

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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This and past Annual Statistical Reviews are available at
"www.police.qld.gov.au/statsnet.htm".

Commissioner's Foreword



Bob Atkinson APM, Commissioner of Police

I am pleased to present the Queensland Police Service *Annual Statistical Review 2003/04*. The Service published its first Statistical Review in 1991, covering the 1990/91 financial year. Previously the Service's statistics had been published in its Annual Report, but enhancement in its statistical collections led to the need for a separate document. The Service's statistics were considerably enriched with the introduction of the Crime Reporting Information System for Police (CRISP) in 1994/95.

Over the years, the annual statistical reviews have become a valuable resource, providing information on crime statistics and trends. However, care has to be taken in interpreting the results, and it is necessary to understand differences in the way in which some crimes are recorded. For example, Sexual Assaults are recorded at the time they are reported, not by when they occurred. Therefore a victim may report an offender who has been offending over a number of years. The past occurrences are recorded together, against the date they were reported.

Similarly, changes expressed in percentages can appear more significant than they are when the number of occurrences of an offence tends to be relatively low.

It is particularly pleasing to be able to report that the *Annual Statistical Review 2003/04* again records decreases in the reported rates of some of the offences

which are of most concern to Queenslanders. These reductions reflect a significant outcome for Queenslanders. When added to the reductions recorded in previous years in some of these same categories, it is evident the problem solving and partnership approach to policing adopted by the Queensland Police Service is yielding clear benefits for the community.

The Queensland Police Service's commitment to continuous improvement has been maintained through the Operational Performance Reviews, which I introduced in 2001. These regular Reviews of the performance of each of the 29 police Districts have continued to focus on reducing crime through the application of modern management techniques, professional policing practices, the effective use of resources, and partnership with the people of Queensland.

Statistical information, such as the crime statistics contained in the *Annual Statistical Review 2003/04*, enables the Service to identify and closely monitor crime trends across the State. The Service uses this information to develop good practice, supported by intelligence-led and problem-oriented policing strategies.

I would like to thank all those people, police officers and members of the community, whose efforts contributed to the decreasing crime trends and improvements in the clear-up rates recorded in the *Annual Statistical Review 2003/04*.

I look forward to continuing the partnership between the Queensland Police Service and the Queensland community, working together to reduce crime and improve community safety.

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

Bob Atkinson APM.
COMMISSIONER

Contents

Queensland Crime _____	1
Crime 2003/2004 _____	9
Monthly Crime Trends _____	17
Annual Crime Trends _____	35
Regional Comparisons _____	45
Victims of Crime _____	63
Offenders _____	73
Offender/Victim Relationships _____	91
Crime Locations _____	101
District Crime _____	105
Traffic _____	135
Personnel _____	139
Summary Table _____	144
Police Regions and Districts _____	145
Explanatory Notes _____	147
Glossary _____	151

