

AUSTRALIAN PRISON TRENDS

**NOS. 1-100
MAY 1976 to SEPTEMBER 1984**

**Compiled by
DAVID BILES**

**Assisted by
MARJORIE JOHNSON**



Australian Institute of Criminology



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INTRODUCTION

This publication comprises copies of the first 100 statistical bulletins, Australian Prison Trends, which have been published by the Australian Institute of Criminology each month since May 1976. The consolidation of these bulletins is, to some extent, of historical interest, as it places in convenient form a large collection of otherwise scattered statistical information, but it also may be of interest in that it demonstrates how a statistical collection develops and extends over time. Thus this publication can be seen as a case study of an evolutionary approach to the improvement of criminal justice statistics.

The idea of producing a monthly collection of Australian prison statistics came from a seminar on penal measures conducted by the Institute in early 1976 at which reference was made to the differences in imprisonment rates (prisoners per 100,000 population) between Australian jurisdictions. Several prison administrators were participants in this seminar and they suggested that the figures that had been quoted were out of date. More importantly, they offered to supply more up-to-date statistics for their own jurisdictions. Following further informal discussions and some correspondence a simple data collection sheet was designed and circulated. At that time all that was collected was the daily average numbers of male and female prisoners in gazetted institutions for adults for the relevant month in each jurisdiction. These figures were reproduced and, after the first issue, converted into imprisonment rates in Australian Prison Trends, which, for the first twelve months was circulated only to the prison administrators themselves. Also during the first year of publication an attempt was made to show changes over time in the size of the prison populations. Some brief interpretative comments were included in most issues.

After a year of publication, and with the agreement of the administrators, circulation was widened to include the Chief Justices in each State and Territory and a small number of research organisations. This monthly publication aroused considerable interest, especially in the imprisonment rates, and during the second year the collection was extended to include basic information on the numbers of unconvicted prisoners on remand for the first day of each month.

Initially the remand statistics were published simply as crude numbers and as a percentage of the total prisoners for each jurisdiction, but some administrators pointed out that this gave a misleading picture, particularly for those jurisdictions with low imprisonment rates. Hence, from 1 November 1977 (issue No. 18) the remand figures were also presented as rates per 100,000 population.

Also approximately at that time, with the co-operation of the Federal Attorney-General's Department, it became possible to list the Australian Capital Territory as a separate jurisdiction, even though the majority of A.C.T. prisoners were (and still are) held in New South Wales prisons. From August 1978 a further refinement was made which allowed the (then not inconsiderable) numbers of Northern Territory prisoners who were serving sentences in other jurisdictions to be identified. Thus, as it evolved, the collection became as much of interest to judges and magistrates as it was to prison administrators. The imprisonment and remand rates were increasingly being seen as a direct reflection of sentencing and bail decision-making.

As a supplement to an issue of Australian Prison Trends in 1979 a prison occupancy survey was conducted. This showed that while the overall prison occupancy rate was 88.9 per cent, the rates (excluding the A.C.T.) varied from 65.3 per cent in Tasmania to 103.4 per cent in Western Australia! Even though this survey was more difficult to undertake than anticipated, it probably should be repeated from time to time.

Some small improvements were made to the collection in late 1978 by adding information about work release and attendance centre programs, but in July 1980, again with the co-operation of the Federal Attorney-General's Department, the numbers of Federal prisoners in each jurisdiction were added. Initially these data were included each quarter, but later they were included each month. From November 1980 information was added on the numbers of sentenced prisoners received each month in each jurisdiction. Theoretically, this additional datum can be used, together with the daily average numbers of prisoners, less remandees, to calculate the average time served under sentence in each jurisdiction.

No further significant changes have been made to Australian Prison Trends in recent years, but the extent of the development of this series can be readily seen by comparing earlier issues with the most recent. This development illustrates the interaction of supply and demand with regard to criminal justice statistics. In this case it was the suppliers of the information, the prison administrators, who frequently demanded that more information be included in the monthly bulletins. Furthermore, particularly following the publication of synopses of the monthly data in the Institute's quarterly, Reporter, outside interest in the series increased and this led to a demand for more and better information.

The data from Australian Prison Trends have been cited in many publications, including reports of the Australian Law Reform Commission, and undoubtedly there is now a much wider public understanding of the numbers of people in prison in Australia than there was, say, ten years ago. But perhaps of even greater importance is the fact that Australian Prison Trends prompted the development of a number of parallel criminal justice data series. These include Juveniles under Detention, which commenced as a monthly publication in January 1977 under the direction of Dr Satyanshu Mukherjee, but became a quarterly publication in January 1982 after negotiations with Welstat, the agency with whom the work is undertaken and which is responsible to the Welfare Ministers' Conference. Another series, National Probation and Parole Statistics, now renamed Australian Community Corrections Data, was initiated in 1978 under the direction of Mr Ivan Potas. This is a monthly publication which is complementary to Australian Prison Trends. (Both of these more recent collections have also expanded considerably since their humble beginnings.) Finally, a quarterly publication, Prison Statistics for Asia and the Pacific was started in May 1980. This contains basic data from fifteen countries in the region and is closely integrated with the work of the Annual Conference of Correctional Administrators for Asia and the Pacific.

Possibly the most important consequence of the monthly publication of Australian Prison Trends has been the development of annual censuses of all Australian prisoners. Pressure for this development came from a number of directions. A conference of Chief

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Justices in 1980 asked if the Institute could do more to explain the differences in imprisonment rates by identifying the different types of prisoners in each jurisdiction, and a meeting of correctional administrators the following year recommended to the Conference of Correctional Services Ministers that a uniform national prison census be conducted in collaboration with the Institute. Censuses have been conducted on 30 June 1982, 1983 and 1984 with the results being widely recognised as invaluable for both planning and further research. A parallel census of persons undergoing community-based corrections is in preparation for 1985.

The detailed negotiations and administration of these censuses is now undertaken by a body named the National Correctional Statistics Committee which is responsible to the Conference of Correctional Services Ministers. This committee meets once or twice a year and comprises representatives of all corrections departments, the Australian Bureau of Statistics and the Institute. The committee also has an advisory role in relation to the Institute's monthly and quarterly data collections.

This brief statement of the development and impact of Australian Prison Trends should not leave the impression that there have been no difficulties along the way. There has generally been an extremely high level of co-operation from the staff of corrections agencies, but occasionally gaps have appeared and errors have been detected. Wherever possible corrections were noted in the subsequent issues. The 100 issues of Australian Prison Trends reproduced in this volume include these omissions and corrections, warts and all. Nevertheless, it must be the case that this consolidated collection contains a unique source of data for the criminal justice researchers in Australia.

D.B.

November 1984

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Publication dates of Australian Prison Trends Nos. 1 to 100

<u>No.</u>	<u>Period covered</u>	<u>Date of publication</u>
1	May and June 1976	30 July 1976
2	July 1976	2 September 1976
3	August 1976	27 September 1976
4	September 1976	25 October 1976
5	October 1976	18 November 1976
6	November 1976	23 December 1976
7	December 1976	26 January 1977
8	January 1977	28 February 1977
9	February 1977	23 March 1977
10	March 1977	11 May 1977
11	April 1977	25 May 1977
12	May 1977	30 June 1977
13	June 1977	3 August 1977
14	July 1977	30 August 1977
15	August 1977	22 September 1977
16	September 1977	21 October 1977
17	October 1977	2 December 1977
18	November 1977	17 January 1978
19	December 1977	7 February 1978
20	January 1978	24 February 1978
21	February 1978	5 April 1978
22	March 1978	27 April 1978
23	April 1978	24 May 1978
24	May 1978	3 July 1978
25	June 1978	25 July 1978
26	July 1978	24 August 1978
27	August 1978	29 September 1978
28	September 1978	26 October 1978
29	October 1978	29 November 1978
30	November 1978	10 January 1979
31	December 1978	24 January 1979
32	January 1979	26 February 1979
33	February 1979	26 March 1979
34	March 1979	27 April 1979
35 **	April 1979	23 May 1979
36	May 1979	22 June 1979
37	June 1979	31 July 1979
38	July 1979	24 August 1979
39	August 1979	25 September 1979
40	September 1979	25 October 1979
41	October 1979	27 November 1979
42	November 1979	14 January 1980
43	December 1979	25 January 1980
44	January 1980	28 February 1980
45	February 1980	24 March 1980
46	March 1980	24 April 1980
47	April 1980	22 May 1980
48	May 1980	27 June 1980
49	June 1980	29 July 1980
50	July 1980	27 August 1980

** Includes prison accommodation survey

<u>No.</u>	<u>Period covered</u>	<u>Date of publication</u>
51	August 1980	25 September 1980
52	September 1980	30 October 1980
53	October 1980	24 November 1980
54	November 1980	23 December 1980
55	December 1980	5 February 1981
56	January 1981	25 February 1981
57	February 1981	30 March 1981
58	March 1981	29 April 1981
59	April 1981	29 May 1981
60	May 1981	6 July 1981
61	June 1981	30 July 1981
62	July 1981	4 September 1981
63	August 1981	23 September 1981
64	September 1981	26 October 1981
65	October 1981	9 December 1981
66	November 1981	27 January 1982
67	December 1981	3 February 1982
68	January 1982	10 March 1982
69	February 1982	31 March 1982
70	March 1982	30 April 1982
71	April 1982	28 May 1982
72	May 1982	2 July 1982
73	June 1982	30 July 1982
74	July 1982	31 August 1982
75	August 1982	30 September 1982
76	September 1982	26 October 1982
77	October 1982	30 November 1982
78	November 1982	24 December 1982
79	December 1982	1 February 1983
80	January 1983	2 March 1983
81	February 1983	29 March 1983
82	March 1983	27 April 1983
83	April 1983	31 May 1983
84	May 1983	29 June 1983
85	June 1983	28 July 1983
86	July 1983	25 August 1983
87	August 1983	29 September 1983
88	September 1983	31 October 1983
89	October 1983	28 November 1983
90	November 1983	17 January 1984
91	December 1983	25 January 1984
92	January 1984	29 February 1984
93	February 1984	28 March 1984
94	March 1984	2 May 1984
95	April 1984	25 May 1984
96	May 1984	29 June 1984
97	June 1984	2 August 1984
98	July 1984	31 August 1984
99	August 1984	28 September 1984
100	September 1984	29 October 1984



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30 July 1976

AUSTRALIAN PRISON TRENDS

With the co-operation of all prison administrators in Australia the Institute has produced the first 'fact sheet' of prison statistics. Monthly statements are planned.

Daily average numbers of persons held in custody for :

	<u>May 1976</u>			<u>June 1976</u>		
	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
N.S.W.*	3503	110	3613	3458	101	3559
VIC.	1557	31	1588	1573	36	1609
QLD*	1462	27	1489	1496	34	1530
S.A.	698	16	714	662	14	676
W.A.	964	44	1008	933	44	977
TAS.	285	4	289	288	4	292
N.T.	202	4	206	194	3	197
AUST.	8671	236	8907	8604	236	8840

* including A.C.T. prisoners

** including a small number of periodic detainees

COMMENTS

1. If the above statistics are compared with the daily average prison populations for the year 1973-74 (not reproduced here), it appears that N.S.W. is the only jurisdiction to have experienced a significant increase, while decreases are noted for VIC., S.A., W.A. and TAS. The figures for QLD and TAS. appear to have remained relatively stable.
2. For Australia as a whole, there are now more than 400 fewer prisoners than the total daily average of 9077 recorded for the year 1973-74.
3. Even though there are significant differences between jurisdictions, for Australia as a whole, female prisoners comprise approximately 2.6 per cent of the total.
4. More detailed analyses of the statistics will be attempted in the future as more data become available.



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2 September 1976

AUSTRALIAN PRISON TRENDS

This is the second monthly analysis of prison populations in Australia which the Institute has produced with the co-operation of all prison administrators.

The daily average number of persons held in custody during July 1976 with changes in totals since May 1976 are :

	<u>July 1976</u>			<u>Changes since May 1976</u>
	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>	
N.S.W.*	3408	95	3503	- 110
VIC.	1524	36	1560	- 28
QLD**	1513	31	1544	+ 55
S.A.	697	16	713	- 1
W.A.	929	46	975	- 33
TAS.	278	4	282	- 7
N.T.	181	1	182	- 24
<hr/>				
AUST.	8530	229	8759	- 148

* including A.C.T. prisoners

** including a small number of periodic detainees

It can be seen from the above figures that all jurisdictions except Queensland have experienced a decline in prison numbers over the period May/July 1976, and that for the country as a whole there has been a decrease in the total number of prisoners of 148 over this two-month period. The bulk of this decrease has occurred within the male group of prisoners, with female numbers decreasing by only a total of seven. Females continue, however, to represent approximately 2.6 per cent of the total.

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July figures have been used to calculate the imprisonment rates (prisoners per 100,000 of the population) for each jurisdiction as follows :

	<u>Prisoners (as above)</u>	<u>General Population** (in thousands)</u>	<u>Imprisonment Rate</u>
N.S.W.*	3503	5034*	69.6
VIC.	1560	3699	42.2
QLD	1544	2017	76.6
S.A.	713	1244	57.3
W.A.	975	1144	85.2
TAS.	282	410	68.8
N.T.	182	99	183.8
AUST.	8759	13647	64.2

* including A.C.T. prisoners

** Mean population estimated as at 30 June 1976 (provisional)

The above table indicates that considerable differences still exist between jurisdictions in the use of imprisonment, although it is notable that the rates for the Northern Territory and Western Australia have declined significantly since 1973-74 when they were 209.2 and 103.8 respectively. It is also to be noted that the current Victorian rate of 42.2 is the lowest for any State found over the last decade.

As the data emerging from the monthly analysis of prison figures is of considerable general interest, it is proposed that a summary of the trends be included from time to time in the Institute's quarterly Newsletter. Provided none of the contributing prison administrators have any objection, a summary of these trends will probably be included in the December 1976 issue.

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25 October 1976

AUSTRALIAN PRISON TRENDS - NO. 4

The daily average number of persons held in custody during September 1976, with changes in the totals since August 1976 and May 1976 are :

September 1976 (to nearest whole number)

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Changes since August 1976</u>	<u>Changes since May 1976</u>
N.S.W. *	3464	100	3564	+ 29	- 49
VIC.	1487	33	1520	- 5	- 68
QLD **	1526	38	1564	+ 8	+ 75
S.A.	674	16	690	- 1	- 24
W.A.	936	49	985	- 29	- 23
TAS.	283	5	288	+ 11	- 1
N.T.	182	3	185	+ 6	- 21
AUST.	8552	244	8796	+ 19	-111

* including A.C.T. prisoners

** including a small number of periodic detainees

Using the above totals for each jurisdiction, the following imprisonment rates (i.e. prisoners per 100,000 of the population) have been calculated :

	<u>Prisoners (as above)</u>	<u>General Population* (in thousands)</u>	<u>Imprisonment Rates</u>
N.S.W. **	3564	5059 **	70.4
VIC.	1520	3719	40.9
QLD	1564	2027	77.2
S.A.	690	1250	55.2
W.A.	985	1153	85.4
TAS.	288	412	69.9
N.T.	185	100	185.0
AUST.	8796	13718 ***	64.1

* Forward Estimates of Population as at 30 Sept. 1976 (subject to revision)

** Including A.C.T. prisoners and population (In thousands, the estimated population for N.S.W. is 4349 and for A.C.T. 210)

*** The discrepancy between this total and the sum of the components is due to the rounding of the components to the nearest 1000

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From the above data it can be seen that there is a recent overall tendency towards a slight increase in prison numbers but that the Australian total is still considerably lower than the total for May 1976. Highly significant differences in imprisonment rates are also still apparent.

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18 November 1976

AUSTRALIAN PRISON TRENDS - NO. 5

The daily average number of persons (to the nearest whole number) held in custody during October 1976 with changes in the totals since September 1976 and since May 1976 are :

October 1976				Changes since Sept. 1976	Changes since May 1976
	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>		
N.S.W. *	3446	99	3545	- 19	- 68
VIC.	1477	34	1511	- 9	- 77
QLD **	1525	30	1555	- 9	+ 66
S.A.	685	20	705	+ 15	- 9
W.A.	953	43	996	+ 11	- 12
TAS.	281	5	286	- 2	- 3
N.T.	175	5	180	- 5	- 26
AUST.	8542	236	8778	- 18	-129

From the above data it can be seen that only small changes have occurred in prison populations from September to October 1976. The totals for all jurisdictions over the six-month period from May to October 1976 are shown below :

Monthly Totals of Daily Average Prisoners							
	May	June	July	August	Sept.	Oct.	Average
N.S.W.*	3613	3559	3503	3535	3564	3545	3553.2
VIC.	1588	1609	1560	1525	1520	1511	1552.2
QLD**	1489	1530	1544	1556	1564	1555	1539.7
S.A.	714	676	713	691	690	705	698.2
W.A.	1008	977	975	1014	985	996	992.5
TAS.	289	292	282	277	288	286	285.7
N.T.	206	197	182	179	185	180	188.2
AUST.	8907	8540	8759	8777	8796	8778	8809.5

* including A.C.T. prisoners

** including a small number of periodic detainees

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23. December 1976

AUSTRALIAN PRISON TRENDS - NO. 6

The daily average number of persons (to the nearest whole number) held in custody during November 1976 with changes in the totals since October 1976 and since May 1976 are :

November 1976					
	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Changes since Oct. 1976</u>	<u>Changes since May 1976</u>
N.S.W.*	3263	110	3373	- 172	- 240
VIC.	1434	33	1467	- 44	- 121
QLD**	1523	29	1552	- 3	+ 63
S.A.	673	19	692	- 13	- 22
W.A.	976	37	1013	+ 17	+ 5
TAS.	285	4	289	+ 3	Nil
N.T.	173	7	180	Nil	- 26
AUST.	8327	239	8566	- 212	- 341

* including A.C.T. prisoners

** including a small number of periodic detainees

From the above table it can be seen that the month of November was marked by a dramatic decrease in the number of prisoners in Australia, the decrease being particularly evident in New South Wales. Over the seven-month period since May 1976, it can be seen that there have been significant decreases in prison numbers in New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia and the Northern Territory.

Using the above totals for each jurisdiction, the following imprisonment rates (i.e. prisoners per 100,000 of the population) have been calculated :

(cont'd over page)

	<u>Prisoners (as above)</u>	<u>General Population[*] (in thousands)</u>	<u>Imprisonment Rates</u>
N.S.W. ^{**}	3373	5059 ^{**}	66.7
VIC.	1467	3719	39.4
QLD	1552	2027	76.6
S.A.	692	1250	55.4
W.A.	1013	1153	87.9
TAS.	289	412	70.1
N.T.	180	100	180.0
<hr/>			
AUST.	8566	13718 ^{***}	62.4

* Forward Estimates of Population as at 30 Sept. 1976 (subject to revision)

** Including A.C.T. prisoners and population (In thousands, the estimated population for N.S.W. is 4849 and for A.C.T. 210)

*** The discrepancy between this total and the sum of the components is due to the rounding of the components to the nearest 1000

It is of interest to note that the overall Australian imprisonment rate of 62.4 for November 1976 is the lowest that has been found since these rates have been regularly calculated.

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2 September 1976

AUSTRALIAN PRISON TRENDS NO. 7

The daily average number of persons (to the nearest whole number) held in custody during December 1976 with changes in the totals since November 1976 and since May 1976 are :

December 1976					
	Males	Females	Total	Changes since Nov. 1976	Changes since May 1976
N.S.W.*	3434	102	3536	- 23	- 77
VIC.	1395	31	1426	- 41	- 162
QLD**	1415	21	1436	- 116	- 53
S.A.	646	19	665	- 27	- 49
W.A.	1014	36	1050	+ 37	+ 42
TAS.	280	2	282	- 7	- 7
N.T.	177	6	183	+ 3	- 23
AUST.	8361	217	8578	- 174	- 329

* including A.C.T. prisoners

** including a small number of periodic detainees

CORRECTION TO A.P.T. NO. 6

After the publication of Australian Prison Trends No. 6 of 23 December 1976 we were informed that the New South Wales statistics contained an error : the number of male prisoners for that State for November 1976 should have been 3449 and not 3263 as shown. This correction has been taken into account in compiling the table above.

COMMENTS

The figures for December 1976 indicate that the downward trend in prison populations for most jurisdictions, and for Australia as a whole, is continuing. The national total of 8578 prisoners is the lowest recorded since May 1976 when this collection system started.

Imprisonment rates based on general population figures have not been calculated on this occasion, pending receipt of accurate population statistics.

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22 March 1977

AUSTRALIAN PRISON TRENDS NO. 9

The daily average number of persons (to the nearest whole number) held in custody during February 1977 with changes in the totals since January 1977 and since May 1976 are :

February 1977					
	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Changes since Jan. 1977</u>	<u>Changes since May 1976</u>
N.S.W.*	3462	101	3563	+ 61	- 50
VIC.	1438	29	1467	+ 68	- 121
QLD**	1496	25	1521	+ 23	+ 32
S.A.	649	22	671	+ 20	- 43
W.A.	1094	43	1137	+ 32	+ 129
TAS.	242	3	245	- 19	- 44
N.T.	186	8	194	+ 1	- 12
AUST.	8567	231	8798	+ 186	- 109

* including A.C.T. prisoners

** including a small number of periodic detainees

Using the above totals for each jurisdiction, the following imprisonment rates (i.e. prisoners per 100,000 of the population) have been calculated :

	<u>Prisoners (as above)</u>	<u>General Population* (in thousands)</u>	<u>Imprisonment Rates</u>
N.S.W.**	3563	5092**	70.0
VIC.	1467	3729	39.3
QLD	1521	2036	74.7
S.A.	671	1255	53.5
W.A.	1137	1168	97.3
TAS.	245	412	59.5
N.T.	194	103	188.3
AUST.	8798	13795	63.8

* Forward Estimates of Population as at 31 Dec. 1976 (subject to revision)

** Including A.C.T. prisoners and population (In thousands, the estimated population for N.S.W. is 4880 and for the A.C.T. 212)

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COMMENTS

1. The statistics for February 1977 indicate a marked reversal of the trend towards smaller prison populations which has been found in recent months. All jurisdictions except Tasmania showed increases over the previous month, with the most notable being found in Victoria and New South Wales.

2. When the February 1977 figures are compared with those for May 1976, however, all jurisdictions except Western Australia and Queensland show decreases. The increase in prisoners for Western Australia has been particularly marked.

3. When the February 1977 figures are converted into rates (per 100,000 of the population) increases are found for all jurisdictions except Tasmania, with the overall Australian rate increasing from 62.4 to 63.8. The equivalent rate for May 1976 was 65.3.

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11 May 1977

AUSTRALIAN PRISON TRENDS - NO. 10

The daily average number of persons (to the nearest whole number) held in custody during March 1977 with changes in the totals since February 1977 and since May 1976 are :

March 1977			Changes since Feb. 1977	Changes since May 1976
	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>	
N.S.W.*	3446	99	3545	- 18
VIC.	1456	33	1489	+ 22
QLD**	1467	28	1495	- 26
S.A.	659	19	678	+ 7
W.A.	1080	44	1124	- 13
TAS.	225	5	230	- 15
N.T.	198	10	208	+ 14
AUST.	8531	238	8769	- 29

* including A.C.T. prisoners

** including a small number of periodic detainees

Using the above totals for each jurisdiction, the following imprisonment rates (i.e. prisoners per 100,000 of the population) have been calculated :

	Prisoners (as above)	General Population* (in thousands)	Imprisonment Rates
N.S.W.**	3545	5146**	68.9
VIC.	1489	3769	39.5
QLD	1495	2128	70.3
S.A.	678	1271	53.3
W.A.	1124	1188	94.6
TAS.	230	410	56.1
N.T.	208	104	200.0
AUST.	8769	14017***	62.6

* Forward Estimates of Population as at 31 March 1977 (subject to revision).

** Including A.C.T. prisoners and population (In thousands, the estimated population for N.S.W. is 4938 and for the A.C.T. 208).

*** The discrepancy between this total and the sum of the components is due to the rounding of the components to the nearest 1000.

(cont'd over page)

COMMENTS

1. Statistics for March 1977 show a slight overall decrease in prison populations, with small increases being shown in Victoria, Northern Territory and South Australia. Compared with May 1976 the only jurisdiction to show a significant increase is Western Australia.
2. The proportion of all prisoners who are female remains stable at 2.7 per cent.
3. The changes in imprisonment rates since February 1977 have generally been small, with the exception of the Northern Territory, where the rate has reached 200.0, which is more than three times the national average. It will be noted that some of the changes in rates are due to the revised population figures now being used.

Compiled by David Biles
Assistant Director (Research)



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10-16 COLBEE COURT,
PHILLIP, A.C.T. 2606.
25 May 1977

AUSTRALIAN PRISON TRENDS - NO. 11

The daily average number of persons (to the nearest whole number) held in custody during April 1977 with changes in the totals since March 1977 and since May 1976 are :

April 1977			Changes since	Changes since	
	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Mar. 1977</u>	<u>May 1976</u>
N.S.W.*	3423	97	3520	- 25	- 93
VIC.	1435	33	1468	- 21	- 120
QLD**	1521	22	1543	+ 48	+ 54
S.A.	691	15	706	+ 28	- 8
W.A.	1035	49	1084	- 40	+ 76
TAS.	224	4	228	- 2	- 61
N.T.	192	9	201	- 7	- 5
AUST.	8521	229	8750	- 19	- 157

* including A.C.T. prisoners

** including a small number of periodic detainees

Using the above totals for each jurisdiction, the following imprisonment rates (i.e. prisoners per 100,000 of the population) have been calculated :

	Prisoners (as above)	General Population* (in thousands)	Imprisonment Rates
N.S.W.**	3520	5146**	68.4
VIC.	1468	3769	39.0
QLD	1543	2128	72.5
S.A.	706	1271	55.6
W.A.	1084	1188	91.3
TAS.	228	410	55.6
N.T.	201	104	193.3
AUST.	8750	14017***	62.4

* Forward Estimates of Population as at 31 March 1977 (subject to revision).

** Including A.C.T. prisoners and population (In thousands, the estimated population for N.S.W. is 4938 and for the A.C.T. 208).

*** The discrepancy between this total and the sum of the components is due to the rounding of the components to the nearest 1000.

(cont'd over page)

COMMENTS

1. The statistics for April 1977 again show a slight overall decrease, there being on average 19 fewer people in prison than in March 1977. Compared with May 1976 there are now 157 fewer prisoners in Australia.

2. The April imprisonment rate for the whole of the country is 62.4, equal to the lowest rate found since May 1976.

3. As the data collection system has now been in operation for twelve months, a summary of the imprisonment rates for each month for each jurisdiction is given in the table below.

	<u>May</u>	<u>June</u>	<u>Jul.</u>	<u>Aug.</u>	<u>Sept.</u>	<u>Oct.</u>	<u>Nov.</u>	<u>Dec.</u>	<u>Jan.</u>	<u>Feb.</u>	<u>Mar.</u>	<u>Apr.</u>
N.S.W. *	71.8	70.7	69.6	69.9	70.4	70.1	70.3	69.9	68.8	70.0	68.9	68.4
VIC.	42.9	43.5	42.2	41.0	40.9	40.6	39.4	38.3	37.5	39.3	39.5	38.0
QLD	73.8	75.8	76.6	76.8	77.2	76.7	76.6	70.8	73.6	74.7	70.3	72.5
S.A.	57.4	54.3	57.3	55.3	55.2	56.4	55.4	53.2	51.9	53.5	53.3	55.6
W.A.	88.1	85.4	85.2	87.9	85.4	86.4	87.9	91.1	94.6	97.3	94.6	91.3
TAS.	70.5	71.2	68.8	67.2	69.9	69.4	70.1	68.4	64.1	59.5	56.1	55.6
N.T.	208.1	199.0	183.8	179.0	185.0	180.0	180.0	183.0	187.4	188.3	200.0	193.3
AUST.	65.3	64.8	64.2	64.0	64.1	64.0	63.8	62.5	62.4	63.8	62.6	62.4

* Including A.C.T. prisoners and population

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30 June 1977

AUSTRALIAN PRISON TRENDS - NO. 12

The daily average number of persons (to the nearest whole number) held in custody during May 1977 with changes in the totals since April 1977 and since May 1976 are :

May 1977					
	Males	Females	Total	Changes since Apr. 1977	Changes since May 1976
N.S.W. *	3473	117	3590	+ 70	- 23
VIC.	1436	34	1470	+ .2	- 118
QLD **	1496	25	1521	- 22	+ 32
S.A.	707	21	728	+ 22	+ 14
W.A.	1010	45	1055	- 29	+ 47
TAS.	233	2	235	+ 7	- 54
N.T.	187	7	194	- 7	- 12
AUST.	8542	251	8793	+ 43	- 114

* including A.C.T. prisoners

** including a small number of periodic detainees

Using the above totals for each jurisdiction, the following imprisonment rates (i.e. prisoners per 100,000 of the population) have been calculated :

	Prisoners (as above)	General Population * (in thousands)	Imprisonment Rates
N.S.W. **	3590	5146 **	69.8
VIC.	1470	3769	39.0
QLD	1521	2128	71.5
S.A.	728	1271	57.3
W.A.	1055	1188	88.8
TAS.	235	410	57.3
N.T.	194	104	186.5
AUST.	8793	14017 ***	62.7

* Forward Estimates of Population as at 31 March 1977 (subject to revision).

** Including A.C.T. prisoners and population (in thousands, the estimated population for N.S.W. is 4938 and for the A.C.T. 208).

*** The discrepancy between this total and the sum of the components is due to the rounding of the components to the nearest 1000.

(cont'd over page)

COMMENTS

1. The statistics for May 1977 show a slight tendency towards increase in prison populations, with an overall rise of 43 prisoners. The main increase in numbers has occurred in New South Wales, with lesser increases being noted for South Australia, Tasmania and Victoria. On the other hand, the numbers have fallen in Queensland, Western Australia and Tasmania.

2. Some administrations have already included in their monthly returns information on prisoners on remand. It is hoped that this information will be available from all jurisdictions in the next return. It will then be included in 'Australian Prison Trends'.

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3 August 1977

AUSTRALIAN PRISON TRENDS - NO. 13

The daily average number of persons (to the nearest whole number) held in custody during June 1977 with changes in the totals since May 1977 and since May 1976 are :

June 1977					
	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Changes since May 1977</u>	<u>Changes since May 1976</u>
N.S.W. *	3409	105	3514	- 76	- 99
VIC.	1475	31	1506	+ 36	- 82
QLD **	1475	20	1495	- 26	+ 6
S.A.	709	28	737	+ 9	+ 23
W.A.	1022	45	1067	+ 12	+ 59
TAS.	247	4	251	+ 16	- 38
N.T.	175	6	181	- 13	- 25
AUST.	8512	239	8751	- 42	- 156

* including A.C.T. prisoners

** including a small number of periodic detainees

Using the above totals for each jurisdiction, the following imprisonment rates (i.e. prisoners per 100,000 of the population) have been calculated :

	<u>Prisoners (as above)</u>	<u>General Population * (in thousands)</u>	<u>Imprisonment Rates</u>
N.S.W. **	3514	5146 **	68.3
VIC.	1506	3769	40.0
QLD	1495	2128	70.3
S.A.	737	1271	58.0
W.A.	1067	1188	89.8
TAS.	251	410	61.2
N.T.	181	104	174.0
AUST.	8751	14017 ***	62.4

* Forward Estimates of Population as at 31 March 1977 (subject to revision).

** Including A.C.T. prisoners and population (in thousands, the estimated population for N.S.W. is 4938 and for the A.C.T. 208).

*** The discrepancy between this total and the sum of the components is due to the rounding of the components to the nearest 1000.

(cont'd over page)

COMMENTS

1. The statistics for June 1977 again show an overall decrease in prison populations, there being on average 42 fewer people in prison than in May 1977. Compared with May 1976 there are now 156 fewer prisoners in Australia.

2. The general imprisonment rate for the whole of the country is 62.4, equal to the lowest rate found since May 1976.

As at 1 June 1977 the actual (as opposed to daily average) numbers of prisoners in custody in each jurisdiction and the proportion of these who were on remand is shown in the table below :

	<u>Total Prisoners</u>	<u>Prisoners on Remand</u>	<u>Percentage of Remandees</u>
N.S.W.	3646	428	11.7
VIC.	1505	197	13.1
QLD	1521	66	4.3
S.A.	733	148	20.2
W.A.	1051	122	11.6
TAS.	240	22	9.2
N.T.	190	15	7.9
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AUST.	8886	998	11.2
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30 August 1977

AUSTRALIAN PRISON TRENDS - NO. 14

The daily average number of persons (to the nearest whole number) held in custody during July 1977 with changes in the totals since June 1977 and since May 1976 are :

July 1977					
	Males	Females	Total	Changes since June 1977	Changes since June 1976
N.S.W. *	5437	100	3537	+ 23	- 76
VIC.	1492	35	1527	+ 21	- 61
QLD **	1478	18	1496	+ 1	+ 7
S.A.	726	28	754	+ 17	+ 40
W.A.	1066	44	1110	+ 43	+ 102
TAS.	257	2	259	+ 8	- 30
N.T.	167	8	175	- 6	- 31
AUST.	8623	235	8858	+ 107	- 49

* including A.C.T. prisoners

** including a small number of periodic detainees

Using the above totals for each jurisdiction, the following imprisonment rates (i.e. prisoners per 100,000 of the population) have been calculated :

	Prisoners (as above)	General Population * (in thousands)	Imprisonment Rates
N.S.W. **	3537	5146 **	68.7
VIC.	1527	3769	40.5
QLD	1496	2128	70.3
S.A.	754	1271	59.3
W.A.	1110	1188	93.4
TAS.	259	410	63.2
N.T.	175	104	168.3
AUST.	8858	14017 ***	63.2

* Forward Estimates of Population as at 31 March 1977 (subject to revision).

** Including A.C.T. prisoners and population (in thousands, the estimated population for N.S.W. is 4938 and for the A.C.T. 208).

*** The discrepancy between this total and the sum of the components is due to the rounding of the components to the nearest 1000.

(cont'd over page)

COMMENTS

1. The total number of people in prison for the whole country during July 1977 shows a surprising increase of 107 over the previous month. All jurisdictions, apart from the Northern Territory, have recorded increases with the largest occurring in Western Australia.

2. The increase in the daily average number of prisoners has resulted in the national imprisonment rate moving from 62.4 to 63.2.

3. Since June 1977, Australian prison trends has included data on prisoners on remand as a percentage of the totals. These data show considerable variation between jurisdictions in the proportion of remandees. This variation seems to be unrelated to the differences in imprisonment rates. For the country as a whole, 10 per cent of prisoners are on remand.

As at 1 July 1977 the actual (as opposed to daily average) numbers of prisoners in custody in each jurisdiction and the proportion of these who were on remand is shown in the table below :

	<u>Total Prisoners</u>	<u>Prisoners on Remand</u>	<u>Percentage of Remandees</u>
N.S.W.	3681	435	11.8
VIC.	1505	123	8.2
QLD	1571	72	4.6
S.A.	721	133	18.5
W.A.	1122	104	9.3
TAS.	260	22	8.5
N.T.	168	17	10.1
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AUST.	9028	906	10.0
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22 September 1977

AUSTRALIAN PRISON TRENDS - NO. 15

The daily average number of persons (to the nearest whole number) held in custody during August 1977 with changes in the totals since July 1977 and since May 1976 are :

August 1977					
	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Changes since July 1977</u>	<u>Changes since May 1976</u>
N.S.W.*	3446	101	3547	+ 10	- 66
VIC.	1493	37	1530	+ 3	- 58
QLD**	1494	18	1512	+ 16	+ 23
S.A.	754	29	783	+ 29	+ 69
W.A.	1116	50	1166	+ 56	+ 158
TAS.	257	4	261	+ 2	- 28
N.T.	157	5	162	- 13	- 44
AUST.	8717	244	8961	+ 103	+ 54

* including A.C.T. prisoners

** including a small number of periodic detainees

Using the above totals for each jurisdiction, the following imprisonment rates (i.e. prisoners per 100,000 of the population) have been calculated :

	<u>Prisoners (as above)</u>	<u>General Population* (in thousands)</u>	<u>Imprisonment Rates</u>
N.S.W.**	3547	5172**	68.6
VIC.	1530	3788	40.4
QLD	1512	2141	70.6
S.A.	783	1277	61.3
W.A.	1166	1201	97.1
TAS.	261	412	63.4
N.T.	162	107	151.4
AUST.	8961	14098	63.6

* Forward Estimates of Population as at 30 September 1977 (subject to revision).

** Including A.C.T. prisoners and population (in thousands, the estimated population for N.S.W. is 4959 and for the A.C.T. 213).

(cont'd over page)

As at 1 August 1977 the actual (as opposed to daily average) numbers of prisoners in custody in each jurisdiction and the proportion of these who were on remand is shown in the table below :

	<u>Total Prisoners</u>	<u>Prisoners on Remand</u>	<u>Percentage of Remandees</u>
N.S.W.	3705	433	11.7
VIC.	1534	155	10.1
QLD	1579	73	4.6
S.A.	764	146	19.1
W.A.	1160	109	9.4
TAS.	253	18	7.1
N.T.	169	24	14.2
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AUST.	9164	958	10.5
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COMMENTS

1. Following an increase of 107 prisoners from June to July 1977, there has been a further increase of 103 prisoners in August. The Australian total number of prisoners is now higher than at any time since May 1976 when this data collection started. Over the total 16-month period, increases have occurred, most notably in Western Australia, but also in South Australia and Queensland. All other jurisdictions have shown decreases.

2. The national imprisonment rate has increased to 63.6 from 63.2 in the previous month. It should be noted that the most recent rate is somewhat depressed by the use of new population estimates which have become available. By contrast, the July rates were relatively inflated for the same reason.

3. The proportion of prisoners on remand has increased to 10.5 per cent and significant differences between jurisdictions in the proportions of remandees continue to be noticeable.

4. Efforts have been made to identify the daily average numbers of A.C.T. prisoners who are serving their sentences in New South Wales, but these efforts have not yet been successful.

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21 October 1977

AUSTRALIAN PRISON TRENDS - NO. 16

The daily average number of persons (to the nearest whole number) held in custody during September 1977 with changes in the totals since August 1977 and since May 1976 are :

September 1977					
	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Changes since Aug. 1977</u>	<u>Changes since May 1976</u>
N.S.W.*	3456	98	3554	+ 7	- 59
VIC.	1476	33	1509	- 21	- 79
QLD**	1503	26	1529	+ 17	+ 40
S.A.	754	22	776	- 7	+ 62
W.A.	1078	44	1122	- 44	+ 114
TAS.	247	8	255	- 6	- 34
N.T.	151	5	156	- 6	- 50
AUST.	8665	236	8901	- 60	- 6

* including A.C.T. prisoners

** including a small number of periodic detainees

Using the above totals for each jurisdiction, the following imprisonment rates (i.e. prisoners per 100,000 of the population) have been calculated :

	<u>Prisoners (as above)</u>	<u>General Population* (in thousands)</u>	<u>Imprisonment Rates</u>
N.S.W.**	3554	5172**	68.7
VIC.	1509	3788	39.8
QLD	1529	2141	71.4
S.A.	776	1277	60.8
W.A.	1122	1201	93.4
TAS.	255	412	61.9
N.T.	156	107	145.8
AUST.	8901	14098	63.1

* Forward Estimates of Population as at 30 September 1977 (subject to revision).

** Including A.C.T. prisoners and population (in thousands, the estimated population for N.S.W. is 4959 and for the A.C.T. 213).

(cont'd over page)

As at 1 September 1977 the actual (as opposed to daily average) numbers of prisoners in custody in each jurisdiction and the proportion of these who were on remand is shown in the table below :

	<u>Total Prisoners</u>	<u>Prisoners on Remand</u>	<u>Percentage of Remandees</u>
N.S.W.	3705	431	11.6
VIC.	1531	149	9.7
QLD	1636	102	6.2
S.A.	791	141	17.8
W.A.	1133	103	9.1
TAS.	267	26	9.7
N.T.	173	30	17.3
AUST.	9236	982	10.6

COMMENTS

1. It can be seen from the data given above that there has been a general tendency towards decrease in Australian prison populations. This has applied to all jurisdictions except Queensland and New South Wales. The overall number of prisoners is now almost identical to that found in May 1976 when this data gathering system commenced.

2. There has been a corresponding decrease in the imprisonment rates during September, with the overall Australian rate falling from 63.6 to 63.1.

