

Social Indicators February 2022

Released: February 2022 | Next release: 4 March 2022

Table of contents	Page
VET qualification completion rates 2019 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 (NCVER) Date of release: 7 September 2021	2
Prisoners in Australia, 2021 This publication presents information taken from the annual National Prisoner Census which captures data on all persons held in Australian prisons on 30 June 2021. Author: Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) Date of release: 9 December 2021	3
Births, Australia, 2020 This yearly publication presents data on live births and fertility in Australia. Author: Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) Date of release: 8 December 2021	4
Specialist Homelessness Services Annual Report, 2020-21 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 (AIHW) Date of release: 07 December 2021	5
Apprentices and Trainees: June quarter 2021 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 (NCVER) Date of release: 27 January 2021	6
Northern Territory Crime Statistics, November quarter 2021 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 (NTPFES) Date of release: 21 January 2021	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>

Social Indicators February 2022

VET qualification completion rates 2019

The following is a summary of VET qualification completion outcomes in the Northern Territory in 2019, unless otherwise specified.

- 37.7% of all Territory VET students who commenced their qualification in 2016 completed their qualification. This figure is projected to rise by 2 percentage points for students who commenced in 2017, and will continue to increase by 3.3 and 3.7 percentage points for students who commenced in 2018 and 2019 respectively (Table 1).
- Of Territory students who commenced studying a VET qualification in 2016, those studying at Diploma level or higher had the highest completion rate, with 55%. Students studying at Certificate III had the lowest completion rate, with 31.2% (Table 1).
- Of the jurisdictions, Tasmania had the lowest completion rate for students commencing their qualification in 2016 at 36% followed by Victoria and South Australia at 36.3% and 37.1% respectively. Territory students who commenced their qualifications in 2016, had a completion rate of 37.9%. NSW had the highest completion rate of any jurisdiction at 46%. Students studying overseas significantly outperformed their Australia-based counterparts, with a completion rate of 63% (Figure 1).
- Territory VET students commencing a qualification in the field of Natural and Physical Sciences in 2016 had the highest completion rate by field of study, with 58.4%. Architecture and building was the field with the lowest completion rate at 32.8%.
- Nationally, of all VET students commencing their qualification in 2016, those aged 15 to 19 years had the highest completion rate, with 46.4%. Students aged 20 to 24 years had the next highest, with 44.7%. Students aged 14 years and under had the lowest completion rate, with 29.6%, while students aged 65 years and over performed slightly better, with 32.3%.
- Nationally, of all VET students commencing their qualification in 2016, those undertaking VET qualification with an enterprise provider had the highest completion rate, with 52.9%. Students who enrolled in a school-based qualification had the next highest completion rate, with 46.8%. Students undertaking their VET through TAFE had the lowest completion rate with 41.9% (Figure 2).

Table 1: Northern Territory VET qualification completion rate by level of education and year commenced (%)¹

	2016	2017	2018	2019
	<i>Actual</i>	<i>Projected</i>		
Diploma or higher	55.0	58.5	58.1	62.7
Certificate IV	49.3	55.2	48.4	56.5
Certificate III	31.2	35.1	38.2	44.6
Certificate II	35.4	34.6	38.5	39.8
Certificate I	38.7	35.5	47.7	46.1
Total	37.7	39.7	43.0	46.7

¹ 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 2016, 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 2016 by jurisdiction where the training was delivered (%)

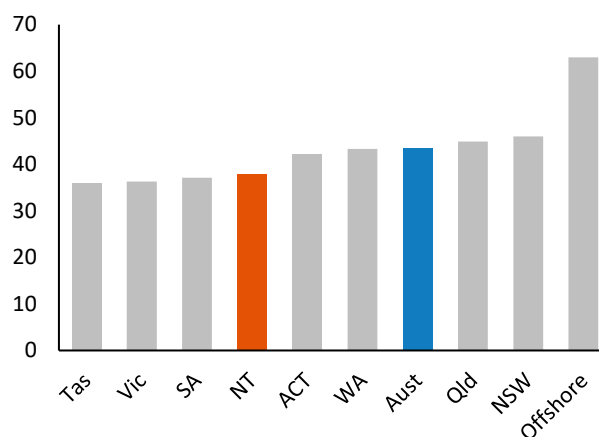
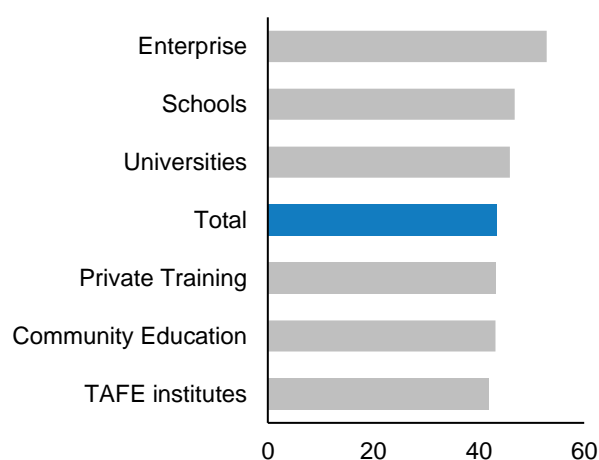


