

SUPPORTING YOUTH REHABILITATION TRENDS REPORT

September 2026

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B. TECHNICAL NOTE

GENERAL

Rehabilitation cases are classified into **Tier 1, Tier 2 and Tier 3** according to the intensity of intervention required.¹

- **Tier 1 cases** refer to MSF's Diversionary Programmes run by Integrated Service Providers, comprising Guidance Programme, (Enhanced) Streetwise Programme, and Youth Enhanced Supervision Scheme.
- **Tier 2 cases** refer to regimes under MSF's purview, comprising Probation Orders and MSF Youth Home Orders.
- **Tier 3 cases** refer to the regimes under Singapore Prison Service's purview, comprising Community/Drug Rehabilitation Centre, Reformatory Training, and imprisonment.

Community partners are stakeholders in the people and private sectors who provide services and support to youth offenders and their families (e.g. volunteers, social service agencies, employers).

Community Rehabilitation Centre (CRC) provides a step-down arrangement for first-time youth drug abusers aged 16 to below 21 years who have completed a short detention at the Drug Rehabilitation Centre and helps them rehabilitate into society with minimal disruptions. The CRC regime comprises a residential phase, during which youths receive casework and counselling services, followed by a Home Leave phase, where they are progressively assessed on their readiness to return to their families and the community.

Court refers to the Court which youths are charged in (e.g. Youth Court, State Courts).

Detention Order is an order issued by the Court, and it requires a youth to be detained in a place of detention for a period not exceeding six months.

Diversionary programmes refer to the programmes listed below. These community-based programmes are funded by the Ministry of Social and Family Development (MSF) and delivered by appointed Integrated Service Providers. They aim to rehabilitate youths who have been arrested for minor offences while diverting them away from the Court system. Youths who successfully completed the diversionary programme are issued a conditional warning in lieu of Court prosecution.

- **Enhanced Streetwise Programme and Streetwise Programme, collectively referred to in this report as “(Enhanced) Streetwise Programme”** targets youths aged 10 to 18 years who are associated with gangs, involved in gang-related activities, or have played a minor role in gang-related offences. The youths are taught the consequences of gang involvement and are guided to dissociate from gangs, form healthy relationships with others and resolve conflicts in a healthy manner.
- **Guidance Programme** targets youths aged 10 to 18 years who committed minor offences (e.g. theft, trespassing). The sessions usually cover topics such as taking personal responsibility for one's actions and forming healthy relationships.
- **Youth Enhanced Supervision Scheme** targets youths under the age of 21 who are arrested purely for drug consumption for the first time and assessed to be of low risk of reoffending, where the youths are taught relapse prevention skills to desist from drug taking. From 2025, the Youth Enhanced Supervision Scheme was extended to first- and second-time etomidate youth abusers under the age of 21.

Drug Rehabilitation Centre (DRC) provides treatment and rehabilitation for drug abusers aged 16 years and above. Drug abusers undergo customised rehabilitation pathways tailored to their assessed risk of reoffending and the severity of their drug use, and comprises a residential in-care phase followed by a structured aftercare phase to support reintegration into the community.

¹ This report does not cover statistics on vaping and etomidate.

Imprisonment sentences are served within the Singapore Prison Service, which adopts a throughcare approach to ensure continuity in rehabilitation and reintegration efforts from the point of incarceration through to reintegration into the community.

Integrated Service Providers are social service agencies appointed by MSF to run the diversionary programmes.

Juvenile Rehabilitation Order is a Court order requiring a youth to reside in a Juvenile Rehabilitation Centre for a period of up to three years. It is generally imposed on youths who present higher-risk behaviours, have more complex rehabilitation needs, or come from family environments that are unable to provide adequate support for their rehabilitation. Compared with a Detention Order, a Juvenile Rehabilitation Order involves a longer period of residence in a Juvenile Rehabilitation Centre, allowing for more intensive rehabilitation and intervention. This report focuses on youths placed on Juvenile Rehabilitation Orders in MSF Youth Homes.

MSF Youth Homes refer to the Singapore Boys' Home and the Singapore Girls' Home.

MSF Youth Home Orders refer to the Juvenile Rehabilitation Orders and Detention Orders in MSF Youth Homes. The MSF Youth Homes provide a range of academic, rehabilitative and holistic development programmes tailored to address each youth's risk factors, reduce the likelihood of reoffending, and support their overall rehabilitation and personal development. The MSF Youth Homes also work closely with families and caregivers, equipping them with the skills and knowledge to support their child's reintegration into the community.

Probation Officers are officers who work with and supervise probationers to guide and rehabilitate them. Probation Officers also work closely with the probationer's family, providing guidance and support to strengthen family relationships and enhance parents' and caregivers' ability to provide effective supervision.

Probation or Probation Order is a community-based order issued by the Court, and requires the youth offender to be under the supervision of a Probation Officer or a Volunteer Probation Officer.

Probationers are offenders who are given a Probation Order by the Court.

Reformative Training Centre (RTC) is operated by the Singapore Prison Service and provide a structured rehabilitative regime for young offenders (from 14 to below 21 years old) who have been ordered to undergo Reformative Training instead of imprisonment. Youths undergo rehabilitation programmes tailored to their individual risks and needs, addressing factors such as criminal attitudes, antisocial thinking patterns, and violent behaviours.

Triage is an assessment conducted by an Integrated Service Provider (ISP) officer, who interviews the youth and their parents/caregivers to assess the youth's risk of re-offending. The assessment informs Law Enforcement Agencies and the Attorney-General's Chambers (AGC) in determining the most appropriate response to the youth's offending behaviour.

Volunteer Probation Officers work alongside Probation Officers to guide and rehabilitate probationers.

Youths, youth offenders, or youth drug abusers refer to those aged 10 to <21 years.² Youths in this report are analysed across three age groups: **younger youths** (10 to <16 years), **middle youths** (16 to <18 years), and **older youths** (18 to <21 years). These labels are used throughout the report for readability.

² Singapore's age of minimum criminal responsibility is 10 years.

STATISTICS

Age is calculated based on the youth's date of birth.

Completion rate is the number of youths aged 10 to <21 years who successfully completed the rehabilitation programme or Court Order in the specified year, divided by the number of youths aged 10 to <21 years who were discharged (successfully or unsuccessfully) from the rehabilitation programme or Court order in the specified year. Youth offenders on concurrent orders were counted twice.

Number of youths placed on Tier 1, Tier 2, and Tier 3 cases is the number of youths aged 10 to <21 years³ who were referred to these rehabilitation programmes/regimes or ordered by the Court to undergo these rehabilitation programmes/regimes in the specified year. For Tier 1 and Tier 2 cases, youth offenders on two (or more) concurrent orders were counted twice (or more).

The **top 15 offences** committed by youth offenders have been categorised into six categories. These categories **were defined solely for the purposes of this report, and are not comparable with other reports.**

- **Cheating & related offences** include offences of Cheating & Related Offences, Offences under Computer Misuse Act, and offences under Corruption, Drug Trafficking & Serious Crimes Act.
- **Drug consumption offences** include offences of drug consumption.
- **Public order & related offences** include offences of Affray, Corrosive & Explosive Substances & Offensive Weapons Act, Escape from Legal Custody, Mischief by Fire, Miscellaneous Offences (Public Order and Nuisance) "MOA" Act (Wilful Trespass), Rioting, Unlawful Assembly.
- **Theft & related offences** include offences of Housebreaking, Stolen Property (Receiving), Theft (Bicycle), Theft (In Dwelling), Theft (Shop Theft), Theft (Simple), Theft of Motor Vehicle, and Road Traffic Act (Taking Vehicle Without Owner's Consent).
- **(Serious) offences against the person** include offences of Act Endangering Human Life, Criminal Intimidation, Serious Hurt, and Children & Young Persons Act (Ill-Treatment of Child).
- **Sexual offences** include offences of Sexual Offence (Outraging Modesty), Sexual Offence (Intimate Image/Recording), Sexual Offence (Penetration), Sexual Offence (Rape), Sexual Offence (Obscene Act), and Sexual Offence (Voyeurism).

Two-year recidivism rates for regimes under Tier 1 and Tier 2 cases (i.e. under MSF's purview) refer to the percentage of youth offenders aged <21 years who, after completing their rehabilitation programme or Court Order, were subsequently found guilty by a Court of a further offence within two years of completing the programme or Court Order.

Two-year recidivism rates for regimes under Tier 3 cases (i.e. under the Singapore Prison Service's purview) is the percentage of local inmates under the custody of the Singapore Prison Service, who were subsequently detained or sentenced to imprisonment or day reporting order within two years of release into the community.

Youth offending rate is the number of unique youths aged 10 to <21 years who were arrested in the specified year (including Singapore residents and non-residents), divided by the number of youths aged 10 to below 21 years (including Singapore residents and non-residents) in that year.

Youth drug offending rate is the number of unique youth drug offenders aged 10 to <21 years who were arrested in the specified year (excluding foreigners and short-term visit pass holders), divided by the number of youths aged 10 to <21 years (Singapore residents) in that year. Youth drug offenders exclude inhalant abusers, etomidate abusers, and abusers who abuse hemp-related drugs.

³ Imprisonment numbers are based on youths aged 14 to <21 years old.

C. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Youth offending rate increased in 2025

The youth offending rate increased from 4.8 per 1,000 youths in 2024, to 5.6 per 1,000 youths in 2025. The increase in youth offending rates was primarily driven by an increase in the number of youths committing cheating & related offences.

Youth drug offending rates remained low

The youth drug offending rate remained relatively stable at around 0.5 per 1,000 youths in 2024 and 2025.

Offence patterns differed by age groups

For middle youths and older youths, cheating & related offences remained among the top offence categories. Youths who had committed cheating & related offences were largely involved in scams.

Among younger youths, theft & related offences and sexual offences remained as key offence categories. Among sexual offences, sexual penetration of a minor was the most common type committed by younger youths. This offence is made out when the victim is below 16 years of age, regardless of the victim's consent.

The number of Tier 1 cases (i.e. MSF's Diversionary Programmes) and Tier 3 cases (i.e. Singapore Prison Service's regimes) increased, while Tier 2 cases (i.e. MSF's rehabilitation regimes) decreased

Tier 1 cases saw the largest increase from 2024 to 2025. This was largely driven by more younger youths who committed theft & related offences being placed on the Guidance Programme. More youths were also placed on Youth Enhanced Supervision Scheme, due to the intake of youth etomidate abusers.

Tier 3 cases also saw an increase in placements from 2024 to 2025, largely driven by a larger number of youths placed on Tier 3 regimes for the following offences: (a) assisting another person to retain benefits of drug dealing or benefits from criminal conduct under the Corruption, Drug Trafficking and Other Serious Crimes (Confiscation of Benefits) Act, (b) drug consumption under the Misuse of Drugs Act, and (c) harassing borrowers under the Moneylenders Act.

High completion rates and slight increase in recidivism rates for Tier 1 and 2 cases

Completion rates remained high for all Tier 1 and Tier 2 cases at 85.0% to 92.9% from 2021 to 2025, with a relatively stable trend. The recidivism rates for Tier 1 and 2 cases increased from 9.1% for the 2022 cohort to 10.3% for the 2023 cohort.

D. YOUTH OFFENDING

D1. OVERALL ANALYSIS OF YOUTH OFFENDING TRENDS

Increase in overall youth offending rate

The youth offending rate increased from 4.8 per 1,000 youths in 2024, to 5.6 per 1,000 youths in 2025, primarily driven by an increase in the number of youths committing cheating & related offences. The increase was observed across all age groups and sex, though older youths and male youths had the largest increase in offending rates. Middle youths and older youths continued to exhibit higher rate of offending, compared to younger youths.

Drug offending rates remained low, with older youths forming the majority of youth drug offenders

The drug offending rate remained low in the past 5 years, with the rates remaining relatively stable at around 0.5 per 1,000 youths in 2024 and 2025. Older youths formed the majority of drug offenders amongst the age groups examined.

Theft & related offences and sexual offences among younger youths, cheating & related offences among middle youths and older youths, were key areas of concern

There was an increase in the number of middle youths and older youths who committed cheating & related offences. Youths who committed offences within this category were predominantly involved in scams.

Theft & related offences and sexual offences remained common offence categories among younger youths. Among sexual offences, sexual penetration of a minor was the most common type committed by younger youths. This offence is made out when the victim is below 16 years of age, regardless of the victim's consent.

Cheating & related offences was the top offence category

Cheating & related offences replaced theft & related offences as the top offence category among females in 2025. In contrast, cheating & related offences have consistently been the top offence category among males since 2023.

