

Prison Discharges

The number of prisoners released from custody each financial year

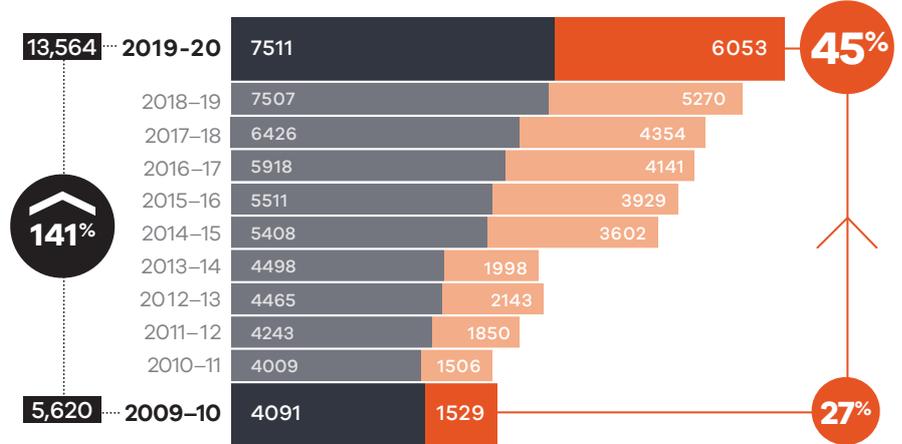
Figures relate to financial year (1 July to 30 June)

Prisoner discharges have more than doubled over the last 10 years, with the largest growth being in prisoners released without serving any time under sentence, who now account for 45 per cent of all discharges (an increase from 27 per cent in 2009-10). The increase in these unsentenced discharges was most pronounced in 2014-15 with an 80 per cent increase from the previous year.

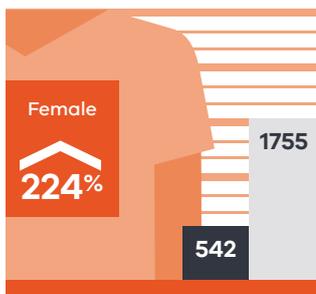
- Sentenced episode*
- Unsentenced episode**

* Sentenced episode includes prisoners who spent all or part of the episode under sentence.

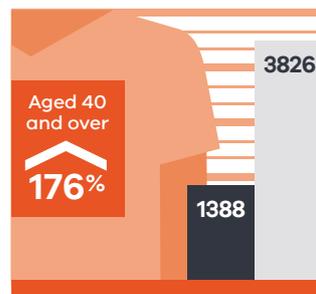
** Unsentenced episode refers to prisoners who spent the entire episode on remand.



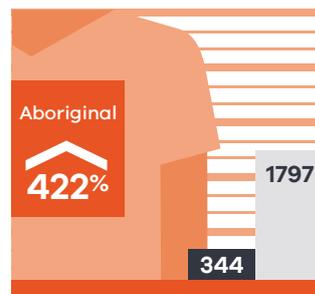
Some prisoner cohorts now account for a greater proportion of prison discharges than 10 years ago



The number of women discharged from prison each year has more than tripled, and has increased from 10 to 13 per cent of all discharges. In 2019-20, 60 per cent of women in prison were discharged from an unsentenced episode.



Prisoners aged 40 and over account for 28 per cent of all prison discharges (an increase from 25 per cent). Prisoners aged less than 25 dropped from 19 to 15 per cent of all discharges.

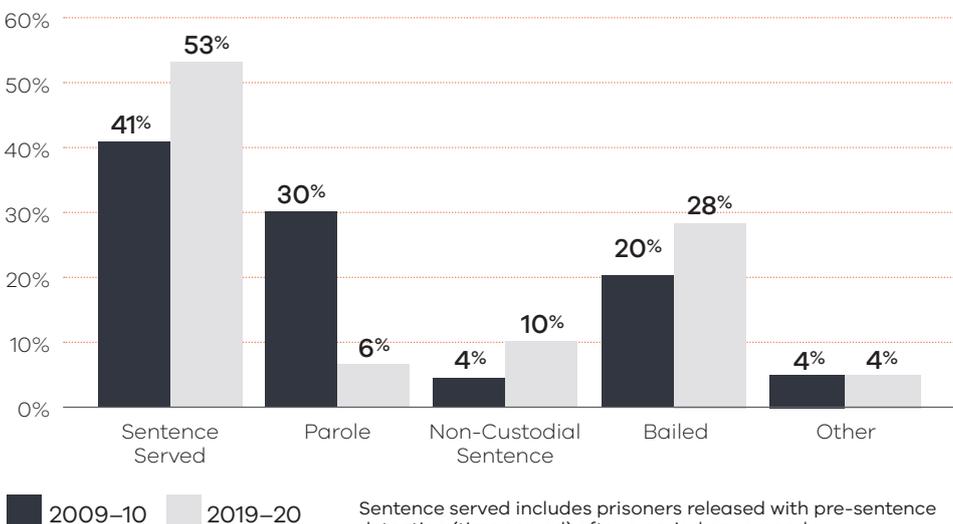


Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander prisoner discharges increased from six per cent to 13 per cent of all prison discharges. In 2019-20, 49 per cent of Aboriginal prisoners were discharged from an unsentenced episode.



The proportion of prisoners who spend less than three months in prison has increased from 43 to 55 per cent of all prison discharges. In 2019-20, 62 per cent of those prisoners who spent this length of time in prison were discharged from an unsentenced episode.

Types of prison discharges have changed significantly over the last 10 years



Sentence served includes prisoners released with pre-sentence detention (time served) after a period on remand.

Between 2009-10 and 2019-20, prisoner discharges to parole decreased from 30 per cent to six per cent of total discharges. Over the same period, those discharged with sentence served increased from 41 to 53 per cent.

Discharges to bail increased over this time from 20 per cent to 28 per cent which contributed significantly to the overall increase of prisoners being released from an unsentenced episode.

A larger proportion of female than male prisoners are discharged to bail (40 per cent compared with 26 per cent in 2019-20).

For more information, see [Corrections Victoria's Annual Prisoner Statistics](#)