



CRIME AND SAFETY

AUSTRALIA

 EMBARGO: 11.30AM (CANBERRA TIME) FRI 20 JUN 2003

CONTENTS

	<i>page</i>
Notes	2
Summary of findings	3
 TABLES	
List of tables	11
Household crime	13
Personal crime	18
Robbery	19
Assault	23
Sexual assault	27
Fear of crime	31
Neighbourhood crime/problems	33
Populations	34
 ADDITIONAL INFORMATION	
Explanatory Notes	35
Appendix: Populations and data items list	41
Technical Note: Data quality	49
Glossary	52

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

ABOUT THIS PUBLICATION

This publication presents the results of the fifth national Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) household survey of crime and safety conducted during April to July 2002. It forms part of the commitment by the ABS to present a comprehensive view of crime and the criminal justice system in Australia.

ABS publishes data relating to crime from different sources. Different methodologies can affect estimates. For example, instances recorded by police are different from those reported in household surveys. Also, responses in surveys may be affected by the ways in which questions are asked. An *Information Paper: Measuring Crime — The Impact of Different Collection Methodologies, Australia* (cat. no. 4521.0) is being prepared for publication shortly, discussing some of these measurement issues.

ABOUT THIS SURVEY

The 2002 Crime and Safety Survey was conducted throughout Australia as part of the ABS Monthly Population Survey (MPS). After questions related to the labour force had been asked, the respondent was given or sent a questionnaire with questions on crime and safety, to be completed and returned by mail to the ABS. The survey asked that incidents of certain crimes be recorded, regardless of whether they had been reported to police.

The survey focuses on those categories of more serious crime that affect the largest number of people: household break-in, motor vehicle theft, assault (including sexual assault) and robbery. It measures the extent of crime in our community, including the number of persons and households victimised and the number of crimes reported to police. It also provides information on the socio-economic profile of victims and non-victims, and the characteristics of offences and offenders.

Information was collected from individuals and households about their experience of selected crimes, their perception of problems in their neighbourhood and their feelings of safety. Detailed information was collected about the most recent incident experienced by the victim, including whether the incident was reported to the police and whether the victim considered that the incident was a crime.

For household crimes, information was collected on households that had experienced a break-in to their dwelling, that had found signs of an attempted break-in, and that had any motor vehicles stolen in the 12 months prior to the survey.

For personal crimes, information was collected on individuals who had experienced a robbery, or who had been a victim of assault in the 12 months prior to the survey. For persons aged 18 years and over, information was also collected on sexual assault experienced in the 12 months prior to the survey.

ROUNDING

As estimates have been rounded, discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and totals.

Barbara Dunlop
Acting Australian Statistician

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

INCIDENTS OF CRIME OVERVIEW

All households

There were 7,479,200 households in Australia in April 2002. In the 12 months prior to the survey it is estimated that:

- 354,000 (4.7%) households were victims of at least one break-in to their home, garage or shed
- 254,600 (3.4%) households found signs of at least one attempted break-in
- 553,500 (7.4%) households overall were victims of either a break-in or an attempted break-in
- 134,300 (1.8%) households had at least one motor vehicle stolen.

In total, 665,400 households were victims of these selected household crimes. That is, an estimated 8.9% of households experienced at least one of these crimes in the 12 months prior to the survey.

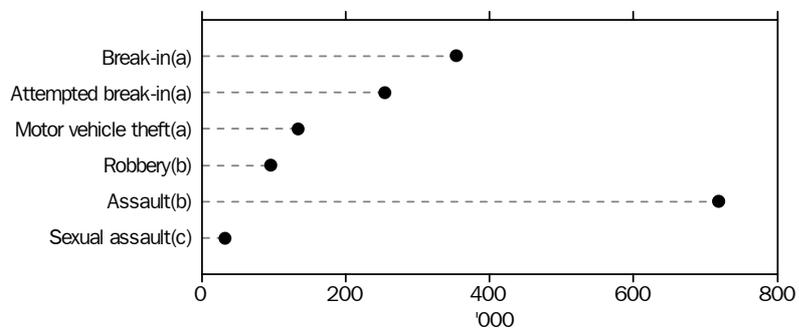
Persons aged 15 years and over

There were 15,215,100 persons aged 15 years and over in Australia in April 2002. In the 12 months prior to the survey it is estimated that:

- 95,800 (0.6%) persons were victims of at least one robbery
- 717,900 (4.7%) persons were victims of at least one assault
- 33,000 (0.2%) persons aged 18 years and over were victims of at least one sexual assault.

In total 811,700 persons aged 15 years and over were victims of these selected personal crimes. That is, an estimated 5.3% of persons aged 15 years and over experienced at least one of these crimes in the 12 months prior to the survey.

VICTIMS OF HOUSEHOLD/PERSONAL CRIME



- (a) Households.
 (b) Persons aged 15 years and over.
 (c) Persons aged 18 years and over.

Changes in victimisation over time

In 2002 the rate of household crime was estimated at 8.9%. Comparisons with 1998 and 1993 surveys show very small changes in the prevalence of victimisation for these offences.

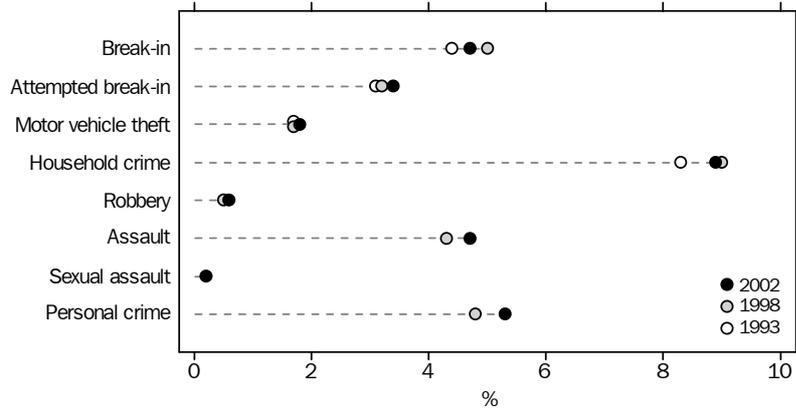
Though small, the changes in the prevalence rates for personal crimes between the 1998 and 2002 national surveys were:

- for assault, the victimisation prevalence rate increased from 4.3% in 1998 to 4.7% in 2002
- for total personal crime the victimisation prevalence rate increased from 4.8% in 1998 to 5.3% in 2002.

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS *continued*

Changes in victimisation over time *continued*

CRIME VICTIMISATION RATES



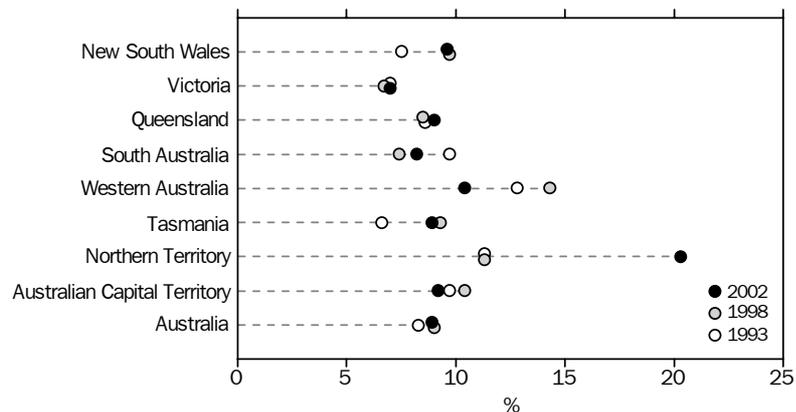
STATES AND TERRITORIES

Household experience of crime varied across states and territories. The lowest level of victimisation was experienced in Victoria, where 7.0% of households experienced at least one of the selected household crimes. The highest level of victimisation was experienced in the Northern Territory, where an estimated 20.3% of households experienced at least one of the selected household crimes in the 12 months prior to the survey.

Household crime victimisation prevalence rates remained stable in most states and territories across the 1993, 1998 and 2002 national surveys. Significant change in the prevalence rate of household crime occurred only in:

- Western Australia where it fell from 14.3% in 1998 to 10.4% in 2002
- the Northern Territory where it increased from 11.3% in 1993 and 1998 to 20.3% in 2002.

HOUSEHOLD CRIME VICTIMISATION RATES



The experience of individuals also varied across states and territories. The lowest level of victimisation was experienced in Queensland, where 4.7% of persons aged 15 years and over experienced at least one of the selected personal crimes. The highest level of victimisation was experienced in the Northern Territory, where an estimated 8.1% of persons aged 15 years and over experienced at least one of the selected personal crimes in the 12 months prior to the survey.

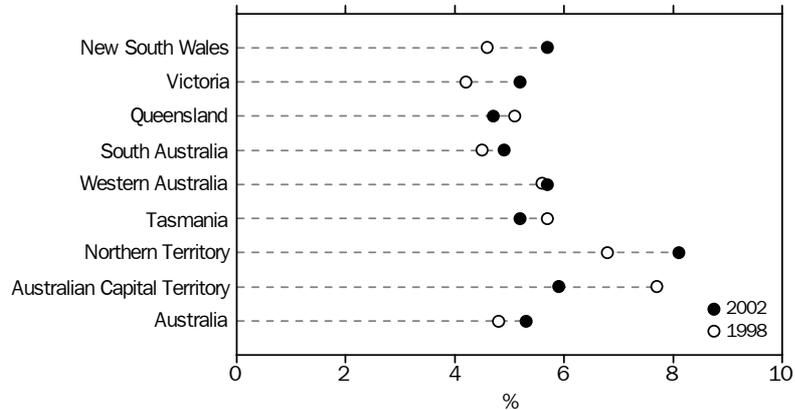
Personal crime victimisation prevalence rates varied slightly in most states and territories across the 1998 and 2002 national surveys. Significant change in the prevalence rate of personal crime occurred only in:

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS *continued*

STATES AND TERRITORIES *continued*

- New South Wales where it increased from 4.6% in 1998 to 5.7% in 2002
- Victoria where it increased from 4.2% in 1998 to 5.2% in 2002
- the Australian Capital Territory where it decreased from 7.7% in 1998 to 5.9% in 2002.

PERSONAL CRIME VICTIMISATION RATES



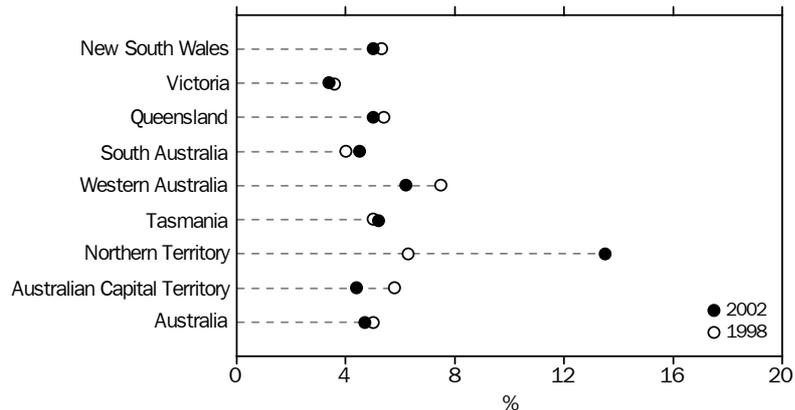
HOUSEHOLD CRIME *Break-in*

In 2002 there were an estimated 456,300 (6% incidence rate) incidents of break-in recorded, with 82% of victim households experiencing a single break-in.

The break-in victimisation prevalence rate for Australia was 4.7% in 2002 and this showed little change compared to the 1998 survey. Likewise break-in victimisation prevalence rates for most states and territories remained fairly stable from 1998 to 2002. Exceptions were:

- an increase in the Northern Territory from 6.3% in 1998 to 13.5% in 2002
- a decrease in Western Australia from 7.5% in 1998 to 6.2% in 2002.

BREAK-IN VICTIMISATION RATES



Approximately 93% of households that experienced a break-in considered that the most recent incident was a crime and 75% had reported the incident to the police.

Attempted break-in

In 2002 there were an estimated 428,500 (6% incidence rate) incidents of attempted break-in recorded.

Attempted break-in victimisation rates for most states and territories remained relatively stable from 1998 to 2002. Significant changes were:

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS *continued*

Attempted break-in continued

- an increase in Queensland from 2.9% in 1998 to 3.8% in 2002
- an increase in the Northern Territory from 5.0% in 1998 to 9.5% in 2002
- a decrease in Western Australia from 6.0% in 1998 to 4.4% in 2002.

Approximately 84% of households that had experienced an attempted break-in considered that the most recent incident was a crime and 31% had reported the incident to the police.

Motor vehicle theft

In 2002 there were an estimated 146,400 (2% incidence rate) incidents of motor vehicle theft recorded, with 93% of victim households experiencing one motor vehicle theft.

Motor vehicle theft victimisation rates for most states and territories remained relatively stable from 1998 to 2002. Significant changes were:

- an increase in South Australia from 1.2% in 1998 to 1.8% in 2002
- an increase in the Australian Capital Territory from 1.3% in 1998 to 2.3% in 2002
- a decrease in Western Australia from 2.4% in 1998 to 1.0% in 2002.

Approximately 97% of households that had experienced a motor vehicle theft considered that the most recent incident was a crime and 95% had reported the incident to the police.

PERSONAL CRIME

Robbery

There were an estimated 154,100 (1% incidence rate) incidents of robbery recorded in the survey with 74% of victims experiencing a single incident of robbery.

Robbery victimisation rates for most states and territories varied from 1998 to 2002, with:

- an increase in Victoria from 0.3% in 1998 to 0.5% in 2002
- a decrease in Tasmania from 0.6% in 1998 to 0.3% in 2002
- a decrease in the Northern Territory from 1.0% in 1998 to 0.1% in 2002
- a decrease in the Australian Capital Territory from 0.6% in 1998 to 0.2% in 2002.

Some 64,700 or 68% of robbery victims were males. Young males were most likely to experience this crime, with 21,200 males aged 15 to 19 years reporting being victims — this is 22% of all persons who were victims of robbery. Males aged 20 to 24 years were a further 14,900 or 16% of all victims of robbery.

Robberies occurred in a variety of locations, with some 27,400 or 29% of victims indicating that the most recent incident had occurred in the street or other open land with the next most often reported location being in a shopping centre (14,300 or 15%).

Most victims (67,100 or 70%) indicated that no weapon was used in the most recent robbery and 63,100 or 66% of victims were not injured in the most recent incident.

Victims of robbery indicated that 77,000 or 80% of offenders were male. An estimated 54,200 or 57% of victims indicated that there were two or more offenders and 73,600 or 77% did not know the offender in the most recent incident. Approximately 90% of victims of robbery considered the most recent incident a crime but only 50% of victims told police about the incident.

Assault

A total of approximately 2,534,500 (17% incidence rate) incidents of assault were experienced by victims of assault with 366,900 (51%) of these victims indicating that they had experienced more than one assault in the 12 months prior to the survey.

