



office of crime statistics and research

IMPACT OF ICAN FLEXIBLE LEARNING OPTIONS ON PARTICIPANT OFFENDING BEHAVIOUR

First published April 2014 by

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The authors would like to thank Hazel Lim for editing and advice.

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Executive Summary

Innovative Community Action Networks (ICAN) is a Department for Education and Child Development (DECD)-led community driven social inclusion initiative that aims to re-engage young people who have disengaged from school or are at risk of doing so. An ICAN-developed learning strategy known as a Flexible Learning Option (FLO) provides funding and support for young people to engage in different accredited learning and engagement activities while still enrolled in their school.

OCSAR was approached by ICAN representatives and asked to investigate the offending behaviour of FLO participants. Anecdotal evidence suggests that involvement in ICAN and FLO may be associated with a reduction in offending behaviour (ARTD Consultants 2012, Atelier Learning Solutions 2007). Although preventing offending is not a primary objective of ICAN, it is known that disengagement from education is associated with an increased risk of contact with the justice system (Henry, Knight & Thornberry 2012), and it is therefore possible that an improvement in engagement in education would be associated with a reduction in contact with the justice system.

The aims of the current study are to:

- determine the offending profile of a group of ICAN Flexible Learning Options (FLO) participants before, during and after enrolment in FLO; and
- examine the impact of the ICAN FLO strategy on participant offending behaviour.

The specific research questions for the study are:

- What proportion of FLO students had a record of recent formal contact with the police and/or a proven conviction/s prior to FLO enrolment?
- For those who had recent formal contact with police or had been convicted of an offence/s, what is the nature of the offending?
- How did the offending profile of FLO students change during and after their FLO enrolment, in terms of rate, type and severity of offending?
- How do outcomes following FLO vary according to student characteristics such as Indigenous status, disability status, geographical area and Guardianship status?
- How do the age-specific offending rates for FLO-enrolled young people compare with those of the South Australian population?

Method

- All students enrolled in FLO in South Australia for at least eight consecutive terms between 2007 and 2009, and who were *not* enrolled in FLO in 2006 or 2010, were included in the initial sample group.
- Offending over four or five time periods (Pre-FLO, 1st year FLO, 2nd year FLO, 3rd year FLO (where possible) and post-FLO) was compared, in terms of both formal contact with police and findings of guilt, to look for changes over time.
- Age-specific offending amongst the sample group was also compared to that of the South Australian population in terms of trends in offending over time.

Key findings

- Overall 273 students were included in the FLO sample group. Ages ranged from 13 to 33 years, although 263 (96.3%) were aged between 13 and 19 years. Of the group, 52.7% were female, 29.3% were recorded as having a disability, 12.1% were recorded as having an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander background, and 1.5% were under the Guardianship of the Minister.
- One quarter (24.9%) of the FLO sample group had recorded at least one police apprehension in the one year prior to commencing FLO, and 19.0% had at least one

finding of guilt. For a rough comparison, about 4% of the South Australian population aged 13-33 years recorded at least one apprehension in a year. This indicates that the proportion of the FLO group to have recorded an apprehension in the one-year period was considerably higher than the population.

- Male students were more likely than females to have recorded an apprehension event and a proven guilty event in the pre-FLO period, but there was no difference between groups according to ICAN area, ATSI background or disability status.
- For the whole sample group, neither the proportion to record at least one offence, nor the rate of offence 'events' in each period, showed any significant changes over time. This was true for both apprehensions and offences proven guilty. However:
 - There was a significant decline in the rate of apprehension events and proven guilty events over time for the subgroup of the sample who had recorded at least one apprehension event or one proven guilty event in the pre-FLO period, suggesting that for students who have already commenced offending, FLO enrolment may help them reduce and even prevent their offending behaviour.
 - Analysis of the proportion of the sample to record an event in each of the three National Offence Index (NOI) seriousness categories over time confirmed that, while there was no significant difference in the proportion of the sample to record an event overall, there was an observable shift (for proven guilty events only) away from serious offences toward minor offences.
 - When compared with the South Australian population, students in the FLO sample group showed considerably higher rates of apprehension overall. However, comparisons between the sample and the general population of the same age showed that students commencing FLO aged 15 to 17 years demonstrated decreasing proportions recording an apprehension over time, where the general population showed an increasing trend over time.

The main limitations of this study are:

- that the sample group is limited to students who completed at least eight consecutive terms of FLO enrolment so findings cannot be generalised to students completing a shorter period of FLO;
- that the post-FLO follow-up period is limited to one year;
- and that a suitable control group could not be found to compare offending with. However, population reference statistics have been used in place of a control group.

Conclusion

In conclusion, the findings of this analysis show that up to one quarter of students enrolled in FLO for eight or more consecutive terms are likely to have had contact with the police in the year prior to this enrolment, and that they are far more likely than the population overall to have recorded a police apprehension event in this period. When considered together, the findings of this study provide evidence that FLO may have some impact on the offending behaviour of students over time. In particular, it appears that FLO may help reduce the severity of offending, and helps reduce the frequency of offending for students who had already offended prior their FLO enrolment. For students aged 15-17, it appears that FLO enrolment may result in levels of offending lower than those that would be expected if they had not been involved in FLO.

Introduction

Innovative Community Action Networks (ICAN) is a Department for Education and Child Development (DECD)-led community driven social inclusion initiative that aims to re-engage young people who have disengaged from school or are at risk of doing so. An ICAN-developed learning strategy known as Flexible Learning Option (FLO) provides funding and support for young people to engage in different accredited learning and engagement activities while still enrolled in their school.

Disengagement from education can have a range of serious effects on young people, their families and their communities, including unemployment, low income, mental health problems, and contact with the justice system (Henry, Knight & Thornberry 2012). ICANs are intended to involve the whole community and share responsibility for young people and ensure that they remain in education or training for as long as possible.

ICANs were first established in 2004 in four of the most socio-economically disadvantaged areas in the State, which were labelled: Northern Metro; Outer South Metro; Upper Spencer; and Western Metro. The FLO initiative was introduced in 2007. From 2010, ICANs were established in additional areas across the State, but as this study concerns only FLO enrolments in the period 2007–9, all were in one of the original four areas. Data provided by DECD shows that in 2009, there were 35 schools involved in ICAN, with a total of 1,875 students enrolled in FLO. Of these, 32% of students had a School card (indicating a low income household), 22% had a disability, 13% were of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander (ATSI) background, and 3% under Guardianship of the Minister. A comprehensive evaluation of ICAN currently being conducted by ARTD Consultants (2012) shows that these proportions have not changed considerably over time, even as ICAN has expanded.

Students commence FLO enrolment at one of four levels, ranging from FLO 1: Early Intervention to FLO 4: Re-engagement. The ARTD Interim report showed that in 2011 the greatest proportion of students was enrolled in FLO 4 (39%). These are students who have become completely disengaged with school, may present with significant barriers in terms of health and wellbeing, and may have had contact with the juvenile justice system.

OCSAR was approached by ICAN representatives and asked to investigate the offending behaviour of FLO participants. Other evaluations of ICAN and FLO have demonstrated benefits relating to engagement and retention, transition to further education, training or employment, and reductions in behavioural strategies such as school suspensions and exclusions (ARTD Consultants 2012, Atelier Learning Solutions 2006, 2007). Anecdotal evidence suggests that involvement in ICAN and FLO may be associated with a reduction in offending behaviour (ARTD Consultants 2012, Atelier Learning Solutions 2007). Although preventing offending is not a primary objective of ICAN, given that a substantial proportion of FLO-enrolled students are considered to be at risk of having contact with the juvenile justice system, and disengagement from education is associated with an increased risk of contact with the justice system (Henry, Knight & Thornberry 2012), it is possible that an improvement in engagement in education will be associated with a reduction in contact with the justice system.

This potential effect on FLO participants' level of contact with the justice system is not currently being investigated as part of ARTD's evaluation. It is not currently known what proportion of those enrolled have had formal contact with the police or been convicted of any offences. The current report presents a profile of the offending behaviour of a group of ICAN Flexible Learning Options (FLO) participants, and also investigates what impact, if any, enrolment in FLO has had on the offending behaviour of a group of participants. It is anticipated that the findings from this study will assist ICAN with planning and tailoring services for students, as well as contributing to the growing body of evidence regarding the impact of ICAN and FLO more broadly.

The aims of the current study are to:

- determine the offending profile of a group of ICAN Flexible Learning Options (FLO) participants before, during and after enrolment in FLO; and
- examine the effect of the ICAN FLO strategy on participant offending behaviour.

The specific research questions for the study are:

- What proportion of FLO students had a record of recent formal contact with the police and/or a proven conviction/s prior to FLO enrolment?
- For those who had recent formal contact with police or had been convicted of an offence/s, what is the nature of the offending?
- How did the offending profile of FLO students change during and after their FLO enrolment, in terms of rate, type and severity of offending?
- How do offending outcomes following FLO vary according to student characteristics such as Indigenous status, disability status, geographical area and Guardianship status?
- How do the age-specific offending rates for FLO-enrolled young people compare with those of the South Australian population?

It is hypothesised that if FLO is effective in reducing or preventing offending behaviour, the proportion of the FLO sample group to record at least one offending event, and/or the rate of recorded offending events for the sample group, will demonstrate a decreasing trend over time. It is also hypothesised that if FLO is effective in reducing or preventing offending, the FLO sample group will demonstrate a pattern of offending over time which decreases more steeply than, or increases more slowly than, that of the general population of the same age.

Method

Sample group

All students enrolled in FLO in South Australia for at least eight terms between 2007 and 2009 and who were not enrolled in 2006 or 2010 were included in the initial sample group. The FLO enrolment period of 2007 to 2009 was chosen because 2007 was the first year of FLO enrolment and it was a period in which there were no major changes in the implementation of ICAN.

Data sources

DECD provided OCSAR with a list of names and birthdates of all FLO-enrolled students who met the above selection criteria. This list also included enrolment details, geographical area of the enrolment, sex, Aboriginal status, disability status and whether they were under Guardianship of the Minister. The OCSAR Database Manager then used the names and dates of birth to extract information about any individual appearing on the SAPOL database. For each individual, the Justice Information System (JIS) PIN, offence date and code, and apprehension number for all offences listed on apprehension reports for offences during the study period (2006-2010) was extracted. This process was repeated for offences proven guilty from the Courts Administration Authority database. Upon completing these two processes, names were removed from the data file and JIS PIN could then be used as an identifier of each individual. The reason for duplicating analyses for apprehension events and proven guilty events is that it was not known which best described the offending behaviour of the student group.

