

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I live, research and write on Quandamooka Country, amid Indigenous lands, waters, winds and ancient living cultures. I pay my respects to Elders past and present, and to the continuing custodianship of Quandamooka people.

SOVEREIGNTY NEVER CEDED

PF PHILIPPE FOUBERT · TRUSTED SOURCES BRIEF

Locked Up Before Sentence

Youth justice in Queensland: the evidence, the Senate's 2026 recommendations, and whom to back

Philippe Foubert · Essayist, PhD in ethics · September 2026

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Locked Up Before Sentence

Queensland locks up young people at nearly twice the national rate, most of them unsentenced, while youth offending sits at an 11-year low. The Senate's remedies bind no one, so the next move falls to you.

What the evidence shows

- **Twice the national rate.** Queensland detains 5.0 young people per 10,000, against 2.7 nationally, and holds four in ten of all young people detained in Australia. **Source 2**
- **Growth sits in remand.** 88% of young people in Queensland detention are unsentenced, against 80% nationally, and the average remand stay lengthened from 39 to 54 days since 2021–22. **Sources 1, 6**
- **Offending fell while detention rose.** The youth offender rate stands 36.8% below 2014–15, the lowest in 11 years, while the detention rate climbed from 3.9 to 5.0 per 10,000. **Sources 2, 4**
- **The harm falls unevenly.** First Nations young people are detained at 26 times the rate of others. Young people in custody self-harmed or attempted suicide 112 times in 2024–25. **Sources 1, 2**
- **The Senate accepted the evidence.** No member of the cross-party committee dissented from it, and Labor senators stated that they do not dispute it. **Source 6**

In one breath: Queensland locks up young people at twice the national rate, nearly nine in ten without a sentence, while youth offending sits at an 11-year low. No member of the cross-party Senate committee dissented from that evidence.

Will the Senate recommendations help?

In my assessment, partly and slowly. Youth justice belongs to the states, and all four recommendations ask the Commonwealth only to coordinate, educate, or inquire. None compels Queensland, which overrode its own Human Rights Act to tighten youth bail in 2023. National standards will bind such a government only through Commonwealth legislation or funding conditions, as Senators Shoebridge and McLachlan propose. [Source 6](#)

The measures aimed most directly at remand sit in the Labor Senators' additional comments. Recommendation 7 calls for safe bail accommodation, after-hours bail support, legal help at the point of custody, and public reporting of the number and duration of children held in watch houses. Recommendation 5 directs most Commonwealth prevention funding for First Nations children to Aboriginal community-controlled organisations. Some young people are remanded because of the seriousness of an alleged offence; the Law Council told the committee that many are remanded because they have nowhere safe to live on bail. [Source 6](#)

Each recommendation, weighed

Recommendation	What it asks	Binding?	What would give it force
1. National minimum standards	The Attorney-General works with state and territory counterparts to introduce them.	No	Commonwealth legislation, which legal advice to the committee says the Constitution permits, or funding tied to compliance, as former Children's Commissioner Anne Hollonds proposed (paras 5.14, 5.16).
2. National taskforce	A cross-portfolio body to coordinate national reform.	No	A budget, a deadline, and a duty to report publicly on progress.
3. Education campaign	Evidence-based information on youth crime and on alternatives to incarceration.	No	You. Citizens can deliver this material now, without waiting for the Commonwealth.
4. Further inquiry	A Community Affairs inquiry into the factors behind youth incarceration.	No	A short reporting date. The committee's own report already documents many of these factors, so a long inquiry risks deferring action.

The third and fourth columns give my assessment. Source 6 supplies the recommendations and the evidence on legislative and funding levers.

What you can do

1. **Share this brief.** The committee called for a campaign of evidence-based information on youth crime. You can supply that information today, to your friends, your congregation, your union, or your local paper.
2. **Write to the federal Attorney-General.** Ask the Government to accept all four recommendations in its response, to give national standards force through legislation or funding conditions, and to adopt its own senators' Recommendations 5 and 7.
3. **Write to your state MP.** Ask why 252 young people a day sit in Queensland detention without a sentence, whether Queensland will fund safe bail accommodation, and whether it will publish the number and duration of children held in watch houses.
4. **Follow First Nations leadership.** Back Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community-controlled organisations working in prevention and diversion, and take your lead from them. The next pages name them, their leaders, and how to reach them.

