

# Social Indicators January 2021

Released: 8 January 2021 | Next release: 5 February 2021

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Table of contents	Page
<b>VET qualification completion rates 2018</b> This publication tracks cohorts of students from the year they commenced their VET qualification at certificate I or above to their completion status up to four years later. Author: National Centre for Vocational Education Research ( <a href="#">NCVER</a> ) Date of release: 1 December 2020	2
<b>Prisoners in Australia, 2020</b> This publication presents information taken from the annual National Prisoner Census which captures data on all persons held in Australian prisons on 30 June 2020. Author: Australian Bureau of Statistics ( <a href="#">ABS</a> ) Date of release: 3 December 2020	3
<b>Births, Australia, 2019</b> This yearly publication presents data on live births and fertility in Australia. Author: Australian Bureau of Statistics ( <a href="#">ABS</a> ) Date of release: 9 December 2020	4
<b>Specialist Homelessness Services Annual Report, 2019-20</b> This annual publication presents data on the characteristics of clients of specialist homelessness services, the services required, outcomes achieved and unmet requests from services. Author: Australian Institute of Health and Welfare ( <a href="#">AIHW</a> ) Date of release: 11 December 2020	5
<b>Apprentices and Trainees: June quarter 2020</b> This quarterly publication provides a snapshot of apprentices and trainees, presenting statistics on commencements, completions, cancellations, withdrawals and those currently in training. Author: National Centre for Vocational Education Research ( <a href="#">NCVER</a> ) Date of release: 16 December 2020	6
<b>Northern Territory Crime Statistics, October quarter 2020</b> This monthly publication provides statistics on criminal offences in the Northern Territory, extracted from the police records system. Author: Northern Territory Police, Fire and Emergency Services ( <a href="#">NTPFES</a> ) Date of release: 18 December 2020	7

## 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 6718 | W: <https://treasury.nt.gov.au>

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# Social Indicators January 2021

## VET qualification completion rates 2018

The following is a summary of VET qualification completion outcomes in the Northern Territory in 2018, unless otherwise specified.

- 38.6 per cent of all Territory VET students who commenced their qualification in 2015 completed their qualification. This figure is projected to decline by 1.2 percentage points for students who commenced in 2016, before improving by 3.3 percentage points and 5.1 percentage points respectively, for students who commenced in 2017 and 2018 (Table 1).
- Of Territory students who commenced studying a VET qualification in 2015, those studying at Diploma level or higher had the highest completion rate, with 53.5 per cent. Students studying at Certificate III had the lowest completion rate, with 32.6 per cent (Table 1).
- At a total level, the Territory had the third lowest completion rate for students commencing their qualification in 2015, at 38.6 per cent, below the national rate of 41.4 per cent. South Australia had the lowest completion rate, at 37.6 per cent, while Queensland had the highest completion rate of any Australian jurisdiction, at 43.1 per cent. Students studying overseas significantly outperformed their Australia-based counterparts, with a completion rate of 65.6 per cent (Figure 1).
- Territory VET students commencing a qualification in the field of education in 2015 had the highest completion rate by field of study, with 52.4 per cent. Architecture and building was the field with the lowest completion rate, with 23.2 per cent.
- Nationally, of all VET students commencing their qualification in 2015, those aged 15 to 19 years had the highest completion rate, with 43.5 per cent. Students aged 20 to 24 years had the next highest, with 41.0 per cent, slightly below the total completion rate of 41.4 per cent. Students aged 14 years and under had the lowest completion rate, with 33.7 per cent, while students aged 65 years and over performed slightly better, with 33.9 per cent.
- Nationally, of all VET students commencing their qualification in 2015, those undertaking a school-based qualification had the highest completion rate, with 48.3 per cent. Students who enrolled in a VET qualification through an enterprise provider had the next highest completion rate, with 47.3 per cent. Students undertaking their VET qualification through a community education provider had the lowest completion rate, with 38.7 per cent. (Figure 2).

