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New  
Issue

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# PRISONERS IN AUSTRALIA

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- For further information about these and related statistics, contact the National Information Service on 1300 135 070 or Nick Skondreas on Melbourne 03 9615 7362.

# NOTES

## ABOUT THIS PUBLICATION

This publication presents information on all prisoners who were in custody on 30 June 2000. The statistics are derived from information collected by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) from administrative records held by corrective services agencies in each State and Territory. A range of information is presented on prisoner characteristics for all prisoners, sentenced prisoners, unsentenced prisoners (remandees), Indigenous prisoners, federal prisoners and periodic detainees.

The ABS acknowledges the valuable contribution of the Board of Management and the Advisory Group of the National Corrective Services Statistics Unit to the production of this publication.

## THIS ISSUE

The ABS has been producing these statistics as annual reports to the Corrective Services Ministers' Council since 1994. For the first time this year the statistics are being presented in an official ABS publication.



## ABBREVIATIONS AND SYMBOLS

ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics
AIC	Australian Institute of Criminology
ANCO	Australian National Classification of Offences
ASOC	Australian Standard Offence Classification
EDR	effective date of release
EED	earliest eligibility date
MSO	most serious offence
MSC	most serious charge
n.a.	not available
n.p.	not published
NPP	non-parole period
..	not applicable
—	nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

Where figures have been rounded, discrepancies may occur between the sum of component items and the total.

Dennis Trewin  
Australian Statistician

# SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

## INTRODUCTION

This publication presents information from the National Prisoner Census on persons held in Australian prisons on the night of 30 June 2000. The National Prisoner Census covers all adults in gazetted Australian prisons, including periodic detainees in New South Wales and the Australian Capital Territory, but excluding persons held in juvenile institutions, psychiatric custody and police custody. It is based on data extracted from administrative records held by the corrective services agencies in each Australian State and Territory. These statistics provide a profile of the demographic characteristics, legal status and sentence details of Australian prisoners.

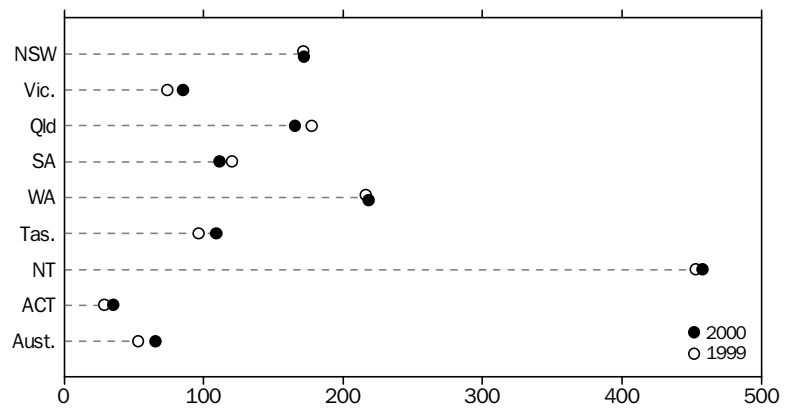
Users of this publication should note that it provides a picture of the persons in prison at a point in time, and is not representative of the flow of prisoners during the year. The majority of prisoners in the annual Prisoner Census are serving long-term sentences for relatively serious offences, whereas the flow of offenders in and out of prisons consists primarily of persons serving short sentences for relatively minor offences. The information in this publication can be supplemented with monthly statistics about Australian prisoners in the ABS quarterly publication *Corrective Services, Australia* (Cat. no. 4512.0).

The Explanatory notes provide detailed information on the data sources, definitions, counting rules and other technical matters associated with this publication.

## PRISONERS

There were 21,714 prisoners in Australia on 30 June 2000. The rate of imprisonment was 148 prisoners per 100,000 adult population. The rate has increased since 1999 when it was 145 prisoners per 100,000 adult population. The largest number of prisoners was in New South Wales, with a population of 8,547 prisoners, followed by Queensland with 4,482 prisoners. The largest imprisonment rate of 458 prisoners per 100,000 adult population was recorded in the Northern Territory. This was more than three times the rate for Australia as a whole.

IMPRISONMENT RATES(a), By Jurisdiction



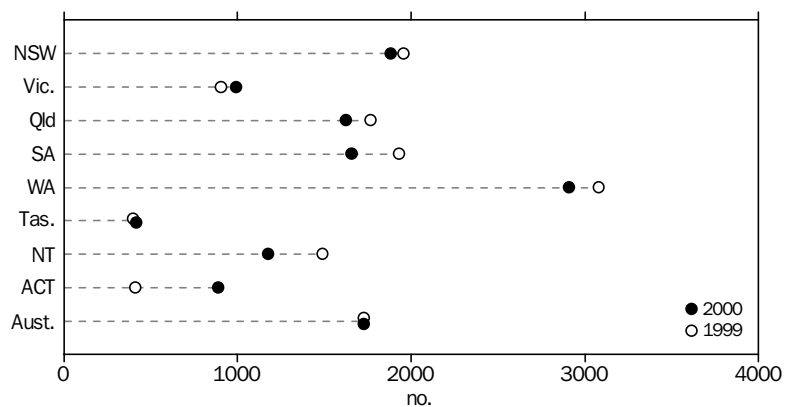
(a) Rate per 100,000 adult population.

# SUMMARY OF FINDINGS *continued*

## PRISONERS *continued*

There were 4,095 (19% of the prisoner population) Indigenous prisoners in Australia. Indigenous persons were much more likely to be imprisoned than non-Indigenous persons with an imprisonment rate of 1,727 prisoners per 100,000 adult Indigenous population, almost 15 times the rate for the non-Indigenous population. The rate has decreased since 1999 when it was 1,864 prisoners per 100,000 adult Indigenous population. The highest Indigenous imprisonment rate was recorded in Western Australia (2,909 prisoners per 100,000 adult population).

IMPRISONMENT RATES(a) OF INDIGENOUS PRISONERS, By Jurisdiction



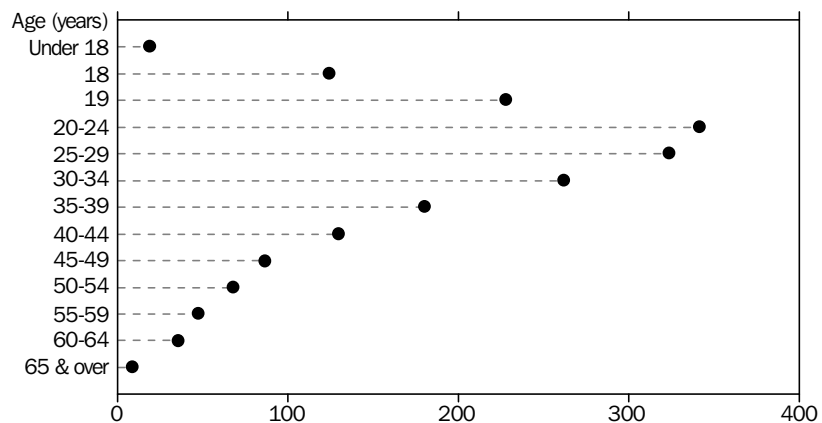
(a) Rate per 100,000 adult Indigenous population.

## AGE AND SEX

There were 20,329 male prisoners on 30 June 2000, comprising 94% of the total prisoner population. The imprisonment rate for males was 280 per 100,000 adult male population. There were 1,385 (6%), female prisoners with an imprisonment rate of 19 per 100,000 adult female population.

Most prisoners are young adult males. About 60% of all prisoners were males aged between 20 and 35 years. The highest age-specific imprisonment rates for males and females was between 20 and 24 years with 621 male prisoners per 100,000 adult males and 50 female prisoners per 100,000 adult females.

PRISONERS(a), By Age



(a) Rate per 100,000 adult population.

## SUMMARY OF FINDINGS *continued*

### LEGAL STATUS

There were 17,929 prisoners serving a sentence (83% of all prisoners). The remaining 3,785 (17%) prisoners were remanded in custody awaiting trial or sentence, or were being held under a deportation order. Both South Australia and the Northern Territory had the highest proportions (27%) of prisoners held on remand.

Of the sentenced prisoners, 51% were serving a maximum-minimum sentence. This is where a person may be eligible to be released on parole after serving a minimum term in custody, and who must be released once a maximum term has been served. A further 37% of sentenced prisoners were serving a fixed term.

### PREVIOUS IMPRISONMENT

More than half the prisoners (56%) were reported as having been previously imprisoned under sentence. For Indigenous prisoners, the proportion was 76%. Of those prisoners whose most serious offence at the time of the census was 'Break and enter', 71% were reported as having been previously imprisoned under sentence whereas of those prisoners whose most serious offence at the time of the census was 'Deal/traffic drugs', 38% were reported as having prior imprisonment under sentence. Indigenous prisoners had higher proportions of prior imprisonment for all offences.

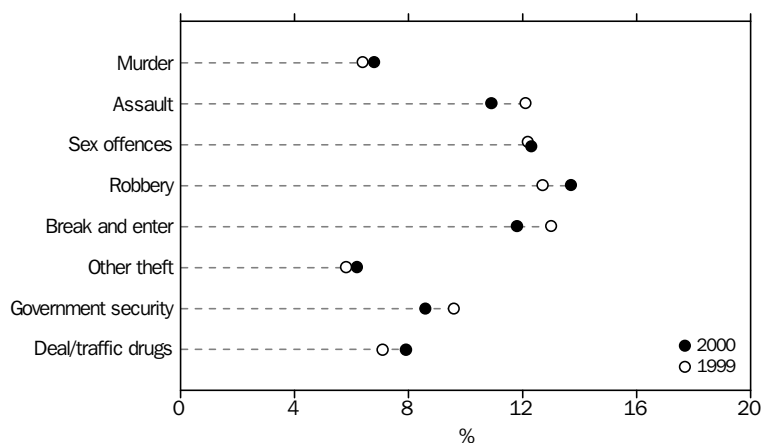
### SENTENCED PRISONERS

Most sentenced prisoners were sentenced in either the District/County court (47%) or the Magistrates court (30%), with 20% sentenced in the Supreme court.

#### Most serious offence

Of the 17,929 prisoners serving a sentence, nearly half (48%) were convicted of a most serious offence involving violence or the threat of violence including: murder (6%), other homicide (3%), assault (12%), sex offences (12%), other offences against the person (1%) and robbery (13%). Sentenced prisoners convicted of a property offence represented 24% of all sentenced prisoners, including: break and enter (13%), fraud and misappropriation (4%), receiving (1%) and other theft (6%). In addition, 8% of prisoners were serving a sentence for dealing or trafficking drugs.

SENTENCED PRISONERS, Selected Most Serious Offences

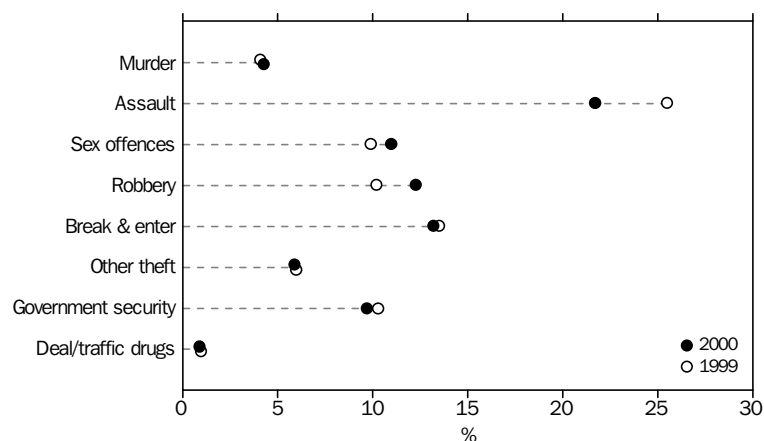


## SUMMARY OF FINDINGS *continued*

### Most serious offence - Indigenous prisoners

There were 3,412 Indigenous prisoners in custody serving a sentence. A greater proportion of Indigenous prisoners were in custody for assault (22%) compared with 11% for all prisoners, whereas a smaller proportion of Indigenous prisoners were in custody for dealing or trafficking drugs (1% for Indigenous prisoners compared with 8% for all prisoners).

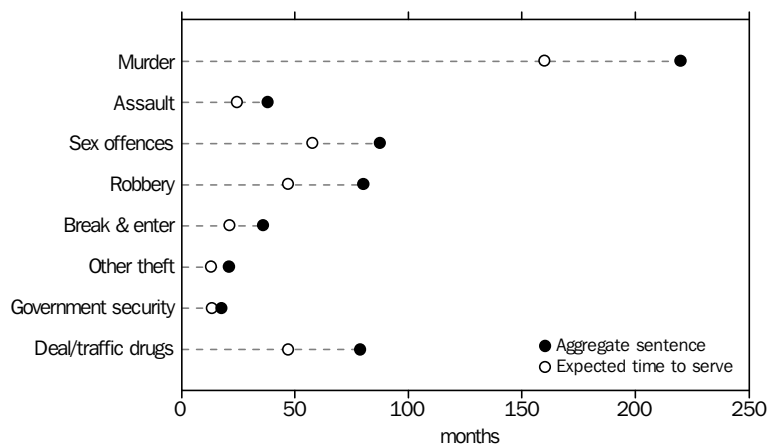
#### SENTENCED INDIGENOUS PRISONERS, Selected Most Serious Offences



### Sentence length

The average aggregate sentence for all prisoners was 57.4 months (4.8 years). The average time that prisoners were expected to serve in custody was 36.6 months (3.1 years).

