

## LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

## WRITTEN QUESTION

Mr Burgoyne to the Minister for Territory Families:

## Suspended Sentences

1. How many youths are currently on suspended sentences?

**ANSWER:**

As at 30 June 2022, there were 35 youths on either a suspended sentence order or a suspended sentence of detention order.

2. How many youths commenced suspended sentences in the 2021/22 financial year? Please provide a breakdown by region.

**ANSWER:**

During 2021-22, there were 49 youths who commenced either a suspended sentence order or a suspended sentence of detention order. The breakdown by region is below:

Outreach – Alice Springs	Outreach - Katherine	Outreach - Nhulunbuy	Outreach – Darwin/ Palmerston	Outreach – Tennant Creek	Total <sup>^</sup>
22	2	4	22	1	51

<sup>^</sup> A youth can commence more than one suspended sentence order during the period in different regions. As a result, the total in this table (51) is greater than the number of unique youth (49) commencing a suspended sentence order.

3. How many youths completed suspended sentences in the 2021/22 financial year? Please provide a breakdown by region.

**ANSWER:**

During 2021-22, there were 21 youths who completed either a suspended sentence order or a suspended sentence of detention order. The breakdown by region is below:

Outreach – Alice Springs	Outreach - Katherine	Outreach - Nhulunbuy	Outreach – Darwin/ Palmerston	Outreach – Tennant Creek	Total
12	1	2	4	2	21

4. How many youths commenced suspended sentences in the 2021/22 financial year but failed to complete them? Please provide a breakdown by region.

**ANSWER:**

During 2021-22, there were 13 youths who commenced either a suspended sentence order or a suspended sentence of detention order, but failed to complete the order. The breakdown by region is below:

Outreach – Alice Springs	Outreach - Katherine	Outreach - Nhulunbuy	Outreach – Darwin/ Palmerston	Outreach – Tennant Creek	Total <sup>^</sup>
9	0	1	4	0	14

<sup>^</sup> A youth can commence more than one suspended sentence order during the period in different regions and fail to complete these. As a result the total in this table (14) is greater than the number of unique youth (13) commencing a suspended sentence order and failing to complete the order.

5. How many youths reoffended after completing a suspended sentence in the 2021/22 financial year? Please provide a breakdown by region.

**ANSWER:**

This question would require a multi-agency response and the data is not readily available for reporting purposes.

6. How long, on average, is a suspended sentence for youths?

**ANSWER:**

Data about length of suspended sentences is not stored in the current reporting environment in a way that it can easily be reported on.