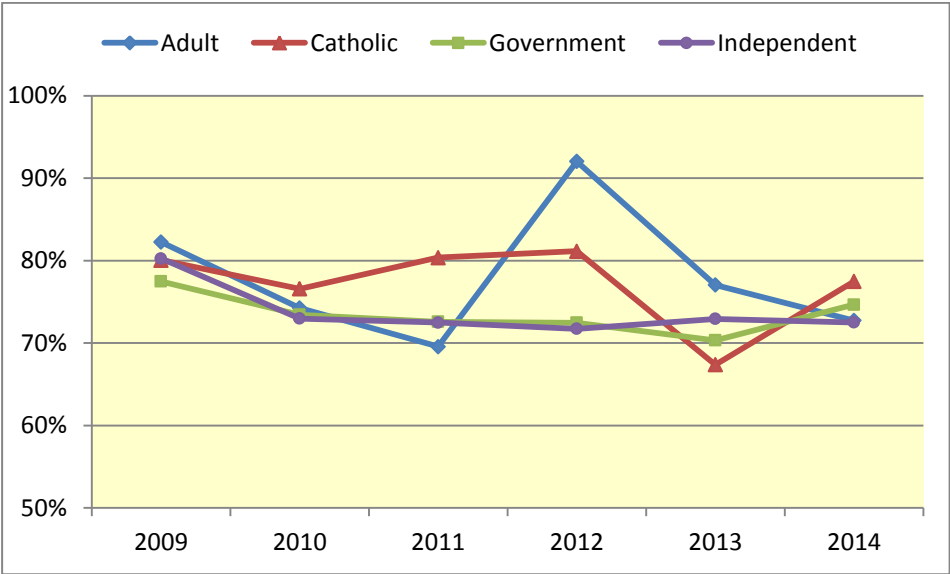
**Table 3: Number of applications, approvals and DES used by sector, 2009–2014**

SECTOR	Number of Applications						Number of Approvals						Number of DES Used					
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
<b>Adult</b>	62	66	69	88	61	33	51	49	48	81	47	24	42	39	34	65	39	16
<b>Catholic</b>	1,233	1,166	1,171	1,087	1,002	1,048	987	893	941	882	675	812	694	621	667	623	483	571
<b>Government</b>	2,078	2,284	2,192	2,132	1,796	1,618	1,610	1,677	1,591	1,545	1,263	1,208	1,185	1,230	1,183	1,149	936	929
<b>Independent</b>	1,210	1,339	1,275	1,379	1,097	1,018	971	977	924	989	800	738	672	665	641	666	547	547
<b>Other Providers</b>	1	1	9	18	N/A	N/A	1	1	9	18	N/A	N/A	1	1	9	10	N/A	N/A
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,584</b>	<b>4,856</b>	<b>4,716</b>	<b>4,704</b>	<b>3,956</b>	<b>3,717</b>	<b>3,620</b>	<b>3,597</b>	<b>3,513</b>	<b>3,515</b>	<b>2,785</b>	<b>2,782</b>	<b>2,594</b>	<b>2,556</b>	<b>2,534</b>	<b>2,513</b>	<b>2,005</b>	<b>2,063</b>