The pages that follow set out every figure, its source, how it was calculated, and its limitations.

Whom to back, and how to reach them

Before you make contact. These organisations are community-controlled: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people govern them and decide what help they need.

- Introduce yourself or your group, say what you can offer (money, skills, attendance, paid bookings), and ask what would help. Accept the answer, including no.
- Unrestricted donations help most, because the organisation decides where the money goes. Paying for an organisation's own services also funds it directly.
- Respect small teams' time. Never approach the young people they serve. In Queensland, volunteer work with children requires a blue card.

Minjerribah Moorgumpin Elders-in-Council Aboriginal Corporation (MMEIC)

ON QUANDAMOOKA COUNTRY · MINJERRIBAH (NORTH STRADBROKE ISLAND)

WHAT IT DOES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

Leads the Commonwealth-funded Quandamooka justice reinvestment initiative, with a team of six locally based Quandamooka workers. It delivers culturally modelled social and emotional wellbeing support for young people and their families, and is developing the Quandamooka Justice and Healing Strategy.

WHO LEADS IT

An Elder-led board of Goenpul, Ngugi and Noonuccal people. 2025–26 office bearers: Mary Burgess, Chairperson; Maureen Myers, Secretary; George Khan, Treasurer.

HOW TO REACH IT

Phone 07 3409 9723 (office open Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 9 am to 3 pm). Email admin@mmeic.org. 2 Mitchell Crescent, Dunwich QLD 4183. Website mmeicac.com.au.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

Donate through the [Donate Now page](#) (if the form does not load, phone the office). Book a cultural tour, cultural awareness training, or Welcome to Country for your group, buy MMEIC publications, and attend its NAIDOC Community Day.

Whom to back, continued

Murri Watch Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Corporation

BRISBANE AND FIVE OTHER QUEENSLAND CITIES

WHAT IT DOES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

Its Cell Visitors and Youth Justice support teams visit young people held in police watch houses. In 2023–24 it engaged with 395 young people under 18 in Brisbane watch houses, 77% of them First Nations. It is building a Youth Hub Precinct for young First Nations people experiencing homelessness in the Brisbane CBD, and runs a diversionary centre.

WHO LEADS IT

Ken Georgetown, Chief Executive Officer (29 years in the role; also Chairperson of ATSILS).

HOW TO REACH IT

Phone 1300 M WATCH (1300 692 824). Website murriwatch.org.au; contact form at murriwatch.org.au/contact.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

Donate through “Donate Today” on its website. Ask what its hostel and youth services currently need.

Kurbingui Youth and Family Development

ZILLMERE, CABOOLTURE AND INALA

WHAT IT DOES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

Runs Yur’iinkin, an intensive bail initiative for young people at risk of entering or already in the youth justice system, including practitioners who work alongside the Police and Youth Justice co-responder team. It also runs the Staying On Track youth mentoring program and family support through Yadeni Tago, Turrbal language for “advancing together”.

WHO LEADS IT

Governed by a community-elected board. Its leadership is not published while its website is rebuilt; ask reception.

HOW TO REACH IT

Phone (07) 3156 4800. Email reception@kurbingui.org.au. 425 Zillmere Road, Zillmere QLD 4034. Website kurbingui.org.au (being rebuilt).

HOW YOU CAN HELP

Ask reception what its youth programs need, and whether it accepts donations for them.

Whom to back, continued

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Legal Service (ATSILS Qld)

STATEWIDE · HEAD OFFICE BRISBANE

WHAT IT DOES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

Represents young people charged with offences, including at bail, and runs a Throughcare program that supports young people in detention before and after release. In August 2026 it ran community legal education outreach on Quandamooka Country.

WHO LEADS IT

Shane Duffy, Chief Executive Officer. Kenny Georgetown, Chairperson.

HOW TO REACH IT

Phone (07) 3025 3888. Email info@atsils.org.au. Level 5, 183 North Quay, Brisbane QLD 4000. Free call 1800 012 255 for legal help (after hours for custody notifications only). Website atsils.org.au.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

Donate through atsils.org.au/donate/ and email info@atsils.org.au for a tax receipt. Law students can apply for placements through [student placements](#). Share its [Know Your Rights fact sheets](#).

Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Child Protection Peak (QATSICPP)

STATEWIDE PEAK BODY · QUEENSLAND'S YOUTH JUSTICE PEAK SINCE MAY 2024

WHAT IT DOES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

Represents 38 community-controlled member organisations and speaks for the youth justice sector to government. Its submissions to Parliament set out community-led alternatives to detention.

WHO LEADS IT

Phillip Brooks, Chief Executive Officer. Murray Benton, Deputy Chief Executive Officer, Statewide Operations.

HOW TO REACH IT

Youth justice enquiries: Murray Benton, 07 3102 4119, murraybenton@qatsicpp.com.au (as listed on the Peak's youth justice page). General: communications@qatsicpp.com.au. Website www.qatsicpp.com.au.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

Use its [member directory](#) to find the community-controlled organisation nearest you. Cite its submissions when you write to your MP.

Whom to back, continued

Justice Reinvestment Network Australia (JRNA)

NATIONAL · COMMUNITY-CONTROLLED

WHAT IT DOES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

The national body for communities working in justice reinvestment, governed by a wholly Aboriginal board. A reference group member for the Quandamooka initiative sits on its board.

WHO LEADS IT

Devon Cuimara, Co-Chair.

HOW TO REACH IT

Email connect@justicereinvestment.org.au. Website justicereinvestment.net.au.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

Join its newsletter, and ask whether an allies' group qualifies for its associate membership.

Other Queensland justice reinvestment sites funded by the Commonwealth: Cherbourg, Yarrabah, Townsville, Doomadgee, Hope Vale, Mornington Island, Mossman, and Napranum. The full list sits on the [Attorney-General's Department justice reinvestment page](#).

Details checked on 24 September 2026 against each organisation's website, published submissions, and job listings. Leaders and contacts change; confirm before you write.

Youth Justice in Queensland

On an average night in 2024–25, about 250 young people who had not been sentenced slept in Queensland youth detention. Seven in ten were First Nations. In the same year, young people in custody self-harmed or attempted suicide 112 times, each time needing treatment.

252

young people in detention on an average day without a sentence. Only 33 were serving one.

Source 1

112

self-harm or suicide-attempt incidents in custody needing treatment in 2024–25, involving about 48 young people.

Source 2

124

children aged 10 to 13 locked up during the year. 91 were First Nations.

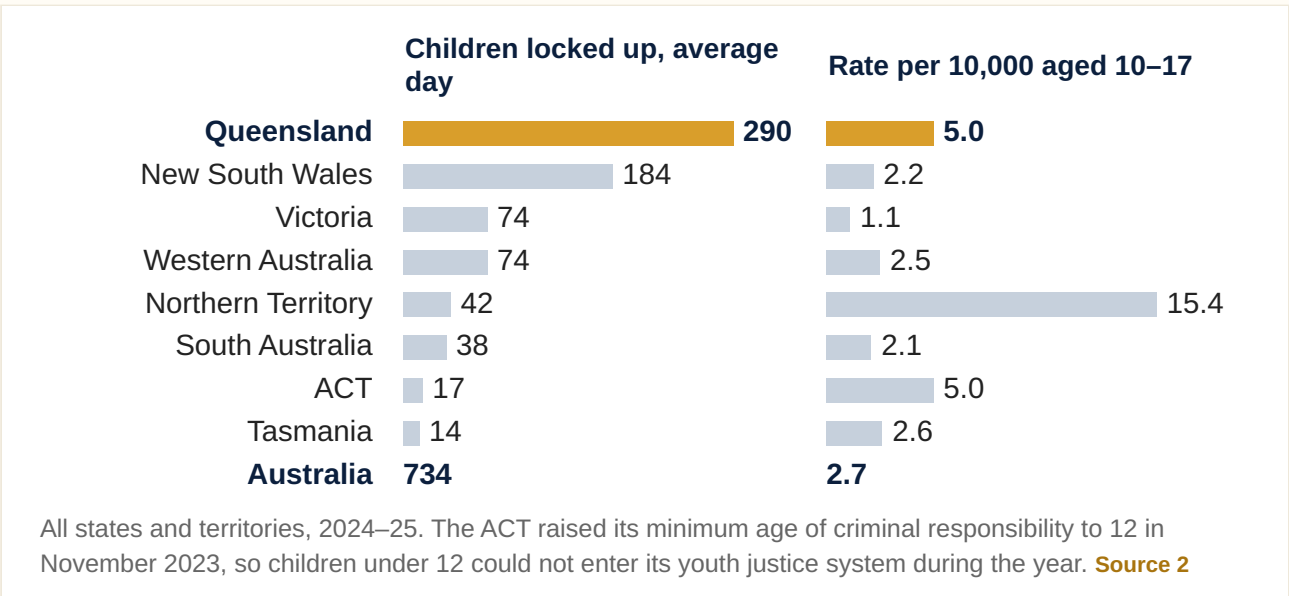
Source 2

26×

the detention rate for First Nations young people compared with other young Queenslanders.