D2. OFFENDING RATES

Youth offending rate increased

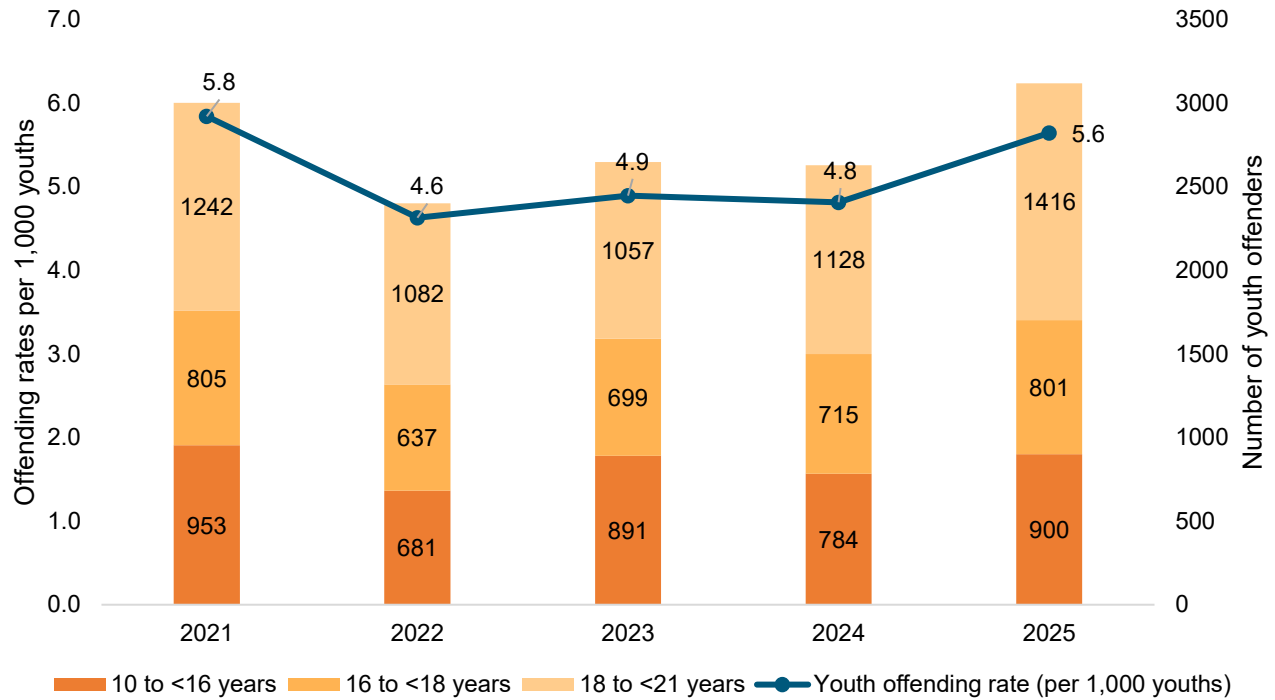
The youth offending rate⁴ increased from 4.8 per 1,000 youths in 2024, to 5.6 per 1,000 youths in 2025 (Chart 1). However, it remained lower than the peak of 5.8 per 1,000 youths in 2021. The increase was observed across all age groups and sex, though older youths and males had the largest increase in offending rates. The increase in youth offending rates was primarily driven by an increase in the number of youths committing cheating & related offences (see Section D4).

The Government has put in place targeted initiatives to prevent youth offending, with the aim of lowering Singapore's youth offending rates.

- Through platforms such as the National Committee on Preventing Offending and Reoffending (NCPR)⁵, MSF is leading preventive and upstream interventions, to reduce the incidence of first-time youth offending.
 - MSF and the National Council of Social Service (NCSS) have worked with the Ministry of Education (MOE) and the Singapore Police Force (SPF) to nurture more youths to be Crime Prevention Ambassadors via SHINE's Youth Community Outreach Patrol (Youth COP) Programme. We will expand Youth COP beyond SHINE to enable more Social Service Agencies to conduct the programme.
 - For youths who may benefit from additional support, we enhanced the Youth GO! Programme with evidence-based assessment tools to better assess risks and needs. Interventions can be better tailored, and families more actively engaged to nurture a stable and supportive home environment to help youths succeed.
- Building on MSF's work with youth offenders, MSF is also leveraging its engagement with these youths to identify and support their siblings, who may share similar risk factors and adverse family environments (e.g. parental criminality, family's socioeconomic status). The aim is to intervene early and steer these siblings away from offending.

⁴ For the purposes of this report, youth offending rates from 2021 to 2025 were calculated based on the number of youths arrested within the year. From 2025 onwards, youth offending rates will shift to being calculated based on the number of *youths investigated* within the year. This new indicator better reflects the youth offending situation, as it more comprehensively accounts for youths investigated for offences, including those not physically arrested (e.g. due to the nature of offence or circumstances of the case). The number of youths investigated in 2025 was 4,160.

⁵ The National Committee on Preventing Offending and Reoffending (NCPR) was set up in April 2018 to steer national efforts to prevent offending, re-offending and enhance the rehabilitation of offenders. The NCPR is Co-chaired by Ms Sim Ann, Second Minister for Home Affairs & Foreign Affairs, and Mr Eric Chua, Senior Parliamentary Secretary for Social and Family Development & Law. It brings together government agencies and community organisations to develop and implement integrated strategies that support at-risk populations and their families to achieve positive, sustained outcomes.

CHART 1: OFFENDING RATES OF PERSONS AGED <21 YEARS PER 1,000 YOUTHS, WITH BREAKDOWN OF NUMBER OF YOUTH OFFENDERS BY AGE GROUPS⁶⁶ The number of youths arrested included youths on the Short-Term Visit Pass.

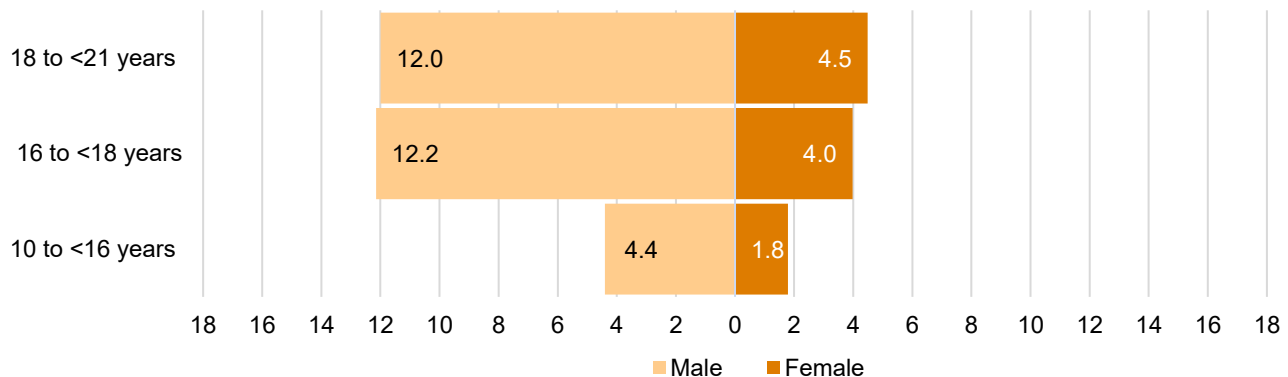
Middle youths and older youths had the highest likelihood of offending

Among male youth offenders, middle youths had the highest likelihood of offending. Among female youth offenders, older youths had the highest likelihood of offending (Chart 2).

The higher offending rates among middle youths and older youths has remained consistent since 2019,⁷ and aligns with research on the age-crime curve which shows that offending behaviour among males and females typically peaks during adolescence, a pattern that has been observed across different societies.^{8,9} For instance, in Australia, 16-year-olds represented the most common age among youth offenders, accounting for 23.0% of youth offenders.¹⁰ Youths ages 15 to 19 are more likely to engage in risky or criminal behaviour. This period generally represents a natural inflection point at which such behaviours peak before gradually declining as individuals transition into adulthood.^{8,9}

To strengthen rehabilitation for middle youths, the Children and Young Persons Act (CYPA) was amended to raise the age limit for youth offenders from <16 to <18 years old. As a result, cases involving youths aged 16 to <18 years old may now be heard in the Youth Court, where they can access more age-appropriate rehabilitative interventions and support. These amendments came into operation on 30 December 2025.

CHART 2: OFFENDING RATES PER 1,000 YOUTHS BY AGE AND SEX OF YOUTH (2025)¹¹



⁷ Years prior to 2019 were not analysed.

⁸ Piquero, A.R., Moffitt, T.E. (2014). Moffitt's Developmental Taxonomy of Antisocial Behavior. In: Bruinsma, G., Weisburd, D. (eds) Encyclopedia of Criminology and Criminal Justice. Springer, New York, NY. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-1-4614-5690-2_506.

⁹ Loeber, R., Farrington, D.P. (2014). Age-Crime Curve. In: Bruinsma, G., Weisburd, D. (eds) Encyclopedia of Criminology and Criminal Justice. Springer, New York, NY. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-1-4614-5690-2_474

¹⁰ Australian Bureau of Statistics. (2024-25). *Recorded Crime-Offenders*.

¹¹ Rates are reflected on a proportion basis (i.e. per 1,000 youths). Excludes one youth with unknown sex at point of data finalisation.

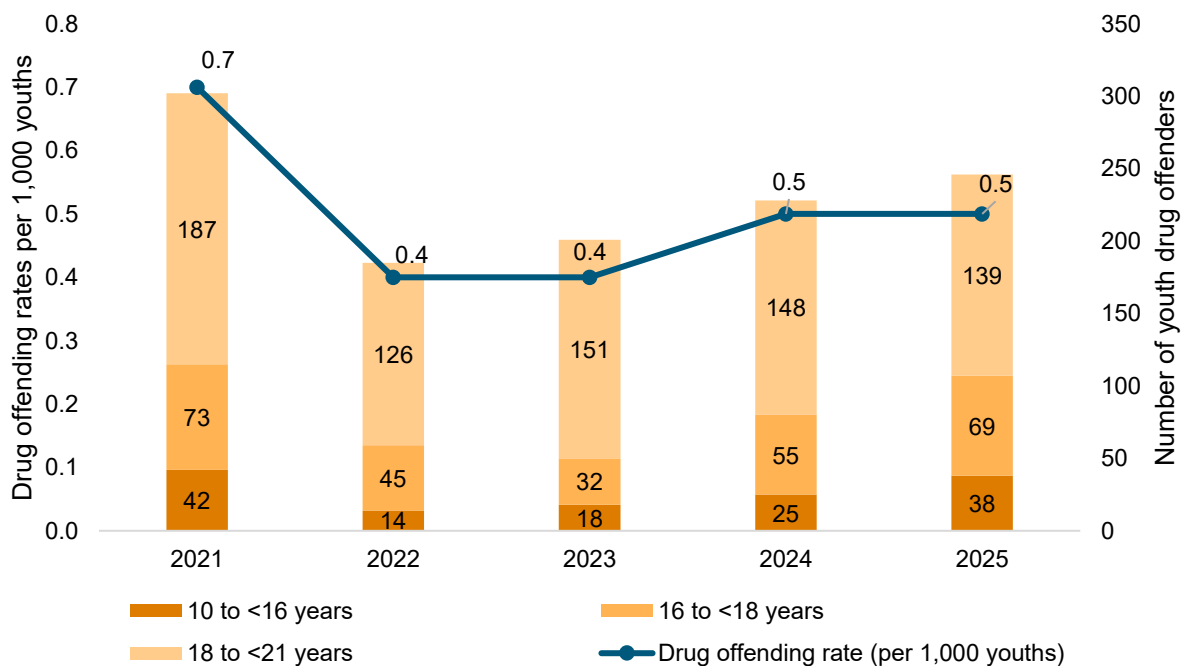
D3. DRUG OFFENDING RATES

Drug offending rates remained low

The drug offending rate for youths remained low in the past 5 years, with the rates remaining relatively stable at around 0.5 per 1,000 youths in 2024 and 2025 (Chart 3).

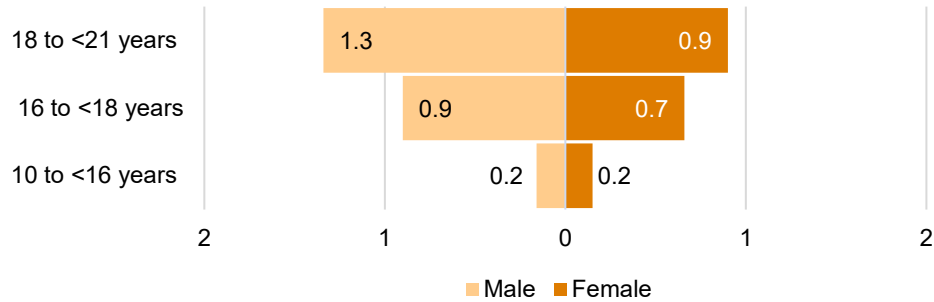
The Government recognises the importance of preventing drug offending among youths. The Inter-Ministry Committee on Drug Prevention for Youths (IMC) was formed in 2023 as a whole-of-Government response to address drug use among youths. The IMC leverages resources and touchpoints across key sectors to amplify outreach and support youths throughout their developmental journey, to address youth drug abuse in a holistic manner. For example, the IMC appoints close to 1,000 DrugFreeSG Champions from diverse backgrounds, including educators, student leaders, counsellors, youth workers, parents, and healthcare professionals to amplify drug-free messages within their spheres of influence. These Champions engage youths directly to address misinformation and promote impactful anti-drug messages. Parents are also encouraged to have open conversations with their children at home, supported by resources provided by both MOE and CNB (e.g. Parents Gateway, CNB website, etc.).

CHART 3: DRUG OFFENDING RATES OF PERSONS AGED <21 YEARS PER 1,000 YOUTHS, WITH BREAKDOWN OF NUMBER OF YOUTH OFFENDERS BY AGE GROUPS



Males and older youths generally had higher drug offending rates

Males had higher drug offending rates compared to females, similar to general youth offending rates (Chart 4). For both females and males, older youths comprised the majority of drug offenders (Chart 4). These trends have remained consistent since 2021.¹²

CHART 4: DRUG OFFENDING RATES PER 1,000 YOUTHS BY AGE AND SEX OF YOUTH (2025)

¹² Years prior to 2021 were not analysed.



SCHOOL-BASED AND YOUTH-CENTRIC PREVENTIVE DRUG EDUCATION PROGRAMME

Preventive Drug Education is a key tenet in the Government's harm prevention approach and serves as the first line of defence in Singapore's drug control strategy. The Government is strengthening its upstream preventive approach, by investing in comprehensive preventive drug education programmes, targeting youths before they are exposed to drug-related risks and ensuring early protection against substance abuse. Examples of school-based and youth-centric preventive drug education programmes are listed below.

