

# **Northern Territory Quarterly Crime & Justice Statistics**

**Issue 23: March Quarter 2008**





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## Issue 23: March Quarter 2008

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Produced by:

Research and Statistics Unit

Department of Justice

GPO Box 1722

DARWIN NT 0801

Telephone: (08) 8935 7446

Website: [www.nt.gov.au/justice](http://www.nt.gov.au/justice)



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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-third in a series of quarterly reports and presents important crime and justice statistics relating to the Northern Territory. This publication covers the period March Quarter 2006 to the March Quarter 2008, 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](http://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 1372; *assault* accounted for 91% and *sexual assault* 6%. The remaining offences were *robbery*, *other offences against the person* and *murder*. There were no recorded offences relating to *attempted murder* and *manslaughter*.

- The underlying average level of *assault* has ranged between 328 and 463 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 463 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 2).

There were 1250 *assault* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents a decrease of 14% (196) from the previous quarter and a decrease of 3% (43) 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 12% (10) from the previous quarter and a decrease of 10% (8) from the same quarter the previous year.

##### Property Offences

In the current quarter, the total number of recorded property offences was 5955; *property damage* accounted for 38% 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 143 and 173 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 143 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 6).

There were 561 *house break-ins* recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 38% (153) from the previous quarter and an increase of 7% (35) from the same quarter the previous year.

- The underlying average level of *break-ins to commercial or other premises* has ranged between 130 and 166 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 166 per month is at the higher end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average remained stable. A statistically significant upward trend was identified (refer Figure 7).

There were 634 *break-ins to commercial or other premises* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 30% (146) from the previous quarter and an increase of 30% (145) from the same quarter the previous year.

- The underlying average level of *motor vehicle theft and related offences* has ranged between 106 and 157 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 157 per month is at the higher end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average remained stable (refer Figure 8).

There were 546 *motor vehicle theft and related offences* recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 13% (61) from the previous quarter and an increase of 63% (210) from the same quarter the previous year.

- The underlying average level of *other theft* has ranged between 599 and 705 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 599 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 9).

There were 1936 *other theft* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 7% (128) from the previous quarter, but a decrease of 4% (75) from the same quarter the previous year.

- The underlying average level of *property damage* has ranged between 616 and 679 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 675 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 10).

There were 2260 *property damage* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 15% (291) from the previous quarter and an increase of 11% (215) from the same quarter the previous year.

## 2.1.2 Darwin

### Offences Against the Person

In the current quarter, a total of 388 offences against the person were recorded in Darwin; *assault* accounted for 90% and *sexual assault* 5%. The remaining offences were *robbery* and *other offences against the person*. There were no recorded offences relating to *murder*, *attempted murder* or *manslaughter*.

- The underlying average level of *assault* has ranged between 82 and 136 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 136 per month is at the higher end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average remained stable (refer Figure 12).

There were 350 *assault* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents a decrease of 16% (67) from the previous quarter, but an increase of 25% (69) from the same quarter the previous year.

- The underlying average level of *sexual assault* has ranged between 8 and 10 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 13).

There were 21 *sexual assault* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents a decrease of 16% (4) from the previous quarter and a decrease of 32% (10) from the same quarter the previous year.

### Property Offences

In the current quarter, the total number of recorded property offences in Darwin was 2823; *property damage* accounted for 38% and *other theft* 33%. The remaining offences were *house break-ins*, *motor vehicle theft and related offences*, *break-ins to commercial or other premises* and *other property offences*.

- The underlying average level of *house break-ins* has ranged between 53 and 86 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 85 per month is at the higher end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average decreased early in the period and increased in the middle of the period (refer Figure 16).

There were 299 *house break-ins* recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 44% (91) from the previous quarter and an increase of 13% (34) from the same quarter the previous year.

- The underlying average level of *break-ins to commercial or other premises* has ranged between 40 and 64 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 64 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 249 *break-ins to commercial or other premises* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 28% (54) from the previous quarter and an increase of 45% (77) from the same quarter the previous year.

- The underlying average level of *motor vehicle theft and related offences* has ranged between 56 and 81 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 81 per month is at the higher end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average remained stable (refer Figure 18).

There were 282 *motor vehicle theft and related offences* recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 19% (46) from the previous quarter and an increase of 57% (102) from the same quarter the previous year.

- The underlying average level of *other theft* has ranged between 301 and 347 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 301 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 926 *other theft* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents a decrease of 1% (9) from the previous quarter and a decrease of 2% (20) from the same quarter the previous year.

- The underlying average level of *property damage* has ranged between 274 and 347 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 329 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 20).

There were 1064 *property damage* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 15% (141) from the previous quarter and an increase of 10% (97) 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 86; *assault* accounted for 86% and *sexual assault* 9%. The remaining offences were *robbery* and *other offences against the person*. There were no offences recorded relating to *murder*, *attempted murder* or *manslaughter*.

- The underlying average level of *assault* has ranged between 19 and 32 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 24 per month is in the middle of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average decreased in the middle of the period (refer Figure 22).

There were 74 *assault* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents a decrease of 18% (16) from the previous quarter and a decrease of 21% (20) from the same quarter the previous year.

#### Property Offences

In the current quarter, the total number of recorded property offences in Palmerston was 860; *property damage* accounted for 38% and *other theft* 32%. The remaining offences were *motor vehicle theft and related offences*, *house break-ins* and *break-ins to commercial or other premises*. There were no offences recorded relating to *other property offences*.

- 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 22 per month is in the middle of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average remained stable (refer Figure 24).

There were 90 *house break-ins* recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 96% (44) from the previous quarter and an increase of 25% (18) from the same quarter the previous year.

- The underlying average level of *break-ins to commercial or other premises* has ranged between 11 and 20 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 20 per month is at the higher end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average remained stable (refer Figure 25).

There were 67 *break-ins to commercial or other premises* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 12% (7) from the previous quarter and an increase of 60% (25) from the same quarter the previous year.

- The underlying average level of *motor vehicle theft and related offences* has ranged between 13 and 32 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 32 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 (refer Figure 26).

There were 103 *motor vehicle theft and related offences* recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 34% (26) from the previous quarter and an increase of 164% (64) from the same quarter the previous year.

- The underlying average level of *other theft* has remained stable at 75 offences per month during the past nine quarters (refer Figure 27).

There were 273 *other theft* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 45% (85) from the previous quarter and an increase of 6% (16) from the same quarter the previous year.

- The underlying average level of *property damage* has ranged between 53 and 85 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 85 per month is at the higher end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average remained stable. A statistically significant upward trend was identified (refer Figure 28).

There were 327 *property damage* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 30% (75) from the previous quarter and an increase of 37% (88) 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 294; *assault* accounted for 92%. The remaining offences included *sexual assault*, *robbery* and *other offences against the person*. There were no offences recorded relating to *murder*, *attempted murder* or *manslaughter*.

- The underlying average level of *assault* has ranged between 63 and 102 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 96 per month is at the higher end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average decreased early in the period and increased in the middle of the period (refer Figure 30).
- There were 271 *assault* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents a decrease of 12% (36) from the previous quarter and a decrease of 14% (43) from the same quarter the previous year.

### Property Offences

In the current quarter, the total number of recorded property offences in Alice Springs was 945; *property damage* accounted for 45% and *other theft* 29%. 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 22 per month is in the middle of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average increased in the middle of the period (refer Figure 33).

There were 65 *house break-ins* recorded in the current quarter. This represents a decrease of 6% (4) from the previous quarter, but an increase of 2% (1) from the same quarter the previous year.

- The underlying average level of *break-ins to commercial or other premises* has ranged between 20 and 34 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 28 per month is in the middle of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average decreased early in the period (refer Figure 34).

There were 112 *break-ins to commercial or other premises* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 56% (40) from the previous quarter and an increase of 4% (4) from the same quarter the previous year.

- The underlying average level of *motor vehicle theft and related offences* has ranged between 15 and 23 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 23 per month is at the higher end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average remained stable (refer Figure 35).

There were 63 *motor vehicle theft and related offences* recorded in the current quarter. This represents a decrease of 7% (5) from the previous quarter, but an increase of 15% (8) from the same quarter the previous year.

- The underlying average level of *other theft* has ranged between 79 and 121 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 94 per month is in the middle of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average decreased early in the period and increased in the middle of the period (refer Figure 36).

There were 275 *other theft* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents a decrease of 3% (9) from the previous quarter and a decrease of 25% (90) from the same quarter the previous year.

- The underlying average level of *property damage* has ranged between 116 and 147 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 129 per month is in the middle of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average decreased early in the period (refer Figure 37).

There were 426 *property damage* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 14% (52) from the previous quarter, but a decrease of 6% (27) 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 129; *assault* accounted for 95%. The remaining offences were *sexual assault*, *robbery*, *murder* and *other offences against the person*. There were no recorded offences relating to *attempted murder* or *manslaughter*.

- The underlying average level of *assault* has ranged between 39 and 47 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 47 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 39).

There were 122 *assault* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents a decrease of 19% (29) from the previous quarter and a decrease of 19% (28) from the same quarter the previous year.

### Property Offences

In the current quarter, the total number of recorded property offences in Katherine was 285; *other theft* accounted for 39% and *property damage* 34%. 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 4 and 12 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 4 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 41).

There were 15 *house break-ins* recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 7% (1) from the previous quarter, but a decrease of 59% (22) from the same quarter the previous year.

- The underlying average level of *break-ins to commercial or other premises* has ranged between 7 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 increased early in the period (refer Figure 42).

There were 39 *break-ins to commercial or other premises* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents a decrease of 9% (4) from the previous quarter, but an increase of 30% (9) 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 20 *motor vehicle theft and related offences* recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 33% (5) from the previous quarter and an increase of 54% (7) from the same quarter the previous year.

- The underlying average level of *other theft* has ranged between 35 and 42 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 35 per month is at the lower end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average remained stable (refer Figure 44).

There were 112 *other theft* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 5% (5) from the previous quarter, but a decrease of 19% (27) from the same quarter the previous year.

- The underlying average level of *property damage* 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 increased early in the period (refer Figure 45).

There were 98 *property damage* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 3% (3) from the previous quarter and an increase of 4% (4) 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 134; *assault* accounted for 95%. The remaining offences were *sexual assault, other offences against the person* and *robbery*. There were no offences recorded relating to *murder, attempted murder* or *manslaughter*.

- The underlying average level of *assault* has ranged between 32 and 43 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 43 per month is at the higher end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average remained stable (refer Figure 47).

There were 127 *assault* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents a decrease of 6% (8) from the previous quarter, but an increase of 2% (2) from the same quarter the previous year.

### Property Offences

In the current quarter, the total number of recorded property offences in Tennant Creek was 205; *property damage* accounted for 47% and *other theft* 29%. 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 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 12 *house break-ins* recorded in the current quarter. This represents a decrease of 52% (13) from the previous quarter and a decrease of 14% (2) from the same quarter the previous year.

- The underlying average level of *break-ins to commercial or other premises* has ranged between 5 and 11 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 6 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 50).

There were 28 *break-ins to commercial or other premises* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 87% (13) from the previous quarter, but a decrease of 7% (2) from the same quarter the previous year.

- The underlying average level of *motor vehicle theft and related offences* has ranged between 1 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 increased in the middle of the period (refer Figure 51).

There were 8 *motor vehicle theft and related offences* recorded in the current quarter. There were no changes from the previous quarter, but an increase of 6 offences 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 18 per month is in the middle of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average decreased early in the period (refer Figure 52).

There were 59 *other theft* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 16% (8) from the previous quarter and an increase of 2% (1) from the same quarter the previous year.

- The underlying average level of *property damage* has ranged between 20 and 28 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 28 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 53).

There were 96 *property damage* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 33% (24) from the previous quarter and an increase of 71% (40) 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 36; *assault* accounted for 89%. 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 12 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 12 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 32 *assault* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents a decrease of 22% (9) from the previous quarter and a decrease of 24% (10) from the same quarter the previous year.

### Property Offences

In the current quarter, the total number of recorded property offences in Nhulunbuy was 77; *property damage* accounted for 40% and *other theft* 38%. The remaining offences were *motor vehicle theft and related offences, break-ins to commercial or other premises* and *house break-ins*. There were no offences relating to *other property offences*.

- The underlying average level of *house break-ins* has ranged between 1 and 2 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 1 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 57).

There were 2 *house break-ins* recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 1 offence from the previous quarter, but a decrease of 5 offences 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 7 *break-ins to commercial or other premises* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents a decrease of 2 offences from the previous quarter and a decrease of 1 offence 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 29 *other theft* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 4% (1) offence from the previous quarter, but no changes 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 31 *property damage* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents a decrease of 6% (2) from the previous quarter, but no changes 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 305; *assault* accounted for 90%. 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 remained stable at 100 offences per month during the past nine quarters (refer Figure 62).

There were 274 *assault* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents a decrease of 10% (31) from the previous quarter and a decrease of 5% (13) 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 760; *other theft* accounted for 34% and *property damage* 29%. 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 23 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 20 per month is in the middle of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average increased early in the period (refer Figure 65).

There were 78 *house break-ins* recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 73% (33) from the previous quarter and an increase of 16% (11) 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 38 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 (refer Figure 66).

There were 132 *break-ins to commercial or other premises* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 40% (38) from the previous quarter and an increase of 33% (33) from the same quarter the previous year.

- The underlying average level of *motor vehicle theft and related offences* has ranged between 12 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 remained stable (refer Figure 67).

There were 62 *motor vehicle theft and related offences* recorded in the current quarter. This represents a decrease of 15% (11) from the previous quarter, but an increase of 38% (17) from the same quarter the previous year.

- The underlying average level of *other theft* has remained stable at 76 offences per month during the past nine quarters (refer Figure 68).

There were 262 *other theft* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 22% (47) from the previous quarter and an increase of 21% (45) from the same quarter the previous year.

- The underlying average level of *property damage* has ranged between 67 and 77 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 73 per month is in the middle 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 (refer Figure 69).

There were 218 *property damage* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents a decrease of less than one percent (2) from the previous quarter, but an increase of 6% (13) 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 896 during the current quarter. This represents an increase of 6% (53) from the previous quarter and an increase of 7% (55) from the same quarter the previous year.
- Indigenous prisoners currently represent 82% (737) of the daily average prison population. The current daily average of 737 was 7% (49) higher than the previous quarter and 7% (49) higher than the same quarter last year.
- The daily average number of juvenile detainees was 27 in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 8% (2) from the previous quarter and an increase of 8% (2) from the same quarter the previous year.

## 2.3 OUTCOMES FOR DRUG OFFENCES

- Sentences were passed for 529 drug offences during the first nine 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 47% (246) and the non-commercial dealing in illicit drugs 33% (175).
  - A monetary order was the most common principal penalty accounting for 63% (331) of the drug offences which had sentences passed. A term of imprisonment (actual or fully suspended) or home detention was ordered for 31% (163) 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 112 drug infringement notices, relating to 112 separate offences, were issued during the March quarter 2008. This is 4% (4) more notices than were issued in the previous quarter and 70% (46) more notices than were issued in the March quarter 2007.
  - Possession of cannabis is the most common offence for which drug infringement notices have been issued (97% of offences in the March quarter 2008).

## **2.4 COURT OUTCOMES FOR AGGRAVATED PROPERTY OFFENCES**

- A total of 406 aggravated property offences had sentences passed between 1 July 2007 and 31 March 2008, of which the most prevalent offence group was *break-ins* (62%).
  - The principal penalty for 81% (327) 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 March quarter 2006 to the March quarter 2008.

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 May 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.

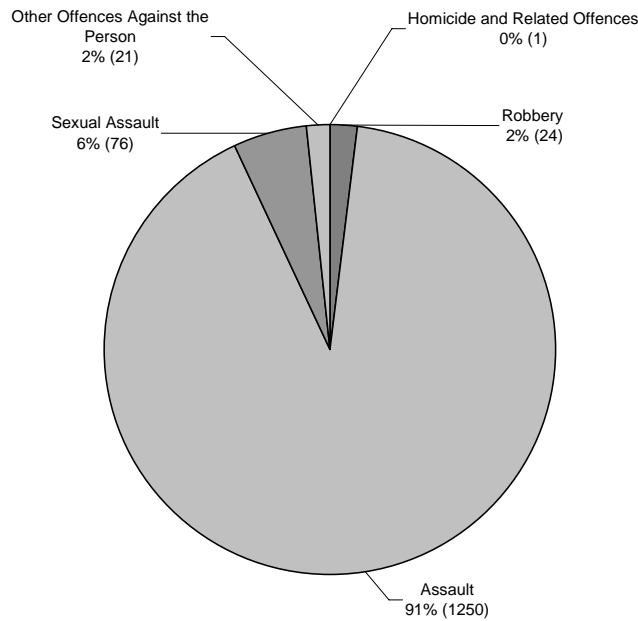
**Table 1 Recorded Offences in the Northern Territory**

	Mar	Jun	Sep	Dec	Mar	Jun	Sep	Dec	Mar
	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr
	2006	2006	2006	2006	2007	2007	2007	2007	2008
<b>Offences Against The Person</b>									
Homicide and Related Offences									
Murder	4	1	1	5	2	6	4	2	1
Attempted Murder	1	1	2	0	1	3	1	0	0
Manslaughter	1	1	0	2	1	0	2	2	0
Robbery	19	21	22	19	27	29	30	26	24
Assault	1285	1030	992	1202	1293	1371	1447	1446	1250
Sexual Assault	92	68	102	102	84	100	92	86	76
Other Offences Against the Person	27	30	32	25	20	27	40	36	21
<b>Total</b>	<b>1429</b>	<b>1152</b>	<b>1151</b>	<b>1355</b>	<b>1428</b>	<b>1536</b>	<b>1616</b>	<b>1598</b>	<b>1372</b>
<b>Property Offences</b>									
Break-ins									
House	531	526	487	500	526	455	347	408	561
Commercial or Other Premises	457	384	431	379	489	465	418	488	634
Motor Vehicle Theft and Related Offences	401	381	351	286	336	478	454	485	546
Other Theft	2124	1986	2006	1970	2011	1880	1645	1808	1936
Property Damage	2091	1778	1892	1783	2045	1947	1945	1969	2260
Other Property Offences	34	36	16	23	24	24	25	23	18
<b>Total</b>	<b>5638</b>	<b>5091</b>	<b>5183</b>	<b>4941</b>	<b>5431</b>	<b>5249</b>	<b>4834</b>	<b>5181</b>	<b>5955</b>

## Offences Against the Person

- In the current quarter, a total of 1372 offences against the person were recorded in the Territory. This represents a decrease of 14% (226) from the previous quarter and a decrease of 4% (56) 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* 6%, *robbery* and *other offences against the person* at 2% each and *murder* less than 1%. There were no recorded offences relating to *attempted murder* and *manslaughter*.

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

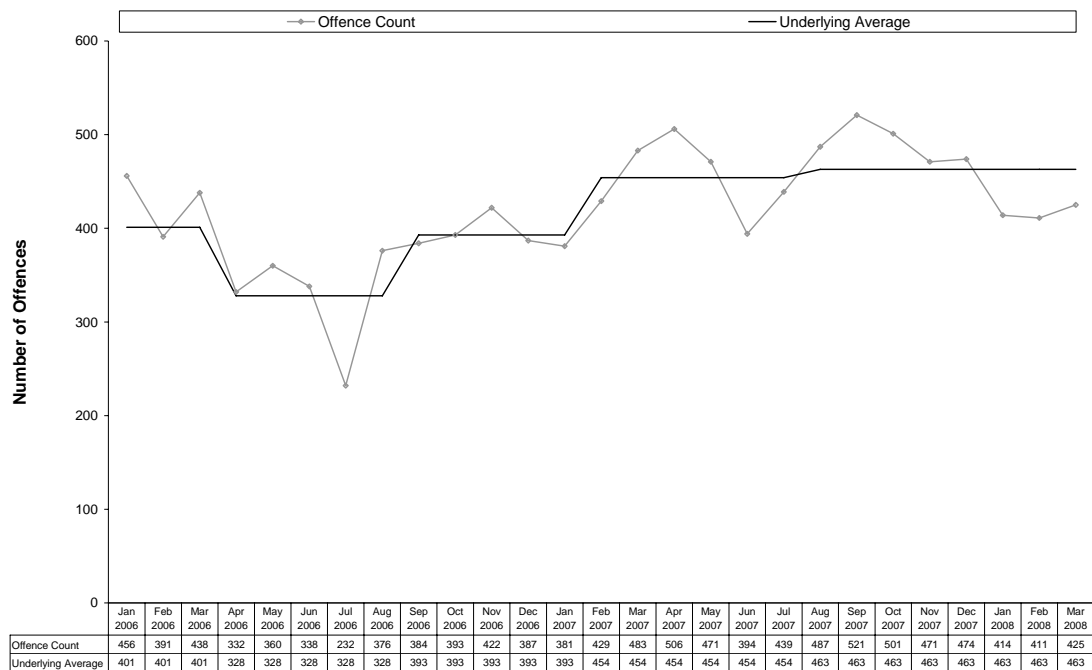




### Assault

- The figure shows the underlying average level of *assault* has ranged between 328 and 463 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 463 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 1250 *assault* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents a decrease of 14% (196) from the previous quarter and a decrease of 3% (43) from the same quarter the previous year.

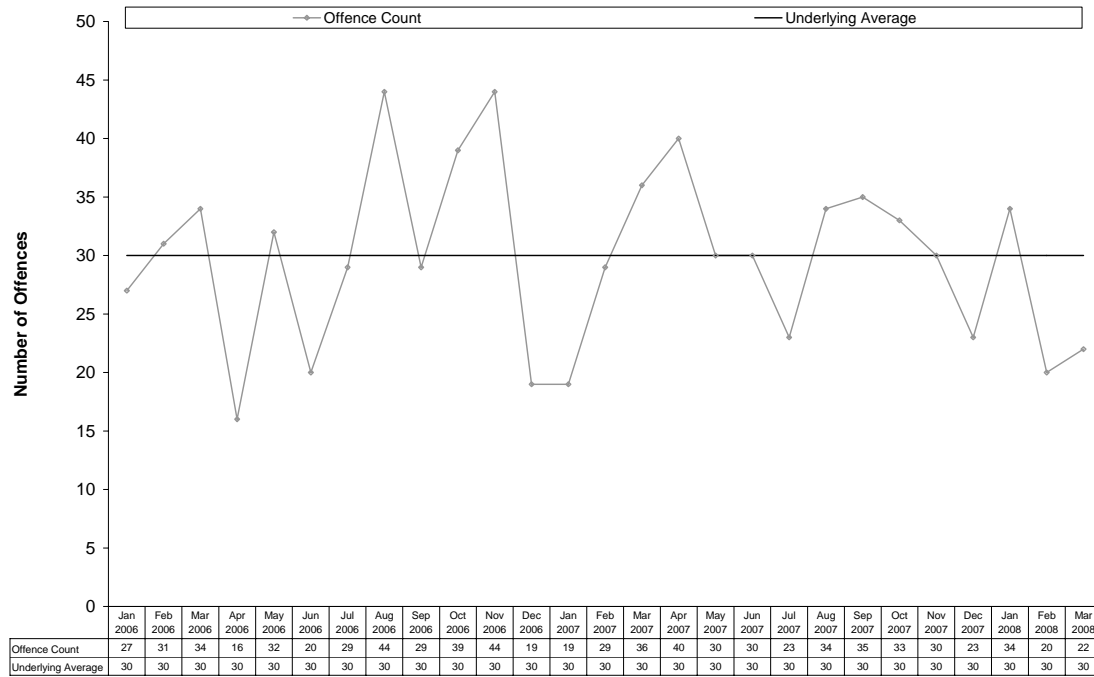
**Figure 2 Recorded Assault in the Northern Territory**



### 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 12% (10) from the previous quarter and a decrease of 10% (8) from the same quarter the previous year.

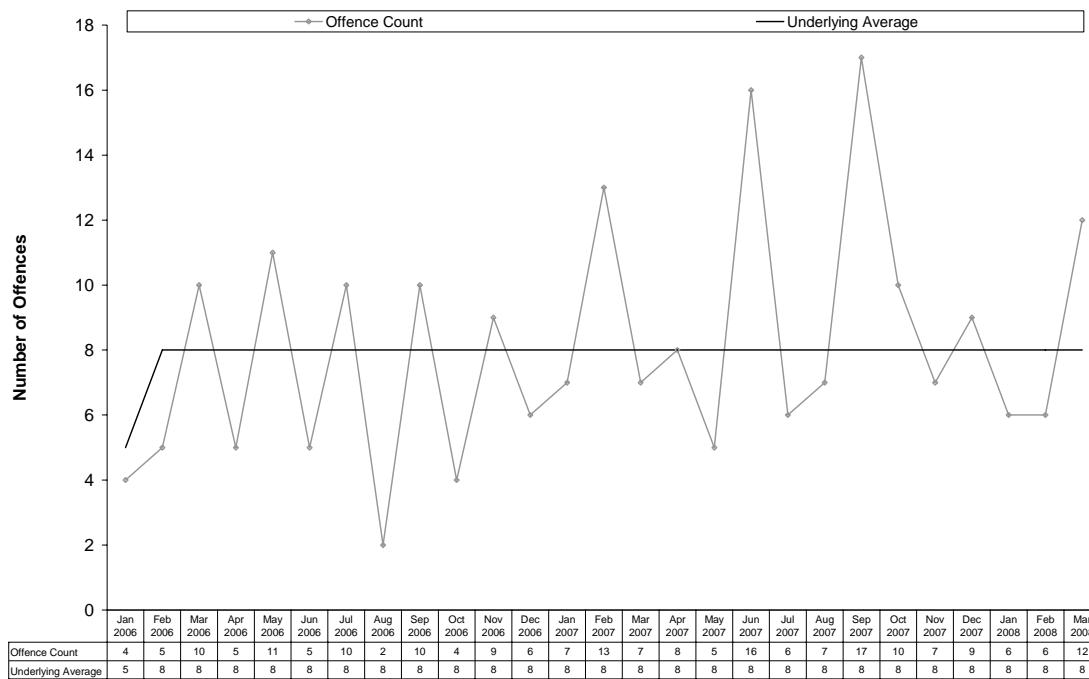
**Figure 3 Recorded Sexual Assault in the Northern Territory**



## 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 24 *robbery* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents a decrease of 8% (2) from the previous quarter and a decrease of 11% (3) from the same quarter the previous year.

