

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

C1286

**QUESTION WITHOUT NOTICE
(Of which some notice has been given)**

Wednesday, 22 October 2014

Hon Stephen Dawson to the Minister for Child Protection.

I refer to the Minister's response to QWN 1118 and ask:

1. Of the 4321 children in care how many are below 6 years of age?
 2. What was the number of children in care aged 6 or below as a ratio of all children in care on each of the following dates:
 - a. 1 July 2014;
 - b. 1 July 2013;
 - c. 1 July 2012;
 - d. 1 July 2011; and
 - e. 1 July 2010?
 3. What is the breakdown, by region of the Child Protection workers with an allocated case number of over 16 cases?
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I thank the Hon. Member for some notice of this question.

(1) 1,445

(2)

- a. 1,428 (34%)
- b. 1,351 (34%)
- c. 1,324 (35%)
- d. 1,200 (34%)
- e. 1,106 (34%)



(3) The 2007 WAIRC caseload guidelines indicate that caseloads can be increased to 18 cases for each caseworker in certain circumstances. These include:

- Large siblings groups – when additional children come into care and their siblings are already in care the additional children can be added to the Child Protection Workers case load. Each additional child will be counted as an additional case.
- It is common that the lag between the completion of a case and finalisation on the system appears as a caseload which has exceeded 18. This is a result of data entry issues.
- Case intensity and complexity is determined via supervision between a Team Leader and Case Worker; and taken into account in determining caseloads for individual staff.

Work load data is collected and ratified monthly and when a worker is identified as carrying more than 18 cases the District is contacted and requested to have the worker's case load adjusted.

A total of 52 workers with 16 cases are located at:

Armadale – 7

Cannington – 5

Fremantle – 3

Joondalup – 5

Midland – 5

Mirrabooka – 2

Rockingham – 4

East Kimberley – 1

Goldfields – 2

Murchison – 6

Peel – 2

Pilbara – 6

South West – 2

West Kimberley – 1



Wheatbelt - 1

A total of 45 workers with 17 cases are located at:

Armadale – 10

Cannington – 8

Fremantle – 1

Joondalup – 2

Midland – 1

Mirrabooka – 1

Rockingham – 5

Goldfields – 2

Great Southern - 3

Pilbara – 1

South West – 2

West Kimberley – 6

Wheatbelt – 3.

A total of 24 workers with 18 cases are located at:

Armadale – 6

Cannington – 2

Joondalup – 1

Midland – 1

Rockingham – 1

Goldfields – 2

Great Southern – 1



Murchison – 2

Pilbara – 2

South West – 1

West Kimberley – 3

Wheatbelt - 2

A total of 1 worker has 19 cases located at:

Murchison - 1

A total of 2 workers with 20 cases and above are located at:

Rockingham - 1

Western Kimberley – 1

*Approved
Muller*