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Rita Panahi: Thousands of Queenslanders spared trauma of becoming a crime statistic thanks to tough-on-crime government

Thousands of Queenslanders have been spared the trauma of becoming a crime statistic thanks to the tough-on-crime policies of the Crisafulli government. The contrast with Victoria could not be starker.



Rita Panahi

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October 9, 2025 - 6:50PM

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Rita Panahi

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Elections have consequences. And, for Queensland, one of the consequences has been a sharp decline in victim numbers. The contrast with Victoria could not be starker.

Thousands of Queenslanders have been spared the trauma of becoming a crime statistic thanks to the tough-on-crime policies of the Crisafulli government.

After more than a decade in the political wilderness, the Liberal National Party was elected late last year with David Crisafulli declaring on election night that the state was about to turn the corner on the youth crime crisis. The new premier made a pledge to resign if victim numbers did not fall before the 2028 state election.



Queensland Premier David Crisafulli promised to crack down on youth crime. Picture: Liam Kidston

Against the loud cries of the usual suspects in academia, media and criminal justice system, the Queensland government implemented 'Adult Crime, Adult Time' laws for 33 offences including murder, rape, grievous bodily harm, robbery and dangerous operation of a vehicle.

The name says it all: if you commit adult crimes, such as a home invasion or carjacking, you can expect to be held fully accountable and serve adult time.

The result of this legislation has been nothing short of stunning, with crime data released this week showing that in the first nine months of 2025, victim numbers across nine major crime categories dropped by around 10,000 people compared with the same period last year.

The fall in victim numbers is evident across the state from the Gold Coast to Townsville, where there was a 24 per cent decline in robberies and a 10 per cent fall in the number of break in victims. Meanwhile, in Victoria we are in the midst of a record-breaking crime wave with the latest data showing a whopping 15.7 per cent jump in total offences.



Victoria is in the midst of a record-breaking crime wave. Picture: David Crosling

We have offenders who fear neither the police nor the courts, and a system that has been corrupted by Leftist ideology where offenders' rights rank higher than what's in the interests of victims and the wider community. Queensland has shown that there is another way.

Instead of harebrained schemes like [machete bins](#) or raising the age of criminal responsibility, Queensland has taken meaningful steps to tackle the youth crime scourge. Measures including early intervention, prioritising victims and properly punishing criminals – particularly repeat offenders – will save lives.

Rita Panahi is a Herald Sun columnist

LAW AND ORDER

Queensland: Fewer victims of crime as 2986 youths charged under Adult Crime, Adult Time

Oct 8, 2025

PLANS adopted to make Queensland safer are delivering positive early results, with a crime report card showing nearly 3000 youth offenders charged under landmark Adult Crime, Adult Time laws, and the number of crime victims falling 10.8 per cent per capita this year.

Since December last year, 2986 youths have been charged with 14,060 offences under Adult Crime, Adult Time laws, including more than 4322 charges for stolen cars, 4964 for home break-ins and 784 for robberies.

The Queensland Government's plan to make Queensland safer with more police and stronger laws has also delivered a 10.8 per cent reduction in the number of victims of crime from January, 2025 to September 2025, per capita, compared to the same time the previous year.

Queensland Police data reveals the number of victims of stolen cars dropped 15.6 per cent, break-ins 21.2 per cent and robberies 12.6 per cent over the first nine months of 2025, compared with the same period last year and based on population.

Following the unprecedented police crackdown across north and far-north Queensland, the number of victims of crime have also fallen 6.6 per cent in Townsville and 8.8 per cent in far-north police districts compared to the same time in 2024 population adjusted.

A new police recruitment campaign was launched this week to help deliver 1600 new police recruits, to help restore safety in communities.

Premier David Crisafulli said the Government was delivering the fresh start Queenslanders wanted.

"Queenslanders demanded a fresh start and safer communities, and that's exactly what we are delivering," Mr Crisafulli said.

"Adult Crime, Adult Time is making Queensland safer by holding serious repeat offenders accountable, which means fewer people are having their homes broken into, their livelihoods stolen, and their families harmed.



Queensland Premier David Crisafulli and Minister for Youth Justice and Victim Support, Laura Gerber, announce the new figures at a media conference on Tuesday.

"These are promising early signs, but we are not taking our foot off the pedal.

"Already, we have recruited an extra 1000 police officers that are now serving on the frontline from Cooktown to Coolangatta and beyond.

