

**RECORDED CRIME - VICTIMS**

AUSTRALIA

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CONTENTS

	<i>page</i>
Notes	2
Summary of Findings	3

TABLES

VICTIMS, BY OFFENCE CATEGORY, AUSTRALIA

1 Victims, by offence category, 1997–2006	8
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VICTIM CHARACTERISTICS, AUSTRALIA

2 Victims, sex and age group by offence category, 2006	10
3 Victimization rate, sex and age group by offence category, 2006	11
4 Victims, location where offence occurred by offence category, 2006	12
5 Victims, use of weapon in commission of offence by offence category, 2006	13
6 Victims, by use of weapon in commission of offence, 2001–2006	14
7 Victims, offence category by outcome of investigation at 30 days, 2006 ..	16

TIME-SERIES, STATES AND TERRITORIES, 1997–2006

8 Victims, by offence category, New South Wales	17
9 Victims, by offence category, Victoria	18
10 Victims, by offence category, Queensland	19
11 Victims, by offence category, South Australia	20
12 Victims, by offence category, Western Australia	21
13 Victims, by offence category, Tasmania	22
14 Victims, by offence category, Northern Territory	23
15 Victims, by offence category, Australian Capital Territory	24

INQUIRIES

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

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Explanatory Notes	25
Appendix 1—Indigenous Victims of Crime, Experimental Estimates	38
Appendix 2—Indigenous Victims of Crime, Explanatory Notes	46
Appendix 3—Mapping of recorded crime offences to ASOC	49
Glossary	50

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 20 to 95.

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 18.)

CHANGES IN THIS ISSUE For the first time, experimental data on the Indigenous status of victims are included in this publication (see Appendix 1). Currently, only three jurisdictions can provide data of sufficient quality for national reporting: New South Wales; Queensland; and the Australian Capital Territory. The lack of data for other jurisdictions and data quality issues mean that these tables are experimental, and should be used with some caution. The ABS is progressively resolving issues associated with data availability and quality with the data providers.

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.

Brian Pink
Australian Statistician

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

INTRODUCTION

This publication presents statistics on incidents of victimisation for a selected range of offences that came to the attention of police and were recorded by them in the period 1 January 2006 to 31 December 2006. Experimental statistics on the Indigenous status of victims of recorded crimes are presented for three states and territories at Appendix 1.

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

Recorded crime 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. For further information about differences across jurisdictions refer to paragraphs 20 to 95 of the Explanatory Notes.

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

Caution should be exercised in making any direct comparisons between recorded crime statistics and data from ABS household surveys due to the different scope and coverage, methods of measurement and sources of error. For more information refer to paragraphs 115 to 117 of the Explanatory Notes.

MEASURING CRIME VICTIMISATION

Depending on the type of offence, a victim in the recorded crime collection can be a person, a premises, an organisation or a motor vehicle. A person reporting a crime with multiple offences in the same incident may be counted multiple times depending on the types of offence. For example, a victim who was robbed and abducted in the same

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS *continued*

MEASURING CRIME VICTIMISATION *continued*

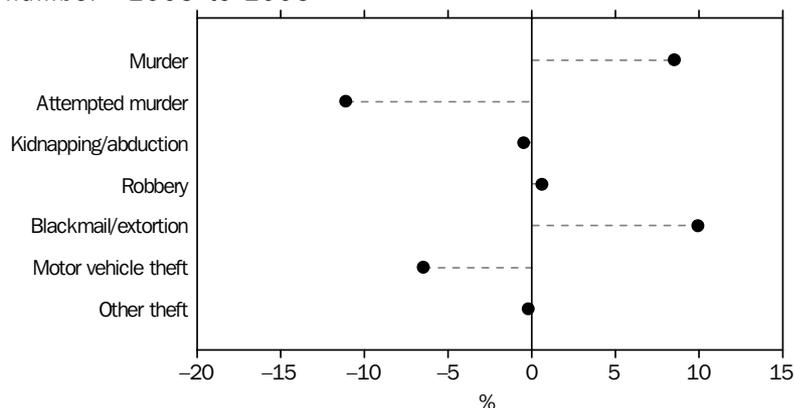
incident would be counted separately as a victim under the offences of robbery and kidnapping/abduction. Conversely, a victim of multiple assaults in the same incident would be counted only once as the offences committed fall within the same offence group. For these reasons, it is not meaningful to aggregate the number of victims across each offence type and produce a 'total number of victims'; it is only meaningful to look at victim counts within each offence category.

For further information about the scope and counting methodology of this collection refer to paragraphs 3 to 10 and 97 to 104 of the Explanatory Notes.

NUMBER OF VICTIMS

Compared to 2005, the number of victims recorded by Australian state and territory police agencies in 2006 decreased for motor vehicle theft and other theft, as well as for attempted murder and kidnapping/abduction (table 1). The offence categories recording the largest declines were attempted murder (down 11%) and motor vehicle theft (down 7%). Conversely, there were increases in the number of victims of blackmail/extortion (up 10%) and murder (up 8%).

VICTIMS, SELECTED OFFENCES (a), Percentage change in number—2005 to 2006



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

VICTIMISATION RATE

In 2006, the Australian victimisation rates for selected personal offence categories were:

- Murder 1.4 victims per 100,000 population
- Attempted murder 1.2 victims per 100,000 population
- Kidnapping/abduction 3.5 victims per 100,000 population
- Robbery 84 victims per 100,000 population
- Blackmail/extortion 2.1 victims per 100,000 population (table 1)

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

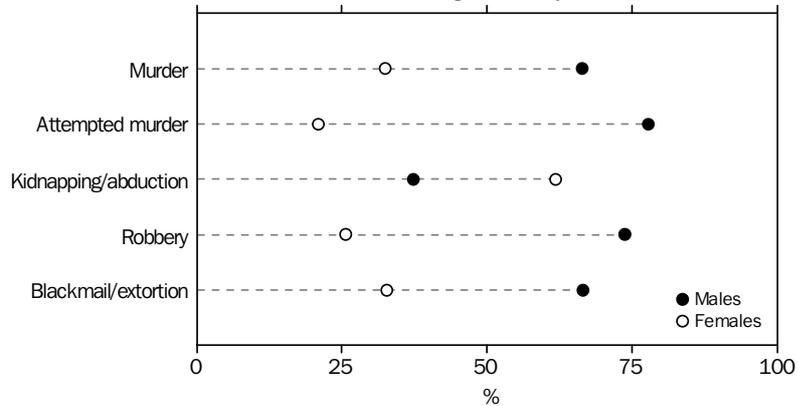
Selected household crimes continued a declining trend in victimisation; motor vehicle theft (365 victims per 100,000 population) had the lowest rate since national reporting began in 1993. The victimisation rate for other theft was the lowest since national reporting began for that offence in 1995 (2,512 victims per 100,000 population).

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS *continued*

SEX AND AGE OF VICTIM

In 2006, more males than females were victims of attempted murder (78% of victims were male), murder (66%), robbery (74%) and blackmail/extortion (66%) (table 2). For kidnapping/abduction, more females were victims than males (62%).

VICTIMS(a), Selected offence categories by sex



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

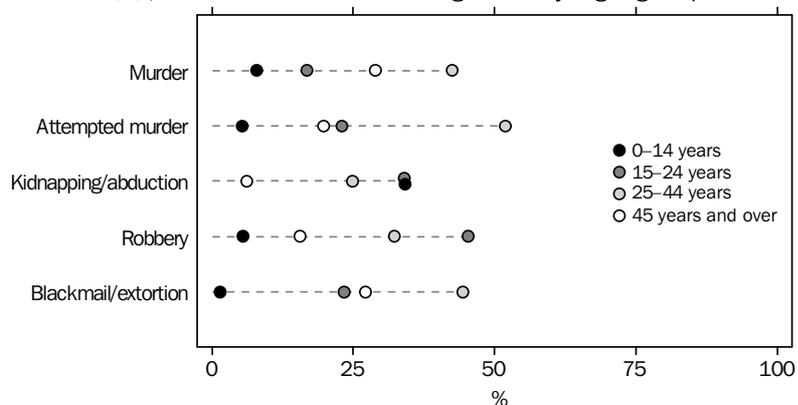
Over 40% of victims of murder (119 people) and 52% of attempted murder victims (124 people) were aged 25-44 years. A further 29% (81 people) of murder victims were aged 45 years and over.

In 2006, 34% (247 people) of victims of kidnapping/abduction were aged 0-14 years and a further 34% (246 people) were aged 15-24 years. For persons aged 25-34 years, 15% (108 people) were victims of this offence.

More than 45% (6,674 people) of victims of robbery were aged 15-24 years, followed by those aged 25-34 years at 20% (2,953 people).

People in the age group 25-44 years accounted for 44% (163 people) of the total blackmail/extortion victims during 2006, compared with 24% for those aged 45-64 years (87 people).

VICTIMS(a), Selected offence categories by age group



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

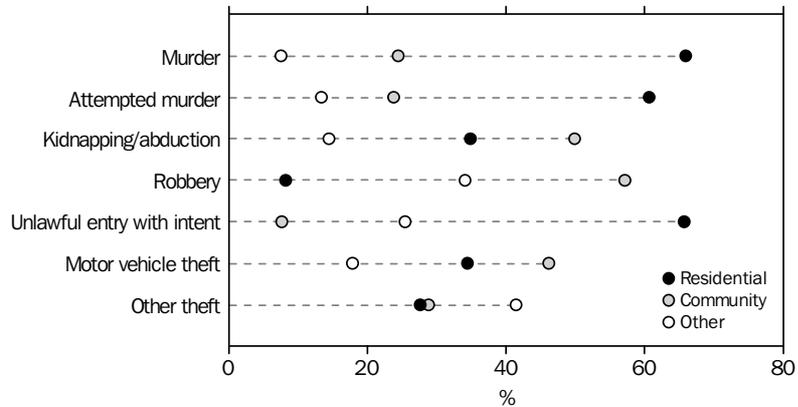
SUMMARY OF FINDINGS *continued*

LOCATION OF OFFENCE

Residential locations were the most likely place of occurrence for murder (66%), attempted murder (61%) and unlawful entry with intent (66%) (table 4). For victims of motor vehicle theft, this offence was most likely to have occurred in a community location (46%), followed by a residential location (34%).

Robbery victims were most likely to be subjected to this offence in a community location (57%). Of the total robbery offences occurring in a community location, nearly four in five occurred on a street/footpath. Half of the victims (50%) of kidnapping/abduction were taken from a community location, and a further 35% taken were from a residential location. Retail locations accounted for the highest proportion (30%) of victims of other theft.

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

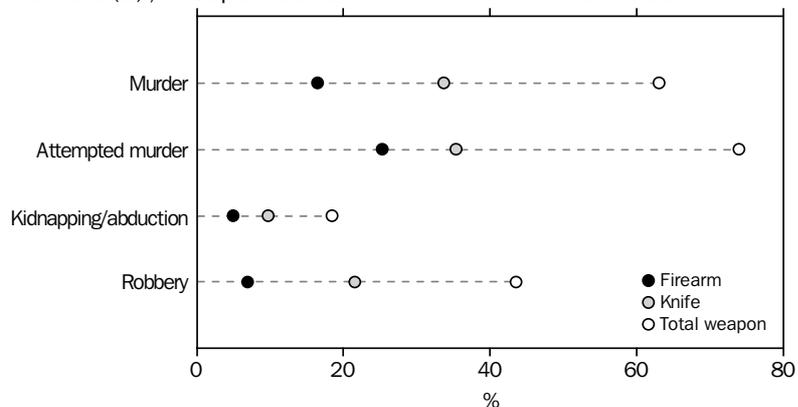


(a) The definition of a victim varies according to the category of the offence (see Glossary).

WEAPON USE

In 2006, a weapon was used in 74% of attempted murders, 63% of murders and 44% of robberies (table 5). A knife was the most common type of weapon used in committing these offences. Over one third (34%) of murder victims, 35% of attempted murder victims, 22% of the victims of robbery and 10% of kidnapping/abduction victims were subjected to an offence involving a knife. A firearm was involved in a quarter of the offences (25%) of attempted murder, 17% of murder and 7% of robbery offences.

VICTIMS(a), Weapon used in commission of offence



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

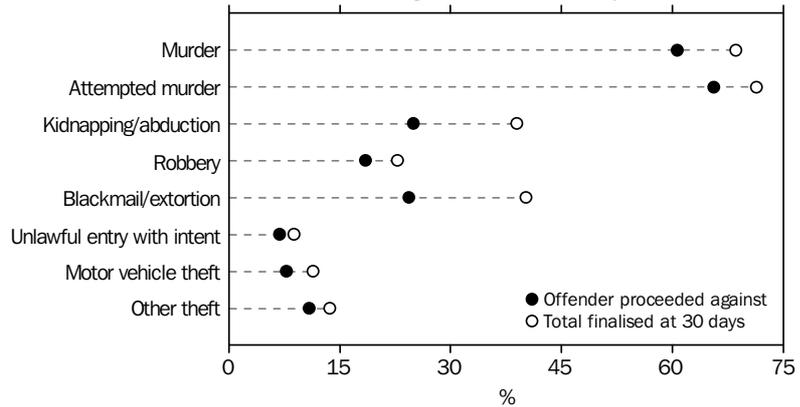
SUMMARY OF FINDINGS *continued*

OUTCOME OF INVESTIGATION

In 2006, 71% of the police investigations into attempted murder and 69% of murder were finalised within 30 days of a victim becoming known to police (table 7).

