2020 Softlink School Library Survey
Australia, New Zealand, and Asia Pacific

TAS

Participant Summary

Background and objective

The Australia, New Zealand, and Asia Pacific School Library Survey, conducted by Softlink on behalf of the school library sector, examines key trends and issues impacting school libraries. Points for analysis include annual school library budgets and staffing levels, as well as the use of digital resources in school libraries, school library services, trends, and other key factors important to school libraries. The results help to advocate the role of school libraries and library professionals to education decision makers, as well as through industry associations and networks.

This participant summary provides a statistical benchmark and overview for Tasmania. Further analysis of statistics and trends will be explored in the full 2020 Australia, New Zealand, and Asia Pacific School Library Survey Report, which will be available in early 2021.

Note: Percentages are rounded and may not add to 100
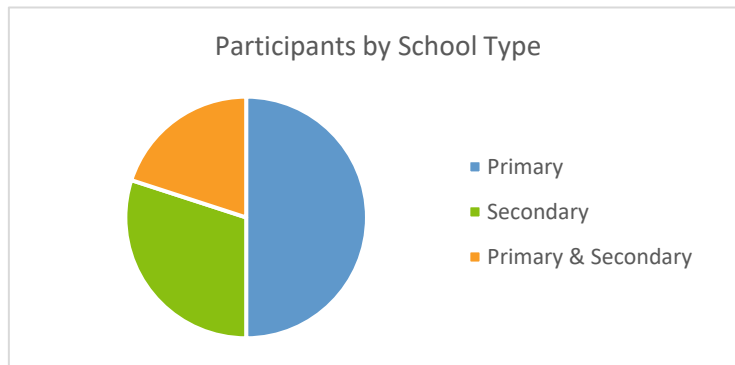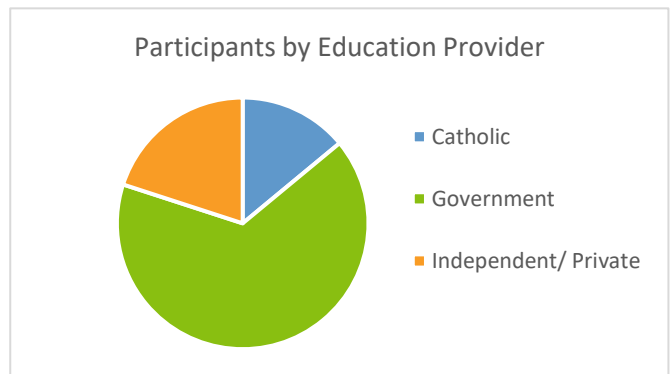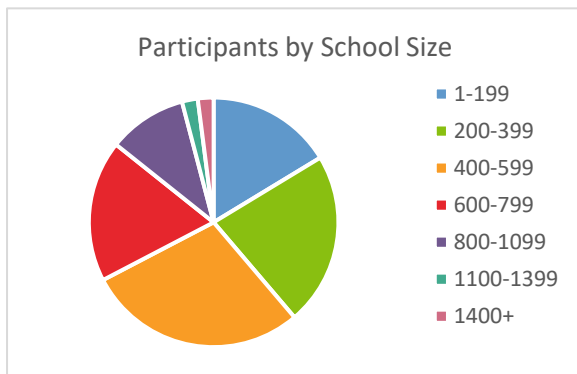
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Participant breakdown

The 2020 Softlink School Library Survey for the Australia, New Zealand, and Asia Pacific regions was released August 28 and closed September 30. Invitations to participate were extended to all schools in the region via email, Twitter, LinkedIn, OZTL_Net, and promoted by a number of our partners, associates, and school library groups.
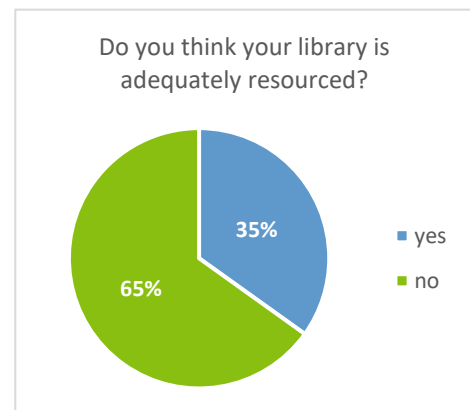
We had our highest ever response rate to date, with 2103 participants from 9 countries. 50 Tasmanian schools participated which, according to data obtained from the My School website, represents 19% of TAS schools.