"While we are seeing crime down and victim numbers down, there is much more to be done to make Queensland safer, and we remain committed to delivering the fresh start we promised."

Minister for Youth Justice and Victim Support, Laura Gerber, said the Crisafulli Government was turning the tide.

"It is early days but crime is down, victim numbers are down and we are delivering new early intervention programs and intensive rehabilitation to continue restoring safety where you live," Ms Gerber said.

"We are tackling youth crime with Adult Crime, Adult Time to restore consequences for action, as well as early intervention to divert youth before they become serious repeat offenders."

Commissioner of Police Steve Gollschewski said the latest recruitment advertising campaign highlighted policing is more than a job – it's a career that is both challenging and rewarding.

"We want people from all walks of life answering the call to stand with us, and commit to protecting and supporting the people of Queensland," Mr Gollschewski said.

"Our focus remains on building a strong, diverse, and capable workforce that reflects the communities we serve."

Queensland crime rates down 10.8 per cent under 'adult crime, adult time' laws

By Rebecca Masters • Senior Producer

12:00pm Oct 7, 2025

Almost 3000 children have been charged under [Queensland's](#) 'adult crime, adult time' laws, the government has revealed.

Since December last year, 2986 children have been charged with 14,060 offences under the [legislation, which mandates youth offenders serve the same sentences as adults for serious offences.](#)

The milestone comes alongside new Queensland Police data published exclusively by 9News on Sunday, which reveals a 10.8 per cent drop in nine key offences recorded across the first nine months of the year, compared to the same period last year.



Premier David Crisafulli in Queen Street Mall today. (Catherine Strohfeldt)

Murder is down 38.2 per cent, assault is down 5 per cent, robbery down 12.6 per cent, unlawful entry down 21.2 per cent and unlawful use of a motor vehicle down 15.6 per cent.

Sexual offences, however, have risen by 6.5 per cent.

Premier David Crisafulli staked his job on crime rates, with a pre-election pledge to reduce the number of victims of crime across the state.

On Sunday, he reavowed putting his job on the line, telling 9News the government was "just turning the corner".

"They're good numbers and most pleasing, they're really good numbers for things like stolen cars and break and enters and robbery," Crisafulli said.

"They're the three youth criminal dominated categories.

Across those three categories some of the biggest reductions were seen in the Moreton region, down 16.8 per cent, Wide Bay and Burnett, down 18 per cent as well as Logan, down 16.1 per cent, and the Gold Coast, down 14.3 per cent.

Today Crisafulli stressed he wanted to see rates continue to fall.

"This (reduction) is off a high base, so if you're asking me whether or not I'm satisfied, the answer is far from it," he said.

"But it's a turnaround, and it shows that if we are serious about the problem and if we acknowledge it, address it and drive it down, we can do something about it."

The government has today launched a new campaign, looking to sign up 1600 new police recruits this term.

Commissioner of Police Steve Gollschewski, who has [returned to the top job after treatment for cancer](#), said the latest recruitment advertising campaign aimed to present policing as a challenging and rewarding career.

"We want people from all walks of life answering the call to stand with us, and commit to protecting and supporting the people of Queensland," Gollschewski said.

Adult Crime, Adult Time: 14k charges in youth crime crackdown

Queensland's tough youth crime laws have led to more than 14,000 charges against children as new data reveals a dramatic fall in victim numbers across the state.



Taylah Fellows

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October 7, 2025 - 12:00AM

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Police arrest a youth in Logan.

Police & Courts

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Queensland kids have been charged with more than 14,000 offences since the Crisafulli Government's Adult Crime, Adult Time laws took effect last year, as fresh police data shows victim numbers have fallen across the state.

The government says the new data shows its tough crime stance is working, after victim numbers across nine major crime categories dropped by nearly 10,000 people in the first nine months of 2025, compared with the same period last year.

Premier David Crisafulli said he would resign if victim numbers did not fall before the 2028 state election.

He later altered this commitment to victim rates – the number of crime victims per 100,000 Queenslanders - which dropped by 10.8 per cent for the offence categories: murder, manslaughter, assault, sexual assault, robbery, break-ins, car theft, offences against a person and coercive control.

Between January and September this year, nearly every police district across the state recorded a drop in victims of car theft and break-ins.

The largest declines were seen on the Gold Coast, Logan, Moreton and South Brisbane where there were 1000 fewer victims recorded across the nine-month period.



