

QUEENSLAND TREASURY

Justice Report, Queensland, 2024–25

Criminal justice statistics

Acknowledgment of Country

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1.0 Background

1.1 Introduction

The *Justice report, Queensland, 2024–25* provides an overview of the volume of criminal justice matters in Queensland, and includes statistics relating to criminal courts, youth justice, and adult corrective services. The report contains information on persons who were alleged, and those who were proven, to have committed an offence in Queensland during the reference period. It is compiled using data extracted from the administrative systems of the Queensland Government departments responsible for criminal justice services. The report is a companion to the *Crime report, Queensland, 2024–25*, which provides an overview of the volume and nature of crime in Queensland, as reported to (by victims, witnesses or other persons), or detected by, the Queensland Police Service (QPS).

This 2024–25 edition is the eighth annual report by the Queensland Government Statistician's Office (QGSO) on the state's criminal justice system. Detailed statistics relating to finalised matters for adult and child (youth) defendants in the Magistrates, District and Supreme Courts are featured in this report, as well as statistics on youth detention and supervised youth justice orders, and imprisonment and community-based corrections for adult offenders.

The reference period of this report is the 2024–25 financial year and time series for up to 11 years to that date.

1.2 Terms used frequently in this report

(See *Glossary* for more)

Adult: A person dealt with as an adult in Queensland courts and corrective services. Unless otherwise stated, adult court statistics represent all appearances and charges in the adult courts system, both persons and companies/organisations.

Adjudicated: Criminal proceedings resulting in a judgement or decision made by the court – convicted (guilty) or not convicted (acquitted). Conversely, 'non-adjudicated' refers to matters which are considered to have been finalised (where all matters were withdrawn or dismissed prior to adjudication) even though a judgement has not been handed down by the court.

ANZSOC: The Australian and New Zealand Standard Offence Classification is a uniform national statistical framework for classifying criminal behaviour. This report uses ANZSOC 2023.

Charge: A formal accusation of an offence.

Child: A person dealt with as a child in Queensland courts and by Youth Justice for offences committed when the offender was of child age. From 12 February 2018, when changes to youth justice legislation were implemented, an offender aged 10–17 years is deemed to be a child for the purposes of the Queensland justice system. Prior to that date, the age range was 10–16 years.

Defendant: A person appearing in a criminal court charged with a criminal offence.

Child defendant/offender: An offender dealt with by the courts system/youth justice system for offences committed as a child.

Unique child defendant: A young person with at least one finalised appearance as a child in a Queensland criminal court during the reference period. An individual is counted only once in a reference year, irrespective of whether they had one or multiple finalised appearances in the year.

Finalised appearance: A single charge (offence) or collection of charges (offences) against a single defendant, that are finalised on the same day, at the same court level and court location (for instance by adjudication, or by discharge or withdrawal, but not by committal or transfer to another court). Note that **only first finalisations of a case are presented in this report**, with appeals and resentencing outcomes excluded.

Offence: Any act or omission by a person or persons for which a penalty could be imposed by the Australian legal system.

Offender: in this report, a person aged 10 years or over who has been found guilty of an offence in a finalised court appearance.

Sentenced (relating to custody): A legal status indicating that a person (adult or child) is to be held in custody following a determination by a court to impose a term of detention/imprisonment.

Unsentenced (relating to custody): A legal status indicating that a person (adult or child) is remanded in custody while awaiting trial (pre-court custody), or the outcome of their trial.

Youth justice orders: Penalties which may be imposed on child offenders only.

1.3 Preparation of justice statistics and their interpretation

The statistics presented in this report should be read in conjunction with the *Explanatory notes* and *Glossary* provided at the end, where counting methodologies and other supporting information are provided to aid in the interpretation of rates and numbers presented. Further information on the interpretation of crime and justice statistics to that provided below is available on QGSO's website (see [Interpreting crime and justice statistics | Queensland Government Statistician's Office, Queensland Treasury](#)).

The information presented in this report may vary from data published elsewhere by QGSO and others, due to differences in the dates administrative data were extracted and frequency of revision, or in counting rules or statistical standards applied. Caution should be used when comparing this report to previous reports due to changes in data collection methods, for example breaches of suspended sentences that relate to an administrative process have been removed from the data.

Additionally, there is typically a delay between when an offence occurs and when the matter is finalised in court. These delays, which vary in length, can be due to the time required to clear the offence (including identifying the alleged offender(s)), and/or the time needed to finalise matters that may progress through multiple court levels. This might be reflected in reduced counts for the current reporting period and a change in counts for historical years.

Both counts and rates are shown in this report. Rates are calculated per 100,000 persons for criminal courts and adult corrective services and per 10,000 persons for youth justice using the appropriate estimated resident population (ERP) for Queensland. From February 2018, young people aged 17 years transitioned to be managed in the youth justice system, where they were previously managed in the adult criminal justice system as adults. Due to this change, rates for children from 2014–15 to 2016–17 are based on persons aged 10–16 years, for 2018–19 onwards on persons aged 10–17 years, and for 2017–18 on a proportional combination. Crude rates are shown for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander populations. Readers should note that any rates and change in rates based on small counts (<10) should be interpreted with extreme caution.

Readers are advised, when considering the statistics in this report, that comparisons with figures in periods during the COVID-19 pandemic (2019–20 through 2021–22) and in periods before and after significant legislative and policy changes must be made with caution.

This year's Justice report is based on the 2023 version of the Australian and New Zealand Standard Offence Classification (ANZSOC), which differs from the categorisation of offences which underpinned all previous editions of the report.

Please be aware when comparing the contents of figures within this report, that different scales have been used as appropriate.

Readers should note that, where relevant, figures and tables show rounded values, however in-text commentary may be used on unrounded components.

2.0 Legislative and policy changes impacting statistics

The criminal justice system can be influenced by many factors including offender behaviour, police activity, court-decision making, victim reporting, operations and legislation, as well as broader socio-economic contexts – both current and historical. This section describes some of the factors that may be relevant to the interpretation of statistics included in this report.

2.1 ANZSOC 2023

The Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) led a review of ANZSOC 2011 in consultation with data custodians and stakeholders, culminating in the release of ANZSOC 2023¹. This fourth edition of the ANZSOC is built on the same principles as ANZSOC 2011 but has been updated 'to reflect the evolution of criminal offence legislation, language, and social change'.

This year's Justice report, including all statistics and time series by offence type, is based on ANZSOC 2023. A key difference between ANZSOC 2023 and ANZSOC 2011 is that there are now 17 offence divisions, rather than 16. **Readers are therefore cautioned against comparing statistics by offence type in this Justice report with those presented in earlier editions** as some offences previously grouped in a single division have now been distributed across two or more offence divisions.

2.2 Making Queensland Safer legislation

The *Making Queensland Safer Act 2024* was introduced and took effect from December 2024. Key provisions under the *Act* include:

- removing restrictions on minimum, mandatory, and maximum sentences for children convicted for a range of 13 serious offences, to be the same as sentencing responses for adults
- removing the youth justice principle that courts should only impose detention if no other non-custodial options would provide sufficient prevention and intervention
- removing the sentencing guideline that non-custodial orders are better than detention in promoting the child's ability to reintegrate into the community
- adding an additional youth justice principle and amending sentencing guidelines to require the court to have primary regard for the impact of the child's offending on any victim.

In effect from May 2025, the *Making Queensland Safer (Adult Crime, Adult Time) Amendment Act 2025* increased the list of prescribed offences for which a child may be exposed to the same minimum, mandatory, and maximum sentences as an adult. The change added an additional 20 offences to the list of 13 identified initially.

2.3 Queensland Community Safety Act

The *Strengthening Community Safety Act 2023*, which commenced on 22 March 2023, included several amendments impacting bail, including breach of a bail condition as an offence for a young person. The breach offence applies only where the condition was part of a bail undertaking that the child entered into after the commencement of the changes.

The *Queensland Community Safety Act 2024* was assented to in August 2024. The Act includes the following provisions.

- The types of locations in which handheld scanners can be used to detect weapons were expanded (known as Jack's Law). The use of handheld scanners in prescribed circumstances in shopping centres and retail premises; sporting and entertainment venues; and licensed premises was enabled.

¹ <https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/classifications/australian-and-new-zealand-standard-offence-classification-anzsoc/latest-release>

- The maximum penalty was increased for the possession of a knife in a public place or a school to 18 months imprisonment, up from 12 months.
- A circumstance of aggravation is included if a person advertises criminal behaviour including 'going armed so as to cause fear', 'dangerous operation of a motor vehicle', 'common assault', 'assault occasioning bodily harm', 'burglary', and 'possession of a knife in a school or public place'.
- A new standalone offence was introduced covering publication of material depicting prescribed offences for the purpose of glorifying the conduct or increasing their, or some else's, reputation because of their involvement in the conduct. 'Prescribed offences' include an offence involving: driving or operating a vehicle; violence or a threat of violence; taking, damaging, destroying, removing, using, interfering with or entering property; a weapon.
- The list of prescribed indictable offences for which a youth offender may be subject to electronic monitoring whilst on bail was expanded. The added offences involve violence or threats of violence.
- The maximum penalty for 'dangerous operation of a motor vehicle causing death or grievous bodily harm' was expanded from 10 to 14 years imprisonment and from 14 to 20 years where a circumstance of aggravation is present, including if the offence occurred while the offender was evading police.
- A number of new standalone offences relating to emergency vehicles were added.

2.4 Domestic and family violence

Queensland's criminal justice system has been characterised by many changes relevant to the reporting of, and responding to, domestic and family violence (DFV). For example, from 1 July 2021, the QPS implemented a change to recording practices to align with national reporting standards, requiring police officers to record all criminal offences associated with DFV investigations in the Queensland Police Records and Information Management Exchange (QPRIME). This change is likely to have had a flow-on effect to courts, and subsequently youth justice and corrective services, although its specific contribution to any apparent increases is difficult to quantify.

The passing of the *Criminal Law (Coercive Control and Affirmative Consent) and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2024* established the offence of 'coercive control', effective from 26 May 2025 in Queensland. It is now a criminal offence for an adult to use abusive behaviours towards their current, or former, intimate partner, family member, or informal (unpaid) carer with the intention to control or coerce them. In this report, coercive control is classified as an offence against the person, specifically under 'other offences against the person'.

This Act also includes amendments that:

- establish a court-based domestic violence diversion scheme to divert eligible adult defendants who are charged for the first time with an offence of contravening a domestic violence order or police protection notice to an approved program²
- require a sentencing court to treat DFV offending committed in contravention of a court order, committed against a child or which exposes a child to domestic violence, as an aggravating factor at sentencing
- add a standard condition to DVOs that the respondent must not procure someone else to engage in behaviour that if engaged in by the respondent would be DFV
- introduce an offence of engaging in DFV or associated DFV to aid a respondent (named in a DVO).

As this legislation took effect towards the end of the 2024–25 reporting period, its effect is unlikely to be apparent in crime statistics at this stage.

2.5 Double jeopardy laws

The *Criminal Code and Other Legislation (Double Jeopardy Exception and Subsequent Appeals) Amendment Act 2024* expanded the list of serious crimes to which double jeopardy laws may not apply. This means that people previously acquitted can be retried in court under a double jeopardy exception should fresh and compelling evidence of guilt come to light. Previously, the double jeopardy exception only applied to 'murder' but the

² Once the offender has successfully completed the program, the charge is dismissed and the defendant discharged with no conviction recorded.

changes expand the fresh and compelling evidence double jeopardy exception to 10 additional offences – six unlawful killing offences and four sexual offences. These include 'manslaughter', 'attempted murder' and 'rape' offences, in addition to 'murder' offences. The Act also established a new framework for the criminal justice system to respond to possible wrongful convictions.

These changes were implemented in the last quarter of 2023–24.

2.6 Drug offending

The *Police Powers and Responsibilities and Other Legislation Amendment Act (No. 2) 2023* expanded the Police Drug Diversion Program to include minor possession of all types of drugs and implemented a tiered response to minor drug possession offences. Police officers can now issue a warning and referral to support services for the first minor drug possession offence, and referral to the Drug Diversion Assessment Program occurs at the second and third offences. At the fourth minor drug possession offence, police issue a notice to appear at court. The expanded program became operational from May 2024.

The impact of this change may result in fewer minor drug offenders proceeding to court and potentially being convicted, and instead having greater access to the drug diversion program.

2.7 Other

2.7.1 Public order offences

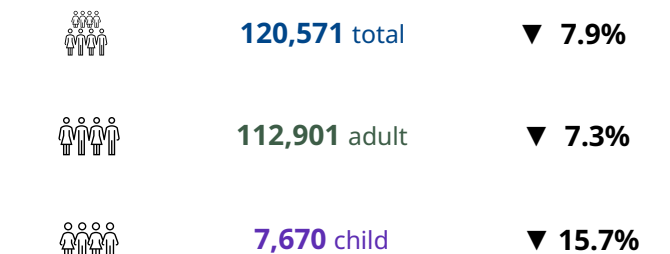
The *Child Protection (Offender Reporting and Offender Prohibition Order) and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2023* repealed the offences of 'begging in a public place' and 'being intoxicated in a public place'. This legislative change came into effect in September 2024.

2.7.2 Sex work decriminalised

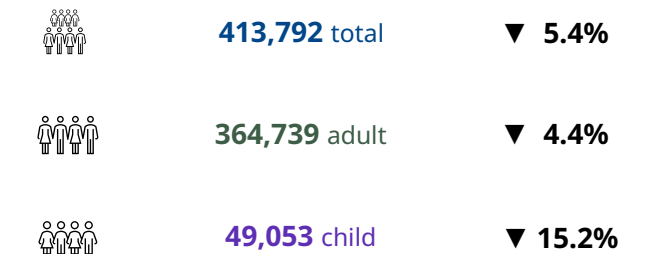
The *Criminal Code and Other Legislation (Decriminalising Sex Work) Amendment Act 2024* decriminalised the sex work industry in Queensland and came into effect from August 2024. Further, the Act created new offences for the protection of sex workers and strengthened the protection of sex workers from unfair discrimination.

3.0 Criminal justice, Queensland, 2024-25 and compared with 2023-24

Person appearances in court *all finalised*



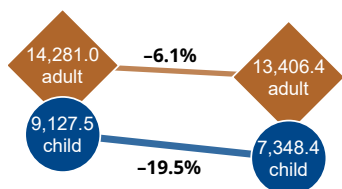
Person charges in court *all finalised*



a single finalised person appearance (left) may involve several charges

Person appearance in court rate *all finalised per 100,000 persons*

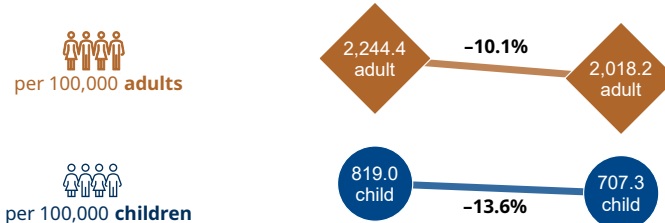
Indigenous



2023-24

2024-25

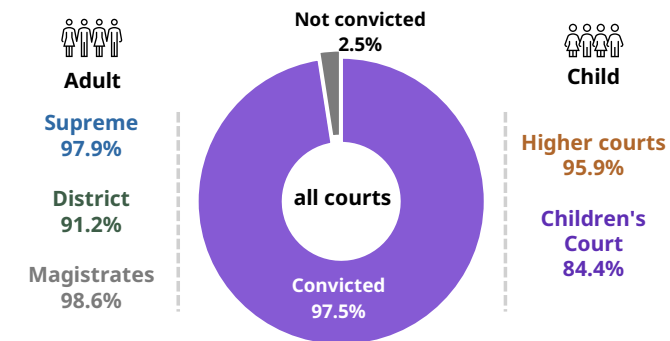
Non-Indigenous



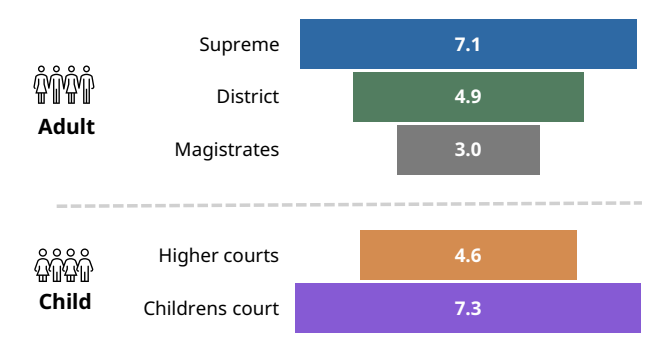
2023-24

2024-25

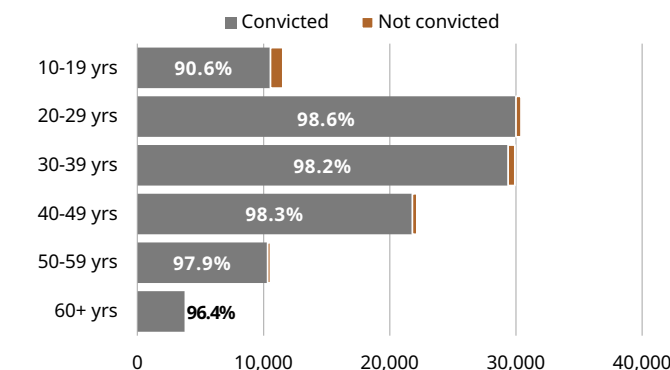
Percentage convicted *% of adjudicated person appearances*



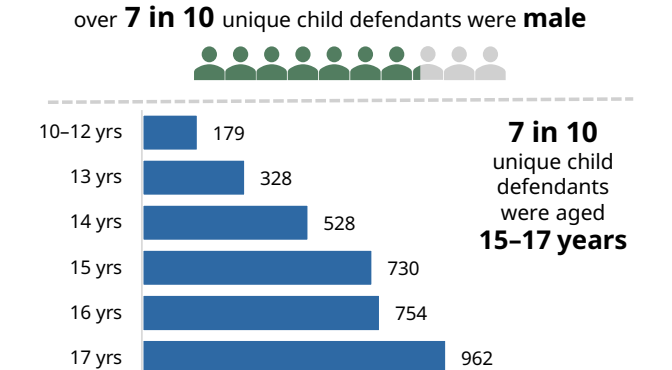
Average number of charges *per convicted person appearance*



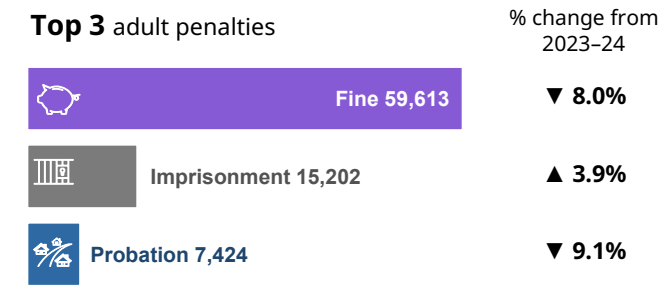
Person appearance outcomes *by age at appearance*



Unique child defendants *by age at offence and sex*

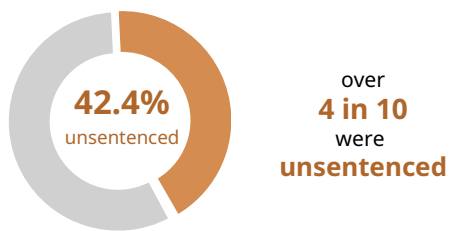
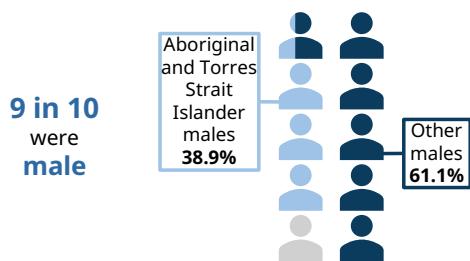
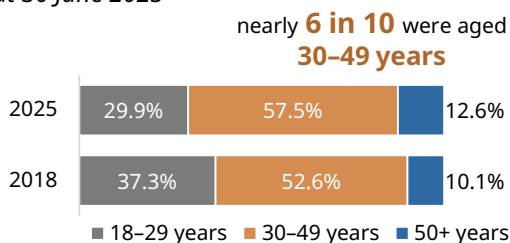


Adult sentencing outcomes most serious penalty



Adult prisons

Of **11,275** adults in prison as at 30 June 2025



Community corrections

Probation

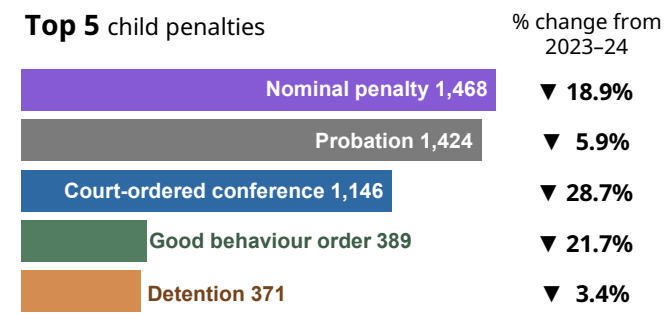
accounted for **47.2%** of adult community corrections orders as at 1 June 2025...



... and over **6 in 10** admissions to supervised community youth justice orders in 2024–25

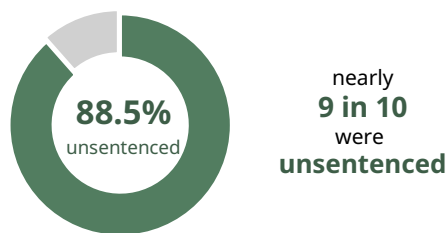
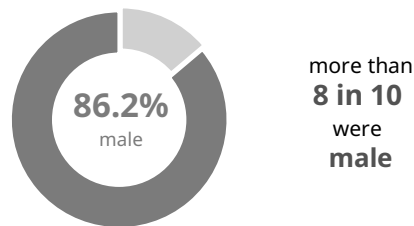
64.0%

Child sentencing outcomes most serious penalty



Youth detention centres

Of **285** young people in youth detention daily, on average



4.0 Criminal courts

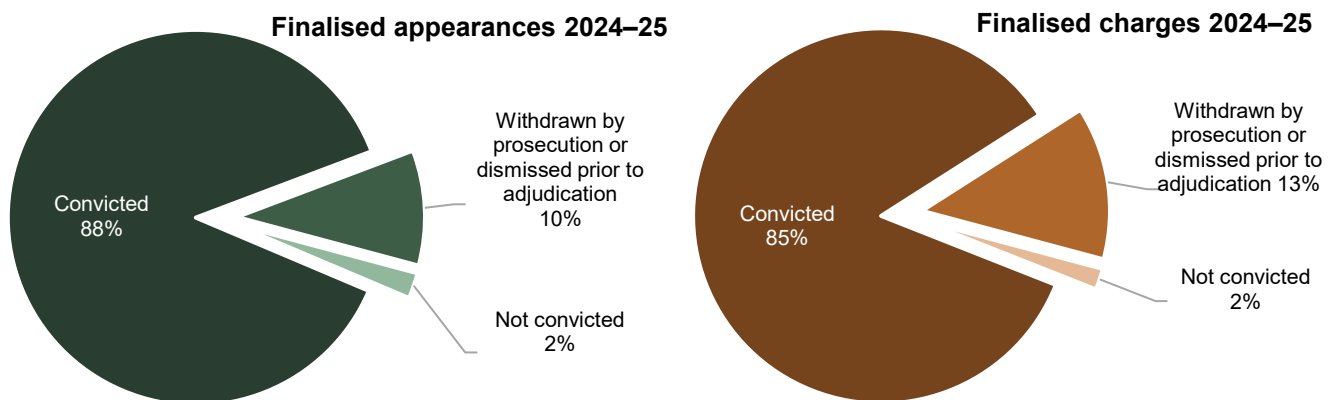
Source: QGSO Courts Database (from unpublished data supplied by the Department of Justice).

This chapter presents statistics on **finalised appearances** and **finalised charges** for persons and companies in Queensland criminal courts, as well as information about the characteristics of adult and child defendants related to those appearances and charges. Appearances and charges are presented by their method of finalisation and outcome, categorised as **adjudicated** or **non-adjudicated**. An adjudicated appearance results in a court decision of **guilty and a conviction** or **not guilty and no conviction**. Non-adjudicated appearances refer to cases where proceedings are withdrawn or discontinued by the prosecution. In some instances, discontinued cases may be replaced by new cases with amended charges.

The data includes an 11-year time series from 2014–15 to 2024–25. Company appearances (where the defendant is an organisation) are included under adult appearances, as noted, but are also reported separately elsewhere for clarity.

Key definitions used in this chapter:

- **Finalised appearances:** In this chapter, a finalised appearance refers to an offence or a group of offences for a single defendant that are adjudicated on the same day, at the same court level and the same court location. These may result in either a **convicted appearance** (a guilty finding and sentence), or an **acquittal** (not convicted), or a withdrawal/dismissal prior to adjudication (non-adjudicated). Only first finalisations are presented in this report, with appeals and resentencing outcomes excluded.
- **Finalised charges:** A charge is a formal accusation of an offence. A **convicted charge** refers to an offence for which a defendant is found guilty in court.
- **Most serious offence (MSO):** Is determined based on most serious offence by most serious penalty.
- **Penalty:** A punishment of an offender ordered by the court after a guilty finding.
- **Higher court matters and transfers:** Cases committed to a higher court for trial or sentencing, or transferred to another jurisdiction, are not considered finalised at that point. If these cases are finalised in another higher court during the reference period, they are included only in the relevant statistics for those courts.



	2023-24	2024-25	% change
All finalised appearances	131,159	120,884	-7.8
Convicted person appearances^(a)	115,397	105,986	-8.2
Adult courts	108,711	100,432	-7.6
Children's courts ^(b)	6,686	5,554	-16.9
All finalised charges	438,225	415,210	-5.3
Convicted charges against persons^(a)	373,288	351,821	-5.8
Adult courts	327,153	312,680	-4.4
Children's courts ^(b)	46,135	39,141	-15.2

a) Person appearances and charges exclude those where the defendant was a company/organisation.

b) Defendants are dealt with as children in Queensland's criminal courts for offences committed when aged 10-17 years.

4.1 All courts summary

Court statistics in this chapter cover adults, children and companies dealt with in Queensland lower and higher criminal courts. Lower courts include Magistrates Courts for adult defendants and Childrens Court (Magistrates) for child defendants. Higher courts consist of District and Supreme Courts for adult defendants and the Childrens Court of Queensland for child defendants. For more information on the different criminal courts, refer to the *Glossary*. Companies are dealt with in the adult court systems.

In 2024–25, there were 120,571 **finalised person appearances**, with nine in 10 (90.1%) adjudicated. Of the 108,654 adjudicated appearances, 97.5% (105,986) resulted in a conviction.

- Among convicted person defendants, three in four (75.8%) were male, and nearly one in four (21.7%) identified as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander.
- One in 20 (5.2%) convicted defendants was dealt with in the children's court system, while the majority (94.8%) of defendants appeared in the adult court system.

In the **adult courts**, there were 112,901 finalised person appearances in 2024–25, with over half involving either 'traffic and vehicle offences' or 'offences against justice procedures and orders' as the MSO, collectively making up 57.1%.

- In nearly nine in 10 (89.0%) finalised adult appearances, defendants were convicted of at least one charge, while 9.5% were non-adjudicated.
- For finalised adult appearances where the MSO was 'sexual offences', 30.8% were non-adjudicated and 12.0% were not convicted.
- Among convicted adult appearances, nearly six in 10 (59.4%) resulted in a fine as the most serious penalty, while 15.1% led to imprisonment.

The number of finalised **child appearances** decreased by 15.7% in 2024–25 compared with 2023–24, and in nearly three in four (72.4%), the defendant was convicted of at least one charge, while one in 10 (12.4%) appearances resulted in no conviction.

- Notably, nearly half (46.0%) of appearances for 'traffic and vehicle offences' resulted in no conviction, whereas four out of five appearances for 'assault' and 'harm or endanger persons' offences resulted in a conviction (81.2% for both).
- Convicted child appearances declined by 16.9% in 2024–25 compared with the previous year, largely due to declines in convictions for 'burglary' (down 26.8%) and 'theft' (down 18.7%).
- Among convicted child appearances, just over half (51.3%) of defendants identified as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander. Differences in the number of convicted child appearances for non-Indigenous and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander youth narrowed in 2024–25 compared with the previous year.

4.2 Finalised appearances and charges

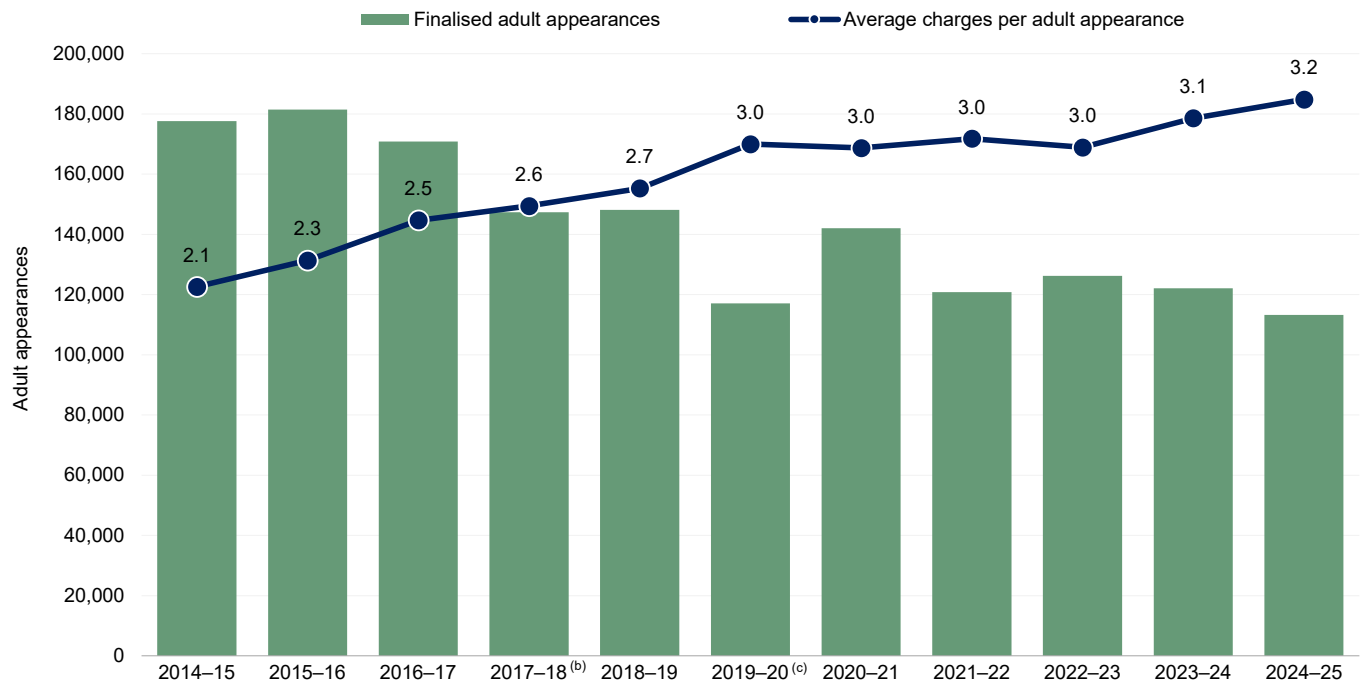
Figure 1 and Figure 2 below show the count of finalised appearances and the average number of charges per appearance for the adult and children's court systems between 2014–15 and 2024–25. In 2024–25, appearances declined in both systems compared with the previous year, decreasing by 7.2% in the adult court system and 15.7% in the children's court system.

The average number of charges disposed per finalised adult appearance has tended to increase over time, rising by 0.1 annually over the last two years to reach 3.2 charges in 2024–25, after remaining stable at 3.0 charges between 2019–20 and 2022–23. Compared with the adult court system, the average number of charges per appearance in the children's court system has consistently been higher since 2014–15, peaking at 6.4 charges per finalised child appearance in 2024–25.

The difference in number of charges between adult and child appearances may partly reflect the types of offences finalised in the adult court system compared with children's court system. In the children's courts, the majority of finalised appearances (71.2% in 2024–25) were associated with offences such as 'assault', 'theft', 'burglary', and 'offences against justice procedures and orders', which are more likely to involve a higher

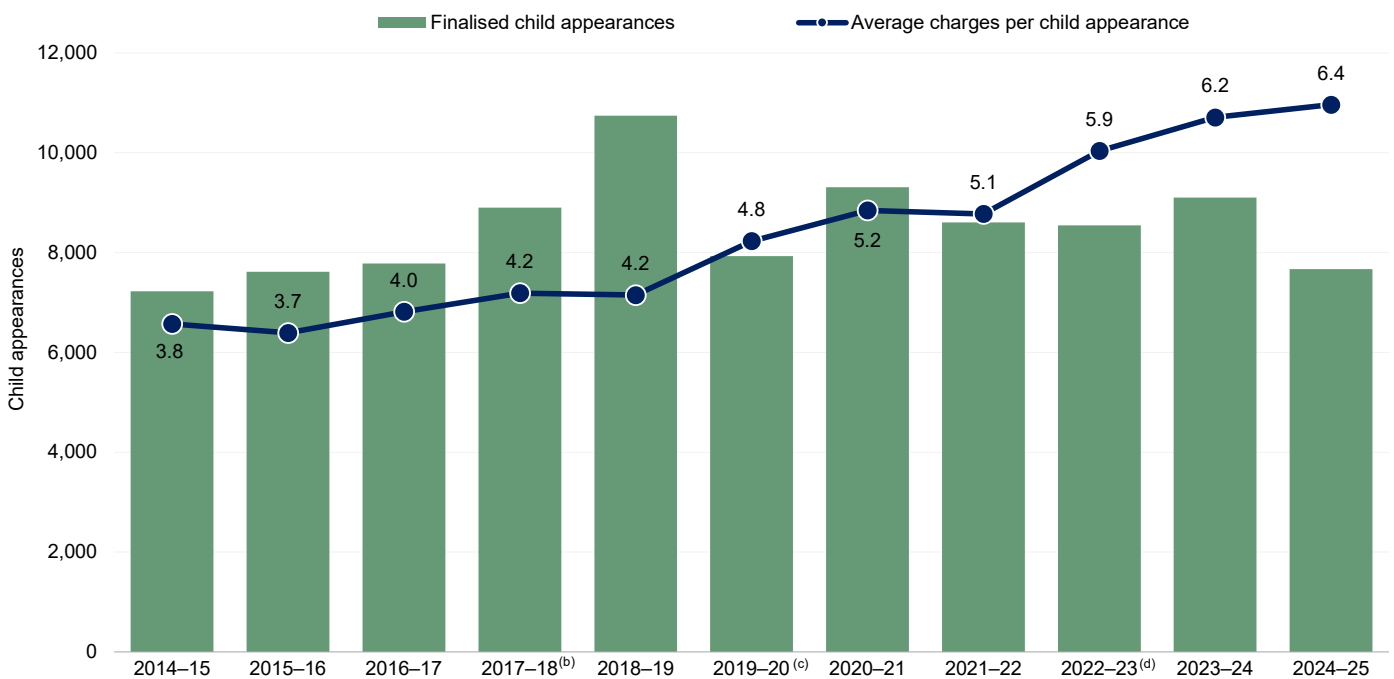
number of charges (see Table 31). In contrast, in the adult court system, only two in five finalised appearances (42.5% in 2024–25) were related to these types of offences (see Table 7).

Figure 1 Finalised adult appearances^(a) and average charges per appearance, all courts – time series



- a) Includes appearances of company defendants.
- b) The transition of 17-year-olds to the youth justice system occurred in February 2018.
- c) The COVID-19 pandemic was declared in March 2020 and resulted in social restrictions which continued into 2021–22.

Figure 2 Finalised child appearances and average charges per appearance, all courts – time series^(a)



- a) The transition of 17-year-olds to the youth justice system occurred in February 2018.
- b) The COVID-19 pandemic was declared in March 2020 and resulted in social restrictions which continued into 2021–22.
- c) Breach of bail conditions were introduced as a criminal offence for child offenders from March 2023.

In the adult court system, the annual decline in the count of finalised person appearances between 2023–24 and 2024–25 was driven by decreases in the District Court (down 3.8%) and Magistrates Court (down 7.5%), outweighing a slight increase in the Supreme Court (up 4.4%) (Table 1). In the children's court system, the count

of finalised appearances declined across both court levels, with the higher courts down 10.5% and the Childrens Court (Magistrates) down 16.1% in 2024–25 compared to the previous year.

Over the past decade, the rate of finalised appearances has generally declined across both adult and children's court systems (Table 2). In adult courts, this decline was primarily driven by a 48.0% reduction in the rate of finalised appearances in the Magistrates Court between 2014–15 and 2024–25. Conversely, the Supreme Court recorded a 14.2% rate increase over this same period. The rate of finalised appearances in the District Court increased marginally by 1.0% over the past decade but declined by 6.1% in 2024–25 compared to the previous year, falling to its lowest in the time series.

In the children's court system the rate of finalised appearances in the higher courts increased by 17.5% between 2014–15 and 2024–25, while in the Childrens Court (Magistrates), the rate decreased by 25.7% over this same period. Compared to the previous year, the rate of finalised appearances decreased across both the higher courts (down 11.9%) and the Childrens Court (Magistrates) (down 17.5%).

The count of finalised charges against persons in the adult court system has varied over the past decade, with a 4.1% decrease recorded in 2024–25 compared to the previous year (Table 3). This reduction was largely due to a 5.9% drop in finalised charges in the Magistrates Court, which has consistently accounted for around 90.0% of all charges across adult courts. In contrast, the Supreme Court saw an 11.1% increase in finalised charges between 2023–24 and 2024–25, while the District Court recorded a 3.6% rise over the same period.

In the children's court system, the count of finalised charges has grown over the past decade, increasing by 77.1% in 2024–25 compared to 2014–15. However, compared to the previous year, 2024–25 saw a decline in finalised charges across both the higher courts (down 10.5%) and the Childrens Court (Magistrates) (down 16.1%).

When comparing 2024–25 with 2014–15, the rate of finalised charges across the adult court system has declined, largely reflecting a 21.2% reduction in the Magistrates Court between these two years. Compared to the previous year, 2024–25 saw a 7.3% decrease in the Magistrates Court, an 8.3% increase in the Supreme Court, and minimal change in the District Court, with rates rising by just 1.0%. Over the last decade, the rate of finalised charges in children's higher courts remained relatively stable, while the rate in the Childrens Court (Magistrates) grew by 30.5% when comparing 2024–25 with 2014–15 (Table 4). However, compared to the previous year, the rate decreased in 2024–25 across both the higher courts (down 9.0%) and the Childrens Court (Magistrates) (down 15.5%).

Table 1 Finalised person appearances by method of finalisation and outcome, by court type – time series

	2014–15	2015–16	2016–17	2017–18 ^(a)	2018–19	2019–20 ^(b)	2020–21	2021–22	2022–23 ^(c)	2023–24	2024–25
Adult											
— count —											
Supreme Court	746	944	1,289	1,518	1,359	1,298	1,300	1,243	1,136	975	1,018
Adjudicated	605	752	1,059	1,302	1,143	1,118	1,108	1,082	980	824	860
<i>Convicted</i>	588	732	1,033	1,273	1,127	1,098	1,090	1,066	965	811	842
<i>Not convicted</i>	17	20	26	29	16	20	18	16	15	13	18
Non-adjudicated	141	192	230	216	216	180	192	161	156	151	158
District Court	4,237	4,384	4,920	5,154	5,673	5,203	4,909	5,218	4,991	5,211	5,011
Adjudicated	3,455	3,497	4,003	4,260	4,602	4,264	3,996	4,263	3,997	4,162	4,029
<i>Convicted</i>	3,205	3,208	3,691	3,933	4,239	3,965	3,626	3,966	3,668	3,800	3,675
<i>Not convicted</i>	250	289	312	327	363	299	370	297	329	362	354
Non-adjudicated	782	887	917	894	1,071	939	913	955	994	1,049	982
Magistrates Court	171,994	175,461	163,987	140,252	140,715	110,316	135,559	114,126	119,816	115,590	106,872
Adjudicated	160,159	163,227	151,642	130,253	130,181	100,938	124,270	104,290	110,066	105,315	97,258
<i>Convicted</i>	158,686	161,683	150,214	128,942	128,939	99,924	123,033	103,143	108,802	104,100	95,915
<i>Not convicted</i>	1,473	1,544	1,428	1,311	1,242	1,014	1,237	1,147	1,264	1,215	1,343
Non-adjudicated	11,835	12,234	12,345	9,999	10,534	9,378	11,289	9,836	9,750	10,275	9,614
Child											
— count —											
Higher courts	370	378	439	448	742	808	627	640	715	679	608
Adjudicated	296	314	342	364	582	703	552	559	607	576	531
<i>Convicted</i>	281	300	325	350	569	677	541	536	591	556	509
<i>Not convicted</i>	15	14	17	14	13	26	11	23	16	20	22
Non-adjudicated	74	64	97	84	160	105	75	81	108	103	77
Childrens Court (Magistrates)	6,855	7,237	7,345	8,451	10,000	7,120	8,683	7,962	7,832	8,422	7,062
Adjudicated	6,180	6,482	6,659	7,473	8,879	6,176	7,532	6,939	6,765	7,234	5,976
<i>Convicted</i>	5,866	6,076	6,022	6,678	7,711	5,201	6,448	5,872	5,551	6,130	5,045
<i>Not convicted</i>	314	406	637	795	1,168	975	1,084	1,067	1,214	1,104	931
Non-adjudicated	675	755	686	978	1,121	944	1,151	1,023	1,067	1,188	1,086
Total	184,202	188,404	177,980	155,823	158,489	124,745	151,078	129,189	134,490	130,877	120,571

a) The transition of 17-year-olds to the youth justice system occurred in February 2018.

b) The COVID-19 pandemic was declared in March 2020 and resulted in social restrictions which continued into 2021–22.

c) Breach of bail conditions were introduced as a criminal offence for child offenders from March 2023.

Table 2 Rates of finalised person appearances by method of finalisation and outcome, by court type - time series

	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18 ^(a)	2018-19	2019-20 ^(b)	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23 ^(c)	2023-24	2024-25
Adult											
— rate per 100,000 persons ^(d) —											
Supreme Court	20.2	25.2	33.9	39.4	35.0	32.8	32.4	30.5	27.2	22.7	23.1
Adjudicated	16.4	20.1	27.8	33.8	29.5	28.3	27.6	26.6	23.5	19.2	19.5
<i>Convicted</i>	15.9	19.6	27.2	33.1	29.0	27.8	27.2	26.2	23.1	18.9	19.1
<i>Not convicted</i>	0.5	0.5	0.7	0.8	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.4
Non-adjudicated	3.8	5.1	6.0	5.6	5.6	4.6	4.8	4.0	3.7	3.5	3.6
District Court	114.9	117.2	129.4	133.9	146.2	131.7	122.5	128.1	119.5	121.3	113.7
Adjudicated	93.7	93.5	105.3	110.7	118.6	107.9	99.7	104.7	95.7	96.9	91.4
<i>Convicted</i>	86.9	85.8	97.1	102.2	109.2	100.3	90.4	97.4	87.8	88.5	83.4
<i>Not convicted</i>	6.8	7.7	8.2	8.5	9.4	7.6	9.2	7.3	7.9	8.4	8.0
Non-adjudicated	21.2	23.7	24.1	23.2	27.6	23.8	22.8	23.5	23.8	24.4	22.3
Magistrates Court	4,663.3	4,691.3	4,312.5	3,644.2	3,625.9	2,791.8	3,381.4	2,802.4	2,869.1	2,691.4	2,425.7
Adjudicated	4,342.4	4,364.2	3,987.9	3,384.3	3,354.5	2,554.4	3,099.8	2,560.9	2,635.7	2,452.1	2,207.5
<i>Convicted</i>	4,302.5	4,322.9	3,950.3	3,350.3	3,322.5	2,528.8	3,068.9	2,532.7	2,605.4	2,423.9	2,177.0
<i>Not convicted</i>	39.9	41.3	37.6	34.1	32.0	25.7	30.9	28.2	30.3	28.3	30.5
Non-adjudicated	320.9	327.1	324.6	259.8	271.4	237.3	281.6	241.5	233.5	239.2	218.2
Child											
— rate per 100,000 persons ^(d) —											
Higher courts	87.9	88.7	101.1	95.9	143.7	153.0	116.1	116.0	126.9	118.3	104.2
Adjudicated	70.3	73.7	78.8	77.9	112.7	133.1	102.2	101.3	107.7	100.3	91.0
<i>Convicted</i>	66.7	70.4	74.8	74.9	110.2	128.2	100.2	97.2	104.9	96.8	87.2
<i>Not convicted</i>	3.6	3.3	3.9	3.0	2.5	4.9	2.0	4.2	2.8	3.5	3.8
Non-adjudicated	17.6	15.0	22.3	18.0	31.0	19.9	13.9	14.7	19.2	17.9	13.2
Childrens Court (Magistrates)	1,628.1	1,698.2	1,691.5	1,808.7	1,936.5	1,348.2	1,607.9	1,443.5	1,389.9	1,466.8	1,209.8
Adjudicated	1,467.8	1,521.1	1,533.6	1,599.4	1,719.5	1,169.5	1,394.8	1,258.1	1,200.5	1,259.9	1,023.8
<i>Convicted</i>	1,393.2	1,425.8	1,386.9	1,429.2	1,493.3	984.9	1,194.0	1,064.6	985.1	1,067.6	864.3
<i>Not convicted</i>	74.6	95.3	146.7	170.1	226.2	184.6	200.7	193.5	215.4	192.3	159.5
Non-adjudicated	160.3	177.2	158.0	209.3	217.1	178.8	213.1	185.5	189.4	206.9	186.0

a) The transition of 17-year-olds to the youth justice system occurred in February 2018.

b) The COVID-19 pandemic was declared in March 2020 and resulted in social restrictions which continued into 2021-22.

c) Breach of bail conditions were introduced as a criminal offence for child offenders from March 2023.

d) Rates for children from 2014-15 to 2016-17 are based on persons aged 10-16 years, for 2018-19 onwards on persons aged 10-17 years, and for 2017-18 on a proportional combination.

Table 3 Finalised charges against persons by method of finalisation and outcome, by court type - time series

	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18 ^(a)	2018-19	2019-20 ^(b)	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23 ^(c)	2023-24	2024-25
Adult											
— count —											
Supreme Court	5,543	7,280	10,202	11,670	11,267	10,220	9,557	10,421	8,455	6,606	7,339
Adjudicated	4,368	5,494	8,261	9,901	9,591	9,072	8,245	8,591	7,167	5,668	6,052
<i>Convicted</i>	4,326	5,452	8,178	9,826	9,547	8,997	8,183	8,561	7,131	5,642	5,979
<i>Not convicted</i>	42	42	83	75	44	75	62	30	36	26	73
Non-adjudicated	1,175	1,786	1,941	1,769	1,676	1,148	1,312	1,830	1,288	938	1,287
District Court	20,859	23,342	26,466	28,599	29,799	30,598	26,251	27,463	24,166	24,460	25,335
Adjudicated	16,049	17,706	20,738	22,632	23,558	23,790	20,425	20,971	17,929	17,653	18,798
<i>Convicted</i>	15,303	16,890	19,862	21,778	22,584	22,896	19,280	20,092	16,909	16,662	17,859
<i>Not convicted</i>	746	816	876	854	974	894	1,145	879	1,020	991	939
Non-adjudicated	4,810	5,636	5,728	5,967	6,241	6,808	5,826	6,492	6,237	6,807	6,537
Magistrates Court	352,790	384,200	393,315	343,012	358,962	306,600	382,495	324,645	339,525	349,285	332,065
Adjudicated	318,579	344,409	348,029	307,098	316,596	268,114	337,560	284,223	301,616	307,778	292,529
<i>Convicted</i>	315,290	341,023	344,837	303,575	313,627	265,738	334,380	281,409	298,551	304,849	288,842
<i>Not convicted</i>	3,289	3,386	3,192	3,523	2,969	2,376	3,180	2,814	3,065	2,929	3,687
Non-adjudicated	34,211	39,791	45,286	35,914	42,366	38,486	44,935	40,422	37,909	41,507	39,536
Child											
— count —											
Higher courts	2,094	1,887	2,194	2,203	3,460	3,493	2,892	2,446	2,815	2,971	2,747
Adjudicated	1,758	1,650	1,790	1,875	2,898	3,108	2,594	2,146	2,366	2,511	2,363
<i>Convicted</i>	1,731	1,620	1,748	1,839	2,875	3,042	2,561	2,094	2,322	2,451	2,322
<i>Not convicted</i>	27	30	42	36	23	66	33	52	44	60	41
Non-adjudicated	336	237	404	328	562	385	298	300	449	460	384
Childrens Court (Magistrates)	25,601	26,502	28,744	35,111	41,346	34,567	45,150	41,582	47,227	53,882	46,306
Adjudicated	23,055	23,356	25,163	30,021	36,241	30,096	39,285	36,353	41,742	46,911	39,623
<i>Convicted</i>	22,552	22,615	23,813	28,525	34,176	27,989	36,892	33,958	38,809	43,684	36,819
<i>Not convicted</i>	503	741	1,350	1,496	2,065	2,107	2,393	2,395	2,933	3,227	2,804
Non-adjudicated	2,546	3,146	3,581	5,090	5,105	4,471	5,865	5,229	5,485	6,971	6,683
Total	406,887	443,211	460,921	420,595	444,834	385,478	466,345	406,557	422,188	437,204	413,792

a) The transition of 17-year-olds to the youth justice system occurred in February 2018.

b) The COVID-19 pandemic was declared in March 2020 and resulted in social restrictions which continued into 2021-22.

c) Breach of bail conditions were introduced as a criminal offence for child offenders from March 2023.

Table 4 Rates of finalised charges against persons by method of finalisation and outcome, by court type - time series

	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18 ^(a)	2018-19	2019-20 ^(b)	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23 ^(c)	2023-24	2024-25
Adult											
— rate per 100,000 persons ^(d) —											
Supreme Court	150.3	194.6	268.3	303.2	290.3	258.6	238.4	255.9	202.5	153.8	166.6
Adjudicated	118.4	146.9	217.2	257.3	247.1	229.6	205.7	211.0	171.6	132.0	137.4
<i>Convicted</i>	117.3	145.8	215.1	255.3	246.0	227.7	204.1	210.2	170.8	131.4	135.7
<i>Not convicted</i>	1.1	1.1	2.2	1.9	1.1	1.9	1.5	0.7	0.9	0.6	1.7
Non-adjudicated	31.9	47.8	51.0	46.0	43.2	29.1	32.7	44.9	30.8	21.8	29.2
District Court	565.6	624.1	696.0	743.1	767.8	774.3	654.8	674.4	578.7	569.5	575.0
Adjudicated	435.1	473.4	545.4	588.0	607.0	602.1	509.5	514.9	429.3	411.0	426.7
<i>Convicted</i>	414.9	451.6	522.3	565.9	581.9	579.4	480.9	493.4	404.9	388.0	405.4
<i>Not convicted</i>	20.2	21.8	23.0	22.2	25.1	22.6	28.6	21.6	24.4	23.1	21.3
Non-adjudicated	130.4	150.7	150.6	155.0	160.8	172.3	145.3	159.4	149.4	158.5	148.4
Magistrates Court	9,565.3	10,272.2	10,343.4	8,912.4	9,249.6	7,759.1	9,541.0	7,971.8	8,130.3	8,132.7	7,537.1
Adjudicated	8,637.7	9,208.4	9,152.5	7,979.3	8,157.9	6,785.2	8,420.1	6,979.2	7,222.6	7,166.3	6,639.7
<i>Convicted</i>	8,548.5	9,117.8	9,068.5	7,887.8	8,081.4	6,725.0	8,340.8	6,910.1	7,149.2	7,098.1	6,556.0
<i>Not convicted</i>	89.2	90.5	83.9	91.5	76.5	60.1	79.3	69.1	73.4	68.2	83.7
Non-adjudicated	927.6	1,063.9	1,190.9	933.1	1,091.7	974.0	1,120.9	992.6	907.8	966.4	897.4
Child											
— rate per 100,000 persons ^(d) —											
Higher courts	497.3	442.8	505.3	471.5	670.0	661.4	535.5	443.5	499.6	517.4	470.6
Adjudicated	417.5	387.2	412.2	401.3	561.2	588.5	480.4	389.1	419.9	437.3	404.8
<i>Convicted</i>	411.1	380.2	402.6	393.6	556.8	576.0	474.2	379.6	412.1	426.9	397.8
<i>Not convicted</i>	6.4	7.0	9.7	7.7	4.5	12.5	6.1	9.4	7.8	10.4	7.0
Non-adjudicated	79.8	55.6	93.0	70.2	108.8	72.9	55.2	54.4	79.7	80.1	65.8
Childrens Court (Magistrates)	6,080.4	6,219.0	6,619.7	7,514.6	8,006.8	6,545.6	8,360.8	7,538.9	8,381.1	9,384.1	7,933.0
Adjudicated	5,475.7	5,480.7	5,795.0	6,425.2	7,018.2	5,699.0	7,274.7	6,590.9	7,407.7	8,170.0	6,788.1
<i>Convicted</i>	5,356.3	5,306.9	5,484.1	6,105.0	6,618.3	5,300.0	6,831.6	6,156.7	6,887.2	7,608.0	6,307.7
<i>Not convicted</i>	119.5	173.9	310.9	320.2	399.9	399.0	443.1	434.2	520.5	562.0	480.4
Non-adjudicated	604.7	738.2	824.7	1,089.4	988.6	846.6	1,086.1	948.0	973.4	1,214.1	1,144.9

a) The transition of 17-year-olds to the youth justice system occurred in February 2018.

b) The COVID-19 pandemic was declared in March 2020 and resulted in social restrictions which continued into 2021-22.

c) Breach of bail conditions were introduced as a criminal offence for child offenders from March 2023.

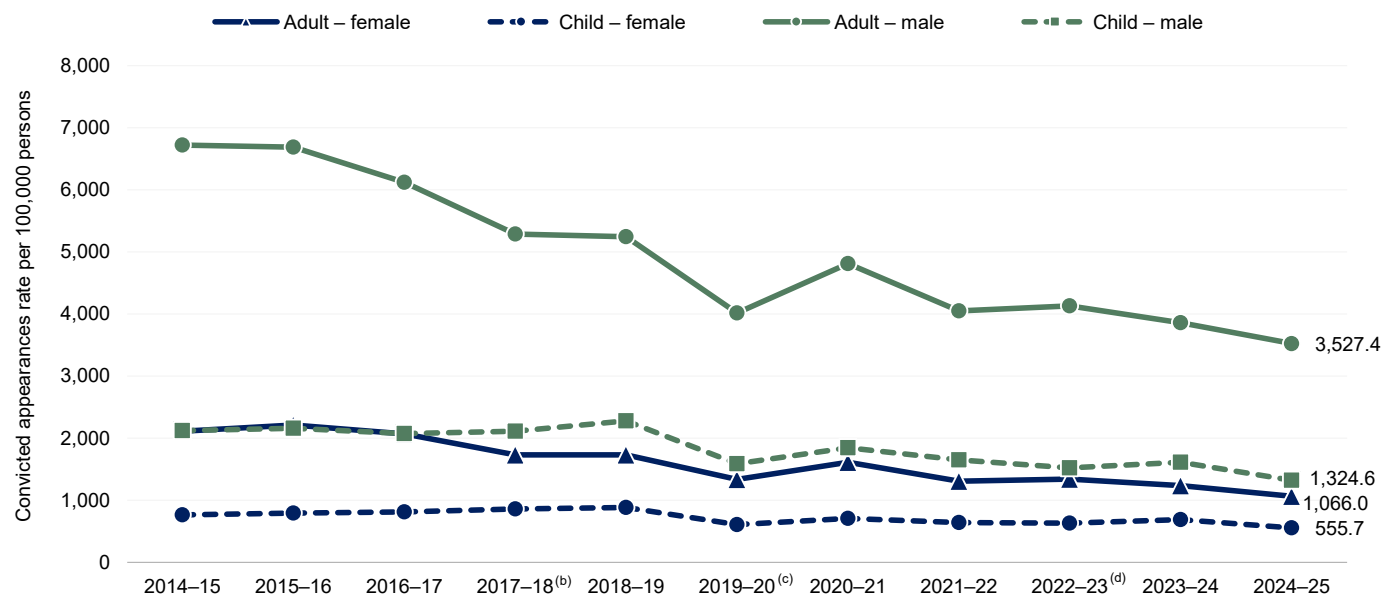
d) Rates for children from 2014-15 to 2016-17 are based on persons aged 10-16 years, for 2018-19 onwards on persons aged 10-17 years, and for 2017-18 on a proportional combination.

4.3 Convicted person appearances

Over the past decade, the rate of **convicted person appearances** has steadily declined in both the adult and children's court systems for male and female defendants (Figure 3). In adult courts, the rate of convicted appearances nearly halved between 2014–15 and 2024–25, with a 47.5% decrease for males and a 49.6% decrease for females. A decline in the rate of convicted person appearances was also apparent in the children's courts, but was more pronounced for male defendants (down 37.5%) than female defendants (down 27.2%).

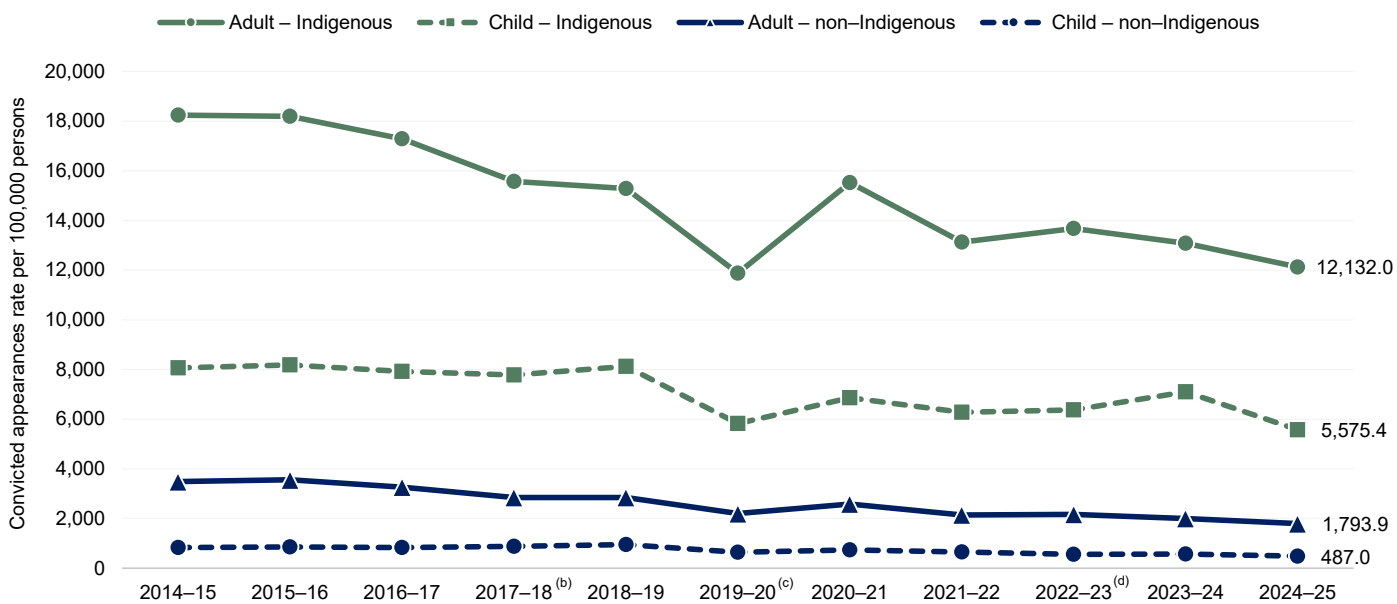
Throughout the past 11 years, the rate of convicted person appearances has consistently been highest for males and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander persons in both court systems (Figure 4). In 2024–25, the rate for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander adults was 6.8 times higher than for non-Indigenous adults, an increase from 5.2 times in 2014–15. Among children, the disparity was even greater, with the rate for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children 11.4 times higher than for non-Indigenous children in 2024–25, up from 9.7 times in 2014–15.

Figure 3 Convicted person appearance rates^(a) by court system and sex - time series



- a) Rates are calculated only for appearances where defendant's sex was stated.
- b) The transition of 17-year-olds to the youth justice system occurred in February 2018.
- c) The COVID-19 pandemic was declared in March 2020 and resulted in social restrictions which continued into 2021–22.
- d) Breach of bail conditions were introduced as a criminal offence for child offenders from March 2023.

Figure 4 Convicted person appearance rates^(a) by court system and Indigenous status - time series

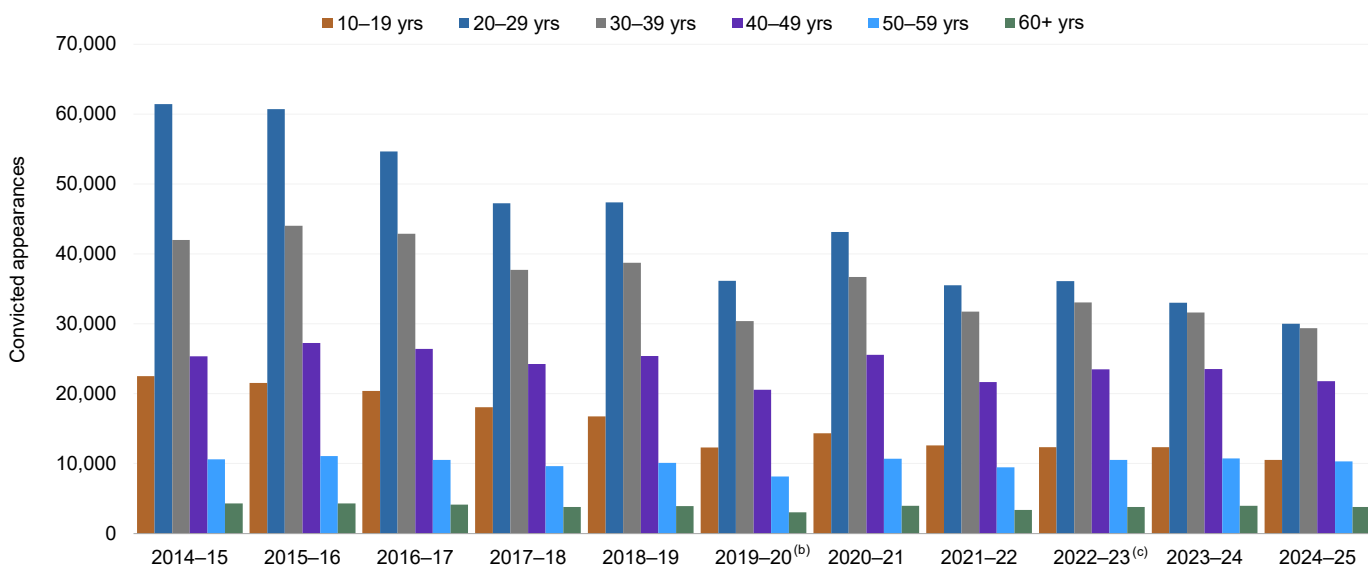


- a) Rates are calculated only for appearances where defendant's Indigenous status was stated. Crude rates are presented for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and non-Indigenous populations.
- b) The transition of 17-year-olds to the youth justice system occurred in February 2018.
- c) The COVID-19 pandemic was declared in March 2020 and resulted in social restrictions which continued into 2021-22.
- d) Breach of bail conditions were introduced as a criminal offence for child offenders from March 2023.

