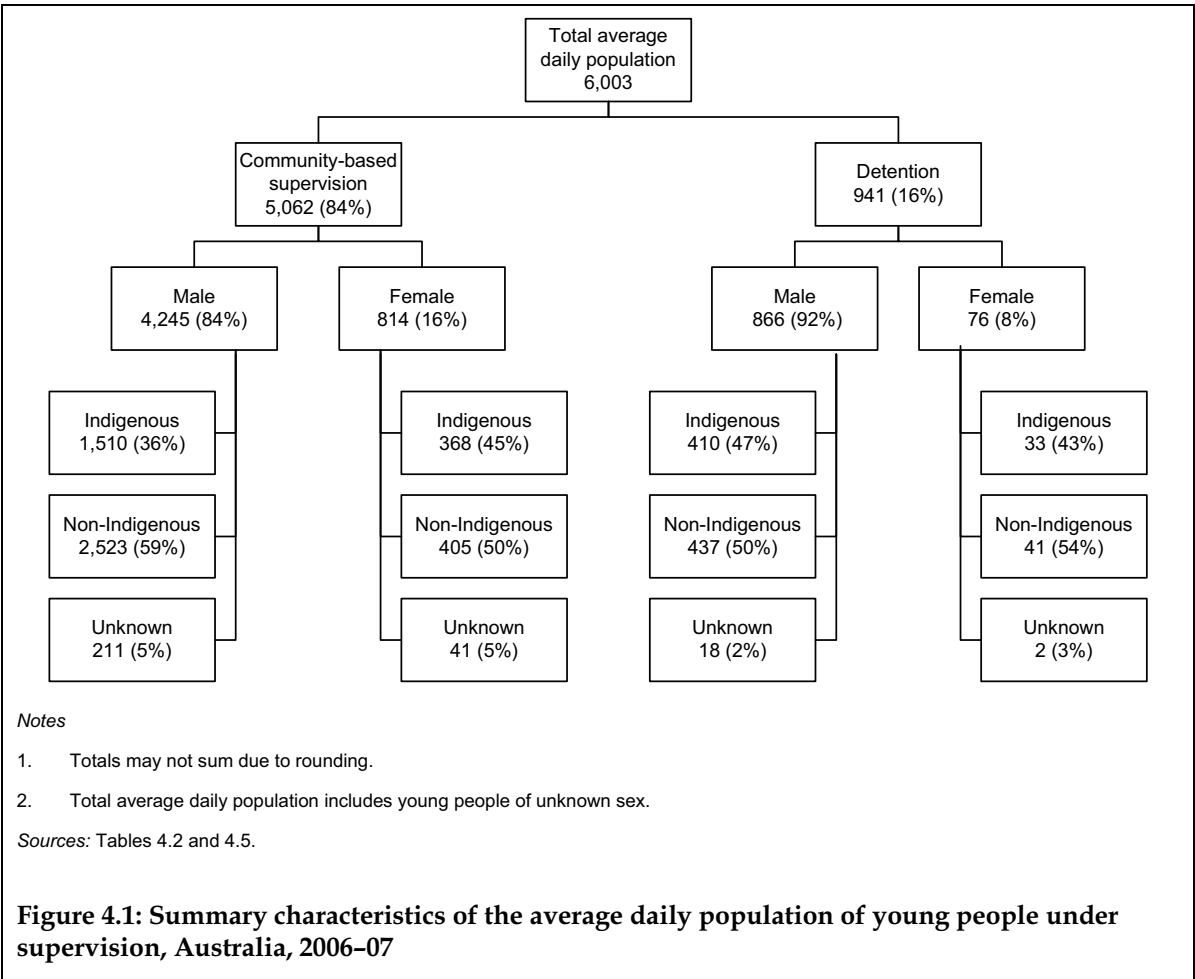


4 Average daily numbers

This chapter presents information on the average daily number of young people under juvenile justice supervision, both community-based and detention. The average daily number was calculated by summing the duration of all *episodes* during each year and dividing this total by 365.25. These numbers do not represent caseload figures. For example, if during 1 year there were 10 young people who each had a supervision lasting for 90 days, the total number of supervision days would be 900, with an average of 2.5 young people under supervision each day.

4.1 Summary

During 2006–07, there was an average of 6,003 young people under juvenile justice supervision each day. Of these, 84% (5,062) were in community-based supervision and 16% (941) were in detention, either on pre-sentence or sentenced detention (Figure 4.1). A greater proportion of those in detention on an average day were male and Indigenous compared with those in the community.



Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people were more likely to be younger than non-Indigenous young people, both in community-based supervision and in detention.

There has been little change in the overall daily average number of young people under juvenile justice supervision in Australia over the 4-year period 2003–04 to 2006–07. However, while the average daily number of young people in community-based supervision has decreased, the average daily number in detention has increased. In particular, the number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people in both community-based supervision and detention on an average day increased. In 2000–01, there were 1.5 times more non-Indigenous young people than Indigenous young people in detention on an average day. In 2006–07, there were nearly as many Indigenous young people in detention as non-Indigenous young people, despite Indigenous young people forming a much smaller proportion of the Australian population.

