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Deaths in custody in Australia 2019–20

Laura Doherty
Tom Sullivan

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DEATHS IN CUSTODY SNAPSHOT

1991–2020

There have been **471 Indigenous deaths in custody** since the Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody

2019–2020

Indigenous and non-Indigenous deaths in custody

113

89 deaths in prison custody

13 Indigenous prisoners
76 non-Indigenous prisoners

Indigenous people were less likely than non-Indigenous people to die as a proportion of relevant prisoners, but more likely to die as a proportion of the relevant general population



Three in four
deaths were due to natural causes*

24 deaths in police custody

3 Indigenous deaths
17 non-Indigenous deaths
4 deaths where Indigenous status was missing

19 deaths occurred while police were detaining or attempting to detain the individual



16
police shootings



3
motor vehicle pursuit deaths

*of the 79 deaths for which manner of death was known

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Acronyms and abbreviations

ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics
AIC	Australian Institute of Criminology
MSO	most serious offence
MVP	motor vehicle pursuit
NCIS	National Coronial Information System
NDICP	National Deaths in Custody Program
RCIADIC	Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody

Abstract

The National Deaths in Custody Program has monitored the extent and nature of deaths occurring in prison, police custody and youth detention in Australia since 1980. The Australian Institute of Criminology has coordinated the program since its establishment in 1992, the result of a recommendation made the previous year by the Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody. In 2019–20 there were 113 deaths in custody: 89 in prison custody and 24 in police custody or custody-related operations. This report contains detailed information on these deaths and compares the findings to longer term trends.

Introduction

The National Deaths in Custody Program (NDICP) has monitored the extent and nature of deaths occurring in prison, police custody and youth detention since 1980. The NDICP was established at the Australian Institute of Criminology (AIC) in 1992 in response to recommendation 41 of the Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody (RCIADIC): ‘that statistics and other information on Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal deaths in prison, police custody and juvenile detention centres, and related matters, be monitored nationally on an ongoing basis...within the Australian Institute of Criminology’. The final report of the RCIADIC (1991, recommendation 41) outlined the types of deaths that would require notification to the NDICP. They are:

- a death, wherever occurring, of a person who is in prison custody, police custody or youth detention;
- a death, wherever occurring, of a person whose death is caused or contributed to by traumatic injuries sustained, or by lack of proper care, while in such custody or detention;
- a death, wherever occurring, of a person who dies, or is fatally injured, in the process of police or prison officers attempting to detain that person; or
- a death, wherever occurring, of a person attempting to escape from prison, police custody or youth detention.

This report examines the extent and nature of deaths occurring in prison and police custody and custody-related operations in 2019–20, and compares these findings to long-term trends. In 2019–20 there were 113 deaths in custody—89 in prison custody and 24 in police custody or custody-related operations. Definitions of these categories are presented in Box 1.

Box 1: Definitions of deaths in custody

Deaths in prison custody

Deaths in prison custody include deaths that occur in prison or youth detention facilities. This also includes the deaths that occur during transfer to or from prison or youth detention centres, or in medical facilities following transfer from adult or youth detention centres (RCIADIC 1991).

Deaths in police custody

Deaths in police custody are divided into two main categories:^a

Category 1

- (a) Deaths in institutional settings (eg police stations or lock-ups, police vehicles, during transfer to or from such an institution, or in hospitals following transfer from an institution).
- (b) Other deaths in police operations where officers were in close contact with the deceased. This would include most raids and shootings by police. However, it would not include most sieges where a perimeter was established around a premise but officers did not have such close contact with the person to be able to significantly influence or control the person's behaviour.

Category 2

Other deaths during custody-related police operations. This would cover situations where officers did not have such close contact with the person to be able to significantly influence or control the person's behaviour. It would include most sieges, as described above, and most cases where officers were attempting to detain a person—for example, a pursuit.

a: This definition of a 'death in police custody' is based on a resolution of the Australasian Police Ministers' Council in 1994. Category 1(a) deaths have been included in the NDICP since 1980, whereas police operational deaths (category 1(b) and category 2 deaths) have been collected by the NDICP since 1990

Data used for the NDICP are based on two main sources: data provided by state and territory police services and corrections departments, and coronial records accessed through the National Coronial Information System (NCIS). For more information about the NDICP and its methodology, see *Appendix A*.

In the 29 years since the RCIADIC (1991), the NDICP has recorded 471 Indigenous deaths in custody (ie prison custody, police custody and custody-related operations and youth justice).

Deaths in prison custody

2019–20 findings

In 2019–20 there were 89 deaths in prison custody (see Table B1), consistent with 2018–19 (see Table D1). This is the equal highest number of deaths in prison custody since 1979–80 (also recorded in 2018–19; see Table D1), attributable to the increasing prisoner population. The death rate increased slightly between 2018–19 and 2019–20, from 0.21 to 0.22 per 100 prisoners (see Figure 1). This was the highest death rate since 2001–02 (0.23 per 100).

The largest number of deaths in prison custody occurred in New South Wales ($n=42$), followed by Victoria ($n=13$), Western Australia ($n=12$) and Queensland ($n=11$; see Table B1). There were seven deaths in prison custody in South Australia, four in the Northern Territory and no deaths in Tasmania or the Australian Capital Territory. The death rate was highest in New South Wales (0.33 per 100), the Northern Territory (0.24 per 100) and South Australia (0.23 per 100).

Between 2018–19 and 2019–20 there were increases in the number of deaths in New South Wales (+9), South Australia (+1) and the Northern Territory (+1; see Table D1). The number of deaths decreased in Victoria (–6), Western Australia (–3) and Tasmania (–2), and remained the same in Queensland ($n=11$) and the Australian Capital Territory ($n=0$).

Indigenous status

In 2019–20 there were 13 Indigenous deaths in prison custody (see Table B1), accounting for 15 percent of deaths in prison custody over the period. In comparison, Indigenous prisoners made up 29 percent ($n=12,092$) of the Australian prisoner population at 30 June 2020 (Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) 2020). In the 29 years since the RCIADIC (1991), the NDICP has recorded 308 Indigenous deaths in prison custody (see Table C2).

The highest number of Indigenous deaths in prison custody in 2019–20 occurred in New South Wales ($n=5$), followed by Western Australia ($n=3$) and Queensland ($n=2$; see Figure 2). There was one death of an Indigenous prisoner in each of Victoria, South Australia and the Northern Territory. No Indigenous deaths occurred in Tasmania or the Australian Capital Territory. There were 76 non-Indigenous deaths in prison custody in 2019–20. The highest number of non-Indigenous deaths were in New South Wales ($n=37$), followed by Victoria ($n=12$), Queensland ($n=9$) and Western Australia ($n=9$).

The death rate of Indigenous prisoners was 0.11 per 100 Indigenous prisoners (see Table B1), or 2.46 per 100,000 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population aged 18 years and over (see Table B2). The death rate of Indigenous prisoners was highest in New South Wales (0.15 per 100 prisoners), followed by Victoria and South Australia (0.14 per 100 for each; see Table B1). In comparison, the death rate of non-Indigenous prisoners was 0.26 per 100 non-Indigenous prisoners (see Table B1), or 0.39 per 100,000 non-Indigenous population aged 18 years and over (see Table B2). It was highest for non-Indigenous prisoners in the Northern Territory (1.14 per 100 prisoners) and New South Wales (0.39 per 100; see Table B1).

Between 2018–19 and 2019–20, the number of Indigenous deaths in prison custody decreased by three (from $n=16$ to $n=13$; see Table D2) and the rate of Indigenous deaths in prison custody decreased by 15 percent (from 0.13 to 0.11 per 100; see Table D5). In comparison, non-Indigenous deaths in prison custody over this period increased in number (from $n=73$ to $n=76$; see Table D3) and rate (from 0.23 to 0.26 per 100; see Table D5). The number of non-Indigenous deaths was the highest recorded since 1979–80 (see Table D3).

The death rate of Indigenous prisoners was lower than the death rate of non-Indigenous prisoners nationally (0.11 and 0.26 per 100 respectively), and in all jurisdictions in which deaths occurred (see Table B1). The death rate of Indigenous prisoners has been lower than the death rate of non-Indigenous prisoners in each year since 2003–04 (see Figure 3).

In 1991, the RCIADIC concluded that Indigenous persons were no more likely to die in custody than non-Indigenous persons, but were significantly more likely to be arrested and imprisoned. The same remains true today. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders comprise three percent of the Australian population (ABS 2017) but, as noted earlier, make up 29 percent of the Australian prisoner population (ABS 2020). The Indigenous imprisonment rate was 13 times the rate of non-Indigenous Australians in 2020, and has increased by 36 percent over the last decade, compared with an 18 percent increase for non-Indigenous persons (ABS 2020).

Sex

Eighty-six male and three female prisoners died in prison custody in 2019–20, representing a death rate of 0.23 and 0.10 per 100 relevant prisoners respectively (see Table B1). Between 2018–19 and 2019–20, the death rate increased for both male prisoners (from 0.22 to 0.23 per 100) and female prisoners (from 0.06 to 0.10 per 100; see Table D6).

Of the 86 male prisoner deaths in 2019–20, 11 were of Indigenous prisoners. This represents a death rate of 0.10 per 100 prisoners (see Table B1) or 4.21 per 100,000 relevant population (see Table B2). In comparison, 75 non-Indigenous male prisoners died, representing a death rate of 0.28 per 100 prisoners (see Table B1) or 0.78 per 100,000 relevant population (see Table B2). Of the three female prisoner deaths over this period, two were of Indigenous prisoners and one was of a non-Indigenous prisoner. This represents a death rate of 0.18 and 0.05 per 100 prisoners respectively (see Table B1), or 0.75 and 0.01 per 100,000 relevant population respectively (see Table B2).

The number of male prisoner deaths in custody has been higher than the number of female prisoner deaths in custody in each year since 1979–80 (see Table D4). This reflects the composition of the total Australian prisoner population (ABS 2000–19b, 2020). For every female death in prison custody since 1979–80, there have been approximately 24.7 male deaths in prison custody. In comparison, for every female imprisoned in Australia at 30 June 2020, there were approximately 12.1 males imprisoned (ABS 2020).

Age

The median age at time of death for prisoners in 2019–20 was 56 years (see Table B1), while the median age of all prisoners in Australia at 30 June 2020 was 35 years (ABS 2020). The median age at time of death was lower for Indigenous prisoners than for non-Indigenous prisoners (40 years vs 58 years). In comparison, the median age of all Indigenous prisoners was 32 years and of all non-Indigenous prisoners was 37 years (ABS 2020).

In 2019–20, prisoners aged 55 years and over accounted for just over half of all deaths in prison custody (52%, $n=46$), representing a death rate of 1.33 per 100 prisoners aged 55 years and over (see Table B1). This was the greatest number of deaths in this age category in all years of deaths in custody data (see Table D7), attributable to the aging prisoner population.

Indigenous deaths in prison custody were of prisoners in all age categories, with one in the 18–24 years category and four in each of the other categories: 25–39 years, 40–54 years and 55 years and over. The death rate for Indigenous prisoners was highest among those aged 55 years and over (1.09 per 100; see Table B1). In comparison, over half of non-Indigenous deaths in prison custody were of prisoners aged 55 years and over (55%, $n=42$). The death rate for non-Indigenous prisoners was also highest among those aged 55 years and over (1.36 per 100; see Table B1).

Legal status

In 2019–20, 75 percent ($n=67$) of deaths in prison custody were of sentenced prisoners (see Table B1). This represents a 19 percent increase in the proportion of sentenced prisoners compared with 2018–19 (63%, $n=55$; see Table D11). Sixty-eight percent ($n=27,849$) of all prisoners in Australia were serving a sentence at 30 June 2020 (ABS 2020).

In 2019–20, the death rate of unsentenced prisoners was lower than that of sentenced prisoners (0.17 and 0.24 per 100 respectively; see Table B1). This was the sixth year since 1979–80 that the death rate of unsentenced prisoners was lower than that of sentenced prisoners (see Table D12). The death rate was higher for unsentenced Indigenous prisoners than it was for sentenced Indigenous prisoners (0.12 and 0.10 per 100 respectively; see Table B1). In comparison, the death rate was lower for unsentenced non-Indigenous prisoners than it was for sentenced non-Indigenous prisoners (0.19 and 0.30 per 100 respectively).

The death rate of unsentenced prisoners reached a peak of 1.16 per 100 in 1983–84 (see Figure 4). The peak death rate of sentenced prisoners, recorded in 1989–90, 1996–97 and 1997–98, was 0.28 per 100.

Cause of death

The cause of death was recorded for 81 of the 89 deaths in prison custody in 2019–20. Of these, nearly three-quarters were due to natural causes (73%, $n=59$; see Table B1), the greatest number of natural cause deaths in all 41 years of deaths in custody data (see Table D13). The other 22 deaths were due to hanging and associated complications (14%, $n=11$), external trauma (7%, $n=6$), alcohol and/or drugs (4%, $n=3$) and other or multiple causes (2%, $n=2$; see Table B1). Consistent with 2018–19, most natural cause deaths were of prisoners aged 55 years and over (71%, $n=42$) and most hanging deaths were of prisoners aged under 55 years (73%, $n=8$).

Most natural cause deaths were of sentenced prisoners (81%, $n=48$), and the natural cause death rate was also higher among sentenced than unsentenced prisoners (0.17 and 0.02 per 100 respectively). While the proportion of hanging deaths was higher for sentenced than unsentenced prisoners (55%, $n=6$ vs 45%, $n=5$), the hanging death rate was lower among sentenced than unsentenced prisoners (0.02 and 0.04 per 100 respectively).

The cause of death was recorded for nine of the 13 Indigenous prisoners and 72 of the 76 non-Indigenous prisoners who died in custody in 2019–20. Natural causes were the most common cause of death for both Indigenous (89%, $n=8$) and non-Indigenous prisoners (71%, $n=51$; see Table B1). The natural cause death rate was higher for non-Indigenous than Indigenous prisoners (0.18 and 0.07 per 100 respectively). Of the eight natural cause deaths of Indigenous prisoners, three were due to cancer, one to a digestive condition and one to another condition. The specific cause of death was not recorded for the other three deaths. Of the 46 natural cause deaths of non-Indigenous prisoners for which a specific cause of death was recorded, the largest proportion were due to cancer (39%, $n=18$) or heart disease or related ailments (30%, $n=14$).

All of the 11 deaths attributed to hanging and associated complications were of non-Indigenous prisoners. Consistent with previous years, most hanging deaths (64%, $n=7$) involved the use of sheets, and the most common hanging point was a cell fitting other than cell bars (45%, $n=5$), such as a cell door. In 2019–20, cell bars were used as a hanging point in two deaths. The number of hanging deaths in which cell bars were used as the hanging point has decreased since 2004–05, accounting for no more than three deaths per year.

The number of natural cause deaths has exceeded the number of hanging deaths since 2001–02 (see Table D13). Between 2018–19 and 2019–20, there was an increase in the number (51 vs 59; see Table D13) and rate (0.12 vs 0.14 per 100; see Table D16) of natural cause deaths.

The rate of hanging deaths has remained the same since 2015–16 (0.03 per 100 prisoners; see Table D16). This represents an 86 percent decrease since the rate of hanging deaths reached its peak in 1983–84 (see Figure 5). The rate of Indigenous hanging deaths has remained the same or lower than the rate of non-Indigenous hanging deaths in all but one year over the last decade (see Figure 6).

Manner of death

The NDICP collects information on both the cause and manner of each death. Cause of death information relates to the direct cause of death, whereas the manner of death refers to the accountability or responsibility for the death (see *Appendix A*).

In 2019–20 the manner of death was recorded for 79 deaths in prison custody. Of these, natural causes were the most common manner of death (75%, $n=59$), exceeding self-inflicted deaths (19%, $n=15$) for the seventeenth year in a row (see Table D18). As with cause of death, this was the greatest number of deaths attributed to natural causes for all 41 years of deaths in custody data. Three other deaths in 2019–20 were attributed to unlawful (prisoner-on-prisoner) homicide and two to accidents (see Table B1).

The death rate was highest for natural cause deaths (0.14 per 100), exceeding that of self-inflicted deaths (0.04 per 100; see Table B1). The death rate for natural cause deaths has exceeded that of self-inflicted deaths since 2004–05 (see Figure 7). Consistent with 2018–19, the rate of death attributable to natural causes was higher for non-Indigenous prisoners than for Indigenous prisoners (0.18 vs 0.07 per 100), as was the rate of self-inflicted deaths (0.05 vs 0.01 per 100; see Table B1).

Of the 15 self-inflicted deaths, 11 were due to hanging and related complications, two were due to external trauma and one was due to other or multiple causes (see Table B3). The cause of death was not recorded for one self-inflicted death. Of the three unlawful homicides, all were attributed to external trauma. Finally, one of the two accidents was attributed to external trauma, and the second to other or multiple causes.

Most serious offence

The NDICP collects information on the most serious offence (MSO) leading to custody (see *Appendix A*). Of the 89 persons who died in prison custody in 2019–20, most had been incarcerated for a violent offence (75%, $n=67$), followed by drug-related offences (12%, $n=11$; see Table B1). Similarly, most prisoners in Australia at 30 June 2020 were incarcerated for a violent offence (58%, $n=23,770$; ABS 2020). Violent offences have been the most common MSO recorded for those who died in prison custody for each year since 1993–94 (see Table D22). Most Indigenous and non-Indigenous prisoners who died in custody in 2019–20 had been incarcerated for a violent offence (69%, $n=9$ and 76%, $n=58$, respectively).

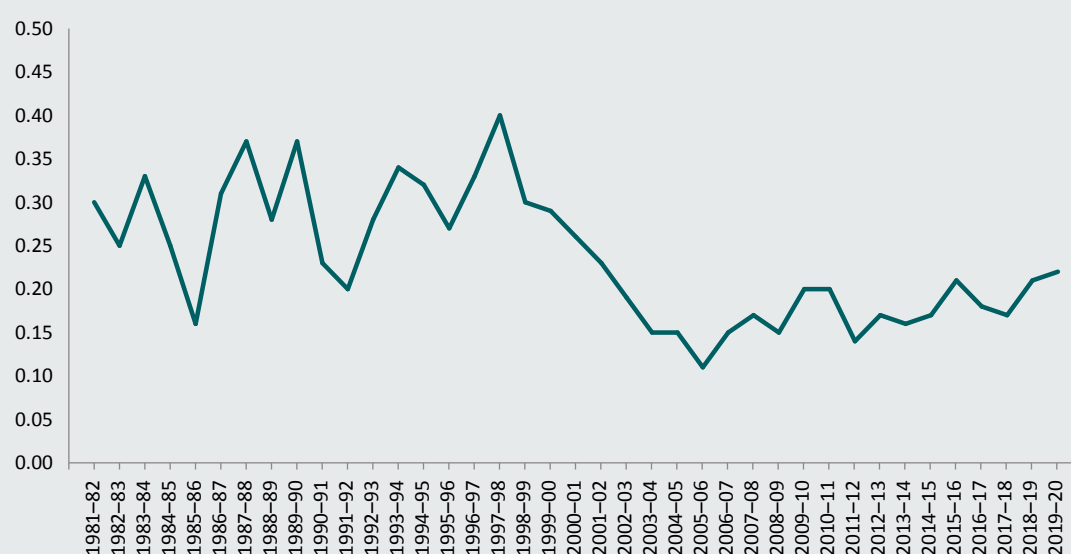
Location of death

In 2019–20, the most common location at time of death was a public hospital (43%, $n=38$), followed by a cell (34%, $n=30$) and a prison hospital (16%, $n=14$; see Table B1). Seven Indigenous and 31 non-Indigenous prisoners died in a public hospital, while six Indigenous and 24 non-Indigenous prisoners died in a cell. Since 1979–80, 50 percent ($n=970$) of prison deaths have occurred in a cell (see Table D25).

Type of prison

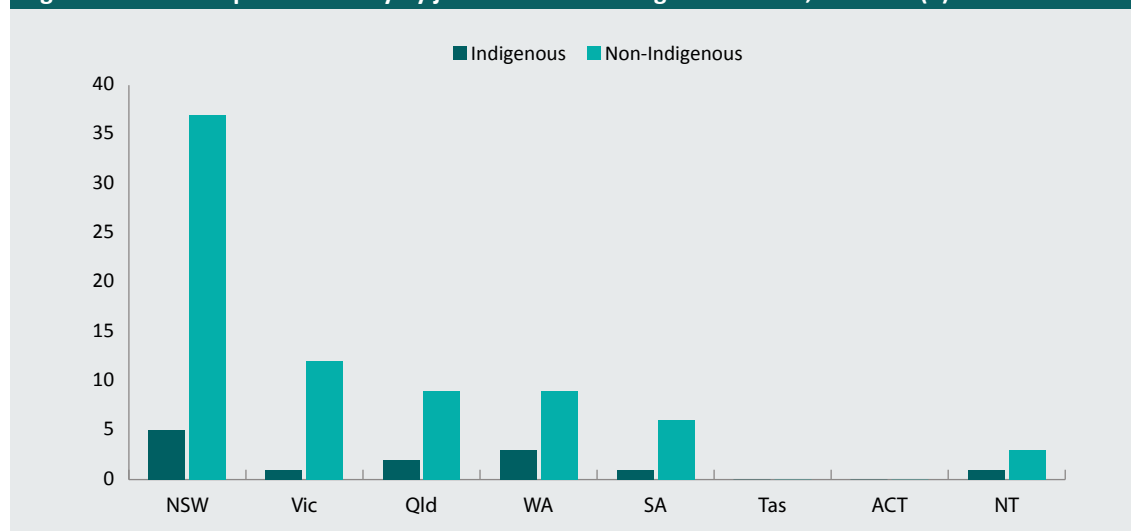
In 2019–20, most deaths in prison custody occurred while the prisoner was in the custody of a government run prison (85%, $n=76$; see Table B1). Fewer deaths occurred while the prisoner was in the custody of a privately run prison (15%, $n=13$). This was the lowest proportion of deaths in privately run prisons since 2009–10 (see Table D26). Based on prison population estimates from the Steering Committee for the Review of Government Service Provision (2021), the rate of death was lower in privately run prisons than in government run prisons (0.15 and 0.22 per 100 respectively; see Table B1).

