

# Research Bulletin

### Corrective Services, New South Wales Corporate Research, Evaluation and Statistics

#### Offender Population Trends: Convicted Sex Offenders in NSW

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Sex offenders represent 8.8% of all offenders in custody and 3% of all offenders serving community based sentences in New South Wales (NSW). It is important to be aware of the general demographic and other characteristics of this offender population in order to provide the most responsive management strategies.

This report presents data on the NSW population of sex offenders from 2003 to 2008 collected on 30 June of each year. It is based on data extracted from the Offender Integrated Management System (OIMS) of the Corrective Services NSW. It consists of an overview of demographics patterns and trends over the past five-year period for both sentenced offenders in full-time custody and those serving community-based orders managed by Correctives Services NSW.

Results show that although the overall population of sex offenders increased from 30 June 2003 to 30 June 2008, it remained stable as a proportion of all offenders serving sentences in NSW. However, the characteristics of this population have not remained static. The nature of offences and the demographic and forensic characteristics of sex offender groups changed during this period of review.

Results from the current study provide a basis for future analysis of trends and measurement of change over time, and they may also be of assistance in the further development of effective service delivery of specific sex offender management and treatment programs.

#### **KEY FINDINGS**

#### Population of sex offenders

 From 2003 to 2008 the population of sex offenders in custody and the population of sex offenders serving community-based sentences remained stable as a proportion of all NSW offenders in correctional centres and serving community-based sentences.

#### Indigenous sex offenders

 There has been a decline (1%) in the proportion of Indigenous sex offenders in custody and serving community-based sentence (1.7%) from 2003 to 2008.

#### Female Sex Offenders

• From 2003 to 2008, the proportion of female sex offenders in correctional centres presented a marginal increase (0.2%) whereas the population of female sex offenders serving community-based sentences decreased by 2.2%.

#### **Prior imprisonment**

• From 2003 to 2008 there was a 9.3% increase in the proportion of sex offenders with a history of prior imprisonment serving community-based sentences (excluding parolees).

#### **Definitions and Explanatory Notes**

**Sex offender**: Sentenced offender held in full-time custody or being supervised by Community Offender Services as at 30 June whose most serious offence was classified as a sex offence.

**Prior imprisonment**: Prior imprisonment includes **any** episode of imprisonment within periodic detention or full-time custody (including remand) prior to the episode current at census date.

**Most Serious Offence (MSO)**: The most serious offence is the offence for which the longest sentence was imposed for a single count, regardless of the possible result of appeals. Where two offences had equal sentences, the offence with the lowest NSW offence code was selected as the MSO.

**ASOC Group:** This refers to the Australian Standard Offence Classification (ASOC). ASOC provides a uniform national statistical framework for classifying criminal behaviour in the production and analysis of crime and justice statistics. The ASOC group used in this study was Division 3 - Sexual Assault and related offences.

Indigenous offender: An offender was recorded as Indigenous where they had identified themselves as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander (ATSI) in any current or

#### Limitation

The current report excluded cases whose sex offences were not the most serious offence. Therefore, it may not be representative of the entire population of sex offenders in New South Wales.

#### **Future studies**

The current report was the first of a series of three. Future studies will present data on throughput of offenders convicted for a sex offence in New South Wales, including offenders whose sex offences were not their most serious offences.

#### **Acknowledgements**

The author would like to thank Simon Corben and Jason Hainsworth for extracting the relevant data and Kyleigh Heggie for her valuable feedback on earlier versions of this report. Their efforts have been greatly appreciated.

#### Reference

1. C. Jones et al, "Risk of re-offending among parolees" (2006) 91 Crime and Justice Bulletin.

#### Sex offender snapshot

As at 30 June 2008 there were 710 offenders in New South Wales correctional centres whose Most Serious Offence (MSO) was a sex offence comprising 8.8% of all sentenced offenders in custody. **Table 1** provides the most common characteristics of the population of NSW sex offender in custody.

As at 30 June 2008, there were 529 sex offenders in the community comprising 3% of all community-based offenders. This represents an increase of 39 offenders (7.4%) since 30 June 2003 when the total population of sex offenders in the community was 490. **Table 2** provides selected characteristics of the population of sex offenders in NSW serving community based sentences.