Anti-Drug Ambassador Activity and Montage Competition

- The Anti-Drug Ambassador Activity engages Primary 4 and 5 students through activity booklets featuring engaging storyline lines and interactive activities.
- A key component is the Anti-Drug Montage Competition, where schools create and display montages within their premises to raise awareness about the harms of drugs.
- In 2025, 132 primary schools and approximately 58,200 students participated in the Anti-Drug Ambassador Activity.

Preventive Drug Education in the School Curricula

- CNB partners MOE to integrate Preventive Drug Education content into the school curricula (e.g. in Character & Citizenship Education, Science, Physical Education), where appropriate, so that students are educated on the harms of drugs throughout their educational journey.

Interactive Skits

- The skits weave in relevant themes, quizzes, and intervention scenarios to get students to think deeper and discuss the harms of drugs, turning learning into a more engaging experience.
- In 2025, approximately 70,200 students from 82 primary, secondary, and post-secondary institutions participated in these skits.

DrugFreeSG Video Competition

- The DrugfreeSG Video Competition seeks to provide youths, aged 12 to 25, with a platform to share their creative perspective on the harms of drug abuse, and to allow youths to amplify the drug-free message to their peers and communities.
- 2025's competition received 89 entries across both Youth and Youth Adult categories from a total of 385 participants.

Source: Annual Statistics Release 2025 by CNB

D4. COMMON OFFENCE CATEGORIES COMMITTED BY YOUTHS^{13,14}

Cheating & related offences, and theft & related offences remained a concern

Generally, among the top 15 offences committed by youths, the top three offence categories remained similar across 2021 to 2025 (Table 1). Notable trends are highlighted below:

- **Cheating & related offences** have consistently been one of the top offence categories from 2021 to 2025. In 2025, the number of youths who committed cheating & related offences increased to 1,114, from 814 in 2024, and was the highest since 2021. Youths who committed cheating & related offences were largely involved in scam cases as mules.
- **Theft & related offences** remained a common offence category from 2021 to 2025, and increased from 571 offenders in 2024 to 588 offenders in 2025. Within theft & related offences, the number of youths who committed shop theft offences decreased slightly to 394 offenders in 2025, from 402 in 2024. The items most prone to be stolen were food & beverage, personal care products, and cosmetics.
- **Sexual offences** also remained a common offence category from 2021 to 2025, despite a decrease from 461 offenders in 2024 to 437 offenders in 2025. Within sexual offences, the number of youths who committed sexual offence (penetration) increased from 225 offenders in 2024 to 253 offenders in 2025.
- The number of youths involved in **public order & related offences** has fallen, with 238 offenders in 2025, down from 314 offenders in 2024. Such offences include those committed under the Corrosive & Explosive Substances & Offensive Weapons Act.
- The number of youths involved in **drug consumption offences** remained relatively stable, with 199 offenders in 2024 compared to 206 offenders in 2025.

TABLE 1: TOP OFFENCE CATEGORIES COMMITTED BY YOUTH OFFENDERS

Rank	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
1	Cheating & Related Offences (582 offenders)	Theft & Related Offences (590 offenders)	Theft & Related Offences (724 offenders)	Cheating & Related Offences (814 offenders)	Cheating & Related Offences (1114 offenders)
2	Sexual Offences (563 offenders)	Cheating & Related Offences (491 offenders)	Cheating & Related Offences (617 offenders)	Theft & Related Offences (571 offenders)	Theft & Related Offences (588 offenders)
3	Theft & Related Offences (554 offenders)	Sexual Offences (381 offenders)	Sexual Offences (479 offenders)	Sexual Offences (461 offenders)	Sexual Offences (437 offenders)
4	Public Order & Related Offences (458 offenders)	Public Order & Related Offences (304 offenders)	Public Order & Related Offences (341 offenders)	Public Order & Related Offences (314 offenders)	Public Order & Related Offences (238 offenders)
5	Drug Consumption Offences (252 offenders)	Drug Consumption Offences (152 offenders)	Drug Consumption Offences (167 offenders)	Drug Consumption Offences (199 offenders)	Drug Consumption Offences (206 offenders)
6	(Serious) Offences Against the Person (153 offenders)	(Serious) Offences Against the Person (62 offenders)	(Serious) Offences Against the Person (68 offenders)	(Serious) Offences Against the Person (56 offenders)	(Serious) Offences Against the Person (127 offenders)

Source: SPF and CNB

¹³ For Drug Consumption offences, the statistics were calculated by CNB based on Positive Urine Tests.

¹⁴ The top 15 offences committed by youth offenders within each year have been categorised into six broad categories. These categories do not cover the full universe of offences within each category, and were defined solely for the purposes of this report. The categories are therefore not comparable with other reports.



CHEATING & RELATED OFFENCES

Youth offenders involved in cheating & related offences may be involved in scams or non-scam cases.

Scams

Youths involved in scam cases were commonly found to have acted as scam mules. In these cases, youths were found to have:

- Relinquished their bank account and Singpass credentials.
- Registered and relinquishing SIM cards or mobile lines.
- Facilitated transactions for scammers.

Non-scam cases

In some non-scam cases, youths were found to have:

- Used identification documents of others to engage in age-restricted activities (e.g. enter clubs, purchase cigarettes).
- Forged details of personal identification documents to engage in age-restricted activities (e.g. enter clubs, purchase cigarettes).

Source: SPF

Theft & related offences and sexual offences among younger youths, cheating & related offences among middle youths and older youths, were key areas of concern

Among younger youths, theft & related offences and sexual offences remained as key offence categories, since 2021.

- **Theft & related offences** remained a common offence category among younger youths (Table 2). Among theft & related offences, shop theft continued to be the top offence from 2021 to 2025. To deter youths from committing shop theft offences, the Government has put in place targeted prevention strategies:
 - In 2025 and 2026, SPF and Popular Bookstore published a series of shop theft prevention comics in POPCLUB Magazine, aimed at engaging younger audiences and deterring offending behaviours.
 - SPF and MOE collaborated to educate youths on various offences, including shop theft, through school talks, joint school advisories and other outreach initiatives.
 - A dedicated crime prevention module was launched on the Singapore Student Learning Space (SLS) for Primary 3 to 6 students to educate them on the legal consequences of shop theft and raise awareness on crime prevention.
- **Sexual offences** remained as the second common offence category for younger youths (Table 2). Among sexual offences, sexual penetration of a minor continued to be the top sexual offence, and increased from 105 offenders in 2024 to 114 offenders in 2025. This offence is made out when the victim is below 16 years of age, regardless of the victim's consent. To address sexual offences among youths, SPF and MOE collaborated on school engagement efforts, to increase awareness on sexual offences and prevention. For example, SPF and MOE jointly developed materials on sexual crimes for trained police officers to deliver them to students during assembly talks in secondary schools. These materials cover information on the various types of sexual crimes of concern, consequences of committing sexual crimes, and targeted messaging to deter students from committing such offences, and to increase understanding of personal safety and respect for boundaries amongst youths.

TABLE 2: TOP OFFENCE CATEGORIES COMMITTED BY YOUNGER YOUTHS

Rank	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
1	Theft & Related Offences (310 offenders)	Theft & Related Offences (296 offenders)	Theft & Related Offences (356 offenders)	Theft & Related Offences (279 offenders)	Theft & Related Offences (326 offenders)
2	Sexual Offences (227 offenders)	Sexual Offences (129 offenders)	Sexual Offences (216 offenders)	Sexual Offences (193 offenders)	Sexual Offences (199 offenders)
3	Public Order & Related Offences (130 offenders)	Public Order & Related Offences (68 offenders)	Public Order & Related Offences (109 offenders)	Public Order & Related Offences (113 offenders)	Public Order & Related Offences (79 offenders)
4	(Serious) Offences Against the Person (32 offenders)	(Serious) Offences Against the Person (40 offenders)	(Serious) Offences Against the Person (48 offenders)	(Serious) Offences Against the Person (51 offenders)	(Serious) Offences Against the Person (65 offenders)
5	Cheating & Related Offences (31 offenders)	Cheating & Related Offences (20 offenders)	Cheating & Related Offences (33 offenders)	Cheating & Related Offences (31 offenders)	Cheating & Related Offences (42 offenders)
6	Drug Consumption Offences (27 offenders)	Drug Consumption Offences (NA)	Drug Consumption Offences (15 offenders)	Drug Consumption Offences (22 offenders)	Drug Consumption Offences (34 offenders)

Source: SPF and CNB

For middle youths and older youths, cheating & related offences remained among the top offence category.

- **There was an increase in cheating & related offences among middle youths** (increase from 229 offenders in 2024 to 270 offenders in 2025), **and among older youths** (increase from 574 offenders in 2024 to 782 offenders in 2025) (Tables 3 and 4). The majority of youths who committed cheating & related offences were involved in scams, and was mostly associated with youth's involvement in scam cases as mules.¹⁵
 - The Government has acted to ensure that appropriate penalties may be imposed on offenders who commit scams and scam-related offences. To this end, the Second Schedule of the Children and Young Persons Act (CYPA) has been amended to include these offences. This enables cases involving youths aged 16 to <18 charged with scams and scams-related offences to be transferred to the State Courts or the High Court, where they may receive sentences that are commensurate with the seriousness of their offences, including imprisonment, reformatory training and caning, while continuing to receive the rehabilitative support needed for their successful reintegration into society.
 - To address youth involvement in scams, SPF has stepped up targeted public education efforts to raise awareness among youths about the consequences of facilitating scam activities. This includes collaboration with MOE to incorporate anti-scam messages into school advisories and outreach programmes.
- **Sexual offences and theft & related offences committed by middle youths and older youths, remained common** (Tables 3 and 4).
 - SPF adopts a targeted outreach approach to engage middle youths and older youths through educational institutions and other youth touchpoints. For example, for youths in MOE schools and Institutes of Higher Learning, SPF works with the respective institutions to disseminate crime prevention advisories and conduct crime prevention talks. For youths outside the MOE system, including students in private education institutions and foreign students, SPF works with partners such as SkillsFuture Singapore and the Immigration & Checkpoints Authority (ICA) to disseminate crime prevention advisories through relevant channels, including during the student pass application process. These outreach efforts are complemented by engagements with educational institutions to identify emerging crime concerns among youths. This allows SPF to tailor advisories and engagements to offences that are more commonly encountered by specific youth age groups and profiles, thereby enhancing the relevance and effectiveness of crime prevention efforts.

TABLE 3: TOP OFFENCE CATEGORIES COMMITTED BY MIDDLE YOUTHS

Rank	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
1	Sexual Offences (157 offenders)	Theft & Related Offences (155 offenders)	Theft & Related Offences (185 offenders)	Cheating & Related Offences (229 offenders)	Cheating & Related Offences (270 offenders)
2	Theft & Related Offences (156 offenders)	Cheating & Related Offences (117 offenders)	Cheating & Related Offences (181 offenders)	Theft & Related Offences (152 offenders)	Sexual Offences (153 offenders)
3	Public Order & Related Offences (153 offenders)	Public Order & Related Offences (115 offenders)	Sexual Offences (123 offenders)	Sexual Offences (141 offenders)	Theft & Related Offences (126 offenders)
4	Cheating & Related Offences (118 offenders)	Sexual Offences (102 offenders)	Public Order & Related Offences (104 offenders)	Public Order & Related Offences (100 offenders)	Public Order & Related Offences (73 offenders)
5	Drug Consumption Offences (67 offenders)	Drug Consumption Offences (40 offenders)	Drug Consumption Offences (27 offenders)	Drug Consumption Offences (52 offenders)	Drug Consumption Offences (56 offenders)

¹⁵ Source: SPF.

6	(Serious) Offences Against the Person (33 offenders)	(Serious) Offences Against the Person (13 offenders)	(Serious) Offences Against the Person (11 offenders)	(Serious) Offences Against the Person (17 offenders)	(Serious) Offences Against the Person (48 offenders)
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Source: SPF and CNB

TABLE 4: TOP OFFENCE CATEGORIES COMMITTED BY OLDER YOUTHS

Rank	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
1	Cheating & Related Offences (448 offenders)	Cheating & Related Offences (352 offenders)	Cheating & Related Offences (399 offenders)	Cheating & Related Offences (574 offenders)	Cheating & Related Offences (782 offenders)
2	Theft & Related Offences (195 offenders)	Theft & Related Offences (202 offenders)	Theft & Related Offences (206 offenders)	Theft & Related Offences (140 offenders)	Theft & Related Offences (154 offenders)
3	Drug Consumption Offences (158 offenders)	Public Order & Related Offences (170 offenders)	Sexual Offences (130 offenders)	Sexual Offences (127 offenders)	Sexual Offences (128 offenders)
4	Public Order & Related Offences (156 offenders)	Sexual Offences (111 offenders)	Drug Consumption Offences (125 offenders)	Drug Consumption Offences (125 offenders)	Public Order & Related Offences (117 offenders)
5	Sexual Offences (128 offenders)	Drug Consumption Offences (101 offenders)	Public Order & Related Offences (111 offenders)	Public Order & Related Offences (105 offenders)	Drug Consumption Offences (116 offenders)
6	(Serious) Offences Against the Person (74 offenders)	(Serious) Offences Against the Person (27 offenders)	(Serious) Offences Against the Person (44 offenders)	(Serious) Offences Against the Person (17 offenders)	(Serious) Offences Against the Person (22 offenders)

Source: SPF and CNB



GOVERNMENT'S EFFORTS TO ADDRESS YOUTH SEXUAL OFFENDING

Through the NCPR, the Government strengthened the prevention of youth sexual offending through early preventive education addressing contributing factors to sexual crimes. This includes attitudes and beliefs supportive of sexual offending and unhealthy sexual habits, while emphasising pathways to healthy sexual development. Resource guides for professionals were also developed and disseminated to government and community stakeholders.