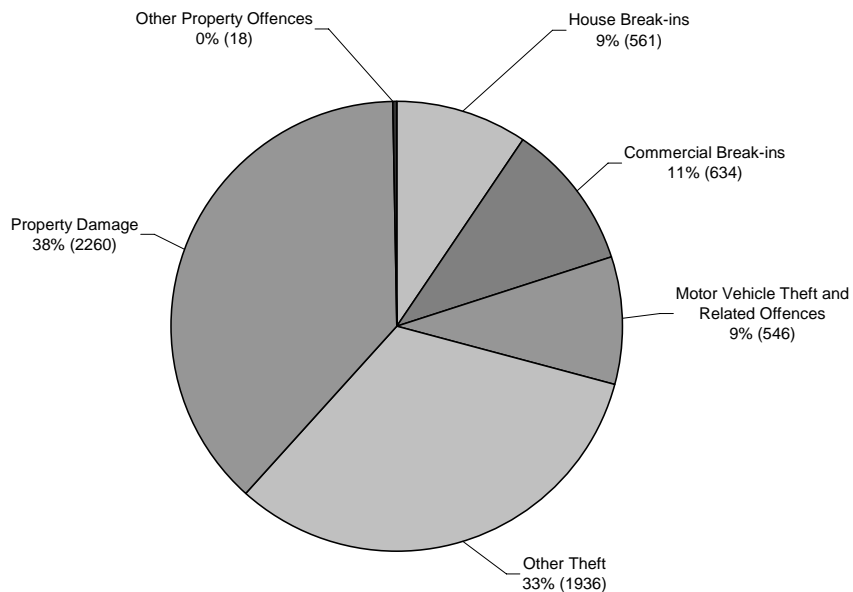
**Figure 4 Recorded Robbery in the Northern Territory**



## Property Offences

- In the current quarter, a total of 5955 property offences were recorded in the Territory. This represents an increase of 15% (774) from the previous quarter and an increase of 10% (524) from the same quarter the previous year.
- The figure below shows 38% of property offences relate to *property damage*, with *other theft* at 33%. The remaining offences were *break-ins to commercial or other premises* 11%, *house break-ins* and *motor vehicle theft and related offences* at 9% each and *other property offences* less than 1%.

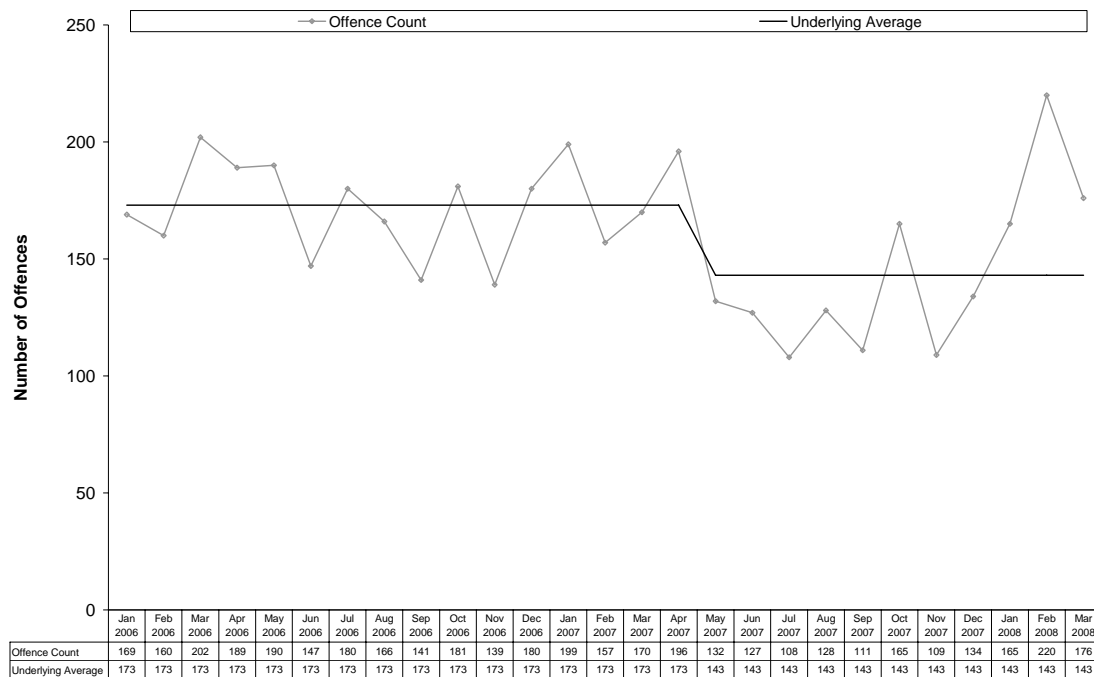
**Figure 5 Recorded Property Offences in the Northern Territory – Current Quarter**



### House Break-ins

- The figure shows the underlying average level of *house break-ins* has ranged between 143 and 173 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 143 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 561 *house break-in* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 38% (153) from the previous quarter and an increase of 7% (35) from the same quarter the previous year.

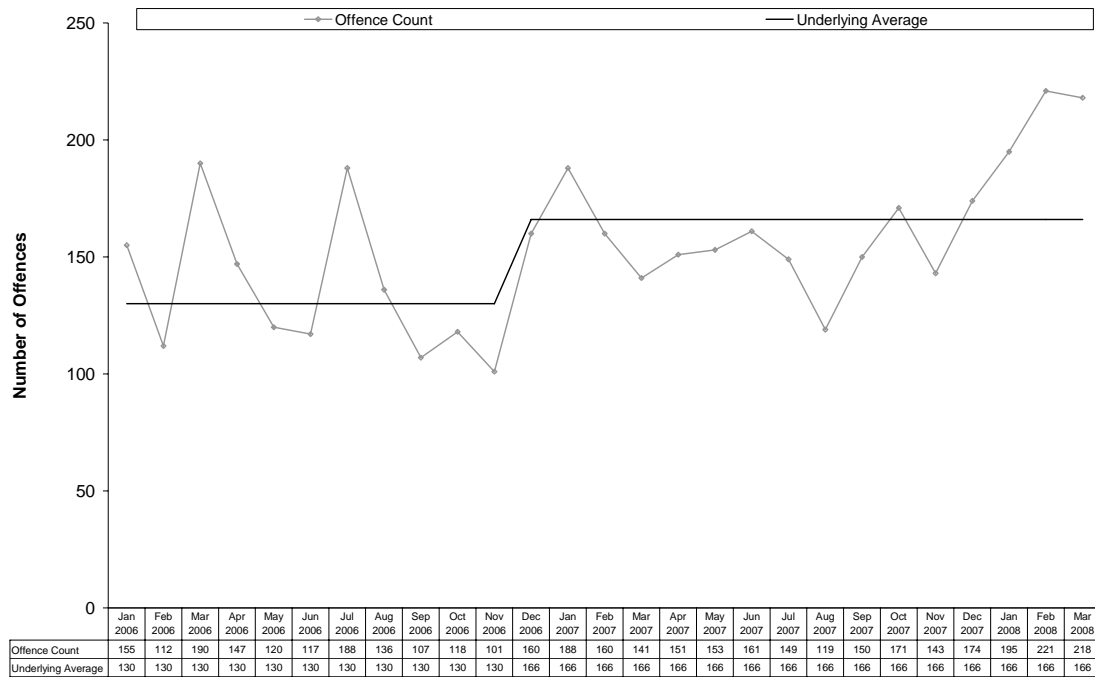
**Figure 6 Recorded House Break-ins in the Northern Territory**



### 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 166 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 166 per month is at the higher end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average remained stable. A statistically significant upward trend was identified.
- There were 634 *break-ins to commercial or other premises* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 30% (146) from the previous quarter and an increase of 30% (145) from the same quarter the previous year.

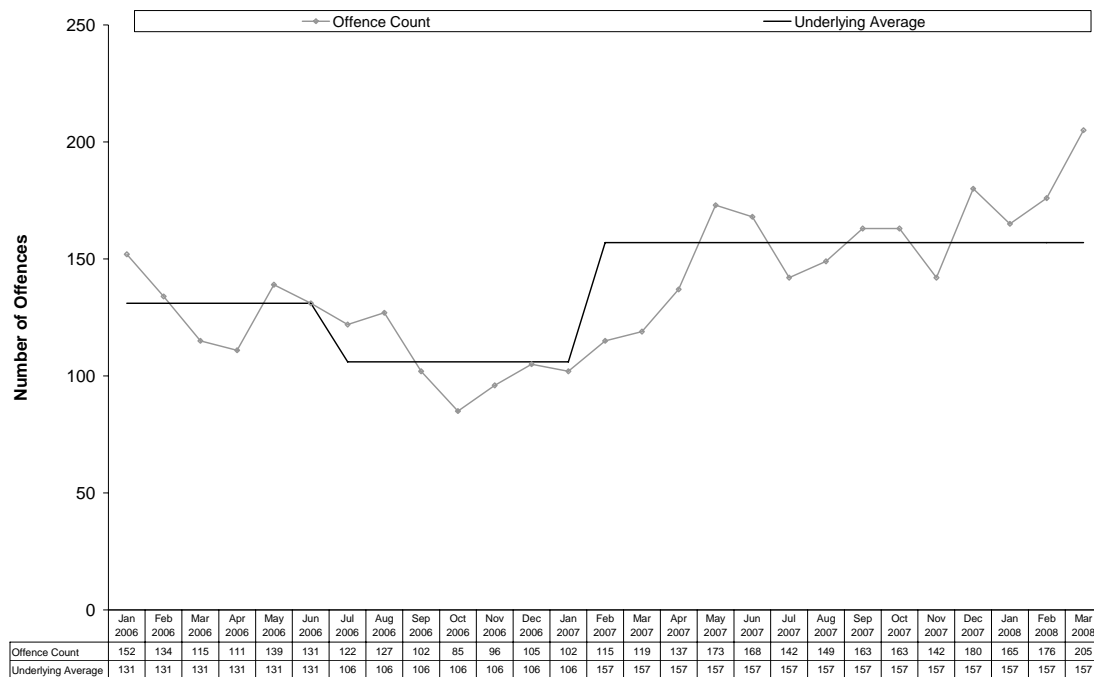
**Figure 7 Recorded Break-ins to Commercial or Other Premises in the Northern Territory**



### 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 157 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 157 per month is at the higher end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average remained stable.
- There were 546 *motor vehicle theft and related offences* recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 13% (61) from the previous quarter and an increase of 63% (210) from the same quarter the previous year.

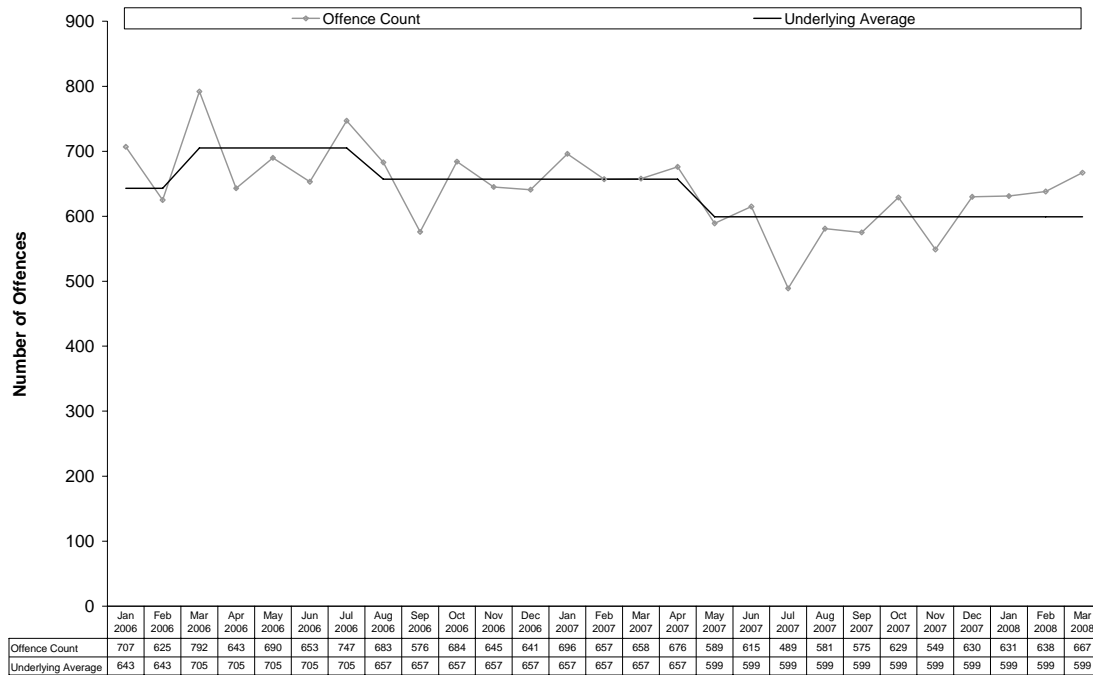
**Figure 8 Recorded Motor Vehicle Theft and Related Offences in the Northern Territory**



### Other Theft

- The figure shows the underlying average level of *other theft* has ranged between 599 and 705 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 599 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 1936 *other theft* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 7% (128) from the previous quarter, but a decrease of 4% (75) from the same quarter the previous year.

**Figure 9 Recorded Other Theft in the Northern Territory**

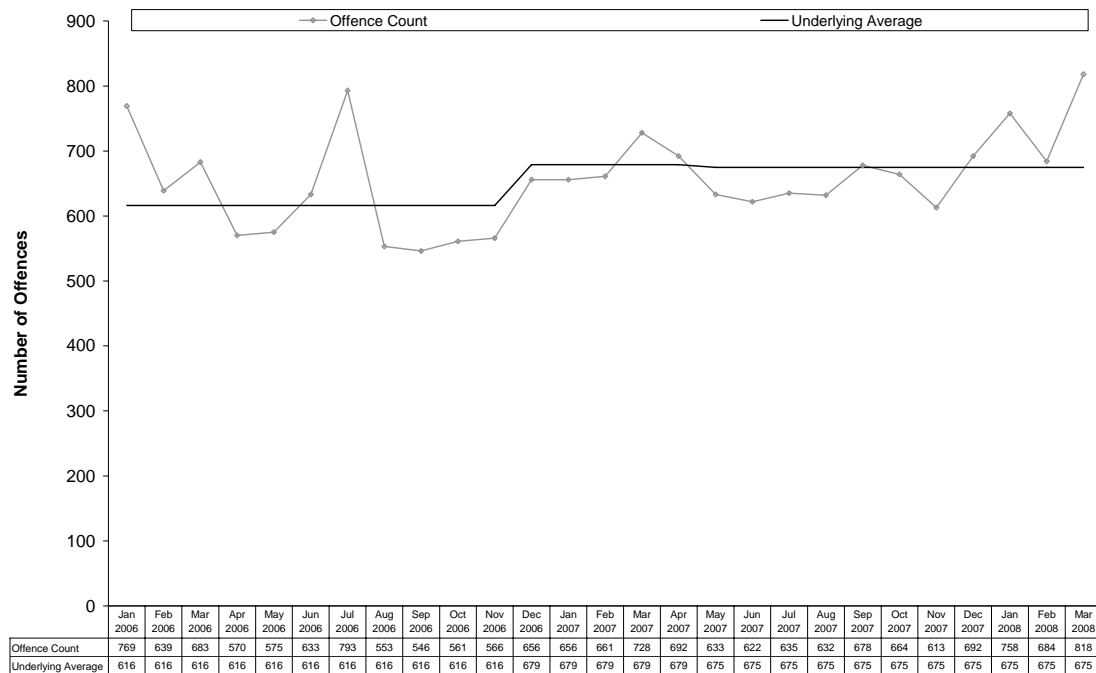




### Property Damage

- The figure shows the underlying average level of *property damage* has ranged between 616 and 679 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 675 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 2260 *property damage* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 15% (291) from the previous quarter and an increase of 11% (215) 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.

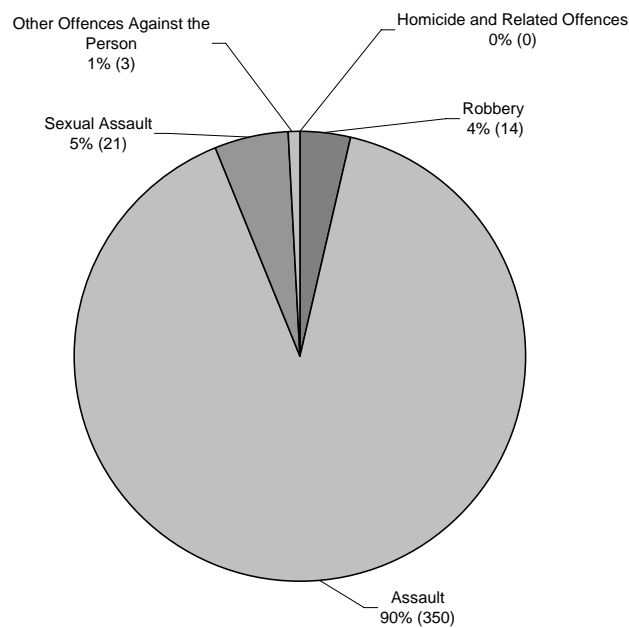
**Table 2 Recorded Offences in Darwin**

	Mar	Jun	Sep	Dec	Mar	Jun	Sep	Dec	Mar
	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr
	2006	2006	2006	2006	2007	2007	2007	2007	2008
<b>Offences Against The Person</b>									
Homicide and Related Offences									
Murder	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	1	0
Attempted Murder	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Manslaughter	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Robbery	14	15	15	11	12	17	22	24	14
Assault	256	249	241	317	281	445	447	417	350
Sexual Assault	24	20	38	38	31	31	23	25	21
Other Offences Against the Person	16	6	6	6	9	5	6	12	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>310</b>	<b>290</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>374</b>	<b>334</b>	<b>499</b>	<b>498</b>	<b>480</b>	<b>388</b>
<b>Property Offences</b>									
Break-ins									
House	248	279	250	269	265	233	133	208	299
Commercial or Other Premises	126	142	211	175	172	200	178	195	249
Motor Vehicle Theft and Related Offences	215	201	196	134	180	237	245	236	282
Other Theft	1005	1044	1134	1076	946	921	793	935	926
Property Damage	1066	948	999	858	967	966	971	923	1064
Other Property Offences	9	19	6	9	7	6	10	5	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>2669</b>	<b>2633</b>	<b>2796</b>	<b>2521</b>	<b>2537</b>	<b>2563</b>	<b>2330</b>	<b>2502</b>	<b>2823</b>

## Offences Against the Person

- In the current quarter, a total of 388 offences against the person were recorded in Darwin. This represents a decrease of 19% (92) from the previous quarter, but an increase of 16% (54) 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* 5%, *robbery* 4% and *other offences against the person* 1%. There were no recorded offences relating to *murder*, *attempted murder* or *manslaughter*.

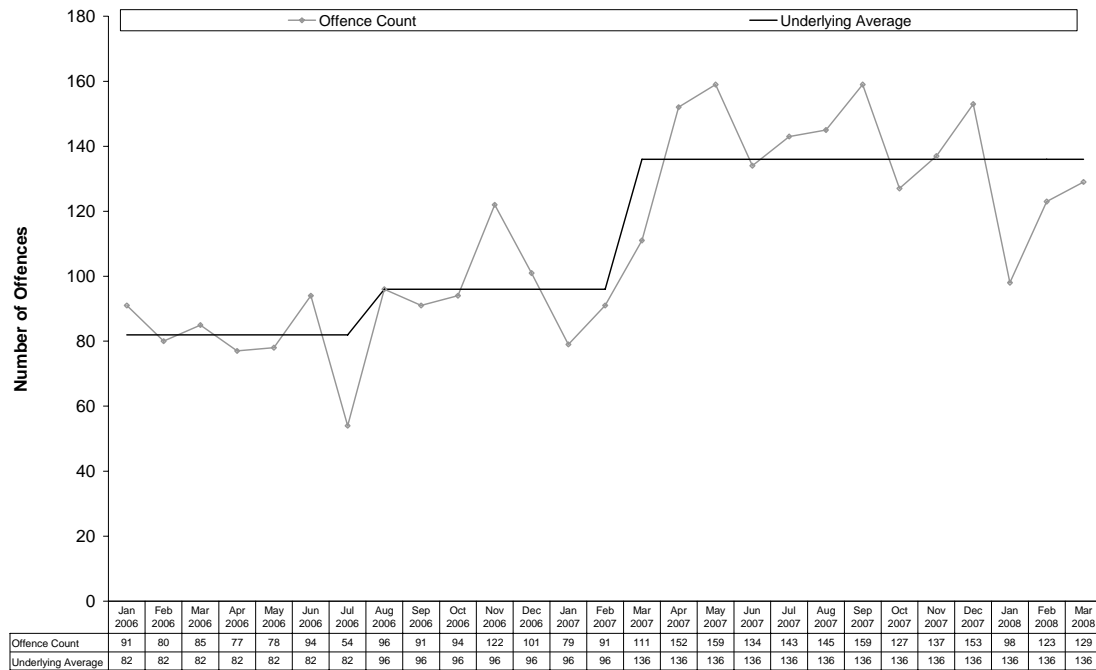
Figure 11 Recorded Offences Against the Person in Darwin – Current Quarter



### Assault

- The figure shows the underlying average level of *assault* has ranged between 82 and 136 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 136 per month is at the higher end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average remained stable.
- There were 350 *assault* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents a decrease of 16% (67) from the previous quarter, but an increase of 25% (69) from the same quarter the previous year.

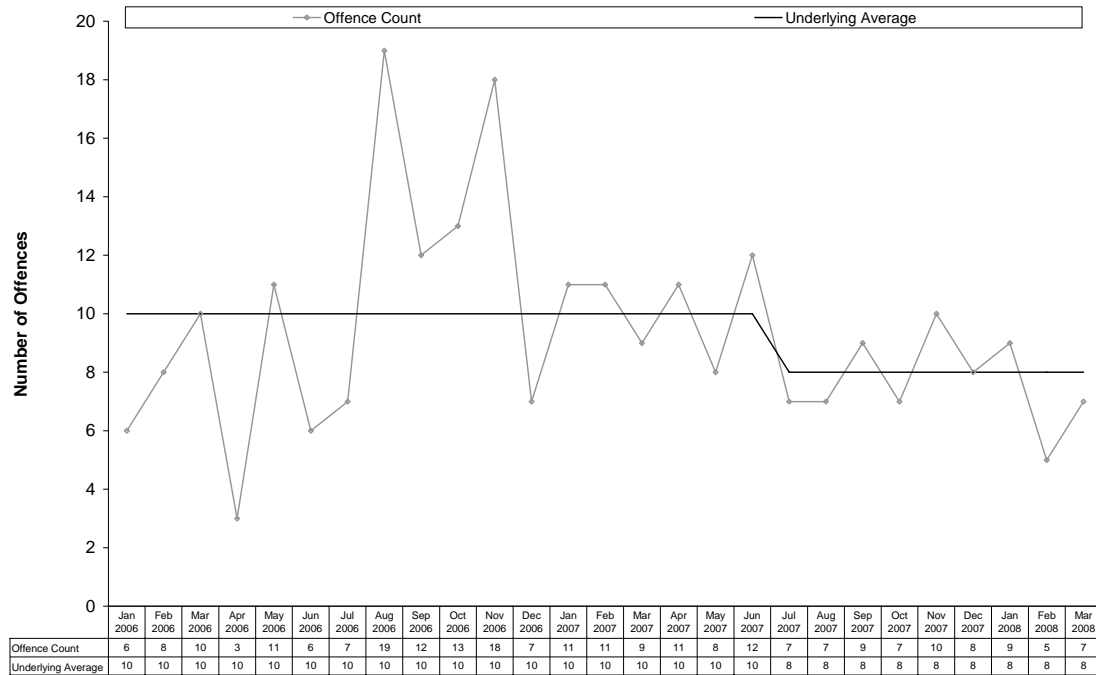
**Figure 12 Recorded Assault in Darwin**



### Sexual Assault

- The figure shows the underlying average level of *sexual assault* has ranged between 8 and 10 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 21 *sexual assault* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents a decrease of 16% (4) from the previous quarter and a decrease of 32% (10) from the same quarter the previous year.

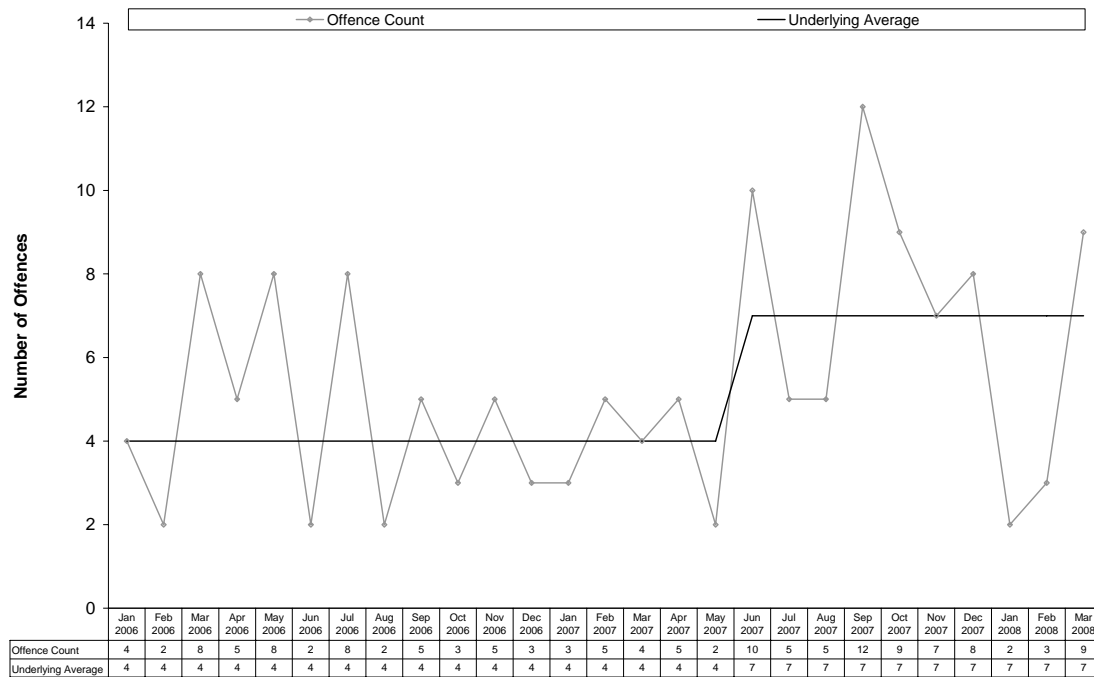
**Figure 13 Recorded Sexual Assault in Darwin**



## Robbery

- The figure shows the underlying average level of *robbery* has ranged between 4 and 7 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 7 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 *robbery* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents a decrease of 42% (10) from the previous quarter, but an increase of 17% (2) from the same quarter the previous year.