Table 1: Northern Territory VET qualification completion rate by level of education and year commenced (per cent)<sup>1</sup>

	2015	2016	2017	2018
	<i>Actual</i>	<i>Projected</i>		
Diploma or higher	53.5	54.8	60.7	64.4
Certificate IV	50.7	49.1	56.9	53.8
Certificate III	32.6	31.0	36.4	40.9
Certificate II	37.0	35.0	34.9	40.6
Certificate I	36.8	38.7	35.6	47.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>38.6</b>	<b>37.4</b>	<b>40.7</b>	<b>45.8</b>

<sup>1</sup> Completion rates are projected for the first three years after a qualification commenced. Observed actual completion rates are only reported for qualifications that commenced in 2015, based on the assumption that enough time has passed for all students who were going to complete their qualification to have done so.

Figure 1: Total VET qualification completion rate for students commencing in 2015 by jurisdiction where the training was delivered (per cent)

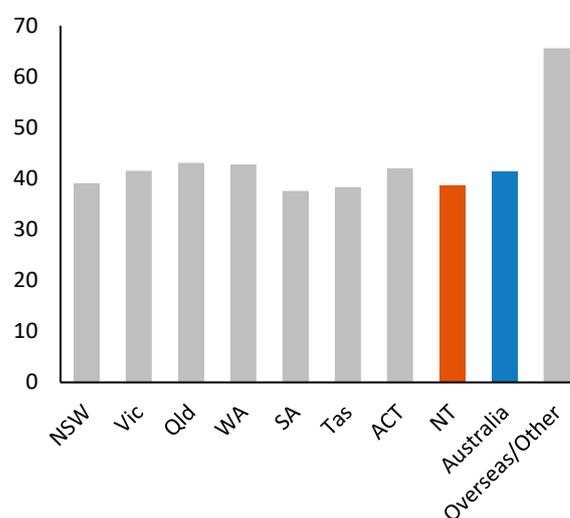
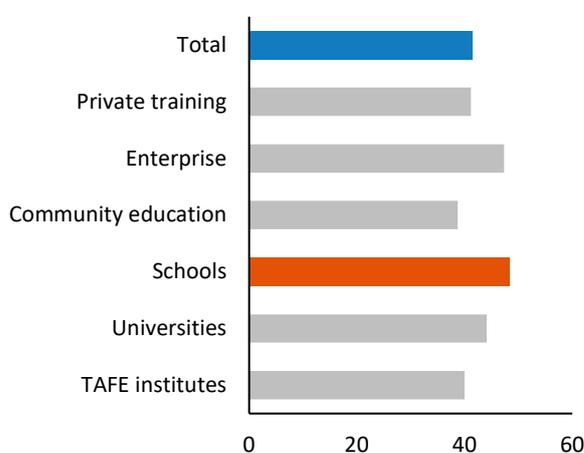


Figure 2: Total VET qualification completion rate for students commencing in 2015 by training provider type (per cent)



Source data in VET qualification rates 2018: Department of Treasury and Finance, NCVET

# Social Indicators January 2021

## Prisoners in Australia, 2020

The following is a summary of information on prisoners held in the Northern Territory on 30 June 2020, unless otherwise specified.

- There were 1634 people imprisoned in the Territory, compared with 1098 in 2010, representing an annual average growth of 4.1 per cent over the period (Figure 3).
- The proportion of males imprisoned compared to females remained significantly high across all jurisdictions. The proportion of male prisoners in the Territory was 94.1 per cent, the second highest of all jurisdictions after Victoria with 94.4 per cent, and above the national proportion of 92.3 per cent.
- Of the total number of prisoners, 74.1 per cent had a prior adult imprisonment record. This was the second highest of all jurisdictions after the Australian Capital Territory, with 77.7 per cent, and above the national proportion of 59.5 per cent.
- The median aggregate sentence length for prisoners was 2.0 years, the lowest figure of all jurisdictions and below the national figure of 3.5 years.
- Of the total number of prisoners, 83.9 per cent or 1371 were Aboriginal. This proportion was the highest of all jurisdictions and compares with a national proportion of 29.4 per cent.
- The Aboriginal age standardised imprisonment rate was 2269.7 per 100 000 adults. This was the third highest figure of the jurisdictions after Western Australia with 3463.7 and South Australia with 2421.9 per 100 000 adults. Nationally, the Aboriginal age standardised imprisonment rate was 2081.0 per 100 000 adults (Figure 4).
- The most common serious offence resulting in imprisonment was acts intended to cause injury (417 prisoners or 37.7 per cent), followed by offences against justice (182 prisoners or 16.5 per cent) and sexual assault and related offences (142 prisoners or 12.8 per cent) (Table 2).
- Nationally the most common serious offence resulting in imprisonment was acts intended to cause injury (5050 prisoners or 18.9 per cent), followed by sexual assault and related offences (4374 prisoners or 16.4 per cent) and illicit drug offences (3 988 prisoners or 14.9 per cent) (Table 2).
- Homicide and related offences had the highest median aggregate sentence length of 9.5 years, comparing nationally to 16.7 years.

