

Question on Notice

No. 531

Asked on Wednesday, 25 May 2022

MR S O'CONNOR ASKED THE MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT AND THE GREAT BARRIER REEF AND MINISTER FOR SCIENCE AND YOUTH AFFAIRS (HON M SCANLON)—

QUESTION:

Will the Minister provide the number of Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service rangers and any other staff employed by the department to manage our protected area estate (in table format, per year for the past five years) reported separately by the location they are based in?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for the question.

The table below provides the number of Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service rangers and other staff employed by the Department of Environment and Science (DES) to manage our protected area estate over the past five years reported by location.

Location [^]	Years*				
	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22
Brisbane - East	61	58	55	52	49
Brisbane - West				3	2
Brisbane Inner City	118	230	230	220	227
Cairns	180	204	219	214	220
Central Queensland	88	96	97	95	89
Darling Downs - Maranoa	38	37	38	33	30
Gold Coast	60	63	69	61	71
Ipswich	7	8	8	11	11
Logan - Beaudesert	10	6	6	5	6
Mackay - Isaac - Whitsunday	58	57	59	56	58
Moreton Bay - North	8	9	8	7	8
Moreton Bay - South	44	41	42	43	42
Queensland - Outback	87	102	98	82	83
Sunshine Coast	96	101	92	103	105
Toowoomba	53	58	62	61	61
Townsville	65	59	68	71	78
Wide Bay	140	145	131	137	145
Total	1113	1274	1282	1254	1285

[^]The locations are defined based on Statistical Area Level 4 (SA4) determined by the Australian Bureau of Statistics.

*Number of employees is based on headcount (active and paid) and reported at the end of each financial year. The 2021-22 year is counted from the last pay period in May 2022.

“Active/Paid” — “Active” defines any employee (permanent, temporary, casual or contract) who received salary/wages or an allowance ‘as at’ the reporting dates. “Paid” refers to those employees who are absent on extended paid leave ‘as at’ the reporting date.

The increase in headcount from 2017-18 to 2018-19 is a result of an internal realignment which took place in 2018 following the establishment of DES.

In addition, variations in headcount can be attributed to fluctuating annual operational requirements, including active recruitment, long term leave, limited life programs, employee movements and use of temporary and seasonal employees.