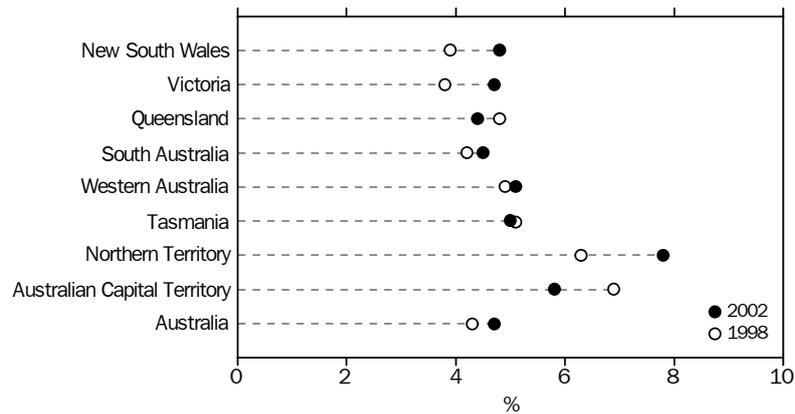
SUMMARY OF FINDINGS *continued*

Assault *continued*

Assault victimisation rates for most states and territories remained relatively stable from 1998 to 2002, with significant changes being:

- an increase in New South Wales from 3.9% in 1998 to 4.8% in 2002
- an increase in Victoria from 3.8% in 1998 to 4.7% to 2002
- a decrease in the Australian Capital Territory from 6.9% in 1998 to 5.8% in 2002.

ASSAULT VICTIMISATION RATES



Just over half the victims of assault were males (392,200 or 55%). Both males and females aged 25 to 34 years had the highest incidence rates, with 22% of male victims and 28% of female victims in this age group. Persons aged 65 years and over were least likely to be victims of assault, with this age group making up approximately 3% of male victims and 2% of female victims of assault.

Some 620,600 or 86% of victims reported that no weapon was used and 523,900 or 73% of victims were not injured in the most recent incident.

The most frequently reported location of the most recent incident was the victim's home, with 24% of males and 47% of females indicating that this was where the most recent assault had taken place. Some 489,100 or 68% of victims indicated that there was a single offender and 552,500 or 77% indicated that the offender was male in the most recent incident.

For approximately 407,600 or 57% of incidents the offender was known to the victim. An estimated 410,000 (57%) victims of assault considered the most recent incident a crime and 221,100 or 31% told police about the incident. Of victims who reported an assault to police, 56% did so by telephone. Some form of support service was accessed by 85% of victims of assault, most commonly a family member (58%) and/or friend or neighbour (52%).

Sexual assault

A total of approximately 62,700 (1% incidence rate) incidents were experienced by female victims of sexual assault.

The majority of the victims of sexual assault were females (28,300 or 86%) and 66% of female victims experienced a single incident of sexual assault.

Some 93% of female victims reported that no weapon was used, and 72% of female victims were not injured in the most recent incident.

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS *continued*

Sexual assault continued

For female victims of sexual assault, the most frequently reported locations where the most recent assault had taken place were the victim's own or another home (40%), and a public venue (37%), such as a place of entertainment, including car park.

Some 21,600 or 77% of female victims indicated that there was a single offender in the most recent incident, and in most cases the offender was male (93%). In over half (58%) of the most recent incidents of female sexual assault, the offender was known to the victim.

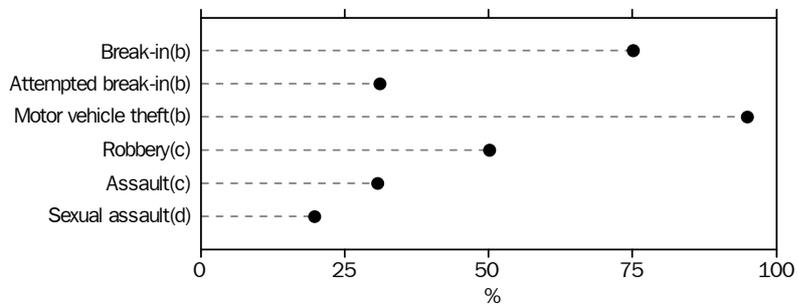
An estimated 21,800 (77%) of female victims of sexual assault considered the most recent incident a crime, yet 80% of victims did not tell police about the incident. Some form of support services were accessed by 87% of female victims of sexual assault, most commonly a friend or colleague (68%) and/or family member (41%).

REPORTING TO POLICE

Many factors influence whether or not an incident is considered by the victim to be a crime, and whether or not it is reported to police. In particular, the survey indicates that rates of reporting to police vary depending on the type of offence and the victims view of the incident. Reporting rates for different offence types range from:

- 95% for household victims of motor vehicle theft
- 75% for household victims of break-in
- 50% for victims of robbery
- 31% for victims of assault
- 20% for female victims of sexual assault.

REPORTING RATE(a) TO POLICE OF MOST RECENT INCIDENT



- (a) Of household/person victims.
 (b) Households.
 (c) Persons aged 15 years and over.
 (d) Females aged 18 years and over.

For victims of household crimes, the differences in reporting rates across states and territories generally are not statistically significant compared to rates for Australia overall. The exception to this is break-in, where rates of reporting to police vary from 68% in New South Wales to 84% in Western Australia.

Reporting rates remained relatively unchanged from 1998 to 2002. The reasons why victims did not tell police about the most recent crime incident vary according to the offence. Reasons given by victims who did not report the incident to police include:

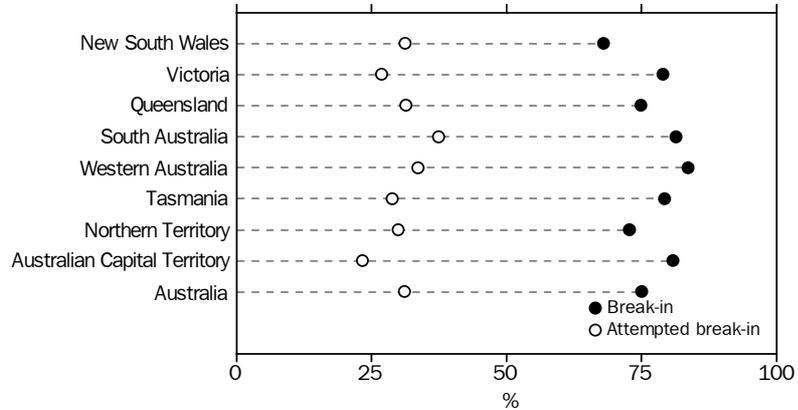
- for assault victims, 24% felt the incident was a personal matter and they would take care of it themselves
- for household victims of break-in, 24% thought there was nothing the police could do

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS *continued*

REPORTING TO POLICE *continued*

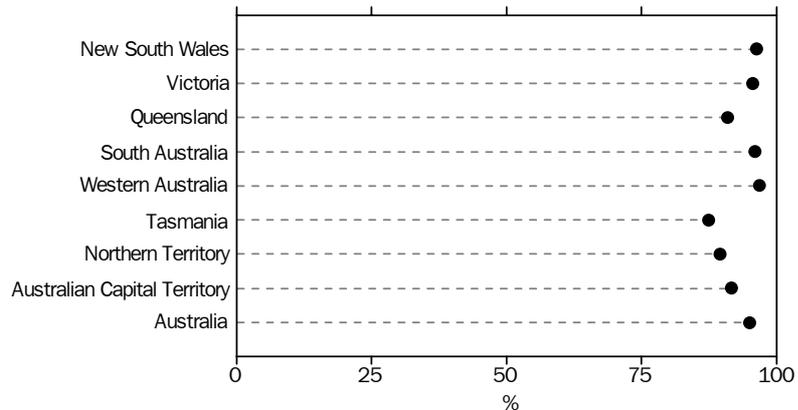
- for victims of robbery, some 45% thought there was nothing the police could/would do about the offence.

BREAK-IN AND ATTEMPTED BREAK-IN, REPORTING RATES



In general, the reporting rates for motor vehicle theft in all states and territories were relatively high. The reporting rate for motor vehicle theft varied from 87% in Tasmania to 97% in Western Australia.

MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT, REPORTING RATES



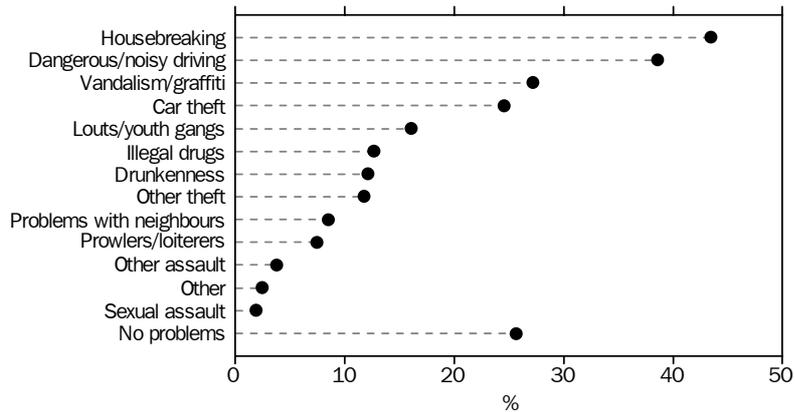
NEIGHBOURHOOD PROBLEMS

Overall around three quarters of persons aged 15 years and over perceived that there were problems with crime and/or public nuisance issues in their neighbourhoods. There was some variation in people's perceptions across states and territories, from 70% of people in Queensland and Tasmania to 80% in the Northern Territory who perceived problems in their neighbourhoods. The most commonly perceived problem was housebreaking/burglaries/theft from homes (44% perceived this as a problem). Other commonly perceived problems were dangerous/noisy driving (39%), vandalism/graffiti/damage to property (27%) and car theft (25%).

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS *continued*

NEIGHBOURHOOD PROBLEMS *continued*

NEIGHBOURHOOD PROBLEMS



FEELINGS OF SAFETY

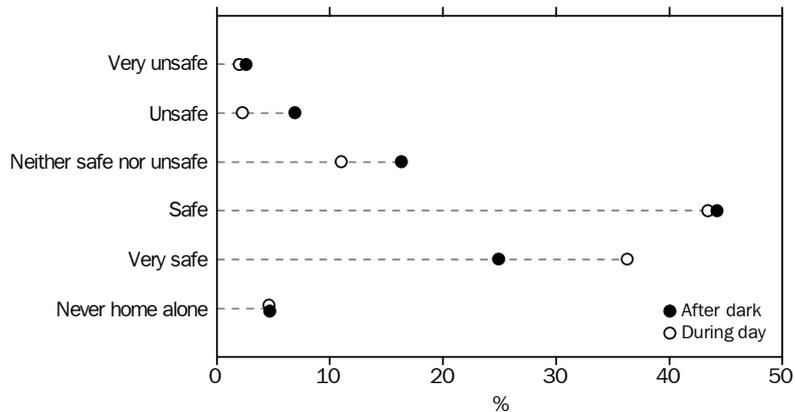
Approximately 80% of persons indicated that they felt safe or very safe when at home alone during the day, compared with 69% feeling this way after dark. Conversely, 4% of persons felt unsafe or very unsafe when at home alone during the day, compared with 10% at home alone after dark.

Across states and territories there was some variation in feelings of safety:

- 77% of persons in New South Wales, compared with 83% of persons in Queensland indicated they felt safe or very safe when at home alone during the day
- 66% of persons in Western Australia, compared with 73% of persons in the Australian Capital Territory indicated they felt safe or very safe when at home alone after dark.

Perceptions of safety varied between males and females, particularly after dark, when 78% of males compared with 61% of females felt safe or very safe when at home alone. Feelings of safety also varied according to age, with 42% of persons aged 15 to 19 years compared to 23% of persons aged 65 years and over feeling very safe when at home alone during the day.

FEELINGS OF SAFETY AT HOME ALONE



LIST OF TABLES

page

HOUSEHOLD CRIME

- 1** Households: Whether victim of household crime in last 12 months, by offence type, state or territory of usual residence and victimisation prevalence rates 1993, 1995, 1998, 2002 13
- 2** Victims of household crime: Whether considers incident a crime, whether told police about most recent incident and reporting rates 1993, 1998, 2002 by offence type and state or territory of usual residence 15
- 3** Household victims of break-in: Whether told police about break-in and main reason for not telling police 16
- 4** Household victims of motor vehicle theft: Number of incidents by state or territory of usual residence, victimisation prevalence and incidence rates 17

PERSONAL CRIME

- 5** All Persons: Whether victim of personal crime in the last 12 months, by offence type and state or territory of usual residence and victimisation prevalence rates 1998, 2002 18

ROBBERY

- 6** Victims of robbery: Selected characteristics (age group, marital status, labour force status, country of birth, area of usual residence) 19
- 7** Victims of robbery: Characteristics of incident (number of incidents in last 12 months, use of weapon, whether physically injured, location of incident) 20
- 8** Victims of robbery: Offender information (number of offenders, age of offenders, sex of offenders, whether offenders known) 21
- 9** Victims of robbery: Whether told police about robbery, main reason for not telling police and whether victim considers incident a crime 22

ASSAULT

- 10** Victims of assault: Selected characteristics (age group, marital status, labour force status, country of birth, area of usual residence) 23
- 11** Victims of assault: Characteristics of incident (number of incidents in last 12 months, use of weapon, whether physically injured, location of incident, support services accessed) 24
- 12** Victims of assault: Offender information (number of offenders, age of offenders, sex of offenders, whether offenders known, how offenders known) 25
- 13** Victims of assault: Whether told police about assault, main reason for not telling police and whether victim considers incident a crime 26

SEXUAL ASSAULT

- 14** Victims of sexual assault: Selected characteristics (age group, marital status, labour force status, country of birth, area of usual residence) 27

LIST OF TABLES *continued*

page

- 15** Female victims of sexual assault: Victimization prevalence rates 1993, 1995, 1998, 2002, by state or territory of usual residence 28
- 16** Female victims of sexual assault: Characteristics of incident (number of incidents in last 12 months, use of weapon, whether physically injured, location of incident, support services accessed, whether told police about sexual assault, whether victim considers incident a crime) 29
- 17** Female victims of sexual assault: Offender information (number of offenders, sex of offenders, whether offenders known, how offenders known) 30

FEAR OF CRIME

- 18** All persons: Feelings of safety at home alone during the day by selected characteristics (sex, age group, state or territory of usual residence, area of usual residence, country of birth, household type) . . . 31
- 19** All persons: Feelings of safety at home alone after dark by selected characteristics (sex, age group, state or territory of usual residence, area of usual residence, country of birth, household type) 32

NEIGHBOURHOOD CRIME/PROBLEMS

- 20** All persons: Problems in neighbourhood, by state or territory of usual residence 33

POPULATIONS

- 21** Populations: By state or territory of usual residence 34

HOUSEHOLDS, Whether victim of household crime and victimisation rates

VICTIMISATION PREVALENCE RATE(a)

	Victims	Non-victims	Total households	Total incidents	1993	1995(b)	1998	2002
	'000	'000	'000	'000	%	%	%	%
BREAK-IN								
New South Wales	122.7	2 353.4	2 476.1	158.9	3.7	5.3	5.3	5.0
Victoria	62.3	1 775.1	1 837.4	75.0	3.3	3.2	3.6	3.4
Queensland	72.1	1 358.2	1 430.3	98.1	5.2	6.3	5.4	5.0
South Australia	27.9	584.9	612.8	35.9	5.0	4.6	4.0	4.5
Western Australia	46.4	708.3	754.8	55.8	7.5	8.9	7.5	6.2
Tasmania	9.9	180.1	190.0	11.4	4.0	na	5.0	5.2
Northern Territory(c)	*7.3	47.2	54.5	11.4	7.4	na	6.3	*13.5
Australian Capital Territory	*5.4	118.0	123.3	9.8	5.0	4.5	5.8	*4.4
<i>Australia</i>	<i>354.0</i>	<i>7 125.2</i>	<i>7 479.2</i>	<i>456.3</i>	<i>4.4</i>	<i>na</i>	<i>5.0</i>	<i>4.7</i>

