

Statistical Bulletin No. 1

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GUN CASUALTIES: ACCIDENTAL AND INTENTIONAL
(AUSTRALIA, 1977)

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Scope of Study.

Reports of casualties with firearms are reported by police as a matter of routine. This bulletin contains an analysis of these reports. Most of the work was done by Jan Houghton of this Bureau.

A total of 366 "Firearm Casualty Reports" mostly relating to incidents in 1977 in five States were analysed for this study.

Table 1 below shows the breakdown by State and type of casualty (accidental, suicide/attempted suicide, criminal), and a comparison with the number of casualties in 1974/75 (previously unpublished).

Table 1 - Number of "Firearm Casualty Reports" Received.

Year	Category	N.S.W.	VIC.	S.A.	QLD.	W.A.	TOTAL
1974/75*	Accidental	150	60	32	68	32	342
	Suicide	98	71	17	62	28	276
	Intentional	93	34	11	12	12	162
		341	165	60	142	72	780
1977	Accidental	28	50	36	58	22	194
	Suicide	10	84	16	19	8	137
	Intentional	4	22	6	2	1	35
		42	156	58	79	31	366

* Also reports from Tasmania - Accidental 6
Suicide 3
Intentional 3

Northern Territory - Accidental 6
Suicide 5
Intentional 4

The differences between the years in the number of returns, particularly the low number from N.S.W., indicates that the forms are no longer being completed as a matter of routine whenever a firearm casualty occurs. The 42 returns for N.S.W. were sent in from 25 Police Stations only and all of these were in country areas. The numbers from Victoria and South Australia are close to those in the previous study indicating the system is still working in these States. No reports were received from Tasmania, the Northern Territory or A.C.T. in 1977.

All Reports received by the Bureau have been included in this study, although as shown in Table 2 below, a number of these casualties took place before 1977.

Table 2 Year of Casualty

	75	76	77	78
N.S.W.	2	2	36	2
Vic.	-	11	145	-
S.A.	-	1	57	-
Qld.	-	22	57	-
W.A.	-	5	26	-

In a number of instances some time lapsed between the date of the casualty and the date the Report was completed. (see Table 3.).

Table 3. Time Between Date of Casualty and Date of Report.

Period	N.S.W.		VIC.		S.A.		QLD.		W.A.		TOTAL	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Less than 1 month	34	81.0	113	72.4	51	87.8	54	68.4	23	74.2	275	75.1
1 to less than 3 months	3	7.1	23	14.7	3	5.2	18	22.8	5	16.1	52	14.2
3 to less than 6 months	1	2.4	10	6.4	2	3.5	5	6.3	2	6.5	20	5.4
6 to less than 12 months	3	7.1	5	3.2	-	-	1	1.3	-	-	9	2.5
12 months and over	1	2.4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	0.3
Not known	-	-	5	3.2	2	3.5	1	1.3	1	3.2	9	2.5
TOTAL	42	100.0	156	100.0	58	100.0	79	100.0	31	100.0	366	100.0

Thus, given the low number of returns and the wide difference in dates, the results can only be summarised rather than interpreted. If further such statistics are to be produced in the future, consideration must be given to ensuring that all returns are completed and forwarded regularly to the Bureau.

Results

Detailed tabulations of the data are presented in Appendix A.

Table 1 (1-20) - Accidental shootings

Table 11 (21-28) - Suicide/Attempted Suicide

Table 111 (29-40) - Intentional Shootings.

The main results were as follows:-

Accidental Shootings

A total of 194 accidental shootings were reported, 14 fatal and 179 non-fatal (1 unknown). Further details were:-

- (i) 45% involved shooters between 15 and 24 and in 70% of all cases shooters were aged under 30.
- (ii) In 49% of cases injuries were self-inflicted;
- (iii) Most injuries in accidental shootings were to legs and arms.
- (iv) 25% of the shooters had no experience or less than one year's experience in handling firearms but over 32% had more than 5 years experience.
- (v) In 11.4% of cases either the shooter or the victim or both had used drugs or alcohol prior to the accident.
- (vi) The weapon most frequently involved (65%) was a .22 rifle; approximately 64% of weapons were described as being in new or excellent condition.
- (vii) 63% of accidents occurred in daylight hours, 40% between noon and 6.0 p.m., 62% were out of doors.
- (viii) A whole range of reasons for the cause of the casualty were given; the highest number were in the categories of getting in or out of a vehicle/riding in a vehicle (12.4%), horseplay (11.9%), loading/unloading (8.8%), moved into line of fire (8.8%); however, in a large number of cases no reason was given or it was classed as "other".
- (ix) In 10.8% of cases it was stated that the shooter was charged with an offence. In the majority of cases, however, no information was given on this item.

Suicide/Attempted Suicide

A total of 137 incidents were classified as suicide or attempted suicide; 105 (76.6%) resulted in death. Further details were:-

- (i) The number of cases was spread fairly evenly over all age groups, the highest rate (13.9%) for the 19-21 year old groups. Approximately 90% of cases involved males and 10% females.
- (ii) In 23.4% of cases it was established that alcohol or drugs were used prior to the attempt but in 39.4% of cases this was not known.

