

# Social Indicators May 2020

Released: 1 May 2020 | Next release 5 June 2020

---

## Table of contents

Page

### Northern Territory Crime Statistics, February quarter 2020

2

This quarterly publication provides statistics on criminal offences in the Northern Territory, extracted from the police records system.

Author: Northern Territory Police, Fire and Emergency Services ([NTPFES](#))

Date of release: 17 April 2020

#### Disclaimer

Caution is advised when using monthly data for the Territory, which is often derived from small samples and highly volatile. Although all due care has been exercised in the preparation of this material, no responsibility is accepted for any errors or omission.

#### More information:

Intergovernmental Relations | Department of Treasury and Finance

P: 08 8999 6801 | W: <https://treasury.nt.gov.au>

# Social Indicators May 2020

## Northern Territory Crime Statistics, February quarter 2020

The following is a summary of information on offence counts in the Northern Territory in the February quarter 2020 compared to the February quarter 2019, unless otherwise stated.

- Recorded offences against property increased by 462, or 8.0 per cent, to 6215. This increase was driven by increases in house break-ins (164), property damage (361) and theft (89) offences (Table 1).
- Commercial break-ins decreased by 134, or 17.4 per cent, to 635, with the largest decreases in Katherine (-53) and Darwin (-52), partially offset by increases in Alice Springs (25) and Palmerston (8).
- House break-ins increased in all regions with a total increase of 164, or 22.9 per cent, to 880, with the largest increases in Darwin (85) and Alice Springs (32) (Table 2).
- The number of offences against persons increased by 215 or 11.4 per cent to 2107, primarily driven by an increase in acts intended to cause injury (180) (Table 1).
- The number of acts intended to cause injury increased by 180, or 11.0 per cent, to 1821. This was primarily driven by increases in Alice Springs (93) and Darwin (47), partially offset by a decrease in Palmerston (-29).
- Of the total number of acts intended to cause injury, 1814 were assaults, where 61.5 per cent involved domestic violence, 47.0 per cent involved alcohol and 32.4 per cent involved both domestic violence and alcohol.
- For the year ending February 2020 total offence against the person rates were at the lowest level over the reported six year period with 3136.9 offences per 100 000 people (Figure 1).
- Over this six year period, total offences against the person peaked in 2018 with 3 507.8 offences per 100 000 people (Figure 1).
- On average, acts intended to cause injury have made up 86 per cent of total offences against the person, and has been the main driver of change in offence rates for offences against the person, over the six years to February 2020.
- The Northern Territory crime statistics are prepared by the Department of Attorney-General and Justice using data recorded by the Northern Territory Police.

Table 1: Selected recorded offences against property and persons, Northern Territory, February quarter, 2019 and 2020<sup>1,2,3</sup>

	Feb qtr 2019	Feb qtr 2020	Annual change
	No.	No.	%
<b>Offences against property</b>			
House break-ins	716	880	22.9
Commercial break-ins	769	635	-17.4
Motor vehicle theft and related offences	456	438	-3.9
Theft	1 983	2 072	4.5
Property damage	1 829	2 190	19.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>5 753</b>	<b>6 215</b>	<b>8.0</b>
<b>Offences against persons</b>			
Homicide and related offences	3	4	33.3
Acts intended to cause injury	1 641	1 821	11.0
Sexual assault and related offences	87	96	10.3
Other	161	186	15.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>1 892</b>	<b>2 107</b>	<b>11.4</b>

1 Break-ins include actual and attempted break-ins.

2 Other includes other dangerous or negligent acts endangering persons, abduction, harassment and other offences, robbery, extortion and related offences.

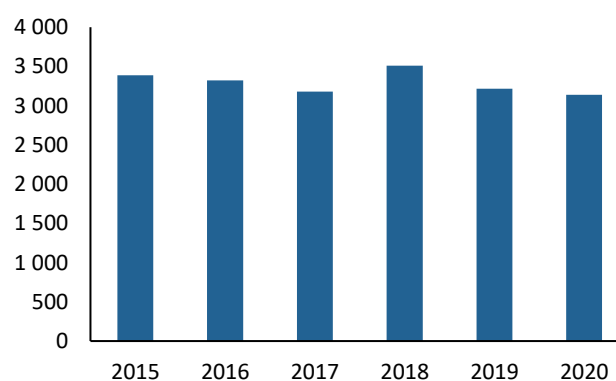
3 Acts intended to cause injury includes assault and related offences.

Table 2: Recorded house break-ins by region, Northern Territory, February quarter, 2019 and 2020<sup>4</sup>

	Feb qtr 2019	Feb qtr 2020	Annual change
	No.	No.	%
Darwin	176	261	48.3
Palmerston	92	116	26.1
Alice Springs	168	200	19.0
Katherine	48	49	2.1
Tennant Creek	32	49	53.1
Nhulunbuy	4	7	75.0
NT Balance	196	198	1.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>716</b>	<b>880</b>	<b>22.9</b>

4 NT Balance is the area of the Northern Territory that lies outside of the six urban centres of Darwin, Palmerston, Alice Springs, Katherine, Tennant Creek and Nhulunbuy.

Figure 1: Offence against the person rate per 100 000 population, for the 12 months ending in February, 2015 to 2020



Source data in Northern Territory Crime Statistics, February 2020: Department of Treasury and Finance, NTPFES