Report on Government Services 2021
PART C, SECTION 6: LATEST UPDATE: 3 JUNE 2021

6 Police services

LATEST UPDATE 3 JUNE 2021:

Indicator results for:

⌄ [Magistrates' court decisions resulting in a guilty outcome for defendants, 2019-20 data](#)
⌄ [Crime victimisation, 2019-20 data](#)

Impact of COVID-19 on data for the Police services section

COVID-19 may affect data in this Report in a number of ways. This includes in respect of actual performance (that is, the impact of COVID-19 on service delivery in 2020 which is reflected in the data results), and the collection and processing of data (that is, the ability of data providers to undertake data collection and process results for inclusion in the Report).

For the Police services section, there has been some impact on the data that is attributable to COVID-19 but this has not affected either the comparability or completeness of any indicators. The introduction of COVID-19 related restrictions in March 2020 affected the volume of defendants adjudicated in the Magistrates' courts which affects the indicator on Magistrates' court decisions resulting in a guilty outcome for defendants.

Some specific footnoting identifies some additional technical matters in the data tables which may be applicable to individual jurisdictions.

The focus of performance reporting in this section is on police services, covering the operations of the police agencies of each State and Territory government, including the ACT community policing function performed by the Australian Federal Police.

The **Indicator Results** tab uses data from the data tables to provide information on the performance for each indicator in the **Indicator Framework**. The same data in the data tables are also available in CSV format.

Context

Objectives for police services

Police services aim to contribute to a safe and secure community that enables people to undertake their lawful pursuits confidently and safely. To achieve these aims, governments seek to provide police services that:

- are accessible, and responsive to community needs, including disaster and emergency management
- support the judicial process to bring to justice those people responsible for committing an offence
- provide safe custodial services

- are delivered with integrity, honesty and fairness

- promote safer behaviour on roads.

Governments aim for police services to meet these objectives in an equitable and efficient manner.

Service overview

Police services are the principal means through which State and Territory governments pursue the achievement of a safe and secure environment for the community. Across jurisdictions, police activity can be grouped into four broad activity areas:

- Community safety – preserving public order and promoting a safer community

- Crime – investigating crime and identifying and apprehending offenders

- Road safety – targeted operations to reduce the incidence of traffic offences and through attendance at, and investigation of, road traffic collisions and incidents

- Judicial services – support to the judicial process including the provision of safe custody for alleged offenders.

Police services also respond to more general needs in the community — for example, working with emergency management organisations and a wide range of government services and community groups, and advising on general policing issues.

Roles and responsibilities

Police services are predominantly the responsibility of State and Territory government agencies. They include the ACT community policing function performed by the Australian Federal Police (AFP) under an arrangement between the ACT and the Commonwealth Minister for Justice.

The Australian Government is responsible for the AFP. Data for the national policing function of the AFP and other national non-police law enforcement bodies (such as the Australian Criminal Intelligence Commission) are not included in this Report.

Funding

Funding for police services comes almost exclusively from State and Territory governments, with some limited specific purpose Australian Government grants. Nationally in 2019-20, total real recurrent expenditure (including user cost of capital, less revenue from own source and payroll tax) was $13.2 billion (table 6A.1).

Size and scope

Client groups

Broadly, the entire community is a 'client' of the police. Some members of the community, who have more direct dealings with the police, can be considered specific client groups, for example:

- victims of crime

- those suspected of, or charged with, committing offences[1]

- those reporting criminal incidents

- those involved in traffic-related incidents

- third parties (such as witnesses to crime and people reporting traffic accidents)

- those requiring police services for non-crime-related matters.

Staffing

Police staff may be categorised in two different ways:

- by 'sworn' status — sworn police officers exercise police powers, including the power to arrest, summons, caution, detain, fingerprint and search. Specialised activities may be outsourced or undertaken by administrative (unsworn) staff

- by operational status — an operational police staff member is any member (sworn or unsworn) whose primary duty is the delivery of police or police-related services to an external client (where an external client predominately refers to members of the public but may also include law enforcement outputs delivered to other government departments).

Operational status is considered the better estimate for the number of police staff actively engaged in the delivery of police-related services. Nationally in 2019-20, 91.7 per cent of the 78 350 police staff were operational (an increase from 90.5 per cent in 2012-13). This equates to 281 per 100 000 people, but varies across jurisdictions, in part, due to differing operating environments (figure 6.1 and table 6A.2).

Figure 6.1 **Police staff per 100 000 people**
by jurisdiction, by year
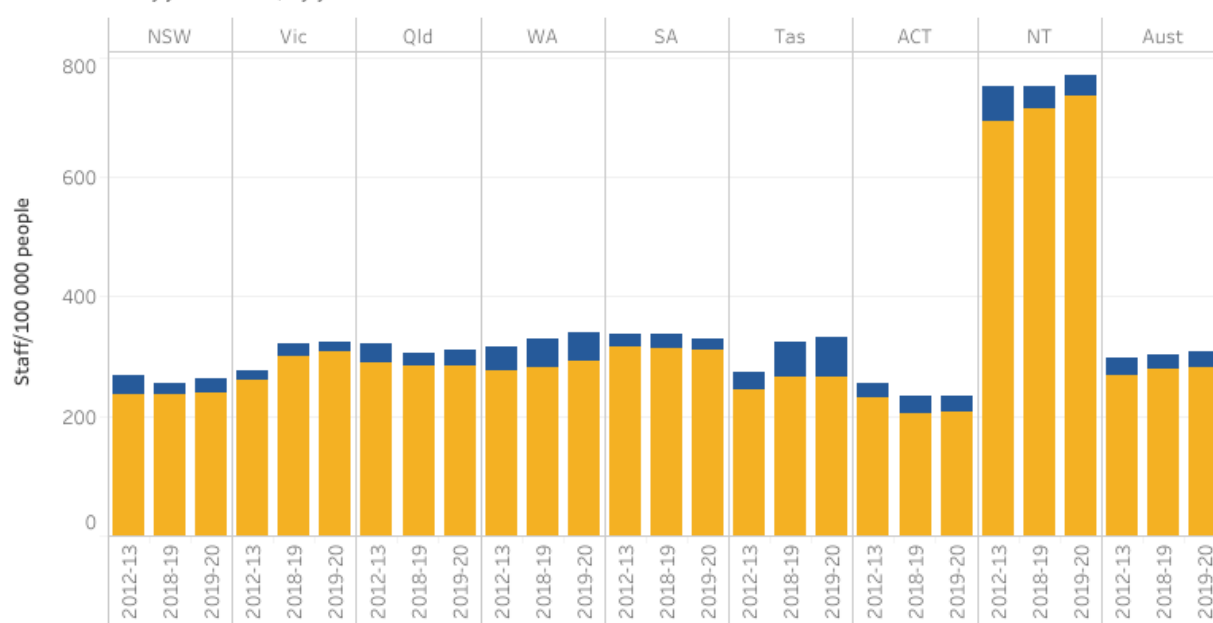
Source: table 6A.2

Data tables are referenced above by a '6A' prefix and all data (footnotes and data sources) are available for download from the supporting material below (both in Excel and CSV format).

Responsiveness

The responsiveness of police to calls for assistance is critical to the effectiveness of police services. Although the Steering Committee considers nationally comparable response times reporting a priority for this Report, currently there is no consistent public reporting of response times across states and territories. NSW, Qld, WA, SA and ACT police publish response times data in annual reports. Other jurisdictions do not report response times as part of their corporate reporting, and have advised they are unable to provide these data for this Report.

- *NSW Police Force* report the number of urgent (imminent threat to life or property) response calls and the percentage attended within a target time of 12 minutes. In 2019-20, NSW Police Force responded to 147 841 urgent response calls, attending 76.6 per cent of urgent duty jobs within the 12 minute target time.

- *Queensland Police Service* report the percentage of code 1 and code 2 incidents attended within 12 minutes. Data includes geographic areas covered by the Queensland Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) System. Code 1 and 2 incidents include very urgent matters when danger to human life is imminent and urgent matters involving injury or present threat of injury to person or property. In 2019-20, Queensland Police Service attended 87.0 per cent of urgent matters within the 12 minute target time.

