



Research Bulletin

Trends in Custodial Sentences in NSW: 1990-1995

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Table of Contents

Acknowledgments	2
Summary	3
1 Introduction	5
1.1 NSW Sentencing Act 1989	5
1.2 Number of Sentenced Inmates in Custody	6
1.3 Court Statistics	6
1.4 Aim of the Study	7
2 Methodology	7
2.1 Data Set	7
2.2 Analysis	8
2.2.1 Number of People	8
2.2.2 Shortest Time to Serve	8
3. Results	9
3.1 Number of People	9
3.2 Shortest Time to Serve	10
3.3 Indeterminate Sentences	15
4 Discussion	16
4.1 Number of People	16
4.2 Comparison with Published Court Statistics	17
4.3 Trends in Time to Serve	17
References	18

List of Tables

Table A1: Number of Inmates - Males	19
Table A2: Number of Inmates - Females	21
Table A3: Median Shortest Time to Serve (Months) - Males	22
Table A4: Median Shortest Time to Serve (Months) - Females	24

List of Figures

Figure 1: Sentenced Inmates in Full-Time Custody	6
Figure 2: Number of Convicted Inmates Received - Males	12
Figure 3: Total Number of Convicted Inmates Received	14
Figure A1: Distribution of Shortest Time to Serve - Males	25
Figure A2: Distribution of Shortest Time to Serve - Females	27
Figure A3: Number of Convicted Inmates Received - Longer and Shorter Sentences ...	29

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Summary

Data was retrieved from the computerised Offender Record System of the NSW Department of Corrective Services for all inmates coming into full-time custody with a conviction between 1st January, 1990 and 29th February, 1996. People in custody solely for fine default and periodic detainees were excluded.

Effect on Inmate Numbers

There was an overall increase in the number of inmates starting custodial sentences during the period 1990 to 1995. However, as the increase was for offenders with shorter sentences, and there has been a decrease in the number of people with over a year to serve, the overall inmate population is now decreasing.

A more detailed summary of results follows.

Number of People Starting Custodial Sentences

For males there was a statistically significant increase in the number of offenders convicted between March 1990 and February 1996 in certain categories. As a rough guide to interpretation, the years with the lowest and highest number of receptions, together with the difference in yearly reception rate between these years (from Table A1) are given in brackets.

Statistically significant at 1% level:

Major assault (a change of 157 from 1990 to 1995)

Total assault (a change of 247 from

1990 to 1995)

Sexual (Adults) (a change of 101 from 1990 to 1993)

Total Sexual (a change of 100 from 1990 to 1993)

Other Robbery (a change of 72 from 1990 to 1994)

Total Robbery (a change of 118 from 1990 to 1994)

Breach Domestic Violence Order (a change of 77 from 1990 to 1994)

Breach Periodic Detention Order (a change of 182 from 1990 to 1994)

Sell Drug (a change of 139 from 1991 to 1993).

Total Offences (a change of 487 from 1990 to 1995)

Statistically significant at 5% level:

Other Assault (a change of 108 from 1993 to 1995)

Cultivate/Make Drug (a change of 32 from 1990 to 1993).

There was a statistically significant decrease in the number of male offenders convicted between March 1990 and February 1996 in the following categories (all significant at 1% level):

Homicide (a change of 28 from 1992 to 1995)

Drive under Influence (a change of 123 from 1990 to 1994)

Breach Traffic Licencing (a change of 109 from 1991 to 1995).

Total Driving (a change of 172 from 1990 to 1994)

Use Drug (a change of 33 from 1992 to 1994)

For females there was no significant change in the number of convicted offenders.

For many cases the number of convictions changed according to the season, in most cases being lower during the summer quarter (December, January, February).

Note that the only offence category where the numbers still seemed to be increasing at summer 1995/96 was assault.

Shortest Time to Serve

For males there were **decreases** between March, 1990 and February, 1996 in the median shortest time to serve in some categories. As a rough guide to interpretation, where the increase was obviously not constant between March 1990 and February 1996, the years with the highest and lowest median together with the change in median (measured in months) are given in brackets.

There was a statistically significant decrease in the median at the 1% level for:

- Major Assault (a change of 3mths from 1991 to 1994)
- Armed Robbery (a change of 18mths from 1991 to 1995)
- Other Robbery (a change of 13mths from 1990 to 1994)
- Total Robbery (a change of 17mths from 1990 to 1995)

- Break, Enter and Steal (a change of 3mths from 1990 to 1995)
- Breach Recognizance (a change of 2mths from 1990 to 1995)
- Breach Periodic Detention Order (a change of 3mths from 1990 to 1993)
- Total Order (a change of 3mths from 1990 to 1991)

There were statistically significant decreases in median shortest time to

serve at the 5% level for:

- Total Assault (a change of less than 1mth from 1990 to 1995)
- Sexual (Adults) (a change of 11mths from 1991 to 1992)
- Total Sexual (a change of 6mths from 1991 to 1992)
- Fraud (a change of 3mths from 1993 to 1994)
- Total Property (a change of 2mths from 1990 to 1992)
- Drive under Influence (a change of 2mths from 1990 to 1994)

For females there were decreases between January 1990 and February 1996 in the median shortest time to serve for the property category (significant at the 1% level with an decrease of 2mths from 1991 to 1995) and the robbery category (significant at the 5% level with a decrease of 18mth from 1990 to 1995).

Again, in many cases the median shortest time to serve changed slightly according to the seasonal group, usually being shorter during the summer quarter (December, January, February).

Indeterminate Sentences

Between January, 1990 and February, 1996, 27 offenders (all males) were counted as being convicted and given a life sentence for murder or attempted murder, 18 being convicted in 1990. A total of 28 forensic patients (again all males) were counted during the period, with 23 for homicide and the others for sexual assault, robbery, and importing drugs.

1 Introduction

The number of inmates starting a custodial sentence and the length of time they will serve is of prime importance to the NSW Department of Corrective Services.

Changes in the number of inmates starting an imprisonment episode may be due to changes in court throughput (total sitting hours or the type of case heard) or to changes in the proportion of convicted offenders given custodial sentences. That is, an increase in the number of inmates does not indicate an increased crime rate. A fuller discussion of the factors affecting the reception rate is given in a monograph published by the Judicial Commission (Johnston and Spears, 1996).

Changes in the length of time to be served within an offence category may be due to changes in the proportion of convicted offenders given custodial sentences or changes to the length of sentence given. It is of particular interest to look for changes in sentence length following the introduction of the Sentencing Act, 1989, which made a major change to how NSW sentences were structured.

1.1 NSW Sentencing Act 1989

The NSW Sentencing Act 1989 commenced on 25th September, 1989. This legislation abolished the previous good behaviour remission system whereby most inmates were routinely released before the end of their designated sentence.

In addition, prior to amendments to the Sentencing Act 1989, Prisons Act 1952 and Crimes Act 1900 proclaimed on 12th

January, 1990, a convicted offender sentenced to imprisonment for life had the possibility of being released to licence by the Release On Licence Board under section 463 of the Crimes Act 1900. A previous study showed that the time served before release by 161 inmates serving a life sentence ("lififers") covered by this legislation ranged from 3 to 34 years with an average of 11.7 years (Nguyen Da Huong and Thompson, 1989).

For people whose case commenced after 12th January, 1990 life imprisonment was for the term of their natural life. The new legislation set out conditions whereby the previous "lififers" could apply to have their life sentence changed to a determinate sentence.

It was not intended by the government that the new sentencing structure would increase the actual time served in custody. (Gorta and Eyland, 1990).

A previous study (Gorta and Eyland, 1990) looked at the length of custodial sentences from October 1989 to March 1990, directly after the commencement of the Act. The researchers estimated an increase in average minimum time served from 244 days before the introduction of the Sentencing Act to 294 days after the Sentencing Act.

It was estimated this would ultimately result in an overall increase of approximately 525 sentenced inmates held on any day. It was also estimated that the increase would be most marked between February 1990 and March 1991.

Of considerable interest is whether sentence lengths were later reduced as the judiciary realised that effective time

to serve had been increased.

