



RECORDED CRIME - VICTIMS

AUSTRALIA

EMBARGO: 11.30AM (CANBERRA TIME) THURS 26 JUN 2008

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INQUIRIES

For further information about these and related statistics, contact the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070 or Terence Byrnes on Melbourne (03) 9615 7681.

NOTES

- ABOUT THIS PUBLICATION** This publication presents national crime statistics relating to victims of a selected range of offences that have been recorded by police. These statistics provide indicators of the level and nature of recorded crime victimisation in Australia and a basis for measuring change over time. As not all crimes are reported to or recorded by police, other data sources can assist in providing a more comprehensive view of crime levels in society.
- INTERPRETATION OF RESULTS** The statistics contained in this publication are derived from administrative systems maintained by state and territory police. Although national standards and classifications are used, differences over time in the level of recorded crime may reflect factors other than a change in the incidence of crime. Over time there have been significant changes in police recording systems, business rules and legislation resulting in some discrepancies remaining between states and territories for some offence types. Short term effects on the level of crime recorded by police may also occur as a result of individual jurisdictional initiatives, such as special task forces formed to combat particular offences, or implementation of proactive policing campaigns to encourage reporting by the public. Details of differences that impact on the statistics are in the Explanatory Notes paragraphs 27–104.
- CHANGES IN THIS ISSUE** The National Crime Statistics Unit (NCSU) has developed in collaboration with police agencies a National Crime Recording Standard (NCRS). This standard comprises a set of business rules and requirements to guide the recording and counting of criminal incidents by police. Some jurisdictions have implemented the NCRS part way through the 2007 calendar year. For further information see Explanatory Notes paragraphs 18–26.
- The offence of driving causing death is no longer available at the national level as not all jurisdictions can supply this information.
- Estimated Resident Population data used to calculate rates and indexes in this issue have changed. See Explanatory Notes paragraphs 115–117.
- ROUNDING** Discrepancies may occur between sums of component items and totals across tables due to rounding and randomisation.
- INFORMATION ON ABS CRIME AND JUSTICE** More information about ABS activities in the field of crime and justice statistics is available from the Crime and Justice theme page on the ABS website. Details of other ABS publications relating to crime and justice statistics can be found in paragraph 132 of the Explanatory Notes.
- ACKNOWLEDGMENTS** The ABS acknowledges the valuable contribution of the Board of Management of the NCSU, the National Crime Statistics Advisory Group and the staff of the various agencies that provide the statistics that are presented in this publication.

Brian Pink
Australian Statistician

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

INTRODUCTION

This publication presents statistics on incidents of victimisation for a selected range of offences that came to the attention of police and were recorded by them in the period 1 January 2007 to 31 December 2007. Experimental statistics on the Indigenous status of victims of recorded crimes are presented for two states and territories at Appendix 1.

MEASURING CRIME

When an incident of crime victimisation occurs, there are a number of ways in which this can be measured and a number of stages where a measurement can be taken, from the time that a person perceives that they have been a victim through to reporting to police and the laying of charges. From among a range of possible ways of measuring crime, there are two major sources of data produced by the ABS that can inform the user about crime victimisation. The first of these is a measure of crimes reported to and recorded by police; and the second is direct reports from members of the public about their experiences of crime as collected in household surveys. Neither of these sources will provide a definitive measure of crime victimisation, but together they provide a more comprehensive picture of victimisation than either measure alone. Both sources have a number of limitations, however, of which users should be aware.

RECORDED CRIME

Recorded crime statistics are the result of incidents coming to police attention and a subsequent decision making process carried out by police in accordance with the criminal law. As such they are subject to different legislation, rules of operation and procedures in different jurisdictions. A 'differences in recorded crime' project completed by the ABS in 2005 found that differences between jurisdictions in police recording systems, business rules, procedures and legislation can partly explain differences in recorded crime across states and territories for certain offence types, in addition to changes in the incidence of criminal victimisation. This is particularly so for assault and sexual assault. As a result, this publication does not present national statistics for these two offences although data for states and territories are presented. For further information about differences across jurisdictions refer to paragraphs 27–104 of the Explanatory Notes.

ABS NATIONAL CRIME VICTIMISATION SURVEYS

National level information for assault and sexual assault, as well as data for a range of other offences, are available from the 2005 ABS National Crime and Safety Survey (NCSS) and the 2005 ABS Personal Safety Survey (PSS). The NCSS measured people's perceptions of crime in the community and whether or not the crimes were reported to police. Further detailed information about the survey results can be found in *Crime and Safety, Australia, 2005* (cat. no. 4509.0). The PSS measured people's experience of violence, harassment or stalking. Further detailed information about the survey results can be found in *Personal Safety Survey, Australia, 2005* (cat. no. 4906.0). The next NCSS will be conducted in 2008 for the 2008-09 reference period.

Caution should be exercised in making any direct comparisons between recorded crime statistics and data from ABS household surveys due to the different scope and coverage, methods of measurement and sources of error. For more information refer to paragraphs 125–127 of the Explanatory Notes.

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS *continued*

VICTIM COUNTS

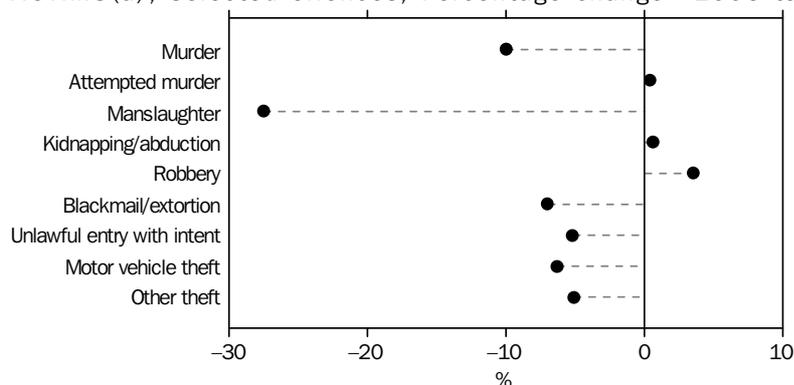
Depending on the type of offence, a victim in the recorded crime collection can be a person, a premises, an organisation or a motor vehicle. A person reporting a crime with multiple offences in the same incident may either be counted multiple times, or may be counted only once, depending on the types of offences committed during the incident. For example, a victim who was robbed and abducted in the same incident would be counted separately as a victim under the offences of robbery and kidnapping/abduction. Conversely, a victim of multiple assaults in the same incident would be counted only once as the offences committed fall within the same offence group. For these reasons, it is not meaningful to aggregate the number of victims across each offence type and produce a 'total number of victims'; it is only meaningful to look at victim counts within each offence category.

For further information about the scope and counting methodology of this collection refer to paragraphs 3–10 and 107–114 of the Explanatory Notes.

NUMBER OF VICTIMS

Compared to 2006, the number of victims recorded by Australian state and territory police agencies in 2007 decreased for manslaughter, murder, blackmail/extortion, motor vehicle theft, unlawful entry with intent and other theft (table 1). The offence categories recording the largest declines were manslaughter (down 28%) and murder (down 10%). Conversely, there was an increase in the number of victims of robbery (up 4%).

VICTIMS(a), Selected offences, Percentage change—2006 to 2007



(a) The definition of a victim varies according to the category of the offence, all victim types have been included (see Glossary for detail).

VICTIMISATION RATE

In 2007, the Australian victimisation rates for selected personal offence categories were:

- Murder, 1.2 victims per 100,000 persons, down from 1.4 victims in 2006
 - Attempted murder, 1.2 victims per 100,000 persons, no change from 2006
 - Kidnapping/abduction, 3.5 victims per 100,000 persons, no change from 2006
 - Robbery, 86 victims per 100,000 persons, up from 84 victims in 2006
 - Blackmail/extortion, 2.0 victims per 100,000 persons, down from 2.1 victims in 2006
- (table 1)

Note: For robbery and blackmail/extortion, a victim can be a person or an organisation.

Selected household crimes continued a declining trend in victimisation; motor vehicle theft (336 victims per 100,000 persons) had the lowest rate since national reporting began in 1993. In comparison, the rate in 2006 was 364 victims per 100,000 persons. The victimisation rate for other theft (2,342 victims per 100,000 persons) was the lowest since

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS *continued*

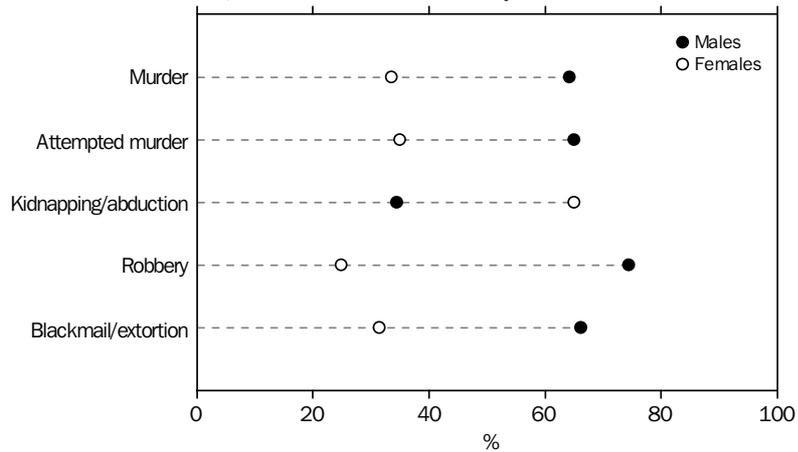
VICTIMISATION RATE
continued

national reporting began for that offence in 1995. In comparison, the rate was 2,506 victims per 100,000 persons in 2006. The victimisation rate for unlawful entry with intent decreased from 1,266 victims per 100,000 persons in 2006 to 1,182 victims per 100,000 persons in 2007.

SEX AND AGE OF VICTIM

In 2007, more males than females were victims of robbery (74% of victims were male), blackmail/extortion (66%), attempted murder (65%) and murder (64%) (table 2). For kidnapping/abduction, more females were victims than males (65%).

PERSON VICTIMS, Selected offences by sex



Over 40% of victims of murder (109 people) and attempted murder (110 people) were aged 25–44 years. A further 30% of murder victims (76 people) were aged 45 years and over.

In 2007, 37% (267 people) of victims of kidnapping/abduction were aged 0–14 years. A further 33% (242 people) were aged 15–24 years and 15% (107 people) were aged 25–34 years.

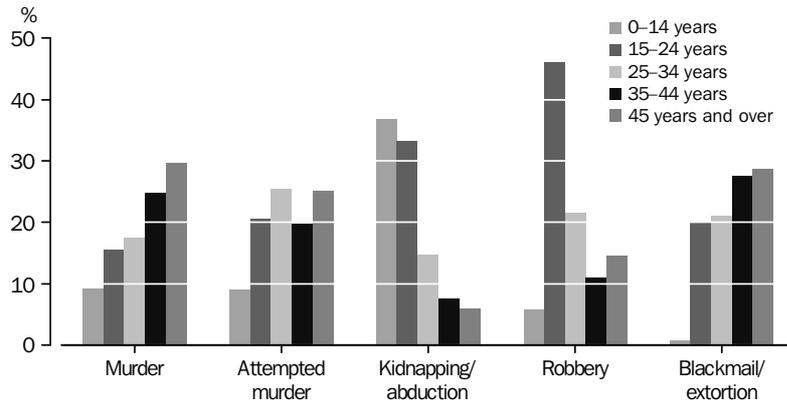
More than 45% (7,176 people) of victims of robbery were aged 15–24 years, followed by those aged 25–34 years at 21% (3,342 people).

Almost 30% (110 people) of blackmail/extortion victims during 2007 were aged 45 years and over.

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS *continued*

SEX AND AGE OF VICTIM *continued*

PERSON VICTIMS(a), Selected offences by age group



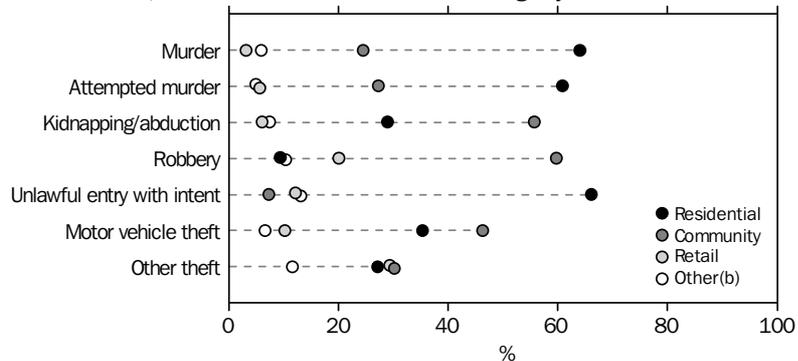
(a) Does not include victims for whom age was not specified.

LOCATION OF OFFENCE

Residential locations were the most likely place of occurrence for murder (64%), attempted murder (61%) and unlawful entry with intent (66%) (table 4). For victims of motor vehicle theft, this offence was most likely to have occurred in a community location (46%), followed by a residential location (35%).

Robbery victims were most likely to be subjected to this offence in a community location (60%). Of the total robbery offences occurring in a community location (10,734), more than three quarters (77%) occurred on a street/footpath. More than half of the victims (56%) of kidnapping/abduction were taken from a community location, and a further 29% were taken from a residential location. Other theft mainly occurred in community or retail locations (30% and 29% respectively).

VICTIMS(a), Selected offences occurring by selected locations



(a) The definition of a victim varies according to the category of the offence, all victim types have been included (see Glossary).

(b) Includes recreational locations.

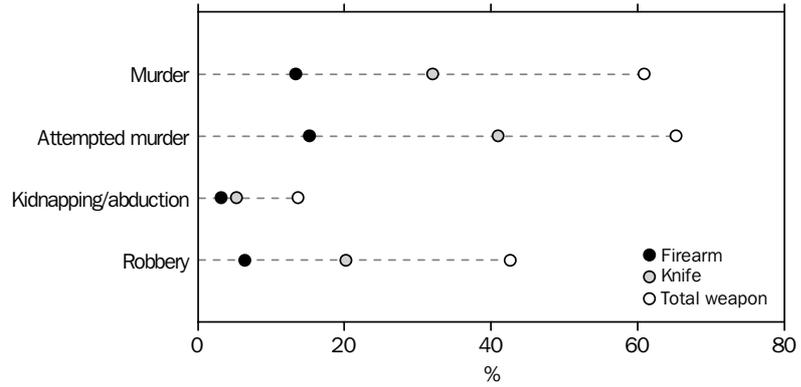
WEAPON USE

In 2007, a weapon was used in 65% of attempted murders, 61% of murders and 43% of robberies (table 5). A knife was the most common type of weapon used in committing these offences. More than two in five (41%) attempted murder victims, 32% of murder victims and 20% of robbery victims were subjected to an offence involving a knife. A firearm was involved in 15% of attempted murder, 13% of murder and 6% of robbery offences. Most (86%) kidnapping/abduction offences and over half (57%) of robbery offences committed did not involve the use of a weapon.

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS *continued*

WEAPON USE *continued*

VICTIMS(a), Weapon used in commission of offence



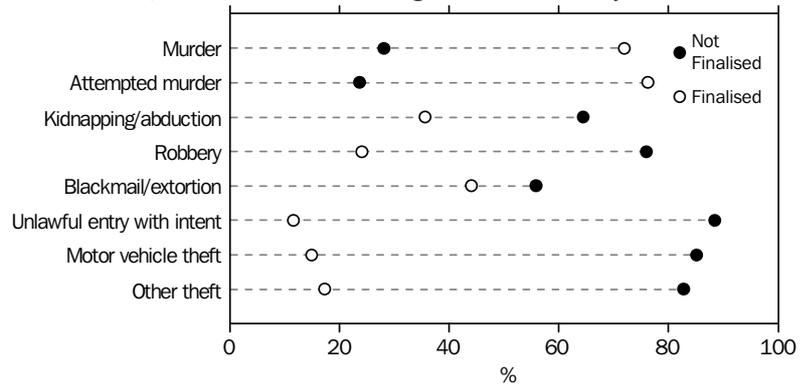
(a) The definition of a victim varies according to the category of the offence, all victim types have been included (see Glossary).

OUTCOME OF INVESTIGATION

In 2007, 76% of the police investigations into attempted murder and 72% for murder were finalised within 30 days of a victim becoming known to police (table 7).

The lowest proportions of finalisations at 30 days were for victims of unlawful entry with intent (12%), motor vehicle theft (15%) and other theft (17%).

VICTIMS(a), Outcome of investigation at 30 days



(a) The definition of a victim varies according to the category of the offence, all victim types have been included (see Glossary).

