

RECORDED CRIME - VICTIMS

AUSTRALIA

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For further information about these and related statistics, contact the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070 or Nick Skondreas on Melbourne (03) 9615 7375.

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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 19 to 74.

The Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) is working with police agencies to develop a National Crime Recording Standard (NCRS) to further improve the national comparability of the Recorded Crime Victims collection. (See Explanatory Notes paragraph 17).

CHANGES IN THIS ISSUE To facilitate more appropriate use of recorded crime statistics, an index measure has been introduced in this issue. Indexes are useful to understand and analyse changes over time within a jurisdiction and are not recommended for direct comparison across jurisdictions. (See Explanatory Notes paragraphs 87 to 90).

National data for assault and sexual assault are not available due to significant differences in recording practices across jurisdictions for these offence types. While data for assault and sexual assault are included for individual states and territories, they are based on the particular recording practices adopted in each jurisdiction and should not be used to compare these offence types across jurisdictions. Results from the 2005 National Crime and Safety Survey have been included in the Summary of Findings as they provide national data on victimisation, including assault and sexual assault, that complements the 2005 recorded crime series.

FURTHER INFORMATION 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 web site.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS The ABS acknowledges the valuable contribution of the Board of Management of the National Crime Statistics Unit, the National Crime Statistics Advisory Group and the staff of the various agencies that provide the statistics that are presented in this publication.

Dennis Trewin
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 2005 to 31 December 2005.

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 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 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 offence categories although data for states and territories are presented. However, national level information for these offences, as well as some comparative data for a range of other offences, are available from the 2005 ABS National Crime and Safety Survey and are presented below to complement the recorded crime data.

For further information about differences across jurisdictions refer to paragraphs 19 to 74 of the Explanatory Notes.

SELECTED RESULTS FROM THE ABS 2005 CRIME VICTIMISATION SURVEY

The National Crime and Safety Survey is conducted periodically by the ABS and was last conducted during April to July 2005. The survey collected information from individuals and households about their experience of some selected crimes, whether they reported these crimes to police, and crime-related risk factors experienced in the 12 months prior to the survey. The crimes for which information was obtained include: household crimes comprising break-in, attempted break-in and motor vehicle theft; and personal crimes comprising robbery, assault, and sexual assault.

From the survey, the following victimisation rates (proportion of persons or households experiencing a crime) were obtained:

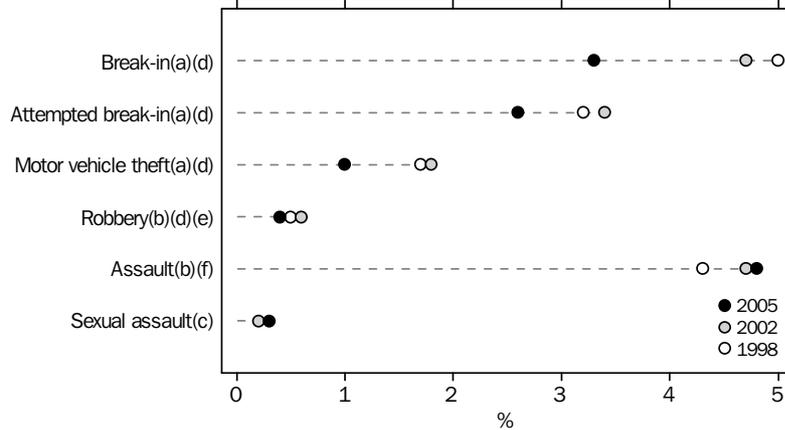
- Assault increased from 4.3% of persons in 1998 to 4.8% in 2005. Movements between 2002 and 2005 were not statistically significant for this offence type.
- Sexual assault was 0.3% of persons in 2005.
- Break-in to a home, garage or shed decreased from 5.0% of households in 1998 to 3.3% in 2005, while attempted break-in decreased from 3.2% to 2.6%. Motor vehicle theft decreased from 1.7% of households in 1998 to 1.0% in 2005.

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS *continued*

SELECTED RESULTS FROM
THE ABS 2005 CRIME
VICTIMISATION SURVEY
continued

- Robbery decreased from 0.6% of persons in 2002 to 0.4% in 2005. Movements between 1998 and 2002 were not statistically significant for this offence.

CRIME VICTIMISATION RATES

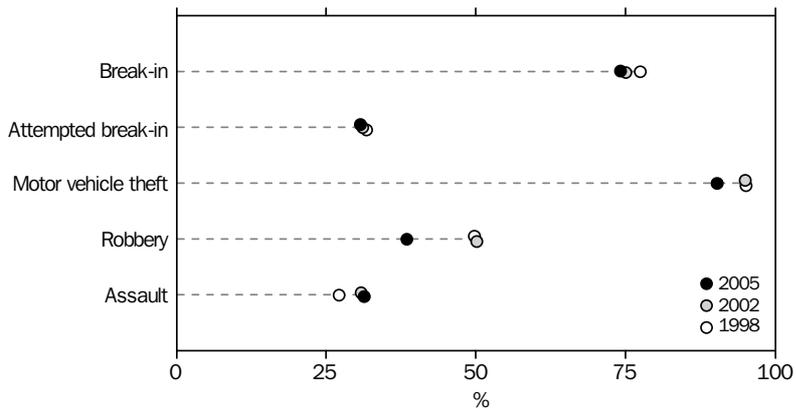


- (a) Households.
- (b) Persons aged 15 years and over.
- (c) Persons aged 18 years and over. Data for 1998 are not included, as males were not included prior to 2002.
- (d) Differences between the 1998 and 2002 rate are not statistically significant.
- (e) Differences between the 1998 and 2005 rate are not statistically significant.
- (f) Differences between the 2002 and 2005 rate are not statistically significant.

Source: *Crime and Safety, Australia, 2005, cat.no. 4509.0*

The proportion of victims who reported to police the most recent incident of crime they experienced varied depending on the type of offence. Household crimes were more likely to be reported to police than personal crimes. In 2005, 74% of victims of break-in and 90% of victims of motor vehicle theft reported the most recent incident to police, compared to 38% of robbery victims and 31% of assault victims.

CRIME REPORTING RATES



Source: *Crime and Safety, Australia, 2005, cat.no. 4509.0*

Further detailed information about these survey results can be found in *Crime and Safety, Australia, 2005* (ABS cat. no. 4509.0).

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS *continued*

RECORDED NATIONAL CRIME VICTIMISATION LEVELS

The remainder of this Summary of Findings discusses results from the Recorded Crime, Victims collection for 2005. Caution should be exercised when comparing results for recorded crime and data from the National Crime and Safety Survey. The two data sets have different scope and coverage, are based on different methods of measurement, and have different sources of error. For further information see paragraphs 93 to 94 of the Explanatory Notes.

Measuring crime victimisation

Victims in the recorded crime collection can be a person, premise or organisation depending on the type of offence. A person reporting a crime with multiple offences may be counted multiple times depending on the type of offences. For example, a victim who was robbed and abducted would be counted separately as a victim under the offences of robbery and kidnapping/abduction. Conversely, a victim of multiple assaults would be counted only once. 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.

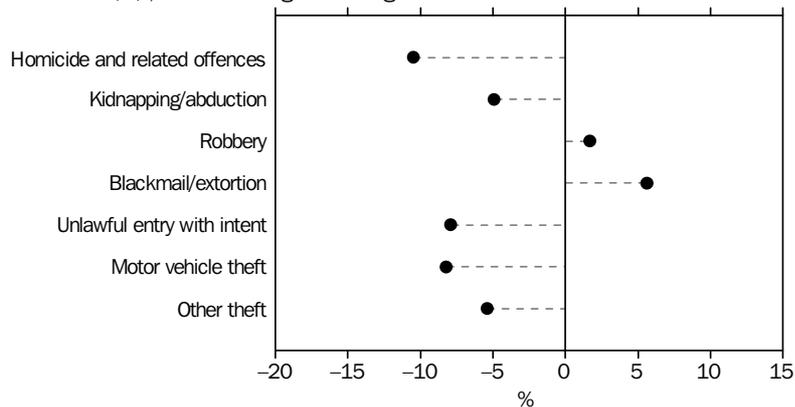
For further information about the scope and counting methodology of this collection refer to paragraphs 3 to 9 and 76 to 83 of the Explanatory Notes.

Number of victims

The number of victims recorded by Australian police declined in most offence categories in 2005 when compared to 2004. The number of victims of homicide and related offences decreased by 10%, while victims of motor vehicle theft and unlawful entry with intent both decreased by 8%. Other theft and kidnapping/abduction both decreased by 5%.

Increases were recorded for blackmail/extortion (6%) and robbery (2%).

VICTIMS(a), Percentage change in number—2004 to 2005



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

In 2005, the victimisation rates for motor vehicle theft (397 per 100,000 population) and unlawful entry with intent (1,398 per 100,000 population) were the lowest since national reporting began in 1993, while homicide and related offences remained the same as 2004 (4 per 100,000 population). The victimisation rate for other theft was the lowest since 1995 (2,554 per 100,000 population).

The victimisation rate for robbery increased by less than 1% from the 2004 rate to 83 per 100,000 population.

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS *continued*

*Number of victims
continued*

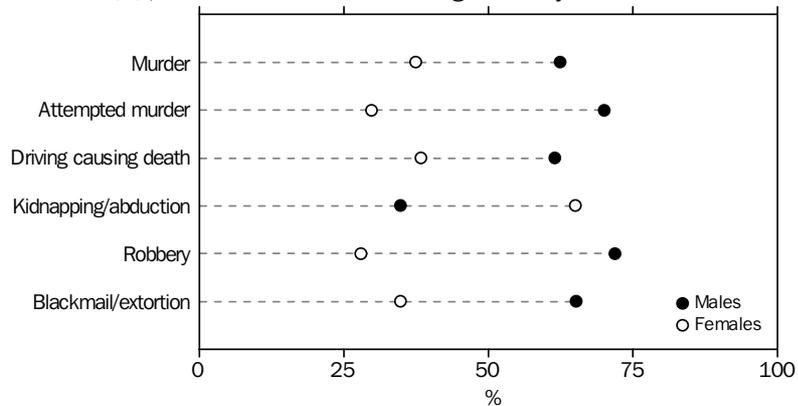
Although national data is not available for assault and sexual assault in this publication due to differences in recording practices, assault had increased for all jurisdictions in 2005, compared to 2004. A number of jurisdictions have introduced new procedures or legislation relating to domestic and family violence, which may have affected these results.

Sexual assault decreased in most states and territories during 2005.

Sex and age of victim

In 2005, more males than females were victims of robbery (71% of victims were male), attempted murder (68%), blackmail/extortion (64%), murder (62%) and driving causing death (46%). The reverse was the case for kidnapping/abduction (64% of victims were female).

VICTIMS(a), Selected offence categories by sex



(a) Refers to person victims and does not include victims for whom sex was not specified.

Persons aged 25 years or older comprised approximately 70% of recorded victims of blackmail/extortion, murder and attempted murder. In contrast, this age group comprised approximately one in four victims of kidnapping/abduction. Those aged 25–34 years were twice as likely to be victims of attempted murder than the general population.

