

## LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

### WRITTEN QUESTION

Mrs Finocchiaro to the Minister for Education:

#### Teachers on Contracts

1. Please advise how many educational professionals, broken down to Principals, Senior Teachers, Teachers and Assistant Teachers:
  - a. are currently employed by your department on contractual terms of 12 months or less as at 31 October 2018;
  - b. were employed by your department on contractual terms of 12 months or less over the past three years, as at 30 June.

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#### ANSWERS

1. a)

As at 31 October 2018, there were 472 (or 16.6 per cent) of teaching employees on fixed period contracts of less than 12 months, as detailed below<sup>12</sup>:

- teaching principals - 6 or 8.8 per cent were on contracts of less than 12 months
- senior teachers - 46 or 8.2 per cent were on contracts of less than 12 months
- classroom teachers - 369 or 18.6 per cent were on contracts of less than 12 months
- assistant teachers - 51 or 21.8 per cent were on contracts of less than 12 months

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<sup>1</sup> Note: In certain schools, executive contracts are offered to principals for periods of typically two or four years. Short-term arrangements, such as backfill by executive contract principals for periods of leave, have not been included in the above figure as the contract holders are still operating within their original contract.

<sup>2</sup> Note: The levels of short-term contracts can vary throughout the year with more short-term contracts in October as teaching employees recruited later in the school year are likely to be only for the remainder of the school year.

b)

The information requested is not readily available through standard workforce reports for all the years requested.

The department has been undertaking improvements to reporting capability, which has included the integration of datasets that have allowed for 2017 and 2018 data analysis to occur.

To extend the analysis to include earlier years would be administratively burdensome and not achievable within the 30-day response time.

**Table 1 - Teaching employees – Contracts less than 12 months**

Classification Group	30 June 2017		30 June 2018	
	Less than 12 months	% Contract < 12 months	Less than 12 months	% Contract < 12 months
Teaching Principal	6	8.1%	8	12.1%
Senior Teacher	43	7.7%	34	6.3%
Classroom Teacher	364	18.1%	292	15.0%
Assistant Teacher	51	20.2%	41	18.9%
<b>Total</b>	<b>464</b>	<b>16.0%</b>	<b>375</b>	<b>13.6%</b>

*Note: The length of contract for the fixed period employees was dependent on matching by employee name only.*