VICTIMS(a), Offence category—1998–2007

	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007(b)
NUMBER										
Homicide and related offences(c)										
Murder	287	344	316	310	318	302	263	259	281	253
Attempted murder	386	360	393	459	399	361	311	271	r244	245
Manslaughter	47	41	46	37	48	39	39	42	r40	29
<i>Total homicide and related offences</i>	720	745	755	806	765	702	613	572	r565	527
Kidnapping/abduction(d)	707	766	695	767	706	696	768	729	r726	730
Robbery(e)										
Armed robbery	10 850	9 452	9 483	11 233	7 840	7 189	6 030	7 327	r7 596	7 670
Unarmed robbery	12 951	13 154	13 853	15 358	13 149	12 520	10 483	9 849	r9 779	10 318
<i>Total robbery</i>	23 801	22 606	23 336	26 591	20 989	19 709	16 513	17 176	r17 375	17 988
Blackmail/extortion(f)	272	254	255	358	355	386	372	393	r444	413
Unlawful entry with intent(g)										
Involving the taking of property	339 512	322 983	na	325 220	292 748	262 657	226 398	202 844	r183 734	173 174
Other	94 864	92 752	na	110 534	101 575	91 363	82 277	79 150	r78 271	75 249
<i>Total unlawful entry with intent</i>	434 376	415 735	436 968	435 754	394 323	354 020	308 675	281 994	r262 005	248 423
Motor vehicle theft(h)	131 587	129 552	138 912	139 894	113 460	98 298	87 939	80 365	r75 377	70 650
Other theft(i)	563 482	612 559	681 268	700 137	680 799	624 036	548 778	518 335	r518 734	492 222

	RATE PER 100,000 PERSONS (j)									
Homicide and related offences(c)										
Murder	1.5	1.8	1.7	1.6	1.6	1.5	1.3	1.3	1.4	1.2
Attempted murder	2.1	1.9	2.1	2.4	2.0	1.8	1.5	1.3	r1.2	1.2
Manslaughter	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	r0.2	0.1
<i>Total homicide and related offences</i>	3.8	3.9	3.9	4.2	3.9	3.5	3.0	2.8	r2.7	2.5
Kidnapping/abduction(d)	3.8	4.0	3.6	4.0	3.6	3.5	3.8	3.6	r3.5	3.5
Robbery(e)										
Armed robbery	58.0	49.9	49.5	57.9	39.9	36.1	30.0	35.9	r36.7	36.5
Unarmed robbery	69.2	69.5	72.3	79.1	66.9	62.9	52.1	48.3	r47.2	49.1
<i>Total robbery</i>	127.2	119.5	121.9	137.0	106.8	99.1	82.0	84.2	r83.9	85.6
Blackmail/extortion(f)	1.5	1.3	1.3	1.8	1.8	1.9	1.8	1.9	r2.1	2.0
Unlawful entry with intent(g)										
Involving the taking of property	1 814.7	1 706.8	na	1 675.5	1 489.8	1 320.2	1 124.7	994.5	r887.6	824.1
Other	507.1	490.1	na	569.5	516.9	459.2	408.7	388.0	r378.1	358.1
<i>Total unlawful entry with intent</i>	2 321.8	2 197.0	2 281.7	2 244.9	2 006.7	1 779.4	1 533.4	1 382.5	r1 265.8	1 182.1
Motor vehicle theft(h)	703.4	684.6	725.4	720.7	577.4	494.1	436.8	394.0	r364.2	336.2
Other theft(i)	3 011.9	3 237.1	3 557.4	3 607.0	3 464.6	3 136.6	2 726.1	2 541.2	r2 506.1	2 342.3

na not available

r revised

(a) The definition of a victim varies according to the category of the offence (see Glossary).

(b) Counts for Queensland may be understated (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 46).

(c) The offence of driving causing death is excluded as it is no longer available at the national level as not all jurisdictions can supply this information.

(d) Counts for New South Wales may be inflated slightly (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 33).

(e) Data prior to 2005 are no longer comparable (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 29).

(f) May include instances of food tampering for South Australia. Data may be understated for Western Australia prior to 2003 (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 75).

(g) Data prior to 2006 are no longer comparable (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 30).

(h) Western Australia data includes theft of caravans and trailers which are out of scope. Northern Territory data are duplicated prior to 2002 (see footnote 'e' page 23).

(i) The offences included in other theft can vary between states and territories (see footnote 'f' page 17, footnote 'e' page 18, footnote 'e' page 19, footnotes 'e' and 'h' page 20 and footnote 'e' page 23).

(j) Estimated Resident Population data used to calculate rates and indexes in this issue have changed (see Explanatory Notes paragraphs 115–117).

	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007(b)
INDEXED RATE (c)(d)										
Homicide and related offences(e)										
Murder	96.1	113.8	103.3	100.0	101.3	95.0	81.8	79.5	85.0	75.4
Attempted murder	87.3	80.5	86.8	100.0	85.9	76.7	65.3	56.2	r49.9	49.3
Manslaughter	131.8	113.7	126.0	100.0	128.1	102.8	101.6	108.0	r101.4	72.4
<i>Total homicide and related offences</i>	92.7	94.8	94.9	100.0	93.8	85.0	73.3	67.5	r65.7	60.4
Kidnapping/abduction(f)	95.6	102.4	91.8	100.0	90.9	88.5	96.6	90.4	r88.8	87.9
Robbery(g)										
Armed robbery	100.2	86.3	85.6	100.0	68.9	62.4	51.8	np	np	np
Unarmed robbery	87.5	87.9	91.4	100.0	84.6	79.5	65.8	np	np	np
<i>Total robbery</i>	92.9	87.2	88.9	100.0	78.0	72.3	59.9	np	np	np
Blackmail/extortion(h)	78.8	72.8	72.2	100.0	98.0	105.2	100.2	104.5	r116.3	106.6
Unlawful entry with intent(i)										
Involving the taking of property	108.3	101.9	na	100.0	88.9	78.8	67.1	59.4	np	np
Other	89.0	86.1	na	100.0	90.8	80.6	71.8	68.1	np	np
<i>Total unlawful entry with intent</i>	103.4	97.9	101.6	100.0	89.4	79.3	68.3	61.6	np	np
Motor vehicle theft(j)	97.6	95.0	100.6	100.0	80.1	68.6	60.6	54.7	r50.5	46.6
Other theft(k)	83.5	89.7	98.6	100.0	96.1	87.0	75.6	70.5	r69.5	64.9

na not available

np not available for publication but included in totals where applicable, unless otherwise indicated

r revised

(a) The definition of a victim varies according to the category of the offence (see Glossary).

(b) Counts for Queensland may be understated (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 46).

(c) Base of each index: 2001 = 100.0 (see Explanatory Notes paragraphs 119–122).

(d) Estimated Resident Population data used to calculate rates and indexes in this issue have changed (see Explanatory Notes paragraphs 115–117).

(e) The offence of driving causing death is excluded as it is no longer available at the national level as not all jurisdictions can supply this information.

(f) Counts for New South Wales may be inflated slightly (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 33).

(g) Data prior to 2005 are no longer comparable (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 29).

(h) May include instances of food tampering for South Australia. Data may be understated for Western Australia prior to 2003 (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 75).

(i) Data prior to 2006 are no longer comparable (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 30).

(j) Western Australia data includes theft of caravans and trailers which are out of scope. Northern Territory data are duplicated prior to 2002 (see footnote 'e' page 23).

(k) The offences included in other theft can vary between states and territories (see footnote 'f' page 17, footnote 'e' page 18, footnote 'e' page 19, footnotes 'e' and 'h' page 20 and footnote 'e' page 23).

PERSON VICTIMS, Sex and age group by offence category

Age group (years)	Murder	Attempted murder	Kidnapping/ abduction(a)	Robbery(b)	Blackmail/ extortion(b)
MALES					
0-9	11	7	40	33	—
10-14	3	—	58	717	—
15-19	10	12	41	3 209	17
20-24	19	28	33	2 517	24
25-34	27	40	31	2 448	54
35-44	43	32	24	1 176	80
45-54	22	24	11	767	41
55-64	11	10	8	419	22
65 years and over	14	5	4	197	12
Total(c)	165	158	250	11 570	255
FEMALES					
0-9	7	12	68	6	—
10-14	3	3	101	138	3
15-19	3	3	103	657	13
20-24	8	7	65	749	20
25-34	18	22	76	877	27
35-44	18	16	31	539	26
45-54	11	9	14	450	19
55-64	4	5	—	221	10
65 years and over	11	8	6	210	3
Total(c)	86	85	471	3 873	121
PERSONS (d)					
0-9	18	19	108	39	—
10-14	6	3	159	858	3
15-19	13	15	144	3 887	33
20-24	27	35	98	3 289	44
25-34	45	62	107	3 342	81
35-44	64	48	55	1 724	106
45-54	33	33	25	1 222	60
55-64	15	15	8	644	35
65 years and over	28	13	10	411	15
Total(c)	257	243	726	15 559	385

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(a) Counts for New South Wales may be inflated slightly (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 33).

(b) Refers to person victims only and does not include organisations as victims. Therefore totals are considerably lower than those in tables elsewhere in the publication.

(c) Includes victims for whom age was not specified.

(d) Includes victims for whom sex was not specified.

PERSON VICTIMISATION RATE(a), Sex and age group by offence category

Age group (years)	Murder	Attempted murder	Kidnapping/ abduction(b)	Robbery(c)	Blackmail/ extortion(c)
MALES					
0-9	0.8	0.5	2.9	2.4	—
10-14	0.4	—	8.1	99.7	—
15-19	1.4	1.6	5.5	433.8	2.3
20-24	2.5	3.7	4.3	331.5	3.2
25-34	1.8	2.7	2.1	167.2	3.7
35-44	2.8	2.1	1.6	76.6	5.2
45-54	1.5	1.7	0.8	53.1	2.8
55-64	0.9	0.9	0.7	35.9	1.9
65 years and over	1.1	0.4	0.3	15.8	1.0
Total(d)	1.6	1.5	2.4	110.7	2.4
FEMALES					
0-9	0.5	0.9	5.2	0.5	—
10-14	0.4	0.4	14.8	20.2	0.4
15-19	0.4	0.4	14.7	93.8	1.9
20-24	1.1	1.0	8.9	102.3	2.7
25-34	1.2	1.5	5.2	60.3	1.9
35-44	1.2	1.0	2.0	34.7	1.7
45-54	0.8	0.6	1.0	30.7	1.3
55-64	0.3	0.4	—	19.0	0.9
65 years and over	0.7	0.5	0.4	13.9	0.2
Total(d)	0.8	0.8	4.5	36.7	1.1
PERSONS (e)					
0-9	0.7	0.7	4.0	1.5	—
10-14	0.4	0.2	11.3	61.2	0.2
15-19	0.9	1.0	10.0	269.9	2.3
20-24	1.8	2.3	6.6	220.5	3.0
25-34	1.5	2.1	3.7	114.6	2.8
35-44	2.1	1.6	1.8	55.8	3.4
45-54	1.1	1.1	0.9	42.0	2.1
55-64	0.6	0.6	0.3	27.6	1.5
65 years and over	1.0	0.5	0.4	14.9	0.5
Total(d)	1.2	1.2	3.5	74.0	1.8

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(a) Age specific victims per 100,000 persons (see Explanatory Notes paragraphs 115-118).

(b) Counts for New South Wales may be inflated slightly (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 33).

(c) Refers to person victims only and does not include organisations as victims. Therefore totals are considerably lower than those in tables elsewhere in the publication.

(d) Includes victims for whom age was not specified.

(e) Includes victims for whom sex was not specified.

VICTIMS(a), Location where offence occurred by offence category

	Murder	Attempted murder	Kidnapping/ abduction(b)	Robbery	Unlawful entry with intent	Motor vehicle theft(c)	Other theft(d)
NUMBER							
Residential							
Dwelling	152	127	203	1 549	146 441	40	56 447
Outbuilding/residential land	4	18	6	123	14 840	24 944	75 315
Total residential (e)	162	149	212	1 693	164 307	24 984	133 672
Community							
Transport(f)	3	4	29	1 495	1 180	5 612	41 535
Street/footpath	40	56	326	8 234	3	25 893	79 617
Other community location(f)(g)	15	7	53	955	16 917	1 134	26 683
Total community(h)	62	67	408	10 734	18 114	32 714	148 551
Retail	8	14	45	3 592	30 290	7 172	144 938
Recreational	10	5	26	878	6 739	895	20 902
Other location(i)	5	7	29	970	25 793	3 732	36 119
Unspecified	6	3	12	121	3 180	1 153	8 040
Total	253	245	732	17 988	248 423	70 650	492 222

	PROPORTION (%)						
Residential							
Dwelling	60.1	51.8	27.7	8.6	58.9	0.1	11.5
Outbuilding/residential land	1.6	7.3	0.8	0.7	6.0	35.3	15.3
Total residential (e)	64.0	60.8	29.0	9.4	66.1	35.4	27.2
Community							
Transport(f)	1.2	1.6	4.0	8.3	0.5	7.9	8.4
Street/footpath	15.8	22.9	44.5	45.8	—	36.6	16.2
Other community location(f)(g)	5.9	2.9	7.2	5.3	6.8	1.6	5.4
Total community(h)	24.5	27.3	55.7	59.7	7.3	46.3	30.2
Retail	3.2	5.7	6.1	20.0	12.2	10.2	29.4
Recreational	4.0	2.0	3.6	4.9	2.7	1.3	4.2
Other location(i)	2.0	2.9	4.0	5.4	10.4	5.3	7.3
Unspecified	2.4	1.2	1.6	0.7	1.3	1.6	1.6
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(a) The definition of a victim varies according to the category of the offence (see Glossary).

(b) Counts for New South Wales may be inflated slightly (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 33).

(c) Western Australia data includes theft of caravans and trailers which are out of scope.

(d) The offences included in other theft can vary between states and territories (see footnote 'f' page 17, footnote 'e' page 18, footnote 'e' page 19, footnotes 'e' and 'h' page 20 and footnote 'e' page 23).

(e) Includes residential locations not further defined.

(f) Transport and other community location data are overstated and understated respectively due to inaccurate recording of location data (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 48).

(g) See Glossary for locations included in 'Other community location'.

(h) Includes community locations not further defined.

(i) See Glossary for locations included in 'Other location', includes other locations not further defined.

VICTIMS, Use of weapon in commission of offence by offence category

	Murder	Attempted murder	Kidnapping/ abduction (a) (b)	Robbery
NUMBER				
Weapon used				
Firearm	34	37	23	1 154
Knife	81	100	39	3 632
Syringe	—	—	—	213
Bottle/glass	3	—	—	272
Bat/bar/club	12	8	9	412
Chemical	—	—	—	8
Other weapon	17	14	18	1 270
Weapon n.f.d.	7	—	11	709
<i>Total weapon used</i>	<i>154</i>	<i>159</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>7 670</i>
No weapon used	93	85	626	10 237
Unspecified	6	—	—	81
Total	253	244	729	17 988

	PROPORTION (%)			
Weapon used				
Firearm	13.4	15.2	3.2	6.4
Knife	32.0	41.0	5.3	20.2
Syringe	—	—	—	1.2
Bottle/glass	1.2	—	—	1.5
Bat/bar/club	4.7	3.3	1.2	2.3
Chemical	—	—	—	—
Other weapon	6.7	5.7	2.5	7.1
Weapon n.f.d.	2.8	—	1.5	3.9
<i>Total weapon used</i>	<i>60.9</i>	<i>65.2</i>	<i>13.7</i>	<i>42.6</i>
No weapon used	36.8	34.8	85.9	56.9
Unspecified	2.4	—	—	0.5
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(a) Counts for New South Wales may be inflated slightly (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 33).

(b) Some data have been imputed (see Explanatory notes paragraph 28).

VICTIMS(a), Use of weapon in commission of offence—2001–2007

	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
MURDER (no.)							
Weapon used							
Firearm	50	42	37	32	23	46	34
Knife	90	72	86	69	78	r95	81
Other weapon	44	37	42	36	38	r30	32
Weapon n.f.d.	3	14	10	12	16	7	7
<i>Total weapon used</i>	<i>187</i>	<i>165</i>	<i>175</i>	<i>149</i>	<i>155</i>	<i>r178</i>	<i>154</i>
No weapon used	110	142	123	106	104	101	93
Unspecified	15	10	4	9	—	3	6
Total	312	317	302	264	259	r282	253
ATTEMPTED MURDER (no.)							
Weapon used							
Firearm	132	87	73	71	47	r60	37
Knife	151	142	115	100	81	r86	100
Other weapon	88	53	61	45	51	32	22
Weapon n.f.d.	3	19	24	12	16	—	—
<i>Total weapon used</i>	<i>374</i>	<i>301</i>	<i>273</i>	<i>228</i>	<i>195</i>	<i>178</i>	<i>159</i>
No weapon used	87	96	86	84	76	65	85
Unspecified	—	3	—	—	—	—	—
Total	461	400	359	312	271	r243	244
KIDNAPPING/ABDUCTION (no.) (b)(c)							
Weapon used							
Firearm	69	35	22	17	9	36	23
Knife	61	62	61	48	67	70	39
Other weapon	33	27	19	20	26	r25	29
Weapon n.f.d.	—	7	15	13	14	—	11
<i>Total weapon used</i>	<i>163</i>	<i>131</i>	<i>117</i>	<i>98</i>	<i>116</i>	<i>r131</i>	<i>102</i>
No weapon used	597	572	574	664	611	590	626
Unspecified	6	3	3	6	4	3	3
Total	766	706	694	768	731	r724	731
ROBBERY (no.) (d)							
Weapon used							
Firearm	1 704	1 178	1 102	913	na	1 202	1 154
Knife	5 982	4 051	3 748	2 960	na	3 734	3 632
Other weapon	2 440	1 642	1 584	1 421	na	2 138	2 175
Weapon n.f.d.	1 107	969	755	736	na	522	709
<i>Total weapon used</i>	<i>11 233</i>	<i>7 840</i>	<i>7 189</i>	<i>6 030</i>	<i>7 327</i>	<i>7 596</i>	<i>7 670</i>
No weapon used	15 273	13 080	12 335	10 103	na	9 717	10 237
Unspecified	85	69	185	380	na	62	81
Total	26 591	20 989	19 709	16 513	17 176	17 375	17 988

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

na not available

r revised

(a) The definition of a victim varies according to the category of the offence (see Glossary).

(b) Counts for New South Wales may be inflated slightly (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 33).

(c) Some data for 2007 have been imputed (see Explanatory notes paragraph 28).

(d) Data prior to 2005 are no longer comparable. Caution should also be exercised when comparing 2006 to 2007 (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 29).

