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## Primary Literacy and Numeracy



Students in New South Wales consistently perform above the national average in standardised literacy and numeracy tests. In 2007, New South Wales had a very high proportion of year 5 students who exceeded the minimum national benchmarks for reading, writing and numeracy.

Education plays a vital role in lifting the overall socio-economic outcomes of the whole community, as well as allowing children to reach their full potential and lead interesting and rewarding lives.

Literacy and numeracy by State, 2007 - Percentage of Year 5 students achieving national benchmarks

State/Territory <sup>1,2</sup>	Reading %	Writing %	Numeracy %
New South Wales	92.0	95.4	91.3
Victoria	91.4	96.0	91.5
Queensland	80.5	96.3	83.7
South Australia	89.3	91.3	89.6
Western Australia	93.9	84.8	87.3
Tasmania	95.1	86.2	89.4
Northern Territory	72.3	63.3	70.2
Australian Capital Territory	94.9	94.2	92.4
Australia	89.2	94.1	89.0

Footnotes:

1. The typical average age of students varies by State, from 10 years 4 months in Western Australia, to 11 years 1 month in Tasmania

2. Statistical errors range from 0.1 to 10.0 percentage points depending on State/Territory and category

Source: Ministerial Council on Employment, Education, Training and Youth Affairs, *National Report on Schooling in Australia, 2007*