

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

ORAL REPLY

QUESTION 174.

DATE OF PUBLICATION OF INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 04/03/2025

INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 07/2025

174. Mr M Shikhwambana (EFF) to ask the Minister of Basic Education: to ask the Minister of Basic Education:

What (a) is the full status update on the total number of schools that have received the information and communication technology devices, digital content, software, connectivity as part of the rollout and implementation plan outlined in the 2024 budget and (b) are the details of the rollout and implementation activities carried out?

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Response

The Department of Basic Education (DBE) has advised that the table below indicates the number of learners, teachers and public schools that received **Information Communication Technology (ICT) equipment** in the 2022/23, 2023/24 and 2024/25 financial years. According to the DBE, the statistics reveal that 535 673 learners, 148 046 teachers and 10 054 classrooms were provided with ICT equipment.

Provider	2022/23			2023/24			2024/25		
	Learners	Teachers	Schools	Learners	Teachers	Schools	Learners	Teachers	Schools
Eastern Cape	9 896	-	487	3 360	1 380	86	2 335	-	1 009
Free State	1 689	300	544	1 775	14	7	1 814	727	497
Gauteng	71 494	215	286	62 500	4 000	-	35 000	500	500
KwaZulu Natal	440	235	27	660	360	492	1 480	294	221
Limpopo	44 777	158	-	35 740	-	-	35 000	0	0
Mpumalanga	66 701	7 130	-	61 691	7 074	-	46 172	0	160
Northern Cape	13 000	204	331	12 000	505	-	65	0	2
North West	2 793	2 397	-	270	181	140	100	133	134
Western Cape	600	-	1 677	21 546	1 735	1 737	80	1 735	1 657
DBE	1 855	-	32	840	112	28	0	0	0
Total	213 245	10 669	3 384	200 382	15 361	2 490	122 046	3 389	4 180

The DBE has advised that Table 2 below indicates the number of learners, teachers and public schools that received **connectivity** in the 2022/23, 2023/24 and 2024/25 financial years. According to the DBE, it is clear from the table that 537 897 learners, 59 991 teachers and 17 164 schools were provided with connectivity.

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Table 2: Connectivity									
Providers	2022/23			2023/24			2024/25		
	Learners	Teachers	Schools	Learners	Teachers	Schools	Learners	Teachers	Schools
Eastern Cape	-	-	136	-	-	4 000	-	-	-
Free State	-	-	1 970	-	-	-	-	-	1 889
Gauteng	60 883	11 006	45	-	-	33	-	-	-
KwaZulu Natal	-	-	11	-	-	10	-	-	7
Limpopo	24 477		-	624	-	-	-	-	-
Mpumalanga	63 500	8 366	258	224 264	27 096	-	46 172	7 074	1 030
Northern Cape	-	-	-	-	-	654	2 264	0	556
North West	690	-	-	23 000	-	1 476	92 000	6 000	4 404
Western Cape	-	-	130	-	-	50	23	449	287
DBE	-	-	130	-	-	118	-	-	-
Total	149 550	19 372	2 680	247 888	27 096	6 341	140 459	13 523	8 173

The DBE has advised that, as far as possible, provinces are providing teachers and learners with data bundles as part of the connectivity for teaching and learning.

The DBE has advised that Table 3 below indicates the number of learners, teachers and schools that received **digital content and/or software** in the 2022/23, 2023/24 and 2024/25 financial years.

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Table 3: Software and content				
	2022/23		2023/24	2024/25
Provider	Software	Content	Content software and	Content software and
Eastern Cape	1	-	5 098	-
Free State	-	-	-	-
Gauteng	604	71 494	67 500	606
KwaZulu Natal	1	-	1	158
Limpopo	-	-	-	-
Mpumalanga	83 929	70 250	-	-
Northern Cape	1 400	-	12 000	-
North West	1	-	1 000 000	1537
Western Cape	-	-	1 727 083	3 106
DBE	-	-	583	-
Total	85 936	141 744	2 812 265	5 407

The DBE has advised that Provincial Education Departments are using their equitable share funding to procure ICT resources for learners and teachers as part of efforts to enhance teaching and learning. However, additional resources are required to enable the basic education sector to bridge the digital divide. The DBE will continue to forge partnerships with corporate and social partners, and advocate for additional public funding allocations, to ensure that our schools receive greater access to quality ICT resources.