- *WA Police Force* aim to respond to 80 per cent of priority 1 and 2 incidents – situations that require urgent attendance and include an imminent threat to life, serious offence or incident in progress – within 12 minutes in the Perth metropolitan area, and reported 80.0 per cent meeting this target in 2019-20. The target for priority 3 incidents – situations that require routine attendance and include an offence in progress/suspect at scene or the preservation of evidence – is 80 per cent within 60 minutes in the Perth metropolitan area (76.8 per cent achieved in 2019-20).

- *SA Police* reported that 95.4 per cent of Grade 1 taskings in the metropolitan area were responded to within 15 minutes in 2019-20. The target is 80 per cent or above.

- *ACT Policing* report response time targets for three incident categories:
  - *Priority One* incidents (life threatening or critical situations) are 80 per cent or more of responses within 10 minutes (85.6 per cent achieved in 2019-20)
  - *Priority Two* incidents (situations where the information provided indicates that time is important but not critical) are 80 per cent within 20 minutes (74.4 per cent achieved in 2019-20)
  - *Priority Three* incidents (situations where there is no immediate danger to safety or property but police attendance or response is needed no later than 48 hours from the initial contact by the complainant or a time agreed with the complainant) is 90 per cent within 48 hours (95.1 per cent achieved in 2019-20).

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1. The use of the term 'offender' in this section refers to a person who is alleged to have committed an offence. It differs from the definition used in section 8 ('Corrective services'), where the term 'offender' refers to a person who has been convicted of an offence and is subject to a correctional sentence.

References

NSW Police Force 2020, *Annual Report 2019-20.*

Queensland Police Service 2020, *2019-20 Annual Report.*

WA Police Force 2020, *2020 Annual Report.*

SA Police 2020, *2019-20 Annual Report.*

ACT Policing 2020, *Annual Report 2019-20.*

Indicator Framework

The performance indicator framework provides information on equity, efficiency and effectiveness, and distinguishes the outputs and outcomes of police services.

The performance indicator framework shows which data are complete and comparable in this Report. For data that are not considered directly comparable, text includes relevant caveats and supporting commentary. Section 1 discusses data comparability and completeness from a Report-wide perspective. In addition to the service area's Profile information, the Report's statistical context (Section 2) contains data that may assist in interpreting the performance indicators presented in this section.
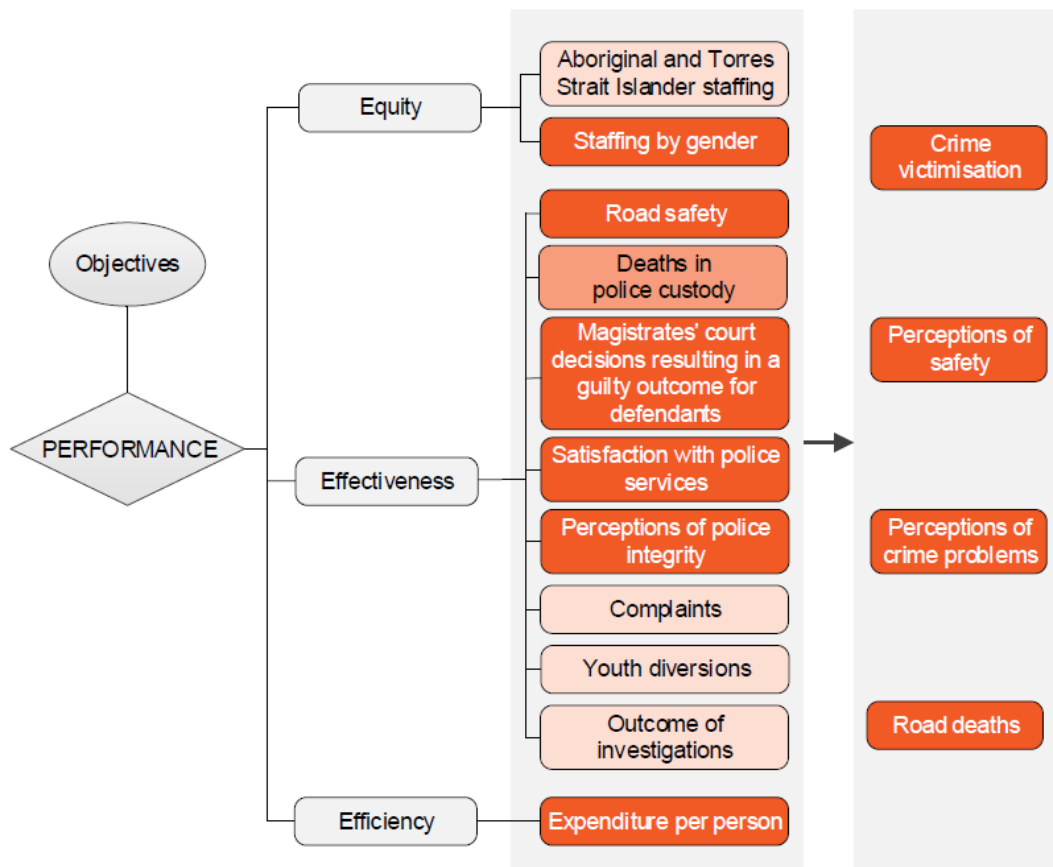
Improvements to performance reporting for police services are ongoing and include identifying data sources to fill gaps in reporting for performance indicators and measures, and improving the comparability and completeness of data.

Outputs

Outputs are the services delivered (while outcomes are the impact of these services on the status of an individual or group) (see section 1). Output information is also critical for equitable, efficient and effective management of government services.

Outcomes

Outcomes are the impact of services on the status of an individual or group (see section 1).

Objectives

PERFORMANCE

Equity
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander staffing
- Staffing by gender

Effectiveness
- Road safety
- Deaths in police custody
- Magistrates' court decisions resulting in a guilty outcome for defendants
- Satisfaction with police services
- Perceptions of police integrity
- Complaints
- Youth diversions
- Outcome of investigations

Efficiency
- Expenditure per person

Outputs

Outcomes
- Crime victimisation
- Perceptions of safety
- Perceptions of crime problems
- Road deaths

Key to indicators*

Text — Most recent data for all measures are comparable and complete

Text — Most recent data for at least one measure are comparable and complete

Text — Most recent data for all measures are either not comparable and/or not complete

Text — No data reported and/or no measures yet developed

* A description of the comparability and completeness of each measure is provided in indicator interpretation boxes within the section

Indicator Results

An overview of the Police services performance indicator results is presented. Different delivery contexts, locations and types of clients can affect the equity, effectiveness and efficiency of police services.

Information to assist the interpretation of these data can be found in the Police services supporting interpretative material and data tables. Data tables are identified by a '6A' prefix (for example, table 6A.1).

All data are available for download as an excel spreadsheet and as a CSV dataset — refer to Download supporting material. Specific data used in figures can be downloaded by clicking in the figure area, navigating to the bottom of the visualisation to the grey toolbar, clicking on the 'Download' icon and selecting 'Data' from the menu. Selecting 'PDF' or 'Powerpoint' from the 'Download' menu will download a static view of the performance indicator results.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander staffing is an indicator of governments' objective to provide police services in an equitable manner.

Measure: The proportion of police staff (operational and non-operational) from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander backgrounds compared with the proportion of the population aged 20–64 years who are from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander backgrounds.

Guidance: A proportion of police staff aged 20–64 years who are from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander backgrounds that is similar to the proportion of people aged 20–64 years who are from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander backgrounds is desirable.

■ Data are not comparable across jurisdictions or over time.

