

# Social Indicators April 2022

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## 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  
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## Youth detention population in Australia, June Quarter 2021

The following is a summary of information on the youth detention population aged 10-17 in the Northern Territory on an average night during the June quarter 2021, unless otherwise stated:

- There were 41 people in youth detention on an average night during the June quarter 2021. This is a 78.2% increase from the 23 people in youth detention on average night during the June Quarter 2020 (Table 1) and is above the four year average of 33.
- Of the total number of people in youth detention on an average night during the June quarter 2021, 92.5% or 38 were male, and 7.5% or 3 were female. Nationally, males accounted for 90.2% and females 9.8%.
- The rate of young people in detention on an average night was 15.5 per 10 000 population. This was the highest of all jurisdictions and well above the national rate of 2.7 per 10 000 population. The rate has increased since the June quarter 2020, when it was 8.9 per 10 000 population (Figure 1).
- Of the total number of people in youth detention on an average night, 93.6% or 38 were Indigenous. This was the highest rate of all jurisdictions followed by Western Australia (79.6%) and Queensland (62.6%). Nationally, 54.1% of people aged 10-17 in youth detention on an average night were Indigenous.
- The rate of young Indigenous people in detention on an average night was 33.8 per 10 000 population, above the national average (25.2), but below Western Australia (42.8) and Queensland (36.8). The rate was above the June quarter 2020 figure (19.5).
- Of the total number of young people in youth detention on an average night, 36 or 87.5% were unsentenced, above the national rate of 80.7%. Of the total number of unsentenced youth, 92.6% were Indigenous.
- Of the total number of people in youth detention on an average night, 5 or 12.5% were sentenced. This is below the national rate of 19.3%. Of the total number of people in youth detention on an average night who were sentenced, 100% were indigenous.

Table 1: Youth detention population on an average night aged 10-17 in the June quarter 2021, unsentenced and sentenced<sup>1</sup>

	Unsentenced		Sentenced		Total
	No.	%	No.	%	No.
NSW	110	71.2	44	28.8	154
Vic	83	86.7	13	13.3	96
Qld	226	90.0	25	10.0	251
WA	62	65.0	34	35.0	96
SA	14	63.1	8	36.9	23
Tas	6	89.6	1	10.4	7
ACT	9	90.2	1	9.8	10
NT	36	87.5	5	12.5	41
<b>Australia</b>	<b>546</b>	<b>80.7</b>	<b>131</b>	<b>19.3</b>	<b>677</b>

<sup>1</sup> Figures may not add due to rounding

Figure 1: Young people aged 10-17 in youth detention on an average night per 10 000 population, June quarter 2021

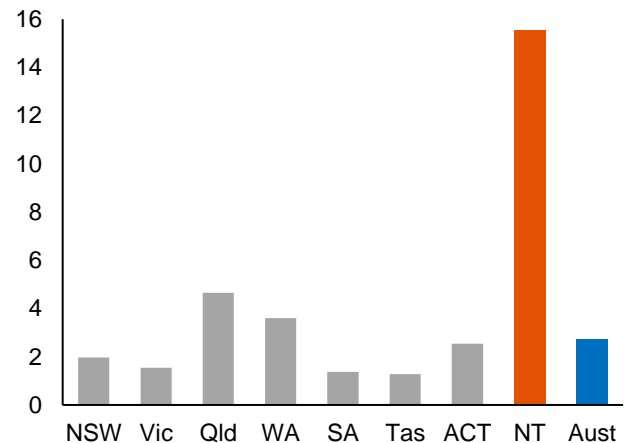
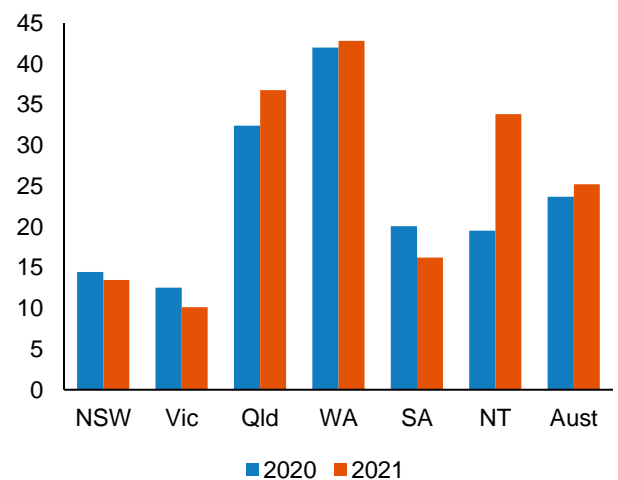


Figure 2: Indigenous young people aged 10-17 in youth detention on an average night per 10 000 population, June Quarter, 2020, 2021<sup>2</sup>



<sup>2</sup> Data does not include the ACT or Tasmania as rates are not published where there are fewer than five young people.