**Table 4: Percentage of approvals and DES used by sector, 2009–2014**

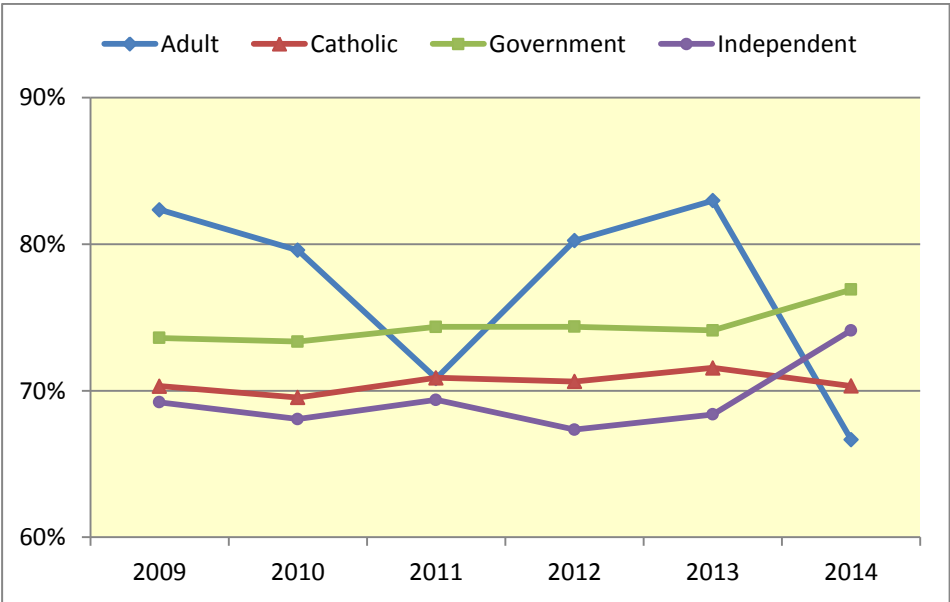
SECTOR	Percentage of Approvals						Of the Approvals the percentage where DES Used					
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
<b>Adult</b>	82.3%	74.2%	69.6%	92.0%	77.0%	72.7%	82.4%	79.6%	70.8%	80.2%	83.0%	66.7%
<b>Catholic</b>	80.0%	76.6%	80.4%	81.1%	67.4%	77.5%	70.3%	69.5%	70.9%	70.6%	71.6%	70.3%
<b>Government</b>	77.5%	73.4%	72.6%	72.5%	70.3%	74.7%	73.6%	73.3%	74.4%	74.4%	74.1%	76.9%
<b>Independent</b>	80.2%	73.0%	72.5%	71.7%	72.9%	72.5%	69.2%	68.1%	69.4%	67.3%	68.4%	74.1%
<b>Other Providers</b>	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	N/A	N/A	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	55.6%	N/A	N/A
<b>Total</b>	<b>79.0%</b>	<b>74.1%</b>	<b>74.5%</b>	<b>74.7%</b>	<b>70.4%</b>	<b>74.8%</b>	<b>71.7%</b>	<b>71.1%</b>	<b>72.1%</b>	<b>71.5%</b>	<b>72.0%</b>	<b>74.2%</b>

**Figure 3: Percentage of approvals by sector, 2009–2014**



Note: Other Providers not included

**Figure 4: Percentage of DES used by sector, 2009–2014**



Note: Other Providers not included



## Number of Student Applications and Approvals

Overall, there has been a decline in the number of students with one or more DES applications. In 2014, there were 1,434 student applications.

Some students are applying for a DES for more than one examination in a calendar year. Although students are applying for several examinations, they may not have all of these approved.

**Table 5: Number of students with at least one DES application and approvals by sector, 2009–2014**

SECTOR	Number of Student Applications						Number of Student Approvals					
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
<b>Adult</b>	40	33	33	32	26	17	31	26	23	27	20	12
<b>Catholic</b>	514	449	436	406	364	359	444	393	366	355	286	303
<b>Government</b>	903	879	849	866	641	647	770	745	673	695	502	517
<b>Independent</b>	509	564	515	529	442	411	440	474	407	425	346	322
<b>Other Providers</b>	1	1	2	6	N/A	N/A	1	1	2	6	N/A	N/A
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,967</b>	<b>1,926</b>	<b>1,835</b>	<b>1,839</b>	<b>1,473</b>	<b>1,434</b>	<b>1,686</b>	<b>1,639</b>	<b>1,471</b>	<b>1,508</b>	<b>1,154</b>	<b>1,154</b>

## Breakdown on DES Categories

The most common categories of applications for a DES are acute illness/circumstances and chronic illness/circumstances, which combined accounted for 71.6% of all applications in 2014 (see Table 7).

The highest proportion of approved applications is in the death category (see Table 9). All applications specifically related to the death of a family member or close friend that met the eligibility criteria were approved. Although there were some applications in the death category that were not approved, these applications did not meet the eligibility criteria.

In 2014, for approved applications, the highest proportion of approvals where the DES was used was in the psychological and chronic illness/circumstances categories (see Table 9). There were 81.8% approved applications where the DES was used in the psychological category and 81.0% in the chronic illness/circumstances category.