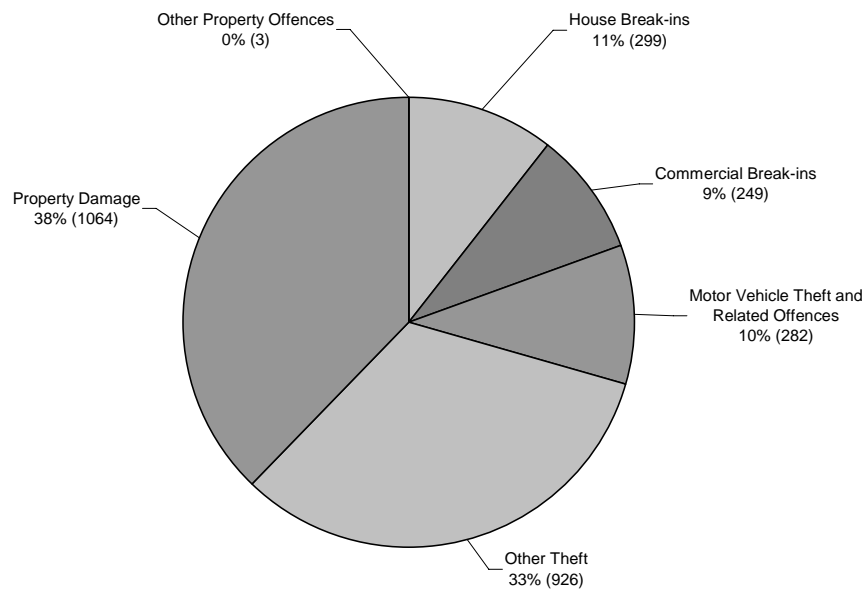
**Figure 14 Recorded Robbery in Darwin**



## Property Offences

- There were 2823 recorded property offences in Darwin in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 13% (321) from the previous quarter and an increase of 11% (286) from the same quarter the previous year.
- The figure below shows that *property damage* represent 38% of the property offences and *other theft* 33%. The remaining offences were *house break-ins* 11%, *motor vehicle theft and related offences* 10%, *break-ins to commercial or other premises* 9% and *other property offences* less than 1%.

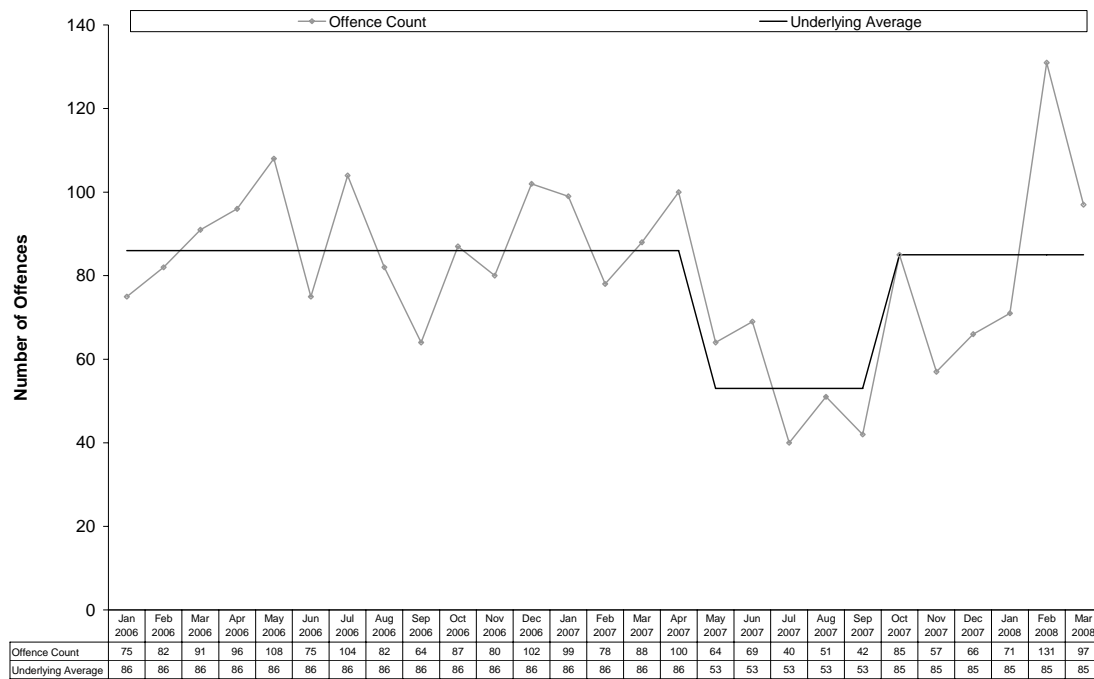
Figure 15 Recorded Property Offences in Darwin – Current Quarter



### House Break-ins

- The figure shows the underlying average level of *house break-ins* has ranged between 53 and 86 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 85 per month is at the higher end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average decreased early in the period and increased in the middle of the period.
- There were 299 *house break-in* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 44% (91) from the previous quarter and an increase of 13% (34) from the same quarter the previous year.

**Figure 16 Recorded House Break-ins in Darwin**

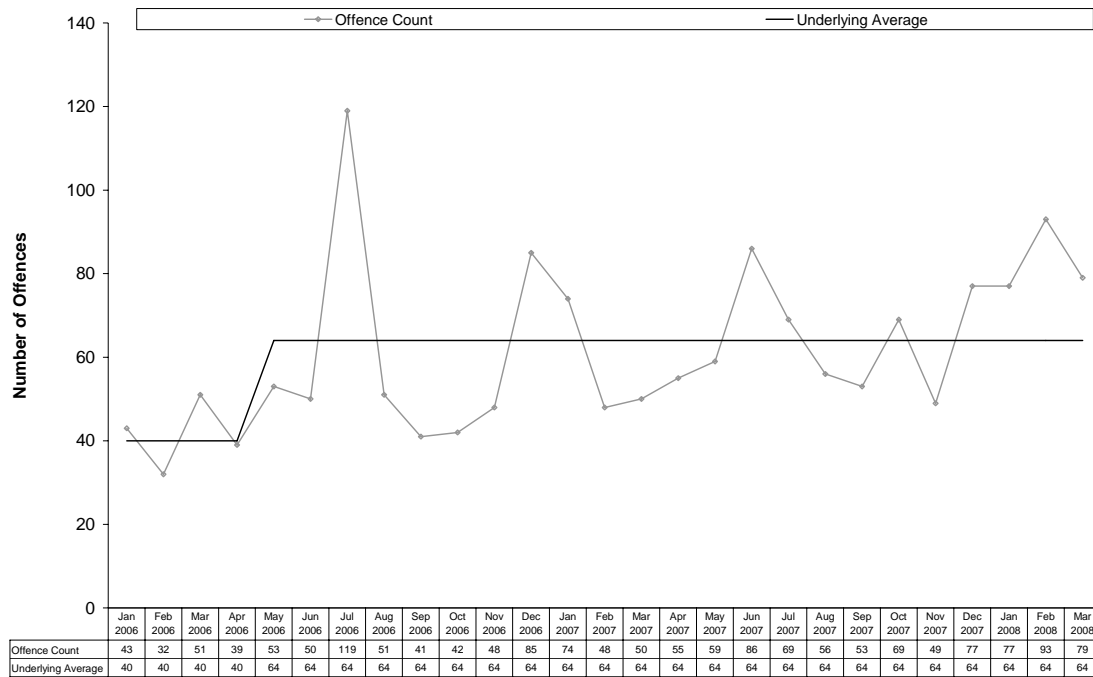




### Break-ins to Commercial or Other Premises

- The figure shows the underlying average level of *break-ins to commercial or other premises* has ranged between 40 and 64 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 64 per month is at the higher end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average remained stable.
- There were 249 *break-ins to commercial or other premises* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 28% (54) from the previous quarter and an increase of 45% (77) from the same quarter the previous year.

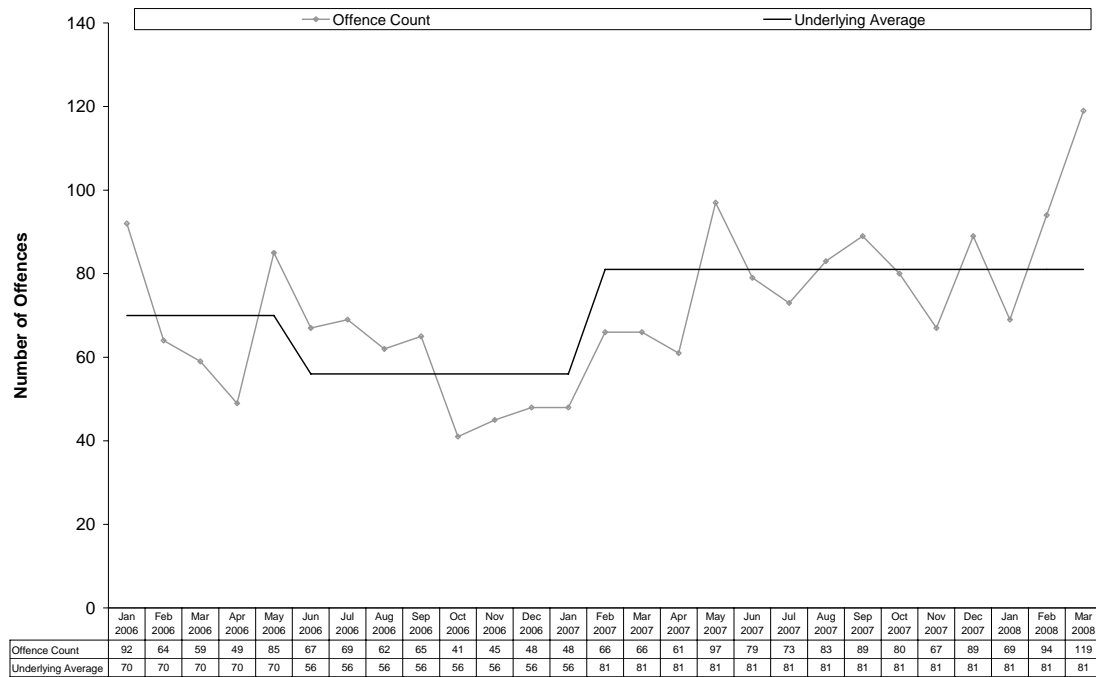
**Figure 17 Recorded Break-ins to Commercial or Other Premises in Darwin**



### 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 81 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 81 per month is at the higher end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average remained stable.
- There were 282 *motor vehicle theft and related offences* recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 19% (46) from the previous quarter and an increase of 57% (102) from the same quarter the previous year.

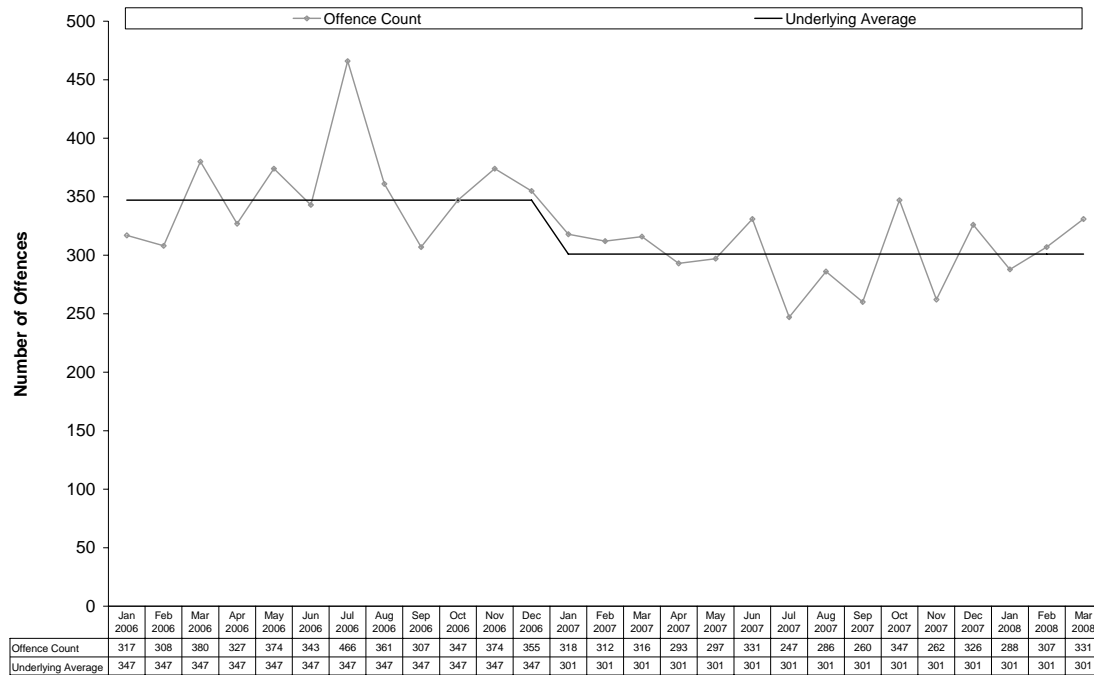
**Figure 18 Recorded Motor Vehicle Theft and Related Offences in Darwin**



### Other Theft

- The figure shows the underlying average level of *other theft* has ranged between 301 and 347 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 301 per month is at the lower end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average remained stable.
- There were 926 *other theft* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents a decrease of 1% (9) from the previous quarter and a decrease of 2% (20) from the same quarter the previous year.

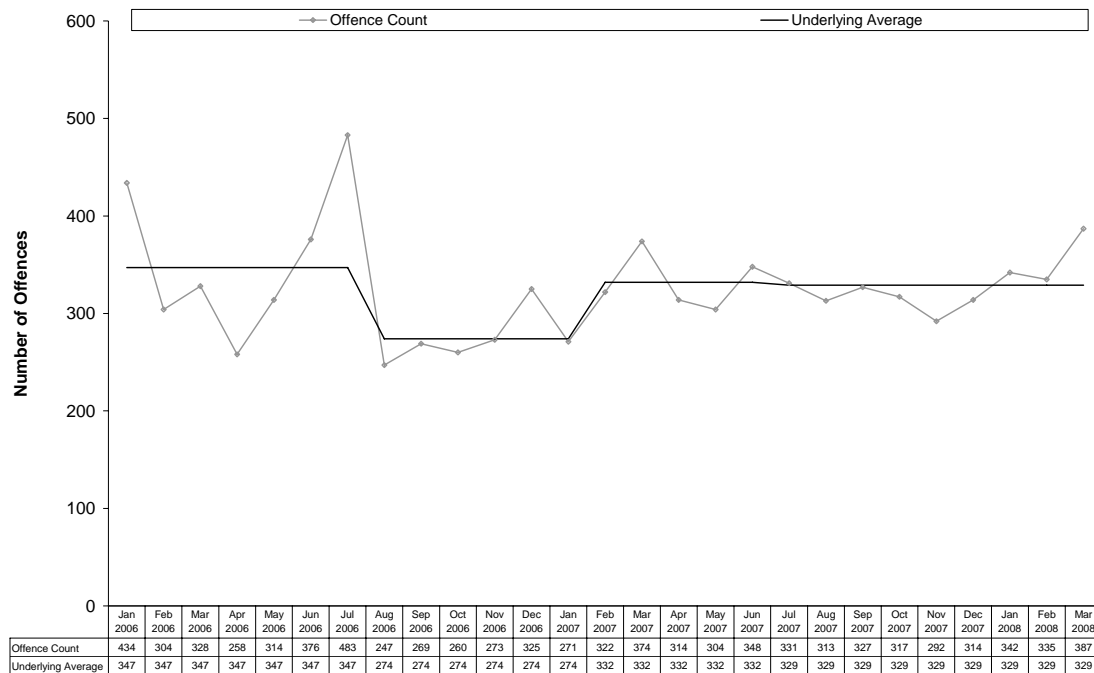
**Figure 19 Recorded Other Theft in Darwin**



### Property Damage

- The figure shows the underlying average level of *property damage* has ranged between 274 and 347 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 329 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 1064 *property damage* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 15% (141) from the previous quarter and an increase of 10% (97) 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.

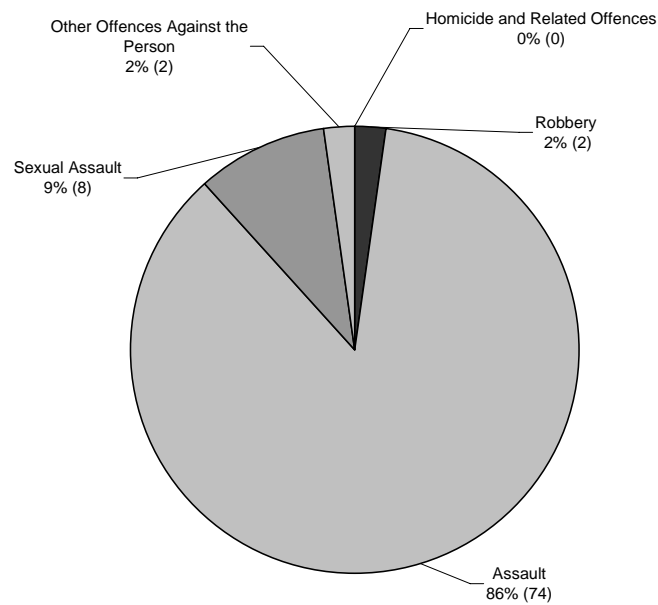
**Table 3 Recorded Offences in Palmerston**

	Mar	Jun	Sep	Dec	Mar	Jun	Sep	Dec	Mar
	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr
	2006	2006	2006	2006	2007	2007	2007	2007	2008
<b>Offences Against The Person</b>									
Homicide and Related Offences									
Murder	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Attempted Murder	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Manslaughter	0	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0
Robbery	0	1	0	2	5	6	1	1	2
Assault	60	51	65	52	94	87	111	90	74
Sexual Assault	10	8	8	8	3	8	7	4	8
Other Offences Against the Person	2	1	3	0	3	4	2	2	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>122</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>86</b>
<b>Property Offences</b>									
Break-ins									
House	56	77	95	48	72	69	65	46	90
Commercial or Other Premises	35	32	34	20	42	59	55	60	67
Motor Vehicle Theft and Related Offences	50	37	37	39	39	75	65	77	103
Other Theft	245	240	210	193	257	223	221	188	273
Property Damage	206	188	202	138	239	228	222	252	327
Other Property Offences	1	0	2	0	1	1	3	1	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>593</b>	<b>574</b>	<b>580</b>	<b>438</b>	<b>650</b>	<b>655</b>	<b>631</b>	<b>624</b>	<b>860</b>

## Offences Against the Person

- In the current quarter there were 86 offences against the person recorded in Palmerston. This represents a decrease of 11% (11) from the previous quarter and a decrease of 18% (19) from the same quarter the previous year.
- As shown in the figure below *assault* was by far the most frequent offence, accounting for 86% of offences against the person with *sexual assault* at 9%. The remaining offences were *robbery* and *other offences against the person* 2% each. There were no offences recorded relating to *murder*, *attempted murder* or *manslaughter*.

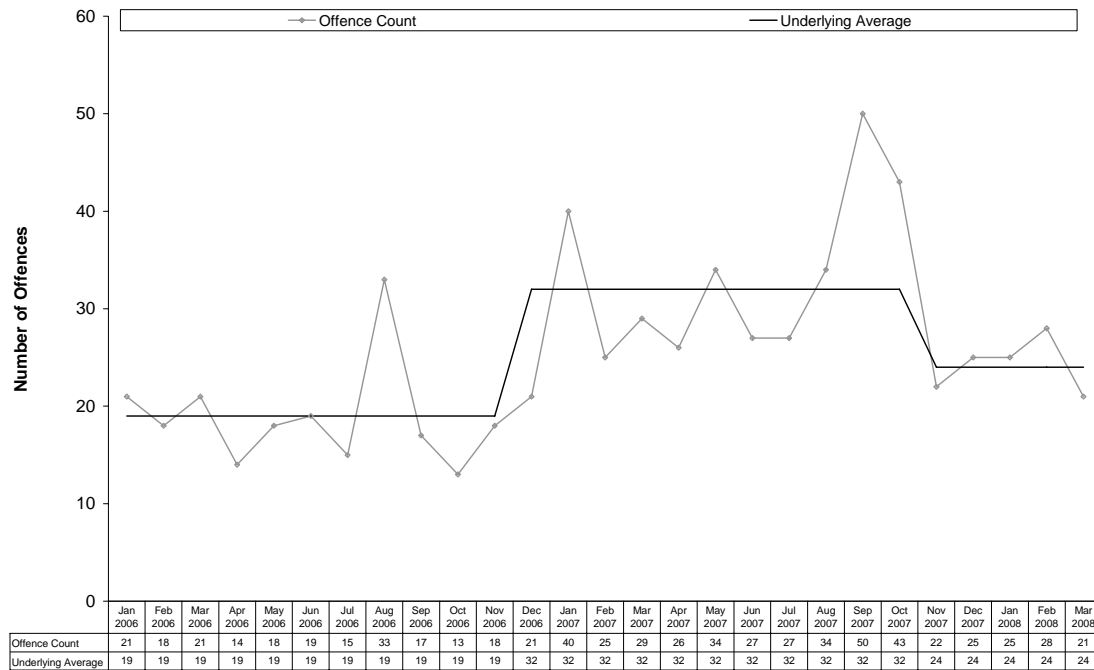
**Figure 21 Recorded Offences Against the Person in Palmerston – Current Quarter**



### Assault

- The figure shows the underlying average level of *assault* has ranged between 19 and 32 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 24 per month is in the middle of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average decreased in the middle of the period.
- There were 74 *assault* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents a decrease of 18% (16) from the previous quarter and a decrease of 21% (20) from the same quarter the previous year.

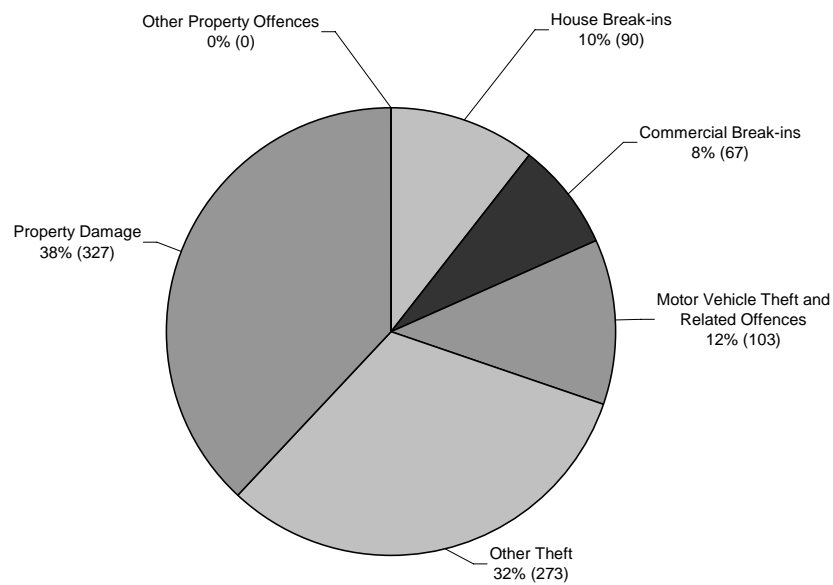
**Figure 22 Recorded Assault in Palmerston**



## Property Offences

- In the current quarter there was a total of 860 recorded property offences in Palmerston. This represents an increase of 38% (236) from the previous quarter and an increase of 32% (210) from the same quarter the previous year.
- As shown in the figure below *property damage* accounted for 38% of the property offences. The remaining offences were *other theft* 32%, *motor vehicle theft and related offences* 12%, *house break-ins* 10% and *break-ins to commercial or other premises* 8%. There were no offences recorded relating to *other property offences*.

**Figure 23 Recorded Property Offences in Palmerston – Current Quarter**

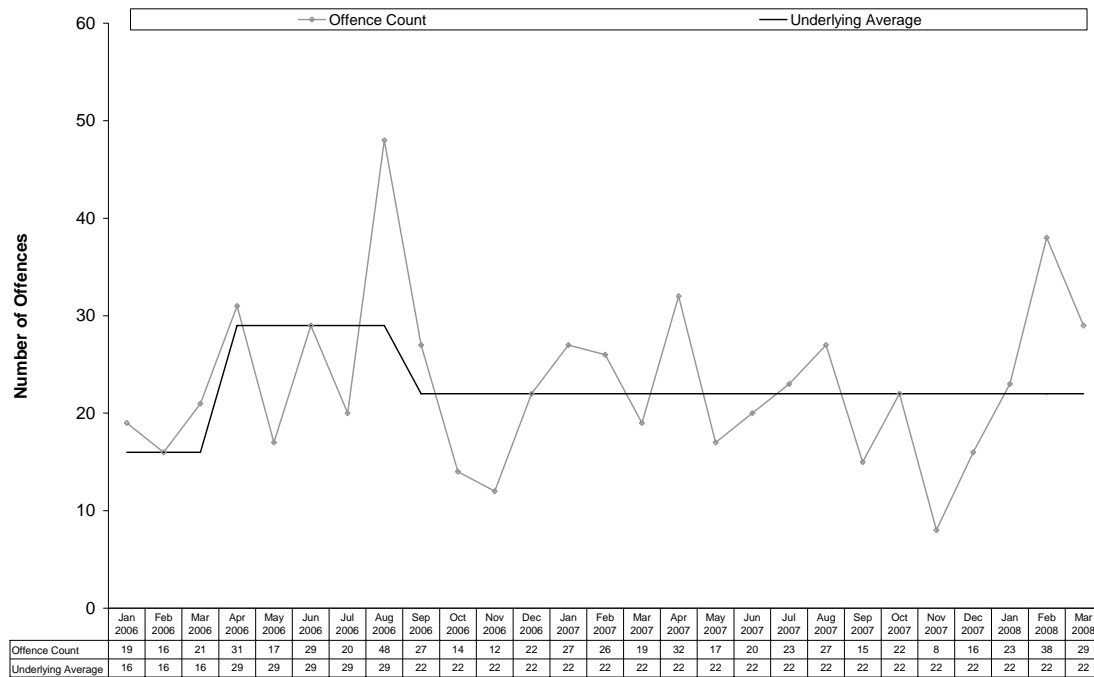




### House Break-ins

- 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 22 per month is in the middle of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average remained stable.
- There were 90 *house break-in* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 96% (44) from the previous quarter and an increase of 25% (18) from the same quarter the previous year.

