

## EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

### SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE - QUESTIONS ON NOTICE 2004-2005 ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES HEARING

**Outcome:** 2

**Output Group:** 2.4 – Funding for higher education.

#### **DEST Question No. E774\_05**

Senator Carr provided in writing.

#### **Question:**

Why has the progress rate for Indigenous higher education students remained static since 1995, and why did it fall between 1995 and 1999 from 68% to 65%?

#### **Answer:**

*Indigenous higher education students*

The Indigenous student progress rate has shown only small variations over the period 1995 - 2002, the non-Indigenous student progress rate has varied even less and there are no discernable trends.

The slightly greater variation in the Indigenous data may reflect the small size of the Indigenous student population compared to the non-Indigenous population.

DEST cannot provide definitive reasons for the lack of change or any variation in the Indigenous student progress rate from 1995.