Source data in Youth Detention Population in Australia, 2021: Department of Treasury and Finance, AIH

The following is a summary of persons either held in adult corrective service custody or serving adult community-based orders in the Northern Territory in the December quarter 2021, unless otherwise stated:

### Full-time custody

- The average daily number of persons in full-time custody was 1835, an increase of 6.9% compared to the December quarter 2020. Nationally, a 1.9% decrease occurred over the same period, with all jurisdictions except the Northern Territory, South Australia and Queensland experiencing a decrease (Table 2).
- The imprisonment rate was 993.5 per 100 000 adults, the highest rate of all jurisdictions and above the national rate of 203.6.
- Of the average daily number of persons in custody, 1727 or 94.1% were male and 108 or 5.9% female. This compares to the national figure of 92.5% male and 7.5% female.
- Of the average daily number of persons in custody, 1573 or 85.7% were Indigenous. This is the highest rate of all jurisdictions and compares to the national figure of 30.9% (Table 2).
- The Indigenous imprisonment rate was 2914.2 per 100 000 Indigenous Adults. This was the second highest rate after Western Australia, with a rate of 3647, and compares to the national rate 2325 per 100 000 Indigenous adults (Figure 3).

### Community-based corrections

- The average number of persons (on the first day of the month) serving community-based corrections orders in the December quarter 2021 was 1230, representing a 2.2% decrease compared the December quarter 2020. Nationally, community based corrections orders increased by 2.5% over the same period.
- The average number of Indigenous persons (on the first day of the month) serving community-based corrections orders decreased by 1% from 2020, to 956, representing 77.7% of all persons in community-based corrections. This was the highest rate of all jurisdictions and compares to the national figure of 23.3 per cent (Table 3).
- The community-based corrections order rate was 665.8 per 100 000 adults, the highest rate of all jurisdictions and above the national rate of 398 per 100 000 adults.

Table 2: Average daily number of persons in full-time custody by Indigenous status, December quarter 2021<sup>3</sup>

	Total		Indigenous	
	No.	No.	No.	%
NSW	12 188	3 363		27.6
Vic	6 628	706		10.7
Qld	9 766	3 484		35.7
WA	6 388	2 557		40.0
SA	3 025	682		22.5
Tas	640	157		24.5
ACT	392	102		26.0
NT	1 835	1 573		85.7
<b>Australia</b>	<b>40 862</b>	<b>12 624</b>		<b>30.9</b>

<sup>3</sup> Figures may not add due to rounding.

Figure 3: Indigenous imprisonment rate per 100 000 Indigenous adults by jurisdiction, December quarter 2021



Table 3: Average number of persons serving community-based corrections orders by Indigenous status, December quarter 2021<sup>4, 5, 6</sup>

	Total		Indigenous	
	No.	No.	No.	%
NSW	35 323	8 088		22.9
Vic	9 272	788		8.5
Qld	19 824	5 437		27.4
WA	5 866	1 697		28.9
SA	5 305	1 058		19.9
Tas	2 119	412		19.4
ACT	929	164		17.7
NT	1 230	956		77.7
<b>Australia</b>	<b>79 869</b>	<b>18 600</b>		<b>23.3</b>

<sup>4</sup> Figures may not add due to rounding.

<sup>5</sup> Community-based corrections orders are non-custodial orders issued to offenders by criminal courts, including home detention orders, personal violence orders and parole orders.

<sup>6</sup> Average number is based on the mean average of the first day of October, November and December in the relevant year.