	Victims	Non-victims	Total households	Total incidents	1993	1995(b)	1998	2002
	'000	'000	'000	'000	%	%	%	%
ATTEMPTED BREAK-IN								
New South Wales	92.6	2 383.5	2 476.1	162.1	2.6	4.1	3.4	3.7
Victoria	40.4	1 797.1	1 837.4	62.9	2.6	2.3	2.1	2.2
Queensland	54.0	1 376.3	1 430.3	82.6	3.2	5.5	2.9	3.8
South Australia	18.3	594.5	612.8	28.5	3.8	4.0	2.9	3.0
Western Australia	33.2	721.6	754.8	58.9	4.9	7.1	6.0	4.4
Tasmania	*6.2	183.8	190.0	16.1	2.0	na	3.6	*3.3
Northern Territory(c)	*5.2	49.3	54.5	10.4	5.4	na	5.0	*9.5
Australian Capital Territory	*4.7	118.7	123.3	7.0	4.9	4.5	4.0	*3.8
<i>Australia</i>	<i>254.6</i>	<i>7 224.6</i>	<i>7 479.2</i>	<i>428.5</i>	<i>3.1</i>	<i>na</i>	<i>3.2</i>	<i>3.4</i>

	Victims	Non-victims	Total households	Total incidents	1993	1995(b)	1998	2002
	'000	'000	'000	'000	%	%	%	%
BREAK-IN/ATTEMPTED BREAK-IN (d)								
New South Wales	194.8	2 281.3	2 476.1	321.0	5.7	8.5	7.9	7.9
Victoria	96.9	1 740.5	1 837.4	137.9	5.4	5.0	5.3	5.3
Queensland	114.2	1 316.1	1 430.3	180.7	7.5	10.3	7.7	8.0
South Australia	40.8	571.9	612.8	64.4	8.1	7.7	6.3	6.7
Western Australia	72.2	682.6	754.8	114.6	11.0	13.6	12.4	9.6
Tasmania	14.7	175.2	190.0	27.6	5.6	na	8.1	7.8
Northern Territory(c)	10.6	43.9	54.5	21.8	10.6	na	10.8	19.5
Australian Capital Territory	9.2	114.2	123.3	16.8	8.9	7.9	9.1	7.4
<i>Australia</i>	<i>553.5</i>	<i>6 925.7</i>	<i>7 479.2</i>	<i>884.8</i>	<i>6.8</i>	<i>na</i>	<i>7.6</i>	<i>7.4</i>

	Victims	Non-victims	Total households	Total incidents	1993	1995(b)	1998	2002
	'000	'000	'000	'000	%	%	%	%
MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT								
New South Wales	51.8	2 424.3	2 476.1	57.6	2.0	2.1	2.1	2.1
Victoria	37.2	1 800.2	1 837.4	41.0	1.7	1.5	1.6	2.0
Queensland	19.1	1 411.2	1 430.3	19.8	1.3	1.4	1.1	1.3
South Australia	11.1	601.7	612.8	12.3	1.7	1.1	1.2	1.8
Western Australia	7.9	746.9	754.8	7.9	2.2	3.0	2.4	1.0
Tasmania	*3.0	187.0	190.0	3.6	1.0	na	*1.4	*1.6
Northern Territory(c)	**1.4	53.1	54.5	1.4	*0.7	na	**1.2	**2.5
Australian Capital Territory	*2.8	120.6	123.3	2.9	*0.8	*1.0	*1.3	*2.3
<i>Australia</i>	<i>134.3</i>	<i>7 344.9</i>	<i>7 479.2</i>	<i>146.4</i>	<i>1.7</i>	<i>na</i>	<i>1.7</i>	<i>1.8</i>

na not available

* estimate has a relative standard error of between 25% and 50% and should be used with caution

** estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

(a) See paragraphs 20–22 of the Explanatory Notes.

(b) 1995 rates were produced from separate state surveys in all the mainland states and the Australian Capital Territory. Estimates are not available for Tasmania, Northern Territory or Australia.

(c) Refers to mainly urban areas only. For further information see paragraph 6 of the Explanatory Notes.

(d) Break-in/attempted break-in includes households that were victims of either a break-in or an attempted break-in, or both. Therefore the figures for break-in/attempted break-in are less than the sum of break-in and attempted break-in figures.

HOUSEHOLDS, Whether victim of household crime and victimisation rates *continued*

	Victims '000	Non- victims '000	Total households '000	Total incidents '000	VICTIMISATION PREVALENCE RATE(a)			
					1993	1995(b)	1998	2002
					%	%	%	%
TOTAL HOUSEHOLD CRIMES (c)								
New South Wales	238.6	2 237.4	2 476.1	378.6	7.5	na	9.7	9.6
Victoria	129.5	1 707.9	1 837.4	178.9	7.0	na	6.7	7.0
Queensland	129.4	1 300.9	1 430.3	200.4	8.6	na	8.5	9.0
South Australia	50.3	562.5	612.8	76.7	9.7	na	7.4	8.2
Western Australia	78.3	676.4	754.8	122.5	12.8	na	14.3	10.4
Tasmania	16.9	173.1	190.0	31.1	6.6	na	9.3	8.9
Northern Territory(d)	11.1	43.4	54.5	23.2	11.3	na	11.3	20.3
Australian Capital Territory	11.3	112.0	123.3	19.7	9.7	na	10.4	9.2
Australia	665.4	6 813.8	7 479.2	1 031.2	8.3	na	9.0	8.9

na not available

(a) See paragraphs 20–22 of the Explanatory Notes.

(b) 1995 rates were produced from separate state surveys in all the mainland states and the Australian Capital Territory. Estimates are not available for Tasmania, Northern Territory or Australia.

(c) Total household crimes is less than the sum of the components as households may be victims of more than one type of offence.

(d) Refers to mainly urban areas only. For further information see paragraph 6 of the Explanatory Notes.

VICTIMS OF HOUSEHOLD CRIME, Whether considers incident a crime, whether told police and reporting rates

	WHETHER CONSIDERS THE INCIDENT A CRIME		WHETHER TOLD POLICE ABOUT MOST RECENT INCIDENT		2002 TOTAL	REPORTING RATES(a)		
	<i>Considers incident a crime</i>	<i>Does not consider incident a crime</i>	<i>Told police about most recent incident</i>	<i>Did not tell police about most recent incident</i>	<i>Victims of household crime(b)</i>	1993	1998	2002
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	%	%	%
BREAK-IN								
New South Wales	114.3	*2.5	83.4	39.3	122.7	73.4	74.7	68.0
Victoria	56.9	*2.6	49.2	13.1	62.3	82.9	83.2	79.0
Queensland	66.9	*2.2	54.0	18.1	72.1	74.9	74.6	74.9
South Australia	25.8	**0.6	22.7	*5.2	27.9	81.2	79.8	81.4
Western Australia	43.9	**1.5	38.9	*7.6	46.4	85.1	80.8	83.7
Tasmania	9.9	—	7.8	*2.0	9.9	80.5	77.8	79.3
Northern Territory(c)	*6.8	**0.3	*5.3	*2.0	*7.3	na	66.4	*72.8
Australian Capital Territory	*5.1	**0.1	*4.4	**1.0	*5.4	72.1	76.0	*80.9
<i>Australia</i>	<i>329.7</i>	<i>9.7</i>	<i>265.7</i>	<i>88.2</i>	<i>354.0</i>	<i>78.5</i>	<i>77.5</i>	<i>75.1</i>
ATTEMPTED BREAK-IN								
New South Wales	77.7	8.5	28.9	63.7	92.6	28.5	29.3	31.2
Victoria	32.9	*4.8	10.8	29.5	40.4	39.6	37.6	26.9
Queensland	42.2	*7.7	17.0	37.1	54.0	28.6	27.1	31.4
South Australia	15.5	*2.4	*6.8	11.4	18.3	32.2	31.3	*37.4
Western Australia	30.6	*2.1	11.2	22.0	33.2	32.5	33.6	33.6
Tasmania	*5.8	**0.4	**1.8	*4.4	*6.2	38.4	41.9	**28.8
Northern Territory(c)	*4.7	**0.4	**1.6	*3.6	*5.2	na	32.0	**30.0
Australian Capital Territory	*3.8	**0.8	**1.1	*3.6	*4.7	27.2	32.5	**23.4
<i>Australia</i>	<i>213.2</i>	<i>27.0</i>	<i>79.2</i>	<i>175.4</i>	<i>254.6</i>	<i>32.3</i>	<i>31.7</i>	<i>31.1</i>
MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT								
New South Wales	50.4	**0.6	49.8	*1.9	51.8	95.6	95.1	96.3
Victoria	35.2	**1.3	35.6	**0.4	37.2	94.2	97.1	95.6
Queensland	19.1	—	17.4	**1.7	19.1	96.6	97.5	91.0
South Australia	11.1	—	10.7	**0.4	11.1	89.6	94.4	96.0
Western Australia	7.9	—	*7.6	**0.2	7.9	87.2	92.4	*96.9
Tasmania	*2.9	**0.1	*2.6	**0.4	*3.0	94.4	86.2	*87.4
Northern Territory(c)	**1.4	—	**1.2	**0.1	**1.4	na	100.0	**89.6
Australian Capital Territory	*2.8	—	*2.6	**0.2	*2.8	*88.1	85.2	*91.6
<i>Australia</i>	<i>130.8</i>	<i>*2.0</i>	<i>127.6</i>	<i>*5.5</i>	<i>134.3</i>	<i>93.7</i>	<i>95.1</i>	<i>95.0</i>

* estimate has a relative standard error of between 25% and 50% and should be used with caution

** estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

na not available

(a) See paragraph 17 of the Explanatory Notes.

(b) Includes households that did not give details of most recent incident.

(c) Refers to mainly urban areas only. For further information see paragraph 6 of the Explanatory Notes.

HOUSEHOLD VICTIMS OF BREAK-IN, Whether told police about break-in

	<i>Number</i>	<i>Proportion</i>
	'000	%
Number of incidents in last 12 months		
One	290.7	82.1
Two	42.8	12.1
Three or more	20.5	5.8
Total number of incidents	456.3	. .
Whether told police about most recent incident		
Told police about most recent break-in	265.7	75.1
Did not tell police about most recent break-in	88.2	24.9
How most recent incident was reported to police		
Reported in person at a police station	43.6	12.3
Police notified by telephone	209.9	59.3
Police were at scene already	*3.3	*0.9
Don't know—incident reported by someone else	*7.1	*2.0
Other	*3.1	*0.9
Main reason did not tell police about most recent break-in		
Too trivial/unimportant	17.7	5.0
Someone else told police	*1.9	*0.5
Thought there was nothing police could do	21.2	6.0
Thought police would be unwilling to do anything	10.4	2.9
Personal matter or victim would take care of it themselves	*5.0	*1.4
Nothing was stolen	11.3	3.2
Not covered by insurance	*5.4	*1.5
Other	8.9	2.5
Total (a)	354.0	100.0

. . not applicable

* estimate has a relative standard error of between 25% and 50% and should be used with caution

(a) Includes households that did not give details of most recent incident.

4

HOUSEHOLD VICTIMS OF MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT(a)	ACT	Aust.
NUMBER ('000)									
Number of incidents in last 12 months									
One	47.9	33.9	18.5	9.9	7.9	*2.8	**1.4	*2.7	124.9
Two or more	*3.8	*3.3	**0.7	**1.2	—	**0.2	—	**0.1	9.4
Total victim households	51.8	37.2	19.1	11.1	7.9	*3.0	**1.4	*2.8	134.3
Total households(b)	2 476.1	1 837.4	1 430.3	612.8	754.8	190.0	54.5	123.3	7 479.2
Households with motor vehicles(b)	2 190.8	1 654.9	1 304.7	556.9	697.4	169.9	51.5	115.5	6 741.7
Total motor vehicles owned	4 413.2	3 333.7	2 632.9	1 143.6	1 418.3	330.8	94.9	224.7	13 592.0
Total motor vehicles stolen	57.6	41.0	19.8	12.3	7.9	3.6	1.4	2.9	146.4

	PROPORTION (%)								
Household prevalence rate(c)	2.1	2.0	1.3	1.8	1.0	*1.6	**2.5	*2.3	1.8
Household incidence rate(c)	2.3	2.2	1.4	2.0	1.0	*1.9	**2.5	*2.4	2.0
Motor vehicles stolen as a percentage of total motor vehicles owned	1.3	1.2	0.8	1.1	0.6	1.1	1.5	1.3	1.1

* estimate has a relative standard error of between 25% and 50% and should be used with caution

** estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(a) Refers to mainly urban areas only. For further information see paragraph 6 of the Explanatory Notes.

(b) Includes both victim and non-victim households.

(c) See paragraphs 20–22 of the Explanatory Notes.

					VICTIMISATION PREVALENCE RATE(a)	
	<i>Victims</i>	<i>Non- victims</i>	<i>All persons</i>	<i>Total incidents</i>	1998	2002
	'000	'000	'000	'000	%	%
ROBBERY						
New South Wales	52.5	5 082.9	5 135.4	80.3	0.9	1.0
Victoria	18.1	3 827.1	3 845.2	27.7	0.3	0.5
Queensland	8.7	2 823.2	2 831.9	14.5	0.3	0.3
South Australia	*5.5	1 186.5	1 191.9	14.3	0.5	*0.5
Western Australia	9.3	1 487.9	1 497.2	14.6	0.6	0.6
Tasmania	**1.0	364.8	365.8	1.8	0.6	**0.3
Northern Territory(b)	**0.2	108.1	108.2	0.2	1.0	**0.1
Australian Capital Territory	**0.6	238.9	239.5	0.6	0.6	**0.2
Australia	95.8	15 119.3	15 215.1	154.1	0.5	0.6
ASSAULT						
New South Wales	244.1	4 891.3	5 135.4	865.2	3.9	4.8
Victoria	178.8	3 666.4	3 845.2	565.6	3.8	4.7
Queensland	123.4	2 708.5	2 831.9	491.2	4.8	4.4
South Australia	54.0	1 137.9	1 191.9	213.0	4.2	4.5
Western Australia	77.0	1 420.1	1 497.2	238.9	4.9	5.1
Tasmania	18.2	347.5	365.8	79.7	5.1	5.0
Northern Territory(b)	8.4	99.8	108.2	33.8	6.3	7.8
Australian Capital Territory	13.8	225.6	239.5	47.0	6.9	5.8
Australia	717.9	14 497.2	15 215.1	2 534.5	4.3	4.7
SEXUAL ASSAULT (c)						
New South Wales	12.9	4 853.0	4 865.8	33.5	na	0.3
Victoria	*7.2	3 645.6	3 652.8	11.8	na	*0.2
Queensland	*6.7	2 672.8	2 679.5	14.3	na	*0.3
South Australia	**1.6	1 127.6	1 129.2	8.4	na	**0.1
Western Australia	*3.2	1 413.2	1 416.4	3.4	na	*0.2
Tasmania	**0.9	345.8	346.7	8.7	na	**0.3
Northern Territory(b)	**0.2	100.9	101.1	0.2	na	**0.2
Australian Capital Territory	**0.4	225.6	226.0	1.2	na	**0.2
Australia	33.0	14 384.4	14 417.5	81.5	na	0.2
TOTAL PERSONAL CRIMES (d)						
New South Wales	294.2	4 841.2	5 135.4	979.1	4.6	5.7
Victoria	198.6	3 646.6	3 845.2	605.2	4.2	5.2
Queensland	132.4	2 699.4	2 831.9	520.0	5.1	4.7
South Australia	58.6	1 133.3	1 191.9	235.7	4.5	4.9
Western Australia	85.8	1 411.4	1 497.2	257.0	5.6	5.7
Tasmania	19.1	346.7	365.8	90.2	5.7	5.2
Northern Territory(b)	8.8	99.4	108.2	34.1	6.8	8.1
Australian Capital Territory	14.2	225.3	239.5	48.8	7.7	5.9
Australia	811.7	14 403.4	15 215.1	2 770.1	4.8	5.3

* estimate has a relative standard error of between 25% and 50% and should be used with caution

** estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

na not available

(a) See paragraphs 20–22 of the Explanatory Notes.

