## Data quality information — Corrective services, chapter 8

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| Data quality information |
| Data quality information (DQI) provides information against the seven Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) data quality framework dimensions, for a selection of performance indicators and/or measures in the Corrective services chapter. DQI for additional indicators will be progressively introduced in future reports.  Technical DQI has been supplied or agreed by relevant data providers. Additional Steering Committee commentary does not necessarily reflect the views of data providers. |
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### Escapes

Data quality information for this indicator has been developed by the Corrective Services Working Group, with additional Steering Committee comments.

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| Indicator definition and description | | | |  |
| Element | Corrective services performance indicator framework - outcome indicator | | | |
| Indicator | Rate of escapes from corrective services custody (per 100 prisoners/detainees) | | | |
| Measure (computation) | The indicator is defined as the rate of escapes from corrective services custody in each State/Territory during the reference period.  Numerator  Number of escapes:   * prisoners, disaggregated by open and secure prisons * periodic detainees.   Denominator  Annual average population:   * prisoners, disaggregated by open and secure prisons * periodic detainees.   The indicator is calculated as the number of escapes, divided by the annual average prisoner population, multiplied by 100.  The indicator is reported as the annual rate of escapes:   * prisoners, disaggregated by open and secure prisons * periodic detainees. | | | |
| Data source/s | Numerator/denominator  Corrective Services agencies in each State/Territory. | | | |
| Data Quality Framework Dimensions | |  | | |
| Institutional environment | The data for the escape rates is derived from the administrative databases of the corrective services agencies and is compiled for the Report on Government Services by each State/Territory. | | | |
| Relevance | The rate of escapes is an indicator of governments’ achievement against the objective of providing a safe, secure and humane custodial environment.  The prison escape rate represents all escapes by prisoners under the direct supervision of corrective services officers, including escapes during transfer between prisons, during transfer to or from a medical facility and escapes that occurred from direct supervision by corrective services outside a prison, for example during escort to a funeral or medical appointment.  The periodic detainee rate for periodic detainees represents all detainees who have been convicted of escape from lawful custody.  The escape rates exclude circumstances where the prisoner or detainee is not under direct corrective services supervision, for example, failure to return to prison from unescorted leave. Incidents occurring during transfer to/from court or from within a court complex are also excluded, as such security arrangements are usually delivered by other agencies. | | | |
| Timeliness | Data on escapes of prisoners/periodic detainees is published annually following the end of the reference period in which the escapes occurred. | | | |
| Accuracy | All escapes are recorded by corrective services agencies and the escape rates are calculated based on all escapes by prisoners and periodic detainees during the reference period. | | | |
| Coherence | All States/Territories apply the same definition for reporting prisoner and periodic detainee escapes and no substantive changes have been made to the indicator since reporting commenced. | | | |
| Accessibility | Five-year trend data for escape rates are reported in the attachment tables in the corrective services chapter of the Report on Government Services. The data for the numerators and denominators for the escape rates are also reported in the attachment tables. | | | |
| Interpretability | Rates of escape of prisoners and periodic detainees should be interpreted with caution. A single occurrence in a jurisdiction with a relatively small prisoner population, can significantly increase the rate in that jurisdiction, but would have only a minor impact in jurisdictions with larger prisoner populations. | | | |
| Data Gaps/Issues Analysis | | |  | |
| Key data gaps /issues | None. | | | |

### Completion of community orders

Data quality information for this indicator has been developed by the Corrective Services Working Group, with additional Steering Committee comments.

