

EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE - QUESTIONS ON NOTICE 2004-2005 BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING

Outcome: 1

Output Group: 2.5 Assistance for post-school students including those with special needs

DEST Question E030_05 - Final

Senator Crossin asked on 1 June 2004, EWRE Hansard pages 106-107.

Question:

How many Aboriginal students of preschool age are not attending any pre-school or accessing any pre-school? How many Aboriginal students would be eligible to go to school but are not attending school? I am after the 2001 census data compared to the actual enrolment figures.

Answer:

Aboriginal students not attending pre-school

The ABS 2001 Census of Population and Housing for Persons indicated that:

- a) of 33,242 Indigenous children aged 3, 4 and 5 years, 16,370 were not attending preschool or a government or non-government infants/primary school; and
- b) of 126,367 Indigenous children aged 5 to 16 years of age, 20,238 were not attending preschool, school or tertiary educational institutions.

Note:

Preschool attendance from the ABS 2001 Census of Population and Housing for Persons is greater than that derived from the National Preschool Indigenous Census. Some respondents to the ABS 2001 Census of Population and Housing for Persons may not distinguish between preschool and childcare.

There were a significant number of children in the ABS 2001 Census of Population and Housing for Persons who were not identified as Indigenous or non-Indigenous

Background

Indigenous children ABS 2001 Census of Population and Housing for Persons

	3 year olds	4 year olds	5 year olds	Total
Attending preschools	2,102	4,843	3,493	10,438
Attending govt infants/primary		559	5,061	5,620
Attending non-govt infants/prim		137	677	814
TOTAL attending preschool or school	2,102	5,539	9,231	16,872
Indigenous population	11,002	10,886	11,354	33,242
Not attending school or preschool	8,900	5,347	2,123	16,370

Indigenous children ABS 2001 Census of Population and Housing for Persons

	5 – 16 year olds inclusive
Attending preschools	3,493
Attending government infants/primary	62,222
Attending non-government infants/primary	8,622
Attending government secondary	25,423
Attending non-government secondary	5,302
Attending technical or further education	1,040
Attending university or other tertiary	27
TOTAL attending education facilities	106,129
Indigenous population	126,367
Not attending preschool, school, VET or HE	20,238