



Australian Government

Australian Institute of Criminology

Statistics on Juvenile Detention in Australia: 1981–2003

**Kate Charlton
Marissa McCall**

Technical and Background Paper

No. 10

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Disclaimer

This research report does not necessarily reflect the policy position of the Australian government.

Introduction

This paper provides a comprehensive overview of juveniles in detention in Australia between 1981 and 2003. It includes both an analysis of the number and rate of juveniles in detention over time (with respect to a number of different variables) as well as a detailed analysis of the financial year 2002–03. Statistics are derived from the Australian Institute of Criminology’s (AIC) Juveniles in detention dataset – the only national data set pertaining to juvenile justice currently available in Australia.

The Juveniles in detention dataset is compiled from reports submitted on a quarterly basis by the relevant juvenile justice authorities in each Australian jurisdiction. These authorities include:

- New South Wales Department of Juvenile Justice;
- Department of Human Services, Victoria;
- Department of Families, Queensland;
- Department of Justice, Western Australia;
- Department of Human Services, South Australia;
- Department of Health and Human Services, Tasmania;
- Northern Territory Correctional Services; and
- Office for Children, Youth and Family Support, Australian Capital Territory.

Each of these authorities were provided with a copy of this paper prior to publication and given the opportunity to comment. It should be noted that although the report provides data on juveniles in detention, the vast majority of juveniles in the care of juvenile justice agencies are not placed in detention but instead receive community service and other types of order. It is important to keep this in mind when interpreting the data on juvenile detention in this report.

The data provided by each of the juvenile justice agencies contain information on the number of young people in the custody of the juvenile justice agency on the last day of each quarter in the year; that is, March, June, September and December. Therefore, the census count taken on each of these dates reflects only the number of juveniles in each jurisdiction at that time, and is not necessarily representative of the actual daily average of juvenile detainees in each state or territory. As a result, some jurisdictions, in particular smaller ones such as the Northern Territory and Tasmania, may show greater variability between quarters. Nonetheless, the census count is the only one currently available in Australia, and is considered a useful method by which to measure the population of juveniles in detention.

The quarterly census provides aggregate information on the number of juveniles detained according to a number of variables including:

- gender;
- age;
- Indigenous status (Indigenous or non-Indigenous – incorporating both Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples); and
- legal status (remanded or sentenced; Western Australia and Queensland both have a further category of ‘remanded *and* sentenced’, which includes young people under sentence but who are awaiting trial or sentence on other charges – in this report these persons are categorised as sentenced).

Table 1: Jurisdictional differences in the definition of a juvenile

State/territory	Age of juveniles	Number of persons aged 18 or over in detention*	Number of persons aged under 18 in prison
New South Wales	10–17	88	1
Victoria	10–16	83	2
Queensland	10–16	6	27
Western Australia	10–17	12	0
South Australia	10–17	8	0
Tasmania	10–17	3	2
Northern Territory	10–18	0	0
Australian Capital Territory	10–17	1	0

* Number of persons in detention at 30 June 2003

Source: Australian Institute of Criminology Juveniles in detention data [computer file] and ABS 2004a

Together with the jurisdiction and the date at which the census was taken, there are six factors analysed in this report. However, as the data are reported in aggregate form, the extent of possible analyses is limited – for example, it is difficult to calculate a mean age of detainees.

Differences between jurisdictions

Each Australian state and territory has a separate and distinct formal juvenile justice system of which detention is one part. Therefore there are differences between them which should be acknowledged prior to describing the data. These differences primarily relate to the way in which the jurisdictions (a) define a juvenile offender and (b) manage a juvenile offender (particularly once they reach adulthood). Regarding the first issue, juveniles in Australia are largely dealt with by the juvenile justice system when they are aged between 10 and 17 years (only Victoria, Queensland and the Northern Territory define juvenile offenders differently). In order to facilitate useful comparisons, this report focuses on detainees aged 10 to 17 years (since this is the most common definition), however in the desire to provide complete data, some tables contain information on persons aged 18 and over currently in juvenile detention in Australia. See Table 1 for a description of:

- the number of persons aged 18 and over who were in **detention centres** managed by the relevant juvenile justice agency in each state on 30 June 2003; and
- the number of juveniles who were in **prison** on 30 June 2003.

Differences between states are clearly noted in the management of older juveniles, particularly with respect to those who have become adults while in detention. New South Wales has traditionally detained juvenile offenders in a juvenile detention centre until completion of their sentence, resulting in numerous detainees of an adult age (considerably more than in other jurisdictions). Legislative changes passed in 2001 by the New South Wales Parliament (*Children (Criminal Proceedings) Amendment (Adult Detainees) Act 2001*) were intended to reduce this number by enabling corrective services to transfer detainees to prison at 18. However this does not appear to have had a significant effect so far, with only nine young people subject to orders resulting from this legislation (NSW Ombudsman 2004).

Until June 2000, the Northern Territory classified 17-year-olds as adults. This may need to be taken into account when examining historical data on the number of juveniles in detention in the Northern Territory.

Western Australia's mandatory minimum custodial sentences for third-time home burglars is also known to have had a substantial impact on the juvenile detainee population, particularly Indigenous people (Badham 2001).

Victoria has a dual-track system of adult prison and juvenile detention available for persons aged 17 to 20 years at time of sentencing, with an option for some people in this age group to be placed in a senior youth training centre. The juvenile detention option is not available to this age group purely for remand purposes. Table 1 shows that on 30 June 2003, there were 83 people aged 18 or over in juvenile detention centres in Victoria and two people aged under 18 in adult prisons. There were thirty-eight 17-year-olds in juvenile detention centres at 30 June 2003.

Tasmanian data

The Department of Health and Human Services, Tasmania reported in 2003 that the data relating to Indigenous detainees, provided to and published by the AIC for the years 1996–97 through 2000–01, may be inaccurate due to the limitations of their previous data system's reporting capabilities. These data are therefore not reproduced here. However, accurate data by Indigenous status have been provided for the year 2003 and the relevant information has been included in this publication.

Australian Capital Territory data

Late in 2003, the Office for Children, Youth and Family Support in the ACT reported that the data provided to and published by the AIC for the year 2001–02 overstated the number of juveniles in detention during the four relevant census periods. This affected both the numbers and detention rates for the ACT as well as marginally affecting those for Australia. The correct data have now been provided to the AIC and the numbers for the ACT in 2001–02 have been revised in this report.

Calculating rates of detention per head of relevant population

The population estimates used to calculate the number of people aged 10 to 17 in detention, per 100,000 population aged 10–17, are taken from *Population by age and sex* (ABS 2003) for 30 June of each year. For statistics from 1991 to 2000, Indigenous population figures are based upon high-level estimates, June 1996 to June 2006 (ABS 1998). For statistics from 2001 to 2003, Indigenous estimates are based upon high-level estimates, June 2001 to June 2009 (ABS 2004b). High-level estimates of the population are derived from projections of both natural population growth as well as an increased propensity for Australians to identify as Indigenous. The AIC uses high-level estimates for all figures relating to Indigenous detention rates, since these provide a more conservative estimate of rates and ratios.

The ABS does not publish these population estimates in the detail required for this report; the AIC purchases statistics from the ABS that are based on these projections. Prior to 1996, a number of different sources of Indigenous population figures were used.

Indigenous over-representation

Indigenous over-representation refers to the fact that Indigenous persons in Australia are subject to higher rates of incarceration compared to non-Indigenous persons. Two methods may be used to calculate over-representation: the 'population ratio' and 'rate ratio' methods.

The population ratio refers to the proportion of Indigenous juveniles in juvenile detention centres compared to their proportion in the general population. For example, if Indigenous juveniles comprised two per cent of all juveniles in Australia, then we would expect, all things being equal, that they would make up two per cent of the detained juvenile population. If Indigenous juveniles actually made up four per cent of this detainee population then the ratio, using the 'population ratio' method, would be $4/2=2$, which can be expressed as 'There were twice as many Indigenous juveniles detained than we might expect from their representation in the general community.'

The 'rate ratio' method refers to a comparison of two rates: the detention rate per 100,000 of Indigenous juveniles, and the detention rate per 100,000 of non-Indigenous juveniles. On 30 June 2003 there were 320.9 Indigenous juveniles detained per 100,000 Indigenous juveniles in the population. On the same date there were 16.1 non-Indigenous juveniles detained per 100,000 non-Indigenous juveniles in the population. Using these rates, we arrive at an over-representation ratio of $320.9/16.1=19.9$, which may be expressed as 'Indigenous juveniles were 19.9 times more likely than non-Indigenous juveniles to be detained in a juvenile justice centre.' This report uses the 'rate ratio' method for calculating over-representation, as has been done in the past (Bareja & Charlton 2003; Cahill & Marshall 2002; Carcach & Muscat 1998).

General trends: 1981–2003

There has been a general decline over the previous 22 years in the number and rate of persons aged 10 to 17 in juvenile detention in Australia. Table 2(c) demonstrates that at 30 June 1981 there were 1,352 young people detained in juvenile facilities, while at 30 June 2003 only 640 juvenile detainees were recorded. The greatest decline was noted between the years of 1981 and 1989, where the number of detainees reduced by 44 per cent to 759.

Similar to the trends observed in the *number* of persons aged 10 to 17 detained in juvenile facilities, decreases in the *rate* of juveniles in detention have also been noted, with the rate declining by more than 50 per cent since 1981 (see Table 2(c)). At 30 June 1981 the rate stood at 64.9 detainees per 100,000 population and at 30 June 2003 it was recorded as 29.1 detainees per 100,000 population.

There has, however, been an increase in the last financial year in the number and rate of detainees, with the number increasing from 545 at 30 June 2002 to 640 at 30 June 2003, and the rate increasing from 25.0 to 29.1 persons per 100,000.

