

# Queensland Courts' domestic and family violence (DFV) statistics

Data collections cover three topics:

- Applications for domestic violence protection orders (DVOs) lodged
- DVOs made
- Criminal charges lodged relating to DFV

Figures are provided for larger court locations as well as statewide totals.

## Accuracy of data

Care is taken to ensure the accuracy of data published on this page, however, revised data may be published where errors or omissions occur.

## Applications lodged

An application for a DVO can be made by:

- a police officer
- another person. These are called 'private applications'. Private applications can be made by:
  - an aggrieved
  - an authorised person for an aggrieved
  - a person acting under another Act for an aggrieved
  - a party to a child protection proceeding
  - a court. When sentencing an offender for a domestic violence offence, a court can make a protection against an offender on its own initiative.

Data below shows the number of applications for DVOs lodged. New (or 'initiating') applications and applications to vary an existing DVO are shown separately.

Table 1 shows the trend in lodgments over the previous 5 years as well as the current year-to-date figures. The figures are also broken down to show the nature of applications for DVOs brought to court, that is:

- who has lodged the application
- gender of the aggrieved
- relationship of aggrieved and respondent parties
- how the application was lodged.

**Table 1. DVO applications (statewide)**

Application Type	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26 YTD (to 31 Mar 2026)	# change 2024-25 YTD to 2025-26 YTD	% change 2024-25 YTD to 2025-26 YTD
Initiating	28,797	28,557	31,652	27,857	25,871	17,482	-2,543	-12.7%
Vary	12,016	13,034	15,821	14,745	14,374	10,132	-847	-7.7%

**Table 2. DVO applications (Magistrates Courts with the most lodgments) initiating applications only**

Location	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26 YTD (to 31 Mar 2026)	# change 2024-25 YTD to 2025-26 YTD	% change 2024-25 YTD to 2025-26 YTD
Beenleigh	2,708	2,847	3,000	2,607	2,238	1,429	-307	-17.7%
Southport	2,577	2,357	2,635	2,353	1,982	1,301	-238	-15.5%
Brisbane	1,897	1,908	2,144	2,023	2,088	1,281	-360	-21.9%
Ipswich	1,535	1,654	1,756	1,536	1,384	1,060	-31	-2.8%
Townsville	1,497	1,350	1,551	1,450	1,401	929	-152	-14.1%
Cairns	1,249	1,321	1,556	1,275	1,172	822	-86	-9.5%
Caboolture	984	1,140	1,322	1,159	1,205	874	-26	-2.9%
Rockhampton	933	886	1,032	873	786	536	-93	-14.8%
Maroochydore	930	879	962	909	787	527	-84	-13.7%
Pine Rivers	928	851	976	751	687	501	-21	-4.0%
Mackay	776	785	883	816	755	519	-58	-10.1%
Toowoomba	711	748	875	738	760	525	-43	-7.6%
Richlands	587	590	759	605	671	443	-76	-14.6%
Holland Park	682	642	735	572	565	356	-94	-20.9%
Cleveland	598	617	692	577	576	388	-36	-8.5%
Bundaberg	595	616	633	599	562	384	-59	-13.3%
Redcliffe	661	543	619	468	369	235	-57	-19.5%
Mount Isa	458	486	588	523	441	315	-24	-7.1%
Gladstone	596	546	549	491	399	212	-93	-30.5%
Caloundra	483	482	479	402	455	302	-50	-14.2%

**Nature of applications:**

Table 3. Lodging authority, 2025-26 YTD (to 31 Dec 2025)	Number	Percent
Police	9,503	80.7%
Private	2,160	18.3%
Court	116	1.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>11,779</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Table 4. Gender of Aggrieved, 2025-26 YTD (to 31 Mar 2026)	Number	Percent
Female	14,047	80.4%
Male	3,368	19.3%
Unknown	67	0.4%
<b>Total</b>	<b>17,482</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Table 5. Relationship, 2025-26 YTD (to 31 Mar 2026)	Number	Percent
Intimate Personal	12,668	72.5%
Family	4,735	27.1%
Informal Care	70	0.4%
Unknown	9	0.1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>17,482</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Table 6. Method of Lodgement, 2025-26 YTD (to 31 Mar 2026)	Number	Percent
Electronic	13,926	79.7%
Counter	3,290	18.8%
Other	266	1.5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>17,482</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

## Orders made

Data shows the total number of DVOs made.

