

# ESTIMATES COMMITTEE

## Question Taken on Notice

**Date:** 19/06/2018  
**Subject:** Early Childhood Numbers  
**From:** Member for Spillett, Leah Finocciaro MLA  
**To:** Minister for Education, the Hon Eva Lawler MLA  
**Agency:** Department of Education

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**Number:** 8.1

**Question:** What percentage of Territory children are accessing approved childcare centres as at 31 March 2018?

**Answer:** In 2017, the Report On Government Services (ROGS) 2018, Table 3A.15 states that 28.0 per cent of the Estimated Resident Population of children in the Territory aged 0-5 years attended an Australian Government Child Care Benefit (CCB) approved child care service. This data is collected by the Australian Government Department of Education and Training through its Child Care Management system for the payment of its Child Care Benefit. It is not readily available data to State and Territory Governments.

While preschools are approved child care services, they are not approved for the purposes of CCB. This data does not include children attending an approved preschool service delivered through Northern Territory schools.

In 2017, 96.9 per cent (3 608) of children aged 4 – 5 years were enrolled in a preschool program. Of these, approximately 70 per cent were enrolled in an approved preschool program delivered by a school. (ABS 42400DO002 Preschool Education Australia 2017 Table 2)

### LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NT TABLED DOCUMENTS

Committee: *Estimates*  
Paper No: *8.4* Date: *19/6/18*  
Tabled By: *Lawler*  
Signed: *J Knight*