#### SENTENCED PRISONERS, Mean Sentence Length

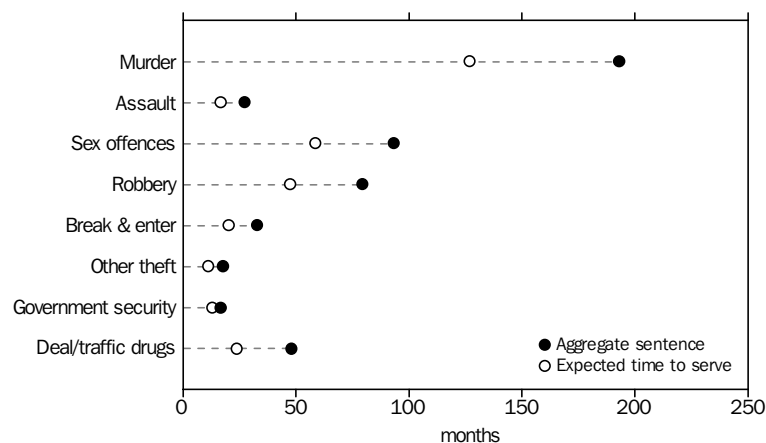


## SUMMARY OF FINDINGS *continued*

### Sentence length - Indigenous prisoners

Overall the mean sentence lengths for Indigenous prisoners were shorter than those of the general prisoner population. The average aggregate sentence for Indigenous prisoners was 45.2 months (3.8 years). The average expected time to serve was 28.8 months (2.4 years).

SENTENCED INDIGENOUS PRISONERS, Mean Sentence Length



### UNSENTENCED PRISONERS

Unsentenced (remand) prisoners include unconvicted prisoners awaiting a court hearing or trial, convicted prisoners awaiting sentencing and persons awaiting deportation. There were 3,785 unsentenced prisoners comprising 17% of the total prisoner population.

#### Most serious charge

Of unsentenced prisoners, 16% were awaiting trial or sentence on charges related to assault, 13% on break and enter charges, 11% on robbery charges and 7% on drug trafficking charges.

#### Remand length

The average time spent in custody on remand in Australia was 4.4 months and 10% of remandees had spent more than 10 months in custody. Remand prisoners from Victoria and New South Wales had the highest average time already served on remand with 5.5 and 5.0 months respectively.

### FEDERAL PRISONERS

Most Australian prisoners were sentenced under the laws of the State or Territory where the offence was committed. Only 5 per cent (1,104 prisoners) were held under one or more Commonwealth warrants on 30 June 2000. One third of Federal prisoners (33%) had a most serious offence/charge of drug dealing/trafficking, with a further 14% in prison for fraud and misappropriation.

## SUMMARY OF FINDINGS *continued*

### PERIODIC DETAINEES

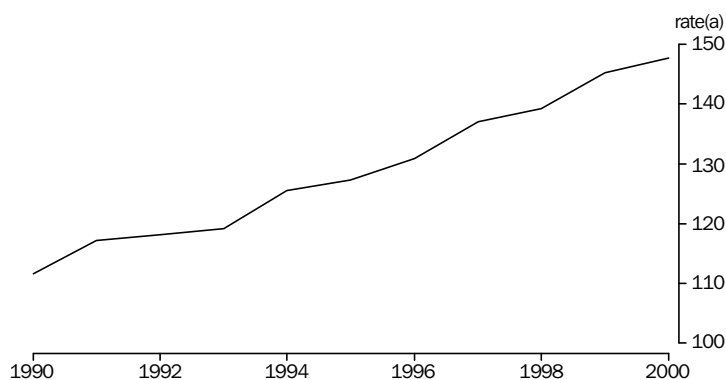
Periodic detainees are in custody for two consecutive days in a week (periodic detainee week) and remain at liberty during the rest of the week. There were 1,231 periodic detainees on 30 June 2000. The most common most serious offences for periodic detainees were driving offences (26%), assault (15%), fraud and misappropriation (10%) or deal/traffic drugs (9%).

### 10 YEAR COMPARISON

The major changes between the 1990 and 2000 Prisoner Censuses include:

- The prisoner population increased by 52%, from 14,305 in 1990 to 21,714 in 2000. The adult imprisonment rate also increased by 32% over the same period, from 112 to 148 prisoners per 100,000 adult population.

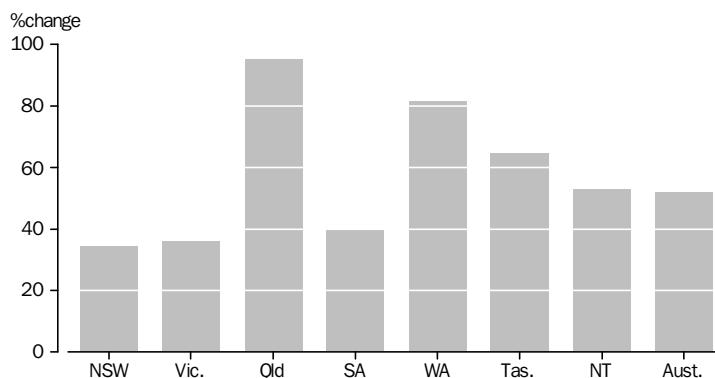
#### PRISONERS(a)



(a) per 100,000 adult population.

- All States and Territories recorded increases in prisoner numbers. The increase in the States and Territories varied significantly, ranging from 95% in Queensland to 34% in New South Wales.

#### PRISONERS(a), Increase In Prisoner Numbers Since 1990



(a) Information on ACT sentenced prisoners in NSW prisons is not available before 1995.

- The proportion of prisoners serving longer aggregate sentence lengths has increased. In 1990, 9% of prisoners had an aggregate sentence length of 10 years and over compared with 12% in 2000.



## SUMMARY OF FINDINGS *continued*

### 10 YEAR COMPARISON *continued*

- State and Territory proportions of the total number of prisoners in Australia changed marginally in most jurisdictions. Queensland recorded the greatest increase in the proportion of the total, increasing from 16% in 1990 to 21% in 2000, and New South Wales recorded the largest fall, decreasing from 45% in 1990 to 39% in 2000.
- The proportion of female prisoners rose marginally from 5% in 1990 to 6% in 2000.
- The proportion of prisoners who were Indigenous increased from 14% in 1990 to 19% in 2000.
- In 1990, the most common most serious offences were break and enter (16%), robbery (11%) and sex offences (10%). By 2000, the proportion of prisoners in custody for break and enter had dropped to 12%, robbery had increased to 14% and sex offences had increased to 12%.

SENTENCED PRISONERS, Most Serious Offence



# 1

## PRISONERS, By Jurisdiction

	NSW(a)	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT in ACT	ACT in NSW(a)	Aust.(a)
NUMBER										
Males	7 971	2 970	4 224	1 224	2 876	370	620	74	142	20 329
Females	576	183	258	75	248	20	15	10	13	1 385
Indigenous	1 248	138	1 048	225	1 003	39	386	8	10	4 095
Non-Indigenous	7 299	3 015	3 434	1 074	2 121	351	249	76	145	17 619
Sentenced	7 057	2 717	3 781	943	2 630	310	462	29	147	17 929
Unsentenced	1 490	436	701	356	494	80	173	55	8	3 785
Federal	630	119	52	—	154	9	140	—	—	1 104
Non-federal	7 917	3 034	4 430	1 299	2 970	381	495	84	155	20 610
<b>All prisoners</b>	<b>8 547</b>	<b>3 153</b>	<b>4 482</b>	<b>1 299</b>	<b>3 124</b>	<b>390</b>	<b>635</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>155</b>	<b>21 714</b>
PROPORTION(%)										
Males	93.3	94.2	94.2	94.2	92.1	94.9	97.6	88.1	91.6	93.6
Females	6.7	5.8	5.8	5.8	7.9	5.1	2.4	11.9	8.4	6.4
Indigenous	14.6	4.4	23.4	17.3	32.1	10.0	60.8	9.5	6.5	18.9
Non-Indigenous	85.4	95.6	76.6	82.7	67.9	90.0	39.2	90.5	93.5	81.1
Sentenced	82.6	86.2	84.4	72.6	84.2	79.5	72.8	34.5	94.8	82.6
Unsentenced	17.4	13.8	15.6	27.4	15.8	20.5	27.2	65.5	5.2	17.4
Federal	7.4	3.8	1.2	—	4.9	2.3	22.0	—	—	5.1
Non-federal	92.6	96.2	98.8	100.0	95.1	97.7	78.0	100.0	100.0	94.9
<b>All prisoners</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
RATE PER 100,000 ADULT POPULATION										
Males	325.4	164.3	314.1	214.4	401.9	212.9	838.6	62.9	120.8	280.3
Females	22.9	9.7	18.9	12.6	34.7	10.9	23.2	8.3	10.8	18.6
Indigenous	1 882.1	993.3	1 622.0	1 656.5	2 908.7	417.6	1 176.0	394.5	493.1	1 727.4
Non-Indigenous	148.8	82.0	129.9	93.3	151.9	100.8	235.3	32.2	61.5	121.8
<b>All prisoners</b>	<b>172.0</b>	<b>85.4</b>	<b>165.5</b>	<b>111.5</b>	<b>218.4</b>	<b>109.1</b>	<b>458.1</b>	<b>35.3</b>	<b>65.2</b>	<b>147.7</b>

(a) Full-time prisoners sentenced in the ACT are held in NSW prisons.

The ACT in NSW figures are a subset of the NSW figures and are not separately counted in the Australian totals (see Explanatory notes, paragraph 9).

## 2

### PRISONERS, By Age And Sex

	MALES.....			FEMALES.....			PERSONS.....		
	no.	%	rate(a)	no.	%	rate(a)	no.	%	rate(a)
Under 18	44	0.2	31.6	8	0.6	6.0	52	0.2	19.1
18	321	1.6	230.7	16	1.2	12.1	337	1.6	124.4
19	576	2.8	414.4	44	3.2	33.2	620	2.9	228.3
20-24	4 318	21.2	621.1	332	24.0	49.9	4 650	21.4	341.7
25-29	4 443	21.9	598.6	332	24.0	45.3	4 775	22.0	323.8
30-34	3 505	17.2	493.5	224	16.2	31.5	3 729	17.2	262.2
35-39	2 540	12.5	340.0	155	11.2	20.7	2 695	12.4	180.2
40-44	1 752	8.6	242.8	127	9.2	17.6	1 879	8.7	130.0
45-49	1 088	5.4	162.3	79	5.7	11.8	1 167	5.4	86.9
50-54	817	4.0	129.4	31	2.2	5.1	848	3.9	68.1
55-59	441	2.2	90.6	18	1.3	3.8	459	2.1	47.9
60-64	266	1.3	67.9	15	1.1	3.9	281	1.3	36.0
65 and over	214	1.1	20.6	4	0.3	0.3	218	1.0	9.2
Unknown	4	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—
<b>Total</b>	<b>20 329</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>280.3</b>	<b>1 385</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>18.6</b>	<b>21 714</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>147.7</b>
Mean (years)	33.0	..	..	31.7	..	..	32.9	..	..
Median (years)	30.5	..	..	29.3	..	..	30.5	..	..

(a) Rate per 100,000 adult population. See Explanatory notes, paragraphs 11-14.

## 3

### INDIGENOUS PRISONERS, By Age And Sex

	MALES.....			FEMALES.....			PERSONS.....		
	no.	%	rate(a)	no.	%	rate(a)	no.	%	rate(a)
Under 18	18	0.5	382.9	2	0.6	43.8	20	0.5	215.8
18	102	2.7	2 300.4	3	1.0	70.7	105	2.6	1 209.8
19	161	4.3	3 890.8	15	4.9	374.4	176	4.3	2 161.1
20-24	988	26.1	5 392.7	84	27.3	459.0	1 072	26.2	2 927.4
25-29	939	24.8	5 357.8	91	29.5	494.1	1 030	25.2	2 865.7
30-34	710	18.7	4 740.9	55	17.9	328.7	765	18.7	2 412.4
35-39	446	11.8	3 453.3	31	10.1	213.5	477	11.6	1 738.8
40-44	246	6.5	2 280.5	17	5.5	143.1	263	6.4	1 160.2
45-49	95	2.5	1 145.4	6	1.9	64.8	101	2.5	575.5
50-54	51	1.3	807.7	3	1.0	43.7	54	1.3	409.9
55-59	14	0.4	327.2	—	—	—	14	0.3	157.9
60-64	7	0.2	236.5	1	0.3	29.1	8	0.2	125.2
65 and over	10	0.3	222.5	—	—	—	10	0.2	94.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>3 787</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>3 317.9</b>	<b>308</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>250.6</b>	<b>4 095</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>1 727.4</b>
Mean (years)	29.7	..	..	28.8	..	..	29.6	..	..
Median (years)	28.3	..	..	27.2	..	..	28.2	..	..

(a) Rate per 100,000 adult Indigenous population. See Explanatory notes, paragraph 15.