(b) Refers to mainly urban areas only. For further information see paragraph 6 of the Explanatory Notes.

(c) Persons aged 18 years and over.

(d) Total personal crimes is less than the sum of the components as persons may be victims of more than one offence type.

VICTIMS OF ROBBERY, Selected characteristics

VICTIMS OF ROBBERY								
	Males		Females		Persons		All persons	Victimisation prevalence rate (a)
	'000	%	'000	%	'000	%	'000	%
Age group (years)								
15-19	21.2	32.8	*4.0	*13.0	25.2	26.3	1 312.2	1.9
20-24	14.9	23.0	*4.4	*14.0	19.3	20.1	1 227.1	1.6
25-34	10.1	15.7	*6.4	*20.6	16.5	17.3	2 758.2	0.6
35-44	*6.3	*9.7	*5.9	*18.9	12.2	12.7	3 168.9	0.4
45-54	*7.4	*11.4	*5.5	*17.5	12.8	13.4	2 584.5	0.5
55-64	*4.1	*6.4	**1.8	**5.7	*5.9	*6.2	1 904.6	*0.3
65 and over	**0.7	**1.0	*3.2	*10.2	*3.8	*4.0	2 259.6	*0.2
Marital status								
Married	16.1	24.9	10.6	34.1	26.7	27.9	9 184.0	0.3
Not married	48.6	75.1	20.5	65.9	69.1	72.1	6 031.1	1.1
Labour force status								
Employed	43.3	67.0	16.4	52.8	59.8	62.4	9 367.9	0.6
Unemployed	*3.6	*5.6	**0.8	**2.4	*4.4	*4.6	575.0	*0.8
Not in the labour force	17.7	27.4	13.9	44.7	31.6	33.0	5 272.1	0.6
Country of birth								
Born in Australia	52.3	80.9	17.7	56.9	70.0	73.1	11 141.4	0.6
Born overseas	12.3	19.1	13.4	43.1	25.8	26.9	4 073.7	0.6
Area of usual residence								
Capital city	56.6	87.5	27.7	89.2	84.3	88.0	9 662.5	0.9
Balance of state/territory	8.1	12.5	*3.4	*10.8	11.5	12.0	5 552.6	0.2
Total	64.7	100.0	31.1	100.0	95.8	100.0	15 215.1	0.6

* estimate has a relative standard error of between 25% and 50% and should be used with caution

** estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

(a) See paragraphs 20-22 of the Explanatory Notes.

VICTIMS OF ROBBERY, Characteristics of incident

	MALES		FEMALES		PERSONS	
	'000	%	'000	%	'000	%
Number of incidents in last 12 months						
One	45.3	70.0	25.6	82.3	70.8	74.0
Two	10.2	15.8	*3.4	*10.9	13.6	14.2
Three or more	9.2	14.2	*2.1	*6.8	11.3	11.8
Total number of incidents	109.2	. .	45.0	. .	154.1	. .
Use of weapon in most recent incident						
Weapon used	22.4	34.7	*2.9	*9.3	25.3	26.4
No weapon used	40.9	63.3	26.2	84.2	67.1	70.1
Type of weapon used in most recent incident(a)						
Knife	11.3	17.4	**1.4	**4.4	12.6	13.2
Other weapon	13.0	20.1	**1.5	**4.9	14.5	15.2
Whether physically injured in most recent incident						
Physically injured	20.5	31.7	9.9	31.8	30.4	31.7
Not physically injured	43.4	67.1	19.7	63.4	63.1	65.9
Location of most recent incident						
Home	*7.5	*11.7	*3.0	*9.6	10.5	11.0
Another person's home	*3.0	*4.6	—	—	*3.0	*3.1
Place of work/study	9.6	14.9	**1.5	**4.9	11.1	11.6
Private vehicle	**0.8	**1.3	**0.8	**2.4	**1.6	**1.6
Public vehicle	*4.8	*7.5	*1.9	*6.2	*6.8	*7.1
Train station, bus stop or interchange	*3.5	*5.4	*5.1	*16.4	8.6	8.9
Place of entertainment, including car park	*5.8	*8.9	*1.9	*6.2	*7.7	*8.0
Street or other open land	21.2	32.7	*6.2	*19.9	27.4	28.6
Shopping centre	*6.6	*10.1	7.7	24.8	14.3	14.9
Other	**1.4	**2.2	*1.9	*6.2	*3.4	*3.5
Total(b)	64.7	100.0	31.1	100.0	95.8	100.0

* estimate has a relative standard error of between 25% and 50% and should be used with caution

. . not applicable

** estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(a) More than one type of weapon may have been used.

(b) Includes persons who did not give details of most recent incident.

VICTIMS OF ROBBERY, Offender information

	MALES		FEMALES		PERSONS	
	'000	%	'000	%	'000	%
Number of offenders in most recent incident						
One	19.8	30.6	14.8	47.5	34.6	36.1
Two	14.0	21.6	*7.4	*23.8	21.4	22.3
Three or more	25.9	40.0	*6.9	*22.2	32.8	34.2
Age of offenders in most recent incident						
All under 18 years	12.8	19.8	*7.5	*24.2	20.4	21.2
All 18 years or over	31.8	49.2	14.6	47.0	46.5	48.5
Some under 18, some 18 years or over	12.1	18.8	*5.3	*16.9	17.4	18.2
Sex of offenders in most recent incident						
Male	55.1	85.2	22.0	70.6	77.0	80.4
Female	**1.6	**2.5	*3.1	*10.0	*4.7	*4.9
Some male and some female	*5.3	*8.3	*5.0	*16.0	10.3	10.8
Whether offenders were known to the victim in most recent incident						
Offender(s) all known	*7.5	*11.6	*4.7	*15.1	12.2	12.7
Some offender(s) known	*4.1	*6.3	**1.4	**4.5	*5.5	*5.7
Offender(s) not known	49.6	76.7	24.0	77.1	73.6	76.8
Total(a)	64.7	100.0	31.1	100.0	95.8	100.0

* estimate has a relative standard error of between 25% and 50% and should be used with caution

** estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

(a) Includes persons who did not give details of offender(s) in most recent incident.

VICTIMS OF ROBBERY, Whether told police about robbery and whether considers incident a crime

	MALES		FEMALES		PERSONS	
	'000	%	'000	%	'000	%
Whether told police about most recent incident						
Told police about most recent robbery(a)	30.7	47.4	17.4	56.0	48.1	50.2
Did not tell police about most recent robbery	34.0	52.6	13.7	44.0	47.7	49.8
How most recent incident was reported to police						
Reported in person at a police station	10.2	15.7	7.7	24.9	17.9	18.7
Police notified by telephone	19.4	30.0	8.9	28.8	28.3	29.6
Other	*5.3	*8.2	*2.7	*8.8	8.1	8.4
Main reason did not tell police about most recent robbery						
Too trivial/unimportant	*5.6	*8.7	**1.3	**4.3	*6.9	*7.2
Personal matter or victim would take care of it themselves	*6.9	*10.6	**1.1	**3.6	8.0	8.3
Thought there was nothing police could/would do	13.4	20.8	8.3	26.7	21.7	22.7
Other	*7.2	*11.2	*1.9	*6.1	9.1	9.5
Whether considers the most recent incident a crime						
Considers the incident a crime	59.8	92.4	26.8	86.3	86.6	90.4
Does not consider the incident a crime	*4.3	*6.6	*2.3	*7.4	*6.6	*6.9
Total(b)	64.7	100.0	31.1	100.0	95.8	100.0

* estimate has a relative standard error of between 25% and 50% and should be used with caution

** estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

(a) Incidents may have been reported to police in more than one way.

(b) Includes persons who did not give details of most recent incident.

	VICTIMS OF ASSAULT							
	Males		Females		Persons		All Persons	Victimisation prevalence rate (a)
	'000	%	'000	%	'000	%	'000	%
Age group (years)								
15-19	75.0	19.1	54.6	16.8	129.6	18.1	1 312.2	9.9
20-24	63.4	16.2	36.2	11.1	99.6	13.9	1 227.1	8.1
25-34	87.2	22.2	91.9	28.2	179.1	24.9	2 758.2	6.5
35-44	79.5	20.3	78.6	24.1	158.0	22.0	3 168.9	5.0
45-54	51.5	13.1	43.2	13.3	94.7	13.2	2 584.5	3.7
55-64	25.5	6.5	14.2	4.3	39.6	5.5	1 904.6	2.1
65 and over	10.1	2.6	*7.0	*2.2	17.2	2.4	2 259.6	0.8
Marital status								
Married	158.3	40.4	127.3	39.1	285.6	39.8	9 184.0	3.1
Not married	233.9	59.6	198.4	60.9	432.3	60.2	6 031.1	7.2
Labour force status								
Employed	287.2	73.2	195.2	59.9	482.5	67.2	9 367.9	5.2
Unemployed	34.5	8.8	22.3	6.8	56.7	7.9	575.0	9.9
Not in the labour force	70.5	18.0	108.2	33.2	178.7	24.9	5 272.1	3.4
Country of birth								
Born in Australia	320.5	81.7	274.2	84.2	594.6	82.8	11 141.4	5.3
Born overseas	71.7	18.3	51.5	15.8	123.2	17.2	4 073.7	3.0
Area of usual residence								
Capital city	248.0	63.2	195.7	60.1	443.7	61.8	9 662.5	4.6
Balance of state/territory	144.2	36.8	129.9	39.9	274.2	38.2	5 552.6	4.9
Total	392.2	100.0	325.7	100.0	717.9	100.0	15 215.1	4.7

* estimate has a relative standard error of between 25% and 50% and should be used with caution (a) See paragraphs 20-22 of the Explanatory Notes.

	MALES		FEMALES		PERSONS	
	'000	%	'000	%	'000	%
Number of incidents in last 12 months						
One	196.1	50.0	154.9	47.6	351.0	48.9
Two	76.4	19.5	58.7	18.0	135.1	18.8
Three or more	119.8	30.5	112.0	34.4	231.8	32.3
Total number of incidents	1 349.8	. .	1 184.7	. .	2 534.5	. .
Use of weapon in most recent incident						
Weapon used	49.9	12.7	30.5	9.4	80.4	11.2
No weapon used	335.4	85.5	285.2	87.6	620.6	86.4
Type of weapon used in most recent incident(a)						
Knife	15.0	3.8	*5.6	*1.7	20.6	2.9
Gun	*3.7	*0.9	**1.7	**0.5	*5.5	*0.8
Syringe/hypodermic needle	**0.4	**0.1	—	—	**0.4	**—
Other	33.4	8.5	24.1	7.4	57.6	8.0
Whether physically injured in most recent incident						
Physically injured	105.4	26.9	72.7	22.3	178.0	24.8
Not physically injured	279.9	71.4	244.0	74.9	523.9	73.0
Location of most recent incident						
Home	93.2	23.8	154.2	47.3	247.3	34.5
Another person's home	29.0	7.4	26.8	8.2	55.8	7.8
Place of work/study	73.4	18.7	42.1	12.9	115.5	16.1
Private vehicle	21.4	5.5	17.0	5.2	38.4	5.3
Public vehicle	*4.3	*1.1	*3.9	*1.2	8.2	1.1
Train station, bus stop or interchange	10.2	2.6	*2.1	*0.6	12.3	1.7
Place of entertainment, including carpark	58.4	14.9	21.3	6.5	79.7	11.1
Street or other open land	62.4	15.9	22.2	6.8	84.6	11.8
Shopping centre	9.7	2.5	13.8	4.2	23.6	3.3
Other	21.7	5.5	13.0	4.0	34.7	4.8
Whether support services accessed after most recent incident						
Support services accessed(b)	325.5	83.0	285.4	87.6	611.0	85.1
Counsellor	17.9	4.6	45.7	14.0	63.6	8.9
Doctor	27.4	7.0	40.6	12.5	68.0	9.5
Minister, priest or other religious advisor	*5.7	*1.5	*7.6	*2.3	13.3	1.9
Crisis help	*4.9	*1.2	16.4	5.0	21.2	3.0
Legal help	23.0	5.9	34.0	10.4	56.9	7.9
Financial help	8.1	2.1	12.9	4.0	21.1	2.9
Family	219.3	55.9	198.6	61.0	417.8	58.2
Friend or neighbour	189.8	48.4	184.1	56.5	373.9	52.1
Work colleague	125.6	32.0	76.3	23.4	201.9	28.1
Other	21.1	5.4	27.9	8.6	48.9	6.8
Support services not accessed	50.5	12.9	24.6	7.6	75.2	10.5
Total(b)(c)	392.2	100.0	325.7	100.0	717.9	100.0

. . not applicable

* estimate has a relative standard error of between 25% and 50% and should be used with caution

** estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(a) More than one weapon type may have been used.

(b) More than one support service may have been accessed.

(c) Includes persons who did not give details of most recent incident.

	MALES		FEMALES		PERSONS	
	'000	%	'000	%	'000	%
Number of offenders in most recent incident						
One	237.5	60.5	251.6	77.3	489.1	68.1
Two	66.2	16.9	29.9	9.2	96.2	13.4
Three or more	65.7	16.7	20.6	6.3	86.2	12.0
Age of offenders in most recent incident						
All under 18 years	50.3	12.8	35.0	10.7	85.3	11.9
All 18 years or over	276.3	70.4	242.4	74.4	518.7	72.3
Some under 18, some 18 years or over	32.7	8.3	17.1	5.3	49.8	6.9
Sex of offenders in most recent incident						
Male	323.1	82.4	229.4	70.4	552.5	77.0
Female	28.6	7.3	60.9	18.7	89.6	12.5
Some male and some female	26.0	6.6	22.5	6.9	48.5	6.8
Whether offenders were known to the victim in most recent incident						
Offender(s) all known	171.7	43.8	235.9	72.4	407.6	56.8
Some offender(s) known	17.7	4.5	*6.5	*2.0	24.2	3.4
Offender(s) not known	185.7	47.3	66.5	20.4	252.2	35.1
How offender in most recent incident known						
Partner	*4.9	*1.3	29.8	9.2	34.7	4.8
Other family member	23.4	6.0	46.1	14.2	69.5	9.7
Ex-partner	*7.3	*1.9	37.5	11.5	44.9	6.3
Friend	32.9	8.4	37.6	11.6	70.5	9.8
Work/study colleague	30.9	7.9	13.1	4.0	44.0	6.1
Neighbour	27.0	6.9	23.5	7.2	50.5	7.0
Acquaintance	30.4	7.8	27.8	8.5	58.2	8.1
Other known person	14.9	3.8	17.0	5.2	31.8	4.4
Not known personally	15.5	4.0	8.1	2.5	23.6	3.3
Total(a)	392.2	100.0	325.7	100.0	717.9	100.0

* estimate has a relative standard error of between 25% and 50% and should be used with caution

(a) Includes persons who did not give details of most recent incident.