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| Indicator definition and description | | | |  |
| Element | Corrective services performance indicator framework - outcome indicator | | | |
| Indicator | Completion of community corrections orders (per cent) | | | |
| Measure (computation) | This indicator is defined as the number of orders successfully completed as a percentage of all community corrections orders completed during the reference period.  Numerator  Number of orders successfully completed in the counting period.  Denominator  Number of orders completed in the counting period.  The indicator is calculated as the number of orders successfully completed, divided by the number of total number of orders completed, multiplied by 100.  The indicator is reported as the percentage of orders successfully completed disaggregated by:   * restricted movement * reparation * supervision.   Order completion rates are reported separately for each State/Territory and Australia. | | | |
| Data source/s | Numerator/denominator  Corrective Services agencies in each State/Territory. | | | |
| Data Quality Framework Dimensions | |  | | |
| Institutional environment | The data for the completion of community orders indicator is derived from the administrative databases of the corrective services agencies and is compiled for the Report on Government Services by each State/Territory. | | | |
| Relevance | Completion of community corrections orders is an indicator of governments’ achievement against the objective of providing an effective community corrections environment.  The indicator represents all community based orders administered by Corrective Services that were successfully completed as a percentage of all orders completed, both successfully and unsuccessfully, in the reference period.  An order is successfully completed if the requirements of the order are satisfied. An order is unsuccessfully completed if the requirements of the order were breached for failure to meet the order requirements or because further offences were committed.  Orders discharged by corrective services or set aside by the court for reasons other than completion of the order or breaches of the conditions, for example, due to death or illness of the offender, are excluded from the count of completed orders. | | | |
| Timeliness | Data on community corrections order completions is published annually following the end of the reference period in which the order completions occurred. | | | |
| Accuracy | All order completions are recorded by corrective services agencies and the percentage of community corrections orders completed is based on all orders completed, both successfully and unsuccessfully, during the reference period. | | | |
| Coherence | All States/Territories apply the same definition for reporting community corrections order completions and there have been no substantive changes to the indicator since reporting commenced. | | | |
| Accessibility | Five-year trend data for order completion rates are reported in the attachment tables in the corrective services chapter of the Report on Government Services. | | | |
| Interpretability | Community corrections order completions should be interpreted with caution. The percentage of order completions may be affected by differences in the overall risk profiles of offender populations in jurisdictions and in the risk assessment and breach procedures applied by jurisdictions. | | | |
| Data Gaps/Issues Analysis | | |  | |
| Key data gaps /issues | None. | | | |

### Apparent unnatural deaths

Data quality information for this indicator has been developed by the Corrective Services Working Group, with additional Steering Committee comments.

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| Indicator definition and description | | | |  |
| Element | Corrective services performance indicator framework - Effectiveness | | | |
| Indicator | Rate of deaths from apparent unnatural causes in corrective services custody (per 100 prisoners/detainees) | | | |
| Measure (computation) | The indicator is defined as the rate of deaths from apparent unnatural causes of prisoners and periodic detainees in the custody of corrective services in each State/Territory during the reference period.  Numerator  Number of deaths from apparent unnatural causes:   * prisoners, disaggregated by open and secure prisons * periodic detainees.   Denominator  Annual average population:   * prisoners, disaggregated by open and secure prisons * periodic detainees.   The indicator is calculated as the number of deaths from apparent unnatural causes, divided by the annual average prisoner population, multiplied by 100.  The indicator is reported as the annual rate of deaths from apparent unnatural causes disaggregated by:   * prisoners and periodic detainees * Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander status.   Rates of deaths from apparent unnatural causes are reported separately for each State/Territory and Australia. | | | |
| Data source/s | Numerator/denominator  Corrective Services agencies in each State/Territory. | | | |
| Data Quality Framework Dimensions | |  | | |
| Institutional environment | The data for the apparent unnatural deaths rate is derived from the administrative databases of the corrective services agencies and is compiled for the Report on Government Services by each State/Territory.  Coroners investigate the circumstances surrounding all ‘reportable’ deaths to establish the cause of death. Reportable deaths include deaths of persons held in custody.  Deaths that occur in corrective services custody are also reported to the National Deaths in Custody Program. | | | |
| Relevance | The rate of deaths from apparent unnatural causes is an indicator of governments’ achievement against the objective of providing a safe, secure and humane custodial environment.  The indicator represents all deaths of prisoners and periodic detainees from apparent unnatural causes in corrective services custody. This includes deaths that occur within prisons and periodic detention centres, during transfer to or from prison, within a medical facility following transfer from prison, or in the custody of corrective services outside a custodial facility.  The rate of deaths from apparent unnatural causes does not include deaths from apparent natural or apparent unknown causes, or deaths of persons in the custody of police or juvenile justice agencies. | | | |
| Timeliness | Data on deaths of prisoners/periodic detainees from apparent unnatural causes is published annually following the end of the reference period in which the deaths occurred. | | | |
| Accuracy | The rates of deaths from apparent unnatural causes are calculated based on all prisoner and periodic detainee deaths that occur during the reference period.  Deaths of prisoners and periodic detainees in corrective services custody are provisionally classified as apparent natural or unnatural based on the circumstances of the death, but the classification may be revised at the conclusion of the coronial inquiry. | | | |
| Coherence | All States/Territories apply the same definition for reporting prisoner and periodic detainee deaths and no substantive changes have been made to the indicator since reporting commenced. | | | |
| Accessibility | Five-year trend data for apparent unnatural death rates are reported in the attachment tables in the corrective services chapter of the Report on Government Services. The data for the numerators and denominators for the rates of death from apparent unnatural causes are also reported in the attachment tables. | | | |
| Interpretability | The rates of deaths of prisoners and periodic detainees from apparent unnatural causes should be interpreted with caution. A single occurrence in a jurisdiction with a relatively small prisoner population, can significantly increase the rate in that jurisdiction, but would have only a minor impact in jurisdictions with larger prisoner populations. | | | |
| Data Gaps/Issues Analysis | | |  | |
| Key data gaps /issues | None. | | | |