Offending events

Offence data was analysed in terms of offending 'events'. For police apprehensions data, an 'apprehension event' is defined as all offences reported to police that were committed on the same day by one individual and resulted in an apprehension report. A police apprehension report may be generated as a result of an arrest, or an offence being reported to police. An apprehension report may not result in a finding of guilt. It does not include informal cautions issued by police, but does include formal cautions which were recorded on the police system.

A proven guilty event is defined as all criminal activity by an individual occurring in one day which subsequently results in a finding of guilt. Findings of guilt include matters to which a person pleads guilty (including those dealt with through formal cautions and family conferences) and matters where a person has been found guilty of an offence by a court.

Calculating major charge

Major charges in this study are the charges which are considered the most serious charge for each event, based on maximum statutory penalty (MSP), or actual penalty. For apprehension events, this is the charge on the apprehension report with the greatest MSP. For proven guilty events, this is the charge that received the highest penalty of those that were proven guilty. Where two or more charges for the same event had the same MSP or penalty, the charge with the lowest JANCO code was selected as the major charge. The JANCO classification system groups offences into eight major categories. Each JANCO classification level generally contains a number of offences of the same type that may be located in either State and/or Commonwealth legislation.

Offence type and seriousness

Major charges were categorised according to major JANCO category using the first digit, such that all JANCO codes beginning with '1' were categorised under *offences against the person*, all codes beginning with '2' were categorised under *robbery and extortion*, and so on.

Seriousness of offending was categorised according to the ABS National Offence Index (NOI). The NOI ranks all offence classifications contained within the Australian Standard Offence Classification (ASOC) system in order of seriousness. The index starts with the most

serious offence of murder, which has an index value of one, and then continues down through 157 ranked offences. It must be noted that the NOI ranks offences in relatively broad groups. For the purposes of this analysis, offences were classified into three broad groups based on their NOI ranking, where NOI rankings of 1 to 64 were considered 'serious', rankings 65 to 96 were considered 'moderate' and rankings 97 to 157 were considered 'minor'.

Examples of offences classified in this study as minor include: driving without a licence; breach of bail; resist/hinder police; possess or consume cannabis; found with intent to commit an offence; and carry a graffiti implement.

Examples of offences classified as moderate include: larceny of/from a motor vehicle; illegal use of a motor vehicle; damage property (including house/motor vehicle); driving over the prescribed alcohol limit; and mark graffiti.

Examples of offences classified as serious include: trespass with intent to commit an offence; assault (including minor assault); robbery with a weapon; arson; misuse of a motor vehicle ('hoon' driving); possession of a weapon; and cultivate cannabis.

Exclusions

The original data set had 296 individuals. As outlined, the selection criteria included individuals who were enrolled in FLO for at least eight terms in 2007-09 but were not enrolled in 2006 or 2010. There were 18 students who were found not to have attended eight consecutive terms during the study period (2007-2009), and a further five who did complete eight consecutive terms, but also attended other terms outside of the consecutive terms, either in the one year pre-FLO period or the one-year post-FLO period. These students were excluded from the analyses.

Calculating one year pre and post FLO

FLO commencement date was calculated as being the first school day for the term in which they commenced FLO. The pre-FLO period was calculated by taking one year from the FLO commencement date. The post-FLO period was calculated by first creating a date which became their finishing date for enrolment in FLO. In order to factor in holidays during the school year, the end date included the holiday period after the student's last term enrolled in FLO. For example, if a person completed eight terms finishing at the end of term one of 2009, then the FLO finishing date was the day before the beginning of term two of 2009. One year was then added to this date to calculate the post-FLO period.

Ethics and Privacy

This study has ethical approval from the Families and Communities Research Ethics Committee. OCSAR received an exemption from the Information Privacy Principles in order to collect and use the data included in this study.

Results

Data were received for 296 students who attended the ICAN Flexible Learning Options (FLO) from 2007 to 2009 for at least 8 terms. As outlined above, for the purpose of this report, 18 students who did not complete at least eight *consecutive* terms during this three year period were excluded from the analysis. A further five students were also excluded because they had extra terms of FLO which they had completed outside of their eight consecutive terms.

The first section details the demographic information of the ICAN FLO students. The following sections report the offending information, including both police apprehension data and offences proven guilty.

Demographics

Age

Most ICAN FLO students started the program between the ages of 13 and 19 years. However there were also some mature-aged students completing their South Australian Certificate of Education (SACE), who were aged from 21 to 33 years. As shown in Table 1, just over half of students (53.1%) were aged 15 or 16 when they started the program.

Table 1: Age of students at commencement of FLO

Age at commencement of FLO*	No. of Individuals	Per cent
13	14	5.1
14	45	16.5
15	79	28.9
16	66	24.2
17	44	16.1
18	13	4.8
19	2	0.7
Adults (20-33)	10	3.7
TOTAL	273	100.0

*Age was calculated using date of birth and date of first day of enrolment.

Sex

There were slightly more females (144, or 52.7%) than males (129, or 47.3%).

Year level at school

Table 2 shows the year level in which students were first enrolled in ICAN FLO. Well over half (60.1%) of students commenced FLO when they were in Year 10 or 11.

Table 2: Year level in which students commenced FLO

School year level*	No. of Individuals	Per cent
8	6	2.2
9	44	16.1
10	69	25.3
11	95	34.8
12	50	18.3
Other	9	3.3
TOTAL	273	100.0

*Year level when the student was first enrolled.

Total terms completed

A majority (193, or 70.7%) of students completed eight terms of the program during the study period. Table 3 shows that the remaining students varied in attendance from nine to 12 terms.

Table 3: Number of terms completed by individuals

Total terms	No. of Individuals	Per cent
8	193	70.7
9	13	4.8
10	13	4.8
11	15	5.5
12	39	14.3
TOTAL	273	100.0

Disability status

Table 4 presents the students who were listed as having a disability. Of the individuals who were listed as having a disability, more students had a language and communication disability than any other type of disability. Sixty one (22.3%) of all ICAN FLO students in the study had language and communication issues. Eleven (4.0%) students had an intellectual disability.

Table 4: Number of students listed as having a disability type during FLO enrolment

Impairment	No. of Individuals	Per cent
Language and Communication	61	22.3
Intellectual disability	11	4.0
Sensory disability (Hearing)	3	1.1
Physical disability	2	0.7
Autistic disorder/Asperger's disorder	1	0.4
Sensory disability (Vision)	1	0.4
Speech and/or Language	1	0.4

ICAN Area

The majority of students were from the Northern Metro (105, 38.5%) and Outer South area (80, 29.3%).

Table 5: Number of individuals in each ICAN area at the start of enrolment

ICAN Area	No. of Individuals	Per cent
Northern Metro	105	38.5
Outer South	80	29.3
Upper Spencer	24	8.8
Western Metro	43	15.8
State*	21	7.7
TOTAL	273	100.0

*These students attended two different schools that were outside of the original four ICAN areas and were instead administered centrally.

Aboriginal Status and Guardianship of the Minister

There were 33 individuals (12.1%) who were listed as having an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander (ATSI) background. There were four individuals (1.5%) who are under the Guardianship of the Minister. Although this group of students are included in the overall sample group, due to the small number of students under the Guardianship of the Minister, no further analyses will include this variable.

Pre-FLO offending profile

Apprehension events

This section outlines pre-FLO apprehension events amongst the sample group. As outlined in the 'Method' section, an apprehension event is defined as all offending occurring on one day which results in a police apprehension report.

Pre-FLO offending rates amongst subgroups

There were 68 individuals (24.9%) who had at least one police apprehension event during the one year period prior to enrolment in ICAN FLO. This proportion was greatest amongst students who commenced FLO when they were 13 or 14 years old, and lowest amongst those commencing when they were 18 or older.

Table 6: Students with at least one apprehension event in the pre-FLO period by age at first enrolment

Age at first FLO enrolment	Student sample (N)	Students with at least one apprehension event (N)	% of sample with at least one event
13 years	14	8	57.1
14 years	45	13	28.9
15 years	79	16	20.3
16 years	66	17	25.8
17 years	44	11	25.0
18 years	13	2	15.4
19+ years	12	1	8.3
TOTAL	273	68	24.9

Table 7 shows that males were more like to have an apprehension event (35.7%) than females (15.3%). This difference was statistically significant.

Table 7: Students with at least one apprehension event in the pre-FLO period by gender

Gender	Student sample (N)	Students with at least one apprehension event (N)	% of sample with at least one event
Male	129	46	35.7*
Female	144	22	15.3*
TOTAL	273	68	24.9

* $\chi^2(1)=15.11, p<0.001$

Seven ATSI students (21.2% of the sample) had at least one apprehension event (see Table 8). This is similar to the percentage of the sample of non-ATSI students (25.5%), and the difference was not statistically significant.

Table 8: Students with at least one apprehension event in the pre-FLO period by ATSI status

Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander status	Student sample (N)	Students with at least one apprehension event (N)	% of sample with at least one event
ATSI	33	7	21.2
Non-ATSI	240	61	25.5
TOTAL	273	68	24.9

Table 9 shows that there was only a small (non-significant) difference between students with a disability and students without a disability in terms of the proportion to have at least one pre-FLO apprehension event (29.9% and 23.1% respectively).

Table 9: Students with at least one apprehension event in the pre-FLO period by disability status

Disability status	Student sample (N)	Students with at least one apprehension event (N)	% of sample with at least one event
Disability	77	23	29.9
No disability	196	45	23.1
TOTAL	273	68	24.9

Table 10 shows that there were only small differences between students from each ICAN area in terms of the proportion with at least one pre-FLO apprehension event. The Western Metro, Upper Spencer and State areas had the highest proportion of students to have recorded an apprehension event, while the Outer South had the lowest. These differences were not statistically significant.

