

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

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Additional Estimates 2010-2011**

Outcome 2 - Schools

DEEWR Question No.EW0881_11

Senator Nash asked on 24/02/2011, Hansard page 102.

Question

PERCENTAGE OF STUDENTS WHO COMPLETE YEAR 12

Senator NASH—So what is the current percentage of students who complete year 12 or a year 12 equivalent now? Of those who begin year 12, how many go through to actual completion? Ms McLaren—I will take that question on notice, Senator.

Answer

The percentage of young people who have completed Year 12 or equivalent
The COAG national 90 per cent target for Year 12 or equivalent attainment is measured as the proportion of the 20-24 year population who have attained a Year 12 certificate, or equivalent certificate – such as the International Baccalaureate – or have attained an Australian Qualification Framework (AQF) certificate II or above.

The agreed measure for this target is based on the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) [Cat. No. 6227.0] *Survey of Education and Work (SEW)*. These data are measured annually in May and released by December. The most recent data from the SEW 2010 indicate that 85.6 per cent of young people aged 20-24 years had completed Year 12 or equivalent.

The proportion of Year 12 completers from administrative data
The official schools census for enrolment is conducted every year in August and published by the ABS. There is no national or jurisdiction-wide estimate for how many young people begin each year of school. It is therefore not possible to provide an estimate of how many young people begin and complete each year of schooling.