

Department of Justice

Northern Territory Quarterly Crime & Justice Statistics

Issue 19: March Quarter 2007



Northern Territory Government

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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 nineteenth 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 2005 to the March Quarter 2007, presenting statistics that address four main areas:

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

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

Since Issue 16, this publication includes recorded crime statistics for the Northern Territory Balance, those areas outside of the six major urban centres of Darwin, Palmerston, Alice Springs, Katherine, Tennant Creek and Nhulunbuy.

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 1422; *assault* accounted for 91% and *sexual assault* 5%. The remaining offences were *murder*, *attempted murder*, *robbery* and *other offences against the person*. There were no recorded offences relating to *manslaughter* in this quarter.

- The underlying average level of *assault* ranged between 303 and 413 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 413 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 2).

There were 1291 recorded *assault* offences in the Territory in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 6% (77) from the previous quarter and an increase of less than 1% (3) 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 77 recorded *sexual assault* offences in the current quarter. This represents a decrease of 22% (22) from the previous quarter and a decrease of 15% (14) from the same quarter the previous year.

Property Offences

In the current quarter, the total number of recorded property offences was 5512; *other theft* and *property damage* both accounted for 37% each. The remaining offences were *house break-ins*, *break-ins to commercial or other premises*, *motor vehicle theft and related offences* and *other property offences*.

- The underlying average level of *house break-ins* has ranged between 148 and 180 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 175 per month is at the higher end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average has remained stable (refer Figure 6).

There were 545 *house break-ins* recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 6% (31) from the previous quarter and an increase of 2% (10) from the same quarter the previous year.

- The underlying average level of *break-ins to commercial or other premises* has ranged between 90 and 139 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 139 per month is at the higher end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average has remained stable (refer Figure 7).

There were 500 *break-ins to commercial or other premises* recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 27% (107) from the previous quarter and an increase of 8% (36) from the same quarter the previous year.

- The underlying average level of *motor vehicle theft and related offences* has ranged between 111 and 131 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 111 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 8).

There were 341 *motor vehicle theft and related offences* recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 16% (46) from the previous quarter, but a decrease of 15% (61) from the same quarter the previous year.

- The underlying average level of *other theft* has ranged between 585 and 708 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 663 per month is in the middle of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average decreased early in the period (refer Figure 9).

There were 2037 *other theft* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 2% (45) from the previous quarter, but a decrease of 5% (98) from the same quarter the previous year.

- The underlying average level of *property damage* has ranged between 483 and 635 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 635 per month is at the higher end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average has remained stable (refer Figure 10).

There were 2065 *property damage* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 14% (251) from the previous quarter, but a decrease of 1% (31) from the same quarter the previous year.

2.1.2 Darwin

Offences Against the Person

In the current quarter, a total of 336 offences against the person were recorded in Darwin; *assault* accounted for 84% and *sexual assault* 9%. The remaining offences were *murder*, *robbery* and *other offences against the person*. There were no recorded offences relating to *attempted murder* or *manslaughter* in this quarter.

- The underlying average level of *assault* has ranged between 83 and 98 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 98 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 12).

There were 283 recorded *assault* offences in Darwin in the current quarter. This represents a decrease of 11% (34) from the previous quarter, but an increase of 11% (27) from the same quarter the previous year.

- The underlying average level of *sexual assault* has ranged between 8 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 increased early in the period (refer Figure 13).

There were 29 recorded *sexual assault* offences in the current quarter. This represents a decrease of 19% (7) from the previous quarter, but an increase of 16% (4) from the same quarter the previous year.

Property Offences

In the current quarter, the total number of recorded property offences in Darwin was 2556; *property damage* accounted for 38% and *other theft* 37%. The remaining offences included *house break-ins*, *break-ins to commercial or other premises*, *motor vehicle theft and related offences* and *other property offences*.

- The underlying average level of *house break-ins* has remained stable at 86 offences per month during the past nine quarters (refer Figure 16).

There were 273 *house break-ins* recorded in the current quarter. This represents a decrease of less than 1% (1) from the previous quarter, but an increase of 9% (22) from the same quarter the previous year.

- The underlying average level of *break-ins to commercial or other premises* has ranged between 30 and 59 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 59 per month is at the higher end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average has remained stable (refer Figure 17).

There were 170 *break-ins to commercial or other premises* recorded in the current quarter. This represents a decrease of 7% (12) from the previous quarter, but an increase of 33% (42) from the same quarter the previous year.

- The underlying average level of *motor vehicle theft and related offences* has ranged between 57 and 70 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 57 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 18).

In the current quarter there were 184 *motor vehicle theft and related offences*. This represents an increase of 31% (44) from the previous quarter, but a decrease of 15% (32) from the same quarter the previous year.

- The underlying average level of *other theft* has ranged between 297 and 355 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 355 per month is at the higher end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average has remained stable (refer Figure 19).

There were 948 *other theft* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents a decrease of 13% (144) from the previous quarter and a decrease of 6% (61) from the same quarter the previous year.

- The underlying average level of *property damage* has ranged between 228 and 348 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 297 per month is in the middle of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average decreased early in the period (refer Figure 20).

There were 976 *property damage* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 12% (101) from the previous quarter, but a decrease of 9% (91) 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 101; *assault* accounted for 89% and *robbery* 5%. The remaining offences were *sexual assault* and *other offences against the person*. There were no recorded offences relating to *murder*, *attempted murder* or *manslaughter* in this quarter.

- The underlying average level of *assault* has ranged between 16 and 21 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 21 per month is at the higher end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average has remained stable (refer Figure 22).

There were 90 recorded *assault* offences in Palmerston in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 73% (38) from the previous quarter and an increase of 53% (31) from the same quarter the previous year.

Property Offences

In the current quarter, the total number of recorded property offences in Palmerston was 667; *other theft* accounted for 39% and *property damage* 37%. The remaining offences were *house break-ins*, *break-ins to commercial or other premises* and *motor vehicle theft and related offences*. There were no recorded offences relating to *other property offences* in this quarter.

- The underlying average level of *house break-ins* has ranged between 16 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 decreased in the middle of the period (refer Figure 24).

There were 74 *house break-ins* recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 48% (24) from the previous quarter and an increase of 32% (18) from the same quarter the previous year.

- The underlying average level of *break-ins to commercial or other premises* has ranged from 8 to 11 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 11 per month is at the higher end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average has remained stable (refer Figure 25).

There were 42 *break-ins to commercial or other premises* recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 133% (24) from the previous quarter and an increase of 20% (7) from the same quarter the previous year.

- The underlying average level of *motor vehicle theft and related offences* has ranged between 13 and 19 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 13 per month is at the lower end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average has remained stable (refer Figure 26).

There were 45 recorded *motor vehicle theft and related offences* in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 13% (5) from the previous quarter, but a decrease of 10% (5) from the same quarter the previous year.

- The underlying average level of *other theft* offences has ranged between 58 and 76 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 76 per month is at the higher end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average has remained stable (refer Figure 27).

There were 262 *other theft* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 33% (65) from the previous quarter and an increase of 7% (17) from the same quarter the previous year.

- The underlying average level of *property damage* offences has ranged between 47 and 73 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 66 per month is in the middle of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average has remained stable (refer Figure 28).

There were 244 *property damage* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 74% (104) from the previous quarter and an increase of 18% (38) 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 328; *assault* accounted for 94% and *sexual assault* 4%. The remaining offences included *other offences against the person*, *robbery* and *attempted murder*. There were no recorded offences relating to *murder* or *manslaughter* in this quarter.

- The underlying average level of recorded *assault* offences has ranged between 65 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 increased in the middle of the period. A statistically significant upward trend was identified (refer Figure 30).
- There were 307 recorded *assault* offences in Alice Springs in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 15% (41) from the previous quarter, but a decrease of 13% (46) from the same quarter the previous year.

Property Offences

In the current quarter, the total number of recorded property offences in Alice Springs was 1061; *property damage* accounted for 43% and *other theft* 34%. The remaining offences included *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 31 offences per month for the past nine quarters. Its current level of 20 per month is at the lower end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average remained stable (refer Figure 33).

There were 70 *house break-ins* recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 11% (7) from the previous quarter, but a decrease of 29% (29) from same quarter the previous year.

- The underlying average level of *break-ins to commercial or other premises* has ranged between 11 and 26 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 25 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 34).

There were 111 *break-ins to commercial or other premises* recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 61% (42) from the previous quarter and an increase of 19% (18) from the same quarter the previous year.

- The underlying average level of recorded *motor vehicle theft and related offences* has remained stable at 21 offences per month during the past nine quarters (refer Figure 35).

There were 54 *motor vehicle theft and related offences* recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 2% (1) from the previous quarter, but a decrease of 21% (14) from the same quarter the previous year.

- The underlying average level of *other theft* offences has ranged between 91 and 113 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 106 per month is in the middle of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average decreased early in the period (refer Figure 36).

There were 366 *other theft* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 13% (41) from the previous quarter, but a decrease of 1% (5) from the same quarter the previous year.

- The underlying average level of *property damage* offences has ranged between 103 and 145 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 145 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 37).

There were 455 *property damage* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 10% (40) from the previous quarter and an increase of 19% (72) 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 165; *assault* accounted for 94% with *sexual assault* and *robbery* each accounting for 2%. The remaining offences were *other offences against the person*. There were no recorded offences relating to *murder, attempted murder or manslaughter* in this quarter.

- The underlying average level of recorded *assault* offences has ranged between 32 and 47 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 41 per month is in the middle of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average remained stable (refer Figure 39).

There were 155 recorded *assault* offences in Katherine in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 22% (28) from the previous quarter and an increase of 5% (7) from the same quarter the previous year.

Property Offences

In the current quarter, the total number of recorded property offences in Katherine was 311; *other theft* accounted for 45% and *property damage* 29%. The remaining offences were *house break-ins, break-ins to commercial or other premises, motor vehicle theft and related offences* and *other property offences*.

- The underlying average level of *house break-ins* remained stable at 8 offences per month during the past nine quarters (refer Figure 41).

There were 36 *house break-ins* recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 33% (9) from the previous quarter and an increase of 24% (7) from the same quarter the previous year.

- The underlying average level of *break-ins to commercial or other* has ranged between 4 and 8 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 7 per month is in the middle of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average decreased early in the period (refer Figure 42).

There were 30 *break-ins to commercial or other premises* recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 88% (14) from the previous quarter, but a decrease of 6% (2) from the same quarter the previous year.

- The underlying average level of recorded *motor vehicle theft and related offences* has ranged between 2 and 5 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 4 offences 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 43).

There were 13 *motor vehicle theft and related offences* recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 63% (5) from the previous quarter, but a decrease of 38% (8) from the same quarter the previous year.

- The underlying average level of *other theft* offences has ranged between 30 and 42 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 35 per month is in the middle of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average decreased early in the period (refer Figure 44).

There were 140 *other theft* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 49% (46) from the previous quarter and an increase of 10% (13) from the same quarter the previous year.

- The underlying average level of *property damage* offences has ranged between 18 and 30 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 26 per month is in the middle of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average increased in middle of the period. A statistically significant upward trend was identified (refer Figure 45).

There were 89 *property damage* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 24% (17) from the previous quarter and an increase of 1% (1) 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 130; *assault* accounted for 96%, *sexual assault* 3% and *murder* 1%. There were no recorded offences relating to *attempted murder, manslaughter, robbery* or *other offences against the person* in this quarter.

- The underlying average level of recorded *assault* offences has ranged between 24 and 41 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 41 per month is at the higher end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average decreased early in the period and increased in the middle of the period (refer Figure 47).

There were 125 recorded *assault* offences in Tennant Creek in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 12% (13) from the previous quarter, but a decrease of 3% (4) from the same quarter the previous year.

Property Offences

In the current quarter, the total number of recorded property offences in Tennant Creek was 183; *other theft* accounted for 34% and *property damage* 33%. The remaining offences were *house break-ins, break-ins to commercial or other premises, motor vehicle theft and related offences* and *other property offences*.

- The underlying average level of *house break-ins* has ranged between 3 and 8 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 in the middle of the period (refer Figure 49).

There were 18 *house break-ins* recorded in the current quarter. This represents a decrease of 31% (8) from the previous quarter and a decrease of 22% (5) from the same quarter the previous year.

- The underlying average level of *break-ins to commercial or other premises* has ranged between 3 and 11 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 9 per month is in the middle of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average decreased early in the period (refer Figure 50).

There were 39 *break-ins to commercial or other premises* recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 63% (15) from the previous quarter, but a decrease of 9% (4) from the same quarter the previous year.

- The underlying average level of recorded *motor vehicle theft and related offences* 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 51).

There were 2 *motor vehicle theft and related offences* recorded in the current quarter. There was no change from the previous quarter, but a decrease of 5 from the same quarter the previous year.

- The underlying average level of *other theft* offences has ranged between 12 and 23 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 17 per month is in the middle of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average remained stable. A statistically significant upward trend was identified (refer Figure 52).

There were 62 *other theft* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents no change from the previous quarter, but a decrease of 37% (37) from the same quarter the previous year.

- The underlying average level of *property damage* offences has ranged between 13 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 remained stable (refer Figure 53).

There were 61 *property damage* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents a decrease of 9% (6) from the previous quarter and a decrease of 25% (20) 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 41; *assault* accounted for 95% and *sexual assault* 5%. There were no recorded offences relating to *murder, attempted murder, manslaughter, robbery or other offences against the person*.

- The underlying average level of recorded *assault* offences has ranged between 5 and 11 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 7 per month is at the middle of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average remained stable. A statistically significant upward trend was identified (refer Figure 55).

There were 39 recorded *assault* offences in Nhulunbuy in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 117% (21) from the previous quarter and an increase of 11% (4) from the same quarter the previous year.

Property Offences

In the current quarter, the total number of recorded property offences in Nhulunbuy was 82; *property damage* accounted for 43% and *other theft* 35%. The remaining offences were *house break-ins, break-ins to commercial or other premises, motor vehicle theft and related offences* and *other property offences*.

- The underlying average level of *house break-ins* has remained stable at 1 offence per month during the past nine quarters (refer Figure 57).

There were 5 *house break-ins* recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 2 from the previous quarter and an increase of 4 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 has remained stable (refer Figure 58).

There were 10 *break-ins to commercial or other premises* recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 8 from the previous quarter and an increase of 7 from the same quarter the previous year.

- The underlying average level of *other theft* has remained stable at 9 offences per month during the past nine quarters (refer Figure 59).

There were 29 *other theft* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 38% (8) from the previous quarter, but no change from the same quarter the previous year.

- The underlying average level of recorded *property damage* offences has ranged between 5 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 has remained stable (refer Figure 60).

There were 35 *property damage* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 46% (11) from the previous quarter and an increase of 40% (10) 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 321; *assault* accounted for 91% and *sexual assault* 7%. The remaining offences were *robbery* and *other offences against the person*. There were no recorded offences relating to *murder*, *attempted murder* or *manslaughter* in this quarter.

- The underlying average level of recorded *assault* offences has ranged between 83 and 102 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 102 per month is at the higher end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average has remained stable (refer Figure 62).

There were 292 recorded *assault* offences in the Northern Territory Balance in the current quarter. This represents a decrease of 9% (30) from the previous quarter and a decrease of 5% (16) 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 652; *other theft* accounted for 35% and *property damage* 31%. The remaining offences were *house break-ins*, *break-ins to commercial or other premises*, *motor vehicle theft and related offences* and *other property offences*.

- The underlying average level of *house break-ins* has ranged between 23 and 29 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 23 per month is at the lower end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average has remained stable (refer Figure 65).

There were 69 *house break-ins* recorded in the current quarter. This represents a decrease of 3% (2) from the previous quarter and a decrease of 9% (7) from the same quarter the previous year.

- The underlying average level of *break-ins to commercial or other premises* has ranged between 25 and 43 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 30 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 66).

There were 98 *break-ins to commercial or other premises* recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 20% (16) from the previous quarter, but a decrease of 25% (32) from the same quarter the previous year.

- The underlying average level of *motor vehicle theft and related offences* has ranged between 14 and 16 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 14 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 67).

There were 41 *motor vehicle theft and related offences* recorded in the current quarter. This represents a decrease of 11% (5) from the previous quarter, but an increase of 3% (1) from the same quarter the previous year.

- The underlying average level of *other theft* offences has ranged between 75 and 92 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 76 per month is at the lower end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average has remained stable (refer Figure 68).

There were 230 *other theft* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 14% (29) from the previous quarter, but a decrease of 10% (25) from the same quarter the previous year.

- The underlying average level of recorded *property damage* offences has ranged between 70 and 78 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 70 per month is at the lower end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average remained stable (refer Figure 69).

There were 205 *property damage* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents a decrease of 7% (16) from the previous quarter and a decrease of 17% (41) 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 841 during the current quarter. This represents an increase of 2% (16) from the previous quarter and an increase of 3% (27) from the same quarter the previous year.
- Indigenous prisoners currently represent 82% (688) of the daily average prison population. The current daily average of 688 was 2% (14) higher than the previous quarter and 3% (19) higher than the same quarter last year.
- The daily average number of juvenile detainees was 25 in the current quarter. This represents a decrease of 4% (1) from the previous quarter, but an increase of 39% (7) from the same quarter the previous year.

2.3 OUTCOMES FOR DRUG OFFENCES

- Sentences were passed for 562 drug offences during the first nine months of 2006-07 financial year. During the period:
 - The most common drug offences, which were sentenced, were the possession and/or use of illicit drugs 41% (229) and the non-commercial dealing in illicit drugs 41% (229).
 - A monetary order was the most common principal penalty accounting for 63% (354) of the drug offences which had sentences passed. A term of imprisonment (actual or fully suspended) or home detention was ordered for 29% (165) of the drug offences.
- Sentences were passed for 758 drug offences during the 2005-06 financial year.
 - The most common drug offences, which were sentenced, were the possession and/or use of illicit drugs 40% (304) and the non-commercial dealing in illicit drugs 36% (272).
 - The principal penalty for 52% (397) of the drug offences was a monetary order. For 41% (313) of the drug offences the principal penalty was imprisonment (including home detention and fully suspended imprisonment).
- A total of 66 drug infringement notices, relating to 66 separate offences, were issued during the March quarter 2007. This is 24% (21) less notices than were issued in the previous quarter and 50% (67) less notices than were issued in the March quarter 2006.
- Possession of cannabis is the most common offence for which drug infringement notices have been issued (97% of offences in the March quarter 2007).

2.4 COURT OUTCOMES FOR AGGRAVATED PROPERTY OFFENCES

- A total of 415 aggravated property offences had sentences passed between 1 July 2006 and 31 March 2007, of which the most prevalent offence group was *break-ins* (64%).
 - The principal penalty for 85% (352) 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 470 aggravated property offences was finalised during the 2005-06 financial year.
 - The principal penalty for 80% (374) of these offences fell within the standard sentencing guidelines contained in the *Sentencing Act*.
 - In relation to 58% (274) 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 2005 to the March quarter 2007.

The selected offence categories are:

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

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

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

3.1 EXPLANATORY NOTES

The data used in this section was extracted from the Police Real-time On-line Management Information System on 27 April 2007.

- 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.

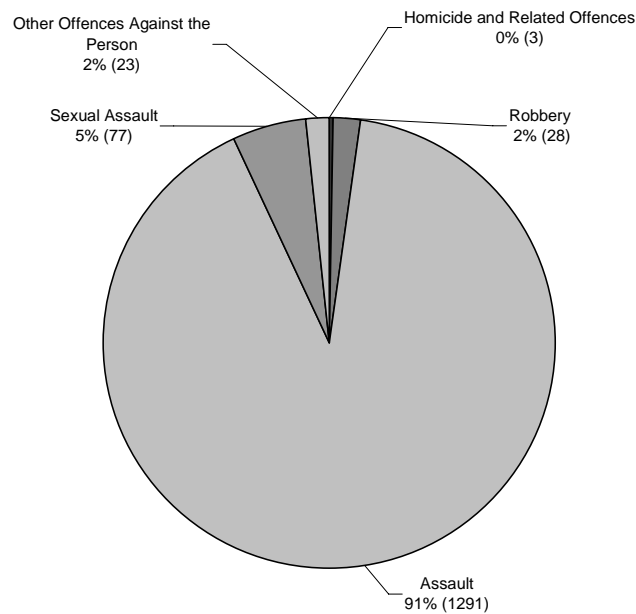
Table 1 Recorded Offences in the Northern Territory

	Mar	Jun	Sep	Dec	Mar	Jun	Sep	Dec	Mar
	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr
	2005	2005	2005	2005	2006	2006	2006	2006	2007
Offences Against The Person									
Homicide and Related Offences									
Murder	1	3	4	4	4	1	2	5	2
Attempted Murder	0	1	0	3	1	1	2	2	1
Manslaughter	6	4	4	6	1	3	2	3	0
Robbery	10	28	15	10	21	24	26	20	28
Assault	1007	955	1024	1223	1288	1040	1037	1214	1291
Sexual Assault	68	85	91	81	91	65	102	99	77
Other Offences Against the Person	33	43	32	22	29	30	32	27	23
Total	1125	1119	1170	1349	1435	1164	1203	1370	1422
Property Offences									
Break-ins									
House	562	426	528	477	535	540	495	514	545
Commercial or Other Premises	377	271	304	335	464	392	436	393	500
Motor Vehicle Theft and Related Offences	460	355	402	374	402	387	359	295	341
Other Theft	1880	1696	1849	1861	2135	1993	2027	1992	2037
Property Damage	1941	1518	1486	1748	2096	1793	1921	1814	2065
Other Property Offences	34	28	26	24	36	40	21	27	24
Total	5254	4294	4595	4819	5668	5145	5259	5035	5512

Offences Against the Person

- In the current quarter, a total of 1422 offences against the person were recorded in the Territory. This is a 4% (52) increase from the previous quarter, but a decrease of 1% (13) 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 next most frequently recorded offence was *sexual assault*, representing 5%. The remaining offences were *murder*, *attempted murder*, *robbery* and *other offences against the person*.

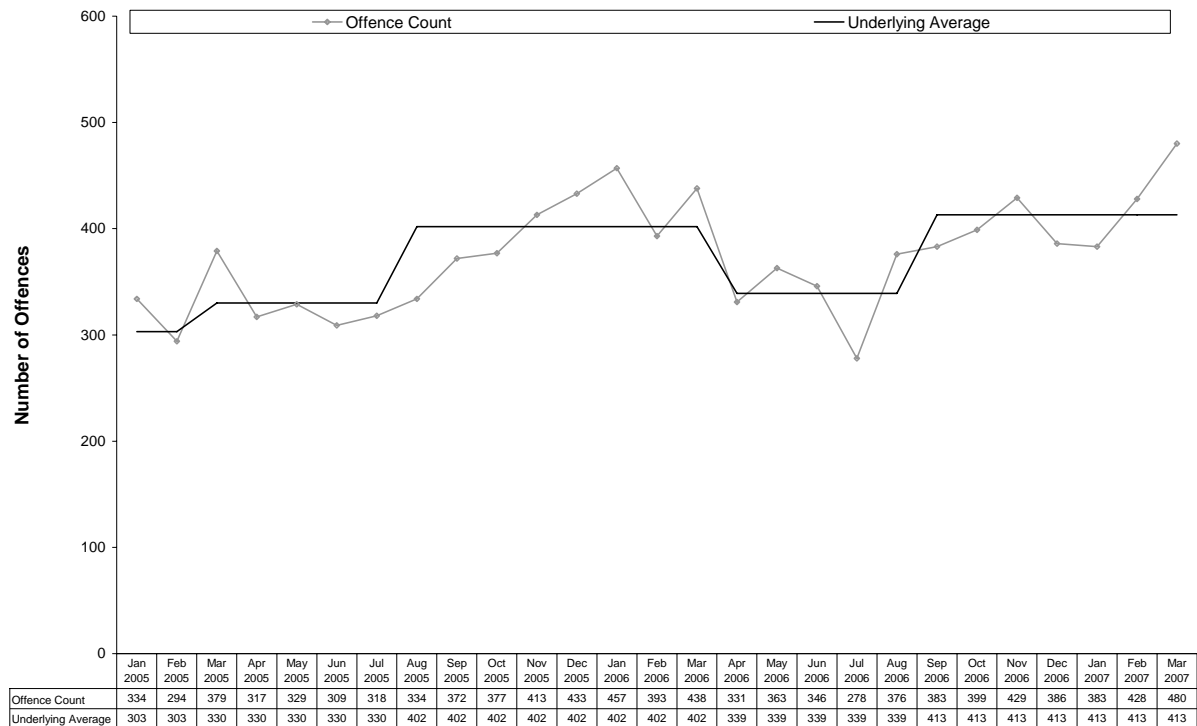
Figure 1 Recorded Offences Against the Person in the Northern Territory – Current Quarter



Assault

- The figure below shows the underlying average level of *assault* has ranged between 303 and 413 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 413 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 1291 recorded *assault* offences in the Territory in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 6% (77) from the previous quarter and an increase of less than 1% (3) from the same quarter the previous year.

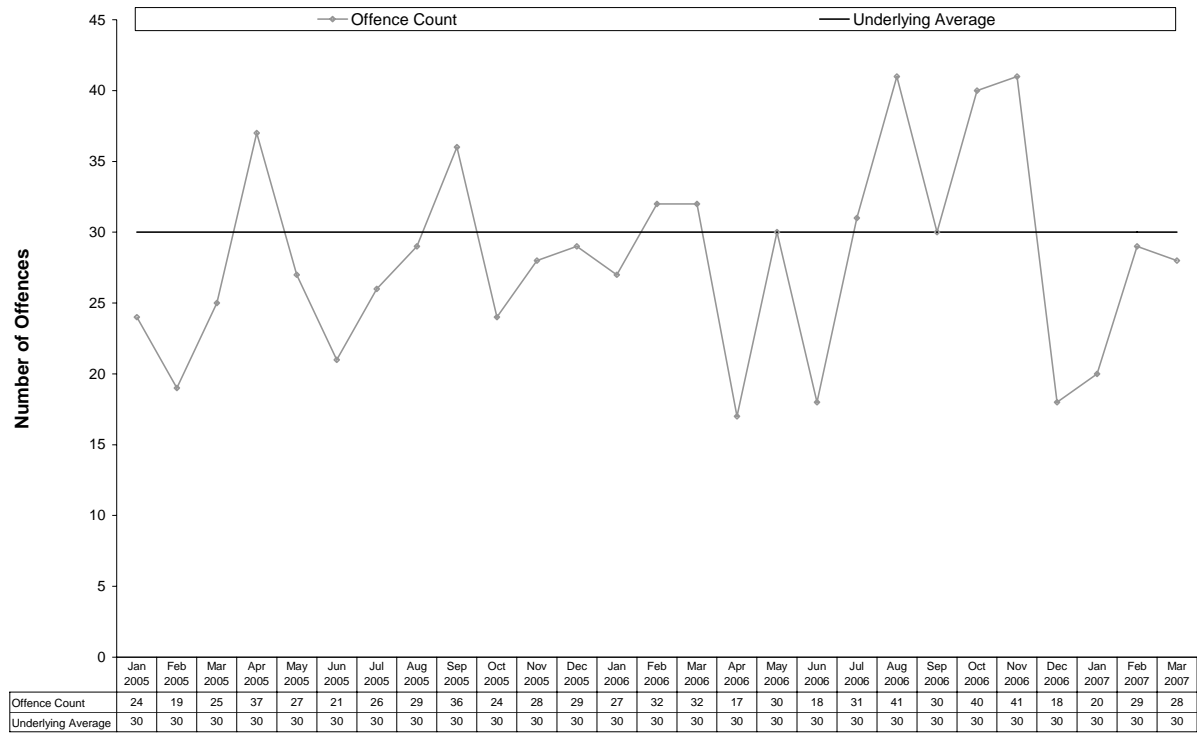
Figure 2 Recorded Assault in the Northern Territory



Sexual Assault

- The figure below shows the underlying average level of *sexual assault* has remained stable at 30 offences per month during the past nine quarters.
- There were 77 recorded *sexual assault* offences in the current quarter. This represents a decrease of 22% (22) from the previous quarter and a decrease of 15% (14) from the same quarter the previous year.

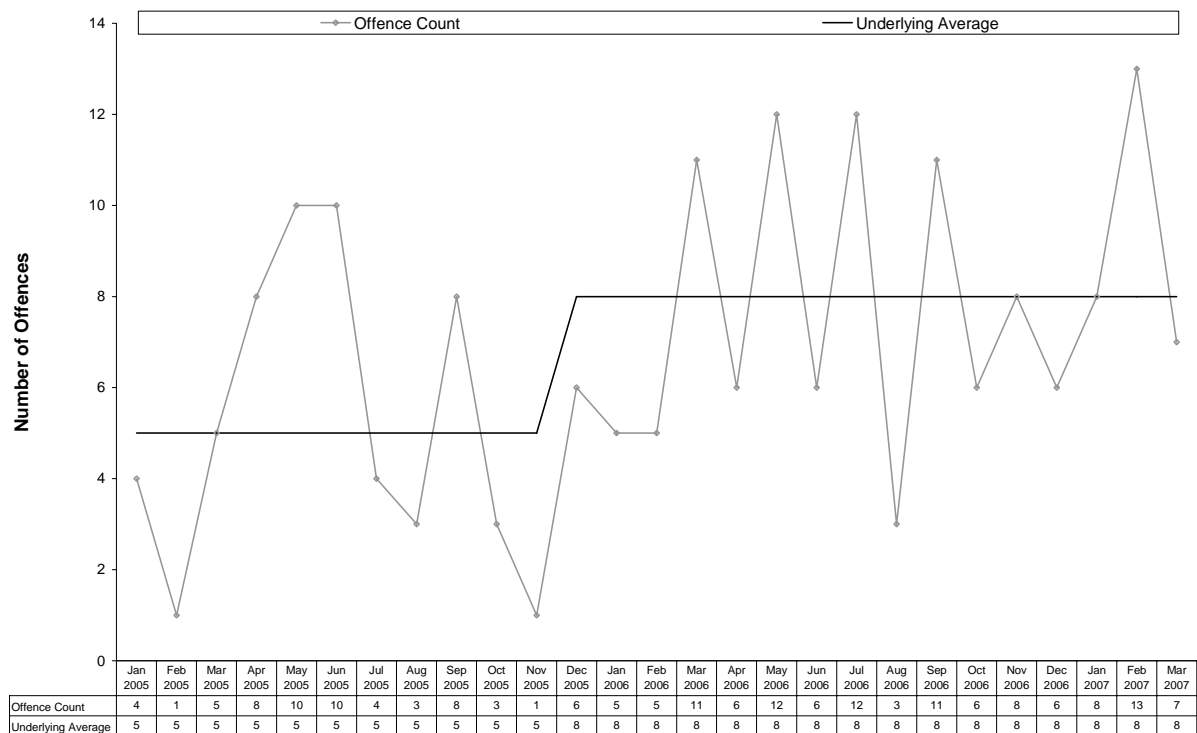
Figure 3 Recorded Sexual Assault in the Northern Territory



Robbery

- The figure below 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 has remained stable.
- There were 28 *robbery* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 40% (8) from the previous quarter and an increase of 33% (7) from the same quarter the previous year.

