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Teacher threats on the rise

ALMOST one in four principals have been threatened by a parent or student, with calls for an independent authority to be formed to investigate abuse.

Parents are the most likely perpetrators, with the rate increasing from 19 per cent in 2011 to 25 per cent in 2014, according to Australian Catholic University research.

Threats from students increased from 17 per cent in 2011 to 24 per cent in 2014.

Report author ACU Associate

Professor Philip Riley said the survey showed the personal cost of running schools across the state, Catholic and Independent sectors, was increasingly high.

"The high emotional demands these school leaders face, together with a lack of systemic support and training, means we see higher levels of burnout and stress," he said.

"The numbers now show it is to do with the role rather than the people."