

**Senate Standing Committee on Education Employment and Workplace
Relations**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Additional Estimates 2010-2011**

Outcome 2 - Schools

DEEWR Question No.EW0859_11

Senator Nash asked on 24/02/2011, Hansard page 103.

Question

YEAR 12 COMPLETION RATES AT BEGINNING OF NATIONAL PARTNERSHIP

Senator NASH—Just that 90 per cent by 2015 target you were talking about: what is the percentage figure at the moment? Ms McLaren—Do you mean at the beginning of the national partnership or do you mean at the moment? Senator NASH—When did the national partnership begin? Ms McLaren—On 1 July 2009. Senator NASH—How about both? Ms McLaren—That is why I asked—we do not have the current information because that is what— Senator NASH—Okay. How about the 2009 figure? Ms McLaren—I should have the 2009 figure in my pack. Just give me a second. Senator NASH—That is fine. Ms McLaren—It is around 84 per cent, but I cannot find the figure just at the moment. Senator NASH—If you want to just take it on notice and make sure we have the correct figure for the record, that would be fine. Ms McLaren—Yes.

Answer

The National Partnership on Youth Attainment and Transitions began in July 2009. As part of the Partnership, states and territories agreed to make individual contributions to the national COAG target of 90 per cent attainment for 20-24 year olds by 2015. When this COAG target was set, the most recent data available was the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) [*Cat. No. 6227.0] Survey of Education and Work, 2007 (SEW)*.

These data showed that the national attainment rate for 20-24 year olds was 83.5 per cent. The most recent SEW from 2010 shows that this rate has increased to 85.6 per cent, thus there has been an improvement of 2.1 percentage points on the COAG 90 per cent target baseline.