3. As a matter of more general interest the data included in earlier publications of Australian Prison Trends has been analysed to extract annual daily averages and imprisonment rates for each jurisdiction. These are given below for the year July 1976 to June 1977 :

	<u>Prisoners</u>	<u>Imprisonment Rates</u>
N.S.W.*	3540	69.5**
VIC.	1484	39.8
QLD	1523	74.8
S.A.	694	55.3
W.A.	1050	89.9
TAS.	263	63.8
N.T.	188	182.5
AUST.	8742	63.4

* including A.C.T. prisoners

** including A.C.T. prisoners and population



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2 December 1977

AUSTRALIAN PRISON TRENDS - NO. 17

The daily average number of persons (to the nearest whole number) held in custody during October 1977 with changes in the totals since September 1977 and since May 1976 are :

October 1977					
	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Changes since Sept. 1977</u>	<u>Changes since May 1976</u>
N.S.W.	3482	101	3583	+ 55*	- 4*
VIC.	1474	37	1511	+ 2	- 77
QLD**	1463	30	1493	- 36	+ 4
S.A.	735	26	761	- 15	+ 47
W.A.	1105	47	1152	+ 30	+ 144
TAS.	226	7	233	- 22	- 56
N.T.	139	5	144	- 12	- 62
A.C.T.	35	1	36		
AUST.	8659	254	8913	+ 2	- 4

* These changes do not take account of the fact that A.C.T. prisoners in N.S.W. are now shown separately. 26 of the 36 A.C.T. prisoners were actually in N.S.W.

** Including a small number of periodic detainees

Using the above totals for each jurisdiction, the following imprisonment rates (i.e. prisoners per 100,000 of the population) have been calculated :

	<u>Prisoners (as above)</u>	<u>General Population*</u> (in thousands)	<u>Imprisonment Rates</u>
N.S.W.	3583	4959	72.3
VIC.	1511	3788	39.9
QLD	1493	2141	69.7
S.A.	761	1277	59.6
W.A.	1152	1201	95.9
TAS.	233	412	56.6
N.T.	144	107	134.6
A.C.T.	36	213	16.9
AUST.	8913	14098	63.2

* Forward Estimates of Population as at 30 September 1977 (subject to revision)

(cont'd over page)

As at 1 October 1977 the actual (as opposed to daily average) numbers of prisoners in custody in each jurisdiction and the proportion of these who were on remand is shown in the table below :

	<u>Total Prisoners</u>	<u>Prisoners on Remand</u>	<u>Percentage of Remandees</u>
N.S.W.	3721	424	11.4
VIC.	1540	147	9.5
QLD	1618	89	5.5
S.A.	763	130	17.0
W.A.	1131	102	9.0
TAS.	235	14	6.0
N.T.	151	25	16.6
A.C.T.	31	7	22.6
AUST.	9190	938	10.2

COMMENTS

1. With the cooperation of officers of the Attorney-General's Department in Canberra and of the Assistant Director - Corrections for the Australian Capital Territory, this issue of Australian Prison Trends for the first time includes statistics relating to A.C.T. prisoners. This addition means that all Australian jurisdictions are now included and the New South Wales totals have consequently been adjusted. In order to preserve continuity, however, for this issue only, no adjustment has been made to the indication of changes since September 1977 or since May 1976.

2. The overall number of prisoners in Australia has remained remarkably stable throughout October, even though some jurisdictions have shown increases, notably New South Wales and Western Australia, while most others have shown decreases. Since May 1976 Western Australia has recorded the largest increase in numbers.

3. With the inclusion of the A.C.T. in these data, a remarkably low imprisonment rate of 16.9 can be seen for that jurisdiction. The calculation of the separate rate for the A.C.T. has resulted in an apparent increase in the rate for New South Wales. If A.C.T. prisoners and population had been included within New South Wales as previously, the imprisonment rate for that combined jurisdiction would have been 69.8 as compared to 72.3.

4. It is of some interest to note that the percentage of A.C.T. prisoners on remand is considerably higher than the percentage for any other jurisdiction.

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17 January 1978

AUSTRALIAN PRISON TRENDS - NO. 18

The daily average number of persons (to the nearest whole number) held in custody during November 1977 with changes in the totals since October 1977 are :

November 1977				Changes since Oct. 1977
	Males	Females	Total	
N.S.W.	3460	112	3572	- 11
VIC.	1464	30	1494	- 17
QLD*	1472	31	1503	+ 10
S.A.	733	26	759	- 2
W.A.	1111	49	1160	+ 8
TAS.	227	7	234	+ 1
N.T.	143	5	148	+ 4
A.C.T.	40	1	41	+ 5
AUST.	8650	261	8911	- 2

* Including a small number of periodic detainees

Using the above totals for each jurisdiction, the following imprisonment rates (i.e. prisoners per 100,000 of the population) have been calculated :

	Prisoners (as above)	General Population* (in thousands)	Imprisonment Rates
N.S.W.	3572	4959	72.0
VIC.	1494	3788	39.4
QLD	1503	2141	70.2
S.A.	759	1277	59.4
W.A.	1160	1201	96.6
TAS.	234	412	56.8
N.T.	148	107	138.3
A.C.T.	41	213	19.3
AUST.	8911	14098	63.2

* Forward Estimates of Population as at 30 September 1977 (subject to revision)

(cont'd over page)

As at 1 November 1977 the actual (as opposed to daily average) numbers of prisoners in custody in each jurisdiction and the proportion of these who were on remand is shown in the table below :

	<u>Total Prisoners</u>	<u>Prisoners on Remand</u>	<u>Percentage of Remandees</u>	<u>Remandees per 100,000 of General Population</u>
N.S.W.	3579	415	11.6	8.4
VIC.	1481	107	7.2	2.8
QLD	1571	84	5.4	3.9
S.A.	781	135	17.3	10.6
W.A.	1148	77	6.7	6.4
TAS.	232	20	8.6	4.9
N.T.	147	17	11.6	15.9
A.C.T.	40	12	30.0	5.6
AUST.	8979	867	9.7	6.2

COMMENTS

1. The total number of prisoners in Australia has remained at almost exactly the same level from October to November 1977, with a slight decrease in Victoria being compensated by slight increases in Queensland and Western Australia.

2. The column showing changes in numbers since May 1976 has been discontinued now that A.C.T. statistics are being shown separately. This change has distorted comparisons for N.S.W. Long-term trends will be included from time to time in future issues of Australian Prison Trends.

3. An extra column has been added to the table on page 2 dealing with remand prisoners. In this the number of remandees per 100,000 of the general population is shown, and this may be compared with the percentage of remandees in the total prison population for each jurisdiction.

Compiled by David Biles
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7 February 1978

AUSTRALIAN PRISON TRENDS - NO. 19

The daily average number of persons (to the nearest whole number) held in custody during December 1977 with changes in the totals since November 1977 are :

December 1977				Changes since Nov. 1977
	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>	
N.S.W.	3371	111	3482	- 90
VIC.	1462	29	1491	- 3
QLD *	1415	21	1436	- 67
S.A.	701	24	725	- 34
W.A.	1088	50	1138	- 22
TAS.	226	8	234	Nil
N.T.	160	8	168	+ 20
A.C.T.	43	1	44 **	+ 3
AUST.	8466	252	8718	- 193

* Including a small number of periodic detainees

** 35 prisoners in this total were serving sentences in N.S.W. prisons

Using the above totals for each jurisdiction, the following imprisonment rates (i.e. prisoners per 100,000 of the population) have been calculated :

	<u>Prisoners (as above)</u>	<u>General Population * (in thousands)</u>	<u>Imprisonment Rates</u>
N.S.W.	3482	4982	69.9
VIC.	1491	3801	39.2
QLD	1436	2150	66.8
S.A.	725	1284	56.5
W.A.	1138	1210	94.1
TAS.	234	412	56.8
N.T.	168	108	155.6
A.C.T.	44	211	20.9
AUST.	8718	14158	61.6

* Forward Estimates of Population as at 31 December 1977 (subject to revision)

(cont'd over page)

As at 1 December 1977 the actual (as opposed to daily average) numbers of prisoners in custody in each jurisdiction and the proportion of these who were on remand is shown in the table below :

	<u>Total Prisoners</u>	<u>Prisoners on Remand</u>	<u>Percentage of Remandees</u>	<u>Remandees per 100,000 of General Population</u>
N.S.W.	3525	420	11.9	8.4
VIC.	1508	144	9.6	3.8
QLD	1650	88	5.3	4.1
S.A.	737	90	12.2	7.0
W.A.	1145	86	7.5	7.1
TAS.	239	27	11.3	6.6
N.T.	142	19	13.4	17.6
A.C.T.	38	8	21.1	3.8
AUST.	8984	882	9.8	6.2

COMMENTS

1. The total number of prisoners in Australia showed a fairly dramatic fall in December 1977 following steady increases since June. The total daily average of 8718 is the lowest since January 1977. The only jurisdictions to show increases over the previous month were the Northern Territory and the Australian Capital Territory.

2. The overall Australian imprisonment rate (daily average number of prisoners per 100,000 of the population) for December 1977 was 61.6. This is the lowest rate found since this data gathering system was started in May 1976.

3. At 1 December 1977 the number of prisoners on remand showed a slight increase over the previous month, but remandees continued to comprise less than 10 per cent of all prisoners and the number of remandees per 100,000 of the population was constant at 6.2.

Compiled by David Biles
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24 February 1978

AUSTRALIAN PRISON TRENDS - NO. 20

The daily average number of persons (to the nearest whole number) held in custody during January 1978 with changes in the totals since December 1977 are :

January 1978				
	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Changes since Dec. 1977</u>
N.S.W.	3352	108	3460	- 22
VIC.	1448	26	1474	- 17
QLD*	1536	32	1568	+ 132
S.A.	691	21	712	- 13
W.A.	1110	50	1160	+ 22
TAS.	225	7	232	- 2
N.T.	153	13	166	- 2
A.C.T.	47	1	48**	+ 4
AUST.	8562	258	8820	+ 102

* Including a small number of periodic detainees

** 38 prisoners in this total were serving sentences in N.S.W. prisons

Using the above totals for each jurisdiction, the following imprisonment rates (i.e. prisoners per 100,000 of the population) have been calculated :

	<u>Prisoners (as above)</u>	<u>General Population* (in thousands)</u>	<u>Imprisonment Rates</u>
N.S.W.	3460	4982	69.5
VIC.	1474	3801	38.8
QLD	1568	2150	72.9
S.A.	712	1284	55.5
W.A.	1160	1210	95.9
TAS.	232	412	56.3
N.T.	166	108	153.7
A.C.T.	48	211	22.8
AUST.	8820	14158	62.3

* Forward Estimates of Population as at 31 December 1977 (subject to revision)

(cont'd over page)

As at 1 January 1978 the actual (as opposed to daily average) numbers of prisoners in custody in each jurisdiction and the proportion of these who were on remand are shown in the table below :

	<u>Total Prisoners</u>	<u>Prisoners on Remand</u>	<u>Percentage of Remandees</u>	<u>Remandees per 100,000 of General Population</u>
N.S.W.	3265	302	9.3	6.1
VIC.	1471	149	10.1	3.9
QLD	1571	81	5.2	3.8
S.A.	688	103	15.0	8.0
W.A.	1139	85	7.5	7.0
TAS.	229	23	10.0	5.6
N.T.	157	30	19.1	27.8
A.C.T.	46	11	23.9	5.2
AUST.	8566	784	9.2	5.5

COMMENTS

1. Following the comparatively low number of prisoners noted for December 1977, the daily average for January 1978 has shown a striking increase of 102. This overall increase is almost entirely due to changes in Queensland and Western Australia, while most other jurisdictions reported small decreases.

2. The overall Australian imprisonment rate (daily average per 100,000 of general population) has increased from 61.6 to 62.3, but the Victorian rate of 38.8 is the lowest found for any State since 1976.

3. Female prisoners comprise 2.9 per cent of the total daily average, and it is interesting to note that this percentage has slowly increased since May 1976 when this data gathering system started.

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5 April 1978

AUSTRALIAN PRISON TRENDS - NO. 21

The daily average number of persons (to the nearest whole number) held in custody during February 1978 with changes in the totals since January 1978 are :

February 1978				Changes since Jan. 1978
	Males	Females	Total	
N.S.W.	3462	118	3580	+ 120
VIC.	1472	32	1504	+ 30
QLD*	1539	38	1577	+ 9
S.A.	704	24	728	+ 16
W.A.	1110	52	1162	+ 2
TAS.	223	7	230	- 2
N.T.	161	9	170	+ 4
A.C.T.	46	2	48**	---
AUST.	8717	282	8999	+ 179

* Including a small number of periodic detainees

** 38 prisoners in this total were serving sentences in N.S.W. prisons

Using the above totals for each jurisdiction, the following imprisonment rates (i.e. prisoners per 100,000 of the population) have been calculated :

	Prisoners (as above)	General Population* (in thousands)	Imprisonment Rates
N.S.W.	3580	4982	71.9
VIC.	1504	3801	39.6
QLD	1577	2150	73.4
S.A.	728	1284	56.7
W.A.	1162	1210	96.0
TAS.	230	412	55.8
N.T.	170	108	157.4
A.C.T.	48	211	22.8
AUST.	8999	14158	63.6

* Forward Estimates of Population as at 31 December 1977 (subject to revision)

(cont'd over page)

As at 1 February 1978 the actual (as opposed to daily average) numbers of prisoners in custody in each jurisdiction and the proportion of these who were on remand are shown in the table below :

	<u>Total Prisoners</u>	<u>Prisoners on Remand</u>	<u>Percentage of Remandees</u>	<u>Remandees per 100,000 of General Population</u>
N.S.W.	3575	505	14.1	10.1
VIC.	1520	126	8.3	3.3
QLD	1572	100	6.4	4.7
S.A.	535	114	21.3	8.9
W.A.	1187	97	8.2	8.0
TAS.	234	24	10.3	5.8
N.T.	152	30	19.7	27.8
A.C.T.	44	8	18.2	3.8
AUST.	8819	1004	11.4	7.1 . . .

COMMENTS

1. The Australian daily average number of prisoners for February 1978 is the highest found since this data collection system started in May 1976, but the imprisonment rate of 63.6 has been exceeded on a number of previous occasions. Increases in prison populations are noted for all jurisdictions except Tasmania and the Australian Capital Territory. These increases are in stark contrast to the low figures recorded for December 1977.

2. It is noted that there has been a significant increase in the number of female prisoners and they now comprise 3.1 per cent of the Australian daily average. This proportion has previously varied between 2.5 and 2.9 per cent.

3. A further notable change is the increase in the proportion of prisoners on remand from 9.2 per cent to 11.4 per cent since the previous month. Increases in the numbers of remandees are seen particularly in New South Wales and South Australia.

Compiled by David Biles
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27 April 1978

AUSTRALIAN PRISON TRENDS - NO. 22

The daily average number of persons (to the nearest whole number) held in custody during March 1978 with changes in the totals since February 1978 are :

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Changes since Feb. 1978</u>
N.S.W.	3558	125	3683	+ 103
VIC.	1526	35	1561	+ 57
QLD*	1580	29	1609	+ 32
S.A.	733	30	763	+ 35
W.A.	1161	52	1213	+ 51
TAS.	230	6	236	+ 6
N.T.	155	5	160	- 10
A.C.T.	54	3	57**	+ 9
AUST.	8997	285	9282	+ 283

* Including a small number of periodic detainees

** 41 prisoners (including 2 females) in this total were serving sentences in N.S.W. prisons

Using the above totals for each jurisdiction, the following imprisonment rates (i.e. prisoners per 100,000 of the population) have been calculated :

	<u>Prisoners (as above)</u>	<u>General Population* (in thousands)</u>	<u>Imprisonment Rates</u>
N.S.W.	3683	4994	73.8
VIC.	1561	3811	41.0
QLD	1609	2164	74.4
S.A.	763	1288	59.2
W.A.	1213	1218	99.6
TAS.	236	413	57.1
N.T.	160	111	144.1
A.C.T.	57	214	26.6
AUST.	9282	14213	65.3

* Forward Estimates of Population as at 31 March 1978 (subject to revision)

(cont'd over page)

As at 1 March 1978 the actual (as opposed to daily average) numbers of prisoners in custody in each jurisdiction and the proportion of these who were on remand are shown in the table below :

	<u>Total Prisoners</u>	<u>Prisoners on Remand</u>	<u>Percentage of Remandees</u>	<u>Remandees per 100,000 of General Population</u>
N.S.W.	3832	544	14.2	10.9
VIC.	1545	154	10.0	4.0
QLD	1572	116	7.4	5.4
S.A.	765	131	17.1	10.2
W.A.	1173	87	7.4	7.1
TAS.	246	25	10.2	6.1
N.T.	164	18	11.0	16.2
A.C.T.	54	14	25.9	6.5
AUST.	9351	1089	11.7	7.7

COMMENTS

1. For the third month in succession there has been a significant increase in the daily average number of prisoners, with the March total of 9282 being the highest found since May 1976. The current Australian imprisonment rate of 65.3 is equal to the highest found over the same period.

2. Attention is drawn to the fact that the imprisonment rates for each jurisdiction have been calculated on the basis of forward estimates of population for 31 March 1978. These estimates are slightly higher than those used in the previous three months.

3. The number of prisoners on remand has shown an increase, this being particularly noticeable in the four largest States, with South Australia and New South Wales having proportionately very high numbers of remandees.

Compiled by David Biles
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24 May 1978

AUSTRALIAN PRISON TRENDS - NO. 23

The daily average number of persons (to the nearest whole number) held in custody during April 1978 with changes in the totals since March 1978 are :

	<u>April</u>			<u>Changes since Mar. 1978</u>
	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>	
N.S.W.	3593	130	3723	+ 40
VIC.	1506	36	1542	- 19
QLD*	1526	29	1555	- 54
S.A.	705	26	731	- 32
W.A.	1176	52	1228	+ 15
TAS.	230	5	235	- 1
N.T.	151	4	155	- 5
A.C.T.	47	2	49**	- 8
AUST.	8934	284	9218	- 64

* Including a small number of periodic detainees

** 36 prisoners (including 2 females) in this total were serving sentences in N.S.W. prisons

Using the above totals for each jurisdiction, the following imprisonment rates (i.e. prisoners per 100,000 of the population) have been calculated :

	<u>Prisoners (as above)</u>	<u>General Population*</u> (in thousands)	<u>Imprisonment Rates</u>
N.S.W.	3723	4994	74.6
VIC.	1542	3811	40.5
QLD	1555	2164	71.9
S.A.	731	1288	56.8
W.A.	1228	1218	100.8
TAS.	235	413	56.9
N.T.	155	111	139.6
A.C.T.	49	214	22.9
AUST.	9218	14213	64.9

* Forward Estimates of Population as at 31 March 1978 (subject to revision)

(cont'd over page)

As at 1 April 1978 the actual (as opposed to daily average) numbers of prisoners in custody in each jurisdiction and the proportion of these who were on remand are shown in the table below :

	<u>Total Prisoners</u>	<u>Prisoners on Remand</u>	<u>Percentage of Remandees</u>	<u>Remandees per 100,000 of General Population</u>
N.S.W.	3745	543	14.5	10.9
VIC.	1557	140	9.0	3.7
QLD	1596	106	6.6	4.9
S.A.	750	138	18.4	10.7
W.A.	1223	125	10.2	10.3
TAS.	230	22	9.6	5.3
N.T.	144	21	14.6	18.9
A.C.T.	48	13	27.1	6.1
AUST.	9293	1108	11.9	7.8

COMMENTS

1. For the first time this year a reduction in the daily average number of prisoners is to be found in most jurisdictions and for Australia as a whole. The only exceptions where increases are noted are New South Wales and Western Australia. The decrease in numbers for the month is particularly noticeable in Queensland.

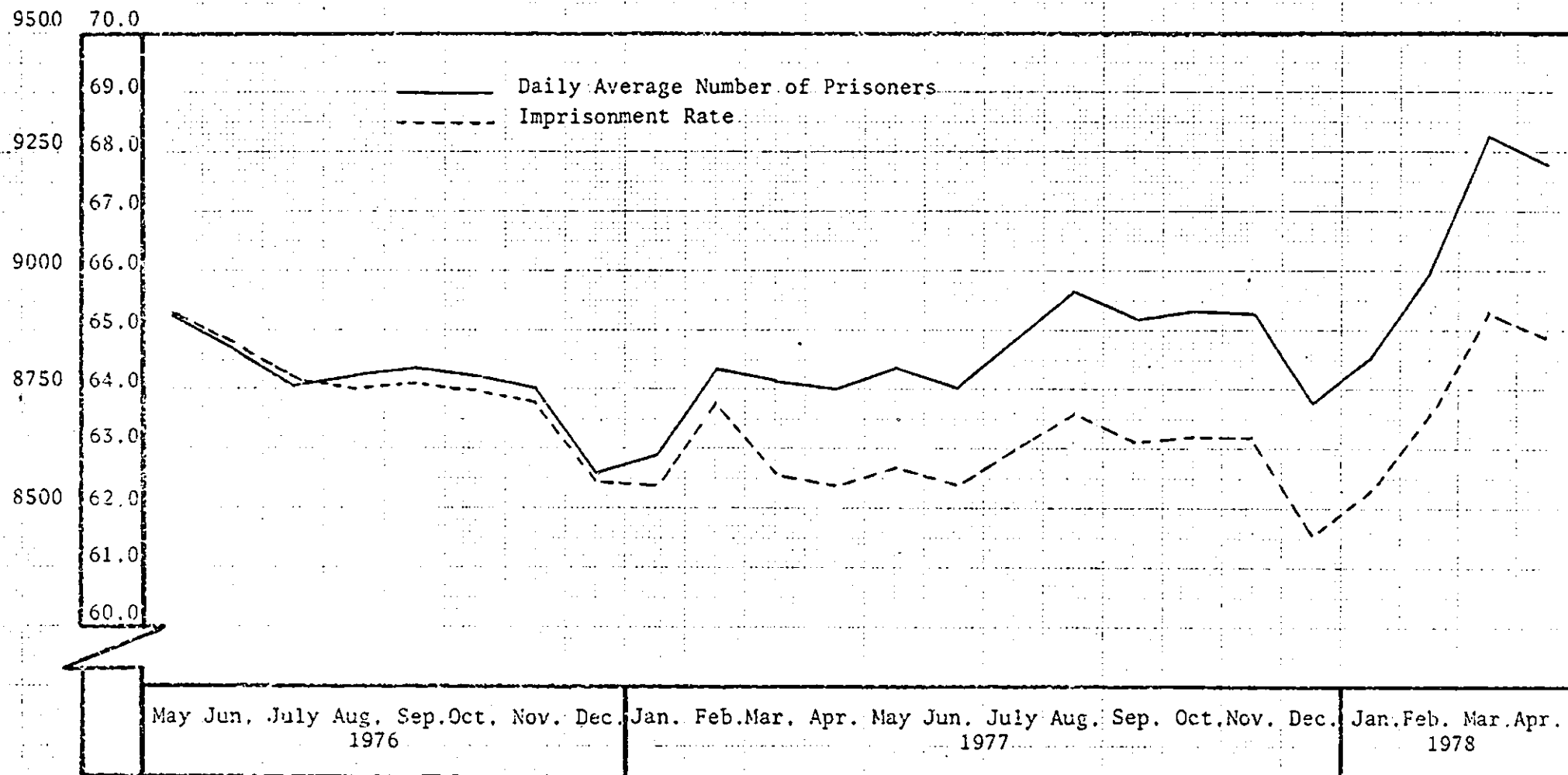
2. The overall Australian imprisonment rate has fallen from 65.3 to 64.9, but the rates for the individual jurisdictions remain in the same rank order as previously, with the extremes being represented by the two Territories. Among the States the West Australian rate is now over 100, a level which has not been found since this data collection system started in May 1976.

3. In contrast with the overall trend, there has been a slight increase in both the actual numbers and the rate of persons on remand.

4. As this system has now been going for two years, an additional graph has been constructed showing the national trends in actual numbers and imprisonment rate over this period. A copy of this is attached.

Compiled by David Biles
Assistant Director (Research)

AUSTRALIA
DAILY AVERAGE NUMBER OF PRISONERS AND IMPRISONMENT RATE,
MAY 1976 TO APRIL 1978







AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE OF CRIMINOLOGY

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3 July 1978

AUSTRALIAN PRISON TRENDS - NO. 24

The daily average number of persons (to the nearest whole number) held in custody during May 1978 with changes in the totals since April 1978 are :

<u>May</u>				<u>Changes since</u>
	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Apr. 1978</u>
N.S.W.	3568	123	3691	- 32
VIC.	1557	36	1593	+ 51
QLD*	1523	29	1552	- 3
S.A.	704	24	728	- 3
W.A.	1191	58	1249	+ 21
TAS.	230	4	234	- 1
N.T.	152	7	159	+ 4
A.C.T.	48	2	50**	+ 1
AUST.	8973	283	9256	+ 38

* Including a small number of periodic detainees

** 41 prisoners (including 1 female) in this total were serving sentences in N.S.W. prisons

Using the above totals for each jurisdiction, the following imprisonment rates (i.e. prisoners per 100,000 of the population) have been calculated :

	<u>Prisoners</u> <u>(as above)</u>	<u>General Population*</u> <u>(in thousands)</u>	<u>Imprisonment Rates</u>
N.S.W.	3691	4994	73.9
VIC.	1593	3811	41.8
QLD	1552	2164	71.7
S.A.	728	1288	56.5
W.A.	1249	1218	102.6
TAS.	234	413	56.7
N.T.	159	111	143.2
A.C.T.	50	214	23.4
AUST.	9256	14213	65.1

* Forward Estimates of Population as at 31 March 1978 (subject to revision)

As at 1 May 1978 the actual (as opposed to daily average) numbers of prisoners in custody in each jurisdiction and the proportion of these who were on remand are shown in the table below :

	<u>Total Prisoners</u>	<u>Prisoners on Remand</u>	<u>Percentage of Remandees</u>	<u>Remandees per 100,000 of General Population</u>
N.S.W.	3639	436	12.0	8.7
VIC.	1582	110	7.0	2.9
QLD	1555	105	6.8	4.9
S.A.	730	138	18.9	10.7
W.A.	1235	129	10.5	10.6
TAS.	236	16	6.8	3.9
N.T.	154	38	24.7	34.2
A.C.T.	52	14	26.9	6.5
AUST.	9183	986	10.7	6.9

COMMENTS

1. Compared with the previous month there was a slight increase in the daily average number of prisoners in Australia in May 1978. The most striking increases were noted in Victoria and Western Australia.

2. The overall imprisonment rate of 65.1 is not significantly different from the rates found in the previous three months, but a slight reduction in the percentage of prisoners on remand is noted.

3. Some prisons administrations are including information in their returns on the numbers of offenders on work release, etc. For May 1978 there were 27 prisoners on work release in New South Wales and six in Victoria. At the same time, there was an average of 109 offenders serving attendance centre orders in Victoria. It would be appreciated if other jurisdictions with comparable programs could supply similar data.

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25 July 1978

AUSTRALIAN PRISON TRENDS - NO. 25

The daily average number of persons (to the nearest whole number) held in custody during June 1978 with changes in the totals since May 1978 are :

	June			Changes since May 1978
	Males	Females	Total	
N.S.W.	3555	122	3677	- 14
VIC.	1569	37	1606	+ 13
QLD*	1569	33	1602	+ 50
S.A.	737	21	758	+ 30
W.A.	1159	62	1221	- 28
TAS.	250	4	254	+ 20
N.T.	163	8	171	+ 12
A.C.T.	42	2	44**	- 6
AUST.	9044	289	9333	+ 77

* Including a small number of periodic detainees

** 36 prisoners (including 1 female) in this total were serving sentences in N.S.W. prisons

Using the above totals for each jurisdiction, the following imprisonment rates (i.e. prisoners per 100,000 of the population) have been calculated :

	Prisoners (as above)	General Population* (in thousands)	Imprisonment Rates
N.S.W.	3677	5007	73.4
VIC.	1606	3822	42.0
QLD	1602	2172	73.8
S.A.	758	1292	58.7
W.A.	1221	1225	99.7
TAS.	254	414	61.4
N.T.	171	112	152.7
A.C.T.	44	215	20.5
AUST.	9333	14259	65.5

* Forward Estimates of Population as at 30 June 1978 (subject to revision)

(cont'd over page)

As at 1 June 1978 the actual (as opposed to daily average) numbers of prisoners in custody in each jurisdiction and the proportion of these who were on remand are shown in the table below :

	<u>Total Prisoners</u>	<u>Prisoners on Remand</u>	<u>Percentage of Remandees</u>	<u>Remandees per 100,000 of General Population</u>
N.S.W.	3738	547	14.6	10.9
VIC.	1603	136	8.5	3.6
QLD	1562	93	6.0	4.3
S.A.	603	137	22.7	10.6
W.A.	1252	96	7.7	7.8
TAS.	241	20	8.3	4.8
N.T.	166	39	23.5	34.8
A.C.T.	39	7	18.0	3.3
AUST.	9204	1075	11.7	7.5

COMMENTS

1. The daily averages for June 1978 compared with the previous month have generally shown increases, with movements in the opposite direction being found in New South Wales, Western Australia and the Australian Capital Territory. The national daily average has increased by 77 prisoners during the month.

2. These changes have increased the national imprisonment rate from 65.1 to 65.5 and it is noted that the current rates have been calculated on the basis of revised population estimates.

3. In many jurisdictions small numbers of prisoners on work release programs are included in the daily average number of prisoners. Some of these figures are: nine in Victoria, 45 in Western Australia, and approximately 65 in New South Wales. Excluded from the prisoner statistics were: 122 offenders in Victoria serving attendance centre orders and 16 offenders in New South Wales on the Work Release II (Home Release) program.

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24 August 1978

AUSTRALIAN PRISON TRENDS - NO. 26

The daily average number of persons (to the nearest whole number) held in custody during July 1978 with changes in the totals since June 1978 are :

July				Changes since June 1978
	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>	
N.S.W.	3577	116	3693	+ 16
VIC.	1611	40	1651	+ 45
QLD*	1579	38	1617	+ 15
S.A.	782	21	803	+ 45
W.A.	1149	66	1215	- 6
TAS.	279	2	281	+ 27
N.T.	169	7	176	+ 5
A.C.T.	41	4	45**	+ 1
AUST.	9187	294	9481	+ 148

* Including a small number of periodic detainees

** 35 prisoners (including 1 female) in this total were serving sentences in N.S.W. prisons

Using the above totals for each jurisdiction, the following imprisonment rates (i.e. prisoners per 100,000 of the population) have been calculated :

	<u>Prisoners (as above)</u>	<u>General Population*</u> (in thousands)	<u>Imprisonment Rates</u>
N.S.W.	3693	5007	73.8
VIC.	1651	3822	43.2
QLD	1617	2172	74.4
S.A.	803	1292	62.1
W.A.	1215	1225	99.2
TAS.	281	414	67.9
N.T.	176	112	157.1
A.C.T.	45	215	20.9
AUST.	9481	14259	66.5

* Forward Estimates of Population as at 30 June 1978 (subject to revision)

(cont'd over page)

As at 1 July 1978 the actual (as opposed to daily average) numbers of prisoners in custody in each jurisdiction and the proportion of these who were on remand are shown in the table below :

	<u>Total Prisoners</u>	<u>Prisoners on Remand</u>	<u>Percentage of Remandees</u>	<u>Remandees per 100,000 of General Population</u>
N.S.W.	3698	513	13.9	10.3
VIC.	1649	136	8.3	3.6
QLD	1609	109	6.8	5.0
S.A.	802	153	19.1	11.8
W.A.	1233	101	8.2	8.2
TAS.	272	24	8.8	5.8
N.T.	172	39	22.7	34.8
A.C.T.	42	10	23.8	4.7
AUST.	9477	1085	11.5	7.6

COMMENTS

1. The trend towards increasing prison populations noted for every month to date in 1978 continued in July. The increase of 148 prisoners in the national daily average over the previous month is particularly striking. Both the total number of 9481 and the national rate of 66.5 are the highest recorded since this data gathering system began in 1976. In the seven months since December 1977 the total daily average has increased from 8718 to 9481, or 7.6 per cent.

2. The differences between jurisdictions in the use of imprisonment continue, but the tendency towards increase is relatively uniform in all States and Territories.

3. In many jurisdictions small numbers of prisoners on work release programs are included in the daily average number of prisoners. Some of these figures are: seven in Victoria, 42 in Western Australia and 62 in New South Wales. Excluded from the prisoner statistics were: 133 offenders in Victoria serving attendance centre orders and 17 offenders in New South Wales on the Work Release II (Home Release) program.

Compiled by David Biles
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29 September 1978

AUSTRALIAN PRISON TRENDS - NO. 27

The daily average number of persons (to the nearest whole number) held in custody during August 1978 with changes in the totals since July 1978 are :

August				Changes since July 1978
	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>	
N.S.W.	3589	122	3711	+ 18
VIC.	1609	40	1649	- 2
QLD	1536	35	1571	- 46
S.A.	764	27	791	- 12
W.A.	1165	71	1236	+ 21
TAS.	309	2	311	+ 30
N.T.	176	8	184 *	+ 8
A.C.T.	42	4	46 **	+ 1
AUST.	9190	309	9499	+ 18

* 21 prisoners in this total were serving sentences in S.A. prisons and 4 (including 2 females) in N.S.W. prisons

** 36 prisoners (including 2 females) in this total were serving sentences in N.S.W. prisons

Using the above totals for each jurisdiction, the following imprisonment rates (i.e. prisoners per 100,000 of the population) have been calculated :

	<u>Prisoners (as above)</u>	<u>General Population * (in thousands)</u>	<u>Imprisonment Rates</u>
N.S.W.	3711	5007	74.1
VIC.	1649	3822	43.1
QLD	1571	2172	72.3
S.A.	791	1292	61.2
W.A.	1236	1225	100.9
TAS.	311	414	75.1
N.T.	184	112	164.3
A.C.T.	46	215	21.4
AUST.	9499	14259	66.6

* Forward Estimates of Population as at 30 June 1978 (subject to revision)

(cont'd over page)

As at 1 August 1978 the actual (as opposed to daily average) numbers of prisoners in custody in each jurisdiction and the proportion of these who were on remand are shown in the table below :

	<u>Total Prisoners</u>	<u>Prisoners on Remand</u>	<u>Percentage of Remandees</u>	<u>Remandees per 100,000 of General Population</u>
N.S.W.	3698	562	15.2	11.2
VIC.	1640	160	9.8	4.2
QLD	1573	91	5.8	4.2
S.A.	777	136	17.5	10.5
W.A.	1195	87	7.3	7.1
TAS.	312	42	13.5	10.1
N.T.	208	26	12.5	23.2
A.C.T.	43	11	25.6	5.1
AUST.	9446	1115	11.8	7.8

COMMENTS

1. With this issue of Australian Prison Trends an additional refinement has been added whereby Northern Territory prisoners serving sentences in other jurisdictions have been added to the Northern Territory figures and subtracted from the jurisdictions in which they are being held. As indicated in the footnotes to the first table, 21 N.T. male prisoners were serving sentences in S.A. and two male and two female N.T. prisoners in N.S.W. For the past several issues of Australian Prison Trends a similar adjustment has been made for A.C.T. prisoners held in N.S.W.

These adjustments have the effect of slightly under-reporting the actual numbers of prisoners held in N.S.W. and S.A., but the true totals can be readily obtained by adding the figures shown in the footnotes.

2. The overall statistical picture for 1978 reveals a slowing down in the rate of increase which has been seen since January 1978. The most striking changes are a decrease in the Queensland numbers and an increase in Tasmania.

3. In many jurisdictions small numbers of prisoners on work release programs are included in the daily average number of prisoners. Some of these figures are: four in Victoria, seven in Queensland, 41 in Western Australia and 71 in New South Wales. Excluded from the prisoner statistics were: 143 offenders in Victoria serving attendance centre orders and 17 offenders in New South Wales on the Work Release II (Home Release) program.

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26 October 1978

AUSTRALIAN PRISON TRENDS - NO. 28

The daily average number of persons (to the nearest whole number) held in custody during September 1978 with changes in the totals since August 1978 are :

<u>September</u>				
	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Changes since Aug. 1978</u>
N.S.W.	3595	129	3724	+ 13
VIC.	1588	35	1623	- 26
QLD	1578	35	1613	+ 42
S.A.	769	27	796	+ 5
W.A.	1165	75	1240	+ 4
TAS.	322	4	326	+ 15
N.T.	178	6	184*	No change
A.C.T.	39	3	42**	- 4
AUST.	9234	314	9548	+ 49

* 20 prisoners in this total were serving sentences in S.A. prisons and 4 (including 2 females) in N.S.W. prisons

** 34 prisoners (including 3 females) in this total were serving sentences in N.S.W. prisons

Using the above totals for each jurisdiction, the following imprisonment rates (i.e. prisoners per 100,000 of the population) have been calculated :

	<u>Prisoners (as above)</u>	<u>General Population*</u> (in thousands)	<u>Imprisonment Rates</u>
N.S.W.	3724	5019	74.2
VIC.	1623	3833	42.3
QLD	1613	2175	74.2
S.A.	796	1294	61.5
W.A.	1240	1231	100.7
TAS.	326	415	78.6
N.T.	184	113	162.8
A.C.T.	42	217	19.4
AUST.	9548	14297	66.8

* Forward Estimates of Population as at 30 September 1978 (subject to revision)

(cont'd over page)

As at 1 September 1978 the actual (as opposed to daily average) numbers of prisoners in custody in each jurisdiction and the proportion of these who were on remand are shown in the table below :

	<u>Total Prisoners</u>	<u>Prisoners on Remand</u>	<u>Percentage of Remandees</u>	<u>Remandees per 100,000 of General Population</u>
N.S.W.	3729	531	14.2	10.6
VIC.	1657	170	10.3	4.4
QLD	1570	93	5.9	4.3
S.A.	802	135	16.8	10.4
W.A.	1257	97	7.7	7.9
TAS.	313	25	8.0	6.0
N.T.	180	18	10.0	15.9
A.C.T.	42	9	21.4	4.1
AUST.	9550	1078	11.3	7.5

COMMENTS

1. An increase in the daily average number of prisoners is noted once again for the month of September 1978. The only jurisdictions to record slight decreases were Victoria and the Australian Capital Territory.
2. The September national imprisonment rate of 66.8 is the highest recorded since this system was established in May 1976. It is, however, considerably lower than the equivalent rates for the 1960s and early 1970s.
3. In many jurisdictions small numbers of prisoners on work release programs are included in the daily average number of prisoners. Some of these figures are: two in Victoria, five in Queensland, 42 in Western Australia and 61 in New South Wales. Excluded from the prisoner statistics were: 143 offenders in Victoria serving attendance centre orders and 15 offenders in New South Wales on the Work Release II (Home Release) program.

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29 November 1978

AUSTRALIAN PRISON TRENDS - NO. 29

The daily average number of persons (to the nearest whole number) held in custody during October 1978 with changes in the totals since September 1978 are :

October				Changes since Sept. 1978
	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>	
N.S.W.	3638	132	3770	+ 46
VIC.	1543	32	1575	- 48
QLD	1582	41	1623	+ 10
S.A.	773	29	802	+ 6
W.A.	1179	72	1251	+ 11
TAS.	330	4	334	+ 8
N.T.	178	6	184*	No change
A.C.T.	39	5	44**	+ 2
AUST.	9262	321	9583	+ 35

* 20 prisoners in this total were serving sentences in S.A. prisons and 4 (including 2 females) in N.S.W. prisons

** 34 prisoners (including 4 females) in this total were serving sentences in N.S.W. prisons

Using the above totals for each jurisdiction, the following imprisonment rates (i.e. prisoners per 100,000 of the population) have been calculated :

	<u>Prisoners (as above)</u>	<u>General Population (in thousands)</u>	<u>Imprisonment Rates</u>
N.S.W.	3770	5019	75.1
VIC.	1575	3833	41.1
QLD	1623	2175	74.6
S.A.	802	1294	62.0
W.A.	1251	1231	101.6
TAS.	334	415	80.5
N.T.	184	113	162.8
A.C.T.	44	217	20.3
AUST.	9583	14297	67.0

* Forward Estimates of Population as at 30 September 1978 (subject to revision)

(cont'd over page)

As at 1 October 1978 the actual (as opposed to daily average) numbers of prisoners in custody in each jurisdiction and the proportion of these who were on remand are shown in the table below :

	<u>Total Prisoners</u>	<u>Prisoners on Remand</u>	<u>Percentage of Remandees</u>	<u>Remandees per 100,000 of General Population</u>
N.S.W.	3750	479	12.8	9.5
VIC.	1578	178	11.3	4.6
QLD	1614	95	5.9	4.4
S.A.	798	140	17.5	10.8
W.A.	1216	95	7.8	7.7
TAS.	336	27	8.0	6.5
N.T.	188	15	8.0	13.3
A.C.T.	38	7	18.4	3.2
AUST.	9518	1036	10.9	7.2

COMMENTS

1. The trend towards increasing prison populations noted for every month, except April, in 1978 continued in October. In the 10 months since December 1977, the total daily average has increased from 8718 to 9583, or 9.9 percent. Increases in prison populations are noted for all jurisdictions except Victoria, which showed a decrease, and the Northern Territory, which recorded no change.

2. The overall imprisonment rate of 67.0 is not significantly different from the rate found in the previous month, but a slight reduction in the percentage of prisoners on remand is noted.