DVOs are made to protect the aggrieved party and children or other relatives or associates.

Table 7. DVOs made								
Order Type	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26 YTD (to 31 Mar 2026)	# change 2024-25 YTD to 2025-26 YTD	% change 2024-25 YTD to 2025-26 YTD
Protection	25,371	24,332	26,237	22,893	20,966	13,894	-2,123	-13.3%
Temporary Protection	14,569	14,801	16,552	15,401	14,815	10,029	-1,426	-12.4%
Vary Protection	11,760	12,978	15,525	14,705	14,473	10,223	-716	-6.5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>51,700</b>	<b>52,111</b>	<b>58,314</b>	<b>52,999</b>	<b>50,254</b>	<b>34,146</b>	<b>-4,265</b>	<b>-11.1%</b>

**Table 8. DVOs for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people**

Orders, 2025-26 YTD (to 31 Mar 2026)	Aggrieved Number	Aggrieved Percent	Respondent Number	Respondent Percent
Protection	2,195	15.8%	2,497	18.0%
Temporary Protection	1,532	15.3%	1,684	16.8%
Vary Protection	1,553	15.2%	1,708	16.7%
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,280</b>	<b>15.5%</b>	<b>5,889</b>	<b>17.2%</b>

**Table 9. DVOs, by gender of the aggrieved and respondent**

Orders, 2025-26 YTD (to 31 Mar 2026)	Aggrieved Number	Aggrieved Percent	Respondent Number
Protection	2,195	15.8%	2,497
Temporary Protection	1,532	15.3%	1,684
Vary Protection	1,553	15.2%	1,708
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,280</b>	<b>15.5%</b>	<b>5,889</b>

### So far in 2025-26

29%

of all DVOs have been temporary protection orders made to protect the aggrieved until the application is finalised

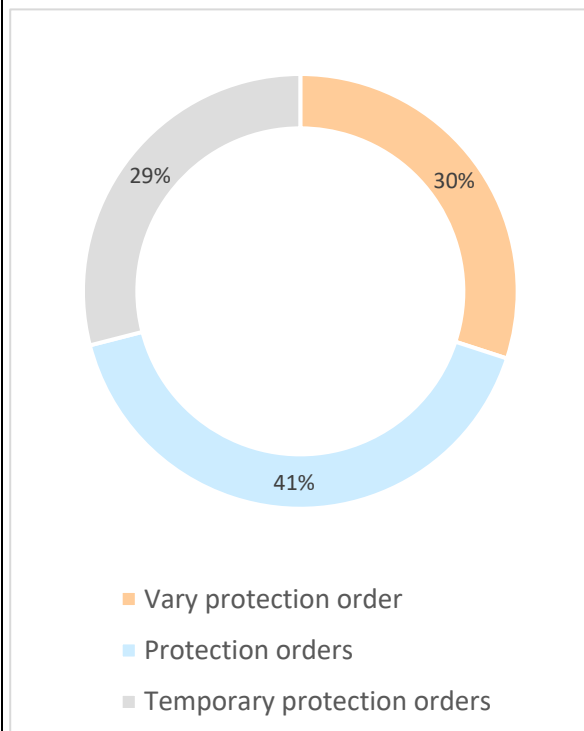
85%

of DVOs protect a female aggrieved.

15%

of DVOs protect an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander person.

### DVOs made by category, 2025-26 year to date



## Offences

Criminal offending in relation to domestic and family violence can be grouped into the following categories:

**Contravene DVO:** where the respondent breaches a condition of a DVO. A conviction in relation to this offence is recorded on a defendant's criminal history.

