

LAW AND ORDER, QUEENSLAND, 1989-90, SUMMARY

MAIN FEATURES

- At 30 June 1990 police strength totalled 5,882 sworn-in officers, probationaries and cadets in training, representing a 5.5 per cent increase over the figure for the previous year.
- A total of 193,619 offences were reported to police during 1989-90, an increase of 15.7 per cent over the preceding year. An additional 59,015 offences were detected by police in the same year, a decrease of 3.6 per cent.
- An analysis of offences reported to police during 1989-90 shows significant increases in breaking and entering and other stealing offences of 26.1 per cent and 12.9 per cent, respectively. Large increases were also recorded for malicious damage and unlawful use of motor vehicles.
- In all Queensland courts during 1989-90 appearances on criminal matters totalled 222,016, an increase of 7.8 per cent over the figure for the previous year.
- There were a total of 213,302 appearances (85.1 per cent males and 14.9 per cent females) in Magistrates Courts in 1989-90, almost 8 per cent more than the previous year. Of these, 77.5 per cent were summarily convicted.
- Driving and traffic-related offences, which accounted for 72.1 per cent of all convictions in Magistrates Courts in 1989-90, increased by 7.3 per cent compared with 1988-89. Drink driving convictions, which are included in this category, decreased by 4.2 per cent during the same period.
- Imprisonment sentences imposed in the Magistrates Courts declined from 2.0 per cent of the total in 1988-89 to 1.7 per cent in 1989-90, however the proportion of community service orders increased from 2.6 per cent to 3.1 per cent.
- During 1989-90 there were 5,196 appearances before Children's Courts involving 3,692 children. The number of proven offences decreased in all categories except for robbery and extortion.
- There were 4,343 appearances in higher courts during 1989-90, representing an increase of 10.7 per cent over the previous year. Of these, 69.8 per cent were convicted. The number of convictions for assault increased from 370 in 1988-89 to 465 in 1989-90 and accounted for 15.3 per cent of all convictions.
- Higher court sentences which resulted in imprisonment decreased from 46.0 per cent in 1988-89 to 41.6 per cent in 1989-90. During the same period, however, community service and probation orders increased from 19.3 per cent to 23.4 per cent and from 12.5 per cent to 16.5 per cent, respectively.
- Convicted prisoners admitted to jails in Queensland during 1989-90 numbered 4,863. Of these, 691 were for crimes of violence, 1,557 for robbery and stealing while 1,455 were for drink driving and other traffic offences. At 30 June 1990 there were 2,230 convicted prisoners still confined and a further 252 were held on either remand or other detention.

INQUIRIES

- for further information about statistics in this publication and the availability of related unpublished statistics, contact Dulcie Thompson on Brisbane (07) 222 6056 or any ABS State office.
- for information about other ABS statistics and services please contact Information Services on Brisbane (07) 222 6351 or any ABS State office.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

These statistics have been compiled from data supplied by the administering departments, namely Family Services and Aboriginal and Islander Affairs, Police, Justice and the Corrective Services Commission.

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. Further details can be obtained from the law and order final publication, due for release in June 1991. In addition, detailed unpublished statistics are available on request.

4. 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.

Symbols and other usages

p preliminary - figure or series subject to revision
r figure or series revised since previous issue
— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

