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**QUEENSLAND**

**COMMUNITY CRIME  
PREVENTION ATTITUDES**

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QUEENSLAND OFFICE**



## CONTENTS (continued)

## 3. GENERAL CRIME IN THE NEIGHBOURHOOD (continued)

## Table

Persons Aged 18 Years and Over, Queensland, July 1987

10	Household Characteristics and Selected Regions by Suspicious Behaviour Seen or Reported to Police	**	15
11	Age by Sex by Type of Suspicious Behaviour Seen	**	16
12	Main Reason Suspicious Behaviour Not Reported to Police by Type of Most Recent Suspicious Behaviour	**	16

## 4. BREAK-IN VICTIMS AND HOUSEHOLD SECURITY

Summary of Findings	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	17, 18
---------------------	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	--------

## Diagram

7	Households Broken Into: Type of Security Device Installed, Queensland, July 1987	**	**	17
8	All Households: Type of Security Device Installed, Queensland, July 1987	**	**	17

## Table

13	All Households: Household Characteristics by Whether Broken Into by Whether Break-In Reported, Queensland, July 1987	**	**	**	**	**	**	19
14	Households Broken Into: Break-In Details by Whether Security Device Installed at Time of Break-In, Queensland, July 1987	**	**	**	**	**	**	19
15	All Households: Type of Security Device Installed by Whether Broken Into by When Device Installed, Queensland, July 1987	**	**	**	**	**	**	19
16	Households Not Broken Into: Household Characteristics by Reasons for Adding Security Device, Queensland, July 1987	**	**	**	**	**	**	20
17	Households Not Broken Into: Household Characteristics by Reasons for Not Adding Security Device, Queensland, July 1987	**	**	**	**	**	**	21
18	All Households: Additional Security Measures Taken by Whether Broken Into, Queensland, July 1987	**	**	**	**	**	**	22
Technical Notes	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	23, 24

## EXPLANATORY NOTES

## Introduction

This publication contains the results of a survey conducted throughout Queensland in July 1987 to investigate community crime prevention attitudes. The survey, conducted as a supplement to the Australia-wide monthly population survey, was carried out at the request of the Queensland Government.

2. The survey sought people's attitudes to and willingness to participate in neighbourhood watch programs; their perception of crime; their attitudes to reporting crime and their general security consciousness.

3. Information provided by the survey has been classified by:

- selected regions and
- selected household characteristics.

4. The Monthly Population Survey is based on a multi-stage area sample of private dwellings and non-private dwellings (hotels, motels, caravan parks, etc.). The sample covers about two-thirds of 1 per cent of the civilian population of Australia and includes

slightly more than two-thirds of 1 per cent of the population of Queensland. Information is obtained from the occupants of selected dwellings by carefully chosen and specially trained interviewers.

5. The Community Crime Prevention Attitudes Survey was conducted using half of the monthly population survey sample, that is covering approximately 2,400 occupied dwellings. Information on neighbourhood watch and community perception of specific crime and crime reporting was obtained personally from all persons in the households in the scope of the survey. The remaining information was obtained from any responsible adult member of the households in respect of all persons in the households in the scope of the survey.

## Scope

6. All persons aged 18 years and over resident in urban areas were included in the scope of the survey except:

- visitors to private dwellings and usual residents of Queensland visiting interstate;

## EXPLANATORY NOTES (continued)

Scope (continued)

- (b) members of the permanent defence forces;
- (c) certain diplomatic personnel of overseas governments, customarily excluded from Census and estimated populations;
- (d) members of non-Australian defence forces (and their dependants) stationed in Australia and
- (e) persons in non-private dwellings.

Definitions

7. Neighbourhood watch refers to a project aimed at reducing crime through community awareness and involvement.

8. Neighbourhood refers to the region immediately surrounding the respondent's home and is based on the householder's perception of the area.

9. Break-in refers to unauthorised entry into a dwelling (including garages, sheds, etc.) during the last 5 years, including entry through unlocked doors/windows. Any theft from outside the dwelling (e.g. a theft from a vehicle parked in the driveway) was not included as a break-in.

10. Unoccupied refers to a dwelling from which the residents were temporarily absent.

11. Security doors refers to screen doors with a metallic lattice-work on the outside and which can be deadlocked.

12. Improved locks refers to deadlocks, holes drilled in door/window frames with a nail/screw/bolt inserted or other objects or devices placed in or on doors/windows to prevent their opening.

13. Timer power switches refers to devices which can be preset to turn lights or electrical appliances on and/or off at selected times.

14. Alarms refers to electrical or mechanical devices designed to detect or deter intruders.

Reliability of the Estimates

15. All estimates in this publication are based on information obtained from occupants of the dwellings included in the sample. Thus they may differ from the figures that would have resulted if the information had been obtained from the occupants of all private dwellings in Queensland. An indication of the likely differences

in terms of standard errors is given in the Technical Notes on pages 23 and 24.

Related Publications

16. Users may wish to refer to the following publications which are available on request:

'Law and Order' (4502.3) - Latest Issue: 1985-86 (\$2.90)

'Crime and Prevention of Crime in the Community, Adelaide Statistical Division' (4504.4) - Latest Issue: October 1985

'Crime and Crime Prevention Survey, Victoria, Preliminary' (4507.2) - Latest Issue: July 1987

'The Labour Force, Queensland' (6201.3) - Quarterly (\$7.50)

17. Current publications produced by the ABS are listed in the 'Catalogue of Publications' (Catalogue No. 1101.0) and those produced by the Queensland Office are listed in 'List of Publications' (Catalogue No. 1101.3). A 'Publications Advice' (Catalogue No. 1105.0) is issued on Tuesdays and Fridays which lists publications to be released in the next few days. These publications are available from any ABS Office.

Unpublished Statistics

18. The ABS can also make available certain statistics of this survey which are not published. Where it is not practicable to provide the required statistics by telephone, they may be available in other forms such as photocopy, computer printout or clerically extracted tabulation. A change may be made for providing unpublished statistics in these forms.

19. For further information on these unpublished statistics contact Rick Lennon by telephoning Brisbane (07) 222 6048, or write to Information Services at the address above.

Symbols and Other Usages

- \*\* Not applicable.
- \* Estimate is subject to a standard error of between 25 and 50 per cent.
- \*\* Estimate is subject to a standard error of over 50 per cent.  
(See Technical Notes on pages 23 and 24.)

20. Where figures have been rounded discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and totals.

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24 June 1988

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## 1. NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

## Summary of Findings

An estimated 1,110,700 persons, or 79.4 per cent of the Queensland population aged 18 years and over living in urban areas, thought a neighbourhood watch program would be useful in their area.

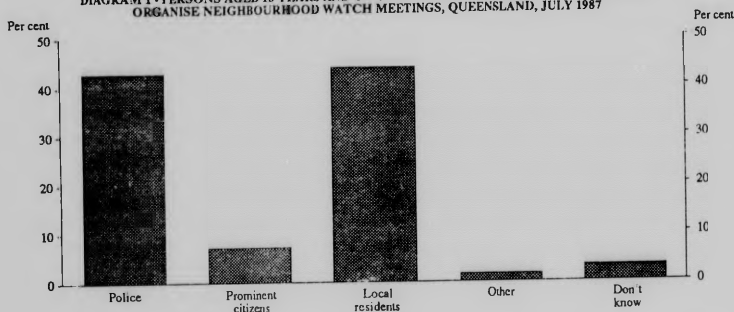
Acceptance of the usefulness of neighbourhood watch was high for all major urban areas of Queensland, with the areas of highest acceptance being Brisbane Statistical Division (83.8 per cent) and Cairns Statistical District (82.3 per cent). Mount Isa had the lowest acceptance (38.8 per cent) of the program's usefulness.

Attitudes to neighbourhood watch varied with:

- the age composition of the household (only 71.2 per cent of persons in households where all persons were aged 65 years and over thought neighbourhood watch would be useful, compared to 80.9 per cent of persons in households with no aged persons),
- family composition (80.4 per cent of persons in households consisting of a married couple with children compared with 76.6 per cent of single-person households) and
- sex composition (81.4 per cent and 75.3 per cent of persons in all female and all male households, respectively).

Of the persons who either thought neighbourhood watch would be useful or did not know, only 7.4 per cent thought prominent citizens should be organisers. Local residents (44.1 per cent) and police (43.1 per cent) were the most popular choices as organisers in all urban areas of Queensland.

DIAGRAM 1 - PERSONS AGED 18 YEARS AND OVER: COMMUNITY OPINION ON WHO SHOULD ORGANISE NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH MEETINGS, QUEENSLAND, JULY 1987



The more involved the neighbourhood watch activity, the less likely people were to participate. Only 8.4 per cent of persons who thought neighbourhood watch useful (or did not know) were likely or very likely to be a suburb co-ordinator but 57.2 per cent of such persons were likely or very likely to attend meetings.