3. In many jurisdictions small numbers of prisoners on work release programs are included in the daily average number of prisoners. Some of these figures are: 54 in New South Wales, two in Victoria, 12 in Queensland and 50 in Western Australia. Excluded from the prisoner statistics were: 16 offenders in New South Wales on the Work Release II (Home Release) program and 144 offenders in Victoria serving attendance centre orders.

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10 January 1979

AUSTRALIAN PRISON TRENDS - NO. 30

The daily average number of persons (to the nearest whole number) held in custody during November 1978 with changes in the totals since October 1978 are :

	November			Changes since Oct. 1978
	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>	
N.S.W.	3706	133	3839	+ 69
VIC.	1551	31	1582	+ 7
QLD	1545	34	1579	- 44
S.A.	772	32	804	+ 2
W.A.	1253	64	1317	+ 66
TAS.	332	4	336	+ 2
N.T.	185	9	194 [*]	+ 10
A.C.T.	38	6	44 ^{**}	No change
AUST.	9382	313	9695	+ 112

* 19 prisoners in this total were serving sentences in S.A. prisons and 4 (including 2 females) in N.S.W. prisons

** 32 prisoners (including 5 females) in this total were serving sentences in N.S.W. prisons

Using the above totals for each jurisdiction, the following imprisonment rates (i.e. prisoners per 100,000 of the population) have been calculated :

	<u>Prisoners (as above)</u>	<u>General Population (in thousands)</u>	<u>Imprisonment Rates</u>
N.S.W.	3839	5019	76.5
VIC.	1582	3833	41.3
QLD	1579	2175	72.6
S.A.	804	1294	62.1
W.A.	1317	1231	107.0
TAS.	336	415	81.0
N.T.	194	113	171.7
A.C.T.	44	217	20.3
AUST.	9695	14297	67.8

* Forward Estimates of Population as at 30 September 1978 (subject to revision)

(cont'd over page)

As at 1 November 1978 the actual (as opposed to daily average) numbers of prisoners in custody in each jurisdiction and the proportion of these who were on remand are shown in the table below :

	<u>Total Prisoners</u>	<u>Prisoners on Remand</u>	<u>Percentage of Remandees</u>	<u>Remandees per 100,000 of General Population</u>
N.S.W.	3837	564	14.7	11.2
VIC.	1569	136	8.7	3.5
QLD	1600	88	5.5	4.0
S.A.	808	156	19.3	12.1
W.A.	1253	95	7.6	7.7
TAS.	328	32	9.8	7.7
N.T.	193	16	8.3	14.2
A.C.T.	41	10	24.4	4.6
AUST.	9629	1097	11.4	7.7

COMMENTS

1. The Australian daily average number of prisoners of 9695 and the imprisonment rate of 67.8 for November 1978 are the highest recorded since this data collection system began in 1976.
2. Increases in prison populations are noted for all jurisdictions except Queensland, which showed a significant decrease, and the Australian Capital Territory, which recorded no change. The most striking increases found are those in New South Wales and Western Australia.
3. In many jurisdictions small numbers of prisoners on work release programs are included in the daily average number of prisoners. Some of these figures are: 44 in New South Wales, one in Victoria, eight in Queensland and 41 in Western Australia. Excluded from the prisoner statistics were: 16 offenders in New South Wales on the Work Release II (Home Release) program and 141 offenders in Victoria serving attendance centre orders.
4. The differences between jurisdictions in the numbers of prisoners on remand, shown above, suggest that the Australian Capital Territory, South Australia and New South Wales have proportionately more prisoners in this category than the national average. When considered as proportions of the general population, however, the jurisdictions with higher than average numbers of prisoners on remand are the Northern Territory, South Australia and New South Wales. In these jurisdictions the high numbers of remandees may be due to delays being experienced in the higher courts or may also be due to the differences in bail policies. For whatever reason, it is suggested that the high numbers of remandees in these jurisdictions are a cause for concern.

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24 January 1979

AUSTRALIAN PRISON TRENDS - NO. 31 (AMENDED)

The daily average number of persons (to the nearest whole number) held in custody during December 1978 with changes in the totals since November 1978 are :

	December			Changes since Nov. 1978
	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>	
N.S.W.	3697	132	3829	- 10
VIC.	1533	31	1564	- 18
QLD	1482	36	1518	- 61
S.A.	717	27	744	- 60
W.A.	1216	59	1275	- 42
TAS.	310	4	314	- 22
N.T.	188	8	196 [*]	+ 2
A.C.T.	36	3	39 ^{**}	- 5
AUST.	9179	300	9479	- 216

* 19 prisoners in this total were serving sentences in S.A. prisons and 4 (including 2 females) in N.S.W. prisons

** 28 prisoners (including 3 females) in this total were serving sentences in N.S.W. prisons

Using the above totals for each jurisdiction, the following imprisonment rates (i.e. prisoners per 100,000 of the population) have been calculated :

	<u>Prisoners (as above)</u>	<u>General Population (in thousands)</u>	<u>Imprisonment Rates</u>
N.S.W.	3829	5031	76.1
VIC.	1564	3845	40.7
QLD	1518	2182	69.6
S.A.	744	1298	57.3
W.A.	1275	1238	103.0
TAS.	314	416	75.5
N.T.	196	114	171.9
A.C.T.	39	219	17.8
AUST.	9479	14343	66.1

* Forward Estimates of Population as at 31 December 1978 (subject to revision)

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WORK RELEASE AND ATTENDANCE CENTRE DATA

In many jurisdictions small numbers of prisoners on work release programs are included in the daily average number of prisoners. Some of these figures are: 40 in New South Wales, one in Victoria, six in Queensland and 48 in Western Australia. Excluded from the prisoner statistics were: 17 offenders in New South Wales on the Work Release II (Home Release) program and 131 offenders in Victoria serving attendance centre orders.

As at 1 December 1978 the actual (as opposed to daily average) numbers of prisoners in custody in each jurisdiction and the proportion of these who were on remand are shown in the table below :

	<u>Total Prisoners</u>	<u>Prisoners on Remand</u>	<u>Percentage of Remandees</u>	<u>Remandees per 100,000 of General Population</u>
N.S.W.	3830	503	13.1	10.0
VIC.	1598	136	8.5	3.5
QLD	1547	85	5.5	3.9
S.A.	776	141	18.2	10.9
W.A.	1305	67	5.1	5.4
TAS.	338	37	10.9	8.9
N.T.	187	13	7.0	11.4
A.C.T.	45	18	40.0	8.2
AUST.	9626	1000	10.4	7.0

COMMENTS

1. For the first time in eight months the total number of prisoners in Australia in December 1978 showed a decrease. This decrease is found in all major jurisdictions. A reduction in numbers in the month of December has been noted in previous years and may be due to releasing practices over the Christmas/New Year holiday period.

2. If December 1978 is compared with December 1977, this one-year period has seen a national increase in the daily average number of prisoners of 761 or 8.7 percent. The national imprisonment rate has increased over this period from 61.6 to 66.1. If this trend continues into 1979, prison administrators throughout Australia will face increasing management problems.

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26 February 1979

AUSTRALIAN PRISON TRENDS - NO. 32

The daily average number of persons (to the nearest whole number) held in custody during January 1979 with changes in the totals since December 1978 are :

January				Changes since Dec. 1978
	Males	Females	Total	
N.S.W.	3693	129	3822	- 7
VIC.	1473	29	1502	- 62
QLD	1525	35	1560	+ 42
S.A.	703	24	727	- 17
W.A.	1229	57	1286	+ 11
TAS.	284	2	286	- 28
N.T.	161	8	169*	- 27
A.C.T.	32	3	35**	- 4
AUST.	9100	287	9387	- 92

* 19 prisoners in this total were serving sentences in S.A. prisons and 4 (including 2 females) in N.S.W. prisons

** 25 prisoners (including 3 females) in this total were serving sentences in N.S.W. prisons

Using the above totals for each jurisdiction, the following imprisonment rates (i.e. prisoners per 100,000 of the population) have been calculated :

	Prisoners (as above)	General Population (in thousands)	Imprisonment Rates
N.S.W.	3822	5031	76.0
VIC.	1502	3845	39.1
QLD	1560	2182	71.5
S.A.	727	1298	56.0
W.A.	1286	1238	103.9
TAS.	286	416	68.8
N.T.	169	114	148.2
A.C.T.	35	219	16.0
AUST.	9387	14343	65.4

* Forward Estimates of Population as at 31 December 1978 (subject to revision)

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WORK RELEASE AND ATTENDANCE CENTRE DATA

In many jurisdictions small numbers of prisoners on work release programs are included in the daily average number of prisoners. Some of these figures are: 37 in New South Wales, one in Victoria, seven in Queensland and 42 in Western Australia. Excluded from the prisoner statistics were: 16 offenders in New South Wales on the Work Release II (Home Release) program and 113 offenders in Victoria serving attendance centre orders.

As at 1 January 1979 the actual (as opposed to daily average) numbers of prisoners in custody in each jurisdiction and the proportion of these who were on remand are shown in the table below :

	<u>Total Prisoners</u>	<u>Prisoners on Remand</u>	<u>Percentage of Remandees</u>	<u>Remandees per 100,000 of General Population</u>
N.S.W.	3801	520	13.7	10.3
VIC.	1502	140	9.3	3.6
QLD	1527	88	5.8	4.0
S.A.	692	112	16.2	8.6
W.A.	1354	61	4.5	4.9
TAS.	293	16	5.5	3.8
N.T.	183	14	7.7	12.3
A.C.T.	32	6	18.8	2.7
AUST.	9384	957	10.2	6.7

COMMENTS

1. The daily average numbers of prisoners for January 1979 were generally lower than they were for the previous month, with relatively small increases being found only in Queensland and Western Australia. Compared with the most recent peak month of November 1978, these data represent an Australia-wide reduction of 308 prisoners.

2. The January 1979 Australian imprisonment rate of 65.4 compares with 67.8 found in November 1978. The current rate, however, is still considerably higher than was found for any month during 1977.

3. In most jurisdictions there has been a reduction, both in absolute numbers and in percentage terms, in the numbers of prisoners on remand. The decrease in the numbers of remandees in South Australia has been the most noticeable, but relatively high numbers remain in the Northern Territory and New South Wales.

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AUSTRALIAN PRISON TRENDS - NO. 33

The daily average number of persons (to the nearest whole number) held in custody during February 1979 with changes in the totals since January 1979 are :

February				Changes since Jan. 1979
	Males	Females	Total	
N.S.W.	3738	134	3872	+ 50
VIC.	1534	36	1570	+ 68
QLD	1548	42	1590	+ 30
S.A.	738	28	766	+ 39
W.A.	1276	65	1341	+ 55
TAS.	285	3	288	+ 2
N.T.	203	11	214 [*]	+ 45
A.C.T.	28	3	31 ^{**}	- 4
AUST.	9350	322	9672	+ 285

* 19 prisoners in this total were serving sentences in S.A. prisons and 4 (including 2 females) in N.S.W. prisons

** 24 prisoners (including 3 females) in this total were serving sentences in N.S.W. prisons

Using the above totals for each jurisdiction, the following imprisonment rates (i.e. prisoners per 100,000 of the population) have been calculated :

	Prisoners (as above)	General Population [*] (in thousands)	Imprisonment Rates
N.S.W.	3872	5031	77.0
VIC.	1570	3845	40.8
QLD	1590	2182	72.9
S.A.	766	1298	59.0
W.A.	1341	1238	108.3
TAS.	288	416	69.2
N.T.	214	114	187.7
A.C.T.	31	219	14.2
AUST.	9672	14343	67.4

* Forward Estimates of Population as at 31 December 1978 (subject to revision)

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WORK RELEASE AND ATTENDANCE CENTRE DATA

In many jurisdictions small numbers of prisoners on work release programs are included in the daily average number of prisoners. Some of these figures are: 39 in New South Wales, one in Victoria, seven in Queensland and 44 in Western Australia. Excluded from the prisoner statistics were: 16 offenders in New South Wales on the Work Release II (Home Release) program and 116 offenders in Victoria serving attendance centre orders.

As at 1 February 1979 the actual (as opposed to daily average) numbers of prisoners in custody in each jurisdiction and the proportion of these who were on remand are shown in the table below :

	<u>Total Prisoners</u>	<u>Prisoners on Remand</u>	<u>Percentage of Remandees</u>	<u>Remandees per 100,000 of General Population</u>
N.S.W.	3881	607	15.6	12.1
VIC.	1546	148	9.6	3.8
QLD	1559	106	6.8	4.9
S.A.	757	158	20.9	12.2
W.A.	1411✓	95✓	6.7	7.7
TAS.	278	12	4.3	2.9
N.T.	211	22	10.4	19.3
A.C.T.	36	14	38.9	6.4
AUST.	9679	1162	12.0	8.1

COMMENTS

1. After two months of successive decreases in Australia's prison populations, the statistics for February 1979 record striking increases in all jurisdictions except the Australian Capital Territory. The monthly increase of 285 to the daily average number of prisoners in Australia has pushed the national imprisonment rate up from 65.4 to 67.4. The increases in numbers have proportionately been greatest in the Northern Territory and Western Australia.

2. Apart from this overall increase, the numbers of prisoners on remand on 1 February 1979 increased in all jurisdictions except Tasmania. On that date, 12 per-cent of all prisoners in Australia were on remand. The numbers of remandees as a proportion of the general population were highest in the Northern Territory, South Australia and New South Wales.

3. With the next publication of Australian Prison Trends it is hoped to attach the results of a prison accommodation survey from which it should be possible to calculate the 'occupancy rates' of each prison system. The assistance of prison administrators in compiling these data is gratefully acknowledged.

Compiled by David Biles
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27 April 1979

AUSTRALIAN PRISON TRENDS - NO. 34

The daily average number of persons (to the nearest whole number) held in custody during March 1979 with changes in the totals since February 1979 are :

	March			Changes since Feb. 1979
	Males	Females	Total	
N.S.W.	3775	129	3904	+ 32
VIC.	1562	36	1598	+ 28
QLD	1587	47	1634	+ 44
S.A.	744	29	773	+ 7
W.A.	1259	71	1330	- 11
TAS.	288	3	291	+ 3
N.T.	208	8	216 [*]	+ 2
A.C.T.	31	4	35 ^{**}	+ 4
AUST.	9454	327	9781	+ 109

* 19 prisoners in this total were serving sentences in S.A. prisons and 4 (including 2 females) in N.S.W. prisons

** 26 prisoners (including 4 females) in this total were serving sentences in N.S.W. prisons

Using the above totals for each jurisdiction, the following imprisonment rates (i.e. prisoners per 100,000 of the population) have been calculated :

	Prisoners (as above)	General Population [*] (in thousands)	Imprisonment Rates
N.S.W.	3904	5065	77.1
VIC.	1598	3851	41.5
QLD	1634	2182	74.9
S.A.	773	1293	59.8
W.A.	1330	1241	107.2
TAS.	291	416	70.0
N.T.	216	115	187.8
A.C.T.	35	221	15.8
AUST.	9781	14385 ^{**}	68.0

* Forward Estimates of Population as at 31 March 1979 (subject to revision)

** The discrepancy between this total and the sum of the components is due to the rounding of the components to the nearest 1000.

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WORK RELEASE AND ATTENDANCE CENTRE DATA

In many jurisdictions small numbers of prisoners on work release programs are included in the daily average number of prisoners. Some of these figures are: 39 in New South Wales, 10 in Queensland and 40 in Western Australia. Excluded from the prisoner statistics were: 16 offenders in New South Wales on the Work Release II (Home Release) program and 122 offenders in Victoria serving attendance centre orders.

As at 1 March 1979 the actual (as opposed to daily average) numbers of prisoners in custody in each jurisdiction and the proportion of these who were on remand are shown in the table below :

	<u>Total Prisoners</u>	<u>Prisoners on Remand</u>	<u>Percentage of Remandees</u>	<u>Remandees per 100,000 of General Population</u>
N.S.W.	3888	587	15.1	11.6
VIC.	1590	127	8.0	3.3
QLD	1609	116	7.2	5.3
S.A.	764	127	16.6	9.8
W.A.	1472 ✓	139 ✓	9.4	11.2
TAS.	293	31	10.6	7.5
N.T.	233	23	9.9	20.0
A.C.T.	33	8	24.2	3.6
AUST.	9882	1158	11.7	8.1

COMMENTS

1. All jurisdictions except Western Australia have reported increased numbers of prisoners for March 1979 compared with the previous month. The national increase in the daily average number of prisoners of 109 is, however, considerably smaller than the increase of 285 found in the previous month. The national imprisonment rate (based on updated forward estimates of population) for March 1979 was 68.0 compared with 67.4 in the previous month and 61.6 in December 1977.

2. Notwithstanding the overall increase in the number of prisoners, the numbers of remandees have remained relatively constant. The proportion of prisoners on remand has increased in Western Australia and Tasmania, but there has been a decrease in South Australia.

3. It has not been possible to complete the planned prison accommodation survey as difficulties in interpretation have occurred with some of the data supplied. The results of this survey will be circulated as soon as the problems have been resolved.

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23 May 1979

AUSTRALIAN PRISON TRENDS - NO. 35

The daily average number of persons (to the nearest whole number) held in custody during April 1979 with changes in the totals since March 1979 are :

April				Changes since Mar. 1979
	Males	Females	Total	
N.S.W.	3745	137	3882	- 22
VIC.	1543	33	1576	- 22
QLD	1605	42	1647	+ 13
S.A.	749	24	773	No change
W.A.	1418	85	1503	+ 173
TAS.	286	4	290	- 1
N.T.	222	9	231*	+ 15
A.C.T.	38	4	42**	+ 7
AUST.	9606	338	9944	+ 163

* 19 prisoners in this total were serving sentences in S.A. prisons and 4 (including 2 females) in N.S.W. prisons

** 27 prisoners (including 4 females) in this total were serving sentences in N.S.W. prisons

Using the above totals for each jurisdiction, the following imprisonment rates (i.e. prisoners per 100,000 of the population) have been calculated :

	Prisoners (as above)	General Population* (in thousands)	Imprisonment Rates
N.S.W.	3882	5065	76.6
VIC.	1576	3851	40.9
QLD	1647	2182	75.5
S.A.	773	1293	59.8
W.A.	1503	1241	121.1
TAS.	290	416	69.7
N.T.	231	115	200.9
A.C.T.	42	221	19.0
AUST.	9944	14385**	69.1

* Forward Estimates of Population as at 31 March 1979 (subject to revision)

** The discrepancy between this total and the sum of the components is due to the rounding of the components to the nearest 1000.

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WORK RELEASE AND ATTENDANCE CENTRE DATA

In many jurisdictions small numbers of prisoners on work release programs are included in the daily average number of prisoners. Some of these figures are: 40 in New South Wales, one in Victoria, 10 in Queensland and 39 in Western Australia. Excluded from the prisoner statistics were: 14 offenders in New South Wales on the Work Release II (Home Release) program and 137 offenders in Victoria serving attendance centre orders.

As at 1 April 1979 the actual (as opposed to daily average) numbers of prisoners in custody in each jurisdiction and the proportion of these who were on remand are shown in the table below :

	<u>Total Prisoners</u>	<u>Prisoners on Remand</u>	<u>Percentage of Remandees</u>	<u>Remandees per 100,000 of General Population</u>
N.S.W.	3911	561	14.3	11.1
VIC.	1609	166	10.3	4.3
QLD	1640	116	7.1	5.3
S.A.	804	140	17.4	10.8
W.A.	1503	162	10.8	13.1
TAS.	301	22	7.3	5.3
N.T.	221	20	9.0	17.4
A.C.T.	36	9	25.0	4.1
AUST.	10025	1196	11.9	8.3

COMMENTS

1. The overall increase in the numbers of prisoners shown for April 1979 compared with the previous month may, to a large extent, be due to the fact that for the past five months the Western Australian Department of Corrections has supplied daily averages which understated the true situation. The source of this error, which did not apply to the numbers of prisoners held on the first day of each month, has been located and corrected.

2. Apart from the abnormal West Australian figures, slight decreases in prison numbers were reported for New South Wales and Victoria.

3. There has been virtually no change in the proportion of prisoners on remand at 1 April 1979 compared with the previous month, but significant differences between jurisdictions remain.

4. The results of a prison accommodation survey have been compiled and are attached.

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23 May 1979

PRISON ACCOMMODATION SURVEY

In early March 1979 all prison administrators in Australia were asked to supply to the Institute basic information on the numbers of cell and dormitory beds available in each State and Territory. It was not possible for the New South Wales Department of Corrective Services to supply this information, due to the different terminology used in that State, but all other administrators were able to do so. It was ascertained by telephone that in New South Wales in May 1978 there was prison accommodation for 3977 male and 120 female prisoners in either single or shared accommodation units.

Administrators were asked to specify cellular or dormitory accommodation for male and female prisoners in terms of maximum, medium or minimum security rating. In most cases this information was supplied, but as security ratings are arbitrary and may vary from one jurisdiction to another, the summary of the findings below refers only to single cells and dormitory beds for males and females.

Table 1: Prison Accommodation in Australia as at 1 March 1979

	<u>N.S.W.</u>	<u>Vic.</u>	<u>Qld</u>	<u>S.A.</u>	<u>W.A.</u>	<u>Tas.</u>	<u>N.T.</u>	<u>A.C.T.</u>	<u>Aust.</u>
<u>MALE</u>									
Single cells	-	898	1623	815	962	426	127	12	4863*
Dormitory beds	-	912	146	276	324	-	117	-	1775
Total male	3977	1810	1769	1091	1286	426	244	12	10615
<u>FEMALE</u>									
Single cells	-	6	11	74	81	23	16	6	217*
Dormitory beds	-	61	32	4	56	-	6	-	159
Total female	120	67	43	78	137	23	22	6	496
TOTAL	4097**	1877	1812	1169	1423	449	266	18	11111

* excluding N.S.W.

** as at May 1978

From this table it can be seen that Tasmania is the only State to have established a fully cellular system, while Victoria seems to provide proportionately more dormitory accommodation than any other jurisdiction.

Using the total accommodation figures shown in Table 1 and the data given in *Australian Prison Trends* No. 34, with adjustments made to reflect the jurisdictions in which prisoners were actually being held as opposed to where they were sentenced, it has been possible to calculate 'occupancy rates' for

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each prison system. These rates are shown in Table 2.

Table 2: Prison Occupancy in Australia as at 1 March 1979

	<u>Total Accommodation Available</u>	<u>Total Number of Prisoners</u>	<u>Percentage Occupancy</u>
N.S.W.	4097	3918	95.6
Vic.	1877	1590	84.7
Qld	1812	1609	88.8
S.A.	1169	783	67.0
W.A.	1423	1472	103.4
Tas.	449	293	65.3
N.T.	266	214	80.5
A.C.T.	18	7	38.9
Aust.	11111	9882	88.9

This table shows that while the overall Australian prison occupancy rate is 88.9 per cent, these rates (excluding the A.C.T.) vary from 65.3 per cent in Tasmania to 103.4 per cent in Western Australia.

The data given in the above table are as supplied to the Institute by Australian prison administrators. As prison accommodation is, to some extent, a flexible concept, it is possible that some administrators may wish to submit amended figures. Certainly, the question must be asked: how does Western Australia accommodate more prisoners than it has room for?

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22 June 1979

AUSTRALIAN PRISON TRENDS - NO. 36

The daily average number of persons (to the nearest whole number) held in custody during May 1979 with changes in the totals since April 1979 are :

	May			Changes since Apr. 1979
	Males	Females	Total	
N.S.W.	3715	139	3854	- 28
VIC.	1570	37	1607	+ 31
QLD	1574	40	1614	- 33
S.A.	744	26	770	- 3
W.A.	1407	78	1485	- 18
TAS.	303	5	308	+ 18
N.T.	233	10	243*	+ 12
A.C.T.	43	3	46**	+ 4
AUST.	9589	338	9927	- 17

* 19 prisoners in this total were serving sentences in S.A. prisons and 4 (including 2 females) in N.S.W. prisons

** 32 prisoners (including 2 females) in this total were serving sentences in N.S.W. prisons.

Using the above totals for each jurisdiction, the following imprisonment rates (i.e. prisoners per 100,000 of the population) have been calculated :

	Prisoners (as above)	General Population* (in thousands)	Imprisonment Rates
N.S.W.	3854	5065	76.1
VIC.	1607	3851	41.7
QLD	1614	2182	74.0
S.A.	770	1293	59.6
W.A.	1485	1241	119.7
TAS.	308	416	74.0
N.T.	243	115	211.3
A.C.T.	46	221	20.8
AUST.	9927	14385**	69.0

* Forward Estimates of Population as at 31 March 1979 (subject to revision)

** The discrepancy between this total and the sum of the components is due to the rounding of the components to the nearest 1000.

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WORK RELEASE AND ATTENDANCE CENTRE DATA

In many jurisdictions small numbers of prisoners on work release programs are included in the daily average number of prisoners. Some of these figures are: 39 in New South Wales, one in Victoria, nine in Queensland and 35 in Western Australia. Excluded from the prisoner statistics were: 11 offenders in New South Wales on the Work Release II (Home Release) program and 154 offenders in Victoria serving attendance centre orders.

As at 1 May 1979 the actual (as opposed to daily average) numbers of prisoners in custody in each jurisdiction and the proportion of these who were on remand are shown in the table below :

	<u>Total Prisoners</u>	<u>Prisoners on Remand</u>	<u>Percentage of Remandees</u>	<u>Remandees per 100,000 of General Population</u>
N.S.W.	3875	546	14.1	10.8
VIC.	1619	145	9.0	3.8
QLD	1631	101	6.2	4.6
S.A.	782	142	18.2	11.0
W.A.	1474	133	9.0	10.7
TAS.	294	28	9.5	6.7
N.T.	241	22	9.1	19.1
A.C.T.	47	18	38.3	8.1
AUST.	9963	1135	11.4	7.9

COMMENTS

1. The month of May 1979 has been one of very little significant change in prison populations compared with the previous month. Small increases or decreases are seen for each jurisdiction resulting in an overall decrease of 17 prisoners in the month. The national imprisonment rate has remained virtually unchanged.

2. There has been a small decrease in the numbers of prisoners on remand in May, but the Northern Territory, New South Wales, South Australia and Western Australia all have significantly more remandees than the national average.

3. It is now three years since this monthly collection was started and in that period we have seen a decrease in prison numbers until December 1977, with a general tendency to increase since that date.

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31 July 1979

AUSTRALIAN PRISON TRENDS - NO. 37

The daily average number of persons (to the nearest whole number) held in custody during June 1979 with changes in the totals since May 1979 are :

<u>June</u>				<u>Changes since May 1979</u>
	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>	
N.S.W.	3692	147	3839	- 15
VIC.	1598	35	1633	+ 26
QLD	1627	40	1667	+ 53
S.A.	756	32	788	+ 18
W.A.	1411	74	1485	No change
TAS.	302	3	305	- 3
N.T.	248	11	259 [*]	+ 16
A.C.T.	46	2	48 ^{**}	+ 2
AUST.	9680	344	10024	+ 97

* 21 prisoners in this total were serving sentences in S.A. prisons and 3 (including 1 female) in N.S.W. prisons.

** 36 prisoners (including 2 females) in this total were serving sentences in N.S.W. prisons.

Using the above totals for each jurisdiction, the following imprisonment rates (i.e. prisoners per 100,000 of the population) have been calculated :

	<u>Prisoners (as above)</u>	<u>General Population (in thousands)</u>	<u>Imprisonment Rates</u>
N.S.W.	3839	5078	75.6
VIC.	1633	3858	42.3
QLD	1667	2186	76.3
S.A.	788	1293	60.9
W.A.	1485	1244	119.4
TAS.	305	417	73.1
N.T.	259	117	221.4
A.C.T.	48	223	21.5
AUST.	10024	14416	69.5

* Forward Estimates of Population as at 30 June 1979 (subject to revision)

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WORK RELEASE AND ATTENDANCE CENTRE DATA

In many jurisdictions small numbers of prisoners on work release programs are included in the daily average number of prisoners. Some of these figures are: 47 in New South Wales, one in Victoria, 10 in Queensland and 37 in Western Australia. Excluded from the prisoner statistics were: 9 offenders in New South Wales on the Work Release II (Home Release) program and 152 offenders in Victoria serving attendance centre orders.

As at 1 June 1979 the actual (as opposed to daily average) numbers of prisoners in custody in each jurisdiction and the proportion of these who were on remand are shown in the table below :

	<u>Total Prisoners</u>	<u>Prisoners on Remand</u>	<u>Percentage of Remandees</u>	<u>Remandees per 100,000 of General Population</u>
N.S.W.	3817	462	12.1	9.1
VIC.	1607	131	8.2	3.4
QLD	1631	101	6.2	4.6
S.A.	786	144	18.3	11.1
W.A.	1485	127	8.6	10.2
TAS.	309	26	8.4	6.2
N.T.	269	35	13.0	29.9
A.C.T.	46	12	26.1	5.4
AUST.	9950	1038	10.4	7.2

COMMENTS

1. The increases in prison populations for most jurisdictions for June 1979 have resulted in a national daily average for the month of over 10,000 prisoners. This is the highest total found since this data collection started in May 1976 and may be compared with the national total of 8,578 found in December 1976.

2. The national imprisonment rate of 69.5 for June 1979 is also the highest found over this period.

3. A more pleasing feature of the current data is the fact that there has been a slight reduction in both the absolute numbers and the proportions of prisoners on remand at 1 June 1979 compared with the preceding months.

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24 August 1979

AUSTRALIAN PRISON TRENDS - NO. 38

The daily average number of persons (to the nearest whole number) held in custody during July 1979 with changes in the totals since June 1979 are:

July				Changes since June 1979
	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>	
N.S.W.	3689	137	3826	- 13
VIC.	1638	43	1681	+ 48
QLD	1636	42	1678	+ 11
S.A.	780	29	809	+ 21
W.A.	1416	78	1494	+ 9
TAS.	291	3	294	- 11
N.T.	246	13	259 [*]	No change
A.C.T.	49	2	51 ^{**}	+ 3
AUST.	9745	347	10092	+ 68

* 20 prisoners in this total were serving sentences in S.A. prisons and 3 (including 1 female) in N.S.W. prisons.

** 37 prisoners (including 2 females) in this total were serving sentences in N.S.W. prisons.

Using the above totals for each jurisdiction, the following imprisonment rates (i.e. prisoners per 100,000 of the population) have been calculated:

	<u>Prisoners (as above)</u>	<u>General Population[*] (in thousands)</u>	<u>Imprisonment Rates</u>
N.S.W.	3826	5078	75.3
VIC.	1681	3858	43.6
QLD	1678	2186	76.8
S.A.	809	1293	62.6
W.A.	1494	1244	120.1
TAS.	294	417	70.5
N.T.	259	117	221.4
A.C.T.	51	223	22.9
AUST.	10092	14416	70.0

* Forward Estimates of Population as at 30 June 1979 (subject to revision)

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WORK RELEASE AND ATTENDANCE CENTRE DATA

In many jurisdictions small numbers of prisoners on work release programs are included in the daily average number of prisoners. Some of these figures are: 52 in New South Wales, one in Victoria, 10 in Queensland and 30 in Western Australia. Excluded from the prisoner statistics were: 9 offenders in New South Wales on the Work Release II (Home Release) program and 150 offenders in Victoria serving attendance centre orders.

As at 1 July 1979 the actual (as opposed to daily average) numbers of prisoners in custody in each jurisdiction and the proportion of these who were on remand are shown in the table below:

	<u>Total Prisoners</u>	<u>Prisoners on Remand</u>	<u>Percentage of Remandees</u>	<u>Remandees per 100,000 of General Population</u>
N.S.W.	3839	517	13.5	10.2
VIC.	1669	125	7.5	3.2
QLD	1710	110	6.4	5.0
S.A.	804	136	16.9	10.5
W.A.	1481	122	8.2	9.8
TAS.	305	17	5.6	4.1
N.T.	260	34	13.1	29.1
A.C.T.	59	11	18.6	4.9
AUST.	10127	1072	10.6	7.4

COMMENTS

1. For the second month in succession the daily average number of prisoners in Australia has been greater than 10,000 with a slightly higher national total being found in July 1979 compared with the previous month. The jurisdictions recording the most significant increases during the month were Victoria and South Australia.

2. The national imprisonment rate (daily average prisoners per 100,000 population) has reached 70 for the first time since this data collection started in May 1976. Significant differences in imprisonment rates for different jurisdictions are again noted, and, at a speculative level, it is suggested that the high rates in some jurisdictions may be contributing to the problems of prison management.

3. Over 10 per cent of prisoners in custody at 1 July 1978 were on remand and this proportion seems to remain relatively constant notwithstanding the absolute numbers of prisoners.

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25 September 1979.

AUSTRALIAN PRISON TRENDS - NO. 39

The daily average number of persons (to the nearest whole number) held in custody during August 1979 with changes in the totals since July 1979 are:

	August			Changes since July 1979
	Males	Females	Total	
N.S.W.	3610	131	3741	- 85
VIC.	1672	56	1728	+ 47
QLD	1584	41	1625	- 53
S.A.	793	31	824	+ 15
W.A.	1411	72	1483	- 11
TAS.	284	5	289	- 5
N.T.	245	11	256 [*]	- 3
A.C.T.	44	3	47 ^{**}	- 4
AUST.	9643	350	9993	- 99

* 19 prisoners in this total were serving sentences in S.A. prisons and 3 (including 1 female) in N.S.W. prisons.

** 35 prisoners (including 3 females) in this total were serving sentences in N.S.W. prisons.

Using the above totals for each jurisdiction, the following imprisonment rates (i.e. prisoners per 100,000 of the population) have been calculated:

	Prisoners (as above)	General Population* (in thousands)	Imprisonment Rates
N.S.W.	3741	5078	73.7
VIC.	1728	3858	44.8
QLD	1625	2186	74.3
S.A.	824	1293	63.7
W.A.	1483	1244	119.2
TAS.	289	417	69.3
N.T.	256	117	218.8
A.C.T.	47	223	21.1
AUST.	9993	14416	69.3

* Forward Estimates of Population as at 30 June 1979 (subject to revision)

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WORK RELEASE AND ATTENDANCE CENTRE DATA

In many jurisdictions small numbers of prisoners on work release programs are included in the daily average number of prisoners. Some of these figures are: 62 in New South Wales, eight in Queensland and 34 in Western Australia. Excluded from the prisoner statistics were: nine offenders in New South Wales on the Work Release II (Home Release) program and 153 offenders in Victoria serving attendance centre orders.

As at 1 August 1979 the actual (as opposed to daily average) numbers of prisoners in custody in each jurisdiction and the proportion of these who were on remand are shown in the table below:

	<u>Total Prisoners</u>	<u>Prisoners on Remand</u>	<u>Percentage of Remandees</u>	<u>Remandees per 100,000 of General Population</u>
N.S.W.	3813	542	14.2	10.7
VIC.	1707	124	7.3	3.2
QLD	1632	94	5.8	4.3
S.A.	809	126	15.6	9.7
W.A.	1482	144	9.7	11.6
TAS.	296	23	7.8	5.5
N.T.	247	28	11.3	23.9
A.C.T.	45	12	26.7	5.4
AUST.	10031	1093	10.9	7.6

COMMENTS

1. After two months of increases in the numbers of prisoners in Australia there was a significant decrease in August 1979. The numbers fell in all jurisdictions except Victoria and South Australia, with the most striking decreases being found in New South Wales and Queensland.
2. This reduction in numbers has marginally reduced the national imprisonment rate from 70.0 to 69.3 prisoners per 100,000 of the population. It is of some interest to note that New Zealand at the beginning of August had an equivalent rate of 87.1.
3. Notwithstanding the general decrease there has been a slight increase in the number of prisoners on remand. At 1 August 1979 nearly 11 per cent of all prisoners in Australia were remandees.

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25 October 1979

AUSTRALIAN PRISON TRENDS - NO. 40

The daily average number of persons (to the nearest whole number) held in custody during September 1979 with changes in the totals since August 1979 are:

	September			Changes since Aug. 1979
	Males	Females	Total	
N.S.W.	3544	130	3674	- 67
VIC.	1681	54	1735	+ 7
QLD	1576	48	1624	- 1
S.A.	791	28	819	- 5
W.A.	1407	76	1483	No change
TAS.	267	4	271	- 18
N.T.	238	11	249 [*]	- 7
A.C.T.	40	2	42 ^{**}	- 5
AUST.	9544	353	9897	- 96

* 18 prisoners in this total were serving sentences in S.A. prisons and 3 (including 1 female) in N.S.W. prisons.

** 34 prisoners (including 2 females) in this total were serving sentences in N.S.W. prisons.

Using the above totals for each jurisdiction, the following imprisonment rates (i.e. prisoners per 100,000 of the population) have been calculated:

	Prisoners (as above)	General Population [*] (in thousands)	Imprisonment Rates
N.S.W.	3674	5092	72.2
VIC.	1735	3866	44.9
QLD	1624	2199	73.9
S.A.	819	1294	63.3
W.A.	1483	1248	118.8
TAS.	271	418	64.8
N.T.	249	117	212.8
A.C.T.	42	224	18.8
AUST.	9897	14458	68.5

* Estimated Population as at 30 September 1979 (subject to revision)

(cont'd over page)

WORK RELEASE AND ATTENDANCE CENTRE DATA

In many jurisdictions small numbers of prisoners on work release programs are included in the daily average number of prisoners. Some of these figures are: 50 in New South Wales, 5 in Queensland and 41 in Western Australia. Excluded from the prisoner statistics were: 13 offenders in New South Wales on the Work Release II (Home Release) program and 147 offenders in Victoria serving attendance centre orders.

As at 1 September 1979 the actual (as opposed to daily average) numbers of prisoners in custody in each jurisdiction and the proportion of these who were on remand are shown in the table below:

	<u>Total Prisoners</u>	<u>Prisoners on Remand</u>	<u>Percentage of Remandees</u>	<u>Remandees per 100,000 of General Population</u>
N.S.W.	3656	525	14.4	10.3
VIC.	1745	126	7.2	3.3
QLD	1623	98	6.0	4.5
S.A.	819	140	17.1	10.8
W.A.	1477	119	8.1	9.5
TAS.	276	23	8.3	5.5
N.T.	252	49	19.4	41.9
A.C.T.	42	11	26.2	4.9
AUST.	9890	1091	11.0	7.5

COMMENTS

1. For the second month in succession the figures for September 1979 show a slight decrease in the number of prisoners in Australia. Decreases can be seen for all jurisdictions except Victoria and Western Australia.

2. These slightly lower figures, and revised estimates of the general population as at 30 September 1979, have resulted in a national imprisonment rate of 68.5, compared with 69.3 found in the previous month.

3. It is of some interest to note that since this data collection started in May 1976 there has been a slow but steady increase in the proportion of prisoners who are female. This proportion was originally 2.6 per cent of the total and it is now at the level of 3.6 per cent.

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27 November 1979

AUSTRALIAN PRISON TRENDS - NO. 41

The daily average number of persons (to the nearest whole number) held in custody during October 1979 with changes in the totals since September 1979 are:

October				Changes since Sept. 1979
	Males	Females	Total	
N.S.W.	3558	124	3682	+ 8
VIC.	1657	52	1709	- 26
QLD	1562	43	1605	- 19
S.A.	810	26	836	+ 17
W.A.	1406	81	1487	+ 4
TAS.	272	7	279	+ 8
N.T.	261	13	274 [*]	+ 25
A.C.T.	41	2	43 ^{**}	+ 1
AUST.	9567	348	9915	+ 18

* 15 prisoners in this total were serving sentences in S.A. prisons and 4 (including 1 female) in N.S.W. prisons.

** 35 prisoners (including 2 females) in this total were serving sentences in N.S.W. prisons.

Using the above totals for each jurisdiction, the following imprisonment rates (i.e. prisoners per 100,000 of the population) have been calculated:

	Prisoners (as above)	General Population [*] (in thousands)	Imprisonment Rates
N.S.W.	3682	5092	72.3
VIC.	1709	3866	44.2
QLD	1605	2199	73.0
S.A.	836	1294	64.6
W.A.	1487	1248	119.2
TAS.	279	418	66.7
N.T.	274	117	234.2
A.C.T.	43	224	19.2
AUST.	9915	14458	68.6

* Estimated Population as at 30 September 1979 (subject to revision)

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WORK RELEASE AND ATTENDANCE CENTRE DATA

In many jurisdictions small numbers of prisoners on work release programs are included in the daily average number of prisoners. Some of these figures are: 46 in New South Wales, 6 in Queensland and 48 in Western Australia. Excluded from the prisoner statistics were: 11 offenders in New South Wales on the Work Release II (Home Release) program and 145 offenders in Victoria serving attendance centre orders.