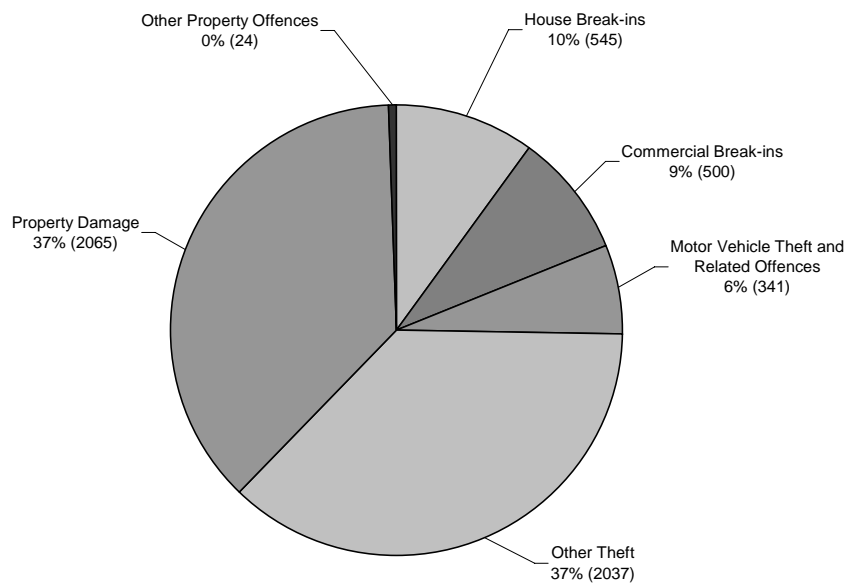
Figure 4 Recorded Robbery in the Northern Territory



Property Offences

- In the current quarter, a total of 5512 property offences were recorded in the Territory. This represents an increase of 9% (477) from the previous quarter, but a decrease of 3% (156) from the same quarter the previous year.
- The figure below shows that property damage and other theft both accounted for 37% each of the property offences. *House break-ins* constitute 10%, *break-ins to commercial or other premises* 9% and *motor vehicle theft and related offences* 6%.

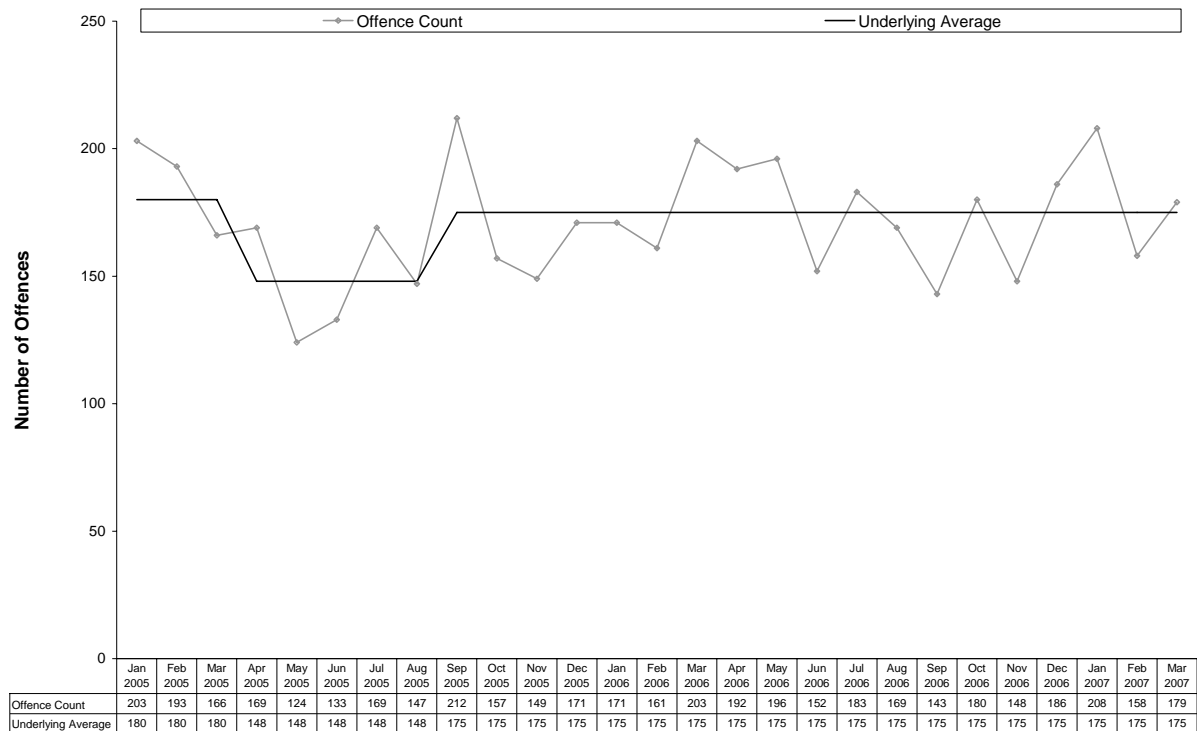
Figure 5 Recorded Property Offences in the Northern Territory – Current Quarter



House Break-ins

- The figure below shows the underlying average level of *house break-ins* has ranged between 148 and 180 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 175 per month is at the higher end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average has remained stable.
- There were 545 *house break-ins* recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 6% (31) from the previous quarter and an increase of 2% (10) from the same quarter the previous year.

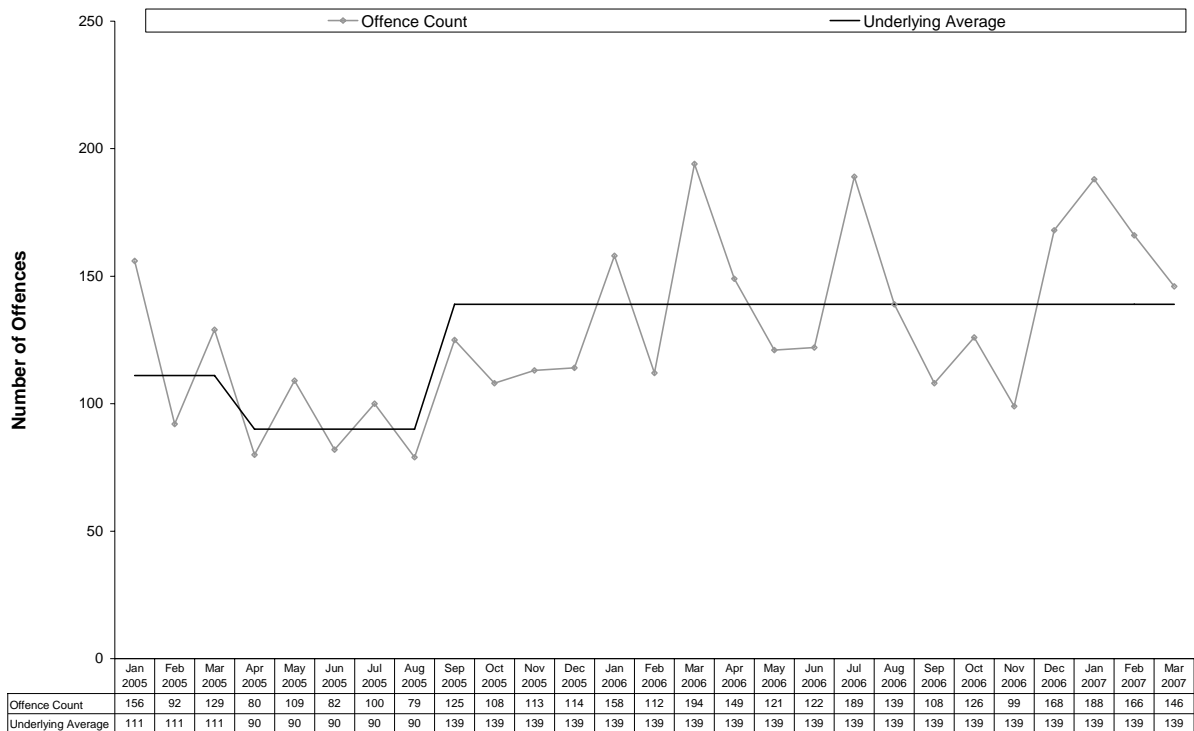
Figure 6 Recorded House Break-ins in the Northern Territory



Break-ins to Commercial or Other Premises

- The figure below shows the underlying average level of *break-ins to commercial or other premises* has ranged between 90 and 139 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 139 per month is at the higher end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average has remained stable.
- There were 500 *break-ins to commercial or other premises* recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 27% (107) from the previous quarter and an increase of 8% (36) from the same quarter the previous year.

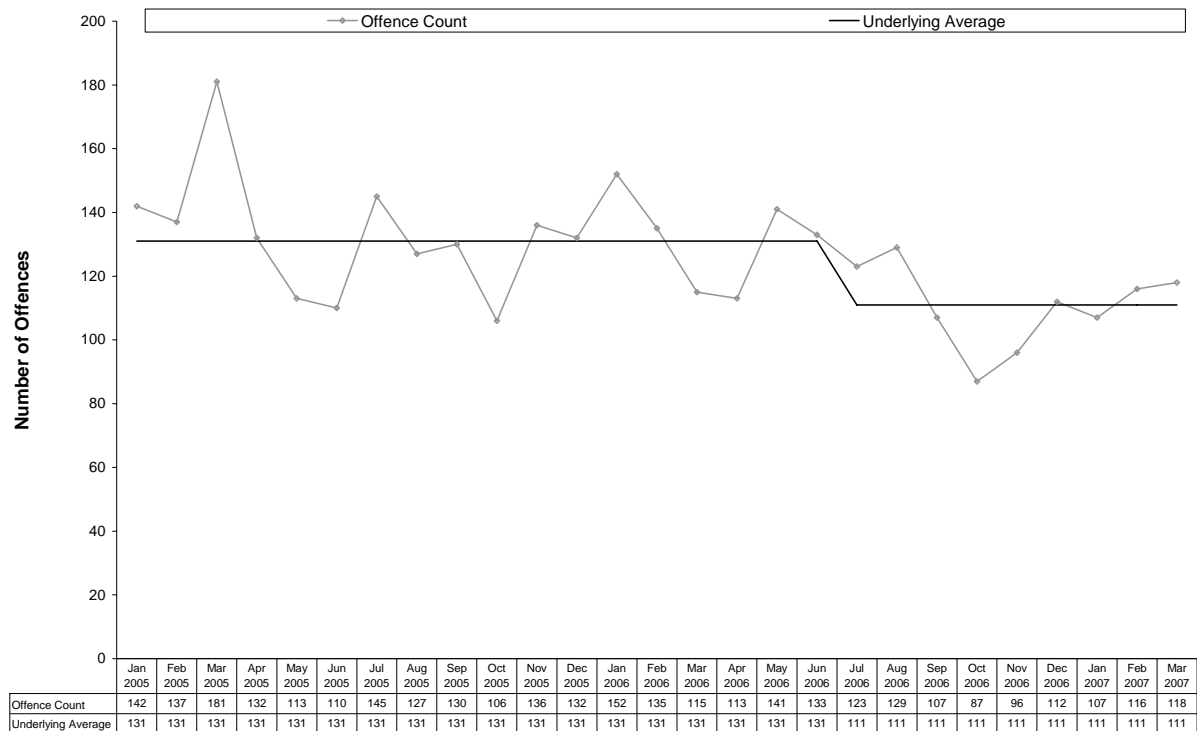
Figure 7 Recorded Break-ins to Commercial or Other Premises in the Northern Territory



Motor Vehicle Theft and Related Offences

- The figure below shows the underlying average level of *motor vehicle theft and related offences* has ranged between 111 and 131 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 111 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 341 *motor vehicle theft and related offences* recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 16% (46) from the previous quarter, but a decrease of 15% (61) from the same quarter the previous year.

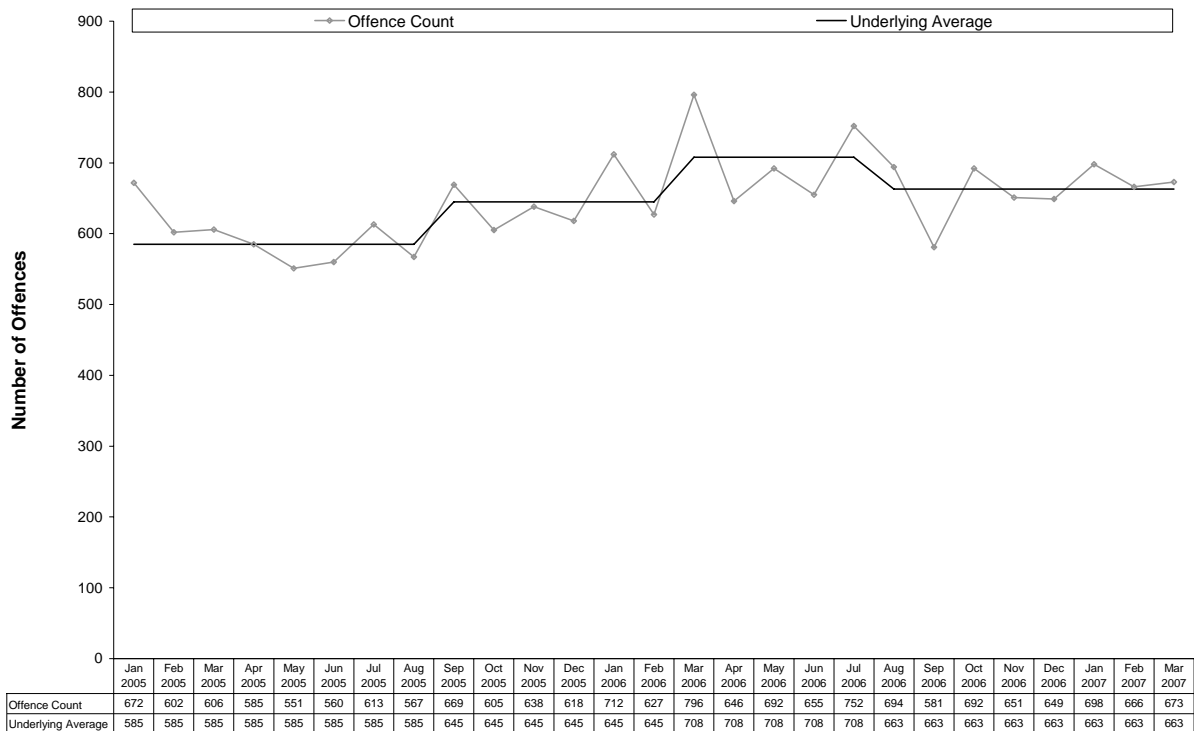
Figure 8 Recorded Motor Vehicle Theft and Related Offences in the Northern Territory



Other Theft

- The figure below shows the underlying average level of *other theft* has ranged between 585 and 708 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 663 per month is in the middle of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average decreased early in the period.
- There were 2037 *other theft* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 2% (45) from the previous quarter, but a decrease of 5% (98) from the same quarter the previous year.

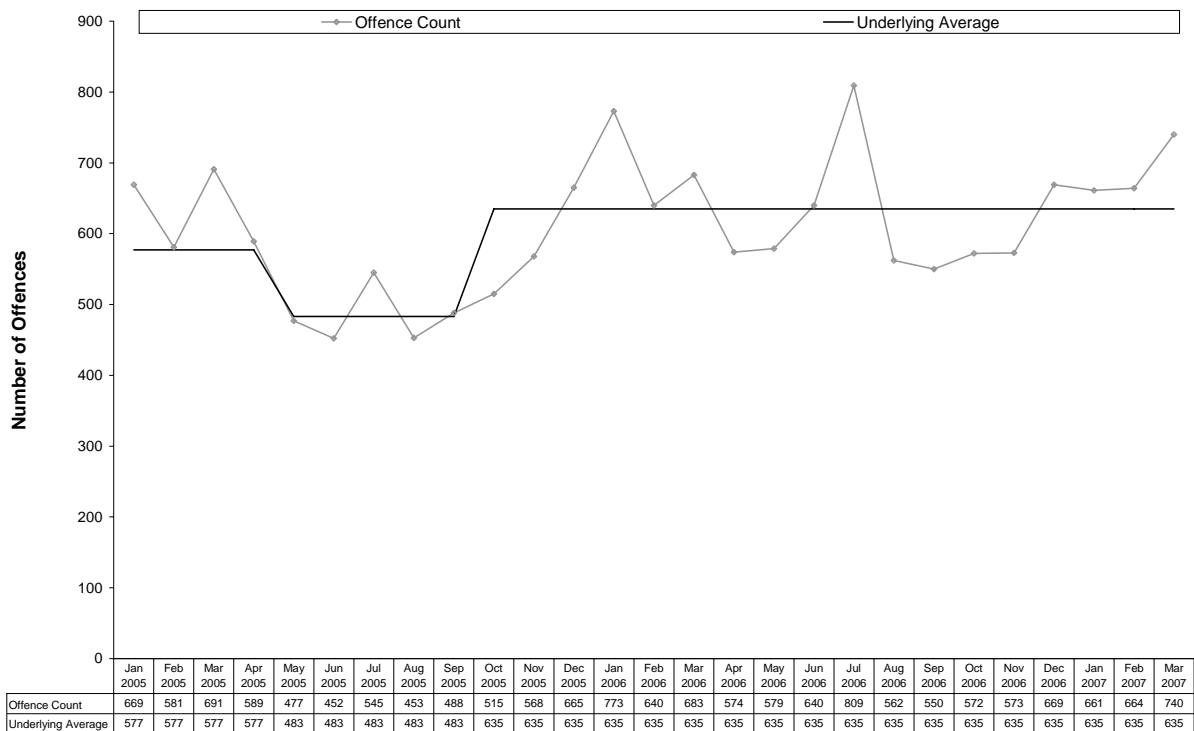
Figure 9 Recorded Other Theft in the Northern Territory



Property Damage

- The figure below shows the underlying average level of *property damage* has ranged between 483 and 635 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 635 per month is at the higher end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average has remained stable.
- There were 2065 *property damage* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 14% (251) from the previous quarter, but a decrease of 1% (31) 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.

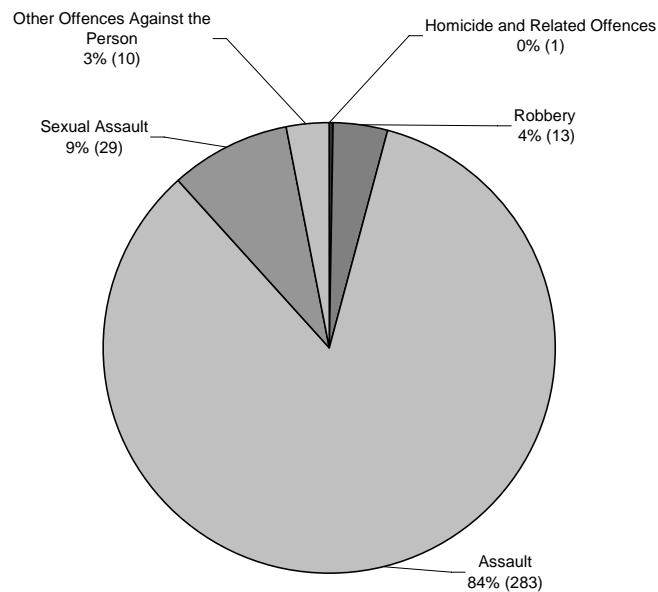
Table 2 Recorded Offences in Darwin

	Mar	Jun	Sep	Dec	Mar	Jun	Sep	Dec	Mar
	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr
	2005	2005	2005	2005	2006	2006	2006	2006	2007
Offences Against The Person									
Homicide and Related Offences									
Murder	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	2	1
Attempted Murder	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	0
Manslaughter	2	0	1	2	0	0	1	0	0
Robbery	5	17	7	5	16	15	17	12	13
Assault	230	280	221	271	256	257	254	317	283
Sexual Assault	26	38	32	34	25	21	43	36	29
Other Offences Against the Person	9	8	9	7	18	5	5	8	10
Total	272	344	270	322	315	298	320	375	336
Property Offences									
Break-ins									
House	281	197	298	249	251	285	250	274	273
Commercial or Other Premises	141	81	106	132	128	146	218	182	170
Motor Vehicle Theft and Related Offences	238	190	225	196	216	205	199	140	184
Other Theft	925	838	1028	968	1009	1049	1144	1092	948
Property Damage	1006	700	724	852	1067	955	1008	875	976
Other Property Offences	6	8	7	7	9	19	6	13	5
Total	2597	2014	2388	2404	2680	2659	2825	2576	2556

Offences Against the Person

- In the current quarter, a total of 336 offences against the person were recorded in Darwin. This represents a decrease of 10% (39) from the previous quarter, but an increase of 7% (21) from the same quarter the previous year.
- As shown in the figure below *assault* was by far the most frequent offence, accounting for 84% of offences against the person. The next most frequently recorded offence was *sexual assault*, representing 9%. The remaining offences were *murder*, *robbery* and *other offences against the person*.

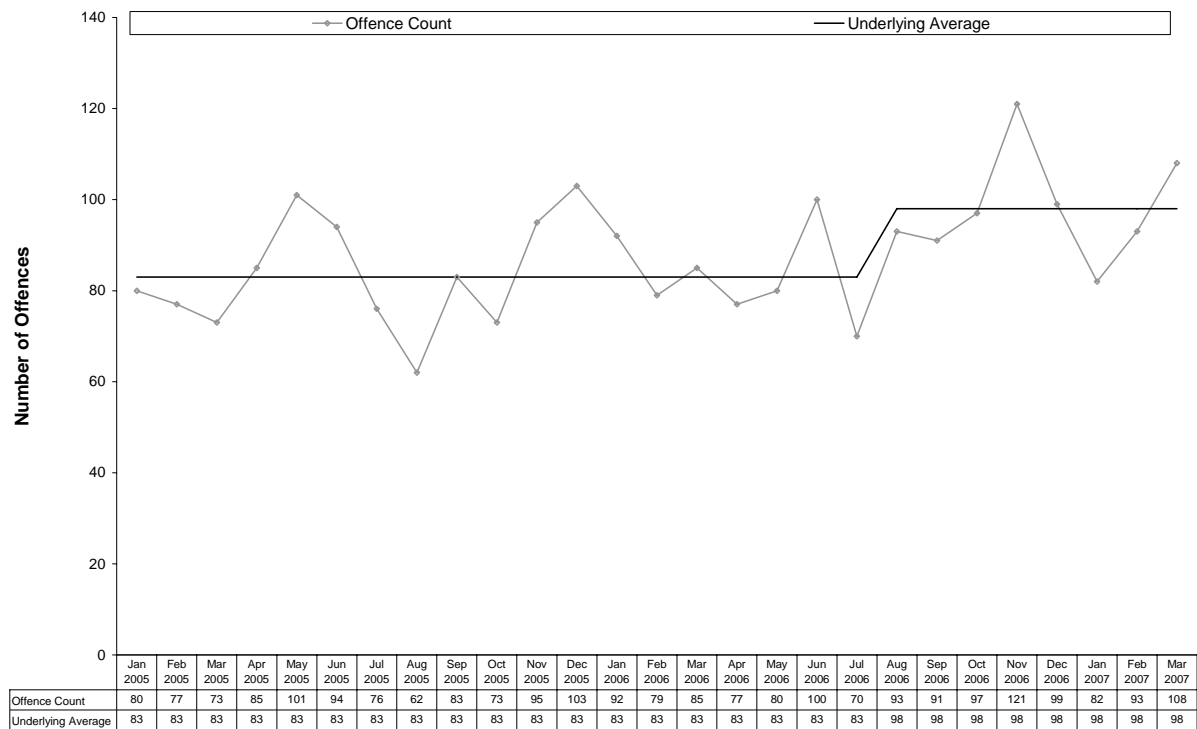
Figure 11 Recorded Offences Against the Person in Darwin – Current Quarter



Assault

- The figure below shows the underlying average level of *assault* has ranged between 83 and 98 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 98 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 283 recorded *assault* offences in Darwin in the current quarter. This represents a decrease of 11% (34) from the previous quarter, but an increase of 11% (27) from the same quarter the previous year.

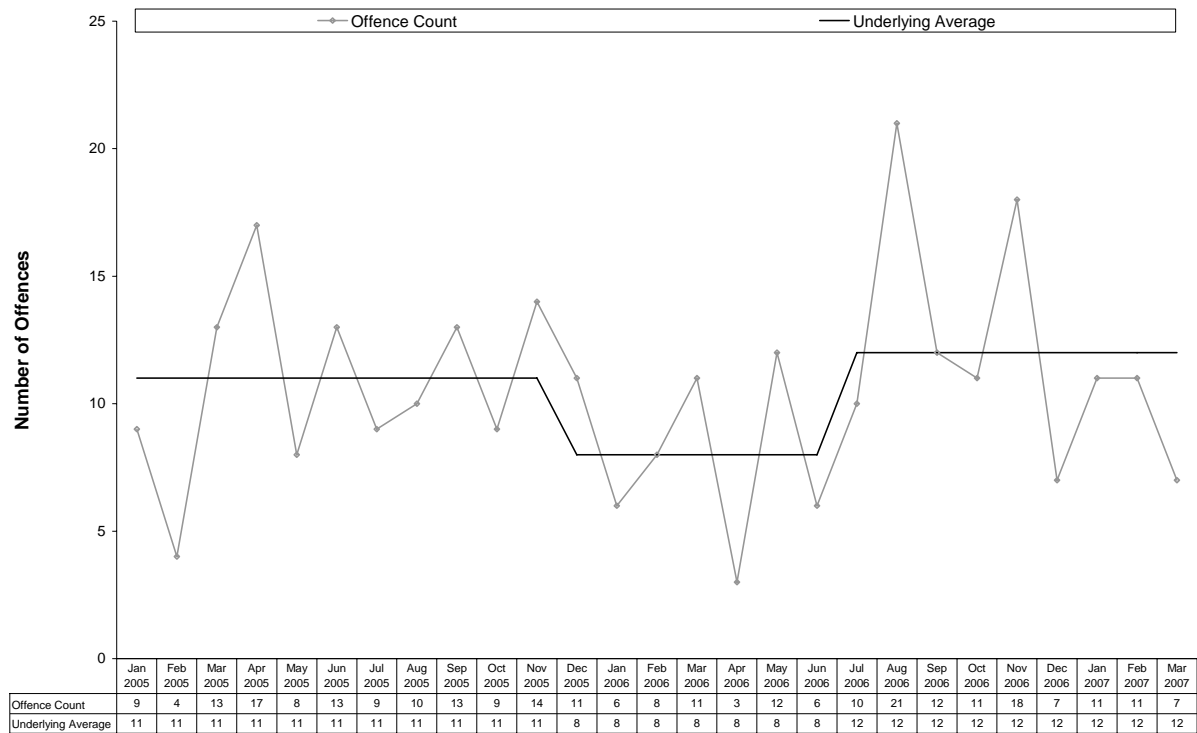
Figure 12 Recorded Assault in Darwin



Sexual Assault

- The figure below shows the underlying average level of *sexual assault* has ranged between 8 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 increased early in the period.
- There were 29 recorded *sexual assault* offences in the current quarter. This represents a decrease of 19% (7) from the previous quarter, but an increase of 16% (4) from the same quarter the previous year.

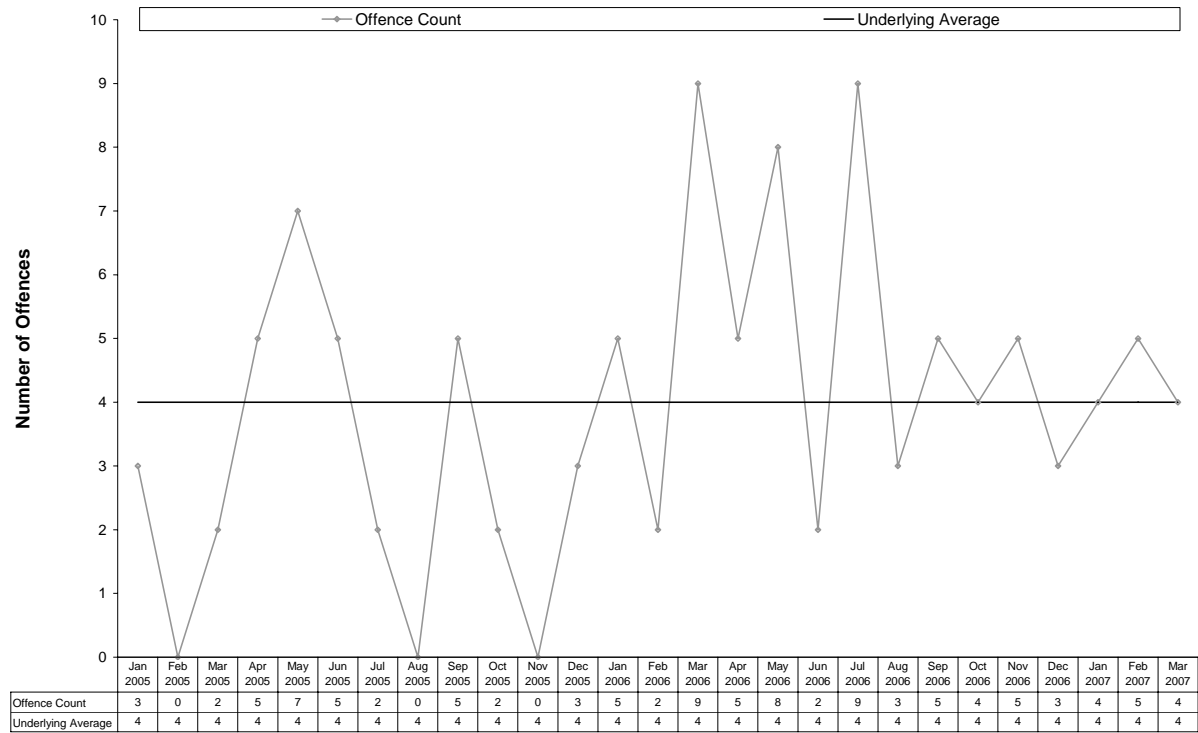
Figure 13 Recorded Sexual Assault in Darwin



Robbery

- The figure below shows the underlying average level of *robbery* has remained stable at 4 offences per month during the past nine quarters.
- There were 13 *robbery* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 8% (1) from the previous quarter, but a decrease of 19% (3) from the same quarter the previous year.