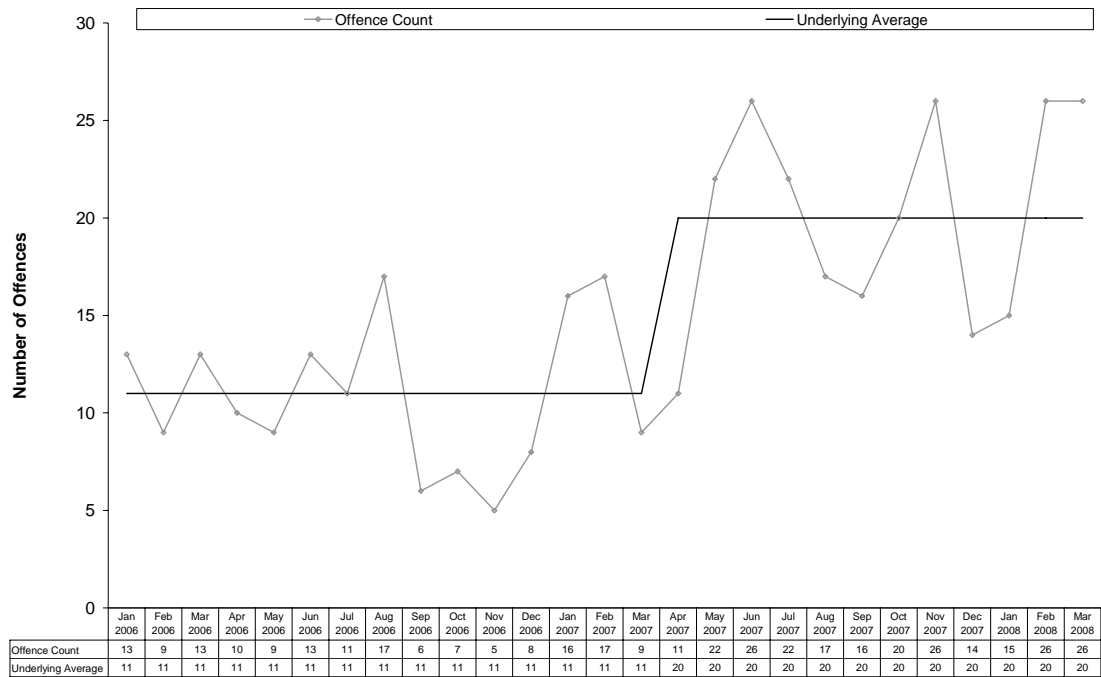
**Figure 24 Recorded House Break-ins in Palmerston**



**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 11 and 20 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 20 per month is at the higher end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average remained stable.
- There were 67 *break-ins to commercial or other premises* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 12% (7) from the previous quarter and an increase of 60% (25) from the same quarter the previous year.

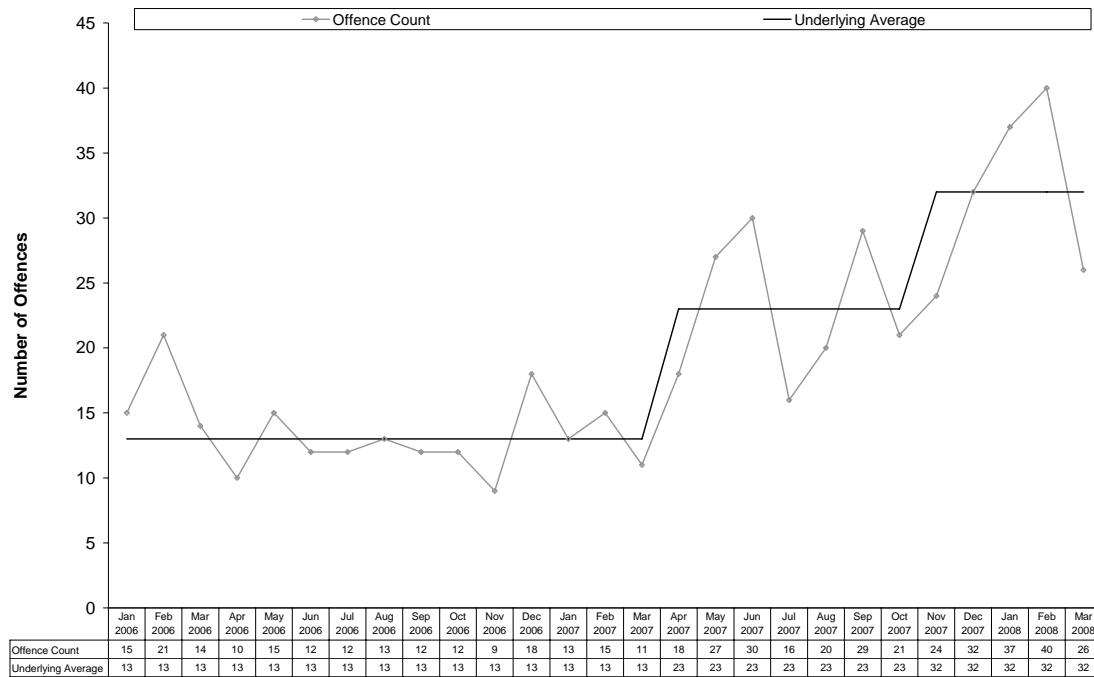
**Figure 25 Recorded Break-ins to Commercial or Other Premises in Palmerston**



### 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 32 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 32 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 103 *motor vehicle theft and related offences* recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 34% (26) from the previous quarter and an increase of 164% (64) from the same quarter the previous year.

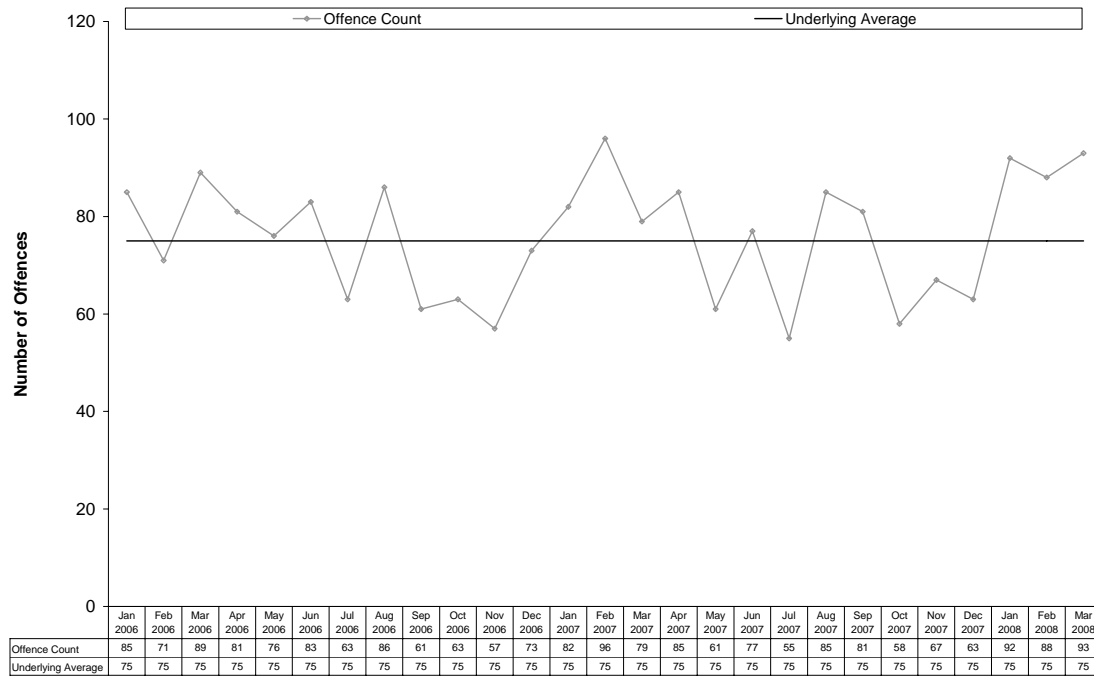
**Figure 26 Recorded Motor Vehicle Theft and Related Offences in Palmerston**



### Other Theft

- The figure shows the underlying average level of *other theft* has remained stable at 75 offences per month during the past nine quarters.
- There were 273 *other theft* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 45% (85) from the previous quarter and an increase of 6% (16) from the same quarter the previous year.

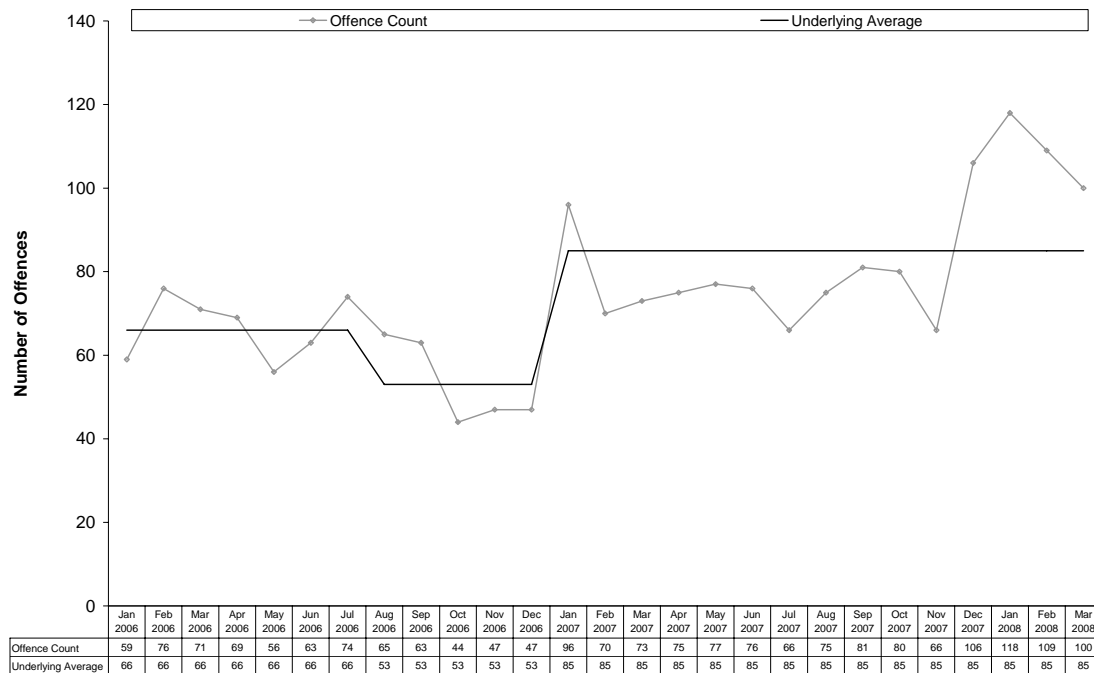
**Figure 27 Recorded Other Theft in Palmerston**



### Property Damage

- The figure shows the underlying average level of *property damage* has ranged between 53 and 85 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 85 per month is at the higher end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average remained stable. A statistically significant upward trend was identified.
- There were 327 *property damage* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 30% (75) from the previous quarter and an increase of 37% (88) 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.

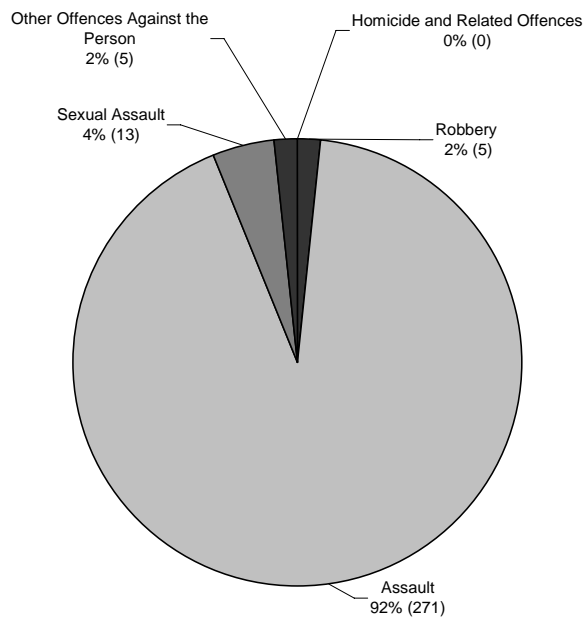
**Table 4 Recorded Offences in Alice Springs**

	Mar	Jun	Sep	Dec	Mar	Jun	Sep	Dec	Mar
	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr
	2006	2006	2006	2006	2007	2007	2007	2007	2008
<b>Offences Against The Person</b>									
Homicide and Related Offences									
Murder	2	1	0	0	1	4	1	0	0
Attempted Murder	0	0	0	0	1	2	1	0	0
Manslaughter	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Robbery	3	2	4	0	2	4	1	0	5
Assault	354	191	223	268	314	297	263	307	271
Sexual Assault	20	5	9	10	14	11	13	9	13
Other Offences Against the Person	2	5	8	8	5	4	9	8	5
<b>Total</b>	<b>381</b>	<b>204</b>	<b>244</b>	<b>286</b>	<b>337</b>	<b>322</b>	<b>288</b>	<b>324</b>	<b>294</b>
<b>Property Offences</b>									
Break-ins									
House	97	57	45	59	64	57	52	69	65
Commercial or Other Premises	93	84	55	66	108	81	70	72	112
Motor Vehicle Theft and Related Offences	68	77	77	53	55	78	65	68	63
Other Theft	367	291	275	323	365	304	238	284	275
Property Damage	382	294	368	411	453	410	393	374	426
Other Property Offences	3	5	1	5	5	4	5	8	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>1010</b>	<b>808</b>	<b>821</b>	<b>917</b>	<b>1050</b>	<b>934</b>	<b>823</b>	<b>875</b>	<b>945</b>

## Offences Against the Person

- In the current quarter, a total of 294 offences against the person were recorded in Alice Springs. This represents a decrease of 9% (30) from the previous quarter and a decrease of 13% (43) from the same quarter the previous year.
- As shown in the figure below *assault* was by far the most frequent offence, accounting for 92% of offences against the person in the current quarter. The remaining offences included *sexual assault* 4% and both *robbery* and *other offences against the person* accounting for 2% each. There were no offences recorded relating to *murder, attempted murder* or *manslaughter*.

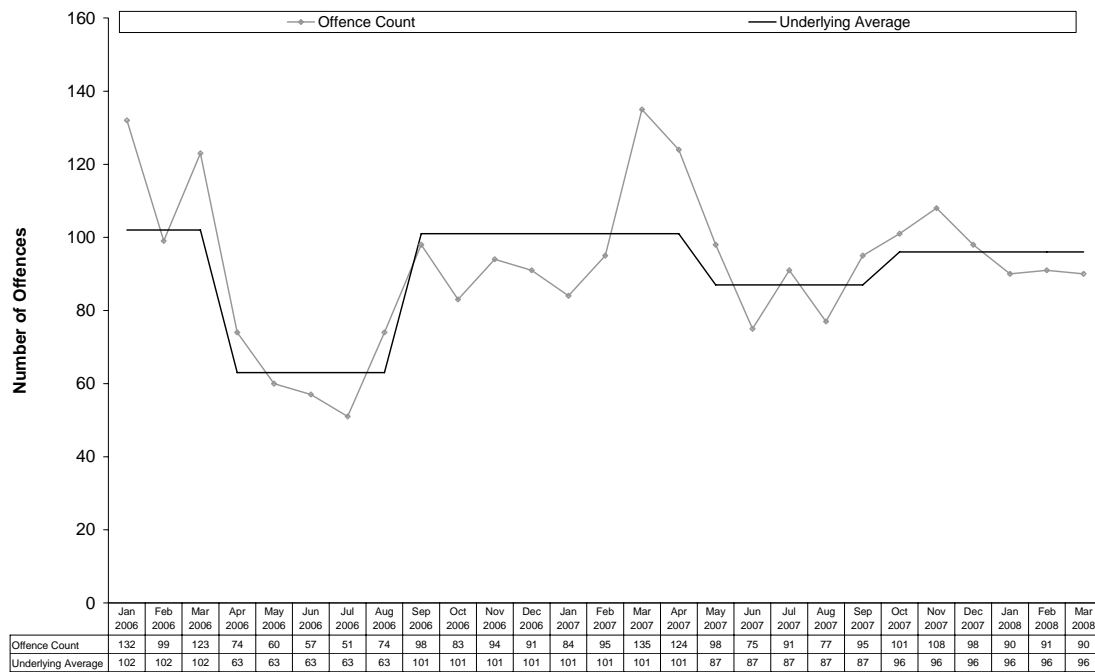
Figure 29 Recorded Offences Against the Person in Alice Springs – Current Quarter



**Assault**

- The figure shows the underlying average level of *assault* has ranged between 63 and 102 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 96 per month is at the higher end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average decreased early in the period and increased in the middle of the period.
- There were 271 *assault* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents a decrease of 12% (36) from the previous quarter and a decrease of 14% (43) from the same quarter the previous year.

**Figure 30 Recorded Assault in Alice Springs**

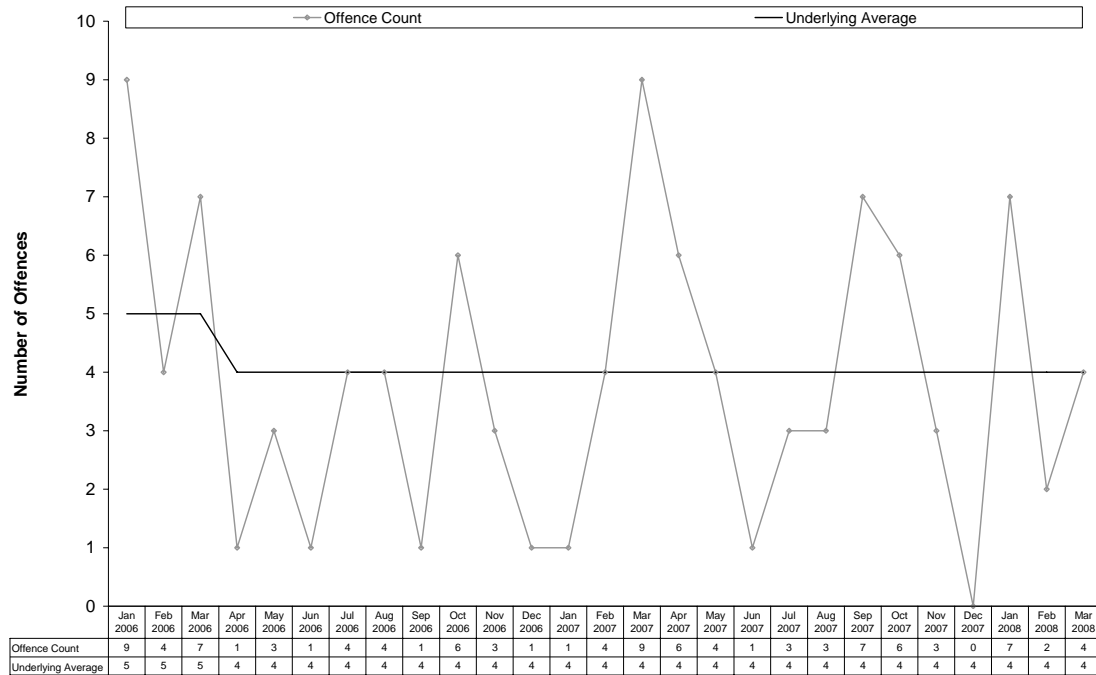




### Sexual Assault

- The figure shows the underlying average level of *sexual assault* has ranged between 4 and 5 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 4 per month is at the lower end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average remained stable.
- There were 13 *sexual assault* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 44% (4) from the previous quarter, but a decrease of 7% (1) from the same quarter the previous year.

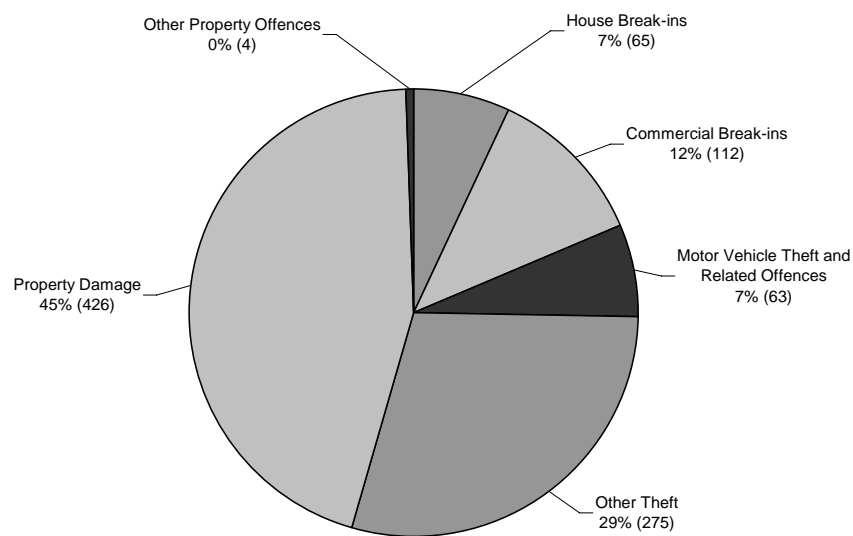
**Figure 31 Recorded Sexual Assault in Alice Springs**



## Property Offences

- In the current quarter there was a total of 945 recorded property offences in Alice Springs. This represents an increase of 8% (70) from the previous quarter, but a decrease of 10% (105) from the same quarter the previous year.
- The figure below shows 45% of property offences relate to *property damage* and 29% relate to *other theft*. The remaining offences were *break-ins to commercial or other premises* 12%, *house break-ins* and *motor vehicle theft and related offences* accounting for 7% each and *other property offences* less than 1%.

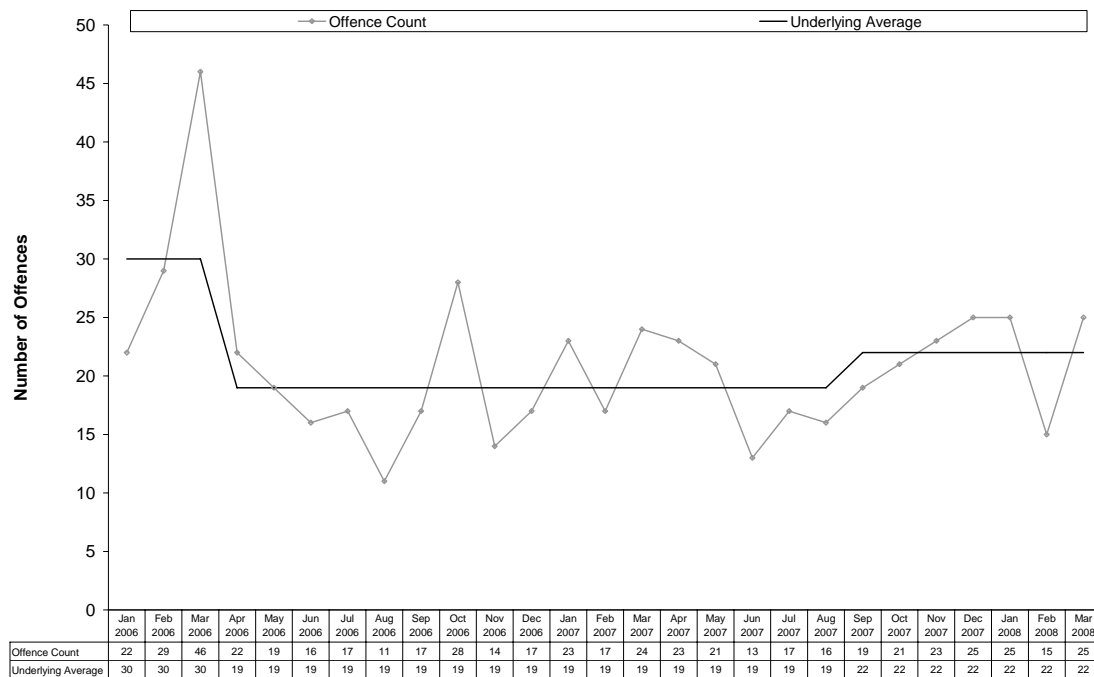
**Figure 32 Recorded Property Offences in Alice Springs – Current Quarter**



### 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 22 per month is in the middle of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average increased in the middle of the period.
- There were 65 *house break-in* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents a decrease of 6% (4) from the previous quarter, but an increase of 2% (1) from the same quarter the previous year.

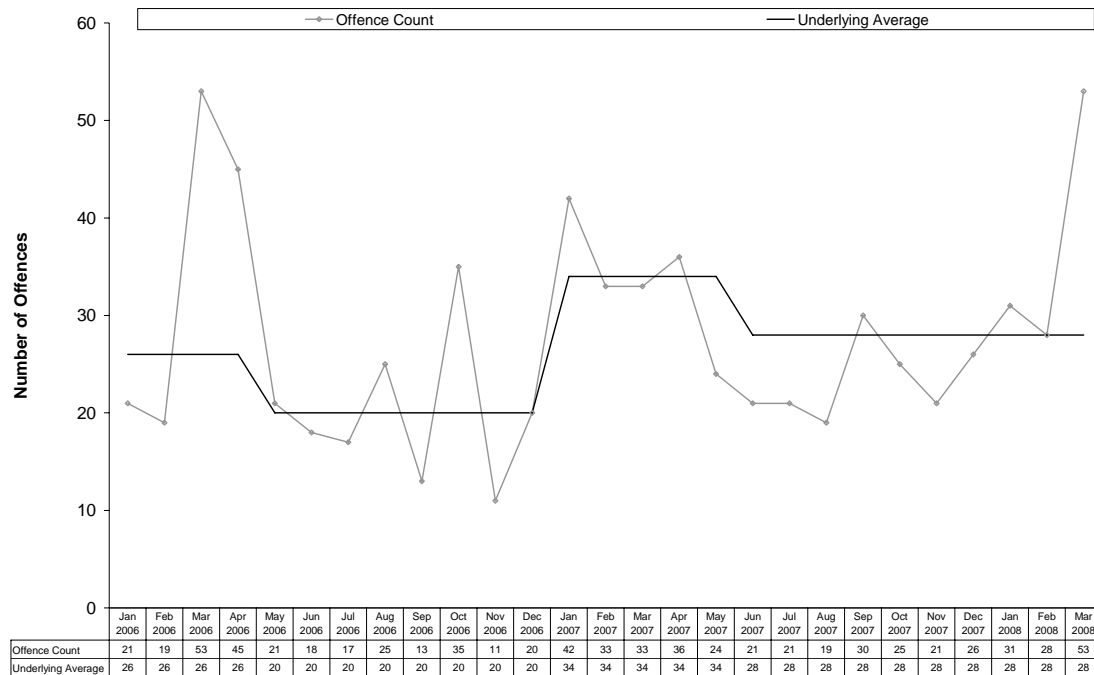
**Figure 33 Recorded House Break-ins in Alice Springs**



### 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 34 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 28 per month is in the middle of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average decreased early in the period.
- There were 112 *break-ins to commercial or other premises* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 56% (40) from the previous quarter and an increase of 4% (4) from the same quarter the previous year.