Among person appearances resulting in a conviction, the annual ranking of age groups has remained consistent over the past 11 years (Figure 5). Defendants aged 20–29 years have consistently been the most prevalent, followed by those aged 30–39 years. The gap in convicted appearances between defendants aged 30–39 years and those aged 20–29 years has steadily narrowed over time. In 2024–25, there were 613 fewer appearances for defendants aged 30–39 years compared with those aged 20–29 years, a substantial reduction from the difference of 19,456 appearances between these age groups recorded in 2014–15.

Between 2014–15 and 2024–25, the count of convicted person appearances declined across all age groups, with the largest declines among defendants aged 10–19 years (down 53.2%), 20–29 years (down 51.2%), and 30–39 years (down 30.0%). A decrease in convicted person appearances was also observed across all age groups between 2023–24 and 2024–25. The most notable declines during this period were for defendants aged 10–19 years (down 14.7%) and 20–29 years (down 9.2%).

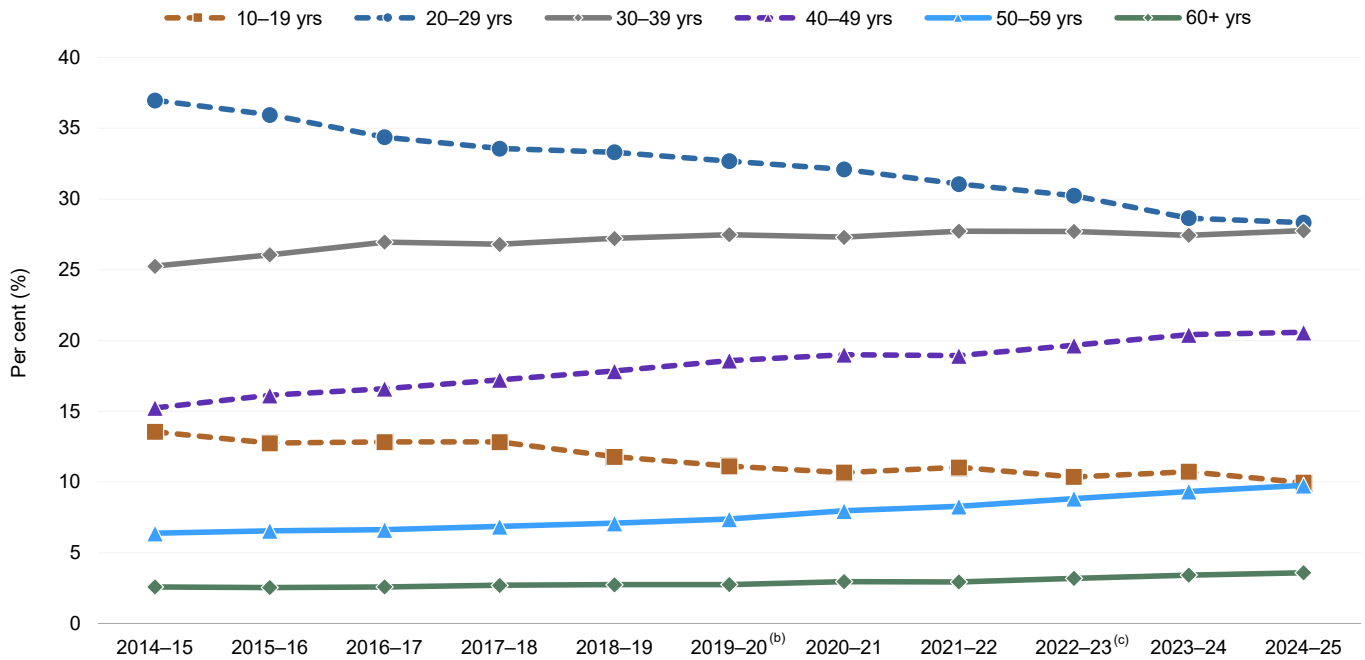
Figure 5 Convicted person appearances by age at appearance^(a), all courts - time series



- a) Excludes appearances of defendants whose age was not stated.
- b) The COVID-19 pandemic was declared in March 2020 and resulted in social restrictions which continued into 2021-22.
- c) Breach of bail conditions were introduced as a criminal offence for child offenders from March 2023.

Since 2014–15, the percentage of convicted person appearances involving defendants aged 29 years and younger has declined, while the percentage of those aged 30 years and older has generally increased (Figure 6). This trend continued between 2023–24 and 2024–25, with slight decreases in the percentage of convicted appearances for defendants aged 10–19 years (down 0.7%) and 20–29 years (down 0.4%), alongside small increases of 0.2–0.5% across older age groups. In 2024–25, defendants aged 20–29 years accounted for 28.3% of all convicted person appearances, followed by those aged 30–39 years (27.8%) and 40–49 years (20.6%).

Figure 6 Percentage of convicted person appearances by age at appearance^(a), all courts – time series



- a) Excludes appearances of defendants whose age was not stated.
- b) The COVID–19 pandemic was declared in March 2020 and resulted in social restrictions which continued into 2021–22.
- c) Breach of bail conditions were introduced as a criminal offence for child offenders from March 2023.

Table 5 Convicted person appearances by sex, Indigenous status and age, all courts - time series

	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20 ^(b)	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23 ^(c)	2023-24	2024-25
	— count —										
Sex											
Male	126,781	127,746	118,964	104,944	105,803	82,111	99,679	85,499	88,891	85,957	80,130
Female	41,121	43,713	41,821	35,914	36,469	28,464	34,806	28,869	30,354	28,992	25,527
Not stated	724	540	500	318	313	290	253	215	332	448	329
Indigenous status											
Indigenous	28,545	29,323	28,733	26,765	27,024	21,364	28,337	24,829	26,461	26,480	24,668
Non-Indigenous	126,792	131,127	122,565	109,042	110,616	86,483	103,033	87,030	89,761	85,395	78,404
Not stated	13,289	11,549	9,987	5,369	4,945	3,018	3,368	2,724	3,355	3,522	2,914
Age at finalised appearance											
10-19 yrs	22,510	21,533	20,406	18,051	16,775	12,297	14,339	12,624	12,353	12,360	10,539
20-29 yrs	61,436	60,739	54,685	47,244	47,388	36,165	43,148	35,534	36,091	33,015	29,992
30-39 yrs	41,980	44,027	42,894	37,718	38,730	30,409	36,705	31,730	33,076	31,612	29,379
40-49 yrs	25,336	27,242	26,413	24,237	25,383	20,565	25,546	21,658	23,470	23,515	21,779
50-59 yrs	10,602	11,062	10,541	9,654	10,087	8,160	10,709	9,470	10,544	10,752	10,323
60+ yrs	4,296	4,302	4,116	3,795	3,899	3,047	3,983	3,364	3,810	3,945	3,795
Not stated	2,466	3,094	2,230	477	323	222	308	203	233	198	179
Total	168,626	171,999	161,285	141,176	142,585	110,865	134,738	114,583	119,577	115,397	105,986

a) The COVID-19 pandemic was declared in March 2020 and resulted in social restrictions which continued into 2021-22.

b) Breach of bail conditions were introduced as a criminal offence for child offenders from March 2023.

Table 6 Convicted person appearance rates^(a,b) by sex, Indigenous status and age, all courts – time series

	2014–15	2015–16	2016–17	2017–18	2018–19	2019–20 ^(c)	2020–21	2021–22	2022–23 ^(d)	2023–24	2024–25
	— rate per 100,000 persons —										
Sex											
Male	6,234.0	6,207.5	5,691.0	4,930.7	4,881.7	3,720.1	4,446.2	3,751.7	3,806.7	3,582.7	3,258.4
Female	1,981.2	2,073.3	1,948.4	1,641.7	1,635.5	1,252.6	1,508.7	1,231.1	1,262.4	1,173.9	1,008.9
Indigenous status											
Indigenous ^(e)	16,229.0	16,203.6	15,417.0	13,927.4	13,647.1	10,484.7	13,533.6	11,551.6	12,003.3	11,730.0	10,681.3
Non-Indigenous ^(e)	3,223.5	3,290.2	3,026.0	2,644.2	2,634.2	2,022.6	2,374.2	1,973.9	1,986.3	1,839.1	1,647.7
Age at finalised appearance											
10–19 yrs	3,706.3	3,525.1	3,291.7	2,855.7	2,601.8	1,872.6	2,154.0	1,864.9	1,779.3	1,735.7	1,447.0
20–29 yrs	9,014.9	8,845.2	7,892.7	6,760.5	6,730.6	5,127.2	6,192.9	5,124.8	5,048.7	4,432.7	3,898.2
30–39 yrs	6,539.1	6,771.3	6,479.2	5,569.8	5,590.8	4,295.6	5,092.2	4,326.6	4,394.1	4,078.1	3,691.5
40–49 yrs	3,883.5	4,153.1	3,998.9	3,645.1	3,796.9	3,058.1	3,781.4	3,187.8	3,405.8	3,341.3	3,026.4
50–59 yrs	1,769.2	1,827.7	1,723.3	1,560.0	1,609.8	1,282.1	1,653.6	1,438.5	1,578.8	1,591.4	1,512.8
60+ yrs	463.5	449.3	415.8	370.6	367.6	276.8	348.6	284.4	312.1	313.7	293.3
Total^(f)	4,103.5	4,128.3	3,806.8	3,271.0	3,242.6	2,474.9	2,961.9	2,478.0	2,523.0	2,370.0	2,124.2

a) Rate calculation is based on relevant population subgroup aged 10 years and over.

b) Rates calculations exclude individuals for whom the relevant population subgroup was not stated: 3,540 for sex, 7,493 for age, and 50,751 for indigenous status over the 11-year period.

c) The COVID-19 pandemic was declared in March 2020 and resulted in social restrictions which continued into 2021–22.

d) Breach of bail conditions were introduced as a criminal offence for child offenders from March 2023.

e) Crude rates are presented for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and non-Indigenous populations.

f) Total includes appearances where defendant age, indigenous status, and/or sex was not stated.

4.4 Adults in court

This section provides statistics on **person defendants** in the **adult court system**, which handles cases involving individuals aged 18 years and older at the time of the offence, or 17 years and older prior to February 2018. The year 2017–18 marks the transition of 17-year-old offenders to the youth justice system from February 2018.

An adult defendant refers to an alleged offender appearing in an adult criminal court charged with one or more criminal offences. Defendants may appear multiple times during the reference period for different charges. Adult courts covered in this report include Magistrate Courts (lower courts) as well as District and Supreme Courts (higher courts).

Statistics for company or organisation defendants are excluded from this section and are presented separately in Section 4.6.

4.4.1 Finalised adult appearances

In 2024–25, there were 112,901 person appearances finalised in the adult court system, of which 100,432 (89.0%) were convicted, while 10,754 (9.5%) were non-adjudicated (Table 7). Among the 102,147 adjudicated appearances in 2024–25, Magistrates Courts (98.6%) and Supreme Courts (97.9%) were more likely to result in a conviction compared to the District Courts (91.2%).

'Traffic and vehicle offences' and 'offences against justice procedures and orders' were the MSO in over half of the finalised appearances in 2024–25, collectively accounting for 57.1% (64,446 appearances). These were followed by 'assault' (9.5%) and 'theft' (8.5%).

In nearly nine in 10 (89.0%) finalised adult appearances, the defendant was convicted of at least one charge, with the lowest convictions apparent for appearances where the MSO was 'homicide' (48.5%) and 'sexual offences' (57.2%). Of the 2,185 finalised appearances with 'sexual offences' as the MSO, 63.5% were finalised in the District Courts. Within these cases, 53.9% resulted in conviction, 16.4% did not result in conviction, and 29.6% were non-adjudicated. Across other courts, approximately one in three appearances with 'sexual offences' as the MSO were not adjudicated (33.3% in the Supreme Courts and 32.7% in the Magistrates Courts), indicating that the prosecution may have discontinued proceedings. For adjudicated cases involving 'sexual offences', convictions were highest in the Magistrates Courts (93.7%), followed by the Supreme Courts (83.3%) and the District Courts (76.6%).

Of the 148 adult appearances finalised in the Magistrates Courts with 'robbery, blackmail, and extortion' as the MSO, 58.1% were not adjudicated, while 79.0% of adjudicated cases resulted in conviction.

Table 7 Finalised adult appearances by MSO, by court type, method of finalisation and outcome, 2024–25

	Supreme Court			District Court			Magistrates Court		
	Adjudicated		Non- adjudicated	Adjudicated		Non- adjudicated	Adjudicated		Non- adjudicated
	Convicted	Not convicted		Convicted	Not convicted		Convicted	Not convicted	
Most serious offence (MSO)	— count —								
01 Homicide	61	7	46	3	0	1	0	8	6
02 Assault	11	0	14	1,117	65	287	7,282	234	1,667
03 Sexual offences	10	2	6	748	228	411	492	33	255
04 Harm or endanger persons	1	0	0	292	4	49	1,357	52	438
05 Robbery, blackmail, and extortion	6	0	0	399	8	70	49	13	86
06 Burglary	3	0	0	207	0	22	2,566	27	475
07 Theft	5	1	0	47	0	10	8,324	100	1,134
08 Fraud and related offences	1	0	2	131	2	49	1,442	36	386
09 Drug offences	724	1	88	473	5	46	4,064	35	732
10 Weapons and explosives offences	4	0	1	9	0	2	2,713	24	316
11 Property damage	0	0	0	98	3	13	2,326	34	301
12 Public order, health, and safety offences	1	0	0	5	0	1	4,696	54	466
13 Traffic and vehicle offences	2	0	0	15	0	1	38,486	196	1,416
14 Offences against justice procedures and orders	12	7	1	121	39	18	21,812	489	1,831
15 Offences against government	0	0	0	0	0	1	113	4	44
16 Environmental offences	0	0	0	6	0	1	126	2	35
17 Miscellaneous offences	1	0	0	4	0	0	67	2	26
Total	842	18	158	3,675	354	982	95,915	1,343	9,614

4.4.2 Convicted adult appearances

This section presents the counts of adjudicated adult appearances resulting in conviction in the Supreme, District and Magistrates Courts between 2014–15 and 2024–25, categorised by MSO. In 2024–25 compared with 2023–24, the count of convicted appearances decreased in the Magistrates and District Court but increased slightly in the Supreme Court.

In the **Supreme Court**, the count of convicted appearances in 2024–25 rose to 842, an increase of 3.8% compared with 2023–24. This represents a 43.2% increase (254 additional appearances) compared with 2014–15, although convicted appearance counts remained lower than those recorded between 2016–17 and 2022–23 (Table 8). Over the past 11 years, 'drug offences' have consistently been the most common MSO among convicted appearances in the Supreme Court, accounting for more than eight in 10 cases in both 2014–15 (87.4%) and 2024–25 (86.0%).

Table 8 Convicted adult appearances by MSO, Supreme Court – time series

	2014–15	2015–16	2016–17	2017–18 ^(a)	2018–19	2019–20 ^(b)	2020–21	2021–22	2022–23	2023–24	2024–25
Most serious offence (MSO) ^(c)	— count —										
01 Homicide	45	45	51	60	52	50	39	43	59	52	61
02 Assault	9	11	19	20	25	22	23	13	12	12	11
03 Sexual offences	5	3	5	6	6	10	9	19	7	10	10
04 Harm or endanger persons	2	1	0	1	3	2	2	3	1	1	1
05 Robbery, blackmail, and extortion	0	0	3	9	2	4	3	4	7	3	6
06 Burglary	3	8	2	4	10	8	2	6	2	3	3
07 Theft	1	0	2	4	2	3	3	4	2	1	5
08 Fraud and related offences	1	0	4	2	0	1	3	2	1	1	1
09 Drug offences	514	642	928	1,155	1,010	974	991	953	852	714	724
10 Weapons and explosives offences	1	4	3	3	4	8	0	7	3	4	4
11 Property damage	0	1	1	3	0	1	2	0	3	1	0
12 Public order, health, and safety offences	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
13 Traffic and vehicle offences	2	4	2	1	5	4	1	2	2	0	2
14 Offences against justice procedures and orders	5	12	11	5	6	11	12	10	12	9	12
15 Offences against government	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	2	0	0
17 Miscellaneous offences	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Total	588	732	1,033	1,273	1,127	1,098	1,090	1,066	965	811	842

a) The transition of 17-year-olds to the youth justice system occurred in February 2018.

b) The COVID–19 pandemic was declared in March 2020 and resulted in social restrictions which continued into 2021–22.

c) Excludes ANZSOC 2023 offence divisions with zero values.

The count of convicted adult appearances in the **District Court**, while generally increasing over the past decade, decreased slightly in 2024–25 compared with 2023–24 (down 3.3%) (Table 9). In 2024–25, about one in three (30.4%) convicted appearances in the District Court involved 'assault' offences as the MSO, up from less than a quarter (23.1%) in 2014–15. The three most common MSO among District Court convictions over the past 11 years have consistently been 'assault', 'sexual offences' and 'drug offences'.

Table 9 Convicted adult appearances by MSO, District Court – time series

	2014–15	2015–16	2016–17	2017–18 ^(a)	2018–19	2019–20 ^(b)	2020–21	2021–22	2022–23	2023–24	2024–25
Most serious offence (MSO)	— count —										
01 Homicide	4	2	2	6	4	5	5	4	7	2	3
02 Assault	741	676	829	1,152	1,203	1,081	1,033	1,173	1,096	1,165	1,117
03 Sexual offences	591	607	732	695	786	683	708	753	700	750	748
04 Harm or endanger persons	146	162	177	174	202	168	143	223	183	229	292
05 Robbery, blackmail, and extortion	404	377	418	402	451	519	456	344	415	418	399
06 Burglary	244	205	215	240	259	255	236	261	240	212	207
07 Theft	49	58	54	54	72	57	50	45	37	49	47
08 Fraud and related offences	121	154	159	134	172	137	143	152	153	137	131
09 Drug offences	643	726	860	821	811	797	603	729	570	554	473
10 Weapons and explosives offences	6	8	14	11	8	8	8	14	9	13	9
11 Property damage	94	90	86	86	97	94	94	117	108	94	98
12 Public order, health, and safety offences	15	12	3	10	18	11	3	12	7	10	5
13 Traffic and vehicle offences	24	31	29	28	28	30	24	23	26	14	15
14 Offences against justice procedures and orders	113	93	99	108	117	116	108	111	109	147	121
15 Offences against government	5	2	4	1	3	0	0	1	1	1	0
16 Environmental offences	1	5	6	8	4	3	2	2	5	0	6
17 Miscellaneous offences	4	0	4	3	4	1	10	2	2	5	4
Total	3,205	3,208	3,691	3,933	4,239	3,965	3,626	3,966	3,668	3,800	3,675

a) The transition of 17-year-olds to the youth justice system occurred in February 2018.

b) The COVID-19 pandemic was declared in March 2020 and resulted in social restrictions which continued into 2021–22.

When comparing 2024–25 with 2014–15, the count of convicted adult appearances in the **Magistrates Court** declined by 39.6%, reaching the lowest level recorded over the past decade with 95,915 convicted appearances. A 7.9% decrease was apparent when comparing 2024–25 with 2023–24 (Table 10). Since 2014–15, approximately two in five convicted appearances in the Magistrates Court involved 'traffic and vehicle offences' as the MSO.

In 2024–25, convicted appearances with 'offences against justice procedures and orders' as the MSO accounted for nearly a quarter (22.7%) of convicted appearances, followed by 'theft' (8.7%) and 'assault' (7.6%). Convicted appearances for 'drug offences' experienced the largest year-on-year reduction, decreasing by 51.2% between 2023–24 and 2024–25.

Table 10 Convicted adult appearances by MSO, Magistrates Court – time series

	2014–15	2015–16	2016–17	2017–18 ^(a)	2018–19	2019–20 ^(b)	2020–21	2021–22	2022–23	2023–24	2024–25
Most serious offence (MSO) ^(c)	— count —										
02 Assault	10,169	9,840	9,744	9,132	7,154	4,553	6,564	6,504	7,282	7,491	7,282
03 Sexual offences	373	297	287	342	351	306	425	400	420	450	492
04 Harm or endanger persons	1,049	1,227	1,196	1,178	1,024	878	1,334	1,110	1,371	1,362	1,357
05 Robbery, blackmail, and extortion	21	13	14	13	17	12	12	11	19	31	49
06 Burglary	2,464	2,535	2,605	2,404	2,479	2,318	2,254	2,181	2,441	2,582	2,566
07 Theft	12,048	12,915	13,067	11,707	12,032	9,706	9,356	7,827	8,387	8,848	8,324
08 Fraud and related offences	3,890	3,845	3,864	3,447	3,266	2,521	2,796	1,884	1,881	1,809	1,442
09 Drug offences	18,881	19,591	17,800	15,817	16,125	12,988	16,845	11,070	9,634	8,328	4,064
10 Weapons and explosives offences	3,282	3,432	3,435	3,038	3,521	2,854	3,734	2,574	2,596	2,752	2,713
11 Property damage	2,877	2,970	2,962	2,730	2,600	1,968	3,029	2,638	2,556	2,473	2,326
12 Public order, health, and safety offences	18,736	14,608	12,811	10,856	10,540	7,850	9,676	7,409	6,896	6,109	4,696
13 Traffic and vehicle offences	60,397	63,647	55,687	44,934	46,544	35,566	43,060	37,433	41,607	38,749	38,486
14 Offences against justice procedures and orders	22,600	24,873	25,465	22,675	22,663	17,905	23,220	21,602	23,391	22,791	21,812
15 Offences against government	405	166	169	210	146	74	99	82	77	120	113
16 Environmental offences	305	376	384	291	341	325	458	246	122	139	126
17 Miscellaneous offences	1,189	1,348	724	168	136	100	171	172	122	66	67
Total	158,686	161,683	150,214	128,942	128,939	99,924	123,033	103,143	108,802	104,100	95,915

a) The transition of 17-year-olds to the youth justice system occurred in February 2018.

b) The COVID–19 pandemic was declared in March 2020 and resulted in social restrictions which continued into 2021–22.

c) Excludes ANZSOC 2023 offence divisions with zero values.

4.4.3 Finalised charges against adults

In 2024–25, there were 364,739 charges finalised in the adult court system in Queensland. Nearly nine in 10 charges (87.0%) were adjudicated, while 13.0% of charges were not adjudicated, meaning the prosecution may have withdrawn or discontinued charges prior to adjudication. The largest percentage of non-adjudicated charges was recorded in the District Court (25.8%), followed by the Supreme Court (17.5%) and the Magistrates Court (11.9%) (Table 11).

In the Supreme Court, the largest share of adjudicated charges in 2024–25 related to 'drug offences' (69.7%). In the District Court, 'sexual offences' accounted for the largest share of adjudicated charges (21.5%), followed closely by 'drug offences' (19.4%) and 'assault' (19.0%). In the Magistrates Court, the most common adjudicated charges were 'offences against justice procedures and orders' (29.5%), followed by 'traffic and vehicle regulatory offences' (23.4%). Of all charges that were adjudicated across all courts in 2024–25, 98.5% resulted in conviction.

Table 11 Finalised charges against adults by MSO, by court type, method of finalisation and outcome, 2024–25

Most serious offence (MSO)	Supreme Court			District Court			Magistrates Court		
	Adjudicated		Non-adjudicated	Adjudicated		Non-adjudicated	Adjudicated		Non-adjudicated
	Convicted	Not convicted		Convicted	Not convicted		Convicted	Not convicted	
	— count —								
01 Homicide	63	9	59	3	0	1	0	9	16
02 Assault	166	37	218	3,397	169	1,765	11,310	454	3,831
03 Sexual offences	79	7	107	3,377	658	2,559	1,193	96	2,424
04 Harm or endanger persons	30	1	5	716	12	296	2,723	132	1,421
05 Robbery, blackmail, and extortion	20	0	6	582	12	167	90	19	290
06 Burglary	41	1	6	1,024	3	307	7,940	99	2,641
07 Theft	394	2	25	1,137	4	231	38,433	477	5,428
08 Fraud and related offences	84	0	5	684	2	379	9,702	100	3,344
09 Drug offences	4,213	4	762	3,637	7	330	30,523	197	3,922
10 Weapons and explosives offences	340	0	54	230	0	52	7,013	57	842
11 Property damage	22	0	4	562	14	167	7,335	135	1,126
12 Public order, health, and safety offences	193	1	0	197	0	4	18,436	260	1,587
13 Traffic and vehicle offences	99	0	2	320	1	42	68,135	360	3,547
14 Offences against justice procedures and orders	231	11	34	1,969	57	220	84,945	1,268	8,672
15 Offences against government	0	0	0	2	0	10	241	14	84
16 Environmental offences	1	0	0	18	0	7	445	4	129
17 Miscellaneous offences	3	0	0	4	0	0	378	6	232
Total	5,979	73	1,287	17,859	939	6,537	288,842	3,687	39,536

4.4.4 Convicted charges against adults

This section presents the counts of convicted charges against adults in the Supreme, District and Magistrates Courts between 2014–15 and 2024–25, categorised by MSO. Compared to the previous year, the count of convicted charges in 2024–25 increased in the Supreme and District Court but declined in the Magistrates Court. In 2024–25, the count of convicted charges in the **Supreme Court** increased for the first time following a period of gradual decline since peaking in 2017–18. The total reached 5,979 convicted charges in 2024–25, a 6.0% increase compared with 2023–24 (Table 12). The largest growth was observed in convicted charges for 'assault', which grew from 41 in 2023–24 to 166 in 2024–25 (up 225.5%). Across the time series, charges for 'drug offences' have consistently been the most common convicted offence in the Supreme Court. Convicted 'drug offences' charges peaked at 6,810 in 2017–18 before generally declining to 4,213 in 2024–25 (down 38.1%). In 2024–25, 'theft' and 'weapons and explosives offences' were the next most common convicted offences, comprising 6.6% and 5.7% of convicted Supreme Court charges, respectively.

Table 12 Convicted charges against adults by MSO, Supreme Court – time series

	2014–15	2015–16	2016–17	2017–18 ^(a)	2018–19	2019–20 ^(b)	2020–21	2021–22	2022–23	2023–24	2024–25
Most serious offence (MSO)	— count —										
01 Homicide	47	49	55	64	56	53	48	46	61	56	63
02 Assault	63	66	146	198	148	126	114	115	87	51	166
03 Sexual offences	31	61	45	58	28	70	83	453	121	100	79
04 Harm or endanger persons	11	8	27	27	30	18	12	27	18	22	30
05 Robbery, blackmail, and extortion	2	18	7	29	22	20	17	19	21	17	20
06 Burglary	50	81	115	77	104	61	55	211	22	16	41
07 Theft	324	439	747	820	919	870	624	583	516	386	394
08 Fraud and related offences	33	73	218	119	324	186	57	72	42	52	84
09 Drug offences	3,161	3,875	5,600	6,810	6,350	5,981	5,905	5,914	5,169	4,180	4,213
10 Weapons and explosives offences	251	245	404	500	488	555	504	489	489	333	340
11 Property damage	21	12	29	48	39	25	38	29	31	14	22
12 Public order, health, and safety offences	48	86	95	112	96	129	97	84	125	139	193
13 Traffic and vehicle offences	120	185	292	412	407	400	294	175	146	96	99
14 Offences against justice procedures and orders	162	249	386	546	527	502	334	339	277	178	231
15 Offences against government	0	1	5	1	4	1	0	1	5	0	0
16 Environmental offences	2	0	6	2	4	0	0	1	1	1	1
17 Miscellaneous offences	0	4	1	3	1	0	1	3	0	1	3
Total	4,326	5,452	8,178	9,826	9,547	8,997	8,183	8,561	7,131	5,642	5,979

a) The transition of 17-year-olds to the youth justice system occurred in February 2018.

b) The COVID-19 pandemic was declared in March 2020 and resulted in social restrictions which continued into 2021–22.

The count of convicted charges against adults in the **District Court** had been declining since 2019–20, but this trend reversed in 2024–25, with a 7.2% increase compared with the previous year, rising to a total of 17,859 convicted charges (Table 13). In 2014–15, 'drug offences' were the most common convicted offence, accounting for 3,637 convicted charges (20.4%). However, 'assault' and 'sexual offences' have steadily increased over time, and by 2024–25, each accounted for approximately one in five convicted charges in the District Court.

When comparing 2024–25 with 2023–24, the largest increases in convicted charges in the District Court were observed for 'environmental offences' (up 100.0%), 'fraud and related offences' (up 37.1%), 'harm or endanger persons' (up 30.9%), 'offences against justice procedures and orders' (up 17.6%), and 'sexual offences' (up 17.5%). Together, these offences represented 37.8% of all convicted charges in the District Court. Over the same period, convicted charges for 'traffic and vehicle offences' decreased by 19.6%, while fluctuations in counts were observed for other small volume offence categories.

Table 13 Convicted charges against adults by MSO, District Court – time series

	2014–15	2015–16	2016–17	2017–18 ^(a)	2018–19	2019–20 ^(b)	2020–21	2021–22	2022–23	2023–24	2024–25
Most serious offence (MSO)	— count —										
01 Homicide	4	2	2	6	4	5	5	4	7	2	3
02 Assault	1,643	1,601	2,147	3,051	3,242	2,841	2,727	2,998	3,136	3,243	3,397
03 Sexual offences	2,519	2,773	3,180	2,763	3,462	2,796	3,105	3,414	2,863	2,874	3,377
04 Harm or endanger persons	385	396	495	488	514	516	459	546	584	547	716
05 Robbery, blackmail, and extortion	602	597	623	593	639	751	676	504	553	581	582
06 Burglary	1,374	1,402	1,367	1,336	1,347	1,390	1,156	1,184	981	1,011	1,024
07 Theft	1,710	1,832	1,739	1,869	2,316	2,557	1,858	1,467	1,088	1,188	1,137
08 Fraud and related offences	891	1,220	1,265	991	1,095	1,161	925	908	687	499	684
09 Drug offences	3,439	4,079	5,212	5,403	5,163	5,550	4,349	5,187	3,802	3,626	3,637
10 Weapons and explosives offences	240	267	314	394	340	454	303	288	220	223	230
11 Property damage	451	468	992	697	690	802	540	606	538	555	562
12 Public order, health, and safety offences	296	291	413	426	406	456	313	257	168	208	197
13 Traffic and vehicle offences	673	650	683	965	1,002	1,140	678	531	429	398	320
14 Offences against justice procedures and orders	1,036	1,272	1,294	2,728	2,231	2,430	2,154	2,176	1,823	1,675	1,969
15 Offences against government	25	14	55	20	19	11	1	4	18	10	2
16 Environmental offences	5	21	69	37	94	9	15	6	9	9	18
17 Miscellaneous offences	10	5	12	11	20	27	16	12	3	13	4
Total	15,303	16,890	19,862	21,778	22,584	22,896	19,280	20,092	16,909	16,662	17,859

a) The transition of 17-year-olds to the youth justice system occurred in February 2018.

b) The COVID-19 pandemic was declared in March 2020 and resulted in social restrictions which continued into 2021–22.

The count of convicted charges against adults in the **Magistrates Court** decreased in 2024–25 compared with the previous year, falling by 5.3% (16,007 fewer charges) (Table 14). In 2024–25, the most common convicted charges were for 'offences against justice procedures and orders' (29.4%), 'traffic and vehicle offences' (23.6%), 'theft' (13.3%), and 'drug offences' (10.6%).

When compared with the previous year, the count of convicted charges decreased in 2024–25 for 'drug offences' (down 28.9% or 12,409 charges), 'public order, health, and safety offences' (down 10.3% or 2,123 charges) and 'miscellaneous offences' (down 37.0% or 222 charges).

Table 14 Convicted charges against adults by MSO, Magistrates Court – time series

	2014–15	2015–16	2016–17	2017–18 ^(a)	2018–19	2019–20 ^(b)	2020–21	2021–22	2022–23	2023–24	2024–25
Most serious offence (MSO) ^(c)	— count —										
02 Assault	14,638	14,744	14,932	14,205	10,967	6,692	9,516	9,652	10,876	11,451	11,310
03 Sexual offences	569	531	499	680	614	590	845	768	749	1,050	1,193
04 Harm or endanger persons	1,598	1,983	1,923	1,902	1,814	1,488	2,247	2,112	2,482	2,625	2,723
05 Robbery, blackmail, and extortion	28	24	23	17	22	31	26	19	31	55	90
06 Burglary	6,144	6,324	6,867	6,368	6,160	6,362	5,821	6,136	7,791	8,104	7,940
07 Theft	29,014	31,925	36,239	34,275	36,801	34,790	33,899	30,398	34,649	39,503	38,433
08 Fraud and related offences	17,206	17,636	21,495	18,836	17,894	14,981	15,642	11,589	11,135	10,711	9,702
09 Drug offences	52,761	60,738	59,510	53,566	57,380	49,527	67,629	47,933	43,770	42,932	30,523
10 Weapons and explosives offences	5,954	6,495	6,945	6,217	7,145	6,230	8,243	6,057	6,369	6,657	7,013
11 Property damage	6,706	7,765	8,314	7,412	6,459	5,518	8,061	7,263	7,031	7,202	7,335
12 Public order, health, and safety offences	31,833	27,546	26,467	23,229	22,784	18,275	23,216	19,039	19,883	20,559	18,436
13 Traffic and vehicle offences	91,765	98,621	89,612	73,083	76,911	61,112	77,093	65,109	71,392	68,480	68,135
14 Offences against justice procedures and orders	53,865	62,966	69,308	61,627	66,404	58,455	78,969	73,737	81,134	84,267	84,945
15 Offences against government	631	370	347	487	366	186	288	239	308	233	241
16 Environmental offences	668	946	930	1,211	1,177	1,113	1,935	928	589	420	445
17 Miscellaneous offences	1,910	2,409	1,426	460	729	388	950	430	362	600	378
Total	315,290	341,023	344,837	303,575	313,627	265,738	334,380	281,409	298,551	304,849	288,842

a) The transition of 17-year-olds to the youth justice system occurred in February 2018.

b) The COVID-19 pandemic was declared in March 2020 and resulted in social restrictions which continued into 2021–22.

c) Excludes ANZSOC 2023 offence divisions with zero values.

4.4.5 Penalties imposed on adults

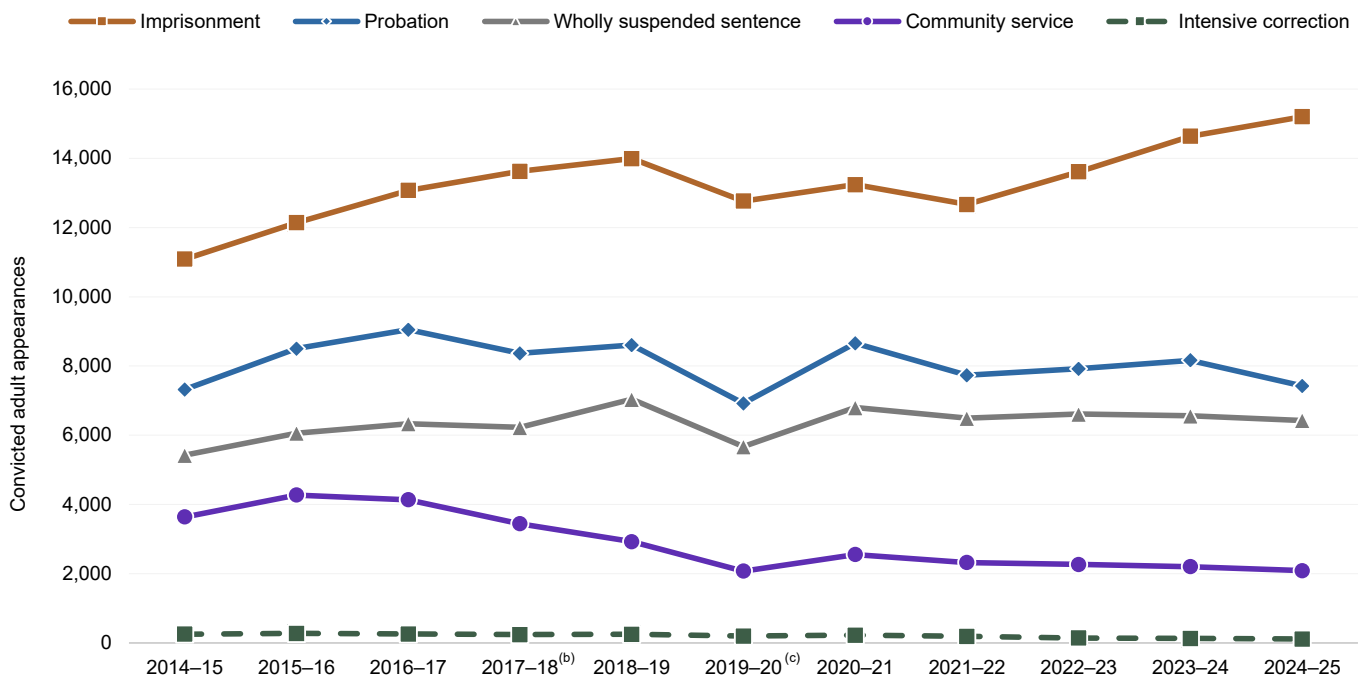
This section presents the **most serious penalty** imposed by adult courts in convicted appearances. While a defendant may receive multiple penalties upon conviction, only the most serious penalty is presented here. A custodial sentence involves a term of imprisonment and collectively can include sentences which are either partially or wholly suspended. In this report, partially suspended sentences are grouped with 'imprisonment', as both imprisonment and partially suspended sentences involve a period of sentenced incarceration. 'Wholly suspended sentences' are reported on separately (see *Glossary*).

Among the range of penalties that can be imposed on adult offenders, the top five most serious penalties, in order of severity, are 'imprisonment', 'intensive correction', 'wholly suspended sentence', 'community service', and 'probation'. These penalties were imposed in 31,250 convicted person appearances in the adult court system in 2024–25, representing an overall increase of 1.4% compared with the previous year (Figure 7).

When comparing 2024–25 with 2014–15, the overall count of the top five most serious penalties increased by 12.7%, primarily due to increases in 'imprisonment' penalties (up 4,112 penalties or 37.1%). Over the same period, imposed 'community service' penalties declined by 42.7% (1,554 fewer penalties).

Except for some fluctuations in conjunction with the transition of 17-year-olds out of the adult court system and the COVID-19 pandemic, penalty counts for 'probation' and 'wholly suspended sentences' have remained relatively stable since 2015–16. In contrast, 'imprisonment' penalties have steadily increased since 2020–21, rising by 14.8% between 2021–22 and 2024–25. Over the same period, 'intensive correction' and 'community service' penalty counts both declined, dropping by 49.3% and 18.4%, respectively.

Figure 7 Convicted adult appearances by most serious penalty^(a), by the five most serious, all courts – time series



- a) Imprisonment includes partially suspended sentence, as a period of imprisonment is required to be served prior to suspension.
- b) The transition of 17-year-olds to the youth justice system occurred in February 2018.
- c) The COVID-19 pandemic was declared in March 2020 and resulted in social restrictions which continued into 2021–22.

4.4.5.1 Penalties by court type

In 2024–25, and consistently over the past decade, the majority of convicted adult appearances in the **Supreme Court** resulted in 'imprisonment' as the most serious penalty, accounting for 87.4% of cases. Approximately one in 10 convicted appearances (ranging from 7.3% to 11.6% across the time series) resulted in a 'wholly suspended sentence' (Table 15).

Following a period of decline, the count of 'imprisonment' penalties in 2024–25 increased by 6.2% compared with 2023–24. However, the count remained 34.5% lower than the peak recorded in 2017–18. In contrast, the count of convicted appearances resulting in a 'wholly suspended sentence' penalty dropped to its lowest level since 2014–15, with 76 convicted appearances — a 15.6% decrease compared with the previous year.

Table 15 Convicted adult appearances by most serious penalty^(a), Supreme Court – time series

	2014–15	2015–16	2016–17	2017–18 ^(b)	2018–19	2019–20 ^(c)	2020–21	2021–22	2022–23	2023–24	2024–25
	— count —										
Imprisonment ^(d)	500	610	855	1,123	989	984	958	925	809	693	736
Intensive correction	3	9	5	1	5	4	1	1	2	1	0
Wholly suspended sentence	67	84	120	107	89	80	89	103	111	90	76
Community service	2	4	6	4	3	2	3	6	6	0	8
Probation	7	11	24	21	28	21	24	18	28	11	11
Fine	2	4	16	9	6	2	7	3	5	7	3
Good behaviour order	2	1	2	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
Driver licence disqualification	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Nominal penalty ^(e)	5	7	5	7	5	5	8	10	4	9	8
Total	588	732	1,033	1,273	1,127	1,098	1,090	1,066	965	811	842

a) In descending order of seriousness.

b) The transition of 17-year-olds to the youth justice system occurred in February 2018.

c) The COVID-19 pandemic was declared in March 2020 and resulted in social restrictions which continued into 2021–22.

d) Includes partially suspended sentence, as a period of imprisonment is required to be served prior to suspension of the remainder.

e) Includes convicted not further punished.

Across the presented time series, convicted appearances in the **District Court** most commonly resulted in 'imprisonment' as the most serious penalty (Table 16). In 2024–25, nearly eight in 10 (77.0%) convicted appearances resulted in 'imprisonment', followed by 'wholly suspended sentence' (11.6%) and 'probation' (5.4%).

When comparing 2024–25 with 2023–24, increases were apparent in the count of 'imprisonment' (up 1.0%), 'community service' (up 18.4%), and 'compensation/restitution' (up 100.0%) penalties.

'Compensation/restitution' penalties remained one of the least common penalties imposed, reaching a series peak of 12 in 2024–25. Declines were recorded across all other penalties, most notably for 'intensive correction' (down 47.1%), 'nominal penalty' (down 28.1%), 'probation' (down 19.0%), and 'wholly suspended sentence' (down 17.3%).

Table 16 Convicted adult appearances by most serious penalty^(a), District Court – time series

	2014–15	2015–16	2016–17	2017–18 ^(b)	2018–19	2019–20 ^(c)	2020–21	2021–22	2022–23	2023–24	2024–25
	— count —										
Imprisonment ^(d)	2,202	2,123	2,470	2,770	2,924	2,753	2,640	2,740	2,577	2,799	2,828
Intensive correction	42	26	26	24	37	38	26	23	7	17	9
Wholly suspended sentence	438	562	544	544	627	613	540	622	577	515	426
Community service	120	96	132	81	88	72	50	62	60	38	45
Probation	207	204	309	287	332	300	194	283	238	247	200
Fine	121	134	118	128	133	109	106	133	127	77	74
Compensation/Restitution	1	4	11	10	11	6	6	7	6	6	12
Good behaviour order	30	30	33	55	38	31	22	28	29	37	35
Driver licence disqualification	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0
Nominal penalty ^(e)	44	29	48	33	49	42	42	67	47	64	46
Total	3,205	3,208	3,691	3,933	4,239	3,965	3,626	3,966	3,668	3,800	3,675

a) In descending order of seriousness.

b) The transition of 17-year-olds to the youth justice system occurred in February 2018.

c) The COVID-19 pandemic was declared in March 2020 and resulted in social restrictions which continued into 2021–22.

d) Includes partially suspended sentence, as a period of imprisonment is required to be served prior to suspension of the remainder.

e) Includes convicted not further punished.

In 2024–25, over six in 10 convicted **Magistrates Court** appearances resulted in a 'fine' (62.1%) as the most serious penalty (Table 17). 'Fine' has consistently been the most common penalty across the time series for all convicted appearances in the Magistrates Court. However, when comparing 2024–25 with 2014–15, there was a general decline in the use of this penalty, with the count of convicted appearances resulting in a 'fine' decreasing by 48.7%. This decline aligns with the overall reduction in convicted Magistrates Court appearances over this same period (down 39.6%).

Meanwhile, 'imprisonment' as the most serious penalty has become increasingly common overall. In 2024–25, 12.1% of all convicted appearances resulted in 'imprisonment', representing a 1.4 percentage point increase when compared with 2023–24, reaching an 11-year peak of 11,638. In contrast, 11-year lows in counts were recorded for 'fine', 'intensive correction', 'good behaviour order', and 'compensation/restitution' penalties.

Table 17 Convicted adult appearances by most serious penalty^(a), Magistrates Court – time series

	2014–15	2015–16	2016–17	2017–18 ^(b)	2018–19	2019–20 ^(c)	2020–21	2021–22	2022–23	2023–24	2024–25
	— count —										
Imprisonment ^(d)	8,388	9,408	9,749	9,733	10,079	9,030	9,640	9,003	10,226	11,146	11,638
Intensive correction	206	238	225	212	203	152	194	162	129	108	103
Wholly suspended sentence	4,917	5,413	5,669	5,574	6,321	4,975	6,169	5,767	5,922	5,954	5,926
Community service	3,516	4,171	3,997	3,357	2,832	1,998	2,501	2,254	2,200	2,163	2,031
Probation	7,108	8,284	8,717	8,055	8,244	6,597	8,439	7,432	7,652	7,905	7,213
Other penalties ^(e)	0	1	0	4	3	1	2	1	0	1	1
Fine	115,986	116,828	105,637	87,793	86,970	65,920	82,830	67,243	70,624	64,688	59,536
Compensation/Restitution	1,007	959	922	818	936	758	879	844	786	780	621
Good behaviour order	9,888	9,655	8,842	7,690	7,729	6,065	7,094	5,377	5,339	5,029	3,333
Driver licence disqualification	642	773	670	449	505	464	551	590	906	911	833
Nominal penalty ^(f)	7,028	5,953	5,786	5,257	5,117	3,964	4,734	4,470	5,018	5,415	4,680
Total	158,686	161,683	150,214	128,942	128,939	99,924	123,033	103,143	108,802	104,100	95,915

a) In descending order of seriousness.

b) The transition of 17-year-olds to the youth justice system occurred in February 2018.

c) The COVID-19 pandemic was declared in March 2020 and resulted in social restrictions which continued into 2021–22.

d) Includes partially suspended sentence, as a period of imprisonment is required to be served prior to suspension of the remainder.

e) Includes drug and alcohol treatment orders; licence disqualification orders (other than driver licence).

f) Includes convicted not further punished.

4.4.5.2 Penalties by court type and most serious offence

A defendant may have one or multiple charges (offences) finalised in a single appearance, and they may also receive more than one penalty. However, only the most serious offence and most serious penalty per finalised convicted appearance are presented below (see *Explanatory Notes* for more detail).

In 2024–25, 'drug offences' were the most common MSO among convicted adult appearances in the **Supreme Court**, accounting for 86.0% of cases (Table 18). Other appearances were related to 'homicide' (7.2%), 'assault' (1.5%), 'offences against justice procedures and orders' (1.4%) and 'sexual offences' (1.2%). Among appearances with 'drug offences' as the MSO, 86.3% resulted in 'imprisonment' as the most serious penalty, while 10.2% resulted in a 'wholly suspended sentence'. 'Imprisonment' was the most common penalty for all offence categories in the Supreme Court, with 100.0% of convicted appearances for 'homicide' and 'sexual offences' and 90.1% of convicted appearances for 'assault' resulting in this penalty.

Table 18 Convicted adult appearances by MSO, by most serious penalty^(a), Supreme Court, 2024–25

	Imprisonment ^(b)	Intensive correction	Wholly suspended sentence	Community service	Probation	Fine	Nominal penalty ^(c)	Total
Most serious offence ^(d)	— count —							
01 Homicide	61	0	0	0	0	0	0	61
02 Assault	10	0	1	0	0	0	0	11
03 Sexual offences	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	10
04 Harm or endanger persons	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
05 Robbery, blackmail, and extortion	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	6
06 Burglary	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
07 Theft	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
08 Fraud and related offences	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
09 Drug offences	625	0	74	6	11	3	5	724
10 Weapons and explosives offences	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
12 Public order, health, and safety offences	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
13 Traffic and vehicle offences	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
14 Offences against justice procedures and orders	6	0	1	2	0	0	3	12
17 Miscellaneous offences	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Total	736	0	76	8	11	3	8	842

a) In descending order of seriousness.

b) Includes partially suspended sentence, as a period of imprisonment is required to be served prior to suspension of the remainder.

c) Includes convicted not further punished.

d) Excludes ANZSOC 2023 offence divisions with zero values.

In 2024–25, 'assault' was the most common MSO among convicted adult appearances in the **District Court**, accounting for 30.4% of cases. Of these appearances, eight in 10 (80.3%) resulted in 'imprisonment' as the most serious penalty (Table 19). The second most common MSO was 'sexual offences' (20.4%), with approximately seven in 10 sexual offence convicted appearances resulting in 'imprisonment' (71.4%). Other relatively common offences included 'drug offences' (12.9%) and 'robbery, blackmail, and extortion' (10.9%). For 'drug offences', around three in five (59.2%) convictions resulted in 'imprisonment', while one in five (22.2%) convictions resulted in a 'wholly suspended sentence'. In contrast, the majority of convictions for 'robbery, blackmail, and extortion' (92.7%) resulted in 'imprisonment'.

Table 19 Convicted adult appearances by MSO, by most serious penalty^(a), District Court, 2024–25

	Imprisonment ^(b)	Intensive correction	Wholly suspended sentence	Community service	Probation	Fine	Compensation/ Restitution	Good behaviour order	Nominal penalty ^(c)	Total
Most serious offence ^(d)	— count —									
01 Homicide	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
02 Assault	897	4	104	13	56	18	7	11	7	1,117
03 Sexual offences	534	4	123	9	56	9	1	11	1	748
04 Harm or endanger persons	240	0	16	2	23	4	2	2	3	292
05 Robbery, blackmail, and extortion	370	0	20	1	7	0	0	1	0	399
06 Burglary	186	0	14	1	6	0	0	0	0	207
07 Theft	35	0	5	1	2	1	0	0	3	47
08 Fraud and related offences	106	0	21	2	1	0	0	1	0	131
09 Drug offences	280	1	105	11	33	29	0	6	8	473
10 Weapons and explosives offences	7	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	9
11 Property damage	72	0	6	5	8	2	2	1	2	98
12 Public order, health, and safety offences	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	5
13 Traffic and vehicle offences	15	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	15
14 Offences against justice procedures and orders	73	0	11	0	6	9	0	2	20	121
16 Environmental offences	4	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	6
17 Miscellaneous offences	3	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	4
Total	2,828	9	426	45	200	74	12	35	46	3,675

a) In descending order of seriousness.

b) Includes partially suspended sentence, as a period of imprisonment is required to be served prior to suspension of the remainder.

c) Includes convicted not further punished.

d) Excludes ANZSOC 2023 offence divisions with zero values.

In 2024–25, just over six in 10 (62.1%) convicted adult appearances in the **Magistrates Court** resulted in a 'fine' as the most serious penalty, followed by 'imprisonment' (12.1%) (Table 20). 'Traffic and vehicle offences' were the most common MSO among convicted Magistrates Court appearances in 2024–25 (40.1%), followed by 'offences against justice procedures and orders' (22.7%), 'theft' (8.7%), and 'assault' (7.6%).

Imposition of a 'fine' as the most serious penalty varied depending on the MSO. 'Fines' were applied in nine in 10 (89.8%) convicted appearances involving 'traffic and vehicle offences', nearly half (47.9%) involving 'offences against justice procedures and orders', and over two in five (44.6%) involving 'theft'. For convicted appearances with 'assault' as the MSO, the most common serious penalty was 'imprisonment' (37.3%), followed by 'probation' (19.3%), and 'fine' (18.6%).

Table 20 Convicted adult appearances by MSO, by most serious penalty^(a), Magistrates Court, 2024–25

	Imprisonment ^(b)	Intensive correction	Wholly suspended sentence	Community service	Probation	Other penalties ^(c)	Fine	Compensation/Restitution	Good behaviour order	Drivers licence disqual.	Nominal penalty ^(d)	Total
Most serious offence ^(e)	— count —											
02 Assault	2,714	18	851	493	1,409	0	1,352	60	264	0	121	7,282
03 Sexual offences	108	0	69	23	102	0	147	5	22	0	16	492
04 Harm or endanger persons	358	1	123	37	261	0	371	9	167	0	30	1,357
05 Robbery, blackmail, and extortion	37	0	5	2	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	49
06 Burglary	1,554	12	336	77	328	0	142	5	31	0	81	2,566
07 Theft	1,515	23	751	252	810	0	3,711	296	373	0	593	8,324
08 Fraud and related offences	193	6	194	87	180	0	616	60	39	0	67	1,442
09 Drug offences	442	6	320	58	439	1	2,134	0	400	0	264	4,064
10 Weapons and explosives offences	197	8	111	53	394	0	1,584	1	161	0	204	2,713
11 Property damage	256	3	164	179	308	0	969	169	173	0	105	2,326
12 Public order, health, and safety offences	157	1	135	172	191	0	3,273	5	331	0	431	4,696
+13 Traffic and vehicle offences	875	10	736	209	845	0	34,551	1	233	825	201	38,486
14 Offences against justice procedures and orders	3,219	15	2,124	384	1,932	0	10,451	7	1,118	8	2,554	21,812
15 Offences against government	5	0	0	3	4	0	83	0	16	0	2	113
16 Environmental offences	5	0	7	2	3	0	95	3	2	0	9	126
17 Miscellaneous offences	3	0	0	0	2	0	57	0	3	0	2	67
Total	11,638	103	5,926	2,031	7,213	1	59,536	621	3,333	833	4,680	95,915

a) In descending order of seriousness.

b) Includes partially suspended sentence, as a period of imprisonment is required to be served prior to suspension of the remainder.

c) Includes drug and alcohol treatment orders; licence disqualification orders (other than driver licence).

d) Includes convicted not further punished.

e) Excludes ANZSOC 2023 offence divisions with zero values.

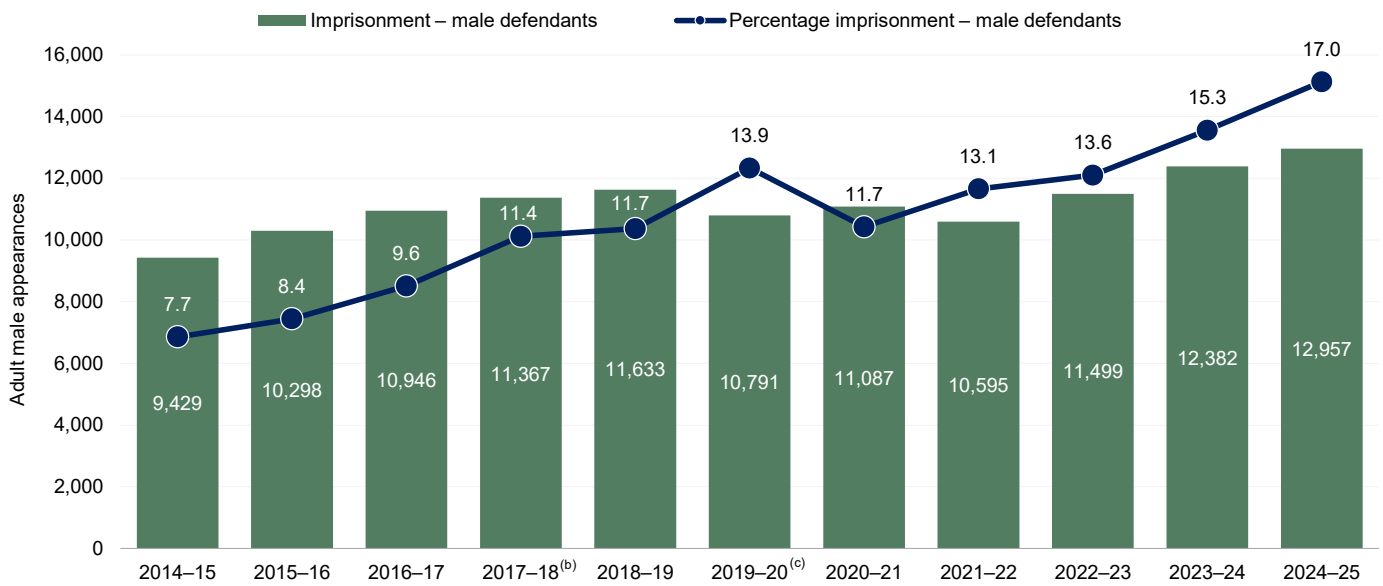
4.4.5.3 Imprisonment penalties

In 2024–25, the count of convicted adult appearances resulting in 'imprisonment' increased for males (up 4.6%) compared with the previous year, continuing the general upward trend observed over the past decade (Figure 8). In contrast, a marginal decrease was observed for females (down 0.5%) during the same period (Figure 9).

When comparing 2024–25 with 2014–15, convicted appearances resulting in 'imprisonment' increased for both males (up 37.4%) and, to a slightly lesser extent, females (up 35.1%). As a result, 'imprisonment' accounted for a larger share of penalties for convicted appearances over time, with 2024–25 exceeding pre-COVID levels for both males (17.0% of penalties) and females (9.4%).

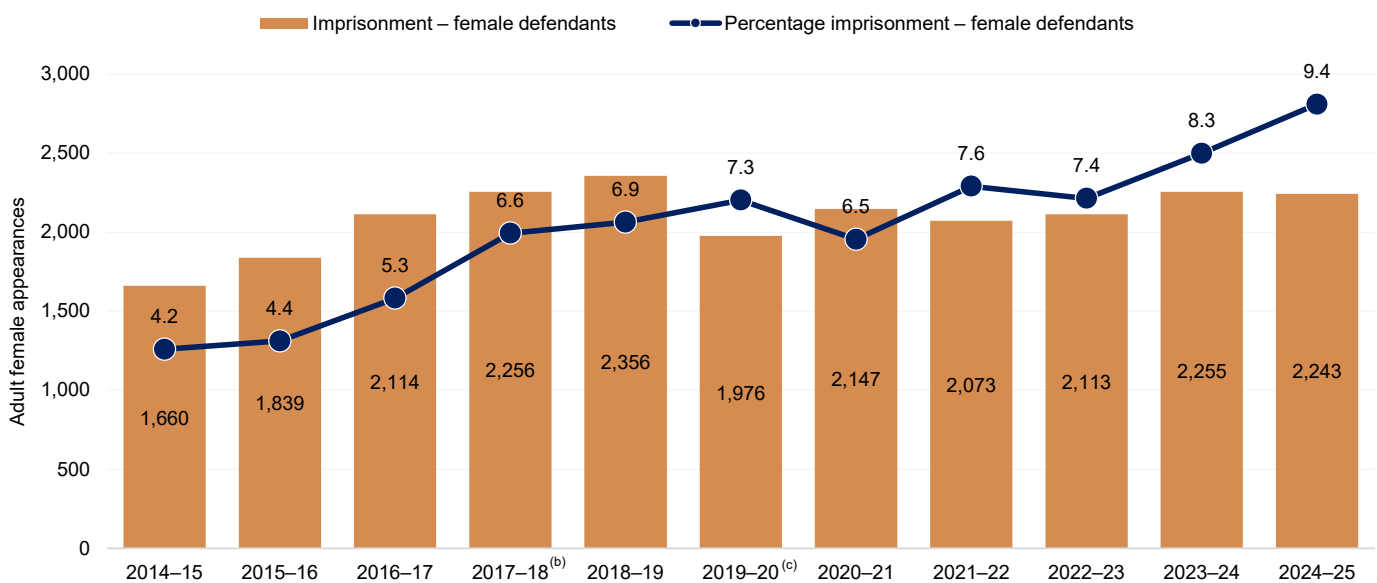
Notably, while the count of convicted appearances resulting in 'imprisonment' declined in 2019–20, coinciding with the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, 'imprisonment' as a percentage of all outcomes increased. This can be attributed in part to the postponement of less serious matters until normal court operations resumed following closures, which caused a spike in 'imprisonment' as a percentage of all penalties, particularly for males.

Figure 8 Convicted adult male appearances with a sentence of imprisonment^(a), all courts – time series



- a) Includes partially suspended sentence, as a period of imprisonment is required to be served prior to suspension of the remainder.
- b) The transition of 17-year-olds to the youth justice system occurred in February 2018.
- c) The COVID-19 pandemic was declared in March 2020 and resulted in social restrictions which continued into 2021–22.