Figure 1: Deaths in prison custody, 1981–82 to 2019–20 (rate per 100 prisoners)



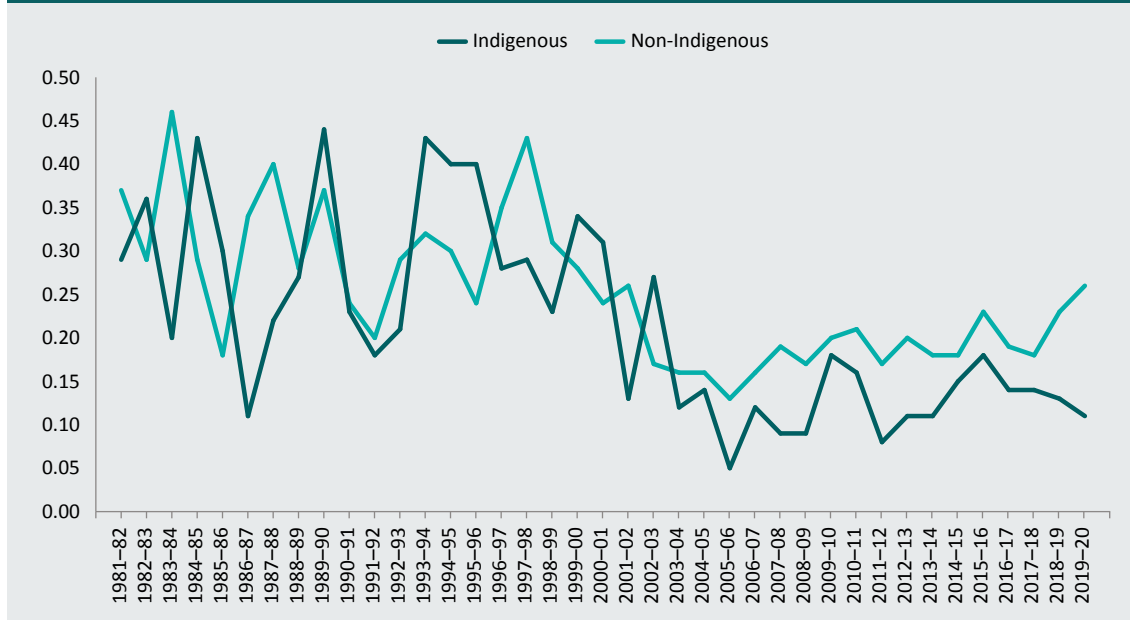
Source: AIC NDICP 1981–2020 [computer file]; see Table D5

Figure 2: Deaths in prison custody by jurisdiction and Indigenous status, 2019–20 (n)



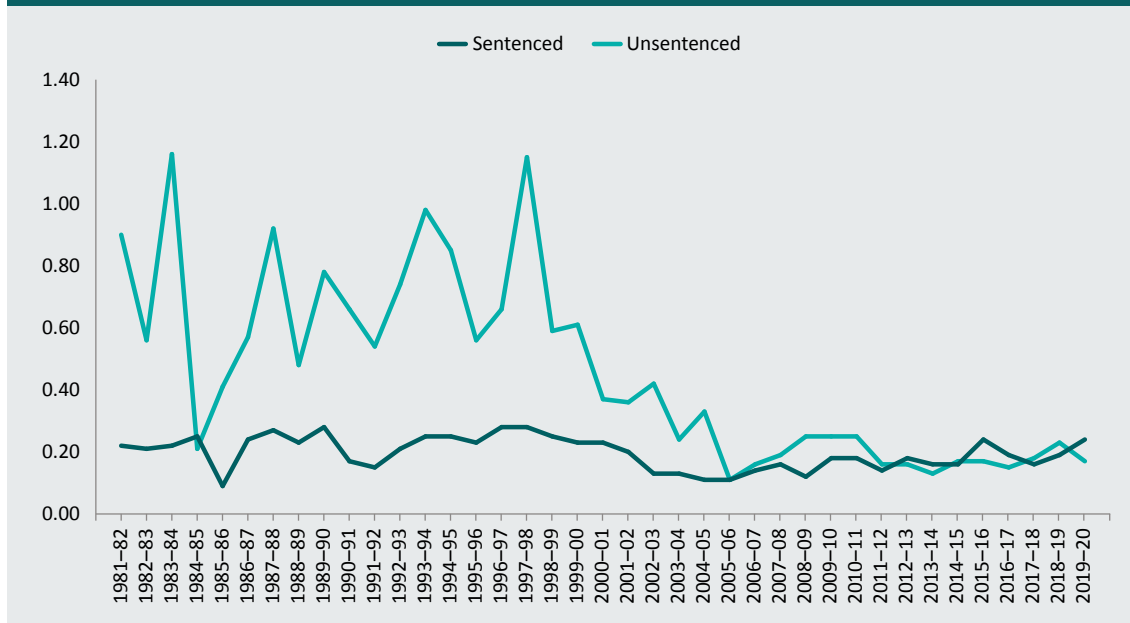
Source: AIC NDICP 2019–20 [computer file]; see Table B1

Figure 3: Deaths in prison custody by Indigenous status, 1981–82 to 2019–20 (rate per 100 relevant prisoners)



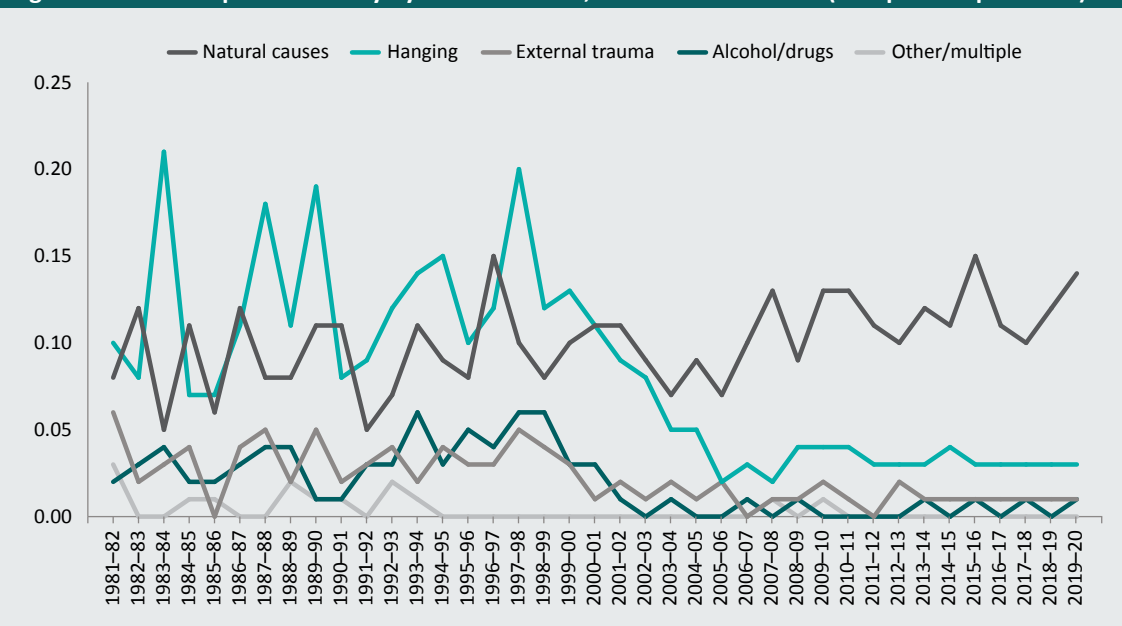
Source: AIC NDICP 1981–2020 [computer file]; see Table D5

Figure 4: Deaths in prison custody by legal status, 1981–82 to 2019–20 (rate per 100 relevant prisoners)



Source: AIC NDICP 1981–2020 [computer file]; see Table D12

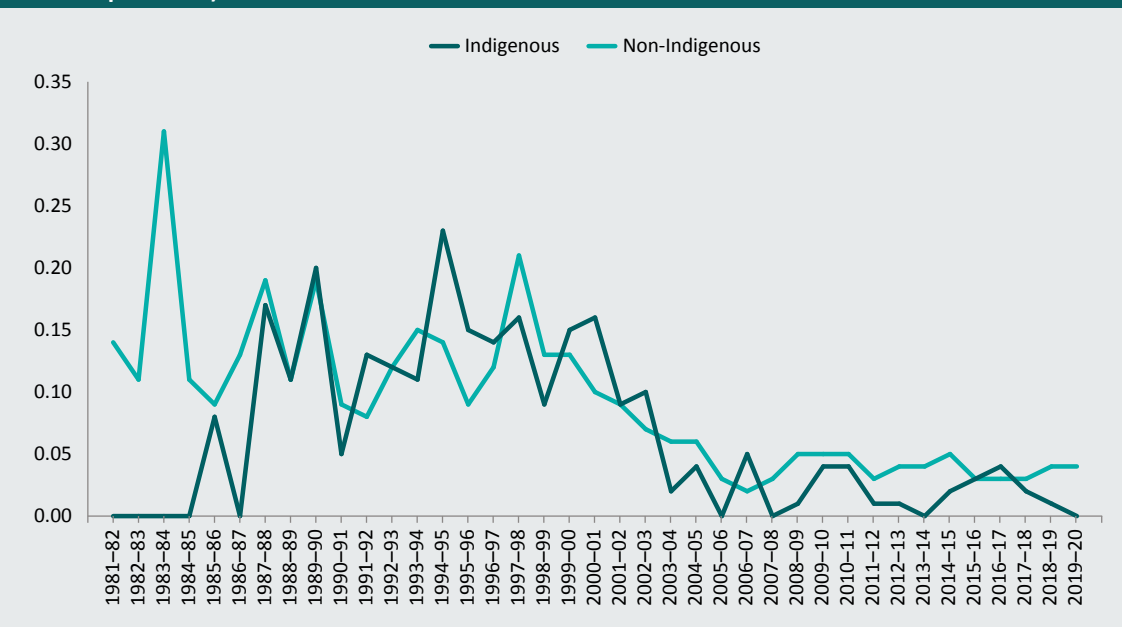
Figure 5: Deaths in prison custody by cause of death, 1981–82 to 2019–20 (rate per 100 prisoners)



Note: External trauma includes head injuries and gunshot wounds

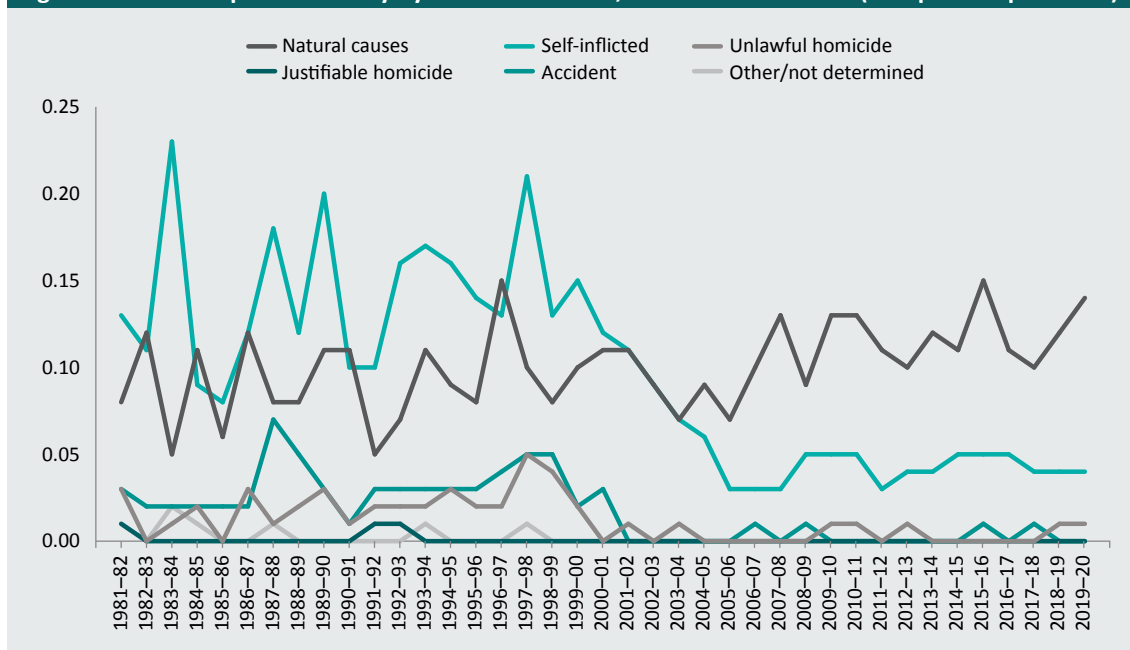
Source: AIC NDICP 1981–2020 [computer file]; see Table D16

Figure 6: Hanging deaths in prison custody by Indigenous status, 1981–82 to 2019–20 (rate per 100 relevant prisoners)



Source: AIC NDICP 1981–2020 [computer file]; see Table D17

Figure 7: Deaths in prison custody by manner of death, 1981–82 to 2019–20 (rate per 100 prisoners)



Note: Self-inflicted includes self-harm, whether intentional, unintentional or unknown intent, and accidental hangings

Source: AIC NDICP 1981–2020 [computer file]; see Table D21

Deaths in police custody and custody-related operations

2019–20 findings

In 2019–20 there were 24 deaths in police custody and custody-related operations (hereafter referred to as police custody) in Australia (see Table B4). This was the same number of deaths as in 2018–19. Typically, the number of deaths in police custody fluctuates annually (see Figure 8), which is attributable to the small number of deaths overall. Death rates in police custody are not calculated due to the lack of data on the national police custody population. Instead, the death rate by Indigenous status and sex described below is calculated as a population rate.

The largest number of deaths in police custody occurred in New South Wales, Victoria and Queensland ($n=6$ for each; see Table B4). There were a further two deaths in each of Western Australia, Tasmania and the Northern Territory. No deaths in police custody were recorded in South Australia or the Australian Capital Territory.

Twenty of the 24 deaths in police custody were Category 1 deaths (see Table B4). Category 1 deaths are those occurring during close police contact with the deceased, including deaths in police stations, and most police shootings and raids (see *Introduction*). This was the greatest number of Category 1 deaths since 1992–93 ($n=20$; see Table E4). The remaining four deaths in police custody in 2019–20 were Category 2 deaths, as they occurred during non-close police contact, such as motor vehicle pursuits.

Indigenous status

Of the 24 deaths in police custody in 2019–20, three were of Indigenous persons and 17 were of non-Indigenous persons (see Table B4). The Indigenous status of four persons was not stated or unknown. In the 29 years since the RCIADIC (1991), the NDICP has recorded 159 Indigenous deaths in police custody and custody-related operations (see Table C2).

The death rate of Indigenous persons in police custody was 0.45 per 100,000 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population aged 10 years and over (see Table B5). The death rate of non-Indigenous persons in police custody was 0.08 per 100,000 non-Indigenous population aged 10 years and over.

Consistent with all years of data on deaths in police custody (1989–90 onward), the number of non-Indigenous deaths exceeded the number of Indigenous deaths (see Figure 9). Since 1989–90, Indigenous persons have comprised 19 percent ($n=171$) of all deaths in police custody (see Table E5).

Sex

In 2019–20, there were 23 male deaths and one female death in police custody (see Table B4). The number of male deaths in police custody has exceeded the number of female deaths in police custody for all 31 years of deaths in police custody data (see Table E6).

Of the three Indigenous deaths in police custody, two were of Indigenous males and one was of an Indigenous female (see Table B4). The death rates were 0.60 and 0.30 per 100,000 relevant population respectively (see Table B5). Of the 17 non-Indigenous deaths in police custody, all were of males (see Table B4), representing a death rate of 0.16 per 100,000 non-Indigenous males aged 10 years and over (see Table B5). The Indigenous status of four deceased males was not stated or unknown.

Age

The median age at time of death in police custody was 39 years (see Table B4). The median age at time of death was higher for non-Indigenous persons (40 years) than for Indigenous persons (29 years). Deaths in police custody in 2019–20 most commonly involved persons aged 40–54 years (50%, $n=12$). This was the equal highest number of deaths in police custody of people in this age group (previously recorded in 1992–93 and 2007–08; see Table E7). Since 1989–90, persons aged 55 years and over have been the least likely to die in police custody (7%, $n=61$).

Cause of death

The cause of death was recorded for 22 of the 24 deaths in police custody in 2019–20. Of these, most ($n=16$) were attributable to gunshot wounds (see Table B4). This was the equal highest number of deaths attributable to gunshot wounds in all 31 years of deaths in police custody data (previously recorded in 1993–94; see Table E10). Of these 16 deaths, all were police shootings (see *Shooting deaths* below). The remaining six deaths were attributable to external trauma or alcohol and/or drugs ($n=3$ for each; see Table B4). There were no hanging deaths in police custody in 2019–20, consistent with the last two years (see Table E10).

In 2019–20, two of the three Indigenous deaths in police custody were due to gunshot wounds and one was due to external trauma (see Table B4). Of the 17 non-Indigenous deaths in police custody, 11 were due to gunshot wounds, three to alcohol and/or drugs and two to external trauma. The cause of death was not recorded for the remaining non-Indigenous death. Of the four deaths for which Indigenous status was not stated or unknown, three were due to gunshot wounds and the cause of death for the fourth was not recorded.

In almost every year since 1989–90, the leading cause of death was either gunshot wounds or external trauma (see Table E10). Over this time, the greatest proportion of Indigenous deaths in police custody have been due to external trauma (33%, $n=56$), followed by natural causes (21%, $n=36$) and head injuries (14%, $n=24$; see Table E11). In comparison, most non-Indigenous deaths in police custody have been attributed to gunshot wounds (36%, $n=254$) or external trauma (30%, $n=210$; see Table E12).

Manner of death

As noted earlier, the NDICP collects information on both the cause and manner of each death. Cause of death information relates to the direct cause of death, whereas the manner of death refers to the accountability or responsibility for the death (see *Appendix A*).

In 2019–20, manner of death information was available for 19 of the 24 deaths in police custody. Of these, 14 were justifiable homicides (see Table B4). All 14 of these deaths were caused by gunshot wounds from a police shooting (see Table B6). This was the highest number of justifiable homicides recorded in any year of deaths in police custody data (from 1989–90 onwards; see Table E13). A further four deaths were accidental and one was self-inflicted (see Table B4). Of the accidental deaths, two were attributed to external trauma and one to alcohol and/or drugs (see Table B6). One accidental death had no specific cause of death reported. The self-inflicted death was due to external trauma.

Of the three Indigenous deaths in police custody, one was an accidental death due to external trauma. The manner of death for the other two deaths was not recorded (see Table B6). Of the 17 non-Indigenous deaths, 11 were justifiable homicides due to gunshot wounds, three were accidental (one due to external trauma, one to alcohol and/or drugs and one with no cause of death recorded), and one was self-inflicted due to external trauma. The remaining two non-Indigenous deaths had no manner of death recorded. Of the four deaths for which the Indigenous status was not stated or unknown, three were justifiable homicides due to gunshot wounds and the other death had no manner of death recorded.

Since 1989–90, the greatest proportion of Indigenous (48%, $n=77$; see Table E14) and non-Indigenous (35%, $n=241$; see Table E15) deaths in police custody have been accidental. However, the numbers of accidental deaths have been generally decreasing over the last decade (from $n=8$ in 2010–11 to $n=4$ in 2019–20; see Table E13). Deaths resulting from unlawful homicides have remained consistently low since 1989–90, comprising just two percent ($n=16$) of all deaths in police custody.

Most serious offence

Most deaths in police custody in 2019–20 were of people suspected of having committed violent offences (58%, $n=14$; see Table B4). Since 1989–90, deaths of persons suspected of committing a violent offence (36%, $n=306$) have been more common than deaths of those suspected of committing any other type of offence (see Table E16).

Of the three Indigenous persons who died in police custody in 2019–20, one was suspected of having committed a violent offence, one was suspected of having committed an offence categorised as ‘other’ and the MSO of the third was not recorded (see Table B4). Most non-Indigenous persons who died in police custody were suspected of having committed a violent offence (65%, $n=11$).

Since 1989–90, Indigenous persons who died in police custody have most commonly been suspected of having committed a theft-related (32%, $n=53$), good order (24%, $n=39$) or violent offence (22%, $n=36$; see Table E17). Over the same time period, non-Indigenous persons have most commonly been suspected of committing a violent (39%, $n=266$), theft-related (17%, $n=115$) or traffic-related offence (16%, $n=109$; see Table E18).

Location of death

Location of death relates to the location at time of death only. It therefore does not capture the location of any events that caused the death, if this differs from where the individual ultimately died (see *Appendix A*). In 2019–20, most deaths in police custody occurred in a public hospital (33%, $n=8$) or a public place (29%, $n=7$; see Table B4). Of the eight deaths in a public hospital, three of the incidents preceding the death occurred on private property, two occurred in a public place and two in a custodial environment categorised as ‘other’. For one further death, both the incident preceding the death and the death occurred in a public hospital.

Of the three Indigenous deaths in police custody, one occurred in a public hospital, one in a public place and one in a custodial environment categorised as ‘other’ (see Table B4). Most non-Indigenous deaths in police custody occurred in a public hospital (41%, $n=7$) or a public place (29%, $n=5$).

Since 1989–90, the largest proportion of deaths in police custody occurred in a public place (41%, $n=360$), followed by a public hospital (26%, $n=231$; see Table E19). This is true for both Indigenous and non-Indigenous persons who died in police custody over this period. Almost one in 10 deaths occurred in a cell (9%, $n=76$).

Circumstances of custodial period

In 2019–20, most deaths in police custody occurred while police were detaining or attempting to detain the person (79%, $n=19$; see Table B4). The remaining five deaths occurred in an institutional setting ($n=3$) or in circumstances categorised as ‘other’ ($n=2$). All three Indigenous deaths occurred while police were detaining or attempting to detain the individual.

Deaths occurring while police were detaining or attempting to detain the individual have outnumbered deaths in any other type of custody each year since 1992–93 (see Table E20). Since 1989–90, the most common method of detainment has been a motor vehicle pursuit (36%, $n=233$) or other circumstances (eg shooting not elsewhere classified; 34%, $n=221$; see Table E21).

Motor vehicle pursuit deaths

In 2019–20, three of the 19 deaths that occurred while police were detaining or attempting to detain the individual resulted from a motor vehicle pursuit (MVP; see Figure 11). Despite annual fluctuations, the number of MVP deaths has generally decreased since it peaked in 2001–02 ($n=18$). In 2019–20, two deaths were of drivers and one was of a passenger.

Of the three MVP deaths, one was of an Indigenous person and two were of non-Indigenous persons. The number of Indigenous deaths during an MVP has been less than or equal to the number of non-Indigenous deaths during an MVP in all except four years since 1989–90. All MVP deaths in 2019–20 were of men (see Table E24).

Of the three persons who died during an MVP, two were suspected of having committed a theft-related offence. The MSO of the remaining individual was not recorded. Since 1989–90, most MVP deaths were preceded by a suspected traffic offence (45%, $n=101$) or theft-related offence (42%, $n=94$).

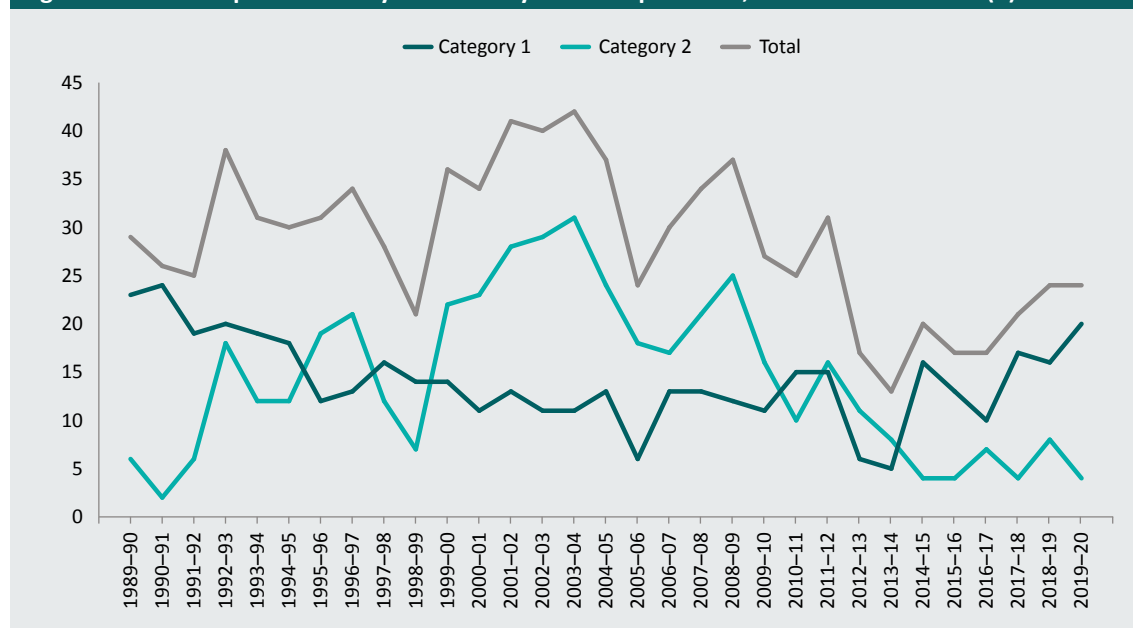
Shooting deaths

In 2019–20 there were 16 shooting deaths in police custody (see Table B4). All 16 shooting deaths were police shootings. This was the highest number of police shootings recorded in all years of deaths in police custody data (see Table E25). The highest number of police shootings occurred in New South Wales and Queensland ($n=5$ for each), followed by Victoria and Western Australia ($n=2$ for each). One police shooting was recorded in each of Tasmania and the Northern Territory. Since 1989–90, there have been 164 police shootings and 108 self-inflicted shootings in police custody (see Table E25).

