

# Statistics

Provider Arrests, by state/territory and gender, 01 Jul 2001 - 30 Jun 2002

Consumer	New		Total	Provider	
	Male	Female		Male	Female
NSW	11 268	2 129	13 397	786	1 411
VIC	6 270	1 286	7 556	9	2 568
QLD	15 076	3 801	18 877	66	18 811
SA	7 756	1 642	9 398	—	866
SA (CINA) <sup>a</sup>	6 289	1 366	7 655	—	7 655
WA	6 991	1 422	8 413	—	7 511
Tas	1 121	316	1 437	—	635
NT	128	25	153	—	15
NT (CINA) <sup>a</sup>	78	21	99	—	8
ACT	162	39	201	—	22
ACT (CINA) <sup>a</sup>	81	20	101	—	10
Total	47 218	10 279	57 497	852	28 022

<sup>a</sup> Includes other offenders of the same Consumer/Provider status, see note 1.  
<sup>b</sup> Canadian origin/ethnicity.  
<sup>c</sup> Includes NT (CINA) (CINA).  
<sup>d</sup> Single criminal offence records.  
<sup>e</sup> See also comparison to data published in previous years. See Introduction.  
<sup>f</sup> Note: This report data for each State and Territory includes Australian Federal Police.

Table 8.1: All drugs - consumer and Provider Arrests, by state<sup>a</sup>

State/Territory	Consumer		New	Total
	Male	Female		
NSW	11 268	2 129	786	14 174
VIC	6 270	1 286	9	7 565
QLD	15 076	3 801	66	18 943
SA	7 756	1 642	—	9 398
SA (CINA) <sup>a</sup>	6 289	1 366	—	7 655
WA	6 991	1 422	—	8 413
Tas	1 121	316	—	1 437
NT	128	25	—	153
NT (CINA) <sup>a</sup>	78	21	—	99
ACT	162	39	—	201
ACT (CINA) <sup>a</sup>	81	20	—	101
Total	47 218	10 279	852	57 497

<sup>a</sup> Includes other offenders of the same Consumer/Provider status, see note 1.  
<sup>b</sup> Canadian origin/ethnicity.  
<sup>c</sup> Includes NT (CINA) (CINA).  
<sup>d</sup> Single criminal offence records.  
<sup>e</sup> See also comparison to data published in previous years. See Introduction.  
<sup>f</sup> Note: This report data for each State and Territory includes Australian Federal Police.

## Introduction

Supply and demand trends in the illicit drugs market can be determined by examining data on use patterns, purity and prices. For this *Australian Illicit Drug Report*, the Australian Bureau of Criminal Intelligence has followed the practice of previous years of using unit record data provided by the state, territory and commonwealth police services and analytical laboratories, aggregating and analysing the material to develop a national picture.

Using administrative data from a range of agencies poses particular difficulties in providing standardised and comprehensive national illicit drug statistics. The Australian Bureau of Criminal Intelligence sought to address some of these difficulties through the National Illicit Drug Statistics Framework, which was developed in a joint project between the Australian Bureau of Criminal Intelligence and the Australian Bureau of Statistics. This statistical framework aims to provide standardised and comprehensive national illicit drug statistics and enables a more accurate and comprehensive analysis of the illicit drug situation in Australia. The full implementation of this framework is an ongoing task.

Implementation of the framework has been progressed through the National Illicit Drug Reporting Format project, an Australian Bureau of Criminal Intelligence project which received funding from the Law Enforcement Cooperation Program administered by the Australian Federal Police. Following completion of the definition phase of the project in November 2001, the development phase began in January 2002, in partnership with the Australian Bureau of Statistics. The National Illicit Drug Reporting

Format data processing system developed was used to process the seizure, arrest and purity data for this report. The introduction of the new data processing system improved data quality to such an extent that comparisons with previous years should be made with caution.

