

Crime Statistics

Queensland

It is pleasing to be able to report that the statistics again record decreases in the reported rates of some of the offences which are of most concern to Queenslanders. For example, in the 2003-04 financial year, unlawful entry into premises, including dwellings and shops, has fallen by 8% over the previous year and the Unlawful Use of Motor Vehicles has decreased by some 14% over the same period. At the same time, police identified increased instances of Handling Stolen Goods (up by 14%), an offence often closely linked to the unlawful entry of premises.

There was a 6% increase in the total number of Offences Against the Person reported in the 2003-04 financial year. However, there was a decrease in Homicide (Murder), Other Homicides, Assaults and Robbery. There was an increase of 8% in reported Sexual Assaults, it should be noted sexual assaults are recorded on the date they are reported, and the figures can include a series of assaults by an offender over a number of years.

Selected Other Offences differ from Offences Against the Person and Property in that offences are generally detected by police rather than reported to police by members of the community. Thus, a change in the number of offences could be influenced by shifting levels of police activity in response to identified problems and issues in local communities. In 2003-04, increases were reported in the following offence categories: Drug offences (19%); Liquor offences (56%); Breach of Domestic Violence Protection Orders (17%); Good Order offences (8%) and Stock Related offences (373%). Decreases were reported for Prostitution offences (15%); Drink Driving (1%), Other Traffic Offences (1%) and Weapons Act offences (10%).



Efficient policing services are enhanced through a range of specialist functions.

Regions

For Far Northern Region, increases in Assaults (3%), Sexual Assaults (1%), Robbery (3%) and Other Offences Against the Person (94%) resulted in an overall 14% increase in total Offences Against the Person. Reductions in Unlawful Entry (1%), Fraud (20%), Other Theft (3%), Unlawful Use of Motor Vehicle (6%) and Other Property Damage (2%) were partially offset by increases in Arson (27%) and Handling Stolen Goods (17%). The result was a 4% decrease for Offences Against Property.

Offences Against the Person increased by 8% for Northern Region, including a 17% increase in Sexual Assaults and a 71% increase in Other Offences Against the Person. Decreases in Homicide (Murder) (57%) and Assaults (7%) did little to offset the overall increase. On the other hand, the Region experienced a 1% reduction in total Offences Against Property. Specifically, Unlawful Entry decreased by 7%, Other Property Damage decreased by 4% and Other Theft decreased by 2%.

Central Region experienced a 6% decrease in total Offences Against the Person largely due to a 22% decrease in Other Homicide, a 25% decrease in Sexual Assault and a 24% decrease in Robbery. The Region also experienced an 8% decrease in Offences Against Property. Decreases occurred in Unlawful Entry (8%), Arson (9%), Unlawful Use of Motor Vehicle (5%) and Fraud (38%).

For North Coast Region, increases in Homicide (Murder) (78%), Sexual Assault (15%), Robbery (13%) and Other Offences Against the Person (36%) contributed to an 8% increase in total Offences Against the Person. Reductions in Unlawful Entry (5%), Unlawful Use of Motor Vehicle (2%), Other Theft (4%) and Fraud (8%) resulted in an overall 3% decrease in total Offences Against Property.

Despite a sizeable reduction in Robbery (16%), Southern Region experienced a 5% increase in total Offences Against the Person. Increases in Sexual Assaults (10%) and Other Offences Against the Person (41%) contributed to this. A 16% decrease in Unlawful Entry and 10% decrease in Other Property Damage were predominantly responsible for an overall 1% decrease in total Offences Against Property.

Increases in Homicide (Murder) (75%), Sexual Offences (10%) and Other Offences Against the Person (29%) were partially offset by decreases in Other Homicide (9%), Assaults (3%) and Robbery (11%) in South Eastern Region. The result was an overall increase of 3% in total Offences Against the Person. Total Offences Against Property decreased by 10%, due to reductions in all categories other than an increase in Handling Stolen Goods (5%).