**Domestic and Family Violence (DFV) related offences (flagged offences):** Effective 1 December 2015, criminal offending that occurs in the context of DFV can be recorded by way of a notation under the *Penalties and Sentences Act 1992*. This helps to ensure that the patterns of behaviour of those who commit acts of DFV are clearly evident to police officers and courts.

**Non-fatal strangulation:** Effective 5 May 2016, choking, suffocation or strangulation in a domestic setting is a stand-alone offence under the *Criminal Code 1899*, with a maximum penalty of 7 years imprisonment.

Several data tables that follow relate to all court levels including Childrens, Magistrates, District and Supreme Courts. Due to the seriousness of some of the charges, not all charges are heard in the Magistrates Court, but are instead committed to the District or Supreme Courts.

This section shows the number of charges in relation to:

- breaches of DVOs
- offences 'flagged' as being in a DFV context (other than offences under the *Domestic and Family Violence Protection Act 2012*)
- offences relating to section 315A of the *Criminal Code 1899* (offences of choking, suffocation or strangulation in a domestic setting).

### Contravene offences

Table 10 is a count of all offences relating to contraventions of DVOs lodged with the Magistrates Court. This includes: contraventions of DVOs, contraventions of police protection notices and contraventions of release conditions.

Location	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26 YTD (to 31 Mar 2026)	# change 2024-25 YTD to 2025-26 YTD	% change 2024-25 YTD to 2025-26 YTD
Townsville	4,032	2,714	2,789	4,246	5,228	3,806	-212	-5.3%
Brisbane	2,211	2,733	3,382	4,627	4,143	3,212	85	2.7%
Beenleigh	2,912	2,899	3,576	3,112	3,007	2,557	417	19.5%
Cairns	1,446	2,248	2,750	3,100	2,908	2,398	186	8.4%
Southport	1,983	1,887	2,665	2,374	2,252	1,733	-2	-0.1%
Ipswich	1,355	1,600	1,967	2,015	2,219	1,970	258	15.1%
Rockhampton	1,337	1,602	2,159	1,871	2,286	1,475	-405	-21.5%
Maroochydore	1,465	1,523	1,292	1,706	1,410	720	-317	-30.6%

**Table 10. Contravene DVO charges lodged (Magistrates Courts with the most lodgments)**

Location	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26 YTD (to 31 Mar 2026)	# change 2024-25 YTD to 2025-26 YTD	% change 2024-25 YTD to 2025-26 YTD
Caboolture	880	975	1,399	1,296	1,524	1,935	762	65.0%
Toowoomba	735	852	1,206	1,278	1,619	1,944	1,082	125.5%
Mount Isa	710	880	1,365	1,363	1,405	969	-120	-11.0%
Mackay	1,011	796	868	865	966	714	3	0.4%
Gladstone	587	911	999	720	967	574	-118	-17.1%
Richlands	749	632	794	1,037	901	619	-97	-13.5%
Bundaberg	576	705	748	813	661	508	15	3.0%
Cleveland	430	487	487	825	1,000	648	-99	-13.3%
Redcliffe	722	651	836	645	534	389	-50	-11.4%
Pine Rivers	627	491	682	575	537	553	190	52.3%
Caloundra	328	601	1,222	391	304	429	233	118.9%
Mareeba	279	458	704	704	336	351	91	35.0%
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>State Total</b>	<b>30,538</b>	<b>32,213</b>	<b>39,182</b>	<b>40,471</b>	<b>41,523</b>	<b>33,218</b>	<b>2,174</b>	<b>7.0%</b>

Table 11 is a count of defendants convicted of contravention of a DVO. One defendant can be convicted of more than one offence. Table 11 shows the most serious penalty imposed on a defendant at the time they are sentenced for their charge/s.