The lowest proportions of finalisations at 30 days were for victims of unlawful entry with intent (9%), motor vehicle theft (11%) and other theft (14%). However, of the total finalised for these offence types, a high proportion had an offender proceeded against by police: other theft and unlawful entry with intent (both 79%) and motor vehicle theft (69%).

VICTIMS(a), Outcome of investigation at 30 days



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

The highest proportions of investigations finalised where there was no offender proceeded against were for victims of blackmail/extortion (39%), kidnapping/abduction (36%), motor vehicle theft (31%), unlawful entry with intent and other theft (both 21%).

VICTIMS(a)(b), By offence category—1997–2006

	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005(c)	2006
NUMBER										
Homicide and related offences										
Murder	321	287	344	316	310	318	302	263	r259	281
Attempted murder	318	386	360	393	459	399	361	311	r271	241
Manslaughter	43	47	41	46	37	48	39	39	r42	38
Driving causing death(d)	na	275	224	265	260	214	256	246	r217	na
<i>Total homicide and related offences</i>	(e)na	995	969	1 020	1 066	979	958	859	r789	(e)na
Kidnapping/abduction(f)	564	707	766	695	767	706	696	768	r729	725
Robbery(g)										
Armed robbery	9 054	10 850	9 452	9 483	11 233	7 840	7 189	6 030	r7 327	7 525
Unarmed robbery	12 251	12 951	13 154	13 853	15 358	13 149	12 520	10 483	r9 849	9 759
<i>Total robbery</i>	21 305	23 801	22 606	23 336	26 591	20 989	19 709	16 513	r17 176	17 284
Blackmail/extortion(h)	361	272	254	255	358	355	386	372	393	432
Unlawful entry with intent(i)										
Involving the taking of property	332 525	339 512	322 983	np	325 220	292 748	262 657	226 398	r202 844	183 922
Other	89 044	94 864	92 752	np	110 534	101 575	91 363	82 277	r79 150	77 973
<i>Total unlawful entry with intent</i>	421 569	434 376	415 735	436 968	435 754	394 323	354 020	308 675	r281 994	261 895
Motor vehicle theft(j)	130 138	131 587	129 552	138 912	139 894	113 460	98 298	87 939	r80 365	75 115
Other theft(k)	530 881	563 482	612 559	681 268	700 137	680 799	624 036	548 778	r518 335	517 492

RATE PER 100,000 PERSONS

Homicide and related offences										
Murder	1.7	1.5	1.8	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.5	1.3	r1.3	1.4
Attempted murder	1.7	2.1	1.9	2.1	2.4	2.0	1.8	1.5	r1.3	1.2
Manslaughter	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	r0.2	0.2
Driving causing death(d)	na	1.5	1.2	1.4	1.3	1.1	1.3	1.2	r1.1	na
<i>Total homicide and related offences</i>	(e)na	5.3	5.1	5.3	5.5	5.0	4.8	4.3	r3.9	(e)na
Kidnapping/abduction(f)	3.0	3.8	4.0	3.6	4.0	3.6	3.5	3.8	r3.6	3.5
Robbery(g)										
Armed robbery	48.9	57.9	49.9	49.5	57.9	39.9	36.2	30.0	r36.0	36.5
Unarmed robbery	66.1	69.2	69.5	72.3	79.1	67.0	63.0	52.2	r48.4	47.4
<i>Total robbery</i>	115.0	127.1	119.4	121.8	137.0	106.9	99.2	82.2	r84.5	83.9
Blackmail/extortion(h)	1.9	1.5	1.3	1.3	1.8	1.8	1.9	1.9	r1.9	2.1
Unlawful entry with intent(i)										
Involving the taking of property	1 795.4	1 812.9	1 705.8	np	1 675.5	1 490.7	1 321.9	1 127.0	r997.4	892.7
Other	480.8	506.6	489.9	np	569.5	517.2	459.8	409.6	r389.2	378.5
<i>Total unlawful entry with intent</i>	2 276.2	2 319.5	2 195.7	2 281.3	2 244.9	2 007.9	1 781.7	1 536.6	r1 386.6	1 271.2
Motor vehicle theft(j)	702.7	702.7	684.2	725.2	720.7	577.7	494.7	437.8	r395.2	364.6
Other theft(k)	2 866.4	3 008.9	3 235.2	3 556.8	3 607.0	3 466.7	3 140.6	2 731.8	r2 548.7	2 511.8

na not available

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

r revised

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

(b) The data presented in this publication have been confidentialised to prevent identification of victims (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 113).

(c) Data and ERP for 2005 have been revised (see Explanatory Notes paragraphs 105 and 114).

(d) New South Wales data estimated from 2003–2005. Data not available for New South Wales in 1997 and 2006 due to a change in business processes. Incomplete counts for Western Australia in 2003 due to the introduction of a new system. Counts for 2004 include 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 25, 64, 70 and 78.)

(e) Total not available as driving causing death could not be provided for New South Wales.

(f) Counts for New South Wales may be inflated slightly (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 26).

(g) Data prior to 2005 are no longer comparable (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 21).

(h) May include instances of food tampering for South Australia. Data may be understated for Western Australia prior to 2003 (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 67).

(i) Data prior to 2006 are no longer comparable (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 22).

(j) Western Australia data includes theft of caravans and trailers (see footnote 'g' page 21). Northern Territory data are duplicated prior to 2002 (see footnote 'g' page 23).

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

VICTIMS(a)(b), By offence category—1997–2006 *continued*

	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005(c)	2006
INDEXED RATE (d)										
Homicide and related offences										
Murder	106.3	93.8	112.5	100.0	100.0	100.0	93.8	81.3	r81.3	87.5
Attempted murder	70.8	87.5	79.2	87.5	100.0	83.3	75.0	62.5	r54.2	50.0
Manslaughter	100.0	150.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	r100.0	100.0
Driving causing death(e)	na	115.4	92.3	107.7	100.0	84.6	100.0	92.3	r84.6	na
Total homicide and related offences	na	96.4	92.7	96.4	100.0	90.9	87.3	78.2	r70.9	na
Kidnapping/abduction(f)	75.0	95.0	100.0	90.0	100.0	90.0	87.5	95.0	r90.0	87.5
Robbery(g)										
Armed robbery	84.5	100.0	86.2	85.5	100.0	68.9	62.5	51.8	np	np
Unarmed robbery	83.6	87.5	87.9	91.4	100.0	84.7	79.6	66.0	np	np
Total robbery	83.9	92.8	87.2	88.9	100.0	78.0	72.4	60.0	np	np
Blackmail/extortion(h)	105.6	83.3	72.2	72.2	100.0	100.0	105.6	105.6	r105.6	116.7
Unlawful entry with intent(i)										
Involving the taking of property	107.2	108.2	101.8	np	100.0	89.0	78.9	67.3	r59.5	np
Other	84.4	89.0	86.0	np	100.0	90.8	80.7	71.9	r68.3	np
Total unlawful entry with intent	101.4	103.3	97.8	101.6	100.0	89.4	79.4	68.4	r61.8	np
Motor vehicle theft(j)	97.5	97.5	94.9	100.6	100.0	80.2	68.6	60.7	r54.8	50.6
Other theft(k)	79.5	83.4	89.7	98.6	100.0	96.1	87.1	75.7	r70.7	69.6

na not available

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

r revised

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

(b) The data presented in this publication have been confidentialised to prevent identification of victims (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 113).

(c) Data and ERP for 2005 have been revised (see Explanatory Notes paragraphs 105 and 114).

(d) Base of each index: 2001 = 100.0 (see Explanatory Notes paragraphs 108–112).

(e) New South Wales data estimated from 2003–2005. Data not available for New South Wales in 1997 and 2006 due to a change in business processes. Incomplete counts for Western Australia in 2003 due to the introduction of a new system. Counts for 2004 include 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 25, 64, 70 and 78.)

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VICTIMS(a), Sex and age group by offence category—2006

Sex and age group (years)	Murder	Attempted murder	Kidnapping/ abduction	Robbery(b)	Blackmail/ extortion(b)
Males					
0-9	14	6	56	27	—
10-14	—	3	49	663	5
15-19	5	15	29	2 939	20
20-24	20	32	51	2 363	29
25-34	49	62	36	2 192	43
35-44	33	34	28	1 207	63
45-54	33	20	13	743	41
55-64	20	10	5	390	23
65 years and over	7	4	3	204	10
Total(c)	186	186	270	10 846	244
Females					
0-9	8	4	63	10	—
10-14	—	—	76	110	—
15-19	9	3	106	576	18
20-24	13	5	60	746	19
25-34	15	11	72	748	28
35-44	22	14	43	590	29
45-54	8	7	15	479	12
55-64	4	3	5	252	11
65 years and over	9	3	3	207	3
Total(c)	91	50	447	3 760	120
Persons					
0-9	22	10	122	37	—
10-14	—	3	125	777	5
15-19	14	18	135	3 544	38
20-24	33	37	111	3 130	48
25-34	64	73	108	2 953	71
35-44	55	51	71	1 804	92
45-54	41	27	28	1 231	53
55-64	24	13	10	649	34
65 years and over	16	7	6	417	13
Total(c)	280	239	723	14 715	367

— 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 113).
- (b) Refers to person victims only and does not include organisations as victims. Therefore totals are considerably lower than those in tables elsewhere in the publication (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 107).
- (c) Includes victims for whom age and/or sex was not specified.

VICTIMISATION RATE(a)(b), Sex and age group by offence category—2006

<i>Sex and age group (years)</i>	<i>Murder</i>	<i>Attempted murder</i>	<i>Kidnapping/ abduction</i>	<i>Robbery(c)</i>	<i>Blackmail/ extortion(c)</i>
Males					
0-9	1.1	0.5	4.2	2.0	—
10-14	—	0.4	6.9	92.9	0.7
15-19	0.7	2.1	4.0	408.0	2.8
20-24	2.7	4.3	6.8	316.8	3.9
25-34	3.4	4.3	2.5	151.7	3.0
35-44	2.2	2.2	1.8	79.7	4.2
45-54	2.3	1.4	0.9	52.6	2.9
55-64	1.8	0.9	0.4	34.2	2.0
65 years and over	0.6	0.3	0.2	16.5	0.8
Total(d)	1.8	1.8	2.6	105.8	2.4
Females					
0-9	0.6	0.3	5.0	0.8	—
10-14	—	—	11.2	16.3	—
15-19	1.3	0.4	15.5	84.1	2.6
20-24	1.8	0.7	8.5	105.5	2.7
25-34	1.1	0.8	5.0	52.4	2.0
35-44	1.4	0.9	2.8	38.7	1.9
45-54	0.6	0.5	1.0	33.5	0.8
55-64	0.4	0.3	0.4	22.2	1.0
65 years and over	0.6	0.2	0.2	13.8	0.2
Total(d)	0.9	0.5	4.3	36.3	1.2
Persons					
0-9	0.8	0.4	4.7	1.4	—
10-14	—	0.2	9.0	55.9	0.4
15-19	1.0	1.3	9.6	252.2	2.7
20-24	2.3	2.5	7.6	215.4	3.3
25-34	2.2	2.5	3.8	102.8	2.5
35-44	1.8	1.7	2.3	59.4	3.0
45-54	1.4	1.0	1.0	43.3	1.9
55-64	1.1	0.6	0.4	28.6	1.5
65 years and over	0.6	0.3	0.2	15.3	0.5
Total(d)	1.4	1.2	3.5	71.4	1.8

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(a) Victims per 100,000 persons (see Explanatory Notes paragraphs 105-106).

(b) The data presented in this publication have been confidentialised to prevent identification of victims (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 113).

(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 (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 107).