Source data in Corrective Services, Australia, December quarter 2021: Department of Treasury and Finance, ABS

The following is a summary of information on offence counts in the Northern Territory in the January quarter 2022 compared to the January quarter 2021, unless otherwise stated:

- Recorded offences against property increased by 553, or 9.6%, to 6306. This decrease was driven by increases in all offences against property (Table 4).
- Commercial break-ins increased by 37.5 per cent to 759 with the increase driven by increases in Katherine (90.3% or 28 break-ins), Darwin (66.2% or 49 break-ins) and Alice Springs (37.1% or 53 break-ins). This was partially offset by decreases in Palmerston, Nhulunbuy and Tennant Creek (Table 4).
- The number of offences against persons decreased by 129, or 4.8 per cent, to 2558, primarily driven by a decrease in acts intended to cause injury (136), and partially offset by an increase in other offences (19) (Table 4).
- House break-ins increased by 17.3% to 819, primarily driven by increases in Alice Springs (144), Darwin (31) and Katherine (7) (Table 5).
- The number of acts intended to cause injury decreased by 5.7% to 2264 offences. This was due to decreases in Darwin (-64), Tennant Creek (-39), Palmerston (-35) and Katherine (-25), partially offset by an increase in Alice Springs (70).
- Of the total number of acts intended to cause injury, 2258 were assaults. Of these assaults, 65.8% involved domestic violence, 46.8% involved alcohol and 33.7% involved both domestic violence and alcohol.
- Since the year ending January 2021, all regions have experienced an increase in theft and related offences (other than MV) per 100 000 population. The largest increases were experienced in Nhulunbuy, Alice Springs, Darwin and Katherine with respective increases of 90%, 58.6%, 25.9% and 19.5% over the two year period (Figure 4).
- Theft and related offences (other than MV) has been the main driver in the increase in offences against property in the year to January 2022 compared to the year to January 2021, growing by 28.9%.
- The Northern Territory crime statistics are prepared by the Department of Attorney-General and Justice using data recorded by the Northern Territory Police.

Table 4: Selected recorded offences against property and persons, Northern Territory, January quarter, 2021 and 2022<sup>7,8,9</sup>

	Jan qtr 2021	Jan qtr 2022	Annual change
	No.	No.	%
<b>Offences against property</b>			
House break-ins	698	819	17.3
Commercial break-ins	552	759	37.5
Motor vehicle theft and related offences	376	451	19.9
Theft	1 905	1 990	4.5
Property damage	2 222	2 287	2.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>5 753</b>	<b>6 306</b>	<b>9.6</b>
<b>Offences against persons</b>			
Homicide and related offences	4	6	50.0
Acts intended to cause injury	2 400	2 264	-5.7
Sexual assault and related offences	110	96	-12.7
Other	173	192	11.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>2 687</b>	<b>2 558</b>	<b>-4.8</b>

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

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

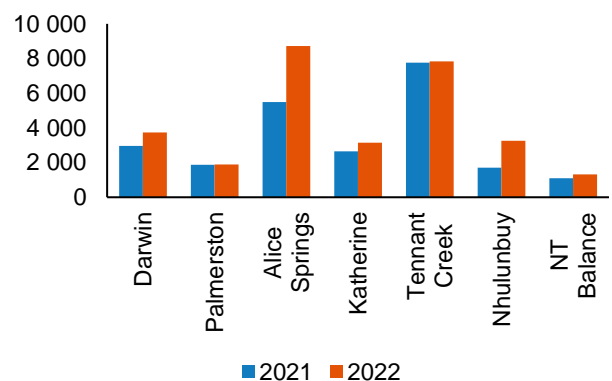
9 Acts intended to cause injury includes assault and related offences.

Table 5: Recorded house break-ins by region, Northern Territory, January quarter, 2021 and 2022<sup>10</sup>

	Jan qtr 2021	Jan qtr 2022	Annual change
	No.	No.	%
Darwin	136	167	22.8
Palmerston	102	69	-32.4
Alice Springs	198	342	72.7
Katherine	28	35	25.0
Tennant Creek	53	28	-47.2
Nhulunbuy	6	5	-16.7
NT Balance	175	173	-1.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>698</b>	<b>819</b>	<b>17.3</b>

10 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 4: Theft and related offences (other than MV) per 100 000 population, Northern Territory, for the 12 months ending January 2021, 2022



Source data in Northern Territory Crime Statistics, January 2022: Department of Treasury and Finance, NTPFES

# Social Indicators April 2022

## Criminal Courts, Australia, 2020-21

The following is a summary of information on defendants in criminal courts in the Northern Territory during 2020-21, unless otherwise stated.

