

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

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Budget Estimates 2011-2012**

Outcome 2 - Schools

DEEWR Question No. EW0210_12

Senator Nash provided in writing.

Question

**Smarter Schools: Literacy and Numeracy National Partnership
Literacy and Numeracy Pilots**

The dept says over 400 schools, including rural and remote schools, are actively involved in finding out what works to improve literacy and numeracy. • What does this involve? How many of the 400 schools are in rural and remote areas?

Answer

Support for the development of pilot initiatives focusing on literacy and numeracy in low socio-economic status communities was provided by education ministers in 2008.

Thirty Pilots operated across Australia to trial or expand on initiatives that aimed to deliver sustained improvements in literacy and numeracy for students in low SES communities, particularly Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students.

Over one-third (33.9 per cent) of the schools involved the Pilots were located in areas classified as Outer Regional, Remote and Very Remote using the Accessibility/Remoteness Index of Australia (ARIA).