	MALES		FEMALES		PERSONS	
	'000	%	'000	%	'000	%
Whether told police about most recent incident						
Told police about most recent assault(a)	128.5	32.8	92.6	28.4	221.1	30.8
Did not tell police about most recent assault	263.7	67.2	233.0	71.6	496.7	69.2
How most recent incident was reported to police						
Reported in person at a police station	36.4	9.3	35.3	10.8	71.7	10.0
Police notified by telephone	66.5	17.0	57.0	17.5	123.5	17.2
Police were at scene already	15.9	4.1	*4.2	*1.3	20.1	2.8
Don't know - incident reported by someone else	12.4	3.2	*3.7	*1.1	16.0	2.2
Other	13.6	3.5	*5.2	*1.6	18.7	2.6
Main reason did not tell police about most recent incident						
Too trivial/unimportant	89.0	22.7	53.6	16.5	142.6	19.9
Somebody else told police	*7.7	*2.0	*3.9	*1.2	11.6	1.6
Thought there was nothing police could do	25.8	6.6	19.7	6.0	45.5	6.3
Thought police would be unwilling to do anything	31.7	8.1	15.4	4.7	47.0	6.5
Personal matter or victim would take care of it themselves	53.7	13.7	67.4	20.7	121.1	16.9
Told somebody else instead	8.8	2.2	14.6	4.5	23.4	3.3
Did not want offender punished	*4.0	*1.0	*7.0	*2.1	11.0	1.5
Afraid of reprisal	9.2	2.3	17.5	5.4	26.6	3.7
Too confused, upset or injured	*5.3	*1.4	*7.6	*2.3	12.9	1.8
Other	23.5	6.0	20.4	6.3	43.9	6.1
Whether considers the most recent incident a crime						
Considers the incident a crime	222.2	56.7	187.7	57.6	410.0	57.1
Does not consider the incident a crime	161.0	41.0	128.4	39.4	289.4	40.3
Total(b)	392.2	100.0	325.7	100.0	717.9	100.0

* estimate has a relative standard error of between 25% and 50% and should be used with caution
 (a) Incidents may have been reported to police in more than one way.

(b) Includes persons who did not give details of most recent incident.

VICTIMS OF SEXUAL ASSAULT

	Males		Females		Persons(a)		All persons(a)		Victimisation prevalence rate(b)	
	'000	%	'000	%	'000	%	'000	%	'000	%
	Age group (years)									
18–24	*2.9	*61.0	13.0	45.9	15.9	48.1	1 741.7		0.9	
25–34	**0.9	**19.6	*7.5	*26.7	8.5	25.6	2 758.2		0.3	
35 and over	**0.9	**19.4	7.8	27.4	8.7	26.3	9 917.6		0.1	
Marital status										
Married	**0.9	**18.4	*5.7	*20.1	*6.6	*19.9	9 179.5		*0.1	
Not married	*3.9	*81.6	22.6	79.9	26.5	80.1	5 237.9		0.5	
Labour force status										
In the labour force	*3.5	*73.1	19.6	69.3	23.1	69.9	9 558.9		0.2	
Not in the labour force	**1.3	**26.9	8.7	30.7	9.9	30.1	4 858.5		0.2	
Country of birth										
Born in Australia	*4.6	*97.0	22.9	81.0	27.5	83.3	10 434.3		0.3	
Born overseas	**0.1	**3.0	*5.4	*19.0	*5.5	*16.7	3 983.1		*0.1	
Area of usual residence										
Capital city	*2.2	*45.7	17.3	61.3	19.5	59.0	9 181.2		0.2	
Balance of state/territory	*2.6	*54.3	10.9	38.7	13.5	41.0	5 236.3		0.3	
Total	*4.8	*100.0	28.3	100.0	33.0	100.0	14 417.5		0.2	

PROPORTION (%)

Victimisation prevalence rate(b)	0.1	..	0.4	..	0.2	..	100.0	..
---	------------	-----------	------------	-----------	------------	-----------	--------------	-----------

* estimate has a relative standard error of between 25% and 50% and should be used with caution

.. not applicable

(a) Persons aged 18 years and over.

** estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

(b) See paragraphs 20–22 of the Explanatory Notes.

FEMALE VICTIMS OF SEXUAL ASSAULT, Victimization prevalence rates(a)

<i>State or territory of usual residence</i>	1993	1995(b)	1998	2002
	%	%	%	%
New South Wales	0.8	0.5	0.3	0.4
Victoria	0.5	*0.3	0.7	*0.4
Queensland	0.5	0.6	0.4	*0.5
South Australia	0.8	0.7	*0.3	**0.2
Western Australia	*0.3	0.7	0.5	*0.4
Tasmania	*0.5	na	*0.7	**0.4
Northern Territory(c)	*0.2	na	*0.6	**0.4
Australian Capital Territory	*0.9	1.3	*0.9	**0.3
Australia	0.6	na	0.4	0.4

* estimate has a relative standard error of between 25% and 50% and should be used with caution

** estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

na not available

(a) See paragraphs 20–22 of the Explanatory Notes.

(b) 1995 rates were produced from separate state surveys in all the mainland states and the Australian Capital Territory. Estimates are not available for Tasmania, Northern Territory or Australia.

(c) Refers to mainly urban areas only. For further information see paragraph 6 of the Explanatory Notes.

	Number	Proportion
	'000	%
Number of incidents in last 12 months		
One	18.7	66.1
Two or more	9.6	33.9
Total number of incidents	62.7	. .
Use of weapon in most recent incident		
Weapon used	**1.4	**5.1
No weapon used	26.4	93.3
Whether physically injured in most recent incident		
Physically injured	7.9	27.9
Not physically injured	20.4	72.1
Location of most recent incident		
Own/other home	11.2	39.7
Public venue	10.5	37.2
Other	*6.5	*23.0
Whether support services accessed after most recent incident		
Support services accessed(b)	24.6	87.1
Family	11.7	41.4
Friend or colleague	19.3	68.2
Professional/religious person	11.0	39.0
Support services not accessed	*3.1	*11.0
Whether told police about most recent incident		
Told police about most recent sexual assault	*5.6	*19.8
Did not tell police about most recent sexual assault	22.7	80.2
Whether considers the most recent incident a crime		
Considers the incident a crime	21.8	77.3
Does not consider the incident a crime	*5.7	*20.2
Total(b)(c)	28.3	100.0

. . not applicable

** estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

* estimate has a relative standard error of between 25% and 50% and should be used with caution

(a) Persons aged 18 years and over.

(b) More than one support service may have been accessed.

(c) Includes persons who did not give details of most recent incident.

	<i>Number</i>	<i>Proportion</i>
	'000	%
Number of offenders in most recent incident		
One	21.6	76.6
Two or more	*6.2	*21.8
Sex of offenders in most recent incident		
Male	26.3	93.1
Female	**0.7	**2.4
Whether offenders were known to the victim in most recent incident		
Offender(s) all known	16.4	58.1
Offender(s) not known	10.6	37.4
How offenders in most recent incident known		
Family/friend/ex-partner	9.3	32.7
Colleague/neighbour/acquaintance	*6.2	*21.8
Total(b)	28.3	100.0

- * estimate has a relative standard error of between 25% and 50% and should be used with caution
- ** estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use
- (a) Persons aged 18 years and over.
- (b) Includes persons who did not give details of offender(s) in most recent incident.

ALL PERSONS, Feelings of safety at home alone during the day—By selected characteristics

	VERY SAFE	SAFE	NEITHER SAFE NOR UNSAFE	UNSAFE	VERY UNSAFE	NEVER HOME ALONE DURING THE DAY	TOTAL(a)
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Sex							
Males	41.2	40.5	8.7	1.5	2.0	5.6	100.0
Females	31.5	46.3	13.2	3.1	2.0	3.6	100.0
Age group (years)							
15–19	42.3	40.4	9.2	2.3	1.5	3.9	100.0
20–24	40.9	40.0	10.8	1.5	1.4	5.2	100.0
25–34	42.7	40.1	9.4	1.8	1.7	4.3	100.0
35–44	39.5	42.6	9.2	1.7	2.2	4.6	100.0
45–54	36.2	43.7	10.6	2.4	2.1	4.7	100.0
55–64	30.5	45.9	13.5	3.2	2.1	4.5	100.0
65 and over	23.1	49.9	14.9	3.7	2.4	5.2	100.0
State or territory of usual residence							
New South Wales	33.2	43.9	12.8	2.9	1.8	4.7	100.0
Victoria	38.5	42.7	10.0	1.6	1.9	5.1	100.0
Queensland	39.1	43.4	9.3	1.8	2.2	3.9	100.0
South Australia	36.7	43.8	10.7	2.4	2.0	4.2	100.0
Western Australia	34.2	43.8	11.8	3.4	1.9	4.7	100.0
Tasmania	40.0	42.2	8.2	*1.8	2.7	4.8	100.0
Northern Territory(b)	34.0	45.6	11.4	*2.1	*1.9	*4.8	100.0
Australian Capital Territory	40.1	41.1	9.6	*1.9	*1.9	5.1	100.0
Area of usual residence							
Capital city	33.3	44.6	12.3	2.8	1.8	4.8	100.0
Balance of state/territory	41.4	41.4	8.7	1.6	2.2	4.3	100.0
Country of birth							
Born in Australia	38.5	42.5	10.1	2.1	1.9	4.5	100.0
Born overseas	30.1	46.0	13.4	3.0	2.0	5.0	100.0
Household type							
Person living alone	32.4	47.2	13.2	2.7	2.1	1.8	100.0
Couple only	34.5	43.8	11.6	2.6	1.9	5.1	100.0
Couple with unmarried child(ren)	39.6	42.0	9.4	1.8	2.1	4.9	100.0
One parent with unmarried child(ren)	32.6	46.5	12.2	3.3	2.0	3.2	100.0
All other households	34.8	42.2	12.1	2.5	1.7	6.1	100.0
Total	36.3	43.4	11.0	2.3	2.0	4.6	100.0

* estimate has a relative standard error of between 25% and 50% and should be used with caution
 (a) Includes persons who did not state their feelings of safety.

(b) Refers to mainly urban areas only. For further information see paragraph 6 of the Explanatory Notes.

ALL PERSONS, Feelings of safety at home alone after dark—By selected characteristics

	VERY SAFE	SAFE	NEITHER SAFE NOR UNSAFE	UNSAFE	VERY UNSAFE	NEVER HOME ALONE AFTER DARK	TOTAL(a)
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Sex							
Males	32.8	44.8	12.5	3.6	2.1	3.8	100.0
Females	17.2	43.7	20.0	10.2	3.1	5.5	100.0
Age group (years)							
15–19	25.9	42.1	16.9	7.9	2.5	4.2	100.0
20–24	26.8	41.6	17.3	8.0	2.6	3.5	100.0
25–34	28.0	42.6	16.7	7.4	2.5	2.6	100.0
35–44	27.4	45.2	15.1	5.9	2.4	3.7	100.0
45–54	26.7	46.1	14.9	6.2	2.7	3.2	100.0
55–64	22.0	44.7	16.9	7.3	2.8	5.9	100.0
65 and over	16.4	44.8	17.9	7.2	2.9	10.1	100.0
State or territory of usual residence							
New South Wales	22.9	43.1	17.4	8.2	2.6	5.2	100.0
Victoria	26.8	44.3	15.7	5.6	2.3	5.0	100.0
Queensland	27.0	46.0	14.6	5.6	2.7	3.7	100.0
South Australia	24.0	44.9	16.1	7.4	2.5	4.9	100.0
Western Australia	22.8	43.0	18.2	8.5	3.1	4.0	100.0
Tasmania	27.1	45.3	13.8	5.8	3.1	4.4	100.0
Northern Territory(b)	22.0	46.6	16.3	8.8	*2.5	*3.6	100.0
Australian Capital Territory	26.9	45.7	15.5	6.1	*2.4	3.3	100.0
Area of usual residence							
Capital city	22.6	44.4	17.8	7.5	2.6	4.8	100.0
Balance of state/territory	28.9	43.9	13.7	6.0	2.6	4.4	100.0
Country of birth							
Born in Australia	26.3	44.2	15.8	6.6	2.6	4.2	100.0
Born overseas	21.1	44.2	17.8	7.8	2.6	6.0	100.0
Household type							
Person living alone	23.0	47.9	19.2	6.4	2.6	0.5	100.0
Couple only	23.4	43.6	16.0	7.1	2.5	7.0	100.0
Couple with unmarried child(ren)	27.0	44.7	15.2	6.2	2.5	4.1	100.0
One parent with unmarried child(ren)	20.9	43.4	19.1	9.7	3.1	3.5	100.0
All other households	25.0	41.3	16.1	7.6	3.0	6.5	100.0
Total	24.9	44.2	16.3	6.9	2.6	4.7	100.0

* estimate has a relative standard error of between 25% and 50% and should be used with caution
(a) Includes persons who did not state their feelings of safety.
(b) Refers to mainly urban areas only. For further information see paragraph 6 of the Explanatory Notes.

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT(a)	ACT	Aust.
NUMBER ('000)									
Housebreaking/burglaries/theft									
from homes	2 277.2	1 603.7	1 115.3	531.3	771.3	148.6	60.9	107.0	6 615.2
Car theft	1 374.4	1 119.6	436.6	327.8	342.7	77.2	26.9	43.7	3 748.9
Other theft	661.1	466.0	254.2	160.5	170.1	47.9	19.4	23.0	1 802.2
Louts/youth gangs	1 053.5	546.4	389.7	157.6	204.5	53.4	20.7	30.8	2 456.6
Prowlers/loiterers	453.4	200.6	230.8	81.6	117.7	25.1	18.8	17.2	1 145.1
Drunkenness	778.2	382.7	319.4	102.3	165.0	35.4	39.6	16.7	1 839.3
Vandalism/graffitti/damage to property	1 542.3	1 074.1	572.4	366.2	416.2	75.3	21.7	75.4	4 143.7
Dangerous/noisy driving	2 099.0	1 306.9	1 101.5	516.6	571.4	144.2	34.7	92.2	5 866.5
Illegal drugs	788.6	503.9	273.6	120.9	180.1	33.6	15.0	17.0	1 932.7
Sexual assault	138.7	56.6	36.7	13.3	33.2	*4.3	*5.5	*3.3	291.6
Other assault	287.2	108.2	68.6	36.9	47.2	7.9	8.0	*7.0	571.0
Problems with neighbours/									
domestic problems	492.9	273.0	284.4	85.3	98.8	23.7	13.7	21.3	1 293.2
Other	132.9	93.7	70.3	28.6	35.3	*7.5	*4.4	9.4	382.1
No problems	1 189.9	1 057.6	847.6	267.2	357.0	109.3	21.2	56.8	3 906.6
Total(b)	5 135.4	3 845.2	2 831.9	1 191.9	1 497.2	365.8	108.2	239.5	15 215.1

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT(a)	ACT	Aust.
PROPORTION (%)									
Housebreakings/burglaries/theft									
from homes	44.3	41.7	39.4	44.6	51.5	40.6	56.2	44.7	43.5
Car theft	26.8	29.1	15.4	27.5	22.9	21.1	24.8	18.2	24.6
Other theft	12.9	12.1	9.0	13.5	11.4	13.1	17.9	9.6	11.8
Louts/youth gangs	20.5	14.2	13.8	13.2	13.7	14.6	19.2	12.9	16.1
Prowlers/loiterers	8.8	5.2	8.1	6.8	7.9	6.9	17.4	7.2	7.5
Drunkenness	15.2	10.0	11.3	8.6	11.0	9.7	36.6	7.0	12.1
Vandalism/graffitti/damage to property	30.0	27.9	20.2	30.7	27.8	20.6	20.1	31.5	27.2
Dangerous/noisy driving	40.9	34.0	38.9	43.3	38.2	39.4	32.0	38.5	38.6
Illegal drugs	15.4	13.1	9.7	10.1	12.0	9.2	13.9	7.1	12.7
Sexual assault	2.7	1.5	1.3	1.1	2.2	*1.2	*5.0	*1.4	1.9
Other assault	5.6	2.8	2.4	3.1	3.2	2.2	7.3	*2.9	3.8
Problems with neighbours/									
domestic problems	9.6	7.1	10.0	7.2	6.6	6.5	12.7	8.9	8.5
Other	2.6	2.4	2.5	2.4	2.4	*2.0	*4.1	3.9	2.5
No problems	23.2	27.5	29.9	22.4	23.8	29.9	19.6	23.7	25.7
Total(b)	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

* estimate has a relative standard error of between 25% and 50% and should be used with caution

(b) Includes persons who did not give details of problems in neighbourhood.