- (iii) Again a .22 rifle was the most frequent weapon used.
- (iv) The time and location were not known or not stated in a large number of cases; of the cases where time was known half were in daylight hours and half in evening, or night. Approximately 44% of suicides or attempts occurred in a building or vehicles.

Intentional Shootings

There were 33 intentional shootings reported, of which 20 were fatal.

- (i) In 37% of cases the shooters were aged between 15 and 24 years; 51.4% of shooters were aged under 30 years.
- (ii) 80% of shooters were male; 60% of victims were male.
- (iii) In over 14% of cases the shooter had used alcohol or drugs prior to the shooting.
- (iv) Again a rifle was the most common weapon involved.
- (v) The shootings were spread fairly evenly throughout the day, although with few between 6 a.m. and noon. The time was not known in eight cases.
- (vi) In 16 cases there was no information about legal proceedings; of the remainder 10 shooters were charged with murder or attempted murder.

Future statistics

It is important to be able to say how many people are killed and injured by guns each year in Australia. From the current data it is only possible to make approximate statements.

Figures such as these have been used previously to make recommendations on firearms policy. The lethal results of intentional gun attacks in emotional situation was said to be a reason for limiting the general availability of firearms (1).

(1) N.S.W. Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research, Statistical Report No.9, Gun and Knife Attacks, 1973

In relation to accidents, Harding (2) recommends a "policy of denying licenses to persons who cannot demonstrate that they have undergone and passed an appropriate training course designed to instill a proper sense of safety-consciousness. Such a requirement would, of course, parallel what is now standard requirement in relation to another dangerous weapon which needs to be handled with a proper sense of safety consciousness - the motor vehicle."

Several States have had some difficulty in providing the raw data, and the Bureau itself has encountered difficulties in processing the forms as they now are (See Appendix B for the current form, and Appendix C for the coding form used by the Bureau for computer processing).

It has therefore seemed desirable to attempt some re-design of the original form

- . to clarify how soon after the incident the form should be despatched to the Bureau;
- . to minimize the amount of information which is "unknown" or "not stated";
- . to facilitate rapid computer compilation of the statistics.

Work on this re-design is proceeding, including discussion with police officers and other interested parties.

(2) Harding, R., "Firearms Ownership and Accidental Misuse in South Australia", Adelaide Law Review, Vol. 6, June 1978, pp.271-283

I. ACCIDENTS WITH FIREARMS.

TABLE	N.S.W.		VIC.		S.A.		QLD.		W.A.		TOTAL.	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
1. Age of Shooter												
Less than 10 years	-	-	2	4.0	1	2.8	3	5.2	1	4.5	7	3.6
10-14 years	3	10.7	1	2.0	8	22.2	5	8.6	-	-	17	8.8
15-19 years	4	14.3	14	28.0	5	13.9	22	37.9	7	31.8	52	26.8
20-24 years	6	21.4	13	26.0	4	11.1	8	13.8	5	22.7	36	18.6
25-29 years	4	14.3	3	6.0	10	27.7	5	8.6	1	4.5	23	11.9
30-34 years	-	-	5	10.0	1	2.8	5	8.6	2	9.1	13	6.7
35-39 years	1	3.6	3	6.0	2	5.6	2	3.5	-	-	8	4.1
40-44 years	3	10.7	2	4.0	-	-	2	3.5	2	9.1	9	4.6
45-49 years	2	7.1	1	2.0	1	2.8	4	6.9	1	4.5	9	4.6
50-60 years	4	14.3	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	9.1	6	3.1
Over 60 years	1	3.6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	0.5
Not Known	-	-	6	12.0	4	11.1	2	3.5	1	4.5	13	6.7
2. Age of Victim												
Less than 10 years	1	3.6	3	6.0	5	13.9	8	13.8	-	-	17	8.8
10-14 years	2	7.1	4	8.0	7	19.4	7	12.1	2	9.1	22	11.3
15-19 years	1	3.6	10	20.9	5	13.9	8	13.8	4	18.2	28	14.4
20-24 years	1	3.6	2	4.0	5	13.9	4	6.9	-	-	12	6.2
25-29 years	2	7.1	2	4.0	-	-	1	1.7	3	13.6	8	4.1
30-34 years	1	3.6	3	6.0	-	-	1	1.7	-	-	5	2.6
35-39 years	-	-	1	2.0	1	2.8	-	-	-	-	2	1.0
40-44 years	-	-	1	2.0	-	-	1	1.7	-	-	2	1.0
45-49 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
50-60 years	-	-	1	2.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	0.5
Over 60 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Not known/no victim	20	71.4	23	46.0	13	36.1	28	48.3	13	59.1	97	50.0
3. Sex of Shooter												
Male	27	96.4	43	86.9	28	77.8	54	93.1	20	90.9	172	88.6
Female	1	3.6	2	4.0	4	11.1	2	3.4	1	4.5	10	5.2
Not known	-	-	5	10.9	4	11.1	2	3.4	1	4.5	12	6.2
TOTAL	28	100.0	50	100.0	36	100.0	58	100.0	22	100.0	194	100.0