Building on these foundations, the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) has continued to engage in capability building efforts with community practitioners and professionals who work with youths. This includes training on emerging trends that may facilitate youth sexual offending, the role of online sexual harms, and the early identification of concerning behaviours to enable timely intervention and prevent offending.

As part of these capability-building efforts, MHA and MOE also co-lead a Community of Professionals (COP) dedicated to sharing the trends and best practices in the prevention and intervention of youth sexual offending. Through biannual COP meetings, MHA and MOE convene government and community agencies to discuss emerging trends influencing youth sexual offending behaviours, and to strengthen cross-sector knowledge exchange and collaboration in addressing evolving challenges, including those arising from technological developments.

Source: MHA

Cheating & related offences was the top offence category for female and male youths in 2025

Cheating & related offences replaced **theft & related offences** as the top offence category among female youths in 2025 (Table 5). In comparison, **cheating & related offences** have consistently been the top offence category among male youths since 2023 (Table 6).

TABLE 5: TOP OFFENCE CATEGORIES COMMITTED BY FEMALE YOUTH OFFENDERS¹⁶

Rank	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
1	Theft & Related Offences (208 offenders)	Theft & Related Offences (202 offenders)	Theft & Related Offences (299 offenders)	Theft & Related Offences (254 offenders)	Cheating & Related Offences (325 offenders)
2	Cheating & Related Offences (200 offenders)	Cheating & Related Offences (129 offenders)	Cheating & Related Offences (167 offenders)	Cheating & Related Offences (248 offenders)	Theft & Related Offences (230 offenders)
3	Sexual Offences (81 offenders)	Public Order & Related Offences (94 offenders)	Sexual Offences (59 offenders)	Drug Consumption Offences (66 offenders)	Drug Consumption Offences (82 offenders)
4	Drug Consumption Offences (76 offenders)	Drug Consumption Offences (56 offenders)	Public Order & Related Offences (48 offenders)	Public Order & Related Offences (56 offenders)	Sexual Offences (73 offenders)
5	Public Order & Related Offences (62 offenders)	Sexual Offences (40 offenders)	Drug Consumption Offences (47 offenders)	Sexual Offences (45 offenders)	Public Order & Related Offences (44 offenders)
6	(Serious) Offences Against the Person (10 offenders)	(Serious) Offences Against the Person (23 offenders)	(Serious) Offences Against the Person (27 offenders)	(Serious) Offences Against the Person (22 offenders)	(Serious) Offences Against the Person (35 offenders)

Source: SPF and CNB

TABLE 6: TOP OFFENCE CATEGORIES COMMITTED BY MALE YOUTH OFFENDERS¹⁶

Rank	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
1	Sexual Offences (494 offenders)	Theft & Related Offences (380 offenders)	Cheating & Related Offences (450 offenders)	Cheating & Related Offences (575 offenders)	Cheating & Related Offences (740 offenders)
2	Public Order & Related Offences (411 offenders)	Cheating & Related Offences (362 offenders)	Theft & Related Offences (430 offenders)	Sexual Offences (410 offenders)	Sexual Offences (422 offenders)
3	Theft & Related Offences (360 offenders)	Sexual Offences (341 offenders)	Sexual Offences (412 offenders)	Theft & Related Offences (323 offenders)	Theft & Related Offences (357 offenders)
4	Cheating & Related Offences (345 offenders)	Public Order & Related Offences (253 offenders)	Public Order & Related Offences (293 offenders)	Public Order & Related Offences (262 offenders)	Public Order & Related Offences (202 offenders)
5	Drug Consumption Offences (176 offenders)	Drug Consumption Offences (96 offenders)	Drug Consumption Offences (120 offenders)	Drug Consumption Offences (133 offenders)	Drug Consumption Offences (124 offenders)
6	(Serious) Offences Against the Person (139 offenders)	(Serious) Offences Against the Person (50 offenders)	(Serious) Offences Against the Person (54 offenders)	(Serious) Offences Against the Person (50 offenders)	(Serious) Offences Against the Person (103 offenders)

Source: SPF and CNB

¹⁶ Tables 5 and 6 exclude one youth with unknown sex at point of data finalisation.

E. REHABILITATION

E1. OVERALL NUMBER OF YOUTH OFFENDERS PLACED ON REHABILITATION PROGRAMMES

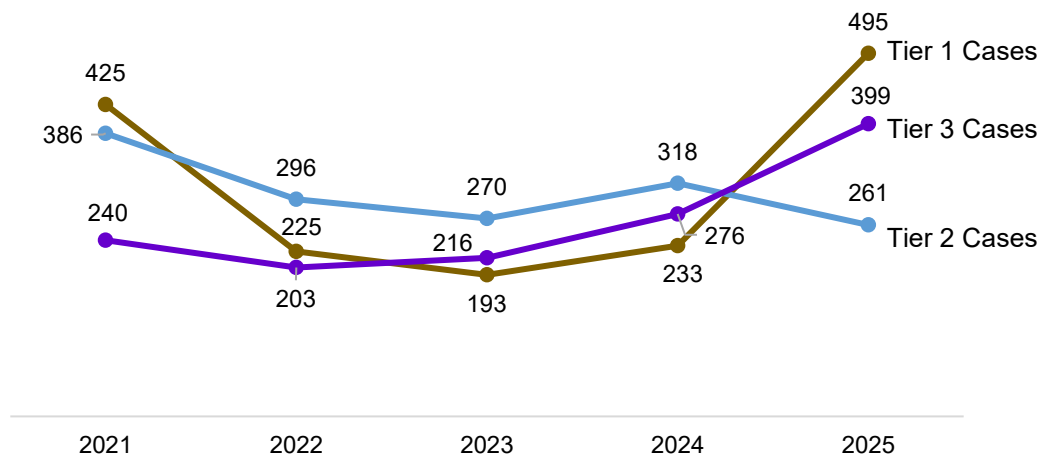
Tier 1 cases and Tier 3 cases increased, while Tier 2 cases decreased

Between 2024 and 2025, the number of Tier 1 and Tier 3 cases increased, while Tier 2 cases declined (Chart 5). Tier 1 cases recorded the largest increase, rising from 233 cases in 2024 to 495 cases in 2025 (Chart 5). This growth was driven primarily by the following factors.

- **More youths were placed on Guidance Programme.** The increase may be attributed to a range of factors, including more younger youths committing offences that were eligible for the Guidance Programme, such as theft & related offences. For example, among the top 15 offences, theft & related offences involving younger youths rose from 279 in 2024 to 326 in 2025.
- **More youths were placed on Youth Enhanced Supervision Scheme.** This is largely due to the inclusion of first- and second-time youth etomidate abusers from 2025 onwards, as part of the whole-of-government response to address the emerging issue of etomidate abuse.

Tier 3 cases also saw an increase in placements, from 276 cases in 2024 to 399 cases in 2025 (Chart 5), largely driven by more youths being placed on Tier 3 regimes for the following offences: (a) assisting another person to retain benefits of drug dealing or benefits from criminal conduct under the Corruption, Drug Trafficking and Other Serious Crimes (Confiscation of Benefits) Act, (b) drug consumption under the Misuse of Drugs Act, and (c) harassing borrowers under the Moneylenders Act.

CHART 5: NUMBER OF CASES BY TIERS¹⁷



¹⁷ 2025 data exclude one Youth Enhanced Supervision Scheme case where the youth was aged 21 years old at the start of the programme.

E2. NUMBER OF YOUTH OFFENDERS PLACED IN TIER 1 CASES

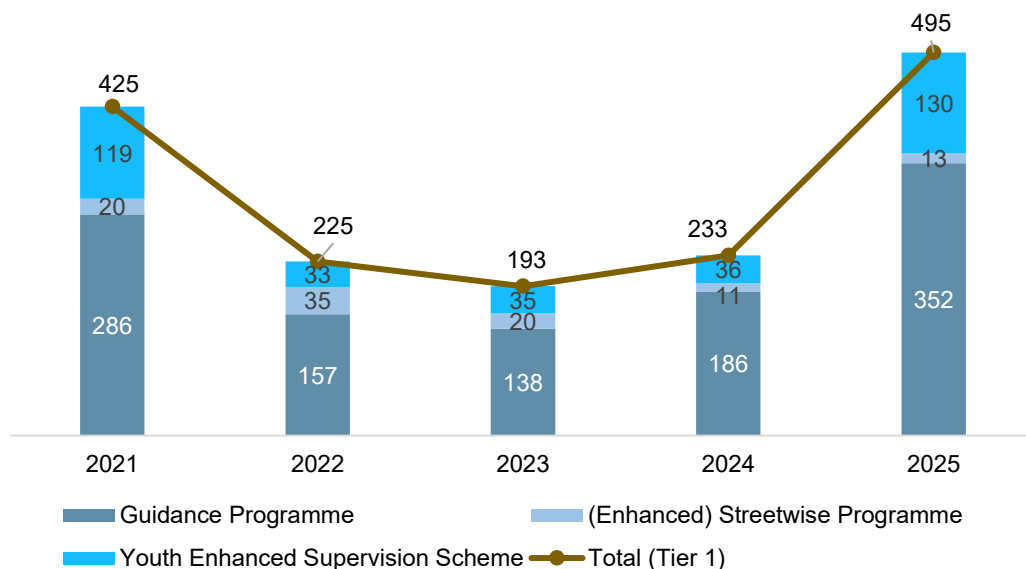
Guidance Programme remained the most common Tier 1 programme

The Guidance Programme recorded the largest increase in placements, rising from 186 in 2024 to 352 cases in 2025 (Chart 6). The increase may be attributed to a range of factors, including a higher number of youths committing offences that were eligible for the Guidance Programme, particularly theft & related offences (see Section E1).

Placements on the Youth Enhanced Supervision Scheme also increased significantly from 36 in 2024 to 130 cases in 2025 (Chart 6). The increase was largely attributable to the intake of first- and second-time youth etomidate abusers from 2025 onwards (see Section E1), as part of the Whole-of-Government response to address the growing issue of etomidate abuse.

The number of cases placed on (Enhanced) Streetwise Programme is expected to remain lower compared to Guidance Programme and Youth Enhanced Supervision Scheme, as the (Enhanced) Streetwise programme caters to more specific groups of youths (i.e. gang-related offences).

CHART 6: NUMBER OF CASES PLACED IN TIER 1 PROGRAMMES¹⁸



¹⁸ 2025 data exclude one Youth Enhanced Supervision Scheme case where the youth was aged 21 years old at the start of the programme.

E3. NUMBER OF YOUTH OFFENDERS PLACED IN TIER 2 CASES

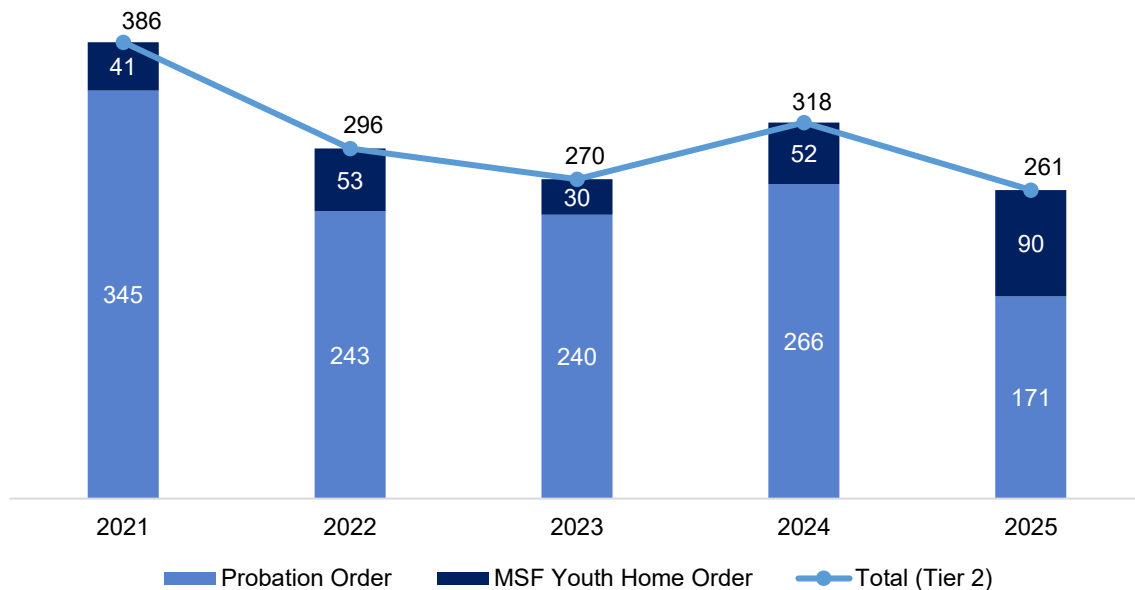
Probation Orders remained the more common rehabilitation programme, consistent with the approach to prioritise community rehabilitation

The number of cases placed on Probation Orders decreased from 266 in 2024 to 171 in 2025. This was largely due to a decrease in the number of older youths placed on Probation Orders (from 167 in 2024 to 95 in 2025). Nevertheless, **Probation Orders remained the top Tier 2 regime for youths** (Chart 7). This is consistent with the policy objective of prioritising community-based rehabilitation, enabling suitable youths to remain in school or employment while receiving structured supervision and support within the community.

The number of cases placed on MSF Youth Home Orders increased from 52 in 2024 to 90 in 2025. The increase in MSF Youth Home Orders, alongside the decline in Probation Orders, was largely due to more youths charged in court having complex needs and higher risks, making them unsuitable for community-based probation.

Compared to youths charged and placed on an order in 2024 in Youth Court, the 2025 cohort also presented more strongly with factors associated with reoffending and reduced responsiveness to community-based rehabilitation. In particular, more had prior offences or dispositions, substance abuse concerns, and pro-criminal or antisocial attitudes and behaviours. About one in three also had poor parental supervision and/or parent-child relationships. Taken together, these factors reduced the suitability of probation for a larger proportion of youths, for whom the greater structure and supervision of an MSF Youth Home Order would better meet their risks and needs.