Table 10: Students with at least one apprehension event in the pre-FLO period by ICAN area

ICAN area	Student sample (N)	Students with at least one apprehension event (N)	% of sample with at least one event
Northern Metro	105	27	25.7
Outer South	80	15	18.8
Upper Spencer	24	7	29.2
Western Metro	43	13	30.2
State*	21	6	28.6
TOTAL	273	68	24.9

*These students attended two schools that were outside of the original four ICAN areas and were instead administered centrally.

Type and frequency of offending in pre-FLO period

As shown above, of the 273 young people involved in the analysis, 68 (24.9%) had at least one apprehension event in the one year prior to commencing FLO. Most of the students with at least one offending event had only one event.

Table 11: Number of apprehension events in pre-FLO period

Number of events	Number of individuals	% of individuals
0	205	75.1
1	41	15.0
2	13	4.8
3	4	1.5
4	0	-
5	5	1.8
6	2	0.7
7	1	0.4
11	1	0.4
12	1	0.4
TOTAL	273	100.0

Overall, there were 146 apprehension events, and the major charges for all events are presented in Table 12, grouped by broad JANCO category. The majority of events had a major charge of either an *offence against good order* (30.1%) or a *burglary, fraud and larceny* offence (26.0%).

Table 12: Offence type (major charge) for all apprehension events occurring in pre-FLO period

JANCO category	Number of events	% of all events
1 Offences against the person	13	8.9
2 Robbery and extortion	1	.7
3 Burglary, fraud and larceny	38	26.0
4 Damage property	17	11.6
5 Offences against good order	44	30.1
6 Drug offences	2	1.4
7 Driving offences	29	19.9
8 Other offences	2	1.4
TOTAL	146	100.0

Table 13 shows the proportion of students with at least one apprehension event (major charge) in each of the broad JANCO categories. Overall, 9.9% of students recorded at least one *burglary, fraud and larceny* apprehension event and 9.5% of students recorded at least one *offence against good order*.

Table 13: Students with at least one offence in JANCO groups in pre-FLO period

JANCO group	Number with at least one event in pre-FLO period	% of sample with at least one pre-FLO event
1 Offences against the person	13	4.8
2 Robbery and extortion	1	0.4
3 Burglary, fraud and larceny	27	9.9
4 Damage property	13	4.8
5 Offences against good order ¹	26	9.5
6 Drug offences	2	0.7
7 Driving offences	18	6.6
8 Other offences	2	0.7
All offences	68	24.9

Note: Categories do not add up to total figure because students may have offences in more than one category.

Table 14 shows the major charge for each individual, divided into serious, moderate and minor categories, based on their National Offence Index (NOI) rankings. There were 9.2% of students who had at least one serious offence, 10.6% with at least one moderate offence, and 8.4% with at least one minor offence.

¹ *Offences against good order* range in seriousness from drunkenness and trespassing, breaching an order and resisting arrest to possession of a weapon and child pornography. In this case the most common *offences against good order* were; breach of bail, resist/hinder police, and trespassing.

Table 14: Students with at least one offence in NOI seriousness groups in pre-FLO period

NOI category	Number of individuals with at least one event	% of sample with at least one event
Minor offences (NOI 97-157)	23	8.4
Moderate offences (NOI 65-96)	29	10.6
Serious offences (1-64)	25	9.2
TOTAL	68	24.9

Note: Categories do not add up to total figure because students may have offences in more than one category.

Proven guilty events

This section shows the proven guilty events for individuals in the pre-FLO period. A proven guilty event is defined as all offending on a given day which subsequently results in a finding of guilt.

Pre-FLO offending rates amongst subgroups

Table 15 shows that overall 19.0% of the sample group had at least one proven guilty event in the pre-FLO period. This rate was highest amongst the students who were 13 when they were first enrolled in FLO (42.9%) and lowest for those who were 18 when first enrolled in FLO (15.4%). A Chi-square (grouping age 17+ together) showed a significant difference between age groups.

Table 15: Students with at least one proven guilty event in the pre-FLO period by age at first enrolment

Age at first FLO enrolment	Student sample (N)	Students with at least one proven guilty event (N)	% of sample with at least one event
13 years	14	6	42.9*
14 years	45	9	20.0*
15 years	79	14	17.7*
16 years	66	11	16.7*
17 years	44	8	18.2*
18 years	13	2	15.4*
19+ years	12	2	16.7*
TOTAL	273	52	19.0

* $\chi^2(4)=9.89$, $p=0.04$

Table 16 shows that males were more likely than females to have a proven guilty offence in the pre-FLO period. This difference was statistically significant.

Table 16: Students with at least one proven guilty event in the pre-FLO period by gender

Gender	Student sample (N)	Students with at least one proven guilty event (N)	% of sample with at least one event
Male	129	36	27.9*
Female	144	16	11.1*
TOTAL	273	52	19.0

* $\chi^2(1)=12.45$, $p<0.001$

Table 17 shows that there was little difference to the proportion of the sample group to have a pre-FLO proven guilty event, but that non-ATSI students were slightly more likely than ATSI students to have at least one event. This difference was not statistically significant.

Table 17: Students with at least one proven guilty event in the pre-FLO period by ATSI status

Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander status	Student sample (N)	Students with at least one proven guilty event (N)	% of sample with at least one event
ATSI	33	5	15.2
Non-ATSI	240	47	19.6
TOTAL	273	52	19.0

Table 18 shows the proportion of students with a disability and students with no disability to have at least one pre-FLO proven guilty event. There was no significant difference between the groups.

Table 18: Students with at least one proven guilty event in the pre-FLO period by disability status

Disability status	Student sample (N)	Students with at least one proven guilty event (N)	% of sample with at least one event
Disability	77	19	14.7
No disability	196	33	16.8
TOTAL	273	52	19.0

Table 19 shows the rate of students with at least one proven guilty event in the pre-FLO period by ICAN area. There was no significant difference in the rates across the area.

Table 19: Students with at least one proven guilty event in the pre-FLO period by ICAN area

ICAN area	Student sample (N)	Students with at least one proven guilty event (N)	% of sample with at least one event
Northern Metro	105	20	19.0
Outer South	80	15	18.8
Western Metro	43	8	18.6
Upper Spencer	24	5	20.8
State*	21	4	19.0
TOTAL	273	52	19.0

*These students attended two schools that were outside of the original four ICAN areas and were instead administered centrally.

Type and frequency of offending in pre-FLO period

As shown above, of the 273 young people involved in the analysis, 52 (19.0%) had at least one proven guilty event in the one year prior to commencing FLO. Table 20 shows the frequency of events in the period for the group. Most of the students who recorded an event recorded only one, but some recorded up to 11 and 12 events in the period.

Table 20: Number of proven guilty events in pre-FLO period

Number of events	Number of individuals	% of individuals
0	221	81.0
1	35	12.8
2	5	1.8
3	3	1.1
4	2	0.7
5	1	0.4
6	4	1.5
11	1	0.4
12	1	0.4
TOTAL	273	100.0

Overall, there were 114 proven guilty events, and the major charges for all events are presented in Table 21, grouped by broad JANCO category. The majority of events had a major charge of either *burglary, fraud and larceny* (30.7%) or an *offence against good order* (28.1%). There were no proven guilty events with a major charge of a *drug offence* or an *other offence*.

Table 21: Offence type (major charge) for all proven guilty events occurring in pre-FLO period

JANCO category	Number of events	% of all events
1 Offences against the person	13	11.4
2 Robbery and extortion	2	1.8
3 Burglary, fraud and larceny	35	30.7
4 Damage property	13	11.4
5 Offences against good order	32	28.1
7 Driving offences	19	16.7
TOTAL	114	100.0

Table 22 shows the proportion of students with at least one proven guilty event (major charge) in each of the broad offence categories. Overall, 8.8% of students recorded at least one *burglary, fraud and larceny* proven guilty event, but only 2 students (0.7%) recorded a proven guilty event involving a major charge of *robbery and extortion*.

Table 22: Students with at least one proven guilty event in JANCO groups in pre-FLO period

JANCO group	Number with at least one event in pre-FLO period	% of sample with at least one pre-FLO event
1 Offences against the person	12	4.4
2 Robbery and extortion	2	0.7
3 Burglary, fraud and larceny	24	8.8
4 Damage property and environmental	9	3.3
5 Offences against good order	16	5.9
7 Driving offences	13	4.8
All offences	52	19.0

Note: Categories do not add up to total sample figure because students may have offences in more than one category.

Table 23 shows the proportion of students with at least one proven guilty event in each NOI category. There were slightly more students who had at least one event in the moderate or serious offence category.

Table 23: Students with at least one offence in NOI seriousness groups in pre-FLO period

NOI category	Number of individuals with at least one event	% of individuals with at least one event
Minor offences (NOI 97-157)	19	7.0
Moderate offences (NOI 65-69)	27	9.9
Serious offences (1-64)	25	9.2
All offences	52	19.0

Note: Categories do not add up to total figure because students may have offences in more than one category.

Summary

Overall, in the year prior to their enrolment in FLO, 24.9% of the sample group had recorded at least one police apprehension event and 19.0% had recorded at least one proven guilty event. This proportion was highest amongst students who were 13 when first enrolled in FLO, and those who were male. For a rough comparison with the population, about 4% of the South Australian population aged 13 to 33 years recorded at least one apprehension event in a one-year period. This indicates that the rate of offending is considerably higher amongst the FLO sample group than amongst the general population.

The most common type of offence (based on the major charge) was *burglary, fraud and larceny* followed by *offences against good order*. Offences recorded were categorised at different levels of seriousness, with 9.2% of the sample recording at least one 'serious' major charge in the pre-FLO period. However, it must be kept in mind that the NOI groups and ranks offences broadly, and offences such as 'minor assault' would fall under the category of 'serious'.

Offending over time for FLO-enrolled students

Apprehension events

All students in the sample group completed at least eight terms of FLO. The proportion of the sample with at least one apprehension event, and the rate of apprehension events, were compared across four time periods: pre-FLO, 1st year FLO, 2nd year FLO, and post-FLO. Although some students also had additional terms of FLO enrolment in between the end of the second year of FLO and the beginning of the post-FLO period, these periods were excluded from the current analysis.

Proportion of sample group with at least one apprehension event

Table 24 shows the number of events for the sample group in each of the four time periods.