Table 2(a): Males aged 10 to 17 in juvenile detention at 30 June 1981–2003

Year	NSW	Vic.	Qld	WA	SA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Australia
Number									
1981	521	253	89	145	71	26	1	13	1,119
1982	551	232	94	138	67	17	8	13	1,120
1983	518	224	103	88	55	25	14	16	1,043
1984	378	209	85	69	37	20	15	6	819
1985	248	218	114	96	40	16	23	10	765
1986	257	204	78	93	38	20	26	17	733
1987	357	156	83	79	40	18	24	11	768
1988	249	164	89	76	42	14	37	12	683
1989	249	136	73	124	30	14	39	6	671
1990	325	127	100	114	36	9	27	9	747
1991	311	65	70	111	43	17	30	6	653
1992	250	47	71	84	50	5	25	9	541
1993	292	49	83	97	56	8	20	5	610
1994	352	61	90	119	56	9	13	8	708
1995	374	72	127	95	37	10	15	13	743
1996	319	68	128	94	71	23	13	6	722
1997	331	64	89	100	71	*20	21	14	*710
1998	321	62	116	123	46	18	25	10	721
1999	252	57	127	112	29	30	12	12	631
2000	251	43	93	103	49	34	15	14	602
2001	210	59	78	81	49	36	6	22	541
2002	187	53	82	71	40	25	21	12	491
2003	206	71	90	95	61	17	23	20	583
Rate per 100,000 relevant population									
1981	145.9	88.6	51.8	149.8	75.4	81.9	10.8	75.8	105.2
1982	152.8	80.8	52.8	139.0	71.4	53.9	79.1	72.6	103.9
1983	142.6	77.6	56.5	87.5	58.8	79.6	130.7	87.0	95.8
1984	103.5	72.1	45.9	68.3	39.9	63.2	134.6	31.8	74.7
1985	67.6	75.5	60.9	94.7	43.4	50.8	199.5	52.1	69.6
1986	70.0	71.2	41.3	91.2	41.8	63.8	222.2	87.4	66.8
1987	97.5	55.5	44.1	77.3	44.9	58.7	203.4	56.0	70.5
1988	68.4	59.3	47.3	73.8	48.2	46.6	316.2	60.5	63.2
1989	69.8	50.3	38.7	120.8	35.3	47.5	337.8	30.4	63.0
1990	92.9	47.9	53.1	111.8	43.3	30.7	237.5	46.3	71.2
1991	89.6	24.9	37.0	108.5	52.3	58.2	265.4	31.1	62.7
1992	72.4	18.2	37.4	81.5	61.1	17.2	218.2	47.4	52.1
1993	84.7	19.1	43.1	93.3	68.8	30.9	172.5	26.4	58.7
1994	101.7	23.9	45.9	113.3	68.6	31.1	111.3	42.2	67.9
1995	107.2	28.2	63.7	89.2	45.3	34.4	127.9	68.7	70.7
1996	90.3	26.6	63.0	87.1	86.3	78.8	108.5	31.8	67.9
1997	93.3	25.1	43.5	91.5	86.2	69.1	171.3	74.7	64.2
1998	89.9	24.2	56.2	110.9	55.7	63.0	200.8	53.9	67.2
1999	70.1	22.1	60.9	99.8	34.9	105.5	95.4	64.8	58.3
2000	69.0	16.4	44.0	90.7	58.7	120.1	118.1	75.4	53.3
2001	56.9	22.2	36.3	70.5	58.6	127.6	46.4	118.2	48.8
2002	50.3	19.8	37.5	61.6	48.0	89.1	160.9	65.1	44.0
2003	55.1	26.3	40.3	81.8	73.2	60.7	177.9	109.3	51.8

* One male aged 16 who was detained in juvenile facilities without being sentenced or remanded has been included
 Source: Australian Institute of Criminology Juveniles in detention data [computer file]

Table 2(b): Females aged 10 to 17 in juvenile detention at 30 June 1981–2003

Year	NSW	Vic.	Qld	WA	SA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Australia
Number									
1981	90	81	22	14	5	8	0	13	233
1982	95	67	13	13	4	6	3	4	205
1983	83	58	11	8	5	8	1	4	178
1984	48	72	20	12	3	7	2	3	167
1985	30	51	11	14	2	1	0	3	112
1986	33	56	17	5	4	2	4	1	122
1987	37	44	13	5	1	4	7	2	113
1988	23	34	10	5	3	7	3	2	87
1989	30	31	8	9	0	3	7	0	88
1990	29	24	9	11	1	1	3	0	78
1991	15	5	6	5	3	0	6	1	41
1992	12	5	3	9	3	0	3	1	36
1993	20	2	2	7	5	1	3	1	41
1994	18	3	5	12	2	1	0	1	42
1995	20	2	9	7	2	0	2	1	43
1996	21	2	8	12	12	3	0	1	59
1997	26	7	11	11	6	3	0	2	66
1998	15	5	10	13	4	1	0	1	49
1999	25	3	10	13	5	1	2	4	63
2000	23	9	9	12	10	3	0	1	67
2001	22	7	7	16	7	1	0	3	63
2002	16	4	15	8	7	1	0	3	54
2003	16	5	11	10	10	2	0	3	57
Rate per 100,000 relevant population									
1981	26.4	29.5	13.3	15.2	5.6	25.9	0.0	78.9	22.9
1982	27.6	24.2	7.6	13.8	4.5	19.6	31.4	23.3	19.8
1983	23.9	20.9	6.3	8.4	5.6	26.1	9.9	22.6	17.1
1984	13.7	25.9	11.3	12.5	3.4	22.9	19.2	16.6	15.9
1985	8.6	18.4	6.1	14.6	2.3	3.3	0.0	16.2	10.7
1986	9.4	20.5	9.5	5.2	4.7	6.6	36.4	5.3	11.7
1987	10.6	16.4	7.2	5.2	1.2	13.6	63.4	10.5	10.9
1988	6.6	12.9	5.6	5.2	3.7	24.2	27.7	10.4	8.5
1989	8.8	12.1	4.5	9.3	0.0	10.6	66.6	0.0	8.7
1990	8.7	9.6	5.0	11.4	1.3	3.6	28.9	0.0	7.8
1991	4.6	2.0	3.4	5.2	3.9	0.0	57.9	5.4	4.2
1992	3.7	2.0	1.7	9.3	3.9	0.0	28.4	5.5	3.7
1993	6.1	0.8	1.1	7.2	6.5	3.6	27.8	5.5	4.2
1994	5.5	1.2	2.7	12.2	2.6	3.6	0.0	5.5	4.2
1995	6.0	0.8	4.8	7.0	2.6	0.0	18.2	5.5	4.3
1996	6.2	0.8	4.2	11.7	15.3	10.7	0.0	5.5	5.8
1997	7.7	2.9	5.7	10.6	7.6	10.8	0.0	11.1	6.5
1998	4.4	2.0	5.1	12.4	5.1	3.6	0.0	5.6	4.8
1999	7.3	1.2	5.0	12.2	6.3	3.6	16.9	22.4	6.1
2000	6.6	3.6	4.5	11.1	12.6	11.1	0.0	5.6	6.4
2001	6.3	2.7	3.4	14.6	8.8	3.7	0.0	16.7	6.0
2002	4.5	1.6	7.2	7.3	8.8	3.7	0.0	16.8	5.1
2003	4.5	1.9	5.2	9.1	12.6	7.4	0.0	17.1	5.3

Source: Australian Institute of Criminology Juveniles in detention data [computer file]

Table 2(c): Persons aged 10 to 17 in juvenile detention at 30 June 1981–2003

Year	NSW	Vic.	Qld	WA	SA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Australia
Number									
1981	611	334	111	159	76	34	1	26	1,352
1982	646	299	107	151	71	23	11	17	1,325
1983	601	282	114	96	60	33	15	20	1,221
1984	426	281	105	81	40	27	17	9	986
1985	278	269	125	110	42	17	23	13	877
1986	290	260	95	98	42	22	30	18	855
1987	394	200	96	84	41	22	31	13	881
1988	272	198	99	81	45	21	40	14	770
1989	279	167	81	133	30	17	46	6	759
1990	354	151	109	125	37	10	30	9	825
1991	326	70	76	116	46	17	36	7	694
1992	262	52	74	93	53	5	28	10	577
1993	312	51	85	104	61	9	23	6	651
1994	370	64	95	131	58	10	13	9	750
1995	394	74	136	102	39	10	17	14	786
1996	340	70	136	106	83	26	13	7	781
1997	357	71	100	111	77	*23	21	16	*776
1998	336	67	126	136	50	19	25	11	770
1999	277	60	137	125	34	31	14	16	694
2000	274	52	102	115	59	37	15	15	669
2001	232	66	85	97	56	37	6	25	604
2002	203	57	97	79	47	26	21	15	545
2003	222	76	101	105	71	19	23	23	640
Rate per 100,000 relevant population									
1981	87.6	59.6	32.9	84.3	41.3	54.3	5.5	77.3	64.9
1982	91.6	53.0	30.7	78.1	38.8	37.0	55.9	48.5	62.8
1983	84.6	49.8	31.9	49.0	32.9	53.2	72.1	55.4	57.3
1984	59.6	49.5	29.0	41.2	22.1	43.4	78.9	24.3	46.0
1985	38.8	47.6	34.1	55.7	23.4	27.4	103.3	34.5	40.8
1986	40.4	46.4	25.8	49.3	23.8	35.7	132.2	47.1	39.9
1987	55.1	36.4	26.1	42.2	23.7	36.6	135.7	33.6	41.4
1988	38.2	36.6	26.9	40.5	26.6	35.6	177.5	35.9	36.5
1989	40.0	31.7	22.0	66.6	18.2	29.4	208.6	15.5	36.6
1990	51.8	29.3	29.7	63.0	22.9	17.5	138.0	23.6	40.4
1991	48.2	13.7	20.7	58.3	28.7	29.9	166.2	18.5	34.2
1992	38.9	10.3	20.1	46.5	33.3	8.8	127.1	26.8	28.5
1993	46.4	10.2	22.7	51.6	38.5	15.8	102.7	16.2	32.2
1994	54.8	12.9	24.9	64.3	36.4	17.6	57.5	24.3	36.9
1995	57.8	14.9	35.1	49.3	24.4	17.5	74.8	37.8	38.3
1996	49.3	14.0	34.4	50.4	51.6	45.4	56.1	18.9	37.7
1997	51.5	14.2	25.1	52.2	47.8	24.1	88.2	43.5	36.6
1998	48.2	13.3	31.3	63.0	31.0	33.8	103.0	30.3	36.7
1999	39.4	11.8	33.7	57.1	20.9	55.5	57.3	44.0	32.8
2000	38.5	10.1	24.7	51.9	36.2	40.5	49.5	41.2	30.7
2001	32.2	12.7	20.3	43.3	34.4	67.0	24.0	68.4	27.9
2002	28.0	10.9	22.7	35.1	28.9	47.3	83.8	41.4	25.0
2003	30.5	14.4	23.2	46.3	43.7	34.6	92.1	64.2	29.1

* One male aged 16 who was detained in juvenile facilities without being sentenced or remanded has been included
 Source: Australian Institute of Criminology Juveniles in detention data [computer file]

Young men have always been highly over-represented in juvenile detention, with young women consistently comprising only a small proportion of the total persons detained in such facilities. Still, Table 3 demonstrates that the proportion has been declining, with a lower percentage of females in juvenile detention in 2003 (nine per cent), as compared with 30 June 1981, where young women made up 17 per cent of the total juvenile detention population. The period of greatest decline was during the years of 1981 and 1991, where the percentage of the detainee population that was female decreased from 17 per cent to six per cent.