Queensland Premier David Crisafulli during a press conference in Brisbane.
Picture: Supplied

In the state's north, Townsville saw a 6.6 per cent fall in victims, including a 10 per cent drop in break-ins and a 24 per cent decline in robberies, while the Far North saw break in victims plunge 22 per cent, though robberies increased slightly by 22 per cent.

Since December 2024 when the Making Queensland Safer laws were passed allowing courts to sentence children as adults for a range of serious crimes, 2,986 youths have been charged with 14,060 offences.

It marked a steep decline from the 19,904 offences committed by 3,470 juveniles over the same time period the year prior.

The drop has seen 1,452 fewer break-ins, 182 fewer robberies and 2,064 fewer cars stolen.

Mr Crisafulli declared the harsher sentencing laws had made the state safer by “holding serious repeat offenders accountable”.

“Which means fewer people are having their homes broken-into, their livelihoods stolen, and their families harmed,” he said.

“These are promising early signs, but we are not taking our foot off the pedal, and will continue to deliver more police and stronger laws to help restore community safety.”

The government will on Tuesday launch a new police recruitment campaign in an attempt to meet its election promise of hiring 1,600 officers by 2028.

It will see a visual display erected at Brisbane’s Queen Street Mall that advertises police career pathways SERT, highway patrol, the dog squad, mounted unit and forensic services.

Commissioner of Police Steve Gollschewski said the service was looking to recruit people from “all walks of life”.

“Our focus remains on building a strong, diverse, and capable workforce that reflects the communities we serve,” he said.

As of July 31, 350 new officers had joined the police service under the Crisafulli government.



07 OCT, 2025

14,000 CRIMES AND FALLING

Townsville Bulletin, Townsville

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Crimes finally go down

Taylah Fellows

Break-ins, robberies drop

Queensland kids have been charged with more than 14,000 offences since the Crisafulli government's adult crime, adult time laws took effect last year, as fresh police data shows victim numbers have fallen across the state.

This includes a 6.6 per cent drop in victim numbers in Townsville.

The government says the new data shows its tough crime stance is working, after victim numbers across nine major crime categories dropped by nearly 10,000 people in the first nine months of 2025, compared with the same period last year.

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The largest declines were seen on the Gold Coast, Logan, Moreton and South Brisbane where there were 1000 fewer victims recorded across the nine-month period.

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creased by 22 per cent.

Since December 2024 when the Making Queensland Safer laws were passed allowing courts to sentence children as adults for a range of serious crimes, 2986 youths have been charged with 14,060 offences.

It marked a steep decline from the 19,904 offences committed by 3470 juveniles over the same time period the year prior.

The drop has resulted in 1452 fewer break-ins, 182 fewer robberies and 2064 fewer cars stolen.

Mr Crisafulli declared the harsher sentencing laws had made the state safer by "holding serious repeat offenders accountable".

"Which means fewer people are having their homes broken-into, their livelihoods stolen, and their families harmed,"

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07 OCT, 2025

14,000 CRIMES AND FALLING

Townsville Bulletin, Townsville

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**North Queensland's reprieve
as victim numbers drop 6.6%**

14,000 CRIMES



AND



FALLING

The latest government data has revealed just how many crimes Qld kids have been charged with under adult crime, adult time legislation as the number of victims in Townsville starts to drop.

STORY, PB



07 OCT, 2025

Victim figures plunge

Courier Mail, Brisbane

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Victim figures plunge

Taylah Fellows

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07 OCT, 2025

Victim figures plunge

Courier Mail, Brisbane

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CRIME RATES

OFFENCE TYPE	% CHANGE
Homicide (Murder)	▼ 38.20%
Other Homicide	▼ 35.20%
Assault	▼ 5.00%
Sexual Offences	▲ 6.50%
Robbery	▼ 12.60%
Other Offences Against the Person (excl. Coercive Control)	▼ 8.60%
Coercive Control	0.00%
Unlawful Entry	▼ 21.20%
Unlawful Use of Motor Vehicle	▼ 15.60%
TOTAL	▼ 10.80%

Rate per 100,000 people, % change
Jan 2024-Sep 2024 vs Jan 2025-Sep 2025

Premier David Crisafulli at the
announcement of the \$225m
Staying on Track program at the
Jabalbina Yalanji Aboriginal
Corporation office in Cairns.
Picture: Brendan Radke

Queensland Legislative Assembly	
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