

EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS

**SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE - QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
2008-09 BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING**

Outcome 2

DEEWR Question No. EW680_09

Senator Mason asked on 4 June 2008, EEWB Hansard page 80.

Question

Number of Students Eligible for the An Even Start Program – by State/Territory

Of the 150,000 students eligible for the *An Even Start Program* (previously the Reading Assistance Vouchers program) nationally, what are the disaggregated figures by states and territories?

Answer

Eligible students will register for An Even Start over the course of 2008. As at 25 July 2008, 79,733 of the eligible students had registered. The breakdown by state and territory is shown below.

STATE	REGISTERED STUDENT NUMBERS¹
NSW	21,126
VIC	14,445
QLD	24,040
SA	7,075
WA	7,957
TAS	3,214
NT	649 ²
ACT	1,227
AUST Total	79,733

¹ Numbers at 25 July 2008, based on data drawn from the National Tuition Management System.

² Student registration numbers in the NT have been impacted by the timing of contracts being signed – May to June 08. A subsequent decision was made by NT Program Administrators to postpone implementation of the program to July 2008 to account for school testing and holiday periods.