



# DCJ Caseworker Dashboard March 2019 Quarter ^

Quarter to di.. Mar 2019		The caseworker vacancy rate for the March 2019 qu..				Children seen rollin.. 1 Jan 2018 - 31 Dec		
		Funded FTE	Actual FTE	Vacant FTE	Vacancies (%)*	Childr..	Childr..	Childr..
District	Central C..	95	101	-6	-	6,650	1,156	17%
	Far West	19	20	-1	-	944	229	24%
	Hunter Ne..	283	316	-33	-	14,596	2,896	20%
	Illawarra ..	126	120	6	5%	6,051	1,741	29%
	Mid North ..	107	107	0	-	5,891	1,506	26%
	Murrumbi..	121	120	1	-	6,004	1,165	19%
	Nepean Bl..	128	134	-6	-	7,215	1,926	27%
	Northern ..	106	98	8	8%	4,826	1,682	35%
	Northern ..	64	60	4	6%	3,625	1,052	29%
	South Eas..	85	85	0	-	4,097	1,349	33%
	South We..	214	215	-1	-	10,580	4,013	38%
	Southern ..	57	56	1	2%	2,948	826	28%
	Sydney	75	71	4	5%	3,801	1,259	33%
	Western ..	151	151	0	-	7,034	1,709	24%
Western S..	160	157	3	2%	8,285	2,171	26%	
<b>District Subtot..</b>	<b>1,791</b>	<b>1,811</b>	<b>-20</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>92,547</b>	<b>24,680</b>	<b>27%</b>	
<b>Helpline</b>	218	234	-16	-				
<b>JIR†</b>	105	90	15	14%				
<b>Other</b>	89	82	7	8%				
<b>Statewide Sub..</b>	<b>412</b>	<b>406</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>1%</b>	<b>6,219</b>	<b>3,161</b>	<b>51%</b>	
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,203</b>	<b>2,217</b>	<b>-14</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>98,766</b>	<b>27,841</b>	<b>28%</b>	
<b>Caseworker positions to be fill..</b>		<b>Funded</b>		<b>Filled</b>				
Newly funded district caseworkers		6		0				
Newly funded JICPR		30		30‡				
Newly funded Helpline		22		19				
<b>Total</b>		<b>58</b>		<b>49</b>				

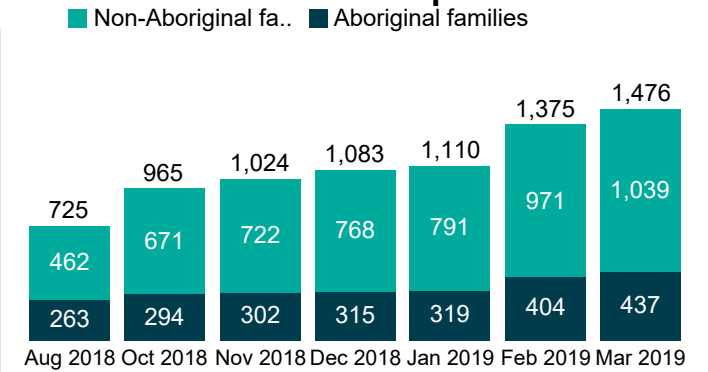
\* Except data reported in District Subtotal, Statewide Subtotal and Total, the '-' symbol is used for Vacancies % where the number of Funded FTE is less than or equal to the number of Actual FTE.  
 † From the first quarter of 2018-19, Joint Investigation Response Teams (JIR) have been renamed as Joint Child Protection Response (JCPR) teams to better reflect the collaborative efforts between FACS, NSW Health and NSW Police to strengthen the future of the Program.  
 ‡ The previously reported 33 in December 2018 Quarter Dashboard has been revised to 30.  
 § MST-CAN®: Multisystemic Therapy for Child Abuse and Neglect; FFT-CW®: Functional Family Therapy through Child Welfare  
 ^ The funded FTE change between 2011-12 and 2012-13 reflects the transfer of Brighter Futures caseworker resources (117 FTE) to the NGO sector...