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

VICTIMS(a)(b), Location where offence occurred by offence category—2006

	Murder	Attempted murder	Kidnapping/abduction	Robbery	Unlawful entry with intent	Motor vehicle theft	Other theft
NUMBER							
Residential							
Dwelling	171	130	237	1 261	153 319	—	59 292
Outbuilding/residential land	7	15	13	132	16 375	25 856	81 176
Total residential(c)	184	145	253	1 411	171 969	25 856	142 714
Community							
Transport	7	6	29	1 427	748	5 797	38 059
Street/footpath	35	43	291	7 767	3	27 678	78 984
Other community location	21	8	39	613	19 336	1 146	31 021
Total community(d)	68	57	362	9 864	20 109	34 681	148 784
Other							
Retail	8	9	59	4 173	32 558	7 868	154 571
Recreational	9	19	37	1 303	7 212	1 339	24 302
Other location	4	4	6	309	25 408	2 180	29 070
Total other(e)	21	32	105	5 898	66 391	13 360	214 812
Unspecified	6	5	5	111	3 427	1 218	11 182
Total	279	239	725	17 284	261 896	75 115	517 492

	PROPORTION (%)						
Residential							
Dwelling	61.3	54.4	32.7	7.3	58.5	—	11.5
Outbuilding/residential land	2.5	6.3	1.8	0.8	6.3	34.4	15.7
Total residential(c)	65.9	60.7	34.9	8.2	65.7	34.4	27.6
Community							
Transport	2.5	2.5	4.0	8.3	0.3	7.7	7.4
Street/footpath	12.5	18.0	40.1	44.9	—	36.8	15.3
Other community location	7.5	3.3	5.4	3.5	7.4	1.5	6.0
Total community(d)	24.4	23.8	49.9	57.1	7.7	46.2	28.8
Other							
Retail	2.9	3.8	8.1	24.1	12.4	10.5	29.9
Recreational	3.2	7.9	5.1	7.5	2.8	1.8	4.7
Other location	1.4	1.7	0.8	1.8	9.7	2.9	5.6
Total other(e)	7.5	13.4	14.5	34.1	25.4	17.8	41.5
Unspecified	2.2	2.1	0.7	0.6	1.3	1.6	2.2
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(c) Includes residential locations not further defined.

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

(d) Includes community locations not further defined.

(e) Includes other locations not further defined.

(b) The data presented in this publication have been confidentialised to prevent identification of victims (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 113).

VICTIMS(a)(b), Use of weapon in commission of offence by offence category—2006

	Murder	Attempted murder	Kidnapping/ abduction	Robbery
NUMBER				
Weapon used				
Firearm	46	61	36	1 192
Knife	94	85	70	3 721
Syringe	—	—	3	218
Bottle/glass	—	3	3	206
Bat/bar/club	6	6	5	606
Chemical	—	—	—	11
Other weapon	23	23	16	1 067
<i>Total weapon used(c)</i>	176	178	133	7 525
No weapon used(d)	103	63	590	9 759
Total	279	241	723	17 284

	PROPORTION (%)			
Weapon used				
Firearm	16.5	25.3	5.0	6.9
Knife	33.7	35.3	9.7	21.5
Syringe	—	—	0.4	1.3
Bottle/glass	—	1.2	0.4	1.2
Bat/bar/club	2.2	2.5	0.7	3.5
Chemical	—	—	—	0.1
Other weapon	8.2	9.5	2.2	6.2
<i>Total weapon used(c)</i>	63.1	73.9	18.4	43.5
No weapon used(d)	36.9	26.1	81.6	56.5
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 113).

(c) Includes weapon use not further defined.

(d) Includes unknown or not stated weapon use.

VICTIMS(a)(b)(c), By use of weapon in commission of offence—2001–2006

	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005(d)	2006(e)
MURDER (no.)						
Weapon used						
Firearm	50	42	37	32	r23	46
Knife	90	72	86	69	r78	94
Other weapon	44	37	42	36	r38	29
<i>Total weapon used(f)</i>	186	165	175	149	r155	176
No weapon used(g)	125	152	127	115	r104	103
Total	311	317	302	264	r259	279

ATTEMPTED MURDER (no.)						
Weapon used						
Firearm	132	87	73	71	r47	61
Knife	151	142	115	100	r81	85
Other weapon	88	53	61	45	r51	32
<i>Total weapon used(f)</i>	373	301	273	228	r195	178
No weapon used(g)	87	99	86	84	76	63
Total	460	400	359	312	r271	241

KIDNAPPING/ABDUCTION (no.)						
Weapon used						
Firearm	69	35	22	17	9	36
Knife	61	62	61	48	r67	70
Other weapon	33	27	19	20	r26	27
<i>Total weapon used(f)</i>	164	131	117	98	r116	133
No weapon used(g)	603	575	577	670	r615	590
Total	767	706	694	768	731	723

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 113).
- (c) Robbery is excluded as counts prior to 2006 are no longer comparable (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 21).
- (d) Data for 2005 have been revised (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 114).
- (e) Data prior to 2006 are no longer comparable (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 23).
- (f) Includes weapon use not further defined.
- (g) Includes unknown or not stated weapon use.

	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005(d)	2006(e)
MURDER (%)						
Weapon used						
Firearm	16.1	13.2	12.3	12.1	r8.9	16.5
Knife	28.9	22.7	28.5	26.1	r30.1	33.7
Other weapon	14.1	11.7	13.9	13.6	r14.7	10.4
<i>Total weapon used(f)</i>	59.8	52.1	57.9	56.4	r59.8	63.1
No weapon used(g)	40.2	47.9	42.1	43.6	r40.2	36.9
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
ATTEMPTED MURDER (%)						
Weapon used						
Firearm	28.7	21.8	20.3	22.8	r17.3	25.3
Knife	32.8	35.5	32.0	32.1	r29.9	35.3
Other weapon	19.1	13.3	17.0	14.4	r18.8	13.3
<i>Total weapon used(f)</i>	81.1	75.3	76.0	73.1	r72.0	73.9
No weapon used(g)	18.9	24.8	24.0	26.9	r28.0	26.1
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
KIDNAPPING/ABDUCTION (%)						
Weapon used						
Firearm	9.0	5.0	3.2	2.2	1.2	5.0
Knife	8.0	8.8	8.8	6.3	r9.2	9.7
Other weapon	4.3	3.8	2.7	2.6	r3.6	3.7
<i>Total weapon used(f)</i>	21.4	18.6	16.9	12.8	r15.9	18.4
No weapon used(g)	78.6	81.4	83.1	87.2	r84.1	81.6
Total	100.0	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 113).
 (c) Robbery is excluded as counts prior to 2006 are no longer comparable (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 21).
 (d) Data for 2005 have been revised (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 114).
 (e) Data prior to 2006 are no longer comparable (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 23).
 (f) Includes weapon use not further defined.
 (g) Includes unknown or not stated weapon use.

VICTIMS(a)(b), Offence category by outcome of investigation at 30 days—2006

	FINALISED				Total(c)
	Investigation not finalised	No offender proceeded against	Offender proceeded against	Total finalised	
NUMBER					
Murder	88	22	170	192	280
Attempted murder	69	14	158	172	241
Manslaughter	19	3	15	18	37
Kidnapping/abduction	442	101	181	282	724
Robbery					
Armed robbery	5 662	217	1 644	1 861	7 525
Unarmed robbery	7 680	514	1 561	2 075	9 759
Total robbery	13 342	731	3 205	3 936	17 284
Blackmail/extortion	257	68	105	173	430
Unlawful entry with intent					
Involving the taking of property	168 648	3 274	11 960	15 234	183 922
Other	70 094	1 621	6 171	7 792	77 973
Total unlawful entry with intent	238 742	4 895	18 131	23 026	261 895
Motor vehicle theft	66 555	2 685	5 856	8 541	75 115
Other theft	446 117	14 784	56 196	70 980	517 492
PROPORTION (%)					
Murder	31.4	7.9	60.7	68.6	100.0
Attempted murder	28.6	5.8	65.6	71.4	100.0
Manslaughter	51.4	8.1	40.5	48.6	100.0
Kidnapping/abduction	61.0	14.0	25.0	39.0	100.0
Robbery					
Armed robbery	75.2	2.9	21.8	24.7	100.0
Unarmed robbery	78.7	5.3	16.0	21.3	100.0
Total robbery	77.2	4.2	18.5	22.8	100.0
Blackmail/extortion	59.8	15.8	24.4	40.2	100.0
Unlawful entry with intent					
Involving the taking of property	91.7	1.8	6.5	8.3	100.0
Other	89.9	2.1	7.9	10.0	100.0
Total unlawful entry with intent	91.2	1.9	6.9	8.8	100.0
Motor vehicle theft	88.6	3.6	7.8	11.4	100.0
Other theft	86.2	2.9	10.9	13.7	100.0

(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 113).

(c) Includes unknown outcomes of investigation.

	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005(c)	2006
NUMBER										
Homicide and related offences										
Murder	110	96	123	101	103	98	102	72	86	102
Attempted murder	100	121	133	148	204	147	121	75	61	71
Manslaughter	11	25	12	10	8	13	11	4	4	5
Driving causing death(d)	na	116	78	100	94	80	122	76	72	na
<i>Total homicide and related offences</i>	(e)na	358	346	359	409	338	356	227	223	(e)na
Assault	55 998	59 221	63 811	68 714	75 460	80 028	79 892	78 305	81 168	82 771
Sexual assault	4 663	4 504	4 425	5 975	6 268	6 480	6 796	7 075	6 824	6 667
Kidnapping/abduction(f)	271	377	450	382	472	436	423	464	463	451
Robbery(g)										
Armed robbery	4 978	5 721	4 619	4 688	5 615	3 815	3 318	2 867	r3 878	3 784
Unarmed robbery	7 592	7 605	7 935	8 637	9 620	7 889	7 529	6 020	r5 687	5 458
<i>Total robbery</i>	12 570	13 326	12 554	13 325	15 235	11 704	10 847	8 887	r9 565	9 242
Blackmail/extortion	56	60	62	60	68	82	80	94	82	82
Unlawful entry with intent(h)										
Involving the taking of property	137 437	142 217	121 707	126 942	125 986	109 309	98 791	84 044	77 985	61 736
Other	27 711	29 648	29 291	33 668	36 056	31 861	29 697	26 721	25 464	25 803
<i>Total unlawful entry with intent</i>	165 148	171 865	150 998	160 610	162 042	141 170	128 488	110 765	103 449	87 539
Motor vehicle theft	54 711	52 833	47 355	51 249	52 279	41 665	34 824	33 209	29 097	27 959
Other theft(i)	165 201	175 914	200 090	232 295	229 573	211 908	194 006	170 290	157 987	157 360

INDEXED RATE (j)

Homicide and related offences										
Murder	112.5	93.8	118.8	100.0	100.0	93.8	93.8	68.8	r81.3	93.8
Attempted murder	51.6	61.3	67.7	74.2	100.0	71.0	58.1	35.5	r29.0	32.3
Manslaughter	200.0	400.0	200.0	200.0	100.0	200.0	200.0	100.0	r100.0	100.0
Driving causing death(d)	na	128.6	85.7	107.1	100.0	85.7	128.6	78.6	r78.6	na
<i>Total homicide and related offences</i>	(e)na	91.9	87.1	90.3	100.0	82.3	85.5	54.8	r53.2	(e)na
Assault	77.8	81.5	86.9	92.7	100.0	105.1	104.2	101.5	r104.5	105.6
Sexual assault	78.0	74.6	72.6	97.1	100.0	102.5	106.7	110.5	r105.8	102.4
Kidnapping/abduction(f)	59.7	83.3	97.2	81.9	100.0	91.7	87.5	95.8	r94.4	91.7
Robbery(g)										
Armed robbery	93.0	105.7	84.5	84.9	100.0	67.3	58.2	50.0	np	np
Unarmed robbery	82.7	82.1	84.8	91.3	100.0	81.3	77.0	61.2	np	np
<i>Total robbery</i>	86.5	90.8	84.7	89.0	100.0	76.1	70.0	57.1	np	np
Blackmail/extortion	90.0	90.0	100.0	90.0	100.0	120.0	120.0	140.0	r120.0	120.0
Unlawful entry with intent(h)										
Involving the taking of property	114.3	117.2	99.3	102.5	100.0	86.0	77.2	65.3	60.1	np
Other	80.6	85.4	83.5	95.0	100.0	87.6	81.0	72.5	68.6	np
<i>Total unlawful entry with intent</i>	106.8	110.1	95.8	100.8	100.0	86.3	78.0	66.9	62.0	np
Motor vehicle theft	109.7	104.9	93.1	99.7	100.0	79.0	65.6	62.1	r54.1	51.5
Other theft(i)	75.4	79.6	89.6	103.0	100.0	91.5	83.2	72.6	r66.8	66.0

na not available

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

r revised

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

(b) The data presented in this publication have been confidentialised to prevent identification of victims (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 113).

(c) Data and ERP for 2005 have been revised (see Explanatory Notes paragraphs 105 and 114).

(d) Data not available in 1997 and 2006 due to a change in business processes. Data estimated from 2003–2005 (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 25).

(e) Total not available as driving causing death could not be provided.

(f) Counts may be inflated slightly (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 26).

(g) Data prior to 2005 are no longer comparable (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 21).

(h) Data prior to 2006 are no longer comparable (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 22).

(i) Excludes the offences of leaving a restaurant without paying and failing to pay for petrol (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 27).

(j) Base of each index: 2001 = 100.0 (see Explanatory Notes paragraphs 108–112).