Table 3: Percentage of females aged 10 to 17 in juvenile detention at 30 June 1981–2003

Year	NSW	Vic.	Qld	WA	SA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Australia
1981	14.7	24.3	19.8	8.8	6.6	23.5	0.0	50.0	17.2
1982	14.7	22.4	12.1	8.6	5.6	26.1	27.3	23.5	15.5
1983	13.8	20.6	9.6	8.3	8.3	24.2	6.7	20.0	14.6
1984	11.3	25.6	19.0	14.8	7.5	25.9	11.8	33.3	16.9
1985	10.8	19.0	8.8	12.7	4.8	5.9	0.0	23.1	12.8
1986	11.4	21.5	17.9	5.1	9.5	9.1	13.3	5.6	14.3
1987	9.4	22.0	13.5	6.0	2.4	18.2	22.6	15.4	12.8
1988	8.5	17.2	10.1	6.2	6.7	33.3	7.5	14.3	11.3
1989	10.8	18.6	9.9	6.8	0.0	17.6	15.2	0.0	11.6
1990	8.2	15.9	8.3	8.8	2.7	10.0	10.0	0.0	9.5
1991	4.6	7.1	7.9	4.3	6.5	0.0	16.7	14.3	5.9
1992	4.6	9.6	4.1	9.7	5.7	0.0	10.7	10.0	6.2
1993	6.4	3.9	2.4	6.7	8.2	11.1	13.0	16.7	6.3
1994	4.9	4.7	5.3	9.2	3.4	10.0	0.0	11.1	5.6
1995	5.1	2.7	6.6	6.9	5.1	0.0	11.8	7.1	5.5
1996	6.2	2.9	5.9	11.3	14.5	11.5	0.0	14.3	7.6
1997	7.3	9.9	11.0	9.9	7.8	13.0	0.0	12.5	8.5
1998	4.5	7.5	7.9	9.6	8.0	5.3	0.0	9.1	6.4
1999	9.0	5.0	7.3	10.4	14.7	3.2	14.3	25.0	9.1
2000	8.4	17.3	8.8	10.4	16.9	8.1	0.0	6.7	10.0
2001	9.5	10.6	8.2	16.5	12.5	2.7	0.0	12.0	10.4
2002	7.9	7.0	15.5	10.1	14.9	3.8	0.0	20.0	9.9
2003	7.2	6.6	10.9	9.5	14.1	10.5	0.0	13.0	8.9

Source: Australian Institute of Criminology Juveniles in detention data [computer file]

Age of juvenile detainees

Tables 4(a) and 4(b) provide information about the number of juveniles in detention in two age groups: 10 to 14 years and 15 to 17 years. It is clear that the vast majority (87 per cent) of young people detained in juvenile facilities across Australia are in the older age group. However, Indigenous over-representation is apparent in this data, with Indigenous young people making up the majority of the 10 to 14-year age group in New South Wales, Western Australia and Queensland at 30 June 2003.

Table 4(a): Number of persons aged 10 to 14 in juvenile detention at 30 June 1994–2003

Year	NSW	Vic.	Qld	WA	SA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Australia*
Indigenous									
1994	27	0	6	18	0	0	1	0	52
1995	22	3	14	10	0	0	4	0	53
1996	20	0	13	7	0	3	1	0	44
1997	25	2	11	13	4	–	2	0	58
1998	14	1	19	22	2	–	5	0	64
1999	15	1	10	14	0	–	4	2	47
2000	19	0	15	15	3	–	6	0	59
2001	21	1	11	23	1	–	0	1	59
2002	13	1	12	13	3	–	0	0	42
2003	19	1	6	14	6	1	0	0	47
Non-Indigenous									
1994	30	6	2	8	7	2	1	1	57
1995	37	5	9	3	4	4	0	0	62
1996	25	7	30	2	12	6	1	0	83
1997	31	7	9	5	11	–	1	3	73
1998	29	10	4	6	4	–	4	3	62
1999	22	2	8	3	3	–	0	4	49
2000	12	3	4	4	8	–	0	3	37
2001	15	4	5	2	6	–	0	4	41
2002	11	5	6	0	3	–	1	3	35
2003	14	2	3	2	6	5	0	6	38
Total persons									
1994	57	6	8	26	7	2	2	1	109
1995	59	8	23	13	4	4	4	0	115
1996	45	7	43	9	12	9	2	0	127
1997	56	9	20	18	15	7	3	3	131
1998	43	11	23	28	6	3	9	3	126
1999	37	3	18	17	3	8	4	6	96
2000	31	3	19	19	11	4	6	3	96
2001	36	5	16	25	7	6	0	5	100
2002	24	6	18	13	6	6	1	3	77
2003	33	3	9	16	12	6	0	6	85

* Between 1997 and 2002 Australian totals exclude Tasmania
– data are unavailable

Source: Australian Institute of Criminology Juveniles in detention data [computer file]

Table 4(b): Number of persons aged 15 to 17 in juvenile detention at 30 June 1994–2003

Year	NSW	Vic.	Qld	WA	SA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Australia*
Indigenous									
1994	88	5	44	58	16	1	7	0	219
1995	79	8	62	44	6	1	6	1	207
1996	82	4	70	54	18	3	8	1	240
1997	107	6	44	57	13	–	18	3	248
1998	89	10	57	65	16	–	16	3	256
1999	78	9	66	72	10	–	6	0	241
2000	90	4	45	60	12	–	5	2	218
2001	77	8	45	55	7	–	6	5	203
2002	71	6	46	43	17	–	15	3	201
2003	77	9	56	64	26	4	16	3	255
Non-Indigenous									
1994	225	53	43	47	35	7	4	8	422
1995	256	58	51	45	29	5	7	13	464
1996	213	59	23	43	53	14	3	6	414
1997	194	56	36	36	49	–	0	10	381
1998	204	46	46	43	28	–	0	5	372
1999	162	48	53	36	21	–	4	10	334
2000	153	45	38	36	36	–	4	10	322
2001	119	53	24	17	42	–	0	15	270
2002	108	45	33	23	24	–	5	9	247
2003	112	64	36	25	33	9	7	14	300
Total persons									
1994	313	58	87	105	51	8	11	8	641
1995	335	66	113	89	35	6	13	14	671
1996	295	63	93	97	71	17	11	7	654
1997	301	62	80	93	62	16	18	13	645
1998	293	56	103	108	44	16	16	8	644
1999	240	57	119	108	31	23	10	10	598
2000	243	49	83	96	48	33	9	12	573
2001	196	61	69	72	49	31	6	20	504
2002	179	51	79	66	41	20	20	12	468
2003	189	73	92	89	59	13	23	17	555

* Between 1997 and 2002 Australian totals exclude Tasmania

– data are unavailable

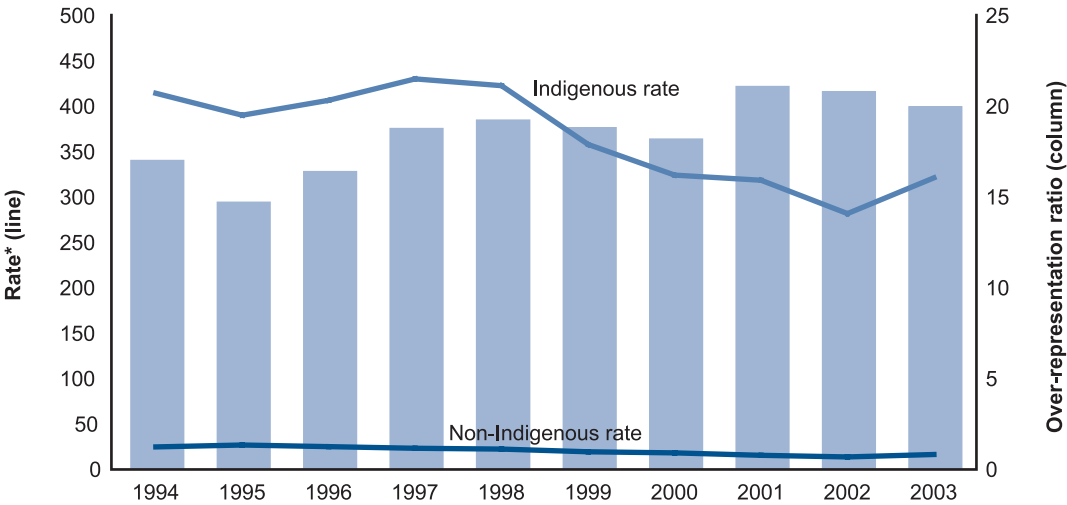
Source: Australian Institute of Criminology Juveniles in detention data [computer file]

Indigenous status

Tables in this section present data from the first quarter of 1994 through to the second quarter of 2003. With the exception of Tasmania (whose Indigenous data are incomplete from the third quarter of 1996 through to the end of 2002), all jurisdictions were able to provide data on Indigenous status from the beginning of 1994. In this section, no Tasmanian figures are presented for either Indigenous or non-Indigenous persons after the 1995–96 financial year until 2003, and all Australian totals given by Indigenous status during this period exclude Tasmania ('total persons' figures include Tasmania). Similarly, rates calculated for Indigenous or non-Indigenous persons since 1996–97 have used population estimates which exclude Tasmania.

Figure 1 shows that the rates of detention for both Indigenous and non-Indigenous young people have been declining since 1994. However, the ratio of over-representation continues in a stable trend, with Indigenous persons aged 10 to 17 years still 20 times more likely to be in detention than non-Indigenous persons of the same age group. This is due to the fact that the decline in detention rates of the two groups has been comparable; although the rate of detention for Indigenous young people has reduced by a greater amount, the non-Indigenous rate has experienced a similar proportional decline (34 per cent compared to 22 per cent for Indigenous).

Figure 1: Rate of Indigenous and non-Indigenous persons aged 10 to 17 years in juvenile detention in Australia and Indigenous over-representation ratio



* Rate per 100,000 relevant population
 Source: Australian Institute of Criminology Juveniles in detention data [computer file]

Tables 5(a), 5(b), 5(c) and 5(d) provide data on the number and rate of young people in juvenile detention for each quarter since the beginning of 1994, broken down by Indigenous status and jurisdiction. Both Indigenous and non-Indigenous rates have increased in the last financial year with 320.9 Indigenous persons per 100,000 aged 10 to 17 detained at 30 June 2003 (compared to 281.4 at 30 June 2002), and 16.1 non-Indigenous persons per 100,000 aged 10 to 17 detained at 30 June 2003 (compared to 13.5 at 30 June 2002).

Table 5(a): Number of Indigenous persons aged 10 to 17 in juvenile detention, 1994–2003

Year	NSW	Vic.	Qld	WA	SA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Australia*
1994									
31-Mar	90	5	49	76	25	3	9	0	257
30-Jun	115	5	50	76	16	1	8	0	271
30-Sep	96	5	59	60	15	3	10	0	248
31-Dec	83	7	69	56	14	7	13	0	249
1995									
31-Mar	115	10	84	69	9	3	17	2	309
30-Jun	101	11	76	54	6	1	10	1	260
30-Sep	105	9	61	58	24	3	13	1	274
31-Dec	92	11	64	56	17	2	8	4	254
1996									
31-Mar	91	5	84	64	18	4	7	3	276
30-Jun	102	4	83	61	18	6	9	1	284
30-Sep	109	10	77	56	18	–	6	4	280
31-Dec	92	12	78	43	19	–	11	1	256
1997									
31-Mar	127	18	76	67	26	–	15	3	332
30-Jun	132	8	55	70	17	–	20	3	305
30-Sep	125	12	65	88	19	–	17	0	326
31-Dec	103	14	92	62	10	–	15	3	299
1998									
31-Mar	109	9	87	70	16	–	20	5	316
30-Jun	103	11	76	87	18	–	21	3	319
30-Sep	97	6	78	84	15	–	23	2	305
31-Dec	101	9	70	63	17	–	13	1	274
1999									
31-Mar	93	10	85	86	15	–	22	2	313
30-Jun	93	10	76	86	10	–	10	2	287
30-Sep	83	9	54	68	17	–	10	3	244
31-Dec	77	11	54	80	10	–	12	2	246
2000									
31-Mar	95	9	71	86	9	–	6	2	278
30-Jun	109	4	60	75	15	–	11	2	276
30-Sep	81	7	53	69	15	–	10	2	237
31-Dec	77	6	43	63	17	–	20	6	232
2001									
31-Mar	86	6	60	75	12	–	13	2	254
30-Jun	98	9	56	78	8	–	6	6	261
30-Sep	105	11	46	78	14	–	6	6	266
31-Dec	89	4	46	78	20	–	14	5	256
2002									
31-Mar	89	7	63	71	23	–	14	4	271
30-Jun	84	7	58	56	20	–	15	3	243
30-Sep	88	12	51	68	24	–	20	7	270
31-Dec	93	5	45	75	29	–	21	0	268
2003									
31-Mar	114	13	58	100	26	7	19	4	341
30-Jun	96	10	62	78	32	5	16	3	302

