

Estimates Committee 2003
Questions Taken On Notice

(01/10/2002 to 01/10/2004)

Date: 06/25/2003 Output:
Sub Output:
Subject: Drop in Forecast Retention Rate for Years 8 to 12

From:Mr MILLS to Honourable Syd STIRLING
Minister for Employment Education and Training

2-12
Question: Under Performance Measures the retention rate from Years 8 to 12 for 2002-03 was 71%. Why has the estimated retention rate decreased to 65% for 2003-04 and what new funding is allocated to address this serious issue?

Answer:
Answered On: 06/27/2003
Answer: Details of Drop in Forecast Retention Rate for Years 8 to 12 are attached.

QUESTION ON NOTICE 2.12

Under Performance Measures, the retention rate from Years 8 to 12 for 2002-03 was 71%. Why has the estimated retention rate decreased to 65% for 2003-04 and what new funding is allocated to address this serious issue?

OUTPUT GROUP

Government Education

OUTPUT

Secondary Education

RESPONSE

- The current measure for student retention is Apparent Retention Rate.
- Apparent Retention Rates are calculated by the progression of students through years of school for example; Year 12 enrolments in 2002 are divided by Year 8 enrolments in 1998 to obtain the 2002 rate.
- The enrolment numbers used to calculate this derived statistic are:

	Year 8	Year 12	Apparent Retention Rate
2001	1,684 (1997)	1,202 (2001)	71% (2001)
2002	1,885 (1998)	1,217 (2002)	65% (2002)

- Fluctuations in enrolment numbers at individual year levels result in fluctuations in the Apparent Retention Rate associated with these years.
- The 2002 rate is impacted by the significant increase in Year 8 enrolments in 1998 compared to 1997.