

Vision of the Queensland Police Service

'We are determined to be a professional police service, dedicated to excellence and committed to working in partnership with the people of Queensland to enhance the safety and security of our community.'

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Commissioner's Foreword



Bob Atkinson APM, Commissioner of Police

I am proud to present the Queensland Police Service *Annual Statistical Review* for the 2001/02 financial year.

The collection and dissemination of crime statistics is an important responsibility of the Queensland Police Service, and one that attracts significant interest. The *Annual Statistical Review* is produced as a companion to the Service's *Annual Report* and presents Queensland's official crime statistics, together with data on a range of key policing issues.

Last year, I reported that a system of Operational Performance Review (OPR) had been established to support the ongoing implementation of the Service's problem-oriented and partnership policing philosophy. Some 12 months on, I am pleased to report some most encouraging results.

Through the OPR process, the performance of individual police districts is examined using a broad range of performance indicators, including crime trends. Analysis of this data, in the context of local problems, allows operational and organisational priorities to be assessed. In this sense, it can be seen as a practical extension of problem-oriented policing. Even at this early stage, it is clear to me that the process has significant potential to enhance the delivery of policing services to the community.

Overall, the crime statistics for 2001/02 are indicating downward trends in many key offence categories.

Total Offences Against the Person rose by 3% in 2001/02, a favourable result compared to the 6% increase in 2000/01. Significantly, there was an 11% reduction in robbery offences including a 17% reduction in Armed Robbery, and a 6% reduction in Unarmed Robbery. The clear-up rate for these offences remained relatively constant.

The 3% increase recorded for total Offences Against Property in 2000/01 was reversed with a 7% reduction in 2001/02. In real terms, this represents some 21,500 fewer offences. This result has been assisted by a 9% reduction in Unlawful Entry offences and a 15% reduction in Unlawful Use of Motor Vehicle offences. The clear-up rate for unlawful entry offences remained constant, while there was a marginal increase in the clear-up rate for Unlawful Use of Motor Vehicle offences.

From a policing perspective, the value of analysing and responding to crime trends, such as the data contained in this report, cannot be overstated. Even from this short overview, it is apparent that progress is being made, particularly in a number of priority areas. Perhaps more encouraging is the continuing development in information-based policing strategies. What this means is that delivery of policing services is becoming more targeted and effective.

A key government priority is the development of Safer and More Supportive Communities. The activities of the Queensland Police Service are directly aligned to this government priority, and as an organisation, we will continue to strive for excellence in the delivery of policing services to the Queensland community. The information contained in this year's *Annual Statistical Review* reflects the efforts of the Queensland Police Service, and the impact of the many whole-of-government strategies directed at crime prevention and crime reduction generally.

In closing, I would like to acknowledge the effort that has gone into the preparation of the *Annual Statistical Review*. I expect that once again, this report will inform government and community debate in relation to crime in the community, and I therefore commend it to you.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Bob Atkinson', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Bob Atkinson APM.
COMMISSIONER

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