

Question on Notice

No. 180

Asked on 26 February 2019

MR M BOOTHMAN ASKED THE DEPUTY PREMIER, TREASURER AND MINISTER FOR ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER PARTNERSHIPS (HON J TRAD)

QUESTION:

With reference to the Queensland Closing the Gap Report Card released this year—

Will the Deputy Premier explain the methods used to determine that Queensland was on track to close the gap on (a) early childhood education and (b) Year 12 attainment?

ANSWER:

The information in the Queensland 2018 Closing the Gap Report Card, tabled in Parliament on 13 February 2019, was prepared by the independent Queensland Government Statistician's Office (QGSO).

The QGSO data shows that in 2018, 85.3 per cent of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander four-year olds were enrolled in early childhood education. By analysing the progress needed to be on track, QGSO is confident that Queensland will meet the target of 95 per cent enrolment by 2025 – the target date set by the Closing the Gap agenda.

The Year 12 attainment data is taken from the national Census for both the Queensland Report Card and the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (DPMC) report. Since Closing the Gap began in 2008, there has been two data points (2011 and 2016 Censuses). QGSO has confirmed that halving the gap for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people aged 20-24 years in Year 12 attainment or equivalent, by 2020, is on track if Queensland's current progress continues at the same rate going forward.