

Question on Notice
No. 853
Asked on 17 June 2023

MR D LAST ASKED MINISTER FOR POLICE AND CORRECTIVE SERVICES AND MINISTER FOR FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES (HON M RYAN)—

QUESTION:

With reference to juvenile offenders held in watchhouses—

Will the Minister advise (a) the number of young offenders held in watchhouses in the last 12 months (reported separately on a monthly basis) and (b) the longest period of time that a juvenile was held in a watchhouse in the past 12 months?

ANSWER:

I am advised by the Queensland Police Service (QPS) that the number of young offenders in watchhouses in June 2022 was 475, in July 2022 was 438 in August 2022 was 457, in September 2022 was 473, in October 2022 was 473, in November 2022 was 552, in December 2022 was 557, in January 2023 was 519, in February 2023 was 451, in March 2023 was 531, in April 2023 was 462, and in May 2023 was 458.

I am further advised by the QPS that the longest period of time a juvenile was held in a number of watchhouses in the past 12 months was 39 days (936 hours), from 1 January 2023 to 9 February 2023 during which a court made the determination on three separate occasions to remand that juvenile in custody.

Notes:

1. This data is preliminary and may be subject to change.
2. Data relates to persons in custody in police watchhouses for any reason aged between 10 and 17 at the custody start time.
3. Police watchhouses are those where the organisational unit name contains 'Watchhouse' and are based on the latest detention unit a person was in.
4. Number of persons refers to a unique count of persons in the breakdown. A person with multiple custody reports during the period will be counted once in the breakdown.
5. Number of days in custody is calculated using the number of hours between the custody start time and the release time of the person as recorded in the custody report, then converted to days by dividing by 24. For example, if a person entered custody on the first day of the month at 14:00 and was released on the third day of the month at 14:00, this is calculated as 48 hours which converts to 2 days.
6. The longest period detained is the largest number of hours between custody start date and release date, then converted to days.