

Northern Territory Quarterly Crime & Justice Statistics

Issue 22: December Quarter 2007



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Northern Territory Quarterly Crime & Justice Statistics

First published 2002

ISSN 1447-6908

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1 INTRODUCTION

The availability of comprehensive crime and justice figures is necessary for informed public debate and the development and evaluation of targeted crime prevention strategies.

This publication is the twenty-second in a series of quarterly reports and presents important crime and justice statistics relating to the Northern Territory. This publication covers the period December Quarter 2005 to the December Quarter 2007, presenting statistics that address four main areas:

- offences recorded by the Police;
- prisoners and detainees in correctional facilities;
- outcomes for drug offences; and
- court outcomes for aggravated property offences.

This publication was compiled by the Research and Statistics Unit of the Department of Justice. One of the major roles of the Unit is to collate, analyse and publish comprehensive crime and justice statistics. The Northern Territory Quarterly Crime and Justice Statistics publication will be publicised and freely available to the public via the website <www.nt.gov.au/justice>.

1.1 INTENDED AUDIENCE

This report contains statistics and commentary to inform the Northern Territory community and those organisations interested in trends and patterns in key crime indicators. Researchers and private and public agencies may also find this report both interesting and informative.

1.2 USE

Statistics in the Territory can be highly volatile, with large swings from one period to another. This is particularly the case for regional centres where small populations and changes in operational or administrative procedures may heavily influence statistics. Consequently, wherever possible crime and justice data is reported in this publication within an historical context to allow the reader to understand recent changes from a broader perspective.

Due to the complexity of crime and justice issues the statistics in this report may be misinterpreted. Consideration of the source of the data and what it represents is required before useful conclusions can be drawn. Supplementary notes and a glossary (which may be used to gain a fuller understanding of the contents of this report) are available at the end of the publication.

1.3 DATA SOURCES

The data used in the compilation of this report was sourced primarily from operational systems maintained by the Northern Territory Government. Consequently, as cases proceed through the criminal justice system new information may come to light that results in minor changes in statistics from one publication to another.

The data used in sections describing offences recorded by the NT Police was extracted from the Police Real-time On-line Management Information System. This is an operational system run by the Police that contains data relating to incidents and offences recorded by the Police.

The data used in the sections describing outcomes for offences was extracted from the Integrated Justice Information System. This is an operational system run by the Department of Justice containing data relating to NT Correctional Services, Courts Administration and Infringement Notices.

Data on the daily average number of prisoners and detainees has been obtained from records maintained by Northern Territory Correctional Services.

2 OVERVIEW

2.1 OFFENCES RECORDED BY THE POLICE

The following is a summary of the findings relating to key offence groups recorded by the Police for the Northern Territory as a whole, six major urban centres and the Northern Territory Balance.

A statistical test has been applied to the last 12 months of the recorded crime data to identify any upward or downward trends. The last 12 months data is considered to be stable unless a statistically significant trend is reported.

2.1.1 Northern Territory

Offences Against the Person

In the current quarter, the total number of recorded offences against the person was 1590; *assault* accounted for 91% and *sexual assault* 5%. The remaining offences were *robbery*, *murder*, *manslaughter* and *other offences against the person*. There were no recorded offences relating to *attempted murder* in this quarter.

- The underlying average level of *assault* has ranged between 324 and 483 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 483 per month is at the higher end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average increased in the middle of the period (refer Figure 2).

There were 1448 *assault* offences recorded in the current quarter. There were no changes from the previous quarter, but an increase of 21% (249) from the same quarter the previous year.

- The underlying average level of *sexual assault* has remained stable at 30 offences per month during the past nine quarters (refer Figure 3).

There were 76 *sexual assault* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents a decrease of 13% (11) from the previous quarter and a decrease of 25% (25) from the same quarter the previous year.

Property Offences

In the current quarter, the total number of recorded property offences was 5149; *property damage* accounted for 38% and *other theft* 35%. The remaining offences were *break-ins to commercial or other premises*, *motor vehicle theft and related offences*, *house break-ins*, and *other property offences*.

- The underlying average level of *house break-ins* has ranged between 127 and 173 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 127 per month is at the lower end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average decreased early in the period. A statistically significant downward trend was identified (refer Figure 6).

There were 407 *house break-ins* recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 18% (61) from the previous quarter, but a decrease of 19% (95) from the same quarter the previous year.

- The underlying average level of *break-ins to commercial or other premises* has ranged between 130 and 155 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 155 per month is at the higher end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average remained stable (refer Figure 7).

There were 484 *break-ins to commercial or other premises* recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 16% (66) from the previous quarter and an increase of 28% (105) from the same quarter the previous year.

- The underlying average level of *motor vehicle theft and related offences* has ranged between 106 and 150 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 150 per month is at the higher end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average increased early in the period. A statistically significant upward trend was identified (refer Figure 8).

There were 483 *motor vehicle theft and related offences* recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 6% (28) from the previous quarter and an increase of 68% (196) from the same quarter the previous year.

- The underlying average level of *other theft* has ranged between 580 and 705 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 580 per month is at the lower end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average decreased early in the period. A statistically significant downward trend was identified (refer Figure 9).

There were 1794 *other theft* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 9% (149) from the previous quarter, but a decrease of 9% (175) from the same quarter the previous year.

- The underlying average level of *property damage* has ranged between 617 and 679 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 645 per month is in the middle of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average decreased early in the period (refer Figure 10).

There were 1959 *property damage* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 1% (14) from the previous quarter and an increase of 10% (171) from the same quarter the previous year.

2.1.2 Darwin

Offences Against the Person

In the current quarter, a total of 494 offences against the person were recorded in Darwin; *assault* accounted for 87% and both *robbery* and *sexual assault* 5% each. The remaining offences were *murder*, *manslaughter* and *other offences against the person*. There were no recorded offences related to *attempted murder* in this quarter.

- The underlying average level of *assault* has ranged between 82 and 143 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 143 per month is at the higher end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average increased early in the period. A statistically significant upward trend was identified (refer Figure 12).

There were 432 *assault* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents a decrease of 3% (13) from the previous quarter, but an increase of 37% (116) from the same quarter the previous year.

- The underlying average level of *sexual assault* has ranged between 8 and 11 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 8 per month is at the lower end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average decreased in the middle of the period (refer Figure 13).

There were 24 *sexual assault* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 9% (2) from the previous quarter, but a decrease of 33% (12) from the same quarter the previous year.

Property Offences

In the current quarter, the total number of recorded property offences in Darwin was 2490; both *other theft* and *property damage* accounted for 37% each. The remaining offences were *motor vehicle theft and related offences*, *house break-ins*, *break-ins to commercial or other premises*, and *other property offences*.

- The underlying average level of *house break-ins* has ranged between 59 and 86 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 59 per month is at the lower end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average decreased early in the period (refer Figure 16).

There were 207 *house break-ins* recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 57% (75) from the previous quarter, but a decrease of 23% (63) from the same quarter the previous year.

- The underlying average level of *break-ins to commercial or other premises* has ranged between 40 and 62 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 62 per month is at

the higher end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average remained stable (refer Figure 17).

There were 195 *break-ins to commercial or other premises* recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 9% (16) from the previous quarter and an increase of 12% (21) from the same quarter the previous year.

- The underlying average level of *motor vehicle theft and related offences* has ranged between 56 and 77 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 77 per month is at the higher end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average increased early in the period. A statistically significant upward trend was identified (refer Figure 18).

There were 238 *motor vehicle theft and related offences* recorded in the current quarter. This represents a decrease of 3% (7) from the previous quarter, but an increase of 76% (103) from the same quarter the previous year.

- The underlying average level of *other theft* has ranged between 300 and 348 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 300 per month is at the lower end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average remained stable (refer Figure 19).

There were 930 *other theft* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 17% (135) from the previous quarter, but a decrease of 14% (146) from the same quarter the previous year.

- The underlying average level of *property damage* has ranged between 228 and 347 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 315 per month is in the middle of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average increased early in the period and decreased in the middle of the period (refer Figure 20).

There were 915 *property damage* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents a decrease of 6% (57) from the previous quarter, but an increase of 6% (54) from the same quarter the previous year.

2.1.3 Palmerston

Offences Against the Person

In the current quarter, the total number of offences against the person recorded in Palmerston was 95; *assault* accounted for 95%. The remaining offences were *sexual assault*, *robbery* and *other offences against the person*. There were no offences recorded relating to *murder*, *attempted murder* or *manslaughter* in this quarter.

- The underlying average level of *assault* has ranged between 18 and 31 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 31 per month is at the higher end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average remained stable (refer Figure 22).

There were 90 *assault* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents a decrease of 19% (21) from the previous quarter, but an increase of 73% (38) from the same quarter the previous year.

Property Offences

In the current quarter, the total number of recorded property offences in Palmerston was 617; *property damage* accounted for 41% and *other theft* 30%. The remaining offences were *motor vehicle theft and related offences*, *commercial break-ins or other premises* and *house break-ins*. There were no offences recorded relating to *other property offences* in this quarter.

- The underlying average level of *house break-ins* has ranged between 16 and 29 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 21 per month is in the middle of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average remained stable (refer Figure 24).

There were 45 *house break-ins* recorded in the current quarter. This represents a decrease of 31% (20) from the previous quarter and a decrease of 6% (3) from the same quarter the previous year.

- The underlying average level of *break-ins to commercial or other premises* has ranged between 8 and 19 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 19 per month is at the

higher end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average increased early in the period (refer Figure 25).

There were 59 *break-ins to commercial or other premises* recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 7% (4) from the previous quarter and an increase of 195% (39) from the same quarter the previous year.

- The underlying average level of *motor vehicle theft and related offences* has ranged between 13 and 24 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 24 per month is at the higher end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average increased early in the period. A statistically significant upward trend was identified (refer Figure 26).

There were 77 *motor vehicle theft and related offences* recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 18% (12) from the previous quarter and an increase of 97% (38) from the same quarter the previous year.

- The underlying average level of *other theft* has remained stable at 73 offences per month during the past nine quarters (refer Figure 27).

There were 184 *other theft* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents a decrease of 17% (37) from the previous quarter and a decrease of 5% (9) from the same quarter the previous year.

- The underlying average level of *property damage* has ranged between 47 and 79 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 79 per month is at the higher end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average remained stable (refer Figure 28).

There were 252 *property damage* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 14% (30) from the previous quarter and an increase of 83% (114) from the same quarter the previous year.

2.1.4 Alice Springs

Offences Against the Person

In the current quarter, the total number of offences against the person recorded in Alice Springs was 322; *assault* accounted for 95%. The remaining offences included *sexual assault* and *other offences against the person*. There were no offences recorded relating to *murder*, *attempted murder*, *manslaughter* or *robbery* in this quarter.

- The underlying average level of *assault* has ranged between 62 and 102 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 93 per month is at the higher end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average decreased early in the period (refer Figure 30).
- There were 307 *assault* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 17% (44) from the previous quarter and an increase of 16% (42) from the same quarter the previous year.

Property Offences

In the current quarter, the total number of recorded property offences in Alice Springs was 869; *property damage* accounted for 43% and *other theft* 33%. The remaining offences were *break-ins to commercial or other premises*, *house break-ins*, *motor vehicle theft and related offences* and *other property offences*.

- The underlying average level of *house break-ins* has ranged between 19 and 30 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 19 per month is at the lower end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average remained stable (refer Figure 33).

There were 69 *house break-ins* recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 33% (17) from the previous quarter and an increase of 17% (10) from the same quarter the previous year.

- The underlying average level of *break-ins to commercial or other premises* has ranged between 20 and 33 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 23 per month is at the lower end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average decreased in the middle of the period (refer Figure 34).

There were 72 *break-ins to commercial or other premises* recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 3% (2) from the previous quarter and an increase of 9% (6) from the same quarter the previous year.

- The underlying average level of *motor vehicle theft and related offences* has ranged between 15 and 24 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 24 per month is at the higher end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average increased early in the period (refer Figure 35).

There were 67 *motor vehicle theft and related offences* recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 2% (1) from the previous quarter and an increase of 26% (14) from the same quarter the previous year.

- The underlying average level of *other theft* has ranged between 84 and 121 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 84 per month is at the lower end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average decreased in the middle of the period (refer Figure 36).

There were 283 *other theft* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 19% (46) from the previous quarter, but a decrease of 12% (40) from the same quarter the previous year.

- The underlying average level of *property damage* has ranged between 115 and 147 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 123 per month is in the middle of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average decreased in the middle of the period. A statistically significant downward trend was identified (refer Figure 37).

There were 371 *property damage* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents a decrease of 6% (23) from the previous quarter and a decrease of 10% (41) from the same quarter the previous year.

2.1.5 Katherine

Offences Against the Person

In the current quarter, the total number of offences against the person recorded in Katherine was 164; *assault* accounted for 91% and *sexual assault* 7%. The remaining offences were *manslaughter* and *other offences against the person*. There were no recorded offences relating to *murder*, *attempted murder* or *robbery*.

- The underlying average level of *assault* has ranged between 41 and 47 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 41 per month is at the lower end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average remained stable (refer Figure 39).

There were 149 *assault* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 31% (35) from the previous quarter and an increase of 16% (20) from the same quarter the previous year.

Property Offences

In the current quarter, the total number of recorded property offences in Katherine was 275; *other theft* accounted for 38% and *property damage* 35%. The remaining offences were *break-ins to commercial or other premises*, *house break-ins* and *motor vehicle theft and related offences* and *other property offences*.

- The underlying average level of *house break-ins* has ranged between 7 and 12 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 7 per month is at the lower end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average decreased early in the period (refer Figure 41).

There were 14 *house break-ins* recorded in the current quarter. This represents a decrease of 52% (15) from the previous quarter and a decrease of 52% (15) from the same quarter the previous year.

- The underlying average level of *break-ins to commercial or other premises* has ranged between 7 and 14 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 14 per month is at the

higher end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average increased in the middle of the period (refer Figure 42).

There were 43 *break-ins to commercial or other premises* recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 43% (13) from the previous quarter and an increase of 187% (28) from the same quarter the previous year.

- The underlying average level of *motor vehicle theft and related offences* has ranged between 2 and 6 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 6 per month is at the higher end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average increased early in the period (refer Figure 43).

There were 14 *motor vehicle theft and related offences* recorded in the current quarter. This represents a decrease of 26% (5) from the previous quarter, but an increase of 75% (6) from the same quarter the previous year.

- The underlying average level of *other theft* has ranged between 30 and 42 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 34 per month is in the middle of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average remained stable (refer Figure 44).

There were 105 *other theft* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 8% (8) from the previous quarter and an increase of 12% (11) from the same quarter the previous year.

- The underlying average level of *property damage* has ranged between 18 and 30 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 30 per month is at the higher end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average increased in the middle of the period (refer Figure 45).

There were 95 *property damage* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 16% (13) from the previous quarter and an increase of 34% (24) from the same quarter the previous year.

2.1.6 Tennant Creek

Offences Against the Person

In the current quarter, the total number of offences against the person recorded in Tennant Creek was 142; *assault* accounted for 94% and *sexual assault* 5%. The remaining offences were *robbery* and *other offences against the person*. There were no offences recorded relating to *murder*, *attempted murder* or *manslaughter* in this quarter.

- The underlying average level of *assault* has ranged between 27 and 41 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 41 per month is at the higher end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average increased early in the period (refer Figure 47).

There were 133 *assault* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 2% (2) from the previous quarter and an increase of 21% (23) from the same quarter the previous year.

Property Offences

In the current quarter, the total number of recorded property offences in Tennant Creek was 169; *property damage* accounted for 43% and *other theft* 28%. The remaining offences were *house break-ins*, *break-ins to commercial or other premises*, *motor vehicle theft and related offences* and *other property offences*.

- The underlying average level of *house break-ins* has ranged between 3 and 7 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 5 per month is in the middle of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average decreased early in the period (refer Figure 49).

There were 26 *house break-ins* recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 160% (16) from the previous quarter and an increase of 18% (4) from the same quarter the previous year.

- The underlying average level of *break-ins to commercial or other premises* has ranged between 3 and 11 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 5 per month is in the

middle of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average decreased early in the period. A statistically significant downward trend was identified (refer Figure 50).

There were 14 *break-ins to commercial or other premises* recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 17% (2) from the previous quarter, but a decrease of 36% (8) from the same quarter the previous year.

- The underlying average level of *motor vehicle theft and related offences* has ranged between 1 and 2 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 2 per month is at the higher end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average increased early in the period (refer Figure 51).

There were 7 *motor vehicle theft and related offences* recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 3 from the previous quarter and an increase of 4 from the same quarter the previous year.

- The underlying average level of *other theft* has ranged between 15 and 23 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 16 per month is at the lower end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average increased early in the period and decreased in the middle of the period (refer Figure 52).

There were 47 *other theft* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents a decrease of 4% (2) from the previous quarter and a decrease of 24% (15) from the same quarter the previous year.

- The underlying average level of *property damage* has ranged between 21 and 23 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 21 per month is at the lower end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average remained stable (refer Figure 53).

There were 73 *property damage* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 38% (20) from the previous quarter and an increase of 11% (7) from the same quarter the previous year.

2.1.7 Nhulunbuy

Offences Against the Person

In the current quarter, the total number of offences against the person recorded in Nhulunbuy was 45; *assault* accounted for 91%. The remaining offences were *sexual assault* and *other offences against the person*. There were no recorded offences relating to *murder, attempted murder, manslaughter or robbery*.

- The underlying average level of *assault* has ranged between 5 and 13 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 13 per month is at the higher end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average remained stable (refer Figure 55).

There were 41 *assault* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 8% (3) from the previous quarter and an increase of 141% (24) from the same quarter the previous year.

Property Offences

In the current quarter, the total number of recorded property offences in Nhulunbuy was 75; *property damage* accounted for 43% and *other theft* 35%. The remaining offences were *break-ins to commercial or other premises, motor vehicle theft and related offences* and *house break-ins*. There were no offences relating to *other property offences* in this quarter.

- The underlying average level of *house break-ins* has ranged between 0 and 2 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 0 per month is at the lower end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average decreased in the middle of the period (refer Figure 57).

There was 1 *house break-in* offence recorded in the current quarter. This represents a decrease of 1 from the previous quarter and a decrease of 2 from the same quarter the previous year.

- The underlying average level of *break-ins to commercial or other premises* has ranged between 2 and 3 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 3 per month is at the

higher end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average remained stable (refer Figure 58).

There were 8 *break-ins to commercial or other premises* recorded in the current quarter. This represents a decrease of 1 from the previous quarter, but an increase of 6 from the same quarter the previous year.

- The underlying average level of *other theft* has ranged between 8 and 11 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 8 per month is at the lower end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average decreased early in the period (refer Figure 59).

There were 26 *other theft* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 13% (3) from the previous quarter and an increase of 24% (5) from the same quarter the previous year.

- The underlying average level of *property damage* has remained stable at 10 offences per month during the past nine quarters (refer Figure 60).

There were 32 *property damage* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 10% (3) from the previous quarter and an increase of 33% (8) from the same quarter the previous year.

2.1.8 Northern Territory Balance

The Northern Territory Balance is the area of the Northern Territory that lies outside of the six major urban centres of Darwin, Palmerston, Alice Springs, Katherine, Tennant Creek and Nhulunbuy.

Offences Against the Person

In the current quarter, the total number of offences against the person recorded in the Northern Territory Balance was 328; *assault* accounted for 90% and *sexual assault* 7%. The remaining offences were *murder* and *other offences against the person*. There were no recorded offences relating to *attempted murder*, *manslaughter* or *robbery* in this quarter.

- The underlying average level of *assault* has remained stable at 101 offences per month during the past nine quarters (refer Figure 62).

There were 296 *assault* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents a decrease of 14% (50) from the previous quarter and a decrease of 5% (14) from the same quarter the previous year.

Property Offences

In the current quarter, the total number of recorded property offences in the Northern Territory Balance was 654; *property damage* accounted for 34% and *other theft* 33%. The remaining offences were *break-ins to commercial or other premises*, *motor vehicle theft and related offences*, *house break-ins* and *other property offences*.

- The underlying average level of *house break-ins* has ranged between 16 and 23 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 16 per month is at the lower end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average decreased early in the period and decreased again in the middle of the period. A statistically significant downward trend was identified (refer Figure 65).

There were 45 *house break-ins* recorded in the current quarter. This represents a decrease of 20% (11) from the previous quarter and a decrease of 37% (26) from the same quarter the previous year.

- The underlying average level of *break-ins to commercial or other premises* has ranged between 24 and 39 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 27 per month is at the lower end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average remained stable (refer Figure 66).

There were 93 *break-ins to commercial or other premises* recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 48% (30) from the previous quarter and an increase of 16% (13) from the same quarter the previous year.

- The underlying average level of *motor vehicle theft and related offences* has ranged between 12 and 18 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 18 per month is at the higher end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average remained stable (refer Figure 67).

There were 72 *motor vehicle theft and related offences* recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 41% (21) from the previous quarter and an increase of 64% (28) from the same quarter the previous year.

- The underlying average level of *other theft* has ranged between 74 and 75 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 74 per month is at the lower end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average remained stable (refer Figure 68).

There were 219 *other theft* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents a decrease of 2% (4) from the previous quarter, but an increase of 10% (19) from the same quarter the previous year.

- The underlying average level of *property damage* has ranged between 67 and 78 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 67 per month is at the lower end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average remained stable (refer Figure 69).

There were 221 *property damage* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 15% (28) from the previous quarter and an increase of 2% (5) from the same quarter the previous year.

2.2 PRISONERS AND DETAINEES IN CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES

- The daily average number of prisoners in the Northern Territory was 843 during the current quarter. This represents an increase of less than 1% (1) from the previous quarter and an increase of 2% (18) from the same quarter the previous year.
- Indigenous prisoners currently represent 82% (688) of the daily average prison population. The current daily average of 688 was 2% (11) lower than the previous quarter but 2% (14) higher than the same quarter last year.
- The daily average number of juvenile detainees was 25 in the current quarter. This represents a decrease of 11% (3) from the previous quarter, and a decrease of 4% (1) from the same quarter the previous year.

2.3 OUTCOMES FOR DRUG OFFENCES

- Sentences were passed for 361 drug offences during the first six months of the 2007-08 financial year. During the period:
 - The most common drug offences, which were sentenced, were the possession and/or use of illicit drugs 48% (174) and the non-commercial dealing in illicit drugs 35% (128).
 - A monetary order was the most common principal penalty accounting for 61% (221) of the drug offences which had sentences passed. A term of imprisonment (actual or fully suspended) or home detention was ordered for 32% (115) of the drug offences.
- Sentences were passed for 754 drug offences during the 2006-07 financial year.
 - The most common drug offences, which were sentenced, were the possession and/or use of illicit drugs 42% (317) and the non-commercial dealing in illicit drugs 40% (300).
 - The principal penalty for 60% (456) of the drug offences was a monetary order. For 31% (232) of the drug offences the principal penalty was imprisonment (including home detention and fully suspended imprisonment).

- A total of 107 drug infringement notices, relating to 108 separate offences, were issued during the December quarter 2007. This is 12% (15) less notices than were issued in the previous quarter and 23% (20) more notices than were issued in the December quarter 2006.
- Possession of cannabis is the most common offence for which drug infringement notices have been issued (99% of offences in the December quarter 2007).

2.4 COURT OUTCOMES FOR AGGRAVATED PROPERTY OFFENCES

- A total of 257 aggravated property offences had sentences passed between 1 July 2007 and 31 December 2007, of which the most prevalent offence group was *break-ins* (65%).
- The principal penalty for 83% (213) of aggravated property offences fell within the standard sentencing guidelines (imprisonment, home detention or a community work order) contained in the *Sentencing Act*.
- A total of 520 aggravated property offences was finalised during the 2006-07 financial year.
- The principal penalty for 83% (431) of these offences fell within the standard sentencing guidelines contained in the *Sentencing Act*.
- In relation to 63% (328) of offences, the principal penalty was an actual term of imprisonment.

3 OFFENCES RECORDED BY THE POLICE

This section provides information on selected categories of offences recorded by the Northern Territory Police, Fire and Emergency Services (NTPFES) for the period from the December quarter 2005 to the December quarter 2007.

The selected offence categories are:

- **Offences Against the Person:**
 - Murder
 - Attempted Murder
 - Manslaughter
 - Robbery
 - Assault
 - Sexual Assault
 - Other Offences Against the Person
- **Property Offences:**
 - House Break-ins
 - Break-ins to Commercial or Other Premises
 - Motor Vehicle Theft and Related Offences
 - Other Theft
 - Property Damage
 - Other Property Offences

The offence data is presented for the Northern Territory as a whole, six major urban centres and the Northern Territory Balance (areas outside of the six major urban centres):

- Northern Territory
- Darwin
- Palmerston
- Alice Springs
- Katherine
- Tennant Creek
- Nhulunbuy
- Northern Territory Balance

3.1 EXPLANATORY NOTES

The data used in this section was extracted from the Police Real-time On-line Management Information System on 01 February 2008.

- For a variety of reasons not all crimes are reported to the Police. Consequently, levels of recorded crime should not be interpreted as comprehensively representing the level of crime in the Northern Territory. Recorded crime is however adopted nationally as a lead indicator of the level and nature of crime and provides a sound basis for measuring changes over time.

- The underlying average summarises a data series, by reducing it to periods of stability and points from which sustained change is observed. The underlying average level at any point in a data series is the average of all data points in the same period of stability. The underlying average serves to focus attention on important underlying characteristics of a data series and is used extensively in the graphs presented in this section.
- A statistical test has been applied to the last 12 months of the recorded crime data to detect the presence of any upward or downward trends. The last 12 months data is considered to be stable unless a statistically significant trend is reported.
- The segments of the pie charts shown in this chapter may not sum to exactly 100 per cent due to rounding.

3.2 FINDINGS

3.2.1 Northern Territory

The following table presents the number of recorded offences by offence category on a quarterly basis.

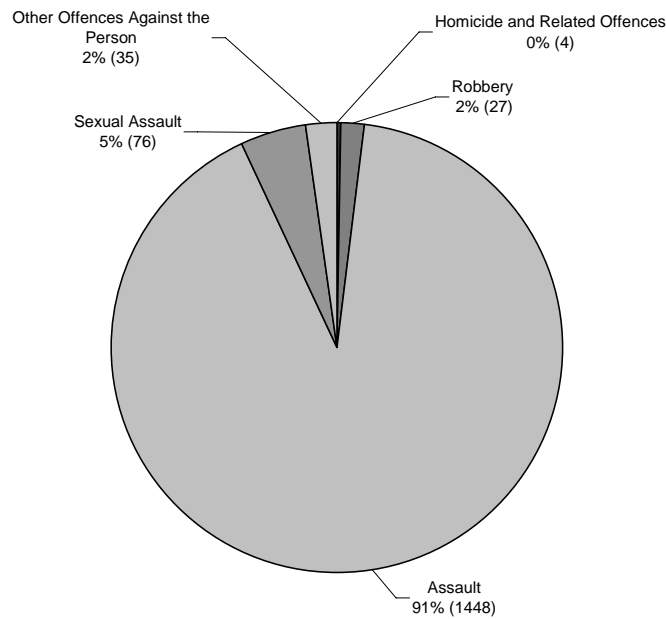
Table 1 Recorded Offences in the Northern Territory

	Dec	Mar	Jun	Sep	Dec	Mar	Jun	Sep	Dec
	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr
	2005	2006	2006	2006	2006	2007	2007	2007	2007
Offences Against The Person									
Homicide and Related Offences									
Murder	4	4	2	1	4	2	6	3	2
Attempted Murder	3	1	1	2	2	1	3	1	0
Manslaughter	4	1	1	0	2	0	0	2	2
Robbery	10	19	21	22	19	27	29	30	27
Assault	1221	1285	1029	970	1199	1279	1361	1448	1448
Sexual Assault	81	92	67	97	101	79	99	87	76
Other Offences Against the Person	22	27	29	31	26	20	27	36	35
Total	1345	1429	1150	1123	1353	1408	1525	1607	1590
Property Offences									
Break-ins									
House	471	531	528	489	502	527	459	346	407
Commercial or Other Premises	335	458	385	429	379	488	470	418	484
Motor Vehicle Theft and Related Offences	374	401	382	351	287	337	480	455	483
Other Theft	1856	2125	1986	2009	1969	2011	1878	1645	1794
Property Damage	1742	2090	1777	1896	1788	2046	1949	1945	1959
Other Property Offences	22	34	37	17	24	24	21	25	22
Total	4800	5639	5095	5191	4949	5433	5257	4834	5149

Offences Against the Person

- In the current quarter, a total of 1590 offences against the person were recorded in the Territory. This represents a decrease of 1% (17) from the previous quarter, but an increase of 18% (237) from the same quarter the previous year.
- As shown in the figure below, *assault* was by far the most frequent offence, accounting for 91% of offences against the person. The remaining offences were *sexual assault* 5%, both *other offences against the person* and *robbery* 2% each and both *murder* and *manslaughter* less than 1% each. There were no recorded offences relating to *attempted murder*.

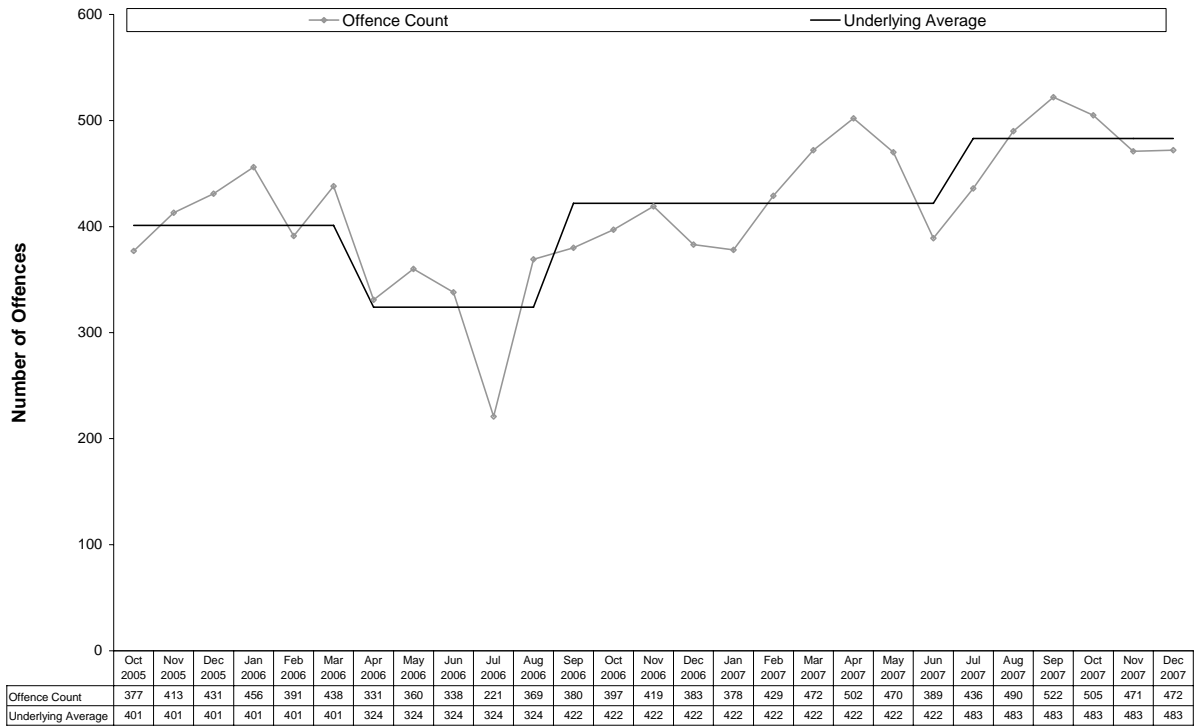
Figure 1 Recorded Offences Against the Person in the Northern Territory – Current Quarter



Assault

- The figure shows the underlying average level of *assault* has ranged between 324 and 483 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 483 per month is at the higher end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average increased in the middle of the period.
- There were 1448 *assault* offences recorded in the current quarter. There were no changes from the previous quarter, but an increase of 21% (249) from the same quarter the previous year.

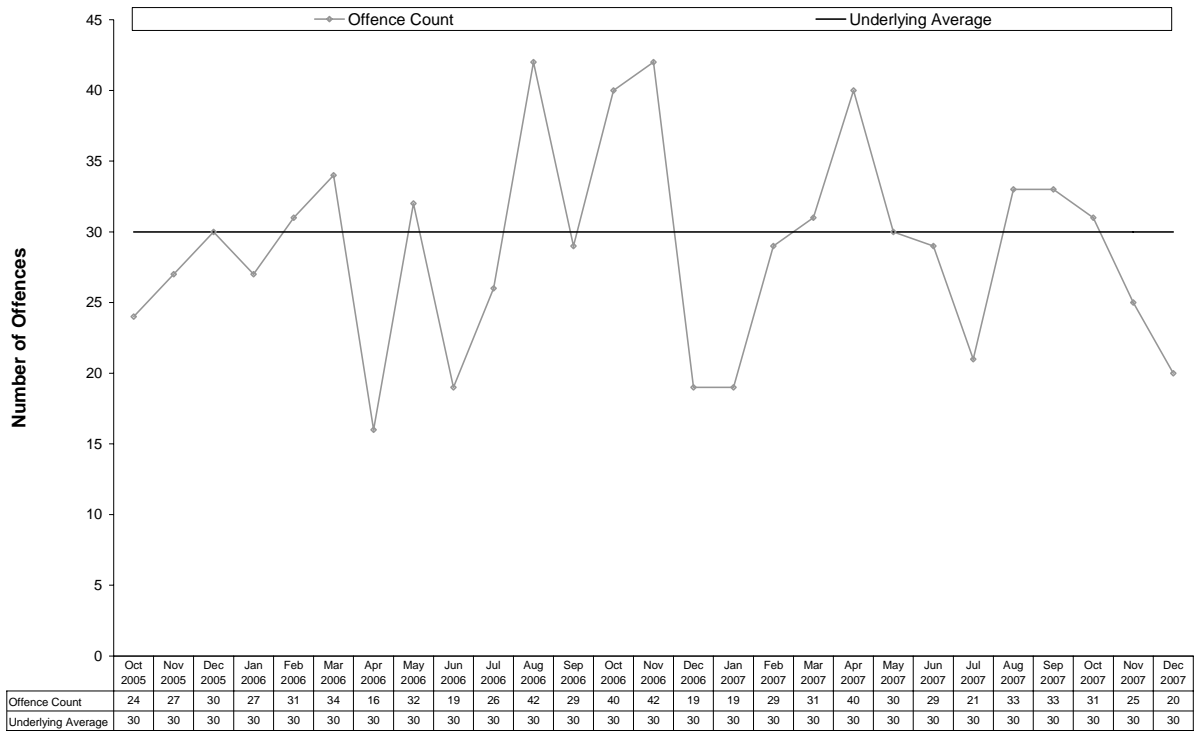
Figure 2 Recorded Assault in the Northern Territory



Sexual Assault

- The figure shows the underlying average level of *sexual assault* has remained stable at 30 offences per month during the past nine quarters.
- There were 76 *sexual assault* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents a decrease of 13% (11) from the previous quarter and a decrease of 25% (25) from the same quarter the previous year.