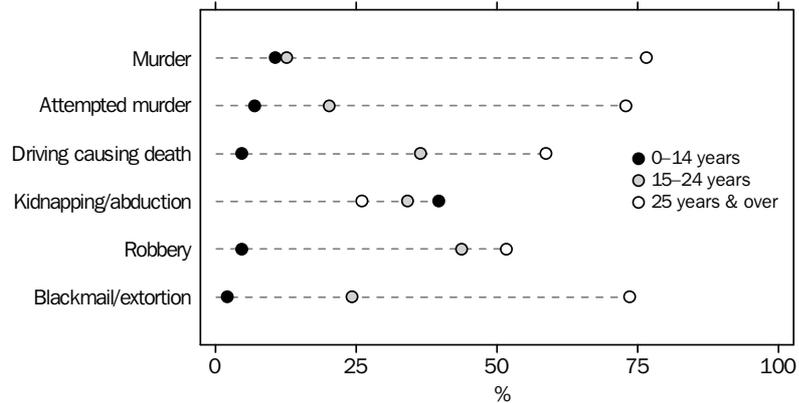
Over half of the victims of kidnapping/abduction (54%) were under 20 years of age. This offence had the highest proportion of victims aged 0–14 years (36%). Persons aged 10–14 years were nearly three times more likely to be victims of kidnapping/abduction than the general population.

Persons aged 15–19 years were just over three times more likely to be victims of robbery than the general population.

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS *continued*

Sex and age of victim continued

VICTIMS(a), Selected offence categories by age group



(a) Refers to person victims and does not include victims for whom age was not specified.

Further variation existed across certain offence categories when classified by age and sex.

Males aged 25–34 were three times more likely to be a victim of attempted murder than females of the same age group.

For kidnapping/abduction those aged 10–14 had the highest victimisation rate for males (8 per 100,000 population), while for females the slightly higher age group of 15–19 years had the highest victimisation rate for this offence (15 per 100,000 population).

The victimisation rate for robbery was the highest in the 20–24 year age group for females (101 per 100,000 population). For males the 15–19 year age group was the highest for this offence type (338 per 100,000 population).

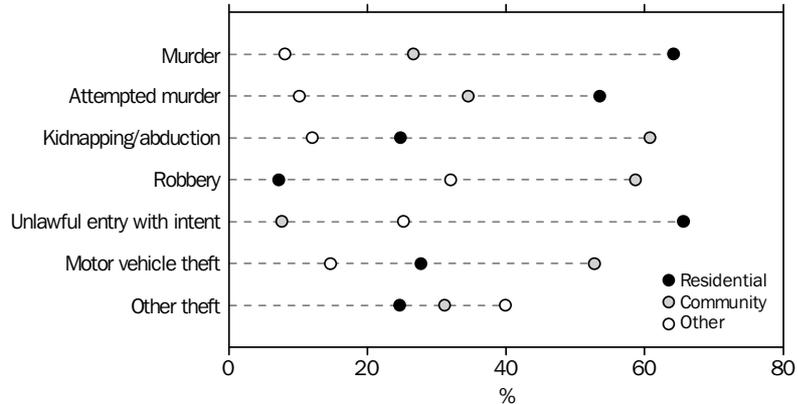
Location of offence

In 2005, most victims of murder (64%) and attempted murder (54%) were subjected to these offences in a residential location. For victims of motor vehicle theft, this offence was most likely to have occurred in a community location (53%), followed by a residential location (28%). Unlawful entry with intent was most likely to have occurred in a residential location (66%). Nearly three in five robbery victims were subjected to this offence in a community location, with three quarters of these occurring on a street/footpath and 9% in a transport services and facilities location. Three in five victims of kidnapping/abduction were taken from a community location, and a further one quarter taken were from a residential location. Over one quarter of victims of other theft were subjected to this offence in a retail location.

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS *continued*

Location of offence *continued*

VICTIMS(a), Selected offences occurring at residential, community and other locations

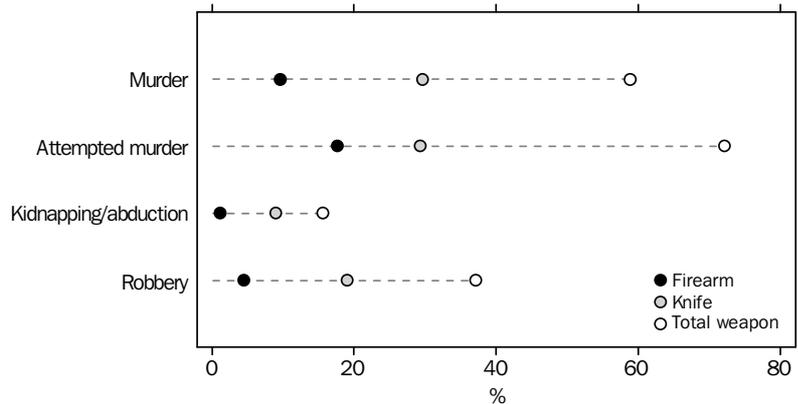


(a) The definition of a victim varies according to the category of the offence (see Glossary).

Weapon use

In 2005, the most common offences for which a weapon was used were attempted murder (72%) and murder (59%). A knife was the most common type of weapon used and was involved in nearly one third of murders (30%) and attempted murders (29%). A firearm was involved in 18% of attempted murders, 10% of murders and 5% of robberies.

VICTIMS(a), Weapon used in commission of offence



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

Murders involving a weapon increased by 7% from 2004, but were 15% lower than in 2001. The proportion of weapon use for this offence was similar in 2005 compared to 2001 (59% in 2005 compared to 60% in 2001).

The proportion of robberies in which a weapon was used declined from 42% in 2001 to 37% in 2005. The proportions have remained relatively stable since 2002, ranging from 36% to 37%.

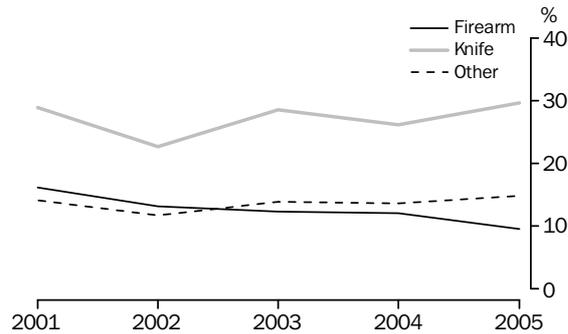
The proportion of kidnappings/abductions where a weapon was used increased from 13% in 2004 to 16% in 2005; however, the 2005 proportion was lower than that recorded in 2001 (21%).

A knife was used in 30% of murders recorded in 2005, the highest proportion since 2001 (29%), while the use of firearms for this offence continued to decline for this same period, from 16% in 2001 to 10% in 2005. Murders involving other weapons comprised 15% of the total.

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS *continued*

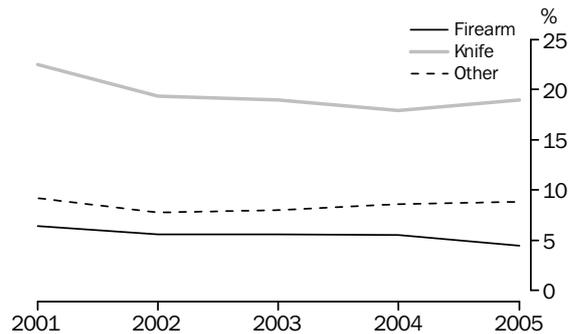
Weapon use continued

VICTIMS, Weapon used in commission of murder



The use of knives was more prevalent for robberies than firearms, comprising 19% of all robberies. This proportion was slightly higher than the proportion in 2004 (18%), but lower than that recorded in 2001 (23%). Firearms accounted for 5% of total robberies in 2005, a slight decline from the proportions recorded in the preceding four years (around 6% of all robberies). Other weapon use ranged between 8% and 9% during the period 2001 to 2005.

VICTIMS, Weapon used in commission of robbery



Outcome of investigation

In 2005, approximately two-thirds of the investigations into driving causing death (68%), attempted murder (65%) and murder (64%) were finalised within 30 days of a victim becoming known to police.

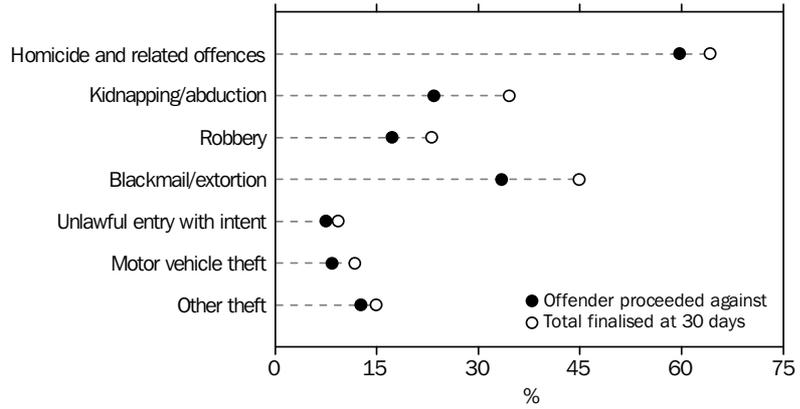
The lowest proportions of finalisations at 30 days were for victims of unlawful entry with intent (9%), motor vehicle theft (12%) and other theft (15%). However, of the total finalised for these offence types, a high proportion had an offender proceeded against by police: other theft (85%), unlawful entry with intent (81%) and motor vehicle theft (72%).

The highest proportions of investigations finalised where there was no offender proceeded against were for victims of kidnapping/abduction (32%), motor vehicle theft (28%), blackmail/extortion (26%) and robbery (25%).

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS *continued*

*Outcome of investigation
continued*

VICTIMS(a), Outcome of investigation at 30 days



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

VICTIMS(a)(b), By offence category—1996–2005

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004(c)	2005
NUMBER										
Homicide and related offences										
Murder	314	321	287	344	316	310	318	302	r263	270
Attempted murder	333	318	386	360	393	459	399	361	r311	273
Manslaughter	40	43	47	41	46	37	48	39	r39	25
Driving causing death(d)	340	(e)na	275	224	265	260	214	256	r246	201
<i>Total homicide and related offences</i>	<i>1 027</i>	<i>(e)na</i>	<i>995</i>	<i>969</i>	<i>1 020</i>	<i>1 066</i>	<i>979</i>	<i>958</i>	<i>r859</i>	<i>769</i>
Kidnapping/abduction(f)	478	564	707	766	695	767	706	696	768	730
Robbery										
Armed robbery	6 256	9 054	10 850	9 452	9 483	11 233	7 840	7 189	r6 030	6 222
Unarmed robbery	10 116	12 251	12 951	13 154	13 853	15 358	13 149	12 520	r10 483	10 565
<i>Total robbery</i>	<i>16 372</i>	<i>21 305</i>	<i>23 801</i>	<i>22 606</i>	<i>23 336</i>	<i>26 591</i>	<i>20 989</i>	<i>19 709</i>	<i>r16 513</i>	<i>16 787</i>
Blackmail/extortion(g)	270	361	272	254	255	358	355	386	r372	393
Unlawful entry with intent										
Involving the taking of property(h)	313 902	332 525	339 512	322 983	na	325 220	292 748	262 657	r226 398	204 195
Other(h)	88 177	89 044	94 864	92 752	na	110 534	101 575	91 363	r82 277	79 993
<i>Total unlawful entry with intent</i>	<i>402 079</i>	<i>421 569</i>	<i>434 376</i>	<i>415 735</i>	<i>436 968</i>	<i>435 754</i>	<i>394 323</i>	<i>354 020</i>	<i>r308 675</i>	<i>284 188</i>
Motor vehicle theft(i)	122 914	130 138	131 587	129 552	138 912	139 894	113 460	98 298	r87 939	80 738
Other theft(j)	521 762	530 881	563 482	612 559	681 268	700 137	680 799	624 036	r548 778	519 128