Of the 16 police shooting deaths in 2019–20:

- Two were of Indigenous persons, 11 were of non-Indigenous persons and three were of persons for whom Indigenous status was not stated or unknown. The number of police shootings of Indigenous persons has been less than or equal to the number of police shootings of non-Indigenous persons in all years since 1989–90.
- Fifteen were of males, and one was of a female. This was the fifth police shooting of a female since 1989–90. More males than females have died in police shootings in all years since 1989–90.
- Most were suspected of having committed a violent offence ($n=12$). Of the remaining four, one was suspected of having committed a theft-related offence, two of having committed an offence categorised as ‘other’ (specifically weapons offences) and one had no MSO recorded. Since 1989–90, just over three-quarters of police shootings (76%, $n=123$) were of persons suspected of having committed a violent offence.
- The location of the shooting was a private property in seven cases, a public place in eight cases, and a police station in one case.

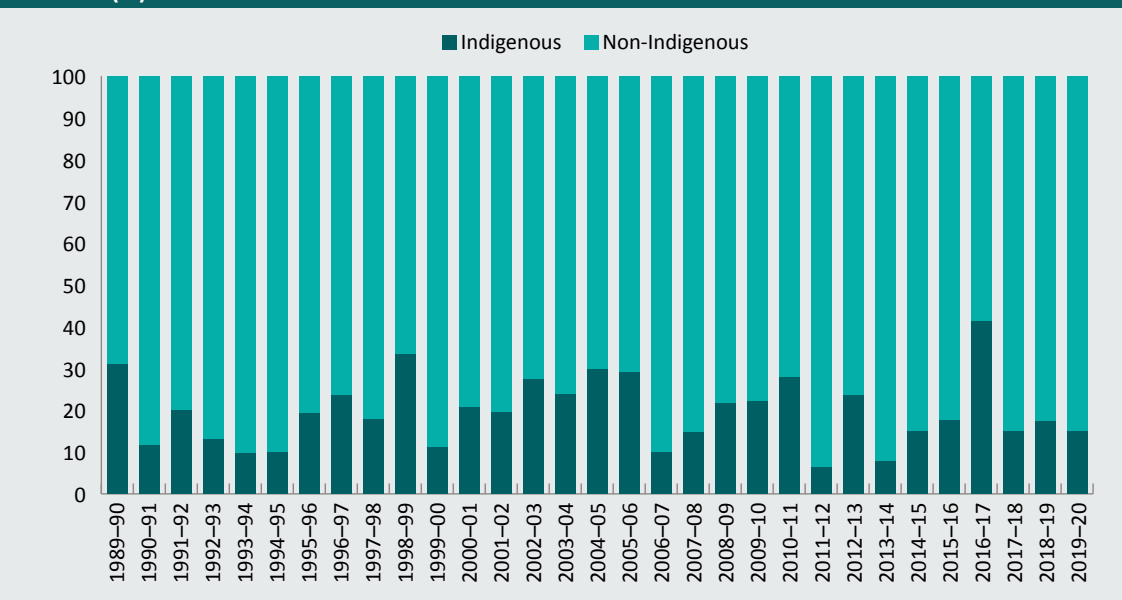
Figure 8: Deaths in police custody and custody-related operations, 1989–90 to 2019–20 (n)



Note: For a definition of these categories, see Box 1 in the *Introduction*

Source: AIC NDICP 1989–2020 [computer file]; see Table E4

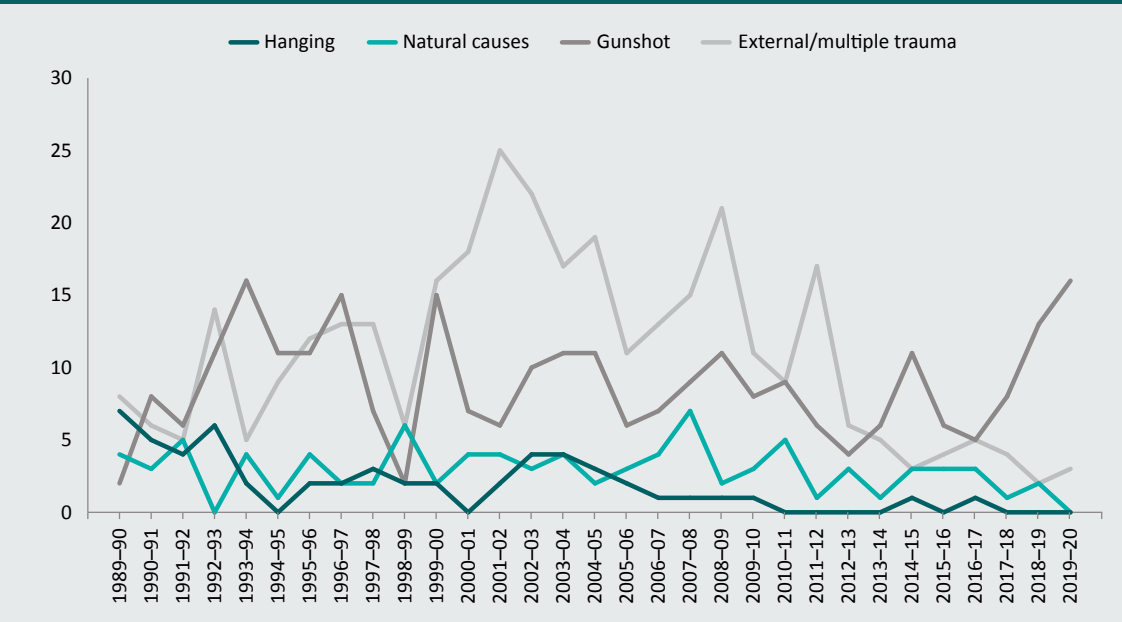
Figure 9: Deaths in police custody and custody-related operations by Indigenous status, 1989–90 to 2019–20 (%)



Note: Excludes 6 deaths where Indigenous status was not stated or unknown

Source: AIC NDICP 1989–2020 [computer file]; see Table E5

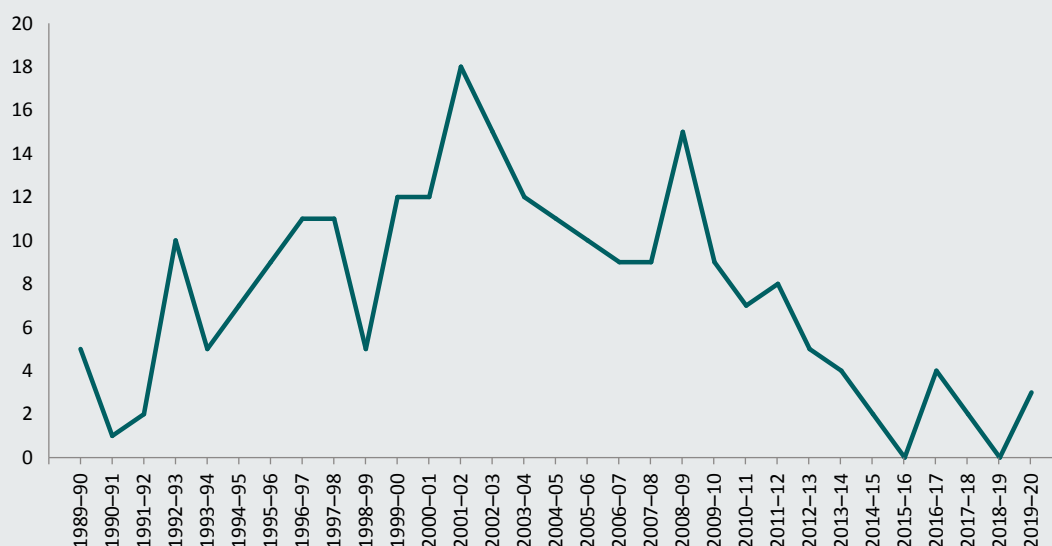
Figure 10: Deaths in police custody by select cause of death, 1989–90 to 2019–20 (n)



Note: External/multiple trauma includes head injuries. Excludes deaths caused by alcohol/drugs and other/multiple causes due to small numbers

Source: AIC NDICP 1989–2020 [computer file]; see Table E10

Figure 11: Motor vehicle pursuit deaths, 1989–90 to 2019–20 (n)



Source: AIC NDICP 1989–2020 [computer file]; see Table E24

Figure 12: Shooting deaths, 1989–90 to 2019–20 (n)



Note: Excludes one case where shooting death status was not recorded

Source: AIC NDICP 1989–2020 [computer file]; see Table E25

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URLs correct as at August 2021

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Appendix A: Methodology

Background and purpose of the NDICP

The Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody recommended in its final report (RCIADIC 1991) that an ongoing program be established to monitor Indigenous and non-Indigenous deaths in prison, police custody and youth detention.

In response, the National Deaths in Custody Program (NDICP) was established at the Australian Institute of Criminology in 1992 and continues to provide comprehensive and authoritative data on all deaths which occur in custody and in custody-related police operations. The NDICP began recording information in 1992. The program collected data retrospectively for deaths in prison custody and category 1(a) deaths in police custody that occurred between 1980 and 1992. It also collected data retrospectively for police operational deaths (category 1(b) and category 2 deaths) that occurred between 1990 and 1992. This places the NDICP in the unique position of holding detailed information on custodial deaths in Australia spanning 41 years.

The NDICP examines the circumstances of deaths in prison, police custody and youth detention around Australia on an ongoing basis. The purpose of monitoring deaths in custody is to provide accurate and up-to-date information that will contribute to public policy discussion in this important area, and to increase public understanding of the issues. It also allows for the monitoring of long-term trends and patterns in custody and police custody-related operations.

Scope

There are several key differences between the scope of the NDICP and legislated definitions of deaths in custody for coronial purposes. Thus, deaths that may require notification to the coroner under state or territory legislation may not fall within the scope of the NDICP.

The NDICP collects information about the incidence and circumstances of deaths of persons who are detained, who are in the process of being detained or who are escaping or have escaped. Therefore, the NDICP only monitors deaths of persons who are in custody or who are alleged offenders. The program does not include deaths of persons who are clients of police services or innocent bystanders who die in the course of a police operation.

Consequently, deaths in the following circumstances are not recorded in the NDICP as a death in police custody:

- deaths during operations such as search and rescue, and evacuations, where the deceased was not being detained or in the process of being detained for breaching the law;
- deaths during operations to prevent a suicide, where the purpose was not to detain the deceased due to a breach of the law. For example, where police were responding to a concern for welfare notice and were attempting to stop a person suiciding, and the person was not threatening harm to others or not otherwise being sought by police; and
- deaths of innocent bystanders killed during a police operation (eg a pedestrian or passenger who dies as a result of a motor vehicle pursuit and who the police were not seeking to detain). If the deceased passenger was involved in committing an offence such as an armed robbery or motor vehicle theft prior to the pursuit commencing, the death falls within the scope of the NDICP.

Data collection and coding

The information held in the NDICP database comes from two main sources:

- NDICP data collection forms completed by all state and territory police services and correctional departments in Australia; and
- coronial records, such as transcripts of proceedings and findings, as well as toxicology and post-mortem reports.

NDICP data collection forms are provided for each death during the financial year. These data are entered and cross-referenced with coronial records sourced from the National Coronial Information System (NCIS). The AIC has access to open cases (those for which the coronial investigation has not been finalised) and closed cases (those for which the coronial investigation has been finalised and the coroner has made a finding) from all jurisdictions except Western Australia, which permits access to closed cases only.

The AIC confirms the number of deaths and the Indigenous status of deceased persons with data providers at the end of each financial year and again prior to preparation of the annual *Deaths in custody in Australia* Statistical Report.

The following describes some of the data items used in this report and the method of coding. The categories used to describe cause of death, manner of death, method of detainment and most serious offence were derived at the inception of the NDICP and have been retained to ensure trend analysis. The Indigenous status variable was revised to meet the Indigenous status standard developed by the Australian Bureau of Statistics.

Indigenous status

Indigenous status is classified as Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander, or neither Aboriginal nor Torres Strait Islander. This information, supplied by data providers on the notification form, is cross-referenced with Indigenous status and Indigenous origin fields recorded on the NCIS. Indigenous status is drawn from the police report to the coroner and Indigenous origin, introduced in 2020, from Births, Deaths and Marriages records. Where Indigenous status information from data providers and the NCIS do not correspond, the AIC engages with the data provider to determine evidence of Indigenous status. Where these data cannot be reconciled, Indigenous status is reported as not stated or unknown.

Location

The location information collected by the NDICP relates to the location at time of death. It therefore does not capture the location of any events that caused the death, if this differs from where the individual ultimately died. For example, where a person is shot on private property and later dies in a public hospital as a result of the gunshot wound, the location of death is recorded as public hospital.

Cause versus manner of death

The NDICP collects information on both the cause and manner of each death. Cause of death information relates to the direct cause of death as reported by the coroner or by police and prison authorities. Cause of death is categorised in the NDICP as:

- natural causes;
- hanging (which includes strangulation) and associated complications;
- head injury;
- gunshot;
- other external trauma/multiple trauma;
- alcohol and/or drugs;
- other/multiple causes; or
- unknown/not determined.

These terms have been used since the establishment of the NDICP and are retained to enable trend analysis.

Manner of death is a related variable, but it refers to the accountability or responsibility for the death as reported by the coroner or by police and prison authorities. It is categorised in the NDICP as:

- natural causes;
- self-inflicted;
- homicide (justifiable, excusable, or unlawful);
- accident (or misadventure); or
- other/not determined or not stated or unknown.

These categories were derived at the inception of the NDICP based on coronial terminology.

In some cases, cause and manner will correspond; for example, where a person dies as a result of natural causes (eg cancer), both the cause and manner of their death will be recorded as natural causes. In other cases, cause and manner of death will differ; for example, where a person dies after hanging themselves, the cause of death will be recorded as hanging and the manner of death will be recorded as either self-inflicted or accidental.

Most serious offence

The NDICP collects information on the most serious offence (MSO) leading to custody. The ABS (2011) *Australian and New Zealand Standard Offence Classification* is used to group offences into six categories. In order from most to least serious, these are: violent, theft-related, drug-related, traffic, good order and other/unknown. Where information on more than one offence is provided, only the most serious of those is assigned to the case. Therefore, if a person has been charged with a violent offence and a theft-related offence, the violent offence will take precedence. For the purposes of the NDICP these categories are defined as follows:

- violent offence—includes homicide, assault, sex offences, other offences against the person and robbery;
- theft-related offence—includes break and enter, other theft, property damage and fraud;
- drug-related offence—includes possessing, using, dealing, trafficking or manufacturing/growing drugs;
- traffic offence—includes road traffic, driving and licence offences;
- good order offence—includes public drunkenness, protective custody for intoxication (in a jurisdiction where public drunkenness is not an offence), justice procedure offences, breaches of sentencing (including fine default) and other offences against good order (eg betting and gambling, disorderly conduct, vagrancy or offensive behaviour); and
- other—includes offences not elsewhere classified (eg weapons offences).

Borderline cases

The NDICP uses the definition of a death in custody recommended by the RCIADIC in determining whether cases should or should not be included in the NDICP database. While most cases are straightforward and clearly fall within the definition, every year there are some cases where it is unclear whether the death should be classified as a death in custody.

For the purposes of the NDICP, a person is considered to be in custody when they are not free to leave the detention or arrest of police or corrections officials. As outlined in the definitions in Box 1 in the *Introduction*, this includes deaths that occur in a hospital if the injury or illness suffered while in custody caused or contributed to that death. In cases where police were clearly in the process of detaining or attempting to detain a person immediately prior to their death, such as during shootings, sieges, raids and pursuits, the person is considered to have been in custody at the time of death. In all cases, the question of inclusion centres on whether the deceased was in custody at the time of death.

Any borderline cases are excluded from analysis pending their coronial outcome. This can mean a delay of several years before data on those particular cases are included, as it may take months or years for a case to be heard in the relevant coroner's court. Despite this, relying on coronial decisions ensures the integrity and reliability of the NDICP over the longer term, as coronial findings are legally binding determinations based on all available evidence. It is important to note that this means the total numbers of deaths may be revised in future reports as the inclusion or exclusion of borderline cases is resolved.

Data revisions

NDICP data are reviewed annually to ensure the database is accurate and reliable. Where data are missing from the NDICP database, these are checked against coronial findings and other available data, and any necessary revisions made. Consequently, numbers and rates may differ between reports.

Calculation of death rates and population rates

Unless otherwise stated, rates of death in prison custody by prison population have been calculated using the results of the National Prisoner Census (ABS 2000–2019b, 2020), which counts all prisoners who are in legal custody in each jurisdiction as at midnight on 30 June each year. Further, where trends in rates of death are presented, the rates are calculated back to 1982, as prison census data are not available before 1982. The prison population is the standard denominator for calculating death rates in prison custody, reflecting changes in prison demographic composition.

Rates of death in police custody are not presented in this report because there is no reliable data source for the number of people who are placed into police custody each year or who come into contact with police in custody-related operations.

Population rates are presented for deaths in prison and police custody. Population rates are calculated using population data from the Australian Bureau of Statistics *National, state and territory population* (ABS 2021) and the 2006–2031 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population projections (ABS 2019a). Rates of death in prison custody are calculated using the population aged 18 years and over, as no deaths occurred in youth justice in 2019–20. Rates of death in police custody and custody-related operations are calculated based on the population aged 10 years and over (the legal age of criminal responsibility).

Limitations

Time frames

The release of NDICP reports relies on the availability of the two primary sources of data. Data for this report were prepared for publication 12 months after the conclusion of the financial year to enable a series of data checks in consultation with police services and correctional departments. This time period further ensured the majority of complete records or closed cases were accessible from the NCIS. Data available for open cases (those for which a coronial investigation has not been finalised) may be limited by the number or comprehensiveness of coronial records. Further, details may change once coronial investigations are finalised.

Contextual information

The purpose of the NDICP is to monitor annual and trend information on the nature and extent of deaths in Australian prison and police custody. This function is performed through the collation and cross-referencing of quantitative data from police services, correctional departments and the NCIS on the characteristics of the deceased and the circumstances of the death. Compiling qualitative data from coronial findings sits outside the scope of the NDICP and these data are not routinely reported in the *Deaths in custody in Australia* series. These contextual data are instead collated for individual studies examining specific population groups or categories of deaths.

Appendix B: Data tables— Deaths in custody 2019–20 key findings

Table B1: Deaths in prison custody, 2019–20^a

	Indigenous		Non-Indigenous		Total	
	<i>n</i>	rate	<i>n</i>	rate	<i>n</i>	rate
Jurisdiction						
NSW	5	0.15	37	0.39	42	0.33
Vic	1	0.14	12	0.19	13	0.18
Qld	2	0.07	9	0.16	11	0.13
WA	3	0.11	9	0.22	12	0.18
SA	1	0.14	6	0.26	7	0.23
Tas	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00
ACT	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00
NT	1	0.07	3	1.14	4	0.24
Sex						
Male	11	0.10	75	0.28	86	0.23
Female	2	0.18	1	0.05	3	0.10
Age group (years)						
18–24	1	0.04	0	0.00	1	0.02
25–39	4	0.06	15	0.10	19	0.09
40–54	4	0.15	19	0.23	23	0.21
55+	4	1.09	42	1.36	46	1.33
Median (mean)	40 (44)		58 (57)		56 (55)	
Legal status						
Sentenced	8	0.10	59	0.30	67	0.24
Unsentenced	5	0.12	17	0.19	22	0.17

Table B1: Deaths in prison custody, 2019–20 ^a (cont.)						
	Indigenous		Non-Indigenous		Total	
	<i>n</i>	rate	<i>n</i>	rate	<i>n</i>	rate
Cause of death ^{b,c}						
Natural causes	8	0.07	51	0.18	59	0.14
Hanging	0	0.00	11	0.04	11	0.03
External trauma	1	0.01	5	0.02	6	0.01
Alcohol/ drugs	0	0.00	3	0.01	3	0.01
Other/multiple	0	0.00	2	0.01	2	<0.01
Manner of death ^{c,d}						
Natural causes	8	0.07	51	0.18	59	0.14
Self-inflicted	1	0.01	14	0.05	15	0.04
Unlawful homicide	0	0.00	3	0.01	3	0.01
Justifiable homicide	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00
Accident	0	0.00	2	0.01	2	<0.01
Most serious offence						
Violent	9	–	58	–	67	–
Theft-related	1	–	3	–	4	–
Drug-related	1	–	10	–	11	–
Traffic-related	1	–	1	–	2	–
Good order	1	–	3	–	4	–
Other offences	0	–	1	–	1	–
Location of death						
Cell	6	–	24	–	30	–
Other custodial setting	0	–	6	–	6	–
Public hospital	7	–	31	–	38	–
Prison hospital	0	–	14	–	14	–
Psychiatric hospital	0	–	0	–	0	–
Other	0	–	1	–	1	–
Type of prison ^e						
Private	2	–	11	–	13	0.15
Government	11	–	65	–	76	0.22
Total	13	0.11	76	0.26	89	0.22

a: Unless otherwise specified, rates have been calculated using ABS *Prisoners in Australia* (2020)

b: Excludes 8 cases where cause of death not recorded

c: Rates based on total prison population by Indigenous status

d: Excludes 10 cases where manner of death not recorded

e: Rates have been calculated using Steering Committee for the Review of Government Service Provision (2021) population estimates

Note: Rates per 100 relevant prisoners

Source: AIC NDICP 2019–20 [computer file]

Table B2: Deaths in prison custody, 2019–20 (rate per 100,000 population)			
	Indigenous	Non-Indigenous	Total
Sex			
Male	4.21	0.78	0.88
Female	0.75	0.01	0.03
Age group (years)			
18–24	0.88	0.00	0.04
25–39	2.21	0.27	0.34
40–54	3.13	0.40	0.47
55+	3.73	0.59	0.64
Total	2.46	0.39	0.44

Note: Rates per 100,000 relevant population, calculated using population data from the ABS *National, state and territory population* (ABS 2020) and 2006–2031 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population projections (ABS 2019a)

Source: AIC NDICP 2019–20 [computer file]

Table B3: Deaths in prison custody by Indigenous status, cause of death and manner of death, 2019–20 (n)						
	Manner of death					
	Natural causes	Self-inflicted	Unlawful homicide	Justifiable homicide	Accident	Total
Indigenous						
Natural causes	8	0	0	0	0	8
Hanging	0	0	0	0	0	0
External trauma	0	1	0	0	0	1
Alcohol/drugs	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other/multiple	0	0	0	0	0	0
Non-Indigenous						
Natural causes	51	0	0	0	0	51
Hanging	0	11	0	0	0	11
External trauma	0	1	3	0	1	5
Alcohol/drugs	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other/multiple	0	1	0	0	1	2
Total						
Natural causes	59	0	0	0	0	59
Hanging	0	11	0	0	0	11
External trauma	0	2	3	0	1	6
Alcohol/drugs	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other/multiple	0	1	0	0	1	2

Note: Excludes 11 cases where cause and/or manner of death were not recorded

Source: AIC NDICP 2019–20 [computer file]