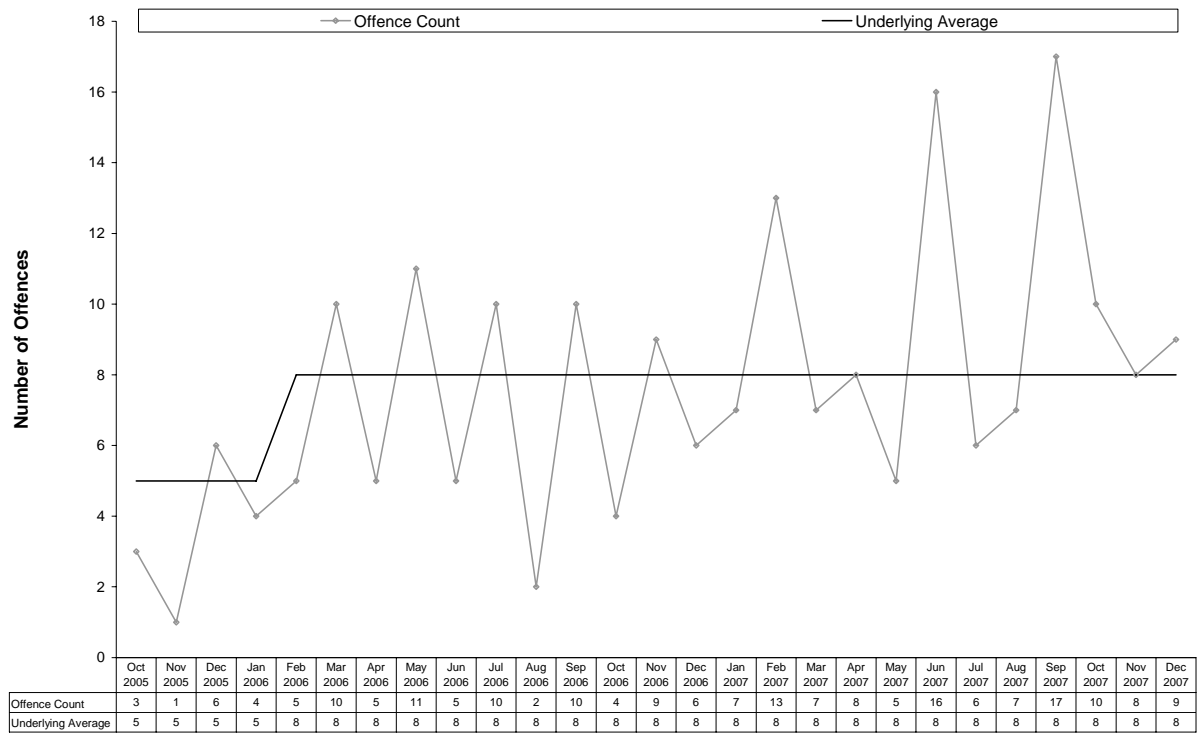
Figure 3 Recorded Sexual Assault in the Northern Territory



Robbery

- The figure shows the underlying average level of *robbery* has ranged between 5 and 8 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 8 per month is at the higher end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average remained stable.
- There were 27 *robbery* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents a decrease of 10% (3) from the previous quarter, but an increase of 42% (8) from the same quarter the previous year.

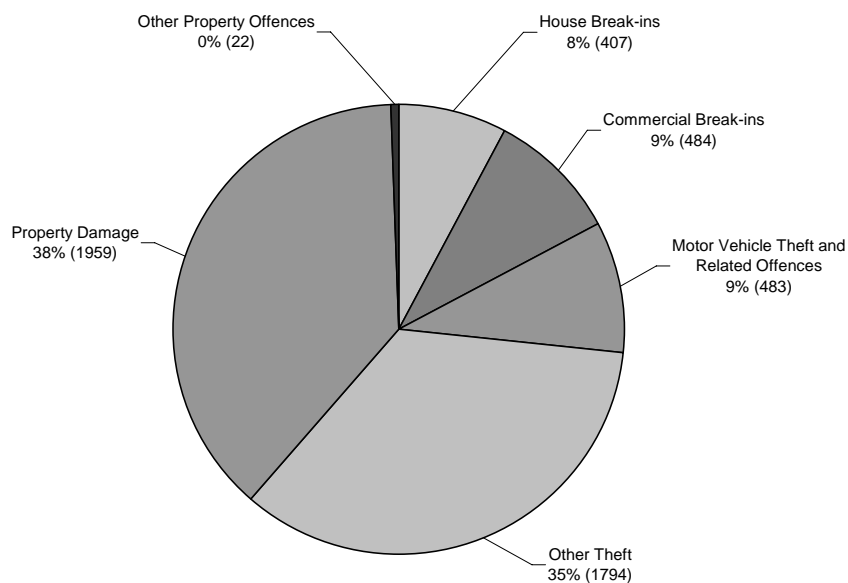
Figure 4 Recorded Robbery in the Northern Territory



Property Offences

- In the current quarter, a total of 5149 property offences were recorded in the Territory. This represents an increase of 7% (315) from the previous quarter and an increase of 4% (200) from the same quarter the previous year.
- The figure below shows 38% of property offences relate to *property damage*, with *other theft* at 35%. The remaining offences were *break-ins to commercial or other premises* and *motor vehicle theft and related offences* both 9% each, *house break-ins* 8% and *other property offences* less than 1%.

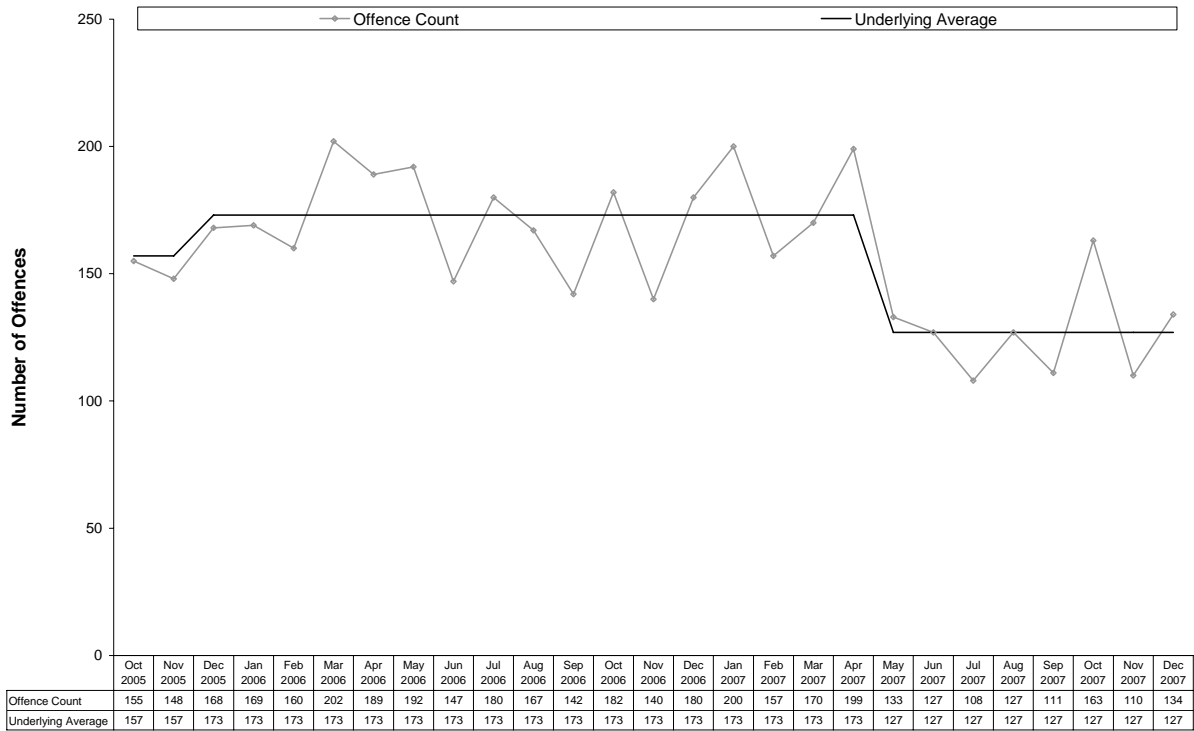
Figure 5 Recorded Property Offences in the Northern Territory – Current Quarter



House Break-ins

- The figure shows the underlying average level of *house break-ins* has ranged between 127 and 173 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 127 per month is at the lower end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average decreased early in the period. A statistically significant downward trend was identified.
- There were 407 *house break-ins* recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 18% (61) from the previous quarter, but a decrease of 19% (95) from the same quarter the previous year.

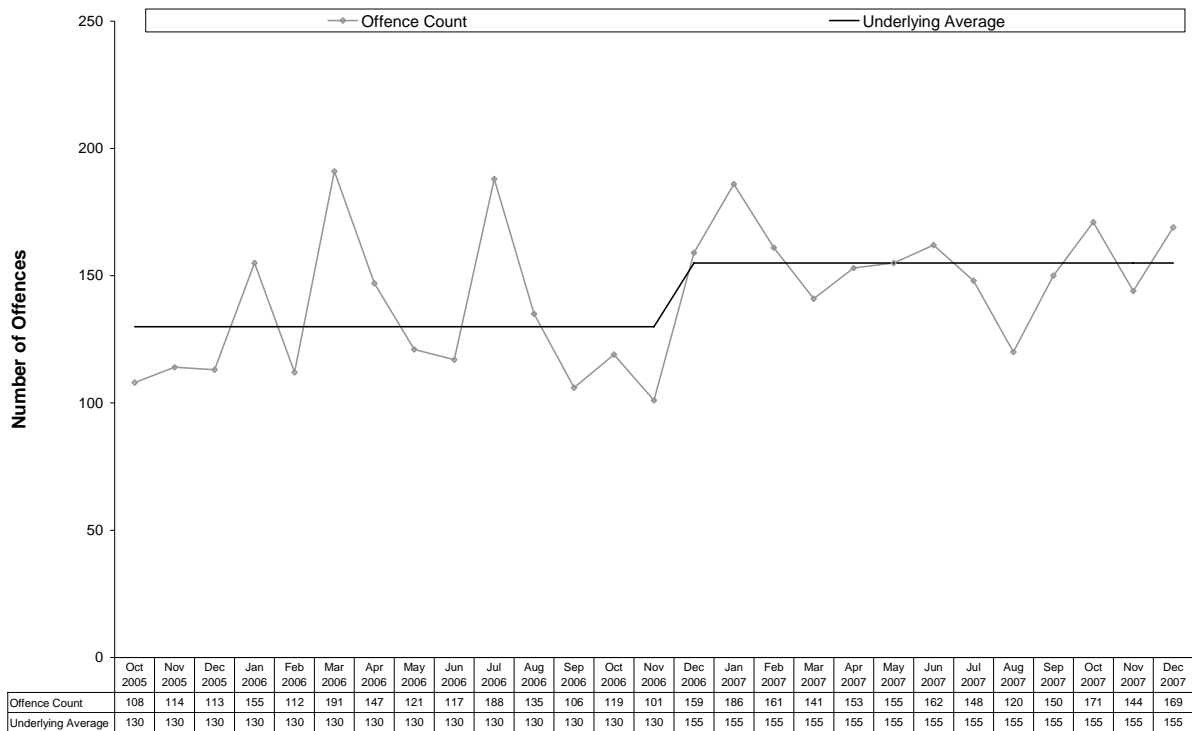
Figure 6 Recorded House Break-ins in the Northern Territory



Break-ins to Commercial or Other Premises

- The figure shows the underlying average level of *break-ins to commercial or other premises* has ranged between 130 and 155 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 155 per month is at the higher end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average remained stable.
- There were 484 *break-ins to commercial or other premises* recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 16% (66) from the previous quarter and an increase of 28% (105) from the same quarter the previous year.

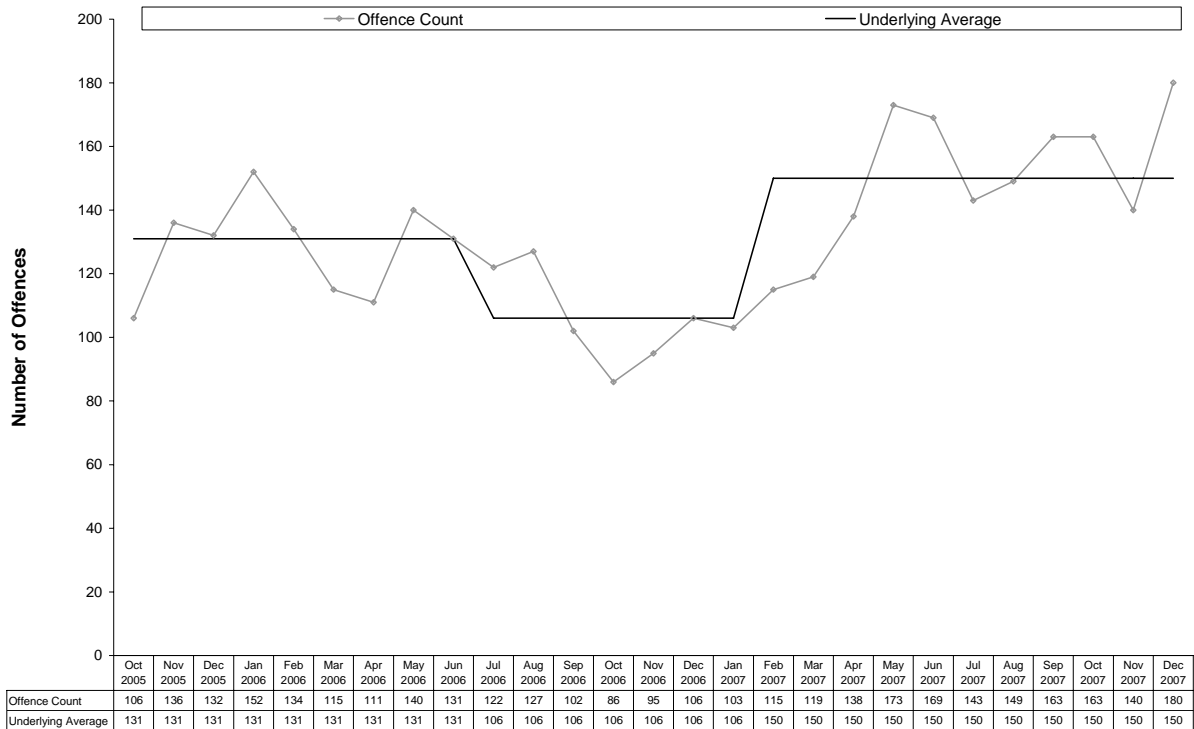
Figure 7 Recorded Break-ins to Commercial or Other Premises in the Northern Territory



Motor Vehicle Theft and Related Offences

- The figure shows the underlying average level of *motor vehicle theft and related offences* has ranged between 106 and 150 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 150 per month is at the higher end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average increased early in the period. A statistically significant upward trend was identified.
- There were 483 *motor vehicle theft and related offences* recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 6% (28) from the previous quarter and an increase of 68% (196) from the same quarter the previous year.

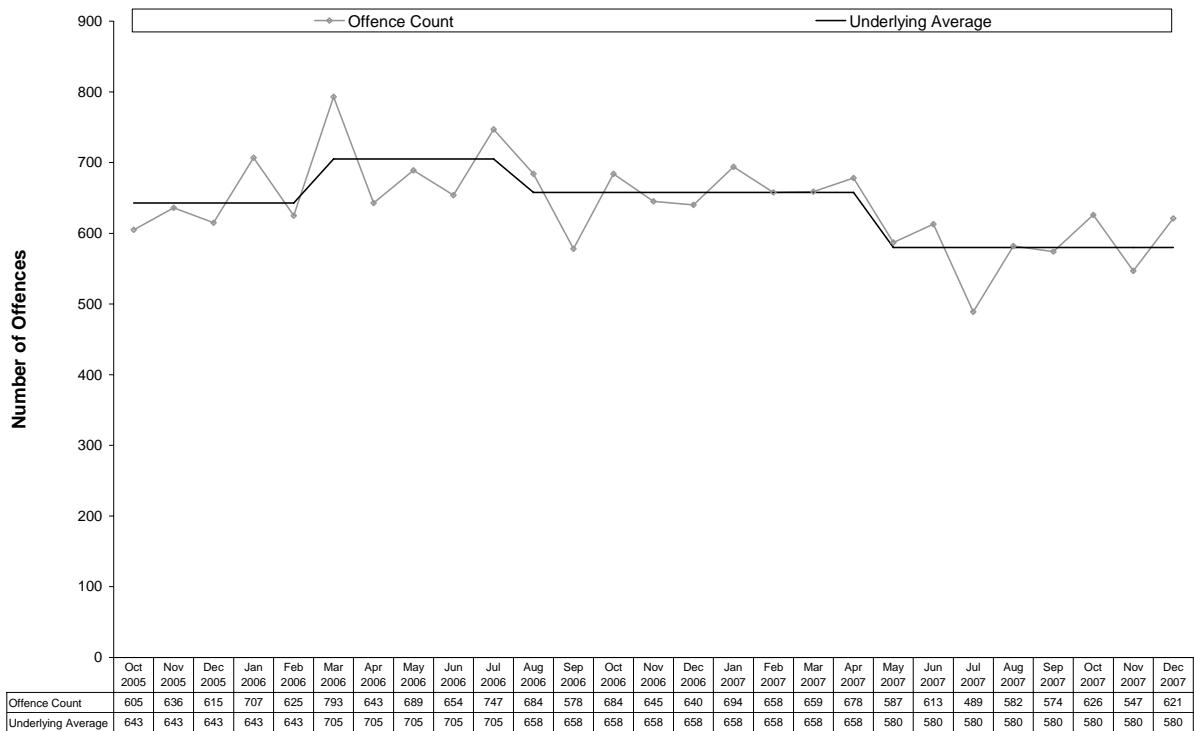
Figure 8 Recorded Motor Vehicle Theft and Related Offences in the Northern Territory



Other Theft

- The figure shows the underlying average level of *other theft* has ranged between 580 and 705 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 580 per month is at the lower end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average decreased early in the period. A statistically significant downward trend was identified.
- There were 1794 *other theft* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 9% (149) from the previous quarter, but a decrease of 9% (175) from the same quarter the previous year.

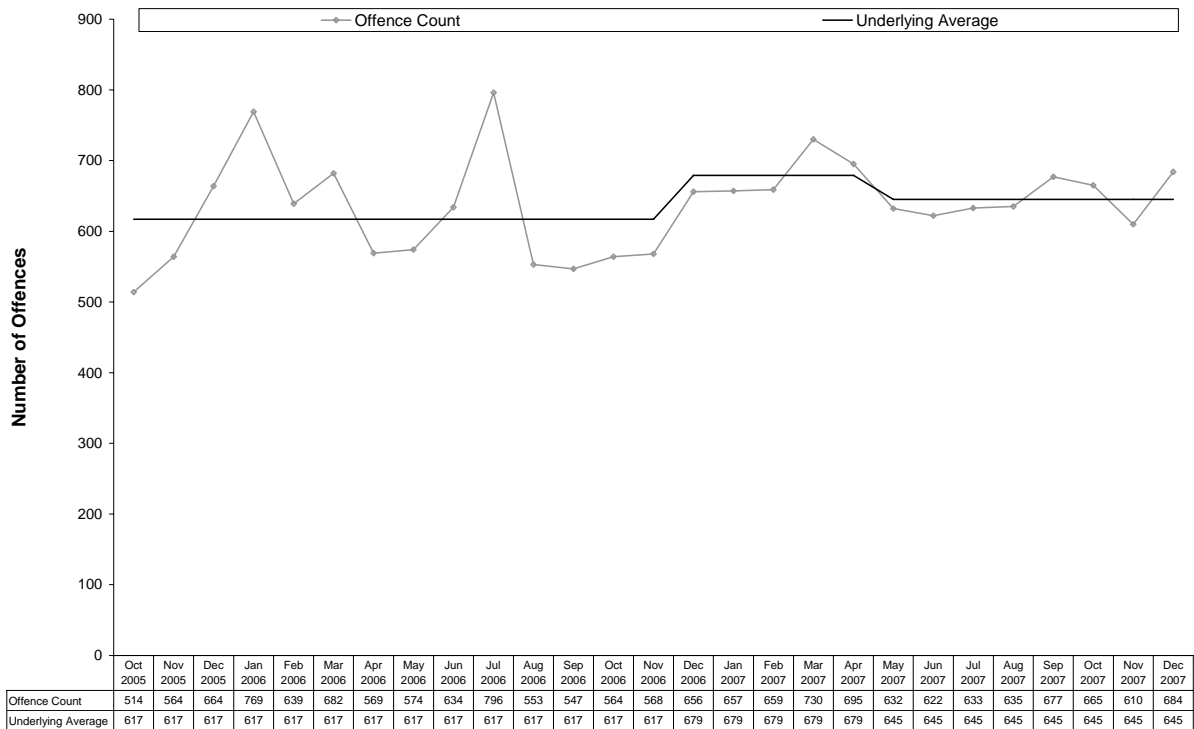
Figure 9 Recorded Other Theft in the Northern Territory



Property Damage

- The figure shows the underlying average level of *property damage* has ranged between 617 and 679 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 645 per month is in the middle of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average decreased early in the period.
- There were 1959 *property damage* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 1% (14) from the previous quarter and an increase of 10% (171) from the same quarter the previous year.

Figure 10 Recorded Property Damage in the Northern Territory



3.2.2 Darwin

The following table presents the number of recorded offences by offence category on a quarterly basis.

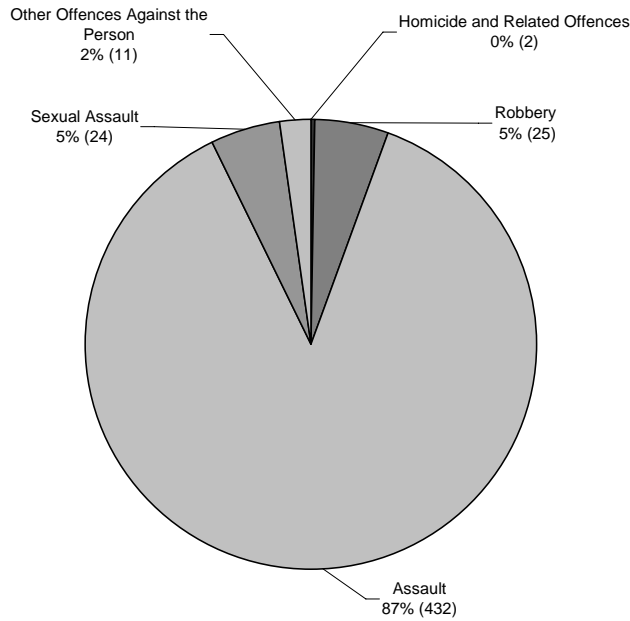
Table 2 Recorded Offences in Darwin

	Dec	Mar	Jun	Sep	Dec	Mar	Jun	Sep	Dec
	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr
	2005	2006	2006	2006	2006	2007	2007	2007	2007
Offences Against The Person									
Homicide and Related Offences									
Murder	1	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	1
Attempted Murder	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Manslaughter	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Robbery	5	14	15	15	11	12	17	22	25
Assault	269	255	249	229	316	272	443	445	432
Sexual Assault	34	24	20	38	36	31	31	22	24
Other Offences Against the Person	7	16	5	6	7	9	5	5	11
Total	319	309	289	288	372	325	497	494	494
Property Offences									
Break-ins									
House	247	248	279	251	270	267	233	132	207
Commercial or Other Premises	131	126	142	212	174	172	203	179	195
Motor Vehicle Theft and Related Offences	196	215	202	196	135	181	237	245	238
Other Theft	967	1005	1045	1138	1076	949	922	795	930
Property Damage	849	1065	948	1000	861	970	967	972	915
Other Property Offences	6	9	19	6	9	7	6	10	5
Total	2396	2668	2635	2803	2525	2546	2568	2333	2490

Offences Against the Person

- In the current quarter, a total of 494 offences against the person were recorded in Darwin. There were no changes from the previous quarter, but an increase of 33% (122) from the same quarter the previous year.
- As shown in the figure below *assault* was by far the most frequent offence, accounting for 87% of offences against the person. The remaining offences were *robbery* and *sexual assault* representing 5% each, *other offences against the person* 2% and both *murder* and *manslaughter* less than 1% each. There were no recorded offences relating to *attempted murder*.

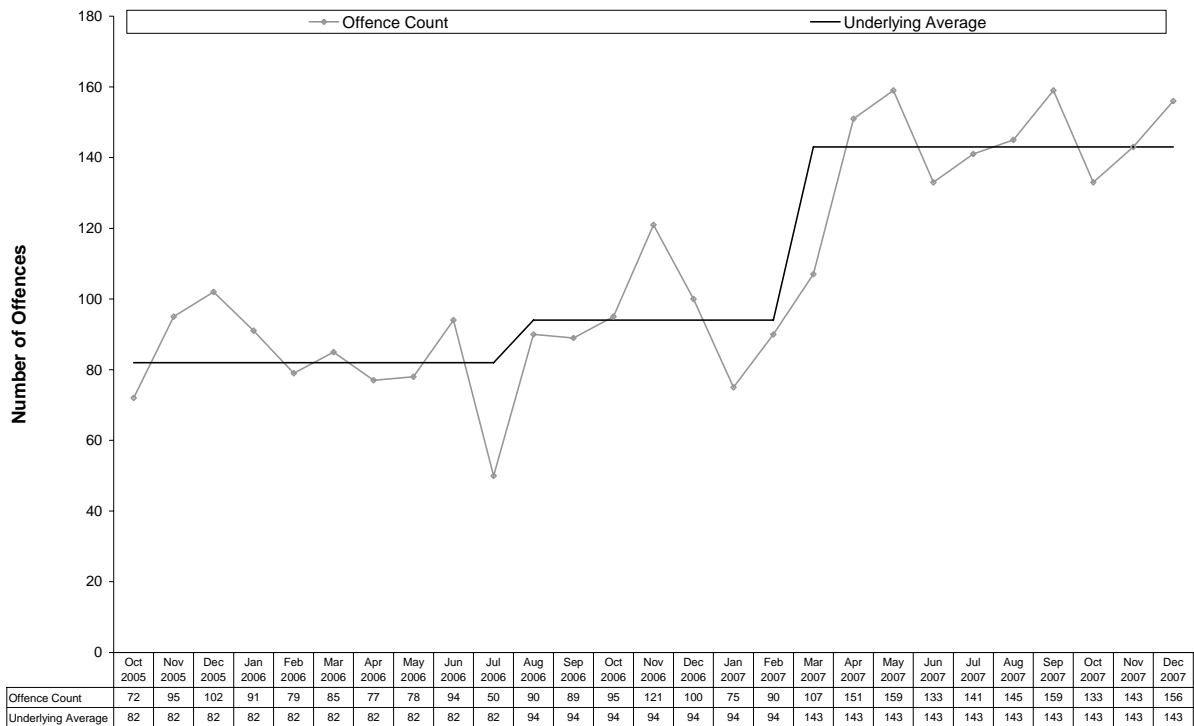
Figure 11 Recorded Offences Against the Person in Darwin – Current Quarter



Assault

- The figure shows the underlying average level of *assault* has ranged between 82 and 143 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 143 per month is at the higher end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average increased early in the period. A statistically significant upward trend was identified.
- There were 432 *assault* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents a decrease of 3% (13) from the previous quarter, but an increase of 37% (116) from the same quarter the previous year.

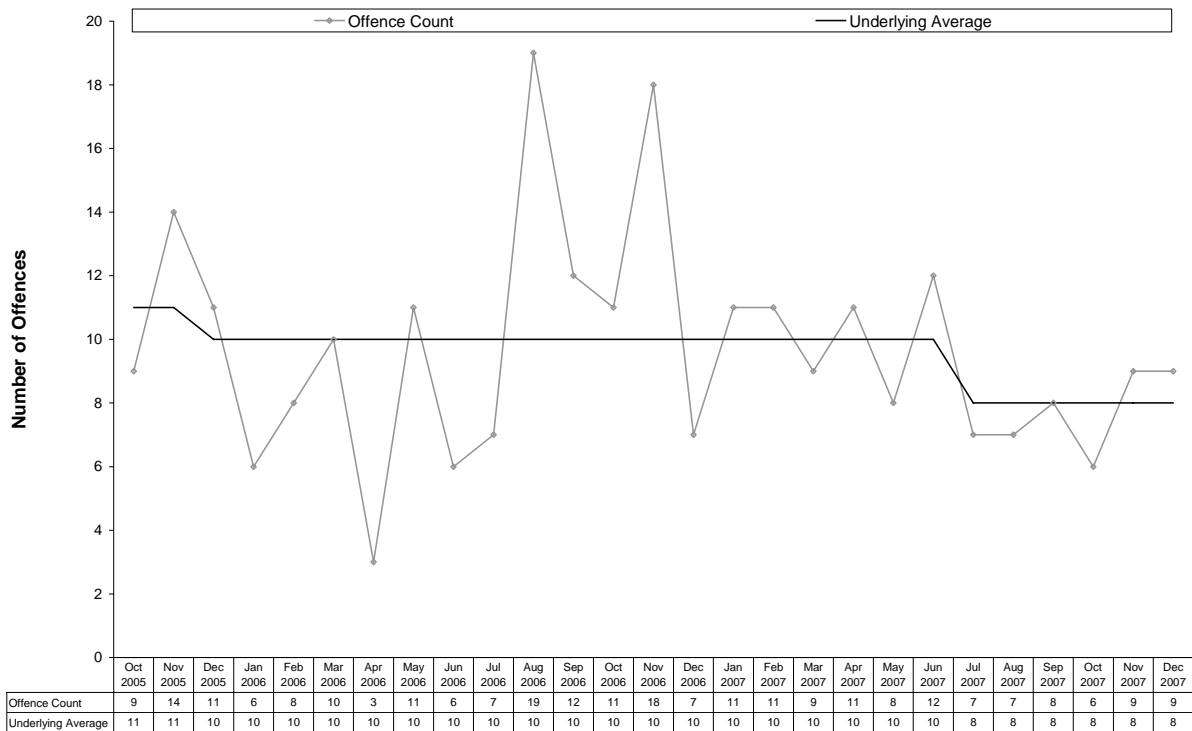
Figure 12 Recorded Assault in Darwin



Sexual Assault

- The figure shows the underlying average level of *sexual assault* has ranged between 8 and 11 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 8 per month is at the lower end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average decreased in the middle of the period.
- There were 24 *sexual assault* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 9% (2) from the previous quarter, but a decrease of 33% (12) from the same quarter the previous year.

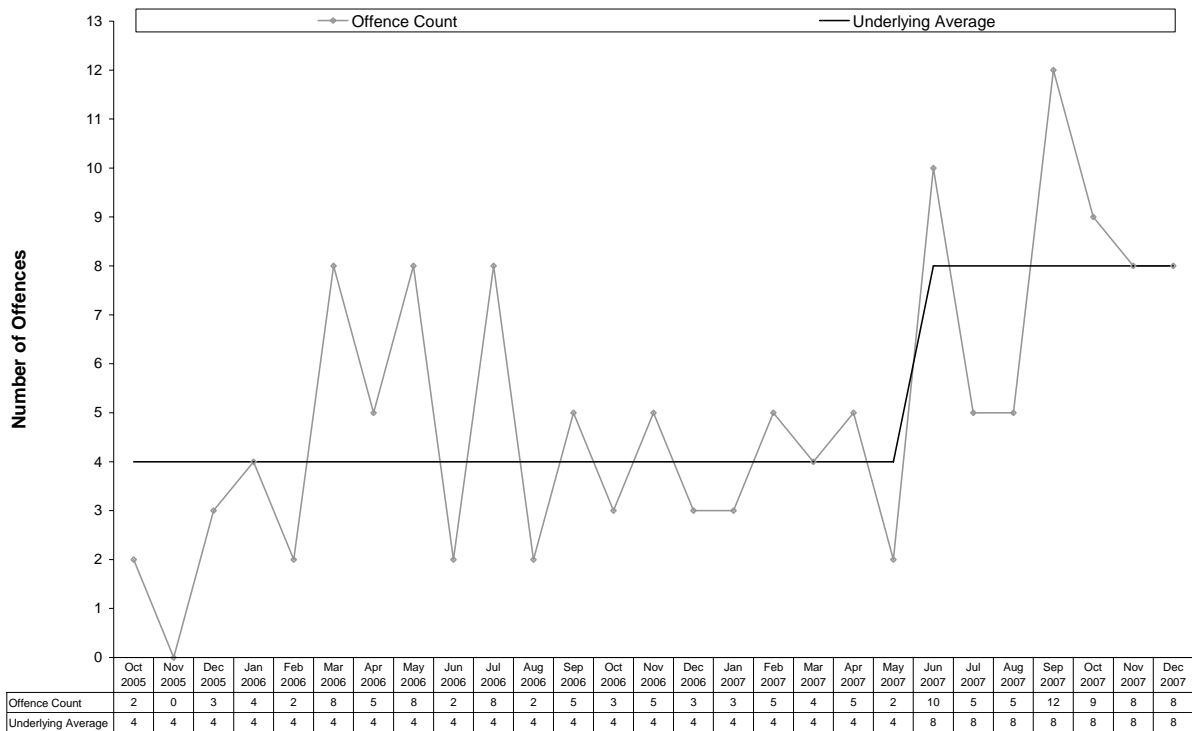
Figure 13 Recorded Sexual Assault in Darwin



Robbery

- The figure shows the underlying average level of *robbery* has ranged between 4 and 8 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 8 per month is at the higher end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average increased in the middle of the period. A statistically significant upward trend was identified.
- There were 25 *robbery* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 14% (3) from the previous quarter and an increase of 127% (14) from the same quarter the previous year.