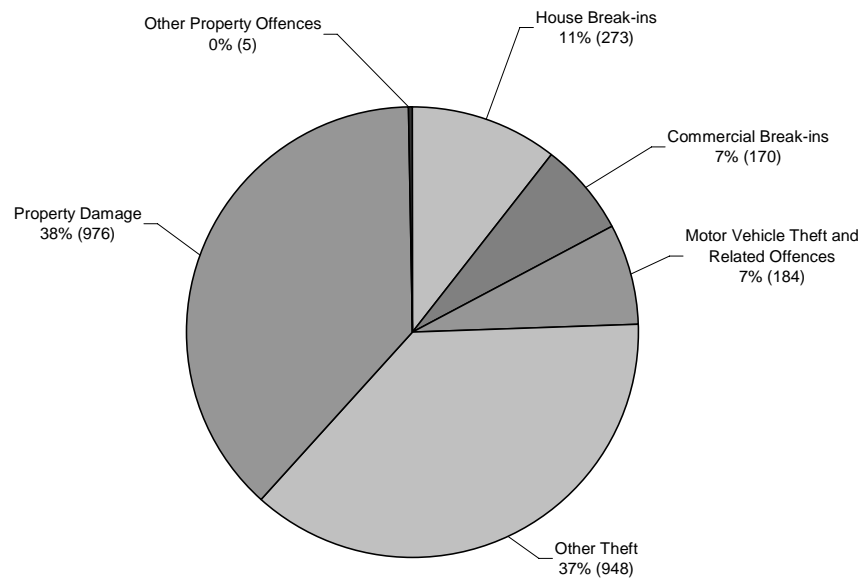
Figure 14 Recorded Robbery in Darwin



Property Offences

- There were 2556 recorded property offences in Darwin in the current quarter. This represents a decrease of 1% (20) from the previous quarter and a decrease of 5% (124) from the same quarter the previous year.
- The figure below shows 38% of property offences relate to *property damage*, with *other theft* at 37%. *House break-ins* constitute 11%, while *break-ins to commercial or other premises* and *motor vehicle theft and related offences* accounted for 7% each.

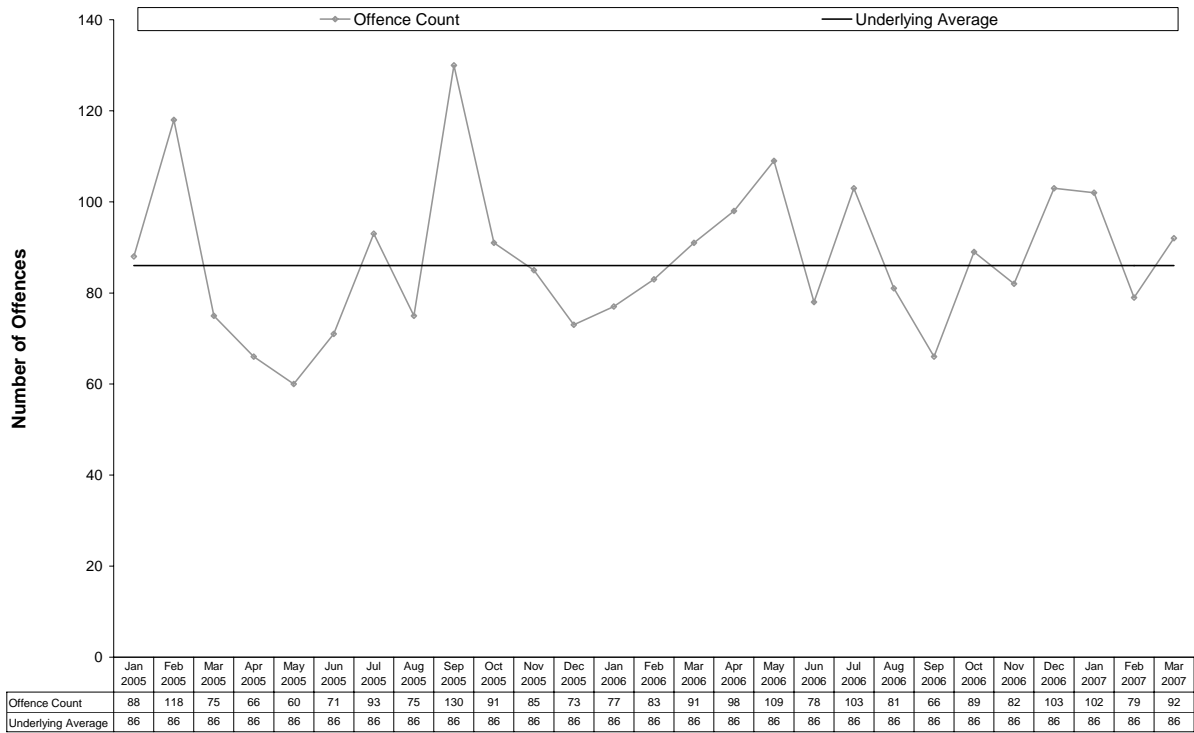
Figure 15 Recorded Property Offences in Darwin – Current Quarter



House Break-ins

- The figure below shows the underlying average level of *house break-ins* has remained stable at 86 offences per month during the past nine quarters.
- There were 273 *house break-ins* recorded in the current quarter. This represents a decrease of less than 1% (1) from the previous quarter, but an increase of 9% (22) from the same quarter the previous year.

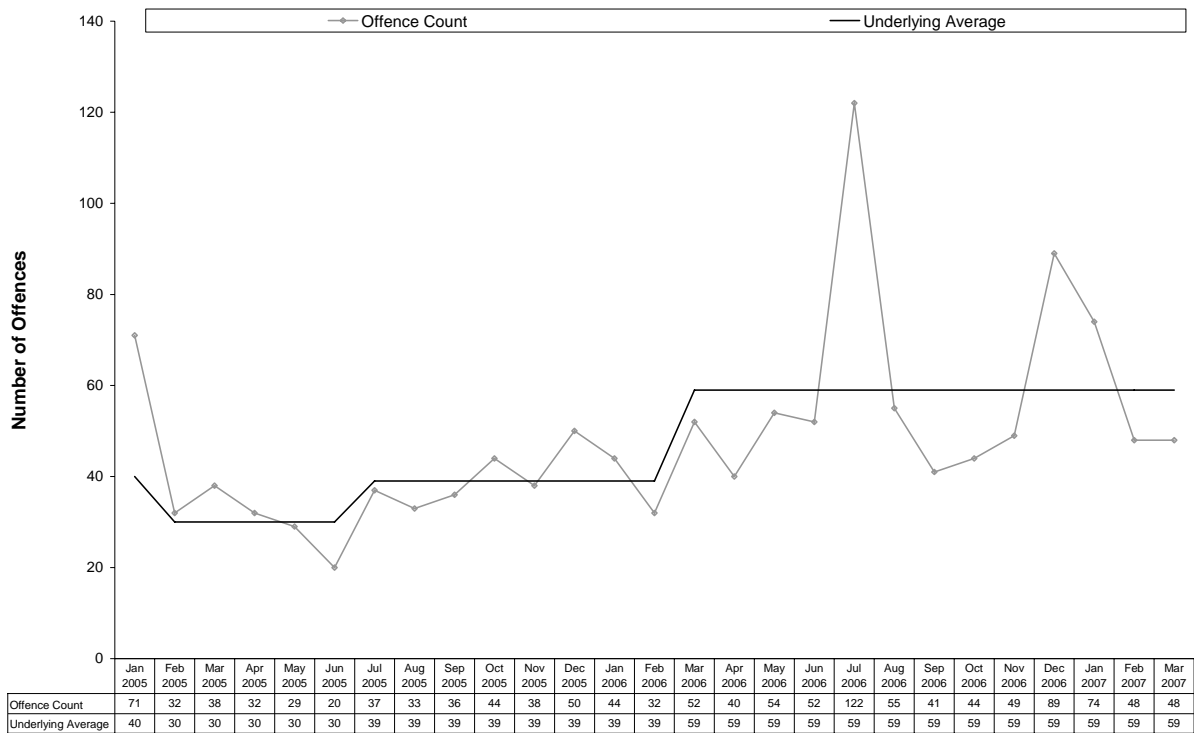
Figure 16 Recorded House Break-ins in Darwin



Break-ins to Commercial or Other Premises

- The figure below shows the underlying average level of *break-ins to commercial or other premises* has ranged between 30 and 59 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 59 per month is at the higher end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average has remained stable.
- There were 170 *break-ins to commercial or other premises* recorded in the current quarter. This represents a decrease of 7% (12) from the previous quarter, but an increase of 33% (42) from the same quarter the previous year.

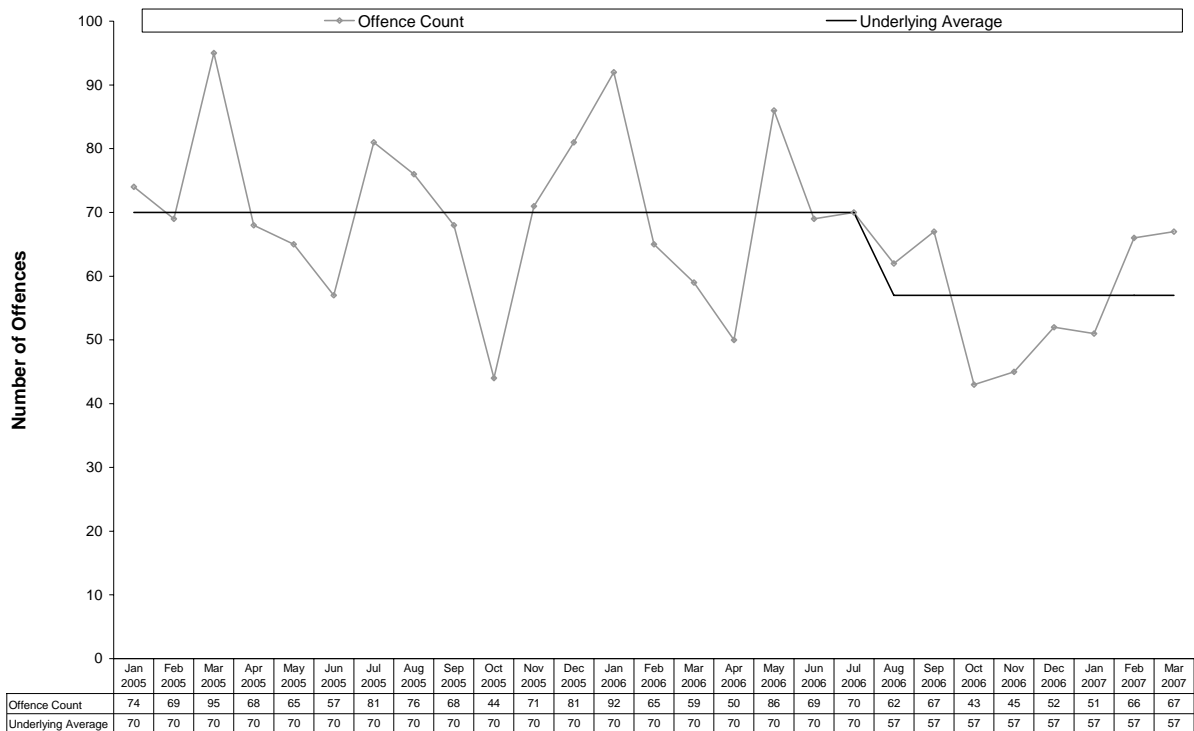
Figure 17 Recorded Break-ins to Commercial or Other Premises in Darwin



Motor Vehicle Theft and Related Offences

- The figure below shows the underlying average level of *motor vehicle theft and related offences* has ranged between 57 and 70 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 57 per month is at the lower end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average decreased early in the period.
- In the current quarter there were 184 *motor vehicle theft and related offences*. This represents an increase of 31% (44) from the previous quarter, but a decrease of 15% (32) from the same quarter the previous year.

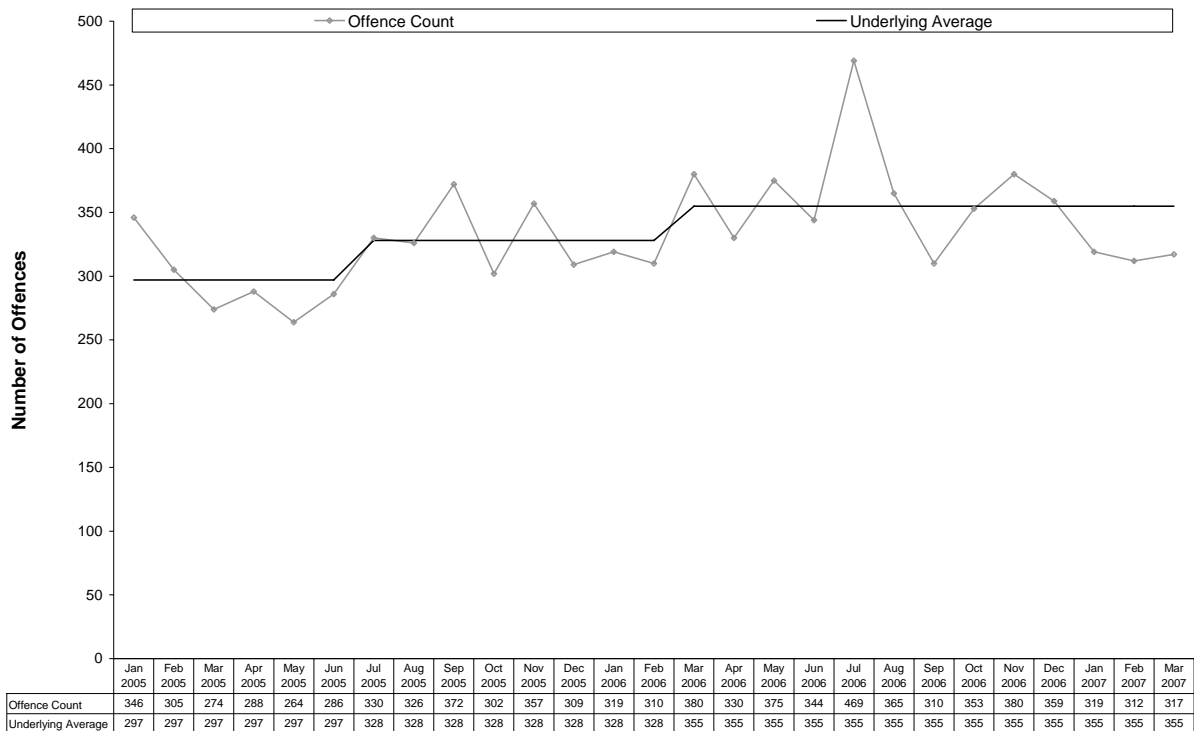
Figure 18 Recorded Motor Vehicle Theft and Related Offences in Darwin



Other Theft

- The figure below shows the underlying average level of *other theft* has ranged between 297 and 355 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 355 per month is at the higher end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average has remained stable.
- There were 948 *other theft* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents a decrease of 13% (144) from the previous quarter and a decrease of 6% (61) from the same quarter the previous year.

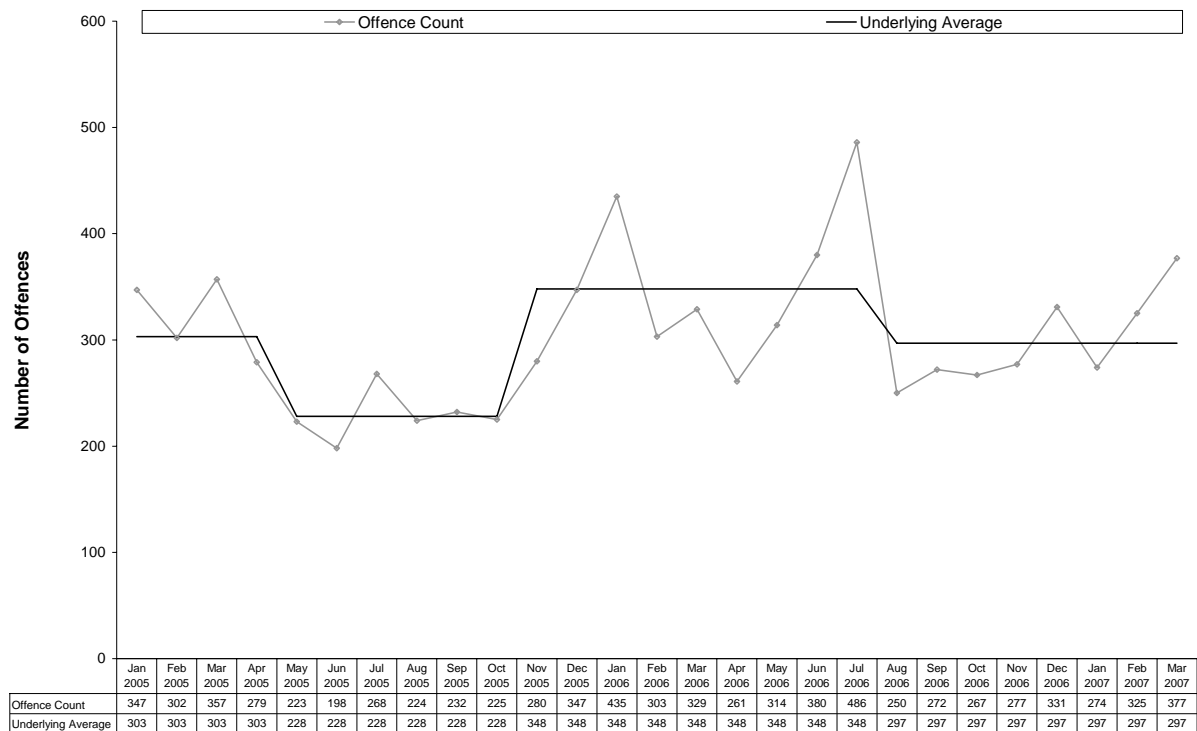
Figure 19 Recorded Other Theft in Darwin



Property Damage

- The figure below shows the underlying average level of *property damage* has ranged between 228 and 348 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 297 per month is in the middle of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average decreased early in the period.
- There were 976 *property damage* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 12% (101) from the previous quarter, but a decrease of 9% (91) 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.

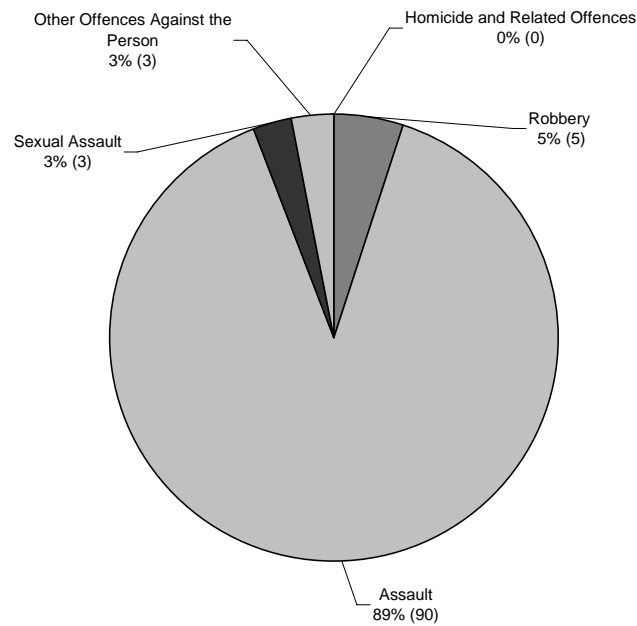
Table 3 Recorded Offences in Palmerston

	Mar	Jun	Sep	Dec	Mar	Jun	Sep	Dec	Mar
	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr
	2005	2005	2005	2005	2006	2006	2006	2006	2007
Offences Against The Person									
Homicide and Related Offences									
Murder	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Attempted Murder	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Manslaughter	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0
Robbery	3	4	4	0	0	1	0	1	5
Assault	57	37	54	59	59	48	69	52	90
Sexual Assault	7	12	10	9	10	7	7	8	3
Other Offences Against the Person	7	7	4	2	2	1	3	0	3
Total	75	60	72	71	72	58	80	61	101
Property Offences									
Break-ins									
House	63	80	67	52	56	78	100	50	74
Commercial or Other Premises	34	23	26	24	35	33	31	18	42
Motor Vehicle Theft and Related Offences	67	43	28	29	50	37	37	40	45
Other Theft	181	184	178	209	245	240	216	197	262
Property Damage	229	161	125	148	206	189	210	140	244
Other Property Offences	0	1	0	2	1	0	2	0	0
Total	574	492	424	464	593	577	596	445	667

Offences Against the Person

- In the current quarter there were 101 offences against the person recorded in Palmerston. This represents an increase of 66% (40) from the previous quarter and an increase of 40% (29) from the same quarter the previous year.
- As shown in the figure below *assault* was by far the most frequent offence, accounting for 89% of offences against the person in the current quarter. The next most frequently recorded offence was *robbery*, accounting for 5%. The remaining offences were *sexual assault* and *other offences against the person*.

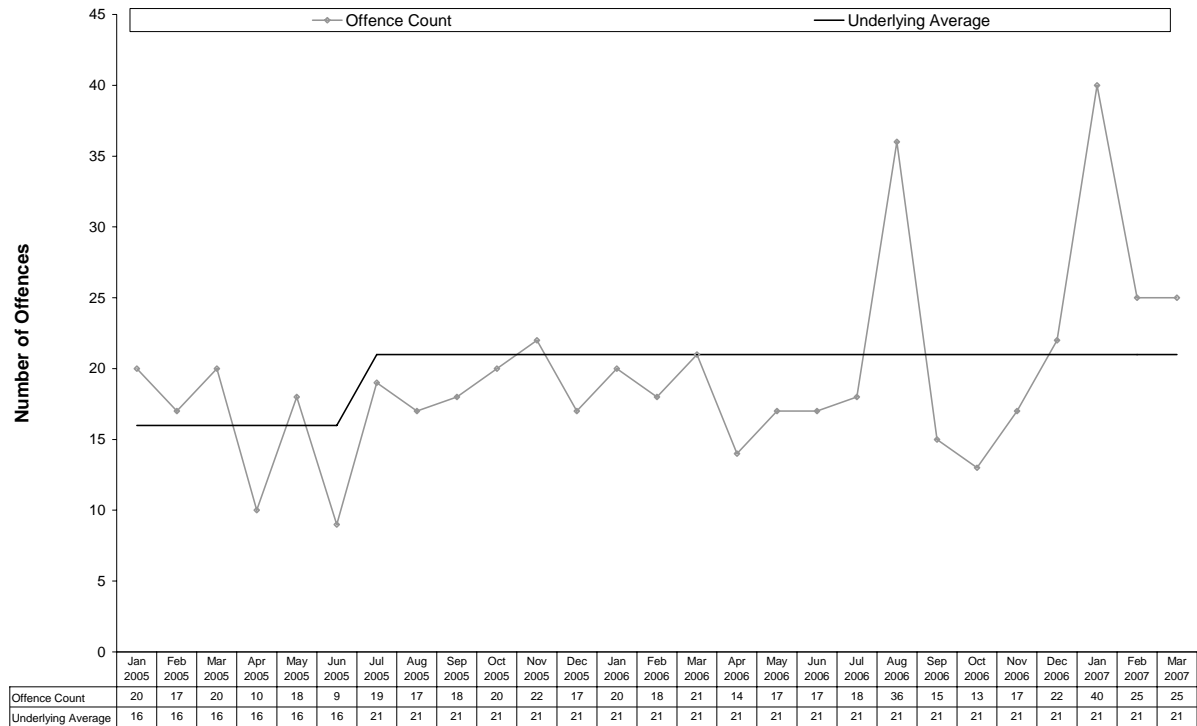
Figure 21 Recorded Offences Against the Person in Palmerston – Current Quarter



Assault

- The figure below shows the underlying average level of *assault* has ranged between 16 and 21 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 21 per month is at the higher end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average has remained stable.
- There were 90 recorded *assault* offences in Palmerston in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 73% (38) from the previous quarter and an increase of 53% (31) from the same quarter the previous year.

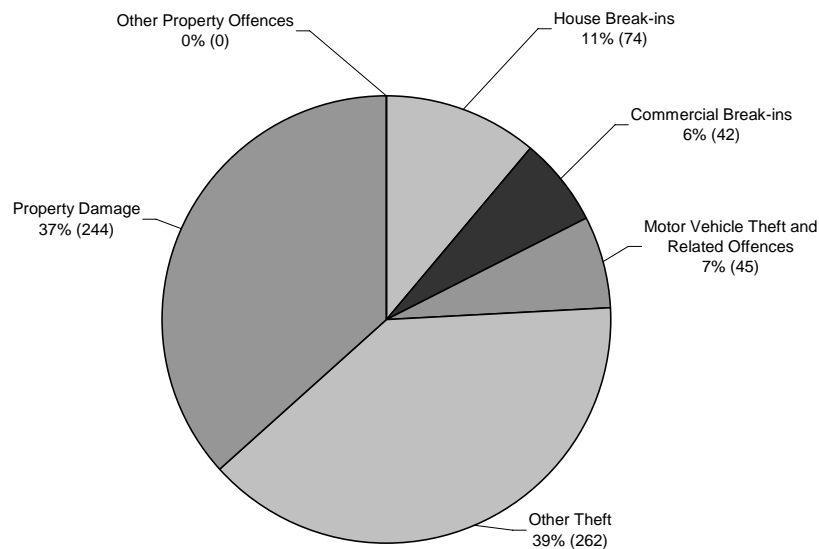
Figure 22 Recorded Assault in Palmerston



Property Offences

- In the current quarter there was a total of 667 recorded property offences in Palmerston. This represents an increase of 50% (222) from the previous quarter and an increase of 12% (74) from the same quarter the previous year.
- As shown in the figure below, 39% of property offences relate to *other theft* and 37% relate to *property damage*. *House break-ins* constitute 11%, *motor vehicle theft and related offences* 7% and *break-ins to commercial or other premises* 6%.

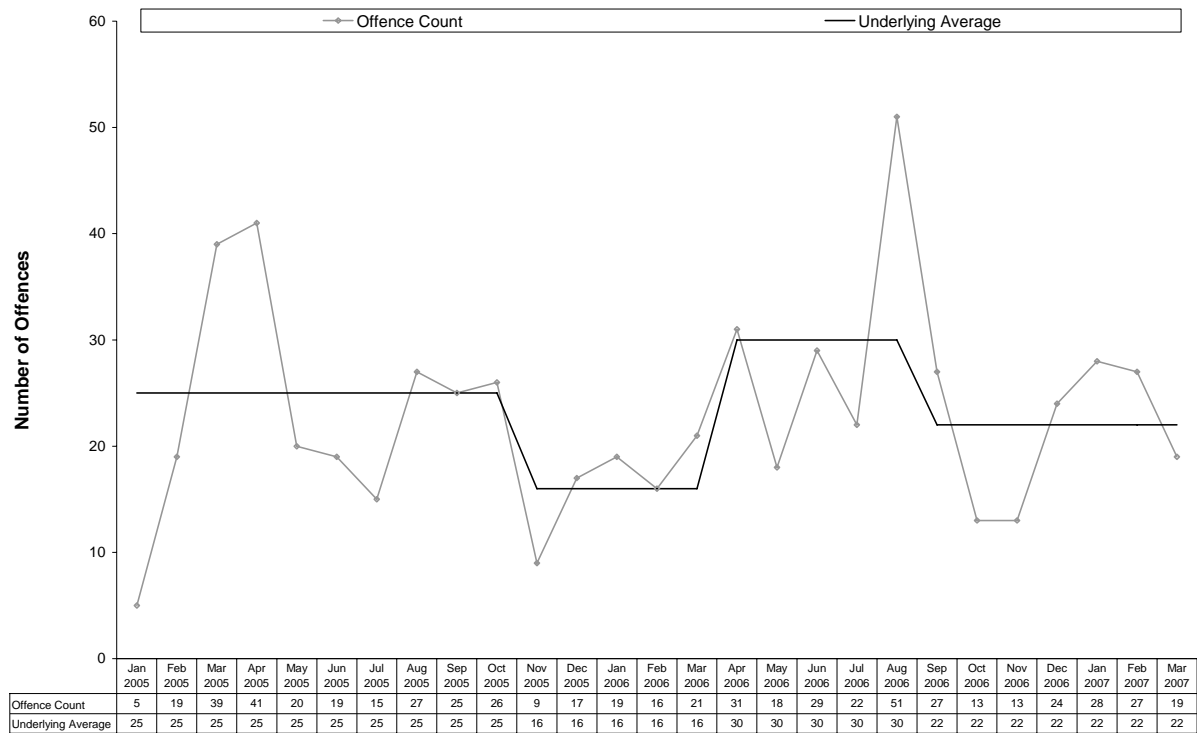
Figure 23 Recorded Property Offences in Palmerston – Current Quarter



House Break-ins

- The figure below shows the underlying average level of *house break-ins* has ranged between 16 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 decreased in the middle of the period.
- There were 74 *house break-ins* recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 48% (24) from the previous quarter and an increase of 32% (18) from the same quarter the previous year.