TABLE	N.S.W.		VIC.		S.A.		QLD.		W.A.		TOTAL		
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	
4.	<u>Sex of Victim</u>												
	Male	7	25.0	24	48.0	20	55.6	24	41.4	8	36.4	83	42.8
	Female	1	3.6	3	6.0	4	11.1	6	10.3	1	4.5	15	7.7
	Not known	20	71.4	23	46.9	12	33.3	28	48.3	13	59.1	96	49.5
5.	<u>Source of Injury</u>												
	Self-inflicted	20	71.4	22	44.0	12	33.3	28	48.3	13	59.1	95	49.0
	Someone else	8	28.6	27	54.0	24	66.7	30	51.7	9	40.9	98	50.5
	Not known	-	-	1	2.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	0.5
6.	<u>Type of Casualty</u>												
	Fatal	2	7.1	6	12.0	1	2.8	2	8.6	3	13.6	14	7.2
	Non fatal	26	92.9	44	88.0	34	94.4	56	91.4	19	86.4	179	92.3
	Not known	-	-	-	-	1	2.8	-	-	-	-	1	0.5
7.	<u>Location of Wound *</u>												
	Head	1	-	8	-	4	-	7	-	4	-	24	-
	Chest	2	-	5	-	2	-	5	-	1	-	15	-
	Abdomen	3	-	4	-	4	-	4	-	2	-	17	-
	Back	1	-	2	-	1	-	3	-	2	-	9	-
	Neck	-	-	4	-	1	-	3	-	1	-	9	-
	Shoulders	-	-	1	-	1	-	3	-	1	-	6	-
	Legs	17	-	17	-	14	-	19	-	7	-	74	-
	Arms	6	-	11	-	9	-	17	-	6	-	49	-
	Not known	-	-	2	-	36	-	1	-	-	-	39	-
	* In some instances there were multiple wounds.												
8.	<u>Experience in Handling Firearms - Shooter</u>												
	No experience	3	10.7	8	16.0	15	41.7	16	27.6	3	13.6	45	23.2
	Less than 1 year	1	3.6	1	2.0	-	-	-	-	2	9.1	4	2.0
	1-4 years	4	14.2	9	18.0	3	8.3	9	15.5	7	31.8	32	16.5
	5-9 years	4	14.3	8	16.9	2	5.6	4	6.9	1	4.5	19	9.8
	10-20 years	6	21.4	4	8.0	5	13.9	8	13.8	3	13.6	26	13.4
	Over 20 years	8	28.6	1	2.0	-	-	5	8.6	3	13.6	17	8.8
	Not known	2	7.1	19	38.0	11	30.5	16	27.6	3	13.6	51	26.3
	TOTAL	28	100.0	50	100.0	36	100.0	58	100.0	22	100.0	194	100

TABLE	N.S.W.		VIC.		S.A.		QLD.		W.A.		TOTAL	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
<u>9. Experience in Handling Firearms - Victim</u>												
No experience	3	10.7	3	6.0	11	30.5	18	31.1	2	9.1	37	19.1
Less than 1 year	-	-	1	2.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	0.5
1-4 years	1	3.6	3	6.0	2	5.6	2	3.4	1	4.5	9	4.6
5-9 years	1	3.6	2	4.0	-	-	1	1.7	-	-	4	2.0
10-20 years	3	10.7	2	4.0	1	2.8	1	1.7	-	-	9	4.6
Over 20 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Not known	20	71.4	39	78.9	22	61.1	36	62.1	17	77.3	134	69.1
<u>10. Use of Alcohol/Drugs Prior to Accident</u>												
By shooter	2	7.1	6	12.0	4	11.1	5	8.6	-	-	17	8.8
By victim	-	-	2	4.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1.0
By both	-	-	2	4.0	1	2.8	-	-	-	-	3	1.6
Not used	22	78.6	31	62.0	23	63.9	47	81.9	15	68.2	138	71.1
Not known	4	14.3	9	18.0	8	22.2	6	10.4	7	31.8	34	17.5
<u>11. Type of Weapon</u>												
Rifle	24	85.7	27	54.0	26	72.1	45	77.6	18	81.8	140	72.2
Shotgun	3	10.7	13	26.0	1	2.8	5	8.6	2	9.1	24	12.4
Air-rifle	1	3.6	6	12.0	5	13.9	6	10.3	1	4.5	19	9.8
Revolver	-	-	4	8.0	1	2.8	1	1.7	-	-	6	3.1
Pistol	-	-	-	-	2	5.6	1	1.7	-	-	3	1.6
Other	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	4.5	1	0.5
Not known	-	-	-	-	1	2.8	-	-	-	-	1	0.5
<u>12. Calibre of Weapon</u>												
.22	19	67.9	27	54.0	28	77.7	39	67.2	14	63.6	127	65.5
12 gauge	2	7.1	9	18.0	1	2.8	3	5.2	2	9.1	17	8.8
Other	6	21.4	8	16.0	5	13.9	11	19.0	5	22.7	35	18.0
Not known	1	3.6	6	12.0	2	5.6	5	8.6	1	4.5	15	7.7
TOTAL	28	100.0	50	100.0	36	100.0	58	100.0	22	100.0	194	100.0