	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
MURDER (%)							
Weapon used							
Firearm	16.0	13.2	12.3	12.1	8.9	r16.3	13.4
Knife	28.8	22.7	28.5	26.1	30.1	33.7	32.0
Other weapon	14.1	11.7	13.9	13.6	14.7	r10.6	12.6
Weapon n.f.d.	1.0	4.4	3.3	4.5	6.2	2.5	2.8
<i>Total weapon used</i>	59.9	52.1	57.9	56.4	59.8	63.1	60.9
No weapon used	35.4	44.8	40.7	40.2	40.2	35.8	36.8
Unspecified	4.8	3.2	1.3	3.4	—	1.1	2.4
Total	100.0						
ATTEMPTED MURDER (%)							
Weapon used							
Firearm	28.6	21.8	20.3	22.8	17.3	r24.7	15.2
Knife	32.8	35.5	32.0	32.1	29.9	r35.4	41.0
Other weapon	19.1	13.3	17.0	14.4	18.8	r13.2	9.0
Weapon n.f.d.	0.7	4.8	6.7	3.8	5.9	—	—
<i>Total weapon used</i>	81.1	75.3	76.0	73.1	72.0	r73.3	65.2
No weapon used	18.9	24.0	24.0	26.9	28.0	26.7	34.8
Unspecified	—	0.8	—	—	—	—	—
Total	100.0						
KIDNAPPING/ABDUCTION (%) (b)(c)							
Weapon used							
Firearm	9.0	5.0	3.2	2.2	1.2	5.0	3.1
Knife	8.0	8.8	8.8	6.3	9.2	9.7	5.3
Other weapon	4.3	3.8	2.7	2.6	3.6	r3.5	4.0
Weapon n.f.d.	—	1.0	2.2	1.7	1.9	—	1.5
<i>Total weapon used</i>	21.3	18.6	16.9	12.8	15.9	r18.1	14.0
No weapon used	77.9	81.0	82.7	86.5	83.6	81.5	85.6
Unspecified	0.8	0.4	0.4	0.8	0.5	0.4	0.4
Total	100.0						
ROBBERY (%) (d)							
Weapon used							
Firearm	6.4	5.6	5.6	5.5	na	6.9	6.4
Knife	22.5	19.3	19.0	17.9	na	21.5	20.2
Other weapon	9.2	7.8	8.0	8.6	na	12.3	12.1
Weapon n.f.d.	4.2	4.6	3.8	4.5	na	3.0	3.9
<i>Total weapon used</i>	42.2	37.4	36.5	36.5	42.7	43.7	42.6
No weapon used	57.4	62.3	62.6	61.2	na	55.9	56.9
Unspecified	0.3	0.3	0.9	2.3	na	0.4	0.5
Total	100.0						

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

na not available

r revised

(a) The definition of a victim varies according to the category of the offence (see Glossary).

(b) Counts for New South Wales may be inflated slightly (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 33).

(c) Some data for 2007 have been imputed (see Explanatory notes paragraph 28).

(d) Data prior to 2005 are no longer comparable. Caution should also be exercised when comparing 2006 to 2007 (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 29).

VICTIMS(a), Offence category by outcome of investigation at 30 days

	FINALISED				Total(b)
	Investigation not finalised	No offender proceeded against	Offender proceeded against	Total finalised	
NUMBER					
Murder	71	10	172	182	253
Attempted murder	58	11	176	187	245
Manslaughter	10	3	17	20	30
Kidnapping/abduction(c)	470	86	174	260	730
Robbery					
Armed robbery	5 779	275	1 616	1 891	7 670
Unarmed robbery	7 875	497	1 946	2 443	10 318
Total robbery	13 654	772	3 562	4 334	17 988
Blackmail/extortion	231	61	121	182	413
Unlawful entry with intent					
Involving the taking of property	154 526	5 929	12 702	18 631	173 174
Other	65 028	3 388	6 805	10 193	75 249
Total unlawful entry with intent	219 554	9 317	19 507	28 824	248 423
Motor vehicle theft(d)	60 124	3 983	6 537	10 520	70 650
Other theft(e)	407 094	23 418	61 616	85 034	492 222
PROPORTION (%)					
Murder	28.1	4.0	68.0	71.9	100.0
Attempted murder	23.7	4.5	71.8	76.3	100.0
Manslaughter	33.3	10.0	56.7	66.7	100.0
Kidnapping/abduction(c)	64.4	11.8	23.8	35.6	100.0
Robbery					
Armed robbery	75.3	3.6	21.1	24.7	100.0
Unarmed robbery	76.3	4.8	18.9	23.7	100.0
Total robbery	75.9	4.3	19.8	24.1	100.0
Blackmail/extortion	55.9	14.8	29.3	44.1	100.0
Unlawful entry with intent					
Involving the taking of property	89.2	3.4	7.3	10.8	100.0
Other	86.4	4.5	9.0	13.5	100.0
Total unlawful entry with intent	88.4	3.8	7.9	11.6	100.0
Motor vehicle theft(d)	85.1	5.6	9.3	14.9	100.0
Other theft(e)	82.7	4.8	12.5	17.3	100.0

(a) The definition of a victim varies according to the category of the offence (see Glossary).
 (b) Includes unknown outcomes of investigation.
 (c) Counts for New South Wales may be inflated slightly (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 33).

(d) Western Australia data includes theft of caravans and trailers which are out of scope.
 (e) The offences included in other theft can vary between states and territories (see footnote 'f' page 17, footnote 'e' page 18, footnote 'e' page 19, footnotes 'e' and 'h' page 20 and footnote 'e' page 23).

	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
NUMBER										
Homicide and related offences(b)										
Murder	96	123	101	103	98	102	72	86	102	94
Attempted murder	121	133	148	204	147	121	75	61	71	60
Manslaughter	25	12	10	8	13	11	4	4	5	9
<i>Total homicide and related offences</i>	242	268	259	315	258	234	151	151	178	163
Assault	59 221	63 811	68 714	75 460	80 028	79 892	78 305	81 168	82 771	84 850
Sexual assault	4 504	4 425	5 975	6 268	6 480	6 796	7 075	6 824	6 667	6 787
Kidnapping/abduction(c)	377	450	382	472	436	423	464	463	451	449
Robbery(d)										
Armed robbery	5 721	4 619	4 688	5 615	3 815	3 318	2 867	3 878	3 784	3 874
Unarmed robbery	7 605	7 935	8 637	9 620	7 889	7 529	6 020	5 687	5 458	5 472
<i>Total robbery</i>	13 326	12 554	13 325	15 235	11 704	10 847	8 887	9 565	9 242	9 346
Blackmail/extortion	60	62	60	68	82	80	94	82	82	77
Unlawful entry with intent(e)										
Involving the taking of property	142 217	121 707	126 942	125 986	109 309	98 791	84 044	77 985	61 736	59 369
Other	29 648	29 291	33 668	36 056	31 861	29 697	26 721	25 464	25 803	25 392
<i>Total unlawful entry with intent</i>	171 865	150 998	160 610	162 042	141 170	128 488	110 765	103 449	87 539	84 761
Motor vehicle theft	52 833	47 355	51 249	52 279	41 665	34 824	33 209	29 097	27 959	26 481
Other theft(f)	175 914	200 090	232 295	229 573	211 908	194 006	170 290	157 987	157 360	151 374

INDEXED RATE (g)(h)

Homicide and related offences(b)										
Murder	96.7	122.5	99.4	100.0	94.4	97.6	68.5	81.2	95.5	87.1
Attempted murder	61.5	66.9	73.5	100.0	71.5	58.4	36.0	29.1	33.6	28.1
Manslaughter	324.1	153.8	126.7	100.0	161.2	135.5	49.0	48.6	60.3	107.4
<i>Total homicide and related offences</i>	79.7	87.3	83.4	100.0	81.2	73.2	47.0	46.6	54.5	49.4
Assault	81.4	86.7	92.3	100.0	105.2	104.3	101.7	104.7	105.8	107.3
Sexual assault	74.5	72.4	96.6	100.0	102.5	106.8	110.6	105.9	102.6	103.3
Kidnapping/abduction(c)	82.8	97.8	82.0	100.0	91.6	88.3	96.3	95.4	92.2	90.8
Robbery(d)										
Armed robbery	105.7	84.4	84.6	100.0	67.4	58.2	50.0	np	np	np
Unarmed robbery	82.0	84.6	91.0	100.0	81.3	77.1	61.3	np	np	np
<i>Total robbery</i>	90.7	84.5	88.7	100.0	76.2	70.1	57.2	np	np	np
Blackmail/extortion	91.5	93.5	89.4	100.0	119.6	115.9	135.4	117.3	116.3	108.1
Unlawful entry with intent(e)										
Involving the taking of property	117.1	99.1	102.1	100.0	86.0	77.2	65.4	60.2	np	np
Other	85.3	83.3	94.7	100.0	87.6	81.1	72.6	68.7	np	np
<i>Total unlawful entry with intent</i>	110.0	95.6	100.5	100.0	86.4	78.1	67.0	62.1	np	np
Motor vehicle theft	104.8	92.9	99.4	100.0	79.0	65.6	62.2	54.1	51.6	48.3
Other theft(f)	79.5	89.4	102.6	100.0	91.5	83.3	72.7	67.0	66.1	62.9

np not available for publication but included in totals where applicable, unless otherwise indicated

(a) The definition of a victim varies according to the category of the offence (see Glossary).

(b) The offence of driving causing death is excluded as it is no longer available at the national level as not all jurisdictions can supply this information.

(c) Counts may be inflated slightly (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 33).

(d) Data prior to 2005 are no longer comparable (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 29).

(e) Data prior to 2006 are no longer comparable (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 30).

(f) Excludes the offences of leaving a restaurant without paying and failing to pay for petrol (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 34).

(g) Base of each index: 2001 = 100.0 (see Explanatory Notes paragraphs 119–122).

(h) Estimated Resident Population data used to calculate rates and indexes in this issue have changed (see Explanatory Notes paragraphs 115–117).

	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
NUMBER										
Homicide and related offences(b)										
Murder	47	62	55	65	67	69	47	62	r61	46
Attempted murder	54	57	51	46	53	54	50	52	r49	50
Manslaughter	3	6	12	3	5	3	4	4	r6	3
<i>Total homicide and related offences</i>	104	125	118	114	125	126	101	118	r116	99
Assault(c)	17 843	17 121	14 334	16 727	18 356	17 572	17 468	20 013	r21 386	22 086
Sexual assault	r3 341	r3 395	r3 151	r3 290	r3 430	r3 435	r3 543	r3 535	r4 103	4 107
Kidnapping/abduction	116	124	113	117	106	99	112	122	r98	102
Robbery										
Armed robbery	1 556	1 884	1 796	2 608	1 583	1 431	1 113	1 232	r1 373	1 513
Unarmed robbery	1 439	1 524	1 559	1 933	1 618	1 472	1 180	1 246	r1 267	1 673
<i>Total robbery</i>	2 995	3 408	3 355	4 541	3 201	2 903	2 293	2 478	r2 640	3 186
Blackmail/extortion	95	77	74	113	124	113	96	99	r121	118
Unlawful entry with intent(d)										
Involving the taking of property	54 884	60 477	62 699	62 905	53 628	45 865	41 977	37 224	r33 443	34 415
Other	15 762	15 827	16 201	18 212	17 546	14 832	14 160	14 786	r14 491	15 075
<i>Total unlawful entry with intent</i>	70 646	76 304	78 900	81 117	71 174	60 697	56 137	52 010	r47 934	49 490
Motor vehicle theft	29 581	31 877	36 490	39 355	28 889	23 864	20 104	18 896	r17 046	16 259
Other theft(e)	125 863	135 383	147 679	151 048	142 572	136 871	120 621	117 039	r115 597	112 975

	INDEXED RATE (f)(g)									
Homicide and related offences(b)										
Murder	74.9	97.8	85.7	100.0	101.8	103.6	69.7	90.7	r87.9	65.3
Attempted murder	121.6	127.0	112.4	100.0	113.8	114.5	104.8	107.5	r99.8	100.3
Manslaughter	103.6	205.0	405.3	100.0	164.7	97.6	128.6	126.8	r187.4	92.3
<i>Total homicide and related offences</i>	94.5	112.4	104.9	100.0	108.3	107.8	85.4	98.5	r95.3	80.2
Assault(c)	110.5	104.9	86.8	100.0	108.4	102.5	100.7	113.8	r119.8	121.9
Sexual assault	r105.2	r105.8	r97.1	100.0	r103.0	r101.9	r103.8	r102.2	r116.8	115.2
Kidnapping/abduction	102.7	108.7	97.9	100.0	89.5	82.6	92.3	99.2	r78.5	80.5
Robbery										
Armed robbery	61.8	74.1	69.8	100.0	60.0	53.5	41.1	44.9	r49.3	53.6
Unarmed robbery	77.1	80.8	81.7	100.0	82.7	74.3	58.9	61.3	r61.4	79.9
<i>Total robbery</i>	68.3	76.9	74.9	100.0	69.6	62.4	48.7	51.9	r54.5	64.8
Blackmail/extortion	87.1	69.9	66.4	100.0	108.4	97.6	81.9	83.3	r100.3	96.4
Unlawful entry with intent(d)										
Involving the taking of property	90.4	98.6	101.0	100.0	84.2	71.1	64.3	56.3	r49.8	50.5
Other	89.7	89.1	90.1	100.0	95.2	79.5	75.0	77.2	r74.5	76.4
<i>Total unlawful entry with intent</i>	90.2	96.4	98.6	100.0	86.7	73.0	66.7	61.0	r55.4	56.3
Motor vehicle theft	77.9	83.0	94.0	100.0	72.5	59.2	49.3	45.7	r40.6	38.1
Other theft(e)	86.3	91.9	99.1	100.0	93.2	88.4	77.0	73.7	r71.7	69.0

r revised

(a) The definition of a victim varies according to the category of the offence (see Glossary).

(b) The offence of driving causing death is excluded as it is no longer available at the national level as not all jurisdictions can supply this information.

(c) An increase in assault from 2004 to 2005 is mostly attributed to the introduction of the *Family Violence Code of Practice for the Investigation of Family Violence* (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 43).

(d) Property taken may not always be identified (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 44).

(e) Prior to 2004, included bicycle thefts when stolen during the commission of a UEWI offence (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 45).

(f) Base of each index: 2001 = 100.0 (see Explanatory Notes paragraphs 119–122).

(g) Estimated Resident Population data used to calculate rates and indexes in this issue have changed (see Explanatory Notes paragraphs 115–117).

	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007(b)
NUMBER										
Homicide and related offences(c)										
Murder	64	64	78	66	59	63	56	47	59	52
Attempted murder	150	112	123	156	128	113	95	82	67	70
Manslaughter	10	14	7	14	18	4	13	3	9	6
<i>Total homicide and related offences</i>	224	190	208	236	205	180	164	132	135	128
Assault	18 329	18 425	18 707	20 237	20 849	19 009	18 798	19 233	19 709	19 298
Sexual assault	3 485	3 550	3 752	4 086	4 797	3 792	4 256	4 155	4 606	4 377
Kidnapping/abduction(d)	98	93	95	76	75	92	109	85	59	69
Robbery										
Armed robbery	1 285	1 257	1 198	1 168	886	957	855	845	930	750
Unarmed robbery	1 246	1 213	1 159	1 382	1 160	1 111	1 036	1 058	995	1 018
<i>Total robbery</i>	2 531	2 470	2 357	2 550	2 046	2 068	1 891	1 903	1 925	1 768
Blackmail/extortion	78	70	63	89	57	63	58	59	78	58
Unlawful entry with intent										
Involving the taking of property	56 907	56 361	58 750	55 590	51 659	47 547	42 581	37 827	37 304	32 071
Other	17 685	17 828	18 533	18 133	16 595	15 015	13 977	12 847	13 246	12 117
<i>Total unlawful entry with intent</i>	74 592	74 189	77 283	73 723	68 254	62 562	56 558	50 674	50 550	44 188
Motor vehicle theft	15 693	18 249	18 623	17 468	15 854	13 333	12 407	11 300	10 191	9 128
Other theft(e)	97 384	105 169	112 319	116 820	116 989	112 297	100 267	93 386	89 365	77 738

INDEXED RATE (f)(g)

Homicide and related offences(c)										
Murder	102.1	100.5	120.4	100.0	87.3	90.9	78.9	64.7	79.3	68.4
Attempted murder	101.2	74.4	80.3	100.0	80.2	69.0	56.6	47.7	38.1	38.9
Manslaughter	75.2	103.6	50.9	100.0	125.6	27.2	86.4	19.5	57.0	37.2
<i>Total homicide and related offences</i>	99.9	83.4	89.8	100.0	84.9	72.7	64.6	50.8	50.7	47.1
Assault	95.3	94.4	94.2	100.0	100.6	89.5	86.4	86.3	86.4	82.7
Sexual assault	89.8	90.0	93.6	100.0	114.7	88.4	96.9	92.3	100.0	93.0
Kidnapping/abduction(d)	135.7	126.8	127.4	100.0	96.4	115.3	133.4	101.6	68.9	78.8
Robbery										
Armed robbery	115.8	111.5	104.5	100.0	74.1	78.1	68.1	65.7	70.6	55.7
Unarmed robbery	94.9	91.0	85.5	100.0	82.0	76.6	69.7	69.5	63.9	63.9
<i>Total robbery</i>	104.5	100.4	94.2	100.0	78.4	77.3	69.0	67.8	67.0	60.2
Blackmail/extortion	92.2	81.5	72.1	100.0	62.6	67.4	60.6	60.2	77.7	56.5
Unlawful entry with intent										
Involving the taking of property	107.7	105.1	107.7	100.0	90.8	81.5	71.2	61.8	59.5	50.1
Other	102.7	101.9	104.1	100.0	89.4	78.9	71.7	64.3	64.8	58.0
<i>Total unlawful entry with intent</i>	106.5	104.3	106.8	100.0	90.4	80.8	71.4	62.4	60.8	52.0
Motor vehicle theft	94.6	108.3	108.6	100.0	88.7	72.7	66.1	58.7	51.7	45.3
Other theft(e)	87.7	93.3	98.0	100.0	97.8	91.6	79.8	72.6	67.8	57.7

- (a) The definition of a victim varies according to the category of the offence (see Glossary).
- (b) Data may be understated (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 46).
- (c) The offence of driving causing death is excluded as it is no longer available at the national level as not all jurisdictions can supply this information.
- (d) The increase from 2003 to 2004 is possibly a result of increased public awareness (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 51).

- (e) Excludes the offence of leaving a restaurant without paying (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 52).
- (f) Base of each index: 2001 = 100.0 (see Explanatory Notes paragraphs 119–122).
- (g) Estimated Resident Population data used to calculate rates and indexes in this issue have changed (see Explanatory Notes paragraphs 115–117).

