

**CRIME VICTIMS SURVEY, AUSTRALIA, 1983, PRELIMINARY**

PHONE INQUIRIES *for more information about these statistics—contact Mr C. Caldwell on Canberra (062) 52 6214 or any of our State offices.*

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MAIN FEATURES

It should be borne in mind that the responses obtained in this survey were based on respondents' perceptions of particular offences that occurred to them. Those perceptions do not necessarily correspond with legal or police definitions of offences.

According to a survey of the Australian population conducted by the Australian Bureau of Statistics during 1983, 9 per cent of households (462,700) experienced a break and enter and/or a household property theft in the previous 12 months. Of these households, 21 per cent experienced a break and enter and/or a household property theft twice or more during that period.

In addition to household offences, an estimated 1,121,000 people (10 per cent of the population aged 15 years or more) reported that they had been the victim of other offences at least once in the previous 12 months. Other offences included in the survey were motor vehicle theft, theft or attempted theft with violence or threat of violence, other theft, sexual assault and assault.

Victims of crimes involving violence or threatened violence were much more likely to have been victimised on more than one occasion than were victims of crimes not involving violence. 41 per cent of victims of assault, 38 per cent of victims of theft or attempted theft with violence or threat of violence and 40 per cent of victims of sexual assault reported that they had been a victim of that offence two or more times in the preceding twelve months.

Nearly twice as many males as females reported having been a victim of an offence (63 per cent of all personal victims were male).

Whether the police were notified of the offence depended on its nature—94 per cent of motor vehicle thefts, 69 per cent of break and enters and 26 per cent of sexual assaults were reported to the police.

The main reason for not notifying the police about an offence was that respondents considered the matter to be too trivial. This was the reason given by 40 per cent of people where the offence was not reported. Another 12 per cent of respondents said that the matter was a private one which they would fix themselves.

EXPLANATORY NOTES**Introduction**

A survey was conducted throughout Australia between February 1983 and January 1984 to obtain information on whether households and persons had been the victims of certain types of offences during the preceding twelve months. Household offences covered in the survey were break and enter and household property theft. Individuals were asked about motor vehicle theft, theft or attempted theft involving violence or threat of violence, other theft and assault. Additionally, females aged 18 years and over were asked about sexual assaults. Definitions of these offences are given in paragraph 9.

2. This publication contains preliminary estimates relating to main aspects of the survey. More detailed estimates will be published in later publications.

Scope and coverage

3. Only incidents which occurred in Australia in the twelve months prior to the interview were included. Incidents in which the victim was a business or company were excluded.

4. The estimates contained in this publication are based on a sample of about 18,000 private dwellings and special dwelling units (defined in paragraph 5) and cover about one third of one per cent of the population of Australia.

5. Dwellings included in the sample were houses, flats and other structures being used as private dwellings, and non-private dwellings such as hotels, motels, caravan parks and boarding houses. With the exception of residential staff, people in hospitals and homes (retirement homes, orphanages, homes for the handicapped etc.), prisons and reformatories, and religious and education institutions were not included in the survey.

6. All persons aged fifteen years and over resident in selected dwellings were included except:

- (a) certain diplomatic personnel of overseas governments, customarily excluded from census and estimated populations;
- (b) overseas visitors holidaying in Australia;

- (c) members of non-Australian defence forces (and their dependants) stationed in Australia; and
- (d) those people, other than staff, in the institutions listed in paragraph 5.

Survey methods

7. Information was obtained by specially trained interviewers from a responsible adult member of the household in respect of the household related offences, and by personal interview with each household member in respect of the other offences. Where it was not possible for the interviewer to conduct a personal interview (e.g. a respondent was incapable of being interviewed because of severe illness or mental or physical condition), a responsible adult from the same household was asked the questions on behalf of that member. The survey was conducted over a twelve month period because of possible seasonal effects on numbers of offences.

8. Detailed information was only sought from respondents regarding the last incident of each offence.

Definitions

9. The term *offence* is used in this bulletin to indicate crimes of which persons regarded themselves as having been a victim (i.e. the responses obtained in this survey are based on the respondents' perception of their having been the victim of an offence). *The terms used are for ready understanding by the respondent and may not necessarily correspond with the legal or police definitions which are used for each offence.*

10. *Break and enter*: is the unauthorised entry into a home (including other dwelling structures such as caravans or campervans) or out-buildings such as garages or sheds which are on the dwelling block.

11. *Household property theft*: relates to incidents in which property belonging to more than one usual resident of the household (e.g. household furniture, household appliances) has been stolen. Thefts involving a break and enter are included as a break and enter and not as household property theft. Theft of a registered motor vehicle from a garage is included as a motor vehicle theft. Items stolen from households occupied by only one person are regarded as personal theft and appear under 'Other theft'.