The National Illicit Drug Reporting Format system places a greater expectation on the agencies contributing to this report to provide administrative data on illicit drugs in a form that reflects the statistical framework, or at least to inform the Australian Crime Commission how the data items relate to the statistical framework. The system is a tool that allows for the ‘mapping’ of files into a standard format for processing, and the application of codes from the statistical framework to the batches of data by the Australian Crime Commission. The processing of each batch of seizure, arrest and purity data received from agencies to produce standardised and validated data can be recorded and the ‘scripts’ can be reapplied uniformly whenever necessary. Particular datasets can be reprocessed where there are data quality problems. With each dataset, particular records—such as large seizures for each of the drug types—can be marked for review by an agency to ensure the record is valid. Improved processing times using the system free up resources that can be applied to improving the quality of data. A standardised series of reports on illicit drug seizures, arrests and purity can be run to extract statistical output for use in other projects beyond this publication.



# Statistics

Table 8.1: All drugs - consumer and Provider Arrests, by state<sup>a</sup>

State/Territory	Consumer			Provider		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
NSW	11 268	2 129	13 397	78	14 211	14 289
VIC	6 270	1 286	7 556	9	2 568	2 577
QLD	15 076	3 801	18 877	46	18 832	18 878
SA	7 261	1 642	8 903	—	—	—
SA (CINA) <sup>b</sup>	6 289	1 586	7 875	—	—	—
WA	6 991	1 422	8 413	—	7 511	7 511
Tas	1 121	516	1 637	—	—	—
NT	128	25	153	—	—	—
NT (DNA) <sup>c</sup>	78	21	99	—	—	—
ACT	162	39	201	—	—	—
ACT (DNA) <sup>c</sup>	81	20	101	—	—	—
<b>Total</b>	<b>67 218</b>	<b>18 279</b>	<b>85 497</b>	<b>133</b>	<b>21 722</b>	<b>21 855</b>

Provider Arrests, by state/territory and gender, 01 Jul 2001 - 30 Jun 2002

Consumer	New		Provider		Total
	Male	Female	Male	Female	
NSW	78	14 211	14 289	—	14 289
VIC	9	2 568	2 577	—	2 577
QLD	46	18 832	18 878	—	18 878
SA	—	—	—	—	—
SA (CINA) <sup>b</sup>	—	—	—	—	—
WA	—	7 511	7 511	—	7 511
Tas	—	—	—	—	—
NT	—	—	—	—	—
NT (DNA) <sup>c</sup>	—	—	—	—	—
ACT	—	—	—	—	—
ACT (DNA) <sup>c</sup>	—	—	—	—	—
<b>Total</b>	<b>133</b>	<b>21 722</b>	<b>21 855</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>21 855</b>

<sup>a</sup> Includes Western Australia Police (WAPOL) data for the period 01 Jul 2001 to 30 Jun 2002.  
<sup>b</sup> Includes Northern Territory (NT) data for the period 01 Jul 2001 to 30 Jun 2002.  
<sup>c</sup> Includes Northern Territory (NT) data for the period 01 Jul 2001 to 30 Jun 2002.  
<sup>d</sup> Includes Northern Territory (NT) data for the period 01 Jul 2001 to 30 Jun 2002.  
<sup>e</sup> Includes Northern Territory (NT) data for the period 01 Jul 2001 to 30 Jun 2002.  
<sup>f</sup> Includes Northern Territory (NT) data for the period 01 Jul 2001 to 30 Jun 2002.  
<sup>g</sup> Includes Northern Territory (NT) data for the period 01 Jul 2001 to 30 Jun 2002.  
<sup>h</sup> Includes Northern Territory (NT) data for the period 01 Jul 2001 to 30 Jun 2002.  
<sup>i</sup> Includes Northern Territory (NT) data for the period 01 Jul 2001 to 30 Jun 2002.  
<sup>j</sup> Includes Northern Territory (NT) data for the period 01 Jul 2001 to 30 Jun 2002.  
<sup>k</sup> Includes Northern Territory (NT) data for the period 01 Jul 2001 to 30 Jun 2002.  
<sup>l</sup> Includes Northern Territory (NT) data for the period 01 Jul 2001 to 30 Jun 2002.  
<sup>m</sup> Includes Northern Territory (NT) data for the period 01 Jul 2001 to 30 Jun 2002.  
<sup>n</sup> Includes Northern Territory (NT) data for the period 01 Jul 2001 to 30 Jun 2002.  
<sup>o</sup> Includes Northern Territory (NT) data for the period 01 Jul 2001 to 30 Jun 2002.  
<sup>p</sup> Includes Northern Territory (NT) data for the period 01 Jul 2001 to 30 Jun 2002.  
<sup>q</sup> Includes Northern Territory (NT) data for the period 01 Jul 2001 to 30 Jun 2002.  
<sup>r</sup> Includes Northern Territory (NT) data for the period 01 Jul 2001 to 30 Jun 2002.  
<sup>s</sup> Includes Northern Territory (NT) data for the period 01 Jul 2001 to 30 Jun 2002.  
<sup>t</sup> Includes Northern Territory (NT) data for the period 01 Jul 2001 to 30 Jun 2002.  
<sup>u</sup> Includes Northern Territory (NT) data for the period 01 Jul 2001 to 30 Jun 2002.  
<sup>v</sup> Includes Northern Territory (NT) data for the period 01 Jul 2001 to 30 Jun 2002.  
<sup>w</sup> Includes Northern Territory (NT) data for the period 01 Jul 2001 to 30 Jun 2002.  
<sup>x</sup> Includes Northern Territory (NT) data for the period 01 Jul 2001 to 30 Jun 2002.  
<sup>y</sup> Includes Northern Territory (NT) data for the period 01 Jul 2001 to 30 Jun 2002.  
<sup>z</sup> Includes Northern Territory (NT) data for the period 01 Jul 2001 to 30 Jun 2002.