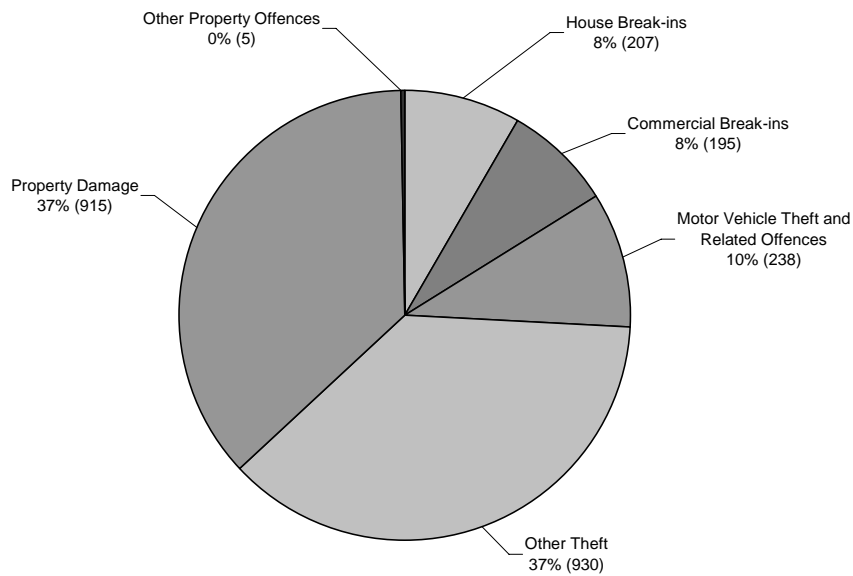
Figure 14 Recorded Robbery in Darwin



Property Offences

- There were 2490 recorded property offences in Darwin in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 7% (157) from the previous quarter, but a decrease of 1% (35) from the same quarter the previous year.
- The figure below shows that *other theft* and *property offences* each represent 37% of the property offences. The remaining offences were *motor vehicle theft and related offences* 10%, *house break-ins* and *break-ins to commercial or other premises* 8% each and *other property offences* less than 1%.

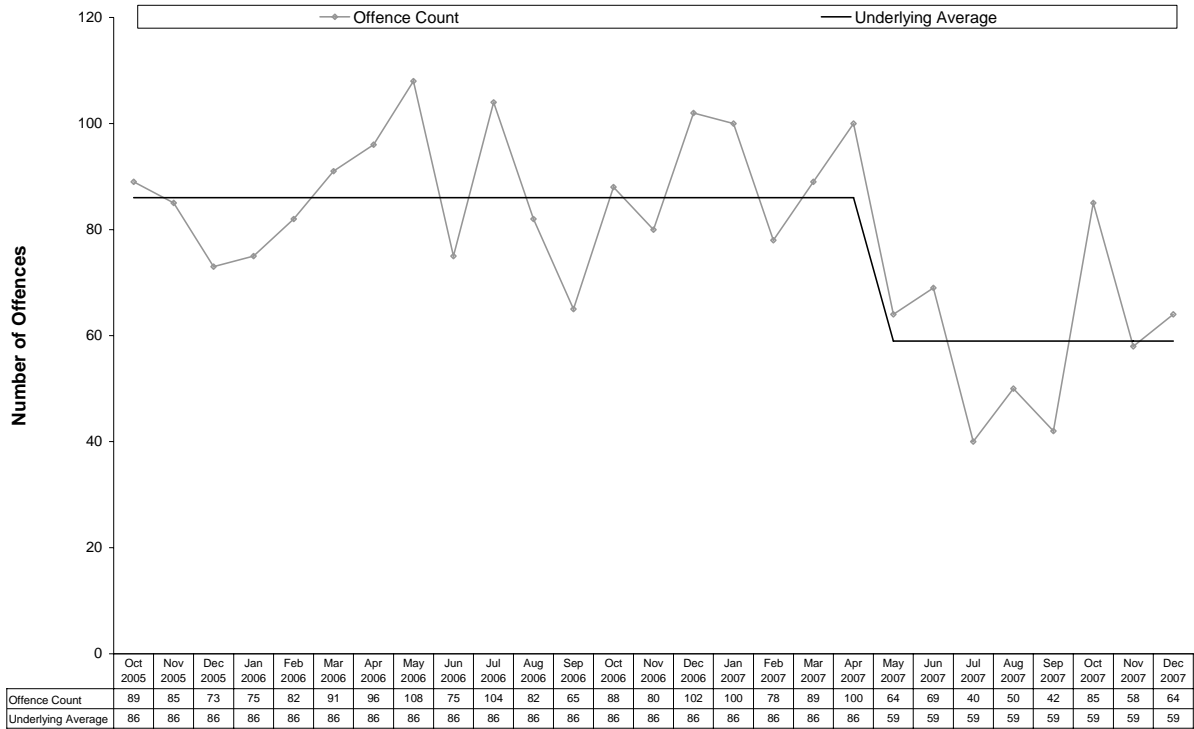
Figure 15 Recorded Property Offences in Darwin – Current Quarter



House Break-ins

- The figure shows the underlying average level of *house break-ins* has ranged between 59 and 86 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 59 per month is at the lower end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average decreased early in the period.
- There were 207 *house break-ins* recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 57% (75) from the previous quarter, but a decrease of 23% (63) from the same quarter the previous year.

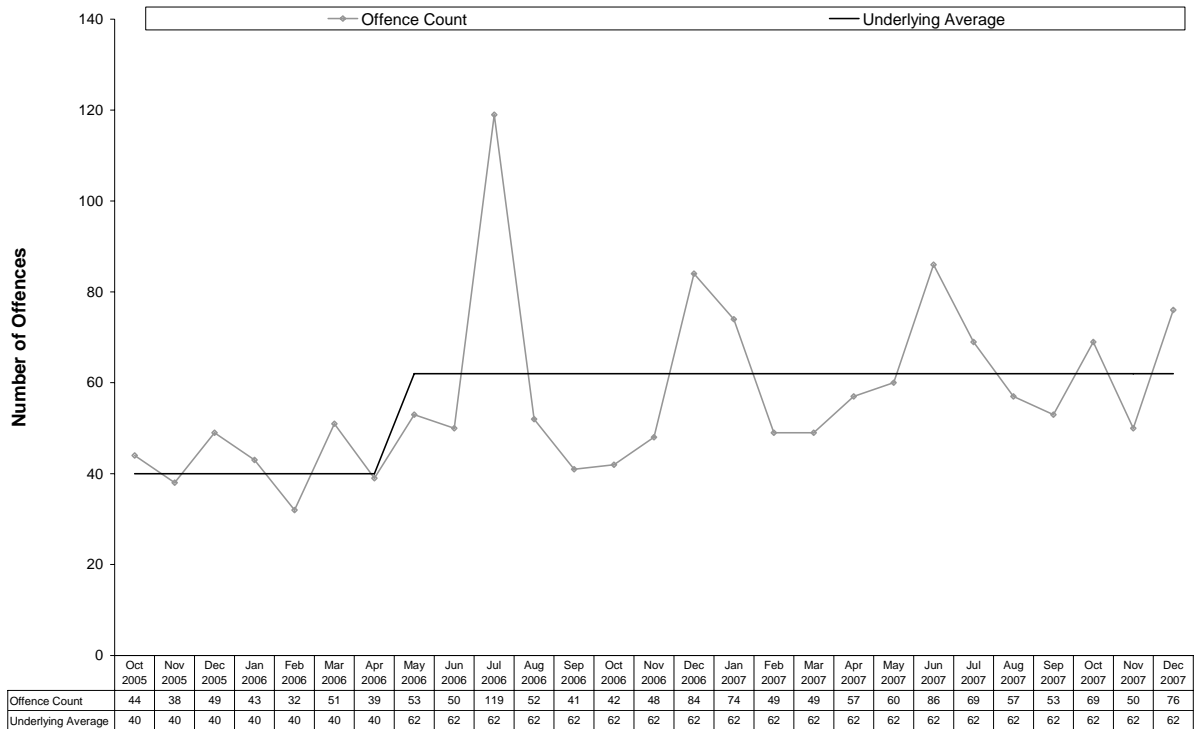
Figure 16 Recorded House Break-ins in Darwin



Break-ins to Commercial or Other Premises

- The figure shows the underlying average level of *break-ins to commercial or other premises* has ranged between 40 and 62 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 62 per month is at the higher end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average remained stable.
- There were 195 *break-ins to commercial or other premises* recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 9% (16) from the previous quarter and an increase of 12% (21) from the same quarter the previous year.

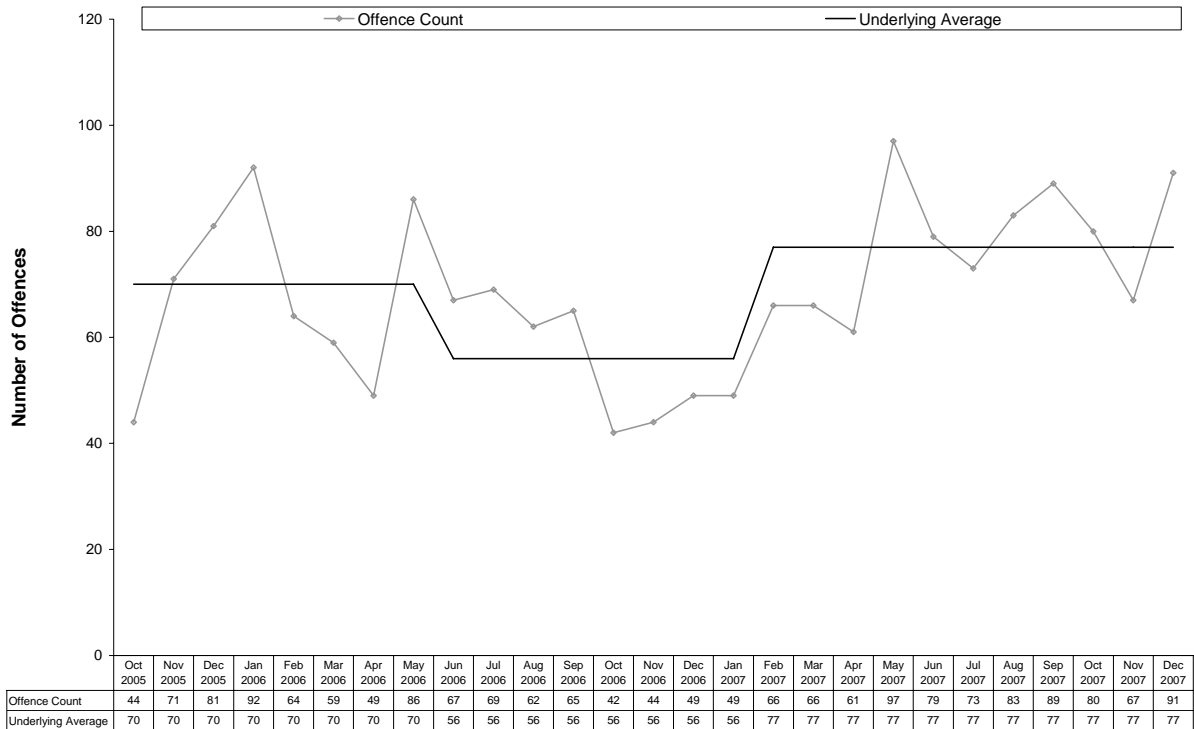
Figure 17 Recorded Break-ins to Commercial or Other Premises in Darwin



Motor Vehicle Theft and Related Offences

- The figure shows the underlying average level of *motor vehicle theft and related offences* has ranged between 56 and 77 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 77 per month is at the higher end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average increased early in the period. A statistically significant upward trend was identified.
- There were 238 *motor vehicle theft and related offences* recorded in the current quarter. This represents a decrease of 3% (7) from the previous quarter, but an increase of 76% (103) from the same quarter the previous year.

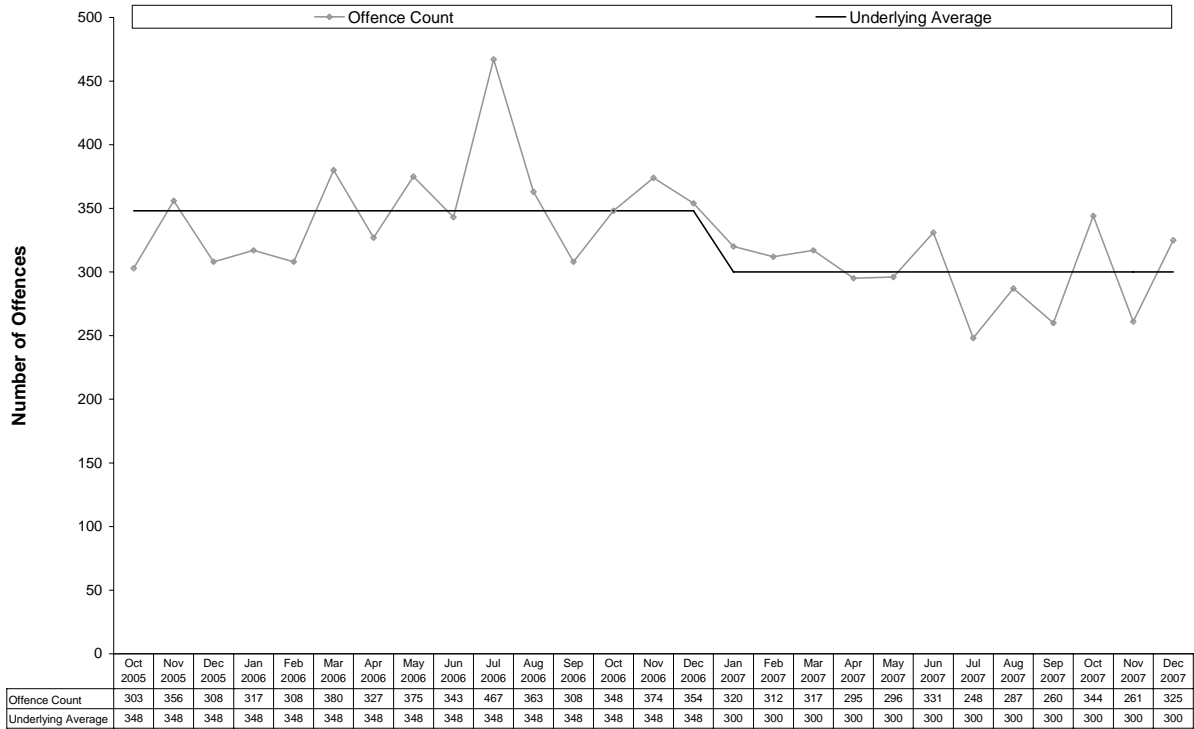
Figure 18 Recorded Motor Vehicle Theft and Related Offences in Darwin



Other Theft

- The figure shows the underlying average level of *other theft* has ranged between 300 and 348 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 300 per month is at the lower end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average remained stable.
- There were 930 *other theft* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 17% (135) from the previous quarter, but a decrease of 14% (146) from the same quarter the previous year.

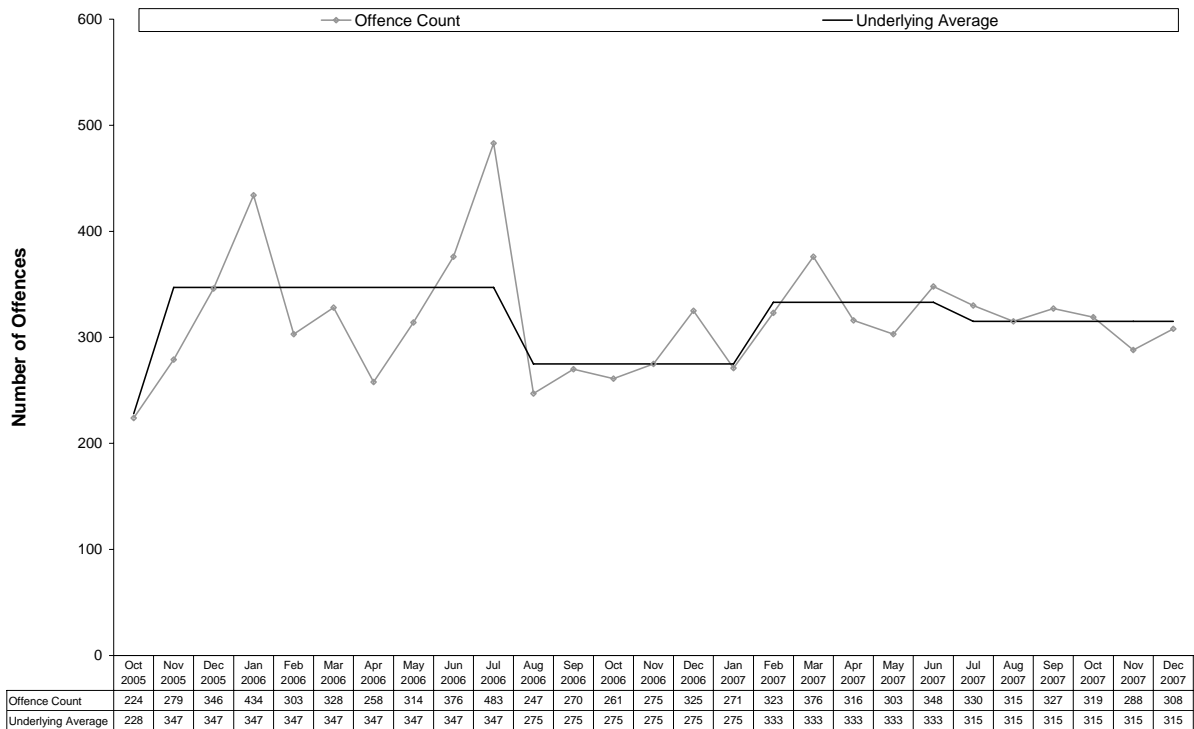
Figure 19 Recorded Other Theft in Darwin



Property Damage

- The figure shows the underlying average level of *property damage* has ranged between 228 and 347 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 315 per month is in the middle of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average increased early in the period and decreased in the middle of the period.
- There were 915 *property damage* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents a decrease of 6% (57) from the previous quarter, but an increase of 6% (54) from the same quarter the previous year.

Figure 20 Recorded Property Damage in Darwin



3.2.3 Palmerston

The following table presents the number of recorded offences by offence category on a quarterly basis.

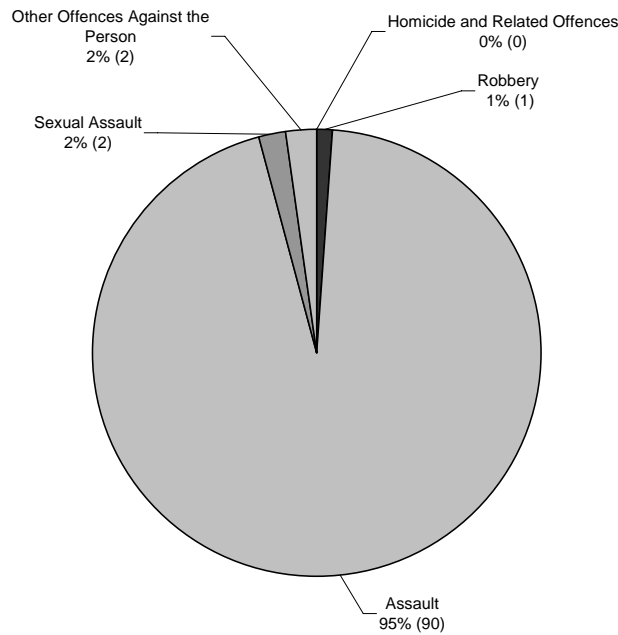
Table 3 Recorded Offences in Palmerston

	Dec	Mar	Jun	Sep	Dec	Mar	Jun	Sep	Dec
	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr
	2005	2006	2006	2006	2006	2007	2007	2007	2007
Offences Against The Person									
Homicide and Related Offences									
Murder	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Attempted Murder	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Manslaughter	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Robbery	0	0	1	0	2	5	6	1	1
Assault	59	58	46	64	52	96	88	111	90
Sexual Assault	9	10	8	7	8	3	9	7	2
Other Offences Against the Person	2	2	1	3	0	3	4	2	2
Total	71	71	56	74	62	107	107	122	95
Property Offences									
Break-ins									
House	52	56	77	95	48	72	71	65	45
Commercial or Other Premises	24	35	32	34	20	42	61	55	59
Motor Vehicle Theft and Related Offences	29	50	37	37	39	39	75	65	77
Other Theft	208	245	239	210	193	256	223	221	184
Property Damage	148	205	188	202	138	240	229	222	252
Other Property Offences	2	1	0	2	0	1	0	3	0
Total	463	592	573	580	438	650	659	631	617

Offences Against the Person

- In the current quarter there were 95 offences against the person recorded in Palmerston. This represents a decrease of 22% (27) from the previous quarter, but an increase of 53% (33) from the same quarter the previous year.
- As shown in the figure below *assault* was by far the most frequent offence, accounting for 95% of offences against the person in the current quarter. The remaining offences were *sexual assault* and *other offences against the person* 2% each and *robbery* 1%. There were no offences recorded relating to *murder*, *attempted murder* or *manslaughter*.

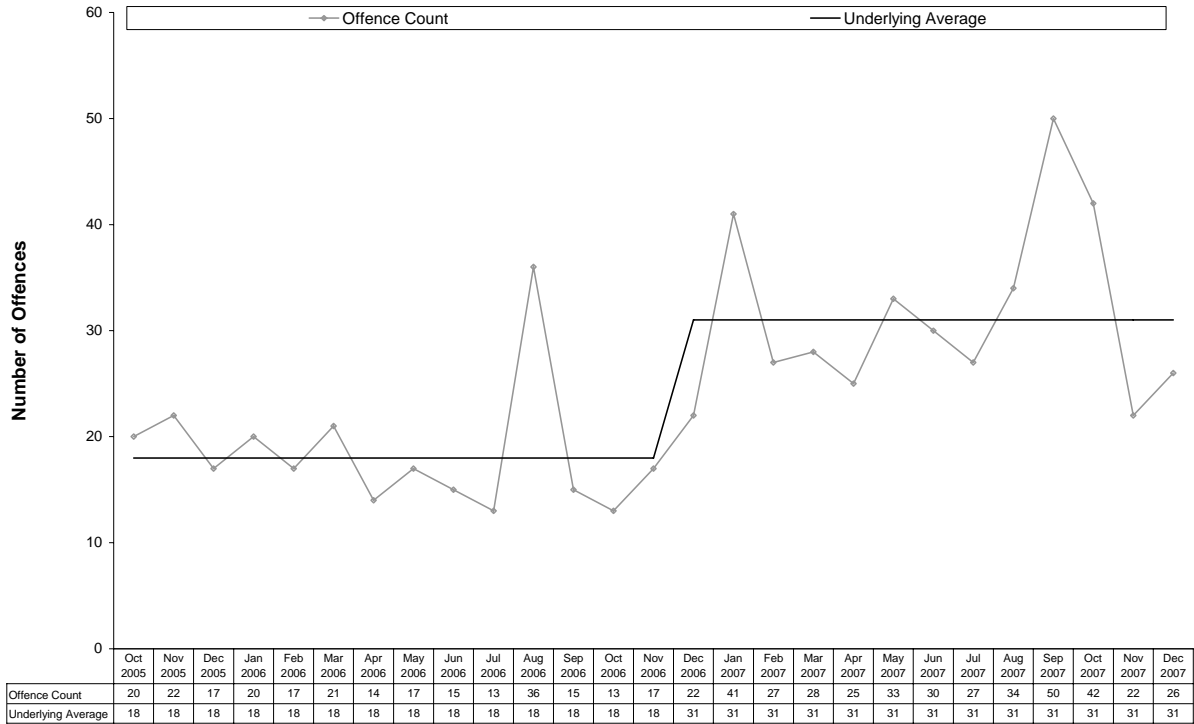
Figure 21 Recorded Offences Against the Person in Palmerston – Current Quarter



Assault

- The figure shows the underlying average level of *assault* has ranged between 18 and 31 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 31 per month is at the higher end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average remained stable.
- There were 90 *assault* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents a decrease of 19% (21) from the previous quarter, but an increase of 73% (38) from the same quarter the previous year.

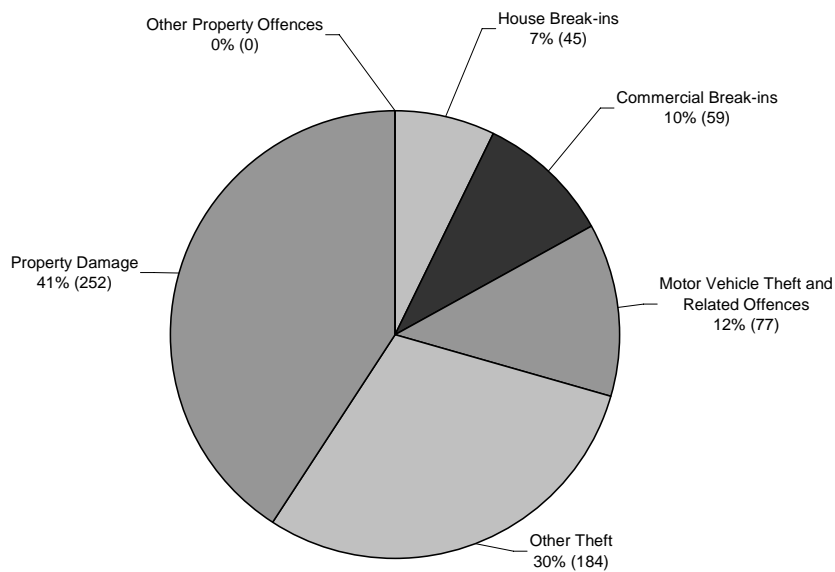
Figure 22 Recorded Assault in Palmerston



Property Offences

- In the current quarter there was a total of 617 recorded property offences in Palmerston. This represents a decrease of 2% (14) from the previous quarter, but an increase of 41% (179) from the same quarter the previous year.
- As shown in the figure below *property damage* accounted for 41% of the property offences. The remaining offences were *other theft* 30%, *motor vehicle theft and related offences* 12%, *commercial break-ins or other premises* 10% and *house break-ins* 7%. There were no offences recorded relating to *other property offences*.

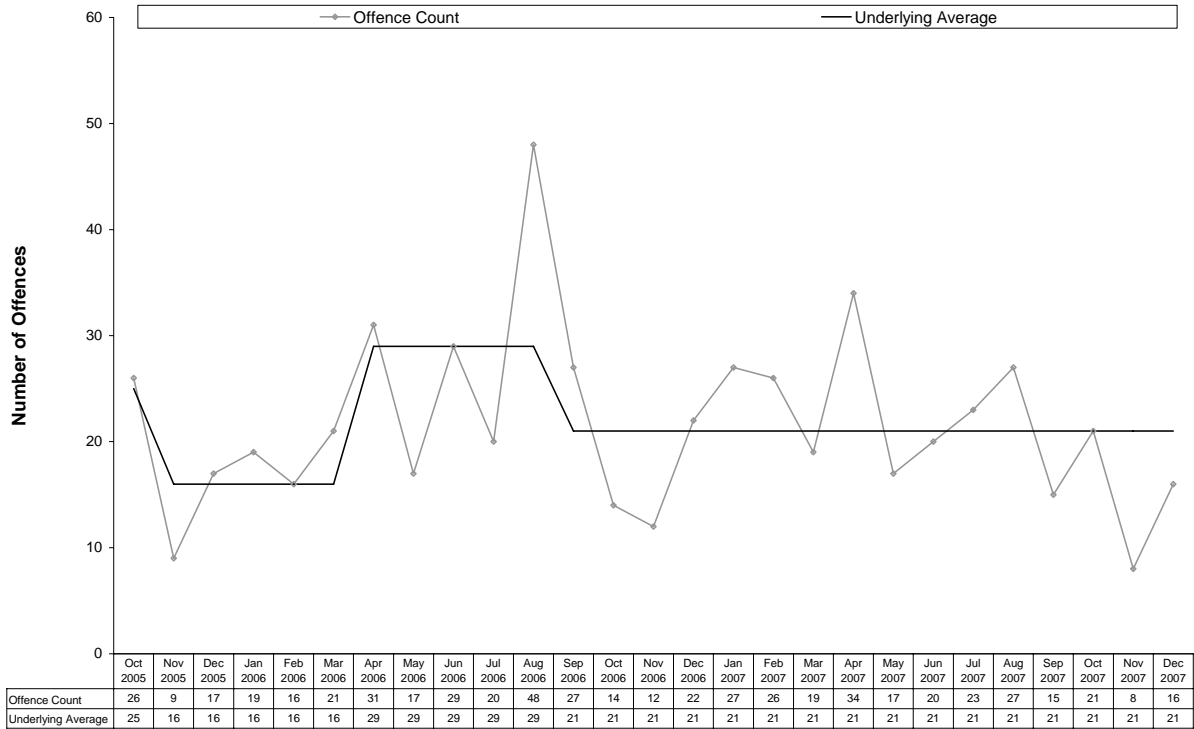
Figure 23 Recorded Property Offences in Palmerston – Current Quarter



House Break-ins

- The figure shows the underlying average level of *house break-ins* has ranged between 16 and 29 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 21 per month is in the middle of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average remained stable.
- There were 45 *house break-ins* recorded in the current quarter. This represents a decrease of 31% (20) from the previous quarter and a decrease of 6% (3) from the same quarter the previous year.

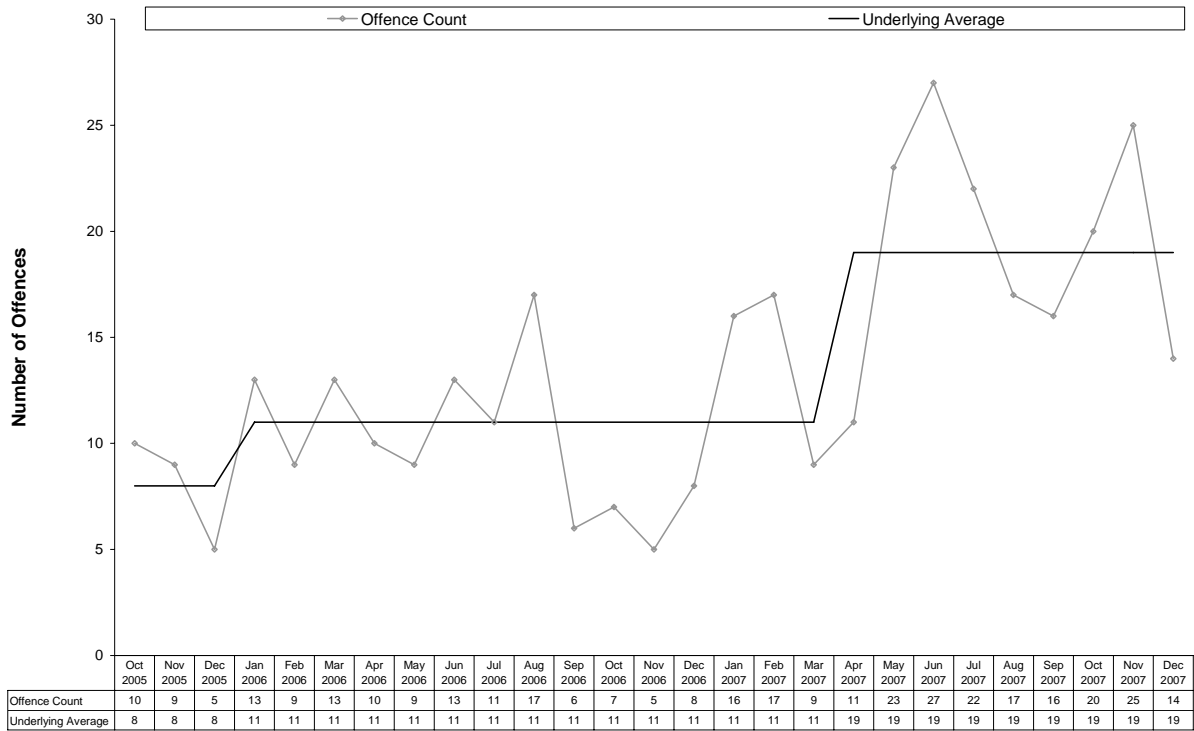
Figure 24 Recorded House Break-ins in Palmerston



Break-ins to Commercial or Other Premises

- The figure shows the underlying average level of *break-ins to commercial or other premises* has ranged between 8 and 19 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 19 per month is at the higher end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average increased early in the period.
- There were 59 *break-ins to commercial or other premises* recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 7% (4) from the previous quarter and an increase of 195% (39) from the same quarter the previous year.