## Changes in the NSW population of sex offenders from June 30 2003 to June 30 2008

The population of sex offenders in custody increased by 27.9% in five years from 555 on 30 June 2003 to 710 on 30 June 2008 with an average annual percentage increase of 5% (Figure 1). As a proportion of all NSW offenders in custody the average annual percentage increase for the population of sex offenders in custody from June 2003 to June 2008 was marginal at 0.18%.

The total population of community based sex offenders increased by 7.9% from 2003 to 2008 (490 on June 2003 to 529 on June 2008) with an average annual percentage increase of 1.5% (Figure 1). As a proportion of all NSW sex offenders serving their sentence in the

community the annual percentage increase from June 2003 to June 2008 was marginal at 0.02%.

#### Gender

As shown in **Figure 2**, there was a marginal increase in the population of female sex offenders in custody between 2003 and 2008 (0.2%). The population of female sex offenders serving community-based sentences decreased from 2.2% at 30 June 2003 to 0.9% at 30 June 2008 **(Figures 3 and 4)**. Please note that the number of convicted female sex offenders is very small (only 5 women in custody and 5 women serving community based orders).

#### Age

As shown in **Figure 5**, at 30 June 2008 the age groups with the largest representation among sex offenders in correctional centres was 40-44 yrs with 105 out of 710 offenders in custody (14.8%) followed by the age group 35-39 yrs with 100 offenders in custody (14.1%). The age categories of 35-39 yrs and 40-44 yrs were also the most common age group across 2003-2008 yearly censuses with the exception of 2004 when the 30-34 yrs was the second most common category (75 of 572 or 13.1%) and 2005 when the 45-49 yrs was also the second most popular category (85 of 608 or 14%, **Table 3**).

The sex offender pattern of age categories differed markedly from that of other sentenced offenders (Figure 5). That is, the population of offenders in NSW correctional centres was younger than that of sex offenders.

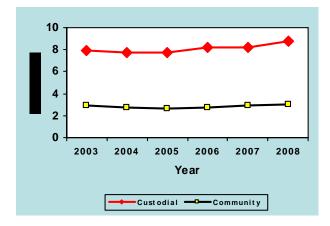
Table 1: Characteristics of sex offenders serving custodial sentences in NSW as at 30 June 2008

Offender Characteristic NSW sex offender in <b>custody</b> (N=710)		Number	Percentage
Gender	Male	705	(99.1%)
Gerider	Female	5	(0.9%)
Indigenous		98	(13.8%)
Most common age groups	40 to 44 years	105	(14.8%)
Country of Dirth	Australia	527	(74.2%)
Country of Birth	Other	183	(25.8%)
Prior imprisonment for any offence		350	(49.3%)
Most common offence	'Aggravated sexual assault'	656	(92.4%)
Most common aggregate sentence	'5 years to <10 years'	295	(41.5%)

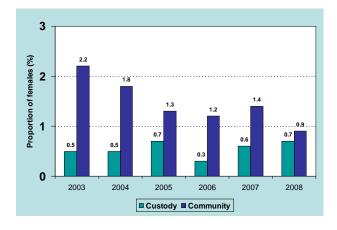
Table 2: Characteristics of sex offenders serving community-based sentences in NSW as at 30 June 2008

Offender Characteristic – NSW sex offenders serving <b>community-based</b> sentences (N=529)		Number	Percentage
Gender	Male Female	524 5	(99.0%) (1.0%)
Indigenous		43	(8.1%)
Most common age groups	35 to 39 years 40 to 44 years	72 66	(13.6%) (12.5%)
Country of Birth	Australia Other	353 176	(66.7%) (33.3%)
Prior imprisonment for any offence	291 of 529 or 94 of 328, excluding offenders on parole		(55.0%) (28.6%)
Most common offence	'Aggravated sexual assault'	275	(52.0%)
Most common aggregate sentence	> 1 year and < 5 years	394	(74.5%)