DIAGRAM 2 - PERSONS AGED 18 YEARS AND OVER LIKELY OR VERY LIKELY TO BECOME INVOLVED IN NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH ACTIVITIES, QUEENSLAND, JULY 1987

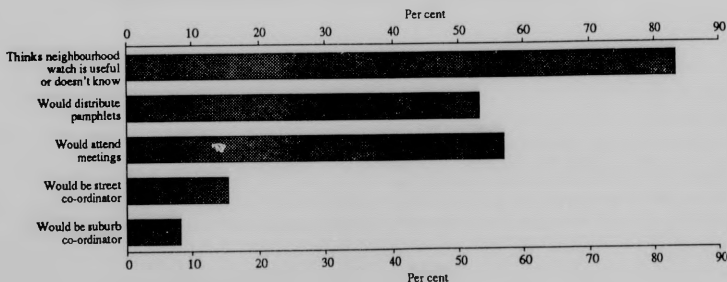


Table 1 - Persons Aged 18 Years and Over: Household Characteristics by Community Attitudes to Neighbourhood Watch, Queensland, July 1987

Household characteristics	Neighbourhood watch useful		Neighbourhood watch not useful		Don't know		Total	
	'000	%	'000	%	'000	%	'000	%
<b>Age composition</b>								
All aged 65 years and over	110.8	71.2	36.6	23.6	8.1	5.2	195.5	100.0
At least one aged 65 years and over	84.3	75.8	21.4	19.2	5.5	5.0	111.2	100.0
None aged 65 years and over	915.6	80.9	174.2	15.4	41.7	3.7	1,131.5	100.0
<b>Family composition</b>								
Person living alone	104.0	76.6	21.0	15.5	10.7	7.9	135.8	100.0
One person with children	65.2	78.9	11.5	14.0	5.9	7.1	82.6	100.0
Married couple only	260.4	79.0	59.6	18.1	9.7	3.0	329.8	100.0
Married couple with children	518.3	80.4	106.8	16.6	19.8	3.1	644.9	100.0
Other	162.8	79.3	33.3	16.2	9.1	4.4	205.2	100.0
<b>Employment composition</b>								
All employed	438.5	83.0	73.2	13.9	16.5	3.1	528.3	100.0
Some employed	401.4	78.4	89.0	17.4	21.7	4.2	512.0	100.0
None employed	270.8	75.7	70.1	19.6	17.1	4.8	357.9	100.0
<b>Country of birth composition</b>								
All born in Australia	795.2	79.0	170.8	17.0	40.7	4.0	1,006.7	100.0
All born overseas	140.0	79.4	29.4	16.7	6.8	3.9	176.3	100.0
Mixed	175.4	81.5	32.0	14.9	7.8	3.6	215.2	100.0
<b>Sex composition</b>								
All male	67.9	75.3	15.9	17.7	6.4	7.1	90.2	100.0
All female	129.0	81.4	19.1	12.1	10.3	6.5	158.4	100.0
Mixed	913.8	79.5	197.2	17.2	38.6	3.4	1,149.6	100.0
<b>Selected regions</b>								
Total Brisbane City	401.4	83.2	64.8	13.4	16.3	3.4	482.5	100.0
Inner suburbs of Brisbane City	201.5	84.5	29.2	12.3	7.7	3.2	238.4	100.0
Outer suburbs of Brisbane City	199.9	81.9	35.6	14.6	8.7	3.6	244.2	100.0
<b>Balance of Brisbane Statistical Division</b>								
Brisbane Statistical Division	241.6	84.8	33.7	11.8	9.7	3.4	285.1	100.0
Brisbane Statistical Division	643.0	83.8	98.5	12.8	26.1	3.4	767.6	100.0
<b>Statistical district</b>								
Gold Coast-Tweed (a)	90.2	78.1	21.0	18.2	* 4.3	* 3.7	115.5	100.0
Sunshine Coast	46.6	75.3	11.5	18.6	* 3.8	* 6.1	61.9	100.0
Bundaberg	17.5	72.5	* 4.4	* 18.5	* 2.2	* 9.1	24.1	100.0
Rockhampton	26.1	70.4	8.4	22.7	* 2.6	* 6.9	37.0	100.0
Gladstone	12.4	79.0	* 3.3	* 21.0	**	**	15.6	100.0
Hackay	23.7	80.8	* 3.4	* 11.6	* 2.2	* 7.6	29.3	100.0
Toowoomba	48.5	81.1	9.4	15.8	* 1.9	* 3.2	59.9	100.0
Oatlands	34.3	82.3	6.5	15.6	**	**	41.7	100.0
<b>Other urban areas</b>								
Mount Isa	11.1	68.8	* 4.0	* 24.7	**	**	16.2	100.0
Toowoomba	35.5	77.6	7.0	15.3	* 3.2	* 7.1	45.7	100.0
Other	121.9	66.3	54.8	29.8	7.1	3.9	183.8	100.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,110.7</b>	<b>79.4</b>	<b>232.3</b>	<b>16.6</b>	<b>49.5</b>	<b>4.0</b>	<b>1,398.2</b>	<b>100.0</b>

(a) Excluding that part of the Gold Coast-Tweed Statistical District in New South Wales.

Table 2 - Persons Aged 18 Years and Over (a): Selected Regions by Community Attitudes to Who Should Organise Neighbourhood Watch, Queensland, July 1987

Selected regions	Unit	Police	Prominent citizens	Local residents	Other	Don't know	Total
Total Brisbane City ..	.. '000	191.1	35.0	172.1	7.8	11.9	417.7
	§	45.7	8.4	41.2	1.9	2.8	100.0
Inner suburbs of Brisbane City ..	'000	90.1	17.5	90.8	4.9	5.8	209.1
	§	43.1	8.4	43.4	2.4	2.8	100.0
Outer suburbs of Brisbane City ..	'000	100.9	17.5	81.3	* 2.9	6.0	208.6
	§	48.4	8.4	39.0	* 1.4	2.9	100.0
Balance of Brisbane Statistical Division ..	.. '000	102.0	20.0	116.7	* 4.0	8.6	251.4
	§	40.6	8.0	46.4	* 1.6	3.4	100.0
<u>Brisbane Statistical Division</u>	'000	293.1	55.0	288.8	11.8	20.4	569.1
	§	43.8	8.2	43.2	1.8	3.1	100.0
<u>Statistical district</u>							
Gold Coast-Tweed (b)	.. '000	39.4	7.4	41.5	* 2.8	* 3.4	94.5
	§	41.7	7.9	43.9	* 2.9	* 3.6	100.0
Sunshine Coast ..	.. '000	22.4	* 3.6	20.8	**	* 2.6	50.4
	§	44.5	* 7.1	41.3	**	* 5.1	100.0
Bundaberg ..	.. '000	7.2	* 1.9	7.3	**	* 2.3	19.6
	§	36.8	* 9.5	37.1	**	* 11.9	100.0
Rockhampton ..	.. '000	* 7.5	* 1.9	17.0	**	* 2.2	28.6
	§	* 26.1	* 6.6	59.4	**	* 7.8	100.0
Gladstone ..	.. '000	* 4.5	**	* 6.5	**	**	12.4
	§	* 36.1	**	* 52.7	**	**	100.0
Mackay ..	.. '000	12.5	**	10.3	**	**	25.9
	§	48.2	**	39.7	**	**	100.0
Townsville ..	.. '000	20.6	* 2.3	25.1	**	**	50.4
	§	40.8	* 4.6	49.8	**	**	100.0
Cairns ..	.. '000	15.8	**	16.6	**	**	35.2
	§	44.9	**	47.2	**	**	100.0
<u>Other urban areas</u>							
Mount Isa ..	.. '000	* 4.4	**	6.8	**	**	12.2
	§	36.0	**	56.0	**	**	100.0
Toowoomba ..	.. '000	14.8	* 2.1	20.8	**	**	38.7
	§	38.2	* 5.5	53.6	**	**	100.0
Other ..	.. '000	60.8	8.3	52.2	* 2.8	* 4.9	129.0
	§	47.1	6.4	40.5	* 2.2	* 3.8	100.0
<u>Total</u>	.. '000	502.9	86.1	513.7	22.1	41.1	1,166.0
	§	43.1	7.4	44.1	1.9	3.5	100.0

(a) Persons who thought that neighbourhood watch was useful or who did not know.

(b) Excluding that part of the

Gold Coast-Tweed Statistical District in New South Wales.

