

Senate Standing Committee on Education Employment and Workplace Relations

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE Budget Estimates 2012-2013

Outcome 1 – Early Childhood, Working Age and Indigenous Participation

DEEWR Question No. EW0367_13

Senator Nash asked on 30 May 2012, Hansard page 69

Question

15 Hours a week

Senator NASH: That is good to know. I am happy for you to take this on notice: I am interested in how each of the how each of the states and territories is progressing towards meeting the 15 hours a week. So could you take, obviously, Tasmania, Victoria, WA, the ACT, the Northern Territory and Queensland. Rather than try to struggle through that now, I think it would be useful to have that on notice if you could provide that for us.

Answer

A requirement of the National Partnership Agreement on Early Childhood Education is the provision of Annual Reports, due annually on 30 March each year. The Annual Reports outline progress against the deliverables and performance indicators specified in bilateral agreements between the Australian Government and each state and territory including the delivery of 15 hour early childhood education programs. The following table outlines how each of the states and territories are progressing towards the delivery of 15 hour programs in 2013.

The proportion of children enrolled in an early childhood education program that is available for 15 hours a week¹ - 2008 to 2011.

	NSW	Vic	QLD	WA	SA	TAS	ACT	NT
2008 ²	29%	10%	0%	Not provide	0%	6%	13.7%	0%
2009	29%	13.5%	38%	Not provide	2.3%	23%	13.7%	27.9%
2010	41%	18.4%	55%	26.1%	28.8%	33.4%	27.2%	36%
2011	* 3	* 3	65%	53.5%	33.2%	49.5%	41%	* 3

Further information about the progression of the roll out of 15 hour programs and applicable data caveats can be found at:

http://www.deewr.gov.au/Earlychildhood/Policy_Agenda/ECUA/Pages/annualreports.aspx

¹ The data is not directly comparable between jurisdictions as different data sources and measures have been used in calculating the data.

² The data for 2008 was collected prior to start of the National Partnership Agreement on Early Childhood Education.

³ The applicable NP ECE Annual Report for 2011 was received after the due date and is currently being assessed.