Australian Bureau of Statistics

Crime Victimisation, Australia
2013-14

The South Australian Perspective
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Executive Summary

Personal Crimes

In South Australia in 2013-14:

- Physical assault victimisation rates were slightly higher compared with Australia (2.7% compared with 2.3% respectively).

- Of the victims of physical assault:
  - the rate of reporting to the police decreased significantly compared with the results from the 2012-13 survey (down from 63.3% in 2012-13 to 42.7% in 2013-14);
  - 43.2 percent stated they were assaulted once in the 12 month period, while 38.6 percent stated they were victims on three or more occasions; and
  - of those aged 18 years and over, 57.0 percent stated they believed the offender was under the influence of alcohol or another substance in the most recent incident.

- The victimisation rate of face-to-face threatened assault declined significantly in 2013-14 when compared with the previous year (down from 3.4% to 2.3%).

- Of the victims of face-to-face threatened assault:
  - the rate of reporting to the police was lower than the Australia-wide rate (31.0% compared to 34.3% respectively); and
  - of those aged 18 years and over, 45.2 percent stated they believed the offender was under the influence of alcohol or another substance in the most recent incident. This figure was lower than the Australia-wide figure (50.6%).

- Non face-to-face threatened assault victimisations were lower than that of face-to-face threatened assault (1.0% compared with 2.3% respectively).

- There was a particularly low reporting rate for non face-to-face threatened assault (16.2%) compared to Australia as a whole (35.0%).

- There was the smallest proportion of single incidents of threatened assault (both non face-to-face and face-to-face) (23.1%) and the greatest proportion of two incidents (29.8%).

- Robbery recorded a much lower victimisation rate (0.2%) than physical and threatened assault rates.

- The victimisation rate for sexual assault increased by a statistically significant amount compared with the previous year (up from 0.1% to 0.4%).

Household Crimes

In South Australia in 2013-14:

- For break-ins, the lowest rate of victimisations was recorded across the country (2.2% compared with 2.6% Australia-wide).

- Of the victims of break-in, around three-quarters reported the crime to police. This was on a par with the national figure.

- The attempted break-in rate was 1.8 percent which was again on a par with the Australia-wide figure (1.9%).

- Of the victims of attempted break-in, around 40 percent reported the crime to police.

- The rate of motor vehicle theft was recorded as 0.7 percent which was similar to the national figure (0.6%).

- The rate of reporting motor vehicle theft to police was the lowest in the country at 65.2 percent. This reporting rate appears to be an anomaly as in the previous four years the reporting rate in SA has consistently been above 90 percent.

- The victimisation rate of theft from a motor vehicle was higher than for motor vehicle theft at 2.8 percent compared with 0.7 percent (respectively). This was on a par with the Australia-wide rate.
The rate of reporting theft from a motor vehicle increased compared to the previous year (56.3% compared with 45.1 % in 2012-13).

The victimisation rate of malicious property damage was on a par with the Australian figure with both reported as 6.0 percent.

The reporting rate for malicious property damage increased by 5.6 percent (from 46.7% in 2012-13 to 52.3% in 2013-14).

In relation to other theft, the victimisation rate was on a par with the national figure at 2.9 percent compared to 2.7 percent (respectively).

The rate of reporting other theft to police was recorded as slightly higher than that of Australia-wide (43.6% compared to 39.3% respectively).

Introduction

This report summarises the key South Australian findings from the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) Crime Victimisation, Australia, 2013-14 (cat. no. 4530.0) which was released on 17 February 2015.

Crime Victimisation, Australia provides the results of an Australia-wide crime victimisation survey undertaken by the ABS via the Multipurpose Household Survey (MPHS). The results of the survey provide estimates of the extent of victimisation experienced by Australians aged 15 years and over for selected types of personal and household crimes. Also collected was information on whether or not victims reported the crime to police and, for some personal offences, whether the victim thought that the offender was under the influence of alcohol or another substance in the most recent incident.