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1 May 1991

TABLE 1 - POLICE STRENGTH AND OFFENCES REPORTED TO OR DETECTED BY POLICE, QUEENSLAND

Particulars	1984-85	1985-86	1986-87	1987-88	1988-89	1989-90	
Total police strength (a)	4,984	5,145	5,381	5,322	5,573	5,882	
Sworn-in officers	4,775	4,872	5,072	5,085	5,219	5,524	
Probationaries	45	95	119	46	167	264	
Cadets in training	164	178	190	191	187	94	
Population per sworn-in officer	538	539	528	540	r 543	p 526	
Offences reported to police (b)	133,444	141,392	152,786	166,765	167,382	193,619	
Homicide	195	244	220	254	261	286	
Serious assault	2,206	2,541	2,764	3,455	3,986	4,923	
Minor assault	2,955	3,384	4,173	4,392	4,903	5,425	
Rape and attempted rape	136	159	189	288	366	328	
Other sexual offences	1,697	1,881	2,363	3,857	3,067	3,007	
Robbery	544	521	649	703	791	1,089	
Fraud and false pretences	14,379	17,482	15,924	25,425	(c) 15,799	12,595	
Kidnapping and extortion	123	131	192	257	342	372	
Unlawful use of motor vehicle	8,767	9,441	10,109	10,068	11,602	14,239	
Other stealing	54,275	55,569	61,730	64,358	65,852	74,347	
Breaking and entering	31,905	31,771	35,510	34,282	38,314	48,330	
Malicious damage (d)	14,380	16,189	16,840	17,065	19,377	25,264	
Other	1,882	2,079	2,123	2,361	2,722	3,414	
Proportion cleared	%	34	36	36	39	36	30
Offences detected by police (e)				59,826	58,525	61,227	59,015
Receiving and unlawful possession				1,963	2,207	2,310	1,953
Drug offences				11,544	9,450	9,879	10,622
Good order offences				11,317	12,046	12,941	12,231
Drink driving				27,092	28,185	29,166	28,033
Other driving, etc. offences		(f)		4,372	3,691	3,778	3,710
Liquor offences				1,545	1,327	1,361	1,249
Other				1,993	1,619	1,792	1,217
Total offences reported to or detected by police (g)			212,612	225,290	228,609	252,634	
Known juvenile involvement in all offences (h)	%			17	16	17	16

(a) At 30 June. (b) Reported as Major Crime in the Police Annual Report and includes offences against persons and property. (c) Not comparable with previous years due to changes in reporting policy of banks on credit card fraud. (d) Including arson and injuring animals. (e) Victimless offences reported as Other Crime in the Police Annual Report. (f) Data not available due to a change in recording procedures. Data previously published are not comparable. (g) Excluding offences for which court briefs are not presented, e.g. drink offences and minor traffic breaches. (h) Under 17 years of age.

TABLE 2 - MAGISTRATES COURTS: APPEARANCES, OUTCOMES AND PUNISHMENTS IMPOSED, QUEENSLAND

Particulars	1984-85	1985-86	1986-87	1987-88	1988-89	1989-90
<i>Appearances</i>	164,794	172,376	181,610	180,304	197,643	213,302
Males	143,069	149,860	156,797	155,456	168,619	181,422
Females	21,725	22,516	24,813	24,848	29,024	31,880
<i>Discharged or withdrawn</i>	12,947	13,612	16,481	15,554	14,720	17,696
<i>Bail estreated</i>	27,459	29,661	26,217	29,231	27,830	26,123
<i>Committed for sentence or trial</i>	3,447	3,475	3,772	3,794	4,532	3,982
<i>Summarily convicted</i>	120,941	125,628	133,140	131,721	150,561	165,301
Major assault	601	612	817	987	1,150	1,206
Minor assault	1,290	1,335	1,560	1,667	2,130	2,232
Sexual offences	40	58	72	54	74	78
Other violation of persons	88	122	119	134	134	117
Embezzlement	39	96	118	172	205	204
False pretences	838	859	984	1,111	1,024	962
Fraud and forgery	744	326	464	932	730	769
Unlawful use of motor vehicle	731	786	778	699	849	899
Other stealing	4,801	4,935	5,891	5,472	5,566	5,710
Receiving and unlawful possession	472	461	518	534	540	484
Burglary and housebreaking	468	513	560	542	596	508
Other breaking and entering	581	551	641	602	767	766
Property damage	1,104	1,445	1,646	1,663	1,920	1,976
Drink driving etc.	19,973	21,721	24,295	25,394	25,959	24,864
Dangerous/negligent driving	3,098	3,234	3,234	4,016	4,165	4,333
Licence offences	6,691	6,674	6,974	7,387	8,032	9,203
State Transport/Main Roads Act offences	16,933	16,686	16,217	14,478	15,122	13,895
Other traffic offences	21,877	27,921	30,438	32,274	43,521	50,290
Other driving offences	16,407	14,098	16,721	14,447	14,190	16,551
Drug offences	7,539	7,581	6,361	5,050	4,890	5,428
Drunkenness	1,800	2,165	2,382	2,157	1,774	1,453
Offensive behaviour	1,424	1,754	1,645	1,997	2,172	2,384
Trespassing and vagrancy	1,032	858	1,049	543	566	400
Weapons offences	540	423	615	539	570	536
Liquor Act offences	662	578	572	659	776	804
Environmental offences	555	651	623	776	635	759
Enforcement of order	642	1,022	1,320	1,385	1,578	2,003
Other offences	9,971	8,163	6,566	6,090	10,906	16,487
<i>Punishments imposed</i>	120,941	125,628	133,140	131,721	150,561	165,301
Imprisonment	2,537	2,894	3,197	2,827	3,050	2,841
Community service	2,442	2,440	2,952	3,153	3,895	5,088
Placed on probation	1,821	1,707	1,633	1,556	1,747	1,924
Fined and/or ordered to pay money	89,938	93,046	97,196	95,108	112,551	127,388
Bond and licence disqualified or licence disqualified	21,095	22,605	24,982	25,916	26,468	25,378
Bond of good behaviour, recognisance	1,288	882	844	943	978	1,024
Convicted not punished	1,820	2,054	2,336	2,218	1,872	1,658