1.2 Number of Sentenced Inmates in Custody

The number of sentenced inmates depends both on the time served and the reception rate. Since no reliable count of reception rates prior to 1989/90 is available, it is not possible to determine if the increase in sentenced inmate numbers immediately after the introduction of the Sentencing Act in September, 1989 was due to changes in sentence length, changes in reception rate or a combination of the two. In actual fact, the number of sentenced inmates (including appellants) had been increasing since the beginning of 1989 (see Figure 1).

The increase of 781 sentenced inmates in custody between 4th February, 1990 and 31st March, 1991 is consistent with the prediction of the sharp increase made by Gorta and Eyland (1990).

The increase continued to a maximum of 5663 in October, 1993. Since then the number of sentenced inmates (apart from seasonal fluctuations) has been slowly decreasing.

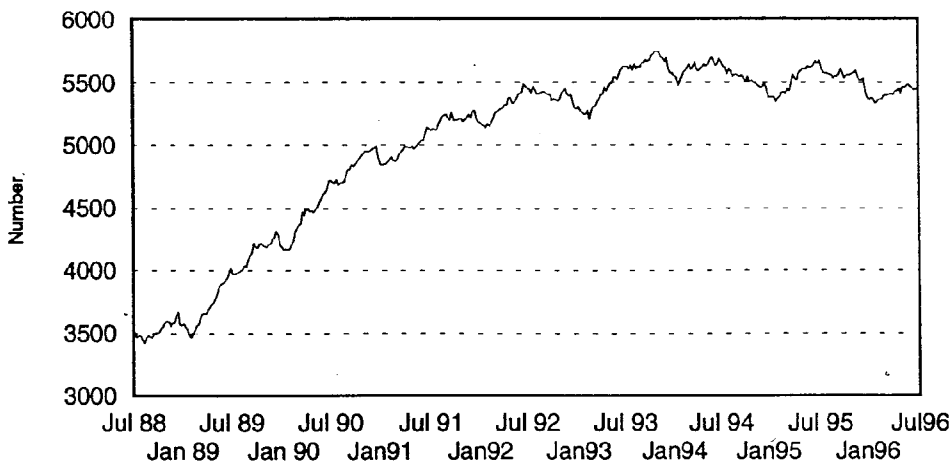
It is predicted that this decrease will continue for the foreseeable future (Thompson, 1996).

A study on the effect of the Sentencing Act on the size of the population concluded that the Act was not the only factor behind the increases in the prison population over the last ten years (Johnston and Spears).

1.3 Court Statistics

The number of court cases resulting in a custodial sentence, and the length of sentence imposed, is of importance to people monitoring the criminal justice system. These court statistics (referring to individual cases) will not be the same as the correctional statistics (referring to total imprisonment episodes) since an inmate may be serving more than one sentence at a time, either concurrently or accumulatively. Also an inmate may serve a longer or shorter time than the original sentence because of an appeal. However trends in court statistics should be similar to trends in correctional statistics unless the number of convictions making up each custodial episode changes.

Figure 1: Sentenced Inmates in Full-time Custody



Fine Defaulters Included

The court statistics published for the period January, 1990 to June, 1994 (NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research, 1994) were reported as showing the following.

Local Courts:

- a decrease in the total number of people sentenced to imprisonment.
- a decrease in the average length of imprisonment for males.

District Courts:

- no change in the number of people sentenced to imprisonment.
- no change in the average length of imprisonment.

Supreme Court:

- a decrease in the number of people sentenced to imprisonment.
- an increase in the average length of imprisonment.

However it is not possible to gather from this data whether the sentences handed down for the same type of offence have been increasing or decreasing.

1.4 Aim of the Study

The aim of this study was to look for trends in the number of inmates starting a custodial sentence between January, 1990 and February, 1996 and their shortest time to serve.

2 Methodology

2.1 Data Set

Data for the following variables was retrieved from the computerised Offender Record System of the NSW Department of Corrective Services for all inmates received with a conviction between 1st January, 1990 and 29th February, 1996. People in custody solely for the purpose of fine default and periodic detainees were excluded.

Variables:

- Gender.
- Conviction date (date of the first conviction in the imprisonment episode).
- Most serious offence of the imprisonment episode (MSO):
 - Grouped into ten major categories: homicide, assault, sexual offences, robbery, fraud, property offences, driving offences, offences against good order, drug offences and other offences.
 - Grouped into 33 subcategories (including the ten major categories) listed in table A1.
- Earliest date of release.
- Start date (first sentence start date in imprisonment episode).

In order to adjust for seasonal effects due to court vacations and the Christmas

Summer (December to February),
Autumn (March to May),
Winter (June to August).

- the square of the seasonal group number,
- Season1, Season2, Season3, Season4.

This lead to five more variables:

- Season1 (1 if season is Spring, 0 otherwise).
- Season2 (1 if season is Summer, 0 otherwise).
- Season3 (1 if season is Autumn, 0 otherwise).
- Season4 (1 if season is Winter, 0 otherwise).
- Seasonal group (numbered from 1 to 24 starting with Autumn 1990 and ending with Summer 1995/96).

2.2 Analysis

For the male inmates the analysis was carried out separately for each of the 33 MSO categories. For the female inmates, because the numbers were smaller, the analysis was carried out in nine MSO categories, amalgamating the few sexual offenders into the 'other' category.

2.2.1 Number of People

A regression technique was used to test for changes in conviction numbers between March, 1990 and February, 1996 as follows.

Dependent variable:

- the number of cases for each seasonal group.

Independent variables:

- the seasonal group number,

The seasonal group number (1 to 24) represented a linear time scale from Autumn 1990 to Summer 1995/96. A squared term was used in the regression to test for non-linearity. This was because changes might occur during only part of the time. The four season terms were used to adjust for any seasonal effects.

2.2.2 Shortest Time to Serve

Since the data refers to a custodial episode rather than a single sentence, long sentences may be the result of several shorter sentences. For this reason the median shortest time to serve was used rather than the average.

For people with determinate sentences the shortest time to serve was calculated as the time between the episode start date and the earliest release date. Shortest time to serve was not applicable for people with indeterminate sentences (lifers and forensic patients) who had no earliest release date.

The median time to serve was calculated for each seasonal group for people with determinate sentences.

A regression technique was used to test for changes in median time to serve between March, 1990 and February, 1996 as follows. The same independent variables were used as for the number of people.

Dependent variable:

- the median time to serve

Dependent variable:

- the median time to serve

Independent variables:

- the seasonal group number,
- the square of the seasonal group number,
- Season1, Season2, Season3, Season4.

Changes in the median time to serve could be due to changes in the number of people given short or long sentences or the proportion of people who received short sentences or both. To assist interpretation, where there were statistically significant differences in the median shortest time to serve, the sentences were divided roughly into 'shorter' and 'longer' according to the median. The number of people with 'shorter' sentences and the number of people with 'longer' sentences in each seasonal group was then graphed.

3. Results

3.1 Number of People

The number of people convicted in each calendar year 1990 to 1995 is given in the Appendix together with an indication of the significance of the regression over time (Tables A1 and A2).

The trends found are illustrated by Figures 2 and 3.

For males there was a statistically significant increase in the number of offenders convicted between March 1990 and February 1996 in certain categories. In many cases a statistically significant squared term in the regression indicated significant changes that were not linear.

As a rough guide to interpretation, the years with the least and the most numbers together with the difference in numbers between the lowest and highest years (from Table A1) are given in brackets.

Statistically significant at 1% level:

MSO Group	Years of lowest and highest reception rates	Increase in reception rate
Major Assault	1990 - 1995	157
Total Assault	1990 - 1995	247
Sexual (Adults)	1990 - 1993	101
Total Sexual	1990 - 1993	100

Other Robbery	1990 - 1994	72
Total Robbery	1990 - 1994	118
Breach Domestic Violence Order	1990 - 1994	77
Breach Periodic Detention Order	1990 - 1994	182
Sell Drug	1991 - 1993	139
Total Offences	1990 - 1995	487

Statistically significant at 5% level:

MSO Group	Years of lowest and highest reception rates	Increase in reception rate
Other Assault	1993 - 1995	108
Cultivate/ Make Drug	1990 - 1993	32

There was a statistically significant decrease in the number of male offenders convicted between March 1990 and February 1996 in some categories (all significant at 1% level). Again, the years with the most and the least numbers together with the difference between these years (see Table A1) are given in brackets as a rough guide to interpretation.