Table 3 - Persons Aged 18 Years and Over (a): Likelihood of Involvement in Neighbourhood Watch Activities by Type of Involvement, Queensland, July 1987

Likelihood of Involvement	Unit	Distribute pamphlets	Attend meetings	Street co-ordinator	Suburb co-ordinator
Very likely	** '000	144.6	117.1	33.7	18.9
	\$	12.4	10.0	2.9	1.6
Likely ..	** '000	476.9	590.0	143.1	79.2
	\$	40.9	47.2	12.3	6.8
Unlikely	** '000	349.9	344.6	390.7	68.4
	\$	30.0	29.6	33.5	5.9
Very unlikely	** '000	187.6	140.1	105.6	11.4
	\$	16.1	12.0	9.1	1.0
Don't know	** '000	6.9	14.2	8.2	7.1
	\$	0.6	1.2	0.7	0.6
Not asked	** '000	**	**	(b) 484.7	(c) 981.0
	\$	**	**	41.6	84.1
<u>Total</u>	** '000	1,166.0	1,166.0	1,166.0	1,166.0
	\$	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

(a) Persons who thought that neighbourhood watch was useful or who did not know. (b) Persons unlikely or very unlikely to attend neighbourhood watch meetings. (c) Persons unlikely or very unlikely to be a street co-ordinator.

## 2. PERCEPTION OF CRIME PROBLEMS AND SAFETY IN THE NEIGHBOURHOOD

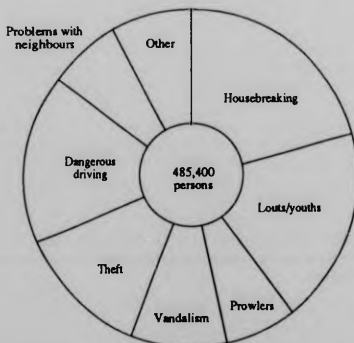
### Summary of Findings

An estimated 485,400 persons (34.7 per cent) considered that there were problems from crime or persons creating a public nuisance in their neighbourhood.

Persons' perceptions of these problems varied throughout the State. Of the residents in Inner Brisbane City suburbs, 42.1 per cent perceived problems, compared with only 17.1 per cent of Sunshine Coast and 22.6 per cent of Mount Isa residents. Areas outside the Brisbane Statistical Division with high proportions of residents perceiving problems were Bundaberg (34.9 per cent), Cairns (33.3 per cent) and Townsville (31.3 per cent) Statistical Districts.

The most common problems were housebreaking/burglaries and louts or youths accounting for 21.0 per cent and 18.8 per cent of all perceived problems, respectively.

DIAGRAM 3 - PERSONS AGED 18 YEARS AND OVER: TYPE OF PERCEIVED CRIME OR PUBLIC NUISANCE PROBLEM, QUEENSLAND, JULY 1987

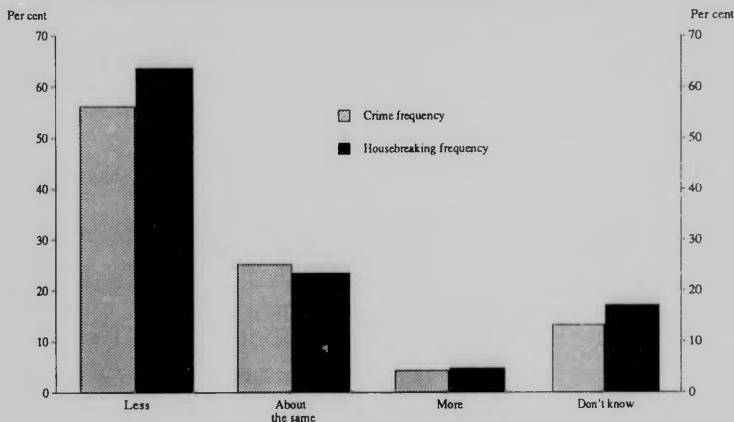


The proportions of each type of perceived problem varied throughout the State with 27.4 per cent of persons in outer suburbs of Brisbane City perceiving problems with housebreaking/burglaries compared with only 16.9 per cent in all other urban areas outside the Brisbane Statistical Division. The perception of problems with dangerous/noisy driving for residents of the Inner suburbs of Brisbane City was 11.9 per cent which was lower than that of residents in other urban areas (17.7 per cent).

A high proportion of persons (81.9 per cent) thought there was less or about the same amount of crime in their neighbourhood than in other neighbourhoods. This proportion varied substantially within Queensland: Brisbane Statistical Division (78.4 per cent), Mount Isa (91.9 per cent) and Cairns and Sunshine Coast Statistical Districts, 79.5 per cent and 78.3 per cent, respectively.

Opinions on the frequency of housebreaking were similar, as the majority of persons (77.7 per cent) considered there were about the same number or fewer housebreakings in their neighbourhood than in other neighbourhoods. Perceptions of housebreaking varied with the family and sex composition of households. Of persons living alone, 69.2 per cent thought there were the same number or fewer housebreakings in their neighbourhood compared to 79.9 per cent of persons in married-couple households. Only 68.4 per cent of persons living in all-female households thought there were fewer or about the same number of housebreakings compared with 75.1 per cent of persons in all-male households.

DIAGRAM 4. PERSONS AGED 18 YEARS AND OVER: PERCEIVED CRIME/HOUSEBREAKING FREQUENCY IN THE NEIGHBOURHOOD COMPARED WITH OTHER NEIGHBOURHOODS, QUEENSLAND, JULY 1987



The majority of persons perceived that they were very safe or reasonably safe at home alone or walking alone in their neighbourhood. However, the percentages of persons who felt safe or reasonably safe varied from 65.4 per cent for walking alone at night to 99.1 per cent for being alone at home during the day.

As would be expected, the percentage of females who felt very safe or reasonably safe walking alone at night (46.7 per cent) was considerably lower than the corresponding percentage for males (85.7 per cent). Age and where persons lived also had a marked effect on persons' perceptions of their safety while walking alone at night. Only 64.4 per cent of males and 29.9 per cent of females aged 65 years and over felt very safe or reasonably safe walking alone at night.

Of residents of the Gold Coast-Tweed Statistical District and of the Inner suburbs of Brisbane, 57.5 per cent and 58.5 per cent, respectively, felt very safe or reasonably safe walking alone at night, in contrast to 90.5 per cent of Gladstone Statistical District residents.

Table 4 - Persons Aged 18 Years and Over: Selected Regions by Perceived Crime or Public Nuisance Problem, Queensland, July 1987

Selected regions	Unit	Perceived problem	No problem perceived	Don't know	Total
Total Brisbane City ..	.. '000	198.2	263.2	21.1	482.5
	\$	41.1	54.6	4.4	100.0
Inner suburbs of Brisbane City ..	.. '000	100.4	125.4	12.6	238.4
	\$	42.1	52.6	5.3	100.0
Outer suburbs of Brisbane City ..	.. '000	97.8	137.9	8.5	244.2
	\$	40.1	56.5	3.5	100.0
Balance of Brisbane Statistical Division ..	.. '000	113.2	158.7	13.1	285.1
	\$	39.7	55.7	4.6	100.0
<u>Brisbane Statistical Division</u> ..	.. '000	311.5	421.9	34.2	767.6
	\$	40.6	35.0	4.5	100.0
<u>Statistical district</u>					
Gold Coast-Tweed (a) ..	.. '000	35.6	74.3	5.6	115.5
	\$	30.8	64.3	4.9	100.0
Sunshine Coast ..	.. '000	10.6	49.8	* 1.6	61.9
	\$	17.1	80.4	* 2.5	100.0
Bundaberg ..	.. '000	8.4	15.1	**	24.1
	\$	34.9	62.7	**	100.0
Rockhampton ..	.. '000	10.9	24.5	**	37.0
	\$	29.5	66.2	**	100.0
Gladstone ..	.. '000	* 4.5	11.1	**	15.6
	\$	* 28.8	71.2	**	100.0
Mackay ..	.. '000	8.8	19.0	**	29.3
	\$	29.9	64.8	**	100.0
Townsville ..	.. '000	18.8	38.2	* 2.9	59.9
	\$	31.3	63.8	* 4.8	100.0
Calms ..	.. '000	13.9	25.3	* 2.5	41.7
	\$	33.3	60.8	* 6.0	100.0
<u>Other urban areas</u>					
Mount Isa ..	.. '000	* 3.7	11.8	**	16.2
	\$	* 22.6	73.0	**	100.0
Toowoomba ..	.. '000	11.3	32.2	* 2.2	45.7
	\$	24.7	70.4	* 4.9	100.0
Other ..	.. '000	47.6	134.1	* 2.1	183.8
	\$	25.9	73.0	* 1.1	100.0
<u>Total</u> ..	.. '000	485.4	857.4	55.4	1,398.2
	\$	34.7	61.3	4.0	100.0

(a) Excluding that part of the Gold Coast-Tweed Statistical District in New South Wales.

