

Question on Notice

No. 1309

Asked on 9 November 2022

MR T NICHOLLS asked the Minister for Children and Youth Justice and Minister for Multicultural Affairs (HON L LINARD)—

QUESTION

With reference to youth justice and youth offenders in Cairns and Townsville—

Will the Minister advise from 2017 to 2022 (reported separately by quarter for Cairns and for Townsville) (a) the total number of youth offenders and (b) how many youth offenders reoffended whilst on bail?

ANSWER

The Palaszczuk Government is committed to reducing offending and reoffending and keeping the community safe by addressing the drivers of youth crime.

Across Queensland, the number of young people who offend has decreased. The number of young people with a proven offence decreased 13 per cent in 2021-22 compared to 2020-21, and 28 per cent compared to 2018-19. These percentages are calculated on the distinct number of young people for the full financial year.

This demonstrates the programs, services and interventions designed to intervene early, identify the underlying causes of offending and address those issues, are having an impact.

Across the Cairns and Townsville Local Government Areas (LGAs), the number of young people with a proven offence has decreased by 5 per cent since 2020-21 and 12 per cent since 2018-19. These percentages are calculated on the distinct number of young people for the full financial year.

Young people are captured once per quarter in the below table, however, they can be counted in multiple quarters.

(a) Young people with a proven offence committed in the Cairns and Townsville LGAs, by quarter, July 2017 to June 2022

Financial year	Quarter	LGA	
		Cairns	Townsville
2017/18	July - September	102	106
	October - December	104	77
	January - March	108	94
	April - June	132	141
2018/19	July - September	108	122
	October - December	105	117
	January - March	136	110
	April - June	134	114
2019/20	July - September	121	125
	October - December	122	93
	January - March	143	93
	April - June	43	82

2020/21	July - September	133	118
	October - December	118	75
	January - March	123	118
	April - June	131	118
2021/22	July - September	125	111
	October - December	135	109
	January - March	99	123
	April - June	112	135

Source: Performance Reporting and Analytics - Youth Justice; Department of Children, Youth Justice, and Multicultural Affairs

The Table below provides the count of young people in Table (a) whose proven offence/s were committed whilst they were on bail for a previous charge. Young people are captured once per quarter, however, can be counted in multiple quarters.

(b) Young people with a proven offence committed in the Cairns or Townsville LGAs while on bail, by quarter, July 2017 to June 2022

Financial year	Quarter	LGA	
		Cairns	Townsville
2017/18	July - September	41	37
	October - December	55	23
	January - March	48	37
	April - June	57	56
2018/19	July - September	51	37
	October - December	40	45
	January - March	62	39
	April - June	66	46
2019/20	July - September	50	43
	October - December	51	30
	January - March	67	38
	April - June	24	41
2020/21	July - September	61	57
	October - December	39	32
	January - March	44	57
	April - June	56	46
2021/22	July - September	64	35
	October - December	69	47
	January - March	52	49
	April - June	59	68

Source: Performance Reporting and Analytics - Youth Justice; Department of Children, Youth Justice, and Multicultural Affairs