

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Budget Estimates Hearing 25-29 May 2015

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department/Agency: Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

Outcome/Program: Outcome 2: Indigenous

Topic: School attendance

Senator: Senator the Hon Jan McLucas

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Question:

Can you provide the latest available data for the Remote School Attendance Strategy (RSAS)?

The My School website disaggregates data by school. Is attendance data for RSAS schools available in an aggregate format? If not, why not?

Answer:

The RSAS data agreed for public release is available for Queensland Government schools and Northern Territory Government schools, for Term 4, 2014.

The average percentage of additional students attending each week in Term 4 2014, for Queensland Government schools and for Northern Territory Government schools, compared to Term 4 2013, is at Attachment A.

Attendance data for RSAS schools is not available in an aggregate format as data provided for RSAS reporting is not always comparable across jurisdictions and some jurisdictions have not agreed to public release.

Attachment A

The following tables compare the Year 1 to Year 10 2013 term 4 and 2014 term 4 attendance rates for Queensland Government and Northern Territory RSAS Government schools.

The Queensland Government has agreed to the release of school attendance data for term 4, 2014 for all Queensland RSAS schools.

Verified Year 1-10 Attendance Rates for Queensland Government RSAS Schools Average* Term 4 attendance rates 2013-2014, and percentage point difference

School Name	2013 Term 4 Attendance Rate	2014 Term 4 Attendance Rate	Percentage point difference
Bwgcorman Community School	56.0%	58.7%	2.7%
Camoowal State School [^]	48.8%	74.5%	25.7%
Cherbourg State School	73.4%	78.3%	5.0%
Doomadgee State School	38.1%	55.5%	17.5%
Kowanyama State School	62.1%	69.7%	7.6%
Lockhart State School	61.0%	57.6%	-3.4%
Mornington Island State School	61.1%	67.0%	5.9%
Normanton State School [^]	67.1%	71.2%	4.1%
Northern Peninsula Area State College	56.5%	54.9%	-1.6%
Pompuraaw State School	68.1%	79.5%	11.4%
Woorabinda State School	72.9%	76.2%	3.3%

** Term 4 2013 and Term 4 2014 data are not complete due to data verification occurring prior to the end of term. Term 4 2013 data includes up to 26 November 2013 and Term 4 2014 data include up to 21 November 2014.*

[^] Please note that 2013 attendance for these schools is based on un-validated data as attendance was not validated for these schools prior to 2014.

The Northern Territory Government has released RSAS school attendance data for term 4, 2014 – 30 schools are included.

Verified Year 1-10 Attendance Rates for Northern Territory Government RSAS Schools, Average Term 4 Attendance Rates 2013-2014, and percentage point difference

Northern Territory Government Schools Term 4 2014 RSAS Tranche 1 & 2 Year 1 to 10	2013 Term 4 Attendance Rate	2014 Term 4 Attendance Rate	Term 4 2013 - Term 4 2014 Change
Alekarenge School	56.2%	53.1%	-3.0%
Alyangula Area School	82.1%	80.0%	-2.1%
Alyarmandumanja Umbakumba School	38.9%	37.7%	-1.2%
Ampilatwatja School	52.8%	52.1%	-0.7%
Angurugu School	24.3%	29.2%	4.9%
Barunga School	62.7%	68.3%	5.6%
Borroloola School	54.1%	59.9%	5.7%
Bulman School	56.1%	65.0%	8.8%
Elliott School	77.1%	82.9%	5.8%
Epenarra School	59.3%	55.7%	-3.6%
Gapuwiyak School	62.1%	44.6%	-17.5%
Gunbalanya School	49.3%	49.0%	-0.4%
Jilkminggan School	54.5%	61.4%	7.0%
Kalkaringi School	60.0%	62.1%	2.1%
Lajamanu School	56.0%	55.0%	-1.0%
Maningrida College	46.1%	50.9%	4.8%
Milingimbi School	32.8%	42.7%	9.9%
Milyakburra School	52.9%	54.1%	1.3%
Ngukurr School	62.8%	72.4%	9.5%
Ntaria School	64.9%	57.8%	-7.0%
Numbulwar School	46.3%	59.6%	13.3%
Papunya School	54.5%	54.2%	-0.3%
Ramingining School	55.4%	59.3%	3.8%
Shepherdson College*	45.8%	44.3%	-1.6%
Tennant Creek High School	65.7%	69.1%	3.4%
Tennant Creek Primary School	70.7%	71.6%	0.9%
Wugularr School	50.8%	48.1%	-2.6%
Yarralin School	72.1%	65.5%	-6.6%
Yirrkala School	50.3%	49.8%	-0.5%
Yuendumu School	47.9%	52.2%	4.3%

**Care needs to be taken when interpreting Shepherdson College 2013 attendance. In 2014 there was administrative relocation of two homeland centres from Shepherdson College to Yirrkala Homelands School. To allow for like for like comparisons attendance data of the relocated students has been excluded. Data cannot be compared to previously published data.*