(a) Refers to mainly urban areas only. For further information see paragraph 6 of the Explanatory Notes.

POPULATION										
No.	Description	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT(a)	ACT	Aust.
		'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000
MALES										
1	All persons aged 15 years and over	2 537.9	1 893.6	1 401.0	585.8	747.0	178.3	54.2	116.9	7 514.8
2	All employed persons	1 743.9	1 333.7	973.3	391.5	533.6	109.9	43.2	87.8	5 216.8
3	All unemployed persons	106.8	78.9	70.5	25.5	37.4	10.8	*4.1	*3.8	337.7
7	Victims of robbery	34.4	13.4	*5.3	*4.3	*6.4	**0.4	—	**0.5	64.7
8	Victims of assault	135.7	93.8	66.3	24.1	49.7	9.6	*4.2	8.8	392.2
9	Victims of sexual assault(b)	*3.1	**0.5	**0.5	**0.3	**0.3	**0.1	—	—	*4.8
FEMALES										
1	All persons aged 15 years and over	2 597.5	1 951.7	1 430.8	606.1	750.2	187.4	54.0	122.6	7 700.3
2	All employed persons	1 367.6	1 063.4	770.2	320.6	419.6	89.4	37.7	82.5	4 151.1
3	All unemployed persons	72.3	54.3	60.8	17.9	21.5	*5.6	**1.4	*3.5	237.3
7	Victims of robbery	18.1	*4.8	*3.3	**1.2	*2.9	**0.5	**0.2	**0.1	31.1
8	Victims of assault	108.5	85.0	57.1	29.9	27.3	8.6	*4.3	*5.0	325.7
9	Victims of sexual assault(b)	9.7	*6.6	*6.3	**1.3	*2.9	**0.8	**0.2	**0.4	28.3
PERSONS										
1	All persons aged 15 years and over	5 135.4	3 845.2	2 831.9	1 191.9	1 497.2	365.8	108.2	239.5	15 215.1
2	All employed persons	3 111.5	2 397.1	1 743.5	712.1	953.2	199.2	81.0	170.3	9 367.9
3	All unemployed persons	179.1	133.1	131.3	43.4	58.9	16.4	*5.5	*7.4	575.0
7	Victims of robbery	52.5	18.1	8.7	*5.5	9.3	**1.0	**0.2	**0.6	95.8
8	Victims of assault	244.1	178.8	123.4	54.0	77.0	18.2	8.4	13.8	717.9
9	Victims of sexual assault(b)	12.9	*7.2	*6.7	**1.6	*3.2	**0.9	**0.2	**0.4	33.0
HOUSEHOLDS										
1a	All households	2 476.1	1 837.4	1 430.3	612.8	754.8	190.0	54.5	123.3	7 479.2
4	Household victims of break-in	122.7	62.3	72.1	27.9	46.4	9.9	*7.3	*5.4	354.0
5	Household victims of attempted break-in	92.6	40.4	54.0	18.3	33.2	*6.2	*5.2	*4.7	254.6
6	Household victims of motor vehicle theft	51.8	37.2	19.1	11.1	7.9	*3.0	**1.4	*2.8	134.3

* estimate is subject to sampling variability too high for most practical purposes

** estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(a) Refers to mainly urban areas only. For further information see paragraph 6 of the Explanatory Notes.

(b) Persons aged 18 years and over.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

INTRODUCTION

1 The statistics in this publication were compiled from data collected in the Crime and Safety Survey (CSS) conducted throughout Australia during April to July 2002 as part of the Monthly Population Survey (MPS) as a supplement to the April Labour Force Survey (LFS). At the end of the April LFS interview, respondents who fell within the scope of the supplementary survey were provided with a self completion questionnaire and asked to mail it back to the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS).

2 The publication *Labour Force, Australia* (cat. no. 6202.0) contains information about survey design, sample redesign, scope, coverage and population benchmarks relevant to the monthly LFS, which also apply to supplementary surveys. It also contains definitions of demographic and labour force characteristics.

3 The CSS collected information from individuals and households about their experience of selected crimes, reporting behaviour and crime-related risk factors. Information was sought from approximately 54,400 persons, of whom 41,200 (76%) responded. Data pertaining to households were sought from approximately 27,100 households and 20,400 (75%) replied. Examination of responses after follow-up did not indicate any serious problem of non-response bias. The estimation and imputation procedures employed were designed to reduce the effect of non-response (see paragraphs 33–41).

SCOPE

4 The survey was conducted for all persons aged 15 years and over who were usual residents of private dwellings, except:

- members of the permanent defence forces
- certain diplomatic personnel of overseas governments, customarily excluded for Census and estimated resident population figures
- overseas residents in Australia
- members of non-Australian defence forces (and their dependants).

5 Students at boarding schools, patients in hospitals, residents of homes (e.g. retirement homes, homes for persons with disabilities), and inmates of prisons were also excluded.

6 The CSS was conducted in both urban and rural areas in all states and territories, but excluded approximately 80,000 persons living in remote and sparsely settled parts of Australia who would otherwise have been within the scope of the survey. The exclusion of these persons will have only a minor impact on any aggregate estimates that are produced for individual states and territories, except the Northern Territory where such persons account for over 20% of the population.

COVERAGE

7 The estimates in this publication relate to persons covered by the LFS in April 2002. In the LFS, coverage rules are applied which aim to ensure that each person is associated with only one dwelling, and hence has only one chance of selection in the survey. See *Labour Force, Australia* (cat. no. 6202.0) for more details.

8 CSS questionnaires were either delivered to the selected households by MPS interviewers or mailed to those respondents who completed the MPS by telephone. Respondents were asked to complete the relevant questionnaires and return them by mail. One questionnaire per household contained questions relating to the household as a whole. In addition, all persons in scope were provided with a questionnaire relating to their personal experiences of crime. Males and females aged 18 years and over were supplied with a separate questionnaire about sexual assault. Completion of this sexual assault form was voluntary. The response rate for this form was 73% of females and 72% of males aged 18 years and over who responded to the other personal form in the survey.

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

RELIABILITY OF THE ESTIMATES

- 9** Estimates in this publication are subject to sampling and non-sampling errors:
- Sampling error is the difference between the published estimate and the value that would have been produced if all dwellings had been included in the survey. For further information on sampling error, refer to the Technical Note.
 - Non-sampling errors are inaccuracies that occur because of imperfections in reporting by respondents and interviewers, and errors made in coding and processing data. These inaccuracies may occur in any enumeration, whether it be a full count or a sample. Every effort is made to reduce the non-sampling error to a minimum by careful design of questionnaires, intensive training and supervision of interviewers and efficient processing procedures.

CLASSIFICATIONS USED

10 Occupation data are classified according to the *ASCO — Australian Standard Classification of Occupations, Second Edition, 1997* (cat. no. 1220.0).

11 Industry data are classified according to the *Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification (ANZSIC), 1993* (cat. no. 1292.0).

12 Country of birth data are classified according to the *Standard Australian Classification of Countries (SACC), 1998* (cat. no. 1269.0).

13 Offence data are classified according to the *Australian Standard Offence Classification, 1997* (cat. no. 1234.0).

14 This publication contains highest level of educational attainment which has been classified according to the *Australian Standard Classification of Education (ASCED)*. The ASCED spans all sectors of the formal Australian education system; that is, School, Vocational Education and Training and Higher Education. The ASCED comprises two classifications: Level of Education and Field of Education. See *Australian Standard Classification of Education (ASCED), 2001* (cat. no. 1272.0). For further details on how highest educational attainment is determined, see *Education and Work, Australia* (cat. no. 6227.0).

CONTENT

15 Crime victim surveys are most suitable for measuring crimes against individuals or households with specific victims, who are aware of and recall what happened to them and how it happened, and who are willing to relate what they know.

16 This survey covered only selected types of household and personal crimes. Household crimes covered in the survey were break-ins, attempted break-ins, and motor vehicle theft. Personal crimes covered in the survey were robbery, assault and sexual assault.

17 Data on crimes recorded by police are available in *Recorded Crime — Victims, Australia* (cat. no. 4510.0). The CSS provides an additional source of data on crime for selected offences, including crime not reported to or detected by the police. This survey identifies the nature of some crime that is not reported to the police. The survey also gives information on victims of repeated crimes, which is not available from police data. The information from the survey should be viewed as a complement to the published police statistics on crime. Reporting rates refer to the total number of most recent incidents of an offence that were reported to police expressed as a percentage of the total victims of that offence. Police statistics include victims of all ages, whereas this survey collects information for persons aged 15 years and over, and sexual assault is only asked directly for persons aged 18 years and over.

18 Not all types of crime are suitable for measurement by household surveys. No reliable information can be obtained about crimes without specific victims, such as trafficking in narcotics. Crimes of which the victim may not be aware cannot be measured effectively — some instances of fraud and attempted crimes of many types may fall into this category. It may also be difficult to obtain information about some crimes such as sexual offences and assault committed by other household members.

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

CONTENT *continued*

Some of these crimes may not be fully reflected in the data collected. No reliable data can be collected by household surveys on crimes against commercial establishments or government agencies.

19 For this survey, the definition of total victims is restricted to those offences included in the survey; it by no means represents total crime.

Statistical measures of crime victimisation

20 The level of victimisation can be measured in more than one way. The most common measure derived from crime victim surveys is *prevalence*, that is, the number of the relevant population that have been a victim of a given offence at least once in the reference period.

21 Another measure that can be used is *incidence*. This is the total number of incidents of the offence that occurred in the reference period. As some victims experience repeated incidents of victimisation, incidence numbers are typically higher than prevalence numbers.

22 Rates of prevalence and incidence are both used in this publication, and these are generally expressed as a percentage of the total relevant population.

DATA QUALITY

Interpretation of results

23 Information recorded in this survey is essentially 'as reported' by respondents and hence may differ from that which might be obtained from other sources or via other methodologies. This factor should be considered in interpreting the estimates in this publication.

24 Information was collected on respondents' perceptions of problems in their neighbourhood. Perceptions are influenced by a number of factors and can change quickly. Care should therefore be taken when analysing or interpreting the data.

COMPARABILITY OF TIME SERIES

25 Revisions are made to population benchmarks for the LFS after each five-yearly Census of Population and Housing. The last such revision was made in February 1999 to take account of the results of the 1996 Census of Population and Housing. Estimates from supplementary surveys conducted from February 1999 and including April 2002 are therefore based on these population benchmarks.

Comparability with previous ABS surveys

26 Since 1990, the ABS has been conducting state-specific Crime and Safety Surveys in New South Wales (annually), Western Australia (1991, 1995, 1999 and 2000), South Australia (1991, 1995 and 2000), Victoria (1994 and 1995), Tasmania (1998) and Queensland and the Australian Capital Territory (1995), often with funding from the state concerned. A national survey was last conducted in 1998, and previous to that in 1993, 1983 and 1975. All of the surveys since 1990 have required respondents to complete the questionnaires themselves and mail these back to the ABS.

27 While an important use of crime victims surveys is to establish the trend of crime and reporting behaviour over time, care must be exercised in the comparison of the results of the 1993 with the 1998 and 2002 surveys for robbery and assault because of significant definitional differences. The household crimes are comparable between the surveys. However, changes in respondents' attitudes towards crime in the last nine years may have affected their responses to the surveys.

Other methodological issues

28 In the interpretation of the results of the 2002 survey, consideration should be given to the representativeness of the sample. This is affected by the response rate and also the fact that the survey only covers people living in private dwellings. It does not include such people as the homeless or people living in special accommodation, sections of the community which may be heavily victimised. Also, how a respondent completed a questionnaire will depend on their personal circumstances, their interpretation of the questions, and how much they are willing to divulge.

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

Other methodological issues continued

29 Self-enumeration questionnaires may affect the willingness of a person to reveal personal information on issues such as assault and sexual assault. There may also be problems if the respondent's literacy skills are not adequate to understand a reasonably complex form.

30 The survey also looked at victimisation as discrete incidents, whereas for many victims of violence this is an ongoing situation.

Data processing

31 Consistency and range edit checks were applied to all forms, mainly during data entry, to ensure that answers were consistent within the household or person record and that they made sense.

32 Victims' forms were more closely scrutinised. The questions asking respondents to describe the incident were used to check that other questions had been consistently answered. If this resulted in the incident being incorrectly included as a particular offence type, then the incident was either recoded or discounted, as appropriate. This either resulted in an adjustment to the number of incidents, or the respondent being counted as a non-victim of the original offence.

Non-response bias and weighting of data

33 There were a number of cases where the questionnaire was not complete. The most common problem was when questions that should have been answered had been left blank.

34 Missing data were treated in one of the following ways:

- where possible, missing information was imputed from other answers on the form, following a standard set of imputation rules as derived for this survey
- where the data could not be imputed, a 'not stated' code was used
- forms with significant amounts of missing data were treated as non-response.

35 If an unanswered question affected other questions, then a decision was made on how to code this item. When an unanswered question did not have an effect on other questions, it was coded to 'not stated'. Generally the proportions of 'not stated' were very small. When this was not the case, the number of 'not stated' instances have been included overtly in the tables; if the number was small, they have only been included in the total.

36 A complex set of multistage weighting procedures was employed to adjust for non-response and improve the precision of estimates in this survey.

37 The non-response to the sexual assault questionnaire among the respondents of other questionnaires was dealt with first. This was treated as item non-response, and handled by imputation. This was to avoid the need for different weights in the same personal records. The imputation was carried out by choosing a respondent at random within an imputation class, and assigning this selected donor's value to the non-respondent. Imputation classes were defined using age groups by state and territory.

38 Estimates were then obtained in two stages. In the first stage, adjustment for non-response was carried out based on the demographic composition of the MPS sample, as well as on results of the analysis of the effect of reminder action on the responses obtained.

39 In most surveys there is little information available about non-respondents. In this survey, however, demographic characteristics of most non-respondents were available from the MPS which had a very high response rate. Weighting adjustments were carried out using the distribution of the demographic characteristics from the MPS which were correlated with crime victimisation.

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

Non-response bias and weighting of data continued

40 For this survey there were two separate reminder follow-ups (by mail for the first reminder, and mail or telephone for the second reminder). Indications of bias due to the difference between respondents and non-respondents were investigated using successive waves of responses. Any significant bias identified was adjusted using data from later waves of responses.

41 The second stage was a complex ratio estimation procedure which ensured that the survey estimates conformed to an independently estimated distribution of population by age, sex, and part of state, rather than to the age, sex and part of state distribution within the sample itself. The procedure also ensured that household estimates conformed to the independently estimated distribution of households by certain household characteristics (number of adults and children in the household) rather than to the distribution among responding households.

Comparison with other ABS surveys

42 There are different crime statistics collections and these can yield differing results. Caution should be taken in comparison across other ABS surveys that address crime and justice issues. An *Information Paper: Measuring Crime — The Impact of Different Collection Methodologies, Australia* (cat. no. 4521.0) is being prepared for publication shortly.

Comparison with police statistics

43 It should be emphasised that the responses obtained in this survey are based on the respondent's perception of their having been the victim of an offence. The terms used for the offences (such as robbery, assault) summarise the wording of the questions asked of the respondent, and may not necessarily correspond with the legal or police definitions which are used for each offence.