Table 5 - Persons Aged 18 Years and Over: Type of Perceived Crime or Public Nuisance Problem by Brisbane Statistical Division and Other Urban Areas, Queensland, July 1987

Type of problem	Unit	Brisbane Statistical Division			Other urban areas (a)	Total
		Inner Brisbane suburbs	Outer Brisbane suburbs	Balance		
Housebreaking/burglarles	** '000 %	51.7 25.0	47.1 27.4	44.0 18.7	54.7 16.9	197.5 21.1
Louls or youths	** '000 %	35.0 16.9	34.4 20.0	47.6 20.2	59.7 18.4	176.7 18.8
Prowlers/lollers	** '000 %	13.2 6.4	* 4.6 * 2.7	18.1 7.7	28.0 8.6	63.8 6.8
Vandallsm/graffitil	** '000 %	20.2 9.8	17.4 10.1	23.4 9.9	26.2 8.1	87.2 9.3
Car theft	** '000 %	12.9 6.2	5.5 3.2	12.4 5.3	9.3 2.9	40.2 4.3
Other theft	** '000 %	19.7 9.5	13.5 7.9	13.4 5.7	35.1 10.8	81.8 8.7
Dangerous/noisy driving	** '000 %	24.6 11.9	29.3 17.1	41.0 17.4	57.3 17.7	152.2 16.2
Illegal drugs	** '000 %	* 2.9 * 1.4	** **	8.2 3.5	9.2 2.9	21.2 2.3
Sexual assault	** '000 %	* 3.8 * 1.9	** **	* 3.5 * 1.5	* 3.2 * 1.0	10.9 1.2
Other assault	** '000 %	* 2.0 * 1.0	* 1.3 * 0.7	* 2.6 * 1.1	* 3.7 * 1.2	9.6 1.0
Neighbour/domestic problems	'000 %	15.4 7.5	11.8 6.9	15.0 6.4	24.8 7.7	67.0 7.1
Other	** '000 %	5.3 2.6	6.0 3.5	6.4 2.7	12.5 3.8	30.2 3.2
<u>Total (b)</u>	** '000 %	206.7 100.0	172.1 100.0	235.6 100.0	324.0 100.0	938.3 100.0

(a) Including all urban areas outside the Brisbane Statistical Division.

(b) Persons reporting more than one type of problem are counted once for each problem.

Table 6 - Persons Aged 18 Years and Over: Selected Regions by Perceived Crime Frequency In the Neighbourhood, Queensland, July 1987

Selected regions	Unit	Comparison with other neighbourhoods				Total
		Less crime	About the same	More crime	Don't know	
Total Brisbane City	.. '000	252.1	139.8	32.7	58.1	482.5
	\$	52.2	29.0	6.8	12.0	100.0
Inner suburbs of Brisbane City	.. '000	120.9	73.5	19.6	24.4	238.4
	\$	50.7	30.8	8.2	10.2	100.0
Outer suburbs of Brisbane City	.. '000	131.2	66.2	13.1	33.7	244.2
	\$	53.7	27.1	5.4	13.8	100.0
Balance of Brisbane Statistical Division	.. '000	151.9	71.6	13.5	48.1	285.1
	\$	53.3	25.1	4.7	16.9	100.0
<u>Brisbane Statistical Division</u>	.. '000	403.9	211.4	46.2	106.1	767.6
	\$	52.6	27.5	6.0	13.8	100.0
<u>Statistical district</u>						
Gold Coast-Tweed (a)	.. '000	67.7	24.8	6.4	16.6	115.5
	\$	58.6	21.5	5.6	14.4	100.0
Sunshine Coast	.. '000	39.3	9.2	**	12.8	61.9
	\$	63.5	14.8	**	20.6	100.0
Bundaberg	.. '000	11.2	7.7	* 1.2	* 3.9	24.1
	\$	46.7	32.2	* 5.0	* 16.2	100.0
Rockhampton	.. '000	22.1	9.0	**	* 4.9	37.0
	\$	59.7	24.4	**	* 13.3	100.0
Gladstone	.. '000	9.4	* 4.6	**	**	15.6
	\$	60.4	* 29.6	**	**	100.0
Mackay	.. '000	14.0	11.0	**	* 3.3	29.3
	\$	47.7	37.7	**	* 11.4	100.0
Townsville	.. '000	35.4	16.6	* 2.3	* 5.5	59.9
	\$	59.2	27.7	* 3.9	* 9.2	100.0
Cairns	.. '000	22.8	10.3	**	8.2	41.7
	\$	54.8	24.7	**	19.8	100.0
<u>Other urban areas</u>						
Mount Isa	.. '000	11.9	* 2.9	**	**	16.2
	\$	73.7	* 18.2	**	**	100.0
Toowoomba	.. '000	28.2	8.8	**	8.1	45.7
	\$	61.7	19.4	**	17.7	100.0
Other	.. '000	124.0	39.2	* 4.5	16.0	183.8
	\$	67.5	21.3	* 2.5	8.7	100.0
<u>Total</u>	.. '000	790.1	355.7	64.1	188.4	1,398.2
	\$	56.5	25.4	4.6	13.5	100.0

(a) Excluding that part of the Gold Coast-Tweed Statistical District in New South Wales.

Table 7 - Persons Aged 18 Years and Over: Household Characteristics by Perceived Housebreaking Frequency in the Neighbourhood, Queensland, July 1987

Household characteristics	Comparison with other neighbourhoods								Total	
	Less housebreaking		About the same		More housebreaking		Don't know			
	'000	%	'000	%	'000	%	'000	%		
<b>Age composition</b>										
All aged 65 years and over	..	95.6	61.5	25.4	16.3	* 4.3	* 2.7	30.2	19.4	155.5
At least one aged 65 years and over	..	68.2	61.3	20.5	18.4	* 3.2	* 2.9	19.3	17.4	111.2
None aged 65 years and over	..	591.1	52.2	285.3	25.2	62.1	5.5	193.1	17.1	1,131.5
<b>Family composition</b>										
Person living alone	..	54.2	47.3	29.7	21.9	6.8	5.0	35.1	25.9	135.8
One person with children	..	40.2	48.6	22.5	27.2	* 4.0	* 4.8	16.0	19.4	82.6
Married couple only	..	193.0	58.5	70.6	21.4	11.2	3.4	54.9	16.7	329.8
Married couple with children	..	392.3	54.6	159.7	24.8	32.9	5.1	99.9	15.5	644.9
Other	..	105.1	51.2	48.7	23.7	14.6	7.1	36.8	17.9	205.2
<b>Employment composition</b>										
All employed	..	264.9	50.1	140.6	26.6	36.6	6.9	96.1	16.3	528.3
Some employed	..	284.1	55.5	123.8	24.2	21.2	4.1	82.9	16.2	512.0
None employed	..	205.9	57.5	66.7	18.6	11.7	3.3	73.7	20.6	357.9
<b>Country of birth composition</b>										
All born in Australia	..	547.2	54.4	239.8	23.8	48.7	4.8	171.1	17.0	1,006.7
All born overseas	..	91.1	51.6	36.9	21.0	7.9	4.5	40.4	22.9	176.3
Mixed	..	116.6	54.2	54.4	25.3	13.0	6.0	31.2	14.5	215.2
<b>Sex composition</b>										
All male	..	43.2	47.9	24.5	27.2	5.4	6.0	17.1	19.0	90.2
All female	..	72.5	45.8	35.7	22.6	9.6	6.1	40.5	25.6	158.4
Mixed	..	639.1	55.6	270.9	23.6	54.5	4.7	185.1	16.1	1,149.6
<b>Total</b>	..	754.8	54.0	331.2	23.7	69.5	5.0	242.7	17.4	1,398.2

Table 8 - Persons Aged 18 Years and Over: Perceived Safety While at Home or Walking in the Neighbourhood, Queensland, July 1987

Perceived safety	Unit		Very safe	Reasonably safe	Somewhat unsafe	Very unsafe	Don't know	Total
Walking alone at night	'000	..	384.9	528.9	265.3	(a) 214.7	* 4.4	1,398.2
	%	..	27.5	37.8	19.0	15.4	* 0.3	100.0
At home alone at night	'000	..	764.7	494.0	106.9	29.5	* 3.1	1,398.2
	%	..	54.7	35.3	7.6	2.1	* 0.2	100.0
Walking alone during day	'000	..	1,134.8	245.9	10.3	* 4.3	* 2.9	1,398.2
	%	..	81.2	17.6	0.7	* 0.3	* 0.2	100.0
At home alone during day	'000	..	1,158.9	226.0	10.6	* 1.9	**	1,398.2
	%	..	82.9	16.2	0.8	* 0.1	**	100.0

(a) Including 43,000 persons who stated they never go out alone at night.