Figure 3: Number of prisoners, Northern Territory, 2010 to 2020, year ending 30 June

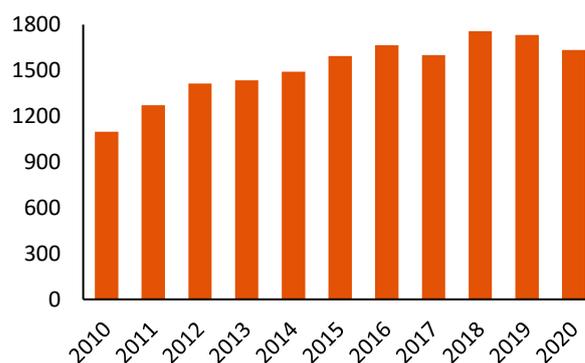


Figure 4: Aboriginal age standardised imprisonment rates, per 100 000 adult population, 30 June 2020

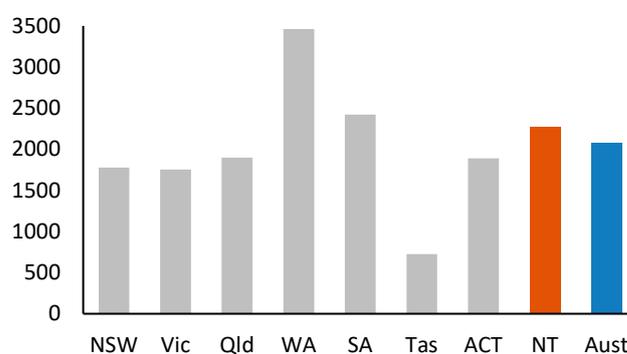


Table 2: Most serious offences resulting in imprisonment (sentenced prisoners), 30 June 2020<sup>2,3</sup>

	NT		Australia	
	No.	%	No.	%
Acts intended to cause injury	417	37.7	5 050	18.9
Offences against justice	182	16.5	2 494	9.3
Sexual assault and related offences	142	12.8	4 374	16.4
Dangerous or negligent acts endangering persons	58	5.2	1 138	4.3
Illicit drug offences	57	5.2	3 988	14.9
Property damage and environmental pollution	47	4.2	420	1.6
Robbery/extortion	46	4.2	2 066	7.7
Unlawful entry with intent	43	3.9	3 012	11.3
Other	104	9.4	4 187	15.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>1 106</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>26 731</b>	<b>100.0</b>

<sup>2</sup> Other offences includes, homicide, abduction, theft, fraud, prohibited weapons, traffic offences, public order and miscellaneous offences.

<sup>3</sup> Total may not add as it includes prisoners for whom a most serious offence is unknown.

Source data in Prisoners in Australia, 2020: Department of Treasury and Finance, ABS

# Social Indicators January 2021

## Births, Australia, 2019

The following is a summary of information on births in the Northern Territory in 2019, unless otherwise specified.