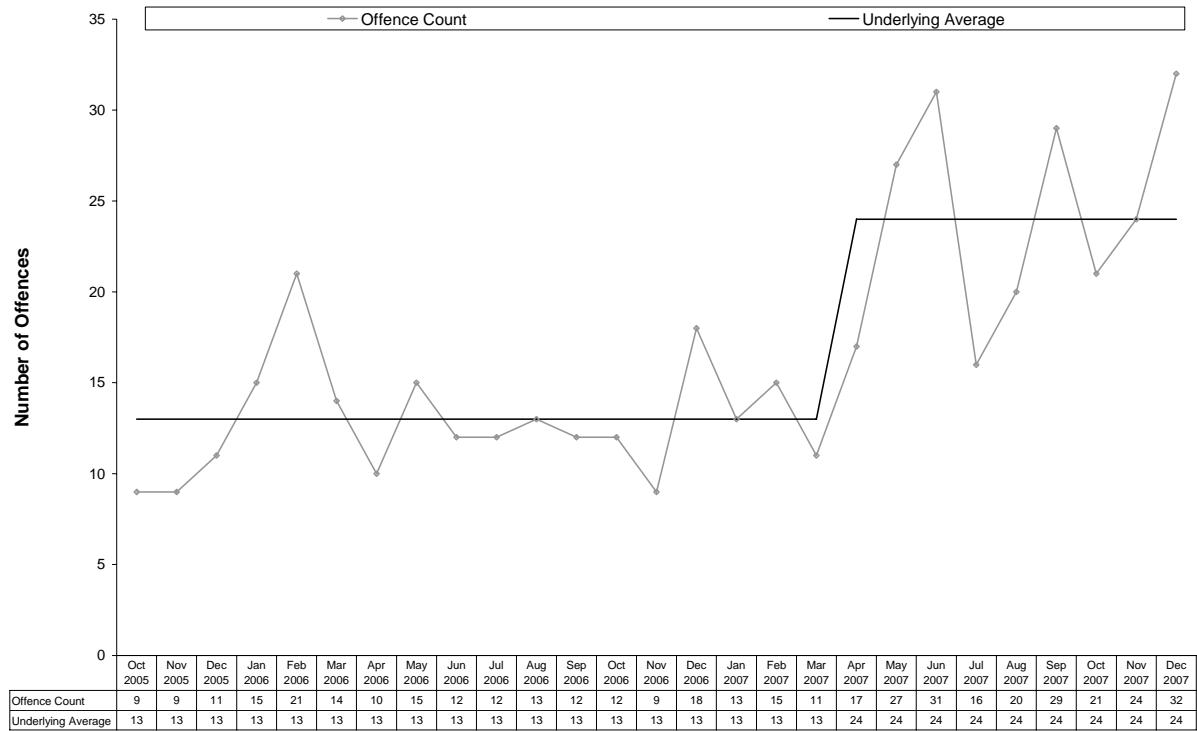
Figure 25 Recorded Break-ins to Commercial or Other Premises in Palmerston



Motor Vehicle Theft and Related Offences

- The figure shows the underlying average level of *motor vehicle theft and related offences* has ranged between 13 and 24 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 24 per month is at the higher end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average increased early in the period. A statistically significant upward trend was identified.
- There were 77 *motor vehicle theft and related offences* recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 18% (12) from the previous quarter and an increase of 97% (38) from the same quarter the previous year.

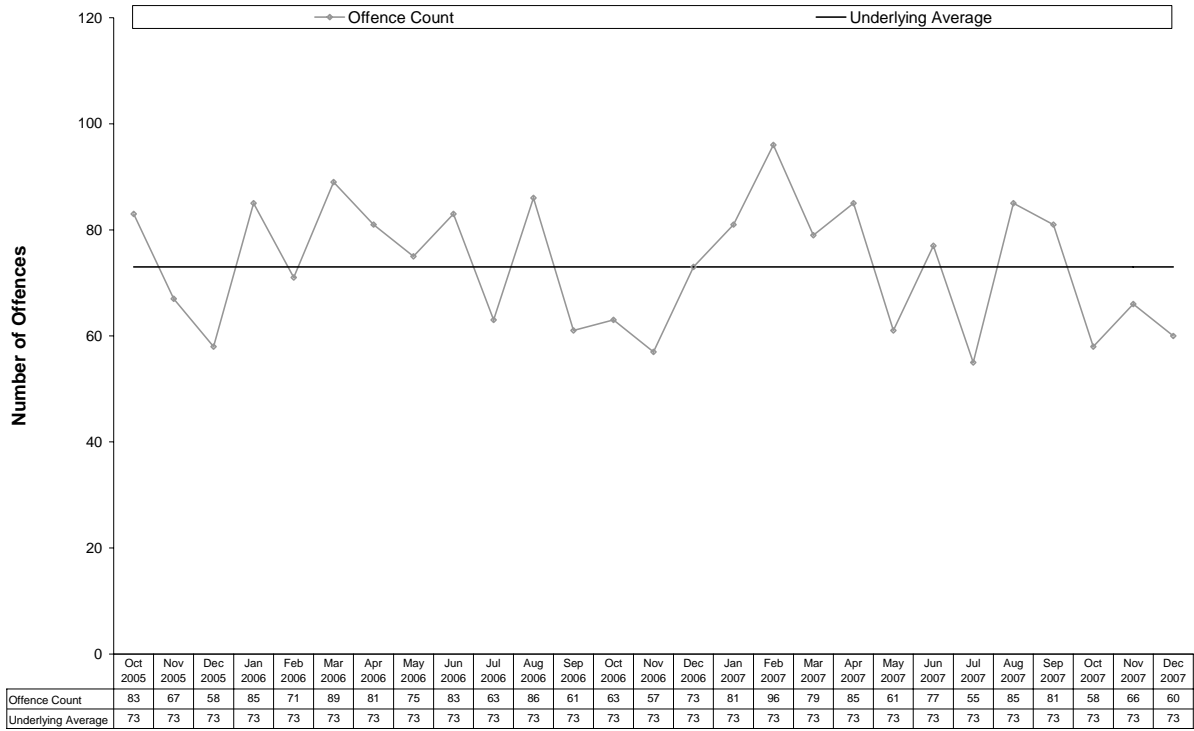
Figure 26 Recorded Motor Vehicle Theft and Related Offences in Palmerston



Other Theft

- The figure shows the underlying average level of *other theft* has remained stable at 73 offences per month during the past nine quarters.
- There were 184 *other theft* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents a decrease of 17% (37) from the previous quarter and a decrease of 5% (9) from the same quarter the previous year.

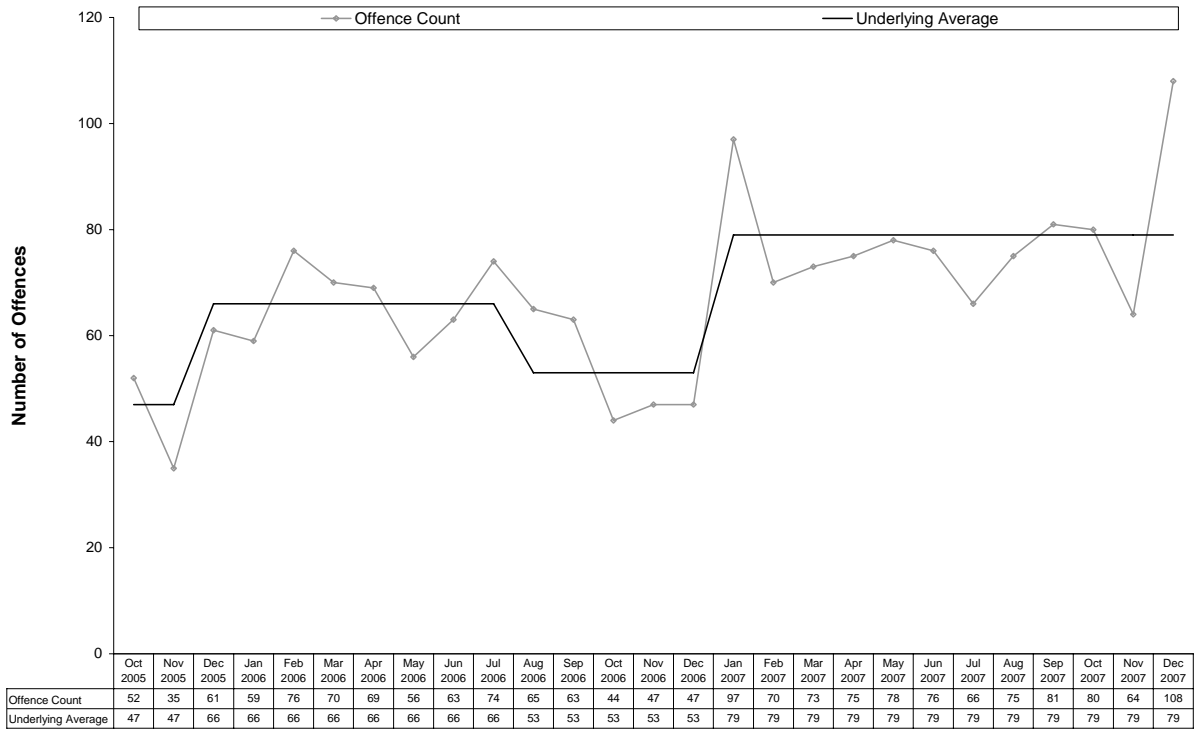
Figure 27 Recorded Other Theft in Palmerston



Property Damage

- The figure shows the underlying average level of *property damage* has ranged between 47 and 79 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 79 per month is at the higher end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average remained stable.
- There were 252 *property damage* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 14% (30) from the previous quarter and an increase of 83% (114) from the same quarter the previous year.

Figure 28 Recorded Property Damage in Palmerston



3.2.4 Alice Springs

The following table presents the number of recorded offences by offence category on a quarterly basis.

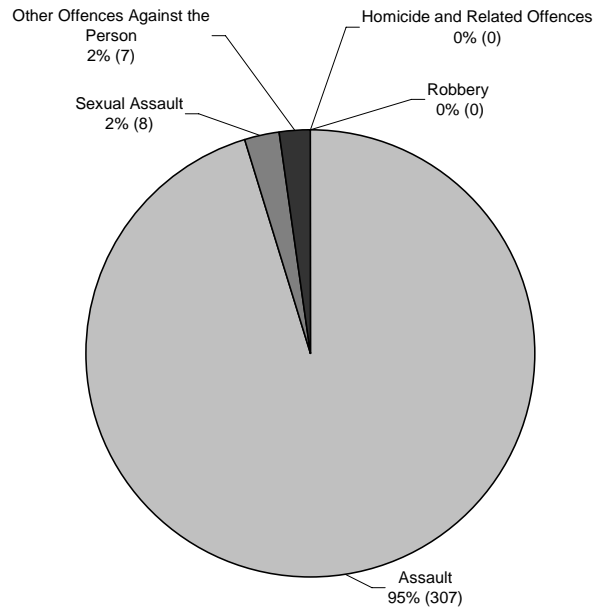
Table 4 Recorded Offences in Alice Springs

	Dec	Mar	Jun	Sep	Dec	Mar	Jun	Sep	Dec
	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr
	2005	2006	2006	2006	2006	2007	2007	2007	2007
Offences Against The Person									
Homicide and Related Offences									
Murder	2	2	2	0	0	1	4	1	0
Attempted Murder	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	1	0
Manslaughter	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Robbery	2	3	2	4	0	2	4	1	0
Assault	316	354	191	216	265	307	294	263	307
Sexual Assault	8	20	5	7	12	12	10	12	8
Other Offences Against the Person	3	2	5	7	8	5	4	9	7
Total	333	381	205	234	285	328	318	287	322
Property Offences									
Break-ins									
House	62	97	57	45	59	64	58	52	69
Commercial or Other Premises	69	93	85	55	66	108	80	70	72
Motor Vehicle Theft and Related Offences	68	68	77	77	53	55	78	66	67
Other Theft	275	367	291	276	323	366	306	237	283
Property Damage	343	381	292	369	412	453	409	394	371
Other Property Offences	3	3	5	1	5	5	2	5	7
Total	820	1009	807	823	918	1051	933	824	869

Offences Against the Person

- In the current quarter, a total of 322 offences against the person were recorded in Alice Springs. This represents an increase of 12% (35) from the previous quarter and an increase of 13% (37) from the same quarter the previous year.
- As shown in the figure below *assault* was by far the most frequent offence, accounting for 95% of offences against the person in the current quarter. The remaining offences included *sexual assault* and *other offences against the person* both accounting for 2% each. There were no offences recorded relating to *murder, attempted murder, manslaughter* or *robbery*.

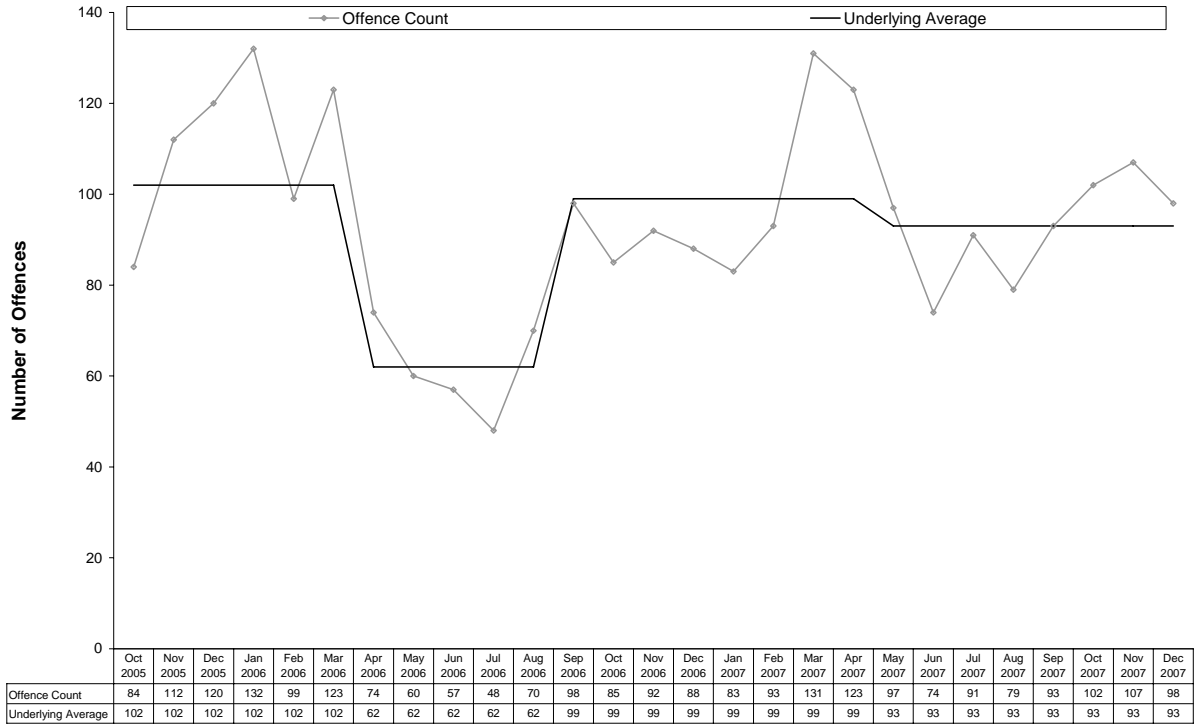
Figure 29 Recorded Offences Against the Person in Alice Springs – Current Quarter



Assault

- The figure shows the underlying average level of *assault* has ranged between 62 and 102 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 93 per month is at the higher end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average decreased early in the period.
- There were 307 *assault* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 17% (44) from the previous quarter and an increase of 16% (42) from the same quarter the previous year.

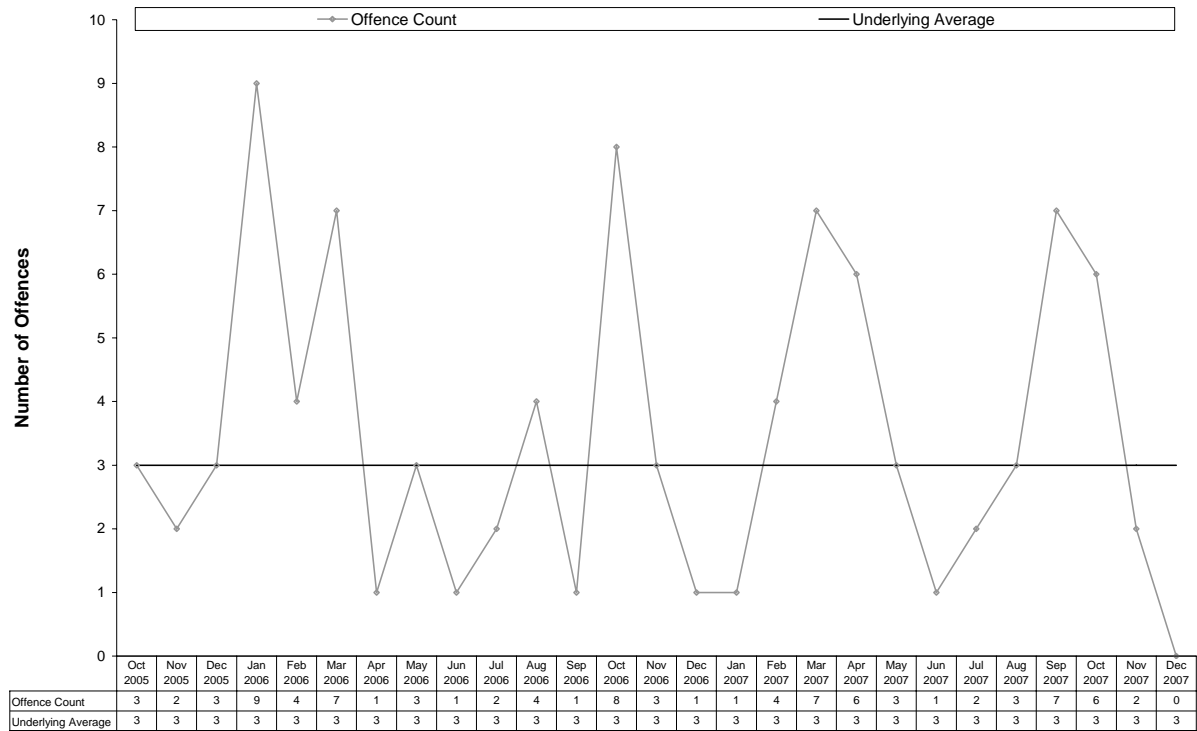
Figure 30 Recorded Assault in Alice Springs



Sexual Assault

- The figure shows the underlying average level of *sexual assault* has remained stable at 3 offences per month during the past nine quarters.
- There were 8 *sexual assault* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents a decrease of 33% (4) from the previous quarter and a decrease of 33% (4) from the same quarter the previous year.

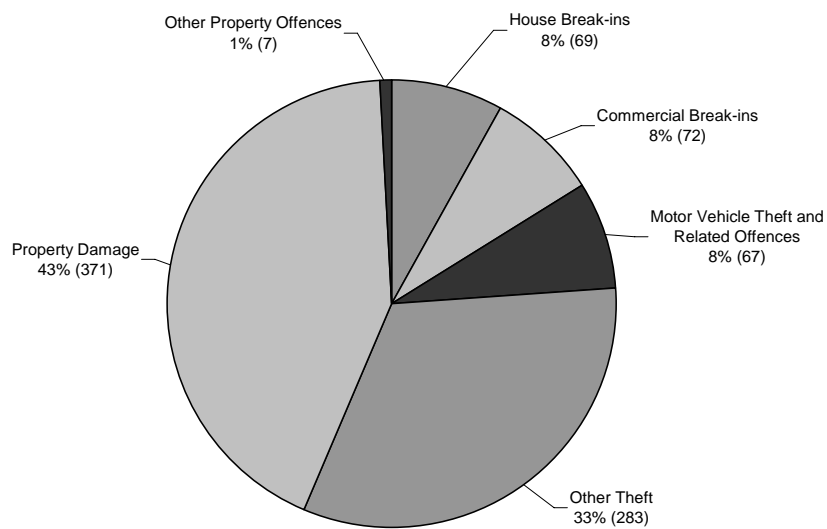
Figure 31 Recorded Sexual Assault in Alice Springs



Property Offences

- In the current quarter there was a total of 869 recorded property offences in Alice Springs. This represents an increase of 5% (45) from the previous quarter, but a decrease of 5% (49) from the same quarter the previous year.
- The figure below shows 43% of property offences relate to *property damage* and 33% relate to *other theft*. The remaining offences were *break-ins to commercial or other premises, house break-ins* and *motor vehicle theft and related offences* accounting for 8% each while *other property offences* accounted for 1%.

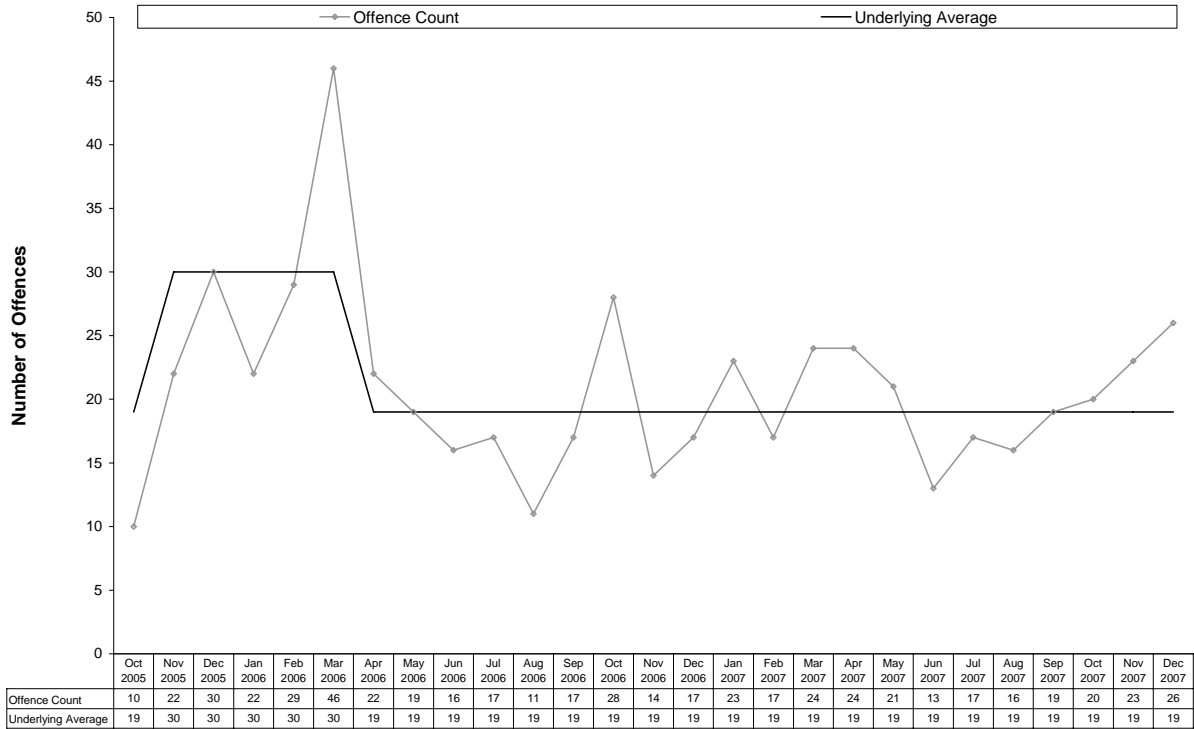
Figure 32 Recorded Property Offences in Alice Springs – Current Quarter



House Break-ins

- The figure shows the underlying average level of *house break-ins* has ranged between 19 and 30 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 19 per month is at the lower end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average remained stable.
- There were 69 *house break-ins* recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 33% (17) from the previous quarter and an increase of 17% (10) from the same quarter the previous year.

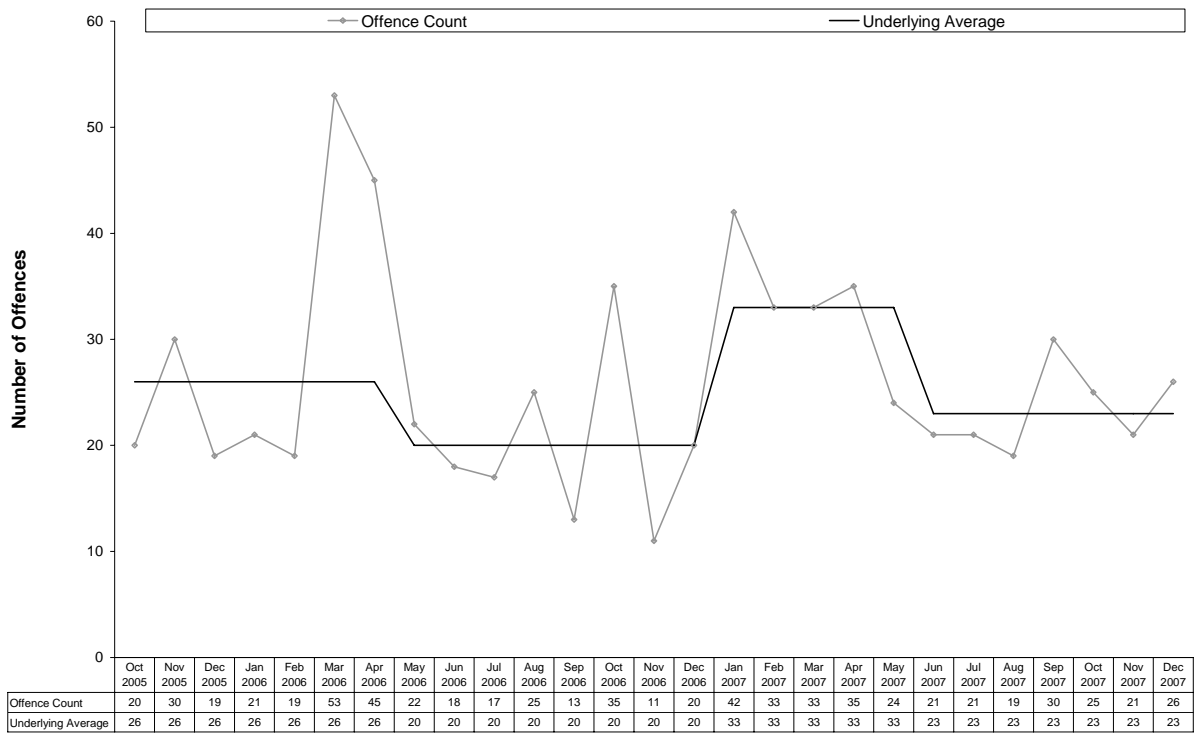
Figure 33 Recorded House Break-ins in Alice Springs



Break-ins to Commercial or Other Premises

- The figure shows the underlying average level of *break-ins to commercial or other premises* has ranged between 20 and 33 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 23 per month is at the lower end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average decreased in the middle of the period.
- There were 72 *break-ins to commercial or other premises* recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 3% (2) from the previous quarter and an increase of 9% (6) from the same quarter the previous year.

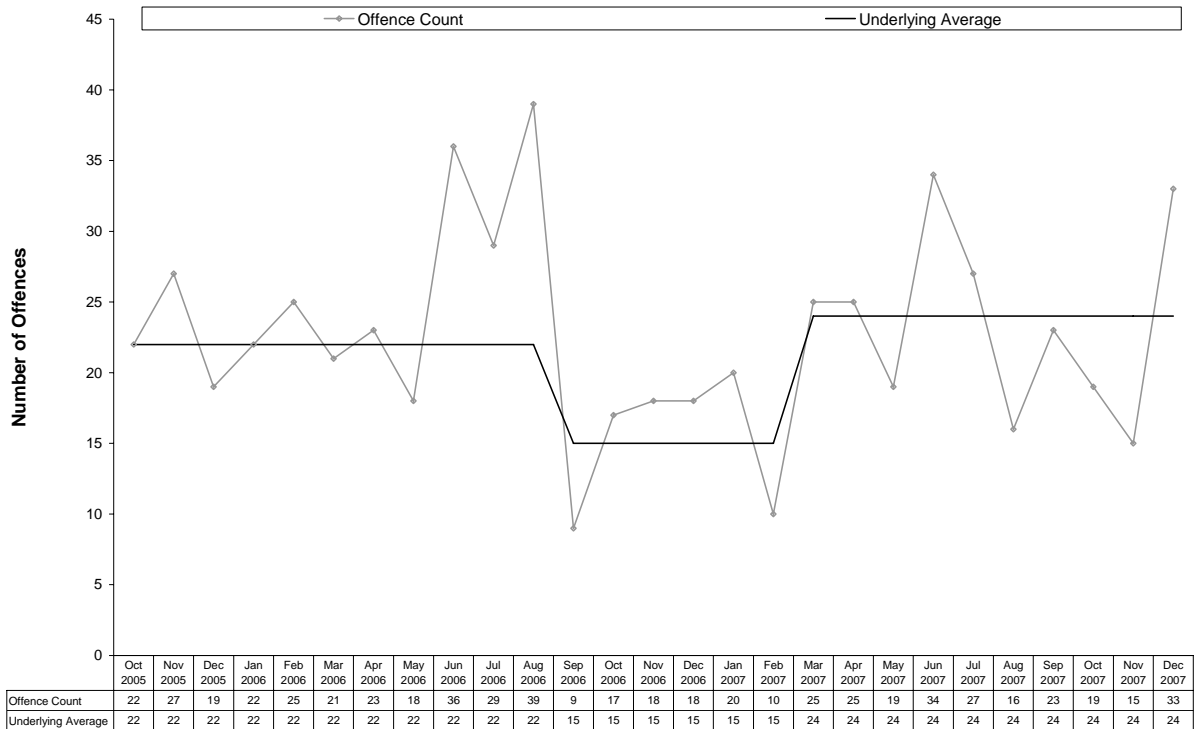
Figure 34 Recorded Break-ins to Commercial or Other Premises in Alice Springs



Motor Vehicle Theft and Related Offences

- The figure shows the underlying average level of *motor vehicle theft and related offences* has ranged between 15 and 24 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 24 per month is at the higher end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average increased early in the period.
- There were 67 *motor vehicle theft and related offences* recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 2% (1) from the previous quarter and an increase of 26% (14) from the same quarter the previous year.

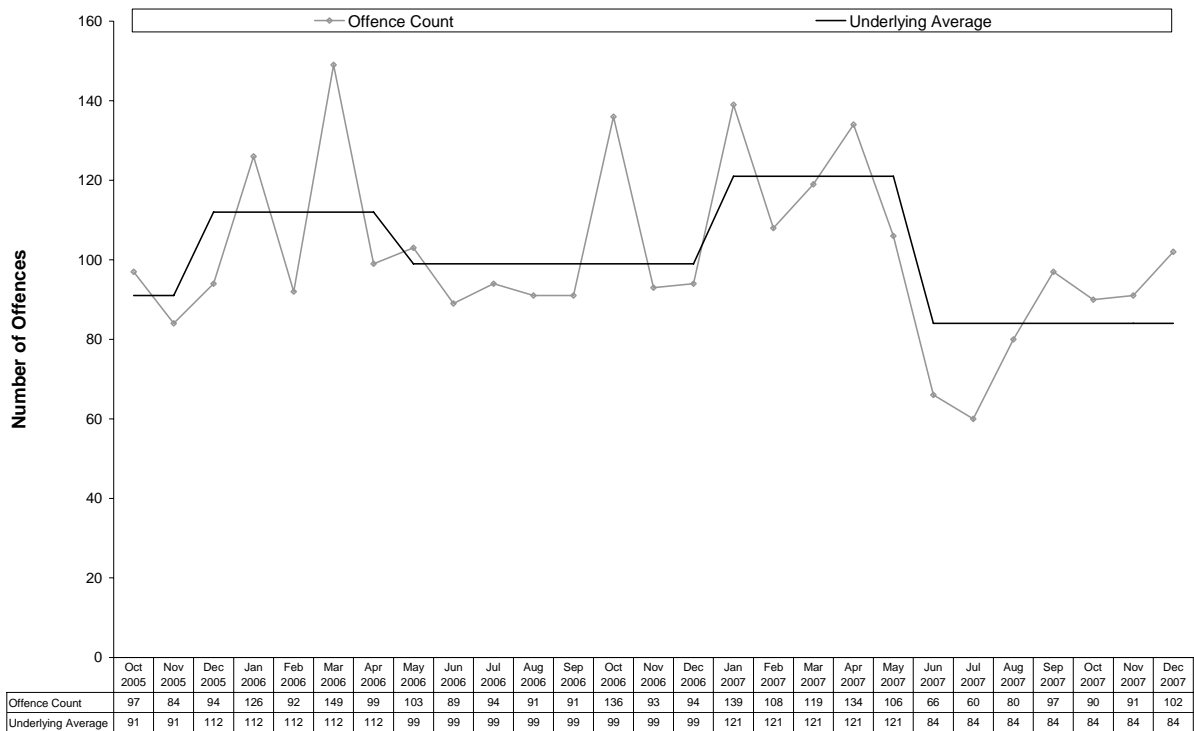
Figure 35 Recorded Motor Vehicle Theft and Related Offences in Alice Springs



Other Theft

- The figure shows the underlying average level of *other theft* has ranged between 84 and 121 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 84 per month is at the lower end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average decreased in the middle of the period.
- There were 283 *other theft* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 19% (46) from the previous quarter, but a decrease of 12% (40) from the same quarter the previous year.

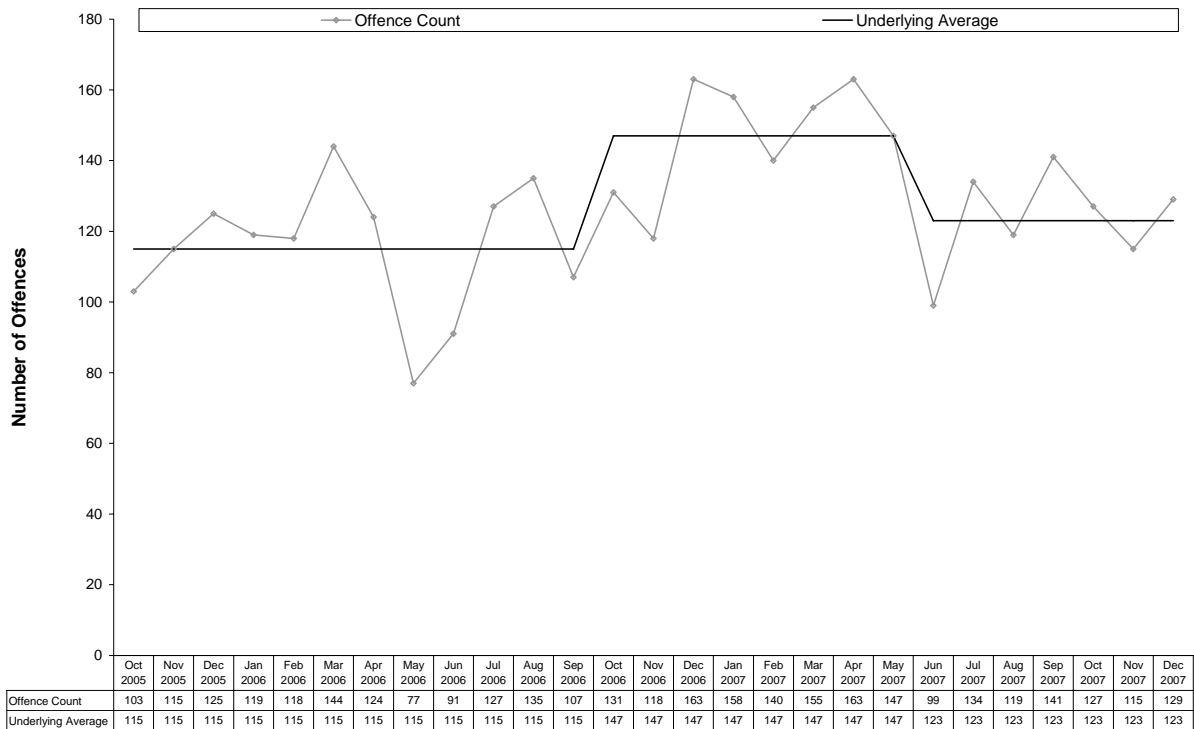
Figure 36 Recorded Other Theft in Alice Springs



Property Damage

- The figure shows the underlying average level of *property damage* has ranged between 115 and 147 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 123 per month is in the middle of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average decreased in the middle of the period. A statistically significant downward trend was identified.
- There were 371 *property damage* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents a decrease of 6% (23) from the previous quarter and a decrease of 10% (41) from the same quarter the previous year.