As at 1 October 1979 the actual (as opposed to daily average) numbers of prisoners in custody in each jurisdiction and the proportion of these who were on remand are shown in the table below:

	<u>Total Prisoners</u>	<u>Prisoners on Remand</u>	<u>Percentage of Remandees</u>	<u>Remandees per 100,000 of General Population</u>
N.S.W.	3676	552	14.5	10.4
VIC.	1702	100	5.9	2.6
QLD	1618	101	6.2	4.6
S.A.	840	145	17.3	11.2
W.A.	1497	123	8.2	9.9
TAS.	274	20	7.3	4.8
N.T.	271	37	13.7	31.6
A.C.T.	39	7	17.9	3.1
AUST.	9917	1065	10.7	7.4

COMMENTS

1. Only small changes in the daily average numbers of prisoners have occurred from September to October 1979. The national imprisonment rate has therefore remained virtually unchanged at 68.6. The most striking rate for the jurisdictions is 234.2 noted for the Northern Territory.

2. The statistics for prisoners on remand have also changed very little, with the Northern Territory, South Australia and New South Wales continuing to have the highest rates for remands in custody.

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14 January 1980

AUSTRALIAN PRISON TRENDS - NO. 42

The daily average number of persons (to the nearest whole number) held in custody during November 1979 with changes in the totals since October 1979 are:

	November			Changes since Oct. 1979
	Males	Females	Total	
N.S.W.	3508	128	3636	- 46
VIC.	1663	49	1712	+ 3
QLD	1554	42	1596	- 9
S.A.	822	28	850	+ 14
W.A.	1386	77	1463	- 24
TAS.	280	7	287	+ 8
N.T.	235	13	248 [*]	- 26
A.C.T.	51	3	54 ^{**}	+ 11
AUST.	9499	347	9846	- 69

* 15 prisoners in this total were serving sentences in S.A. prisons and 4 (including 1 female) in N.S.W. prisons.

** 48 prisoners (including 3 females) in this total were serving sentences in N.S.W. prisons.

Using the above totals for each jurisdiction, the following imprisonment rates (i.e. prisoners per 100,000 of the population) have been calculated:

	Prisoners (as above)	General Population [*] (in thousands)	Imprisonment Rates
N.S.W.	3636	5092	71.4
VIC.	1712	3866	44.3
QLD	1596	2199	72.6
S.A.	850	1294	65.7
W.A.	1463	1248	117.2
TAS.	287	418	68.7
N.T.	248	117	212.0
A.C.T.	54	224	24.1
AUST.	9846	14458	68.1

* Estimated Population as at 30 September 1979 (subject to revision)

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WORK RELEASE AND ATTENDANCE CENTRE DATA

In many jurisdictions small numbers of prisoners on work release programs are included in the daily average number of prisoners. Some of these figures are: 50 in New South Wales, 5 in Queensland and 46 in Western Australia. Excluded from the prisoner statistics were: 14 offenders in New South Wales on the Work Release II (Home Release) program and 146 offenders in Victoria serving attendance centre orders.

As at 1 November 1979 the actual (as opposed to daily average) numbers of prisoners in custody in each jurisdiction and the proportion of these who were on remand are shown in the table below:

	<u>Total Prisoners</u>	<u>Prisoners on Remand</u>	<u>Percentage of Remandees</u>	<u>Remandees per 100,000 of General Population</u>
N.S.W.	3659	504	13.8	9.9
VIC.	1708	91	5.3	2.4
QLD	1612	93	5.8	4.2
S.A.	832	129	15.5	10.0
W.A.	1453	105	7.2	8.4
TAS.	281	25	8.9	6.0
N.T.	244	43	17.6	36.8
A.C.T.	49	7	14.3	3.1
AUST.	9838	997	10.1	6.9

COMMENTS

1. Reductions in the daily average numbers of prisoners held in November 1979, particularly in New South Wales, Western Australia and the Northern Territory, resulted in a fall in the national imprisonment rate from 68.6 to 68.1. This is the lowest rate recorded since January 1979, but it is still considerably higher than the rates found throughout 1977 and 1978.

2. It is of some interest to note that over a period of two years (since November 1977) the imprisonment rates of all jurisdictions have increased, the most striking being for the Northern Territory (from 138.3 to 212.0) and Western Australia (from 96.6 to 117.2).

3. Remand prisoners constituted a slightly lower percentage of all prisoners in November compared with October 1979 and there was also a fall in the number of remandees per 100,000 of the general population. Both of these measures of the use of remand in custody are lower than the equivalent figures found twelve months previously.

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25 January 1980

AUSTRALIAN PRISON TRENDS - NO. 43

The daily average number of persons (to the nearest whole number) held in custody during December 1979 with changes in the totals since November 1979 are:

	December			Changes since Nov. 1979
	Males	Females	Total	
N.S.W.	3404	122	3526	- 110
VIC.	1666	44	1710	- 2
QLD	1533	42	1575	- 21
S.A.	778	27	805	- 45
W.A.	1355	61	1416	- 47
TAS.	287	6	293	+ 6
N.T.	253	13	266 *	+ 18
A.C.T.	52	3	55 **	+ 1
AUST.	9328	318	9646	- 200

* 15 prisoners in this total were serving sentences in S.A. prisons and 4 (including 1 female) in N.S.W. prisons.

** 46 prisoners (including 3 females) in this total were serving sentences in N.S.W. prisons.

Using the above totals for each jurisdiction, the following imprisonment rates (i.e. prisoners per 100,000 of the population) have been calculated:

	Prisoners (as above)	General Population * (in thousands)	Imprisonment Rates
N.S.W.	3526	5114	68.9
VIC.	1710	3877	44.1
QLD	1575	2206	71.4
S.A.	805	1297	62.1
W.A.	1416	1255	112.8
TAS.	293	419	69.9
N.T.	266	118	225.4
A.C.T.	55	226	24.3
AUST.	9646	14512	66.5

* Estimated Population as at 31 December 1979 (subject to revision)

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WORK RELEASE AND ATTENDANCE CENTRE DATA

In many jurisdictions small numbers of prisoners on work release programs are included in the daily average number of prisoners. Some of these figures are: 57 in New South Wales, 6 in Queensland and 36 in Western Australia. Excluded from the prisoner statistics were: 18 offenders in New South Wales on the Work Release II (Home Release) program and 131 offenders in Victoria serving attendance centre orders.

As at 1 December 1979 the actual (as opposed to daily average) numbers of prisoners in custody in each jurisdiction and the proportion of these who were on remand are shown in the table below:

	<u>Total Prisoners</u>	<u>Prisoners on Remand</u>	<u>Percentage of Remandees</u>	<u>Remandees per 100,000 of General Population</u>
N.S.W.	3547	441	12.4	8.6
VIC.	1720	62	3.6	1.6
QLD	1595	90	5.6	4.1
S.A.	844	132	15.6	10.2
W.A.	1410	79	5.6	6.3
TAS.	295	19	6.4	4.5
N.T.	274	46	16.8	39.0
A.C.T.	52	6	11.5	2.7
AUST.	9737	875	9.0	6.0

COMMENTS

1. The decrease in prison populations in December 1979 noted for all major Australian jurisdictions has reduced the national imprisonment rate to 66.5, almost exactly the same figure as found in December 1978 but considerably higher than the 61.6 found in December 1977. Decreased prison numbers have been found each December for the past four years and are thought to be due in part to early discharges being granted over the holiday period.
2. A relatively constant phenomenon is the difference in imprisonment rates between jurisdictions. The Northern Territory rate is more than nine times the rate for the A.C.T. and, in the States, the Western Australian rate is more than two-and-a-half times the Victorian rate.
3. At 1 December 1979 there were proportionately fewer prisoners on remand than in the preceding months but there were still significant differences between jurisdictions in both the percentages of remandees and the remandees per 100,000 of the relevant populations.

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AUSTRALIAN PRISON TRENDS - NO. 44

The daily average number of persons (to the nearest whole number) held in custody during January 1980 with changes in the totals over the past month and over the past year are:

	January			Changes since	
	Males	Females	Total	Dec. 1979	Jan. 1979
N.S.W.	3397	130	3527	+ 1	- 295
VIC.	1635	45	1680	- 30	+ 178
QLD	1523	43	1566	- 9	+ 6
S.A.	747	25	772	- 33	+ 45
W.A.	1367	67	1434	+ 18	+ 62
TAS.	278	5	283	- 10	- 3
N.T.	245	9	254*	- 12	+ 85
A.C.T.	59	2	61**	+ 6	+ 26
AUST.	9251	326	9577	- 69	+ 104

* 14 prisoners in this total were serving sentences in S.A. prisons and 4 (including 1 female) in N.S.W. prisons.

** 53 prisoners (including 2 females) in this total were serving sentences in N.S.W. prisons.

Using the above totals for each jurisdiction, the following imprisonment rates (i.e. prisoners per 100,000 of the population) have been calculated:

	Prisoners (as above)	General Population* (in thousands)	Imprisonment Rates
N.S.W.	3527	5114	69.0
VIC.	1680	3877	43.3
QLD	1566	2206	71.0
S.A.	772	1297	59.5
W.A.	1434	1255	114.3
TAS.	283	419	67.5
N.T.	254	118	215.3
A.C.T.	61	226	27.0
AUST.	9577	14512	66.0

* Estimated Population as at 31 December 1979 (subject to revision)

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WORK RELEASE AND ATTENDANCE CENTRE DATA

In many jurisdictions small numbers of prisoners on work release programs are included in the daily average number of prisoners. Some of these figures are: 45 in New South Wales, 5 in Queensland and 35 in Western Australia. Excluded from the prisoner statistics were: 21 offenders in New South Wales on the Work Release II (Home Release) program and 133 offenders in Victoria serving attendance centre orders.

As at 1 January 1980 the actual (as opposed to daily average) numbers of prisoners in custody in each jurisdiction and the proportion of these who were on remand are shown in the table below:

	<u>Total Prisoners</u>	<u>Prisoners on Remand</u>	<u>Percentage of Remandees</u>	<u>Remandees per 100,000 of General Population</u>
N.S.W.	3441	510	14.8	10.0
VIC.	1667	156	9.4	4.0
QLD	1547	95	6.1	4.3
S.A.	765	119	15.6	9.2
W.A.	1412	67	4.7	5.3
TAS.	289	23	8.0	5.5
N.T.	263	33	12.5	28.0
A.C.T.	57	5	8.8	2.2
AUST.	9441	1008	10.7	6.9

COMMENTS

1. Prison populations generally continued to fall in January 1980, with the most notable decreases being found in South Australia and Victoria. The overall imprisonment rate of 66.0 is not significantly different from the equivalent rate found for January 1979.

2. Notwithstanding the overall decrease in the number of people in prison, the proportion who were on remand at 1 January 1980 increased from 9.0 percent to 10.7 percent in one month. The number of remandees per 100,000 of the general population also increased from 6.0 to 6.9. This change is thought to be due to the closure of the higher courts for the holiday period. The increase in the number of remand prisoners is particularly noticeable in Victoria.

3. An addition to this issue of Australian Prison Trends, which will be continued in the future, is a column showing the changes in prison populations over a 12-month period as well as changes from the previous month.

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24 March 1980

AUSTRALIAN PRISON TRENDS - NO. 45

The daily average numbers of persons (to the nearest whole number) held in custody during February 1980 with changes in the totals over the past month and over the past year are:

	February			Changes since	
	Males	Females	Total	Jan. 1980	Feb. 1979
N.S.W.	3473	136	3609	+ 82	- 263
VIC.	1659	48	1707	+ 27	+ 137
QLD	1536	53	1589	+ 23	- 1
S.A.	794	24	818	+ 46	+ 52
W.A.	1396	71	1467	+ 33	+ 3
TAS.	272	4	276	- 7	- 12
N.T.	246	9	255*	+ 1	+ 41
A.C.T.	56	2	58**	- 3	+ 27
AUST.	9432	347	9779	+ 202	- 16

* 14 prisoners in this total were serving sentences in S.A. prisons and 4 (including 1 female) in N.S.W. prisons.

** 50 prisoners (including 2 females) in this total were serving sentences in N.S.W. prisons.

Using the above totals for each jurisdiction, the following imprisonment rates (i.e. prisoners per 100,000 of the population) have been calculated:

	Prisoners (as above)	General Population* (in thousands)	Imprisonment Rates
N.S.W.	3609	5114	70.6
VIC.	1707	3877	44.0
QLD	1589	2206	72.0
S.A.	818	1297	63.1
W.A.	1467	1255	116.9
TAS.	276	419	65.9
N.T.	255	118	216.1
A.C.T.	58	226	25.7
AUST.	9779	14512	67.4

* Estimated Population as at 31 December 1979 (subject to revision)

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WORK RELEASE AND ATTENDANCE CENTRE DATA

In many jurisdictions small numbers of prisoners on work release programs are included in the daily average number of prisoners. Some of these figures are: 62 in New South Wales, 6 in Queensland and 36 in Western Australia. Excluded from the prisoner statistics were: 22 offenders in New South Wales on the Work Release II (Home Release) program and 124 offenders in Victoria serving attendance centre orders.

As at 1 February 1980 the actual (as opposed to daily average) numbers of prisoners in custody in each jurisdiction and the proportion of these who were on remand are shown in the table below:

	<u>Total Prisoners</u>	<u>Prisoners on Remand</u>	<u>Percentage of Remandees</u>	<u>Remandees per 100,000 of General Population</u>
N.S.W.	3549	533	15.0	10.4
VIC.	1696	168	9.9	4.3
QLD	1560	110	7.1	5.0
S.A.	794	111	14.0	8.6
W.A.	1469	68	4.6	5.4
TAS.	277	21	7.6	5.0
N.T.	254	28	11.0	23.7
A.C.T	54	6	11.1	2.7
AUST.	9653	1045	10.8	7.2

COMMENTS

1. During the month of February 1980 there were significant increases in the prison populations of all major jurisdictions compared with the previous month. This is thought to be due in part to the commencement of the legal year in February. Similar changes have been found in each of the past years.

2. The total daily average number of prisoners in Australia for February 1980 was very similar to the total found twelve months previously, but the most recent national imprisonment rate is marginally lower.

3. Perhaps contradicting the suggestion made in (1) above, the proportion of prisoners on remand and the number of remandees per 100,000 of the general population on 1 February 1980 were both slightly higher than one month earlier.

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24 April 1980

AUSTRALIAN PRISON TRENDS - NO. 46

The daily average number of persons (to the nearest whole number) held in custody during March 1980 with changes in the totals over the past month and over the past year are:

	March			Changes since	
	Males	Females	Total	Feb. 1980	Mar. 1979
N.S.W.	3508	131	3639	+ 30	- 265
VIC.	1707	49	1756	+ 49	+ 158
QLD	1605	50	1655	+ 66	+ 21
S.A.	764	18	782	- 36	+ 9
W.A.	1456	69	1525	+ 58	+ 56
TAS.	258	5	263	- 13	- 28
N.T.	255	11	266*	+ 11	+ 50
A.C.T.	50	2	52**	- 6	+ 17
AUST.	9603	335	9938	+ 159	+ 18

* 13 prisoners in this total were serving sentences in S.A. prisons and 4 (including 1 female) in N.S.W. prisons.

** 45 prisoners (including 2 females) in this total were serving sentences in N.S.W. prisons.

Using the above totals for each jurisdiction, the following imprisonment rates (i.e. prisoners per 100,000 of the population) have been calculated:

	Prisoners (as above)	General Population* (in thousands)	Imprisonment Rates
N.S.W.	3639	5114	71.2
VIC.	1756	3877	45.3
QLD	1655	2206	75.0
S.A.	782	1297	60.3
W.A.	1525	1255	121.5
TAS.	263	419	62.8
N.T.	266	118	225.4
A.C.T.	52	226	23.0
AUST.	9938	14512	68.5

* Estimated Population as at 31 December 1979 (subject to revision)

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WORK RELEASE AND ATTENDANCE CENTRE DATA

In many jurisdictions small numbers of prisoners on work release programs are included in the daily average number of prisoners. Some of these figures are: 72 in New South Wales, 5 in Queensland and 37 in Western Australia. Excluded from the prisoner statistics were: 20 offenders in New South Wales on the Work Release II (Home Release) program and 127 offenders in Victoria serving attendance centre orders.

As at 1 March 1980 the actual (as opposed to daily average) numbers of prisoners in custody in each jurisdiction and the proportion of these who were on remand are shown in the table below:

	<u>Total Prisoners</u>	<u>Prisoners on Remand</u>	<u>Percentage of Remandees</u>	<u>Remandees per 100,000 of General Population</u>
N.S.W.	3637	564	15.5	11.0
VIC.	1861	149	8.0	3.8
QLD	1620	131	8.1	5.9
S.A.	835	108	12.9	8.3
W.A.	1458	93	6.4	7.4
TAS.	271	22	8.1	5.3
N.T.	261	26	10.0	22.0
A.C.T.	50	7	14.0	3.1
AUST.	9993	1100	11.0	7.6

COMMENTS

1. For the second month in succession there have been significant increases in prison populations during March in all major jurisdictions except South Australia. The national total, however, is only marginally higher than that found in March 1979. The 12-month comparison shows a striking difference between the trends in New South Wales and Victoria.

2. Very significant differences in imprisonment rates and remand rates continue to be noted with no sign of these differences diminishing.

3. In the near future the Institute is to publish quarterly correctional statistics from a number of countries in the Asian and Pacific region. The Australian national data will be included in this publication. Recipients of Australian Prison Trends will also be supplied with copies of this new series.

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22 May 1980

AUSTRALIAN PRISON TRENDS - NO. 47

The daily average number of persons (to the nearest whole number) held in custody during April 1980 with changes in the totals over the past month and over the past year are:

	April			Changes since	
	Males	Females	Total	Mar. 1980	Apr. 1979
N.S.W.	3427	134	3561	- 78	- 321
VIC.	1730	46	1776	+ 20	+ 200
QLD	1630	55	1685	+ 30	+ 38
S.A.	819	22	841	+ 59	+ 68
W.A.	1496	60	1556	+ 31	+ 53
TAS.	270	4	274	+ 11	- 16
N.T.	236	10	246 [*]	- 20	+ 15
A.C.T.	55	2	57 ^{**}	+ 5	+ 15
AUST.	9663	333	9996	+ 58	+ 52

* 13 prisoners in this total were serving sentences in S.A. prisons and 3 in N.S.W. prisons.

** 48 prisoners (including 2 females) in this total were serving sentences in N.S.W. prisons.

Using the above totals for each jurisdiction, the following imprisonment rates (i.e. prisoners per 100,000 of the population) have been calculated:

	Prisoners (as above)	General Population [*] (in thousands)	Imprisonment Rates
N.S.W.	3561	5131	69.4
VIC.	1776	3887	45.7
QLD	1685	2214	76.1
S.A.	841	1300	64.7
W.A.	1556	1262	123.3
TAS.	274	420	65.2
N.T.	246	120	205.0
A.C.T.	57	228	25.0
AUST.	9996	14562	68.6

* Estimates Population as at 31 March 1980 (subject to revision)

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WORK RELEASE AND ATTENDANCE CENTRE DATA

In many jurisdictions small numbers of prisoners on work release programs are included in the daily average number of prisoners. Some of these figures are: 60 in New South Wales, 4 in Queensland and 33 in Western Australia. Excluded from the prisoner statistics were: 21 offenders in New South Wales on the Work Release II (Home Release) program and 141 offenders in Victoria serving attendance centre orders.

As at 1 April 1980 the actual (as opposed to daily average) numbers of prisoners in custody in each jurisdiction and the proportion of these who were on remand are shown in the table below:

	<u>Total Prisoners</u>	<u>Prisoners on Remand</u>	<u>Percentage of Remandees</u>	<u>Remandees per 100,000 of General Population</u>
N.S.W.	3544	503	14.2	9.8
VIC.	1804	115	6.4	3.0
QLD	1667	109	6.5	4.9
S.A.	815	135	16.6	10.4
W.A.	1511	75	5.0	5.9
TAS.	271	20	7.4	4.8
N.T.	255	42	16.5	35.0
A.C.T.	54	7	13.0	3.1
AUST.	9921	1006	10.1	6.9

COMMENTS

1. All jurisdictions except New South Wales and the Northern Territory have recorded increases in prison populations in April 1980 compared with the previous month. Compared with one year ago all totals are higher except for those of New South Wales and Tasmania.

2. The national imprisonment rate for April 1980 was only slightly higher than that of the previous month. This slight change is due in part to the fact that the general population estimates have been updated.

3. The percentage of prisoners on remand and the remandees per 100,000 of the population have both decreased in April compared with March, but for South Australia and the Northern Territory the numbers of remandees increased over this period.

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27 June 1980

AUSTRALIAN PRISON TRENDS - NO. 48

The daily average number of persons (to the nearest whole number) held in custody during May 1980 with changes in the totals over the past month and over the past year are:

	May			Changes since	
	Males	Females	Total	Apr. 1980	May 1979
N.S.W.	3427	127	3554	- 7	- 300
VIC.	1730	47	1777	+ 1	+ 170
QLD	1639	51	1690	+ 5	+ 76
S.A.	834	19	853	+ 12	+ 83
W.A.	1462	56	1518	- 38	+ 33
TAS.	273	6	279	+ 5	- 29
N.T.	246	12	258*	+ 12	+ 15
A.C.T.	56	1	57**	No change	+ 11
AUST.	9667	319	9986	- 10	+ 59

* 13 prisoners in this total were serving sentences in S.A. prisons and 3 in N.S.W. prisons.

** 46 prisoners (including 1 female) in this total were serving sentences in N.S.W. prisons.

Using the above totals for each jurisdiction, the following imprisonment rates (i.e. prisoners per 100,000 of the population) have been calculated:

	Prisoners (as above)	General Population* (in thousands)	Imprisonment Rates
N.S.W.	3554	5131	69.3
VIC.	1777	3887	45.7
QLD	1690	2214	76.3
S.A.	853	1300	65.6
W.A.	1518	1262	120.3
TAS.	279	420	66.4
N.T.	258	120	215.0
A.C.T.	57	228	25.0
AUST.	9986	14562	68.6

* Estimated Population as at 31 March 1980 (subject to revision)

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WORK RELEASE AND ATTENDANCE CENTRE DATA

In many jurisdictions small numbers of prisoners on work release programs are included in the daily average number of prisoners. Some of these figures are: 64 in New South Wales, 4 in Queensland and 29 in Western Australia. Excluded from the prisoner statistics were: 31 offenders in New South Wales on the Work Release II (Home Release) program and 144 offenders in Victoria serving attendance centre orders.

As at 1 May 1980 the actual (as opposed to daily average) numbers of prisoners in custody in each jurisdiction and the proportion of these who were on remand are shown in the table below:

	<u>Total Prisoners</u>	<u>Prisoners on Remand</u>	<u>Percentage of Remandees</u>	<u>Remandees per 100,000 of General Population</u>
N.S.W.	3548	518	14.6	10.1
VIC.	1801	133	7.4	3.4
QLD	1681	122	7.3	5.5
S.A.	859	149	17.3	11.5
W.A.	1548	111	7.2	8.8
TAS.	282	20	7.1	4.8
N.T.	252	45	17.9	37.5
A.C.T.	54	10	18.5	4.4
AUST.	10025	1108	11.1	7.6

COMMENTS

1. Australian prison populations in May 1980 have changed very little since the previous month, the only exception being a reduction in numbers in Western Australia.

2. In nearly all jurisdictions there has been an increase in the numbers of prisoners on remand with the overall proportion of remandees increasing from 10.1 percent to 11.1 percent in a month. Jurisdictions with high 'remanding rates' are the Northern Territory, South Australia and New South Wales.

3. In a similar exercise to this collection of Australian prison statistics the Institute has recently initiated data collection on a quarterly basis from a number of countries in Asia and the Pacific. The first quarterly summary of these data are soon to be published in the Institute's quarterly newsletter, Reporter.

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29 July 1980

AUSTRALIAN PRISON TRENDS - NO. 49

The daily average number of persons (to the nearest whole number) held in custody during June 1980 with changes in the totals over the past month and over the past year are:

	June			Changes since	
	Males	Females	Total	May 1980	June 1979
N.S.W.	3324	125	3449	- 105	- 390
VIC.	1711	46	1757	- 20	+ 124
QLD	1634	52	1686	- 4	+ 19
S.A.	849	25	874	+ 21	+ 86
W.A.	1404	59	1463	- 55	- 22
TAS.	264	6	270	- 9	- 35
N.T.	258	11	269*	+ 11	+ 10
A.C.T.	59	1	60**	+ 3	+ 12
AUST.	9503	325	9828	- 158	- 196

* 13 prisoners in this total were serving sentences in S.A. prisons and 3 in N.S.W. prisons.

** 48 prisoners (including 1 female) in this total were serving sentences in N.S.W. prisons.

Using the above totals for each jurisdiction, the following imprisonment rates (i.e. prisoners per 100,000 of the population) have been calculated:

	Prisoners (as above)	General Population* (in thousands)	Imprisonment Rates
N.S.W.	3449	5146	67.0
VIC.	1757	3895	45.1
QLD	1686	2223	75.8
S.A.	874	1302	67.1
W.A.	1463	1268	115.4
TAS.	270	421	64.1
N.T.	269	121	222.3
A.C.T.	60	230	26.1
AUST.	9828	14606	67.3

* Estimated Population as at 30 June 1980 (subject to revision)

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WORK RELEASE AND ATTENDANCE CENTRE DATA

In many jurisdictions small numbers of prisoners on work release programs are included in the daily average number of prisoners. Some of these figures are: 56 in New South Wales, 5 in Queensland and 27 in Western Australia. Excluded from the prisoner statistics were: 23 offenders in New South Wales on the Work Release II (Home Release) program and 147 offenders in Victoria serving attendance centre orders.

As at 1 June 1980 the actual (as opposed to daily average) numbers of prisoners in custody in each jurisdiction and the proportion of these who were on remand are shown in the table below:

	<u>Total Prisoners</u>	<u>Prisoners on Remand</u>	<u>Percentage of Remandees</u>	<u>Remandees per 100,000 of General Population</u>
N.S.W.	3412	468	13.7	9.1
VIC.	1759	95	5.4	2.4
QLD	1684	119	7.1	5.4
S.A.	855	144	16.8	11.1
W.A.	1507	70	4.6	5.5
TAS.	270	24	8.9	5.7
N.T.	267	43	16.1	35.5
A.C.T.	62	14	22.6	6.1
AUST.	9816	977	10.0	6.7

COMMENTS

1. In June 1980 there was a decrease in prison populations in most Australian jurisdictions, with New South Wales and Western Australia being most notable. Compared with one year earlier the total number of prisoners was down by nearly 200.

2. The national imprisonment rate for June 1980 was 67.3 compared with 69.5 in June 1979. The New South Wales rate has fallen to 67.0 from a high of 77.1 in March 1979. The Victorian rate however has increased to 45.1 from a low of 39.1 in January 1979. The most dramatic change has occurred in the Northern Territory where the current rate of 222.3 may be compared with 139.6 in April 1978.

3. The numbers of remand prisoners have tended to fall in recent months, but significant differences between jurisdictions can still be seen in these numbers.

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27 August 1980

AUSTRALIAN PRISON TRENDS - NO. 50

The daily average numbers of persons (to the nearest whole number) held in custody during July 1980 with changes in the totals over the past month and over the past year are:

	July			Changes since	
	Males	Females	Total	June 1980	July 1979
N.S.W.	3312	123	3435	- 14	- 391
VIC.	1754	51	1805	+ 48	+ 124
QLD	1622	54	1676	- 10	- 2
S.A.	857	29	886	+ 12	+ 77
W.A.	1411	60	1471	+ 8	- 23
TAS.	257	7	264	- 6	- 30
N.T.	261	13	274*	+ 5	+ 15
A.C.T.	53	1	54**	- 6	+ 3
AUST.	9527	338	9865	+ 37	- 227

* 13 prisoners in this total were serving sentences in S.A. prisons and 2 in N.S.W. prisons.

** 44 prisoners (including 1 female) in this total were serving sentences in N.S.W. prisons.

Using the above totals for each jurisdiction, the following imprisonment rates (i.e. prisoners per 100,000 of the population) have been calculated:

	Prisoners (as above)	General Population* (in thousands)	Imprisonment Rates
N.S.W.	3435	5146	66.8
VIC.	1805	3895	46.3
QLD	1676	2223	75.4
S.A.	886	1302	68.0
W.A.	1471	1268	116.0
TAS.	264	421	62.7
N.T.	274	121	226.4
A.C.T.	54	230	23.5
AUST.	9865	14606	67.5

* Estimated Population as at 30 June 1980 (subject to revision)

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WORK RELEASE AND ATTENDANCE CENTRE DATA

In many jurisdictions small numbers of prisoners on work release programs are included in the daily average number of prisoners. Some of these figures are: 53 in New South Wales, 4 in Queensland and 30 in Western Australia. Excluded from the prisoner statistics were: 24 offenders in New South Wales on the Work Release II (Home Release) program and 152 offenders in Victoria serving attendance centre orders.

As at 1 July 1980 the actual (as opposed to daily average) numbers of prisoners in custody in each jurisdiction are shown in the table below. The number of Federal prisoners in custody in each jurisdiction at that date are also shown in this table.

	<u>Total Prisoners</u>	<u>Federal Prisoners</u>	<u>Prisoners on Remand</u>	<u>Percentage of Remandees</u>	<u>Remandees per 100,000 of General Population</u>
N.S.W.	3414	120	497	14.6	9.7
VIC.	1796	26	86	4.8	2.2
QLD	1704	28	98	5.8	4.4
S.A.	886	14	144	16.3	11.1
W.A.	1432	42	82	5.7	6.5
TAS.	264	5	19	7.2	4.5
N.T.	276	15	41	14.9	33.9
A.C.T.	53	-	12	22.6	5.2
AUST.	9825	250	979	10.0	6.7

COMMENS

1. The total number of prisoners in custody in Australia in July 1980 was only slightly higher than in the previous month, but considerably lower than a year earlier. Victoria is the only jurisdiction to record significant increases in the month and in the year.

2. A new feature of this edition of Australian Prison Trends is the inclusion of a number of Federal prisoners in the table above. These data have been supplied by Dr S. K. Mukherjee who is currently pursuing research in this area. It will be noted that Federal prisoners comprise just over 2.5 percent of all prisoners.

3. The second quarterly summary of Prison Statistics for Asia and the Pacific was recently published by the Institute. This contains prison, probation and parole data from the 12 countries in the region. Copies are available on request.



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25 September 1980

AUSTRALIAN PRISON TRENDS - NO. 51

The daily average number of persons (to the nearest whole number) held in custody during August 1980 with changes in the totals over the past month and over the past year are:

	August			Changes since	
	Males	Females	Total	July 1980	Aug. 1979
N.S.W.	3257	111	3368	- 67	- 373
VIC.	1740	54	1794	- 11	+ 66
QLD	1591	46	1637	- 39	+ 12
S.A.	841	25	866	- 20	+ 42
W.A.	1419	65	1484	+ 13	+ 1
TAS.	244	7	251	- 13	- 38
N.T.	265	16	281*	+ 7	+ 25
A.C.T.	50	1	51**	- 3	+ 4
AUST.	9407	325	9732	- 133	- 261

* 13 prisoners in this total were serving sentences in S.A. prisons and 3 in N.S.W. prisons.

** 46 prisoners (including 1 female) in this total were serving sentences in N.S.W. prisons.

Using the above totals for each jurisdiction, the following imprisonment rates (i.e. prisoners per 100,000 of the population) have been calculated:

	Prisoners (as above)	General Population* (in thousands)	Imprisonment Rates
N.S.W.	3368	5146	65.4
VIC.	1794	3895	46.1
QLD	1637	2223	73.6
S.A.	866	1302	66.5
W.A.	1484	1268	117.0
TAS.	251	421	59.6
N.T.	281	121	232.2
A.C.T.	51	230	22.2
AUST.	9732	14606	66.6

* Estimated Population as at 30 June 1980 (subject to revision)

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WORK RELEASE AND ATTENDANCE CENTRE DATA

In many jurisdictions small numbers of prisoners on work release programs are included in the daily average number of prisoners. Some of these figures are: 54 in New South Wales, 3 in Queensland and 30 in Western Australia. Excluded from the prisoner statistics were: 19 offenders in New South Wales on the Work Release II (Home Release) program and 148 offenders in Victoria serving attendance centre orders.

As at 1 August 1980 the actual (as opposed to daily average) numbers of prisoners in custody in each jurisdiction and the proportion of these who were on remand are shown in the table below:

	<u>Total Prisoners</u>	<u>Prisoners on Remand</u>	<u>Percentage of Remandees</u>	<u>Remandees per 100,000 of General Population</u>
N.S.W.	3387	467	13.8	9.1
VIC.	1813	70	3.9	1.8
QLD	1638	108	6.6	4.9
S.A.	883	146	16.5	11.2
W.A.	1460	89	6.1	7.0
TAS.	253	12	4.7	2.9
N.T.	275	38	13.8	31.4
A.C.T.	50	6	12.0	2.6
AUST.	9759	936	9.6	6.4

COMMENTS

1. The total number of prisoners in Australia fell during August 1980, with decreases being recorded in all jurisdictions except Western Australia and the Northern Territory. The national imprisonment rate of 66.6 for August 1980 compares with 67.5 for the previous month and 69.3 for August 1979.

2. Female prisoners comprised 3.3 percent of the total in August 1980. This is slightly lower than the proportion found for most of 1979, but is considerably higher than the equivalent figures found throughout 1976 and 1977. The current percentage of female prisoners in each jurisdiction is: N.S.W. 3.3, VIC. 3.0, QLD 2.8, S.A. 2.9, W.A. 4.4, TAS. 2.8, N.T. 5.7, and A.C.T. 2.0.

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30 October 1980

AUSTRALIAN PRISON TRENDS - NO. 52

The daily average number of persons (to the nearest whole number) held in custody during September 1980 with changes in the totals over the past month and over the past year are:

	September			Changes since	
	Males	Females	Total	Aug. 1980	Sept. 1979
N.S.W.	3213	119	3332	- 36	- 342
VIC.	1704	53	1757	- 37	+ 22
QLD	1597	41	1638	+ 1	+ 14
S.A.	824	27	851	- 15	+ 32
W.A.	1380	64	1444	- 40	- 39
TAS.	254	7	261	+ 10	- 10
N.T.	274	13	287*	+ 6	+ 38
A.C.T.	53	1	54**	+ 3	+ 12
AUST.	9299	325	9624	- 108	- 273

*13 prisoners in this total were serving sentences in S.A. prisons and 3 in N.S.W. prisons.

**48 prisoners (including 1 female) in this total were serving sentences in N.S.W. prisons.

Using the above totals for each jurisdiction, the following imprisonment rates (i.e. prisoners per 100,000 of the population) have been calculated:

	Prisoners (as above)	General Population* (in thousands)	Imprisonment Rates
N.S.W.	3332	5157	64.6
VIC.	1757	3901	45.0
QLD	1638	2237	73.2
S.A.	851	1304	65.3
W.A.	1444	1274	113.3
TAS.	261	423	61.7
N.T.	287	121	237.2
A.C.T.	54	233	23.2
AUST.	9624	14650	65.7

* Estimated Population as at 30 September 1980 (subject to revision)

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WORK RELEASE AND ATTENDANCE CENTRE DATA

In many jurisdictions small numbers of prisoners on work release programs are included in the daily average number of prisoners. Some of these figures are: 49 in New South Wales, 6 in Queensland and 26 in Western Australia. Excluded from the prisoner statistics were: 16 offenders in New South Wales on the Work Release II (Home Release) program and 146 offenders in Victoria serving attendance centre orders.

As at 1 September 1980 the actual (as opposed to daily average) numbers of prisoners in custody in each jurisdiction and the proportion of these who were on remand are shown in the table below:

	<u>Total Prisoners</u>	<u>Prisoners on Remand</u>	<u>Percentage of Remandees</u>	<u>Remandees per 100,000 of General Population</u>
N.S.W.	3311	477	14.4	9.2
VIC.	1766	66	3.7	1.7
QLD	1642	101	6.2	4.5
S.A.	865	155	17.9	11.9
W.A.	1484	104	7.0	8.2
TAS.	253	16	6.3	3.8
N.T.	286	32	11.2	26.4
A.C.T.	53	5	9.4	2.1
AUST.	9660	956	9.9	6.5

COMMENTS

1. The numbers of prisoners held in most of the larger jurisdictions fell during September resulting in an overall decrease of 108 prisoners in a month. Compared with one year earlier there were 273 fewer prisoners in the whole of Australia. The national imprisonment rate for September 1980 was 65.7.

2. Notwithstanding the overall decrease in the number of prisoners in September, there has been an increase in both the number and proportion of remand prisoners held on the first day of the month. The rates of remand in custody are significantly above the national average in the Northern Territory, South Australia, New South Wales and Western Australia.

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24 November 1980

AUSTRALIAN PRISON TRENDS - NO. 53

The daily average number of persons (to the nearest whole number) held in custody during October 1980 with changes in the totals over the past month and over the past year are:

	October			Changes since	
	Males	Females	Total	Sept. 1980	Oct. 1979
N.S.W.	3104	102	3206	- 126	- 476
VIC.	1719	55	1774	+ 17	+ 65
QLD	1618	39	1657	+ 19	+ 52
S.A.	835	28	863	+ 12	+ 27
W.A.	1359	62	1421	- 23	- 66
TAS.	241	7	248	- 13	- 31
N.T.	262	16	278*	- 9	+ 4
A.C.T.	53	-	53**	- 1	+ 10
AUST.	9191	309	9500	- 124	- 415

* 9 prisoners in this total were serving sentences in S.A. prisons and 2 in N.S.W. prisons.

** 48 prisoners in this total were serving sentences in N.S.W. prisons

Using the above totals for each jurisdiction, the following imprisonment rates (i.e. prisoners per 100,000 of the population) have been calculated:

	Prisoners (as above)	General Population* (in thousands)	Imprisonment Rates
N.S.W.	3206	5157	62.2
VIC.	1774	3901	45.5
QLD	1657	2237	74.1
S.A.	863	1304	66.2
W.A.	1421	1274	111.5
TAS.	248	423	58.6
N.T.	278	121	229.8
A.C.T.	53	233	22.7
AUST.	9500	14650	64.8

* Estimated Population as at 30 September 1980 (subject to revision)

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WORK RELEASE AND ATTENDANCE CENTRE DATA

In many jurisdictions small numbers of prisoners on work release programs are included in the daily average number of prisoners. Some of these figures are: 59 in New South Wales, 9 in Queensland and 24 in Western Australia. Excluded from the prisoner statistics were: 17 offenders in New South Wales on the Work Release II (Home Release) program and 148 offenders in Victoria serving attendance centre orders.

As at 1 October 1980 the actual (as opposed to daily average) numbers of prisoners in custody in each jurisdiction and the proportion of these who were on remand are shown in the table below. The number of Federal prisoners in custody in each jurisdiction at that date are also shown in this table.

	<u>Total Prisoners</u>	<u>Federal Prisoners</u>	<u>Prisoners on Remand</u>	<u>Percentage of Remandees</u>	<u>Remandees per 100,000 of General Population</u>
N.S.W.	3366	117	519	15.4	10.1
VIC.	1762	37	48	2.7	1.2
QLD	1640	37	80	4.9	3.6
S.A.	843	8	142	16.8	10.9
W.A.	1425	52	106	7.4	8.3
TAS.	253	5	17	6.7	4.0
N.T.	276	13	32	11.6	26.4
A.C.T.	53	3	9	17.0	3.9
AUST.	9618	272	953	9.9	6.5

COMMENTS

1. The most noticeable aspect of the prison statistics for October 1980 is the decrease recorded for New South Wales. Some of this decrease may have resulted from a High Court decision affecting parole in that State. The decrease in total Australian numbers during the month, which reduced the national imprisonment rate from 65.7 to 64.8, is totally the result of the New South Wales situation.

2. For the second time, this issue of Australian Prison Trends includes details of Federal prisoners held in each jurisdiction as at 1 October 1980. Federal prisoners can be seen to comprise 2.8 percent of the national total.

3. The third quarterly summary of Prison Statistics for Asia and the Pacific was recently published by the Institute. This includes data from 11 countries. Copies are available on request.

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23 December 1980

AUSTRALIAN PRISON TRENDS - NO. 54

The daily average number of persons (to the nearest whole number) held in custody during November 1980 with changes in the totals over the past month and over the past year are:

	November			Changes since	
	Males	Females	Total	Oct. 1980	Nov. 1979
N.S.W.	3159	109	3268	+ 62	- 368
VIC.	1741	56	1797	+ 23	+ 85
QLD	1634	36	1670	+ 13	+ 74
S.A.	826	28	854	- 9	+ 4
W.A.	1365	60	1425	+ 4	- 38
TAS.	240	6	246	- 2	- 41
N.T.	256	17	273*	- 5	+ 25
A.C.T.	54	-	54**	+ 1	No change
AUST.	9275	312	9587	+ 87	- 259

* 9 prisoners in this total were serving sentences in S.A. prisons and 2 in N.S.W. prisons.