### Assaults in custody

Data quality information for this indicator has been developed by the Corrective Services Working Group, with additional Steering Committee comments.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Indicator definition and description | | | |  |
| Element | Corrective services performance indicator framework - Effectiveness | | | |
| Indicator | Assaults in custody (per 100 prisoners/periodic detainees) | | | |
| Measure (computation) | The indicator is defined as the rate of assaults by prisoners/periodic detainees on other prisoners/detainees and staff during the reference period.  Numerator  Number of assaults by prisoners/periodic detainees on:   * other prisoners * other periodic detainees * staff.   Denominator  Annual average population:   * prisoners * periodic detainees.   The indicator is calculated as the number of assaults divided by the annual average prisoner/detainee population, multiplied by 100.  The indicator is reported as the annual rate of assaults disaggregated by:   * assaults * serious Assaults.   Assault rates are reported separately for each State/Territory and Australia. | | | |
| Data source/s | Numerator/denominator  Corrective Services agencies in each State/Territory. | | | |
| Data Quality Framework Dimensions | |  | | |
| Institutional environment | The data for the assault rates is derived from the administrative databases of the corrective services agencies and is compiled for the Report on Government Services by each State/Territory. | | | |
| Relevance | The rate of assaults is an indicator of governments’ achievement against the objective of providing a safe, secure and humane custodial environment.  Assault rates are based on assaults by prisoners/periodic detainees in corrective services custody on other prisoners, periodic detainees and prison staff. The rates include assaults that occur in public and private prisons, periodic detention centres and during transport between prisons.  The assault rate represents the number of victims of acts of physical violence committed by prisoners/periodic detainees resulting in physical injuries during the reference period, divided by the annual daily average prisoner/detainee population, multiplied by 100.  An assault victim is defined as a person subjected to physical violence by a prisoner/detainee in corrective services custody. Assaults are classified by the seriousness of the impact on the victim.  The category of ‘Assault’ refers to acts of physical violence that resulted in a physical injury but the victim did not require hospitalisation or on-going medical treatment  The category of ‘Serious assault’ refers to acts of physical violence resulting in injuries requiring medical treatment involving overnight hospitalisation in a medical facility or on‑going medical treatment and all sexual assaults. | | | |
| Timeliness | Data on assaults by prisoners/periodic detainees on other prisoners, periodic detainees and staff are published annually following the end of the reference period in which the assaults occurred. | | | |
| Accuracy | Incidents involving assaults by prisoners and periodic detainees within corrective services facilities are recorded by corrective services agencies. The assault rates are based on information provided in the reports on such incidents that occurred during the reference period.  In some jurisdictions, the corrective services agency does not have reliable access to information that is relevant to the classification of an assault, e.g. whether a victim required overnight hospitalisation or on-going medical treatment. | | | |
| Coherence | All States/Territories apply the same definition for reporting assaults by prisoners and periodic detainees on other prisoners, detainees and staff. The assault definition is subject to review by corrective services agencies to improve consistency and comparability. | | | |
| Accessibility | Five-year trend data for assault rates are reported in the attachment tables in the corrective services chapter of the Report on Government Services. | | | |
| Interpretability | The rates of assaults on prisoners, periodic detainees and staff should be interpreted with caution. A single occurrence in a jurisdiction with a relatively small prisoner/detainee population, can significantly increase the rate in that jurisdiction, but would have only a minor impact in jurisdictions with larger prisoner/detainee populations. | | | |
| Data Gaps/Issues Analysis | | |  | |
| Key data gaps /issues | The assaults indicator is not completely comparable due to differences between jurisdictions in the availability of information that is relevant to the classification of an assault. | | | |