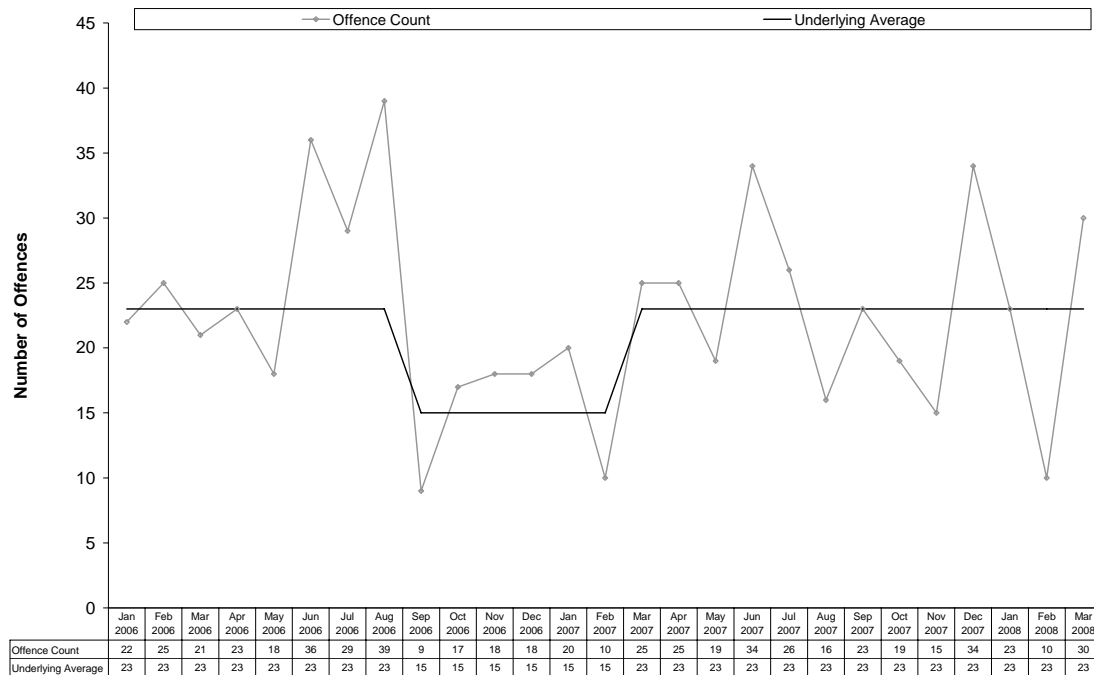
**Figure 34 Recorded Break-ins to Commercial or Other Premises in Alice Springs**



### 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 23 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 23 per month is at the higher end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average remained stable.
- There were 63 *motor vehicle theft and related offences* recorded in the current quarter. This represents a decrease of 7% (5) from the previous quarter, but an increase of 15% (8) from the same quarter the previous year.

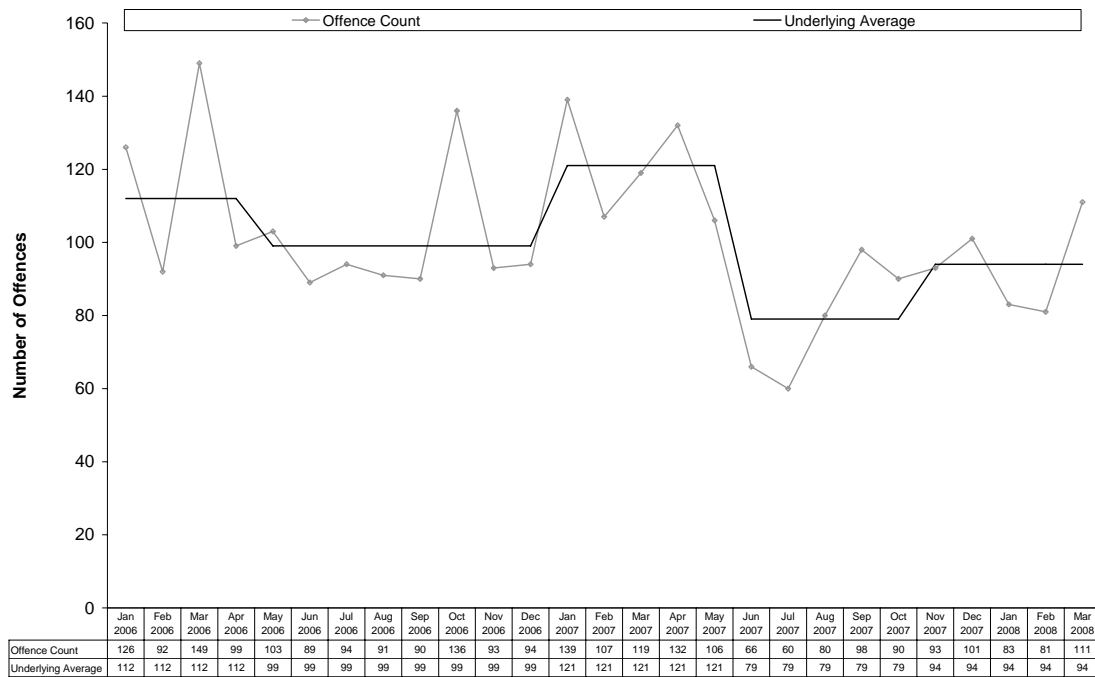
**Figure 35 Recorded Motor Vehicle Theft and Related Offences in Alice Springs**



**Other Theft**

- The figure shows the underlying average level of *other theft* has ranged between 79 and 121 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 94 per month is in the middle of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average decreased early in the period and increased in the middle of the period.
- There were 275 *other theft* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents a decrease of 3% (9) from the previous quarter and a decrease of 25% (90) from the same quarter the previous year.

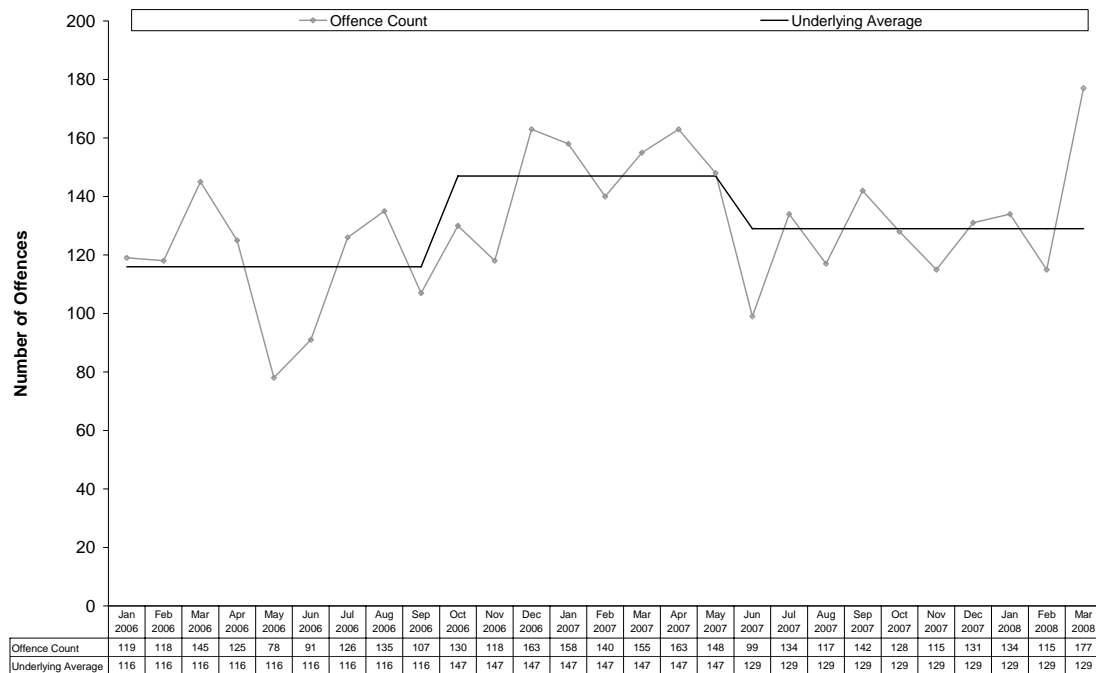
**Figure 36 Recorded Other Theft in Alice Springs**



### Property Damage

- The figure shows the underlying average level of *property damage* has ranged between 116 and 147 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 129 per month is in the middle of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average decreased early in the period.
- There were 426 *property damage* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 14% (52) from the previous quarter, but a decrease of 6% (27) 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**

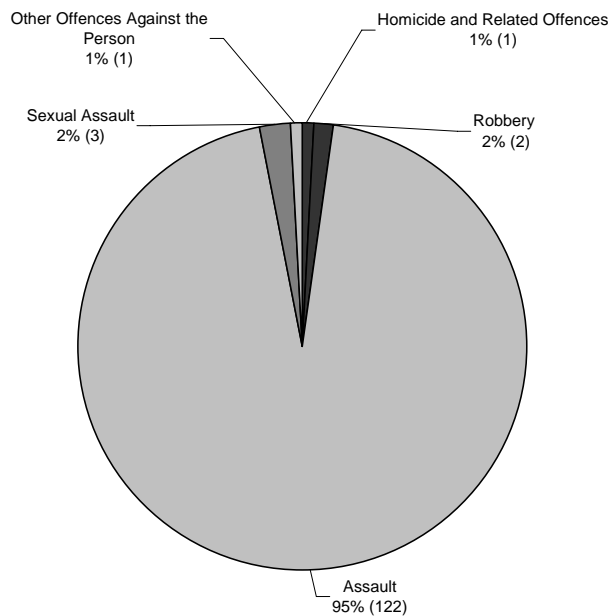
	Mar	Jun	Sep	Dec	Mar	Jun	Sep	Dec	Mar
	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr
	2006	2006	2006	2006	2007	2007	2007	2007	2008
<b>Offences Against The Person</b>									
Homicide and Related Offences									
Murder	0	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	1
Attempted Murder	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Manslaughter	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Robbery	0	0	0	1	4	0	1	0	2
Assault	148	113	91	129	150	112	113	151	122
Sexual Assault	4	3	10	7	5	9	10	11	3
Other Offences Against the Person	0	1	2	0	1	2	0	3	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>153</b>	<b>117</b>	<b>104</b>	<b>138</b>	<b>160</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>124</b>	<b>166</b>	<b>129</b>
<b>Property Offences</b>									
Break-ins									
House	29	25	22	28	37	19	29	14	15
Commercial or Other Premises	32	14	23	15	30	24	30	43	39
Motor Vehicle Theft and Related Offences	21	9	4	8	13	16	19	15	20
Other Theft	127	111	98	95	139	106	97	107	112
Property Damage	88	59	48	71	94	63	82	95	98
Other Property Offences	1	4	2	0	2	4	1	4	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>298</b>	<b>222</b>	<b>197</b>	<b>217</b>	<b>315</b>	<b>232</b>	<b>258</b>	<b>278</b>	<b>285</b>



## Offences Against the Person

- In the current quarter, a total of 129 offences against the person were recorded in Katherine. This represents a decrease of 22% (37) from the previous quarter and a decrease of 19% (31) from the same quarter the previous year.
- As shown in the figure below *assault* was the dominant offence, accounting for 95% of offences against the person in the current quarter. The remaining offences were *sexual assault* and *robbery* accounting for 2% and *murder* and *other offences against the person* 1% each. There were no recorded offences relating to *attempted murder* or *manslaughter*.

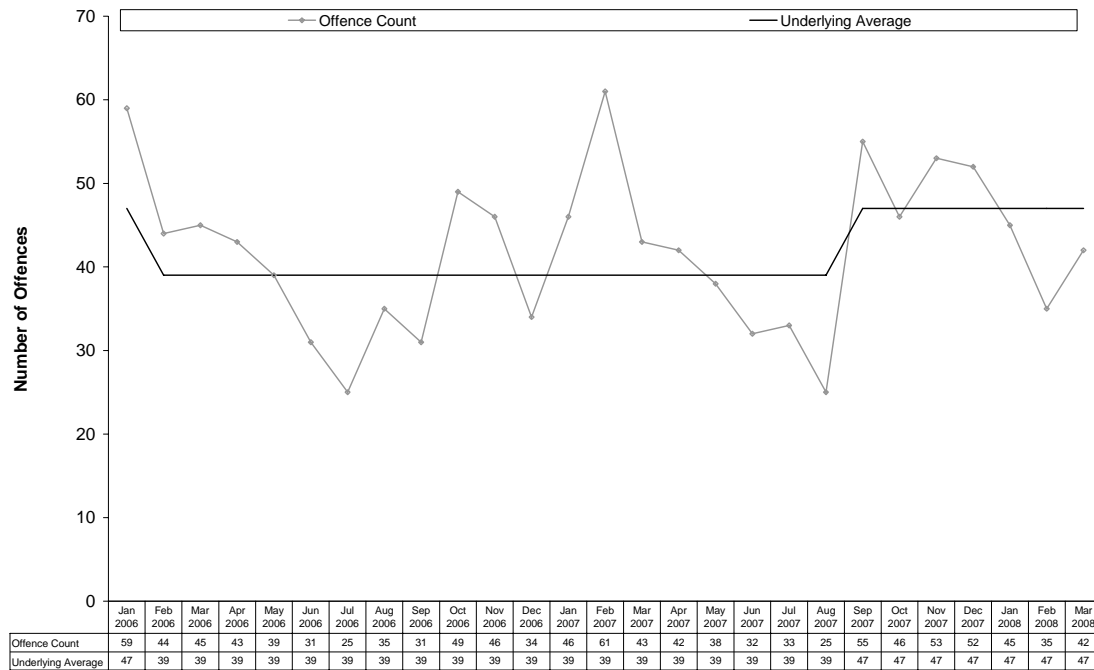
Figure 38 Recorded Offences Against the Person in Katherine – Current Quarter



### Assault

- The figure shows the underlying average level of *assault* has ranged between 39 and 47 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 47 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 122 *assault* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents a decrease of 19% (29) from the previous quarter and a decrease of 19% (28) from the same quarter the previous year.

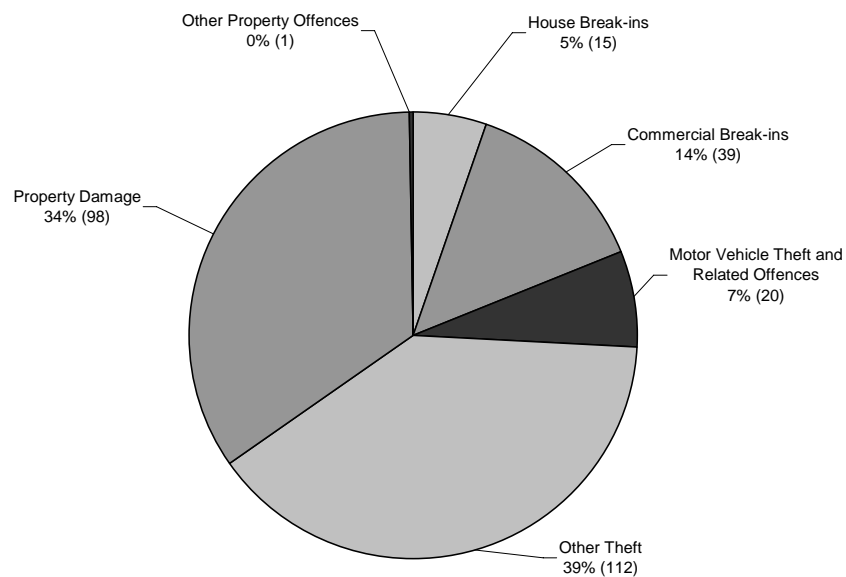
**Figure 39 Recorded Assault in Katherine**



## Property Offences

- In the current quarter there was a total of 285 recorded property offences in Katherine. This represents an increase of 3% (7) from the previous quarter, but a decrease of 10% (30) from the same quarter the previous year.
- The figure below shows 39% of property offences relate to *other theft*, with *property damage* at 34%. The remaining offences were *break-ins to commercial or other premises* 14%, *motor vehicle theft and related offences* 7%, *house break-ins* 5% and *other property offences* less than 1%.

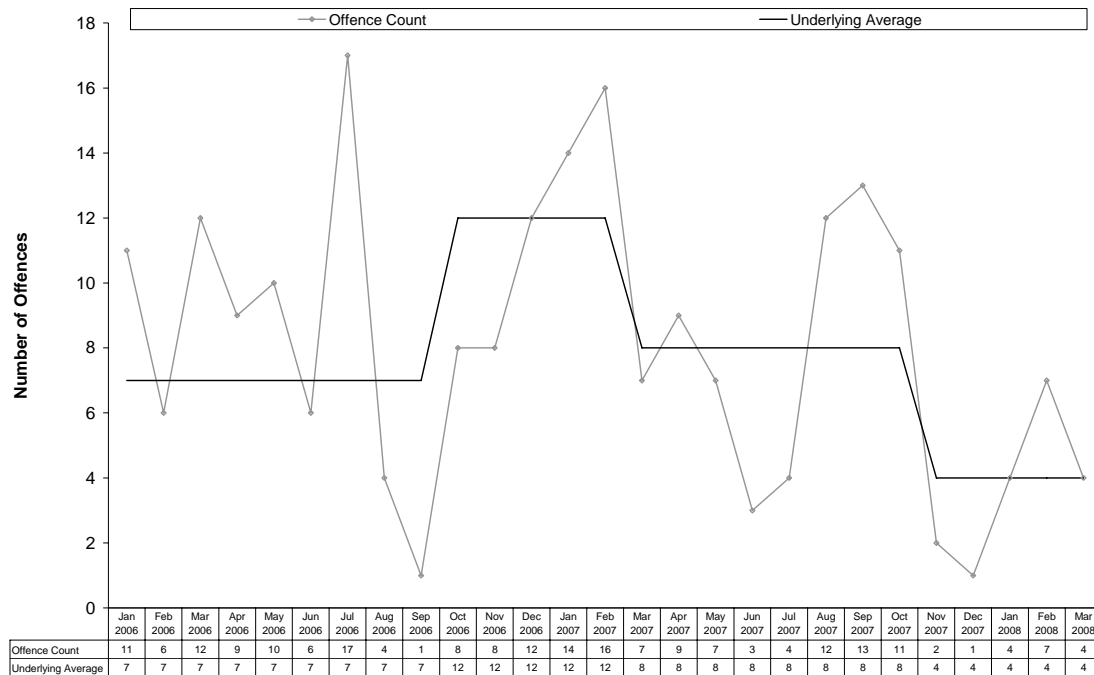
**Figure 40 Recorded Property Offences in Katherine – Current Quarter**



### House Break-ins

- The figure shows the underlying average level of *house break-ins* has ranged between 4 and 12 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 4 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 15 *house break-in* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 7% (1) from the previous quarter, but a decrease of 59% (22) from the same quarter the previous year.

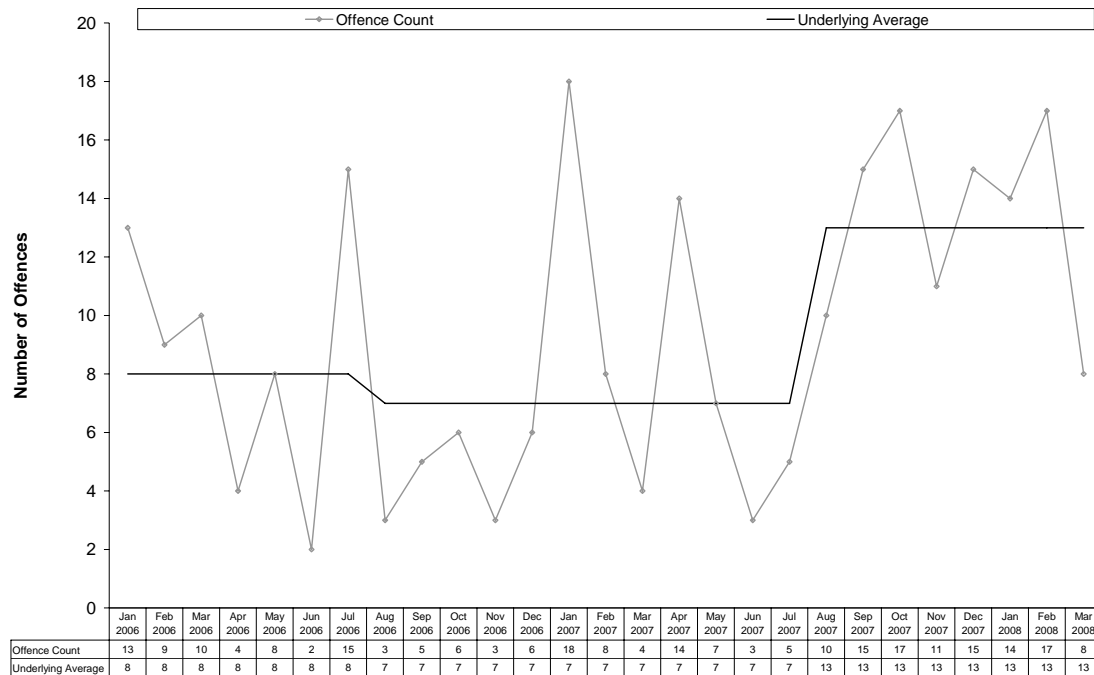
**Figure 41 Recorded House Break-ins in Katherine**



### 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 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 increased early in the period.
- There were 39 *break-ins to commercial or other premises* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents a decrease of 9% (4) from the previous quarter, but an increase of 30% (9) from the same quarter the previous year.

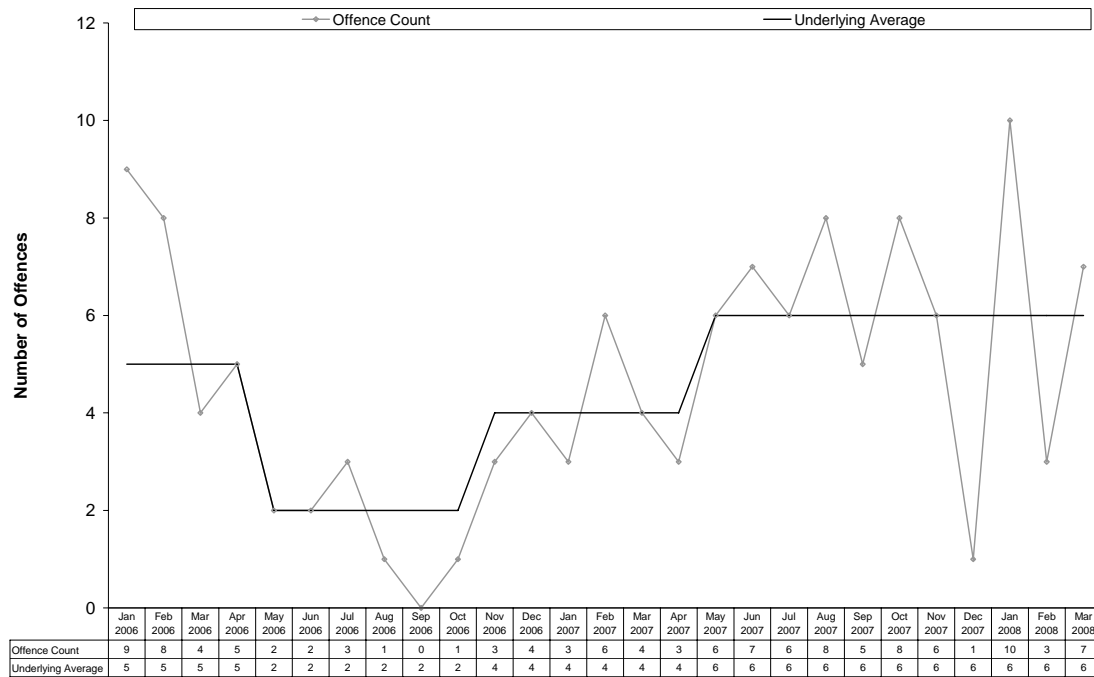
**Figure 42 Recorded Break-ins to Commercial or Other Premises in Katherine**



### 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 20 *motor vehicle theft and related offences* recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 33% (5) from the previous quarter and an increase of 54% (7) from the same quarter the previous year.

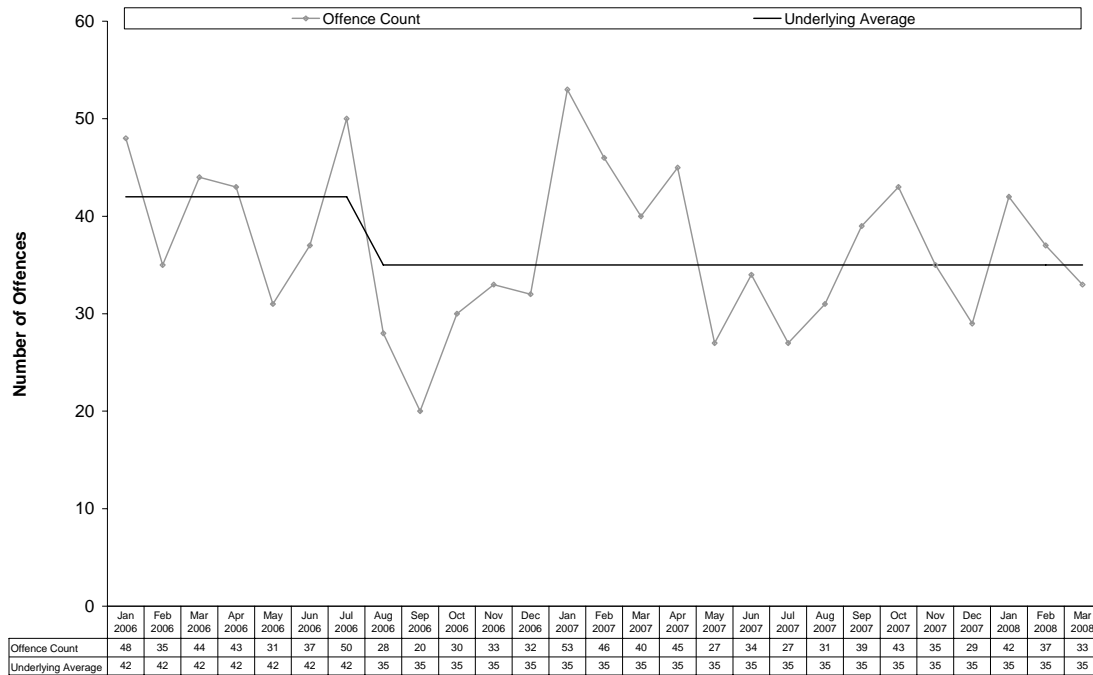
**Figure 43 Recorded Motor Vehicle Theft and Related Offences in Katherine**



### Other Theft

- The figure shows the underlying average level of *other theft* has ranged between 35 and 42 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 35 per month is at the lower end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average remained stable.
- There were 112 *other theft* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 5% (5) from the previous quarter, but a decrease of 19% (27) from the same quarter the previous year.

