**School Age Children - Attendance and Enrolments, Home Liaison Officers**

**1. The total number of school age children in the Northern Territory in 2009.**

The Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) Estimated Residential Population (ERP) suggests there are approximately 34 367 school aged children (6 – 15 years old) as at June 2009. It should be noted that this figure is an estimate.

**2. The total number of school age children in the Northern Territory who were enrolled in 2009.**

The number of enrolments of school age children as at 7 August 2009 was 31 664. Of these, 23 512 enrolments were at Northern Territory government schools. These figures represent a count of enrolments in NT schools on a single day, as defined by the ABS National Schools Statistics Collection (NSSC).

**3. The total number of enrolled school age children in the Northern Territory who failed to attend school at all in 2009.**

Of the students who were enrolled at Northern Territory government schools during 2009, approximately 170 did not attend at all.

**4. The total number of enrolled school age children in the Northern Territory who failed to attend school more than 25% of the time in 2009.**

Of the students who were enrolled at Northern Territory government schools during 2009, approximately 1510 only attended school up to 25% of the time.

**5. The total number of enrolled school age children in the Northern Territory who failed to attend school more than 50% of the time in 2009.**

Of the students who were enrolled at Northern Territory government schools during 2009, approximately 3820 only attended school up to 50% of the time.

**6. The total number of enrolled school age children in the Northern Territory who failed to attend school more than 80% of the time in 2009.**

Of the students who were enrolled at Northern Territory government schools during 2009, approximately 8900 only attended school up to 80% of the time.

**7. The total number of parents in the Northern Territory who had income deducted to pay for school breakfast and lunch for their children in 2009.**

DET cannot provide this data. Breakfast and lunch programs are provided by Centrelink/Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs.

**8. The total number of Family Responsibility Orders that were issued in 2009 as a result of children not attending school.**

Family Responsibility Agreements and Family Responsibility Orders are entered into and made in accordance with the *Youth Justice Act*.

Under the *Youth Justice Act* a Family Responsibility Agreement can be entered into between an Agency and a parent if:

* 1. a youth demonstrates behavioural problems (for example, criminal behaviour, persistent truancy and anti-social behaviour); and
	2. the family circumstances are causing or contributing to those behavioural problems; and
	3. the Agency considers that the agreement may resolve the problems.

As such, Family Responsibility Agreements and Orders are not entered into or made specifically in relation to school attendance.

Since July 2009, 40 Family Responsibility Agreements have been entered into.

**9. The total amount invested by the Henderson Government in measures specifically designed to improve school attendance in 2009/2010.**

The the School Enrolment and Attendance Team is a measure specifically designed to improve school attendance however Clontarf Football Academies and Home Liaison Officers play crucial roles. Approximately $7.6m was spent on all of the above measures in 2009/2010.

**10. The enrolment and attendance rates at Northern Territory schools where bilingual education was ended in 2010 and a comparison with 2009.**

As Aboriginal languages and English are spoken in most very remote schools, the Department of Education and Training expects student learning in English to be strongly supported by use of home languages. A new English language policy was introduced in October 2008.

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|  | **2007** | **2008** | **2009** | **2010** |
|  | **Enr** | **Att Rate** | **Enr** | **Att Rate** | **Enr** | **Att Rate** | **Enr** | **Att Rate** |
| **Areyonga School** | 41 | 84.8% | 40 | 84.4% | 41 | 89.4% | 42 | 89.8% |
| **Lajamanu School** | 173 | 61.5% | 214 | 60.5% | 184 | 56.1% | 168 | 43.2% |
| **Maningrida School** | 575 | 48.2% | 634 | 44.4% | 669 | 40.8% | 618 | 38.9% |
| **Milingimbi School** | 320 | 64.4% | 343 | 64.4% | 303 | 67.5% | 368 | 65.1% |
| **Numbulwar School** | 207 | 57.0% | 216 | 59.1% | 232 | 50.4% | 208 | 49.6% |
| **Shepherdson College** | 649 | 56.4% | 598 | 50.8% | 673 | 58.0% | 664 | 52.1% |
| **Willowra School** | 43 | 67.7% | 50 | 58.0% | 48 | 63.0% | 57 | 42.8% |
| **Yirrkala School** | 191 | 48.6% | 212 | 57.3% | 200 | 57.1% | 208 | 61.3% |
| **Yuendumu School** | 125 | 48.0% | 134 | 50.7% | 146 | 55.2% | 167 | 48.4% |