MSO Group	Years of lowest and highest reception rates	Decrease in reception rate
Homicide	1992 - 1995	28
Drive under influence	1990 - 1994	123
Breach traffic Licencing	1991 - 1995	109
Total Driving	1990 - 1994	172
Use drug	1992 - 1994	33

For females there was no significant change in the number of convicted offenders.

For many cases the number of convictions changed according to the season, in most cases being lower during the summer quarter (December, January, February).

Note that the only offence category where the numbers still seemed to be increasing at summer 1995/96 was assault.

3.2 Shortest Time to Serve

Frequency distributions for shortest time to serve for different MSO categories are shown for males and females separately in Figures A1 and A2 in the Appendix.

Typically for any offence group except homicide, the time to serve fell within a relatively narrow range with a few much longer sentences. For example, about 70% of the major assault category had a shortest time to serve of less than a year, although some times were as long as three years. Since the data refers to a

custodial episode rather than a single sentence, these long sentences could be made of several shorter sentences. Sentences for homicide ranged from five years to life imprisonment.

The median shortest time to serve is shown in the Appendix together with an indication of the significance of the regression over time (Tables A3 and A4).

For the males there were **decreases** between March, 1990 and February, 1996 in the median shortest time to serve in certain categories. In many cases a significant squared term in the regression indicated changes that were not linear. As a rough guide to interpretation, the years with the highest and lowest median together with the difference in median (see Table A3) are given in brackets.

There were statistically significant decreases in the median at the 1% level for:

MSO Group	Years of lowest and highest median	Decrease in median time to serve
Major Assault	1991 - 1994	3 mths
Armed Robbery	1991 - 1995	18 mths
Other Robbery	1990 - 1994	13 mths
Total Robbery	1990 - 1995	17 mths
Break, Enter, Steal	1990 - 1995	3 mths

Breach Recognizance	1990 - 1995	2 mths
Breach Periodic Detention Order	1990 - 1993	3 mths
Total Order	1990 - 1991	3 mths

To help assess what had caused the decrease in the median for these MSO groups, trends in the number of people with 'shorter' sentences and 'longer' sentences are shown in Figure A3.

For major assault, other robbery and breach recognizance the number of 'shorter' sentences increased while the number 'longer' sentences stayed relatively constant.

For break, enter, steal and armed robbery the number of 'shorter' sentences increased while the number of 'longer' sentences decreased.

For breach periodic detention order the number of both 'shorter' and 'longer' sentences increased.

Figure 2: Number of Convicted Inmates Received - Males

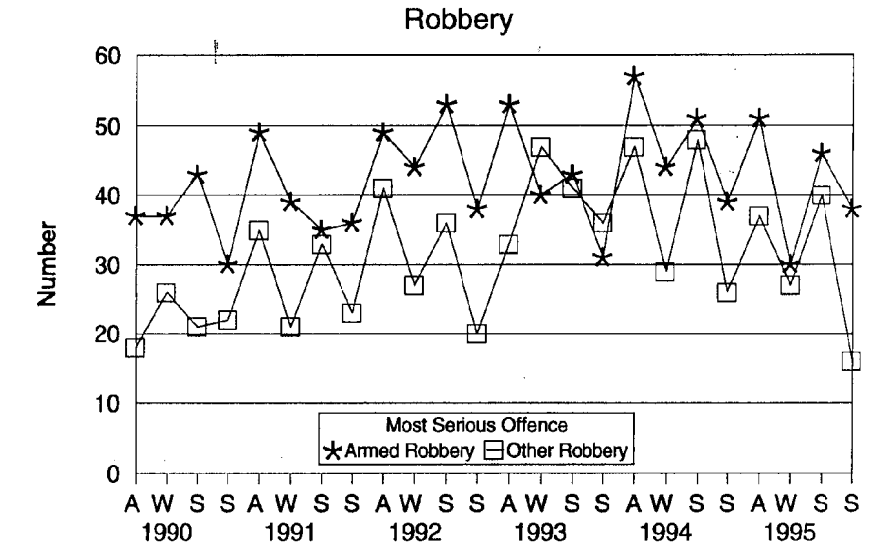
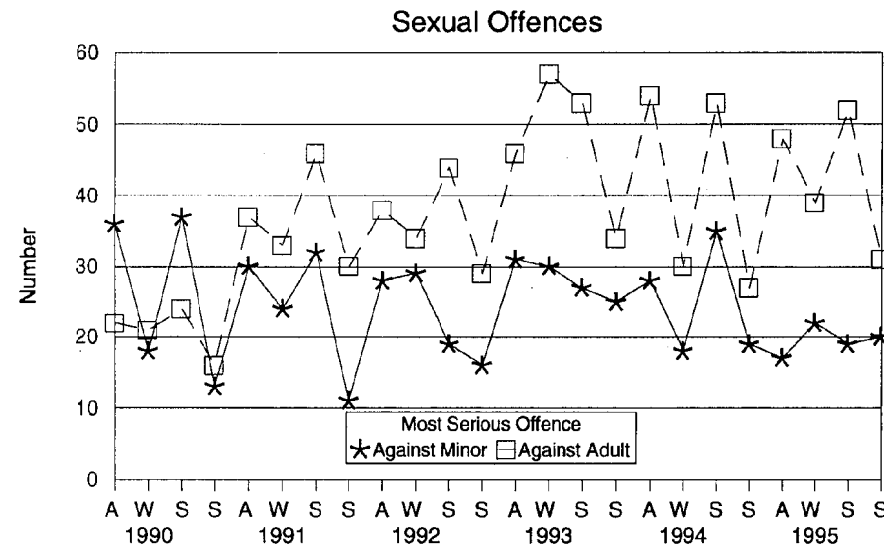
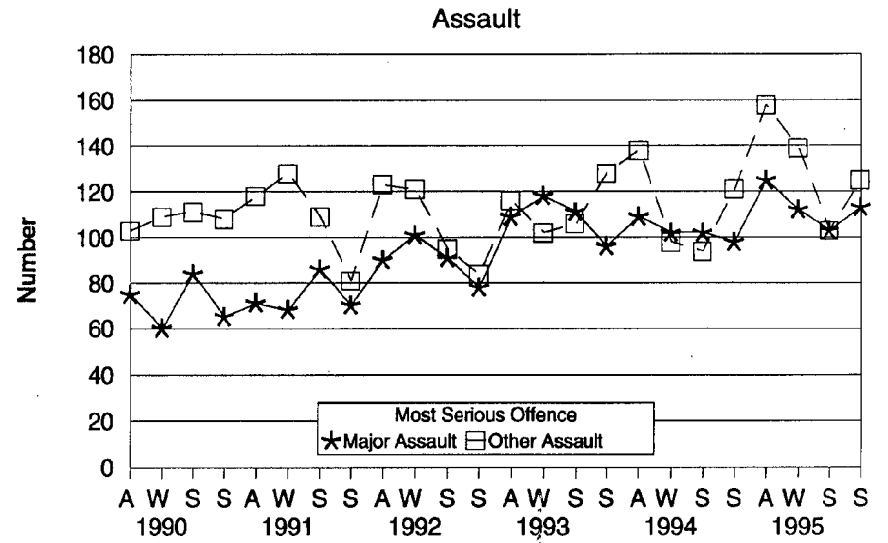
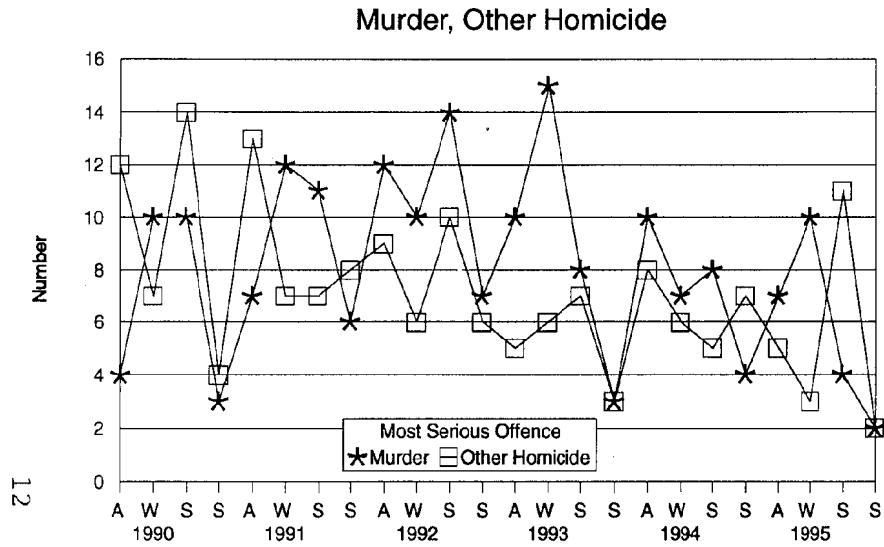


