

EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE - QUESTIONS ON NOTICE 2005-2006 SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES HEARING

Outcome: 1

Output Group: 1.2 – Assistance for individuals including those with special needs

DEST Question No. E549_06

Senator Crossin provided in writing.

Question:

Respondents to the AEU survey also indicated that due to changes and/or delays caused by changes, they had been forced to let go 447 people formerly employed on ITAS as tutors. Can you provide the numbers of tutors who were employed for the last three years including this year?

Answer:

Indigenous Tutorial Assistance Scheme

The former Aboriginal Tutorial Assistance Scheme (ATAS) comprised three elements – individual/small group tuition, in-class tuition/tuition during school hours and homework centres. The Department directly contracted tutors for these services. From 2005, the Indigenous Tutorial Assistance Scheme (ITAS) consists of two elements – In-Class Tuition and Year 10, 11 and 12 Tuition. Homework Centres are now an element of the Whole of School Intervention Strategy.

Under the new ITAS arrangements from 2005 education providers (State and Territory and non-government school authorities) deliver In-Class Tuition. Tutors for this element are now employed/contracted directly by education providers.

From 2005, Year 10, 11 and 12 Tuition arrangements can be administered by either DEST or by funded education providers. The Qld Government, Qld Catholic Education Commission, Tasmanian Catholic Education Office and the NT Catholic Education Office deliver the Year 10, 11 and 12 Tuition programme and are responsible for the employment/contracting of tutors. DEST continues to engage tutors for Year 10, 11 and 12 Tuition in other jurisdictions.

Homework Centres are funded as an element of the Whole of School Intervention (WoSI) Strategy. From 2005 the Department contracts education providers or other organisations to manage homework centres and engage homework centre coordinators and assistants, who under the former ATAS programme would have been contracted directly by DEST.

The numbers of ATAS/ITAS tutors contracted directly by the Department from 2002 to 2005 were:

	2002	2003	2004	2005 <i>(to 31 Oct 05)</i>
Tutors Contracted	7373	6678	5576	488

Data on the number of tutors involved in In-Class Tuition provision by education providers will be included in providers Performance Reports, due by end May 2006.