

Incident Reporting in Schools

Release 1, 2021 (1 January 2021 – 11 July 2021)

How schools manage the safety and security of its students and staff.

Our schools are among the safest places in our community for children and young people. However, from time to time, incidents do affect schools just as they affect communities and society as a whole. In the event of an incident occurring the safety and wellbeing of students, staff and others is the first priority. Incident notification enables the department to act to provide early intervention, management and support where required and take corrective action to prevent further incident or injury. The Incident Report and Support Hotline is staffed by NSW Police Officers who provide advice to employees about school-related offences. A report to the Incident Report and Support Hotline brings an incident to the attention of police, in line with requirements under the Crimes Act

The Incident Report and Support Hotline is available to assist principals 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Senior police and incident support officers in the unit provide immediate support and advice on the management of any school-related incident reported.

Through the NSW Department of Education's commitment to improving transparency and ease of access to information, incident reports are being made available to the public. In doing so, the Department is committed to the welfare of students and staff in NSW public schools. As such, references have been removed which could expose a person to a risk of harm or which reveals the identities, or the personal/health information of students, school staff and community members. Information that may prejudice an investigation has also been removed.

Publishing these reports informs the community about incidents in public schools and how the Department supports schools through incidents while still protecting the identity of students and staff.

The introduction of a new incident reporting database in January 2019 has changed the format of the information presented and the release of individual incident reports. Schools are required to report incidents to the Incident Report and Support Hotline relating to activities such as violence; misuse of substances; weapons; welfare; emergency situations; and malicious use of technology if there is a concern for the safety to the student.

The restructure of categories enables the Department to better identify areas of risk to facilitate additional support and training delivered by the Health and Safety Directorate, which in turn serves to assist the ability of school to effectively manage incidents when and if they occur.

To align with the Department's restructure to 6 Operational Directorates and 110 Principals Networks, incidents are now recorded and reported by Principals Network. Future comparative reporting based on the improved incident reporting system will further assist in the analysis of data and subsequent targeted support to schools.

The number of incidents that are reported from one date range to the next do vary and this is an expected fluctuation due to the relatively small number of incidents that are reported from more than 2,200 schools with a student population in excess of 810,000. Consequently, the percentage variations are not significant and the relatively small number of incidents indicates that schools continue to be one of the safest places for students in our community.

Further information

Research available on the NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research website:

[BOCSAR Crime Tool](#)

[Proactive Release Documents](#)

Term 2, 2021 19/04/2021-11/07/2021

	Criminal Act	Emergency Situation	Technology	Substances	Violence	Weapon	Welfare	Total
Term 2	4	96	14	8	290	12	146	570
Connected Communities		2	1		12	2	4	21
Connected Communities Team 1			1		11	2	2	16
Connected Communities Team 2		2					2	4
Connected Communities Team 3					1			1
Metropolitan North	1	7	5	2	30	3	17	65
Cambridge Park		1			2		2	5
Carlingford			1		2		2	5
Gordon		2		1				3
Hornsby					2		1	3
Mount Druitt		2			3	1	4	10
North Sydney					1		3	4
Pittwater					1		1	2
Quakers Hill			1	1	3		2	7
Ryde			1		4			5
The Forest			2		4	1		7
The Hills	1	1			1	1		4
The Ponds		1			7		2	10
Metropolitan South	1	11	1		21	1	14	49
Auburn					2		1	3
Beverly Hills		1			2		2	5
Bondi					2		1	3
Botany Bay					3		2	5
Canterbury		1	1		3		1	6
Chullora		2			5		1	8
Georges River		1			1		2	4
Girraween		1				1	1	3
Iron Cove							2	2
Kogarah					1			1
Marrickville	1							1
Parramatta		2			2			4
Port Jackson		3						3
Strathfield							1	1
Metropolitan South and West		6	2	1	54	1	22	86
Bankstown					4		2	6

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Bungarribee					4		6	10
Chipping Norton		1			4			5
Cowpasture					7		1	8
Eastern Creek		2	2		9	1		14
Fairfield		1		1	2		5	9
Glenfield		1			4		3	8
Liverpool					3			3
Penrith					6		2	8
Port Hacking					3			3
St Andrews		1			7		3	11
Sutherland					1			1
Regional North		14	1		53		30	98
Blue Mountains		11			6		1	18
Brisbane Water					5		1	6
Callaghan					2		3	5
Central Coast					4		4	8
Cessnock					4		2	6
Glenrock					1		1	2
Hawkesbury					1		5	6
Lake Macquarie East					3			3
Lake Macquarie North					6			6
Lake Macquarie West		1			1		2	4
Mooney Mooney		1	1				1	3
Newcastle					5			5
Port Stephens		1			3		2	6
Tuggerah Lakes					11		6	17
Windsor					1		2	3
Regional North and West		20		3	35	2	21	81
Bathurst		6			6		2	14
Coffs Harbour					3		4	7
Great Lakes		1		1	2	1	5	10
Hastings					1		1	2
Lithgow		13			2		1	16
Macleay Valley				1	3			4
Macquarie					6			6
Maitland				1	6		2	9
Mid Coast Valleys					2		2	4
Mudgee					1		2	3
Taree					2			2
Upper Hunter					1	1	2	4
Regional South	2	12	2	2	36	1	15	70
Batemans Bay					1			1