4.2 Average daily numbers in community supervision

On an average day in 2006–07, there were 5,062 young people in community-based supervision. Of these, 4,554 were aged 10–17 years. The majority were aged 15–17 years, and this was the case for all states and territories. However, 10% of those in community-based supervision on an average day were aged 18 years or older, and this varied among the states and territories, from 2% in Western Australia to 24% in Victoria.

Table 4.1: Average daily number of young people in community supervision by age, states and territories, 2006–07

Age	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aus
10	—	1	4	2	—	1	—	—	8
11	8	1	14	5	10	6	2	—	44
12	19	8	33	17	6	7	2	3	96
13	41	32	103	55	22	27	7	7	294
14	127	96	200	83	50	30	13	19	618
15	232	133	349	129	81	43	20	24	1,009
16	303	221	419	141	96	53	30	40	1,303
17	315	234	221	165	102	77	36	34	1,182
<i>10–17 subtotal</i>	<i>1045</i>	<i>726</i>	<i>1343</i>	<i>597</i>	<i>367</i>	<i>244</i>	<i>110</i>	<i>127</i>	<i>4,554</i>
18+	94	229	41	14	47	64	11	5	506
Total	1,139	955	1,383	611	413	309	120	131	5,062

Notes

1. Age (in years) was calculated as at entry to first community *episode* in 2006–07. If the *episode* began before 2006–07, age was calculated as at 1 July 2006.
2. Totals may not sum due to rounding.

Nationally on an average day, nearly 3 out of every 5 young people (56%) in community-based supervision were non-Indigenous, while nearly two-fifths (37%) were Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander (for the remainder, Indigenous status was unknown) (Table 4.2). In most states and territories, the majority of young people in community-based supervision on an average day during 2006–07 were non-Indigenous (Table 4.2). The exceptions (Western Australia and the Northern Territory) were the states and territories where a higher proportion of the general population was Indigenous (see Figure 2.2).

In Australia, females in community-based supervision were more likely to be Indigenous than males (45% compared with 36%). This pattern occurred in all states and territories except Tasmania and the Australian Capital Territory, where males were more likely to be Indigenous than females.

Table 4.2: Average daily number of young people in community supervision by sex and Indigenous status, states and territories, 2006–07

Indigenous status	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aus
Male									
Indigenous	314	81	516	327	100	51	17	105	1,510
Non-Indigenous	576	648	619	173	233	184	73	17	2,523
Unknown	79	93	—	3	20	16	—	—	211
Total	969	822	1,135	503	353	250	90	122	4,245
Female									
Indigenous	76	22	147	78	25	6	5	9	368
Non-Indigenous	75	97	100	27	32	48	25	—	405
Unknown	19	14	—	—	3	5	—	—	41
Total	170	133	248	105	61	59	30	9	814
Total young people									
Indigenous	390	103	663	407	125	56	22	114	1,881
Non-Indigenous	651	745	720	201	265	231	98	17	2,928
Unknown	98	107	—	3	23	21	—	—	253
Total	1,139	955	1,383	611	413	309	120	131	5,062

Notes

1. Totals may not sum due to rounding.
2. Total young people includes young people of unknown sex.

For both males and females, the majority (around 70%) of those in community-based supervision on an average day were aged 15–17 years (Table 4.3, Figure 4.2). However, males were slightly more likely to be aged 18 or older (11% of males compared with 7% of females).

While the majority of Indigenous and non-Indigenous young people were also aged 15–17 years, Indigenous young people were more likely to be younger – 15% of Indigenous young people were aged under 14 years, but only 5% of non-Indigenous young people were. Non-Indigenous young people were more likely to be aged 18 and over.

Table 4.3: Average daily number of young people in community supervision by age, sex and Indigenous status, Australia, 2006–07