- There were 3658 births, of which 1369 or 37.4 per cent were registered as Aboriginal births. This was the highest proportion of Aboriginal births of all jurisdictions and significantly higher than the national rate of 7.2 per cent (Table 3).
- 51.5 per cent or 1884 births were male, while 48.5 per cent or 1774 were female. Nationally the proportion of male and female births was the same. The Australian Capital Territory had the highest proportion of male births, with 51.9 per cent or 2866 births, compared to 48.1 per cent or 2654 female births. South Australia had the lowest proportion of male births, with 51.3 per cent or 9992, compared to 48.7 per cent or 9498 female births.
- The fertility rate was 1.84 babies per woman which was the highest rate of all jurisdictions and above the national rate of 1.66. Fertility rates in all other jurisdictions ranged from 1.53 in Victoria to 1.79 in Tasmania (Table 4).
- Barkly had the highest fertility rate in the Territory at 3.09, followed by Alice Springs with 2.28 and Palmerston with 2.18. The area with the lowest fertility rate was Darwin City with 1.22.
- The fertility rate in 2019 represents a decline of 12.8 per cent compared to 2009. Nationally there was a 15.9 per cent decline in fertility rates. There were no jurisdictions that experienced an increase in fertility rates over this period (Table 4).
- The fertility rate for Aboriginal mothers was 1.97, which was the second lowest of the jurisdictions, ahead of Tasmania (1.78). Queensland had the highest fertility rate for Aboriginal mothers (2.67), followed by Western Australia (2.46). Nationally, the fertility rate for Aboriginal mothers was 2.32.
- The Aboriginal fertility rate represents a decrease of 14.5 per cent compared to 2009, while the national rate represents a decrease of 4.8 per cent. Aboriginal fertility rates increased in Tasmania by 44.7 per cent, and Victoria by 4.0 per cent, while decreasing in all other jurisdictions (Table 4).
- Of the Aboriginal births registered, 47 per cent were to parents who were both Aboriginal, (compared to 25 per cent nationally), 44 per cent were to Aboriginal mothers only, (compared to 45 per cent nationally) and 9 per cent were to Aboriginal fathers only (compared to 30 per cent nationally) (Figure 5).

Table 3: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Births as a proportion of total births, 2019<sup>4,5</sup>

	Total		Aboriginal	
	No.	No.	No.	%
NSW	98 906	7 361		7.4
Vic	77 220	1 732		2.2
Qld	61 735	6 852		11.1
WA	33 539	2 680		8.0
SA	19 490	1 082		5.6
Tas	5 741	618		10.8
ACT	5 520	n.p.		-
NT	3 658	1 369		37.4
<b>Australia</b>	<b>305 832</b>	<b>21 925</b>		<b>7.2</b>

4 ACT Aboriginal births not published due to small numbers but included in Australia total.

5 Australia includes Christmas Island, the Cocos (Keeling) Islands, Jervis Bay Territory and Norfolk Island.

Table 4: Fertility Rate, babies per woman<sup>6,7</sup>

	Total		Aboriginal	
	2009	2019	2009	2019
	No.	No.	No.	No.
NSW	1.98	1.69	2.31	2.25
Vic	1.83	1.53	2.00	2.08
Qld	2.17	1.72	2.84	2.67
WA	1.95	1.77	2.70	2.46
SA	1.89	1.69	2.23	2.06
Tas	2.17	1.79	1.23	1.78
ACT	1.72	1.57	n.p.	-
NT	2.11	1.84	2.31	1.97
<b>Australia</b>	<b>1.97</b>	<b>1.66</b>	<b>2.43</b>	<b>2.32</b>

6 ACT Aboriginal fertility rate not published due to small numbers but included in Australia total.

7 Australia includes Christmas Island, the Cocos (Keeling) Islands, Jervis Bay Territory and Norfolk Island.

Figure 5: Aboriginal births by Aboriginal status of parents, 2019, per cent



Source data Births, Australia, 2019: Department of Treasury and Finance, ABS

# Social Indicators January 2021

## Specialist Homelessness Services Annual Report 2019-20

The following is a summary of information on the characteristics of clients of specialist homelessness services in the Northern Territory in 2019-20, unless otherwise stated.