TABLE	N.S.W.		VIC.		S.A.		QLD.		W.A.		TOTAL	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
13. Age of Weapon												
Less than 1 year	3	10.7	9	18.0	4	11.1	9	15.5	2	9.1	27	13.9
1-4 years	11	39.3	10	20.0	7	19.5	8	13.8	7	31.8	43	22.2
5-9 years	3	10.7	7	14.0	6	16.7	6	19.3	2	9.1	24	12.4
Over 9 years	3	10.7	4	8.0	3	8.3	6	10.3	1	4.5	17	8.8
Not known	8	28.6	20	40.0	16	44.4	29	50.9	10	45.5	83	42.8
14. Condition of Firearm												
New, excellent	18	64.3	35	70.9	23	63.9	37	63.8	11	50.0	124	63.9
Average, fair	3	10.7	4	8.0	7	19.5	7	12.1	3	13.6	24	12.4
Neglected, bad	3	10.7	2	4.0	3	8.3	5	8.6	5	22.7	8	9.3
Not known	4	14.3	9	18.9	3	8.3	9	15.5	3	13.6	28	14.4
15. Age of Ammunition												
Less than 1 year	16	57.1	29	58.0	8	22.2	21	36.2	10	45.5	84	43.3
Over 1 year	2	7.2	2	4.0	1	2.8	4	6.9	-	-	9	4.6
Not known	10	35.7	19	38.0	27	75.0	33	56.9	12	55.5	101	52.1
16. Time of Accident												
Midnight to 6am.	1	3.6	8	16.0	1	2.8	5	8.6	1	4.5	16	8.2
6am. to noon	7	25.0	10	20.0	6	16.7	16	27.6	6	27.3	45	23.2
Noon to 6pm.	8	28.6	17	34.0	17	47.2	28	48.3	8	36.4	78	40.2
6pm. to midnight	2	42.8	15	30.0	11	30.5	9	15.5	5	22.7	52	26.8
Not known	-	-	-	-	1	2.8	-	-	2	9.1	3	1.6
17. Location												
Dense cover	2	7.2	3	6.0	1	2.8	-	-	-	-	6	3.1
Light cover	3	10.7	4	8.0	1	2.8	2	3.4	4	18.2	14	7.2
Open	9	32.1	31	62.0	20	55.5	30	51.7	10	45.5	100	51.6
Building/dwellin.	6	21.4	7	14.0	9	25.0	12	20.7	2	9.1	36	18.6
Vehicle	6	21.4	3	6.0	4	11.1	6	10.3	5	22.7	24	12.4
Not known	2	7.2	2	4.0	1	2.8	8	13.8	1	4.5	14	7.2
TOTAL	28	100.0	50	100.0	36	100.0	58	100.0	22	100	194	100.0

TABLE	N.S.W.		VIC.		S.A.		QLD.		W.A.		TOTAL	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
<u>18. Distance from Victim</u>												
0-10 yards	27	96.4	37	74.0	30	83.3	48	82.8	18	81.8	160	82.5
10-50 yards	-	-	6	12.0	3	8.3	3	5.2	2	9.1	14	7.2
50-100yards	-	-	2	4.0	-	-	4	6.9	1	4.5	7	3.6
Over 200 yards	-	-	1	2.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	0.5
Not known	1	3.6	4	8.0	3	8.3	3	5.2	1	4.5	12	6.2
<u>19. Cause of Accident.</u>												
Victim moved in line of fire	1	3.6	4	8.0	3	8.3	6	10.3	3	13.6	17	8.8
Victim out of sight of shooter	1	3.6	4	8.0	-	-	2	3.5	-	-	7	3.6
Shooter stumbled and fell	2	7.1	1	2.0	-	-	1	1.7	2	9.1	6	3.1
Weapon fell from insecure rest	2	7.1	2	4.0	1	2.8	4	6.9	-	-	9	4.6
Ricochet	1	3.6	3	6.0	3	8.3	5	8.6	2	9.1	14	7.2
Trigger caught on object	2	7.1	-	-	3	8.3	4	6.9	2	9.1	11	5.7
Transferring weapon in/out vehicle	2	7.1	2	4.0	4	11.1	2	3.5	1	4.5	11	5.7
Riding in vehicle with firearm	3	10.7	2	4.0	1	2.8	3	5.2	4	18.2	13	6.7
"Horse Play"	2	7.1	5	10.0	5	13.9	9	15.5	2	9.1	23	11.9
Crossing obstacle	-	-	1	2.0	1	2.8	1	1.7	1	4.5	4	2.0
Loading/unloading weapon	1	3.6	5	10.0	4	11.1	5	8.6	2	9.1	17	8.8
Defective weapon	2	7.1	-	-	-	-	1	1.7	-	-	3	1.6
Other	8	28.6	4	8.0	1	2.8	4	6.9	-	-	17	8.8
Not known	1	3.6	17	34.0	10	27.8	11	19.0	3	13.6	42	21.6
<u>20. Legal Proceedings Resulting from Accident</u>												
None	11	39.3	13	26.0	7	19.4	15	25.9	3	13.6	49	25.3
Not stated	16	57.1	24	48.0	25	69.5	40	68.9	19	86.4	124	63.9
Shooters charged	1	3.6	13	26.0	4	11.1	3	5.2	-	-	21	10.8
TOTAL	28	100.0	50	100.0	36	100.0	58	100.0	22	100.0	194	100