### Offender-to-staff ratio

Data quality information for this indicator has been developed by the Corrective Services Working Group, with additional Steering Committee comments.

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| Indicator definition and description | | | |  |
| Element | Corrective services performance indicator framework – Efficiency | | | |
| Indicator | Offender-to-staff ratio | | | |
| Measure (computation) | The indicator is defined as the ratio of offenders under corrective services supervision in the community to the number of active full-time equivalent (FTE) employees in community corrections in each State/Territory.  Numerator  Annual average offender population.  Denominator  Average number of staff disaggregated by:   * operational staff * other staff.   The indicator is calculated as the annual average offender population, divided by the number of active FTE staff in community corrections.  The indicator is reported as the ratio of offenders to community corrections staff disaggregated by:   * operational staff * other staff.   Offender-to-staff ratios are reported separately for each State/Territory and Australia. | | | |
| Data source/s | Numerator/denominator  Corrective Services agencies in each State/Territory. | | | |
| Data Quality Framework Dimensions | |  | | |
| Institutional environment | The data for the offender-to-staff is derived from the administrative databases of the corrective services agencies and compiled for the Report on Government Services by each State/Territory. | | | |
| Relevance | The ratio of offenders to full-time community corrections staff is an indicator of governments’ achievement in efficient resource management by corrective services.  The ratio is based on the average number of full-time staff equivalent positions directly employed in community corrections at the end of each month, disaggregated by operational staff and other staff.  Operational staff refers to staff whose main responsibility involves the supervision or provision of support services directly to offenders. Other staff refers to staff whose responsibilities are primarily managerial or administrative.  ‘Active employee’ means a person who attends work and is paid or is on paid leave in the last pay period before the end of the reference period. | | | |
| Timeliness | Data on the ratio of offenders to community corrections staff is published annually following the end of the reference period. | | | |
| Accuracy | The offender-to-staff ratio is based on corrective services administrative data on the numbers of offenders under supervision by community corrections and the number of staff directly employed in community corrections during the reference period. | | | |
| Coherence | All States/Territories apply the same definition for reporting community corrections staff numbers and no substantive changes have been made to the indicator since reporting commenced. | | | |
| Accessibility | Five-year trend data for offender-to-staff ratios are reported in the attachment tables in the corrective services chapter of the Report on Government Services. | | | |
| Interpretability | Offender-to-staff ratios should be interpreted in conjunction with other factors such as the supervision and program requirements of the offender populations as well differences in geographic dispersion and isolation factors. | | | |
| Data Gaps/Issues Analysis | | |  | |
| Key data gaps /issues | None. | | | |