# 4

## PRISONERS, By Country Of Birth

	<i>no.</i>	<i>%</i>
Australia	16 424	75.6
New Zealand	580	2.7
Papua New Guinea	55	0.3
Fiji	80	0.4
Samoa	64	0.3
Tonga	42	0.2
United Kingdom and Ireland	752	3.5
Germany	78	0.4
Netherlands	42	0.2
Italy	110	0.5
Malta	27	0.1
Greece	67	0.3
Romania	75	0.3
Yugoslavia and Former Yugoslavian Republics	80	0.4
Lebanon	137	0.6
Turkey	68	0.3
Cambodia	41	0.2
Laos	26	0.1
Viet Nam	545	2.5
Indonesia	249	1.1
Malaysia	82	0.4
Philippines	49	0.2
Singapore	76	0.4
China (excludes SARs and Taiwan Province)	92	0.4
Hong Kong (SAR of China)	50	0.2
India	33	0.2
United States of America	56	0.3
South Africa	41	0.2
Other	624	2.9
Unknown	1 069	4.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>21 714</b>	<b>100.0</b>

# 5

## PRISONERS, By Type of Sentence

	NSW(a)	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT in ACT	ACT in NSW(a)	Aust.(a)
NUMBER										
Sentenced										
Indeterminate	119	47	321	108	193	29	30	..	4	847
Max-min	4 356	1 793	—	750	1 892	—	274	..	130	9 065
Fixed term	1 380	874	3 457	85	491	280	132	..	13	6 699
Fine default only	—	3	3	—	54	1	26	..	—	87
Periodic detention	1 202	..	..	..	..	..	..	29	—	1 231
Total	7 057	2 717	3 781	943	2 630	310	462	29	147	17 929
Unsentenced	1 490	436	701	356	494	80	173	55	8	3 785
Time on remand										
Mean (months)	5.0	5.5	4.3	3.5	3.0	2.0	4.4	1.8	0.9	4.4
90th percentile (months)	11.9	12.8	9.3	7.8	7.2	4.4	8.5	5.6	4.5	10.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>8 547</b>	<b>3 153</b>	<b>4 482</b>	<b>1 299</b>	<b>3 124</b>	<b>390</b>	<b>635</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>155</b>	<b>21 714</b>
PROPORTION(%)										
Sentenced										
Indeterminate	1.4	1.5	7.2	8.3	6.2	7.4	4.7	..	2.6	3.9
Max-min	51.0	56.9	—	57.7	60.6	—	43.1	..	83.9	41.7
Fixed term	16.1	27.7	77.1	6.5	15.7	71.8	20.8	..	8.4	30.9
Fine default only	—	0.1	0.1	—	1.7	0.3	4.1	..	—	0.4
Periodic detention	14.1	..	..	..	..	..	..	34.5	—	5.7
Total	82.6	86.2	84.4	72.6	84.2	79.5	72.8	34.5	94.8	82.6
Unsentenced	17.4	13.8	15.6	27.4	15.8	20.5	27.2	65.5	5.2	17.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

(a) Full-time prisoners sentenced in the ACT are held in NSW prisons.

The ACT in NSW figures are a subset of the NSW figures and are not separately counted in the Australian totals (see Explanatory notes, paragraph 9).

## 6

## PRISONERS, By Prior Imprisonment(a) and Most Serious Offence/Charge

	PRIOR IMPRISONMENT		NO PRIOR IMPRISONMENT		TOTAL(b).....	
	no.	%	no.	%	no.	%
Homicide						
Murder	631	42.6	849	57.3	1 482	100.0
Other homicide	269	44.0	338	55.2	612	100.0
Assault	1 554	61.3	972	38.3	2 535	100.0
Sex offences	893	38.0	1 451	61.8	2 347	100.0
Other offences against the person	120	54.1	101	45.5	222	100.0
Robbery	1 751	61.2	1 106	38.7	2 860	100.0
Extortion	34	55.7	27	44.3	61	100.0
Break and enter	1 845	70.8	754	28.9	2 605	100.0
Fraud and misappropriation	323	42.6	436	57.4	759	100.0
Receiving	221	61.0	140	38.7	362	100.0
Other theft	935	69.7	404	30.1	1 341	100.0
Property damage/environmental offences	190	65.3	100	34.4	291	100.0
Government security/justice procedures offences	1 297	72.7	483	27.1	1 784	100.0
Unlawful possession of weapons	41	52.6	37	47.4	78	100.0
Other offences against good order	78	78.0	21	21.0	100	100.0
Drug offences						
Possession/use drugs	125	51.2	119	48.8	244	100.0
Deal/traffic drugs	641	38.2	1 035	61.7	1 677	100.0
Manufacture/grow drugs	137	44.8	169	55.2	306	100.0
Road traffic offences						
Driving offences	564	65.6	294	34.2	860	100.0
Licence/registration offences	395	73.7	139	25.9	536	100.0
Other traffic offences	4	36.4	7	63.6	11	100.0
Other offences	190	30.3	436	69.5	627	100.0
Offences in custody	4	36.4	7	63.6	11	100.0
Unknown	1	n.p.	2	n.p.	3	100.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>12 243</b>	<b>56.4</b>	<b>9 427</b>	<b>43.4</b>	<b>21 714</b>	<b>100.0</b>

(a) Some States and Territories may include episodes on remand as well as under sentence.

(b) Includes prisoners whose prior imprisonment status is unknown.

## 7

## INDIGENOUS PRISONERS, By Prior Imprisonment(a) and Most Serious Offence/Charge

	PRIOR IMPRISONMENT		NO PRIOR IMPRISONMENT		TOTAL(b).....	
	no.	%	no.	%	no.	%
Homicide						
Murder	119	64.7	65	35.3	184	100.0
Other homicide	85	71.4	32	26.9	119	100.0
Assault	742	79.0	189	20.1	939	100.0
Sex offences	279	67.4	133	32.1	414	100.0
Other offences against the person	30	71.4	11	26.2	42	100.0
Robbery	354	72.2	133	27.1	490	100.0
Extortion	8	72.7	3	27.3	11	100.0
Break and enter	420	75.9	129	23.3	553	100.0
Fraud and misappropriation	26	63.4	15	36.6	41	100.0
Receiving	33	80.5	8	19.5	41	100.0
Other theft	200	77.8	56	21.8	257	100.0
Property damage/environmental offences	76	83.5	14	15.4	91	100.0
Government security/justice procedures offences	312	81.0	71	18.4	385	100.0
Unlawful possession of weapons	7	70.0	3	30.0	10	100.0
Other offences against good order	32	86.5	4	10.8	37	100.0
Drug offences						
Possession/use drugs	10	62.5	6	37.5	16	100.0
Deal/traffic drugs	23	67.6	11	32.4	34	100.0
Manufacture/grow drugs	9	64.3	5	35.7	14	100.0
Road traffic offences						
Driving offences	201	87.4	27	11.7	230	100.0
Licence/registration offences	126	84.0	22	14.7	150	100.0
Other traffic offences	1	n.p.	—	—	1	100.0
Other offences	29	80.6	7	19.4	36	100.0
Offences in custody	—	—	—	—	—	—
Unknown	—	—	—	—	—	—
<b>Total</b>	<b>3 122</b>	<b>76.2</b>	<b>944</b>	<b>23.1</b>	<b>4 095</b>	<b>100.0</b>

(a) Some States and Territories may include episodes on remand as well as under sentence.

(b) Includes prisoners whose prior imprisonment status is unknown.

	SUPREME.....		DISTRICT/ COUNTY.....		MAGISTRATES'		OTHER(a).....		TOTAL.....	
	no.	%	no.	%	no.	%	no.	%	no.	%
Homicide										
Murder	1 136	93.0	79	6.5	—	—	7	0.6	1 222	100.0
Other homicide	376	72.0	130	24.9	5	1.0	11	2.1	522	100.0
Assault	188	9.6	947	48.6	784	40.2	30	1.5	1 949	100.0
Sex offences	377	17.1	1 711	77.8	73	3.3	38	1.7	2 199	100.0
Other offences against the person	18	11.9	108	71.5	24	15.9	1	0.7	151	100.0
Robbery	603	24.6	1 757	71.6	63	2.6	30	1.2	2 453	100.0
Extortion	7	14.6	37	77.1	4	8.3	—	—	48	100.0
Break and enter	122	5.8	1 060	50.3	910	43.1	17	0.8	2 109	100.0
Fraud and misappropriation	40	6.3	344	54.2	246	38.7	5	0.8	635	100.0
Receiving	14	5.2	95	35.6	157	58.8	1	0.4	267	100.0
Other theft	33	3.0	356	32.0	714	64.2	10	0.9	1 113	100.0
Property damage/environmental offences	14	6.3	108	48.4	100	44.8	1	0.4	223	100.0
Government security/justice procedures offences	54	3.5	216	14.1	761	49.6	504	32.8	1 535	100.0
Unlawful possession of weapons	1	2.3	19	43.2	22	50.0	2	4.5	44	100.0
Other offences against good order	1	1.4	26	35.1	47	63.5	—	—	74	100.0
Drug offences										
Possession/use drugs	57	39.0	22	15.1	65	44.5	2	1.4	146	100.0
Deal/traffic drugs	378	26.8	860	61.0	153	10.9	18	1.3	1 409	100.0
Manufacture/grow drugs	76	34.2	111	50.0	33	14.9	2	0.9	222	100.0
Road traffic offences										
Driving offences	3	0.4	180	22.2	627	77.3	1	0.1	811	100.0
Licence/registration offences	1	0.2	5	1.1	440	95.2	16	3.5	462	100.0
Other traffic offences	—	—	—	—	7	87.5	1	12.5	8	100.0
Other offences	61	19.2	175	55.0	75	23.6	7	2.2	318	100.0
Offences in custody	—	—	1	11.1	—	—	8	88.9	9	100.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>3 560</b>	<b>19.9</b>	<b>8 347</b>	<b>46.6</b>	<b>5 310</b>	<b>29.6</b>	<b>712</b>	<b>4.0</b>	<b>17 929</b>	<b>100.0</b>

(a) Includes Childrens Court, administrative decision, Federal Court of Australia.



## PRISONERS..... SENTENCE LENGTH

	<i>no.</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>Mean months</i>	<i>Median months</i>
AGGREGATE SENTENCE(a)				
Homicide				
Murder	1 222	6.8	220.0	216.0
Other homicide	522	2.9	105.0	96.0
Assault	1 949	10.9	38.1	24.0
Sex offences	2 199	12.3	87.6	80.0
Other offences against the person	151	0.8	62.6	48.2
Robbery	2 453	13.7	80.0	70.0
Extortion	48	0.3	56.6	48.0
Break and enter	2 109	11.8	36.0	25.3
Fraud and misappropriation	635	3.5	34.2	24.0
Receiving	267	1.5	20.8	12.0
Other theft	1 113	6.2	21.1	12.0
Property damage/environmental offences	223	1.2	28.0	18.0
Government security/justice procedures offences	1 535	8.6	17.8	10.1
Unlawful possession of weapons	44	0.2	25.7	17.1
Other offences against good order	74	0.4	19.3	10.1
Drug offences				
Possession/use drugs	146	0.8	45.4	24.0
Deal/traffic drugs	1 409	7.9	78.8	63.2
Manufacture/grow drugs	222	1.2	58.1	48.0
Road traffic offences				
Driving offences	811	4.5	11.0	9.0
Licence/registration offences	462	2.6	10.0	8.0
Other traffic offences	8	0.0	2.1	2.0
Other offences	318	1.8	45.1	36.0
Offences in custody	9	0.1	4.1	4.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>17 929</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>57.4</b>	<b>39.0</b>

## EXPECTED TIME TO SERVE(b)

Homicide				
Murder	1 222	6.8	160.0	156.0
Other homicide	522	2.9	68.3	60.0
Assault	1 949	10.9	24.4	13.3
Sex offences	2 199	12.3	57.8	48.3
Other offences against the person	151	0.8	39.5	29.4
Robbery	2 453	13.7	47.2	37.0
Extortion	48	0.3	30.1	24.0
Break and enter	2 109	11.8	21.4	15.2
Fraud and misappropriation	635	3.5	19.9	12.0
Receiving	267	1.5	13.7	7.9
Other theft	1 113	6.2	13.1	9.0
Property damage/environmental offences	223	1.2	17.2	9.2
Government security/justice procedures offences	1 535	8.6	13.6	8.1
Unlawful possession of weapons	44	0.2	18.1	12.0
Other offences against good order	74	0.4	14.0	7.3
Drug offences				
Possession/use drugs	146	0.8	27.7	11.7
Deal/traffic drugs	1 409	7.9	47.1	36.0
Manufacture/grow drugs	222	1.2	35.4	27.1
Road traffic offences				
Driving offences	811	4.5	7.7	6.0
Licence/registration offences	462	2.6	6.2	5.2
Other traffic offences	8	0.0	1.9	2.3
Other offences	318	1.8	28.9	18.0
Offences in custody	9	0.1	2.8	2.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>17 929</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>36.6</b>	<b>21.1</b>

(a) See Explanatory notes, paragraph 24.

(b) See Explanatory notes, paragraphs 25–34.