Figure 2: Total VET qualification completion rate for students commencing in 2016 by training provider type, Australia (%)



Source data in VET qualification rates 2019: Department of Treasury and Finance, NCVET

Social Indicators February 2022

Prisoners in Australia, 2021

The following is a summary of information on prisoners held in the Northern Territory on 30 June 2021, unless otherwise specified.

- There were 1,799 people imprisoned in the Territory, compared with 1,272 in 2011, representing an annual average growth of 3.7% 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 93.2%, with the highest of all jurisdictions being Victoria at 94.3%, and above the national proportion of 92.3%.
- Of the total number of prisoners, 73.8% had a prior adult imprisonment record. This was the second highest of all jurisdictions after the Australian Capital Territory with 77.6%, and above the national proportion of 59.9%.
- The median aggregate sentence length for prisoners was 1.5 years, the lowest figure of all jurisdictions and below the national figure of 3.5 years.
- Of the total number of prisoners, 85.6% or 1,540 were Aboriginal. This proportion was the highest of all jurisdictions and compares with a national proportion of 30.3%.
- The Aboriginal age standardised imprisonment rate was 2,556.8 per 100,000 adults. This was the second highest figure of the jurisdictions after Western Australia with 3,449.3 per 100,000 adults. Nationally, the Aboriginal age standardised imprisonment rate was 2,222.7 per 100,000 adults (Figure 4).
- The most common serious offence resulting in imprisonment was acts intended to cause injury (891 prisoners or 49.5%), followed by sexual assault and related offences (216 prisoners or 12%) and offences against justice (174 prisoners or 9.7%) (Table 2).
- Nationally, the most common serious offence resulting in imprisonment was acts intended to cause injury (10,775 prisoners or 25.1%), followed by illicit drug offences (6,325 prisoners or 14.7%) and sexual assault and related offences (6 187 prisoners or 14.4%) (Table 2).

Figure 3: Number of prisoners, Northern Territory, 2011 to 2021, year ending 30 June 2021

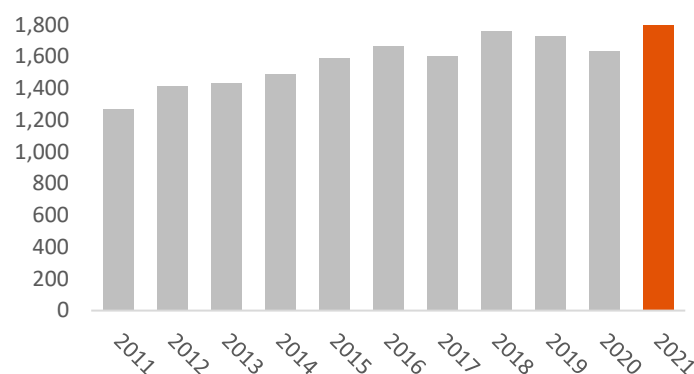


Figure 4: Aboriginal age standardised imprisonment rates, per 100,000 adult population, 30 June 2021

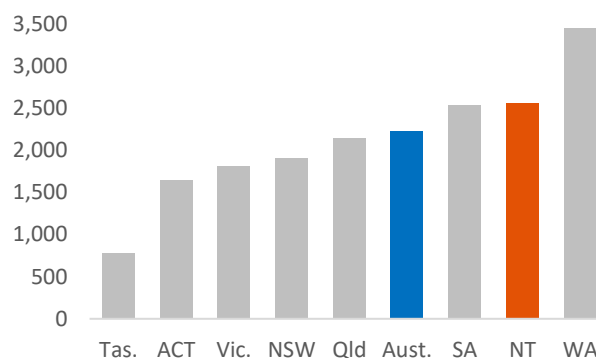


Table 2: Most serious offences resulting in imprisonment (sentenced prisoners), 30 June 2021^{2, 3}

