**Memorandum from the Parliamentary Office**

**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

**FOR WRITTEN REPLY**

**QUESTION 747**

**DATE OF PUBLICATION OF INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 18/03/2016**

**(INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER 09 OF 2016)**

**Mr N Singh (IFP) to ask the Minister of Higher Education and Training:**

With regard to the institutions of medical and dental tertiary education, (a) how many (i) medical students enrolled to study medicine in South Africa in the past three years. (ii) would-be medical students do not find places at our tertiary institutions each year and (iii) medical students leave to pursue medical and dental studies overseas because of shortage of teaching capacity at local universities and (b) what (i) are the current demographic details in respect of students studying medicine at our universities and (ii) criteria were used to determine the specified demographic classification?

**NW865E**

**REPLY:**

(a)(i) and (b)(i) Information on the number and demographic details of medical students

enrolled to study medicine at public higher education institutions are tabulated

below:

**Table 1:** Number of Bachelor of Medicine (MBChB) students enrolled in public higher education

institutions, by race and gender, from 2011 to 2014.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Race** | **Gender** | **Year** | | |
| **2012** | **2013** | **2014** |
| African | Female  Male | 2 435  1 795 | 2 588  1 800 | 2 789  1 815 |
| Coloured | Female  Male | 597  304 | 636  325 | 679  341 |
| Indian | Female  Male | 644  449 | 643  476 | 665  528 |
| White | Female  Male | 1 765  1 084 | 1 800  1 118 | 1 838  1 113 |
| Unknown | Female  Male | 13  13 | 19  21 | 21  29 |

**Table 2:** Number of Bachelor in Dental Surgery (BChD) students enrolled in public higher

education institutions, by race and gender, from 2012 to 2014.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Race** | **Gender** | **Year** | | |
| **2012** | **2013** | **2014** |
| African | Female  Male | 97  61 | 95  56 | 113  61 |
| Coloured | Female  Male | 70  41 | 78  40 | 76  44 |
| Indian | Female  Male | 114  62 | 109  54 | 107  46 |
| White | Female  Male | 159  95 | 159  95 | 177  89 |
| Unknown | Female  Male | 2  2 | 3  1 | 3  1 |

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |  |  |

1. Currently this information is not available on a national level and will only be available once the Central Application Service (CAS) is fully implemented and operational. The CAS will enable the Department to track the number of applications and admissions for specific programmes at all institutions across the country.
2. The Department does not collect statistics on students who applied and were accepted to institutions of higher learning outside the country. Students are not obligated to inform the Department if they intend to study outside the country. However, information is available with respect to the enrolment of South African students in Cuba as part of the Republic of South Africa (RSA) Cuba programme managed by the national Department of Health. These statistics are shown in the table below:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Table 3:** National Enrolment Statistics of the RSA-Cuba Medical Programme as at  March 2016 provided by the National Department of Health. | | | | | | |  |
| **Province** | **Prep**  **2015** | **1st**  **2014** | **2nd**  **2013** | **3rd**  **2012** | **4th**  **2011** | **5th**  **2010** | **Total in Cuba** |
| Eastern Cape | 9 | 90 | 101 | 90 | 10 | 5 | **305** |
| Free State | 2 | 11 | 33 | 153 | 0 | 0 | **199** |
| Gauteng | 112 | 136 | 112 | 94 | 8 | 0 | **462** |
| KwaZulu-Natal | 22 | 93 | 292 | 336 | 10 | 13 | **766** |
| Limpopo | 110 | 110 | 106 | 40 | 11 | 18 | **395** |
| Mpumalanga | 99 | 10 | 14 | 80 | 11 | 13 | **227** |
| Northern Cape | 30 | 28 | 47 | 27 | 11 | 7 | **150** |
| North West | 35 | 126 | 171 | 90 | 12 | 15 | **449** |
| **Total** | **419** | **604** | **876** | **910** | **73** | **71** | **2 953** |

(b) (ii) The information provided in Tables 1 and 2 are audited data extracted from the Higher Education Information Management System (HEMIS) and it is assumed that the standard South African demographic definitions have been utilised.

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REPLY TO QUESTION 747 APPROVED/NOT APPROVED/AMENDED

Dr BE NZIMANDE, MP

MINISTER OF HIGHER EDUCATION AND TRAINING

STATUS:

DATE: