

EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE - QUESTIONS ON NOTICE 2003-2004 SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING

Outcome: 1
Output Group: 1.1 – Funding for schools

DEST Question No. E422_04

Senator Carr asked on 6 November 2003.

Refers to DEST Question No E262_04 (Senator Nettle)

Question:

The Department's answer to E262_04 (Senator Nettle) indicates that 64 non-government schools were audited in 2002. This covers about 2.4% of the more than 2,600 non-government schools in Australia.

- (a) Is this an adequate number? Does it meet auditing standards?
- (b) Describe the audit process? What checks are made?

Answer:

Accountability: non-government schools

- (a) Yes. The number of schools selected for the census audits complies with the principles set out in the Australian Auditing Standards.
- (b) The department selects a number of contractors to undertake the census audits. The audits include a check of staffing numbers against pay records and student numbers against enrolment and roll records at the school.