The following information focuses only on data made available by jurisdiction, however, Crime Victimisation, Australia also includes Australia-wide information related to victims such as gender, age group, marital status, relationship to offender, country of birth, location (capital city or balance of state/territory), level of highest non-school qualification, labour force status and weekly household income.

Please see Appendices A and B for information about the survey and a list of definitions.

Personal Crimes

Crime Victimisation, Australia provides information on experiences of, and reporting to police, for the personal offences of physical assault, threatened assault (both face-to-face and non face-to-face), robbery and sexual assault. Of these, information is also available for rate of reporting to police and the number of incidents by jurisdiction for physical assault and threatened assault. Following is a summary of the results by jurisdiction.

Physical assault

Physical assault victimisation rates

Figure 1 shows the experience of physical assault for South Australian victims 12 months prior to both the 2012-13 and 2013-14 surveys, compared with other Australian jurisdictions and the nation as a whole. This indicates that within South Australia (SA), the prevalence of physical assault remained relatively stable over the two years of the survey.

Although the SA figure was slightly higher in 2013-14 than the national average, it was still lower than the figures recorded for Western Australia, Tasmania and the Northern Territory and on par with the nation-wide figure recorded in the previous year.
Figure 1. Experiences of physical assault in the 12 months prior to the surveys held in 2012-13 and 2013-14.

The differences in the victimisation rates between 2012-13 and 2013-14 in Qld and Australia-wide are statistically significant.

Rate of reporting physical assault to police

Where survey participants had stated they had been a victim, they were asked whether they or someone else had reported the most recent incident of that offence to police. Survey results indicate that in SA the rate of reporting physical assault to police for the 2013-14 survey declined significantly compared to the previous year (42.7% of victims compared to 63.3% in 2012-13).

Figure 2. Proportion of victims of physical assault where the most recent incident was reported to police, 2012-13 and 2013-14.

a Estimate for the ACT in 2013-14 has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution.

b The difference in the reporting rate between 2012-13 and 2013-14 in SA is statistically significant.
Number of incidents of physical assault

Victims were also asked how many times they had been victimised for each offence type (with the exception of sexual assault). Figure 3 shows the proportions of victims by the number of times they stated they had been physically assaulted. This indicates that in South Australia, of the people who stated they had been physically assaulted, 43.2 percent were assaulted once in the 12 month period leading up to the survey.

Although the proportion who experienced one incident in SA was in line with the Australia-wide figure, the proportion of South Australians surveyed who stated they had been a victim of physical assault on three or more occasions (38.6%) was higher than that of the Australia-wide figure (33.1%).

Figure 3. Number of incidents reported by victims of physical assault in the 12 months prior to the survey, 2013-14.\textsuperscript{a, b}

\begin{figure}[h]
\centering
\includegraphics[width=\textwidth]{figure3.png}
\caption{Number of incidents reported by victims of physical assault in the 12 months prior to the survey, 2013-14.\textsuperscript{a, b}}
\end{figure}

\textsuperscript{a} Estimates for the NT and the ACT for One incident have relative standard errors of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution. 
\textsuperscript{b} Estimates for Vic, WA, the NT and the ACT for Two incidents have relative standard errors of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution.

Possible contribution of alcohol or other substances in physical assaults

In 2013-14, in SA, 57.0 percent of persons (aged 18 years and over) who experienced physical assault stated they believed the offender was under the influence of alcohol or another substance in the most recent incident. This was a drop of 6.5 percent on the previous year and lower than the Australia-wide figure (61.7%).
Proportion of persons aged 18 years and over who experienced physical assault who believed alcohol or any other substance contributed to most recent incident

Threatened assault

Face-to-face threatened assault victimisation rates

Figure 5 shows the proportions of people who experienced face-to-face threatened assault by jurisdiction. This shows that SA’s rate of victimisation for face-to-face threatened assault declined significantly in 2013–14 when compared with the previous year (down from 3.4% to 2.3%). The rate recorded in 2013–14 was the second lowest of all the jurisdictions and lower than that of Australia-wide (2.7%).