	NT		Australia	
	No.	%	No.	%
Acts intended to cause injury	891	49.5	10 775	25.1
Sexual assault and related offences	216	12.0	6 187	14.4
Offences against justice	174	9.7	3 195	7.4
Other	161	8.9	7 938	18.5
Illicit drug offences	110	6.1	6 325	14.7
Homicide and related offences	82	4.6	3 292	7.7
Dangerous/negligent acts	80	4.4	1 700	4.0
Robbery/extortion	69	3.8	2 943	6.8
Abduction/harassment	22	1.2	619	1.4
Total	1 799	100.0	42 970	100.0

- 2 Other offences include unlawful entry with intent, theft, fraud/deception, weapons/explosives, property damage and environmental pollution, public order offences, traffic and vehicle regulatory offences, miscellaneous offences and post-offence.
- 3 Total may not add as it includes prisoners for whom a most serious offence is unknown.

Source data in Prisoners in Australia, 2021: Department of Treasury and Finance, ABS

Births, Australia, 2020

The following is a summary of information on births in the Northern Territory in 2020, unless otherwise specified.

- There were 3,752 births, of which 1,421 or 37.9% were registered as Aboriginal births. This was the highest proportion of Aboriginal births of all jurisdictions and significantly higher than the national rate of 7.5% (Table 3).
- 52.2% or 1,959 births were male, the highest proportion of the jurisdictions, while 47.8% or 1,793 were female. Nationally the proportion of male and female births was 51.3% and 48.7% respectively. Tasmania had the lowest proportion of male births, with 50.8% or 2,934, compared to 49.2% or 2,846 female births.
- The fertility rate was 1.86 babies per woman, the highest rate of all jurisdictions and above the national rate of 1.58. Fertility rates in all other jurisdictions ranged from 1.43 in Victoria to 1.77 in Tasmania (Table 4).
- The fertility rate in 2020 represents a decline of 12.2% compared to 2010. Nationally there was a 19.1% decline in fertility rates. There were no jurisdictions that experienced an increase in fertility rates over this period.
- Barkly had the highest fertility rate in the Territory at 3.26, followed by Alice Springs with 2.33 and Katherine with 2.12. The area with the lowest fertility rate was Darwin City with 1.19.
- The Aboriginal fertility rate was 2.06, below the national Aboriginal fertility rate at 2.25. In other jurisdictions, the Aboriginal fertility rate ranged from 1.84 in South Australia to 2.55 in Western Australia.
- The Aboriginal fertility rate represents a decrease of 15.8% compared to 2010, while the national rate represents a decrease of 4.5%. Aboriginal fertility rates increased in Victoria (29.2%), Tasmania (26.4%), Western Australia (4.4%) and in New South Wales (2.7%), while decreasing in all other jurisdictions.
- Of the Aboriginal births registered, 44% were to parents who were both Aboriginal (compared to 25% nationally), 48% were to Aboriginal mothers only (compared to 44% nationally) and 8% were to Aboriginal fathers only (compared to 31% nationally) (Figure 5).

Table 3: Aboriginal births as a proportion of total births, 2020^{4, 5}

	Total		Aboriginal	
	No.	No.	No.	%
NSW	95 459	7 688		8.1
Vic	73 543	1 720		2.3
Qld	59 490	6 435		10.8
WA	32 426	2 823		8.7
SA	18 526	1 034		5.6
Tas	5 780	682		11.1
ACT	5 386	n.p.		-
NT	3 752	1 421		37.9
Australia	294 369	22 016		7.5

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.

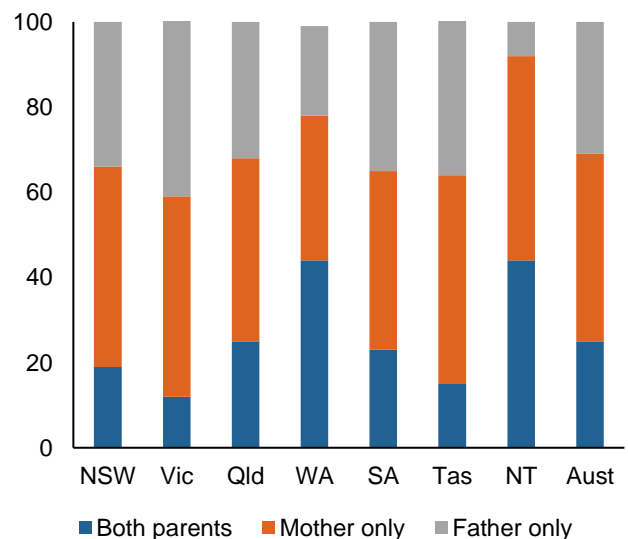
Table 4: Fertility rate, babies per woman^{6, 7}