Metropolitan North Region experienced no change in the total reported number of Offences Against the Person. Decreases in Homicide (Murder) (45%), Other Homicide (43%), Assault (2%) and Robbery (6%) were offset by increases in Sexual Assault (16%) and Other Offences Against the Person (3%). There was a 6% decrease in total Offences Against Property. Of particular note were decreases in Unlawful Entry (13%), Unlawful Use of Motor Vehicles (21%) and Other Theft (10%).

Metropolitan South Region recorded increases in all person offence categories. The result was an overall increase of 16% in total Offences Against the Person. Of particular note was a 61% increase in Sexual Assault. On the other hand, total Offences Against Property decreased by 4% with decreases in Unlawful Entry (3%), Unlawful Use of Motor Vehicle (13%), Other Theft (8%) and Fraud (3%).

	Reported in 2003-04	Reported per 100,000 Population	Reported & Cleared in 2003-04	Cleared in 2003-04 Reported Previously	Percentage Cleared 2003-04	Percentage Change 2002-2003 to 2003-04 (Reported)
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Personal Safety

Homicide (Murder)	60	2	53	4	88	-2
Other Homicide^	156	4	139	18	89	-12
Assault	19012	490	14174	1893	75	-1
Sexual Assault	6684	172	4741	761	71	8
Robbery	1959	50	867	140	44	-2
Other Offences Against the Person*	5869	151	3446	325	59	37
Offences Against the Person	34204	881	23691	3169	69	6

Property Security

Unlawful Entry	60129	1549	9671	2550	16	-8
Arson	1514	39	217	38	14	7
Other Property Damage	44461	1145	11782	1988	26	0
Unlawful Use of Motor Vehicle	14267	367	3541	807	25	-14
Other Theft (excl. Unlawful Entry)	107403	2766	26457	4888	25	-7
Fraud	30279	780	17710	3922	58	2
Handling Stolen Goods	7360	190	7102	123	96	14
Offences Against Property	265413	6836	76480	14316	29	-5

Selected Other Offences

Drug Offences	44610	1149	-	-	-	19
Liquor Offences	3306	85	-	-	-	56
Prostitution Offences	968	25	-	-	-	-15
Stock Related Offences	189	5	-	-	-	373
Drink Driving	27352	704	-	-	-	-1
Other Traffic Offences	9742	251	-	-	-	-1
Breach Domestic Violence Protection Order	9027	233	-	-	-	17
Weapons Act Offences	4658	120	-	-	-	-10
Good Order Offences	30798	793	-	-	-	8



Water Police provide a key police presence on Queensland waterways.

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Far Northern

Homicide (Murder)	10	4	8	2	80	-29
Other Homicide^	9	4	9	2	100	0
Assault	2430	1034	2026	168	83	3
Sexual Assault	559	238	407	40	73	1
Robbery	105	45	47	5	45	3
Other Offences Against the Person*	832	354	575	19	69	94
Offences Against the Person	3964	1686	3090	238	78	14
Unlawful Entry	3858	1641	1043	186	27	-1
Arson	56	24	18	0	32	27
Other Property Damage	3001	1276	1159	111	39	-2
Unlawful Use of Motor Vehicle	492	209	224	28	46	-6
Other Theft (excl. Unlawful Entry)	6488	2760	1788	167	28	-3
Fraud	1192	507	862	205	72	-20
Handling Stolen Goods	457	194	442	13	97	17
Offences Against Property	15544	6612	5536	710	36	-4

Northern

Homicide (Murder)	3	1	3	0	100	-57
Other Homicide^	16	6	16	0	100	14
Assault	2105	850	1710	189	81	-7
Sexual Assault	554	224	378	70	68	17
Robbery	97	39	51	6	53	-1
Other Offences Against the Person*	784	316	559	46	71	71
Offences Against the Person	3612	1458	2749	312	76	8
Unlawful Entry	4587	1852	1180	252	26	-7
Arson	77	31	21	3	27	8
Other Property Damage	3682	1486	1067	125	29	-4
Unlawful Use of Motor Vehicle	901	364	380	50	42	6
Other Theft (excl. Unlawful Entry)	6821	2753	1579	239	23	-2
Fraud	1458	589	1063	214	73	43
Handling Stolen Goods	384	155	358	11	93	-1
Offences Against Property	17910	7230	5648	894	32	-1