## Family Preservation

### Contracted Family Preservation places for fa..

	2018 - 20..
Brighter Futures	3,070
Intensive Family Based ..	166
Intensive Family Preserv..	320
MST-CAN® and FFT-C..	900
Youth Hope	406
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>4,862</b>

### MST-CAN® and FFT-CW® – Actual § families accepted



## Statutory Child Protection

### Children seen - cumulative data



### Children re-reported within 12 months of case plan closure..

Sep 2018	35.5%	Dec 2018	35.5%	<b>Mar 2019</b>	<b>36.0%</b>
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## Out-of-home Care (OOHC)

### Children entering OOHC - quarterly

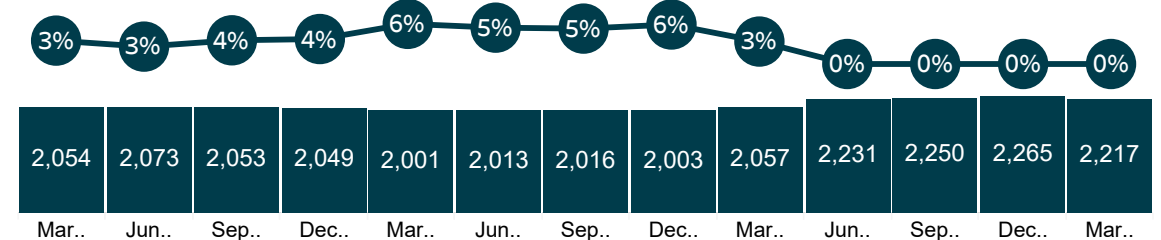
Dec 2018	#####
<b>545</b>	#####

### Children exiting OOHC - quarterly

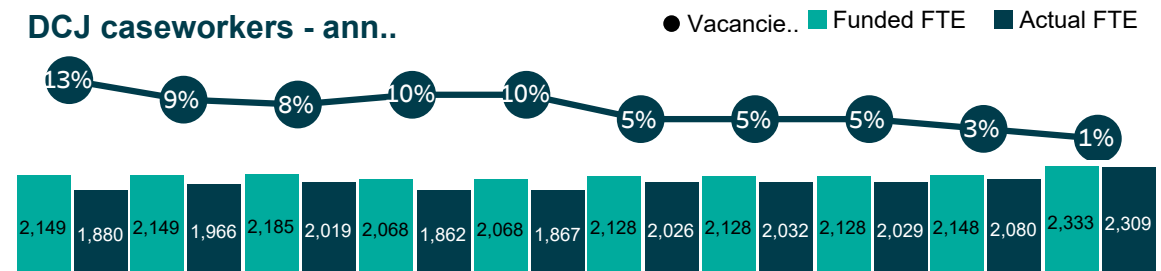
Dec 2018	#####
<b>605</b>	#####

## Historical Trend

### DCJ caseworkers - qu..



### DCJ caseworkers - ann..



## DCJ caseworker

Caseworker numbers reflect frontline caseworkers and caseworker specialists across the community services spectrum, including those working in statutory child protection and out-of-home care. The figures do not include management staff associated with caseworkers.

Caseworkers provide protection and support services by:

- assessing and investigating reports of risk of harm to children
- providing assistance to vulnerable families via prevention and intervention services
- supporting and monitoring children in out-of-home care
- managing crisis situations
- promoting the safe and adequate care and protection of children through appropriate interventions as legislated through the *Children and Young Persons (Care and Protection) Act 1998* and departmental policy and procedures.

Casework specialists provide direct, practice-based professional support and development to casework managers and caseworkers. This includes:

- providing specialist advice on case practice matters
- working with caseworkers and managers to develop case practice skills
- undertaking practice and complex case reviews to develop the overall caseworker skill base
- providing expert assistance in aspects of case management in complex or sensitive cases
- acting as a conduit between DCJ, community partners and other agencies in respect to current practice, professional support, service development and policy.