- The Territory had a total of 10 277 clients, representing 3.5 per cent of national clients, of which there were 290 462 (Table 5).
- 3778 or 36.8 per cent of the Territory's total clients were male and 6499 or 63.2 per cent were female. Nationally, male clients accounted for 39.9 per cent of total clients and female clients accounted for 60.1 per cent (Table 5).
- There were 418.0 clients per 10 000 estimated resident population (ERP), the highest of all jurisdictions and above the national rate of 114.5 per 10 000 ERP.
- Remote and very remote clients represented the largest portion of total Territory clients at 66.8 per cent or 6860 clients.
- Of the total number of clients, 85.1 per cent, or 8741 were Aboriginal, the highest rate of all jurisdictions and above the national rate of 24.6 per cent (Figure 6).
- Territory clients received assistance across 15 075 discrete support periods, accounting for 2.9 per cent of the national support periods.
- By age group, those aged 0-9 accessed the most support periods, with 2899 or 19.2 per cent of total support periods in the Territory. The age groups 25-34 and 35-44 followed, with 16.1 and 13.8 per cent of total support periods respectively. Nationally, the age group 25-34 had the largest proportion of total support periods, with 20.2 per cent (Table 5).
- Of the Territory clients presenting for support, 60.4 per cent of clients presented alone/not part of family, 30.8 per cent presented single with child/ren and 4.8 per cent presented as a couple with child/ren.
- The most common reason for seeking specialist homelessness services was family and domestic violence, at 17.8 per cent, followed by financial difficulties, at 8.6 per cent, and time out from family/other situation, at 8.4 per cent. Nationally, financial difficulties were the main reason for clients seeking assistance, at 12.6 per cent, followed by family and domestic violence and housing crisis, at 11.8 and 10.5 per cent respectively (Table 6).

Table 5: Total clients and support periods by characteristics, 2019-20

	NT		Australia	
	No.	%	No.	%
<b>Clients</b>				
Male	3 778	36.8	115 789	39.9
Female	6 499	63.2	174 673	60.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>10 277</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>290 462</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Support periods by age group</b>				
0-9	2 899	19.2	67 590	13.1
10-14	1 933	12.8	26 721	5.2
15-17	1 418	9.4	27 385	5.3
18-24	1 809	12.0	75 529	14.7
25-34	2 429	16.1	103 797	20.2
35-44	2 084	13.8	101 530	19.7
45-54	1 275	8.5	66 237	12.9
55-64	623	4.1	26 113	5.1
65+	207	1.4	12 976	2.5
Not stated	398	2.6	7 147	1.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>15 075</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>515 025</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Figure 6: The proportion of clients by Indigenous status by jurisdiction, 2019-20, (per cent)

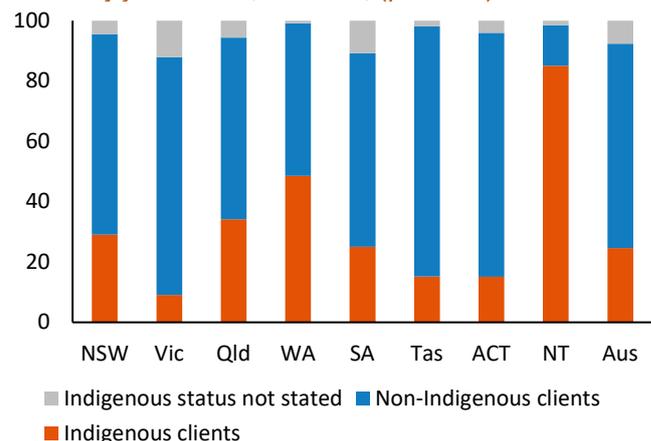


Table 6: Clients by reasons for seeking assistance, 2019-20<sup>8,9</sup>

	NT		Australia	
	No.	%	No.	%
Family and domestic violence	4 155	17.8	111 228	11.8
Financial difficulties	2 006	8.6	118 444	12.6
Time out from family/other situation	1 966	8.4	29 547	3.1
Inadequate or inappropriate dwelling conditions	1 841	7.9	74 314	7.9
Other	12 118	52.0	603 690	64.2
Not stated	1 235	5.3	2 945	0.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>23 321</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>940 168</b>	<b>100.0</b>

<sup>8</sup> Total exceeds total clients as clients can state multiple reasons.

<sup>9</sup> Other includes housing affordability stress, housing crisis, relationship/family breakdown, health, and miscellaneous reasons.

Source data in Specialist Homelessness Services Annual Report 2019-20: Department of Treasury and Finance, AIHW

The following is a summary of apprentice and trainee activity in the Northern Territory during the June quarter 2020.