## PRISONERS..... SENTENCE LENGTH

	no.	%	Mean months	Median months
AGGREGATE SENTENCE(a)				
Homicide				
Murder	147	4.3	202.0	206.0
Other homicide	107	3.1	102.0	96.0
Assault	741	21.7	30.1	18.0
Sex offences	377	11.0	95.7	87.5
Other offences against the person	30	0.9	51.8	42.0
Robbery	420	12.3	77.3	66.0
Extortion	10	0.3	56.5	53.1
Break and enter	451	13.2	34.6	24.0
Fraud and misappropriation	29	0.8	17.5	12.3
Receiving	31	0.9	15.1	7.2
Other theft	203	5.9	23.3	14.0
Property damage/environmental offences	71	2.1	17.5	9.0
Government security/justice procedures offences	330	9.7	18.0	9.8
Unlawful possession of weapons	6	0.2	14.7	7.8
Other offences against good order	27	0.8	8.1	8.5
Drug offences				
Possession/use drugs	10	0.3	13.2	5.0
Deal/traffic drugs	32	0.9	48.5	36.0
Manufacture/grow drugs	7	0.2	47.4	39.3
Road traffic offences				
Driving offences	219	6.4	9.9	9.0
Licence/registration offences	138	4.0	9.7	9.0
Other traffic offences	1	0.0	n.p.	n.p.
Other offences	25	0.7	24.5	16.5
Offences in custody	—	—	—	—
<b>Total</b>	<b>3 412</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>45.2</b>	<b>24.0</b>

	no.	%	Mean months	Median months
EXPECTED TIME TO SERVE(b)				
Homicide				
Murder	147	4.3	141.0	142.0
Other homicide	107	3.1	64.7	56.5
Assault	741	21.7	18.9	11.6
Sex offences	377	11.0	63.1	56.7
Other offences against the person	30	0.9	32.0	24.0
Robbery	420	12.3	46.5	39.7
Extortion	10	0.3	30.4	24.0
Break and enter	451	13.2	20.6	13.9
Fraud and misappropriation	29	0.8	13.0	9.1
Receiving	31	0.9	12.9	6.0
Other theft	203	5.9	14.1	9.6
Property damage/environmental offences	71	2.1	10.1	6.7
Government security/justice procedures offences	330	9.7	13.6	7.3
Unlawful possession of weapons	6	0.2	16.1	7.2
Other offences against good order	27	0.8	4.8	4.0
Drug offences				
Possession/use drugs	10	0.3	7.1	4.3
Deal/traffic drugs	32	0.9	26.3	17.9
Manufacture/grow drugs	7	0.2	27.5	28.9
Road traffic offences				
Driving offences	219	6.4	6.7	6.0
Licence/registration offences	138	4.0	6.2	5.4
Other traffic offences	1	0.0	n.p.	n.p.
Other offences	25	0.7	18.0	8.5
Offences in custody	—	—	—	—
<b>Total</b>	<b>3 412</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>28.8</b>	<b>14.4</b>

(a) See Explanatory notes, paragraph 24.

(b) See Explanatory notes, paragraphs 25-34.

## PRISONERS..... TIME ON REMAND

	<i>no.</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>Mean months</i>	<i>90th percentile months</i>
Homicide				
Murder	260	6.9	9.7	19.1
Other homicide	90	2.4	7.0	15.1
Assault	586	15.5	3.0	7.6
Sex offences	148	3.9	6.1	13.5
Other offences against the person	71	1.9	3.1	7.1
Robbery	407	10.8	3.9	8.8
Extortion	13	0.3	5.9	17.9
Break and enter	496	13.1	2.3	5.2
Fraud and misappropriation	124	3.3	3.5	9.4
Receiving	95	2.5	2.3	5.4
Other theft	228	6.0	2.4	6.0
Property damage/environmental offences	68	1.8	3.1	6.5
Government security/justice procedures offences	249	6.6	1.9	5.0
Unlawful possession of weapons	34	0.9	4.7	9.4
Other offences against good order	26	0.7	2.9	6.0
Drug offences				
Possession/use drugs	98	2.6	3.6	9.9
Deal/traffic drugs	268	7.1	7.3	16.7
Manufacture/grow drugs	84	2.2	3.6	6.9
Road traffic offences				
Driving offences	49	1.3	2.2	4.8
Licence/registration offences	74	2.0	3.3	7.5
Other traffic offences	3	0.1	n.p.	n.p.
Other offences	309	8.2	8.4	18.8
Offences in custody	2	0.1	n.p.	n.p.
Unknown	3	0.1	n.p.	n.p.
<b>Total</b>	<b>3 785</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>4.4</b>	<b>10.1</b>

	<i>no.</i>	<i>%</i>
Homicide		
Murder	12	1.1
Other homicide	3	0.3
Assault	14	1.3
Sex offences	16	1.4
Other offences against the person	2	0.2
Robbery	26	2.4
Extortion	—	—
Break and enter	28	2.5
Fraud and misappropriation	154	13.9
Receiving	11	1.0
Other theft	11	1.0
Property damage/environmental offences	4	0.4
Government security/justice procedures offences	32	2.9
Unlawful possession of weapons	—	—
Other offences against good order	—	—
Drug offences		
Possession/use drugs	28	2.5
Deal/traffic drugs	359	32.5
Manufacture/grow drugs	52	4.7
Road traffic offences		
Driving offences	3	0.3
Licence/registration offences	3	0.3
Other traffic offences	—	—
Other offences	345	31.3
Offences in custody	—	—
Unknown	1	0.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>1 104</b>	<b>100.0</b>

	<i>no.</i>	<i>%</i>
Homicide		
Murder	—	—
Other homicide	9	0.7
Assault	189	15.4
Sex offences	66	5.4
Other offences against the person	2	0.2
Robbery	41	3.3
Extortion	5	0.4
Break and enter	88	7.1
Fraud and misappropriation	125	10.2
Receiving	42	3.4
Other theft	93	7.6
Property damage/environmental offences	8	0.6
Government security/justice procedures offences	90	7.3
Unlawful possession of weapons	6	0.5
Other offences against good order	9	0.7
Drug offences		
Possession/use drugs	6	0.5
Deal/traffic drugs	108	8.8
Manufacture/grow drugs	19	1.5
Road traffic offences		
Driving offences	314	25.5
Licence/registration offences	2	0.2
Other traffic offences	1	0.1
Other offences	8	0.6
Offences in custody	—	—
<b>Total</b>	<b>1 231</b>	<b>100.0</b>

	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995
NEW SOUTH WALES						
Prison population characteristics						
Prisoners (no.)	6 366	7 103	7 485	7 632	7 711	7 749
Prisoners (rate per 100,000 adult population)	145.2	159.6	165.9	166.4	167.8	166.6
Mean age (years)	n.a.	30.4	30.9	31.5	31.9	32.1
Indigenous (%)	9.1	9.3	8.7	9.6	10.7	11.5
Indigenous (rate per 100,000 adult Indigenous population)	1 814.4	2 080.7	1 651.5	1 636.2	1 804.7	1 894.1
Prior known adult imprisonment (%)	48.8	48.4	50.8	52.1	56.0	51.7
Remandees (%)	13.3	11.9	10.1	10.2	9.6	9.3
Periodic detainees (%)	13.0	16.1	16.8	16.2	16.7	17.6
Aggregate sentence length (%)						
Less than 1 year	20.6	20.2	19.5	17.5	15.7	17.0
5 to less than 10 years	18.2	14.0	14.1	15.9	17.2	19.3
10 years and over	7.3	5.8	5.9	6.7	8.2	9.3
Median (years)	n.a.	3.3	2.0	2.0	3.3	3.3
Sentence type (%)						
Fine default	0.3	1.3	2.0	1.5	0.1	1.0
Indeterminate	4.7	4.1	3.3	2.7	2.2	2.2
VICTORIA						
Prison population characteristics						
Prisoners (no.)	2 316	2 310	2 277	2 272	2 522	2 467
Prisoners (rate per 100,000 adult population)	69.9	68.8	67.4	66.3	73.9	71.8
Mean age (years)	n.a.	31.0	31.4	32.3	32.7	33.5
Indigenous (%)	3.8	3.9	4.7	4.6	5.6	5.2
Indigenous (rate per 100,000 adult Indigenous population)	1 229.2	1 271.1	1 101.6	972.7	1 246.5	1 102.4
Prior known adult imprisonment (%)	71.5	70.6	69.4	68.0	65.9	64.1
Remandees (%)	15.6	16.6	16.0	12.8	13.2	14.1
Aggregate sentence length (%)						
Less than 1 year	21.1	23.1	25.8	28.1	26.5	26.1
5 to less than 10 years	18.3	18.1	17.8	16.4	17.0	19.5
10 years and over	13.2	13.1	13.8	12.8	11.7	13.1
Median (years)	n.a.	2.7	2.7	2.5	2.5	3.0
Sentence type (%)						
Fine default	0.1	—	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Indeterminate	5.5	5.1	4.0	3.5	2.7	1.9
QUEENSLAND						
Prison population characteristics						
Prisoners (no.)	2 296	2 094	2 017	2 068	2 491	2 870
Prisoners (rate per 100,000 adult population)	106.4	94.4	89.4	88.0	104.0	116.6
Mean age (years)	n.a.	30.4	30.3	30.2	30.4	30.8
Indigenous (%)	16.0	16.5	18.3	20.6	22.2	22.2
Indigenous (rate per 100,000 adult Indigenous population)	1 103.2	1 040.0	948.7	971.1	1 222.2	1 369.2
Prior known adult imprisonment (%)	48.8	47.0	49.3	46.6	60.7	61.1
Remandees (%)	8.3	9.5	8.3	12.5	13.1	11.6
Aggregate sentence length (%)						
Less than 1 year	22.4	22.0	18.3	18.1	17.4	18.0
5 to less than 10 years	20.6	21.4	25.3	25.2	24.6	26.6
10 years and over	9.6	10.8	12.7	13.0	13.5	13.3
Median (years)	n.a.	3.0	4.3	4.2	4.0	4.0
Sentence type (%)						
Fine default	2.2	1.6	—	—	1.0	3.7
Indeterminate	8.8	7.2	10.1	10.0	8.5	8.5

Source: 1990–1993: Australian Institute of Criminology, *Australian Prisoners*.

1994–2000: Australian Bureau of Statistics, *Prisoners in Australia*.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
NEW SOUTH WALES					
Prison population characteristics					
Prisoners (no.)	7 691	7 957	7 810	8 433	8 547
Prisoners (rate per 100,000 adult population)	163.0	165.7	161.0	171.5	172.0
Mean age (years)	32.1	32.2	32.9	32.9	33.1
Indigenous (%)	12.4	12.7	14.0	15.0	14.6
Indigenous (rate per 100,000 adult Indigenous population)	1 622.5	1 632.1	1 724.5	1 954.8	1 882.1
Prior known adult imprisonment (%)	54.4	54.8	65.8	54.9	51.5
Remandees (%)	10.5	12.5	13.5	15.7	17.4
Periodic detainees (%)	18.5	19.4	17.1	13.5	14.1
Aggregate sentence length (%)					
Less than 1 year	17.1	17.3	17.3	19.8	17.3
5 to less than 10 years	18.9	17.3	18.1	18.3	20.3
10 years and over	9.6	9.7	10.6	11.1	11.4
Median (years)	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.3
Sentence type (%)					
Fine default	1.2	1.3	—	—	—
Indeterminate	2.1	2.0	2.0	1.9	1.4
VICTORIA					
Prison population characteristics					
Prisoners (no.)	2 440	2 643	2 858	2 923	3 153
Prisoners (rate per 100,000 adult population)	70.2	74.6	79.7	73.8	85.4
Mean age (years)	34.2	33.9	34.4	34.6	34.5
Indigenous (%)	4.5	5.0	4.4	4.2	4.4
Indigenous (rate per 100,000 adult Indigenous population)	846.2	1 000.1	940.3	903.2	993.3
Prior known adult imprisonment (%)	64.9	63.5	62.9	62.8	60.4
Remandees (%)	15.7	15.8	15.3	14.3	13.8
Aggregate sentence length (%)					
Less than 1 year	23.9	29.3	31.5	30.2	27.5
5 to less than 10 years	22.1	19.8	18.1	19.1	19.0
10 years and over	13.6	11.7	11.2	12.4	12.1
Median (years)	3.0	2.3	2.0	2.3	2.5
Sentence type (%)					
Fine default	0.1	—	0.3	0.2	0.1
Indeterminate	1.3	1.7	1.5	1.4	1.5
QUEENSLAND					
Prison population characteristics					
Prisoners (no.)	3 528	3 839	4 466	4 710	4 482
Prisoners (rate per 100,000 adult population)	139.6	149.2	171.3	177.2	165.5
Mean age (years)	30.7	30.8	31.7	32.1	32.6
Indigenous (%)	22.9	24.5	23.1	23.5	23.4
Indigenous (rate per 100,000 adult Indigenous population)	1 457.4	1 585.4	1 693.8	1 765.2	1 622.0
Prior known adult imprisonment (%)	61.1	60.7	62.3	61.8	65.2
Remandees (%)	12.5	11.8	12.5	13.8	15.6
Aggregate sentence length (%)					
Less than 1 year	20.2	19.4	17.8	18.9	16.1
5 to less than 10 years	25.0	25.1	26.6	25.4	26.6
10 years and over	12.8	13.2	13.8	13.6	13.7
Median (years)	3.6	3.6	4.0	3.8	4.0
Sentence type (%)					
Fine default	5.0	0.3	2.4	5.5	0.1
Indeterminate	6.5	6.4	5.9	5.9	7.2

Source: 1990–1993: Australian Institute of Criminology, *Australian Prisoners*.

1994–2000: Australian Bureau of Statistics, *Prisoners in Australia*.