	RATE PER 100,000 PERSONS									
Homicide and related offences										
Murder	1.7	1.7	1.5	1.8	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.5	r1.3	1.3
Attempted murder	1.8	1.7	2.1	1.9	2.1	2.4	2.0	1.8	r1.5	1.3
Manslaughter	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	r0.2	0.1
Driving causing death(d)	1.9	(e)na	1.5	1.2	1.4	1.3	1.1	1.3	r1.2	1.0
<i>Total homicide and related offences</i>	<i>5.6</i>	<i>(e)na</i>	<i>5.3</i>	<i>5.1</i>	<i>5.3</i>	<i>5.5</i>	<i>5.0</i>	<i>4.8</i>	<i>r4.3</i>	<i>3.8</i>
Kidnapping/abduction(f)	2.6	3.0	3.8	4.0	3.6	4.0	3.6	3.5	r3.8	3.6
Robbery										
Armed robbery	34.2	48.9	57.9	49.9	49.5	57.9	39.9	36.2	r30.0	30.6
Unarmed robbery	55.3	66.1	69.2	69.5	72.3	79.1	67.0	63.0	r52.2	52.0
<i>Total robbery</i>	<i>89.4</i>	<i>115.0</i>	<i>127.1</i>	<i>119.4</i>	<i>121.8</i>	<i>137.0</i>	<i>106.9</i>	<i>99.2</i>	<i>r82.2</i>	<i>82.6</i>
Blackmail/extortion(g)	1.5	1.9	1.5	1.3	1.3	1.8	1.8	1.9	r1.9	1.9
Unlawful entry with intent										
Involving the taking of property(h)	1 714.6	1 795.4	1 812.9	1 705.8	na	1 675.5	1 490.7	1 321.9	r1 127.0	1 004.6
Other(h)	481.6	480.8	506.6	489.9	na	569.5	517.2	459.8	r409.6	393.6
<i>Total unlawful entry with intent</i>	<i>2 196.2</i>	<i>2 276.2</i>	<i>2 319.5</i>	<i>2 195.7</i>	<i>2 281.3</i>	<i>2 244.9</i>	<i>2 007.9</i>	<i>1 781.7</i>	<i>r1 536.6</i>	<i>1 398.2</i>
Motor vehicle theft(i)	671.4	702.7	702.7	684.2	725.2	720.7	577.7	494.7	r437.8	397.2
Other theft(j)	2 850.0	2 866.4	3 008.9	3 235.2	3 556.8	3 607.0	3 466.7	3 140.6	r2 731.8	2 554.0

na not available
r revised

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

(b) The data presented in this publication have been confidentialised to prevent identification of victims (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 91).

(c) Data and ERP for 2004 have been revised (see Explanatory Notes paragraphs 84 and 92).

(d) New South Wales data estimated from 2003. Incomplete counts for Western Australia due to the introduction of a new system. From 2004, includes driving causing grievous bodily harm for Western Australia. Excludes negligent driving for Tasmania. Data not available from 2000 onwards for Northern Territory as not an offence defined by law. (See Explanatory Notes paragraphs 20, 53, 57 and 62.)

(e) Data not available for New South Wales due to a change in management systems.

(f) Counts for New South Wales may be inflated slightly (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 21).

(g) Includes food tampering for South Australia. Data may be understated for Western Australia prior to 2003. (See Explanatory Notes paragraphs 41 and 54.)

(h) Property taken may not always be identified for Victoria. Data for South Australia in 2000 unable to be disaggregated into the taking of property and other UEWI. Prior to 2003, data for South Australia is duplicated. (See Explanatory Notes paragraph 30 and footnotes 'd' and 'e', page 23.)

(i) Western Australia data includes theft of caravans and trailers (see footnote 'g' page 24). Northern Territory data are duplicated prior to 2002 (see footnote 'g' page 26).

(j) Prior to 2004, other theft data for Victoria included bicycle thefts when stolen during the commission of a UEWI offence. Data for South Australia duplicated prior to 2003. Data duplicated for Northern Territory prior to 2002. (See Explanatory Notes paragraph 31, footnote 'e' page 23 and footnote 'g' page 26.)

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004(c)	2005
INDEXED RATE (d)										
Homicide and related offences										
Murder	106.3	106.3	93.8	112.5	100.0	100.0	100.0	93.8	81.3	81.3
Attempted murder	75.0	70.8	87.5	79.2	87.5	100.0	83.3	75.0	62.5	54.2
Manslaughter	100.0	100.0	150.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	50.0
Driving causing death(e)	146.2	. .	115.4	92.3	107.7	100.0	84.6	100.0	92.3	76.9
Total homicide and related offences	101.8	. .	96.4	92.7	96.4	100.0	90.9	87.3	78.2	69.1
Kidnapping/abduction(f)	65.0	75.0	95.0	100.0	90.0	100.0	90.0	87.5	95.0	90.0
Robbery										
Armed robbery	59.1	84.5	100.0	86.2	85.5	100.0	68.9	62.5	51.8	52.8
Unarmed robbery	69.9	83.6	87.5	87.9	91.4	100.0	84.7	79.6	66.0	65.7
Total robbery	65.3	83.9	92.8	87.2	88.9	100.0	78.0	72.4	60.0	60.3
Blackmail/extortion(g)	83.3	105.6	83.3	72.2	72.2	100.0	100.0	105.6	105.6	105.6
Unlawful entry with intent										
Involving the taking of property(h)	102.3	107.2	108.2	101.8	. .	100.0	89.0	78.9	67.3	60.0
Other(h)	84.6	84.4	89.0	86.0	. .	100.0	90.8	80.7	71.9	69.1
Total unlawful entry with intent	97.8	101.4	103.3	97.8	101.6	100.0	89.4	79.4	68.4	62.3
Motor vehicle theft(i)	93.2	97.5	97.5	94.9	100.6	100.0	80.2	68.6	60.7	55.1
Other theft(j)	79.0	79.5	83.4	89.7	98.6	100.0	96.1	87.1	75.7	70.8

. . not applicable

- (a) The definition of a victim varies according to the category of the offence (see Glossary).
- (b) The data presented in this publication have been confidentialised to prevent identification of victims (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 91).
- (c) Data and ERP for 2004 have been revised (see Explanatory Notes paragraphs 84 and 92).
- (d) Base of each index: 2001 = 100.0
- (e) New South Wales data estimated from 2003. Incomplete counts for Western Australia due to the introduction of a new system. From 2004, includes driving causing grievous bodily harm for Western Australia. Excludes negligent driving for Tasmania. Data not available from 2000 onwards for Northern Territory as not an offence defined by law. (See Explanatory Notes paragraphs 20, 53, 57 and 62.)
- (f) Counts for New South Wales may be inflated slightly (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 21).

- (g) Includes food tampering for South Australia. Data may be understated for Western Australia prior to 2003. (See Explanatory Notes paragraphs 41 and 54.)
- (h) Property taken may not always be identified for Victoria. Data for South Australia in 2000 unable to be disaggregated into the taking of property and other UEWI. Prior to 2003, data for South Australia is duplicated. (See Explanatory Notes paragraph 30 and footnotes 'd' and 'e', page 23.)
- (i) Western Australia data includes theft of caravans and trailers (see footnote 'g' page 24). Northern Territory data are duplicated prior to 2002 (see footnote 'g' page 26).
- (j) Prior to 2004, other theft data for Victoria included bicycle thefts when stolen during the commission of a UEWI offence. Data for South Australia duplicated prior to 2003. Data duplicated for Northern Territory prior to 2002. (See Explanatory Notes paragraph 31, footnote 'e' page 23 and footnote 'g' page 26.)

VICTIMS(a), Sex and age group by offence category(b)—2005

Sex and age group (years)	Murder	Attempted murder	Driving causing death	Kidnapping/ abduction	Robbery(c)	Blackmail/ extortion(c)
Males						
0-9	11	6	4	57	40	—
10-14	3	3	3	54	483	4
15-19	8	13	21	32	2 405	21
20-24	13	27	15	24	2 158	25
25-34	37	58	18	29	2 216	41
35-44	36	38	14	19	1 049	44
45-54	20	22	6	11	722	44
55-64	15	6	8	5	393	24
65 years and over	13	4	4	3	220	8
Total(d)	168	188	93	253	10 025	221
Females						
0-9	12	6	—	66	7	—
10-14	—	3	—	84	99	3
15-19	3	5	8	103	613	15
20-24	7	7	10	66	708	19
25-34	20	19	11	59	859	17
35-44	24	18	7	29	555	25
45-54	8	14	6	6	452	18
55-64	9	5	6	3	228	11
65 years and over	5	—	7	7	249	4
Total(d)	101	80	58	471	3 903	118
Persons						
0-9	23	12	4	123	47	—
10-14	3	6	3	138	587	7
15-19	11	18	29	135	3 040	36
20-24	20	34	25	90	2 880	44
25-34	57	81	29	88	3 104	61
35-44	60	56	21	48	1 616	69
45-54	28	36	12	17	1 182	65
55-64	24	11	14	8	626	35
65 years and over	18	4	11	10	475	12
Total(d)	269	276	201	733	14 065	345

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(a) The data presented in this publication have been confidentialised to prevent identification of victims (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 91).

(b) The offence of manslaughter is not included due to small numbers.

(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 and/or sex was not specified.

VICTIMISATION RATE(a)(b), Sex and age group by offence category(c)—2005

Sex and age group (years)	Murder	Attempted murder	Driving causing death	Kidnapping/ abduction	Robbery(d)	Blackmail/ extortion(d)
Males						
0-9	0.8	0.5	0.3	4.3	3.0	—
10-14	0.4	0.4	0.4	7.6	67.6	0.6
15-19	1.1	1.8	3.0	4.5	338.2	3.0
20-24	1.8	3.7	2.0	3.3	294.4	3.4
25-34	2.6	4.0	1.3	2.0	154.0	2.8
35-44	2.4	2.5	0.9	1.3	70.1	2.9
45-54	1.4	1.6	0.4	0.8	52.0	3.2
55-64	1.4	0.5	0.7	0.5	35.7	2.2
65 years and over	1.1	0.3	0.3	0.3	18.4	0.7
Total(e)	1.7	1.9	0.9	2.5	99.2	2.2
Females						
0-9	1.0	0.5	—	5.2	0.6	—
10-14	—	0.4	—	12.4	14.6	0.4
15-19	0.4	0.7	1.2	15.2	90.5	2.2
20-24	1.0	1.0	1.4	9.5	101.4	2.7
25-34	1.4	1.3	0.8	4.1	60.1	1.2
35-44	1.6	1.2	0.5	1.9	36.7	1.7
45-54	0.6	1.0	0.4	0.4	32.1	1.3
55-64	0.8	0.5	0.6	0.3	21.0	1.0
65 years and over	0.3	—	0.5	0.5	16.9	0.3
Total(e)	1.0	0.8	0.6	4.6	38.2	1.2
Persons						
0-9	0.9	0.5	0.2	4.8	1.8	—
10-14	0.2	0.4	0.2	9.9	42.2	0.5
15-19	0.8	1.3	2.1	9.7	219.0	2.6
20-24	1.4	2.4	1.7	6.3	201.2	3.1
25-34	2.0	2.8	1.0	3.1	108.2	2.1
35-44	2.0	1.9	0.7	1.6	53.7	2.3
45-54	1.0	1.3	0.4	0.6	42.3	2.3
55-64	1.1	0.5	0.6	0.4	28.6	1.6
65 years and over	0.7	0.1	0.4	0.4	17.8	0.4
Total(e)	1.3	1.4	1.0	3.6	69.2	1.7

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(a) Victims per 100,000 persons (see Explanatory Notes paragraphs 84 and 85).