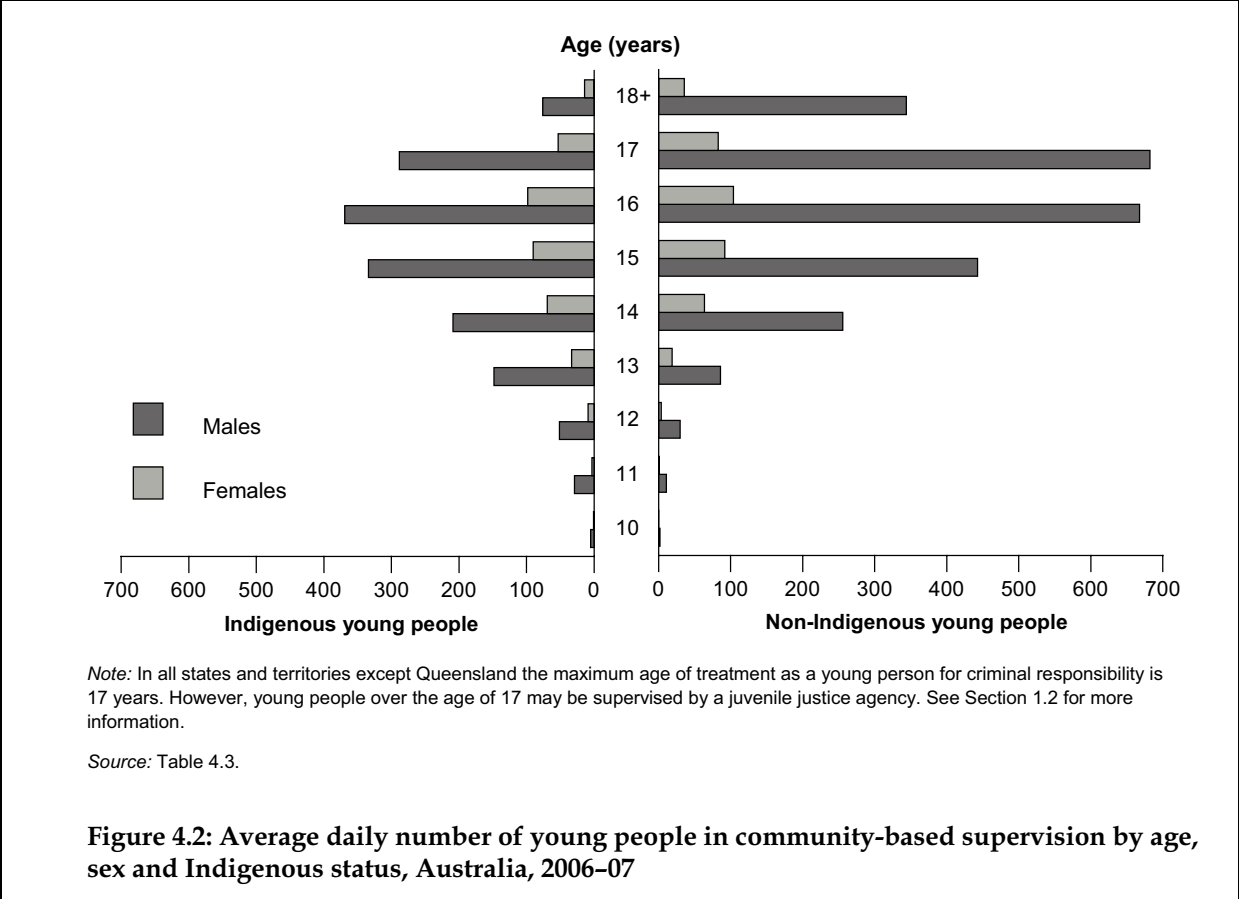
Indigenous status	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18+	Total
Male										
Indigenous	5	29	51	148	209	334	369	288	76	1,510
Non-Indigenous	2	11	30	86	256	443	668	682	344	2,523
Unknown	—	—	2	6	15	40	51	66	31	211
Total	7	40	83	240	481	817	1,088	1,036	451	4,245
Female										
Indigenous	1	3	9	33	69	90	98	53	14	368
Non-Indigenous	—	1	4	19	64	92	104	83	36	405
Unknown	—	—	—	1	3	10	12	11	4	41
Total	1	4	12	54	136	192	215	147	54	814
Total young people										
Indigenous	6	32	60	182	278	424	467	341	91	1,881
Non-Indigenous	2	12	34	105	321	536	773	764	381	2,928
Unknown	—	—	2	7	18	50	63	77	35	253
Total	8	44	96	294	618	1,009	1,303	1,182	506	5,062

Notes

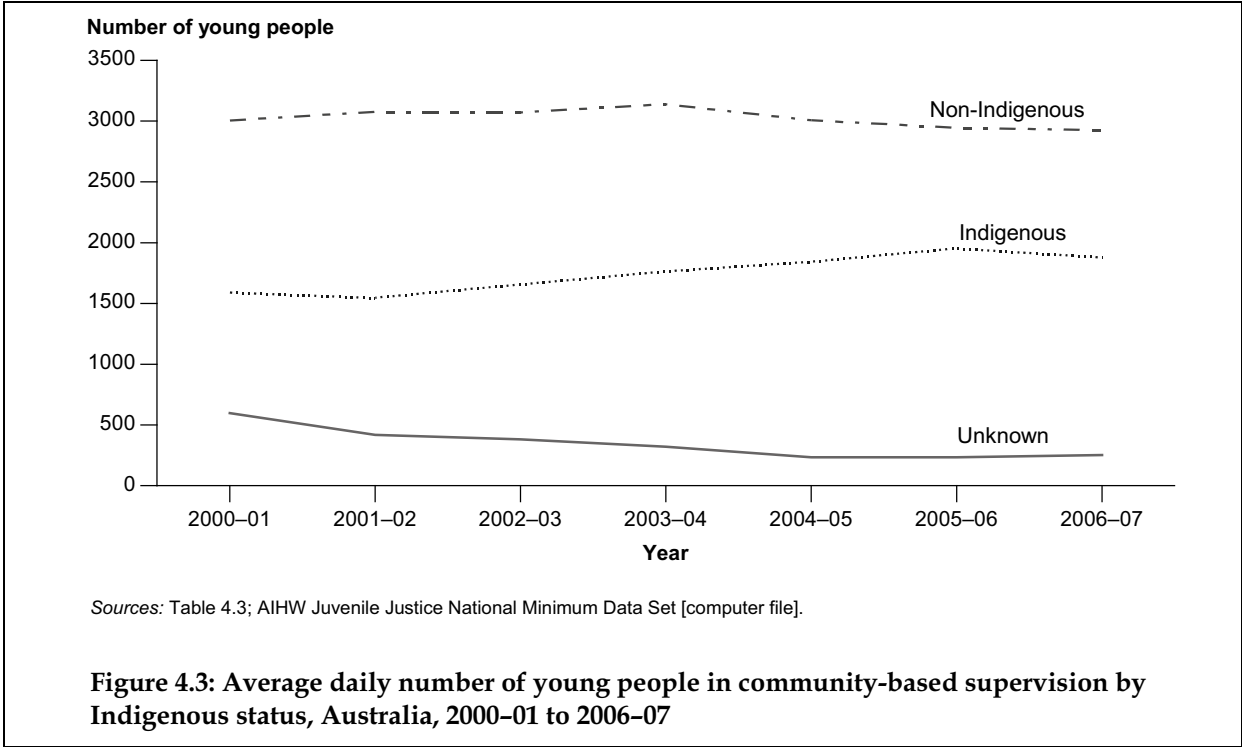
1. Age (in years) was calculated as at entry to first community *episode* in 2006–07. If the *episode* began before 2006–07, age was calculated as at 1 July 2006.
2. Totals may not sum due to rounding.
3. Total young people includes young people of unknown sex.

