

COVID-19 INCREASES EQUITY GAP IN AUSTRALIAN SCHOOLS

COVID-19 has significantly impacted schools in economically disadvantaged areas, further increasing barriers to an equitable education.

We surveyed over 2,100 teachers in 1,155 Australian schools on their experience of online teaching and learning due to COVID-19. Our research found that the rapid shift to home learning exacerbated existing inequities in our system. Below is a summary of our findings.

Download our whitepaper here.

SCHOOL SECTOR DISTRIBUTION WITHIN EACH **INCOME STATUS BY ICSEA VALUE* ICSEA QUARTILE** 88.8% 5.7% **Q4** 33.5% 50.8% **Q**3 46.4% 26.7% Q2 Q1 18.8% 26.5% Religious Affiliation Government Independent

*ICSEA Value: Index of Community Socio-Educational Advantage (ICSEA) is a scale that represents levels of educational advantage. The ISCEA score is derived directly from information in student enrolment records, such as parental occupation and educational level. The four quarters representing a scale of relative disadvantage ("Q1") through to relative advantage ("Q4").

4 times

more likely to say their school was **not well-positioned** to transition to online learning



limes

school's primary technology doesn't engage students

THE **CONCERNS OF** THE TEACHERS IN LOW INCOME **SCHOOLS**

5 times

more likely to say they couldn't effectively communicate with students and 3 times more likely to not be able to communicate with parents

4 times

more likely to worry about students' access to technology



Teachers in low income schools were more likely to think that peer collaboration, instructional coaching and professional learning were critical to their ability to teach online.



CONFIDENCE IN TEACHING USING PRIMARY INSTRUCTIONAL TECHNOLOGY BY ICSEA QUARTILE

| | Q1 | Q2 | Q3 | Q4 |
|-----------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Not all confident | 9% | 5% | 2% | 3% |
| Somewhat confident | 32% | 30% | 28% | 23% |
| Confident | 37% | 39% | 44% | 44% |
| Very confident | 22% | 26% | 26% | 30% |

CONCERNS ABOUT STUDENTS BY ICSEA QUARTILE

Q4 Q1 Q3



For more information go to https://insightsfor.education

75%