

RESPONSE:

- (1) (a) How many schools in each province have science laboratories and (b) how many of these laboratories are fully equipped;

1(a)

Province Name	Total Number of Sites	No. of schools excluding Micro	With Laboratory	% With Laboratory
Eastern Cape	1439	1267	483	38%
Free State	5469	4121	358	9%
Gauteng	547	454	91	20%
KwaZulu Natal	1303	896	327	36%
Limpopo	5858	5099	667	13%
Mpumalanga	1484	1265	262	21%
North West	2067	2079	688	33%
Northern Cape	1745	1396	212	15%
Western Cape	3828	3353	227	7%
Total	23740	19930	3315	17%

(b) The National Education Infrastructure Management System (NEIMS) database indicates that there are 3 315 conventional schools with Science laboratories countrywide, however, there are schools that have learner enrolments less than 135 (micro schools) whereby in some instances multi-grade teaching is practiced. These schools in terms of the regulations have access to science kits and mobile laboratory equipment and therefore should not be analysed in the same manner as schools that practice conventional teaching methods. These small schools do not require fully fledged laboratories in accordance with the regulations relating to minimum uniform norms and standards for public school infrastructure.

(2)

- (a) How many of these schools have appointed qualified science teachers and (b) how many of these appointments are (i) permanent or (ii) temporary?

2 (a) (b) (i) (ii) Information on teachers per subject they are teaching is currently not available. However, it must be noted that all schools that offer science subjects should appoint qualified teachers accordingly regardless of whether or not they have an equipped laboratory.