- In 2020-21, 10,319 defendants were finalised at all court levels. This represents an increase of 6.5% when compared with 2019-10. Nationally, there was an increase of 8.4% over the same period.
- Of the total number of defendants finalised, 90% or 9,283 were finalised in Magistrates (Local) Courts, 6.4% or 656 in Children's (Youth Justice) Courts and 3.7% or 381 in Higher (Supreme) Courts.
- The most common offences heard before the Magistrates' courts were traffic and vehicle regulatory offences (32.1%), followed by acts intended to cause injury (25.6%) and offences against justice (12.2%). Nationally, traffic and vehicle regulatory offences were also most common at 36.4% (Table 6).
- The most common offences heard before the Children's Courts were unlawful entry with intent (27%), followed by acts intended to cause injury (23.9%) and theft (12.5%). Nationally, the most common offence was acts intended to cause injury at 23.3% (Table 7).
- The most common offences heard before a Higher Court were acts intended to cause injury (28.6%), followed by illicit drug offences (19.4%), and sexual assault and related offences (18.4%). Nationally, illicit drug offences were most common at 24.1%.
- Of the 8,652 defendants with a guilty outcome, 77.6% were male, 20.8% were female and 1.5% were organisations. This compares nationally to 75.4% for males, 23.7% for female and 0.7% for organisations.
- The most common age bracket for defendants with a guilty outcome was 25-29 years (1,479 or 17.1%), followed by 30-34 (1,389 or 16.1%) and 20-24 (1,346 or 15.6%). The median age of defendants with a guilty outcome was 32, below the national median age of 33 (Figure 5).
- Excluding traffic and vehicle regulatory offences, of the Territory's 6,824 finalised defendants, 5,578 or 81.7% were Aboriginal.

Table 6: Defendants finalised in Magistrates' Courts by principle offence, 2020-21<sup>11,12</sup>

	NT		Australia	
	No.	%	No.	%
Traffic and vehicle offences	2 983	32.1	176 915	36.4
Acts intended to cause injury	2 375	25.6	61 262	12.6
Offences against justice	1 135	12.2	42 745	8.8
Dangerous or negligent acts	481	5.2	21 935	4.5
Illicit drug offences	386	4.2	50 958	10.5
Weapons or explosives	281	3.0	14 336	3.0
Other	1 259	13.6	100 186	20.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>9 283</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>485 624</b>	<b>100.0</b>

11 Other combines all remaining principle offence categories including public order offences, property damage and unlawful entry with intent.

12 Figures may not add due to ABS adjustment.

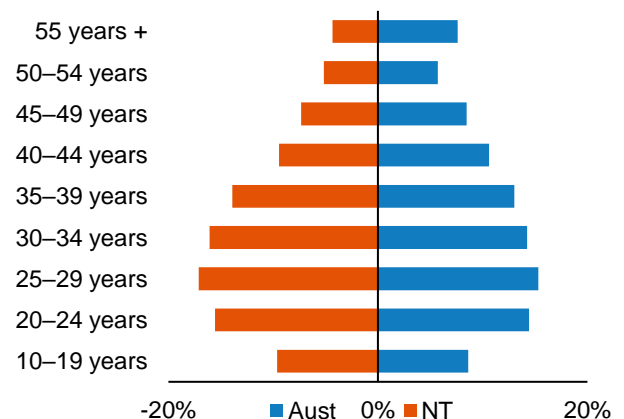
Table 7: Defendants finalised in Children's Courts by principle offence, 2020-21<sup>13,14</sup>

	NT		Australia	
	No.	%	No.	%
Unlawful entry with intent	177	27.0	3 316	12.9
Acts intended to cause injury	157	23.9	5 996	23.3
Theft	82	12.5	4 281	16.6
Traffic and vehicle offences	42	6.4	1 605	6.2
Dangerous or negligent acts	31	4.7	971	3.8
Property damage and environmental pollution	37	5.6	1 540	6.0
Other	111	16.9	6 808	26.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>656</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>25 742</b>	<b>100.0</b>

13 Other combines all remaining principle offence categories including weapons or explosives, public order offences and robbery/extortion.

14 Figures may not add due to ABS adjustment.

Figure 5: Age bracket of defendants with a guilty outcome, 2020-21 (percentage of total)<sup>15</sup>



15 Defendants with a guilty outcome includes defendants with a guilty plea, a guilty finding by the court, or a defendant who is guilty ex-parte.