**Table 11. Defendants convicted of contravention DVO offences, listed by penalty imposed**

Penalty	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26 YTD (to 31 Mar 2026)
Imprisonment/ Detention	4,173	4,542	4,835	4,852	4,763	6,195	6,409	7,313	7,759	8,143	6,559
Custody in the Community	56	63	71	52	52	80	59	54	40	44	51
Community Service Order	329	403	352	279	250	310	289	280	281	298	187
Probation	2,380	2,944	2,735	2,842	2,269	3,887	3,768	4,114	4,219	3,862	2,638
Monetary Order	3,763	4,049	4,132	3,986	3,330	6,023	5,967	6,912	6,331	5,824	4,059
Good behaviour/ Recognisance	693	933	890	899	637	1,080	1,166	1,266	1,167	1,039	631
Other	479	598	730	790	733	1,054	1,315	1,810	2,004	1,834	1,433
<b>Total</b>	<b>11,873</b>	<b>13,532</b>	<b>13,745</b>	<b>13,700</b>	<b>12,034</b>	<b>18,629</b>	<b>18,973</b>	<b>21,749</b>	<b>21,801</b>	<b>21,044</b>	<b>15,558</b>

**Note:**

1. A defendant can be given one penalty in relation to multiple offences; or multiple penalties for one offence. The data shows only the most serious penalty for each defendant when convicted of the offence(s). This method of counting is used by the Australian Bureau of Statistics for Criminal Courts, Australian publication (4513.0).
2. The order 'Custody in the community' may refer to 'Intensive Correction Order'; 'Conditional Release Order' or 'Intensive Supervision Order'.
3. The 'Other' category includes nominal penalties, such as 'convicted and not further punished'. In some instances, a court may sentence a defendant to a term of imprisonment on one offence and convict and not further punish them on a lesser offence.

**Flagged offences lodged**

Court	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26 YTD (to 31 Mar 2026)
Magistrates Court	7,809	10,187	14,756	16,063	16,906	12,847
District Court	4,027	4,949	6,042	6,315	6,479	5,768
Supreme Court	240	232	108	114	143	96
<b>Total</b>	<b>12,076</b>	<b>15,368</b>	<b>20,906</b>	<b>22,492</b>	<b>23,528</b>	<b>18,711</b>

**Note:**

1. All offences are initially lodged in the Magistrates Court. However depending on the seriousness of the offence, some charges can only be dealt with on indictment in the Supreme or District Courts. Therefore the charges counted in the District and Supreme Courts are also counted in the Magistrates Court.
2. Flagged DFV offences were introduced on 1 December 2015 making 2016-17 the first full year of data.
3. Flagged offence data for all years has been recalculated due to revision of included offences under the legislation.

Location	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26 YTD (to 31 Mar 2026)	# change 2024-25 YTD to 2025-26 YTD	% change 2024-25 YTD to 2025-26 YTD
Cairns	871	1,280	2,022	2,561	2,246	1,665	-26	-1.5%
Townsville	672	823	1,347	1,552	1,783	1,283	-26	-2.0%
Brisbane	513	664	1,025	1,379	1,690	1,200	-78	-6.1%
Mount Isa	418	625	914	934	1,154	843	-24	-2.8%
Beenleigh	548	636	931	930	924	741	47	6.8%
Southport	643	546	962	985	874	672	-16	-2.3%
Ipswich	458	684	963	894	887	773	78	11.2%
Rockhampton	350	376	582	533	780	471	-182	-27.9%
Toowoomba	202	413	446	452	457	384	30	8.5%