II SUICIDE/ATTEMPTED SUICIDE WITH FIREARMS

TABLE	N.S.W.		VIC.		S.A.		QLD.		W.A.		TOTAL	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
<u>21. Age of person</u>												
Less than 15 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15-18 years	-	-	7	8.3	-	-	3	15.8	1	12.5	11	8.0
19-21 years	1	10.0	15	17.9	2	12.5	1	5.3	-	-	19	13.9
22-25 years	-	-	8	9.5	4	25.0	1	5.3	1	12.5	14	10.2
26-30 years	1	10.0	8	9.5	3	18.7	1	5.3	1	12.5	14	10.2
31-35 years	1	10.0	9	10.7	2	12.5	-	-	1	12.5	13	9.5
36-40 years	1	10.0	9	10.7	1	6.3	4	21.0	2	25.0	17	12.4
41-50 years	3	30.0	11	13.1	1	6.3	4	21.0	-	-	19	13.9
51-60 years	-	-	8	9.5	3	18.7	3	15.8	-	-	14	10.2
Over 60 years	3	30.0	7	8.3	-	-	2	10.5	2	25.0	14	10.2
Not known	-	-	2	2.4	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1.5
<u>22. Sex of person</u>												
Male	10	100.0	75	89.3	13	81.3	18	94.7	7	87.5	123	89.8
Female	-	-	9	10.7	3	18.7	1	5.3	1	12.5	14	10.2
Not known	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<u>23. Type of casualty</u>												
Fatal	7	70.0	65	77.4	9	56.3	17	89.5	7	87.5	105	76.6
Non-fatal	3	30.0	19	22.6	7	43.7	2	10.5	1	12.5	32	23.4
Not known	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<u>24. Alcohol/Drugs Taken</u>												
Yes	2	20.0	19	22.6	3	18.7	6	31.6	2	25.0	32	23.4
No	4	40.0	25	29.8	6	37.5	11	57.9	5	62.5	51	37.2
Not known	4	40.0	40	47.6	7	43.8	2	10.5	1	12.5	54	39.4
<u>25. Type of weapon</u>												
Rifle	8	80.0	62	73.8	13	81.2	14	73.7	5	62.5	102	74.5
Shotgun	2	20.0	17	20.2	2	12.5	4	21.0	3	37.5	28	20.4
Other	-	-	4	4.8	1	6.3	1	5.3	-	-	6	4.4
Not known	-	-	1	1.2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	0.7
TOTAL	10	100.0	84	100.0	16	100.0	19	100.0	8	100.0	137	100.0

TABLE	N.S.W.		VIC.		S.A.		QLD.		W.A.		TOTAL	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
26. Age of Weapon												
Less than 1 year	-	-	15	17.8	4	25.0	1	5.3	-	-	20	14.6
1-4 years	-	-	13	15.5	1	6.3	2	10.5	2	25.0	18	13.1
5-9 years	1	10.0	4	4.8	1	6.3	1	5.3	1	12.5	8	5.8
Over 9 years	2	20.0	9	10.7	3	18.7	5	26.3	2	25.0	21	15.3
Not known	7	70.0	43	51.2	7	43.8	10	52.6	3	37.5	70	51.1
27. Time of Casualty												
Midnight to 6am	2	20.0	7	8.3	1	6.3	1	5.3	-	-	11	8.0
6am.to noon	1	10.0	16	19.0	3	18.7	2	10.5	2	25.0	24	17.5
Noon to 6pm	1	10.0	14	16.7	4	25.0	3	15.8	2	25.0	24	17.5
6pm to midnight	4	40.9	22	26.2	2	12.5	5	26.3	1	12.5	34	24.8
Not known	2	20.0	25	29.8	6	37.5	8	42.1	3	37.5	44	32.1
28. Location												
Open	6	60.0	27	32.1	6	37.5	7	36.8	1	12.5	47	34.3
Building/Dwelling	3	30.0	31	36.9	6	37.5	7	36.8	4	50.0	51	37.2
Vehicle	-	-	5	6.0	2	12.5	-	-	2	25.0	9	6.6
Other	1	10.0	2	2.4	-	-	2	10.5	1	12.5	6	4.4
Not known	-	-	19	22.6	2	12.5	3	15.8	-	-	24	17.5
TOTAL	10	100.0	84	100.0	16	100.0	19	100.0	8	100.0	137	100.0

III INTENTIONAL SHOOTINGS.