Source data in Criminal Courts, Australia, 2020-21: Department of Treasury and Finance, ABS

# Social Indicators April 2022

## Regional Population, Australia, 2020-21

The following summarises the estimated resident population (ERP) of the Northern Territory as at 30 June 2021, unless otherwise stated.

- The Territory's ERP was 245,909 representing a net change of -0.1% in comparison to 30 June 2020. This was the second lowest growth rate amongst all jurisdictions after Victoria (Table 8).
- The growth rates of other jurisdictions ranged from 0.9% in Queensland to -0.7% in Victoria. Nationally, there was an increase of 0.2% over the same period (Figure 6).
- Between 2019-20 and 2020-21, Greater Darwin experienced a 0.2% decrease in population. The decline was primarily driven by decreases in the Darwin Suburbs (-1.3%) and Darwin City (-1.3%), partially offset by an increase in Palmerston (1.5%) (Table 8).
- The Statistical Area Level 2s (SA2s) which experienced the largest population decreases in the Territory were in Darwin City and the Darwin Suburbs, including:
  - Brinkin-Nakara, a decrease of 5.5% to 3,154;
  - Woolner – Bayview – Winnellie, a decrease of 3.1% to 2,664;
  - Karama, a decrease of 3% to 4,753; and
  - Parap, a decrease of also 3% to 2,827
- The SA2s which experienced the largest population increases were:
  - Palmerston – South (Palmerston), an increase of 10.2% to 7,178
  - Lyons (Darwin Suburbs), an increase of 3% to 6,892
  - Virginia (Litchfield), an increase of 1.6% to 3,614.
- In accordance with the ABS Remoteness Structure, there are only three remoteness areas in the Territory, outer regional, remote and very remote. Very remote areas experienced the only population growth in the Territory at 0.2%. This compares to a 0.2% decrease in the Territory's outer regional and remote areas.
- The Territory saw a natural increase of 2,645 people. This was completely offset by a decrease in net interstate migration of 2,504 and Net overseas migration of 467 people (Figure 7).

Table 8: Northern Territory estimated resident population by Statistical Area Level 3 (SA3), 30 June 2020 and 30 June 2021

	2020 No.	2021 No.	Change %
<b>Greater Darwin</b>			
Darwin City	27 572	27 227	-1.3
Darwin Suburbs	55 540	54 819	-1.3
Palmerston	39 032	39 616	1.5
Litchfield	25 165	25 320	0.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>147 309</b>	<b>146 982</b>	<b>-0.2</b>
<b>Rest of NT</b>			
Alice Springs	39 404	39 458	0.1
Barkly	6 144	6 140	-0.1
Daly-Tiwi- West Arnhem	17 907	17 852	-0.3
East Arnhem	14 566	14 584	0.1
Katherine	20 905	20 893	-0.1
<b>Total Rest of NT</b>	<b>98 926</b>	<b>98 927</b>	<b>0.0</b>
<b>Total NT</b>	<b>246 235</b>	<b>245 909</b>	<b>-0.1</b>

Figure 6: Annual population growth rate, 30 June 2020 to 30 June 2021 (per cent)

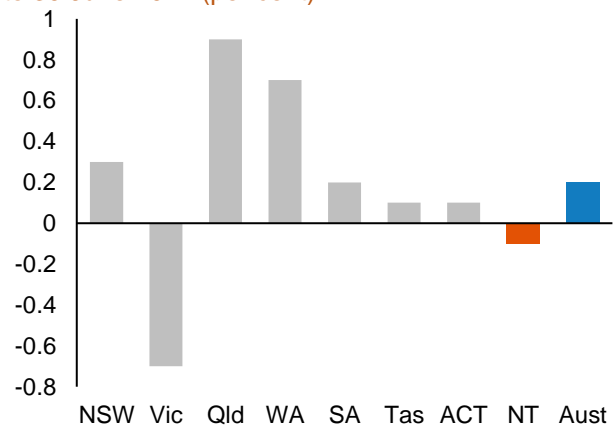
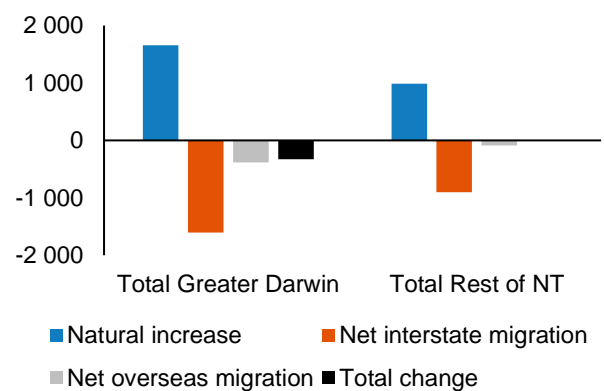


Figure 7: Component of population growth rate by region, Northern Territory, 30 June 2020 to 30 June 2021 (persons)<sup>16</sup>



<sup>16</sup> Total Rest of NT growth rate was flat.