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Camden					4		1	5
Campbelltown					6		4	10
Goulburn				1	3		2	6
Lake Illawarra North		1	1		5		2	9
Lake Illawarra South			1		1		1	3
Macarthur		3			2	1	1	7
Shoalhaven		1			1		1	3
South Coast				1	2			3
Wollondilly		4			5			9
Wollongong	2	1			1		2	6
Wollongong North		1			2			3
Yass		1			3		1	5
Rural North		8	1		23		11	43
Armidale		2			4			6
Barwon		1			1		1	3
Grafton					4			4
Lennox Coast		1			1			2
Mooki							2	2
Namoi		2			3		3	8
Northern Tablelands					3		1	4
Peel		1	1		2		2	6
Tweed Coast					4		1	5
Western Plains		1					1	2
Wollumbin					1			1
Rural South and West		16	1		26	2	12	57
Albury					2	1		3
Cowra					2			2
Deniliquin					1			1
Eden-Monaro		5			1		2	8
Far West		1						1
Griffith							1	1
Gundagai		1	1		2		1	5
Hume					3			3
Mitchell		1						1
Narrandera					3		2	5
Orange		4			6	1	4	15
Queanbeyan					2		2	4
Wagga Wagga					4			4
West Wyalong		4						4

Term 1, 2021 01/01/2021-18/04/2021

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	Criminal Act	Emergency Situation	Technology	Substances	Violence	Weapon	Welfare	Total
Term 1	4	134	23	5	252	11	91	520
Connected Communities		4			7		1	12
Connected Communities Team 1					6		1	7
Connected Communities Team 2		4			1			5
Metropolitan North		7	4		27	1	5	44
Cambridge Park		2			1			3
Carlingford			1		2		1	4
Gordon					3	1		4
Hornsby					3			3
Mount Druitt		1	1		6		1	9
North Sydney							1	1
Pittwater							1	1
Quakers Hill		1			5			6
Ryde		2			2		1	5
The Beaches		1	1		2			4
The Forest					1			1
The Hills			1		1			2
The Ponds					1			1
Metropolitan South		7	5		16	4	10	42
Auburn		1	1		3		1	6
Beverly Hills			1			2		3
Bondi		1			1		1	3
Canterbury					2		1	3
Chullora							2	2
Georges River		1	1		1		1	4
Girraween		1	1		2		1	5
Iron Cove		1			1			2
Kogarah					1		1	2
Marrickville			1				1	2
Parramatta		1			1	1	1	4
Port Jackson		1						1
Strathfield					4	1		5
Metropolitan South and West	1	18	3	2	53	1	10	88
Bankstown			1		3		3	7
Bungarribee		2			2			4
Chipping Norton		3	1		7			11
Cowpasture		1			2	1	1	5
Eastern Creek				1	12			13

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Fairfield		2			4		1	7
Glenfield		6			4		3	13
Liverpool		1	1		2			4
Penrith					5		1	6
Port Hacking					2			2
St Andrews	1				6			7
Sutherland				1	2			3
Woronora River		3			2		1	6
Regional North	1	15	2	1	39	2	13	73
Blue Mountains		2			4			6
Brisbane Water		1			2			3
Callaghan					3		1	4
Central Coast					6		1	7
Cessnock					5			5
Glenrock					1	1		2
Hawkesbury		3			3			6
Lake Macquarie East			1	1	1		3	6
Lake Macquarie North			1		3		1	5
Mooney Mooney		2						2
Newcastle							2	2
Port Stephens	1	1			3	1	2	8
Tuggerah Lakes					6		3	9
Windsor		6			2			8
Regional North and West		40	2		28	2	17	89
Bathurst		1			3		3	7
Coffs Harbour		3			2	2	1	8
Great Lakes		7	1		5		6	19
Hastings		9						9
Hunter		2						2
Lithgow		3	1		3			7
Macleay Valley		2			2			4
Macquarie					5		2	7
Maitland					3			3
Mid Coast Valleys		9						9
Mudgee					4		1	5
Taree		3					3	6
Upper Hunter		1			1		1	3
Regional South	2	16	4	1	22		16	61
Batemans Bay					1		1	2
Camden		2	1		3		1	7
Campbelltown					2		4	6
Goulburn		2			4		4	10

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Lake Illawarra North		4	1				2	7
Lake Illawarra South		1			3		1	5
Macarthur		2			3		1	6
Shoalhaven		2			3		1	6
South Coast			1		1			2
Wollondilly		1	1	1	1		1	5
Wollongong	2	2			1			5
Rural North		16	3	1	29	1	6	56
Armidale					2			2
Barwon		3						3
Clarence Valley					3		1	4
Grafton		4						4
Lennox Coast		1		1				2
Lismore		2	1		3		1	7
Mooki					7			7
Namoi		1			4			5
Northern Tablelands		1				1	2	4
Peel		1			2			3
Richmond		1	1		1		1	4
Tweed Coast					4		1	5
Western Plains		2			1			3
Wollumbin			1		2			3
Rural South and West		11			31		13	55
Albury					2		2	4
Cowra					3			3
Deniliquin		1			1			2
Eden-Monaro					2		3	5
Far West					1			1
Griffith					5			5
Hume					1		1	2
Mitchell		1			1			2
Narrandera		2			1		1	4
Orange					2		2	4
Queanbeyan		1			5			6
Temora		1			4			5
Wagga Wagga		1			3		3	7