Table 24: Proportion of sample group with at least one apprehension event

N of apprehension events in period	Pre FLO		1 st Yr FLO		2 nd Yr FLO		Post FLO	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
0	205	75.1	209	76.6	199	72.9	212	77.7
1	41	15.0	26	9.5	40	14.7	26	9.5
2	13	4.8	13	4.8	10	3.7	15	5.5
3	4	1.5	10	3.7	13	4.8	5	1.8
4	-	-	3	1.1	4	1.5	5	1.8
5	5	1.8	5	1.8	2	.7	5	1.8
6+	5	1.8	7	2.1	5	1.8	5	1.8
TOTAL	273	100.0	273	100.0	273	100.0	273	100.0

Table 25 summarises the proportion of the sample group to have at least one apprehension event in each of the four time periods. A chi-square test comparing these groups across the four time periods indicated that there was no significant difference between these groups over time.

Table 25: Proportion of sample group with at least one apprehension event in each FLO period

Apprehension events in period	Pre FLO		1 st Yr FLO		2 nd Yr FLO		Post FLO	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
At least one	68	24.9	64	23.4	74	27.1	61	22.3
None	205	75.1	209	76.6	199	72.9	212	87.7
TOTAL	273	100.0	273	100.0	273	100.0	273	100.0

Tables 26 and 27 show the proportion of the sample group to record at least one apprehension event in each of the four time periods for students who completed 8 terms only of FLO, and for those who completed 12 terms only of FLO. For students who completed 12 terms of FLO, their 3rd year of FLO enrolment was also included in the analysis. Chi square tests did not indicate any significant differences across the time periods for either group.

Table 26: Proportion of sample group with at least one apprehension event in the pre-FLO period (students who completed 8 terms only)

Apprehension events in period	Pre FLO		1 st Yr FLO		2 nd Yr FLO		Post FLO	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
At least one	46	23.8	40	20.7	45	23.3	36	18.7
None	147	76.2	153	79.3	148	76.7	157	81.3
TOTAL	193	100.0	193	100.0	193	100.0	193	100.0

Table 27: Proportion of sample group with at least one apprehension event in the pre-FLO period (students who completed 12 terms only)

Apprehension events in period	Pre FLO		1 st Yr FLO		2 nd Yr FLO		3 rd Yr FLO		Post FLO	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
At least one	10	25.6	11	28.2	13	33.3	11	28.2	9	23.1
None	29	74.4	28	71.8	26	66.7	28	71.8	30	76.9
TOTAL	39	100.0	39	100.0	39	100.0	39	100.0	39	100.0

Proportion with at least one event over time for sample subgroups

The proportion of the sample with at least one apprehension event across the four time periods did not show any statistically significant differences over time for any subgroups. Chi square tests were conducted for ATSI students, non-ATSI students, students with and without a disability, male and female students, and for each ICAN area and no differences over time were indicated.

Although none of the subgroups mentioned above showed significant changes to their offending over time, it should be noted that males showed a significantly higher rate of offending in the pre-FLO period than females (as shown in Table 7), and that this trend remained throughout subsequent time periods (i.e. offending rates of males remained higher than those of females).

Rate of apprehension events

The sample group was compared across the time periods in terms of the rate of apprehension events in the periods. Table 28 presents the mean apprehension event rates for four time periods for all FLO students in the sample group.

The Friedman Test is a non-parametric test to compare differences in measures over three or more points in time for the same group of subjects. This test was used to compare rates across the groups, and did not indicate that there was a significant difference between the groups. The test was repeated for the group of students completing 8 terms of FLO only, and those completing 12 terms only, and neither group showed significant differences in rates over time.

Table 28: Rate of apprehension events over time

	Mean rate of apprehension events per person (n=273)			
	Pre FLO	1 st Yr FLO	2 nd Yr FLO	Post FLO
Mean number of events for sample	0.53	0.72	0.62	0.60
Mean rate of events per student	0.0020	0.0026	0.0023	0.0022

Rate of apprehension events over time for sample subgroups

Friedman tests were conducted to test for changes to the rate of apprehension events over time for sample subgroups. Tests were conducted for students with and without a disability male and female students, and each ICAN area, with no significant differences detected.

Friedman tests were also conducted for ATSI students and non-ATSI students and there was a significant difference for ATSI students (Mean ranks: Pre-FLO=2.23, 1st year FLO=2.35, 2nd year FLO=2.97, Post-FLO=2.45; $\chi^2(3)=13.07$, $p=.004$). Although the Friedman test does not indicate the period in which there is a difference, the difference appears to be in the 2nd year of FLO enrolment, where the rate was higher than other periods.

Students with at least one apprehension event in the pre-FLO period

Rates of apprehension events were compared over the four time periods for students who had at least one apprehension event in the pre-FLO period, and are presented in Table 29. A Friedman test indicated that there was a significant difference in the rates over the time periods.

Table 29: Mean rate of apprehension events across time periods, for students with at least one apprehension event in the pre-FLO period.

Mean rate of apprehension events per person (n=68)				
	Pre FLO	1st Yr FLO	2nd Yr FLO	Post FLO
Mean number of events for sample	2.15	1.75	1.59	1.49
Mean rate of events per student	0.0079*	0.0064*	0.0058*	0.0054*

*($\chi^2(3)=36.72$, $p<0.001$). The mean ranks were: Pre-FLO=3.21, During1=2.34, During2=2.35, post-FLO=2.11, indicating a trend of decreasing rates over time.

Offence type and severity

Table 30 shows the proportion of the sample with at least one apprehension event (major charge) in each of the eight JANCO offence categories, across the four time periods.

Overall, there were only minor changes in terms of the types of major charges for apprehension events in the four time periods, showing no clear trend. The proportion with at least one *offence against the person* was slightly higher during 1st year FLO compared to the other FLO periods, but the proportion with a *good order offence* was highest in the 2nd year FLO period. However, none of the offence categories showed a significant difference over time. Other offences tended to remain the same during each period of enrolment.

Table 30: Proportion of the sample with at least one apprehension event (major charge) in each JANCO category over four time periods

JANCO group	% of sample with at least one apprehension event in category			
	Pre-FLO	1 st Yr FLO	2 nd Yr FLO	Post-FLO
1 Offences against the person	4.8	9.2	5.5	5.1
2 Robbery and extortion	0.4	1.1	0.7	0.4
3 Burglary, fraud and larceny	9.9	10.6	8.1	8.4
4 Damage property	4.8	4.0	1.5	5.5
5 Offences against good order	9.5	11.0	16.1	10.6
6 Drug offences	0.7	0.0	0.7	1.5
7 Driving offences	6.6	6.2	5.9	6.6
8 Other offences	0.7	1.8	0.0	0.0
All offences	24.9	23.4	27.1	22.3

Note: Categories do not add up to total sample figure because students may have offences in more than one category.

Table 31 shows the proportion of the sample with at least one apprehension event (major charge) in each of the NOI seriousness categories across the four time periods. The table shows that the proportion of the sample group with at least one serious offence was slightly higher during 1st year FLO and 2nd year FLO. The proportion with a moderate offence was highest in the 1st year FLO period, and the proportion with a minor offence increased with time but then decreased from 2nd year FLO to post-FLO period.

Chi square tests indicated that there were no significant differences in the proportion of the sample group to record at least one apprehension event across the four time periods, with the exception of minor offences. The chi square test does not indicate where the difference lies (i.e. between which time periods), but an examination of the data indicates an increasing trend over time which peaks in the second year of FLO.

Overall, there was an increase in the proportion of the sample to have recorded at least one apprehension event (such as the 2nd year FLO), and this was shown to be an increase in minor offences, rather than moderate or serious offences.

Table 31: Proportion of the sample with at least one apprehension event in each NOI seriousness category over four time periods

NOI category	% of sample with at least one apprehension event in category			
	Pre-FLO	1 st Yr FLO	2 nd Yr FLO	Post-FLO
Minor offences (97-157)	8.4*	14.3*	19.0*	12.8*
Moderate offences (65-96)	10.6	12.8	10.3	10.6
Serious offences (1-64)	9.2	12.8	12.5	8.8
All offences	24.9	23.4	27.1	22.3

* $\chi^2(3)=18.88, p<0.01$

Note: Categories do not add up to total sample figure because students may have offences in more than one category.

Proven guilty events

This section repeats the above analyses using proven guilty events as the measure of offending.

All students in the sample group completed at least eight terms of FLO. As with the apprehension events, the proportion of the sample with at least one proven guilty event, and the rate of proven guilty events, were compared across four time periods: pre-FLO, 1st year FLO, 2nd year FLO, and post-FLO. Although some students also had additional terms of FLO enrolment in between the end of the second year of FLO and the beginning of the post-FLO period, these periods were excluded from the current analysis.

Proportion of sample group with at least one proven guilty event

Table 32 shows the number of events for the sample group in each of the four time periods.

Table 32: Proportion of sample group with at least one proven guilty event

N of proven guilty events in period	Pre FLO		1 st Yr FLO		2 nd Yr FLO		Post FLO	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
0	221	81.0	224	82.1	212	77.7	229	83.9
1	35	12.8	23	8.4	32	11.7	24	8.8
2	5	1.8	8	2.9	10	3.7	8	2.9
3	3	1.1	3	1.1	8	2.9	4	1.5
4	2	0.7	6	2.2	6	2.2	1	0.4
5	1	0.4	1	0.4	1	0.4	3	1.1
6+	6	2.2	8	2.9	4	1.5	4	1.5
TOTAL	273	100.0	273	100.0	273	100.0	273	100.0

A chi-square test comparing the proportion of the sample group to record at least one proven guilty offence in each of the four time periods did not indicate any significant difference over time.

Tables 33 and 34 show the proportion of the sample group to record at least one proven guilty offence in each of the four time periods for students who completed eight terms only of FLO, and for those who completed 12 terms only of FLO. For students who completed 12 terms of FLO, their 3rd year of FLO enrolment was also included in the analysis. Chi square tests did not indicate any significant differences across the time periods for either group.