Table B4: Deaths in police custody and custody-related operations, 2019–20 (n)			
	Indigenous	Non-Indigenous	Total ^a
Jurisdiction			
NSW	0	6	6
Vic	0	6	6
Qld	0	3	6
WA	1	1	2
SA	0	0	0
Tas	0	1	2
ACT	0	0	0
NT	2	0	2
Category of death			
Category 1	2	14	20
Category 2	1	3	4
Sex			
Male	2	17	23
Female	1	0	1
Age group (years)			
10 ^b –24	1	1	2
25–39	1	7	10
40–54	1	9	12
55+	0	0	0
Median (mean)	29 (30)	40 (39)	39 (38)
Cause of death^c			
Natural causes	0	0	0
Hanging	0	0	0
External trauma	1	2	3
Gunshot	2	11	16
Alcohol/drugs	0	3	3
Other/multiple	0	0	0
Manner of death^d			
Natural causes	0	0	0
Self-inflicted	0	1	1
Unlawful homicide	0	0	0
Justifiable homicide	0	11	14
Accident	1	3	4

Table B4: Deaths in police custody and custody-related operations, 2019–20 (n) (cont.)			
	Indigenous	Non-Indigenous	Total ^a
Most serious offence^e			
Violent	1	11	14
Theft-related	0	2	3
Drug-related	0	0	0
Traffic-related	0	0	0
Good order	0	1	2
Other	1	1	2
Location of death			
Cell	0	0	0
Other custodial environment	1	1	3
Public hospital	1	7	8
Psychiatric hospital	0	0	0
Private property	0	2	4
Public place	1	5	7
Other	0	2	2
Circumstances of custodial period			
Institution	0	2	3
Detaining	3	13	19
Escaping	0	0	0
Other/marginal	0	2	2
Total	3	17	24

a: Includes 4 cases where Indigenous status was not stated or unknown

b: The legal age of criminal responsibility

c: Excludes 2 cases where cause of death was not recorded

d: Excludes 5 cases where manner of death was not recorded

e: Excludes 2 cases where most serious offence was not recorded and 1 case where police were responding to mental health welfare concerns

Source: AIC NDICP 2019–20 [computer file]

Table B5: Deaths in police custody and custody-related operations, 2019–20 (rate per 100,000 population)			
	Indigenous	Non-Indigenous	Total
Sex			
Male	0.60	0.16	0.21
Female	0.30	0.00	0.01
Age group (years)			
10 ^a –24	0.39	0.02	0.04
25–39	0.55	0.13	0.18
40–54	0.78	0.19	0.25
55+	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total	0.45	0.08	0.11

a: The legal age of criminal responsibility

Note: Rates per 100,000 relevant population, calculated using population data from the ABS *National, state and territory population* (ABS 2020) and 2006–2031 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population projections (ABS 2019a)

Source: AIC NDICP 2019–20 [computer file]

Table B6: Deaths in police custody and custody-related operations by Indigenous status, cause of death and manner of death, 2019–20 (n)							
	Manner of death						
	Natural causes	Self-inflicted	Unlawful homicide	Justifiable homicide	Accident	Other/not determined	Total
Indigenous							
Natural causes	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hanging	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
External trauma	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Gunshot	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Alcohol/drugs	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other/multiple	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Non-Indigenous							
Natural causes	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hanging	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
External trauma	0	1	0	0	1	0	2
Gunshot	0	0	0	11	0	0	11
Alcohol/drugs	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Other/multiple	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total^a							
Natural causes	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hanging	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
External trauma	0	1	0	0	2	0	3
Gunshot	0	0	0	14	0	0	14
Alcohol/drugs	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Other/multiple	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

a: Includes 3 cases where Indigenous status was not stated or unknown

Note: Excludes 6 cases where cause and/or manner of death were not recorded

Source: AIC NDICP 2019–20 [computer file]

Appendix C: Data tables— Deaths in custody by custodial authority, 1979–80 to 2019–20

Table C1: Deaths in custody by custodial authority, 1979–80 to 2019–20 (n)

	Prison	Police ^a	Youth justice	Other	Total
1979–80	15	5	1	0	21
1980–81	28	12	1	0	41
1981–82	29	15	0	0	44
1982–83	25	22	0	0	47
1983–84	32	14	1	0	47
1984–85	27	21	0	0	48
1985–86	18	20	0	0	38
1986–87	37	42	1	0	80
1987–88	45	23	2	0	70
1988–89	36	29	0	0	65
1989–90	53	29	1	0	83
1990–91	35	26	1	0	62
1991–92	31	25	0	0	56
1992–93	44	38	0	0	82
1993–94	57	31	2	0	90
1994–95	55	30	0	0	85
1995–96	49	31	2	0	82
1996–97	63	34	1	0	98
1997–98	80	28	0	0	108
1998–99	64	21	1	1	87

Table C1: Deaths in custody by custodial authority, 1979–80 to 2019–20 (n) (cont.)					
	Prison	Police ^a	Youth justice	Other	Total
1999–2000	64	36	1	0	101
2000–01	58	34	1	1	94
2001–02	52	41	0	1	94
2002–03	44	40	0	0	84
2003–04	37	42	0	0	79
2004–05	39	37	0	0	76
2005–06	28	24	1	1	54
2006–07	40	30	0	0	70
2007–08	46	34	0	0	80
2008–09	43	37	0	0	80
2009–10	58	27	0	0	85
2010–11	58	25	1	0	84
2011–12	42	31	0	0	73
2012–13	53	17	0	0	70
2013–14	54	13	0	0	67
2014–15	61	20	0	0	81
2015–16	83	17	0	0	100
2016–17	74	17	0	0	91
2017–18	72	21	0	0	93
2018–19	89	24	0	0	113
2019–20	89	24	0	0	113
Total	2,007	1,087	18	4	3,116

a: Category 1(a) deaths have been included in the NDICP since 1980, whereas police operational deaths (category 1(b) and category 2 deaths) have only been collected by the NDICP since 1990. For more detail, see *Introduction*

Note: Includes 598 Indigenous deaths in custody, 2,512 non-Indigenous deaths in custody and 6 deaths where Indigenous status was not stated or unknown

Source: AIC NDICP 1979–2020 [computer file]

Table C2: Indigenous deaths in custody by custodial authority, 1979–80 to 2019–20 (n)					
	Prison	Police ^a	Youth justice	Other	Total
1979–80	4	1	1	0	6
1980–81	2	7	1	0	10
1981–82	3	2	0	0	5
1982–83	4	5	0	0	9
1983–84	2	3	0	0	5
1984–85	5	8	0	0	13
1985–86	4	5	0	0	9
1986–87	2	15	1	0	18

Table C2: Indigenous deaths in custody by custodial authority, 1979–80 to 2019–20 (n) (cont.)					
	Prison	Police ^a	Youth justice	Other	Total
1987–88	4	6	1	0	11
1988–89	5	10	0	0	15
1989–90	9	9	0	0	18
1990–91	5	3	0	0	8
1991–92	4	5	0	0	9
1992–93	5	5	0	0	10
1993–94	12	3	0	0	15
1994–95	12	3	0	0	15
1995–96	13	6	0	0	19
1996–97	10	8	0	0	18
1997–98	11	5	0	0	16
1998–99	10	7	1	0	18
1999–2000	14	4	1	0	19
2000–01	14	7	0	0	21
2001–02	6	8	0	0	14
2002–03	13	11	0	0	24
2003–04	6	10	0	0	16
2004–05	8	11	0	0	19
2005–06	3	7	1	0	11
2006–07	8	3	0	0	11
2007–08	6	5	0	0	11
2008–09	7	8	0	0	15
2009–10	14	6	0	0	20
2010–11	12	7	1	0	20
2011–12	6	2	0	0	8
2012–13	9	4	0	0	13
2013–14	10	1	0	0	11
2014–15	15	3	0	0	18
2015–16	19	3	0	0	22
2016–17	16	7	0	0	23
2017–18	16	3	0	0	19
2018–19	16	4	0	0	20
2019–20	13	3	0	0	16
Total	357	233	8	0	598

a: Category 1(a) deaths have been included in the NDICP since 1980, whereas police operational deaths (category 1(b) and category 2 deaths) have only been collected by the NDICP since 1990. For more detail, see *Introduction*
Source: AIC NDICP 1979–2020 [computer file]

Table C3: Non-Indigenous deaths in custody by custodial authority, 1979–80 to 2019–20 (n)					
	Prison	Police ^a	Youth justice	Other	Total
1979–80	11	4	0	0	15
1980–81	26	5	0	0	31
1981–82	26	13	0	0	39
1982–83	21	17	0	0	38
1983–84	30	11	1	0	42
1984–85	22	13	0	0	35
1985–86	14	15	0	0	29
1986–87	35	27	0	0	62
1987–88	41	17	1	0	59
1988–89	31	19	0	0	50
1989–90	44	20	1	0	65
1990–91	30	23	1	0	54
1991–92	27	20	0	0	47
1992–93	39	33	0	0	72
1993–94	45	28	2	0	75
1994–95	43	27	0	0	70
1995–96	36	25	2	0	63
1996–97	53	26	1	0	80
1997–98	69	23	0	0	92
1998–99	54	14	0	1	69
1999–2000	50	32	0	0	82
2000–01	44	27	1	1	73
2001–02	46	33	0	1	80
2002–03	31	29	0	0	60
2003–04	31	32	0	0	63
2004–05	31	26	0	0	57
2005–06	25	17	0	1	43
2006–07	32	27	0	0	59
2007–08	40	29	0	0	69
2008–09	36	29	0	0	65
2009–10	44	21	0	0	65
2010–11	46	18	0	0	64
2011–12	36	29	0	0	65
2012–13	44	13	0	0	57
2013–14	44	12	0	0	56

Table C3: Non-Indigenous deaths in custody by custodial authority, 1979–80 to 2019–20 (n) (cont.)					
	Prison	Police ^a	Youth justice	Other	Total
2014–15	46	17	0	0	63
2015–16	64	14	0	0	78
2016–17	58	10	0	0	68
2017–18	56	17	0	0	73
2018–19	73	19	0	0	92
2019–20	76	17	0	0	93
Total	1,650	848	10	4	2,512

a: Category 1(a) deaths have been included in the NDICP since 1980, whereas police operational deaths (category 1(b) and category 2 deaths) have only been collected by the NDICP since 1990. For more detail, see *Introduction*
Source: AIC NDICP 1979–2020 [computer file]

Appendix D: Data tables— Deaths in prison custody, 1979–80 to 2019–20

Table D1: Deaths in prison custody by jurisdiction, 1979–80 to 2019–20 (*n*)

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Total
1979–80	3	2	3	1	5	0	0	1	15
1980–81	8	6	8	3	3	0	0	0	28
1981–82	7	7	8	5	1	1	0	0	29
1982–83	5	4	5	5	6	0	0	0	25
1983–84	12	14	4	2	0	0	0	0	32
1984–85	10	5	5	5	2	0	0	0	27
1985–86	6	2	7	1	0	0	0	2	18
1986–87	17	7	7	3	2	0	0	1	37
1987–88	13	18	6	3	2	2	1	0	45
1988–89	7	11	5	6	1	4	0	2	36
1989–90	28	4	12	3	5	1	0	0	53
1990–91	18	2	4	6	3	1	0	1	35
1991–92	6	2	11	4	5	3	0	0	31
1992–93	20	7	6	6	4	0	0	1	44
1993–94	29	5	11	2	6	3	0	1	57
1994–95	22	7	12	6	7	0	0	1	55
1995–96	18	5	10	6	6	2	1	1	49
1996–97	30	5	13	9	5	1	0	0	63
1997–98	29	13	11	16	6	1	1	3	80
1998–99	27	9	19	6	1	1	0	1	64
1999–2000	23	3	14	15	4	5	0	0	64

Table D1: Deaths in prison custody by jurisdiction, 1979–80 to 2019–20 (n) (cont.)									
	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Total
2000–01	18	11	11	9	7	0	0	2	58
2001–02	18	6	14	10	2	1	0	1	52
2002–03	16	5	7	8	5	1	0	2	44
2003–04	13	4	13	4	2	0	0	1	37
2004–05	15	4	4	7	6	2	0	1	39
2005–06	10	5	2	6	3	1	0	1	28
2006–07	22	3	6	3	4	1	0	1	40
2007–08	11	13	8	8	4	2	0	0	46
2008–09	15	8	9	4	5	1	1	0	43
2009–10	21	8	10	8	5	3	1	2	58
2010–11	20	10	11	5	4	2	0	6	58
2011–12	18	4	6	7	4	1	0	2	42
2012–13	19	13	9	10	0	1	0	1	53
2013–14	13	11	11	7	4	1	2	5	54
2014–15	21	15	7	4	7	3	1	3	61
2015–16	23	19	10	11	13	2	1	4	83
2016–17	21	20	12	14	2	1	1	3	74
2017–18	27	17	11	11	2	1	0	3	72
2018–19	33	19	11	15	6	2	0	3	89
2019–20	42	13	11	12	7	0	0	4	89
Total	734	346	364	276	166	51	10	60	2,007

Note: Includes 357 Indigenous deaths in custody and 1,650 non-Indigenous deaths in custody

Source: AIC NDICP 1979–2020 [computer file]

Table D2: Indigenous deaths in prison custody by jurisdiction, 1979–80 to 2019–20 (n)									
	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Total
1979–80	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	4
1980–81	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	2
1981–82	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	3
1982–83	1	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	4
1983–84	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	2
1984–85	1	0	1	3	0	0	0	0	5
1985–86	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	1	4
1986–87	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	2
1987–88	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	4
1988–89	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	2	5
1989–90	5	0	2	0	2	0	0	0	9

Table D2: Indigenous deaths in prison custody by jurisdiction, 1979–80 to 2019–20 (n) (cont.)									
	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Total
1990–91	3	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	5
1991–92	1	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	4
1992–93	2	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	5
1993–94	4	1	3	2	1	0	0	1	12
1994–95	5	0	3	0	3	0	0	1	12
1995–96	4	0	3	2	3	0	0	1	13
1996–97	3	0	4	2	1	0	0	0	10
1997–98	3	0	1	4	1	0	0	2	11
1998–99	4	1	4	0	0	0	0	1	10
1999–2000	7	0	1	6	0	0	0	0	14
2000–01	5	1	1	3	2	0	0	2	14
2001–02	1	0	3	2	0	0	0	0	6
2002–03	2	0	3	5	1	0	0	2	13
2003–04	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	1	6
2004–05	4	0	0	3	0	0	0	1	8
2005–06	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	3
2006–07	4	0	1	2	0	0	0	1	8
2007–08	1	0	1	4	0	0	0	0	6
2008–09	1	0	2	3	1	0	0	0	7
2009–10	4	1	4	4	0	0	0	1	14
2010–11	1	1	1	2	1	1	0	5	12
2011–12	1	0	2	2	0	0	0	1	6
2012–13	2	1	2	2	0	1	0	1	9
2013–14	1	0	4	1	0	0	0	4	10
2014–15	5	1	3	1	1	0	1	3	15
2015–16	2	1	3	6	3	0	1	3	19
2016–17	1	2	4	5	1	0	0	3	16
2017–18	5	3	3	3	0	0	0	2	16
2018–19	4	2	2	5	0	0	0	3	16
2019–20	5	1	2	3	1	0	0	1	13
Total	96	18	79	88	26	3	2	45	357

Source: AIC NDICP 1979–2020 [computer file]

Table D3: Non-Indigenous deaths in prison custody by jurisdiction, 1979–80 to 2019–20 (n)									
	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Total
1979–80	2	2	2	0	5	0	0	0	11
1980–81	8	6	7	3	2	0	0	0	26
1981–82	7	7	8	2	1	1	0	0	26
1982–83	4	4	5	4	4	0	0	0	21
1983–84	11	14	4	1	0	0	0	0	30
1984–85	9	5	4	2	2	0	0	0	22
1985–86	6	2	5	0	0	0	0	1	14
1986–87	17	7	6	2	2	0	0	1	35
1987–88	12	18	5	2	1	2	1	0	41
1988–89	6	11	4	5	1	4	0	0	31
1989–90	23	4	10	3	3	1	0	0	44
1990–91	15	2	3	5	3	1	0	1	30
1991–92	5	2	10	3	5	2	0	0	27
1992–93	18	6	4	6	4	0	0	1	39
1993–94	25	4	8	0	5	3	0	0	45
1994–95	17	7	9	6	4	0	0	0	43
1995–96	14	5	7	4	3	2	1	0	36
1996–97	27	5	9	7	4	1	0	0	53
1997–98	26	13	10	12	5	1	1	1	69
1998–99	23	8	15	6	1	1	0	0	54
1999–2000	16	3	13	9	4	5	0	0	50
2000–01	13	10	10	6	5	0	0	0	44
2001–02	17	6	11	8	2	1	0	1	46
2002–03	14	5	4	3	4	1	0	0	31
2003–04	13	4	8	4	2	0	0	0	31
2004–05	11	4	4	4	6	2	0	0	31
2005–06	10	4	2	5	3	1	0	0	25
2006–07	18	3	5	1	4	1	0	0	32
2007–08	10	13	7	4	4	2	0	0	40
2008–09	14	8	7	1	4	1	1	0	36
2009–10	17	7	6	4	5	3	1	1	44
2010–11	19	9	10	3	3	1	0	1	46
2011–12	17	4	4	5	4	1	0	1	36
2012–13	17	12	7	8	0	0	0	0	44

Table D3: Non-Indigenous deaths in prison custody by jurisdiction, 1979–80 to 2019–20 (n) (cont.)									
	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Total
2013–14	12	11	7	6	4	1	2	1	44
2014–15	16	14	4	3	6	3	0	0	46
2015–16	21	18	7	5	10	2	0	1	64
2016–17	20	18	8	9	1	1	1	0	58
2017–18	22	14	8	8	2	1	0	1	56
2018–19	29	17	9	10	6	2	0	0	73
2019–20	37	12	9	9	6	0	0	3	76
Total	638	328	285	188	140	48	8	15	1,650

Source: AIC NDICP 1979–2020 [computer file]

Table D4: Deaths in prison custody by Indigenous status and sex, 1979–80 to 2019–20 (n)									
	Indigenous			Non-Indigenous			Total		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
1979–80	4	0	4	11	0	11	15	0	15
1980–81	2	0	2	26	0	26	28	0	28
1981–82	2	1	3	23	3	26	25	4	29
1982–83	4	0	4	20	1	21	24	1	25
1983–84	2	0	2	29	1	30	31	1	32
1984–85	5	0	5	22	0	22	27	0	27
1985–86	4	0	4	12	2	14	16	2	18
1986–87	2	0	2	32	3	35	34	3	37
1987–88	4	0	4	40	1	41	44	1	45
1988–89	5	0	5	30	1	31	35	1	36
1989–90	9	0	9	42	2	44	51	2	53
1990–91	5	0	5	29	1	30	34	1	35
1991–92	4	0	4	26	1	27	30	1	31
1992–93	5	0	5	39	0	39	44	0	44
1993–94	11	1	12	40	5	45	51	6	57
1994–95	12	0	12	42	1	43	54	1	55
1995–96	13	0	13	36	0	36	49	0	49
1996–97	9	1	10	52	1	53	61	2	63
1997–98	11	0	11	67	2	69	78	2	80
1998–99	9	1	10	52	2	54	61	3	64
1999–2000	14	0	14	46	4	50	60	4	64
2000–01	13	1	14	43	1	44	56	2	58
2001–02	5	1	6	43	3	46	48	4	52
2002–03	13	0	13	28	3	31	41	3	44

Table D4: Deaths in prison custody by Indigenous status and sex, 1979–80 to 2019–20 (n) (cont.)									
	Indigenous			Non-Indigenous			Total		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
2003–04	5	1	6	31	0	31	36	1	37
2004–05	5	3	8	30	1	31	35	4	39
2005–06	3	0	3	24	1	25	27	1	28
2006–07	8	0	8	31	1	32	39	1	40
2007–08	6	0	6	37	3	40	43	3	46
2008–09	7	0	7	34	2	36	41	2	43
2009–10	14	0	14	44	0	44	58	0	58
2010–11	10	2	12	45	1	46	55	3	58
2011–12	6	0	6	36	0	36	42	0	42
2012–13	9	0	9	43	1	44	52	1	53
2013–14	10	0	10	41	3	44	51	3	54
2014–15	15	0	15	45	1	46	60	1	61
2015–16	19	0	19	63	1	64	82	1	83
2016–17	13	3	16	55	3	58	68	6	74
2017–18	15	1	16	55	1	56	70	2	72
2018–19	16	0	16	71	2	73	87	2	89
2019–20	11	2	13	75	1	76	86	3	89
Total	339	18	357	1,590	60	1,650	1,929	78	2,007

Source: AIC NDICP 1979–2020 [computer file]

Table D5: Deaths in prison custody by Indigenous status, 1981–82 to 2019–20 (rate per 100 relevant prisoners)			
	Indigenous		Total
		Non-Indigenous	
1981–82	0.29	0.37	0.30
1982–83	0.36	0.29	0.25
1983–84	0.20	0.46	0.33
1984–85	0.43	0.29	0.25
1985–86	0.30	0.18	0.16
1986–87	0.11	0.34	0.31
1987–88	0.22	0.40	0.37
1988–89	0.27	0.28	0.28
1989–90	0.44	0.37	0.37
1990–91	0.23	0.24	0.23
1991–92	0.18	0.20	0.20
1992–93	0.21	0.29	0.28
1993–94	0.43	0.32	0.34

Table D5: Deaths in prison custody by Indigenous status, 1981–82 to 2019–20 (rate per 100 relevant prisoners) (cont.)			
	Indigenous	Non-Indigenous	Total
1994–95	0.40	0.30	0.32
1995–96	0.40	0.24	0.27
1996–97	0.28	0.35	0.33
1997–98	0.29	0.43	0.40
1998–99	0.23	0.31	0.30
1999–2000	0.34	0.28	0.29
2000–01	0.31	0.24	0.26
2001–02	0.13	0.26	0.23
2002–03	0.27	0.17	0.19
2003–04	0.12	0.16	0.15
2004–05	0.14	0.16	0.15
2005–06	0.05	0.13	0.11
2006–07	0.12	0.16	0.15
2007–08	0.09	0.19	0.17
2008–09	0.09	0.17	0.15
2009–10	0.18	0.20	0.20
2010–11	0.16	0.21	0.20
2011–12	0.08	0.17	0.14
2012–13	0.11	0.20	0.17
2013–14	0.11	0.18	0.16
2014–15	0.15	0.18	0.17
2015–16	0.18	0.23	0.21
2016–17	0.14	0.19	0.18
2017–18	0.14	0.18	0.17
2018–19	0.13	0.23	0.21
2019–20	0.11	0.26	0.22

Source: AIC NDICP 1981–2020 [computer file]

Table D6: Deaths in prison custody by sex, 1981–82 to 2019–20 (rate per 100 relevant prisoners)		
	Male	Female
1981–82	0.26	1.19
1982–83	0.24	0.25
1983–84	0.33	0.26
1984–85	0.26	0.00
1985–86	0.15	0.36
1986–87	0.29	0.53

Table D6: Deaths in prison custody by sex, 1981–82 to 2019–20 (rate per 100 relevant prisoners) (cont.)		
	Male	Female
1987–88	0.38	0.15
1988–89	0.28	0.15
1989–90	0.38	0.26
1990–91	0.24	0.14
1991–92	0.20	0.13
1992–93	0.29	0.00
1993–94	0.32	0.72
1994–95	0.33	0.12
1995–96	0.28	0.00
1996–97	0.34	0.18
1997–98	0.42	0.18
1998–99	0.30	0.22
1999–2000	0.30	0.29
2000–01	0.27	0.13
2001–02	0.23	0.27
2002–03	0.19	0.19
2003–04	0.16	0.06
2004–05	0.15	0.23
2005–06	0.11	0.05
2006–07	0.15	0.05
2007–08	0.17	0.15
2008–09	0.15	0.09
2009–10	0.21	0.00
2010–11	0.20	0.15
2011–12	0.15	0.00
2012–13	0.18	0.04
2013–14	0.16	0.12
2014–15	0.18	0.03
2015–16	0.23	0.03
2016–17	0.18	0.18
2017–18	0.18	0.06
2018–19	0.22	0.06
2019–20	0.23	0.10