The breakdown of schools by size, education provider, and school type can be seen in the charts below.

Participants by School Size — 1-199, 200-399, 400-599, 600-799, 800-1099, 1100-1399, 1400+

Participants by Education Provider — Catholic, Government, Independent/ Private

Participants by School Type — Primary, Secondary, Primary & Secondary

Is your school library adequately resourced?

When asked if they thought their library was adequately resourced (including budget and staffing) 35% of TAS respondents said "yes", while 65% said "no".

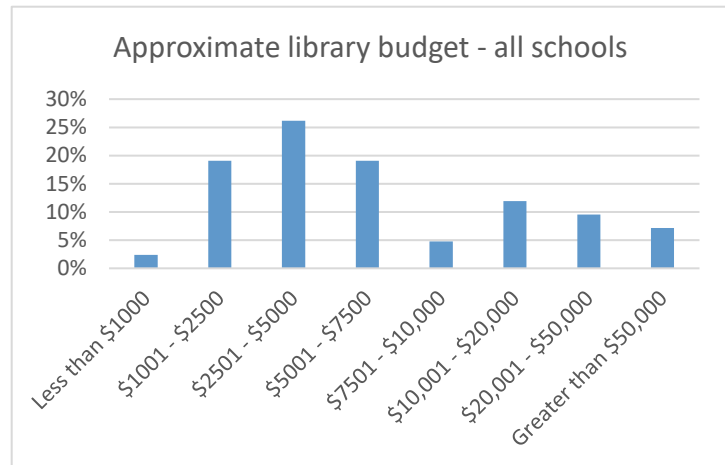Do you think your library is adequately resourced? — yes 35%, no 65%

Approximate library budget all schools

When looking at reported budgets for all schools in TAS, the highest percentage of respondents (26%) reported a budget in $2501 - $5000 range.

Further breakdown of school budgets by school size, education provider, and school type have been provided on the following pages.
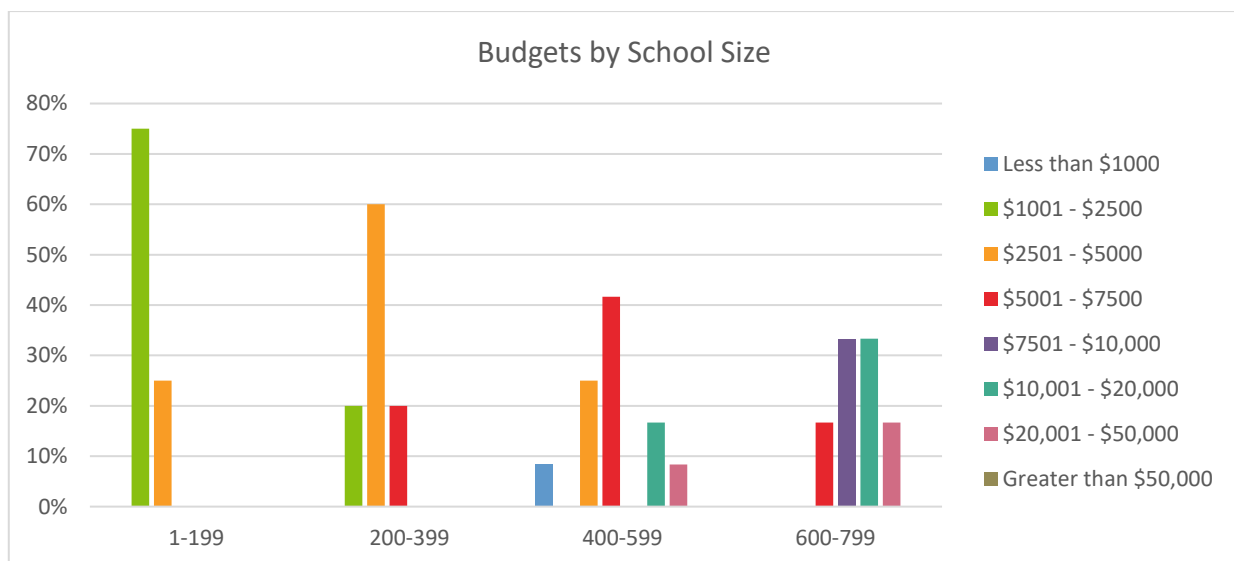
Approximate library budget - all schools