CHART 7: NUMBER OF CASES PLACED IN TIER 2 REGIMES



E4. NUMBER OF YOUTH OFFENDERS PLACED IN TIER 3 CASES

Majority of youths placed on Tier 3 regimes were older youths

The number of cases placed in Reformatory Training Centre and imprisonment increased from 170 cases in 2024 to 228 cases in 2025, and from 56 cases in 2024 to 93 cases in 2025 respectively (Chart 8). The majority of youths admitted to the Reformatory Training Centre, Community/Drug Rehabilitation Centre, or imprisonment were older youths (Chart 9).

CHART 8: NUMBER OF CASES PLACED IN TIER 3 REGIMES

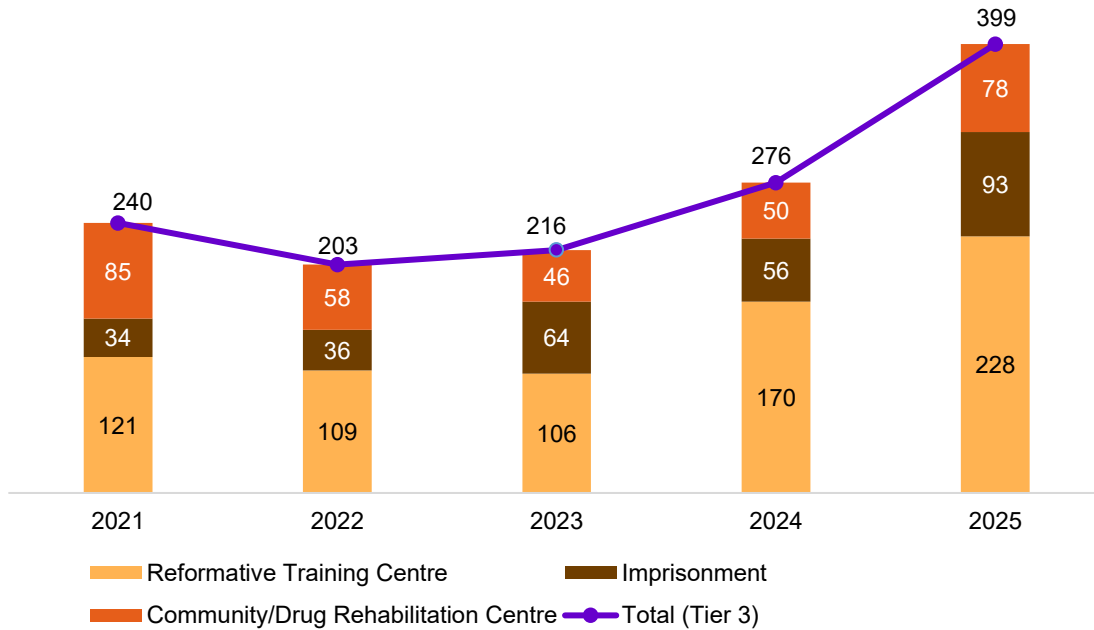
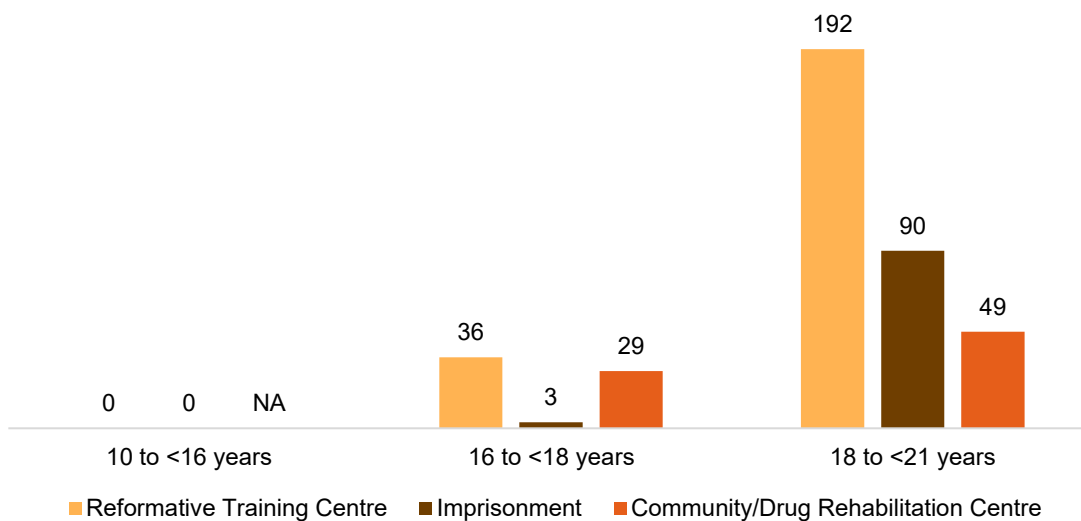


CHART 9: NUMBER OF CASES PLACED IN TIER 3 REGIMES BY AGE (2025)

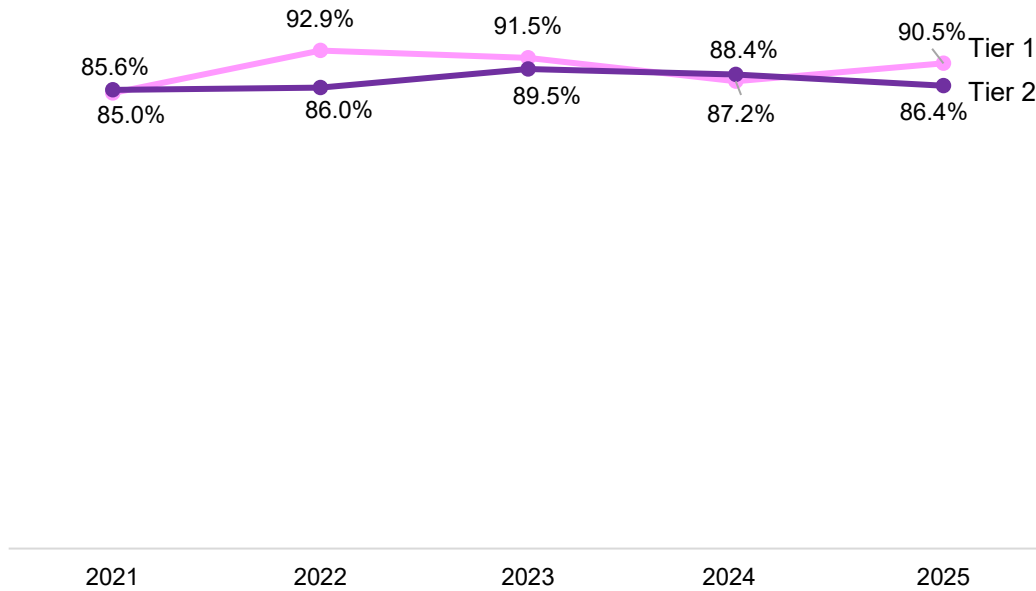


F. COMPLETION AND RECIDIVISM RATES

F1. COMPLETION RATES FOR TIER 1 AND 2 CASES¹⁹

The completion rates across Tier 1 and 2 cases remained consistently high at 85.0% to 92.9% between 2021 to 2025. This reflects the sustained effectiveness of programme delivery and case management, with completion rates remaining stable over the five-year period. (Chart 10).

CHART 10: PROPORTION OF YOUTHS WHO COMPLETED THE PROGRAMMES



¹⁹ Completion rates for Tier 3 cases were not reported, as the Singapore Prison Service does not track completion rates for Tier 3 cases.

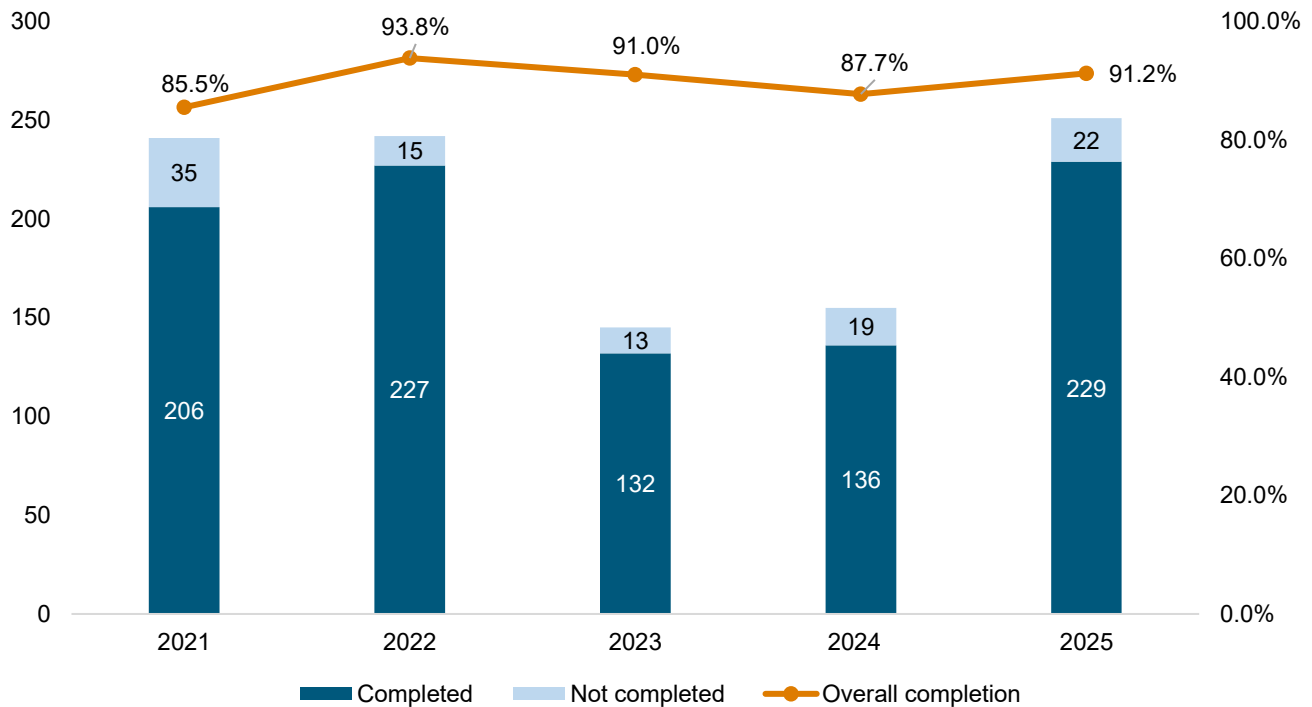
F2. COMPLETION RATES FOR TIER 1 CASES

The completion rates across all three Tier 1 Diversionary Programmes increased in 2025 compared to 2024. Reasons for non-completion included breaches of programme requirements and the commission of new offences while youths were undergoing the programme. Such cases were referred to the Police for follow-up. Depending on the circumstances of the case, the youths were either required to comply with additional programme conditions, such as an extension of the programme duration, or charged in Court for the original offences for which they had been placed on the programme.

Completion rate for Guidance Programme remained high

The completion rate for the Guidance Programme remained high at 91.2% in 2025, compared with 87.7% in 2024 (Chart 11).

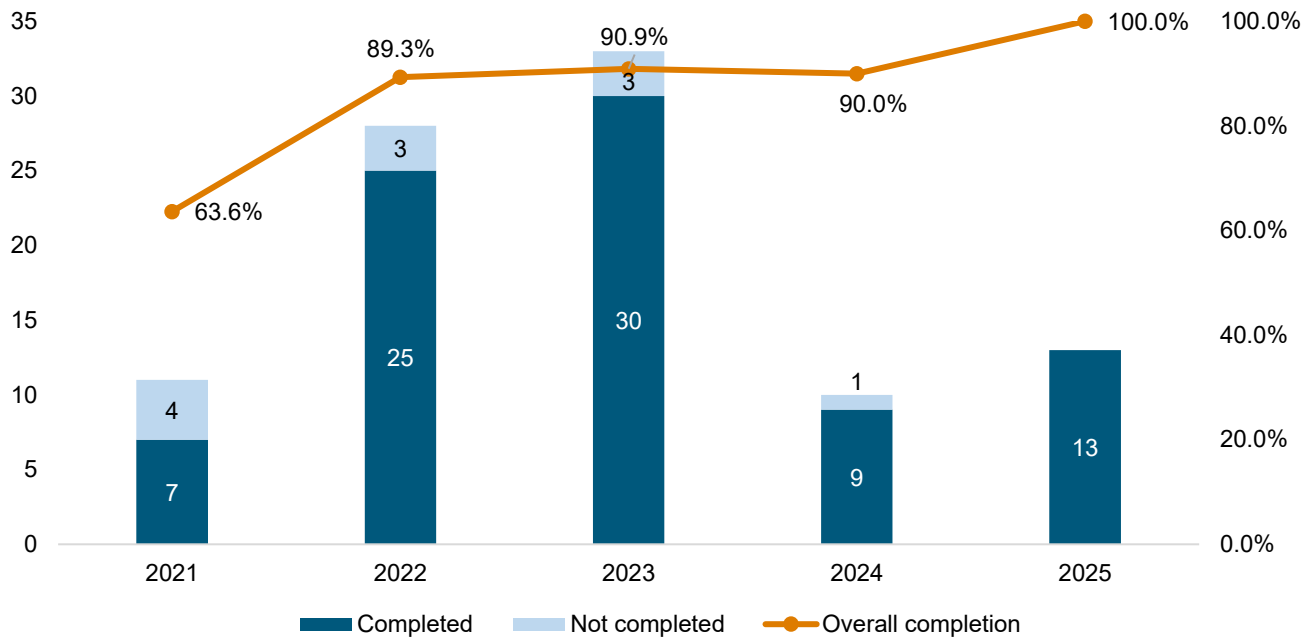
CHART 11: NUMBER AND PROPORTION OF YOUTHS WHO COMPLETED GUIDANCE PROGRAMME



All youths under the (Enhanced) Streetwise Programme completed their Order in 2025

All youths under the (Enhanced) Streetwise Programme completed their Order in 2025, a 10-percentage point improvement from 2024 (Chart 12).