Figure 9 Convicted adult female appearances with a sentence of imprisonment^(a), all courts – time series



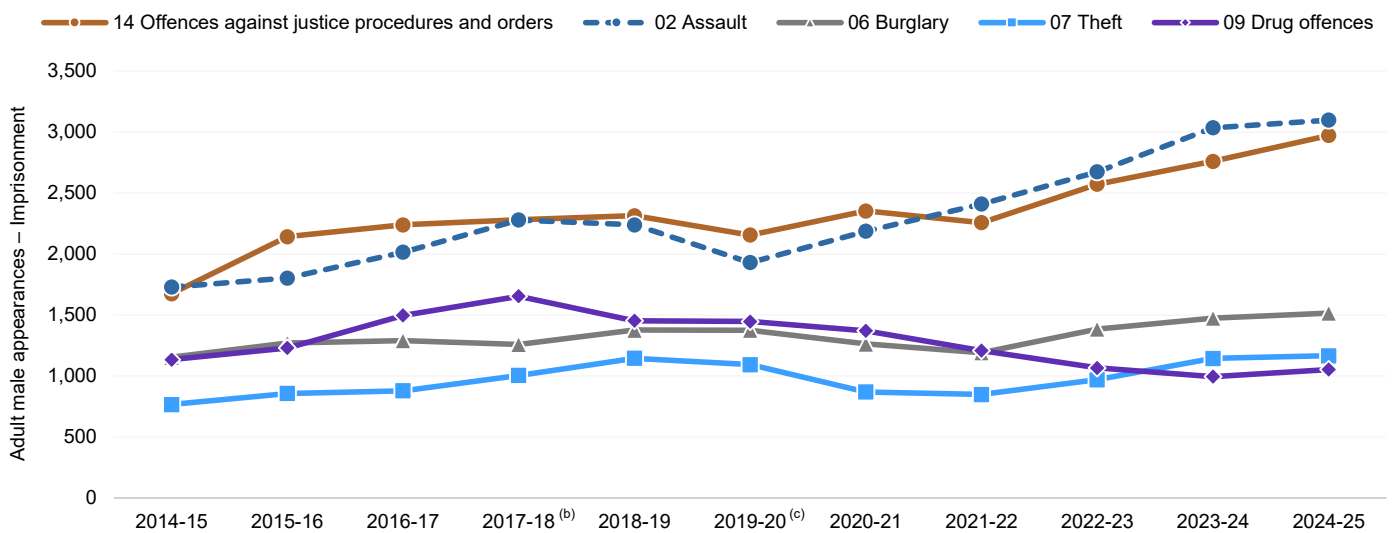
- a) Includes partially suspended sentence, as a period of imprisonment is required to be served prior to suspension of the remainder.
- b) The transition of 17-year-olds to the youth justice system occurred in February 2018.
- c) The COVID-19 pandemic was declared in March 2020 and resulted in social restrictions which continued into 2021–22.

Figure 10 and Figure 11 show the top five MSOs for convicted appearances in 2024–25 which resulted in 'imprisonment' for male and female offenders. While the order and volume of offences varied by gender, the top five MSOs resulting in 'imprisonment' were consistent between males and females. These included 'assault', 'drug offences', 'offences against justice procedures and orders', 'theft' and 'burglary'.

The most common convicted appearances with 'imprisonment' imposed for male and female offenders was for 'assault'. Comparing 2024–25 with 2014–15, 'imprisonment' for 'assault' increased for males (up 79.1%) and females (up 80.3%). While a decline was observed in 2019–20, coinciding with the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, 'imprisonment' for 'assault' as the MSO steadily increased in the following years, rising by 60.4% for males and 73.8% for females by 2024–25, making it the most prevalent MSO resulting in 'imprisonment' for both genders.

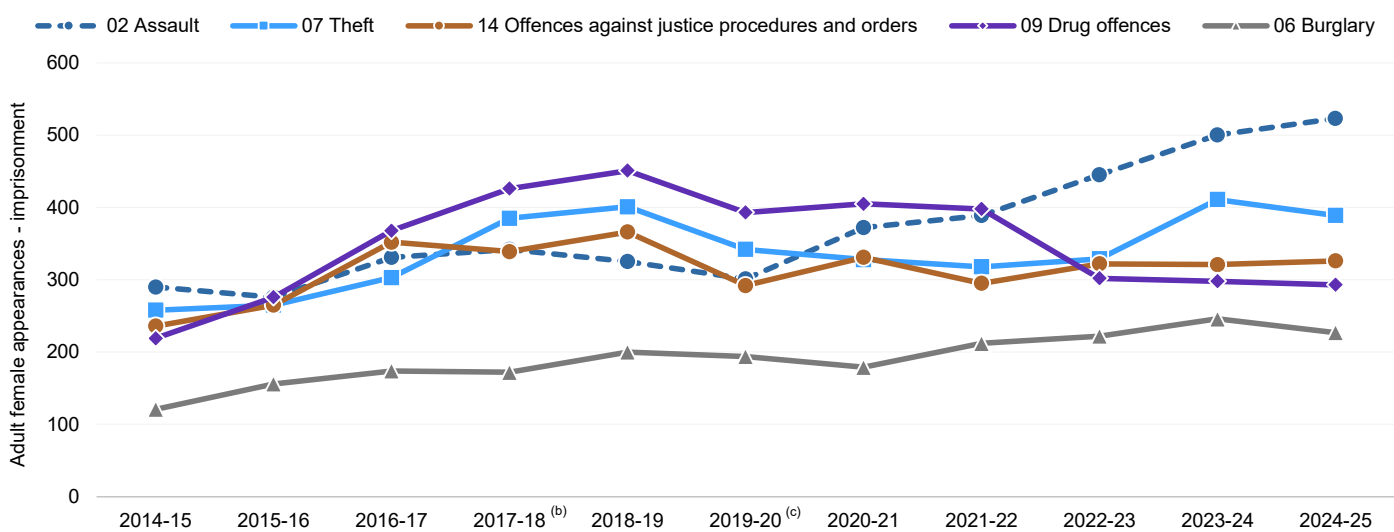
For males, the second most common convicted appearances resulting in 'imprisonment' was for 'offences against justice procedures and orders', which increased by 77.4% since 2014–15. For females, the second most common convicted appearances in 2024–25 was 'theft', which decreased by 5.4% compared with the previous year but increased by 50.8% compared with 2014–15. This was followed by convicted appearances for 'offences against justice procedures and orders', which remained similar for females between 2019–20 and 2024–25.

Figure 10 Convicted adult male appearances resulting in imprisonment^(a) by the five most prevalent MSOs in 2024–25, all courts – time series



- a) Includes partially suspended sentence, as a period of imprisonment is required to be served prior to suspension of the remainder.
- b) The transition of 17-year-olds to the youth justice system occurred in February 2018.
- c) The COVID-19 pandemic was declared in March 2020 and resulted in social restrictions which continued into 2021–22.

Figure 11 Convicted adult female appearances resulting in imprisonment^(a) by the five most prevalent MSOs in 2024–25, all courts – time series



- a) Includes partially suspended sentence, as a period of imprisonment is required to be served prior to suspension of the remainder.
- b) The transition of 17-year-olds to the youth justice system occurred in February 2018.
- c) The COVID-19 pandemic was declared in March 2020 and resulted in social restrictions which continued into 2021–22.

4.4.5.4 Penalties by court type and defendant sex

Table 21 shows the time series for convicted adult appearances taking place in the **Supreme Court**, categorised by the most serious penalty and sex. In 2024–25, almost nine in 10 convicted Supreme court appearances (87.4%) resulted in 'imprisonment' as the most serious penalty. Among those receiving imprisonment, most defendants (76.6%) were male. However, 'imprisonment' became more common among females over time, with females representing about one in seven (14.6%) convicted appearances resulting in 'imprisonment' in 2014–15 growing to nearly one in four (23.4%) in 2024–25.

In 2024–25, 'imprisonment' was the most common penalty for convicted appearances in the Supreme Court across both genders (88.7% for males and 83.5% for females), followed by 'wholly suspended sentence' (8.5% for males and 10.7% for females).

Table 21 Convicted adult appearances by most serious penalty^(a), by sex, Supreme Court – time series

	2014–15		2015–16		2016–17		2017–18 ^(b)		2018–19		2019–20 ^(c)		2020–21		2021–22		2022–23		2023–24		2024–25	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
	—count—																					
Imprisonment ^(d)	427	73	517	93	698	157	910	213	769	220	787	197	756	202	714	211	620	189	533	160	564	172
Intensive correction	2	1	6	3	2	3	0	1	1	4	2	2	1	0	0	1	2	0	1	0	0	0
Wholly suspended sentence	49	18	66	18	92	28	73	34	62	27	56	24	55	34	77	26	72	39	51	39	54	22
Community service	2	0	2	2	6	0	3	1	2	1	0	2	1	2	2	4	6	0	0	0	7	1
Probation	4	3	6	5	15	9	16	5	13	15	10	11	14	10	14	4	16	12	6	5	4	7
Fine	1	1	3	1	13	3	6	3	4	2	1	1	6	1	2	1	3	2	6	1	2	1
Good behaviour order	0	2	1	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Driver licence disqualification	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Nominal penalty ^(e)	3	2	3	4	3	2	5	2	4	1	3	2	6	2	7	3	4	0	7	2	5	3
Total	488	100	606	126	830	203	1,013	260	856	271	859	239	839	251	816	250	723	242	604	207	636	206

a) In descending order of seriousness.

b) The transition of 17-year-olds to the youth justice system occurred in February 2018.

c) The COVID–19 pandemic was declared in March 2020 and resulted in social restrictions which continued into 2021–22.

d) Includes partially suspended sentence, as a period of imprisonment is required to be served prior to suspension of the remainder.

e) Includes convicted not further punished.

Table 22 shows the count of convicted adult appearances in the **District Court** broken down by the most serious penalty and sex. In 2024–25, and consistently throughout the time series, the two most common penalties among all convicted appearances were 'imprisonment' (77.0%) and 'wholly suspended sentence' (11.6%). Of the cases that resulted in 'imprisonment' in 2024–25, nearly nine in 10 (88.1%) convicted appearances involved a male defendant, a pattern that has remained stable over the past decade. In 2024–25, 'imprisonment' was the most serious penalty in nearly four in five (79.0%) convicted male appearances, while for females, it was the most serious penalty for just over three in five (64.5%).

Table 22 Convicted adult appearances by most serious penalty^(a), by sex, District Court – time series

	2014–15		2015–16		2016–17		2017–18 ^(b)		2018–19		2019–20 ^(c)		2020–21		2021–22		2022–23		2023–24		2024–25	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
	—count—																					
Imprisonment ^(d)	1,932	270	1,850	272	2,112	357	2,426	343	2,544	378	2,416	337	2,310	327	2,370	370	2,269	308	2,465	333	2,492	334
Intensive correction	37	5	17	9	21	5	20	4	26	11	25	13	20	6	17	6	6	1	13	4	8	1
Wholly suspended sentence	350	88	449	113	453	91	434	110	509	118	498	115	429	111	497	125	462	115	403	111	339	87
Community service	90	30	84	12	109	23	69	12	73	15	55	17	38	12	52	10	46	14	30	8	31	14
Probation	149	58	147	57	226	83	208	79	249	83	194	106	142	52	197	86	176	62	178	69	139	60
Fine	103	18	115	19	100	18	112	16	116	17	96	13	87	19	111	22	109	18	66	11	68	6
Compensation/ Restitution	0	1	4	0	9	2	8	2	9	2	5	1	6	0	5	2	6	0	6	0	12	0
Good behaviour order	21	9	16	14	21	12	37	18	25	13	25	6	18	4	23	5	19	10	25	12	27	8
Driver licence disqualification	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Nominal penalty ^(e)	36	8	26	3	43	5	27	6	40	9	32	10	33	8	55	12	35	12	57	7	38	8
Total	2,718	487	2,708	499	3,094	596	3,342	590	3,591	646	3,347	618	3,083	539	3,328	638	3,128	540	3,243	555	3,154	518

a) In descending order of seriousness.

b) The transition of 17-year-olds to the youth justice system occurred in February 2018.

c) The COVID-19 pandemic was declared in March 2020 and resulted in social restrictions which continued into 2021–22.

d) Includes partially suspended sentence, as a period of imprisonment is required to be served prior to suspension of the remainder.

e) Includes convicted not further punished.

Table 23 shows the count of convicted adult appearances in the **Magistrates Court** by most serious penalty and sex. In 2024–25, approximately six in 10 (62.1%) convicted appearances resulted in a 'fine' as the most serious penalty, which was consistent with the percentage observed in the year prior. Although males accounted for about three in four (74.3%) convicted appearances in the Magistrates Court, 'fines' represented a similar percentage of all penalties for both males (61.6%) and females (63.2%) in 2024–25.

When comparing 2024–25 with 2014–15, the count of convicted appearances resulting in 'fines' as the most serious penalty declined by 48.6% for both males and females. Over the same period, convictions resulting in 'good behaviour order' also saw substantial declines for males (down 68.4%) and females (down 61.8%). Conversely, the count of convictions resulting in 'imprisonment' increased over the same period for both males (up 40.0%) and females (up 31.9%).

Table 23 Convicted adult appearances by most serious penalty^(a), by sex, Magistrates Court – time series

	2014–15			2015–16			2016–17			2017–18 ^(b)			2018–19			2019–20 ^(c)		
	Male	Female	Not stated	Male	Female	Not stated	Male	Female	Not stated	Male	Female	Not stated	Male	Female	Not stated	Male	Female	Not stated
	— count —																	
Imprisonment ^(d)	7,070	1,317	1	7,931	1,474	3	8,136	1,600	13	8,031	1,700	2	8,320	1,758	1	7,588	1,442	0
Intensive correction	152	54	0	162	76	0	166	59	0	163	49	0	150	53	0	112	40	0
Wholly suspended sentence	3,970	947	0	4,392	1,021	0	4,493	1,176	0	4,447	1,124	3	5,015	1,303	3	3,929	1,044	2
Community service	2,750	763	3	3,252	918	1	3,080	917	0	2,542	813	2	2,117	715	0	1,535	461	2
Probation	5,003	2,105	0	5,785	2,499	0	5,996	2,721	0	5,514	2,541	0	5,592	2,651	1	4,431	2,165	1
Other penalties ^(e)	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	3	1	0	2	1	0	0	1	0
Fine	86,739	28,559	688	86,137	30,177	514	77,312	27,859	466	64,896	22,606	291	64,213	22,459	298	48,283	17,371	266
Compensation/ Restitution	658	349	0	591	367	1	597	324	1	525	293	0	587	348	1	498	258	2
Good behaviour order	6,793	3,085	10	6,437	3,215	3	5,868	2,969	5	5,207	2,475	8	5,150	2,576	3	4,007	2,054	4
Driver licence disqualification	457	185	0	548	225	0	490	180	0	324	125	0	347	158	0	328	136	0
Nominal penalty ^(f)	5,403	1,604	21	4,468	1,469	16	4,271	1,502	13	3,862	1,386	9	3,803	1,311	3	2,872	1,082	10
Total	118,995	38,968	723	119,704	41,441	538	110,409	39,307	498	95,514	33,113	315	95,296	33,333	310	73,583	26,054	287

a) In descending order of seriousness.

b) The transition of 17-year-olds to the youth justice system occurred in February 2018.

c) The COVID–19 pandemic was declared in March 2020 and resulted in social restrictions which continued into 2021–22.

d) Includes partially suspended sentence, as a period of imprisonment is required to be served prior to suspension of the remainder.

e) Includes drug and alcohol treatment orders; licence disqualification orders (other than driver licence)

f) Includes convicted not further punished.

Table 23 continued.

	2020-21			2021-22			2022-23			2023-24			2024-25		
	Male	Female	Not stated	Male	Female	Not stated	Male	Female	Not stated	Male	Female	Not stated	Male	Female	Not stated
	— count —														
Imprisonment ^(a)	8,021	1,618	1	7,511	1,492	0	8,610	1,616	0	9,384	1,762	0	9,901	1,737	0
Intensive correction	148	46	0	121	41	0	98	31	0	68	40	0	77	26	0
Wholly suspended sentence	4,844	1,322	3	4,542	1,225	0	4,711	1,211	0	4,678	1,270	6	4,692	1,232	2
Community service	1,864	635	2	1,662	590	2	1,620	580	0	1,570	589	4	1,526	505	0
Probation	5,648	2,788	3	5,123	2,309	0	5,188	2,463	1	5,342	2,563	0	4,936	2,276	1
Other penalties ^(b)	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0
Fine	60,975	21,636	219	49,810	17,236	197	52,063	18,247	314	47,738	16,532	418	44,561	14,670	305
Compensation/ Restitution	550	328	1	562	282	0	512	274	0	513	267	0	385	235	1
Good behaviour order	4,680	2,409	5	3,563	1,807	7	3,436	1,897	6	3,291	1,730	8	2,149	1,178	6
Driver licence disqualification	421	130	0	449	141	0	670	236	0	670	241	0	618	215	0
Nominal penalty ^(c)	3,471	1,249	14	3,326	1,137	7	3,718	1,292	8	4,091	1,316	8	3,517	1,153	10
Total	90,623	32,162	248	76,670	26,260	213	80,626	27,847	329	77,346	26,310	444	72,362	23,228	325

a) Includes partially suspended sentence, as a period of imprisonment is required to be served prior to suspension of the remainder.

b) Includes drug and alcohol treatment orders; licence disqualification orders (other than driver licence)

c) Includes convicted not further punished.

4.4.6 Adult defendants by age and sex

Table 24 provides data on convicted adult appearances, broken down by court type, age group, sex and year. In 2024–25, males accounted for three in four (75.8%) of all convicted court appearances. Among court types, this percentage was highest in the District Court, with males representing 85.8% in 2024–25.

For male defendants in 2024–25, those aged 20–29 years represented the largest percentage of all convicted male appearances (29.7%), followed closely by males aged 30–39 years (28.8%), consistent with the previous year. Over time, older age groups have gradually constituted a slightly larger share of convicted appearances, reflecting an ageing defendant population. For instance, males aged 50 years and over increased from 13.1% of all convicted male appearances in 2022–23 to 14.1% in 2023–24 and 14.7% in 2024–25.

Among all convicted female appearances in 2024–25, the largest age group was females aged 30–39 years, comprising 30.8%. This was only slightly higher than females aged 20–29 years, who accounted for 30.3%. While the percentage of 30–39-year-olds has remained stable over previous years, the percentage of females aged 20–29 years has gradually declined from 31.7% in 2022–23 to 30.3% in 2024–25.

When comparing 2024–25 with the previous year, convicted appearances in the Magistrate Court for defendants aged 18–19 years declined for both males (down 10.3%) and females (down 17.8%). Similarly, female defendants 18–19 years old in the District Court experienced a decline in convicted appearances (down 40.0%). Convicted appearances for female defendants aged 40–49 years increased in the District Court (up 22.5%), while decreases were observed in the Magistrates Court for both males (down 6.6%) and females (down 10.9%) within this age cohort.

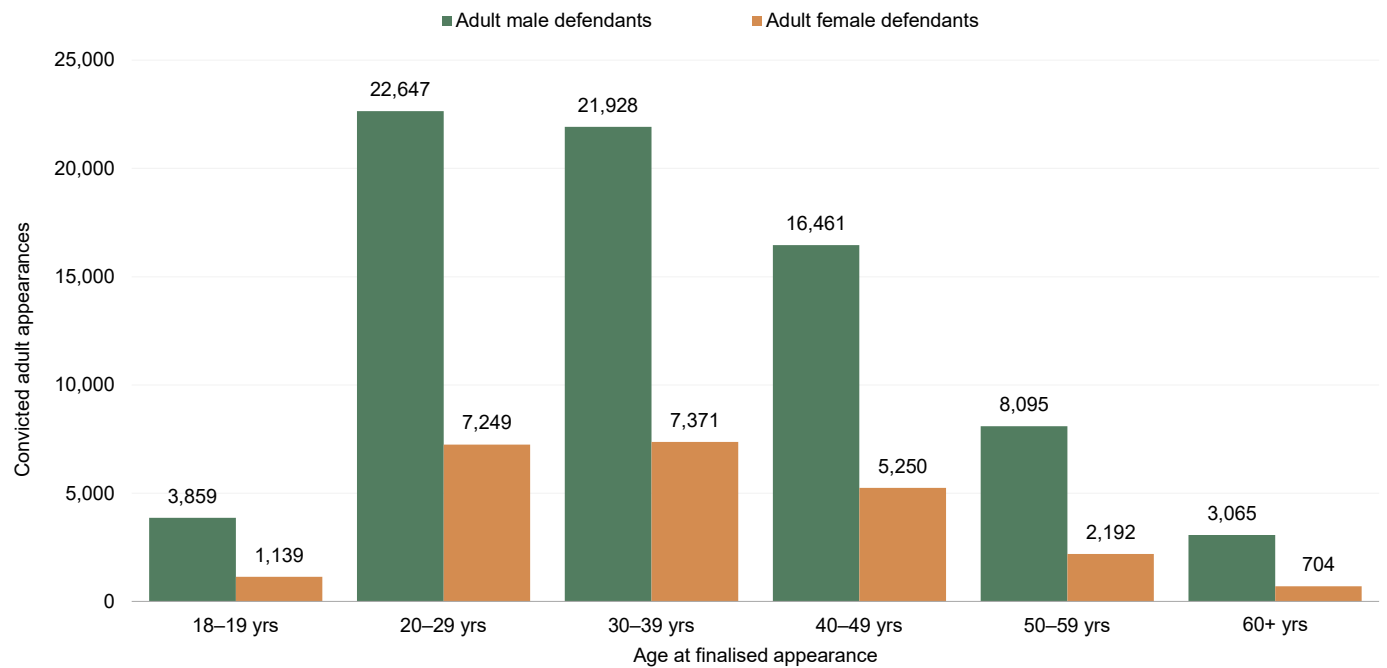
Table 24 Convicted adult appearances by court type and age, by sex

	2022–23				2023–24				2024–25			
	Male	Female	Not stated	Total	Male	Female	Not stated	Total	Male	Female	Not stated	Total
Age at finalised appearance (years)	— count —											
Supreme Court	723	242	0	965	604	207	0	811	636	206	0	842
18–19	5	2	0	7	3	1	0	4	2	0	0	2
20–29	216	63	0	279	164	47	0	211	160	45	0	205
30–39	293	98	0	391	234	82	0	316	262	81	0	343
40–49	144	59	0	203	140	51	0	191	134	62	0	196
50–59	44	14	0	58	47	19	0	66	60	10	0	70
60+	21	6	0	27	16	7	0	23	18	8	0	26
District Court	3,128	540	0	3,668	3,243	555	2	3,800	3,154	518	3	3,675
18–19	103	15	0	118	82	20	0	102	83	12	0	95
20–29	1,078	177	0	1,255	1,056	185	1	1,242	990	177	1	1,168
30–39	902	170	0	1,072	1,016	191	0	1,207	987	174	0	1,161
40–49	597	106	0	703	618	80	0	698	615	98	0	713
50–59	299	51	0	350	296	58	1	355	299	40	0	339
60+	148	21	0	169	175	21	0	196	179	17	2	198
Not stated	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Magistrates Court	80,626	27,847	329	108,802	77,346	26,310	444	104,100	72,362	23,228	325	95,915
18–19	4,685	1,417	8	6,110	4,208	1,371	8	5,587	3,774	1,127	7	4,908
20–29	25,617	8,840	79	34,536	23,357	8,089	98	31,544	21,500	7,027	73	28,600
30–39	22,968	8,566	79	31,613	21,922	8,052	115	30,089	20,680	7,116	79	27,875
40–49	16,679	5,824	61	22,564	16,825	5,714	87	22,626	15,712	5,091	67	20,870
50–59	7,704	2,404	28	10,136	7,959	2,322	50	10,331	7,738	2,142	34	9,914
60+	2,859	735	20	3,614	2,977	717	32	3,726	2,868	679	24	3,571
Not stated	114	61	54	229	98	45	54	197	90	46	41	177
All Courts												
18–19	4,793	1,434	8	6,235	4,293	1,392	8	5,693	3,859	1,139	7	5,005
20–29	26,911	9,080	79	36,070	24,577	8,321	99	32,997	22,650	7,249	74	29,973
30–39	24,163	8,834	79	33,076	23,172	8,325	115	31,612	21,929	7,371	79	29,379
40–49	17,420	5,989	61	23,470	17,583	5,845	87	23,515	16,461	5,251	67	21,779
50–59	8,047	2,469	28	10,544	8,302	2,399	51	10,752	8,097	2,192	34	10,323
60+	3,028	762	20	3,810	3,168	745	32	3,945	3,065	704	26	3,795
Not stated	115	61	54	230	98	45	54	197	91	46	41	178
Total – all courts	84,477	28,629	329	113,435	81,193	27,072	446	108,711	76,152	23,952	328	100,432

Figure 12 illustrates the count of convicted adult appearances for males and females by age group, where both the age and sex of defendants were known. In 2024–25, defendants aged between 20 and 39 years accounted for approximately six in 10 convicted appearances among males (58.6%) and females (61.2%) in 2024–25.

The most pronounced difference between males and females in convicted appearances by age group were observed among defendants 60 years and older. In 2024–25, the count of convicted appearances for males in that age group was 4.4 times higher than for females. Similarly, for defendants aged 50–59 years, male convicted appearances were 3.7 times than those of females.

Figure 12 Convicted adult appearances^(a) by age and sex, all courts, 2024–25



a) Excludes appearances where the age and/or sex of the defendant were not stated (54 appearances where both age and sex were not stated, 392 appearances where sex was not stated and 146 appearances where age was not stated).

Table 25 shows the count of convicted charges for adults by court type, age group and sex. In 2024–25, the count of convicted charges increased for males aged 50–59 years (up 2.5%) compared with the previous year. A marginal increase was also observed for males aged 30–39 years (up 0.2%), while all other male age groups experienced declines, resulting in an overall reduction of 3.0% in convicted charges for males in 2024–25 compared to the previous year. The largest decreases were among males aged 18–19 years (down 14.0%) and those aged 60 years and over (down 8.3%). For female defendants, the count of convicted charges fell across all age groups in 2024–25 compared with 2023–24 (Table 25), with the steepest decline observed among females aged 18–19 years (down 20.6%).

There were declines in both convicted appearances and charges for defendants aged 18–19, 20–29 and 30–39 years for males and females alike in 2024–25 compared with 2023–24 (Table 24 and Table 25). For males and females aged 20–29 years, the average count of convicted charges per appearance increased slightly rising from 2.9 in 2022–23 to 3.2 in 2024–25. This suggests that charges were concentrated across a smaller count of appearances for this cohort. For males and females aged 18–19 years, the average count of convicted charges per appearance has remained stable since 2022–23, at around 3.1 for males and 2.6 for females.

When examined by court type, the Supreme Court recorded the highest average number of convicted charges per appearance, with an average of 7.1 in 2024–25. It is important to note that growth in the count of convicted charges does not necessarily align with equivalent growth in the count of convicted appearances, as more charges may have been brought per appearance.

Table 25 Convicted charges against adults by court type and age, by sex

	2022-23				2023-24				2024-25			
	Male	Female	Not stated	Total	Male	Female	Not stated	Total	Male	Female	Not stated	Total
Age at finalised appearance (years)	— count —											
Supreme Court	5,492	1,639	0	7,131	4,332	1,310	0	5,642	4,582	1,397	0	5,979
18-19	43	7	0	50	25	13	0	38	5	0	0	5
20-29	1,633	386	0	2,019	1,263	348	0	1,611	1,225	291	0	1,516
30-39	2,252	733	0	2,985	1,730	451	0	2,181	1,873	541	0	2,414
40-49	1,124	425	0	1,549	962	349	0	1,311	1,023	463	0	1,486
50-59	296	58	0	354	284	118	0	402	277	76	0	353
60+	144	30	0	174	68	31	0	99	179	26	0	205
District Court	14,765	2,144	0	16,909	14,680	1,978	4	16,662	15,741	2,105	13	17,859
18-19	485	44	0	529	364	57	0	421	297	34	0	331
20-29	4,961	756	0	5,717	4,726	641	1	5,368	4,465	737	2	5,204
30-39	4,560	770	0	5,330	4,819	739	0	5,558	5,604	704	0	6,308
40-49	2,792	333	0	3,125	2,894	295	0	3,189	3,103	408	0	3,511
50-59	1,271	188	0	1,459	1,124	186	3	1,313	1,503	135	0	1,638
60+	695	53	0	748	753	60	0	813	741	87	11	839
Not stated	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	28	0	0	28
Magistrates Court	223,325	74,675	551	298,551	228,408	75,646	795	304,849	219,585	68,620	637	288,842
18-19	14,113	3,644	9	17,766	12,957	3,723	12	16,692	11,169	2,979	7	14,155
20-29	72,232	25,285	102	97,619	69,523	24,156	119	93,798	66,924	22,172	93	89,189
30-39	69,120	25,074	99	94,293	70,993	25,743	151	96,887	70,231	23,605	113	93,949
40-49	45,693	14,484	84	60,261	50,416	15,832	119	66,367	47,209	14,058	100	61,367
50-59	16,979	4,872	42	21,893	18,789	4,918	58	23,765	18,928	4,581	103	23,612
60+	4,959	1,212	22	6,193	5,503	1,158	57	6,718	4,877	1,088	29	5,994
Not stated	229	104	193	526	227	116	279	622	247	137	192	576
All Courts												
18-19	14,641	3,695	9	18,345	13,346	3,793	12	17,151	11,471	3,013	7	14,491
20-29	78,826	26,427	102	105,355	75,512	25,145	120	100,777	72,614	23,200	95	95,909
30-39	75,932	26,577	99	102,608	77,542	26,933	151	104,626	77,708	24,850	113	102,671
40-49	49,609	15,242	84	64,935	54,272	16,476	119	70,867	51,335	14,929	100	66,364
50-59	18,546	5,118	42	23,706	20,197	5,222	61	25,480	20,708	4,792	103	25,603
60+	5,798	1,295	22	7,115	6,324	1,249	57	7,630	5,797	1,201	40	7,038
Not stated	230	104	193	527	227	116	279	622	275	137	192	604
Total - all courts	243,582	78,458	551	322,591	247,420	78,934	799	327,153	239,908	72,122	650	312,680

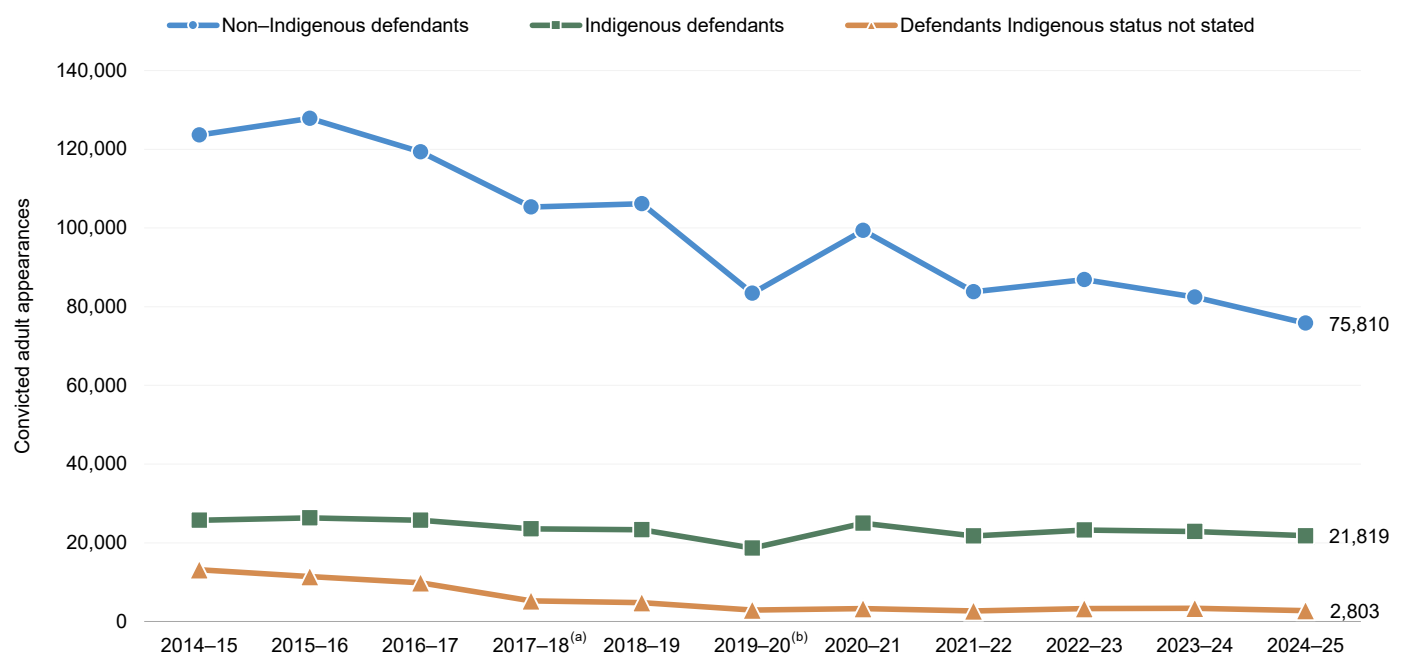
4.4.7 Defendants by Indigenous status

In this section, a defendant's Indigenous status is based on self-identification by the individual as one of the following four options: Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander, or both Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander (grouped and reported collectively as Indigenous), or neither Aboriginal nor Torres Strait Islander (non-Indigenous).

Figure 13 highlights trends in convicted appearances for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander defendants compared to non-Indigenous defendants over the time series. The count of convicted appearances for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander defendants has remained relatively stable overall, with some fluctuations. In 2014-15, there were 25,740 convicted appearances for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander defendants. This figure remained steady before declining to 18,633 appearances in 2019-20, followed by an increase to 25,022 appearances in 2020-21 (up 34.3%). Since 2021-22, the count of convicted appearances for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander defendants has not changed substantially. By 2024-25, Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander defendants accounted for 21,819 convicted appearances, representing 21.7% of all convicted defendants.

In contrast, the count of convicted appearances for non-Indigenous defendants has shown a notable decline over the same period. Between 2014-15 and 2024-25, the count of convicted appearances for non-Indigenous defendants dropped from 123,592 to 75,810 (down 38.7%). Since 2022-23, the count of convicted appearances for non-Indigenous defendants has continued to decline, with an 8.0% decrease observed in 2024-25 when compared with the previous year.

Figure 13 Convicted adult appearances by Indigenous status, all courts - time series



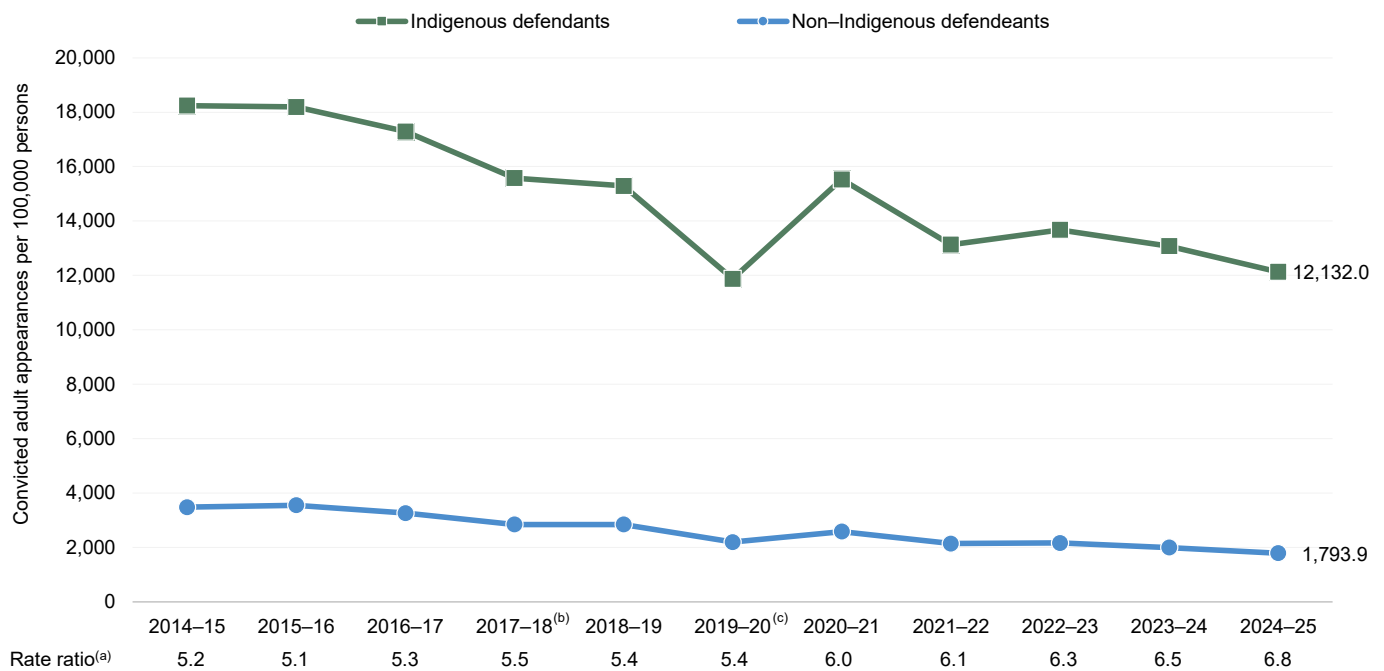
- a) The transition of 17-year-olds to the youth justice system occurred in February 2018.
- b) The COVID-19 pandemic was declared in March 2020 and resulted in social restrictions which continued into 2021-22.

When accounting for population differences, the rate of convicted appearances highlights the over-representation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander defendants among court appearances relative to their proportion in the general population (Figure 14). The rate of convicted appearances has decreased by 33.5% between 2024-25 with 2014-15 for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander defendants. This decline suggests that the relative stability in the count of convicted appearances (as shown in Figure 13 above) has occurred alongside population growth among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander adults.

For non-Indigenous adults, the rate of convicted appearances decreased by 48.5% when comparing 2024-25 with 2014-15. However, this sharper decline has widened the disparity in convicted appearance rates between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and non-Indigenous adults. In 2024-25, the rate for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander adults was 6.8 times higher than that of non-Indigenous adults, compared to 5.1 times higher in

2014–15, as reflected in the rate ratios shown in Figure 14. This indicates a growing disparity in the rate of convicted appearances between these two groups over the past decade.

Figure 14 Convicted adult appearance rate^(a) by Indigenous status, all courts – time series



- a) Rate ratio presented in this figure is the rate for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander defendants divided by the rate for other defendants. Rate ratios have been calculated on unrounded rates.
- b) The transition of 17-year-olds to the youth justice system occurred in February 2018.
- c) The COVID-19 pandemic was declared in March 2020 and resulted in social restrictions which continued into 2021–22.

4.4.7.1 Convicted appearances by court type and MSO

Table 26 highlights trends in convicted appearances within the adult court system over the past decade, showing an overall decline for both Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and non-Indigenous males and females. This decline has been largely driven by reductions in convicted appearances in the Magistrates Court. In 2024–25, the count of convicted appearances among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander adults decreased for both males (down 3.6%) and females (down 6.7%) across all courts compared to the previous year. Similarly, among non-Indigenous adults, convicted appearances declined for males (down 6.6%), and, more notably, for females (down 12.9%) when compared to 2023–24.

Over the past decade, the Supreme Court has seen the most substantial growth in convicted appearances among females. Between 2014–15 and 2024–25, convicted appearances for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander females rose by 142.9%, while those for non-Indigenous females rose by 106.7%. In the District Court, the growth in convicted appearances was more pronounced for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander males (up 51.2%) compared with non-Indigenous males (up 13.4%) over the same period. Convicted appearances among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders females in the District Court also increased over the same period (up 56.1%), while those for non-Indigenous females saw a slight decline (down 1.4%).

Table 26 Convicted adult appearances by Indigenous status, by court type and sex - time series

	Supreme Court				District Court				Magistrates Court				All courts			
	Male	Female	Not stated	Total	Male	Female	Not stated	Total	Male	Female	Not stated	Total	Male	Female	Not stated	Total
	— count —												— count —			
2014-15																
Indigenous	30	7	0	37	467	110	0	577	17,170	7,956	0	25,126	17,667	8,073	0	25,740
Non-Indigenous	441	90	0	531	2,109	347	0	2,456	93,410	27,048	147	120,605	95,960	27,485	147	123,592
Not stated	17	3	0	20	142	30	0	172	8,415	3,964	576	12,955	8,574	3,997	576	13,147
Total	488	100	0	588	2,718	487	0	3,205	118,995	38,968	723	158,686	122,201	39,555	723	162,479
2015-16																
Indigenous	34	10	0	44	427	105	0	532	17,685	8,117	2	25,804	18,146	8,232	2	26,380
Non-Indigenous	533	111	0	644	2,162	360	1	2,523	94,956	29,529	157	124,642	97,651	30,000	158	127,809
Not stated	39	5	0	44	119	34	0	153	7,063	3,795	379	11,237	7,221	3,834	379	11,434
Total	606	126	0	732	2,708	499	1	3,208	119,704	41,441	538	161,683	123,018	42,066	539	165,623
2016-17																
Indigenous	53	10	0	63	482	123	0	605	17,060	8,046	0	25,106	17,595	8,179	0	25,774
Non-Indigenous	746	188	0	934	2,502	452	1	2,955	87,240	28,046	114	115,400	90,488	28,686	115	119,289
Not stated	31	5	0	36	110	21	0	131	6,109	3,215	384	9,708	6,250	3,241	384	9,875
Total	830	203	0	1,033	3,094	596	1	3,691	110,409	39,307	498	150,214	114,333	40,106	499	154,938
2017-18^(a)																
Indigenous	42	11	0	53	608	136	0	744	15,437	7,362	0	22,799	16,087	7,509	0	23,596
Non-Indigenous	937	243	0	1,180	2,639	432	0	3,071	76,564	24,412	81	101,057	80,140	25,087	81	105,308
Not stated	34	6	0	40	95	22	1	118	3,513	1,339	234	5,086	3,642	1,367	235	5,244
Total	1,013	260	0	1,273	3,342	590	1	3,933	95,514	33,113	315	128,942	99,869	33,963	316	134,148
2018-19																
Indigenous	42	25	0	67	603	131	0	734	15,319	7,213	0	22,532	15,964	7,369	0	23,333
Non-Indigenous	793	236	0	1,029	2,883	489	1	3,373	76,560	25,078	88	101,726	80,236	25,803	89	106,128
Not stated	21	10	0	31	105	26	1	132	3,417	1,042	222	4,681	3,543	1,078	223	4,844
Total	856	271	0	1,127	3,591	646	2	4,239	95,296	33,333	310	128,939	99,743	34,250	312	134,305

a) The transition of 17-year-olds to the youth justice system occurred in February 2018.

Table 26 continued.

	Supreme Court				District Court				Magistrates Court				All courts			
	Male	Female	Not stated	Total	Male	Female	Not stated	Total	Male	Female	Not stated	Total	Male	Female	Not stated	Total
	— count —												— count —			
2019–20^(a)																
Indigenous	52	16	0	68	636	135	0	771	12,256	5,537	1	17,794	12,944	5,688	1	18,633
Non-Indigenous	800	216	0	1,016	2,633	464	0	3,097	59,360	19,826	100	79,286	62,793	20,506	100	83,399
Not stated	7	7	0	14	78	19	0	97	1,967	691	186	2,844	2,052	717	186	2,955
Total	859	239	0	1,098	3,347	618	0	3,965	73,583	26,054	287	99,924	77,789	26,911	287	104,987
2020–21																
Indigenous	58	27	0	85	591	148	0	739	16,389	7,807	2	24,198	17,038	7,982	2	25,022
Non-Indigenous	768	218	0	986	2,426	375	1	2,802	71,963	23,579	71	95,613	75,157	24,172	72	99,401
Not stated	13	6	0	19	66	16	3	85	2,271	776	175	3,222	2,350	798	178	3,326
Total	839	251	0	1,090	3,083	539	4	3,626	90,623	32,162	248	123,033	94,545	32,952	252	127,749
2021–22																
Indigenous	63	28	0	91	637	146	0	783	14,337	6,505	0	20,842	15,037	6,679	0	21,716
Non-Indigenous	738	219	0	957	2,620	474	0	3,094	60,528	19,156	43	79,727	63,886	19,849	43	83,778
Not stated	15	3	0	18	71	18	0	89	1,805	599	170	2,574	1,891	620	170	2,681
Total	816	250	0	1,066	3,328	638	0	3,966	76,670	26,260	213	103,143	80,814	27,148	213	108,175
2022–23																
Indigenous	58	16	0	74	682	129	0	811	15,366	6,989	1	22,356	16,106	7,134	1	23,241
Non-Indigenous	653	224	0	877	2,394	387	0	2,781	63,136	20,062	57	83,255	66,183	20,673	57	86,913
Not stated	12	2	0	14	52	24	0	76	2,124	796	271	3,191	2,188	822	271	3,281
Total	723	242	0	965	3,128	540	0	3,668	80,626	27,847	329	108,802	84,477	28,629	329	113,435
2023–24																
Indigenous	43	26	0	69	718	158	0	876	15,001	6,912	1	21,914	15,762	7,096	1	22,859
Non-Indigenous	552	179	0	731	2,462	383	0	2,845	60,151	18,654	58	78,863	63,165	19,216	58	82,439
Not stated	9	2	0	11	63	14	2	79	2,194	744	385	3,323	2,266	760	387	3,413
Total	604	207	0	811	3,243	555	2	3,800	77,346	26,310	444	104,100	81,193	27,072	446	108,711
2024–25																
Indigenous	41	17	0	58	706	157	1	864	14,448	6,447	2	20,897	15,195	6,621	3	21,819
Non-Indigenous	585	186	0	771	2,392	342	0	2,734	56,040	16,208	57	72,305	59,017	16,736	57	75,810
Not stated	10	3	0	13	56	19	2	77	1,874	573	266	2,713	1,940	595	268	2,803
Total	636	206	0	842	3,154	518	3	3,675	72,362	23,228	325	95,915	76,152	23,952	328	100,432

a) The COVID-19 pandemic was declared in March 2020 and resulted in social restrictions which continued into 2021–22.

In 2024–25, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander defendants accounted for approximately two in 10 (20.4%) of all convicted appearances in the **higher courts**, a percentage similar to previous years (20.5% in 2023–24 and 19.1% in 2022–23) (Table 27). 'Assault' was the most common MSO among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander defendants, representing 38.4% of convicted appearances in 2024–25, followed by 'robbery, blackmail, and extortion' (15.5%) and 'sexual offences' (12.3%). For non-Indigenous defendants, the most common MSO was 'drug offences' which accounted for 30.9% of convicted appearances in 2024–25. This was followed by 'assault' (21.8%) and 'sexual offences' (18.2%).

In 2024–25, among convicted adult appearances with 'robbery, blackmail, and extortion' as MSO, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander defendants represented 35.4% of the total, down slightly from 37.8% in 2022–23. Conversely, for cases where burglary was the MSO, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander defendants accounted for 31.0% of convicted appearances in 2024–25, a slight increase from 29.4% in 2022–23.

Table 27 Convicted adult appearances by MSO, by Indigenous status, Supreme and District Courts

	2022–23				2023–24				2024–25			
	Indigenous	Non-Indigenous	Not stated	Total	Indigenous	Non-Indigenous	Not stated	Total	Indigenous	Non-Indigenous	Not stated	Total
Most serious offence (MSO)	— count —											
01 Homicide	11	54	1	66	9	44	1	54	10	50	4	64
02 Assault	324	777	7	1,108	352	808	17	1,177	354	763	11	1,128
03 Sexual offences	100	589	18	707	98	639	23	760	114	635	9	758
04 Harm or endanger persons	34	149	1	184	42	185	3	230	48	239	6	293
05 Robbery, blackmail, and extortion	159	261	2	422	156	263	2	421	143	256	6	405
06 Burglary	72	167	3	242	70	143	2	215	65	142	3	210
07 Theft	4	35	0	39	7	39	4	50	9	40	3	52
08 Fraud and related offences	5	118	31	154	6	117	15	138	8	95	29	132
09 Drug offences	107	1,297	18	1,422	125	1,130	13	1,268	98	1,093	6	1,197
10 Weapons and explosives offences	1	11	0	12	1	15	1	17	1	12	0	13
11 Property damage	32	76	3	111	24	69	2	95	26	72	0	98
12 Public order, health, and safety offences	2	5	0	7	0	8	2	10	2	4	0	6
13 Traffic and vehicle offences	6	21	1	28	3	11	0	14	4	13	0	17
14 Offences against justice procedures and orders	27	92	2	121	52	103	1	156	39	84	10	133
15 Offences against government	0	2	1	3	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0
16 Environmental offences	1	4	0	5	0	0	0	0	1	4	1	6
17 Miscellaneous offences	0	0	2	2	0	2	3	5	0	3	2	5
Total	885	3,658	90	4,633	945	3,576	90	4,611	922	3,505	90	4,517

In 2024–25, about one in five (21.8%) convicted appearances in the **Magistrates Court** involved Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander defendants, which was consistent with percentages observed in 2023–24 (21.1%) and 2022–23 (20.5%) (Table 28). 'Traffic and vehicle offences' and 'offences against justice procedures and orders' were the two largest volume offences for both Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and non-Indigenous populations. Within those two offence categories, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander defendants accounted for 11.1% and 28.3% of convictions, respectively. Approximately two in five convicted appearances for 'public order, health, and safety offences' (41.1%) and 'assault' (41.8%) involved Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander defendants. For non-Indigenous adults, the most common MSO in 2024–25 was 'traffic and vehicle offences', representing over four in 10 convictions (44.9%).

Table 28 Convicted adult appearances by MSO, by Indigenous status, Magistrates Court

	2022–23				2023–24				2024–25			
	Indigenous	Non-Indigenous	Not stated	Total	Indigenous	Non-Indigenous	Not stated	Total	Indigenous	Non-Indigenous	Not stated	Total
Most serious offence (MSO) ^{a)}	— count —											
02 Assault	2,937	4,294	51	7,282	3,212	4,225	54	7,491	3,041	4,166	75	7,282
03 Sexual offences	82	335	3	420	87	360	3	450	107	381	4	492
04 Harm or endanger persons	319	1,001	51	1,371	339	974	49	1,362	366	947	44	1,357
05 Robbery, blackmail, and extortion	6	12	1	19	11	19	1	31	13	34	2	49
06 Burglary	880	1,543	18	2,441	915	1,648	19	2,582	863	1,683	20	2,566
07 Theft	1,947	6,354	86	8,387	2,153	6,607	88	8,848	2,066	6,160	98	8,324
08 Fraud and related offences	274	1,410	197	1,881	243	1,351	215	1,809	218	1,061	163	1,442
09 Drug offences	1,330	8,272	32	9,634	1,293	7,001	34	8,328	633	3,412	19	4,064
10 Weapons and explosives offences	376	2,197	23	2,596	449	2,284	19	2,752	490	2,201	22	2,713
11 Property damage	781	1,764	11	2,556	756	1,705	12	2,473	708	1,601	17	2,326
12 Public order, health, and safety offences	2,503	4,289	104	6,896	2,219	3,779	111	6,109	1,932	2,665	99	4,696
13 Traffic and vehicle offences	4,341	35,067	2,199	41,607	3,917	32,483	2,349	38,749	4,268	32,417	1,801	38,486
14 Offences against justice procedures and orders	6,561	16,629	201	23,391	6,291	16,324	176	22,791	6,172	15,484	156	21,812
15 Offences against government	10	35	32	77	11	39	70	120	8	34	71	113
16 Environmental offences	8	38	76	122	18	55	66	139	12	51	63	126
17 Miscellaneous offences	1	15	106	122	0	9	57	66	0	8	59	67
Total	22,356	83,255	3,191	108,802	21,914	78,863	3,323	104,100	20,897	72,305	2,713	95,915

a) Excludes ANZSOC 2023 offence divisions with zero values.

4.4.7.2 Convicted appearances by court type and most serious penalty

In 2024–25, the total count of convicted adult appearances in the higher courts decreased slightly (down 2.1%) compared to the previous year (Table 29). Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander adults were defendants in one in five (20.4%) convicted Supreme and District Court appearances, with the count of convicted Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander appearances rising by 4.1% in 2024–25 compared with 2022–23.

'Imprisonment' was the most serious penalty in almost nine in 10 (87.4%) convicted appearances involving Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander defendants in the **Supreme** and **District Courts** in 2024–25, making it the most common penalty for this group in the adult higher court system. This was followed by 'wholly suspended sentences' (6.3%). Similarly, 'imprisonment' was the most common penalty among convicted appearances involving non-Indigenous defendants during this period, being the most serious penalty in nearly eight in 10 appearances (76.5%). For non-Indigenous defendants, 'wholly suspended sentences' (13.8%) and 'probation' (6.5%) were the next most common penalties.

Table 29 Convicted adult appearances by most serious penalty, by Indigenous status, Supreme and District Courts

	2022–23				2023–24				2024–25			
	Indigenous	Non-Indigenous	Not stated	Total	Indigenous	Non-Indigenous	Not stated	Total	Indigenous	Non-Indigenous	Not stated	Total
Most serious penalty ^(a)	— count —											
Imprisonment ^(b)	736	2,574	76	3,386	813	2,608	71	3,492	806	2,682	76	3,564
Intensive correction	1	8	0	9	1	17	0	18	1	8	0	9
Wholly suspended sentence	84	593	11	688	70	528	7	605	58	441	3	502
Community service	9	57	0	66	3	35	0	38	4	48	1	53
Probation	27	238	1	266	35	219	4	258	32	175	4	211
Fine	11	121	0	132	3	76	5	84	7	67	3	77
Compensation/Restitution	0	6	0	6	0	5	1	6	1	11	0	12
Good behaviour order	2	26	1	29	5	32	0	37	4	31	0	35
Nominal penalty ^(c)	15	35	1	51	15	56	2	73	9	42	3	54
Total	885	3,658	90	4,633	945	3,576	90	4,611	922	3,505	90	4,517

a) In descending order of seriousness.

b) Includes partially suspended sentence, as a period of imprisonment is required to be served prior to suspension of the remainder.

c) Includes convicted not further punished.

In 2024–25, the count of convicted adult appearances involving Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander defendants in the **Magistrates Court** declined by 4.6% from the previous year (Table 30). Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders accounted for about two in 10 convicted adult appearances (21.8%) in 2024–25, which was largely consistent with previous years.

A 'fine' was the most commonly imposed penalty, being the most serious penalty in nearly half of the convicted appearances involving Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander defendants (46.4%) and for two-thirds of convicted appearances involving non-Indigenous adults (65.7%). 'Imprisonment' was the second most common penalty, imposed for over one in five convicted Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander appearances (21.4%) and around one in 10 convicted appearances for non-Indigenous adults (9.7%).

Table 30 Convicted adult appearances by most serious penalty, by Indigenous status, Magistrates Court

	2022–23				2023–24				2024–25			
	Indigenous	Non-Indigenous	Not stated	Total	Indigenous	Non-Indigenous	Not stated	Total	Indigenous	Non-Indigenous	Not stated	Total
Most serious penalty ^(a)	— count —											
Imprisonment ^(b)	3,897	6,213	116	10,226	4,409	6,640	97	11,146	4,474	7,049	115	11,638
Intensive correction	38	91	0	129	19	87	2	108	26	75	2	103
Wholly suspended sentence	1,761	4,112	49	5,922	1,827	4,075	52	5,954	1,869	4,007	50	5,926
Community service	752	1,432	16	2,200	669	1,480	14	2,163	641	1,378	12	2,031
Probation	2,001	5,607	44	7,652	2,193	5,661	51	7,905	2,019	5,147	47	7,213
Other penalties ^(c)	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1
Fine	11,383	56,444	2,797	70,624	10,222	51,568	2,898	64,688	9,700	47,505	2,331	59,536
Compensation/Restitution	192	591	3	786	157	609	14	780	105	511	5	621
Good behaviour order	739	4,546	54	5,339	799	4,161	69	5,029	581	2,702	50	3,333
Driver licence disqualification	155	745	6	906	125	784	2	911	91	736	6	833
Nominal penalty ^(d)	1,438	3,474	106	5,018	1,494	3,797	124	5,415	1,391	3,194	95	4,680
Total	22,356	83,255	3,191	108,802	21,914	78,863	3,323	104,100	20,897	72,305	2,713	95,915

a) In descending order of seriousness.

b) Includes partially suspended sentence, as a period of imprisonment is required to be served prior to suspension of the remainder.

c) Includes drug and alcohol treatment orders; licence disqualification orders (other than driver licence).

d) Includes convicted not further punished.

4.5 Children in court

In Queensland, child defendants may be dealt with in the Childrens Court (Magistrates), the Childrens Court of Queensland (District Court), the District Court or the Supreme Court, for offences committed when the defendant was aged 10–17 years. For the purposes of this report, due to small numbers in the Supreme and District Courts, appearances and charges for children dealt with in these courts have been grouped with the Childrens Court of Queensland and are collectively referred to as 'higher court' appearances and charges.

It should also be noted that the Queensland courts use different terms and counting rules from Youth Justice to describe child defendants. In this section, the principal counting unit is the finalised appearance, and an individual defendant may have one or more finalised appearances during the reference period.

A child defendant may have one or multiple charges (offences) finalised in a single appearance, however only the most serious offence (MSO), i.e. the offence with the most serious outcome, is presented here (see *Explanatory notes* for more detail).

4.5.1 Finalised child appearances

In 2024–25, there were 7,670 finalised child appearances in the children's court system (Table 31). Of these, more than eight in 10 (84.8%) were adjudicated. Of those appearances that were adjudicated, more than nine in 10 (95.9%) in the higher courts and over eight in 10 (84.4%) in the Childrens Court (Magistrates) resulted in a conviction.

'Robbery, blackmail, and extortion' was the most common MSO among higher court appearances, accounting for nearly half (48.5%) of convicted appearances in 2024–25, followed by 'assault' (20.9%) and 'sexual offences' (11.2%). Of all 'sexual offences' appearances in the higher courts in 2024–25, about six in 10 (73.5%) were adjudicated and, of those adjudicated, over seven in 10 (76.0%) resulted in conviction.

Among Childrens Court (Magistrates) appearances, 'theft' was the most common MSO, accounting for just over a quarter (26.5%) of convicted appearances in 2024–25, followed closely by 'burglary' (21.7%) and 'assault' (16.8%). Of all 'robbery, blackmail, and extortion' appearances in the Childrens Court (Magistrate), over half (55.6%) were not adjudicated, meaning that the charges were withdrawn or dismissed prior to adjudication. For appearances with 'sexual offences' as MSO, nearly half (45.7%) were adjudicated in 2024–25 and, of those adjudicated, about six in 10 (62.5%) appearances resulted in a conviction.

Table 31 Finalised child appearances by MSO, by court type, method of finalisation and outcome, 2024–25

	Higher courts			Childrens Court (Magistrates)		
	Adjudicated Convicted	Adjudicated Not convicted	Non-adjudicated	Adjudicated Convicted	Adjudicated Not convicted	Non-adjudicated
Most serious offence (MSO) ^(a)	— count —					
01 Homicide	6	3	2	0	1	2
02 Assault	106	2	19	958	80	145
03 Sexual offences	38	12	18	10	6	19
04 Harm or endanger persons	13	1	2	112	14	12
05 Robbery, blackmail, and extortion	269	0	26	56	11	84
06 Burglary	26	0	1	1,166	64	300
07 Theft	11	1	0	1,390	240	244
08 Fraud and related offences	1	0	1	47	16	11
09 Drug offences	7	0	1	47	18	19
10 Weapons and explosives offences	1	0	0	160	42	16
11 Property damage	25	1	5	242	55	42
12 Public order, health, and safety offences	1	0	1	157	71	42
13 Traffic and vehicle offences	1	0	0	223	212	25
14 Offences against justice procedures and orders	4	2	1	476	100	123
15 Offences against government	0	0	0	1	1	2
Total	509	22	77	5,045	931	1,086

a) Excludes ANZSOC 2023 offence divisions with zero values.

4.5.2 Convicted child appearances

In 2024–25, the total count of convicted child appearances in the higher courts declined (down 8.5%) when compared with the previous year (Table 32). This overall decrease coincided with declines in the count of appearances with 'offences against justice procedures and orders' (down 71.4%), 'drug offences' (down 50.0%), and 'robbery, blackmail, and extortion' (down 14.6%) as the MSO when comparing 2024–25 with the previous year.

The most common MSO among convicted child appearances in the higher courts in 2024–25 was 'robbery, blackmail, and extortion', accounting for just over half (52.8%) of convicted appearances, followed by 'assault' (20.8%) and 'sexual offences' (7.5%).

Increases in the count of convicted appearances were more apparent among some MSOs relative to others after the transition of 17-year-old offenders to the youth justice system in 2017–18. For example, the count of appearances with an MSO of 'assault' and 'robbery, blackmail and extortion' increased when comparing each subsequent year with 2016–17 (prior to the transition).

Table 32 Convicted child appearances by MSO, all higher courts – time series

	2014–15	2015–16	2016–17	2017–18 ^(a)	2018–19	2019–20 ^(b)	2020–21	2021–22	2022–23 ^(c)	2023–24	2024–25	
Most serious offence (MSO) ^(d)	— count —											
01 Homicide	2	0	0	1	0	1	2	1	5	8	6	
02 Assault	58	56	56	65	133	128	108	102	130	99	106	
03 Sexual offences	40	29	46	36	42	54	41	33	30	37	38	
04 Harm or endanger persons	3	5	6	7	9	6	14	12	12	6	13	
05 Robbery, blackmail, and extortion	95	135	135	135	255	344	286	287	317	315	269	
06 Burglary	24	25	23	19	30	57	30	35	28	29	26	
07 Theft	6	6	10	13	15	15	7	9	16	14	11	
08 Fraud and related offences	0	1	0	1	2	0	2	0	2	0	1	
09 Drug offences	5	3	12	13	30	26	17	17	8	14	7	
10 Weapons and explosives offences	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	
11 Property damage	21	18	25	27	35	32	19	25	28	17	25	
12 Public order, health, and safety offences	0	0	1	21	2	0	1	1	1	0	1	
13 Traffic and vehicle offences	4	2	1	0	3	1	0	0	0	1	1	
14 Offences against justice procedures and orders	23	18	10	12	13	13	13	14	14	14	4	
15 Offences against government	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	
Total	281	300	325	350	569	677	541	536	591	556	509	

a) The transition of 17-year-olds to the youth justice system occurred in February 2018.

b) The COVID-19 pandemic was declared in March 2020 and resulted in social restrictions which continued into 2021–22.

c) Breach of bail conditions were introduced as a criminal offence for child offenders from March 2023.

d) Excludes ANZSOC 2023 offence divisions with zero values.

In 2024–25, the total count of child appearances convicted in the Childrens Court (Magistrates) decreased (down 17.7%) when compared with the previous year (Table 33). This overall decrease coincided with a decline in the number of appearances with 'drug offences' (down 65.4%), 'burglary' (down 27.1%), 'weapons and explosives offences' (down 24.2%), and 'theft' (down 18.7%) as MSO when comparing 2024–25 with the previous year.

