

Question on Notice
No. 1715
Asked on 14 November 2018

MR T NICHOLLS ASKED THE MINISTER FOR POLICE AND MINISTER FOR CORRECTIVE SERVICES (HON M RYAN)—

QUESTION:

Will the Minister advise (reported separately by year) (a) the number of persons who have escaped from lawful custody between 2014 and 2018 and (b) the length of time taken to locate the escapees?

ANSWER:

I am advised by the Queensland Police Service (QPS) that the reported offence Escape under the Criminal Code also includes aid/permit/conspire to aid to escape from lawful custody and harbouring an escaped prisoner.

As such, the QPS has advised that the provision of this information would not accurately reflect the Member's request for the number of persons who have escaped from lawful custody between 2014 and 2018.

QPS has also advised that this data in Q-Prime includes categories other than Escape and that an extensive search would be required to provide these statistics alone. QPS considers such an exhaustive search of records to be an unjustifiable use of resources.

However, the QPS has advised that it is able to furnish the below table that sets out the number of people charged with escape by persons in lawful custody for the periods in question to assist the Member.

Year	Persons Charged
2014-15	65
2015-16	65
2016-17	90
2017-18	77
2018-19 (as at 1 December 2018)	30

Queensland Corrective Services has provided the following table in response to the Member's question.

Financial Year	No. of Prisoners	No. of Days
2014-15	1	2
	2	5
	2	0*
2015-16	5	1
	1	5
2016-17	1	16
	1	3
	1	2
	5	1
	2	0*
2017-18	1	18
	1	8
	1	4
	1	1
	3	0*
2018-19**	1	12

****'0' days denote prisoners recaptured on the day ** up to 20 November 2018***

I am advised that there have been no escapes from a high security prison in Queensland in twenty years.