TABLE	H.S.W.		VIC.		S.A.		QLD.		W.A.		TOTAL	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
29. Age of Shooter												
Less than 15 years	-	-	-	-	2	33.3	-	-	-	-	2	5.7
15-19 years	1	25.0	1	4.6	1	16.7	-	-	1	100.0	4	11.4
20-25 years	2	50.9	6	27.3	1	16.7	-	-	-	-	9	25.7
26-29 years	-	-	3	13.6	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	8.6
30-39 years	-	-	3	13.6	-	-	2	100.	-	-	5	14.3
40-49 years	1	25.0	3	13.6	1	16.7	-	-	-	-	5	14.3
50-59 years	-	-	2	9.1	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	5.7
60 years and over	-	-	1	4.6	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2.9
Not known	-	-	3	13.6	1	16.7	-	-	-	-	4	11.4
30. Age of Victim												
Less than 15 years	-	-	-	-	2	33.3	-	-	-	-	2	5.7
15-19 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
20-25 years	-	-	4	18.2	2	33.3	1	50.0	-	-	7	20.0
26-29 years	1	25.0	4	18.2	1	16.7	-	-	-	-	6	17.1
30-39 years	2	50.0	5	22.7	-	-	-	-	1	100.0	8	22.9
40-49 years	-	-	2	9.1	1	16.7	-	-	-	-	3	8.6
50-59 years	-	-	3	13.6	-	-	1	50.0	-	-	4	11.4
60 and over	1	25.0	1	4.6	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	8.6
Not known	-	-	3	13.6	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	8.6
31. Sex of Shooter												
Male	3	75.0	18	81.3	5	83.3	1	50.0	1	100.0	28	80.0
Female	1	25.0	1	4.6	-	-	1	50.0	-	-	3	8.6
Not known	-	-	3	13.6	1	16.7	-	-	-	-	4	11.4
32. Sex of Victim												
Male	4	100.0	11	50.0	3	50.0	1	50.0	1	100.0	20	57.1
Female	-	-	10	45.5	3	50.0	1	50.0	-	-	14	40.0
Not known	-	-	1	4.5	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2.0
TOTAL	4	100.0	22	100.0	6	100.0	2	100.0	1	100.0	33	100.0

TABLE	N.S.W.		VIC.		S.A.		QLD.		N.A.		TOTAL.	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
33. <u>Type of Casualty</u>												
Fatal	-	-	15	68.2	3	50.0	1	50.0	-	-	20	57.1
Non-fatal	4	100.0	7	31.8	1	50.0	1	50.0	1	100.0	16	45.7
Not known	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
34. <u>Use of Alcohol/Drugs</u>												
By shooter	2	50.0	3	13.6	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	14.3
By victim	1	25.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2.9
By both	1	25.0	1	4.6	-	-	1	50.0	-	-	3	8.6
None	-	-	8	36.4	6	100.0	-	-	1	100.0	15	42.9
Not known	-	-	10	45.4	-	-	1	50.0	-	-	11	31.4
35. <u>Location of Wound</u> *												
Head	1	1	11	-	5	-	1	-	-	-	18	-
Chest	1	-	5	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	7	-
Abdomen	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Legs	-	-	4	-	-	-	1	-	1	100.0	1	-
Other	2	-	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	5	-
Not known	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	2	-
* In some instances there were multiple wounds.												
36. <u>Time of Shooting</u>												
Midnight to 6am.	2	50.0	6	27.3	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	22.9
6am to noon	1	25.0	1	4.5	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	5.7
Noon to 6pm.	1	25.0	5	22.7	2	33.3	-	-	-	-	8	22.9
6pm to midnight	-	-	6	27.3	1	16.7	1	50.0	1	100.0	9	25.7
Not known	-	-	4	18.2	3	50.0	1	50.0	-	-	8	22.9
37. <u>Location of Shooting</u>												
Open	3	75.0	12	54.5	4	66.7	1	50.0	-	-	20	57.1
Building/Dwelling	1	25.0	6	27.3	1	16.7	1	50.0	-	-	9	25.7
Vehicle	-	-	2	9.1	1	16.7	-	-	-	-	3	8.6
Other	-	-	1	4.5	-	-	-	-	1	100.0	2	5.7
Not known	-	-	1	4.5	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2.9
TOTAL	4	100.0	22	100.0	6	100.0	2	100.0	1	100.0	33	100.0