The most common MSO among convicted appearances in the Childrens Court (Magistrates) in 2024–25 was 'theft', accounting for over a quarter (27.6%) of convicted appearances, followed by 'burglary' (23.1%) and 'assault' (19.0%), which remained largely consistent with the previous year.

Table 33 Convicted child appearances by MSO, Childrens Court (Magistrates) – time series

	2014–15	2015–16	2016–17	2017–18 ^(a)	2018–19	2019–20 ^(b)	2020–21	2021–22	2022–23 ^(c)	2023–24	2024–25
Most serious offence (MSO) ^(d)	— count —										
02 Assault	1,091	1,102	1,021	1,209	1,186	769	1,064	1,020	1,003	1,049	958
03 Sexual offences	15	13	13	18	8	13	11	14	12	12	10
04 Harm or endanger persons	104	97	84	96	123	90	100	117	104	129	112
05 Robbery, blackmail, and extortion	3	9	12	21	28	30	49	20	22	59	56
06 Burglary	1,064	1,207	1,243	1,362	1,533	1,111	1,498	1,503	1,594	1,600	1,166
07 Theft	1,377	1,544	1,646	1,657	1,888	1,288	1,449	1,498	1,395	1,709	1,390
08 Fraud and related offences	69	79	94	127	162	98	128	107	72	59	47
09 Drug offences	292	313	293	344	445	272	334	200	144	136	47
10 Weapons and explosives offences	140	123	134	184	281	235	308	268	221	211	160
11 Property damage	513	460	454	520	539	335	373	283	255	255	242
12 Public order, health, and safety offences	645	566	544	540	598	335	416	270	223	188	157
13 Traffic and vehicle offences	229	227	166	268	471	337	412	297	240	194	223
14 Offences against justice procedures and orders	310	321	306	320	443	281	303	272	265	523	476
15 Offences against government	5	7	6	5	3	4	1	0	0	2	1
16 Environmental offences	9	8	6	7	3	3	2	3	1	4	0
Total	5,866	6,076	6,022	6,678	7,711	5,201	6,448	5,872	5,551	6,130	5,045

a) The transition of 17-year-olds to the youth justice system occurred in February 2018.

b) The COVID–19 pandemic was declared in March 2020 and resulted in social restrictions which continued into 2021–22.

c) Breach of bail conditions were introduced as a criminal offence for child offenders from March 2023.

d) Excludes ANZSOC 2023 offence divisions with zero values.

4.5.3 Finalised charges against children

This section shows finalised charges for child defendants in the higher courts and Childrens Court (Magistrates) in 2024–25. There were 49,053 charges finalised across the two court types, 2,747 (5.6%) in the higher courts and 46,306 (94.4%) in the Childrens Court (Magistrates). In the higher courts, 84.5% of finalised charges resulted in conviction, compared to 79.5% in the Childrens Court (Magistrates) (Table 34).

In 2024–25, nearly seven in 10 (68.1%) charges with 'sexual offences' as the MSO were adjudicated in the higher courts, and of those adjudicated, over eight in 10 (84.6%) resulted in a conviction. In the Childrens Court (Magistrates), over four in 10 (43.3%) charges with 'sexual offences' as the MSO were adjudicated, with around six in 10 (58.6%) of those adjudicated resulting in a conviction.

In the higher courts, 'theft' was the most common MSO accounting for one in five charges (22.4%), closely followed by 'robbery, blackmail, and extortion' (22.1%). In the Childrens Court (Magistrates), 'theft' accounted for a third (30.4%) of all charges, while 'offences against justice procedures and orders' represented just over two in 10 (23.0%) charges.

Table 34 Finalised charges against children by MSO, by court type, method of finalisation and outcome, 2024–25

	Higher courts			Childrens Court (Magistrates)		
	Adjudicated – Convicted	Adjudicated – Not convicted	Non-adjudicated	Adjudicated – Convicted	Adjudicated – Not convicted	Non-adjudicated
Most serious offence ^{a)}	— count —					
01 Homicide	6	5	2	0	1	2
02 Assault	239	6	67	2,205	163	444
03 Sexual offences	121	22	67	17	12	38
04 Harm or endanger persons	37	1	4	312	16	59
05 Robbery, blackmail, and extortion	522	0	86	102	25	284
06 Burglary	474	0	63	6,354	241	1,958
07 Theft	560	1	55	11,666	673	1,747
08 Fraud and related offences	17	0	5	518	30	99
09 Drug offences	50	0	12	902	73	103
10 Weapons and explosives offences	17	0	2	345	49	40
11 Property damage	109	2	15	1,605	181	285
12 Public order, health, and safety offences	20	0	1	1,788	230	303
13 Traffic and vehicle offences	50	0	3	1,942	554	247
14 Offences against justice procedures and orders	100	4	2	9,046	546	1,061
15 Offences against government	0	0	0	12	8	10
16 Environmental offences	0	0	0	5	2	3
Total	2,322	41	384	36,819	2,804	6,683

a) Excludes ANZSOC 2023 offence divisions with zero values.

4.5.4 Convicted charges against children

The total count of convicted charges against children in the higher courts fluctuated over the past decade, with the lowest total in 2015–16 and the highest in 2019–20 (Table 35). Contributing factors to this variance include the transition of 17-year-old offenders to the youth justice system in February 2018 and the COVID-19 pandemic which involved social restrictions from March 2020 and throughout 2021–22. In 2024–25, there were a total of 2,322 convicted charges, reflecting a 5.3% decrease compared to the previous year.

The most common convicted charges in 2024–25 were for 'theft', comprising nearly a quarter (24.1%) of all convicted charges in the higher courts, followed by 'robbery, blackmail, and extortion', accounting for just over two in 10 (22.5%) charges. 'Assault' accounted for one in 10 (10.3%) convicted charges, marking a 10.6% increase compared to the previous year after a period of general decline since 2019–20.

Table 35 Convicted charges against children by MSO, all higher courts – time series

	2014–15	2015–16	2016–17	2017–18 ^(a)	2018–19	2019–20 ^(b)	2020–21	2021–22	2022–23 ^(c)	2023–24	2024–25
Most serious offence ^(d)	— count —										
01 Homicide	2	0	0	2	0	2	2	2	5	8	6
02 Assault	167	159	206	234	283	324	278	238	340	216	239
03 Sexual offences	132	137	114	125	96	137	124	78	82	95	121
04 Harm or endanger persons	17	18	37	35	33	46	50	39	35	34	37
05 Robbery, blackmail, and extortion	170	211	197	251	537	603	582	515	601	675	522
06 Burglary	415	259	341	310	506	545	445	324	375	435	474
07 Theft	358	417	426	439	712	708	545	469	532	519	560
08 Fraud and related offences	26	43	40	43	80	47	34	34	36	17	17
09 Drug offences	92	47	74	72	225	203	132	133	50	104	50
10 Weapons and explosives offences	9	5	11	5	10	13	10	9	6	14	17
11 Property damage	150	137	170	135	176	142	166	110	110	102	109
12 Public order, health, and safety offences	35	41	31	58	53	65	39	21	25	21	20
13 Traffic and vehicle offences	37	53	51	60	71	79	47	45	46	62	50
14 Offences against justice procedures and orders	121	92	50	63	84	127	107	77	78	147	100
15 Offences against government	0	1	0	3	9	1	0	0	0	1	0
16 Environmental offences	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	1	1	0
Total	1,731	1,620	1,748	1,839	2,875	3,042	2,561	2,094	2,322	2,451	2,322

a) The transition of 17-year-olds to the youth justice system occurred in February 2018.

b) The COVID-19 pandemic was declared in March 2020 and resulted in social restrictions which continued into 2021–22.

c) Breach of bail conditions were introduced as a criminal offence for child offenders from March 2023.

d) Excludes ANZSOC 2023 offence divisions with zero values.

The total count of convicted charges in the **Childrens Court (Magistrates)** has generally increased over the past decade, but decreased in 2024–25 to 36,819 (down 15.7% compared to the previous year) after reaching a series high of 43,799 in 2023–24 (up 93.7% compared to 2014–15). 'Theft' has consistently been the most common MSO among convicted charges over the past decade, accounting for over a third (31.7%) of convicted charges in 2024–25 (Table 36). The count of 'theft' charges steadily increased throughout the decade up until 2023–24, save for a slight decrease coinciding with the COVID-19 pandemic in 2019–20. However, in 2024–25, 'theft' charges declined for the first time during the time series, dropping by 22.7% compared to the previous year.

Over the past decade, 'burglary' has featured prominently as the second most common charge convicted, however this shifted in 2024–25, with 'offences against justice procedures and orders' constituting nearly a quarter (24.6%) of convicted charges. Meanwhile, 'burglary' accounted for less than two in 10 (17.3%), decreasing by 27.5% compared to the previous year. The count of convicted charges for 'offences against justice procedures and orders' was substantially higher in both 2023–24 and 2024–25 compared to previous years, making up 19.6% of charges in 2023–24 and 24.6% in 2024–25, compared to just 6.3% in 2022–23. While several factors may be relevant to this shift, the inclusion of breach of bail conditions as a criminal offence for young people in March 2023 is likely to have contributed to the observed increases.

Table 36 Convicted charges against children by MSO, Childrens Court (Magistrates) – time series

	2014–15	2015–16	2016–17	2017–18 ^(a)	2018–19	2019–20 ^(b)	2020–21	2021–22	2022–23 ^(c)	2023–24	2024–25
Most serious offence ^(d)	— count —										
02 Assault	1,791	1,819	1,736	2,284	2,181	1,424	2,208	1,964	1,987	2,104	2,205
03 Sexual offences	19	19	18	35	11	15	15	19	26	22	17
04 Harm or endanger persons	216	221	198	229	306	223	266	323	365	352	312
05 Robbery, blackmail, and extortion	8	17	24	40	57	63	87	45	54	95	102
06 Burglary	3,628	3,954	4,253	5,277	5,678	5,024	6,852	7,007	9,412	8,770	6,354
07 Theft	5,636	6,304	7,350	8,559	10,401	9,467	12,216	12,640	14,981	15,100	11,666
08 Fraud and related offences	787	831	1,118	1,242	1,373	1,010	1,569	1,123	1,031	626	518
09 Drug offences	1,096	1,214	1,314	1,508	2,332	1,785	2,489	1,841	1,582	1,485	902
10 Weapons and explosives offences	212	202	237	320	460	445	589	507	498	423	345
11 Property damage	3,441	2,303	2,118	2,635	3,066	1,837	2,315	1,921	2,001	1,917	1,605
12 Public order, health, and safety offences	2,905	2,798	2,644	3,150	3,379	2,545	3,069	2,235	2,227	2,307	1,788
13 Traffic and vehicle offences	1,361	1,468	1,464	1,653	2,454	1,850	2,553	2,099	2,168	1,874	1,942
14 Offences against justice procedures and orders	1,404	1,282	1,274	1,536	2,435	2,109	2,630	2,214	2,461	8,566	9,046
15 Offences against government	16	134	37	12	17	175	17	4	2	15	12
16 Environmental offences	32	49	28	44	25	17	17	16	13	28	5
17 Miscellaneous offences	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0
Total	22,552	22,615	23,813	28,525	34,176	27,989	36,892	33,958	38,809	43,684	36,819

a) The transition of 17-year-olds to the youth justice system occurred in February 2018.

b) The COVID-19 pandemic was declared in March 2020 and resulted in social restrictions which continued into 2021–22.

c) Breach of bail conditions were introduced as a criminal offence for child offenders from March 2023.

d) Excludes ANZSOC 2023 offence divisions with zero values.

4.5.5 Penalties imposed on children

This section presents the **most serious penalty** imposed in a convicted child appearance. A defendant may receive more than one penalty when convicted, but only the most serious penalty per appearance is presented here. 'Detention' includes detention and detention sentences which are partially suspended, based on the premise they each involve a period of sentenced incarceration. In the editions prior to 2021–22, partially suspended detention was grouped with 'conditional release order', which is wholly suspended detention. 'Conditional release order' is now reported separately (see *Glossary*).

In 2024–25, 'nominal penalty', 'court-ordered conference' and 'probation' were most frequently imposed as the most serious penalty in the children's court system, collectively accounting for nearly three-quarters (72.7%) of all convicted appearances in 2024–25 (Table 37). Over the past five years, fewer appearances resulted in 'community service' and 'good behaviour order' as the most serious penalty, with 2024–25 marking the 11-year low for convicted appearances resulting in either of these as the most serious penalty. Conversely, the count of appearances resulting in 'detention' as the most serious penalty has tended to increase over the last 11 years but saw a slight decrease in 2024–25 (down 3.4%) compared to the previous year.

Table 37 Convicted child appearances by most serious penalty, all courts – time series

	2014–15	2015–16	2016–17	2017–18 ^(a)	2018–19	2019–20 ^(b)	2020–21	2021–22	2022–23 ^(c)	2023–24	2024–25
Most serious penalty ^(d)	— count —										
Detention ^(e)	326	340	268	283	364	295	273	301	351	384	371
Intensive supervision	14	9	2	12	5	5	3	8	1	2	4
Conditional release	223	230	220	209	313	237	296	300	279	330	267
Community service ^(f)	1,139	1,034	832	878	983	555	536	453	417	397	359
Probation	1,095	1,207	1,153	1,356	1,475	1,100	1,498	1,485	1,449	1,514	1,424
Treatment orders ^(g)	49	72	46	71	107	62	64	22	17	20	4
Court-ordered conference ^(h)	<i>na</i>	<i>na</i>	731	898	1,340	1,398	1,676	1,602	1,451	1,608	1,146
Fine	83	71	59	73	153	73	60	51	26	27	28
Compensation/Restitution	38	19	25	26	26	6	10	9	11	6	8
Good behaviour order	1,061	1,083	946	970	1,153	589	760	527	486	497	389
Driver licence disqualification	20	29	11	45	126	132	162	110	102	90	86
Nominal penalty ⁽ⁱ⁾	2,099	2,282	2,054	2,207	2,235	1,426	1,651	1,540	1,552	1,811	1,468
Total	6,147	6,376	6,347	7,028	8,280	5,878	6,989	6,408	6,142	6,686	5,554

na not applicable

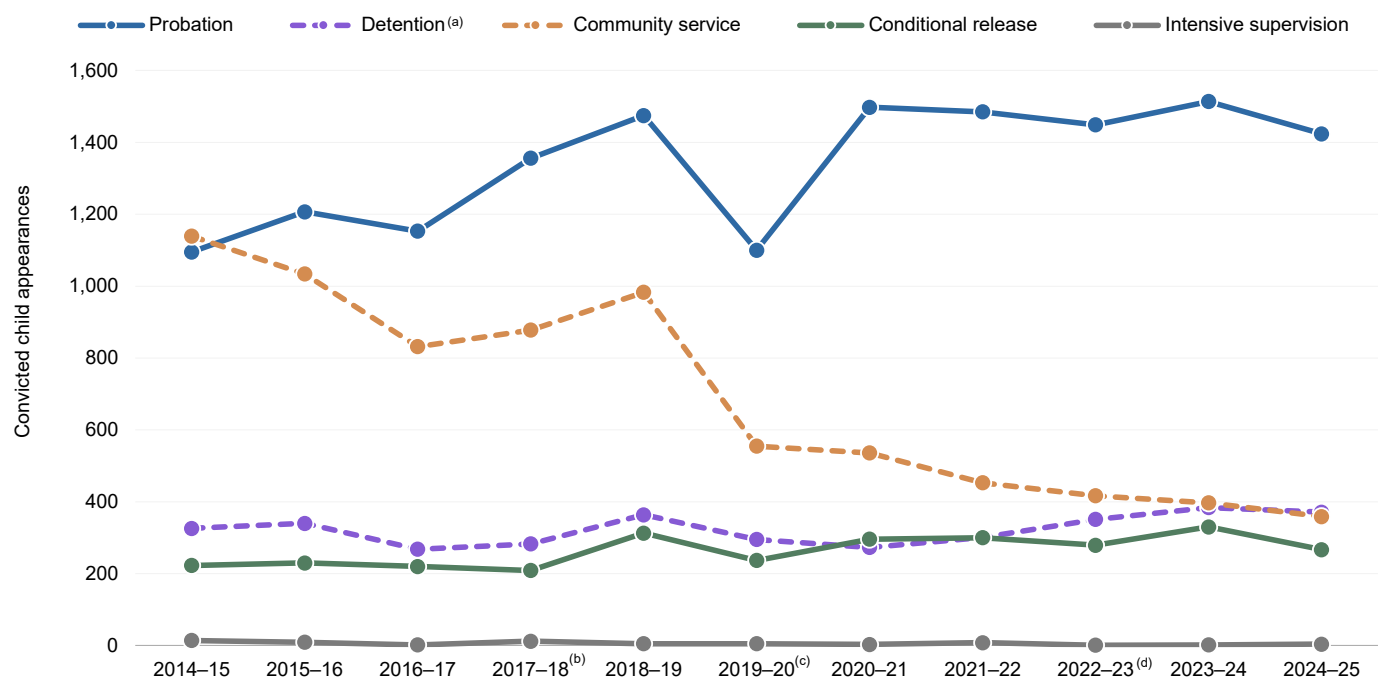
- The transition of 17-year-olds to the youth justice system occurred in February 2018.
- The COVID-19 pandemic was declared in March 2020 and resulted in social restrictions which continued into 2021–22.
- Breach of bail conditions were introduced as a criminal offence for child offenders from March 2023.
- In descending order of seriousness.
- May include imprisonment and boot camp. Boot camp orders were introduced in January 2013 and repealed in July 2015.
- Includes graffiti-removal orders.
- Involves offender participating in a drug assessment and education session.
- Court-ordered conferences were discontinued in January 2013 and re-introduced on 1 July 2016.
- Includes reprimand; convicted not further punished.

The five most serious penalties for child defendants, in order of seriousness, are 'detention', 'intensive supervision', 'conditional release order', 'community service' and 'probation'. Figure 15 shows the count of convicted child appearances from all courts resulting in these penalties. Over the past decade, 'intensive supervision' was rarely imposed as the most serious penalty and has become less common over time, declining from 14 in 2014–15 to just four in 2024–25.

'Probation' has been the most common penalty imposed on child defendants since 2015–16, with the count of appearances resulting in 'probation' as the most serious penalty remaining relatively stable between 2020–21 and 2024–25. 'Detention' and 'community service' were the next most common penalties imposed in 2024–25, resulting in similar counts of appearances for each (371 for 'detention' and 359 for 'community service'). The count of appearances with 'community service' imposed has not returned to pre-COVID levels, with declines observed from 2019–20 onward (down 35.3% when comparing 2024–25 with 2019–20).

The count of convicted child appearances resulting in 'conditional release' and 'detention' have gradually increased over the past decade (up 19.7% and up 13.8% respectively when comparing 2024–24 with 2014–15), with some variation during 2019–20 coinciding with the pandemic. However, appearances resulting in 'conditional release' saw a notable decline in 2024–25 (down 23.6%) compared to the previous year.

Figure 15 Convicted child appearances by most serious penalty, by the five most serious^(a), all courts – time series



- a) Detention may include imprisonment and boot camp. Boot camp orders were introduced in January 2013 and were repealed in July 2015. Community service includes graffiti-removal orders.
- b) The transition of 17-year-olds to the youth justice system occurred in February 2018.
- c) The COVID-19 pandemic was declared in March 2020 and resulted in social restrictions which continued into 2021–22.
- d) Breach of bail conditions were introduced as a criminal offence for child offenders from March 2023.

In 2024–25, among appearances from all courts, 'theft' was the most common MSO, accounting for a quarter (25.2%) of all convicted child appearances (Table 38). For this offence, 'nominal penalty' and 'court-ordered conference' were the most serious penalties, imposed in around six in 10 (60.8%) convicted appearances.

'Nominal penalty' was the most common penalty imposed, resulting in just over a quarter (26.4%) of all convicted appearances in 2024–25, closely followed by 'probation' (25.6%) and 'court-ordered conference' (20.6%). Of the convicted child appearances resulting in 'probation' as the most serious penalty, over half were for either 'assault' (29.6%) or 'burglary' (26.5%) in 2024–25, followed by 'theft' (17.5%).

In 2024–25, 'detention' accounted for 6.7% of all convicted appearances. Of these, four in 10 (40.4%) were for appearances where 'burglary' was the MSO, while 'assault', 'robbery, blackmail, and extortion' and 'theft' collectively accounted for nearly half (48.5%).

Table 38 Convicted child appearances by MSO, by most serious penalty^(a), all courts, 2024–25

	Detention ^(b)	Intensive supervision	Conditional release	Community service ^(c)	Probation	Treatment orders ^(d)	Court-ordered conference	Fine	Compensation/Restitution	Good behaviour order	Driver licence disqual.	Nominal penalty ^(e)	Total
Most serious offence ^(f)	— count —												
01 Homicide	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6
02 Assault	65	0	52	47	422	0	241	0	3	97	0	137	1,064
03 Sexual offences	8	0	5	1	28	0	2	0	0	1	0	3	48
04 Harm or endanger persons	9	1	10	10	39	0	21	0	0	10	0	25	125
05 Robbery, blackmail, and extortion	55	1	27	7	178	0	38	0	0	9	0	10	325
06 Burglary	150	2	109	87	378	0	247	0	0	72	0	147	1,192
07 Theft	60	0	43	81	249	0	361	5	3	108	0	491	1,401
08 Fraud and related offences	0	0	1	5	12	0	13	0	0	2	0	15	48
09 Drug offences	1	0	0	1	10	3	13	1	0	2	0	23	54
10 Weapons and explosives offences	2	0	10	5	37	0	40	0	0	21	0	46	161
11 Property damage	5	0	3	81	27	0	61	1	2	20	0	67	267
12 Public order, health, and safety offences	0	0	0	2	9	1	42	0	0	19	1	84	158
13 Traffic and vehicle offences	7	0	5	7	5	0	50	16	0	9	85	40	224
14 Offences against justice procedures and orders	3	0	2	25	30	0	16	5	0	19	0	380	480
15 Offences against government	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Total	371	4	267	359	1,424	4	1,146	28	8	389	86	1,468	5,554

a) In descending order of seriousness.

b) May include imprisonment orders.

c) Includes graffiti-removal orders.

d) Involves offender participating in a drug assessment and education session.

e) Includes reprimand and convicted not further punished.

f) Excludes ANZSOC 2023 offence divisions with zero values.

In 2024–25, males accounted for around seven in 10 (71.6%) convicted child appearances (Table 39). While the count of convicted child appearances for males was 2.5 times higher than for females, decreases were observed for both males (down 16.5%) and females (down 18.0%) when comparing 2024–25 with the previous year.

When examining the distribution of males and females across different penalties, males accounted for around nine in 10 (89.8%) convicted appearances resulting in 'detention', 82.1% of convicted appearances resulting in 'fine' and 81.3% of convicted appearances resulting in 'conditional release' in 2024–25. In the same period, females accounted for 32.9% of convicted appearances resulting in 'good behaviour order' and 'court-ordered conference', respectively.

In 2024–25, 'nominal penalty', 'probation', and 'court-ordered conference' were the most common penalties among both male and female convicted appearances. Among males, 'probation' was the most common penalty (31.0%), followed by 'nominal penalty' (24.6%) and 'court ordered conference' (19.3%). For females, 'nominal penalty' was the most common penalty (31.0%), followed by 'probation' (25.0%) and 'court ordered conference' (23.9%).

Table 39 Convicted child appearances by most serious penalty, by sex^(a), all courts – time series

	2014–15			2015–16			2016–17			2017–18 ^(b)			2018–19			2019–20 ^(c)		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Most serious penalty ^(d)	— count —																	
Detention ^(e)	273	53	326	277	63	340	231	37	268	249	34	283	328	36	364	266	29	295
Intensive supervision	13	1	14	9	0	9	2	0	2	12	0	12	4	1	5	4	1	5
Conditional release	183	40	223	198	32	230	173	47	220	171	38	209	272	41	313	207	30	237
Community service ^(f)	942	197	1,139	845	188	1,033	626	206	832	703	175	878	746	237	983	440	115	555
Probation	789	306	1,095	887	320	1,207	854	299	1,153	997	359	1,356	1,045	430	1,475	816	284	1,100
Treatment orders ^(g)	47	2	49	57	15	72	32	14	46	55	16	71	82	25	107	46	16	62
Court-ordered conference ^(h)	<i>na</i>	<i>na</i>	<i>na</i>	<i>na</i>	<i>na</i>	<i>na</i>	547	184	731	651	247	898	967	373	1,340	977	421	1,398
Fine	65	18	83	63	8	71	53	6	59	64	9	73	123	30	153	61	12	73
Compensation/Restitution	30	8	38	15	4	19	15	10	25	21	5	26	24	2	26	4	2	6
Good behaviour order	787	274	1,061	772	311	1,083	691	255	946	643	327	970	810	343	1,153	399	190	589
Driver licence disqualification	17	3	20	23	6	29	10	1	11	36	9	45	100	26	126	100	32	132
Nominal penalty ⁽ⁱ⁾	1,434	664	2,098	1,582	700	2,282	1,397	656	2,053	1,473	732	2,205	1,559	675	2,234	1,002	421	1,423
Total	4,580	1,566	6,146	4,728	1,647	6,375	4,631	1,715	6,346	5,075	1,951	7,026	6,060	2,219	8,279	4,322	1,553	5,875

na not applicable

- Excludes appearances where the defendant's sex was not stated (a total of 34 appearances across the time series).
- The transition of 17-year-olds to the youth justice system occurred in February 2018.
- The COVID-19 pandemic was declared in March 2020 and resulted in social restrictions which continued into 2021–22.
- In descending order of seriousness.
- May include imprisonment and boot camp. Boot camp orders were introduced in January 2013 and were repealed in July 2015.
- Includes graffiti-removal orders.
- Involves offender participating in a drug assessment and education session.
- Court-ordered conferences were discontinued in January 2013 and re-introduced on 1 July 2016.
- Includes reprimand; convicted not further punished.

Table 39 continued.

	2020-21			2021-22			2022-23 ^(a)			2023-24			2024-25		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Most serious penalty ^(b)	— count —														
Detention ^(c)	257	16	273	270	31	301	320	31	351	342	42	384	333	38	371
Intensive supervision	3	0	3	8	0	8	0	1	1	2	0	2	4	0	4
Conditional release	239	57	296	250	50	300	232	47	279	277	53	330	217	50	267
Community service ^(d)	411	125	536	339	114	453	313	104	417	282	115	397	278	81	359
Probation	1,107	391	1,498	1,108	377	1,485	1,080	369	1,449	1,120	394	1,514	1,030	394	1,424
Treatment orders ^(e)	48	16	64	17	5	22	13	4	17	16	4	20	3	1	4
Court-ordered conference	1,191	484	1,675	1,112	489	1,601	994	455	1,449	1,078	529	1,607	769	377	1,146
Fine	49	11	60	43	7	50	26	0	26	23	4	27	23	5	28
Compensation/Restitution	8	2	10	6	3	9	10	1	11	5	1	6	8	0	8
Good behaviour order	525	235	760	348	179	527	295	191	486	316	181	497	261	128	389
Driver licence disqualification	127	35	162	89	21	110	88	14	102	85	5	90	74	12	86
Nominal penalty ^(f)	1,169	482	1,651	1,095	445	1,540	1,043	508	1,551	1,218	592	1,810	978	489	1,467
Total	5,134	1,854	6,988	4,685	1,721	6,406	4,414	1,725	6,139	4,764	1,920	6,684	3,978	1,575	5,553

a) Breach of bail conditions were introduced as a criminal offence for child offenders from March 2023.

b) In descending order of seriousness.

c) May include imprisonment.

d) Includes graffiti-removal orders.

e) Involves offender participating in a drug assessment and education session.

f) Includes reprimand; convicted not further punished.

4.5.6 Child defendants by age and sex

The overall count of convicted child appearances decreased by 16.9% in 2024–25 compared with the previous year, with fewer convicted appearances recorded for all shown age categories irrespective of defendant sex (Table 40 – 'All courts'). This decline was largely driven by reductions in convicted appearances in the Childrens Court (Magistrates), which declined by 17.7% (1,084 fewer convicted appearances). Convicted appearances in the higher courts decreased by 8.5% (47 fewer convictions), and these appearances accounted for 9.2% of all convicted appearances in 2024–25. In 2024–25, those aged 17 years and over were the most common child defendants in the higher courts and Childrens Court (Magistrates) (31.4% and 47.9%, respectively), while those aged 10–12 years old accounted for the smallest percentage of convictions in both court types (2.1% in Childrens Court (Magistrates) and 0.4% in higher courts).

Nine in 10 of all convicted child appearances (90.8%) in 2024–25 came out of the Childrens Court (Magistrates), and, independent of defendant sex, the highest count of convictions was against those aged 17 years and over. Within their respective sexes, this defendant cohort accounted for one in three convicted appearances in 2024–25 (males 31.4% and females 33.6%). When comparing 2024–25 with 2023–24, there were 767 fewer convictions against males and 317 fewer convictions against females. The largest drop in convicted appearances involving male defendants was for those aged 17 years and over (259 fewer convictions) while for females it was convictions involving 14-year-old defendants (97 fewer). Notably, convicted appearances for 16-year-old defendants only marginally declined in 2024–25 compared with 2023–24 (down 0.5% overall), a trend observed for males and females.

In the higher courts, the count of convicted appearances involving females decreased by 21.4% in 2024–25 compared with 2023–24, driven by fewer convictions against females 17 years and older (35 fewer or 57.4% less).

Table 40 Convicted child appearances by court type and age, by sex^(a)

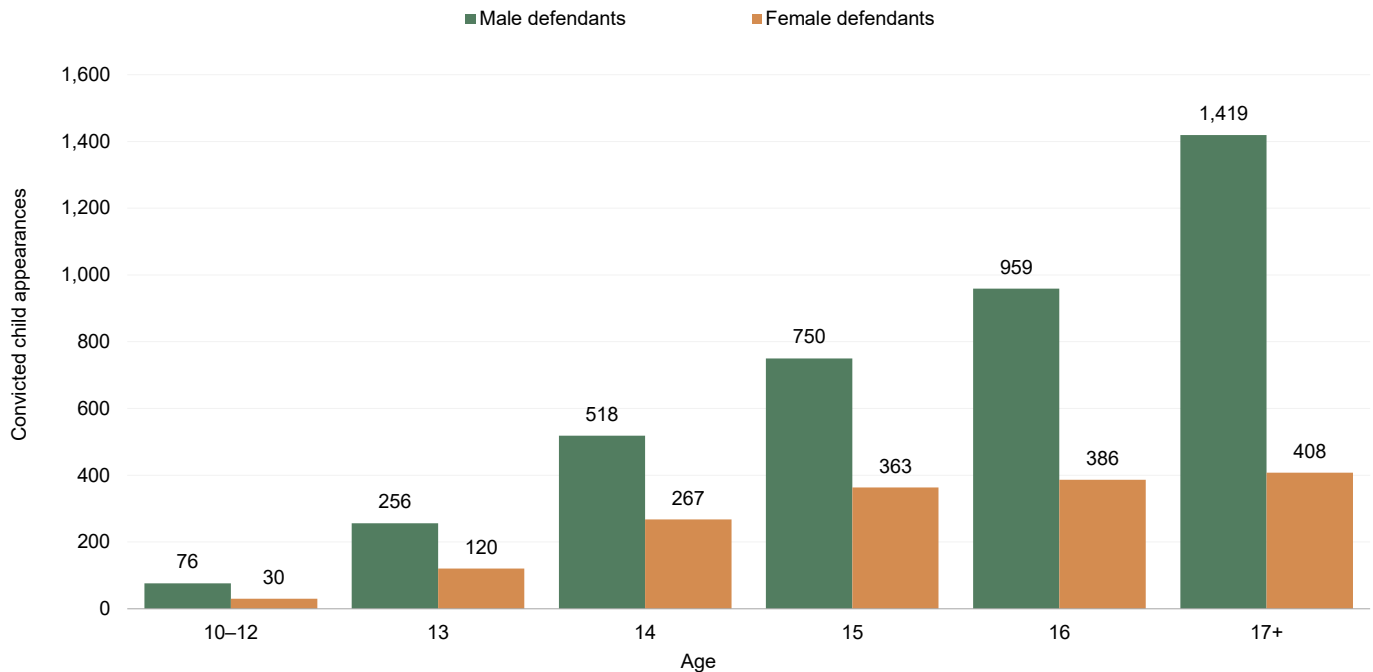
Age at finalised appearance (yrs)	2022–23 ^(b)			2023–24			2024–25		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
	— count —								
Higher courts									
10–12 yrs	3	2	5	2	1	3	1	1	2
13 yrs	19	8	27	16	3	19	18	6	24
14 yrs	36	29	65	41	17	58	38	16	54
15 yrs	63	33	96	64	26	90	59	27	86
16 yrs	96	34	130	87	23	110	72	27	99
17 yrs and over	226	41	267	215	61	276	218	26	244
Not stated	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	443	148	591	425	131	556	406	103	509
Childrens Court (Magistrates)									
10–12 yrs	105	54	159	150	45	195	75	29	104
13 yrs	358	152	510	357	171	528	238	114	352
14 yrs	533	266	799	564	348	912	480	251	731
15 yrs	726	322	1,048	920	403	1,323	691	336	1,027
16 yrs	932	351	1,283	888	364	1,252	887	359	1,246
17 yrs and over	1,315	432	1,747	1,460	457	1,917	1,201	382	1,583
Not stated	2	0	2	0	1	1	0	1	1
Total	3,971	1,577	5,548	4,339	1,789	6,128	3,572	1,472	5,044
All courts									
10–12 yrs	108	56	164	152	46	198	76	30	106
13 yrs	377	160	537	373	174	547	256	120	376
14 yrs	569	295	864	605	365	970	518	267	785
15 yrs	789	355	1,144	984	429	1,413	750	363	1,113
16 yrs	1,028	385	1,413	975	387	1,362	959	386	1,345
17 yrs and over	1,541	473	2,014	1,675	518	2,193	1,419	408	1,827
Not stated	2	1	3	0	1	1	0	1	1
Total (all courts)	4,414	1,725	6,139	4,764	1,920	6,684	3,978	1,575	5,553

a) Excludes appearances where the defendant's sex was not stated (a total of 14 across the time series).

b) Breach of bail conditions were introduced as a criminal offence for child offenders from March 2023.

In 2024–25, the count of convicted child appearances increased with defendant age for both males and females (Figure 16). Males represented a substantially larger percentage of convicted appearances when compared with females across all age groups, with disparity most pronounced among those aged 17 years and over, followed by those aged 16 years. From the age of 14 years onwards, the gender gap became more pronounced, as convicted appearances among males were 1.9 times higher than those of females at age 14, rising to 3.5 times higher at age 17 and older.

Figure 16 Convicted child appearances by age^(a) and sex^(b), all courts, 2024–25



- a) Age of defendant is reported as at date of finalised appearance, not at date of offence.
- b) Excludes appearances of defendants whose age (3) or sex (2) were not stated.

In 2024–25, the total count of convicted charges in the child court system decreased by 15.2%, reaching its lowest level in three years (Table 41). This reduction was only slightly smaller than the 16.9% decrease in the count of convicted appearances over the same period (Table 40). On average, there were about 7.0 charges per appearance in 2024–25, similar to 6.9 charges per appearance in 2023–24, and slightly higher than 6.7 charges per appearance in 2022–23. In 2024–25, the average charges per appearances for young males (7.2) was higher compared with young females (6.7).

For male defendants, the count of convicted charges decreased overall (down 18.1%) when comparing 2024–25 with the previous year, largely driven by decreases in those aged 14 years (down 32.6%) and those aged 15 years (down 24.1%).

For female defendants, convicted charges decreased overall (down 6.1%) in 2024–25 compared to the previous year, and this reduction was less pronounced than for males. The decline in the count of convicted charges for females was largely concentrated among 14-year-olds (down 25.7%).

Table 41 Convicted charges against children by court type and age, by sex^(a)

	2022–23 ^(b)			2023–24			2024–25		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Age at finalised appearance (yrs)	— count —								
Higher courts									
10–12 yrs	6	8	14	15	1	16	2	6	8
13 yrs	55	29	84	77	7	84	94	22	116
14 yrs	159	88	247	228	84	312	203	50	253
15 yrs	226	121	347	277	90	367	275	97	372
16 yrs	471	119	590	358	85	443	391	82	473
17 yrs and over	895	144	1,039	1,017	212	1,229	998	102	1,100
Not stated	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	1,812	510	2,322	1,972	479	2,451	1,963	359	2,322
Childrens Court (Magistrates)									
10–12 yrs	795	290	1,085	1,237	150	1,387	710	313	1,023
13 yrs	2,927	845	3,772	3,346	1,177	4,523	2,214	963	3,177
14 yrs	4,438	1,463	5,901	4,305	2,416	6,721	4,284	1,807	6,091
15 yrs	5,841	2,117	7,958	7,190	2,547	9,737	5,392	2,431	7,823
16 yrs	7,322	2,090	9,412	7,109	2,101	9,210	6,098	2,402	8,500
17 yrs and over	8,486	2,185	10,671	9,772	2,329	12,101	7,957	2,245	10,202
Not stated	4	0	4	0	1	1	0	2	2
Total	29,813	8,990	38,803	32,959	10,721	43,680	26,655	10,163	36,818
All courts									
10–12 yrs	801	298	1,099	1,252	151	1,403	712	319	1,031
13 yrs	2,982	874	3,856	3,423	1,184	4,607	2,308	985	3,293
14 yrs	4,597	1,551	6,148	4,533	2,500	7,033	4,487	1,857	6,344
15 yrs	6,067	2,238	8,305	7,467	2,637	10,104	5,667	2,528	8,195
16 yrs	7,793	2,209	10,002	7,467	2,186	9,653	6,489	2,484	8,973
17 yrs and over	9,381	2,329	11,710	10,789	2,541	13,330	8,955	2,347	11,302
Not stated	4	1	5	0	1	1	0	2	2
Total (all courts)	31,625	9,500	41,125	34,931	11,200	46,131	28,618	10,522	39,140

a) Total excludes convicted charges where the defendant's sex was not stated (a total of 12 across the time series).

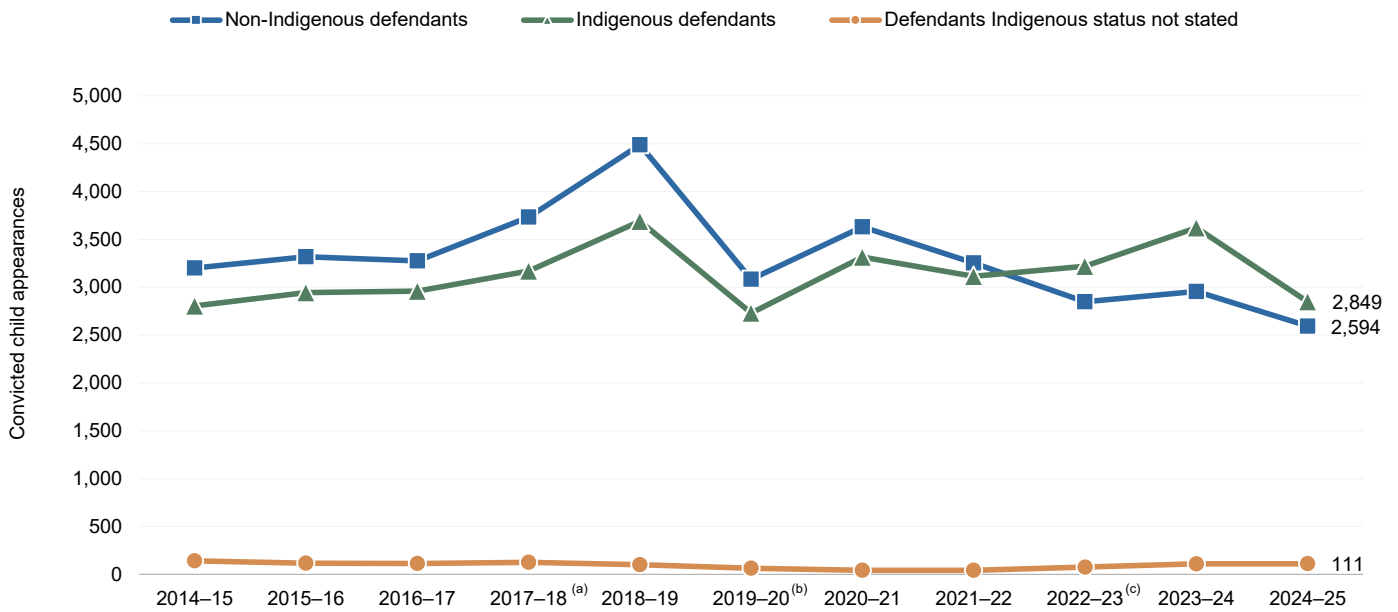
b) Breach of bail conditions were introduced as a criminal offence for child offenders from March 2023.

4.5.7 Defendants by Indigenous status

In 2024–25, the total count of convicted child appearances for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people exceeded that of non-Indigenous young people for the third year running (Figure 17), with 51.3% of defendants identifying as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander. However, the gap between these two groups narrowed in 2024–25 compared to the previous year.

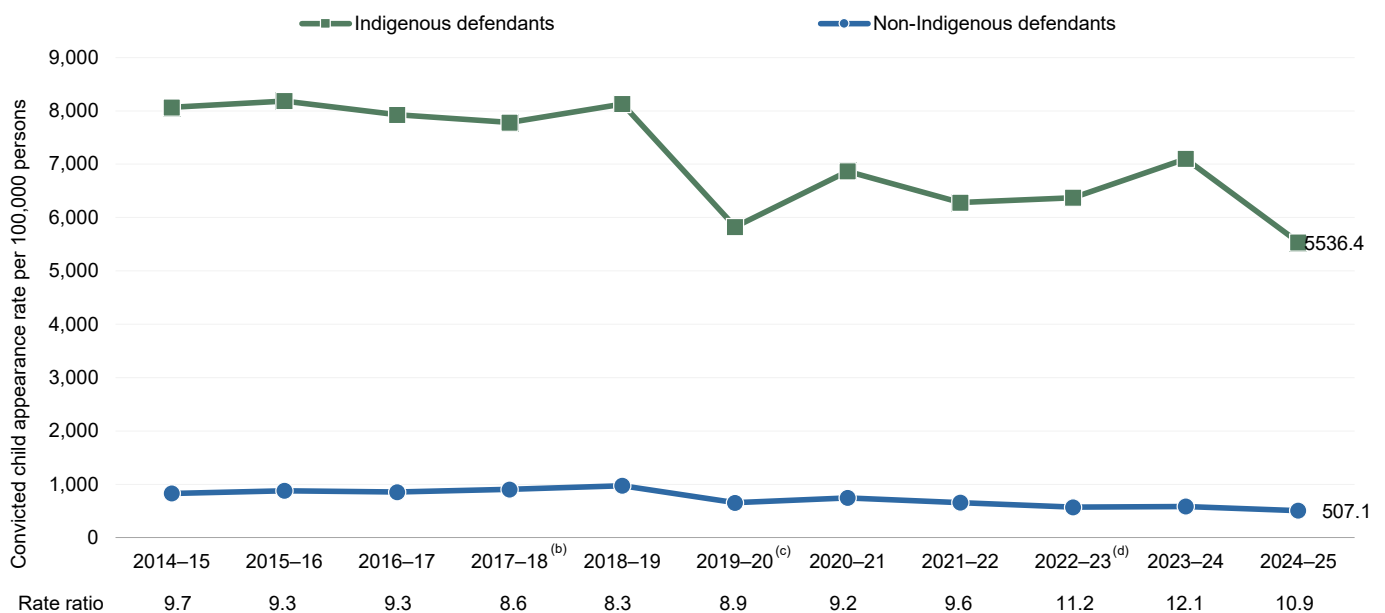
When accounting for population differences, Figure 18 shows the rate of convicted Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander child appearances per 100,000 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young persons aged 10–17 years. The rates show a higher prevalence of convicted child court appearances among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people than non-Indigenous young people. In 2024–25, the rate of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander convicted child appearances was 10.9 times that of non-Indigenous, down from 12.1 in the previous year, indicating a reduction in the disparity.

Figure 17 Convicted child appearances by Indigenous status, all courts – time series



- a) The transition of 17-year-olds to the youth justice system occurred in February 2018.
- b) The COVID-19 pandemic was declared in March 2020 and resulted in social restrictions which continued into 2021-22.
- c) Breach of bail conditions were introduced as a criminal offence for child offenders from March 2023.

Figure 18 Convicted child appearance rate^(a) by Indigenous status, all courts – time series



- a) Rates from 2014-15 to 2016-17 are based on persons aged 10-16 years; for 2018-19 onwards on persons aged 10-17 years; for 2017-18 on a proportional combination. Rate ratio is the rate for Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander defendants divided by the rate for other defendants. Rate ratios have been calculated on unrounded rates.
- b) The transition of 17-year-olds to the youth justice system occurred in February 2018.
- c) The COVID-19 pandemic was declared in March 2020 and resulted in social restrictions which continued into 2021-22.
- d) Breach of bail conditions were introduced as a criminal offence for child offenders from March 2023.

In 2024–25, for the second year running, the count of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander convicted appearances was higher than for non-Indigenous child defendants, regardless of sex (Table 42).

The total count of convicted child appearances decreased for both female and male Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander defendants in 2024–25 compared with the previous year, with a slightly greater decline observed among females (down 25.1%) than males (down 19.5%). Females accounted for about three in 10 (30.5%) convicted Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander appearances in the Childrens Court (Magistrates) and one quarter (25.2%) of appearances in the higher courts.

Table 42 Convicted child appearances by court type and Indigenous status, by sex^(a) – time series

	2014–15			2015–16			2016–17			2017–18 ^(b)			2018–19			2019–20 ^(c)		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
	— count —																	
Higher courts																		
Indigenous	80	32	112	90	37	127	81	24	105	119	31	150	180	51	231	217	70	287
Non-Indigenous	143	22	165	128	33	161	179	31	210	136	53	189	257	70	327	301	79	380
Not stated	4	0	4	9	3	12	7	3	10	10	1	11	9	2	11	7	3	10
Total	227	54	281	227	73	300	267	58	325	265	85	350	446	123	569	525	152	677
Childrens Court (Magistrates)																		
Indigenous	1,952	741	2,693	2,084	732	2,816	2,098	756	2,854	2,250	769	3,019	2,537	923	3,460	1,755	688	2,443
Non-Indigenous	2,300	734	3,034	2,339	817	3,156	2,190	875	3,065	2,492	1,053	3,545	3,016	1,144	4,160	2,006	697	2,703
Not stated	101	37	138	78	25	103	76	26	102	68	44	112	61	29	90	36	16	52
Total	4,353	1,512	5,865	4,501	1,574	6,075	4,364	1,657	6,021	4,810	1,866	6,676	5,614	2,096	7,710	3,797	1,401	5,198
All courts																		
Indigenous	2,032	773	2,805	2,174	769	2,943	2,179	780	2,959	2,369	800	3,169	2,717	974	3,691	1,972	758	2,730
Non-Indigenous	2,443	756	3,199	2,467	850	3,317	2,369	906	3,275	2,628	1,106	3,734	3,273	1,214	4,487	2,307	776	3,083
Not stated	105	37	142	87	28	115	83	29	112	78	45	123	70	31	101	43	19	62
Total (all courts)	4,580	1,566	6,146	4,728	1,647	6,375	4,631	1,715	6,346	5,075	1,951	7,026	6,060	2,219	8,279	4,322	1,553	5,875

a) Excludes appearances where the defendant's sex was not stated (a total of 17 across the time series).

b) The transition of 17-year-olds to the youth justice system occurred in February 2018.

c) The COVID-19 pandemic was declared in March 2020 and resulted in social restrictions which continued into 2021–22.

Table 42 continued.

	2020-21			2021-22			2022-23 ^(a)			2023-24			2024-25		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
	— count —														
Higher courts															
Indigenous	181	61	242	169	67	236	202	76	278	197	75	272	187	63	250
Non-Indigenous	248	48	296	236	59	295	236	70	306	222	54	276	217	39	256
Not stated	2	1	3	5	0	5	5	2	7	6	2	8	2	1	3
Total	431	110	541	410	126	536	443	148	591	425	131	556	406	103	509
Childrens Court (Magistrates)															
Indigenous	2,196	877	3,073	2,047	830	2,877	2,039	901	2,940	2,279	1,068	3,347	1,805	793	2,598
Non-Indigenous	2,477	858	3,335	2,206	749	2,955	1,886	655	2,541	1,987	693	2,680	1,701	637	2,338
Not stated	30	9	39	22	16	38	46	21	67	73	28	101	66	42	108
Total	4,703	1,744	6,447	4,275	1,595	5,870	3,971	1,577	5,548	4,339	1,789	6,128	3,572	1,472	5,044
All courts															
Indigenous	2,377	938	3,315	2,216	897	3,113	2,241	977	3,218	2,476	1,143	3,619	1,992	856	2,848
Non-Indigenous	2,725	906	3,631	2,442	808	3,250	2,122	725	2,847	2,209	747	2,956	1,918	676	2,594
Not stated	32	10	42	27	16	43	51	23	74	79	30	109	68	43	111
Total (all courts)	5,134	1,854	6,988	4,685	1,721	6,406	4,414	1,725	6,139	4,764	1,920	6,684	3,978	1,575	5,553

a) Breach of bail conditions were introduced as a criminal offence for child offenders from March 2023.

In 2024–25, 'robbery, blackmail, and extortion' was the most common MSO, accounting for more than half (52.8%) of convicted child appearances in the **higher courts**, reflecting a 14.6% decrease in the count of convicted appearances for this MSO compared to the previous year (Table 43). This offence was the MSO in nearly six in 10 (59.2%) convicted Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander appearances, followed by 'assault' (16.4%). Among non-Indigenous child defendants in 2024–25, 'robbery, blackmail, and extortion' made up almost half (47.3%) of convicted appearances in 2024–25, followed by 'assault' (25.0%).

Table 43 Convicted child appearances by MSO, by Indigenous status, all higher courts

	2022–23 ^(a)				2023–24				2024–25			
	Indigenous	Non-Indigenous	Not stated	Total	Indigenous	Non-Indigenous	Not stated	Total	Indigenous	Non-Indigenous	Not stated	Total
Most serious offence (MSO) ^(b)	— count —											
01 Homicide	2	3	0	5	3	5	0	8	1	4	1	6
02 Assault	66	62	2	130	44	55	0	99	41	64	1	106
03 Sexual offences	11	19	0	30	14	22	1	37	17	21	0	38
04 Harm or endanger persons	4	8	0	12	0	6	0	6	4	9	0	13
05 Robbery, blackmail, and extortion	160	157	0	317	170	143	2	315	148	121	0	269
06 Burglary	8	20	0	28	14	14	1	29	14	12	0	26
07 Theft	6	10	0	16	9	5	0	14	5	6	0	11
08 Fraud and related offences	0	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
09 Drug offences	0	7	1	8	2	12	0	14	2	5	0	7
10 Weapons and explosives offences	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	1
11 Property damage	15	13	0	28	10	7	0	17	13	12	0	25
12 Public order, health, and safety offences	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
13 Traffic and vehicle offences	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1
14 Offences against justice procedures and orders	6	4	4	14	6	4	4	14	3	1	0	4
15 Offences against government	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0
Total	278	306	7	591	272	276	8	556	250	256	3	509

a) Breach of bail conditions were introduced as a criminal offence for child offenders from March 2023.

b) Excludes ANZSOC 2023 offence divisions with zero values.

Consistent with previous two years, 'probation' was the most common penalty imposed on child defendants in the **higher courts**, accounting for about half (50.9%) of all convicted child appearances in 2024–25 (Table 44). This penalty, while remaining the most prevalent, was less common among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander child defendants (46.4%) compared with non-Indigenous children (55.5%). For Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander child appearances, 'detention' was the second most common penalty imposed, accounting for nearly a quarter of convictions among this group in 2024–25 (24.0%), showing relative consistency with the previous year (25.0%).

Among convicted appearances for non-Indigenous children, the second most common penalty was also 'detention', accounting for less than two in 10 (16.0%) appearances for this group in 2024–25, followed by 'conditional release' (7.4%). When comparing 2024–25 with the previous year, the count of convicted appearances resulting in 'detention' among non-Indigenous children rose by 36.7%.

Table 44 Convicted child appearances by most serious penalty, by Indigenous status, all higher courts

	2022–23 ^(a)				2023–24				2024–25			
	Indigenous	Non-Indigenous	Not stated	Total	Indigenous	Non-Indigenous	Not stated	Total	Indigenous	Non-Indigenous	Not stated	Total
Most serious penalty ^(b)	— count —											
Detention ^(c)	48	40	0	88	68	30	1	99	60	41	1	102
Conditional release	27	19	2	48	29	31	0	60	34	19	1	54
Community service ^(d)	12	5	0	17	10	4	0	14	6	6	0	12
Probation	131	160	0	291	114	136	3	253	116	142	1	259
Court-ordered conference	25	60	1	86	28	57	0	85	19	32	0	51
Fine	0	1	0	1	1	1	0	2	0	0	0	0
Compensation/Restitution	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Good behaviour order	5	6	0	11	4	4	0	8	1	7	0	8
Nominal penalty ^(e)	30	14	4	48	18	13	4	35	14	9	0	23
Total	278	306	7	591	272	276	8	556	250	256	3	509

a) Breach of bail conditions were introduced as a criminal offence for child offenders from March 2023.

b) In descending order of seriousness.

c) May include imprisonment.

d) Includes graffiti-removal orders.

e) Includes reprimand; convicted not further punished.

In 2024–25, the most common MSO among all convicted **Childrens Court (Magistrates)** appearances was 'theft', accounting for nearly a third (27.6%) of all convicted appearances, followed by 'burglary' (23.1%) and 'assault' (19.0%) (Table 45). Nearly half of all convicted Childrens Court (Magistrates) appearances with MSOs of 'theft' (50.0%) or 'assault' (48.7%) involved Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander defendants. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander defendants accounted for over six in 10 (62.0%) convicted appearances with 'burglary' as MSO.

Table 45 Convicted appearances by MSO, by Indigenous status, Childrens Court (Magistrates)

	2022–23 ^(a)				2023–24				2024–25			
	Indigenous	Non-Indigenous	Not stated	Total	Indigenous	Non-Indigenous	Not stated	Total	Indigenous	Non-Indigenous	Not stated	Total
Most serious offence (MSO) ^(b)	— count —											
02 Assault	568	418	17	1,003	572	442	35	1,049	501	421	36	958
03 Sexual offences	9	3	0	12	10	2	0	12	6	4	0	10
04 Harm or endanger persons	58	43	3	104	64	64	1	129	48	63	1	112
05 Robbery, blackmail, and extortion	9	13	0	22	28	24	7	59	19	28	9	56
06 Burglary	1,013	563	18	1,594	1,035	547	18	1,600	723	422	21	1,166
07 Theft	715	676	4	1,395	912	782	15	1,709	695	676	19	1,390
08 Fraud and related offences	29	43	0	72	26	32	1	59	12	32	3	47
09 Drug offences	39	105	0	144	38	97	1	136	11	35	1	47
10 Weapons and explosives offences	78	138	5	221	75	133	3	211	62	95	3	160
11 Property damage	130	124	1	255	141	112	2	255	139	102	1	242
12 Public order, health, and safety offences	118	100	5	223	101	87	0	188	75	82	0	157
13 Traffic and vehicle offences	46	192	2	240	43	146	5	194	47	174	2	223
14 Offences against justice procedures and orders	129	124	12	265	298	212	13	523	260	204	12	476
15 Offences against government	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	2	1	0	0	1
16 Environmental offences	1	0	0	1	4	0	0	4	0	0	0	0
Total	2,942	2,542	67	5,551	3,349	2,680	101	6,130	2,599	2,338	108	5,045

a) Breach of bail conditions were introduced as a criminal offence for child offenders from March 2023.

b) Excludes ANZSOC 2023 offence divisions with zero values.

Consistent with previous years, 'nominal penalty' was the most common penalty imposed in the **Childrens Court (Magistrates)** in 2024–25, accounting for nearly three in 10 (28.6%) convicted appearances, and up 18.6% from the previous year (Table 46). This was consistently followed by 'probation' (23.1%) and 'court-ordered conference' (21.7%).

Among convicted appearances with 'probation' or 'nominal penalty' as the most serious penalty, over half (53.2% for 'probation' and 50.7% for 'nominal penalty') were imposed on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander child defendants in 2024–25. In comparison, over three in four (76.2%) of 'detention' penalties were imposed on defendants from this group. For convicted appearances in the Childrens Court (Magistrates) resulting in 'court-ordered conference' as the most serious penalty, just over four in 10 (43.0%) were imposed on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in 2024–25. While the total count of Childrens Court (Magistrates) convicted appearances resulting in 'probation' as the MSO decreased overall from 2023–24 to 2024–25, this penalty increased slightly for non-Indigenous children, reaching a series high of 509 (up 7.4% from 2023–24).

Table 46 Convicted appearances by most serious penalty, by Indigenous status, Childrens Court (Magistrates)

	2022–23 ^(a)				2023–24				2024–25			
	Indigenous	Non-Indigenous	Not stated	Total	Indigenous	Non-Indigenous	Not stated	Total	Indigenous	Non-Indigenous	Not stated	Total
Most serious penalty ^(b)	— count —											
Detention ^(c)	211	52	0	263	220	63	2	285	205	58	6	269
Intensive supervision	1	0	0	1	2	0	0	2	4	0	0	4
Conditional release	154	74	3	231	191	77	2	270	137	72	4	213
Community service ^(d)	265	133	2	400	261	118	4	383	230	113	4	347
Probation	698	449	11	1,158	756	474	31	1,261	620	509	36	1,165
Treatment orders ^(e)	3	14	0	17	4	16	0	20	3	1	0	4
Court-ordered conference	585	759	21	1,365	691	804	28	1,523	471	600	24	1,095
Fine	7	17	1	25	4	19	2	25	8	18	2	28
Compensation/Restitution	3	7	0	10	2	4	0	6	5	3	0	8
Good behaviour order	240	231	4	475	247	239	3	489	165	206	10	381
Driver licence disqualification	19	83	0	102	21	68	1	90	18	67	1	86
Nominal penalty ^(f)	756	723	25	1,504	950	798	28	1,776	733	691	21	1,445
Total	2,942	2,542	67	5,551	3,349	2,680	101	6,130	2,599	2,338	108	5,045

a) Breach of bail conditions were introduced as a criminal offence for child offenders from March 2023.

b) In descending order of seriousness.

c) May include imprisonment.

d) Includes graffiti-removal orders.

e) Involves offender participating in a drug assessment and education session.

f) Includes reprimand; convicted not further punished.

4.6 Companies

Companies include all non-person defendants, such as organisations, and are dealt with in the adult court system exclusively. Since 2014–15, the count of finalised company appearances in the adult court system has declined reaching 313 in 2024–25 (down 47.1%) (Table 47). The majority of cases are finalised in the Magistrates Court, and in 2024–25 there were no finalised company appearances recorded in the Supreme Court.

The percentage of non-adjudicated company appearances was 23.0% in 2024–25, that was 3.3 percentage points less than in 2023–24 and 13.7 percentage points less than in 2014–15. The percentage of finalised company appearances resulting in a conviction in 2024–25 was the second highest in the time series at 74.8%.

Table 47 Finalised company appearances by court type, method of finalisation and outcome – time series

	2014–15	2015–16	2016–17	2017–18	2018–19	2019–20	2020–21	2021–22	2022–23	2023–24	2024–25
	— count —										
Supreme Court	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Adjudicated	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<i>Convicted</i>	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<i>Not convicted</i>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Non-adjudicated	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
District Court	3	1	2	2	4	4	1	3	1	3	0
Adjudicated	3	1	2	2	2	3	1	3	1	1	0
<i>Convicted</i>	2	1	2	2	2	3	1	3	1	1	0
<i>Not convicted</i>	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Non-adjudicated	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	2	0
Magistrates Court	589	640	616	393	355	262	265	231	260	279	313
Adjudicated	372	432	409	291	282	179	192	166	184	206	241
<i>Convicted</i>	356	413	406	277	274	169	189	157	176	190	234
<i>Not convicted</i>	16	19	3	14	8	10	3	9	8	16	7
Non-adjudicated	217	208	207	102	73	83	73	65	76	73	72
All courts	592	641	619	395	359	266	266	234	261	282	313
Adjudicated	375	433	412	293	284	182	193	169	185	207	241
<i>Convicted</i>	358	414	409	279	276	172	190	160	177	191	234
<i>Not convicted</i>	17	19	3	14	8	10	3	9	8	16	7
Non-adjudicated	217	208	207	102	75	84	73	65	76	75	72

In 2024–25, the most common MSO among convicted company appearances was 'public order, health, and safety offences', accounting for around four in 10 (40.6%) convicted appearances, followed by 'traffic and vehicle offences' (28.2%) and 'fraud and related offences' (13.7%) (Table 48).

When comparing 2024–25 with the previous year, the count of convicted company appearances with 'fraud and related offences' as the MSO increased by 33.3%, while those with 'public order, health, and safety offences' as the MSO rose by 25.0%, with this offence reaching a series high.

The count of convicted company appearances with 'traffic and vehicle offences' as MSO declined when comparing 2024–25 with 2014–15 (down 65.1%).