- There were 3265 apprentices and trainees in-training at the end of June quarter 2020, a decrease of 5.9 per cent from June quarter 2019 (Figure 7). Nationally, apprentices and trainees in-training decreased by 3.9 per cent over the same period.
- Of the total number of apprentices and trainees in-training, 2515 or 77.0 per cent were employed on a full-time basis, slightly below the national average rate of 80.6 per cent.
- The gender ratio of males to females for apprentices and trainees was roughly 2.0:1, with 2185 males to 1075 females. This compares to a national ratio of 3.1:1, with 202 200 males to 64 365 females.
- The occupation category which had the most apprentices and trainees in-training was technicians and trade workers with 1730, or 53.0 per cent, followed by community and personal service workers with 680, or 20.8 per cent, and sales workers with 220, or 6.7 per cent. Nationally, the top ranking occupation category was technicians and trade workers at 67.9 per cent, followed by community and personal service workers at 11.1 per cent and machinery operators and drivers at 6.1 per cent (Table 7).
- Of the total number of apprentices and trainees in-training, 53.1 per cent, or 1730 were employed in a trade occupation, while 46.9 per cent or 1530 were employed in a non-trade occupation.
- The most popular apprentice and trainee training package programs were Certificate III in Electrotechnology Electrician, with 320 apprentices and trainees, followed by Certificate III in Carpentry (180 apprentices and trainees) and Certificate III in Air-conditioning and Refrigeration (125 apprentices and trainees).
- From June quarter 2019 to June quarter 2020, the number of apprentices and trainees that commenced training decreased from 485 to 345, a decrease of 28.9 per cent (Table 8).
- Cancellations/withdrawals over the same period decreased by 28.6 per cent and completions decreased by 38.6 per cent (Table 8).

Figure 7: Apprentices and trainees in-training, Northern Territory, June quarters, 2016 to 2020

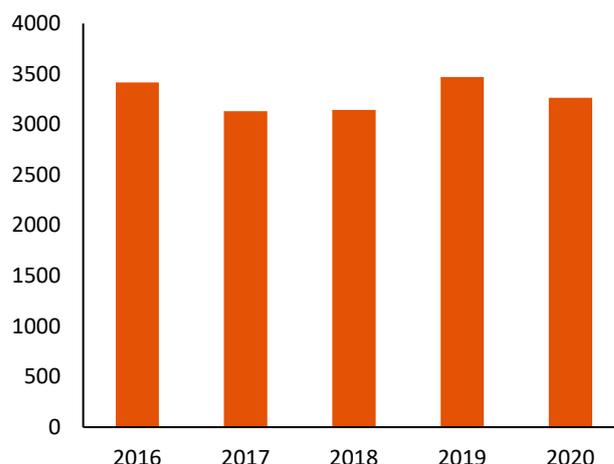


Table 7: Apprentices and trainees in-training, by occupation category, June quarter 2020<sup>10,11</sup>

	NT		Australia	
	No.	%	No.	%
Technicians and trades	1 730	53.0	180 875	67.9
Community and personal service	680	20.8	29 655	11.1
Sales	220	6.7	12 005	4.5
Machinery operators and drivers	195	6.0	16 355	6.1
Clerical and administrative	185	5.7	14 725	5.5
Labourers	180	5.5	9 410	3.5
Managers	60	1.8	2 840	1.1
Professionals	15	0.5	695	0.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>3 265</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>266 565</b>	<b>100.0</b>

10 Not elsewhere classified or not known occupations are included in totals.

11 Figures may not add as all figures are rounded to the nearest five.

Table 8: Number of commencements, cancellations/withdrawals and completions, June quarters, 2019 and 2020<sup>12</sup>

	June qtr	June qtr	Change
	2019	2020	
	No.	No.	%
Commencements	485	345	-28.9
Cancellations/ Withdrawals	280	200	-28.6
Completions	220	135	-38.6

12 Figures are rounded to the nearest five.

Source data in Apprentices and Trainees 2020: June quarter: Department of Treasury and Finance, NCVÉR