** 50 prisoners in this total were serving sentences in N.S.W. prisons.

Using the above totals for each jurisdiction, the following imprisonment rates (i.e. prisoners per 100,000 of the population) have been calculated:

	Prisoners (as above)	General Population* (in thousands)	Imprisonment Rates
N.S.W.	3268	5157	63.4
VIC.	1797	3901	46.1
QLD	1670	2237	74.7
S.A.	854	1304	65.5
W.A.	1425	1274	111.9
TAS.	246	423	58.2
N.T.	273	121	225.6
A.C.T.	54	233	23.2
AUST.	9587	14650	65.4

* Estimated Population as at 30 September 1980 (subject to revision)

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WORK RELEASE AND ATTENDANCE CENTRE DATA

In many jurisdictions small numbers of prisoners on work release programs are included in the daily average number of prisoners. Some of these figures are: 57 in New South Wales, 8 in Queensland and 24 in Western Australia. Excluded from the prisoner statistics were: 17 offenders in New South Wales on the Work Release II (Home Release) program and 147 offenders in Victoria serving attendance centre orders.

As at 1 November 1980 the actual (as opposed to daily average) numbers of prisoners in custody in each jurisdiction and the proportion of these who were on remand are shown in the table below:

	<u>Total Prisoners</u>	<u>Prisoners on Remand</u>	<u>Percentage of Remandees</u>	<u>Remandees per 100,000 of General Population</u>
N.S.W.	3141	408	13.0	7.9
VIC.	1793	51	2.8	1.3
QLD	1660	81	4.9	3.6
S.A.	858	148	17.2	11.3
W.A.	1445	100	6.9	7.8
TAS.	251	15	6.0	3.5
N.T.	269	24	8.9	19.8
A.C.T.	54	3	5.6	1.3
AUST.	9471	830	8.8	5.7

COMMENTS

1. There was a noticeable increase in the total number of prisoners in Australia in November 1980. This was largely due to an increase in New South Wales which followed a striking decrease in the previous month.

2. Victorian prison populations have continued to increase slowly and the imprisonment rate in that State is now 46.1 compared with under 40 two years ago. The current Victorian rate is nevertheless lower than the rate of any other Australian State. This increase is less striking than that of the Northern Territory where the current rate of 225.6 is to be compared with rates in the range 140 to 170 found during 1978.

3. The November figures show an overall decrease in the numbers of prisoners on remand and this has largely occurred in New South Wales. The national percentage of remandees at 8.8 is the lowest yet recorded in this series.

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5 February 1981

AUSTRALIAN PRISON TRENDS - NO. 55

The daily average number of persons (to the nearest whole number) held in custody during December 1980 with changes in the totals over the past month and over the past year are:

	December			Changes since	
	Males	Females	Total	Nov. 1980	Dec. 1979
N.S.W.	3138	111	3249	- 19	- 277
VIC.	1705	50	1755	- 42	+ 45
QLD	1650	37	1687	+ 17	+ 112
S.A.	800	24	824	- 30	+ 19
W.A.	1386	63	1449	+ 24	+ 33
TAS.	228	7	235	- 11	- 58
N.T.	274	14	288*	+ 15	+ 22
A.C.T.	55	-	55**	+ 1	No change
AUST.	9236	306	9542	- 45	- 104

* 9 prisoners in this total were serving sentences in S.A. prisons and 2 in N.S.W. prisons.

** 49 prisoners in this total were serving sentences in N.S.W. prisons.

Using the above totals for each jurisdiction, the following imprisonment rates (i.e. prisoners per 100,000 of the population) have been calculated:

	Prisoners (as above)	General Population* (in thousands)	Imprisonment Rates
N.S.W.	3249	5181	62.7
VIC.	1755	3905	44.9
QLD	1687	2273	74.2
S.A.	824	1302	63.3
W.A.	1449	1277	113.5
TAS.	235	426	55.2
N.T.	288	124	232.3
A.C.T.	55	228	24.1
AUST.	9542	14716	64.8

* Estimated Population as at 31 December 1980 (subject to revision)

(cont'd over page)

WORK RELEASE AND ATTENDANCE CENTRE DATA

In many jurisdictions small numbers of prisoners on work release programs are included in the daily average number of prisoners. Some of these figures are: 59 in New South Wales, 7 in Queensland and 24 in Western Australia. Excluded from the prisoner statistics were: 12 offenders in New South Wales on the Work Release II (Home Release) program and 154 offenders in Victoria serving attendance centre orders.

As at 1 December 1980 the actual (as opposed to daily average) numbers of prisoners in custody in each jurisdiction and the proportion of these who were on remand are shown in the table below:

	<u>Total Prisoners</u>	<u>Prisoners on Remand</u>	<u>Percentage of Remandees</u>	<u>Remandees per 100,000 of General Population</u>
N.S.W.	3290	456	13.9	8.8
VIC.	1787	112	6.3	2.9
QLD	1679	79	4.7	3.5
S.A.	841	132	15.7	10.1
W.A.	1420	109	7.7	8.5
TAS.	238	18	7.6	4.2
N.T.	284	29	10.2	23.4
A.C.T.	54	5	9.3	2.2
AUST.	9593	940	9.8	6.4

COMMENTS

1. The daily average number of prisoners held throughout Australia in December 1980 was slightly lower than during the previous month, with the most noticeable decrease occurring in Victoria. Compared with twelve months earlier, there were more than 100 fewer prisoners in the country.

2. In contrast with the overall picture there was an increase in the number of remand prisoners held at the beginning of December compared with a month earlier. The statistics still show wide differences between jurisdictions in the extent to which remand in custody is used.

3. A revised version of the Quarterly Summary No. 3 of Prison Statistics for Asia and the Pacific has recently been published by the Institute. This contains correctional data from 14 nations in the region. Copies are available on request.

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25 February 1981

AUSTRALIAN PRISON TRENDS - NO. 56

The daily average number of persons (to the nearest whole number) held in custody during January 1981 with changes in the totals over the past month and over the past year are:

	January			Changes since	
	Males	Females.	Total	Dec. 1980	Jan. 1980
N.S.W.	3134	112	3246	- 3	- 281
VIC.	1668	46	1714	- 41	+ 34
QLD	1658	41	1699	+ 12	+ 133
S.A.	776	23	799	- 25	+ 27
W.A.	1319	57	1376	- 73	- 58
TAS.	222	5	227	- 8	- 56
N.T.	273	18	291*	+ 3	+ 37
A.C.T.	49	-	49**	- 6	- 12
AUST.	9099	302	9401	- 141	- 176

* 9 prisoners in this total were serving sentences in S.A. prisons.

** 43 prisoners in this total were serving sentences in N.S.W. prisons.

Using the above totals for each jurisdiction, the following imprisonment rates (i.e. prisoners per 100,000 of the population) have been calculated:

	Prisoners (as above)	General Population* (in thousands)	Imprisonment Rates
N.S.W.	3246	5181	62.7
VIC.	1714	3905	43.9
QLD	1699	2273	74.7
S.A.	799	1302	61.4
W.A.	1376	1277	107.8
TAS.	227	426	53.3
N.T.	291	124	234.7
A.C.T.	49	228	21.5
AUST.	9401	14716	63.9

* Estimated Population as at 31 December 1980 (subject to revision)

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WORK RELEASE AND ATTENDANCE CENTRE DATA

In many jurisdictions small numbers of prisoners on work release programs are included in the daily average number of prisoners. Some of these figures are: 51 in New South Wales, 4 in Queensland and 19 in Western Australia. Excluded from the prisoner statistics were: 17 offenders in New South Wales on the Work Release II (Home Release) program and 146 offenders in Victoria serving attendance centre orders.

As at 1 January 1981 the actual (as opposed to daily average) numbers of prisoners in custody in each jurisdiction and the proportion of these who were on remand are shown in the table below. The number of Federal prisoners in custody in each jurisdiction at that date are also shown in this table.

	<u>Total Prisoners</u>	<u>Federal Prisoners</u>	<u>Prisoners on Remand</u>	<u>Percentage of Remandees</u>	<u>Remandees per 100,000 of General Population</u>
N.S.W.	3221	129	441	13.7	8.5
VIC.	1715	43	111	6.5	2.8
QLD	1652	34	89	5.4	3.9
S.A.	783	12	106	13.5	8.1
W.A.	1398	48	90	6.4	7.0
TAS.	229	2	7	3.1	1.6
N.T.	264	15	28	10.6	22.6
A.C.T.	50	-	7	14.0	3.1
AUST.	9312	283	879	9.4	6.0

COMMENTS

1. There was a striking decrease in the numbers of prisoners held in January 1981 compared with the previous month. The most noticeable falls occurred in Western Australia, Victoria and South Australia. This has resulted in a national imprisonment rate of 63.9 for January 1981, the lowest rate found since February 1978.

2. The numbers of unconvicted prisoners on remand at 1 January 1981 were also lower than found one month earlier, with corresponding decreases being recorded in both the percentage of prisoners on remand and the number of remandees per 100,000 of the population.

3. In this issue of Australian Prison Trends the numbers of Federal prisoners in each State and Territory at 1 January 1981 are shown in the table above.

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30 March 1981

AUSTRALIAN PRISON TRENDS - NO. 57

The daily average number of persons (to the nearest whole number) held in custody during February 1981 with changes in the totals over the past month and over the past year are:

	February			Changes since	
	Males	Females	Total	Jan. 1981	Feb. 1980
N.S.W.	3198	110	3308	+ 62	- 301
VIC.	1711	52	1763	+ 49	+ 56
QLD	1690	37	1727	+ 28	+ 138
S.A.	813	23	836	+ 37	+ 18
W.A.	1398	66	1464	+ 88	- 3
TAS.	234	4	238	+ 11	- 38
N.T.	280	14	294*	+ 3	+ 39
A.C.T.	47	-	47**	- 2	- 11
AUST.	9371	306	9677	+ 276	- 102

* 9 prisoners in this total were serving sentences in S.A. prisons.

** 41 prisoners in this total were serving sentences in N.S.W. prisons.

Using the above totals for each jurisdiction, the following imprisonment rates (i.e. prisoners per 100,000 of the population) have been calculated:

	Prisoners (as above)	General Population* (in thousands)	Imprisonment Rates
N.S.W.	3308	5181	63.8
VIC.	1763	3905	45.1
QLD	1727	2273	76.0
S.A.	836	1302	64.2
W.A.	1464	1277	114.6
TAS.	238	426	55.9
N.T.	294	124	237.1
A.C.T.	47	228	20.6
AUST.	9677	14716	65.8

* Estimated Population as at 31 December 1980 (subject to revision)

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WORK RELEASE AND ATTENDANCE CENTRE DATA

In many jurisdictions small numbers of prisoners on work release programs are included in the daily average number of prisoners. Some of these figures are: 60 in New South Wales, 6 in Queensland and 20 in Western Australia. Excluded from the prisoner statistics were: 17 offenders in New South Wales on the Work Release II (Home Release) program and 149 offenders in Victoria serving attendance centre orders.

As at 1 February 1981 the actual (as opposed to daily average) numbers of prisoners in custody in each jurisdiction and the proportion of these who were on remand are shown in the table below:

	<u>Total Prisoners</u>	<u>Prisoners on Remand</u>	<u>Percentage of Remandees</u>	<u>Remandees per 100,000 of General Population</u>
N.S.W.	3295	507	15.4	9.8
VIC.	1723	117	6.8	3.0
QLD	1707	112	6.6	4.9
S.A.	835	123	14.7	9.4
W.A.	1409	94	6.7	7.4
TAS.	234	15	6.4	3.5
N.T.	307	27	8.8	21.8
A.C.T.	44	5	11.4	2.2
AUST.	9554	1000	10.5	6.8

COMMENTS

1. Prison populations in virtually all Australian jurisdictions increased markedly in February 1981 compared with the previous month. This increase is probably due to the resumption of normal court sittings after the summer vacation.

2. Notwithstanding this increase the February 1981 figures are generally lower than they were one year earlier, with New South Wales recording the most significant decrease. By contrast, the Queensland prison figures have increased considerably in the 12-month period.

3. The Institute has recently published the fourth quarterly summary of prison statistics for Asia and the Pacific. This contains data from 13 countries as at 1 January 1981. Copies are available on request.

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29 April 1981

AUSTRALIAN PRISON TRENDS - NO. 58

The daily average number of persons (to the nearest whole number) held in custody during March 1981 with changes in the totals over the past month and over the past year are:

	March			Changes since	
	Males	Females	Total	Feb. 1981	Mar. 1980
N.S.W.	3238	123	3361	+ 53	- 278
VIC.	1760	58	1818	+ 55	+ 62
QLD	1701	39	1740	+ 13	+ 85
S.A.	819	23	842	+ 6	+ 60
W.A.	1386	58	1444	- 20	- 81
TAS.	247	4	251	+ 13	- 12
N.T.	292	12	304*	+ 10	+ 38
A.C.T.	46	-	46**	- 1	- 6
AUST.	9489	317	9806	+ 129	- 132

* 8 prisoners in this total were serving sentences in S.A. prisons.

** 40 prisoners in this total were serving sentences in N.S.W. prisons.

Using the above totals for each jurisdiction, the following imprisonment rates (i.e. prisoners per 100,000 of the population) have been calculated:

	Prisoners (as above)	General Population* (in thousands)	Imprisonment Rates
N.S.W.	3361	5201	64.6
VIC.	1818	3914	46.4
QLD	1740	2285	76.1
S.A.	842	1304	64.6
W.A.	1444	1283	112.5
TAS.	251	427	58.8
N.T.	304	125	243.2
A.C.T.	46	230	20.0
AUST.	9806	14769	66.4

* Estimated Population as at 31 March 1981 (subject to revision)

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WORK RELEASE AND ATTENDANCE CENTRE DATA

In many jurisdictions small numbers of prisoners on work release programs are included in the daily average number of prisoners. Some of these figures are: 63 in New South Wales, 4 in Queensland and 50 in Western Australia. Excluded from the prisoner statistics were: 14 offenders in New South Wales on the Work Release II (Home Release) program and 153 offenders in Victoria serving attendance centre orders.

As at 1 March 1981 the actual (as opposed to daily average) numbers of prisoners in custody in each jurisdiction and the proportion of these who were on remand are shown in the table below:

	<u>Total Prisoners</u>	<u>Prisoners on Remand</u>	<u>Percentage of Remandees</u>	<u>Remandees per 100,000 of General Population</u>
N.S.W.	3385	529	15.6	10.2
VIC.	1845	148	8.0	3.8
QLD	1756	99	5.6	4.3
S.A.	854	123	14.4	9.4
W.A.	1416	123	8.7	9.6
TAS.	240	15	6.3	3.5
N.T.	304	27	8.9	21.6
A.C.T.	40	4	10.0	1.7
AUST.	9840	1068	10.9	7.2

COMMENTS

1. For the third month in succession there has been a marked increase in the number of prisoners in Australia. Increased prison populations are noted for all of the larger jurisdictions except Western Australia. Despite this trend the total number of prisoners is considerably lower than one year earlier, especially in New South Wales.

2. The statistics for 1 March 1981 show that on that date over 10 percent of all prisoners were being held on remand, with the proportions in New South Wales and South Australia being considerably higher at approximately 15 percent.

3. In the issue of Australian Prison Trends No. 57 published on 30 March 1981 the daily average number of prisoners held in the Northern Territory for February was shown as 294. That figure was incorrect as the nine Northern Territory prisoners serving their sentences in South Australian prisons during that month should have been added. The correct figure therefore was 303.

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29 May 1981

AUSTRALIAN PRISON TRENDS - NO. 59

The daily average number of persons (to the nearest whole number) held in custody during April 1981 with changes in the totals over the past month and over the past year are:

	April			Changes since	
	Males	Females	Total	Mar. 1981	Apr. 1980
N.S.W.	3272	130	3402	+ 41	- 159
VIC.	1791	56	1847	+ 29	+ 71
QLD	1703	38	1741	+ 1	+ 56
S.A.	823	29	852	+ 10	+ 11
W.A.	1405	69	1474	+ 30	- 82
TAS.	256	3	259	+ 8	- 15
N.T.	291	12	303*	- 1	+ 57
A.C.T.	51	-	51**	+ 5	- 6
AUST.	9592	337	9929	+ 123	- 67

* 6 prisoners in this total were serving sentences in S.A. prisons.

** 42 prisoners in this total were serving sentences in N.S.W. prisons.

Using the above totals for each jurisdiction, the following imprisonment rates (i.e. prisoners per 100,000 of the population) have been calculated:

	Prisoners (as above)	General Population* (in thousands)	Imprisonment Rates
N.S.W.	3402	5201	65.4
VIC.	1847	3914	47.2
QLD	1741	2285	76.2
S.A.	852	1304	65.3
W.A.	1474	1283	114.9
TAS.	259	427	60.7
N.T.	303	125	242.4
A.C.T.	51	230	22.2
AUST.	9929	14769	67.2

* Estimated Population as at 31 March 1981 (subject to revision)

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WORK RELEASE AND ATTENDANCE CENTRE DATA

In many jurisdictions small numbers of prisoners on work release programs are included in the daily average number of prisoners. Some of these figures are: 67 in New South Wales, 3 in Queensland and 22 in Western Australia. Excluded from the prisoner statistics were: 16 offenders in New South Wales on the Work Release II (Home Release) program and 148 offenders in Victoria serving attendance centre orders.

As at 1 April 1981 the actual (as opposed to daily average) numbers of prisoners in custody in each jurisdiction and the proportion of these who were on remand are shown in the table below. The number of Federal prisoners in custody in each jurisdiction at that date are also shown in this table.

	<u>Total Prisoners</u>	<u>Federal Prisoners</u>	<u>Prisoners on Remand</u>	<u>Percentage of Remandees</u>	<u>Remandees per 100,000 of General Population</u>
N.S.W.	3379	121	521	15.4	10.0
VIC.	1831	40	144	7.9	3.7
QLD	1755	33	108	6.2	4.7
S.A.	857	14	128	14.9	9.8
W.A.	1472	36	125	8.5	9.7
TAS.	256	2	8	3.1	1.9
N.T.	307	15	31	10.1	24.8
A.C.T.	51	3	9	17.6	3.9
AUST.	9908	264	1074	10.8	7.3

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6 July 1981

AUSTRALIAN PRISON TRENDS - NO. 60

The daily average number of persons (to the nearest whole number) held in custody during May 1981 with changes in the totals over the past month and over the past year are:

	May			Changes since	
	Males	Females	Total	Apr. 1981	May 1980
N.S.W.	3370	131	3501	+ 99	- 53
VIC.	1794	55	1849	+ 2	+ 72
QLD	1693	43	1736	- 5	+ 46
S.A.	865	29	894	+ 42	+ 41
W.A.	1376	61	1437	- 37	- 81
TAS.	251	3	254	- 5	- 25
N.T.	298	11	309*	+ 6	+ 51
A.C.T.	54	-	54**	+ 3	- 3
AUST.	9701	333	10034	+ 105	+ 48

* 6 prisoners in this total were serving sentences in S.A. prisons.

** 43 prisoners in this total were serving sentences in N.S.W. prisons.

Using the above totals for each jurisdiction, the following imprisonment rates (i.e. prisoners per 100,000 of the population) have been calculated:

	Prisoners (as above)	General Population* (in thousands)	Imprisonment Rates
N.S.W.	3501	5201	67.3
VIC.	1849	3914	47.2
QLD	1736	2285	76.0
S.A.	894	1304	68.6
W.A.	1437	1283	112.0
TAS.	254	427	59.5
N.T.	309	125	247.2
A.C.T.	54	230	23.5
AUST.	10034	14769	67.9

* Estimated Population as at 31 March 1981 (subject to revision)

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WORK RELEASE AND ATTENDANCE CENTRE DATA

In many jurisdictions small numbers of prisoners on work release programs are included in the daily average number of prisoners. Some of these figures are: 63 in New South Wales, 4 in Queensland and 26 in Western Australia. Excluded from the prisoner statistics were: 19 offenders in New South Wales on the Work Release II (Home Release) program and 153 offenders in Victoria serving attendance centre orders.

As at 1 May 1981 the actual (as opposed to daily average) numbers of prisoners in custody in each jurisdiction and the proportion of these who were on remand are shown in the table below:

	<u>Total Prisoners</u>	<u>Prisoners on Remand</u>	<u>Percentage of Remandees</u>	<u>Remandees per 100,000 of General Population</u>
N.S.W.	3427	518	15.1	10.0
VIC.	1861	153	8.2	3.9
QLD	1751	118	6.7	5.2
S.A.	869	125	14.4	9.6
W.A.	1467	122	8.3	9.5
TAS.	259	12	4.6	2.8
N.T.	304	32	10.5	25.6
A.C.T.	50	10	20.0	4.3
AUST.	9988	1090	10.9	7.4

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30 July 1981

AUSTRALIAN PRISON TRENDS - NO. 61

The daily average number of persons (to the nearest whole number) held in custody during June 1981 with changes in the totals over the past month and over the past year are:

	June			Changes since	
	Males	Females	Total	May 1981	June 1980
N.S.W.	3332	133	3465	- 36	+ 16
VIC.	1784	59	1843	- 6	+ 86
QLD	1681	42	1723	- 13	+ 37
S.A.	827	28	855	- 39	- 19
W.A.	1333	63	1396	- 41	- 67
TAS.	247	4	251	- 3	- 19
N.T.	282	13	295*	- 14	+ 26
A.C.T.	51	1	52**	- 2	- 8
AUST.	9537	343	9880	- 154	+ 52

* 6 prisoners in this total were serving sentences in S.A. prisons.

** 45 prisoners in this total were serving sentences in N.S.W. prisons.

Using the above totals for each jurisdiction, the following imprisonment rates (i.e. prisoners per 100,000 of the population) have been calculated:

	Prisoners (as above)	General Population* (in thousands)	Imprisonment Rates
N.S.W.	3465	5218	66.4
VIC.	1843	3925	47.0
QLD	1723	2298	75.0
S.A.	855	1305	65.5
W.A.	1396	1288	108.4
TAS.	251	428	58.6
N.T.	295	128	230.5
A.C.T.	52	231	22.5
AUST.	9880	14821	66.7

* Estimated Population as at 30 June 1981 (subject to revision)

(cont'd over page)

WORK RELEASE AND ATTENDANCE CENTRE DATA

In many jurisdictions small numbers of prisoners on work release programs are included in the daily average number of prisoners. Some of these figures are: 56 in New South Wales, 4 in Queensland and 27 in Western Australia. Excluded from the prisoner statistics were: 20 offenders in New South Wales on the Work Release II (Home Release) program and 157 offenders in Victoria serving attendance centre orders.

As at 1 June 1981 the actual (as opposed to daily average) numbers of prisoners in custody in each jurisdiction and the proportion of these who were on remand are shown in the table below:

	<u>Total Prisoners</u>	<u>Prisoners on Remand</u>	<u>Percentage of Remandees</u>	<u>Remandees per 100,000 of General Population</u>
N.S.W.	3477	548	15.8	10.5
VIC.	1851	127	6.9	3.2
QLD	1727	129	7.5	5.6
S.A.	902	126	14.0	9.7
W.A.	1427	132	9.3	10.2
TAS.	257	21	8.2	4.9
N.T.	302	37	12.3	28.9
A.C.T.	53	9	17.0	3.9
AUST.	9996	1129	11.3	7.6

Compiled by Marjorie Johnson
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4 September 1981

AUSTRALIAN PRISON TRENDS - NO. 62

The daily average number of persons (to the nearest whole number) held in custody during July 1981 with changes in the totals over the past month and over the past year are:

	July			Changes since	
	Males	Females	Total	June 1981	July 1980
N.S.W.	3390	126	3516	+ 51	+ 81
VIC.	1758	55	1813	- 30	+ 8
QLD	1649	44	1693	- 30	+ 17
S.A.	789	27	816	- 39	- 70
W.A.	1314	61	1375	- 21	- 96
TAS.	260	3	263	+ 12	- 1
N.T.	271	12	283*	- 12	+ 9
A.C.T.	48	-	48**	- 4	- 6
AUST.	9479	328	9807	- 73	- 58

* 6 prisoners in this total were serving sentences in S.A. prisons.

** 41 prisoners in this total were serving sentences in N.S.W. prisons.

Using the above totals for each jurisdiction, the following imprisonment rates (i.e. prisoners per 100,000 of the population) have been calculated:

	Prisoners (as above)	General Population* (in thousands)	Imprisonment Rates
N.S.W.	3516	5218	67.4
VIC.	1813	3925	46.2
QLD	1693	2298	73.7
S.A.	816	1305	62.5
W.A.	1375	1288	106.8
TAS.	263	428	61.4
N.T.	283	128	221.1
A.C.T.	48	231	20.8
AUST.	9807	14821	66.2

* Estimated Population as at 30 June 1981 (subject to revision)

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WORK RELEASE AND ATTENDANCE CENTRE DATA

In many jurisdictions small numbers of prisoners on work release programs are included in the daily average number of prisoners. Some of these figures are: 55 in New South Wales, 4 in Queensland and 26 in Western Australia. Excluded from the prisoner statistics were: 17 offenders in New South Wales on the Work Release II (Home Release) program and 181 offenders in Victoria serving attendance centre orders.

As at 1 July 1981 the actual (as opposed to daily average) numbers of prisoners in custody in each jurisdiction and the proportion of these who were on remand are shown in the table below. The number of Federal prisoners in custody in each jurisdiction at that date are also shown in this table.

	<u>Total Prisoners</u>	<u>Federal Prisoners</u>	<u>Prisoners on Remand</u>	<u>Percentage of Remandees</u>	<u>Remandees per 100,000 of General Population</u>
N.S.W.	3529	123	545	15.4	10.4
VIC.	1843	41	110	6.0	2.8
QLD	1709	33	116	6.8	5.0
S.A.	801	15	109	13.6	8.4
W.A.	1348	44	122	9.1	9.5
TAS.	259	1	22	8.5	5.1
N.T.	295	14	42	14.2	32.8
A.C.T.	47	-	7	14.9	3.0
AUST.	9831	271	1073	10.9	7.2

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23 September 1981

AUSTRALIAN PRISON TRENDS - NO. 63

The daily average number of persons (to the nearest whole number) held in custody during August 1981 with changes in the totals over the past month and over the past year are:

	August			Changes since	
	Males	Females	Total	July 1981	Aug. 1980
N.S.W.	3339	140	3479	- 37	+ 111
VIC.	1697	55	1752	- 61	- 42
QLD	1627	43	1670	- 23	+ 33
S.A.	785	31	816	No change	- 50
W.A.	1306	54	1360	- 15	- 124
TAS.	267	5	272	+ 9	+ 21
N.T.	254	13	267*	- 16	- 14
A.C.T.	47	-	47**	- 1	- 4
AUST.	9322	341	9663	- 144	- 69

* 5 prisoners in this total were serving sentences in S.A. prisons.

** 40 prisoners in this total were serving sentences in N.S.W. prisons.

Using the above totals for each jurisdiction, the following imprisonment rates (i.e. prisoners per 100,000 of the population) have been calculated:

	Prisoners (as above)	General Population* (in thousands)	Imprisonment Rates
N.S.W.	3479	5218	66.7
VIC.	1752	3925	44.6
QLD	1670	2298	72.7
S.A.	816	1305	62.5
W.A.	1360	1288	105.6
TAS.	272	428	63.6
N.T.	267	128	208.6
A.C.T.	47	231	20.3
AUST.	9663	14821	65.2

* Estimated Population as at 30 June 1981 (subject to revision)

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WORK RELEASE AND ATTENDANCE CENTRE DATA

In many jurisdictions small numbers of prisoners on work release programs are included in the daily average number of prisoners. Some of these figures are: 49 in New South Wales, 3 in Queensland and 24 in Western Australia. Excluded from the prisoner statistics were: 14 offenders in New South Wales on the Work Release II (Home Release) program and 195 offenders in Victoria serving attendance centre orders.

As at 1 August 1981 the actual (as opposed to daily average) numbers of prisoners in custody in each jurisdiction and the proportion of these who were on remand are shown in the table below:

	<u>Total Prisoners</u>	<u>Prisoners on Remand</u>	<u>Percentage of Remandees</u>	<u>Remandees per 100,000 of General Population</u>
N.S.W.	3494	528	15.1	10.1
VIC.	1769	129	7.3	3.3
QLD	1671	109	6.5	4.7
S.A.	828	122	14.7	9.3
W.A.	1364	95	7.0	7.4
TAS.	270	20	7.4	4.7
N.T.	271	39	14.4	30.5
A.C.T.	48	8	16.7	3.5
AUST.	9715	1050	10.8	7.1

COMMENTS

1. The total number of prisoners in Australia is continuing to decline after reaching a peak of 10,034 in May 1981. In the past three months numbers have fallen in all jurisdictions, most markedly in Victoria, Western Australia and South Australia. Notwithstanding this trend, in the past month numbers have increased in New South Wales, Queensland and Tasmania.

2. An interesting trend is noted in relation to female prisoners. The current 341 female prisoners constitute 3.5 percent of the total. In the early years of this collection, 1976 and 1977, this proportion remained between 2.5 and 3.0 percent. Since February 1978, however, it has always been higher than 3.0 percent and has shown a further tendency towards increase in recent months.

3. In the writer's absence on study leave from May to September 1981 this statistical collection was compiled by Mrs Marjorie Johnson. Her efforts in this regard are warmly acknowledged.

Compiled by David Biles
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26 October 1981

AUSTRALIAN PRISON TRENDS - NO. 64

The daily average number of persons (to the nearest whole number) held in custody during September 1981 with changes in the totals over the past month and over the past year are:

	September			Changes since	
	Males	Females	Total	Aug. 1981	Sept. 1980
N.S.W.	3328	141	3469	- 10	+ 137
VIC.	1694	57	1751	- 1	- 6
QLD	1653	47	1700	+ 30	+ 62
S.A.	789	22	811	- 5	- 40
W.A.	1295	52	1347	- 13	- 97
TAS.	260	5	265	- 7	+ 4
N.T.	251	12	263*	- 4	- 24
A.C.T.	45	1	46**	- 1	- 8
AUST.	9315	337	9652	- 11	+ 28

* 5 prisoners in this total were serving sentences in S.A. prisons.

** 40 prisoners in this total were serving sentences in N.S.W. prisons.

Using the above totals for each jurisdiction, the following imprisonment rates (i.e. prisoners per 100,000 of the population) have been calculated:

	Prisoners (as above)	General Population* (in thousands)	Imprisonment Rates
N.S.W.	3469	5238	66.2
VIC.	1751	3938	44.5
QLD	1700	2315	73.4
S.A.	811	1307	62.1
W.A.	1347	1294	104.1
TAS.	265	428	61.9
N.T.	263	130	202.3
A.C.T.	46	234	19.7
AUST.	9652	14885**	64.8

* Estimated Population as at 30 September 1981 (subject to revision).

** The discrepancy between this total and the sum of the components is due to the rounding of the components to the nearest 1000.

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WORK RELEASE AND ATTENDANCE CENTRE DATA

In many jurisdictions small numbers of prisoners on work release programs are included in the daily average number of prisoners. Some of these figures are: 55 in New South Wales, 3 in Queensland and 26 in Western Australia. Excluded from the prisoner statistics were: 12 offenders in New South Wales on the Work Release II (Home Release) program and 193 offenders in Victoria serving attendance centre orders.

As at 1 September 1981 the actual (as opposed to daily average) numbers of prisoners in custody in each jurisdiction and the proportion of these who were on remand are shown in the table below:

	<u>Total Prisoners</u>	<u>Prisoners on Remand</u>	<u>Percentage of Remandees</u>	<u>Remandees per 100,000 of General Population</u>
N.S.W.	3471	529	15.2	10.1
VIC.	1741	120	6.9	3.0
QLD	1663	118	7.1	5.1
S.A.	802	120	15.0	9.2
W.A.	1332	95	7.1	7.3
TAS.	265	17	6.4	4.0
N.T.	259	32	12.4	24.6
A.C.T.	45	6	13.3	2.6
AUST.	9578	1037	10.8	7.0

COMMENTS

1. The total number of prisoners in Australia changed very little from August to September 1981. A small increase in Queensland was more than compensated for by decreases in all other jurisdictions. The drop in the national imprisonment rate from 65.2 to 64.8 over this period is explained mainly by the use of revised forward estimates of population.

2. Differences in the use of imprisonment in the different Australian jurisdictions are still very great, but there has been a slight tendency over recent months for the imprisonment rates to move closer together.

3. The 6th Quarterly Summary of Prison Statistics for Asia and the Pacific has just been published by the Institute. This includes data from 14 countries in the region. Copies of the summary are available on request.

Compiled by David Biles
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9 December 1981

AUSTRALIAN PRISON TRENDS - NO. 65

The daily average number of persons (to the nearest whole number) held in custody during October 1981 with changes in the totals over the past month and over the past year are:

	October			Changes since	
	Males	Females	Total	Sept. 1981	Oct. 1980
N.S.W.	3319	144	3463	- 6	+ 257
VIC.	1670	61	1731	- 20	- 43
QLD	1671	45	1716	+ 16	+ 59
S.A.	802	23	825	+ 14	- 38
W.A.	1298	55	1353	+ 6	- 68
TAS.	271	6	277	+ 12	+ 29
N.T.	284	15	299*	+ 36	+ 21
A.C.T.	47	1	48**	+ 2	- 5
AUST.	9362	350	9712	+ 60	+ 212

* 5 prisoners in this total were serving sentences in S.A. prisons.

** 41 prisoners (including 1 female) in this total were serving sentences in N.S.W. prisons.

Using the above totals for each jurisdiction, the following imprisonment rates (i.e. prisoners per 100,000 of the population) have been calculated:

	Prisoners (as above)	General Population* (in thousands)	Imprisonment Rates
N.S.W.	3463	5238	66.1
VIC.	1731	3938	44.0
QLD	1716	2315	74.1
S.A.	825	1307	63.1
W.A.	1353	1294	104.6
TAS.	277	428	64.7
N.T.	299	130	230.0
A.C.T.	48	234	20.5
AUST.	9712	14885**	65.2

* Estimated Population as at 30 September 1981 (subject to revision).

** The discrepancy between this total and the sum of the components is due to the rounding of the components to the nearest 1000.

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WORK RELEASE AND ATTENDANCE CENTRE DATA

In many jurisdictions small numbers of prisoners on work release programs are included in the daily average number of prisoners. Some of these figures are: 53 in New South Wales, 3 in Queensland and 26 in Western Australia. Excluded from the prisoner statistics were: 13 offenders in New South Wales on the Work Release II (Home Release) program and 210 offenders in Victoria serving attendance centre orders.

As at 1 October 1981 the actual (as opposed to daily average) numbers of prisoners in custody in each jurisdiction and the proportion of these who were on remand are shown in the table below. The number of Federal prisoners in custody in each jurisdiction at that date are also shown in this table.

	<u>Total Prisoners</u>	<u>Federal Prisoners</u>	<u>Prisoners on Remand</u>	<u>Percentage of Remandees</u>	<u>Remandees per 100,000 of General Population</u>
N.S.W.	3475	132	546	15.7	10.4
VIC.	1744	40	108	6.2	2.7
QLD	1693	33	118	7.0	5.1
S.A.	812	13	129	15.9	9.9
W.A.	1362	37	100	7.3	7.7
TAS.	278	2	17	6.1	4.0
N.T.	284	17	44	15.5	33.8
A.C.T.	46	-	6	13.0	2.6
AUST.	9694	274	1068	11.0	7.2

COMMENTS

1. All jurisdictions except Victoria and New South Wales reported increases in prison populations during October 1981. Over the preceding twelve months the most noticeable increase has occurred in New South Wales, with relatively small changes occurring elsewhere.

2. The distribution of Federal prisoners, comprising 2.8 percent of all prisoners, is shown in the table above. From this table it can also be seen that remandees comprised 11 percent of all prisoners as at 1 October 1981.

3. Departmental officers responsible for the compilation and forwarding of these data are reminded that, following the direction of the Ministers' Conference, it is planned to include the number of 'Sentenced prisoners received during the month' in all future issues of Australian Prison Trends.

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AUSTRALIAN PRISON TRENDS - NO. 66

The daily average number of persons (to the nearest whole number) held in custody during November 1981 with changes in the totals over the past month and over the past year are:

	November			Changes since	
	Males	Females	Total	Oct. 1981	Nov. 1980
N.S.W.	3376	139	3515	+ 52	+ 247
VIC.	1689	62	1751	+ 20	- 46
QLD	1677	46	1723	+ 7	+ 53
S.A.	823	25	848	+ 23	- 6
W.A.	1296	63	1359	+ 6	- 66
TAS.	252	6	258	- 19	+ 12
N.T.	290	15	305*	+ 6	+ 32
A.C.T.	46	1	47**	- 1	- 7
AUST.	9449	357	9806	+ 94	+ 219

* 5 prisoners in this total were serving sentences in S.A. prisons.

** 38 prisoners (including 1 female) in this total were serving sentences in N.S.W. prisons.

The table below shows the number of sentenced prisoners received in each jurisdiction (where supplied) during November 1981 as well as the imprisonment rates (prisoners per 100,000 population) based on daily averages.

	Sentenced Prisoners Received	Daily Average Prisoners (as above)	General Population* (in thousands)	Imprisonment Rates
N.S.W.	613**	3515	5238	67.1
VIC.		1751	3938	44.5
QLD		1723	2315	74.4
S.A.	214	848	1307	64.9
W.A.		1359	1294	105.0
TAS.		258	428	60.3
N.T.	116	305	130	234.6
A.C.T.		47	234	20.1
AUST.		9806	14885***	65.9

* Estimated Population as at 30 September 1981 (subject to revision).

** Comprising 256 Fine Defaulters and 357 Sentenced Prisoners.

*** The discrepancy between this total and the sum of the components is due to the rounding of the components to the nearest 1000.

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WORK RELEASE AND ATTENDANCE CENTRE DATA

In many jurisdictions small numbers of prisoners on work release programs are included in the daily average number of prisoners. Some of these figures are: 60 in New South Wales, 3 in Queensland and 26 in Western Australia. Excluded from the prisoner statistics were: 14 offenders in New South Wales on the Work Release II (Home Release) program and 224 offenders in Victoria serving attendance centre orders.

As at 1 November 1981 the actual (as opposed to daily average) numbers of prisoners in custody in each jurisdiction and the proportion of these who were on remand are shown in the table below:

	<u>Total Prisoners</u>	<u>Prisoners on Remand</u>	<u>Percentage of Remandees</u>	<u>Remandees per 100,000 of General Population</u>
N.S.W.	3815	505	13.2	9.6
VIC.	1717	117	6.8	3.0
QLD	1723	136	7.9	5.9
S.A.	834	143	17.1	10.9
W.A.	1372	112	8.2	8.7
TAS.	269	12	4.5	2.8
N.T.	300	47	15.7	36.2
A.C.T.	43	6	14.0	2.6
AUST.	10073	1078	10.7	7.2

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27 January 1982



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AUSTRALIAN PRISON TRENDS - NO. 67

The daily average number of persons (to the nearest whole number) held in custody during December 1981 with changes in the totals over the past month and over the past year are:

	December			Changes since	
	Males	Females	Total	Nov. 1981	Dec. 1980
N.S.W.	3367	139	3506	- 9	+ 257
VIC.	1648	54	1702	- 49	- 53
QLD	1660	45	1705	- 18	+ 18
S.A.	815	21	836	- 12	+ 12
W.A.	1309	60	1369	+ 10	- 80
TAS.	228	6	234	- 24	- 1
N.T.	268	13	281*	- 24	- 7
A.C.T.	45	1	46**	- 1	- 9
AUST.	9340	339	9679	- 127	+ 137

*

5 prisoners in this total were serving sentences in S.A. prisons.

** 38 prisoners (including 1 female) in this total were serving sentences in N.S.W. prisons.

The table below shows the number of sentenced prisoners received in each jurisdiction during December 1981 as well as the imprisonment rates (prisoners per 100,000 population) based on daily averages.

	Sentenced Prisoners Received	Daily Average Prisoners (as above)	General Population* (in thousands)	Imprisonment Rates
N.S.W.	532**	3506	5258	66.7
VIC.	301	1702	3951	43.1
QLD	318	1705	2334	73.1
S.A.	193	836	1310	63.8
W.A.	265	1369	1301	105.2
TAS.	28	234	429	54.5
N.T.	98	281	133	211.3
A.C.T.	-	46	236	19.5
AUST.	1735	9679	14952***	64.7

* Estimated Population as at 31 December 1981 (subject to revision).

** Comprising 216 Fine Defaulters and 316 Sentenced Prisoners.

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WORK RELEASE AND ATTENDANCE CENTRE DATA

In many jurisdictions small numbers of prisoners on work release programs are included in the daily average number of prisoners. Some of these figures are: 65 in New South Wales, 5 in Queensland and 24 in Western Australia. Excluded from the prisoner statistics were: 12 offenders in New South Wales on the Work Release II (Home Release) program and 245 offenders in Victoria serving attendance centre orders.