	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
NUMBER										
Homicide and related offences(b)										
Murder	25	39	23	29	29	19	28	20	15	13
Attempted murder	25	39	44	24	39	40	52	49	36	41
Manslaughter	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	3	3	—
<i>Total homicide and related offences</i>	50	78	67	53	68	62	80	72	54	54
Assault(c)	14 885	13 861	15 423	16 288	16 540	16 006	14 880	15 404	16 179	16 950
Sexual assault	1 310	1 320	1 464	1 578	1 625	1 852	1 793	1 655	1 517	1 677
Kidnapping/abduction(c)	32	38	43	36	31	34	36	33	63	67
Robbery										
Armed robbery	639	528	585	622	521	530	505	515	520	601
Unarmed robbery	1 029	946	1 083	1 059	1 102	791	734	656	667	653
<i>Total robbery</i>	1 668	1 474	1 668	1 681	1 623	1 321	1 239	1 171	1 187	1 254
Blackmail/extortion(c)(d)	13	24	25	55	61	61	44	41	60	54
Unlawful entry with intent										
Involving the taking of property(e)	26 781	27 858	na	22 373	21 773	18 379	17 030	13 738	14 473	12 715
Other	5 963	6 116	na	12 675	11 281	10 134	9 698	10 557	8 644	7 642
<i>Total unlawful entry with intent(f)</i>	32 744	33 974	36 302	35 048	33 054	28 513	26 728	24 295	23 117	20 357
Motor vehicle theft(g)	10 981	11 981	13 464	12 663	11 214	10 206	10 511	9 033	8 043	7 737
Other theft(e)(h)	54 636	62 115	68 767	79 135	79 185	58 162	52 500	48 198	49 657	47 080

	INDEXED RATE (i)(j)									
Homicide and related offences(b)										
Murder	87.5	135.7	79.7	100.0	99.4	64.7	94.8	67.2	49.9	42.8
Attempted murder	105.7	164.0	184.1	100.0	161.5	164.5	212.6	198.8	144.6	163.0
Manslaughter	np	np	np	np	np	np	np	np	np	np
<i>Total homicide and related offences</i>	95.7	148.5	127.0	100.0	127.5	115.5	148.1	132.3	98.2	97.2
Assault(c)	92.7	85.9	95.1	100.0	100.9	97.0	89.7	92.1	95.8	99.3
Sexual assault	84.3	84.4	93.2	100.0	102.3	115.9	111.5	102.1	92.7	101.4
Kidnapping/abduction(c)	90.2	106.5	120.0	100.0	85.6	93.2	98.1	89.3	168.7	177.6
Robbery										
Armed robbery	104.3	85.7	94.5	100.0	83.2	84.1	79.7	80.6	80.6	92.2
Unarmed robbery	98.6	90.2	102.7	100.0	103.4	73.7	68.0	60.3	60.7	58.8
<i>Total robbery</i>	100.7	88.5	99.7	100.0	96.0	77.6	72.3	67.8	68.1	71.2
Blackmail/extortion(c)(d)	24.0	44.0	45.7	100.0	110.2	109.5	78.5	72.6	105.2	93.7
Unlawful entry with intent										
Involving the taking of property(e)	121.5	125.7	na	100.0	96.7	81.1	74.7	59.8	62.4	54.2
Other	47.7	48.7	na	100.0	88.5	78.9	75.1	81.1	65.7	57.5
<i>Total unlawful entry with intent(f)</i>	94.8	97.8	104.0	100.0	93.7	80.3	74.8	67.5	63.6	55.4
Motor vehicle theft(g)	88.0	95.5	106.8	100.0	88.0	79.6	81.5	69.5	61.2	58.3
Other theft(e)(h)	70.1	79.2	87.3	100.0	99.4	72.6	65.1	59.3	60.5	56.8

- nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)
- na not available
- np not available for publication but included in totals where applicable, unless otherwise indicated
- (a) The definition of a victim varies according to the category of the offence (see Glossary).
- (b) The offence of driving causing death is excluded as it is no longer available at the national level as not all jurisdictions can supply this information.
- (c) Changes to legislation may have resulted in an increase from 2006 (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 58).
- (d) Counts may include instances of food tampering.
- (e) Prior to 2003 data are duplicated. Data for UEWI involving the taking of property appear in this category as well as the 'other theft' category.

- (f) A change in legislation related to unlawful entry with intent (UEWI) offences in South Australia resulted in an inability to provide UEWI disaggregated into property theft and other for 2000.
- (g) Counts may be understated (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 63).
- (h) Prior to 2006, excludes the offences of leaving a restaurant without paying and failing to pay for petrol. From 2006, includes fare evasion (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 62).
- (i) Base of each index: 2001 = 100.0 (see Explanatory Notes paragraphs 119–122).
- (j) Estimated Resident Population data used to calculate rates and indexes in this issue have changed (see Explanatory Notes paragraphs 115–117).

	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
NUMBER										
Homicide and related offences(b)										
Murder	31	41	32	21	40	29	37	21	26	27
Attempted murder	25	8	15	17	20	20	28	20	11	10
Manslaughter	6	6	14	6	6	11	6	12	r12	6
<i>Total homicide and related offences</i>	62	55	61	44	66	60	71	53	r49	43
Assault	14 224	14 231	14 134	15 181	15 282	15 324	18 272	20 384	r21 961	21 635
Sexual assault	1 512	1 553	1 533	1 685	1 620	1 385	1 643	1 791	r1 822	1 993
Kidnapping/abduction	68	49	44	48	36	36	28	21	r44	36
Robbery										
Armed robbery	1 395	931	995	1 005	910	784	511	680	r701	675
Unarmed robbery	1 325	1 183	1 092	1 060	1 059	1 367	1 289	937	r1 111	1 182
<i>Total robbery</i>	2 720	2 114	2 087	2 065	1 969	2 151	1 800	1 617	r1 812	1 857
Blackmail/extortion(c)	23	18	30	27	31	65	73	103	r99	100
Unlawful entry with intent										
Involving the taking of property	39 936	37 428	42 033	41 822	41 693	39 743	30 451	26 960	r27 880	26 383
Other	19 611	18 365	18 824	20 267	19 781	17 993	14 404	12 306	r12 109	11 391
<i>Total unlawful entry with intent</i>	59 547	55 793	60 857	62 089	61 474	57 736	44 855	39 266	r39 989	37 774
Motor vehicle theft(d)	16 115	12 752	11 911	11 344	10 487	10 706	7 805	7 203	r7 480	7 305
Other theft	78 421	78 874	88 294	92 144	98 252	92 896	79 184	76 088	r80 753	78 433

INDEXED RATE (e)(f)

Homicide and related offences(b)										
Murder	154.0	200.7	154.6	100.0	188.1	134.5	169.0	94.3	114.3	116.1
Attempted murder	153.4	48.4	89.5	100.0	116.2	114.6	158.0	110.9	59.7	53.1
Manslaughter	104.3	102.8	236.7	100.0	98.7	178.5	95.9	188.6	r184.7	90.3
<i>Total homicide and related offences</i>	147.0	128.5	140.6	100.0	148.1	132.8	154.8	113.6	r102.8	88.2
Assault	97.7	96.3	94.4	100.0	99.4	98.3	115.5	126.6	r133.6	128.7
Sexual assault	93.6	94.7	92.3	100.0	94.9	80.0	93.5	100.2	r99.8	106.8
Kidnapping/abduction	147.8	104.9	93.0	100.0	74.0	73.0	56.0	41.2	r84.6	67.7
Robbery										
Armed robbery	144.8	95.2	100.4	100.0	89.4	76.0	48.8	63.8	r64.4	60.6
Unarmed robbery	130.4	114.7	104.5	100.0	98.6	125.6	116.6	83.3	r96.8	100.7
<i>Total robbery</i>	137.4	105.2	102.5	100.0	94.1	101.4	83.6	73.8	r81.0	81.2
Blackmail/extortion(c)	88.9	68.5	112.7	100.0	113.4	234.4	259.3	359.7	r338.6	334.4
Unlawful entry with intent										
Involving the taking of property	99.6	92.0	101.9	100.0	98.4	92.5	69.8	60.8	r61.6	57.0
Other	100.9	93.1	94.2	100.0	96.4	86.5	68.2	57.2	r55.2	50.7
<i>Total unlawful entry with intent</i>	100.0	92.4	99.4	100.0	97.8	90.5	69.3	59.6	r59.5	54.9
Motor vehicle theft(d)	148.2	115.5	106.5	100.0	91.3	91.9	66.0	59.9	r60.9	58.1
Other theft	88.8	88.0	97.2	100.0	105.3	98.2	82.4	77.9	r80.9	76.8

r revised

- (a) The definition of a victim varies according to the category of the offence (see Glossary).
- (b) The offence of driving causing death is excluded as it is no longer available at the national level as not all jurisdictions can supply this information.
- (c) Data may be understated prior to 2003 (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 75).
- (d) Includes theft of caravans and trailers which are out of scope.
- (e) Base of each index: 2001 = 100.0 (see Explanatory Notes paragraphs 119–122).
- (f) Estimated Resident Population data used to calculate rates and indexes in this issue have changed (see Explanatory Notes paragraphs 115–117).

	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
NUMBER										
Homicide and related offences(b)										
Murder	6	5	8	8	7	5	7	7	4	6
Attempted murder	7	3	7	12	3	7	8	4	6	7
Manslaughter	3	3	—	3	—	—	—	—	r—	—
<i>Total homicide and related offences</i>	16	11	15	23	10	12	15	11	r10	13
Assault(c)	2 231	2 569	2 718	3 487	3 644	3 764	3 972	4 553	r4 119	4 053
Sexual assault	216	198	194	206	250	274	294	263	r300	246
Kidnapping/abduction	10	3	10	11	8	3	7	5	4	3
Robbery										
Armed robbery	85	76	78	83	52	72	49	43	r91	99
Unarmed robbery	102	112	93	108	84	62	76	80	r92	81
<i>Total robbery</i>	187	188	171	191	136	134	125	123	r183	180
Blackmail/extortion	—	3	—	3	—	4	—	3	3	5
Unlawful entry with intent										
Involving the taking of property	10 951	9 592	7 828	7 340	5 844	5 160	3 864	3 479	r3 418	3 293
Other	3 364	2 696	2 196	1 917	1 566	1 405	1 131	985	r916	866
<i>Total unlawful entry with intent</i>	14 315	12 288	10 024	9 257	7 410	6 565	4 995	4 464	r4 334	4 159
Motor vehicle theft	2 991	3 078	3 367	3 463	2 486	2 166	1 751	2 261	r1 909	1 405
Other theft	13 872	13 259	12 939	13 354	13 537	12 107	11 048	10 583	r10 161	9 091

INDEXED RATE (d)(e)

Homicide and related offences(b)										
Murder	75.0	62.5	100.1	100.0	87.3	61.7	85.5	84.9	48.2	71.7
Attempted murder	58.3	25.0	58.4	100.0	24.9	57.6	65.1	32.3	48.2	55.8
Manslaughter	np	np								
<i>Total homicide and related offences</i>	69.5	47.9	65.3	100.0	43.4	51.5	63.7	46.4	r41.9	54.1
Assault(c)	64.0	73.7	78.0	100.0	104.3	106.6	111.3	126.7	r113.8	111.2
Sexual assault	104.8	96.2	94.3	100.0	121.1	131.4	139.5	123.8	r140.2	114.2
Kidnapping/abduction	90.9	27.3	91.0	100.0	72.6	26.9	62.2	44.1	35.0	26.1
Robbery										
Armed robbery	102.4	91.6	94.1	100.0	62.5	85.7	57.7	50.3	r105.6	114.1
Unarmed robbery	94.4	103.8	86.2	100.0	77.6	56.7	68.8	71.9	r82.0	71.7
<i>Total robbery</i>	97.9	98.5	89.6	100.0	71.1	69.3	64.0	62.5	r92.3	90.1
Blackmail/extortion	np	np								
Unlawful entry with intent										
Involving the taking of property	149.1	130.8	106.7	100.0	79.4	69.4	51.4	46.0	r44.8	42.9
Other	175.4	140.7	114.6	100.0	81.5	72.4	57.7	49.8	r46.0	43.2
<i>Total unlawful entry with intent</i>	154.6	132.8	108.4	100.0	79.9	70.0	52.7	46.8	r45.1	43.0
Motor vehicle theft	86.3	89.0	97.3	100.0	71.6	61.8	49.4	63.3	r53.1	38.8
Other theft	103.8	99.4	97.0	100.0	101.2	89.5	80.8	76.9	r73.3	65.1

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

np not available for publication but included in totals where applicable, unless otherwise indicated

r revised

(a) The definition of a victim varies according to the category of the offence (see Glossary).

(b) The offence of driving causing death is excluded as it is no longer available at the national level as not all jurisdictions can supply this information.

(c) An increase from 2004 to 2005 is partly due to an increase in the reporting of family violence incidents (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 83).

(d) Base of each index: 2001 = 100.0 (see Explanatory Notes paragraphs 119–122).

(e) Estimated Resident Population data used to calculate rates and indexes in this issue have changed (see Explanatory Notes paragraphs 115–117).

	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
NUMBER										
Homicide and related offences(b)										
Murder	15	7	16	18	15	11	16	12	12	13
Attempted murder	4	5	5	—	9	3	—	3	4	5
Manslaughter	—	—	3	3	6	7	9	16	5	4
<i>Total homicide and related offences</i>	19	12	24	21	30	21	25	31	21	22
Assault(c)	2 503	2 567	2 936	2 948	3 431	3 710	3 385	3 980	4 350	5 390
Sexual assault	235	164	221	285	331	326	341	309	323	335
Kidnapping/abduction	3	—	3	4	4	3	6	—	5	—
Robbery										
Armed robbery	34	39	29	34	37	29	25	26	51	34
Unarmed robbery	48	46	38	39	62	54	35	48	74	75
<i>Total robbery</i>	82	85	67	73	99	83	60	74	125	109
Blackmail/extortion	3	—	—	—	—	—	3	3	3	—
Unlawful entry with intent										
Involving the taking of property	3 756	3 184	3 429	4 150	3 562	2 611	1 863	1 685	1 872	1 734
Other	1 319	1 687	1 935	2 397	2 105	1 610	1 576	1 549	1 804	1 824
<i>Total unlawful entry with intent</i>	5 075	4 871	5 364	6 547	5 667	4 221	3 439	3 234	3 676	3 558
Motor vehicle theft(d)(e)	966	990	994	939	808	706	483	535	620	677
Other theft(e)	6 731	6 086	7 254	7 941	8 153	6 734	6 460	6 549	6 986	6 459

INDEXED RATE (f)(g)

Homicide and related offences(b)										
Murder	86.8	39.9	89.9	100.0	82.6	60.4	87.0	63.8	62.6	66.4
Attempted murder	np									
Manslaughter	np									
<i>Total homicide and related offences</i>	94.2	58.6	115.6	100.0	141.7	98.8	116.5	141.4	93.9	96.4
Assault(c)	88.4	89.3	100.7	100.0	115.4	124.4	112.3	129.3	138.5	168.2
Sexual assault	85.9	59.0	78.4	100.0	115.2	113.0	117.1	103.8	106.4	108.1
Kidnapping/abduction	np									
Robbery										
Armed robbery	104.2	117.7	86.3	100.0	107.9	84.3	71.9	73.2	140.8	92.0
Unarmed robbery	128.2	121.0	98.5	100.0	157.6	136.8	87.8	117.9	178.1	176.9
<i>Total robbery</i>	117.0	119.5	92.8	100.0	134.5	112.4	80.4	97.1	160.7	137.4
Blackmail/extortion	np									
Unlawful entry with intent										
Involving the taking of property	94.3	78.7	83.6	100.0	85.1	62.2	43.9	38.9	42.3	38.4
Other	57.3	72.2	81.6	100.0	87.1	66.4	64.3	61.9	70.7	70.0
<i>Total unlawful entry with intent</i>	80.7	76.3	82.9	100.0	85.8	63.7	51.4	47.3	52.7	50.0
Motor vehicle theft(d)(e)	107.1	108.2	107.1	100.0	85.3	74.3	50.3	54.6	62.0	66.3
Other theft(e)	88.3	78.6	92.4	100.0	101.8	83.8	79.6	79.0	82.6	74.8

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

np not available for publication but included in totals where applicable, unless otherwise indicated

(a) The definition of a victim varies according to the category of the offence (see Glossary).

(b) The offence of driving causing death is excluded as it is no longer available at the national level as not all jurisdictions can supply this information.

(c) The rise from 2006 to 2007 is partly due to a change in business processes. The increase from 2004 to 2005 is partly due to the introduction of domestic violence initiatives (see Explanatory Notes paragraphs 84–90).

(d) A number of police initiatives led to a decrease from 2003 to 2004 (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 94).

(e) Prior to 2002 data are duplicated. Theft of motor vehicle parts and contents and some theft n.e.c. are included in both the 'motor vehicle theft' category and the 'other theft' category.

(f) Base of each index: 2001 = 100.0 (see Explanatory Notes paragraphs 119–122).

(g) Estimated Resident Population data used to calculate rates and indexes in this issue have changed (see Explanatory Notes paragraphs 115–117).

	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
NUMBER										
Homicide and related offences(b)										
Murder	3	3	3	—	3	4	—	4	3	3
Attempted murder	—	3	—	—	—	3	3	—	—	3
Manslaughter	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—
<i>Total homicide and related offences</i>	3	6	3	—	3	7	6	4	3	6
Assault(c)	1 667	1 686	1 742	1 955	1 988	2 003	1 769	1 772	r1 966	2 165
Sexual assault(c)	86	94	116	179	185	165	226	163	r217	259
Kidnapping/abduction	3	9	5	3	10	6	6	—	3	4
Robbery(c)										
Armed robbery	135	118	114	98	36	68	105	108	r146	124
Unarmed robbery	157	195	192	157	175	134	113	137	r115	164
<i>Total robbery</i>	292	313	306	255	211	202	218	245	r261	288
Blackmail/extortion	—	—	3	3	—	—	4	3	—	—
Unlawful entry with intent										
Involving the taking of property	4 080	6 376	6 455	5 054	5 280	4 561	4 588	3 946	r3 608	3 194
Other	1 512	942	1 173	877	840	677	610	656	r1 258	942
<i>Total unlawful entry with intent</i>	5 592	7 318	7 628	5 931	6 120	5 238	5 198	4 602	r4 866	4 136
Motor vehicle theft	2 427	3 270	2 814	2 383	2 057	2 493	1 669	2 040	r2 129	1 658
Other theft	10 661	11 583	11 721	10 122	10 203	10 963	8 408	8 505	r8 855	9 072

INDEXED RATE (d)(e)

Homicide and related offences(b)										
Murder	np	np								
Attempted murder	np	np								
Manslaughter	np	np								
<i>Total homicide and related offences</i>	np	np								
Assault(c)	87.9	88.2	90.3	100.0	100.6	100.4	88.2	87.6	r96.1	104.0
Sexual assault(c)	49.5	53.7	65.6	100.0	102.3	90.4	123.1	88.0	r115.8	135.9
Kidnapping/abduction	np	np								
Robbery(c)										
Armed robbery	141.9	123.1	117.8	100.0	36.4	68.0	104.4	106.6	r142.3	118.9
Unarmed robbery	103.0	127.0	123.9	100.0	110.3	83.7	70.2	84.4	r70.0	98.1
<i>Total robbery</i>	118.0	125.5	121.6	100.0	81.9	77.7	83.3	92.9	r97.8	106.1
Blackmail/extortion	np	np								
Unlawful entry with intent										
Involving the taking of property	83.2	129.0	129.4	100.0	103.4	88.5	88.5	75.5	r68.2	59.4
Other	177.7	109.8	135.5	100.0	94.8	75.7	67.8	72.3	r137.0	100.9
<i>Total unlawful entry with intent</i>	97.2	126.1	130.3	100.0	102.1	86.6	85.4	75.0	r78.4	65.5
Motor vehicle theft	104.9	140.3	119.6	100.0	85.4	102.6	68.3	82.8	r85.4	65.4
Other theft	108.5	117.0	117.3	100.0	99.7	106.2	81.0	81.2	r83.6	84.2

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

np not available for publication but included in totals where applicable, unless otherwise indicated

r revised

(a) The definition of a victim varies according to the category of the offence (see Glossary).