Figure 2 (cont): Number of Convicted Inmates Received - Males

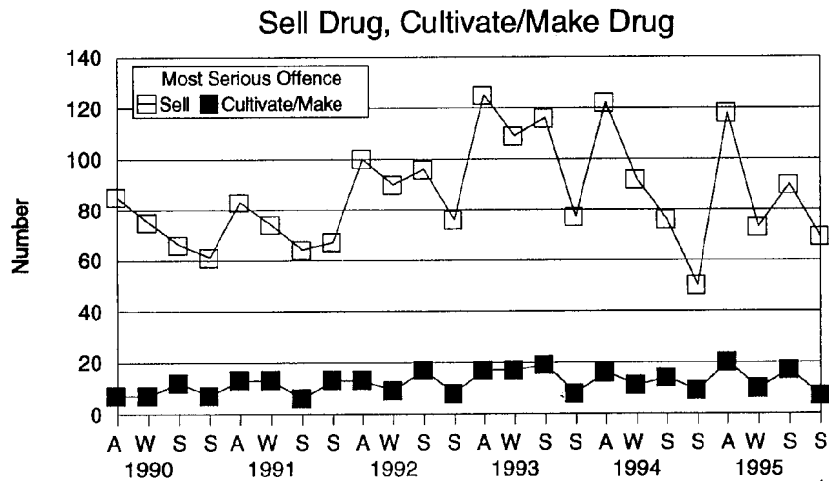
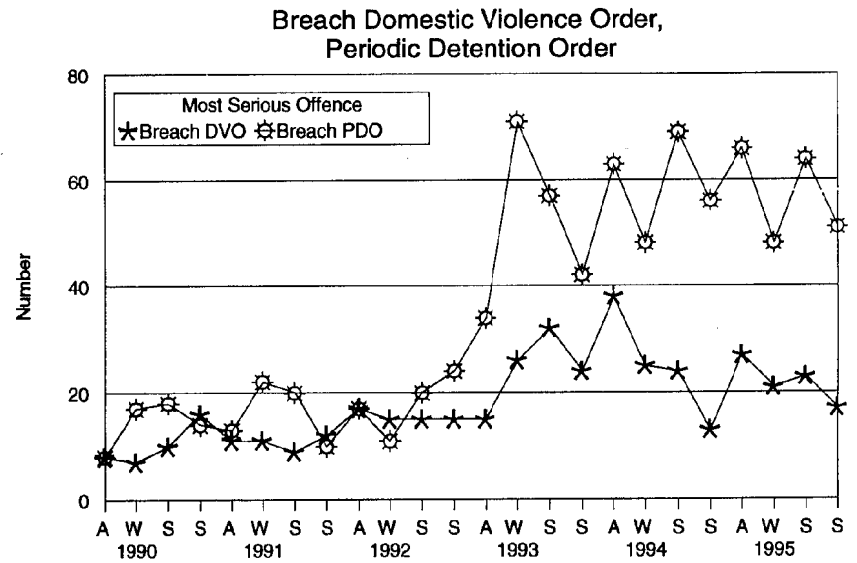
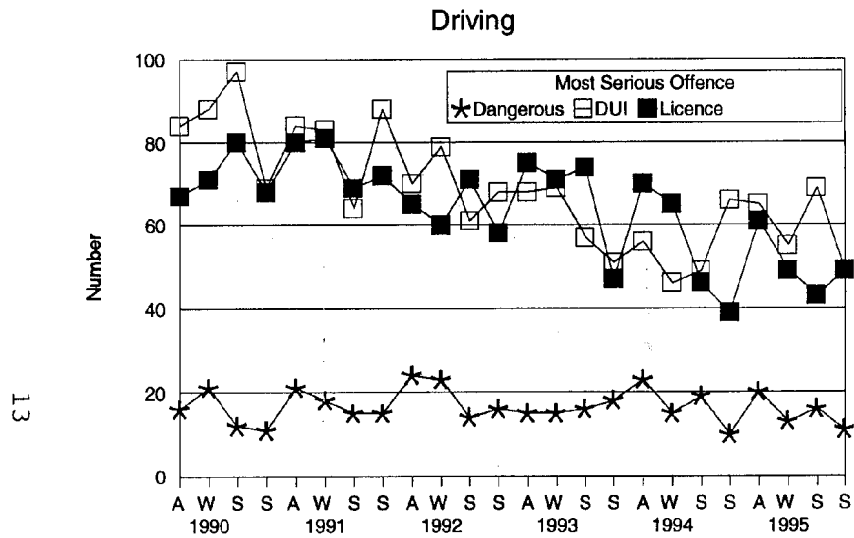
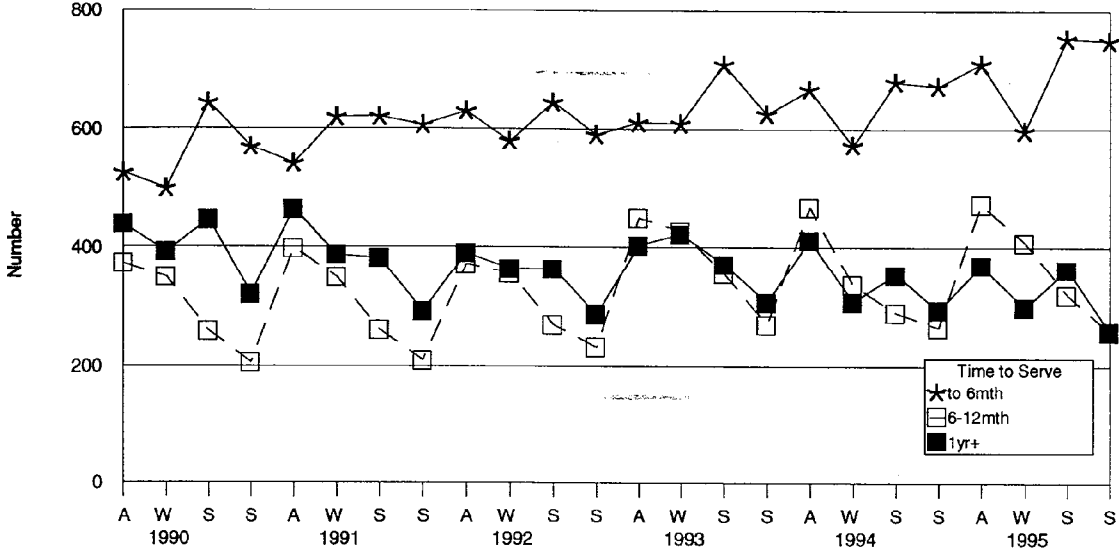
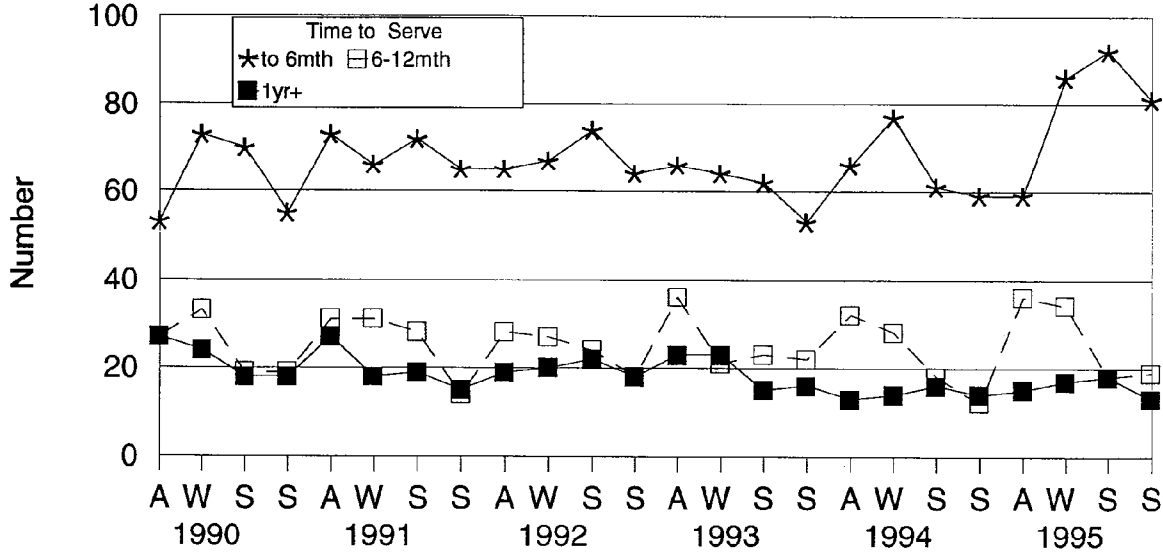