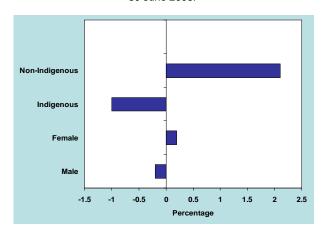
Figure 1. Sex offenders as a percentage of all NSW offenders by year and type of sentence as at 30 June



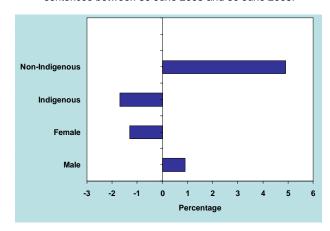
**Figure 2.** Proportion of female sex offenders in NSW by sentence type and year, as at 30 June



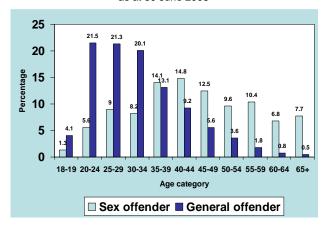
**Figure 3.** Change in population of sex offenders in custody in NSW as a proportion of the total population of offenders in custody between 30 June 2003 and 30 June 2008.



**Figure 4.** Change in population of sex offenders serving community-based sentences in NSW as a proportion of the total population of offenders serving community-based sentences between 30 June 2003 and 30 June 2008.



**Figure 5.** Proportion of sex offenders and general offenders in correctional centres in NSW by age, as at 30 June 2008



Among sex offenders serving their sentence in the community at 30 June 2008 (Figure 6) the most represented age group was 35-39 yrs with 72 out of 529 offenders (13.6%) followed by the age group 40-44 yrs with 66 offenders (12.5%). This pattern of most common age categories was similar across yearly censuses between 2003 and 2008 for sex offenders in the community (Table 4).

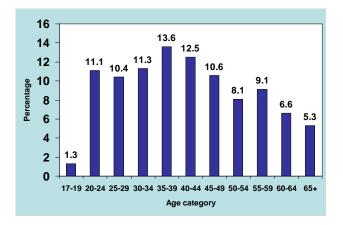
#### Indigenous sex offenders

#### Custodial data

The number of Indigenous sex offenders in correctional centres increased by 19.5%, from 82 at 30 June 2003 to 98 at 30 June 2008 but declined as a proportion of the total population of sex offenders in custody from 14.8% (82 of 555) in 2003 to 13.8% (98 of 710) in 2008 with an average annual percentage decline of

- 0.2% (Figures 3 and 7 and Table 5).

**Figure 6.** Persons serving sentences in the community for sex offences in NSW by age as at 30 June 2008



The proportion of Indigenous sex offenders in correctional centres was variable across yearly censuses from 2003 to 2008 (Table 5). The highest proportion of Indigenous sex offenders was recorded in 2006 (103 of 635 or 16.2%) while in 2008 the lowest proportion was recorded (98 of 710 or 13.8%).

The number of non-Indigenous sex offenders in correctional centres increased by 31.2%, from 465 at 30 June 2003 to 610 at 30 June 2008 (Table 5). As a proportion of the total population of sex offenders non-Indigenous sex offenders increased from 83.8% (465 of 555) in 2003 to 85.9% (610 of 710) in 2008.

#### Community data

The number of Indigenous sex offenders serving their sentence in the community decreased by 10.4%, from 48 at 30 June 2003 to 43 at 30 June 2008 declining as a proportion of the total population of sex offenders serving their sentence in the community from 9.8% in 2003 to 8.1% in 2008. The average annual percentage

Table 3. Number and proportion of sex offenders in custody in NSW by age and year, as at 30 June