* Between 30-Sep 1996 and 31-Dec 2002 Australian totals exclude Tasmania

– data are unavailable

Source: Australian Institute of Criminology Juveniles in detention data [computer file]

Table 5(b): Rate* of Indigenous persons aged 10 to 17 in juvenile detention, 1994–2003

Year	NSW	Vic.	Qld	WA	SA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Australia**
1994									
31-Mar	491.7	140.2	273.3	798.3	692.2	105.2	98.8	0.0	392.5
30-Jun	628.3	140.2	278.9	798.3	443.0	35.1	87.8	0.0	413.9
30-Sep	524.5	140.2	329.1	630.2	415.3	105.2	109.8	0.0	378.8
31-Dec	453.5	196.2	384.9	588.2	387.6	245.5	142.7	0.0	380.3
1995									
31-Mar	613.3	275.6	460.2	710.8	244.5	101.8	185.5	367.5	463.2
30-Jun	538.6	303.1	416.3	556.3	163.0	33.9	109.1	183.8	389.7
30-Sep	560.0	248.0	334.2	597.5	651.9	101.8	141.8	183.8	410.7
31-Dec	490.6	303.1	350.6	576.9	461.7	67.8	87.3	735.0	380.8
1996									
31-Mar	459.9	132.6	439.1	629.2	467.9	123.5	74.9	537.6	394.9
30-Jun	515.5	106.1	433.9	599.7	467.9	185.2	96.3	179.2	406.4
30-Sep	550.8	265.2	402.5	550.6	467.9	–	64.2	716.8	420.1
31-Dec	464.9	318.2	407.8	422.8	493.9	–	117.7	179.2	384.1
1997									
31-Mar	588.3	455.6	375.2	621.3	626.4	–	157.1	467.3	467.9
30-Jun	611.5	202.5	271.5	649.2	409.5	–	209.5	467.3	429.9
30-Sep	579.1	303.7	320.9	816.1	457.7	–	178.0	0.0	459.5
31-Dec	477.1	354.3	454.2	575.0	240.9	–	157.1	467.3	421.4
1998									
31-Mar	464.7	214.4	404.5	610.5	362.0	–	205.8	701.3	418.5
30-Jun	439.1	262.0	353.4	758.8	407.2	–	216.1	420.8	422.5
30-Sep	413.6	142.9	362.7	732.6	339.4	–	236.7	280.5	403.9
31-Dec	430.6	214.4	325.5	549.5	384.6	–	133.8	140.3	362.9
1999									
31-Mar	365.6	225.0	369.6	714.3	320.9	–	222.4	261.8	389.9
30-Jun	365.6	225.0	330.5	714.3	213.9	–	101.1	261.8	357.5
30-Sep	326.2	202.5	234.8	564.8	363.6	–	101.1	392.7	303.9
31-Dec	302.7	247.5	234.8	664.5	213.9	–	121.3	261.8	306.4
2000									
31-Mar	347.0	192.2	289.2	676.9	182.7	–	59.3	241.0	326.3
30-Jun	398.1	85.4	244.4	590.3	304.5	–	108.8	241.0	323.9
30-Sep	295.8	149.5	215.9	543.1	304.5	–	98.9	241.0	278.1
31-Dec	281.2	128.2	175.2	495.9	345.1	–	197.8	722.9	272.3
2001									
31-Mar	337.8	116.7	257.4	599.2	248.3	–	129.2	283.7	309.5
30-Jun	384.9	175.0	240.2	623.2	165.6	–	59.6	851.1	318.1
30-Sep	412.4	213.9	197.3	623.2	289.7	–	59.6	851.1	324.2
31-Dec	349.6	77.8	197.3	623.2	413.9	–	139.2	709.2	312.0
2002									
31-Mar	331.0	125.8	254.9	545.6	454.2	–	135.5	535.5	313.8
30-Jun	312.4	125.8	234.7	430.3	394.9	–	145.2	401.6	281.4
30-Sep	327.2	215.6	206.4	522.6	473.9	–	193.6	937.1	312.7
31-Dec	345.8	89.8	182.1	576.3	572.7	–	203.3	0.0	310.4
2003									
31-Mar	402.8	219.8	222.1	741.6	495.6	186.5	181.1	512.8	362.3
30-Jun	339.2	169.1	237.4	578.4	610.0	133.2	152.5	384.6	320.9

* Rate per 100,000 relevant population

** Between 30-Sep 1996 and 31-Dec 2002, Australian rates have been calculated using detainee totals excluding Tasmania and population estimates excluding Tasmania

– data are unavailable

Source: Australian Institute of Criminology Juveniles in detention data [computer file]

Table 5(c): Number of non-Indigenous persons aged 10 to 17 in juvenile detention, 1994–2003

Year	NSW	Vic.	Qld	WA	SA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Australia*
1994									
31-Mar	250	63	56	55	73	8	8	12	525
30-Jun	255	59	45	55	42	9	5	9	479
30-Sep	231	58	50	58	40	7	5	15	464
31-Dec	244	44	53	41	36	14	5	25	462
1995									
31-Mar	278	65	60	35	40	14	7	10	509
30-Jun	293	63	60	48	33	9	7	13	526
30-Sep	276	62	55	39	41	8	6	10	497
31-Dec	261	57	61	38	43	15	6	10	491
1996									
31-Mar	239	53	57	43	49	21	9	7	478
30-Jun	238	66	53	45	65	20	4	6	497
30-Sep	230	65	60	57	63	–	2	14	491
31-Dec	227	61	51	30	55	–	4	14	442
1997									
31-Mar	246	66	60	44	74	–	4	16	510
30-Jun	225	63	45	41	60	–	1	13	448
30-Sep	177	66	60	45	62	–	6	13	429
31-Dec	160	62	65	35	37	–	0	4	363
1998									
31-Mar	201	66	72	50	35	–	0	9	433
30-Jun	233	56	50	49	32	–	4	8	432
30-Sep	206	77	56	46	31	–	7	7	430
31-Dec	174	68	48	47	21	–	7	6	371
1999									
31-Mar	190	57	58	49	33	–	4	2	393
30-Jun	184	50	61	39	24	–	4	14	376
30-Sep	167	74	69	42	37	–	6	5	400
31-Dec	151	52	43	34	26	–	6	7	319
2000									
31-Mar	158	46	53	40	31	–	5	10	343
30-Jun	165	48	42	40	44	–	4	13	356
30-Sep	149	54	34	46	40	–	6	14	343
31-Dec	144	49	34	34	47	–	6	9	323
2001									
31-Mar	121	59	39	28	50	–	7	10	314
30-Jun	134	57	29	19	48	–	0	19	306
30-Sep	149	55	35	35	37	–	2	15	328
31-Dec	112	54	31	52	45	–	3	17	314
2002									
31-Mar	119	61	36	37	36	–	3	7	299
30-Jun	119	50	39	23	27	–	6	12	276
30-Sep	130	47	44	23	34	–	4	8	290
31-Dec	117	46	44	26	35	–	4	10	282
2003									
31-Mar	116	56	41	28	42	23	3	14	323
30-Jun	126	66	39	27	39	14	7	20	338

* Between 30-Sep 1996 and 31-Dec 2002 Australian totals exclude Tasmania
– data are unavailable

Source: Australian Institute of Criminology Juveniles in detention data [computer file]

Table 5(d): Rate* of non-Indigenous persons aged 10 to 17 in juvenile detention, 1994–2003

Year	NSW	Vic.	Qld	WA	SA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Australia**
1994									
31-Mar	38.0	12.8	15.4	28.3	46.9	14.8	59.2	32.8	26.7
30-Jun	38.8	12.0	12.4	28.3	27.0	16.7	37.0	24.6	24.3
30-Sep	35.1	11.8	13.8	29.9	25.7	13.0	37.0	41.1	23.6
31-Dec	37.1	8.9	14.6	21.1	23.1	25.9	37.0	68.4	23.5
1995									
31-Mar	42.0	13.2	16.2	17.8	25.7	25.8	51.6	27.4	25.7
30-Jun	44.2	12.7	16.2	24.4	21.2	16.6	51.6	35.6	26.5
30-Sep	41.7	12.5	14.9	19.8	26.3	14.8	44.2	27.4	25.1
31-Dec	39.4	11.5	16.5	19.3	27.6	27.7	44.2	27.4	24.7
1996									
31-Mar	35.7	10.7	15.2	21.5	31.2	38.9	65.2	19.2	23.9
30-Jun	35.5	13.3	14.1	22.5	41.4	37.0	29.0	16.5	24.8
30-Sep	34.4	13.1	16.0	28.5	40.2	–	14.5	38.4	25.2
31-Dec	33.9	12.3	13.6	15.0	35.1	–	29.0	38.4	22.7
1997									
31-Mar	36.7	13.3	15.9	21.8	47.2	–	28.0	44.3	26.1
30-Jun	33.5	12.7	11.9	20.3	38.3	–	7.0	36.0	22.9
30-Sep	26.4	13.3	15.9	22.3	39.5	–	42.1	36.0	21.9
31-Dec	23.8	12.5	17.2	17.3	23.6	–	0.0	11.1	18.6
1998									
31-Mar	29.8	13.2	18.9	24.5	22.3	–	0.0	25.3	22.0
30-Jun	34.6	11.2	13.1	24.0	20.4	–	27.5	22.5	22.0
30-Sep	30.6	15.4	14.7	22.5	19.7	–	48.1	19.7	21.9
31-Dec	25.8	13.6	12.6	23.0	13.4	–	48.1	16.9	18.9
1999									
31-Mar	28.0	11.3	15.1	23.7	20.9	–	27.5	5.6	19.9
30-Jun	27.2	10.0	15.9	18.9	15.2	–	27.5	39.3	19.0
30-Sep	24.7	14.7	18.0	20.3	23.5	–	41.3	14.0	20.2
31-Dec	22.3	10.3	11.2	16.4	16.5	–	41.3	19.6	16.1
2000									
31-Mar	23.1	9.0	13.7	19.1	19.6	–	24.7	28.1	17.2
30-Jun	24.1	9.4	10.8	19.1	27.9	–	19.8	36.5	17.8
30-Sep	21.8	10.6	8.8	22.0	25.3	–	29.7	39.3	17.2
31-Dec	21.1	9.6	8.8	16.3	29.8	–	29.7	25.3	16.2
2001									
31-Mar	17.4	11.4	9.9	13.2	31.6	–	46.9	27.9	15.5
30-Jun	19.3	11.1	7.3	9.0	30.4	–	0.0	53.0	15.1
30-Sep	21.4	10.7	8.9	16.5	23.4	–	13.4	41.9	16.2
31-Dec	16.1	10.5	7.8	24.6	28.5	–	20.1	47.4	15.5
2002									
31-Mar	17.0	11.8	8.9	17.4	22.9	–	20.4	19.7	14.7
30-Jun	17.0	9.6	9.7	10.8	17.2	–	40.8	33.8	13.5
30-Sep	18.6	9.1	10.9	10.8	21.6	–	27.2	22.5	14.2
31-Dec	16.7	8.9	10.9	12.3	22.2	–	27.2	28.2	13.8
2003									
31-Mar	16.6	10.7	10.0	13.1	26.7	45.0	20.7	39.9	15.4
30-Jun	18.0	12.6	9.5	12.7	24.8	27.4	48.4	57.1	16.1