Estimate for the ACT in 2013-14 has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution.

The difference in the victimisation rate between 2012-13 and 2013-14 in SA is statistically significant.

The ACT had a lower victimisation rate recorded, however the ACT estimate has a relatively high relative standard error.
Rate of reporting face-to-face threatened assault to police

Of those who experienced face-to-face threatened assault in SA in 2013-14, 31.0 percent stated the incident was reported to police. This reporting rate was lower than the Australia-wide rate (34.3%).

Figure 6. Proportion of victims of face-to-face threatened assault where the most recent incident was reported to police, 2012-13 and 2013-14

Possible contribution of alcohol or other substances in face-to-face threatened assaults

Figure 7 suggests the influence of alcohol or another substance in the most recent incident of face-to-face threatened assaults in SA was lesser than Australia-wide for both years.

Figure 7. Proportion of persons aged 18 years and over who experienced face-to-face threatened assault who believed alcohol or any other substance contributed to most recent incident

**Estimates for the ACT for both years and the NT for 2013-14 have relative standard errors of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution.**

**Estimate for the ACT in 2013-14 has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution.**

**The differences in the proportions between 2012-13 and 2013-14 in Vic and Qld are statistically significant.**
Non face-to-face threatened assault victimisation rates

The survey results suggest that of those who reported experiencing threatened assault, a much lower proportion stated this assault was non face-to-face compared to those who stated it was face-to-face (1.0% in SA in 2013-14 compared with 2.3% respectively).

Figure 8. Experiences of non face-to-face threatened assault in the 12 months prior to the surveys held in 2012-13 and 2013-14

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>2012–13</th>
<th>2013–14</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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<td>0.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vic</td>
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<td>0.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Qld</td>
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<td>SA</td>
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<td>ACT</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aust</td>
<td>1.1</td>
<td>1.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Estimates for the NT and the ACT for both years have relative standard errors of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution.

Rate of reporting non face-to-face threatened assault to police

The information represented in Figure 9 may indicate that SA had a particularly low reporting rate for non face-to-face threatened assault in 2013-14 (16.2%) compared with the rest of the jurisdictions and Australia as a whole (35.0%). It is also interesting to note that while SA's reporting rate went down between the two years, the Australia-wide reporting rate went up.
Figure 9. Proportion of victims of non face-to-face threatened assault where the most recent incident was reported to police, 2012-13 and 2013-14 \[^a,b,c\]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2012–13</th>
<th>2013–14</th>
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<tbody>
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<tr>
<td>Vic</td>
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<td>40.2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Qld</td>
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<td>29.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SA</td>
<td>26.2</td>
<td>16.2</td>
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<tr>
<td>ACT</td>
<td>37.9</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aust</td>
<td>24.7</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\[^a\] Estimates for the ACT and the NT for both years have either relative standard errors of greater than 50% and are considered too unreliable for use or are not available for publication.

\[^b\] Estimates for NSW, Qld, SA, WA and Tas for 2012-13 have relative standard errors of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution.

\[^c\] Estimates for NSW, Vic, SA and WA for 2013-14 have relative standard errors of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution.

Number of incidents of threatened assault

When presenting data for the number of incidents of threatened assault, both non face-to-face and face-to-face victimisations were grouped together. Figure 10 shows that SA appears to have the smallest proportion of victims of threatened assault who reported one incident in 2013-14 (23.1%) and the greatest proportion reporting two incidents (29.8%).
Figure 10. Number of incidents reported by victims of any threatened assault in the 12 months prior to the survey, 2013-14. 

![Figure 10](image)

- Estimate for SA for One incident has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution.
- Estimates for Vic and SA for Two incidents have relative standard errors of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution.
- Estimates for the NT and the ACT for Two incidents have relative standard errors of greater than 50% and are considered too unreliable for general use. Therefore, all data for these jurisdictions are not reported here.