As at 1 December 1981 the actual (as opposed to daily average) numbers of prisoners in custody in each jurisdiction and the proportion of these who were on remand are shown in the table below:

	<u>Total Prisoners</u>	<u>Prisoners on Remand</u>	<u>Percentage of Remandees</u>	<u>Remandees per 100,000 of General Population</u>
N.S.W.	3855	540	14.0	10.3
VIC.	1756	132	7.5	3.3
QLD	1744	139	8.0	6.0
S.A.	859	146	17.0	11.1
W.A.	1362	91	6.7	7.0
TAS.	246	14	5.7	3.3
N.T.	290	41	14.1	30.8
A.C.T.	47	10	21.3	4.2
AUST.	10159	1113	11.0	7.4

COMMENTS

1. As has been found in previous years the number of persons in custody during December 1981 was lower than for the previous month. This is thought to be due to a number of prisoners being granted early release over the Christmas period. Despite this short-term decrease, however, it is noted that the number of prisoners is higher than it was a year earlier.

2. For the first time this issue of Australian Prison Trends contains data on the number of sentenced prisoners received during the month in all States and the Northern Territory. Persons sentenced in the Australian Capital Territory are included in the figures for New South Wales. When these figures have been published for some months, and therefore their reliability has been established, it should be possible to calculate the 'turnover' for each Department. On the basis of the present figures it would seem that the turnover is considerably higher in the Northern Territory than it is elsewhere. This may be due, however, to an abnormally high number of short sentences being imposed during December.

Compiled by David Biles
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3 February 1982



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AUSTRALIAN PRISON TRENDS - NO. 68 (REVISED)

The daily average number of persons (to the nearest whole number) held in custody during January 1982 with changes in the totals over the past month and over the past year are:

	January			Changes since	
	Males	Females	Total	Dec. 1981	Jan. 1981
N.S.W.	3384	135	3519	+ 13	+ 273
VIC.	1624	54	1678	- 24	- 36
QLD	1617	42	1659	- 46	- 40
S.A.	775	21	796	- 40	- 3
W.A.	1260	60	1320	- 49	- 56
TAS.	214	6	220	- 14	- 7
N.T.	280	11	291*	+ 10	No change
A.C.T.	44	1	45**	- 1	- 4
AUST.	9198	330	9528	- 151	+ 127

* 6 prisoners in this total were serving sentences in S.A. prisons.

** 39 prisoners (including 1 female) in this total were serving sentences in N.S.W. prisons.

The table below shows the number of sentenced prisoners received in each jurisdiction during January 1982 as well as the imprisonment rates (prisoners per 100,000 population) based on daily averages.

	Sentenced Prisoners Received	Daily Average Prisoners (as above)	General Population* (in thousands)	Imprisonment Rates
N.S.W.	532**	3519	5258	66.9
VIC.	224	1678	3951	42.5
QLD	230	1659	2334	71.1
S.A.	253	796	1310	60.8
W.A.	262	1320	1301	101.5
TAS.	25	220	429	51.3
N.T.	120	291	133	218.8
A.C.T.	-	45	236	19.1
AUST.	1646	9528	14952	63.7

* Estimated Population as at 31 December 1981 (subject to revision).

** Comprising 320 Fine Defaulters and 212 Sentenced Prisoners.

(cont'd over page)

WORK RELEASE AND ATTENDANCE CENTRE DATA

In many jurisdictions small numbers of prisoners on work release programs are included in the daily average number of prisoners. Some of these figures are: 62 in New South Wales, 5 in Queensland and 18 in Western Australia. Excluded from the prisoner statistics were: 12 offenders in New South Wales on the Work Release II (Home Release) program and 231 offenders in Victoria serving attendance centre orders.

As at 1 January 1982 the actual (as opposed to daily average) numbers of prisoners in custody in each jurisdiction and the proportion of these who were on remand are shown in the table below:

	<u>Total Prisoners</u>	<u>Prisoners on Remand</u>	<u>Percentage of Remandees</u>	<u>Remandees per 100,000 of General Population</u>
N.S.W.	3517	545	15.5	10.4
VIC.	1659	121	7.3	3.1
QLD	1655	110	6.6	4.7
S.A.	786	131	16.7	10.0
W.A.	1324	95	7.2	7.3
TAS.	221	8	3.6	1.9
N.T.	269	40	14.9	30.1
A.C.T.	43	5	11.6	2.1
AUST.	9474	1055	11.1	7.1

COMMENTS

1. This revised issue of Australian Prison Trends contains data from all jurisdictions and replaces the incomplete issue that was published on 8 March 1981.

2. In all jurisdictions except N.S.W. and the N.T. there have been decreases in the numbers of prisoners from December 1981 to January 1982. The overall fall of 151 prisoners has reduced the national imprisonment rate from 64.7 to 63.7.

3. The jurisdiction with the largest change over a 12-month period is clearly N.S.W. where there has been an increase in the prison population of over 8 per cent during that time. By contrast all other jurisdictions have experienced either no change or slightly reducing prison populations during 1981.

4. In the two previous issues of Australian Prison trends the figures given for sentenced prisoners received for South Australia were incorrect. The correct figures are: November 1981 - 273; December 1981 - 233.

Compiled by David Biles
Assistant Director (Research)

10 March 1982



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AUSTRALIAN PRISON TRENDS - NO. 69

The daily average number of persons (to the nearest whole number) held in custody during February 1982 with changes in the totals over the past month and over the past year are:

	February			Changes since	
	Males	Females	Total	Jan. 1982	Feb. 1981
N.S.W.	3461	143	3604	+ 85	+ 296
VIC.	1677	57	1734	+ 56	- 29
QLD	1583	48	1631	- 28	- 96
S.A.	755	15	770	- 26	- 66
W.A.	1309	73	1382	+ 62	- 82
TAS.	210	4	214	- 6	- 24
N.T.	304	11	315*	+ 24	+ 21
A.C.T.	45	1	46**	+ 1	- 1
AUST.	9344	352	9696	+ 168	+ 19

* 6 prisoners in this total were serving sentences in S.A. prisons.

** 39 prisoners (including 1 female) in this total were serving sentences in N.S.W. prisons.

The table below shows the number of sentenced prisoners received in each jurisdiction during February 1982 as well as the imprisonment rates (prisoners per 100,000 population) based on daily averages.

	Sentenced Prisoners Received	Daily Average Prisoners (as above)	General Population* (in thousands)	Imprisonment Rates
N.S.W.	428**	3604	5258	68.5
VIC.	447	1734	3951	43.9
QLD	318	1631	2334	69.9
S.A.	210	770	1310	58.8
W.A.	312	1382	1301	106.2
TAS.	44	214	429	49.9
N.T.	89	315	133	236.8
A.C.T.	-	46	236	19.5
AUST.	1848	9696	14952	64.8

* Estimated Population as at 31 December 1981 (subject to revision).

** Comprising 196 Fine Defaulters and 232 Sentenced Prisoners.

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WORK RELEASE AND ATTENDANCE CENTRE DATA

In many jurisdictions small numbers of prisoners on work release programs are included in the daily average number of prisoners. Some of these figures are: 61 in New South Wales, 9 in Queensland and 23 in Western Australia. Excluded from the prisoner statistics were: 14 offenders in New South Wales on the Work Release II (Home Release) program and 222 offenders in Victoria serving attendance centre orders.

As at 1 February 1982 the actual (as opposed to daily average) numbers of prisoners in custody in each jurisdiction and the proportion of these who were on remand are shown in the table below. The number of Federal prisoners in custody in each jurisdiction at 19 March 1982 are also shown in this table.

	<u>Total Prisoners</u>	<u>Federal Prisoners</u>	<u>Prisoners on Remand</u>	<u>Percentage of Remandees</u>	<u>Remandees per 100,000 of General Population</u>
N.S.W.	3591	142	649	18.1	12.3
VIC.	1698	35	151	8.9	3.8
QLD	1662	25	119	7.2	5.1
S.A.	811	13	142	17.5	10.8
W.A.	1311	32	114	8.7	8.8
TAS.	218	1	15	6.9	3.5
N.T.	320	12	56	17.5	42.1
A.C.T.	47	-	6	12.8	2.5
AUST.	9658	260	1252	13.0	8.4

COMMENTS

1. The daily average number of prisoners in Australia increased markedly in February 1982 compared with the previous month, with the most significant increases being noted in New South Wales, Western Australia and Victoria. The national imprisonment rate increased from 63.7 to 64.8 over this time.

2. The Institute recently published prison statistics for Asia and the Pacific No. 8 which contains data from 16 countries in the region. Copies of this are available on request.

3. The continued cooperation of staff in all relevant agencies in supplying data for Australian Prison Trends is greatly appreciated, but it is apparent that a number of agencies are experiencing increasing difficulties in supplying the basic information within a reasonable time. It is to be hoped that these difficulties will not further increase in the future.

Compiled by David Biles
Assistant Director (Research)

31 March 1982



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AUSTRALIAN PRISON TRENDS - NO. 70

The daily average number of persons (to the nearest whole number) held in custody during March 1982 with changes in the totals over the past month and over the past year are:

	March			Changes since	
	Males	Females	Total	Feb. 1982	Mar. 1981
N.S.W.	3477	142	3619	+ 15	+ 258
VIC.	1716	62	1778	+ 44	- 40
QLD	1611	44	1655	+ 24	- 85
S.A.	760	21	781	+ 11	- 61
W.A.	1367	71	1438	+ 56	- 6
TAS.	218	5	223	+ 9	- 28
N.T.	323	13	336*	+ 21	+ 32
A.C.T.	46	2	48**	+ 2	+ 2
AUST.	9518	360	9878	+ 182	+ 72

* 6 prisoners in this total were serving sentences in S.A. prisons.

** 40 prisoners (including 2 females) in this total were serving sentences in N.S.W. prisons.

The table below shows the number of sentenced prisoners received in each jurisdiction during March 1982 as well as the imprisonment rates (prisoners per 100,000 population) based on daily averages.

	Sentenced Prisoners Received	Daily Average Prisoners (as above)	General Population* (in thousands)	Imprisonment Rates
N.S.W.	500**	3619	5276	68.6
VIC.	264	1778	3964	44.9
QLD	313	1655	2351	70.4
S.A.	364	781	1313	59.5
W.A.	331	1438	1309	109.9
TAS.	51	223	430	51.9
N.T.	209	336	135	248.9
A.C.T.	-	48	238	20.2
AUST.	2032	9878	15016	65.8

* Estimated Population as at 31 March 1982 (subject to revision).

** Comprising 237 Fine Defaulters and 263 Sentenced Prisoners.

(cont'd over page)

Work Release, Periodic Detention and Attendance Centre Data

In many jurisdictions small numbers of prisoners on work release programs are included in the daily average number of prisoners. Some of these figures are: 52 in New South Wales, 7 in Queensland and 23 in Western Australia. Excluded from the prisoner statistics were: 13 offenders in New South Wales on the Work Release II (Home Release) program and 228 offenders in Victoria serving attendance centre orders. The convicted prisoners received in Queensland for the month include 13 persons sentenced to weekend detention.

As at 1 March 1982 the actual (as opposed to daily average) numbers of prisoners in custody in each jurisdiction and the proportion of these who were on remand are shown in the table below:

	<u>Total Prisoners</u>	<u>Prisoners on Remand</u>	<u>Percentage of Remandees</u>	<u>Remandees per 100,000 of General Population</u>
N.S.W.	3636	601	16.5	11.4
VIC.	1785	154	8.6	3.9
QLD	1633	118	7.2	5.0
S.A.	760	112	14.7	8.5
W.A.	1424	136	9.6	10.4
TAS.	218	15	6.9	3.5
N.T.	304	48	15.8	35.6
A.C.T.	45	7	15.6	2.9
AUST.	9805	1191	12.1	7.9

COMMENTS

1. For the second month in a row there has been a marked increase in the number of Australian prisoners. Increases are seen in all jurisdictions, but are particularly noticeable in Western Australia and Victoria. Compared with twelve months earlier the most marked increase has occurred in New South Wales.

2. The imprisonment rates for each State and Territory in this issue are based on revised forward estimates of population as at 31 March. The Australian Bureau of Statistics has indicated that these estimates incorporate some errors. It is hoped that more accurate population estimates will be available in the near future.

3. The statistics of sentenced prisoners received for each jurisdiction reveal some remarkable fluctuations from month to month. For this reason it is suggested that the figures for any single month should not be used to calculate the average length of custody of prisoners in particular jurisdictions.

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AUSTRALIAN PRISON TRENDS - NO. 71

The daily average number of persons (to the nearest whole number) held in custody during April 1982 with changes in the totals over the past month and over the past year are:

	April			Changes since	
	Males	Females	Total	Mar. 1982	Apr. 1981
N.S.W.	3460	132	3592	- 27	+ 190
VIC.	1752	46	1798	+ 20	- 49
QLD	1615	43	1658	+ 3	- 83
S.A.	767	19	786	+ 5	- 66
W.A.	1338	71	1409	- 29	- 65
TAS.	224	7	231	+ 8	- 28
N.T.	316	14	330*	- 6	+ 27
A.C.T.	46	2	48**	No change	- 3
AUST.	9518	334	9852	- 26	- 77

* 6 prisoners in this total were serving sentences in S.A. prisons.

** 40 prisoners (including 2 females) in this total were serving sentences in N.S.W. prisons.

The table below shows the number of sentenced prisoners received in each jurisdiction during April 1982 as well as the imprisonment rates (prisoners per 100,000 population) based on daily averages.

	Sentenced Prisoners Received	Daily Average Prisoners (as above)	General Population* (in thousands)	Imprisonment Rates
N.S.W.	517**	3592	5276	68.1
VIC.	437	1798	3964	45.4
QLD	289	1658	2351	70.5
S.A.	307	786	1313	59.9
W.A.	286	1409	1309	107.6
TAS.	52	231	430	53.7
N.T.	78	330	135	244.4
A.C.T.	-	48	238	20.2
AUST.	1966	9852	15016	65.6

* Estimated Population as at 31 March 1982 (subject to revision).

** Comprising 284 Fine Defaulters and 233 Sentenced Prisoners.

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Work Release, Periodic Detention and Attendance Centre Data

In many jurisdictions small numbers of prisoners on work release programs are included in the daily average number of prisoners. Some of these figures are: 52 in New South Wales, 8 in Queensland and 24 in Western Australia. Excluded from the prisoner statistics were: 13 offenders in New South Wales on the Work Release II (Home Release) program and 235 offenders in Victoria serving attendance centre orders. The convicted prisoners received in Queensland for the month include 15 persons sentenced to weekend detention.

As at 1 April 1982 the actual (as opposed to daily average) numbers of prisoners in custody in each jurisdiction and the proportion of these who were on remand are shown in the table below:

	<u>Total Prisoners</u>	<u>Prisoners on Remand</u>	<u>Percentage of Remandees</u>	<u>Remandees per 100,000 of General Population</u>
N.S.W.	3609	619	17.2	11.7
VIC.	1801	150	8.3	3.8
QLD	1673	120	7.2	5.1
S.A.	828	164	19.8	12.5
W.A.	1411	116	8.2	8.9
TAS.	234	20	8.5	4.7
N.T.	341	50	14.7	37.0
A.C.T.	48	10	20.8	4.2
AUST.	9945	1249	12.6	8.3

COMMENTS

1. The total number of prisoners in Australia in April 1982 was slightly lower than in the previous month and considerably lower than one year earlier. The only jurisdictions to have increased their prison populations in the past year are New South Wales and the Northern Territory.
2. Significant differences between jurisdictions in the general use of imprisonment are still apparent as are differences in the use of remand in custody as shown in the table above. As far as remand is concerned there seems to be a general tendency towards increasing use of remand in custody with 12.6 per cent of all Australian prisoners being in this category in April 1982.
3. The preparation of this issue of Australia Prison Trends was greatly facilitated by the efficiency of the staff of all contributing agencies who on this occasion were able to forward the basic data in ample time. This is greatly appreciated.

Compiled by David Biles
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28 May 1982



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AUSTRALIAN PRISON TRENDS - NO. 72

The daily average number of persons (to the nearest whole number) held in custody during May 1982 with changes in the totals over the past month and over the past year are:

	May			Changes since	
	Males	Females	Total	Apr. 1982	May 1981
N.S.W.	3358	126	3484	- 108	- 17
VIC.	1732	57	1789	- 9	- 60
QLD	1607	43	1650	- 8	- 86
S.A.	803	20	823	+ 37	- 71
W.A.	1365	70	1435	+ 26	- 2
TAS.	240	6	246	+ 15	- 8
N.T.	304	12	316*	- 14	+ 7
A.C.T.	40	2	42**	- 6	- 12
AUST.	9449	336	9785	7 67	- 249

* 6 prisoners in this total were serving sentences in S.A. prisons.

** 34 prisoners (including 1 female) in this total were serving sentences in N.S.W. prisons.

The table below shows the number of sentenced prisoners received in each jurisdiction during May 1982 as well as the imprisonment rates (prisoners per 100,000 population) based on daily averages.

	Sentenced Prisoners Received	Daily Average Prisoners (as above)	General Population* (in thousands)	Imprisonment Rates
N.S.W.	491**	3484	5276	66.0
VIC.	328	1789	3964	45.1
QLD	244	1650	2351	70.2
S.A.	249	823	1313	62.7
W.A.	267	1435	1309	109.6
TAS.	51	246	430	57.2
N.T.	94	316	135	234.1
A.C.T.	-	42	238	17.6
AUST.	1724	9785	15016	65.2

* Estimated Population as at 31 March 1982 (subject to revision).

** Comprising 248 Fine Defaulters and 243 Sentenced Prisoners.

(cont'd over page)

Work Release, Periodic Detention and Attendance Centre Data

In many jurisdictions small numbers of prisoners on work release programs are included in the daily average number of prisoners. Some of these figures are: 55 in New South Wales, 10 in Queensland and 19 in Western Australia. Excluded from the prisoner statistics were: 8 offenders in New South Wales on the Work Release II (Home Release) program and 256 offenders in Victoria serving attendance centre orders. The convicted prisoners received in Queensland for the month include 18 persons sentenced to weekend detention.

As at 1 May 1982 the actual (as opposed to daily average) numbers of prisoners in custody in each jurisdiction and the proportion of these who were on remand are shown in the table below:

	<u>Total Prisoners</u>	<u>Prisoners on Remand</u>	<u>Percentage of Remandees</u>	<u>Remandees per 100,000 of General Population</u>
N.S.W.	3462	604	17.4	11.4
VIC.	1830	153	8.4	3.9
QLD	1644	136	8.3	5.8
S.A.	834	164	19.7	12.5
W.A.	1425	105	7.4	8.0
TAS.	238	20	8.4	4.7
N.T.	319	47	14.7	34.8
A.C.T.	38	5	13.2	2.1
AUST.	9790	1234	12.6	8.2

COMMENTS

1. During May 1982 there was a further reduction in the overall number of prisoners in Australia with the most noticeable decrease occurring in New South Wales. It is thought that this was probably due to the early release on licence of short-term prisoners in that State. During the month however there were small increases in numbers in South Australia, Western Australia and Tasmania.

2. Compared with 12 months earlier all jurisdictions, apart from the Northern Territory, are seen to have marginally lower prison populations. This has resulted in a national imprisonment rate of 65.2 compared with 67.9 found in May 1981.

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2 July 1982



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AUSTRALIAN PRISON TRENDS - NO. 73

The daily average number of persons (to the nearest whole number) held in custody during June 1982 with changes in the totals over the past month and over the past year are:

	June			Changes since	
	Males	Females	Total	May 1982	June 1981
N.S.W.	3322	132	3454	- 30	- 11
VIC.	1735	56	1791	+ 2	- 52
QLD	1619	48	1667	+ 17	- 56
S.A.	778	16	794	- 29	- 61
W.A.	1353	66	1419	- 16	+ 23
TAS.	235	6	241	- 5	- 10
N.T.	276	13	289*	- 27	- 6
A.C.T.	42	1	43**	+ 1	- 9
AUST.	9360	338	9698	- 87	- 182

* 6 prisoners in this total were serving sentences in S.A. prisons.

** 36 prisoners (including 1 female) in this total were serving sentences in N.S.W. prisons.

The table below shows the number of sentenced prisoners received in each jurisdiction during June 1982 as well as the imprisonment rates (prisoners per 100,000 population) based on daily averages.

	Sentenced Prisoners Received	Daily Average Prisoners (as above)	General Population* (in thousands)	Imprisonment Rates
N.S.W.	556**	3454	5299	65.2
VIC.	237	1791	3990	44.9
QLD	240	1667	2422	68.8
S.A.	178	794	1330	59.7
W.A.	273	1419	1331	106.6
TAS.	49	241	430	56.0
N.T.	65	289	130	222.3
A.C.T.	-	43	230	18.7
AUST.	1598	9698	15161	64.0

* Projected Population to 30 June 1982 (subject to revision).

** Comprising 335 Fine Defaulters and 221 Sentenced Prisoners.

WORK RELEASE AND ATTENDANCE CENTRE DATA

In many jurisdictions small numbers of prisoners on work release programs are included in the daily average number of prisoners. Some of these figures are: 52 in New South Wales, 15 in Queensland and 12 in Western Australia. Excluded from the prisoner statistics were: 4 offenders in New South Wales on the Work Release II (Home Release) program and 257 offenders in Victoria serving attendance centre orders. The convicted prisoners received in Queensland for the month include 18 persons sentenced to weekend detention.

As at 1 June 1982 the actual (as opposed to daily average) numbers of prisoners in custody in each jurisdiction and the proportion of these who were on remand are shown in the table below. The number of Federal prisoners in custody in each jurisdiction at 30 June 1982 are also shown in this table.

	<u>Total Prisoners</u>	<u>Federal Prisoners</u>	<u>Prisoners on Remand</u>	<u>Percentage of Remandees</u>	<u>Remandees per 100,000 of General Population</u>
N.S.W.	3460	129	635	18.4	12.0
VIC.	1794	41	138	7.7	3.5
QLD	1666	20	131	7.9	5.4
S.A.	779	19	139	17.8	10.5
W.A.	1420	32	102	7.2	7.7
TAS.	254	6	17	6.7	4.0
N.T.	306	12	32	10.5	24.6
A.C.T.	42	-	7	16.7	3.0
AUST.	9721	259	1201	12.4	7.9

COMMENTS

1. During June 1982 there was a further overall reduction in the number of prisoners in Australia, bringing the national imprisonment rate down to 64.0, the lowest rate for five months.

2. It should be noted that all rates in this publication are based on revised population projections which are made by the Australian Bureau of Statistics. These data are not completely compatible with population estimates used in previous issues.

3. The table above includes the numbers of Federal prisoners in each jurisdiction. These figures are supplied to the Institute by the Commonwealth Attorney-General's Department.

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AUSTRALIAN PRISON TRENDS - NO. 74

The daily average number of persons (to the nearest whole number) held in custody during July 1982 with changes in the totals over the past month and over the past year are:

	July			Changes since	
	Males	Females	Total	May 1982	June 1981
N.S.W.	3288	132	3420	- 34	- 96
VIC.	1747	52	1799	+ 8	- 14
QLD	1601	45	1646	- 21	- 47
S.A.	791	17	808	+ 14	- 8
W.A.	1321	61	1382	- 37	+ 7
TAS.	222	4	226	- 15	- 37
N.T.	260	12	272*	- 17	- 11
A.C.T.	39	1	40**	- 3	- 8
AUST.	9269	324	9593	- 105	- 214

* 6 prisoners in this total were serving sentences in S.A. prisons.

** 35 prisoners (including 1 female) in this total were serving sentences in N.S.W. prisons.

The table below shows the number of sentenced prisoners received in each jurisdiction during July 1982 as well as the imprisonment rates (prisoners per 100,000 population) based on daily averages.

	Sentenced Prisoners Received	Daily Average Prisoners (as above)	General Population* (in thousands)	Imprisonment Rates
N.S.W.	575**	3420	5299	64.5
VIC.	286	1799	3990	45.1
QLD	256	1646	2422	68.0
S.A.	302	808	1330	60.8
W.A.	338	1382	1331	103.8
TAS.	43	226	430	52.6
N.T.	59	272	130	209.2
A.C.T.	-	40	230	17.4
AUST.	1859	9593	15161	63.3

* Projected Population to 30 June 1982 (subject to revision).

** Comprising 352 Fine Defaulters and 223 Sentenced Prisoners.

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Work Release, Periodic Detention and Attendance Centre Data

In many jurisdictions small numbers of prisoners on work release programs are included in the daily average number of prisoners. Some of these figures are: 51 in New South Wales, 15 in Queensland and 12 in Western Australia. Excluded from the prisoner statistics were: 4 offenders in New South Wales on the Work Release II (Home Release) program and 274 offenders in Victoria serving attendance centre orders. The convicted prisoners received in Queensland for the month include 15 persons sentenced to weekend detention.

As at 1 July 1982 the actual (as opposed to daily average) numbers of prisoners in custody in each jurisdiction and the proportion of these who were on remand are shown in the table below:

	<u>Total Prisoners</u>	<u>Prisoners on Remand</u>	<u>Percentage of Remandees</u>	<u>Remandees per 100,000 of General Population</u>
N.S.W.	3434	609	17.7	11.5
VIC.	1809	172	9.5	4.3
QLD	1665	112	6.7	4.6
S.A.	810	127	15.7	9.5
W.A.	1358	95	7.0	7.1
TAS.	238	11	4.6	2.6
N.T.	274	21	7.7	16.2
A.C.T.	41	6	14.6	2.6
AUST.	9629	1153	12.0	7.6

COMMENTS

1. Prison populations continued to fall in July 1982 with the largest decreases being found in Western Australia and New South Wales. Only South Australia and Victoria reported small increases. The national imprisonment rate of 63.3 is the lowest found since January 1978.
2. There has also been a slight decrease in the numbers of remand prisoners held on the first day of the month, but this group still comprises 12 per cent of the national total.
3. South Australia was unable to supply the number of sentenced prisoners received during July due to difficulties experienced in the establishment of a computer-based record system. This figure will be given in the next issue of Australian Prison Trends.

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31 August 1982



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AUSTRALIAN PRISON TRENDS - NO. 73

The daily average number of persons (to the nearest whole number) held in custody during June 1982 with changes in the totals over the past month and over the past year are:

	June			Changes since	
	Males	Females	Total	May 1982	June 1981
N.S.W.	3322	132	3454	- 30	- 11
VIC.	1735	56	1791	+ 2	- 52
QLD	1619	48	1667	+ 17	- 56
S.A.	778	16	794	- 29	- 61
W.A.	1353	66	1419	- 16	+ 23
TAS.	235	6	241	- 5	- 10
N.T.	276	13	289*	- 27	- 6
A.C.T.	42	1	43**	+ 1	- 9
AUST.	9360	338	9698	- 87	- 182

* 6 prisoners in this total were serving sentences in S.A. prisons.

** 36 prisoners (including 1 female) in this total were serving sentences in N.S.W. prisons.

The table below shows the number of sentenced prisoners received in each jurisdiction during June 1982 as well as the imprisonment rates (prisoners per 100,000 population) based on daily averages.

	Sentenced Prisoners Received	Daily Average Prisoners (as above)	General Population* (in thousands)	Imprisonment Rates
N.S.W.	556**	3454	5299	65.2
VIC.	237	1791	3990	44.9
QLD	240	1667	2422	68.8
S.A.	178	794	1330	59.7
W.A.	273	1419	1331	106.6
TAS.	49	241	430	56.0
N.T.	65	289	130	222.3
A.C.T.	-	43	230	18.7
AUST.	1598	9698	15161	64.0

* Projected Population to 30 June 1982 (subject to revision).

** Comprising 335 Fine Defaulters and 221 Sentenced Prisoners.

WORK RELEASE AND ATTENDANCE CENTRE DATA

In many jurisdictions small numbers of prisoners on work release programs are included in the daily average number of prisoners. Some of these figures are: 52 in New South Wales, 15 in Queensland and 12 in Western Australia. Excluded from the prisoner statistics were: 4 offenders in New South Wales on the Work Release II (Home Release) program and 257 offenders in Victoria serving attendance centre orders. The convicted prisoners received in Queensland for the month include 18 persons sentenced to weekend detention.

As at 1 June 1982 the actual (as opposed to daily average) numbers of prisoners in custody in each jurisdiction and the proportion of these who were on remand are shown in the table below. The number of Federal prisoners in custody in each jurisdiction at 30 June 1982 are also shown in this table.

	<u>Total Prisoners</u>	<u>Federal Prisoners</u>	<u>Prisoners on Remand</u>	<u>Percentage of Remandees</u>	<u>Remandees per 100,000 of General Population</u>
N.S.W.	3460	129	635	18.4	12.0
VIC.	1794	41	138	7.7	3.5
QLD	1666	20	131	7.9	5.4
S.A.	779	19	139	17.8	10.5
W.A.	1420	32	102	7.2	7.7
TAS.	254	6	17	6.7	4.0
N.T.	306	12	32	10.5	24.6
A.C.T.	42	-	7	16.7	3.0
AUST.	9721	259	1201	12.4	7.9

COMMENTS

1. During June 1982 there was a further overall reduction in the number of prisoners in Australia, bringing the national imprisonment rate down to 64.0, the lowest rate for five months.

2. It should be noted that all rates in this publication are based on revised population projections which are made by the Australian Bureau of Statistics. These data are not completely compatible with population estimates used in previous issues.

3. The table above includes the numbers of Federal prisoners in each jurisdiction. These figures are supplied to the Institute by the Commonwealth Attorney-General's Department.

Compiled by David Biles
Assistant Director (Research)



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AUSTRALIAN PRISON TRENDS - NO. 75

The daily average number of persons (to the nearest whole number) held in custody during August 1982 with changes in the totals over the past month and over the past year are:

	August			Changes since	
	Males	Females	Total	July 1982	Aug. 1981
N.S.W.	3285	138	3423	+ 3	- 56
VIC.	1782	37	1819	+ 20	+ 67
QLD	1596	49	1645	- 1	- 25
S.A.	821	24	845	+ 37	+ 29
W.A.	1328	63	1391	+ 9	+ 31
TAS.	222	7	229	+ 3	- 43
N.T.	251	10	261*	- 11	- 6
A.C.T.	36	2	38**	- 2	- 9
AUST.	9321	330	9651	+ 58	- 12

* 5 prisoners in this total were serving sentences in S.A. prisons.

** 29 prisoners (including 1 female) in this total were serving sentences in N.S.W. prisons.

The table below shows the number of sentenced prisoners received in each jurisdiction during August 1982 as well as the imprisonment rates (prisoners per 100,000 population) based on daily averages.

	Sentenced Prisoners Received	Daily Average Prisoners (as above)	General Population* (in thousands)	Imprisonment Rates
N.S.W.	756**	3423	5299	64.6
VIC.	355	1819	3990	45.6
QLD	238	1645	2422	67.9
S.A.	327	845	1330	63.5
W.A.	307	1391	1331	104.5
TAS.	32	229	430	53.3
N.T.	115	261	130	200.8
A.C.T.	-	38	230	16.5
AUST.	2130	9651	15161	63.7

* Projected Population to 30 June 1982 (subject to revision).

** Comprising 366 Fine Defaulters and 390 Sentenced Prisoners.

(cont'd over page)

Work Release, Periodic Detention and Attendance Centre Data

In many jurisdictions small numbers of prisoners on work release programs are included in the daily average number of prisoners. Some of these figures are: 46 in New South Wales, 13 in Queensland and 14 in Western Australia. Excluded from the prisoner statistics were: 3 offenders in New South Wales on the Work Release II (Home Release) program and 277 offenders in Victoria serving attendance centre orders. The convicted prisoners received in Queensland for the month include 9 persons sentenced to weekend detention.

As at 1 August 1982 the actual (as opposed to daily average) numbers of prisoners in custody in each jurisdiction and the proportion of these who were on remand are shown in the table below:

	<u>Total Prisoners</u>	<u>Prisoners on Remand</u>	<u>Percentage of Remandees</u>	<u>Remandees per 100,000 of General Population</u>
N.S.W.	3403	613	18.0	11.6
VIC.	1805	167	9.3	4.2
QLD	1654	121	7.3	5.0
S.A.	809	125	15.5	9.4
W.A.	1389	104	7.5	7.8
TAS.	231	18	7.8	4.2
N.T.	259	28	10.8	21.5
A.C.T.	36	8	22.2	3.5
AUST.	9586	1184	12.4	7.8

COMMENTS

1. The statistics for August 1982 show an overall slight increase in the numbers of prisoners in Australia compared with the previous month, with the increase in South Australia being most noticeable. Compared with one year earlier, however, there is virtually no change in the total numbers.

2. For New South Wales a footnote indicates the numbers of fine defaulters and sentenced prisoners who are indicated as 'sentenced prisoners received'. Fine defaulters are persons received under sentence in default of fines with no other sentence and not remanded in custody for other matters. In June, July and part of August some persons on remand who were 'cutting out' fines were counted. Sentenced prisoners now include prisoners in custody on remand who received a sentence during the month. Previously such prisoners were not counted.

3. South Australia was again unable to supply the number of sentenced prisoners received during August due to difficulties associated with the establishment of a computer record system. It is hoped that these figures will be available in the near future.

Compiled by David Biles
Assistant Director (Research)

30 September 1982



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AUSTRALIAN PRISON TRENDS - NO. 76

The daily average number of persons (to the nearest whole number) held in custody during September 1982 with changes in the totals over the past month and over the past year are:

	September			Changes since	
	Males	Females	Total	Aug. 1982	Sept. 1981
N.S.W.	3279	143	3422	- 1	- 47
VIC.	1779	52	1831	+ 12	+ 80
QLD	1616	43	1659	+ 14	- 41
S.A.	817	19	836	- 9	+ 25
W.A.	1356	69	1425	+ 34	+ 78
TAS.	217	10	227	- 2	- 38
N.T.	260	11	271*	+ 10	+ 8
A.C.T.	42	2	44**	+ 6	- 2
AUST.	9366	349	9715	+ 64	+ 63

* 5 prisoners in this total were serving sentences in S.A. prisons.

** 31 prisoners (including 1 female) in this total were serving sentences in N.S.W. prisons.

The table below shows the number of sentenced prisoners received in each jurisdiction during September 1982 as well as the imprisonment rates (prisoners per 100,000 population) based on daily averages.

	Sentenced Prisoners Received	Daily Average Prisoners (as above)	General Population* (in thousands)	Imprisonment Rates
N.S.W.	624**	3422	5306	64.5
VIC.	440	1831	3988	45.9
QLD	260	1659	2402	69.1
S.A.	299	836	1321	63.3
W.A.	320	1425	1329	107.2
TAS.	56	227	431	52.7
N.T.	103	271	138	196.4
A.C.T.	-	44	239	18.4
AUST.	2102	9715	15153	64.1

* Projected Population to 30 September 1982 (subject to revision).

** Comprising 268 Fine Defaulters and 356 Sentenced Prisoners.

(cont'd over page)

Work Release, Periodic Detention and Attendance Centre Data

In many jurisdictions small numbers of prisoners on work release programs are included in the daily average number of prisoners. Some of these figures are: 49 in New South Wales, 10 in Queensland and 14 in Western Australia. Excluded from the prisoner statistics were: 2 offenders in New South Wales on the Work Release II (Home Release) program and 272 offenders in Victoria serving attendance centre orders. The convicted prisoners received in Queensland for the month include 15 persons sentenced to weekend detention.

As at 1 September 1982 the actual (as opposed to daily average) numbers of prisoners in custody in each jurisdiction and the proportion of these who were on remand are shown in the table below:

	<u>Total Prisoners</u>	<u>Prisoners on Remand</u>	<u>Percentage of Remandees</u>	<u>Remandees per 100,000 of General Population</u>
N.S.W.	3464	648	18.7	12.2
VIC.	1819	150	8.2	3.8
QLD	1647	134	8.1	5.6
S.A.	831	134	16.1	10.1
W.A.	1411	104	7.4	7.8
TAS.	223	13	5.8	3.0
N.T.	279	40	14.3	29.0
A.C.T.	42	12	28.6	5.0
AUST.	9716	1235	12.7	8.2

COMMENTS

1. During September 1982 there was a slight increase in the numbers of prisoners in most jurisdictions, with the most noticeable increase being seen in Western Australia. The national imprisonment rate increased during the month from 63.7 to 64.1, but the imprisonment rates have been influenced to some extent by difficulties experienced in obtaining accurate and up-to-date estimates of general population.

2. There was a slight increase in the number of unconvicted prisoners on remand on the first day of September 1982. At that date remand prisoners comprised 12.7 per cent of all prisoners, or 8.2 per 100,000 of the general population.

3. In the last issue of Australia Prison Trends the Victorian daily average figures were incorrect. Even though the total given of 1819 was correct, it comprised 1768 males and 51 females.

Compiled by David Biles
Assistant Director (Research)

26 October 1982



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AUSTRALIAN PRISON TRENDS - NO. 77

The daily average number of persons (to the nearest whole number) held in custody during October 1982 with changes in the totals over the past month and over the past year are:

	October			Changes since	
	Males	Females	Total	Sept. 1982	Oct. 1981
N.S.W.	3324	144	3468	+ 46	+ 5
VIC.	1792	57	1849	+ 18	+ 118
QLD	1606	42	1648	- 11	- 68
S.A.	815	22	837	+ 1	+ 12
W.A.	1377	67	1444	+ 19	+ 91
TAS.	216	10	226	- 1	- 51
N.T.	249	9	258*	- 13	- 41
A.C.T.	51	2	53**	+ 9	+ 5
AUST.	9430	353	9783	+ 68	+ 71

* 5 prisoners in this total were serving sentences in S.A. prisons.

** 40 prisoners (including 1 female) in this total were serving sentences in N.S.W. prisons.

The table below shows the number of sentenced prisoners received in each jurisdiction during October 1982 as well as the imprisonment rates (prisoners per 100,000 population) based on daily averages.

	Sentenced Prisoners Received	Daily Average Prisoners (as above)	General Population* (in thousands)	Imprisonment Rates
N.S.W.	763**	3468	5306	65.4
VIC.	282	1849	3988	46.4
QLD	311	1648	2402	68.6
S.A.	256	837	1321	63.4
W.A.	339	1444	1329	108.7
TAS.	61	226	431	52.4
N.T.	86	258	138	187.0
A.C.T.	-	53	239	22.2
AUST.	2098	9783	15153	64.6

* Projected Population to 30 September 1982 (subject to revision).

** Comprising 326 Fine Defaulters and 437 Sentenced Prisoners.

(cont'd over page)

Work Release, Periodic Detention and Attendance Centre Data

In many jurisdictions small numbers of prisoners on work release programs are included in the daily average number of prisoners. Some of these figures are: 38 in New South Wales, 10 in Queensland and 13 in Western Australia. Excluded from the prisoner statistics were: 1 offender in New South Wales on the Work Release II (Home Release) program and 261 offenders in Victoria serving attendance centre orders. The convicted prisoners received in Queensland for the month include 20 persons sentenced to weekend detention.

As at 1 October 1982 the actual (as opposed to daily average) numbers of prisoners in custody in each jurisdiction and the proportion of these who were on remand are shown in the table below:

	<u>Total Prisoners</u>	<u>Prisoners on Remand</u>	<u>Percentage of Remandees</u>	<u>Remandees per 100,000 of General Population</u>
N.S.W.	3451	655	19.0	12.3
VIC.	1802	153	8.5	3.8
QLD	1665	134	8.0	5.6
S.A.	846	139	16.4	10.5
W.A.	1432	118	8.2	8.9
TAS.	231	10	4.3	2.3
N.T.	258	27	10.5	19.6
A.C.T.	51	14	27.5	5.9
AUST.	9736	1250	12.8	8.2

COMMENTS

1. During October 1982 there was a slight increase in the number of prisoners in Australia. For the first time for some months there was a noticeable increase in the New South Wales figures, and this has returned New South Wales to almost the same number held one year earlier. By contrast, Victoria in October 1982 held 118 more prisoners than a year earlier, and Western Australia held 91 more. In Queensland, Tasmania and the Northern Territory the numbers appear to be declining.

2. These changes have somewhat reduced the range of imprisonment rates found for the various jurisdictions. The Victorian rate of 46.4 is the highest it has had for 18 months, while the Northern Territory rate of 187.0 is the lowest it has had for more than three years. The current national rate of 64.6, however, has not changed significantly over the past year, but it is markedly lower than the peak of 70.0 reached in July 1979.

Compiled by David Biles
Assistant Director (Research)

30 November 1982



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AUSTRALIAN PRISON TRENDS - NO. 78

The daily average number of persons (to the nearest whole number) held in custody during November 1982 with changes in the totals over the past month and over the past year are:

	November			Changes since	
	Males	Females	Total	Oct..1982	Nov. 1981
N.S.W.	3384	145	3529	+ 61	+ 14
VIC.	1807	50	1857	+ 8	+ 106
QLD	1590	40	1630	- 18	- 93
S.A.	824	26	850	+ 13	+ 2
W.A.	1407	71	1478	+ 34	+ 119
TAS.	227	12	239	+ 13	- 19
N.T.	234	10	244*	- 14	- 61
A.C.T.	45	2	47**	- 6	No change
AUST.	9518	356	9874	+ 91	+ 68

* 5 prisoners in this total were serving sentences in S.A. prisons.