Related table: State and territory appendixes 2006–07, Table 3.

Of those in community-based supervision on an average day, the majority of males in the older age groups were non-Indigenous (Figure 4.2). However, for females, the numbers of Indigenous and non-Indigenous young people were similar and for both sexes, more young people were Indigenous than non-Indigenous in the younger age groups.



Over the 7-year period from 2000-01, the number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people in community-based supervision on an average day increased, although there was a slight decrease in the most recent year (2005-06 to 2006-07), while the number of non-Indigenous young people decreased (Figure 4.3). However, there are still more non-Indigenous young people in community-based supervision than Indigenous on an average day.



4.3 Average daily numbers in detention

The numbers presented in this section may differ in several ways from those presented in other publications on young people in detention, such as the Australian Institute of Criminology's statistics produced from the Juveniles in Detention in Australia monitoring project. Firstly, these tables include young people of all ages, and are not restricted to young people aged 10–17 years. Secondly, they are averages calculated from an entire year of unit record data, rather than a snapshot taken on one particular day. Thirdly, supervisions that begin and end on the same day are counted as 1 day, which may differ from jurisdictional practice. Finally, these data include some young people held in police watch-houses rather than only those held in a juvenile detention facility.

On an average day in 2006–07, there were 941 young people in detention, including 797 aged 10–17 years. Nationally, 65% were aged 15–17 years, while only 3% were aged 10–12 years. Of those in detention on an average day, 15% were aged 18 years or older, although the majority of these (68%) were in Victoria, reflecting Victoria's special sentencing option for people aged 18–20 and diversionary policies (see sections 1.2 and 1.3).

Table 4.4: Average daily number of young people in detention by age, states and territories, 2006–07

Age	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aus
10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
11	1	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	5
12	6	—	6	4	1	3	—	1	22
13	16	2	10	7	6	3	1	1	44
14	43	6	29	14	9	5	3	2	110
15	71	13	39	25	12	8	4	6	178
16	92	14	47	34	11	10	3	11	221
17	117	26	11	31	9	10	5	8	217
<i>10–17 subtotal</i>	<i>346</i>	<i>61</i>	<i>143</i>	<i>117</i>	<i>48</i>	<i>39</i>	<i>16</i>	<i>29</i>	<i>797</i>
18+	40	97	1	1	4	1	—	—	143
Total	386	157	145	117	52	39	17	29	941

Notes

1. Age (in years) was calculated as at entry to first detention *episode* in 2006–07. If the *episode* began before 2006–07, age was calculated as at 1 July 2006.
2. Totals may not sum due to rounding.
3. Tasmania has incomplete data resulting in higher reported numbers in detention (see Section 2.3.3 Data quality and coverage).

While the majority of those in detention in Australia on an average day were non-Indigenous, nearly half (47%) were Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people (Table 4.5). However, the proportion of Indigenous young people in detention varied among the states and territories, from 12% in Victoria to 90% in the Northern Territory. As with community-based supervision, the Northern Territory, Western Australia and Queensland had higher proportions of Indigenous young people both in the general population and in detention (see Figure 2.2). However, in all states and territories there were proportionally more Indigenous young people in detention than in community-based supervision (tables 4.2 and 4.5, see also Figure 4.9).

Similarly, in all states and territories there were proportionally more males in detention on an average day than in community-based supervision. In Australia, 92% of young people in detention on an average day were male.

While a greater proportion of females in community-based supervision were Indigenous than males (see Table 4.2), the opposite was true for those in detention. Nearly half (47%) of males in detention were Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander compared with 43% of females.

Table 4.5: Average daily number of young people in detention by sex and Indigenous status, states and territories, 2006–07

Indigenous status	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aus
Male									
Indigenous	177	18	81	72	20	13	4	26	410
Non-Indigenous	175	119	51	30	28	23	9	2	437
Unknown	10	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	18
Total	362	145	132	102	48	36	13	28	866
Female									
Indigenous	8	2	10	10	1	1	—	1	33
Non-Indigenous	15	10	4	5	3	2	3	—	41
Unknown	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Total	24	12	13	15	4	3	4	1	76
Total young people									
Indigenous	184	19	91	83	21	14	5	26	443
Non-Indigenous	190	129	54	35	31	24	12	2	478
Unknown	11	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	20
Total	386	157	145	117	52	39	17	29	941

Notes

1. Totals may not sum due to rounding.
2. Tasmania has incomplete data resulting in higher reported numbers in detention (see Section 2.3.3 Data quality and coverage).