Table 9 - Persons Aged 18 Years and Over Who Felt Reasonably or Very Safe: Age Group by Sex and Selected Regions by Perceived Safety, Queensland, July 1987

Characteristics		Walking alone at night		At home at night		Walking alone during day		At home during day	
		'000	% (a)	'000	% (a)	'000	% (a)	'000	% (a)
<b>Age group (years)</b>									
18-24	M.	94.2	93.6	98.4	97.8	100.7	100.0	100.4	99.7
	F.	55.2	48.4	89.7	78.7	112.7	98.8	112.7	98.8
25-34	M.	148.1	92.4	157.5	98.3	160.3	100.0	160.3	100.0
	F.	86.7	52.0	132.3	79.4	163.0	97.8	163.4	98.0
35-44	M.	124.1	88.0	139.1	98.6	140.0	99.3	141.0	100.0
	F.	74.8	49.9	127.7	85.2	147.3	98.3	147.3	98.2
45-54	M.	80.1	84.4	93.2	98.1	94.6	99.7	94.4	99.4
	F.	51.8	54.8	82.3	87.0	93.6	99.0	93.8	99.1
55-64	M.	68.3	83.9	79.6	97.8	81.1	99.6	81.1	99.6
	F.	38.0	42.3	74.7	83.1	87.8	97.7	88.0	97.9
65 and over	M.	58.5	64.4	97.0	95.7	90.3	99.3	90.0	99.0
	F.	34.1	29.9	97.2	85.2	109.2	95.8	112.7	98.9
<b>Total</b>	M.	573.3	85.7	654.8	97.8	667.0	99.7	667.1	99.7
	F.	340.5	46.7	603.9	82.8	713.7	97.9	717.7	98.5
<b>Selected regions</b>									
Total Brisbane City ..		299.0	62.0	431.2	89.4	475.9	98.6	475.5	98.5
Inner suburbs of Brisbane City ..		139.5	58.5	212.9	89.3	234.9	98.5	235.2	98.7
Outer suburbs of Brisbane City ..		159.5	65.3	218.4	89.4	241.0	98.7	240.3	98.4
Balance of Brisbane Statistical Division ..		169.2	59.3	249.6	87.5	279.1	97.5	282.3	99.0
<b>Brisbane Statistical Division ..</b>		468.2	61.0	680.8	88.7	755.0	98.4	757.8	98.7
<b>Statistical district</b>									
Gold Coast-Tweed (b) ..		66.4	57.5	104.6	90.6	114.0	98.7	114.4	99.0
Sunshine Coast ..		40.4	65.4	55.9	90.3	61.9	100.0	61.6	99.6
Bundaberg ..		15.1	62.7	21.0	87.4	23.5	97.4	23.8	98.7
Rockhampton ..		25.3	68.3	34.5	93.2	37.0	100.0	37.0	100.0
Gladstone ..		14.2	90.5	14.8	94.5	15.6	100.0	15.6	100.0
Mackay ..		20.6	70.2	26.0	88.9	29.0	99.1	28.7	98.1
Townsville ..		45.5	76.0	56.7	94.8	59.3	99.0	59.9	100.0
Cairns ..		28.3	67.8	37.4	89.8	41.4	99.3	41.7	100.0
<b>Other urban areas</b>									
Mount Isa ..		14.0	86.4	15.2	94.0	16.2	100.0	16.2	100.0
Toowoomba ..		31.1	68.1	41.5	90.9	45.4	99.3	44.8	97.9
Other ..		144.7	78.8	170.1	92.6	182.5	99.3	183.4	99.8
<b>Total ..</b>		913.8	65.4	1,258.7	90.0	1,380.7	98.7	1,384.8	99.0

(a) Expressed as a percentage of the total persons in that population group. (b) Excluding that part of Gold Coast-Tweed Statistical District in New South Wales. M. Males. F. Females.

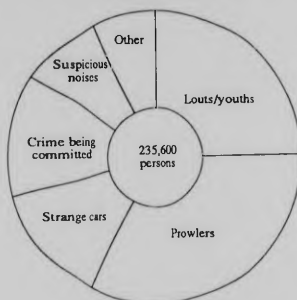
## 3. GENERAL CRIME IN THE NEIGHBOURHOOD

## Summary of Findings

An estimated 235,600 persons (16.9 per cent) have seen or heard someone behaving in a suspicious manner in their neighbourhood over the past 12 months. Observation of this suspicious behaviour was most prevalent in the inner suburbs of Brisbane City (21.3 per cent of persons) and the Bundaberg Statistical District (23.5 per cent).

The most common types of suspicious behaviour observed were prowlers and loiterers (101,500 persons) and louts or youths (76,400 persons).

DIAGRAM 5 - PERSONS AGED 18 YEARS OR MORE: TYPE OF SUSPICIOUS BEHAVIOUR SEEN, QUEENSLAND, JULY 1987



Of those persons who had seen or heard someone behaving in a suspicious manner, only 55,600 (23.6 per cent) reported the incident to police. The proportion of persons who reported incidents depended on the type of suspicious behaviour seen or heard. For example, 40.0 per cent of persons observing a crime being committed reported this to police while 14.9 per cent reported seeing strange cars.

Age composition of the household strongly influenced the reporting of incidents, with 28.3 per cent of persons living in households where all persons were aged 65 years and over reporting the incident to police compared with 22.9 per cent of persons living in households with no aged persons.

The main reason given for not reporting suspicious behaviour to police was that the person was not sure anything was wrong or the matter was too trivial (77,000 persons or 42.8 per cent). The reasons varied considerably depending on the incident. The major reason for not reporting louts or youths was that they were not sure anything was wrong or the matter was too trivial, whereas for a crime being committed the reason most often given was that someone else had reported it to police.

DIAGRAM 6 - PERSONS AGED 18 YEARS AND OVER: MAIN REASON SUSPICIOUS BEHAVIOUR NOT REPORTED TO POLICE, QUEENSLAND, JULY 1987

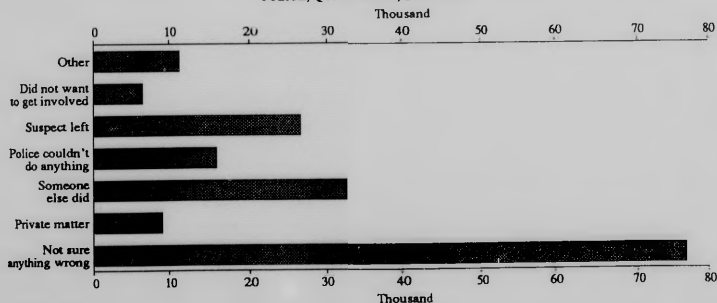


Table 10 - Persons Aged 18 Years and Over: Household Characteristics and Selected Regions by Suspicious Behaviour Seen or Reported to Police, Queensland, July 1987

Household characteristics	Suspicious behaviour in neighbourhood								
	Some seen or heard						Nothing seen or heard	Total	
	Reported to police		Not reported to police		Total				
	'000	%	'000	%	'000	%	'000	'000	
<b>Age composition</b>									
All aged 65 years and over ..	* 2.5	* 28.3	6.4	71.7	8.9	100.0	146.6	155.5	
At least one aged 65 years and over ..	* 4.3	* 31.3	9.4	68.7	13.7	100.0	97.4	111.2	
None aged 65 years and over ..	48.8	22.9	164.2	77.1	213.0	100.0	918.5	1,131.5	
<b>Family composition</b>									
Person living alone ..	* 3.9	24.1	12.3	75.9	16.2	100.0	119.6	135.8	
One person with children ..	* 4.2	22.1	14.8	77.9	19.0	100.0	63.6	82.6	
Married couple only ..	7.9	18.4	35.3	81.6	43.2	100.0	286.5	329.8	
Married couple with children ..	32.6	26.4	90.7	73.6	123.3	100.0	521.5	644.9	
Other ..	7.0	20.6	26.9	79.4	33.9	100.0	171.3	205.2	
<b>Employment composition</b>									
All employed ..	26.2	25.3	77.3	74.7	103.5	100.0	424.7	528.3	
Some employed ..	20.2	22.9	67.9	77.1	88.2	100.0	423.9	512.0	
None employed ..	9.2	20.9	34.8	79.1	44.0	100.0	313.9	357.9	
<b>Country of birth composition</b>									
All born in Australia ..	38.3	23.2	126.9	76.8	165.2	100.0	841.5	1,006.7	
All born overseas ..	* 4.9	20.8	18.6	79.2	23.5	100.0	152.8	176.3	
Mixed ..	12.4	26.4	34.5	73.6	46.9	100.0	168.3	215.2	
<b>Sex composition</b>									
All male ..	3.2	25.7	9.3	74.3	12.6	100.0	77.7	90.2	
All female ..	7.5	27.7	19.5	72.3	27.0	100.0	131.4	158.4	
Mixed ..	44.9	22.9	151.2	77.1	196.1	100.0	953.5	1,149.6	
<b>Selected regions</b>									
Total Brisbane City ..	21.0	22.2	73.5	77.8	94.5	100.0	388.1	482.5	
Inner suburbs of Brisbane City ..	13.2	26.1	37.5	73.9	50.7	100.0	187.7	238.4	
Outer suburbs of Brisbane City ..	7.8	17.8	36.0	82.2	43.8	100.0	200.4	244.2	
Balance of Brisbane Statistical Division ..	17.0	30.6	38.5	69.4	55.5	100.0	229.6	285.1	
<b>Brisbane Statistical Division</b>	38.0	25.3	112.0	74.7	150.0	100.0	617.6	767.6	
<b>Statistical district</b>									
Gold Coast-Tweed (a) ..	6.0	32.7	12.3	67.3	18.2	100.0	97.3	115.5	
Sunshine Coast ..	**	**	5.4	83.5	6.4	100.0	55.4	61.9	
Bundaberg ..	**	**	5.6	100.0	5.6	100.0	18.4	24.1	
Rockhampton ..	**	**	4.2	86.9	* 4.8	100.0	32.2	37.0	
Gladstone ..	**	**	**	**	**	100.0	15.1	15.6	
Mackay ..	**	**	4.7	77.2	* 6.1	100.0	23.2	29.3	
Townsville ..	**	**	8.6	91.2	9.5	100.0	50.4	59.9	
Oz Inns ..	**	**	7.1	83.1	8.5	100.0	33.1	41.7	
<b>Other urban areas</b>									
Mount Isa ..	**	**	**	**	**	100.0	15.9	16.2	
Toowoomba ..	* 2.5	* 41.5	* 3.5	* 58.5	6.0	100.0	39.7	45.7	
Other ..	* 3.9	* 19.8	15.7	80.2	19.6	100.0	164.6	183.8	
<b>Total</b>	55.6	23.6	180.0	76.4	235.6	100.0	1,162.6	1,398.2	