	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995
SOUTH AUSTRALIA						
Prison population characteristics						
Prisoners (no.)	931	1 042	1 152	1 163	1 348	1 401
Prisoners (rate per 100,000 adult population)	84.6	93.3	103.2	102.7	118.7	123.1
Mean age (years)	n.a.	30.1	29.4	30.0	30.0	30.7
Indigenous (%)	13.3	14.4	16.2	15.9	17.1	18.4
Indigenous (rate per 100,000 adult Indigenous population)	1 544.4	1 868.2	2 022.7	1 790.0	2 141.5	2 336.7
Prior known adult imprisonment (%)	70.4	72.6	72.9	78.4	80.9	63.9
Remandees (%)	23.3	27.2	25.2	21.3	16.2	16.0
Aggregate sentence length (%)						
Less than 1 year	13.3	17.0	21.3	22.8	20.7	22.9
5 to less than 10 years	28.6	24.2	21.8	23.1	23.5	22.0
10 years and over	12.9	11.9	10.9	11.9	11.2	6.5
Median (years)	n.a.	3.9	3.4	3.9	3.5	3.0
Sentence type (%)						
Fine default	0.7	1.7	8.5	9.0	5.2	5.9
Indeterminate	8.7	7.9	7.2	6.9	6.0	7.2
WESTERN AUSTRALIA						
Prison population characteristics						
Prisoners (no.)	1 720	1 726	1 893	2 029	2 137	2 205
Prisoners (rate per 100,000 adult population)	142.2	139.6	154.4	161.3	168.6	170.4
Mean age (years)	n.a.	29.7	29.8	30.3	30.5	30.7
Indigenous (%)	34.0	33.4	30.3	31.4	32.2	32.4
Indigenous (rate per 100,000 adult Indigenous population)	2 794.6	2 756.4	2 490.2	2 476.5	2 600.5	2 629.8
Prior known adult imprisonment (%)	70.1	71.0	70.4	54.8	54.6	54.3
Remandees (%)	9.8	9.4	10.2	10.9	9.9	11.6
Aggregate sentence length (%)						
Less than 1 year	26.2	24.5	18.0	17.4	16.4	9.5
5 to less than 10 years	19.4	20.6	19.9	21.5	20.6	22.4
10 years and over	7.5	7.7	7.8	9.4	9.0	8.9
Median (years)	n.a.	2.8	2.9	3.0	2.8	3.0
Sentence type (%)						
Fine default	5.1	6.4	4.0	5.8	5.6	0.6
Indeterminate	7.8	7.9	7.0	7.4	7.3	7.7
TASMANIA						
Prison population characteristics						
Prisoners (no.)	237	265	269	265	258	244
Prisoners (rate per 100,000 adult population)	70.4	77.8	77.3	74.9	73.4	69.1
Mean age (years)	n.a.	31.5	30.9	30.6	31.3	30.1
Indigenous (%)	5.1	3.8	4.8	5.3	10.1	5.7
Indigenous (rate per 100,000 adult Indigenous population)	344.2	286.9	273.1	255.8	457.3	238.4
Prior known adult imprisonment (%)	65.8	60.4	60.6	57.0	59.7	62.7
Remandees (%)	13.9	12.5	12.3	13.6	14.0	17.6
Aggregate sentence length (%)						
Less than 1 year	33.9	39.3	42.4	35.8	39.3	38.3
5 to less than 10 years	10.3	9.1	9.3	11.8	14.4	11.9
10 years and over	2.9	3.0	3.0	2.6	3.6	4.5
Median (years)	n.a.	1.5	1.4	1.9	1.1	1.0
Sentence type (%)						
Fine default	0.5	0.4	5.9	7.9	1.9	1.6
Indeterminate	19.1	17.7	16.1	16.6	17.6	18.4

Source: 1990–1993: Australian Institute of Criminology, *Australian Prisoners*.

1994–2000: Australian Bureau of Statistics, *Prisoners in Australia*.



	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
SOUTH AUSTRALIA					
Prison population characteristics					
Prisoners (no.)	1 475	1 492	1 385	1 396	1 299
Prisoners (rate per 100,000 adult population)	129.4	130.1	120.2	120.4	111.5
Mean age (years)	31.0	31.4	32.1	32.4	32.5
Indigenous (%)	17.6	18.0	17.5	18.3	17.3
Indigenous (rate per 100,000 adult Indigenous population)	2 148.0	2 115.9	1 871.8	1 928.0	1 656.5
Prior known adult imprisonment (%)	62.8	63.6	62.6	65.3	66.4
Remandees (%)	18.4	18.1	18.1	20.0	27.4
Aggregate sentence length (%)					
Less than 1 year	22.4	19.5	18.0	19.8	9.1
5 to less than 10 years	22.9	24.1	26.1	24.7	28.4
10 years and over	7.4	7.9	8.4	8.6	10.4
Median (years)	3.0	2.4	4.0	3.5	4.2
Sentence type (%)					
Fine default	3.6	3.7	6.2	6.7	—
Indeterminate	6.4	7.0	7.2	7.5	8.3
WESTERN AUSTRALIA					
Prison population characteristics					
Prisoners (no.)	2 254	2 245	2 352	3 048	3 124
Prisoners (rate per 100,000 adult population)	170.4	165.4	170.4	216.5	218.4
Mean age (years)	30.8	31.1	31.5	31.7	32.2
Indigenous (%)	33.3	33.4	32.2	34.0	32.1
Indigenous (rate per 100,000 adult Indigenous population)	2 482.8	2 332.5	2 305.9	3 080.0	2 908.7
Prior known adult imprisonment (%)	53.2	51.6	50.4	51.6	48.7
Remandees (%)	11.0	12.8	12.7	12.7	15.8
Aggregate sentence length (%)					
Less than 1 year	11.2	8.1	11.6	16.1	13.9
5 to less than 10 years	22.3	24.5	24.2	22.4	22.8
10 years and over	9.3	10.1	11.2	11.3	12.9
Median (years)	3.0	3.5	3.4	3.0	3.5
Sentence type (%)					
Fine default	0.4	0.8	2.0	2.4	1.7
Indeterminate	6.4	6.8	7.1	6.0	6.2
TASMANIA					
Prison population characteristics					
Prisoners (no.)	285	263	314	343	390
Prisoners (rate per 100,000 adult population)	80.4	74.2	88.3	96.4	109.1
Mean age (years)	30.8	31.8	30.9	31.2	31.0
Indigenous (%)	9.8	12.9	8.9	10.5	10.0
Indigenous (rate per 100,000 adult Indigenous population)	352.0	396.9	317.2	397.2	417.6
Prior known adult imprisonment (%)	55.4	60.8	56.1	60.1	57.7
Remandees (%)	16.1	12.2	18.5	11.7	20.5
Aggregate sentence length (%)					
Less than 1 year	36.4	31.6	41.8	40.6	31.3
5 to less than 10 years	14.2	13.4	11.7	10.2	9.0
10 years and over	5.4	8.2	6.6	6.9	7.4
Median (years)	1.4	1.5	1.2	1.0	1.8
Sentence type (%)					
Fine default	1.1	3.8	2.5	4.7	0.3
Indeterminate	12.3	11.8	9.9	9.0	7.4

Source: 1990–1993: Australian Institute of Criminology, *Australian Prisoners*.

1994–2000: Australian Bureau of Statistics, *Prisoners in Australia*.

	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995
NORTHERN TERRITORY						
Prison population characteristics						
Prisoners (no.)	415	465	447	422	455	471
Prisoners (rate per 100,000 adult population)	384.0	425.3	387.0	356.1	383.4	389.8
Mean age (years)	n.a.	27.7	28.1	28.2	29.4	30.0
Indigenous (%)	68.9	70.5	72.0	75.6	72.7	72.6
Indigenous (rate per 100,000 adult Indigenous population)	1 496.5	1 716.3	1 431.2	1 226.0	1 242.4	1 256.2
Prior known adult imprisonment (%)	76.1	73.3	72.5	72.5	74.5	44.8
Remandees (%)	15.9	10.9	7.6	7.8	13.0	11.7
Aggregate sentence length (%)						
Less than 1 year	31.5	31.5	33.6	26.5	29.8	31.8
5 to less than 10 years	12.6	16.5	18.9	18.0	17.2	16.1
10 years and over	6.6	7.0	7.5	7.7	5.3	5.5
Median (years)	n.a.	1.8	1.9	2.0	2.2	1.9
Sentence type (%)						
Fine default	0.9	0.5	4.6	0.8	1.4	2.8
Indeterminate	3.4	4.6	5.8	5.7	6.1	5.8
PRISONERS IN AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY PRISONS(a)						
Prison population characteristics						
Prisoners (no.)	24	16	19	15	22	21
Prisoners (rate per 100,000 adult population)	11.4	7.3	8.7	6.7	9.8	9.2
Mean age (years)	n.a.	29.4	24.2	26.3	27.3	28.0
Indigenous (%)	—	—	15.8	—	9.1	14.3
Indigenous (rate per 100,000 adult Indigenous population)	—	—	297.6	—	188.0	268.8
Prior known adult imprisonment (%)	54.2	62.5	57.9	46.7	27.3	38.1
Remandees (%)	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Periodic detainees (%)	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY (Sentenced Prisoners in NSW Prisons)(b)						
Prison population characteristics						
Prisoners (no.)	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	82
Prisoners (rate per 100,000 adult population)	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	35.8
Mean age (years)	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	31.0
Indigenous (%)	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	6.1
Indigenous (rate per 100,000 adult Indigenous population)	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	448.0
Prior known adult imprisonment (%)	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Remandees (%)	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	..
Aggregate sentence length (%)						
Less than 1 year	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	10.9
5 to less than 10 years	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	34.1
10 years and over	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	11.0
Median (years)	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	4.3
Sentence type (%)						
Fine default	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	1.2
Indeterminate	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	4.9

(a) The ABS began counting periodic detainees for the ACT in 1997. Prior to 1997 all information is for unsentenced prisoners in Belconnen Remand Centre only.

Source: 1990–1993: Australian Institute of Criminology, *Australian Prisoners*.  
1994–2000: Australian Bureau of Statistics, *Prisoners in Australia*.

(b) Information on ACT sentenced prisoners in NSW prisons is unavailable before 1995.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
NORTHERN TERRITORY					
Prison population characteristics					
Prisoners (no.)	482	606	635	618	635
Prisoners (rate per 100,000 adult population)	391.1	454.8	474.9	453.1	458.1
Mean age (years)	30.2	30.9	30.9	30.9	31.3
Indigenous (%)	74.7	72.4	72.6	77.2	60.8
Indigenous (rate per 100,000 adult Indigenous population)	1 260.7	1 435.0	1 472.7	1 488.3	1 176.0
Prior known adult imprisonment (%)	45.6	62.9	61.9	62.5	59.1
Remandees (%)	15.6	11.9	14.0	11.5	27.2
Aggregate sentence length (%)					
Less than 1 year	29.5	39.1	39.3	36.7	31.4
5 to less than 10 years	17.7	12.9	11.9	9.7	12.8
10 years and over	5.9	4.9	5.1	5.3	6.3
Median (years)	1.8	1.3	1.2	1.3	1.5
Sentence type (%)					
Fine default	6.0	0.7	3.0	3.4	4.1
Indeterminate	2.1	4.3	3.9	4.5	4.7
PRISONERS IN AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY PRISONS(a)					
Prison population characteristics					
Prisoners (no.)	38	83	86	67	84
Prisoners (rate per 100,000 adult population)	16.3	15.8	36.8	28.4	35.3
Mean age (years)	28.5	27.6	29.4	31.4	31.0
Indigenous (%)	10.5	10.8	12.8	10.4	9.5
Indigenous (rate per 100,000 adult Indigenous population)	242.0	223.7	590.1	361.2	394.5
Prior known adult imprisonment (%)	50.0	56.8	36.0	14.9	39.3
Remandees (%)	n.a.	44.6	50.0	61.2	65.5
Periodic detainees (%)	n.a.	55.4	43.0	38.8	34.5
AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY (Sentenced Prisoners in NSW Prisons)(b)					
Prison population characteristics					
Prisoners (no.)	87	110	113	125	155
Prisoners (rate per 100,000 adult population)	37.4	47.1	48.4	53.0	65.2
Mean age (years)	30.4	31.1	32.8	33.1	32.0
Indigenous (%)	—	6.3	1.8	1.0	6.5
Indigenous (rate per 100,000 adult Indigenous population)	—	391.5	122.0	51.6	493.1
Prior known adult imprisonment (%)	n.a.	48.2	55.8	51.2	43.2
Remandees (%)	..	..	..	..	5.2
Aggregate sentence length (%)					
Less than 1 year	3.4	8.1	8.9	6.4	10.9
5 to less than 10 years	39.1	30.9	32.7	37.6	31.3
10 years and over	13.8	17.3	19.5	19.2	17.0
Median (years)	5.0	4.9	5.0	5.9	4.5
Sentence type (%)					
Fine default	—	—	—	—	—
Indeterminate	5.7	3.6	3.5	4.0	2.6

(a) The ABS began counting periodic detainees for the ACT in 1997. Prior to 1997 all information is for unsentenced prisoners in Belconnen Remand Centre only.

Source: 1990–1993: Australian Institute of Criminology, *Australian Prisoners*.  
1994–2000: Australian Bureau of Statistics, *Prisoners in Australia*.

(b) Information on ACT sentenced prisoners in NSW prisons is unavailable before 1995.

	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995
AUSTRALIA(a)						
Prison population characteristics						
Prisoners (no.)	14 305	15 021	15 559	15 866	16 944	17 428
Prisoners (rate per 100,000 adult population)	111.6	117.2	118.1	119.2	125.5	127.3
Mean age (years)	n.a.	30.3	30.6	31.1	31.4	31.7
Under 25 years (%)	33.2	33.0	32.2	30.4	29.6	28.8
Females (%)	5.4	4.8	4.9	4.8	4.9	4.8
Indigenous (%)	14.3	14.4	14.3	15.2	16.5	17.1
Indigenous (rate per 100,000 adult Indigenous population)	1 638.3	1 738.6	1 497.8	1 438.4	1 617.6	1 681.9
Prior known adult imprisonment (%)	57.5	56.9	58.2	56.5	60.5	56.3
Remandees (%)	13.4	13.2	12.0	12.0	11.5	11.5
Periodic detainees (%)	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Most serious offence: proportion of sentenced prisoners (%)						
Homicide	9.9	9.7	9.5	9.4	9.0	9.3
Assault	8.9	9.7	9.4	10.6	10.8	11.5
Sex offences	10.2	10.4	11.4	12.5	13.2	13.5
Robbery	10.9	10.9	11.5	12.5	13.1	12.5
Break and enter	15.6	15.4	15.2	14.2	13.4	13.2
Fraud and misappropriation	4.3	3.9	3.6	4.5	4.7	4.5
Other theft	9.4	9.6	8.8	7.2	6.8	6.7
Government security/justice procedures	6.2	6.3	6.4	5.3	6.4	6.1
Drug offences	9.1	8.8	9.3	10.7	11.5	11.1
Aggregate sentence length (%)						
Less than 1 year	21.7	21.9	21.0	20.0	18.7	18.6
5 to less than 10 years	19.1	17.1	17.4	18.4	19.1	20.9
10 years and over	8.9	8.2	8.4	9.0	9.7	10.1
Median (years)	n.a.	3.0	2.5	2.7	3.0	3.0
Sentence type (%)						
Fine default	1.2	1.7	2.3	2.2	1.6	1.7
Indeterminate	6.4	5.6	5.3	5.0	4.5	4.6

(a) Information on ACT periodic detainees is unavailable before 1997. Therefore, prior to 1997 all information in this table for Australia excludes ACT periodic detainees.