As with those in community-based supervision, the proportion of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander young people in detention on an average day decreased as age increased (Table 4.6). For young people aged 10 to 15, 61% of the average daily population in detention were Indigenous, but the proportion decreased to 17% for young people aged 18 and older. A greater proportion of females aged 10–13 years than males were Indigenous.

Table 4.6: Average daily number of young people in detention by age, sex and Indigenous status, Australia, 2006–07

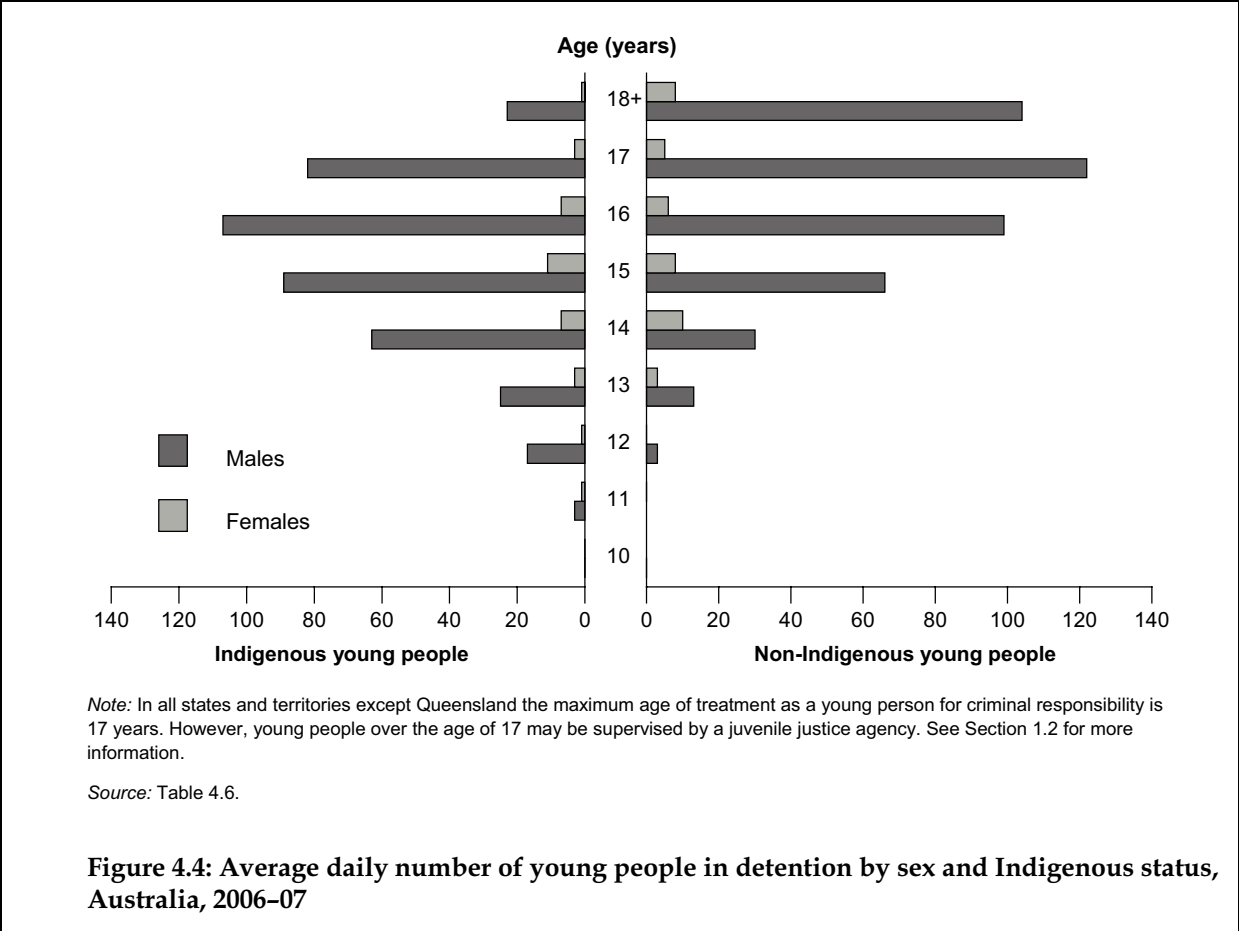
Indigenous status	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18+	Aus
Male										
Indigenous	—	3	17	25	63	89	107	82	23	410
Non-Indigenous	—	—	3	13	30	66	99	122	104	437
Unknown	—	—	1	—	1	3	2	5	7	18
Total	—	4	21	38	94	159	207	209	134	866
Female										
Indigenous	—	1	1	3	7	11	7	3	1	33
Non-Indigenous	—	—	—	3	10	8	6	5	8	41
Unknown	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	2
Total	—	1	1	6	17	20	14	8	9	76
Total young people										
Indigenous	—	5	18	28	69	100	114	86	24	443
Non-Indigenous	—	—	3	16	40	74	105	127	112	478
Unknown	—	—	1	—	1	5	2	5	7	20
Total	—	5	22	44	110	178	221	217	143	941