44 Even though the respondent may indicate that the crime has been reported to the police, there is no verification that a crime report has actually been made for the offence. There are many reasons why an incident which is reported to police may not be recorded as a crime. Victims may advise police of a matter but not seek to have it dealt with as a crime. This is especially true of incidents where the offender is related, or otherwise known, to the victim. The information received by police may not be sufficient to allow them to determine whether a crime has been committed, or what kind of offence has been committed. The incident may also have been coded to a different offence category.

45 Another source of variation between the survey results and crimes recorded by police relates to differences in scope. This survey collects information on robbery and assault only for persons aged 15 years and over, and sexual assault is only asked directly for persons aged 18 years and over, whereas police statistics include victims of all ages and comparisons need to allow for this. Police record all crimes reported to them in the counting period, whether or not the incidents took place during that period or at an earlier time, and count all distinct estimates of victimisation reported.

46 It is also possible that respondents to the survey may have included some incidents which occurred outside the 12 month period. Information was collected on which quarter in the last 12 months the most recent incident occurred, in an attempt to reduce this telescoping effect.

47 For each offence type, survey respondents were asked how many of the incidents that happened to them in the previous 12 months became known to the police. From this the total number of offences that became known to police was estimated. For most offences, the survey estimates of incidents becoming known to the police considerably exceed the number recorded by police. Motor vehicle theft is the only offence category where the differences are not so great.

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

48 ABS surveys draw extensively on information provided by individuals, businesses, governments and other organisations. Their continued cooperation is very much appreciated: without it, the wide range of statistics published by the ABS would not be available. Information received by the ABS is treated in strict confidence as required by the *Census and Statistics Act 1905*.

NEXT SURVEY

49 The ABS plans to conduct this survey again in 2005.

RELATED PUBLICATIONS

50 Other publications which may be of interest include:

- *Australian Standard Offence Classification, 1997* (cat. no. 1234.0)
- *Community Safety, Tasmania, October 1998* (cat. no. 4515.6)
- *Crime and Safety, Australia, April 1993* (cat. no. 4509.0)
- *Crime and Safety, Australia, April 1998* (cat. no. 4509.0)
- *Crime and Safety, New South Wales, April 2001* (cat. no. 4509.1)
- *Crime and Safety, New South Wales and the Australian Capital Territory, April 1995* (cat. no. 4509.1)
- *Crime and Safety, Queensland, April 1995* (cat. no. 4509.3)
- *Crime and Safety, South Australia, October 2000* (cat. no. 4509.4)
- *Crime and Safety, Victoria, April 1995* (cat. no. 4509.2)
- *Crime and Safety, Western Australia, October 1999* (cat. no. 4509.5)
- *General Social Survey, Australia, 2001* (cat. no. 4159.0)
- *National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Survey: Law and Justice Issues, 1994* (cat. no. 4189.0)
- *Recorded Crime — Victims, Australia, 2002* (cat. no. 4510.0)
- *Victims of Crime, Australia, 1983* (cat. no. 4506.0)
- *Women's Safety, Australia, 1996* (cat. no. 4128.0)

51 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 any ABS office or the ABS web site <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 National Centre for Crime and Justice Statistics theme page also contains a wealth of information and useful references and this site can be accessed through the ABS web site <www.abs.gov.au>.

NON-ABS PUBLICATIONS

52 Non-ABS sources which may be of interest can be accessed through the National Centre for Crime and Justice Statistics theme page on the ABS web site <www.abs.gov.au>.

ABBREVIATIONS

ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics
ANZSIC	Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification
ASCED	Australian Standard Classification of Education
ASCO	Australian Standard Classification of Occupations
CSS	Crime and Safety Survey
LFS	Labour Force Survey
MPS	Monthly Population Survey
RSE	relative standard error
SACC	Standard Australian Classification of Countries
SE	standard error

APPENDIX POPULATIONS AND DATA ITEMS LIST

DATA AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

The ABS has a range of data available from the Crime and Safety Survey. This section lists the data items and populations which relate to the survey. More detailed breakdowns of some data items are available on request.

The population(s) for a particular data item refers to the persons in the survey to whom the data relates. Where alternative output categories are available for the same data item, these are shown and the data item name is followed by a bracketed numeral (e.g. Country of birth(2)).

To obtain data available on request, or for more information about our customised data service, contact Karen Gelb on Melbourne 03 96157681 or by facsimile on 03 96157372, or by email to <crime.justice@abs.gov.au>.

<i>Population 1A</i>	All households
<i>Population 1</i>	All persons aged 15 years and over
<i>Population 2</i>	All employed persons
<i>Population 3</i>	All unemployed persons
<i>Population 4</i>	Household victims of break-in
<i>Population 5</i>	Household victims of attempted break-in
<i>Population 6</i>	Household victims of motor vehicle theft
<i>Population 7</i>	Victims of robbery
<i>Population 8</i>	Victims of assault
<i>Population 9</i>	Victims of sexual assault (persons aged 18 years and over)

APPENDIX POPULATIONS AND DATA ITEMS LIST *continued*

<i>Data Items</i>	<i>Populations</i>	<i>Data Items</i>	<i>Populations</i>
1	State or territory of usual residence	7	Age group (years)
	All		1,2,3,7,8,9
	New South Wales	15–19	
	Victoria	15–17	
	Queensland	18–19	
	South Australia	20–24	
	Western Australia	25–34	
	Tasmania	35 and over	
	Northern Territory	35–44	
	Australian Capital Territory	45–54	
	Australia	55–64	
		65 and over	
2	Area of usual residence		
	Capital city	Total	
	Balance of state/territory	8	Marital Status
	Australia		1,2,3,7,8,9
3	Region of usual residence		
	Standard labour force dissemination regions		
4	Household type	9	Relationship in household
	1a,4,5,6		1,2,3,7,8,9
	Person living alone	Family member	
	Couple only	Husband, wife or partner	
	Couple with unmarried child(ren)	With dependants	
	Couple living only with their unmarried child(ren) aged 15 or over	Without dependants	
	Couple living only with their child(ren) aged 0–14	Lone parent	
	Couple living only with their child(ren) aged 0–14 and their unmarried child(ren) aged 15 or over	With dependants	
	One parent with unmarried child(ren)	Without dependants	
	One person living only with his/her unmarried child(ren) aged 15 or over	Dependent student	
	One person living only with his/her child(ren) aged 0–14	Non-dependent child	
	One person living only with his/her child(ren) aged 0–14 and his/her unmarried child(ren) aged 15 or over	Other family member	
	All other households	Non-family member	
	Total	Lone person	
		Not living alone	
		Relationship not determined	
		Total	
		10a	Country of birth and period of arrival
			1,2,3,7,8,9
		Born in Australia	
		Born overseas	
		Arrived before 1971	
		Arrived 1971–1980	
		Arrived 1981–1990	
		Arrived 1991–2000	
		Arrived 2001 to survey date	
		Total	
		10b	Country of birth(1)
			1,2,3,7,8,9
		Born in Australia	
		Born overseas	
		Born in main English speaking countries	
		Born in other countries	
		Total	
		10c	Country of birth(2)
			1,2,3,7,8,9
		Born in Australia	
		Born overseas	
		The Middle East and North Africa	
5	Number of children aged under 15 years		
	1a,4,5,6		
	None		
	One		
	Two		
	Three or more		
	Total		
6	Sex		
	1,2,3,7,8,9		
	Males		
	Females		
	Persons		

APPENDIX POPULATIONS AND DATA ITEMS LIST *continued*

<i>Data Items</i>	<i>Populations</i>	<i>Data Items</i>	<i>Populations</i>
10c	Country of birth(2) <i>cont.</i>	13a	Level of highest non-school qualification <i>cont.</i>
	Africa (excluding North Africa)		Certificate III or IV
	Northern America		Certificate 1 or II
	South America, Central America and The Caribbean		Certificate n.f.d.
	North-East Asia		Level not determined
	South-East Asia		No non-school qualification
	Southern Asia	13b	Level of highest school qualification
	Europe and the former USSR		Year 12
	Oceania and Antarctica		Year 11
	Total		Year 10 or below
11	Age and whether attending educational institution		No educational attainment/attendance
	Aged 15–19 attending neither school nor a tertiary educational institution		Total
	Aged 15–19 attending a tertiary educational institution full time	14	Labour force status
	Aged 15–19 attending school		In the labour force
	Aged 20–24 not attending tertiary educational institution full time		Employed
	Aged 20–24 attending tertiary educational institution full time		Unemployed
	Aged 20 attending school		Not in the labour force
	Aged 21 and over		Total
	Total	15	Full-time or part-time status of employment
12	Level of highest educational attainment		Full-time worker
	Postgraduate degree		Part-time worker
	Graduate diploma or graduate certificate		Total
	Bachelor degree	16	Status in employment
	Advanced diploma or diploma		Employee
	Certificate III or IV		Employer
	Certificate I or II		Own account worker
	Certificate n.f.d.		Contributing family worker
	Year 12		Total
	Year 11	17	Hours worked in main job in reference week
	Year 10 and below		Collected in single hours
	Level not determined	18	Hours worked in all jobs in reference week
	No educational attainment/attendance		Collected in single hours
	Total	19	Hours usually worked in all jobs
13a	Level of highest non-school qualification		Collected in single hours
	Postgraduate degree	20	Occupation
	Graduate diploma or graduate certificate		Managers and administrators
	Bachelor degree		Professionals
	Advanced diploma or diploma		Associate professionals
			Tradespersons and related workers
			Advanced clerical and services workers
			Intermediate clerical, sales and service workers
			Intermediate production and transport workers
			Elementary clerical, sales and service workers
			Labourers and related workers
			Total

APPENDIX POPULATIONS AND DATA ITEMS LIST *continued*

<i>Data Items</i>	<i>Populations</i>	<i>Data Items</i>	<i>Populations</i>
21	Industry	23	All problems in neighbourhood
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	2	<i>cont.</i>	Problems with neighbours/domestic problems
Mining			Other
Manufacturing			No problems
Electricity, gas and water supply			Total
Construction		24a	Whether victim of household or personal crime in the last 12 months (1)
Wholesale trade			Victim of household crime only
Retail trade			Victim of personal crime only
Accommodation, cafes and restaurants			Victim of both household and personal crime
Transport and storage			Not a victim of any of these crimes
Communication services			Total
Finance and insurance		24b	Whether victim of household or personal crime in the last 12 months (2)
Property and business services			Victim of household crime
Government administration and defence			Victim of personal crime
Education			Not a victim of household or personal crimes
Health and community services			Total
Cultural and recreational services		25	Feelings of safety at home alone during the day
Personal and other services			Very unsafe
Total			Unsafe
22	Duration of unemployment		Neither safe nor unsafe
	3		Safe
	Under 52 weeks		Very safe
	Under 2 weeks		Never home alone during the day
	2 and under 4 weeks		Total
	4 and under 8 weeks	26	Feelings of safety at home alone after dark
	8 and under 13 weeks		Very unsafe
	13 and under 26 weeks		Unsafe
	26 and under 39 weeks		Neither safe nor unsafe
	39 and under 52 weeks		Safe
	52 weeks and over		Very safe
	52 and under 65 weeks		Never home alone after dark
	65 and under 104 weeks		Total
	104 weeks and over	27	Whether victim of break-in in last 12 months
	Total		Victim of break-in
23	All problems in neighbourhood		Not a victim of break-in
	All		Total
	Housebreakings/burglaries/theft from homes	28	Number of incidents in last 12 months
	Car theft		None
	Other theft		One
	Louts/youth gangs		Two or more
	Prowlers/loiterers		Two
	Drunkeness		Three or more
	Vandalism/graffiti/damage to property		Total
	Dangerous/noisy driving		
	Illegal drugs		
	Sexual assault		
	Other assault		

APPENDIX POPULATIONS AND DATA ITEMS LIST *continued*

<i>Data Items</i>	<i>Populations</i>	<i>Data Items</i>	<i>Populations</i>
29	Number of incidents in last 12 months which became known to police	35	What the offenders did in most recent break-in
	None		Stole property
	One		Damaged property
	Two or more		Confronted someone
	Two		Other
	Three or more		Total
	Don't know	36	Whether considers the most recent incident a crime
	Total		Considers the incident a crime
30	When the most recent incident occurred (in last 12 months)		Does not consider the incident a crime
	Less than 3 months ago		Total
	3 months to less than 6 months ago	37	Whether victim of attempted break-in in last 12 months
	6 months to less than 9 months ago		Victim of attempted break-in
	9 months to 12 months ago		Not a victim of attempted break-in
	Total		Total
31	Whether most recent incident at current or previous address	38	Signs of most recent attempted break-in
	Current address		Door damaged/tampered with
	Previous address		Window damaged/tampered with
	Total		Other property damage
32	Whether told police about most recent incident		Door open when it shouldn't have been
	Told police about most recent (incident)		Window open when it shouldn't have been
	Did not tell police about most recent (incident)		Burglar alarm went off
	Total		Someone seen trying to break in
33	How most recent incident was reported to police		Someone seen acting suspiciously
	Reported in person at a police station		Someone tried to enter by using false pretences
	Police notified by telephone		Other
	Other		Total
	Police were at scene already	39	Number of vehicles owned/being purchased by household
	Don't know—incident reported by someone else		None
	Other		One
	Total		Two
34	Main reason did not tell police about most recent break-in		Three or more
	Too trivial/unimportant		Total
	Somebody else told police	40	Whether victim of motor vehicle theft in last 12 months
	Thought there was nothing police could do		Victim of motor vehicle theft
	Thought police would be unwilling to do anything		Not a victim of motor vehicle theft
	Personal matter or victim would take care of it themselves		Total
	Nothing was stolen		
	Not covered by insurance		
	Other		
	Total		

APPENDIX POPULATIONS AND DATA ITEMS LIST *continued*

<i>Data Items</i>	<i>Populations</i>	<i>Data Items</i>	<i>Populations</i>
41 Whether victim of robbery in last 12 months Victim of robbery Not a victim of robbery Total	1	44 Use of weapon/type of weapon in most recent incident Weapon used Knife Other weapon Gun Syringe/hypodermic needle Other weapon No weapon used Total	7,8,9
42 Main reason did not tell police about most recent robbery Too trivial/unimportant Personal matter or victim would take care of it themselves Thought there was nothing the police could/would do Thought there was nothing police could do Thought police would be unwilling to do anything Other Somebody else told police Too confused/upset/injured Other Total	7	45 Whether physically injured in most recent incident Physically injured Not physically injured Total	7,8,9
43 Location of most recent incident Own/other home Home Another person's home Public venue Public vehicle Train station, bus stop or interchange Place of entertainment, including car park Pub, nightclub, etc, including car park Another place of entertainment or recreation, including car park Street or other open land Shopping centre Place of work/study Own work—incident related to job Own work—incident not related to job Place of study Private vehicle Other Total	7,8,9	46 Whether offenders were seen in most recent incident Offender(s) were seen Offender(s) were not seen Total	7,8,9
		47 Number of offenders in most recent incident One Two or more Two Three or more Don't know Total	7,8,9
		48 Sex of offenders in most recent incident Male Female Some male and some female Not sure Total	7,8,9
		49 Age of offenders in most recent incident All under 18 years All 18 years or over Some under 18, some 18 years or over Not sure Total	7,8,9
		50 Whether offenders were known to the victim in most recent incident Offender(s) all known Some offender(s) known Offender(s) not known Don't know Total	7,8,9