12. *Motor vehicle theft*: is the theft or illegal use of any type of registered motor vehicle including cars, utilities, trucks, motor bikes and mini-bikes (if licensed) owned by the respondent (i.e. registered in their name). Cases of interference (such as attempts at entering vehicles, removing aerials, tyres, etc.) and the theft of caravans, trailers and floats are treated as 'Other theft'.

13. *Theft or attempted theft with violence or threat of violence*: is the theft or attempted theft of property from the immediate possession or control of a person and

accompanied by actual or threatened use of a weapon or by harm or injury to the person or damage to the property. The property which the offender is attempting to, or actually, steals may belong to the person from whom it is taken or someone else. An example of theft of property owned by someone else is where a shop employee is held up for money or goods. (This incident type includes, but is more extensive in scope, than that which the police usually regard as robbery in crime reports).

14. *Other theft*: is the stealing of property belonging to an individual, other than registered motor vehicles, where no threat of violence or a break and enter are involved. It includes personal possessions stolen from inside a car, and the theft of personal items from work.

15. *Sexual assault*: includes all assaults or threatened assaults of a sexual nature, regardless of whether there was any use or threatened use of violence. This incident type is not restricted to incidents defined by law as rape or sexual assault, and includes any incident of a sexual nature considered by the respondent to be forced upon her. Only females aged 18 years and over were asked sexual assault questions.

16. *Assault*: includes any incident in which there was actual or threatened use of violence except if this was part of an attempt to steal something from the victim, or if the force or violence was of a sexual nature.

17. *An incident* is one occurrence of a particular offence.

18. The term *victim* is used to indicate persons or households who regarded themselves as having been the subject of one or more offences on one or more occasions during the twelve months immediately prior to the interview.

19. *Type of victim* is defined as a household victim for break and enter and household property theft, or a person victim for the other five offences.

20. *Counting of victims*: in the 'total victims' entries of each table, each victim is counted once only, regardless of the number of offences (and the number of incidents of each offence) of which they were a victim. A respondent who reported having been a victim of assault on two occasions and motor vehicle theft on one occasion in the twelve months prior to interview will appear in tables about victims once as an assault victim and once as a victim of motor vehicle theft. However, in the 'total victims' entries in these tables the victim will be counted only once.

21. *A household* is defined as a group of persons in a dwelling who consider themselves to be separate from other persons (if any) in the dwelling, and who make regular provision to take meals separately from other persons, i.e. at different times or in different rooms.

22. *State and Territory of interview* is the State or Territory in which the respondent was interviewed, regardless of the State or Territory in which an incident occurred.

23. *State and Territory of location of last incident* is the State or Territory in which the last incident occurred. This information was sought only in respect of the last incident of each incident type.

Estimation procedure

24. Estimates derived from the survey are obtained by using a complex ratio estimation procedure, which ensures that the survey estimates conform to an independently estimated distribution of the population by age and sex, rather than to the age and sex distribution within the sample itself. Since the survey was conducted over a 12 month period estimates were made to conform to the distribution at each quarter of the year.

Reliability of the estimates

25. 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 the figures 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, 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 that a sample estimate will differ by less than one standard error from the figure that would have been obtained if all dwellings had been included, and about nineteen chances in twenty that the difference will be less than two standard errors. Another measure of the likely difference is the relative standard error, which is obtained by expressing the standard error as a percentage of the estimate.

26. Space does not allow for the separate indication of the standard error of all estimates in this publication. A table of standard errors for estimates of numbers of persons is given below. These figures will not give a precise measure of the standard error of a particular estimate but they will provide an indication of its

magnitude. An example of the calculation and use of standard errors is as follows:

TABLE 1 shows that the estimated number of households in Australia who were victims of break and enter was 315,400. From the tables below it can be seen that for an estimate between 300,000 and 500,000 the standard error is between 8,400 and 10,000. Interpretation gives a standard error of approximately 8,500 (rounded to the nearest 100). 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 306,900 to 323,900 and about nineteen chances in twenty that the value will fall within the range 298,400 to 332,400.

27. As the table shows, the smaller the size of the estimate the larger the relative standard error of that estimate. Very small estimates may be subject to such high errors as to detract seriously from their value for most reasonable purposes. In this publication, only estimates with relative standard errors less than 25 per cent are considered sufficiently reliable for most purposes. However, estimates with relative standard errors between 25 per cent and 50 per cent have been included, preceded by the symbol * as a caution to indicate that they are subject to high errors. Estimates with relative standard errors greater than 50 per cent have not been shown, and are indicated by the symbol **. Although figures for these small components can in some cases be derived by subtraction, they should not be regarded as reliable.