TABLE	N.S.W.		VIC.		S.A.		QLD.		W.A.		TOTAL	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
38. Type of Firearm												
Rife	3	75.0	9	40.9	4	66.7	1	50.0	-	-	17	48.6
Shotgun	1	25.0	6	27.3	-	-	-	-	1	100.0	8	22.9
Other	-	-	5	22.7	2	33.3	1	50.0	-	-	8	22.9
Not known	-	-	2	9.1	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	5.7
39. Age of Firearm												
Less than 1 year	-	-	4	18.2	1	16.7	-	-	-	-	5	14.3
1-4 years	-	-	2	9.1	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	5.7
5-9 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	100.0	1	2.9
Over 9 years	-	-	3	13.6	-	-	1	50.0	-	-	4	11.4
Not known	4	100.0	13	59.1	5	83.3	1	50.0	-	-	23	65.7
40. Legal Proceedings												
Murder/Attempted murder	-	-	8	36.4	2	33.3	-	-	-	-	10	28.6
Manslaughter	-	-	-	-	1	16.7	-	-	-	-	1	2.9
Malicious wounding	4	100.0	1	4.5	-	-	1	50.0	-	-	6	17.1
Other	-	-	1	4.5	1	16.7	-	-	-	-	2	5.7
Not stated	-	-	12	54.6	2	33.3	1	50.0	1	100.0	16	45.7
TOTAL	4	100.0	22	100.0	6	100.0	2	100.0	1	100.0	33	100.0

FIREARMS CASUALTY REPORT FORM

INSTRUCTIONS TO INVESTIGATING POLICE: For the purpose of this report, a Firearms Casualty is a casualty in which a person is killed or injured by a firearm of any type, including a speargun and an explosive powered tool. Fill in as much of the requested information as can be obtained. Insert "X" in appropriate squares. Where reliable information is unknown, indicate "unknown". Complete and return two copies, being sure that the carbon copy is legible.

1. State _____ 2. Locality _____
 3. Date of Casualty _____ 4. Time of Day _____
 5. Type of Casualty: Fatal Non fatal 6. Description of Injuries _____

7. Was injury or death self inflicted: Yes No
 If answer is "Yes", supply information below under "SHOOTER"

If answer is "No", supply information below under both headings "SHOOTER" and "VICTIM"

SHOOTER

VICTIM

Name _____ Address _____
 Name _____ Address _____

8. Age _____ 9. Age _____

10. Male Female 11. Male Female
 12. Under apparent influence of intoxicants or drugs? Yes No Unknown 13. Under apparent influence of intoxicants or drugs? Yes No Unknown

14. Number of years firearms handling experience _____ 15. Number of years firearms handling experience _____

16. Was the firearm registered? Yes No 17. Does State legislation require the firearms to be registered. Yes No

18. Was the shooter licensed? Yes No 19. Does State legislation require him to be licensed. Yes No

20. Firearm? Rifle Shotgun Air rifle Revolver Automatic pistol Speargun Explosive powered tool Other Unknown

21. Calibre, make, type and model of firearm _____

22. Condition and age of firearm _____

23. Condition and age of ammunition _____

24. If it is considered that casualty was due to defective manufacture or design of firearm or ammunition, full details should be furnished. (Weapon and/or ammunition should be held for expert examination.)

25. Distance of muzzle of firearm to victim in yards? 0-10 10-50 50-100 100 or more Unknown

26. Injury occurred during hunting? Yes No

27. Cause of casualty (mark one (1) only):

- | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|--|--------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| Crime | <input type="checkbox"/> | Ricochet | <input type="checkbox"/> | Loading | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Suicide or attempted suicide | <input type="checkbox"/> | Trigger caught on brush or other object | <input type="checkbox"/> | Unloading | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Victim moved in line of fire | <input type="checkbox"/> | Removing weapon from or placing in vehicle | <input type="checkbox"/> | Defective weapon | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Victim out of sight of shooter | <input type="checkbox"/> | Riding in vehicle with loaded firearm "Horse Play"—Didn't know it was loaded | <input type="checkbox"/> | Defective ammunition | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Victim mistaken for game | <input type="checkbox"/> | Crossing fence or other obstacle with loaded weapon | <input type="checkbox"/> | Unknown | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Shooter stumbled and fell | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | Other | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Weapon fell from insecure rest | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | | |

28. Victim was in (mark one (1) only): Dense cover Light cover Open Unknown

29. Visibility was (mark one (1) only): Clear Partly overcast Poor Dark Unknown

Remarks _____

(NOTE: Under remarks add any pertinent information not covered in the form itself. Include a statement concerning any legal proceedings resulting from the casualty.)

