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QUEENSLAND

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LAW AND ORDER, QUEENSLAND, 1986-87, SUMMARY

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Main Features

- The total number of appearances on criminal matters in Queensland Courts during 1986-87 was 189,725, an increase of 5.1 per cent over the comparable figure for the previous year.
- Appearances in Children's Courts and Magistrates Courts both increased, by 4.8 per cent and 5.4 per cent, respectively; while Higher Courts appearances decreased by 4.8 per cent.
- The majority of appearances in both Children's Courts and Higher Courts during 1986-87 were for offences relating to theft, breaking and entering, etc. - 2,664 or 58.0 per cent in Children's Courts and 1,340 or 38.0 per cent in Higher Courts. Appearances for unlawful use of a motor vehicle (which are included in the theft, breaking and entering, etc. category) rose by 20.9 per cent in Children's Courts and by 10.7 per cent in Higher Courts.
- On the other hand, in Magistrates Courts, 110,327 appearances or 60.7 per cent of total appearances were for offences relating to driving, traffic, etc. included in this category are drink driving offences which increased by 11.7 per cent over those for the previous year.
- Of the total Court appearances on criminal matters during 1986-87, 140,167 (73.9 per cent) resulted in proven offences or convictions. The conviction rates for each court were: Children's Courts - proven offences 96.0 per cent; Magistrates Courts - summary convictions 73.3 per cent; and Higher Courts - convictions 74.3 per cent.
- Proven offences or convictions for offences involving drugs were 98.1 per cent, 92.6 per cent, and 84.8 per cent for Children's, Magistrates, and Higher Courts, respectively.
- At 30 June 1987, there were 2,152 convicted prisoners in Queensland jails, an increase of 9.5 per cent over the comparable figure for 1986. Of these prisoners, 60.7 per cent were sentenced from Higher Courts and 39.3 per cent from Children's Courts and Magistrates Courts.

Explanatory Notes

These statistics have been compiled from data supplied by the administering departments, namely Family and Youth Services, Justice, and Prisons.

2. Notes on the scope, definitions, and classifications used in compiling the figures in this publication are included in the latest issue of 'Law and Order' (Catalogue No. 4502.3).

3. For Courts statistics, defendants appearing on more than one charge on the same day are counted once only and are classified to the most serious charge.

4. A final publication, 'Law and Order' (Catalogue No. 4502.3), which will provide more detailed statistics, will be issued at a later date. In addition, detailed unpublished statistics are available on request.

Symbols and Other Usages

n.y.a. Not yet available.

r Figure or series revised since previous issue.

- Nil or less than half the final digit shown.

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Table 1 - Children's Courts, Queensland

Particulars				1981-82	1982-83	1983-84	1984-85	1985-86	1986-87
Appearances	..	..	..	4,271	4,537	4,745	5,023	5,345	5,499
Males	..	..	..	3,582	3,856	3,861	4,146	4,373	4,610
Females	..	..	..	689	681	884	877	972	889
Applications for care and control	..	..	..	356	278	254	251	205	198
Applications for care and protection	..	..	..	348	385	562	592	757	709
Outcome of applications	..	..	..	704	663	816	843	962	907
Order refused or revoked	..	..	..	93	129	162	132	178	214
Committed into care and control	..	..	..	128	92	92	89	74	40
Ordered into care and protection	..	..	..	271	317	404	464	507	483
Placed under supervision	..	..	..	143	67	57	65	45	34
Placed under protective supervision	..	..	..	69	57	99	92	156	135
Other	..	..	..	-	1	2	1	2	1
Outcome of offence	..	..	..	3,567	3,874	3,929	4,180	4,383	4,592
Discharged or withdrawn	..	..	..	122	111	86	73	99	127
Committed for sentence or trial	..	..	..	46	111	96	99	101	57
Offence proven - unconvicted	..	..	..	2,758	2,837	3,032	3,211	3,296	3,517
Offence proven - convicted	..	..	..	641	815	715	797	887	891
Offence proven	..	..	..	3,399	3,652	3,747	4,008	4,183	4,408
Homicide, assault, etc.	..	..	..	180	149	175	182	204	237
Robbery and extortion	..	..	..	-	10	5	5	14	-
Fraud and misappropriation	..	..	..	59	22	31	32	25	33
Theft, breaking and entering, etc.	..	..	..	2,036	2,149	2,205	2,407	2,416	2,597
Property damage	..	..	..	89	117	110	133	117	176
Driving, traffic, etc.	..	..	..	679	753	723	697	866	756
Other offences	..	..	..	356	452	498	552	541	609
Juvenile offenders cautioned by police	..	..	..	8,096	8,594	8,658	9,617	9,365	n.y.a.