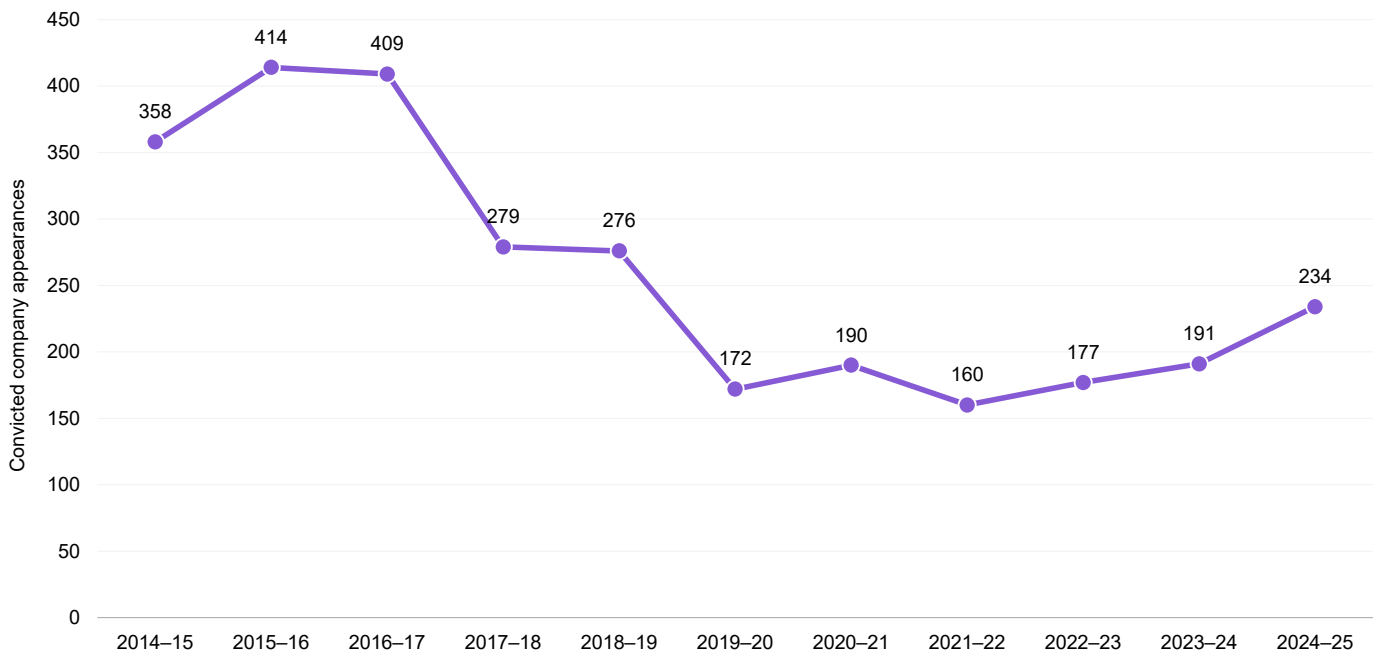
Table 48 Convicted company appearances by MSO, all courts – time series

	2014–15	2015–16	2016–17	2017–18	2018–19	2019–20	2020–21	2021–22	2022–23	2023–24	2024–25
Most serious offence (MSO) ^{a)}	— count —										
01 Homicide	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0
04 Harm or endanger persons	2	0	5	3	6	5	5	6	2	7	10
07 Theft	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	0
08 Fraud and related offences	57	105	107	56	39	21	16	18	16	24	32
09 Drug offences	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
10 Weapons and explosives offences	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
12 Public order, health, and safety offences	68	66	64	67	86	51	79	59	59	76	95
13 Traffic and vehicle offences	189	196	172	93	86	63	57	44	59	58	66
14 Offences against justice procedures and orders	6	7	26	7	10	1	1	1	3	2	1
15 Offences against government	2	2	2	4	5	0	0	1	0	1	5
16 Environmental offences	13	14	17	24	17	11	14	8	7	5	6
17 Miscellaneous offences	19	22	16	24	26	18	18	23	31	16	19
Total	358	414	409	279	276	172	190	160	177	191	234

a) Excludes ANZSOC 2023 offence divisions with zero values.

The total count of convicted company appearances declined between 2015–16 and 2019–20 (down 58.5%), before levelling off in the years following the COVID–19 pandemic until 2022–23 (Figure 19). In 2024–25, the total count of convicted company appearances rose from the previous year (up 22.5%), a larger increase than the growth observed between 2022–23 and 2023–24 (up 7.9%).

Figure 19 Convicted company appearances, all courts – time series



In 2024–25, there were no company charges finalised in the higher courts, while there were 1,418 company charges finalised in the Magistrate Court. The most common MSO for company defendants was ‘public order, health, and safety offences’, accounting for around a third (33.5%) of finalised company charges in 2024–25 (Table 49). A third (31.9%) of company charges were not adjudicated in 2024–25, but of the 966 company charges that were adjudicated, 95.7% lead to a conviction.

Table 49 Finalised charges against companies by MSO, by method of finalisation and outcome, Magistrates Court, 2024–25

	Adjudicated – Convicted	Adjudicated – Not convicted	Non-adjudicated
Most serious offence (MSO) ^{a)}	— count —		
04 Harm or endanger persons	30	0	4
08 Fraud and related offences	219	0	146
09 Drug offences	3	6	0
12 Public order, health, and safety offences	348	30	97
13 Traffic and vehicle offences	88	2	20
14 Offences against justice procedures and orders	8	0	2
15 Offences against government	14	0	2
16 Environmental offences	21	4	11
17 Miscellaneous offences	193	0	170
Total	924	42	452

a) Excludes ANZSOC 2023 offence divisions with zero values.

5.0 Youth Justice

Source: Unpublished data supplied by the Department of Youth Justice and Victim Support.

This chapter presents statistics about child defendants with at least one finalised appearance in a Queensland criminal court and young people under the supervision of Youth Justice. It includes information about the characteristics of these young people, including their age, sex, and Indigenous status. The data includes an 11-year time series from 2014–15 to 2024–25.

Key definitions and notes for this chapter include:

- From February 2018, young people aged 17 years transitioned to be managed in the youth justice system, where they were previously managed in the adult criminal justice system as adults. This transition is noted under tables and figures and the year 2018–19 is used as a comparison year as it reflects the first full financial year post transition. The terms child and young person are used interchangeably to refer to those managed by the youth justice system.
- Reflecting the transition of 17-year-olds, rates were calculated using the most current ERP available for persons aged 10–16 years for years up to and including 2016–17, and persons aged 10–17 years from 2018–19 onwards, and on a proportional combination for 2017–18. Rates in this section are presented per 10,000 persons, which is consistent with national statistics. Crude rates are shown for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander populations.
- Youth Justice uses different terms and counting rules from the Queensland Courts. For example, the principal counting unit is a unique child defendant, meaning an individual defendant is counted only once in a reference year, irrespective of whether they had one or multiple finalised court appearances in the year.
- Supervised youth justice orders include both detention-based orders and community-based orders. Community-based supervision may be unsentenced or sentenced.

Detention admission counts and average length-of-stay figures in this report are not directly comparable with equivalent figures published in previous editions. This reflects a change in the method used to derive detention episodes/admissions, with consecutive nights in custody now treated as a single continuous episode in some circumstances where earlier data counted separate admissions. This change generally results in lower admission counts and higher average durations in the revised historical series.

	2023–24	2024–25	% change
Unique^(a) young persons			
Finalised court appearances^(b)	3,814	3,481	-8.7
Male	2,710	2,483	-8.4
Female	1,101	978	-11.2
Supervised youth justice orders^(b) (includes detention)	1,604	1,563	-2.6
Male	1,207	1,191	-1.3
Female	396	372	-6.1
Youth detention centre admissions	854	872	2.1
Male	684	675	-1.3
Female	170	197	15.9
Average daily number of young people			
in youth detention centres	286	285	-0.4
under Youth Justice supervision in the community	1,192	1,195	-0.3

a) 'Unique' refers to the counting of an individual once only in a reference year, irrespective of how many times they appeared in court/commenced a supervised youth justice order/were admitted to a detention centre in that period.

b) Total includes a small number whose sex was self-reported as intersex or indeterminate.

5.1 Youth Justice summary

While young people are processed through children's courts and youth justice systems for offences committed or alleged to have been committed between the ages of **10 and 17 years**, court proceedings or youth justice orders may conclude when the young person is **18 years or older**. Young people of slightly older ages were recently included in the data whereas these records may have previously been excluded.

The Strengthening Community Safety Act 2023 which commenced on 22 March 2023, included several amendments impacting bail, **including breach of a bail condition as an offence for a young person**. The breach offence applies only where the condition was part of a bail undertaking that the child entered into after the commencement of the changes. (See section 2.5 for further details.)

In 2024–25, there were 3,481 **unique child defendants**, with 2,980 of these being convicted of at least one charge.

- When population growth is taken into account, 2024–25 marks a time series low in the rate of young people appearing as a defendant in court at least once (59.6 defendants for every 10,000 young persons) and young people convicted in court (51.1 convicted defendants for every 10,000 young people).
- In 2024–25, young people aged 17 years accounted for just over a quarter (26.2%) of children convicted of a charge, with males comprising the majority (81.0%) of these 17-year-olds.
- There were fewer children of all age groups convicted over the last decade. For example, the count of 17-year-old convicted defendants dropped from 1,369 in 2018–19 to 780 in 2024–25.

In 2024–25, there were 2,904 **admissions to supervised youth justice orders**, of which 2,535 (87.3%) were community-based.

- Probation accounted for over half (55.9%) admissions to supervised orders, followed by detention (12.7%).
- Among all admissions to supervised orders in 2024–25, young males accounted for three in four (77.1%) and among these.
- Admissions to supervised orders among young males tended to decline, down from 2,714 in 2014–15 to 2,238 in 2024–25. Females showed a smaller decline, with 666 admissions in 2024–25 compared with 733 in 2014–15.

In 2024–25, 872 unique young people accounted for 1,498 **admissions to youth detention centres**. This represents a 5.7% decline in total admissions to detention from the previous year and was nearly equal to the number of admissions observed in 2018–19 (1,474).

- While there were 83 fewer unsentenced admissions to youth detention in 2024–25 compared with the previous year, unsentenced admissions continued to account for most admissions to detention (98.9%).
- In 2024–25, males accounted for eight in 10 (79.3%) admissions to youth detention.
- There were 105 fewer detention admissions for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people in 2024–25 compared with the previous year.
- Admissions to detention for non-Indigenous young people increased slightly compared with the previous year (up 2.3%).

5.2 Children in court

A **unique child defendant** is a young person with at least one finalised appearance in a Queensland criminal court during a reference year, and an individual is counted only once in a reference year. The tables and figures in this section present unique child defendants by their age at time of offence, between 10 and 17 years, irrespective of their age at finalised appearance in court.

There is typically a delay between when an offence occurs and when the matter is finalised in court. These delays, which vary in length, can be due to the time required to clear the offence (including identifying the alleged offender(s)), and/or the time needed to finalise matters that may progress through multiple court levels. This might be reflected in reduced counts for the current reporting period and a change in counts for historical years when compared with previous editions of this report.

5.2.1 Unique child defendants

In 2024–25, there were 3,481 unique child defendants (Table 50), marking a 34.4% decrease from 5,303 recorded in 2018–19. In 2024–25, 17-year-old offenders made up over a quarter (27.6%) of unique child defendants, followed by those aged 16 years (21.7%) and 15 years (21.0%). In 2024–25, the count of unique defendants aged 17 years at the time of offence was at its lowest since their transition to the youth justice system, at 962 compared with 1,576 in 2018–19. Similarly, the count of unique defendants of all other ages, except those aged 13 and 15 years at the time of offence, also reached a ten-year low in 2024–25.

Among those whose sex was recorded, males represented 71.3% of unique child defendants in Queensland courts in 2024–25. The count of female unique child defendants was the lowest since the transition of 17-year-old offenders, at 978 in 2024–25 compared with 1,476 in 2018–19.

Table 50 Count of unique child defendants by sex and age at time of offence – time series

	2014–15	2015–16	2016–17	2017–18 ^(a)	2018–19	2019–20 ^(b)	2020–21	2021–22	2022–23 ^(c)	2023–24	2024–25
	— unique persons —										
Sex											
Male	2,779	2,806	2,717	3,250	3,824	2,901	3,215	2,827	2,669	2,710	2,483
Female	1,017	1,034	1,057	1,265	1,476	1,133	1,267	1,122	1,135	1,101	978
Age at time of offence^(d)											
10 yrs	38	30	30	39	45	24	30	11	15	18	9
11 yrs	69	96	78	90	89	55	55	49	45	44	40
12 yrs	187	206	208	224	209	174	168	146	148	163	130
13 yrs	421	450	451	475	474	325	393	342	381	374	328
14 yrs	733	762	787	779	747	551	628	609	586	583	528
15 yrs	976	1,004	989	1,072	975	729	820	742	758	778	730
16 yrs	1,373	1,292	1,233	1,216	1,188	914	1,025	874	808	796	754
17 yrs	na	na	na	624	1,576	1,264	1,365	1,177	1,065	1,058	962
Total^(e)	3,798	3,840	3,776	4,519	5,303	4,036	4,484	3,950	3,806	3,814	3,481

na not applicable

a) The transition of 17-year-olds to the youth justice system occurred in February 2018.

b) The COVID-19 pandemic was declared in March 2020 and resulted in social restrictions which continued into 2021–22.

c) Breach of bail conditions were introduced as a criminal offence for child offenders from March 2023.

d) Age at time of offence is determined by the earliest offence associated with a young person's first finalised appearance date in the reporting period.

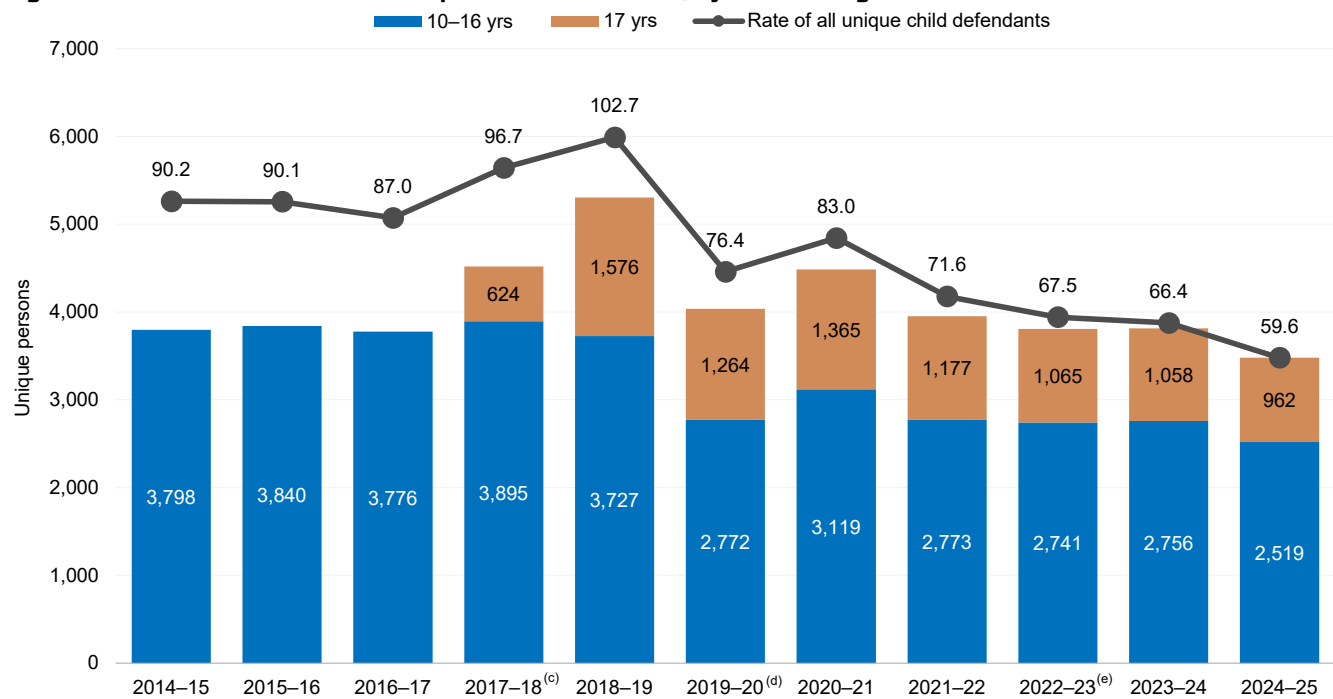
e) Totals include defendants whose age and/or sex was not stated and those who self-reported as intersex or indeterminate sex.

The transition of 17-year-old offenders to the youth justice system led to an increase in the total count of unique defendants observed in 2017–18 and 2018–19 compared with previous years (Figure 20). This was followed by a decline in 2019–20, coinciding with social restrictions and court disruptions related to the COVID-19 pandemic, and then an increase in the following year.

Between 2020–21 and 2024–25, the total count of unique defendants steadily declined by 22.4%, with the decline most apparent among those aged 17 years at time of offence (down 29.5%). In 2024–25, the total count of unique defendants (3,481) was 34.4% lower than in 2018–19 and 8.5% lower than in 2022–23.

Taking population into account, the rate of unique child defendants was 59.6 per 10,000 persons aged 17 years or younger in 2024–25. This marks the lowest rate in a decade and a 10.2% reduction since 2023–24.

Figure 20 Count and rate^(a) of unique child defendants, by offender age cohort^(b) – time series



- a) Rates are calculated per 10,000 persons. Rates from 2014–15 to 2016–17 are based on persons aged 10–16 years, for 2018–19 onwards on persons aged 10–17 years, and for 2017–18 on a proportional combination.
- b) Age at time of offence is determined by the earliest offence associated with a young person's first finalised appearance date in the reporting period. Excludes defendants whose age was not stated.
- c) The transition of 17-year-olds to the youth justice system occurred in February 2018.
- d) The COVID-19 pandemic was declared in March 2020 and resulted in social restrictions which continued into 2021–22.
- e) Breach of bail conditions were introduced as a criminal offence for child offenders from March 2023.

In 2024–25, unique child defendant rates increased with each defendant year of age, meaning rates were lowest among 10-year-olds (1.3 defendants per 10,000 young people aged 10 years in the population) and highest among 17-year-olds (129.8 defendants per 10,000 young people aged 17 years) (Table 51). Over the past decade, unique child defendant rates have fluctuated, but in 2024–25, the lowest rates were recorded for young people of all ages.

There were 82.7 male and 34.5 female defendants per 10,000 young persons aged 10–17 years in the population in 2024–25. These figures represent the lowest rates in the past decade, with a 9.9% decrease for males and a 12.6% decrease for females compared to the previous year.

Table 51 Unique child defendant rate by sex and age at time of offence - time series

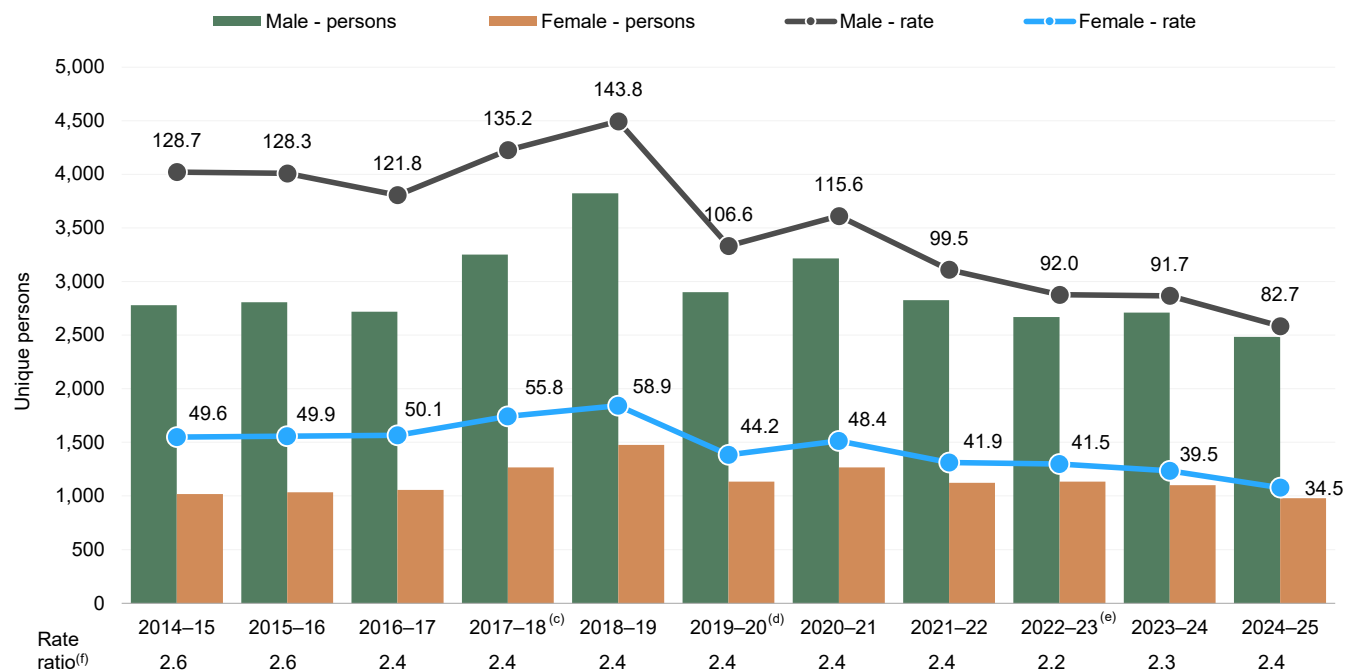
	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18 ^(a)	2018-19	2019-20 ^(b)	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23 ^(c)	2023-24	2024-25
	— rate per 10,000 persons ^(b) —										
Sex											
Male	128.7	128.3	121.8	135.2	143.8	106.6	115.6	99.5	92.0	91.7	82.7
Female	49.6	49.9	50.1	55.8	58.9	44.2	48.4	41.9	41.5	39.5	34.5
Age at time of offence^(d)											
10 yrs	6.3	4.8	4.6	5.8	6.5	3.4	4.3	1.6	2.1	2.6	1.3
11 yrs	11.6	15.7	12.3	13.6	13.0	7.9	7.8	7.0	6.4	6.2	5.6
12 yrs	31.5	34.3	33.8	35.0	31.2	25.1	23.8	20.5	20.8	22.8	18.0
13 yrs	69.7	75.3	74.6	76.4	73.3	48.0	56.3	48.1	53.0	51.8	45.5
14 yrs	120.8	125.4	130.9	128.1	119.1	84.4	92.1	86.5	81.5	79.9	71.6
15 yrs	162.3	164.0	161.2	176.7	159.0	115.1	124.6	108.0	106.4	106.8	98.4
16 yrs	228.1	213.0	199.2	196.1	194.1	147.9	161.0	131.8	116.1	110.0	101.4
17 yrs	na	na	na	262.3	252.5	205.7	220.5	183.8	158.8	149.9	129.8
Total^(e)	90.2	90.1	87.0	96.7	102.7	76.4	83.0	71.6	67.5	66.4	59.6

na not applicable

- a) The transition of 17-year-olds to the youth justice system occurred in February 2018.
- b) The COVID-19 pandemic was declared in March 2020 and resulted in social restrictions which continued into 2021-22.
- c) Breach of bail conditions were introduced as a criminal offence for child offenders from March 2023.
- d) Rates are calculated per 10,000 persons from the relevant demographic group. Rates from 2011-12 to 2016-17 are based on persons aged 10-16 years, for 2018-19 onwards on persons aged 10-17 years, and for 2017-18 on a proportional combination.
- e) Age at time of offence is determined by the earliest offence associated with a young person's first finalised appearance date in the reporting period.
- f) Total rates include defendants whose age and/or sex was not stated and those who self-reported as intersex or indeterminate sex.

The count of unique child defendants peaked in 2018-19 for both males and females, coinciding with the transition of 17-year-olds to the youth justice system (Figure 21). Over the past decade, the gap between male and female unique child defendant rates has narrowed. In 2022-23, the male defendant rate decreased to 2.2 times higher than the female rate, down from 2.6 in 2014-15. By 2024-25, this ratio returned to 2.4. This growing gender gap reflects a greater decline in the defendant rate of young females (down 16.8%) compared with males (down 10.2%) between 2022-23 and 2024-25.

Figure 21 Count and rate^(a) of unique child defendants by sex^(b) - time series

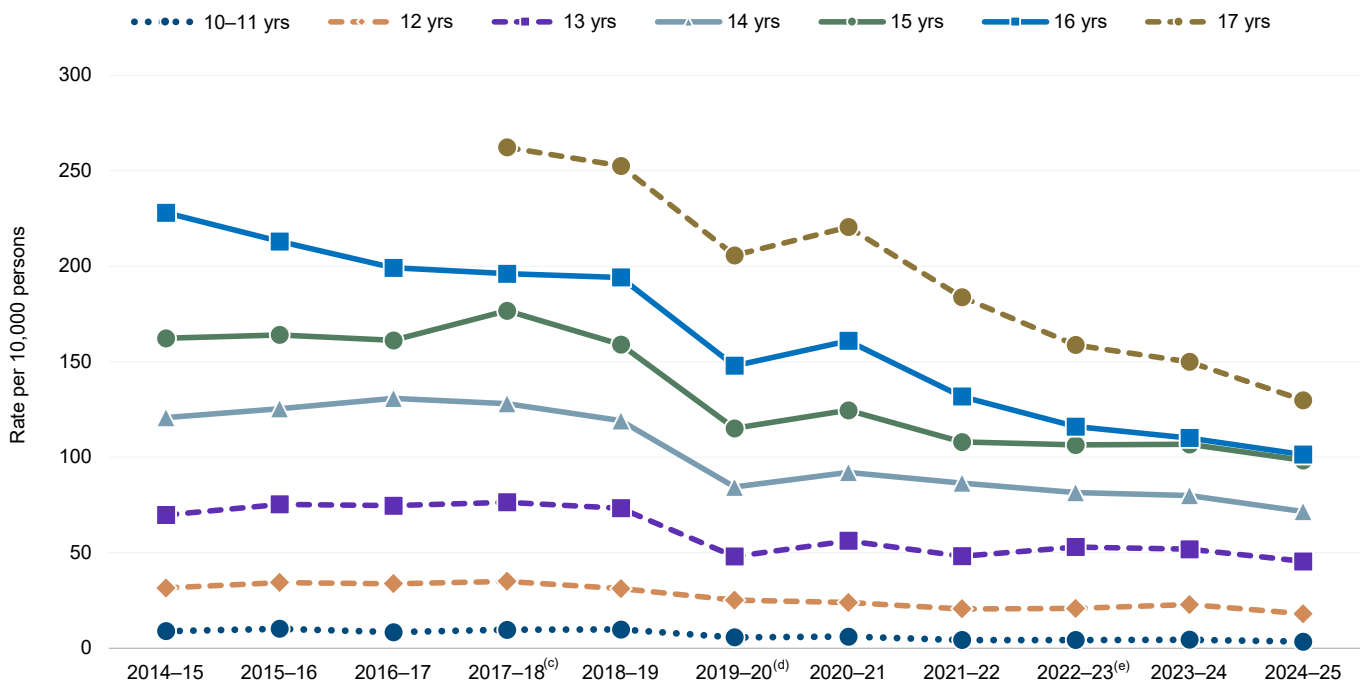


- a) Rates are calculated per 10,000 persons. Rates from 2014-15 to 2016-17 are based on persons aged 10-16 years, for 2018-19 onwards on persons aged 10-17 years, and for 2017-18 on a proportional combination.
- b) Excludes defendants whose sex was not stated and those who self-reported as intersex or indeterminate sex.
- c) The transition of 17-year-olds to the youth justice system occurred in February 2018.
- d) The COVID-19 pandemic was declared in March 2020 and resulted in social restrictions which continued into 2021-22.
- e) Breach of bail conditions were introduced as a criminal offence for child offenders from March 2023.
- f) Rate ratio is the rate for male defendants divided by the rate for female defendants. Rate ratios have been calculated on unrounded rates.

Coinciding with the COVID-19 pandemic in 2019-20, the unique child defendant rate decreased substantially when compared with previous years, before experiencing a slight increase in 2020-21 (Figure 22). Since then, the defendant rate tended to decline, reaching a series low in 2024-25 across all ages. The rates for all age groups remained below those observed prior to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Over time, the defendant rate among young people of all ages has decreased, but most substantially among those aged 10-11 years (down 61.4% since 2014-15) and 16 years (down 55.6% since 2014-15). For 17-year-olds, the rate steadily declined since the full first year following their transition to the youth justice system, dropping from 262.3 defendants per 10,000 17-year-olds in 2018-19 to 129.8 defendants in 2024-25 (down 48.6%).

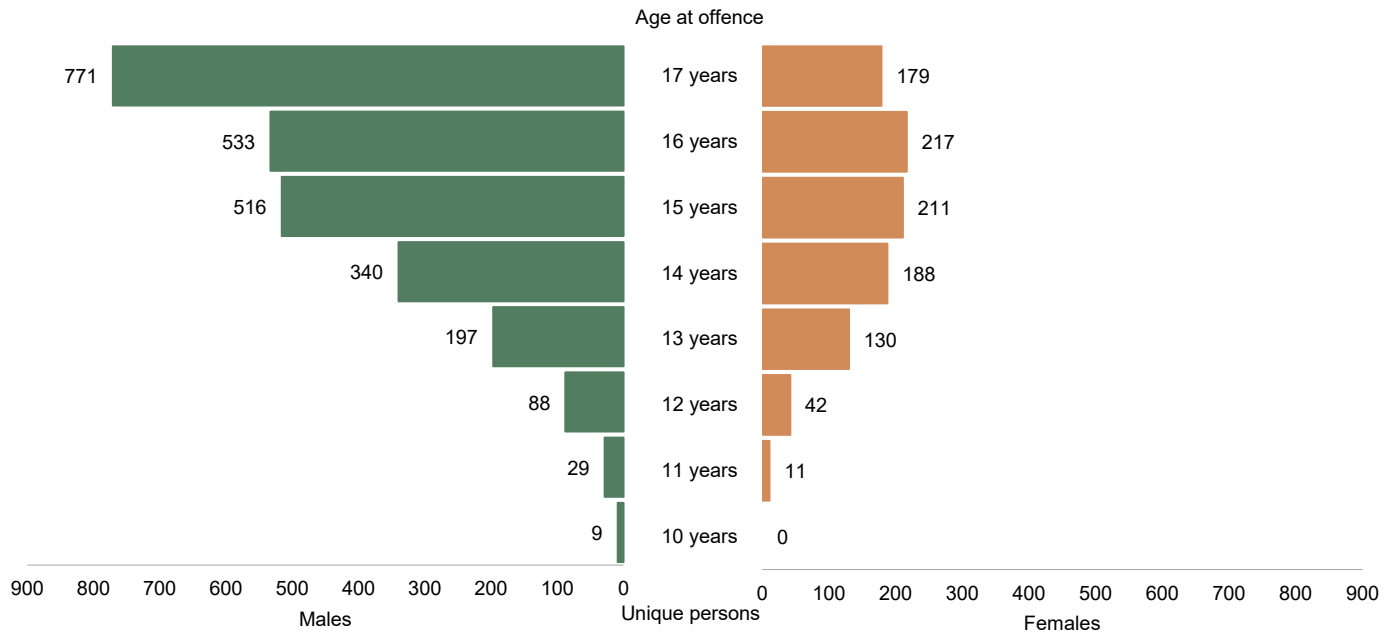
Figure 22 Unique child defendant rate^(a) by age at time of offence^(b) - time series



- a) Rates are calculated per 10,000 persons. Rates from 2014-15 to 2016-17 are based on persons aged 10-16 years, for 2018-19 onwards on persons aged 10-17 years, and for 2017-18 on a proportional combination
- b) Age at offence is determined by the earliest offence associated with a young person's first finalised appearance in the reporting period. Excludes defendants whose age at time of offence was not stated.
- c) The transition of 17-year-olds to the youth justice system occurred in February 2018.
- d) The COVID-19 pandemic was declared in March 2020 and resulted in social restrictions which continued into 2021-22.
- e) Breach of bail conditions were introduced as a criminal offence for child offenders from March 2023.

In 2024–25, unique male child defendants outnumbered female defendants across all ages (Figure 23). Since the transition of 17-year-olds to the youth justice system in 2017–18, 17 years has consistently been the most common offending age among young males, accounting for 31.1% of male defendants in 2024–25. In contrast, for females, 16 years was the most common offending age (22.2%), closely followed by 15 years (21.6%).

Figure 23 Unique child defendants by sex^(a) and age^(b) at time of offence, 2024–25



- a) Age at time of offence is determined by the earliest offence associated with a defendant's first finalised appearance date in the reporting period.
- b) Excludes defendants whose age and/or sex was not stated and those who self-reported as intersex or indeterminate sex.

5.2.2 Unique child defendants convicted of a charge

Data in this section represent **unique child defendants** convicted of one or more charges (i.e. proven offence(s)) in a criminal court, regardless of whether the court formally recorded the conviction. An individual is counted only once in a reference year, irrespective of the number of charges proven in the year.

In 2024–25, there were 3,481 unique child defendants (Table 50 above). Of these individuals, 2,980 (85.6%) were convicted of at least one charge in 2024–25 (Table 52). The total count of children with at least one conviction in 2024–25 was at its lowest in a decade, representing a 15.2% decrease compared with 2014–15 and a 36.3% reduction compared with 2018–19. Similarly, the total count of unique child defendants in 2024–25 also reached its lowest point since 2014–15, although the decline was more moderate at 8.3% over this period (Table 50).

Among all individuals convicted of at least one charge in 2024–25, 17-year-old offenders accounted for over a quarter (26.2%), followed by those aged 16 years (22.7%) and 15 years (21.5%).

Table 52 Unique child defendants convicted of a charge by sex and age – time series

	2014–15	2015–16	2016–17	2017–18 ^(a)	2018–19	2019–20 ^(b)	2020–21	2021–22	2022–23 ^(c)	2023–24	2024–25
	— unique persons —										
Sex											
Male	2,581	2,562	2,450	2,875	3,404	2,470	2,796	2,424	2,324	2,335	2,150
Female	931	935	949	1,122	1,270	940	1,079	947	978	946	818
Age at time of offence^(d)											
10 yrs	31	25	22	26	25	11	15	3	11	8	1
11 yrs	64	82	57	75	72	38	41	28	29	30	26
12 yrs	170	186	176	196	180	139	141	111	129	125	93
13 yrs	388	414	412	446	420	275	350	309	317	322	281
14 yrs	681	692	714	683	666	480	563	537	543	542	483
15 yrs	915	933	906	971	890	636	708	663	684	693	641
16 yrs	1,264	1,165	1,114	1,062	1,055	783	909	766	714	708	675
17 yrs	<i>na</i>	<i>na</i>	<i>na</i>	541	1,369	1,050	1,149	955	877	855	780
Total^(e)	3,514	3,497	3,401	4,000	4,677	3,412	3,876	3,372	3,304	3,283	2,980

na not applicable

a) The transition of 17-year-olds to the youth justice system occurred in February 2018.

b) The COVID-19 pandemic was declared in March 2020 and resulted in social restrictions which continued into 2021–22.

c) Breach of bail conditions were introduced as a criminal offence for child offenders from March 2023.

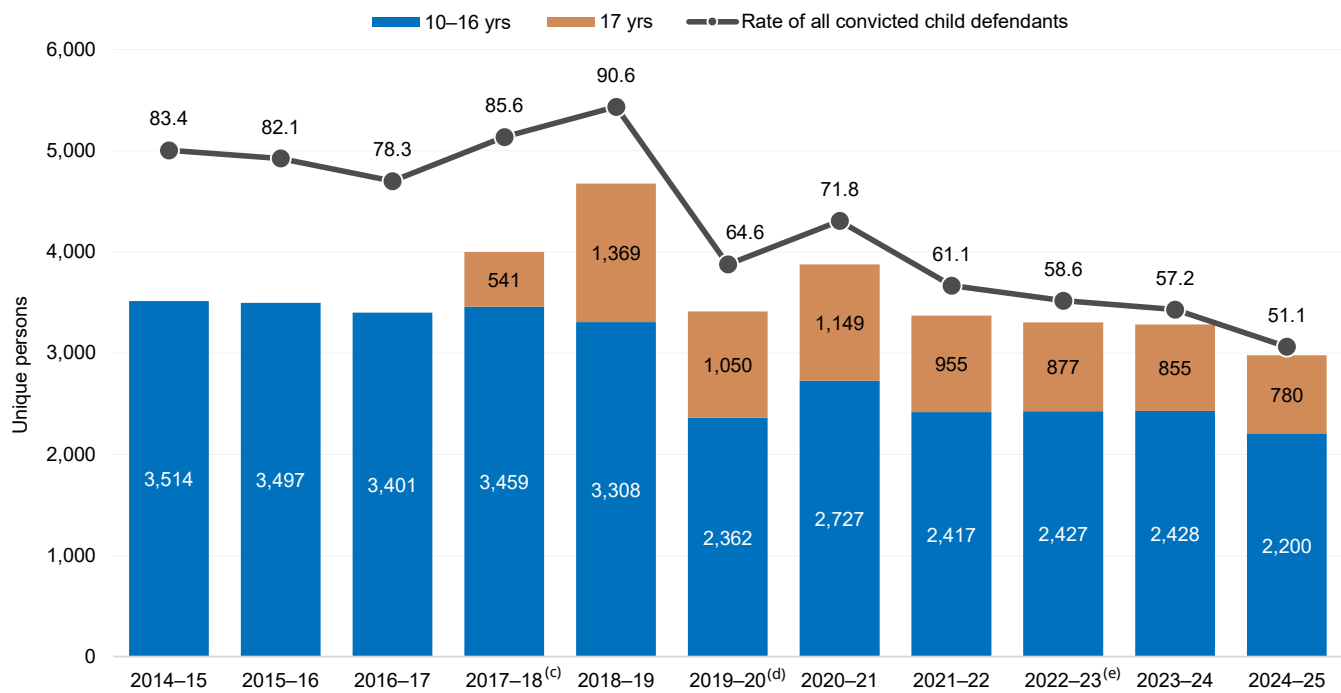
d) Age at time of offence is determined by the earliest offence associated with a young person's first convicted charge in the reporting period.

e) Total includes defendants whose age and/or sex was not stated and those who self-reported as intersex or indeterminate sex.

Figure 24 presents a time series of the count and rate of unique child defendants convicted of a charge, by grouped age at time of offence. Following a period of relative stability post-pandemic from 2021–22, the total count of defendants with at least one conviction decreased by 9.2% in 2024–25 compared with the previous year. This decline was reflected across both age groups, with defendants aged 10–16 years experiencing a 9.4% decrease and those aged 17 years seeing an 8.8% reduction in 2024–25 compared to 2023–24.

When accounting for population differences, the rate of unique child defendants with at least one conviction reached an 11-year low in 2024–25, at 51.1 per 10,000 persons aged 10–17 years in the population. This represents a 43.6% reduction from its peak in 2018–19, and a 10.7% decrease compared with the previous year.

Figure 24 Count and rate^(a) of unique child defendants convicted of a charge by offender age cohort^(b) – time series

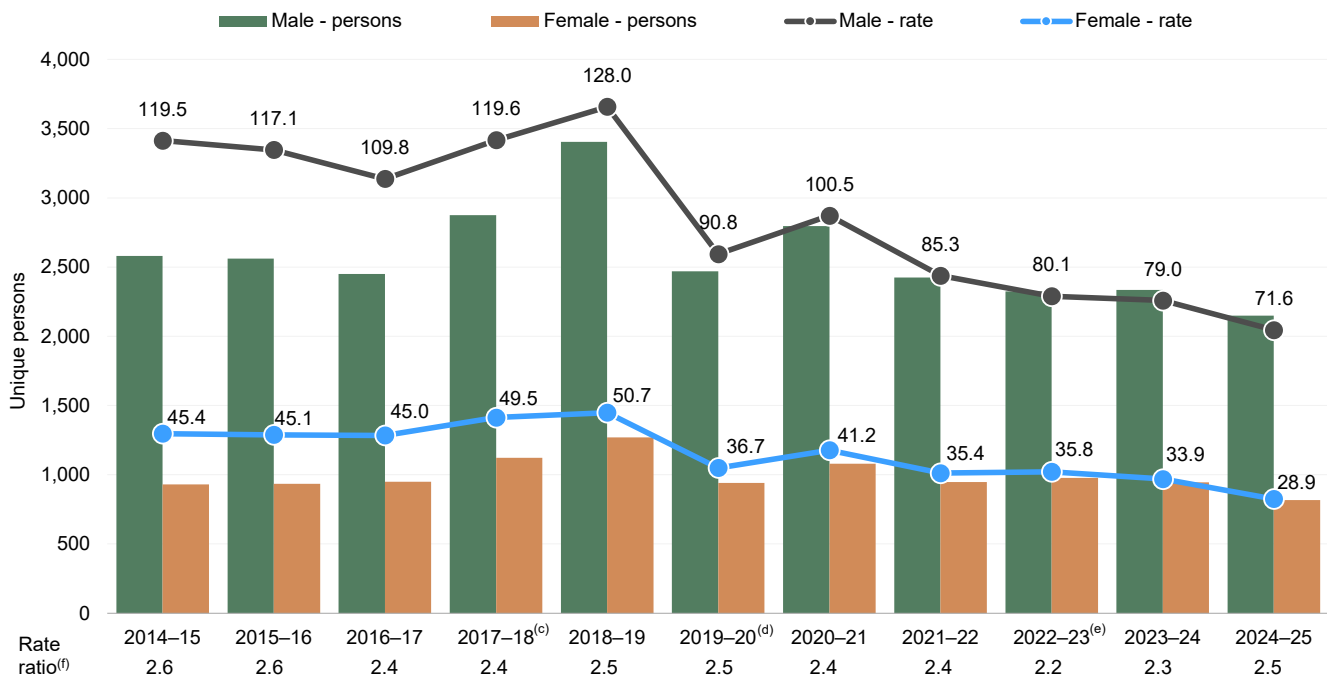


- a) Rates are calculated per 10,000 persons. Rates from 2014-15 to 2016-17 are based on persons aged 10-16 years, for 2018-19 onwards on persons aged 10-17 years, and for 2017-18 on a proportional combination.
- b) Age at time of offence is determined by the earliest offence associated with a young person's first convicted charge in the reporting period. Excludes defendants whose age at time of offence was not stated.
- c) The transition of 17-year-olds to the youth justice system occurred in February 2018.
- d) The COVID-19 pandemic was declared in March 2020 and resulted in social restrictions which continued into 2021-22.
- e) Breach of bail conditions were introduced as a criminal offence for child offenders from March 2023.

The count and rate of unique child defendants convicted of at least one charge was similar to the trends observed for all unique child defendants (Figure 21). Since the transition of 17-year-olds to the youth justice system, the highest rate and count was observed for both males and females in 2018-19, before experiencing a substantial decline in 2019-20 (Figure 25). Although an increase occurred in 2020-21, the conviction rate for males has generally declined since 2018-19, reaching a series low of 71.6 per 10,000 persons in 2024-25, (down 44.1% compared with 2018-19). The rate for females fell to a series low of 28.9 per 10,000 persons in 2024-25 (down 43.1% since 2018-19).

The gap between male and female conviction rates narrowed from 2019-20 to 2022-23 but has since widened. The male conviction rate, which reached its lowest ratio of 2.2 times that of females in 2022-23, rose to 2.5 times the female rate in 2024-25, just below the peak ratio of 2.6 observed in 2014-15 and 2015-16.

Figure 25 Count and rate^(a) of unique child defendants convicted of a charge by sex^(b) – time series



- a) Rates are calculated per 10,000 persons. Rates from 2014-15 to 2016-17 are based on persons aged 10-16 years, for 2018-19 onwards on persons aged 10-17 years, and for 2017-18 on a proportional combination.
- b) Excludes defendants whose sex was not stated and those who self-reported as intersex or indeterminate sex (29 across the time series).
- c) The transition of 17-year-olds to the youth justice system occurred in February 2018.
- d) The COVID-19 pandemic was declared in March 2020 and resulted in social restrictions which continued into 2021-22.
- e) Breach of bail conditions were introduced as a criminal offence for child offenders from March 2023.
- f) Rate ratio is the rate for male defendants divided by the rate for female defendants. Rate ratios have been calculated on unrounded rates.

In 2024-25, the conviction rate for unique child defendants per 10,000 persons was highest among 17-year-olds (105.2 per 10,000 persons). Conviction rates were progressively lower for each younger age group (Table 53 and Figure 26). Notably, the conviction rate for 17-year-olds decreased by 13.1% in 2024-25 compared with the previous year, while the rate for 16-year-olds declined by 7.3%. Across all age groups, the child defendant conviction rate fell to its lowest point in the time-series.

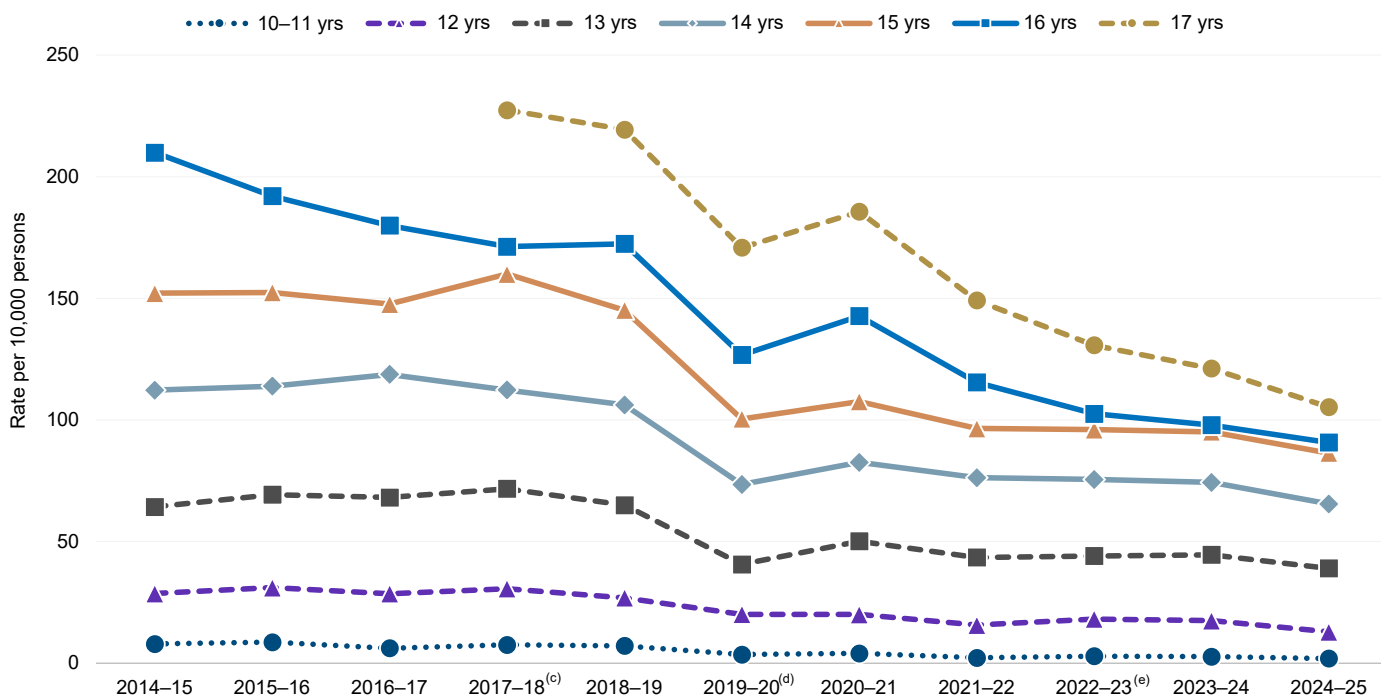
Table 53 Rate of unique child defendants convicted of a charge by age at time of offence – time series

	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18 ^(a)	2018-19	2019-20 ^(b)	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23 ^(c)	2023-24	2024-25
	— rate per 10,000 persons ^(d) —										
Age at time of offence^(e)											
10 yrs	5.1	4.0	3.4	3.9	3.6	1.6	2.2	0.4	1.6	1.1	0.1
11 yrs	10.7	13.4	9.0	11.3	10.5	5.5	5.8	4.0	4.1	4.2	3.6
12 yrs	28.6	31.0	28.6	30.6	26.9	20.1	20.0	15.6	18.1	17.5	12.9
13 yrs	64.3	69.3	68.2	71.7	65.0	40.6	50.1	43.5	44.1	44.6	39.0
14 yrs	112.2	113.9	118.7	112.3	106.2	73.5	82.5	76.3	75.5	74.3	65.5
15 yrs	152.1	152.4	147.6	160.0	145.1	100.4	107.6	96.5	96.0	95.1	86.4
16 yrs	210.0	192.1	179.9	171.3	172.4	126.7	142.7	115.5	102.6	97.9	90.7
17 yrs	na	na	na	227.4	219.4	170.9	185.6	149.1	130.8	121.2	105.2
Total^(f)	83.4	82.1	78.3	85.6	90.6	64.6	71.8	61.1	58.6	57.2	51.1

na not applicable

- a) The transition of 17-year-olds to the youth justice system occurred in February 2018.
- b) The COVID-19 pandemic was declared in March 2020 and resulted in social restrictions which continued into 2021-22.
- c) Breach of bail conditions were introduced as a criminal offence for child offenders from March 2023.
- d) Rates are calculated per 10,000 persons. Rates from 2011-12 to 2016-17 are based on persons aged 10-16 years, for 2018-19 onwards on persons aged 10-17 years, and for 2017-18 on a proportional combination.
- e) Age at time of offence is determined by the earliest offence associated with a young person's first convicted charge in the reporting period.
- f) Total includes defendants whose age and/or sex was not stated and those who self-reported as intersex or indeterminate sex.

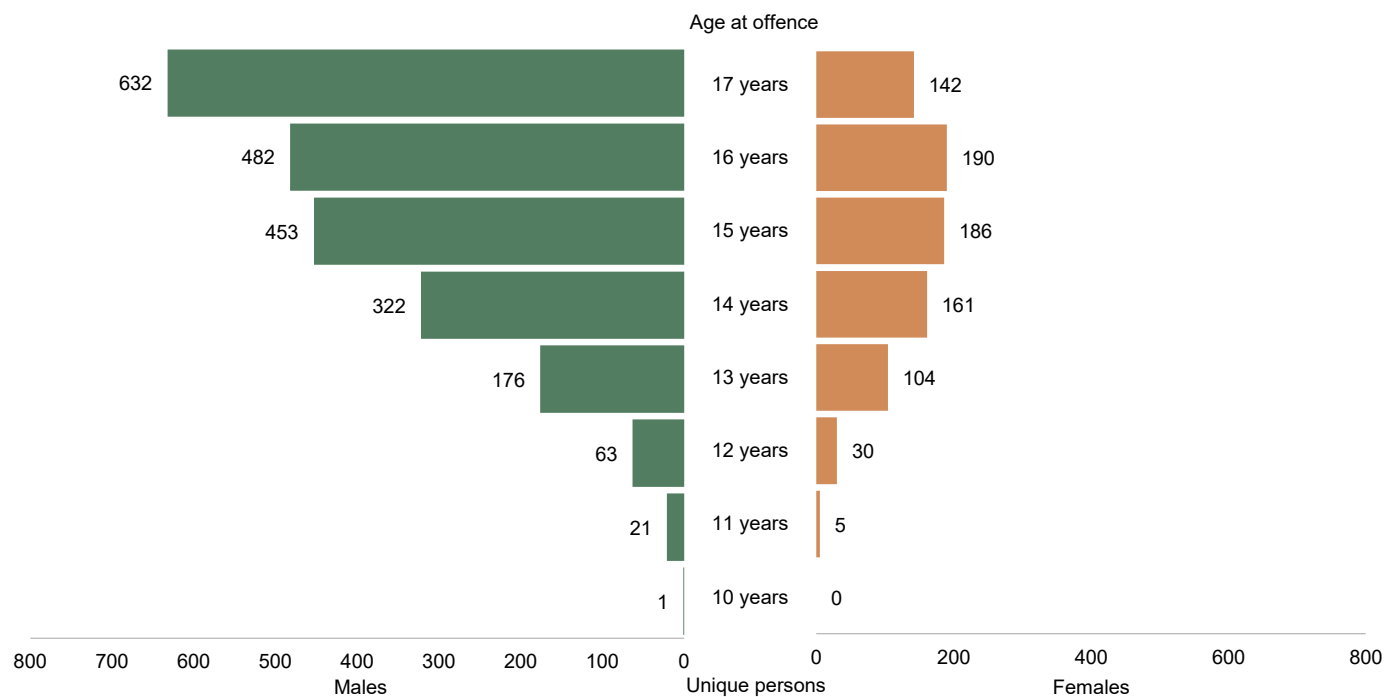
Figure 26 Rate^(a) of unique child defendants convicted of a charge by age at time of offence^(b) – time series



- a) Rates are calculated per 10,000 persons. Rates from 2014-15 to 2016-17 are based on persons aged 10-16 years, for 2018-19 onwards on persons aged 10-17 years, and for 2017-18 on a proportional combination.
- b) Age at time of offence is determined by the earliest offence associated with a young person's first convicted charge in the reporting period. Excludes those defendants whose age at time of offence was not stated.
- c) The transition of 17-year-olds to the youth justice system occurred in February 2018.
- d) The COVID-19 pandemic was declared in March 2020 and resulted in social restrictions which continued into 2021-22.
- e) Breach of bail conditions were introduced as a criminal offence for child offenders from March 2023.

Among those convicted in 2024-25, male unique child defendants outnumbered female defendants across all age groups (Figure 27). Overall, 17-year-olds accounted for just over a quarter (26.2%) of children convicted of a charge. The count of convicted male defendants increased with age, peaking at 17 years with 632 defendants, representing 81.0% of all 17-year-olds convicted. The count of convicted female defendants peaked at 15-16 years, with fewer 14- and 17-year-olds, and lower counts across younger age groups.

Figure 27 Count of unique child defendants convicted of a charge by sex^(a) and age at time of offence^(b), 2024-25



- a) Excludes defendants whose sex was not stated and/or those who self-reported as intersex or indeterminate sex (12 in 2024-25).
- b) Age at time of offence is determined by the earliest offence associated with a young person's first convicted charge in the reporting period. Excludes those whose age at time of offence was not stated.

5.3 Youth justice orders

Data in this section are a **count of admissions to youth justice orders**, not of persons, where the order commenced during the reference year. An individual may be admitted to one or multiple of the same or different orders in a single reference year and are counted for each admission. (See *Glossary* for further details about youth justice orders.)

The following supervised community-based orders were repealed or recommenced at various times during the time series (See *Explanatory notes* for more detail):

- boot camp (repealed in July 2015)
- restorative justice (recommenced 1 July 2016).

5.3.1 Admissions to youth justice orders

Admissions to youth justice orders are categorised into three types: supervised, unsupervised and other orders. In 2024–25, the total number of orders decreased by 1,446 (down 14.9%) compared with 2023–24 and by 3,339 (down 28.9%) since peaking in 2018–19.

Over the time series, unsupervised orders were the most common, accounting for 38.0% of admissions to youth justice orders in 2024–25, a decrease from 48.1% in 2014–15 (Table 54). Admissions to other orders have seen substantial growth over the past decade, having increased nearly fourfold in 2024–25 when compared with 2014–15 (up 204.4%).

Supervised orders constituted a third (35.3%) of admissions in 2024–25, representing an 11.5% decline from the previous year. Among supervised orders, the majority (87.3%) were community-based, although the count of these orders tended to decline by 19.8% when comparing 2024–25 with 2014–15. Conversely, detention-based orders rose by 28.6% during the same period.

Table 54 Admissions to youth justice orders – time series

	2014–15	2015–16	2016–17	2017–18 ^(a)	2018–19	2019–20 ^(b)	2020–21	2021–22	2022–23 ^(c)	2023–24	2024–25
	— count —										
Supervised orders	3,448	3,392	3,200	3,789	4,017	2,994	3,452	3,253	3,169	3,280	2,904
Detention-based ^(d)	287	343	272	306	362	298	275	302	349	389	369
Community-based	3,161	3,049	2,928	3,483	3,655	2,696	3,177	2,951	2,820	2,891	2,535
<i>Boot camp</i>	63	12	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na
<i>Community service</i>	1,009	925	731	871	859	467	440	392	365	354	327
<i>Conditional release</i>	233	251	226	231	317	238	300	308	284	326	270
<i>Graffiti removal^(e)</i>	252	198	186	214	225	139	137	94	74	75	72
<i>Intensive supervision</i>	13	10	2	13	6	4	3	8	1	2	4
<i>Probation</i>	1,591	1,653	1,511	1,953	1,963	1,404	1,794	1,704	1,665	1,699	1,622
<i>Restorative justice</i>	na	na	272	201	285	444	503	445	431	435	240
Unsupervised orders	3,866	3,990	3,706	4,198	4,630	3,007	3,682	3,302	3,319	3,686	3,128
Other orders^(f)	721	662	1,396	2,144	2,919	2,513	2,769	2,686	2,699	2,707	2,195
Total	8,035	8,044	8,302	10,131	11,566	8,514	9,903	9,241	9,187	9,673	8,227

na not applicable

- The transition of 17-year-olds to the youth justice system occurred in February 2018.
- The COVID-19 pandemic was declared in March 2020 and resulted in social restrictions which continued into 2021–22.
- Breach of bail conditions were introduced as a criminal offence for child offenders from March 2023.
- Detention-based order counts exclude suspended detention orders associated with a conditional release order.
- Court-ordered graffiti removal orders exclude graffiti removal program referrals from police or youth justice conferences.
- Other orders also include 'ancillary orders' such as 'compensation' and 'restitution' (see *Glossary* for further details).

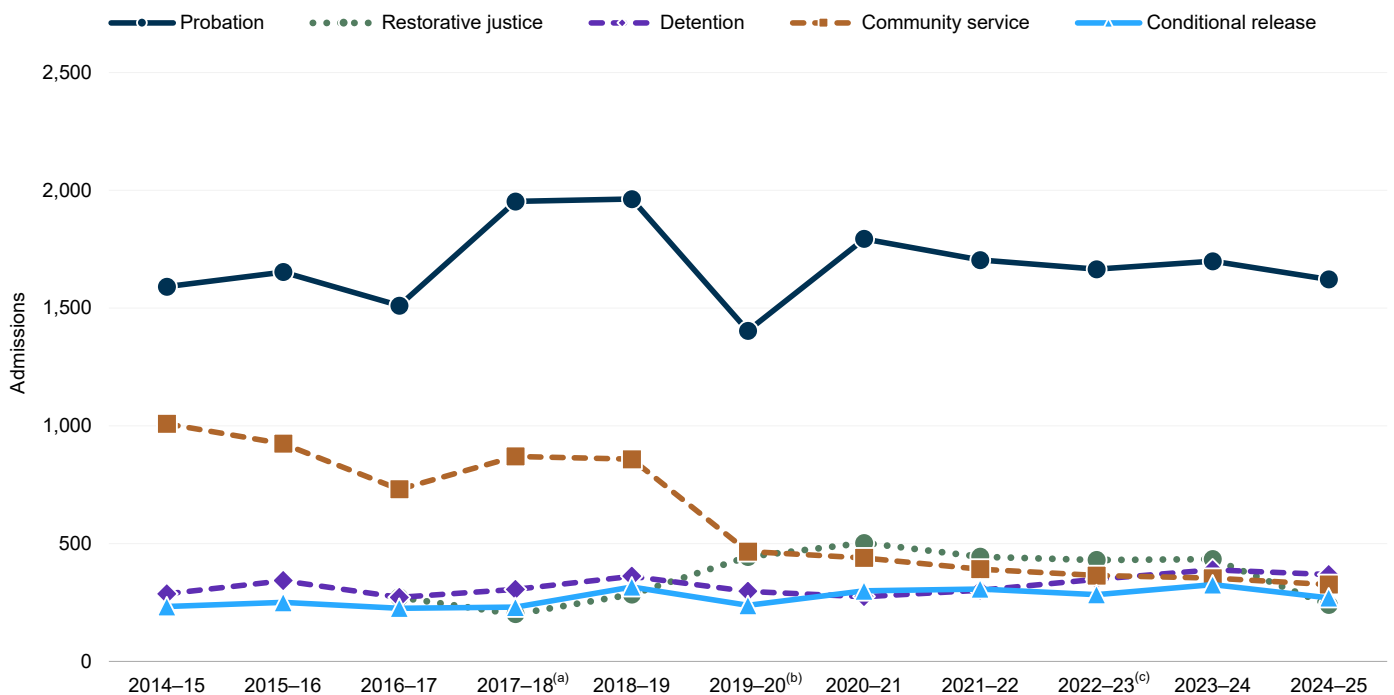
5.3.1.1 Supervised orders

Supervised youth justice orders include both detention-based orders and orders requiring community-based supervision, such as probation, community service, intensive supervision, conditional release, restorative justice, graffiti removal and (for a limited period) boot camp.

In 2024–25, the five most common supervised youth justice orders were ‘probation’, ‘detention’, ‘community service’, ‘conditional release’, and ‘restorative justice’ (Figure 28). ‘Probation’ accounted for 55.9% of admissions to orders in 2024–25, followed by ‘detention’ (12.7%). Admissions to all supervised orders experienced a sharp decline in 2019–20, coinciding with the COVID–19 pandemic, except for ‘restorative justice’, which saw a notable increase (up 55.8% compared to the previous year).

Between 2020–21 and 2023–24, the count of admissions to all supervised youth justice orders remained relatively stable, followed by slight decreases across all orders in 2024–25. Notably, admissions to ‘restorative justice’ declined more substantially over this period, reducing by 44.8% between 2023–24 and 2024–2025.

Figure 28 Admissions to the five most prevalent supervised youth justice orders – time series



- a) The transition of 17-year-olds to the youth justice system occurred in February 2018.
- b) The COVID–19 pandemic was declared in March 2020 and resulted in social restrictions which continued into 2021–22.
- c) Breach of bail conditions were introduced as a criminal offence for child offenders from March 2023.

In 2024–25, the total count of admissions to supervised youth justice orders decreased from the previous year (down 11.5%) (Table 55). Males accounted for over three quarters of admissions (77.1%), and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people accounted for 66.9% of all admissions in 2024–25. At the time of admission to their supervised order, nearly seven in 10 (68.9%) young people were aged 15, 16 or 17 years, with 9.6% aged 18 years and older.

When comparing 2024–25 with 2014–15, the count of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people admitted to supervised orders decreased by 7.5%, while admissions for non-Indigenous young people declined more substantially, dropping by 28.2%.

