



**MINISTRY: PUBLIC SERVICE AND ADMINISTRATION  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

**QUESTION FOR WRITTEN REPLY**

**DATE: 4 SEPTEMBER 2020**

**QUESTION NO.: 2091**

**Dr L A Schreiber (DA) to ask the Minister of Public Service and Administration:**

With regard to the period the Republic was under (a) Level 3 and (b) the amended Level 3 of the lockdown to curb the spread of the coronavirus, what total number of public servants are currently absent from work, but are still receiving their full salaries?

**NW2651E**

**REPLY:**

**(a) The total number of public servants absent from work for the period the Republic was under Level 3 lockdown:**

The total number of public servants absent for the duration of the level 3 lockdown period of 1 June 2020 to 17 August 2020 amounts to 684 313. The statistics as provided are up to and inclusive of 17 August 2020. The figure is made up of employees utilising approved leave as provided for in the public service prescripts and is set out in the table underneath. It is important to note that when an employee is counted, that does not translate to the employee being on leave for the full period, e.g. 1 June 2020 to 17 August 2020: but merely communicating that the person was on leave within that period. The person may have been on leave more than once in the period. In accordance with the leave provisions in the public service, it is incumbent on employees to apply for leave and get approval of application prior to taking leave.

Leave taken in the Public Service between 1 June 2020 and 17 August 2020 as captured up to 31 August 2020	
Leave Category	1 June to 17 August 2020
ADOPTION	13
FAMILY RESPONSIBILITY	54972
MATERNITY	4330
OCCUPATIONAL INJURIES/DISEASES	1907
PATERNITY	998
PERMANENT INCAPACITY LEAVE	39
PRE-NATAL	1990
SHOP STEWARD/OFFICE BEARER	450
SICK-FULL PAY	213291
SPECIAL , including study, examinations, etc.	72911
TEMPORARY INCAPACITY LEAVE	5576
VACATION - FULL PAY	327836
<b>Total</b>	<b>684313</b>

**(b) The total number of public servants absent from work for the period the Republic was under Level 2 lockdown**

The total number of public servants absent for the duration of the level 2 lockdown period from 18 August 2020 to 31 August 2020 amounts to 78 765. The statistics as provided are up to and inclusive of 31 August 2020. The figure is made up of employees utilising approved leave as provided for in the public service prescripts and is set out in the table underneath. It is important to note that when an employee is counted, that does not translate to the employee being on leave for the full period, e.g. 18 August 2020 to 31 August 2020: but merely communicating that the person was on leave within that period. The person may have been on leave more than once in the period. In accordance with the leave provisions in the public service, it is incumbent on employees to apply for leave and get approval of application prior to taking leave.

Leave taken in the Public Service between 18 August 2020 and 31 August 2020 as captured up to 31 August 2020	
Leave Category	18 August to 31 August 2020
ADOPTION	7
FAMILY RESPONSIBILITY	3275
MATERNITY	3829
OCCUPATIONAL INJURIES/DISEASES	288
PATERNITY	115
PERMANENT INCAPACITY LEAVE	39
PRE-NATAL	164
SHOP STEWARD/OFFICE BEARER	86
SICK	16359
SPECIAL, including study, examinations, etc.	2629
TEMPORARY INCAPACITY LEAVE	2092
VACATION	49882
<b>Total</b>	<b>78765</b>