28. In addition to sampling errors, the estimates are subject to non-sampling errors. These may be caused by errors in reporting (e.g. because some answers were based on memory, or because of misunderstanding or unwillingness of respondents to reveal all details) or errors arising during processing (e.g. coding, data recording). Such errors may occur in any statistical collection whether it is a full census count or a sample survey. Every effort is made to reduce non-sampling errors in the survey to a minimum by careful design and testing of questionnaires, by intensive training and supervision of interviewers, and by efficient operating procedures.

STANDARD ERRORS OF ESTIMATES

Size of estimates (persons/households)	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	W.A.	S.A.	Tas.	N.T.	A.C.T.	Australia
	—number—								per cent of estimate
500						260			
600						280			
800					430	320	440	430	
1,000				500	480	360	480	470	
1,200				500	520	390	530	510	
1,500			640	700	570	430	630	600	
1,800	930	940	770	830	620	460	580	560	790
2,000	980	990	810	880	650	490	660	600	860
2,500	1,100	1,100	890	940	720	530	720	680	910
3,000	1,200	1,200	970	1,000	780	570	780	720	1,000
3,500	1,300	1,300	1,000	1,100	830	610	830	760	1,200
4,000	1,400	1,400	1,100	1,200	880	640	880	800	1,300
4,500	1,500	1,500	1,200	1,300	920	670	920	830	1,400
5,000	1,600	1,600	1,300	1,400	960	700	960	860	1,500
6,000	1,700	1,700	1,400	1,500	1,000	750	1,000	910	1,600
10,000	2,100	2,000	1,600	1,800	1,300	900	1,300	1,100	2,000
20,000	2,900	2,700	2,200	2,500	1,700	1,100	1,700	1,300	2,800
50,000	4,200	3,800	3,100	3,500	2,300	1,500	2,400	1,600	4,200
100,000	5,500	4,900	4,000	4,500	3,000	2,100		2,100	5,500
200,000	7,100	6,200	5,100	5,800	4,000				7,200
300,000	8,200	7,000	5,800	6,400	4,700				8,400
500,000	9,700	8,200	6,800	7,600					10,000
1,000,000	12,000	9,900	8,400	9,600					13,000
2,000,000									16,000
5,000,000									21,000

Interpretation of results

29. It should be borne in mind that the results presented in this publication are based on the respondent's perception of whether he/she was a victim of a particular offence (as defined in paragraph 9). The incidents reported do not necessarily relate to the legal definitions for each type of crime, nor do they necessarily correspond with the categories which the police would use.

30. Between March and May 1975, the ABS conducted a survey on crime victimisation as part of the General Social Survey. However, because of a number of differences between this and the 1983 survey, it is not possible to draw direct comparisons between the two sets of results. For example, the 1975 survey used a different sample design, and was conducted over a three-month period rather than a twelve-month period. Some differences also exist between the types of offences and the definitions of offences used in the two surveys.

31. Selected crime statistics (published in the Australian Year Book) are compiled on the number of offences as recorded by the police. It should be emphasised that due to reasons of definition, coverage, timing, sampling variability, and scope of offences, great care should be taken in drawing conclusions from a comparison of the results of this survey and the selected crime series.

Related publications

32. Current publications produced by the ABS are listed in the *Catalogue of Publications, Australia* (1101.0). The ABS also issues, on Tuesdays and Fridays, a

Publications Advice (1105.0) which lists publications to be released in the next few days. The Catalogue and Publications Advice are available from any ABS office.

33. Two further publications from the Crime Victims Survey are planned. A summary publication (4506.0) is expected to be available about the middle of 1985, followed by an analytical publication early in 1986.

Symbols and other usages

- * estimate is subject to a relative standard error of between 25 and 50 per cent. See paragraph 27.
- ** estimate is subject to a relative standard error of over 50 per cent—too high for most practical uses. See paragraph 27.

34. Figures in the tables have been rounded and discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and totals. Discrepancies may also occur between sums of component items and totals in tables relating to number of victims of selected offences (see paragraph 20).