■ Data are complete (subject to caveats) for the current reporting period.
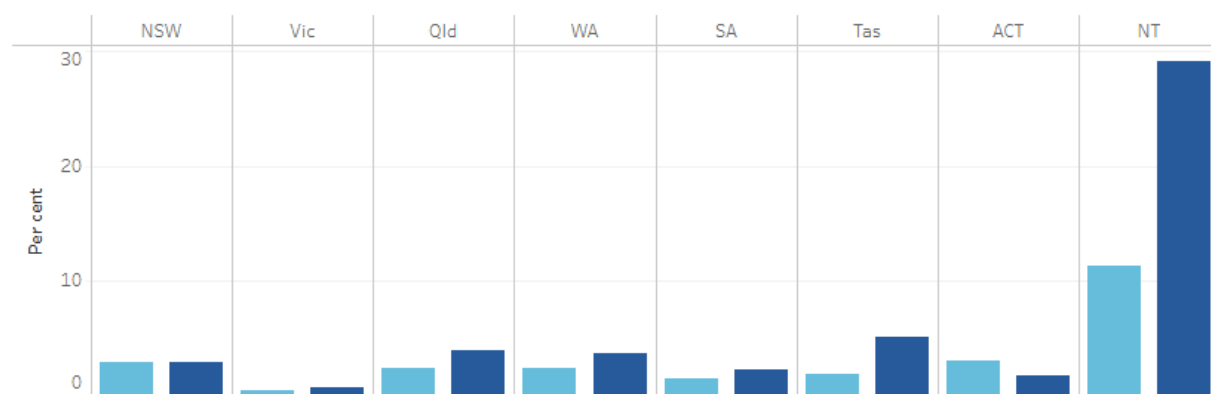
Select year:
2019-20 ▼

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander:
■ Proportion of total staff
■ Proportion of total population

Figure 6.2 **Proportion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander staff and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, 2019-20 aged 20–64 years, by jurisdiction**

Source: table 6A.2

In 2019-20, the proportion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander police staff relative to the representation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in the population aged 20–64 years was equal in NSW, higher in the ACT and lower in other jurisdictions.

Staffing by gender is an indicator of governments' objective to provide police services in an equitable manner.

*Measure*: The number of female police staff (sworn and unsworn) divided by the total number of police staff.

Guidance: A proportion of female police staff similar to the proportion of females in the population is desirable.

■ Data are comparable (subject to caveats) across jurisdictions and over time.

■ Data are complete (subject to caveats) for the current reporting period.

Select year(s):

(Multiple values) ▼

Figure 6.3 **Female police staff as a proportion of all staff** by jurisdiction, by year
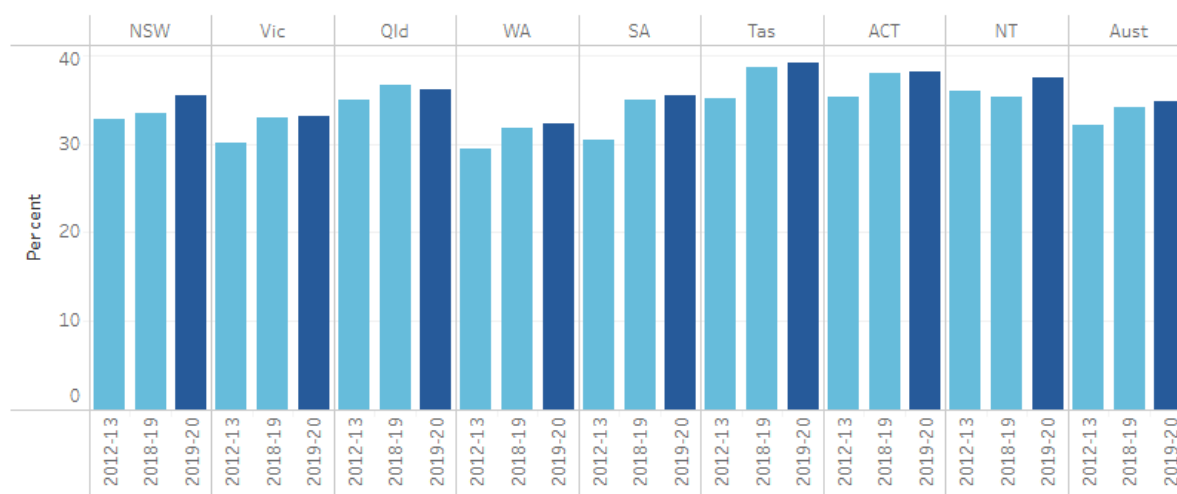
Source: table 6A.2

Nationally, 34.8 per cent of police staff were female in 2019-20, up from 32.2 per cent in 2012-13.

Road safety is an indicator of governments' objective to promote safer behaviour on roads. It is defined by three measures.

Measure 1: Use of seatbelts — the proportion of people who had driven in the previous 6 months and who indicated that, in that time, they had driven without wearing a seatbelt.
Measure 2: Driving under the influence — the proportion of people who had driven in the previous 6 months and who indicated that, in that time, they had driven when possibly over the alcohol limit.
Measure 3: Degree of speeding — the proportion of people who had driven in the previous 6 months and who indicated that, in that time, they had driven 10 kilometres per hour or more above the speed limit.

Guidance: A low or decreasing proportion of people who stated that they had driven without wearing a seatbelt, driven when possibly over the alcohol limit and/or driven 10 kilometres per hour or more above the speed limit is desirable.

■ Data are comparable (subject to caveats) across jurisdictions and over time.

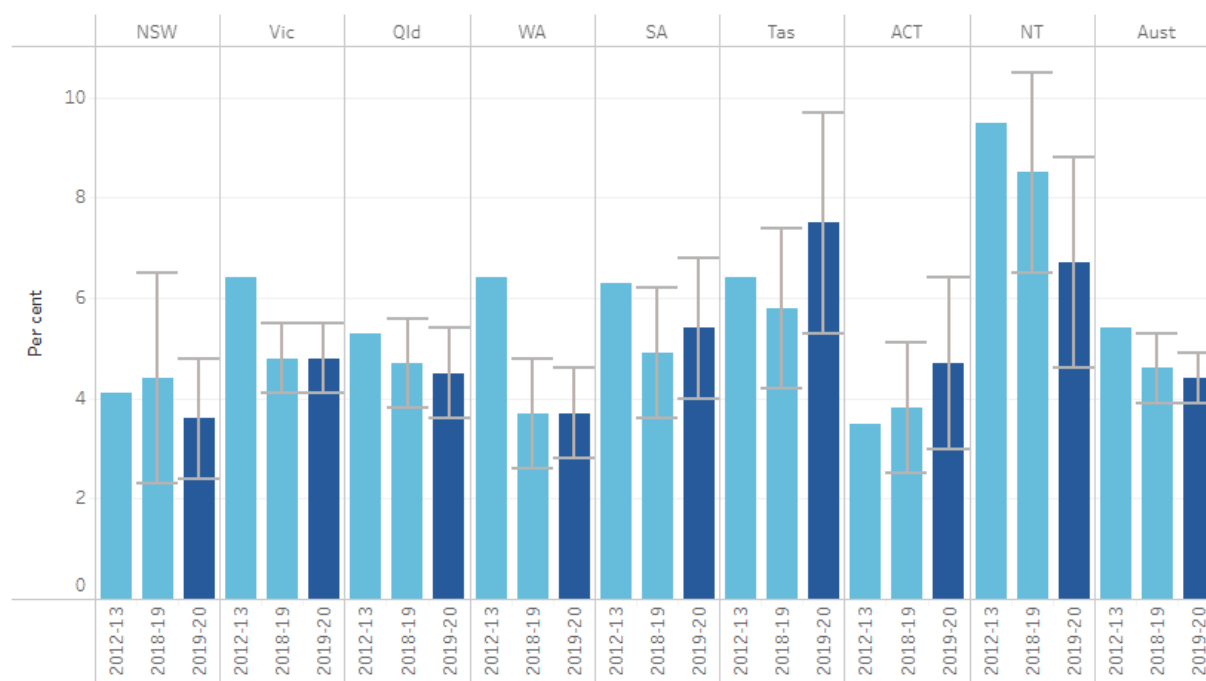■ Data are complete (subject to caveats) for the current reporting period.

Select measure:
◉ Without wearing a seat belt
○ When possibly over the alcohol limit
○ 10 kilometres per hour or more above the speed limit

Select year(s):
(Multiple values) ▼

Figure 6.4 **People who had driven in the previous 6 months, Without wearing a seat belt**
by jurisdiction, by year

Source: table 6A.16

Nationally in 2019-20, of those people who had driven in the previous six months:
• 4.4 per cent reported driving without wearing a seat belt
• 8.0 per cent of people said they had driven when possibly over the blood alcohol limit.
• 60.7 per cent of people reported having travelled 10 kilometres per hour or more above the speed limit.

