



Inquiry into Annual and Financial Reports 2020-2021
ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Asked by MR HANSON

Ref: Annual Report, Education Directorate, Outputs 1.2 and 1.3

In relation to: Output 1.2 Public High School Education (AR p 30)

1. In 2016-17, 93% of students went on to college (Fig 9, p 30). The figure for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students was 86% - a gap of 7 percentage points (Fig 10, p 31).

In 2020-21, 92% of students went on to college. The figure for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students was 83% - a gap of 9 percentage points.

Why is that gap widening?

Output 1.3 Public Secondary College Education (AR p 31)

1. Tertiary Entrance Statement, and Vocational Qualification figures are no longer provided. These figures were important indicators of students' college outcomes and pathways. Why is the ACT Senior Secondary Certificate now the only indicator provided?
2. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students with ACT Senior Secondary Certificates = 69%, compared with 87% of all Year 12. What were the figures in previous years?

MS BERRY MLA: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:—

In relation to: Output 1.2 Public High School Education (AR p 30)

1. Due to the small number of students in the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cohort, significant variance in percentages can occur as noted on page 31 of the Annual Report.

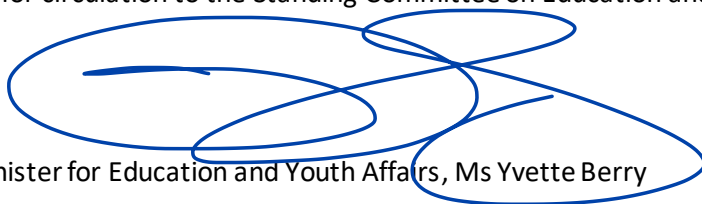
In relation to: Output 1.3 Public Secondary College Education (AR p 31)

1. The 2019-20 budget statement identified that the Education Directorate would develop an improved indicator that is a more robust measure of senior secondary student achievement. The improved indicator measuring the percentage of students who achieved a Senior Secondary Certificate reflects the achievement of students. The new indicator better informs policy, service design and decision-making about school improvement and evidence-based decisions to target resourcing and support.
2. The proportions of year 12 public school students attaining an ACT Senior Secondary Certificate for the period 2017-20 are included in the table below.

	2017	2018	2019	2020
All students enrolled in year 12 who received a Senior Secondary Certificate	87%	88%	89%	87%
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students who received a Senior Secondary Certificate	60%	69%	66%	69%

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Education and Community Inclusion

Signature:



Date: 21/04/22

By the Minister for Education and Youth Affairs, Ms Yvette Berry