(a) Excluding that part of Gold Coast-Tweed Statistical District in New South Wales.

Table 11 - Persons (a) Aged 18 Years and Over: Age by Sex by Type of Suspicious Behaviour Seen, Queensland, July 1997  
('000)

Age by sex	Louts or youths	Prowlers/loiterers	Strange cars	Crime being committed	Suspicious noises	Other	Total (a)
<b>Males</b>							
18-24 years	** 6.4	10.0	* 2.6	* 4.1	* 2.7	* 1.6	21.0
25-34 years	** 13.9	15.2	8.9	6.5	* 3.7	* 2.5	38.0
35-44 years	** 9.7	12.6	* 3.6	* 4.5	* 1.9	* 4.2	27.0
45-54 years	** * 4.9	6.4	* 2.0	* 3.1	**	* 1.7	14.1
55-64 years	** * 4.0	* 4.2	* 2.3	* 1.7	**	* 1.2	11.8
65 years and over	** * 1.8	* 4.2	* 2.4	**	**	**	8.1
<b>Total</b> **	** 40.7	52.5	21.6	20.8	9.8	11.8	119.9
<b>Females</b>							
18-24 years	** 5.3	9.0	* 3.7	* 4.6	* 4.3	* 3.0	22.6
25-34 years	** 9.9	15.6	* 4.1	6.8	* 4.2	* 2.7	32.6
35-44 years	** 10.8	13.0	6.7	6.0	* 3.1	* 2.2	31.4
45-54 years	** * 4.7	5.3	* 1.4	* 2.7	* 1.3	* 1.4	14.5
55-64 years	** * 3.1	* 2.9	* 1.4	**	**	* 1.1	8.6
65 years and over	** * 1.9	* 3.2	**	**	**	**	6.1
<b>Total</b> **	** 35.7	49.0	18.3	21.6	15.2	10.4	115.8
<b>Persons</b>							
18-24 years	** 11.7	19.0	6.2	8.8	7.0	4.6	43.6
25-34 years	** 23.8	30.8	13.0	13.2	7.9	5.2	70.6
35-44 years	** 20.5	25.5	10.2	10.5	5.0	6.4	58.4
45-54 years	** 9.6	11.7	* 3.4	5.8	* 2.3	3.1	28.6
55-64 years	** 7.1	7.0	* 3.7	* 2.3	* 1.8	2.3	20.3
65 years and over	** * 3.7	7.4	* 3.4	* 1.9	**	**	14.2
<b>Total</b> **	** 76.4	101.5	39.9	42.5	24.9	22.2	235.6

(a) Each person may have seen more than one suspicious act.

Table 12 - Persons Aged 18 Years and Over: Main Reason Suspicious Behaviour Not Reported to Police by Type of Most Recent Suspicious Behaviour, Queensland, July 1997

Particulars	Unit	Louts or youths	Prowlers/loiterers	Strange cars	Crime being committed	Other	Total
Reported to police	** '000	11.9	18.6	3.9	14.0	7.2	55.6
	%	19.7	23.3	14.9	40.0	21.1	23.6
Not reported to police	** '000	48.5	61.4	22.1	21.1	26.9	180.0
	%	80.3	76.7	85.1	60.0	78.9	76.4
<b>Main reason not reported</b>							
Not sure anything wrong/too trivial	'000	24.6	26.6	10.2	* 2.6	13.0	77.0
Private matter/took care of themselves	'000	* 2.5	* 4.3	**	**	**	9.1
Because someone else did	'000	* 4.4	10.1	* 2.2	10.5	5.4	32.6
Police could not or would not do anything	** '000	7.1	* 4.1	* 1.6	* 2.1	* 1.6	16.5
Suspect left without any problems	** '000	* 4.8	14.1	6.0	**	**	26.8
Did not want to get involved	** '000	* 2.2	**	**	**	* 2.2	6.6
Other	** '000	* 2.9	* 1.6	**	* 3.4	* 2.6	11.4
<b>Total</b> **	** '000	60.3	80.0	26.0	35.1	34.1	235.6

## 4. BREAK-IN VICTIMS AND HOUSEHOLD SECURITY

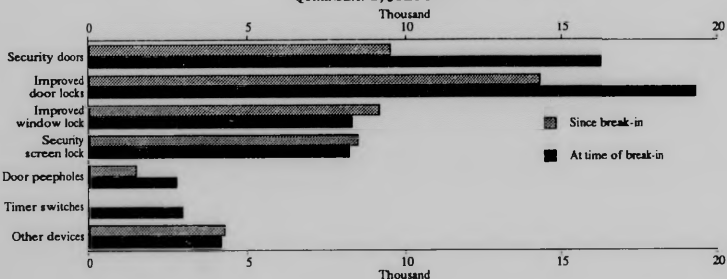
## Summary of Findings

An estimated 77,600 households (10.3 per cent) have been broken into within the last 5 years or since the present occupants have been in residence. Of these households 56,500 (72.8 per cent) reported the break-in to police. Household characteristics had a substantial effect on the proportion of break-ins reported. While 81.1 per cent of households with all persons aged 65 and over reported break-ins to police, only 71.9 per cent of households with no aged persons did so; 80.2 per cent of single-person households compared with 69.5 per cent of households whose composition was a married couple with children. The figures for all-male and all-female households were 69.0 per cent and 85.9 per cent, respectively.

Of the 77,600 households broken into, 35,900 (46.3 per cent) had some type of security device installed at the time of the break-in. Entry was gained to 9,500 of these households through a window or door protected by a security device. Of the households which had no security device installed at the time of the break-in, 26,000 had not fitted any security device since.

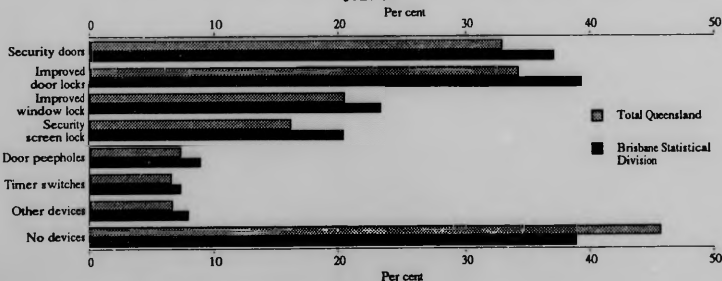
Deadlocks or improved locks on doors were the most commonly fitted security devices; 19,400 households had them installed at the time of the break-in with a further 14,400 households installing them since the break-in. In households not broken into, security doors (223,100 households) and deadlocks or improved locks on doors (224,700 households) were the most commonly fitted security devices.

DIAGRAM 7 - HOUSEHOLDS BROKEN INTO: TYPE OF SECURITY DEVICE INSTALLED, QUEENSLAND, JULY 1987



Households in the Brisbane Statistical Division had a higher incidence of security devices installed compared to households in other urban areas of Queensland (61.1 per cent and 54.4 per cent, respectively). This difference is consistent for all types of security devices.

DIAGRAM 8 - HOUSEHOLDS: TYPE OF SECURITY DEVICE INSTALLED, QUEENSLAND, JULY 1987



The most common reasons for installing security devices in households which were not broken into were concern for the protection of household members (139,000) and greater security (100,200). Conversely, the most common reason for not adding security devices was that they were not considered necessary as the house was secure enough (140,800).

