

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

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Additional Estimates 2009-2010**

Outcome 2 - Schools

DEEWR Question No.EW1003_10

Senator Hanson-Young asked on 11/02/2010, Hansard page 51.

Question

**ACARA - 26 SCHOOLS HAVE SAID THAT THEY BELIEVE THAT THE
COMPARISON IS WRONG**

Dr Hill—I do not think there is a mistake in the value that we have reported, but that we will check. We will check whether the value is correct; whether the information that has gone into the index is correct; whether, for example, all the students in the schools' addresses were actually coded. Those are the sorts of things that would lead to a mistake.

Senator HANSON-YOUNG—Yes.

Dr Hill—Then the issue is, is it a valid way of comparing it, which, I think, is really what you are getting at, because you are talking about the perceptions of people.

Answer

ACARA has provided the following response.

Of the 26 requests referred to at Senate estimates no school has yet had its ICSEA value changed. Six remain unchanged following verification of the data and 20 are still being investigated by ACARA. For the six that remain unchanged, the individuals or organisations have been provided with an explanation. For the remaining 20 queries, additional information is being sought on student address details so the ICSEA values can be verified. Those individuals or organisations requesting clarification of ICSEA values have been advised of this process.