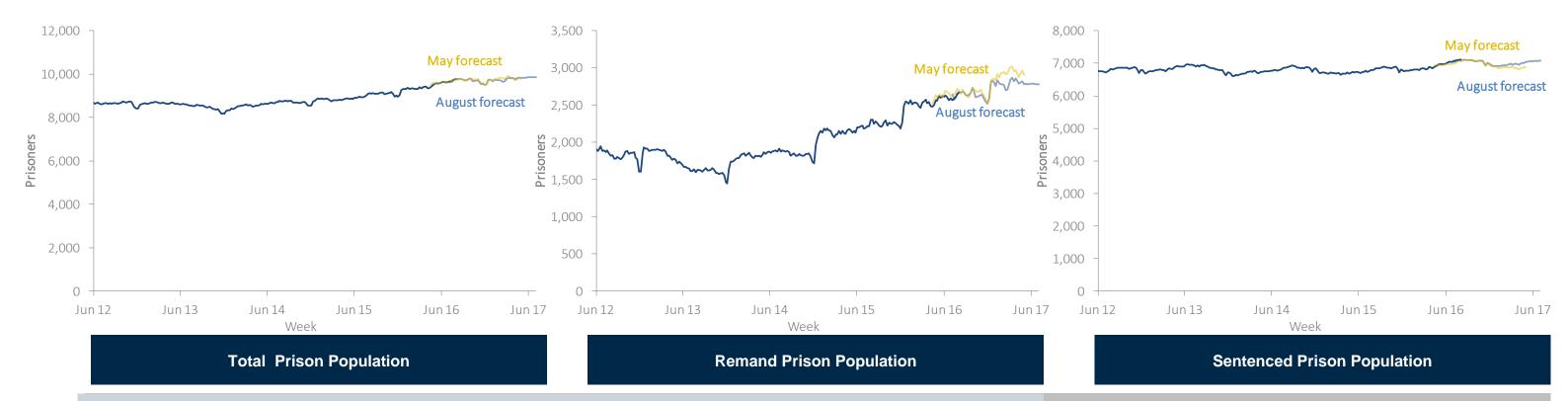
# **Short term (one year) Prison Population Forecast September 2016**

FORECAST TOTAL PRISON POPULATION IS GRADUALLY INCREASING, AS A RESULT OF A CONTINUING INCREASE IN REMAND POPULATION, AND A LONG TERM INCREASE IN SENTENCED POPULATION



# Commentary

## Forecast prison population is gradually increasing

- This forecast is very similar in total to the previous (May 2016) short term forecast.
- The remand population is rising, driven mainly by increased inflow since the introduction of the Bail Amendment Act (2013) and also recently by an increased focus on family violence, including a decision to maintain more serious charges, resulting in a higher proportion of cases involving remand.
- The rate of increase in remand inflow is expected to slow down, therefore this forecast lower than the previous remand population forecast.
- The increase in remand numbers is flowing through to the sentenced population. Since people are spending longer in remand, the proportion of time spent as a sentenced prisoner has dropped.

### Remand starts continue to increase and remand time remains steady

- Since early 2015 the number of remand starts has risen from around 1,000 per month to over 1,100 per month.
- The increase in remand starts is driven by an increase in serious family violence charges\*, while overall violence charges remain unchanged.
- Average time on remand has been steady since early 2015, following earlier increases.

### Actual and forecast with confidence interval

	Prison population			Confidence interval	
As at end of	Remand	Sentenced	Total	Lower	Upper
Sep 2016	2,714	7,110	9,824	9374	10,274
Nov 2016	2,641	7,080	9,721	9,228	10,214
Feb 2017	2,779	6,941	9,720	9184	10,257
May 2017	2,782	7,041	9,823	9243	10,404







