

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

WRITTEN QUESTION

Mr Yan to the Minister for Health:

Sexual Assault Referral Centres (SARCs)

1. **How many Territorians contacted the Sexual Assault Referral Centre (SARCs) in the 2021/22 financial year? Can you please break it down by region?**

Top End	Big Rivers	Central Australia	Barkly
2000*	780*	183	129

* Estimates are provided as the data is collected manually

2. **What is the current average wait time to access counselling services through the SARCs after contact is made in Darwin, Katherine, Tennant Creek and Alice Springs?**

New referrals are assessed for urgency and acute matters including referrals for children are responded to as soon as possible.

Average wait time for counselling services:

Top End	Big Rivers	Central Australia	Barkly
3-4 months	4 months	1 week	1 week

3. **What is the longest wait time to access services through the SARCs in the 2021/22 financial year?**

Referrals for counselling services are assessed for urgency and wait times can be impacted by the nature of the referral and the availability of the client.

Top End	Big Rivers	Central Australia	Barkly
6 months	6 months	3 weeks	3 weeks

4. **What is the current average wait time to access legal services through the SARCs after contact is made in Darwin, Katherine, Tennant Creek and Alice Springs?**

Legal services are not provided through SARC.

5. **What is the longest wait time to access legal services through the SARCs in the 2021/22 financial year?**

Not applicable

6. **What is the current average wait time to access medical services through the SARCs after contact is made in Darwin, Katherine, Tennant Creek and Alice Springs?**

Acute forensic and medical services are responded to immediately.

7. **What is the longest wait time to access medical services through the SARCs in the 2021/22 financial year?**

Historical sexual assault victims wanting a medical response depending on the priority can wait from three to six weeks.

8. **How many counsellors are available through the SARCs? Can you please break it down by region?**

Full time equivalent

Top End	Big Rivers	Central Australia	Barkly
6	2	2.4	2

9. **How many legal professionals are available through the SARCs? Can you please break it down by region?**

- Not Applicable

10. **How many medical professionals are available through the SARCs? Can you please break it down by region?**

Medical and Nursing professionals (FTE) trained in sexual assault assessment

Top End	Big Rivers	Central Australia	Barkly
4 on staff + 9 on-call	3 on-call roster	2.2 on staff + 6 on-call roster	3 on-call roster