Source 1

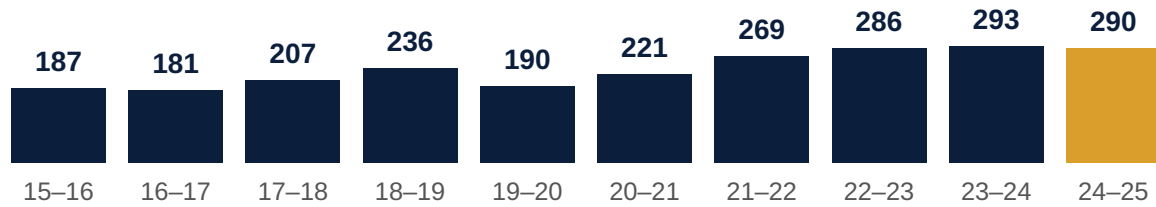
More children locked up than any other state or territory



- Queensland locks up children at nearly twice the national rate: 5.0 per 10,000, against 2.7. Source 2
- Four in every ten children detained in Australia on an average day are in Queensland: 290 of 734. That exceeds New South Wales and Victoria combined. Source 2
- Only the Northern Territory has a higher rate, at 15.4, in a much smaller population, holding 42 children. The ACT matches Queensland's rate of 5.0 with 17 children. Source 2

The children behind the numbers

Queensland detention rose as the nation's fell



Children in Queensland detention on an average day, 2015-16 to 2024-25. Numbers up 55%; rate per 10,000 up 28%, from 3.9 to 5.0. [Source 2](#)

Over the same decade, the **national rate fell from 3.3 to 2.7** per 10,000, and the number detained on an average day **outside Queensland fell from 559 to 444**. [Source 2](#)

252

Locked up without a sentence

88% of young people in detention on an average day are unsentenced, including those found guilty and awaiting sentence. The average stay on remand now runs 54 days, up from 39 in 2021-22. [Source 1](#)
Nationally, 80% are unsentenced. [Source 6](#)

112

Self-harm and suicide attempts

Incidents in custody needing medical or psychological treatment in 2024-25, involving about 48 young people. Two incidents needed hospital care. First Nations young people were involved in 83. Every year since 2020-21 has recorded 50 or more. [Source 2](#)

124

Children aged 10 to 13

Locked up in Queensland detention during 2024-25. 91 of them were First Nations children. [Source 2](#)

71.5%

Back under supervision within a year

Of young people released from sentenced supervision in 2022-23, in the community or in detention, 71.5% returned to sentenced supervision within 12 months. The national figure is 56.7%. Queensland has sat above the national figure every year since 2014-15. [Source 2](#)

72%

First Nations young people

Detained at 39.9 per 10,000, against 1.53 for other young people: 26 times the rate. [Source 1](#)

1,349

Children in police cells

Individual children held in Queensland police watch houses in 2024-25, recorded by the Public Guardian. [Source 3](#) In 2025 the Queensland Police Service found its watch-house infrastructure unsuitable and unsafe for children. [Source 6](#)

What the government will say, and what the data show

A serious critic accepts these figures and disputes their meaning. The official sources answer the three strongest replies.

“A small group of repeat offenders commits a disproportionate share of youth crime.”

WHAT THE SOURCES SHOW

The Childrens Court reports that Serious Repeat Offenders made up 18% of young people with proven offences in 2024–25, and accounted for 47.9% of proven offences. That concentration is real. The Court identifies these young people with an index that counts, among other factors, time already spent in custody. [Source 1](#)

A SEPARATE MEASURE

Police records identify 102 young people with police action on ten or more days in 2024–25, 1% of youth offenders. [Source 4](#) This measure uses a different definition and a different population, so the sheet does not treat the 102 as the Court’s Serious Repeat Offenders.