(b) The data presented in this publication have been confidentialised to prevent identification of victims (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 91).

(c) The offence of manslaughter is not included due to small numbers.

(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.

(e) Includes victims for whom age and/or sex was not specified.

VICTIMS(a)(b), Location where offence occurred by offence category—2005

	Murder	Attempted murder	Kidnapping/ abduction	Robbery	Unlawful entry with intent	Motor vehicle theft	Other theft
NUMBER							
Residential							
Dwelling	165	132	176	1 091	167 725	—	61 330
Outbuilding/residential land	5	12	5	99	16 404	22 305	64 395
Total residential(c)	174	147	181	1 206	186 564	22 350	128 373
Community							
Transport	3	6	40	1 548	1 054	10 485	48 449
Street/footpath	28	67	295	7 349	4	30 419	81 205
Other community location	34	22	109	924	19 959	1 644	30 338
Total community(d)	72	95	444	9 856	21 690	42 612	161 254
Other							
Retail	7	6	39	3 927	34 683	8 103	148 219
Recreational	10	19	44	983	7 863	1 176	28 385
Other location	5	3	5	422	27 384	2 094	28 536
Total other(e)	22	28	88	5 368	71 599	11 876	207 261
Unspecified	3	5	17	357	4 335	3 900	22 240
Total	271	275	730	16 787	284 188	80 738	519 128

	PROPORTION (%)						
Residential							
Dwelling	60.9	48.0	24.1	6.5	59.0	—	11.8
Outbuilding/residential land	1.8	4.4	0.7	0.6	5.8	27.6	12.4
Total residential(c)	64.2	53.5	24.8	7.2	65.6	27.7	24.7
Community							
Transport	1.1	2.2	5.5	9.2	0.4	13.0	9.3
Street/footpath	10.3	24.4	40.4	43.8	—	37.7	15.6
Other community location	12.5	8.0	14.9	5.5	7.0	2.0	5.8
Total community(d)	26.6	34.5	60.8	58.7	7.6	52.8	31.1
Other							
Retail	2.6	2.2	5.3	23.4	12.2	10.0	28.6
Recreational	3.7	6.9	6.0	5.9	2.8	1.5	5.5
Other location	1.8	1.1	0.7	2.5	9.6	2.6	5.5
Total other(e)	8.1	10.2	12.1	32.0	25.2	14.7	39.9
Unspecified	1.1	1.8	2.3	2.1	1.5	4.8	4.3
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) The data presented in this publication have been confidentialised to prevent identification of victims (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 91).

(c) Includes residential locations not further defined.

(d) Includes community locations not further defined.

(e) Includes other locations not further defined.

VICTIMS(a)(b), Use of weapon in commission of offence by offence category—2005

	Murder	Attempted Murder	Kidnapping/ Abduction	Robbery
NUMBER				
Weapon used				
Firearm	26	48	9	758
Knife	80	80	66	3 182
Syringe	—	3	—	278
Other weapon	40	50	25	1 193
<i>Total weapon used(c)</i>	159	197	114	6 222
No weapon used(d)	111	76	617	10 565
Total	270	273	731	16 787

	PROPORTION (%)			
Weapon used				
Firearm	9.6	17.6	1.2	4.5
Knife	29.6	29.3	9.0	19.0
Syringe	—	1.1	—	1.7
Other weapon	14.8	18.3	3.4	7.1
<i>Total weapon used(c)</i>	58.9	72.2	15.6	37.1
No weapon used(d)	41.1	27.8	84.4	62.9
Total	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) The data presented in this publication have been confidentialised to prevent identification of victims (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 91).

(c) Includes weapon use not further defined.

(d) Includes unknown or not stated weapon use.

NUMBER OF VICTIMS(a)(b), By use of weapon in commission of offence—2001–2005

	2001	2002	2003	2004(c)	2005
MURDER					
Weapon used					
Firearm	50	42	37	r32	26
Knife	90	72	86	69	80
Other weapon	44	37	42	36	40
<i>Total weapon used(d)</i>	186	165	175	r149	159
No weapon used(e)	125	152	127	r115	111
Total	311	317	302	r264	270

ATTEMPTED MURDER					
Weapon used					
Firearm	132	87	73	r71	48
Knife	151	142	115	100	80
Other weapon	88	53	61	45	53
<i>Total weapon used(d)</i>	373	301	273	r228	197
No weapon used(e)	87	99	86	r84	76
Total	460	400	359	r312	273

KIDNAPPING/ABDUCTION					
Weapon used					
Firearm	69	35	22	r17	9
Knife	61	62	61	48	66
Other weapon	33	27	19	20	25
<i>Total weapon used(d)</i>	164	131	117	r98	114
No weapon used(e)	603	575	577	r670	617
Total	767	706	694	768	731

ROBBERY					
Weapon used					
Firearm	1 704	1 178	1 102	r913	758
Knife	5 982	4 051	3 748	2 960	3 182
Other weapon	2 440	1 642	1 584	1 421	1 471
<i>Total weapon used(d)</i>	11 233	7 840	7 189	r6 030	6 222
No weapon used(e)	15 358	13 149	12 520	r10 483	10 565
Total	26 591	20 989	19 709	r16 513	16 787

- r revised
- (a) The definition of a victim varies according to the category of the offence (see Glossary).
- (b) The data presented in this publication have been confidentialised to prevent identification of victims (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 91).
- (c) Data for 2004 have been revised (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 92).
- (d) Includes weapon not further defined.
- (e) Includes unknown or not stated weapon use.

	2001	2002	2003	2004(c)	2005
MURDER					
Weapon used					
Firearm	16.1	13.2	12.3	r12.1	9.6
Knife	28.9	22.7	28.5	26.1	29.6
Other weapon	14.1	11.7	13.9	13.6	14.8
<i>Total weapon used(d)</i>	59.8	52.1	57.9	r56.4	58.9
No weapon used(e)	40.2	47.9	42.1	r43.6	41.1
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

	2001	2002	2003	2004(c)	2005
ATTEMPTED MURDER					
Weapon used					
Firearm	28.7	21.8	20.3	22.8	17.6
Knife	32.8	35.5	32.0	32.1	29.3
Other weapon	19.1	13.3	17.0	14.4	19.4
<i>Total weapon used(d)</i>	81.1	75.3	76.0	r73.1	72.2
No weapon used(e)	18.9	24.8	24.0	r26.9	27.8
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

	2001	2002	2003	2004(c)	2005
KIDNAPPING/ABDUCTION					
Weapon used					
Firearm	9.0	5.0	3.2	r2.2	1.2
Knife	8.0	8.8	8.8	6.3	9.0
Other weapon	4.3	3.8	2.7	2.6	3.4
<i>Total weapon used(d)</i>	21.4	18.6	16.9	r12.8	15.6
No weapon used(e)	78.6	81.4	83.1	r87.2	84.4
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

	2001	2002	2003	2004(c)	2005
ROBBERY					
Weapon used					
Firearm	6.4	5.6	5.6	5.5	4.5
Knife	22.5	19.3	19.0	17.9	19.0
Other weapon	9.2	7.8	8.0	8.6	8.8
<i>Total weapon used(d)</i>	42.2	37.4	36.5	r36.5	37.1
No weapon used(e)	57.8	62.6	63.5	r63.5	62.9
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

- r revised
- (a) The definition of a victim varies according to the category of the offence (see Glossary).
- (b) The data presented in this publication have been confidentialised to prevent identification of victims (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 91).
- (c) Data for 2004 have been revised (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 92).
- (d) Includes weapon use not further defined.
- (e) Includes unknown or not stated weapon use.

VICTIMS(a)(b), Offence category by outcome of investigation at 30 days—2005

	FINALISED				Total(c)
	Investigation not finalised	No offender proceeded against	Offender proceeded against	Total	
NUMBER					
Homicide and related offences					
Murder	98	16	156	172	270
Attempted murder	97	8	168	176	273
Manslaughter	16	—	9	9	25
Driving causing death	64	11	126	137	201
Total homicide and related offences	275	35	459	494	769
Kidnapping/abduction	479	82	171	253	732
Robbery					
Armed robbery	4 674	250	1 296	1 546	6 223
Unarmed robbery	8 227	733	1 603	2 336	10 566
Total robbery	12 901	983	2 899	3 882	16 789
Blackmail/extortion	216	45	131	176	392
Unlawful entry with intent					
Involving the taking of property	186 543	3 354	14 258	17 612	204 195
Other	71 136	1 775	7 016	8 791	79 993
Total unlawful entry with intent	257 679	5 129	21 274	26 403	284 188
Motor vehicle theft	71 242	2 686	6 792	9 478	80 738
Other theft	441 633	11 397	65 814	77 211	519 128
PROPORTION (%)					
Homicide and related offences					
Murder	36.3	5.9	57.8	63.7	100.0
Attempted murder	35.5	2.9	61.5	64.5	100.0
Manslaughter	64.0	—	36.0	36.0	100.0
Driving causing death	31.8	5.5	62.7	68.2	100.0
Total homicide and related offences	35.8	4.6	59.7	64.2	100.0
Kidnapping/abduction	65.4	11.2	23.4	34.6	100.0
Robbery					
Armed robbery	75.1	4.0	20.8	24.8	100.0
Unarmed robbery	77.9	6.9	15.2	22.1	100.0
Total robbery	76.8	5.9	17.3	23.1	100.0
Blackmail/extortion	55.1	11.5	33.4	44.9	100.0
Unlawful entry with intent					
Involving the taking of property	91.4	1.6	7.0	8.6	100.0
Other	88.9	2.2	8.8	11.0	100.0
Total unlawful entry with intent	90.7	1.8	7.5	9.3	100.0
Motor vehicle theft	88.2	3.3	8.4	11.7	100.0
Other theft	85.1	2.2	12.7	14.9	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) The data presented in this publication have been confidentialised to prevent identification of victims (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 91).

(c) Includes unknown outcomes of investigation.