Table 55 Admissions to supervised youth justice orders by sex, Indigenous status, and age – time series

	2014–15	2015–16	2016–17	2017–18 ^(a)	2018–19	2019–20 ^(b)	2020–21	2021–22	2022–23 ^(c)	2023–24	2024–25
	— count —										
Sex											
Male	2,714	2,680	2,442	2,979	3,094	2,361	2,670	2,496	2,447	2,524	2,238
Female	733	712	758	809	922	633	782	754	722	755	666
Indigenous status											
Indigenous	2,102	2,086	1,963	2,451	2,599	1,975	2,320	2,149	2,207	2,338	1,944
Non-Indigenous	1,315	1,294	1,231	1,320	1,402	1,009	1,123	1,096	955	933	944
Not stated	31	12	6	18	16	10	9	8	7	9	16
Age on admission^(d)											
10–11 yrs	38	39	32	54	28	14	20	9	11	19	2
12 yrs	126	123	87	95	98	82	61	78	35	38	41
13 yrs	391	344	352	332	291	269	227	227	254	238	184
14 yrs	562	689	608	605	536	400	494	457	442	444	398
15 yrs	891	866	858	853	808	558	738	755	663	741	633
16 yrs	1,080	974	927	966	974	702	780	761	793	723	743
17 yrs	336	331	312	803	939	655	797	728	726	820	624
18 yrs and over	24	26	24	81	343	314	335	238	245	257	279
Total^(e)	3,448	3,392	3,200	3,789	4,017	2,994	3,452	3,253	3,169	3,280	2,904

a) The transition of 17-year-olds to the youth justice system occurred in February 2018.

b) The COVID–19 pandemic was declared in March 2020 and resulted in social restrictions which continued into 2021–22.

c) Breach of bail conditions were introduced as a criminal offence for child offenders from March 2023.

d) Age is as at commencement of an order within the reference year. An individual may appear in more than one age category in a year.

e) Total includes admissions where sex was not stated and/or self-reported as intersex or indeterminate (7 over the time series).

5.3.1.2 Unsupervised orders

Unsupervised youth justice orders include 'fine', 'good behaviour' and 'reprimand'.

In 2024–25, the total count of admissions to unsupervised youth justice orders decreased by 15.1% compared to the previous year (Table 56). This decrease was largely driven by a 13.9% reduction in admissions to 'reprimand', which remained the most common unsupervised order, accounting for 84.1% of all unsupervised orders. Admissions to 'good behaviour' decreased more sharply, dropping by 22.0% between 2023–24 and 2024–25, though it represented 14.9% of unsupervised orders. Meanwhile, the count of admissions to 'fine' remained unchanged during this period, accounting for only 0.9% of unsupervised orders.

Table 56 Admissions to unsupervised youth justice orders – time series

	2014–15	2015–16	2016–17	2017–18 ^(a)	2018–19	2019–20 ^(b)	2020–21	2021–22	2022–23 ^(c)	2023–24	2024–25
	— count —										
Order type											
Fine	97	70	62	74	154	70	55	54	30	29	29
Good behaviour	1,211	1,218	1,106	1,145	1,382	731	936	615	588	599	467
Reprimand	2,558	2,702	2,538	2,979	3,094	2,206	2,691	2,633	2,701	3,058	2,632
Total	3,866	3,990	3,706	4,198	4,630	3,007	3,682	3,302	3,319	3,686	3,128

a) The transition of 17-year-olds to the youth justice system occurred in February 2018.

b) The COVID–19 pandemic was declared in March 2020 and resulted in social restrictions which continued into 2021–22.

c) Breach of bail conditions were introduced as a criminal offence for child offenders from March 2023.

5.3.1.3 Other orders

Other orders include 'ancillary orders' ('compensation' and 'restitution'), 'conditional bail program', 'court diversion referral', 'drug diversion', 'indefinite referral', 'licence disqualification' and 'transfer to prison'.

In 2024–25, the total count of admissions to other youth justice orders dropped by 18.9% compared with the previous year, following minimal change between 2022–23 and 2023–24 (Table 57). 'Court diversion referral' and 'conditional bail program' together accounted for the majority of these admissions, accounting for 88.1% of all other orders in 2024–25.

Table 57 Admissions to other^(a) youth justice orders – time series^(b)

	2014–15	2015–16	2016–17	2017–18 ^(b)	2018–19	2019–20 ^(c)	2020–21	2021–22	2022–23 ^(d)	2023–24	2024–25
Order type	— count —										
Compensation	15	6	5	16	21	8	9	4	10	14	9
Conditional bail program	379	323	450	768	870	770	688	826	1,051	885	820
Court diversion referral	<i>na</i>	<i>na</i>	650	940	1,272	1,253	1,504	1,454	1,294	1,499	1,113
Drug diversion	152	175	160	190	260	166	138	54	48	50	9
Licence disqualification	126	129	104	203	465	307	422	338	288	255	232
Restitution	49	29	27	27	31	9	8	10	8	4	12
Total	721	662	1,396	2,144	2,919	2,513	2,769	2,686	2,699	2,707	2,195

na not applicable, as the order type did not yet exist or had been repealed. Court diversion referral orders were introduced on 1 July 2016.

a) Other orders also includes 'ancillary orders' such as 'compensation' and 'restitution' (see Glossary for further details).

b) The transition of 17-year-olds to the youth justice system occurred in February 2018.

c) The COVID-19 pandemic was declared in March 2020 and resulted in social restrictions which continued into 2021–22.

d) Breach of bail conditions were introduced as a criminal offence for child offenders from March 2023.

5.3.2 Unique persons admitted to youth justice orders

Data in this section are a count of **unique young people admitted to a supervised youth justice order** and **unique young people admitted to an unsupervised youth justice order** for a proven offence (convicted charge). As a young person may be subject to both a supervised and unsupervised youth justice order at any one time, the same young person may be included in the count of both the supervised and unsupervised order admissions. Additionally, in this section, if a young person is subject to more than one order or type of supervised or unsupervised order during a reference year, they are counted once for each relevant order type in that year.

Age at time of offence is determined by the earliest offence associated with a young person's first admission to the relevant order type in the reporting period. For example, if offences associated with the first order are a mix of those committed while the offender was aged 10–16 years and again at age 17 years, the unique offender is included only within the cohort aged 10–16 years. The offender cohort aged 17 years represents those who offended only as a 17-year-old from 2017–18 onwards.

5.3.2.1 Supervised orders

In 2024–25, the count of unique young people subject to a supervised youth justice order decreased slightly from the previous year (down 2.6%) (Table 58). Of the 1,563 individual young people under supervision in 2024–25, three-quarters (76.2%) were male, two-thirds (64.6%) were Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander, and nearly seven in 10 (67.8%) were aged between 15 and 17 years at admission.

Over the past decade, the total count of unique young people under supervision tended to decline, falling by 11.6% comparing 2014–15 with 2024–25. The count of individual males under supervision also fell by 12.5% over this period. While the count of unique Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people under supervision saw minimal change when comparing 2024–25 with 2014–15 (down 0.7%), the count of non-Indigenous young people under supervision decreased noticeably over the same period, falling by 25.8%.

By analysing the count of total admissions to supervised orders alongside the count of unique individuals (Table 58), the average number of admissions per unique young person per year can be estimated. In 2024–25, and across the time series, there was no notable difference in the average number of admissions per year

between males compared with females, or between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people compared with non-Indigenous young people, all averaging between 1.7 and 1.9 admissions per unique young person per year. Young people aged 14 and 15 years had the highest average number of admissions, at 2.0 per unique young person, while those aged 18 years and older had the lowest, at 1.5 admissions.

Table 58 Unique persons admitted to supervised youth justice orders by sex, Indigenous status and age – time series

	2014–15	2015–16	2016–17	2017–18 ^(a)	2018–19	2019–20 ^(b)	2020–21	2021–22	2022–23 ^(c)	2023–24	2024–25
	— unique persons —										
Sex											
Male	1,361	1,331	1,236	1,499	1,547	1,190	1,291	1,155	1,187	1,207	1,191
Female	407	402	384	449	513	378	409	371	375	396	372
Indigenous status											
Indigenous	1,016	1,002	930	1,178	1,259	969	1,050	960	1,028	1,071	1,009
Non-Indigenous	728	720	684	755	789	590	641	559	528	524	540
Not stated	25	11	6	16	13	9	9	8	6	9	14
Age on admission^(d)											
10–11 yrs	23	24	18	26	19	9	10	4	4	6	2
12 yrs	72	72	49	40	48	38	27	31	19	21	24
13 yrs	169	163	166	175	140	104	100	91	110	110	97
14 yrs	291	330	277	264	250	177	228	203	217	197	197
15 yrs	430	433	416	426	395	285	311	306	306	343	316
16 yrs	557	500	488	492	483	357	391	360	366	357	383
17 yrs	213	196	188	480	500	389	416	390	376	401	361
18 yrs and over	14	15	18	46	226	209	217	142	164	169	183
Total^(e)	1,769	1,733	1,620	1,949	2,061	1,568	1,700	1,527	1,562	1,604	1,563

a) The transition of 17-year-olds to the youth justice system occurred in February 2018.

b) The COVID-19 pandemic was declared in March 2020 and resulted in social restrictions which continued into 2021–22.

c) Breach of bail conditions were introduced as a criminal offence for child offenders from March 2023.

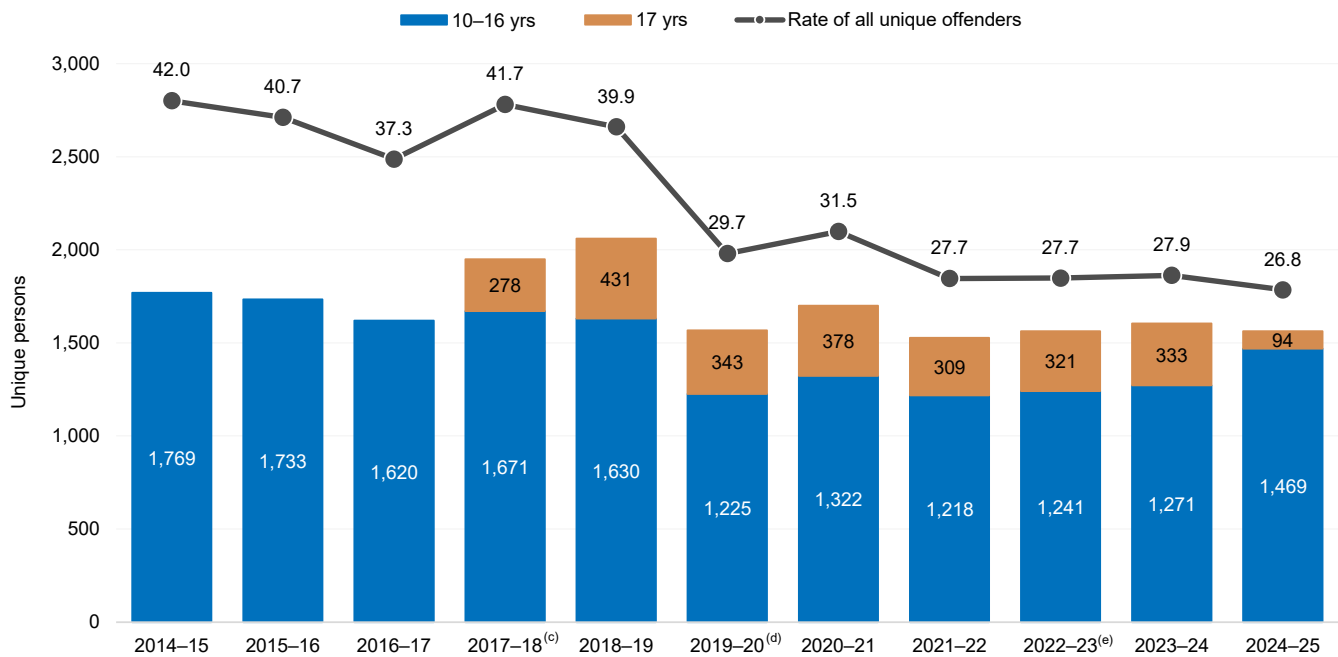
d) Age is as at earliest commencement of a supervised order within the reference year.

e) Total includes those whose sex was not stated and/or self-reported as intersex or indeterminate (5 across the time series).

While the total count of unique young people admitted to a supervised youth justice order varied over the past decade (Figure 29), the count remained relatively stable over the past five years, with almost no change apparent when comparing 2024–25 (1,563) with 2019–20 (1,568).

When accounting for population, the rate of unique young people admitted to supervision per 10,000 young people in Queensland declined when comparing 2019–20 with 2014–15 (down 29.3%) (Figure 29). However, there was an increase in 2017–18, followed by a sharp decline in 2019–20 coinciding with the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic. After a drop in 2021–22, the rate of unique young people under supervision remained relatively steady, with a slight decrease (down 4.1%) observed between 2023–24 and 2024–25.

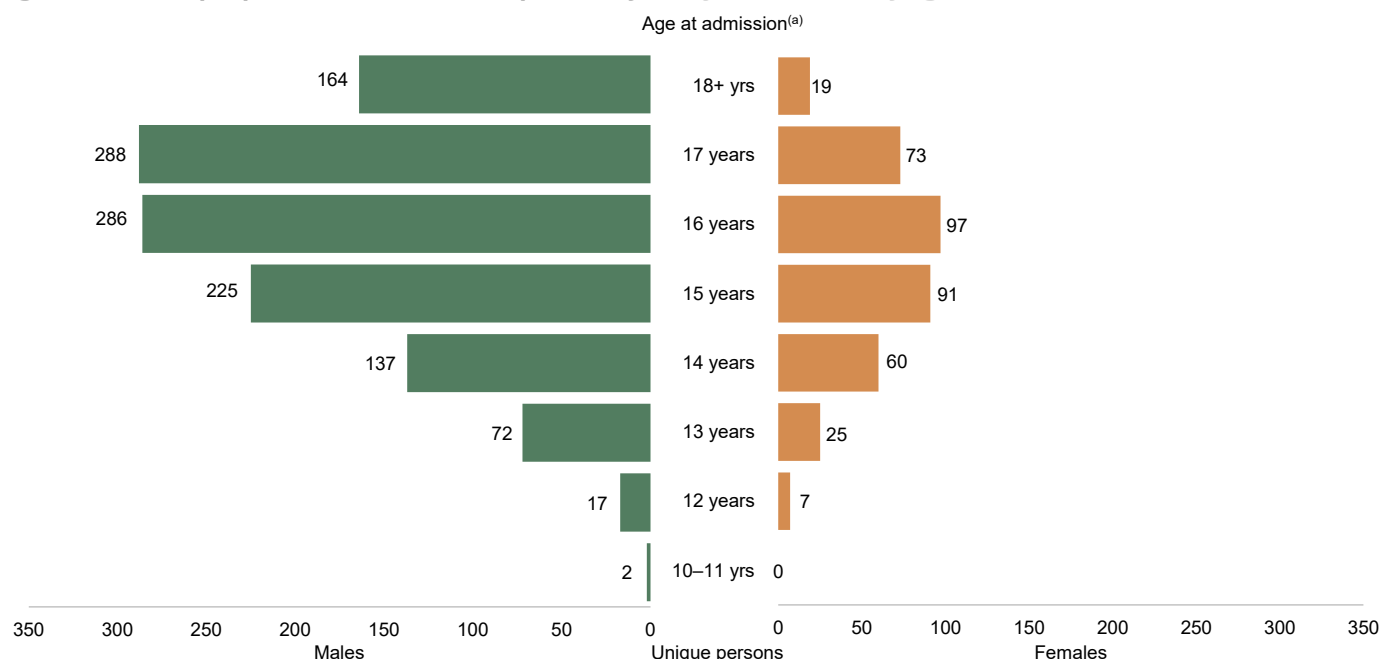
Figure 29 Count and rate^(a) of unique persons admitted to supervised youth justice orders by offender age cohort^(b) – time series



- a) Rates are calculated per 10,000 persons. Rates from 2014-15 to 2016-17 are based on persons aged 10-16 years, for 2018-19 onwards on persons aged 10-17 years, and for 2017-18 on a proportional combination.
- b) Age at time of offence is determined by the earliest offence associated with a young person's earliest commencement of a supervised order within the reference year.
- c) The transition of 17-year-olds to the youth justice system occurred in February 2018.
- d) The COVID-19 pandemic was declared in March 2020 and resulted in social restrictions which continued into 2021-22.
- e) Breach of bail conditions were introduced as a criminal offence for child offenders from March 2023.

In 2024-25, the count of unique males admitted to supervised youth justice orders increased with each year of age up to 17 years, with 17-year-olds comprising nearly a quarter (24.2%) of individual males (Figure 30). Males aged 18 years and older accounted for a smaller percentage (13.8%) of admissions to supervised orders in 2024-25. For females, the count of unique young people under supervision peaked at 16 years in 2024-25, accounting for over a quarter (26.1%) of individual females, followed by those aged 15 years, who accounted for 24.5%.

Figure 30 Unique persons admitted to supervised youth justice orders by age on admission^(a) and sex, 2024-25

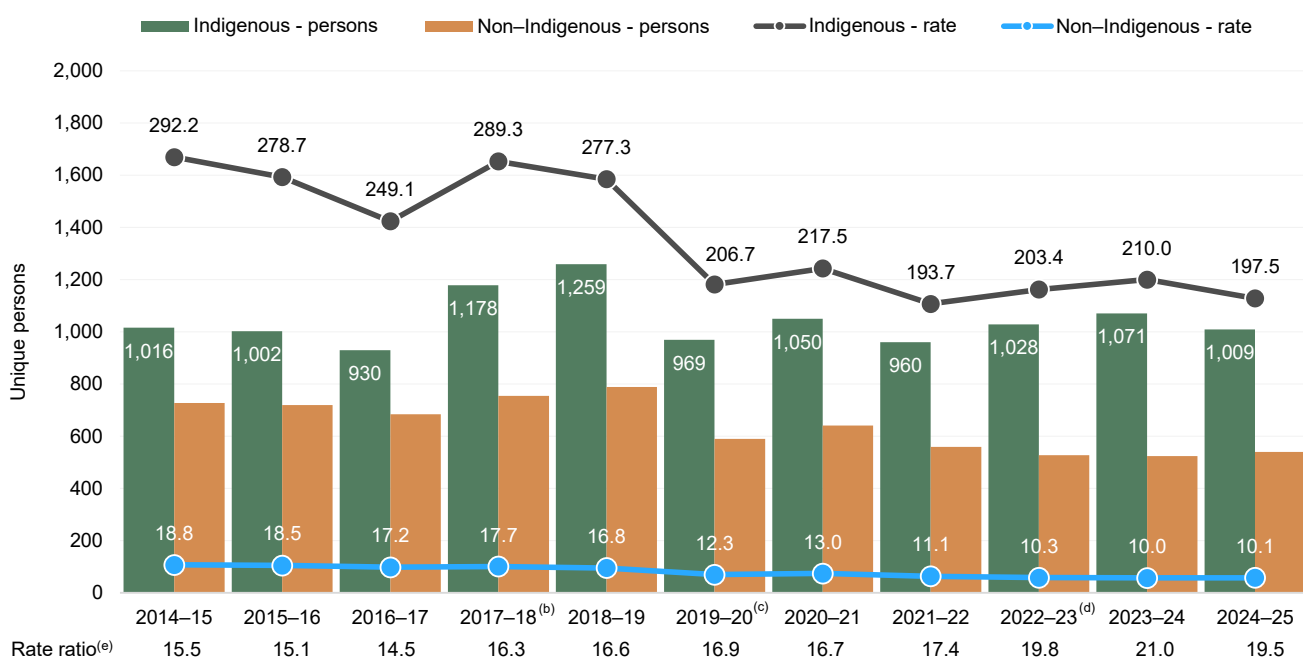


- a) Age is as at earliest commencement of a supervised order within the reference year.

In 2024–25, the count of unique Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people admitted to a supervised order decreased slightly by 5.8% when compared to the previous year (Figure 31). Throughout the time series, unique Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people admitted to supervision consistently outnumbered their non-Indigenous counterparts. While the count for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people saw no change when comparing 2014–15 with 2024–25, the count for non-Indigenous young people declined markedly over the same period, dropping by 25.8%.

In 2024–25, there were 197.5 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people admitted to supervision per 10,000 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young persons in the community, while among non-Indigenous young people, there were 10.1 admissions to supervision per 10,000 young persons. When comparing 2024–25 with 2014–15, the supervision admission rate for non-Indigenous young people declined more sharply (down 46.2%) than that for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people (down 32.4%). In 2024–25, the crude rate of supervised admissions among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people was 19.5 times higher than that of non-Indigenous young people.

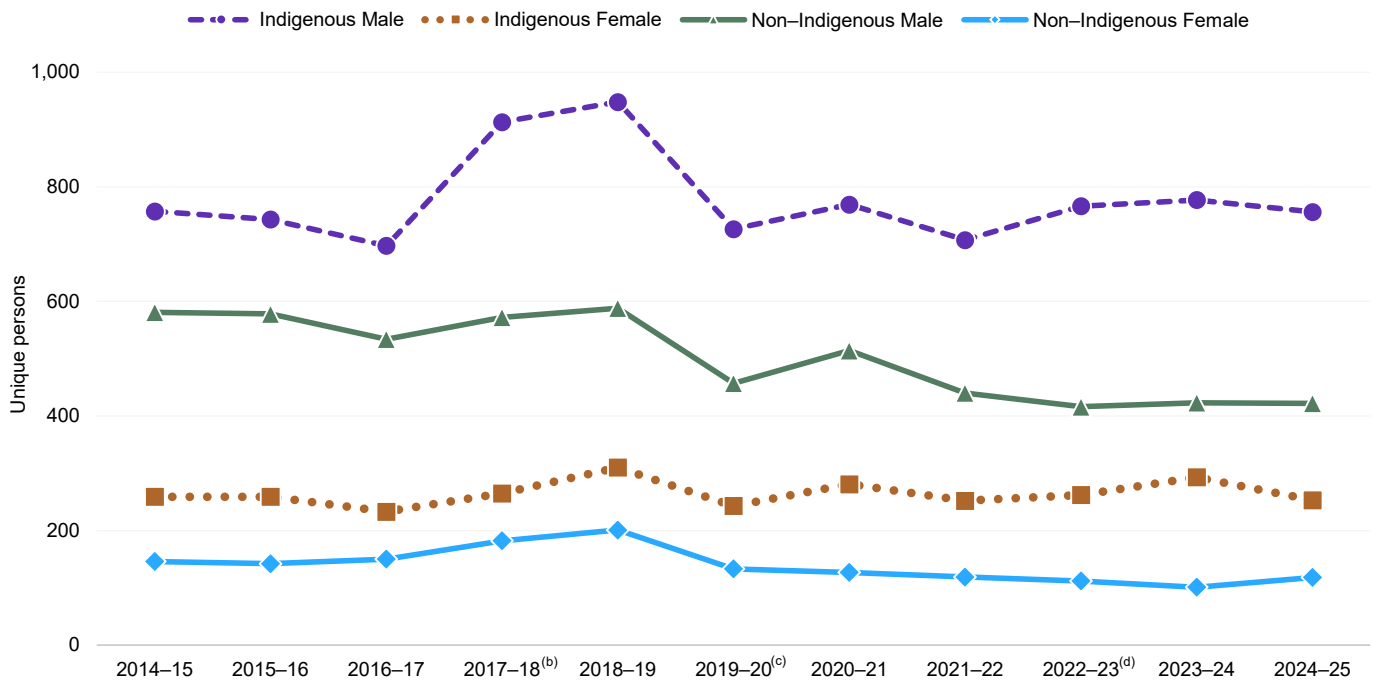
Figure 31 Count and rate^(a) of unique persons admitted to supervised youth justice orders by Indigenous status - time series



- a) Rates are calculated per 10,000 persons. Rates from 2014–15 to 2016–17 are based on persons aged 10–16 years, for 2018–19 onwards on persons aged 10–17 years, and for 2017–18 on a proportional combination.
- b) The transition of 17-year-olds to the youth justice system occurred in February 2018.
- c) The COVID-19 pandemic was declared in March 2020 and resulted in social restrictions which continued into 2021–22.
- d) Breach of bail conditions were introduced as a criminal offence for child offenders from March 2023.
- e) Rate ratio is the crude rate for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people divided by the rate for other young people and is calculated on unrounded rates.

Between 2020–21 and 2024–25, the count of unique Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people admitted to supervision showed minimal change for males (down 1.7%), but decreased for females (down 10.0%) (Figure 32). For non-Indigenous young people, the count declined for both males (down 17.9%) and females (down 7.1%) over the same period. In 2024–25, males continued to outnumber females among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and non-Indigenous young people admitted to supervision. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander males accounted for nearly half (48.8%) of all unique young people admitted to supervision. Among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people, there were 3.0 times more unique males than females, an increase from 2.7 times in the previous year. For non-Indigenous young people, males outnumber females by 3.6 times, marking a decrease from 4.2 times in the prior year.

Figure 32 Unique persons admitted to supervised youth justice orders by Indigenous status and sex^(a) - time series



- a) Excludes those whose sex was not stated and/or self-reported as intersex or indeterminate (5 over the time series).
- b) The transition of 17-year-olds to the youth justice system occurred in February 2018.
- c) The COVID-19 pandemic was declared in March 2020 and resulted in social restrictions which continued into 2021-22.
- d) Breach of bail conditions were introduced as a criminal offence for child offenders from March 2023.

In 2024-25, just over half (53.3%) of unique young people under youth justice supervision had only one admission to supervision, while 90.2% had three or fewer admissions (Table 59). A smaller percentage of unique offenders had four or five admissions (7.9%), and only 1.9% had six or more admissions during 2024-25. Over the past decade, the count of unique young people with one admission to supervision peaked in 2018-19 at 1,048 individuals, reached its lowest in 2021-22 with 708 individuals, and has since risen to 833 individuals in 2024-25 (up 7.1% compared to 2023-24). Similarly, the count of young people with two to five admissions also peaked in 2018-19, followed by a decline the next year, with counts tending to decrease since 2021-22. In contrast, the count of young people with six or more admissions reached its highest point in 2021-22 with 59 individuals but fell to a record low of 29 individuals in 2024-25 (down 44.2% compared with 2023-24).

Table 59 Unique persons with one or more admissions to supervised youth justice orders in a reference year - time series

	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18 ^(a)	2018-19	2019-20 ^(b)	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23 ^(c)	2023-24	2024-25
Number of admissions per year	— unique persons —										
1 admission	868	854	820	1,015	1,048	838	839	708	778	778	833
2 to 3 admissions	693	674	609	694	769	550	636	580	564	611	577
4 to 5 admissions	171	166	140	192	196	139	168	180	171	163	124
6 or more admissions	37	39	51	48	48	41	57	59	49	52	29
Total	1,769	1,733	1,620	1,949	2,061	1,568	1,700	1,527	1,562	1,604	1,563

- a) The transition of 17-year-olds to the youth justice system occurred in February 2018.
- b) The COVID-19 pandemic was declared in March 2020 and resulted in social restrictions which continued into 2021-22.
- c) Breach of bail conditions were introduced as a criminal offence for child offenders from March 2023.

5.3.2.2 Unsupervised orders

In 2024-25, the total count of unique young people admitted to **unsupervised youth justice orders** reached its lowest point in the time series at 2,013 individuals, decreasing by 4.3% compared to the previous year (Table 60). The count of unique young people with four to five admissions to unsupervised orders saw a notable decline in 2024-25 (down 46.6% compared to the previous year) after peaking at 161 individuals in 2023-24.

A similar trend was observed among those with six or more admissions, which dropped from a peak of 43 in 2023–24 to 24 in 2024–25 (down 44.2%). Meanwhile, the count of young people with two to three admissions experienced a more modest decline, decreasing by 9.0% between 2023–24 and 2024–25.

Table 60 Unique persons with one or more admissions to unsupervised youth justice orders in a reference year – time series

	2014–15	2015–16	2016–17	2017–18 ^(a)	2018–19	2019–20 ^(b)	2020–21	2021–22	2022–23 ^(c)	2023–24	2024–25
Number of admissions per year	— unique persons —										
1 admission	1,984	1,938	1,696	1,895	2,398	1,632	1,829	1,507	1,374	1,285	1,344
2 to 3 admissions	674	733	698	782	799	490	654	570	602	614	559
4 to 5 admissions	75	84	73	97	86	60	65	86	100	161	86
6 or more admissions	8	8	18	17	12	4	15	17	24	43	24
Total	2,741	2,763	2,485	2,791	3,295	2,186	2,563	2,180	2,100	2,103	2,013

- a) The transition of 17-year-olds to the youth justice system occurred in February 2018.
 b) The COVID–19 pandemic was declared in March 2020 and resulted in social restrictions which continued into 2021–22.
 c) Breach of bail conditions were introduced as a criminal offence for child offenders from March 2023.

5.3.3 Average daily number under youth justice supervision in the community

The **average daily number under youth justice supervision in the community** is calculated based on the number of persons under youth justice supervision who, as at 11:59pm on the relevant date, were subject to a sentenced supervised order ('boot camp', 'community service', 'conditional release', 'graffiti removal', 'intensive supervision', 'probation', 'restorative justice' or 'supervised release'), and/or participating in the conditional bail program. **It does not include those held in youth detention centres.**

The **average daily number of persons under youth justice supervision in the community** has generally declined since peaking at 1,636 in 2018–19. By 2024–25, this 2018–19 number had fallen to 1,195 (down 27.0%), just three persons more than the average recorded in the previous year (Table 61).

In 2024–25, approximately three-quarters (74.1%) of the average daily number of young people under supervision were male, around six in 10 (63.1%) were Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander, and nearly seven in 10 (69.8%) were aged 16 years and older. This included those aged 18 years and older, who comprised 28.0% of the average daily number in 2024–25.

Table 61 Average daily number of persons under youth justice supervision in the community by sex, Indigenous status and age – time series

	2014–15	2015–16	2016–17	2017–18 ^(a)	2018–19	2019–20 ^(b)	2020–21	2021–22	2022–23 ^(c)	2023–24	2024–25
	— average daily number ^(d) —										
Sex											
Male	1,016	953	897	1,045	1,236	1,130	993	939	901	894	885
Female	324	281	294	332	400	378	312	316	296	297	308
Indigenous status^(e)											
Indigenous	754	669	655	766	946	881	787	761	735	740	754
Other	587	565	536	610	690	628	518	495	463	452	441
Age^(f)											
10–11 yrs	10	9	7	8	8	6	7	2	4	4	2
12 yrs	29	29	26	20	28	19	15	16	9	13	14
13 yrs	84	74	76	73	71	62	43	49	54	53	48
14 yrs	166	164	163	156	150	128	112	112	119	107	106
15 yrs	258	254	252	264	262	221	186	191	193	195	191
16 yrs	355	318	318	346	348	297	255	248	248	253	247
17 yrs	310	258	250	362	388	341	293	290	256	263	252
18 yrs and over	126	127	100	147	382	436	394	349	316	304	334
Total^(g)	1,341	1,233	1,191	1,377	1,636	1,509	1,305	1,256	1,198	1,192	1,195

a) The transition of 17-year-olds to the youth justice system occurred in February 2018.

b) The COVID-19 pandemic was declared in March 2020 and resulted in social restrictions which continued into 2021–22.

c) Breach of bail conditions were introduced as a criminal offence for child offenders from March 2023.

d) Figures have been rounded to the nearest whole number, however total is based on unrounded components.

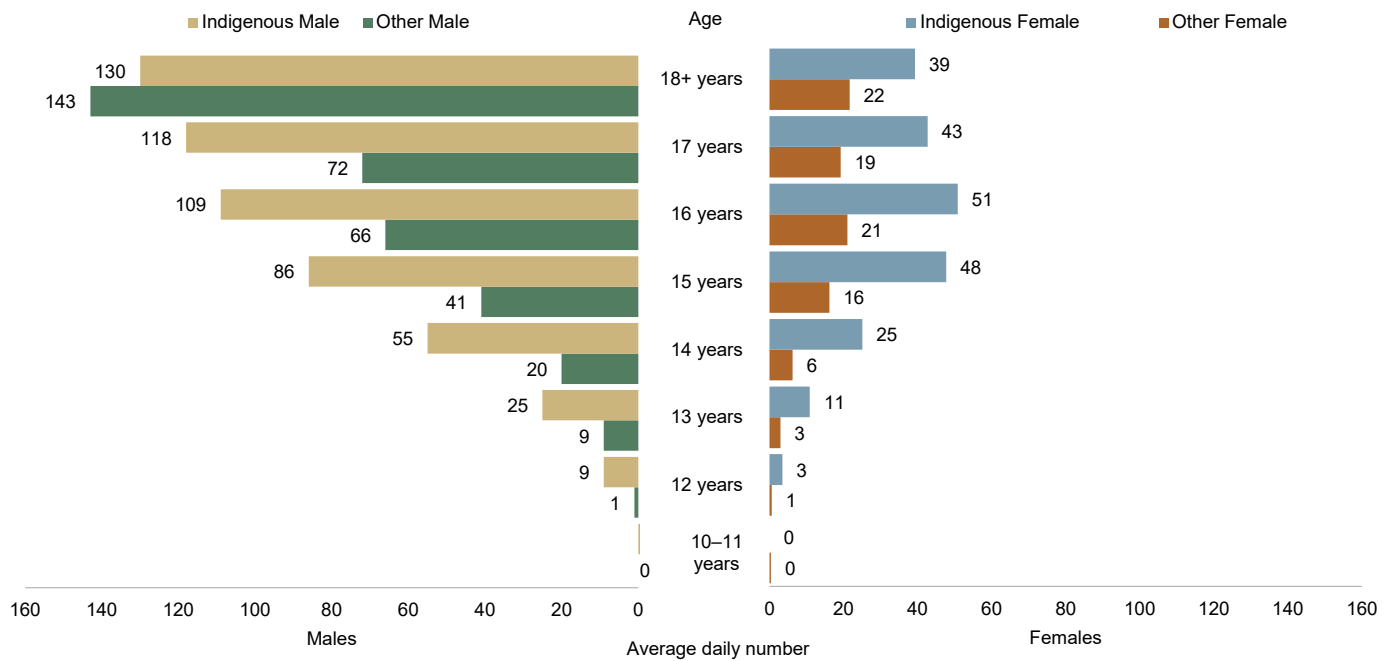
e) 'Other' represents those who identified as non-Indigenous and those whose Indigenous status was not stated.

f) Age refers to the age of young offender in completed years on day being counted.

g) Total includes those whose sex was not stated and/or self-reported as intersex or indeterminate (4 across the time series).

In 2024–25, the average daily number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people under community supervision exceeded that of non-Indigenous young people across all age groups and sexes, except for males aged 18 years and older (Figure 33). Within this oldest age group, non-Indigenous males accounted for over half (52.5%) of the average daily number of young males under community supervision.

Figure 33 Average daily number^(a) of persons under youth justice supervision in the community by sex, Indigenous status^(b) and age, 2024–25



- a) Figures have been rounded to the nearest whole number.
- b) 'Other' represents those who identified as non-Indigenous and those whose Indigenous status was not stated.
- c) Excludes one record where sex was not stated and/or self-reported as intersex or indeterminate.

5.4 Youth detention centres

5.4.1 Admissions to detention centres

This section relates to **physical admission to a stay in a youth detention centre**, whether **unsentenced** (in pre-court custody or on remand) or **sentenced**, where the admission date occurs in the reference year. An individual may have one or more admissions in a single reference year and is counted for each admission in this section and under the legal status pertaining to that admission. A return from a short absence from detention (e.g. to attend any place for court, medical examination or treatment) is not counted as a new admission and nor is a change in legal status from unsentenced to sentenced for those already in detention.

In 2024–25, the count of **admissions to youth detention centres** decreased by 5.7% compared to the previous year, continuing a downward trend observed since 2020–21 (down 22.7%). Nearly all admissions to youth detention were unsentenced (98.9%), as opposed to sentenced (1.1%), meaning that the vast majority of young people were first admitted to remand or pre-court custody (Table 62). While admissions to remand in 2024–25 declined by 3.8% from the previous year, they still accounted for approximately nine in 10 (91.1%) unsentenced admissions. Meanwhile, admissions to pre-court custody fell to their lowest level in a decade, with 132 recorded.

Table 62 Admissions to youth detention centres by legal status – time series

	2014–15	2015–16	2016–17	2017–18 ^(a)	2018–19	2019–20 ^(b)	2020–21	2021–22	2022–23 ^(c)	2023–24	2024–25
Legal status	— count —										
Unsentenced^(d)	1,704	1,506	1,854	2,078	1,436	1,783	1,925	1,841	1,759	1,565	1,482
Pre-court custody	820	695	869	793	167	703	852	410	233	161	132
Remand	884	811	985	1,285	1,269	1,080	1,073	1,431	1,526	1,404	1,350
Sentenced	62	59	55	35	38	15	13	22	21	24	16
Total	1,766	1,565	1,909	2,113	1,474	1,798	1,938	1,863	1,780	1,589	1,498

- a) The transition of 17-year-olds to the youth justice system occurred in February 2018.
b) The COVID-19 pandemic was declared in March 2020 and resulted in social restrictions which continued into 2021–22.
c) Breach of bail conditions were introduced as a criminal offence for child offenders from March 2023.
d) A young person may be referred to unsentenced detention either by police (pre-court custody) or by a court (remand).

Males accounted for approximately eight in 10 (79.3%) admissions to youth detention in 2024–25, while Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people accounted for about seven in 10 (70.4%) admissions (Table 63). Young people aged between 15 and 17 years accounted for around seven in 10 (69.6%) of total admissions. Between 2023–24 and 2024–25, admissions decreased for 15-year-olds (down 2.9%) and 17-year-olds (down 13.1%), whereas admissions for 16-year-olds increased by 5.8% over the same period.

Table 63 Admissions to youth detention centres by sex, Indigenous status and age – time series

	2014–15	2015–16	2016–17	2017–18 ^(a)	2018–19	2019–20 ^(b)	2020–21	2021–22	2022–23 ^(c)	2023–24	2024–25
	— count —										
Sex											
Male	1,384	1,234	1,498	1,661	1,169	1,462	1,580	1,479	1,457	1,298	1,188
Female	382	331	411	452	305	336	358	384	322	291	310
Indigenous status											
Indigenous	1,076	1,004	1,231	1,479	1,064	1,174	1,249	1,249	1,337	1,160	1,055
Non-Indigenous	684	559	675	631	409	619	683	614	443	429	439
Not stated	6	2	3	3	1	5	6	0	0	0	4
Age on admission^(d)											
10–11 yrs	44	28	65	73	20	22	35	11	17	32	11
12 yrs	79	80	93	150	103	90	72	79	71	53	64
13 yrs	232	212	200	260	180	211	186	185	203	148	137
14 yrs	378	354	414	432	241	337	369	346	295	270	242
15 yrs	492	430	571	536	296	406	476	436	395	347	337
16 yrs	502	434	537	529	317	363	424	439	417	360	381
17 yrs	38	23	29	129	302	358	366	352	374	373	324
18 yrs and over	1	4	0	4	15	11	10	15	8	6	2
Total^(e)	1,766	1,565	1,909	2,113	1,474	1,798	1,938	1,863	1,780	1,589	1,498

- e) The transition of 17-year-olds to the youth justice system occurred in February 2018.
f) The COVID-19 pandemic was declared in March 2020 and resulted in social restrictions which continued into 2021–22.
g) Breach of bail conditions were introduced as a criminal offence for child offenders from March 2023.
h) Age is as at the date of admission to a youth detention centre. An individual may have multiple admissions in one reference year.
i) Total includes those whose sex was not stated and/or self-reported as intersex or indeterminate (1 across the time series).

5.4.2 Unique persons admitted to a youth detention centre

Data in this section are a count of **unique young people admitted to a youth detention centre**. While an individual may have one or multiple admissions in a single reference year, they are counted only once in the reference year.

In 2024–25, a total of 872 **unique young people were admitted to a youth detention centre**, representing a 2.1% rise compared with 2023–24. This was the first increase recorded since 2021–22, following a period of slight annual declines (Table 64).

Among unique young people admitted to youth detention in 2024–25, nearly eight in 10 (77.4%) were male, nearly seven in 10 (67.4%) were Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander, and half (50.9%) were 16 or 17 years old. In 2024–25, the count of unique females admitted to youth detention centres increased by 15.9% to 197 individuals, compared with 170 individuals recorded in the year before.

In contrast, the count of unique males admitted to detention remained relatively stable over the last two financial years (675 in 2024–25 and 684 in 2023–24). The count of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander individuals admitted to youth detention in 2024–25 remained largely unchanged from the previous year, with a minimal decrease of three individuals, bringing the total to 588.

The most recent year shows minimal change in the count of unique Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people admitted to youth detention compared to 2023–24 (down 0.5%) and reflects a 5.9% drop from 2022–23, when admissions for this group reached their peak. The counts of admissions in 2024–25 were similar to those recorded in 2023–24 for all age groups. The most notable change over this period was for 16-year-olds who saw an increase of 7.9% (or 17 individuals) during this period.

On average, there were between 1.5 and 2.4 admissions to detention per year per unique young person across the time series, regardless of sex, Indigenous status or age (with some variation for those aged 10–13 years and 18 years and over due to small counts) (data not shown).

Table 64 Unique persons admitted to a youth detention centre by sex, Indigenous status and age - time series

	2014–15	2015–16	2016–17	2017–18 ^(a)	2018–19	2019–20 ^(b)	2020–21	2021–22	2022–23 ^(c)	2023–24	2024–25
	— unique persons —										
Sex											
Male	667	628	692	746	614	679	716	708	697	684	675
Female	199	162	211	205	181	177	181	195	178	170	197
Indigenous status											
Indigenous	520	493	556	624	545	537	550	574	625	591	588
Non-Indigenous	340	295	344	325	249	314	341	329	251	263	280
Not stated	6	2	3	2	1	5	6	0	0	0	4
Age on admission^(d)											
10–11 yrs	14	14	23	17	8	8	12	4	7	9	5
12 yrs	49	39	38	48	40	44	27	32	37	24	28
13 yrs	89	95	84	107	89	71	80	77	96	74	74
14 yrs	179	156	191	189	113	149	154	163	125	125	133
15 yrs	243	235	265	255	165	183	214	198	209	189	187
16 yrs	266	234	286	259	192	186	195	220	201	215	232
17 yrs	25	14	16	72	181	207	207	200	194	214	212
18 yrs and over	1	3	0	4	7	8	8	9	7	4	1
Total^(e)	866	790	903	951	795	856	897	903	876	854	872

a) The transition of 17-year-olds to the youth justice system occurred in February 2018.

b) The COVID-19 pandemic was declared in March 2020 and resulted in social restrictions which continued into 2021–22.

c) Breach of bail conditions were introduced as a criminal offence for child offenders from March 2023.

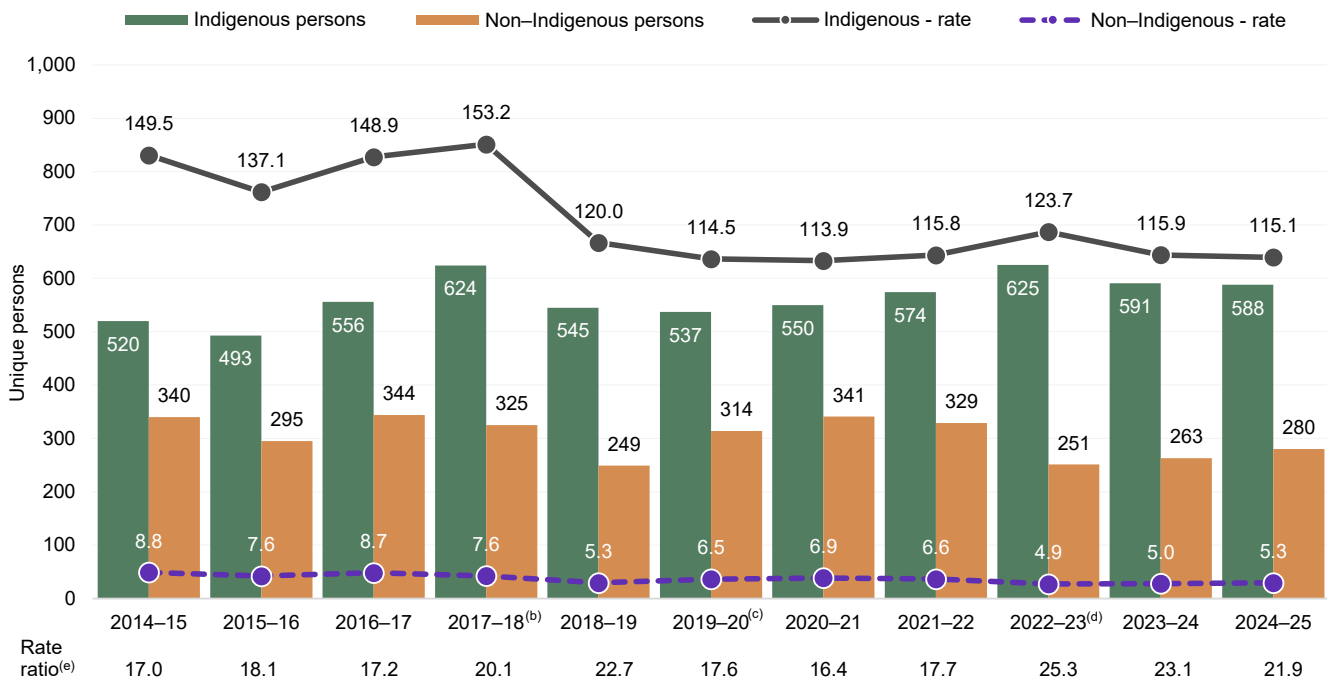
d) Age as at the earliest admission to a youth detention centre within the reference year.

e) Total includes those whose sex was not stated and/or self-reported as intersex or indeterminate (1 across the time series).

In 2024–25 and consistently across the time series, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people outnumbered non-Indigenous young people among those admitted to youth detention (Figure 34). To account for population differences, crude rates are calculated as the count of unique young people admitted to youth detention per 10,000 young persons in the relevant demographic group.

In 2024–25, there were 115.1 unique Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people admitted to youth detention per 10,000 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young persons in the general population, a figure that was similar to the previous year (115.9). Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people were also 21.9 times more likely to be admitted to youth detention than non-Indigenous young people in 2024–25, a slight decrease from 23.1 in the previous year.

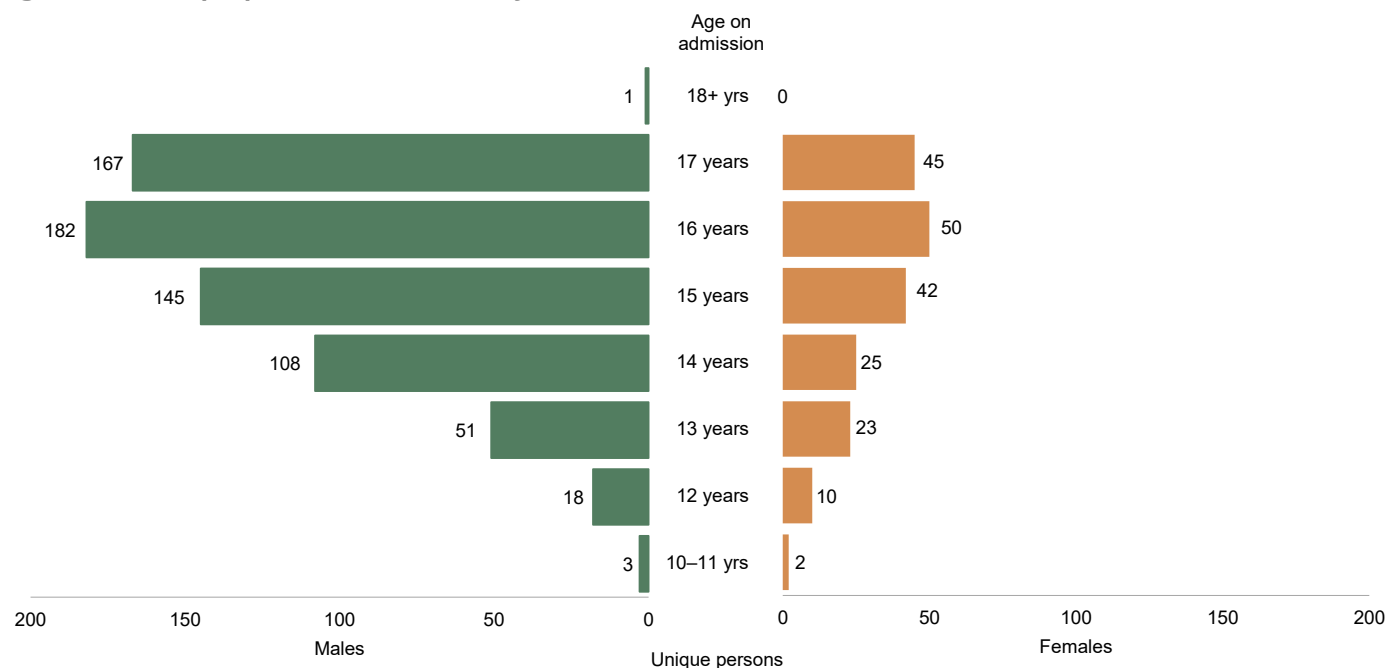
Figure 34 Count and rate^(a) of unique persons admitted to a youth detention centre by Indigenous status - time series



- a) Rates are calculated per 10,000 persons. Rates from 2014-15 to 2016-17 are based on persons aged 10-16 years, for 2018-19 onwards on persons aged 10-17 years, and for 2017-18 on a proportional combination.
- b) The transition of 17-year-olds to the youth justice system occurred in February 2018.
- c) The COVID-19 pandemic was declared in March 2020 and resulted in social restrictions which continued into 2021-22.
- d) Breach of bail conditions were introduced as a criminal offence for child offenders from March 2023.
- e) Rate ratio is the crude rate for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people divided by the rate for other young people and is calculated on unrounded rates.

In 2024-25, the count of unique males admitted to youth detention increased with each year of age until peaking at 182 unique young people aged 16 years. This was followed by slightly fewer unique young people aged 17 years (167) and 1 young person aged 18 years (Figure 35). Fewer females than males were admitted to youth detention in 2024-25, with counts in admissions peaking for those aged 16 years, reaching 50 unique young people.

Figure 35 Unique persons admitted to a youth detention centre, by age on admission^(a) and sex, 2024-25



- a) Age as at the earliest admission to a youth detention centre within the reference year.

In 2024–25, nearly six in 10 (57.9%) unique young people admitted to detention had only one admission in the year, an increase of 6.3 percentage points from the previous year (Table 65). A smaller percentage of individuals had two to three admissions to youth detention, making up 34.6% of all unique young people admitted in 2024–25, down from 39.7% in the previous year. While there was some variation in the count of unique young people with four or more admissions to youth detention during the transition of 17-year-olds to the youth justice system and the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, counts generally declined each year over time. Notably, those with six or more admissions reached the lowest point in the time series, with only six individuals recorded in 2024–25.

Table 65 Unique persons by number of admissions to a Queensland youth detention centre – time series

	2014–15	2015–16	2016–17	2017–18 ^(a)	2018–19	2019–20 ^(b)	2020–21	2021–22	2022–23 ^(c)	2023–24	2024–25
Number of admissions per year	— unique persons —										
1 admission	428	423	437	471	417	439	420	440	436	441	505
2 to 3 admissions	327	266	339	316	309	283	333	334	318	339	302
4 to 5 admissions	80	72	87	112	57	95	103	96	98	58	59
6 or more admissions	31	29	40	52	12	39	41	33	24	16	6
Total	866	790	903	951	795	856	897	903	876	854	872

- a) The transition of 17-year-olds to the youth justice system occurred in February 2018.
 b) The COVID-19 pandemic was declared in March 2020 and resulted in social restrictions which continued into 2021–22.
 c) Breach of bail conditions were introduced as a criminal offence for child offenders from March 2023.

Since the transition of 17-year-olds to the youth justice system in 2017–18, the count of unique young people with a history of prior admissions to detention has tended to exceed the count of those admitted for the first time (Table 66). When comparing 2024–25 with 2014–15, the count of those with only one admission decreased by 13.9%, while the count of those with prior detention admissions rose by 17.8%. In 2024–25, individuals with prior detention admissions accounted for 54.0% of all youth detention admissions, a slight decrease from 57.7% in the previous year. In turn, the percentage of first-time admissions increased from 42.3% to 46.0% in 2024–25 compared to the previous year.

Table 66 Unique persons by history of admission to a Queensland youth detention centre – time series

	2014–15	2015–16	2016–17	2017–18 ^(a)	2018–19	2019–20 ^(b)	2020–21	2021–22	2022–23 ^(c)	2023–24	2024–25
Admission history	— unique persons —										
First ever admission to detention	466	383	500	462	300	427	417	375	367	361	401
Prior admission to detention	400	407	403	489	495	429	480	528	509	493	471
Total	866	790	903	951	795	856	897	903	876	854	872

- a) The transition of 17-year-olds to the youth justice system occurred in February 2018.
 b) The COVID-19 pandemic was declared in March 2020 and resulted in social restrictions which continued into 2021–22.
 c) Breach of bail conditions were introduced as a criminal offence for child offenders from March 2023.

5.4.3 Average daily number in youth detention centres

The **average daily number of persons in youth detention** is calculated based on the number who were physically located in a youth detention centre at 11.59 pm on each day during the period, whether sentenced or unsentenced.

In 2024–25, an **average of 285 young people were held in youth detention centres** on a given day, which was consistent with the averages recorded in 2023–24 and 2022–23 (Table 67). This figure was 69.4% higher than in 2014–15, with the average daily number of young people in detention remaining consistently elevated since 2021–22 compared to earlier years in the time series, which had shown a gradual upward trend. These increases were primarily driven by higher numbers of young males and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people in detention, whose daily averages in 2024–25 were 76.9% and 84.7% higher, respectively, in 2024–25 compared with 2014–15.

Table 67 Average daily number of young people in youth detention centres by sex, Indigenous status and age – time series

	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18 ^(a)	2018-19	2019-20 ^(b)	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23 ^(c)	2023-24	2024-25
	— average daily number ^(d) —										
Sex											
Male	139	152	153	172	183	178	206	247	249	250	246
Female	29	32	25	29	30	23	24	29	34	36	39
Indigenous status											
Indigenous	111	128	128	146	154	143	150	181	197	203	204
Non-Indigenous	58	56	51	55	59	57	79	95	86	83	80
Age											
10-11 yrs	1	1	2	2	1	1	1	0	0	1	1
12 yrs	4	4	4	6	5	5	4	5	3	3	5
13 yrs	12	13	9	13	12	12	13	13	15	13	15
14 yrs	27	30	29	30	24	24	31	32	33	34	35
15 yrs	48	46	53	50	37	36	48	58	53	52	61
16 yrs	58	68	61	64	55	44	54	71	73	70	80
17 yrs	17	20	18	34	64	58	62	76	80	86	78
18 yrs and over	1	2	1	2	16	21	17	20	25	26	10
Total	168	184	178	201	213	200	229	276	283	286	285

a) The transition of 17-year-olds to the youth justice system occurred in February 2018.

b) The COVID-19 pandemic was declared in March 2020 and resulted in social restrictions which continued into 2021-22.

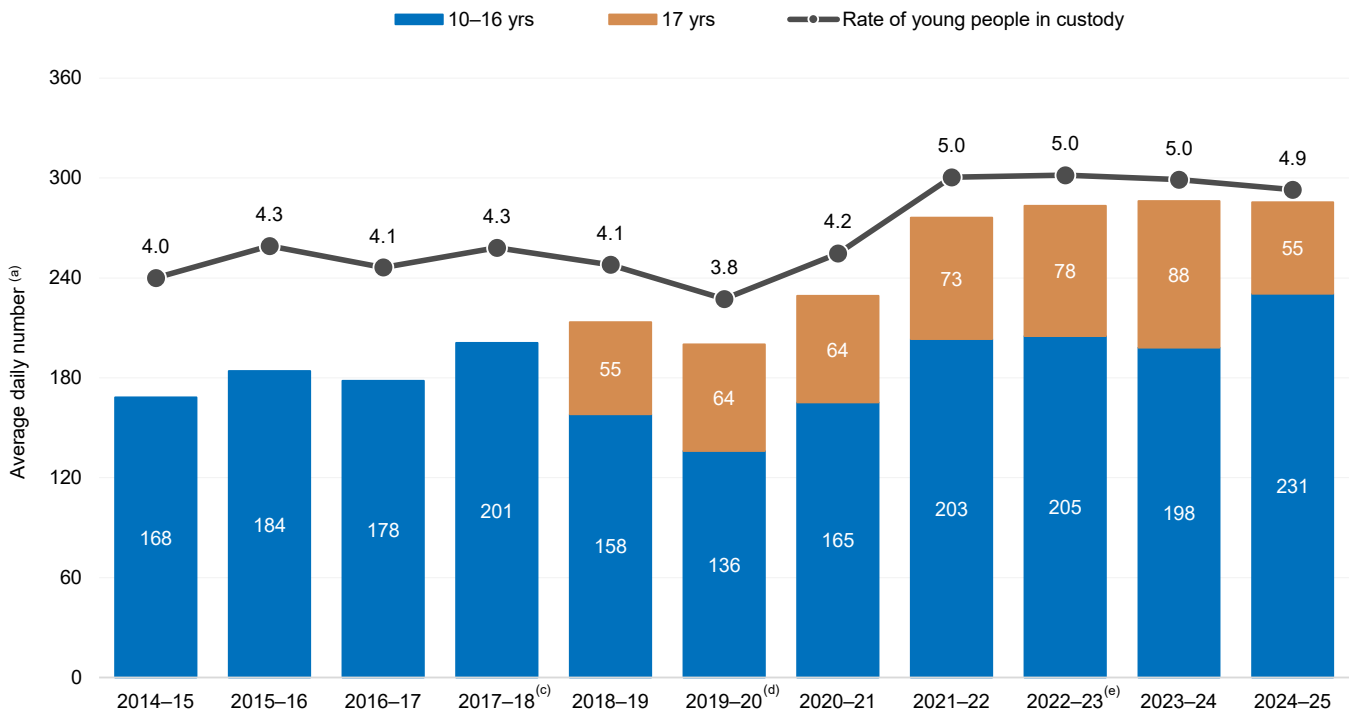
c) Breach of bail conditions were introduced as a criminal offence for child offenders from March 2023.

d) Figures have been rounded to the nearest whole number, however total is based on unrounded components.

Figure 36 below shows the average daily number of young people in youth detention by the age of the young person at the time of their offending behaviour, showing young people aged 10-16 years compared with those aged 17 years at the time of offending. Since 2019-20, the average daily number of young people in detention who were 17 years old at the time of their offence has increased year-on-year (Figure 36). However, in 2024-25, this trend reversed, with a 39.9% decrease apparent when comparing with the previous year, bringing numbers back to their initial levels in the first full year after the transition (Figure 36). For those aged 10-16 years at the time of offence, the average daily number in detention has been increasing after the decline observed at the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2019-20, rising by 39.5% in 2024-25 compared with 2020-21.

Figure 36 also presents rates as the average number in detention on a given day per 10,000 young persons in the population. These rates varied modestly during the initial years of the time series before declining in 2019-20, coinciding with the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic. Between 2019-20 and 2021-22, the daily detention rate rose by 32.1%, subsequently stabilising at approximately 5 young people in detention per 10,000 persons from 2021-22 through to 2024-25.

Figure 36 Average daily number^(a) and rate^(b) of young people in youth detention centres by offender's age at the time of offence – time series



- a) Figures have been rounded to the nearest whole number.
- b) Rates are calculated per 10,000 persons. Rates from 2014-15 to 2016-17 are based on persons aged 10-16 years, for 2018-19 onwards on persons aged 10-17 years, and for 2017-18 on a proportional combination.
- c) The transition of 17-year-olds to the youth justice system occurred in February 2018.
- d) The COVID-19 pandemic was declared in March 2020 and resulted in social restrictions which continued into 2021-22.
- e) Breach of bail conditions were introduced as a criminal offence for child offenders from March 2023.

The average daily number of young people in detention in 2024-25 varied by legal status, with the majority being unsentenced (88.5%) compared to sentenced (11.5%) (Table 68 and Figure 37). The average daily number of unsentenced young people in detention reached its highest point in the time series at 252 individuals in 2024-25, reflecting a substantial increase of 88.4% since 2014-15. This growth was primarily driven by increases in the number of young people remanded in youth detention, who consistently accounted for the vast majority (99.8%) of unsentenced individuals. In contrast, the average daily number of sentenced young people fluctuated over the time series but remained relatively stable overall, with 33 individuals in 2024-25 compared with 34 in 2014-15.