* Rate per 100,000 relevant population

** Between 30-Sep 1996 and 31-Dec 2002, Australian rates have been calculated using detainee totals excluding Tasmania and population estimates excluding Tasmania

– data are unavailable from which to derive rates

Source: Australian Institute of Criminology Juveniles in detention data [computer file]

Table 5(e): Number of persons aged 10 to 17 in juvenile detention, 1994–2003

Year	NSW	Vic.	Qld	WA	SA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Australia
1994									
31-Mar	340	68	105	131	98	11	17	12	782
30-Jun	370	64	95	131	58	10	13	9	750
30-Sep	327	63	109	118	55	10	15	15	712
31-Dec	327	51	122	97	50	21	18	25	711
1995									
31-Mar	393	75	144	104	49	17	24	12	818
30-Jun	394	74	136	102	39	10	17	14	786
30-Sep	381	71	116	97	65	11	19	11	771
31-Dec	353	68	125	94	60	17	14	14	745
1996									
31-Mar	330	58	141	107	67	25	16	10	754
30-Jun	340	70	136	106	83	26	13	7	781
30-Sep	339	75	137	113	81	18	8	18	789
31-Dec	319	73	129	73	74	18	15	15	716
1997									
31-Mar	373	84	136	111	100	*23	19	19	*865
30-Jun	357	71	100	111	77	*23	21	16	*776
30-Sep	302	78	125	133	81	21	23	13	776
31-Dec	263	76	157	97	47	17	15	7	679
1998									
31-Mar	310	75	159	120	51	19	20	14	768
30-Jun	336	67	126	136	50	19	25	11	770
30-Sep	303	83	134	130	46	27	30	9	762
31-Dec	275	77	118	110	38	31	20	7	676
1999									
31-Mar	283	67	143	135	48	27	26	4	733
30-Jun	277	60	137	125	34	31	14	16	694
30-Sep	250	83	123	110	54	36	16	8	680
31-Dec	228	63	97	114	36	30	18	9	595
2000									
31-Mar	253	55	124	126	40	22	11	12	643
30-Jun	274	52	102	115	59	37	15	15	669
30-Sep	230	61	87	115	55	57	16	16	637
31-Dec	221	55	77	97	64	35	26	15	590
2001									
31-Mar	207	65	99	103	62	44	20	12	612
30-Jun	232	66	85	97	56	37	6	25	604
30-Sep	254	66	81	113	51	21	8	21	615
31-Dec	201	58	77	130	65	30	17	22	600
2002									
31-Mar	208	68	99	108	59	30	17	11	600
30-Jun	203	57	97	79	47	26	21	15	545
30-Sep	218	59	95	91	58	26	24	15	586
31-Dec	210	51	89	101	64	24	25	10	574
2003									
31-Mar	230	69	99	128	68	30	22	18	664
30-Jun	222	76	101	105	71	19	23	23	640

* One male aged 12 and one female aged 12 in March 1997 and one male aged 16 in June 1997 who were not remanded or sentenced have been included

Source: Australian Institute of Criminology Juveniles in detention data [computer file]

Table 5(f): Rate* of persons aged 10 to 17 in juvenile detention, 1994–2003

Year	NSW	Vic.	Qld	WA	SA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Australia
1994									
31-Mar	50.3	13.7	27.6	64.3	61.5	19.3	75.1	32.4	38.5
30-Jun	54.8	12.9	24.9	64.3	36.4	17.6	57.5	24.3	36.9
30-Sep	48.4	12.7	28.6	57.9	34.5	17.6	66.3	40.5	35.0
31-Dec	48.4	10.3	32.0	47.6	31.4	36.9	79.5	67.4	35.0
1995									
31-Mar	57.7	15.1	37.1	50.3	30.7	29.8	105.6	32.4	39.9
30-Jun	57.8	14.9	35.1	49.3	24.4	17.5	74.8	37.8	38.3
30-Sep	55.9	14.3	29.9	46.9	40.7	19.3	83.6	29.7	37.6
31-Dec	51.8	13.7	32.2	45.5	37.6	29.8	61.6	37.8	36.3
1996									
31-Mar	47.9	11.6	35.7	50.9	41.7	43.6	69.1	27.0	36.4
30-Jun	49.3	14.0	34.4	50.4	51.6	45.4	56.1	18.9	37.7
30-Sep	49.2	15.0	34.7	53.7	50.4	31.4	34.5	48.6	38.0
31-Dec	46.3	14.6	32.7	34.7	46.0	31.4	64.8	40.5	34.5
1997									
31-Mar	53.8	16.8	34.1	52.2	62.1	24.1	79.8	51.7	41.5
30-Jun	51.5	14.2	25.1	52.2	47.8	24.1	88.2	43.5	37.3
30-Sep	43.6	15.6	31.4	62.5	50.3	22.0	96.6	35.4	37.3
31-Dec	38.0	15.2	39.4	45.6	29.2	17.8	63.0	19.0	32.6
1998									
31-Mar	44.5	14.9	39.5	55.6	31.6	33.8	82.4	38.6	36.6
30-Jun	48.2	13.3	31.3	63.0	31.0	33.8	103.0	30.3	36.7
30-Sep	43.4	16.5	33.3	60.3	28.5	48.0	123.7	24.8	36.3
31-Dec	39.4	15.3	29.3	51.0	23.5	55.1	82.4	19.3	32.2
1999									
31-Mar	40.3	13.2	35.2	61.7	29.6	48.3	106.4	11.0	34.7
30-Jun	39.4	11.8	33.7	57.1	20.9	55.5	57.3	44.0	32.8
30-Sep	35.6	16.4	30.2	50.3	33.3	64.4	65.5	22.0	32.2
31-Dec	32.4	12.4	23.8	52.1	22.2	53.7	73.7	24.7	28.1
2000									
31-Mar	35.6	10.7	30.1	56.9	24.6	24.1	44.6	32.9	30.1
30-Jun	38.5	10.1	24.7	51.9	36.2	40.5	60.8	41.2	31.3
30-Sep	32.3	11.9	21.1	51.9	33.8	62.4	64.9	43.9	29.8
31-Dec	31.1	10.7	18.7	43.8	39.3	38.3	105.4	41.2	27.6
2001									
31-Mar	28.7	12.5	23.7	45.9	38.1	79.6	80.1	32.8	28.3
30-Jun	32.2	12.7	20.3	43.3	34.4	67.0	24.0	68.4	27.9
30-Sep	35.2	12.7	19.4	50.4	31.3	38.0	32.0	57.5	28.4
31-Dec	27.9	11.1	18.4	58.0	39.9	54.3	68.1	60.2	27.7
2002									
31-Mar	28.7	13.0	23.2	48.0	36.3	54.6	67.9	30.3	27.5
30-Jun	28.0	10.9	22.7	35.1	28.9	47.3	83.8	41.4	25.0
30-Sep	30.0	11.3	22.2	40.4	35.7	47.3	95.8	41.4	26.9
31-Dec	28.9	9.7	20.8	44.9	39.4	43.7	99.8	27.6	26.3
2003									
31-Mar	31.6	13.1	22.8	56.5	41.9	54.7	88.1	50.2	30.2
30-Jun	30.5	14.4	23.2	46.3	43.7	34.6	92.1	64.2	29.1

* Rate per 100,000 relevant population

Source: Australian Institute of Criminology Juveniles in detention data [computer file]

At 30 June 2003, Indigenous people in Australia were 20 times more likely to be detained in juvenile facilities than non-Indigenous juveniles. Figures 2(a) through 2(h) illustrate the level of over-representation of Indigenous young people in detention for each state and territory since 1994. When examining these figures it is important to recognise that rates of detention per 100,000 population and the resulting over-representation ratios can be highly variable in states and territories with:

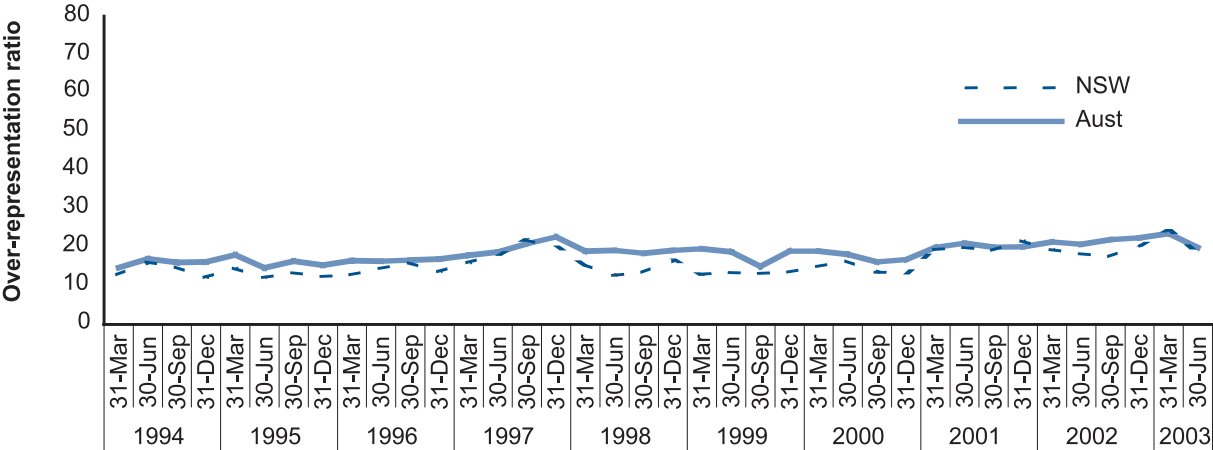
- small populations of Indigenous people;
- small numbers of people in juvenile detention; and/or
- small numbers of Indigenous people in juvenile detention.

These issues are particularly relevant to Tasmania, the Northern Territory and the ACT.