Table 33: Proportion of sample group with at least one proven guilty event in the pre-FLO period (students who completed eight terms only)

N of proven guilty events in period	Pre FLO		1 st Yr FLO		2 nd Yr FLO		Post FLO	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
No events	157	81.3	163	84.5	156	80.8	168	87.0
At least one event	36	18.6	30	15.5	37	19.2	25	13.0
TOTAL	193	100	193	100	193	100	193	100

Table 34: Proportion of sample group with at least one proven guilty event in the pre-FLO period (students who completed 12 terms only)

N of proven guilty events in period	Pre FLO		1 st Yr FLO		2 nd Yr FLO		3 rd Yr FLO		Post FLO	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
No events	32	82.1	31	79.5	27	69.2	32	82.1	32	82.1
At least one event	7	17.9	8	20.5	12	30.8	7	17.9	7	17.9
TOTAL	39	100	39	100	39	100	39	100	39	100

Proportion with at least one event over time for sample subgroups

The proportion of the sample with at least one proven guilty event across the four time periods did not show any statistically significant differences over time for any subgroups. Chi square tests were conducted for ATSI students, non-ATSI students, students with and without a disability, male and female students and students in each of the four ICAN areas. No statistically significant differences over time were indicated.

Rate of proven guilty events

The sample group was compared across the time periods in terms of the rate of proven guilty events in the periods. Table 35 presents the mean proven guilty event rates for four time periods for all FLO students in the sample group.

The Friedman Test is a non-parametric test to compare differences in measures over three or more points in time for the same group of subjects. This test was used to compare rates across the groups, and did not indicate that there is a significant difference between the groups. The test was repeated for the group of students completing 8 terms of FLO only, and those completing 12 terms only, and neither group showed significant differences in rates over time.

Table 35: Rate of proven guilty events over time

	Mean rate of proven guilty events per person (n=273)			
	Pre FLO	1 st Yr FLO	2 nd Yr FLO	Post FLO
Mean number of events for sample	0.42	0.40	0.58	0.50
Mean rate of events per student	0.0015	0.0021	0.0018	0.0014

Rate of proven guilty events over time for sample subgroups

Friedman tests were conducted to test for changes to the rate of proven guilty events over time for sample subgroups. Tests were conducted for ATSI students, non-ATSI students, students with and without a disability and male and female students, and no significant differences were detected.

Friedman tests were also conducted for students in each of the four ICAN areas. No significant differences were found, with the exception of the Northern region ($\chi^2(3)=9.43$, $p=0.02$). Although the test does not specify where the differences lie, the mean ranks (Pre-FLO=2.40, 1st year FLO=2.64, 2nd year FLO=2.59, Post-FLO=2.36) show that the rate of proven guilty events increased from Pre-FLO to 1st year FLO, remained steady, then decreased in the post-FLO period to similar to that of the pre-FLO period.

Students with at least one proven guilty event in the pre-FLO period

Rates of proven guilty events were compared over the four time periods for students who had at least one proven guilty event in the pre-FLO period, and are presented in Table 36.

Table 36: Mean rate of proven guilty events across time periods, for students with at least one proven guilty event in the pre-FLO period. A Friedman test indicated that there was a significant difference in the rates over the time periods.

Mean rate of proven guilty events per person (n=52)				
	Pre FLO	1 st Yr FLO	2 nd Yr FLO	Post FLO
Mean number of events for sample	2.19	1.88	1.19	1.27
Mean rate of events per student	0.0080*	0.0069*	0.0044*	0.0046*

* $\chi^2(3)=32.55, p<0.001$. The mean ranks were: Pre-FLO=3.24, 1st year FLO=2.43, 2nd year FLO=2.33, post-FLO=2.00, indicating a trend of decreasing rates over time.

Offence type and severity

Table 37 shows the proportion of the sample with at least one proven guilty event (major charge) in each of the eight JANCO offence categories, across the four time periods.

Overall, there were only minor changes in terms of the types of major charges for proven guilty events in the four time periods. There were no statistically significant changes, with the exception of *offences against good order*, which showed an increase in the 2nd year FLO then a decline in the post-FLO period.

Table 37: Proportion of the sample with at least one proven guilty event (major charge) in each JANCO category over four time periods

JANCO group	% of sample with at least one proven guilty event in category			
	Pre-FLO	1 st Yr FLO	2 nd Yr FLO	Post-FLO
1 Offences against the person	4.4	7.0	4.4	3.7
2 Robbery and extortion	0.7	1.1	0.7	4.4
3 Burglary, fraud and larceny	8.8	8.1	5.1	2.6
4 Damage property	3.3	2.6	1.5	2.6
5 Offences against good order	5.9	8.1	13.2	7.7*
6 Drug offences	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.4
7 Driving offences	4.8	5.9	5.1	5.5
8 Other offences	0.0	0.7	0.0	0.0
All offences	19.0	17.9	22.3	16.1

* $\chi^2(3) = 10.18, p=0.02$

Note: Categories do not add up to total sample figure because students may have offences in more than one category.

Table 38 shows the proportion of the sample with at least one proven guilty event (major charge) in each of the NOI seriousness categories across the four time periods. The table shows that the proportion of the sample group with at least one serious offence decreased with time and was lowest in the post-FLO period. The proportion with a moderate offence was higher in the post-FLO period than the pre-FLO period, and the proportion with a minor offence increased with time but then decreased in the post-FLO period.

Chi square tests indicated that there were no significant differences in the proportion of the sample group to record at least one proven guilty event across the four time periods, with the exception of minor offences. The chi square test does not indicate where the difference lies

(i.e. between which time periods), but an examination of the data indicates an increasing trend which peaks in the second year of FLO.

Overall, where there was an increase in the proportion of the sample to have recorded at least one proven guilty event (such as the 2nd year FLO), this was shown to be an increase in minor offences, rather than moderate or serious offences. Comparing the post-FLO period with the pre-FLO period, apart from there being a slightly lower proportion of the sample with at least one proven guilty event (although not statistically significant), there was also a slight (significant) shift towards minor offences and away from serious offences.

Table 38: Proportion of the sample with at least one proven guilty event in each NOI seriousness category over four time periods

NOI category	% of sample with at least one proven guilty event in category			
	Pre-FLO	1 st Yr FLO	2 nd Yr FLO	Post-FLO
Minor offences (97-157)	7.0*	10.3*	16.1*	9.9*
Moderate offences (65-69)	9.9	9.5	5.9	7.3
Serious offences (1-64)	9.2	9.5	8.8	6.6
All offences	19.0	17.9	22.3	16.1

* $\chi^2(3)=12.50$, $p=0.01$

Note: Categories do not add up to total sample figure because students may have offences in more than one category.

Summary

Overall, findings presented in this section do not support the hypothesis that enrolment in FLO over a two- or three-year period has been associated with a decrease in offending behaviour for the FLO sample group. However, there was some evidence of a decline in offending for the subgroup of the sample who had already offended prior to commencing FLO. Details are summarised outlined below.

For both apprehension events and proven guilty events, there was no significant change in the proportion of the sample group to have recorded at least one event over time. This was also true for the group of students who completed 8 terms of FLO during the study period, or for those who completed 12 terms only. There was also no difference for any sub groups, including males, females, students with and without a disability, students with an ATSI background, students without an ATSI background, and students in any of the four ICAN areas.

With regard to rates of both apprehension and proven guilty events across the time periods, there were no differences across the four time periods for the sample overall, or for students enrolled in 8 or 12 terms of FLO. However, there was a significant decline in the rate of both apprehension and proven guilty events over time for the subgroup of FLO students who had offended prior to their enrolment in FLO, which could indicate that FLO contributed to a reduction in offending for students who had already commenced offending prior to commencing FLO. There were no other notable differences in rates over time for any sample subgroups.

There were no changes to the proportion of the sample to record at least one event in each of the JANCO offence groups, for either apprehension or proven guilty events, with the exception of *offences against good order* for proven guilty offences. There was no clear trend over time, however. There was some change over time in relation to the seriousness of offences, particularly in relation to minor offences. Although not showing a linear trend, there was some increase in minor offences over time for both apprehension and proven guilty events. For proven guilty events there was also a slight decline in serious offences over time, but this was not significant.

Differences between three FLO-enrolment groups

This section compares the three groups of students based on their period of FLO enrolment; those enrolled for eight terms in the study period, those enrolled for 9-11 terms, and those enrolled for 12 terms. The main purpose of this section is to investigate whether a greater period of FLO enrolment is associated with a greater effect on offending for participants. If FLO is shown to be an effective intervention in terms of reducing or preventing offending behaviour, it could be hypothesised that a greater period of enrolment in FLO is associated with a greater effect on offending behaviour, and therefore less recorded offending events.

Although some participants were enrolled beyond eight terms, only the first eight terms of enrolment can be included in this analysis (1st year during and 2nd year during FLO). However, as with other analyses, the post-FLO period is the one-year period after each student ceases to be enrolled in FLO, regardless of how many terms they completed.

Apprehension events

Proportion with at least one event

Table 39 shows the proportion of the groups to have at least one apprehension event in each of the four time periods. In the pre-FLO period there was very little difference between the groups. The difference was greater in the first year of FLO, with students subsequently completing 9-11 terms showing the greatest proportion with an apprehension event, followed by those subsequently completing 12 terms. In the second year of FLO and the post-FLO period, students completing 9-11 terms continued to show the highest proportion with an apprehension event. While the other two groups showed the lowest rates of all periods in the post-FLO period, the 9-11 term group showed the highest.

Chi square tests for all four time periods did not indicate any significant differences between the groups, with the exception of the post-FLO period.

Table 39: Proportion of group with at least one apprehension event in each time period, for FLO enrolment groups

FLO enrolment group	At least one apprehension event in period								
	Pre FLO		1 st Yr FLO		2 nd Yr FLO		Post FLO*		
	N	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
8 terms	193	47	24.4	40	20.7	45	23.3	36	18.7
9-11 terms	41	12	29.3	13	31.7	16	39.0	16	39.0
12 terms	39	10	25.6	11	28.2	13	33.3	9	23.1

* $\chi^2(2)=8.10$, $p=0.02$

Rate of apprehension events

The rates of apprehension events for the four time periods were also compared for the three enrolment groups. A Kruskal-Wallis test did not indicate any significant differences between the groups, except for the post-FLO period ($\chi^2(2)=8.011$, $p=0.02$). Mean ranks for this period were: eight terms=131.8, 9-11 terms=159.6, 12 terms=139.2. This indicates that students in the 9-11 terms group had a rate of proven guilty events in the period which was higher than the other two groups.

