

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES

QUESTION FOR WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION NUMBER 232 [CW328E]

DATE OF PUBLICATION: 18 MAY 2012

Mr D Joseph (DA-WC) to ask the Minister of Finance:

- (1) What is the percentage of the budget that has been spent on personnel in the (a) Public Health and (b) Public Education in relation to the 62 percent that has been spent on personnel employed in the SA Navy;
- (2) whether the cost to personnel is benchmarked against international standards; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details?

CW328E

REPLY:

1. (a) In the health function the percentage for compensation of employees in 2011/12 was 60.6% (R60.0 billion of a total expenditure of R113.8 billion).

(b) For the education function, excluding the Higher Education and Training sector, 78 % of the total budget (R122.2 billion of a total expenditure of R156.5 billion) was spent on compensation of employees in 2011/12.
2. The government does not benchmark its spending allocations against spending patterns of other countries, as there is no international standard for the management of personnel costs given the structure of public and private provision of services vary considerably across different countries.

Using education as an example, the table below with data from the UNESCO database shows the percentage that salaries (excluding those at Higher Education and Training institutions) make-up of total education expenditure (excluding Higher Education and Training spending) in 2009 from selected countries including South Africa.

Educational expenditure by nature of spending as a % of total educational expenditure on public institutions. ISCED 1,2,3,4. Salaries	
COUNTRY	%
Hungary	72
Brazil	71
Chile	86

Costa Rica	87
Netherlands	71
Portugal	86
Spain	76
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	70
Botswana	70
Ghana	78
South Africa	81
Uganda	72