

Bail and Remand

Criminal Justice

Release before trial, and what research finds about detaining instead.

A decision about risk, taken before guilt is determined.

Decision factors

Risk of failing to appear

Risk of further offending on bail

Risk of interference with witnesses

Community ties, work and address

Conditions that address a stated risk

What research finds

Remand is linked to worse case outcomes

Detained defendants plead guilty more often

Even short remand can cost work and housing

The presumption of innocence still applies

Money bail reform results are mixed

Educational reference. Bail law differs fundamentally between systems; money bail exists in some and not others. Not legal advice.