

Children held on remand in Victoria Factsheet

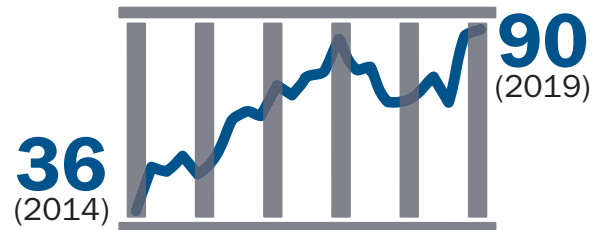
What is remand?

Anyone held in custody while awaiting trial for alleged criminal offences is held on **remand**.



Number of children held on remand in Victoria

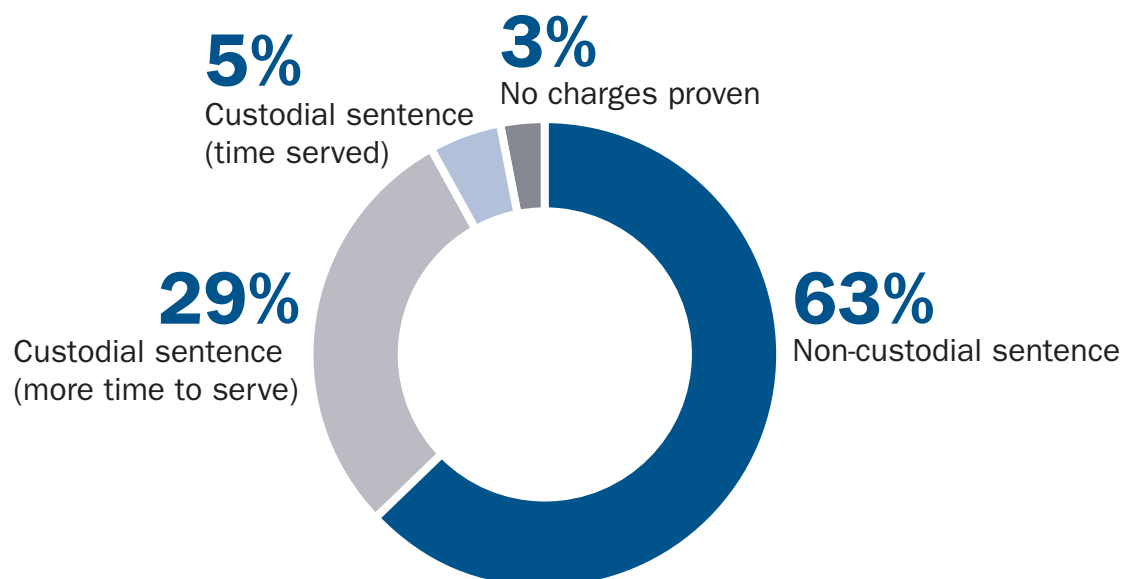
In 2014, **36** children were held on remand in Victoria on an average day. By 2019, that number had increased by **150%** to **90**.



Sentencing outcomes for remanded children

This project sought to identify how many remanded children receive custodial sentences at the end of their case, and which children are least likely to receive a custodial sentence.

442 children were remanded for **660 cases** in Victoria in 2017–18. One-third received a custodial sentence, and two-thirds did not.



Cost of keeping children on remand

Children who received a custodial sentence:

18,175 days on remand = approx. **\$26 million**

Children who **did not** receive a custodial sentence:

10,755 days on remand = approx. **\$15 million**

Which remanded children were *less* likely to receive a custodial sentence?

Children with less prior contact with the justice system

15% of children without a prior remand experience received a custodial sentence versus **57%** with a prior remand experience.



This means children with a **prior remand experience** were **3.8 times** more likely to receive a custodial sentence.