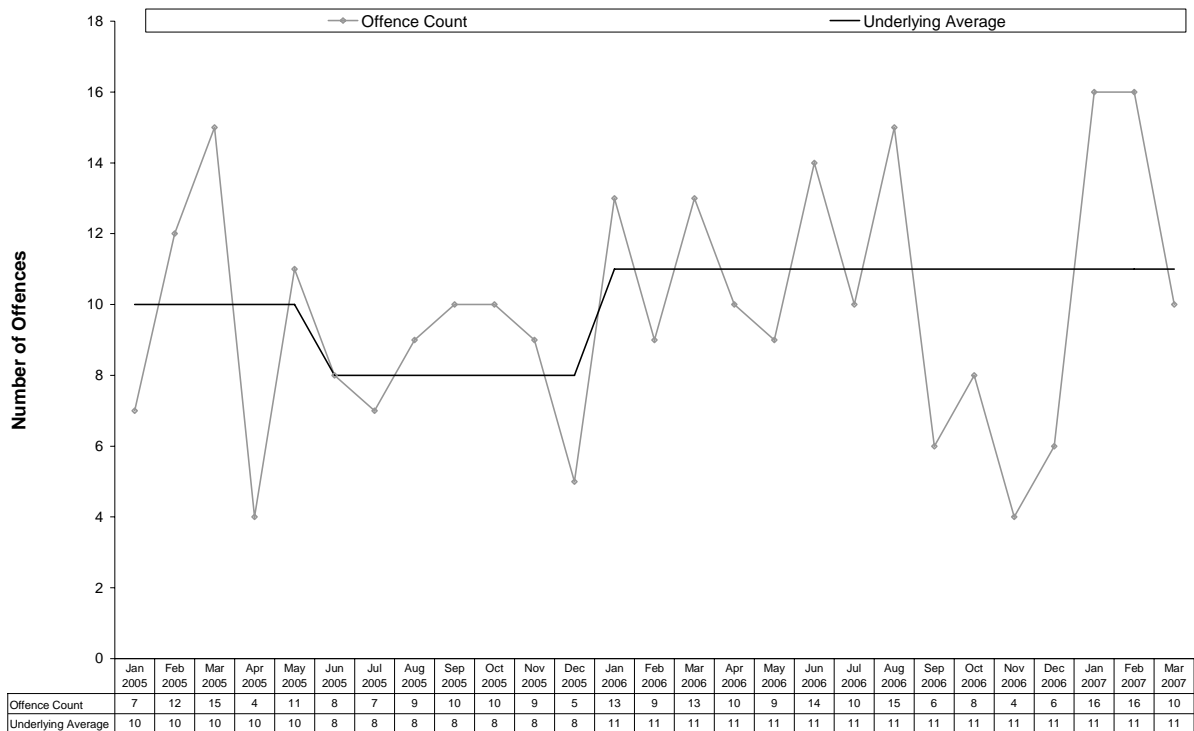
Figure 24 Recorded House Break-ins in Palmerston



Break-ins to Commercial or Other Premises

- The figure below shows the underlying average level of *break-ins to commercial or other premises* has ranged from 8 to 11 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 11 per month is at the higher end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average has remained stable.
- There were 42 *break-ins to commercial or other premises* recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 133% (24) from the previous quarter and an increase of 20% (7) from the same quarter the previous year.

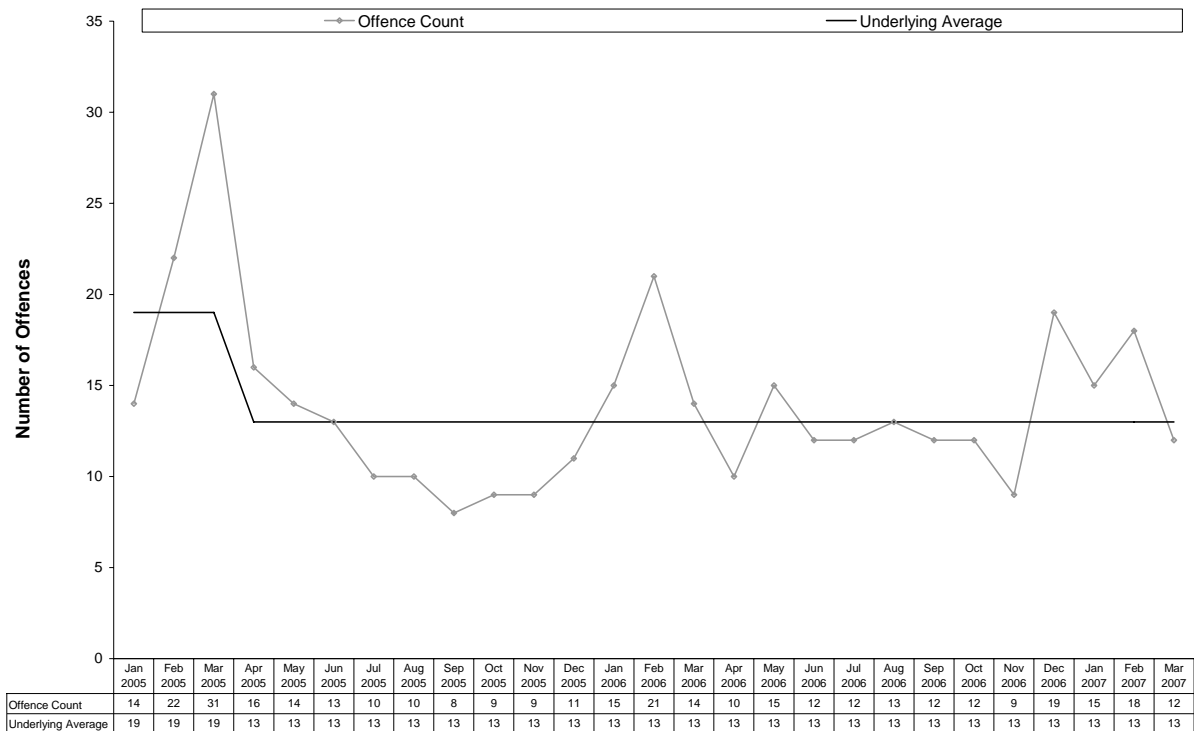
Figure 25 Recorded Break-ins to Commercial or Other Premises in Palmerston



Motor Vehicle Theft and Related Offences

- The figure below shows the underlying average level of *motor vehicle theft and related offences* has ranged between 13 and 19 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 13 per month is at the lower end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average has remained stable.
- There were 45 recorded *motor vehicle theft and related offences* in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 13% (5) from the previous quarter, but a decrease of 10% (5) from the same quarter the previous year.

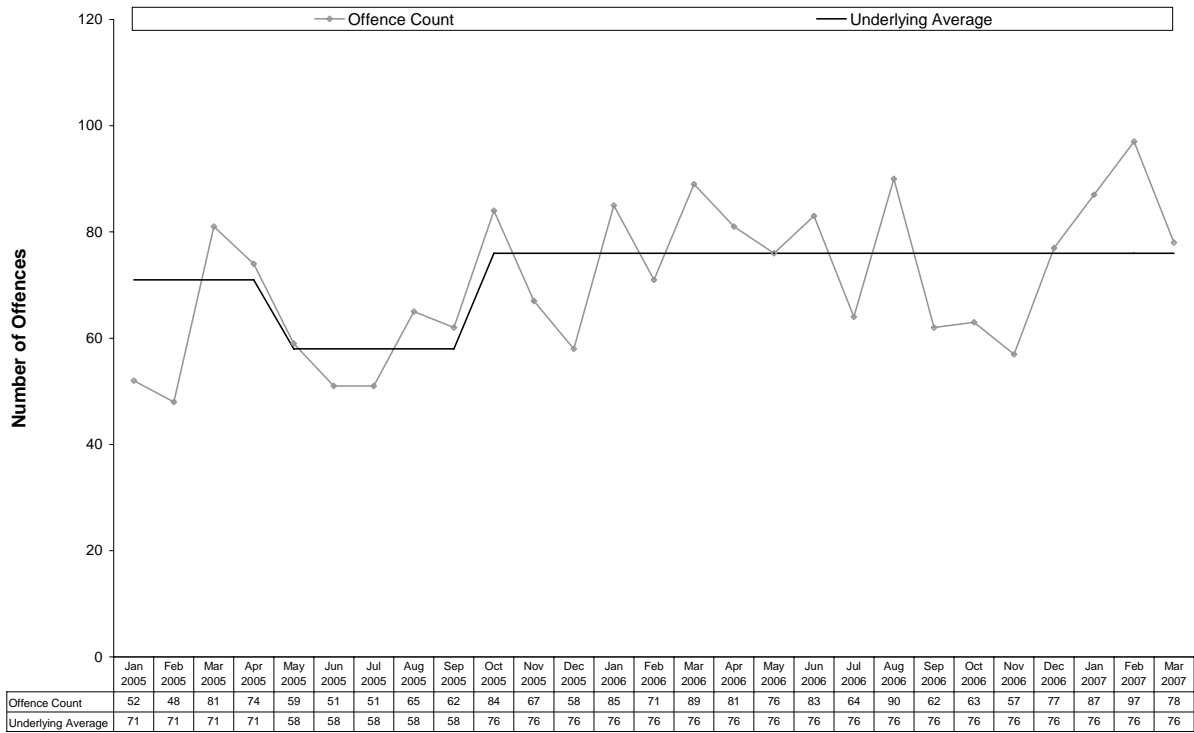
Figure 26 Recorded Motor Vehicle Theft and Related Offences in Palmerston



Other Theft

- The figure below shows the underlying average level of *other theft* has ranged between 58 and 76 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 76 per month is at the higher end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average has remained stable.
- There were 262 *other theft* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 33% (65) from the previous quarter and an increase of 7% (17) from the same quarter the previous year.

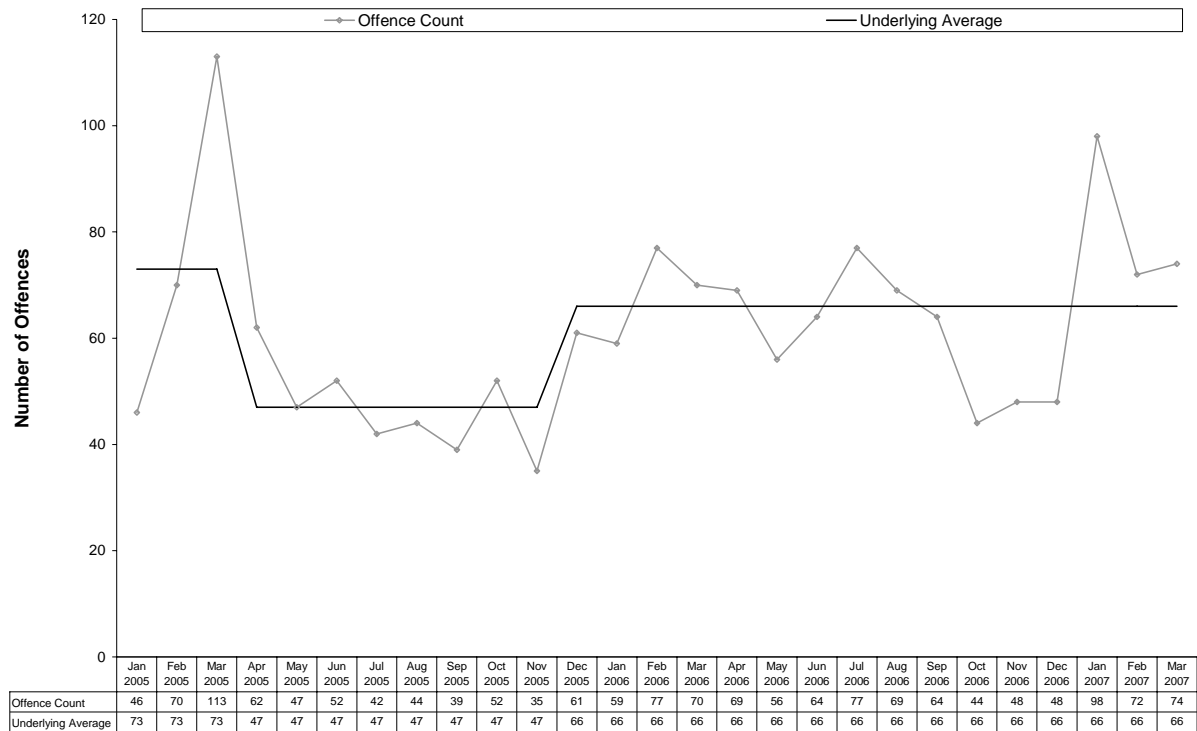
Figure 27 Recorded Other Theft in Palmerston



Property Damage

- The figure below shows the underlying average level of *property damage* has ranged between 47 and 73 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 66 per month is in the middle of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average has remained stable.
- There were 244 *property damage* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 74% (104) from the previous quarter and an increase of 18% (38) 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.

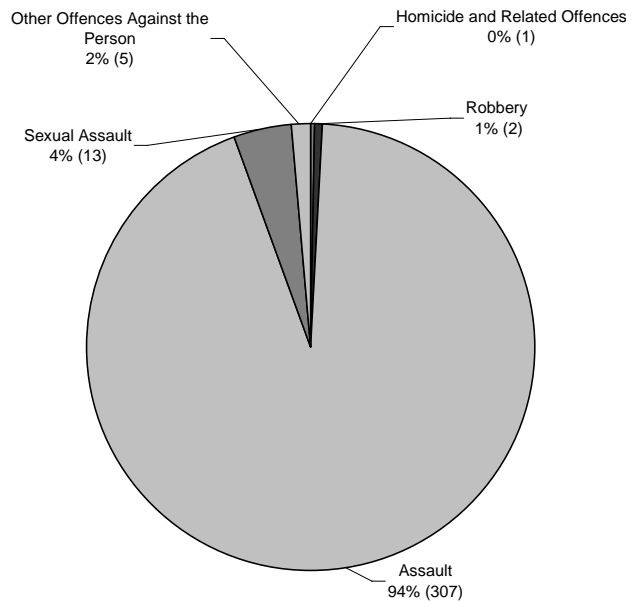
Table 4 Recorded Offences in Alice Springs

	Mar	Jun	Sep	Dec	Mar	Jun	Sep	Dec	Mar
	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr
	2005	2005	2005	2005	2006	2006	2006	2006	2007
Offences Against The Person									
Homicide and Related Offences									
Murder	0	1	4	2	2	1	0	0	0
Attempted Murder	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Manslaughter	2	0	2	2	0	1	0	0	0
Robbery	1	3	1	2	3	3	4	0	2
Assault	223	236	251	316	353	193	233	266	307
Sexual Assault	6	5	16	8	21	6	9	12	13
Other Offences Against the Person	4	8	3	3	2	5	8	8	5
Total	236	253	277	333	381	209	254	286	328
Property Offences									
Break-ins									
House	72	54	60	64	99	60	47	63	70
Commercial or Other Premises	41	56	56	68	93	85	55	69	111
Motor Vehicle Theft and Related Offences	76	58	72	68	68	77	79	53	54
Other Theft	285	303	248	277	371	293	278	325	366
Property Damage	325	324	275	343	383	293	374	415	455
Other Property Offences	7	6	5	4	4	5	2	6	5
Total	806	801	716	824	1018	813	835	931	1061

Offences Against the Person

- In the current quarter, a total of 328 offences against the person were recorded in Alice Springs. This represents an increase of 15% (42) from the previous quarter, but a decrease of 14% (53) from the same quarter the previous year.
- As shown in the figure below *assault* was by far the most frequent offence, accounting for 94% of offences against the person in the current quarter. The next most frequently recorded offence was *sexual assault* accounting for 4%. The remaining offences included *other offences against the person*, *robbery* and *attempted murder*.

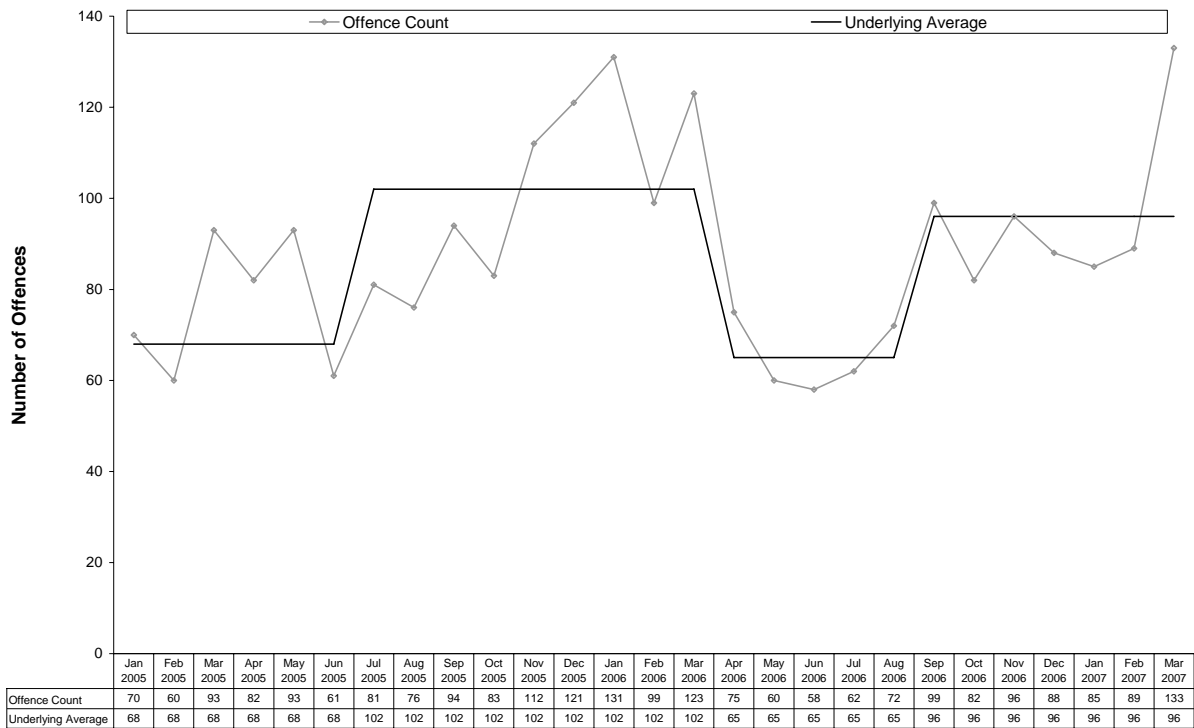
Figure 29 Recorded Offences Against the Person in Alice Springs – Current Quarter



Assault

- The figure below shows the underlying average level of *assault* has ranged between 65 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 increased in the middle of the period. A statistically significant upward trend was identified.
- There were 307 recorded *assault* offences in Alice Springs in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 15% (41) from the previous quarter, but a decrease of 13% (46) from the same quarter the previous year.

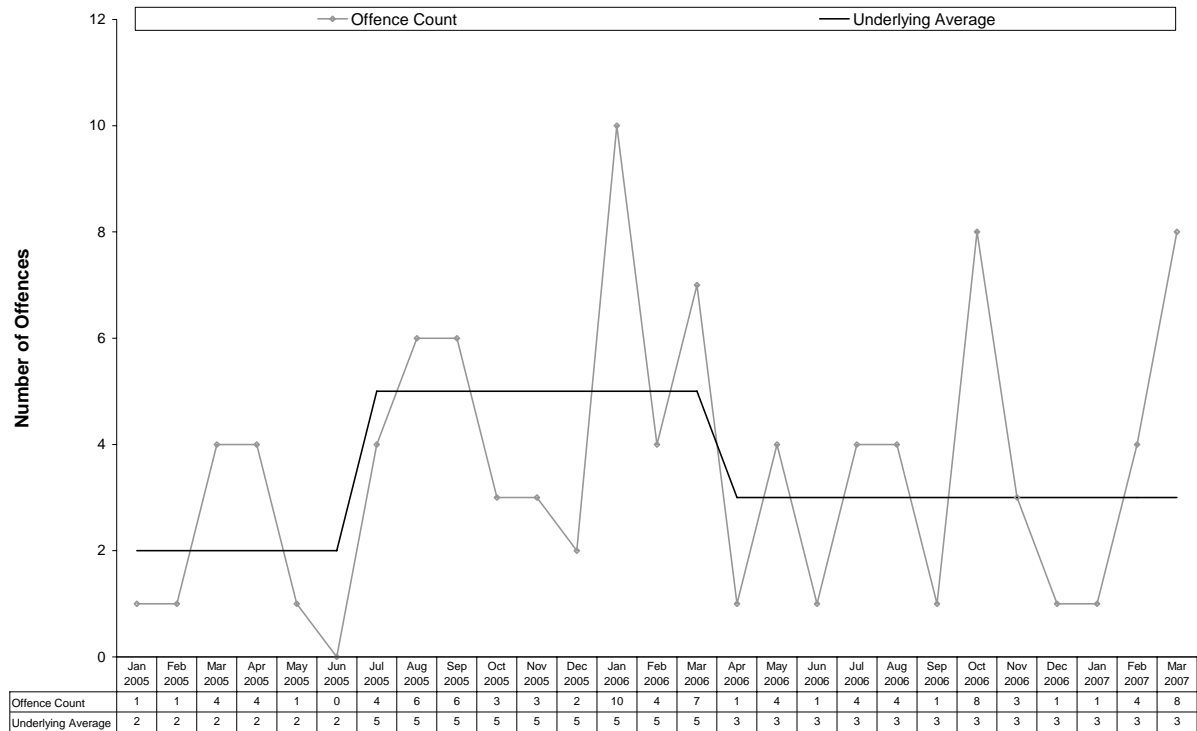
Figure 30 Recorded Assault in Alice Springs



Sexual Assault

- The figure below shows the underlying average level of *sexual assault* has ranged between 2 and 5 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 3 offences per month is in the middle of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average remained stable.
- There were 13 recorded *sexual assault* offences in Alice Springs in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 8% (1) from the previous quarter, but a decrease of 38% (8) from the same quarter the previous year.

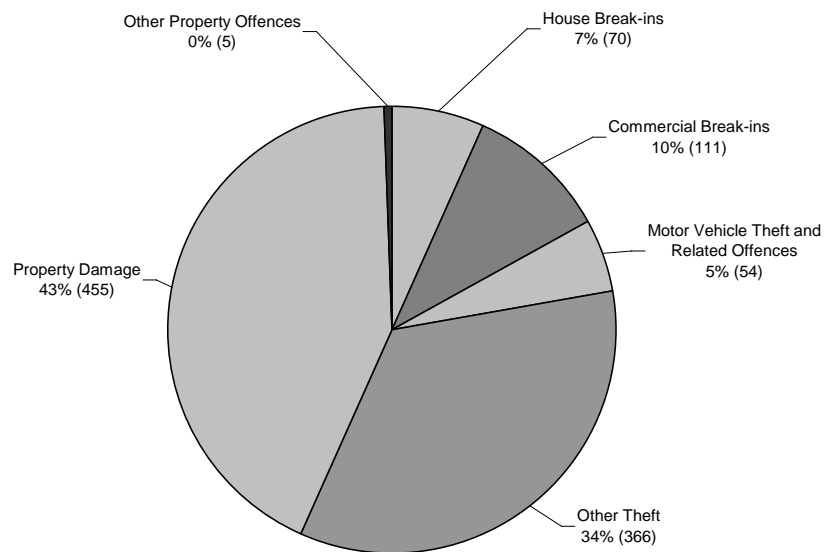
Figure 31 Recorded Sexual Assault in Alice Springs



Property Offences

- In the current quarter there was a total of 1061 recorded property offences in Alice Springs. This represents an increase of 14% (130) from the previous quarter and an increase of 4% (43) from the same quarter the previous year.
- The figure below shows 43% of the property offences relate to *property damage* and 34% relate to *other theft*. *Break-ins to commercial or other premises* accounted for 10%, *house break-ins* 7% and *motor vehicle theft and related offences* 5%.

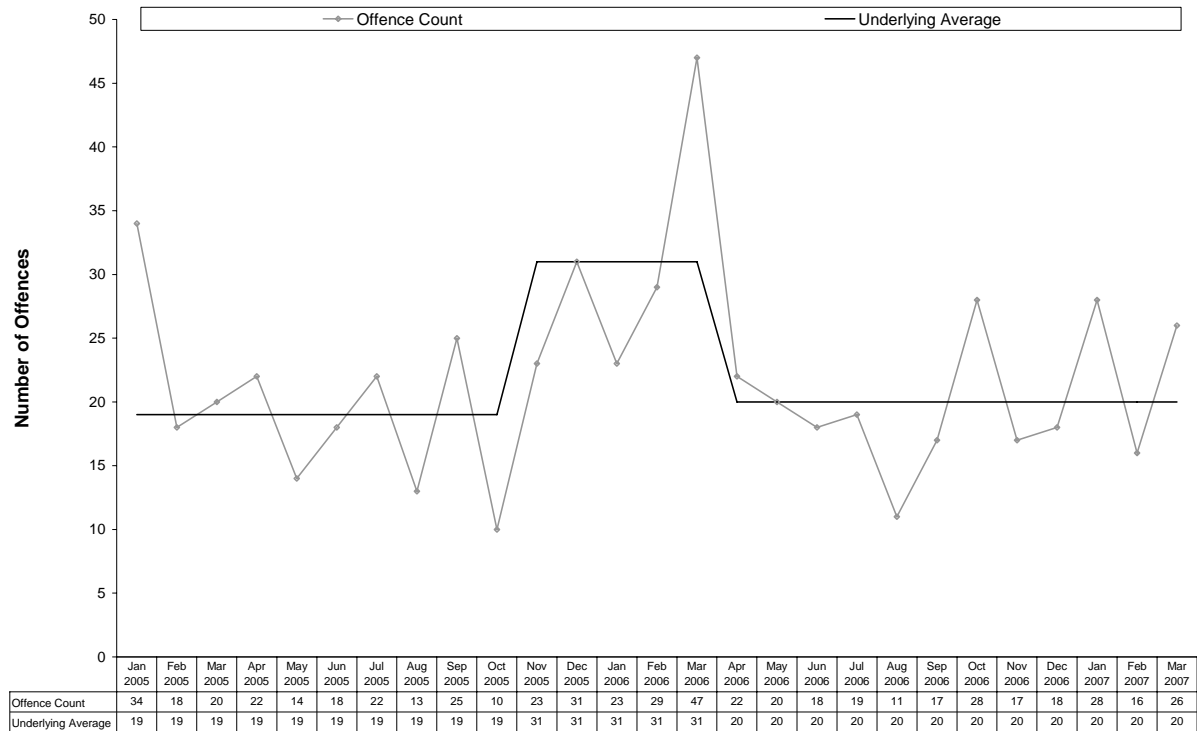
Figure 32 Recorded Property Offences in Alice Springs – Current Quarter



House Break-ins

- The figure below shows the underlying average level of *house break-ins* has ranged between 19 and 31 offences per month for the past nine quarters. Its current level of 20 per month is at the lower end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average remained stable.
- There were 70 *house break-ins* recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 11% (7) from the previous quarter, but a decrease of 29% (29) from same quarter the previous year.

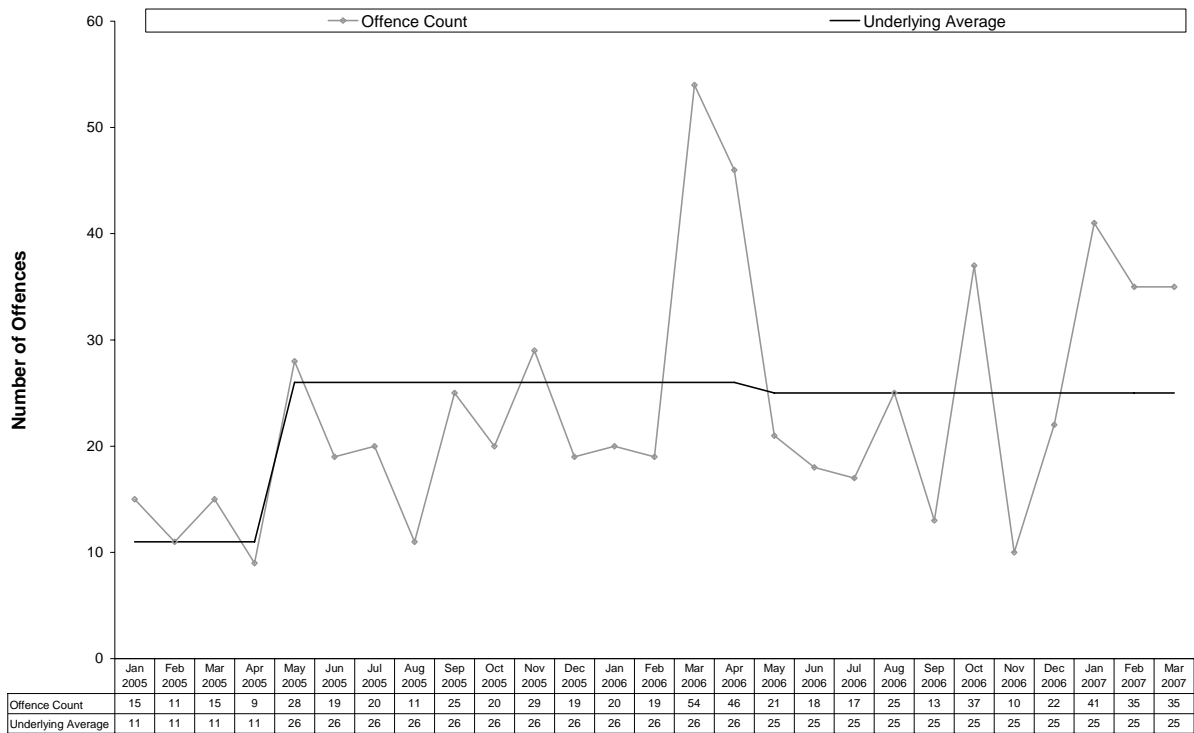
Figure 33 Recorded House Break-ins in Alice Springs



Break-ins to Commercial or Other Premises

- The figure below shows the underlying average level of *break-ins to commercial or other premises* has ranged between 11 and 26 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 25 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 111 *break-ins to commercial or other premises* recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 61% (42) from the previous quarter and an increase of 19% (18) from the same quarter the previous year.