Figure 3: Total Number of Convicted Inmates Received

Males



Females



There was a statistically significant decrease in median shortest time to serve at the 5% level for:

MSO Group	Years of lowest and highest medians	Decrease in median time to serve
Total Assault	1990 - 1995	1 mth
Sexual (Adults)	1991 - 1992	11 mths
Total Sexual	1991 - 1992	6 mths
Fraud	1993 - 1994	3 mths
Total Property	1990 - 1992	2 mths
Drive Under Influence	1990 - 1994	2 mths

For the females there were decreases between January 1990 and February 1996 in the median shortest time to serve for the property category (significant at the 1% level with an decrease of 2 mths from 1991 to 1995) and the robbery category (significant at the 5% level with a decrease of 18 mths from 1990 to 1995).

Figure A2 shows 'shorter' and 'longer' time to be served for the property category.

Again in many cases the median shortest time to serve changed slightly according to the seasonal group, usually being shorter during the summer quarter (December, January, February).

3.3 Indeterminate Sentences

Between January, 1990 and February, 1996, 27 offenders (all males) were counted as being convicted and given a life sentence for murder or attempted murder, 18 being convicted in 1990. A total of 28 forensic patients (again all males) were counted during the period, with 23 for homicide and the others for sexual assault, robbery, and importing drugs.

4 Discussion

The number of people given custodial sentences in any time period is affected by such factors as the crime rate, the arrest rate, the conviction rate, the time from arrest to conviction (incorporating court delays) and whether sentences tend to be custodial or non-custodial. Hence it is important not to draw conclusions about trends in crime rates from the correctional statistics in this report.

Similarly the median sentence length for an offence category in any time period (assuming the distribution of offences does not change) will decrease if the rate of finalising cases increases at Local Courts (hearing less serious cases) compared to District Courts or if short custodial sentences are given instead of non-custodial options. Therefore a decrease in median sentence length for custodial sentences does not necessarily mean that sentences have become less severe.

Thus deductions about crime rates and sentencing patterns as a whole should be based on police and court statistics, not only on data about people with custodial sentences.

4.1 Number of People

There was an overall increase in the number of inmates starting custodial sentences during the period 1990 to 1995. However as the increase was for people with shorter sentences and there has been a decrease in the number of people with over a year to serve, the overall inmate population is now decreasing. There was no significant increase in the number of female inmates starting sentences.

There have been increases since 1990 in some violent offence groups (assault, robbery and sexual offences against adults) and for some drug offence groups (selling drugs and cultivating or making drugs). However it should be noted that except for assault there is no indication that these increasing trends are continuing.

The increase between the years 1990 to 1994 in the number of people starting sentences for breaching a domestic violence order or a periodic detention order is probably the result of increased orders and improved procedures for dealing with a breach. For example, the Periodic Detention of Prisoners (Amendment) Act 1992, which commencing on the 22nd March, 1993, facilitated procedures for breaching the periodic detention order for detainees who did not attend satisfactorily. Although the numbers may still be increasing, the increase shown is small (an additional 91 inmates in 1994 compared to 1993).

The apparent decrease between 1993 and 1994 in the number of people starting sentences for driving and traffic offences, especially for the category of driving under the influence could be due to changes in policing or policy.

Note that counting correctional data by conviction date excludes people with a conviction who had not been received into custody before the date the data was retrieved from the Offender Records System (April, 1996 in this case). This will mainly apply to people whose parole has been breached for technical violations such as failure to report and people whose periodic detention order has been revoked at an ex parte hearing. In these

on the ORS until the person was apprehended, probably for another offence. Thus if the retrieval procedure was repeated at a later date, more cases would probably be retrieved, particularly for 1995 and 1996.

4.2 Comparison with Published Court Statistics

Since one person may have an imprisonment episode made up of several convictions, the trends of people starting a custodial sentence indicated by the custodial data reported in this paper are only roughly comparable with trends reported by the NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research from the individual cases finalised by the courts.

While the court statistics show a decreased number of cases from the local courts and the Supreme Court where the offender was sentenced to imprisonment between 1990 and 1994, the correctional statistics show an overall increase in the number of offenders starting sentences. These two trends would be consistent if there were fewer multiple convictions.

The decrease in average length of imprisonment shown by the court statistics for local courts is consistent with the decrease in the median time to serve shown by the correctional data. The increase in average length of imprisonment handed down by the Supreme Court shown by the court statistics is consistent with the increased number of long determinate sentences due to fewer life sentences shown by the correctional data.

4.3 Trends in Time to Serve

If the sentences imposed were decreased

when it was realised that effective time to serve had increased after the commencement of the Sentencing Act, it would be expected that median time to serve would decrease between about 1990 and 1992.

This was the case for the offence categories of sexual offences against adults and robbery. Both offence categories were for violent offences with long median sentences. This contrasts with the other two offence categories with long median sentences (apart from homicide) of sexual offences against minors and import drugs. Here there was no significant change in median time to serve between 1990 and 1995.

Because federal offenders are included, inmates in the import drug category especially may have been sentenced under federal laws.

The decrease in the number of life sentences imposed is consistent with the change to a life sentence being for the term of natural life.

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TABLE A1: NUMBER OF INMATES - MALES

MOST SERIOUS OFFENCE	CONVICTION YEAR						SIGNIFICANCE OF VARIABLE IN REGRESSION		
	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	SEASYR	SSYR	SEASON
Homicide	65	72	76	57	53	48		** -ve	seas1 ** -ve
Major Assault	274	294	359	411	425	431	** +ve		seas1 ** -ve
Other Assault	430	455	414	412	473	520	* +ve	* +ve	
Total Assault	704	749	773	823	898	951	** +ve	** +ve	
Sexual on Minors	110	98	91	109	102	74			seas1 ** -ve
Sexual on Adults	86	137	145	187	168	166	** +ve	** -ve	seas1 ** -ve seas3 * -ve
Total Sexual	196	235	236	296	270	240	** +ve	* -ve	seas1 ** -ve seas3 * -ve
Armed Robbery	145	154	190	165	191	162			seas2 ** +ve seas * +ve
Other Robbery	86	113	131	144	158	123	** +ve	** -ve	seas1 ** -ve
Total Robbery	231	267	321	309	349	285	** +ve	** -ve	seas1 ** -ve seas3 ** -ve
Fraud	235	242	229	232	233	226			seas1 ** -ve
Break, Enter, Steal	697	746	714	733	665	749			seas1 ** -ve seas2 ** +ve
Larceny Motor Vehicle	345	343	276	294	315	308			seas2 * +ve
Other Steal	329	334	299	343	282	309			
Receiving	207	206	165	173	196	233			
Other Property	99	78	85	72	84	91			
Total Property	1677	1707	1539	1615	1542	1690			

SEASYR = Seasonal group number
 *, ** = Significant at 5 %, 1 % level
 seas1 = Autumn seas2 = Winter seas3 = Spring seas4 = Summer

SSYR = Square of season group number
 -ve/+ve = Variable had negative/positive regression coefficient