### Employment

Data quality information for this indicator has been developed by the Corrective Services Working Group, with additional Steering Committee comments.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Indicator definition and description | | | |  |
| Element | Corrective services performance indicator framework – Effectiveness | | | |
| Indicator | Prisoners/periodic detainees employed (per cent) | | | |
| Measure (computation) | The indicator is defined as the number of prisoners/periodic detainees employed as a percentage of those eligible to participate in employment in each State/Territory.  Numerator  Number of prisoners/periodic detainees employed.  Denominator  Total prisoner/periodic detainee population eligible to participate in employment.  The indicator is calculated as the number of prisoners/periodic detainees employed, divided by the total number of prisoners/ periodic detainees eligible to work, multiplied by 100.  The indicator is reported as the rate of prisoners/detainee employment disaggregated by employment category:   * commercial industries * service industries * work release.   Employment rates are reported separately for each State/Territory and Australia. | | | |
| Data source/s | Numerator/denominator  Corrective Services agencies in each State/Territory. | | | |
| Data Quality Framework Dimensions | |  | | |
| Institutional environment | The data for the prisoner employment indicator is derived from the administrative databases of the corrective services agencies and is compiled for the Report on Government Services by each State/Territory. | | | |
| Relevance | The percentage of prisoners/periodic detainees employed is an indicator of governments’ achievement against the objective of providing a safe, secure and humane custodial environment.  The employment indicator represents the number of prisoners/periodic detainees employed as a percentage of those eligible to participate in employment.  Prisoners/periodic detainees not eligible for employment may include those unable to participate in work programs because of full-time education, ill health, age-related factors or relatively short periods of imprisonment. | | | |
| Timeliness | Data on prisoner/periodic detainee employment is published annually following the end of the reference period. | | | |
| Accuracy | The prisoner/periodic detainee employment rates are based on corrective services administrative data on prisoners/periodic detainees participating in work and the number of prisoners/periodic detainees ineligible to participate in work during the reference period. | | | |
| Coherence | All States/Territories apply the same definition for reporting prisoner/periodic detainee employment. The definition allows jurisdictions to use either an average of the end-of- month data or an end-of-year snapshot of prisoner employment and prisoner population data. | | | |
| Accessibility | Five-year trend data for the percentage of prisoners in employment are reported in the attachment tables in the corrective services chapter of the Report on Government Services. | | | |
| Interpretability | The percentage of the total prison population ineligible to participate in employment varies between jurisdictions depending on the number of prisoners in the defined exclusion categories. | | | |
| Data Gaps/Issues Analysis | | |  | |
| Key data gaps /issues | None. | | | |

### Time out of cells

Data quality information for this indicator has been developed by the Corrective Services Working Group, with additional Steering Committee comments.

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| Indicator definition and description | | | |  |
| Element | Corrective services performance indicator framework – Effectiveness | | | |
| Indicator | Time out-of-cells (average hours per prisoner per day) | | | |
| Measure (computation) | The indicator is defined as the average number of hours per day that prisoners are not confined to their cells or units during the reference period.  Numerator  Total out-of-cell hours during the reference period.  Denominator  Days in reference period.  The indicator is calculated as the total hours out-of-cell divided by 365.25. The indicator is reported as the average time out of cell per prisoner per day disaggregated by:   * open/secure prisons.   Average time out-of-cell is reported separately for each State/Territory and Australia. | | | |
| Data source/s | Numerator/denominator  Corrective Services agencies in each State/Territory. | | | |
| Data Quality Framework Dimensions | |  | | |
| Institutional environment | The data for the time out-of-cells indicator is derived from the administrative databases of the corrective services agencies and is compiled for the Report on Government Services by each State/Territory. | | | |
| Relevance | Average time out-of-cell is an indicator of governments’ achievement against the objective of providing a safe, secure and humane custodial environment.  The total out-of-cell hours include all the hours when prisoners are free to leave their cells/units, for example for meals, exercise, work, study and recreation. The count of out-of-cell hours excludes periods for regular lock-ins or irregular lock-downs.  In locations where a curfew applies but prisoners are not locked in their cells due to the configuration of the prison/unit for other reasons, time out- of-cell is calculated as the time during which the curfew does not apply. | | | |
| Timeliness | Data on average time out-of-cell is published annually following the end of the reference period. | | | |
| Accuracy | Average time-out-of-cell is based on corrective services administrative data on the total out-of-cell hours for all prisoners during the reference period.  The average out-of-cell hours is based on the total out-of-cell hours for all prisoners during the year. | | | |
| Coherence | All States/Territories apply the same definition for calculating the average time out-of-cell and no substantive changes have been made to the indicator since reporting commenced. | | | |
| Accessibility | Five-year trend data for the average time out-of-cell are reported in the attachment tables in the corrective services chapter of the Report on Government Services. | | | |
| Interpretability | No issues. | | | |
| Data Gaps/Issues Analysis | | |  | |
| Key data gaps /issues | None. | | | |