Source: 1990–1993: Australian Institute of Criminology, *Australian Prisoners*.  
1994–2000: Australian Bureau of Statistics, *Prisoners in Australia*.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
AUSTRALIA(a)					
Prison population characteristics					
Prisoners (no.)	18 193	19 128	19 906	21 538	21 714
Prisoners (rate per 100,000 adult population)	130.9	137.0	139.2	145.2	147.7
Mean age (years)	31.8	31.9	32.5	32.7	32.9
Under 25 years (%)	28.6	28.4	27.5	26.6	26.1
Females (%)	5.3	5.7	5.7	6.3	6.4
Indigenous (%)	18.0	18.7	18.8	20.0	18.9
Indigenous (rate per 100,000 adult Indigenous population)	1 576.2	1 625.0	1 663.4	1 864.4	1 727.4
Prior known adult imprisonment (%)	57.4	57.9	62.1	57.9	56.4
Remandees (%)	12.7	13.4	14.0	14.9	17.4
Periodic detainees (%)	n.a.	8.3	6.9	5.4	5.7
Most serious offence: proportion of sentenced prisoners (%)					
Homicide	9.3	9.3	9.2	9.1	9.7
Assault	12.0	12.1	12.0	12.1	10.9
Sex offences	13.6	13.1	13.3	12.2	12.3
Robbery	12.7	12.8	12.9	12.7	13.7
Break and enter	13.3	13.8	13.4	13.0	11.8
Fraud and misappropriation	4.3	4.6	4.0	3.9	3.5
Other theft	6.7	6.8	6.2	5.8	6.2
Government security/justice procedures	5.9	6.1	8.0	9.6	8.6
Drug offences	10.3	9.8	12.1	9.1	9.9
Aggregate sentence length (%)					
Less than 1 year	18.8	19.3	19.8	21.3	18.3
5 to less than 10 years	21.1	20.4	21.0	20.6	21.8
10 years and over	10.4	10.4	11.1	11.5	11.9
Median (years)	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.3
Sentence type (%)					
Fine default	1.9	1.1	1.4	2.2	0.4
Indeterminate	4.0	4.0	4.0	3.8	3.9

(a) Information on ACT periodic detainees is unavailable before 1997. Therefore, prior to 1997 all information in this table for Australia excludes ACT periodic detainees.

Source: 1990–1993: Australian Institute of Criminology, *Australian Prisoners*.  
1994–2000: Australian Bureau of Statistics, *Prisoners in Australia*.

# EXPLANATORY NOTES

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## INTRODUCTION

**1** This publication presents information on all prisoners who were in custody on 30 June 2000. The statistics are derived from information collected by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) from administrative records held by corrective services agencies in each State and Territory. A range of information is presented on the demographic and legal characteristics of prisoners such as age, sex, legal status and the nature of the offence for which the person has been charged or convicted. The publication also provides details of the type and length of sentences being served.

**2** In March 1995 the Corrective Services Ministers' Council resolved that the responsibility for the collection and dissemination of corrective services statistics should be transferred from the Australian Institute of Criminology (AIC) to the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS). The AIC ceased publishing the *Australian Prisoners* series after June 1993. As part of the transfer of responsibilities, the ABS has undertaken the publication of all national corrective services statistics from June 1994 onwards.

**3** The ABS has developed national standards for correctional statistics to ensure the comparability of data between States and Territories. There is different legislation and/or different administrative recording practices in the States and Territories, and while efforts have been made to attain maximum comparability between States and Territories, some problems with jurisdictional comparability remain. Further detail on these differences is provided in the Explanatory notes paragraphs 25–34.

## REFERENCE DATE

**4** The 2000 National Prisoner Census is a census of all persons in prison custody as at midnight 30 June 2000.

## SCOPE

**5** This collection covers all gazetted adult prisons in Australia, operated or administered by State or Territory correctional agencies, including those operated by private service providers.

Included in the collection are:

- prisoners temporarily absent from a gazetted adult prison;
- prisoners serving part-time custody in a gazetted adult prison, that is, periodic detainees in New South Wales and the Australian Capital Territory;
- prisoners on work release from a gazetted adult prison;
- prisoners held in gazetted police prisons; and
- persons held in police lockups (in NSW and NT) who are the responsibility of the corrective services agency for that State/Territory.

Excluded from the collection are:

- persons on Home Detention;
- persons for whom custodial authority has been transferred to another agency; such as a community correctional agency or a psychiatric facility;
- persons in a juvenile detention institution; and
- persons in immigration custody.

**6** In all States and Territories except Victoria, Queensland and Tasmania, persons remanded or sentenced to adult custody are aged 18 years and over. Persons under 18 years are treated as juveniles in most Australian courts and are not remanded or sentenced to custody in adult prisons, other than in exceptional circumstances. However, in Victoria, Queensland and Tasmania 'adult' refers to persons aged 17 years and over.

## EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

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### SCOPE *continued*

**7** In addition to the general rules of inclusion and exclusion for the scope of the National Prisoner Census, the following State and Territory differences should be noted:

- In Tasmania, persons aged 18 years or younger and sentenced to a term of imprisonment may be held in a juvenile detention centre. These offenders are included in this collection.
- Persons sentenced to imprisonment and held in Work Outreach Camps or in Community Corrections Centres in Queensland are excluded from this collection.

### JURISDICTION OF CUSTODY

**8** Persons included in the National Prisoner Census were counted in the State or Territory in which they were held in custody regardless of which State or Territory imposed the sentence being served.

**9** Persons sentenced to full-time imprisonment in the Australian Capital Territory are held in New South Wales prisons as the Australian Capital Territory does not have the facility to hold persons sentenced to full-time imprisonment. Unsented persons from the Australian Capital Territory may also be held in New South Wales prisons. Statistics relating to Australian Capital Territory prisoners are shown as a separate column but are also included in the New South Wales figures. To avoid double counting these prisoners, the 'ACT in NSW' figures are NOT included in the Australia totals.

### DATA SOURCE

**10** Statistics in this publication are derived from information on each prisoner collected by corrective services agencies within each State and Territory.

### RATES

**11** Imprisonment rates enable comparison of prisoner populations across States and Territories. Prisoner rates are expressed per 100,000 adult population, which is in accord with international, State and Territory practice.

**12** For the purpose of this publication the adult population figures used in the calculation of rates are for persons aged 17 years and over. While for some States and Territories different ages apply for persons sentenced to adult custody (see Explanatory note, paragraph 6), the use of a single denominator is unlikely to have a major impact on the figures.

**13** All estimates and projections for the Australian Capital Territory exclude Jervis Bay Territory. All estimates and projections for Australia exclude the external territories of Christmas Island and the Cocos (Keeling) Islands.

**14** Rates for the general adult population are calculated using the preliminary June 2000 Estimated Resident Population figures (refer Appendix 2 and *Australian Demographic Statistics, June Quarter 2000* (Cat. no. 3101.0)) which use the results of the 1996 Census of Population and Housing as a benchmark.

## EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

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### RATES *continued*

**15** Rates for the Indigenous adult population in this publication are based on revised projections for 30 June 2000 (refer Appendix 3 and *Experimental Projections of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Population 30 June 1996 to 30 June 2006* (Cat. no. 3231.0)). These projections are in turn based on the results of the 1996 Census of Population and Housing.

Two series of these projections have been published. The lower of the two series was used in calculating rates for the Indigenous adult population in this publication. The so-called 'lower series' assumes no change in propensity for people to identify themselves as Indigenous since the 1996 Population Census.

### LEGAL STATUS

**16** The legal status of an offender is determined by the warrant(s) or court order(s) which provide the legal basis for the detention in custody of the offender. The classification is as follows:

#### Sentenced

- No appeal current
- Awaiting appeal
- Unfit to plead, not guilty on grounds of insanity, preventative detention

#### Unsentenced

- Unconvicted awaiting court hearing or trial
- Awaiting sentence
- Awaiting deportation

Some offenders may have more than one type of warrant issued against them; therefore it is possible for an offender to have dual status (e.g. under sentence for some offences and awaiting appeal results for others, or under sentence and awaiting deportation). The counting rules for determining the legal status of an offender at the time of the National Prisoner Census are as follows:

- If the prisoner has been sentenced for any offence then this takes precedence over any other offence(s) for which the prisoner is unsentenced.
- If the sentenced prisoner has appealed against all of his/her sentences then that prisoner is counted as under sentence awaiting determination of appeal. If any sentence is uncontested then this takes precedence over any offence(s) for which appeals are in progress.
- If the prisoner is convicted but as yet unsentenced for any offence then this takes precedence over any other offence(s) for which the prisoner may be on remand.
- A prisoner is counted as awaiting deportation if the prisoner is held in custody for this alone. If the prisoner is sentenced or held on remand for any other offences and is also awaiting deportation, then the other offences take precedence over the deportation warrant.



### COURT OF SENTENCE/REMAND

**17** The court of sentence/remand refers to whether the offender was sentenced or remanded to custody by the Supreme Court, the District or County Court or the Lower Courts such as the Magistrates' or Childrens Courts. The rules adopted for coding the level of court are:

- Where an episode comprises orders/sentences of various levels of court, the level of court relating to the most serious offence (MSO) is recorded.
- An appeal court is recorded when it has altered the length of sentence of the MSO/charge.
- For prisoners not under sentence, the level of court which has issued the most recent remand in custody warrant is recorded.
- Prisoners held under a Department of Immigration order or under the authority of the Parole Board are recorded as 'other'.

### EPISODE

**18** For the purpose of this collection, an episode is defined as the period from an offender's date of reception into custody of a corrective services agency for a particular offence(s)/ charge(s) to the time when all warrants holding the person in custody, on remand or under sentence, expire and the person is discharged from custody.

### DATE OF RECEPTION

**19** This is defined as the date the prisoner was originally received into a gazetted prison in a State or Territory for the current episode, regardless of legal status changes since that date and regardless of any authorised or unauthorised temporary leave of absence. Counting rules for persons returning to custody from an escape attempt or parole are as follows:

- If an offender escapes from custody and is recaptured and returned to custody, the date of reception is the date the person originally entered into custody prior to the escape.
- If parole is revoked resulting in an offender returning to custody, the date of reception is the date the person originally entered into custody, prior to being released on parole.

**20** Since the 1996 National Prisoner Census, Victorian and Northern Territory corrective service agencies have supplied the reception date for prisoners according to the following definition: the reception date is the latest date at which the prisoner is received into prison, whether at the commencement of the current episode or after returning to prison after having breached parole or having been captured following escape.

SENTENCING

**21** Courts can set a term of imprisonment as either a fixed sentence — one that specifies a single term of custody without parole — or a 'parole' sentence comprising a maximum term and a minimum term. Alternatively, courts may not set a term of imprisonment, but rather, may apply an indeterminate sentence of imprisonment such as life.

**22** The minimum term is that period that must be served before the prisoner is eligible for release from custody to parole, and the difference between the maximum and minimum term is the period that will be served on parole if the prisoner is released at his or her earliest eligibility date. While parole is generally granted at the earliest eligibility date, prisoners may be denied parole for some or all of the period up to the expiry of their maximum term. For both fixed and maximum-minimum sentences, the period actually served in custody may be less than the stated time to serve where administrative mechanisms such as sentence remissions are applied.

**23** The total of all fixed term sentences and/or maximum terms for parole sentences is referred to as the 'aggregate' sentence. The 'expected time to serve' refers to 'fixed' sentences minus any remissions allowed or the minimum term of parole sentences minus any remissions allowed.

Aggregate sentence

**24** The aggregate sentence is the longest period that the offender may be detained under sentence in the current episode. Charges pending which are likely to extend the current episode are ignored. In States and Territories where a new episode is counted when a person returns to prison from parole, the unexpired portion of the prior episode is usually incorporated into the aggregate sentence for the new episode.

Expected time to serve

**25** The expected time to serve is the period of imprisonment which a convicted prisoner is expected to serve and in most cases refers to the time elapsed between the date of reception for this episode (see Explanatory notes, paragraphs 19–20) and the earliest date of release.

**26** The time a prisoner is expected to serve in custody depends upon the sentence(s) originally handed down, the system of remissions and the forms of parole available in the various States and Territories and whether any time was spent in custody prior to reception, for example, time on remand or in police custody. The rules governing date of release are complex and differ between the States and Territories. The calculation of the earliest date of release in each State and Territory is described in the Explanatory notes, paragraphs 27–34.

### Expected time to serve *continued*

**27** In New South Wales, the *Sentencing Act 1989* changed the way in which dates of release are calculated compared with previous years. The current sentencing rules are as follows:

- the court will first fix a minimum term that the prisoner must serve in prison; the expiry date of the minimum term will therefore be the earliest date of release;
- the court will then fix an additional term during which the prisoner may be released on parole;
- where no additional term is set, the minimum term is known as a fixed term of imprisonment;
- sentences of six months or less must be fixed terms of imprisonment; and
- those prisoners with sentences of three years or less will be released on parole as soon as they become eligible; those with sentences greater than three years may be released on parole by the Offenders Review Board any time after the minimum term of imprisonment expires.

