

# Prisoners in Queensland, 2022

Source: ABS, *Prisoners in Australia*, released 24 February 2023, 10:30 am AEST

## Key data

### Number of prisoners (annual change):

Queensland .....	↓ 5.8%
Australia .....	↓ 5.5%

### Crude imprisonment rate (annual change):

Queensland .....	↓ 7.7%
Australia .....	↓ 6.3%

## Main findings

Note: data contained in this brief should be read with reference to the explanatory notes provided in ABS, *Prisoners in Australia*

- On the night of the National Prisoner Census, 30 June 2022, Queensland prisons held 9,376 prisoners. This was 23.1% of the 40,591 prisoners in Australian prisons.
- The crude imprisonment rate in Queensland for 2022 was 228.9 prisoners per 100,000 adult persons down from 248.0 per 100,000 in 2021. The imprisonment rate in Australia was 200.9 prisoners per 100,000 adult population (Figure 1).
- Approximately 1 in 11 prisoners in Queensland in 2022 were female (9.1% of the total, compared with 9.3% in 2021). The proportion of female prisoners in Australia in 2022 was 7.3%, down from 7.7% in 2021.
- The age-standardised rate of imprisonment for Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander prisoners was 2,046.9 per 100,000 adult Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population, compared with 166.9 per 100,000 non-Indigenous adults, making Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples 12 times more likely than non-Indigenous persons to be in prison at 30 June 2022 (Figure 2). The age-standardised Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander imprisonment rate was lower than for Australia as a whole (2,151.1 per 100,000).
- In Queensland, 33.6% of prisoners were unsentenced (on remand, awaiting sentence or awaiting deportation) at 30 June 2022, compared with 36.6% for Australia.
- Of the sentenced prisoners (those sentenced to a specified term), the median aggregate sentence length for prisoners in Queensland in 2022 was 3.3 years, unchanged from the 2021 figure. The median aggregate sentence in Australia as a whole was 3.7 years, an increase from 3.5 in 2021.
- In 2022, 68.1% of prisoners in Queensland had a known episode of prior adult imprisonment, a decrease from 68.3% in 2021. For Australia, there was an increase from 59.9% in 2021 to 60.2% in 2022.

Figure 1: Crude<sup>1</sup> imprisonment rate

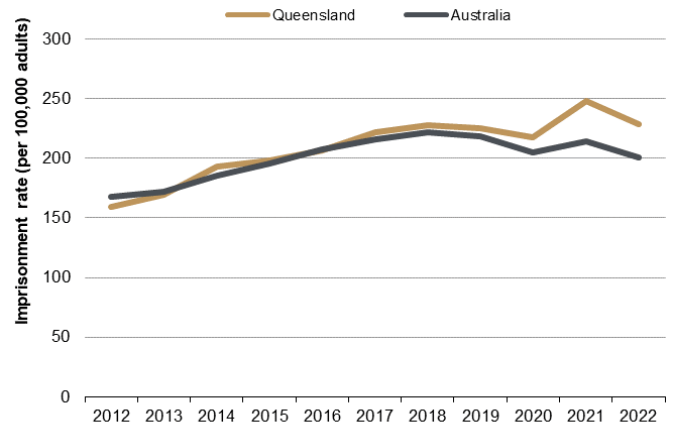
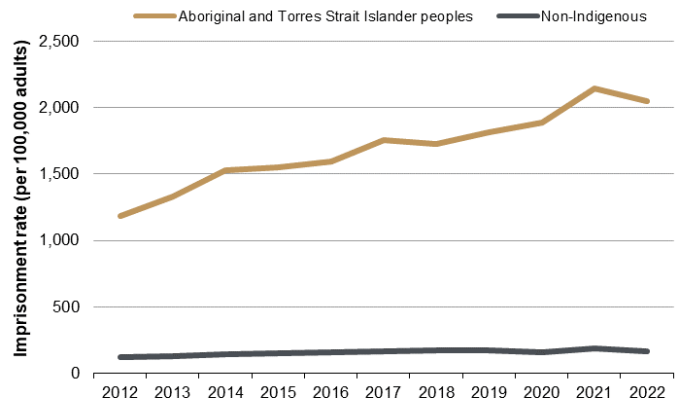


Figure 2: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and non-Indigenous age standardised<sup>2</sup> imprisonment rates, Queensland



Note: Calculations in this brief are based on pre-rounded figures.

<sup>1</sup> Crude rates measure the actual rates of imprisonment and are not adjusted for any differences in population structures that may influence the rates.  
<sup>2</sup> Age standardisation is a statistical method that adjusts crude rates to account for age differences between study populations.