It can be seen from the graphs that New South Wales depicts a trend most consistent with national figures. This is to be expected given that New South Wales – with its large population – impacts heavily on national trends. Conversely, the highest levels of over-representation at 30 June 2003 were found in:

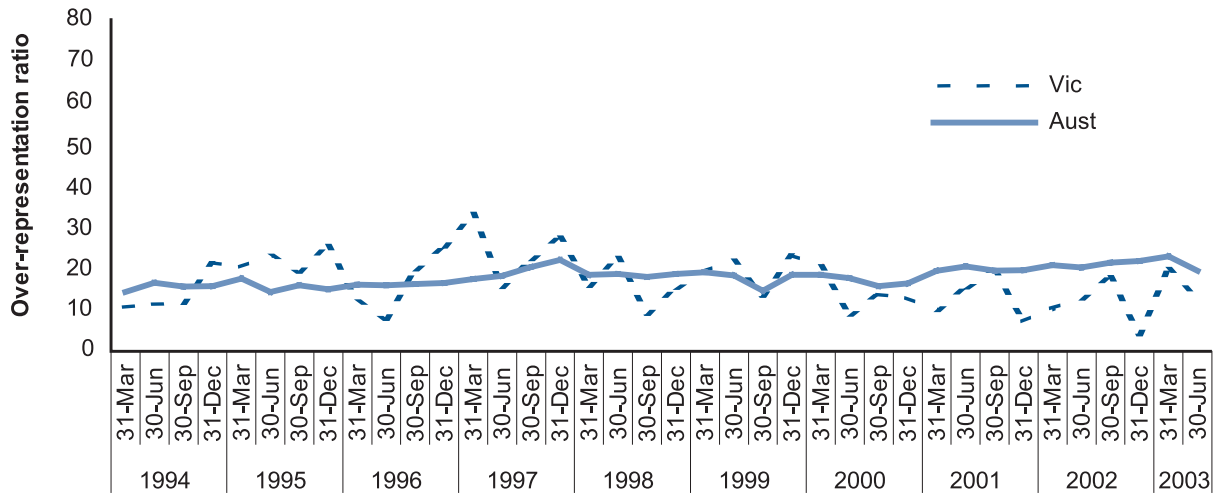
- Western Australia (where Indigenous young people were 46 times more likely to be detained than non-Indigenous young people); and
- South Australia and Queensland (where Indigenous persons were 25 times over-represented in juvenile detention).

Figure 2(a): Level of Indigenous over-representation in juvenile detention in New South Wales, 1994–2003



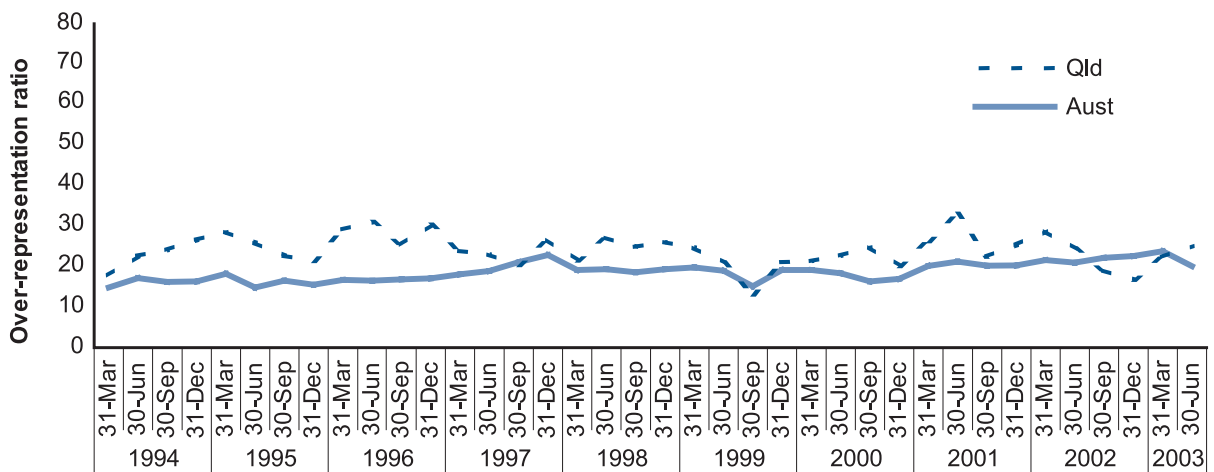
Source: Australian Institute of Criminology Juveniles in detention data [computer file]

Figure 2(b): Level of Indigenous over-representation in juvenile detention in Victoria, 1994–2003



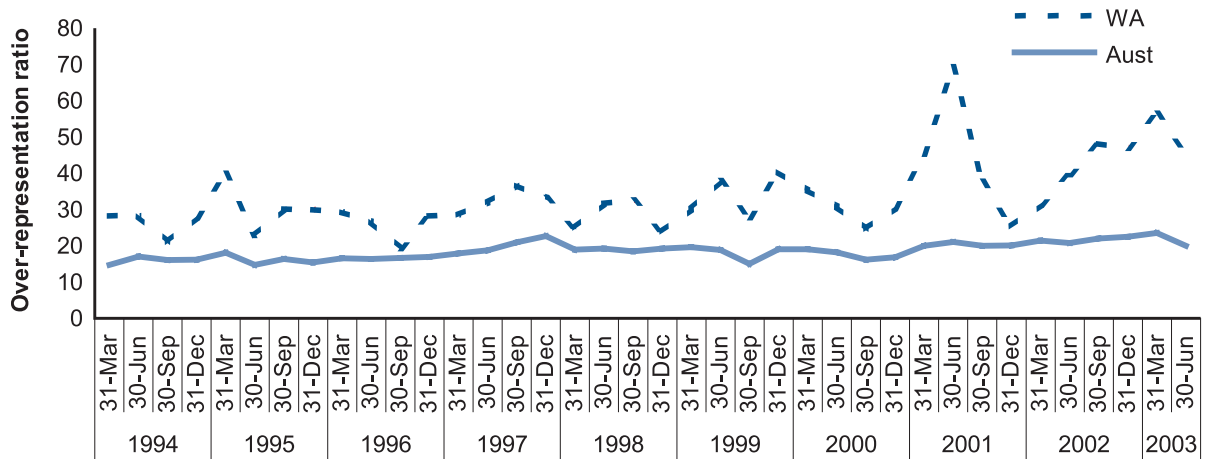
Source: Australian Institute of Criminology Juveniles in detention data [computer file]

Figure 2(c): Level of Indigenous over-representation in juvenile detention in Queensland, 1994–2003



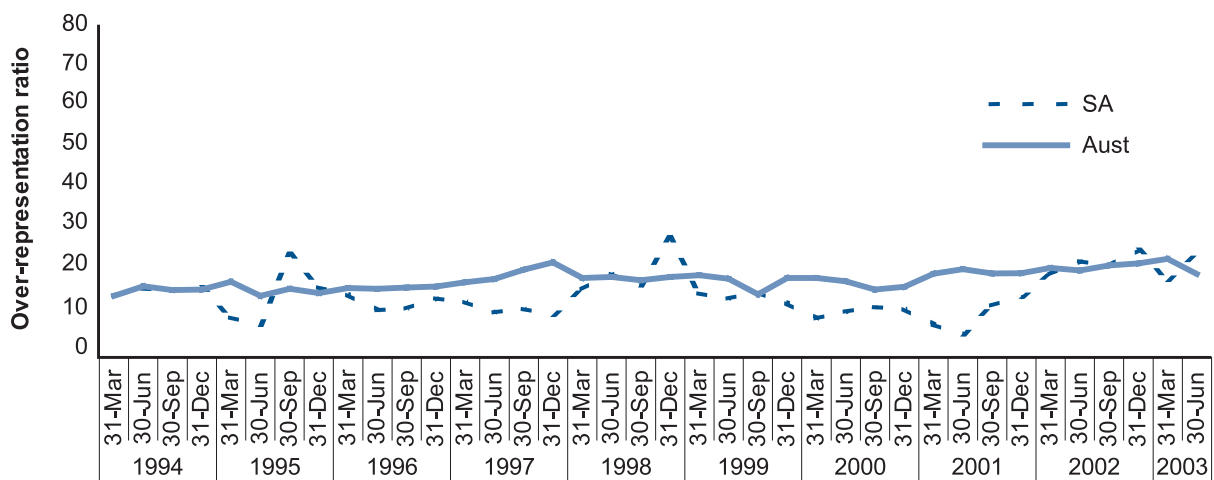
Source: Australian Institute of Criminology Juveniles in detention data [computer file]

Figure 2(d): Level of Indigenous over-representation in juvenile detention in Western Australia, 1994–2003



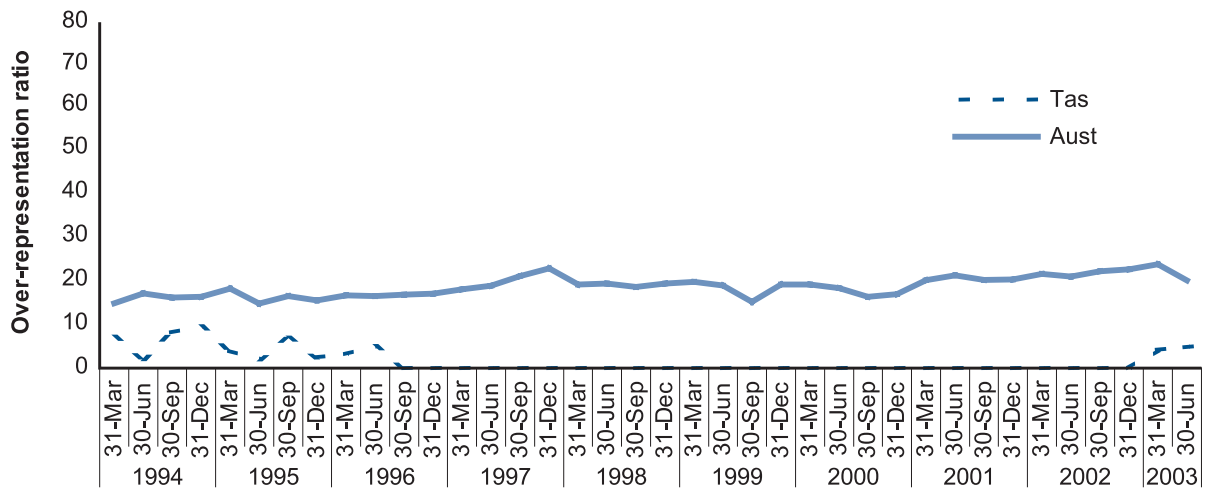
Source: Australian Institute of Criminology Juveniles in detention data [computer file]

Figure 2(e): Level of Indigenous over-representation in juvenile detention in South Australia, 1994–2003



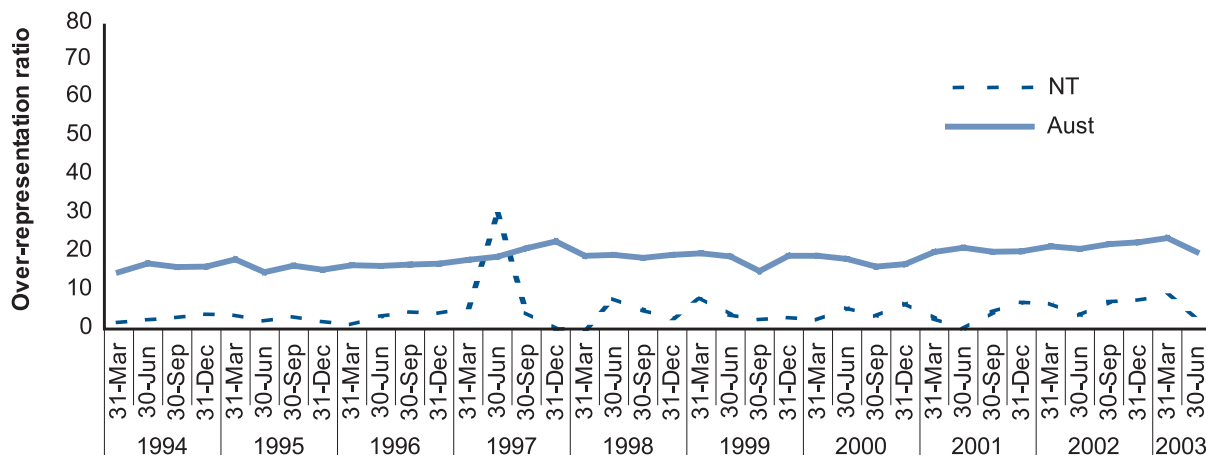
Source: Australian Institute of Criminology Juveniles in detention data [computer file]