Figure 37 Recorded Property Damage in Alice Springs



3.2.5 Katherine

The following table presents the number of recorded offences by offence category on a quarterly basis.

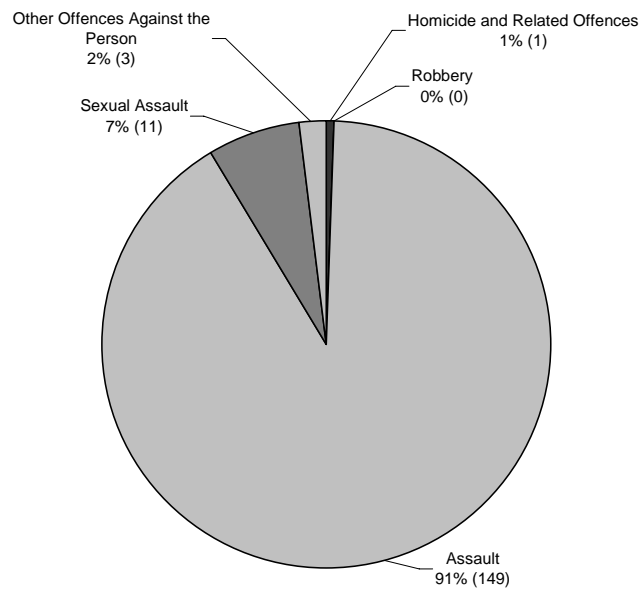
Table 5 Recorded Offences in Katherine

	Dec	Mar	Jun	Sep	Dec	Mar	Jun	Sep	Dec
	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr
	2005	2006	2006	2006	2006	2007	2007	2007	2007
Offences Against The Person									
Homicide and Related Offences									
Murder	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	0	0
Attempted Murder	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0
Manslaughter	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Robbery	1	0	0	0	1	4	0	1	0
Assault	134	148	113	88	129	148	110	114	149
Sexual Assault	2	4	3	9	7	5	9	10	11
Other Offences Against the Person	0	0	1	2	0	1	2	0	3
Total	137	153	117	100	139	158	123	125	164
Property Offences									
Break-ins									
House	19	29	27	22	29	36	20	29	14
Commercial or Other Premises	19	32	14	23	15	30	24	30	43
Motor Vehicle Theft and Related Offences	13	21	9	4	8	13	16	19	14
Other Theft	100	127	111	97	94	137	103	97	105
Property Damage	76	88	60	48	71	91	63	82	95
Other Property Offences	3	1	4	3	0	2	4	1	4
Total	230	298	225	197	217	309	230	258	275

Offences Against the Person

- In the current quarter, a total of 164 offences against the person were recorded in Katherine. This represents an increase of 31% (39) from the previous quarter and an increase of 18% (25) from the same quarter the previous year.
- As shown in the figure below *assault* was the dominant offence, accounting for 91% of offences against the person in the current quarter. The remaining offences were *sexual assault* 7%, *other offences against the person* 2% and *manslaughter* 1%. There were no recorded offences relating to *murder*, *attempted murder* or *robbery*.

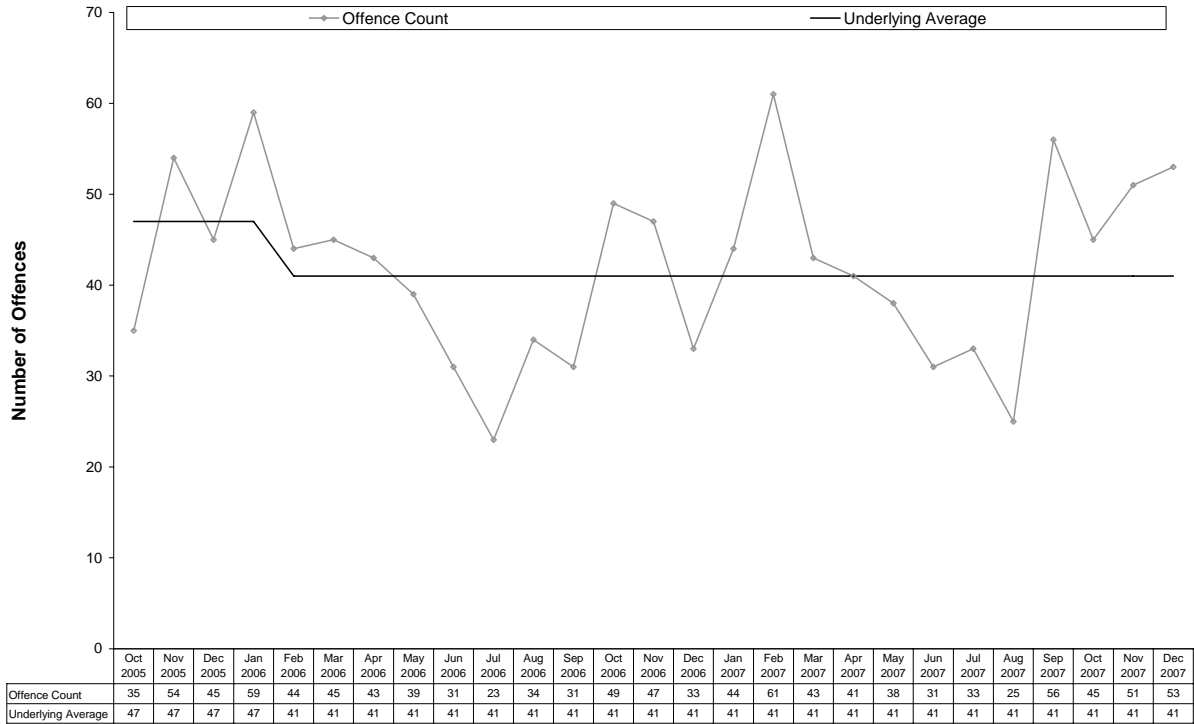
Figure 38 Recorded Offences Against the Person in Katherine – Current Quarter



Assault

- The figure shows the underlying average level of *assault* has ranged between 41 and 47 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 41 per month is at the lower end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average remained stable.
- There were 149 *assault* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 31% (35) from the previous quarter and an increase of 16% (20) from the same quarter the previous year.

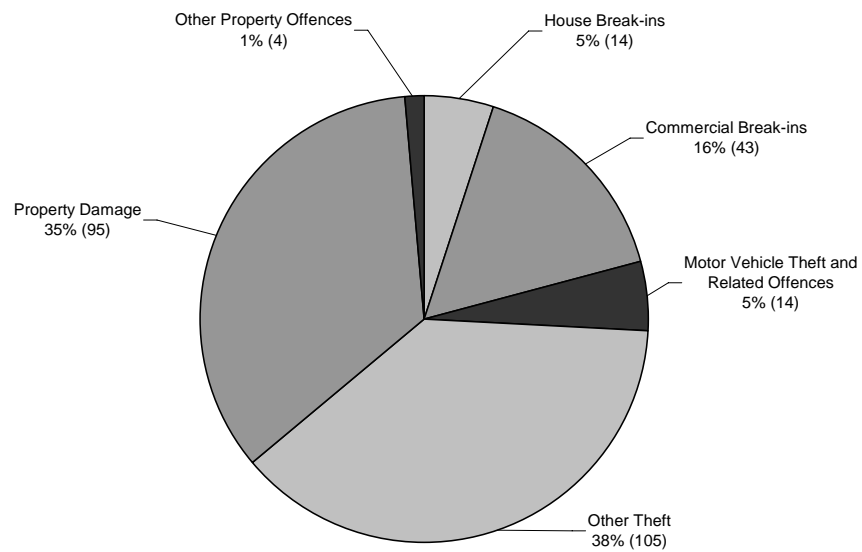
Figure 39 Recorded Assault in Katherine



Property Offences

- In the current quarter there was a total of 275 recorded property offences in Katherine. This represents an increase of 7% (17) from the previous quarter and an increase of 27% (58) from the same quarter the previous year.
- The figure below shows 38% of property offences relate to *other theft*, with *property damage* at 35%. The remaining offences were *break-ins to commercial or other premises* 16%, *house break-ins* and *motor vehicle theft and related offences* both accounted for 5% each and *other property offences* 1%.

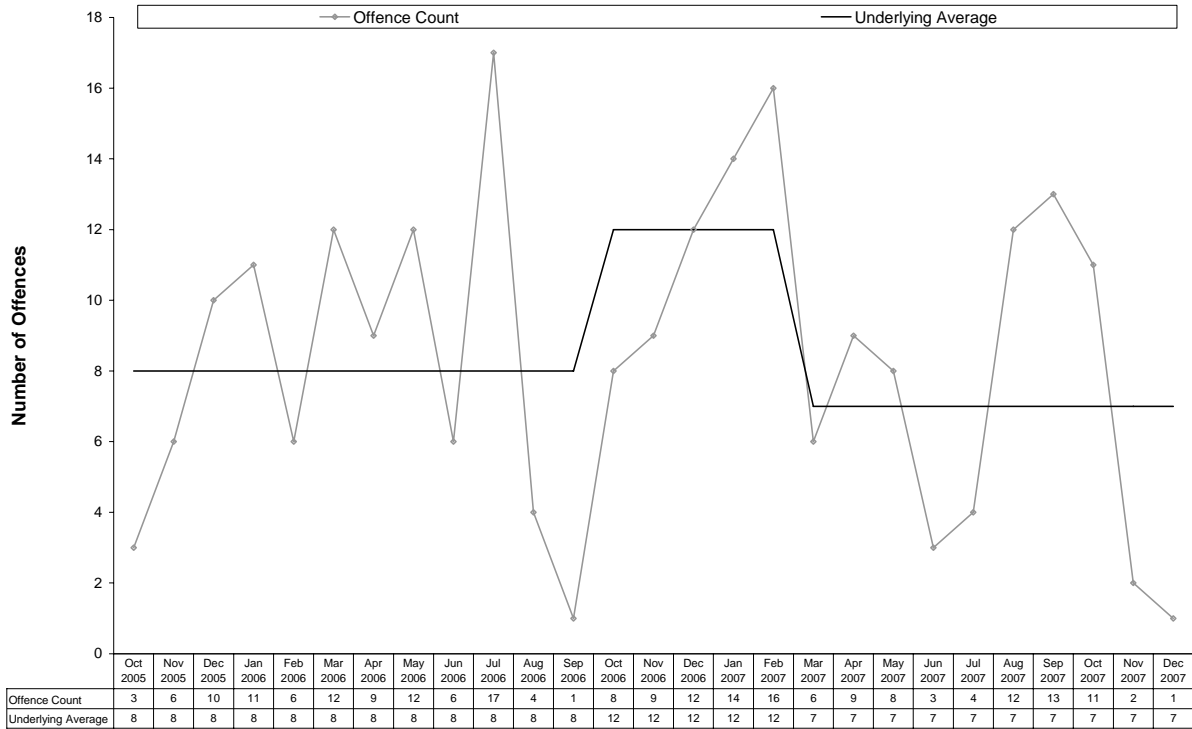
Figure 40 Recorded Property Offences in Katherine – Current Quarter



House Break-ins

- The figure shows the underlying average level of *house break-ins* has ranged between 7 and 12 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 7 per month is at the lower end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average decreased early in the period.
- There were 14 *house break-ins* recorded in the current quarter. This represents a decrease of 52% (15) from the previous quarter and a decrease of 52% (15) from the same quarter the previous year.

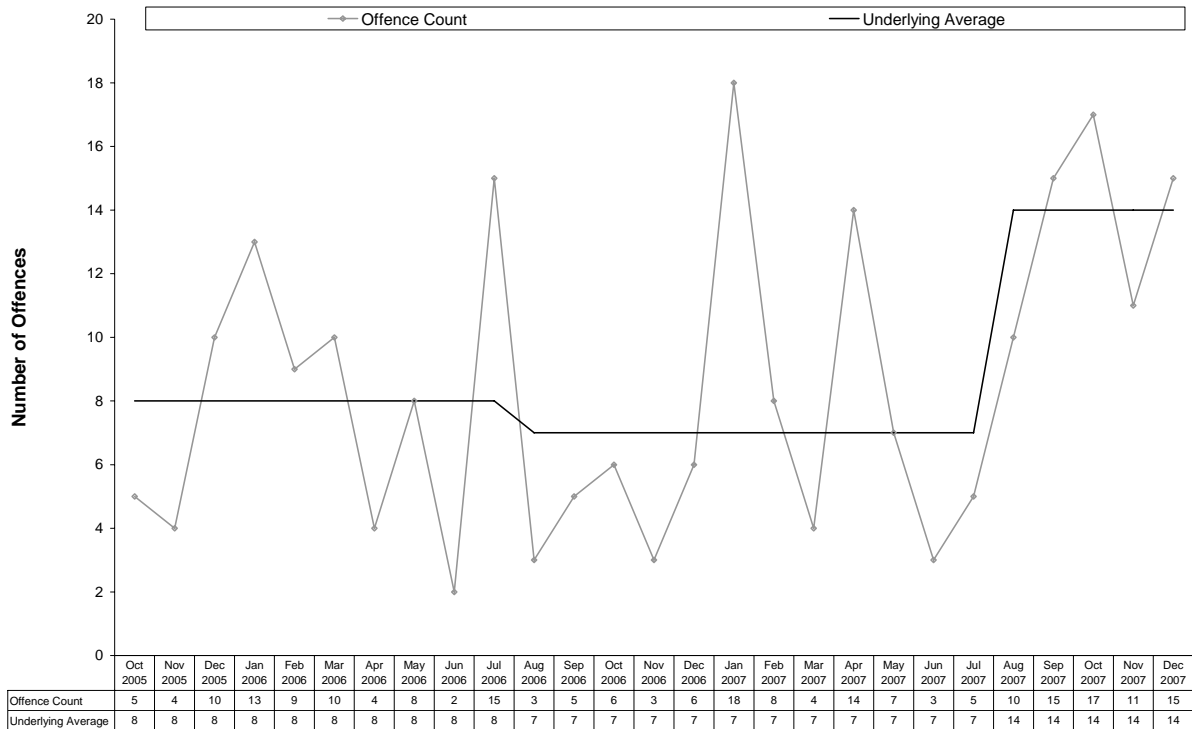
Figure 41 Recorded House Break-ins in Katherine



Break-ins to Commercial or Other Premises

- The figure shows the underlying average level of *break-ins to commercial or other premises* has ranged between 7 and 14 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 14 per month is at the higher end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average increased in the middle of the period.
- There were 43 *break-ins to commercial or other premises* recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 43% (13) from the previous quarter and an increase of 187% (28) from the same quarter the previous year.

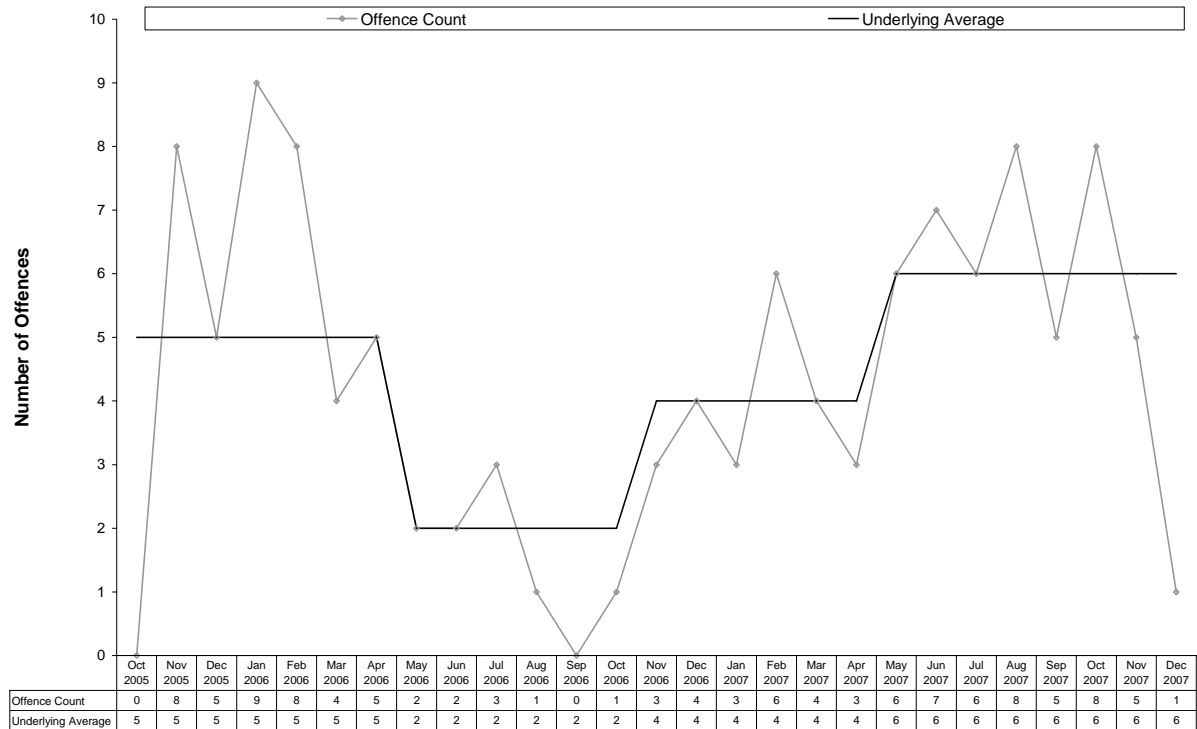
Figure 42 Recorded Break-ins to Commercial or Other Premises in Katherine



Motor Vehicle Theft and Related Offences

- The figure shows the underlying average level of *motor vehicle theft and related offences* has ranged between 2 and 6 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 6 per month is at the higher end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average increased early in the period.
- There were 14 *motor vehicle theft and related offences* recorded in the current quarter. This represents a decrease of 26% (5) from the previous quarter, but an increase of 75% (6) from the same quarter the previous year.

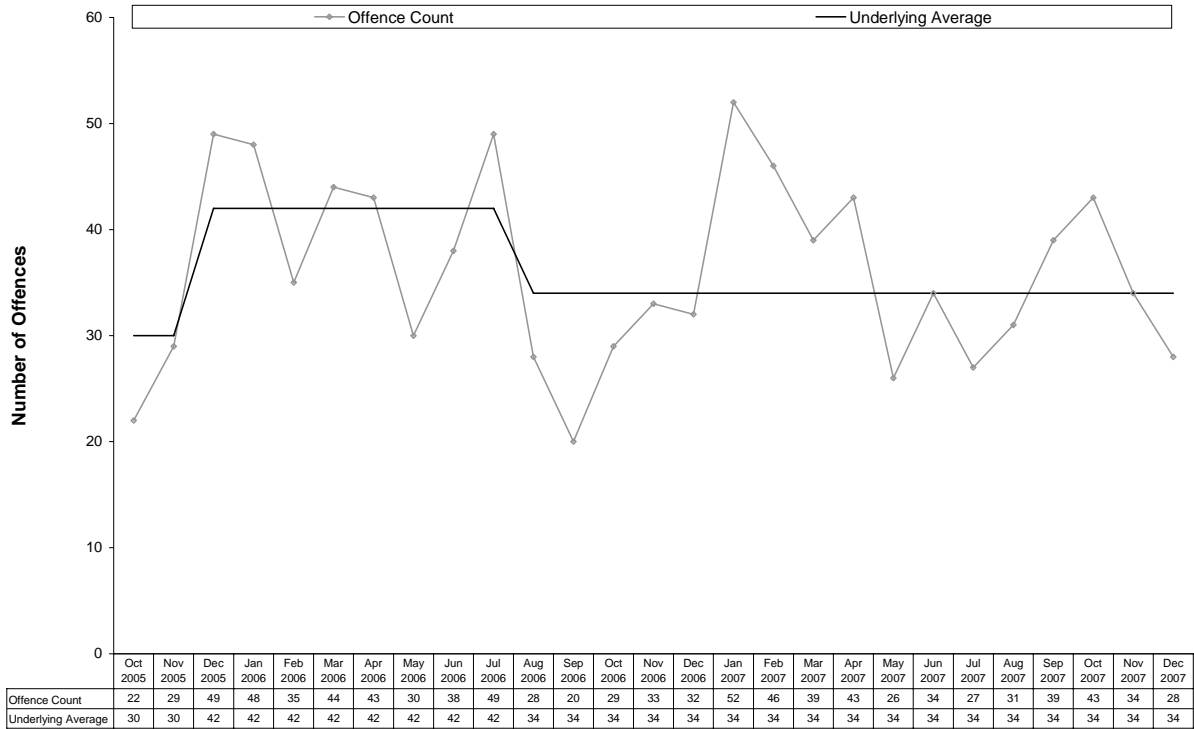
Figure 43 Recorded Motor Vehicle Theft and Related Offences in Katherine



Other Theft

- The figure shows the underlying average level of *other theft* has ranged between 30 and 42 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 34 per month is in the middle of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average remained stable.
- There were 105 *other theft* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 8% (8) from the previous quarter and an increase of 12% (11) from the same quarter the previous year.

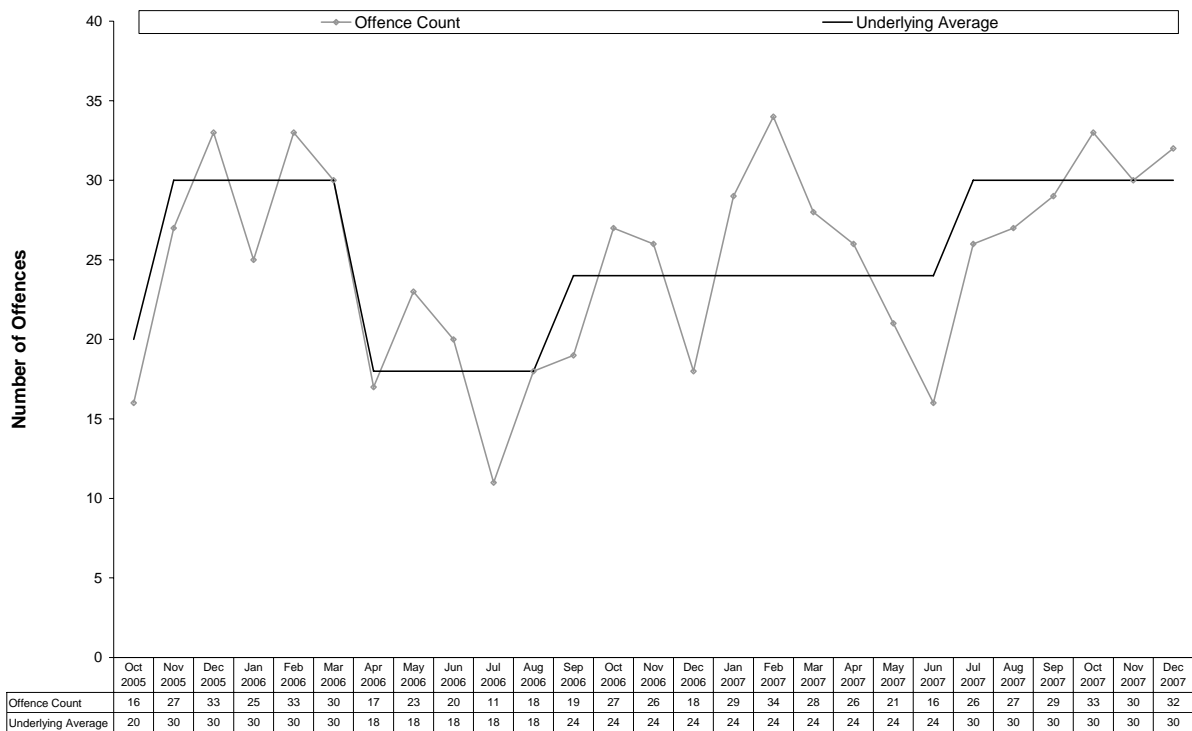
Figure 44 Recorded Other Theft in Katherine



Property Damage

- The figure shows the underlying average level of *property damage* has ranged between 18 and 30 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 30 per month is at the higher end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average increased in the middle of the period.
- There were 95 *property damage* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 16% (13) from the previous quarter and an increase of 34% (24) from the same quarter the previous year.

Figure 45 Recorded Property Damage in Katherine



3.2.6 Tennant Creek

The small population of Tennant Creek results in relatively low numbers of offences that are particularly volatile and may result in large proportional swings from one period to the next. The following table presents the number of recorded offences by offence category on a quarterly basis.

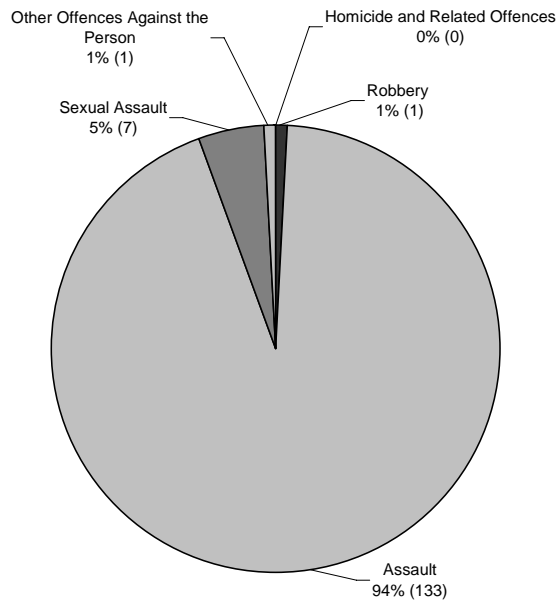
Table 6 Recorded Offences in Tennant Creek

	Dec	Mar	Jun	Sep	Dec	Mar	Jun	Sep	Dec
	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr
	2005	2006	2006	2006	2006	2007	2007	2007	2007
Offences Against The Person									
Homicide and Related Offences									
Murder	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Attempted Murder	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Manslaughter	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Robbery	2	1	3	0	1	0	1	1	1
Assault	96	129	104	79	110	123	104	131	133
Sexual Assault	2	8	10	7	4	4	4	7	7
Other Offences Against the Person	2	1	3	6	0	0	1	3	1
Total	102	139	120	92	115	127	110	143	142
Property Offences									
Break-ins									
House	24	24	12	7	22	14	18	10	26
Commercial or Other Premises	12	40	20	14	22	29	26	12	14
Motor Vehicle Theft and Related Offences	7	7	6	2	3	2	6	4	7
Other Theft	61	98	37	42	62	57	68	49	47
Property Damage	52	81	58	46	66	56	82	53	73
Other Property Offences	2	1	0	0	1	2	0	0	2
Total	158	251	133	111	176	160	200	128	169

Offences Against the Person

- In the current quarter, a total of 142 offences against the person were recorded in Tennant Creek. This represents a decrease of 1% (1) from the previous quarter, but an increase of 23% (27) from the same quarter the previous year.
- As shown in the figure below *assault* was the dominant offence, accounting for 94% of offences against the person in the current quarter. The remaining offences were *sexual assault* 5% and both *robbery* and *other offences against the person* accounted for 1% each. There were no offences recorded relating to *murder, attempted murder* or *manslaughter*.

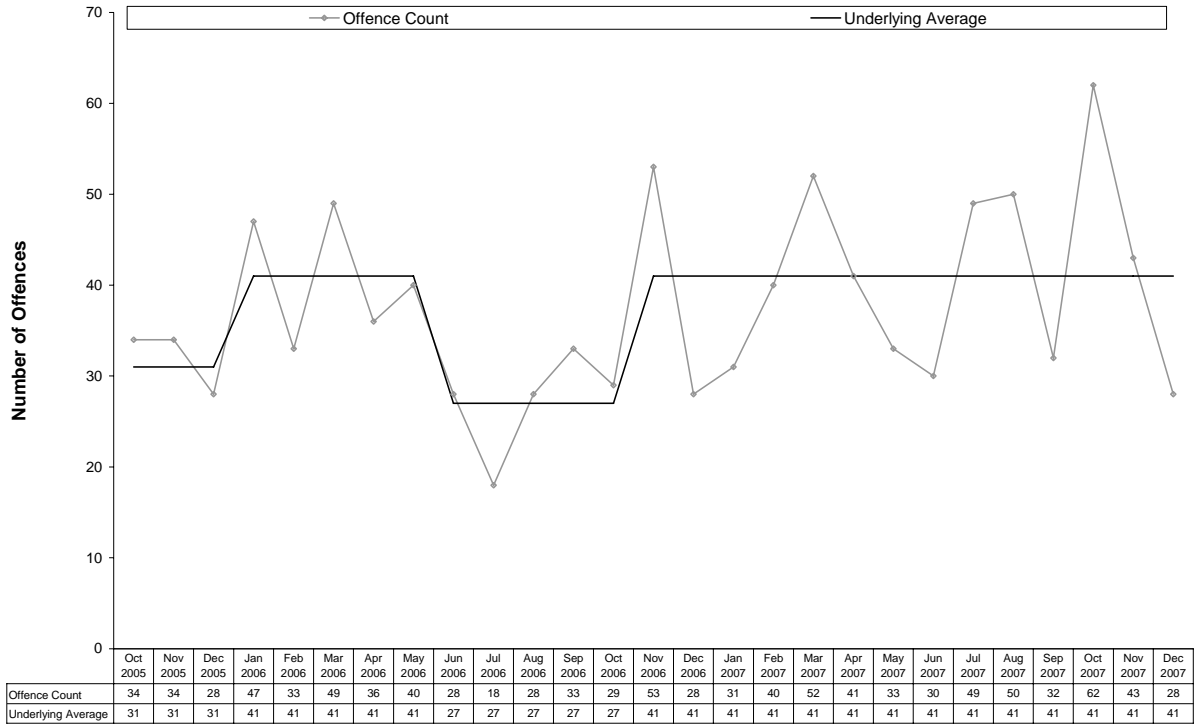
Figure 46 Recorded Offences Against the Person in Tennant Creek – Current Quarter



Assault

- The figure shows the underlying average level of *assault* has ranged between 27 and 41 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 41 per month is at the higher end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average remained stable.
- There were 133 *assault* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 2% (2) from the previous quarter and an increase of 21% (23) from the same quarter the previous year.

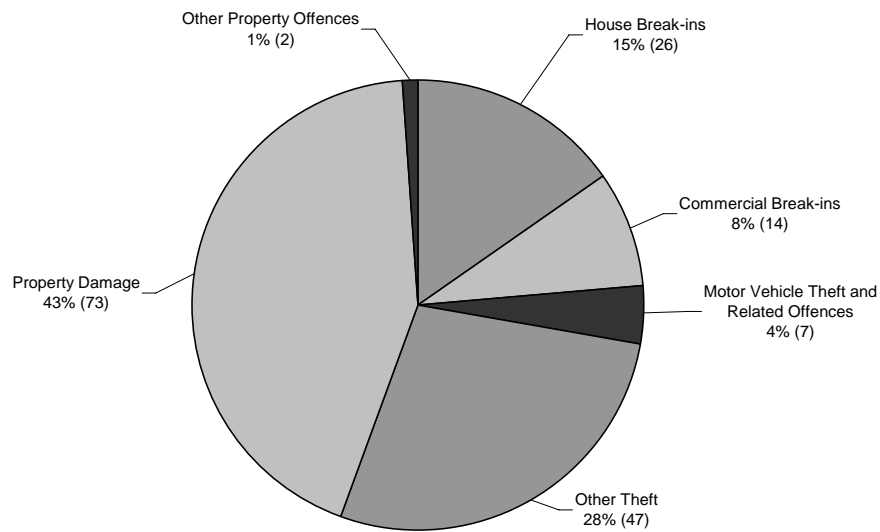
Figure 47 Recorded Assault in Tennant Creek



Property Offences

- In the current quarter there was a total of 169 recorded property offences in Tennant Creek. This represents an increase of 32% (41) from the previous quarter, but a decrease of 4% (7) from the same quarter the previous year.
- The figure below shows 43% of property offences relate to *property damage*, with *other theft* at 28%. The remaining offences were *house break-ins* 15%, *break-ins to commercial or other premises* 8%, *motor vehicle theft and related offences* 4% and *other property offences* 1%.