WHAT NEITHER SHOWS

The sources cited here do not reveal what share of the 1,077 young people detained during the year were Serious Repeat Offenders. [Source 2](#)

“Queensland’s population grew, so detention numbers grew with it.”

WHAT THE DATA SHOW

The detention rate per 10,000 young people rose 28%, from 3.9 to 5.0, between 2015–16 and 2024–25. A rate already divides by population, so population growth cannot explain it. Over the same decade the national rate fell from 3.3 to 2.7, and the number detained outside Queensland fell from 559 to 444. [Source 2](#)

“Falling youth crime proves detention works.”

WHAT THE DATA SHOW

Since 2014–15, the adult offender rate fell 30.2% and the youth offender rate 36.8%. [Source 4](#) Because adult offending fell substantially over the same period, the fall in youth offending cannot by itself show that more detention caused it. Meanwhile 71.5% of young people released from sentenced supervision returned to sentenced supervision within a year, above the national rate in every year since 2014–15. [Source 2](#)

What the figures show, and do not

WHAT THEY SHOW

Youth offender rate fell while detention rose. Police records put the 2024–25 youth offender rate 36.8% below 2014–15, the lowest in the 11-year series. **Source 4** Over roughly the same period, the detention rate rose from 3.9 to 5.0 per 10,000. **Source 2**

WHAT THEY DO NOT SHOW

Why either trend occurred. Health, disability, education, family and community circumstances, access to services, policing, bail law, and sentencing practice each need separate evidence, which the Senate's fourth recommendation seeks. This sheet makes no causal claim.

The 2026 Senate inquiry

On 18 September 2026 the Senate Legal and Constitutional Affairs References Committee tabled its report on Australia's youth justice and incarceration system. It made four recommendations: **Source 6**

- national minimum standards for youth justice, with the Attorney-General working through state and territory counterparts;
- a cross-portfolio National Child and Community Safety Taskforce to coordinate national reform;
- an education campaign giving evidence-based information on youth crime and the benefits of alternatives to incarceration for community safety;
- a further Senate inquiry into the factors that contribute to youth incarceration, including access to health, education, disability, community, social, and legal services.

Questions for our leaders

- Why are 252 young people held on any given day without a sentence?
- Why are children aged 10 to 13 locked up at all?
- Why did young people in custody self-harm or attempt suicide 112 times in one year?
- If seven in ten return to supervision within a year, what is the system achieving?
- Why spend \$2,714 a day to detain one young person, when community supervision costs \$493?

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How every figure was obtained

Each number comes directly from a named table, cross-checked against another publication where one reports the same measure. When both draw on the same records, the cross-check confirms transcription and interpretation, not independent measurement. PC: Productivity Commission.

The figure, what it measures, and where it appears	Source	How it is calculated
5.0 against 2.7 Detention rate per 10,000 young people aged 10–17: Queensland against Australia. Appears on pages 2, 9 and 12	PC Table 17A.1	The table prints both rates. 5.0 divided by 2.7 gives 1.85, which the brief calls “nearly twice”.
252 and 88% Young people held in detention on an average day without a sentence, and their share of all young people detained. Appears on pages 4, 9, 10 and 12	Childrens Court, Figure 18, p. 50	252 unsentenced plus 33 sentenced makes 285 a day. 252 divided by 285 gives 88%.
4 in 10 Queensland’s share of all young people detained in Australia on an average day. Appears on pages 2 and 9	PC Table 17A.1	290 in Queensland divided by 734 nationally gives 39.5%. New South Wales (184) and Victoria (74) together hold 258, fewer than Queensland.
26 times How much higher the detention rate is for First Nations young people than for other young people. Appears on pages 2, 9, 10 and 17	Childrens Court, Table 39, p. 48	39.9 per 10,000 divided by 1.53 per 10,000 gives 26.1. The table rounds the second rate to 1.5. The Productivity Commission’s Table 17A.7 gives 26.3.