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Australian Statistician

TABLE 1. VICTIMS(a) : NUMBER AND PER CENT OF POPULATION(b) BY OFFENCE BY STATE OR TERRITORY OF INTERVIEW(c)
(' 000)

Type of offence	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	N.T.	A.C.T.	Australia
HOUSEHOLD VICTIMS									
Break and enter(d)	123.5	76.6	46.8	30.4	25.9	5.4	*2.9	3.8	315.4
Per cent	6.7	5.6	5.8	6.4	5.7	3.6	*8.5	5.3	6.1
Household property theft	47.4	48.0	25.8	17.6	16.0	4.7	4.3	*2.7	166.5
Per cent	2.6	3.5	3.2	3.7	3.5	3.1	12.6	*3.8	3.2
Total household victims(e)	164.0	119.0	69.5	46.4	41.2	9.9	6.5	6.2	462.7
Per cent	8.9	8.8	8.6	9.8	9.1	6.6	19.1	8.7	8.9
Total households in State, etc.	1,832.5	1,358.2	806.7	474.1	451.4	149.4	34.1	71.3	5,177.6
PERSON VICTIMS									
Motor Vehicle theft	47.4	25.2	5.1	7.1	8.4	1.1	**	**	95.2
Per cent	1.2	0.8	0.3	0.7	0.8	0.3	**	**	0.8
Theft or attempted theft with violence or the threat of violence	33.7	10.8	8.0	4.1	6.5	**	**	*1.1	65.3
Per cent	0.8	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.6	**	**	*0.7	0.6
Other theft	213.0	185.8	98.6	65.0	77.3	13.3	7.9	12.4	673.3
Per cent	5.3	5.8	5.4	6.4	7.8	4.2	8.7	7.6	5.9
Sexual assault(f)	11.3	*6.2	*3.4	*1.5	*3.1	**	**	**	26.7
Per cent	0.6	*0.4	*0.4	*0.3	*0.7	**	**	**	0.5
Assault	120.5	116.3	52.1	41.3	42.4	4.5	5.9	7.9	390.9
Per cent	3.0	3.6	2.9	4.0	4.3	1.4	6.5	4.8	3.4
Total person victims(e)	370.9	311.5	154.0	107.0	124.9	18.2	14.4	20.1	1,121.0
Per cent	9.3	9.7	8.5	10.5	12.5	5.7	15.9	12.3	9.8
Total persons in State, etc.	3,999.0	3,204.7	1,809.8	1,020.3	995.6	319.3	90.7	164.0	11,423.2

(a) Victims refers to either households or persons who were recorded as victims of one or more offences in the previous twelve month period. The victims are counted once only for each offence regardless of the number of occurrences of that offence. (b) Household victims as a percentage of total households included in the survey, and person victims as a percentage of the population aged 15 years and over (for sexual assault the percentages are based on females aged 18 years and over). (c) State and Territory of interview is not necessarily the State or Territory in which the offence occurred. (d) See footnote (c) in Table 5. (e) Each victim is counted once only for purposes of establishing total victims, although the victim is counted against one or more specific offences. Therefore the specific offences will not necessarily aggregate to the total. (f) Sexual assault questions were asked only of females aged 18 years and over.

TABLE 2. PERSON VICTIMS(a) : OFFENCE BY SEX OF VICTIM
BY STATE OR TERRITORY OF INTERVIEW(b)
('000)

Type of offence	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	N.T.	A.C.T.	Australia
Males									
Motor vehicle theft	36.9	18.0	4.9	4.4	6.0	*0.8	**	**	71.8
Theft or attempted theft with violence or threat of violence	18.2	7.2	5.0	*2.5	5.3	**	**	**	39.8
Other theft	128.6	109.1	59.9	38.1	49.3	7.4	4.8	7.6	404.9
Assault	85.3	82.2	39.1	29.7	30.5	3.3	4.0	3.8	278.0
Total male victims(c)	231.4	196.8	99.1	66.1	81.9	10.8	8.9	11.3	706.4
Females									
Motor vehicle theft	10.5	7.2	**	*2.8	*2.3	**	**	**	23.4
Theft or attempted theft with violence or threat of violence	15.5	*3.6	*3.0	*1.6	*1.3	**	**	**	25.5
Other theft	84.3	76.7	38.7	26.8	28.0	5.9	*3.1	4.8	268.3
Sexual assault(d)	11.3	*6.2	*3.4	*1.5	*3.1	**	**	**	26.7
Assault	35.2	34.1	12.9	11.6	11.9	*1.2	*1.9	4.1	112.9
Total female victims(c)	139.4	114.8	54.8	40.9	43.0	7.4	5.5	8.8	414.6
Total persons									
Motor vehicle theft	47.4	25.2	5.1	7.1	8.4	*1.1	**	**	95.2
Theft or attempted theft with violence or threat of violence	33.7	10.8	8.0	4.1	6.5	**	**	*1.1	65.3
Other theft	213.0	185.8	98.6	65.0	77.3	13.3	7.9	12.4	673.3
Sexual assault(d)	11.3	*6.2	*3.4	*1.5	*3.1	**	**	**	26.7
Assault	120.5	116.3	52.1	41.3	42.4	4.5	5.9	7.9	390.9
Total person victims(c)	370.9	311.5	154.0	107.0	124.9	18.2	14.4	20.1	1,121.0