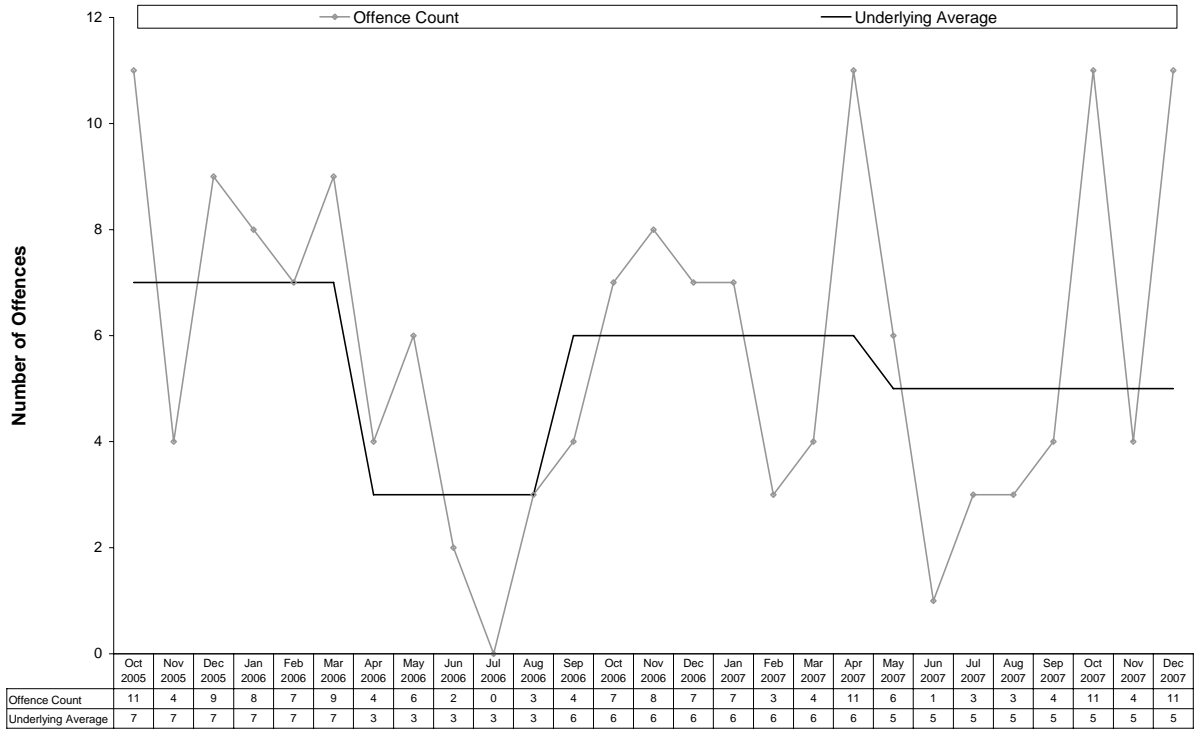
Figure 48 Recorded Property Offences in Tennant Creek – Current Quarter



House Break-ins

- The figure shows the underlying average level of *house break-ins* has ranged between 3 and 7 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 5 per month is in the middle of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average decreased early in the period.
- There were 26 *house break-ins* recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 160% (16) from the previous quarter and an increase of 18% (4) from the same quarter the previous year.

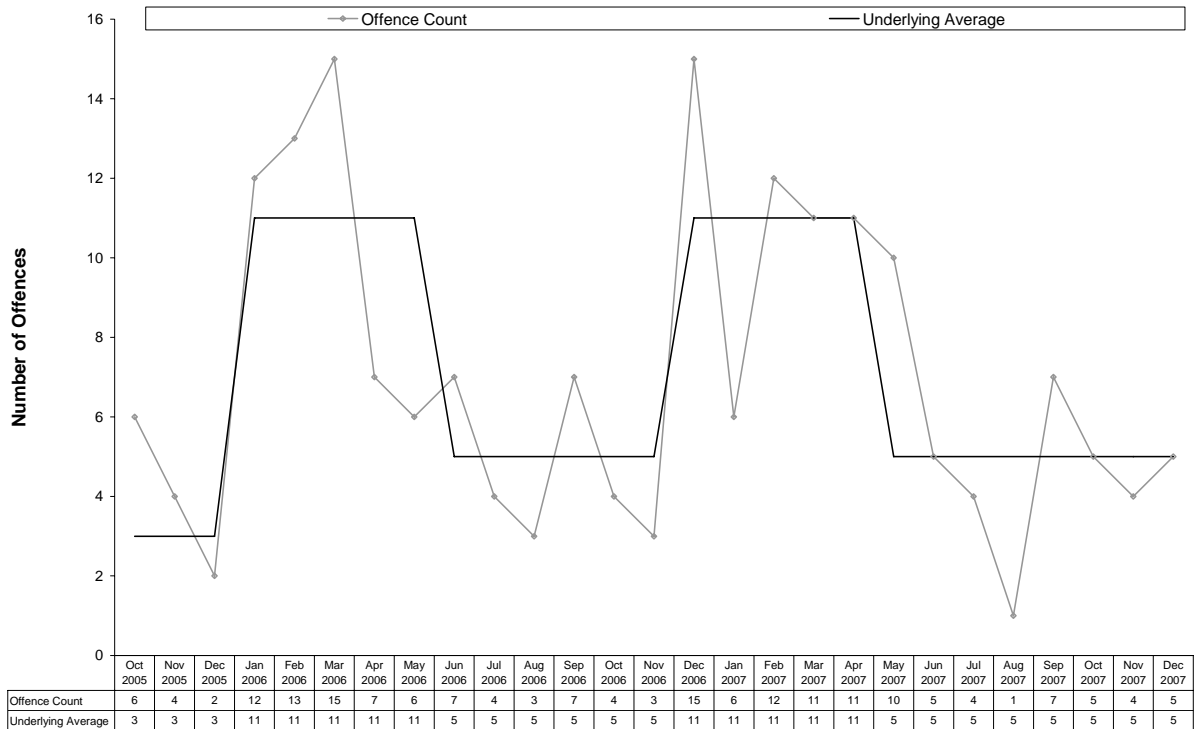
Figure 49 Recorded House Break-ins in Tennant Creek



Break-ins to Commercial or Other Premises

- The figure shows the underlying average level of *break-ins to commercial or other premises* has ranged between 3 and 11 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 5 per month is in the middle of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average decreased early in the period. A statistically significant downward trend was identified.
- There were 14 *break-ins to commercial or other premises* recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 17% (2) from the previous quarter, but a decrease of 36% (8) from the same quarter the previous year.

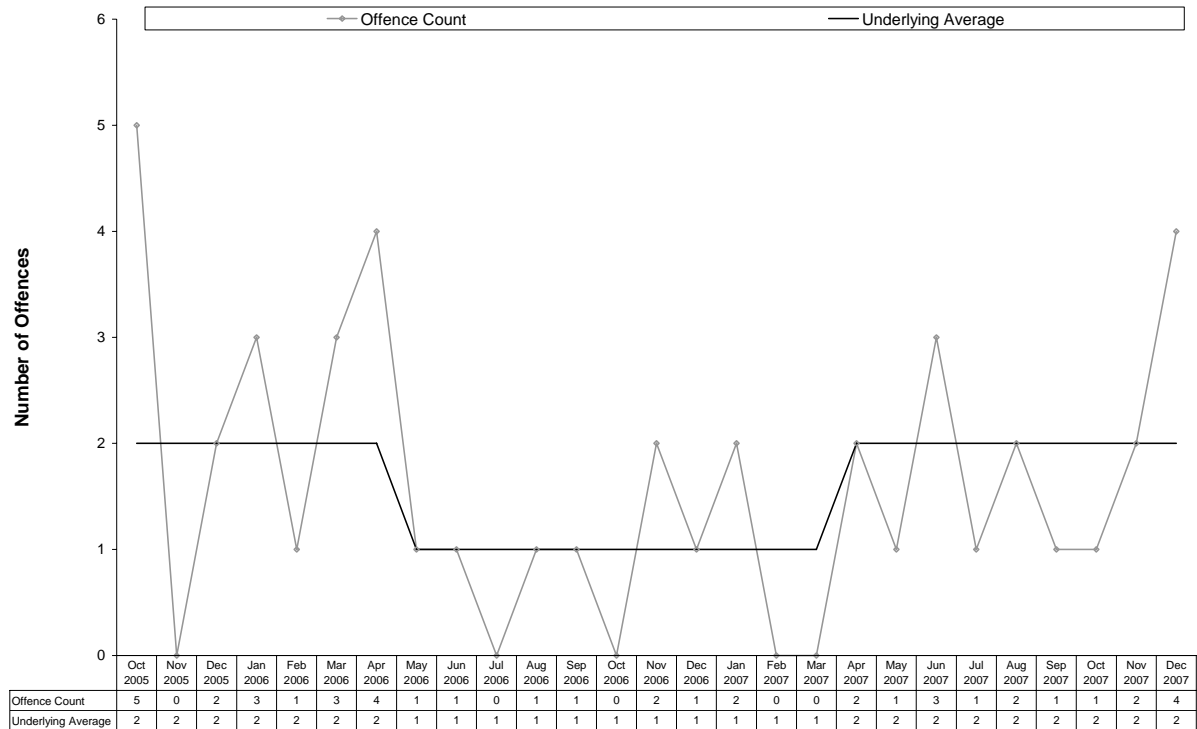
Figure 50 Recorded Break-ins to Commercial or Other Premises in Tennant Creek



Motor Vehicle Theft and Related Offences

- The figure shows the underlying average level of *motor vehicle theft and related offences* has ranged between 1 and 2 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 2 per month is at the higher end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average increased early in the period.
- There were 7 *motor vehicle theft and related offences* recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 3 from the previous quarter and an increase of 4 from the same quarter the previous year.

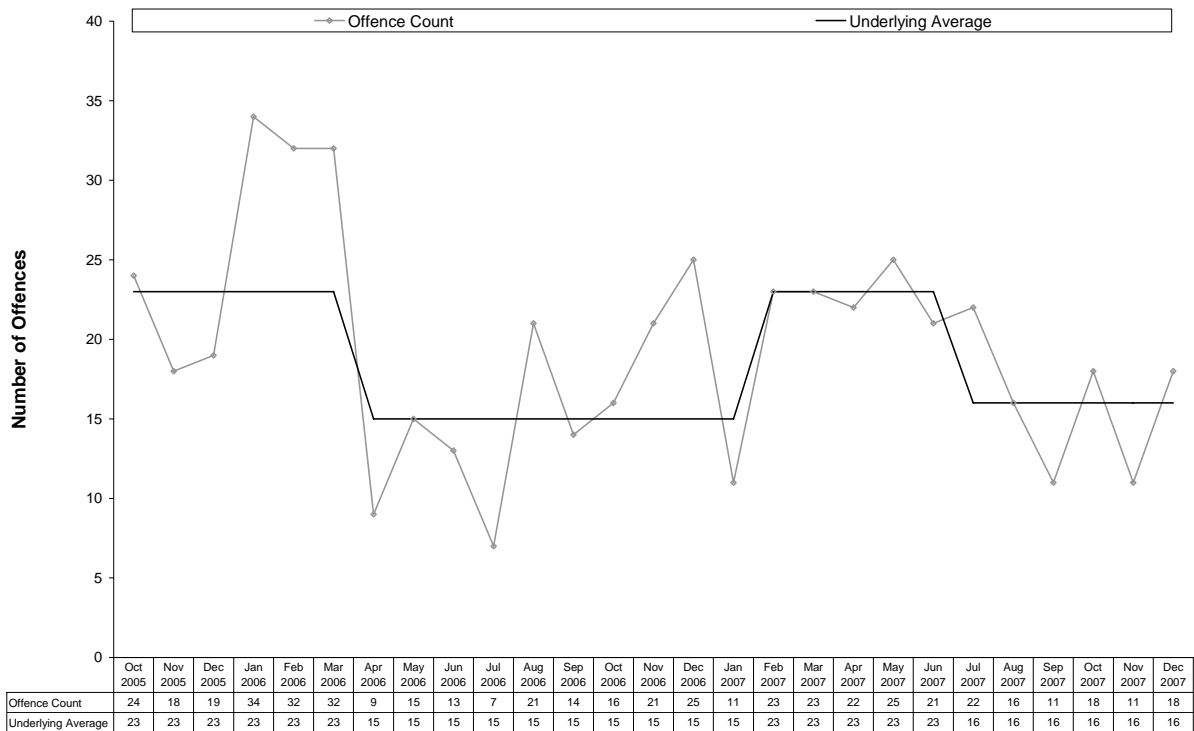
Figure 51 Recorded Motor Vehicle Theft and Related Offences in Tennant Creek



Other Theft

- The figure shows the underlying average level of *other theft* has ranged between 15 and 23 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 16 per month is at the lower end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average increased early in the period and decreased in the middle of the period.
- There were 47 *other theft* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents a decrease of 4% (2) from the previous quarter and a decrease of 24% (15) from the same quarter the previous year.

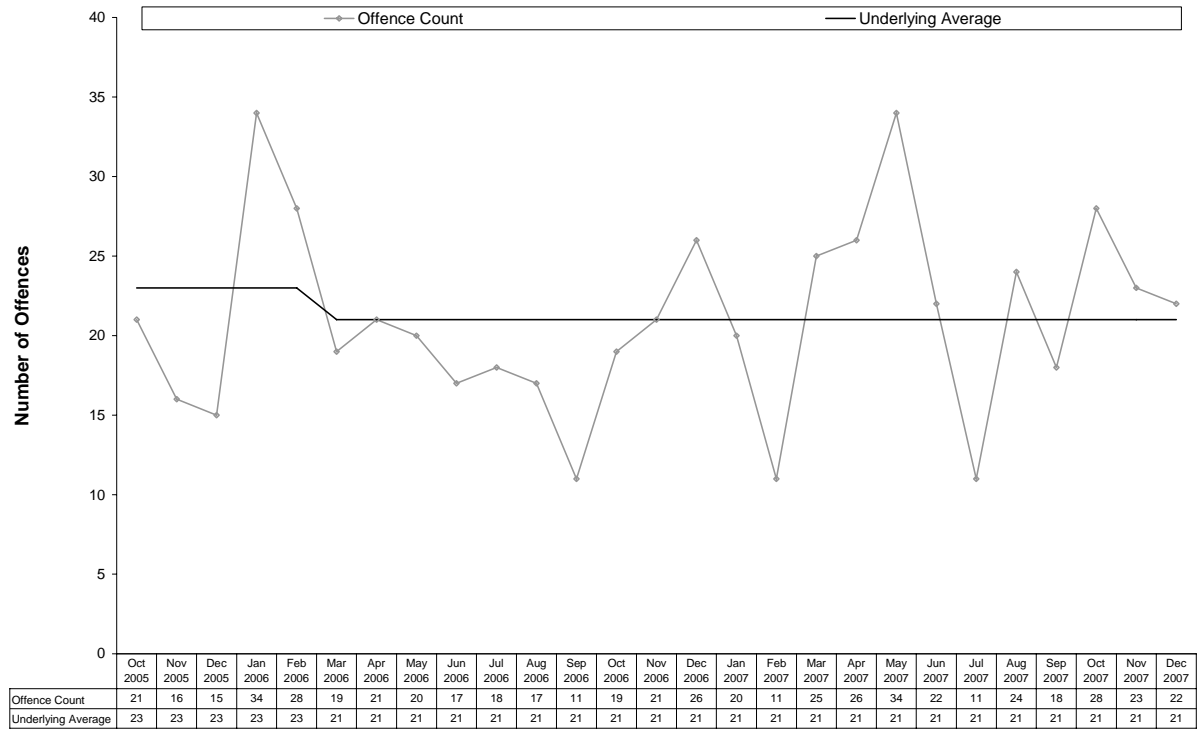
Figure 52 Recorded Other Theft in Tennant Creek



Property Damage

- The figure shows the underlying average level of *property damage* has ranged between 21 and 23 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 21 per month is at the lower end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average remained stable.
- There were 73 *property damage* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 38% (20) from the previous quarter and an increase of 11% (7) from the same quarter the previous year.

Figure 53 Recorded Property Damage in Tennant Creek



3.2.7 Nhulunbuy

The small population of Nhulunbuy results in relatively low numbers of offences that are particularly volatile. This may result in large proportional swings from one period to the next. The following table presents the number of recorded offences by offence category on a quarterly basis.

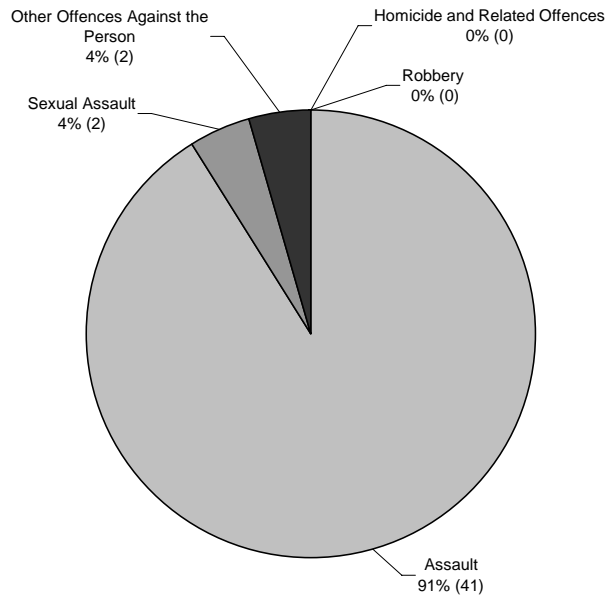
Table 7 Recorded Offences in Nhulunbuy

	Dec	Mar	Jun	Sep	Dec	Mar	Jun	Sep	Dec
	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr
	2005	2006	2006	2006	2006	2007	2007	2007	2007
Offences Against The Person									
Homicide and Related Offences									
Murder	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Attempted Murder	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Manslaughter	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Robbery	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0
Assault	30	35	16	13	17	42	30	38	41
Sexual Assault	0	1	3	4	2	2	4	2	2
Other Offences Against the Person	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	2	2
Total	31	37	20	17	20	44	34	44	45
Property Offences									
Break-ins									
House	7	2	8	2	3	7	5	2	1
Commercial or Other Premises	10	3	10	14	2	8	6	9	8
Motor Vehicle Theft and Related Offences	7	0	2	2	5	2	5	5	8
Other Theft	46	29	32	30	21	29	36	23	26
Property Damage	41	26	33	23	24	31	30	29	32
Other Property Offences	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	0
Total	111	60	85	72	55	78	82	69	75

Offences Against the Person

- In the current quarter, a total of 45 offences against the person were recorded in Nhulunbuy. This represents an increase of 2% (1) from the previous quarter and an increase of 125% (25) from the same quarter the previous year.
- As shown in the figure below *assault* was the most frequent offence, accounting for 91% of offences against the person in the current quarter. *Sexual assault* and *other offences against the person* accounted for 4% each. There were no recorded offences relating to *murder*, *attempted murder*, *manslaughter* or *robbery*.

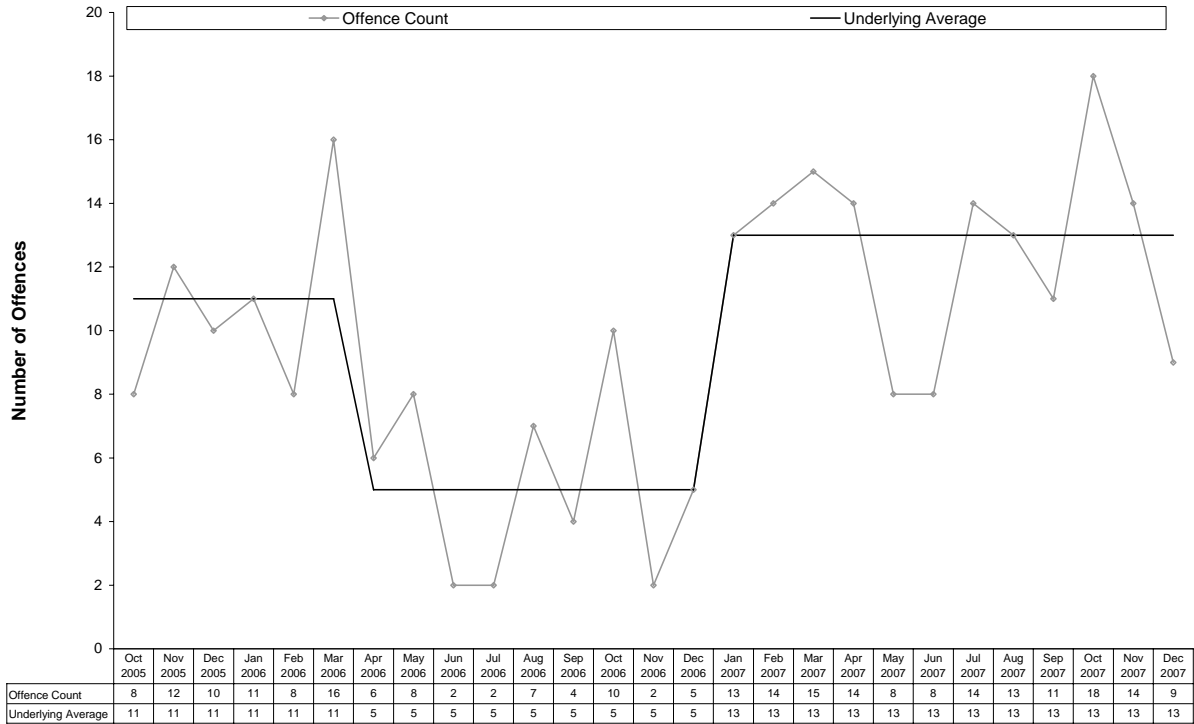
Figure 54 Recorded Offences Against the Person in Nhulunbuy – Current Quarter



Assault

- The figure shows the underlying average level of *assault* has ranged between 5 and 13 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 13 per month is at the higher end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average remained stable.
- There were 41 *assault* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 8% (3) from the previous quarter and an increase of 141% (24) from the same quarter the previous year.

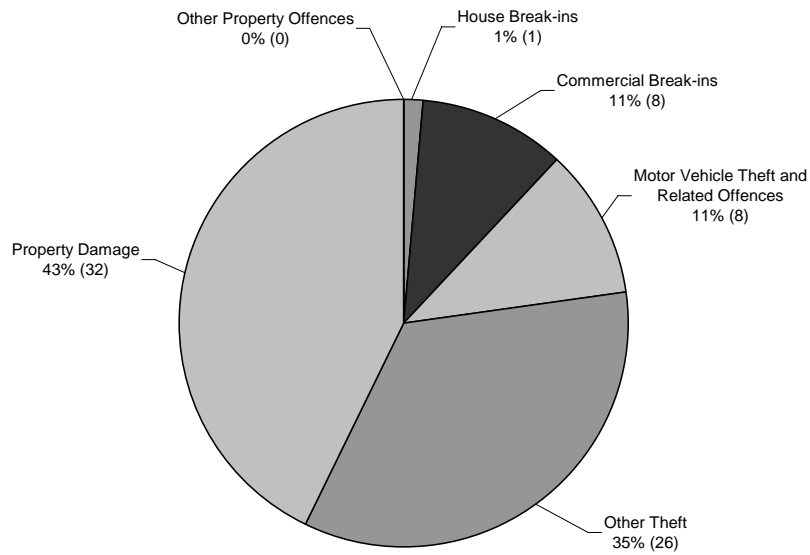
Figure 55 Recorded Assault in Nhulunbuy



Property Offences

- In the current quarter there was a total of 75 recorded property offences in Nhulunbuy. This represents an increase of 9% (6) from the previous quarter and an increase of 36% (20) from the same quarter the previous year.
- The figure below shows 43% of property offences relate to *property damage*, with *other theft* at 35%. The remaining offences were *break-ins to commercial or other premises* and *motor vehicle theft and related offences* accounting for 11% each and *house break-ins* 1%. There were no offences relating to *other property offences*.

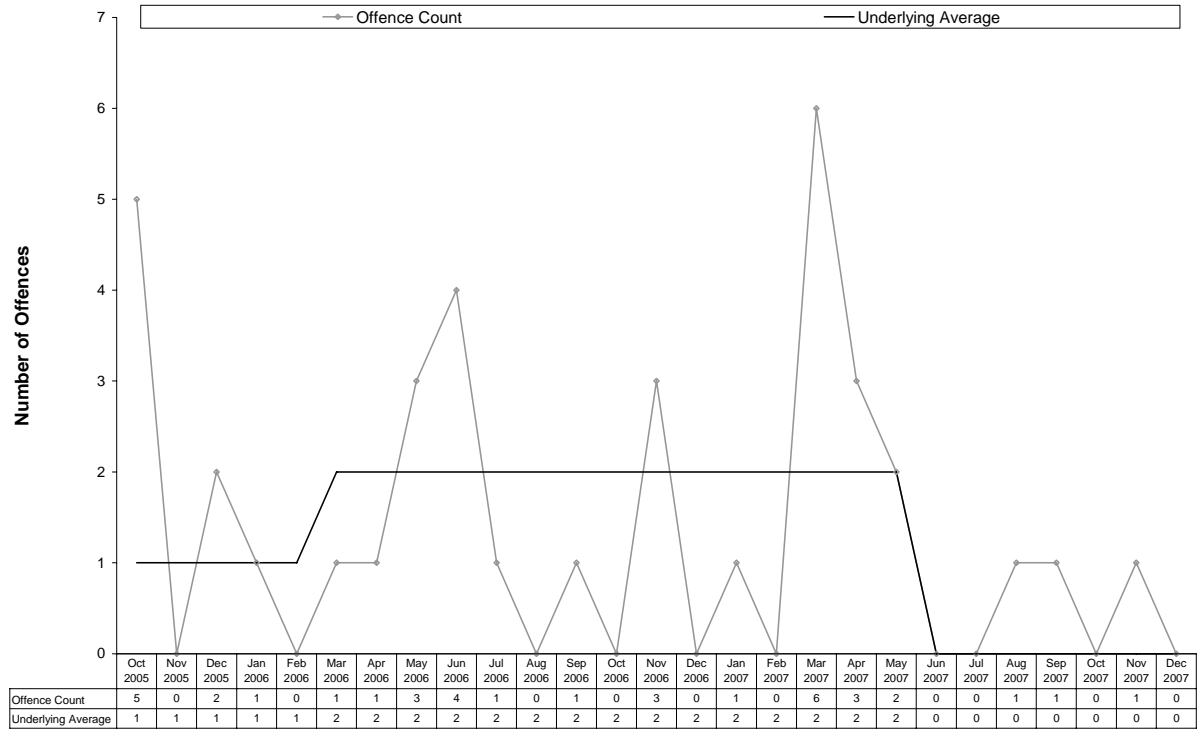
Figure 56 Recorded Property Offences in Nhulunbuy – Current Quarter



House Break-ins

- The figure shows the underlying average level of *house break-ins* has ranged between 0 and 2 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 0 per month is at the lower end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average decreased in the middle of the period.
- There was 1 *house break-in* offence recorded in the current quarter. This represents a decrease of 1 from the previous quarter and a decrease of 2 from the same quarter the previous year.

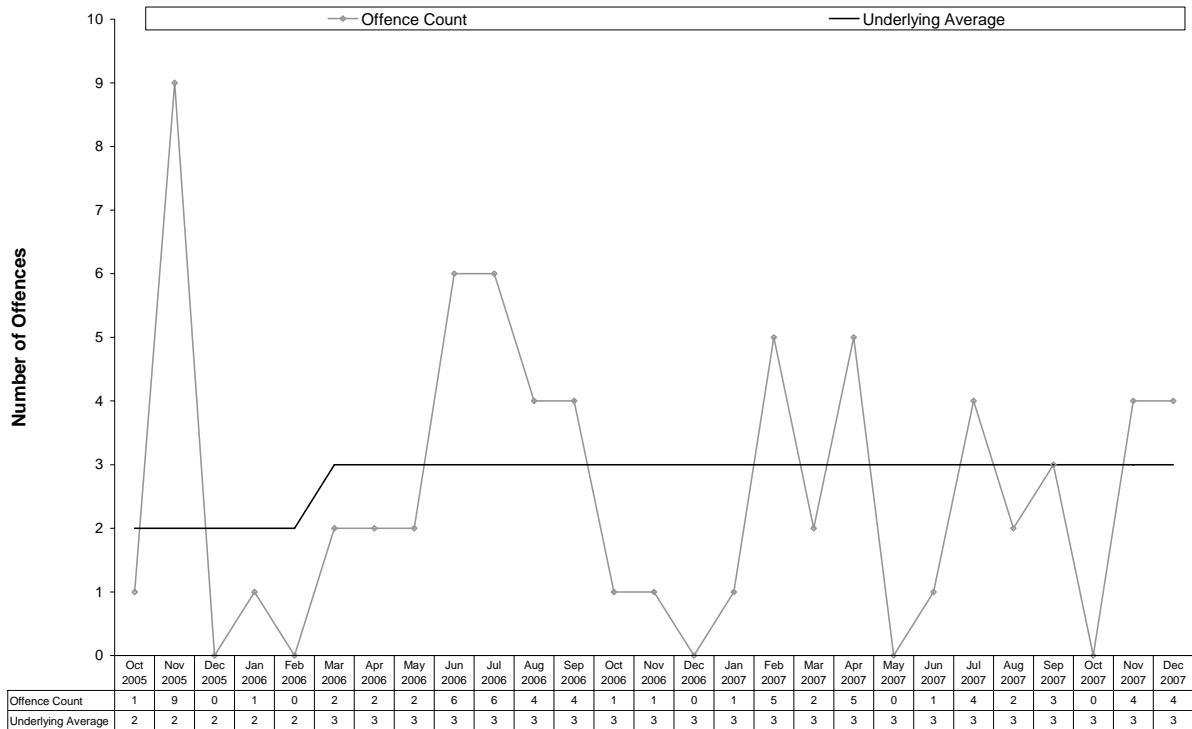
Figure 57 Recorded House Break-ins in Nhulunbuy



Break-ins to Commercial or Other Premises

- The figure shows the underlying average level of *break-ins to commercial or other premises* has ranged between 2 and 3 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 3 per month is at the higher end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average remained stable.
- There were 8 *break-ins to commercial or other premises* recorded in the current quarter. This represents a decrease of 1 from the previous quarter, but an increase of 6 from the same quarter the previous year.

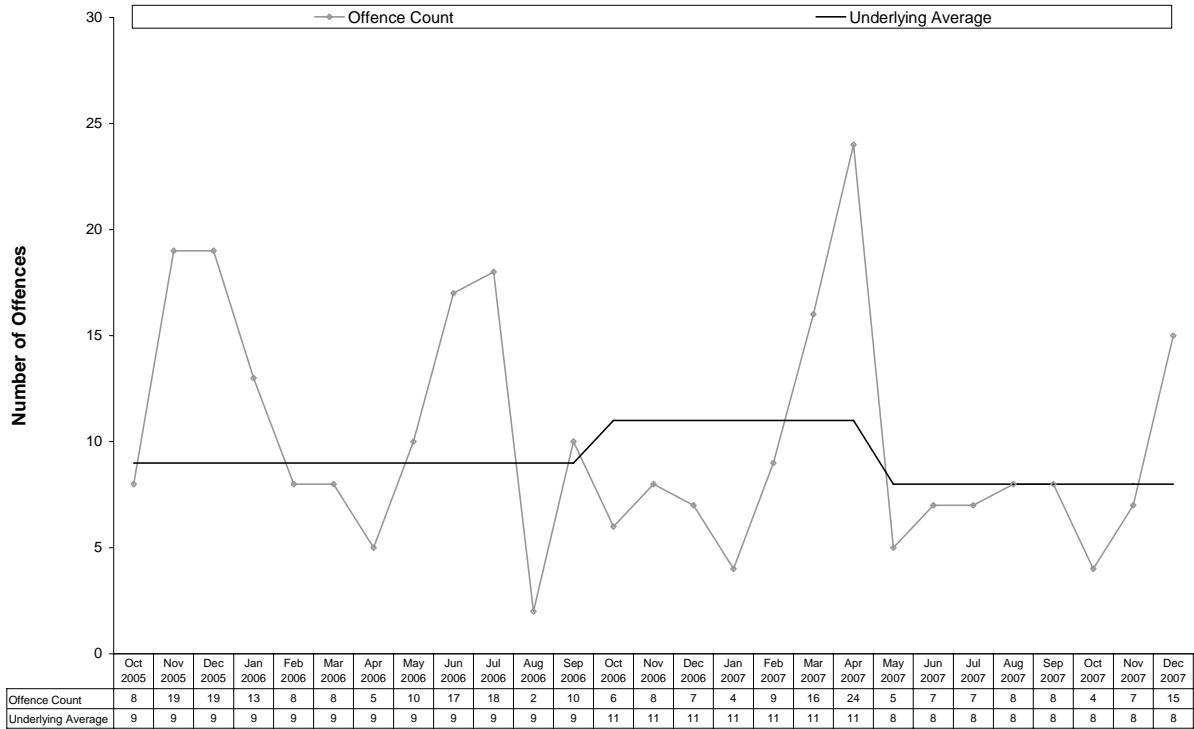
Figure 58 Recorded Break-ins to Commercial or Other Premises in Nhulunbuy



Other Theft

- The figure shows the underlying average level of *other theft* has ranged between 8 and 11 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 8 per month is at the lower end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average decreased early in the period.
- There were 26 *other theft* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 13% (3) from the previous quarter and an increase of 24% (5) from the same quarter the previous year.

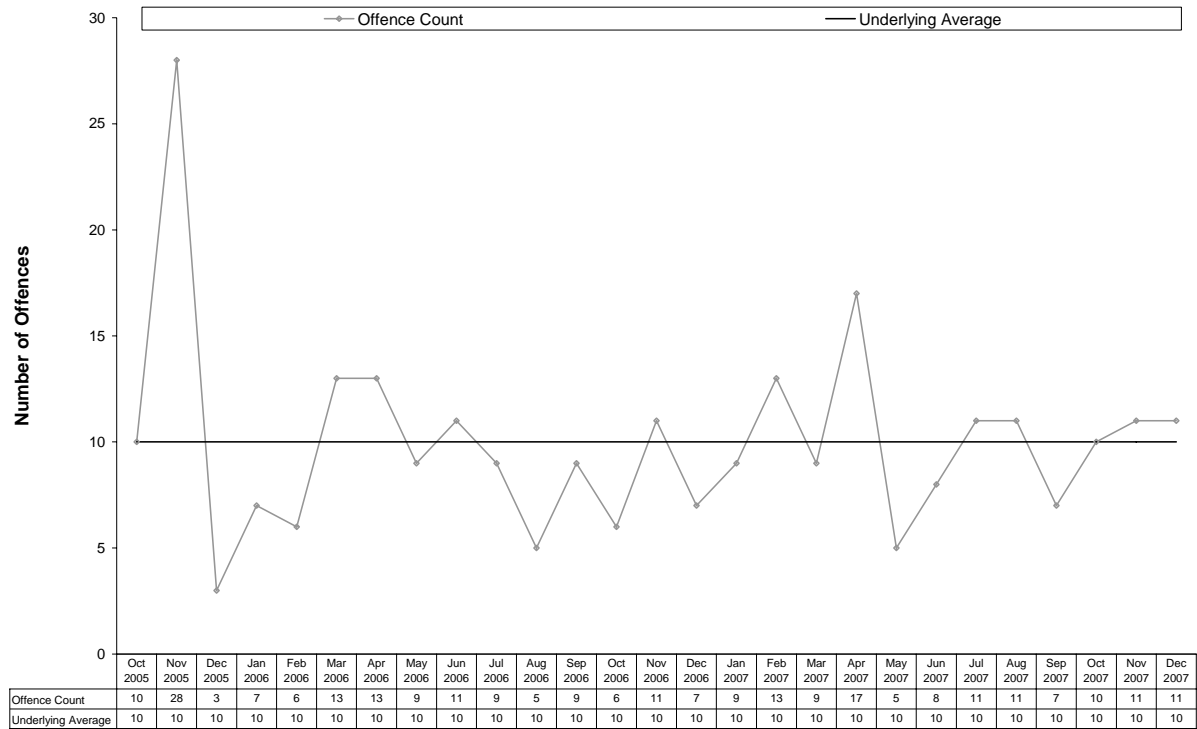
Figure 59 Recorded Other Theft in Nhulunbuy



Property Damage

- The figure shows the underlying average level of *property damage* has remained stable at 10 offences per month during the past nine quarters.
- There were 32 *property damage* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 10% (3) from the previous quarter and an increase of 33% (8) from the same quarter the previous year.