### Community work

Data quality information for this indicator has been developed by the Corrective Services Working Group, with additional Steering Committee comments.

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| Indicator definition and description | | | |  |
| Element | Corrective services performance indicator framework – Effectiveness | | | |
| Indicator | Ratio of community work hours ordered to hours worked | | | |
| Measure (computation) | The indicator is defined as the ratio between (i) the number of community work hours directed to be worked on new orders made during the year, plus the hours of community work remaining on orders made in the previous year that were still in force and (ii) the number of hours actually worked during the current year.  The indicator is calculated as the total community work hours ordered to be worked divided by the total number of hours actually worked by offenders.  The ratio of community work hours ordered to hours worked is reported separately for each State/Territory and Australia.  Numerator  Number of hours directed to be worked.  Denominator  Number of hours actually worked. | | | |
| Data source/s | Numerator/denominator  Corrective Services agencies in each State/Territory. | | | |
| Data Quality Framework Dimensions | |  | | |
| Institutional environment | The data for the ratio of hours orders to orders worked is derived from the administrative databases of the corrective services agencies and is compiled for the Report on Government Services by each State/Territory. | | | |
| Relevance | The community work indicator is an indicator of governments’ achievement against the objective of providing an effective community corrections environment. | | | |
| Timeliness | Data on community work is published annually following the end of the reference period. | | | |
| Accuracy | The ratio of community work hours ordered to hours worked is based on corrective services administrative data on offenders’ compliance with the requirements of their orders.  All hours ordered to be worked on community corrections orders and all hours actually worked are recorded by corrective services agencies in order to monitor offenders’ compliance with the requirements of their orders. | | | |
| Coherence | All States/Territories that report data for this indicator apply the same definition for community work hours ordered and hours worked and no substantive changes have been made to the indicator since reporting commenced. | | | |
| Accessibility | Five year trend data for the ratio of community work hours ordered to hours worked are reported in the attachment tables the corrective services chapter of the Report on Government Services. | | | |
| Interpretability | The community work hours actually worked during the current reference period may relate to hours imposed as part of orders made in the previous year. The hours ordered to be worked in the current counting period may not need to be completed until the following year, depending on the expiry date of the order. Therefore, the community work ratio does not represent a direct measure of the hours ordered to be worked and the hours actually worked in relation to individual orders or, a particular offender’s compliance with the requirements of their order.  The ratio can be affected by factors such as availability of suitable community work projects in some geographic areas or for some categories of offenders, the levels of general compliance across all offenders with the requirements of their orders and by variations in the number of orders with community work requirements made by the courts. | | | |
| Data Gaps/Issues Analysis | | |  | |
| Key data gaps /issues | Two jurisdictions do not currently report all the data items required for the calculation of the ratio. | | | |

### Education and training

Data quality information for this indicator has been developed by the Corrective Services Working Group, with additional Steering Committee comments.