SIGNATURE _____

RANK _____

DATE _____

STATION _____

STATE _____

FIREARM STUDY

Q. 1. File Number

Q. 2. Locality (enter local government code).....

Q. 3. Time of day (hours - 01-24) (not stated 99).....

Q. 4. Type of casualty.....
 1. Fatal; 2. Non-fatal; 3. Not known.

Q. 5. Description of injuries
Insert wound location

Chest	Yes 1	No 2	<input type="checkbox"/>
Abdomen	"	"	<input type="checkbox"/>
Head	"	"	<input type="checkbox"/>
Back	"	"	<input type="checkbox"/>
Neck	"	"	<input type="checkbox"/>
Shoulders	"	"	<input type="checkbox"/>
Legs	"	"	<input type="checkbox"/>
Arms	"	"	<input type="checkbox"/>
Not known/Not Stated	"	"	<input type="checkbox"/>

Q. 6. Was injury or death self inflicted?.....
 Yes 1, No 2.

Q. 7. SHOOTER

Area of residence (enter local government code).....
 If shooter unknown - code 999)

Age (Years).....
 (If age not known - code 99)

Q. 8. Sex.....
 Male 1; Female 2; Not known 3.

Q. 9. VICTIM (if applicable)

Area of residence (enter local government code).....
 Age (years).....

Q. 10. Sex.....
 Male 1; Female 2

Q. 11. Was alcohol consumed prior to casualty?.....

Q. 12. 1. Shooter
 2. Victim
 3. By both
 4. No alcohol consumed by (either)
 5. Not known/not stated.

Q. 14. Shooter
 Victim
 (not known/not applicable code 99)

Q. 15. Type of weapon (enter codes).....

PREFIX

- 1. Single shot
- 2. Repeater
- 3. Self loading
- 4. Double barrel
- 5. Not relevant

WEAPON

- 1. Rifle
- 2. Shotgun
- 3. Air-fifle
- 4. Revolver
- 5. Automatic pistol
- 6. Speargun
- 7. Explosive powered tool.
- 8. Other
- 9. Not known/not stated

Q. 16. FIREARM

Calibre (enter code).....

- 01 9mm
- 02 12 guage
- 03 16 "
- 04 .17
- 05 20 "
- 06 .22
- 07 .25
- 08 .32
- 09 .38
- 10 .45
- 11 .177
- 12 .222
- 13 .243
- 14 .270
- 15 .303
- 16 .308
- 17 .410
- 18 other
- 19 not stated
- 20 not relevant.

Q. 17. Condition of firearm (enter code).....

- 1. Neglected, old, bad.
- 2. Average, fair
- 3. New, very good, excellent, good.
- 9. Not known/not stated.

Age (of firearm). Enter code.....

- 01. 0-11 months
- 02 12-23 months
- 03 2-4 years
- 04 5-9 years
- 05 10-19 years
- 06 20-29 years
- 07 30+
- 08 Antique
- 99 Not known/not stated.

Q. 18 AMMUNITION

Age (enter code as appears in Q.17 above).....

Condition (see Q.17 for code).....

Q. 19 Was victim in?.....

- 1. dense cover
- 2. light cover
- 3. open
- 4. Building/dwelling
- 5. vehicle
- 6. not known

Q. 20 Distance of muzzle of firearm to victim (enter code).....

- 1. Contact
- 2. 0-10 yards
- 3. 10-50 "
- 4. 50-100 "
- 5. 100+
- 9. Not known/not stated.

Q. 21. Cause of casualty (enter code).....

- 01. Crime
- 02. Suicide or attempted suicide
- 03. Victim moved in line of fire
- 04. Victim out of sight of shooter
- 05. Victim mistaken for game
- 06. Shooter stumbled and fell
- 07. Weapon fell from insecure rest
- 08. Ricochet
- 09. Trigger caught on brush or other object
- 10. Removing weapon from or placing in vehicle.
- 11. Riding in vehicle with loaded firearm
- 12. 'horse play' - didn't know it was loaded.
- 13. Crossing fence or other obstacle with loaded weapon
- 14. Loading
- 15. Unloading
- 16. Defective weapon
- 17. Defective ammunition
- 18. Unknown
- 19. Other

Q. 22. Did any legal proceedings result from casualty?.....

- 1. Yes
- 2. No
- 3. Not known/not stated

Q. 22a IF YES - nature of charge (enter code).....

- 01 Murder
- 02 Attempt murder
- 03 Manslaughter
- 04 Malicious wounding
- 05 Shoot with intent to prevent arrest
- 06 Shoot with intent to cause grievous bodily harm
- 07 Armed robbery
- 08 Robbery without wounding
- 09 Unlicensed pistol
- 10 Carry firearm/shoot on Sunday
- 11 Sell firearm to minor
- 12 Other
- 13 Discharge firearm in public street
- 14 Possession of firearm under influence liquor/drug
- 99 Not relevant

Q. 23. STATE (enter code).....

- 1. N.S.W.
- 2. VICTORIA
- 3. QUEENSLAND
- 4. SOUTH AUSTRALIA
- 5. WESTERN AUSTRALIA
- 6. TASMANIA
- 7. A.C.T.
- 8. NORTHERN TERRITORY