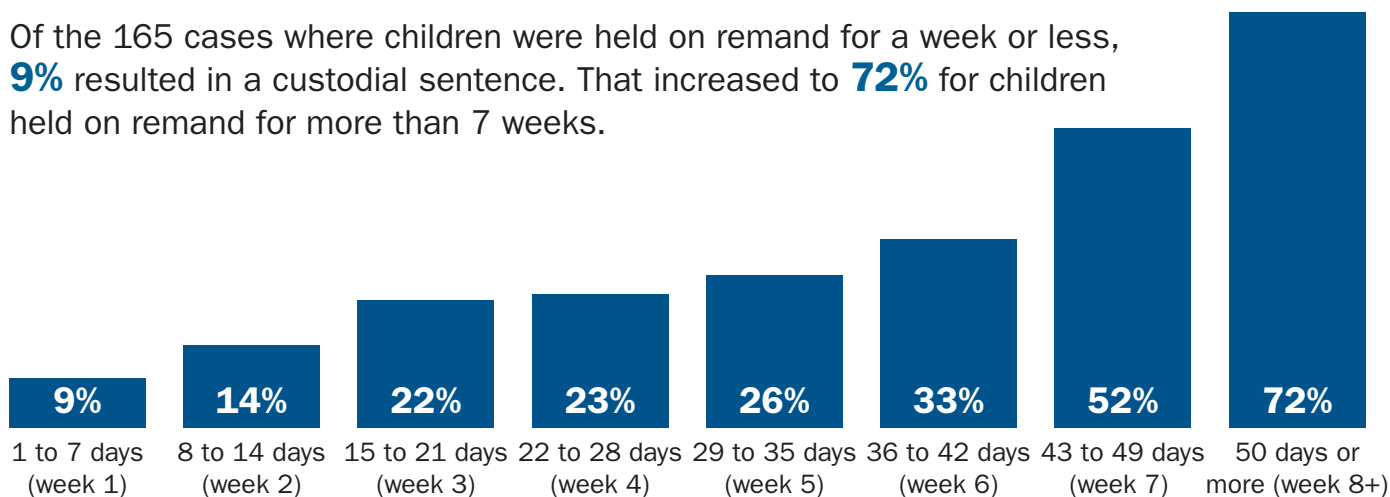
18% of children without a prior offending history received a custodial sentence versus **42%** with a prior offending history.



This means children with a **prior offending history** were **2.3 times** more likely to receive a custodial sentence.

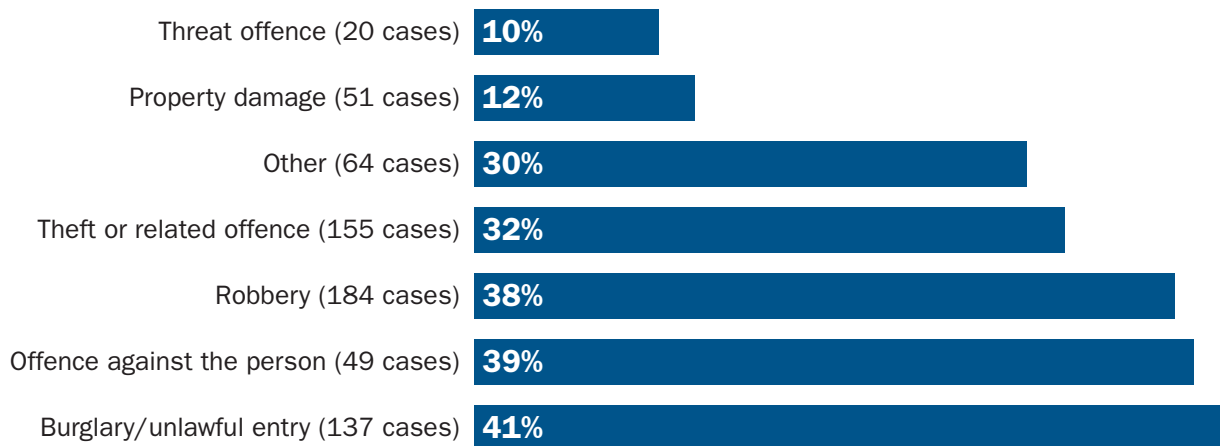
Children held on remand for shorter durations

Of the 165 cases where children were held on remand for a week or less, **9%** resulted in a custodial sentence. That increased to **72%** for children held on remand for more than 7 weeks.



Children whose most serious alleged offence at entry to remand was a property damage or threat offence

Children were least likely to receive a custodial sentence after being held on remand when the most serious alleged offence in their case was a **property damage** or **threat** offence.



contact@sentencingcouncil.vic.gov.au



www.sentencingcouncil.vic.gov.au



@SACvic



1300 363 196