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| Indicator definition and description | | | |  |
| Element | Corrective services performance indicator framework – effectiveness | | | |
| Indicator | Prisoners participating in education and training (per cent) | | | |
| Measure (computation) | The indicator is defined as the number of prisoners participating in one or more accredited education and training courses under the Australian Qualifications Framework as a percentage of those eligible to participate.  Numerator  Number of prisoners participating in one or more accredited education and training courses.  Denominator  Number of prisoners eligible to participate in education and training programs.  The indicator is reported as the rate of prisoner participation in education disaggregated by course category:   * pre-certificate level 1 * vocational education and training * secondary school education * higher education.   The percentage of prisoners participating in education is reported separately for each State/Territory and Australia. | | | |
| Data source/s | Numerator/denominator  Corrective Services agencies in each State/Territory. | | | |
| Data Quality Framework Dimensions | |  | | |
| Institutional environment | The data for the education indicator is derived from the administrative databases of the corrective services agencies and is compiled for the Report on Government Services by each State/Territory . | | | |
| Relevance | The percentage of prisoners participating in education is an indicator of governments’ objective of providing program interventions to reduce the risk of re-offending.  Education participation does not include participation in non-accredited education programs or a range of offence related programs that are provided in prisons, such as drug and alcohol programs, psychological programs, psychological counselling and personal development courses.  Prisoners may be ineligible or unable to participate in education for reasons of ill health, relatively short period of imprisonment or other reason. | | | |
| Timeliness | Data on prisoner education is published annually following the end of the reference period. | | | |
| Accuracy | The percentage of prisoners participating in education is based on corrective services administrative data on prisoners participating in education and the number of prisoners eligible to participate in education during the reference period. | | | |
| Coherence | All States/Territories apply the same definition for reporting prisoner/periodic detainee participation in education. The definition allows jurisdictions to use either an average of the end-of- month data or an end-of-year snapshot of prisoner education and prisoner population data. | | | |
| Accessibility | Five-year trend data for the percentage of prisoners participating in education are reported in the attachment tables in the corrective services chapter of the Report on Government Services. | | | |
| Interpretability | The education participation rates should be interpreted with caution as the indicator does not assess participation relative to individual prisoner needs, or measure successful completion of education programs.  The percentage of the total prison population ineligible to participate in education varies between jurisdictions depending on the number of prisoners in the defined exclusion categories. | | | |
| Data Gaps/Issues Analysis | | |  | |
| Key data gaps /issues | None. | | | |

### Cost per prisoner/offender per day

Data quality information for this indicator has been developed by the Corrective Services Working Group, with additional Steering Committee comments.

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| Indicator definition and description | | | |  |
| Element | Corrective services performance indicator framework – Efficiency | | | |
| Indicator | Annual average operating expenditure per prisoner/offender per day | | | |
| Measure (computation) | The indicator is defined as the net operating expenditure per prisoner/offender per day during the reference period:  Numerator  Annual net operating expenditure on corrective services by:   * prisons, disaggregated by; secure, open (including periodic detention) and total * community corrections.   Denominator  Annual average population:   * prisons, disaggregated by; secure, open (including periodic detention) and total * offenders.   The indicator is calculated as the annual net operating expenditure on prisons/community corrections divided by the annual average prisoner/offender population and 365.25, multiplied by 100.  The indicator is reported as the average operating expenditure per:   * prisoner per day: * open prisons(including periodic detainees) * secure prisons * offender per day.   The average operating expenditure per prisoner/offender per days is reported separately for each State/Territory and Australia. | | | |
| Data source/s | Numerator/denominator  Corrective Services agencies in each State/Territory. | | | |
| Data Quality Framework Dimensions | |  | | |
| Institutional environment | The data for the operating expenditure per prisoner/offender is derived from the administrative and financial databases of the corrective services agencies and is compiled for the Report on Government Services by each State/Territory. | | | |
| Relevance | The average operating expenditure per prisoner/offender is an indicator of governments’ achievement of efficient resource management by corrective services.  Operating expenditure is expenditure of an on-going or recurrent nature  incurred by government in the delivery of corrective services, i.e. for the management, security and supervision of prisoners/periodic detainees in the custody of, and offenders under the supervision of, corrective services. | | | |
| Timeliness | Data on the operating expenditure per prisoner/offender is published annually following the end of the reference period. | | | |
| Accuracy | The operating expenditure per prisoner/offender is based on the full direct and indirect recurrent costs to government for the delivery of corrective services and the annual average prisoner/offender populations. | | | |
| Coherence | All States/Territories apply the same definition for reporting the operating expenditure per prisoner/offender. The operating expenditure is reported net of payroll tax, depreciation, revenue from own sources and prisoner transport costs. | | | |
| Accessibility | Five year trend data for cost per prisoner/offender are reported in the attachment tables the corrective services chapter of the Report on Government Services. The numerators and denominators for the cost per prisoner/offender are also reported in the attachment tables. | | | |
| Interpretability | Efficiency indicators are difficult to interpret in isolation and need to be considered in conjunction with effectiveness indicators. A low cost per prisoner, for example, can reflect less emphasis on providing prisoner programs to address the risk of re-offending.  Unit costs are also affected by differences in the profile of the prisoner and offender populations, geographic dispersion and isolation factors that  limit opportunities to reduce overheads through economies of scale. | | | |
| Data Gaps/Issues Analysis | | |  | |
| Key data gaps /issues | A review of the cost per prisoner/ offender found that all jurisdictions comply with the agreed national counting rules however there is variation in the extent to which prisoner health services costs are included in the operating expenditure as a result of differences in the service delivery and funding arrangements. Corrective services is currently addressing this issue. | | | |