VICTIMS (a)(b), By offence category, Victoria—1997–2006

	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005(c)	2006
NUMBER										
Homicide and related offences										
Murder	63	47	62	55	65	67	69	47	r62	60
Attempted murder	44	54	57	51	46	53	54	50	r52	46
Manslaughter	3	3	6	12	3	5	3	4	4	3
Driving causing death	25	48	45	54	76	57	44	63	r59	58
<i>Total homicide and related offences</i>	135	152	170	172	190	182	170	164	r177	167
Assault(d)	17 088	17 843	17 121	14 334	16 727	18 356	17 572	17 468	r20 013	19 989
Sexual assault	2 953	2 988	2 800	2 504	2 610	2 689	2 595	2 772	r2 724	2 800
Kidnapping/abduction	94	116	124	113	117	106	99	112	r122	94
Robbery										
Armed robbery	1 196	1 556	1 884	1 796	2 608	1 583	1 431	1 113	r1 232	1 318
Unarmed robbery	1 293	1 439	1 524	1 559	1 933	1 618	1 472	1 180	r1 246	1 277
<i>Total robbery</i>	2 489	2 995	3 408	3 355	4 541	3 201	2 903	2 293	r2 478	2 595
Blackmail/extortion	127	95	77	74	113	124	113	96	r99	106
Unlawful entry with intent(e)										
Involving the taking of property	57 383	54 884	60 477	62 699	62 905	53 628	45 865	41 977	r37 224	33 595
Other	16 765	15 762	15 827	16 201	18 212	17 546	14 832	14 160	r14 786	14 068
<i>Total unlawful entry with intent</i>	74 148	70 646	76 304	78 900	81 117	71 174	60 697	56 137	r52 010	47 663
Motor vehicle theft	30 453	29 581	31 877	36 490	39 355	28 889	23 864	20 104	r18 896	16 721
Other theft(f)	119 867	125 863	135 383	147 679	151 048	142 572	136 871	120 621	r117 039	114 826
INDEXED RATE (g)										
Homicide and related offences										
Murder	100.0	71.4	92.9	85.7	100.0	100.0	100.0	64.3	r85.7	85.7
Attempted murder	100.0	120.0	120.0	110.0	100.0	110.0	110.0	100.0	r100.0	90.0
Manslaughter	100.0	100.0	100.0	300.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	r100.0	100.0
Driving causing death	31.3	62.5	62.5	68.8	100.0	75.0	56.3	81.3	r75.0	68.8
<i>Total homicide and related offences</i>	72.5	82.5	90.0	90.0	100.0	92.5	87.5	82.5	r87.5	82.5
Assault(d)	106.6	110.1	104.5	86.4	100.0	108.6	102.8	101.1	r114.4	112.8
Sexual assault	118.0	118.2	109.6	96.7	100.0	102.0	97.2	102.9	r99.8	101.3
Kidnapping/abduction	83.3	104.2	108.3	100.0	100.0	91.7	83.3	95.8	r100.0	75.0
Robbery										
Armed robbery	47.9	61.5	73.7	69.4	100.0	60.0	53.6	41.3	r45.1	47.7
Unarmed robbery	69.9	76.9	80.6	81.3	100.0	82.8	74.6	59.2	r61.7	62.4
<i>Total robbery</i>	57.1	68.0	76.6	74.5	100.0	69.7	62.5	48.9	r52.2	54.0
Blackmail/extortion	116.7	83.3	66.7	66.7	100.0	108.3	95.8	79.2	r83.3	87.5
Unlawful entry with intent(e)										
Involving the taking of property	95.2	90.1	98.1	100.5	100.0	84.3	71.3	64.6	r56.6	50.4
Other	96.0	89.3	88.7	89.7	100.0	95.3	79.7	75.3	r77.7	72.9
<i>Total unlawful entry with intent</i>	95.4	89.9	96.0	98.0	100.0	86.8	73.2	67.0	r61.3	55.4
Motor vehicle theft	80.7	77.6	82.7	93.5	100.0	72.6	59.3	49.5	r45.9	40.1
Other theft(f)	82.8	86.0	91.5	98.5	100.0	93.4	88.6	77.3	r74.1	71.7

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 113).

(c) Data and ERP for 2005 have been revised (see Explanatory Notes paragraphs 105 and 114).

(d) An increase in assault from 2004–2005 is mostly attributed to the introduction of the *Family Violence Code of Practice for the Investigation of Family Violence* (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 36).

(e) Property taken may not always be identified (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 38).

(f) Prior to 2004, included bicycle thefts when stolen during the commission of a UEWI offence (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 39).

(g) Base of each index: 2001 = 100.0 (see Explanatory Notes paragraphs 108–112).

	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005(c)	2006
NUMBER										
Homicide and related offences										
Murder	75	64	64	78	66	59	63	56	r47	59
Attempted murder	111	150	112	123	156	128	113	95	82	67
Manslaughter	11	10	14	7	14	18	4	13	3	9
Driving causing death	51	43	43	40	41	38	55	43	r42	36
<i>Total homicide and related offences</i>	248	267	233	248	277	243	235	207	r174	171
Assault	17 646	18 329	18 425	18 707	20 237	20 849	19 009	18 798	r19 233	19 709
Sexual assault	3 332	3 485	3 550	3 752	4 086	4 797	3 792	4 256	r4 155	4 606
Kidnapping/abduction(d)	108	98	93	95	76	75	92	109	r85	59
Robbery										
Armed robbery	1 251	1 285	1 257	1 198	1 168	886	957	855	r845	930
Unarmed robbery	1 188	1 246	1 213	1 159	1 382	1 160	1 111	1 036	r1 058	995
<i>Total robbery</i>	2 439	2 531	2 470	2 357	2 550	2 046	2 068	1 891	r1 903	1 925
Blackmail/extortion	85	78	70	63	89	57	63	58	r59	78
Unlawful entry with intent										
Involving the taking of property	56 952	56 907	56 361	58 750	55 590	51 659	47 547	42 581	r37 827	37 304
Other	17 487	17 685	17 828	18 533	18 133	16 595	15 015	13 977	r12 847	13 246
<i>Total unlawful entry with intent</i>	74 439	74 592	74 189	77 283	73 723	68 254	62 562	56 558	r50 674	50 550
Motor vehicle theft	17 058	15 693	18 249	18 623	17 468	15 854	13 333	12 407	r11 300	10 191
Other theft(e)	93 390	97 384	105 169	112 319	116 820	116 989	112 297	100 267	r93 386	89 365

INDEXED RATE (f)

Homicide and related offences										
Murder	122.2	105.6	100.0	122.2	100.0	88.9	94.4	77.8	r66.7	83.3
Attempted murder	76.7	100.0	74.4	79.1	100.0	79.1	69.8	55.8	r48.8	39.5
Manslaughter	75.0	75.0	100.0	50.0	100.0	125.0	25.0	75.0	r25.0	50.0
Driving causing death	136.4	109.1	109.1	100.0	100.0	90.9	127.3	100.0	r100.0	81.8
<i>Total homicide and related offences</i>	96.1	101.3	86.8	92.1	100.0	85.5	81.6	69.7	r57.9	55.3
Assault	93.1	95.2	94.2	94.0	100.0	100.7	89.7	86.7	r86.7	87.2
Sexual assault	87.1	89.6	89.9	93.4	100.0	114.8	88.6	97.2	r92.8	100.9
Kidnapping/abduction(d)	152.4	133.3	128.6	128.6	100.0	95.2	114.3	133.3	r100.0	71.4
Robbery										
Armed robbery	114.3	115.5	111.2	104.3	100.0	74.2	78.3	68.3	r65.8	71.1
Unarmed robbery	91.9	94.8	90.8	85.3	100.0	82.2	76.6	69.8	r69.8	64.3
<i>Total robbery</i>	102.1	104.3	100.1	94.0	100.0	78.4	77.4	69.1	r68.0	67.6
Blackmail/extortion	100.0	92.0	80.0	72.0	100.0	60.0	68.0	60.0	r60.0	76.0
Unlawful entry with intent										
Involving the taking of property	109.4	107.6	104.9	107.5	100.0	90.9	81.7	71.5	r62.1	60.1
Other	103.0	102.5	101.7	104.0	100.0	89.5	79.0	71.9	r64.6	65.4
<i>Total unlawful entry with intent</i>	107.9	106.3	104.1	106.7	100.0	90.5	81.0	71.6	r62.7	61.4
Motor vehicle theft	104.3	94.4	108.1	108.5	100.0	88.7	72.9	66.3	r59.0	52.2
Other theft(e)	85.4	87.6	93.2	97.8	100.0	97.9	91.8	80.1	r72.9	68.5

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 113).

(c) Data and ERP for 2005 have been revised (see Explanatory Notes paragraphs 105 and 114).

(d) The increase from 2003–2004 is possibly a result of increased public awareness (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 43).

(e) Excludes the offence of leaving a restaurant without paying (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 44).

(f) Base of each index: 2001 = 100.0 (see Explanatory Notes paragraphs 108–112).

	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005(c)	2006
NUMBER										
Homicide and related offences										
Murder	23	25	39	23	29	29	19	28	20	15
Attempted murder	33	25	39	44	24	39	40	52	49	36
Manslaughter	3	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	3	3
Driving causing death	15	22	18	37	19	13	19	11	15	11
<i>Total homicide and related offences</i>	74	72	96	104	72	81	81	91	87	65
Assault(d)	13 728	14 885	13 861	15 423	16 288	16 540	16 006	14 880	15 404	16 179
Sexual assault	1 218	1 310	1 320	1 464	1 578	1 625	1 852	1 793	1 655	1 517
Kidnapping/abduction(d)	37	32	38	43	36	31	34	36	33	63
Robbery										
Armed robbery	374	639	528	585	622	521	530	505	515	520
Unarmed robbery	849	1 029	946	1 083	1 059	1 102	791	734	656	667
<i>Total robbery</i>	1 223	1 668	1 474	1 668	1 681	1 623	1 321	1 239	1 171	1 187
Blackmail/extortion(e)	22	13	24	25	55	61	61	44	41	60
Unlawful entry with intent										
Involving the taking of property(f)(g)	22 737	26 781	27 858	na	22 373	21 773	18 379	17 030	13 738	14 473
Other(f)	5 128	5 963	6 116	na	12 675	11 281	10 134	9 698	10 557	8 644
<i>Total unlawful entry with intent</i>	27 865	32 744	33 974	36 302	35 048	33 054	28 513	26 728	24 295	23 117
Motor vehicle theft(h)	8 060	10 981	11 981	13 464	12 663	11 214	10 206	10 511	9 033	8 043
Other theft(g)(i)	47 136	54 636	62 115	68 767	79 135	79 185	58 162	52 500	48 198	49 657

INDEXED RATE (j)

Homicide and related offences										
Murder	84.2	89.5	136.8	78.9	100.0	100.0	63.2	94.7	r68.4	52.6
Attempted murder	137.5	106.3	162.5	181.3	100.0	162.5	162.5	212.5	r200.0	143.8
Manslaughter	np	np	np	np	np	np	np	np	np	np
Driving causing death	76.9	115.4	92.3	192.3	100.0	69.2	92.3	53.8	r76.9	53.8
<i>Total homicide and related offences</i>	104.2	100.0	133.3	143.8	100.0	110.4	110.4	122.9	r116.7	87.5
Assault(d)	86.1	92.9	86.2	95.6	100.0	101.1	97.3	90.1	r92.7	96.6
Sexual assault	78.8	84.4	84.7	93.7	100.0	102.5	116.2	112.1	r102.8	93.5
Kidnapping/abduction(d)	104.2	91.7	104.2	120.8	100.0	83.3	91.7	95.8	r87.5	170.8
Robbery										
Armed robbery	61.6	104.6	86.1	95.1	100.0	83.5	84.4	80.0	r81.3	81.3
Unarmed robbery	81.9	98.7	90.4	103.1	100.0	103.6	73.9	68.2	r60.6	61.2
<i>Total robbery</i>	74.4	100.9	88.8	100.2	100.0	96.1	77.8	72.7	r68.3	68.7
Blackmail/extortion(e)	41.7	25.0	44.4	47.2	100.0	111.1	111.1	80.6	r75.0	108.3
Unlawful entry with intent										
Involving the taking of property(f)(g)	103.8	121.7	126.1	na	100.0	96.9	81.4	75.1	r60.2	62.9
Other(f)	41.3	47.9	48.9	na	100.0	88.6	79.2	75.5	r81.7	66.3
<i>Total unlawful entry with intent</i>	81.2	95.0	98.2	104.6	100.0	93.9	80.6	75.2	r68.0	64.1
Motor vehicle theft(h)	65.0	88.2	95.8	107.3	100.0	88.1	79.8	81.9	r69.9	61.8
Other theft(g)(i)	60.9	70.2	79.5	87.7	100.0	99.6	72.8	65.4	r59.7	61.0

— 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

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 113).

(c) ERP for 2005 has been revised (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 105).

(d) Changes to legislation may have resulted in an increase from 2005–2006 (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 48).

(e) Counts may include instances of food tampering.

(f) A change in legislation related to unlawful entry with intent (UEWI) offences in South Australia resulted in an inability to provide UEWI disaggregated into property theft and other for 2000.