TABLE A1 CTD: NUMBER OF INMATES - MALES

MOST SERIOUS OFFENCE	CONVICTION YEAR						SIGNIFICANCE OF VARIABLE IN REGRESSION		
	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	SEASYR	SSYR	SEASON
Dangerous Driving	65	67	71	67	71	58			seas2 * +ve
Drive Under Influence	328	315	282	258	205	254	** -ve		
Licencing	281	304	265	269	226	195		** -ve	seas1 * -ve
Total Driving	674	686	618	594	502	507	** -ve		seas1 * -ve
Breach Domestic Violence Order	32	48	59	88	109	88	** +ve		
Breach Recognizance	95	124	130	142	125	113			
Breach Community Service Order	70	101	100	108	97	111			
Breach Periodic Detention Order	52	65	66	187	234	228	** +ve		
Breach Parole Order	334	186	174	194	247	326			
Other Order	130	125	116	101	98	133			
Total Order	713	649	645	820	910	999		** +ve	seas1 * -ve
Use /Possess Drug	75	78	88	84	55	58		** -ve	
Sell Drug	272	286	369	411	357	345	** +ve	** -ve	seas1 ** -ve seas2 ** +ve
Cultivate/Make Drug	33	40	50	65	46	55	* +ve		seas1 ** -ve
Import/Export Drug	52	65	43	64	51	39			seas2 * +ve
Total Drug	432	469	550	624	509	497			seas1 * -ve seas2 ** +ve
Other Offences	84	90	72	75	68	55		** -ve	seas2 ** +ve
TOTAL	5011	5166	5059	5445	5334	5498	** +ve		seas1 ** -ve seas2 * +ve

TABLE A2: NUMBER OF INMATES - FEMALES

MOST SERIOUS OFFENCE	CONVICTION YEAR						SIGNIFICANCE OF VARIABLE IN REGRESSION		
	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	SEASYR	SSYR	SEASON
Homicide	7	4	3	5	8	5			
Assault	41	36	31	43	42	46			
Robbery	16	10	29	11	15	14			
Fraud	58	59	58	70	63	51			seas3 * +ve
Property	199	194	172	169	149	190			seas1 * -ve
Driving	9	16	7	15	17	14			seas2 * +ve
Order	79	77	69	54	65	96			
Drug	43	47	71	54	54	41			
Other	6	8	5	10	11	5			seas3 * +ve
TOTAL	458	451	445	431	424	462			

SEASYR = Seasonal group number SSYR = Square of season group number
 *, ** = Significant at 5 %, 1 % level -ve/+ve = Variable had negative/positive regression coefficient
 seas1 = Autumn seas2 = Winter seas3 = Spring seas4 = Summer

TABLE A3: MEDIAN TIME TO SERVE (MONTHS) - MALES

MOST SERIOUS OFFENCE	CONVICTION YEAR						SIGNIFICANCE OF VARIABLE IN REGRESSION		
	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	SEASYR	SSYR	SEASON
Homicide	65	71	117	119	95	107			
Major Assault	8	9	8	8	6	6		** -ve	seas4 * -ve
Other Assault	4	5	3	3	3	3			
Total Assault	5	5	5	5	5	5	* -ve		
Sexual on Minors	29	29	26	23	31	23			
Sexual on Adults	29	29	18	23	21	23	* -ve		
Total Sexual	29	29	23	23	23	23	* -ve		
Armed Robbery	41	41	32	31	30	23	** -ve		
Other Robbery	30	23	18	19	17	17	** -ve	** +ve	
Total Robbery	37	32	24	24	21	20	** -ve	** +ve	seas1 * +ve
Fraud	8	8	6	8	5	6	* -ve		seas1 -ve *
Break, Enter, Steal	11	9	9	9	9	8	** -ve		seas1 -ve *
Larceny Motor Vehicle	6	6	6	7	6	6			
Other Steal	5	5	5	5	4	5			
Receiving	5	5	5	5	5	5			
Other Property	5	5	7	5	5	4			
Total Property	8	7	6	7	6	6	* -ve		seas1 * -ve

SEASYR = Seasonal group number SSYR = Square of seasonal group number
 *, ** = Significant at 5 %, 1 % level -ve/+ve = Variable had negative/positive regression coefficient
 seas1 = Autumn seas2 = Winter seas3 = Spring seas4 = Summer

TABLE A3 CTD: MEDIAN TIME TO SERVE (MONTHS) - MALES

MOST SERIOUS OFFENCE	CONVICTION YEAR						SIGNIFICANCE OF VARIABLE IN REGRESSION		
	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	SEASYR	SSYR	SEASON
Dangerous Driving	6	8	8	6	6	7			
Drive Under Influence	5	4	4	4	3	4	* -ve		
Licencing	3	3	3	3	3	3			
Total Driving	4	4	3	4	3	4			seas1 * -ve
Breach Domestic Violence Order	2	2	1	2	2	2			
Breach Recognizance	6	5	5	5	5	4		** -ve	seas2 *+ve
Breach Community Service Order	3	3	3	2	2	4			
Breach Periodic Detention Order	7	7	5	4	5	5	** -ve	* +ve	
Breach Parole Order	13	13	11	11	10	11	** -ve	* +ve	seas2 ** -ve seas4 * -ve
Other Order	5	5	6	6	5	4			
Total Order	8	5	5	5	5	5	** -ve	* +ve	
Use Possess Drug	5	4	5	5	5	3			
Sell Drug	14	14	11	11	11	11			
Cultivate/Make Drug	11	13	11	13	17	11			
Import/Export Drug	47	54	42	47	47	47			seas4 ** -ve
Total Drug	14	15	11	11	11	11			
Other Offences	6	3	6	6	3	5			
TOTAL	8	7	7	7	7	6	** -ve		seas1* -ve

TABLE A4: MEDIAN SHORTEST TIME TO SERVE (MONTHS) - FEMALES

MOST SERIOUS OFFENCE	CONVICTION YEAR						SIGNIFICANCE OF VARIABLE IN REGRESSION		
	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	SEASYR	SSYR	SEASON
Homicide	45	83	53	42	80	35			
Assault	3	4	2	3	4	4			seas 4 ** +ve
Robbery	29	16	23	14	12	11	* -ve		
Fraud	5	6	5	5	5	5			seas 2 +ve *
Property	5	5	4	5	4	3		** -ve	
Driving	4	3	3	4	5	2			seas 3 +ve *
Order	5	4	4	4	5	5			
Drug	9	16	11	15	5	6			
Other	21	20	1	5	5	-			
TOTAL	5	5	5	5	5	5			

24

SEASYR = Seasonal group number SSYR = Square of season group number
 *, ** = Significant at 5 %, 1 % level -ve/+ve = Variable had negative/positive regression coefficient
 seas1 = Autumn seas2 = Winter seas3 = Spring seas4 = Summer Seasyr = Seasonal group number