Figure 2(f): Level of Indigenous over-representation in juvenile detention in Tasmania, 1994–2003*



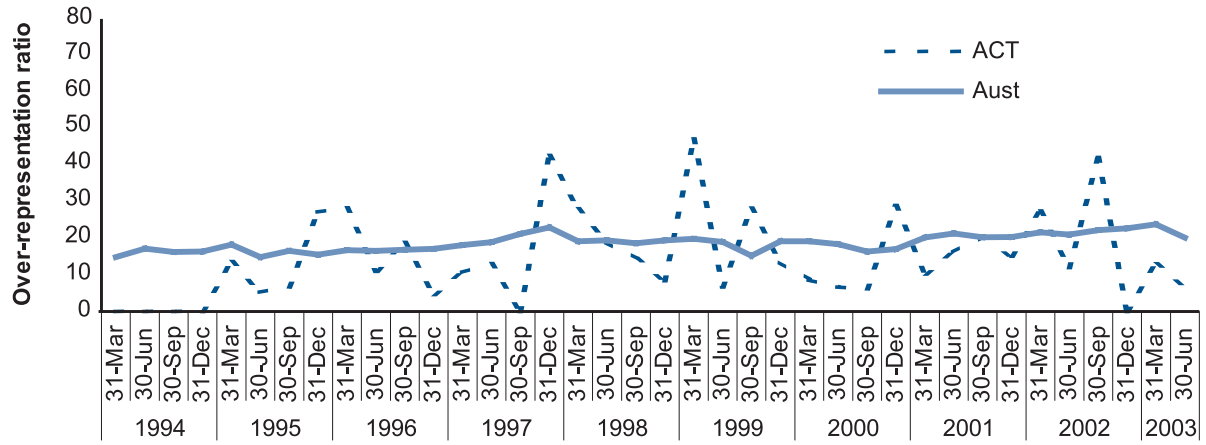
* Data unavailable between 30-Sep 1996 and 31-Dec 2002
 Source: Australian Institute of Criminology Juveniles in detention data [computer file]

Figure 2(g): Level of Indigenous over-representation in juvenile detention in the Northern Territory, 1994–2003



Source: Australian Institute of Criminology Juveniles in detention data [computer file]

Figure 2(h): Level of Indigenous over-representation in juvenile detention in the Australian Capital Territory, 1994–2003



Source: Australian Institute of Criminology Juveniles in detention data [computer file]

Statistical review: financial year 2002–2003

Tables 6(a), 6(b) and 6(c) present information on the number and rate of Indigenous and non-Indigenous people aged 10 to 17 in juvenile detention for the four quarters of the financial year 2002–03. This information is provided by jurisdiction, and it can be seen that South Australia had the highest rate of juvenile detention for Indigenous persons aged 10 to 17 at 30 June 2003 (610.0 per 100,000 relevant population), whereas Tasmania had the lowest rate of detention for Indigenous young people (133.2 per 100,000 relevant population).

The ACT had the highest rate of detention for non-Indigenous persons aged 10 to 17 (57.1 per 100,000 relevant population) and Queensland had the lowest for this group (9.5 per 100,000 relevant population). It is important to remember that the rates can vary significantly in jurisdictions where there are small populations, in particular Tasmania, the Northern Territory and the ACT.

It should also be noted that rates of detention between quarters in different years may change even if the number of persons in detention are the same, due to the different population figures used.

Table 6(a): Males aged 10 to 17 in juvenile detention, 2002–2003									
Year	NSW	Vic.	Qld	WA	SA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Australia*
Number									
Indigenous									
30-Sep	78	11	47	59	21	–	20	2	238
31-Dec	84	5	41	65	24	–	20	0	239
31-Mar	100	12	51	88	25	7	19	2	304
30-Jun	87	9	55	68	28	3	16	3	269
Non-Indigenous									
30-Sep	126	43	38	21	33	–	4	8	273
31-Dec	109	42	41	26	32	–	4	8	262
31-Mar	112	53	38	26	36	18	3	13	299
30-Jun	119	62	35	27	33	14	7	17	314
Total persons									
30-Sep	204	54	85	80	54	23	24	10	534
31-Dec	193	47	82	91	56	19	24	8	520
31-Mar	212	65	89	114	61	25	22	15	603
30-Jun	206	71	90	95	61	17	23	20	583
Rate per 100,000 relevant population									
Indigenous									
30-Sep	562.7	392.6	370.5	878.6	822.6	–	370.6	557.1	536.2
31-Dec	606.0	178.4	323.2	968.0	940.1	–	370.6	0.0	538.5
31-Mar	684.9	403.6	380.2	1264.5	946.3	353.5	345.3	518.1	627.2
30-Jun	595.9	302.7	410.0	977.2	1059.8	151.5	290.8	777.2	555.0
Non-Indigenous									
30-Sep	35.2	16.3	18.4	19.3	40.8	–	52.2	44.3	26.2
31-Dec	30.4	15.9	19.9	23.9	39.6	–	52.2	44.3	25.1
31-Mar	31.2	19.9	18.1	23.8	44.6	69.1	40.4	72.6	27.8
30-Jun	33.1	23.3	16.7	24.7	40.9	53.8	94.3	94.9	29.2
Total persons									
30-Sep	54.8	20.2	38.8	69.4	64.8	82.0	183.9	54.2	47.8
31-Dec	51.9	17.6	37.5	78.9	67.2	67.8	183.9	43.4	46.6
31-Mar	56.7	24.1	39.9	98.1	73.2	89.2	170.2	82.0	53.6
30-Jun	55.1	26.3	40.3	81.8	73.2	60.7	177.9	109.3	51.8

* Australian totals and rates for Indigenous and non-Indigenous persons do not include Tasmania for 30-Sep 2002 and 31-Dec 2002

– data are unavailable for totals and from which to derive rates for 30-Sep 2002 and 31-Dec 2002

Source: Australian Institute of Criminology Juveniles in detention data [computer file]

Table 6(b): Females aged 10 to 17 in juvenile detention, 2002–2003

Year	NSW	Vic.	Qld	WA	SA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Australia*
Number									
Indigenous									
30-Sep	10	1	4	9	3	–	0	5	32
31-Dec	9	0	4	10	5	–	1	0	29
31-Mar	14	1	7	12	1	0	0	2	37
30-Jun	9	1	7	10	4	2	0	0	33
Non-Indigenous									
30-Sep	4	4	6	2	1	–	0	0	17
31-Dec	8	4	3	0	3	–	0	2	20
31-Mar	4	3	3	2	6	5	0	1	24
30-Jun	7	4	4	0	6	0	0	3	24
Total persons									
30-Sep	14	5	10	11	4	3	0	5	52
31-Dec	17	4	7	10	8	5	1	2	54
31-Mar	18	4	10	14	7	5	0	3	61
30-Jun	16	5	11	10	10	2	0	3	57
Rate per 100,000 relevant population									
Indigenous									
30-Sep	76.8	36.2	33.3	142.9	119.5	–	0.0	1288.7	76.2
31-Dec	69.1	0.0	33.3	158.8	199.1	–	20.3	0.0	69.1
31-Mar	102.2	34.0	55.1	183.9	38.4	0.0	0.0	507.6	81.1
30-Jun	65.7	34.0	55.1	153.2	153.6	112.7	0.0	0.0	72.3
Non-Indigenous									
30-Sep	1.2	1.6	3.1	1.9	1.3	–	0.0	0.0	1.7
31-Dec	2.3	1.6	1.5	0.0	3.9	–	0.0	11.5	2.0
31-Mar	1.2	1.2	1.5	1.9	7.8	19.9	0.0	5.8	2.3
30-Jun	2.1	1.6	2.0	0.0	7.8	0.0	0.0	17.5	2.3
Total persons									
30-Sep	4.0	1.9	4.8	10.0	5.1	11.2	0.0	28.0	4.9
31-Dec	4.8	1.6	3.4	9.1	10.1	18.6	8.3	11.2	5.1
31-Mar	5.1	1.5	4.7	12.7	8.8	18.6	0.0	17.1	5.7
30-Jun	4.5	1.9	5.2	9.1	12.6	7.4	0.0	17.1	5.3

* Australian totals and rates for Indigenous and non-Indigenous persons do not include Tasmania for 30-Sep 2002 and 31-Dec 2002

– data are unavailable for totals and from which to derive rates for 30-Sep 2002 and 31-Dec 2002

Source: Australian Institute of Criminology Juveniles in detention data [computer file]

Table 6(c): Persons aged 10 to 17 in juvenile detention, 2002–2003

Year	NSW	Vic.	Qld	WA	SA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Australia*
Number									
Indigenous									
30-Sep	88	12	51	68	24	–	20	7	270
31-Dec	93	5	45	75	29	–	21	0	268
31-Mar	114	13	58	100	26	7	19	4	341
30-Jun	96	10	62	78	32	5	16	3	302
Non-Indigenous									
30-Sep	130	47	44	23	34	–	4	8	290
31-Dec	117	46	44	26	35	–	4	10	282
31-Mar	116	56	41	28	42	23	3	14	323
30-Jun	126	66	39	27	39	14	7	20	338
Total persons									
30-Sep	218	59	95	91	58	26	24	15	586
31-Dec	210	51	89	101	64	24	25	10	574
31-Mar	230	69	99	128	68	30	22	18	664
30-Jun	222	76	101	105	71	19	23	23	640
Rate per 100,000 relevant population									
Indigenous									
30-Sep	327.2	215.6	206.4	522.6	473.9	–	193.6	937.1	312.7
31-Dec	345.8	89.8	182.1	576.3	572.7	–	203.3	0.0	310.4
31-Mar	402.8	219.8	234.7	741.6	495.6	186.5	181.1	512.8	362.3
30-Jun	339.2	169.1	237.4	578.4	610.0	133.2	152.5	384.6	320.9
Non-Indigenous									
30-Sep	18.6	9.1	10.9	10.8	21.6	–	27.2	22.5	14.2
31-Dec	16.7	8.9	10.9	12.3	22.2	–	27.2	28.2	13.8
31-Mar	16.6	10.7	10.0	13.1	26.7	45.0	20.7	39.9	15.4
30-Jun	18.0	12.6	9.5	12.7	24.8	27.4	48.4	57.1	16.1
Total persons									
30-Sep	30.0	11.3	22.2	40.4	35.7	47.3	95.8	41.4	26.9
31-Dec	28.9	9.7	20.8	44.9	39.4	43.7	99.8	27.6	26.3
31-Mar	31.6	13.1	22.8	56.5	41.9	54.7	88.1	50.2	30.2
30-Jun	30.5	14.4	23.2	46.3	43.7	34.6	92.1	64.2	29.1

* Australian totals and rates for Indigenous and non-Indigenous persons do not include Tasmania for 30-Sep 2002 and 31-Dec 2002

– data are unavailable for totals and from which to derive rates for 30-Sep 2002 and 31-Dec 2002

Source: Australian Institute of Criminology Juveniles in detention data [computer file]

Tables 7(a), 7(b) and 7(c) show the differences between jurisdictions with regards to the proportion of juveniles in detention who are sentenced as opposed to remanded. Victoria has the highest sentenced proportion of detainees, with 83 per cent of persons aged 10 to 17 in detention sentenced on 30 June 2003. This can be attributed to a combination of factors: first, the diversionary program active in the state which is aimed at minimising alleged offenders being remanded prior to sentencing; and second, there is no provision for persons over the age of 17 to be remanded in juvenile detention in Victoria. The smallest proportions of sentenced offenders were found in South Australia, New South Wales and Queensland, where less than 50 per cent of persons in juvenile facilities were sentenced on 30 June 2003.

