

## Homicides by Australian male teens rising

*by UPI*

CANBERRA, Australia -- Australian crime statistics showed that in 2005-06, the number of homicides committed by teen males in Australia had doubled from the previous year. The Australian Institute of Criminology figures showed that in 2005-06, 57 young men between the ages of 15 and 19 committed homicides in Australia. The Australian reported Thursday that in the previous year 22 homicides were committed by male members of the same group. Those crime figures also showed that indigenous Australians continue to make up a significant percentage of homicide victims and perpetrators. In certain areas of Australia, indigenous residents represented more than 90 percent of those regions' homicide victims last year. The nation's indigenous female population accounted for 25 percent of 2005-06's homicide offenders, despite making up just 2 percent of Australia's total female population. The Australian said that homicides rose overall in 2005-06 with a total of 301 nationwide, in comparison with the previous year's total of 267.

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