Source: AIC NDICP 1981–2020 [computer file]

Table D7: Deaths in prison custody by age category, 1979–80 to 2019–20 (n)					
	Under 25 years	25–39 years	40–54 years	55+ years	Total
1979–80	4	4	5	2	15
1980–81	5	14	7	2	28
1981–82	9	11	7	2	29
1982–83	5	12	4	4	25
1983–84	14	12	3	3	32
1984–85	5	14	4	4	27
1985–86	3	9	1	5	18
1986–87	10	16	8	3	37
1987–88	16	20	5	4	45
1988–89	10	15	8	3	36
1989–90	16	23	8	6	53
1990–91	8	12	5	10	35
1991–92	7	12	8	4	31
1992–93	14	20	5	5	44
1993–94	12	27	10	8	57
1994–95	16	21	12	6	55
1995–96	12	21	11	5	49
1996–97	10	26	21	6	63
1997–98	25	30	16	9	80
1998–99	9	35	11	9	64
1999–2000	14	28	10	12	64
2000–01	7	32	6	13	58
2001–02	5	19	17	11	52
2002–03	6	17	12	9	44
2003–04	2	12	15	8	37
2004–05	3	16	11	9	39
2005–06	1	8	6	13	28
2006–07	3	9	11	17	40
2007–08	2	14	12	18	46
2008–09	1	16	16	10	43
2009–10	5	10	18	25	58
2010–11	5	18	15	20	58
2011–12	3	8	11	20	42
2012–13	2	10	22	19	53
2013–14	1	9	20	24	54

Table D7: Deaths in prison custody by age category, 1979–80 to 2019–20 (n) (cont.)					
	Under 25 years	25–39 years	40–54 years	55+ years	Total
2014–15	1	14	16	30	61
2015–16	5	16	19	43	83
2016–17	5	16	18	35	74
2017–18	5	14	27	26	72
2018–19	4	17	27	41	89
2019–20	1	19	23	46	89
Total	291	676	491	549	2,007

Note: Includes 357 Indigenous deaths in custody and 1,650 non-Indigenous deaths in custody

Source: AIC NDICP 1979–2020 [computer file]

Table D8: Indigenous deaths in prison custody by age category, 1979–80 to 2019–20 (n)					
	Under 25 years	25–39 years	40–54 years	55+ years	Total
1979–80	1	2	1	0	4
1980–81	0	1	1	0	2
1981–82	1	0	2	0	3
1982–83	0	4	0	0	4
1983–84	1	0	1	0	2
1984–85	0	4	1	0	5
1985–86	0	2	1	1	4
1986–87	0	1	1	0	2
1987–88	1	3	0	0	4
1988–89	3	2	0	0	5
1989–90	5	4	0	0	9
1990–91	1	4	0	0	5
1991–92	3	0	1	0	4
1992–93	3	1	0	1	5
1993–94	4	6	1	1	12
1994–95	5	5	2	0	12
1995–96	6	4	3	0	13
1996–97	1	9	0	0	10
1997–98	3	6	2	0	11
1998–99	3	3	4	0	10
1999–2000	2	9	3	0	14
2000–01	4	7	2	1	14
2001–02	1	3	2	0	6
2002–03	3	6	2	2	13
2003–04	1	3	2	0	6

Table D8: Indigenous deaths in prison custody by age category, 1979–80 to 2019–20 (n) (cont.)					
	Under 25 years	25–39 years	40–54 years	55+ years	Total
2004–05	0	5	3	0	8
2005–06	0	1	2	0	3
2006–07	2	2	2	2	8
2007–08	0	1	4	1	6
2008–09	0	4	2	1	7
2009–10	2	3	5	4	14
2010–11	1	9	2	0	12
2011–12	0	2	2	2	6
2012–13	1	3	5	0	9
2013–14	0	2	5	3	10
2014–15	0	3	8	4	15
2015–16	0	9	5	5	19
2016–17	1	5	3	7	16
2017–18	3	5	6	2	16
2018–19	0	2	8	6	16
2019–20	1	4	4	4	13
Total	63	149	98	47	357

Source: AIC NDICP 1979–2020 [computer file]

Table D9: Non-Indigenous deaths in prison custody by age category, 1979–80 to 2019–20 (n)					
	Under 25 years	25–39 years	40–54 years	55+ years	Total
1979–80	3	2	4	2	11
1980–81	5	13	6	2	26
1981–82	8	11	5	2	26
1982–83	5	8	4	4	21
1983–84	13	12	2	3	30
1984–85	5	10	3	4	22
1985–86	3	7	0	4	14
1986–87	10	15	7	3	35
1987–88	15	17	5	4	41
1988–89	7	13	8	3	31
1989–90	11	19	8	6	44
1990–91	7	8	5	10	30
1991–92	4	12	7	4	27
1992–93	11	19	5	4	39
1993–94	8	21	9	7	45

Table D9: Non-Indigenous deaths in prison custody by age category, 1979–80 to 2019–20 (n) (cont.)					
	Under 25 years	25–39 years	40–54 years	55+ years	Total
1994–95	11	16	10	6	43
1995–96	6	17	8	5	36
1996–97	9	17	21	6	53
1997–98	22	24	14	9	69
1998–99	6	32	7	9	54
1999–2000	12	19	7	12	50
2000–01	3	25	4	12	44
2001–02	4	16	15	11	46
2002–03	3	11	10	7	31
2003–04	1	9	13	8	31
2004–05	3	11	8	9	31
2005–06	1	7	4	13	25
2006–07	1	7	9	15	32
2007–08	2	13	8	17	40
2008–09	1	12	14	9	36
2009–10	3	7	13	21	44
2010–11	4	9	13	20	46
2011–12	3	6	9	18	36
2012–13	1	7	17	19	44
2013–14	1	7	15	21	44
2014–15	1	11	8	26	46
2015–16	5	7	14	38	64
2016–17	4	11	15	28	58
2017–18	2	9	21	24	56
2018–19	4	15	19	35	73
2019–20	0	15	19	42	76
Total	228	527	393	502	1,650

Source: AIC NDICP 1979–2020 [computer file]

Table D10: Deaths in prison custody by age category, 1981–82 to 2019–20 (rate per 100 relevant prisoners)				
	Under 25 years	25–39 years	40–54 years	55+ years
1981–82	0.23	0.24	0.66	1.01
1982–83	0.12	0.25	0.36	1.92
1983–84	0.38	0.25	0.28	1.53
1984–85	0.12	0.27	0.34	1.99
1985–86	0.07	0.16	0.07	2.18

Table D10: Deaths in prison custody by age category, 1981–82 to 2019–20 (rate per 100 relevant prisoners) (cont.)				
	Under 25 years	25–39 years	40–54 years	55+ years
1986–87	0.23	0.27	0.53	1.15
1987–88	0.37	0.33	0.31	1.50
1988–89	0.23	0.23	0.45	1.24
1989–90	0.34	0.32	0.41	1.99
1990–91	0.16	0.16	0.24	3.04
1991–92	0.14	0.15	0.36	1.05
1992–93	0.29	0.25	0.21	1.09
1993–94	0.24	0.31	0.37	1.45
1994–95	0.32	0.24	0.40	0.98
1995–96	0.23	0.23	0.36	0.73
1996–97	0.18	0.27	0.63	0.82
1997–98	0.46	0.29	0.47	1.11
1998–99	0.16	0.31	0.29	1.02
1999–2000	0.25	0.25	0.26	1.25
2000–01	0.12	0.27	0.15	1.30
2001–02	0.09	0.16	0.41	1.06
2002–03	0.11	0.14	0.26	0.77
2003–04	0.04	0.09	0.31	0.62
2004–05	0.06	0.12	0.21	0.64
2005–06	0.02	0.06	0.11	0.88
2006–07	0.06	0.06	0.18	1.10
2007–08	0.04	0.10	0.19	1.05
2008–09	0.02	0.11	0.24	0.56
2009–10	0.09	0.07	0.26	1.33
2010–11	0.09	0.12	0.21	1.00
2011–12	0.06	0.05	0.15	0.97
2012–13	0.04	0.06	0.29	0.87
2013–14	0.02	0.05	0.24	1.01
2014–15	0.02	0.08	0.18	1.15
2015–16	0.08	0.08	0.19	1.54
2016–17	0.08	0.08	0.17	1.14
2017–18	0.08	0.06	0.24	0.79
2018–19	0.07	0.08	0.24	1.19
2019–20	0.02	0.09	0.21	1.33

Source: AIC NDICP 1981–2020 [computer file]

Table D11: Deaths in prison custody by Indigenous status and legal status, 1979–80 to 2019–20 (n)							
	Indigenous		Non-Indigenous		Total		Total
	Sentenced	Unsentenced	Sentenced	Unsentenced	Sentenced	Unsentenced	
1979–80	2	2	9	2	11	4	15
1980–81	2	0	18	7	20	7	27
1981–82	3	0	16	9	19	9	28
1982–83	4	0	15	6	19	6	25
1983–84	2	0	17	13	19	13	32
1984–85	4	1	19	2	23	3	26
1985–86	2	1	7	5	9	6	15
1986–87	2	0	23	9	25	9	34
1987–88	2	2	27	13	29	15	44
1988–89	5	0	21	8	26	8	34
1989–90	9	0	26	15	35	15	50
1990–91	4	1	18	12	22	13	35
1991–92	3	1	18	9	21	10	31
1992–93	3	2	27	12	30	14	44
1993–94	9	3	29	16	38	19	57
1994–95	7	5	31	12	38	17	55
1995–96	9	4	27	9	36	13	49
1996–97	7	3	39	14	46	17	63
1997–98	6	5	42	27	48	32	80
1998–99	8	2	37	17	45	19	64
1999–2000	8	6	33	17	41	23	64
2000–01	7	7	35	9	42	16	58
2001–02	4	2	32	14	36	16	52
2002–03	7	6	17	14	24	20	44
2003–04	5	1	20	11	25	12	37
2004–05	5	3	17	14	22	17	39
2005–06	3	0	19	6	22	6	28
2006–07	8	0	22	10	30	10	40
2007–08	4	2	30	10	34	12	46
2008–09	6	1	21	15	27	16	43
2009–10	11	3	31	13	42	16	58
2010–11	9	3	32	14	41	17	58
2011–12	6	0	25	11	31	11	42
2012–13	9	0	32	12	41	12	53

Table D11: Deaths in prison custody by Indigenous status and legal status, 1979–80 to 2019–20 (n) (cont.)

	Indigenous		Non-Indigenous		Total		Total
	Sentenced	Unsentenced	Sentenced	Unsentenced	Sentenced	Unsentenced	
2013–14	9	1	33	10	42	11	53
2014–15	14	1	29	16	43	17	60
2015–16	14	5	49	15	63	20	83
2016–17	9	7	45	13	54	20	74
2017–18	9	7	38	18	47	25	72
2018–19	10	5	45	28	55	33	88
2019–20	8	5	59	17	67	22	89
Total	258	97	1,130	504	1,388	601	1,989

Note: Excludes 15 cases where legal status was not recorded, and 3 cases where legal status was recorded as 'other'
Source: AIC NDICP 1979–2020 [computer file]

Table D12: Deaths in prison custody by legal status, 1981–82 to 2019–20 (rate per 100 relevant prisoners)

	Sentenced	Unsentenced
1981–82	0.22	0.90
1982–83	0.21	0.56
1983–84	0.22	1.16
1984–85	0.25	0.21
1985–86	0.09	0.41
1986–87	0.24	0.57
1987–88	0.27	0.92
1988–89	0.23	0.48
1989–90	0.28	0.78
1990–91	0.17	0.66
1991–92	0.15	0.54
1992–93	0.21	0.74
1993–94	0.25	0.98
1994–95	0.25	0.85
1995–96	0.23	0.56
1996–97	0.28	0.66
1997–98	0.28	1.15
1998–99	0.25	0.59
1999–2000	0.23	0.61
2000–01	0.23	0.37
2001–02	0.20	0.36

Table D12: Deaths in prison custody by legal status, 1981–82 to 2019–20 (rate per 100 relevant prisoners) (cont.)

	Sentenced	Unsentenced
2002–03	0.13	0.42
2003–04	0.13	0.24
2004–05	0.11	0.33
2005–06	0.11	0.11
2006–07	0.14	0.16
2007–08	0.16	0.19
2008–09	0.12	0.25
2009–10	0.18	0.25
2010–11	0.18	0.25
2011–12	0.14	0.16
2012–13	0.18	0.16
2013–14	0.16	0.13
2014–15	0.16	0.17
2015–16	0.24	0.17
2016–17	0.19	0.15
2017–18	0.16	0.18
2018–19	0.19	0.23
2019–20	0.24	0.17

Source: AIC NDICP 1981–2020 [computer file]

Table D13: Deaths in prison custody by cause of death, 1979–80 to 2019–20 (n)

	Natural causes	Hanging	Head injury	External trauma	Gunshot	Alcohol/ drugs	Other/ multiple causes	Total
1979–80	8	3	1	3	0	0	0	15
1980–81	13	9	1	4	1	0	0	28
1981–82	8	10	0	5	1	2	3	29
1982–83	12	8	0	2	0	3	0	25
1983–84	5	20	0	2	1	4	0	32
1984–85	12	8	0	4	0	2	1	27
1985–86	7	8	0	0	0	2	1	18
1986–87	15	13	2	3	0	4	0	37
1987–88	10	22	0	6	0	5	0	43
1988–89	11	14	1	2	0	5	2	35
1989–90	16	27	0	6	1	2	1	53
1990–91	17	12	1	2	0	1	2	35
1991–92	8	14	2	2	1	4	0	31

Table D13: Deaths in prison custody by cause of death, 1979–80 to 2019–20 (n) (cont.)								
	Natural causes	Hanging	Head injury	External trauma	Gunshot	Alcohol/ drugs	Other/ multiple causes	Total
1992–93	11	19	1	4	1	5	3	44
1993–94	19	24	0	3	0	10	1	57
1994–95	15	27	0	7	0	6	0	55
1995–96	14	19	1	5	0	10	0	49
1996–97	28	23	1	4	0	7	0	63
1997–98	20	39	0	10	0	11	0	80
1998–99	18	26	0	8	0	12	0	64
1999–2000	21	29	1	6	0	6	1	64
2000–01	24	25	0	2	0	6	1	58
2001–02	24	21	0	3	1	2	1	52
2002–03	21	19	0	2	0	1	1	44
2003–04	18	13	1	3	0	2	0	37
2004–05	23	13	1	2	0	0	0	39
2005–06	18	6	1	3	0	0	0	28
2006–07	27	8	1	0	0	3	1	40
2007–08	36	6	0	2	0	0	2	46
2008–09	26	12	1	1	0	2	1	43
2009–10	38	13	1	4	0	0	2	58
2010–11	38	13	2	2	0	1	1	57
2011–12	32	8	0	1	0	0	0	41
2012–13	32	9	1	5	0	1	1	49
2013–14	39	11	0	2	0	2	0	54
2014–15	41	14	1	2	0	1	1	60
2015–16	58	11	1	4	0	5	3	82
2016–17	45	14	2	3	0	2	1	67
2017–18	45	12	0	6	0	3	0	66
2018–19	51	15	1	4	1	2	1	75
2019–20	59	11	0	6	0	3	2	81
Total	983	628	26	145	8	137	34	1,961

Note: Includes 344 Indigenous deaths in custody and 1,617 non-Indigenous deaths in custody. Excludes 46 cases where cause of death was not recorded

Source: AIC NDICP 1979–2020 [computer file]

Table D14: Indigenous deaths in prison custody by cause of death, 1979–80 to 2019–20 (n)								
	Natural causes	Hanging	Head injury	External trauma	Gunshot	Alcohol/drugs	Other/multiple causes	Total
1979–80	1	2	0	1	0	0	0	4
1980–81	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	2
1981–82	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	3
1982–83	3	0	0	1	0	0	0	4
1983–84	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	2
1984–85	3	0	0	2	0	0	0	5
1985–86	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	4
1986–87	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
1987–88	1	3	0	0	0	0	0	4
1988–89	2	2	0	0	0	1	0	5
1989–90	5	4	0	0	0	0	0	9
1990–91	3	1	0	1	0	0	0	5
1991–92	1	3	0	0	0	0	0	4
1992–93	2	3	0	0	0	0	0	5
1993–94	8	3	0	0	0	1	0	12
1994–95	4	7	0	0	0	1	0	12
1995–96	5	5	0	3	0	0	0	13
1996–97	4	5	0	0	0	1	0	10
1997–98	3	6	0	1	0	1	0	11
1998–99	4	4	0	1	0	1	0	10
1999–2000	6	6	0	1	0	1	0	14
2000–01	6	7	0	0	0	1	0	14
2001–02	2	4	0	0	0	0	0	6
2002–03	8	5	0	0	0	0	0	13
2003–04	4	1	0	0	0	1	0	6
2004–05	5	2	0	1	0	0	0	8
2005–06	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
2006–07	5	3	0	0	0	0	0	8
2007–08	5	0	0	0	0	0	1	6
2008–09	5	1	0	0	0	1	0	7
2009–10	11	3	0	0	0	0	0	14
2010–11	8	3	0	0	0	0	1	12
2011–12	5	1	0	0	0	0	0	6
2012–13	7	1	0	0	0	0	0	8

Table D14: Indigenous deaths in prison custody by cause of death, 1979–80 to 2019–20 (n) (cont.)								
	Natural causes	Hanging	Head injury	External trauma	Gunshot	Alcohol/ drugs	Other/ multiple causes	Total
2013–14	9	0	0	0	0	1	0	10
2014–15	10	2	0	2	0	0	0	14
2015–16	11	3	0	1	0	2	2	19
2016–17	9	4	0	0	0	0	1	14
2017–18	11	2	0	0	0	1	0	14
2018–19	11	1	0	0	1	0	0	13
2019–20	8	0	0	1	0	0	0	9
Total	207	98	1	16	2	15	5	344

Note: Excludes 13 cases where cause of death was not recorded

Source: AIC NDICP 1979–2020 [computer file]

Table D15: Non-Indigenous deaths in prison custody by cause of death, 1979–80 to 2019–20 (n)								
	Natural causes	Hanging	Head injury	External trauma	Gunshot	Alcohol/ drugs	Other/ multiple causes	Total
1979–80	7	1	1	2	0	0	0	11
1980–81	12	9	0	4	1	0	0	26
1981–82	6	10	0	5	0	2	3	26
1982–83	9	8	0	1	0	3	0	21
1983–84	4	20	0	2	1	3	0	30
1984–85	9	8	0	2	0	2	1	22
1985–86	4	7	0	0	0	2	1	14
1986–87	13	13	2	3	0	4	0	35
1987–88	9	19	0	6	0	5	0	39
1988–89	9	12	1	2	0	4	2	30
1989–90	11	23	0	6	1	2	1	44
1990–91	14	11	1	1	0	1	2	30
1991–92	7	11	2	2	1	4	0	27
1992–93	9	16	1	4	1	5	3	39
1993–94	11	21	0	3	0	9	1	45
1994–95	11	20	0	7	0	5	0	43
1995–96	9	14	1	2	0	10	0	36
1996–97	24	18	1	4	0	6	0	53
1997–98	17	33	0	9	0	10	0	69
1998–99	14	22	0	7	0	11	0	54
1999–2000	15	23	1	5	0	5	1	50

Table D15: Non-Indigenous deaths in prison custody by cause of death, 1979–80 to 2019–20 (n)
(cont.)

	Natural causes	Hanging	Head injury	External trauma	Gunshot	Alcohol/drugs	Other/multiple causes	Total
2000–01	18	18	0	2	0	5	1	44
2001–02	22	17	0	3	1	2	1	46
2002–03	13	14	0	2	0	1	1	31
2003–04	14	12	1	3	0	1	0	31
2004–05	18	11	1	1	0	0	0	31
2005–06	15	6	1	3	0	0	0	25
2006–07	22	5	1	0	0	3	1	32
2007–08	31	6	0	2	0	0	1	40
2008–09	21	11	1	1	0	1	1	36
2009–10	27	10	1	4	0	0	2	44
2010–11	30	10	2	2	0	1	0	45
2011–12	27	7	0	1	0	0	0	35
2012–13	25	8	1	5	0	1	1	41
2013–14	30	11	0	2	0	1	0	44
2014–15	31	12	1	0	0	1	1	46
2015–16	47	8	1	3	0	3	1	63
2016–17	36	10	2	3	0	2	0	53
2017–18	34	10	0	6	0	2	0	52
2018–19	40	14	1	4	0	2	1	62
2019–20	51	11	0	5	0	3	2	72
Total	776	530	25	129	6	122	29	1,617

Note: Excludes 33 cases where cause of death was not recorded

Source: AIC NDICP 1979–2020 [computer file]

Table D16: Deaths in prison custody by cause of death, 1981–82 to 2019–20 (rate per 100 prisoners)

	Natural causes	Hanging	External trauma	Alcohol/drugs	Other/multiple causes
1981–82	0.08	0.10	0.06	0.02	0.03
1982–83	0.12	0.08	0.02	0.03	0.00
1983–84	0.05	0.21	0.03	0.04	0.00
1984–85	0.11	0.07	0.04	0.02	0.01
1985–86	0.06	0.07	0.00	0.02	0.01
1986–87	0.12	0.11	0.04	0.03	0.00
1987–88	0.08	0.18	0.05	0.04	0.00
1988–89	0.08	0.11	0.02	0.04	0.02

Table D16: Deaths in prison custody by cause of death, 1981–82 to 2019–20 (rate per 100 prisoners) (cont.)					
	Natural causes	Hanging	External trauma	Alcohol/drugs	Other/multiple causes
1989–90	0.11	0.19	0.05	0.01	0.01
1990–91	0.11	0.08	0.02	0.01	0.01
1991–92	0.05	0.09	0.03	0.03	0.00
1992–93	0.07	0.12	0.04	0.03	0.02
1993–94	0.11	0.14	0.02	0.06	0.01
1994–95	0.09	0.15	0.04	0.03	0.00
1995–96	0.08	0.10	0.03	0.05	0.00
1996–97	0.15	0.12	0.03	0.04	0.00
1997–98	0.10	0.20	0.05	0.06	0.00
1998–99	0.08	0.12	0.04	0.06	0.00
1999–2000	0.10	0.13	0.03	0.03	<0.01
2000–01	0.11	0.11	0.01	0.03	<0.01
2001–02	0.11	0.09	0.02	0.01	<0.01
2002–03	0.09	0.08	0.01	<0.01	<0.01
2003–04	0.07	0.05	0.02	0.01	0.00
2004–05	0.09	0.05	0.01	0.00	0.00
2005–06	0.07	0.02	0.02	0.00	0.00
2006–07	0.10	0.03	<0.01	0.01	<0.01
2007–08	0.13	0.02	0.01	0.00	0.01
2008–09	0.09	0.04	0.01	0.01	<0.01
2009–10	0.13	0.04	0.02	0.00	0.01
2010–11	0.13	0.04	0.01	<0.01	<0.01
2011–12	0.11	0.03	<0.01	0.00	0.00
2012–13	0.10	0.03	0.02	<0.01	<0.01
2013–14	0.12	0.03	0.01	0.01	0.00
2014–15	0.11	0.04	0.01	<0.01	<0.01
2015–16	0.15	0.03	0.01	0.01	0.01
2016–17	0.11	0.03	0.01	<0.01	<0.01
2017–18	0.10	0.03	0.01	0.01	0.00
2018–19	0.12	0.03	0.01	<0.01	<0.01
2019–20	0.14	0.03	0.01	0.01	<0.01

Note: External trauma includes head injuries and gunshot wounds
Source: AIC NDICP 1981–2020 [computer file]

Table D17: Hanging deaths in prison custody by Indigenous status, 1981–82 to 2019–20 (rate per 100 relevant prisoners)

	Indigenous	Non-Indigenous
1981–82	0.00	0.14
1982–83	0.00	0.11
1983–84	0.00	0.31
1984–85	0.00	0.11
1985–86	0.08	0.09
1986–87	0.00	0.13
1987–88	0.17	0.19
1988–89	0.11	0.11
1989–90	0.20	0.19
1990–91	0.05	0.09
1991–92	0.13	0.08
1992–93	0.12	0.12
1993–94	0.11	0.15
1994–95	0.23	0.14
1995–96	0.15	0.09
1996–97	0.14	0.12
1997–98	0.16	0.21
1998–99	0.09	0.13
1999–2000	0.15	0.13
2000–01	0.16	0.10
2001–02	0.09	0.09
2002–03	0.10	0.07
2003–04	0.02	0.06
2004–05	0.04	0.06
2005–06	0.00	0.03
2006–07	0.05	0.02
2007–08	0.00	0.03
2008–09	0.01	0.05
2009–10	0.04	0.05
2010–11	0.04	0.05
2011–12	0.01	0.03
2012–13	0.01	0.04
2013–14	0.00	0.04
2014–15	0.02	0.05
2015–16	0.03	0.03

Table D17: Hanging deaths in prison custody by Indigenous status, 1981–82 to 2019–20 (rate per 100 relevant prisoners) (cont.)