Notes

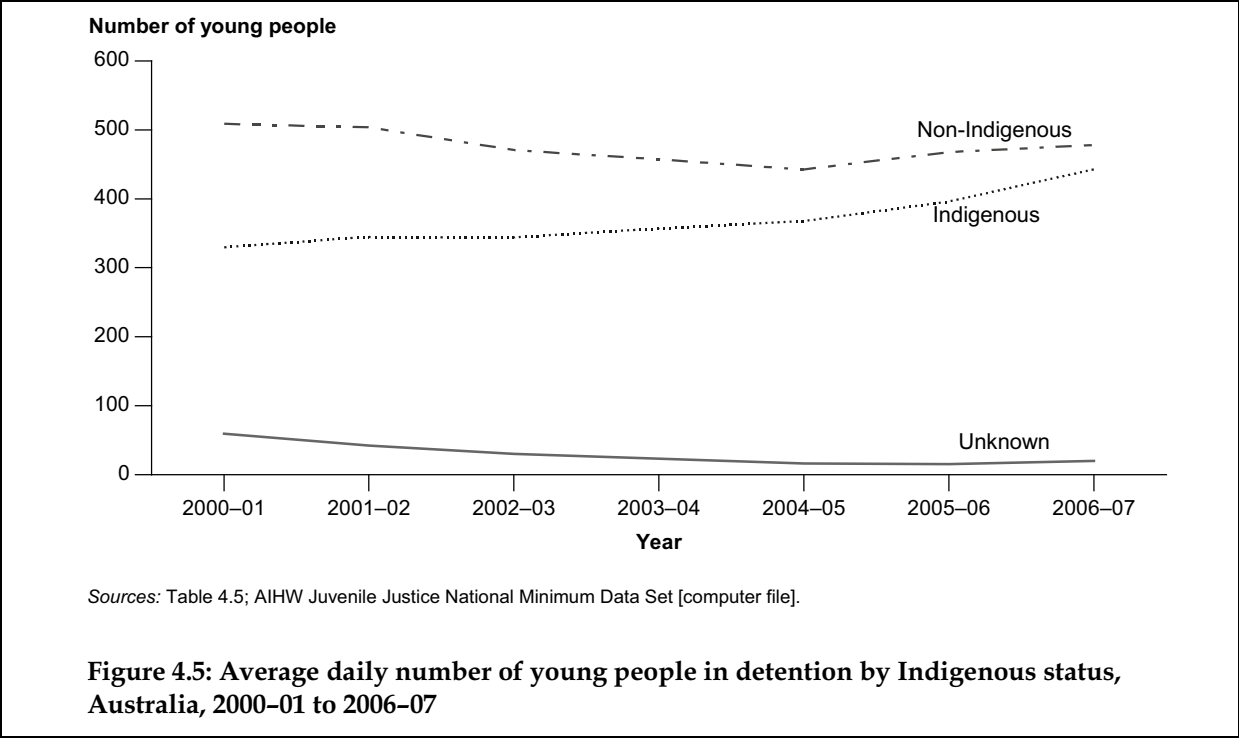
1. Age (in years) was calculated as at entry to first detention *supervision period* in 2006–07. If the *supervision period* began before 2006–07, age was calculated as at 1 July 2006.
2. Totals may not sum due to rounding.
3. Tasmania has incomplete data resulting in higher reported numbers in detention (see Section 2.3.3 Data quality and coverage).

Related table: State and territory appendixes 2006–07, Table 4.

The population of Indigenous young people in detention on an average day in 2006–07 had a younger age structure than the non-Indigenous population (Figure 4.4). At the younger ages, there were more Indigenous males and females than non-Indigenous males and females. Also, a greater proportion of those in detention were Indigenous than for those in community-based supervision (see Figure 4.2).



Over the 7-year period 2000-01 to 2006-07, the number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people in detention steadily increased while the number of non-Indigenous young people decreased from 2000-01 to 2004-05 before slightly increasing (Figure 4.5). In 2000-01, there were 1.5 times more non-Indigenous young people in detention than Indigenous young people. In 2006-07, there were nearly as many Indigenous young people in detention as non-Indigenous young people on an average day.



4.4 Average daily numbers under juvenile justice supervision

Over the 4 years from 2003–04, there has been little change in the average daily number of young people under supervision (Table 4.7). However, while there has been a decrease in the average daily number of young people in the community of 3%, there has been a corresponding increase in the average daily detention numbers of 12%.

This pattern of changes was reflected in most states and territories. The average daily number of young people in community-based supervision decreased over the 4 years in six states and territories and the average daily number of young people in detention increased in four. In five states and territories (New South Wales, Queensland, South Australia, the Australian Capital Territory and the Northern Territory), young people are more likely to be in detention than in community-based supervision than they were 4 years ago (as shown by the ratio of community-based average daily numbers to detention numbers).