# Social Indicators January 2021

## Northern Territory Crime Statistics, October quarter 2020

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

- Recorded offences against property decreased by 801, or 15.6 per cent, to 4332. This decrease was driven by decreases in all offences related to property other than property damage offences, which increased by 165, or 9.3 per cent (Table 9).
- Commercial break-ins decreased by 16.4 per cent to 346. This decline was largely driven by decreases in Darwin of 31.4 per cent, or 22 break-ins, and NT Balance of 40.6 per cent, or 76 break-ins. This was partially offset by increases in Alice Springs (15), Nhulunbuy (14) and Katherine (4).
- House break-ins decreased by 26.7 per cent to 407, driven by decreases in all regions except Alice Springs (94) and Nhulunbuy (3) (Table 10).
- The number of offences against persons increased by 550, or 28.5 per cent, to 2479, primarily driven by an increase in acts intended to cause injury (539) (Table 9).
- The number of acts intended to cause injury increased by 32.3 per cent to 2207 offences. This was primarily due to increases in Alice Springs (133), Darwin (132) and Katherine (74).
- Of the total number of acts intended to cause injury, 2198 were assaults. Of these assaults, 65.0 per cent involved domestic violence, 51.9 per cent involved alcohol and 36.9 per cent involved both domestic violence and alcohol.
- In the year ending October 2020, total offences against property per 100 000 population decreased by 10.4 per cent compared to 2019. This was driven by decreases in all categories except property damage, which increased by 3.9 per cent (Figure 8).
- Between 2015 and 2020, year ending October, total offences against property have on average decreased annually by 0.8 per cent. The decrease was driven by an annual average decrease of 10.0 per cent in motor vehicle theft and an annual average decrease of 3.2 per cent in theft offences. This was partially offset by positive annual average growth in all other categories.
- The Northern Territory crime statistics are prepared by the Department of Attorney-General and Justice using data recorded by the Northern Territory Police.

Table 9: Selected recorded offences against property and persons, Northern Territory, October quarter, 2019 and 2020<sup>13,14,15</sup>

	Oct qtr 2019 No.	Oct qtr 2020 No.	Annual change %
<b>Offences against property</b>			
House break-ins	555	407	-26.7
Commercial break-ins	414	346	-16.4
Motor vehicle theft and related offences	445	305	-31.5
Theft	1 954	1 344	-31.2
Property damage	1 765	1 930	9.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>5 133</b>	<b>4 332</b>	<b>-15.6</b>
<b>Offences against persons</b>			
Homicide and related offences	1	1	0.0
Acts intended to cause injury	1 668	2 207	32.3
Sexual assault and related offences	120	108	-10.0
Other	140	163	16.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>1 929</b>	<b>2 479</b>	<b>28.5</b>

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

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

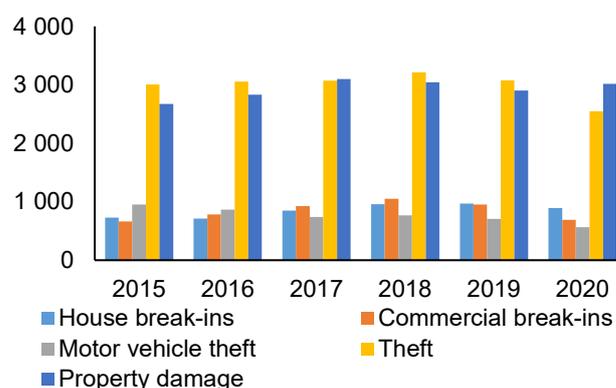
15 Acts intended to cause injury includes assault and related offences.

Table 10: Recorded house break-ins by region, Northern Territory, October quarter, 2019 and 2020<sup>16</sup>

	Oct qtr 2019 No.	Oct qtr 2020 No.	Annual change %
Darwin	130	65	-50.0
Palmerston	71	25	-64.8
Alice Springs	82	118	43.9
Katherine	14	6	-57.1
Tennant Creek	56	12	-78.6
Nhulunbuy	4	6	50.0
NT Balance	88	49	-44.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>445</b>	<b>281</b>	<b>-36.9</b>

16 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 8: Offence rates for offences against property, per 100 000 population, year ending October



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