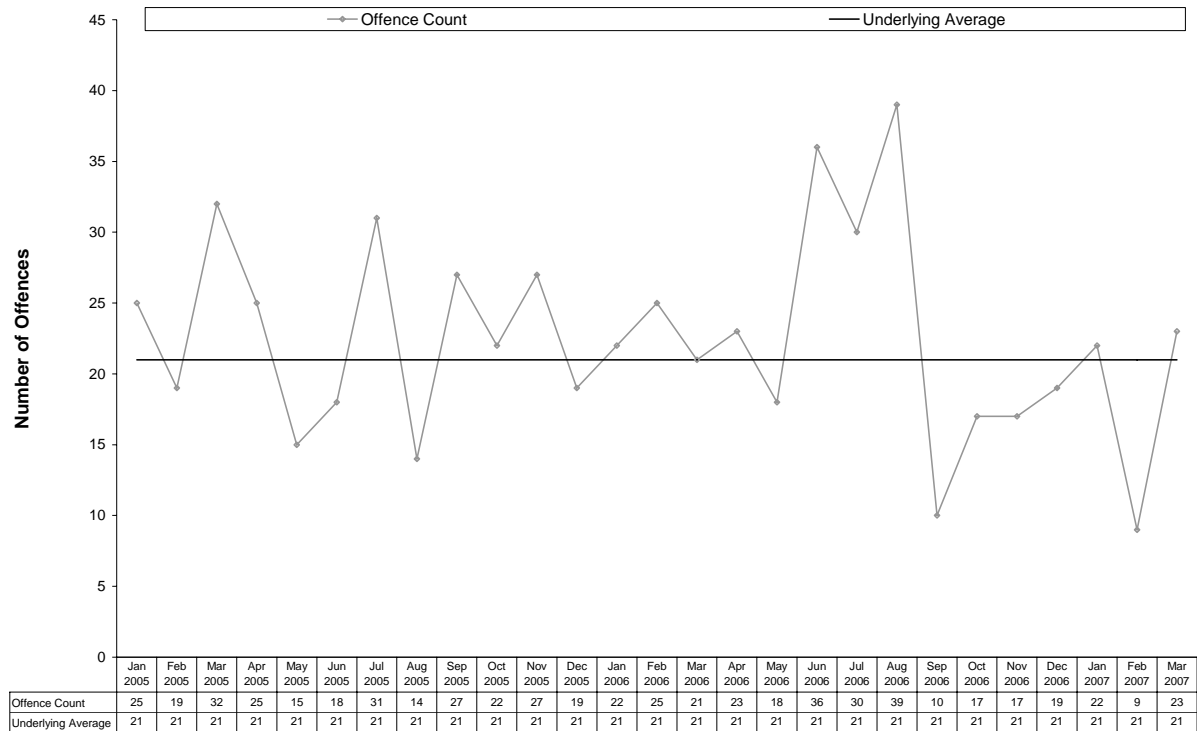
Figure 34 Recorded Break-ins to Commercial or Other Premises in Alice Springs



Motor Vehicle Theft and Related Offences

- The figure below shows the underlying average level of *motor vehicle theft and related offences* has remained stable at 21 offences per month during the past nine quarters.
- There were 54 *motor vehicle theft and related offences* recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 2% (1) from the previous quarter, but a decrease of 21% (14) from the same quarter the previous year.

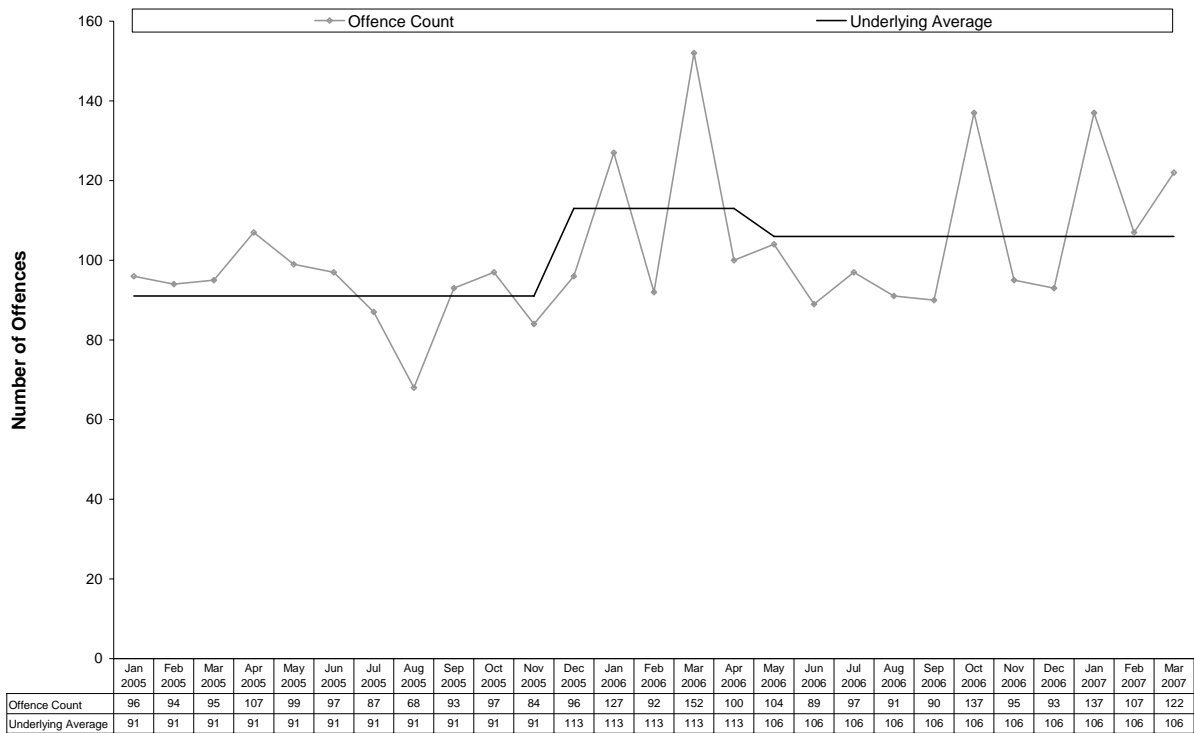
Figure 35 Recorded Motor Vehicle Theft and Related Offences in Alice Springs



Other Theft

- The figure below shows the underlying average level of *other theft* has ranged between 91 and 113 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 106 per month is in the middle of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average decreased early in the period.
- There were 366 *other theft* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 13% (41) from the previous quarter, but a decrease of 1% (5) from the same quarter the previous year.

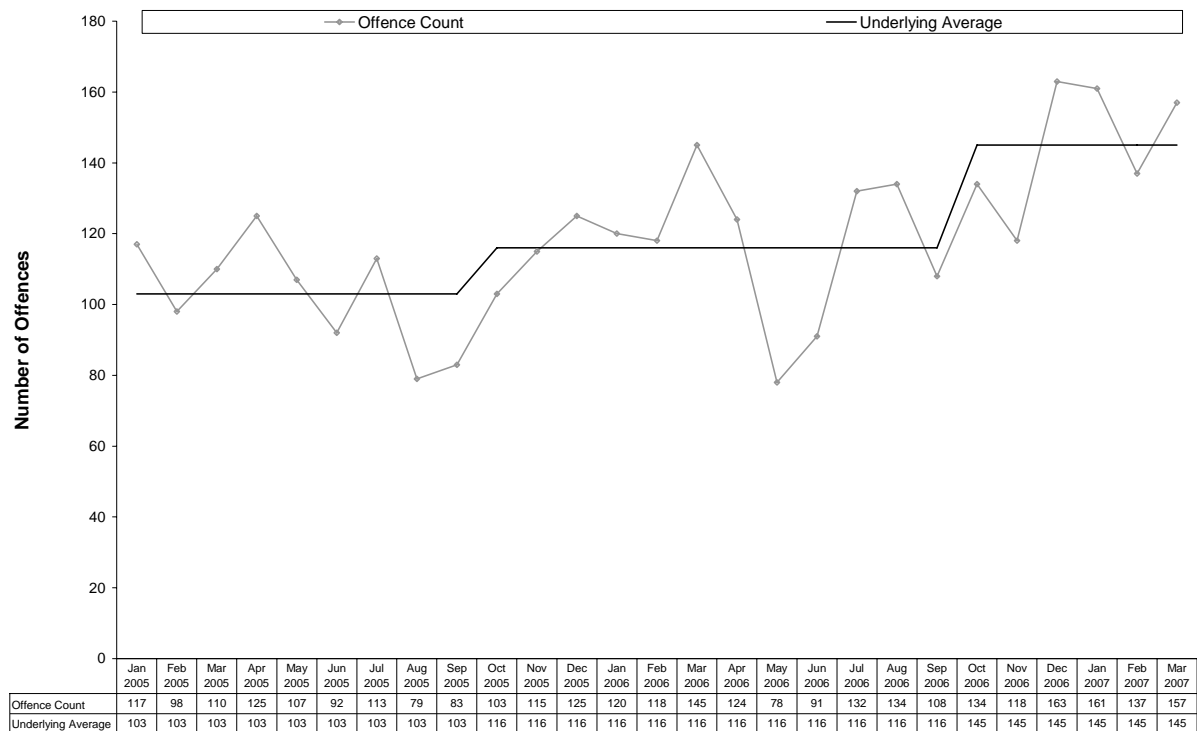
Figure 36 Recorded Other Theft in Alice Springs



Property Damage

- The figure below shows the underlying average level of *property damage* has ranged between 103 and 145 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 145 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 455 *property damage* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 10% (40) from the previous quarter and an increase of 19% (72) 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.

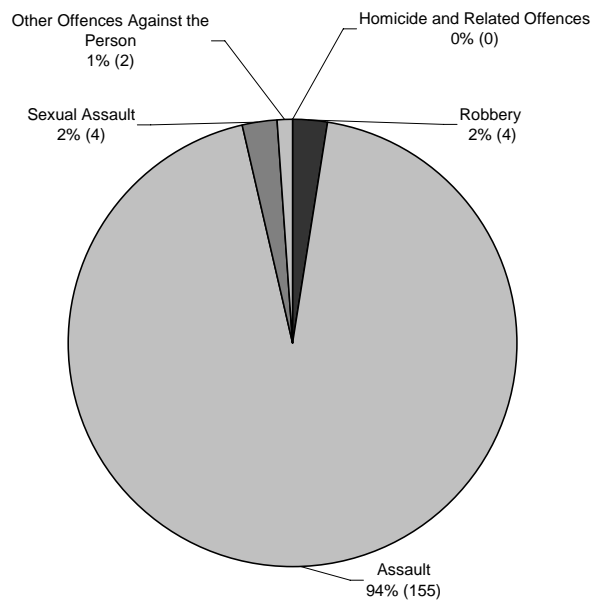
Table 5 Recorded Offences in Katherine

	Mar	Jun	Sep	Dec	Mar	Jun	Sep	Dec	Mar
	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr
	2005	2005	2005	2005	2006	2006	2006	2006	2007
Offences Against The Person									
Homicide and Related Offences									
Murder	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Attempted Murder	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0
Manslaughter	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Robbery	1	1	0	1	0	0	1	1	4
Assault	112	81	116	134	148	113	89	127	155
Sexual Assault	4	1	6	2	4	2	9	5	4
Other Offences Against the Person	2	3	1	0	0	1	2	0	2
Total	119	87	123	137	153	116	102	135	165
Property Offences									
Break-ins									
House	24	15	25	19	29	27	22	27	36
Commercial or Other Premises	14	11	21	19	32	14	22	16	30
Motor Vehicle Theft and Related Offences	12	10	19	13	21	9	4	8	13
Other Theft	119	75	91	100	127	110	95	94	140
Property Damage	58	49	65	76	88	60	48	72	89
Other Property Offences	2	0	1	3	1	4	4	0	3
Total	229	160	222	230	298	224	195	217	311

Offences Against the Person

- In the current quarter, a total of 165 offences against the person were recorded in Katherine. This represents an increase of 22% (30) from the previous quarter and an increase of 8% (12) from the same quarter the previous year.
- As shown in the figure below *assault* was the dominant offence, accounting for 94% of offences against the person in the current quarter. The next most frequently recorded offence was *sexual assault* and *robbery* each accounting for 2%. The remaining offences were *other offences against the person*.

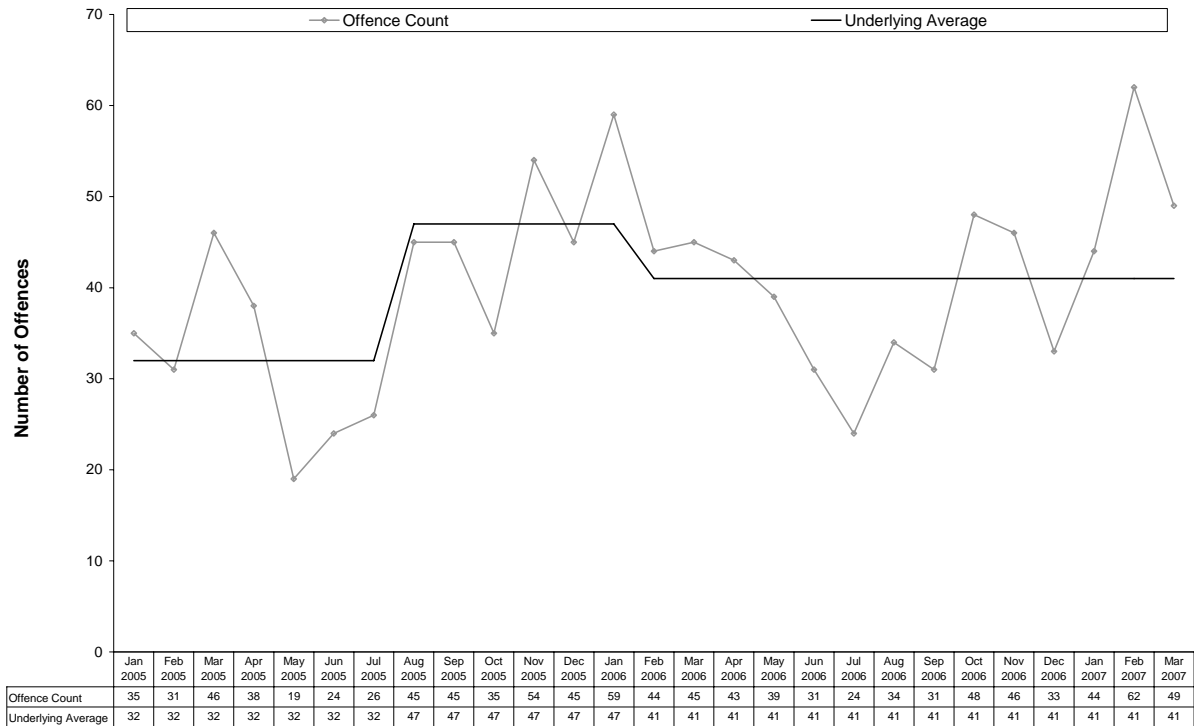
Figure 38 Recorded Offences Against the Person in Katherine – Current Quarter



Assault

- The figure below shows the underlying average level of *assault* has ranged between 32 and 47 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 41 per month is in the middle of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average remained stable.
- There were 155 recorded *assault* offences in Katherine in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 22% (28) from the previous quarter and an increase of 5% (7) from the same quarter the previous year.

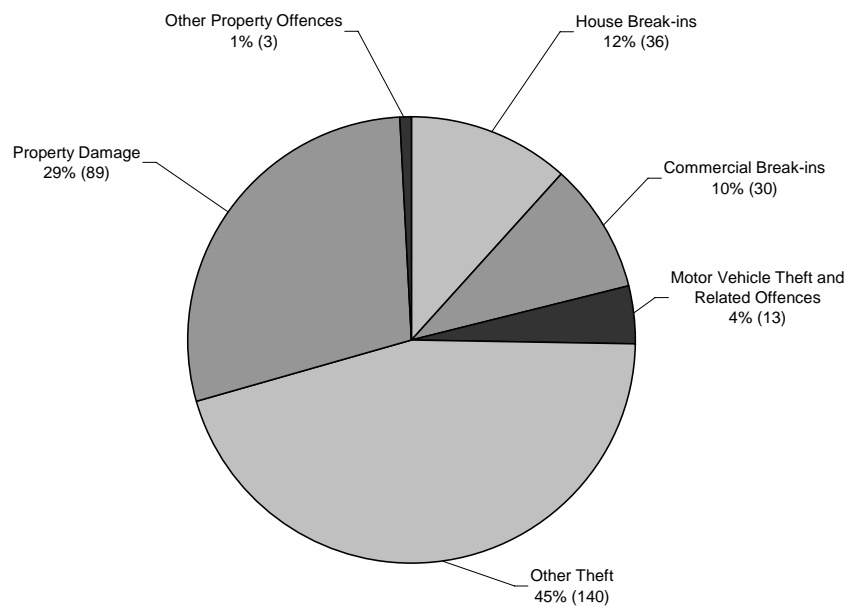
Figure 39 Recorded Assault in Katherine



Property Offences

- In the current quarter there was a total of 311 recorded property offences in Katherine. This represents an increase of 43% (94) from the previous quarter and an increase of 4% (13) from the same quarter the previous year.
- The figure below shows 45% of property offences relate to *other theft*, with *property damage* at 29%. *House break-ins* accounted for 12%, *break-ins to commercial or other premises* 10%, *motor vehicle theft and related offences* 4% and *other property offences* 1%.

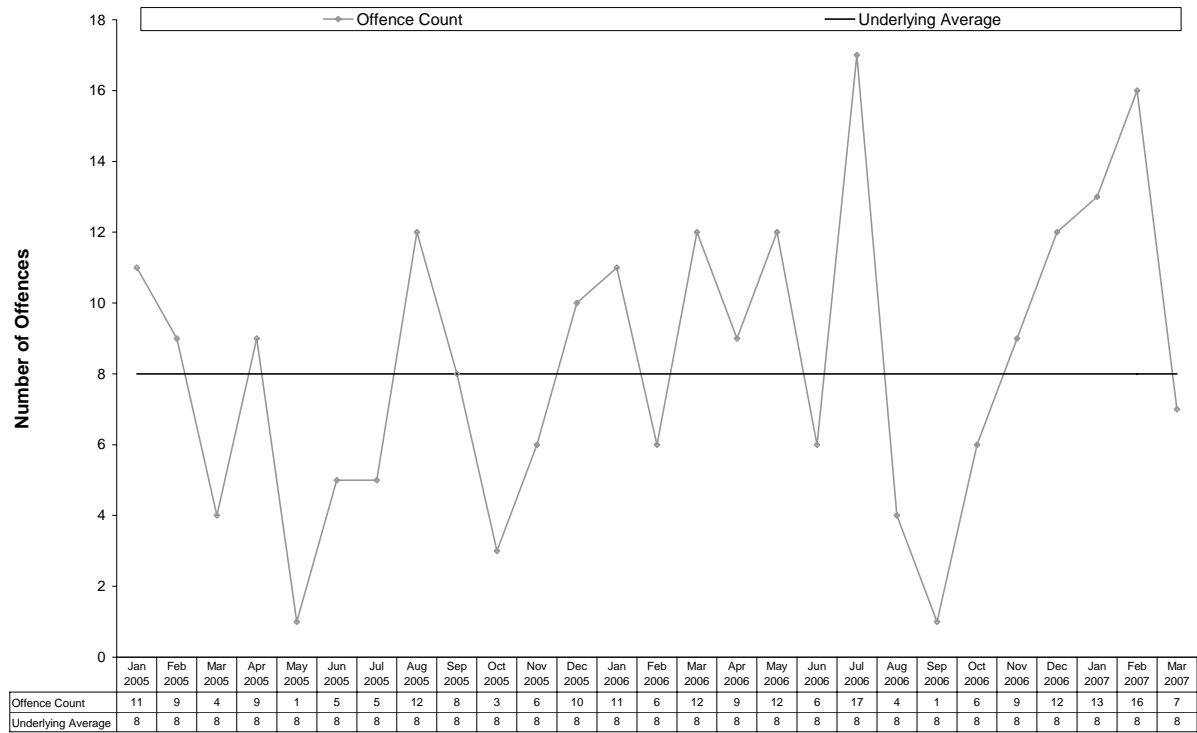
Figure 40 Recorded Property Offences in Katherine – Current Quarter



House Break-ins

- The figure below shows the underlying average level of *house break-ins* has remained stable at 8 offences per month during the past nine quarters.
- There were 36 *house break-ins* recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 33% (9) from the previous quarter and an increase of 24% (7) from the same quarter the previous year.

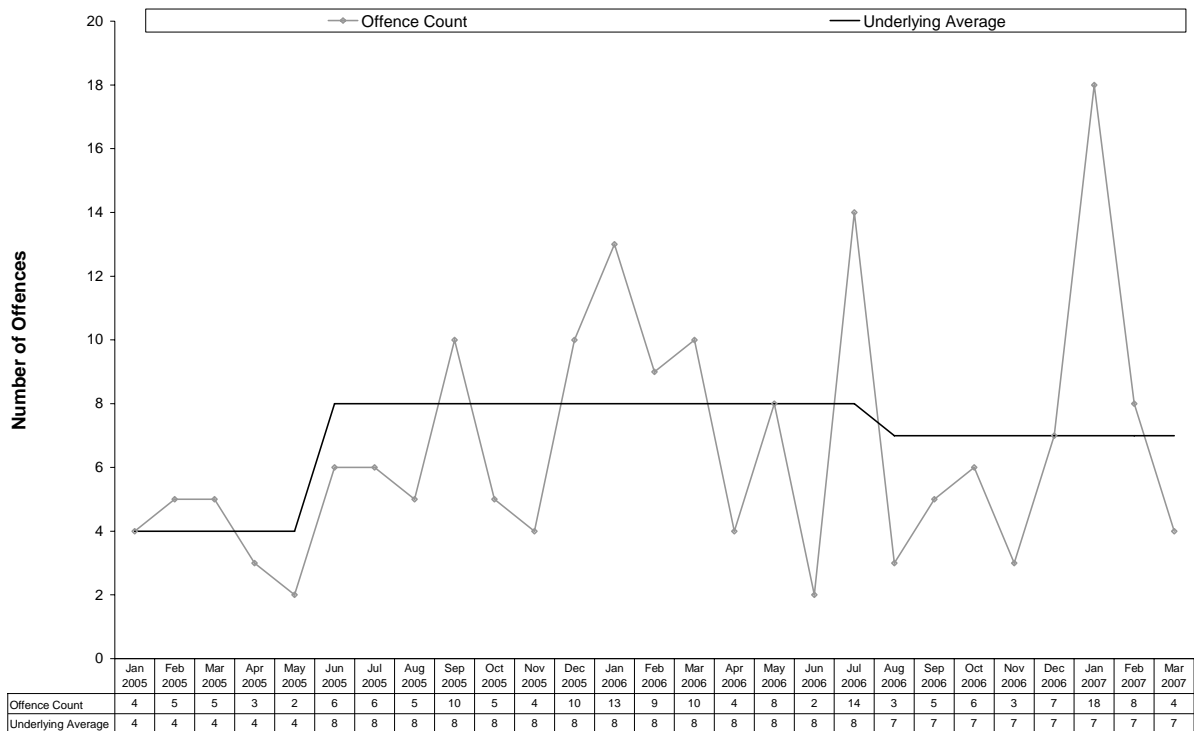
Figure 41 Recorded House Break-ins in Katherine



Break-ins to Commercial or Other Premises

- The figure below shows the underlying average level of *break-ins to commercial or other premises* has ranged between 4 and 8 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 7 per month is in the middle of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average decreased early in the period.
- There were 30 *break-ins to commercial or other premises* recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 88% (14) from the previous quarter, but a decrease of 6% (2) from the same quarter the previous year.

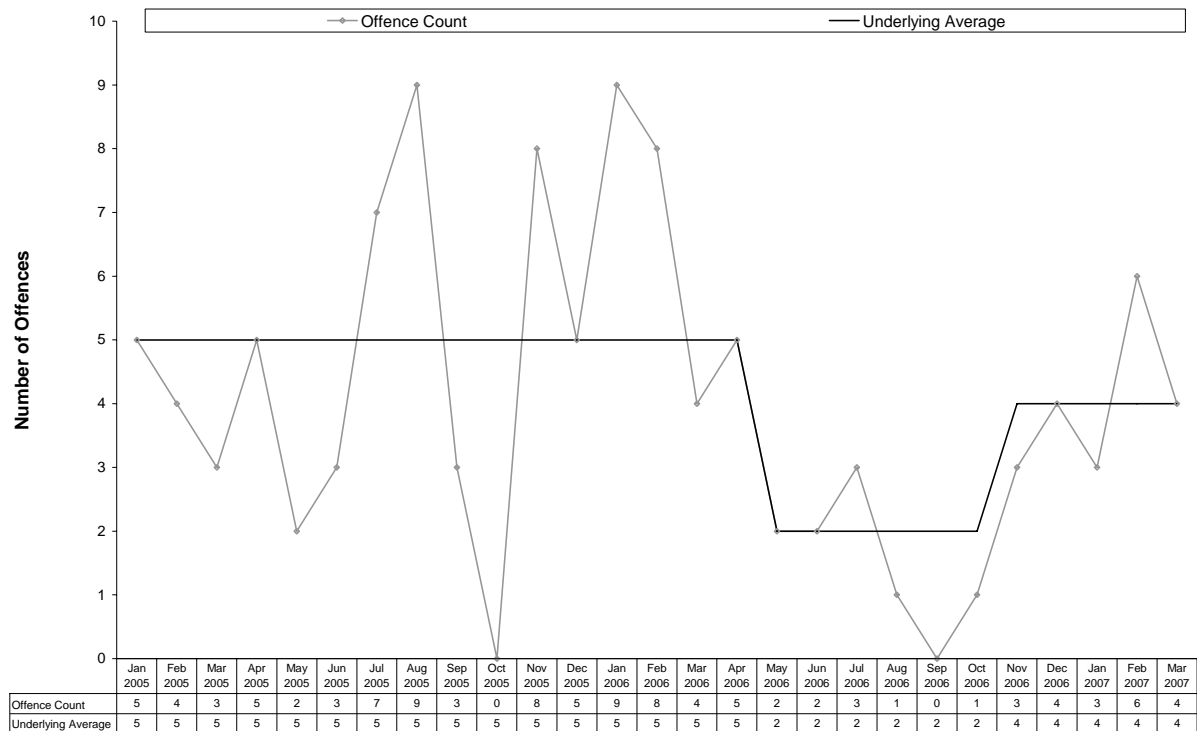
Figure 42 Recorded Break-ins to Commercial or Other Premises in Katherine



Motor Vehicle Theft and Related Offences

- The figure below shows the underlying average level of *motor vehicle theft and related offences* has ranged between 2 and 5 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 4 offences 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 13 *motor vehicle theft and related offences* recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 63% (5) from the previous quarter, but a decrease of 38% (8) from the same quarter the previous year.

Figure 43 Recorded Motor Vehicle Theft and Related Offences in Katherine



Other Theft

- The figure below shows the underlying average level of *other theft* has ranged between 30 and 42 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 35 per month is in the middle of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average decreased early in the period.
- There were 140 *other theft* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 49% (46) from the previous quarter and an increase of 10% (13) from the same quarter the previous year.

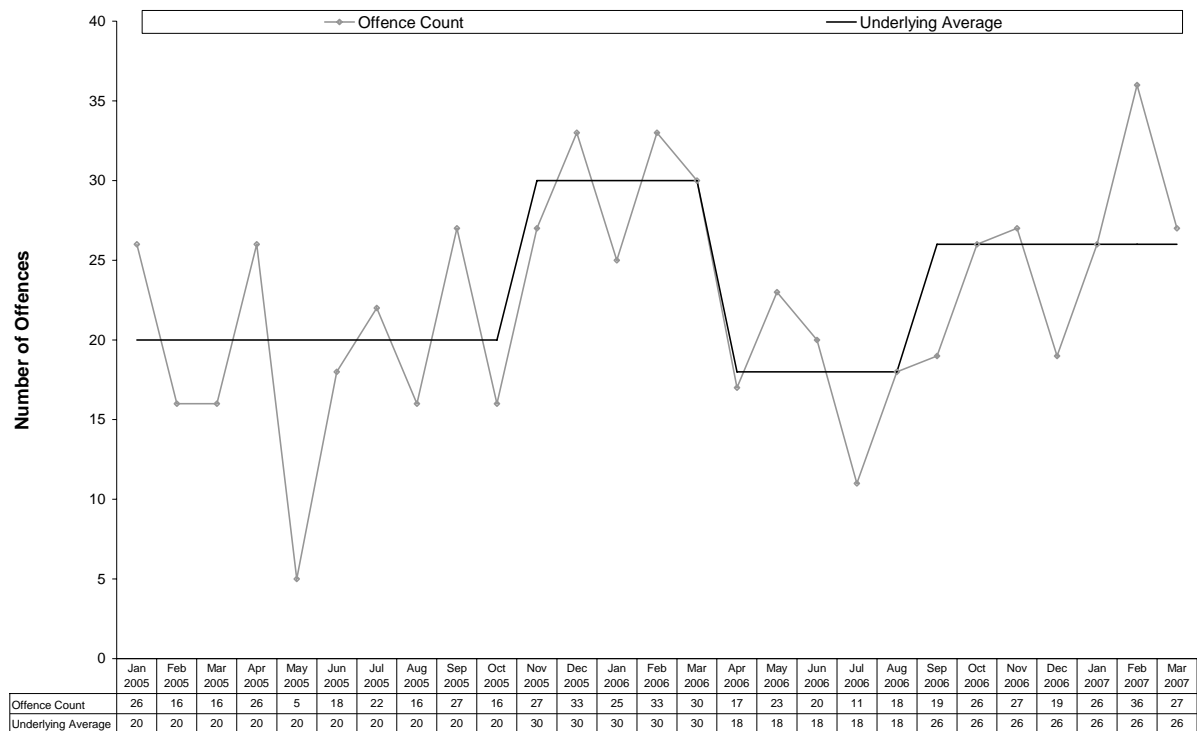
Figure 44 Recorded Other Theft in Katherine



Property Damage

- The figure below shows the underlying average level of *property damage* has ranged between 18 and 30 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 26 per month is in the middle of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average increased in middle of the period. A statistically significant upward trend was identified.
- There were 89 *property damage* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 24% (17) from the previous quarter and an increase of 1% (1) 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.

