

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

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

Outcome 2 - Schools

DEEWR Question No.EW0911_10

Senator Mason provided in writing.

Question

**TRENDS IN NAPLAN OUTCOMES FOR INDIGENOUS AND NON-INDIGENOUS
STUDENTS**

What has been the overall trend in literacy and numeracy between 2008 and 2009 for Indigenous children? What have been the trends for Indigenous and non-Indigenous students? How do these trends compare when broken down per locations – i.e. metropolitan, provincial, remote and very remote? Is it true to say that, mean scores are always highest in metro areas, and decrease successively through provincial, remote, to very remote?

Answer

There are only two years of NAPLAN data available therefore no trends can be identified at this point in time.

In 2008 and 2009, mean scale scores for Indigenous students across all year levels are highest in metropolitan areas, and decrease successively through provincial, remote and very remote areas. In 2008 and 2009, mean scale scores for non-Indigenous students across all year levels are also highest in metropolitan areas, and decrease successively through provincial, remote and very remote areas. In some instances, however, the mean scale scores for non-Indigenous very remote students are higher than those for remote students.

The 2009 NAPLAN report provides data on a number of sub groups, including Indigenous status. Comprehensive NAPLAN results are available in the National Report at www.naplan.edu.au.