**28** In Victoria, the calculation is based on the minimum sentence, if one has been imposed. If no minimum sentence has been imposed, the earliest date of release is based on the fixed-term sentence. Time spent in detention prior to the commencement of the sentence counts toward the time expected to be served under sentence. Sentencing rules are:

- If a sentence of life, governor's pleasure or a term of 24 months or more is imposed, the court must fix a period during which the offender is not eligible to be released on parole, unless it considers that the nature of the offence or the past history of the offender make the fixing of such a period inappropriate.
- If a sentence of less than 24 months but not less than 12 months is imposed, the court may set a non-parole period.
- The non-parole period must be at least six months less than the term of imprisonment and must be in respect of the aggregate sentence that the offender is liable to serve under all the sentences imposed.

**29** In Queensland, with the exception of sentences of indefinite length such as life, calculations are based on the date an offender was eligible for parole. Release dates are calculated as follows:

- Unless otherwise specified by the court, the parole eligibility date is at half the aggregate sentence length.
- Where the parole date has already passed and parole was denied, the date eligible for remission (two-thirds aggregate sentence) is used to calculate a release date. If this date has passed, the full-term expiry date is used to determine a release date.
- Prisoners given a life sentence must serve 13 years in prison before being eligible for release on parole.

### Expected time to serve *continued*

- 30** In Western Australia,
- Where no minimum sentence is specified, the calculation is based on the total effective sentence minus one-third — known as the two-thirds time date or effective date of release (EDR) — less any special time off granted by the executive director at census date.
  - Where a parole term has been specified the calculation is based on the minimum sentence less remission of 10% of minimum sentence (i.e. the Earliest Eligibility Date (EED) as presently calculated). If this date has already passed and parole was denied, the next review date or the EDR, whichever comes first, is used.
  - In both cases above, should the parole board set a release date or review date prior to the EDR or EED and such date has not already passed, that date is used.

**31** In South Australia, the Truth in Sentencing legislation implemented on 1 August 1994 changed the way in which release dates are calculated in comparison to previous years. The major changes to the sentencing legislation affected by the Truth in Sentencing were the abolition of remissions, the requirement for prisoners with an aggregate sentence of five years or more to formally apply to the Parole Board for release on parole, the ability of the Parole Board to release prisoners with an aggregate sentence of five years or more at its discretion and directions for the judiciary to take the abolition of remissions into account when ordering sentences. Prisoners with a non-parole period (NPP) and an aggregate sentence of less than five years continue to be paroled automatically. Release dates for prisoners are now calculated as follows:

- Where a prisoner has not had a NPP set, the EDR is the aggregate sentence end date.
- Where a prisoner has a NPP, and an aggregate sentence of less than five years, the EDR is the end date of the NPP.
- Where a prisoner has a NPP, and an aggregate sentence of five years or more, the EDR is the earliest date the prisoner can be released by the Parole Board. If this date has expired and no further release date has been set by the Parole Board, the EDR becomes the aggregate sentence end date, which in the case of life or other indeterminate sentences would be unknown.

**32** In Tasmania the calculation is based on the totality of the sentence liable to be served minus one-third but shall not operate so as to reduce the sentence below three months.

**33** In the Northern Territory sentence remissions for new prisoners were abolished on 1 July 1996. Expected time to serve is calculated as follows:

- Prisoners whose sentences commenced prior to 1 July 1996 will be discharged with one third remissions or at the expiry of the non parole period, as approved by the NT Parole Board. If the parole date has elapsed, the date eligible for remission is used (if applicable) else the full-term expiry date is used.
- Prisoners sentenced after 1 July 1996 have an expected time to serve based on their non parole period, a fixed release date or an earliest release date based on a suspension of sentence after a set period of time.
- Life sentenced prisoners do not have an earliest expected release date.

**34** Prisoners sentenced in the Australian Capital Territory are held in New South Wales prisons and are subject to New South Wales calculations for date of release.

### Mean/median sentence length

**35** Prior to 1994, indeterminate sentences were assigned an arbitrary number of years for the purpose of including such sentences in the calculation of mean and median sentence lengths. Life sentences were assumed to have an aggregate sentence length of over 10 years and an average term of 13 years and were included in the calculation of mean and median sentence lengths for both aggregate and expected time to serve. "Governor's/Queen's pleasure" and 'forensic patients' were assumed to average five years for those whose MSO involved violence and three years for all others and were only included in the calculation of mean and median expected time to serve.

**36** For the 1994 and subsequent publications, it was decided not to assign values to indeterminate or part-time sentences. Therefore, prisoners with indeterminate and periodic detention sentences are excluded from the calculation of the mean and median aggregate and expected time to serve.

### MOST SERIOUS OFFENCE/CHARGE

**37** For sentenced prisoners, the most serious offence (MSO) is the offence for which the prisoner has received the longest sentence in the 'current episode' for a single count of the offence, regardless of the possible result of any appeals, and regardless of whether the sentence for that offence has actually expired at census date. Where sentences are equal, or the longest sentence cannot be determined, the MSO is the offence with the lowest Australian National Classification of Offences (ANCO) code (see Appendix 1 for ANCO categories). There are some State and Territory variations:

- South Australia bases the MSO for prisoners who have breached parole and returned to prison on the original episode plus any new offence(s) committed while on parole.
- In Tasmania, the MSO is the offence for which the prisoner has received the longest aggregate sentence in the 'current episode' for all counts of that offence.

**38** For unsentenced prisoners, whether convicted or not, the most serious charge (MSC) is the charge which carries the longest statutory maximum penalty. Where penalties are equal, the MSC is the charge with the lowest ANCO code.

- In New South Wales and the Australian Capital Territory, if a prisoner is convicted but as yet unsentenced for at least one charge, the MSC is selected from those offences for which convictions have been recorded.
- In Western Australia, the MSO/MSC is selected from all offences/charges recorded during the whole of the 'current episode'.

### AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL CLASSIFICATION OF OFFENCES

**39** The offence categories used for national corrective statistics are based on the *Australian National Classification of Offences (ANCO), 1985* (Cat. no. 1234.0). This classification was designed to provide a national framework for classifying offences for statistical purposes. A table indicating the way ANCO categories are aggregated for the purposes of this publication is in Appendix 1. The ABS has undertaken a review of the classification which has resulted in the release of a revised and updated classification, *Australian Standard Offence Classification (ASOC), 1997* (Cat no. 1234.0). However, implementation of ASOC by corrective services agencies has not yet progressed to the point at which prisoner records can be reported according to ASOC. The ABS intends to implement ASOC for the *Prisoners in Australia, 2001* publication.

### FEDERAL OFFENCES

**40** These are offences against Commonwealth legislation. They are most commonly offences related to prohibited importations such as illegal drugs, offences involving fraud or forgery against the Commonwealth, and offences against Commonwealth property or involving injury to Commonwealth officers. Persons imprisoned for such offences are generally held in the State or Territory of the sentencing court.

### DATA COMPARABILITY

**41** National corrections statistics are compiled in order to maximise comparability across State and Territories. Although differences have been overcome through the introduction of national standards, some legislative, interpretive and processing differences remain.

### DATA QUALITY

**42** To ensure that the statistics are as reliable as possible the ABS has employed a number of measures. For example, a range of edit checks identify any erroneous data and these are queried and resolved by the ABS in consultation with the relevant State and Territory representative.

### RELATED PUBLICATIONS

#### ABS publications

**43** ABS publications which may be of interest include:

*Australian Standard Offence Classification* (Cat. no. 1234.0)—irregular

*Corrective Services, Australia* (Cat. no. 4512.0)—issued quarterly

*Crime and Safety, Australia* (Cat. no. 4509.0)—irregular

*Higher Criminal Courts, Australia* (Cat. no. 4513.0)—issued annually

*Recorded Crime, Australia* (Cat. no. 4510.0)—issued annually

**44** Current publications produced by the ABS are listed in the *Catalogue of Publications and Products* (Cat. no. 1101.0) and the list is available on the ABS internet site <http://www.abs.gov.au>. The ABS also issues, on Tuesdays and Fridays, a *Release Advice* (Cat. no. 1105.0) which lists publications to be released in the next few days. The *Catalogue* and *Release Advice* are available from any ABS office. The National Centre for Crime and Justice Statistics releases a biannual newsletter that is published on the ABS internet site. The Centre can be contacted by email through [crime.justice@abs.gov.au](mailto:crime.justice@abs.gov.au).

## GLOSSARY

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<b>Aggregate sentence</b>	The longest period that the offender may be detained under sentence in the current episode.
<b>Country of birth</b>	This is determined from prisoner interviews. Information in this report on country of birth is classified according to the <i>Standard Australian Classification of Countries (SACC)</i> (Cat. no. 1269.0). Corrective services agencies do not yet use SACC in their information systems, so information supplied by these agencies has been translated from data coded to local country of birth classifications.
<b>Expected time to serve</b>	The period of imprisonment which a convicted prisoner is expected to serve. In most cases this refers to the time elapsed between the date of reception for this episode and the earliest date of release.
<b>Federal prisoners</b>	Persons charged and sentenced under a Commonwealth statute.
<b>Government security/justice procedures offences</b>	Those offences which are regarded generally as being against the independence, security and good order of the State. These include: Treason; Disclosure of official secrets; Abuse of public office; Contempt of court; Perjury; and Resisting arrest.
<b>Indigenous prisoners</b>	In all States and Territories persons are asked whether they are Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islanders during entry into custody. It is uncommon for corrective services agencies to collect Indigenous status information from sources other than the person's own identification.
<b>Jurisdiction</b>	The State or Territory in which a prisoner is held in custody, regardless of which State or Territory has imposed the sentence being served.
<b>Level of court</b>	A separate tier of the court system, each of which is established under legislation and has certain prescribed powers. Court levels are distinguished from one another on the basis of the extent of their legal powers.
<b>Licence/registration offences</b>	The range of driving and traffic offences which are not classifiable to Driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs or Dangerous, reckless or negligent driving. The offences included are: Driving without a licence; Exceeding the speed limit; Driving an unregistered vehicle; and Roadworthiness offences.
<b>Most serious charge</b>	For unsentenced prisoners, whether convicted or not, the most serious charge is the charge which carries the longest statutory maximum penalty.
<b>Most serious offence</b>	For sentenced prisoners, the most serious offence is the offence for which the prisoner has received the longest sentence in the current episode for a single count of the offence.

<b>Offences in custody</b>	Offences which have been committed within a prison including: Escape or attempting to escape; Assault of a prison officer; Assault of other prisoner; and Use or possession of unauthorised drugs.
<b>Other offences</b>	Those offences which are charged under regulatory or administrative legislation, including: Company legislation; Banking, financial institutions and insurance legislation; Taxation legislation; Postal and telecommunications legislation; and other Federal, State and Territory legislation.
<b>Other offences against good order</b>	This group of offences includes: Child pornography; Breaches of censorship and liquor licensing laws; Betting and gambling; Trespassing and vagrancy; Consorting; Prostitution; Drunkenness; and Disturbing the peace.
<b>Other offences against the person</b>	This group of offences includes those offences against the person which are not classifiable to Homicide, Assault or Sexual assault. The group includes: Kidnapping and abduction; Ill-treatment of children; Hijacking; and Defamation and libel.
<b>Other theft</b>	This covers four groups of offences: Stealing from the person (including bag snatching and pick-pocketing); Stock theft; Shopstealing (Shoplifting); and Other theft (including fare evasion and refusal to pay for a service).
<b>Other traffic offences</b>	Includes parking offences and those offences which contravene control of roads legislation.
<b>Periodic detainees</b>	Sentenced prisoners who are required to be held in custody for two consecutive days in a one-week period.
<b>Prior imprisonment</b>	Persons known to have been imprisoned under sentence in a gazetted prison. Prior sentence of periodic detention is included as prior imprisonment.
<b>Remand prisoners (remandees)</b>	Remand prisoners are those persons who have been placed in custody while awaiting the outcome of their court hearing. They may be unconvicted (remanded in custody for trial), convicted but awaiting sentence (remanded in custody for sentence) or awaiting deportation. Some sentenced prisoners also have active remand warrants against them. In such cases, these prisoners are counted as sentenced.
<b>Sentenced prisoners</b>	Sentenced prisoners are those persons who have received a term of imprisonment from a court. This includes offenders who have been given an indeterminate sentence or custodial order, for example, persons detained under the "Governor's/Queen's Pleasure" and 'Forensic Patients', or those who have received a life sentence. Also included are persons sentenced to part-time imprisonment, that is, periodic detainees in New South Wales and the Australian Capital Territory.



**Type of sentence** The classification of sentence types used in this report is as follows:

*Indeterminate — life.* Persons sentenced to life imprisonment. This does not necessarily mean, however, that the person will be held in custody for the term of their natural life. In some States or Territories a minimum time to serve in custody is specified by the court, while in others this decision is made by an administrative body such as a Parole Board.

*Indeterminate — other.* Persons declared as habitual criminals, persons who are either permanently or temporarily deemed not responsible for their actions because of a mental disorder or intellectual disability and prisoners who are sentenced to imprisonment but have not had a release date set. That is, the prisoner may be released at any time, at the discretion of the administrative body within each jurisdiction responsible for making that decision.

*Maximum-minimum (or max-min).* Sentences where a person may be eligible to be released on parole after serving a minimum term in custody, and who must be released once a maximum term has been served.

*Fixed term.* Sentences where there is no minimum term or non-parole period set. The prisoner is required to serve the whole sentence, less any remission allowed, in custody and when released from custody is not subject to any further correctional intervention.