VICTIMS(a)(b), By offence category, New South Wales—1996–2005

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
NUMBER										
Homicide and related offences										
Murder	99	110	96	123	101	103	98	102	72	86
Attempted murder	83	100	121	133	148	204	147	121	75	61
Manslaughter	16	11	25	12	10	8	13	11	4	4
Driving causing death(c)	232	(d)na	116	78	100	94	80	122	76	72
<i>Total homicide and related offences</i>	430	na	358	346	359	409	338	356	227	223
Assault	47 829	55 998	59 221	63 811	68 714	75 460	80 028	79 892	78 305	81 168
Sexual assault	5 036	4 663	4 504	4 425	5 975	6 268	6 480	6 796	7 075	6 824
Kidnapping/abduction(e)	214	271	377	450	382	472	436	423	464	463
Robbery										
Armed robbery	3 019	4 978	5 721	4 619	4 688	5 615	3 815	3 318	2 867	2 690
Unarmed robbery	5 806	7 592	7 605	7 935	8 637	9 620	7 889	7 529	6 020	6 272
<i>Total robbery</i>	8 825	12 570	13 326	12 554	13 325	15 235	11 704	10 847	8 887	8 962
Blackmail/extortion	41	56	60	62	60	68	82	80	94	82
Unlawful entry with intent										
Involving the taking of property	125 306	137 437	142 217	121 707	126 942	125 986	109 309	98 791	84 044	77 985
Other	26 511	27 711	29 648	29 291	33 668	36 056	31 861	29 697	26 721	25 464
<i>Total unlawful entry with intent</i>	151 817	165 148	171 865	150 998	160 610	162 042	141 170	128 488	110 765	103 449
Motor vehicle theft	48 842	54 711	52 833	47 355	51 249	52 279	41 665	34 824	33 209	29 097
Other theft	157 738	165 201	175 914	200 090	232 295	229 573	211 908	194 006	170 290	157 987
INDEXED RATE (f)										
Homicide and related offences										
Murder	100.0	112.5	93.8	118.8	100.0	100.0	93.8	93.8	68.8	81.3
Attempted murder	41.9	51.6	61.3	67.7	74.2	100.0	71.0	58.1	35.5	29.0
Manslaughter	300.0	200.0	400.0	200.0	200.0	100.0	200.0	200.0	100.0	100.0
Driving causing death(c)	264.3	. .	128.6	85.7	107.1	100.0	85.7	128.6	78.6	78.6
<i>Total homicide and related offences</i>	111.3	. .	91.9	87.1	90.3	100.0	82.3	85.5	54.8	53.2
Assault	67.2	77.8	81.5	86.9	92.7	100.0	105.1	104.2	101.5	104.4
Sexual assault	85.2	78.0	74.6	72.6	97.1	100.0	102.5	106.7	110.5	105.7
Kidnapping/abduction(e)	47.2	59.7	83.3	97.2	81.9	100.0	91.7	87.5	95.8	94.4
Robbery										
Armed robbery	57.0	93.0	105.7	84.5	84.9	100.0	67.3	58.2	50.0	46.5
Unarmed robbery	64.0	82.7	82.1	84.8	91.3	100.0	81.3	77.0	61.2	63.3
<i>Total robbery</i>	61.4	86.5	90.8	84.7	89.0	100.0	76.1	70.0	57.1	57.1
Blackmail/extortion	70.0	90.0	90.0	100.0	90.0	100.0	120.0	120.0	140.0	120.0
Unlawful entry with intent										
Involving the taking of property	105.4	114.3	117.2	99.3	102.5	100.0	86.0	77.2	65.3	60.1
Other	77.9	80.6	85.4	83.5	95.0	100.0	87.6	81.0	72.5	68.5
<i>Total unlawful entry with intent</i>	99.3	106.8	110.1	95.8	100.8	100.0	86.3	78.0	66.9	62.0
Motor vehicle theft	99.0	109.7	104.9	93.1	99.7	100.0	79.0	65.6	62.1	54.0
Other theft	72.8	75.4	79.6	89.6	103.0	100.0	91.5	83.2	72.6	66.8

. . not applicable

na not available

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

(b) The data presented in this publication have been confidentialised to prevent identification of victims (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 91).

(c) Data from 2003 have been estimated (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 20).

(d) Counts could not be provided in 1997 due to a change in recording management systems.

(e) Counts may be inflated slightly (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 21).

(f) Base of each index: 2001 = 100.0

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004(c)	2005
NUMBER										
Homicide and related offences										
Murder	52	63	47	62	55	65	67	69	r47	72
Attempted murder	34	44	54	57	51	46	53	54	r50	51
Manslaughter	3	3	3	6	12	3	5	3	r4	4
Driving causing death	22	25	48	45	54	76	57	44	r63	58
<i>Total homicide and related offences</i>	111	135	152	170	172	190	182	170	r164	185
Assault(d)	16 405	17 088	17 843	17 121	14 334	16 727	18 356	17 572	17 468	19 399
Sexual assault	2 798	2 953	2 988	2 800	2 504	2 610	2 689	2 595	2 772	2 686
Kidnapping/abduction	95	94	116	124	113	117	106	99	r112	118
Robbery										
Armed robbery	848	1 196	1 556	1 884	1 796	2 608	1 583	1 431	r1 113	1 223
Unarmed robbery	1 067	1 293	1 439	1 524	1 559	1 933	1 618	1 472	r1 180	1 242
<i>Total robbery</i>	1 915	2 489	2 995	3 408	3 355	4 541	3 201	2 903	r2 293	2 465
Blackmail/extortion	81	127	95	77	74	113	124	113	r96	94
Unlawful entry with intent(e)										
Involving the taking of property	54 936	57 383	54 884	60 477	62 699	62 905	53 628	45 865	r41 977	37 215
Other	15 816	16 765	15 762	15 827	16 201	18 212	17 546	14 832	r14 160	14 729
<i>Total unlawful entry with intent</i>	70 752	74 148	70 646	76 304	78 900	81 117	71 174	60 697	r56 137	51 944
Motor vehicle theft	28 764	30 453	29 581	31 877	36 490	39 355	28 889	23 864	r20 104	18 869
Other theft(f)	119 572	119 867	125 863	135 383	147 679	151 048	142 572	136 871	r120 621	116 577

INDEXED RATE (g)

Homicide and related offences										
Murder	78.6	100.0	71.4	92.9	85.7	100.0	100.0	100.0	64.3	100.0
Attempted murder	70.0	100.0	120.0	120.0	110.0	100.0	110.0	110.0	100.0	100.0
Manslaughter	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	300.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Driving causing death	31.3	31.3	62.5	62.5	68.8	100.0	75.0	56.3	81.3	75.0
<i>Total homicide and related offences</i>	60.0	72.5	82.5	90.0	90.0	100.0	92.5	87.5	82.5	92.5
Assault(d)	103.3	106.6	110.1	104.5	86.4	100.0	108.6	102.8	101.1	111.0
Sexual assault	113.1	118.0	118.2	109.6	96.7	100.0	102.0	97.2	102.9	98.5
Kidnapping/abduction	87.5	83.3	104.2	108.3	100.0	100.0	91.7	83.3	95.8	95.8
Robbery										
Armed robbery	34.3	47.9	61.5	73.7	69.4	100.0	60.0	53.6	41.3	44.9
Unarmed robbery	58.2	69.9	76.9	80.6	81.3	100.0	82.8	74.6	59.2	61.4
<i>Total robbery</i>	44.4	57.1	68.0	76.6	74.5	100.0	69.7	62.5	48.9	52.0
Blackmail/extortion	75.0	116.7	83.3	66.7	66.7	100.0	108.3	95.8	79.2	79.2
Unlawful entry with intent(e)										
Involving the taking of property	92.0	95.2	90.1	98.1	100.5	100.0	84.3	71.3	64.6	56.6
Other	91.5	96.0	89.3	88.7	89.7	100.0	95.3	79.7	75.3	77.4
<i>Total unlawful entry with intent</i>	91.9	95.4	89.9	96.0	98.0	100.0	86.8	73.2	67.0	61.3
Motor vehicle theft	77.0	80.7	77.6	82.7	93.5	100.0	72.6	59.3	49.5	45.9
Other theft(f)	83.4	82.8	86.0	91.5	98.5	100.0	93.4	88.6	77.3	73.8

r revised

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

(b) The data presented in this publication have been confidentialised to prevent identification of victims (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 91).

(c) Data for 2004 have been revised (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 92).

(d) An increase in assault for 2005 is mostly attributed to the introduction of the *Family Violence Code of Practice for the Investigation of Family Violence* (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 29).

(e) Property taken may not always be identified (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 30).

(f) Prior to 2004, other theft included bicycle thefts when stolen during the commission of a UEWI offence (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 31).

(g) Base of each index: 2001 = 100.0

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004(c)	2005
NUMBER										
Homicide and related offences										
Murder	65	75	64	64	78	66	59	63	r56	48
Attempted murder	135	111	150	112	123	156	128	113	95	82
Manslaughter	9	11	10	14	7	14	18	4	r13	3
Driving causing death	31	51	43	43	40	41	38	55	r43	36
<i>Total homicide and related offences</i>	240	248	267	233	248	277	243	235	r207	169
Assault	17 659	17 646	18 329	18 425	18 707	20 237	20 849	19 009	18 798	19 549
Sexual assault	3 034	3 332	3 485	3 550	3 752	4 086	4 797	3 792	4 256	4 221
Kidnapping/abduction(d)	71	108	98	93	95	76	75	92	r109	88
Robbery										
Armed robbery	909	1 251	1 285	1 257	1 198	1 168	886	957	r855	852
Unarmed robbery	1 218	1 188	1 246	1 213	1 159	1 382	1 160	1 111	r1 036	1 089
<i>Total robbery</i>	2 127	2 439	2 531	2 470	2 357	2 550	2 046	2 068	r1 891	1 941
Blackmail/extortion	93	85	78	70	63	89	57	63	r58	60
Unlawful entry with intent										
Involving the taking of property	52 863	56 952	56 907	56 361	58 750	55 590	51 659	47 547	r42 581	37 822
Other	17 984	17 487	17 685	17 828	18 533	18 133	16 595	15 015	r13 977	12 885
<i>Total unlawful entry with intent</i>	70 847	74 439	74 592	74 189	77 283	73 723	68 254	62 562	r56 558	50 707
Motor vehicle theft	17 274	17 058	15 693	18 249	18 623	17 468	15 854	13 333	r12 407	11 326
Other theft	92 025	93 390	97 384	105 169	112 319	116 820	116 989	112 297	r100 267	93 364

INDEXED RATE (e)

Homicide and related offences										
Murder	105.6	122.2	105.6	100.0	122.2	100.0	88.9	94.4	77.8	66.7
Attempted murder	93.0	76.7	100.0	74.4	79.1	100.0	79.1	69.8	55.8	48.8
Manslaughter	75.0	75.0	75.0	100.0	50.0	100.0	125.0	25.0	75.0	25.0
Driving causing death	81.8	136.4	109.1	109.1	100.0	100.0	90.9	127.3	100.0	81.8
<i>Total homicide and related offences</i>	94.7	96.1	101.3	86.8	92.1	100.0	85.5	81.6	69.7	56.6
Assault	94.8	93.1	95.2	94.2	94.0	100.0	100.7	89.7	86.7	88.4
Sexual assault	80.7	87.1	89.6	89.9	93.4	100.0	114.8	88.6	97.2	94.6
Kidnapping/abduction(d)	100.0	152.4	133.3	128.6	128.6	100.0	95.2	114.3	133.3	104.8
Robbery										
Armed robbery	84.5	114.3	115.5	111.2	104.3	100.0	74.2	78.3	68.3	66.8
Unarmed robbery	95.8	91.9	94.8	90.8	85.3	100.0	82.2	76.6	69.8	72.2
<i>Total robbery</i>	90.6	102.1	104.3	100.1	94.0	100.0	78.4	77.4	69.1	69.7
Blackmail/extortion	112.0	100.0	92.0	80.0	72.0	100.0	60.0	68.0	60.0	60.0
Unlawful entry with intent										
Involving the taking of property	103.4	109.4	107.6	104.9	107.5	100.0	90.9	81.7	71.5	62.3
Other	107.8	103.0	102.5	101.7	104.0	100.0	89.5	79.0	71.9	65.1
<i>Total unlawful entry with intent</i>	104.5	107.9	106.3	104.1	106.7	100.0	90.5	81.0	71.6	63.0
Motor vehicle theft	107.5	104.3	94.4	108.1	108.5	100.0	88.7	72.9	66.3	59.3
Other theft	85.6	85.4	87.6	93.2	97.8	100.0	97.9	91.8	80.1	73.2

r revised

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

(b) The data presented in this publication have been confidentialised to prevent identification of victims (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 91).