	Indigenous	Non-Indigenous
2016–17	0.04	0.03
2017–18	0.02	0.03
2018–19	0.01	0.04
2019–20	0.00	0.04

Source: AIC NDICP 1981–2020 [computer file]

Table D18: Deaths in prison custody by manner of death, 1979–80 to 2019–20 (n)

	Natural causes	Self-inflicted	Unlawful homicide	Justifiable homicide	Accident	Other/not determined	Total
1979–80	8	6	0	0	0	0	14
1980–81	13	9	3	1	1	1	28
1981–82	8	13	3	1	3	1	29
1982–83	12	11	0	0	2	0	25
1983–84	5	22	1	0	2	2	32
1984–85	12	10	2	0	2	1	27
1985–86	7	9	0	0	2	0	18
1986–87	15	15	4	0	3	0	37
1987–88	10	22	1	0	9	1	43
1988–89	11	15	3	0	6	0	35
1989–90	16	28	5	0	4	0	53
1990–91	17	15	1	0	2	0	35
1991–92	8	15	3	1	4	0	31
1992–93	11	25	3	1	4	0	44
1993–94	19	28	4	0	5	1	57
1994–95	15	28	6	0	6	0	55
1995–96	14	25	4	0	6	0	49
1996–97	28	24	4	0	7	0	63
1997–98	20	41	9	0	9	1	80
1998–99	18	27	8	0	11	0	64
1999–2000	21	32	4	1	5	1	64
2000–01	24	27	1	0	6	0	58
2001–02	24	24	3	1	0	0	52
2002–03	21	21	1	0	1	0	44
2003–04	18	16	2	0	1	0	37
2004–05	23	16	0	0	0	0	39
2005–06	18	9	1	0	0	0	28

Table D18: Deaths in prison custody by manner of death, 1979–80 to 2019–20 (n) (cont.)							
	Natural causes	Self-inflicted	Unlawful homicide	Justifiable homicide	Accident	Other/not determined	Total
2006–07	27	8	1	0	4	0	40
2007–08	36	8	0	0	1	0	45
2008–09	26	14	0	0	3	0	43
2009–10	38	16	4	0	0	0	58
2010–11	38	16	2	0	1	0	57
2011–12	32	8	1	0	0	0	41
2012–13	32	13	3	0	0	1	49
2013–14	39	14	1	0	0	0	54
2014–15	41	18	0	0	0	1	60
2015–16	58	19	0	0	3	2	82
2016–17	45	19	2	0	0	1	67
2017–18	45	16	2	0	3	0	66
2018–19	51	17	5	0	0	0	73
2019–20	59	15	3	0	2	0	79
Total	983	734	100	6	118	14	1,955

Notes: The self-inflicted category includes self-harm, whether intentional, unintentional or unknown, and accidental hangings. Includes 343 Indigenous deaths in custody and 1,612 non-Indigenous deaths in custody. Excludes 51 cases where manner of death was not recorded and one case classified as excusable homicide

Source: AIC NDICP 1979–2020 [computer file]

Table D19: Indigenous deaths in prison custody by manner of death, 1979–80 to 2019–20 (n)							
	Natural causes	Self-inflicted	Unlawful homicide	Justifiable homicide	Accident	Other/not determined	Total
1979–80	1	3	0	0	0	0	4
1980–81	1	0	0	0	0	1	2
1981–82	2	0	0	1	0	0	3
1982–83	3	1	0	0	0	0	4
1983–84	1	0	0	0	1	0	2
1984–85	3	1	0	0	0	1	5
1985–86	3	1	0	0	0	0	4
1986–87	2	0	0	0	0	0	2
1987–88	1	3	0	0	0	0	4
1988–89	2	2	0	0	1	0	5
1989–90	5	4	0	0	0	0	9
1990–91	3	2	0	0	0	0	5
1991–92	1	3	0	0	0	0	4
1992–93	2	3	0	0	0	0	5
1993–94	8	3	1	0	0	0	12

Table D19: Indigenous deaths in prison custody by manner of death, 1979–80 to 2019–20 (n) (cont.)							
	Natural causes	Self-inflicted	Unlawful homicide	Justifiable homicide	Accident	Other/not determined	Total
1994–95	4	7	0	0	1	0	12
1995–96	5	6	2	0	0	0	13
1996–97	4	5	0	0	1	0	10
1997–98	3	6	1	0	1	0	11
1998–99	4	4	1	0	1	0	10
1999–2000	6	6	1	0	1	0	14
2000–01	6	7	0	0	1	0	14
2001–02	2	4	0	0	0	0	6
2002–03	8	5	0	0	0	0	13
2003–04	4	1	0	0	1	0	6
2004–05	5	3	0	0	0	0	8
2005–06	3	0	0	0	0	0	3
2006–07	5	3	0	0	0	0	8
2007–08	5	0	0	0	0	0	5
2008–09	5	1	0	0	1	0	7
2009–10	11	3	0	0	0	0	14
2010–11	8	4	0	0	0	0	12
2011–12	5	1	0	0	0	0	6
2012–13	7	1	0	0	0	0	8
2013–14	9	1	0	0	0	0	10
2014–15	10	4	0	0	0	0	14
2015–16	11	6	0	0	0	2	19
2016–17	9	4	1	0	0	0	14
2017–18	11	3	0	0	0	0	14
2018–19	11	1	1	0	0	0	13
2019–20	8	1	0	0	0	0	9
Total	207	113	8	1	10	4	343

Notes: The self-inflicted category includes self-harm, whether intentional, unintentional or unknown, and accidental hangings. Excludes 13 cases where manner of death was not recorded and one case classified as excusable homicide
Source: AIC NDICP 1979–2020 [computer file]

Table D20: Non-Indigenous deaths in prison custody by manner of death, 1979–80 to 2019–20 (n)							
	Natural causes	Self-inflicted	Unlawful homicide	Justifiable homicide	Accident	Other/not determined	Total
1979–80	7	3	0	0	0	0	10
1980–81	12	9	3	1	1	0	26
1981–82	6	13	3	0	3	1	26
1982–83	9	10	0	0	2	0	21
1983–84	4	22	1	0	1	2	30
1984–85	9	9	2	0	2	0	22
1985–86	4	8	0	0	2	0	14
1986–87	13	15	4	0	3	0	35
1987–88	9	19	1	0	9	1	39
1988–89	9	13	3	0	5	0	30
1989–90	11	24	5	0	4	0	44
1990–91	14	13	1	0	2	0	30
1991–92	7	12	3	1	4	0	27
1992–93	9	22	3	1	4	0	39
1993–94	11	25	3	0	5	1	45
1994–95	11	21	6	0	5	0	43
1995–96	9	19	2	0	6	0	36
1996–97	24	19	4	0	6	0	53
1997–98	17	35	8	0	8	1	69
1998–99	14	23	7	0	10	0	54
1999–2000	15	26	3	1	4	1	50
2000–01	18	20	1	0	5	0	44
2001–02	22	20	3	1	0	0	46
2002–03	13	16	1	0	1	0	31
2003–04	14	15	2	0	0	0	31
2004–05	18	13	0	0	0	0	31
2005–06	15	9	1	0	0	0	25
2006–07	22	5	1	0	4	0	32
2007–08	31	8	0	0	1	0	40
2008–09	21	13	0	0	2	0	36
2009–10	27	13	4	0	0	0	44
2010–11	30	12	2	0	1	0	45
2011–12	27	7	1	0	0	0	35
2012–13	25	12	3	0	0	1	41
2013–14	30	13	1	0	0	0	44

Table D20: Non-Indigenous deaths in prison custody by manner of death, 1979–80 to 2019–20 (n) (cont.)							
	Natural causes	Self-inflicted	Unlawful homicide	Justifiable homicide	Accident	Other/not determined	Total
2014–15	31	14	0	0	0	1	46
2015–16	47	13	0	0	3	0	63
2016–17	36	15	1	0	0	1	53
2017–18	34	13	2	0	3	0	52
2018–19	40	16	4	0	0	0	60
2019–20	51	14	3	0	2	0	70
Total	776	621	92	5	108	10	1,612

Notes: The self-inflicted category includes self-harm, whether intentional, unintentional or unknown, and accidental hangings. Excludes 38 cases where manner of death was not recorded

Source: AIC NDICP 1979–2020 [computer file]

Table D21: Deaths in prison custody by manner of death, 1981–82 to 2019–20 (rate per 100 prisoners)						
	Natural causes	Self-inflicted	Unlawful homicide	Justifiable homicide	Accident	Other/not determined
1981–82	0.08	0.13	0.03	0.01	0.03	0.01
1982–83	0.12	0.11	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.00
1983–84	0.05	0.23	0.01	0.00	0.02	0.02
1984–85	0.11	0.09	0.02	0.00	0.02	0.01
1985–86	0.06	0.08	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.00
1986–87	0.12	0.12	0.03	0.00	0.02	0.00
1987–88	0.08	0.18	0.01	0.00	0.07	0.01
1988–89	0.08	0.12	0.02	0.00	0.05	0.00
1989–90	0.11	0.20	0.03	0.00	0.03	0.00
1990–91	0.11	0.10	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.00
1991–92	0.05	0.10	0.02	0.01	0.03	0.00
1992–93	0.07	0.16	0.02	0.01	0.03	0.00
1993–94	0.11	0.17	0.02	0.00	0.03	0.01
1994–95	0.09	0.16	0.03	0.00	0.03	0.00
1995–96	0.08	0.14	0.02	0.00	0.03	0.00
1996–97	0.15	0.13	0.02	0.00	0.04	0.00
1997–98	0.10	0.21	0.05	0.00	0.05	0.01
1998–99	0.08	0.13	0.04	0.00	0.05	0.00
1999–2000	0.10	0.15	0.02	<0.01	0.02	<0.01
2000–01	0.11	0.12	<0.01	0.00	0.03	0.00
2001–02	0.11	0.11	0.01	<0.01	0.00	0.00
2002–03	0.09	0.09	<0.01	0.00	<0.01	0.00

Table D21: Deaths in prison custody by manner of death, 1981–82 to 2019–20 (rate per 100 prisoners) (cont.)

	Natural causes	Self-inflicted	Unlawful homicide	Justifiable homicide	Accident	Other/not determined
2003–04	0.07	0.07	0.01	0.00	<0.01	0.00
2004–05	0.09	0.06	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2005–06	0.07	0.03	<0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00
2006–07	0.10	0.03	<0.01	0.00	0.01	0.00
2007–08	0.13	0.03	0.00	0.00	<0.01	0.00
2008–09	0.09	0.05	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00
2009–10	0.13	0.05	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00
2010–11	0.13	0.05	0.01	0.00	<0.01	0.00
2011–12	0.11	0.03	<0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00
2012–13	0.10	0.04	0.01	0.00	0.00	<0.01
2013–14	0.12	0.04	<0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00
2014–15	0.11	0.05	0.00	0.00	0.00	<0.01
2015–16	0.15	0.05	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.01
2016–17	0.11	0.05	<0.01	0.00	0.00	<0.01
2017–18	0.10	0.04	<0.01	0.00	0.01	0.00
2018–19	0.12	0.04	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00
2019–20	0.14	0.04	0.01	0.00	<0.01	0.00

Note: Self-inflicted includes self-harm, whether intentional, unintentional or unknown, and accidental hangings
Source: AIC NDICP 1981–2020 [computer file]

Table D22: Deaths in prison custody by most serious offence, 1979–80 to 2019–20 (n)

	Violent	Theft-related	Drug-related	Traffic-related	Good order	Other	Total
1979–80	8	3	1	1	1	1	15
1980–81	9	7	3	2	5	1	27
1981–82	10	12	3	0	3	0	28
1982–83	11	5	1	2	4	1	24
1983–84	14	13	0	0	5	0	32
1984–85	13	9	2	2	0	0	26
1985–86	8	6	1	0	1	0	16
1986–87	14	10	2	1	5	0	32
1987–88	18	18	2	1	3	2	44
1988–89	21	10	1	1	1	2	36
1989–90	28	16	3	0	2	2	51
1990–91	19	10	2	0	1	3	35
1991–92	16	8	2	0	4	1	31

Table D22: Deaths in prison custody by most serious offence, 1979–80 to 2019–20 (n) (cont.)							
	Violent	Theft-related	Drug-related	Traffic-related	Good order	Other	Total
1992–93	18	19	3	0	2	1	43
1993–94	25	22	2	2	5	1	57
1994–95	28	18	4	2	2	1	55
1995–96	21	20	5	2	0	1	49
1996–97	29	18	7	2	4	3	63
1997–98	38	23	11	1	6	0	79
1998–99	27	26	5	1	5	0	64
1999–2000	33	24	2	2	1	2	64
2000–01	33	9	7	2	4	3	58
2001–02	28	11	5	2	4	2	52
2002–03	32	7	0	2	2	1	44
2003–04	29	2	3	0	1	2	37
2004–05	23	9	3	3	0	1	39
2005–06	22	4	1	0	1	0	28
2006–07	22	9	3	2	4	0	40
2007–08	31	5	4	3	3	0	46
2008–09	26	8	3	0	1	5	43
2009–10	39	5	3	5	0	6	58
2010–11	29	11	5	0	2	11	58
2011–12	27	5	7	0	3	0	42
2012–13	34	9	7	2	0	1	53
2013–14	36	9	5	0	1	3	54
2014–15	42	11	3	1	2	1	60
2015–16	62	5	4	3	7	2	83
2016–17	58	5	2	1	4	3	73
2017–18	59	5	3	1	4	0	72
2018–19	65	10	7	1	6	0	89
2019–20	67	4	11	2	4	1	89
Total	1,172	440	148	52	113	64	1,989

Note: Includes 355 Indigenous deaths in custody and 1,634 non-Indigenous deaths in custody. Excludes 18 cases where most serious offence was not recorded

Source: AIC NDICP 1979–2020 [computer file]

Table D23: Indigenous deaths in prison custody by most serious offence, 1979–80 to 2019–20 (n)							
	Violent	Theft-related	Drug-related	Traffic-related	Good order	Other	Total
1979–80	3	0	0	1	0	0	4
1980–81	0	0	0	0	2	0	2
1981–82	1	1	0	0	1	0	3
1982–83	3	0	0	1	0	0	4
1983–84	1	0	0	0	1	0	2
1984–85	4	0	0	1	0	0	5
1985–86	2	1	0	0	0	0	3
1986–87	1	1	0	0	0	0	2
1987–88	1	1	0	1	0	1	4
1988–89	2	2	0	0	1	0	5
1989–90	4	2	0	0	2	1	9
1990–91	2	2	0	0	0	1	5
1991–92	2	2	0	0	0	0	4
1992–93	3	2	0	0	0	0	5
1993–94	6	5	0	0	1	0	12
1994–95	8	2	0	1	0	1	12
1995–96	8	3	1	0	0	1	13
1996–97	6	2	1	0	0	1	10
1997–98	8	3	0	0	0	0	11
1998–99	4	4	0	0	2	0	10
1999–2000	8	6	0	0	0	0	14
2000–01	9	2	1	0	1	1	14
2001–02	3	2	1	0	0	0	6
2002–03	10	0	0	1	2	0	13
2003–04	6	0	0	0	0	0	6
2004–05	4	2	0	2	0	0	8
2005–06	1	1	0	0	1	0	3
2006–07	4	3	0	1	0	0	8
2007–08	3	0	0	3	0	0	6
2008–09	3	1	2	0	0	1	7
2009–10	9	2	1	1	0	1	14
2010–11	7	1	0	0	0	4	12
2011–12	3	2	1	0	0	0	6
2012–13	6	1	1	1	0	0	9
2013–14	7	2	0	0	0	1	10

Table D23: Indigenous deaths in prison custody by most serious offence, 1979–80 to 2019–20 (n) (cont.)							
	Violent	Theft-related	Drug-related	Traffic-related	Good order	Other	Total
2014–15	9	4	0	0	1	1	15
2015–16	16	0	0	2	1	0	19
2016–17	10	2	1	1	1	0	15
2017–18	14	2	0	0	0	0	16
2018–19	13	1	0	1	1	0	16
2019–20	9	1	1	1	1	0	13
Total	223	68	11	19	19	15	355

Note: Excludes 2 cases where most serious offence was not recorded

Source: AIC NDICP 1979–2020 [computer file]

Table D24: Non-Indigenous deaths in prison custody by most serious offence, 1979–80 to 2019–20 (n)							
	Violent	Theft-related	Drug-related	Traffic-related	Good order	Other	Total
1979–80	5	3	1	0	1	1	11
1980–81	9	7	3	2	3	1	25
1981–82	9	11	3	0	2	0	25
1982–83	8	5	1	1	4	1	20
1983–84	13	13	0	0	4	0	30
1984–85	9	9	2	1	0	0	21
1985–86	6	5	1	0	1	0	13
1986–87	13	9	2	1	5	0	30
1987–88	17	17	2	0	3	1	40
1988–89	19	8	1	1	0	2	31
1989–90	24	14	3	0	0	1	42
1990–91	17	8	2	0	1	2	30
1991–92	14	6	2	0	4	1	27
1992–93	15	17	3	0	2	1	38
1993–94	19	17	2	2	4	1	45
1994–95	20	16	4	1	2	0	43
1995–96	13	17	4	2	0	0	36
1996–97	23	16	6	2	4	2	53
1997–98	30	20	11	1	6	0	68
1998–99	23	22	5	1	3	0	54
1999–2000	25	18	2	2	1	2	50
2000–01	24	7	6	2	3	2	44
2001–02	25	9	4	2	4	2	46

Table D24: Non-Indigenous deaths in prison custody by most serious offence, 1979–80 to 2019–20 (n) (cont.)

	Violent	Theft-related	Drug-related	Traffic-related	Good order	Other	Total
2002–03	22	7	0	1	0	1	31
2003–04	23	2	3	0	1	2	31
2004–05	19	7	3	1	0	1	31
2005–06	21	3	1	0	0	0	25
2006–07	18	6	3	1	4	0	32
2007–08	28	5	4	0	3	0	40
2008–09	23	7	1	0	1	4	36
2009–10	30	3	2	4	0	5	44
2010–11	22	10	5	0	2	7	46
2011–12	24	3	6	0	3	0	36
2012–13	28	8	6	1	0	1	44
2013–14	29	7	5	0	1	2	44
2014–15	33	7	3	1	1	0	45
2015–16	46	5	4	1	6	2	64
2016–17	48	3	1	0	3	3	58
2017–18	45	3	3	1	4	0	56
2018–19	52	9	7	0	5	0	73
2019–20	58	3	10	1	3	1	76
Total	949	372	137	33	94	49	1,634

Note: Excludes 16 cases where most serious offence was not recorded

Source: AIC NDICP 1979–2020 [computer file]

Table D25: Deaths in prison custody by location of death, 1979–80 to 2019–20 (n)

	Cell	Other custodial setting	Public hospital	Prison hospital	Psychiatric hospital	Public place	Other	Total
1979–80	5	0	7	0	0	0	0	12
1980–81	14	0	6	0	0	0	0	20
1981–82	6	0	10	0	0	0	0	16
1982–83	13	0	8	0	0	0	0	21
1983–84	23	0	6	0	0	0	0	29
1984–85	10	0	10	0	0	0	0	20
1985–86	9	0	4	0	0	0	0	13
1986–87	15	0	14	0	0	0	0	29
1987–88	26	0	8	0	0	0	0	34
1988–89	19	1	11	0	0	0	0	31

Table D25: Deaths in prison custody by location of death, 1979–80 to 2019–20 (n) (cont.)								
	Cell	Other custodial setting	Public hospital	Prison hospital	Psychiatric hospital	Public place	Other	Total
1989–90	31	2	10	0	0	1	0	44
1990–91	21	0	14	0	0	0	0	35
1991–92	18	1	9	2	0	1	0	31
1992–93	26	2	13	3	0	0	0	44
1993–94	34	2	11	10	0	0	0	57
1994–95	33	3	11	7	0	0	1	55
1995–96	34	4	9	1	0	0	1	49
1996–97	32	4	20	5	0	1	1	63
1997–98	53	4	16	7	0	0	0	80
1998–99	41	8	9	5	1	0	0	64
1999–2000	38	5	14	7	0	0	0	64
2000–01	35	2	18	1	0	2	0	58
2001–02	26	7	18	1	0	0	0	52
2002–03	21	5	13	5	0	0	0	44
2003–04	22	2	9	4	0	0	0	37
2004–05	16	1	17	5	0	0	0	39
2005–06	14	4	7	3	0	0	0	28
2006–07	14	2	14	10	0	0	0	40
2007–08	12	5	16	12	0	0	1	46
2008–09	18	1	17	7	0	0	0	43
2009–10	24	4	18	11	0	0	1	58
2010–11	21	0	27	10	0	0	0	58
2011–12	17	1	15	9	0	0	0	42
2012–13	23	4	21	5	0	0	0	53
2013–14	17	3	21	13	0	0	0	54
2014–15	29	2	10	18	0	0	2	61
2015–16	25	1	38	18	0	0	1	83
2016–17	36	0	28	8	1	0	1	74
2017–18	27	3	24	17	0	0	1	72
2018–19	42	4	25	16	0	1	1	89
2019–20	30	6	38	14	0	0	1	89
Total	970	93	614	234	2	6	12	1,931

Note: Includes 347 Indigenous deaths in custody and 1,584 non-Indigenous deaths in custody. Excludes 76 cases where location of death was not recorded

Source: AIC NDICP 1979–2020 [computer file]

Table D26: Deaths in prison custody by prison type, 1979–80 to 2019–20 (n)			
	Private	Government	Total
1979–80	0	15	15
1980–81	0	28	28
1981–82	0	29	29
1982–83	0	25	25
1983–84	0	32	32
1984–85	0	27	27
1985–86	0	18	18
1986–87	0	37	37
1987–88	0	45	45
1988–89	0	36	36
1989–90	0	53	53
1990–91	0	35	35
1991–92	0	31	31
1992–93	3	41	44
1993–94	5	52	57
1994–95	2	53	55
1995–96	5	44	49
1996–97	4	59	63
1997–98	10	70	80
1998–99	10	54	64
1999–2000	5	59	64
2000–01	10	48	58
2001–02	7	45	52
2002–03	6	38	44
2003–04	4	33	37
2004–05	6	33	39
2005–06	5	23	28
2006–07	4	36	40
2007–08	18	28	46
2008–09	11	32	43
2009–10	7	51	58
2010–11	12	46	58
2011–12	10	32	42
2012–13	9	44	53
2013–14	11	43	54