(a) Persons who were recorded as victims of one or more offences in the previous twelve month period. The victims are counted once only for each offence regardless of the number of occurrences of that offence. (b) State or Territory of interview is not necessarily the State or Territory in which the incident occurred. (c) Each victim is counted once only for purposes of establishing total victims, although the victim is counted against one or more specific offences. Therefore the specific offences will not necessarily aggregate to the total. (d) Sexual assault questions were asked only of females aged 18 years and over.

TABLE 3. VICTIMS(a). OFFENCE BY NUMBER OF OCCURRENCES BY STATE OR TERRITORY OF INTERVIEW(b)
(*'000)

Type of offence and Number of occurrences	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	N.T.	A.C.T.	Australia
HOUSEHOLD VICTIMS									
Break and enter(c)									
One incident	97.2	64.7	32.3	24.6	20.2	4.3	*2.5	3.0	248.7
Two or more incidents	26.4	11.9	14.5	5.8	5.7	*1.1	**	**	66.7
Total victims	123.6	76.6	46.8	30.4	25.9	5.4	*2.9	3.8	315.4
Household property theft									
One incident	37.0	40.8	19.5	13.6	11.6	3.8	*2.6	*2.1	131.0
Two or more incidents	10.4	7.2	6.3	4.0	4.4	*0.9	*1.7	**	35.5
Total victims	47.4	48.0	25.8	17.6	16.0	4.7	4.3	*2.7	166.5
PERSON VICTIMS									
Motor vehicle theft									
One incident	40.5	24.4	4.8	7.0	8.4	*1.1	**	**	87.0
Two or more incidents	*6.9	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	8.2
Total victims	47.4	25.2	5.1	7.1	8.4	*1.1	**	**	95.2
Theft or attempted theft with violence or the threat of violence									
One incident	21.9	6.7	*4.4	2.4	3.8	**	**	**	40.5
Two or more incidents	11.8	*4.0	*3.5	*1.6	*2.7	**	**	**	24.8
Total victims	33.7	10.8	8.0	4.1	6.5	**	**	*1.1	65.3
Other theft									
One incident	161.6	140.7	71.4	51.3	54.0	10.3	7.2	9.4	505.8
Two incidents	30.5	21.8	13.0	7.5	10.7	*1.6	**	*2.0	87.2
Three or more incidents	20.9	23.3	14.3	6.2	12.7	*1.4	**	*1.0	80.2
Total victims	213.0	185.8	98.6	65.0	77.3	13.3	7.9	12.4	673.3
Sexual assault(d)									
One incident	*6.4	*2.4	*2.3	*1.0	*2.4	**	**	**	14.9
Two or more incidents	*4.9	*3.1	**	**	**	**	**	**	10.8
Total victims(e)	11.3	*6.2	*3.4	*1.5	*3.1	**	**	**	26.7
Assault									
One incident	75.9	68.1	29.4	25.7	22.9	2.9	*1.9	4.7	231.5
Two incidents	14.9	15.7	6.4	4.6	5.2	**	**	*1.0	48.4
Three or more incidents	29.6	32.5	16.3	11.0	14.3	*1.3	*3.6	*2.2	110.9
Total victims	120.5	116.3	52.1	41.3	42.4	4.5	5.9	7.9	390.9

(a) Victims refers to either households or persons who were recorded as victims of one or more offences in the previous twelve month period. (b) State or Territory of interview is not necessarily the State or Territory in which the incident occurred. (c) See footnote (c) in Table 5. (d) Sexual assault questions were asked only of females aged 18 years and over. (e) Components may not sum to the total because some females, given an option, chose not to provide information on the number of incidents of sexual assault of which they were a victim.

