

Question on Notice

No. 1504

Asked on Tuesday 9 December 2025

HON M SCANLON ASKED THE ATTORNEY-GENERAL AND MINISTER FOR JUSTICE AND MINISTER FOR INTEGRITY (HON D FRECKLINGTON)

QUESTION:

With reference to Estimates Pre-Hearing Question on Notice No. 5 of 2025 for the Attorney-General and Minister for Justice and Minister for Integrity— Will the Attorney-General (a) advise if they stand by the answer provided and (b) if not, provide an answer to the original question?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for Gaven for her question.

Under the Administrative Arrangement Orders, the Minister for Youth Justice and Victim Support and Minister for Corrective Services has responsibility for the *Youth Justice Act 1992* (YJ Act).

Notwithstanding that as the Attorney-General I do not have responsibility for the YJ Act, using the data available to the Department of Justice, I am advised:

- b. The numbers of finalised matters sentenced under the new *Youth Justice Act 1992* s175A, by unique defendant, charges and month of finalisation, are:
 - December 2024 - eight unique defendants and 13 charges;
 - January 2025 - 60 unique defendants and 125 charges;
 - February 2025 - 101 unique defendants and 251 charges;
 - March 2025 - 112 unique defendants and 256 charges;
 - April 2025 - 144 unique defendants and 425 charges;
 - May 2025 - 153 unique defendants and 474 charges;
 - June 2025 - 159 unique defendants and 527 charges; and
 - July 2025 - 169 unique defendants and 587 charges.

- b. The number of matters to which the new *Youth Justice Act 1992* s175A sentencing laws will apply if convicted, that were active in the courts as at 31 July 2025, by unique defendant, charges and month of lodgement, are:
 - December 2024 - 26 unique defendants and 49 charges;
 - January 2025 - 64 unique defendants and 237 charges;
 - February 2025 - 76 unique defendants and 221 charges;
 - March 2025 - 101 unique defendants and 294 charges;
 - April 2025 - 102 unique defendants and 300 charges;
 - May 2025 - 152 unique defendants and 590 charges;
 - June 2025 - 191 unique defendants and 676 charges; and
 - July 2025 - 270 unique defendants and 801 charges.

Data notes:

1. The Courts criminal case management system is a case-based system and is not conducive to data matching to identify unique individuals. For this request, a statistical linkage key, which is a combination of letters and numbers from a person's name, date of birth and sex, has been used to match unique defendants across cases. There may be cases have not been matched due to errors or differences in the recording of names and/or dates of birth and sex.
2. A unique defendant is counted once in each month in which they were finalised (Q5a) or lodged (Q5b). The number of unique defendants for the entire period is not the sum of the monthly unique defendant counts.
3. Matters that have been committed for trial or sentence from the Childrens Court (Magistrate) to a higher court but have not yet had an indictment presented do not appear as active cases in the Courts criminal case management system. Therefore, these cases are not included in the counts in question (b) above.