Table 2 - Magistrates Courts Appearances: Most Serious Offence Charged by Statistical Division of Appearance, Queensland, 1986-87

Division of Appearance, Queensland

Statistical division	Most serious offence										Estimated resident population (b)		
	Theft		Drink driving offences	Drug offences	All other offences	Total							
	Burglary, breaking and entering	Other stealing (a)											
	No.	\$	No.	\$	No.	\$	No.	\$	No.	\$	\$		
Brisbane ..	767	41.1	4,330	50.4	12,447	51.0	3,025	44.0	69,137	49.4	89,706	49.4	45.6
Moreton ..	192	10.3	997	11.6	3,188	13.1	1,002	14.6	18,993	13.6	24,372	13.4	15.3
Wide-Bay-Burnett ..	125	6.7	432	5.0	1,208	4.9	410	6.0	4,709	3.4	6,884	3.8	6.4
Darling Downs ..	113	6.1	530	6.2	907	3.7	280	4.1	6,566	4.7	8,396	4.6	6.9
South-West ..	33	1.8	60	0.7	246	1.0	45	0.7	1,605	1.1	1,989	1.1	1.1
Fitzroy ..	78	4.2	441	5.1	1,239	5.1	286	4.2	8,464	6.1	10,508	5.8	6.1
Central-West ..	5	0.3	26	0.3	106	0.4	23	0.3	641	0.5	801	0.4	0.5
Hackey ..	65	3.5	296	3.4	758	3.1	265	3.9	3,492	2.5	4,875	2.7	3.9
Northern ..	171	9.2	565	6.6	1,895	7.6	504	7.3	9,322	6.7	12,417	6.8	6.5
Far North ..	223	12.0	719	8.4	2,105	8.6	900	13.1	13,632	9.7	17,579	9.7	6.2
North-West ..	92	4.9	195	2.3	367	1.5	130	1.9	3,298	2.3	4,082	2.2	1.5
Total Queensland	1,864	100.0	8,591	100.0	24,426	100.0	6,870	100.0	139,859	100.0	181,610	100.0	100.0

(a) Including offences relating to unlawful use of motor vehicles. (b) Based on estimated resident population figures at 30 June 1986, the latest ABS figures available at the statistical division level.

Table 3 - Magistrates Courts: Appearances, Outcomes, and Punishments Imposed, Queensland

Particulars				1981-82	1982-83	1983-84	1984-85	1985-86	1986-87
<u>Appearances</u>	**	**	**	<u>156,366</u>	<u>163,566</u>	<u>167,672</u>	<u>164,794</u>	<u>172,376</u>	<u>181,610</u>
Males	**	**	**	137,904	143,906	145,939	143,069	149,860	156,797
Females	**	**	**	18,462	19,660	21,733	21,725	22,516	24,813
<u>Discharged without trial</u>	**	**	**	<u>13,988</u>	<u>17,351</u>	<u>14,393</u>	<u>12,947</u>	<u>13,612</u>	<u>16,481</u>
<u>Bail extracted</u>	**	**	**	<u>29,586</u>	<u>26,792</u>	<u>29,426</u>	<u>27,459</u>	<u>29,661</u>	<u>28,217</u>
<u>Committed for sentence or trial</u>	**	**	**	<u>2,269</u>	<u>2,420</u>	<u>2,712</u>	<u>3,447</u>	<u>3,475</u>	<u>3,772</u>
<u>Summarily convicted</u>	**	**	**	<u>110,523</u>	<u>117,003</u>	<u>121,141</u>	<u>120,941</u>	<u>125,628</u>	<u>133,140</u>
Major assault ..	**	**	**	512	492	544	601	612	817
Minor assault ..	**	**	**	1,491	1,427	1,283	1,290	1,335	1,560
Sexual offences	**	**	**	60	75	44	40	58	72
Other violation of persons	**	**	**	70	87	74	88	122	119
Embezzlement ..	**	**	**	34	26	44	39	96	118
Fraud and forgery (including currency)				1,015	1,065	979	1,582	1,185	1,448
Unlawful use of motor vehicle	**	**	**	596	743	844	731	796	778
Other stealing ..	**	**	**	4,766	5,033	4,752	4,801	4,935	5,891
Receiving and unlawful possession	**	**	**	438	499	509	472	461	518
Burglary and housebreaking	**	**	**	454	459	411	468	513	560
Other breaking and entering	**	**	**	463	574	602	581	551	641
Property damage	**	**	**	1,118	1,069	1,102	1,104	1,445	1,606
Drink driving etc.	**	**	**	18,493	18,150	22,157	19,973	21,721	24,295
Dangerous/negligent driving	**	**	**	2,567	2,359	2,816	3,098	3,234	3,234
Licence offences	**	**	**	4,768	5,132	5,924	6,691	6,674	6,974
State Transport/Main Roads Act offences				11,514	13,754	13,391	16,933	16,686	16,217
Other driving, traffic, etc.	**	**	**	37,630	37,834	39,431	38,284	42,019	47,159
Drug offences ..	**	**	**	4,354	5,697	6,586	7,539	7,581	6,361
Drunkenness ..	**	**	**	6,717	5,203	3,123	1,800	2,165	2,382
Other offensive behaviour, trespassing, and vagrancy ..	**	**	**	2,233	2,128	2,294	2,456	2,612	2,694
Firearm offences	**	**	**	333	428	421	540	423	615
Liquor offences	**	**	**	541	520	438	662	578	572
Other offences	**	**	**	10,356	14,249	13,372	11,168	9,836	8,509
<u>Punishments Imposed</u>	**	**	**	<u>110,523</u>	<u>117,003</u>	<u>121,141</u>	<u>120,941</u>	<u>125,628</u>	<u>133,140</u>
Imprisoned ..	**	**	**	2,030	2,427	2,328	2,537	2,894	3,197
Community service	**	**	**	503	1,029	1,363	2,442	2,440	2,952
Placed on probation	**	**	**	1,185	1,731	1,595	1,821	1,707	1,633
Fined and/or ordered to pay money	**	**	**	80,116	86,152	88,210	89,938	93,046	97,196
Fined and licence disqualified or licence disqualified	**	**	**	19,559	19,539	23,469	21,095	22,605	24,982
Bond of good behaviour, recognizance	**	**	**	827	1,135	1,115	1,288	882	844
Convicted not punished	**	**	**	6,303	4,990	3,061	1,820	2,054	2,336

