



Youth Justice census summary

Statewide

Census reports on 1,578 young people in 2020 (1,788 in 2018, 1,846 in 2019) who lived in Queensland and who were either supervised in the community or in custody in a youth detention centre (YDC) or a watchhouse (on remand or sentenced), or in an adult prison on 15 June 2018, 28 June 2019 and 30 June 2020*. The below information was provided by case workers.

	2018	2019	2020*
Demographics			
Male	78%	75%	78%
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander	58%	59%	58%
Have a current child protection order	13%	14%	15%
Living in unstable and/or unsuitable accommodation	19%	21%	29%
Totally disengaged from education, training and employment	52%	53%	55%
Fetal alcohol spectrum disorders (diagnosed or suspected)	Not avail.	7%	8%
Is a current or expecting parent	5%	7%	10%
Parents have been held in adult custody	31%	33%	30%
Experienced or has been impacted by domestic and family violence	Not avail.	63%	60%
Known to use a substance			
Used at least one of the below substances	80%	80%	80%
Marijuana	59%	61%	63%
Tobacco	57%	55%	53%
Alcohol	52%	53%	48%
Ice and other methamphetamines	17%	20%	21%
Solvent inhalation	9%	9%	8%
Other substances	2%	2%	6%
Disability (diagnosed or suspected)			
Have at least one of the listed disabilities	17%	16%	12%
Cognitive/intellectual	15%	15%	11%
Physical	3%	1%	1%
Sensory	2%	3%	1%
Mental health and behavioural disorders (diagnosed or suspected)			
Have at least one of the listed mental health disorders	41%	42%	32%
Anxiety	25%	30%	23%
Depression	22%	21%	18%
Post-traumatic stress disorder	17%	16%	13%
Personality disorder	6%	5%	4%
Psychosis	3%	3%	3%
Bipolar disorder	1.5%	1.2%	1.0%
Eating disorder	0.7%	0.8%	0.8%
Obsessive-compulsive disorder	0.8%	0.9%	0.4%
Have at least one of the listed behavioural disorders	42%	38%	30%
Attention deficit disorder or attention deficit hyperactivity disorder	18%	20%	20%
Conduct disorder	19%	13%	9%
Opposition defiance	17%	14%	9%
Autism spectrum disorder	4%	5%	6%
Attachment disorder	22%	20%	12%
Have at least one of the listed mental health and/or behavioural disorders	58%	56%	46%

*The YJ Census for 2020 was undertaken during the COVID-19 pandemic.