Deaths in police custody is an indicator of governments' objective of providing safe custodial services. It is defined by two measures.

Measure 1: The total number of deaths in police custody and custody-related operations.
Measure 2: The total number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander deaths in police custody and custody-related operations.

Guidance: None or a decreasing number of deaths in custody and custody-related operations is desirable.

▨ Data are not comparable across jurisdictions or over time for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander deaths but are comparable across jurisdictions and over time (subject to caveats) for all deaths.

■ Data are complete (subject to caveats) for the current reporting period.

Select Indigenous status:

(All)	▼

Select year(s):

(Multiple values)	▼

Table 6.2 Deaths in police custody, by Indigenous status
by jurisdiction, by year (a)

		NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people	2019-20	–	1	–	1	–	–	–	1	3
	2018-19	1	–	–	3	–	–	–	–	4
	2007-08	–	–	1	–	2	–	–	2	5
Non-Indigenous people	2019-20	6	5	3	1	–	–	–	–	15
	2018-19	4	4	5	3	2	1	–	–	19
	2007-08	7	8	4	4	2	1	–	3	29
Unknown Indigenous status	2019-20	–	–	3	–	–	1	–	–	4
	2018-19	–	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	1
	2007-08	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
All people	2019-20	6	6	6	2	–	1	–	1	22
	2018-19	5	5	5	6	2	1	–	–	24
	2007-08	7	8	5	4	4	1	–	5	34

Source: table 6A.19
– Nil or rounded to zero.
(a) 2019-20 data are preliminary.

Nationally in 2019-20, there were 22 deaths in police custody (three out of the 22 were Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander deaths). The total number of deaths in police custody has reduced since 2007-08 due to the decrease in non-Indigenous deaths (29 out of 34 deaths in 2007-08).

Magistrates' court decisions resulting in a guilty outcome for defendants is an indicator of governments' objective of supporting the judicial process to bring to justice those people responsible for committing an offence.

Measure: The proportion of magistrates' court adjudications where the outcome was that the defendant pled guilty, was found guilty by the court or was found guilty ex-parte.

Guidance: A high or increasing proportion of magistrates' court decisions where the outcome for the defendant is guilty is desirable.

■ Data are comparable (subject to caveats) across jurisdictions and over time.

■ Data are complete (subject to caveats) for the current reporting period.

Select year(s):

(Multiple values) ▼

Figure 6.5 **Proportion of magistrates' court decisions resulting in a guilty outcome for defendants** by jurisdiction, by year
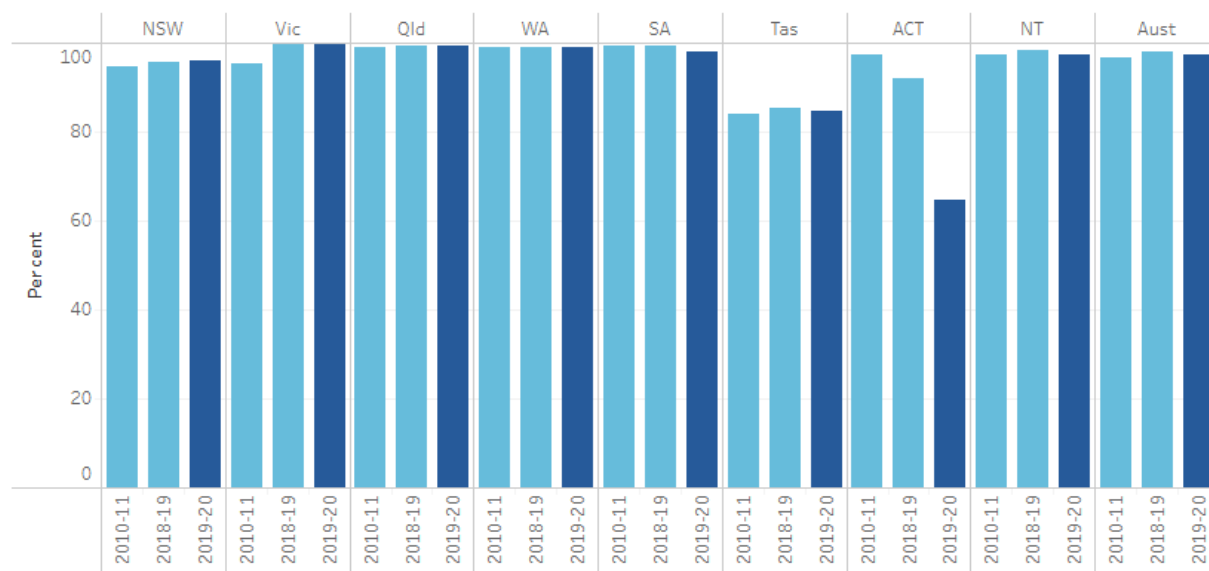
Source: table 6A.21

Nationally, the proportion of magistrates' court decisions resulting in a guilty outcome for defendants was 97.5 per cent in 2019-20.

Satisfaction with police services is an indicator of governments' objective of providing services that are accessible and responsive to community needs, including disasters and emergencies. It is defined by three measures – the proportion of people aged 18 years or over who were 'satisfied' or 'very satisfied' with police services:

Measure 1: in general (whether or not they had contact with police services)
Measure 2: in their most recent contact
Measure 3: in response to emergencies and disasters.

Guidance: A high or increasing proportion of people who were 'satisfied' or 'very satisfied' is desirable.

■ Data are comparable (subject to caveats) across jurisdictions and over time.

■ Data are complete (subject to caveats) for the current reporting period.
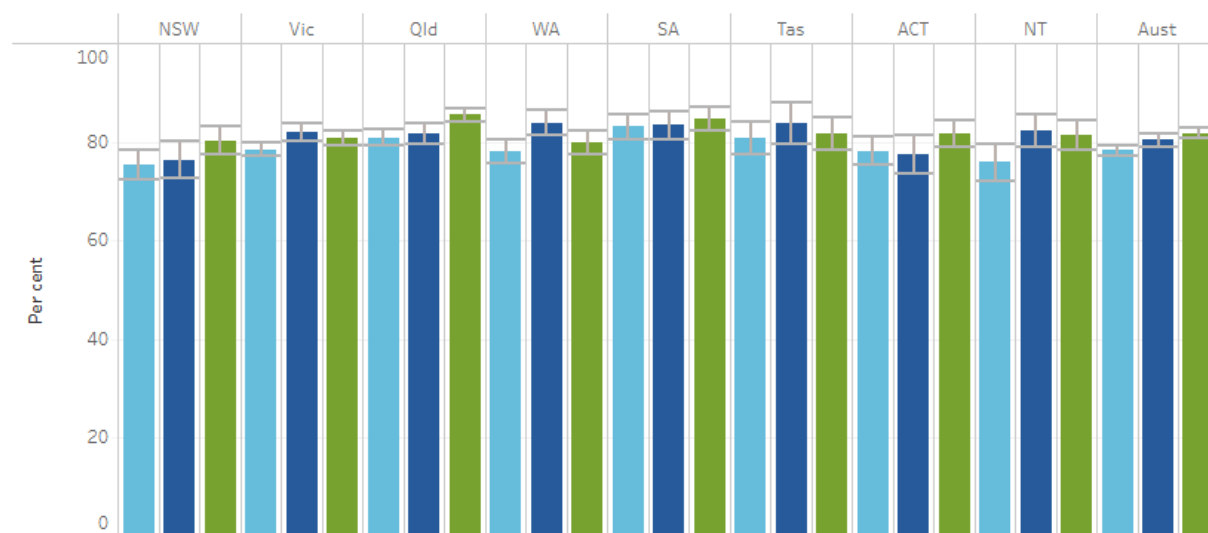
Select year:

| 2019-20 | ▼ |

Measure:

■ in general (whether or not they had contact with police)
■ in their most recent contact
■ in response to emergencies and disasters

Figure 6.6 **People who were 'satisfied' or 'very satisfied' with police services** by jurisdiction, 2019-20

Source: table 6A.3

Nationally, 78.3 per cent of the adult population were 'satisfied' or 'very satisfied' in general with the services provided by police in 2019-20. The proportion was higher for those who had contact with police in the previous 12 months (80.4 per cent), and this was the case across all jurisdictions except the ACT. Nationally in 2019-20, 81.8 per cent of the adult population were 'satisfied' or 'very satisfied' with police service response to emergencies and disasters.