Table 13 - All Households: Household Characteristics by Whether Broken Into by Whether Break-In Reported, Queensland, July 1987

Household characteristics	Broken Into						Not broken into	Total	
	Reported		Not reported		Total				
	'000	%	'000	%	'000	%			
<u>Age composition</u>									
All aged 65 years and over	**	6.6	81.1	* 1.5	18.9	8.1	100.0	101.9	109.9
At least one aged 65 years and over	**	* 2.1	* 70.7	**	**	* 3.0	100.0	44.8	47.8
None aged 65 years and over	**	47.8	71.9	18.7	28.1	66.5	100.0	525.9	592.4
<u>Family composition</u>									
Person living alone	**	9.9	80.2	* 2.4	* 19.8	12.3	100.0	123.5	135.8
One person with children	**	5.2	70.0	* 2.2	* 30.0	7.4	100.0	47.0	54.5
Married couple only	**	12.7	79.2	* 3.3	* 20.8	16.0	100.0	156.4	172.4
Married couple with children	**	21.6	69.5	9.5	30.5	31.1	100.0	267.1	298.3
Other	**	7.1	66.5	* 3.6	33.5	10.6	100.0	78.6	89.2
<u>Employment composition</u>									
All employed	**	26.4	74.8	8.9	25.2	35.3	100.0	255.0	290.3
Some employed	**	17.0	69.8	7.4	30.2	24.4	100.0	198.7	223.1
None employed	**	13.1	73.1	* 4.8	* 26.9	17.9	100.0	218.9	236.8
<u>Country of birth composition</u>									
All born in Australia	**	40.4	72.5	15.3	27.5	55.8	100.0	497.1	552.8
All born overseas	**	9.1	75.5	* 3.0	* 24.5	12.1	100.0	88.6	100.7
Mixed	**	7.0	71.5	* 2.8	* 28.5	9.8	100.0	86.9	96.7
<u>Sex composition</u>									
All male	**	* 4.9	69.0	* 2.2	31.0	7.1	100.0	67.2	74.3
All female	**	13.0	85.9	* 2.1	14.1	15.1	100.0	128.2	143.3
Mixed	**	38.6	69.7	16.7	30.3	55.3	100.0	477.3	532.6
<b>Total</b>	**	56.5	72.8	21.1	27.2	77.6	100.0	672.6	750.2

Table 14 - Households Broken Into: Break-In Details by Whether Security Device Installed at Time of Break-In, Queensland, July 1987

Particulars	Security device Installed		Security device not installed		Total
	'000	%	'000	%	
<b>Time of break-in</b>					
Day .. ..	17.1	51.8	16.0	48.2	33.1
Night .. ..	16.0	44.2	20.3	55.8	36.3
Don't know .. ..	* 2.7	33.6	5.4	66.4	8.2
<b>Occupancy</b>					
Someone home .. ..	16.3	49.1	16.9	50.9	33.1
No one home .. ..	18.8	45.0	23.0	55.0	41.8
Absent 1 day or less .. ..	15.7	48.2	16.9	51.8	32.6
Absent 2 to 7 days .. ..	* 1.8	* 37.0	* 3.0	* 63.0	* 4.8
Absent more than 7 days .. ..	* 1.3	* 29.9	* 3.1	* 70.0	* 4.4
Don't know .. ..	**	**	* 1.8	* 66.5	* 2.7
<b>Access gained through security device</b>					
Yes .. ..	9.5	100.0	**	**	9.5
No .. ..	25.8	100.0	**	**	25.8
Don't know .. ..	**	**	**	**	**
<b>Security device fitted since break-in</b>					
Yes .. ..	13.8	47.0	15.6	53.0	29.5
No .. ..	22.1	45.9	26.0	54.1	48.1
<b>Total .. ..</b>	<b>35.9</b>	<b>46.3</b>	<b>41.7</b>	<b>53.7</b>	<b>77.6</b>

Table 15 - All Households: Type of Security Device Installed by Whether Broken Into by When Device Installed, Queensland, July 1987 ('000)

Type of security device	Broken Into		Not broken into
	Installed at time of break-in	Installed since break-in	
No security devices .. ..	41.7	48.1	254.0
Security doors .. ..	16.3	9.6	223.1
Deadlocks or Improved locks on doors .. ..	19.4	14.4	224.7
Deadlocks or Improved locks on windows .. ..	8.4	9.3	135.8
Security screens/bars on windows .. ..	8.4	8.6	103.2
Timer power switches .. ..	2.9	* 1.5	51.5
Alarms .. ..	**	* 1.6	13.6
Peepholes in doors .. ..	* 3.1	**	47.6
Other security devices .. ..	* 3.0	* 2.7	28.5

Table 16 - Households Not Broken Into: Household Characteristics by Reason for Adding Security Device,  
Queensland, July 1987  
('000)

Household characteristics	Concern/protection of members	Known break-ins	Fear break-ins/risk high	Publicity/advice	Put there by landlord	Greater security	Non-security reasons	Other
<u>Age composition</u>								
All aged 65 years and over ..	27.1	6.8	* 4.3	* 2.8	**	20.6	6.6	* 4.4
At least one aged 65 years and over	11.0	* 3.6	* 1.8	**	**	9.3	* 2.7	* 2.3
None aged 65 years and over ..	100.9	21.9	26.5	6.6	* 3.5	70.3	23.4	17.8
<u>Family composition</u>								
Person living alone	27.0	7.4	5.8	* 2.5	* 1.8	20.0	* 4.7	* 4.4
One person with children ..	10.8	* 3.2	* 1.9	**	**	* 3.6	* 1.5	* 1.9
Married couple only	35.4	7.2	8.3	* 2.7	**	25.4	8.4	8.6
Married couple with children ..	55.0	11.0	13.9	* 3.7	**	44.3	15.6	9.2
Other ..	10.9	* 3.5	* 2.7	**	**	6.9	* 2.4	**
<u>Employment composition</u>								
All employed ..	47.5	10.6	14.7	* 3.3	* 1.6	35.1	12.9	8.0
Some employed ..	42.0	8.3	8.3	* 2.5	**	29.8	9.2	8.2
None employed ..	49.5	13.4	9.7	* 4.0	* 1.9	35.2	10.6	9.1
<u>Country of birth composition</u>								
All born in Australia ..	104.8	24.7	26.5	6.4	* 2.9	73.5	23.1	17.4
All born overseas	15.6	* 2.4	* 2.2	* 2.5	**	14.4	* 4.3	* 4.8
Mixed ..	18.7	5.2	* 4.0	**	**	12.3	5.2	* 3.2
<u>Sex composition</u>								
All male ..	9.1	5.9	* 3.0	**	**	5.9	* 1.8	**
All female ..	30.7	5.3	* 4.1	* 2.5	* 2.2	18.9	* 4.4	* 4.7
Mixed ..	99.3	21.1	25.7	6.4	**	75.4	26.5	19.7
<u>Total</u> ..	<u>139.1</u>	<u>32.3</u>	<u>32.7</u>	<u>9.8</u>	<u>3.8</u>	<u>100.2</u>	<u>32.7</u>	<u>25.3</u>

Table 17 - Households Not Broken Into: Household Characteristics by Reason for Not Adding Security Device,  
Queensland, July 1987  
(\*'000)

Household characteristics	Not necessary/ secure enough	Cost	Rented accommodation	Won't stop burglars anyway	Usually someone home	Neighbour's watch	Apathy/laziness	Never thought of it	Recently moved in	Other
<u>Age composition</u>										
All aged 65 years and over ..	21.5	* 3.5	* 3.4	* 2.8	**	**	**	* 2.1	**	**
At least one aged 65 years and over	12.0	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**
None aged 65 years and over ..	107.2	35.7	44.3	12.8	* 4.8	7.0	* 4.1	12.8	9.6	10.7
<u>Family composition</u>										
Person living alone	23.3	7.3	10.8	* 3.5	**	**	**	* 2.4	* 2.3	**
One person with children ..	11.2	5.6	* 4.6	**	**	**	**	* 2.2	**	**
Married couple only	36.0	* 4.2	7.0	* 3.0	**	* 2.2	**	* 1.9	* 2.2	* 4.3
Married couple with children ..	54.0	18.2	15.6	7.9	* 3.4	* 3.4	* 3.2	7.2	* 4.8	6.0
Other ..	16.4	5.0	10.5	* 1.2	**	* 1.3	**	* 2.2	**	**
<u>Employment composition</u>										
All employed ..	49.6	13.2	22.6	7.0	**	* 2.9	* 3.5	* 3.7	* 4.7	5.5
Some employed ..	41.9	15.0	10.5	* 4.7	* 2.3	* 3.2	**	8.5	* 3.1	* 3.9
None employed ..	49.3	12.2	15.4	* 4.5	* 2.4	* 2.4	**	* 3.6	* 2.1	* 3.4
<u>Country of birth composition</u>										
All born in Australia ..	111.7	31.2	36.0	11.4	* 4.8	5.5	* 3.7	11.6	7.2	9.7
All born overseas ..	15.0	* 4.1	7.2	**	**	**	* 1.3	* 2.1	* 1.5	* 1.9
Mixed ..	14.0	5.0	5.4	* 3.9	**	* 2.8	**	* 2.1	**	**
<u>Sex composition</u>										
All male ..	20.7	* 2.3	10.3	* 2.3	**	**	**	* 1.6	* 1.6	* 1.9
All female ..	17.3	10.8	13.9	* 2.1	**	**	**	* 2.8	* 1.7	**
Mixed ..	102.8	27.2	24.3	11.8	5.0	6.3	* 4.4	11.5	6.6	10.9
<b>Total</b> ..	<b>140.8</b>	<b>40.3</b>	<b>48.6</b>	<b>16.2</b>	<b>6.0</b>	<b>8.6</b>	<b>5.6</b>	<b>15.9</b>	<b>9.9</b>	<b>12.8</b>

