

Senate Committee: Education and Employment

**QUESTION ON NOTICE
Additional Estimates 2016 - 2017**

Outcome: Schools and Youth

Department of Education and Training Question No. SQ17-000338

Senator Hanson-Young, Sarah, provided in writing.

Australia's declining PISA results

Question

Has the Department of Education analysed the factors behind Australia's declining PISA results and the large achievement gaps identified in the results between low and high SES students? What conclusions has the department come to on the reasons for the continuing decline in results and continuing inequity in results?

Answer

Results from the Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) 2015 assessment were released on 6 December 2016. The comprehensive national report, including a range of contextual information, was released on 15 March 2017.

Many factors contribute to student performance. Insights drawn from the above reports about possible reasons for observed differences in student performance, along with other evidence, will be used to contribute to the department's ongoing policy development to improve educational outcomes across Australia.