Robbery

Robbery victimisation rates

Robbery victimisation rates (where available) were reported as being much lower than physical and threatened assault rates - see Figures 1, 5 and 8 compared to Figure 11. South Australia appears to have a lower proportion of the population who were victims of robbery in the 12 months prior to both surveys than any other jurisdiction where the data was available.
Figure 11. Experiences of robbery in the 12 months prior to the surveys held in 2012-13 and 2013-14.\textsuperscript{a,b,c} Estimates for the NT for both years and the ACT in 2013-14 have relative standard errors of greater than 50% and considered too unreliable for general use.\textsuperscript{b} Estimates for all jurisdictions except NSW, WA and Australia for 2012-13 have relative standard errors of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution.\textsuperscript{c} Estimates for all jurisdictions except Australia for 2013-14 have relative standard errors of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution.

Sexual assault

Sexual assault victimisation rates

Figure 12 shows Australians’ experiences of sexual assault during the 12 months prior to the surveys held in 2012-13 and 2013-14. Although many of these figures should be used with caution, the difference in the victimisation rate in South Australia between 2012-13 and 2013-14 (0.1% compared with 0.4% respectively) is considered to be statistically significant.
Figure 12. Experiences of sexual assault in the 12 months prior to the surveys held in 2012-13 and 2013-14 \(^{a,b,c,d}\)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2012–13</th>
<th>2013–14</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>Vic</td>
<td>0.2</td>
<td>0.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Qld</td>
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<td>SA</td>
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<td>0.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aust</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\(^a\) Estimates for the NT and the ACT for both years and Tas in 2013-14 have relative standard errors of greater than 50% and considered too unreliable for general use.

\(^b\) Estimates for all jurisdictions except NSW and Australia for 2012–13 have relative standard errors of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution.

\(^c\) Estimates for all jurisdictions except Australia for 2013–14 have relative standard errors of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution.

\(^d\) The difference in the victimisation rate between 2012–13 and 2013–14 in SA is statistically significant.

Household Crimes

Also included in *Crime Victimisation, Australia* is information on experiences of, and reporting to police, for the household offences of break-in, attempted break-in, motor vehicle theft, theft from motor vehicle, malicious property damage and other theft. The following section of this report summarises the results by jurisdiction.

**Break-in**

**Break-in victimisation rates**

In relation to break-ins, South Australians reported the lowest victimisation rate in the country for the 12 months leading up to both the 2012-13 and 2013-14 surveys.
Figure 13. Experiences of break-in in the 12 months prior to the surveys held in 2012-13 and 2013-14

Rate of reporting break-in to police

The results of the survey show that the rate of reporting break-in to police in SA remained around the same as the Australia-wide figure for both years.

Figure 14. Proportion of victims of break-in where the most recent incident was reported to police, 2012-13 and 2013-14

*a The difference in the reporting rate between 2012-13 and 2013-14 in NSW is statistically significant.
**Attempted break-in**

**Attempted break-in victimisation rates**

As with break-ins, the victimisation rate for attempted break-in in SA was one of the lowest in the country. As a result, SA recorded rates lower than the Australia-wide figure for both years.

**Figure 15.** Experiences of attempted break-in in the 12 months prior to the surveys held in 2012-13 and 2013-14

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<td>2013–14</td>
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<td>2.5</td>
<td>5.0</td>
<td>1.7</td>
<td>1.9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*a* Estimate for the ACT in 2013-14 has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution.

*b* The difference in the victimisation rate between 2012-13 and 2013-14 in Qld is statistically significant.

**Rate of reporting attempted break-in to police**

Similarly, the rate of reporting attempted break-in to police in SA was the lowest in the country for both years.

**Figure 16.** Proportion of victims of attempted break-in where the most recent incident was reported to police, 2012-13 and 2013-14

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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<th>SA</th>
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<td>48.7</td>
<td>53.3</td>
<td>50.9</td>
<td>36.4</td>
<td>42.8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*a* Estimate for the ACT in 2013-14 has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution.
**Motor vehicle theft**

**Motor vehicle theft victimisation rates**

According to the results reported in *Crime Victimisation, Australia*, the rate of motor vehicle theft across the nation is very low at between 0.5 and 2.5 percent.