Perceptions of police integrity is an indicator of governments' objective to provide services with integrity, honesty and fairness. It refers to public perceptions and is defined by three measures — the proportion of people who 'agreed' or 'strongly agreed' that police:

Measure 1: treat people fairly and equally
Measure 2: perform their job professionally
Measure 3: are honest.

Guidance: A high or increasing proportion of people who 'agreed' or 'strongly agreed' with these statements is desirable.

■ Data are comparable (subject to caveats) across jurisdictions and over time.

■ Data are complete (subject to caveats) for the current reporting period.

Select Measure:
◉ Opinions on statement 'police treat people fairly and equally'
○ Opinions on statement 'police perform job professionally'
○ Opinions on statement 'police are honest'

Select year(s):
(Multiple values) ▼

Figure 6.7 **People who 'agreed' or 'strongly agreed' regarding Opinions on statement 'police treat people fairly and equally' by jurisdiction, by year**
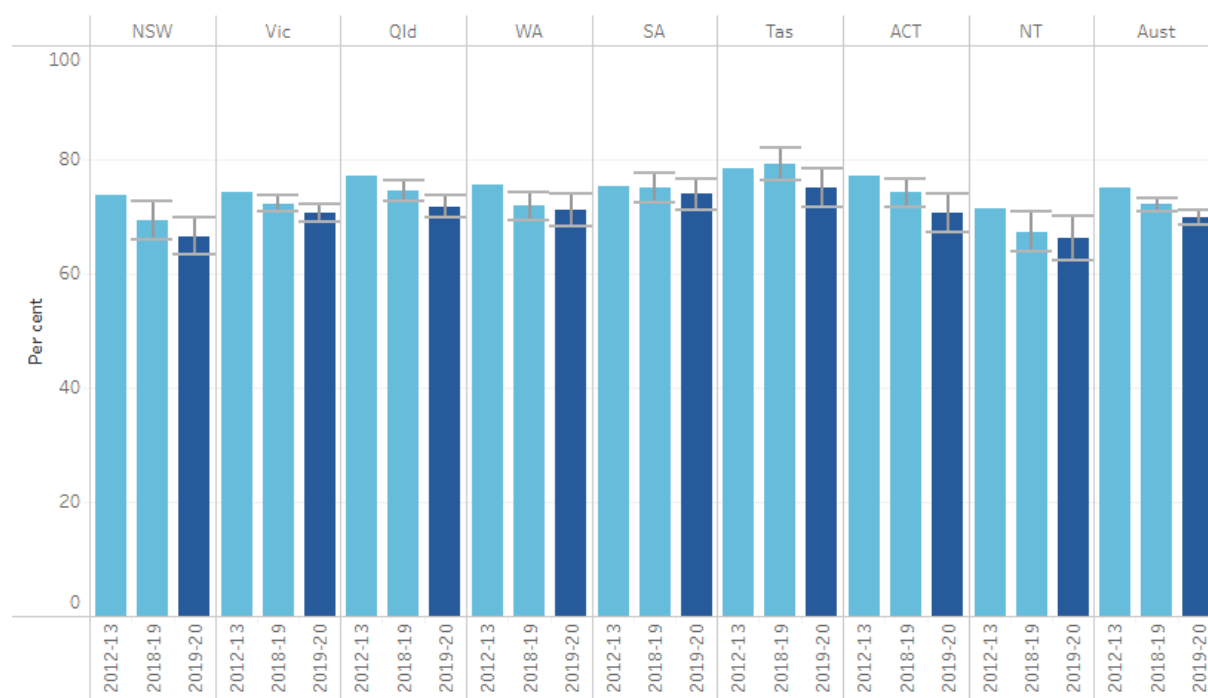
Source: table 6A.6

Nationally in 2019-20, the proportion of people who 'agreed' or 'strongly agreed' that police:
• 'treat people fairly and equally' was 69.9 per cent
• 'perform their job professionally' was 83.9 per cent
• 'are honest' was 71.5 per cent.

Complaints is an indicator of governments' objective to provide services with integrity, honesty and fairness.

Measure: The number of complaints made by the public against police per 100 000 people in the population, expressed in index form comparing values over time to a base period allocated a value of 100.

Guidance: A low or decreasing number of complaints per 100 000 people in the population (index score) is desirable.

☐ Data are not comparable across jurisdictions or within some jurisdictions over time.

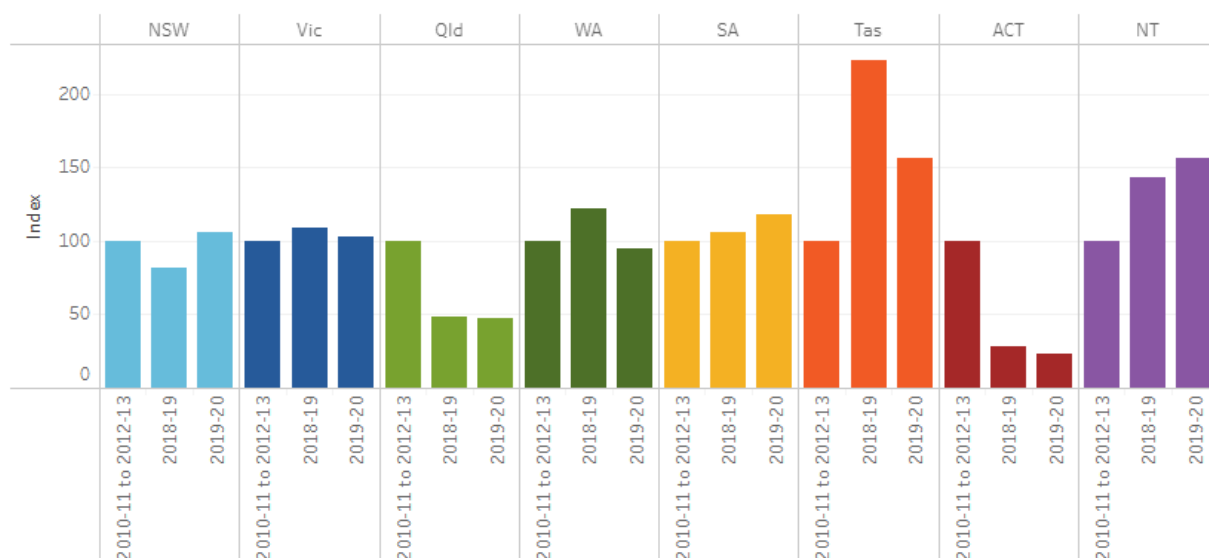■ Data are complete (subject to caveats) for the current reporting period.

Select year(s):

(Multiple values) ▼

Jurisdiction:

■ NSW ■ Vic ■ Qld ■ WA ■ SA ■ Tas ■ ACT ■ NT

Figure 6.8 **Complaints per 100 000 people (index 2010-11 to 2012-13 = 100)** by jurisdiction, by year

Source: table 6A.7

Trends within jurisdictions have varied over time.

Youth diversions is an indicator of governments' objective of supporting the judicial process to bring to justice those people responsible for committing an offence. It is defined by two measures:

Measure 1: The total number of alleged young offenders who would otherwise be proceeded against (that is, taken to court) but who are diverted by police, as a proportion of all young offenders formally dealt with by police.
Measure 2: The total number of alleged young Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander offenders who would otherwise be proceeded against (that is, taken to court) but who are diverted by police, as a proportion of all young Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander offenders formally dealt with by police.

Guidance: A high or increasing proportion of youth diversions as a proportion of all young offenders is desirable.

■ Data are not comparable across jurisdictions or within some jurisdictions over time.

■ Data are complete (subject to caveats) for the current reporting period.

