



GeoMapping Plus

Online Demographic Mapping for Schools

Proudly offered by:

Somerset Education in conjunction with
Spectrum Analysis Australia

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Turning Data into Solutions



GeoMapping Plus

- Online Demographic Mapping for Schools

Research indicates there are 14 key attributes of a financially sustainable non-government school ¹. One important attribute is a sound understanding of the school's changing enrolment profile by year group.

Your school leadership team should base their plans and budgets on long-term demographic analysis of the enrolment catchment, including proposed new schools.

Spectrum Analysis along with Somerset Education is dedicated to the financial viability and sustainability of non-government schools and can ensure that if your decisions are driven by facts and data, your school will benefit in a cost-effective way.

Our aim is to place you in the 'driver's seat' at an economical price, to dynamically view schools, population changes, sources of future enrolments, indicative patronage of non-government schools plus many other demographic attributes depending on your needs.

In this document we describe the offers and cost for a school to engage with this tool and the benefits of this type of mapping in the decision-making processes for your school.

Level 1 – Complimentary to all - Australia wide

Level 2 – Complimentary to Somerset Education subscribers.

Level 3 – Annual subscription \$800 + GST pa.

(\$650 + GST for Somerset Education clients – via their web portal)

Level 4 – Annual subscription and tailored to your school by Spectrum Analysis – costs depend on student numbers.

Whether you are looking at Level 1 through to Level 4, the mapping is using the Open Source mapping system, and all follow the same instructions. The difference is simply the number of layers and information visible to you.

¹ Somerset, J.W. (2017) *Attributes of a financially sustainable independent school*. Queensland University of Technology

Please have a play with this Level 1 version as it is fairly easy to pick up:

Click on the image below to open a link in your browser:



Under the words 'School Network Planning' you see four tabs – Legend, Layers, Themes and Information. Try clicking on each of these and you can see what is available:

- Firstly, start with the information tab and you can watch an introductory video.
- Now click on Themes and you can decide which map looks best for you.
- Now click Layers and you can turn on and off the various layers, and use the slide bar beside the Layers to move up and down – Blue = ON, Grey = OFF. This is the major tab you use to view your mapping.
- Click on Legend to have the Legends come ON (as required).
- Once you have opened a Layer, click on a site / location (or student if you have Level 4), to open a data box to display the necessary information.
- Other Layers such as *Socio-Economic Index For Areas (SEIFA)*, population forecasts, demographics data, student change count per sector and type can be viewed, depending on what Level you have subscribed to.
- Zoom in or out using your mouse, or the relevant + or – keys.
- Change to Satellite view if you wish.
- Streetview is also available with 'the person icon'.

Background Information

The Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) runs the Census of Population and Housing every 5 years, the latest being done in 2021.

Australia is broken down to Statistical Areas 1, 2, 3 and 4 as geographic areas that they provide information for.

Demographics

The Geo Mapping uses Census 2021, Population Forecasts (2017 – 2032) and SEIFA from the ABS, to understand the demographics and growth forecasts for population in all surrounding areas.

The 2021 Census of Population and Housing data and SEIFA comes in specific polygons, starting with a fine-grain SA1's (there are 61,845 SA1's across Australia). These are then aggregated to SA2, of which there are 2,473 across Australia. This is a similar area to a postcode area. And then further aggregated into SA3's of which there are 359 across Australia. Whilst census data is released at SA1 level, many of the datasets we have used are only released at SA2 level, specifically the ABS dataset - Population projections (2017 – 2032).

Description from the ABS's website:

Statistical Areas Level 2 (SA2s) are designed to reflect functional areas that represent a community that interacts together socially and economically. They consider Suburb and Locality boundaries to improve the geographic coding of data to these areas and in major urban areas SA2s often reflect one or more related suburbs. The SA2 is the smallest area for the release of many ABS statistics, including the Estimated Resident Population (ERP), Health & Vitals and Building Approvals data. **SA2s generally have a population range of 3,000 to 25,000 persons and have an average population of about 10,000 persons.** SA2s are aggregations of whole SA1s.

Population forecast at SA2s

In October 2019, the ABS released the 'Customised projections prepared for the Australian Government Department of Health by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (2017-2032)'. This data gives forecasts by gender and age for specific years to 2032 and gives population estimates in specific age bands from Age 0 to 85+ for all areas across Australia. The Age groups in the ABS data are 0 – 4, 5 – 9, 10 – 14, 15 – 19 etc. This data is used throughout the mapping in forecasting population.

Level 1 - Complimentary

This layer is free to everyone. It is basic mapping allowing you to see:

- All schools across Australia with information from ACARA
- SEIFA scores at SA2 and Suburb level
- SA3 Score of Potential growth for Independent students rated 10 (high) to 1 (low). This is based on a formula of the additional number of student aged children according to the ABS from 2017 – 2032 X % attending Independent Schools (from 2021 Census).

Click on the image below to open a link in your browser:



Level 2 – Complimentary to Somerset Financial Survey subscribers

This level is complimentary to schools that are participating in the [Somerset Financial Survey for Schools](#) (FPS).