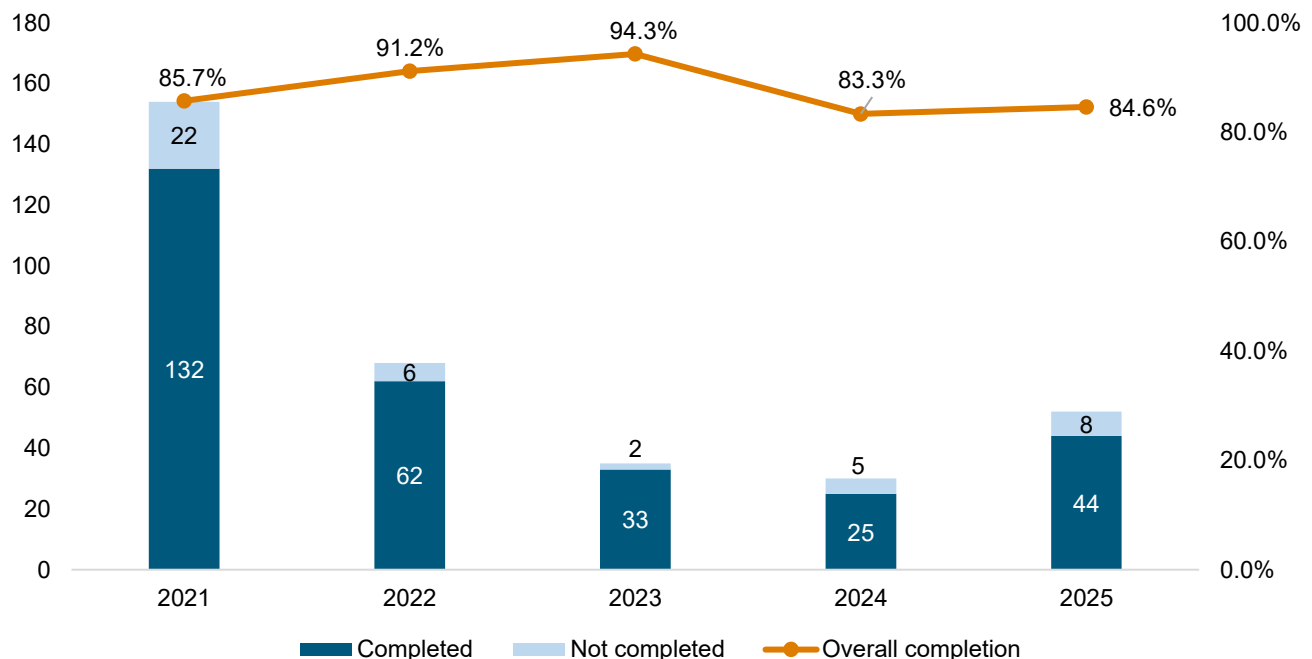
CHART 12: NUMBER AND PROPORTION OF YOUTHS WHO COMPLETED (ENHANCED) STREETWISE PROGRAMME



Completion rates for Youth Enhanced Supervision Scheme increased slightly

The completion rate for the Youth Enhanced Supervision Scheme remained high at 84.6% in 2025, compared to 83.3% in 2024 (Chart 13).

CHART 13: NUMBER AND PROPORTION OF YOUTHS WHO COMPLETED YOUTH ENHANCED SUPERVISION SCHEME

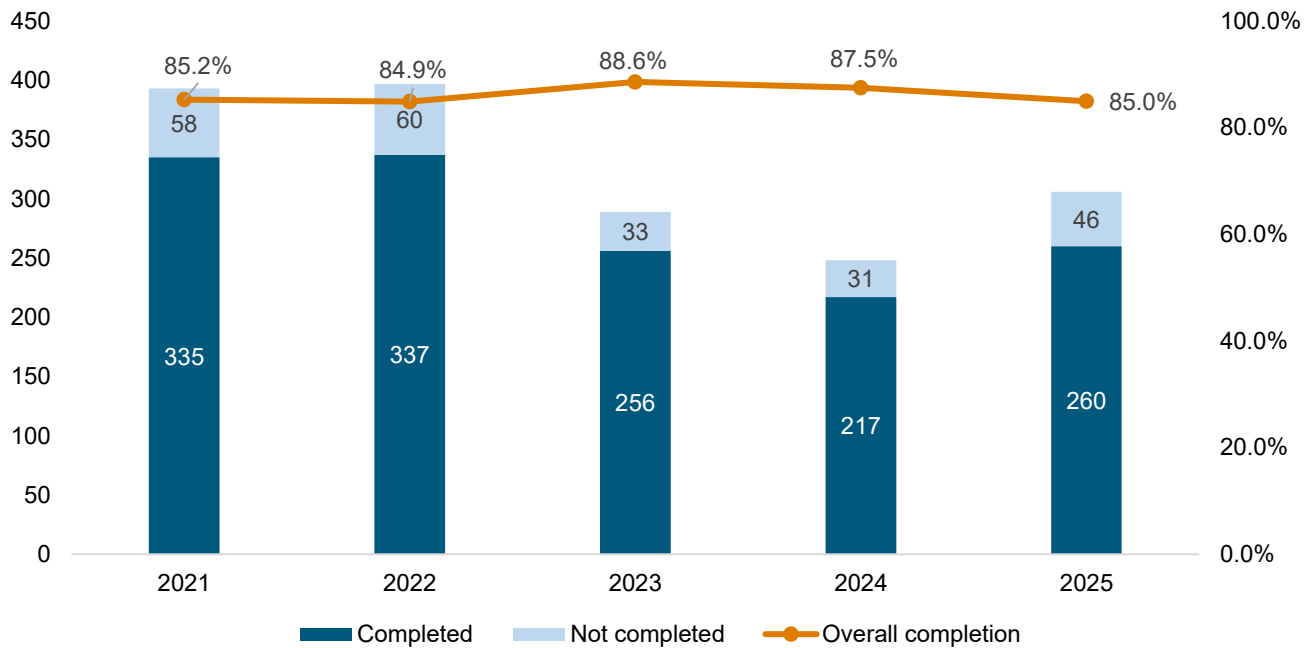


F3. COMPLETION RATES FOR TIER 2 CASES

Completion rates for Probation Orders remained high

The completion rate for Probation Orders remained high at 85.0% in 2025, from 87.5% in 2024 (Chart 14). Probationers who did not complete their Probation Orders generally failed to comply with the conditions of their orders or reoffended during the probation period. In such cases, the Court may revoke the Probation Order and impose a more appropriate order having regard to the offender's circumstances and level of risk. For younger youths or middle youths, this may include MSF Youth Home Orders. However, for the majority of older youths, the Court is more likely to consider other options such as Reformatory Training. The nature of the subsequent Order will depend on the offender's age, risk profile, and the circumstances of the breach.

CHART 14: NUMBER AND PROPORTION OF PROBATIONERS WHO COMPLETED THEIR PROBATION ORDERS

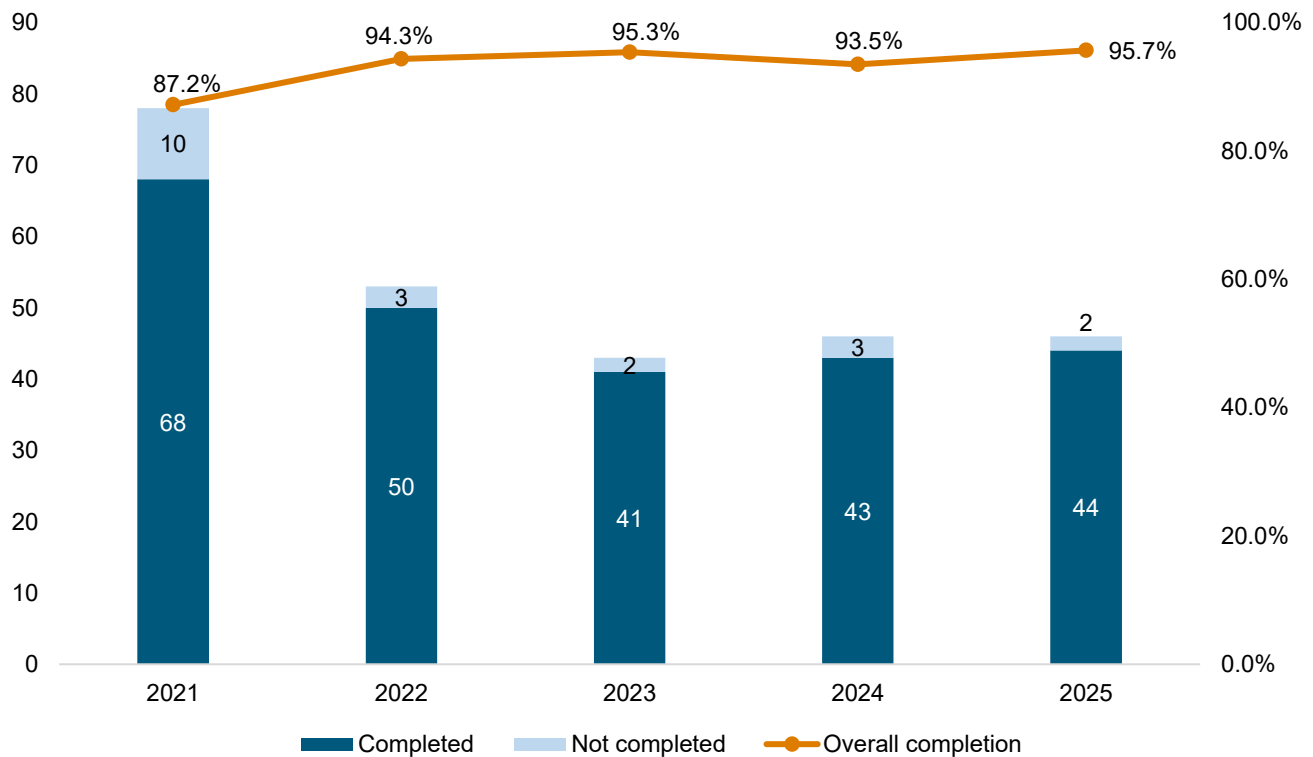


Completion rates for MSF Youth Home Orders remained high

The completion rate for MSF Youth Home Orders remained high at 95.7% in 2025, compared with 93.5% in 2024 (Chart 15). The stable and high completion rate of rehabilitation orders by these youths are likely a result of the structured and closely supervised environment that these secure residential facilities have. Such an environment is important for consistent programme participation, especially as MSF Youth Home Orders are imposed on youths who typically present with higher risk profiles and more complex needs.

Youths who did not complete their MSF Youth Home Orders generally failed to comply with the conditions of their orders or reoffended during the period of their Order, typically when they were released into the community on granted leave. In such cases, the Court may revoke the MSF Youth Home Order and impose a more appropriate order, such as Reformatory Training, having regard to the offender's age, circumstances and level of risk.

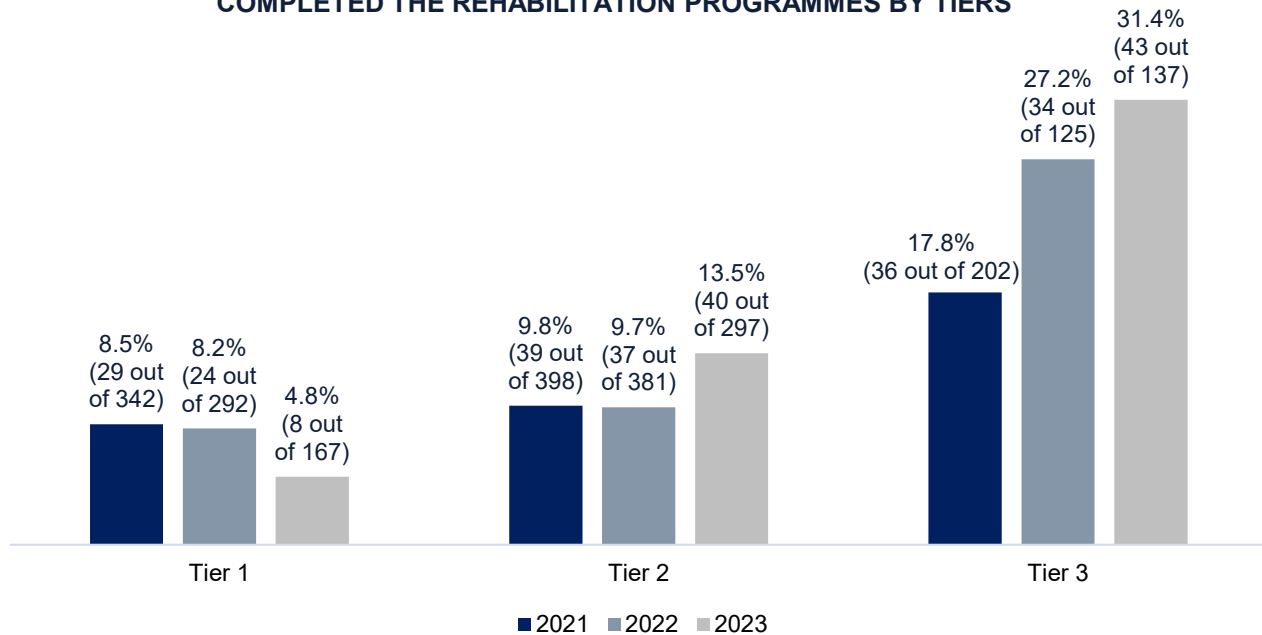
CHART 15: NUMBER AND PROPORTION OF YOUTHS WHO COMPLETED MSF YOUTH HOME ORDERS



F4. OVERALL TWO-YEAR RECIDIVISM RATES BY TIERS

The overall two-year recidivism rates (i.e. reoffending within two years of programme completion) for Tier 3 cases were consistently higher across the 2021 to 2023 release cohorts than those for Tier 1 and Tier 2 cases (Chart 16).²⁰ This is consistent with Tier 3 cases involving youths who generally present with higher risk profiles and more complex criminogenic needs, necessitating custodial or more intensive interventions. However, the small cohort sizes could also cause rates to fluctuate substantially from year to year.