Select Indigenous status:
(All) ▼

Select year(s):
(Multiple values) ▼

Table 6.3 Youth diversions as a proportion of offenders, by Indigenous status
by jurisdiction, by year

		NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people	2019-20	30.7	13.7	25.7	42.9	23.3	23.0	14.1	40.8
	2018-19	29.4	12.4	22.5	43.8	27.5	26.0	15.3	41.8
	2010-11	29.6	25.5	32.4	36.1	28.9	38.0	21.4	41.8
Non-Indigenous people	2019-20	66.0	20.0	54.5	57.7	55.6	40.0	37.4	39.0
	2018-19	66.9	22.9	49.7	54.8	55.4	38.0	36.3	45.4
	2010-11	58.5	37.6	63.0	59.8	48.7	50.0	60.1	68.8
Unknown Indigenous status	2019-20	72.8	78.4	84.3	80.8	21.2	89.0	..	np
	2018-19	69.6	79.3	85.4	78.0	17.2	90.0	..	np
	2010-11	42.4	86.6	87.6	75.0	31.8	83.0	..	np
All people	2019-20	60.4	20.2	39.7	50.3	47.8	46.0	32.5	41.1
	2018-19	59.4	22.9	35.9	49.5	33.7	46.0	32.6	42.2
	2010-11	51.4	37.2	49.8	49.3	43.3	51.0	54.4	48.6

Source: table 6A.20
.. Not applicable. np Not published.

From 2018-19 to 2019-20, four jurisdictions reported an increase in the proportion of alleged young offenders diverted from the justice system, and three jurisdictions reported an increase in alleged young Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander offenders diverted.

Outcome of investigations is an indicator of governments' objective of supporting the judicial process to bring to justice those people responsible for committing an offence. It is defined by two measures which are recorded as at 30 days of the offence becoming known by police.

Measure 1: The number of investigations that were finalised, as a proportion of all investigations.
Measure 2: The number of investigations finalised where an offender was proceeded against, as a proportion of all finalised investigations.

Guidance: A high or increasing proportion of investigations that were finalised and of investigations finalised where proceedings were instituted against the offender, is desirable.

■ Data are comparable (subject to caveats) across jurisdictions and over time.

■ Data are not complete for the current reporting period. All required 2019 data were not available for South Australia.

Select offence category:

- Homicide and related offences
- Sexual assault
- Armed robbery
- Unarmed robbery
- Unlawful entry with intent
- Motor vehicle theft
- Other theft

Figure 6.9a Measure 1: **Investigations finalised, as a proportion of all investigations, 2019** by selected personal and property offences, by jurisdiction (a)
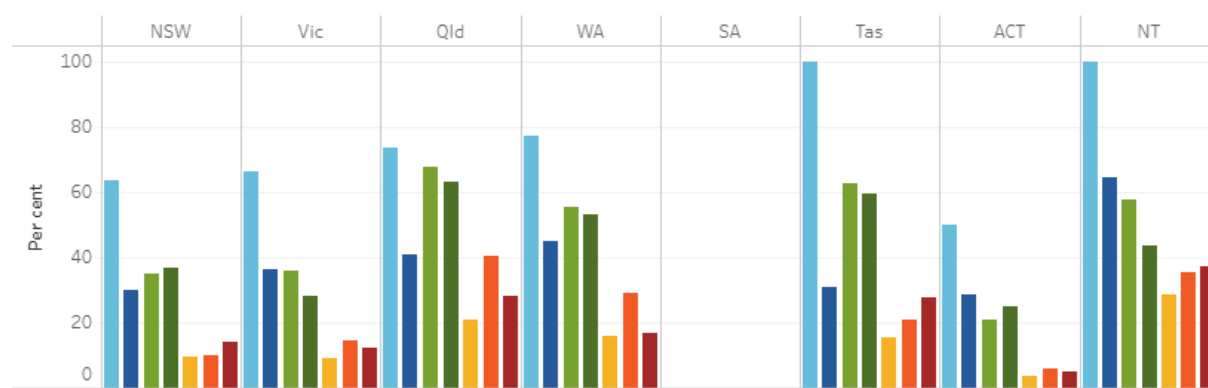
Source: table 6A.14 & 6A.15
(a) Data were not available for SA.

The proportion of investigations finalised within 30 days of the offence becoming known to police varied across jurisdictions for a range of personal and property offences.

Figure 6.9b Measure 2: **Investigations finalised with proceedings begun, as a proportion of investigations finalised, 2019** by selected personal and property offences, by jurisdiction (a)
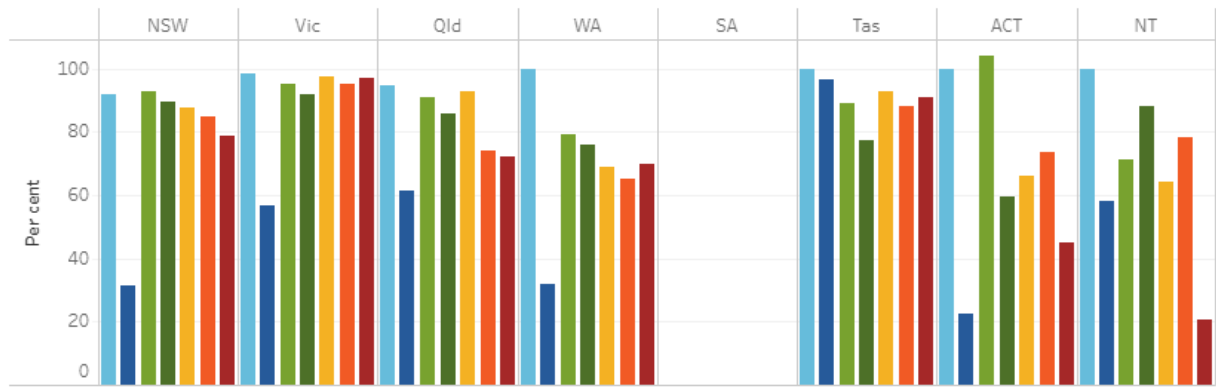
Source: table 6A.14 & 6A.15
(a) Data were not available for SA.

The proportion of finalised investigations for which proceedings had begun against the offender within 30 days of the offence becoming known to police, varied across jurisdictions for a range of personal and property offences.

Expenditure per person is a proxy indicator of governments' objective of providing police services in an efficient manner.

Measure: Real recurrent expenditure on policing per person in the population.

*Guidance*: All else being equal, a low or decreasing expenditure per person is desirable.

■ Data are comparable (subject to caveats) across jurisdictions and over time.

■ Data are complete (subject to caveats) for the current reporting period.

Select year(s):

(Multiple values) ▼

Figure 6.10 **Real recurrent expenditure per person (including user cost of capital less revenue from own sources and payroll tax)** by jurisdiction, 2019-20 dollars
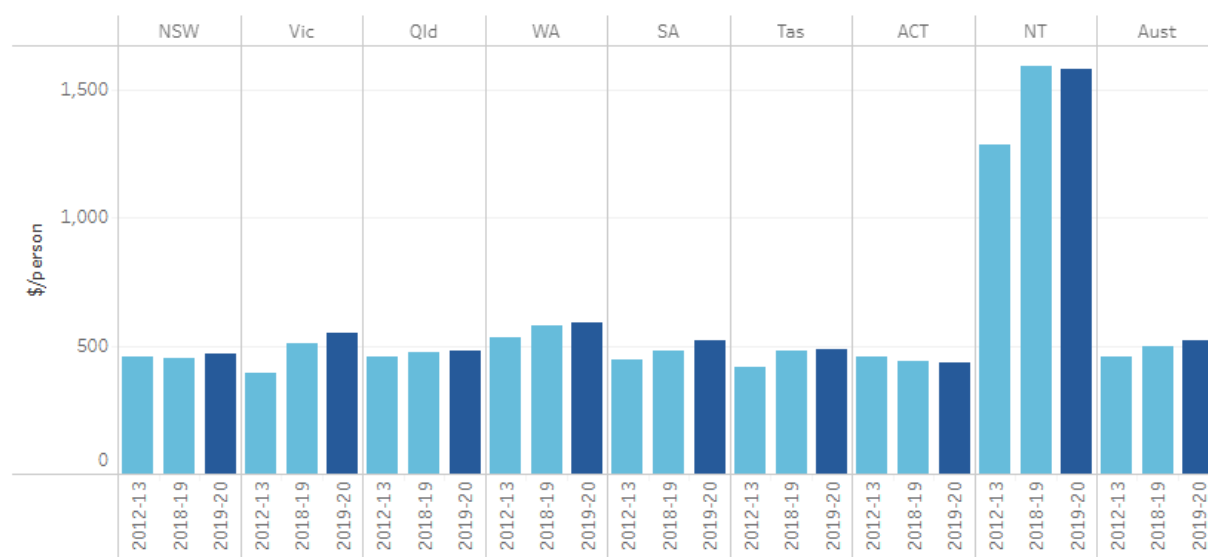
Source: table 6A.1

Nationally in 2019-20, real recurrent expenditure on policing was $518 per person in the population.