South Wales Police database and was subjected to limited quality assurance by the New South Wales Police following the exchange of unit records and verification reports.

New South Wales Police are making progress in terms of data quality. Police statisticians and the Australian Crime Commission are progressing improvements to drug data.

## Victoria

Victoria Police provided offender and seizure data. Drug quantities and weights reported are estimates. These measurements are not validated by forensic results.

Victoria Police rewrote the extraction program and improved the data quality checks. Data quality processes have been implemented to further improve future data.

## Queensland

The Queensland Police Service advised that the data provided for the 2001–02 report is not comparable with previous data supplied as the extraction programmes have been revised. The revision occurred as a result of investigative work undertaken to prepare for the implementation of the National Illicit Drug Reporting Format processing system. For example, arrests data now includes ‘Notices to Appear and Other’.

The Queensland Police Service statistical services section compared the Queensland arrest and seizure data aggregated by the National Illicit Drug Reporting Format system with their own statistics and found only negligible differences between the aggregations.

## South Australia

For the 2001–02 data collection period, substantial manual improvements were made to

the quality of drug seizure information. Particular attention was given to the suspected type and quantity fields and the removal of duplicate records. Notwithstanding this, there may be significant under reporting of drug seizure information for South Australia, particularly cannabis related data. For example, the South Australia Police recording system includes ‘bags’ and ‘tastes’ as valid units of measurement, but these have been excluded from the tables in this report.

Arrest and seizure data pertaining to offenders participating in the Drug Diversion scheme (introduced 1 September 2001 for young offenders and 1 October 2001 for adults) is not included in this report.

Please note that comparison with seizure data in previous years is not recommended, due to differences in extraction and validation methods between years. South Australia police are currently reviewing their system and processes for capturing and reporting of drug seizure data, which will improve the completeness and accuracy of data provided for future *Australian Illicit Drug Report* publications.

## Western Australia

Western Australia Police provided the seizure and arrest data for Western Australia.

## Tasmania

Tasmania Police is constructing an electronic system to record offender and seizure data. Tasmania Police provided the seizure and arrest data for Tasmania.



# Statistics

Table 8.1: All drugs - consumer and Provider Arrests, by state<sup>1</sup>

State/Territory	Consumer			Provider		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
NSW	11 268	2 129	13 397	789	1471	2 260
Vic	6 279	1 286	7 565	9	236	245
QLD	15 076	3 801	18 877	66	19 812	19 878
SA	7 261	1 622	8 883	—	—	—
SA (CIN) <sup>2</sup>	6 289	1 386	7 675	—	—	—
WA	6 991	1 422	8 413	—	7 511	7 511
Tas	1 121	316	1 437	—	—	—
NT	128	25	153	—	—	—
NT (CIN) <sup>3</sup>	78	21	99	—	—	—
ACT	162	39	201	—	—	—
ACT (CIN) <sup>4</sup>	81	20	101	—	—	—
Total	67 218	18 278	85 496	858	19 818	20 676