**Figure 17.** Experiences of motor vehicle theft in the 12 months prior to the surveys held in 2012-13 and 2013-14.

![Graph showing motor vehicle theft rates by state](image)

- **a** Estimates for Tas and the ACT in 2012-13 have relative standard errors of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution.
- **b** Estimates for Tas and the NT in 2013-14 have relative standard errors of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution.
- **c** Estimate for the ACT in 2013-14 has a relative standard error of greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use.

**Rate of reporting motor vehicle theft to police**

Where a motor vehicle theft has occurred, the survey results suggest that the rate of reporting to police in SA in the 12 months leading up to the 2013-14 survey was the lowest in the country at 65.2 percent. This reporting rate appears to be an anomaly as in the previous four years the reporting rate in SA\(^2\) has consistently been above 90 percent.

\(^2\) Where available.
Figure 18. Proportion of victims of motor vehicle theft where the most recent incident was reported to police, 2012-13 and 2013-14.a,b

- Estimates for Vic, WA, Tas and the NT in 2012-13 and the ACT in 2013-14 were not available for publication.
- Estimates for SA and the ACT in 2012-13 are not considered reliable.

Theft from a motor vehicle

Theft from a motor vehicle victimisation rates

The rates for 2013-14 of theft from a motor vehicle appear to be higher than for motor vehicle theft at around 3.0 percent compared with 0.6 percent Australia-wide (respectively). The South Australian rates of theft from a motor vehicle appear to be on a par with the Australia-wide rate.

Figure 19. Experiences of theft from a motor vehicle in the 12 months prior to the surveys held in 2012-13 and 2013-14
Rate of reporting theft from a motor vehicle to police

Where reporting rates for victims of theft from a motor vehicle have increased in SA over the two years (from 45.1% to 56.3%), the opposite seems to have occurred Australia-wide with a statistically significant decline in reporting (down from 54.7% to 48.7%).

**Figure 20.** Proportion of victims of theft from a motor vehicle where the most recent incident was reported to police, 2012-13 and 2013-14

![Graph showing reporting rates for theft from a motor vehicle](chart)

*Difference in the reporting rate between 2012-13 and 2013-14 for the Australia-wide figure is statistically significant.*

**Malicious property damage**

Malicious property damage victimisation rates

The recorded rates of malicious property damage in SA were on a par with the Australian rate in both years, however, the SA rates seem to be considerably lower than those recorded for WA, the NT and the ACT.

**Figure 21.** Experiences of malicious property damage in the 12 months prior to the surveys held in 2012-13 and 2013-14

![Graph showing malicious property damage rates](chart)
Rate of reporting malicious property damage to police

Reporting rates for victims of malicious property damage in SA appear to have increased by 5.6 percent over the two years (from 46.7% to 52.3%).

Figure 22. Proportion of victims of malicious property damage where the most recent incident was reported to police, 2012-13 and 2013-14

Other theft

Other theft victimisation rates

In relation to other theft, South Australian victimisation rates were again on a par with the Australian figures in both years.

Figure 23. Experiences of other theft in the 12 months prior to the surveys held in 2012-13 and 2013-14.

\[\text{Percent (%)}\]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>NSW</th>
<th>Vic</th>
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<th>SA</th>
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<td>4.2</td>
<td>2.5</td>
<td>2.7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\[a\] Difference in the victimisation rate between 2012-13 and 2013-14 in Qld is statistically significant.
Rate of reporting other theft to police

The rate of reporting other theft to police in SA appears to be slightly higher than that of Australia-wide for both survey years.