(b) The offence of driving causing death is excluded as it is no longer available at the national level as not all jurisdictions can supply this information.

(c) Person-related offences prior to 2006 are not comparable (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 101).

(d) Base of each index: 2001 = 100.0 (see Explanatory Notes paragraphs 119–122).

(e) Estimated Resident Population data used to calculate rates and indexes in this issue have changed (see Explanatory Notes paragraphs 115–117).

EXPLANATORY NOTES

INTRODUCTION

1 This publication presents national statistics relating to victimisation incidents for a selected range of offences recorded by police during the 2007 calendar year. These offences may have been reported by a victim, witness or other person, or they may have been detected by police. They provide indicators of the level and nature of these offence incidents as well as changes over time.

2 These statistics are not designed to provide counts of either the total number of victims nor the total number of individual offences that come to the attention of police as:

- The same victim may be counted more than once in incidents involving multiple offences where these offences are of different types (i.e. belong to different *Australian Standard Offence Classification* (ASOC) divisions) or if the same person is a victim on more than one occasion in the same reference year and reports these incidents to police on separate occasions.
- Conversely, for an incident involving multiple offences that belong to the same ASOC division offence category, only the most serious offence within that ASOC division will be counted. For further information refer to paragraphs 109–114.

SCOPE

3 The scope of this collection includes victims of attempted and completed offences classified to divisions and/or subdivisions of ASOC. Selected offences include:

- homicide and related offences (including murder, attempted murder, manslaughter and driving causing death)
- assault
- sexual assault
- kidnapping/abduction
- robbery
- blackmail/extortion
- unlawful entry with intent (UEWI)
- motor vehicle theft
- other theft.

4 National data for assault and sexual assault are not available for recorded crime, however national data for these offences are available from the 2005 National Crime and Safety Survey and the 2005 National Personal Safety Survey. For further information see paragraphs 12–17.

5 The scope excludes the following:

- conspiracy offences. The local offence classifications used in jurisdictions do not generally enable the identification of the substantive offence category to which the conspiracy relates
- threats to commit an offence. These differ from offences like robbery, kidnapping/abduction and blackmail/extortion wherein an element of threat is implicit in the nature of the crime. An exception to the exclusion is assault where direct threat of force, injury or violence where there is an apprehension that the threat could be enacted
- aid, abet and accessory offences
- deprivation of liberty offences.

6 A victim can be a person, a premises, an organisation or a motor vehicle depending on the type of offence.

7 With the exception of motor vehicle theft, statistics relate to both completed and attempted offences, i.e. those where the intent is not fulfilled. Attempted motor vehicle thefts are excluded from the scope of the collection due to difficulties in distinguishing these offences from criminal damage.

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

SCOPE *continued*

8 Attempts to commit an offence are classified to the same ASOC subdivision/group as completed offences. The exception to this is murder, where murder and attempted murder are distinguished as separate offence categories.

9 Offences may include those which at a later point in time are determined to be unfounded, i.e. false or baseless.

10 Some victims of minor offences may not be recorded on crime recording systems by police in all states and territories.

DATA SOURCE

11 Statistics in this publication are derived from information on victimisation incidents collected by the ABS in aggregate form from administrative records held by police agencies within each state and territory.

COMPARABILITY

12 National statistics require a level of uniformity when compiling data from different states and territories. A number of standards, classifications and counting rules have been developed since the inception of this collection to improve national comparability. However, over time significant changes in the business rules, procedures, systems, policies and recording practices of police agencies across Australia have resulted in some discrepancies in data between states and territories for some offence types.

13 Findings from the Differences in Recorded Crime Statistics (DiRCS) project released in 2005 indicated that data for assault and sexual assault were not comparable across all states and territories. Testing of these offence types highlighted that there were inconsistent recording practices across the states and territories. Some jurisdictions almost always record a reported criminal incident on their crime recording system, whereas other jurisdictions apply a threshold test prior to a record being made (e.g. whether the victim wishes to proceed against the offender, or the seriousness of the incident). These thresholds varied across jurisdictions and were not guided by national standards.

14 The project also concluded that once a crime had been recorded in a crime recording system there was no evidence to suggest that processes within any state or territory had a significant impact on differences in recorded crime statistics.

15 In considering other aspects of recorded crime statistics, the DiRCS project concluded that information for offence types other than assault and sexual assault were satisfactory for the level of comparison presented in this publication. Where there are known specific issues for individual states and territories, these are described in paragraphs 27–104.

16 As a consequence of the lack of data comparability for assault and sexual assault, national data for these offence types are not available and the data provided in this publication for individual states and territories should not be used for cross-jurisdiction comparisons. Indexes are provided to assist in interpreting change over time within each jurisdiction. These indexes show movements in victimisation rates over time by comparing each offence group for each year with that offence group in a base year. For further information on indexes see paragraphs 119–122. Further classification developments will improve these offences in the future see paragraphs 18–26.

17 A paper outlining the conduct and outcomes of the DiRCS project is available on the National Statistical Service website <<http://www.nss.gov.au>>. The paper was prepared by the ABS National Crime Statistics Unit (NCSU) on behalf of the NCSU Board of Management.

NATIONAL CRIME RECORDING STANDARD

18 The following describes changes that have occurred or are likely to occur in the future in the recording of crime victimisation statistics by police agencies which may influence crime victimisation counts.

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

NATIONAL CRIME RECORDING STANDARD *continued*

19 A National Crime Recording Standard (NCRS) has been developed to address the lack of a uniform standard in the initial police recording processes. This standard will complement the already established classifications and counting rules for the RCVS collection and improve the level of comparability of these statistics across jurisdictions.

20 The NCRS, comprising a uniform set of business rules and requirements has been developed in collaboration with police agencies across Australia to guide the recording and counting of criminal incidents for statistical purposes and enable consistency in recording. A comprehensive set of scenarios has also been developed which underpin the rules and requirements of the NCRS and provides police agencies with guidance about how to deal with an incident from the point at which it comes to police attention to the point at which it is recorded into crime statistics. The main objective of the NCRS is to provide clear guidance to police agencies on the criteria to be considered when making a judgement as to what should be recorded on police recording systems to meet national crime statistical requirements.

21 The application of the rules and requirements of the NCRS enable the recording of crime for statistical purposes in a comparable manner, while still allowing for the recording and retaining of information on police systems for the primary reasons of operational investigation and law enforcement. Given the nature of policing, many factors ultimately influence the level of recorded crime. Social, cultural and economic factors may influence the level of criminal offending or the level of reporting to police. Recorded crime statistics are the by-product of an administrative system and will be affected by changes within that system. The introduction of new technologies or changes in police business practices and resources are also likely to influence levels of recorded crime which may not necessarily reflect changes in the actual number of criminal incidents. Changes to legislation may also have an impact on the level of recorded crime and on the types of offences recorded. Any known differences are highlighted in Explanatory Notes paragraphs 27–104.

Implementation of the NCRS

22 Given that law enforcement is administered separately by each of the state and territory police agencies in Australia, the date of implementing the NCRS will vary across Australia and will be based on operational capacity to implement. Six jurisdictions have already commenced implementation, however, the date of implementation varies:

Queensland - June 2007

South Australia - September 2007

Western Australia - January 2007

Tasmania - January 2008

Northern Territory - May 2007

Australian Capital Territory - January 2008

23 New South Wales and Victoria are expected to implement the NCRS by July 2008.

The impact of the NCRS on Recorded Crime Victim Statistics

24 One of the challenges of introducing the NCRS is establishing whether its implementation will artificially inflate or deflate any or all of the offences within the RCVS collection. As police crime statistics are a by-product of the administrative processes of law enforcement it is not feasible to quantify the impact of the NCRS on crime recording. However, extensive consultation with police agencies has been undertaken and suggests that most jurisdictions are not expecting significant differences as a result of implementing the NCRS. The introduction of new state and territory based legislation and more pro-active policing policies in relation to family and domestic violence over recent years has potentially seen a greater alignment in the recording of assault related offences across the jurisdictions. The historical time series for all offences, except assault and sexual assault, are not expected to be significantly impacted.

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

*The impact of the NCRS on
Recorded Crime Victim
Statistics continued*

STATE/TERRITORY
SIGNIFICANT EVENT AND
SPECIFIC ISSUES

New South Wales

25 National offence data for assault and sexual assault offence types will be available once all jurisdictions have implemented the NCRS and are able to supply a full calendar year's worth of data. The earliest this is anticipated is for the 2009 reference year, expected to be released in 2010.

26 Queensland, South Australia, Western Australia and Northern Territory data presented in this publication comprise counts based on both pre-NCRS and post NCRS implementation. Queensland and Northern Territory have also implemented significant IT infrastructure changes which may also impact on the estimates. Data for all other jurisdictions pre-dates implementation of the NCRS.

27 The following information highlights events or processes unique to a jurisdiction that may have had an impact on the data for this collection. This may include specific initiatives, recording practices, changes to legislation or policy to combat particular types of crime. This information has been supplied by each police agency.

28 Kidnapping/abduction weapon use data have been imputed for 2007, except for the total count.

29 New South Wales robbery counts are no longer comparable prior to 2005 as these are understated. Additional robbery victims were identified through a change in counting methodology. Given the significance of the contribution of New South Wales to the Australian estimate, national data are also not comparable prior to 2005. Caution should also be exercised in comparing robbery between 2006 to 2007 as a different process was used to categorise weapon/non-weapon use in 2006. Data for weapon not further defined and unspecified were lower in 2006 as a result of this process.

30 Unlawful entry with intent counts are no longer comparable prior to 2006 as data were previously overstated. Given the significance of the contribution of New South Wales to the Australian estimate, national data are also not comparable prior to 2006. Improved quality assurance procedures have ensured that the data reflects the counting rules as described in paragraph 113.

31 Improvements to quality assurance processes during 2006 have resulted in a reduction of weapons 'not further defined' and a reclassification of these data to other weapon use categories. Care should be taken when comparing data prior to 2006 for weapon use categories as the data are not strictly comparable. This increased level of effort did not continue during 2007, hence the quality between categories may differ for 2007.

32 Care should be taken when comparing other theft location data from 2006 to prior years as quality assurance improvements have been made to this offence type. For the offence other theft, a number of 'not further defined' categories that previously appeared in total residential are now accurately being recorded under outbuilding/residential land. Transport locations prior to 2006 were also previously overstated; other theft from car parks are now categorised to the appropriate location category.

33 Counts of kidnapping/abduction may be inflated slightly. 'Deprivation of liberty' (which is out of scope for this collection) is not separately identifiable on the COPS system; therefore counts of this offence type are also included in the kidnapping/abduction offence category.

34 Leaving restaurants without paying and failing to pay for petrol form part of the offence category of other theft for this collection. New South Wales, however, has excluded these offence types from this category, as they are categorised as fraud, which is out of scope of this collection.

35 All family and domestic violence related assaults are recorded even if the victim does not want to proceed.

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

New South Wales continued

36 An assault will still be recorded if there are no signs of injury and the victim does not wish to take the matter further. There is a propensity in New South Wales to record assault as part of public disturbances (e.g. a pub brawl).

37 Sexual assault counts include incidents committed prior to the reference period but reported to police in that reference period.

38 If after a report of a sexual assault further investigation reveals no grounds to suggest a crime took place, a record of the original incident will remain and will be included in the counts.

39 A motor vehicle theft is recorded even if it is later determined that the motor vehicle had not been stolen.

Victoria

40 Sexual assault data have been revised from 1993 to include all offences in scope of the offence of sexual assault. The large increase from 2005 was partly attributed to renewed efforts to improve business practices in relation to police responding to reports of sexual assault. This includes the release in 2005 of *The Code of Practice for the Investigation of Sexual Assault*, aimed at ensuring a co-ordinated and efficient response from all services, including police, sexual assault counsellors and forensic medical officers.

41 Sexual assault counts may include incidents committed prior to the reference period but reported to police in that reference period.

42 Victoria may record an offence (where the facts indicate that a crime has been committed) if the victim does not wish to proceed, depending on the severity of that offence.

43 The *Family Violence Code of Practice for the Investigation of Family Violence* was introduced in August 2004, and has influenced an increase in assault counts since that time. This initiative involved a proactive approach by police and prosecutions in gathering evidence, investigation and laying charges, where appropriate, relating to family violence. It has also led to more victims feeling confident in reporting family violence to police.

44 Property taken in association with UEWI may not always be identified due to limitations in recording options in the Victoria Police LEAP computer system. Therefore caution should be used when assessing the subcomponents of UEWI. The total counts for UEWI are correct, however further disaggregation results in an undercount for 'UEWI - involving the taking of property' and an over count of 'UEWI - other'.

45 In July 2004, there was a change to the procedures for recording theft of bicycle offences. Bicycles stolen during the commission of another offence such as burglary were no longer counted separately and therefore the bicycles from 2004 onwards are recorded as property items attached to the burglary. This change brings Victoria's recording practices in line with national standards. This change may have contributed to the reduction in other theft offences from 2004 to 2005.

Queensland

46 Caution should be exercised when interpreting data movements between 2006 and 2007. A new IT system, QPRIME was introduced in June 2007. The changes to the IT system affected the way in which data about an offence was recorded for all offence types. Data for 2007 therefore may be undercounted for all offence types, however, this is likely to be more so for property offences. Related offence information such as weapons, location and Indigenous status has also been impacted. The extent of the undercount cannot be quantified. Queensland police business processes are being reviewed in 2008 with a view to improving the quality of the recorded crime data.

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

Queensland *continued*

47 The NCRS was also introduced in June 2007. The impact of the NCRS cannot be established as it coincided with the release of the new IT system, however, this change was not expected to have had a significant impact. For more information about the NCRS see paragraphs 18–26.

48 Caution should be exercised in comparing transport and other community location data to previous years. Some data have been incorrectly coded to transport instead of community location. Therefore the transport data may be overstated, while the other community data may be understated.

49 Queensland's Domestic and Family Violence Protection Act 1989 was amended by the *Domestic and Family Violence Protection Regulation*, which commenced on 10 March 2003. The relevant chapter of Queensland Police policies and procedures requires police to take action where an investigating officer determines that there is sufficient evidence to do so. Charges may be pursued under the Criminal Code or other Acts in addition to proceedings under the *Domestic and Family Violence Protection Act*. In addition, an investigation is to be made where a police officer has a 'reasonable suspicion' that domestic violence is occurring or has occurred.

50 Sexual assault counts may include incidents committed prior to the reference period but reported to police in that reference period.

51 The increase in kidnapping/abduction offences for 2004 was possibly a result of increased public awareness of these types of offences. The media and the police had established a working partnership to encourage immediate reporting of kidnapping/abduction offences and thereby increase the chances of apprehending the offenders responsible.

52 Leaving a restaurant without paying forms part of the offence category of other theft for this collection. Queensland, however, has excluded this offence type from this category, but may include it in categories out of scope of this collection.

53 Data for offences that are deemed after investigation to be 'unsubstantiated' and/or 'unfounded' are excluded.

South Australia

54 The NCRS was implemented in September 2007, however changes due to the implementation are only partially reflected in the data. There were no significant impacts to the data as a result of this implementation. For more information about the NCRS see paragraphs 18–26.

55 Mandatory reporting of 'reportable' assaults (unlawful sexual assault, unreasonable use of force or assault) in a residential care facility became effective 1 July 2007.

56 While assault is defined in legislation, the definitions of an offence at common law are relied upon.

57 South Australia does not record an assault or any other offence (when evidence suggests an assault or another offence has taken place) if they cannot locate a victim or their representative.

58 The *Statutes Amendment and Repeal (Aggravated Offences) Act 2005* came into effect 15 May 2006. This has widened the scope for the offence types of assault, kidnapping/abduction and blackmail/extortion in South Australia. Offences that are of a threatening nature, such as threat to endanger life or threat to injure, are included in scope of these offence types due to this legislative change. For the RCVS collection, threats of assault that are not face to face are not in scope and are excluded from the assault offence; only face to face threats are included. South Australia cannot exclude non-face to face threats of assault. Offences of a threatening nature however are implicit in offences such as robbery, kidnapping/abduction and blackmail/extortion and should be included in the RCVS collection. Part of the increase in assaults, blackmail/extortion

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

South Australia continued

and kidnapping/abduction are due to the implementation of this legislation, therefore caution should be exercised when comparing data prior to 2006.

59 The South Australian *Domestic Violence Act 1994* was amended in 2001 (stalking) and in 2004 (problem gambling family protection orders).

60 South Australia records all family and domestic violence related assaults even if the victim does not want to proceed.

61 Sexual assault counts may include incidents committed prior to the reference period but reported to police in that reference period. The Mullighan enquiry (spanning December 2004 to April 2008) into the sexual abuse of children in state care has generated renewed and continued public awareness resulting in increased reporting of offences committed prior to the current reference period. In 2007, approximately 10% of sexual assaults reported to police related to incidents occurring prior to 2007; this figure was approximately 5% in 2006.

62 Leaving restaurants without paying and failing to pay for petrol form part of the offence category of other theft for this collection. Prior to 2006, these offences were not included in other theft counts, but may have been recorded against other offence categories not in scope of this collection. Taxi fare evasion forms part of fraud and is out of scope of this collection. From 2006, taxi fare evasions are included in other theft as these cannot be separated out.

