

**EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS**

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

**Outcome**            2

**DEEWR Question No. EW732\_09**

Senator Siewert provided in writing.

**Question**

*Education measures under the Northern Territory Emergency Response.*

What changes have there been on school attendance and retention rates (in regard to the NTER)?

**Answer**

The increase in Indigenous enrolments between May 2007 and May 2008 was 858 students across all Northern Territory schools, comprising an increase of 696 students in government schools and 162 students in non-government schools. The bulk of this increase was in very remote schools (475), the category which comprises the majority of schools in communities subject to the NTER.

Attendance rates during the school year may vary due to the transience of Indigenous populations, particularly in Very Remote locations.

The data below compare the enrolment and attendance figures for very remote schools, collected in Week 4, on 9 May 2008 (collection 3) with the corresponding collection 3 in 2007.

		2007		2008		Enrolment Change	Attendance Change
		Enrolments	Attendance	Enrolments	Attendance		
<b>Government</b>							
Very Remote	Indigenous	7903	64%	8356	62%	453	-2%
	Non-Indigenous	1394	88%	1308	90%	-86	2%
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>9297</b>	<b>67%</b>	<b>9664</b>	<b>66%</b>	<b>367</b>	<b>-1%</b>
<b>Non-Government</b>							
Very Remote	Indigenous	1004	58%	1026	62%	22	4%
	Non-Indigenous	184	94%	211	92%	27	-2%
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1188</b>	<b>62%</b>	<b>1237</b>	<b>67%</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>5%</b>
	<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>10485</b>	<b>67%</b>	<b>10901</b>	<b>66%</b>	<b>416</b>	<b>-1%</b>

NT DEET enrolment and attendance data are publicly available on the following website:  
[http://www.deet.nt.gov.au/education/enrolment\\_attendance/index.shtml](http://www.deet.nt.gov.au/education/enrolment_attendance/index.shtml)