Table D26: Deaths in prison custody by prison type, 1979–80 to 2019–20 (n) (cont.)			
	Private	Government	Total
2014–15	13	48	61
2015–16	17	66	83
2016–17	21	53	74
2017–18	19	53	72
2018–19	18	71	89
2019–20	13	76	89
Total	265	1,742	2,007

Note: Includes 357 Indigenous deaths in custody and 1,650 non-Indigenous deaths in custody

Source: AIC NDICP 1979–2020 [computer file]

Appendix E: Data tables— Deaths in police custody and custody-related operations, 1989–90 to 2019–20

Table E1: Deaths in police custody and custody-related operations by jurisdiction, 1989–90 to 2019–20 (n)

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Total
1989–90	5	7	7	5	2	1	1	1	29
1990–91	3	9	6	4	2	0	0	2	26
1991–92	4	9	5	0	2	3	1	1	25
1992–93	16	14	3	1	4	0	0	0	38
1993–94	8	10	7	0	1	2	1	2	31
1994–95	14	5	4	3	1	1	0	1	29
1995–96	9	7	5	4	1	3	1	1	31
1996–97	16	2	2	6	2	1	0	5	34
1997–98	14	8	1	3	0	0	0	2	28
1998–99	6	4	6	3	0	0	0	2	21
1999–2000	11	4	4	5	7	0	0	4	35
2000–01	17	4	3	4	5	0	0	1	34
2001–02	13	13	3	6	1	0	0	5	41
2002–03	14	6	7	6	3	1	0	3	40
2003–04	15	6	9	6	2	0	1	3	42
2004–05	11	7	10	6	2	0	0	0	36
2005–06	6	2	4	6	4	0	1	1	24
2006–07	10	6	4	4	4	0	1	1	30
2007–08	7	8	5	4	4	1	0	5	34

Table E1: Deaths in police custody and custody-related operations by jurisdiction, 1989–90 to 2019–20 (n) (cont.)									
	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Total
2008–09	6	3	8	8	6	0	1	5	37
2009–10	5	6	6	3	1	1	1	4	27
2010–11	6	1	7	6	2	2	1	0	25
2011–12	11	3	7	5	3	0	0	2	31
2012–13	6	2	2	6	1	0	0	0	17
2013–14	1	5	3	1	2	0	0	1	13
2014–15	7	2	5	3	1	0	0	2	20
2015–16	6	1	3	2	3	1	0	1	17
2016–17	6	0	2	2	5	0	0	2	17
2017–18	6	5	4	3	2	0	1	0	21
2018–19	5	5	5	6	2	1	0	0	24
2019–20	6	6	6	2	0	2	0	2	24
Total	270	170	153	123	75	20	11	59	881

Note: Includes 171 Indigenous deaths in police custody, 704 non-Indigenous deaths in police custody and 6 deaths where Indigenous status was not stated or unknown. Excludes 3 cases categorised as 'Other Commonwealth'

Source: AIC NDICP 1989–2020 [computer file]

Table E2: Indigenous deaths in police custody and custody-related operations by jurisdiction, 1989–90 to 2019–20 (n)									
	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Total
1989–90	0	1	2	4	1	0	0	1	9
1990–91	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	3
1991–92	0	2	2	0	1	0	0	0	5
1992–93	3	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	5
1993–94	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	3
1994–95	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	3
1995–96	2	0	1	2	0	0	0	1	6
1996–97	2	0	0	3	0	1	0	2	8
1997–98	2	0	0	2	0	0	0	1	5
1998–99	2	0	2	1	0	0	0	2	7
1999–2000	0	0	1	2	1	0	0	0	4
2000–01	2	0	0	2	2	0	0	1	7
2001–02	1	0	0	2	0	0	0	5	8
2002–03	3	0	1	3	1	0	0	3	11
2003–04	4	0	1	2	0	0	0	3	10
2004–05	2	1	2	5	1	0	0	0	11
2005–06	0	1	1	3	1	0	0	1	7
2006–07	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	3
2007–08	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	2	5
2008–09	0	0	1	1	2	0	0	4	8
2009–10	2	0	0	2	0	0	0	2	6
2010–11	1	0	1	5	0	0	0	0	7
2011–12	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2
2012–13	0	0	0	3	1	0	0	0	4
2013–14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
2014–15	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	2	3
2015–16	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	3
2016–17	3	0	0	1	2	0	0	1	7
2017–18	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	3
2018–19	1	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	4
2019–20	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	2	3
Total	30	8	22	52	18	2	0	39	171

Source: AIC NDICP 1989–2020 [computer file]

Table E3: Non-Indigenous deaths in police custody and custody-related operations by jurisdiction, 1989–90 to 2019–20 (n)									
	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Total
1989–90	5	6	5	1	1	1	1	0	20
1990–91	3	9	4	3	2	0	0	2	23
1991–92	4	7	3	0	1	3	1	1	20
1992–93	13	14	2	0	4	0	0	0	33
1993–94	8	10	6	0	1	1	1	1	28
1994–95	14	4	4	2	0	1	0	1	26
1995–96	7	7	4	2	1	3	1	0	25
1996–97	14	2	2	3	2	0	0	3	26
1997–98	12	8	1	1	0	0	0	1	23
1998–99	4	4	4	2	0	0	0	0	14
1999–2000	11	4	3	3	6	0	0	4	31
2000–01	15	4	3	2	3	0	0	0	27
2001–02	12	13	3	4	1	0	0	0	33
2002–03	11	6	6	3	2	1	0	0	29
2003–04	11	6	8	4	2	0	1	0	32
2004–05	9	6	8	1	1	0	0	0	25
2005–06	6	1	3	3	3	0	1	0	17
2006–07	10	5	3	4	4	0	1	0	27
2007–08	7	8	4	4	2	1	0	3	29
2008–09	6	3	7	7	4	0	1	1	29
2009–10	3	6	6	1	1	1	1	2	21
2010–11	5	1	6	1	2	2	1	0	18
2011–12	11	3	7	5	3	0	0	0	29
2012–13	6	2	2	3	0	0	0	0	13
2013–14	1	5	3	1	2	0	0	0	12
2014–15	7	2	5	2	1	0	0	0	17
2015–16	6	1	3	1	2	1	0	0	14
2016–17	3	0	2	1	3	0	0	1	10
2017–18	5	4	3	3	1	0	1	0	17
2018–19	4	4	5	3	2	1	0	0	19
2019–20	6	6	3	1	0	1	0	0	17
Total	239	161	128	71	57	17	11	20	704

Note: Excludes 3 cases categorised as 'Other Commonwealth'

Source: AIC NDICP 1989–2020 [computer file]

Table E4: Deaths in police custody and custody-related operations by category of death, 1989–90 to 2019–20 (n)

	Category 1	Category 2	Total
1989–90	23	6	29
1990–91	24	2	26
1991–92	19	6	25
1992–93	20	18	38
1993–94	19	12	31
1994–95	18	12	30
1995–96	12	19	31
1996–97	13	21	34
1997–98	16	12	28
1998–99	14	7	21
1999–2000	14	22	36
2000–01	11	23	34
2001–02	13	28	41
2002–03	11	29	40
2003–04	11	31	42
2004–05	13	24	37
2005–06	6	18	24
2006–07	13	17	30
2007–08	13	21	34
2008–09	12	25	37
2009–10	11	16	27
2010–11	15	10	25
2011–12	15	16	31
2012–13	6	11	17
2013–14	5	8	13
2014–15	16	4	20
2015–16	13	4	17
2016–17	10	7	17
2017–18	17	4	21
2018–19	16	8	24
2019–20	20	4	24
Total	439	445	884

Note: For a definition of these categories, see Box 1 in the *Introduction*. Includes 171 Indigenous deaths in police custody, 707 non-Indigenous deaths in police custody and 6 deaths where Indigenous status was not stated or unknown

Source: AIC NDICP 1989–2020 [computer file]

Table E5: Deaths in police custody and custody-related operations by Indigenous status, 1989–90 to 2019–20 (n)			
	Indigenous	Non-Indigenous	Total ^a
1989–90	9	20	29
1990–91	3	23	26
1991–92	5	20	25
1992–93	5	33	38
1993–94	3	28	31
1994–95	3	27	30
1995–96	6	25	31
1996–97	8	26	34
1997–98	5	23	28
1998–99	7	14	21
1999–2000	4	32	36
2000–01	7	27	34
2001–02	8	33	41
2002–03	11	29	40
2003–04	10	32	42
2004–05	11	26	37
2005–06	7	17	24
2006–07	3	27	30
2007–08	5	29	34
2008–09	8	29	37
2009–10	6	21	27
2010–11	7	18	25
2011–12	2	29	31
2012–13	4	13	17
2013–14	1	12	13
2014–15	3	17	20
2015–16	3	14	17
2016–17	7	10	17
2017–18	3	17	21
2018–19	4	19	24
2019–20	3	17	24
Total	171	707	884

a: Includes 6 deaths where Indigenous status was not stated or unknown

Source: AIC NDICP 1989–2020 [computer file]

Table E6: Deaths in police custody and custody-related operations by Indigenous status and sex, 1989–90 to 2019–20 (n)

	Indigenous			Non-Indigenous			Total ^a		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
1989–90	8	1	9	19	1	20	27	2	29
1990–91	3	0	3	22	1	23	25	1	26
1991–92	2	3	5	18	2	20	20	5	25
1992–93	4	1	5	30	3	33	34	4	38
1993–94	2	1	3	24	4	28	26	5	31
1994–95	2	1	3	26	1	27	28	2	30
1995–96	6	0	6	24	1	25	30	1	31
1996–97	8	0	8	26	0	26	34	0	34
1997–98	4	1	5	21	2	23	25	3	28
1998–99	5	2	7	13	1	14	18	3	21
1999–2000	4	0	4	32	0	32	36	0	36
2000–01	7	0	7	26	1	27	33	1	34
2001–02	5	3	8	31	2	33	36	5	41
2002–03	9	2	11	27	2	29	36	4	40
2003–04	10	0	10	30	2	32	40	2	42
2004–05	11	0	11	23	3	26	34	3	37
2005–06	6	1	7	16	1	17	22	2	24
2006–07	3	0	3	24	3	27	27	3	30
2007–08	4	1	5	28	1	29	32	2	34
2008–09	8	0	8	29	0	29	37	0	37
2009–10	5	1	6	21	0	21	26	1	27
2010–11	7	0	7	18	0	18	25	0	25
2011–12	2	0	2	28	1	29	30	1	31
2012–13	3	1	4	13	0	13	16	1	17
2013–14	1	0	1	12	0	12	13	0	13
2014–15	2	1	3	15	2	17	17	3	20
2015–16	3	0	3	14	0	14	17	0	17
2016–17	6	1	7	10	0	10	16	1	17
2017–18	2	1	3	13	4	17	16	5	21
2018–19	3	1	4	17	2	19	21	3	24
2019–20	2	1	3	17	0	17	23	1	24
Total	147	24	171	667	40	707	820	64	884

a: Total includes 6 deaths where Indigenous status was not stated or unknown

Source: AIC NDICP 1989–2020 [computer file]

Table E7: Deaths in police custody and custody-related operations by age category, 1989–90 to 2019–20 (n)					
	10 ^a –24 years	25–39 years	40–54 years	55+ years	Total
1989–90	10	10	6	3	29
1990–91	9	14	2	1	26
1991–92	6	10	6	3	25
1992–93	14	9	12	3	38
1993–94	9	13	7	2	31
1994–95	10	11	9	0	30
1995–96	13	10	5	3	31
1996–97	11	14	5	4	34
1997–98	7	16	4	1	28
1998–99	7	10	2	1	20
1999–2000	8	21	6	1	36
2000–01	13	11	7	3	34
2001–02	16	14	9	2	41
2002–03	13	16	8	3	40
2003–04	12	20	9	1	42
2004–05	10	19	7	1	37
2005–06	6	13	4	1	24
2006–07	5	17	6	2	30
2007–08	7	13	12	2	34
2008–09	14	15	5	3	37
2009–10	9	11	5	2	27
2010–11	6	10	6	3	25
2011–12	4	18	7	2	31
2012–13	0	7	8	2	17
2013–14	0	4	7	2	13
2014–15	4	6	7	3	20
2015–16	2	5	8	2	17
2016–17	4	7	5	1	17
2017–18	4	7	8	2	21
2018–19	7	10	5	2	24
2019–20	2	10	12	0	24
Total	242	371	209	61	883

a: The legal age of criminal responsibility

Note: Includes 171 Indigenous deaths in police custody, 706 non-Indigenous deaths in police custody and 6 deaths where Indigenous status was not stated or unknown. Excludes one case where age was not recorded

Source: AIC NDICP 1989–2020 [computer file]

Table E8: Indigenous deaths in police custody and custody-related operations by age category, 1989–90 to 2019–20 (n)					
	10 ^a –24 years	25–39 years	40–54 years	55+ years	Total
1989–90	5	2	2	0	9
1990–91	1	2	0	0	3
1991–92	0	3	1	1	5
1992–93	3	1	1	0	5
1993–94	2	0	1	0	3
1994–95	0	2	1	0	3
1995–96	4	1	1	0	6
1996–97	6	1	1	0	8
1997–98	2	1	2	0	5
1998–99	4	2	0	1	7
1999–2000	2	2	0	0	4
2000–01	2	3	2	0	7
2001–02	2	4	2	0	8
2002–03	3	5	2	1	11
2003–04	6	3	1	0	10
2004–05	5	5	1	0	11
2005–06	2	5	0	0	7
2006–07	0	2	1	0	3
2007–08	1	2	2	0	5
2008–09	6	2	0	0	8
2009–10	3	3	0	0	6
2010–11	3	1	3	0	7
2011–12	0	2	0	0	2
2012–13	0	1	3	0	4
2013–14	0	1	0	0	1
2014–15	1	0	1	1	3
2015–16	0	1	1	1	3
2016–17	1	4	2	0	7
2017–18	0	1	1	1	3
2018–19	2	1	1	0	4
2019–20	1	1	1	0	3
Total	67	64	34	6	171

a: The legal age of criminal responsibility

Source: AIC NDICP 1989–2020 [computer file]

Table E9: Non-Indigenous deaths in police custody and custody-related operations by age category, 1989–90 to 2019–20 (n)					
	10^a–24 years	25–39 years	40–54 years	55+ years	Total
1989–90	5	8	4	3	20
1990–91	8	12	2	1	23
1991–92	6	7	5	2	20
1992–93	11	8	11	3	33
1993–94	7	13	6	2	28
1994–95	10	9	8	0	27
1995–96	9	9	4	3	25
1996–97	5	13	4	4	26
1997–98	5	15	2	1	23
1998–99	3	8	2	0	13
1999–2000	6	19	6	1	32
2000–01	11	8	5	3	27
2001–02	14	10	7	2	33
2002–03	10	11	6	2	29
2003–04	6	17	8	1	32
2004–05	5	14	6	1	26
2005–06	4	8	4	1	17
2006–07	5	15	5	2	27
2007–08	6	11	10	2	29
2008–09	8	13	5	3	29
2009–10	6	8	5	2	21
2010–11	3	9	3	3	18
2011–12	4	16	7	2	29
2012–13	0	6	5	2	13
2013–14	0	3	7	2	12
2014–15	3	6	6	2	17
2015–16	2	4	7	1	14
2016–17	3	3	3	1	10
2017–18	4	6	6	1	17
2018–19	5	8	4	2	19
2019–20	1	7	9	0	17
Total	175	304	172	55	706

a: The legal age of criminal responsibility

Note: Excludes one case where age was not recorded

Source: AIC NDICP 1989–2020 [computer file]

Table E10: Deaths in police custody and custody-related operations by cause of death, 1989–90 to 2019–20 (n)

	Natural causes	Hanging	Head injury	External trauma	Gunshot	Alcohol/ drugs	Other/ multiple causes	Total
1989–90	4	7	2	6	2	6	2	29
1990–91	3	5	3	3	8	2	2	26
1991–92	5	4	3	2	6	5	0	25
1992–93	0	6	6	8	11	4	3	38
1993–94	4	2	1	4	16	2	2	31
1994–95	1	0	4	5	11	7	2	30
1995–96	4	2	0	12	11	1	1	31
1996–97	2	2	3	10	15	2	0	34
1997–98	2	3	1	12	7	3	0	28
1998–99	6	2	0	6	2	4	1	21
1999–2000	2	2	3	13	15	1	0	36
2000–01	4	0	5	13	7	2	3	34
2001–02	4	2	8	17	6	1	3	41
2002–03	3	4	5	17	10	0	1	40
2003–04	4	4	1	16	11	3	3	42
2004–05	2	3	3	16	11	0	2	37
2005–06	3	2	6	5	6	2	0	24
2006–07	4	1	0	13	7	2	2	29
2007–08	7	1	2	13	9	1	1	34
2008–09	2	1	4	17	11	1	1	37
2009–10	3	1	3	8	8	1	3	27
2010–11	5	0	1	8	9	2	0	25
2011–12	1	0	2	15	6	2	4	30
2012–13	3	0	1	5	4	0	3	16
2013–14	1	0	1	4	6	0	1	13
2014–15	3	1	1	2	11	0	2	20
2015–16	3	0	1	3	6	0	4	17
2016–17	3	1	0	5	5	0	3	17
2017–18	1	0	1	3	8	0	2	15
2018–19	2	0	0	2	13	1	3	21
2019–20	0	0	0	3	16	3	0	22
Total	91	56	71	266	274	58	54	870

Note: Includes 169 Indigenous deaths in police custody, 697 non-Indigenous deaths in police custody and four deaths where Indigenous status was not stated or unknown. Excludes 14 cases where cause of death was not recorded

Source: AIC NDICP 1989–2020 [computer file]

Table E11: Indigenous deaths in police custody and custody-related operations by cause of death, 1989–90 to 2019–20 (n)

	Natural causes	Hanging	Head injury	External trauma	Gunshot	Alcohol/ drugs	Other/ multiple causes	Total
1989–90	2	2	1	2	1	1	0	9
1990–91	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	3
1991–92	2	1	1	0	0	1	0	5
1992–93	0	1	0	2	0	1	1	5
1993–94	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	3
1994–95	1	0	0	0	2	0	0	3
1995–96	0	1	0	5	0	0	0	6
1996–97	1	0	2	4	1	0	0	8
1997–98	1	2	0	1	0	1	0	5
1998–99	2	1	0	2	1	0	1	7
1999–2000	0	2	0	2	0	0	0	4
2000–01	1	0	1	4	1	0	0	7
2001–02	2	0	2	2	1	0	1	8
2002–03	2	1	2	5	1	0	0	11
2003–04	2	0	1	5	0	0	2	10
2004–05	2	2	0	5	0	0	2	11
2005–06	1	1	3	2	0	0	0	7
2006–07	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	3
2007–08	3	0	0	1	1	0	0	5
2008–09	1	1	3	2	1	0	0	8
2009–10	1	0	1	2	1	0	1	6
2010–11	1	0	1	3	1	1	0	7
2011–12	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	2
2012–13	1	0	1	0	0	0	2	4
2013–14	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
2014–15	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	3
2015–16	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	3
2016–17	2	0	0	2	0	0	3	7
2017–18	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	2
2018–19	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	3
2019–20	0	0	0	1	2	0	0	3
Total	36	15	24	56	16	5	17	169

Note: Excludes 2 cases where cause of death was not recorded

Source: AIC NDICP 1989–2020 [computer file]

Table E12: Non-Indigenous deaths in police custody and custody-related operations by cause of death, 1989–90 to 2019–20 (n)

	Natural causes	Hanging	Head injury	External trauma	Gunshot	Alcohol/ drugs	Other/ multiple causes	Total
1989–90	2	5	1	4	1	5	2	20
1990–91	2	5	2	2	8	2	2	23
1991–92	3	3	2	2	6	4	0	20
1992–93	0	5	6	6	11	3	2	33
1993–94	2	2	1	4	15	2	2	28
1994–95	0	0	4	5	9	7	2	27
1995–96	4	1	0	7	11	1	1	25
1996–97	1	2	1	6	14	2	0	26
1997–98	1	1	1	11	7	2	0	23
1998–99	4	1	0	4	1	4	0	14
1999–2000	2	0	3	11	15	1	0	32
2000–01	3	0	4	9	6	2	3	27
2001–02	2	2	6	15	5	1	2	33
2002–03	1	3	3	12	9	0	1	29
2003–04	2	4	0	11	11	3	1	32
2004–05	0	1	3	11	11	0	0	26
2005–06	2	1	3	3	6	2	0	17
2006–07	2	1	0	12	7	2	2	26
2007–08	4	1	2	12	8	1	1	29
2008–09	1	0	1	15	10	1	1	29
2009–10	2	1	2	6	7	1	2	21
2010–11	4	0	0	5	8	1	0	18
2011–12	1	0	1	15	6	2	3	28
2012–13	2	0	0	5	4	0	1	12
2013–14	1	0	1	3	6	0	1	12
2014–15	1	1	0	2	11	0	2	17
2015–16	3	0	0	2	6	0	3	14
2016–17	1	1	0	3	5	0	0	10
2017–18	0	0	0	3	7	0	2	12
2018–19	2	0	0	2	12	1	1	18
2019–20	0	0	0	2	11	3	0	16
Total	55	41	47	210	254	53	37	697

Note: Excludes 10 cases where cause of death was not recorded

Source: AIC NDICP 1989–2020 [computer file]

Table E13: Deaths in police custody and custody-related operations by manner of death, 1989–90 to 2019–20 (n)

	Natural causes	Self-inflicted	Unlawful homicide	Justifiable homicide	Accident	Other/not determined	Total
1989–90	4	9	1	1	13	0	28
1990–91	3	10	0	3	7	0	23
1991–92	5	9	0	4	7	0	25
1992–93	0	13	1	4	18	2	38
1993–94	4	11	0	9	6	1	31
1994–95	1	10	0	7	12	0	30
1995–96	4	12	0	4	11	0	31
1996–97	2	12	1	7	12	0	34
1997–98	2	8	1	5	12	0	28
1998–99	6	2	0	2	11	0	21
1999–2000	2	9	0	11	12	1	35
2000–01	4	8	1	2	19	0	34
2001–02	4	12	2	2	21	0	41
2002–03	3	16	1	4	15	0	39
2003–04	4	14	0	6	18	0	42
2004–05	2	13	3	6	12	0	36
2005–06	3	8	2	3	8	0	24
2006–07	4	10	0	3	12	0	29
2007–08	7	12	0	3	12	0	34
2008–09	2	10	1	4	18	1	36
2009–10	3	7	0	3	13	1	27
2010–11	6	5	0	6	8	0	25
2011–12	1	11	1	4	11	1	29
2012–13	3	5	0	1	7	0	16
2013–14	1	5	0	3	3	1	13
2014–15	3	3	0	10	4	0	20
2015–16	3	4	0	5	1	4	17
2016–17	3	3	0	4	5	2	17
2017–18	1	0	1	8	3	2	15
2018–19	2	6	0	9	3	1	21
2019–20	0	1	0	14	4	0	19
Total	92	258	16	157	318	17	858

Note: The self-inflicted category includes self-harm, whether intentional, unintentional or unknown, and accidental hangings. Includes 162 Indigenous deaths in police custody, 692 non-Indigenous deaths in police custody and four deaths where Indigenous status was not stated or unknown. Excludes 8 cases classified as excusable homicide and 18 cases where manner of death was not recorded

Source: AIC NDICP 1989–2020 [computer file]

Table E14: Indigenous deaths in police custody and custody-related operations by manner of death, 1989–90 to 2019–20 (n)

