

Question on Notice

No. 503

Asked on 3 April 2019

MR A POWELL ASKED MINISTER FOR EDUCATION AND MINISTER FOR INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS (HON G GRACE)

QUESTION:

With reference to the answer to Question on Notice No. 1443 of 2017 which provided a link to a website that did not report absences for 2016-17 and 2017-18—

Will the Minister advise how many students were reported absent from school for more than five, ten and 20 consecutive school days that were unexplained or unauthorised in 2017-18 and 2018-19 to date (reported by absence length, each education region and year)?

ANSWER:

Table 1 provides a count of students with a period of between six and 10 days, 11 and 20 days, and more than 20 days' consecutive unauthorised or unexplained absence in the financial years 2017–18 and 2018–19 (partial). Absences are based on daily data which is subject to change. An unexplained absence is where no reason has been given for the student absence. An unauthorised absence is where the explanation provided is considered by the principal to not be reasonable.

Geographic Region Name	2017–18			2018–19**		
	6 to 10 days	11 to 20 days	>20 days	6 to 10 days	11 to 20 days	>20 days
Central Queensland	1604	638	302	1464	624	282
Darling Downs South West	1533	622	292	1287	538	259
Far North Queensland	3362	1512	727	2931	1305	643
Metropolitan	2768	1051	486	2505	969	414
North Coast	3313	1354	680	2921	1151	594
North Queensland	2321	1156	499	2071	1064	532
South East	3611	1299	527	2955	1163	445
State Total*	18,340	7570	3495	16,008	6772	3156

* Students may attend more than one school during the year. As a result, some students may be reported as having periods of absence in more than one region. Accordingly, the sum of the regions may not match the total.

Students may be counted in multiple columns, if they have separate absence periods that meet that column's criteria.

**2018–19 data is as at 9 April 2019.