

Question on Notice

No. 366

Asked on 18 April 2023

MS R BATES ASKED THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH AND AMBULANCE SERVICES (HON Y D'ATH)—

QUESTION

With reference to Queensland Health's Monthly Activity Collection (MAC) for Bed Availability—

Will the Minister provide (reported separately for the reference month of February for each year from 2015 to 2022) for all in scope facilities the total number of (a) available beds, (b) bed alternatives, (c) unfunded beds and (d) unfunded bed alternatives?

ANSWER

The Palaszczuk Government has a proud record of opening 1,350 additional beds across the state since 2015. We're delivering the biggest investment in new and expanded hospitals in Queensland's history, with our Queensland Health and Hospitals Plan including \$9.78 billion in additional capital funding. Over the next six years, our new and expanded hospitals will deliver 3,378 extra beds across Queensland.

The Queensland Health Hospital Performance website provides data in relation to the number of available beds and bed alternatives at each Queensland public reporting hospital on a quarterly basis. The website can be accessed at: <http://www.performance.health.qld.gov.au/>.

A bed or bed alternative is one that is staffed and available for patient care, as defined by Australian Institute of Health and Welfare. I am advised hospitals are funded for the activity performed, not on a per bed basis.

Unfunded beds and unfunded bed alternatives are not identified nor reported separately in Queensland Health's data collection of bed availability. Unfunded beds and bed alternatives are included in the total available bed and bed alternatives being reported.

I am further advised that the total number of available beds and available bed alternatives at Queensland's public reporting hospitals for the month of February each year from 2012 to 2022 is follows:

In February 2012 there were 10,720 total available beds and bed alternatives (9,251 available beds and 1,469 available bed alternatives).

In February 2013 there were 10,754 total available beds and bed alternatives (9,246 available beds and 1,508 available bed alternatives).

In February 2014 there were 11,001 total available beds and bed alternatives (9,374 available beds and 1,627 available bed alternatives).

In February 2015 there were 11,372 total available beds and bed alternatives (9,815 available beds and 1,557 available bed alternatives).

In February 2016 there were 11,627 total available beds and bed alternatives (10,062 available beds and 1,565 available bed alternatives).

In February 2017 there were 11,674 total available beds and bed alternatives (10,018 available beds and 1,656 available bed alternatives).

In February 2018 there were 11,868 total available beds and bed alternatives (10,075 available beds and 1,793 available bed alternatives).

In February 2019 there were 12,134 total available beds and bed alternatives (10,354 available beds and 1,780 available bed alternatives).

In February 2020 there were 12,472 total available beds and bed alternatives (10,586 available beds and 1,886 available bed alternatives).

In February 2021 there were 12,667 total available beds and bed alternatives (10,774 available beds and 1,893 available bed alternatives).

In February 2022 there were 12,676 total available beds and bed alternatives (10,809 available beds and 1,867 available bed alternatives).