

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION 2518.

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2518. Mrs N J Nolutshungu (EFF) to ask the Minister of Basic Education: to ask the Minister of Basic Education:

(a) What (i) total number of learners are currently not accommodated in the Scholar Transport Programme in each province and (ii) are the reasons in this regard and (b)(i) on what date is it envisaged that all learners will be accommodated in the programme and (ii) what time frames have been put in place in this regard?

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a. (i) According to the provincial reports (2022/2023) on the implementation of the learner transport, a total of **169 800** learners are not being accommodated in the Scholar Transport Programme as outline in the table below.

Province	No. of Learners in Need	No. of Schools in Need	No. of Learners Transported in 2022/2023	No. of schools	not accommodated in the Scholar Transport Programme
EC	139823	1595	125331	1,007	14492
FS	9933	178	8513	163	1420
GP	191021	628	204060	646	0
KZN	231188	1550	76963	402	154225
LP	69005	580	64907	538	4098
MP	64500	351	69725	359	0
NW	82050	530	64833	314	17217
NC	25799	267	26078	272	0
WC	62666	472	65775	483	0
TOTAL	875985	6151	706,185	4,184	169800

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ii) Learner Transport Programme is funded through the Equitable share allocations to Provinces. Most provinces have indicated insufficient funding as the main reason why not all qualifying learners are not provided with transport.

b. **(i)** None, the coverage of these learners on the learner transport depends on more budget availability by respective provinces.

(ii) see above