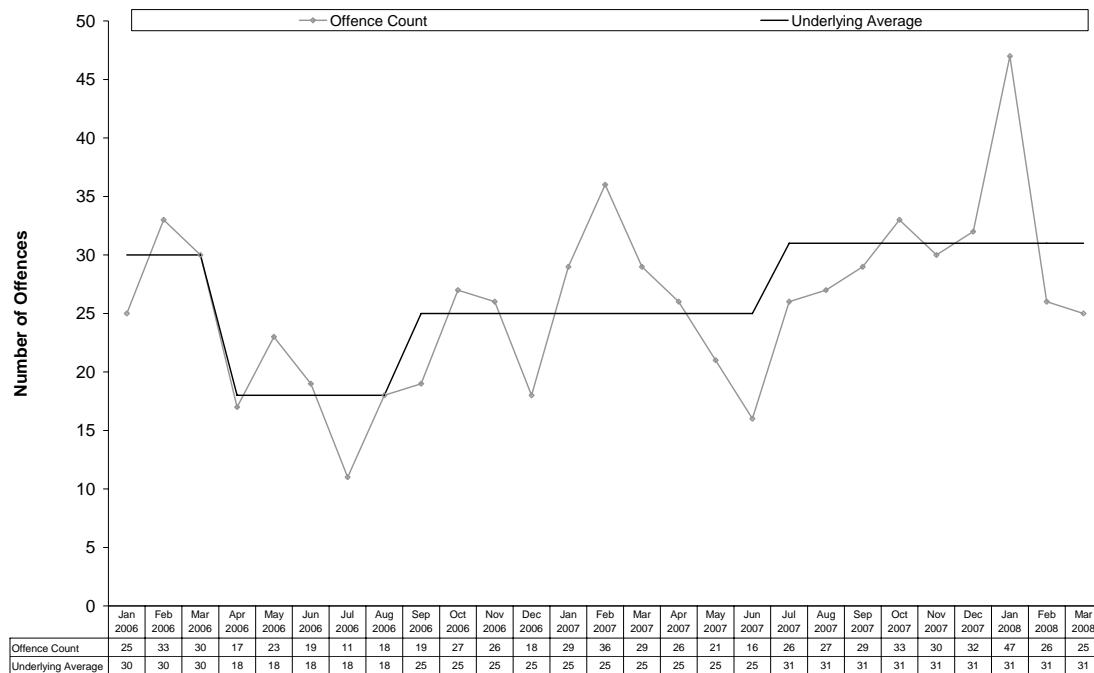
**Figure 44 Recorded Other Theft in Katherine**



### Property Damage

- The figure shows the underlying average level of *property damage* has ranged between 18 and 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 increased early in the period.
- There were 98 *property damage* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 3% (3) from the previous quarter and an increase of 4% (4) 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.

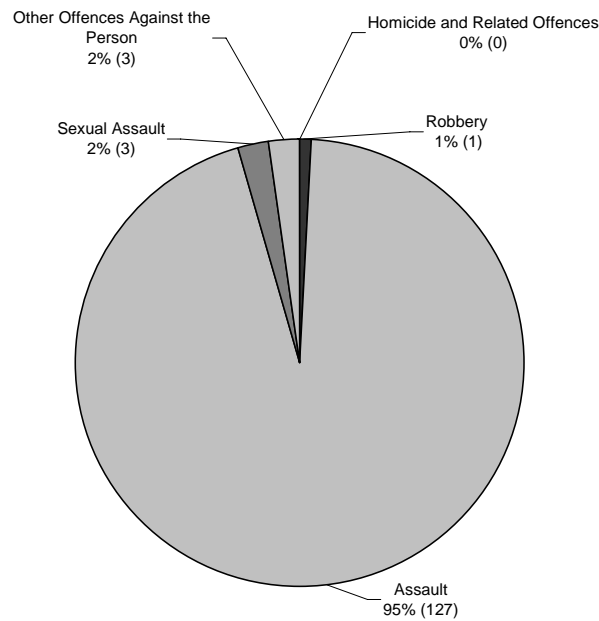
**Table 6 Recorded Offences in Tennant Creek**

	Mar	Jun	Sep	Dec	Mar	Jun	Sep	Dec	Mar
	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr
	2006	2006	2006	2006	2007	2007	2007	2007	2008
<b>Offences Against The Person</b>									
Homicide and Related Offences									
Murder	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Attempted Murder	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Manslaughter	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Robbery	1	3	0	1	0	1	1	1	1
Assault	128	105	82	111	125	109	132	135	127
Sexual Assault	8	10	7	4	5	4	7	7	3
Other Offences Against the Person	1	3	6	0	0	1	3	1	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>138</b>	<b>121</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>116</b>	<b>131</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>134</b>
<b>Property Offences</b>									
Break-ins									
House	24	12	7	22	14	18	10	25	12
Commercial or Other Premises	40	20	14	22	30	26	13	15	28
Motor Vehicle Theft and Related Offences	7	6	2	3	2	6	4	8	8
Other Theft	98	37	42	62	58	68	50	51	59
Property Damage	80	58	46	65	56	82	54	72	96
Other Property Offences	1	0	0	1	2	0	0	2	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>250</b>	<b>133</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>175</b>	<b>162</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>131</b>	<b>173</b>	<b>205</b>

### Offences Against the Person

- In the current quarter, a total of 134 offences against the person were recorded in Tennant Creek. This represents a decrease of 7% (10) from the previous quarter, but an increase of 2% (3) from the same quarter the previous year.
- As shown in the figure below *assault* was the dominant 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* both accounting for 2% each and *robbery* 1%. There were no offences recorded relating to *murder*, *attempted murder* or *manslaughter*.

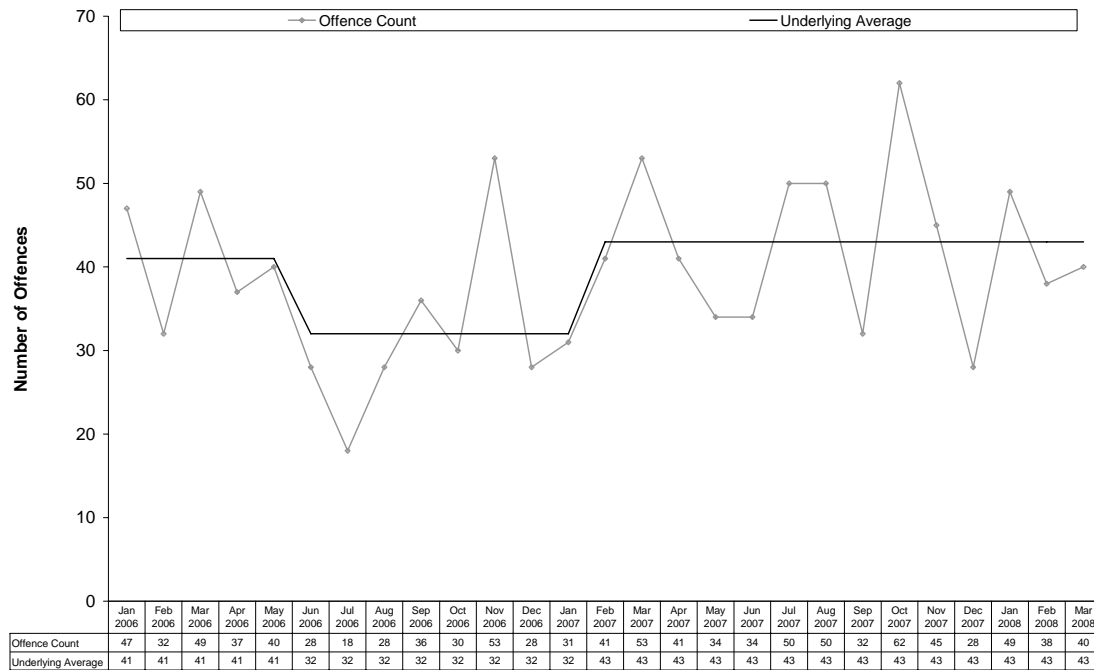
Figure 46 Recorded Offences Against the Person in Tennant Creek – Current Quarter



### Assault

- The figure shows the underlying average level of *assault* has ranged between 32 and 43 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 43 per month is at the higher end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average remained stable.
- There were 127 *assault* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents a decrease of 6% (8) from the previous quarter, but an increase of 2% (2) from the same quarter the previous year.

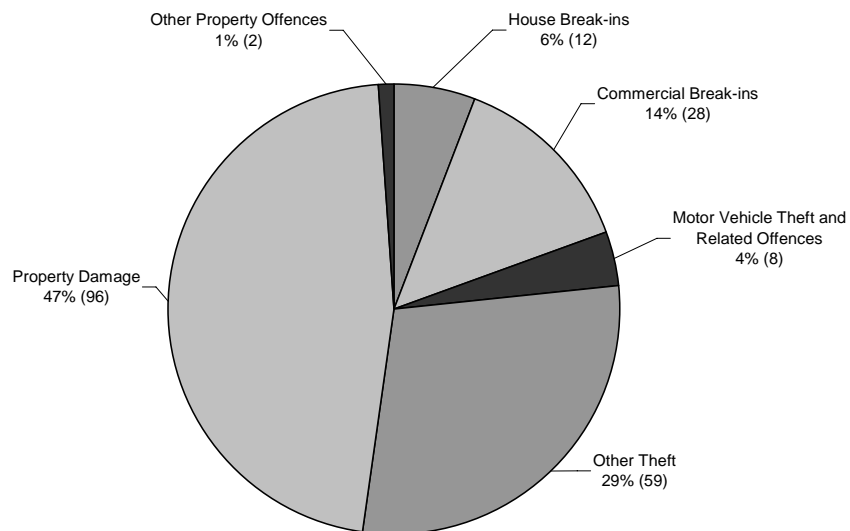
**Figure 47 Recorded Assault in Tennant Creek**



## Property Offences

- In the current quarter there was a total of 205 recorded property offences in Tennant Creek. This represents an increase of 18% (32) from the previous quarter and an increase of 27% (43) from the same quarter the previous year.
- The figure below shows 47% of property offences relate to *property damage*, with *other theft* at 29%. The remaining offences were *break-ins to commercial or other premises* 14%, *house break-ins* 6%, *motor vehicle theft and related offences* 4% and *other property offences* 1%.

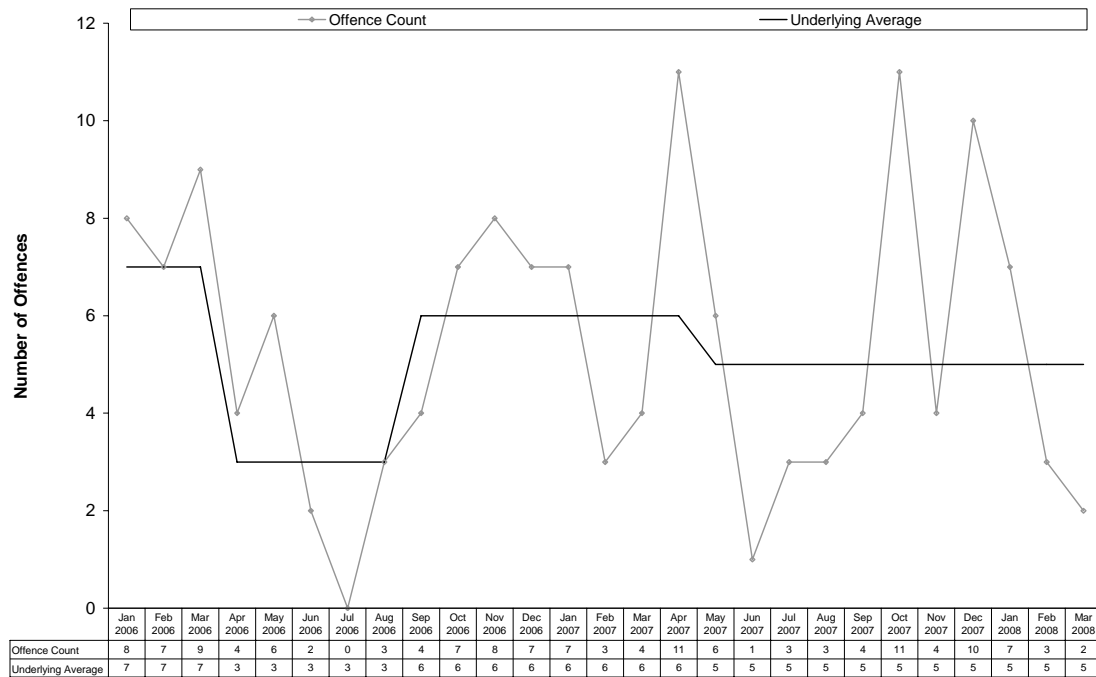
**Figure 48 Recorded Property Offences in Tennant Creek – Current Quarter**



### 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 12 *house break-in* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents a decrease of 52% (13) from the previous quarter and a decrease of 14% (2) from the same quarter the previous year.

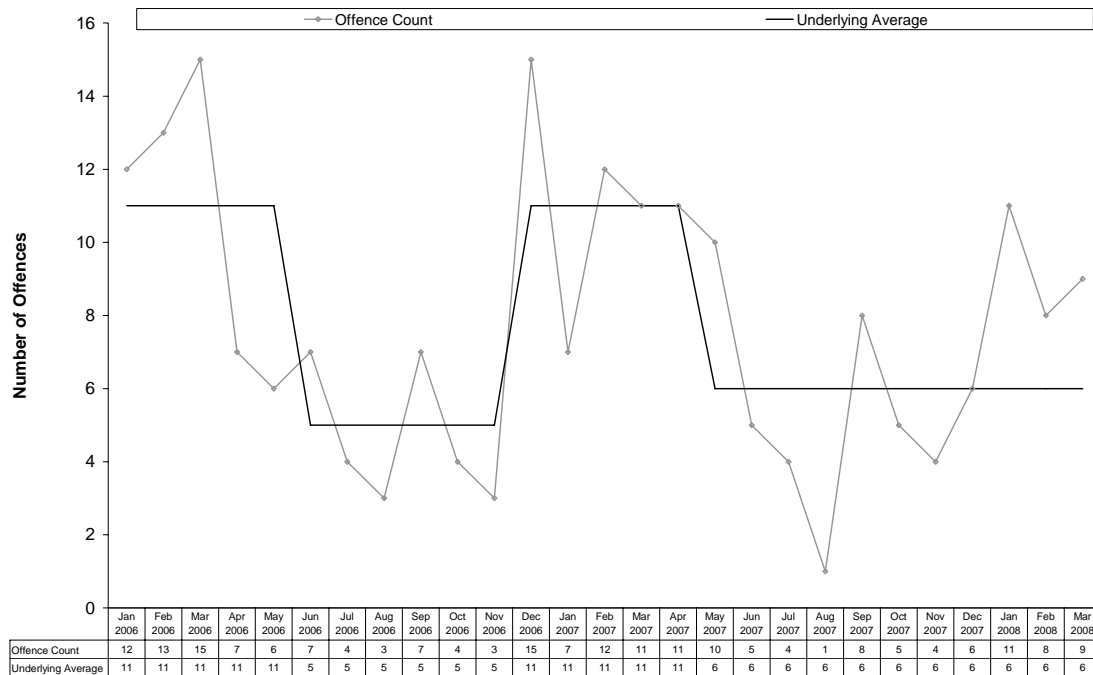
**Figure 49 Recorded House Break-ins in Tennant Creek**



### 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 5 and 11 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 6 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 28 *break-ins to commercial or other premises* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 87% (13) from the previous quarter, but a decrease of 7% (2) from the same quarter the previous year.

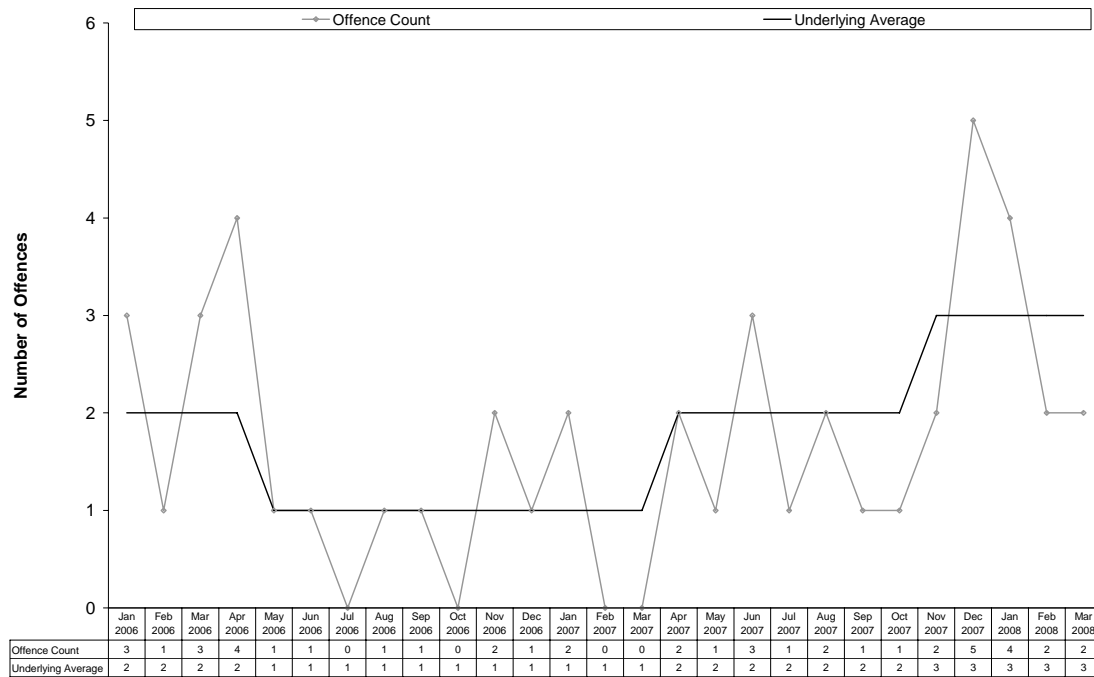
**Figure 50 Recorded Break-ins to Commercial or Other Premises in Tennant Creek**



### 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 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 increased in the middle of the period.
- There were 8 *motor vehicle theft and related offences* recorded in the current quarter. There were no changes from the previous quarter, but an increase of 6 offences from the same quarter the previous year.

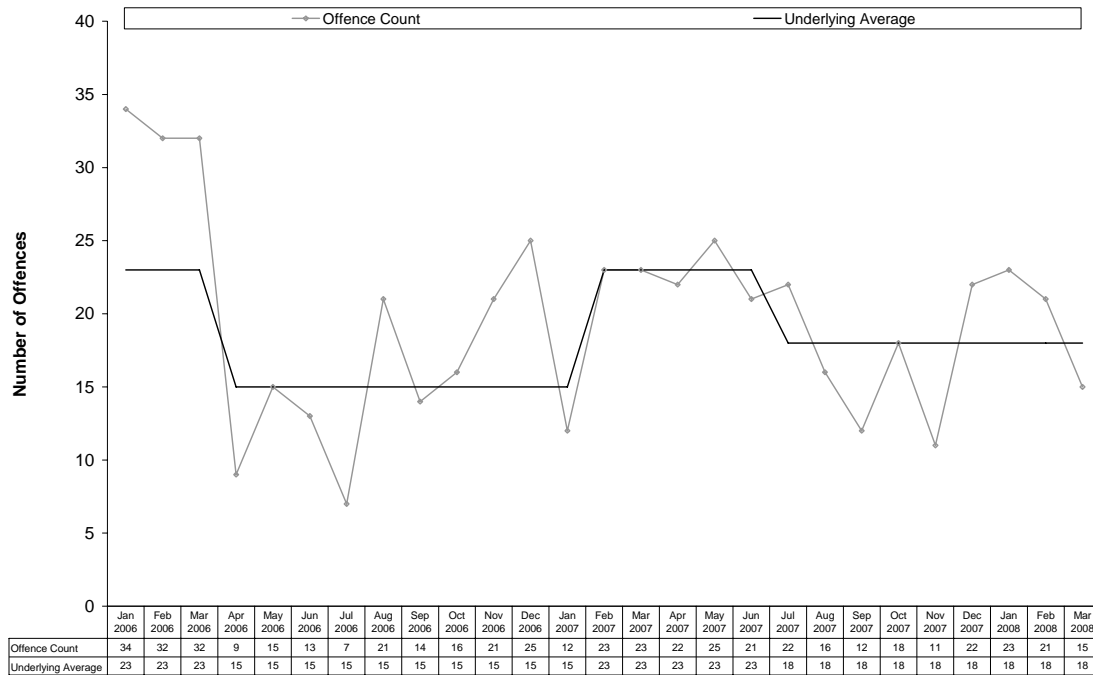
**Figure 51 Recorded Motor Vehicle Theft and Related Offences in Tennant Creek**



**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 18 per month is in the middle of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average decreased early in the period.
- There were 59 *other theft* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 16% (8) from the previous quarter and an increase of 2% (1) from the same quarter the previous year.

**Figure 52 Recorded Other Theft in Tennant Creek**

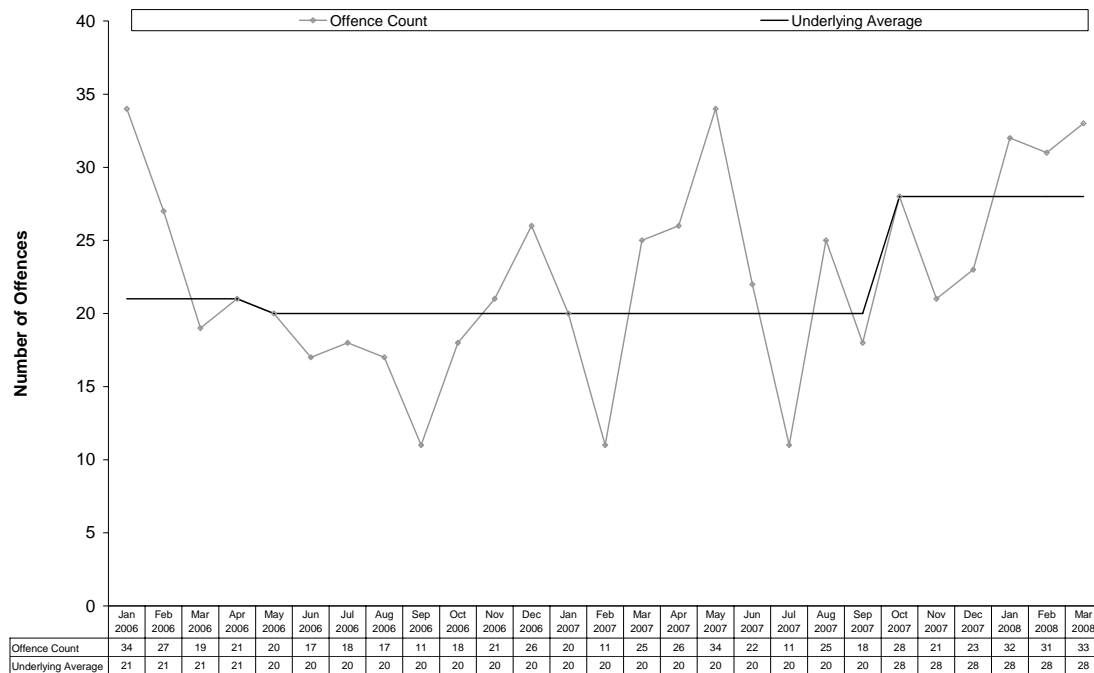




### Property Damage

- The figure shows the underlying average level of *property damage* has ranged between 20 and 28 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 28 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 96 *property damage* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 33% (24) from the previous quarter and an increase of 71% (40) 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.

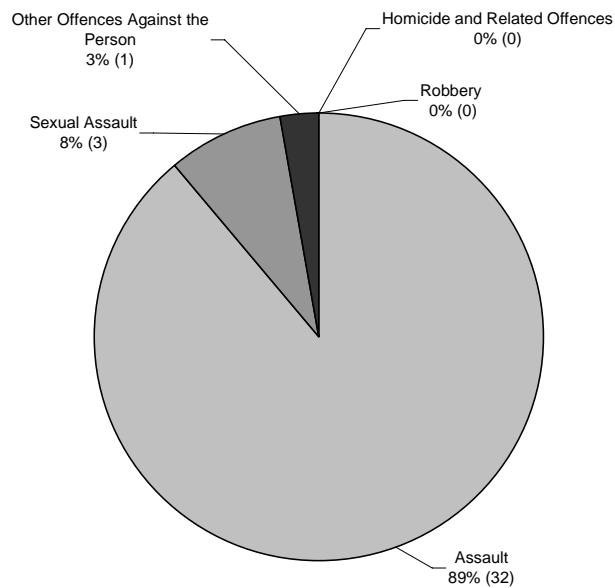
**Table 7 Recorded Offences in Nhulunbuy**

	Mar	Jun	Sep	Dec	Mar	Jun	Sep	Dec	Mar
	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr
	2006	2006	2006	2006	2007	2007	2007	2007	2008
<b>Offences Against The Person</b>									
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	0	0
Robbery	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0
Assault	35	16	13	17	42	30	38	41	32
Sexual Assault	1	3	4	2	2	4	3	2	3
Other Offences Against the Person	0	0	0	1	0	0	2	2	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>36</b>
<b>Property Offences</b>									
Break-ins									
House	2	8	2	3	7	5	2	1	2
Commercial or Other Premises	3	10	14	2	8	6	9	9	7
Motor Vehicle Theft and Related Offences	0	2	2	5	2	5	5	8	8
Other Theft	29	32	30	21	29	36	23	28	29
Property Damage	26	33	22	24	31	30	29	33	31
Other Property Offences	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>77</b>

### Offences Against the Person

- In the current quarter, a total of 36 offences against the person were recorded in Nhulunbuy. This represents a decrease of 20% (9) from the previous quarter and a decrease of 18% (8) from the same quarter the previous year.
- As shown in the figure below *assault* was the most frequent offence, accounting for 89% of offences against the person in the current quarter. *Sexual assault* accounted for 8% and *other offences against the person* 3%. There were no recorded offences relating to *murder, attempted murder, manslaughter* or *robbery*.