**Table 13. Flagged DFV offences, charges lodged (Magistrates Courts with the most lodgments)**

Location	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26 YTD (to 31 Mar 2026)	# change 2024-25 YTD to 2025-26 YTD	% change 2024-25 YTD to 2025-26 YTD
Maroochydore	220	453	329	534	467	265	-116	-30.4%
Caboolture	143	248	306	356	558	473	35	8.0%
Mackay	218	216	259	303	401	279	-46	-14.2%
Bundaberg	219	188	273	334	298	240	9	3.9%
Mareeba	110	167	302	281	188	172	23	15.4%
Gladstone	133	144	219	234	320	166	-60	-26.5%
Pine Rivers	114	156	243	208	251	161	9	5.9%
Redcliffe	124	155	249	229	185	186	27	17.0%
Mornington Island	78	120	132	251	263	177	-41	-18.8%
Richlands	98	88	171	172	243	169	-30	-15.1%
Doomadgee	107	120	168	217	191	119	-27	-18.5%
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>State Total</b>	<b>7,809</b>	<b>10,187</b>	<b>14,756</b>	<b>16,063</b>	<b>16,906</b>	<b>12,847</b>	<b>-100</b>	<b>-0.8%</b>

## Strangulation offences

**Table 14. Strangulation offences, by court level**

Court	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26 YTD (to 31 Mar 2026)
Magistrates Court	834	972	1,275	1,186	1,337	991
District Court	588	834	965	1,038	1,091	991
Supreme Court	17	5	22	7	10	<5
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,439</b>	<b>1,811</b>	<b>2,262</b>	<b>2,231</b>	<b>2,438</b>	<b>&lt;1,990</b>

### Note:

1. Strangulation related offences (s 315A of the *Criminal Code Act 1899*) was introduced 5 May 2016 making 2016-17 the first full year of data.
2. All offences are initially lodged in the Magistrates Court. However these charges can only be finalised upon indictment in the Supreme or District Courts. The counts of charges lodged in the District and Supreme Courts are also counted in the Magistrates Court charges.
3. Where charge numbers are less than 5, actual numbers have been replaced with '<5' to avoid possible identification of defendants.



**Table 15. Strangulation offences lodged (Magistrates Courts with the most lodgments)**

Location	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26 YTD (to 31 Mar 2026)	# change 2024-25 YTD to 2025-26 YTD	% change 2024-25 YTD to 2025-26 YTD
Brisbane	109	141	178	197	183	152	16	11.8%
Cairns	59	87	125	124	148	101	-7	-6.5%
Ipswich	80	101	134	90	106	88	8	10.0%
Southport	78	67	86	120	86	64	-7	-9.9%
Townsville	56	44	69	78	130	63	-29	-31.5%
Beenleigh	67	57	86	71	101	54	-23	-29.9%
Maroochydore	38	59	44	54	63	46	-4	-8.0%
Mount Isa	41	38	52	40	47	51	16	45.7%
Rockhampton	25	27	52	48	62	39	-15	-27.8%
Toowoomba	21	57	57	47	27	23	4	21.1%
Caboolture	26	23	32	28	40	39	8	25.8%
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
State Total	834	972	1,275	1,186	1,337	991	-27	-2.7%

**Table 16. Defendants convicted of strangulation offences, by penalty imposed**

Penalty	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26 YTD (to 31 Mar 2026)
Imprisonment/ Detention	57	340	319	249	283	352	359	408	418	340
Custody in the Community	-	<5	<5	<5	<5	<5	<5	<5	<5	-
Probation	<5	9	7	5	7	7	11	9	15	<5
Community Service Order	-	-	<5	<5	<5	-	<5	-	-	-
Good behaviour/ Recognisance	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	<5	-	-
Other	-	<5	<5	<5	<5	<5	<5	<5	6	<5
Total	<65	353	332	258	295	362	376	423	<445	346

**Note:**

1. A defendant can be given one penalty in relation to multiple offences; or multiple penalties for one offence. The data shows only the most serious penalty for each defendant when convicted of the offence(s). This method of counting is used by the Australian Bureau of Statistics for Criminal Courts, Australian publication (4513.0).

2. The order 'Custody in the community' may refer to 'Intensive Correction Order'; 'Conditional Release Order' or 'Intensive Supervision Order'.
3. Where defendants number less than 5, actual numbers have been replaced with '<5' to avoid possible identification.