

Question on Notice
No. 1096
Asked on 17 June 2011

MR CRANDON asked the Minister for Police, Corrective Services and Emergency Services (MR ROBERTS)—

With reference to offences for armed robbery and unarmed robbery—

- (1) How many offenders were charged by police from 1 January 2011 to 14 June 2011 (reported by offence type and police district)?
- (2) How many offenders charged in (1) had been previously convicted of a similar offence or an offence of violence?
- (3) How many offenders charged in (1) were either on probation, parole or a suspended sentence at the time of charging?

ANSWER:

The Government and the Queensland Police Service (QPS) share the community's concern about the current spate of armed robberies in the South East Police Region. Police have established a number of individual Operations to undertake intelligence-driven patrols and investigations to deter and apprehend the criminals involved.

Thanks to the increased funding by Labor, there are 14 new detectives (10 in Gold Coast and 4 at Coomera) that have been allocated to the South East region as part of an additional 45 police officers for the Region.

On 3 June 2011, the Police Commissioner announced the creation of a new Serious and Violent Crime Squad under the banner 'Taskforce Resolve'. This Taskforce will assist the South Eastern Region through the provision of specialist support to investigate and prevent serious and violent crime, including armed robbery.

Over the past ten years armed robberies have in fact decreased across the South Eastern Region. The recent spate of robberies is also in contrast to crime trends across Queensland, with the rate of armed robberies in Queensland decreasing by 51% in the past 10 years from 2000-01 to 2009-10. And not only have there been less robberies, police have been solving more with the state-wide clearance rate for armed robberies up 7.8% between 2008-09 and 2009-10.

- (1) The number of offenders charged (and the number of charges) for armed and unarmed robbery between 1 January and 14 June 2011 is shown in Table 1.
- (2) It is not possible to provide the number of offenders charged who had previously been charged with a similar offence, as charges prior to October 2008 were not stored as a statistical measure.
- (3) Data relating to offenders charged in (1) who were either on probation, parole or a suspended sentence isn't captured by the QPS for statistical purposes.

*It should also be noted that these figures are preliminary and are subject to change.

**Number of Persons Charged and Charges Preferred, Police District of Charging
Officer, 1 January 2011 to 14 June 2011⁽¹⁾⁽²⁾⁽³⁾**

Region/District	Persons Charged Count	Charges Preferred Count
FAR NORTHERN REGION	32	40
Cairns District	29	35
Cairns District Tactical Crime Squad	2	2
Mareeba District	1	3
NORTHERN REGION	13	19
Townsville District	13	19
CENTRAL REGION	20	23
Gladstone District	2	2
Mackay District	8	9
Rockhampton District	10	12
NORTH COAST REGION	48	58
Bundaberg District	2	3
Caboolture District	18	21
Gympie District	2	2
Maryborough district	5	5
Redcliffe District	5	5
Sunshine Coast District	16	22
SOUTHERN REGION	38	56
Ipswich District	26	44
Roma District	1	1
Toowoomba District	11	11
SOUTH EASTERN REGION	117	160
Coomera District	13	15
Gold Coast District	49	67
Logan District	55	78
METROPOLITAN NORTH REGION	99	114
Brisbane Central District	20	20
Brisbane West District	18	21
North Brisbane District	39	46
Pine Rivers District	22	27
METROPOLITAN SOUTH REGION	106	150
Oxley District	38	49
South Brisbane District	58	83
Wynnum District	10	18
OPERATIONS SUPPORT COMMAND	6	6
Specialist Support Branch	6	6
STATE CRIME OPERATIONS COMMAND	3	5
State Drug and Property Crime Group	3	5
QUEENSLAND	482	631

Note:

(1) Persons charged is a distinct count of persons with offences/charges linked (e.g. if a person has 4 offence/charges linked then the count is 1).

(2) Charges preferred counts the total number of charges preferred (i.e. persons charged with an offence), as determined by counting the number of Offence/Charge reports within QPRIME.(e.g. if a person has 4 offence/charges linked then the count is 4).

(3) These data are preliminary and may be subject to change.

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