TABLE 4. VICTIMS(a): OFFENCE BY SEX OF VICTIM BY STATE OR TERRITORY OF OCCURRENCE(b) OF THE LAST INCIDENT ('000)

Type of offence	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	N.T.	A.C.T.	Australia
HOUSEHOLD VICTIMS									
Break and enter(c)	123.8	78.3	45.4	30.3	25.8	5.2	*2.9	3.7	315.4
Household property theft	48.2	47.9	25.5	17.4	16.0	4.7	4.4	*2.3	166.5
Total household victims(d)	165.0	120.3	68.2	46.1	41.1	9.8	6.7	6.0	(e)462.7
PERSON VICTIMS									
Males									
Motor vehicle theft	37.9	17.7	*4.3	4.2	6.4	*0.8	**	**	71.8
Theft or attempted theft with violence or threat of violence	17.9	7.4	5.0	*3.2	5.3	**	**	**	39.8
Other theft	133.7	106.8	59.1	39.3	47.9	7.3	4.5	6.4	404.9
Assault	85.2	82.0	38.6	29.8	31.6	3.4	4.0	3.4	278.0
Total male victims(d)	237.2	195.5	98.2	68.1	81.6	10.9	7.8	9.5	(e)706.4
Females									
Motor vehicle theft	10.5	7.2	**	*2.8	*2.3	**	**	**	23.4
Theft or attempted theft with violence or threat of violence	14.4	*4.0	*3.2	*2.0	*1.3	**	**	**	25.5
Other theft	87.5	74.5	39.3	26.5	28.0	5.9	*2.7	4.0	268.3
Sexual assault(f)	11.1	*5.9	*3.4	*1.3	*2.7	**	**	**	(g)26.7
Assault	34.9	34.8	13.1	12.0	11.7	*1.2	*1.3	3.9	112.9
Total female victims(d)	141.7	114.1	56.1	41.5	42.4	7.4	4.4	7.8	(e)414.6
Total persons									
Motor vehicle theft	48.4	24.9	*4.6	7.0	8.7	*1.1	**	**	95.2
Theft or attempted theft with violence or threat of violence	32.3	11.4	8.2	5.2	6.5	**	**	*1.0	65.3
Other Theft	221.2	181.3	98.4	65.8	75.8	13.2	7.2	10.4	673.3
Sexual assault(f)	11.1	*5.9	*3.4	*1.3	*2.7	**	**	**	(g)26.7
Assault	120.2	116.8	51.6	41.8	43.3	4.6	5.3	7.3	390.9
Total person victims(d)	378.9	309.6	154.3	109.6	124.1	18.4	12.3	17.3	(e)1,121.0

(a) Victims refers to either households or persons who were recorded as victims of one or more offences in the previous twelve month period. The victims are counted once only for each offence regardless of the number of occurrences of that offence. (b) State or Territory in which last incident occurred is not necessarily the State or Territory more specific offences. Therefore the specific offences will not necessarily aggregate to the total. (c) This figure is lower than the sum of the State and Territory totals in which the offence occurred but are counted only once as a victim at the Australian level. For example, a person who was the victim of assault in N.S.W. and other theft in Victoria will be counted in the total victims for both States but only once in the Australian total. (d) Sexual assault questions were asked only of females aged 18 years or over. (e) State and Territory components may not sum to the total figure for sexual assault because some females, given the option, chose not to provide information on the location of the offence.

TABLE 5. VICTIMS(a): WHETHER LAST INCIDENT BECAME KNOWN TO THE POLICE BY OFFENCE BY SEX OF VICTIM BY STATE OR TERRITORY OF OCCURRENCE(b) OF THE LAST INCIDENT ('000)