### Prison utilisation

Data quality information for this indicator has been developed by the Corrective Services Working Group, with additional Steering Committee comments.

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| Indicator definition and description | | | |  |
| Element | Corrective services performance indicator framework – Efficiency | | | |
| Indicator | Utilisation of prison and periodic detention centre design capacity (per cent) | | | |
| Measure (computation) | The indicator is defined as the utilisation rate of the prison design capacity during the reference period.  Numerator  Annual average population:   * prisoners, disaggregated by open and secure prisons * periodic detainees.   Denominator  Annual average design capacity:   * prisons, disaggregated by open and secure prisons * periodic detention centres.   The indicator is calculated as the number of prisoners/periodic detainees, divided by the average design capacity, multiplied by 100.  The indicator is reported as the utilisation rate disaggregated by:   * open prisons * secure prisons * periodic detention centres.   Prison utilisation is reported separately for each State/Territory and Australia. | | | |
| Data source/s | Numerator/denominator  Corrective Services agencies in each State/Territory. | | | |
| Data Quality Framework Dimensions | |  | | |
| Institutional environment | The data for the prison utilisation is derived from the administrative databases of the corrective services agencies and is compiled for the Report on Government Services by each State/Territory. | | | |
| Relevance | The prison utilisation rate is an indicator of governments’ achievement of efficient resource management by corrective services.  The prison utilisation rate is an indicator of the extent to which the design capacity meets the demand for prison and periodic detention accommodation.  Included in the prison design capacity are:   * prisons * transitional centres * 24 hour court cells administered by corrective services * cells in police facilities administered by corrective services.   Design capacity does not include:   * additional bed places that have been placed in cells or units over and above the design capacity * accommodation used for special purposes, i.e. disciplinary segregation; observation or crisis care; or hospital or infirmary accommodation unless it is special accommodation for the long term accommodation for aged prisoners or prisoners with long term illnesses * facilities or sections of facilities that have been decommissioned * cells out of commission for maintenance or refurbishment. | | | |
| Timeliness | Data on the utilisation rates for prisons and periodic detention centres is published annually following the end of the reference period. | | | |
| Accuracy | The utilisation rates are based on capacity data maintained by the corrective services agencies for the management of the prison and periodic detention systems. | | | |
| Coherence | All States/Territories that report data for this indicator apply the same definition of design capacity. No substantive changes have been made to the indicator since reporting commenced. | | | |
| Accessibility | Five-year trend data for the prison utilisation rates are reported in the attachment tables in the corrective services chapter of the Report on Government Services. | | | |
| Interpretability | All prison systems require spare capacity to cater for the transfer of prisoners, special-purpose accommodation such as protection units, separate facilities for males and females and different security levels, and to manage short-term fluctuations in prisoner numbers. Percentages close to but not exceeding 100 per cent indicate better performance towards achieving efficient resource management. | | | |
| Data Gaps/Issues Analysis | | |  | |
| Key data gaps /issues | Two jurisdictions do not currently report prison utilisation rates. | | | |