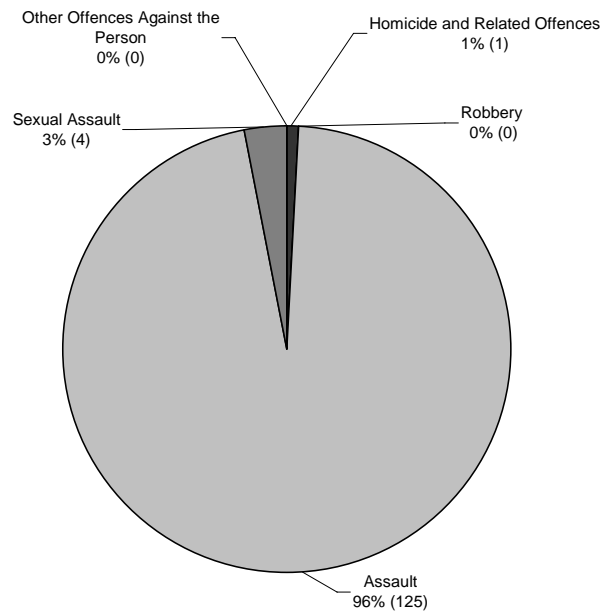
Table 6 Recorded Offences in Tennant Creek

	Mar	Jun	Sep	Dec	Mar	Jun	Sep	Dec	Mar
	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr
	2005	2005	2005	2005	2006	2006	2006	2006	2007
Offences Against The Person									
Homicide and Related Offences									
Murder	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Attempted Murder	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Manslaughter	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Robbery	0	0	0	2	1	3	0	1	0
Assault	85	62	88	96	129	105	82	112	125
Sexual Assault	4	5	6	2	7	11	6	4	4
Other Offences Against the Person	0	0	0	2	1	4	5	0	0
Total	89	67	94	102	138	123	93	117	130
Property Offences									
Break-ins									
House	11	10	10	26	23	13	7	26	18
Commercial or Other Premises	11	6	9	12	43	20	16	24	39
Motor Vehicle Theft and Related Offences	4	5	3	7	7	7	2	2	2
Other Theft	43	27	49	61	99	37	44	62	62
Property Damage	58	37	41	52	81	62	47	67	61
Other Property Offences	1	0	0	2	1	0	0	1	1
Total	128	85	112	160	254	139	116	182	183

Offences Against the Person

- In the current quarter, a total of 130 offences against the person were recorded in Tennant Creek. This represents an increase of 11% (13) from the previous quarter, but a decrease of 6% (8) from the same quarter the previous year.
- As shown in the figure below *assault* was the dominant offence, accounting for 96% of offences against the person in the current quarter. *Sexual assault* accounted for 3% and *murder*, 1%.

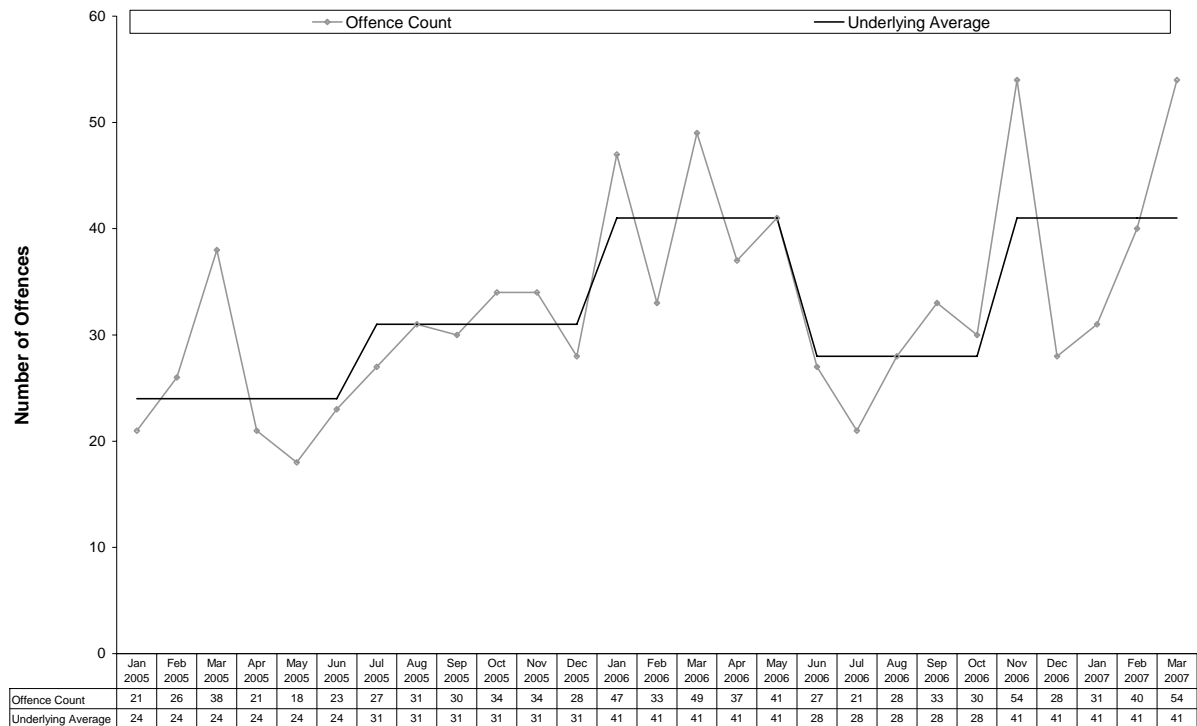
Figure 46 Recorded Offences Against the Person in Tennant Creek – Current Quarter



Assault

- The figure below shows the underlying average level of *assault* has ranged between 24 and 41 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 41 per month is at the higher end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average decreased early in the period and increased in the middle of the period.
- There were 125 recorded *assault* offences in Tennant Creek in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 12% (13) from the previous quarter, but a decrease of 3% (4) from the same quarter the previous year.

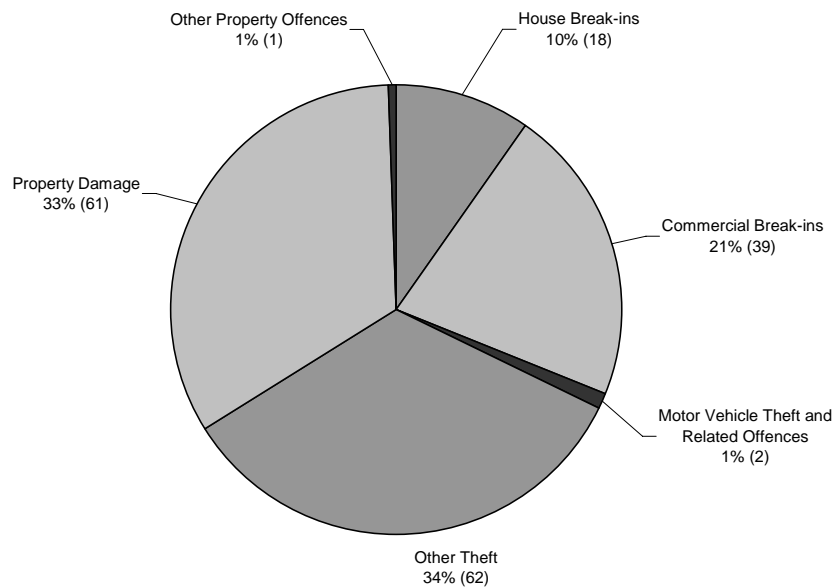
Figure 47 Recorded Assault in Tennant Creek



Property Offences

- In the current quarter there was a total of 183 recorded property offences in Tennant Creek. This represents an increase of 1% (1) from the previous quarter, but a decrease of 28% (71) from the same quarter the previous year.
- The figure below shows 34% of property offences relate to *other theft*, with *property damage* at 33%. *Break-ins to commercial or other premises* constitute 21%, *house break-ins* 10%, *motor vehicle theft and related offences* and *other property offences* accounted for 1% each.

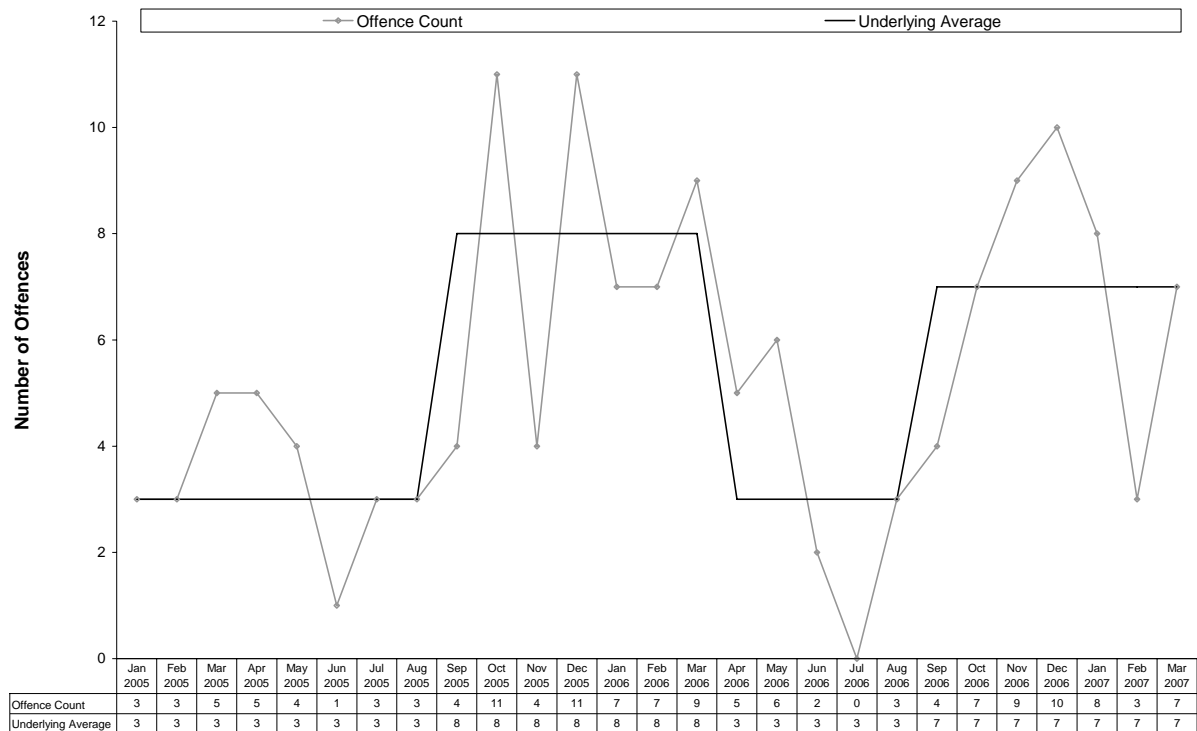
Figure 48 Recorded Property Offences in Tennant Creek – Current Quarter



House Break-ins

- The figure below shows the underlying average level of *house break-ins* has ranged between 3 and 8 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 in the middle of the period.
- There were 18 *house break-ins* recorded in the current quarter. This represents a decrease of 31% (8) from the previous quarter and a decrease of 22% (5) from the same quarter the previous year.

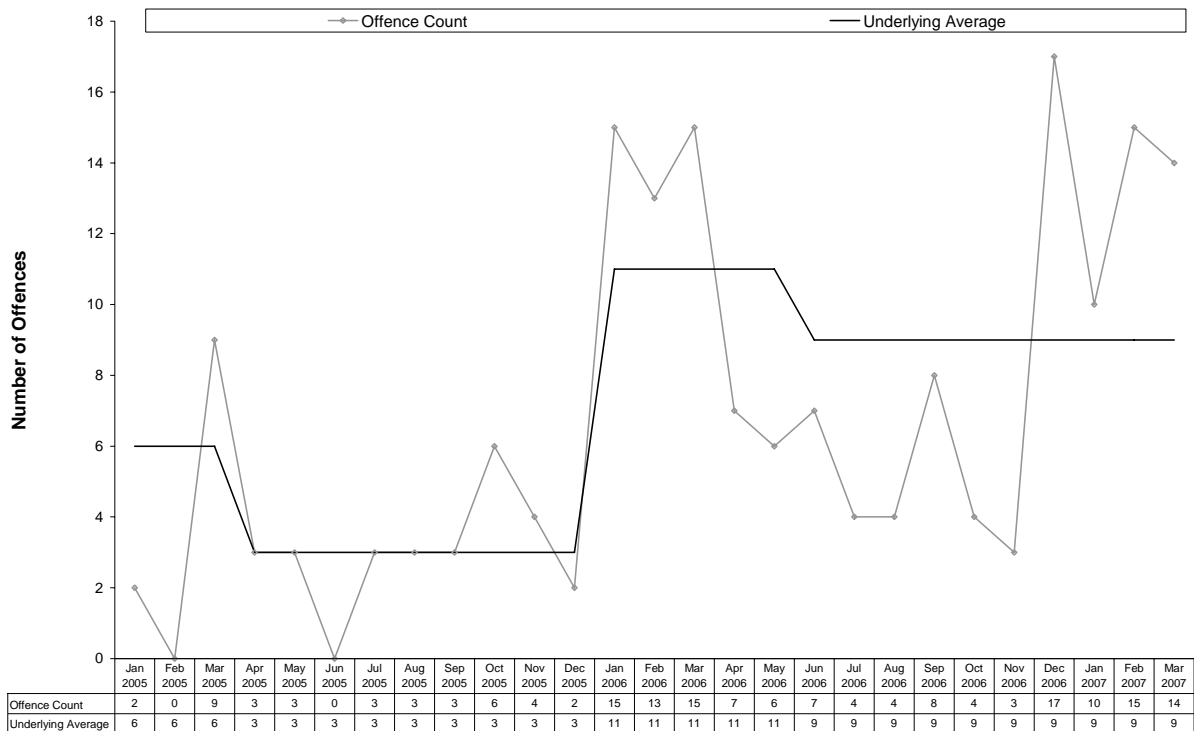
Figure 49 Recorded House Break-ins in Tennant Creek



Break-ins to Commercial or Other Premises

- The figure below shows the underlying average level of *break-ins to commercial or other premises* has ranged between 3 and 11 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 9 per month is in the middle of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average decreased early in the period.
- There were 39 *break-ins to commercial or other premises* recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 63% (15) from the previous quarter, but a decrease of 9% (4) from the same quarter the previous year.

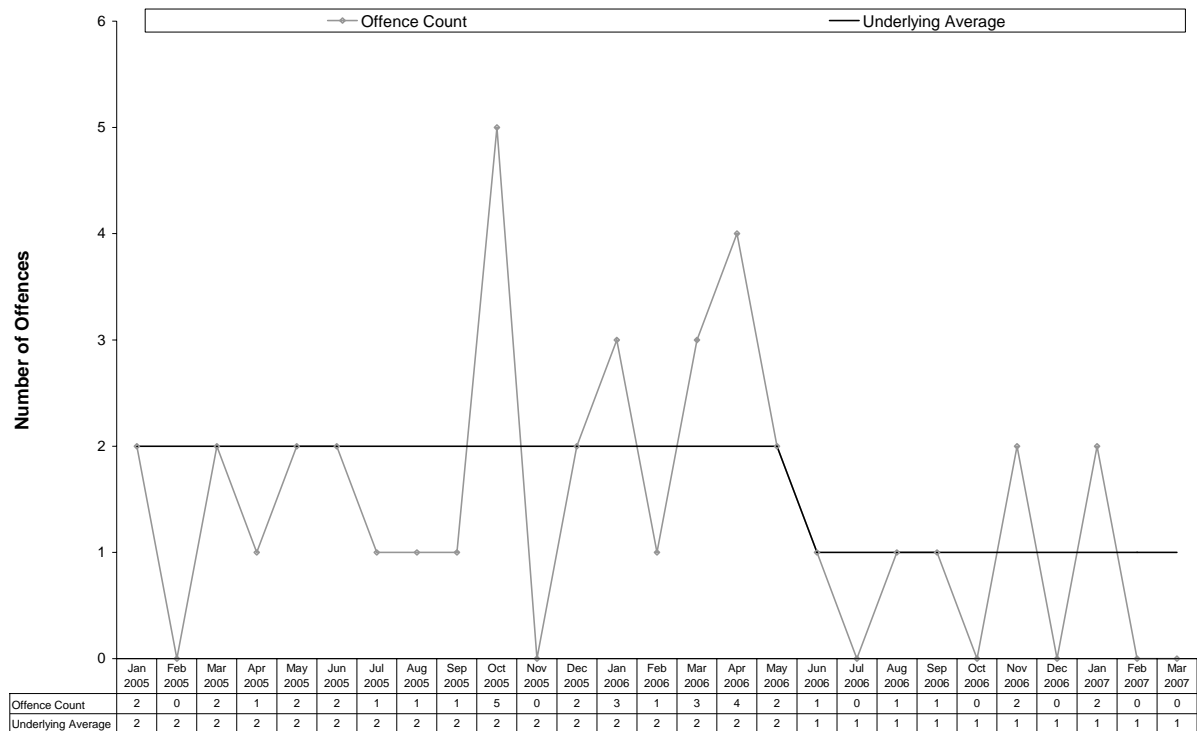
Figure 50 Recorded Break-ins to Commercial or Other Premises in Tennant Creek



Motor Vehicle Theft and Related Offences

- The figure below shows the underlying average level of *motor vehicle theft and related offences* has ranged between 1 and 2 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 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 *motor vehicle theft and related offences* recorded in the current quarter. There was no change from the previous quarter, but a decrease of 5 from the same quarter the previous year.

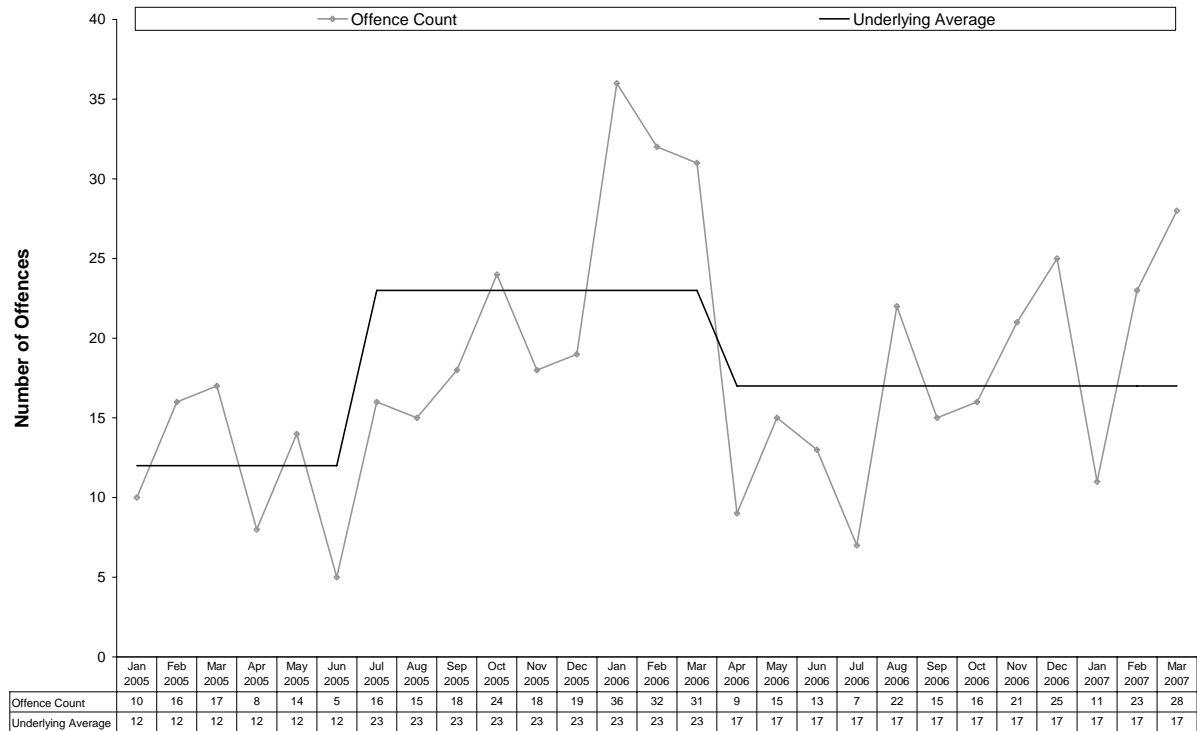
Figure 51 Recorded Motor Vehicle Theft and Related Offences in Tennant Creek



Other Theft

- The figure below shows the underlying average level of *other theft* has ranged between 12 and 23 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 17 per month is in the middle of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average remained stable. A statistically significant upward trend was identified.
- There were 62 *other theft* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents no change from the previous quarter, but a decrease of 37% (37) from the same quarter the previous year.

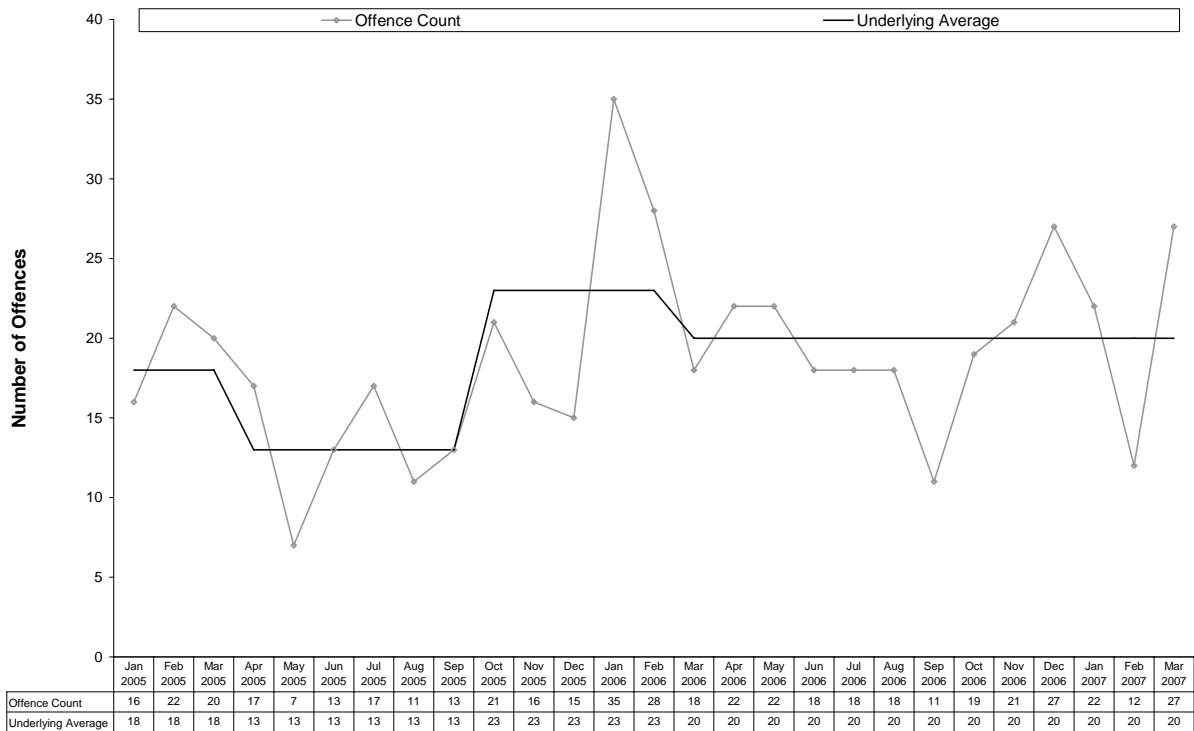
Figure 52 Recorded Other Theft in Tennant Creek



Property Damage

- The figure below shows the underlying average level of *property damage* has ranged between 13 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 remained stable.
- There were 61 *property damage* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents a decrease of 9% (6) from the previous quarter and a decrease of 25% (20) 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.

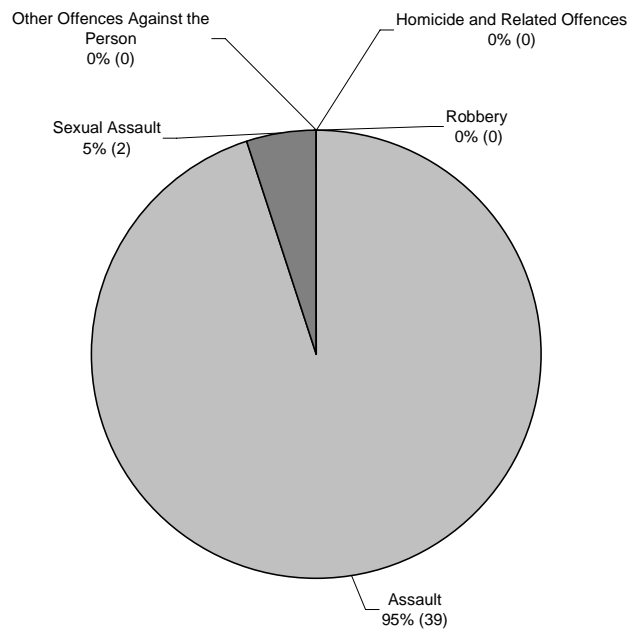
Table 7 Recorded Offences in Nhulunbuy

	Mar	Jun	Sep	Dec	Mar	Jun	Sep	Dec	Mar
	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr
	2005	2005	2005	2005	2006	2006	2006	2006	2007
Offences Against The Person									
Homicide and Related Offences									
Murder	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Attempted Murder	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Manslaughter	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Robbery	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Assault	31	16	19	30	35	14	14	18	39
Sexual Assault	2	1	2	0	1	3	3	2	2
Other Offences Against the Person	0	2	1	1	0	0	0	1	0
Total	33	19	22	31	37	19	17	21	41
Property Offences									
Break-ins									
House	1	1	1	7	1	8	2	3	5
Commercial or Other Premises	3	1	12	10	3	10	14	2	10
Motor Vehicle Theft and Related Offences	6	3	5	7	0	2	1	6	2
Other Theft	34	21	31	47	29	31	31	21	29
Property Damage	21	16	24	44	25	33	24	24	35
Other Property Offences	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	1
Total	65	42	74	115	58	84	73	56	82

Offences Against the Person

- In the current quarter, a total of 41 offences against the person were recorded in Nhulunbuy. This represents an increase of 95% (20) from the previous quarter and an increase of 11% (4) from the same quarter the previous year.
- As shown in the figure below *assault* was the most frequent offence, accounting for 95% of offences against the person in the current quarter. *Sexual assault* accounted for 5%.

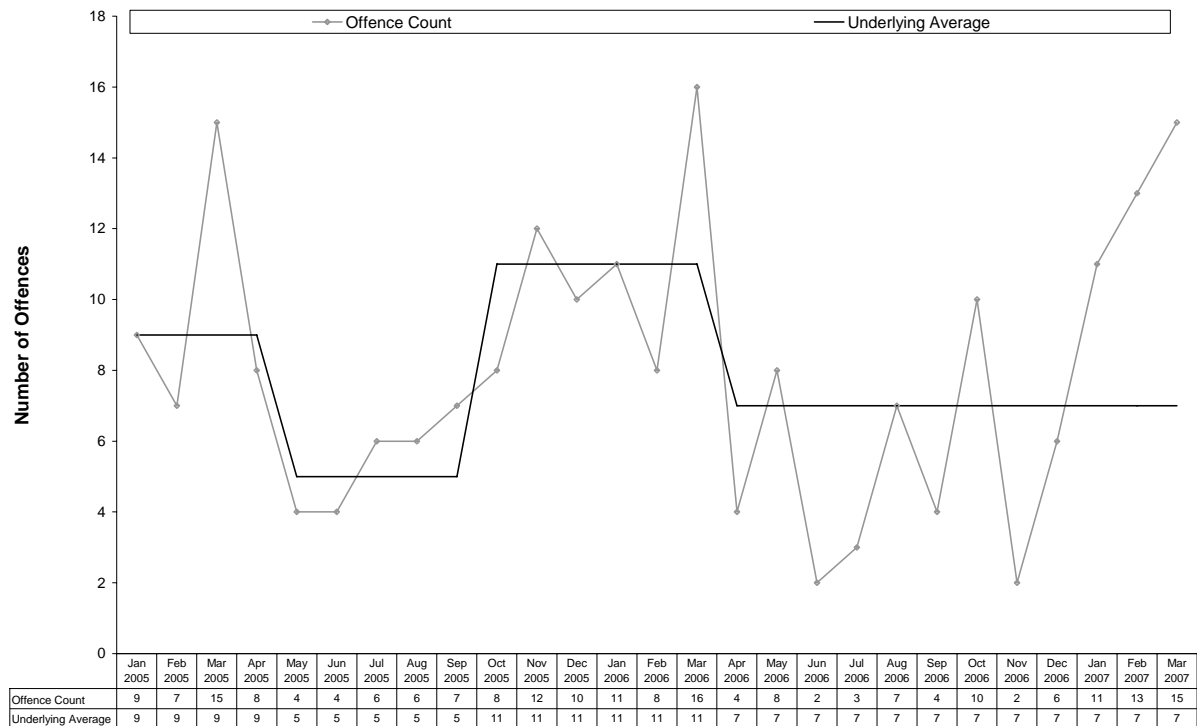
Figure 54 Recorded Offences Against the Person in Nhulunbuy – Current Quarter



Assault

- The figure below shows the underlying average level of *assault* has ranged between 5 and 11 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 7 per month is at the middle of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average remained stable. A statistically significant upward trend was identified.
- There were 39 recorded *assault* offences in Nhulunbuy in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 117% (21) from the previous quarter and an increase of 11% (4) from the same quarter the previous year.