Figure A1: Distribution of Shortest Time to Serve - Males

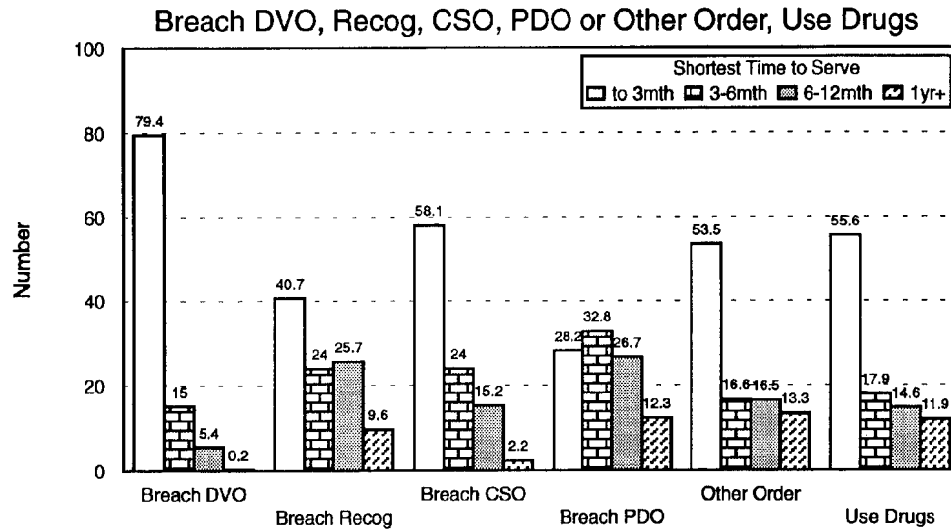
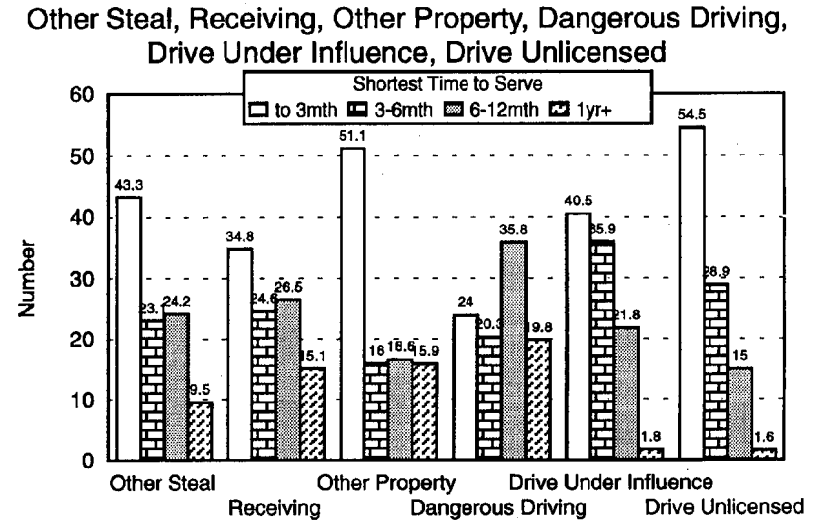
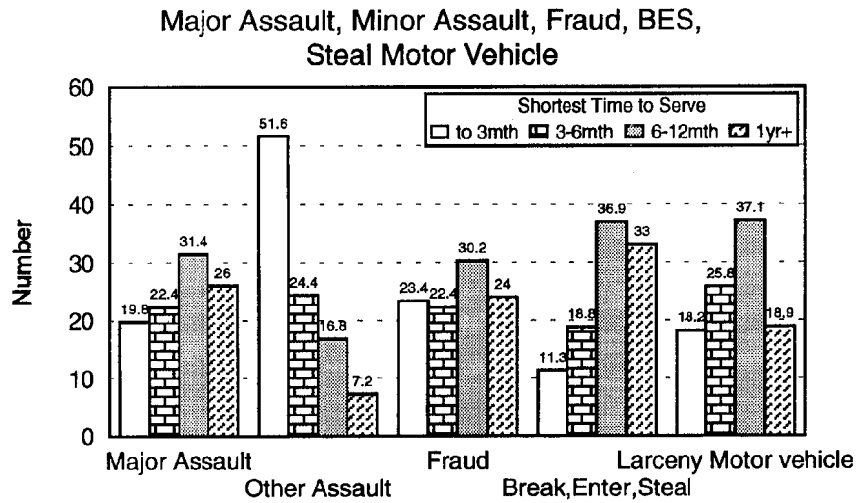
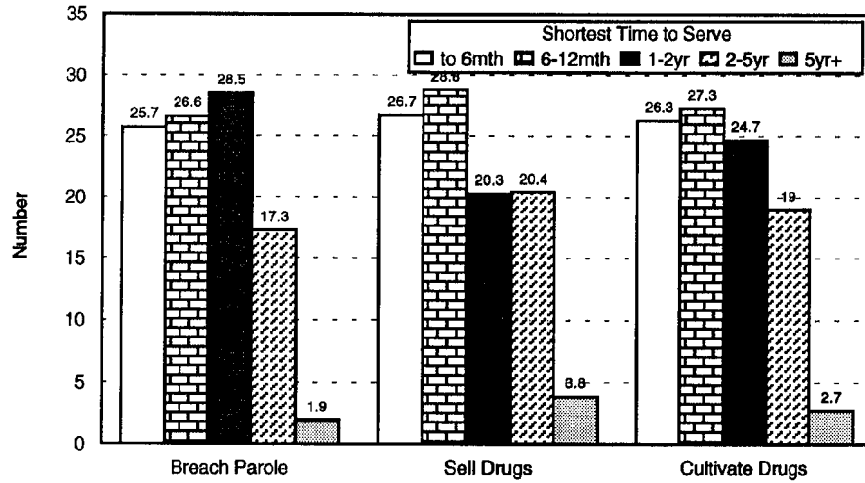
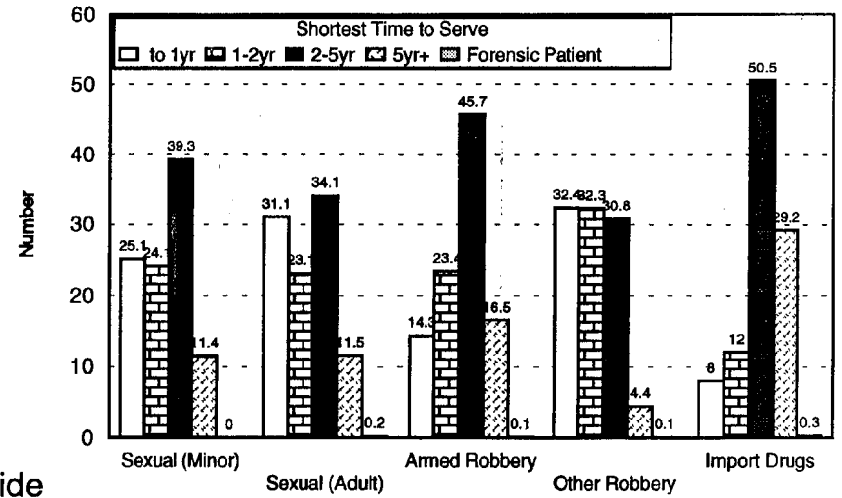


