

Question on Notice
No. 763
Asked on 16 August 2022

DR C ROWAN ASKED MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, MINISTER FOR INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS AND MINISTER FOR RACING (HON G GRACE)

QUESTION:

With reference to the Student Wellbeing Package—

Will the Minister advise for the year 2021-22 and 2022-23 to date (reported separately by region) (a) how many psychologists have been engaged and (b) how many guidance officers have been engaged?

ANSWER:

Commenced in July 2021, up to 464 wellbeing professionals will be employed through the Student Wellbeing Package (the Package) over three years to provide direct support for students' mild to moderate mental health concerns. While psychologists are the preferred wellbeing professional to be employed through the Package, schools and Department of Education regions can also employ guidance officers, social workers and youth workers to meet the needs of their school communities.

2021–22 financial year

For the 2021–22 financial year, as at 30 June 2022, an additional 57 psychologists and 12 guidance officers have been employed through the Package and are providing support for Queensland state school students' wellbeing and mental health.

As at 30 June 2022, a total of 97 wellbeing professionals employed through the Package were working to support students. In addition to psychologists and guidance officers, 25 social workers and three youth workers were supporting students.

The table below provides the number of wellbeing professionals employed through the Package in each departmental region as at 30 June 2022.

Region	Psychologists	Guidance Officers	Social Workers	Youth Workers	Total
North Coast	18	5	0	0	23
North Queensland	2	0	2	0	4
South East	19	2	10	0	31
Metropolitan	13	5	7	3	28
Central Queensland	3	0	0	0	3
Far North Queensland	2	0	3	0	5
Darling Downs South West	0	0	3	0	3
Total	57	12	25	3	97

2022–23 financial year

For the 2022–23 financial year to date, as at 31 August 2022*, an additional six psychologists and 14 guidance officers have been employed through the Package.

In total, an additional 48 wellbeing professionals have been employed through the Package as at 31 August 2022*, which includes 27 social workers and one youth worker.

The table below provides the number of additional wellbeing professionals employed through the Package in each departmental region as at 31 August 2022*.

Region	Psychologists	Guidance Officers	Social Workers	Youth Workers	Total
North Coast	0	0	2	0	2
North Queensland	0	0	0	0	0
South East	0	4	4	0	8
Metropolitan	5	9	14	1	29
Central Queensland	0	0	0	0	0
Far North Queensland	1	1	3	0	5
Darling Downs South West	0	0	4	0	4
Total	6	14	27	1	48

Cumulative data as at 31 August 2022*

As at 31 August 2022*, a total of 142 wellbeing professionals employed through the Package since its commencement on 1 July 2021 are providing support for students' wellbeing and mental health.

This total includes 60 psychologists and 26 guidance officers and takes into account that three wellbeing professionals who were providing a service as at 30 June 2022 have left the department.

*Data on wellbeing professionals employed is collected monthly. As such, 2022–23 data is current as at 31 August 2022.