TABLE 3 - MAGISTRATES COURTS APPEARANCES: MOST SERIOUS OFFENCE CHARGED BY STATISTICAL DIVISION OF APPEARANCE, QUEENSLAND, 1989-90

Statistical division	Most serious offence							Total	Estimated resident population (a)
	Theft				Other driving, traffic, etc offences	Drug offences	All other offences		
	Breaking and entering	Unlawful use of motor vehicle	Other stealing	Drink driving offences					
No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	
Brisbane	736	540	3,642	10,649	57,006	2,280	36,272	111,125	44.8
Moreton	241	123	1,001	4,852	18,649	1,123	3,914	29,903	17.5
Wide Bay-Burnett	157	80	403	1,213	2,995	357	2,284	7,489	6.4
Darling Downs	112	39	385	1,143	5,257	204	2,401	9,541	6.5
South-West	16	23	59	230	538	47	806	1,719	1.0
Fitzroy	174	79	486	1,262	4,770	359	3,981	11,111	5.7
Central-West	5	8	23	110	259	18	360	783	0.5
Mackay	68	36	214	931	2,466	273	1,672	5,660	3.8
Northern	164	74	480	1,733	5,755	494	5,259	13,959	6.2
Far North	246	139	639	2,478	4,522	803	8,445	17,272	6.3
North-West	98	34	110	430	818	130	3,120	4,740	1.3
Total	2,017	1,175	7,442	25,031	103,035	6,088	68,514	213,302	100.0

(a) Based on preliminary estimated resident population figures at 30 June 1990.

TABLE 4 - CHILDREN'S COURTS, QUEENSLAND

Particulars	1984-85	1985-86	1986-87	1987-88	1988-89	1989-90
Distinct children (a)	3,525	3,854	3,918	3,447	3,724	3,692
Males	2,812	3,048	3,179	2,780	2,949	2,863
Females	713	806	739	667	775	829
Appearances	5,023	5,345	5,499	5,146	5,151	5,196
Males	4,146	4,373	4,610	4,272	4,219	4,207
Females	877	972	889	874	932	989
Applications for care and control	251	205	198	116	67	58
Applications for care and protection	592	757	709	582	720	767
Offences	4,180	4,383	4,592	4,448	4,364	4,371
Outcome of appearance	843	962	907	698	787	825
Applications	132	178	214	210	199	237
Order refused or revoked	89	74	40	34	14	16
Committed into care and control	464	507	483	317	449	431
Ordered into care and protection	74	65	34	8	6	5
Placed under supervision	92	156	135	129	119	136
Placed under protective supervision						
Other	1	2	1			
Offences	4,180	4,383	4,592	4,448	4,364	4,371
Discharged or withdrawn	73	99	127	119	68	119
Committed for sentence or trial	99	101	57	51	44	109
Offence proven - unconvicted	3,211	3,296	3,517	3,571	3,488	3,173
Offence proven - convicted	797	887	891	707	764	970
Proven offences	4,008	4,183	4,408	4,278	4,252	4,143
Homicide, assault etc.	182	204	237	273	278	238
Robbery and extortion	5	14		4	7	23
Fraud and misappropriation	32	25	33	65	53	49
Theft, breaking and entering, etc.	2,407	2,416	2,597	2,414	2,433	2,425
Property damage	133	117	176	184	248	229
Driving, traffic, etc.	697	866	756	684	581	561
Other	552	541	609	654	652	618
Juvenile offenders cautioned by police	9,617	9,365	9,747	9,487	9,850	8,308

(a) A child appearing on more than one occasion in the year is counted once only.