It provides all the information from Level 1, and has additional features:

- SEIFA at SA1 and SA3 levels as well
- % Christian population at SA1 and Suburb levels.
- % Islamic population at SA1 and Suburb levels
- Total forecast population growth at SA3 level (2017 – 2032). This is to allow you to see the high growth areas across Australia.

Click on the image below to open a link in your browser showing an Example-only of the complimentary service received as an FPS subscriber. If you log into your [Somerset Education School Portal](#) the map covers all of Australia so you can focus on your catchments:



Level 3 – Subscriber level for \$800 + GST pa. (\$650 + GST for Somerset Education clients – via their web portal)

With this level a school can start to make their own decisions in terms of future enrolments, marketing and having a better understanding of their demographics. Whilst it will not solve all issues, the schools leadership team will be able to apply useful facts and data to the decisions they need to make.

Special layers are available at this level to advise you of the forecast numbers of school age children expected in an area from 2017 – 2032. This is the latest data provided by the ABS and should be seen to replace any earlier data, either from the ABS or from various State Government agencies. In Spectrum's view this is the data your schools future investment decisions should be based upon.

Additional in the Level 3 package, we will also provide:

- Schools data, including number of children at any specific area by Primary and Secondary levels, and if they attend Independent, Government or Catholic schools. This information is available at Suburb, SA2 and SA3 levels;

Example: Demographic Data Census 2021 – SA2 Area (South Australia)

Northgate - Northfield	
	#
Residential population	18,192
Average Household Income	\$106,176

Age		
	#	%
Population 0 - 5	1,360	7.5%
Population 6 - 12	1,507	8.3%
Population 13 - 18	1,002	5.5%
Population 19 - 24	1,432	7.9%
Population 25 - 34	3,489	19.2%
Population 35 - 44	3,165	17.4%
Population 45 - 54	2,186	12.1%
Population 55 - 64	1,619	8.9%
Population 65+	2,293	12.6%

Students by Sector and Gender								
Students	Total		Government		Catholic		Independent	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Pre-school students	180	124	-	-	-	-	-	-
Primary school students	751	800	316	315	276	264	184	191
Secondary School students	479	504	209	156	125	144	123	154

Student Number and Percentage by Sector								
Students	Total		Government		Catholic		Independent	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Pre-school students	310	100%	-	-	-	-	-	-
Primary school students	1,547	100%	671	42%	534	33.5%	391	24.5%
Secondary School students	970	100%	360	36.8%	301	30.7%	318	32.5%

Language spoken at home		
	#	%
English Only	9,505	56.6%
Chinese	1,550	9.2%
Indo Aryan	2,286	13.6%
Arabic	186	1.1%
SE Asian & Austronesian	818	4.9%
Other Non-English	2,445	14.6%

- Population density (school aged children / sq km.) at SA1 and suburb levels
- School aged population forecasts 2017 – 2032 at SA2 and SA3 levels
- % of population by various religions: Christian, Catholic, Pentecostal, Other Protestants, Islamic, Hindu, Buddhist and Non-Religious, all at SA1 and Suburb levels
- Contact Somerset Education to subscribe for this service for \$650 + GST, which will be active for the period of the current year's FPS reporting, generally August to July the next year.

Level 3 demonstration sample:

Click on the image below to open a link in your browser:



Level 4 – Tailored information for your school

As well as all the information provided at Level 3, Spectrum Analysis can map all your students and provide specific layers to look at the market share you have in any area and identify your major and minor catchment areas. This is provided in a secure online environment with password protection and access granted at your discretion.

Using geocoding software, we can map all your current students previous year's students (if requested), all the alumni, and all future enrolments.

Once a student is mapped, we can attach specific data such as name, address, age, year they started at the school, current year, and what school they came from, provided we can have this from the school's admissions team.

We can also map all school bus routes and public transport, to illustrate how well the combined transport network supports your existing students, and how well it provides for future students.

This allows you to look at where your current students come from, and where future student populations are most likely to come from and highlights where you need to direct your marketing to maximise your ROI.

Click on the image below to open a link in your browser:

This is our **imaginary school** called Jells College



Conclusion

Both [Somerset Education](#) and [Spectrum Analysis](#) offer schools a variety of products using facts and data to support better decision making. The investments schools make in property and infrastructure are considerable, and should be backed by the best information available to help ensure success.

Spectrum Analysis also offers services for undertaking a full demographic analysis for schools as a part of their strategic plan (which we shall address as Level 5).

[Download demographic school analysis brochure](#)

Visit [Education Analysis page](#) on our website for more information on what we can offer for schools and download report demos.

You may also want to read an article published in May 2021 by Associations of School Business Administrators (ASBA)

[Demographics and Mapping for Schools](#)

Discusses data resources and mapping tools for admissions and enrolments analysis

Published May 2021, by **ASBA** (Associations of School Business Administrators) – 'Associate' Magazine

[Article download](#)

Full Magazine <http://online.anyflip.com/fubq/fvdg/mobile/index.html>

Other resources:

- [Strategy News for Schools Monthly Email Newsletter](#) where you can see past newsletter editions and subscribe
- [Publications](#) where there are other articles for schools.

Kind regards,



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John Somerset

John Somerset
Director
Somerset Education

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