



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

No. 194

WRITTEN QUESTION

Mr Guyula to the Minister for Corrections, Hon Gerard Maley MLA:

Watch houses and Prisons

1. As of 31 January 2026, how many adult prisoners were held in the NT's Corrections system?
 - a. Of those prisoners, how many identified as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander?
2. As of 31 January 2026, how many adult prisoners in the NT's Corrections system were being held on remand?
 - a. Of those prisoners, how many identified as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander?
3. Please provide the recidivism rate as at 31 January 2026 compared to 12 months earlier? How many prisoners are returning to prison, versus their first visit?
4. Please advise how many people were held in each of the NT watch houses as of 31 January 2026? Please provide a breakdown for each facility, and of those prisoners please provide,
 - a. how many identified as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander?
 - b. how many were on remand?
 - c. how many were in police custody?
 - d. How many were in corrections custody?
5. Could you advise the average number of people who have been held in watch houses, each month from January 2025 – January 2026? Please provide data for each facility.

6. Could you advise the highest number of people held in each of the watch houses for each month from January 2025 to January 2026? Please provide data for each facility.
7. What operational and physical changes have been made to the Darwin Watch house to make it suitable for longer-term stays?
8. For the month of January 2026, for each watch house/police prison in the NT, please advise:
 - a. What was the average number of prisoners held?
 - b. What was the highest number of prisoners held in a day?
 - c. What was the highest number of prisoners held in a cell?
 - d. What was the longest amount of time that a prisoner was held in this facility?
 - e. What was the average length of stay for prisoners?
 - f. If there was an allocated space for exercise, and if so, how often could prisoners access it?
 - g. For how long during each 24-hour period the lights were switched off?
 - h. How often prisoners could shower in a bathroom outside their cell?
 - i. How often prisoners could spend outside their cell on a daily basis?
 - j. How many phone calls were made by prisoners?