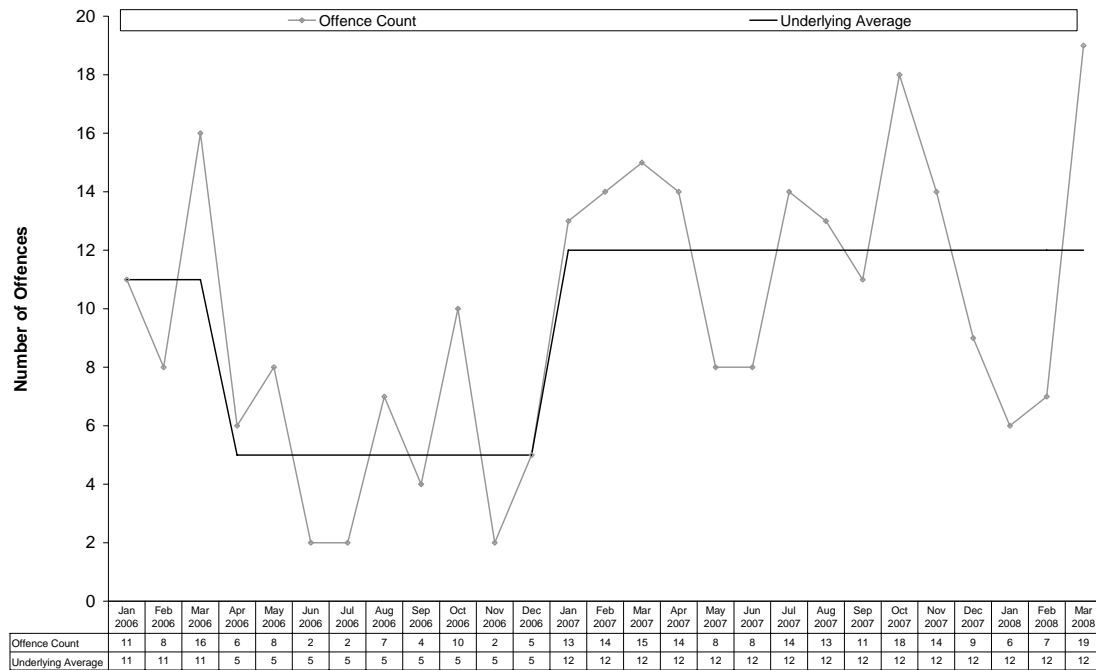
Figure 54 Recorded Offences Against the Person in Nhulunbuy – Current Quarter



### Assault

- The figure shows the underlying average level of *assault* has ranged between 5 and 12 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 12 per month is at the higher end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average remained stable.
- There were 32 *assault* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents a decrease of 22% (9) from the previous quarter and a decrease of 24% (10) from the same quarter the previous year.

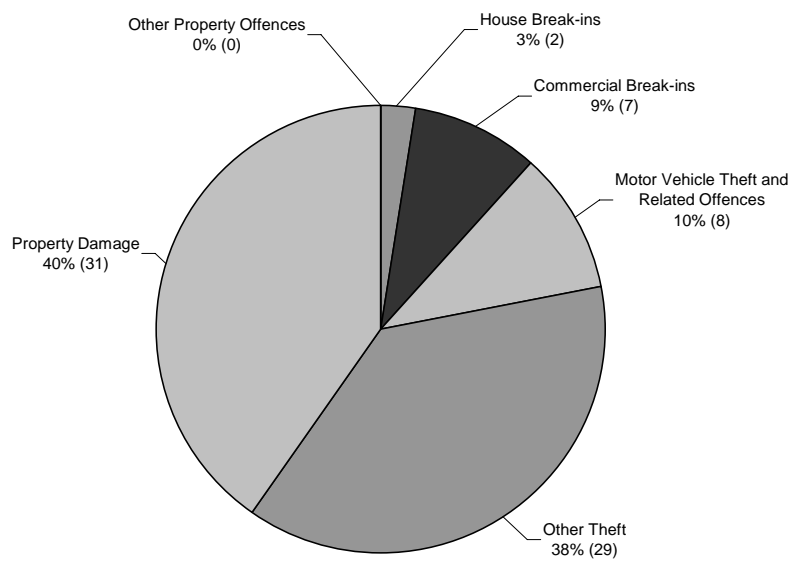
**Figure 55 Recorded Assault in Nhulunbuy**



## Property Offences

- In the current quarter there was a total of 77 recorded property offences in Nhulunbuy. This represents a decrease of 3% (2) from the previous quarter and a decrease of 1% (1) from the same quarter the previous year.
- The figure below shows 40% of property offences relate to *property damage*, with *other theft* at 38%. The remaining offences were *motor vehicle theft and related offences* accounting for 10%, *break-ins to commercial or other premises* 9% and *house break-ins* 3%. There were no offences relating to *other property offences*.

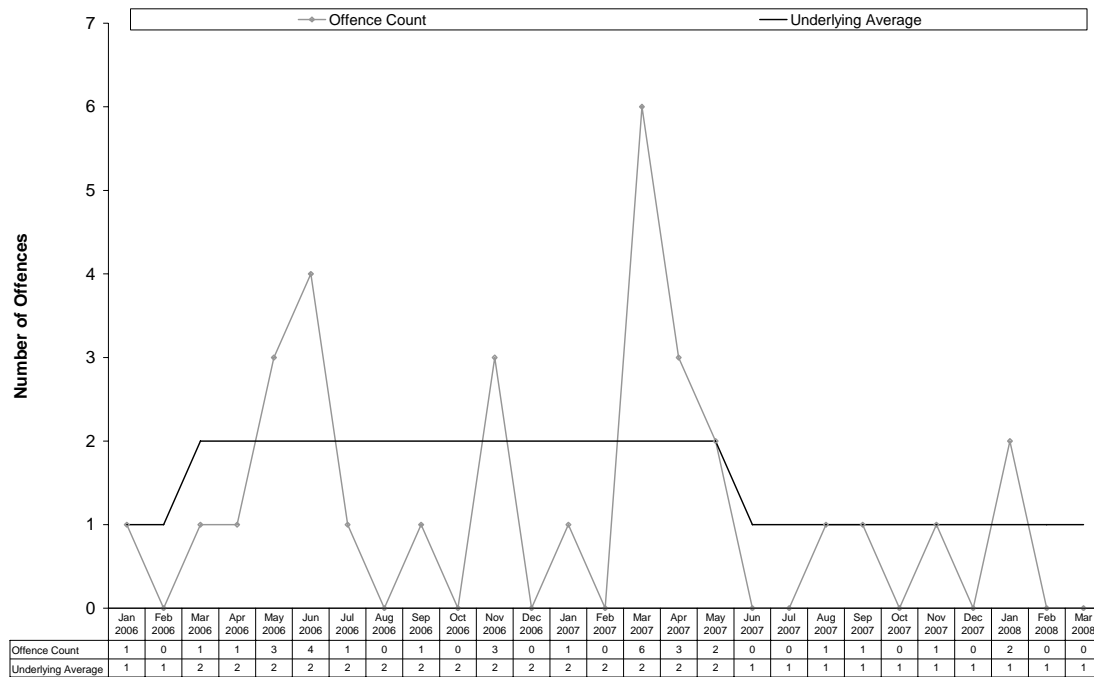
**Figure 56 Recorded Property Offences in Nhulunbuy – Current Quarter**



### House Break-ins

- The figure shows the underlying average level of *house break-ins* has ranged between 1 and 2 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 1 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 2 *house break-in* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 1 offence from the previous quarter, but a decrease of 5 offences from the same quarter the previous year.

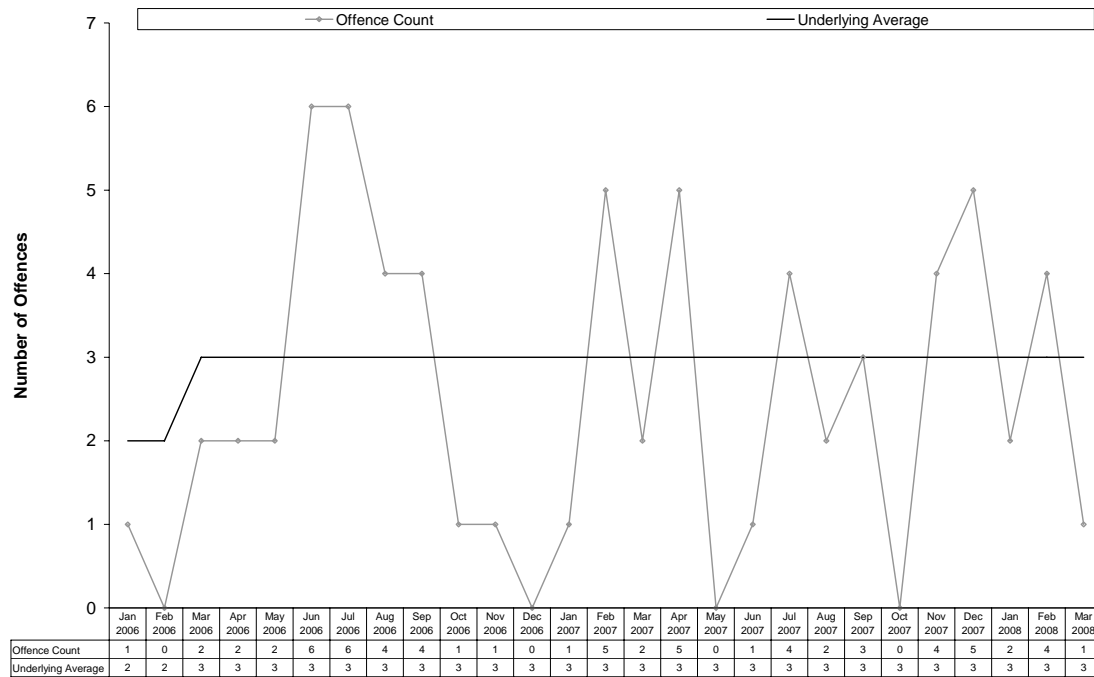
**Figure 57 Recorded House Break-ins in Nhulunbuy**



### 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 7 *break-ins to commercial or other premises* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents a decrease of 2 offences from the previous quarter and a decrease of 1 offence from the same quarter the previous year.

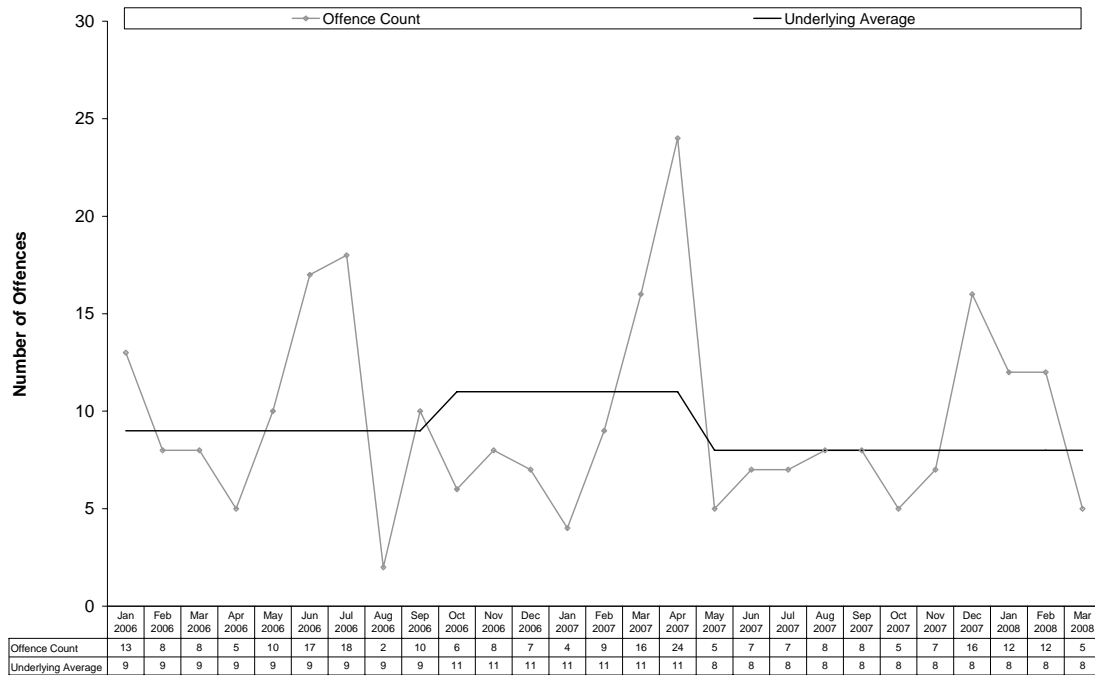
**Figure 58 Recorded Break-ins to Commercial or Other Premises in Nhulunbuy**



**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 29 *other theft* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 4% (1) offence from the previous quarter, but no changes from the same quarter the previous year.

**Figure 59 Recorded Other Theft in Nhulunbuy**

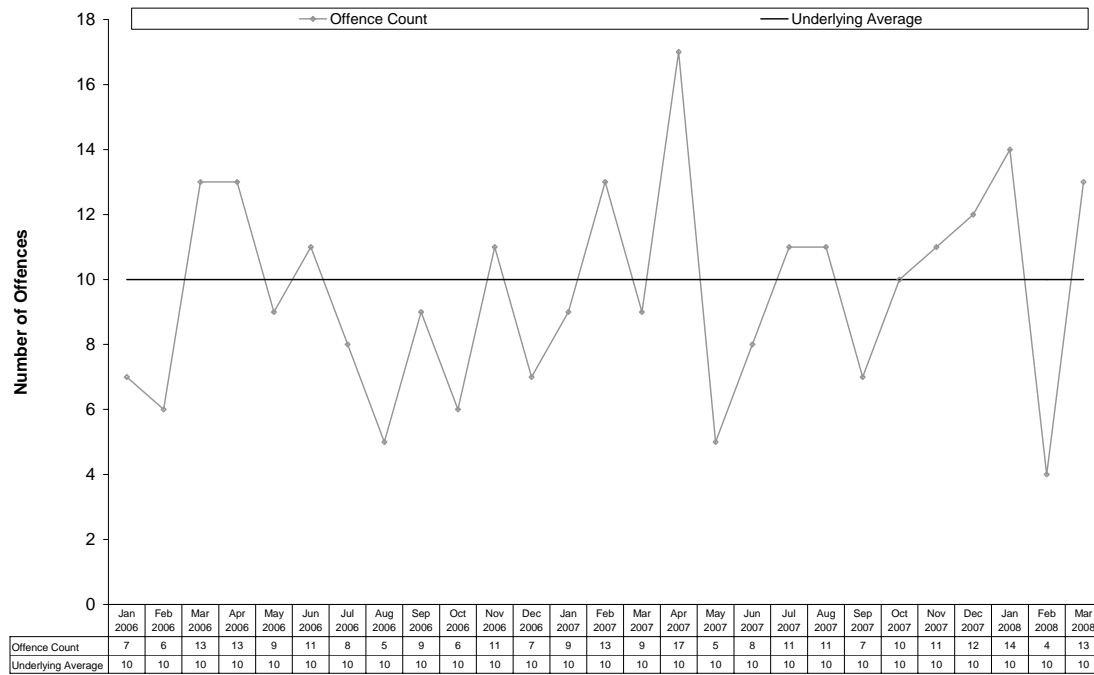




### Property Damage

- 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 31 *property damage* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents a decrease of 6% (2) from the previous quarter, but no changes 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.

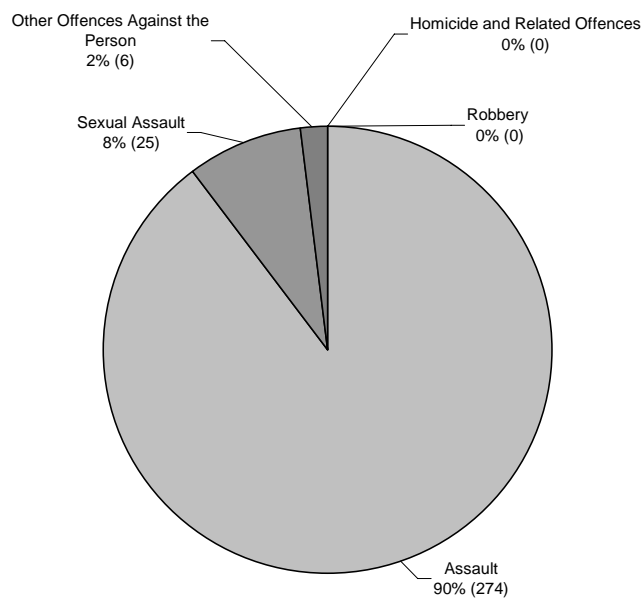
**Table 8 Recorded Offences in the Northern Territory Balance**

	Mar	Jun	Sep	Dec	Mar	Jun	Sep	Dec	Mar
	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr
	2006	2006	2006	2006	2007	2007	2007	2007	2008
<b>Offences Against The Person</b>									
Homicide and Related Offences									
Murder	1	0	1	2	0	0	2	1	0
Attempted Murder	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Manslaughter	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Robbery	1	0	3	4	4	1	2	0	0
Assault	304	305	277	308	287	291	343	305	274
Sexual Assault	25	19	26	33	24	33	29	28	25
Other Offences Against the Person	6	14	7	10	2	11	18	8	6
<b>Total</b>	<b>337</b>	<b>339</b>	<b>315</b>	<b>357</b>	<b>317</b>	<b>336</b>	<b>395</b>	<b>342</b>	<b>305</b>
<b>Property Offences</b>									
Break-ins									
House	75	68	66	71	67	54	56	45	78
Commercial or Other Premises	128	82	80	79	99	69	63	94	132
Motor Vehicle Theft and Related Offences	40	49	33	44	45	61	51	73	62
Other Theft	253	231	217	200	217	222	223	215	262
Property Damage	243	198	207	216	205	168	194	220	218
Other Property Offences	19	8	4	8	6	9	5	3	8
<b>Total</b>	<b>758</b>	<b>636</b>	<b>607</b>	<b>618</b>	<b>639</b>	<b>583</b>	<b>592</b>	<b>650</b>	<b>760</b>

## Offences Against the Person

- In the current quarter, a total of 305 offences against the person were recorded in the Northern Territory Balance. This represents a decrease of 11% (37) from the previous quarter and a decrease of 4% (12) 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* 8% and *other offences against the person* 2%. There were no recorded offences relating to *murder*, *attempted murder*, *manslaughter* or *robbery*.

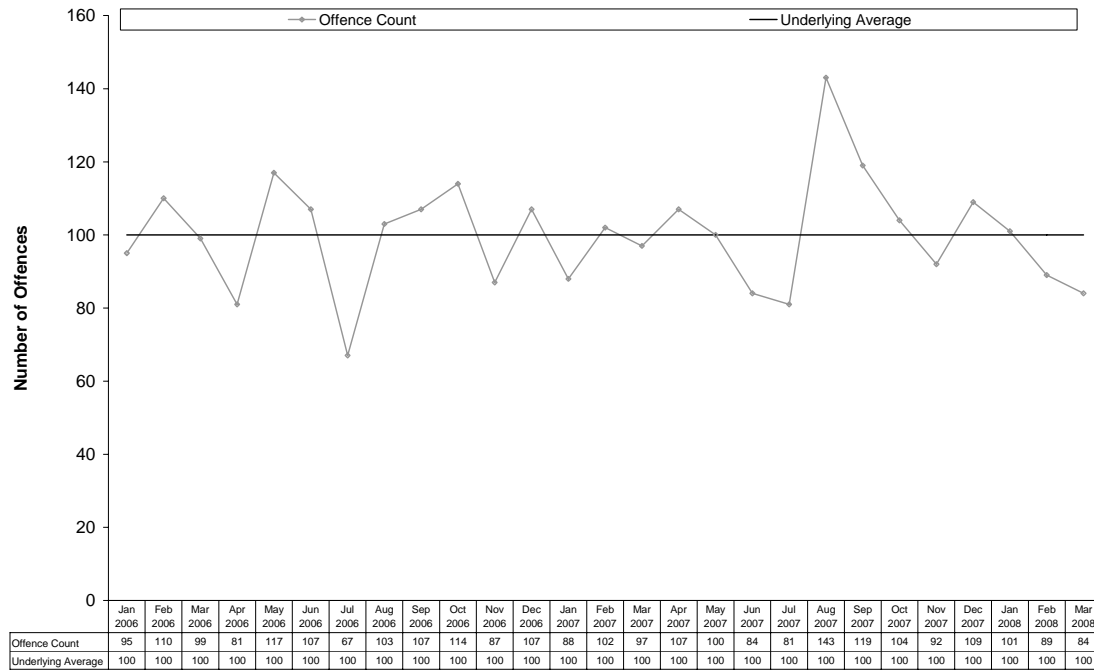
**Figure 61 Recorded Offences Against the Person in the Northern Territory Balance – Current Quarter**



### Assault

- The figure shows the underlying average level of *assault* has remained stable at 100 offences per month during the past nine quarters.
- There were 274 *assault* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents a decrease of 10% (31) from the previous quarter and a decrease of 5% (13) from the same quarter the previous year.

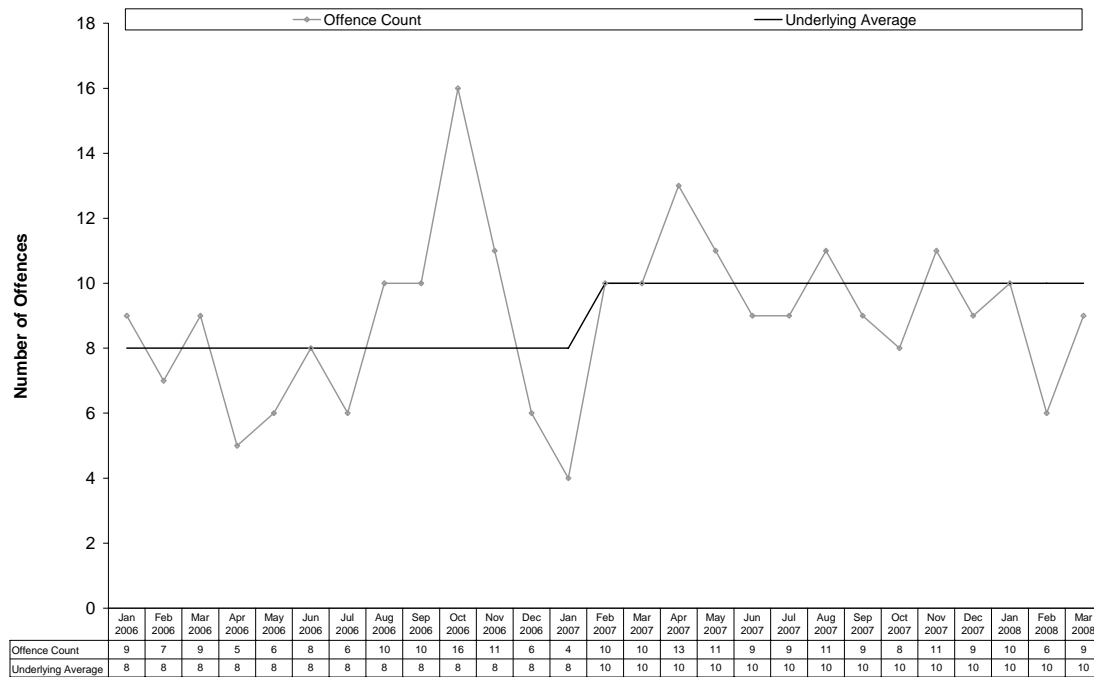
**Figure 62 Recorded Assault in the Northern Territory Balance**



### Sexual Assault

- The figure shows the underlying average level of *sexual assault* has ranged between 8 and 10 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 10 per month is at the higher end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average remained stable.
- There were 25 *sexual assault* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents a decrease of 11% (3) from the previous quarter, but an increase of 4% (1) from the same quarter the previous year.

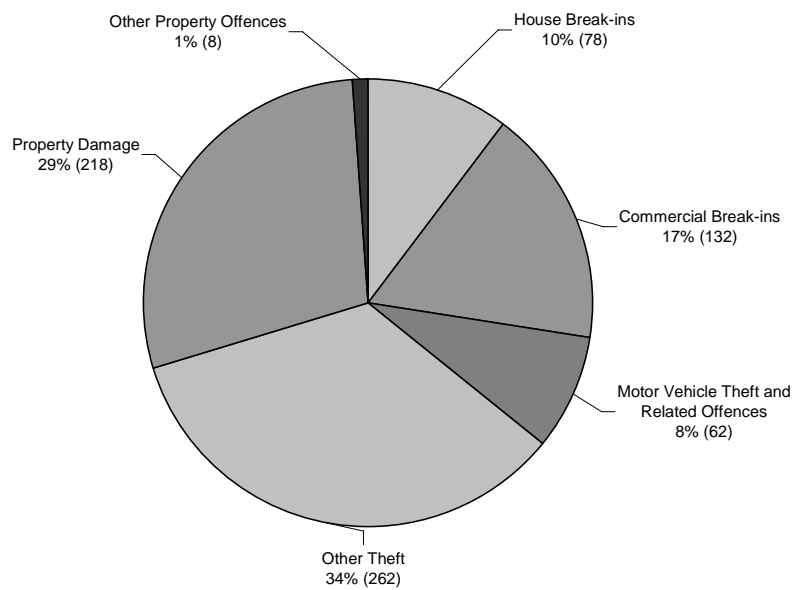
**Figure 63 Recorded Sexual Assault in the Northern Territory Balance**



## Property Offences

- In the current quarter, a total of 760 property offences were recorded in the Northern Territory Balance. This represents an increase of 17% (110) from the previous quarter and an increase of 19% (121) from the same quarter the previous year.
- The figure below shows 34% of property offences relate to *other theft*, with *property damage* at 29%. The remaining offences were *break-ins to commercial or other premises* 17%, *house break-ins* 10%, *motor vehicle theft and related offences* 8%, and *other property offences* 1%.

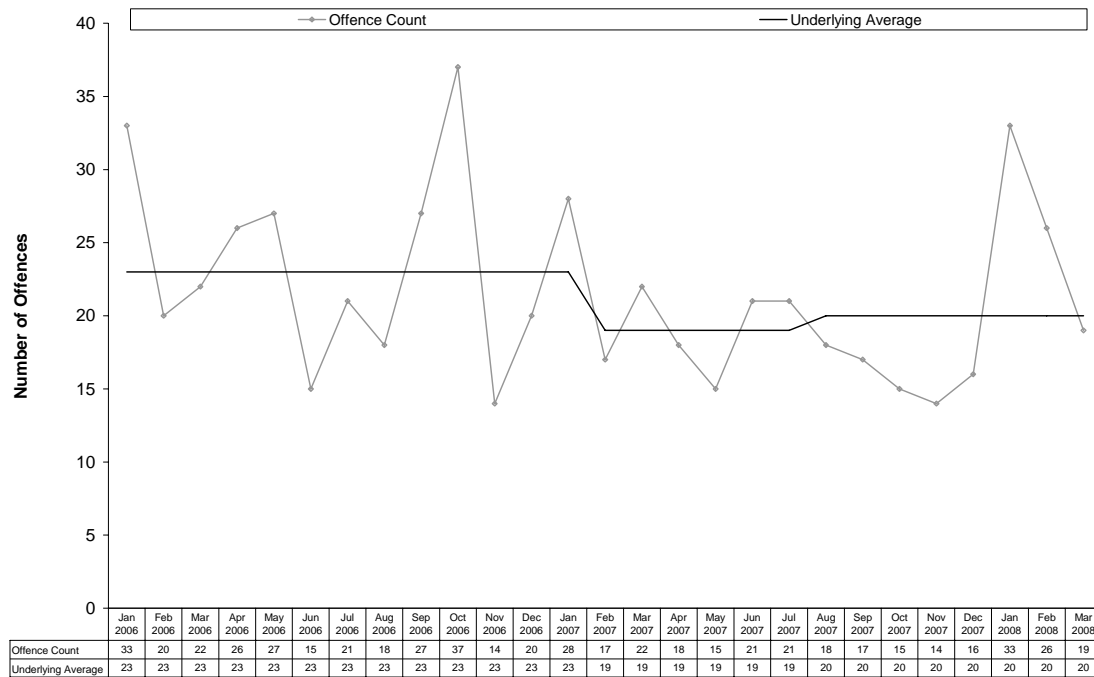
**Figure 64 Recorded Property Offences in the Northern Territory Balance – Current Quarter**



### House Break-ins

- The figure shows the underlying average level of *house break-ins* has ranged between 19 and 23 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 20 per month is in the middle of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average increased early in the period.
- There were 78 *house break-in* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 73% (33) from the previous quarter and an increase of 16% (11) from the same quarter the previous year.