Figure A1 (Cont) : Distribution of Shortest Time to Serve - Males

Breach Parole, Sell Drugs, Cultivate Drugs



Sexual Offences on Minors or Adults, Armed Robbery, Other Robbery, Import Drugs



Homicide

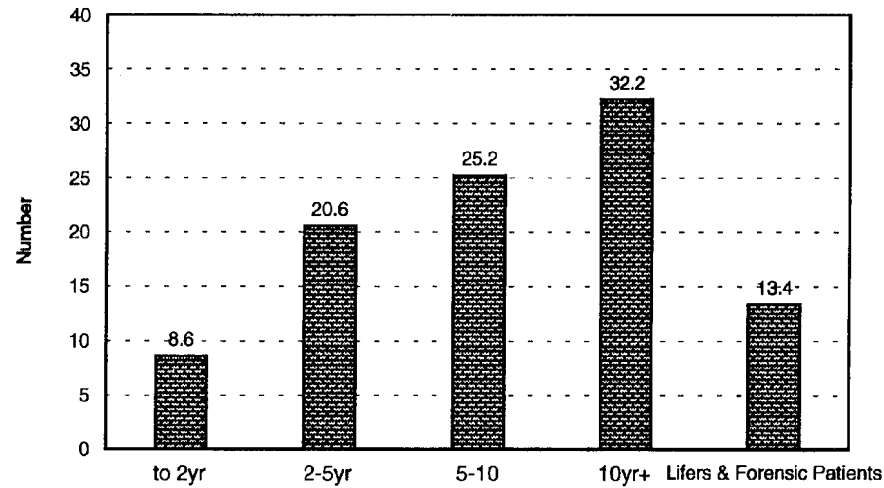


Figure A2: Distribution of Shortest Time to Serve - Females

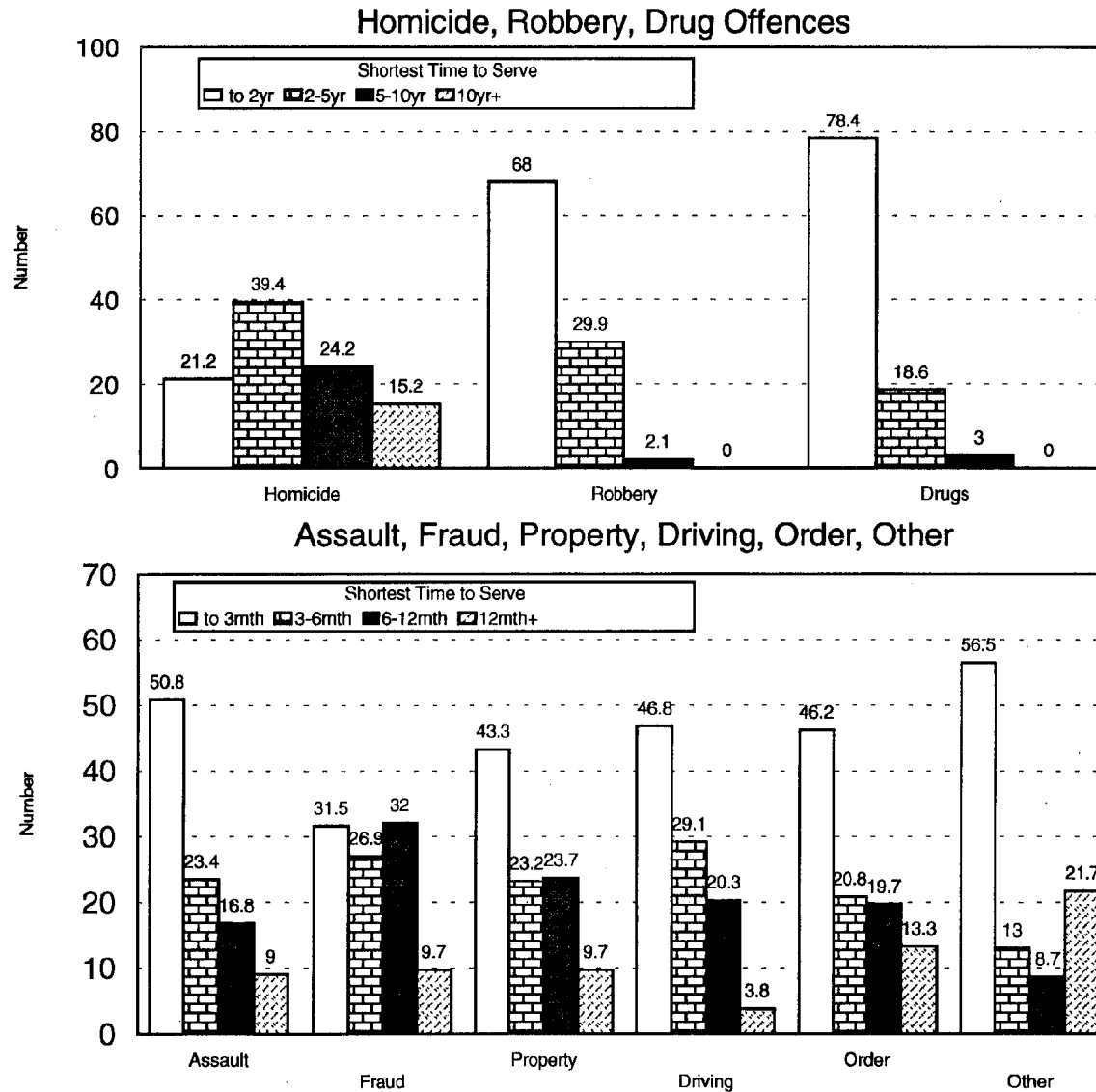
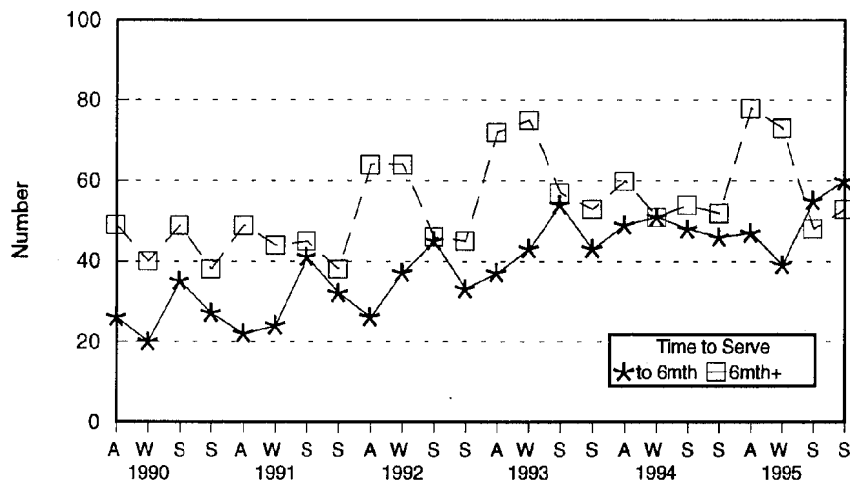
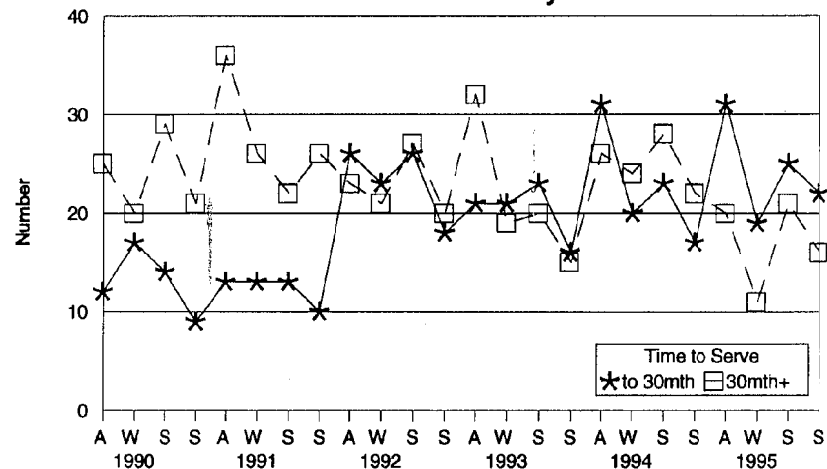


Figure A3: Number of Convicted Inmates Received by Time to Serve

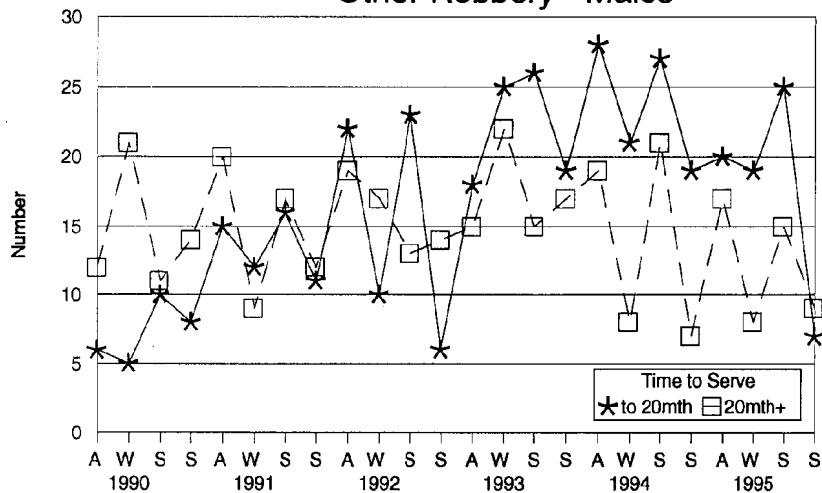
Major Assault - Males



Armed Robbery - Males



Other Robbery - Males



Break, Enter, Steal - Males

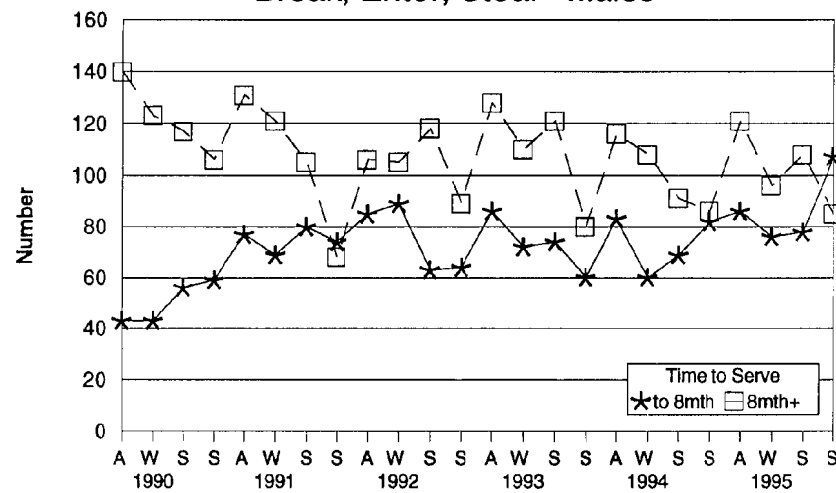


Figure A3 (Cont) : Number of Convicted Inmates Received by Time to Serve