Census Year	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Age category						
17-19	11 (2%)	5 (0.9%)	3 (0.5%)	3 (0.5%)	2 (0.3%)	9 (1.3%)
20-24	29 (5.2%)	41 (7.2%)	54 (8.9%)	54 (8.5%)	49 (7.7%)	40 (5.6%)
25-29	49 (8.8%)	46 (8%)	46 (7.6%)	47 (7.4%)	47 (7.1%)	64 (9%)
30-34	75 (13.5%)	75 (13.1%)	73 (12%)	67 (10.5%)	57 (8.7%)	58 (8.2%)
35-39	80 (14.4%)	78 (13.6%)	71 (11.7%)	76 (12%)	99 (15%)	100 (14.1%)
40-44	77 (13.9%)	73 (12.8%)	87 (14.3%)	92 (14.5%)	99 (15%)	105 (14.8%)
45-49	62 (11.2)	73 (12.8%)	85 (14%)	75 (11.8%)	76 (11.5%)	89 (12.5%)
50-54	57 (10.3%)	62 (10.9%)	57 (9.4%)	63 (1%)	73 (11.1%)	68 (9.6%)
55-59	57 (10.3%)	45 (7.9%)	53 (8.7%)	72 (11.3%)	68 (10.3%)	74 (10.4%)
60-64	31 (5.6%)	41 (7.2%)	44 (7.2%)	42 (6.6%)	40 (6.1%)	48 (6.8%)
65+	27 (4.9%)	33 (5.8%)	35 (5.7%)	44 (6.9%)	48 (7.3%)	55 (7.7%)
Total	555 (100%)	572 (100%)	608 (100%)	635 (100%)	658 (100%)	710 (100%)

Table 4. Number and proportion of offenders serving sentences in the community for sex offences in NSW by age and year, as at 30 June

Census Year	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Age Category						
17-19	3 (0.6%)	10 (2.2%)	10 (2.2%)	14 (2.9%)	17 (3.3%)	7 (1.3%)
20-24	41 (8.4%)	47 (10.4%)	48 (10.5%)	40 (8.3%)	45 (8.8%)	59 (11.1%)
25-29	48 (9.8%)	54 (11.9%)	52 (11.3%)	42 (8.7%)	46 (9%)	55 (10.4%)
30-34	64 (13.1%)	58 (12.8%)	60 (13.1%)	62 (12.8%)	68 (13.3%)	60 (11.3%)
35-39	69 (14.1%)	64 (14.1%)	50 (10.9%)	59 (12.2%)	66 (12.9%)	72 (13.6%)
40-44	62 (12.6%)	58 (12.8%)	71 (15.5%)	67 (13.9%)	62 (12.1%)	66 (12.5%)
45-49	59 (12%)	42 (9.3%)	46 (10%)	60 (12.4%)	55 (10.8%)	56 (10.6%)
50-54	50 (10.2%)	32 (7.1%)	34 (7.4%)	39 (8.1%)	44 (8.6%)	43 (8.1%)
55-59	38 (7.7%)	37 (8.2%)	34 (7.4%)	40 (8.3%)	41 (8%)	48 (9.1%)
60-64	28 (5.7%)	22 (4.8%)	21 (4.6%)	28 (5.8%)	31 (6.1%)	35 (6.6%)
65+	28 (5.7%)	29 (6.4%)	33 (7.2%)	32 (6.6%)	36 (7%)	28 (5.3%)
Total	490 (100%)	453 (100%)	459 (100%)	483 (100%)	511 (100%)	529 (100%)

decline was of 0.8% (Table 6 and Figures 4 and 7).

The proportion of Indigenous sex offenders serving their sentence in the community was also variable across yearly censuses from 2003 to 2008 (Figure 7 and Table 6). The lowest proportion of Indigenous sex offenders was recorded in 2006 and 2008 (8.1%) while in 2007 the highest proportion was recorded (11%).

The number of non-Indigenous sex offenders serving their sentences in the community increased by 12.5%, from 413 at 30 June 2003 to 472 at 30 June 2008 (Table 6). As a proportion of the total population of sex offenders serving their sentences in the community, non-Indigenous sex offenders increased from 84.3% in 2003 to 89.2% in 2008.

#### Most Serious Offence (MSO)

In the current study, the term sex offender was defined as a sentenced offender whose MSO was a sex offence

and the ASOC group of sex offences and related offences was utilised to define offence. Please refer to **Explanatory Notes** for details.

