

OFFICIAL

Public Accounts and Estimates Committee

Inquiry into the 2025-26 Budget Estimates

The Hon. Enver Erdogan MLC
Minister for Corrections

Wednesday 4 June 2025



Corrections system overview



5,700+

People employed across the corrections system



6,409

People in prison in Victoria (as of 30 April 2025)



8,423

People in Victoria on parole, supervised court orders, court reparation orders (as of 30 April 2025)



40.5%

Proportion of people in prison **on remand** (as of April 2025)



19

Facilities in Victoria – **13 publicly operated prisons**, 3 privately operated prisons*, 2 post sentence residential facilities, 1 transition centre



34

Community Corrections locations throughout Victoria

OFFICIAL

Investing in our corrections system



The cost for Corrections outputs in 2025-26 is forecast to be **\$1.9 billion**

- \$1.628 billion for **Prisoner Supervision and Support** to ensure safe, secure and humane containment of prisoners
- \$279 million for **Community Based Offender Supervision** to ensure effective supervision of offenders in the community



Total estimated capital expenditure 2025-26 of **\$90.7 million**

- \$8.8 million for **Prison system capacity expansion and security upgrades**
- \$81.9 million for **Men's prison system capacity**



Western Plains correctional Centre will open in mid 2025

- \$1.1 billion **new maximum security men's prison**
- Opening with an initial capacity of **665 beds**
- Capacity will then expand by a **further 312 beds**

2025-26 Budget

The 2025-26 Budget will ramp up capacity in the adult prison system and continue programs that are key to reducing reoffending.



Ramping up capacity in Victoria's prisons

\$727 million to ramp up the capacity in our prisons and youth justice centres including to:

- open almost 1,000 adult prison beds
- recruit 400 roles in adult corrections
- increased workforce training and capacity of rehabilitation and remand-focused programs
- expand primary health and forensic mental health services to meet the increased demand.



Supporting a safe and effective Corrections system

\$19.5 million to continue:

- employment supports to prevent recidivism
- culturally appropriate supports for Aboriginal women
- transition supports for people in custody with mental health needs and Aboriginal people
- supports for women in the criminal justice system and preventing gender-based violence
- progress corrections system recommendations from Yoorrook Justice Commission to reduce the cost of mobile phone calls made by people in custody.

Delivering a better corrections system



Raw imprisonment rate per 100,000 population

- Victoria – **114.9**
- NSW – **187.8**
- National average – **202.9**



Average daily time out of cells (hours)

- Victoria – **10.1**
- NSW – **8.3**
- National average – **9.0**



Participation in employment

- Victoria – **94.8%**
- NSW – **88.6%**
- National average – **79.1%**



Participation in education and training*

- Victoria – **30.0%**
- NSW – **16.9%**
- National average – **25.7%**

Source: Report on Government Services 2023-24, published in January 2025

Reducing reoffending

Victoria's rate of return



To prison

- Was **39.3%** in 2023-24
- The national average was **43%** in 2023-24
- Victoria's expected outcome for 2024-25 is **37.1%**



To corrective services within two years of discharge from a Community Corrections Order

- Was **11.8%** in 2023-24
- The national average was **25.0%**
- Victoria's expected outcome for 2024-25 is **11.1%**



OFFICIAL

Thank you.