Provider Arrests, by state/territory and gender, 01 Jul 2001 - 30 Jun 2010

Consumer	Male			Female		
	Arrests	Seizures	Total	Arrests	Seizures	Total
NSW	789	1471	2 260	9	236	245
QLD	66	19 812	19 878	—	—	—
SA	—	—	—	—	—	—
SA (CIN) <sup>2</sup>	—	—	—	—	—	—
WA	—	7 511	7 511	—	—	—
Tas	—	—	—	—	—	—
NT	—	—	—	—	—	—
NT (CIN) <sup>3</sup>	—	—	—	—	—	—
ACT	—	—	—	—	—	—
ACT (CIN) <sup>4</sup>	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	858	19 818	20 676	—	—	—

<sup>1</sup> a. Includes seizures of heroin, cocaine, amphetamine, MDMA, ecstasy, LSD, GBL, ketamine, and other drugs.  
<sup>2</sup> b. Excludes provider arrests.  
<sup>3</sup> c. Excludes NT (CIN) data.  
<sup>4</sup> d. Excludes NT (CIN) data.  
<sup>5</sup> e. Single substance offence arrests.  
<sup>6</sup> f. See also Appendix A for more information on the data. See Introduction for more information on the data.  
<sup>7</sup> g. This table does not include the data for the table caption.

## Consumers and providers

Offenders are classified as consumers or providers to differentiate between people apprehended for trading in, as opposed to using, illicit drugs. Those charged with supply-type offences, such as importation, trafficking, selling, cultivation and manufacture, are classed as providers. Those charged with user-type offences, such as possessing or administering drugs for their own use, are classed as consumers.

In some cases the police jurisdiction responsible for providing the data allocates consumer and provider codes to the offender records. In other cases the Australian Bureau of Criminal Intelligence applied the codes, using information about the type of offence committed. There are also differences in the methodologies used by the police jurisdictions in applying consumer and provider codes. For example, in some states, the quantity of the drug involved determines whether an offence is a consumer or a provider offence. The threshold quantity that determines whether a person is charged as a provider has varied over time, within and between states and territories.

Comparisons of the numbers and proportions of consumers and providers over time should, therefore, be made with caution. Within jurisdictions, these changes to the definitions of a consumer and a provider over time make it difficult to ascertain whether data movements or trends have resulted from a change in activity or simply a change in definition.

## Drug identification and coding

Not all suspected drug seizures are scientifically analysed to establish the precise nature of the drug. In some cases, only seizures of a

predetermined weight or seizures that are the subject of a ‘not guilty’ plea are scientifically analysed. All other seizures are recorded as they were by the investigating officer without further qualification. In some cases, a presumptive field test may be carried out to provide an indication of the seized drug type.

A number of jurisdictions do not differentiate between amphetamine-type stimulants and MDMA so that MDMA cannot be separated out from amphetamine-type stimulants in their data. This restricts the ability of the Australian Crime Commission to monitor and report on national trends in MDMA seizures and arrests. A similar problem exists with ketamine and GBL as some jurisdictions are unable to specifically code these drugs. In some jurisdictions, seizures of these drugs are recorded as ‘Other Drugs’. Monitoring and reporting on national trends regarding these drugs, therefore, is limited.

## Data sources

Three sources of drug statistics are used:

- arrest and seizure data
- drug purity data
- data on drug prices.

## Arrest and seizure data

Arrest and seizure data were supplied by:

- Australian Customs Service
- Australian Federal Police

**Table 8.1: All drugs: consumer and Provider Arrests, by state<sup>1</sup>**

State/Territory	Consumer			
	State	Female	Male	Total
NSW	11,306	4,129	7,087	11,316
Vic.	4,279	2,280	9	4,288
QLD	15,056	5,001	46	15,103
SA	120	162	-	282
ACT/NT <sup>2</sup>	628	1,166	-	1,794
Tas.	6,891	4,422	-	11,313
Tot.	11,123	316	-	11,439
ACT <sup>3</sup>	128	23	-	151
NT/NTM <sup>4</sup>	78	21	-	99
ACT 50/50 <sup>5</sup>	85	20	-	105
<b>Total</b>	<b>47,700</b>	<b>16,776</b>	<b>466</b>	<b>64,942</b>

1. Excludes those arrested at police consumer/Provider sites but not at drug  
2. Includes Capital Territory  
3. Drug infringement notices  
4. Single caution offence notices  
5. Data not comparable to data published in previous years. See justification notes. The arrest data for each State and Territory includes Australian Federal Police.

