

Question on Notice

No. 1068

Asked on 17 June 2011

MS SIMPSON asked the Minister for Community Services and Housing and Minister for Women (MS STRUTHERS)—

QUESTION

With reference to state social housing—

How many properties are owned by the government and how many are vacant (reported by region and reason for vacancy) and what is the average vacancy term for each region?

ANSWER

The Queensland Government owns and manages 54,610 social housing dwellings across the State. As at 31 May 2011, only 707 dwellings were vacant which equates to a vacancy rate of 1.3 per cent. This rate is far less than the private residential sector vacancy rate which in March 2011 was 3.6 per cent. The average vacancy turnaround time for social housing is 35 days.

A large majority of the social housing vacancies occur as a result of tenants moving to other accommodation options. When a dwelling is vacated it must be inspected and maintenance work completed before the next tenant can occupy the dwelling. Maintenance can include disability and seniors modifications.

Region	Government-owned and government-managed	Vacant properties	Average vacancy time (days)
Brisbane	15,918	162	28
Central Queensland	5,251	87	27
Far North Queensland	3,818	83	53
North Coast	7,619	48	24
North Queensland	6,480	125	29
South East	10,374	65	20
South West	5,150	137	77
Total	54,610	707	35

Properties can remain vacant for a number of reasons, including normal end of tenancy maintenance, property upgrades, strategic asset review, properties for sale, and where there is no demand.