Source data in Regional Population, Australia, 2020-21: Department of Treasury and Finance, ABS

## Apprentices and Trainees 2021: September Quarter

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

- There were 3650 apprentices and trainees in-training at the end of the September quarter 2021, an increase of 15.1% from the September quarter 2020. Nationally, apprentices and trainees in-training increased by 33.2% over the same period (Figure 8).
- Of the total number of apprentices and trainees in-training, 2870 or 78.6% were employed on a full-time basis, slightly below the national average rate of 79.2%.
- The gender ratio of males to female for apprentices and trainees was roughly 2:1, with 2415 males to 1235 females, compared to the national average of 2.5:1.
- The occupation category which had the most apprentices and trainees in-training was technicians and trade workers (1950 or 53.4%), followed by community and personal service workers (760 or 20.8%), and clerical and administrative workers (255 or 7%) (Table 9).
- Nationally, the top ranking occupational category was technicians and trade workers (62.1%) community service and personal service workers (11.7%), and clerical and administrative workers (10%).
- Of the total number of apprentices and trainees in training, 53.4% or 1950 were employed in a trade occupation, while 46.6% or 1700 were employed in a non-trade occupation.
- The most popular apprentice and trainee training package programs were Certificate III in Electrotechnology Electrician (370), followed by Certificate III in Carpentry (250), and Certificate III in Plumbing (130).
- From September Quarter 2020 to September Quarter 2021, the number of apprentices and trainees that commenced training increased from 380 to 395, or 3.9%. This compares to an increase of 84.1% nationally (Table 10).
- Cancellations/withdrawals over the same period increased by 29.5% and completions increased 6.8% (Table 10).
- Of the total number of apprentices and trainees in-training, 1025 or 28.1% were Indigenous, a decrease of 3.3 percentage points from the September quarter 2020.

Figure 8: Apprentices and trainees in-training, Northern Territory, September quarters, 2016 to 2021 (persons)

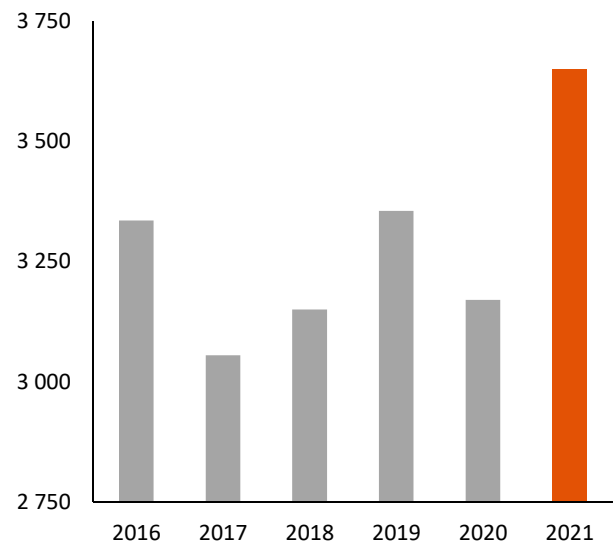


Table 9: Apprentices and trainees in-training, by occupation category, September quarter 2021<sup>17,18</sup>

	NT		Australia	
	No.	%	No.	%
Technicians and trades	1 950	53.4	218 520	62.1
Community and personal service	760	20.8	41 430	11.7
Sales	235	6.4	19 765	5.6
Clerical and administrative	255	7.0	35 095	10.0
Labourers	180	4.9	13 775	3.9
Machinery operators and drivers	155	4.2	15 425	4.4
Managers	80	2.2	5 740	1.6
Professionals	25	0.7	2 315	0.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>3 650</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>352 020</b>	<b>100.0</b>

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

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

Table 10: Number of commencements, cancellations/withdrawals and completions, September quarters, 2020 and 2021<sup>19</sup>

