

Senate Committee: Education and Employment

**QUESTION ON NOTICE
Additional Estimates 2014 - 2015**

Outcome: Schools and Youth

Department of Education and Training Question No. SQ15-000071

Senator Lines, Sue asked on 05 March 2015, Hansard page 5

Also refer to Question No. SQ15-000070

National Partnership - Enrolment and attendance rates

Question

Senator LINES: ..Are you able to give us the enrolment and attendance rates in each state and territory for each year since 2008?

Ms Gordon: That information is actually not available in complete form. Part of the national partnership was to develop a national collection. That national collection has been progressively developed over time. The first year of that collection was 2010, but it was not a complete national set at that point. We have been working with states and territories to improve that collection. Even the 2013 collection from last year was supplemented with additional information from states and territories to inform the review that Mr Cook has been talking about. So the ABS collection that will be released tomorrow will provide 2014 data. Unfortunately, because it has been a progressive development of a national collection, we have not been able to go back in time for every state and territory for all the information. But we are developing that.

Senator LINES: Is that some of the tardiness that Ms Paul was talking about?

Ms Paul: Yes, exactly.

Senator LINES: But you will give us what you got.

Mr Cook: Yes.

Ms Paul: We should be assisted by the release of the ABS thing tomorrow

Senator LINES: Can the department also break that data down to show enrolments for low-SES students, Indigenous students, students with a disability and students with English as a second language?

Ms Gordon: The information is available by indigeneity. One of the issues with the collection is that the definition for vulnerable and disadvantaged children is different in each state and territory. So we do have some information on that available, and a lot of that information has come from the bilateral agreements and reporting that we get.

Senator LINES: So you can give us what you have.

Ms Gordon: We can absolutely give you what we have.

Answer

Please refer to SQ15-000070.