How every figure was obtained, continued

The figure, what it measures, and where it appears	Source	How it is calculated
187 to 290; 3.9 to 5.0 The rise in Queensland detention over the decade from 2015–16 to 2024–25, as a daily number and as a rate. <i>Appears on pages 2, 10, 11 and 12</i>	PC Table 17A.1	The daily number rose from 187 to 290 (up 55%); the rate rose from 3.9 to 5.0 (up 28%). Over the same years the national rate fell from 3.3 to 2.7, and the daily number outside Queensland fell from 559 (746 less 187) to 444 (734 less 290).
112 and 48 Self-harm or suicide-attempt incidents in custody that needed treatment in 2024–25, and the young people involved. <i>Appears on pages 2, 9, 10, 12 and 17</i>	PC Table 17A.19	Incidents: 110 treated without hospital plus 2 in hospital makes 112; First Nations: 82 plus 1 makes 83. Young people: 46 treated without hospital plus 2 hospitalised, about 48 (one person may appear in both groups). That equals 10.6 incidents per 10,000 nights in custody.
71.5% Young people back under sentenced supervision within 12 months of release. <i>Appears on pages 10, 11 and 12</i>	PC Table 17A.26	The share of young people released from sentenced supervision in 2022–23, in the community or in detention, who returned within a year. The national figure is 56.7%.
124 and 91 Children aged 10 to 13 held in detention at some point during 2024–25, all and First Nations. <i>Appears on pages 9 and 10</i>	PC Table 17A.9	Counts printed in the table.

How every figure was obtained, continued

The figure, what it measures, and where it appears	Source	How it is calculated
1,077 Individual young people held in Queensland detention at some point during 2024–25. Appears on page 11	PC Table 17A.9	Count printed in the table, all ages.
102 and 36.8% Young people with police action on ten or more days in a year, and the fall in the youth offender rate since 2014–15. Appears on pages 2, 11 and 12	QGSO, Section 5.1 and Table 48	102 in 2024–25, up from 52 in 2014–15. The youth offender rate stands 36.8% below 2014–15 (Section 5.1; Table 48 rounds to 36.9%). The adult rate fell 30.2%.
18% and 47.9% Serious Repeat Offenders' share of young people with proven offences, and their share of those offences. Appears on page 11	Childrens Court Annual Report 2024–25	Percentages printed in the report.
\$2,714 against \$493 Cost per young person per day in Queensland, 2024–25: detention against community supervision. Appears on page 12	PC Tables 17A.20 and 17A.21	Figures printed in the tables. The national cost of detention is \$3,635 a day.

How every figure was obtained, continued

The figure, what it measures, and where it appears	Source	How it is calculated
80% Share of detained young people unsentenced nationally, 2024–25. <i>Appears on pages 2 and 10</i>	Senate committee report, para 3.33	Figure reported by the committee from AIHW data.
Unsuitable and unsafe The Queensland Police Service’s 2025 finding on its watch houses as places for children. <i>Appears on page 10</i>	Senate committee report, para 3.30	Finding reported by the committee.
1,349 Individual children held in Queensland police watch houses in 2024–25. <i>Appears on page 10</i>	QFCC Annual Report, p. 180	Count reported by the Public Guardian.
12% Share of Queensland young people held unsentenced who were held before a first court appearance. <i>Appears on page 17</i>	AIHW, Unsentenced detention	Percentage published by AIHW.

The objection: “You can’t trust figures from the Queensland government.”

They are routine records

The department records every admission and release to run its centres. It keeps these records for its own operations, not to argue a case.

They follow national rules

The Productivity Commission and the AIHW compile every state’s data under national definitions, so Queensland’s figures stand on the same basis as every other state’s.

Separate systems point the same way

The Statistician counts offenders from police records. The Public Guardian counts children in watch houses. Neither recounts the detention figures, but both come from separate administrative systems, and neither contradicts them.

Two publications of the same records agree

Court: 285 young people a day and a 26.1× ratio. Commission: 290 and 26.3×. The two counts differ in age scope and extraction date, so small gaps are expected.