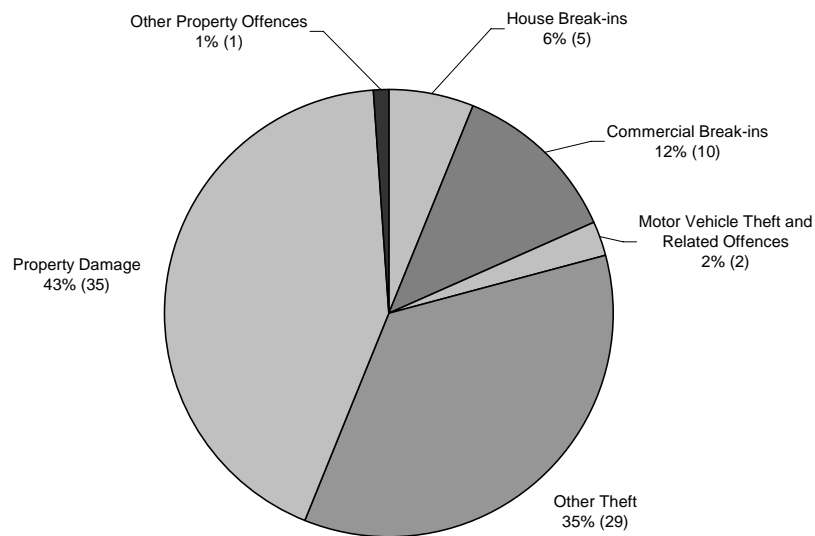
Figure 55 Recorded Assault in Nhulunbuy



Property Offences

- In the current quarter there was a total of 82 recorded property offences in Nhulunbuy. This represents an increase of 46% (26) from the previous quarter and an increase of 41% (24) from the same quarter the previous year.
- The figure below shows 43% of property offences relate to *property damage*, with *other theft* at 35%. *Break-ins to commercial and other premises* account for 12%, *house break-ins* 6% and *motor vehicle theft and related offences* 2%.

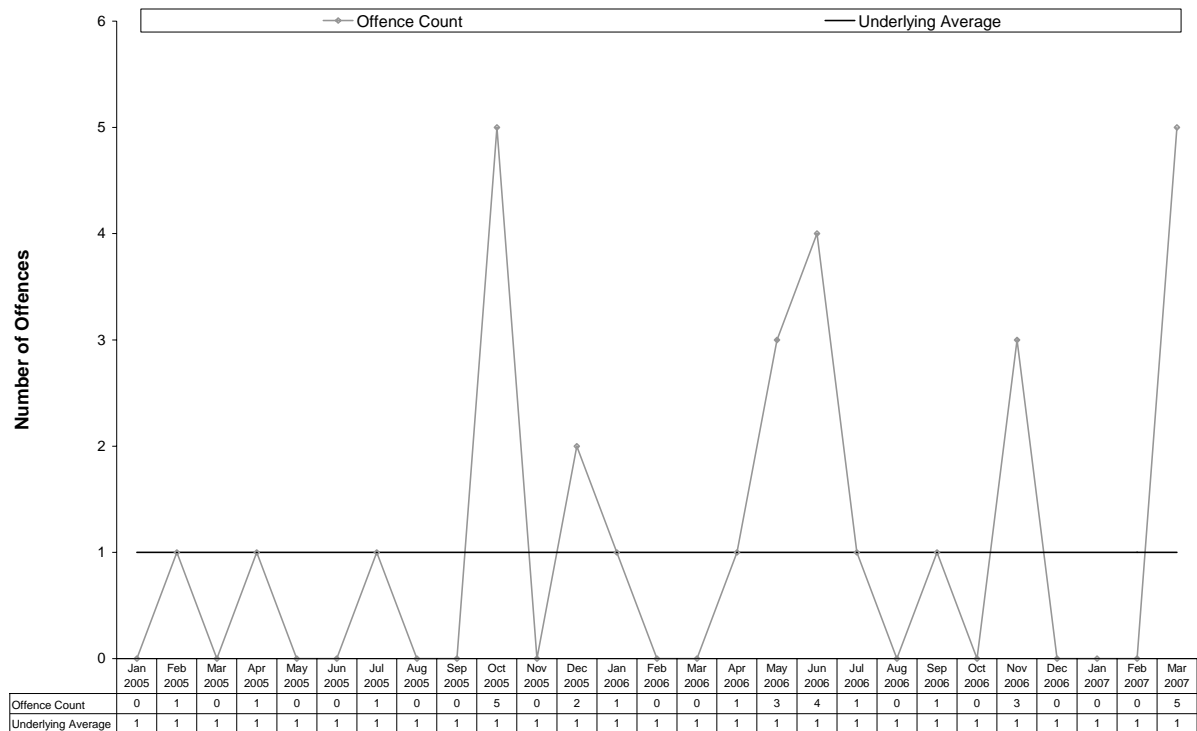
Figure 56 Recorded Property Offences in Nhulunbuy – Current Quarter



House Break-ins

- The figure below shows the underlying average level of *house break-ins* has remained stable at 1 offence per month during the past nine quarters.
- There were 5 *house break-ins* recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 2 from the previous quarter and an increase of 4 from the same quarter the previous year.

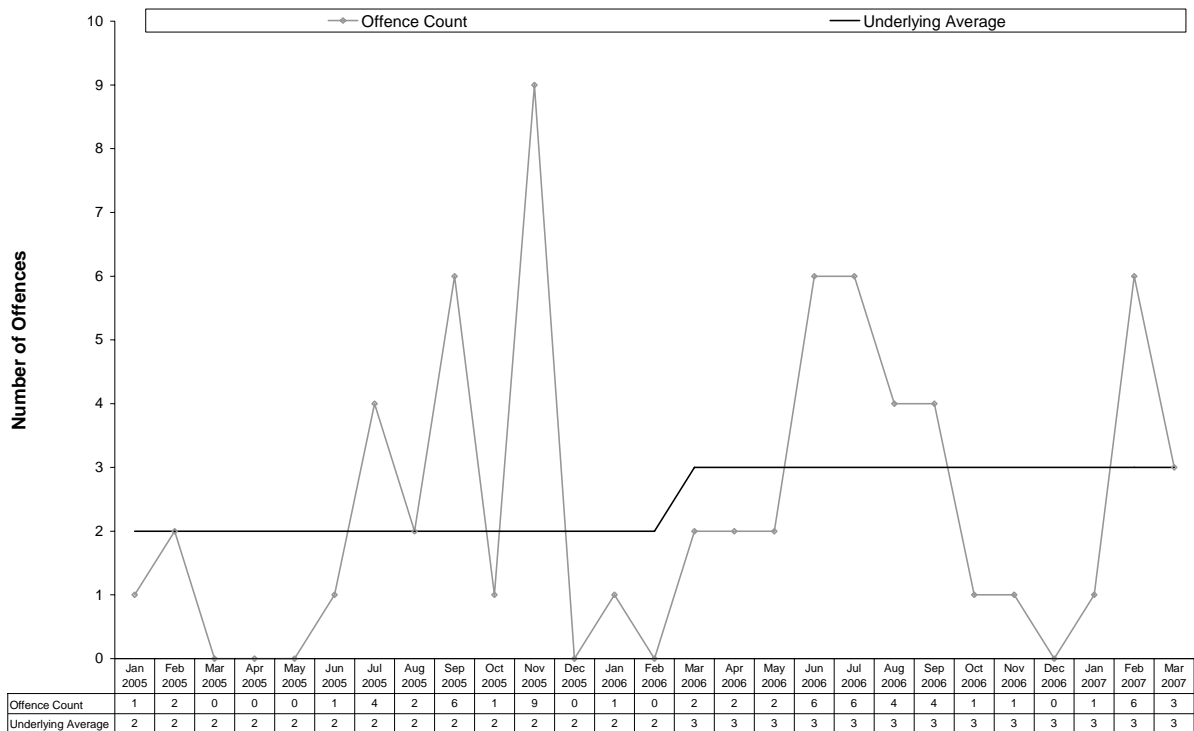
Figure 57 Recorded House Break-ins in Nhulunbuy



Break-ins to Commercial or Other Premises

- The figure below 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 has remained stable.
- There were 10 *break-ins to commercial or other premises* recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 8 from the previous quarter and an increase of 7 from the same quarter the previous year.

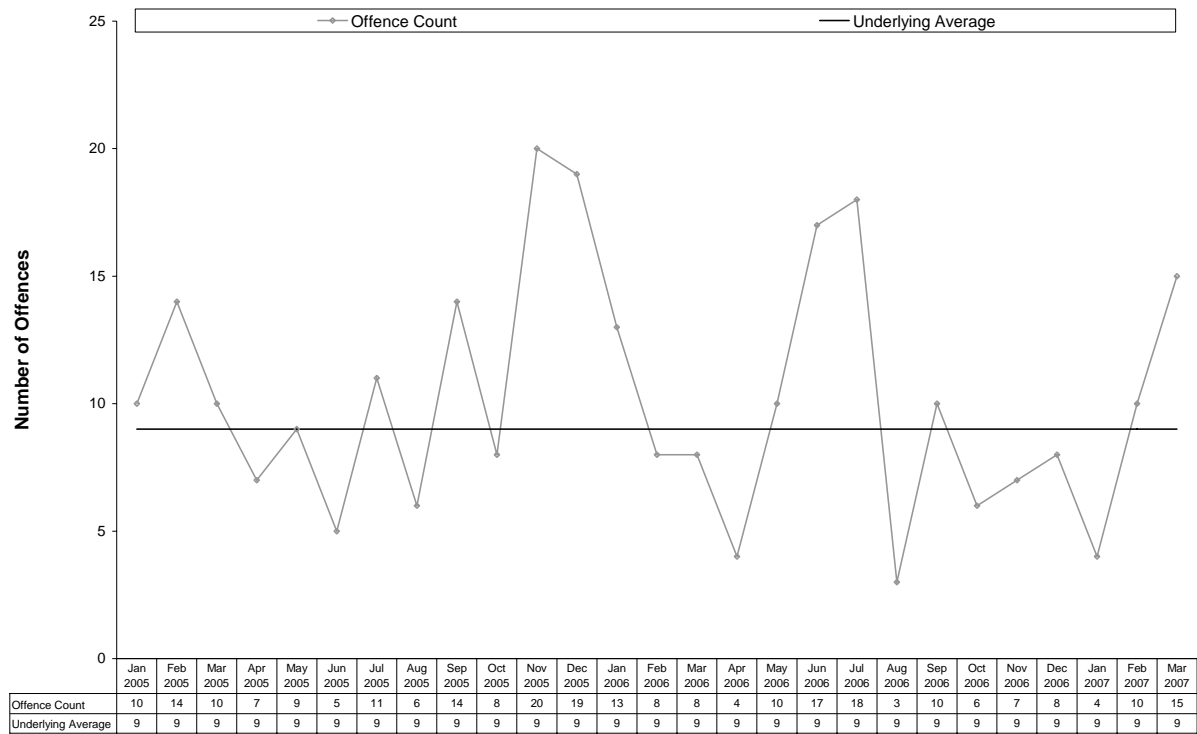
Figure 58 Recorded Break-ins to Commercial or Other Premises in Nhulunbuy



Other Theft

- The figure below shows the underlying average level of *other theft* has remained stable at 9 offences per month during the past nine quarters.
- There were 29 *other theft* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 38% (8) from the previous quarter, but no change from the same quarter the previous year.

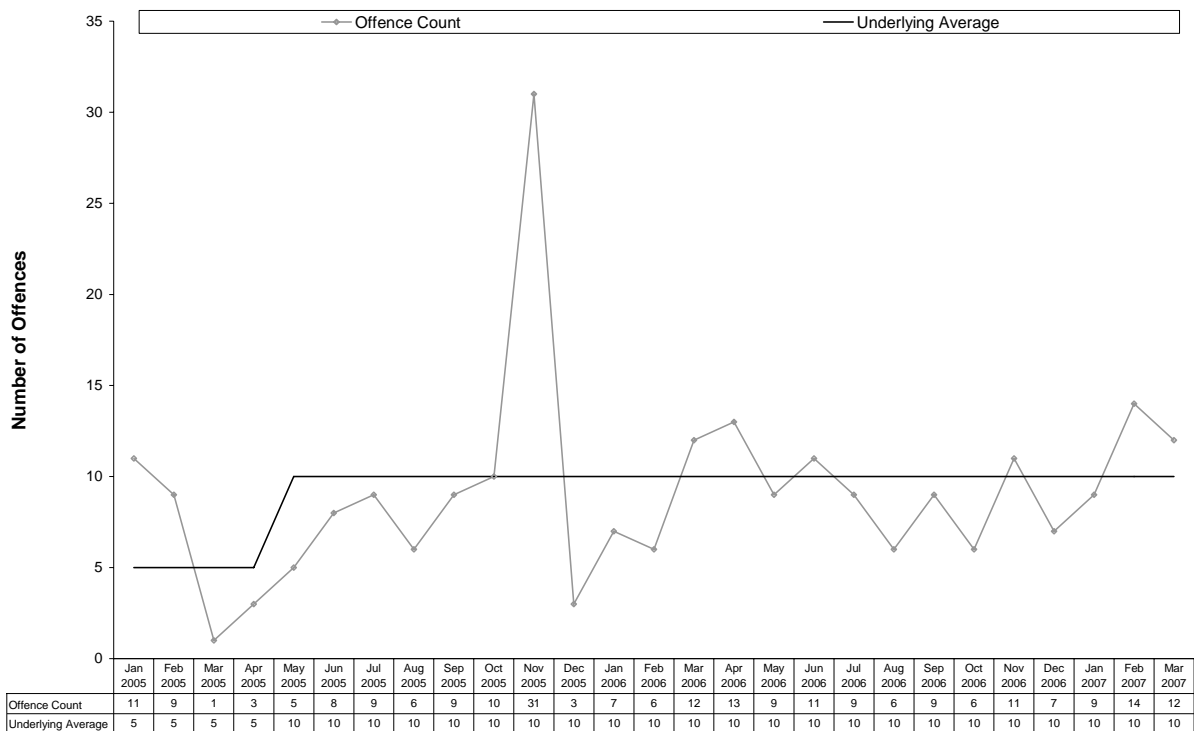
Figure 59 Recorded Other Theft in Nhulunbuy



Property Damage

- The figure below shows the underlying average level of *property damage* has ranged between 5 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 has remained stable.
- There were 35 *property damage* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 46% (11) from the previous quarter and an increase of 40% (10) 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.

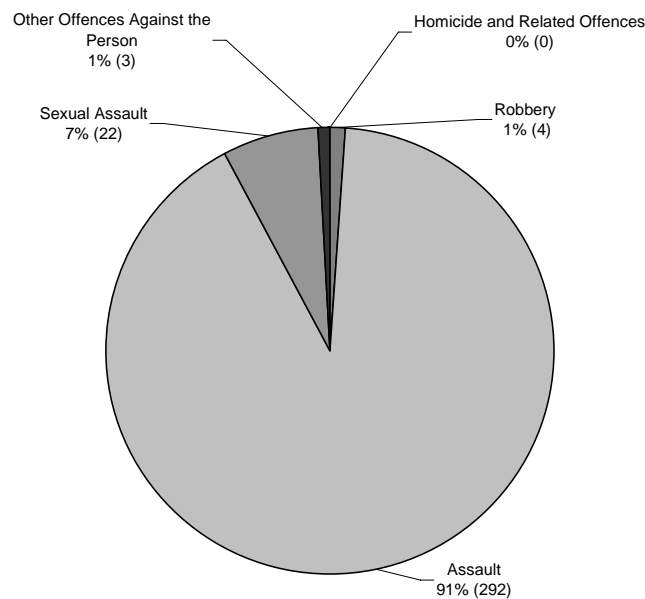
Table 8 Recorded Offences in the Northern Territory Balance

	Mar	Jun	Sep	Dec	Mar	Jun	Sep	Dec	Mar
	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr
	2005	2005	2005	2005	2006	2006	2006	2006	2007
Offences Against The Person									
Homicide and Related Offences									
Murder	1	1	0	0	1	0	2	2	0
Attempted Murder	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	0
Manslaughter	1	4	1	2	0	1	0	3	0
Robbery	0	3	3	0	1	1	4	5	4
Assault	269	243	275	317	308	310	296	322	292
Sexual Assault	19	23	19	26	23	15	25	32	22
Other Offences Against the Person	11	15	14	7	6	14	9	10	3
Total	301	289	312	353	339	341	337	375	321
Property Offences									
Break-ins									
House	110	69	67	60	76	69	67	71	69
Commercial or Other Premises	133	93	74	70	130	84	80	82	98
Motor Vehicle Theft and Related Offences	57	46	50	54	40	50	37	46	41
Other Theft	293	248	224	199	255	233	219	201	230
Property Damage	244	231	232	233	246	201	210	221	205
Other Property Offences	18	13	12	6	20	12	6	7	9
Total	855	700	659	622	767	649	619	628	652

Offences Against the Person

- In the current quarter, a total of 321 offences against the person were recorded in the Northern Territory Balance. This represents a decrease of 14% (54) from the previous quarter and a decrease of 5% (18) 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 next most frequently recorded offence was *sexual assault*, representing 7%. The remaining offences were *robbery* and *other offences against the person*.

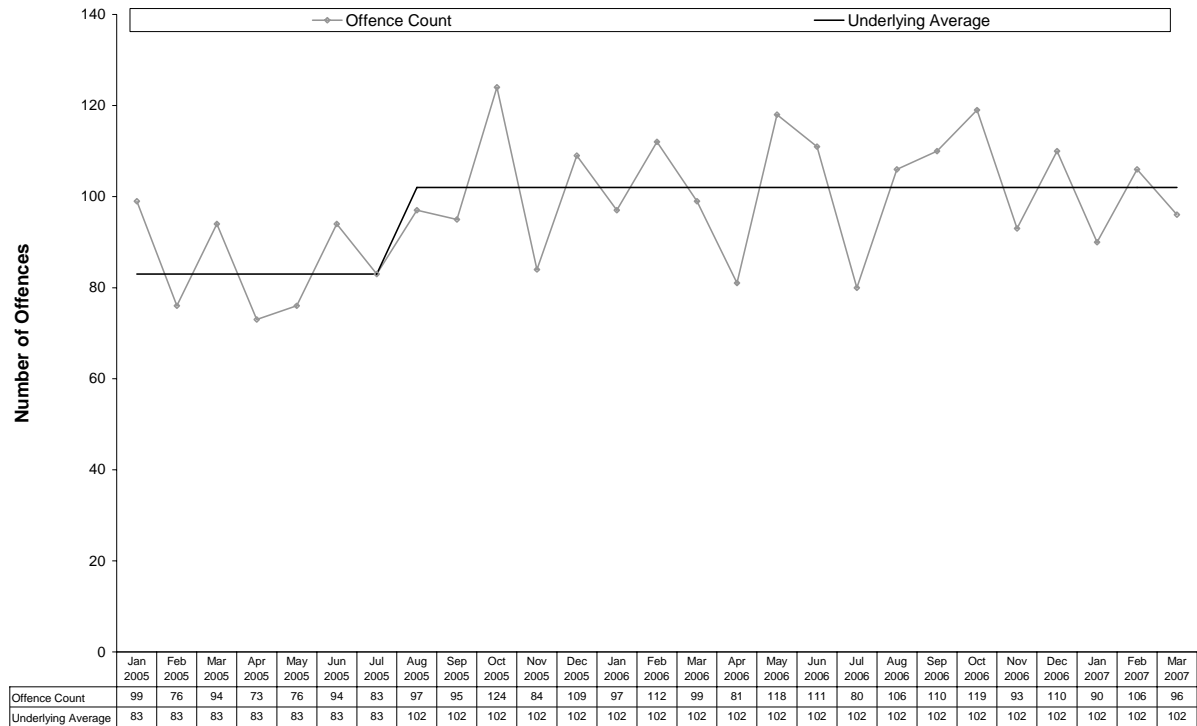
Figure 61 Recorded Offences Against the Person in the Northern Territory Balance – Current Quarter



Assault

- The figure below shows the underlying average level of *assault* has ranged between 83 and 102 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 102 per month is at the higher end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average has remained stable.
- There were 292 recorded *assault* offences in the Northern Territory Balance in the current quarter. This represents a decrease of 9% (30) from the previous quarter and a decrease of 5% (16) from the same quarter the previous year.

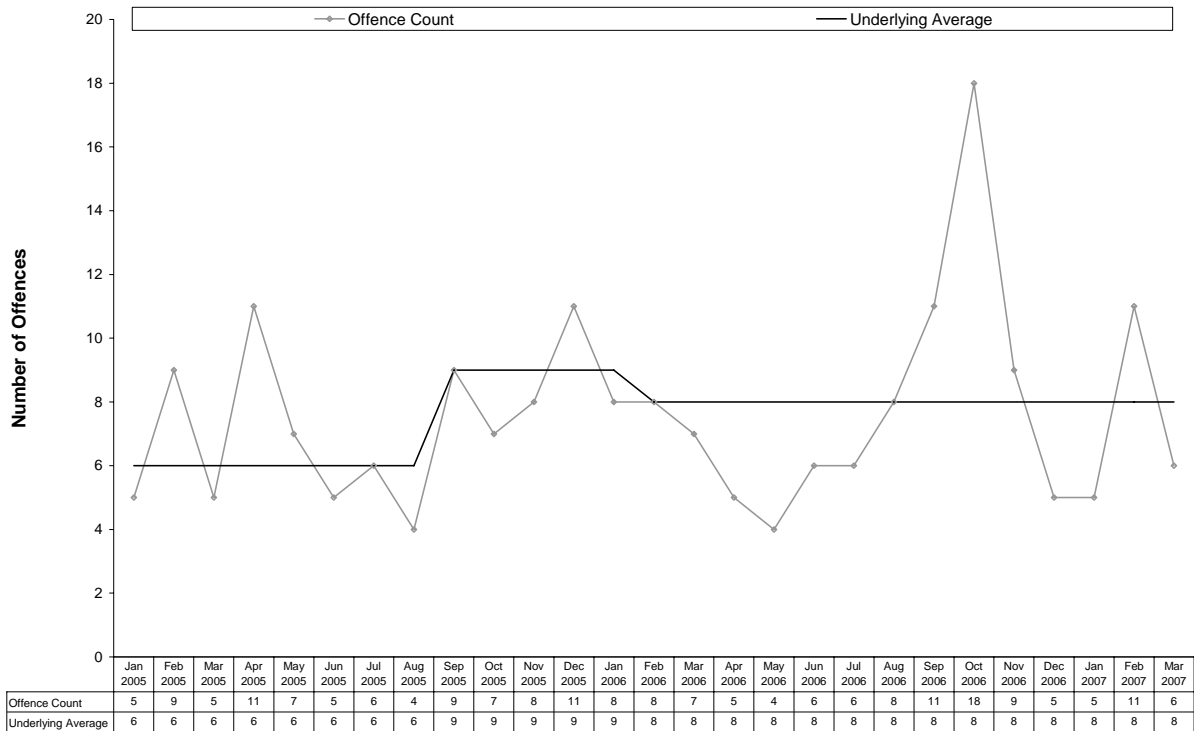
Figure 62 Recorded Assault in the Northern Territory Balance



Sexual Assault

- The figure below shows the underlying average level of *sexual assault* has ranged between 6 and 9 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 8 per month is in the middle of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average remained stable.
- There were 22 recorded *sexual assault* offences in the current quarter. This represents a decrease of 31% (10) from the previous quarter and a decrease of 4% (1) from the same quarter the previous year.

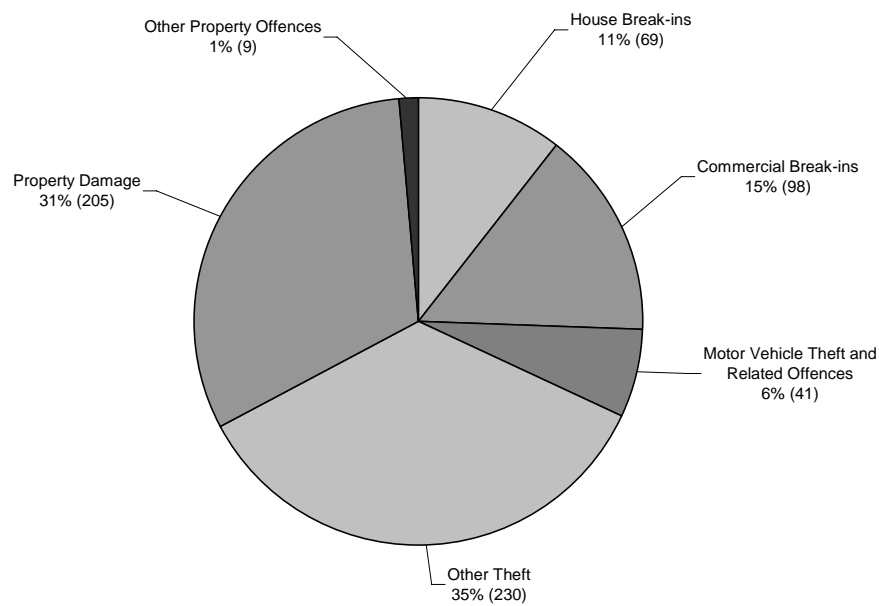
Figure 63 Recorded Sexual Assault in the Northern Territory Balance



Property Offences

- In the current quarter, a total of 652 property offences were recorded in the Northern Territory Balance. This represents an increase of 4% (24) from the previous quarter, but a decrease of 15% (115) from the same quarter the previous year.
- The figure below shows 35% of property offences relate to *other theft*, with *property damage* at 31%. *Break-ins to commercial or other premises* constitute 15%, *house break-ins* 11% and *motor vehicle theft and related offences* 6%.

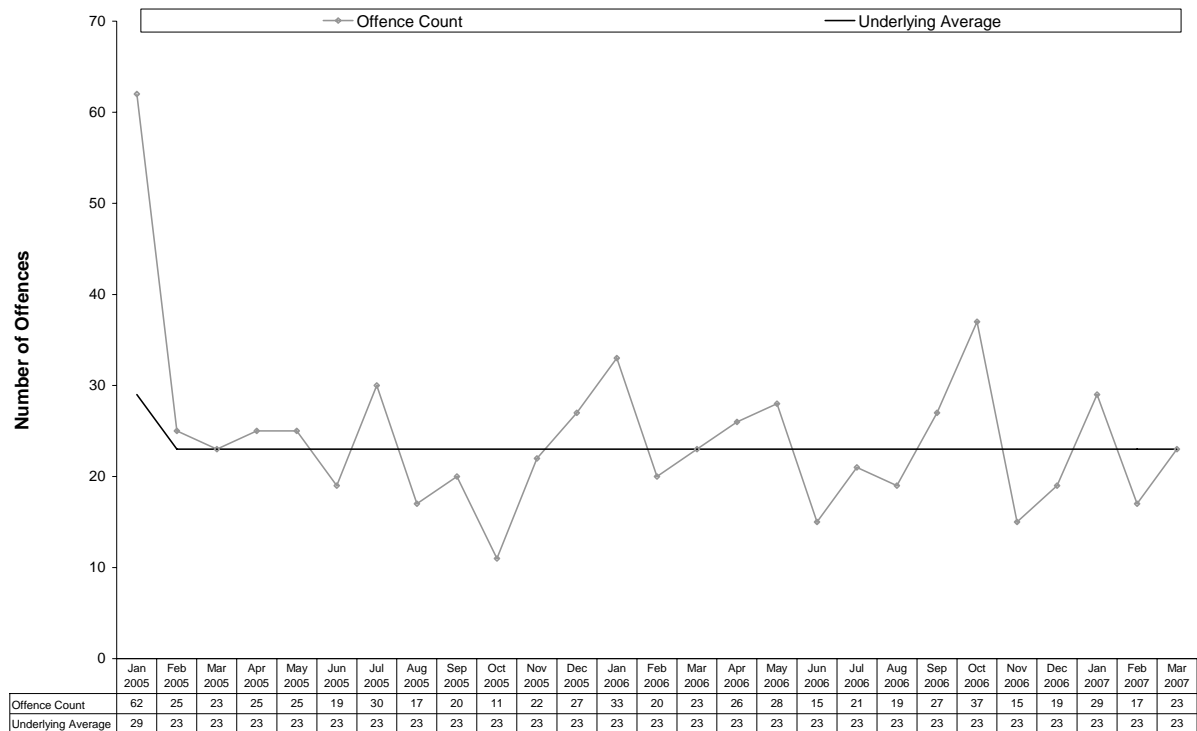
Figure 64 Recorded Property Offences in the Northern Territory Balance – Current Quarter



House Break-ins

- The figure below shows the underlying average level of *house break-ins* has ranged between 23 and 29 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 23 per month is at the lower end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average has remained stable.
- There were 69 *house break-ins* recorded in the current quarter. This represents a decrease of 3% (2) from the previous quarter and a decrease of 9% (7) from the same quarter the previous year.

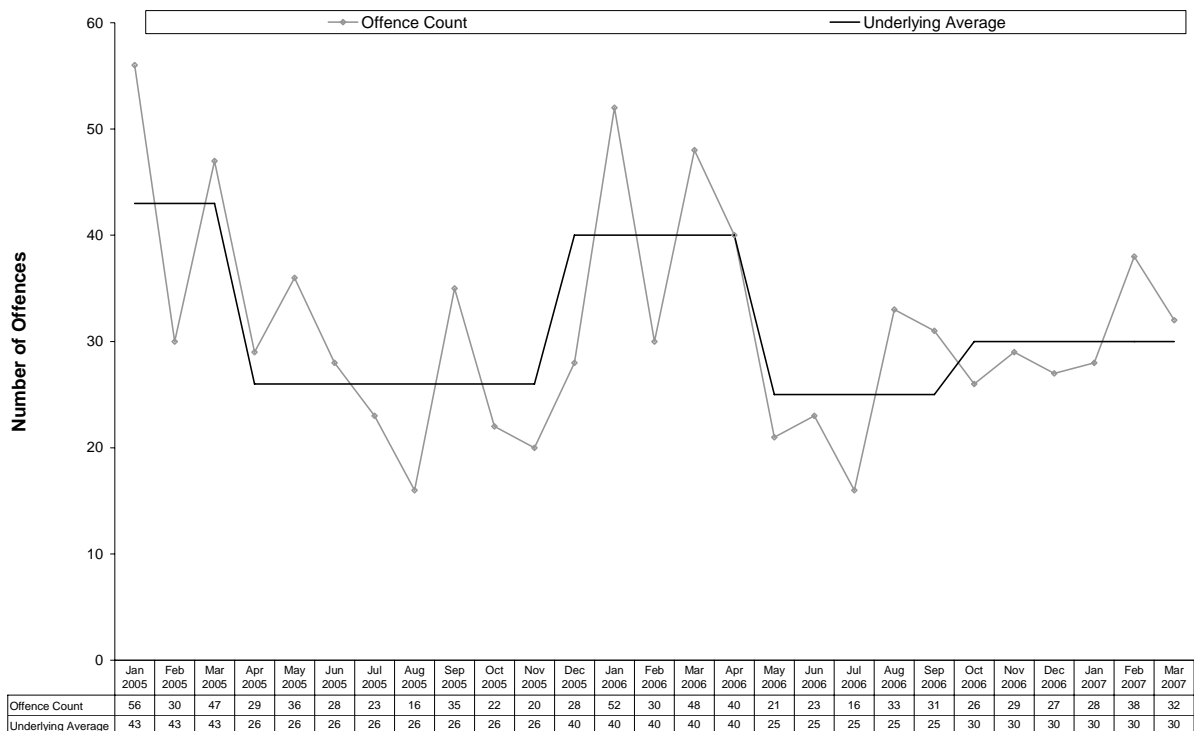
Figure 65 Recorded House Break-ins in the Northern Territory Balance



Break-ins to Commercial or Other Premises

- The figure below shows the underlying average level of *break-ins to commercial or other premises* has ranged between 25 and 43 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 30 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 98 *break-ins to commercial or other premises* recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 20% (16) from the previous quarter, but a decrease of 25% (32) from the same quarter the previous year.