Crime victimisation is an indicator of governments' objective to contribute to a safe and secure community that enables people to undertake their lawful pursuits confidently and safely. It is defined by seven measures.

Measure 1: The estimated victimisation rate for physical assault per 100 000 people aged 15 years or over.
Measure 2: The estimated victimisation rate for threatened assault (face-to-face incidents only) per 100 000 people aged 15 years or over.
Measure 3: The estimated victimisation rate for sexual assault per 100 000 people aged 18 years or over.
Measure 4: The estimated victimisation rate for robbery per 100 000 people aged 15 years or over.
Measure 5: The estimated household victims of break-ins per 100 000 households.
Measure 6: The estimated household victims of attempted break-ins per 100 000 households.
Measure 7: The estimated household victims of motor vehicle theft per 100 000 households.

*Guidance:* A low or decreasing rate of crime victimisation is a desirable outcome.

■ Data are comparable (subject to caveats) across jurisdictions and over time.

■ Data are complete (subject to caveats) for the current reporting period.

Select year(s)
(applies to figures 6.11a and 6.11b):
| (Multiple values) | ▼ |

Select personal crime type
(for figure 6.11a):
| Physical assault | ▼ |

Figure 6.11a Measures 1-4: **Estimated victims of personal crimes, Physical assault, per 100 000 people by jurisdiction, by year (a)**
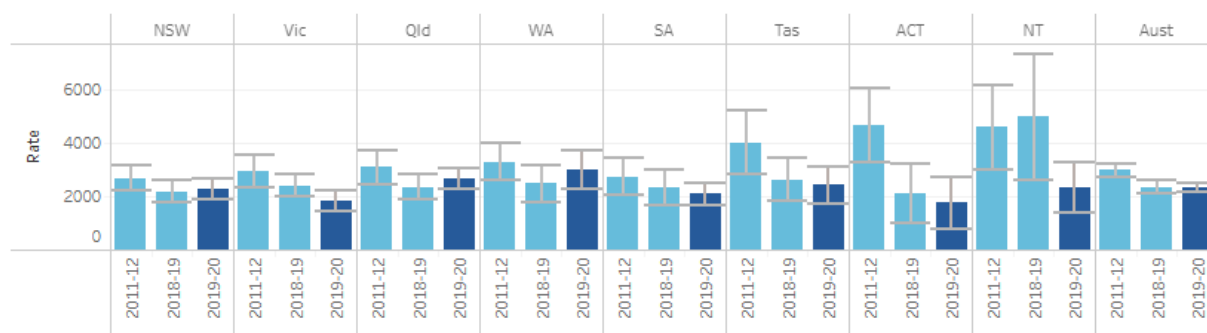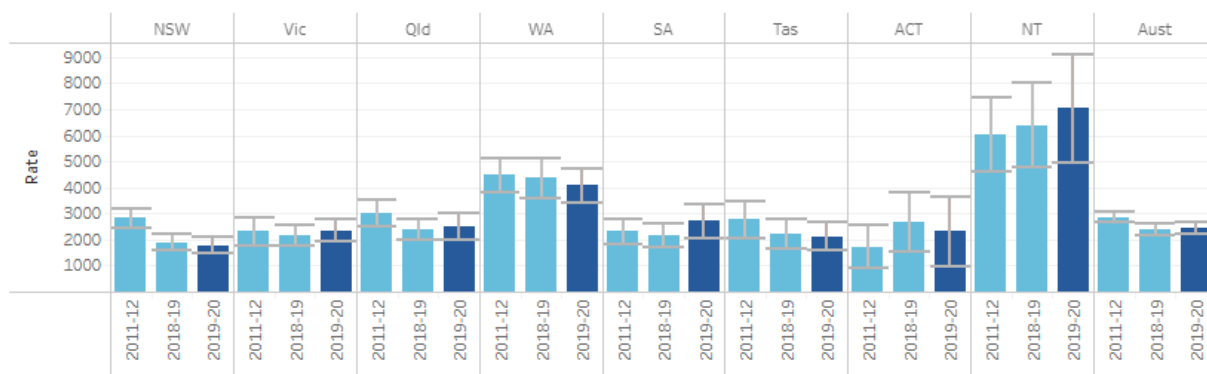

Source: table 6A.10

(a) Robbery and sexual assault data have not been published at the State and Territory level.

Nationally in 2019-20, there were an estimated 2322 victims of physical assault, 2447 victims of threatened assault (face-to-face incidents only), 325 victims of sexual assault and 343 victims of robbery per 100 000 people.

Select property crime type
(for figure 6.11b):
| Break-in | ▼ |

Figure 6.11b Measures 5-7: **Estimated victims of property crimes, Break-in, per 100 000 households by jurisdiction, by year**

Source: table 6A.11

Nationally, for every 100 000 households in 2019-20, an estimated 2434 experienced a break-in, 1900 an attempted break-in and 642 experienced motor vehicle theft.

Perceptions of safety is an indicator of governments' objective to contribute to a safe and secure community that enables people to undertake their lawful pursuits confidently and safely. It is defined by two measures – the proportion of people who felt 'safe' or 'very safe':

Measure 1: at home alone during the night.
Measure 2: in public places, including walking alone in the neighbourhood and travelling on public transport during the day and night.

Guidance: A high or increasing proportion of people who felt 'safe' or 'very safe' is desirable. Perceptions of safety may not reflect reported or actual crime. Many factors might affect public perceptions of safety.

■ Data are comparable (subject to caveats) across jurisdictions and over time.

■ Data are complete (subject to caveats) for the current reporting period.

Select year(s):
[(Multiple values) ▼]

Select measure:
◉ At home alone
○ On public transport
○ Walking alone in your neighbourhood

Select time of day:
◉ During the night

Figure 6.12 **People who felt 'safe' or 'very safe' At home alone During the night, by jurisdiction, by year**
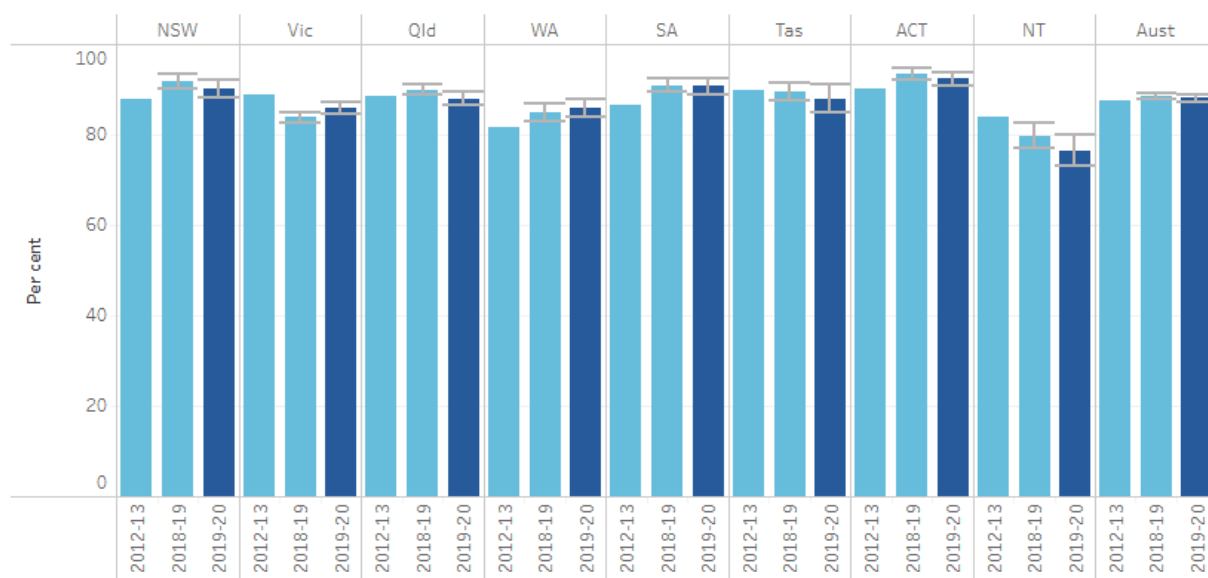
Source: table 6A.4

Nationally in 2019-20, 88.1 per cent of people felt 'safe' or 'very safe' at home alone during the night and 52.8 per cent of people felt safe or very safe when walking locally during the night. This proportion dropped to 33.5 per cent when travelling on public transport during the night.