Proven guilty events

Proportion with at least one event

Table 40 shows the proportion of the groups to have at least one offence in each of the four time periods. In the pre-FLO period there was very little difference between the groups. The

difference was greater in the first year of FLO, with students subsequently completing 9-11 terms showing the greatest proportion with a proven guilty event, followed by those subsequently completing 12 terms. In the second year of FLO, students completing 9-11 terms and those completing 12 terms showed very similar proportions with a proven guilty event; both higher than students completing eight terms. In the post-FLO period, students completing 9-11 terms showed the highest proportion with a proven guilty event.

Chi square tests for all four time periods did not indicate any significant differences between the groups, with the exception of the post-FLO period.

Table 40: Proportion of group with at least one proven guilty event in each time period, for FLO enrolment groups

FLO enrolment group	At least one proven guilty event in period								
	Pre FLO		1 st Yr FLO		2 nd Yr FLO		Post FLO*		
	N	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
8 terms	193	36	18.7	30	15.5	37	19.2	25	13.0
9-11 terms	41	9	22.0	11	26.8	12	29.3	12	29.3
12 terms	39	7	17.9	8	20.5	12	30.8	7	17.9

* $\chi^2(2)=6.77$, $p=0.03$

Rate of proven guilty events

The rates of proven guilty events for the four time periods were also compared for the three enrolment groups. A Kruskal-Wallis test did not indicate any significant differences between the groups, except for the post-FLO period ($\chi^2(2)=6.24$, $p=0.04$). Mean ranks for this period were: eight terms=132.9, 9-11 terms=154.4, 12 terms=139.26. This indicates that students in the 9-11 terms group had a rate of proven guilty events in the period which was higher than the other two groups.

Summary

From the available data, it does not appear that more terms of enrolment in FLO is associated with a greater effect on offending for participating students, but rather that the relationship between the two variables is more complex. Some students are likely to have greater needs than others and require longer time in FLO to reach the same point as other students with lesser or different needs would reach in a shorter time. Also, it is likely that FLO students are involved in other interventions, which may also have an effect on their progress and behaviour more generally. These students are likely to experience a range of issues associated with family, home, health and other problems, which undoubtedly have an effect on their ability to engage with education at different times. Investigating the complex relationships between these variables is difficult and beyond the scope of this study.

For the 9-11 terms group, 32 of the 41 students terminated their FLO enrolment mid-year (i.e. at the end of terms 1,2 or 3). This could indicate that these students left school at that time, rather than complete the full year. Although this is outside the scope of the current study and cannot be determined from available data, it is possible that these were students who did not engage with or benefit from FLO enrolment as much as some other students and therefore terminated their enrolment early.

Comparison over time with population

The following section compares the percentage of FLO students with at least one apprehension event within each FLO period against that of the population of the same age. For analytical purposes, this section only applies to students who have attended eight terms of FLO. The population data is taken from a separate OCSAR analysis, presenting age-specific offending rates for 2012 (OCSAR, unpublished). This paper is expected to be published in the near future.

It has been documented in previous research that amongst juveniles, level of offending (and therefore formal contact with police) tends to increase for a number of years, before declining in the late teens or early twenties (Skrzpiec and Wundersitz, 2005; Marshall 2006; OCSAR, unpublished). Because of this prevailing trend, an observed increase (or lack of decrease) in offending amongst the FLO sample group may not indicate a lack of impact of FLO; rather that the impact is masked by this trend. Ideally, a control group of comparable young people who were becoming disengaged from school but were *not* enrolled in FLO would be used to help control for this trend and isolate any observable effect of FLO. However, in this instance, no such control group was available.

Whilst it was expected that the FLO sample group would have higher rates of offending than the population overall, comparing the FLO groups to the population enables an examination of trends over a four-year period. If the FLO groups show a decreasing, flat, or more slowly increasing trend over time when compared with an increasing trend for the population, this may indicate a FLO effect. However, it must be kept in mind that other factors not controlled for in this analysis (such as other interventions also received by FLO students) may cause or contribute to this impact, but this cannot be known. Also, because the population does not represent a matched control group, it may be that other differences between the sample and the population account for any observed differences in trends. Therefore although the findings of this analysis are useful indicators, they must be regarded with caution.

Because of the small number of students in other age groups, this analysis only compares students who commenced FLO when they were aged 14, 15, 16 or 17 years. Offending rates are presented for each age group separately.

Students aged 14 at first enrolment

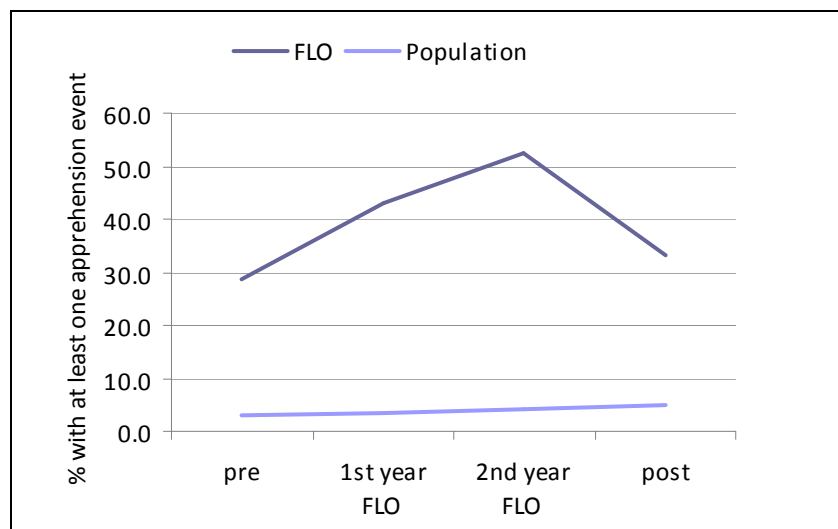
Of the students who had a starting age of 14, the percentage of FLO students who were apprehended in each one-year period increased during the program and then decreased by 19.1% from the 2nd year FLO to post FLO period (see Table 41). This is in contrast to the general population of the same age range, who had an increase of at least one apprehension per year with age.

Table 41: Comparison of FLO students with the population (starting at 14 years of age)

Age	Time period	% with at least one apprehension event in period	
		FLO students	Population
14	Pre FLO	28.6	3.0
15	1 st year FLO	42.9	3.6
16	2 nd year FLO	52.4	4.2
17	Post FLO	33.3	5.0

Figure 1 shows that FLO students had an increase of apprehensions during FLO and then a decrease after FLO. However, the general population had a slight increase for each FLO period, and less apprehensions overall. Although the FLO group continued to show a steeper increase in offending than the population, they showed a steep decline following FLO enrolment. However, following the decrease, the rate was still higher than when they commenced FLO. It is difficult to interpret this data, but it appears that FLO has had little impact on the offending rates for this group.

Figure 1: Comparison of FLO students with the population (starting at 14 years of age)



Students aged 15 at first enrolment

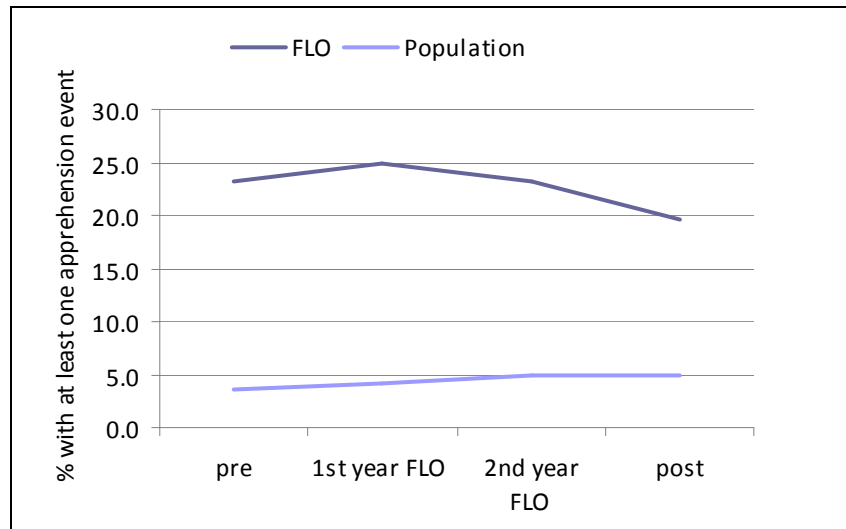
Table 42 shows the percentage of FLO students with at least one apprehension per one year period, starting at 15 years of age, compared with the population. There are only small differences in percentage between each time period for the FLO students, whereas there is a small increase for the general population.

Table 42: Comparison of FLO students with the population (starting at 15 years of age)

		% with at least one apprehension event in period	
Age	Time period	FLO students	Population
15	Pre FLO	23.3	3.6
16	1 st year FLO	25.0	4.2
17	2 nd year FLO	23.2	5.0
18	Post FLO	19.6	5.0

Figure 2 shows that FLO students had a slight decrease of apprehensions overall from pre FLO to post FLO. The general population had less apprehensions overall, but showed a slight increase over the four years. This shows that although FLO students had a higher offending rate to begin with, FLO may have had an impact on the rate of offending for this group.

Figure 2: Comparison of FLO students with the population (starting at 15 years of age)



Students aged 16 at first enrolment

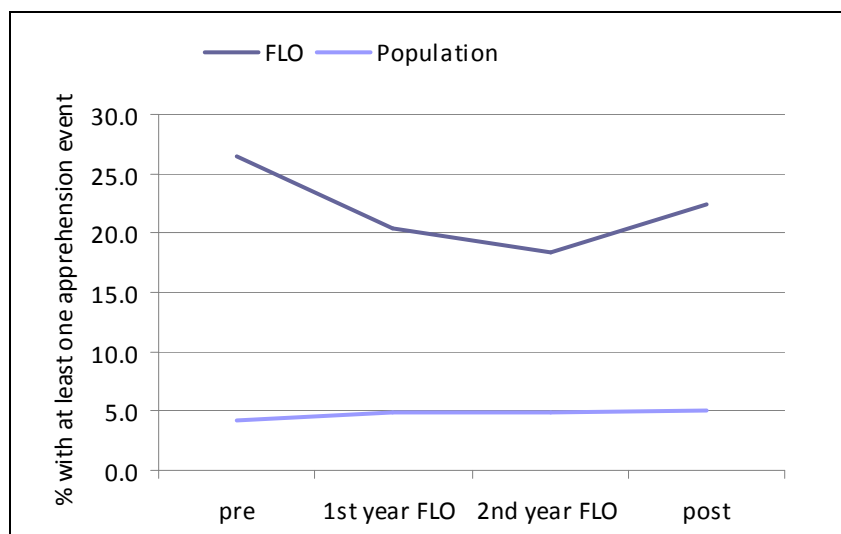
Table 43 shows the percentage of FLO students with a starting age of 15 who were apprehended at least once in each period. The rate of apprehension was higher than the population pre FLO, decreased during FLO and then increased again post FLO. The general population of the same starting age increased from pre FLO to the next year but then remained the same for the following years.