(c) Data for 2004 have been revised (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 92).

(d) The increase in 2004 is possibly a result of increased public awareness (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 34).

(e) Base of each index: 2001 = 100.0

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
NUMBER										
Homicide and related offences										
Murder	21	23	25	39	23	29	29	19	28	20
Attempted murder	28	33	25	39	44	24	39	40	52	49
Manslaughter	3	3	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	3
Driving causing death	25	15	22	18	37	19	13	19	11	15
<i>Total homicide and related offences</i>	77	74	72	96	104	72	81	81	91	87
Assault	13 264	13 728	14 885	13 861	15 423	16 288	16 540	16 006	14 880	15 404
Sexual assault	1 358	1 218	1 310	1 320	1 464	1 578	1 625	1 852	1 793	1 655
Kidnapping/abduction	36	37	32	38	43	36	31	34	36	33
Robbery										
Armed robbery	340	374	639	528	585	622	521	530	505	515
Unarmed robbery	994	849	1 029	946	1 083	1 059	1 102	791	734	656
<i>Total robbery</i>	1 334	1 223	1 668	1 474	1 668	1 681	1 623	1 321	1 239	1 171
Blackmail/extortion(c)	14	22	13	24	25	55	61	61	44	41
Unlawful entry with intent										
Involving the taking of property(d)(e)	24 152	22 737	26 781	27 858	na	22 373	21 773	18 379	17 030	13 738
Other(d)	5 829	5 128	5 963	6 116	na	12 675	11 281	10 134	9 698	10 557
<i>Total unlawful entry with intent</i>	29 981	27 865	32 744	33 974	36 302	35 048	33 054	28 513	26 728	24 295
Motor vehicle theft	8 449	8 060	10 981	11 981	13 464	12 663	11 214	10 206	10 511	9 033
Other theft(e)	49 166	47 136	54 636	62 115	68 767	79 135	79 185	58 162	52 500	48 198

INDEXED RATE (f)

Homicide and related offences										
Murder	73.7	84.2	89.5	136.8	78.9	100.0	100.0	63.2	94.7	68.4
Attempted murder	118.8	137.5	106.3	162.5	181.3	100.0	162.5	162.5	212.5	200.0
Manslaughter	np									
Driving causing death	130.8	76.9	115.4	92.3	192.3	100.0	69.2	92.3	53.8	76.9
<i>Total homicide and related offences</i>	108.3	104.2	100.0	133.3	143.8	100.0	110.4	110.4	122.9	116.7
Assault	83.5	86.1	92.9	86.2	95.6	100.0	101.1	97.3	90.1	92.7
Sexual assault	88.2	78.8	84.4	84.7	93.7	100.0	102.5	116.2	112.1	102.8
Kidnapping/abduction	100.0	104.2	91.7	104.2	120.8	100.0	83.3	91.7	95.8	87.5
Robbery										
Armed robbery	56.2	61.6	104.6	86.1	95.1	100.0	83.5	84.4	80.0	81.3
Unarmed robbery	96.1	81.9	98.7	90.4	103.1	100.0	103.6	73.9	68.2	60.6
<i>Total robbery</i>	81.4	74.4	100.9	88.8	100.2	100.0	96.1	77.8	72.7	68.3
Blackmail/extortion(c)	25.0	41.7	25.0	44.4	47.2	100.0	111.1	111.1	80.6	75.0
Unlawful entry with intent										
Involving the taking of property(d)(e)	110.7	103.8	121.7	126.1	. .	100.0	96.9	81.4	75.1	60.2
Other(d)	47.2	41.3	47.9	48.9	. .	100.0	88.6	79.2	75.5	81.7
<i>Total unlawful entry with intent</i>	87.7	81.2	95.0	98.2	104.6	100.0	93.9	80.6	75.2	68.0
Motor vehicle theft	68.4	65.0	88.2	95.8	107.3	100.0	88.1	79.8	81.9	69.9
Other theft(e)	63.7	60.9	70.2	79.5	87.7	100.0	99.6	72.8	65.4	59.7

. . not applicable

— 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 data presented in this publication have been confidentialised to prevent identification of victims (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 91).

(c) Counts may be inflated due to the inclusion of food tampering (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 41).

(d) 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.

(e) Prior to 2003 data is duplicated. Data for UEWI involving the taking of property appear in this category as well as the 'other theft' category.

(f) Base of each index: 2001 = 100.0

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004(c)	2005
NUMBER										
Homicide and related offences										
Murder	20	30	31	41	32	21	40	29	r37	20
Attempted murder	23	23	25	8	15	17	20	20	r28	23
Manslaughter(d)	3	9	6	6	14	6	6	11	r6	5
Driving causing death(d)(e)	30	37	43	36	31	27	23	13	r46	17
<i>Total homicide and related offences</i>	76	99	105	91	92	71	89	73	r117	65
Assault	12 345	13 797	14 224	14 231	14 134	15 181	15 282	15 324	18 272	20 733
Sexual assault	1 757	1 610	1 512	1 553	1 533	1 685	1 620	1 385	1 643	2 130
Kidnapping/abduction	55	38	68	49	44	48	36	36	r28	23
Robbery										
Armed robbery	968	1 073	1 395	931	995	1 005	910	784	r511	768
Unarmed robbery	746	1 057	1 325	1 183	1 092	1 060	1 059	1 367	r1 289	1 036
<i>Total robbery</i>	1 714	2 130	2 720	2 114	2 087	2 065	1 969	2 151	r1 800	1 804
Blackmail/extortion(f)	35	62	23	18	30	27	31	65	73	110
Unlawful entry with intent										
Involving the taking of property	39 691	40 331	39 936	37 428	42 033	41 822	41 693	39 743	r30 451	28 347
Other	16 410	16 244	19 611	18 365	18 824	20 267	19 781	17 993	r14 404	13 149
<i>Total unlawful entry with intent</i>	56 101	56 575	59 547	55 793	60 857	62 089	61 474	57 736	r44 855	41 496
Motor vehicle theft(g)	14 016	14 827	16 115	12 752	11 911	11 344	10 487	10 706	r7 805	7 577
Other theft	73 898	75 947	78 421	78 874	88 294	92 144	98 252	92 896	r79 184	77 452
INDEXED RATE (h)										
Homicide and related offences										
Murder	100.0	154.5	154.5	200.0	154.5	100.0	190.9	136.4	172.7	90.9
Attempted murder	144.4	144.4	155.6	44.4	88.9	100.0	111.1	111.1	155.6	122.2
Manslaughter(d)	66.7	166.7	100.0	100.0	233.3	100.0	100.0	200.0	100.0	66.7
Driving causing death(d)(e)	121.4	150.0	171.4	135.7	114.3	100.0	85.7	50.0	164.3	57.1
<i>Total homicide and related offences</i>	116.2	148.6	154.1	132.4	132.4	100.0	124.3	100.0	159.5	86.5
Assault	87.6	96.1	97.4	95.9	94.0	100.0	99.4	98.4	115.7	129.2
Sexual assault	112.3	101.1	93.3	94.4	91.9	100.0	95.0	80.1	93.8	119.6
Kidnapping/abduction	124.0	84.0	148.0	104.0	92.0	100.0	76.0	72.0	56.0	44.0
Robbery										
Armed robbery	103.6	112.9	144.2	94.7	99.8	100.0	89.4	76.0	48.8	72.2
Unarmed robbery	75.8	105.4	129.7	114.2	103.9	100.0	98.6	125.6	116.8	92.3
<i>Total robbery</i>	89.4	109.1	136.9	104.8	102.0	100.0	94.2	101.6	83.8	82.6
Blackmail/extortion(f)	142.9	242.9	92.9	71.4	114.3	100.0	114.3	235.7	264.3	392.9
Unlawful entry with intent										
Involving the taking of property	102.2	102.0	99.2	91.6	101.4	100.0	98.5	92.7	70.0	64.1
Other	87.2	84.8	100.6	92.7	93.7	100.0	96.4	86.6	68.3	61.4
<i>Total unlawful entry with intent</i>	97.3	96.4	99.7	92.0	98.9	100.0	97.8	90.7	69.4	63.2
Motor vehicle theft(g)	133.1	138.2	147.6	115.0	106.0	100.0	91.3	92.0	66.1	63.2
Other theft	86.4	87.2	88.5	87.6	96.7	100.0	105.3	98.3	82.6	79.5

r revised

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

(b) The data presented in this publication have been confidentialised to prevent identification of victims (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 91).

(c) Data for 2004 have been revised (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 92).

(d) A transition to a new recording system resulted in incomplete counts in 2003 (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 53).

(e) From 2004, data includes driving causing grievous bodily harm (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 53).

(f) Data may be understated prior to 2003 (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 54).

(g) Includes theft of caravans and trailers which are out of scope.

(h) Base of each index: 2001 = 100.0

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004(c)	2005
NUMBER										
Homicide and related offences										
Murder	37	7	6	5	8	8	7	5	7	7
Attempted murder	23	—	7	3	7	12	3	7	8	4
Manslaughter	3	3	3	3	—	3	—	—	—	—
Driving causing death(d)	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	3	3
<i>Total homicide and related offences</i>	63	10	16	11	18	23	10	12	18	14
Assault(e)	2 220	1 981	2 231	2 569	2 718	3 487	3 644	3 764	3 972	4 536
Sexual assault	162	198	216	198	194	206	250	274	294	248
Kidnapping/abduction	7	4	10	3	10	11	8	3	7	5
Robbery										
Armed robbery	48	45	85	76	78	83	52	72	49	43
Unarmed robbery	95	104	102	112	93	108	84	62	r76	83
<i>Total robbery</i>	143	149	187	188	171	191	136	134	r125	126
Blackmail/extortion	—	3	—	3	—	3	—	4	—	—
Unlawful entry with intent										
Involving the taking of property	10 048	11 072	10 951	9 592	7 828	7 340	5 844	5 160	r3 864	3 467
Other	2 764	3 123	3 364	2 696	2 196	1 917	1 566	1 405	r1 131	1 002
<i>Total unlawful entry with intent</i>	12 812	14 195	14 315	12 288	10 024	9 257	7 410	6 565	r4 995	4 469
Motor vehicle theft	2 893	2 455	2 991	3 078	3 367	3 463	2 486	2 166	r1 751	2 269
Other theft	11 521	12 909	13 872	13 259	12 939	13 354	13 537	12 107	r11 048	10 540
INDEXED RATE (f)										
Homicide and related offences										
Murder	458.8	88.2	76.5	64.7	100.0	100.0	88.2	58.8	88.2	82.4
Attempted murder	192.0	—	60.0	24.0	60.0	100.0	24.0	60.0	68.0	32.0
Manslaughter	np	np								
Driving causing death(d)	np	np								
<i>Total homicide and related offences</i>	271.4	42.9	69.4	46.9	77.6	100.0	42.9	51.0	75.5	59.2
Assault(e)	63.3	56.6	64.0	73.8	78.2	100.0	104.3	106.7	111.4	126.5
Sexual assault	78.0	95.7	104.8	96.3	94.3	100.0	121.1	131.4	139.6	116.9
Kidnapping/abduction	65.2	34.8	91.3	26.1	91.3	100.0	73.9	26.1	65.2	43.5
Robbery										
Armed robbery	57.4	54.0	102.3	91.5	94.3	100.0	62.5	85.8	58.0	50.6
Unarmed robbery	87.3	96.1	94.3	103.9	86.5	100.0	77.7	56.8	69.0	74.7
<i>Total robbery</i>	74.3	77.8	97.8	98.5	89.9	100.0	71.1	69.4	64.0	64.2
Blackmail/extortion	np	np								
Unlawful entry with intent										
Involving the taking of property	136.1	150.3	149.2	131.0	107.0	100.0	79.5	69.5	51.5	45.9
Other	143.4	162.3	175.5	140.9	114.9	100.0	81.6	72.5	57.7	50.8
<i>Total unlawful entry with intent</i>	137.6	152.8	154.7	133.0	108.6	100.0	79.9	70.1	52.8	46.9
Motor vehicle theft	83.1	70.6	86.4	89.1	97.5	100.0	71.7	61.8	49.5	63.7
Other theft	85.8	96.3	103.9	99.5	97.2	100.0	101.2	89.6	80.9	76.7

— 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 data presented in this publication have been confidentialised to prevent identification of victims (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 91).