CHART 16: TWO-YEAR OVERALL RECIDIVISM RATES OF YOUTHS WHO COMPLETED THE REHABILITATION PROGRAMMES BY TIERS



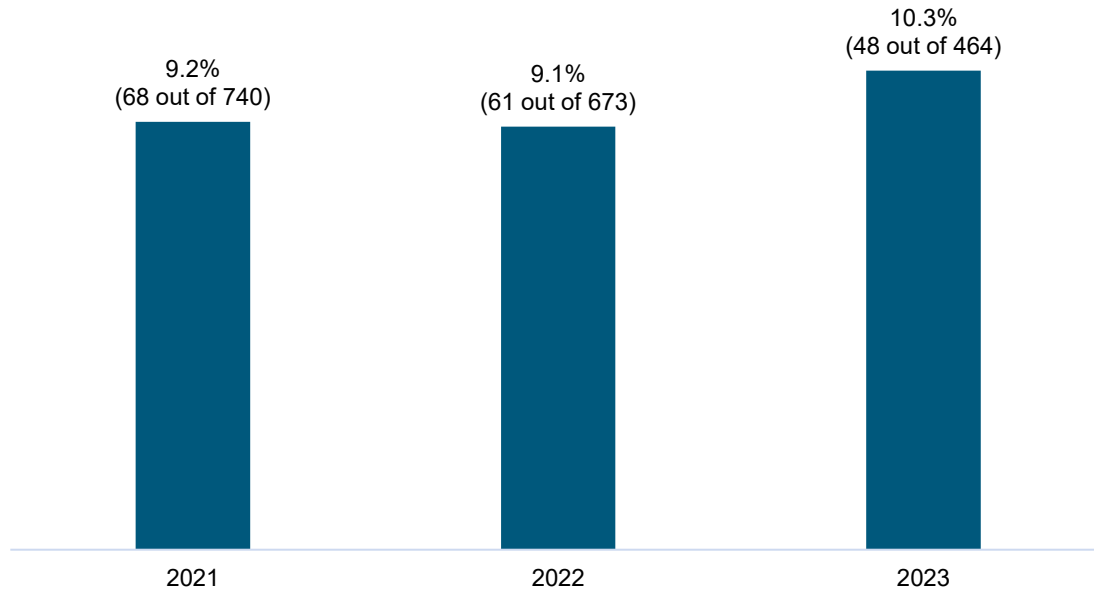
²⁰ The definition of recidivism rates differs for (a) Tier 1 and 2 cases and (b) Tier 3 cases, refer to Section B (Technical Note).

F5. OVERALL TWO-YEAR RECIDIVISM RATES – TIER 1 AND 2 CASES

Overall, two-year recidivism rates for Tier 1 and 2 cases increased, but remained low

The overall two-year recidivism rate for Tier 1 and 2 cases increased slightly from 9.1% for the 2022 release cohort to 10.3% for the 2023 release cohort (Chart 17). Following a dip in recidivism rate in 2020 (i.e. reoffending up to 2022) during the COVID-19 period, likely due to movement restrictions and reduced opportunities for offending, recidivism rates returned to pre-pandemic levels from the 2022 release cohort onwards.²¹

CHART 17: TWO-YEAR OVERALL RECIDIVISM RATES OF YOUTHS WHO COMPLETED THE REHABILITATION PROGRAMMES BY COHORT

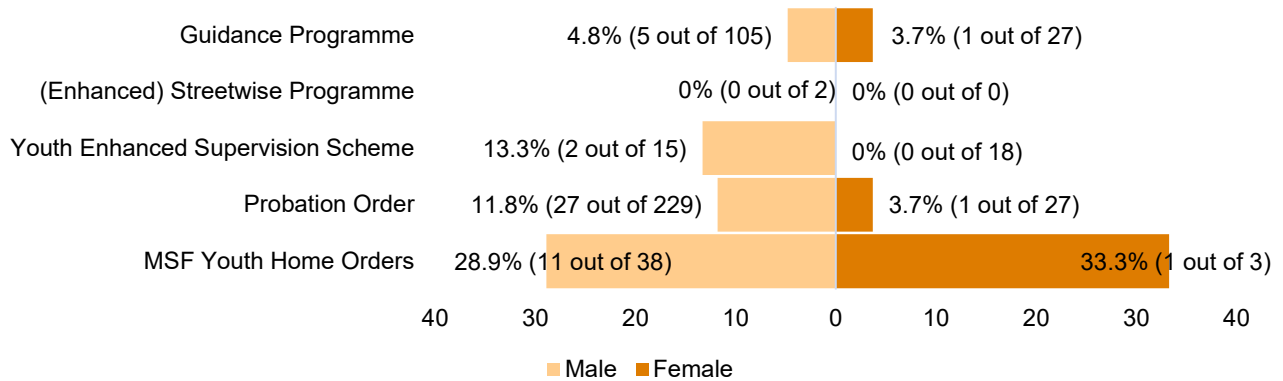


²¹ The two-year recidivism rates were 8.4% in 2018 and 7.8% in 2019.

Generally, males had higher two-year recidivism rates, compared to females

Consistent with overall sex-specific offending trends, male youths recorded higher two-year recidivism rates than female youths across most intervention types (Chart 18). This trend has remained generally consistent since 2019.²² The exception was MSF Youth Home Orders, where the recidivism rate for female youths was higher. This should be interpreted with caution, as it was based on a very small cohort of three female youths, of whom one offended. The findings suggest that post-care interventions should continue to focus on male youths, who account for the majority of reoffending, while recognising that recidivism rates based on small cohort sizes may fluctuate substantially from year to year.

CHART 18: TWO-YEAR RECIDIVISM RATES OF YOUTHS WHO COMPLETED THE SPECIFIED PROGRAMMES (TIER 1 AND 2 CASES) IN 2023, BY SEX OF YOUTH



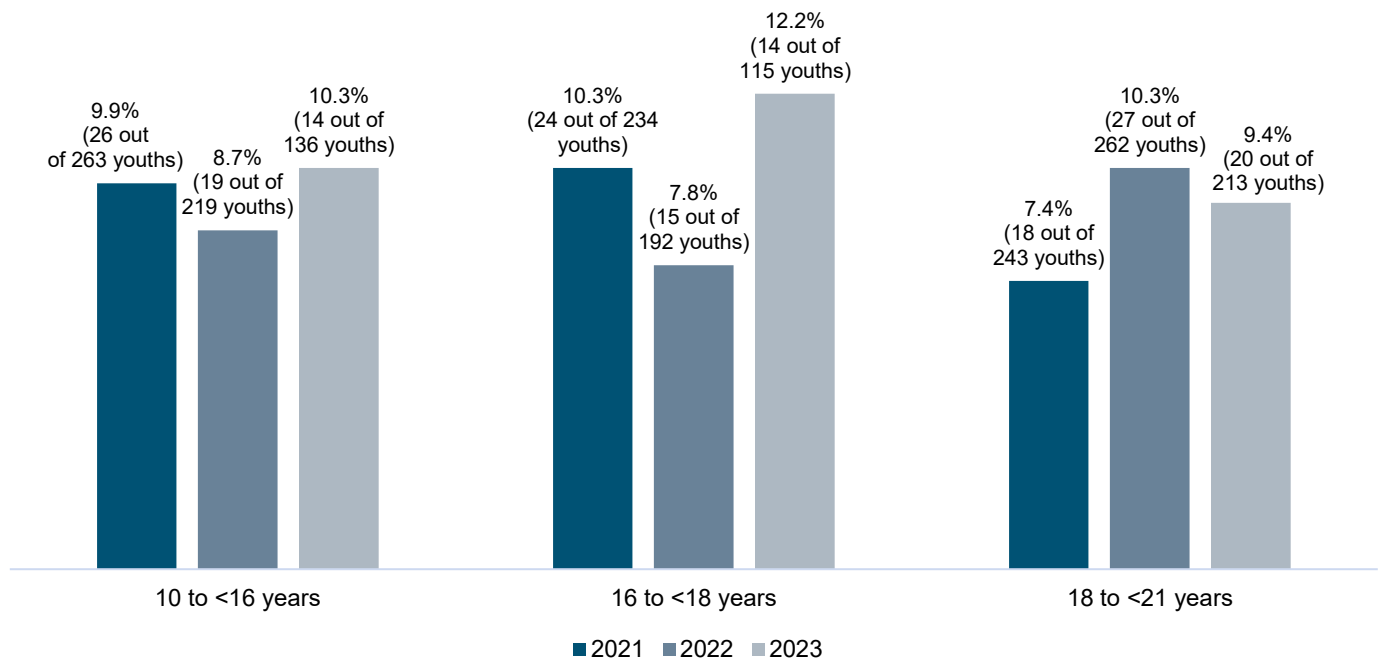
²² Years prior to 2019 were not analysed.

Decrease in recidivism rates among older youths, and increase in recidivism rates among younger youths and middle youths

Among younger youths, the two-year recidivism rate increased from 8.7% for the 2022 release cohort to 10.3% for the 2023 release cohort (Chart 19). Among middle youths, the recidivism rate increased more markedly from 7.8% to 12.2% over the same period. Despite the increase in recidivism rates, the absolute number of youths who reoffended in both age groups declined, suggesting that the higher rates were influenced by smaller cohort sizes.

Meanwhile, the two-year recidivism rate for older youths decreased from 10.3% for the 2022 release cohort to 9.4% for the 2023 release cohort. Similarly, the number of youths who reoffended in this age group declined.

CHART 19: TWO-YEAR RECIDIVISM RATES OF YOUTHS WHO COMPLETED THE REHABILITATION PROGRAMMES (TIER 1 AND 2 CASES) FROM 2021 TO 2023, BY AGE OF YOUTH

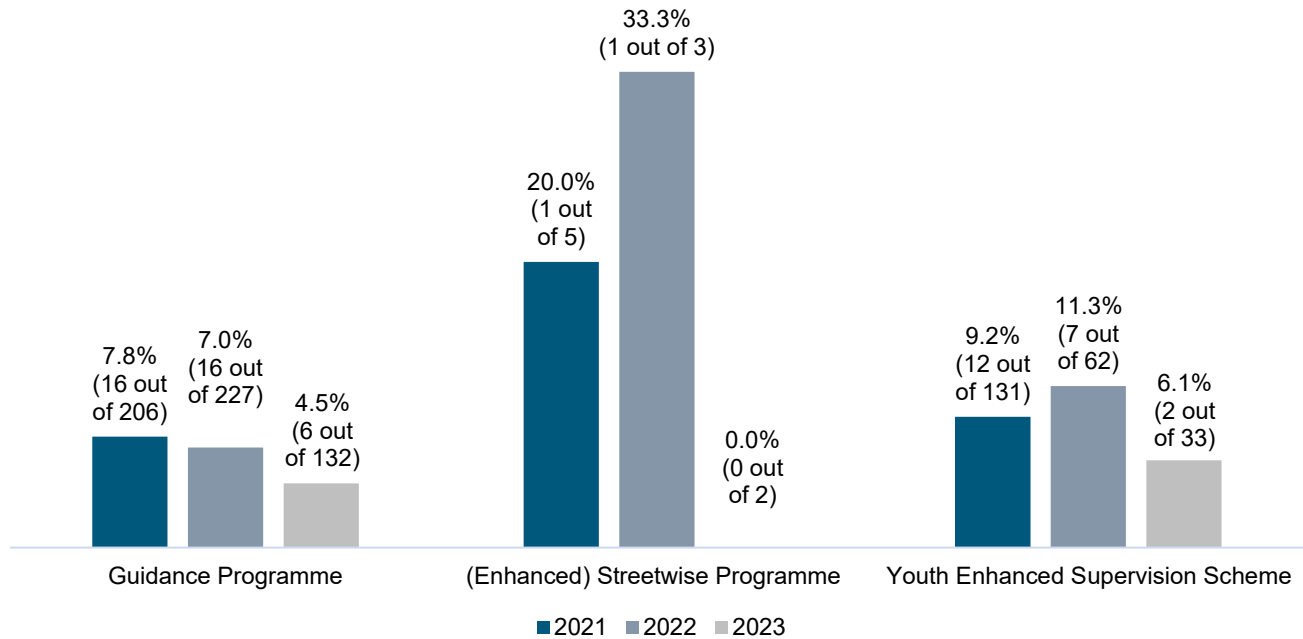


F6. OVERALL TWO-YEAR RECIDIVISM RATES WITHIN TIER 1 CASES

The two-year recidivism rates for the individual rehabilitation programmes under Tier 1 cases have decreased

The two-year recidivism rates for youths under the various rehabilitation programmes have all decreased and remained generally low (Chart 20), as a testament of the effectiveness of these diversionary programmes.