Table 7(a): Males aged 10 to 17 in juvenile detention – sentenced males as a percentage of total males, 2002–2003

Year	NSW	Vic.	Qld	WA	SA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Australia*
Indigenous									
30-Sep	62.8	72.7	34.0	66.1	28.6	–	45.0	50.0	53.8
31-Dec	57.1	60.0	39.0	67.7	37.5	–	70.0	na	56.1
31-Mar	52.0	41.7	45.1	75.0	40.0	42.9	47.4	50.0	55.6
30-Jun	44.8	88.9	45.5	72.1	42.9	100.0	68.8	100.0	55.8
Non-Indigenous									
30-Sep	57.9	74.4	23.7	61.9	51.5	–	25.0	75.0	55.3
31-Dec	60.6	64.3	34.1	57.7	53.1	–	50.0	100.0	56.9
31-Mar	45.5	71.7	36.8	57.7	55.6	83.3	0.0	53.8	53.5
30-Jun	38.7	82.3	40.0	51.9	39.4	35.7	85.7	47.1	50.0
Total persons									
30-Sep	59.8	74.1	29.4	65.0	42.6	56.5	41.7	70.0	52.2
31-Dec	59.1	63.8	36.6	64.8	46.4	36.8	66.7	100.0	54.4
31-Mar	48.6	66.2	41.6	71.1	49.2	72.0	40.9	53.3	54.6
30-Jun	41.3	83.1	43.3	66.3	41.0	47.1	73.9	55.0	52.7

* Australian figures for Indigenous and non-Indigenous persons do not include Tasmania for 30-Sep 2002 and 31-Dec 2002

– data are unavailable

na = not applicable: no males detained on the night of the quarterly census

Source: Australian Institute of Criminology Juveniles in detention data [computer file]

Table 7(b): Females aged 10 to 17 in juvenile detention – sentenced females as a percentage of total females, 2002–2003

Year	NSW	Vic.	Qld	WA	SA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Australia*
Indigenous									
30-Sep	70.0	0.0	25.0	66.7	33.3	–	na	100.0	62.5
31-Dec	55.6	na	25.0	30.0	20.0	–	100.0	na	37.9
31-Mar	35.7	0.0	42.9	75.0	100.0	na	na	0.0	48.6
30-Jun	33.3	0.0	14.3	40.0	25.0	100.0	na	na	33.3
Non-Indigenous									
30-Sep	0.0	100.0	16.7	50.0	0.0	–	na	na	35.3
31-Dec	37.5	100.0	0.0	na	0.0	–	na	100.0	45.0
31-Mar	75.0	66.7	33.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	na	0.0	25.0
30-Jun	57.1	100.0	50.0	na	0.0	na	na	33.3	45.8
Total persons									
30-Sep	50.0	80.0	20.0	63.6	25.0	33.3	na	100.0	50.0
31-Dec	47.1	100.0	14.3	30.0	12.5	40.0	100.0	100.0	37.0
31-Mar	44.4	50.0	40.0	64.3	14.3	0.0	na	0.0	39.3
30-Jun	43.8	80.0	27.3	40.0	10.0	100.0	na	33.3	38.6

* Australian figures for Indigenous and non-Indigenous persons do not include Tasmania for 30-Sep 2002 and 31-Dec 2002

– data are unavailable

na = not applicable: no females detained on the night of the quarterly census

Source: Australian Institute of Criminology Juveniles in detention data [computer file]

Table 7(c): Persons aged 10 to 17 in juvenile detention – sentenced persons as a percentage of total persons, 2002–2003

Year	NSW	Vic.	Qld	WA	SA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Australia*
Indigenous									
30-Sep	63.6	66.7	33.3	66.2	29.2	–	45.0	85.7	54.8
31-Dec	57.0	60.0	37.8	62.7	34.5	–	71.4	na	54.1
31-Mar	50.0	38.5	44.8	75.0	42.3	42.9	47.4	25.0	54.8
30-Jun	43.8	80.0	41.9	67.9	40.6	100.0	68.8	100.0	53.3
Non-Indigenous									
30-Sep	56.2	76.6	22.7	60.9	50.0	–	25.0	75.0	54.1
31-Dec	59.0	67.4	31.8	57.7	48.6	–	50.0	100.0	55.7
31-Mar	46.6	71.4	36.6	53.6	47.6	65.2	0.0	50.0	51.4
30-Jun	39.7	83.3	41.0	51.9	33.3	35.7	85.7	45.0	49.7
Total persons									
30-Sep	59.2	74.6	28.4	64.8	41.4	53.8	41.7	80.0	52.0
31-Dec	58.1	66.7	34.8	61.4	42.2	37.5	68.0	100.0	52.8
31-Mar	48.3	65.2	41.4	70.3	45.6	60.0	40.9	44.4	53.2
30-Jun	41.4	82.9	41.6	63.8	36.6	52.6	73.9	52.2	51.4

* Australian figures for Indigenous and non-Indigenous persons do not include Tasmania for 30-Sep 2002 and 31-Dec 2002

– data are unavailable

na = not applicable: no persons detained on the night of the quarterly census

Source: Australian Institute of Criminology Juveniles in detention data [computer file]

Table 8 presents data on the number of persons in juvenile detention during the financial year 2002–03 who were above the defined age for a juvenile in this publication (that is, 18 or over). Jurisdictions vary in how young people are dealt with after reaching adulthood, with some allowing 18-year-olds to continue their sentence in juvenile detention, while others provide for 18-year-olds to be transferred to an alternative correctional facility.

New South Wales and Victoria have consistently had the highest number of ‘adults’ in juvenile detention, with the former traditionally keeping detainees in juvenile facilities regardless of transition into adulthood, and the latter having senior youth training centres.

Table 8: Number of persons aged 18 and over in juvenile detention, 2002–2003

Year	NSW	Vic.	Qld	WA	SA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Australia*
Indigenous									
30-Sep	14	8	1	5	1	–	0	1	30
31-Dec	14	7	2	2	3	–	0	0	28
31-Mar	19	3	3	4	1	0	0	0	30
30-Jun	31	3	3	7	1	1	0	0	46
Non-Indigenous									
30-Sep	58	86	3	7	6	–	0	1	161
31-Dec	47	91	4	5	4	–	0	1	152
31-Mar	51	89	2	4	7	1	0	0	154
30-Jun	57	80	3	5	7	2	0	1	155
Total persons									
30-Sep	72	94	4	12	7	5	0	2	191
31-Dec	61	98	6	7	7	4	0	1	180
31-Mar	70	92	5	8	8	1	0	0	184
30-Jun	88	83	6	12	8	3	0	1	201

* Australian totals for Indigenous and non-Indigenous persons do not include Tasmania for 30-Sep 2002 and 31-Dec 2002

– data are unavailable

Source: Australian Institute of Criminology Juveniles in detention data [computer file]

The following tables provide data on the total detained juvenile population (all ages) in each jurisdiction over the financial year 2002–03.

Table 9(a): Number of males in juvenile detention (all ages), 2002–2003

Year	NSW	Vic.	Qld	WA	SA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Australia*
Indigenous									
30-Sep	90	17	48	64	22	–	20	2	263
31-Dec	96	12	43	67	24	–	20	0	262
31-Mar	118	15	54	92	26	7	19	2	333
30-Jun	116	11	58	75	29	3	16	3	311
Non-Indigenous									
30-Sep	184	117	41	28	38	–	4	9	421
31-Dec	155	122	45	31	36	–	4	9	402
31-Mar	162	134	40	29	42	19	3	13	442
30-Jun	175	134	38	31	40	16	7	18	459
Total persons									
30-Sep	274	134	89	92	60	28	24	11	712
31-Dec	251	134	88	98	60	23	24	9	687
31-Mar	280	149	94	121	68	26	22	15	775
30-Jun	291	145	96	106	69	19	23	21	770

* Australian totals for Indigenous and non-Indigenous persons do not include Tasmania for 30-Sep 2002 and 31-Dec 2002

– data are unavailable

Source: Australian Institute of Criminology Juveniles in detention data [computer file]

Table 9(b): Number of females in juvenile detention (all ages), 2002–2003

Year	NSW	Vic.	Qld	WA	SA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Australia*
Indigenous									
30-Sep	12	3	4	9	3	–	0	6	37
31-Dec	11	0	4	10	8	–	1	0	34
31-Mar	15	1	7	12	1	0	0	2	38
30-Jun	11	2	7	10	4	3	0	0	37
Non-Indigenous									
30-Sep	4	16	6	2	2	–	0	0	30
31-Dec	9	15	3	0	3	–	0	2	32
31-Mar	5	11	3	3	7	5	0	1	35
30-Jun	8	12	4	1	6	0	0	3	34
Total persons									
30-Sep	16	19	10	11	5	3	0	6	70
31-Dec	20	15	7	10	11	5	1	2	71
31-Mar	20	12	10	15	8	5	0	3	73
30-Jun	19	14	11	11	10	3	0	3	71

* Australian totals for Indigenous and non-Indigenous persons do not include Tasmania for 30-Sep 2002 and 31-Dec 2002

– data are unavailable

Source: Australian Institute of Criminology Juveniles in detention data [computer file]

Table 9(c): Number of persons in juvenile detention (all ages), 2002–2003

Year	NSW	Vic.	Qld	WA	SA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Australia*
Indigenous									
30-Sep	102	20	52	73	25	–	20	8	300
31-Dec	107	12	47	77	32	–	21	0	296
31-Mar	133	16	61	104	27	7	19	4	371
30-Jun	127	13	65	85	33	6	16	3	348
Non-Indigenous									
30-Sep	188	133	47	30	40	–	4	9	451
31-Dec	164	137	48	31	39	–	4	11	434
31-Mar	167	145	43	32	49	24	3	14	477
30-Jun	183	146	42	32	46	16	7	21	493
Total persons									
30-Sep	290	153	99	103	65	31	24	17	782
31-Dec	271	149	95	108	71	28	25	11	758
31-Mar	300	161	104	136	76	31	22	18	848
30-Jun	310	159	107	117	79	22	23	24	841

* Australian totals for Indigenous and non-Indigenous persons do not include Tasmania for 30-Sep 2002 and 31-Dec 2002
– data are unavailable

Source: Australian Institute of Criminology Juveniles in detention data [computer file]

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