

Question on Notice No. 1087, Wednesday, 29 September 2004

**MR HOBBS** asked the Minister for Emergency Services (Mr Cummins) -

With reference to wait times for non-urgent transfers for patients, for each of the last two financial years and for year to date-

Will he provide a breakdown of the wait-times for patient transfers, broken down according to region?

**Mr CUMMINS:**

The Queensland Ambulance Service (QAS) has a Code 3 and 4 non-emergency performance target, which can be found in the Ministerial Portfolio Statement (MPS).

Non-emergency Code 3 performance is defined as the percentage of patients who arrive at the destination facility by the pre-arranged appointment time, and consequently, these patients who are routinely transported from private and public residences and nursing homes have no measurable wait times.

The QAS has the capability of measuring wait times for Code 4 non-emergency performance, which relates to the after treatment transport of patients, once a booking time has been recorded with Communications Centres across the State.

The capability of the QAS reporting on Code 3 and 4 non-emergency performance has only been available through the Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) database since June 2004, and therefore, the accurate reporting on wait times for non-emergency transport is not available for the requested previous two years.

The table below illustrates wait time performance by Region, reported as percentages of the total demand for service, since June 2004.

Region	June 2004	July 2004	August 2004	September 2004
Northern	93.07%	89.17%	89.12%	92.22%
Central	98.93%	97.02%	98.14%	97.09%
South Western	97.46%	98.10%	97.85%	95.55%
North Coast	75.98%	88.35%	75.05%	76.71%
Brisbane	84.97%	79.55%	81.08%	79.97%
South Eastern	71.14%	69.89%	75.81%	77.72%
Far Northern	94.95%	93.09%	93.39%	94.50%