63 South Australia Police record a single victim in instances where multiple vehicles belonging to that victim are stolen in a single incident. Victims of motor vehicle theft may therefore be understated. However, the impact to victim counts is minimal.

64 The reduction in other theft offences from 2003 to 2004 may have been the result of the maturation of the decentralised Local Service Area structure, the South Australia policing model, the Performance Outcome Review process and the setting of reduction targets.

65 The legal age of consent (that is, when it is legal for young people to consent to sex) for South Australia and Tasmania is 17 years of age. The legal age of consent in all other states and territories is 16.

66 The following initiatives were in operation in South Australia:

- 'Benchmarking', introduced in 2006–07, to identify and set improvement targets in crime, detections and pro-activity. This is linked to Corporate Business Plan strategies; each LSA has individually calculated benchmarks on 26 categories based on the past three years performance. Benchmarking complements the existing Performance Outcome Review process operative since 1999.
- Police have continued a strong policing presence in the APY Lands in the far north-west of the state, which has led to increased reporting. The effect is one of increased and improved reporting of mainly personal crimes amongst Indigenous people in remote areas, rather than a significant actual increase in crime.
- Operation Mandrake, conducted since September 2004, targets offenders of vehicle crime. This operation may influence the level of reported crime and outcomes of investigation for motor vehicle theft.

Western Australia

67 The NCRS was implemented during 2007, however, changes due to the implementation are only partially reflected in the data. For more information about the NCRS see paragraphs 18–26.

68 As part of the focus on remote communities and the recommendations of the Gordon Inquiry in 2002, a number of multifunctional police facilities have been established in remote Western Australia in the last five years: one in 2003 in the Central Desert; three in 2004 in the Kimberley and one in the Central Desert; one in 2006 in the

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

Western Australia continued

Central Desert; one in 2007 in the Pilbara and two in the Kimberley, plus a police post in the Kimberley.

69 The Western Australian Acts *Amendment (Family and Domestic Violence) Act 2004* came into effect on 1 December 2004. Police have a statutory obligation to investigate if they have a 'reasonable suspicion' that a person is committing an act of family and domestic violence, that is also a criminal offence, or has put the safety of a person with whom they have a family or domestic relationship at risk. The definition of a 'family and domestic relationship' is very broad and the definition of an 'act of family and domestic violence' provides broad grounds for intervention. Western Australia records all family and domestic violence related assaults even if the victim does not want to proceed.

70 In 2004, significant changes were made to the *Restraining Orders Act 1997*, the Criminal Code, and the *Bail Act 1982*, to improve the way police respond to and report domestic violence. Prior to 2004, family and domestic assaults comprised around 25% of total reported assaults; from 2004 to 2007 the proportion has consistently been around 38% of total reported assaults.

71 Western Australia does not record an assault or any other offence (when evidence suggests an assault has taken place) if they cannot locate a victim or their representative and when the evidence suggests that the assault is minor.

72 Sexual assault counts may include incidents committed prior to the reference period but reported to police in that reference period.

73 There had been a significant increase in the use of DNA testing (and media advertising of this fact) in 2006. This may have acted as a deterrent for offenders and therefore may provide some explanation for the decrease in some offence categories during 2006.

74 A new offence recording system, the Incident Management System (IMS), was implemented and rolled-out between September 2002 and August 2004, and gradually replaced the Offence Information System (OIS) over that period.

75 The blackmail/extortion data may be understated prior to 2003 as the previous recording system was unable to include those offences related to blackmail/extortion with no monetary influence. The IMS is able to provide both pecuniary and non-pecuniary offences for extortion.

76 The increased re-licensing of second-hand vehicles resulted in a significant increase in immobilisers being fitted to old vehicles. This may have contributed to the decrease of motor vehicle theft from 2003 to 2004. In December 2006, 77% of all registered vehicles in WA had immobilisers fitted, while the national average was 54% (Source: *National Motor Vehicle Theft Reduction Council 2007*).

77 A number of strategies have been implemented to combat crime. These include:

- A Burglar Beware Intensive Program specifically aimed at reducing burglary offences. This program has been in operation since 2004 and a new website was launched in early 2007.
- The establishment of a Police Assistance Centre in December 2004 to take non-emergency calls via a '131444' number and a major advertising and public awareness campaign about the use of the number in May 2005.
- 'Eyes on the Street' - implemented in 2004 - involving coordinated intelligence gathering about crime in the community. This enables third parties (state government agencies, local governments and businesses) to identify, record and report possible criminal activity to police. Since its implementation nearly 4,000 pieces of information have been received by police; criminal activities reported include: burglary, 'hoon' drivers and organised crime (Office of Crime Prevention 'Turning the Corner 2007: recent crime trends in Western Australia).

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

Tasmania

78 The *Family Violence Act 2004* came into effect on 30 March 2005 and is the legislative basis under which Tasmania Police operates in matters of family violence. Family violence means any of a number of specified types of conduct (including assault and sexual assault) committed by a person, directly or indirectly, against that person's spouse or partner (including ex-spouse or ex-partner), including same-sex relationships. The legislation provides enhanced police powers in relation to entry, search and arrest in family violence cases and mandates certain professions (doctors, dentists, psychologists, teachers, etc.) to report to Police the occurrence or suspicion of family violence. Assaults relating to family violence are recorded even if the victim does not want to proceed. This has resulted in a sharp increase in assaults recorded in 2005 followed by a gradual decline.

79 Sexual assault counts include incidents committed prior to the reference period but reported to police in that reference period; 29% of sexual assaults reported in 2006 and 33% reported in 2007 relate to earlier time periods.

80 Prior to 2005, all counts of demanding property with menaces were included in the category of robbery. From 2005 (revised data), these offences were either classified to robbery or blackmail/extortion, depending on the circumstances of the incident.

81 A motor vehicle theft is recorded even if later it is determined that the motor vehicle had not been stolen.

82 The legal age of consent (that is, when it is legal for young people to consent to sex) for South Australia and Tasmania is 17 years of age. The legal age of consent in all other states and territories is 16.

83 The following are examples of some initiatives/programs which were in operation in Tasmania:

- In 2004, the Tasmanian Government introduced the *Safe at Home* initiative which is underpinned by the *Family Violence Act 2004*. The initiative is intended to achieve a reduction in the level of family violence in the medium to long term and, in the shorter term, improve safety for adult and child victims as well as change the offending behaviour of those responsible for the violence.
- Public Order Response Teams (PORTs), comprising extra police officers deployed in each District to address crime and public order issues, continued in 2007. Using an intelligence-led policing model, they targeted areas prone to antisocial behaviour and public order incidents.
- A number of initiatives were implemented to prevent and detect robberies with a special taskforce established in the southern part of the State to focus on armed robberies. A security package, *PubSafe*, was launched in 2007 to deter robbery in gambling areas.
- Strategies and programs undertaken by Tasmania Police in conjunction with other organisations, to reduce motor vehicle stealing and stealing property from motor vehicles included: Project Bonnet; Park Smart; Operation Bounce Back; and Project U-Turn.
- The consistent reduction in property offences over several years is due to a number of factors including improvements in technology and policing strategies in the context of improved economic conditions. The Department's Integrated Crime Management Strategy, using the intelligence-led model, has helped reduce crime as well as programs such as *Project Samaritan*. This program, in partnership with other organisations, aims to prevent residential burglaries and repeat victimisation by offering crime prevention advice to victims and neighbours.

The Northern Territory

84 A number of new initiatives were introduced by Northern Territory Police during late 2006 and 2007 and this has influenced the rate of change for some offence types,

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

particularly assault. Caution should therefore be exercised in interpreting data movements between 2006 and 2007.

85 The rise in assault counts between 2006 and 2007 can be largely attributed to three key factors: a change to the NT IT system and business practices, the implementation of the NCRS and training associated with it and continued local domestic violence initiatives.

86 The Northern Territory Police IT system - *PROMIS Case Management System* - was significantly upgraded at 30 April 2007. Internal business practices were also reviewed to improve the quality assurance of the information being recorded by police in the Northern Territory, particularly for the more serious offences. This review highlighted a number of areas for improvement and a number of system improvements, including the introduction of mandatory fields, and improvements to business practices, were made to improve the quality of information being recorded about offences and victims from early 2007. A number of strategies have also been implemented to combat crime see paragraph 94.

87 The NCRS was introduced May 2007. This initiative was combined with the enhancements mentioned previously, and there was a concerted effort in training police personnel in the new procedures. For more information about the NCRS see paragraphs 18-26.

88 The Northern Territory *Domestic Violence Act 1992* was last amended in October 2005. It provides a broad definition of 'domestic relationship'. A General Order issued to Northern Territory Police in November 2005, *Domestic Violence - Response, Investigation and Prevention*, sets out processes and procedures for police response to, and investigation of, domestic violence incidents and related criminal offences. It details procedures for initiating civil and criminal action in these matters, including 'taking positive action in every case even where victims are reluctant to act'. All family and domestic violence related assaults are recorded even if the victim does not want to proceed.

89 Domestic violence remains a high priority for service evidenced by the formation of the Domestic and Personal Violence Protection Units, the Peace at Home Project in Katherine and the training of all operational members in related issues, and the enhanced domestic violence investigation training provided to key members in investigative, supervisory and support positions. As a result of this there is concerted effort by police to encourage victims to come forward to police.

90 The large increase in assault victims from 2004 to 2005 was significantly related to the introduction of domestic violence initiatives in the Northern Territory in 2005. The rise in assaults from 2005 to 2006 and 2006 to 2007 continue to be influenced by these domestic violence initiatives, however, non-domestic violence assaults have also significantly increased, particularly in the last twelve months. The initiatives mentioned previously have influenced this direction.

91 Assault in the Northern Territory is clearly defined under sections 187-188 of the NT *Criminal Code Act* and therefore does not rely on common law definitions.

92 If after a report of an assault further investigation reveals, insufficient evidence, but in the judgement of a police officer a crime did take place, a record of an assault will still be made on the Northern Territory Police administrative recording system (PROMIS) with an outcome code of 'insufficient evidence'.

93 Sexual assault counts may include incidents committed prior to the reference period, but reported to police in that reference period.

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

The Northern Territory continued

- 94** A number of strategies exist in the Northern Territory to reduce crime:
- The Violent Crime Reduction Strategy, the Property Crime Reduction Strategy and the Missing Person Policy continue. These strategies provide quality assurance in relation to the investigating, reporting and recording of particular offences. Victims of Crime Procedures have been introduced to improve service to victims and encourage people to report crime.
 - In June 2007, the Commonwealth Government announced the *Northern Territory Emergency Response* and the NT Government announced *Closing the Gap Generational Plan for Action*. These initiatives are in response to the Board of Inquiry into the Protection of Aboriginal Children from Abuse report. Of significance is the commencement of 'Operation Themis', the NT Police aspect of the above initiatives. This operation has seen the implementation of 18 new police stations and additional staff in remote areas of the NT, that did not previously have policing services located there.
 - In June 2006 the Child Abuse Taskforce was established, in addition to the Sexual Crime Unit. The Taskforce was created to deal with offences against children especially in remote localities and has been increased under Operation Themis.
 - Alcohol Courts have been established for the purpose of issuing prohibition orders and alcohol intervention orders. The intention is to reduce the number of causal factors of crime.
 - In 2004, the implementation of intelligence-led policing initiatives such as the Tactical and Coordination Group (TCG) response to crime across the Northern Territory, led to early identification of crime trends such as motor vehicle theft. The decrease in motor vehicle theft between 2003 and 2004 may also have been due to: forensic-led response to stolen/recovered motor vehicles; an improved response coordinated through the stolen motor vehicle unit to NEVDIS (National Exchange of Vehicles and Driver Identification System); reports of vehicle anomalies (including suspected vehicle re-births); and the continual improvement of vehicle security features.

The Australian Capital Territory

- 95** During 2007, ACT Policing targeted anti-social behaviour related to intoxication in public places through greater police presence, particularly during peak times. This operation was known as 'Operation Cobalt'. The increased visibility by police may have increased the likelihood of assault offences being reported to police.
- 96** The targeting of repeat offenders through the establishment of permanent Property Crime teams in June 2006 may have contributed to the decrease in UEWI for 2007.
- 97** The Property Crime Reduction Strategy is one of many factors that may have contributed to a decrease in motor vehicle theft. The improved security features in modern cars, greater uptake of the immobiliser rebate offered by the ACT Government and improved security in shopping centre car parks have also been contributing factors in influencing the decrease from 2006 to 2007.
- 98** The Australian Capital Territory amended the *Domestic Violence & Protection Orders Act 2001*, with amendments coming into force in March 2005. Some definitions have changed, including the definition of what constitutes a 'domestic partner', which has been extended. These definitional changes were not expected to impact on the type or rate of offences recorded on Australian Capital Territory operational IT systems. The decision to charge is made by investigating police based on the evidence available to them.
- 99** Sexual assault counts may include incidents committed prior to the reference period but reported to police in that reference period. In 2007, 7% of total sexual assaults related to victims who reported an offence more than a year after the initial offence occurred.

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

The Australian Capital Territory continued

100 An upgrade of the ACT policing IT system - *PROMIS Case Management System (CMS)* - was introduced on 29 November 2005 resulting in significant change to the way in which offences were recorded in the Australian Capital Territory. Data prior to November 2005 were mainly based on the primary victim (often the complainant) as only one victim's details could be recorded against a particular offence. In the new version of the CMS, offences now can have multiple victims recorded against them. Data for 2006 onwards is a more accurate reflection of the number of victims associated with reported offences.

101 As a result of these IT changes, data prior to 2006 may not be strictly comparable for person-related offences such as assault, sexual assault and robbery and therefore comparisons with previous years should be interpreted with caution.

102 Care should also be taken when comparing UEWI data prior to 2006 as a number of data quality improvements associated with the update of the CMS have been made to this offence category which has seen a redistribution between 'UEWI - property' and 'UEWI - other'. Data are not comparable to previous years.

103 In 2006, there were an unusually high number of armed robberies in a short period of time committed by a small number of offenders or offender groups.

104 Motor vehicles that are stolen in the Australian Capital Territory, but recovered in another state/territory are recorded on Australian Capital Territory operational IT systems and are included in the counts.

CLASSIFICATIONS

105 The offence categories used for national crime statistics in this publication are based on ASOC. The ASOC was implemented in the recorded crime statistics collection from 1 January 1999 and provides a uniform national statistical framework for classifying offences. The national offence definitions are descriptive and may not correspond with legal or police offence definitions in a particular jurisdiction. For further information on the mapping of national offence categories to the ASOC see Appendix 3.

106 The ABS expects to release a revised edition of the ASOC in 2008.

COUNTING METHODOLOGY

107 The following provides an explanation as to how victims are treated and counted in this collection.

108 Data are compiled on the basis of the date an offence is reported to police and recorded within a reference period. This corresponds to either the date the offence was reported to police by a member of the public or when it was detected by police. The report date may not necessarily be the date when the offence occurred. This is particularly the case for homicide and related offences and sexual assault offences, where in some instances the time difference between when the offence(s) occurred and the report/detection date may be substantial.

109 A victim of a criminal incident is classified to the most serious offence of one of the offence categories in scope of this collection (see paragraphs 3–10 for offences in scope). Victims of multiple offences may be counted more than once if the offences fall into separate ASOC divisions. The most serious offence within an ASOC division is the one with the lowest ASOC code. For example, Murder (0111) is a more serious offence than Manslaughter (0131).

110 A victim can be a person, premises, organisation or motor vehicle depending on the type of offence.

Counting within an ASOC Division category

111 If multiple offences per victim fall within the same ASOC division the victim is counted only once to the most serious offence within that division.

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

*Counting within an ASOC
Division category continued*

112 Examples of where a victim of multiple offences would be counted once in the same ASOC division are:

- If a person is indecently assaulted (one form of sexual assault) and then raped (another form of sexual assault), one victim would be counted for aggravated sexual assault, i.e. the rape. The indecent assault offence would not be counted.
- A victim of an attack by several offenders or a victim repeatedly assaulted by the same offender would be counted once for assault.
- The same victim is repeatedly abused over a period of time (i.e. long term abuse) and reports all instances of abuse to police at a point in time. The exception to this rule is where the victim reports these incidents to police at different times, then a count is made for each separate report.
- If a bank with several customers present is robbed one robbery is counted with the victim being the bank. If personal property is also taken from two customers there would be three victims; the bank and the two customers.
- One victim is counted for each motor vehicle stolen. For example, if five cars are stolen from a car yard, this is counted as five motor vehicle thefts.
- One victim is counted for each person/organisation victimised for other theft.

113 For the offence of UEWI the following applies:

- One victim is counted for each place/premises victimised. A place/premises can consist of either a single structure (e.g. house), part of a single structure (e.g. flat), or multiple structures (e.g. farmstead with house, barns and sheds). The same property containing the same structure(s) can be counted differently depending on the occupancy arrangements at the time.
- For multiple structures on the same property with the same occupant(s), one victim is counted regardless of the number of separate structures unlawfully entered with intent. This would apply to a house with attached or unattached garage and a backyard shed located on the one property; and warehouses occupied by a sole organisation located on the same property.
- For multiple structures on the same property, but occupied by more than one household or organisation, one victim is counted for each separate household or organisation. Where a business premises has an attached residence that is occupied by the same person(s), the registered business is considered to be a separate victim.
- In the case of UEWI to individual areas in a building that is rented, leased or occupied separately, one victim is counted for each separate tenant/owner. For example, in a block of 10 flats leased by 10 different tenants where three flats are unlawfully entered, there would be a count of three UEWIs. If unlawful entry to the building itself is recorded, an additional offence of UEWI to that building is counted. This instance would apply to apartments in one building; offices of several commercial firms in one business building; shops in a shopping complex; hotel rooms; and lodging houses.

*Counting across national
offence categories*

114 If a victim is subjected to multiple offences during the same criminal incident the victim may be counted more than once. If the multiple offences fall under different ASOC divisions then the victim will be counted under the most serious offence of each relevant ASOC division category. For example, a person kidnapped and murdered will be counted twice under the national counting rule; once in the kidnapping/abduction ASOC category and once in the murder ASOC category.