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

(h) Counts may be understated (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 55).

(i) Prior to 2006, excludes the offences of leaving a restaurant without paying and failing to pay for petrol. From 2006, includes fare evasion. (See Explanatory Notes paragraph 57).

(j) Base of each index: 2001 = 100.0 (see Explanatory Notes paragraphs 108–112).

	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005(c)	2006
NUMBER										
Homicide and related offences										
Murder	30	31	41	32	21	40	29	37	r21	26
Attempted murder	23	25	8	15	17	20	20	28	r20	11
Manslaughter(d)	9	6	6	14	6	6	11	6	r12	10
Driving causing death(d)(e)	37	43	36	31	27	23	13	46	r26	46
<i>Total homicide and related offences</i>	99	105	91	92	71	89	73	117	r79	93
Assault	13 797	14 224	14 231	14 134	15 181	15 282	15 324	18 272	r20 384	21 845
Sexual assault	1 610	1 512	1 553	1 533	1 685	1 620	1 385	1 643	r1 791	1 786
Kidnapping/abduction	38	68	49	44	48	36	36	28	r21	46
Robbery										
Armed robbery	1 073	1 395	931	995	1 005	910	784	511	r680	688
Unarmed robbery	1 057	1 325	1 183	1 092	1 060	1 059	1 367	1 289	r937	1 078
<i>Total robbery</i>	2 130	2 720	2 114	2 087	2 065	1 969	2 151	1 800	r1 617	1 766
Blackmail/extortion(f)	62	23	18	30	27	31	65	73	r103	100
Unlawful entry with intent										
Involving the taking of property	40 331	39 936	37 428	42 033	41 822	41 693	39 743	30 451	r26 960	27 931
Other	16 244	19 611	18 365	18 824	20 267	19 781	17 993	14 404	r12 306	12 197
<i>Total unlawful entry with intent</i>	56 575	59 547	55 793	60 857	62 089	61 474	57 736	44 855	r39 266	40 128
Motor vehicle theft(g)	14 827	16 115	12 752	11 911	11 344	10 487	10 706	7 805	r7 203	7 515
Other theft	75 947	78 421	78 874	88 294	92 144	98 252	92 896	79 184	r76 088	80 321

INDEXED RATE (h)

Homicide and related offences										
Murder	154.5	154.5	200.0	154.5	100.0	190.9	136.4	172.7	r90.9	118.2
Attempted murder	144.4	155.6	44.4	88.9	100.0	111.1	111.1	155.6	r111.1	55.6
Manslaughter(d)	166.7	100.0	100.0	233.3	100.0	100.0	200.0	100.0	r200.0	166.7
Driving causing death(d)(e)	150.0	171.4	135.7	114.3	100.0	85.7	50.0	164.3	r92.9	157.1
<i>Total homicide and related offences</i>	148.6	154.1	132.4	132.4	100.0	124.3	100.0	159.5	r105.4	121.6
Assault	96.1	97.4	95.9	94.0	100.0	99.4	98.4	115.7	r126.9	133.4
Sexual assault	101.1	93.3	94.4	91.9	100.0	95.0	80.1	93.8	r100.6	98.3
Kidnapping/abduction	84.0	148.0	104.0	92.0	100.0	76.0	72.0	56.0	r40.0	88.0
Robbery										
Armed robbery	112.9	144.2	94.7	99.8	100.0	89.4	76.0	48.8	r63.9	63.3
Unarmed robbery	105.4	129.7	114.2	103.9	100.0	98.6	125.6	116.8	r83.5	94.3
<i>Total robbery</i>	109.1	136.9	104.8	102.0	100.0	94.2	101.6	83.8	r74.0	79.3
Blackmail/extortion(f)	242.9	92.9	71.4	114.3	100.0	114.3	235.7	264.3	r364.3	350.0
Unlawful entry with intent										
Involving the taking of property	102.0	99.2	91.6	101.4	100.0	98.5	92.7	70.0	r60.9	61.9
Other	84.8	100.6	92.7	93.7	100.0	96.4	86.6	68.3	r57.4	55.8
<i>Total unlawful entry with intent</i>	96.4	99.7	92.0	98.9	100.0	97.8	90.7	69.4	r59.8	59.9
Motor vehicle theft(g)	138.2	147.6	115.0	106.0	100.0	91.3	92.0	66.1	r60.0	61.4
Other theft	87.2	88.5	87.6	96.7	100.0	105.3	98.3	82.6	r78.1	80.8

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 113).

(c) Data and ERP for 2005 have been revised (see Explanatory Notes paragraphs 105 and 114).

(d) A transition to a new recording system resulted in incomplete counts in 2003 (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 64).

(e) Counts for 2004 include driving causing grievous bodily harm (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 64).

(f) Data may be understated prior to 2003 (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 67).

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

(h) Base of each index: 2001 = 100.0 (see Explanatory Notes paragraphs 108–112).

	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005(c)	2006
NUMBER										
Homicide and related offences										
Murder	7	6	5	8	8	7	5	7	7	4
Attempted murder	—	7	3	7	12	3	7	8	4	6
Manslaughter	3	3	3	—	3	—	—	—	—	3
Driving causing death(d)	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	3	3	—
<i>Total homicide and related offences</i>	10	16	11	18	23	10	12	18	14	13
Assault(e)	1 981	2 231	2 569	2 718	3 487	3 644	3 764	3 972	r4 553	4 114
Sexual assault	198	216	198	194	206	250	274	294	r263	298
Kidnapping/abduction	4	10	3	10	11	8	3	7	5	4
Robbery										
Armed robbery	45	85	76	78	83	52	72	49	43	90
Unarmed robbery	104	102	112	93	108	84	62	76	r80	94
<i>Total robbery</i>	149	187	188	171	191	136	134	125	r123	184
Blackmail/extortion	3	—	3	—	3	—	4	—	r3	3
Unlawful entry with intent										
Involving the taking of property	11 072	10 951	9 592	7 828	7 340	5 844	5 160	3 864	r3 479	3 415
Other	3 123	3 364	2 696	2 196	1 917	1 566	1 405	1 131	r985	950
<i>Total unlawful entry with intent</i>	14 195	14 315	12 288	10 024	9 257	7 410	6 565	4 995	r4 464	4 365
Motor vehicle theft	2 455	2 991	3 078	3 367	3 463	2 486	2 166	1 751	r2 261	1 925
Other theft	12 909	13 872	13 259	12 939	13 354	13 537	12 107	11 048	r10 583	10 134

	INDEXED RATE (f)									
Homicide and related offences										
Murder	88.2	76.5	64.7	100.0	100.0	88.2	58.8	88.2	r82.4	47.1
Attempted murder	—	60.0	24.0	60.0	100.0	24.0	60.0	68.0	r32.0	48.0
Manslaughter	np	np	np	np	np	np	np	np	np	np
Driving causing death(d)	np	np	np	np	np	np	np	np	np	np
<i>Total homicide and related offences</i>	42.9	69.4	46.9	77.6	100.0	42.9	51.0	75.5	r59.2	55.1
Assault(e)	56.6	64.0	73.8	78.2	100.0	104.3	106.7	111.4	r126.8	113.8
Sexual assault	95.7	104.8	96.3	94.3	100.0	121.1	131.4	139.6	r124.0	139.4
Kidnapping/abduction	34.8	91.3	26.1	91.3	100.0	73.9	26.1	65.2	r43.5	34.8
Robbery										
Armed robbery	54.0	102.3	91.5	94.3	100.0	62.5	85.8	58.0	r50.6	104.5
Unarmed robbery	96.1	94.3	103.9	86.5	100.0	77.7	56.8	69.0	r72.1	83.8
<i>Total robbery</i>	77.8	97.8	98.5	89.9	100.0	71.1	69.4	64.0	r62.5	92.8
Blackmail/extortion	np	np	np	np	np	np	np	np	np	np
Unlawful entry with intent										
Involving the taking of property	150.3	149.2	131.0	107.0	100.0	79.5	69.5	51.5	r46.0	44.9
Other	162.3	175.5	140.9	114.9	100.0	81.6	72.5	57.7	r49.9	47.8
<i>Total unlawful entry with intent</i>	152.8	154.7	133.0	108.6	100.0	79.9	70.1	52.8	r46.8	45.5
Motor vehicle theft	70.6	86.4	89.1	97.5	100.0	71.7	61.8	49.5	r63.4	53.6
Other theft	96.3	103.9	99.5	97.2	100.0	101.2	89.6	80.9	r77.0	73.2

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

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

r revised

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

(b) The data presented in this publication have been confidentialised to prevent identification of victims (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 113).

(c) Data and ERP for 2005 have been revised (see Explanatory Notes paragraphs 105 and 114).

(d) Excludes death by negligent driving (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 70).

(e) An increase from 2004–2005 is partly due to an increase in the reporting of family violence incidents (see Explanatory Notes paragraphs 71 to 72).

(f) Base of each index: 2001 = 100.0 (see Explanatory Notes paragraphs 108–112).

	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005(c)	2006
NUMBER										
Homicide and related offences										
Murder	9	15	7	16	18	15	11	16	r12	12
Attempted murder	4	4	5	5	—	9	3	—	3	4
Manslaughter	3	—	—	3	3	6	7	9	r16	5
Driving causing death(d)	3	3	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
<i>Total homicide and related offences</i>	19	22	16	24	21	30	21	25	r31	21
Assault(e)										
Sexual assault	2 573	2 503	2 567	2 936	2 948	3 431	3 710	3 385	r3 980	4 350
Kidnapping/abduction	3	3	—	3	4	4	3	6	—	5
Robbery										
Armed robbery	24	34	39	29	34	37	29	25	r26	51
Unarmed robbery	51	48	46	38	39	62	54	35	r48	74
<i>Total robbery</i>	75	82	85	67	73	99	83	60	r74	125
Blackmail/extortion										
	3	3	—	—	—	—	—	3	3	3
Unlawful entry with intent										
Involving the taking of property	3 453	3 756	3 184	3 429	4 150	3 562	2 611	1 863	r1 685	1 872
Other	1 354	1 319	1 687	1 935	2 397	2 105	1 610	1 576	r1 549	1 804
<i>Total unlawful entry with intent</i>	4 807	5 075	4 871	5 364	6 547	5 667	4 221	3 439	r3 234	3 676
Motor vehicle theft(f) (g)										
Other theft(g)	1 007	966	990	994	939	808	706	483	r535	620
	7 103	6 731	6 086	7 254	7 941	8 153	6 734	6 460	r6 549	6 986

INDEXED RATE (h)

Homicide and related offences										
Murder	52.7	86.8	39.6	90.1	100.0	83.5	60.4	87.9	r64.8	63.7
Attempted murder	np	np	np	np	np	np	np	np	np	np
Manslaughter	np	np	np	np	np	np	np	np	np	np
Driving causing death(d)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
<i>Total homicide and related offences</i>	96.2	109.4	78.3	116.0	100.0	142.5	100.0	117.9	r143.4	96.2
Assault(e)										
Sexual assault	92.4	88.4	89.4	100.8	100.0	115.9	125.4	113.6	r131.3	141.2
Kidnapping/abduction	99.9	85.8	59.1	78.5	100.0	115.6	113.9	118.4	r105.4	108.5
Robbery										
Armed robbery	74.4	104.1	117.4	86.0	100.0	108.1	84.9	72.7	r74.4	143.6
Unarmed robbery	138.6	128.4	121.3	98.5	100.0	158.4	138.1	88.8	r119.8	181.7
<i>Total robbery</i>	108.7	117.1	119.5	93.0	100.0	135.0	113.3	81.3	r98.6	164.0
Blackmail/extortion										
	np	np	np	np	np	np	np	np	np	np
Unlawful entry with intent										
Involving the taking of property	88.0	94.2	78.7	83.6	100.0	85.4	62.7	44.4	r39.5	43.2
Other	59.8	57.3	72.2	81.7	100.0	87.4	66.9	65.1	r62.8	72.0
<i>Total unlawful entry with intent</i>	77.7	80.7	76.3	82.9	100.0	86.2	64.2	52.0	r48.0	53.7
Motor vehicle theft(f) (g)										
Other theft(g)	113.5	107.1	108.2	107.1	100.0	85.7	74.9	50.9	r55.4	63.2
	94.6	88.3	78.6	92.4	100.0	102.2	84.5	80.5	r80.2	84.2

.. not applicable

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

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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 113).

(c) Data and ERP for 2005 have been revised (see Explanatory Notes paragraphs 105 and 114).

(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 from 2004–2005 is partly due to the introduction of Domestic Violence initiatives (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 82).

(f) A number of police initiatives led to a decrease from 2003–2004 (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 88).

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

(h) Base of each index: 2001 = 100.0 (see Explanatory Notes paragraphs 108–112).