Table 4.7: Average daily number of young people under supervision by type of supervision, states and territories, 2003–04 to 2006–07

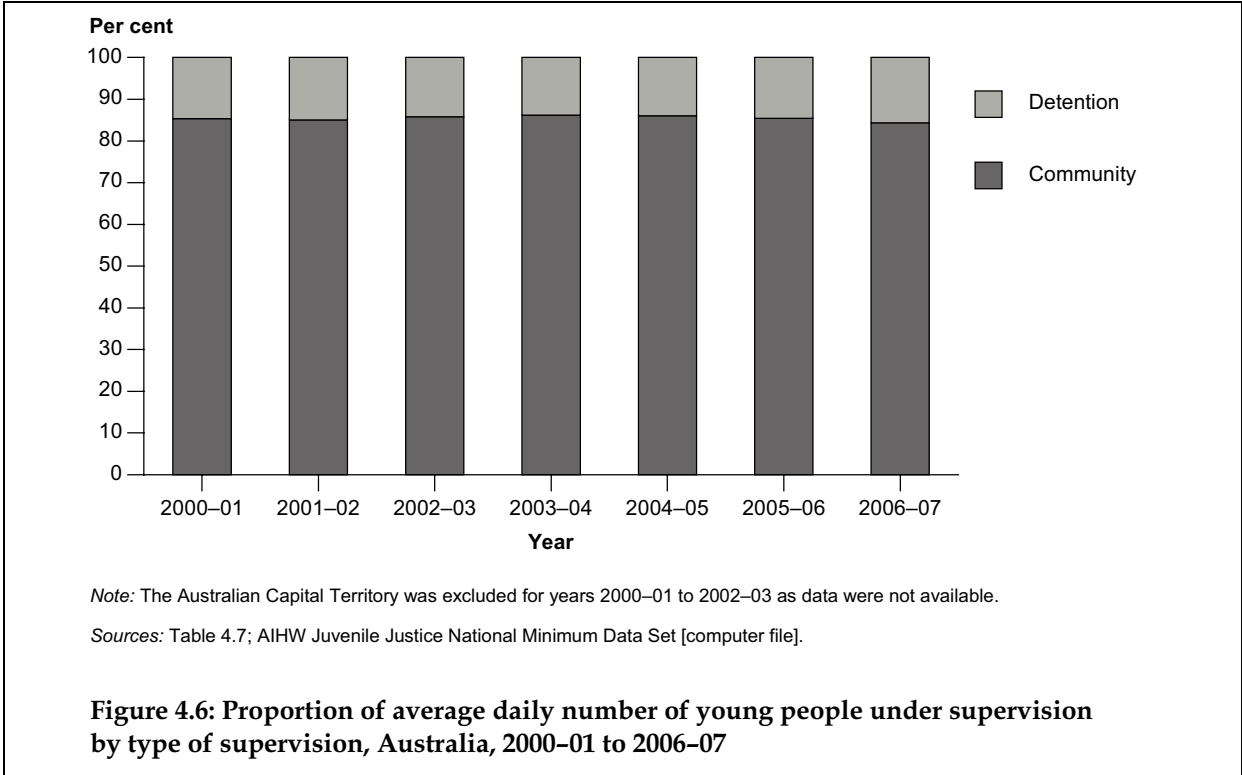
Year	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aus
Average daily number in community									
2003–04	1,281	735	1,416	558	629	310	164	136	5,229
2004–05	1,233	710	1,400	569	559	309	148	160	5,088
2005–06	1,256	793	1,352	678	484	311	106	158	5,138
2006–07	1,139	955	1,383	611	413	309	120	131	5,062
Average daily number in detention									
2003–04	315	140	121	120	63	41	21	16	839
2004–05	329	138	105	113	68	40	17	19	827
2005–06	363	147	131	101	51	47	19	19	879
2006–07	386	157	145	117	52	39	17	29	941
Average daily number under supervision									
2003–04	1,596	876	1,537	678	693	351	185	152	6,068
2004–05	1,562	847	1,505	681	627	348	165	179	5,914
2005–06	1,619	940	1,483	779	535	358	125	177	6,017
2006–07	1,525	1,112	1,528	728	465	347	137	160	6,003