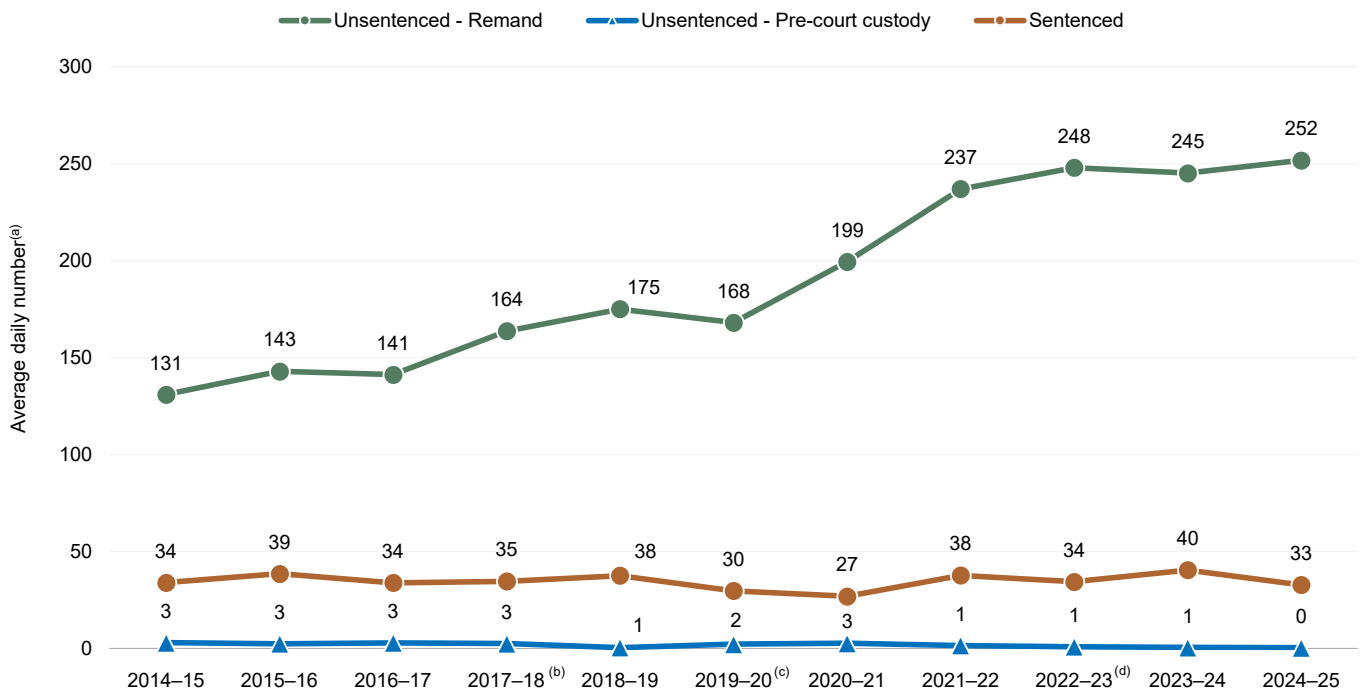
Table 68 Average daily number of young people in youth detention centres by legal status – time series

	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18 ^(a)	2018-19	2019-20 ^(b)	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23 ^(c)	2023-24	2024-25
Legal status	— average daily number ^(d) —										
Unsentenced	134	146	144	166	176	170	202	238	249	246	252
Pre-court custody	3	3	3	3	1	2	3	1	1	1	0
Remand	131	143	141	164	175	168	199	237	248	245	252
Sentenced	34	39	34	35	38	30	27	38	34	40	33
Total	168	184	178	201	213	200	229	276	283	286	285

- a) The transition of 17-year-olds to the youth justice system occurred in February 2018.
- b) The COVID-19 pandemic was declared in March 2020 and resulted in social restrictions which continued into 2021-22.
- c) Breach of bail conditions were introduced as a criminal offence for child offenders from March 2023.
- d) Figures have been rounded to the nearest whole number, however total is based on unrounded components.

Over the past decade, the average daily number of young people remanded in youth detention increased markedly, up 91.9% when comparing 2024-25 with 2014-15. In contrast, the number of young people in pre-court custody remained consistently low (≤ 3 throughout the time series) (Figure 37).

Figure 37 Average daily number^(a) of young people in youth detention centres by legal status - time series



- a) Figures have been rounded to the nearest whole number.
- b) The transition of 17-year-olds to the youth justice system occurred in February 2018.
- c) The COVID-19 pandemic was declared in March 2020 and resulted in social restrictions which continued into 2021-22.
- d) Breach of bail conditions were introduced as a criminal offence for child offenders from March 2023.

On an average day in youth detention centres in 2024-25, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people outnumbered non-Indigenous young people across all age groups for both males and females (Figure 38). Among males, those aged 16-17 years represented the largest percentage of the average daily population in detention, regardless of Indigenous status. For females, while the overall average daily number in detention was low (39), Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander females were mostly aged 15 or 16 years old, whereas most non-Indigenous females were aged 16 or 17 years old.

Figure 38 Average daily number^(a) of persons in youth detention centres by sex, Indigenous status and age^(b), 2024-25

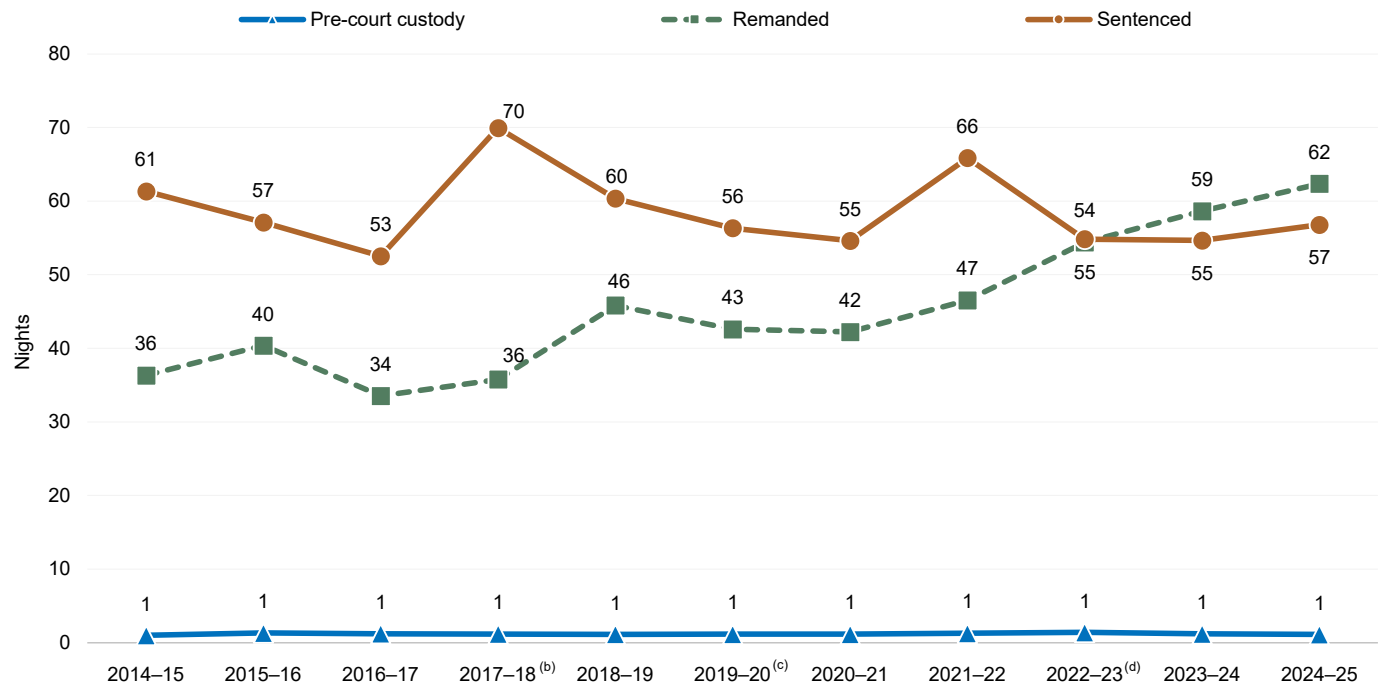


- a) Figures have been rounded to the nearest whole number.
- b) Excludes those whose age was unknown / not stated.

5.4.4 Average length of stay

The average length of stay, measured by the average number of nights in a youth detention centre, varied by legal status (Figure 39). In 2024–25, a young person in pre-court custody typically spent about one night in detention, consistent across the time series. In contrast, those sentenced or held on remand spent approximately two months on average in a youth detention centre (1.9 and 2.1 months, respectively). The average length of stay for young people on remand has risen substantially over the past decade, mostly increasing from just over one month (36 nights) in 2014–15 to around two months (62 nights) in 2024–25 (up 71.7%). For sentenced young people, the average length of stay fluctuated throughout the time series, peaking in 2017–18 (70 nights) and 2021–22 (66 nights).

Figure 39 Average length of stay^(a) in a youth detention centre by legal status – time series



- a) Length of stay in detention is the total duration between an admission to detention in any year and an end date occurring in the reference year. Figures have been rounded to the nearest decimal place.
- b) The transition of 17-year-olds to the youth justice system occurred in February 2018.
- c) The COVID-19 pandemic was declared in March 2020 and resulted in social restrictions which continued into 2021–22.
- d) Breach of bail conditions were introduced as a criminal offence for child offenders from March 2023.

6.0 Corrective Services

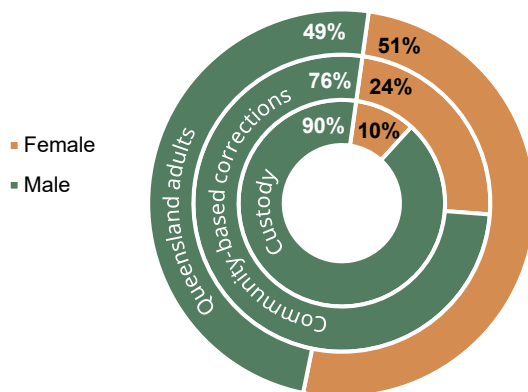
Source: Unpublished data supplied by Queensland Corrective Services.

This chapter presents statistics about **adult corrective services** in Queensland as at June 2025 and an 11-year time series from 2015. Two populations are presented: adults in **full-time prison custody** and adults in **supervised community corrections**. Data for adults in prison are presented as at 30 June, while data for community corrections are presented as at 1 June. Length of stay data are also presented for adults in prison showing financial years. Each dataset was prepared separately using different methodologies and extracted at different times. Numbers reported here may differ from those reported elsewhere. Rates in this section are presented per 100,000 persons, with crude rates used for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander groups.

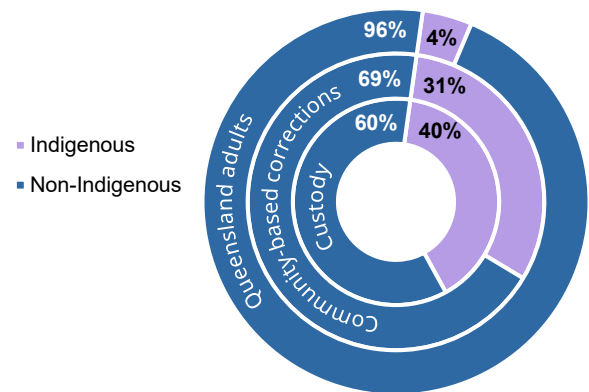
Key points to consider:

- Adults can be held in prison custody after being **sentenced** at court to a term of **imprisonment (custodial sentence)** or while awaiting trial or sentencing, meaning adults in prison may be **unsentenced (held on remand)**. The length of a **custodial sentence** may differ from the length of time **served in prison**, as measured at the time of release or discharge from prison.
- Adults can be held in custody or subject to a supervised community-corrections order under the ***Dangerous Prisoners (Sexual Offenders) Act 2003 (DPSOA)*** in cases where the court is satisfied that a person is a serious danger to the community due to their offending. These are referred to as **DPSOA orders** throughout this chapter.
- Adults in **supervised community corrections** can be subject to a **parole order**, which is a **supervised release from prison**, enabling a person to serve the remainder of their prison sentence in the community. Otherwise, adults can be sentenced to serve a sentence entirely in the community, subject to a **probation, community service** or other order which may involve supervision, programs or community work.

Gender profile of selected populations, June 2025



Indigenous profile of selected populations, June 2025



	June 2024	June 2025	% change
Adults in prison as at 30 June			
Prisoners	10,878	11,275	3.6
Male prisoners	9,826	10,199	3.8
Female prisoners	1,052	1,076	2.3
Percentage Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander prisoners	39.0%	39.8%	0.8 ppt
Adults in supervised community corrections as at 1 June			
Persons	18,600	18,656	0.3
Males	13,987	14,181	1.4
Females	4,613	4,475	-3.0
Percentage Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander persons	30.4%	31.4%	1.0 ppt

ppt percentage point

6.1 Corrective Services summary

Due to the change in legislation relating to youth, counts for 2013 to 2017 include those who offended aged 17 years, while counts for 2018 to 2023 represent only offenders aged 18 years and over.

Of the 11,275 **adults in prison** in 2025, about six in 10 (57.1%) were in custody due to receiving an imprisonment sentence, meaning 42.4% were **unsentenced**, representing the largest share of people held in prison on remand over the last 11 years.

- The unsentenced or remand population in Queensland prisons increased to 4,784 in 2025, up 16.5% from the previous year and 166.8% from 2015.
- People released from prison in 2024–25 had spent between one day and 35.4 years in custody. Over six in 10 (62.8%) of those released had spent less than six months in prison, irrespective of legal status.
- The median length of stay in prison was 4.4 months, up slightly from 4.2 months in the previous year. People most commonly spent between two and three months in custody, accounting for 13.8% of releases in 2024–25.
- Consistent with previous years, nine in 10 (90.5%) adults in prison were male in 2025.
- The over-representation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander adults held in prison (making up 39.8% of the prison population in 2025) relative to representing only 4.2% of the general Queensland adult population is particularly illustrated by imprisonment rates. In 2025, there were 2,406.3 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander adults in prison for every 100,000 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander adults in the population.
- Evidence suggests an aging prison population in Queensland over the past decade, with the median age of adult prisoners rising from 32 years in 2015 to 35 years in 2025. However, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander adults in prison tended to be younger, with a median age of 32 years in 2025, up from 30 years in 2015.

As at 1 June 2025, there were 18,656 **adults serving one or more supervised community corrections orders** in Queensland, 56 more people than the previous year. This is relatively consistent with the last two years and a slight decrease from 19,380 adults in 2022 (down 3.7% when compared with 2025).

- In 2025, over three in four (76.0%) adults in community corrections were male and three in 10 (31.4%) were Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander.
- 'Probation' accounted for nearly half (47.2%) of supervised community corrections orders in 2025, followed by 'parole' (43.3%) and 'community service' (8.7%).

6.2 Adults in prison as at 30 June

As at 30 June 2025, there were 11,275 adults in custody in Queensland prisons, marking an increase of 3.6% from the previous year and up 54.1% since 2015. When accounting for population growth, the imprisonment rate was 251.7 adults per 100,000 in the general Queensland population, representing a slight rise of 1.0% from the previous year and more substantial increase of 26.8% compared with 2015.

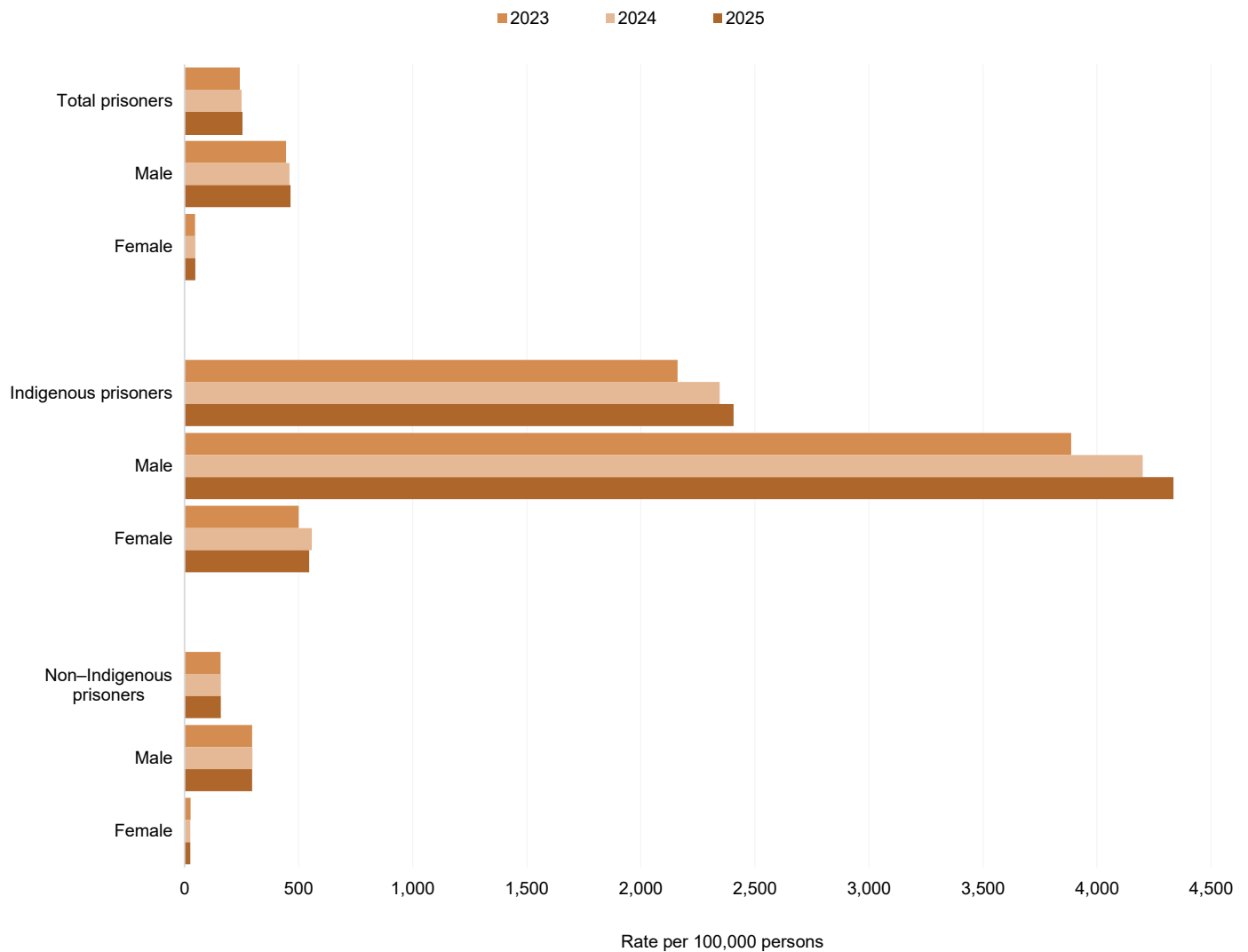
6.2.1 Prisoner characteristics

Males and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples were overrepresented in the Queensland prison population relative to their representation in the general community. As at 30 June 2025, males comprised 49.1% of the Queensland adult population, but accounted for 90.5% of adults in prison, while Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander adults made up 4.2% of the Queensland adult population, yet represented 39.8% of adults in prison.

Imprisonment rates show there were 464.1 males in prison per 100,000 adult males compared with 47.1 for adult females as at 30 June 2025. There were 2,406.3 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander adults in prison per 100,000 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander adults in the population compared with 158.2 non-Indigenous adults (Figure 40). Among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, the imprisonment rate for males was 7.9 times that of their female counterparts in 2025, up slightly from 7.5 times higher in 2024. This change was

primarily driven by a 3.2% increase in the male imprisonment rate between 2024 and 2025, which was partially offset by a 2.1% decrease in the female imprisonment rate over the same period.

Figure 40 Adult imprisonment rates by sex and Indigenous status, as at 30 June



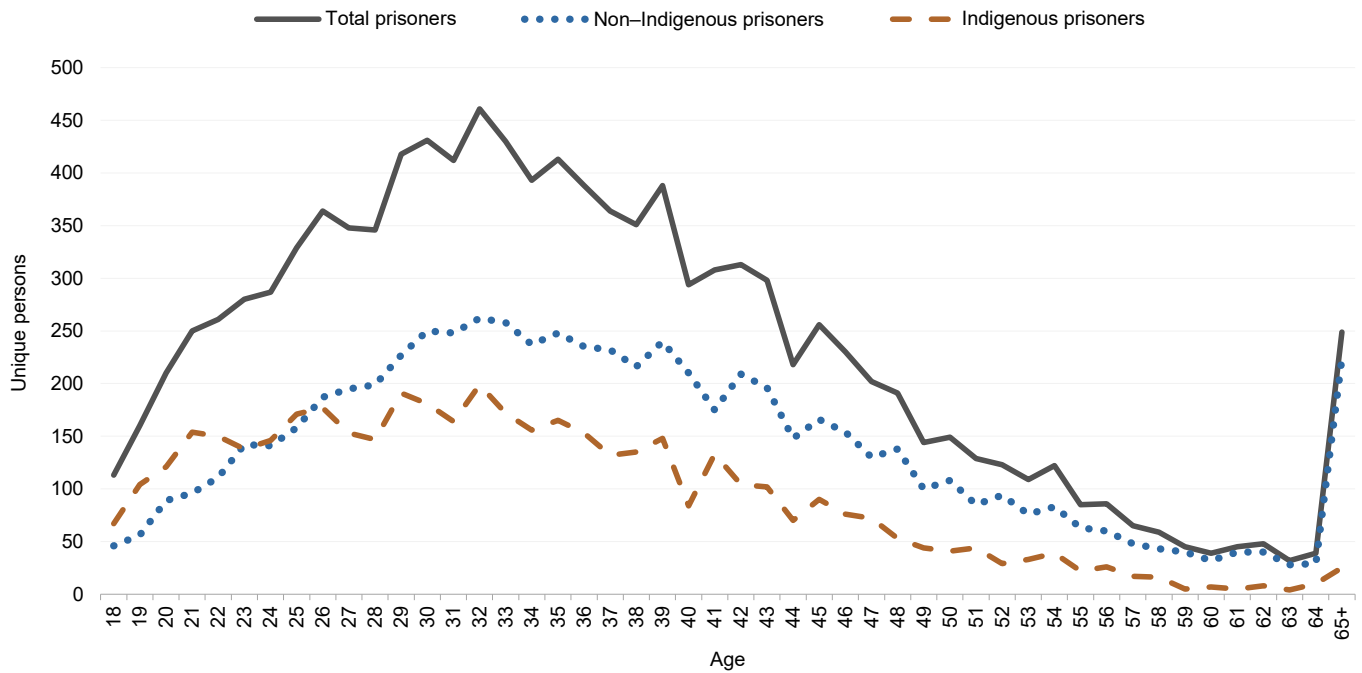
The age distribution of adults in prison differed slightly by Indigenous status (Figure 41), with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander adults in prison tending to be younger than their non-Indigenous counterparts. The median age of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander adults in prison as at 30 June 2025 was 32 years, five years younger compared with the median age of non-Indigenous adults in prison (37 years).

As at 30 June 2025, there were more Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander adults aged 25 years and younger in prison than non-Indigenous adults of the same age bracket. However, there were fewer Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander adults aged 26 years and older compared with non-Indigenous adults for every year of age.

While the median age of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander prisoners has remained at 32 years since 2021, there is evidence of an ageing prisoner population among non-Indigenous adults, with the median age increasing from 35 years in 2021 to 37 years in 2025.

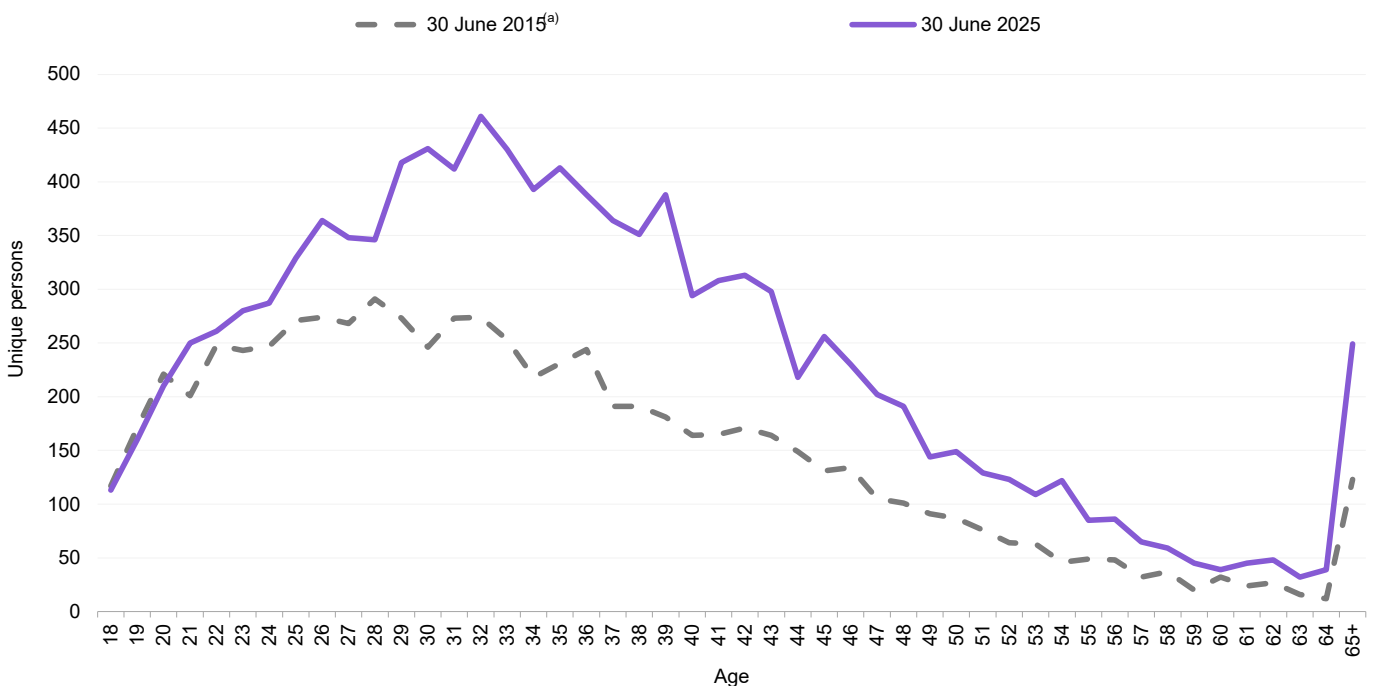
In 2025, the most common age of adults in prison was 32 years (461 individuals), with the numbers declining for each subsequent year of age. Among the prison population, 33.7% were aged between 18 and 30 years, 55.0% were aged between 31 and 50 years, and 11.3% were aged 51 years and older (Figure 41).

Figure 41 Adults in prison by year of age and Indigenous status, as at 30 June 2025



When compared with 2015, the count of adults in prison increased as at 30 June 2025 (up 54.1% or 3,956 prisoners). This increase was largely attributed to the growing population of older prisoners, as reflected in the rise in count of prisoners aged 23 years and older (Figure 42). As at 30 June 2025, the median age of prisoners was 35 years, up from 32 years in 2015 (data not shown).

Figure 42 Adults in prison by year of age, as at 30 June, 2015^(a) and 2025



a) In 2015, the age range for adult offenders was 17 years and over. From February 2018, 17-year-old offenders transitioned to the youth justice system, and since then the age range for adult offenders has been 18 years and over.

The count and rate of adults in prison varied by age, Indigenous status and sex (Table 69 and Table 70). In 2025, imprisonment rates were highest among adults aged 30–39 years for both males and females, irrespective of Indigenous status (Figure 43). Additionally, across all age groups, imprisonment rates for adult males exceeded those of their female counterparts among both Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and non-Indigenous adults.

Table 69 Count of adults in prison by Indigenous status, sex and age, as at 30 June 2025

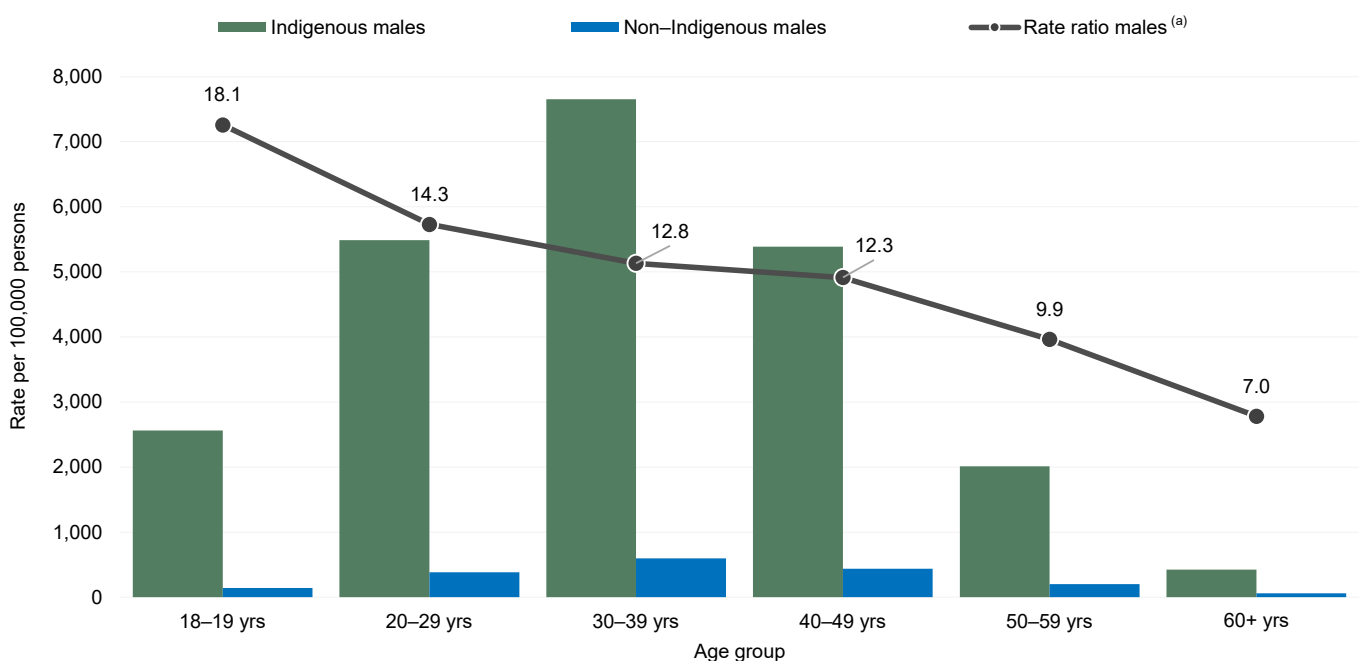
Age at 30 June	18-19 yrs	20-29 yrs	30-39 yrs	40-49 yrs	50-59 yrs	60+ yrs
	— unique persons —					
Total persons	273	3,093	4,031	2,454	972	452
Male	250	2,747	3,658	2,213	906	425
Female	23	346	373	241	66	27
Indigenous	171	1,548	1,605	828	272	59
Male	154	1,350	1,425	730	251	55
Female	17	198	180	98	21	4
Non-Indigenous	102	1,545	2,426	1,626	700	393
Male	96	1,397	2,233	1,483	655	370
Female	6	148	193	143	45	23

Table 70 Rate of adults in prison by Indigenous status, sex and age, as at 30 June 2025

Age at 30 June	18-19 yrs	20-29 yrs	30-39 yrs	40-49 yrs	50-59 yrs	60+ yrs
	— rate per 100,000 persons —					
Total persons	188.8	402.0	506.5	341.0	142.4	34.9
Male	337.8	705.5	930.9	629.1	270.4	69.0
Female	32.6	91.1	92.6	65.5	19.0	4.0
Indigenous	1,432.5	3,175.2	4,285.8	2,948.0	1,046.3	213.6
Male	2,562.2	5,486.5	7,654.3	5,385.1	2,011.1	426.8
Female	286.8	820.0	955.8	674.4	155.4	27.1
Non-Indigenous	76.9	214.4	319.9	235.1	106.6	31.0
Male	141.2	383.0	596.5	438.5	203.0	61.4
Female	9.3	41.6	50.2	40.5	13.5	3.5

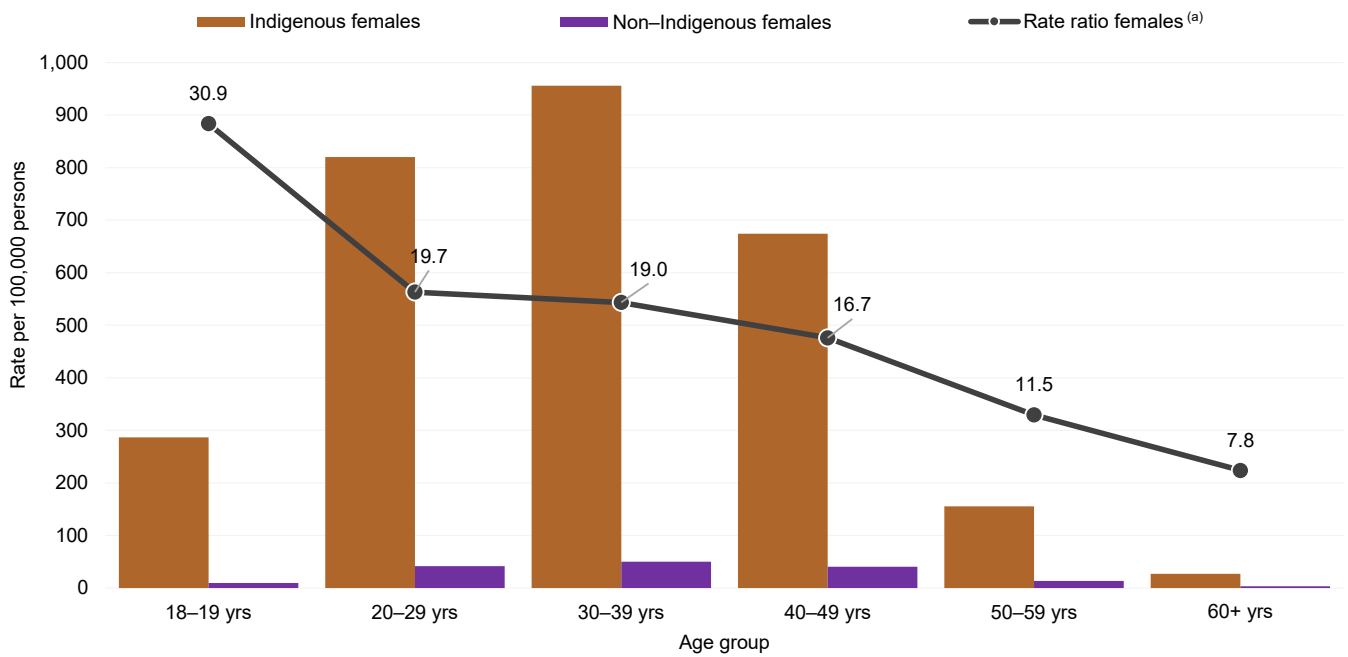
The two figures below show imprisonment rates for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and non-Indigenous prisoners by age group including the rate ratio for males (Figure 43) and females (Figure 44) in 2025. Overall, the imprisonment rate ratios, comparing rates between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and non-Indigenous adults, were generally higher for females than males across all age groups. Irrespective of sex, the highest rate ratios occurred in the 18-19-year-old age group, where the imprisonment rate for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander females was 30.9 times that of non-Indigenous females, while for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander males, it was 18.1 times higher than that of non-Indigenous males in the same age group.

Figure 43 Adult imprisonment rates^(a) by Indigenous status and age - males, as at 30 June 2025



a) Rate ratio is the crude imprisonment rate for Indigenous population subgroup divided by the rate for the non-Indigenous population subgroup. Rate ratios have been calculated on unrounded rates.

Figure 44 Adult imprisonment rates^(a) by Indigenous status and age - females, as at 30 June 2025



a) Rate ratio is the crude imprisonment rate for Indigenous population subgroup divided by the rate for the non-Indigenous population subgroup. Rate ratios have been calculated on unrounded rates.

6.2.2 Median length of sentence

Median sentence length represents the middle value in an ordered group of imprisonment sentences, expressed in full months. Median sentence length calculations exclude life sentences and sentences of an indefinite length. The aggregate sentence length includes custodial and non-custodial components.

Indefinite sentence is imprisonment with no fixed end date which can apply to some offences (e.g., murder) and only when a court is satisfied an offender is a serious danger to the community. Indefinite sentences continue until a court or the parole board approves the release of the prisoner. Life sentences and sentences of an indefinite length are categorised as indefinite sentences in this report.

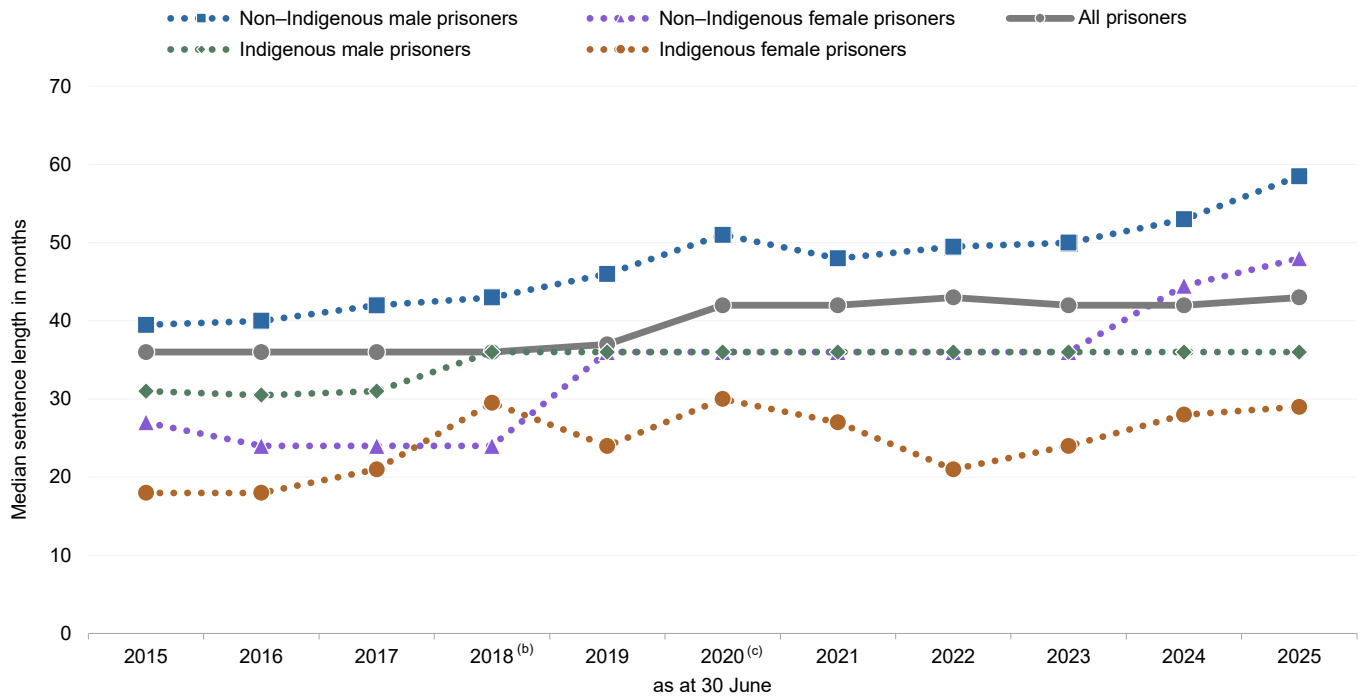
6.2.2.1 Indigenous status and sex

As at 30 June 2025, the median sentence length for all sentenced adults in prison custody serving a defined term of imprisonment was 43 months, matching the series high recorded in 2022 (Figure 45). Over the past decade, excluding indefinite sentences, the lowest median sentence length for sentenced adults in prison was observed between 2015 and 2018 (36 months), compared with subsequent years.

When compared with other groups shown, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander females had the shortest median sentence length in 2025, at two years and five months (29 months) (Figure 45). Although this group had the shortest sentence length in all years except 2018, their median sentence length increased substantially over the past decade, rising by 11 months (or 61.1%) when comparing 2025 with 2015. For Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander males, the median sentence length in 2025 was three years (36 months), an increase of five months (or 16.1%) from 2015.

The longest median sentences as at 30 June 2025 were recorded for non-Indigenous adults, at four years (48 months) for females and four years and 10 and a half months (58.5 months) for males, both marking the highest levels in the time series. These figures represent an increase of three and a half months (or 7.9%) for females and five and a half months (or 10.4%) for males compared with 2024.

Figure 45 Median sentence length^(a) of adult prisoners by Indigenous status and sex, as at 30 June – time series

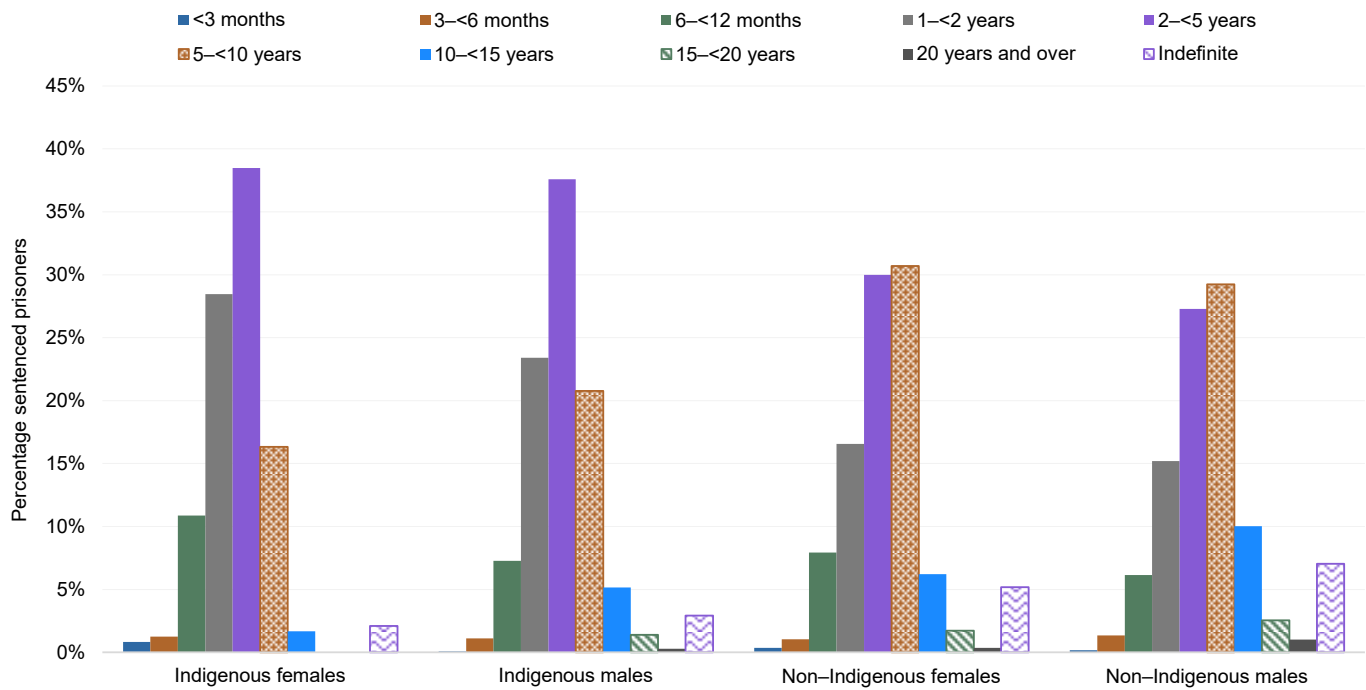


- a) Indefinite sentences (including life) have been excluded from median sentence calculations. As at 30 June 2025, the majority of adults serving an indefinite sentence (338 individuals) were sentenced for homicide and related offences (316 individuals or 93.5%).
- b) The transition of 17-year-olds to the youth justice system occurred in February 2018.
- c) The COVID-19 pandemic was declared in March 2020 and resulted in social restrictions which continued into 2021–22.

Sentences of '2–<5 years' were the most common custodial sentence for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander adults, apparent for nearly four in 10 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander females (38.5%) and males (37.6%) (Figure 46) as at 30 June 2025. This was followed by '1–<2 years' sentences for both Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander females (28.5%) and males (23.4%). 'Indefinite' sentences were relatively uncommon among sentenced Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander adults, with five (2.1%) female and 69 (2.9%) male prisoners within this sentence group as at 30 June 2025.

As at 30 June 2025, around six in 10 non-Indigenous adults in prison had sentences ranging from '2–<10 years' (60.7% of females and 56.5% of males), followed by '1–<2 years' sentences, apparent for 16.6% of sentenced females and 15.2% of sentenced males. 'Indefinite' sentences were apparent for 15 (5.2%) sentenced non-Indigenous females and 249 (7.0%) sentenced non-Indigenous males.

Figure 46 Percentage of sentenced prisoners by length of sentence^(a), by Indigenous status and sex, as at 30 June 2025



a) In this report, life sentences and sentences of an indefinite length are categorised as indefinite sentences.

Among all sentenced prisoners as at 30 June, sentence lengths between '2-5 years' were most common (31.6%) in 2025, followed by sentences of between '5-10 years' (25.7%) (Table 71).

Table 71 Sentenced adult prisoners by length of sentence^(a), sex and Indigenous status, as at 30 June 2025

Sentence length	<3 months	3-6 months	6-12 months	1-2 years	2-5 years	5-10 years	10-15 years	15-20 years	20 years and over	Indefinite
	— unique persons —									
Total persons	11	80	439	1,208	2,034	1,655	499	128	44	338
Male	8	74	390	1,092	1,855	1,527	477	123	43	318
Female	3	6	49	116	179	128	22	5	1	20
Indigenous	4	29	198	621	980	530	126	33	7	74
Male	2	26	172	553	888	491	122	33	7	69
Female	2	3	26	68	92	39	4	0	0	5
Non-Indigenous	7	51	241	587	1,054	1,125	373	95	37	264
Male	6	48	218	539	967	1,036	355	90	36	249
Female	1	3	23	48	87	89	18	5	1	15

a) In this report, life sentences and sentences of an indefinite length are categorised as indefinite sentences.

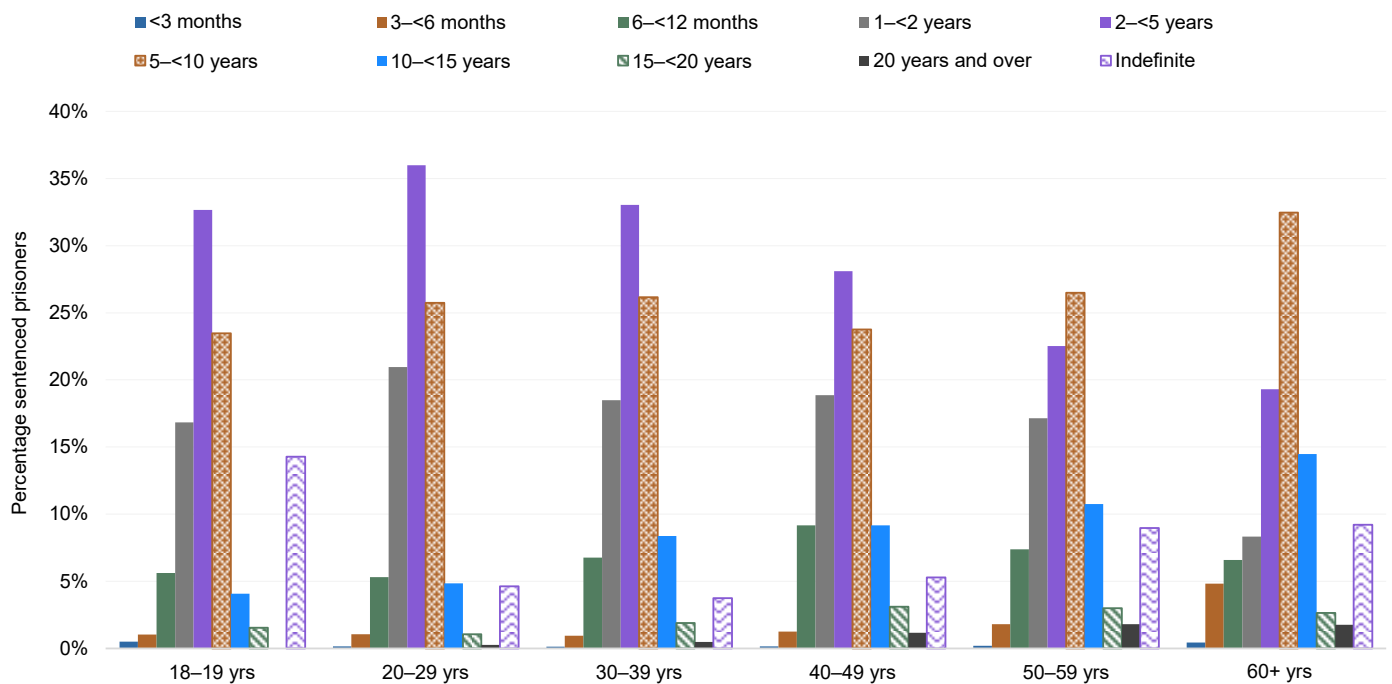
6.2.2.2 Prisoner's age on reception

The length of sentence for sentenced prisoners varied by their age at reception to prison as at 30 June 2025 (Figure 47 and Table 72). Among sentenced prisoners aged 18-19 years, the most common sentences were '2-5 years' (32.7%), followed by '5-10 years' (23.5%) and '1-2 years' (16.8%). 'Indefinite' sentences were apparent for a total of 28 (14.4%) sentenced prisoners aged 18-19 years as at 30 June 2025. Among sentenced prisoners aged 20-49 years, a third (32.9%) had sentences of '2-5 years', a quarter (25.4%) had sentences of '5-10 years', and two in 10 (19.4%) had sentences of '1-2 years' in 2025. 'Indefinite' sentences were apparent among 4.4% of sentenced prisoners aged 20-49 years.

In 2025, the sentence length distribution for sentenced prisoners aged 50 years and older differed from that of younger prisoners, with longer sentences being more prevalent. As at 30 June 2025, over a quarter (28.4%) of sentenced prisoners aged 50 and older had sentences of '5-10 years', while 21.5% had sentences of '2-5 years', and 14.4% had sentences of '1-2 years'. 'Indefinite' sentences were apparent among 9.0% of sentenced prisoners aged 50 years and older, a percentage slightly higher than that of prisoners aged 20-49 years.

As at 30 June 2025, among the 338 prisoners aged 18 years and over at reception and serving an 'indefinite' sentence, the majority were sentenced for 'homicide' (93.5%), followed by 'sexual assault' (5.6%).

Figure 47 Percentage of sentenced prisoners by length of sentence^(a), by age on reception, as at 30 June 2025



a) Aggregate sentence length as at 30 June 2025.

Table 72 Sentenced adult prisoners by length of sentence^(a), by age on reception, as at 30 June 2025

Age at reception	18-19 yrs	20-29 yrs	30-39 yrs	40-49 yrs	50-59 yrs	60+ yrs
Sentence length	— unique persons —					
<3 months	1	3	3	2	1	1
3-6 months	2	20	22	16	9	11
6-12 months	11	101	157	118	37	15
1-2 years	33	398	429	243	86	19
2-5 years	64	684	767	362	113	44
5-10 years	46	489	607	306	133	74
10-15 years	8	92	194	118	54	33
15-20 years	3	20	44	40	15	6
20 years and over	0	5	11	15	9	4
Indefinite	28	88	87	68	45	21
Total	196	1,900	2,321	1,288	502	228

a) Aggregate sentence length as at 30 June 2023.

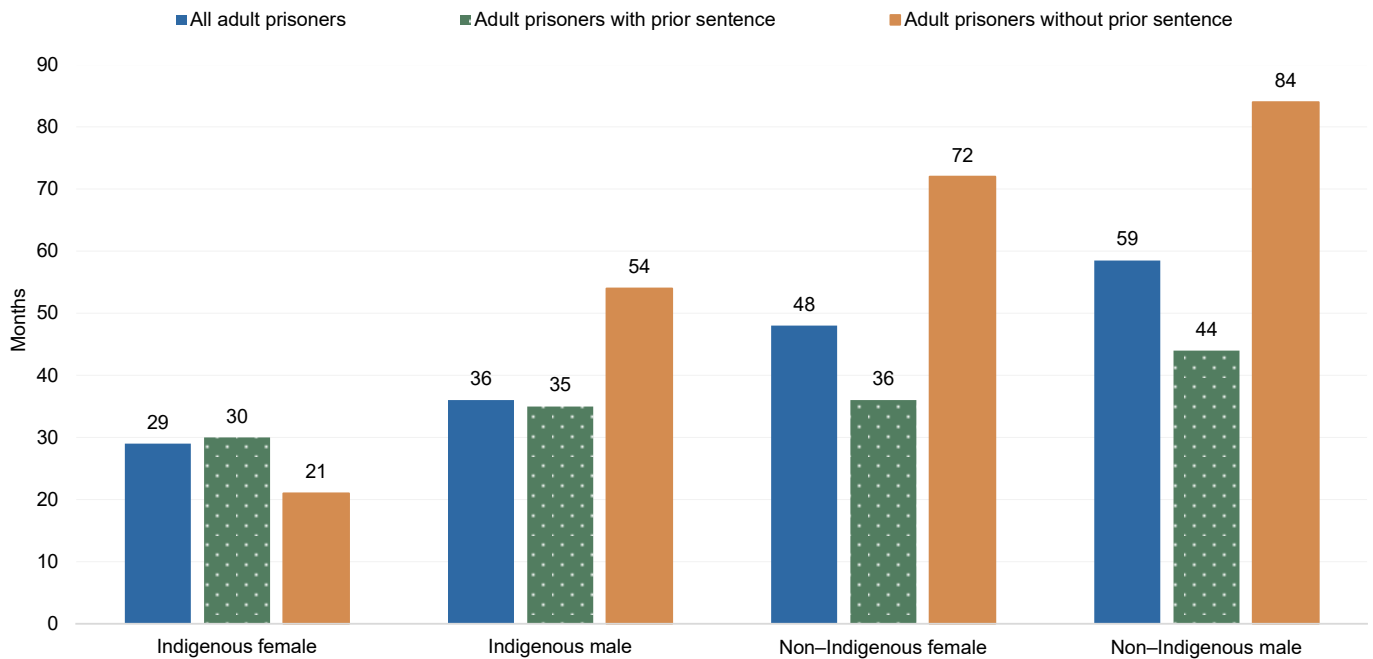
6.2.2.3 Prisoner's known prior custodial sentence in Queensland

As at 30 June 2025, excluding those serving an 'indefinite' sentence, sentenced prisoners with no known prior imprisonment generally had a longer median sentence length compared with those with prior imprisonment (Figure 48). However, an exception was observed among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander females, where the median sentence length was longer for females with prior imprisonment (30 months) than those with no known prior imprisonment (21 months). Conversely, the median sentence length was 54 months for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander males with no known prior imprisonment and 35 months for those with prior imprisonment.

The median sentence length for non-Indigenous adults with no known prior imprisonment sentence tended to be about twice the length of those with prior imprisonment. Among non-Indigenous sentenced males, those with no known prior sentence of imprisonment had a median sentence of seven years (84 months), one year longer than their female counterparts (six years, or 72 months). Non-Indigenous females with prior

imprisonment had a median sentence length of three years (36 months), compared with three years and eight months (44 months) for males.

Figure 48 Median sentence length^(a) of adult prisoners by known prior custodial sentence in Queensland, as at 30 June 2025

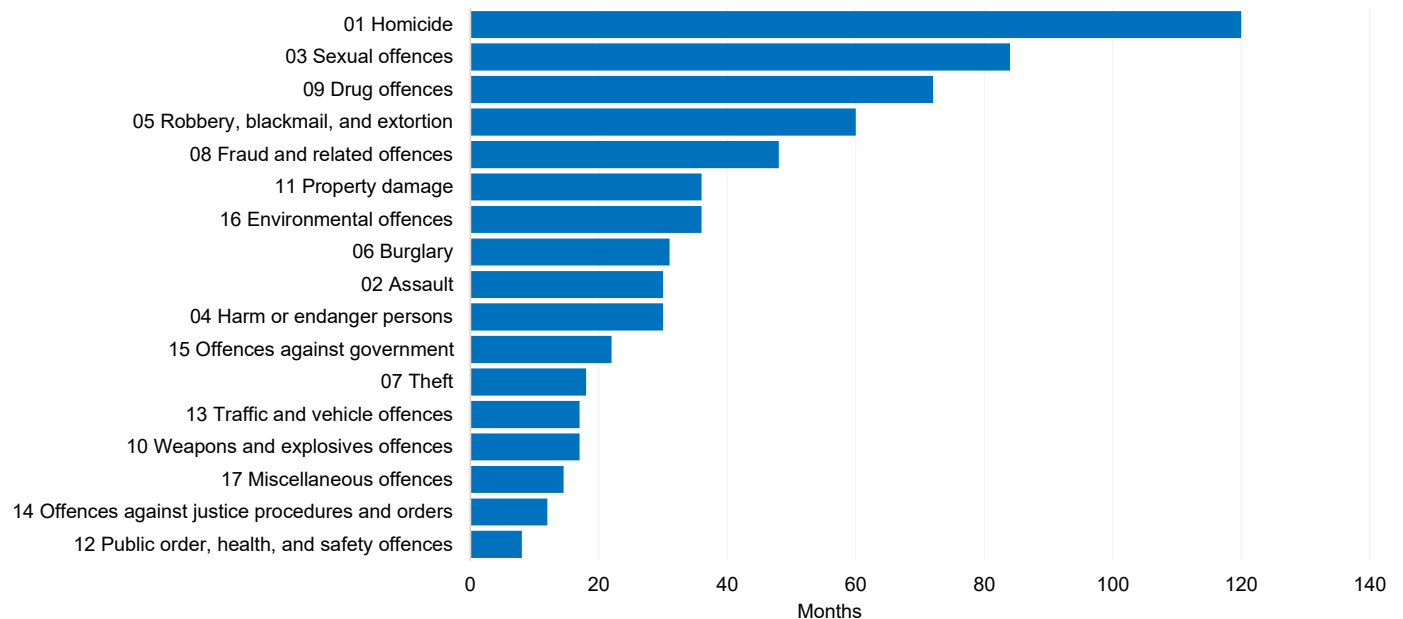


a) 'Indefinite' sentences (including 'life' sentences) have been excluded from median sentence calculations. As at 30 June 2025, most adults serving an 'indefinite' sentence (338 individuals) were sentenced for 'homicide' (316 individuals or 93.5%).

6.2.2.4 Prisoner's most serious offence

The median length of sentence varied by the MSO for which prisoners were sentenced, excluding those serving an indefinite sentence (Figure 49 and Table 73). As at 30 June 2025, the median sentence length was longest for 'homicide' (10 years or 120 months), followed by 'sexual offences' (seven years or 84 months) and 'drug offences' (six years or 72 months).

Figure 49 Median length^(a) of adult sentence by MSO, as at 30 June 2025



a) 'Indefinite' sentences (including 'life' sentences) have been excluded from median sentence calculations. As at 30 June 2025, most adults serving an 'indefinite' sentence (338 individuals) were sentenced for homicide' (316 individuals or 93.5%).

Table 73 Imprisonment sentences^(a) of sentenced adult prisoners in custody by MSO, as at 30 June 2025

	Median sentence length ^(a)	Total sentenced prisoners	Prisoners serving an indefinite sentence
Most serious offence	Months (rounded down)	— unique persons —	
01 Homicide	120	535	316
02 Assault	30	1,448	0
03 Sexual offences	84	1,062	19
04 Harm or endanger persons	30	153	0
05 Robbery, blackmail, and extortion	60	555	0
06 Burglary	31	858	0
07 Theft	18	272	0
08 Fraud and related offences	48	109	0
09 Drug offences	72	781	3
10 Weapons and explosives offences	17	47	0
11 Property damage	36	80	0
12 Public order, health, and safety offences	8	7	0
13 Traffic and vehicle offences	17	145	0
14 Offences against justice procedures and orders	12	374	0
15 Offences against government	22	7	0
16 Environmental offences	36	1	0
17 Miscellaneous offences	14	2	0

a) 'Indefinite' sentences have been excluded from median sentence calculations.

6.2.3 Length of stay

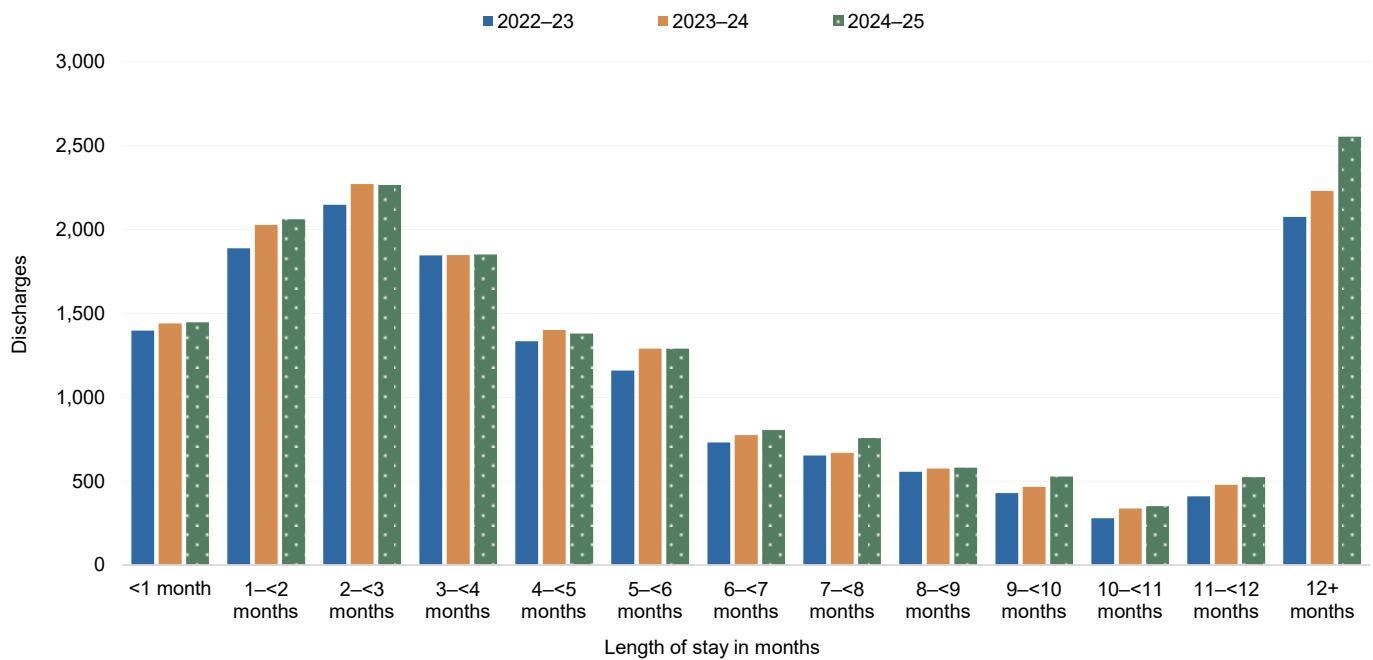
Length of stay represents the time a person spends in a Queensland prison from the **date of admission** to the **date of discharge** (i.e. release) for each period they were in custody per year. The numbers in this section include all adults who were discharged from prison in a financial year, irrespective of their legal status or when they were admitted. This includes prisoners who were sentenced to imprisonment, those held on remand, and those in custody under a post-sentence DPSOA continuing detention order.

Note that this section refers to prisoner discharges, as **a person can be counted multiple times in a reference year if discharged from custody more than once in that year**, and a sizable percentage of discharges relate to prisoners who have been returned to custody to complete their sentence after breaching their parole order.

In 2024–25, there were 16,401 discharges from prisons in Queensland, up 3.7% from 15,817 discharges in the previous year. Among releases (discharges) from prison, the median length of stay was 4.4 months, up slightly from 4.2 months in the previous year, with durations ranging from one day to 35.4 years in prison.