Limitations, stated openly

- **Original data.** Detention and self-harm data start in the Department of Youth Justice and Victim Support’s records. The Court and the Commission publish the same records, so their agreement confirms accurate reporting, not independent measurement. Police and Public Guardian records provide independent contextual cross-checks from separate administrative systems.
- **Age scope.** The Court’s detention counts include some people aged 18 and over completing orders for offences committed as children. Commission figures cover ages 10 to 17.
- **“Without a sentence”.** Unsentenced detention includes young people found guilty and awaiting sentence, and those held by police referral before a first court appearance (12% of those held unsentenced during the year in Queensland). The sheet says “without a sentence”, not “never convicted”. **Source 5**
- **Self-harm.** The 112 counts incidents needing treatment; about 48 young people were involved. The yearly series of incidents: 31 in 2015–16; 9 to 14 a year from 2016–17 to 2019–20; then 58, 164, 108, 50, and 112 from 2020–21 to 2024–25. The step up in 2020–21 may reflect a change in recording, so the sheet draws no trend from the series. States define incidents differently, so the sheet makes no interstate comparison.
- **Return to supervision.** The measure covers any sentenced order, in the community or in detention, not only a return to a cell. It reports the latest year published (2022–23 releases).
- **The 26× ratio** errs low if anything: the “other” group includes children of unknown status. Table 39’s note (c) mentions “supervised orders”, a wording slip; the Commission’s 26.3 confirms the figure.
- **Children aged 10 to 13.** Queensland’s detention rate for this age group (4.3 per 10,000) sits close to the national 3.8, so the sheet makes no interstate claim for it.

The sources, in full

Scan a code with your phone camera to open the original report.

SOURCE 1 **Childrens Court of Queensland** · Annual Report 2024–25

What was taken: Table 39 (p. 48): detention rates by Indigenous status, 26.1× ratio. Figure 18 (p. 50): 252 unsentenced and 33 sentenced children a day. Table 40 (p. 50): 54 days per unsentenced episode. Figures 12 and 14: 285 children a day, 72% First Nations. Serious Repeat Offenders (18.0% of young people; 47.9% of proven offences) and their index; the note on people aged 18 and over in detention counts.

The judiciary, publishing departmental data current at September 2025.

https://www.courts.qld.gov.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0010/891640/cc-ar-2024-2025.pdf



SOURCE 2 **Productivity Commission** · Report on Government Services 2026, Part F, Section 17: Youth justice services

What was taken: 17A.1: detention by state, 2015–16 to 2024–25, numbers and rates. 17A.7: First Nations rate ratio (26.3×). 17A.9: children aged 10–13, and all young people detained during the year. 17A.19: self-harm and attempted suicide in custody. 17A.20–21: cost per young person per day. 17A.26: returns to sentenced supervision.

Federal statutory authority, drawing on the AIHW national dataset. Data:

assets.pc.gov.au/2026-01/rogs-2026-partf-section17-youth-justice-dataset.csv

<https://www.pc.gov.au/ongoing/report-on-government-services/community-services/>



SOURCE 3 **Queensland Family and Child Commission** · Annual Report 2024–25

What was taken: Page 180: 1,349 individual children held in police watch houses in 2024–25, as reported by the Office of the Public Guardian.

Statutory commission. Report tabled in the Queensland Parliament.

<https://www.parliament.qld.gov.au/Work-of-the-Assembly/Tabled-Papers/docs/5825T1326/5825t1326.pdf>



The sources, continued

SOURCE 4 Queensland Government Statistician's Office · Crime report, Queensland, 2024–25

What was taken: Section 5.1: unique youth and adult offender rates, 2014–15 to 2024–25, both the lowest in the series. Table 48: youth offenders by number of police contacts in a year.

Official statistician. Police records (QPRIME), each offender counted once a year.
<https://www.qgso.qld.gov.au/issues/7856/crime-report-qld-2024-25.pdf>



SOURCE 5 Australian Institute of Health and Welfare · Youth justice in Australia 2024–25: Unsentenced detention

What was taken: The share of Queensland young people in unsentenced detention during the year held by police referral before a first court appearance (12%).

Federal statutory agency. Compiles the national youth justice dataset.
<https://www.aihw.gov.au/reports/youth-justice/youth-justice-in-australia-2024-25/contents/detention/unsentenced-detention>



SOURCE 6 Senate Legal and Constitutional Affairs References Committee · Australia's Youth Justice and Incarceration System, report tabled 18 September 2026

What was taken: Recommendations 1 to 4 (paras 6.16, 6.32, 6.36, 6.39). Para 3.30: the Queensland Police Service's 2025 watch-house finding. Paras 3.33, 3.44, 3.52: remand. Labor Senators' Recommendations 5 and 7.

Parliament of Australia. Inquiry page, with the report.
https://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees/Senate/Legal_and_Constitutional_Affairs/YouthJustice2025