TABLE 5 - HIGHER COURTS: APPEARANCES, OUTCOMES AND PUNISHMENTS IMPOSED, QUEENSLAND


Particulars	1984-85	1985-86	1986-87	1987-88	1988-89	1989-90
<i>Appearances</i>	3,473	3,701	3,523	3,811	3,923	4,243
Males	3,017	3,254	3,137	3,359	3,480	3,826
Females	456	447	386	452	443	517
<i>No irue bill, etc</i>	993	807	497	522	620	773
<i>Acquitted</i>	303	356	407	494	467	538
<i>Convicted</i>	2,177	2,538	2,619	2,795	2,836	3,032
Homicide, etc	55	71	76	65	74	78
Assault	218	285	293	325	370	465
Rape	45	46	51	75	53	55
Other sexual offences	180	229	269	304	260	260
Other violation of persons	33	46	26	36	47	53
Robbery and extortion	135	154	143	131	140	152
Fraud and misappropriation	211	329	281	259	267	271
Unlawful use of motor vehicle	125	142	189	124	137	173
Other stealing	287	288	268	272	271	228
Receiving and unlawful possession	107	123	124	149	134	92
Burglary and housebreaking	239	231	258	333	261	285
Other breaking and entering	206	205	198	213	174	265
Property damage	123	141	160	142	150	149
Driving, traffic, etc.	29	25	23	40	49	44
Drug offences	96	140	178	184	202	243
Other offences	88	83	82	143	247	219
<i>Punishments imposed</i>	2,177	2,538	2,619	2,795	2,836	3,032
Imprisoned	901	1,164	1,184	1,221	1,304	1,261
Community service	282	343	405	507	547	711
Placed on probation	425	421	464	443	354	499
Fined and/or ordered to pay money	270	308	287	283	342	271
Good behaviour bond	253	226	197	248	222	220
Children's Services order	46	76	82	—	67	68
Convicted not punished	—	—	—	—	—	2

TABLE 6 - PRISONERS IN CONFINEMENT, QUEENSLAND

Particulars	1984-85	1985-86	1986-87	1987-88	1988-89	1989-90
Convicted prisoners at 1 July	1,696	1,787	1,965	2,152	2,181	2,190
Convicted prisoners admitted during year	3,994	4,633	5,116	4,748	4,633	4,863
Major offence for which imprisoned	42	72	61	59	68	81
Homicide, etc.	228	280	330	308	387	413
Assault	45	35	43	72	61	50
Rape	98	114	138	137	126	128
Other sexual offences	10	22	13	14	27	19
Other violation of persons	106	114	105	96	99	102
Robbery and extortion	195	257	330	359	320	260
Fraud and misappropriation	222	275	323	248	303	310
Unlawful use of motor vehicle	438	462	554	535	480	496
Breaking and entering	303	405	389	439	431	389
Other stealing	103	131	188	130	140	193
Property damage	502	557	680	640	542	662
Drink driving	759	862	865	731	685	793
Other traffic, transport etc.	442	544	578	455	404	389
Drug offences	501	503	519	525	560	578
Other offences	—	—	—	—	—	—
Convicted prisoners discharged during year	3,903	4,455	4,929	4,719	4,624	4,823
Convicted prisoners at 30 June	1,787	1,965	2,152	2,181	2,190	2,230
On remand at 30 June	165	180	146	190	210	198
Other detainees at 30 June	47	60	51	47	54	54

The *Law and Order* publication, Catalogue No. 4502.3, containing final data, is expected to be released during June 1991 at a cost of \$17.50.

All data is now available. Subject to confidentiality constraints, much of the information published is available at finer levels of classification, and a number of cross-classified tables are routinely produced.

 The ABS can produce, on request, special tables based on the following list of data items

Courts

ALL COURTS

Court of appearance
Month of appearance
Offence (Queensland Offence Classification)
Number of charges
Outcome
Punishment
Sex
Age

HIGHER COURTS ONLY

Committal court
Month and year of committal
Prior court history
Legal representation
In company
Pleas

CHILDREN'S COURTS ONLY

Complainant
Defendant present in court
Parent/guardian present in court
Departmental and defence representation
Birthplace
Usual residence
Occupational status (home, school, work)
Religion
Applications or offences
Distinct children

Prisons


Admitting prison
Sentencing court
Date of reception
Date of sentence
Sex
Age
Marital status
Birthplace
Year of arrival in Australia
Usual residence
Usual occupation
Educational attainment
Number of previous imprisonments
How admitted
Offence (Queensland Offence Classification)
Sentence (for most serious offence)
Number of cumulative sentences
Total sentence
Approximate date of discharge
(calculated at admission)
Actual date of discharge
Method of discharge



Phone Dulcie Thompson
on (07) 222 6056
to discuss what tables
would meet your needs

OR

Write to:


Social Section
Australian Bureau of Statistics
GPO Box 9817
Brisbane Q 4001