(c) Data for 2004 have been revised (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 92).

(d) Excludes death by negligent driving (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 57).

(e) An increase in 2005 is partly due to an increase in the reporting of family violence incidents (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 58).

(f) Base of each index: 2001 = 100.0

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004(c)	2005
NUMBER										
Homicide and related offences										
Murder	17	9	15	7	16	18	15	11	r16	13
Attempted murder	7	4	4	5	5	—	9	3	—	3
Manslaughter	3	3	—	—	3	3	6	7	r9	6
Driving causing death(d)	—	3	3	4	—	—	—	—	—	—
<i>Total homicide and related offences</i>	27	19	22	16	24	21	30	21	r25	22
Assault(e)	2 630	2 573	2 503	2 567	2 936	2 948	3 431	3 710	3 385	3 938
Sexual assault	281	269	235	164	221	285	331	326	341	245
Kidnapping/abduction	—	3	3	—	3	4	4	3	6	—
Robbery										
Armed robbery	26	24	34	39	29	34	37	29	r25	23
Unarmed robbery	82	51	48	46	38	39	62	54	r35	50
<i>Total robbery</i>	108	75	82	85	67	73	99	83	r60	73
Blackmail/extortion	3	3	3	—	—	—	—	—	3	3
Unlawful entry with intent										
Involving the taking of property	3 678	3 453	3 756	3 184	3 429	4 150	3 562	2 611	r1 863	1 675
Other	1 586	1 354	1 319	1 687	1 935	2 397	2 105	1 610	r1 576	1 551
<i>Total unlawful entry with intent</i>	5 264	4 807	5 075	4 871	5 364	6 547	5 667	4 221	r3 439	3 226
Motor vehicle theft(f)(g)	1 107	1 007	966	990	994	939	808	706	r483	527
Other theft(g)	7 434	7 103	6 731	6 086	7 254	7 941	8 153	6 734	r6 460	6 505
INDEXED RATE (h)										
Homicide and related offences										
Murder	102.2	52.7	86.8	39.6	90.1	100.0	83.5	60.4	87.9	70.3
Attempted murder	np	np								
Manslaughter	np	np								
Driving causing death(d)	np	np								
<i>Total homicide and related offences</i>	139.6	96.2	109.4	78.3	116.0	100.0	142.5	100.0	117.9	101.9
Assault(e)	97.0	92.4	88.4	89.4	100.8	100.0	115.9	125.4	113.6	130.3
Sexual assault	107.2	99.9	85.8	59.1	78.5	100.0	115.6	113.9	118.4	83.8
Kidnapping/abduction	np	np								
Robbery										
Armed robbery	83.1	74.4	104.1	117.4	86.0	100.0	108.1	84.9	72.7	65.7
Unarmed robbery	228.9	138.6	128.4	121.3	98.5	100.0	158.4	138.1	88.8	125.4
<i>Total robbery</i>	161.0	108.7	117.1	119.5	93.0	100.0	135.0	113.3	81.3	97.6
Blackmail/extortion	np	np								
Unlawful entry with intent										
Involving the taking of property	96.4	88.0	94.2	78.7	83.6	100.0	85.4	62.7	44.4	39.4
Other	72.0	59.8	57.3	72.2	81.7	100.0	87.4	66.9	65.1	63.1
<i>Total unlawful entry with intent</i>	87.4	77.7	80.7	76.3	82.9	100.0	86.2	64.2	52.0	48.1
Motor vehicle theft(f)(g)	128.2	113.5	107.1	108.2	107.1	100.0	85.7	74.9	50.9	54.7
Other theft(g)	101.8	94.6	88.3	78.6	92.4	100.0	102.2	84.5	80.5	79.9

— 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 data presented in this publication have been confidentialised to prevent identification of victims (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 91).

(c) Data for 2004 have been revised (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 92).

(d) Driving causing death is not an offence defined by law, therefore a count is not derived for national reporting from 2000 onwards.

(e) An increase in 2005 is partly due to the introduction of Domestic Violence initiatives (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 65).

(f) A number of police initiatives led to a decrease in 2004 (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 67).

(g) Prior to 2002 data is 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.

(h) Base of each index: 2001 = 100.0

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004(c)	2005
NUMBER										
Homicide and related offences										
Murder	3	4	3	3	3	—	3	4	—	4
Attempted murder	—	3	—	3	—	—	—	3	3	—
Manslaughter	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	r3	—
Driving causing death	—	—	—	—	—	3	3	3	r4	—
<i>Total homicide and related offences</i>	3	7	3	6	3	3	6	10	r10	4
Assault										
Sexual assault	1 804	1 689	1 667	1 686	1 742	1 955	1 988	2 003	1 769	1 772
Kidnapping/abduction	—	9	3	9	5	3	10	6	6	—
Robbery										
Armed robbery	98	113	135	118	114	98	36	68	r105	108
Unarmed robbery	108	117	157	195	192	157	175	134	r113	137
<i>Total robbery</i>	206	230	292	313	306	255	211	202	218	245
Blackmail/extortion										
	3	3	—	—	3	3	—	—	r4	3
Unlawful entry with intent										
Involving the taking of property	3 228	3 160	4 080	6 376	6 455	5 054	5 280	4 561	r4 588	3 946
Other	1 277	1 232	1 512	942	1 173	877	840	677	r610	656
<i>Total unlawful entry with intent</i>	4 505	4 392	5 592	7 318	7 628	5 931	6 120	5 238	r5 198	4 602
Motor vehicle theft										
Other theft	1 569	1 567	2 427	3 270	2 814	2 383	2 057	2 493	r1 669	2 040
	10 408	9 328	10 661	11 583	11 721	10 122	10 203	10 963	r8 408	8 505

INDEXED RATE (d)

Homicide and related offences										
Murder	np									
Attempted murder	np									
Manslaughter	np									
Driving causing death	np									
<i>Total homicide and related offences</i>	111.1	255.6	111.1	211.1	111.1	100.0	211.1	344.4	344.4	133.3
Assault										
Sexual assault	95.6	89.6	88.4	89.0	91.5	100.0	101.0	101.2	89.2	89.0
Kidnapping/abduction	67.0	63.6	49.7	54.2	66.5	100.0	102.5	90.9	124.2	89.3
	np									
Robbery										
Armed robbery	103.6	119.5	142.7	124.4	119.5	100.0	36.5	68.4	105.5	108.1
Unarmed robbery	71.1	77.2	103.7	128.0	125.4	100.0	110.6	84.1	70.9	85.6
<i>Total robbery</i>	83.6	93.5	118.6	126.7	123.2	100.0	82.1	78.2	84.2	94.2
Blackmail/extortion										
	np									
Unlawful entry with intent										
Involving the taking of property	66.2	64.8	83.7	130.2	131.1	100.0	103.8	89.1	89.4	76.7
Other	150.9	145.7	178.7	110.9	137.4	100.0	95.2	76.3	68.5	73.5
<i>Total unlawful entry with intent</i>	78.7	76.8	97.7	127.4	132.1	100.0	102.5	87.2	86.3	76.2
Motor vehicle theft										
Other theft	68.2	68.2	105.6	141.7	121.2	100.0	85.7	103.3	69.0	84.1
	106.5	95.5	109.2	118.1	118.9	100.0	100.1	107.0	81.8	82.5

— 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 data presented in this publication have been confidentialised to prevent identification of victims (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 91).

(c) Data for 2004 have been revised (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 92).

(d) Base of each index: 2001 = 100.0

EXPLANATORY NOTES

INTRODUCTION

1 This publication presents national statistics relating to victimisation incidents for a selected range of offences recorded by police during the 2005 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.

This is because:

- 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. (The exception to the latter is sexual assault. For further information see paragraph 81.)
- 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 78 to 83.

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 Note: 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. For further information see paragraphs 11 to 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. The exception to this is assault and sexual assault, where threats are included in counts of assault and sexual assault offences
- aid, abet and accessory offences.

6 Victims can be a person, premise or organisation 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.

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.

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

SCOPE *continued*

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

DATA SOURCE

10 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

11 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.

12 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.

13 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.

14 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 19 to 74.

15 A paper outlining the conduct and outcomes of the DiRCS project is available on the National Statistical Service web site <<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.

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 87 to 90.

17 The ABS NCSU is currently working with police agencies to develop a National Crime Recording Standard (NCRS) to further improve the national comparability of the recorded crime collection. The standard is aimed at developing a uniform set of guidelines and scenarios to enable consistency in recording. This will complement the already established national counting rules and classifications.

18 National requirements specify that offences should be counted in the state or territory in which the offence occurred, regardless of which law enforcement agency completes the crime report or undertakes the investigation. There is some indication that this may not always be the case, particularly for offences such as motor vehicle thefts which occur near state and territory borders. However, investigations suggest that the

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

COMPARABILITY *continued*

State/territory significant events and specific issues

number of offences counted against a state or territory other than where the offence occurred is small.

19 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.

New South Wales

20 Caution should be exercised in interpreting driving causing death figures as the data have been estimated since 2003. Driving causing death is no longer an incident type on the New South Wales COPS computer system. The method for extracting counts of victims of driving causing death for national reporting purposes is derived by reading the offence charged from the Charge Management module of the COPS and linking the charge back to the incident and victim(s) record.

21 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 were also included in the kidnapping/abduction offence category.

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

23 An assault will be recorded if there are no signs of injury and the victim does not wish to take the matter further.

24 There is a propensity in New South Wales to record assault as part of public disturbances (e.g. a pub brawl).

25 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.

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

27 During 2004, general police operations focussed on high risk offenders and hot spot areas which may have contributed to the decrease in most offence categories from 2003 to 2004.

Victoria

28 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.

29 An increase in assaults for 2005 is mostly attributed to the introduction of the *Family Violence Code of Practice for the Investigation of Family Violence* introduced in August 2004. This initiative involved a proactive approach by police and prosecutions in gathering evidence, investigation and laying charges, where appropriate, relating to family violence, and it also may have led to more victims feeling confident in reporting family violence to police. The code of practice also introduced mandatory reporting of alleged offenders. All family and domestic violence related assaults are recorded even if the victim does not want to proceed.

