

Question on Notice

No. 1440

Asked on 7 October 2009

Mr Knuth asked the Minister for Education and Training (Mr Wilson)—

QUESTION:

Will the Minister list by region the (a) number of relocatable or modular buildings used in schools, (b) number of additional relocatable or modular buildings installed in schools since December 2008 and (c) cost of these buildings installed since December 2008?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for his question.

There are roughly 2,200 modular buildings of varying ages and style throughout Queensland schools.

Sixty modular buildings have been installed at schools since December 2008 at a cost of \$21,909,123 (excluding GST).

To put this in context, the Department's combined capital works budget in 2008-09 and 2009-10 is almost \$2.8 billion.

The Department uses modular buildings of a quality that matches the internal standards of conventional permanent facilities, in terms of comfort and classroom functionality.

These modular buildings are used across the state for a number of reasons, including:

- to provide facilities lost through natural disasters, fires and other events
- to provide additional classrooms to meet unexpected enrolment growth
- as temporary accommodation during school redevelopments, and
- to meet relatively short-term peaks in student enrolments over the life of the school

These facilities allow the Department to respond to emergent issues quickly and appropriately.

This approach allows the Department to make the best possible use of its buildings and to expand facilities, at short notice, to meet demand where it is needed.

It also ensures the maximum amount of available funding is directed to where Queensland students and teachers need it most.