**Composition of Australia’s police services**

The Australian Institute of Criminology releases annually the *Composition of Australia’s Police Services* report which details the number of police service employees in Australia—both sworn and public service personnel—by rank and gender. In June 2002, there were 46,369 sworn police officers in Australia. This equates to a rate of 240.4 police officers per 100,000 population, an increase from 231.7 (3.6%) in 2001. The highest rate of police officers was in the Northern Territory with 468.8 per 100,000 population, a decrease from 498.5 (6.3%) in 2001. Increases in the rate of police officers per 100,000 population from 2001 to 2002 were evident in Victoria (up 2.4%), the Australian Capital Territory (2.3%), Tasmania (1.5%), and Queensland and South Australia (1.3% each).

**Rate of sworn police officers per 100,000 population 2001–2002**

![Graph showing the rate of sworn police officers per 100,000 population for 2001 and 2002 across different states and territories in Australia.](http://www.aic.gov.au/policing/stats/police2002.pdf)

*Source: The Composition of Australia’s Police Services as at June 2002, Australian Institute of Criminology, Canberra.*