Type of offence	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	N.T.	A.C.T.	Australia
LAST INCIDENT BECAME KNOWN TO THE POLICE									
Household victims									
Break and enter(c)	85.2	56.6	30.8	19.7	15.4	3.9	*2.1	*2.6	216.3
Household property theft	16.1	18.9	10.3	6.8	5.0	*1.9	*1.8	**	61.4
Total household victims(d)(e)	99.9	72.3	40.5	26.3	20.1	5.8	3.9	3.2	272.0
Person victims									
Males									
Motor vehicle theft	36.7	17.4	*3.7	3.8	5.8	*0.8	**	**	68.6
Theft or attempted theft with violence or threat of violence	*7.3	*3.8	**	*1.8	**	**	**	**	15.0
Other theft	50.1	43.0	17.6	13.1	15.1	4.1	*2.6	3.2	148.8
Assault	26.1	30.3	13.1	9.6	7.0	*0.8	**	*1.5	89.3
Total male victims(d)(e)	112.6	91.1	33.5	27.8	28.1	5.7	*3.6	5.4	307.7
Females									
Motor vehicle theft	10.0	*6.0	**	*2.1	*2.3	**	**	**	21.0
Theft or attempted theft with violence or threat of violence	*7.2	**	*1.9	*1.6	**	**	**	**	12.9
Other theft	36.8	36.5	10.2	9.9	11.0	3.1	*1.2	*1.3	109.9
Sexual assault(f)	*2.1	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	*6.6
Assault	11.8	16.5	*4.1	3.8	*3.3	**	**	*1.1	41.9
Total female victims(d)(e)	64.4	57.3	17.4	18.0	17.9	4.2	*2.1	*2.6	183.6
Total persons									
Motor vehicle theft	46.7	23.4	*4.0	5.9	8.1	*1.1	**	**	89.7
Theft or attempted theft with violence or threat of violence	14.4	*4.6	*1.9	3.4	*1.8	**	**	*1.0	27.8
Other theft	86.9	79.4	27.8	23.0	26.1	7.2	3.8	4.5	258.7
Sexual assault(f)	*2.1	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	*6.6
Assault	37.9	46.8	17.2	13.5	10.3	*1.3	*1.6	*2.6	131.2
Total person victims(d)(e)	177.0	148.4	50.9	45.8	46.0	9.8	5.7	8.0	491.3
LAST INCIDENT DID NOT BECOME KNOWN TO THE POLICE									
Household victims									
Break and enter(c)	38.1	21.3	14.0	10.1	10.0	*1.2	**	*1.1	96.6
Household property theft	32.1	29.0	15.2	10.6	11.0	2.8	*2.7	*1.7	105.1
Total household victims(d)(e)	67.0	49.1	28.8	20.1	20.8	4.0	*3.4	2.8	196.1
Person victims									
Males									
Motor vehicle theft	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	*3.2
Theft or attempted theft with violence or threat of violence	10.6	*3.6	5.0	*1.4	4.3	**	**	**	24.9
Other theft	83.6	63.8	41.5	26.1	32.7	3.2	*1.9	3.2	256.1
Assault	59.1	51.8	25.5	20.1	24.6	2.6	*3.1	*1.9	188.7
Total male victims(d)(e)	136.5	110.7	68.1	44.3	56.8	5.7	4.3	4.4	428.8
Females									
Motor vehicle theft	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	*2.4
Theft or attempted theft with violence or threat of violence	*7.3	*3.2	**	**	**	**	**	**	12.6
Other theft	50.7	38.0	29.1	16.6	17.0	2.8	*1.5	*2.7	158.4
Sexual assault(f)	9.0	*4.7	*2.2	**	*1.7	**	**	**	19.1
Assault	23.1	18.2	8.9	8.2	8.4	*0.7	**	*2.8	70.9
Total female victims(d)(e)	81.9	59.1	40.0	24.9	26.1	3.4	*2.3	5.5	242.4
Total persons									
Motor vehicle theft	**	**	**	*1.1	**	**	**	**	*5.6
Theft or attempted theft with violence or threat of violence	17.9	*6.8	6.3	*1.9	4.7	**	**	**	37.5
Other theft	134.3	101.8	70.6	42.8	49.7	6.0	*3.4	5.9	414.6
Sexual assault(f)	9.0	*4.7	*2.2	**	*1.7	**	**	**	19.1
Assault	82.2	70.0	34.4	28.3	33.0	3.3	*3.6	4.7	259.6
Total person victims(d)(e)	218.4	169.8	108.1	69.2	82.9	9.1	6.6	9.9	671.2

(a) Victims refers to either households or persons who were recorded as victims of one or more offences in the previous twelve month period. The victims are counted once only for each offence regardless of the number of occurrences of that offence. (b) State or Territory in which last incident occurred is not necessarily the State or Territory of interview. (c) The section of the survey covering victim police relationships treated a break and enter where only a motor vehicle was stolen as a motor vehicle theft. Therefore the break and enter totals in Tables 5-7 differ from those in Tables 1, 3 and 4. (d) Each victim is counted once only for purposes of establishing total victims although the victim is counted against one or more specific offences. Therefore the specific offences will not necessarily aggregate to the total. (e) As a person or household can be a victim of more than one type of offence, and may have taken different actions for each offence in regard to informing the police, the addition of totals for those informing and those not informing the police will differ from the number of victims in Table 4. (f) Sexual assault questions were asked only of females aged 18 years and over.