30 Property taken in association with UEWI may not always be identified due to limitations in recording options in the Victoria Police LEAP computer system. The total count for UEWI is correct, however further disaggregation results in an undercount for 'UEWI - involving the taking of property' and an over count of 'UEWI - other'.

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

Victoria continued

31 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 are no longer counted separately and therefore the bicycles 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 onwards.

32 In December 2003, Compstat was implemented across Victoria Police with a focus on divisional accountability for performance. It is anticipated that over time, Compstat will create a greater focus on police activity aimed at reducing and/or preventing crime at a local level.

Queensland

33 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.

34 The increase of 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.

35 Data for offences that are deemed after investigation to be 'unsubstantiated' are excluded.

South Australia

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

37 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.

38 South Australia record all family and domestic violence related assaults even if the victim does not want to proceed

39 If an assault offence results in the victim later dying, South Australia would not count both the assault and the subsequent offence (such as manslaughter) which is a requirement under national counting rules. South Australia would only count the subsequent offence.

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

41 Counts of victims of blackmail/extortion for South Australia may be inflated due to the inclusion of food tampering in this offence category.

42 Operation Mandrake 2, which commenced in September 2004, targets offenders of vehicle crime in five metropolitan Local Service Areas. This operation may influence the level of reported crime and outcomes of investigation for motor vehicle theft.

43 Police have continued a strong policing presence in the Aboriginal lands in the far north of the state, which has lead 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.

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

South Australia continued

44 The reduction in other theft offences from 2003 to 2004 may be a result of the maturation of the Local Service Area policing model, the Performance Outcome Review process and the setting of reduction targets.

45 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.

Western Australia

46 Since the Royal Commission findings into police corruption in March 2004, there have been significant flow on effects as a major reform project started to increase accountability and oversight into police procedures.

47 The Western Australian *Acts Amendment (Family and Domestic Violence) Act 2004* was passed on 19 October 2004 and came into operation on the proclamation date of 1 December 2004. Police have a statutory obligation to investigate if they have a 'reasonable suspicion' a person is committing an act of family and domestic violence that is also a criminal offence or has put the safety of the person 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.

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

49 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.

50 There was a focus on burglary offences throughout 2004 which continued during 2005. This included significant use of media advertising against burglars ('Burglar Beware') and numerous operations using additional staff and resources (e.g. Canine, Traffic) to reduce the incidence of burglary and apprehend offenders in areas with high burglary rates.

51 The Police Assistance Centre was put in place in April 2005 to take non-emergency calls via a '131444' number and a number of community awareness campaigns about the use of the number were conducted in May 2005.

52 A new data entry system, the Incident Management System (IMS), was implemented and released between September 2002 and August 2004, and gradually replaced the Offence Information System (OIS) over that period.

53 A transition to a new recording system resulted in incomplete counts for manslaughter and driving causing death offences in 2003. The IMS does not distinguish driving causing death from driving causing grievous bodily harm offences. This has contributed to the increase in driving causing death from 2004.

54 The blackmail/extortion data may be understated prior to 2003 as the previous 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.

55 The increased re-licensing of second-hand vehicles had 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.

56 There has been a significant increase in the use of DNA testing (and media advertising of this fact). This may have acted as a deterrent for offenders and therefore may provide some explanation for the decrease in some offence categories during 2004.

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

Tasmania

57 Caution should be exercised with driving causing death counts as Tasmania does not fully comply with the scope of this offence. Counts for the traffic offence *Death by Negligent Driving (Traffic Act 1925)* are excluded from the driving causing death total as such offences are not entered on an Offence Report, from which national counts are derived.

58 The increase in assault is partly due to an increase in the reporting of family violence incidents as a result of the Tasmanian Government's *Safe at Home* initiative, introduced in 2004. This initiative involves a pro-arrest and pro-prosecution policy. Although the initiative is intended to achieve a reduction in the level of family violence in the medium to long term, there has been an increase in the level of reporting of these incidents in the short term.

59 The *Family Violence Act 2004* was proclaimed in Tasmania 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.

60 Between 2003 and 2004 there was a reduction in property offences due to a number of initiatives to reduce property type offences. These included: focussing on early intervention strategies for young people and families 'at risk'; targeting volume crime; high visibility policing/crime reduction strategies; police working with other agencies to introduce more integrated strategies; greater accountability and improvements in planning, performance management and corporate reporting; and improvements in technological processes.

61 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.

The Northern Territory

62 Driving causing death is not an offence defined by law in the Northern Territory, therefore a count is not derived for national reporting from 2000 onwards.

63 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.

64 The Northern Territory *Domestic Violence Act 1992* has been amended several times, most recently 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.

65 There has been a large increase in assault victims from 2004 to 2005 which is partly related to the introduction of domestic violence initiatives in the Northern Territory. Domestic violence remains a high priority for service as evidenced by the formation of the Persons Domestic Violence Protection Unit, 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 police have been working hard on domestic violence initiatives to encourage victims to come

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

The Northern Territory continued

forward to the police. It is vital that people have confidence in the police and it is a necessary consequence of this increased confidence that recorded assault has risen.

66 If after a report of an assault further investigation reveals no grounds to suggest a crime took place, a record of an assault is still likely to be made on the Northern Territory police administrative recording system (PROMIS) with an outcome code of 'insufficient evidence'.

67 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.

68 Crime reports entered in the case management system (PROMIS) are subjected to continuous quality assurance processes which ensure the incident is properly managed and investigated. Daily internal reports are compiled for senior officers to make sure prompt actions are taken for all recorded incidents.

69 The increase in 2004 revised murder offences for Northern Territory has been caused by deaths that were initially deemed non-suspicious.

The Australian Capital Territory

70 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.

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

72 With the introduction of the new PROMIS Case Management System (CMS) on 29 November 2005, there has been a significant change in how offences are recorded in the Australian Capital Territory. Due to the timing of the implementation, these changes appeared to have had little overall impact on the 2005 data.

73 Operation Halite commenced in October 2002 and is still in operation. This operation targets the progressive re-emergence of crime (specifically burglaries and stolen motor vehicles). Since the introduction of this operation there has been a decrease in UEWI offences.

74 Operation Gadoid, which ran in the last quarter of 2004 and again in the first quarter of 2005, was initiated to target armed and aggravated robberies.

CLASSIFICATIONS

75 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 refer to the Appendix.

COUNTING METHODOLOGY

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

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

COUNTING METHODOLOGY

continued

77 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.

78 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 to 9 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).

79 Victims can be a person, premise or organisation depending on the type of offence.

80 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.

81 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.

82 For the offence of UEWI the following applies:

- One victim is counted for each place/premise victimised. A place/premise 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 premise has an attached residence that is occupied by the same person(s), the registered business is considered to be a separate victim.

*Counting within an ASOC
Division category*

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

Counting within an ASOC
Division category *continued*

- 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

- 83** 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.

RATES

- 84** Rates per 100,000 of the Estimated Resident Population (ERP) are presented in tables 1 and 3 (refer to *Australian Demographic Statistics, June 2005* (cat. no. 3101.0)). 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 for the period 1 January to 31 December 2005 have been calculated on the basis of the preliminary June 2005 ERP estimates, while rates for the period 1 January to 31 December 2004 have been recalculated based on revised June 2004 ERP estimates. Rates expressed per 100,000 persons generally accord with international and state and territory practice.

- 85** Results of the 2001 Census of Population and Housing have been used to benchmark the ERP data for 2001–2005. ERP estimates for 1996–2000 have been benchmarked on the 1996 Census of Population and Housing. It is not anticipated that the different benchmarks will have a noticeable impact on the victimisation rates at the national and state and territory levels.

- 86** 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

- 87** 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.

- 88** 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 population for a particular offence at 2001 (period 1), and for 2002 (period 2) it was 300 victims per 100,000 population. 2001 (period 1) would be designated as the reference value or base year giving an index of 100.0 (200/200x100). The index value for 2002 (period 2) or the comparison value becomes 150.0 (300/200x100). The movement between 2001 (base year) and 2002 (comparison value) would be 50%.

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

INDEXES *continued*

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

90 Movements in indexes from one period to another can be expressed either as changes in index points or as percentage changes.

CONFIDENTIALITY

91 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.

REVISIONS

92 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 for 2004 have occurred for all states and territories except New South Wales and South Australia.

COMPARISONS TO OTHER ABS DATA

93 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)).

94 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. 4520.0) 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

95 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 76 to 83) 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

96 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 2005. Data compiled on a financial year basis are also available from the ABS.

ADDITIONAL DATA

97 A set of additional tables containing state and territory wafers of some of the tables in this publication, as well as a financial year table for 2004-05, are available. For further information, contact the National Centre for Crime and Justice Statistics (NCCJS) by email at <crime.justice@abs.gov.au>.

RELATED PUBLICATIONS *ABS publications*

98 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

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

ABS publications *continued*

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
Information Paper: Measuring Crime Victimisation, Australia: The Impact of Different Collection Methodologies (cat. no. 4520.0) – irregular
General Social Survey: Summary Results, Australia (cat. no. 4159.0) – 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
Personal Safety Survey (cat. no. 4906.0) – issued irregular – expected to be released July 2006
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) – issued annually

99 Current publications and other products released by the ABS are listed in the *Catalogue of Publications and Products* (cat. no. 1101.0). The Catalogue is available from the ABS web site <<http://www.abs.gov.au>>. The ABS also issues a daily Release Advice on the web site which details products to be released in the week ahead. The NCCJS releases a biannual newsletter that is published on the ABS web site.

Non-ABS publications

100 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
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 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.
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.
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 refer to Explanatory Notes paragraphs 87 to 90.</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.
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

GLOSSARY *continued*

Location <i>continued</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ <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>Other</i>: includes offices and office blocks, banks, shops, service stations, warehouses, factories, farms and recreational facilities.
Manslaughter	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).
Motor vehicle theft	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.
Murder	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).
Offence	Any act or omission by a person, persons, organisation or organisations for which a penalty could be imposed by the Australian legal system.
Other theft	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).
Outcome of investigation	The stage that a police investigation has reached after a period of 30 days has elapsed since the recording of the incident by police. <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	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.

GLOSSARY *continued*

Robbery <i>continued</i>	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.
Sexual assault	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).
Statistically significant	A statistically significant difference is one where there are 19 chances in 20 that the difference noted reflects a true difference between the population groups of interest rather than being the result of sampling variability.
Syringe	See Weapon.
Unarmed robbery	See Robbery.
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 refer to Explanatory Notes paragraph 82.</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■ <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.

GLOSSARY *continued*

- Victim *continued***
- 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** Number of victims per 100,000 Estimated Resident Population (ERP). For more information, see Explanatory Notes paragraphs 84 to 86).
- Weapon** 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:
- *Weapon not further defined*: 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
 - *Firearm*: 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
 - *Knife*: 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
 - *Syringe (hypodermic needle)*: 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
 - *Other weapon*: 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; bat; iron bar; club; piece of wood; bottle; glass; bow and arrow; crossbow; spear gun; blowgun; rope; wire; chemical; acid; explosive; vehicle; other dangerous article; imitation weapons (excluding firearms, knives and syringes). For table 6, syringe is also included in other weapon.

FOR MORE INFORMATION . . .

- INTERNET* **www.abs.gov.au** the ABS web site is the best place for data from our publications and information about the ABS.
- LIBRARY* A range of ABS publications are available from public and tertiary libraries Australia wide. Contact your nearest library to determine whether it has the ABS statistics you require, or visit our web site for a list of libraries.

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