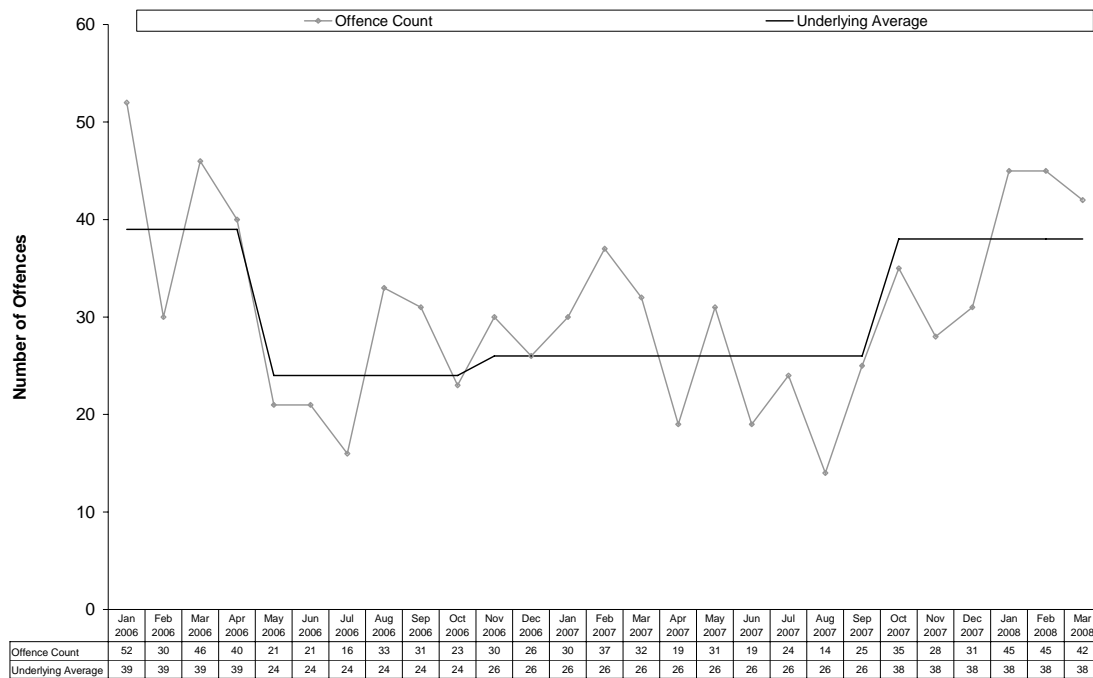
**Figure 65 Recorded House Break-ins in the Northern Territory Balance**



### 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 38 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 132 *break-ins to commercial or other premises* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 40% (38) from the previous quarter and an increase of 33% (33) from the same quarter the previous year.

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

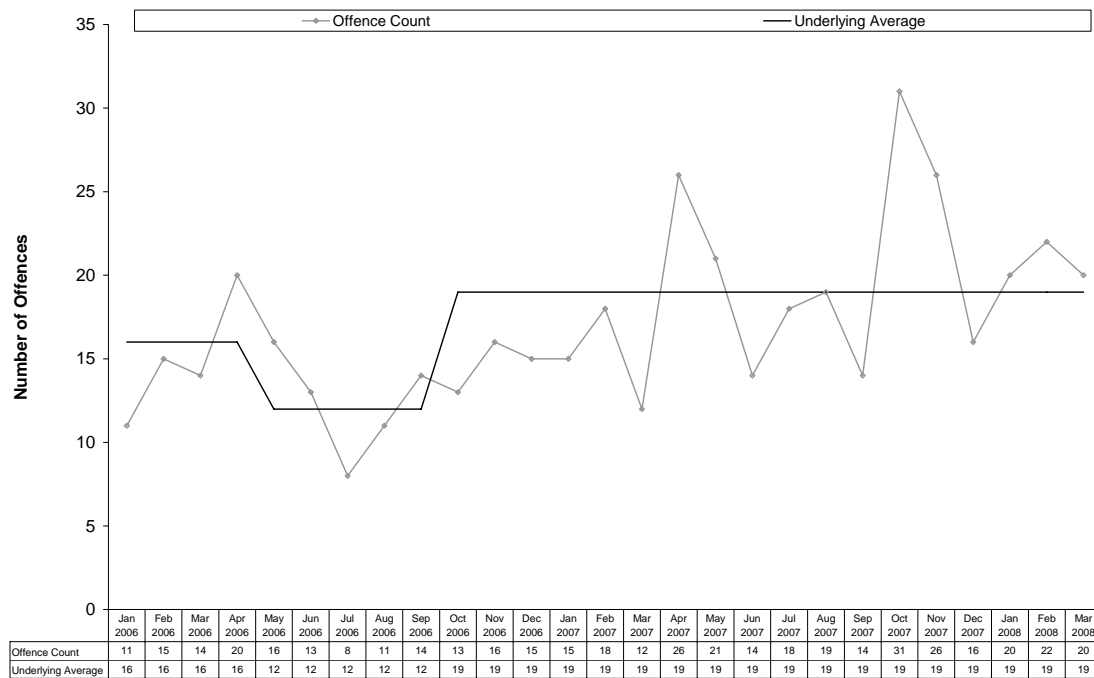




### Motor Vehicle Theft and Related Offences

- The figure shows the underlying average level of *motor vehicle theft and related offences* has ranged between 12 and 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 remained stable.
- There were 62 *motor vehicle theft and related offences* recorded in the current quarter. This represents a decrease of 15% (11) from the previous quarter, but an increase of 38% (17) from the same quarter the previous year.

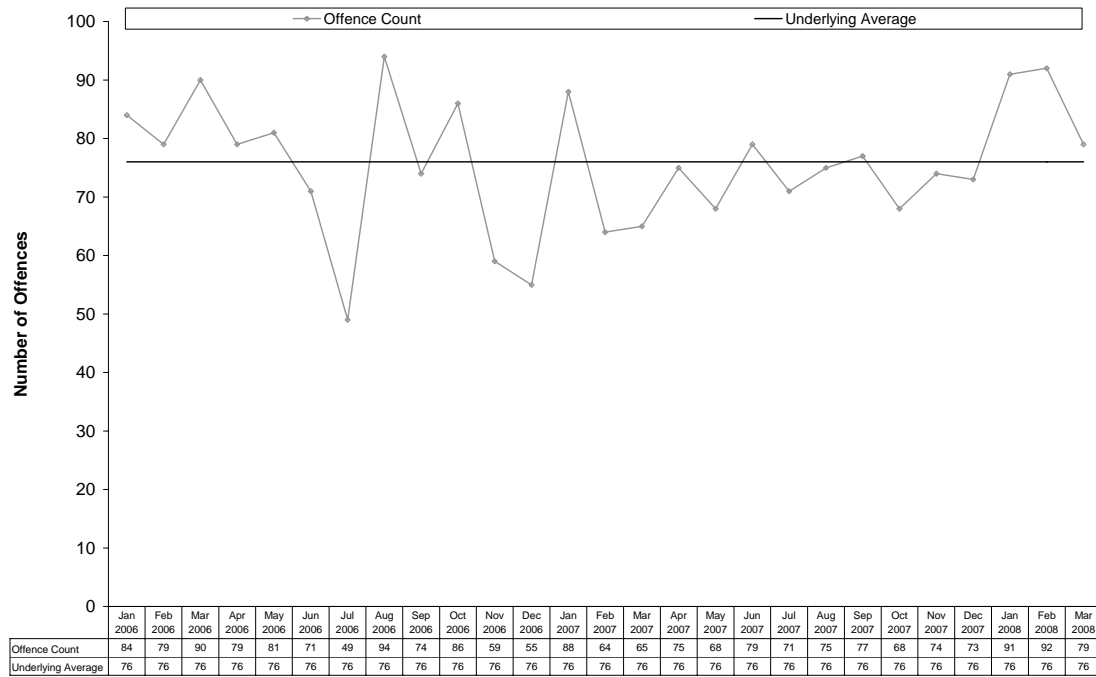
**Figure 67 Recorded Motor Vehicle Theft and Related Offences in the Northern Territory Balance**



### Other Theft

- The figure shows the underlying average level of *other theft* has remained stable at 76 offences per month during the past nine quarters.
- There were 262 *other theft* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 22% (47) from the previous quarter and an increase of 21% (45) from the same quarter the previous year.

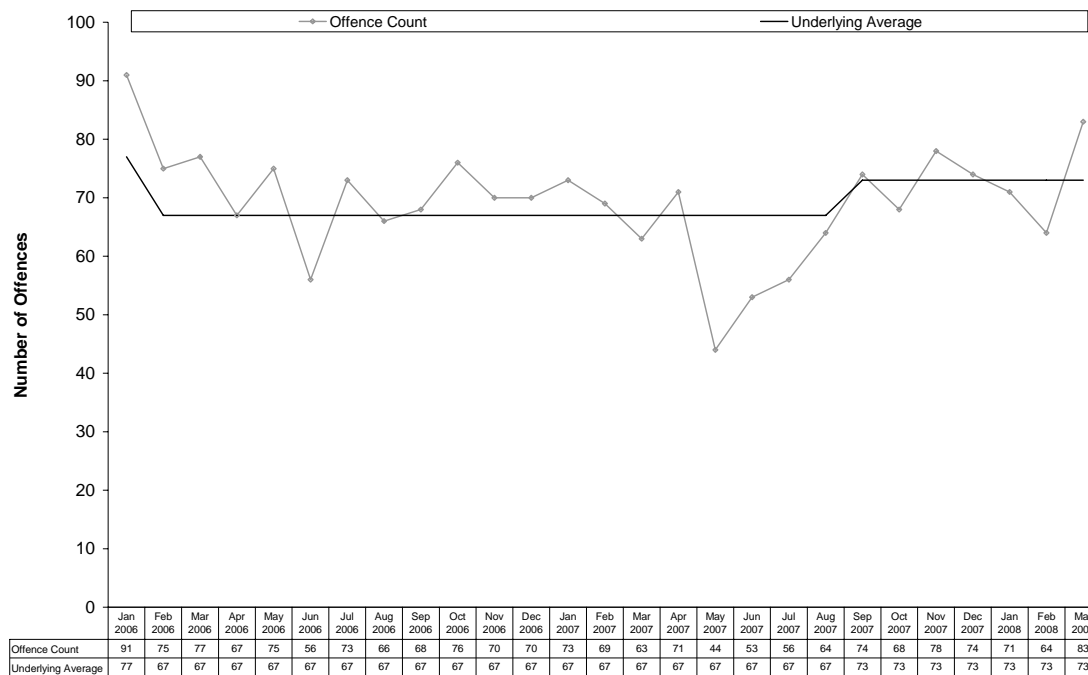
**Figure 68 Recorded Other Theft in the Northern Territory Balance**



### Property Damage

- The figure shows the underlying average level of *property damage* has ranged between 67 and 77 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 73 per month is in the middle 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 218 *property damage* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents a decrease of less than one percent (2) from the previous quarter, but an increase of 6% (13) 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 March quarter 2006 to the March quarter 2008.

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*.

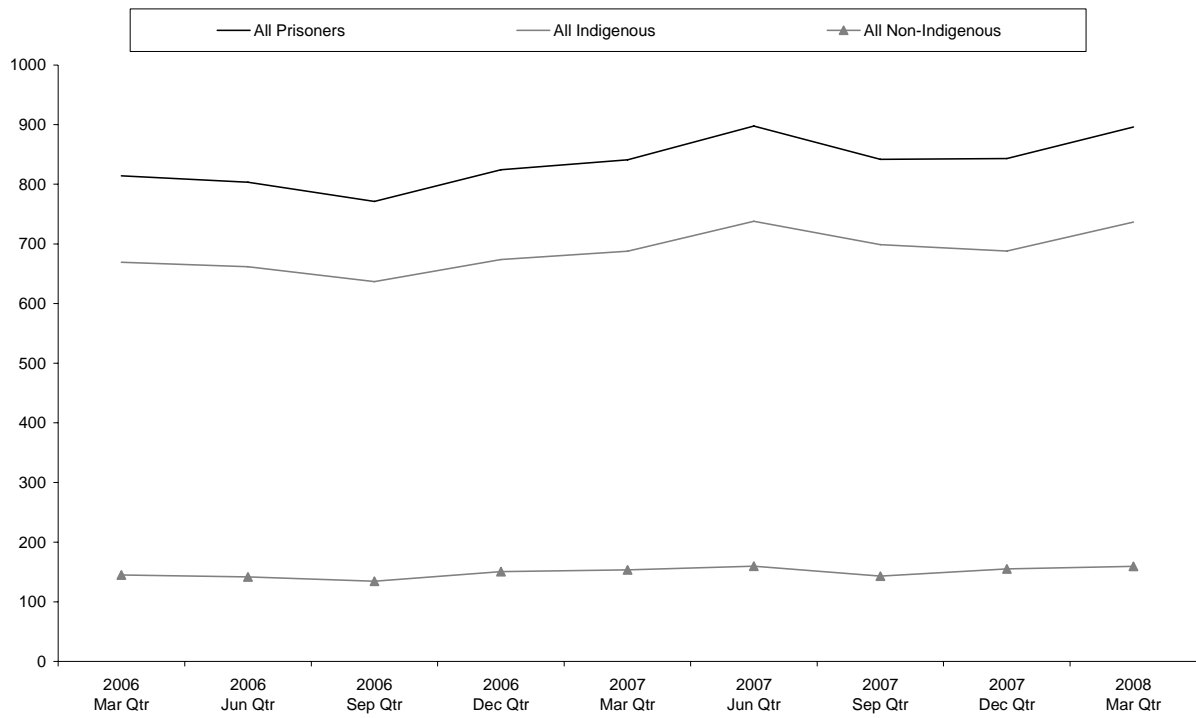
- The *quarterly daily average* is the average number of persons held in institutions per day over the stipulated three-month period. The quarterly daily averages have been rounded to the closest whole number — as a result, discrepancies may occur between the sum of component items and the total.
- *People 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 771 and 898. In the current quarter, the daily average was 896. It increased by 6% (53) from the previous quarter and increased by 7% (55) from the same quarter last year.
- The daily average number of Indigenous prisoners has ranged between 637 and 738 during the past nine quarters. The current quarterly daily average number was 737, 7% (49) higher than the previous quarter and 7% (49) 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 41 female prisoners in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 11% (4) from the previous quarter and an increase of 8% (3) from the same quarter the previous year.

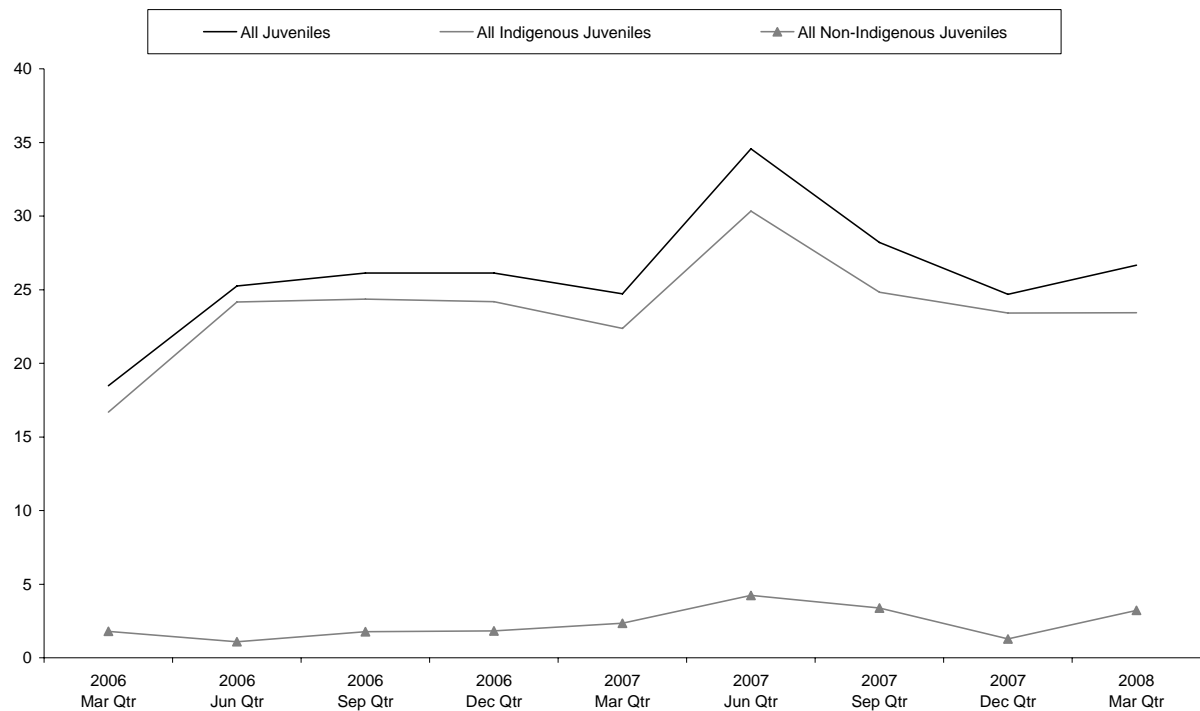
**Figure 70 Quarterly Daily Average Number of Adults Held in Prison**



#### 4.2.2 Juveniles

- The number of juveniles detained in the Territory is small and relatively volatile. The quarterly daily average ranged between 18 and 35 over the period March quarter 2006 to the current quarter.
- In the current quarter, the quarterly daily average number of juveniles held in detention in the Northern Territory was 27. This represents an increase of 8% (2) from the previous quarter and an increase of 8% (2) from the same quarter last year.
- Indigenous juveniles represented 85% (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**

	Mar Qtr 2006	Jun Qtr 2006	Sep Qtr 2006	Dec Qtr 2006	Mar Qtr 2007	Jun Qtr 2007	Sep Qtr 2007	Dec Qtr 2007	Mar Qtr 2008
<b>Total Number of Prisoners</b>									
All Prisoners	814	804	771	825	841	898	842	843	896
<b>Prisoner Gender and Ethnicity</b>									
All Indigenous	669	662	637	674	688	738	699	688	737
All Non-Indigenous	145	142	134	151	153	160	143	155	160
All Males	783	770	737	795	803	857	804	806	856
All Females	31	33	34	30	38	41	38	37	41
Indigenous Males	645	638	613	653	657	705	666	657	704
Non-Indigenous Males	139	133	124	142	146	152	138	149	152
Indigenous Females	25	24	23	21	30	33	33	31	33
Non-Indigenous Females	6	9	11	8	8	8	5	6	8
<b>Special Types of Offenders</b>									
People Smugglers	2	2	1	2	1	2	1	1	1
Fine Defaulters	0	0	0	5	3	3	3	3	2

**Table 10 Quarterly Daily Average Number of Juveniles Held in Detention**

	Mar Qtr 2006	Jun Qtr 2006	Sep Qtr 2006	Dec Qtr 2006	Mar Qtr 2007	Jun Qtr 2007	Sep Qtr 2007	Dec Qtr 2007	Mar Qtr 2008
<b>Total Number of Detainees</b>									
All Detainees	18	25	26	26	25	35	28	25	27
<b>Detainee Gender and Ethnicity</b>									
All Indigenous	17	24	24	24	22	30	25	23	23
All Non-Indigenous	2	1	2	2	2	4	3	1	3
All Males	18	25	26	26	23	33	27	23	24
All Females	0	0	0	0	1	2	1	1	2
Indigenous Males	16	24	24	24	21	29	24	22	22
Non-Indigenous Males	2	1	2	2	2	4	3	1	2
Indigenous Females	0	0	0	0	1	2	1	1	1
Non-Indigenous Females	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1



## 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 March 2008)

A total of 529 drug offences were finalised by the courts between 1 July 2007 and 31 March 2008. The principal penalty for 7% (35) of these offences was an actual term of imprisonment, for 2% (13) a period of home detention and for another 22% (115) a fully suspended term of imprisonment was ordered. For 63% (331) of the offences, the principal penalty was a monetary order. Community work orders comprised 3% (14) of the penalties.

##### Court Outcomes by Offence Group

Possession and non-commercial dealing in illicit drugs accounted for 80% (421) of drug offences finalised by the courts between 1 July 2007 and 31 March 2008. Principal penalties for non-commercial dealing in illicit drugs were as follows:

- 42% of offences (74) were associated with a fully suspended term of imprisonment;
- 34% of offences (60) were associated with a monetary order;
- 10% of offences (17) were associated with an actual term of imprisonment;
- 6% of offences (10) were associated with some form of other order;
- 4% of offences (7) were associated with a community work order; and

- 4% of offences (7) were associated with a home detention order.
- Principal penalties for possession and/or use of illicit drugs were as follows:
  - 88% of offences (216) were associated with a monetary order;
  - 7% of offences (17) were associated with a fully suspended term of imprisonment;
  - 2% of offences (5) were associated with a community work order;
  - 2% of offences (4) were associated with some form of other order; and
  - 2% of offences (4) 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.
<b>Current Financial Year (1 July 2007 – 31 March 2008)</b>													
Import or Export Illicit Drugs	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	17	85%	3	15%	20
Deal or Traffic In Illicit Drugs – Non Commercial	17	10%	7	4%	74	42%	7	4%	60	34%	10	6%	175
Deal or Traffic In Illicit Drugs – Commercial	10	37%	3	11%	13	48%	0	0%	0	0%	1	4%	27
Manufacture or Cultivate Illicit Drugs – Non Commercial	0	0%	1	6%	6	33%	1	6%	9	50%	1	6%	18
Manufacture or Cultivate Illicit Drugs – Commercial	2	29%	1	14%	3	43%	0	0%	0	0%	1	14%	7
Possess and/or Use Illicit Drugs	4	2%	0	0%	17	7%	5	2%	216	88%	4	2%	246
Other Drug Related Offences	2	6%	1	3%	2	6%	1	3%	26	81%	0	0%	32
Prescription Drug Offences	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	3	75%	1	25%	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>7%</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>2%</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>22%</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>3%</b>	<b>331</b>	<b>63%</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>4%</b>	<b>529</b>
<b>Previous Financial Year (1 July 2006 - 30 June 2007)</b>													
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
<b>Total</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>11%</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>2%</b>	<b>136</b>	<b>18%</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>4%</b>	<b>456</b>	<b>60%</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>4%</b>	<b>754</b>

Source: Extracted from the Integrated Justice Information System (12 May 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 112 drug infringement notices, relating to 112 separate offences, were issued during the March quarter 2008. This is 4% (4) more notices than were issued in the previous quarter, and 70% (46) more notices than were issued in the March quarter 2007.
- Possession of cannabis is the most common offence for which drug infringement notices have been issued. It constituted 97% of offences in the March quarter 2008.

**Table 12 Drug Offences Processed by Infringement Notices**

	Mar Qtr 2006	Jun Qtr 2006	Sep Qtr 2006	Dec Qtr 2006	Mar Qtr 2007	Jun Qtr 2007	Sep Qtr 2007	Dec Qtr 2007	Mar Qtr 2008
<b>Number of Infringement Notices Issued</b>	<b>133</b>	<b>124</b>	<b>129</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>122</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>112</b>
<b>Drug Offences</b>									
Possess Cannabis For Personal Use	130	124	127	86	64	95	121	108	109
Cultivation of Cannabis For Personal Use	4	0	3	1	2	0	1	1	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>134</b>	<b>124</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>122</b>	<b>109</b>	<b>112</b>

Source: Extracted from the Integrated Justice Information System (12 May 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 March 2008)

A total of 406 aggravated property offences had sentences passed between 1 July 2007 and 31 March 2008.

The principal penalty for 81% (327) of these offences fell within the standard sentencing guidelines contained in the *Sentencing Act*.

In relation to 67% (272) of offences the principal penalty was an actual term of imprisonment.

### **Court Outcomes by Offence Group**

The majority (98%) of offences dealt with under the sentencing regime for aggravated property offences were *break-ins* (250), *property damage* (86) and *unlawful use of motor vehicle* (61).

- Principal penalties for *break-ins* were as follows:
  - 68% of offences (170) were associated with an actual term of imprisonment;
  - 18% of offences (46) received orders other than those presumed in the sentencing guidelines, implying a finding of exceptional circumstances;
  - 11% of offences (28) were associated with a community work order; and
  - 2% of offences (6) were associated with a home detention order.
- Principal penalties for *property damage* were as follows:
  - 72% of offences (62) were associated with an actual term of imprisonment;
  - 19% of offences (16) received other orders, implying a finding of exceptional circumstances;
  - 8% of offences (7) were associated with a community work order; and
  - 1% of offences (1) were associated with a home detention order.
- Principal penalties for *unlawful use of a motor vehicle* were as follows:
  - 52% of offences (32) were associated with an actual term of imprisonment;
  - 26% of offences (16) received other orders, implying a finding of exceptional circumstances;
  - 15% of offences (9) were associated with a community work order; and
  - 7% of offences (4) 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.
<b>Current Financial Year (1 July 2007 – 31 March 2008)</b>									
Robbery	5	83%	0	0%	0	0%	1	17%	6
Break-ins	170	68%	6	2%	28	11%	46	18%	250
Unlawful Use of Motor Vehicle	32	52%	4	7%	9	15%	16	26%	61
Home Invasion	3	100%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	3
Business Invasion	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0
Property Damage	62	72%	1	1%	7	8%	16	19%	86
<b>Total</b>	<b>272</b>	<b>67%</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>3%</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>11%</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>19%</b>	<b>406</b>
<b>Previous Financial Year (1 July 2006 - 30 June 2007)</b>									
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
<b>Total</b>	<b>328</b>	<b>63%</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>2%</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>18%</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>17%</b>	<b>520</b>

Source: Extracted from the Integrated Justice Information System (12 May 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.