	Sep qtr 2020	Sep qtr 2021	Change %
	No.	No.	
Commencements	380	395	3.9
Cancellations/Withdrawals	220	285	29.5
Completions	220	235	6.8

19 Figures are rounded to the nearest five.

Source data in Apprentices and Trainees, 2021: September Quarter  
Department of Treasury and Finance, NCVÉR

# Social Indicators April 2022

## Recorded Crime, Offenders, 2020-21

The following is a summary of information on alleged offenders as recorded by police in the Northern Territory in 2020-21, unless otherwise stated:

- There was a total of 9,181 offenders, a decrease of 3.4% compared to 2019-20. The offence rate was 4,348.3 per 100,000 persons, the highest rate across the jurisdictions, followed by South Australia with a rate of 1,995.4 (Figure 1).
- The most common types of offences were acts intended to cause injury (including assault) at 34.4%, followed by public order offences (including disorderly and offensive conduct) at 26.1%, and illicit drug offences (including possession and dealing) at 12.7%. Nationally, the most common offences were acts intended to cause injury (23.0%), illicit drug offences (17.4%), and other offences (16.6%) (Table 11).
- Acts intended to cause injury were the most common principal offences for male offenders, with a total of 2,521 offences (37.3% of total male offences). Public order offences were the most common offences for female offenders, with a total of 872 offences (36.2% of total female offences).
- There were a total of 4,990 offenders identified as being Indigenous (excluding offenders primarily proceeded against with a penalty notice). The most common principal offence types for Indigenous offenders were acts intended to cause injury (56.3%), offences against justice (11.6%) and unlawful entry with intent (6.6%).
- There were a total of 663 youth offenders (persons aged 10-17 years), a decrease of 4.3% compared to 2019-20. The offence rate was 2,527.3 per 100,000 youths, the highest rate across the jurisdictions, followed by New South Wales with a rate of 2,315.9.
- The most common youth principal offence types were acts intended to cause injury (30.5%), followed by unlawful entry with intent (29.0%). Nationally, the most common youth principal offence type was also acts intended to cause injury (22.2%) (Table 12).
- There were 100 COVID-19 related offences. Of these, 36.4% of offenders were aged between 20-29. Of the jurisdictions, the Territory had the third lowest proportion of repeat offences (4.0%), above Queensland (3.0%) and South Australia (1.0%).

Figure 9: Offender rates per 100 000 persons by jurisdiction, 2020-21



Table 11: Most common principal offence types, 2020-21<sup>20,21,23</sup>

	NT		Australia	
	No.	%	No.	%
Acts intended to cause injury	3 160	34.4	82 942	23.0
Public order offences	2 392	26.1	38 151	10.6
Illicit drug offences	1 163	12.7	62 698	17.4
Offences against justice	710	7.7	28 852	8.0
Weapons/explosives	296	3.2	13 105	3.6
Unlawful entry with intent	337	3.7	10 200	2.8
Theft	181	2.0	31 128	8.6
Property damage and environmental pollution	212	2.3	14 524	4.0
Other	721	7.9	59 927	16.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>9 181</b>	<b>99.9</b>	<b>359 975</b>	<b>94.9</b>

<sup>20</sup> Other offences include homicide and related offences, sexual assault and related offences, dangerous/negligent acts, abduction/harassment, robbery/extortion, fraud/deception and miscellaneous.

<sup>21</sup> Figures may not add due to ABS adjustment.

<sup>22</sup> Totals include offenders with unknown or undeterminable principal offence and fare evasion.

Table 12: Most common youth principal offence types, 2020-21<sup>23, 24</sup>

	NT		Australia	
	No.	%	No.	%
Acts intended to cause injury	202	30.5	9 856	22.2
Unlawful entry with intent	192	29.0	3 377	7.6
Theft	50	7.5	5 212	11.7
Public order offences	40	6.0	3 817	8.6
Robbery/Extortion	62	9.4	1 425	3.2
Weapons/Explosives	30	4.5	1 108	2.5
Property damage and environmental pollution	19	2.9	2 766	6.2
Other	56	8.4	9 012	20.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>663</b>	<b>98.2</b>	<b>44 496</b>	<b>82.2</b>

<sup>23</sup> Figures may not add due to ABS adjustment.

<sup>24</sup> Totals include offenders with unknown or undeterminable principal offence and fare evasion.

Source data in Recorded Crime – Offenders, 2020-21: Department of Treasury and Finance, ABS