#### Custodial data

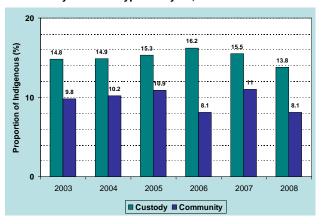
At 30 June 2008, the most prevalent ASOC group of MSO for sex offenders in NSW correctional centres was the offence of aggravated sexual assault (92.4% or 656 of 710). Of these 656, 125 (19.0%) were for aggravated sexual assault, 109 (16.6%) for sexual intercourse without consent, 61 (9.3%) for sexual intercourse with a person under ten years of age, 40 (6.1%) for sexual intercourse with a person between 10 and 16 years of age and the remaining 48.9% comprised of an aggregation of other sex related offences.

The second most prevalent ASOC group of MSO for sex offenders in NSW correctional centres was non-aggravated sexual assault (4.1% or 29). Of these 29 convictions, 21 (72.4%) was for the charge of assault with act of indecency.

Table 5. Trends in numbers of sex offenders in NSW custody by indigenous status (2003-2008)

Census Year	Indigenous	Non-Indigenous	Unknown	Total	% Indigenous
2003	82	465	8	555	14.8
2004	85	485	2	572	14.9
2005	93	509	6	608	15.3
2006	103	528	4	635	16.2
2007	102	554	2	658	15.5
2008	98	610	2	710	13.8

Figure 7. Proportion of Indigenous sex offenders in NSW by sentence type and year, as at 30 June



The third most prevalent ASOC group of MSO for sex offenders was non-assaultive sexual offences against a child (2.0% or 14). Of these 14 convictions, 4 (28.6%) were for act of indecency – child under the age of 16 and 3 convictions (21.4%) were for the charge of convicted child sex offender loitering near a public place.

The fourth most prevalent ASOC group of MSO for sex offenders was non-assaultive sexual offence not elsewhere classified (1.5% or 11). Of these 11 convictions, 7 (63.6%) were for the charge of committing an act of indecency.

The pattern of MSO for sex offenders in NSW correctional centres was somewhat stable across yearly censuses from 2003 to 2008 (Table 7).

#### Community data

The overall pattern of categories of MSO for NSW sex offenders serving their sentence in the community was similar to that of sex offenders in NSW correctional centres described above. At 30 June 2008, the most prevalent ASOC category of MSO for NSW sex offenders serving their sentence in the community was aggravated sexual assault (52% or 275 of 529). Of these 275 offenders, 38 (13.8%) were for aggravated indecent assault, victim under 15 yrs, and 36 convictions (13.1%) were for sexual intercourse without consent and 23 (8.4%) for sexual intercourse with a person 10 - 16 yrs.

The second most prevalent ASOC group of MSO for NSW sex offenders serving their sentence in the community was non-aggravated sexual assault (17% or 90 of 529). Of these 90 convictions, 61 (67.7%) was for assault with act of indecency.

The third most common category was censorship offences (13.0% or 69). Of these 69 convictions, 52 (88.1%) was for the possession of child pornography.

The fourth most prevalent ASOC group of MSO for NSW sex offenders serving their sentence in the community was non-assaultive sexual offences not elsewhere

specified 11% or 58 of 529). Of these 58, 29 (50%) were for committing an act of indecency to person aged 16 years or over and 12 (20.7%) for committing an act of indecency.

Unlike the custodial data, this pattern of MSO for sex offenders serving their sentence in the community varied across yearly censuses from 2003 to 2008 (Table 8). For example, the proportion of ASOC category of aggravated sexual assault ranged from 65.9% in 2003 to 52% in 2008, a decrease of 13.9%, whereas the category of non-aggravated sexual assault increased by 2.1% from 2003 to 2008 going from 14.9 to 17%. These inconsistencies in numbers may be the result of random fluctuations, changes in policing, the impact of new legislation or any number of other possibilities. Further examination of this outcome is warranted.

#### **Prior Imprisonment**

At 30 June 2008, the percentage of sex offenders with a history of prior adult imprisonment was 49.3% (350 of 710) for the population of sex offender in custody and 55% (291 of 529) for the population of sex offenders serving their sentence in the community (28.6% excluding parolees or 94 out of 328). As **Figure 8** illustrates, an upward trend in the prior imprisonment rates among sex offenders across yearly censuses from 47.7% in 2003 to 52.3% in 2006 for sex offenders in custody and from 52.1% in 2005 to 55% in 2008 for those serving their sentence in the community.

