

PUBLIC HOUSING — WAITLIST

**1359. Hon STEVE MARTIN to the minister representing the Minister for Housing:**

I refer to the public housing program.

- (1) For each year 2020–21, 2021–22, 2022–23, as of 30 June, and 2023–24 to nearest available date —
- (a) how many public housing applications were on the waitlist;
  - (b) how many public housing applications were housed that year;
  - (c) how many priority waitlist applications were on the waitlist; and
  - (d) how many priority waitlist applications were housed that year?

**Hon JACKIE JARVIS replied:**

I thank the honourable member for some notice of this question. The following response has been provided by the Minister for Housing.

- (1) (a)–(d) The Department of Communities provides multiple pathways, including public rental housing, to those unable to obtain adequate and appropriate housing through the private sector. It should be noted that the majority of applicants have access to some form of accommodation while they wait to be housed. A tight private rental market will reflect an increase in the number of applications for social housing. Many people who may otherwise be housed may seek the safety net of public housing when there is significant pressure in the private rental market. Rental vacancy rates tightened across the country during the COVID-19 pandemic, significantly impacting the housing market. It is noted that the public housing waitlist remains well below the record high in 2010 under the former Liberal–National government, of 24 136.

As the remainder of the answer is in tabular form, I seek leave to incorporate it into *Hansard*.

[Leave granted for the following material to be incorporated.]

Public Housing Wait List Statewide		
Year	Priority	Wait-Turn*
30 June 2021	3,354	17,194
30 June 2022	4,141	19,070
30 June 2023	4,770	19,062
30 September 2023**	4,875	19,114

\*The number of Wait-Turn applications includes Priority Listed Applications

Public Housing Occupations Statewide		
Year	Wait Turn Occupations*	Priority Only Occupations
30 June 2021	1,758	1,026
30 June 2022	1,963	1,342
30 June 2023	2,643	1,820
30 September 2023**	664	450

\*The number of Wait Turn occupations includes Priority Listed Occupations

\*\*Data from 1 July 2023 – 30 September 2023 only (2023–24 Year-to-Date)