

## **VIC:Victoria's youth justice system**

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### **VICTORIA'S YOUTH JUSTICE SYSTEM - KEY FIGURES:**

- \* Youth remands rose two thirds from 2007-2010, from 24 to 40
- \* A quarter of children with youth justice orders in 2010 came from 2.6 per cent of Victorian postcodes
- \* All 27 children aged 10-12 remanded in 2010 known to child protection services
- \* Indigenous Victorians aged 10-19 comprise one per cent of the state's population but more than 12 per cent of its youth justice population
- \* Four out of five youth arrests occur outside of Monday-Friday business hours
- \* 46 children remanded for more than 43 days in 2010, only to be released on bail

### **KEY REFORM RECOMMENDATIONS BY JESUIT SOCIAL SERVICES:**

- \* Raise age of criminal responsibility from 10 to 12
- \* Expand youth justice support services outside business hours
- \* Trial intensive community support services for vulnerable younger children
- \* Increase government child/family policy focus on needs of children in youth justice

Source: Jesuit Social Services

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