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

RATES

115 Rates per 100,000 of the Estimated Resident Population (ERP) are presented in tables 1 and 3. As the population changes over time, the denominator used for the calculation of rates will vary, depending on the reference period. The ERP for the midpoint of each reference period is used to calculate the rates. Rates expressed per 100,000 persons generally accord with international and state and territory practice.

116 The ERP series are revised every five years to incorporate additional information available from the latest Census of Population and Housing. The rates per 100,000 persons and the indexed rates presented in this issue have been calculated using different ERP counts as follows:

- 2006–2007 rates and indexes are calculated using preliminary ERP data based on the 2006 Census of Population and Housing.
- 2001–2005 rates and indexes are calculated using revised ERP based on the 2006 Census of Population and Housing.
- All other rates and indexes are calculated using ERP based on the 2001 Census of Population and Housing.

117 For population estimates and information on the methodology used to produce ERP, see *Australian Demographic Statistics* (cat. no. 3101.0).

118 The risk of victimisation varies depending on the age and sex of the victim. These statistics include details of the age and sex of the victim, and age and sex specific victimisation rates have been included in table 3. These are calculated using estimates of the age and sex breakdown of the population. For the offence categories of robbery and blackmail/extortion, where the victim may be a person or an organisation, victimisation rates have been provided for person victims only in table 3.

INDEXES

119 An index is a convenient way of comparing values over time. The index allows comparison of two values of recorded crime for a common offence within a jurisdiction. Indexes are provided to assist in interpreting change over time within jurisdictions. Indexes should not be used to make direct comparisons between jurisdictions.

120 In order to compare two values of recorded crime it is necessary to designate one of the time periods as the 'reference' period and setting its value to 100.0. (This period is referred to as the base period or year as it is the first period for constructing the index). The index for all other periods (i.e. the comparison values) is calculated by determining the ratio of the comparison period value to the reference period value and then multiplying by 100.0. For example, suppose the recorded crime rate was 200 victims per 100,000 persons for a particular offence at 2001 (period 1), and for 2002 (period 2) it was 300 victims per 100,000 persons. 2001 (period 1) would be designated as the reference value or base year giving an index of 100.0 ($200/200 \times 100$). The index value for 2002 (period 2) or the comparison value becomes 150.0 ($300/200 \times 100$). The movement between 2001 (base year) and 2002 (comparison value) would be 50%.

121 For this publication, the indexes refer to victimisation rates per 100,000 persons and 2001 has been selected as the base year.

122 Movements in indexes from one period to another can be expressed either as changes in index points or as percentage changes. Index rates are not published where the numbers are very small as apparent large movements can be misleading.

CONFIDENTIALITY

123 The data presented in this publication have been confidentialised to prevent identification of victims. Cells with small values have been randomly adjusted. These adjustments do not impair the value of the tables as a whole.

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

REVISIONS

124 Statistics produced on the basis of date reported may be affected over time by lags in completing and/or processing some crime reports. Where offences reported in the reference year are not processed for inclusion in the national statistics until the following year, revised data are included in subsequent publications and noted accordingly. Revisions have occurred for Victoria, Western Australia, Tasmania and the Australian Capital Territory. There were no revisions for New South Wales, Queensland, South Australia and the Northern Territory.

COMPARISONS TO OTHER ABS DATA

125 Another major source of measuring crime is the ABS 2005 National Crime and Safety Survey which is complementary to the Recorded Crime - Victims collection. This survey collects information directly from individuals and households about their experiences of crime, the extent to which incidents of crime were subsequently reported to police and perceptions of neighbourhood problems and feelings of safety for a broad selected set of offences (see *Crime and Safety, Australia, 2005* (cat.no. 4509.0)).

126 A further source of crime victimisation which measures peoples experience of violence, harassment and stalking is the ABS 2005 Personal Safety Survey. This survey is conducted by personal interview and provides detailed information collected from individuals about: their experiences of threats/attempts or actual physical assault or sexual assault; the type of perpetrator; experience of harassment and stalking; reporting of incidents to police; feelings of safety; and includes a range of characteristics about some of these incidents of violence (see *Personal Safety Survey, Australia, 2005* (cat. no. 4906.0)).

127 As different methods are used, caution should be exercised in making any direct comparisons. The *Information Paper: Measuring Crime Victimisation, Australia: The Impact of Different Collection Methodologies* (cat. no. 4522.0.55.001) was released by the ABS in 2004. The main aim of this paper is to increase community understanding of the nature of crime measurement in Australia and why the findings from different data sources may differ. The paper outlines national crime victimisation statistics available from several different sources in the Australian context (including *Recorded Crime - Victims*) and draws comparisons between the statistics from these sources. The paper also describes methodological differences between survey sources and the possible impacts of the methodological differences between the survey vehicles.

COMPARISONS TO OTHER SOURCES

128 The statistics presented in this publication may be different from those published by police forces in individual states and territories. Different definitions of offences (see Glossary) and counting methodology (see paragraphs 107–114) will result in variations. National recorded crime victims statistics are compiled on a victim basis in that they count the number of victims for each individual ASOC division offence category, rather than the number of breaches of the criminal law.

REFERENCE PERIOD

129 National crime statistics are produced annually on a calendar year basis. The reference period for this publication relates to offences that have been reported to police between 1 January and 31 December 2007. Data compiled on a financial year basis are also available from the ABS.

CONFIDENTIALITY OF TABULAR DATA

130 Table cells containing small values have been randomly adjusted to avoid releasing confidential information. Due to this randomisation process, totals may vary slightly across tables.

ADDITIONAL DATA

131 A set of additional tables containing state and territory wafers of some of the tables in this publication are available free of charge on the ABS website under the 'Details' tab for this product. Financial year data for 2006–07 are available on request. For further information, contact the National Centre for Crime and Justice Statistics (NCCJS) by email at <crime.justice@abs.gov.au>.

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

RELATED PUBLICATIONS

ABS publications

- 132** Other ABS publications which may be of interest include:
- Australian Demographic Statistics* (cat. no. 3101.0) – issued quarterly
 - Australian Social Trends* (cat. no. 4102.0) – issued annually
 - Australian Standard Offence Classification* (cat. no. 1234.0) – irregular
 - Causes of Death, Australia* (cat. no. 3303.0) – issued annually
 - Corrective Services, Australia* (cat. no. 4512.0) – issued quarterly
 - Crime and Safety, Australia* (cat. no. 4509.0) – irregular
 - Crime and Safety, New South Wales* (cat. no. 4509.1) – irregular
 - Criminal Courts, Australia* (cat. no. 4513.0) – issued annually
 - Experimental Estimates and Projections, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians, 30 June 1991 to 30 June 2009* (cat. no. 3238.0) – issued five yearly
 - General Social Survey: Summary Results, Australia* (cat. no. 4159.0) – four yearly
 - Information Paper: Measuring Crime Victimization, Australia: The Impact of Different Collection Methodologies* (cat. no. 4522.0.55.001) – irregular
 - Information Paper: National Information Development Plan for Crime and Justice Statistics 2005* (cat. no. 4520.0) – single issue
 - Measures of Australia's Progress* (cat. no. 1370.0) – issued biennially
 - Motor Vehicle Census, Australia* (cat. no. 9309.0) – issued annually
 - National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Survey* (cat. no. 4714.0) – irregular
 - Personal Safety Survey* (cat. no. 4906.0) – irregular
 - Prisoners in Australia* (cat. no. 4517.0) – issued annually
 - Sexual Assault in Australia: A Statistical Overview* (cat. no. 4523.0) – single issue
 - Year Book Australia* (cat. no. 1301.0) – irregular

133 Current publications and other products released by the ABS are available from the ABS website <<http://www.abs.gov.au>>. The ABS also issues a daily Release Advice on the website that details products to be released in the week ahead. The NCCJS releases *Crime and Justice News* (cat. no. 4500.0), an annual newsletter that is published on the ABS website. The centre can be contacted by email through <crime.justice@abs.gov.au>.

Non-ABS publications

- 134** Non-ABS sources which may be of interest include:
- Australian Crime Commission, *Australian Illicit Drug Report*
 - Australian Federal Police, *Annual Report*
 - Australian Institute of Criminology, *List of Publications* <<http://www.aic.gov.au>>
 - Crime Research Centre, University of Western Australia, *Crime and Justice Statistics for Western Australia*
 - NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research, *New South Wales Recorded Crime Statistics*
 - Office of Crime Prevention, Northern Territory Government, *Northern Territory Quarterly Crime and Justice Statistics*
 - Office of Crime Statistics and Research, South Australia, *Crime and Justice in South Australia*
 - Queensland Police Service, *Statistical Review*
 - Steering Committee for the Review of Government Service Provision, *Report on Government Services*
 - South Australian Police Department, *Statistical Review Annual Report*
 - Tasmanian Department of Police and Public Safety, *Annual Report*
 - Victoria Police, *Crime Statistics*

ABBREVIATIONS

- ABS Australian Bureau of Statistics
- ASOC Australian Standard Offence Classification
- DiRCS Differences in Recorded Crime Statistics

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

ERP	estimated resident population
n.e.c.	not elsewhere classified
n.f.d.	not further defined
NCCJS	National Centre for Crime and Justice Statistics, Australian Bureau of Statistics
NCRS	National Crime Recording Standard
NCSU	National Crime Statistics Unit
UEWI	unlawful entry with intent

APPENDIX 1 INDIGENOUS VICTIMS OF CRIME, EXPERIMENTAL ESTIMATES

INTRODUCTION

This appendix presents experimental data for Indigenous victims for a selected range of recorded crimes for New South Wales and the Australian Capital Territory. Based on an ABS assessment of the quality, Indigenous data for recorded victims of crime for other jurisdictions are not of sufficient quality for national reporting. Queensland data is no longer available due to a reduction in the quality of their Indigenous data, with the introduction of a new IT system in 2007.

Further work is under way to improve the quality of the Indigenous data for crime statistics, including collecting data of sufficient quality for national reporting for all states and territories. Care should be taken regarding any analyses based on published experimental data. Comparisons between jurisdictions of assault and sexual assault data presented in this publication should also not be made as data are not comparable.

Data by Indigenous status in this appendix are categorised as 'Indigenous', 'non-Indigenous' or 'not stated'. The 'not stated' category can represent a number of outcomes, for example the question may not have been asked, the person may have refused to answer, the question may not have been understood, or the person may have been unable to answer. For further detail relating to the application of the Standard Indigenous Question in the states and territories included in this appendix, see paragraphs 6–13 of the Explanatory Notes in Appendix 2.

For more information about the size of the Indigenous populations used to calculate the Indigenous victimisation rates see paragraphs 14–15 of the Appendix 2 Explanatory Notes. Care should be exercised in interpreting rates based on small numbers of victims.

Due to differing scope and counting rules, the experimental measures of victims of recorded crime, by Indigenous status, included in this publication may not be comparable to data published in other national and state/territory publications that include Indigenous status. Care should be taken in analysing and interpreting these experimental estimates. For more information see Explanatory Notes paragraphs 125–127.

INDIGENOUS VICTIMS IN NEW SOUTH WALES

There were 84,850 victims of assault in 2007, including 5,882 (7%) Indigenous victims. The assault victimisation rate for Indigenous persons was 3,960 victims per 100,000 Indigenous persons in New South Wales. By contrast, the non-Indigenous victimisation rate was 1,112 victims per 100,000 non-Indigenous persons.

Indigenous people comprised 6% (412 people) of the 6,787 victims of sexual assault in 2007. The Indigenous victimisation rate for sexual assault in New South Wales was 277 victims for every 100,000 Indigenous persons. The non-Indigenous victimisation rate was 85 victims per 100,000 non-Indigenous persons.

There were 22 people (5%) identified as Indigenous among the 449 victims of kidnapping/abduction in 2007, and 5 people were identified as Indigenous among the 94 victims of murder in New South Wales.

INDIGENOUS VICTIMS IN THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

Care should be taken in analysing and interpreting the experimental Indigenous crime victims data for the Australian Capital Territory because of the high rate of 'not stated' for Indigenous status across the selected offence types (see table A3). For example, 30% of the total number of victims of assault were not identified as either Indigenous or non-Indigenous. Of the 2,165 people who were victims of assault in the Australian Capital Territory in 2007, 53 (2%) were recorded as Indigenous victims. The victimisation rate as reported for Indigenous persons in the Australian Capital Territory for assault was 1,180 victims per 100,000 Indigenous persons. For non-Indigenous persons, the victimisation rate for assault was 439 victims per 100,000 non-Indigenous persons.

Of the 259 sexual assault victims in 2007, 2% (6 people) were recorded as Indigenous.

APPENDIX 1 INDIGENOUS VICTIMS OF CRIME, EXPERIMENTAL ESTIMATES *continued*

A1 PERSON VICTIMS, Offence category by Indigenous status—New South Wales

	<i>Indigenous</i>	<i>Non-Indigenous(a)</i>	<i>Not stated</i>	<i>Total</i>
NUMBER				
Homicide and related offences(b)				
Murder	5	82	7	94
Attempted murder	3	57	—	60
Manslaughter	—	9	—	9
<i>Total homicide and related offences</i>	8	148	7	163
Assault	5 882	74 980	3 988	84 850
Sexual assault	412	5 718	657	6 787
Kidnapping/abduction(c)	22	410	17	449
Robbery(d)				
Armed robbery	16	2 725	43	2 784
Unarmed robbery	42	5 024	130	5 196
<i>Total robbery</i>	58	7 749	173	7 980
Blackmail/extortion(d)	—	69	—	69
PROPORTION (%)				
Homicide and related offences(b)				
Murder	5.3	87.2	7.4	100.0
Attempted murder	5.0	95.0	—	100.0
Manslaughter	—	100.0	—	100.0
<i>Total homicide and related offences</i>	4.9	90.8	4.3	100.0
Assault	6.9	88.4	4.7	100.0
Sexual assault	6.1	84.2	9.7	100.0
Kidnapping/abduction(c)	4.9	91.3	3.8	100.0
Robbery(d)				
Armed robbery	0.6	97.9	1.5	100.0
Unarmed robbery	0.8	96.7	2.5	100.0
<i>Total robbery</i>	0.7	97.1	2.2	100.0
Blackmail/extortion(d)	—	100.0	—	100.0
—	nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)			
(a)	The victim has identified/been identified as neither Aboriginal nor Torres Strait Islander.		(c)	Counts may be inflated slightly (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 33).
(b)	The offence of driving causing death is excluded as it is no longer available at the national level as not all jurisdictions can supply this information.		(d)	Refers to person victims only and does not include organisations as victims. Therefore totals are considerably lower than those in tables elsewhere in the publication.

APPENDIX 1 INDIGENOUS VICTIMS OF CRIME, EXPERIMENTAL ESTIMATES *continued*

A2 PERSON VICTIMISATION RATES, Offence category by Indigenous status—New South Wales

	Indigenous(a)	Non-Indigenous(b)(c)
Homicide and related offences(d)		
Murder	3.4	1.2
Attempted murder	2.0	0.8
Manslaughter	—	0.1
Total homicide and related offences	5.4	2.2
Assault	3 959.8	1 112.4
Sexual assault	277.4	84.8
Kidnapping/abduction(e)	14.8	6.1
Robbery(f)		
Armed robbery	10.8	40.4
Unarmed robbery	28.3	74.5
Total robbery	39.0	115.0
Blackmail/extortion(f)	—	1.0

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

- (a) Indigenous victims per 100,000 Indigenous persons. These rates were calculated using the Indigenous population projections (low series) for June 2007 from *Experimental Estimates and Projections, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians, 30 June 1991 to 30 June 2009* (cat. no. 3238.0).
- (b) The victim has identified/been identified as neither Aboriginal nor Torres Strait Islander.
- (c) Non-Indigenous victims per 100,000 non-Indigenous persons. Calculations of rates for the non-Indigenous population are based on derived data. Indigenous population projections are subtracted from preliminary ERP data sourced from *Population by Age and Sex, Australian States and Territories, June 2007* (cat. no. 3201.0).
- (d) The offence of driving causing death is excluded as it is no longer available at the national level as not all jurisdictions can supply this information.
- (e) Counts may be inflated slightly (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 33).
- (f) Refers to person victims only and does not include organisations as victims. Therefore totals are considerably lower than those in tables elsewhere in the publication.

APPENDIX 1 INDIGENOUS VICTIMS OF CRIME, EXPERIMENTAL ESTIMATES *continued*

A3 PERSON VICTIMS, Offence category by Indigenous status—Australian Capital Territory

	<i>Indigenous</i>	<i>Non-Indigenous(a)</i>	<i>Not stated</i>	<i>Total</i>
NUMBER				
Homicide and related offences(b)	—	5	—	5
Assault	53	1 472	640	2 165
Sexual assault	6	179	74	259
Kidnapping/abduction	—	—	4	4
Robbery(c)				
Armed robbery	3	75	15	93
Unarmed robbery	—	108	53	161
<i>Total robbery</i>	3	183	68	254
Blackmail/extortion(c)	—	—	—	—
PROPORTION (%)				
Homicide and related offences(b)	—	100.0	—	100.0
Assault	2.4	68.0	29.6	100.0
Sexual assault	2.3	69.1	28.6	100.0
Kidnapping/abduction	—	—	100.0	100.0
Robbery(c)				
Armed robbery	3.2	80.6	16.1	100.0
Unarmed robbery	—	67.1	32.9	100.0
<i>Total robbery</i>	1.2	72.0	26.8	100.0
Blackmail/extortion(c)	—	—	—	—

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(a) The victim has identified/been identified as neither Aboriginal nor Torres Strait Islander.

(b) The offence of driving causing death is excluded as it is no longer available at the national level as not all jurisdictions can supply this information.

(c) Refers to person victims only and does not include organisations as victims. Therefore totals are considerably lower than those in tables elsewhere in the publication.