**Provider Arrests, by state/territory and gender, 01 Jul 2001 - 30.3**

State/Territory	Total		Female		Male	
	Arrests	Notices	Arrests	Notices	Arrests	Notices
NSW	786	14,217	1,849	428	57	17
QLD	9	7,548	1,000	415	2	2
SA	46	18,023	1,077	715	13	13
ACT	-	842	1,753	421	-	-
Tas.	-	5,455	-	-	-	-
NT	-	7,913 <sup>1</sup>	1,843	375	-	-
Tot.	-	4,494	385	79	-	-
ACT 50/50 <sup>2</sup>	-	191	3	-	-	-
NT/NTM <sup>3</sup>	-	99	-	-	-	-
ACT 50/50 <sup>4</sup>	-	221	41	11	-	-
Tot.	-	185	-	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>855</b>	<b>38,053</b>	<b>11,738</b>	<b>2,666</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>17</b>

1. Excludes those arrested at police consumer/Provider sites but not at drug  
2. Includes Capital Territory  
3. Drug infringement notices  
4. Single caution offence notices  
5. Data not comparable to data published in previous years. See justification notes. The arrest data for each State and Territory includes Australian Federal Police.

- New South Wales Police
- Northern Territory Police, Fire and Emergency Services
- Queensland Police Service
- South Australia Police
- Tasmania Police
- Victoria Police
- Western Australia Police Service.

In this report, Table 8.11 displays state police and Australian Federal Police seizures separately.

### Drug purity data

State and territory forensic laboratories and the Australian Forensic Drug Laboratory in Sydney supplied data on drug purity levels. Figures for Victoria, Queensland, the Northern Territory and the Australian Capital Territory represent the purity level of drugs seized by police during the relevant quarter. Figures for South Australia, Western Australia, Tasmania, and those supplied by the Australian Forensic Drug Laboratory, represent the purity level of drugs received at the laboratory during the relevant quarter. The time between the date of a seizure by police and the date of receipt at the laboratory can vary from a few days to several months. In isolated cases, there can be a delay of years. The New South Wales forensic laboratory was unable to provide purity data for the 2001–02 report.

### Data on drug prices

Data on prices for illicit drugs—as shown in

Tables 8.17 to 8.21—were collected quarterly from each police service and are based on information supplied by covert police units and police informants. Other price data were taken from studies of drug-using populations in specific localities and may differ slightly from police prices. Any differences are discussed in the relevant chapters.

## Explanatory notes

The following definitions apply to terms used in this report.

### Arrest

‘Arrest’ incorporates all recorded law enforcement action against a person for suspected unlawful involvement in drugs. It incorporates enforcement action by way of arrest, summons, diversion programme, cannabis expiation notice in South Australia, simple cannabis offence notice in the Australian Capital Territory, drug infringement notice in the Northern Territory, cannabis cautions in Western Australia and New South Wales and ‘notice to appear’ in Queensland. Some charges may subsequently have been dropped or the defendant may have been found not guilty.

### Seizure

‘Seizure’ refers to the confiscation by a law enforcement agency of a quantity of an illicit drug or a regulated drug being used or possessed unlawfully, whether or not an arrest is made in conjunction with that confiscation.

The amount of drug seized may be recorded by weight, volume and linear measurement or as a unit count (for example, the number of tablets, plants or bags). The method of estimating the

# Statistics

Provider Arrests, by state/territory and gender, 01 Jul 2001 - 30 Jun 2002

Consumer	Male		Female	
	Number	Weight	Number	Weight
NSW	11 268	2 129	786	147.1
VIC	6 270	1 286	9	1.6
QLD	15 076	3 801	66	12.4
SA	7 261	1 642	—	—
SA (CINA) <sup>a</sup>	6 289	1 586	—	—
WA	6 991	1 422	—	—
Tas	1 123	316	—	—
NT	128	25	—	—
NT (DMA) <sup>a</sup>	78	21	—	—
ACT	182	39	—	—
ACT (DMA) <sup>a</sup>	81	20	—	—
<b>Total</b>	<b>67 218</b>	<b>14 279</b>	<b>855</b>	<b>158.5</b>