** 36 prisoners (including 1 female) in this total were serving sentences in N.S.W. prisons.

The table below shows the number of sentenced prisoners received in each jurisdiction during November 1982 as well as the imprisonment rates (prisoners per 100,000 population) based on daily averages.

	Sentenced Prisoners Received	Daily Average Prisoners (as above)	General Population* (in thousands)	Imprisonment Rates
N.S.W.	778**	3529	5306	66.5
VIC.	379	1857	3988	46.6
QLD	304	1630	2402	67.9
S.A.	291	850	1321	64.3
W.A.	351	1478	1329	111.2
TAS.	70	239	431	55.5
N.T.	96	244	138	176.8
A.C.T.	-	47	239	19.7
AUST.	2269	9874	15153	65.2

* Projected Population to 30 September 1982 (subject to revision).

** Comprising 333 Fine Defaulters and 445 Sentenced Prisoners.

(cont'd over page)

Work Release, Periodic Detention and Attendance Centre Data

In many jurisdictions small numbers of prisoners on work release programs are included in the daily average number of prisoners. Some of these figures are: 40 in New South Wales, 19 in Queensland and 15 in Western Australia. Excluded from the prisoner statistics were: 1 offender in New South Wales on the Work Release II (Home Release) program and 264 offenders in Victoria serving attendance centre orders. The convicted prisoners received in Queensland for the month include 17 persons sentenced to weekend detention.

As at 1 November 1982 the actual (as opposed to daily average) numbers of prisoners in custody in each jurisdiction and the proportion of these who were on remand are shown in the table below:

	<u>Total Prisoners</u>	<u>Prisoners on Remand</u>	<u>Percentage of Remandees</u>	<u>Remandees per 100,000 of General Population</u>
N.S.W.	3501	670	19.1	12.6
VIC.	1876	185	9.9	4.6
QLD	1648	150	9.1	6.2
S.A.	848	136	16.0	10.3
W.A.	1459	122	8.4	9.2
TAS.	229	10	4.4	2.3
N.T.	244	35	14.3	25.4
A.C.T.	50	15	30.0	6.3
AUST.	9855	1323	13.4	8.7

COMMENTS

1. The number of people in prison throughout Australia continued to increase during November 1982, particularly in New South Wales and Western Australia. Over the past twelve months prison populations have increased markedly in Western Australia and Victoria while decreases are noted for Queensland and the Northern Territory.

2. Nearly all jurisdictions have also reported increases in the numbers of unconvicted prisoners on remand as at 1 November 1982 compared with a month earlier. It can thus be seen that at that date 13.4 per cent of all Australian prisoners were remandees.

3. It is regretted that not all jurisdictions were able to supply data on the numbers of sentenced prisoners received during the month and it is hoped that these problems will be resolved in 1983.

Seasons greetings
from David Biles
Assistant Director (Research)
and Marjorie Johnson

24 December 1982



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AUSTRALIAN PRISON TRENDS - NO. 79

The daily average number of persons (to the nearest whole number) held in custody during December 1982 with changes in the totals over the past month and over the past year are:

	December			Changes since	
	Males	Females	Total	Nov. 1982	Dec. 1981
N.S.W.	3377	151	3528	- 1	+ 22
VIC.	1793	55	1848	- 9	+ 146
QLD	1577	40	1617	- 13	- 88
S.A.	781	26	807	- 43	- 29
W.A.	1448	71	1519	+ 41	+ 150
TAS.	261	22	283	+ 44	+ 49
N.T.	224	10	234*	- 10	- 47
A.C.T.	45	2	47**	No change	+ 1
AUST.	9506	377	9883	+ 9	+ 204

* 5 prisoners in this total were serving sentences in S.A. prisons.

** 36 prisoners (including 1 female) in this total were serving sentences in N.S.W. prisons.

The table below shows the number of sentenced prisoners received in each jurisdiction during December 1982 as well as the imprisonment rates (prisoners per 100,000 population) based on daily averages.

	Sentenced Prisoners Received	Daily Average Prisoners (as above)	General Population* (in thousands)	Imprisonment Rates
N.S.W.	738**	3528	5306	66.5
VIC.	238	1848	3988	46.3
QLD	268	1617	2402	67.3
S.A.	276	807	1321	61.1
W.A.	406	1519	1329	114.3
TAS.	45	283	431	65.7
N.T.	86	234	138	169.6
A.C.T.	-	47	239	19.7
AUST.	2057	9883	15153	65.2

* Projected Population to 30 September 1982 (subject to revision).

** Comprising 294 Fine Defaulters and 444 Sentenced Prisoners.

(cont'd over page)

WORK RELEASE AND ATTENDANCE CENTRE DATA

In many jurisdictions small numbers of prisoners on work release programs are included in the daily average number of prisoners. Some of these figures are: 45 in New South Wales, 16 in Queensland and 13 in Western Australia. Excluded from the prisoner statistics were 264 offenders in Victoria serving attendance centre orders. The convicted prisoners received in Queensland for the month include 6 persons sentenced to weekend detention.

As at 1 December 1982 the actual (as opposed to daily average) numbers of prisoners in custody in each jurisdiction and the proportion of these who were on remand are shown in the table below. The number of Federal prisoners in custody in each jurisdiction at 31 December 1982 are also shown in this table.

	<u>Total Prisoners</u>	<u>Federal Prisoners</u>	<u>Prisoners on Remand</u>	<u>Percentage of Remandees</u>	<u>Remandees per 100,000 of General Population</u>
N.S.W.	3570	147	677	19.0	12.8
VIC.	1872	39	160	8.5	4.0
QLD	1644	25	139	8.5	5.8
S.A.	827	17*	138	16.7	10.4
W.A.	1499	37	142	9.5	10.7
TAS.	252	1	18	7.1	4.2
N.T.	231	10	55	23.8	39.9
A.C.T.	43	-	9	20.9	3.8
AUST.	9938	276	1338	13.5	8.8

* 4 of these Federal prisoners in South Australia were transferred from the Northern Territory.

COMMENTS

1. The total number of prisoners in Australia during December 1982 was virtually the same as for the previous month, but there were significant changes in individual jurisdictions. The numbers increased markedly in Tasmania (due to the large numbers of environmental protestors remanded in custody) and in Western Australia, while the numbers decreased in South Australia.

2. The table above shows a further slight increase in the total number of unconvicted prisoners on remand. As at 1 December 1982, 13.5 per cent of all Australian prisoners were in this category.

3. In this issue of Australian Prison Trends it has been possible to give the numbers of Federal prisoners held in each jurisdiction. These figures were supplied by the Commonwealth Attorney-General's Department.

Compiled by David Biles
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AUSTRALIAN PRISON TRENDS - NO. 80

The daily average numbers of persons (to the nearest whole number) held in custody during January 1983 with changes in the totals over the past month and over the past year are:

	January			Changes since	
	Males	Females	Total	Dec. 1982	Jan. 1982
N.S.W.	3322	144	3466	- 62	- 53
VIC.	1756	55	1811	- 37	+ 133
QLD	1574	42	1616	- 1	- 43
S.A.	757	32	789	- 18	- 7
W.A.	1437	87	1524	+ 5	+ 204
TAS.	229	18	247	- 36	+ 27
N.T.	215	11	226*	- 8	- 65
A.C.T.	45	5	50**	+ 3	+ 5
AUST.	9335	394	9729	- 154	+ 201

* 5 prisoners in this total were serving sentences in S.A. prisons.

** 33 prisoners (including 1 female) in this total were serving sentences in N.S.W. prisons.

The table below shows the number of sentenced prisoners received in each jurisdiction during January 1983 as well as the imprisonment rates (prisoners per 100,000 population) based on daily averages.

	Sentenced Prisoners Received	Daily Average Prisoners (as above)	General Population* (in thousands)	Imprisonment Rates
N.S.W.	539**	3466	5350	64.8
VIC.	198	1811	3990	45.4
QLD	282	1616	2424	66.7
S.A.	324	789	1331	59.3
W.A.	341	1524	1333	114.3
TAS.	26	247	431	57.3
N.T.	15	226	129	175.2
A.C.T.	-	50	229	21.8
AUST.	1725	9729	15217	63.9

* Projected Population at 31 December 1982 derived from Australian Demographic Statistics Quarterly (Catalogue No. 3101.0)

** Comprising 310 Fine Defaulters and 229 Sentenced Prisoners.

(cont'd over page)

Work Release, Periodic Detention and Attendance Centre Data

In many jurisdictions small numbers of prisoners on work release programs are included in the daily average number of prisoners. Some of these figures are: 45 in New South Wales, 9 in Queensland and 9 in Western Australia. Excluded from the prisoner statistics were 242 offenders in Victoria serving attendance centre orders. The convicted prisoners received in Queensland for the month include 10 persons sentenced to weekend detention.

As at 1 January 1983 the actual (as opposed to daily average) numbers of prisoners in custody in each jurisdiction and the proportion of these who were on remand are shown in the table below:

	<u>Total Prisoners</u>	<u>Prisoners on Remand</u>	<u>Percentage of Remandees</u>	<u>Remandees per 100,000 of General Population</u>
N.S.W.	3463	664	19.2	12.4
VIC.	1813	168	9.3	4.2
QLD	1574	124	7.9	5.1
S.A.	774	116	15.0	8.7
W.A.	1492	125	8.4	9.4
TAS.	244	16	6.6	3.7
N.T.	225	35	15.6	27.1
A.C.T.	44	11	25.0	4.8
AUST.	9629	1259	13.1	8.3

COMMENTS

1. The daily average number of prisoners held during January 1983 was considerably lower than for the previous month with the most marked decreases occurring in New South Wales, Victoria and Tasmania. Compared with one year earlier, however, the numbers were higher, particularly in Western Australia.

2. Perhaps surprisingly the total number of remandees at 1 January was lower than a month earlier. Higher remand figures might have been expected in January as a result of the legal vacation.

3. It is to be noted that the estimates of general population now being used are not strictly comparable with the estimates used previously. The difference is particularly marked for the Northern Territory and the Australian Capital Territory where lower population estimates have produced marginally higher imprisonment and remand rates than otherwise would have been the case.

Compiled by David Biles
Assistant Director (Research)

2 March 1983



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AUSTRALIAN PRISON TRENDS - NO. 81

The daily average numbers of persons (to the nearest whole number) held in custody during February 1983 with changes in the totals over the past month and over the past year are:

	February			Changes since	
	Males	Females	Total	Jan. 1983	Feb. 1982
N.S.W.	3313	144	3457	- 9	- 147
VIC.	1784	63	1847	+ 36	+ 113
QLD	1610	42	1652	+ 36	+ 21
S.A.	741	34	775	- 14	+ 5
W.A.	1503	93	1596	+ 72	+ 214
TAS.	214	11	225	- 22	+ 11
N.T.	226	13	239*	+ 13	- 76
A.C.T.	48	4	52**	+ 2	+ 6
AUST.	9439	404	9843	+ 114	+ 147

* 5 prisoners in this total were serving sentences in S.A. prisons.

** 33 prisoners in this total were serving sentences in N.S.W. prisons.

The table below shows the number of sentenced prisoners received in each jurisdiction during February 1983 as well as the imprisonment rates (prisoners per 100,000 population) based on daily averages.

	Sentenced Prisoners Received	Daily Average Prisoners (as above)	General Population* (in thousands)	Imprisonment Rates
N.S.W.	751**	3457	5451	63.4
VIC.	345	1847	3992	46.3
QLD	373	1652	2413	68.5
S.A.	334	775	1333	58.1
W.A.	396	1596	1338	119.3
TAS.	44	225	428	52.6
N.T.	89	239	129	185.3
A.C.T.	-	52	230	22.6
AUST.	2332	9843	15314	64.3

* Projected Population end of February 1983 derived from Australian Demographic Statistics Quarterly (Catalogue No. 3101.0)

** Comprising 374 Fine Defaulters and 377 Sentenced Prisoners.

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Work Release, Periodic Detention and Attendance Centre Data

In many jurisdictions small numbers of prisoners on work release programs are included in the daily average number of prisoners. Some of these figures are: 53 in New South Wales, 3 in Queensland and 12 in Western Australia. Excluded from the prisoner statistics were 243 offenders in Victoria serving attendance centre orders.

As at 1 February 1983 the actual (as opposed to daily average) numbers of prisoners in custody in each jurisdiction and the proportion of these who were on remand are shown in the table below:

	<u>Total Prisoners</u>	<u>Prisoners on Remand</u>	<u>Percentage of Remandees</u>	<u>Remandees per 100,000 of General Population</u>
N.S.W.	3451	736	21.3	13.5
VIC.	1828	178	9.7	4.5
QLD	1611	174	10.8	7.2
S.A.	751	107	14.2	8.0
W.A.	1530	134	8.8	10.0
TAS.	230	14	6.1	3.3
N.T.	221	47	21.3	36.4
A.C.T.	49	14	28.6	6.1
AUST.	9671	1404	14.5	9.2

COMMENTS

1. The daily average number of prisoners held during February 1983 was considerably higher than for the previous month, with the most marked increases occurring in Western Australia, Victoria and Queensland. Compared with one year earlier the two jurisdictions with much higher numbers are Western Australia and Victoria.

2. In contrast to the general pattern the New South Wales figures have decreased to the point where in February 1983 the New South Wales imprisonment rate was lower than the national average. This has not occurred for over 18 months.

3. The number of unconvicted prisoners on remand increased markedly during January 1983 and at 1 February they comprised 14.5 per cent of all prisoners. The 1404 remandees on that date yielded a national remand rate of 9.2, the highest recorded rate since this element of the collection was added in November 1977.

Compiled by David Biles
Assistant Director (Research)

29 March 1983



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AUSTRALIAN PRISON TRENDS - NO. 82

The daily average numbers of persons (to the nearest whole number) held in custody during March 1983 with changes in the totals over the past month and over the past year are:

	March			Changes since	
	Males	Females	Total	Feb. 1983	Mar. 1982
N.S.W.	3377	151	3528	+ 71	- 91
VIC.	1806	71	1877	+ 30	+ 99
QLD	1655	49	1704	+ 52	+ 49
S.A.	766	35	801	+ 26	+ 20
W.A.	1525	80	1605	+ 9	+ 167
TAS.	194	8	202	- 23	- 21
N.T.	246	12	258*	+ 19	- 78
A.C.T.	51	3	54**	+ 2	+ 6
AUST.	9620	409	10029	+ 186	+ 151

* 6 prisoners in this total were serving sentences in S.A. prisons.

** 37 prisoners (including 1 female) in this total were serving sentences in N.S.W. prisons.

The table below shows the number of sentenced prisoners received in each jurisdiction during March 1983 as well as the imprisonment rates (prisoners per 100,000 population) based on daily averages.

	Sentenced Prisoners Received	Daily Average Prisoners (as above)	General Population* (in thousands)	Imprisonment Rates
N.S.W.	1004**	3528	5466	64.5
VIC.	472	1877	3993	47.0
QLD	396	1704	2419	70.4
S.A.	392	801	1334	60.0
W.A.	373	1605	1340	119.8
TAS.	34	202	428	47.2
N.T.	153	258	129	200.0
A.C.T.	-	54	231	23.4
AUST.	2824	10029	15340	65.4

* Projected Population end of March 1983 derived from Australian Demographic Statistics Quarterly (Catalogue No. 3101.0)

** Comprising 456 Fine Defaulters and 548 Sentenced Prisoners.

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Work Release, Periodic Detention and Attendance Centre Data

In many jurisdictions small numbers of prisoners on work release programs are included in the daily average number of prisoners. Some of these figures are: 63 in New South Wales, 2 in Queensland and 15 in Western Australia. Excluded from the prisoner statistics were 256 offenders in Victoria serving attendance centre orders. The convicted prisoners received in Queensland for the month include 14 persons sentenced to weekend detention.

As at 1 March 1983 the actual (as opposed to daily average) numbers of prisoners in custody in each jurisdiction and the proportion of these who were on remand are shown in the table below:

	<u>Total Prisoners</u>	<u>Prisoners on Remand</u>	<u>Percentage of Remandees</u>	<u>Remandees per 100,000 of General Population</u>
N.S.W.	3518	723	20.6	13.2
VIC.	1908	156	8.2	3.9
QLD	1646	56	3.4	2.3
S.A.	799	132	16.5	9.9
W.A.	1537	134	8.7	10.0
TAS.	202	9	4.5	2.1
N.T.	245	50	20.4	38.8
A.C.T.	43	10	23.3	4.3
AUST.	9898	1270	12.8	8.3

COMMENTS

1. During March 1983 the total numbers of prisoners increased in all jurisdictions except Tasmania, bringing the national total to over 10,000 for the first time since May 1981. It is of interest to note, however, that the national imprisonment rate has varied between 61 and 70 since this series was started in May 1976, and the most recent national rate of 65.4 is clearly in the middle of this range.

2. The decrease in the number of prisoners in Tasmania during March brought the imprisonment rate in that State down to almost the same level as Victoria, the State which has had the lowest rate for many years. The only jurisdictions with imprisonment rates higher than the national rate in March were the Northern Territory, Western Australia and Queensland.

3. The West Australian figures reported previously for February 1983 contained some errors. The correct figures are: Total Daily Average - 1560.1 comprising 1471.6 males and 88.5 females. On 1 February there were 1477 prisoners in Western Australia of whom 119 were unconvicted prisoners on remand. For that month the imprisonment rate was 116.6 and the remand rate 8.9.

Compiled by David Biles
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27 April 1983



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AUSTRALIAN PRISON TRENDS - NO. 83

The daily average numbers of persons (to the nearest whole number) held in custody during April 1983 with changes in the totals over the past month and over the past year are:

	April			Changes since	
	Males	Females	Total	Mar. 1983	Apr. 1982
N.S.W.	3362	151	3513	+ 15	- 79
VIC.	1808	71	1879	+ 2	+ 81
QLD	1666	49	1715	+ 11	+ 57
S.A.	752	33	785	- 16	- 1
W.A.	1485	94	1579	- 26	+ 170
TAS.	197	11	208	+ 6	- 23
N.T.	244	11	255*	- 3	- 75
A.C.T.	51	3	54**	No change	+ 6
AUST.	9565	423	9988	- 41	+ 136

* 5 prisoners in this total were serving sentences in S.A. prisons.

** 37 prisoners (including 1 female) in this total were serving sentences in N.S.W. prisons.

The table below shows the number of sentenced prisoners received in each jurisdiction during April 1983 as well as the imprisonment rates (prisoners per 100,000 population) based on daily averages.

	Sentenced Prisoners Received	Daily Average Prisoners (as above)	General Population* (in thousands)	Imprisonment Rates
N.S.W.	780**	3513	5482	64.1
VIC.	267	1879	3994	47.0
QLD	205	1715	2425	70.7
S.A.	311	785	1335	58.8
W.A.	332	1579	1342	117.7
TAS.	44	208	429	48.5
N.T.	20	255	130	196.2
A.C.T.	-	54	231	23.4
AUST.	1959	9988	15368	65.0

* Projected Population end of April 1983 derived from Australian Demographic Statistics Quarterly (Catalogue No. 3101.0)

** Comprising 400 Fine Defaulters and 380 Sentenced Prisoners.

Work Release, Periodic Detention and Attendance Centre Data

In many jurisdictions small numbers of prisoners on work release programs are included in the daily average number of prisoners. Some of these figures are: 54 in New South Wales, 7 in Queensland and 13 in Western Australia. Excluded from the prisoner statistics were 269 offenders in Victoria serving attendance centre orders. The convicted prisoners received in Queensland for the month include 11 persons sentenced to weekend detention.

As at 1 April 1983 the actual (as opposed to daily average) numbers of prisoners in custody in each jurisdiction and the proportion of these who were on remand are shown in the table below:

	<u>Total Prisoners</u>	<u>Prisoners on Remand</u>	<u>Percentage of Remandees</u>	<u>Remandees per 100,000 of General Population</u>
N.S.W.	3534	622	17.6	11.3
VIC.	1873	146	7.8	3.7
QLD	1722	168	9.8	6.9
S.A.	781	125	16.0	9.4
W.A.	1542	132	8.6	9.8
TAS.	208	11	5.3	2.6
N.T.	246	44	17.9	33.8
A.C.T.	43	7	16.3	3.0
AUST.	9949	1255	12.6	8.2

COMMENTS

1. Only very small changes in the numbers of prisoners in each jurisdiction occurred during April 1983 compared with the previous month, but the national total was considerably higher than it was one year earlier.

2. The number of convicted prisoners from the Australian Capital Territory serving their sentences in New South Wales shown above is an estimate as accurate figures were not available from the Commonwealth Attorney-General's Department on this occasion.

3. The statistics of remand prisoners show a remarkable increase in the number of remandees in Queensland compared with the previous month. There seems to be no clear explanation for this change.

Compiled by David Biles
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31 May 1983



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AUSTRALIAN PRISON TRENDS - NO. 84

The daily average numbers of persons (to the nearest whole number) held in custody during May 1983 with changes in the totals over the past month and over the past year are:

	May			Changes since	
	Males	Females	Total	Apr. 1983	May 1982
N.S.W.	3308	153	3461	- 52	- 23
VIC.	1850	72	1922	+ 43	+ 133
QLD	1634	42	1676	- 39	+ 26
S.A.	760	27	787	+ 2	- 36
W.A.	1461	70	1531	- 48	+ 96
TAS.	203	9	212	+ 4	- 34
N.T.	256	14	270*	+ 15	- 46
A.C.T.	55	4	59**	+ 5	+ 17
AUST.	9527	391	9918	- 70	+ 133

* 5 prisoners in this total were serving sentences in S.A. prisons.

** 45 prisoners (including 3 females) in this total were serving sentences in N.S.W. prisons.

The table below shows the number of sentenced prisoners received in each jurisdiction during May 1983 as well as the imprisonment rates (prisoners per 100,000 population) based on daily averages.

	Sentenced Prisoners Received	Daily Average Prisoners (as above)	General Population* (in thousands)	Imprisonment Rates.
N.S.W.	800**	3461	5497	63.0
VIC.	305	1922	3995	48.1
QLD	324	1676	2431	68.9
S.A.	365	787	1336	58.9
W.A.	379	1531	1345	113.8
TAS.	59	212	429	49.4
N.T.	31	270	130	207.7
A.C.T.	-	59	232	25.4
AUST.	2263	9918	15395	64.4

* Projected Population end of May 1983 derived from Australian Demographic Statistics Quarterly (Catalogue No. 3101.0)

** Comprising 392 Fine Defaulters and 408 Sentenced Prisoners.

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Work Release, Periodic Detention and Attendance Centre Data

In many jurisdictions small numbers of prisoners on work release programs are included in the daily average number of prisoners. Some of these figures are: 52 in New South Wales, 9 in Queensland and 12 in Western Australia. Excluded from the prisoner statistics were 267 offenders in Victoria serving attendance centre orders. The convicted prisoners received in Queensland for the month include 8 persons sentenced to weekend detention.

As at 1 May 1983 the actual (as opposed to daily average) numbers of prisoners in custody in each jurisdiction and the proportion of these who were on remand are shown in the table below:

	<u>Total Prisoners</u>	<u>Prisoners on Remand</u>	<u>Percentage of Remandees</u>	<u>Remandees per 100,000 of General Population</u>
N.S.W.	3489	617	17.7	11.2
VIC.	1893	167	8.8	4.2
QLD	1693	160	9.5	6.6
S.A.	777	132	17.0	9.9
W.A.	1381	146	10.6	10.9
TAS.	209	12	5.7	2.8
N.T.	259	49	18.9	37.7
A.C.T.	59	14	23.7	6.0
AUST.	9760	1297	13.3	8.4

COMMENTS

1. During May 1983 there was a slight decrease in the total number of prisoners in Australia, but compared with one year earlier the total is considerably higher. Victoria and Western Australia have recorded the greatest increases in this twelve month period.
2. Notwithstanding this overall increase the national imprisonment rate of 64.4 for May 1983 is marginally lower than the national rate of one year earlier due to the general population increase.
3. The statistics of remand prisoners have remained relatively stable, but the differences in remand rates are very significant. They vary from 2.8 in Tasmania to 37.7 in the Northern Territory.

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AUSTRALIAN PRISON TRENDS - NO. 85

The daily average numbers of persons (to the nearest whole number) held in custody during June 1983 with changes in the totals over the past month and over the past year are:

	June			Changes since	
	Males	Females	Total	May 1983	June 1982
N.S.W.	3314	165	3479	+ 18	+ 25
VIC.	1894	70	1964	+ 42	+ 173
QLD	1634	38	1672	- 4	+ 5
S.A.	749	24	773	- 14	- 21
W.A.	1443	70	1513	- 18	+ 94
TAS.	200	8	208	- 4	- 33
N.T.	261	12	273*	+ 3	- 16
A.C.T.	60	2	62**	+ 3	+ 19
AUST.	9555	389	9944	+ 26	+ 246

* 4 prisoners in this total were serving sentences in S.A. prisons.

** 46 prisoners (including 2 females) in this total were serving sentences in N.S.W. prisons.

The table below shows the number of sentenced prisoners received in each jurisdiction during June 1983 as well as the imprisonment rates (prisoners per 100,000 population) based on daily averages.

	Sentenced Prisoners Received	Daily Average Prisoners (as above)	General Population* (in thousands)	Imprisonment Rates
N.S.W.	750**	3479	5513	63.1
VIC.	331	1964	3996	49.1
QLD	482	1672	2437	68.6
S.A.	347	773	1337	57.8
W.A.	377	1513	1347	112.3
TAS.	49	208	429	48.5
N.T.	47	273	131	208.4
A.C.T.	6	62	232	26.7
AUST.	2389	9944	15422	64.5

* Projected Population end of June 1983 derived from Australian Demographic Statistics Quarterly (Catalogue No. 3101.0)

** Comprising 434 Fine Defaulters and 322 Sentenced Prisoners.

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Work Release, Periodic Detention and Attendance Centre Data

In many jurisdictions small numbers of prisoners on work release programs are included in the daily average number of prisoners. Some of these figures are: 56 in New South Wales, 3 in Queensland and 8 in Western Australia. Excluded from the prisoner statistics were 270 offenders in Victoria serving attendance centre orders. The convicted prisoners received in Queensland for the month include 14 persons sentenced to weekend detention.

As at 1 June 1983 the actual (as opposed to daily average) numbers of prisoners in custody in each jurisdiction and the proportion of these who were on remand are shown in the table below:

	<u>Total Prisoners</u>	<u>Prisoners on Remand</u>	<u>Percentage of Remandees</u>	<u>Remandees per 100,000 of General Population</u>
N.S.W.	3496	633	18.1	11.5
VIC.	1962	192	9.8	4.8
QLD	1684	126	7.5	5.2
S.A.	789	131	16.6	9.8
W.A.	1466	147	10.0	10.9
TAS.	212	13	6.1	3.0
N.T.	257	49	19.1	37.7
A.C.T.	61	15	24.6	6.5
AUST.	9927	1306	13.2	8.5

COMMENTS

1. During the month of June 1983 there was a slight increase in the total number of prisoners in Australia, with the most noticeable increases occurring in Victoria and New South Wales. Over the past year Victoria and Western Australia have recorded the most significant increases.

2. As at 1 June 1983 there were slightly more unconvicted prisoners on remand than one month earlier. The remand figures have increased markedly in Victoria but have gone down in Queensland.

3. The Institute has recently published Prison Statistics for Asia and the Pacific Quarterly Summary No. 13 which contains data from 13 countries in the region. Copies of this publication are available on request.

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AUSTRALIAN PRISON TRENDS - NO. 86

The daily average numbers of persons (to the nearest whole number) held in custody during July 1983 with changes in the totals over the past month and over the past year are:

	Males	Females	Total	Changes since	
				June 1983	July 1982
N.S.W.	3318	161	3479	No change	+ 59
VIC.	1939	65	2004	+ 40	+ 205
QLD	1683	37	1720	+ 48	+ 74
S.A.	762	21	783	+ 10	- 25
W.A.	1408	67	1475	- 38	+ 93
TAS.	216	5	221	+ 13	- 5
N.T.	244	10	254*	- 19	- 18
A.C.T.	60	3	63**	+ 1	+ 23
AUST.	9630	369	9999	+ 55	+ 406

* 5 prisoners in this total were serving sentences in S.A. prisons.

** 50 prisoners (including 3 females) in this total were serving sentences in N.S.W. prisons.

The table below shows the number of sentenced prisoners received in each jurisdiction during July 1983 as well as the imprisonment rates (prisoners per 100,000 population) based on daily averages.

	Sentenced Prisoners Received	Daily Average Prisoners (as above)	General Population* (in thousands)	Imprisonment Rates
N.S.W.	762**	3479	5528	62.9
VIC.	349	2004	3998	50.1
QLD	364	1720	2443	70.4
S.A.	315	783	1338	58.5
W.A.	325	1475	1349	109.3
TAS.	59	221	430	51.4
N.T.	89	254	131	193.9
A.C.T.	-	63	233	27.0
AUST.	2263	9999	15450	64.7

* Projected Population end of July 1983 derived from Australian Demographic Statistics Quarterly (Catalogue No. 3101.0)

** Comprising 431 Fine Defaulters and 331 Sentenced Prisoners.

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Work Release, Periodic Detention and Attendance Centre Data

In many jurisdictions small numbers of prisoners on work release programs are included in the daily average number of prisoners. Some of these figures are: 43 in New South Wales, 6 in Queensland and 12 in Western Australia. Excluded from the prisoner statistics were 273 offenders in Victoria serving attendance centre orders. The convicted prisoners received in Queensland for the month include 17 persons sentenced to weekend detention.

As at 1 July 1983 the actual (as opposed to daily average) numbers of prisoners in custody in each jurisdiction and the proportion of these who were on remand are shown in the table below:

	<u>Total Prisoners</u>	<u>Prisoners on Remand</u>	<u>Percentage of Remandees</u>	<u>Remandees per 100,000 of General Population</u>
N.S.W.	3442	640	18.6	11.6
VIC.	2001	182	9.1	4.6
QLD	1666	125	7.5	5.1
S.A.	773	125	16.2	9.3
W.A.	1520	111	7.3	8.2
TAS.	210	18	8.6	4.2
N.T.	259	34	13.1	26.0
A.C.T.	63	18	28.6	7.8
AUST.	9934	1253	12.6	8.1

COMMENTS

1. During the month of July 1983 there were increases in the number of prisoners held in most Australian jurisdictions, but more importantly, compared with one year earlier, there were more than 400 additional prisoners in the national total. This trend seems to be more important than are the smaller changes observed on a monthly basis.

2. An examination of the imprisonment rates shows that Victoria now has a rate of over 50 for the first time since this series was started in May 1976. For several months in the past Victoria has had an imprisonment rate of less than 40. It is also worthy of note that, as the Northern Territory and Western Australian rates are slowly declining, the differences between jurisdictions in the use of imprisonment are now less pronounced than they were in the past.

Compiled by David Biles
Acting Director

25 August 1983



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AUSTRALIAN PRISON TRENDS - NO. 87

The daily average numbers of persons (to the nearest whole number) held in custody during August 1983 with changes in the totals over the past month and over the past year are:

	August			Changes since	
	Males	Females	Total	July 1983	Aug. 1982
N.S.W.	3379	160	3539	+ 60	+ 116
VIC.	1905	71	1976	- 28	+ 157
QLD	1688	34	1722	+ 2	+ 77
S.A.	751	22	773	- 10	- 72
W.A.	1413	61	1474	- 1	+ 83
TAS.	216	8	224	+ 3	- 5
N.T.	250	8	258*	+ 4	- 3
A.C.T.	69	4	73**	+ 10	+ 35
AUST.	9671	368	10039	+ 40	+ 388

* 5 prisoners in this total were serving sentences in S.A. prisons.

** 53 prisoners (including 3 females) in this total were serving sentences in N.S.W. prisons.

The table below shows the number of sentenced prisoners received in each jurisdiction during August 1983 as well as the imprisonment rates (prisoners per 100,000 population) based on daily averages.

	Sentenced Prisoners Received	Daily Average Prisoners (as above)	General Population* (in thousands)	Imprisonment Rates
N.S.W.	957**	3539	5544	63.8
VIC.	378	1976	3999	49.4
QLD	471	1722	2449	70.3
S.A.	363	773	1339	57.7
W.A.	339	1474	1352	109.0
TAS.	52	224	430	52.1
N.T.	126	258	131	196.9
A.C.T.	-	73	233	31.3
AUST.	2686	10039	15477	64.9

* Projected Population end of August 1983 derived from Australian Demographic Statistics Quarterly (Catalogue No. 3101.0)

** Comprising 505 Fine Defaulters and 452 Sentenced Prisoners.

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Work Release, Periodic Detention and Attendance Centre Data

In many jurisdictions small numbers of prisoners on work release programs are included in the daily average number of prisoners. Some of these figures are: 54 in New South Wales and 13 in Western Australia. Excluded from the prisoner statistics were 294 offenders in Victoria serving attendance centre orders, of whom 24 were pre-releasees from prison. The convicted prisoners received in Queensland for the month include 9 persons sentenced to weekend detention.

As at 1 August 1983 the actual (as opposed to daily average) numbers of prisoners in custody in each jurisdiction and the proportion of these who were on remand are shown in the table below:

	<u>Total Prisoners</u>	<u>Prisoners on Remand</u>	<u>Percentage of Remandees</u>	<u>Remandees per 100,000 of General Population</u>
N.S.W.	3507	649	18.5	11.7
VIC.	1979	174	8.8	4.4
QLD	1728	104	6.0	4.3
S.A.	789	127	16.1	9.5
W.A.	1454	146	10.0	10.8
TAS.	228	13	5.7	3.0
N.T.	252	40	15.9	30.5
A.C.T.	73	22	30.1	9.4
AUST.	10010	1275	12.6	8.3

COMMENTS

1. The recent trend to increasing numbers of prisoners has continued in August 1983 and the national daily average for that month of 10039 was the highest recorded since July 1979. The increase in New South Wales numbers in August may be due to the curtailment of the release on licence scheme, while conversely the slight decrease in Victoria may be due to the transfer of pre-releasees from prison to attendance centres.

2. Large differences in imprisonment rates are still to be seen, but it is notable that the jurisdictions with the highest rates, Northern Territory and Western Australia, are slowly decreasing, while the Australian Capital Territory, the jurisdiction with the lowest rate, is steadily increasing.

Compiled by David Biles
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29 September 1983



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AUSTRALIAN PRISON TRENDS - NO. 88

The daily average numbers of persons (to the nearest whole number) held in custody during September 1983 with changes in the totals over the past month and over the past year are:

	September			Changes since	
	Males	Females	Total	Aug. 1983	Sept. 1982
N.S.W.	3455	156	3611	+ 72	+ 189
VIC.	1881	74	1955	- 21	+ 124
QLD	1693	39	1732	+ 10	+ 73
W.A.	1395	58	1453	- 21	+ 28
S.A.	743	28	771	- 2	- 65
TAS.	224	9	233	+ 9	+ 6
N.T.	237	12	249*	- 9	- 22
A.C.T.	57	3	60**	- 13	+ 16
AUST.	9685	379	10064	+ 25	+ 349

* 4 prisoners in this total were serving sentences in S.A. prisons.

** 46 prisoners (including 2 females) in this total were serving sentences in N.S.W. prisons.

The table below shows the number of sentenced prisoners received in each jurisdiction during September 1983 as well as the imprisonment rates (prisoners per 100,000 population) based on daily averages.

	Sentenced Prisoners Received	Daily Average Prisoners (as above)	General Population* (in thousands)	Imprisonment Rates
N.S.W.	983**	3611	5559	65.0
VIC.	323	1955	4000	48.9
QLD	375	1732	2455	70.5
W.A.	350	1453	1354	107.3
S.A.	297	771	1340	57.5
TAS.	51	233	431	54.1
N.T.	105	249	132	188.6
A.C.T.	-	60	233	25.8
AUST.	2484	10064	15504	64.9

* Projected Population end of September 1983 derived from Australian Demographic Statistics Quarterly (Catalogue No. 3101.0)

** Comprising 553 Fine Defaulters and 430 Sentenced Prisoners.

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Work Release, Periodic Detention and Attendance Centre Data

In many jurisdictions small numbers of prisoners on work release programs are included in the daily average number of prisoners. Some of these figures are: 60 in New South Wales, 5 in Queensland and 15 in Western Australia. Excluded from the prisoner statistics were 271 offenders in Victoria serving attendance centre orders, of whom 29 were pre-releasees from prison. The convicted prisoners received in Queensland for the month include 25 persons sentenced to weekend detention.

As at 1 September 1983 the actual (as opposed to daily average) numbers of prisoners in custody in each jurisdiction and the proportion of these who were on remand are shown in the table below:

	<u>Total Prisoners</u>	<u>Prisoners on Remand</u>	<u>Percentage of Remandees</u>	<u>Remandees per 100,000 of General Population</u>
N.S.W.	3604	617	17.1	11.1
VIC.	1949	171	8.8	4.3
QLD	1715	112	6.5	4.6
W.A.	1415	138	9.8	10.2
SCA.	785	131	16.7	9.8
TAS.	226	14	6.2	3.3
N.T.	252	46	18.3	35.1
A.C.T.	57	11	19.3	4.7
AUST.	10003	1240	12.4	8.0

COMMENTS

1. There was an overall increase in prisoner numbers in Australia during September 1983. This was largely due to the increase in New South Wales, but there were small decreases in Victoria and Western Australia. Nevertheless, all jurisdictions except South Australia and the Northern Territory now have higher numbers of prisoners than one year ago.

2. Notwithstanding these changes in the actual numbers the national imprisonment rate has changed very little over the past twelve months. This suggests that the increase in numbers over this period is almost entirely explainable in terms of the increase in the general population.

3. The differences between jurisdictions in imprisonment rates and remand rates are still very considerable, however, and have yet to be satisfactorily explained.

Compiled by David Biles.
Acting Director

31 October 1983



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AUSTRALIAN PRISON TRENDS - NO. 89

The daily average numbers of persons (to the nearest whole number) held in custody during October 1983 with changes in the totals over the past month and over the past year are:

	October			Changes since	
	Males	Females	Total	Sept. 1983	Oct. 1982
N.S.W.	3541	154	3695	+ 84	+ 227
VIC.	1891	71	1962	+ 7	+ 113
QLD	1683	41	1724	- 8	+ 76
W.A.	1372	57	1429	- 24	- 15
S.A.	758	26	784	+ 13	- 53
TAS.	225	9	234	+ 1	+ 8
N.T.	265	14	279*	+ 30	+ 21
A.C.T.	59	4	63**	+ 3	+ 10
AUST.	9794	376	10170	+ 106	+ 387

* 3 prisoners in this total were serving sentences in S.A. prisons.

** 49 prisoners (including 2 females) in this total were serving sentences in N.S.W. prisons.

The table below shows the number of sentenced prisoners received in each jurisdiction during October 1983 as well as the imprisonment rates (prisoners per 100,000 population) based on daily averages.

	Sentenced Prisoners Received	Daily Average Prisoners (as above)	General Population* (in thousands)	Imprisonment Rates
N.S.W.	738**	3695	5575	66.3
VIC.	319	1962	4001	49.0
QLD	375	1724	2461	70.1
W.A.	310	1429	1341	106.6
S.A.	347	784	1356	57.8
TAS.	52	234	431	54.3
N.T.	122	279	132	211.4
A.C.T.	-	63	234	26.9
AUST.	2263	10170	15531	65.5

* Projected Population end of October 1983 derived from Australian Demographic Statistics Quarterly (Catalogue No. 3101.0)

** Comprising 362 Fine Defaulters and 376 Sentenced Prisoners.

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Work Release, Periodic Detention and Attendance Centre Data

In many jurisdictions small numbers of prisoners on work release programs are included in the daily average number of prisoners. Some of these figures are: 66 in New South Wales, 14 in Queensland and 19 in Western Australia. Excluded from the prisoner statistics were 266 offenders in Victoria serving attendance centre orders, of whom 56 were pre-releasees from prison. The convicted prisoners received in Queensland for the month include 18 persons sentenced to weekend detention.

As at 1 October 1983 the actual (as opposed to daily average) numbers of prisoners in custody in each jurisdiction and the proportion of these who were on remand are shown in the table below:

	<u>Total Prisoners</u>	<u>Prisoners on Remand</u>	<u>Percentage of Remandees</u>	<u>Remandees per 100,000 of General Population</u>
N.S.W.	3716	643	17.3	11.6
VIC.	1954	199	10.2	5.0
QLD	1730	147	8.5	6.0
W.A.	1384	142	10.3	10.5
S.A.	789	144	18.3	10.7
TAS.	237	21	8.9	4.9
N.T.	264	49	18.6	37.1
A.C.T.	58	11	19.0	4.7
AUST.	10132	1356	13.4	8.7

COMMENTS

1. During the month of October 1983 prisoner numbers increased in all Australian jurisdictions except Western Australia and Queensland. The highest increases were recorded for New South Wales and the Northern Territory. These increases have raised the national imprisonment rate from 64.9 to 65.5 in one month.