The situation in Tasmania differs in that while no minimum term or non-parole period is set by the court, it is understood that the prisoner will usually be released on parole at a time determined by the Parole Board.

*Periodic detention.* A sentencing option which at the time of the 2000 National Prisoner Census was available only to New South Wales and Australian Capital Territory courts. Persons given periodic detention are in custody for two consecutive days in a week (periodic detainee week), and remain at liberty during the rest of the week.

*Fine default only.* Persons who are serving a sentence for non-payment of a fine and are subject to no other sentence type at the time. Offenders who are serving fine default sentences while on remand are counted as sentenced (fine default) prisoners. Offenders who are serving fine default sentences concurrently with other sentences of imprisonment are counted under the other sentence type and not as fine default only prisoners.

**Unsentenced prisoners** A legal status indicating that a person is confined to custody on remand while awaiting the outcome of their trial.

## APPENDIX 1 Classifications—ANCO and Prison Census Offence Categories

### ANCO Categories

- 11 Homicide
  - 111 Murder
  - 112 Attempted murder
  - 113 Conspiracy to murder
  - 114 Manslaughter
  - 115 Driving causing death
  - 119 Homicide, unspecified
- 12 Assault (excluding sexual assault)
- 13 Sexual assaults and offences
- 19 Other offences against persons
- 21 Robbery
- 22 Blackmail and extortion
- 31 Breaking and entering, burglary etc.
- 32 Fraud and misappropriation
- 33 Handling stolen goods
- 35 Theft/illegal use of motor vehicle
- 39 Other theft
- 41 Property damage
- 42 Environmental offences
- 51 Offences against government security etc.
- 52–54 Offences against justice procedures
- 55 Unlawful possession of weapons
- 57–59 Other offences against good order
- 61 Possession and/or use of drugs
- 64 Importing and exporting drugs
- 65 Dealing and trafficking in drugs
- 66 Manufacture and growing drugs
- 69 Other drug offences
- 71 Driving under influence of alcohol/drugs
- 72 Dangerous, reckless or negligent driving
- 73–75 Driving licence offences
- 79 Other motor vehicle, traffic and related offences
- 81 Company legislation
- 82 Banking, financial institution and insurance
- 83–88 Other federal, State and Territory legislation
- 89 Offences-in-custody

### Prison Census Categories

- Homicide
  - Murder
  - Other homicide
  - Other homicide
  - Other homicide
  - Other homicide
  - Other homicide
- Assault
- Sex offences
- Other offences against the person
- Robbery
- Extortion
- Break and enter
- Fraud and misappropriation
- Receiving
- Other theft
- Other theft
- Property damage/environmental offences
- Property damage/environmental offences
- Government security/justice procedures offences
- Government security/justice procedures offences
- Unlawful possession of weapons
- Other offences against good order
- Possession/use drugs
- Deal/traffic drugs
- Deal/traffic drugs
- Manufacture/grow drugs
- Manufacture/grow drugs
- Driving offences
- Driving offences
- Licence/registration offences
- Other traffic offences
- Other offences
- Other offences
- Other offences
- Offences in custody

## APPENDIX 2 ESTIMATED POPULATION(a)

Age (years)	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
MALES									
0–16	764 804	551 425	439 775	170 513	232 977	57 767	29 417	37 221	2 283 899
17	45 834	33 415	27 543	10 480	14 361	3 638	1 501	2 570	139 342
18	45 914	33 619	27 200	10 389	14 240	3 495	1 544	2 768	139 169
19	46 173	34 303	26 748	10 124	14 037	3 302	1 504	2 794	138 985
20–24	227 690	176 790	129 519	50 649	72 181	15 056	8 958	14 322	695 165
25–29	249 134	187 923	137 885	53 582	75 269	14 892	10 454	13 063	742 202
30–34	238 186	180 907	129 860	53 507	71 256	15 142	9 524	11 828	710 210
35–39	254 311	184 884	137 060	57 030	75 272	17 371	9 016	12 037	746 981
40–44	243 461	177 393	133 408	56 182	73 698	17 706	7 964	11 643	721 455
45–49	224 517	163 166	126 040	52 729	68 838	16 683	7 030	11 409	670 412
50–54	211 944	153 237	119 686	50 261	63 198	15 760	6 157	11 089	631 332
55–59	165 310	118 919	92 659	38 928	46 943	12 490	4 227	7 375	486 851
60–64	134 635	97 629	72 632	31 930	36 755	10 307	2 523	5 253	391 664
65 & over	362 672	265 274	183 729	94 291	89 611	27 920	3 529	11 410	1 038 436
<i>Total adult population</i>	<i>2 449 781</i>	<i>1 807 459</i>	<i>1 343 969</i>	<i>570 082</i>	<i>715 659</i>	<i>173 762</i>	<i>73 931</i>	<i>117 561</i>	<i>7 252 204</i>
<b>Total population</b>	<b>3 214 585</b>	<b>2 358 884</b>	<b>1 783 744</b>	<b>740 595</b>	<b>948 636</b>	<b>231 529</b>	<b>103 348</b>	<b>154 782</b>	<b>9 536 103</b>
FEMALES									
0–16	728 158	523 801	417 786	162 247	220 337	55 214	27 423	35 864	2 170 830
17	43 719	31 841	26 208	9 995	13 476	3 431	1 398	2 177	132 245
18	43 449	32 444	25 421	9 867	13 385	3 386	1 419	2 409	131 780
19	43 579	33 176	25 331	9 944	13 442	3 237	1 352	2 526	132 587
20–24	219 675	169 084	125 252	47 967	68 456	14 481	7 799	13 098	665 812
25–29	249 536	185 659	136 601	51 285	71 540	15 618	9 311	13 083	732 633
30–34	238 375	183 803	130 471	52 484	69 704	16 051	8 883	12 192	711 963
35–39	251 920	186 868	139 899	57 402	74 309	18 063	8 106	12 420	748 987
40–44	242 167	179 784	134 061	57 104	72 815	18 109	7 074	12 411	723 525
45–49	223 329	167 095	124 620	53 879	67 889	16 921	6 171	12 054	671 958
50–54	204 497	153 231	114 893	50 427	59 101	15 570	4 964	10 849	613 532
55–59	160 372	117 426	88 149	38 990	43 881	12 242	3 121	7 324	471 505
60–64	133 959	99 229	69 251	33 027	35 669	10 496	1 848	5 184	388 663
65 & over	466 135	343 531	224 670	122 421	111 220	36 028	3 246	14 466	1 321 717
<i>Total adult population</i>	<i>2 520 712</i>	<i>1 883 171</i>	<i>1 364 827</i>	<i>594 792</i>	<i>714 887</i>	<i>183 633</i>	<i>64 692</i>	<i>120 193</i>	<i>7 446 907</i>
<b>Total population</b>	<b>3 248 870</b>	<b>2 406 972</b>	<b>1 782 613</b>	<b>757 039</b>	<b>935 224</b>	<b>238 847</b>	<b>92 115</b>	<b>156 057</b>	<b>9 617 737</b>
PERSONS									
0–16	1 492 962	1 075 226	857 561	332 760	453 314	112 981	56 840	73 085	4 454 729
17	89 553	65 256	53 751	20 475	27 837	7 069	2 899	4 747	271 587
18	89 363	66 063	52 621	20 256	27 625	6 881	2 963	5 177	270 949
19	89 752	67 479	52 079	20 068	27 479	6 539	2 856	5 320	271 572
20–24	447 365	345 874	254 771	98 616	140 637	29 537	16 757	27 420	1 360 977
25–29	498 670	373 582	274 486	104 867	146 809	30 510	19 765	26 146	1 474 835
30–34	476 561	364 710	260 331	105 991	140 960	31 193	18 407	24 020	1 422 173
35–39	506 231	371 752	276 959	114 432	149 581	35 434	17 122	24 457	1 495 968
40–44	485 628	357 177	267 469	113 286	146 513	35 815	15 038	24 054	1 444 980
45–49	447 846	330 261	250 660	106 608	136 727	33 604	13 201	23 463	1 342 370
50–54	416 441	306 468	234 579	100 688	122 299	31 330	11 121	21 938	1 244 864
55–59	325 682	236 345	180 808	77 918	90 824	24 732	7 348	14 699	958 356
60–64	268 594	196 858	141 883	64 957	72 424	20 803	4 371	10 437	780 327
65 & over	828 807	608 805	408 399	216 712	200 831	63 948	6 775	25 876	2 360 153
<i>Total adult population</i>	<i>4 970 493</i>	<i>3 690 630</i>	<i>2 708 796</i>	<i>1 164 874</i>	<i>1 430 546</i>	<i>357 395</i>	<i>138 623</i>	<i>237 754</i>	<i>14 699 111</i>
<b>Total population</b>	<b>6 463 455</b>	<b>4 765 856</b>	<b>3 566 357</b>	<b>1 497 634</b>	<b>1 883 860</b>	<b>470 376</b>	<b>195 463</b>	<b>310 839</b>	<b>19 153 840</b>

(a) These are preliminary figures from *Australian Demographic Statistics*, June quarter 2000 (Cat. no. 3101.0)

## APPENDIX 3 ESTIMATED INDIGENOUS POPULATION(a)

Age (years)	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
MALES									
0–16	26 794	5 270	26 014	5 209	13 200	3 616	11 837	744	92 684
17	1 379	263	1 304	255	650	210	595	45	4 701
18	1 299	239	1 229	239	628	190	577	33	4 434
19	1 176	222	1 131	222	590	188	572	37	4 138
20–24	4 969	1 024	5 093	957	2 693	715	2 701	169	18 321
25–29	4 693	1 055	4 775	985	2 575	556	2 697	190	17 526
30–34	3 879	925	4 121	840	2 246	514	2 330	121	14 976
35–39	3 560	803	3 481	740	1 983	533	1 700	115	12 915
40–44	2 956	655	2 923	632	1 609	460	1 429	123	10 787
45–49	2 479	502	2 186	485	1 156	398	1 043	45	8 294
50–54	1 911	398	1 652	337	891	311	770	44	6 314
55–59	1 324	276	1 069	270	589	172	567	12	4 279
60–64	925	177	734	175	404	110	429	6	2 960
65 & over	1 269	287	1 245	245	687	158	590	13	4 494
<i>Total adult population</i>	31 819	6 826	30 943	6 382	16 701	4 515	16 000	953	114 139
<b>Total population</b>	<b>58 613</b>	<b>12 096</b>	<b>56 957</b>	<b>11 591</b>	<b>29 901</b>	<b>8 131</b>	<b>27 837</b>	<b>1 697</b>	<b>206 823</b>
FEMALES									
0–16	25 793	5 032	25 295	5 065	12 758	3 417	10 820	708	88 888
17	1 253	247	1 275	264	677	204	608	39	4 567
18	1 212	218	1 158	269	589	171	589	39	4 245
19	1 121	212	1 080	257	570	184	542	40	4 006
20–24	4 890	962	5 094	1 047	2 628	798	2 710	170	18 299
25–29	5 080	986	5 145	1 109	2 631	670	2 613	182	18 416
30–34	4 554	1 004	4 615	1 035	2 510	570	2 289	158	16 735
35–39	4 129	916	3 913	884	2 145	560	1 815	156	14 518
40–44	3 400	745	3 121	640	1 788	524	1 546	117	11 881
45–49	2 691	515	2 621	497	1 296	377	1 178	81	9 256
50–54	2 022	381	1 842	391	938	275	972	40	6 861
55–59	1 438	255	1 232	263	618	154	602	25	4 587
60–64	986	193	914	198	458	133	543	7	3 432
65 & over	1 713	433	1 657	347	934	205	816	21	6 126
<i>Total adult population</i>	34 489	7 067	33 667	7 201	17 782	4 825	16 823	1 075	122 929
<b>Total population</b>	<b>60 282</b>	<b>12 099</b>	<b>58 962</b>	<b>12 266</b>	<b>30 540</b>	<b>8 242</b>	<b>27 643</b>	<b>1 783</b>	<b>211 817</b>
PERSONS									
0–16	52 587	10 302	51 309	10 274	25 958	7 033	22 657	1 452	181 572
17	2 632	510	2 579	519	1 327	414	1 203	84	9 268
18	2 511	457	2 387	508	1 217	361	1 166	72	8 679
19	2 297	434	2 211	479	1 160	372	1 114	77	8 144
20–24	9 859	1 986	10 187	2 004	5 321	1 513	5 411	339	36 620
25–29	9 773	2 041	9 920	2 094	5 206	1 226	5 310	372	35 942
30–34	8 433	1 929	8 736	1 875	4 756	1 084	4 619	279	31 711
35–39	7 689	1 719	7 394	1 624	4 128	1 093	3 515	271	27 433
40–44	6 356	1 400	6 044	1 272	3 397	984	2 975	240	22 668
45–49	5 170	1 017	4 807	982	2 452	775	2 221	126	17 550
50–54	3 933	779	3 494	728	1 829	586	1 742	84	13 175
55–59	2 762	531	2 301	533	1 207	326	1 169	37	8 866
60–64	1 911	370	1 648	373	862	243	972	13	6 392
65 & over	2 982	720	2 902	592	1 621	363	1 406	34	10 620
<i>Total adult population</i>	66 308	13 893	64 610	13 583	34 483	9 340	32 823	2 028	237 068
<b>Total population</b>	<b>118 895</b>	<b>24 195</b>	<b>115 919</b>	<b>23 857</b>	<b>60 441</b>	<b>16 373</b>	<b>55 480</b>	<b>3 480</b>	<b>418 640</b>

(a) These figures are projections of the Indigenous population (low series) for June 2000 from *Experimental Projections of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Population* (Cat. no. 3231.0)







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