Table 43: Comparison of FLO students with the population (starting at 16 years of age)

Age	Time period	% with at least one apprehension event in period	
		FLO students	Population
16	Pre FLO	26.5	4.2
17	1 st year FLO	20.4	5.0
18	2 nd year FLO	18.4	5.0
19	Post FLO	22.4	5.0

In Figure 3, the percentage of the general population with at least one apprehension per year increased slightly, while the percentage of FLO students with at least one apprehension per year decreased slightly during enrolment in FLO. Although FLO students showed a slight increase in apprehension in the post-FLO period, they still demonstrated an overall decline, which could indicate that FLO had an impact on their level of offending.

Figure 3: Comparison of FLO students with the population (starting at 16 years of age)



Students aged 17 at first enrolment

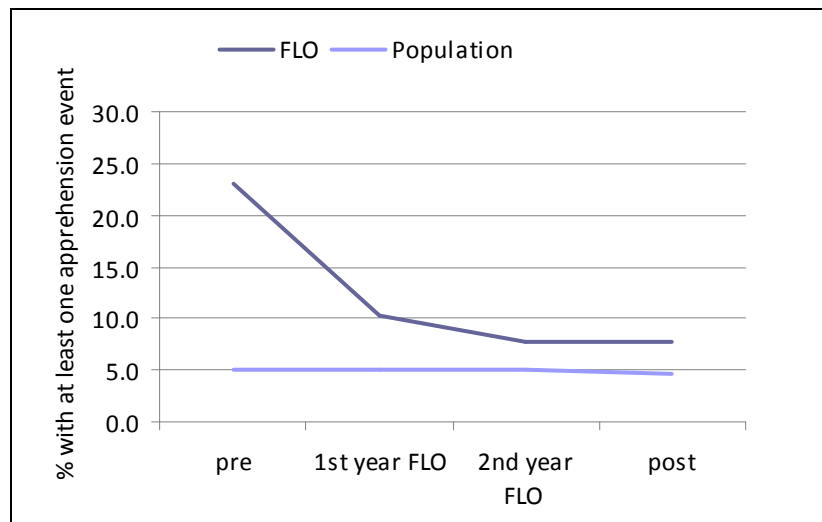
Of the students who had a starting age of 17, the percentage of FLO students who were apprehended in a year period decreased from pre FLO until the end of enrolment, and then remained the same post FLO (see Table 44). The percentage of the general population with at least one apprehension for each year period remained the same, but then had a slight decrease when they were 20 years old.

Table 44: Comparison of FLO students with the population (starting at 17 years of age)

Age	Time period	% with at least one apprehension event in period	
		FLO students	Population
17	Pre FLO	23.1	5.0
18	1 st year FLO	10.3	5.0
19	2 nd year FLO	7.7	5.0
20	Post	7.7	4.7

Figure 4 shows that FLO students had decrease in apprehensions from pre FLO to first year during FLO and then the percentage remained constant for the remaining periods. The percentage of the general population with at least one apprehension was close for each period. At 19 and 20 years of age, the percentage of FLO students and general population with at least one apprehension was similar. Overall the FLO students showed a far steeper decline, which may indicate that FLO enrolment had a positive impact on their offending behaviour.

Figure 4: Comparison of FLO students with the population (starting at 17 years of age)



Summary

Overall, the findings from this section provide some evidence that FLO enrolment may have had a positive effect on the offending levels of the sample group. It was hypothesised that if FLO was effective at preventing or reducing offending, the FLO group would demonstrate offending levels over time which decreased more steeply than, or increased more slowly than, that of the general population of the same age. This section shows some indication of this.

Specifically, this section demonstrates that while a greater proportion of the FLO group recorded at least one apprehension event than the general population in all time periods, three of the four age-specific FLO groups showed either a decrease over time compared to an increase over time for the general population, or a decline which was steeper than the general population.

It must be kept in mind that this analysis does not control for any other factors, or differences between the sample and the population which may also have contributed to this effect. For example, the FLO group may peak in their offending earlier than the population overall, and therefore may have shown the observed trends even if they had not participated in FLO. Unfortunately this cannot be determined conclusively from this study.

Discussion

This analysis showed that one-quarter (24.9%) of the FLO sample group had formal contact with the police in the one year prior to commencing FLO, and that one-fifth (19.0%) had at least one finding of guilt. For a rough comparison, about 4% of the South Australian population aged 13-33 years recorded at least one apprehension in a year². This indicates that the proportion of the FLO group to have recorded an apprehension in the one-year period was considerably higher than the population.

Male students were more likely than females to have recorded an apprehension event and a proven guilty event in the pre-FLO period, but there was no difference between groups according to ICAN region, ATSI background or disability status. There was a significant difference in the proportion to record an apprehension event (but not a finding of guilt) according to age, with students who commenced FLO at age 13 being most likely to have a pre-FLO apprehension event (42.9%).

The majority of students who recorded either an apprehension event or a proven guilty event in the one-year pre-FLO period recorded only one such event. *Burglary, fraud and larceny* and *offences against good order* made up over half of the offences recorded. More than one third of students with at least one apprehension event, and almost half of students with at least one proven guilty event, recorded at least one event classified as 'serious'. Approximately half of students with at least one apprehension event (and with at least one proven guilty event) recorded a 'moderately serious' event.

With regard to proposed hypothesis that if FLO was effective at preventing or reducing offending, the findings provide mixed results. Generally, the level of offending did not change considerably over time. In terms of both the proportion of the sample group to record at least one event in each period, and of the rate of events in each period, significance testing did not indicate any significant changes over time for the sample overall. This was true for both apprehension events and proven guilty events. However, there was a significant decline in the rate of both apprehension and proven guilty events over time for the subgroup of the sample who had recorded at least one event in the pre-FLO period.

It was hypothesised that the rate of offending would decrease over time if FLO were effective at preventing or reducing offending. There was no evidence of this effect for the group overall, but findings do suggest that for students who have already commenced offending, FLO enrolment may help them reduce and even prevent their offending behaviour.

More detailed analyses indicated no notable significant change over time for students with and without a disability, students in each ICAN area, or non-Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander students. There was no significant change to offending over time for students enrolled in 8 terms only of FLO during the study period, or for those enrolled in 12 terms only. Although there were also no significant changes over time for either male or female students, overall, male students' level of offending remained higher than females throughout the study period.

There was little change to the proportion of the sample group to record at least one event of each offence type (major charge) over time. There was a slight increase over time in the proportion to record an *offence against good order*, for proven guilty events only.

An examination of the proportion of the sample to record an event in each of the NOI seriousness categories over time showed that, while there was no significant difference in the proportion of the sample to record an event overall, there was some indication of a trend for proven guilty events away from serious offences and towards less serious offences over time. However, this trend was not present for apprehension events, which is difficult to interpret. It seems that although students continued to be apprehended for serious offences, many of

² These figures were calculated using apprehension data from OCSAR (unpublished) and population figures from ABS (2012).

these were not subsequently proven and were perhaps downgraded to less serious charges in the court process. The true nature of the exact offences committed cannot be determined.

There was no evidence for the hypothesis that a greater period of enrolment in FLO resulted in a greater reduction in offending behaviour. There was no significant difference in the proportion of the sample to record at least one event in each of the time periods according to the length of time students were enrolled in FLO, with the exception of the group of students enrolled for 9-11 terms of FLO. This group showed the greatest proportion with a proven guilty event in the post-FLO period. Most of the students in this group ceased their FLO enrolment mid-year (after terms 1, 2 or 3), which may indicate that they left school at that time. It is possible that FLO did not produce benefits for this group of students, but also possible that circumstances outside of FLO resulted in this outcome for this group. Further investigation of this finding is outside the scope of the current study.

The comparison of the FLO sample group to the South Australian population in terms of the proportion recording an apprehension event in each period showed interesting results. As expected, students in the FLO sample group showed considerably higher rates of apprehension than the population overall. However, the purpose of the comparison was to compare the trends over time, given knowledge about how offending rates tend to increase over time for juveniles, before declining in the late teens or early twenties.

The comparisons showed that students commencing FLO aged 15 to 17 years demonstrated decreasing proportions recording an apprehension over time, where the population showed an increasing trend over time. Consistent with the hypothesis, this suggests that FLO may have had a positive effect on the offending behaviour of the FLO group. These findings must be interpreted with caution, given the limited time periods involved and the difference in group sizes for the FLO sample compared with the population. Also, this analysis of the population did not account for other factors, or differences between the sample group and the population which may have resulted in differences in offending regardless of participation in FLO. However, the findings suggest that FLO involvement helps students to maintain a lower level of contact with the police than they would have should they not have been enrolled in FLO. Students aged 14 when they commenced FLO did not demonstrate the same trend, and students of other ages could not be compared due to small numbers in the sample group.

In interpreting these findings, the main limitations of the study must be kept in mind. Firstly, the sample group includes only students enrolled in FLO for at least 8 consecutive terms, and results here cannot be considered to represent students enrolled in FLO for shorter periods of time. Secondly, the follow-up period after ceasing FLO is limited to one year, so it is not known what trends in offending behaviour occurred after that period. Finally, it would have been desirable to use an appropriate control group of students similar in characteristics to the FLO group but who did not enrol in FLO. However, as is often the case with this type of study, that was not feasible, and instead offending statistics for the population overall were used to provide a satisfactory benchmark.

It was noted at the beginning of the paper that it was not known if apprehension events or proven guilty events would best describe the offending behaviour of the student group. Results show that although, as expected, using proven guilty events produces slightly smaller numbers of students with offending 'events', it otherwise makes little difference to the findings which data source is used. Therefore it would be reasonable for any future study of this nature to use either one of these two methods, and it would not be necessary to use both.