	Total		Aboriginal	
	2010	2020	2010	2020
	No.	No.	No.	No.
NSW	2.02	1.62	2.25	2.31
Vic	1.79	1.43	1.53	1.97
Qld	2.09	1.64	2.77	2.34
WA	1.94	1.70	2.44	2.55
SA	1.90	1.59	2.40	1.84
Tas	2.08	1.77	1.52	1.92
ACT	1.78	1.52	n.p.	-
NT	2.12	1.86	2.44	2.06
Australia	1.95	1.58	2.35	2.25

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, 2020 (%)



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

Social Indicators February 2022

Specialist Homelessness Services Annual Report 2020-21

The following is a summary of information on the characteristics of clients of specialist homelessness services in the Northern Territory in 2020-21, unless otherwise stated.

- The Territory had a total of 10,122 clients, representing 3.7% of national clients, of which there were 278,275 (Table 5).
- 3,716 or 36.7% of the Territory's total clients were male and 6,406 or 63.3% were female. Nationally, male clients accounted for 39.8% of total clients and female clients accounted for 60.2% (Table 5).
- There were 411.5 clients per 10,000 estimated resident population (ERP), the highest of all jurisdictions and above the national rate of 108.3 per 10,000 ERP.
- Remote and very remote clients represented the largest portion of total Territory clients at 66.6% or 6,740 clients.
- Of the Territory clients presenting for support, 58.2% of clients presented alone/not part of family, 33.4% presented single with child/ren and 4.9% presented as a couple with child/ren.
- Of the total number of clients, 81.1% or 8,204 were Indigenous, the highest rate of all jurisdictions and above the national rate of 26.3% (Figure 6).
- By age group, those aged 0-9 accessed the most support periods, with 1,936 or 19.1% of total support periods in the Territory. The age groups 25-34 and 35-44 followed, with 16.5% and 15.1% of total support periods respectively. Nationally, the age group 25-34 had the largest proportion of total support periods, with 18.7% (Table 5).
- Territory clients received assistance across 15,842 discrete support periods, accounting for 3.1% of the national support periods.
- The most common reason for seeking specialist homelessness services was family and domestic violence at 21.7%, followed by inadequate dwelling conditions at 9.4% and financial difficulties at 8.6%. Nationally, family and domestic violence was the most common reason at 11.9% followed by financial difficulties at 11.7% (Table 6).

Table 5: Total clients and support periods by characteristics, 2020-21⁸

Clients	NT		Australia	
	No.	%	No.	%
Female	6 406	63.3	167 388	60.2
Male	3 716	36.7	110 887	39.8
Total	10 122	100.0	278 275	100.0
Support periods by age group				
0-9	1 936	19.1	44 242	15.9
25-34	1 675	16.5	51 915	18.7
35-44	1 530	15.1	49 837	17.9
18-24	1 188	11.7	40 037	14.4
10-14	1 137	11.2	18 074	6.5
45-54	1 080	10.7	34 043	12.2
15-17	761	7.5	16 199	5.8
55-64	581	5.7	15 508	5.6
65+	234	2.3	8 420	3.0
Total	10 122	100.0	278 275	100.0

8 A 'support period' identifies units of clients who present alone or in a group to a specialist homelessness agency and receive a service. An individual client can have multiple support periods

Figure 6: The proportion of clients by Indigenous status by jurisdiction, 2020-21, (%)