	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005(c)	2006
NUMBER										
Homicide and related offences										
Murder	4	3	3	3	—	3	4	—	4	3
Attempted murder	3	—	3	—	—	—	3	3	—	—
Manslaughter	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—
Driving causing death	—	—	—	—	3	3	3	4	—	—
<i>Total homicide and related offences</i>	7	3	6	3	3	6	10	10	4	3
Assault(d)	1 689	1 667	1 686	1 742	1 955	1 988	2 003	1 769	1 772	1 950
Sexual assault(d)	110	86	94	116	179	185	165	226	163	214
Kidnapping/abduction	9	3	9	5	3	10	6	6	—	3
Robbery(d)										
Armed robbery	113	135	118	114	98	36	68	105	108	144
Unarmed robbery	117	157	195	192	157	175	134	113	137	116
<i>Total robbery</i>	230	292	313	306	255	211	202	218	245	260
Blackmail/extortion	3	—	—	3	3	—	—	4	3	—
Unlawful entry with intent(e)										
Involving the taking of property	3 160	4 080	6 376	6 455	5 054	5 280	4 561	4 588	3 946	3 596
Other	1 232	1 512	942	1 173	877	840	677	610	656	1 261
<i>Total unlawful entry with intent</i>	4 392	5 592	7 318	7 628	5 931	6 120	5 238	5 198	4 602	4 857
Motor vehicle theft	1 567	2 427	3 270	2 814	2 383	2 057	2 493	1 669	2 040	2 141
Other theft	9 328	10 661	11 583	11 721	10 122	10 203	10 963	8 408	8 505	8 843

INDEXED RATE (f)

Homicide and related offences										
Murder	np	np	np	np	np	np	np	np	np	np
Attempted murder	np	np	np	np	np	np	np	np	np	np
Manslaughter	np	np	np	np	np	np	np	np	np	np
Driving causing death	np	np	np	np	np	np	np	np	np	np
<i>Total homicide and related offences</i>	255.6	111.1	211.1	111.1	100.0	211.1	344.4	344.4	r133.3	100.0
Assault(d)	89.6	88.4	89.0	91.5	100.0	101.0	101.2	89.2	r88.8	96.9
Sexual assault(d)	63.6	49.7	54.2	66.5	100.0	102.5	90.9	124.2	r89.1	116.0
Kidnapping/abduction	np	np	np	np	np	np	np	np	np	np
Robbery(d)										
Armed robbery	119.5	142.7	124.4	119.5	100.0	36.5	68.4	105.5	r108.1	142.7
Unarmed robbery	77.2	103.7	128.0	125.4	100.0	110.6	84.1	70.9	r85.6	71.7
<i>Total robbery</i>	93.5	118.6	126.7	123.2	100.0	82.1	78.2	84.2	r94.1	99.0
Blackmail/extortion	np	np	np	np	np	np	np	np	np	np
Unlawful entry with intent(e)										
Involving the taking of property	64.8	83.7	130.2	131.1	100.0	103.8	89.1	89.4	r76.5	69.1
Other	145.7	178.7	110.9	137.4	100.0	95.2	76.3	68.5	r73.3	139.7
<i>Total unlawful entry with intent</i>	76.8	97.7	127.4	132.1	100.0	102.5	87.2	86.3	r76.1	79.5
Motor vehicle theft	68.2	105.6	141.7	121.2	100.0	85.7	103.3	69.0	r83.9	87.2
Other theft	95.5	109.2	118.1	118.9	100.0	100.1	107.0	81.8	r82.4	84.8

— 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 113).

(c) ERP for 2005 has been revised (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 105).

(d) Person-related offences prior to 2006 are not comparable (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 91).

(e) Data prior to 2006 are no longer comparable (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 94).

(f) Base of each index: 2001 = 100.0 (see Explanatory Notes paragraphs 108–112).

EXPLANATORY NOTES

INTRODUCTION

1 This publication presents national statistics relating to victimisation incidents for a selected range of offences recorded by police during the 2006 calendar year. These offences may have been reported by a victim, witness or other person, or they may have been detected by police. They provide indicators of the level and nature of these offence incidents as well as changes over time.

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

- The same victim may be counted more than once in incidents involving multiple offences where these offences are of different types (i.e. belong to different *Australian Standard Offence Classification* (ASOC) divisions) or if the same person is a victim on more than one occasion in the same reference year and reports these incidents to police on separate occasions. (The exception to the latter is sexual assault. For further information see paragraph 102.)
- 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 99 to 104.

SCOPE

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

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

4 National data for assault and sexual assault are not available for recorded crime, however national data for these offences are available from the 2005 National Crime and Safety Survey and the 2005 National Personal Safety Survey. For further information see paragraphs 12 to 19.

5 The scope excludes the following:

- conspiracy offences. The local offence classifications used in jurisdictions do not generally enable the identification of the substantive offence category to which the conspiracy relates
- threats to commit an offence. These differ from offences like robbery, kidnapping/abduction and blackmail/extortion wherein an element of threat is implicit in the nature of the crime. An exception to the exclusion is assault and sexual assault, where threats are included in counts of assault and sexual assault offences
- aid, abet and accessory offences
- deprivation of liberty offences.

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

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

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

SCOPE *continued*

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

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

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

DATA SOURCE

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

COMPARABILITY

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

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

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

15 In considering other aspects of recorded crime statistics, the DiRCS project concluded that information for offence types other than assault and sexual assault were satisfactory for the level of comparison presented in this publication. Where there are known specific issues for individual states and territories, these are described in paragraphs 20 to 95.

16 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.

17 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 108 to 112.

18 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.

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

COMPARABILITY *continued*

State/territory significant events and specific issues

New South Wales

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

20 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.

21 New South Wales robbery counts are no longer comparable prior to 2005 as these are understated. Improved quality assurance procedures have identified further victims of offences that are now included as part of the offence of robbery. Offences that were previously deemed unarmed robbery are now correctly classified to armed robbery. Given the significance of the contribution of New South Wales to the Australian estimate, national data are also not comparable prior to 2005.

22 Unlawful entry with intent counts are no longer comparable prior to 2006 as data were previously overstated. Given the significance of the contribution of New South Wales to the Australian estimate, national data are also not comparable prior to 2006. Improved quality assurance procedures have ensured that the data reflects the counting rules as described in paragraph 103.

23 Improvements to quality assurance processes during 2006 have resulted in a reduction of weapons 'not further defined' and a reclassification of these data to other weapon use categories. Care should be taken when comparing data prior to 2006 for weapon use categories as the data are not strictly comparable.

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

25 Caution should be exercised in interpreting driving causing death figures as the data have been estimated from 2003–2005. Driving causing death is no longer an incident type on the New South Wales COPS computer system. Data from 2006 are no longer available.

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

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

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

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

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

New South Wales continued

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

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

32 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.

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

34 Since 2004, general police operations have focused on high risk offenders and hot spot areas which may have contributed to the decrease in most offence categories.

Victoria

35 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.

36 The *Family Violence Code of Practice for the Investigation of Family Violence* was introduced in August 2004, and continues to have an impact on the assault data resulting in an increase from 2005. 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.

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

38 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'.

39 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.

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

Queensland

41 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.

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

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

Queensland *continued*

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

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

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

South Australia

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

47 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.

48 The *Statutes Amendment and Repeal (Aggravated Offences) Act 2005* was introduced with effect 15 May 2006. This has widened the scope for offences such as assault and kidnapping/abduction. Offences that are of a threatening nature, such as threat to endanger life or threat to injure, are out of scope of the assault offences, however changes to this legislation may have resulted in an increase in assaults as the legislation now includes minor assault offences that are of a threatening manner.

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

50 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.

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

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

53 Police have continued a strong policing presence in the APY Lands in the far north-west 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.

54 Operation Mandrake, which has been conducted since September 2004, targets offenders of vehicle crime. This operation may influence the level of reported crime and outcomes of investigation for motor vehicle theft.

55 South Australia Police record a single victim in instances where multiple vehicles belonging to that victim are stolen in a single incident. However, this is likely to be very minimal.

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

57 Leaving restaurants without paying and failing to pay for petrol form part of the offence category of other theft for this collection, while taxi fare evasion is out of scope. Prior to 2006, South Australia excluded these offence types from this category, but may have included them in categories out of scope of this collection. Taxi fare evasions,

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

South Australia continued

which are out of scope, are included in other theft for 2006 as they could not be separated out.

Western Australia

58 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.

59 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 a person with whom they have a family or domestic relationship at risk. The definition of a 'family and domestic relationship' is very broad and the definition of an 'act of family and domestic violence' provides broad grounds for intervention.

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

61 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.

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

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

64 The transition to a new recording system resulted in incomplete counts for driving causing death offences in 2003. In 2004 the IMS could not distinguish driving causing death from driving causing grievous bodily harm offences, and this contributed to the increase in driving causing death for that year. This is no longer the case from 2005.

65 There was a focus on burglary offences throughout 2004 which has continued through to 2006. 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.

66 The Police Assistance Centre was established in December 2004 to take non-emergency calls via a '131444' number and a major advertising and public awareness campaign about the use of the number was conducted in May 2005.

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

68 The increased re-licensing of second-hand vehicles resulted in a significant increase in immobilisers being fitted to old vehicles. This may have contributed to the decrease of motor vehicle theft from 2003 to 2006.

69 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 2006.

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

Tasmania

70 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.

71 In 2004 the Tasmanian Government introduced the Safe at Home initiative. The initiative is intended to achieve a reduction in the level of family violence in the medium to long term and, in the shorter term, improve safety for adult and child victims as well as change the offending behaviour of those responsible for the violence.

72 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. Assaults relating to family violence are recorded even if the victim does not want to proceed.

73 Sexual assault counts include incidents committed prior to the reference period but reported to Police in that reference period; 29% of sexual assaults reported in 2006 relate to earlier time periods.

74 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.

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

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

77 The reduction in property offences in recent years is due, in part, to a number of Police initiatives. These include: focusing 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.

The Northern Territory

78 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.

79 The increase between 2003–2004 murder offences for Northern Territory has been caused by deaths that were initially deemed non-suspicious.

80 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.

81 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

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

*The Northern Territory
continued*

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

82 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 forward to the police.

83 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'.

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

85 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. A Business Practices Unit has been established to develop business practices, market and provide quality assurance in relation to the reporting and recording of crime. Corporate strategies have been established, including the Violent Crime Reduction Strategy and the Property Crime Reduction Strategy and the Missing Person Policy. These provide quality assurance in relation to the investigating, reporting and recording of particular offences. Victims of Crime Procedures have been introduced to improve service to victims and encourage people to report crime.

86 In June 2006 the Child Abuse Taskforce was established, in addition to the Sexual Crime Unit. The Taskforce was created to deal with offences against children especially in remote localities.

87 Alcohol Courts have been established for the purpose of issuing prohibition orders and alcohol intervention orders. The intention is to reduce the number of causal factors of crime.

88 In 2004, the implementation of intelligence-led policing initiatives such as the Tactical and Coordination Group (TCG) response to crime across the Northern Territory, led to early identification of crime trends such as motor vehicle theft. The decrease in motor vehicle theft between 2003 and 2004 may also have been due to: forensic-led response to stolen/recovered motor vehicles; an improved response coordinated through the stolen motor vehicle unit to NEVDIS (National Exchange of Vehicles and Driver Identification System); reports of vehicle anomalies (including suspected vehicle re-births); and the continual improvement of vehicle security features.

*The Australian Capital
Territory*

89 The Australian Capital Territory amended the *Domestic Violence & Protection Orders Act 2001*, with amendments coming into force in March 2005. Some definitions have changed, including the definition of what constitutes a 'domestic partner', which has been extended. These definitional changes were not expected to impact on the type or rate of offences recorded on Australian Capital Territory operational IT systems. The decision to charge is made by investigating police based on the evidence available to them.

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

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

The Australian Capital Territory continued

91 Due to improved data capture and quality assurance techniques applied to 2006 data, any comparisons made with previous years should be interpreted with caution. This is particularly applicable to person-related offences such as assault, sexual assault and robbery.

92 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. Prior to the update of the PROMIS Case Management System (CMS), the data provided were mainly based on the primary victim (often the complainant) as only one victim's details could be recorded against a particular offence. In the new version of PROMIS, offences can have multiple victims recorded against them, so 2006 is a more accurate reflection of the number of victims associated with reported offences.

93 As a result of the introduction of the new PROMIS Case Management System, 2005 data cannot be revised.

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

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

CLASSIFICATIONS

96 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 Appendix 3.

COUNTING METHODOLOGY

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

98 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.

99 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 10 for offences in scope). Victims of multiple offences may be counted more than once if the offences fall into separate ASOC divisions. The most serious offence within an ASOC division is the one with the lowest ASOC code. For example, Murder (0111) is a more serious offence than Manslaughter (0131).

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

Counting within an ASOC Division category

101 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.

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

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

Counting within an ASOC
Division category *continued*

- 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.