For those serving sentence in the community at 30 June each year, prior imprisonment may relate to the same offence for which the offender was serving an order. For example, offenders on parole would have served prior custodial sentences as part of the same order. For this reason prior imprisonment rates were also calculated excluding offenders on parole (Figure 9). For this group of sex offenders the prior imprisonment rate ranged from 19.3% (48 of 249) in 2003 to 28.6% (94 of 328) in 2008, an increase of 9.3%. Interestingly, the proportion of general offenders serving sentence in the community with a record of prior imprisonment, excluding parolees, remained relatively stable across yearly censuses from 2003 to 2008 going from 40.5% (5503 of 13589) to 40.8% (5542 of 13586) (Figure 9).

#### Length of sentence

#### Custodial data

At 30 June 2008, 16 of 710 sex offenders in custody (2.2%) were serving aggregate sentences of less than 12 months. There were minor variations among censuses years, with this 2.2% of offenders serving short term custodial sentences of less than 12 months in 2008 compared to 0.9% in 2003 and 0.7% in 2004 (Table 9).

As **Table 9** shows, throughout census years sex offenders in correctional centres most commonly received custodial sentences from 5 years to less than 10 years. This pattern has remained despite a number of legislative reforms in the area of sexual offending which have sought to strengthen penalties.

#### Community data

As **Table 10** shows, at the 30 June 2008, the majority of sex offenders serving their sentence in the community were serving aggregate sentences greater than 1 year and less than 5 years (74.5%). Across yearly censuses, this rate ranged from 74.5% in 2008 to 82.8% in 2003.

Approximately one quarter (25.5%) of sex offenders serving their sentences in the community were serving aggregate sentences of less than 12 months. This rate ranged from 16.1% in 2003 to 25.5% in 2008.

#### **Summary and Discussion**

These analyses were undertaken in order to document demographics and potential trends in sex offenders managed by CSNSW. It presents census data extracted at 30 June at each year between 2003 and 2008 relating to convictions only, not offending in general. It is noted that caution must be exercised when interpreting apparent trend as there may not have

been enough measurement points for accurate determination of trends.

Between 2003 and 2008 the population of sex offenders in custody and the population of sex offenders serving their sentence in the community remained relatively stable. However, there has been a decline in the proportion of Indigenous sex offenders in custody and serving community-based sentence accompanied by a rise in the proportion of non-indigenous sex offenders in prison and serving community-based sentences.

From 2003 to 2008, the proportion of female sex offenders in custody presented a marginal increase accompanied by a decrease in the proportion of female sex offenders serving community-based sentences. Number of female sex offenders are very small, thus the determination of trends and patterns are difficult to confirm.

There has also been a rise of 9.3% from 2003 to 2008 in the rate of sex offenders with a history of prior imprisonment serving community-based sentences (this figure excludes parolees). It is noted that prior imprisonment has been identified as a predictor of recidivism.<sup>1</sup>

In relation to nature of offence, the pattern of MSO for

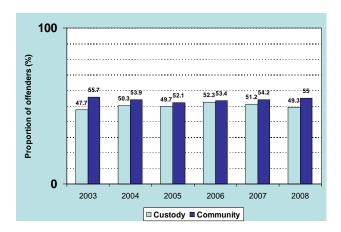
Table 6. Trends in numbers of sex offenders serving community-based sentence in NSW by indigenous status (2003-2008)

Census Year	Indigenous	Non-Indigenous	Unknown	Total	% Indigenous
2003	48	413	29	490	9.8
2004	46	391	16	453	10.2
2005	50	403	6	459	10.9
2006	39	434	10	483	8.1
2007	56	445	10	511	11.0
2008	43	472	14	529	8.1

Table 7. Sex offenders in NSW custody: proportion of Most Serious Offence by ASOC category by year (2003-2008)