Notes

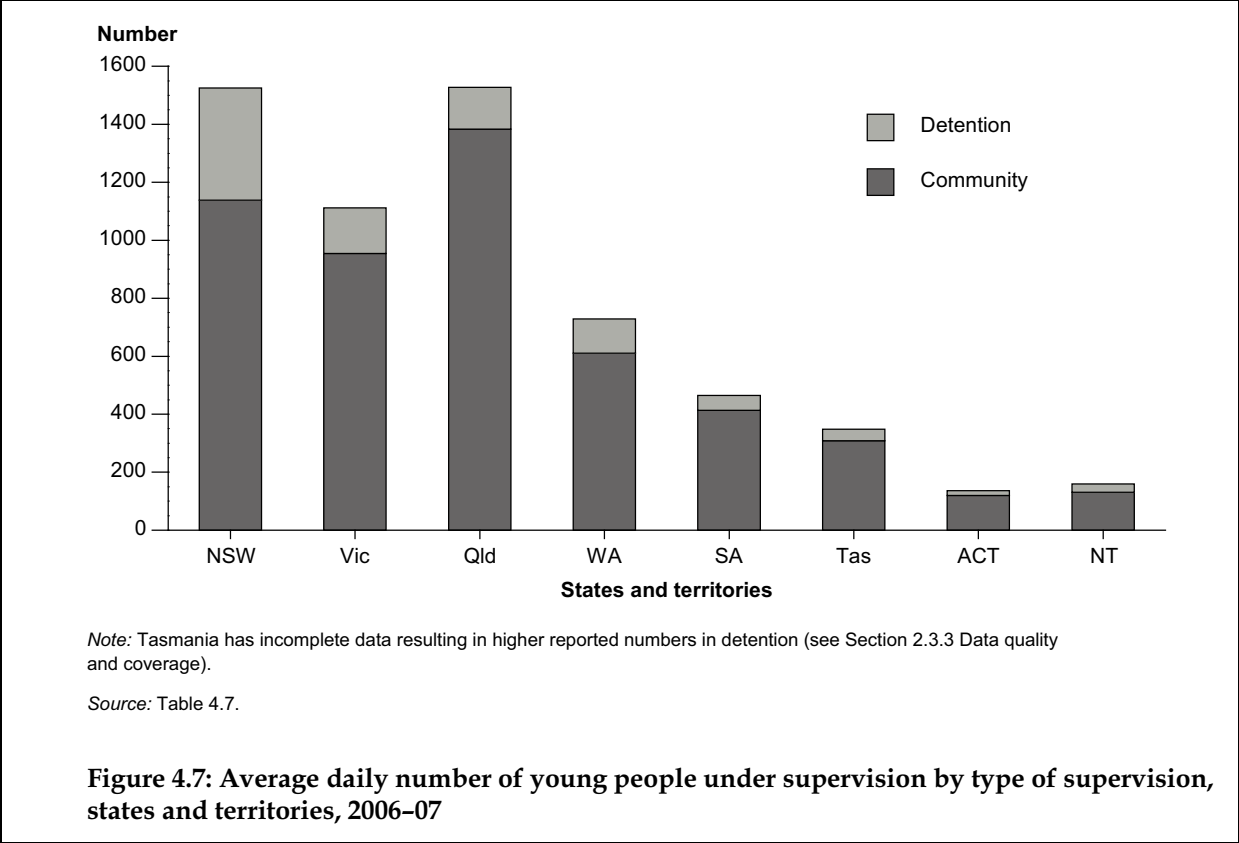
1. Totals may not sum due to rounding.
2. Tasmania has incomplete data resulting in higher reported numbers in detention (see Section 2.3.3 Data quality and coverage).
3. The average daily number under supervision was calculated by summing the average daily number in community and the average daily number in detention.

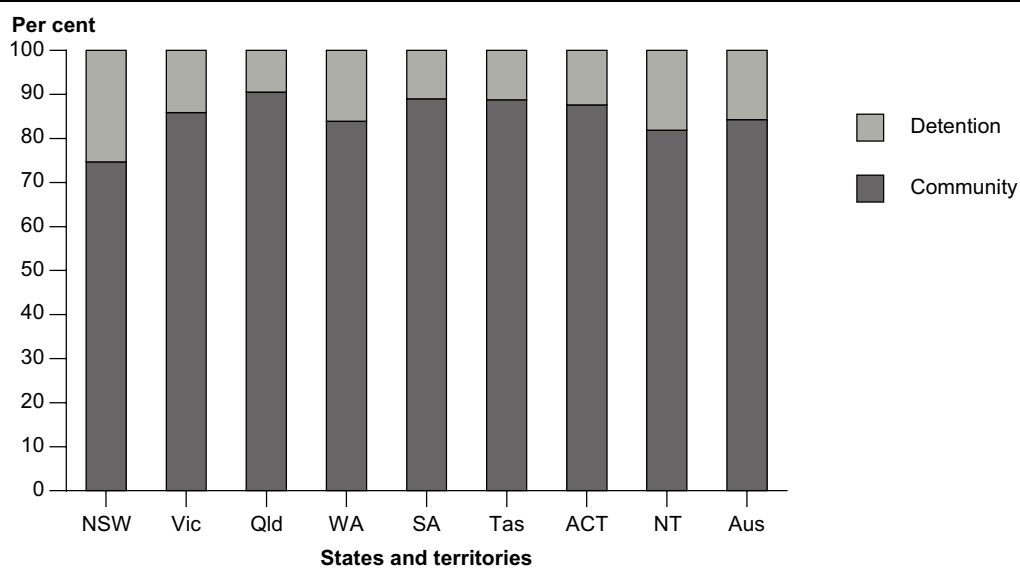
Source: Table D3.

Over the 7 years from 2000-01, there has been little change in the proportion of young people in community-based supervision and detention during an average day (Figure 4.6).



The number and proportion of young people in community-based supervision and detention on an average day during 2006–07 varied among the states and territories (figures 4.7 and 4.8). Queensland had the smallest proportion of young people in detention on an average day while New South Wales had the greatest.





Note: Tasmania has incomplete data resulting in higher reported numbers in detention (see Section 2.3.3 Data quality and coverage)

Source: Table 4.7.

Figure 4.8: Proportion of average daily number of young people under supervision by type of supervision, states and territories, 2006-07

In most states and territories, there are more non-Indigenous young people than Indigenous young people in both community-based supervision and detention (Figure 4.9). However, in all states and territories, there are proportionally more Indigenous young people in detention than in the community.