Over six in 10 (62.8%) discharges in 2024–25 occurred following a period of less than six months spent in prison, a slight decrease compared with 2022–23 (65.6%) and 2023–24 (65.0%). The most common duration spent in custody was between two and three months, accounting for 13.8% of discharges in 2024–25. Conversely, 15.6% of discharges in 2024–25 followed a period of 12 or more months in prison (Figure 50).

Figure 50 Prisoner discharges^(a) by length of stay



a) An individual may be discharged more than once in a reference year if they served more than one period in custody in that year.

6.3 Adults in prison as at 30 June – time series

6.3.1 Prisoner characteristics

As at 30 June 2025, there were 11,275 adults in prison, slightly more (up 3.6%) than in the previous year and up 54.1% when compared with 2015 (Table 74 and Figure 51). As at 30 June 2025, nine in 10 (90.5%) adult prisoners were male and six in 10 (60.2%) were non-Indigenous.

Nearly four in 10 adults in prison (39.8% or 4,483) identified as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander in 2025, marking an 11-year high and rising by 94.2% since 2015. Among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander adults in prison, nearly nine in 10 (88.4% or 3,965 persons) were male, this population increased by 91.5% since 2015. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander females accounted for 4.6% (518 persons) of all adults in prison in 2025, more than doubling (up 117.6% or 280 persons) when compared with 2015. In contrast, the count of non-Indigenous females in prison grew less substantially over the same period (up 19.0% or 89 persons).

Table 74 Adults in prison by sex^(a) and Indigenous status, as at 30 June – time series

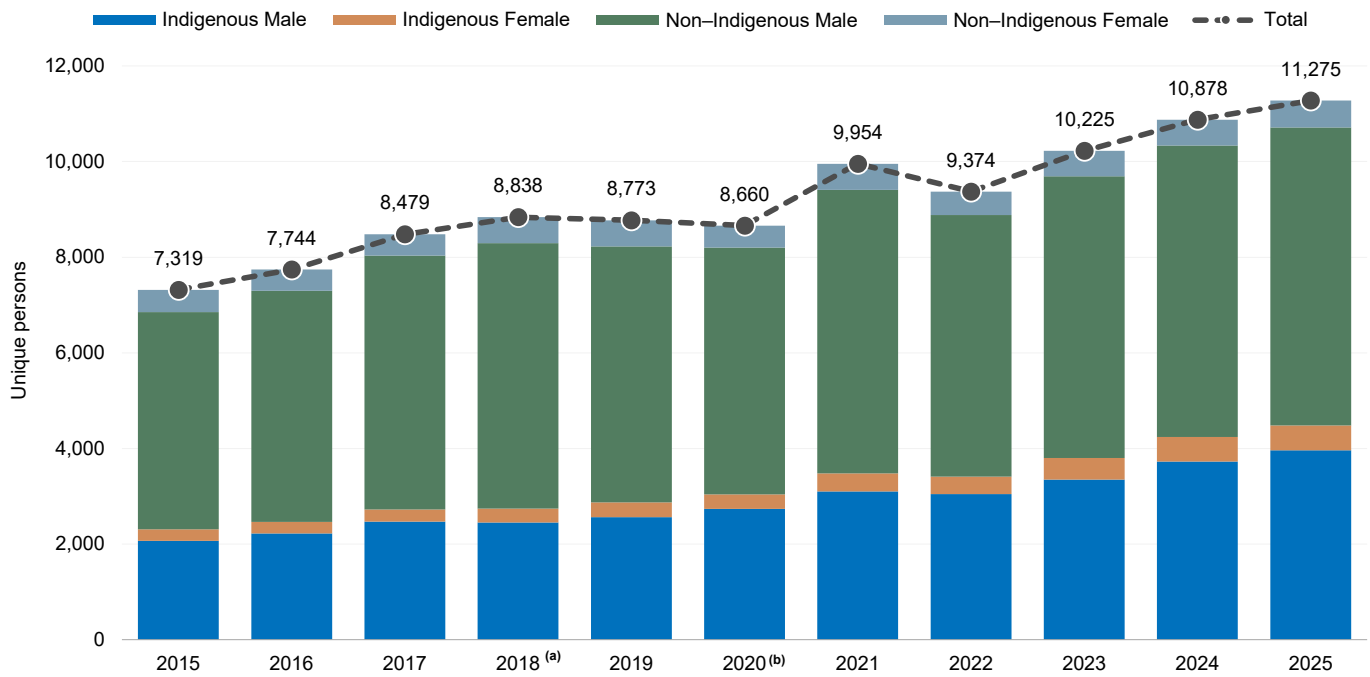
	2015	2016	2017	2018 ^(b)	2019	2020 ^(c)	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
	— unique persons —										
Total persons	7,319	7,744	8,479	8,838	8,773	8,660	9,954	9,374	10,225	10,878	11,275
Male	6,612	7,062	7,781	8,000	7,917	7,895	9,029	8,522	9,247	9,826	10,199
Female	707	682	698	838	856	765	925	852	978	1,052	1,076
Indigenous	2,309	2,463	2,723	2,744	2,872	3,040	3,477	3,409	3,799	4,242	4,483
Male	2,071	2,226	2,469	2,452	2,561	2,736	3,100	3,048	3,352	3,728	3,965
Female	238	237	254	292	311	304	377	361	447	514	518
Non-Indigenous	5,010	5,281	5,756	6,094	5,901	5,620	6,477	5,965	6,426	6,636	6,792
Male	4,541	4,836	5,312	5,548	5,356	5,159	5,929	5,474	5,895	6,098	6,234
Female	469	445	444	546	545	461	548	491	531	538	558

a) Includes all adults in prison custody irrespective of legal status.

b) The transition of 17-year-olds to the youth justice system occurred in February 2018.

c) The COVID-19 pandemic was declared in March 2020 and resulted in social restrictions which continued into 2021-22.

Figure 51 Adults in prison by Indigenous status and sex, as at 30 June – time series



- a) The transition of 17-year-olds to the youth justice system occurred in February 2018.
- b) The COVID-19 pandemic was declared in March 2020 and resulted in social restrictions which continued into 2021-22.

6.3.2 Legal status

A prisoner may have a legal status of either **sentenced** or **unsentenced**, or they may be kept in prison custody under a **DPSOA** continuing detention order (see *Glossary* for more detail).

As at 30 June 2025, nearly six in 10 adults in prison (57.1%) were sentenced, over four in 10 (42.4%) were unsentenced, and 0.5% (55 persons) were serving a DPSOA order (Table 75). In contrast, three-quarters (75.0%) of prisoners were sentenced in 2015. Over the past decade, the count of unsentenced prisoners has risen substantially (up 166.8%), far exceeding the growth in the count of sentenced prisoners (up 17.3%) when comparing 2025 with 2015.

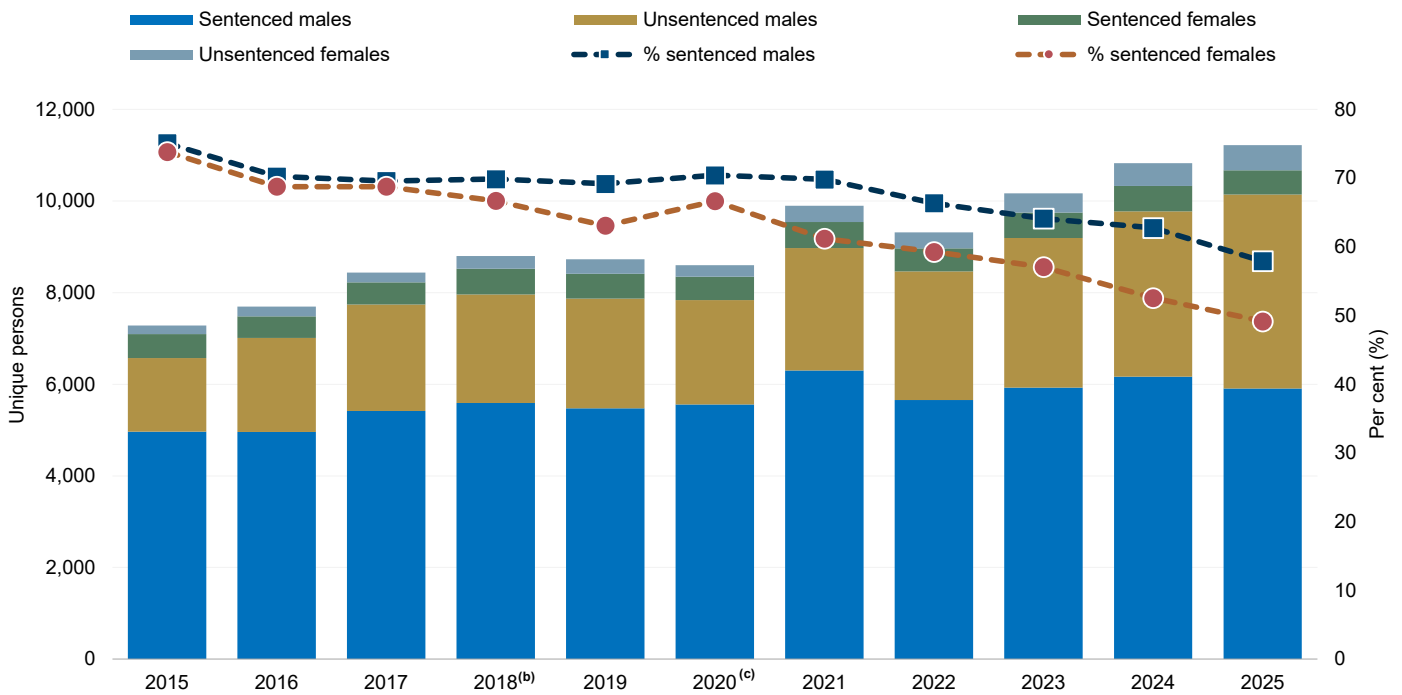
The distribution of prisoners by legal status differed by sex in 2025, with nearly half of female adults in prison (49.2%) being sentenced, compared with nearly six in 10 male adults (57.9%). Notably, all 55 individuals serving DPSOA orders were male. When comparing 2025 with 2015, the count of unsentenced female adults in prison rose by 195.7%, compared with the 163.5% growth observed for unsentenced males. In comparison, the growth in sentenced prisoners was more modest, with sentenced males increasing by 18.9% and sentenced females by 1.3% (Figure 52) over the same period.

Table 75 Adults in prison by legal status and sex of prisoner, as at 30 June – time series

	2015	2016	2017	2018 ^(a)	2019	2020 ^(b)	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
	— unique persons —										
Total	7,319	7,744	8,479	8,838	8,773	8,660	9,954	9,374	10,225	10,878	11,275
Sentenced	5,488	5,430	5,895	6,149	6,017	6,071	6,870	6,161	6,487	6,721	6,436
Unsentenced	1,793	2,266	2,547	2,652	2,710	2,532	3,030	3,153	3,684	4,106	4,784
DPSOA	38	48	37	37	46	57	54	60	54	51	55
Male	6,612	7,062	7,781	8,000	7,917	7,895	9,029	8,522	9,247	9,826	10,199
Sentenced	4,966	4,961	5,415	5,590	5,477	5,561	6,304	5,656	5,929	6,168	5,907
Unsentenced	1,608	2,053	2,329	2,373	2,394	2,277	2,671	2,806	3,264	3,607	4,237
DPSOA	38	48	37	37	46	57	54	60	54	51	55
Female	707	682	698	838	856	765	925	852	978	1,052	1,076
Sentenced	522	469	480	559	540	510	566	505	558	553	529
Unsentenced	185	213	218	279	316	255	359	347	420	499	547

- a) The transition of 17-year-olds to the youth justice system occurred in February 2018.
- b) The COVID-19 pandemic was declared in March 2020 and resulted in social restrictions which continued into 2021-22.

Figure 52 Adults in prison by legal status^(a) and sex of prisoner, as at 30 June – time series



- a) Due to low numbers, prisoners serving a DPSOA order are not shown in the person count, but are included in the percentage calculations.
- b) The transition of 17-year-olds to the youth justice system occurred in February 2018.
- c) The COVID-19 pandemic was declared in March 2020 and resulted in social restrictions which continued into 2021–22.

6.3.3 Imprisonment rate

Table 76 presents imprisonment rates as the number of adults in prison per 100,000 persons in the relevant demographic adult population, irrespective of legal status. As at 30 June 2025, Queensland had 251.7 adults in prison per 100,000 adults in the population, 1.0% more than in 2024. Although the count of adults in prison increased to 11,275 in 2025 (up 54.1% from 2015), the imprisonment rate, which accounts for population growth, rose by 26.8% over the same period, up from 198.4 per 100,000 persons in 2015.

As at 30 June 2025, there were 464.1 male prisoners for every 100,000 adult males in the population, 9.8 times the imprisonment rate of adult females, which stood at 47.1 per 100,000 persons.

The over-representation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander adults in prison populations relative to their representation in the general population (see Corrective Services summary) is reflected in imprisonment rates, highlighting the importance of examining rates in conjunction with counts (see Table 74). As at 30 June 2025, there were 2,406.3 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander adults in prison per 100,000 in the population. The imprisonment rate for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander males (4,334.9 per 100,000 persons) was 7.9 times higher than that of their female counterparts (546.2 per 100,000 persons). Comparing 2025 with 2015, the imprisonment rate for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander females rose more substantially (up 64.5%) compared with their male counterparts (up 45.4%).

The imprisonment rate among non-Indigenous males was 296.0 per 100,000 adult males in the population in 2025, 11.6 times higher than the rate for non-Indigenous females, which stood at 25.5 per 100,000 adult females. While the imprisonment rate for non-Indigenous males increased by 14.0% between 2015 and 2025, the rate for non-Indigenous females saw little change, decreasing by 2.2% over the same period.

Table 76 Adult imprisonment rate by sex and Indigenous status, as at 30 June – time series

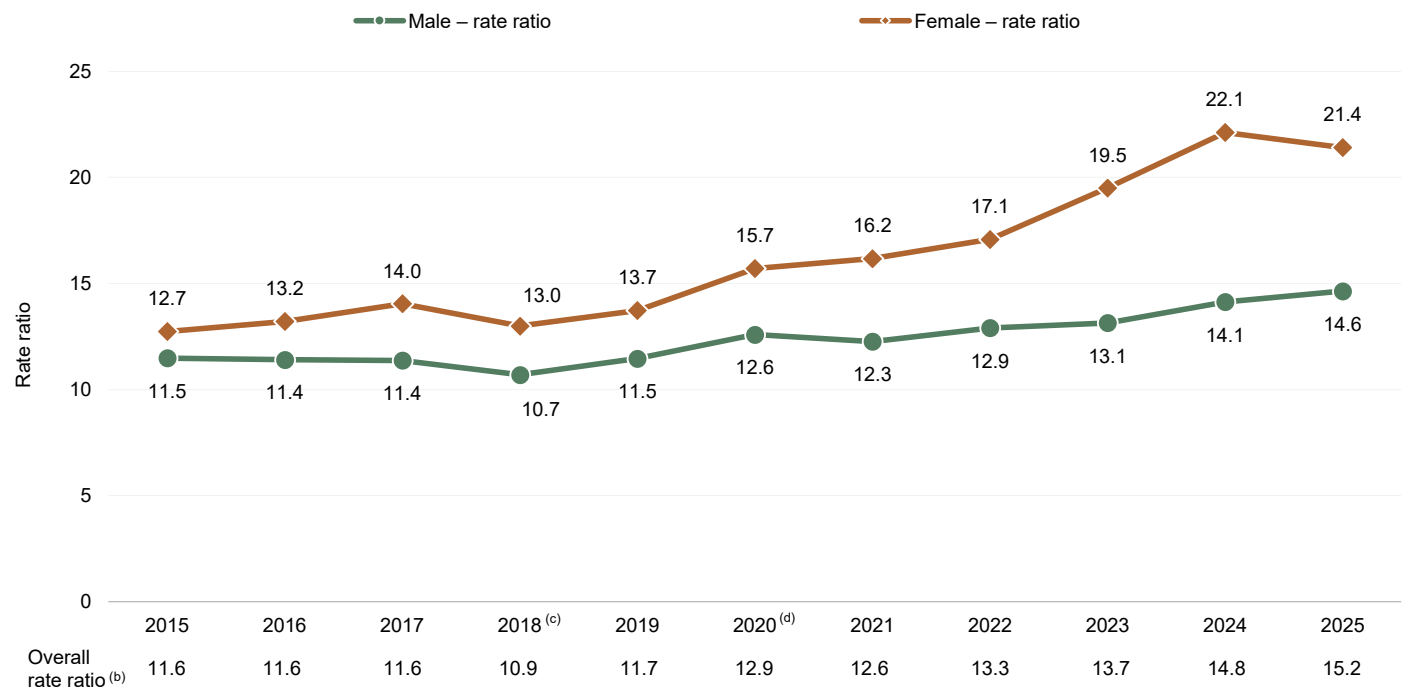
	2015	2016	2017	2018 ^(a)	2019	2020 ^(b)	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
	— rate per 100,000 persons ^(c) —										
Total persons	198.4	207.0	223.0	228.2	222.5	215.8	244.5	226.6	241.0	249.2	251.7
Male	363.8	384.0	416.7	421.0	409.5	401.4	452.5	420.2	444.6	459.1	464.1
Female	37.8	35.9	36.1	42.5	42.6	37.4	44.6	40.4	45.2	47.3	47.1
Indigenous	1,636.3	1,698.5	1,827.0	1,789.3	1,821.5	1,877.1	2,090.8	1,994.9	2,161.4	2,345.1	2,406.3
Male	2,981.8	3,119.8	3,367.5	3,251.9	3,306.6	3,441.6	3,798.6	3,634.0	3,886.1	4,200.0	4,334.9
Female	332.1	321.7	335.4	374.6	387.7	368.7	445.2	414.9	499.4	557.9	546.2
Non-Indigenous	141.2	146.9	157.5	163.9	155.9	145.9	165.9	150.4	158.0	158.6	158.2
Male	259.7	273.6	296.1	304.0	288.6	273.4	309.8	281.6	295.7	297.2	296.0
Female	26.1	24.4	23.9	28.8	28.2	23.5	27.5	24.3	25.6	25.2	25.5

- a) The transition of 17-year-olds to the youth justice system occurred in February 2018.
- b) The COVID-19 pandemic was declared in March 2020 and resulted in social restrictions which continued into 2021–22.
- c) Imprisonment rate is calculated per 100,000 persons aged 17 years and over for 2013–2017, and 18 years and over for 2018–2022, and includes all prisoners as at 30 June, irrespective of their legal status.

As at 30 June 2025, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander adult females were 21.4 times more likely to be in prison compared with non-Indigenous adult females (Figure 53). This gap in imprisonment rates narrowed slightly from 22.1 in 2024, after steadily widening since 2018. Changes in imprisonment rates between 2024 and 2025 were minimal for both Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander females (down 2.2%) and non-Indigenous females (up 1.1%).

Adult males identifying as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander were 14.6 times more likely to be in prison than non-Indigenous males, reflecting a growing gap in imprisonment rates compared with the previous year. Between 2024 and 2025, the imprisonment rate for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander males increased slightly (up 3.2%), while the rate for non-Indigenous males remained relatively stable (down 0.4%).

Figure 53 Difference in imprisonment rates^(a) between Indigenous and non-Indigenous adults by sex, as at 30 June – time series



- a) Imprisonment rate is calculated per 100,000 persons (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and non-Indigenous) aged 17 years and over for 2015 to 2017; 18 years and over for 2018 onwards; and includes all adults in custody, irrespective of their legal status.
- b) Rate ratio is calculated by dividing the crude imprisonment rate for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people by that for the equivalent non-Indigenous population subgroup. Rate ratios have been calculated on unrounded rates. Overall rate ratio relates to the imprisonment rates for each of the total (male and female) adult populations.
- c) The transition of 17-year-olds to the youth justice system occurred in February 2018.
- d) The COVID-19 pandemic was declared in March 2020 and resulted in social restrictions which continued into 2021–22.

6.4 Adults in supervised community corrections

Each adult serving a **supervised community-based corrections order** can potentially be serving multiple orders of the same or different order types simultaneously. For this reason, an individual may be counted against more than one order type if they were serving multiple orders simultaneously at 1 June.

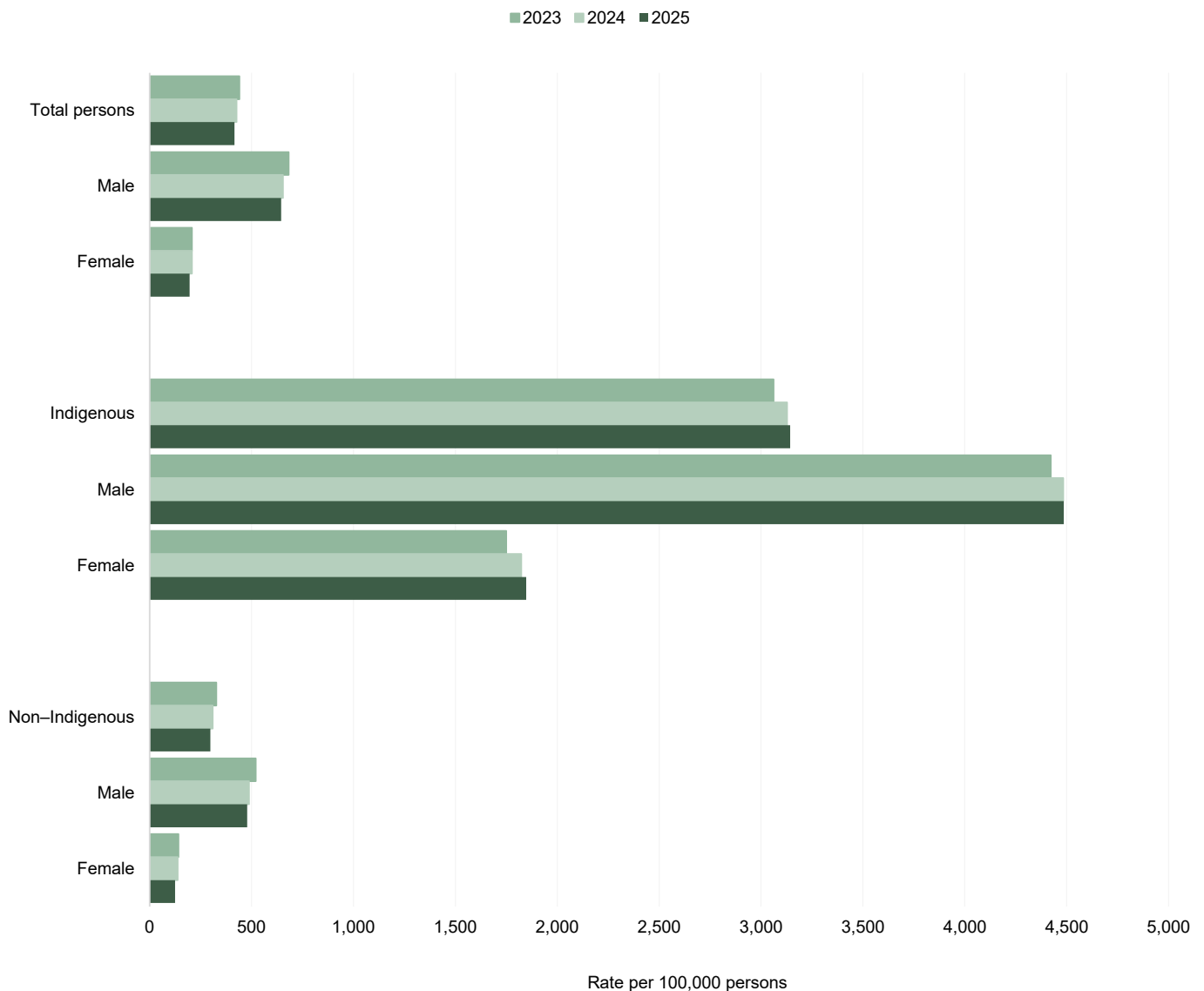
As at 1 June 2025, there were 18,656 adults serving one or more community-based corrections orders, similar to the previous two years (18,600 in 2024 and 18,686 in 2023). When accounting for population growth, this equates to 416.4 adults per 100,000 in the population, representing a slight decrease in rate compared with 2024 (down 2.3%) and 2023 (down 5.4%).

6.4.1 Offender characteristics

As at 1 June 2025, males were more likely than females to be the subject of an adult community corrections order. Among 100,000 adult males in the population, 645.4 were serving at least one community corrections order, a rate 3.3 times higher than that for adult females (196.1 per 100,000 persons) (Figure 54).

Based on rates, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander males were 9.4 times more likely to be subject to a community corrections order than non-Indigenous males in 2025. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander females were 14.8 times more likely to be serving a community corrections order than non-Indigenous females.

Figure 54 Rate of adults in supervised community corrections by sex and Indigenous status, as at 1 June



6.4.2 Order types

Table 77 presents the count of unique adults serving each type of supervised community-based corrections order as at 1 June 2025, by Indigenous status and sex.

As at 1 June 2025, 'probation' was the most common community-based corrections order, accounting for half (50.1%) of all individuals with orders, followed by 'parole' (45.9%) and 'community service – other' (9.2%).

'Probation' was more prevalent among adult females (61.7%) than males (46.4%), whereas 'parole' was more common among males (49.4%) compared with females (34.7%).

For Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander adults, 'parole' was more common among males (54.6%) than females (36.2%) as at 1 June 2025, while 'probation' was more common among females (59.2%) than males (41.0%).

'Community service – other' was more frequent among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander adults (11.1%) than non-Indigenous adults (8.3%).

Table 77 Adults^(a) serving supervised community-based corrections orders by Indigenous status and sex, as at 1 June 2025

	Community service – fine option	Community service – other	Parole	DPSOA	Probation	Persons on supervised community orders ^(b)
	— persons ^(a) —					— persons ^(a) —
Total	19	1,717	8,561	144	9,345	18,656
Male	12	1,253	7,007	144	6,582	14,181
Female	7	464	1,554	0	2,763	4,475
Indigenous	6	651	2,873	57	2,718	5,855
Male	4	427	2,239	57	1,681	4,103
Female	2	224	634	0	1,037	1,752
Non-Indigenous	13	1,066	5,688	87	6,627	12,801
Male	8	826	4,768	87	4,901	10,078
Female	5	240	920	0	1,726	2,723

a) Table presents a count of unique adults per order type at 1 June.

b) This column is a count of unique adults serving one or more community corrections order(s) as at 1 June, and does not equal the sum of unique adults on each order type.

6.5 Adults in supervised community corrections – time series

6.5.1 Offender characteristics

As at 1 June 2025, of the 18,656 adults subject to a supervised community corrections order, three in four (76.0%) were male, and nearly seven in 10 (68.6%) were non-Indigenous (Table 78 and Figure 55). Between 2015 and 2019, there were year-on-year increases in the total count of adults subject to a community corrections order, with declines apparent in 2020 coinciding with the start of the COVID-19 pandemic (down 13.9% compared with 2019). While some fluctuations have occurred since 2020, the total count of adults in community corrections has not returned to pre-pandemic levels, with little change observed in 2025 compared with 2024.

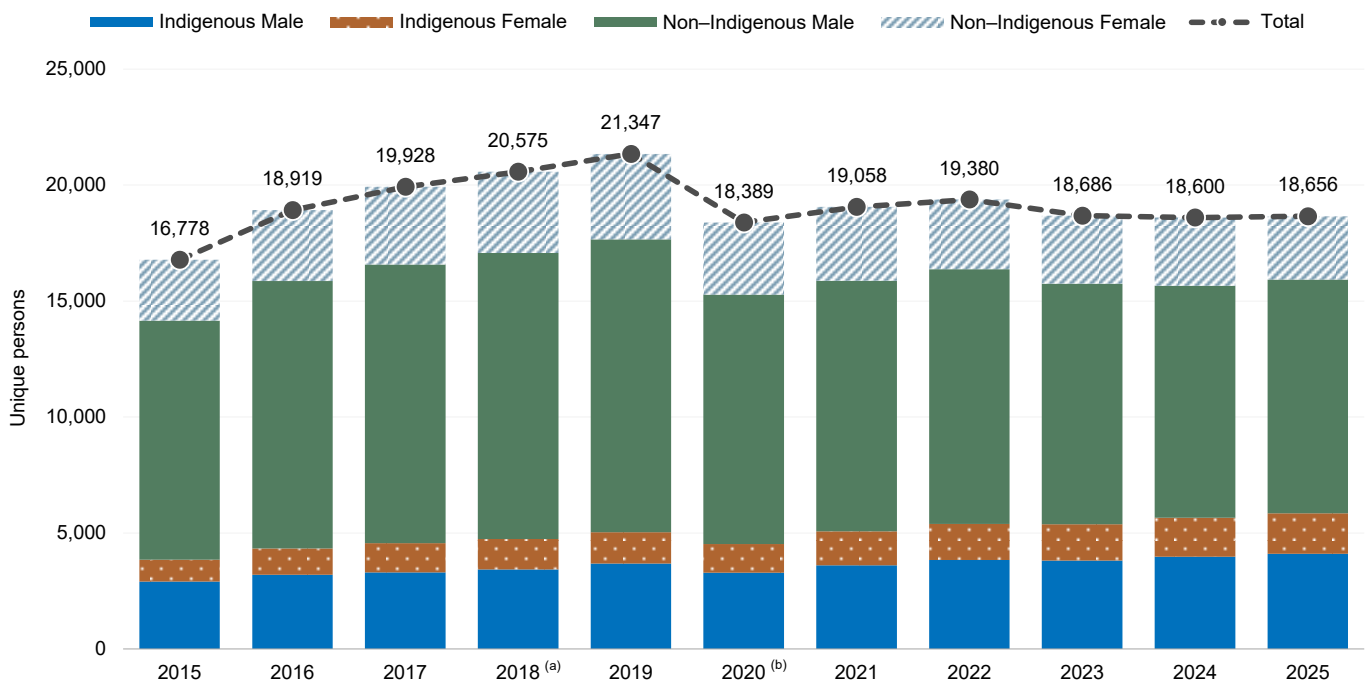
An exception was observed among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, where the count of adults in community corrections surpassed pre-pandemic levels, reaching an 11-year high as at 1 June 2025 (up 16.1% compared with 2019). This increase was particularly notable among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander females, with the count of those subject to a community corrections order rising by 28.9% when comparing 2025 with 2019, compared with an 11.4% increase for their male counterparts.

Table 78 Adults in supervised community corrections by sex and Indigenous status, as at 1 June – time series

	2015	2016	2017	2018 ^(a)	2019	2020 ^(b)	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
	— unique persons —										
Total persons	16,778	18,919	19,928	20,575	21,347	18,389	19,058	19,380	18,686	18,600	18,656
Male	13,211	14,734	15,316	15,758	16,297	14,033	14,422	14,823	14,188	13,987	14,181
Female	3,567	4,185	4,612	4,817	5,050	4,356	4,636	4,557	4,498	4,613	4,475
Indigenous	3,853	4,332	4,568	4,745	5,042	4,530	5,071	5,397	5,381	5,659	5,855
Male	2,906	3,200	3,308	3,427	3,683	3,289	3,609	3,840	3,815	3,979	4,103
Female	947	1,132	1,260	1,318	1,359	1,241	1,462	1,557	1,566	1,680	1,752
Non-Indigenous	12,925	14,587	15,360	15,830	16,305	13,859	13,987	13,983	13,305	12,941	12,801
Male	10,305	11,534	12,008	12,331	12,614	10,744	10,813	10,983	10,373	10,008	10,078
Female	2,620	3,053	3,352	3,499	3,691	3,115	3,174	3,000	2,932	2,933	2,723

- a) The transition of 17-year-olds to the youth justice system occurred in February 2018.
- b) The COVID-19 pandemic was declared in March 2020 and resulted in social restrictions which continued into 2021–22.

Figure 55 Adults in supervised community corrections by Indigenous status and sex, as at 1 June – time series



- a) The transition of 17-year-olds to the youth justice system occurred in February 2018.
- b) The COVID-19 pandemic was declared in March 2020 and resulted in social restrictions which continued into 2021–22.

6.5.2 Rate of adults in supervised community corrections

Table 79 presents the rate of adults in supervised community corrections per 100,000 adults in Queensland between 2015 and 2025. Since peaking in 2019, the overall rate of adults in supervised community corrections has declined by 23.1% as at June 2025, marking the lowest rate in the time series at 416.4 per 100,000 persons.

For males, the rate as at June 2025 fell to the lowest in the time series, down 23.4% from its peak of 842.9 in 2019. Similarly, the rate for females was lower as at June 2025 than in all years since 2016 and was only slightly above its previous low of 190.7 in 2015 (up 2.8%).

The rate of adults in supervised community corrections among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander males has fluctuated over the past decade without notable overall change. In contrast, the rate for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander females has gradually increased, rising by 39.8% between 2015 and 2025. Rates among non-Indigenous adults have tended to decline over the same period, with the decrease being slightly more pronounced for non-Indigenous males (down 18.8%) than females (down 14.5%).

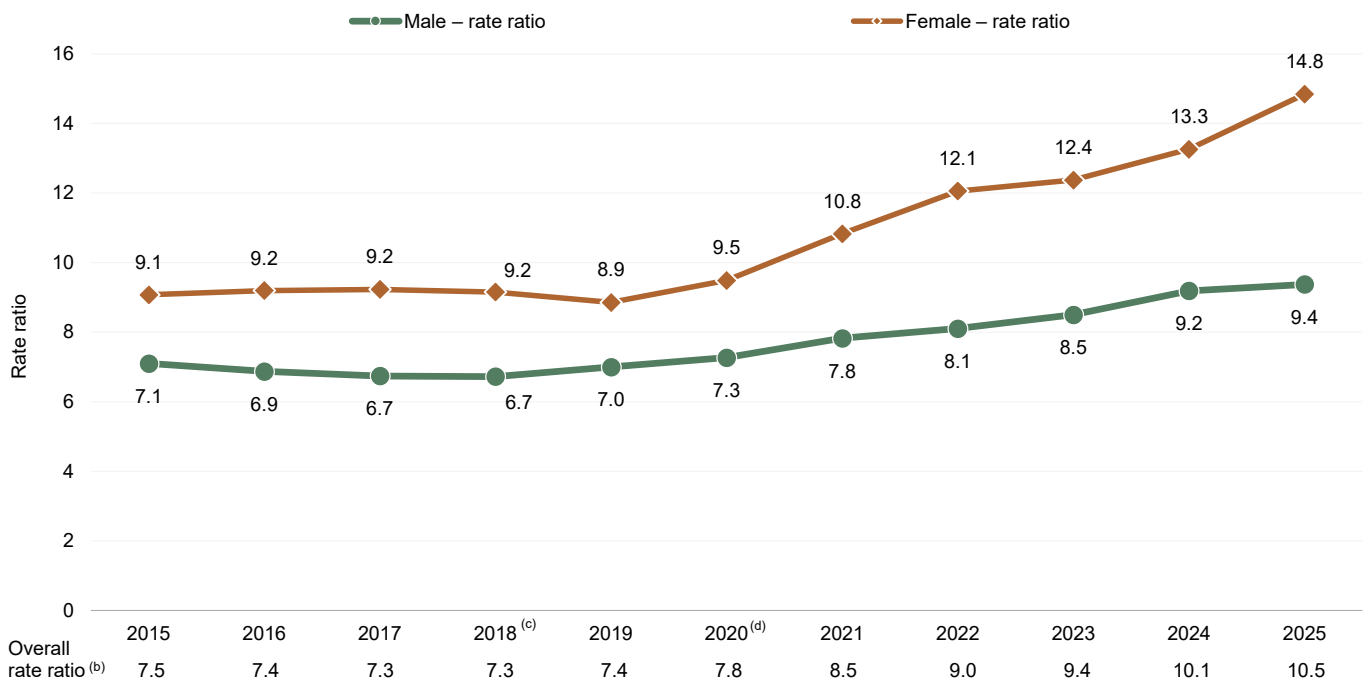
Table 79 Rate of adults in supervised community corrections by sex and Indigenous status, as at 1 June – time series

	2015	2016	2017	2018 ^(a)	2019	2020 ^(b)	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
	— rate per 100,000 persons ^(c) —										
Total persons	454.9	505.8	524.1	531.3	541.4	458.2	468.2	468.5	440.4	426.1	416.4
Male	726.8	801.1	820.2	829.3	842.9	713.5	722.8	731.0	682.2	653.5	645.4
Female	190.7	220.2	238.3	244.2	251.3	212.9	223.4	216.1	207.9	207.3	196.1
Indigenous	2,730.4	2,987.3	3,064.9	3,094.0	3,197.8	2,797.1	3,049.4	3,158.3	3,061.5	3,128.4	3,142.7
Male	4,184.1	4,484.9	4,511.9	4,545.0	4,755.3	4,137.2	4,422.3	4,578.2	4,422.9	4,482.8	4,485.7
Female	1,321.5	1,536.7	1,663.9	1,690.6	1,694.0	1,505.1	1,726.4	1,789.4	1,749.6	1,823.6	1,847.4
Non-Indigenous	364.4	405.7	420.4	425.6	430.7	359.9	358.2	352.6	327.1	309.3	298.1
Male	589.4	652.4	669.4	675.8	679.6	569.3	565.0	565.0	520.4	487.8	478.6
Female	145.6	167.1	180.3	184.7	191.3	158.6	159.4	148.4	141.4	137.5	124.5

- a) The transition of 17-year-olds to the youth justice system occurred in February 2018.
- b) The COVID-19 pandemic was declared in March 2020 and resulted in social restrictions which continued into 2021–22.
- c) Rates have been calculated per 100,000 persons aged 17 years and over for 2015 to 2017, and 18 years and over for 2018–2023.

Since 2019, the disparity in community corrections rates between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and non-Indigenous adults has increased for both males and females, after remaining relatively stable in prior years (Figure 56). This gap has widened more rapidly for females, with the rate difference growing by 67.6% between 2019 and 2025, compared with a 34.0% increase for males over the same period. In 2025, the year-on-year rate difference for females grew by 11.9%, whereas for males, it rose by just 2.0%. This faster widening of the gap for females reflects the rising community corrections rates for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander females compared with non-Indigenous females, as outlined above.

Figure 56 Difference in rates^(a) between Indigenous and non-Indigenous adults serving supervised community-based corrections orders by sex, as at 30 June – time series



- a) Rates have been calculated per 100,000 persons aged 17 years and over for 2015 to 2017, and 18 years and over for 2018 onwards.
- b) Rate ratio is calculated dividing the crude rate for the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population subgroup by the rate for the equivalent non-Indigenous population subgroup. Rate differences have been calculated on unrounded rates. Overall rate ratio relates to the imprisonment rates for each of the total (male and female) adult populations.
- c) The transition of 17-year-olds to the youth justice system occurred in February 2018.
- d) The COVID-19 pandemic was declared in March 2020 and resulted in social restrictions which continued into 2021–22.

6.5.3 Order types

Over the past decade, the count of individuals subject to supervised community corrections orders at 1 June tended to increase up until 2019, peaking at 21,347 persons. This was followed by a notable drop in 2020 (down 13.9%) due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The annual count subsequently stabilised, reaching its lowest level

since 2019 in 2024 at 18,600 adults. The following year saw minimal change, with a slight increase of 0.3% (or 56 unique persons) in 2025 (Table 80).

'Probation' remained the most common type of community corrections order between 2015 and 2025, followed by 'parole' and 'community service - other' (Figure 57).

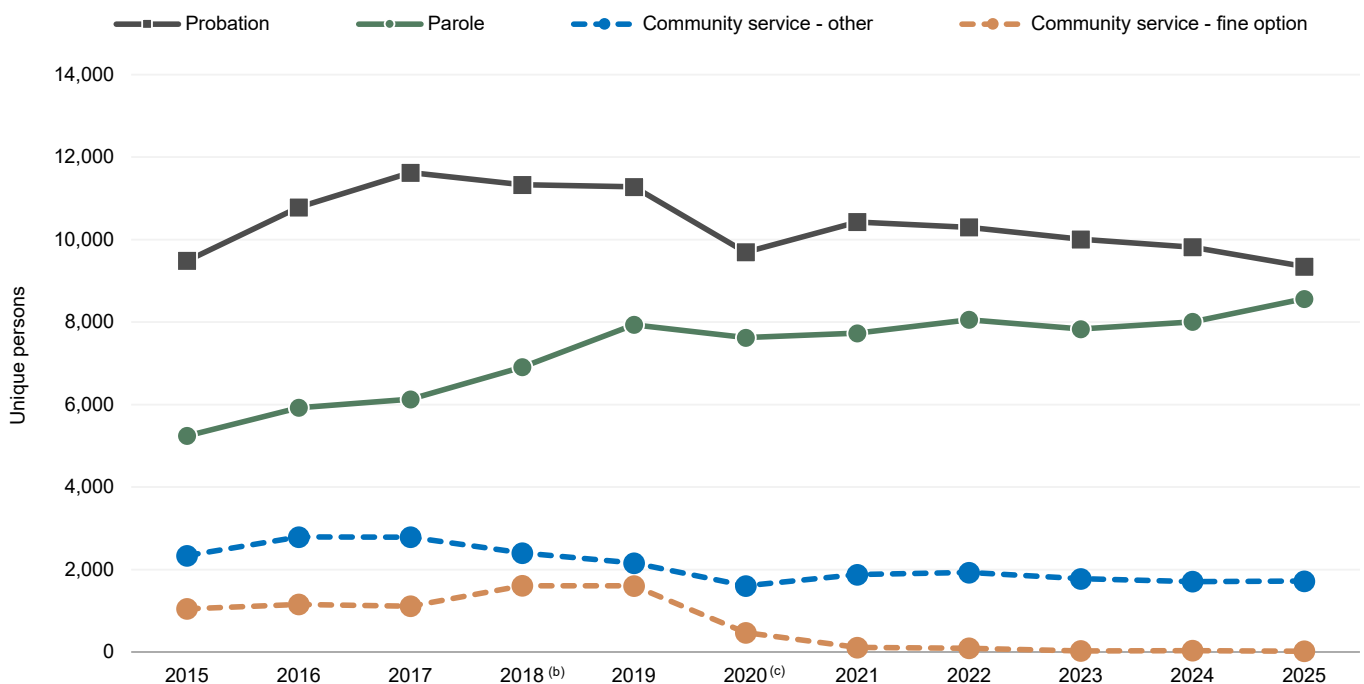
Table 80 Adults^(a) serving supervised community-based corrections orders by order type, as at 1 June - time series

Order type	2015	2016	2017	2018 ^(b)	2019	2020 ^(c)	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
	— persons —										
Community service - fine option	1,047	1,156	1,110	1,609	1,604	468	109	91	27	33	19
Community service - other	2,336	2,787	2,785	2,401	2,155	1,605	1,876	1,927	1,776	1,708	1,717
Parole	5,242	5,922	6,128	6,908	7,934	7,622	7,728	8,056	7,828	8,007	8,561
DPSOA	94	101	114	129	138	127	133	138	138	139	144
Probation	9,486	10,783	11,620	11,327	11,276	9,692	10,425	10,297	10,004	9,817	9,345
Persons on supervised community-based orders^(d)	16,778	18,919	19,928	20,575	21,347	18,389	19,058	19,380	18,686	18,600	18,656

- a) Table presents a count of unique adults per order type, irrespective of whether an individual was serving one or more orders of that type as at 1 June.
- b) The transition of 17-year-olds to the youth justice system occurred in February 2018.
- c) The COVID-19 pandemic was declared in March 2020 and resulted in social restrictions which continued into 2021-22.
- d) This row represents a count of unique adults individuals serving one or more community corrections order(s) as at 1 June, and does not equal the sum of unique adults on each order type.

While the ranking of the most common community corrections orders has remained consistent over the past decade, growth trends have varied across order types (Figure 57). 'Parole' has shown the most consistent growth, increasing by 63.3% between 2015 and its peak as at June 2025. Meanwhile, 'probation' has fluctuated over the past decade, dropping to a series low in 2020 (down 14.0% compared with 2019), coinciding with the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, and has experienced slight year-on-year decreases since 2021.

Figure 57 Adults serving supervised community-based corrections orders by order type^(a), as at 1 June - time series



- a) Those being managed under DPSOA supervision orders are excluded due to low numbers.
- b) The transition of 17-year-olds to the youth justice system occurred in February 2018.
- c) The COVID-19 pandemic was declared in March 2020 and resulted in social restrictions which continued into 2021-22.

7.0 Explanatory notes and glossary

Abbreviations and symbols

n.a.	not applicable/not available
ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics
AIHW	Australian Institute of Health and Welfare
ANZSOC	Australian and New Zealand Standard Offence Classification, 2023
DoJ	Department of Justice
DPSOA	<i>Dangerous Prisoners (Sexual Offenders) Act 2003</i>
DYJVS	Department of Youth Justice and Victim Support
ERP	estimated resident population
MSO	most serious offence
QCS	Queensland Corrective Services
QGSO	Queensland Government Statistician's Office

Glossary

Many of the terms listed below relate to both adult and child, except where otherwise specified.

Adjudicated: criminal proceedings resulting in a judgement or decision made by the court as to whether or not the defendant is guilty of a criminal charge(s). Adjudication may lead to conviction if guilty or acquittal if not. Non-adjudicated matters are those considered to have been completed prior to adjudication (e.g. withdrawn by the prosecution, defendant deceased, unfit to plead).

Admission to order: when a corrections/youth justice order commences.

Admission to custody: when a period of custody commences.

Adult: in this report, refers to persons dealt with as an adult in Queensland courts and corrective services.

Charge: a formal accusation of an offence.

Child: in this report, refers to persons dealt with as a child in Queensland courts and by Youth Justice for offences committed when the offender was of child age. (see *Children and young people* in Notes).

(Supervised) community corrections (adult): refers to the supervised community-based management of court-ordered sanctions, post-prison administrative arrangements and fine conversions, which principally involve the provision of one or more of the following activities: supervision, programs or community work.

Community-based supervision (child): a legal arrangement that requires a young person to be supervised by a youth justice agency within the community. Community-based supervision may be unsentenced or sentenced. Unsentenced community-based orders include conditional bail; sentenced community-based orders include probation, community service, conditional release,

sentenced boot camp (*introduced in January 2013 and discontinued from July 2015*), court-ordered graffiti removal (*introduced in September 2013*), intensive supervision.

Company: includes all non-person defendants, such as organisations, dealt with in the adult court system.

Concurrent (imprisonment): individual sentences of imprisonment for different offences, ordered to be served at the same time. This means any shorter sentence is included in the longest (or 'head') sentence.

Continuing detention order: an order which subjects an offender to extended detention in prison following the completion of a custodial sentence. Such orders are made by a court where an offender has a history of serious offending, usually involving sexual or violent offences, and it determines that there is a serious danger to the community if the offender is released from prison (see *DPSOA orders*).

Convicted appearance: an adjudicated appearance resulting in a guilty finding.

Convicted charge: an offence for which a defendant is found guilty in a court of law.

Court-ordered conference: (see *restorative justice*)

Courts:

Childrens Court: a special court which deals with Magistrates Court matters involving child defendants. It is presided over by a Childrens Court magistrate.

Childrens Court of Queensland: an intermediate court which deals with children charged with indictable criminal offences (serious crimes). It is presided over by a Childrens Court judge, who is also a judge of the District Court of Queensland.

Higher courts: include the Supreme Court, District Court and Childrens Court of Queensland.

Magistrates Court: is the first level of the Queensland Courts system and includes the specialist Murri Court and Drug and Alcohol Court. It is a court of summary jurisdiction constituted by a magistrate and has no jury, and criminal cases are first heard in this court in some form. The Magistrates Court deals with summary offences, such as traffic infringements; minor offences, such as shoplifting or disorderly behaviour; more serious offences, such as burglary, assault, fraud and drugs. Where the offence is more serious, the magistrate may commit the case to the District Court or Supreme Court for sentence or trial.

District Court: is the second tier of the court system after the Magistrates Court and is constituted by a District Court judge. This court deals with serious criminal offences such as rape, armed robbery and fraud. Criminal trials in the District Court will generally involve a jury. Matters involving child defendants may be heard in the District Court if a Childrens Court Judge is not available.

Supreme Court: the highest court in the Queensland judicial system, with unlimited jurisdiction and dealing with murder, attempted murder, manslaughter and the most serious drug offences. Matters are presided over by a judge and may involve a jury. Matters involving child defendants may also be heard in the Supreme Court.

Cumulative (imprisonment): individual sentences, given for each offence, that are ordered to be served one after the other, rather than at the same time.

Custodial sentence: an order that involves a term of imprisonment/detention being imposed on the offender, including sentences which are either partially or wholly suspended.

Custody: refers to confinement in a place intended primarily for the purpose of confining prisoners, such as a prison or prison farm (for adults) or youth detention centre.

Defendant: a person appearing in a criminal court charged with a criminal offence.

Child defendant: an alleged offender dealt with by the criminal courts system as a child, for offences committed as a child.

Unique child defendant: a child or young person with at least one finalised appearance as a child in a Queensland criminal court during the reference period. An individual is counted only once in a reference year, irrespective of whether they had one or multiple finalised appearances in the year.

Detention: A legal arrangement that requires a young person to be detained in a youth justice facility. This includes both sentenced and unsentenced detention.

Discharge from custody: the release of a prisoner at the end of a period of custody, whether sentenced or unsentenced.

DPSOA order: under the *Dangerous Prisoners (Sexual Offenders) Act 2003*, if the court is satisfied a prisoner is a serious danger to the community, the court may order that the prisoner be detained in custody on a *continuing (or interim) detention order* or released into the community on a *supervision (or interim supervision) order*.

Finalised appearance: in this report, an offence or collection of offences for a single defendant that are either adjudicated or non-adjudicated on the same day, at the same court level and court location (resulting in a guilty finding and sentence, or acquittal).

Head sentence: the total period of imprisonment imposed taking into account, if more than one prison sentence is imposed, whether they are ordered to be served concurrently or cumulatively.

Legal status (of those in custody): A person may be either *sentenced* or *unsentenced* depending on the warrant(s) or court order(s) that provide the legal basis for the administration of the person through the criminal justice system, or they may be detained post-sentence on a DPSOA detention order.

Length of stay: the time elapsed between admission and discharge for a person in custody.

Most serious offence (MSO) is based on the Australian and New Zealand Standard Offence Classification, 2023 (ANZSOC) and is determined based on most serious court outcome/penalty and according to its ranking in the *National Offence Index, 2024* (ABS). (See *Counting methodology* for Courts data in Notes.)

Offence: any act or omission by a person or persons for which a penalty could be imposed by the Australian legal system.

Offences against justice procedures, government security and government operations include breach of custodial order offences; breach of community-based order; breach of violence and non-violence order; as well as offences against government operations, government security and justice procedures.

Offender: a person aged 10 years or over who has been found guilty of an offence.

Child offender: an offender dealt with by the youth justice system as a child, for offences committed as a child (see *Children and young people* in Notes).

Parole: the supervised release of a prisoner to serve all or the remainder of their term of imprisonment in the community, subject to conditions and supervision (e.g. offenders sentenced to a life sentence will remain on parole for life).

Penalty: a punishment of an offender ordered by the court after a guilty finding.

Population subgroup: in this report, this term is used where counts/rates are calculated by demographic variables such as age, Indigenous status and/or sex. It refers to the portion of the population to which a statistic pertains, e.g. non-Indigenous females aged 10–17 years.

Post-sentence detention/supervision: (see *DPSOA order*)

Reception: the event of entering a prison/detention centre from the community to begin an unsentenced or sentenced imprisonment/detention order, i.e. excludes transfers from another custodial facility.

Release: when a person leaves prison/detention and is not detained immediately after.

Remand: to place an accused person in custody awaiting trial/sentence for the charges against them. A person who has been denied bail, or not sought it, will be placed on remand. A person may be referred to unsentenced imprisonment/detention either by police (pre-court custody) or by a court (remand). (See *Unsentenced*).

Segment: part of a period in detention, a segment is defined by its legal status (within the larger detention episode). When the legal status changes, and/or a new episode begins, a new segment is commenced.

Sentence: the determination by a court of the penalty to be imposed on a person who has been found guilty of an offence. The following penalties generally relate to both adult and child offenders, with a few exceptions as noted:

'community service order' an order to do unpaid community service for a specified number of hours, usually within 12 months, and to comply with reporting and other conditions.

'driver licence disqualification' an order disqualifying a person from holding or obtaining a Queensland driver licence absolutely or for a specified period of time.

'fine' a monetary penalty requiring an offender to make a payment of a specified sum to the Crown.

'good behaviour order (or bond)' is a requirement to appear before a court if called to do so and to be of good behaviour (not break the law) for a set period, which requires the person and anyone acting as a 'surety' to pay an amount of money if the offender breaks the law or does not comply with other conditions of the order.

'imprisonment' a type of custody where an adult offender is required to be held in custody on a full-time basis. Includes partially-suspended sentence. A partially suspended sentence requires the offender to spend part of their sentence in prison, with the remainder suspended.

'intensive correction order' is an adult sentence of imprisonment of one year or less ordered to be served in the community and including intensive supervision, community service and treatment programs.

'nominal penalty' includes penalties such as convicted not further punished; reprimand; imprisonment for a period of "rise", which means the (adult) offender is detained at the court from when they appear until the court rises for the day.

'probation' a penalty allowing an offender freedom under supervision for a specified period, conditional upon compliance with the terms of the order.

'suspended sentence' an adult sentence of imprisonment, suspended in full (wholly suspended) for a period of time (called the operational period). A suspended sentence does not involve supervision, but if the offender commits further offences punishable by imprisonment during the operational period of the suspended sentence, the court must order the offender to serve the period of imprisonment suspended.

'treatment order' involves offender participating in a drug and alcohol treatment program.

Sentence length: in this report, refers only to imprisonment sentences. For adults, the term of imprisonment can either be a specified length, in years, months and/or days, or it can be indefinite. Sentence lengths reported are the aggregate of any sentences being served concurrently, as at 30 June.

Aggregate sentence length includes both custodial and non-custodial components of a sentence of imprisonment.

Median sentence length calculations exclude life sentences and sentences of an indefinite length.

Sentenced (in relation to custody): a legal status indicating that a person is confined to custody following a determination by a court to impose a term of imprisonment/youth detention.

Supervised youth justice orders: include both detention-based orders and community-based orders, such as probation, community service, intensive supervision,

conditional release, restorative justice, graffiti removal and boot camp. (See *Community-based supervision (child offenders)*)

Supervision order: an order which subjects an adult offender to extended supervision in the community by corrective services following the completion of a custodial sentence (see *DPSOA order*).

Unsentenced (in relation to custody): a legal status indicating that a person is confined to custody while awaiting trial (pre-court custody), or the outcome of their trial (see *Remand*).

Youth justice orders: penalties which may be imposed on child offenders only, including:

'ancillary orders' include compensation, compensation – personal – injury; compensation – property; restitution.

'boot camp' an order suspending a detention order upon a child, aged 13 years or older, entering a boot camp program for a period of 3–6 months. This order was introduced in 2013 and discontinued on 30 September 2015.

'boot camp (vehicle offences)' an order made in relation to a child, aged 13 years or older, who usually resides in an area prescribed by regulation and who is a recidivist vehicle offender. This order was introduced in 2013 and discontinued on 30 September 2015.

'conditional release' suspension by the sentencing court of a detention order against a child offender, conditional on participation in a program.

'detention' a custodial penalty placing a child offender in a youth detention centre.

'good behaviour order' a penalty where an offender is ordered to be of good behaviour for a specified period and where a breach thereof may be taken into account if the offender re-offends during the period of the order.

'graffiti removal' an order made against a child offender aged 12 years or older who is found guilty of a graffiti offence, to perform graffiti removal service for a specified number of hours.

'intensive supervision' usually involves a period of intensive supervision in the community with the possibility of detention if the young person breaches the community supervision. It is a sentencing option for a child offender aged between 10 and 12 years who has been found guilty of an offence that, if committed by an adult, would make them liable to imprisonment.

'other orders' include conditional bail program; court diversion referral; drug diversion; indefinite referral; licence disqualification; transfer to prison.

'reprimand' a formal reproof given by the court to a child offender upon a guilty finding.

'restorative justice' an order made under the *Youth Justice Act 1992* that a child found guilty of an offence participate in a restorative justice process.

'supervised release' the component of a detention order which is served in the community.

'unsupervised youth justice orders' include fine, good behaviour orders and reprimand, and require no supervision after sentencing by the court.

Notes

The information displayed in this report may vary from data published elsewhere by QGSO and others, due to differences in the dates data were extracted and frequency of revision, or in counting rules or statistical standards applied. Readers are urged to exercise caution when making comparison between publications.

Data in this report have not been tested to determine whether changes over time are statistically significant.

Data sources:

Finalised court appearances and charges data have been sourced from the Courts Database – unpublished operational data sourced from the DoJ. Data were current at the time of extraction and are subject to change.

Youth justice data, including unique child defendants and offenders, and supervised youth justice orders have been sourced from DYJVS unpublished data. Data were current at the time of extraction and are subject to change.

Corrective services data, including prison and community-based corrections, have been sourced from QCS unpublished data, including those collected for the National Prisoner Census. Data were current at the time of extraction and are subject to change.

Children and young people: In February 2018, the *Youth Justice and Other Legislation (Inclusion of 17-year-old Persons) Amendment Act 2016* and the Youth Justice (Transitional) Regulation 2018 commenced. Implementation of the Act mean that, from that date on, young people aged 17 years at the time of offence are dealt with in the youth justice system.

Counting methodology: Data presented in this report may have been subject to counting rules that are different to data from the same agency/ies published elsewhere. It is important to understand the counting rules applied before making comparisons between publications.

The following counting rules have been applied in this report:

Corrective services data: Corrective services data are presented using counting rules as developed by the ABS, with the exception of length of stay data, for which counting rules were developed by QGSO in consultation with QCS.

Adults in prison:

- an annual count of prisoners taken at midnight on 30 June, over a ten-year time series
- counts from administrative data recording prisoners being admitted to and discharged from prison custody
- calculation of the length of stay of those prisoners who were released from prison during the 2023–24 financial year.

Adults in supervised community corrections: counts from administrative data of adults serving supervised community-based corrections orders as at 1 June, and of orders being served, over a 10-year time series.

Courts data:

Count of finalised **appearances** is based on the offence with the most serious outcome only, as an offender may have multiple charges finalised and receive multiple outcomes in a single appearance. Count of finalised **charges** is also based on the most serious outcome only (whether convicted or not), as some charges may attract multiple penalties.

The **most serious offence (MSO)** is based primarily on the offence with the most serious outcome (whether convicted or not). Where the outcome/penalty (and quantum) is the same as or shared with other charge(s) finalised in the same appearance, the most serious offence is determined according to its ranking in ABS' *National Offence Index, 2024*.

Youth justice data:

Unique child defendants: Each defendant with a finalised appearance is counted only once per reference year, whether they had one or multiple finalised appearances in the year.

Admissions to orders is a count of every admission to a youth justice order within a reference year. An individual may be admitted to one or multiple of the same or different orders (including detention) in a single year.

Unique persons admitted to orders is a count of individuals admitted to a supervised or unsupervised youth justice order for a proven offence(s). An individual is counted once for each relevant order type they are admitted to in a reference year.

Admissions to detention in this report is a count of every new *physical* admission to detention within a reference year. An individual may have one or multiple admissions in a single year. It excludes changes of legal status or commencement of a new order while already in custody.

Unique persons admitted to detention is a count of individuals admitted to detention within a reference year. An individual with one or multiple admissions to detention is counted only once in a reference year.

Geography: all data in this report are presented at state (Queensland) level only.

Indigenous status is based on self-identification by the individual as one of the following standard options: Neither Aboriginal nor Torres Strait Islander (non-Indigenous); Aboriginal; Torres Strait Islander; Both Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander; refused/not stated.

In this publication, the term:

- 'Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander' refers to any person who identifies as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander.
- 'Non-Indigenous' refers to those who positively identify as such.

- 'Other' represents non-Indigenous persons *plus* those whose Indigenous status was not supplied (not stated).

Median sentence length: the middle value in an ordered group of imprisonment sentences, expressed in full months (see *Sentence length*). For example, the median of the group 1, 19, 20, 21, 22 would be 20 (whereas the average would be 16.6). The aggregate sentence length includes both custodial and non-custodial components. In this report, the length of sentence has been calculated in full months (rounded down). For example, 1 month and 20 days would be reported as 1 month. (For this report a month is deemed to be 30.4375 days.)

Offence classification: Offences presented in this report are coded and grouped according the Australian and New Zealand Standard Offence Classification, 2023 (ANZSOC). (See <https://www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/mf/1234.0> for a full breakdown of the offence divisions and their inclusions.)

Rates: are calculated using the most recent data available at time of production, and are generally calculated per 100,000 persons, using the appropriate estimated resident population (ERP) of the specified region. Rate calculation for mid-point ERP is:

$$\frac{\text{number (count) of } x}{ERP} \times 100,000$$

using the average ERP for the reference year (e.g. average of [ERP as at 30 June 2024 plus ERP as at 30 June 2025] for the 2024–25 reference year).

- Note that rates in the Youth Justice chapter are calculated per 10,000 persons, consistent with national

reporting of youth justice statistics by the Australia Institute of Health and Welfare.

For **courts** and **youth justice** rates, the data present counts for the whole financial year, therefore an average (mid-point) ERP for the reference year is created.

For **adult corrective services**, as the data present counts as at June only, the June ERP figure for the reference year was used.

Denominators were drawn from the following populations:

- 10 years and over for finalised appearances (Courts chapter)
- As 17-year-old offenders did not transition to the youth justice system until late 2017–18, the population used as the denominator in calculating youth justice rates is persons aged 10–16 years for any date prior to 12 February 2018. From that date onwards, the denominator used to calculate rates was persons aged 10–17 years.
- 18 years and over for adult corrections (Corrective Services chapter), except where specified.

Rates enable comparison to be made over time, since the size of the population is taken into account in the calculation.

Reference year: Years quoted in this report are financial year (i.e. from 1 July to 30 June), unless otherwise stated.

Time series data are presented for 11 years from 2014–15 to 2024–25 for financial year measures, or 2015 to 2025 for point-in-time data.

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