

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

WRITTEN QUESTION

Mr Yan to the Minister for Health:

Hospital Capacities

1. **How many times in the 2021/22 financial year did a hospital reach level 4 capacity? Please break it down by date range and hospital.**

Hospital:	Answer:
Alice Springs Hospital	Bed capacity is manual data collected by the Bed Management team for operational use only.
Gove District Hospital	Nil
Katherine Hospital	Nil
Royal Darwin and Palmerston Regional Hospital (RDPH)	Overall the RDPH has maintained level 4 capacity throughout 2021-22 due to the ongoing pandemic response.
Tennant Creek Hospital	Nil

2. **How many times in the 2021/22 financial year did a hospital reach level 3 capacity? Please break it down by date range and hospital.**

As above.

3. **How long did each of the code yellows experienced by Royal Darwin Hospital in the 2021/22 financial year last? How many elective surgeries were delayed or cancelled as a result of each code yellow?**

Commenced	Ceased	Elective surgery deferrals
04/08/2021	7/08/2021	11
09/09/2021	10/09/2021	16
29/09/2021	30/09/2021	16
16/02/2022	18/02/2022	64

Note: Category 1 elective surgery continued throughout as well as remote patients that had travelled to Darwin and were categorised as Category 2 or 3.

4. **How long did the Territory-wide pause on elective surgeries last? How many were delayed or cancelled as a result of the "pause"?**

Category 1 elective surgery cases continued in 2021-22, however, there were a significant number of delays for Category 2 and 3 patients.

The delays were due to hospital bed capacity and COVID-19 impact in the hospital or patient's community and on staffing.

5. What is the current bed capacity at RDH? What was the highest occupation this financial year to date?

The Royal Darwin Hospital (RDH) is a 360 bed tertiary hospital; bed numbers can fluctuate day to day depending on demand, with RDH remaining flexible and agile to meet needs of the time.

The highest occupancy per month was 103% during August 2022.