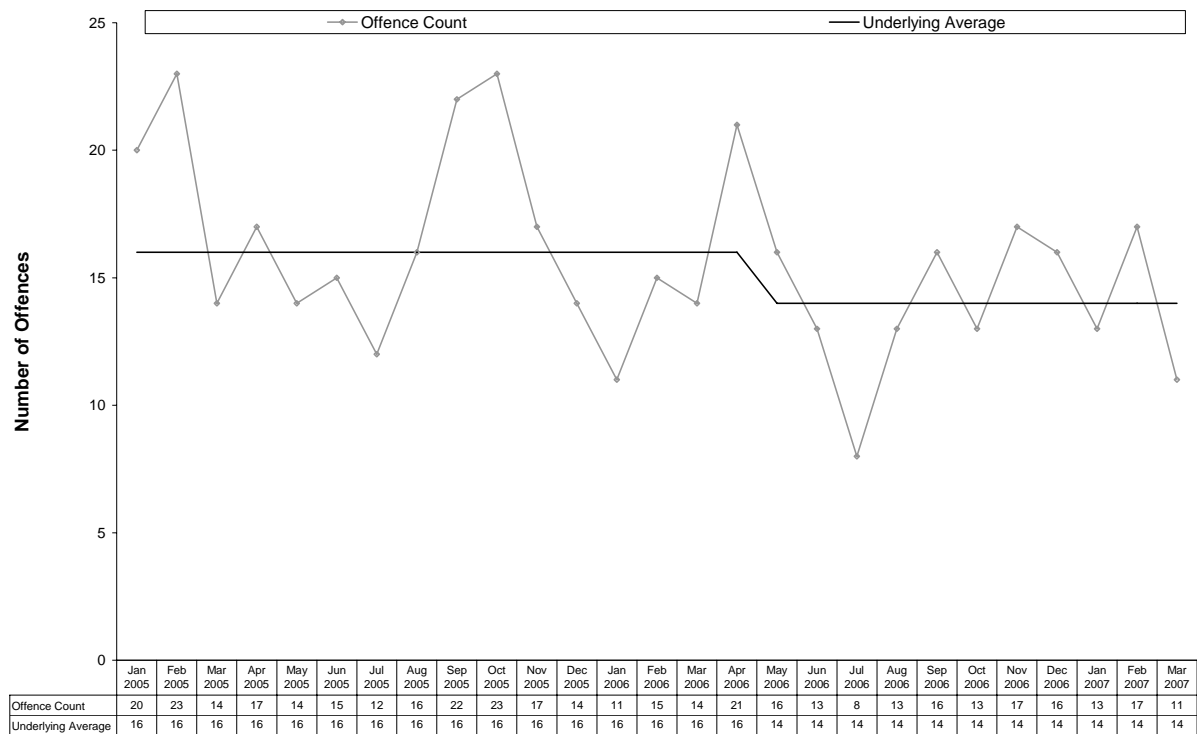
Figure 66 Recorded Break-ins to Commercial or Other Premises in the Northern Territory Balance



Motor Vehicle Theft and Related Offences

- The figure below shows the underlying average level of *motor vehicle theft and related offences* has ranged between 14 and 16 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 14 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 41 *motor vehicle theft and related offences* recorded in the current quarter. This represents a decrease of 11% (5) from the previous quarter, but an increase of 3% (1) from the same quarter the previous year.

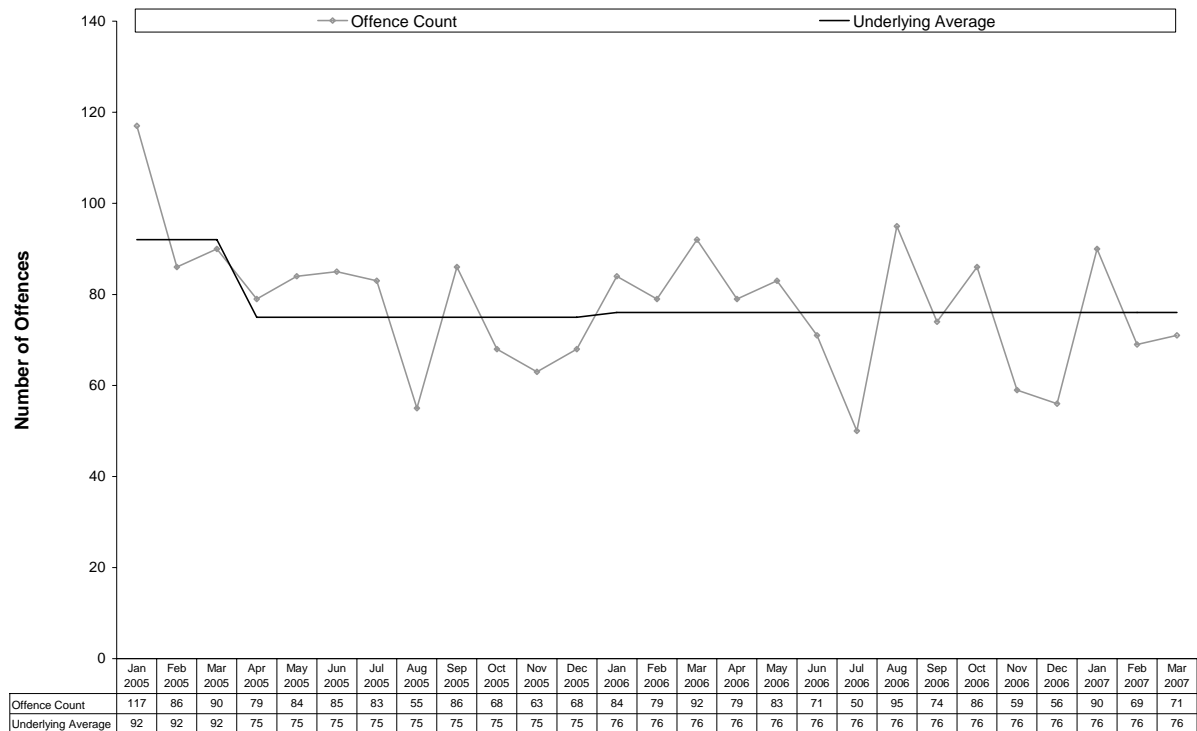
Figure 67 Recorded Motor Vehicle Theft and Related Offences in the Northern Territory Balance



Other Theft

- The figure below shows the underlying average level of *other theft* has ranged between 75 and 92 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 76 per month is at the lower end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average has remained stable.
- There were 230 *other theft* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 14% (29) from the previous quarter, but a decrease of 10% (25) from the same quarter the previous year.

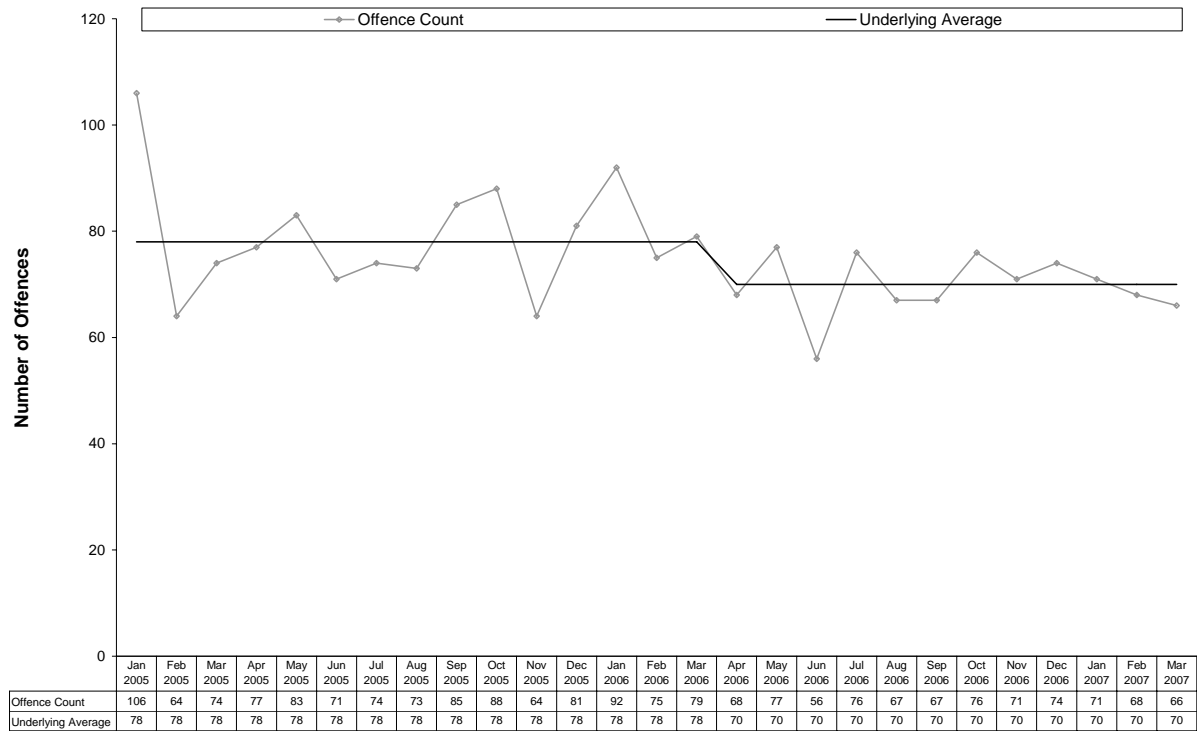
Figure 68 Recorded Other Theft in the Northern Territory Balance



Property Damage

- The figure below shows the underlying average level of *property damage* has ranged between 70 and 78 offences per month during the past nine quarters. Its current level of 70 per month is at the lower end of the range. Over the past 12 months the underlying average remained stable.
- There were 205 *property damage* offences recorded in the current quarter. This represents a decrease of 7% (16) from the previous quarter and a decrease of 17% (41) 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 2005 to the March quarter 2007.

The statistics cover two areas:

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

4.1 EXPLANATORY NOTES

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

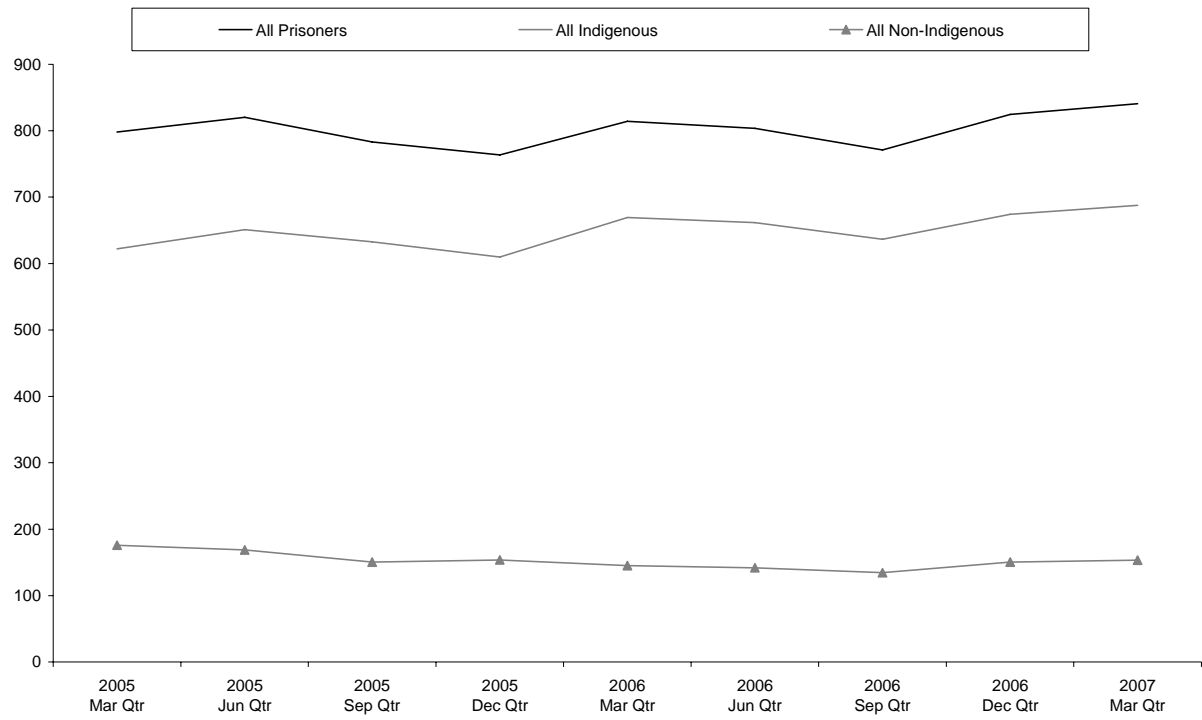
- The *quarterly daily average* is the average number of persons held in institutions per day over the stipulated three-month period. The quarterly daily averages have been rounded to the closest whole number — as a result, discrepancies may occur between the sum of component items and the total.
- *People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

4.2 FINDINGS

4.2.1 Adults

- Over the past nine quarters the quarterly daily average number of prisoners has ranged between 764 and 841. In the current quarter, the daily average was 841. It increased by 2% (16) from the previous quarter and increased by 3% (27) from the same quarter last year.
- The daily average number of Indigenous prisoners has ranged between 610 and 688 during the past nine quarters. The current quarterly daily average number is 688, 2% (14) higher than the previous quarter and 3% (19) 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 38 female prisoners in the current quarter. This represents an increase of 27% (8) from the previous quarter and an increase of 23% (7) from the same quarter the previous year.

Figure 70 Quarterly Daily Average Number of Adults Held in Prison



4.2.2 Juveniles

- The number of juveniles detained in the Territory is small and relatively volatile. The quarterly daily average ranged between 15 and 26 over the period March quarter 2005 to the current quarter.
- In the current quarter, the quarterly daily average number of juveniles held in detention in the Northern Territory was 25. This represents a decrease of 4% (1) from the previous quarter but an increase of 39% (7) from the same quarter last year.
- Indigenous juveniles represented 88% (22) of the daily average detainee population in the current quarter.

Figure 71 Quarterly Daily Average Number of Juveniles Held in Detention

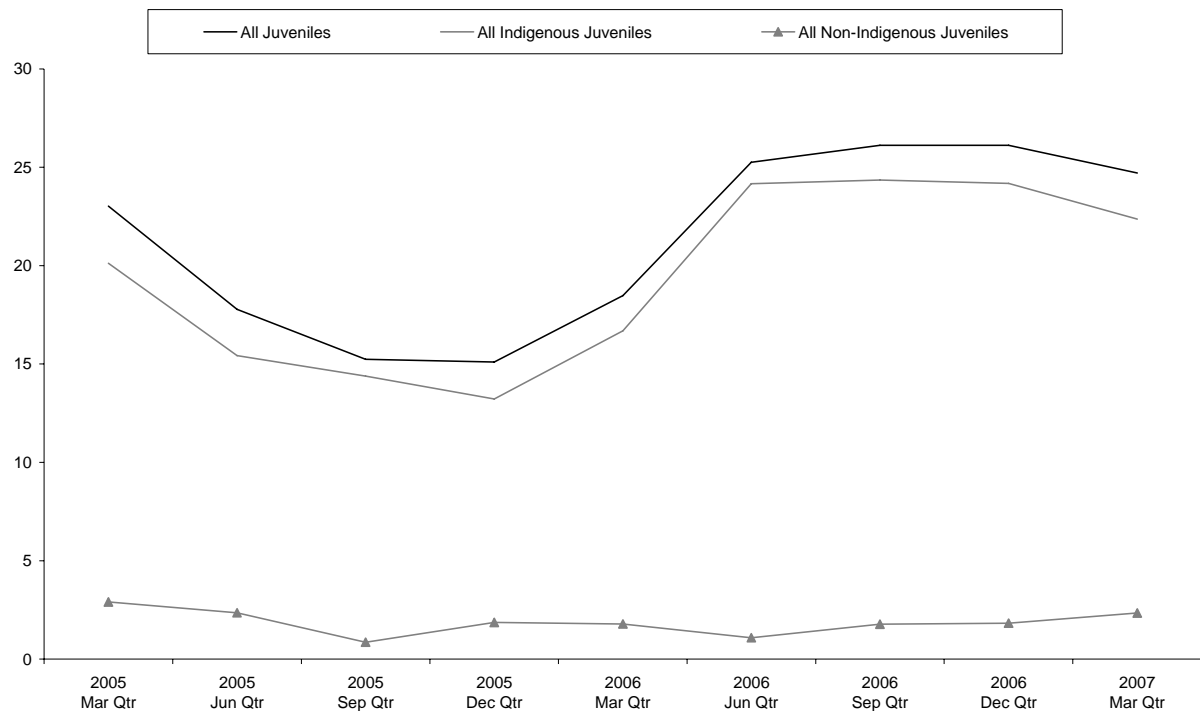


Table 9 Quarterly Daily Average Number of Adults Held in Prison

	Mar Qtr 2005	Jun Qtr 2005	Sep Qtr 2005	Dec Qtr 2005	Mar Qtr 2006	Jun Qtr 2006	Sep Qtr 2006	Dec Qtr 2006	Mar Qtr 2007
Total Number of Prisoners									
All Prisoners	798	820	783	764	814	804	771	825	841
Prisoner Gender and Ethnicity									
All Indigenous	622	651	633	610	669	662	637	674	688
All Non-Indigenous	176	169	151	154	145	142	134	151	153
All Males	772	793	760	737	783	770	737	795	803
All Females	26	27	23	27	31	33	34	30	38
Indigenous Males	603	630	615	590	645	638	613	653	657
Non-Indigenous Males	169	163	145	147	139	133	124	142	146
Indigenous Females	19	21	18	20	25	24	23	21	30
Non-Indigenous Females	7	6	5	7	6	9	11	8	8
Special Types of Offenders									
People Smugglers	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	2	1
Fine Defaulters	5	5	1	3	0	0	0	5	3

Table 10 Quarterly Daily Average Number of Juveniles Held in Detention

	Mar Qtr 2005	Jun Qtr 2005	Sep Qtr 2005	Dec Qtr 2005	Mar Qtr 2006	Jun Qtr 2006	Sep Qtr 2006	Dec Qtr 2006	Mar Qtr 2007
Total Number of Detainees									
All Detainees	23	18	15	15	18	25	26	26	25
Detainee Gender and Ethnicity									
All Indigenous	20	15	14	13	17	24	24	24	22
All Non-Indigenous	3	2	1	2	2	1	2	2	2
All Males	23	18	15	15	18	25	26	26	23
All Females	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Indigenous Males	20	15	14	13	16	24	24	24	21
Non-Indigenous Males	3	2	1	2	2	1	2	2	2
Indigenous Females	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Non-Indigenous Females	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

5 OUTCOMES FOR DRUG OFFENCES

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

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

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

5.1 COURT OUTCOMES

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

5.1.1 Explanatory Notes

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

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

5.1.2 Findings

Current Financial Year to Date (1 July 2006 – 31 March 2007)

A total of 562 drug offences were finalised by the courts between 1 July 2006 to 31 March 2007. The principal penalty for 9% (53) of these offences was an actual term of imprisonment, for 1% (6) a period of home detention and for another 19% (106) a fully suspended term of imprisonment was ordered. For 63% (354) of the offences, the principal penalty was a monetary order. Community work orders comprised 4% (23) of the penalties.

Court Outcomes by Offence Group

Possession and non-commercial dealing in illicit drugs accounted for 81% (458) of drug offences finalised by the courts between 1 July 2006 to 31 March 2007.

- Principal penalties for non-commercial dealing in illicit drugs were as follows:
 - 46% of offences (105) were associated with a monetary order;
 - 30% of offences (69) were associated with a fully suspended term of imprisonment;
 - 14% of offences (33) were associated with an actual term of imprisonment;
 - 5% of offences (11) were associated with some form of other order;
 - 3% of offences (7) were associated with a community work order; and

- 2% of offences (4) were associated with a home detention order.
- Principal penalties for possession and/or use of illicit drugs were as follows:
 - 84% of offences (192) were associated with a monetary order;
 - 6% of offences (14) were associated with a fully suspended term of imprisonment;
 - 6% of offences (13) were associated with a community work order;
 - 2% of offences (5) were associated with an actual term of imprisonment;
 - 2% of offences (4) were associated with some form of other order; and
 - 0% of offences (1) were associated with a home detention order.

Previous Financial Year (2005-06)

A total of 758 drug offences were finalised by the courts during the 2005-06 financial year. The principal penalty for 18% (140) of these offences was an actual term of imprisonment, for 1% (9) a period of home detention and for another 22% (164) a fully suspended term of imprisonment was ordered. For 52% (397) of the offences, the principal penalty was a monetary order. Community work orders comprised 3% (25) of the penalties.

Court Outcomes by Offence Group

Possession and non-commercial dealing in illicit drugs accounted for 76% (576) of drug offences finalised by the courts during the 2005-06 financial year.

- Principal penalties for non-commercial dealing in illicit drugs were as follows:
 - 35% of offences (96) were associated with a fully suspended term of imprisonment;
 - 34% of offences (92) were associated with a monetary order;
 - 23% of offences (63) were associated with an actual term of imprisonment;
 - 4% of offences (11) were associated with a community work order;
 - 2% of offences (6) were associated with some form of other order; and
 - 1% of offences (4) were associated with a home detention order.
- Principal penalties for possession and/or use of illicit drugs were as follows:
 - 78% of offences (236) were associated with a monetary order;
 - 9% of offences (26) were associated with an actual term of imprisonment;
 - 7% of offences (20) were associated with a fully suspended term of imprisonment;
 - 4% of offences (13) were associated with some form of other order; and
 - 3% of offences (9) were associated with a community work order.

Table 11 Drug Offences Finalised by Principal Penalty

Offence Group	Imprisonment Order		Home Detention Order		Fully Suspended Imprisonment		Community Work Order		Monetary Order		Other Order		Total
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.
Current Financial Year (1 July 2006 – 31 March 2007)													
Import or Export Illicit Drugs	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	1	33%	2	67%	3
Deal or Traffic In Illicit Drugs – Non Commercial	33	14%	4	2%	69	30%	7	3%	105	46%	11	5%	229
Deal or Traffic In Illicit Drugs – Commercial	13	54%	1	4%	7	29%	0	0%	3	13%	0	0%	24
Manufacture or Cultivate Illicit Drugs – Non Commercial	0	0%	0	0%	6	33%	1	6%	11	61%	0	0%	18
Manufacture or Cultivate Illicit Drugs – Commercial	0	0%	0	0%	2	50%	0	0%	2	50%	0	0%	4
Possess and/or Use Illicit Drugs	5	2%	1	0%	14	6%	13	6%	192	84%	4	2%	229
Other Drug Related Offences	2	4%	0	0%	8	15%	2	4%	40	73%	3	5%	55
Prescription Drug Offences	0	n.a	0	n.a	0	n.a	0	n.a	0	n.a	0	n.a	0
Total	53	9%	6	1%	106	19%	23	4%	354	63%	20	4%	562
Previous Financial Year (1 July 2005 – 30 June 2006)													
Import or Export Illicit Drugs	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	1	100%	0	0%	1
Deal or Traffic In Illicit Drugs – Non Commercial	63	23%	4	1%	96	35%	11	4%	92	34%	6	2%	272
Deal or Traffic In Illicit Drugs – Commercial	14	42%	1	3%	15	45%	0	0%	3	9%	0	0%	33
Manufacture or Cultivate Illicit Drugs – Non Commercial	7	16%	1	2%	14	33%	2	5%	19	44%	0	0%	43
Manufacture or Cultivate Illicit Drugs – Commercial	2	22%	0	0%	5	56%	0	0%	1	11%	1	11%	9
Possess and/or Use Illicit Drugs	26	9%	0	0%	20	7%	9	3%	236	78%	13	4%	304
Other Drug Related Offences	28	29%	3	3%	14	15%	3	3%	44	46%	3	3%	95
Prescription Drug Offences	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	1	100%	0	0%	1
Total	140	18%	9	1%	164	22%	25	3%	397	52%	23	3%	758

Source: Extracted from the Integrated Justice Information System (23 May 2007).

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 66 drug infringement notices, relating to 66 separate offences, were issued during the March quarter 2007. This is 24% (21) less notices than were issued in the previous quarter, and 50% (67) less notices than were issued in the March quarter 2006.
- 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 2007.

Table 12 Drug Offences Processed by Infringement Notices

	Mar Qtr 2005	Jun Qtr 2005	Sep Qtr 2005	Dec Qtr 2005	Mar Qtr 2006	Jun Qtr 2006	Sep Qtr 2006	Dec Qtr 2006	Mar Qtr 2007
Number of Infringement Notices Issued	141	132	139	178	133	124	129	87	66
Drug Offences									
Possess Cannabis For Personal Use	140	130	139	178	130	124	127	86	64
Cultivation of Cannabis For Personal Use	1	3	0	0	4	0	3	1	2
Total	141	133	139	178	134	124	130	87	66

Source: Extracted from the Integrated Justice Information System (23 May 2007).

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 2006 – 31 March 2007)

A total of 415 aggravated property offences had sentences passed between 1 July 2006 and 31 March 2007.

The principal penalty for 85% (352) of these offences fell within the standard sentencing guidelines contained in the *Sentencing Act*.

In relation to 64% (266) of offences the principal penalty was an actual term of imprisonment.

Court Outcomes by Offence Group

The majority (96%) of offences dealt with under the sentencing regime for aggravated property offences were *break-ins* (267), *property damage* (84) and *unlawful use of motor vehicle* (46).

- Principal penalties for *break-ins* were as follows:
 - 61% of offences (162) were associated with an actual term of imprisonment;
 - 21% of offences (57) were associated with a community work order;
 - 16% of offences (43) 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:
 - 70% of offences (59) were associated with an actual term of imprisonment;
 - 17% of offences (14) received other orders, implying a finding of exceptional circumstances;
 - 11% of offences (9) 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 a motor vehicle* were as follows:
 - 67% of offences (31) were associated with an actual term of imprisonment;
 - 17% of offences (8) were associated with a community work order;
 - 11% of offences (5) received other orders, implying a finding of exceptional circumstances; and
 - 4% of offences (2) were associated with a home detention order.

Previous Financial Year (2005-06)

A total of 470 aggravated property offences was finalised during the 2005-06 financial year.

The principal penalty for 274 (58%) of these offences was an actual term of imprisonment and for a further 100 offences (21%), the principal penalty fell within the standard sentencing guidelines contained in the *Sentencing Act*.

The principal penalty for the remaining 96 offences (20%) 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 (99%) of offences dealt with under the sentencing regime for aggravated property offences were *break-ins* (348), *property damage* (60) and *unlawful use of motor vehicle* (55).

- Principal penalties for *break-ins* were as follows:
 - 56% of offences (195) were associated with an actual term of imprisonment;
 - 20% of offences (71) received orders other than those presumed in the sentencing guidelines, implying a finding of exceptional circumstances;
 - 17% of offences (60) were associated with a community work order; and
 - 6% of offences (22) were associated with a home detention order.
- Principal penalties for *property damage* were as follows:
 - 63% of offences (38) were associated with an actual term of imprisonment;
 - 20% of offences (12) received other orders, implying a finding of exceptional circumstances; and
 - 17% of offences (10) were associated with a community work order.

- Principal penalties for *unlawful use of motor vehicle* were as follows:
 - 64% of offences (35) were associated with an actual term of imprisonment;
 - 22% of offences (12) received other orders, implying a finding of exceptional circumstances;
 - 11% of offences (6) were associated with a community work order; and
 - 4% of offences (2) were associated with a home detention order.

Table 13 Aggravated Property Offences Finalised by Principal Penalty

Offence Group	Imprisonment Order		Home Detention Order		Community Work Order		Other Order		Total
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.
Current Financial Year (1 July 2006 – 31 March 2007)									
Robbery	12	80%	2	13%	0	0%	1	7%	15
Break-ins	162	61%	5	2%	57	21%	43	16%	267
Unlawful Use of Motor Vehicle	31	67%	2	4%	8	17%	5	11%	46
Home Invasion	0	0%	1	100%	0	0%	0	0%	1
Business Invasion	2	100%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	2
Property Damage	59	70%	2	2%	9	11%	14	17%	84
Total	266	64%	12	3%	74	18%	63	15%	415
Previous Financial Year (1 July 2005 – 30 June 2006)									
Robbery	5	83%	0	0%	0	0%	1	17%	6
Break-ins	195	56%	22	6%	60	17%	71	20%	348
Unlawful Use of Motor Vehicle	35	64%	2	4%	6	11%	12	22%	55
Home Invasion	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0
Business Invasion	1	100%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	1
Property Damage	38	63%	0	0%	10	17%	12	20%	60
Total	274	58%	24	5%	76	16%	96	20%	470

Source: Extracted from the Integrated Justice Information System (24 May 2007).

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.

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.