**Table 6: Description of DES Categories**

CATEGORY	DESCRIPTION
<b>Acute illness/circumstances</b>	First onset or flare-up of illness, flus, colds, headaches, migraines, hospitalisation during exams, etc
<b>Chronic illness/circumstances</b>	Illness diagnosed longer than a month, family breakdown, homeless
<b>Death<sup>1</sup></b>	Family member/close friend before or during exams
<b>Family</b>	Illness/trauma of family/close friend
<b>Psychological</b>	Newly diagnosed psychological illnesses
<b>Other</b>	Exam irregularities, fire, flood, etc

<sup>1</sup>Each case is assessed individually

**Table 7: Number and percentage of DES applications by category, 2009–2014**

CATEGORY	Applications					
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
<b>Acute illness/circumstances</b>	2,578	2,607	2,279	2,477	1,917	1,813
<b>Chronic illness/circumstances</b>	572	667	691	977	817	849
<b>Death</b>	667	926	1,149	724	660	665
<b>Family</b>	505	516	437	414	490	335
<b>Psychological</b>	191	128	126	96	61	31
<b>Other</b>	71	12	34	16	11	24
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,584</b>	<b>4,856</b>	<b>4,716</b>	<b>4,704</b>	<b>3,956</b>	<b>3,717</b>
	Percentage of DES applications by category					
<b>Acute illness/circumstances</b>	56.2%	53.7%	48.3%	52.7%	48.5%	48.8%
<b>Chronic illness/circumstances</b>	12.5%	13.7%	14.7%	20.8%	20.7%	22.8%
<b>Death</b>	14.6%	19.1%	24.4%	15.4%	16.7%	17.9%
<b>Family</b>	11.0%	10.6%	9.3%	8.8%	12.4%	9.0%
<b>Psychological</b>	4.2%	2.6%	2.7%	2.0%	1.5%	0.8%
<b>Other</b>	1.5%	0.2%	0.7%	0.3%	0.3%	0.6%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Table 8: Number of applications, approvals and DES used by category, 2009–2014**

CATEGORY	Number of Applications						Number of Approvals						Number of DES Used					
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
<b>Acute illness/circumstances</b>	2,578	2,607	2,279	2,477	1,917	1,813	2,039	1,915	1,612	1,813	1,307	1,313	1,495	1,383	1,157	1,322	974	995
<b>Chronic illness/circumstances</b>	572	667	691	977	817	849	330	361	386	595	438	542	252	288	304	444	340	439
<b>Death</b>	667	926	1,149	724	660	665	640	832	1,059	693	592	628	429	570	773	473	406	431
<b>Family</b>	505	516	437	414	490	335	422	400	346	337	403	255	271	248	219	219	253	166
<b>Psychological</b>	191	128	126	96	61	31	122	84	85	63	36	22	97	64	58	44	26	18
<b>Other</b>	71	12	34	16	11	24	67	5	25	14	9	22	50	3	23	11	6	14
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,584</b>	<b>4,856</b>	<b>4,716</b>	<b>4,704</b>	<b>3,956</b>	<b>3,717</b>	<b>3,620</b>	<b>3,597</b>	<b>3,513</b>	<b>3,515</b>	<b>2,785</b>	<b>2,782</b>	<b>2,594</b>	<b>2,556</b>	<b>2,534</b>	<b>2,513</b>	<b>2,005</b>	<b>2,063</b>

**Table 9: Percentage of approvals and DES used by category, 2009–2014**

CATEGORY	Percentage Approvals						Of the Approvals the percentage where DES Used					
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
<b>Acute illness/circumstances</b>	79.1%	73.5%	70.7%	73.2%	68.2%	72.4%	73.3%	72.2%	71.8%	72.9%	74.5%	75.8%
<b>Chronic illness/circumstances</b>	57.7%	54.1%	55.9%	60.9%	53.6%	63.8%	76.4%	79.8%	78.8%	74.6%	77.6%	81.0%
<b>Death</b>	96.0%	89.8%	92.2%	95.7%	89.7%	94.4%	67.0%	68.5%	73.0%	68.3%	68.6%	68.6%
<b>Family</b>	83.6%	77.5%	79.2%	81.4%	82.2%	76.1%	64.2%	62.0%	63.3%	65.0%	62.8%	65.1%
<b>Psychological</b>	63.9%	65.6%	67.5%	65.6%	59.0%	71.0%	79.5%	76.2%	68.2%	69.8%	72.2%	81.8%
<b>Other</b>	94.4%	41.7%	73.5%	87.5%	81.8%	91.7%	74.6%	60.0%	92.0%	78.6%	66.7%	63.6%
<b>Total</b>	<b>79.0%</b>	<b>74.1%</b>	<b>74.5%</b>	<b>74.7%</b>	<b>70.4%</b>	<b>74.8%</b>	<b>71.7%</b>	<b>71.1%</b>	<b>72.1%</b>	<b>71.5%</b>	<b>72.0%</b>	<b>74.2%</b>