Table 4 - Higher Courts: ~~Proceedings~~ Outcomes, and Punishments Imposed, Queensland

Particulars	1981-82	1982-83	1983-84	1984-85	1985-86	1986-87
Appearances	1,956	2,118	2,639	3,473	3,701	3,923
Males	1,718	1,869	2,354	3,017	3,254	3,137
Females	238	249	285	456	447	386
No true bill etc.	421	437	586	993	807	497
Acquitted	272	247	289	303	336	407
Convictions	1,263	1,434	1,784	2,177	2,538	2,619
Homicide etc.	35	38	43	55	71	76
Assault	113	176	188	218	285	293
Rape and attempted rape	42	42	46	45	46	51
Other sexual offences	90	96	127	180	229	269
Other violation of persons	38	24	19	33	46	26
Robbery and extortion	71	110	143	135	154	143
Fraud and misappropriation	149	133	152	211	329	281
Unlawful use of motor vehicle	68	94	116	125	142	189
Breaking and entering	268	304	369	445	436	456
Other stealing etc.	227	212	289	394	411	392
Property damage	61	93	114	123	141	160
Drug offences	63	58	99	96	140	178
Other offences (a)	40	54	79	117	108	105
Punishments Imposed	1,263	1,434	1,784	2,177	2,538	2,619
Imprisoned	502	584	722	901	1,164	1,184
Community service	63	77	130	282	343	405
Placed on probation	355	403	465	425	421	464
Fined and/or ordered to pay money and/or licence disqualified	183	182	232	270	308	287
Bond of good behaviour, recognizance	120	125	180	253	226	197
Children's Services order	40	63	55	46	76	82

(a) Including driving, traffic, etc.

Table 5 - Prisoners in Confinement, Queensland

Particulars	1981-82	1982-83	1983-84	1984-85	1985-86	1986-87
Convicted prisoners at 1 July	1,607	1,537	1,558	1,696	1,787	1,965
Convicted prisoners admitted during year	3,875	3,989	4,035	3,994	4,633	5,116
Major offence for which imprisoned						
Homicide etc.	41	35	40	42	72	61
Assault	304	258	235	228	280	330
Rape and attempted rape	43	39	46	45	35	43
Other sexual offences	42	40	55	98	114	138
Other violation of persons	22	23	21	10	22	13
Robbery and extortion	52	73	111	106	114	105
Fraud and misappropriation	248	192	189	195	257	330
Unlawful use of motor vehicle	207	304	238	222	275	323
Breaking and entering	419	409	373	438	462	554
Other stealing etc.	346	387	354	303	405	389
Property damage	97	105	105	103	131	188
Drink driving offences	400	464	495	502	557	680
Other traffic, transport, etc.	804	860	858	759	862	865
Drug offences	260	329	415	442	544	578
Other offences	590	471	540	501	503	519
Convicted prisoners discharged during year	3,945	3,968	3,897	3,903	4,435	4,929
Convicted prisoners at 30 June	1,537	1,598	1,696	1,787	1,965	2,152
On remand at 30 June	117	168	147	165	180	146
Other detainees at 30 June	52	47	45	47	60	51