## FTE

FTE or full-time equivalent is defined as the equivalent of one position, filled continuously, full-time for the reference period. Total FTE combines all full-time and part-time positions. For example, a caseworker who works full-time counts as 1 FTE and a person who works half-time is 0.5 FTE. Actual FTE is an averaged FTE across the reference period (i.e. quarter or financial year).

## Funded FTE

This is the number of full-time equivalent caseworkers funded in the DCJ Budget.

## Actual FTE

Actual FTE refers to the number of full-time equivalent caseworkers working in a given reference period, excluding those on extended leave or parental leave or occupying positions funded by specific time-limited funding. Helpline time-limited roles are included and caseworkers on temporary secondments to other roles are excluded.

## Vacancies

The number of vacancies represents the difference between the funded FTE and actual FTE during the reference period. The vacancy rates presented on the dashboard may differ from rates published by other sources due to the use of different methodologies. The '-' symbol is used for Vacancies % where the number of Funded FTE is less than the number of Actual FTE except data reported in District Subtotal, Statewide Subtotal and Total.

## DCJ Districts

DCJ works across NSW through 16 districts to enable more localised planning and decision making, and improved links between service delivery management and frontline staff.

## Family Preservation

DCJ Family Preservation programs fund non government agencies to provide targeted child, youth and family support services to families in need to reduce the likelihood of children and young people entering or remaining in the child protection and out-of-home care (OOHC) systems. Family Preservation programs support children and young people to remain safely at home with their families. Programs vary between districts. DCJ Family Preservation programs include:

- Brighter Futures provides services to families with at least one child aged under nine years, or families expecting a child, through intervention and support that will achieve long-term benefits for children. It aims to prevent children entering the statutory child protection system by providing structured home visiting and developing parenting skills in fostering healthy development and resilience; accessing support networks and the universal community services; and manage vulnerabilities to enhance child safety, parenting capacity and family functioning.
- Intensive Family Based Services provide relevant supports to Aboriginal children, young people and families, who have an identified vulnerability, which, if not addressed, may escalate to the point where more intensive intervention, including statutory child protection, may become necessary. Services provided include: advice and referral; assessment, case planning and case management; parenting programs and parent support groups; skills focussed groups for young people; counselling; and home visiting.
- Intensive Family Preservation Services aim to prevent the imminent separation of children from their family as a result of child protection concerns and to reunify families where separation has already occurred. It is designed to work with families in crisis, when there is sufficient evidence to indicate that the family will respond positively to action under the program. Service intervention consists of a period of twelve weeks of intensive casework and 24-hour on call assistance, followed by a period of up to 40 weeks of continuous, multi-faceted and individually tailored casework and assistance services.
- Youth Hope program is targeted at children and young people aged nine to fifteen years who are assessed as being at Risk of Significant Harm (ROSH) report, or at risk of escalating to the statutory child protection system. The program enables more children and young people to stay safely at home; increase engagement in education; and be able to access appropriate support and resources. Services include proactive case management; structured and supported mentoring; access to the local service system to support children, young people and their families; and joint social activities for the whole family unit.
- Multisystemic Therapy for Child Abuse and Neglect (MST-CAN®) is a 24/7 home-based treatment model for families with substantiated cases of physical abuse and/or neglect of children and young people aged between six and seventeen years. Services are provided to all family members. The model targets children where a report of physical abuse and/or neglect has been received within 180 days prior to the referral. Although referrals are received for children aged six years and over, all younger and older siblings in the referred child's family also receive the service. The intervention is provided to the family for a period of six to nine months depending on the needs of the family.
- Functional Family Therapy through Child Welfare (FFT-CW®) is a home-based treatment model for families with substantiated physical abuse and/or neglect of a child or young person aged between zero and seventeen years by providing a family therapy-focused model for at-risk families. FFT-CW® addresses the underlying trauma that results in harm to children, young people and families. The intervention is provided to the family for a period of six to nine months depending on the needs of the family.

## Statutory Child Protection

State and Territory governments have responsibility for funding and/or providing child protection services in Australia. NSW has its own legislation (Children and Young Persons (Care and Protection) Act 1998) that determines the policies and practices of its child protection system. The Act provides for mandatory reporting of children or young people at R..