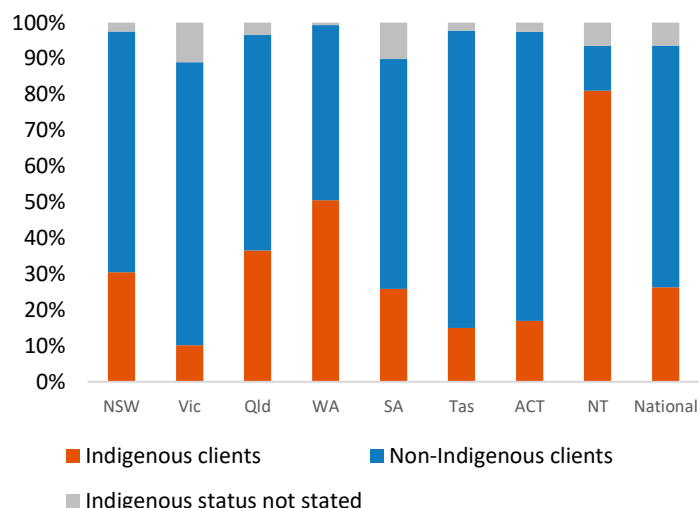


Table 6: Clients by reasons for seeking assistance, 2020-21⁹

	NT		Australia	
	No.	%	No.	%
Family and domestic violence	4 592	21.7	108 654	11.9
Inadequate or inappropriate dwelling conditions	1 999	9.4	75 092	8.3
Financial difficulties	1 814	8.6	106 480	11.7
Lack of family and/or community support	1 505	7.1	57 446	6.3
Other	9 814	46.4	559 725	61.5
Not related	1 440	6.8	2 770	0.3
Total	21 164	100.0	910 167	100.0

9 Other includes employment difficulties, unemployment, problematic gambling, relationship/family breakdown and miscellaneous reasons.

Source data in Specialist Homelessness Services Annual Report 2020-21: Department of Treasury and Finance, AIHW

The following is a summary of apprentice and trainee activity in the Northern Territory during the June quarter 2021.

- There were 3,750 apprentices and trainees in-training at the end of June quarter 2021, an increase of 17.2% from June quarter 2020 (Figure 7). Nationally, apprentices and trainees in-training increased by 27.5% over the same period.
- Of the total number of apprentices and trainees in-training, 2,985 or 79.6% were employed on a full-time basis, slightly above the national average rate of 79.3%.
- The gender ratio of males to females for apprentices and trainees was roughly 2.0:1, with 2,505 males to 1,245 females. This compares to a national ratio of 2.6:1, with 246,615 males to 94,765 females.
- The occupation category which had the most apprentices and trainees in-training was technicians and trade workers with 2,005, or 53.5%, followed by community and personal service workers with 780, or 20.8%, and clerical and administrative workers with 265, or 7.1%. Nationally, the top ranking occupation category was technicians and trade workers at 63.0%, followed by community and personal service workers at 11.7% and clerical and administrative workers at 9.1% (Table 7).
- Of the total number of apprentices and trainees in-training, 53.4%, or 2,005 were employed in a trade occupation, while 46.6% or 1750 were employed in a non-trade occupation.
- The most popular apprentice and trainee training package programs were Certificate III in Electrotechnology Electrician, with 380 apprentices and trainees, followed by Certificate III in Carpentry (250 apprentices and trainees) and Certificate III in Air-conditioning and Refrigeration (135 apprentices and trainees).
- From June quarter 2020 to June quarter 2021, the number of apprentices and trainees that commenced training increased from 345 to 510, an increase of 47.8% (Table 8).
- Cancellations/withdrawals over the same period increased by 6.7% and completions increased by 100% (Table 8).

Figure 7: Apprentices and trainees in-training, Northern Territory, June quarters, 2017 to 2021

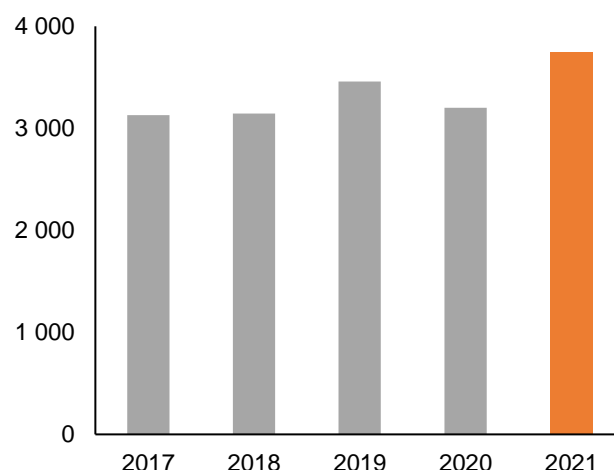


Table 7: Apprentices and trainees in-training, by occupation category, June quarter 2021^{10,11}

	NT		Australia	
	No.	%	No.	%
Technicians and trades	2005	53.5	214 970	63.0
Community and personal service	780	20.8	40 060	11.7
Clerical and administrative	265	7.1	31 010	9.1
Sales Workers	230	6.1	18 890	5.5
Labourers	210	5.6	13 715	4.0
Machinery operators and drivers	155	4.1	15 195	4.5
Managers	85	2.3	5 530	1.6
Professionals	25	0.7	2 005	0.6
Total	3 750	100.0	266 565	100.0

