

GETTING TO KNOW WHERE YOU ARE TEACHING

This is a computer-based exercise where you will be introduced to resources that enable you to research demographic and other education data on schools and geographic areas. We will be using three websites that give access to a wealth of data.

I. Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS)

Census Data

<http://www.abs.gov.au/websitedbs/D3310114.nsf/home/Census+data>

ABS QuickStats

Type in the postcode

Note the information available

ABS MapStats

1. Select 2006MapStats

2. Type in 2500 (postcode for Wollongong), hit return

3. Check the location '2500 (postal area) – NSW, then click 'Select Topic'.

4. Select a topic from the dropdown menu (you can select any of the topics), hit return

5. Click view MapStats

Now try this for your school/the areas served by your school.

II. Atlas of NSW

<http://atlas.nsw.gov.au/public/nsw/home/index-2.html>

1. Click 'start exploring' (on the right of the page)

2. On the map, from the menu (upper right) click 'people' then 'social inclusion'

3. The map is interactive, you can click on an area to see the SEIFA score.

4. Try toggling the menu in the centre right of the screen and seeing how the map changes (eg. Select 'children in welfare dependent families')

Q. What other information can you look at on this interactive atlas?

Q. What about the area of your school?

Q. How does this compare to other areas in NSW?

Q. How do rural and regional areas compare with Sydney?

III. My School

<http://www.myschool.edu.au/SchoolSearch.aspx>

1. Type in the name of your school and select 'go'.

2. You will get a result screen for the school that contains a range of data. 3. This includes the Index of Community Socio-Educational Advantage (ICSEA).

Q What can you research about your school?

Q What are the demographics?

Q What educational information is available?

Q How does this compare with other schools?