

## LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

**WRITTEN QUESTION**

Mrs Lambley to the Minister for Police, Fire and Emergency Services:

**Redux Child Sexual Assault and Indecent Assaults**

The data sources used for the provision of these statistics are PROMIS for Question 1, being the police case management system, and IJIS for Questions 2, 3 and 4, being the primary information tool for the justice environment in the Northern Territory. There is no reliable link between IJIS and PROMIS.

The data drawn in relation to charges relies upon the offence descriptor. Important points to consider are;

- Some offences within Northern Territory legislation (and relevant to this response) do not differentiate between adult victims or child victims and are therefore unable to be captured in data specific to sexual offences involving children. An example is; Sexual Intercourse Without Consent (section 192 of the Criminal Code Act 1983 (NT)).
- The preferred offence may not be indicative of the true number of offences that have occurred. For example, 'Sexual Relationship With Child' (section 131A of the Criminal Code Act 1983 (NT)) can be preferred when there has been sexual offences against a child on three or more occasions. Such circumstances would result in only one charge present in IJIS.

1. How many offences of sexual assault or indecent assault involving children as victims were reported in the last five financial years from 2016/17 to 2021/22? Please provide details on a year by year basis.

Number of recorded child sexual assault and indecent assault offences (based on offence descriptions as well as age of victim at offence date)

	12/13	13/14	14/15	15/16	16/17	17/18	18/19	19/20	20/21	21/22
No. of offences	164	174	204	173	204	194	154	156	165	144

Based on offence descriptions that indicate the victim is a child and the age of the victim at offence date.

2. How many charges of sexual assault or indecent assault involving children as victims were laid in the last five financial years from 2016/17 to 2021/22? Please provide details on a year by year basis.

Number of child sexual assault and indecent assault charges.

	12/13	13/14	14/15	15/16	16/17	17/18	18/19	19/20	20/21	21/22
No. of charges	237	217	313	194	196	173	156	148	236	132

Based only on offence descriptions that indicate the victim is a child.

Note: One report may result in multiple charges.

3. How many charges of sexual assault or indecent assault involving children as victims were proved in the last five financial years from 2016/17 to 2021/22? Please provide details on a year by year basis.

Number of child sexual assault and indecent assault offences proven by the courts.

	12/13	13/14	14/15	15/16	16/17	17/18	18/19	19/20	20/21	21/22
No. of offences	26	67	44	64	58	58	50	63	36	69

Based only on offence descriptions that indicate the victim is a child.

Note: One report may result in multiple offences.

4. How many of the offenders found guilty of sexual or indecent assault involving children as victims during the last five financial years had previously been found guilty of offending of this nature?

Number of offenders proven by the courts for child sexual assault or indecent assault offences.

	12/13	13/14	14/15	15/16	16/17	17/18	18/19	19/20	20/21	21/22
1 <sup>st</sup> time offender	13	26	26	40	38	26	23	27	21	25
Repeat offender	4	4	2	2	2	9	6	5	15	8
Total	17	30	28	42	40	35	29	32	22	33

Based only on offence descriptions that indicate the victim is a child.