Table 18 - All Households: Additional Security Measures Taken by Whether Broken Into, Queensland, July 1987  
('000)

Additional security measures			Broken Into	Not broken into	Total
<u>Usual measures taken</u>					
Leave lights on	**	**	68.1	528.4	596.5
Leave radio/television on		**	29.3	156.3	185.7
Secure vehicles at night	**	**	67.5	514.3	581.9
Have a dog (as a security measure)	**		25.5	206.0	231.4
<u>Measures taken while away</u>					
Police watch house	**	**	* 4.3	17.1	21.4
Neighbours watch house	**	**	36.9	289.8	326.7
Relatives watch house	**	**	19.4	132.2	151.5
Someone else watches house		**	9.0	39.2	47.2
Lawn mowed/plants watered		**	25.1	208.9	234.0
Turn lights on	**	**	5.2	28.2	33.4
Mall/papers collected	**	**	35.9	278.4	314.3
Car parked in driveway	**	**	8.6	45.2	53.7
Animals fed	**	**	17.1	124.4	141.5
Other	**	**	* 3.4	36.3	39.7

### Technical Notes

#### Estimation Procedures

The population estimates for this survey were produced by a ratio estimation technique which ensures that the estimates conform to the estimated age and sex distribution of the population rather than the age and sex distribution within the sample itself.

#### Reliability of the Estimates

The statistics from the Survey on Community Crime Prevention Attitudes are subject to two types of errors:

- (i) sampling errors (Inaccuracies in the estimates because a sample was used rather than a complete count of the population - see below) and
- (ii) non-sampling errors (all other types of errors, e.g. those inaccuracies that may occur because of imperfections in reporting by interviewers or respondents, processing errors, etc.).

Non-sampling errors may occur in any statistical collection, whether it be a full census count or a sample survey. Every effort was made to minimise non-sampling errors in this survey by careful design of questionnaires, by intensive training and supervision of interviewers and by adopting efficient operating procedures.

#### Sampling Errors

The estimates in this publication are subject to sampling variability, i.e. they may differ from the figures that would have been produced if all of the population had been included in the survey. One measure of the likely difference attributable to sampling error is given by the standard error, which indicates the extent to which an estimate might have varied by chance because only a sample of units was included. There are about two chances in three that a sample estimate will differ by less than one standard error from the figure which would have been obtained if all of the population had been included. There are about 19 chances in 20 that the difference will be less than two standard errors.

Another measure of sampling error is the relative standard error, which is obtained by expressing the standard error as a percentage of the estimate to which it refers. The relative standard error is a useful measure in that it provides an immediate indication of the percentage errors likely to have occurred due to sampling. A table of standard errors for both household and person estimates is given on the next page.

When calculating standard errors for the selected regions from the table below, the corresponding statistical division standard errors are to be used. For example, when calculating standard errors for Gold Coast-Tweed Statistical District use the standard errors given for Moreton Statistical Division.

The figures do not give a precise measure of the standard error of a particular estimate since they are based on calculations from a limited number of monthly population surveys over a wide range of labour force characteristics. However, they do provide a suitable indication of the magnitude of the standard errors of estimates from the Survey of Community Crime Prevention Attitudes. As the standard errors in the table show, the smaller the estimate the higher the relative standard error. Very small estimates are thus subject to such high standard errors (relative to the size of the estimate) as to detract seriously from their value for most reasonable uses. In the tables in this publication, estimates with a relative standard error of more than 50 per cent have not been included, and are replaced by \*\*. Although figures for these small components can in some cases be derived by subtraction, they should not be regarded as reliable. In addition, some estimates have been prefixed by \* to indicate that their standard error is relatively large (between approximately 25 and 50 per cent) compared with the size of the estimate. These figures should thus be interpreted with caution.

An example of the calculation and use of the standard errors is as follows: Table 3 shows that the estimated number of persons who would be very likely to be a neighbourhood watch street co-ordinator is 33,700. From the table it can be calculated that the standard error for this estimate is about 2,830 or 8.6 per cent of the estimate. Therefore, there are two chances in three that the number that would have been obtained if all dwellings had been included in the survey lies between 30,870 and 36,530 and there are about 19 chances in 20 that it is within the range of 28,040 and 39,360.

Proportions and percentages formed from the ratio of two estimates are also subject to sampling error. The size of the error depends on the accuracy of both the numerator and denominator. The formula for the relative standard error (RSE) of a proportion or percentage is given below:

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

## Standard Errors of Person and Household Estimates, Queensland, July 1987

Size of estimate	Inner suburbs		Outer suburbs		Balance of Brisbane		Moreton (a)		Wide Bay-Burnett and Darling Downs (b)		Mackay and Fitzroy (c)		North-West, South-West and Central-West (d)		Northern and Far North (e)		Total Queensland	
	No.	\$	No.	\$	No.	\$	No.	\$	No.	\$	No.	\$	No.	\$	No.	\$	No.	\$
1,000	511	51.1	504	50.4	511	51.1	547	54.7	535	53.5	666	66.6	606	60.6	616	61.6	569	56.9
1,200	560	46.7	553	46.1	561	46.7	600	50.0	587	48.9	730	60.9	664	55.3	675	56.3	625	52.1
1,600	648	40.5	640	40.0	649	40.6	694	43.4	679	42.4	845	52.8	769	48.0	781	48.8	722	45.1
2,000	726	36.3	717	35.9	727	36.4	778	38.9	761	38.0	947	47.4	861	43.1	875	43.8	807	40.3
2,500	814	32.6	804	32.2	815	32.6	872	34.9	853	34.1	1,062	42.5	966	38.6	981	39.3	900	36.0
3,000	894	29.8	883	29.4	895	29.8	958	31.9	937	31.2	1,166	38.9	1,061	35.4	1,078	35.9	982	32.7
4,000	1,038	25.9	1,025	25.6	1,039	26.0	1,111	27.8	1,087	27.2	1,353	33.8	1,230	30.8	1,250	31.3	1,126	28.2
5,000	1,165	23.3	1,150	23.0	1,166	23.3	1,248	25.0	1,220	24.4	1,519	30.4	1,381	27.6	1,404	28.1	1,250	25.0
6,000	1,281	21.3	1,265	21.1	1,282	21.4	1,372	22.9	1,341	22.4	1,670	27.8	1,519	25.3	1,543	25.7	1,359	22.7
8,000	1,488	18.6	1,470	18.4	1,490	18.6	1,594	19.9	1,559	19.5	1,941	24.3	1,765	22.1	1,794	22.4	1,548	19.4
10,000	1,673	16.7	1,652	16.5	1,675	16.7	1,792	17.9	1,752	17.5	2,182	21.8	1,984	19.8	2,016	20.2	1,710	17.1
20,000	2,413	12.1	2,383	11.9	2,415	12.1	2,585	12.9	2,527	12.6	3,147	15.7	2,861	14.3	2,908	14.5	2,303	11.5
30,000	2,996	10.0	2,958	9.9	2,999	10.0	3,208	10.7	3,137	10.5	3,906	13.0	3,552	11.8	3,610	12.0	2,722	9.1
40,000	3,495	8.7	3,452	8.6	3,499	8.7	3,744	9.4	3,661	9.2	4,558	11.4	4,145	10.4	4,213	10.5	3,056	7.6
50,000	3,942	7.9	3,893	7.8	3,946	7.9	4,222	8.4	4,128	8.3	5,140	10.3	4,674	9.3	4,751	9.5	3,336	6.7
100,000	5,742	5.7	5,670	5.7	5,747	5.7	6,150	6.1	6,013	6.0	7,488	7.5	6,808	6.8	6,920	6.9	4,337	4.3

- (a) Including Gold Coast-Tweed and Sunshine Coast Statistical Districts.  
 (b) Including Bundaberg Statistical District and Toowoomba.  
 (c) Including Mackay, Gladstone and Rockhampton Statistical Districts.  
 (d) Including Mount Isa.  
 (e) Including Townsville and Cairns Statistical Districts.

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a - annual, hy - half-yearly, q - quarterly, m - monthly, irr - irregular.  
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