CHART 20: TWO-YEAR RECIDIVISM RATES OF YOUTHS WHO COMPLETED TIER 1 PROGRAMMES (2021-2023)



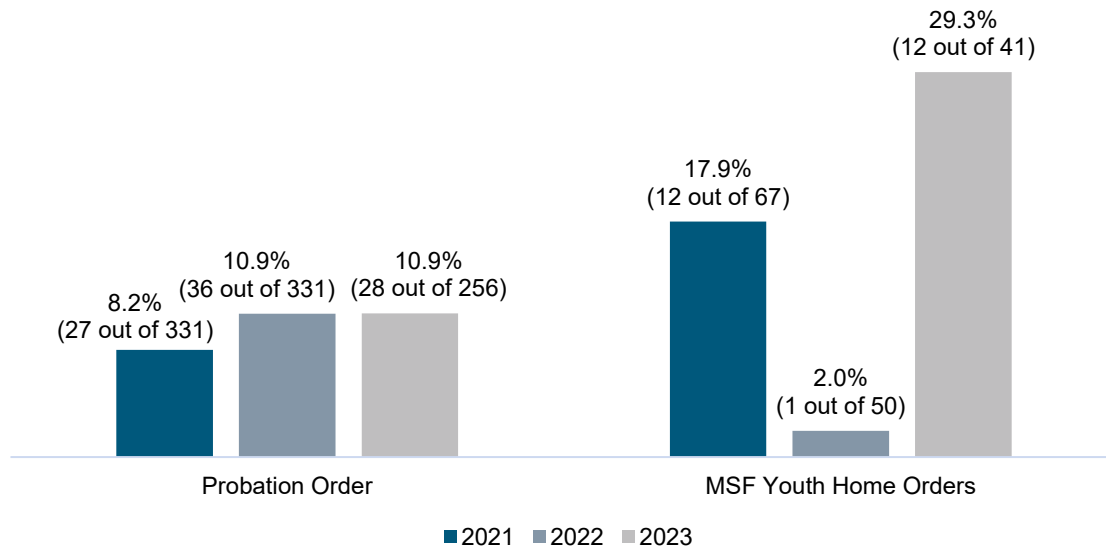
F7. OVERALL TWO-YEAR RECIDIVISM RATES WITHIN TIER 2 CASES

Recidivism rates for youths on Probation Orders remained low, while recidivism increased for youths in MSF Youth Homes

The two-year recidivism rate for youths placed on Probation Orders remained relatively low and stable at around 10.9% across the 2022 to 2023 release cohorts (Chart 21).

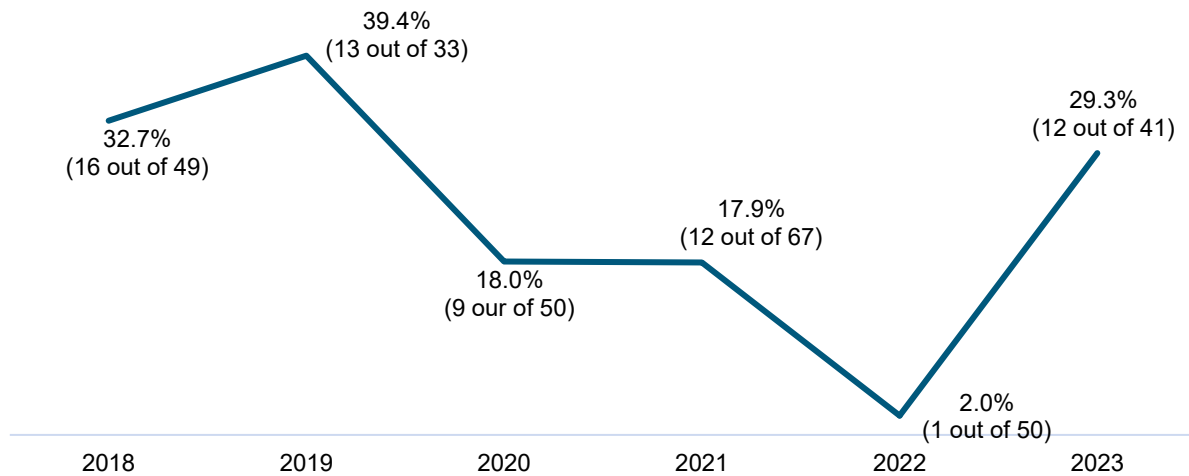
In contrast, the recidivism rate for youths placed on MSF Youth Homes Orders increased markedly from 2.0% for the 2022 release cohort to 29.3% for the 2023 release cohort (Chart 21). This increase was influenced by both the relatively small cohort size of youths admitted to Youth Homes, and the return to pre-COVID levels (Chart 22). For MSF Youth Homes, cohort sizes have remained relatively small, with generally no more than 50 offenders in each release cohort between 2018 to 2023. Consequently, relatively small changes in the number of re-offenders can have a disproportionate impact on the reported recidivism rate. For example, the number of re-offenders increased from 1 out of 50 offenders in the 2022 release cohort to 12 out of 41 offenders in the 2023 release cohort, resulting in a marked increase in the recidivism rate.

CHART 21: TWO-YEAR RECIDIVISM RATES OF YOUTHS WHO COMPLETED TIER 2 REGIMES (2021-2023)



However, the CY2023 two-year recidivism rate for youths placed on MSF Youth Homes Orders remains within the historical range observed. Between the 2018 and 2021 release cohorts, two-year recidivism rates ranged from 17.9% to 39.4%, indicating that year-to-year fluctuations are not uncommon for this group (Chart 22).

CHART 22: RECIDIVISM RATES OF YOUTHS WHO COMPLETED MSF YOUTH HOME ORDER (CY2018-2023)



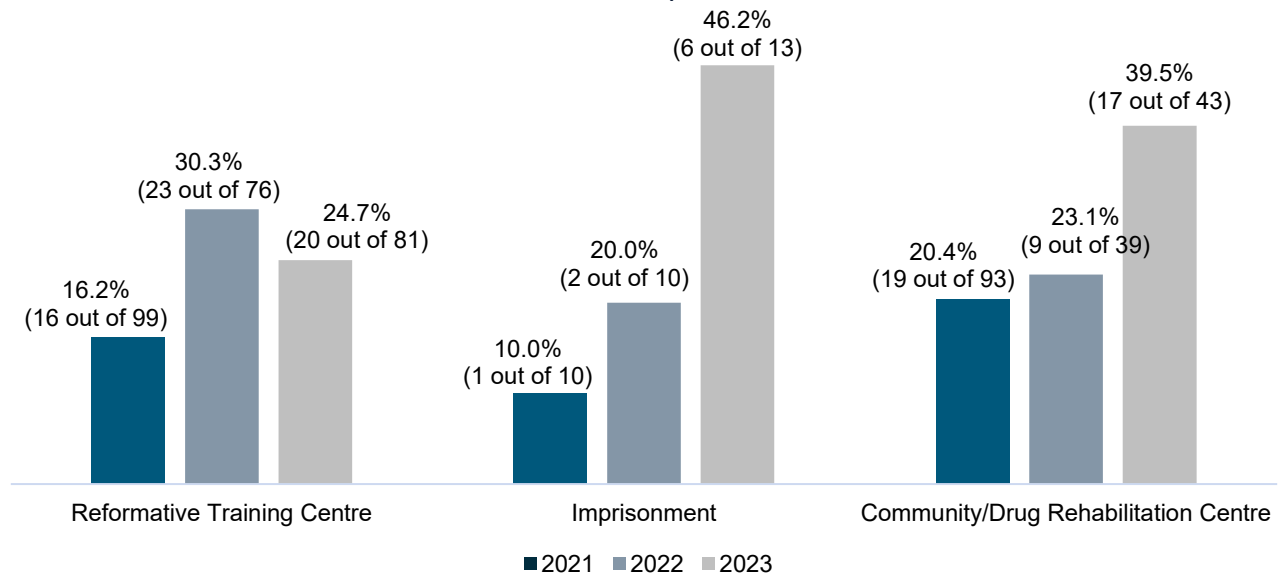
F8. OVERALL TWO-YEAR RECIDIVISM RATES WITHIN TIER 3 CASES²³

Decrease in recidivism rates for youths discharged from Reformatory Training Centre; increase in recidivism rates for youths discharged from imprisonment and Community/Drug Rehabilitation Centre²⁴

The two-year recidivism rates (i.e. percentage of local inmates under the custody of the Singapore Prison Service who were subsequently detained or sentenced to imprisonment or day reporting order within two years of release into the community) for youths discharged from Reformatory Training Centre decreased from 30.3% for the 2022 release cohort to 24.7% for the 2023 release cohort (Chart 23).

The two-year recidivism rates for youths discharged from imprisonment increased from 20.0% for the 2022 release cohort to 46.2% for the 2023 release cohort. Similarly, the two-year recidivism rates for youths discharged from Community/Drug Rehabilitation Centre increased from 23.1% for the 2022 release cohort to 39.5% for the 2023 release cohort (Chart 23). The small cohort sizes for the release cohorts are likely to have resulted in significant fluctuations in recidivism rates across the release cohorts.

CHART 23: TWO-YEAR RECIDIVISM RATES OF YOUTHS WHO COMPLETED TIER 3 REGIMES (2021-2023)



²³ Age and sex breakdowns for Tier 3 recidivism rates were not reported, as the cohort sizes were too small for a meaningful analysis.

²⁴ Recidivism rates for youths discharged from Drug Rehabilitation Centre include the recidivism rates of youths discharged from Community Rehabilitation Centre. Excluding foreigners as Prisons only tracks recidivism rates for local youths.

G. CONCLUSION

In summary, the youth offending rate increased from 4.8 to 5.6 per 1,000 youths between 2024 and 2025, with middle youths and older youths continuing to be at higher risk of offending. Key areas of concern include cheating & related offences among middle youths and older youths, and theft & related offences and sexual offences among younger youths. Tier 1 cases recorded the largest increase in placements, driven by higher numbers of youths placed on the Guidance Programme and Youth Enhanced Supervision Scheme. Tier 3 placements also increased, largely due to more older youths being admitted to the DRC, RTC and prison.

Encouragingly, completion rates across Tier 1 and Tier 2 cases remained consistently high and stable. In particular, recidivism rates declined across all three Tier 1 programmes. These positive outcomes reflect the collective efforts of families, volunteers, and community partners, including Integrated Service Providers – their commitment and support have played a key role in the rehabilitation and reintegration of youth offenders.

The Government remains committed to working closely with partners to reduce youth offending, sustain high programme completion rates, and keep recidivism low. At the same time, it will continue to monitor and respond proactively to emerging trends, including youth involvement in scam-related offences, to ensure that rehabilitation efforts remain effective and responsive to evolving risks.

H. ANNEX

Table A: Top Offence Categories by Individual Category Ranking

Category	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Cheating & Related Offences	1	2	2	1	1
Theft & Related Offences	3	1	1	2	2
Sexual Offences	2	3	3	3	3
Public Order & Related Offences	4	4	4	4	4
Drug Consumption Offences	5	5	5	5	5
(Serious) Offences Against the Person	6	6	6	6	6

Source: SPF and CNB

Table B: Top Offence Categories by Individual Category Ranking By Younger Youths

Category	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Cheating & Related Offences	5	5	5	5	5
Theft & Related Offences	1	1	1	1	1
Sexual Offences	2	2	2	2	2
Public Order & Related Offences	3	3	3	3	3
Drug Consumption Offences	6	NA	6	6	6
(Serious) Offences Against the Person	4	4	4	4	4

Source: SPF and CNB

Table C: Top Offence Categories by Individual Category Ranking By Middle Youths

Category	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Cheating & Related Offences	4	2	2	1	1
Theft & Related Offences	2	1	1	2	3
Sexual Offences	1	4	3	3	2
Public Order & Related Offences	3	3	4	4	4
Drug Consumption Offences	5	5	5	5	5
(Serious) Offences Against the Person	6	6	6	6	6

Source: SPF and CNB

Table D: Top Offence Categories by Individual Category Ranking By Older Youths

Category	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Cheating & Related Offences	1	1	1	1	1
Theft & Related Offences	2	2	2	2	2
Sexual Offences	5	4	3	3	3
Public Order & Related Offences	4	3	5	5	4
Drug Consumption Offences	3	5	4	4	5
(Serious) Offences Against the Person	6	6	6	6	6

Source: SPF and CNB

Table E: Top Offence Categories by Individual Category Ranking By Female Youth Offenders

Category	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Cheating & Related Offences	2	2	2	2	1
Theft & Related Offences	1	1	1	1	2
Sexual Offences	3	5	3	5	4
Public Order & Related Offences	5	3	4	4	5
Drug Consumption Offences	4	4	5	3	3
(Serious) Offences Against the Person	6	6	6	6	6

Source: SPF and CNB

Table F: Top Offence Categories by Individual Category Ranking By Male Youth Offenders

Category	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Cheating & Related Offences	4	2	1	1	1
Theft & Related Offences	3	1	2	3	3
Sexual Offences	1	3	3	2	2
Public Order & Related Offences	2	4	4	4	4
Drug Consumption Offences	5	5	5	5	5
(Serious) Offences Against the Person	6	6	6	6	6

Source: SPF and CNB

Table G: Number of youths placed on Tier 1 cases by sex (2025)

Rehabilitation Programme	Male	Female
Guidance Programme	255	97
(Enhanced) Streetwise Programme	13	0
Youth Enhanced Supervision Scheme	69	61

Table H: Number of youths placed on Tier 1 cases by age (2025)

Rehabilitation Programme	10 to <16 years	16 to <18 years	18 to <21 years
Guidance Programme	241	102	9
(Enhanced) Streetwise Programme	2	4	7
Youth Enhanced Supervision Scheme	27	54	49

Table I: Number of youths placed on Tier 2 cases by sex (2025)

Regime	Male	Female
Probation Order	145	26
MSF Youth Home Order	80	10

Table J: Number of youths placed on Tier 2 cases by age (2025)

Regime	10 to <16 years	16 to <18 years	18 to <21 years
Probation Order	32	44	95
MSF Youth Home Order	59	31	0