Central

Homicide (Murder)	3	1	2	1	67	-25
Other Homicide^	14	4	13	2	93	-22
Assault	1769	531	1495	146	85	3
Sexual Assault	1030	309	926	50	90	-25
Robbery	68	20	43	5	63	-24
Other Offences Against the Person*	424	127	287	25	68	35
Offences Against the Person	3333	1000	2786	229	84	-6
Unlawful Entry	3712	1114	1081	190	29	-8
Arson	69	21	22	1	32	-9
Other Property Damage	3559	1068	1304	111	37	4
Unlawful Use of Motor Vehicle	523	157	257	22	49	-5
Other Theft (excl. Unlawful Entry)	7363	2209	2508	242	34	-5
Fraud	1701	510	1328	166	78	-38
Handling Stolen Goods	511	153	474	7	93	20
Offences Against Property	17438	5232	6974	739	40	-8

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North Coast

Homicide (Murder)	16	2	15	0	94	78
Other Homicide^	28	4	21	3	75	-13
Assault	3115	444	2307	371	74	-1
Sexual Assault	1199	171	835	177	70	15
Robbery	231	33	105	16	45	13
Other Offences Against the Person*	957	136	566	62	59	36
Offences Against the Person	5605	798	3883	633	69	8
Unlawful Entry	9312	1326	1506	422	16	-5
Arson	286	41	37	5	13	14
Other Property Damage	7816	1113	1840	557	24	3
Unlawful Use of Motor Vehicle	2131	304	564	108	26	-2
Other Theft (excl. Unlawful Entry)	18017	2566	4679	1820	26	-4
Fraud	3387	482	2052	446	61	-8
Handling Stolen Goods	1018	145	983	20	97	17
Offences Against Property	41967	5978	11661	3378	28	-3

Southern

Homicide (Murder)	3	1	3	0	100	-40
Other Homicide^	20	5	17	4	85	-35
Assault	2179	495	1780	249	82	-2
Sexual Assault	694	158	484	146	70	10
Robbery	128	29	66	11	52	-16
Other Offences Against the Person*	751	171	451	41	60	41
Offences Against the Person	3834	870	2837	463	74	5
Unlawful Entry	5385	1223	989	309	18	-16
Arson	239	54	53	5	22	25
Other Property Damage	4509	1024	1173	173	26	-10
Unlawful Use of Motor Vehicle	1206	274	357	73	30	-2
Other Theft (excl. Unlawful Entry)	9092	2064	2602	571	29	-7
Fraud	4993	1134	2325	487	47	72
Handling Stolen Goods	580	132	561	16	97	-6
Offences Against Property	26004	5904	8060	1634	31	-1

South Eastern

Homicide (Murder)	7	1	7	0	100	75
Other Homicide^	21	3	19	4	90	-9
Assault	2961	422	1901	332	64	-3
Sexual Assault	1018	145	728	151	72	10
Robbery	400	57	167	37	42	-11
Other Offences Against the Person*	747	106	350	42	47	29
Offences Against the Person	5260	749	3222	569	61	3
Unlawful Entry	11985	1707	1259	382	11	-9
Arson	412	59	26	13	6	-5
Other Property Damage	7876	1121	1558	254	20	-2
Unlawful Use of Motor Vehicle	4076	580	703	255	17	-23
Other Theft (excl. Unlawful Entry)	24254	3454	5010	806	21	-11
Fraud	6402	912	3244	640	51	-9
Handling Stolen Goods	1435	204	1388	15	97	5
Offences Against Property	56440	8037	13188	2365	23	-10

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Metropolitan North

Homicide (Murder)	6	1	5	0	83	-45
Other Homicide [^]	16	3	15	1	94	-43
Assault	2399	414	1642	226	68	-2
Sexual Assault	685	118	434	65	63	16
Robbery	457	79	194	37	42	-6
Other Offences Against the Person*	671	116	294	48	44	3
Offences Against the Person	4294	742	2618	379	61	0
Unlawful Entry	9395	1623	1207	303	13	-13
Arson	120	21	17	3	14	10
Other Property Damage	7418	1282	2392	466	32	9
Unlawful Use of Motor Vehicle	2182	377	486	98	22	-21
Other Theft (excl. Unlawful Entry)	19126	3304	4766	557	25	-10
Fraud	6634	1146	4110	852	62	6
Handling Stolen Goods	1559	269	1525	19	98	22
Offences Against Property	46434	8022	14503	2298	31	-6