2. There was also an increase in the numbers of unconvicted prisoners on remand in all jurisdictions during the month and this raised the national remand rate from 8.0 to 8.7. At the end of October 1983 13.4 per cent of Australian prisoners were unconvicted remandees.

Compiled by David Biles
Acting Director

28 November 1983



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AUSTRALIAN PRISON TRENDS - NO. 90

The daily average numbers of persons (to the nearest whole number) held in custody during November 1983 with changes in the totals over the past month and over the past year are:

	November			Changes since	
	Males	Females	Total	Oct. 1983	Nov. 1982
N.S.W.	3582	167	3749	+ 54	+ 220
VIC.	1894	66	1960	- 2	+ 103
QLD	1717	46	1763	+ 39	+ 133
W.A.	1372	59	1431	+ 2	- 47
S.A.	751	25	776	- 8	- 74
TAS.	235	9	244	+ 10	+ 5
N.T.	269	15	284*	+ 5	+ 40
A.C.T.	54	5	59**	- 4	+ 12
AUST.	9874	392	10266	+ 96	+ 392

* 2 prisoners in this total were serving sentences in S.A. prisons.

** 50 prisoners (including 3 females) in this total were serving sentences in N.S.W. prisons.

The table below shows the number of sentenced prisoners received in each jurisdiction during November 1983 as well as the imprisonment rates (prisoners per 100,000 population) based on daily averages.

	Sentenced Prisoners Received	Daily Average Prisoners (as above)	General Population* (in thousands)	Imprisonment Rates
N.S.W.	769**	3749	5590	67.1
VIC.	411	1960	4002	49.0
QLD	359	1763	2467	71.5
W.A.	324	1431	1342	106.6
S.A.	305	776	1358	57.1
TAS.	68	244	432	56.5
N.T.	108	284	133	213.5
A.C.T.	-	59	234	25.2
AUST.	2344	10266	15558	66.0

* Projected Population end of November 1983 derived from Australian Demographic Statistics Quarterly (Catalogue No. 3101.0)

** Comprising 383 Fine Defaulters and 386 Sentenced Prisoners.

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Work Release, Periodic Detention and Attendance Centre Data

In many jurisdictions small numbers of prisoners on work release programs are included in the daily average number of prisoners. Some of these figures are: 71 in New South Wales, 5 in Queensland and 16 in Western Australia. Excluded from the prisoner statistics were 266 offenders in Victoria serving attendance centre orders, of whom 62 were pre-releasees from prison. The convicted prisoners received in Queensland for the month include 18 persons sentenced to weekend detention.

As at 1 November 1983 the actual (as opposed to daily average) numbers of prisoners in custody in each jurisdiction and the proportion of these who were on remand are shown in the table below:

	<u>Total Prisoners</u>	<u>Prisoners on Remand</u>	<u>Percentage of Remandees</u>	<u>Remandees per 100,000 of General Population</u>
N.S.W.	3743	584	15.6	10.5
VIC.	1984	196	9.9	4.9
QLD	1733	114	6.6	4.6
W.A.	1416	142	10.0	10.6
S.A.	809	162	20.0	11.9
TAS.	239	14	5.9	3.2
N.T.	279	67	24.0	50.8
A.C.T.	63	11	17.5	4.7
AUST.	10266	1290	12.6	8.3

COMMENTS

1. The trend in recent months towards increasing numbers of prisoners continued to be followed by most jurisdictions during November 1983. It is noticeable that for that month all jurisdictions except Western Australia and South Australia had appreciably higher numbers than one year earlier.

2. The November 1983 national total of 10266 prisoners was the highest recorded since the commencement of this series in May 1976. However, the national imprisonment rate of 66.0 has been exceeded on many occasions previously, most notably throughout the whole of 1979. Even though there are differences between jurisdictions, the national long-term trend in the number of prisoners seems to follow fairly closely the increase in the general population.

Compiled by David Biles
Acting Director

17 January 1984



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AUSTRALIAN PRISON TRENDS - NO. 91

The daily average numbers of persons (to the nearest whole number) held in custody during December 1983 with changes in the totals over the past month and over the past year are:

	December			Changes since	
	Males	Females	Total	Nov. 1983	Dec. 1982
N.S.W.	3492	174	3666	- 83	+ 138
VIC.	1896	66	1962	+ 2	+ 114
QLD	1678	39	1717	- 46	+ 100
W.A.	1353	60	1413	- 18	- 106
S.A.	701	24	725	- 51	- 82
TAS.	238	8	246	+ 2	- 37
N.T.	252	13	265*	- 19	+ 31
A.C.T.	58	4	62**	+ 3	+ 15
AUST.	9668	388	10056	- 210	+ 173

* 2 prisoners in this total were serving sentences in S.A. prisons.

** 50 prisoners (including 3 females) in this total were serving sentences in N.S.W. prisons.

The table below shows the number of sentenced prisoners received in each jurisdiction during December 1983 as well as the imprisonment rates (prisoners per 100,000 population) based on daily averages.

	Sentenced Prisoners Received	Daily Average Prisoners (as above)	General Population* (in thousands)	Imprisonment Rates
N.S.W.	679**	3666	5605	65.4
VIC.	317	1962	4003	49.0
QLD	392	1717	2473	69.4
W.A.	265	1413	1343	105.2
S.A.	300	725	1361	53.3
TAS.	64	246	432	57.0
N.T.	98	265	133	199.2
A.C.T.	-	62	235	26.4
AUST.	2115	10056	15585	64.5

* Projected Population end of December 1983 derived from Australian Demographic Statistics Quarterly (Catalogue No. 3101.0)

** Comprising 339 Fine Defaulters and 340 Sentenced Prisoners.

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Work Release, Periodic Detention and Attendance Centre Data

In many jurisdictions small numbers of prisoners on work release programs are included in the daily average number of prisoners. Some of these figures are: 76 in New South Wales, 6 in Queensland and 10 in Western Australia. Excluded from the prisoner statistics were 280 offenders in Victoria serving attendance centre orders, of whom 61 were pre-releasees from prison. The convicted prisoners received in Queensland for the month include 13 persons sentenced to weekend detention.

As at 1 December 1983 the actual (as opposed to daily average) numbers of prisoners in custody in each jurisdiction and the proportion of these who were on remand are shown in the table below:

	<u>Total Prisoners</u>	<u>Prisoners on Remand</u>	<u>Percentage of Remandees</u>	<u>Remandees per 100,000 of General Population</u>
N.S.W.	3590	478	13.3	8.6
VIC.	1983	186	9.4	4.6
QLD	1763	141	8.0	5.7
W.A.	1434	143	10.0	10.7
S.A.	759	139	18.3	10.2
TAS.	252	10	4.0	2.3
N.T.	275	64	23.3	48.1
A.C.T.	61	9	14.8	3.8
AUST.	10117	1170	11.6	7.5

COMMENTS

1. The total number of prisoners in Australia decreased markedly during December 1983, largely due to decreases in New South Wales, South Australia and Queensland, but the national total was still higher than it had been one year earlier. Over the longer term the only jurisdictions recording decreases were Western Australia, South Australia and Tasmania.

2. The number of unconvicted prisoners on remand at 1 December 1983 was also lower than the equivalent figure found one month earlier in all jurisdictions except Queensland. Differences between jurisdictions in the use of remand in custody are most dramatically shown, however, by the remand rates (remandees per 100,000 population) which varied between 2.3 and 48.1

Compiled by David Biles
Acting Director



AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE OF CRIMINOLOGY

Director: Professor Richard W. Harding

AUSTRALIAN PRISON TRENDS - NO. 92

The daily average numbers of persons (to the nearest whole number) held in custody during January 1984 with changes in the totals over the past month and over the past year are:

	January			Changes since	
	Males	Females	Total	Dec. 1983	Jan. 1983
N.S.W.	3509	180	3689	+ 23	+ 223
VIC.	1855	67	1922	- 40	+ 111
QLD	1685	44	1729	+ 12	+ 113
W.A.	1354	60	1414	+ 1	- 110
S.A.	630	28	658	- 67	- 131
TAS.	220	9	229	- 17	- 18
N.T.	246	12	258*	- 7	+ 32
A.C.T.	51	3	54**	- 8	+ 4
AUST.	9550	403	9953	- 93	+ 224

* 2 prisoners in this total were serving sentences in S.A. prisons.

** 45 prisoners (including 3 females) in this total were serving sentences in N.S.W. prisons.

The table below shows the number of sentenced prisoners received in each jurisdiction during January 1984 as well as the imprisonment rates (prisoners per 100,000 population) based on daily averages.

	Sentenced Prisoners Received	Daily Average Prisoners (as above)	General Population* (in thousands)	Imprisonment Rates
N.S.W.	655**	3689	5621	65.6
VIC.	335	1922	4004	48.0
QLD	262	1729	2476	69.8
W.A.	311	1414	1344	105.2
S.A.	331	658	1363	48.3
TAS.	34	229	432	53.0
N.T.	73	258	133	194.0
A.C.T.	-	54	236	22.9
AUST.	2001	9953	15609	63.8

* Projected Population end of January 1984 derived from Australian Demographic Statistics Quarterly (Catalogue No. 3101.0)

** Comprising 441 Fine Defaulters and 214 Sentenced Prisoners.

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Work Release, Periodic Detention and Attendance Centre Data

In many jurisdictions small numbers of prisoners on work release programs are included in the daily average number of prisoners. Some of these figures are: 75 in New South Wales, 5 in Queensland and 15 in Western Australia. Excluded from the prisoner statistics were 252 offenders in Victoria serving attendance centre orders, of whom 72 were pre-releasees from prison. The convicted prisoners received in Queensland for the month include 7 persons sentenced to weekend detention.

As at 1 January 1984 the actual (as opposed to daily average) numbers of prisoners in custody in each jurisdiction and the proportion of these who were on remand are shown in the table below. The number of Federal prisoners in custody in each jurisdiction at 31 December 1983 are also shown in this table.

	<u>Total Prisoners</u>	<u>Federal Prisoners</u>	<u>Prisoners on Remand</u>	<u>Percentage of Remandees</u>	<u>Remandees per 100,000 of General Population</u>
N.S.W.	3672	159	502	13.7	9.0
VIC.	1913	49	188	9.8	4.7
QLD	1715	31	99	5.8	4.0
W.A.	1363	28	115	8.4	8.6
S.A.	640	16*	109	17.0	8.0
TAS.	239	2	16	6.7	3.7
N.T.	251	14	37	14.7	27.8
A.C.T.	55	-	10	18.2	4.2
AUST.	9848	299	1076	10.9	6.9

* 4 of the Federal prisoners in South Australia were transferred from the Northern Territory.

COMMENTS

1. For the second month in a row the total number of prisoners in Australia decreased slightly during January 1984, with the major decreases occurring in South Australia (almost certainly as a result of new parole legislation), in Victoria and in Tasmania. The national imprisonment rate has dropped from 66.0 to 63.8 over the past two months.

2. In addition to the overall tendency towards lower prison populations, the numbers of unconvicted prisoners on remand in most jurisdictions were also lower on 1 January 1984 than they were one month earlier.

3. It is pleasing to note that this edition of Australian Prison Trends contains, for the first time in many months, full information about the numbers of sentenced prisoners received in each jurisdiction as well as basic data on the numbers of Federal prisoners.

Compiled by David Biles
Assistant Director (Research)

29 February 1984



AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE OF CRIMINOLOGY

Director: Professor Richard W. Harding

AUSTRALIAN PRISON TRENDS - NO. 93

The daily average numbers of persons (to the nearest whole number) held in custody during February 1984 with changes in the totals over the past month and over the past year are:

	February			Changes since	
	Males	Females	Total	Jan. 1984	Feb. 1983
N.S.W.	3305	161	3466	- 223	+ 9
VIC.	1873	67	1940	+ 18	+ 93
QLD	1733	46	1779	+ 50	+ 127
W.A.	1400	69	1469	+ 55	- 91
S.A.	639	28	667	+ 9	- 108
TAS.	211	9	220	- 9	- 5
N.T.	269	14	283*	+ 25	+ 44
A.C.T.	62	2	64**	+ 10	+ 12
AUST.	9492	396	9888	- 65	+ 81

* 2 prisoners in this total were serving sentences in S.A. prisons.

** 43 prisoners (including 1 female) in this total were serving sentences in N.S.W. prisons.

The table below shows the number of sentenced prisoners received in each jurisdiction during February 1984 as well as the imprisonment rates (prisoners per 100,000 population) based on daily averages.

	Sentenced Prisoners Received	Daily Average Prisoners (as above)	General Population* (in thousands)	Imprisonment Rates
N.S.W.	206**	3466	5636	61.5
VIC.	515	1940	4005	48.4
QLD	365	1779	2482	71.7
W.A.	322	1469	1345	109.2
S.A.	323	667	1366	48.8
TAS.	48	220	433	50.8
N.T.	116	283	134	211.2
A.C.T.	-	64	236	27.1
AUST.	1895	9888	15637	63.2

* Projected Population end of February 1984 derived from Australian Demographic Statistics Quarterly (Catalogue No. 3101.0)

** Comprising 114 Fine Defaulters and 92 Sentenced Prisoners.

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Work Release, Periodic Detention and Attendance Centre Data

In many jurisdictions small numbers of prisoners on work release programs are included in the daily average number of prisoners. Some of these figures are: 98 in New South Wales, 6 in Queensland and 15 in Western Australia. Excluded from the prisoner statistics were 247 offenders in Victoria serving attendance centre orders, of whom 71 were pre-releasees from prison. The convicted prisoners received in Queensland for the month include 10 persons sentenced to weekend detention.

As at 1 February 1984 the actual (as opposed to daily average) numbers of prisoners in custody in each jurisdiction and the proportion of these who were on remand are shown in the table below:

	<u>Total Prisoners</u>	<u>Prisoners on Remand</u>	<u>Percentage of Remandees</u>	<u>Remandees per 100,000 of General Population</u>
N.S.W.	3687	556	15.1	9.9
VIC.	1936	208	10.7	5.2
QLD	1780	167	9.4	6.7
W.A.	1416	152	10.7	11.3
S.A.	648	115	17.7	8.4
TAS.	219	2	0.9	0.5
N.T.	265	57	21.5	42.9
A.C.T.	61	18	29.5	7.6
AUST.	10012	1275	12.7	8.2

COMMENTS

1. The most striking aspect of the February 1984 data is the large decrease in the numbers of prisoners in New South Wales, together with the drop in the numbers of sentenced prisoners received in that State. These changes were almost certainly due to a protracted industrial dispute which occurred during this time.

2. In all other jurisdictions except Tasmania there were small increases in numbers during February. There has also been a marked increase in the numbers of unconvicted prisoners on remand in all jurisdictions except Tasmania. On 1 February remandees comprised 12.7 percent of the total prison population compared with 10.9 percent one month earlier.

3. The Institute has just published another edition of Prison Statistics for Asia and the Pacific which contains data from 12 countries. Copies are available on request.

Compiled by David Biles
Assistant Director (Research)

28 March 1984



AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE OF CRIMINOLOGY

Director: Professor Richard W. Harding

AUSTRALIAN PRISON TRENDS - NO. 94

The daily average numbers of persons (to the nearest whole number) held in custody during March 1984 with changes in the totals over the past month and over the past year are:

	March			Changes since	
	Males	Females	Total	Feb. 1984	Mar. 1983
N.S.W.	3002	140	3142	- 324	- 386
VIC.	1889	73	1962	+ 22	+ 85
QLD	1737	43	1780	+ 1	+ 76
W.A.	1414	67	1481	+ 12	- 124
S.A.	637	22	659	- 8	- 142
TAS.	225	8	233	+ 13	+ 31
N.T.	259	15	274*	- 9	+ 16
A.C.T.	52	1	53**	- 11	- 1
AUST.	9215	369	9584	- 304	- 445

* 2 prisoners in this total were serving sentences in S.A. prisons.

** 38 prisoners (including 1 female) in this total were serving sentences in N.S.W. prisons.

The table below shows the number of sentenced prisoners received in each jurisdiction during March 1984 as well as the imprisonment rates (prisoners per 100,000 population) based on daily averages.

	Sentenced Prisoners Received	Daily Average Prisoners (as above)	General Population* (in thousands)	Imprisonment Rates
N.S.W.	787**	3142	5652	55.6
VIC.	335	1962	4006	49.0
QLD	300	1780	2488	71.5
W.A.	326	1481	1346	110.0
S.A.	293	659	1368	48.2
TAS.	82	233	433	53.8
N.T.	113	274	134	204.5
A.C.T.	-	53	237	22.4
AUST.	2236	9584	15664	61.2

* Projected Population end of March 1984 derived from Australian Demographic Statistics Quarterly (Catalogue No. 3101.0)

** Comprising 324 Fine Defaulters and 463 Sentenced Prisoners.

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Work Release, Periodic Detention and Attendance Centre Data

In many jurisdictions small numbers of prisoners on work release programs are included in the daily average number of prisoners. Some of these figures are: 100 in New South Wales, 7 in Queensland and 13 in Western Australia. Excluded from the prisoner statistics were 254 offenders in Victoria serving attendance centre orders, of whom 52 were pre-releasees from prison. The convicted prisoners received in Queensland for the month include 1 person sentenced to weekend detention.

As at 1 March 1984 the actual (as opposed to daily average) numbers of prisoners in custody in each jurisdiction and the proportion of these who were on remand are shown in the table below:

	<u>Total Prisoners</u>	<u>Prisoners on Remand</u>	<u>Percentage of Remandees</u>	<u>Remandees per 100,000 of General Population</u>
N.S.W.	2943	513	17.4	9.1
VIC.	1964	186	9.5	4.6
QLD	1780	125	7.0	5.0
W.A.	1481	155	10.5	11.5
S.A.	672	133	19.8	9.7
TAS.	229	8	3.5	1.8
N.T.	281	57	20.3	42.5
A.C.T.	49	12	24.5	5.1
AUST.	9399	1189	12.7	7.6

COMMENTS

1. There has been a further decrease in the numbers of prisoners in Australia during March 1984. This is almost entirely due to the reduced numbers in New South Wales which came about as a result of additional remissions being granted during a protracted industrial dispute which lasted until 12 March.

2. Trends over a twelve month period show that New South Wales, South Australia and Western Australia have markedly reduced their prison populations, while increases are shown for Victoria and Queensland. Overall, the national imprisonment rate for March 1984 of 61.2 is the lowest found since this series started in May 1976. The differences in rates between jurisdictions are, however, almost as large as has been found at any time.

Compiled by David Biles
Assistant Director (Research)
Assisted by Marjorie Johnson



AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE OF CRIMINOLOGY

Director: Professor Richard W. Harding

AUSTRALIAN PRISON TRENDS - NO. 95

The daily average numbers of persons (to the nearest whole number) held in custody during April 1984 with changes in the totals over the past month and over the past year are:

	April			Changes since	
	Males	Females	Total	Mar. 1984	Apr. 1983
N.S.W.	3156	146	3302	+ 160	- 226
VIC.	1913	70	1983	+ 21	+ 106
QLD	1772	42	1814	+ 34	+ 110
W.A.	1427	67	1494	+ 13	- 111
S.A.	596	12	608	- 51	- 193
TAS.	234	6	240	+ 7	+ 38
N.T.	262	14	276*	+ 2	+ 18
A.C.T.	54	2	56**	+ 3	+ 2
AUST.	9414	359	9773	+ 189	- 256

* 2 prisoners in this total were serving sentences in S.A. prisons.

** 41 prisoners (including 1 female) in this total were serving sentences in N.S.W. prisons.

The table below shows the number of sentenced prisoners received in each jurisdiction during April 1984 as well as the imprisonment rates (prisoners per 100,000 population) based on daily averages.

	Sentenced Prisoners Received	Daily Average Prisoners (as above)	General Population* (in thousands)	Imprisonment Rates
N.S.W.	776**	3302	5667	58.3
VIC.	326	1983	4007	49.5
QLD	285	1814	2494	72.7
W.A.	322	1494	1370	109.1
S.A.	274	608	1347	45.1
TAS.	58	240	434	55.3
N.T.	123	276	135	204.4
A.C.T.	-	56	237	23.6
AUST.	2164	9773	15691	62.3

* Projected Population end of April 1984 derived from Australian Demographic Statistics Quarterly (Catalogue No. 3107.0)

** Comprising 426 Fine Defaulters and 350 Sentenced Prisoners.

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Work Release, Periodic Detention and Attendance Centre Data

In many jurisdictions small numbers of prisoners on work release programs are included in the daily average number of prisoners. Some of these figures are: 99 in New South Wales, 23 in Queensland and 12 in Western Australia. Excluded from the prisoner statistics were 273 offenders in Victoria serving attendance centre orders, of whom 99 were pre-releasees from prison.

As at 1 April 1984 the actual (as opposed to daily average) numbers of prisoners in custody in each jurisdiction and the proportion of these who were on remand are shown in the table below. The number of Federal prisoners in custody in each jurisdiction at 1 April 1984 are also shown in this table.

	<u>Total Prisoners</u>	<u>Federal Prisoners</u>	<u>Prisoners on Remand</u>	<u>Percentage of Remandees</u>	<u>Remandees per 100,000 of General Population</u>
N.S.W.	3349	144	639	19.1	11.3
VIC.	2017	48	163	8.1	4.1
QLD	1815	28	131	7.2	5.3
W.A.	1500	28	161	10.7	11.8
S.A.	629	12*	141	22.4	10.5
TAS.	239	1	15	6.3	3.5
N.T.	275	13	42	15.3	31.3
A.C.T.	52	-	12	23.1	5.1
AUST.	9876	274	1304	13.2	8.3

* 4 of the Federal prisoners in South Australia were transferred from the Northern Territory.

COMMENTS

1. During the month of April 1984 there was a significant increase in the number of prisoners in Australia. This increase was almost totally the result of higher numbers in New South Wales. On the other hand the figures for South Australia have shown a marked decrease during this period. This change has brought the South Australian imprisonment rate well below that of any other State, but not as low as that of the A.C.T.
2. Notwithstanding the overall increase in numbers during April the national figure is still lower than it was twelve months earlier. This is also the case in New South Wales, Western Australia and South Australia.
3. The data in the statistical table above include the numbers of Federal prisoners in each jurisdiction. From this table it can also be seen that on 1 April 1984 13.2 per cent of Australian prisoners were unconvicted remandees. This is a higher proportion than is usually found.

Compiled by David Biles
Assistant Director (Research)
Assisted by Marjorie Johnson



AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE OF CRIMINOLOGY

Director: Professor Richard W. Harding

AUSTRALIAN PRISON TRENDS - NO. 96

The daily average numbers of persons (to the nearest whole number) held in custody during May 1984 with changes in the totals over the past month and over the past year are:

	May			Changes since	
	Males	Females	Total	Apr. 1984	May 1983
N.S.W.	3021	144	3165	- 137	- 296
VIC.	1888	65	1953	- 30	+ 31
QLD	1731	45	1776	- 38	+ 100
W.A.	1457	67	1524	+ 30	- 7
S.A.	577	17	594	- 14	- 193
TAS.	235	6	241	+ 1	+ 29
N.T.	269	13	282*	+ 6	+ 12
A.C.T.	65	3	68**	+ 12	+ 9
AUST.	9243	360	9603	- 170	- 315

* 2 prisoners in this total were serving sentences in S.A. prisons.

** 45 prisoners (including 1 female) in this total were serving sentences in N.S.W. prisons.

The table below shows the number of sentenced prisoners received in each jurisdiction during May 1984 as well as the imprisonment rates (prisoners per 100,000 population) based on daily averages.

	Sentenced Prisoners Received	Daily Average Prisoners (as above)	General Population* (in thousands)	Imprisonment Rates
N.S.W.	791**	3165	5683	55.7
VIC.	472	1953	4009	48.7
QLD	378	1776	2500	71.0
W.A.	394	1524	1373	111.0
S.A.	314	594	1348	44.1
TAS.	71	241	434	55.5
N.T.	111	282	135	208.9
A.C.T.	-	68	238	28.6
AUST.	2531	9603	15720	61.1

* Projected Population end of May 1984 derived from Australian Demographic Statistics Quarterly (Catalogue No. 3101.0)

** Comprising 401 Fine Defaulters and 390 Sentenced Prisoners.

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Work Release, Periodic Detention and Attendance Centre Data

In many jurisdictions small numbers of prisoners on work release programs are included in the daily average number of prisoners. Some of these figures are: 80 in New South Wales, 17 in Queensland and 9 in Western Australia. Excluded from the prisoner statistics were 285 offenders in Victoria serving attendance centre orders at the end of May, of whom 136 were pre-releasees from prison.

As at 1 May 1984 the actual (as opposed to daily average) numbers of prisoners in custody in each jurisdiction and the proportion of these who were on remand are shown in the table below:

	<u>Total Prisoners</u>	<u>Prisoners on Remand</u>	<u>Percentage of Remandees</u>	<u>Remandees per 100,000 of General Population</u>
N.S.W.	3226	592	18.4	10.4
VIC.	1966	181	9.2	4.5
QLD	1812	127	7.0	5.1
W.A.	1421	136	9.6	9.9
S.A.	620	136	21.9	10.1
TAS.	236	11	4.7	2.5
N.T.	279	43	15.4	31.9
A.C.T.	62	19	30.6	8.0
AUST.	9622	1245	12.9	7.9

COMMENTS

1. During the month of May 1984 there was an overall decrease in the number of prisoners in Australia, which very nearly compensated for the increase that had occurred in the previous month. The most significant decrease occurred in New South Wales, but there was a small increase in numbers in Western Australia and in the two Territories.

2. The most noticeable changes in the past twelve months have been the decreasing numbers in New South Wales and South Australia and the increase in Queensland. The South Australian imprisonment rate of 44.1 is the lowest recorded for any State for over two years. The national rate of 61.1 is also the lowest recorded since this series was started in May 1976.

3. On 1 May 1984 the total number of unconvicted prisoners on remand was lower than one month earlier. The remand numbers decreased in nearly all jurisdictions, but there were small increases in Victoria and the two Territories.

Compiled by David Biles
Deputy Director
Assisted by Marjorie Johnson

29 June 1984



AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE OF CRIMINOLOGY

Director: Professor Richard W. Harding

AUSTRALIAN PRISON TRENDS - NO. 97

The daily average numbers of persons (to the nearest whole number) held in custody during June 1984 with changes in the totals over the past month and over the past year are:

	June			Changes since	
	Males	Females	Total	May 1984	June 1983
N.S.W.	2927	151	3078	- 87	- 401
VIC.	1870	62	1932	- 21	- 32
QLD	1790	42	1832	+ 56	+ 160
W.A.	1463	69	1532	+ 8	+ 19
S.A.	540	17	557	- 37	- 216
TAS.	234	6	240	- 1	+ 32
N.T.	243	14	257*	- 25	- 16
A.C.T.	60	3	63**	- 5	+ 1
AUST.	9127	364	9491	- 112	- 453

* 1 prisoner in this total was serving sentence in an S.A. prison.

** 43 prisoners (including 1 female) in this total were serving sentences in N.S.W. prisons.

The table below shows the number of sentenced prisoners received in each jurisdiction during June 1984 as well as the imprisonment rates (prisoners per 100,000 population) based on daily averages.

	Sentenced Prisoners Received	Daily Average Prisoners (as above)	General Population* (in thousands)	Imprisonment Rates
N.S.W.	821**	3078	5698	54.0
VIC.	357	1932	4010	48.2
QLD	352	1832	2506	73.1
W.A.	-	1532	1375	111.4
S.A.	264	557	1349	41.3
TAS.	53	240	434	55.3
N.T.	88	257	135	109.4
A.C.T.	-	63	238	26.5
AUST.	-	9491	15745	60.3

* Projected Population end of June 1984 derived from Australian Demographic Statistics Quarterly (Catalogue No. 3101.0)

** Comprising 400 Fine Defaulters and 421 Sentenced Prisoners.

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Work Release, Periodic Detention and Attendance Centre Data

In many jurisdictions small numbers of prisoners on work release programs are included in the daily average number of prisoners. Some of these figures are: 62 in New South Wales, 7 in Queensland and 7 in Western Australia. Excluded from the prisoner statistics were 289 offenders in Victoria serving attendance centre orders at the end of June, of whom 198 were pre-releasees from prison.

As at 1 June 1984 the actual (as opposed to daily average) numbers of prisoners in custody in each jurisdiction and the proportion of these who were on remand are shown in the table below:

	<u>Total Prisoners</u>	<u>Prisoners on Remand</u>	<u>Percentage of Remandees</u>	<u>Remandees per 100,000 of General Population</u>
N.S.W.	3086	604	19.6	10.6
VIC.	1933	178	9.2	4.4
QLD	1776	104	5.9	4.2
W.A.	1510	137	9.1	10.0
S.A.	576	125	21.7	9.3
TAS.	244	17	7.0	3.9
N.T.	286	53	18.5	39.3
A.C.T.	66	24	36.4	10.1
AUST.	9477	1242	13.1	7.9

COMMENTS

1. The number of prisoners fell in nearly all jurisdictions during June 1984, but there were changes in the opposite direction in Queensland and Western Australia. Compared with one year earlier the total number of prisoners was considerably lower with the major decreases occurring in New South Wales and South Australia.

2. Significant differences in imprisonment rates between jurisdictions continue to be observed, but for June 1984 it is notable that only the Northern Territory, Western Australia and Queensland had higher rates than the national rate of 60.3. Also of interest is the very low rate for South Australia.

3. The numbers of unconvicted prisoners on remand have changed little from 1 May to 1 June 1984, but there was a slight decrease in Queensland and small increases in Tasmania and the Northern Territory. It is also notable that the A.C.T. on 1 June had a remand rate higher than the national rate.

Compiled by David Biles
Deputy Director
Assisted by Marjorie Johnson

2 August 1984



AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE OF CRIMINOLOGY

Director: Professor Richard W. Harding

AUSTRALIAN PRISON TRENDS - NO. 98

The daily average numbers of persons (to the nearest whole number) held in custody during July 1984 with changes in the totals over the past month and over the past year are:

	July			Changes since	
	Males	Females	Total	June 1984	July 1983
N.S.W.	2858	153	3011	- 67	- 468
VIC.	1858	61	1919	- 13	- 85
QLD	1816	38	1854	+ 22	+ 134
W.A.	1408	67	1475	- 57	No change
S.A.	574	25	599	+ 42	- 184
TAS.	229	6	235	- 5	+ 14
N.T.	232	12	244	- 13	- 10
A.C.T.	59	2	61*	- 2	- 2
AUST.	9034	364	9398	- 93	- 601

* 42 prisoners (including 1 female) in this total were serving sentences in N.S.W. prisons.

The table below shows the number of sentenced prisoners received in each jurisdiction during July 1984 as well as the imprisonment rates (prisoners per 100,000 population) based on daily averages.

	Sentenced Prisoners Received	Daily Average Prisoners (as above)	General Population* (in thousands)	Imprisonment Rates
N.S.W.	712**	3011	5714	52.7
VIC.	341	1919	4011	47.8
QLD	300	1854	2512	73.8
W.A.	384	1475	1377	107.1
S.A.	302	599	1350	44.4
TAS.	71	235	435	54.0
N.T.	83	244	136	179.4
A.C.T.	-	61	239	25.5
AUST.	2193	9398	15774	59.6

* Projected Population end of July 1984 derived from Australian Demographic Statistics Quarterly (Catalogue No. 3101.0)

** Comprising 412 Fine Defaulters and 300 Sentenced Prisoners.

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Work Release, Periodic Detention and Attendance Centre Data

In many jurisdictions small numbers of prisoners on work release programs are included in the daily average number of prisoners. Some of these figures are: 43 in New South Wales, 7 in Queensland and 12 in Western Australia. Excluded from the prisoner statistics were 287 offenders in Victoria serving attendance centre orders and 202 pre-releasees from prison at the end of July.

As at 1 July 1984 the actual (as opposed to daily average) numbers of prisoners in custody in each jurisdiction are shown in the table below. This table also shows the number of Federal prisoners in each jurisdiction, and the numbers of unconvicted prisoners on remand. The percentage of remandees and the remand rate (remandees per 100,000) are also shown.

	<u>Total Prisoners</u>	<u>Federal Prisoners</u>	<u>Prisoners on Remand</u>	<u>Percentage of Remandees</u>	<u>Remand Rate</u>
N.S.W.	3042	102	580	19.1	10.2
VIC.	1916	39	173	9.0	4.3
QLD	1864	26	148	7.9	5.9
W.A.	1539	25	117	7.6	8.5
S.A.	564	12*	118	20.9	8.8
TAS.	241	1	18	7.5	4.2
N.T.	242	13	41	16.9	30.4
A.C.T.	55	-	16	29.1	6.7
AUST.	9463	218	1211	12.8	7.7

* 3 of the Federal prisoners in South Australia were transferred from the Northern Territory.

COMMENTS

1. The total number of prisoners in Australia again fell during July 1984 with the national imprisonment rate coming down to 59.6. The major decreases occurred in New South Wales and Western Australia, while increases occurred during the month in South Australia and Queensland.

2. This issue of Australian Prison Trends includes details of the numbers of Federal prisoners in each jurisdiction. Hopefully, these data will be included in all future issues.

3. Apologies are offered for the typing error in Australian Prison Trends No. 97 which resulted in the imprisonment rate for the Northern Territory being shown as 109.4. The correct figure should have been 190.4. The correct figure for July is 179.4, the lowest recorded for that jurisdiction.

Compiled by David Biles
Deputy Director
Assisted by Marjorie Johnson

31 August 1984



AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE OF CRIMINOLOGY

Director: Professor Richard W. Harding

AUSTRALIAN PRISON TRENDS - NO. 99

The daily average numbers of persons (to the nearest whole number) held in custody during August 1984 with changes in the totals over the past month and over the past year are:

	August			Changes since	
	Males	Females	Total	July 1984	Aug. 1983
N.S.W.	2987	153	3140	+ 129	- 399
VIC.	1876	66	1942	+ 23	- 34
QLD	1825	39	1864	+ 10	+ 142
W.A.	1426	72	1498	+ 23	+ 24
S.A.	592	23	615	+ 16	- 158
TAS.	241	7	248	+ 13	+ 24
N.T.	230	13	243	- 1	- 15
A.C.T.	56	2	58*	- 3	- 15
AUST.	9233	375	9608	+ 210	- 431

* 44 prisoners (including 1 female) in this total were serving sentences in N.S.W. prisons.

The table below shows the number of sentenced prisoners received in each jurisdiction during August 1984 as well as the imprisonment rates (prisoners per 100,000 population) based on daily averages.

	Sentenced Prisoners Received	Daily Average Prisoners (as above)	General Population* (in thousands)	Imprisonment Rates
N.S.W.	775**	3140	5729	54.8
VIC.	449	1942	4012	48.4
QLD	370	1864	2518	74.0
W.A.	355	1498	1379	108.6
S.A.	295	615	1351	45.5
TAS.	92	248	435	57.0
N.T.	120	243	136	178.7
A.C.T.	-	58	239	24.3
AUST.	2456	9608	15799	60.8

* Projected Population end of August 1984 derived from Australian Demographic Statistics Quarterly (Catalogue No. 3101.0)

** Comprising 459 Fine Defaulters and 316 Sentenced Prisoners.

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Work Release, Periodic Detention and Attendance Centre Data

In many jurisdictions small numbers of prisoners on work release programs are included in the daily average number of prisoners. Some of these figures are: 41 in New South Wales, 15 in Queensland and 8 in Western Australia. Excluded from the prisoner statistics were 307 offenders in Victoria serving attendance centre orders and 162 pre-releasees from prison at the end of August.

As at 1 August 1984 the actual (as opposed to daily average) numbers of prisoners in custody in each jurisdiction are shown in the table below. This table also shows the number of Federal prisoners in each jurisdiction, and the numbers of unconvicted prisoners on remand. The percentage of remandees and the remand rate (remandees per 100,000) are also shown.

	<u>Total Prisoners</u>	<u>Federal Prisoners</u>	<u>Prisoners on Remand</u>	<u>Percentage of Remandees</u>	<u>Remand Rate</u>
N.S.W.	3009	97	635	21.1	11.1
VIC.	1949	38	172	8.8	4.3
QLD	1868	27	129	6.9	5.1
W.A.	1540	27	124	8.1	9.0
S.A.	613	11*	134	21.9	9.9
TAS.	236	2	12	5.1	2.8
N.T.	247	11	47	19.0	34.6
A.C.T.	56	-	16	28.6	6.7
AUST.	9518	213	1269	13.3	8.0

* 3 of the Federal prisoners in South Australia were transferred from the Northern Territory.

COMMENTS

1. All States recorded increases in the numbers of persons in prison during August 1984, with the largest increase occurring in New South Wales. The national total for that month, however, is considerably lower than it was one year earlier. Over this longer period the only large increase has occurred in Queensland.

2. Only small changes have occurred in the imprisonment rates and remand rates over the past month, but very significant differences between jurisdictions on these two measures are still to be seen.

Compiled by David Biles
Deputy Director
Assisted by Marjorie Johnson



AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE OF CRIMINOLOGY

Director: Professor Richard W. Harding

AUSTRALIAN PRISON TRENDS - NO. 100

The daily average numbers of persons (to the nearest whole number) held in custody during September 1984 with changes in the totals over the past month and over the past year are:

	September			Changes since	
	Males	Females	Total	Aug. 1984	Sept. 1983
N.S.W.	2921	163	3084	- 56	- 527
VIC.	1852	78	1930	- 12	- 25
QLD	1830	47	1877	+ 13	+ 145
W.A.	1384	52	1436	- 62	- 17
S.A.	611	24	635	+ 20	- 136
TAS.	254	7	261	+ 13	+ 28
N.T.	245	15	260	+ 17	+ 11
A.C.T.	57	2	59*	+ 1	- 1
AUST.	9154	388	9542	- 66	- 522

* 46 prisoners (including 2 females) in this total were serving sentences in N.S.W. prisons.

The table below shows the number of sentenced prisoners received in each jurisdiction during September 1984 as well as the imprisonment rates (prisoners per 100,000 population) based on daily averages.

	Sentenced Prisoners Received	Daily Average Prisoners (as above)	General Population* (in thousands)	Imprisonment Rates
N.S.W.	780**	3084	5745	53.7
VIC.	377	1930	4013	48.1
QLD	341	1877	2524	74.4
W.A.	261	1436	1382	103.9
S.A.	238	635	1352	47.0
TAS.	57	261	436	59.9
N.T.	157	260	137	189.8
A.C.T.	-	59	240	24.6
AUST.	2211	9542	15829	60.3

* Projected Population end of September 1984 derived from Australian Demographic Statistics Quarterly (Catalogue No. 3101.0)

** Comprising 364 Fine Defaulters and 416 Sentenced Prisoners.

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Work Release, Periodic Detention and Attendance Centre Data

In many jurisdictions small numbers of prisoners on work release programs are included in the daily average number of prisoners. Some of these figures are: 50 in New South Wales, 14 in Queensland and 9 in Western Australia.

As at 1 September 1984 the actual (as opposed to daily average) numbers of prisoners in custody in each jurisdiction are shown in the table below. This table also shows the number of Federal prisoners in each jurisdiction, and the numbers of unconvicted prisoners on remand. The percentage of remandees and the remand rate (remandees per 100,000) are also shown.

	<u>Total Prisoners</u>	<u>Federal Prisoners</u>	<u>Prisoners on Remand</u>	<u>Percentage of Remandees</u>	<u>Remand Rate</u>
N.S.W.	3022	96	599	19.8	10.5
VIC.	1958	36	173	8.8	4.3
QLD	1889	29	146	7.7	5.8
W.A.	1442	26	121	8.4	8.8
S.A.	620	14*	141	22.7	10.4
TAS.	257	3	19	7.4	4.4
N.T.	234	13	39	16.7	28.7
A.C.T.	61	-	16	26.2	6.7
AUST.	9483	217	1254	13.2	7.9

* 3 of the Federal prisoners in South Australia were transferred from the Northern Territory.

COMMENTS

1. During the month of September 1984 there was a slight decrease in the total number of prisoners in Australia, but compared with one year earlier the decrease was over 500. It is notable, however, that both in the short and long term the numbers have increased in Queensland, Tasmania and the Northern Territory.

2. To mark the publication of this the one hundredth edition of Australian Prison Trends, the Institute will shortly publish a volume which contains the full series. This will include an introduction which reviews the development of this series since May 1976. Copies of this volume will be forwarded to the contributing agencies.

3. As this is an historic occasion it is clearly appropriate for me to offer my warm thanks to all of the staff of the corrections departments throughout Australia who have co-operated so willingly and enthusiastically with the production of Australian Prison Trends for more than eight years.

Compiled by David Biles
Deputy Director
Assisted by Marjorie Johnson

29 October 1984