Figure 60 Recorded Property Damage in Nhulunbuy



3.2.8 Northern Territory Balance

The following table presents the number of recorded offences by offence category on a quarterly basis.

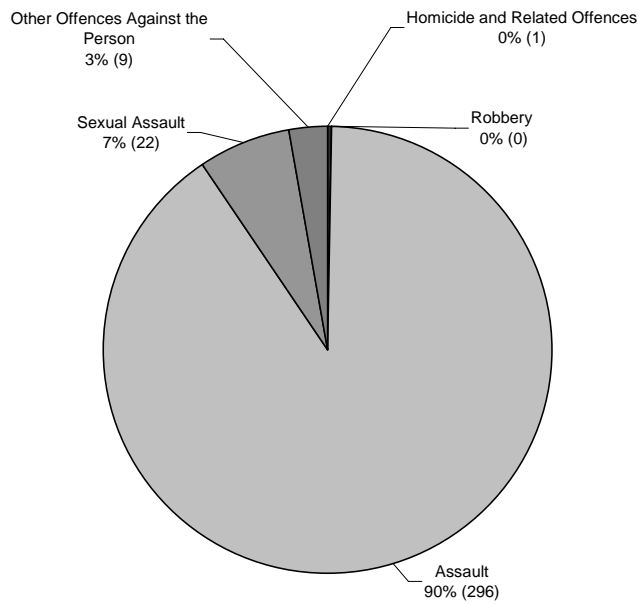
Table 8 Recorded Offences in the Northern Territory Balance

	Dec	Mar	Jun	Sep	Dec	Mar	Jun	Sep	Dec
	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr
	2005	2006	2006	2006	2006	2007	2007	2007	2007
Offences Against The Person									
Homicide and Related Offences									
Murder	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	1	1
Attempted Murder	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0
Manslaughter	1	0	1	0	2	0	0	1	0
Robbery	0	1	0	3	4	4	1	2	0
Assault	317	306	310	281	310	291	292	346	296
Sexual Assault	26	25	18	25	32	22	32	27	22
Other Offences Against the Person	7	6	14	7	10	2	11	15	9
Total	352	339	343	318	360	319	336	392	328
Property Offences									
Break-ins									
House	60	75	68	67	71	67	54	56	45
Commercial or Other Premises	70	129	82	77	80	99	70	63	93
Motor Vehicle Theft and Related Offences	54	40	49	33	44	45	63	51	72
Other Theft	199	254	231	216	200	217	220	223	219
Property Damage	233	244	198	208	216	205	169	193	221
Other Property Offences	6	19	9	4	9	6	9	5	4
Total	622	761	637	605	620	639	585	591	654

Offences Against the Person

- In the current quarter, a total of 328 offences against the person were recorded in the Northern Territory Balance. This represents a decrease of 16% (64) from the previous quarter and a decrease of 9% (32) from the same quarter the previous year.
- As shown in the figure below, *assault* was by far the most frequent offence, accounting for 90% of offences against the person. The remaining offences were *sexual assault* 7%, *other offences against the person* 3% and *murder* less than 1%. There were no recorded offences relating to *attempted murder*, *manslaughter* or *robbery*.

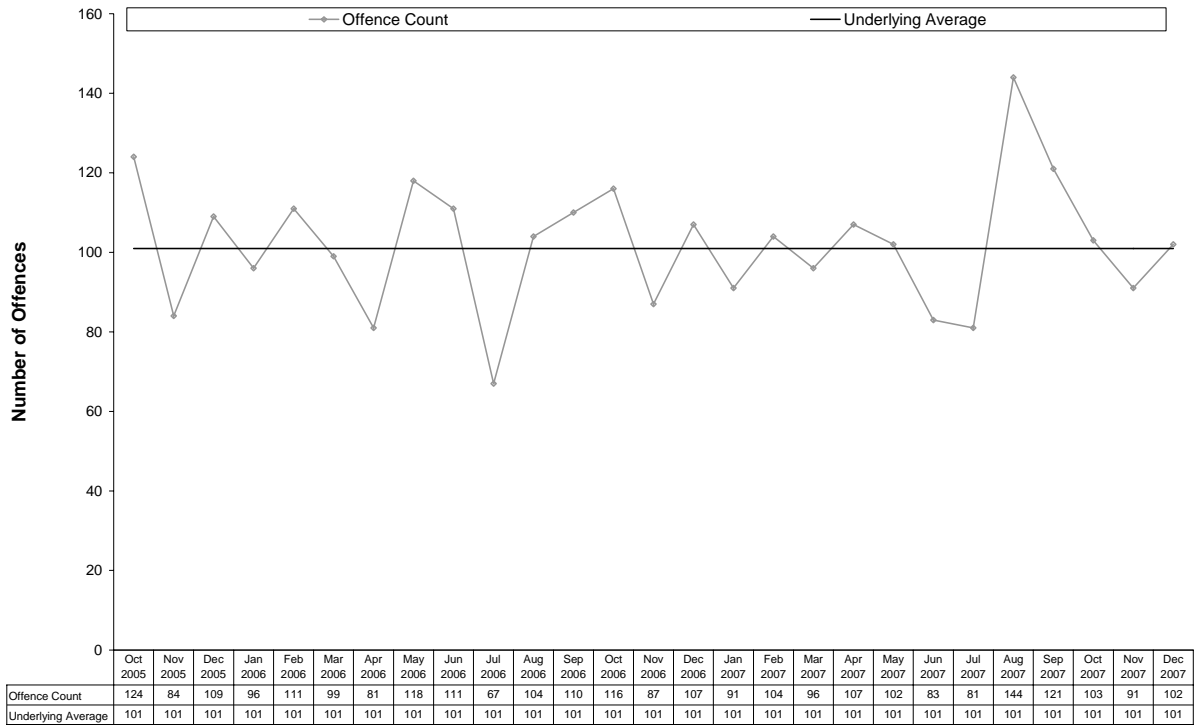
Figure 61 Recorded Offences Against the Person in the Northern Territory Balance – Current Quarter



Assault

- The figure shows the underlying average level of *assault* has remained stable at 101 offences per month during the past nine quarters.
- There were 296 *assault* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents a decrease of 14% (50) from the previous quarter and a decrease of 5% (14) from the same quarter the previous year.

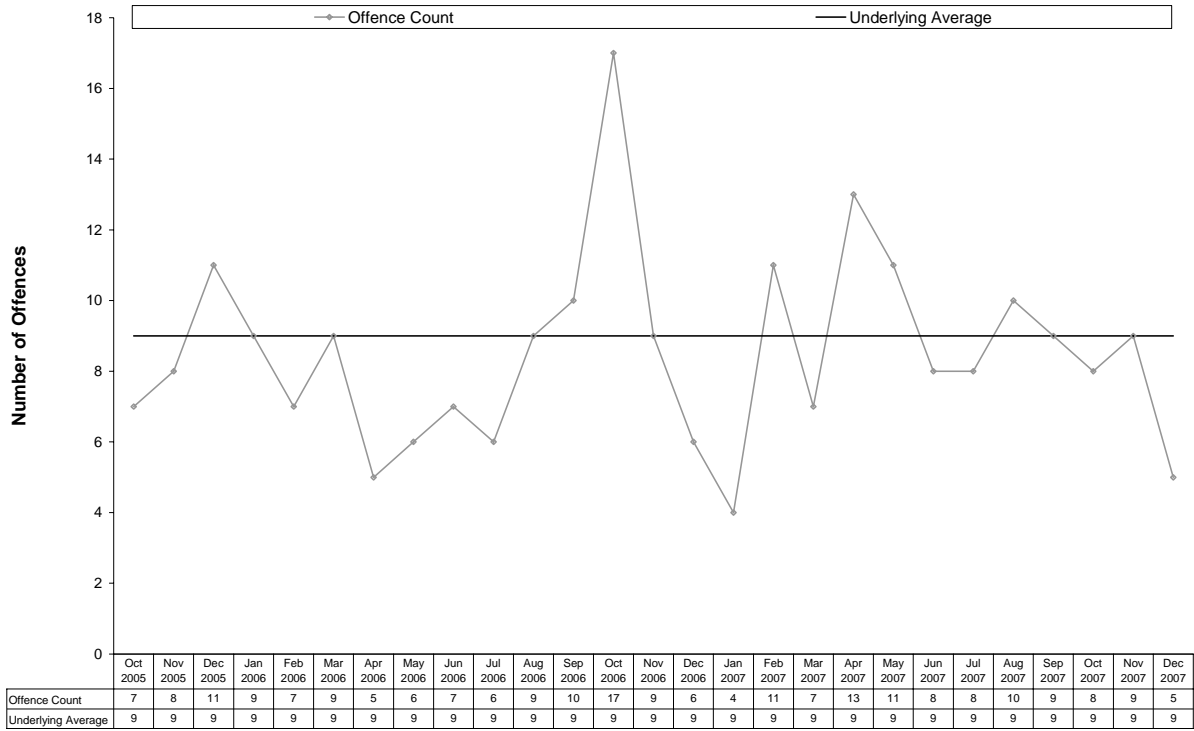
Figure 62 Recorded Assault in the Northern Territory Balance



Sexual Assault

- The figure shows the underlying average level of *sexual assault* has remained stable at 9 offences per month during the past nine quarters.
- There were 22 *sexual assault* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents a decrease of 19% (5) from the previous quarter and a decrease of 31% (10) from the same quarter the previous year.

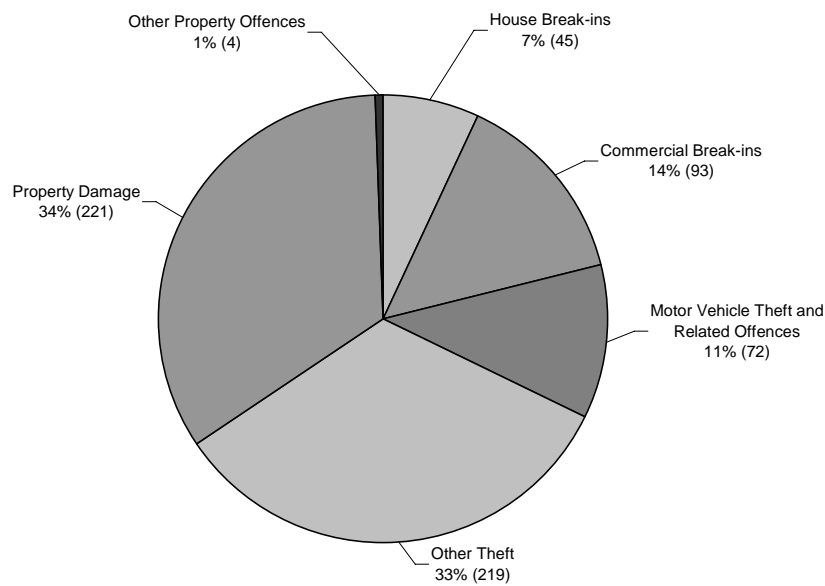
Figure 63 Recorded Sexual Assault in the Northern Territory Balance



Property Offences

- In the current quarter, a total of 654 property offences were recorded in the Northern Territory Balance. This represents an increase of 11% (63) from the previous quarter and an increase of 5% (34) from the same quarter the previous year.
- The figure below shows 34% of property offences relate to *property damage*, with *other theft* at 33%. The remaining offences were *break-ins to commercial or other premises* 14%, *motor vehicle theft and related offences* 11%, *house break-ins* 7% and *other property offences* 1%.

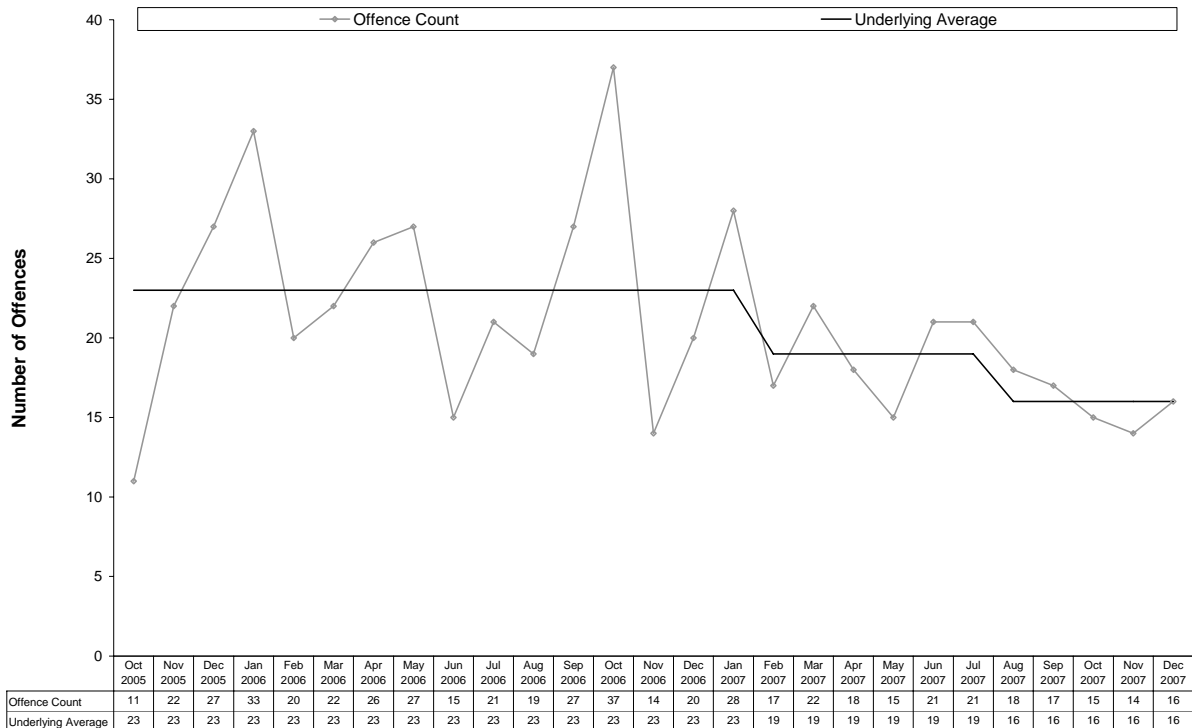
Figure 64 Recorded Property Offences in the Northern Territory Balance – Current Quarter



House Break-ins

- The figure shows the underlying average level of *house break-ins* has ranged between 16 and 23 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 16 per month is at the lower end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average decreased early in the period and decreased again in the middle of the period. A statistically significant downward trend was identified.
- There were 45 *house break-ins* recorded in the current quarter. This represents a decrease of 20% (11) from the previous quarter and a decrease of 37% (26) from the same quarter the previous year.

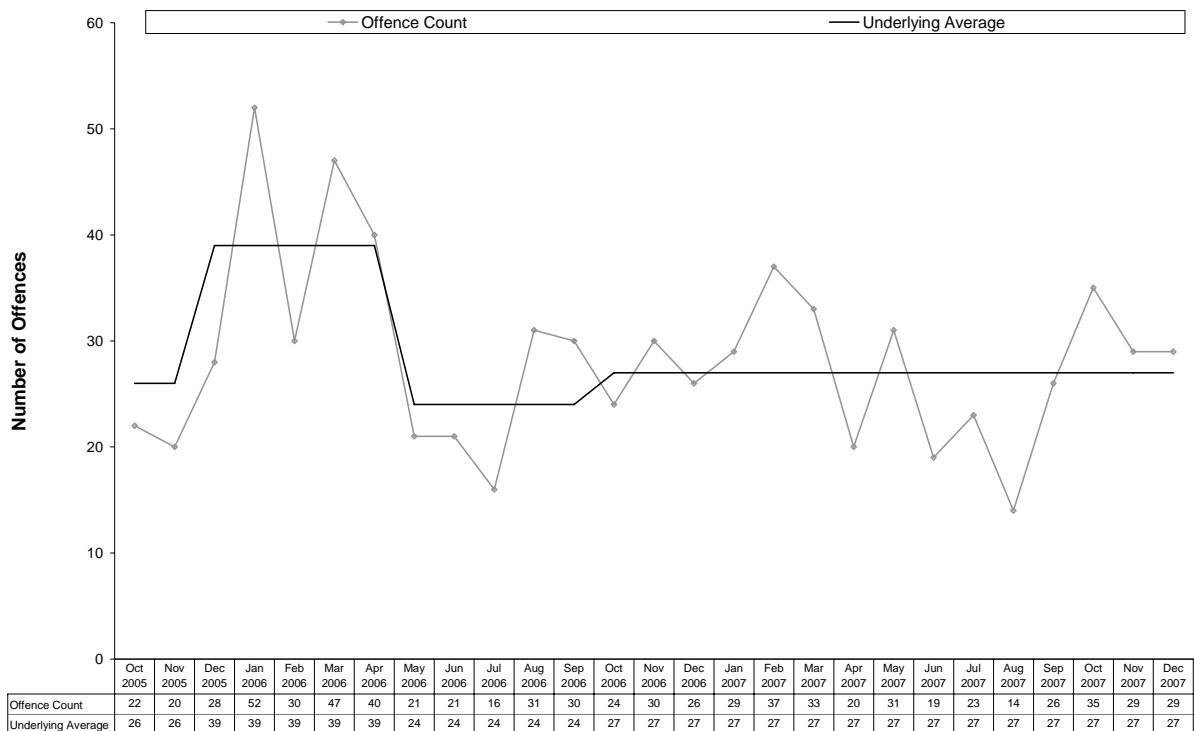
Figure 65 Recorded House Break-ins in the Northern Territory Balance



Break-ins to Commercial or Other Premises

- The figure shows the underlying average level of *break-ins to commercial or other premises* has ranged between 24 and 39 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 27 per month is at the lower end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average remained stable.
- There were 93 *break-ins to commercial or other premises* recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 48% (30) from the previous quarter and an increase of 16% (13) from the same quarter the previous year.

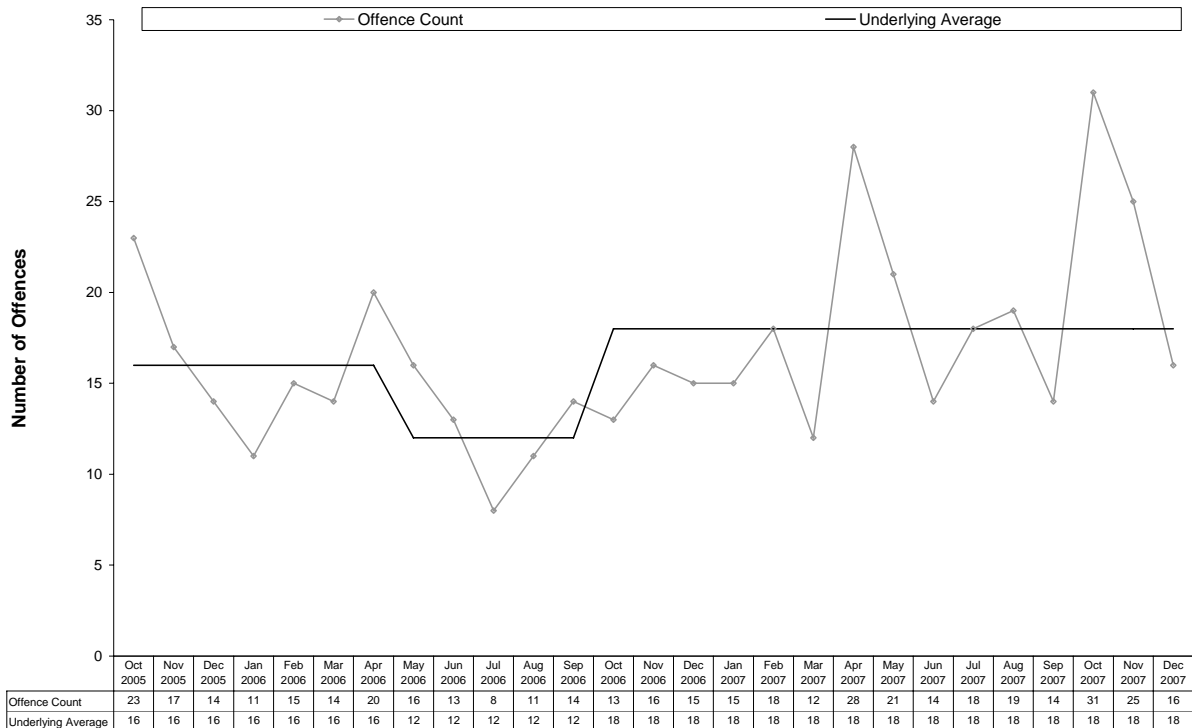
Figure 66 Recorded Break-ins to Commercial or Other Premises in the Northern Territory Balance



Motor Vehicle Theft and Related Offences

- The figure shows the underlying average level of *motor vehicle theft and related offences* has ranged between 12 and 18 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 18 per month is at the higher end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average remained stable.
- There were 72 *motor vehicle theft and related offences* recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 41% (21) from the previous quarter and an increase of 64% (28) from the same quarter the previous year.

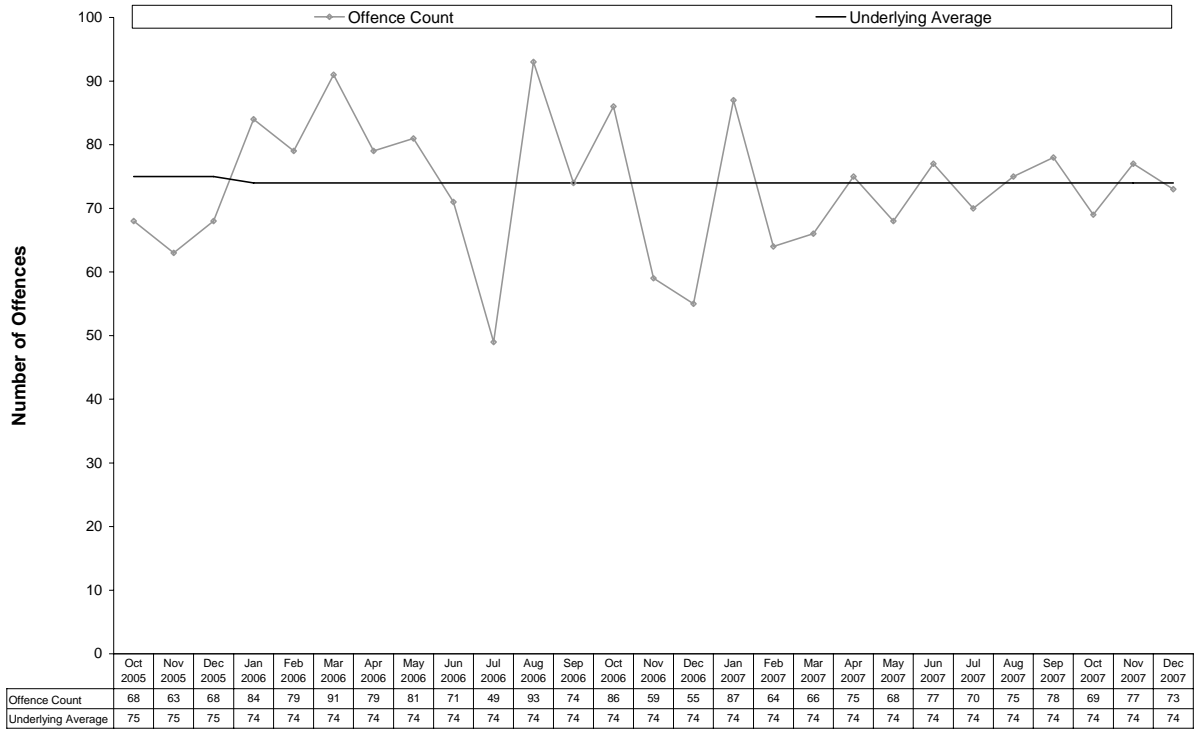
Figure 67 Recorded Motor Vehicle Theft and Related Offences in the Northern Territory Balance



Other Theft

- The figure shows the underlying average level of *other theft* has ranged between 74 and 75 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 74 per month is at the lower end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average remained stable.
- There were 219 *other theft* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents a decrease of 2% (4) from the previous quarter, but an increase of 10% (19) from the same quarter the previous year.

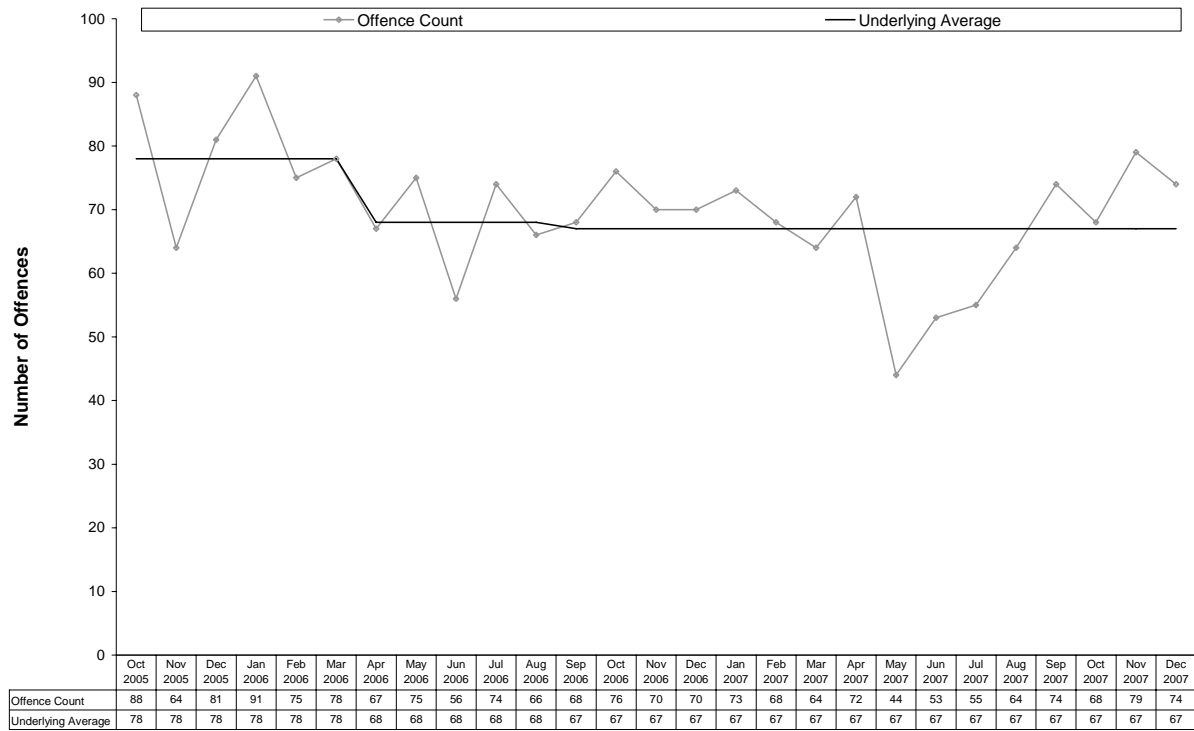
Figure 68 Recorded Other Theft in the Northern Territory Balance



Property Damage

- The figure shows the underlying average level of *property damage* has ranged between 67 and 78 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 67 per month is at the lower end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average remained stable.
- There were 221 *property damage* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 15% (28) from the previous quarter and an increase of 2% (5) from the same quarter the previous year.

Figure 69 Recorded Property Damage in the Northern Territory Balance



4 PRISONERS AND DETAINEES IN CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES

This section provides a description of persons under the custodial supervision of Northern Territory Correctional Services during the period from the December quarter 2005 to the December quarter 2007.

The statistics cover two areas:

- the average number of adults held in prison; and
- the average number of juveniles held in detention.

4.1 EXPLANATORY NOTES

The data used for this section was extracted from the *Northern Territory Correctional Services Monthly Daily Average Returns*.

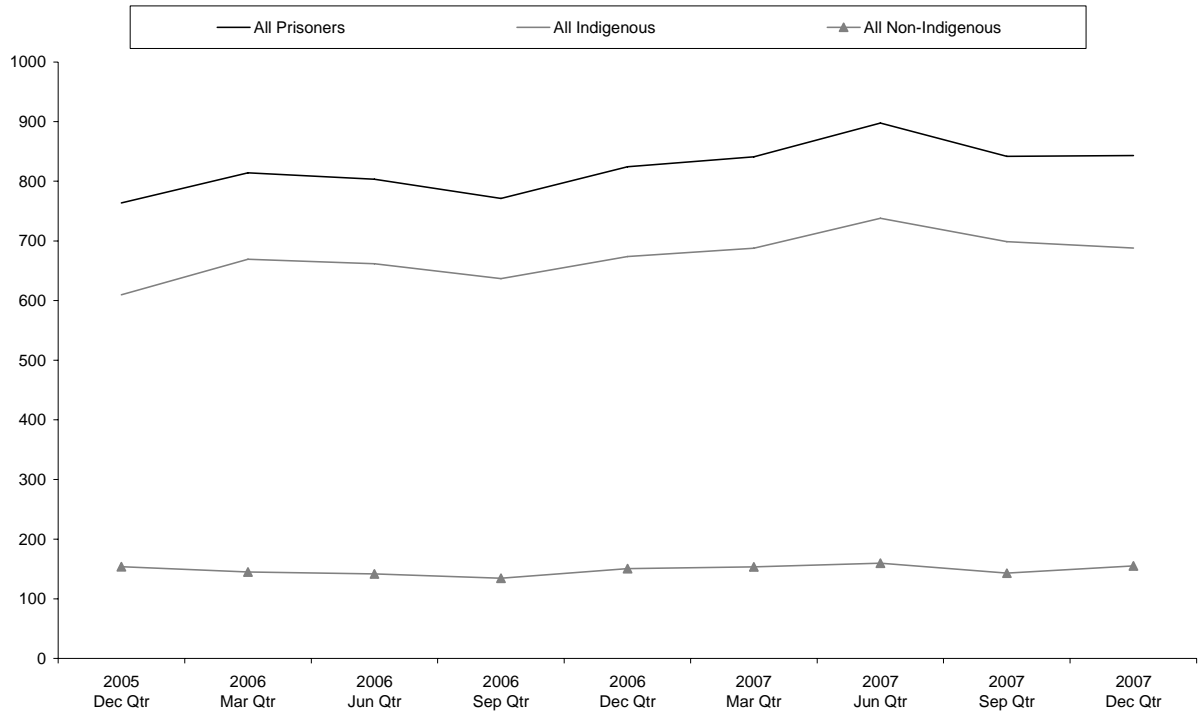
- The *quarterly daily average* is the average number of persons held in institutions per day over the stipulated three-month period. The quarterly daily averages have been rounded to the closest whole number — as a result, discrepancies may occur between the sum of component items and the total.
- *People smugglers* are foreign national persons convicted under Federal legislation for offences relating to the transport of illegal immigrants to Australia.
- *Fine defaulters* are persons who are imprisoned solely for non-payment of fines.

4.2 FINDINGS

4.2.1 Adults

- Over the past nine quarters the quarterly daily average number of prisoners has ranged between 764 and 898. In the current quarter, the daily average was 843. It increased by less than 1% (1) from the previous quarter and increased by 2% (18) from the same quarter last year.
- The daily average number of Indigenous prisoners has ranged between 610 and 738 during the past nine quarters. The current quarterly daily average number was 688, 2% (11) lower than the previous quarter but 2% (14) higher than the same quarter last year. During the current quarter, Indigenous prisoners represented 82% of the total daily average prison population.
- The daily average number of female prisoners is small compared to the number of males, representing around 4% of the total prison population during the nine-quarter reporting period. On average there were 37 female prisoners in the current quarter. This represents a decrease of 3% (1) from the previous quarter but an increase of 23% (7) from the same quarter the previous year.

Figure 70 Quarterly Daily Average Number of Adults Held in Prison



4.2.2 Juveniles

- The number of juveniles detained in the Territory is small and relatively volatile. The quarterly daily average ranged between 15 and 35 over the period December quarter 2005 to the current quarter.
- In the current quarter, the quarterly daily average number of juveniles held in detention in the Northern Territory was 25. This represents a decrease of 11% (3) from the previous quarter and a decrease of 4% (1) from the same quarter last year.
- Indigenous juveniles represented 92% (23) of the daily average detainee population in the current quarter.

