

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

WRITTEN QUESTION

Mrs Hersey to the Minister for Education:

Palmerston Youth Skills Centre

1. How many young people attended the Palmerston Youth Skills Centre (PYSC) in the 2021-22 financial year? Please specify by age group.

328 students attended PYSC in the 2021-22 financial year.

	13 years	14 years	15 years	16 years	17 and over
No. of Students	5	58	143	78	44

2. How many of the young people who attended the Palmerston Youth Skills Centre in the 2021-22 financial year were considered 'at-risk' of entering the justice system? How many had already been involved in the justice system?

27 students were reported as having been involved in the justice system through the referral process to the PYSC. However, it is important to note that PYSC has anecdotal evidence that other young people who were not flagged through this referral process are in some way involved in the justice system. Evidence includes:

- relationships with students and families
- regular communication with the Department of Education's court liaison officers
- the visibility of the Department of Territory Families, Housing and Communities (TFHC) daily census which includes students' names and involvement in the justice system.

The department does not have a systemic measure of students 'at-risk of entering the justice system'.

3. How many of the young people who attended the Palmerston Youth Skills Centre in the 2021-22 financial year did so as part of a court order, diversion program, condition of bail, or some other referral as part of the justice system? Please specify by category.

Justice System	Detail	Data
Diversion or other referral	There are 4 programs which have provided referrals: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Back on Track • Saltbush • Orion • YMCA 	27 students
Condition of bail and court order	The department and PYSC notes that court orders usually pertain to the attendance of education without specificity. Information of court orders are not provided to the PYSC.	N/A

4. How many of the young people who attended the Palmerston Youth Skills Centre in the 2021-22 financial year commenced a training course? Of these, how many have completed their course? How many failed to complete their course?

198 students enrolled in accredited training courses, 115 students gained full qualifications during this period and 14 students are continuing on with their training.

51 students achieved one or more units of competency and 18 students had no results.

130 additional students have engaged in try a trade who are not represented in the enrolment numbers above.

Please note that this is program data reported from PYSC for the purposes of responding to this question and that the 2022 systemic data reporting has not commenced.

5. How many staff members are currently working at the Palmerston Youth Skills Centre? What are their roles and levels?

11 staff are currently working at the PYSC.

Staff Level	Role	Staff
SAO1	Manage day to day operations and strategic direction	1
AO6	Vet Trainers and Assessors (Automotive, Engineering, Electro-comms, Hospitality and Kitchen Operations, Construction)	5
AO6	VET Coordinator/Trainer Assessor (Animal Studies)	1
AO5	Student Support (Mentors)	3
AO4	Administration Officer	1