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, 2020 and 2021¹²

	June qtr 2020	June qtr 2021	Change %
	No.	No.	
Commencements	345	510	47.8
Cancellations/ Withdrawals	225	240	6.7
Completions	130	260	100.0

12 Figures are rounded to the nearest five.

Source data in Apprentices and Trainees 2021: June quarter: Department of Treasury and Finance, NCVER

Social Indicators February 2022

Northern Territory Crime Statistics, November quarter 2021

The following is a summary of information on offence counts in the Northern Territory in the November quarter 2021 compared to the November quarter 2020, unless otherwise stated.

- Recorded offences against property increased by 682, or 13.2%, to 5,863. This increase was driven by increases in all offences related to property other than property damage offences, which decreased by 12, or -0.5% (Table 9).
- Commercial break-ins increased by 37% to 563, with the increase driven by an increase in Darwin (90.8%), Alice Springs (78.9%) and Palmerston (43.8%). This was partially offset by a decrease in Nhulunbuy (-47.1%) and Katherine (-2.9%).
- House break-ins increased by 34.1% to 736, driven by increases in all regions except Alice Springs (Table 10).
- The number of offences against persons decreased by 79, or -2.9%, to 2,660, primarily driven by a decrease in acts intended to cause injury (Table 9).
- The number of acts intended to cause injury decreased by 3.3% to 2,330 offences. This was primarily due to decreases in Alice Springs (-45) and Tennant Creek (-37).
- Of the total number of acts intended to cause injury, 2,325 were assaults. Of these assaults, 62.5% involved domestic violence, 47.7% involved alcohol and 34.9% involved both domestic violence and alcohol.
- In the year ending November 2021, total offences against property per 100,000 population increased by 17.6% to 9,064 compared to 2020. This was driven by increases in all categories (Figure 8).
- Between 2016 and 2021, total offences against property per 100,000 population have on average increased annually by 1.8%. The increase was driven by an annual average increase of 7.9% in house break-ins, an annual average increase of 1.7% in commercial break-ins, an annual average increase of 3.3% in property damage crimes and an annual average increase of 0.5% in theft. This was partially offset by an annual average decrease of 5.5% in motor vehicle theft.
- 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, November quarter, 2020 and 2021^{13,14,15}

	Nov qtr 2020	Nov qtr 2021	Annual change
	No.	No.	%
Offences against property			
House break-ins	549	736	34.1
Commercial break-ins	411	563	37.0
Motor vehicle theft and related offences	370	442	19.5
Theft	1 650	1 933	17.2
Property damage	2 201	2 189	-0.5
Total	5 181	5 863	13.2
Offences against persons			
Homicide and related offences	1	6	500.0
Acts intended to cause injury	2 410	2 330	-3.3
Sexual assault and related offences	144	107	-25.7
Other	184	217	17.9
Total	2 739	2 660	-2.9

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.

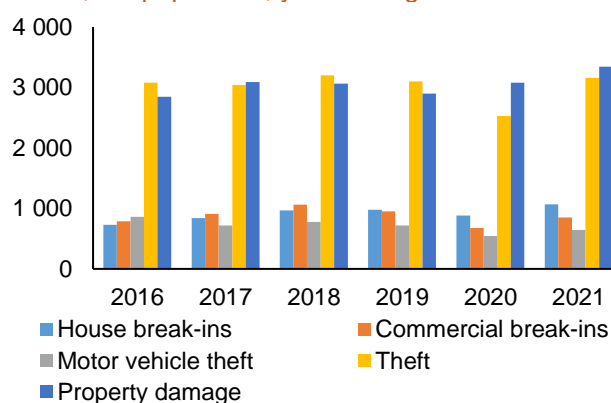
15 Acts intended to cause injury includes assault and related offences.

Table 10: Recorded house break-ins by region, Northern Territory, Nov quarter, 2020 and 2021¹⁶

	Nov qtr 2020	Nov qtr 2021	Annual change
	No.	No.	%
Darwin	104	167	60.6
Palmerston	69	85	23.2
Alice Springs	242	228	-5.8
Katherine	12	35	191.7
Tennant Creek	16	52	225.0
Nhulunbuy	9	11	22.2
NT Balance	97	158	62.9
Total	549	736	34.1

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 November



Source data in Northern Territory Crime Statistics, November 2021: Department of Treasury and Finance, NTPFES