

Question on Notice

No. 88

Asked on 24 February 2022

MR R STEVENS ASKED MINISTER FOR TRANSPORT AND MAIN ROADS (HON M BAILEY)—

QUESTION:

Will the Minister provide a weekly breakdown of staff absenteeism (in absolute numbers and percentage) for each week in January 2021, February 2021, January 2022 and February 2022 for the Brisbane Metropolitan Transport Management Centre and the Queensland Rail network control centre?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for Mermaid Beach for the question.

The 2022 period referenced in the question corresponds with the emergence of the Omicron outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic in Queensland, which peaked around the end of January 2022.

Queensland Rail and the Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR) have encouraged, and will continue to encourage, all employees to stay home if they are unwell, or if they are not fit for duty, in accordance with relevant safety and business continuity policies and COVID-19 public health directions.

The Rail Management Centre (RMC) is responsible for the day-to-day operations of Queensland Rail's South East Queensland network and contains Train Control Mayne, Rail Operations Response Unit, RMC Communications and Management. The below figures are calculated using the monthly paid hours and cover all planned and unscheduled leave, including but not limited to recreation, sick and long service leave.

Rail Management Centre

Rail Management Centre (RMC)*	Jan-21	Feb-21	Jan-22	Feb-22
Total Hours	27,876.09	26,964.50	30,645.21	25,882.46
Absence Hours	6,698.02	5,524.95	8,653.60	5,415.43
Percentage Total	24.03	20.49	28.24	20.92

* Queensland Rail's payroll system does not use a weekly reporting cycle.

TransLink's Busways Operations team is the only team from TMR that works out of the Brisbane Metropolitan Transport Management Centre (BMTMC). This team manages the operations of the Busway, ensuring an efficient and safe environment for customers and staff across the Busway network. The following figures illustrate absenteeism for all Busway Operation staff throughout January and February in the years 2021 and 2022. These figures are calculated on a typical week's paid hours and cover all planned and unscheduled leave, including but not limited to recreation, sick and long service leave.

2021 (January and February) Staff Absenteeism

Week Beginning	04/01/21	11/01/21	18/01/21	25/01/21	01/02/21	08/02/21	15/02/21	22/02/21
Available weekly staff hours	1134.75	1134.75	1134.75	1134.75	1134.75	1134.75	1134.75	1134.75
Weekly Absence Hours	293.75	280.75	191.5	170.25	159.25	184.25	150.1	176.85
Percentage	26	25	17	15	14	16	13	16

2022 (January and February) Staff Absenteeism

Week Beginning	03/01/22	10/01/22	17/01/22	24/01/22	31/01/22	07/02/22	14/02/22	21/02/22
Available weekly staff hours	1134.75	1134.75	1134.75	1134.75	1134.75	1134.75	1134.75	1134.75
Weekly Absence Hours	288.5	313.5	236.75	300.2	228	219.5	228	135.1
Percentage	25	28	21	26	20	19	20	12

As the BMTMC is run by Brisbane City Council (BCC)—with the exception of the Busway Operations team—details about Council employees should be directed to BCC.