

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

WRITTEN QUESTION

Mrs Hersey to the Minister for Education:

School Counsellors

1. How many school counsellor positions are there in Northern Territory Government Schools? Please specify by school.

The service expanded from 25 school counsellors to 30 school counsellors in 2022 servicing all Northern Territory government schools.

Counsellors are available to all government schools upon request. Principals can also choose to employ a dedicated counsellor for their school.

Region	Number of school counsellors based in region
Darwin	9
Top End	7
East Arnhem	3
Big Rivers	4
Barkly	2
Central	5

2. How many school counsellor positions are currently vacant? Please specify by school.

There are currently 6 vacancies across the regional teams:

Darwin	1
Top End	1
Big Rivers	2
Barkly	2

Recruitment is underway following a national advertising campaign.

3. Of the current vacant school counsellor positions, how long has each one been vacant? Please specify by school.

Region	Length of vacancies
Darwin	1 - since August 2022
Top End	1 - since July 2022
Big Rivers	1 - since June 2022 1 - since January 2022 (has been advertised throughout the year, has been challenging to fill)
Barkly	1 - since August 2022 1 - since July 2022

4. How many school counsellors have left their positions, either through resignation, termination, retirement or otherwise in the 2021/22 financial year?

6 counsellors have left their positions in the 2021/22 financial year.