103 For the offence of UEWI the following applies:

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

Counting across national
offence categories

104 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

105 Rates per 100,000 of the Estimated Resident Population (ERP) are presented in tables 1 and 3 (refer to *Australian Demographic Statistics, June 2006* (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 2006 have been calculated on the basis of the preliminary June 2006 ERP estimates, while rates for the period 1 January to 31 December 2005 have been

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

RATES *continued*

recalculated based on revised June 2005 ERP estimates. Rates expressed per 100,000 persons generally accord with international and state and territory practice.

106 Results of the 2001 Census of Population and Housing have been used to benchmark the ERP data for 2001–2005. ERP estimates for 1997–2000 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.

107 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

108 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.

109 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 ($200/200 \times 100$). The index value for 2002 (period 2) or the comparison value becomes 150.0 ($300/200 \times 100$). The movement between 2001 (base year) and 2002 (comparison value) would be 50%.

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

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

112 Indexed rates for 2005 have been revised using the June 2005 Estimated Resident Population (ERP).

CONFIDENTIALITY

113 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

114 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 2005 have occurred for Victoria, Queensland, Western Australia, Tasmania and Northern Territory. New South Wales provided only revised robbery counts for 2005. South Australia and Australian Capital Territory did not provide revisions. The introduction of a new computer system for the Australian Capital Territory precluded revisions to 2005 data.

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

COMPARISONS TO OTHER ABS DATA

115 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)).

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

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

COMPARISONS TO OTHER SOURCES

118 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 97 to 104) 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

119 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 2006. Data compiled on a financial year basis are also available from the ABS.

ADDITIONAL DATA

120 A set of additional tables containing state and territory wafers of some of the tables in this publication are available free of charge on the ABS website under the 'Details' tab for this product. Financial year data for 2005–06 are available on request. For further information, contact the National Centre for Crime and Justice Statistics (NCCJS) by email at <crime.justice@abs.gov.au>.

RELATED PUBLICATIONS *ABS publications*

121 Other ABS publications which may be of interest include:
Australian Demographic Statistics (cat. no. 3101.0) – issued quarterly
Australian Social Trends (cat. no. 4102.0) – issued annually
Australian Standard Offence Classification (cat. no. 1234.0) – irregular
Causes of Death, Australia (cat. no. 3303.0) – issued annually
Corrective Services, Australia (cat. no. 4512.0) – issued quarterly
Crime and Safety, Australia (cat. no. 4509.0) – irregular
Crime and Safety, New South Wales (cat. no. 4509.1) – irregular
Criminal Courts, Australia (cat. no. 4513.0) – issued annually
Experimental Estimates and Projections, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians, 30 June 1991 to 30 June 2009 (cat. no. 3238.0) – issued five yearly

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

ABS publications *continued*

General Social Survey: Summary Results, Australia (cat. no. 4159.0) – four yearly
*Information Paper: Measuring Crime Victimisation, Australia: The Impact of
Different Collection Methodologies* (cat. no. 4522.0.55.001) – irregular
*Information Paper: National Information Development Plan for Crime and
Justice Statistics 2005* (cat. no. 4520.0) – single issue
Measures of Australia's Progress (cat. no. 1370.0) – issued biennially
Motor Vehicle Census, Australia (cat. no. 9309.0) – issued annually
National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Survey
(cat. no. 4714.0) – irregular
Personal Safety Survey (cat. no. 4906.0) – irregular
Prisoners in Australia (cat. no. 4517.0) – issued annually
Sexual Assault in Australia: A Statistical Overview (cat. no. 4523.0) – single issue
Year Book Australia (cat. no. 1301.0) – issued annually

122 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

123 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 1 INDIGENOUS VICTIMS OF CRIME, EXPERIMENTAL ESTIMATES

INTRODUCTION

This appendix presents experimental data for Indigenous victims for a selected range of recorded crimes for New South Wales, Queensland and the Australian Capital Territory. Based on an ABS assessment of the quality, Indigenous data for recorded victims of crime for other jurisdictions are not of sufficient quality for national reporting.

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

Data by Indigenous status in this appendix are categorised as 'Indigenous', 'non-Indigenous' or 'not stated'. The 'not stated' category can represent a number of outcomes, for example the question may not have been asked, the person may have refused to answer, the question may not have been understood, or the person may have been unable to answer. For further detail relating to the application of the Standard Indigenous Question in the three states and territories included in this appendix, see paragraphs 6–14 of the Explanatory Notes in Appendix 2.

For more information about the size of the Indigenous populations used to calculate the Indigenous victimisation rates see paragraphs 15–19 of the Explanatory Notes in Appendix 2. Care should be exercised in interpreting rates based on small numbers of victims.

Due to differing scope and counting rules, the experimental measures of victims of recorded crime, by Indigenous status, included in this publication may not be comparable to data published in other national and state/territory publications that include Indigenous status. Care should be taken in analysing and interpreting these experimental estimates. For more information refer to Explanatory Notes paragraphs 115–118.

INDIGENOUS VICTIMS IN NEW SOUTH WALES

There were 82,771 victims of assault in 2006, including 5,758 (7%) Indigenous victims. The assault victimisation rate for Indigenous persons was 3,940 victims per 100,000 Indigenous persons in New South Wales. By contrast, the non-Indigenous victimisation rate was 1,099 victims per 100,000 non-Indigenous persons.

Indigenous people comprised 6% or 375 persons of the 6,667 victims of sexual assault in 2006. The Indigenous victimisation rate for sexual assault in New South Wales was 257 victims for every 100,000 Indigenous persons. The non-Indigenous victimisation rate was 83 victims per 100,000 non-Indigenous persons.

There were 20 people identified as Indigenous among the 451 victims of kidnapping/abduction in 2006.

In 2006, there were 7 people identified as Indigenous among the 102 victims of murder in New South Wales. Of the 71 victims of attempted murder, 7 persons were Indigenous.

INDIGENOUS VICTIMS IN QUEENSLAND

There were 19,709 assault victims in Queensland in 2006; Indigenous victims comprised 14% (2,684) of this total. The Indigenous victimisation rate for assault in Queensland was 1,924 victims for every 100,000 Indigenous persons. For non-Indigenous persons, the victimisation rate for assault was 433 victims per 100,000 non-Indigenous persons.

Of the 4,606 victims of sexual assault, 582 (13%) were Indigenous. The victimisation rate for Indigenous persons for sexual assault in Queensland was 417 victims per 100,000 Indigenous persons. Non-Indigenous persons experienced sexual assault victimisation at a rate of 102 victims per 100,000 non-Indigenous persons.

In 2006, of the 59 victims of kidnapping/abduction, 6 were identified as Indigenous persons.

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

INDIGENOUS VICTIMS IN QUEENSLAND *continued*

In 2006, 15 persons (9%) were recorded as Indigenous victims of homicide and related offences.

INDIGENOUS VICTIMS IN THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

Care should be taken in analysing and interpreting the experimental Indigenous crime victims data for the Australian Capital Territory because of the high rate of 'not stated' Indigenous status across the selected offence types (see table A5). For example, 27% of the total number of victims of assault were not identified as either Indigenous or non-Indigenous. Of the 1,950 people who were victims of assault in the Australian Capital Territory in 2006, 50 (3%) were recorded as Indigenous victims. The victimisation rate as reported for Indigenous persons in the Australian Capital Territory for assault was 1,137 victims per 100,000 Indigenous persons. For non-Indigenous persons, the victimisation rate for assault was 422 victims per 100,000 non-Indigenous persons. Of the 214 sexual assault victims in 2006, 4% or 8 persons were recorded as Indigenous.

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

A1 VICTIMS(a)(b), Offence category by Indigenous status—New South Wales—2006

	Indigenous	Non-Indigenous(c)	Not stated	Total
NUMBER				
Homicide and related offences				
Murder	7	85	10	102
Attempted Murder	7	60	4	71
Manslaughter	—	4	—	4
Driving causing death(d)	na	na	na	na
Total homicide and related offences(d)	na	na	na	na
Assault	5 758	73 433	3 580	82 771
Sexual assault	375	5 570	722	6 667
Kidnapping/abduction(e)	20	421	10	451
Robbery				
Armed robbery	21	2 570	45	2 636
Unarmed robbery	36	5 043	107	5 186
Total robbery	57	7 613	152	7 822
Blackmail/extortion	—	63	—	63
Other theft(f)(g)	na	na	na	117 552
PROPORTION (%)				
Homicide and related offences				
Murder	6.9	83.3	9.8	100.0
Attempted Murder	9.9	84.5	5.6	100.0
Manslaughter	—	100.0	—	100.0
Driving causing death(d)	na	na	na	na
Total homicide and related offences(d)	na	na	na	na
Assault	7.0	88.7	4.3	100.0
Sexual assault	5.6	83.5	10.8	100.0
Kidnapping/abduction(e)	4.4	93.3	2.2	100.0
Robbery				
Armed robbery	0.8	97.5	1.7	100.0
Unarmed robbery	0.7	97.2	2.1	100.0
Total robbery	0.7	97.3	1.9	100.0
Blackmail/extortion	—	100.0	—	100.0
Other theft(f)(g)	na	na	na	100.0

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

na not available

(a) Includes person victims only, therefore offence totals may differ from other tables elsewhere in this publication.

(b) The data presented in this publication have been confidentialised to prevent identification of victims.

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

(d) Data not available due to a change in business processes (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 25).

(e) Counts may be inflated slightly (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 26).

(f) Indigenous status is not recorded for other theft in New South Wales.

(g) Excludes the offences of leaving a restaurant without paying and failing to pay for petrol (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 27).

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

A2 VICTIMISATION RATE(a)(b), Offence category by Indigenous status—New South Wales—2006

	Indigenous(c)	Non-Indigenous(d)(e)
Homicide and related offences		
Murder	4.8	1.3
Attempted murder	4.8	0.9
Manslaughter	—	0.1
Driving causing death(f)	na	na
<i>Total homicide and related offences(f)</i>	na	na
Assault	3 939.5	1 099.0
Sexual assault	256.6	83.4
Kidnapping/abduction(g)	13.7	6.3
Robbery		
Armed robbery	14.4	38.5
Unarmed robbery	24.6	75.5
<i>Total robbery</i>	39.0	113.9
Blackmail/extortion	—	0.9
Other theft(h)	na	na

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

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.

(c) Indigenous victims per 100,000 Indigenous persons. Calculations of rates for the Indigenous population are based on ABS Experimental Projections, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians (low series, 2001 base). Refer Appendix 2, Explanatory Notes, paragraphs 15–19.

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

(e) Non-Indigenous victims per 100,000 non-Indigenous persons. There are no comparable population data for the non-Indigenous population. Calculations of rates for the non-Indigenous population are based on data derived by subtracting Indigenous population projections from total population estimates and should be used with care.

(f) Data not available due to a change in business processes (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 25).

(g) Counts may be inflated slightly (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 26).

(h) Indigenous status is not recorded for other theft in New South Wales.

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

A3 VICTIMS(a)(b), Offence category by Indigenous status—Queensland—2006

	<i>Indigenous</i>	<i>Non-Indigenous(c)</i>	<i>Not stated</i>	<i>Total</i>
NUMBER				
Homicide and related offences(d)	15	152	4	171
Assault	2 684	16 945	80	19 709
Sexual assault	582	4 005	19	4 606
Kidnapping/abduction	6	53	—	59
Robbery				
Armed robbery	9	519	—	528
Unarmed robbery	18	872	7	897
<i>Total robbery</i>	27	1 390	8	1 425
Blackmail/extortion	—	56	—	56
Other theft(e)	189	6 899	707	7 795
PROPORTION (%)				
Homicide and related offences(d)	8.8	88.9	2.3	100.0
Assault	13.6	86.0	0.4	100.0
Sexual assault	12.6	87.0	0.4	100.0
Kidnapping/abduction	10.2	89.8	—	100.0
Robbery				
Armed robbery	1.7	98.3	—	100.0
Unarmed robbery	2.0	97.2	0.8	100.0
<i>Total robbery</i>	1.9	97.5	0.6	100.0
Blackmail/extortion	—	100.0	—	100.0
Other theft(e)	2.4	88.5	9.1	100.0

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(a) Includes person victims only, therefore offence totals may differ from other tables elsewhere in this publication.

(b) The data presented in this publication have been confidentialised to prevent identification of victims.

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

(d) No breakdown has been provided for homicide and related offences due to small numbers.

(e) Excludes the offence of leaving a restaurant without paying (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 44).

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

A4 VICTIMISATION RATE(a)(b), Offence category by Indigenous status—Queensland—2006

	Indigenous(c)	Non-Indigenous(d)(e)
Homicide and related offences(f)	10.8	3.9
Assault	1 923.6	432.9
Sexual assault	417.1	102.3
Kidnapping/abduction	4.3	1.4
Robbery		
Armed robbery	6.5	13.3
Unarmed robbery	12.9	22.3
Total robbery	19.4	35.5
Blackmail/extortion	—	1.4
Other theft(g)	135.5	176.3

— 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.
- (c) Indigenous victims per 100,000 Indigenous persons. Calculations of rates for the Indigenous population are based on ABS Experimental Projections, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians (low series, 2001 base). Refer Appendix 2, Explanatory Notes, paragraphs 15–19.
- (d) The victim has identified/been identified as neither Aboriginal nor Torres Strait Islander.
- (e) Non-Indigenous victims per 100,000 non-Indigenous persons. There are no comparable population data for the non-Indigenous population. Calculations of rates for the non-Indigenous population are based on data derived by subtracting Indigenous population projections from total population estimates and should be used with care.
- (f) No breakdown has been provided for homicide and related offences due to small numbers.
- (g) Excludes the offence of leaving a restaurant without paying (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 44).