TABLE 6. VICTIMS(a) OF INCIDENTS WHICH BECAME KNOWN
TO THE POLICE : OFFENCE BY SEX OF VICTIM BY WHO TOLD
POLICE ABOUT LAST INCIDENT, AUSTRALIA
(' 000)

Type of offence	Who told the police			Police otherwise became aware	Total
	Victim	Other member of household	Someone else		
HOUSEHOLD VICTIMS					
Break and enter(b)	169.0	28.1	18.3	**	215.3
Household property theft	45.5	11.2	*4.8	**	61.4
Total household victims(c)	209.6	38.4	23.1	**	272.0
PERSON VICTIMS					
Males					
Motor vehicle theft	61.0	**	*3.4	*2.7	68.6
Theft or attempted theft with violence or threat of violence	12.5	..	*2.3	**	15.0
Other theft	118.5	..	28.6	*1.7	148.8
Assault	59.1	..	25.0	*5.2	89.3
Total male victims(c)	242.1	**	58.9	9.3	307.7
Females					
Motor vehicle theft	14.4	*3.1	*3.1	**	21.0
Theft or attempted theft with violence or threat of violence	10.2	..	*2.7	**	12.9
Other theft	85.2	..	23.7	**	109.9
Sexual assault(d)	*5.1	..	**	**	*6.6
Assault	29.4	..	12.4	**	41.9
Total female victims(c)	137.8	*3.1	42.1	*1.7	183.6
Total persons					
Motor vehicle theft	75.4	*4.6	*6.4	*3.2	89.7
Theft or attempted theft with violence or threat of violence	22.7	..	*5.0	**	27.8
Other theft	203.8	..	52.2	*2.7	258.7
Sexual assault(d)	*5.1	..	**	**	*6.6
Assault	88.5	..	37.3	*5.4	131.2
Total person victims(c)	379.9	*4.6	101.0	10.9	491.3

(a) Victims refers to either households or persons who were recorded as victims of one or more offences in the previous twelve months period. The victims are counted once only for each offence regardless of the number of occurrences of that offence. (b) See footnote (c) in Table 5. (c) Where a household or person was the victim of more than one type of offence, and more than one last incident became known to the police, the victim is counted once in each of the relevant offence, who told the police categories, but is only counted once in the total victims for each column. (d) Sexual assault questions were asked only of females aged 18 years and over.

TABLE 7. VICTIMS(a): MAIN REASON FOR VICTIM TELLING OR NOT TELLING POLICE ABOUT THE LAST INCIDENT OF EACH TYPE OF OFFENCE, AUSTRALIA ('000)

	Household victims			Person victims					
	Break and enter (b)	Household property theft	Total household victims (c)	Motor vehicle theft	Theft or attempted theft with violence or threat of violence	Other theft	Sexual assault (d)	Assault	Total person victims (e)
Main reason for victim(e) telling the police									
Because crime committed/ moral obligation	77.1	12.4	88.4	14.2	7.0	42.3	**	20.4	81.5
To try hoped to get property back	43.9	24.4	67.6	58.2	*1.9	109.2	..	..	167.9
Because of insurance/ compensation	26.0	*6.6	31.8	*3.9	**	15.5	**	*2.1	22.3
One of a number of incidents try to stop it happening again	27.2	8.1	35.3	**	*6.5	18.8	**	19.1	46.1
Wanted offender caught, punished	13.8	*2.8	16.1	**	*3.7	8.8	*2.3	12.4	28.1
Fear of harm to self or other person	..	..	..	..	..	..	**	24.9	25.8
Other	9.1	*2.4	11.4	**	*2.6	9.2	**	9.6	22.4
Main reason for victim(e) not telling the police									
Too trivial unimportant	34.4	70.4	103.8	*2.1	10.9	214.7	*4.6	112.5	331.0
Because someone else did	12.4	*3.8	16.2	*4.7	*2.5	41.3	**	20.0	69.0
Police could not would not do anything about it	30.1	17.9	45.8	**	*5.7	101.1	7.1	27.2	136.7
Private matter would take care of it themselves	*4.1	*4.1	8.2	**	9.8	20.6	*1.8	66.6	96.2
Told someone else instead	*3.7	*2.4	*6.1	**	*2.7	28.7	**	10.6	42.5
Offender thought known to be a child	*5.1	*1.8	*6.9	**	**	*4.9	**	**	*5.3
Did not want offender punished	*1.8	**	*2.8	**	**	*3.1	**	*3.6	7.2
Afraid of reprisal	**	**	**	**	*2.9	*1.7	*1.9	12.2	17.3
Too confused upset injured	**	**	**	**	*2.5	*2.8	*2.3	10.2	17.7
Other	23.2	7.6	30.8	*6.4	*4.3	50.7	**	39.2	99.0

(a) Victims refers to either households or persons who were recorded as victims of one or more offences in the previous twelve month period. The victims are counted once only for each offence regardless of the number of occurrences of that offence. (b) See footnote (c) in Table 5. (c) For each reason given, each victim is counted once only regardless of the number of offences of which he/she has been a victim. (d) Sexual assault questions were asked only of females aged 18 years and over. (e) For break and enter, household property theft and motor vehicle theft the reasons are those given by the victim or another household member who reported the incident to the police.