Metropolitan South

Homicide (Murder)	12	2	10	1	83	71
Other Homicide [^]	32	5	29	2	91	45
Assault	2054	320	1313	212	64	4
Sexual Assault	945	147	549	62	58	61
Robbery	473	74	194	23	41	11
Other Offences Against the Person*	703	109	364	42	52	15
Offences Against the Person	4302	669	2506	346	58	16
Unlawful Entry	11895	1851	1406	506	12	-3
Arson	255	40	23	8	9	5
Other Property Damage	6600	1027	1289	191	20	0
Unlawful Use of Motor Vehicle	2756	429	570	173	21	-13
Other Theft (excl. Unlawful Entry)	16241	2527	3525	486	22	-8
Fraud	4512	702	2726	912	60	-3
Handling Stolen Goods	1415	220	1371	22	97	29
Offences Against Property	43674	6795	10910	2298	25	-4

* Other Offences Against the Person includes the offence categories of Extortion, Kidnapping & Abduction etc. and Other Offences Against the Person.

[^] Other Homicide includes the offence categories of Attempted Murder, Conspiracy to Murder, Manslaughter (excl. by driving) and Driving Causing Death.

Notes:

- Percentage of cleared offences refers to the percentage of offences reported and cleared within the same statistical period (2003-04).
- The offence aggregate Offences Against Property includes the following offence categories: Unlawful Entry; Arson; Other Property Damage; Unlawful Use of a Motor Vehicle; Other Theft (excl. Unlawful Entry); Fraud; and Handling Stolen Goods.
- Figures for the rate of offences per 100,000 population have been rounded. Therefore, offence subtotals may not add to the total for each of the three aggregate categories of offences.
- Offences detected or under investigation involving covert operations or sensitive issues such as sexual child abuse are not geographically classified until after the completion of all inquiries in the interest of strict confidentiality. For this reason, a temporary holding geographical classification, the Drug Enforcement Region, has been created. Offences classified to this area are included only in Queensland offence counts in this report.

Responding to Diversity - Multicultural Queensland Policy

The Multicultural Queensland Policy is a whole-of-Government strategy designed to reinforce commitment to multiculturalism as a means of managing Queensland's cultural, linguistic and religious diversity. Central to this policy are the core principles of access, equity and participation, which seek to enhance social cohesion in an environment that values diversity while maintaining an overriding commitment to a democratic system of government.

Service strategies and actions that have promoted positive community engagement in 2003-04 include:

- Police Ethnic Advisory Group

During the year, members discussed the need to promote social harmony by expanding the Group's activities. The Group participated in a community forum on the theme "Effective Policing in a Multicultural Society" organised in partnership with the Multi-Faith Centre at Griffith University. In addition, the President of the Islamic Council of Queensland, a member of the Group, addressed the Service's Senior Executive Conference in February 2004.



Building partnerships with a multicultural society.

- Cultural Appreciation Project

This project is designed to develop the framework for education and training for all Service personnel in relation to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures. The project is being developed with extensive consultation and partnership with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.

- Indigenous Community/ Police Consultative Groups

These Consultative Groups, being established across the State, are designed to develop genuine partnerships between police and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities by providing local forums to discuss matters of mutual concern.

- Justice Entry Program

This is a six month traineeship program aimed at increasing the numbers of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander police officers. It provides participants with the necessary educational qualifications for entry into the recruit program (or entry into other justice related agencies).

- Ethnic Communities Council of Queensland

The Council sponsors the Cross-Cultural Awareness Award presented at each Induction Parade to the recruit who has demonstrated considerable understanding of, and sensitivity towards, issues pertaining to effective policing for cultural, linguistic and religious diversity. Members of multicultural communities are also included on the Commissioner's guest list at each Induction Parade.