APPENDIX 1 INDIGENOUS VICTIMS OF CRIME, EXPERIMENTAL ESTIMATES *continued*

A4 PERSON VICTIMISATION RATE, Offence category by Indigenous status—Australian Capital Territory

	Indigenous(a)	Non-Indigenous(b)(c)
Homicide and related offences	—	1.5
Assault	1 180.4	438.9
Sexual assault	133.6	53.4
Kidnapping/abduction	—	—
Robbery(d)		
Armed robbery	66.8	22.4
Unarmed robbery	—	32.2
Total robbery	66.8	54.6
Blackmail/extortion(d)	0.0	0.0

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

- (a) Indigenous victims per 100,000 Indigenous persons. These rates were calculated using the Indigenous population projections (low series) for June 2007 from *Experimental Estimates and Projections, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians, 30 June 1991 to 30 June 2009* (cat. no. 3238.0).
- (b) The victim has identified/been identified as neither Aboriginal nor Torres Strait Islander.
- (c) Non-Indigenous victims per 100,000 non-Indigenous persons. Calculations of rates for the non-Indigenous population are based on derived data. Indigenous population projections are subtracted from preliminary ERP data sourced from *Population by Age and Sex, Australian States and Territories, June 2007* (cat. no. 3201.0).
- (d) Refers to person victims only and does not include organisations as victims. Therefore totals are considerably lower than those in tables elsewhere in the publication.

APPENDIX 2 INDIGENOUS VICTIMS OF CRIME, EXPLANATORY NOTES

INTRODUCTION

1 This publication presents experimental statistics of persons who are victims of a range of selected recorded crimes, shown by Indigenous status and most serious offence. The tables are provided in Appendix 1 for New South Wales and the Australian Capital Territory. Police data collection of Indigenous status in these states/territories adheres to the ABS requirements of the Standard Indigenous Question in their recording of victim of crime information. The Standard Indigenous Question is asked, at a minimum, in respect of all victims of crimes against the person, and recorded in specified fields in police crime recording systems. Data for other states/territories are not of sufficient quality for national reporting, however data may be available for South Australia and the Northern Territory for the 2008 release. It is also expected that Queensland data will again be available for the 2008 release.

SCOPE

2 The Indigenous status data item has been collected for victims of a selected range of crimes against persons. It is not relevant for non-personal crimes.

3 The Standard Indigenous Question is based on self-identification by the individual who comes into contact with police. The answers to the Standard Indigenous "Question can be 'No', 'Yes, Aboriginal', or 'Yes, Torres Strait Islander'. If the victim is of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander origin, both responses should be identified. If a victim does not supply an answer to this question, or is not asked, the Indigenous status field should be recorded as 'not stated'.

4 As a result, the minimum output categories required in systems are:

- Aboriginal, but not Torres Strait Islander origin
- Torres Strait, but not Aboriginal origin
- Both Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander origin
- Neither Aboriginal nor Torres Strait Islander origin
- Not stated/inadequately described.

5 Due to the constraints of small numbers, the output categories used in this publication are limited to:

- Indigenous (Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander or Both Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander origin)
- Non-Indigenous (Neither Aboriginal nor Torres Strait Islander origin)
- Not stated/inadequately described.

POLICE PROCESSES

6 Victims of crime in the jurisdictions for which data are presented in Appendix 1 are asked the Standard Indigenous Question when providing an initial report or when they are interviewed. In certain situations, at the discretion of a Police Officer, the Standard Indigenous Question may not be asked of victims. For example, a Police Officer may consider a victim to be too traumatised, too young or immature to answer the question, or otherwise incapable of understanding or responding to the question. If the Standard Indigenous Question is not asked under these circumstances, a not-stated response is recorded.

7 Where individuals are not able to provide an answer for themselves, jurisdictions would accept a response where a next of kin/guardian provides the information. For victims who are not considered adults, a parent/guardian will often be required to be present while they are being interviewed.

8 In New South Wales and the Australian Capital Territory, individual Police Officers are responsible for directly entering details of an incident into the recording system. The Standard Indigenous Question field in crime recording systems is also linked to a specific incident. Therefore, a victim will have a separate Indigenous status response recorded for each individual incident.

APPENDIX 2 INDIGENOUS VICTIMS OF CRIME, EXPLANATORY NOTES

continued

POLICE PROCESSES *continued*

9 New recruits entering the Police Force in each jurisdiction are trained in the reporting and recording requirements for Indigenous status.

10 Each jurisdiction reported that whenever new systems are implemented or significantly upgraded, Officers are trained in using the system to coincide with the release.

KNOWN DATA QUALITY ISSUES

11 Data recorded as 'not stated' cannot currently be disaggregated any further to provide information about the reason for the unknown data in the Australian Capital Territory. Therefore it is not possible to differentiate between refusals to answer, where the question was not asked, or where people did not know the answer, for example. In the Australian Capital Territory, quality assurance is not pursued if a 'not stated' or 'inadequately described' response is received and signed-off by a supervising officer.

12 In New South Wales, it may be possible to differentiate between refusals to answer, where the question was not asked, or where people did not know the answer, for example. Quality assurance is not pursued if an 'unknown' or 'refused' response is received and signed-off by a supervising officer.

13 It is possible that the Torres Strait Islander component of Indigenous status data is slightly inflated, due to persons incorrectly identifying as such, when they are of other islander origin, such as Pacific Islander. This is thought to have little significant effect upon the final data.

INDIGENOUS VICTIMISATION RATES

14 Rates for the Indigenous population in this publication are based on the low series projections for 30 June 2007 (*Experimental Estimates and Projections, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians, 30 June 1991 to 30 June 2009* (cat. no. 3238.0)). These projections are based on the 2001 Census of Population and Housing. New series of Indigenous population projections are scheduled for release in 2009 and will be based on the 2006 Census of Population and Housing.

15 The low series are one of two series of these projections that have been published for the years 2002 to 2009.

- The low series assumes no 'unexplained growth' - that is, the Indigenous population recorded in the 2001 Census of Population and Housing is projected to change only as a result of births and deaths (natural increase) and, for the states and territories, as a result of interstate migration. According to the low series, the projected population at June 2007 for New South Wales was 148,542 and the Australian Capital Territory 4,490.
- The high series assumes that there will be 'unexplained growth' in the Indigenous population - that is, the Indigenous population is projected to change as a result of an unexplained component in addition to the effects of natural increase and interstate migration. The size of the unexplained component is based on the 'unexplained growth' observed between the 1996 and 2001 censuses. According to the high series, the projected population at June 2007 for New South Wales was 169,479 and the Australian Capital Territory 5,385.

APPENDIX 3 MAPPING OF RECORDED CRIME OFFENCES TO ASOC

<i>National Offence Category Description</i>	<i>ASOC Code</i>	<i>ASOC Offence</i>
Homicide and related offences	0111	Murder
	0122	Attempted Murder
	0131	Manslaughter
	0132	Driving Causing Death
Assault	0210	Assault
Sexual assault	0310	Sexual Assault
Kidnapping/abduction	0511	Abduction and Kidnapping
Robbery	0610	Robbery
Blackmail/extortion	0621	Blackmail and Extortion
Unlawful entry with intent	0711	Unlawful Entry with Intent/Burglary, Break and Enter
Motor vehicle theft	0811	Theft of a Motor Vehicle
	0812	Illegal Use of a Motor Vehicle
Other theft	0813	Theft of Motor Vehicle Parts or Contents
	0821	Theft from a Person (Excluding by Force)
	0823	Theft from Retail Premises
	0829	Theft (Except Motor Vehicles), n.e.c.
	0841	Illegal Use of Property (Except Motor Vehicles)

GLOSSARY

Armed robbery	See Robbery.
Assault	The direct (and immediate/confrontational) infliction of force, injury or violence upon a person or persons, or the direct (and immediate/confrontational) threat of force, injury or violence where there is an apprehension that the threat could be enacted.
Attempted murder	The attempted unlawful killing of another person where there is either the intent to kill or to cause grievous bodily harm with the knowledge that it was probable that death or grievous bodily harm would occur (reckless indifference to life) but where death did not actually occur.
Australian Standard Offence Classification (ASOC)	The ASOC is a hierarchical classification developed by the ABS for use in the collection and publication of crime and justice statistics. It provides a classificatory framework for the comparison of statistics on offences across Australia.
Bat/bar/club	See Weapon.
Blackmail/extortion	<p>The unlawful demanding with intent to gain money, property or any other benefit from, or with intent to cause detriment to, another person accompanied by the use of coercive measures, to be carried out at some point in the future if the demand is not met. This may also include the use and/or threatened use of face-to-face force or violence, provided there is a threat of continued violence if the demand is not met.</p> <p>Coercive measures include, but are not limited to the threat of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ force of violence■ the misuse of authority■ criminal prosecution■ the destruction of a person's reputation or social standing■ the destruction of a person's property.
Bottle/glass	See Weapon.
Chemical	See Weapon.
Driving causing death	The unlawful killing of another person without intent to kill, as a result of culpable, dangerous, reckless or negligent driving.
Firearm	See Weapon.
Homicide and related offences	The unlawful killing or the attempted unlawful killing of another person. This includes the ASOC groups of Murder (0111), Attempted Murder (0122), Manslaughter (0131) and Driving Causing Death (0132). Excludes Conspiracy to Murder.
Indexed rate	<p>An index is a convenient way of comparing values over time. The index allows comparison of two values of recorded crime for a common offence within a jurisdiction. Indexes are provided to assist in interpreting change over time within jurisdictions. Indexes should not be used to make direct comparisons between jurisdictions. For this publication, the indexes refer to victimisation rates per 100,000 persons and 2001 has been selected as the base year. For more information see Explanatory Notes paragraphs 119–122.</p>
Kidnapping/abduction	The unlawful taking away of another person against that person's will, or against the will of any parent, guardian or other person having lawful custody or care of that person.
Knife	See Weapon.

GLOSSARY *continued*

Location	<p>The initial site where an offence occurred, determined on the basis of use or function. Any surrounding land, yard or parking area connected to the building or facility, as well as any other structures existing at the location are assigned to the same category of use. Locations which are multifunctional are categorised according to their primary function, with the exception of a multifunctional location which includes the provision of residential accommodation. Those parts used for residential purposes are classified to 'residential' regardless of the main function of the location. Thus, a residential college within university grounds is coded to 'residential' and not 'educational'. The following are categories of locations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ <i>Residential</i>: a permanent or semi-permanent dwelling used for private or commercial residential purposes■ <i>Community</i>: locations where the primary activity is the provision of services for public use. Includes schools and other educational facilities; hospitals, nursing homes and other health facilities; churches and other religious establishments; car parks, buses, trains, terminals and other transport facilities; police stations, court houses, and other justice facilities; streets and footpaths; and open space not reserved for specific functions or attached to some other facility■ <i>Retail</i>: locations where the primary activity is the selling of goods or the provision of services to customers for personal/household use. Any surrounding land/yard/car/parking area, together with any other structures existing at the location are included under retail. Includes chemists, service stations, restaurants, florists and supermarkets.■ <i>Recreational</i>: locations where the primary activity is the provision of recreational facilities. Any surrounding land/yard/car/parking area, together with any other structures existing at the location are included under recreational. Includes cinemas, gymnasiums, sporting ground/oval, dance halls and amusement parlours.■ <i>Other location</i>: includes offices and office blocks, banks, warehouses, factories and farms.■ <i>Unspecified</i>: where the location is unspecified or unknown.
Manslaughter	<p>The unlawful killing of another person while deprived of the power of self-control by provocation or under circumstances amounting to diminished responsibility or without intent to kill, as a result of a careless, reckless, negligent, unlawful or dangerous act (other than the act of driving).</p>
Motor vehicle theft	<p>The taking of another person's motor vehicle illegally and without permission with the intent of either temporarily or permanently depriving the owner or possessor of the use of the motor vehicle. Excludes attempted motor vehicle theft.</p>
Murder	<p>The unlawful killing of another person where there is either the intent to kill, the intent to cause grievous bodily harm, with the knowledge that it was probable that death or grievous bodily harm would occur (reckless indifference to life), or without intent to kill in the course of committing a crime (felony murder).</p>
Offence	<p>Any act or omission by a person, persons, organisation or organisations for which a penalty could be imposed by the Australian legal system.</p>
Other theft	<p>Other theft is the taking of another person's property with the intention of depriving the owner of the property illegally and without permission, but without force, threat of force, use of coercive measures, deceit or having gained unlawful entry to any structure even if the intent was to commit theft. Other theft includes the ASOC groups of Theft of Motor Vehicle Parts or Contents (0813), Theft from a Person (Excluding by Force) (0821), Theft from Retail Premises (0823), Theft (Except Motor Vehicles), n.e.c. (0829) and Illegal Use of Property (Except Motor Vehicles 0841).</p>
Outcome of investigation	<p>The stage that a police investigation has reached after a period of 30 days has elapsed since the recording of the incident by police.</p>

GLOSSARY *continued*

Outcome of investigation <i>continued</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ <i>Investigation not finalised</i>: While no offender has been proceeded against at the time of reporting the outcome, the investigation remains open. It is either being actively pursued by investigators, or is pending/suspended. That is, while not actively being investigated, the case would be reopened if new evidence emerged.■ <i>Investigation finalised, no offender proceeded against</i>: The reported crime is determined to be unfounded, or has been withdrawn by the complainant, or while an alleged offender has been identified no action is able to be taken due to time limitations, a statute bar applying, diplomatic immunity, incompetence, death, age or imprisonment of the alleged offender.■ <i>Investigation finalised, offender proceeded against</i>: One or more alleged offenders are intended to be proceeded against in court by arrest, warrant, summons, notice to appear, etc., or the alleged offenders are intended to be proceeded against by the convening of a diversionary conference, the administration of a formal caution or through some other legal process.
Robbery	<p>The unlawful taking of property, with intent to permanently deprive the owner of the property, from the immediate possession, control, custody or care of a person or organisation, accompanied by the use, and/or threatened use of immediate force or violence.</p> <p>Robbery has been disaggregated into armed and unarmed by cross classifying total robbery with use of weapon information. Where a weapon was used in the committal of the offence, robbery is classified as armed. Where there was no weapon used in the committal of the offence, or where weapon use was unknown or not stated, robbery is classified as unarmed.</p>
Sexual assault	<p>Physical contact of a sexual nature directed toward another person where that person does not give consent, gives consent as a result of intimidation or fraud, or consent is proscribed (i.e. the person is legally deemed incapable or giving consent because of youth, temporary/permanent (mental) incapacity or there is a familial relationship).</p>
Syringe	<p>See Weapon.</p>
Unarmed robbery	<p>See Robbery.</p>
Unlawful entry with intent (UEWI)	<p>The unlawful entry of a structure with the intent to commit an offence where the entry is either forced or unforced. Excludes shop-stealing and stealing from a house or premise to which the offender has been invited or has legitimate access whereby the intent was unlawful but the entry was not. Also excludes trespass whereby entry is unlawful but there is no intent to commit an offence.</p> <p>A structure is a building which is contained by walls and can be secured in some form. This includes, but is not limited to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ dwelling■ office■ bank■ shop■ factory■ school■ church. <p>For the purposes of determining the number of counts of UEWI, a place/premise is a single, connected property, containing one or more structures, all of which are occupied by the same person or group of people. The occupant(s) may own, rent, lease or otherwise inhabit the structure(s). For more information see Explanatory Notes paragraph 113.</p> <p>There are two offence categories of UEWI:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ <i>Involving the taking of property</i>: the unlawful entry of a structure with the intent to commit a criminal act, resulting in the taking of property from the structure

GLOSSARY *continued*

Unlawful entry with intent (UEWI) <i>continued</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ <i>Other</i>: the unlawful entry of a structure with the intent to commit a criminal act, but does not result in the taking of property from the structure.
Victim	<p>The definition of victim varies according to the offence category:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ For murder, attempted murder, manslaughter, driving causing death, assault, sexual assault and kidnapping/abduction, the victim is an individual person.■ For robbery, the victim may be either an individual person or an organisation. Where the robbery involves an organisation or business, the element of property ownership is the key to determining the number and type of robbery victims. If the robbery only involves property belonging to an organisation, then one victim (i.e. the organisation) is counted regardless of the number of employees from which the property is taken. However, if robbery of an organisation also involves personal property in an employee's custody, then both the organisation and employee(s) are counted as victims.■ For blackmail/extortion, the victim may be either an individual person or an organisation.■ For UEWI, the victim is the place/premise which is defined as a single connected property that is owned, rented or occupied by the same person or group of people.■ For motor vehicle theft, the victim is the motor vehicle.■ For other theft, the victim is either an individual person or an organisation.
Victimisation rate	<p>Number of victims per 100,000 Estimated Resident Population (ERP). For more information, see Explanatory Notes paragraphs 115–118).</p>
Weapon	<p>A weapon is defined as any object used to cause injury or fear of injury. It also includes imitation weapons and implied weapons (e.g. where a weapon is not seen by the victim but the offender claims to possess one). Parts of the body such as fists or feet are not included. The following are categories of weapons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ <i>Weapon not further defined</i>: where a weapon was used, sighted or implied during the commission of the offence but the nature of the weapon is unknown or cannot be identified■ <i>Firearm</i>: any potentially lethal, barrelled weapon from which any shot, bullet, or other missile is able, or appears able, to be discharged. This includes but is not limited to: pistol; revolver; rifle; automatic/semi-automatic rifle; shotgun; military firearm; airgun; nail gun; cannon; imitation firearm; implied firearm. This excludes bow and arrow; crossbow; spear gun; blowgun■ <i>Knife</i>: any cutting instrument consisting essentially of a thin blade attached to a handle. This includes, but is not limited to: ballistic knife, sheath knife, kitchen knife and implied knife. It excludes scythe, sickle sword and axe■ <i>Syringe (hypodermic needle)</i>: a small device consisting of a tube, narrowed at its outlet, and fitted with either a piston or a rubber bulb for drawing in a quantity of fluid and ejecting it in a stream■ <i>Bottle/glass</i>: a bottle or glass either broken or unbroken.■ <i>Bat/bar/club</i>: a cricket bat, baseball bat, other bat, crowbar, iron bar, jemmy bar, club, baton, stick, or length of timber.■ <i>Chemical</i>: any noxious or irritant liquid, powder, gas, or spray that is used to immobilise, incapacitate or injure another person either temporarily or permanently.■ <i>Other weapon</i>: includes any instrument or substance capable of inflicting damage, injury or death. This includes but is not limited to: sharp instrument; blunt instrument; hammer; axe; bow and arrow; crossbow; spear gun; blowgun; rope; wire; explosive; vehicle; other dangerous article; imitation weapons (excluding firearms, knives and syringes). For table 6, the following are also included in other weapon: syringe; bottle/glass; bat/bar/club; and chemical.■ <i>Unspecified</i>: where it is unknown whether a weapon was used in the commission of an offence, or the weapon use information has not been recorded or is insufficient to classify elsewhere.

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