APPENDIX POPULATIONS AND DATA ITEMS LIST *continued*

<i>Data Items</i>	<i>Populations</i>	<i>Data Items</i>	<i>Populations</i>
51 Whether anything was stolen during most recent robbery Something was stolen Nothing was stolen Total	7	55 Emotional impact of most recent incident <i>cont.</i> Loss of confidence or feeling vulnerable Difficulty sleeping Crying or tears Fear of being alone Became more cautious or wary Other None Total	7
52 What was stolen during most recent robbery Portable stereo/radio/walkman/discman Camera or video recorder or photographic equipment Jewellery (including watch) Bicycle Money (unspecified) Cash Credit cards or cheques or ATM cards Clothes or shoes or hat Laptop or portable computer equipment Mobile telephone Handbag or brief case or bag or wallet or purse Sporting equipment or sporting bag Other Nothing stolen Total	7	56 Whether victim of assault in last 12 months Victim of assault Not a victim of assault Total	1
53 Nature of most recent robbery Offender demanded something be handed over Offender tried to take, snatch or grab items Offender actually took, snatched or grabbed items Victim physically attacked Offender threatened physical violence Other Total	7	57 Main reason did not tell police about most recent incident Too trivial/unimportant Somebody else told police Thought there was nothing police could do Thought police would be unwilling to do anything Personal matter or victim would take care of it themselves Told somebody else instead Did not want offender punished Afraid of reprisal Too confused, upset or injured Other Total	8,9
54 Whether victim accompanied at time of most recent incident With friends, relatives or companions Alone Total	7,8	58 Whether in danger of being hurt in most recent assault In danger of being hurt Not in danger of being hurt Total	8
55 Emotional impact of most recent incident Anger Shock Frustration Fear for personal safety Depression or anxiety or panic attacks	7,8,9	59 How offender in most recent incident known Family member Partner Other family member Parent of victim Sibling Child of victim Other Friend/ex-partner Ex-partner Friend Girlfriend/boyfriend Ex-girlfriend/boyfriend Other friend	8,9

APPENDIX POPULATIONS AND DATA ITEMS LIST *continued*

<i>Data Items</i>	<i>Populations</i>	<i>Data Items</i>	<i>Populations</i>
59 How offender in most recent incident known <i>cont.</i> Colleague/neighbour/ acquaintance Work/study colleague Workmate Classmate or fellow student Neighbour Acquaintance Other known person Not known personally Recognised but not known Known by role or uniform Total	8	63 Nature of most recent assault Someone used force or violence Someone attempted to use force or violence In danger of being hurt Not in danger of being hurt Someone threatened to use force or violence In danger of being hurt Not in danger of being hurt Other In danger of being hurt Not in danger of being hurt Total	8
60 Day of week of most recent assault Monday—Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday Sunday Not sure Total	8	64 Assault typology (most recent assault) Offender was family member Home based Work or study Street Pubs/clubs Private car Shops Other Total	8
61 Time of day of most recent assault From 6 am to before noon From noon to before 6 pm From 6pm to before 10 pm From 10 pm to before 2 am From 2 am to before 6am Not sure Total	8	65 Whether victim of sexual assault in last 12 months Victim of sexual assault Not a victim of sexual assault Total	1
62 Whether support services accessed after most recent incident Support services accessed Family Friend or colleague Friend or neighbour Work colleague Professional/religious person Counsellor Doctor Minister, priest or other religious advisor Crisis help Legal help Financial help Other Support services not accessed Total	8,9		

TECHNICAL NOTE DATA QUALITY

INTRODUCTION

1 Since the estimates in this publication are based on information obtained from occupants of a sample of dwellings, they are subject to sampling variability. That is, they may differ from those estimates that would have been produced if all dwellings had been included in the survey. One measure of the likely difference is given by the standard error (SE), which indicates the extent to which an estimate might have varied by chance because only a sample of dwellings was included. There are about two chances in three (67%) that a sample estimate will differ by less than one SE from the number that would have been obtained if all dwellings had been included, and about 19 chances in 20 (95%) that the difference will be less than two SEs. Another measure of the likely difference is the relative standard error (RSE), which is obtained by expressing the SE as a percentage of the estimate.

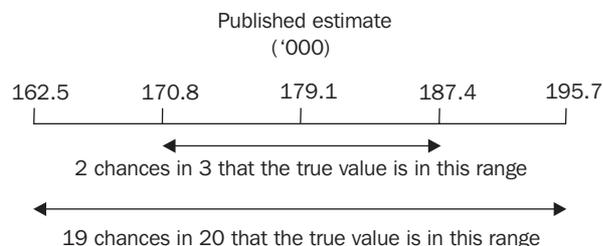
2 Due to space limitations, it is impractical to print the SE of each estimate in the publication. Instead, a table of SEs is provided to enable readers to determine the SE for an estimate from the size of that estimate (see table T1). The SE table is derived from a mathematical model, referred to as the 'SE model', which is created using data from a number of past Labour Force Surveys. It should be noted that the SE model only gives an approximate value for the SE for any particular estimate, since there is some minor variation between SEs for different estimates of the same size.

CALCULATION OF STANDARD ERROR

3 An example of the calculation and the use of SEs in relation to estimates of persons is as follows. Consider the estimate for Australia of persons aged 25–34 years who have been a victim of assault within the last 12 months, which is 179,100. Since this estimate is between 100,000 and 200,000 in the SE table for person estimates, the SE for Australia will lie between 6,463 and 8,795 and can be approximated by interpolation using the following general formula:

$$\begin{aligned}
 & SE \text{ of estimate} \\
 &= \text{lower SE} + \left(\left(\frac{\text{size of estimate} - \text{lower estimate}}{\text{upper estimate} - \text{lower estimate}} \right) \times (\text{upper SE} - \text{lower SE}) \right) \\
 &= 6,463 + \left(\left(\frac{179,100 - 100,000}{200,000 - 100,000} \right) \times (8,795 - 6,463) \right) \\
 &= 8,305 \\
 &= 8,300 \text{ (rounded to the nearest 100)}
 \end{aligned}$$

4 Therefore, there are about two chances in three that the value that would have been produced if all dwellings had been included in the survey will fall within the range 170,800 to 187,400 and about 19 chances in 20 that the value will fall within the range 162,500 to 195,700. This example is illustrated in the diagram below.



CALCULATION OF STANDARD
ERROR *continued*

5 In general, the size of the SE increases as the size of the estimate increases. Conversely, the RSE decreases as the size of the estimate increases. Very small estimates are thus subject to such high RSEs so that their value for most practical purposes is unreliable. In the tables in this publication, only estimates with RSEs of 25% or less are considered reliable for most purposes. Estimates with RSEs greater than 25% but less than or equal to 50% are preceded by an asterisk (e.g. *3.4) to indicate they are subject to high SEs and should be used with caution. Estimates with RSEs of greater than 50%, preceded by a double asterisk (e.g. **0.3), are considered too unreliable for general use and should only be used to aggregate with other estimates to provide derived estimates with RSEs of 25% or less.

PROPORTIONS AND
PERCENTAGES

6 Proportions and percentages formed from the ratio of two estimates are also subject to sampling errors. The size of the error depends on the accuracy of both the numerator and the denominator. A formula to approximate the RSE of a proportion is given below. This formula is only valid when x is a subset of y.

$$RSE\left(\frac{x}{y}\right) = \sqrt{[RSE(x)]^2 - [RSE(y)]^2}$$

7 Considering the example above, the 179,100 persons aged 25–34 years who had been a victim of assault within the last 12 months represent 24.9% of the 717,900 persons who were victims of assault in the last 12 months. The SE of 717,900 may be calculated by interpolation as 15,000. To convert this to a RSE we express the SE as a percentage of the estimate, or $15,000/717,900 = 2.1\%$. The SE for 179,100 was calculated previously as 8,300 which converted to a RSE is $8,300/179,100 = 4.6\%$. Applying the above formula, the RSE of the proportion is

$$RSE = \sqrt{(4.6)^2 - (2.1)^2} = 4.1\%$$

8 Therefore, the SE for the proportion of victims of assault in the last 12 months of persons aged 25–34 years is 1.0 percentage points ($= (24.9/100) \times 4.1$). Therefore, there are about two chances in three that the proportion of victims of assault in the last 12 months who were persons aged 25–34 years is between 23.9% and 25.9% and 19 chances in 20 that the proportion is within the range 22.9% to 26.9%.

DIFFERENCES

9 Published estimates may also be used to calculate the difference between two survey estimates (of numbers or percentages). Such an estimate is subject to sampling error. The sampling error of the difference between two estimates depends on their SEs and the relationship (correlation) between them. An approximate SE of the difference between two estimates (x-y) may be calculated by the following formula:

$$SE(x-y) = \sqrt{[SE(x)]^2 + [SE(y)]^2}$$

10 While this formula will only be exact for differences between separate and uncorrelated characteristics or subpopulations, it is expected to provide a good approximation for all differences likely to be of interest in this publication.

STANDARD ERRORS

TI STANDARD ERROR OF ESTIMATES

Size of estimate	STANDARD ERROR									RELATIVE STANDARD ERROR
	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.	Aust.
	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	%
400	432	361	383	272	330	223	265	185	408	102.0
500	496	413	436	309	373	251	294	209	461	92.2
600	555	461	484	343	412	277	320	230	509	84.9
700	609	505	529	375	448	299	343	250	554	79.1
800	659	547	571	404	481	320	364	268	595	74.4
900	707	586	609	431	512	340	383	284	634	70.4
1,000	752	623	646	457	542	358	401	300	670	67.0
1,100	795	658	681	482	570	375	417	315	705	64.1
1,200	836	692	714	505	596	392	433	328	739	61.6
1,300	876	724	746	528	621	407	448	342	771	59.3
1,400	914	755	776	549	646	422	462	354	801	57.2
1,500	951	785	806	570	669	436	475	367	831	55.4
1,600	986	814	834	590	691	449	488	378	860	53.7
1,700	1 020	842	861	609	713	462	500	389	888	52.2
1,800	1 053	870	888	628	734	475	512	400	915	50.8
1,900	1 086	896	913	646	755	487	523	411	941	49.5
2,000	1 117	922	938	664	775	498	534	421	966	48.3
2,100	1 148	947	963	681	794	510	544	431	991	47.2
2,200	1 178	972	986	697	813	521	554	440	1 015	46.2
2,300	1 207	996	1 009	714	831	531	564	449	1 039	45.2
2,400	1 235	1 019	1 032	730	849	541	574	458	1 062	44.3
2,500	1 263	1 042	1 054	745	866	552	583	467	1 085	43.4
3,000	1 394	1 150	1 156	818	948	598	625	508	1 192	39.7
3,500	1 514	1 248	1 250	884	1 022	640	662	545	1 290	36.8
4,000	1 625	1 340	1 336	945	1 091	677	696	578	1 380	34.5
4,500	1 728	1 425	1 415	1 002	1 155	712	727	609	1 466	32.6
5,000	1 825	1 505	1 490	1 055	1 214	744	755	638	1 546	30.9
6,000	2 003	1 652	1 627	1 152	1 324	802	805	689	1 694	28.2
8,000	2 314	1 910	1 864	1 321	1 514	899	889	778	1 955	24.4
10,000	2 581	2 133	2 066	1 465	1 677	980	957	851	2 183	21.8
20,000	3 574	2 968	2 807	1 997	2 282	1 260	1 188	1 113	3 057	15.3
30,000	4 282	3 569	3 327	2 374	2 714	1 444	1 334	1 290	3 708	12.4
40,000	4 847	4 053	3 737	2 672	3 059	1 583	1 443	1 425	4 245	10.6
50,000	5 322	4 463	4 081	2 923	3 352	1 695	1 529	1 536	4 709	9.4
100,000	7 019	5 946	5 293	3 816	4 406	2 064	1 806	1 911	6 463	6.5
200,000	9 065	7 777	6 727	4 888	5 706	2 454	2 089	2 328	8 795	4.4
300,000	10 425	9 021	7 669	5 601	6 592	2 685	..	2 587	10 489	3.5
400,000	11 462	9 984	8 381	6 145	7 280	2 849	..	2 776	11 864	3.0
500,000	12 307	10 777	8 958	6 589	7 850	2 974	..	..	13 040	2.6
1,000,000	15 136	13 499	10 868	8 081	9 820	..	..	..	17 392	1.7
2,000,000	18 227	16 597	12 924	9 726	12 105	..	..	..	22 995	1.1
5,000,000	22 563	21 194	..	..	..	..	..	..	32 826	0.7
10,000,000	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	42 539	0.4
15,000,000	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	49 306	0.3

.. not applicable

GLOSSARY

Assault	An incident, other than a robbery where the respondent was threatened with force or violence or physically attacked.
Attempted break-in	An incident where an attempt was made to break into the respondent's home, garage or shed.
Break-in	An incident where the respondent's home had been broken into. The respondent's home was also defined to include their garage or shed. Break-in offences relating to their car or garden were excluded.
Household	A group of persons resident in a private dwelling who share common facilities and meals who consider themselves to be a household. It is possible for a dwelling to contain more than one household, for example, where regular provision is made for groups to take meals separately and where persons consider their households to be separate.
Incidence rate	The total number of incidents of an offence that occurred in the reference period expressed as a percentage of the relevant population.
Motor vehicle theft	An incident where a motor vehicle was stolen from any member of the household. It includes privately owned motor vehicles as well as business/company vehicles used exclusively by members of the household.
Neighbourhood	Respondents were asked about crime problems in their neighbourhood. The perception of this term was left to the respondent.
Offence	Indicates crimes which persons or members of households reported as having been committed against them.
Reporting rate	The total number of most recent incidents of an offence that were reported to police expressed as a percentage of the total victims of that offence.
Robbery	An incident where someone had stolen (or tried to steal) property from a respondent by physically attacking them or threatening them with violence.
Sexual assault	An incident of a sexual nature involving physical contact, including rape, attempted rape, indecent assault, and assault with the intent to sexually assault. Sexual harassment (that did not lead to sexual assault) was excluded. Only persons aged 18 years and over were asked sexual assault questions.
Victim	A household or person reporting at least one of the offences surveyed. Victims were counted once only for each type of offence, regardless of the number of incidents of that type.
Victimisation prevalence rate	The number of victims of an offence in a given population expressed as a percentage of that population.

FOR MORE INFORMATION . . .

- INTERNET* **www.abs.gov.au** the ABS web site is the best place to start for access to summary data from our latest publications, information about the ABS, advice about upcoming releases, our catalogue, and Australia Now—a statistical profile.
- LIBRARY* A range of ABS publications is available from public and tertiary libraries Australia-wide. Contact your nearest library to determine whether it has the ABS statistics you require, or visit our web site for a list of libraries.
- CPI INFOLINE* For current and historical Consumer Price Index data, call 1902 981 074 (call cost 77c per minute).
- DIAL-A-STATISTIC* For the latest figures for National Accounts, Balance of Payments, Labour Force, Average Weekly Earnings, Estimated Resident Population and the Consumer Price Index call 1900 986 400 (call cost 77c per minute).

INFORMATION SERVICE

Data already published that can be provided within five minutes will be free of charge. Our information consultants can also help you to access the full range of ABS information—ABS user pays services can be tailored to your needs, time frame and budget. Publications may be purchased. Specialists are on hand to help you with analytical or methodological advice.

- PHONE* 1300 135 070
- EMAIL* client.services@abs.gov.au
- FAX* 1300 135 211
- POST* Client Services, ABS, GPO Box 796, Sydney NSW 2001

WHY NOT SUBSCRIBE ?

ABS subscription services provide regular, convenient and prompt deliveries of ABS publications and products as they are released. Email delivery of monthly and quarterly publications is available.

- PHONE* 1300 366 323
- EMAIL* subscriptions@abs.gov.au
- FAX* 03 9615 7848
- POST* Subscription Services, ABS, GPO Box 2796Y, Melbourne Vic 3001



2450900004024
ISBN 0 642 47838 4

RRP \$24.00