Year	Aggravated sexual assault (%)	Non- Aggravated sexual assault (%)	Non-assaultive sexual offences against a child (%)	Non-assaultive sexual offences nec (%)	Total
2003	92.6	4.5	1.6	1.3	100.0
2004	91.8	5.2	1.2	1.7	100.0
2005	92.3	3.9	1.2	2.6	100.0
2006	94.2	3.3	1.4	1.1	100.0
2007	93.0	3.8	1.5	1.7	100.0
2008	92.4	4.1	2.0	1.5	100.0

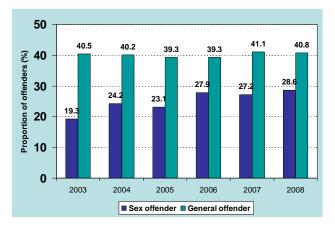
Figure 8. Proportion of sex offenders in NSW with a record of prior full-time adult imprisonment by year and sentence type



sex offenders serving their sentence in the community varied across yearly censuses from 2003 to 2008 with proportion of ASOC categories of offences changing among yearly censuses.

In conclusion, the current findings show that although from 30 June 2003 to 30 June 2008 the overall population of sex offenders has increased, it remained stable as a proportion of all offenders serving sentences in New South Wales. However, the characteristics of this population have not remained static. Nature of offence and representation of some groups changed throughout yearly censuses. Therefore it is important to understand the changing characteristics of the NSW population of sex offenders

**Figure 9.** Proportion of offenders in NSW serving community-based sentences with a record of prior adult imprisonment, by type of offence and year, excluding parolees.



in order to be able to provide responsive services when managing these offenders.

Results from this brief statistical report provide a basis for analysing trends and measuring change over time. These statistics may also be of assistance in the development of new treatment programs and research strategies for service delivery to sex offenders.

Table 9. Number and proportion of sex offenders in NSW custody serving aggregate sentence by length of sentence and year, as at 30 June.

Aggregate sentence	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
<12 months	<b>5</b> (0.9%)	<b>4</b> (0.7%)	<b>16</b> (2.6%)	9 (1.4%)	9 (1.4%)	<b>16</b> (2.2%)
1<5 years	149 (26.8%)	<b>153</b> (26.7%)	<b>155</b> (25.5%)	<b>174</b> (27.4%)	<b>170</b> (25.8%)	<b>174</b> (24.5%)
5<10 years	<b>235</b> (42.3%)	<b>251</b> (43.9%)	<b>266</b> (43.7%)	<b>283</b> (44.6%)	<b>278</b> (42.2%)	<b>295</b> (41.5%)
10<15 years	92 (16.6%)	<b>95</b> (16.6%)	<b>107</b> (17.6%)	114 (22.7%)	<b>135</b> (20.5%)	<b>147</b> (20.7%)
15<20 years	<b>18</b> (3.2%)	<b>20</b> (3.5%)	<b>22</b> (3.6%)	<b>27</b> (4.2%)	<b>32</b> (4.9%)	<b>41</b> (5.8%)
20 years +	<b>16</b> (1.1%)	<b>16</b> (2.8%)	18 (3.0%)	<b>17</b> (2.7%)	<b>24</b> (3.6%)	<b>25</b> (3.5%)
Other	<b>40</b> (7.2%)	<b>33</b> (5.8%)	<b>24</b> (3.9%)	<b>11</b> (1.7%)	<b>10</b> (1.5%)	<b>12</b> (1.7%)
Total	555	572	608	635	658	710

Table 10. Number and proportion of sex offenders in NSW serving aggregate sentence in the community by length of sentence and year.

Aggregate sentence	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
<12 months	<b>79</b> (16.1%)	<b>106</b> (23.4%)	<b>101</b> (22.0%)	<b>111</b> (23.0%)	<b>102</b> (20.0%)	<b>135</b> (25.5%)
1<5 years	<b>406</b> (82.8%)	<b>343</b> (75.7%)	<b>354</b> (77.1%)	<b>371</b> (76.8%)	<b>409</b> (80.0%)	<b>394</b> (74.5%)
5 years +	<b>5</b> (1.0%)	<b>4</b> (0.9%)	<b>4</b> (0.9%)	<b>1</b> (0.2%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
Total	490	453	459	483	511	529

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