	Natural causes	Self-inflicted	Unlawful homicide	Justifiable homicide	Accident	Other/not determined	Total
1989–90	2	2	0	0	4	0	8
1990–91	1	0	0	0	1	0	2
1991–92	2	2	0	0	1	0	5
1992–93	0	1	0	0	4	0	5
1993–94	2	0	0	1	0	0	3
1994–95	1	0	0	2	0	0	3
1995–96	0	1	0	0	5	0	6
1996–97	1	1	1	0	5	0	8
1997–98	1	3	0	0	1	0	5
1998–99	2	1	0	1	3	0	7
1999–2000	0	2	0	0	2	0	4
2000–01	1	1	0	1	4	0	7
2001–02	2	1	1	0	4	0	8
2002–03	2	4	1	0	3	0	10
2003–04	2	1	0	0	7	0	10
2004–05	2	2	2	0	4	0	10
2005–06	1	2	2	0	2	0	7
2006–07	2	0	0	0	1	0	3
2007–08	3	1	0	0	1	0	5
2008–09	1	2	1	0	4	0	8
2009–10	1	1	0	0	4	0	6
2010–11	2	0	0	1	4	0	7
2011–12	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
2012–13	1	0	0	0	3	0	4
2013–14	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
2014–15	2	0	0	0	1	0	3
2015–16	0	1	0	0	1	1	3
2016–17	2	0	0	0	3	2	7
2017–18	1	0	0	0	1	0	2
2018–19	0	1	0	0	2	0	3
2019–20	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Total	37	31	8	6	77	3	162

Note: The self-inflicted category includes self-harm, whether intentional, unintentional or unknown, and accidental hangings. Excludes 5 cases classified as excusable homicide and four cases where manner of death was not recorded
Source: AIC NDICP 1989–2020 [computer file]

Table E15: Non-Indigenous deaths in police custody and custody-related operations by manner of death, 1989–90 to 2019–20 (n)							
	Natural causes	Self-inflicted	Unlawful homicide	Justifiable homicide	Accident	Other/not determined	Total
1989–90	2	7	1	1	9	0	20
1990–91	2	10	0	3	6	0	21
1991–92	3	7	0	4	6	0	20
1992–93	0	12	1	4	14	2	33
1993–94	2	11	0	8	6	1	28
1994–95	0	10	0	5	12	0	27
1995–96	4	11	0	4	6	0	25
1996–97	1	11	0	7	7	0	26
1997–98	1	5	1	5	11	0	23
1998–99	4	1	0	1	8	0	14
1999–2000	2	7	0	11	10	1	31
2000–01	3	7	1	1	15	0	27
2001–02	2	11	1	2	17	0	33
2002–03	1	12	0	4	12	0	29
2003–04	2	13	0	6	11	0	32
2004–05	0	11	1	6	8	0	26
2005–06	2	6	0	3	6	0	17
2006–07	2	10	0	3	11	0	26
2007–08	4	11	0	3	11	0	29
2008–09	1	8	0	4	14	1	28
2009–10	2	6	0	3	9	1	21
2010–11	4	5	0	5	4	0	18
2011–12	1	11	1	4	10	1	28
2012–13	2	5	0	1	4	0	12
2013–14	1	4	0	3	3	1	12
2014–15	1	3	0	10	3	0	17
2015–16	3	3	0	5	0	3	14
2016–17	1	3	0	4	2	0	10
2017–18	0	0	1	7	2	2	12
2018–19	2	5	0	9	1	1	18
2019–20	0	1	0	11	3	0	15
Total	55	227	8	147	241	14	692

Note: The self-inflicted category includes self-harm, whether intentional, unintentional or unknown, and accidental hangings. Excludes 3 cases classified as excusable homicide and 12 cases where manner of death was not recorded

Source: AIC NDICP 1989–2020 [computer file]

Table E16: Deaths in police custody and custody-related operations by most serious offence, 1989–90 to 2019–20 (n)

	Violent	Theft-related	Drug-related	Traffic-related	Good order	Other	Total
1989–90	4	6	0	3	15	1	29
1990–91	7	7	0	0	12	0	26
1991–92	5	2	1	2	11	4	25
1992–93	8	16	2	5	4	3	38
1993–94	14	7	0	3	4	3	31
1994–95	13	7	3	3	3	0	29
1995–96	13	9	0	4	4	1	31
1996–97	14	10	1	1	6	2	34
1997–98	6	6	0	4	9	1	26
1998–99	6	9	0	1	2	2	20
1999–2000	18	10	2	2	3	1	36
2000–01	9	7	0	6	7	5	34
2001–02	8	14	0	6	3	10	41
2002–03	7	8	1	9	4	10	39
2003–04	16	9	1	7	5	3	41
2004–05	16	9	3	5	2	1	36
2005–06	8	3	3	4	3	3	24
2006–07	9	2	1	6	0	8	26
2007–08	9	4	1	7	2	10	33
2008–09	11	3	0	12	5	4	35
2009–10	7	2	1	7	3	6	26
2010–11	9	3	0	7	2	1	22
2011–12	13	2	0	8	3	5	31
2012–13	7	2	0	2	1	3	15
2013–14	4	2	0	3	0	3	12
2014–15	13	1	1	2	1	2	20
2015–16	11	0	0	1	3	2	17
2016–17	6	2	0	2	1	5	16
2017–18	9	1	1	0	5	4	20
2018–19	12	3	1	0	1	3	20
2019–20	14	3	0	0	2	2	21
Total	306	169	23	122	126	108	854

Note: Includes 164 Indigenous deaths in police custody, 684 non-Indigenous deaths in police custody and 6 deaths where Indigenous status was not stated or unknown. Excludes 30 cases where most serious offence was not recorded

Source: AIC NDICP 1989–2020 [computer file]

Table E17: Indigenous deaths in police custody and custody-related operations by most serious offence, 1989–90 to 2019–20 (n)							
	Violent	Theft-related	Drug-related	Traffic-related	Good order	Other	Total
1989–90	1	4	0	1	3	0	9
1990–91	0	1	0	0	2	0	3
1991–92	1	0	0	0	3	1	5
1992–93	0	3	1	0	1	0	5
1993–94	1	0	0	0	2	0	3
1994–95	3	0	0	0	0	0	3
1995–96	0	4	0	1	1	0	6
1996–97	1	5	0	0	2	0	8
1997–98	0	1	0	0	4	0	5
1998–99	2	4	0	0	1	0	7
1999–2000	1	2	0	0	1	0	4
2000–01	3	2	0	0	1	1	7
2001–02	2	1	0	1	1	3	8
2002–03	1	2	0	2	2	3	10
2003–04	2	4	0	1	3	0	10
2004–05	5	5	0	0	1	0	11
2005–06	2	3	0	1	1	0	7
2006–07	0	1	0	0	0	1	2
2007–08	2	1	0	0	0	2	5
2008–09	3	1	0	0	3	1	8
2009–10	0	2	0	1	1	1	5
2010–11	1	3	0	1	1	0	6
2011–12	0	0	0	1	1	0	2
2012–13	0	1	0	1	0	1	3
2013–14	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
2014–15	0	0	1	0	0	2	3
2015–16	2	0	0	0	0	1	3
2016–17	2	1	0	1	1	2	7
2017–18	0	0	0	0	2	1	3
2018–19	0	2	0	0	1	0	3
2019–20	1	0	0	0	0	1	2
Total	36	53	2	13	39	21	164

Note: Excludes 7 cases where most serious offence was not recorded

Source: AIC NDICP 1989–2020 [computer file]

Table E18: Non-Indigenous deaths in police custody and custody-related operations by most serious offence, 1989–90 to 2019–20 (n)							
	Violent	Theft-related	Drug-related	Traffic-related	Good order	Other	Total
1989–90	3	2	0	2	12	1	20
1990–91	7	6	0	0	10	0	23
1991–92	4	2	1	2	8	3	20
1992–93	8	13	1	5	3	3	33
1993–94	13	7	0	3	2	3	28
1994–95	10	7	3	3	3	0	26
1995–96	13	5	0	3	3	1	25
1996–97	13	5	1	1	4	2	26
1997–98	6	5	0	4	5	1	21
1998–99	4	5	0	1	1	2	13
1999–2000	17	8	2	2	2	1	32
2000–01	6	5	0	6	6	4	27
2001–02	6	13	0	5	2	7	33
2002–03	6	6	1	7	2	7	29
2003–04	14	5	1	6	2	3	31
2004–05	11	4	3	5	1	1	25
2005–06	6	0	3	3	2	3	17
2006–07	9	1	1	6	0	7	24
2007–08	7	3	1	7	2	8	28
2008–09	8	2	0	12	2	3	27
2009–10	7	0	1	6	2	5	21
2010–11	8	0	0	6	1	1	16
2011–12	13	2	0	7	2	5	29
2012–13	7	1	0	1	1	2	12
2013–14	4	2	0	2	0	3	11
2014–15	13	1	0	2	1	0	17
2015–16	9	0	0	1	3	1	14
2016–17	4	1	0	1	0	3	9
2017–18	8	1	1	0	3	3	16
2018–19	11	1	1	0	0	3	16
2019–20	11	2	0	0	1	1	15
Total	266	115	21	109	86	87	684

Note: Excludes 23 cases where most serious offence was not recorded

Source: AIC NDICP 1989–2020 [computer file]

Table E19: Deaths in police custody and custody-related operations by location of death, 1989–90 to 2019–20 (n)

	Cell	Other custodial setting	Public hospital	Psychiatric hospital	Private property	Public place	Other	Total
1989–90	11	5	6	0	1	6	0	29
1990–91	6	4	7	0	5	4	0	26
1991–92	5	3	11	0	3	3	0	25
1992–93	3	2	13	0	3	15	2	38
1993–94	2	2	8	0	5	13	1	31
1994–95	2	2	7	0	5	14	0	30
1995–96	3	0	11	0	7	8	2	31
1996–97	2	2	12	0	4	12	2	34
1997–98	6	1	7	0	3	10	1	28
1998–99	3	2	10	0	2	3	1	21
1999–2000	1	1	8	0	9	17	0	36
2000–01	5	0	8	0	3	18	0	34
2001–02	2	2	9	0	5	23	0	41
2002–03	2	2	7	0	4	24	1	40
2003–04	4	0	3	0	8	27	0	42
2004–05	1	3	7	0	7	18	1	37
2005–06	2	1	5	0	4	12	0	24
2006–07	2	1	7	0	5	14	1	30
2007–08	1	0	18	0	4	11	0	34
2008–09	1	0	9	0	7	19	1	37
2009–10	3	1	9	0	5	8	1	27
2010–11	1	0	4	0	8	12	0	25
2011–12	1	1	6	0	8	15	0	31
2012–13	1	0	2	0	2	12	0	17
2013–14	0	0	1	0	5	6	1	13
2014–15	2	0	5	0	6	6	1	20
2015–16	0	1	6	0	8	2	0	17
2016–17	1	0	4	0	5	7	0	17
2017–18	3	0	6	1	4	6	1	21
2018–19	0	0	7	0	9	8	0	24
2019–20	0	3	8	0	4	7	2	24
Total	76	39	231	1	158	360	19	884

Note: Includes 171 Indigenous deaths in police custody, 707 non-Indigenous deaths in police custody and 6 deaths where Indigenous status was not stated or unknown

Source: AIC NDICP 1989–2020 [computer file]

Table E20: Deaths in police custody and custody-related operations by type of custody, 1989–90 to 2019–20 (n)					
	Institutional	Escape	Detainment	Other	Total
1989–90	20	0	9	0	29
1990–91	16	0	10	0	26
1991–92	13	0	11	1	25
1992–93	11	0	26	1	38
1993–94	8	0	21	2	31
1994–95	7	0	23	0	30
1995–96	7	0	24	0	31
1996–97	5	1	28	0	34
1997–98	10	0	18	0	28
1998–99	9	0	10	2	21
1999–2000	4	0	32	0	36
2000–01	6	0	27	1	34
2001–02	6	0	29	6	41
2002–03	6	1	30	3	40
2003–04	5	2	35	0	42
2004–05	7	0	29	1	37
2005–06	5	0	19	0	24
2006–07	5	0	23	2	30
2007–08	4	0	30	0	34
2008–09	4	1	32	0	37
2009–10	5	0	21	1	27
2010–11	3	0	22	0	25
2011–12	3	0	23	5	31
2012–13	1	0	15	1	17
2013–14	1	0	12	0	13
2014–15	5	0	15	0	20
2015–16	4	0	11	2	17
2016–17	4	0	13	0	17
2017–18	4	0	17	0	21
2018–19	2	0	19	3	24
2019–20	3	0	19	2	24
Total	193	5	653	33	884

Note: Includes 171 Indigenous deaths in police custody, 707 non-Indigenous deaths in police custody and 6 deaths where Indigenous status was not stated or unknown

Source: AIC NDICP 1989–2020 [computer file]

Table E21: Deaths in police custody and custody-related operations by method of detainment ^a , 1989–90 to 2019–20 (n)						
	Motor vehicle pursuit	Other pursuit	Siege	Raid	Other/shooting	Total
1989–90	5	1	0	0	3	9
1990–91	1	0	1	2	6	10
1991–92	2	2	1	0	6	11
1992–93	10	4	3	0	9	26
1993–94	5	1	4	1	10	21
1994–95	7	2	3	1	10	23
1995–96	9	0	3	1	11	24
1996–97	11	1	7	2	7	28
1997–98	11	1	2	0	4	18
1998–99	5	0	1	0	4	10
1999–2000	12	2	3	5	10	32
2000–01	12	6	6	2	1	27
2001–02	18	2	3	1	5	29
2002–03	15	4	3	1	7	30
2003–04	12	7	7	2	7	35
2004–05	11	4	2	1	11	29
2005–06	10	0	3	0	6	19
2006–07	9	2	4	0	8	23
2007–08	9	5	5	0	11	30
2008–09	15	1	6	3	7	32
2009–10	9	2	7	1	2	21
2010–11	7	2	5	5	3	22
2011–12	8	1	6	5	3	23
2012–13	5	3	2	4	1	15
2013–14	4	0	2	1	5	12
2014–15	2	0	2	0	11	15
2015–16	0	0	4	0	7	11
2016–17	4	1	1	1	6	13
2017–18	2	1	1	0	13	17
2018–19	0	2	3	0	14	19
2019–20	3	0	3	0	13	19
Total	233	57	103	39	221	653

a: Includes detainment-related deaths only

Note: Includes 99 Indigenous deaths in police custody, 549 non-Indigenous deaths in police custody and 5 cases where Indigenous status was not stated or unknown

Source: AIC NDICP 1989–2020 [computer file]

Table E22: Indigenous deaths in police custody and custody-related operations by method of detainment^a, 1989–90 to 2019–20 (n)

	Motor vehicle pursuit	Other pursuit	Siege	Raid	Other/shooting	Total
1989–90	3	0	0	0	1	4
1990–91	1	0	0	0	0	1
1991–92	0	0	0	0	1	1
1992–93	2	1	0	0	0	3
1993–94	0	0	0	0	1	1
1994–95	0	0	0	0	2	2
1995–96	5	0	0	0	0	5
1996–97	5	0	1	0	1	7
1997–98	0	0	0	0	1	1
1998–99	2	0	0	0	2	4
1999–2000	2	0	0	0	0	2
2000–01	2	1	0	1	1	5
2001–02	2	1	1	0	0	4
2002–03	1	2	0	0	3	6
2003–04	2	3	0	0	1	6
2004–05	3	3	0	0	0	6
2005–06	4	0	1	0	0	5
2006–07	0	0	0	0	0	0
2007–08	1	0	1	0	2	4
2008–09	2	0	1	0	2	5
2009–10	3	1	1	0	0	5
2010–11	4	0	0	1	0	5
2011–12	1	0	0	0	0	1
2012–13	1	2	0	0	0	3
2013–14	1	0	0	0	0	1
2014–15	0	0	0	0	0	0
2015–16	0	0	1	0	0	1
2016–17	2	1	0	0	2	5
2017–18	0	0	0	0	1	1
2018–19	0	2	0	0	0	2
2019–20	1	0	0	0	2	3
Total	50	17	7	2	23	99

a: Includes detainment-related deaths only

Source: AIC NDICP 1989–2020 [computer file]

Table E23: Non-Indigenous deaths in police custody and custody-related operations by method of detainment ^a , 1989–90 to 2019–20 (n)						
	Motor vehicle pursuit	Other pursuit	Siege	Raid	Other/shooting	Total
1989–90	2	1	0	0	2	5
1990–91	0	0	1	2	6	9
1991–92	2	2	1	0	5	10
1992–93	8	3	3	0	9	23
1993–94	5	1	4	1	9	20
1994–95	7	2	3	1	8	21
1995–96	4	0	3	1	11	19
1996–97	6	1	6	2	6	21
1997–98	11	1	2	0	3	17
1998–99	3	0	1	0	2	6
1999–2000	10	2	3	5	10	30
2000–01	10	5	6	1	0	22
2001–02	16	1	2	1	5	25
2002–03	14	2	3	1	4	24
2003–04	10	4	7	2	6	29
2004–05	8	1	2	1	11	23
2005–06	6	0	2	0	6	14
2006–07	9	2	4	0	8	23
2007–08	8	5	4	0	9	26
2008–09	13	1	5	3	5	27
2009–10	6	1	6	1	2	16
2010–11	3	2	5	4	3	17
2011–12	7	1	6	5	3	22
2012–13	4	1	2	4	1	12
2013–14	3	0	2	1	5	11
2014–15	2	0	2	0	11	15
2015–16	0	0	3	0	7	10
2016–17	2	0	1	1	4	8
2017–18	2	1	1	0	11	15
2018–19	0	0	3	0	13	16
2019–20	2	0	2	0	9	13
Total	183	40	95	37	194	549

a: Includes detainment-related deaths only

Source: AIC NDICP 1989–2020 [computer file]

Table E24: Motor vehicle pursuit deaths by Indigenous status and sex, 1989–90 to 2019–20 (n)									
	Indigenous			Non-Indigenous			Total		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
1989–90	2	1	3	2	0	2	4	1	5
1990–91	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	1
1991–92	0	0	0	2	0	2	2	0	2
1992–93	2	0	2	7	1	8	9	1	10
1993–94	0	0	0	4	1	5	4	1	5
1994–95	0	0	0	7	0	7	7	0	7
1995–96	5	0	5	4	0	4	9	0	9
1996–97	5	0	5	6	0	6	11	0	11
1997–98	0	0	0	11	0	11	11	0	11
1998–99	1	1	2	2	1	3	3	2	5
1999–2000	2	0	2	10	0	10	12	0	12
2000–01	2	0	2	10	0	10	12	0	12
2001–02	1	1	2	16	0	16	17	1	18
2002–03	1	0	1	12	2	14	13	2	15
2003–04	2	0	2	10	0	10	12	0	12
2004–05	3	0	3	7	1	8	10	1	11
2005–06	3	1	4	6	0	6	9	1	10
2006–07	0	0	0	8	1	9	8	1	9
2007–08	0	1	1	8	0	8	8	1	9
2008–09	2	0	2	13	0	13	15	0	15
2009–10	2	1	3	6	0	6	8	1	9
2010–11	4	0	4	3	0	3	7	0	7
2011–12	1	0	1	7	0	7	8	0	8
2012–13	1	0	1	4	0	4	5	0	5
2013–14	1	0	1	3	0	3	4	0	4
2014–15	0	0	0	2	0	2	2	0	2
2015–16	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2016–17	2	0	2	2	0	2	4	0	4
2017–18	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	2	2
2018–19	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2019–20	1	0	1	2	0	2	3	0	3
Total	44	6	50	174	9	183	218	15	233

Source: AIC NDICP 1989–2020 [computer file]

Table E25: Shooting deaths, 1989–90 to 2019–20 (n)				
	Shot by self	Shot by police	Shot by other person	Total
1989–90	0	2	0	2
1990–91	3	5	0	8
1991–92	2	4	0	6
1992–93	5	4	1	10
1993–94	7	9	0	16
1994–95	5	6	0	11
1995–96	7	4	0	11
1996–97	8	7	0	15
1997–98	2	5	0	7
1998–99	0	2	0	2
1999–2000	4	11	0	15
2000–01	4	3	0	7
2001–02	4	2	0	6
2002–03	5	5	0	10
2003–04	5	6	0	11
2004–05	5	6	0	11
2005–06	3	3	0	6
2006–07	4	3	0	7
2007–08	6	3	0	9
2008–09	6	5	0	11
2009–10	5	3	0	8
2010–11	3	6	0	9
2011–12	2	4	0	6
2012–13	3	1	0	4
2013–14	3	3	0	6
2014–15	1	10	0	11
2015–16	1	5	0	6
2016–17	1	4	0	5
2017–18	0	8	0	8
2018–19	4	9	0	13
2019–20	0	16	0	16
Total	108	164	1	273

Note: Includes 16 Indigenous deaths in police custody, 253 non-Indigenous deaths in police custody and four deaths where Indigenous status was not stated or unknown. Excludes one case where shooting death status was not recorded

Source: AIC NDICP 1989–2020 [computer file]

Table E26: Indigenous shooting deaths, 1989–90 to 2019–20 (n)

	Shot by self	Shot by police	Shot by other person	Total
1989–90	0	1	0	1
1990–91	0	0	0	0
1991–92	0	0	0	0
1992–93	0	0	0	0
1993–94	0	1	0	1
1994–95	0	2	0	2
1995–96	0	0	0	0
1996–97	1	0	0	1
1997–98	0	0	0	0
1998–99	0	1	0	1
1999–2000	0	0	0	0
2000–01	0	1	0	1
2001–02	1	0	0	1
2002–03	0	1	0	1
2003–04	0	0	0	0
2004–05	0	0	0	0
2005–06	0	0	0	0
2006–07	0	0	0	0
2007–08	1	0	0	1
2008–09	1	0	0	1
2009–10	1	0	0	1
2010–11	0	1	0	1
2011–12	0	0	0	0
2012–13	0	0	0	0
2013–14	0	0	0	0
2014–15	0	0	0	0
2015–16	0	0	0	0
2016–17	0	0	0	0
2017–18	0	0	0	0
2018–19	1	0	0	1
2019–20	0	2	0	2
Total	6	10	0	16

Source: AIC NDICP 1989–2020 [computer file]

Table E27: Non-Indigenous shooting deaths, 1989–90 to 2019–20 (n)				
	Shot by self	Shot by police	Shot by other person	Total
1989–90	0	1	0	1
1990–91	3	5	0	8
1991–92	2	4	0	6
1992–93	5	4	1	10
1993–94	7	8	0	15
1994–95	5	4	0	9
1995–96	7	4	0	11
1996–97	7	7	0	14
1997–98	2	5	0	7
1998–99	0	1	0	1
1999–2000	4	11	0	15
2000–01	4	2	0	6
2001–02	3	2	0	5
2002–03	5	4	0	9
2003–04	5	6	0	11
2004–05	5	6	0	11
2005–06	3	3	0	6
2006–07	4	3	0	7
2007–08	5	3	0	8
2008–09	5	5	0	10
2009–10	4	3	0	7
2010–11	3	5	0	8
2011–12	2	4	0	6
2012–13	3	1	0	4
2013–14	3	3	0	6
2014–15	1	10	0	11
2015–16	1	5	0	6
2016–17	1	4	0	5
2017–18	0	7	0	7
2018–19	3	9	0	12
2019–20	0	11	0	11
Total	102	150	1	253

Note: Excludes one case where shooting death status was not recorded

Source: AIC NDICP 1989–2020 [computer file]

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Statistical Report

Laura Doherty is a Research Analyst at the Australian Institute of Criminology.

Tom Sullivan is an acting Principal Research Analyst at the Australian Institute of Criminology.

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