Note: Reported "Unknown" budgets have not been included

Budgets by school size

When looking at library budgets by school size, the highest percentage of TAS respondents reported the following budget ranges:

School Size	Percentage	Budget range
1-199	75%	$1001 - $2500
200-399	60%	$2501 - $5000
400 - 599	42%	$5001 - $7500
600 - 799	33%	$7501 - $10,000
	33%	$10,001 - $20,000

Note: Reported "Unknown" budgets have not been included; sample sizes of less than 5 have not been included

Budgets by School Size

Budgets by education provider

When looking at budgets by education provider, the reported budget range that had the highest percentage of TAS respondents is as follows:
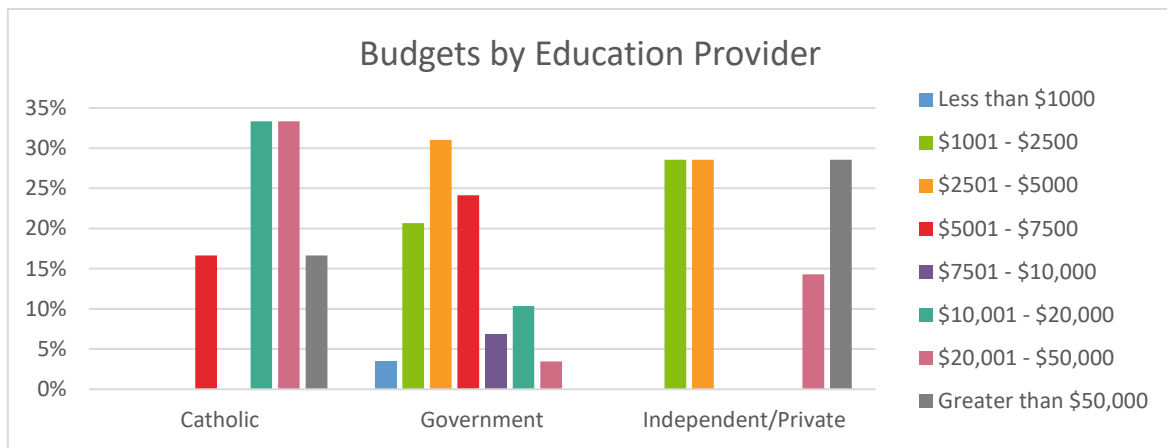
Catholic:
- $10,001-$20,000 – 33%
- $20,001-$50,000 – 33%

Government
- $2501-$5000 – 31%

Independent/Private:
- $1001-$2500 – 29%
- $2501-$5000 – 29%
- Greater than $50,000 – 29%

Budgets by school type

When looking at budgets by school type, the reported budget range that had the highest percentage of TAS respondents is as follows:
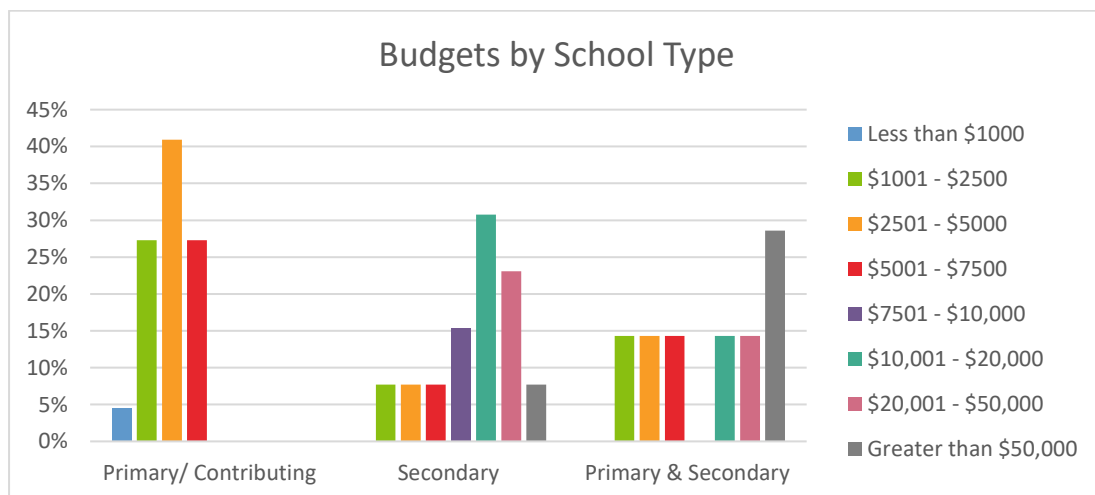
Primary/Contributing:
- $2501 - $5000 – 41%