Figure 71 Quarterly Daily Average Number of Juveniles Held in Detention

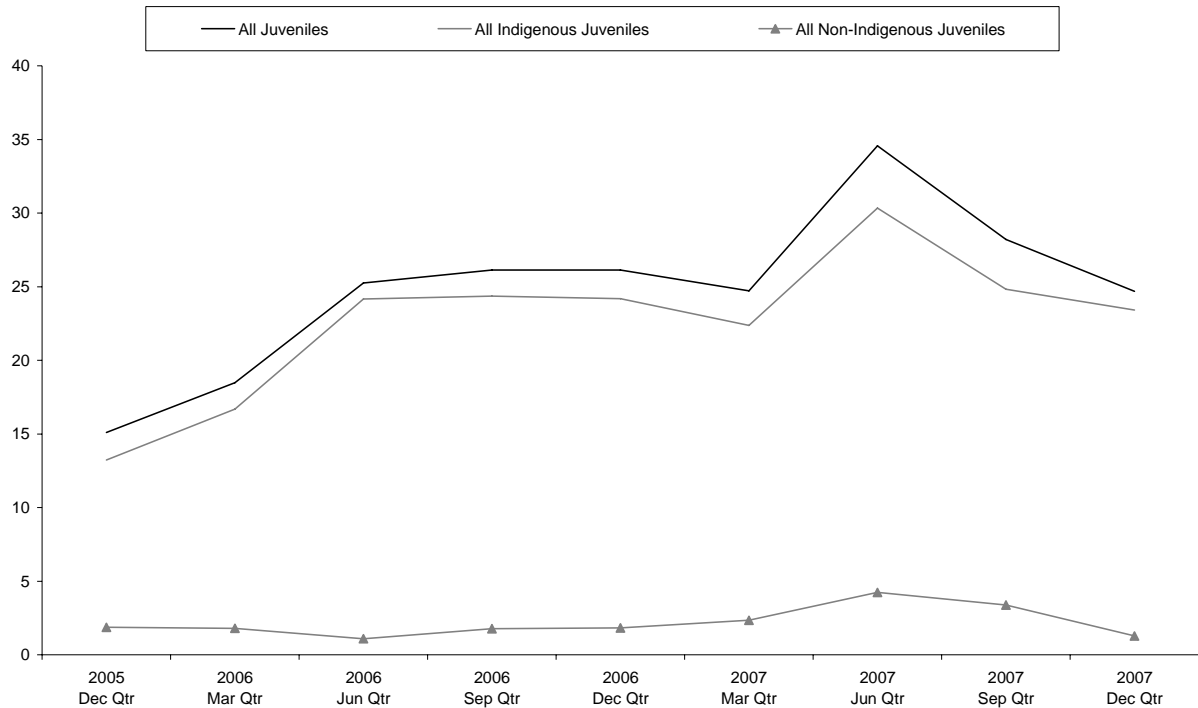


Table 9 Quarterly Daily Average Number of Adults Held in Prison

	Dec Qtr 2005	Mar Qtr 2006	Jun Qtr 2006	Sep Qtr 2006	Dec Qtr 2006	Mar Qtr 2007	Jun Qtr 2007	Sep Qtr 2007	Dec Qtr 2007
Total Number of Prisoners									
All Prisoners	764	814	804	771	825	841	898	842	843
Prisoner Gender and Ethnicity									
All Indigenous	610	669	662	637	674	688	738	699	688
All Non-Indigenous	154	145	142	134	151	153	160	143	155
All Males	737	783	770	737	795	803	857	804	806
All Females	27	31	33	34	30	38	41	38	37
Indigenous Males	590	645	638	613	653	657	705	666	657
Non-Indigenous Males	147	139	133	124	142	146	152	138	149
Indigenous Females	20	25	24	23	21	30	33	33	31
Non-Indigenous Females	7	6	9	11	8	8	8	5	6
Special Types of Offenders									
People Smugglers	2	2	2	1	2	1	2	1	1
Fine Defaulters	3	0	0	0	5	3	3	3	3

Table 10 Quarterly Daily Average Number of Juveniles Held in Detention

	Dec Qtr 2005	Mar Qtr 2006	Jun Qtr 2006	Sep Qtr 2006	Dec Qtr 2006	Mar Qtr 2007	Jun Qtr 2007	Sep Qtr 2007	Dec Qtr 2007
Total Number of Detainees									
All Detainees	15	18	25	26	26	25	35	28	25
Detainee Gender and Ethnicity									
All Indigenous	13	17	24	24	24	22	30	25	23
All Non-Indigenous	2	2	1	2	2	2	4	3	1
All Males	15	18	25	26	26	23	33	27	23
All Females	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	1	1
Indigenous Males	13	16	24	24	24	21	29	24	22
Non-Indigenous Males	2	2	1	2	2	2	4	3	1
Indigenous Females	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	1	1
Non-Indigenous Females	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

5 OUTCOMES FOR DRUG OFFENCES

This section provides information on the outcome of judicial and administrative processes relating to drug offences.

This section presents the outcome for drug offences in two parts:

- an overview of court outcomes for drug offences; and
- drug offences dealt with by *Drug Infringement Notices* in the Northern Territory.

5.1 COURT OUTCOMES

Offences reported in this section refer to illicit and licit drug offences which have been *finalised* by a court in the Northern Territory during the specified period.

5.1.1 Explanatory Notes

The data used for the table in this section was extracted from the Integrated Justice Information System.

- An *offence* reflects a distinct charge brought against an individual on the basis of relevant Northern Territory legislation. A single incident may involve multiple offences of the same or different types.
- The number of offences processed by the court does not reflect the number of individuals who appeared before the court or the number of occasions on which sentence was passed.
- The proportion of actual crime that comes before the court is unknown. Changes in the number of offences processed by the court may not reflect changes in the level of crime in the community.
- An offence is considered to be *finalised* on the first date that the court makes an order that implies a definite finding of guilt. Where a court order is appealed, the offence is not counted as finalised until the appeal is decided.
- Offences relating to licit drugs are mainly prescription fraud.
- The *principal penalty* for an offence is the court order that is perceived to be the most severe in relation to each offence.
- Principal penalties classified as *other orders* in this section include good behaviour bonds and post-court juvenile diversions.

5.1.2 Findings

Current Financial Year to Date (1 July 2007 – 31 December 2007)

A total of 361 drug offences were finalised by the courts between 1 July 2007 and 31 December 2007. The principal penalty for 7% (25) of these offences was an actual term of imprisonment, for 2% (9) a period of home detention and for another 22% (81) a fully suspended term of imprisonment was ordered. For 61% (221) of the offences, the principal penalty was a monetary order. Community work orders comprised 2% (9) of the penalties.

Court Outcomes by Offence Group

Possession and non-commercial dealing in illicit drugs accounted for 84% (302) of drug offences finalised by the courts between 1 July 2007 and 31 December 2007. Principal penalties for non-commercial dealing in illicit drugs were as follows:

- 43% of offences (55) were associated with a fully suspended term of imprisonment;
- 32% of offences (41) were associated with a monetary order;
- 9% of offences (12) were associated with an actual term of imprisonment;
- 7% of offences (9) were associated with some form of other order;
- 5% of offences (6) were associated with a community work order; and

- 4% of offences (5) were associated with a home detention order.
- Principal penalties for possession and/or use of illicit drugs were as follows:
 - 87% of offences (151) were associated with a monetary order;
 - 9% of offences (15) were associated with a fully suspended term of imprisonment;
 - 2% of offences (3) were associated with a community work order;
 - 2% of offences (3) were associated with some form of other order; and
 - 1% of offences (2) were associated with an actual term of imprisonment.

Previous Financial Year (2006-07)

A total of 754 drug offences were finalised by the courts during the 2006-07 financial year. The principal penalty for 11% (83) of these offences was an actual term of imprisonment, for 2% (13) a period of home detention and for another 18% (136) a fully suspended term of imprisonment was ordered. For 60% (456) of the offences, the principal penalty was a monetary order. Community work orders comprised 4% (33) of the penalties.

Court Outcomes by Offence Group

Possession and non-commercial dealing in illicit drugs accounted for 82% (617) of drug offences finalised by the courts during the 2006-07 financial year.

- Principal penalties for non-commercial dealing in illicit drugs were as follows:
 - 43% of offences (130) were associated with a monetary order;
 - 29% of offences (88) were associated with a fully suspended term of imprisonment;
 - 17% of offences (52) were associated with an actual term of imprisonment;
 - 4% of offences (13) were associated with some form of other order;
 - 4% of offences (12) were associated with a community work order; and
 - 2% of offences (5) were associated with a home detention order.
- Principal penalties for possession and/or use of illicit drugs were as follows:
 - 81% of offences (257) were associated with a monetary order;
 - 6% of offences (18) were associated with a fully suspended term of imprisonment;
 - 5% of offences (17) were associated with a community work order;
 - 4% of offences (13) were associated with some form of other order; and
 - 3% of offences (11) were associated with an actual term of imprisonment.

Table 11 Drug Offences Finalised by Principal Penalty

Offence Group	Imprisonment Order		Home Detention Order		Fully Suspended Imprisonment		Community Work Order		Monetary Order		Other Order		Total
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.
Current Financial Year (1 July 2007 – 31 December 2007)													
Import or Export Illicit Drugs	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	6	67%	3	33%	9
Deal or Traffic In Illicit Drugs – Non Commercial	12	9%	5	4%	55	43%	6	5%	41	32%	9	7%	128
Deal or Traffic In Illicit Drugs – Commercial	7	47%	1	7%	7	47%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	15
Manufacture or Cultivate Illicit Drugs – Non Commercial	0	0%	1	10%	2	20%	0	0%	7	70%	0	0%	10
Manufacture or Cultivate Illicit Drugs – Commercial	2	67%	1	33%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	3
Possess and/or Use Illicit Drugs	2	1%	0	0%	15	9%	3	2%	151	87%	3	2%	174
Other Drug Related Offences	2	11%	1	6%	2	11%	0	0%	13	72%	0	0%	18
Prescription Drug Offences	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	3	75%	1	25%	4
Total	25	7%	9	2%	81	22%	9	2%	221	61%	16	4%	361
Previous Financial Year (1 July 2006 - 30 June 2007)													
Import or Export Illicit Drugs	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	1	33%	2	67%	3
Deal or Traffic In Illicit Drugs – Non Commercial	52	17%	5	2%	88	29%	12	4%	130	43%	13	4%	300
Deal or Traffic In Illicit Drugs – Commercial	15	47%	5	16%	9	28%	0	0%	3	9%	0	0%	32
Manufacture or Cultivate Illicit Drugs – Non Commercial	0	0%	1	5%	8	36%	1	5%	12	55%	0	0%	22
Manufacture or Cultivate Illicit Drugs – Commercial	2	29%	0	0%	3	43%	0	0%	2	29%	0	0%	7
Possess and/or Use Illicit Drugs	11	3%	1	0%	18	6%	17	5%	257	81%	13	4%	317
Other Drug Related Offences	3	4%	1	1%	10	14%	3	4%	49	69%	5	7%	71
Prescription Drug Offences	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	2	100%	0	0%	2
Total	83	11%	13	2%	136	18%	33	4%	456	60%	33	4%	754

Source: Extracted from the Integrated Justice Information System (12 February 2008).

5.2 DRUG INFRINGEMENT NOTICES

5.2.1 Explanatory Notes

The data used for the table in this section was extracted from the Integrated Justice Information System.

- *Drug infringement notices* are summarily imposed fines that may be issued by Police for the possession or cultivation of cannabis for personal use only.
- A penalty of \$200 is payable for an offence issued with a *drug infringement notice*.

5.2.2 Findings

- A total of 107 drug infringement notices, relating to 108 separate offences, were issued during the December quarter 2007. This is 12% (15) less notices than were issued in the previous quarter, and 23% (20) more notices than were issued in the December quarter 2006.
- Possession of cannabis is the most common offence for which drug infringement notices have been issued. It constituted 99% of offences in the December quarter 2007.

Table 12 Drug Offences Processed by Infringement Notices

	Dec Qtr 2005	Mar Qtr 2006	Jun Qtr 2006	Sep Qtr 2006	Dec Qtr 2006	Mar Qtr 2007	Jun Qtr 2007	Sep Qtr 2007	Dec Qtr 2007
Number of Infringement Notices Issued	179	133	124	129	87	66	95	122	107
Drug Offences									
Possess Cannabis For Personal Use	179	130	124	127	86	64	95	121	107
Cultivation of Cannabis For Personal Use	0	4	0	3	1	2	0	1	1
Total	179	134	124	130	87	66	95	122	108

Source: Extracted from the Integrated Justice Information System (12 February 2008).

6 COURT OUTCOMES FOR AGGRAVATED PROPERTY OFFENCES

On 22 October 2001, legislation mandating prison sentences for property offences was repealed and replaced with an alternative sentencing regime for aggravated property offences.

Under the amended *Sentencing Act*, it is presumed that a person convicted for an aggravated property offence will receive at least one of the following:

- a term of imprisonment;
- a home detention order; or
- a community work order,

unless there are exceptional circumstances in relation to the offence or the offender.

6.1 EXPLANATORY NOTES

The data used for the tables in this section was extracted from the Integrated Justice Information System (IJIS).

- An *offence* reflects a distinct charge brought against an individual on the basis of relevant Northern Territory legislation. A single incident may involve multiple offences of the same or different types.
- The number of offences processed by the court does not reflect the number of individuals who appeared before the court or the number of occasions on which sentence was passed under the sentencing regime for aggravated property offences.
- The proportion of actual crime which comes before the court is unknown. Changes in the number of offences processed by the court may not reflect changes in the level of crime in the community.
- An offence is considered to be *finalised* on the first date that the court makes an order that implies a definite finding of guilt. Where a court order is appealed, the offence is not counted as finalised until the appeal is decided.
- The *principal penalty* for an offence is the court order that is perceived to be the most severe in relation to each offence.
- Principal penalties classified as *other orders* in this section include fully suspended terms of imprisonment, fines and good behaviour bonds.
- *Break-ins*, in this chapter, do not include *home invasions* and *business invasions* as these are considered separately. This differs from the chapter on offences recorded by the Police, where *home invasions* are included in *house break-ins* and *business invasions* are included in *break-ins to commercial or other premises*.
- Adults are persons who are aged 18 years or older at the time of the offence and are dealt with under the *Sentencing Act*. As juveniles are generally sentenced under the *Youth Justice Act/Juvenile Justice Act* and not the *Sentencing Act*, they are not included in these tables.

6.2 FINDINGS

Current Financial Year to Date (1 July 2007 – 31 December 2007)

A total of 257 aggravated property offences had sentences passed between 1 July 2007 and 31 December 2007.

The principal penalty for 83% (213) of these offences fell within the standard sentencing guidelines contained in the *Sentencing Act*.

In relation to 70% (179) of offences the principal penalty was an actual term of imprisonment.

Court Outcomes by Offence Group

The majority (99%) of offences dealt with under the sentencing regime for aggravated property offences were *break-ins* (166), *property damage* (51) and *unlawful use of motor vehicle* (37).

- Principal penalties for *break-ins* were as follows:
 - 73% of offences (121) were associated with an actual term of imprisonment;
 - 14% of offences (24) received orders other than those presumed in the sentencing guidelines, implying a finding of exceptional circumstances;
 - 10% of offences (16) were associated with a community work order; and
 - 3% of offences (5) were associated with a home detention order.
- Principal penalties for *property damage* were as follows:
 - 71% of offences (36) were associated with an actual term of imprisonment;
 - 20% of offences (10) received other orders, implying a finding of exceptional circumstances;
 - 8% of offences (4) were associated with a community work order; and
 - 2% of offences (1) were associated with a home detention order.
- Principal penalties for *unlawful use of a motor vehicle* were as follows:
 - 54% of offences (20) were associated with an actual term of imprisonment;
 - 24% of offences (9) received other orders, implying a finding of exceptional circumstances;
 - 16% of offences (6) were associated with a community work order; and
 - 5% of offences (2) were associated with a home detention order.

Previous Financial Year (2006-07)

A total of 520 aggravated property offences was finalised during the 2006-07 financial year.

The principal penalty for 328 (63%) of these offences was an actual term of imprisonment and for a further 103 offences (20%), the principal penalty fell within the standard sentencing guidelines contained in the *Sentencing Act*.

The principal penalty for the remaining 89 offences (17%) included fully suspended terms of imprisonment, fines and good behaviour bonds. These outcomes imply a finding of exceptional circumstances in relation to the offender or the offence.

Court Outcomes by Offence Group

The majority (96%) of offences dealt with under the sentencing regime for aggravated property offences were *break-ins* (321), *property damage* (117) and *unlawful use of motor vehicle* (60).

- Principal penalties for *break-ins* were as follows:
 - 61% of offences (196) were associated with an actual term of imprisonment;
 - 21% of offences (68) were associated with a community work order;
 - 16% of offences (52) received orders other than those presumed in the sentencing guidelines, implying a finding of exceptional circumstances; and
 - 2% of offences (5) were associated with a home detention order.
- Principal penalties for *property damage* were as follows:
 - 62% of offences (72) were associated with an actual term of imprisonment;
 - 26% of offences (31) received other orders, implying a finding of exceptional circumstances;
 - 10% of offences (12) were associated with a community work order; and
 - 2% of offences (2) were associated with a home detention order.

- Principal penalties for *unlawful use of motor vehicle* were as follows:
 - 70% of offences (42) were associated with an actual term of imprisonment;
 - 18% of offences (11) were associated with a community work order;
 - 8% of offences (5) received other orders, implying a finding of exceptional circumstances; and
 - 3% of offences (2) were associated with a home detention order.

Table 13 Aggravated Property Offences Finalised by Principal Penalty

Offence Group	Imprisonment Order		Home Detention Order		Community Work Order		Other Order		Total
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.
Current Financial Year (1 July 2007 – 31 December 2007)									
Robbery	2	67%	0	0%	0	0%	1	33%	3
Break-ins	121	73%	5	3%	16	10%	24	14%	166
Unlawful Use of Motor Vehicle	20	54%	2	5%	6	16%	9	24%	37
Home Invasion	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0
Business Invasion	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0
Property Damage	36	71%	1	2%	4	8%	10	20%	51
Total	179	70%	8	3%	26	10%	44	17%	257
Previous Financial Year (1 July 2006 - 30 June 2007)									
Robbery	15	83%	2	11%	0	0%	1	6%	18
Break-ins	196	61%	5	2%	68	21%	52	16%	321
Unlawful Use of Motor Vehicle	42	70%	2	3%	11	18%	5	8%	60
Home Invasion	1	50%	1	50%	0	0%	0	0%	2
Business Invasion	2	100%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	2
Property Damage	72	62%	2	2%	12	10%	31	26%	117
Total	328	63%	12	2%	91	18%	89	17%	520

Source: Extracted from the Integrated Justice Information System (12 February 2008).

A SUPPLEMENTARY NOTES

A.1 OFFENCES RECORDED BY THE NT POLICE

Selected Offences

This report presents information on the two categories of offence that are of high public interest: offences against the person and property offences. Within each category, statistics are presented for the following offence groups:

- **Offences Against the Person**
 - Murder
 - Attempted Murder
 - Manslaughter
 - Robbery
 - Assault
 - Sexual Assault
 - Other Offences Against the Person
- **Property Offences**
 - House Break-ins
 - Break-ins to Commercial or Other Premises
 - Motor Vehicle Theft and Related Offences
 - Other Theft
 - Property Damage
 - Other Property Offences

Regional Centres and Northern Territory Balance

Six major urban centres and the Northern Territory Balance are reported on in this report:

- Darwin
- Palmerston
- Alice Springs
- Katherine
- Tennant Creek
- Nhulunbuy
- Northern Territory Balance (includes areas outside the six major urban centres)

Unreported Offences

Recorded crime statistics can only include those offences that are known to Police. It is well understood that there is a varying degree of under reporting across different types of offences. In its *Crime and Safety Survey* publication (4509.0, April 2005) the Australian Bureau of Statistics reports that nationally 26% of *house break-ins* and 69% of *assault* offences are not reported to the Police.

The reasons crimes were not reported to Police include: the offence was perceived to be too trivial; the victim did not want the offender punished; it was thought the Police could do nothing as the matter was seen as personal; and the victim would take care of it.

As a result of under reporting it is not appropriate to interpret recorded crime figures as comprehensively representing the actual level of crime occurring in the community. However, recorded crime is adopted nationally as the best data available for measuring changes in the nature and volume of crime over time.

Recording Offences

Data presented in this section were extracted from the Police Real-time On-line Management Information System (PROMIS). The Northern Territory Police use PROMIS to record incidents that come to their attention. Subsequent inquiries by the Police determine what, if any, offences are associated with the incident and should be recorded in PROMIS.

On 30 April 2007, Northern Territory Police introduced a new version of PROMIS which enhanced members capacity to record offences.

Counting Methodology

For the selected offences of interest every distinct offence recorded in an incident in PROMIS is counted. Police jurisdictions across Australia have not adopted a standard approach to counting offences. Consequently comparisons cannot be made between the statistics published in this report and those of other jurisdictions.

Underlying Average

Statistics in the Northern Territory are often volatile with large swings in values from one period to another, particularly for small regional centres. In order to assist the reader to understand the underlying patterns in recorded crime, the Research and Statistics Unit has adopted a technique from the South Australian Office of Crime Statistics and Research, known as *underlying averages* (also referred to as *fluctuating averages*).

The underlying average is based on the average of five or more observations in a time series; the actual number of observations depending on how far into the series a *break* occurs. A break occurs at a data point if the next five successive observations take higher or lower values than the average calculated to that point. The underlying average will then take the value of the average of the observations from the first point after the break to the next break point, or the end of the time series, whichever comes first.

The underlying average is calculated from the 1 September 2000 to provide a consistent base across publications.

The underlying average provides a simplified graphical presentation of time series data by defining points of change in the average value of a time series.

The range of the underlying average for an offence is defined by its maximum and minimum values over the period in question. If the underlying average value for an offence is in the bottom 25% of the range it is *at the lower end of the range*. If it is in the top 25% it is *at the higher end of the range*. All values in between are *in the middle of the range*. The underlying average values are rounded to the nearest whole number before the maximum and minimum range is calculated to enhance readability.

Trend Analysis

The Kendall rank-order correlation test was used to detect the presence of any upward or downward trends in recorded crime levels in the last 12 months data. The tests were performed at the 95% confidence level.

The Kendall rank-order correlation test is a statistical tool that is widely used by academic and research organisations. The New South Wales Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research (BOCSAR) has used the Kendall rank-order correlation test to detect the presence of trends in recorded crime levels for a number of years. The Research and Statistics Unit has used computer procedures kindly provided by BOCSAR to implement the Kendall test.

A.2 PRISONERS AND DETAINEES IN CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES

Quarterly Daily Average

The average number of persons held in correctional institutions per day over the stipulated three month period. The quarterly daily averages have been rounded to the closest whole number. As a result, discrepancies may occur between the sum of component items and the total.

People Smugglers

Foreign national persons convicted under Federal legislation for offences relating to the transport of illegal immigrants to Australia. The Northern Territory prison population experienced an influx of people smugglers in late 1999. Since the end of 2002 the number of people smugglers has been falling.

A.3 OUTCOMES FOR DRUG OFFENCES

Offences

An offence reflects a distinct charge brought against an individual on the basis of relevant federal and Northern Territory legislation. A single incident may involve multiple offences of the same or different types.

The number of offences processed by the court does not reflect the number of individuals who appeared before the court, the number of occasions on which sentence was passed or the level of crime in the community.

Offence Groups

Offence Groups reported are based mainly on the interpretation of the *Commonwealth Customs Act*, the *Misuse of Drugs Act*, the *Kava Management Act*, and the *Poisons and Dangerous Drugs Act*. Offence groups are detailed below.

Import or Export Illicit Drugs

Relates mainly to three offences, namely, "Import narcotic goods, namely heroin", "Import a prohibited import" and "Attempt to export a prohibited export", in the *Commonwealth Customs Act*.

Deal or Traffic in Illicit Drugs - Non-Commercial

Relates to offences such as the possession, supply or purchase of prohibited drugs of a non-commercial quantity, mainly from the *Misuse of Drugs Act*. It also includes offences from the *Kava Management Act*, the *Poisons and Dangerous Drugs Act* and the *Commonwealth Crimes Act*.

Deal or Traffic in Illicit Drugs - Commercial

Relates to offences such as the possession, supply or purchase of prohibited drugs of a commercial quantity, mainly from the *Misuse of Drugs Act*, some offences from the *Kava Management Act* and the *Poisons and Dangerous Drugs Act*.

Manufacture or Cultivate Illicit Drugs - Non-Commercial

Relates to offences such as the production, manufacturing and cultivation of a non-commercial quantity of prohibited drugs. Offences mainly relate to the *Misuse of Drugs Act*, the *Kava Management Act* and the *Poisons and Dangerous Drugs Act*.

Manufacture or Cultivate Illicit Drugs - Commercial

Relates to offences such as the production, manufacturing and cultivation of a commercial quantity of prohibited drugs. Offences mainly relate to the *Misuse of Drugs Act*, the *Kava Management Act* and the *Poisons and Dangerous Drugs Act*.

Possess and/or Use Illicit Drugs

Relates to offences such as the personal use, possession and administering of prohibited drugs, mainly from the *Misuse of Drugs Act*, the *Kava Management Act*, the *Poisons and Dangerous Drugs Act* and the *Commonwealth Customs Act*.

Other Drug Related Offences

Relates to offences such as stealing or receiving prohibited drugs, possession/supply of drug use equipment (eg. syringe), supply of volatile substances (petrol, glue) and failure to dispose of a syringe in a prescribed manner. It also includes possession of precursors, equipment and information for the manufacture of prohibited drugs. Offences mainly relate to the *Misuse of Drugs Act* and the *Poisons and Dangerous Drugs Act*.

Prescription Drug Offences

Relates to offences such as prescription drug fraud (for example forging or altering a prescription, or supplying prescribed substances without a prescription), mainly from the *Misuse of Drugs Act* and *Poisons and Dangerous Drugs Act*.

Final Orders

Final orders are defined as court orders that imply a finding of guilt and carry an associated penalty for any offence. More than one final order may apply to any offence. Combinations of final orders are classified to determine the principal penalty for an offence.

The order(s) used in the analysis are all final orders made on the first occasion that a final order was made with respect to an offence. Thus, if a person receives a community work order for an offence and is later imprisoned for failure to perform duties required under the order, the principal penalty reported will remain a community work order.

Principal Penalty

The principal penalty applying to an offence is the court final order that is perceived to be the most severe in relation to each offence. The comparative severity of court penalties is based on the sentencing legislation applying to drug offences.

The Principal Penalties reported are:

- **Imprisonment**
An actual term of imprisonment or a term of imprisonment that is partially suspended (if the conditions set by the court are satisfied).
- **Home Detention Order**
Confinement to a residence within the hours specified by the court order. It may be combined with fully suspended imprisonment orders.
- **Fully Suspended Imprisonment**
A term of imprisonment that is fully suspended as long as conditions set by the court are satisfied.
- **Community Work Order**
Compulsory participation in an approved project for up to 480 hours, with or without a fully suspended imprisonment order.
- **Monetary Order**
Orders involving financial penalties, including fines, restitution orders and levies.
- **Other Order**
All other final orders, including good behaviour bonds and post-court juvenile diversions.

A.4 COURT OUTCOMES FOR AGGRAVATED PROPERTY OFFENCES

Offences

An offence reflects a distinct charge brought against an individual on the basis of relevant Northern Territory legislation. A single incident may involve multiple offences of the same or different types.

The number of offences processed by the court may not reflect the number of individuals who appeared before the court, the number of occasions on which sentence was passed or the level of crime in the community.

Offence Groups

Offence groups reported are based on the interpretation of “aggravated property offence” as defined in section 3 of the *Sentencing Amendment Act*.

The aggravated property offence groups reported in this report are detailed below. All definitions refer to the *Criminal Code Act*.

Robbery

A broad category involving theft of property with the use or threat of immediate force: includes offences against sections 211 (robbery) and 212 (assault with intent to steal).

Break-ins

Unlawful Entry with Intent – unlawful entry to a premises with intent to commit an offence: includes offences against sections 213 (unlawful entry of buildings) and 215 (persons found armed with intent to unlawfully enter buildings), including attempts to commit offences against section 213.

Break-ins, in this chapter, do not include *home invasions* and *business invasions* as these are considered separately. This differs from the chapter on offences recorded by the Police, where *home invasions* are included in *house break-ins* and *business invasions* are included in *break-ins to commercial or other premises*.

Unlawful Use of Motor Vehicle

The taking of a vehicle illegally and without permission, with the intent of depriving the owner or possessor of its use: includes offences against section 218(2) (aggravated unlawful use of vessel, motor vehicle, caravan or trailer) where the offence causes injury or danger to the public, the vehicle is valued at \$20,000 or more or other aggravating circumstances.

Home Invasion

Unlawful entry of a dwelling and causing serious damage: includes offences against section 226(B)(1)&(3) where the offence is of a serious nature or damage caused is greater than \$5,000.

Business invasion

Unlawful entry of a business premises and causing serious damage: includes offences against section 226(B)(2)&(3) where the offence is of a serious nature or damage caused is greater than \$5,000.

Property Damage

The wilful and unlawful destruction, damage or defacement of property (including vandalism, graffiti and interfere with a motor vehicle causing damage): includes offences against section 251(2) (criminal damage in general) where the damage caused is greater than \$5,000, or is 50% or more of the value of the motor vehicle or was done during the commission of another crime.

Final Orders

Final orders are defined as court orders that imply a finding of guilt and carry an associated penalty for any offence. More than one final order may apply to any offence. Combinations of final orders are classified to determine the principal penalty for an offence.

The order(s) used in the analysis are all final orders made on the first occasion that a final order was made with respect to an offence. Thus, if a person receives a community work order for an offence and is later imprisoned for failure to perform duties required under the order, the principal penalty reported will remain a community work order.

Principal Penalty

The principal penalty applying to an offence is the court order that is perceived to be the most severe in relation to each offence. The comparative severity of court penalties is based on the sentencing legislation applying to aggravated property offences. All court penalties not “presumed” for aggravated property offences are classified as “Other” orders.

The principal penalties reported are:

- **Imprisonment**
An actual term of imprisonment or a term of imprisonment that is partially suspended if conditions set by the court are satisfied.
- **Home Detention**
Confinement to a residence within the hours specified by the court order, alone and when combined with fully suspended imprisonment orders.
- **Community Work Order**
Compulsory participation in an approved project for up to 480 hours, with or without a fully suspended imprisonment order.
- **Other Order**
All other final orders, including fully suspended imprisonment orders not combined with home detention or community work orders. “Other” orders include fully suspended terms of imprisonment, monetary orders and good behaviour bonds.

B GLOSSARY

Aggravated Property Offence	An offence defined to be an 'aggravated property offence' in s. 3 of the <i>Sentencing Act</i> .
Assault	Common assault and aggravated assault where the assault is of a non-sexual nature.
Attempted Murder	Attempted, unlawful intentional killing of another person, where death did not actually result.
Break-ins	Unlawful entry with intent of dwellings and other premises. Referred to as 'Unlawful Entry With Intent' in previous issues. See also: Break-ins to Commercial and Other Premises; Business Invasion; Home Invasion; House Break-ins.
Break-ins to Commercial or Other Premises	Unlawful entry with or without intent to commit an offence where the premises entered is not a dwelling (includes business invasion offences, excludes trespassing).
Business Invasion	Unlawful entry of a business premises where damage caused is of a serious nature, or in excess of \$5,000 in value.
Community Work Order	An order of the Court specifying compulsory participation in an approved project for up to 480 hours.
Deal or Traffic in Illicit Drugs – Commercial	Includes offences relating to the supply, purchase and possession of illicit drugs of a quantity large enough for it to be deemed a commercial activity.
Deal or Traffic in Illicit Drugs – Non-Commercial	Includes offences relating to the supply and purchase of illicit drugs where the amount involved is deemed to be of a quantity for personal use rather than commercial activity.
Drug Infringement Notice	An on-the-spot fine for possession or cultivation of cannabis for personal use.
Fine Defaulters	Persons who are imprisoned solely for non-payment of fines.
Home Detention Order	An order of the Court specifying confinement to a residence within hours specified by the order. A home detention order may be made for a period of up to 12 months.
Home Invasion	Unlawful entry of a dwelling where damage caused is of a serious nature, or in excess of \$5,000 in value.
Homicide and Related Offences	The killing of a person and related offences, includes murder, manslaughter, attempted murder and driving causing death.

House Break-ins	Unlawful entry with or without intent to commit an offence where the premises entered is a dwelling (includes home invasion, excludes trespassing). Commonly referred to as break and enter, burglary or unlawful entry.
Import or Export Illicit Drugs	Includes offences related to the importing and exporting of narcotic goods.
Imprisonment Order	An order of the Court specifying a period of confinement to a gazetted prison.
Incident	An event where an offence may have been committed.
Kendall Rank-Order Correlation Test	A statistical technique used to detect the presence of trends.
Manslaughter	Unlawful killing of another person without the intent to kill or with impaired capacity of one's mind.
Manufacture or Cultivate Illicit Drugs – Commercial	Includes offences relating to the production, manufacture and cultivation of prohibited drugs of a commercial quantity.
Manufacture or Cultivate Illicit Drugs – Non-Commercial	Includes offences relating to the production, manufacture and cultivation of prohibited drugs of a non-commercial quantity.
Monetary Order	An order of the Court specifying financial penalties, including fines, restitution and levies.
Motor Vehicle Theft and Related Offences	Includes unlawful use of motor vehicle, theft of a motor vehicle and theft from a motor vehicle.
Murder	Unlawful intentional killing of another person.
Northern Territory Balance	The Northern Territory Balance is the area of the Northern Territory that lies outside of the six major urban centres of Darwin, Palmerston, Alice Springs, Katherine, Tennant Creek and Nhulunbuy.
Offence	An act considered by the Northern Territory Police to be in conflict with the criminal law.
Other Drug Related Offences	Includes offences such as stealing or receiving prohibited drugs, possession/supply of drug use equipment (eg. syringe), supply of volatile substance (petrol, glue), or failure to dispose of a syringe in a prescribed manner. It also includes possession of precursors, equipment and information for the manufacture of prohibited drugs.
Other Offences Against the Person	Includes abduction and kidnapping, acts intended to cause injury, non-assaultive sexual offences, blackmail and extortion.
Other Property Offences	Includes receiving, handling, or processing goods or money obtained illegally.

Other Theft	A broad category involving theft without the use of force. Includes offences such as stealing and shoplifting.
People Smugglers	Foreign national persons convicted under Federal legislation for offences relating to the transport of illegal immigrants to Australia.
Possess and/or Use Illicit Drugs	Includes offences relating to the personal use, possession and administering of prohibited drugs.
Prescription Drug Offences	Mainly prescription drug fraud, for example forging or altering a prescription, or supplying prescribed substances without a prescription.
Principal Penalty	The most serious court first final order applying to an offence.
Property Damage	The unlawful destruction, damage, or defacement of property: includes vandalism, graffiti and interfering with a motor vehicle causing damage.
Quarterly Daily Average Prison/Detention Population	The average number of persons held in adult/juvenile correctional institutions per day over the stipulated three-month period.
Robbery	A broad category involving theft of property with the use or threat of immediate force.
Sexual Assault	Aggravated and non-aggravated assault of a sexual nature. Includes incest and rape.
Unlawful Use of Motor Vehicle	The taking of a vehicle illegally and without permission, with the intent of depriving the owner or possessor of its use.