Conclusion

In conclusion, the findings of this analysis show that up to one quarter of students enrolled in FLO for 8 or more consecutive terms are likely to have had contact with the police in the year prior to this enrolment, and that they are far more likely than the population overall to have recorded a police apprehension event in this period. When considered together, the findings of this study provide evidence that FLO may have some impact on the offending behaviour of students over time. In particular, it appears that FLO may help reduce the severity of

offending, and helps reduce the frequency of offending for students who had already offended prior their FLO enrolment. For students aged 15-17, it appears that FLO enrolment may result in levels of offending lower than those that would be expected if they had not been involved in FLO.

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Appendix 1

This appendix provides detailed statistics about students with a recent history of offending in individual ICAN areas. These are presented both for students with prior apprehension events and proven guilty events. Not all analyses could be conducted for all areas due to small numbers of enrolments in the areas. The small numbers of students in some areas meant that further analyses would not be statistically sound and could also pose a risk to the privacy of the individuals involved. The numbers of apprehension events and proven guilty events for geographical areas are small and therefore comparisons of offending rates across areas are not considered reliable and should be regarded with extreme caution.

Apprehension Events

This section provides further analysis of the students who had at least one apprehension event by their ICAN area. As noted above, the small numbers of students enrolled in some areas meant that not all analyses could be completed for all areas. For apprehension events, no further analyses were conducted for the Upper Spencer ICAN area because the number of students with at least one apprehension event in the pre-FLO period was too small to break down further.

Table 45 shows the number of students with at least one apprehension event in each of the time periods by ICAN area. The table shows that the percentage of students with at least one apprehension event tended to be higher during first and second year FLO for Northern Metro students, while the percentage tended to be higher pre-FLO for Western Metro students. The remainder of this section focuses only on the students who had at least one apprehension event in the pre-FLO period.

Table 45: Proportion of students in each ICAN area with at least one apprehension event in each FLO period

At least one apprehension event	Pre-FLO		1 st Yr FLO		2 nd Yr FLO		Post FLO	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Northern Metro	27	25.7	38	36.2	38	36.2	30	28.6
Southern Metro	16	20.0	9	11.3	15	18.8	14	17.5
Western Metro	13	30.2	7	16.3	7	16.3	5	11.6
Upper Spencer	7	29.2	7	29.2	11	45.8	9	37.5
TOTAL*	68	24.9	64	23.4	74	27.1	61	22.3

* Includes 21 students enrolled in schools outside of the original four ICAN areas.

Northern Metro ICAN Area

In the Northern Metro Area there were 27 students who had at least one apprehension event in the pre-FLO period. The majority of these students were male and did not have an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander background. Slightly less than half of students were recorded as having a disability. A third (9 students) commenced FLO at the age of 14, five students were 15 years, five students were 16 years and the remainder were aged 13, 17 and 18 years. About 40% of students were in Year 11 when they commenced FLO, about 25% were in Year 10. Almost half (13 students) completed eight terms of FLO, six completed 12 terms and the remaining students completed either nine, ten or 11 terms.

Of the 27 students who had at least one apprehension event in the pre-FLO period, 15 only recorded one event in the period, six recorded two events in the period and the remaining students had between three and 12 apprehensions in the period. Eleven students recorded one or more events with a major charge of burglary, fraud and larceny offence, 11 students recorded one or more offences against good order events, six recorded damage property

events, five recorded offences against the person events, five recorded driving offences, and a small number recorded robbery and extortion offences, and drug offences.

Of the 27 students, 19 had at least one apprehension event in the first year of FLO, with seven of those students recording only one event, and the other 12 recording between two and 13 events. In the second year of FLO, there were also 19 students who recorded at least one apprehension event during the period, with 10 of those students apprehended only once, and the remaining nine recorded between two and six apprehension events within that period. In the year post-FLO there were 13 students with at least one apprehension event, five of which recorded only one apprehension event within that period, while the remaining eight recorded between two and eight apprehension events.

Southern Metro ICAN Area

In the Southern Metro Area there were 16 students who had at least one apprehension event in the year prior to FLO. Two thirds of these students were male, and the majority did not have an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Island background, nor were they listed as having a disability. Seven students commenced FLO at the age of 16, and most of the other students were aged 14, 15 or 17 years. Over half (9 students) commenced FLO in Year 11, with the remaining students commencing in either Year 9, 10 or 12. Two thirds of students completed eight terms of FLO, with the remaining students completing either 9, 10 or 12 terms.

Of the 16 students who had at least one apprehension event in the pre-FLO period, over two thirds (11 students) had only one apprehension event during the period, and the remaining students had between two to six events in the period. Six students recorded at least one event with a major charge of an offences against good order event, six students recorded at least one driving offences event, four students recorded at least one offences against the person event and a small number recorded at least one burglary, fraud and larceny offence or a damage property offence.

Of the 16 students, four students recorded at least one apprehension event in the first year of FLO, two of whom recorded only one event, and the remaining two recorded five and eight events within that period. In the second year of FLO, six students recorded at least one event, with three of those students apprehended only once, and the remaining students recorded between two and four events. In the year post-FLO, seven students recorded at least one apprehension event in the post-FLO period, with six students apprehended only once, and the remaining student recorded three apprehension events.

Western Metro ICAN Area

In the Western Metro ICAN Area there were 13 students who had at least one apprehension event in the year prior to FLO. About half of the students were male, the majority did not identify as an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander, and at least 60% were listed as having a disability. Almost half (6 students) commenced FLO in Year 11, with the remaining students commencing in Year 9 or 10. Almost all (11 students) completed eight terms of FLO, with the remaining students completing either 11 or 12 terms.

Of the 13 students who had at least one apprehension event in the pre-FLO period, over 50% (7 students) had only one such event in the period, while the remaining students had between two and six apprehension events in the period. Nine students recorded at least one event with a major charge of a burglary, fraud and larceny offence, seven students recorded at least one offences against good order offence, and a small number recorded at least one offences against the person or a damage property offence.

Of the 13 students, four students recorded at least one apprehension event in the first year of FLO, with students who recorded between one and 14 apprehension events during that time. There were five students who recorded at least one apprehension event in the second year of FLO, with students recording between one and three apprehension events in that period, and three students had at least one apprehension event in the post-FLO period, with students recording between five and fifteen apprehension events.

Proven Guilty Events

This section repeats the analyses of the previous section by providing an analysis of the students who had at least one proven guilty event by their ICAN Area. As noted, the small numbers of students enrolled in some areas meant that not all analyses could be completed for all areas. For proven guilty events, no further analyses were conducted for the Western Metro or the Upper Spencer ICAN areas because the number of students with at least one proven guilty event in the pre-FLO period was too small to break down further.

Table 46 shows that over the four periods of FLO, the percentage of students with at least one proven guilty event tended to be higher for Northern Metro students during first and second year FLO, while the percentage was lower for Southern Metro students in the first year of FLO compared to all other periods. The remainder of the section focuses only on the students who had at least one proven guilty event in the pre-FLO period.

Table 46: Proportion of students in each ICAN area with at least one proven guilty event in each FLO period

At least one apprehension event	Pre FLO		1 st Yr FLO		2 nd Yr FLO		Post FLO	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Northern Metro	20	19.0	29	27.6	32	30.5	21	20.0
Southern Metro	15	18.8	6	7.5	12	15.0	9	11.3
Western Metro	8	18.6	5	11.6	6	14.0	4	9.3
Upper Spencer	5	20.8	6	25.0	8	33.3	8	33.3
TOTAL*	52	19.0	49	17.9	61	22.3	44	16.1

* Includes 21 students enrolled in schools outside of the original four ICAN areas.

Northern Metro ICAN Area

In the Northern Metro Area there were 20 students who had at least one proven guilty event in the pre-FLO period. The majority of these students were male and did not have an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander background. Over half (11 students) were recorded as having a disability. Seven of the students were aged 14 years when they commenced FLO, and the remaining students were aged either 13 years, or 15 to 18 years. Eight of the students were in Year 11 when they commenced FLO, four were in Year 10, four were in Year 9 and four were in Year 8. Ten of the students subsequently completed 8 terms of FLO, five completed between 9 and 11 terms of FLO, and five completed 12 terms.

Of the 20 students with at least one proven guilty event in the pre-FLO period, 11 recorded only one such event in the period, three recorded two events and the remainder recorded between three and 12 events in the period. Ten students recorded one or more events with a major charge of a burglary, fraud and larceny offence, eight recorded one or more offence against good order events, five recorded one or more offence against the person events, five recorded one or more damage property events, and four recorded one or more driving offence. A small number recorded one or more robbery and extortion offences.

Of the 20 students, 13 also recorded at least one proven guilty event in the first year of FLO, with three students recording only one event, three students recording two events, and the remaining students recording between three to 13 events. There were 13 students who recorded at least one proven guilty event in the second year of FLO, with six students recording only one event, and the remaining students recording between two and five events. There were eight students who recorded at least one event in the post-FLO period, with three students recording only one event, three students recording two events, and the remaining students recording between three and six events.

Southern Metro ICAN Area

In the Southern Metro ICAN Area there were 15 students with at least one proven guilty event in the pre-FLO period. Nine of these students were male and six were female. The large majority were not recorded as having an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander background, and most did not have a disability. Five of the students were aged 16 years when they commenced FLO. Most other students were aged either 14 to 15 years, or 17 to 18 years, and a small number were mature-age students. Seven of the students were in Year 11 when commencing FLO, with the others commencing in Years 9, 10 or 12. Eleven of the students subsequently completed 8 terms of FLO, with only small numbers completing 9-11 or 12 terms.

Of the 15 students recording at least one proven guilty event in the pre-FLO period, 12 recorded only one such event, with the remaining three recording up to six events each in the period. Five students recorded at least one offence against good order event, five recorded at least one driving offence event, three recorded at least one proven guilty event with a major charge of an offence against the person, three recorded at least one burglary, fraud and larceny event, and a very small number recorded at least one damage property event.

Of the 15 students with at least one pre-FLO event, three students also recorded at least one proven guilty event in the first year of FLO, with students recording between one and eight events in that period. There were six students who recorded at least one proven guilty event in the second year of FLO, with three students recording only one event in that period, two students recording three events, and one student recording four events. There were four students who recorded at least one event in the post-FLO period, with students recording between one and three events in that period.