Secondary
- $10,001 - $20,000 – 31%

Primary & Secondary
- Greater than $50,000 – 29%

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Staffing by school size

When looking at TAS school library staffing by school size, the reported staffing average comparison for 2019 and 2020 is as follows:

School Size	2019	2020
1-199	0.3	0.6
200 - 399	0.6	0.8
400 - 599	1	1.9
600 - 799	1.5	1.7

Note: Sample sizes of less than 5 have not been included

Staffing by education provider

When looking at TAS school library staffing by education provider, the reported staffing average comparison for 2019 and 2020 is as follows:

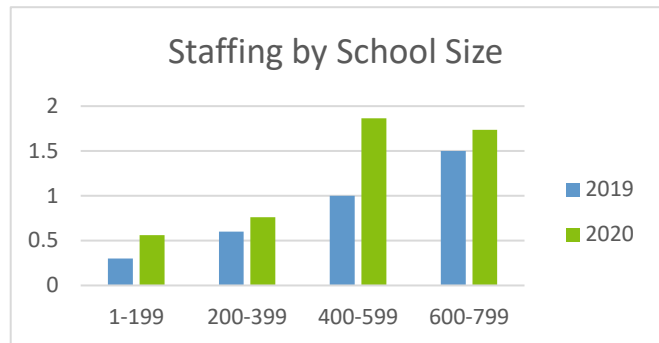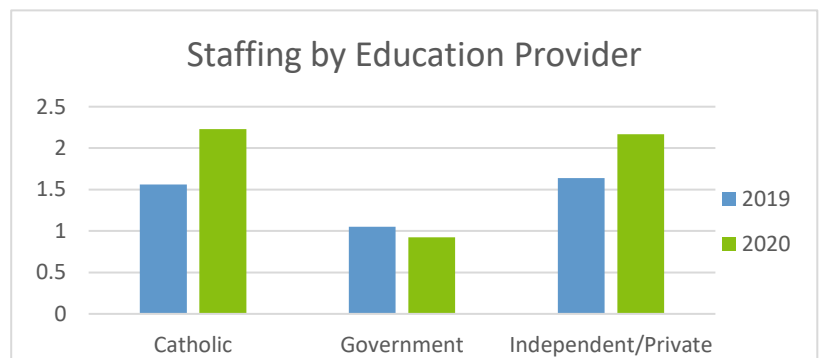| Provider	2019	2020
Catholic	1.6	2.2
Government	1.1	0.9
Independent	1.6	2.2

