

Question on Notice

No. 508

Asked on 24 May 2022

DR C ROWAN ASKED MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, MINISTER FOR INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS AND MINISTER FOR RACING (HON G GRACE)

QUESTION:

Will the Minister advise the number of current vacant teacher positions per region for 2020-21 and 2021-22 to date?

ANSWER:

The Department of Education continues to work with schools to address current and emerging teacher workforce needs.

Teacher vacancies are a normal part of the workforce cycle and can occur for various reasons, including planned and unplanned leave; teachers successfully transferring to another school; promotion to a school leadership position or senior role in the department; teachers returning to higher education institutes to pursue further study; resignations; and retirement.

Vacancies open and close continually throughout the year and local workforce planning ensures that many of these vacancies are identified in advance and are filled to minimise disruption to classes.

Schools are allocated teachers based on student enrolments and the associated allocative models, for which the below vacancies are measured against.

The current recorded teacher vacancy rate is around 2% of our teaching workforce of approximately 54,000 teachers. The number and percentage of school funded vacancies within this number has increased only slightly from the prior year.

The following table outlines the number of teacher vacancies by region as at the end of May 2022 and for the similar timeframe in 2021.

Region	2022	2021
Central Queensland	220	138
Darling Downs South West	86	81
Far North Queensland	161	209
Metropolitan	167	92
North Coast	101	15
North Queensland	240	183
South East	75	42
TOTAL	1050	760