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

A5 VICTIMS(a)(b), Offence category by Indigenous status—Australian Capital Territory—2006

	<i>Indigenous</i>	<i>Non-Indigenous(c)</i>	<i>Not stated</i>	<i>Total</i>
NUMBER				
Homicide and related offences(d)	—	3	—	3
Assault	50	1 370	530	1 950
Sexual assault	8	158	48	214
Kidnapping/abduction	—	3	—	3
Robbery				
Armed robbery	—	97	20	117
Unarmed robbery	—	86	24	110
<i>Total robbery</i>	—	183	44	227
Blackmail/extortion	—	—	—	—
Other theft	8	2 869	3 445	6 322
PROPORTION (%)				
Homicide and related offences(d)	—	100.0	—	100.0
Assault	2.6	70.3	27.2	100.0
Sexual assault	3.7	73.8	22.4	100.0
Kidnapping/abduction	—	100.0	—	100.0
Robbery				
Armed robbery	—	82.9	17.1	100.0
Unarmed robbery	—	78.2	21.8	100.0
<i>Total robbery</i>	—	80.6	19.4	100.0
Blackmail/extortion	—	—	—	—
Other theft	0.1	45.4	54.5	100.0

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(a) Includes person victims only, therefore offence totals may differ from other tables elsewhere in this publication.

(b) The data presented in this publication have been confidentialised to prevent identification of victims.

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

(d) No breakdown has been provided for homicide and related offences due to small numbers.

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

A6 VICTIMISATION RATE(a)(b), Offence category by Indigenous status—Australian Capital Territory—2006

	Indigenous(c)	Non-Indigenous(d)(e)
Homicide and related offences(f)	—	0.9
Assault	1 137.4	422.3
Sexual assault	182.0	48.7
Kidnapping/abduction	—	0.9
Robbery		
Armed robbery	—	29.9
Unarmed robbery	—	26.5
Total robbery	—	56.4
Blackmail/extortion	—	—
Other theft	182.0	884.3

— 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.

(c) Indigenous victims per 100,000 Indigenous persons. Calculations of rates for the Indigenous population are based on ABS Experimental Projections, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians (low series, 2001 base). Refer Appendix 2, Explanatory Notes, paragraphs 15–19.

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

(e) Non-Indigenous victims per 100,000 non-Indigenous persons. There are no comparable population data for the non-Indigenous population. Calculations of rates for the non-Indigenous population are based on data derived by subtracting Indigenous population projections from total population estimates and should be used with care.

(f) No breakdown has been provided for homicide and related offences due to small numbers.

APPENDIX 2 INDIGENOUS VICTIMS OF CRIME, EXPLANATORY NOTES

INTRODUCTION

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

SCOPE

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

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

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

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

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

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

POLICE PROCESSES

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

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

8 The entry of Indigenous status data into the computer systems varies between jurisdictions. In Queensland, Police officers contact a centralised Police call centre to provide details of an incident, and call centre operators use scripted prompts to elicit and record information provided by officers. In New South Wales and the Australian Capital Territory, individual Police Officers are responsible for directly entering details of an incident into the recording system.

APPENDIX 2 INDIGENOUS VICTIMS OF CRIME, EXPLANATORY NOTES

continued

POLICE PROCESSES *continued*

9 In all jurisdictions, the Standard Indigenous Question field in crime recording systems is linked to a specific incident. Therefore, a victim will have a separate Indigenous status response recorded for each individual incident.

10 New recruits entering the Police Force in each jurisdiction are trained in the reporting and recording requirements for Indigenous status. In Queensland, recruits are provided with detailed scenario-based training aimed at heightening awareness of dealing with Indigenous and multicultural populations.

11 Each jurisdiction reported that whenever new systems are implemented or significantly upgraded, Officers are trained in using the system to coincide with the release. In Queensland, call centre operators undertake compulsory training and are regularly monitored to ensure that all scripted prompts are followed and recording is of an acceptable standard.

KNOWN DATA QUALITY ISSUES

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

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

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

INDIGENOUS VICTIMISATION RATES

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

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

17 The low series assumes no 'unexplained growth' - that is, the Indigenous population recorded in the 2001 Census of Population and Housing is projected to change only as a result of births and deaths (natural increase) and, for the states and territories, as a result of interstate migration. According to the low series, the projected population at June 2006 for New South Wales was 146,159, Queensland 139,527 and the Australian Capital Territory 4,396.

18 The high series assumes that there will be 'unexplained growth' in the Indigenous population - that is, the Indigenous population is projected to change as a result of an unexplained component in addition to the effects of natural increase and interstate migration. The size of the unexplained component is based on the 'unexplained growth' observed between the 1996 and 2001 censuses. According to the high series, the projected population at June 2006 for New South Wales was 163,141, Queensland 151,825 and the Australian Capital Territory 5,115.

APPENDIX 2 INDIGENOUS VICTIMS OF CRIME, EXPLANATORY NOTES

continued

INDIGENOUS VICTIMISATION RATES *continued*

19 The low series of Indigenous population projections has been used for these statistics. Estimates and projections of the Indigenous population based on the 2006 Census of Population and Housing will be available from August 2007 and the victimisation rates for Indigenous people for 2006 shown in this publication will be revised and available in the next edition of this report.

APPENDIX 3 MAPPING OF RECORDED CRIME OFFENCES TO ASOC

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

GLOSSARY

Armed robbery	See Robbery.
Assault	The direct (and immediate/confrontational) infliction of force, injury or violence upon a person or persons, or the direct (and immediate/confrontational) threat of force, injury or violence where there is an apprehension that the threat could be enacted.
Attempted murder	The attempted unlawful killing of another person where there is either the intent to kill or to cause grievous bodily harm with the knowledge that it was probable that death or grievous bodily harm would occur (reckless indifference to life) but where death did not actually occur.
Australian Standard Offence Classification (ASOC)	The ASOC is a hierarchical classification developed by the ABS for use in the collection and publication of crime and justice statistics. It provides a classificatory framework for the comparison of statistics on offences across Australia.
Bat/bar/club	See Weapon.
Blackmail/extortion	<p>The unlawful demanding with intent to gain money, property or any other benefit from, or with intent to cause detriment to, another person accompanied by the use of coercive measures, to be carried out at some point in the future if the demand is not met. This may also include the use and/or threatened use of face-to-face force or violence, provided there is a threat of continued violence if the demand is not met.</p> <p>Coercive measures include, but are not limited to the threat of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ force of violence■ the misuse of authority■ criminal prosecution■ the destruction of a person's reputation or social standing■ the destruction of a person's property.
Bottle/glass	See Weapon.
Chemical	See Weapon.
Driving causing death	The unlawful killing of another person without intent to kill, as a result of culpable, dangerous, reckless or negligent driving.
Firearm	See Weapon.
Homicide and related offences	The unlawful killing or the attempted unlawful killing of another person. This includes the ASOC groups of Murder (0111), Attempted Murder (0122), Manslaughter (0131) and Driving Causing Death (0132). Excludes Conspiracy to Murder.
Indexed rate	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 108 to 112.
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	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

GLOSSARY *continued*

Location <i>continued</i>	<p>within university grounds is coded to 'residential' and not 'educational'. The following are categories of locations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ <i>Residential</i>: a permanent or semi-permanent dwelling used for private or commercial residential purposes■ <i>Community</i>: locations where the primary activity is the provision of services for public use. Includes schools and other educational facilities; hospitals, nursing homes and other health facilities; churches and other religious establishments; car parks, buses, trains, terminals and other transport facilities; police stations, court houses, and other justice facilities; streets and footpaths; and open space not reserved for specific functions or attached to some other facility■ <i>Other</i>: includes offices and office blocks, banks, shops, service stations, warehouses, factories, farms and recreational facilities.
Manslaughter	<p>The unlawful killing of another person while deprived of the power of self-control by provocation or under circumstances amounting to diminished responsibility or without intent to kill, as a result of a careless, reckless, negligent, unlawful or dangerous act (other than the act of driving).</p>
Motor vehicle theft	<p>The taking of another person's motor vehicle illegally and without permission with the intent of either temporarily or permanently depriving the owner or possessor of the use of the motor vehicle. Excludes attempted motor vehicle theft.</p>
Murder	<p>The unlawful killing of another person where there is either the intent to kill, the intent to cause grievous bodily harm, with the knowledge that it was probable that death or grievous bodily harm would occur (reckless indifference to life), or without intent to kill in the course of committing a crime (felony murder).</p>
Offence	<p>Any act or omission by a person, persons, organisation or organisations for which a penalty could be imposed by the Australian legal system.</p>
Other theft	<p>Other theft is the taking of another person's property with the intention of depriving the owner of the property illegally and without permission, but without force, threat of force, use of coercive measures, deceit or having gained unlawful entry to any structure even if the intent was to commit theft. Other theft includes the ASOC groups of Theft of Motor Vehicle Parts or Contents (0813), Theft from a Person (Excluding by Force) (0821), Theft from Retail Premises (0823), Theft (Except Motor Vehicles), n.e.c. (0829) and Illegal Use of Property (Except Motor Vehicles 0841).</p>
Outcome of investigation	<p>The stage that a police investigation has reached after a period of 30 days has elapsed since the recording of the incident by police.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ <i>Investigation not finalised</i>: While no offender has been proceeded against at the time of reporting the outcome, the investigation remains open. It is either being actively pursued by investigators, or is pending/suspended. That is, while not actively being investigated, the case would be reopened if new evidence emerged.■ <i>Investigation finalised, no offender proceeded against</i>: The reported crime is determined to be unfounded, or has been withdrawn by the complainant, or while an alleged offender has been identified no action is able to be taken due to time limitations, a statute bar applying, diplomatic immunity, incompetence, death, age or imprisonment of the alleged offender.■ <i>Investigation finalised, offender proceeded against</i>: One or more alleged offenders are intended to be proceeded against in court by arrest, warrant, summons, notice to appear, etc., or the alleged offenders are intended to be proceeded against by the convening of a diversionary conference, the administration of a formal caution or through some other legal process.
Robbery	<p>The unlawful taking of property, with intent to permanently deprive the owner of the property, from the immediate possession, control, custody or care of a person or organisation, accompanied by the use, and/or threatened use of immediate force or violence.</p>

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).
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 103.</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.■ 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.

GLOSSARY *continued*

Victimisation rate	Number of victims per 100,000 Estimated Resident Population (ERP). For more information, see Explanatory Notes paragraphs 105 to 107).
Weapon	<p>A weapon is defined as any object used to cause injury or fear of injury. It also includes imitation weapons and implied weapons (e.g. where a weapon is not seen by the victim but the offender claims to possess one). Parts of the body such as fists or feet are not included. The following are categories of weapons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ <i>Weapon not further defined</i>: where a weapon was used, sighted or implied during the commission of the offence but the nature of the weapon is unknown or cannot be identified■ <i>Firearm</i>: any potentially lethal, barrelled weapon from which any shot, bullet, or other missile is able, or appears able, to be discharged. This includes but is not limited to: pistol; revolver; rifle; automatic/semi-automatic rifle; shotgun; military firearm; airgun; nail gun; cannon; imitation firearm; implied firearm. This excludes bow and arrow; crossbow; spear gun; blowgun■ <i>Knife</i>: any cutting instrument consisting essentially of a thin blade attached to a handle. This includes, but is not limited to: ballistic knife, sheath knife, kitchen knife and implied knife. It excludes scythe, sickle sword and axe■ <i>Syringe (hypodermic needle)</i>: a small device consisting of a tube, narrowed at its outlet, and fitted with either a piston or a rubber bulb for drawing in a quantity of fluid and ejecting it in a stream■ <i>Bottle/glass</i>: a bottle or glass either broken or unbroken.■ <i>Bat/bar/club</i>: a cricket bat, baseball bat, other bat, crowbar, iron bar, jemmy bar, club, baton, stick, or length of timber.■ <i>Chemical</i>: any noxious or irritant liquid, powder, gas, or spray that is used to immobilise, incapacitate or injure another person either temporarily or permanently.■ <i>Other weapon</i>: includes any instrument or substance capable of inflicting damage, injury or death. This includes but is not limited to: sharp instrument; blunt instrument; hammer; axe; bow and arrow; crossbow; spear gun; blowgun; rope; wire; explosive; vehicle; other dangerous article; imitation weapons (excluding firearms, knives and syringes). For table 6, the following are also included in other weapon: syringe; bottle/glass; bat/bar/club; and chemical.

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