Staffing by school type

When looking at TAS school library staffing by school type, the reported staffing average comparison for 2019 and 2020 is as follows:
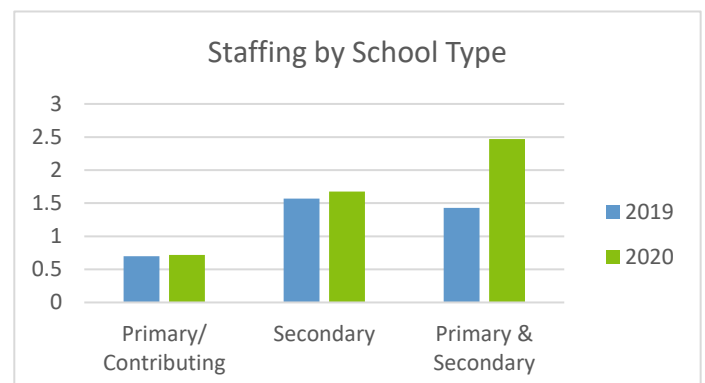
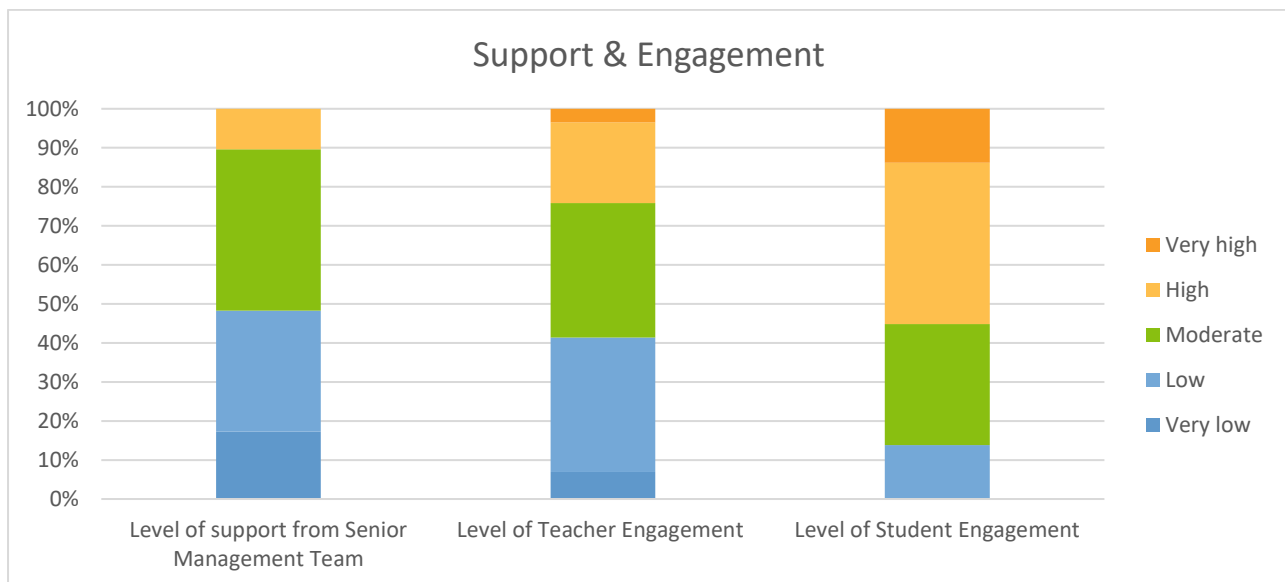| School Type	2019	2020
Primary/Contributing	0.7	0.7
Secondary	1.6	1.7
Primary & Secondary	1.4	2.5

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Level of support and engagement

Participants were asked about the level of support they receive from the Senior Management Team and the level of teacher and student engagement with the library.

The percentages of TAS respondents for categories ranging from "very low" to "very high" are as follows:

	Level of Support from the Senior Management Team	Level of Teacher Engagement with the Library	Level of Student Engagement with the Library
Very low	17%	7%	0%
Low	31%	34%	14%
Moderate	41%	34%	31%
High	10%	21%	41%
Very High	0%	3%	14%

Thank you for taking the time to respond to the Softlink 2020 Australia, New Zealand, and Asia Pacific School Library Survey.

Your willingness to participate and share information about your school library means that we can continue to provide this valuable, annual analysis of school libraries.

The survey results provide a critical reference point for changes, impacts, and trends across school libraries in Australia, New Zealand, and Asia Pacific school libraries. Softlink will continue to work with industry associations to help advocate the role of school libraries and teacher librarians to Education Ministers, departments, and decision makers, as well as through industry networks.

Softlink is proud to continue to sponsor and grow this initiative.

The Softlink School Library Surveys are used to produce a number of reports and feature documents to help inform and support school library staff and the greater school community. A selection of these has been included below, to view more visit softlinkint.com/resources/reports-and-whitepapers/

What's Trending #SchoolLibraries 2019-2020
What are the current trending topics in school libraries? In this global feature, we share responses to the 2019 Softlink School Library Surveys and the 2020 Softlink COVID-19 Survey.

7 Challenges for School Libraries Revisited
In 2015 we wrote the feature "7 Challenges for School Libraries" based on responses to the question *"What is one thing you would change about your library or role?"* in the 2014 Australian School Library Survey. In 2019, we revisited this question using responses to the 2018 Surveys and includes the voice of school library staff from across the globe.

School Libraries Share Ideas for Promoting the Library
Published in 2019, this feature is based on responses to the question *"What practices are in place or what ideas do you have to promote the library, the services it provides, or the role and skills of the school library staff in your school?"* in the 2018 School Library Surveys.

School Libraries Share Ideas for Collaboration
Published in 2018, this feature is based on responses to the question *"How do you currently collaborate, or what ideas do you have for greater collaboration between the library and the rest of the school?"* in the 2017 School Library Surveys.

We are always looking for ways to improve and refine the School Library Survey and associated reports and whitepapers. If you would like to offer feedback, please email communications@softlinkint.com

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