Perceptions of crime problems is an indicator of governments' objective to contribute to a safe and secure community that enables people to undertake their lawful pursuits confidently and safely.

Measure: The proportion of people who thought that various types of crime were a 'major problem' or 'somewhat of a problem' in their neighbourhood.

Guidance: A low or decreasing proportion of people who thought the selected types of crime were a 'major problem' or 'somewhat of a problem' in their neighbourhood is desirable.

■ Data are comparable (subject to caveats) across jurisdictions and over time.

■ Data are complete (subject to caveats) for the current reporting period.
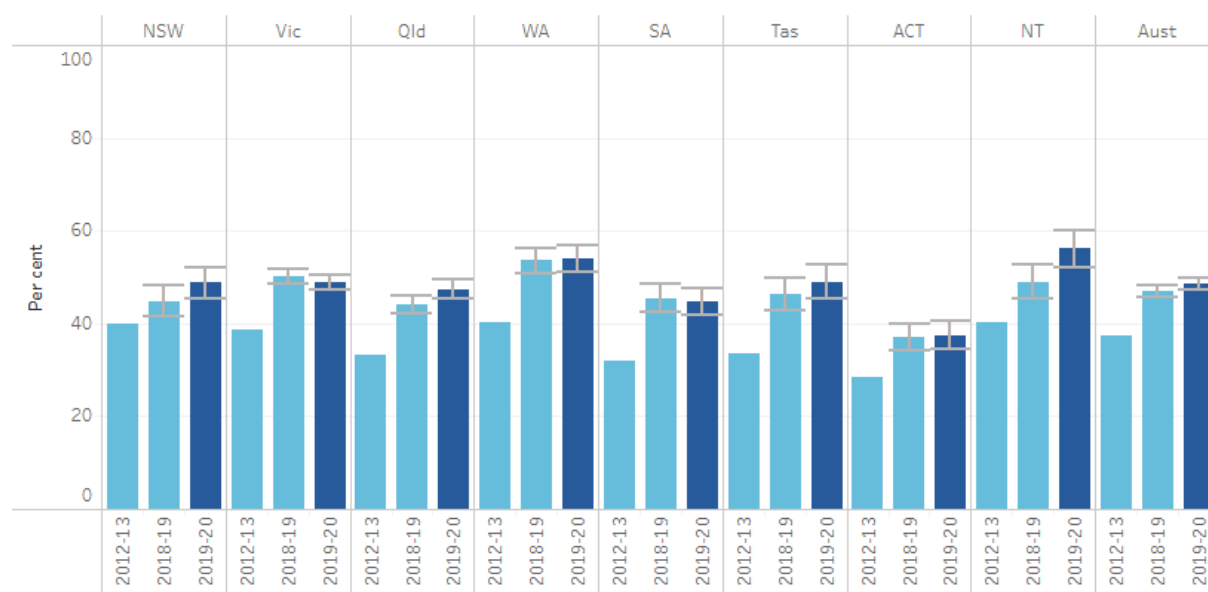
Select type of crime:
◉ Opinion on whether illegal drugs are a problem in the neighbourhood
○ Opinion on whether speeding cars; dangerous or noisy driving are problems in the neighbourhood

Select year(s):
(Multiple values) ▾

Figure 6.13 **Proportion of people's 'Opinion on whether illegal drugs are a problem in the neighbourhood'** by jurisdiction, by year

Source: table 6A.5

Nationally in 2019-20, 48.7 per cent of people thought illegal drugs to be either a 'major problem' or 'somewhat of a problem' in their neighbourhood and 65.5 per cent of people thought 'speeding cars, dangerous or noisy driving' to be a problem.

Road deaths is an indicator of governments' objective to contribute to a safe and secure community that enables people to undertake their lawful pursuits confidently and safely.

*Measure:* The number of road deaths per 100 000 registered vehicles.

Guidance: No deaths or a decreasing rate of road deaths per 100 000 registered vehicles is desirable.

■ Data are comparable (subject to caveats) across jurisdictions and over time.

■ Data are complete (subject to caveats) for the current reporting period.

Select year(s):

(Multiple values) ▼

Figure 6.14 **Road deaths per 100 000 registered vehicles**
by jurisdiction, by year
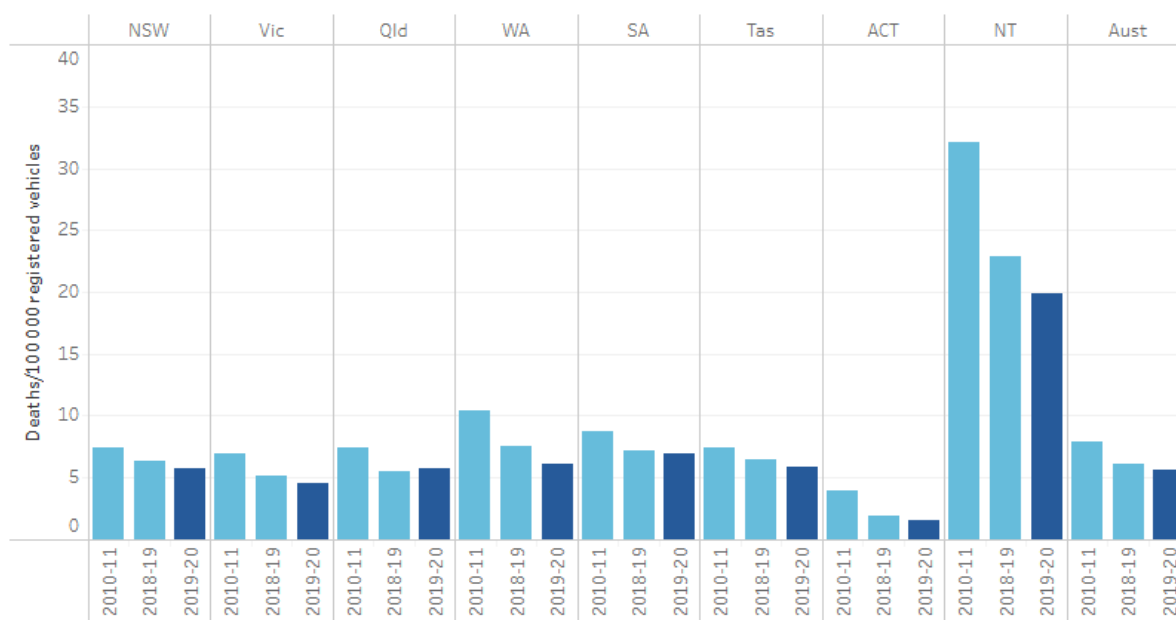
Source: table 6A.17

Nationally in 2019-20, there were 5.6 road deaths per 100 000 registered vehicles. Supporting data on traffic accident hospitalisations are available in table 6A.18.

Refer to the interpretative material for detailed indicator interpretation and definitions. www.pc.gov.au/rogs

Data tables are referenced above by a '6A' prefix and all data (footnotes and data sources) are available for download from the supporting material below (both in Excel and CSV format).

Indigenous Data

Performance indicator data for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in this section are available in the data tables listed below. Contextual data and further supporting information can be found in the interpretative material and data tables.

Police services data disaggregated for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people

Table number	Table title
Table 6A.2	Police staffing
Table 6A.19	Deaths in police custody
Table 6A.20	Youth diversions as a proportion of offenders

Download supporting material

6 Police services interpretative material (PDF - 1041 Kb)

6 Police services interpretative material (Word - 72 Kb)

6 Police services data tables (XLSX - 313 Kb)

6 Police services dataset (CSV - 669 Kb)

See the interpretative material and corresponding table number in the data tables for detailed definitions, caveats, footnotes and data source(s).