<sup>a</sup> Includes other offences by United Kingdom/Provider units, see text table.  
<sup>b</sup> Canadian origin arrests.  
<sup>c</sup> Includes NT of Canada (Learners).  
<sup>d</sup> Non-aboriginal arrests.  
<sup>e</sup> Single substance offence arrests.  
<sup>f</sup> Note: SA data not comparable to data published in previous years. See Introduction.  
<sup>g</sup> Note: This report data for each State and Territory includes Australian Federal Police.

Table 8.1: All drugs - consumer and Provider Arrests, by state<sup>a</sup>

State/Territory	Consumer		Provider	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
NSW	11 268	2 129	786	147.1
VIC	6 270	1 286	9	1.6
QLD	15 076	3 801	66	12.4
SA	7 261	1 642	—	—
SA (CINA) <sup>a</sup>	6 289	1 586	—	—
WA	6 991	1 422	—	—
Tas	1 123	316	—	—
NT	128	25	—	—
NT (DMA) <sup>a</sup>	78	21	—	—
ACT	182	39	—	—
ACT (DMA) <sup>a</sup>	81	20	—	—
<b>Total</b>	<b>67 218</b>	<b>14 279</b>	<b>855</b>	<b>158.5</b>

<sup>a</sup> Includes other offences by United Kingdom/Provider units, see text table.  
<sup>b</sup> Canadian origin arrests.  
<sup>c</sup> Includes NT of Canada (Learners).  
<sup>d</sup> Non-aboriginal arrests.  
<sup>e</sup> Single substance offence arrests.  
<sup>f</sup> Note: SA data not comparable to data published in previous years. See Introduction.  
<sup>g</sup> Note: This report data for each State and Territory includes Australian Federal Police.

amount of drug seized varies from state to state and also within jurisdictions. For example, seizures of amphetamine-type stimulants in tablet form may be weighed or counted, whereas seizures of cannabis plants may be weighed, counted or measured.

The seizures presented in Table 8.11 include only seizures for which a drug weight was recorded. It undercounts both the number of seizures and the amount of drug seized for all drug types. Amphetamine-type stimulants and cannabis data are most likely to be affected by the variety of measurement methods and these figures should be treated with caution when making comparisons between states or over time. Table 8.11 includes seizures by the Australian Federal Police and state police.

## Heroin and other opioids

‘Heroin and other opioids’ includes opiate analgesics such as heroin, morphine, opium, codeine and opioid analgesics such as methadone and pethidine.

## Cocaine

‘Cocaine’ includes cocaine, coca leaf, and coca paste.

## Amphetamine-type stimulants

‘Amphetamine-type stimulants’ includes amphetamine, methylamphetamine, crystalline methylamphetamine, and phenethylamines such as 3,4-methylenedioxymethamphetamine (MDMA—commonly known as ‘ecstasy’), 3,4-methylenedioxyethylamphetamine (MDEA), 3,4-methylenedioxyamphetamine (MDA), dimethoxyamphetamine (DMA), and paramethoxyamphetamine (PMA).

## Cannabis

‘Cannabis’ includes cannabis plant, leaf, resin, oil, seed and all other forms.

## Hallucinogen

‘Hallucinogen’ includes tryptamines such as lysergic acid diethylamide (LSD) and psilocybin (mushroom).

## Steroid

‘Steroid’ includes anabolic androgenic steroids such as testosterone, nandrolone and stanozolol.

## Other drugs

‘Other drugs’ includes phencyclidine (PCP or angel dust), diazepam, lignocaine, benzocaine, dothiepin, flunitrazepam, other prescription drugs and any drug not included in the other categories.

## Symbols and abbreviations

The following symbols and abbreviations are used in the tables:

- n.a. Not available
- n.e.c. Not elsewhere classified
- no. Number
- r Revised figure
- % Per cent
- .. Not applicable
- Zero or rounded to zero

Figures that have been rounded may not add to totals.