**Figure 24.** Proportion of victims of other theft where the most recent incident was reported to police, 2012-13 and 2013-14.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2012–13</th>
<th>2013–14</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NSW</td>
<td>31.6</td>
<td>39.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vic</td>
<td>36.8</td>
<td>38.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Qld</td>
<td>35.5</td>
<td>45.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SA</td>
<td>39.4</td>
<td>43.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WA</td>
<td>36.8</td>
<td>35.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tas</td>
<td>39.1</td>
<td>39.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NT</td>
<td>34.8</td>
<td>42.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACT</td>
<td>38.2</td>
<td>53.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aust</td>
<td>35.4</td>
<td>39.3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Difference in the reporting rate between 2012-13 and 2013-14 in Qld is statistically significant.

**References**


Appendix A

Overview of the Crime Victimisation Survey

- The statistics presented in Crime Victimisation, Australia, 2013-14 were compiled from data collected in the Australian Bureau of Statistics' (ABS) 2013-14 Multipurpose Household Survey (MPHS). The MPHS is conducted each financial year throughout Australia from July to June as a supplement to the ABS' monthly Labour Force Survey (LFS) and is designed to provide annual statistics for a number of small, self-contained topics.

- The MPHS was conducted as a supplement to the monthly LFS. Each month one eighth of the dwellings in the LFS sample were rotated out of the survey. In 2013-14, all of these dwellings were selected to respond to the MPHS each month. In these dwellings, after the LFS had been fully completed for each person in scope and coverage, a person aged 15 years and over was selected at random (based on a computer algorithm) and asked the various MPHS topic questions in a personal interview. If the randomly selected person was aged 15–17 years, permission was sought from a parent or guardian before conducting the interview. If permission was not given, the parent or guardian was asked the crime questions on behalf of the 15–17 year old. Questions relating to sexual assault, alcohol or substances contributing to the most recent physical or face-to-face threatened assault were not asked of proxy respondents. Only those persons aged 18 years and over were asked questions on sexual assault. Data was collected using Computer Assisted Interviewing, whereby responses were recorded directly onto an electronic questionnaire in a notebook computer, usually during a telephone interview.

- The sample was accumulated over a 12 month period from July 2013 to June 2014.

- Household survey data excludes crimes against commercial establishments or government agencies.

- The survey covered only selected types of personal and household crimes. Personal crimes covered in the survey were physical assault, threatened assault, robbery and sexual assault. Household crimes covered were break-in, attempted break-in, motor vehicle theft, theft from a motor vehicle, malicious property damage and other theft.

- For this survey the definition of total victims is restricted to those crimes included in the survey and does not represent all crime in Australia. Information collected 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 when interpreting the estimates and when making comparisons with other data sources.

Appendix B

Definitions

Alcohol and/or any other substance includes any illegal or legal drugs or mood altering substances that the victim believed contributed to the most recent incident of physical assault or face-to-face threatened assault. Other substances include marijuana, cocaine, ice, heroin, ecstasy, steroids, pharmaceuticals, inhalants, kava etc. Either the victim, the perpetrator, or both, may have been under the influence of alcohol and/or any other substance at the time of the incident. Incidents that occurred when the perpetrator was 'hungover' or the victim believed that their drink had been spiked are included.

Attempted break-in is defined as an incident where an attempt was made to forcibly enter a home. Includes attempts to break-in to a caravan (if the caravan was the victim’s permanent residence), garage, shed or any detached secure building such as games/hobby rooms or granny flats. Includes incidents where a person saw someone acting suspiciously around the property if it was suspected that their intent was to steal property. Excludes any attempted break-in that resulted in an actual break-in (e.g. where someone attempted to break in through a door but then gained entry through a window) and attempted break-ins to a motor vehicle.

Assault refers to the sum of victims who had experienced physical assault and/or threatened assault (both face-to-face threatened assault and non face-to-face threatened assault).

Break-in is defined as an act of unauthorised forced entry into a home or other place where a victim permanently resides. Includes forced entry to a caravan (if the caravan was the victim's permanent residence), garage, shed or any detached secure building such as games/hobby rooms or granny flats. Excludes forced entry to motor vehicles or front or rear yards and incidents of attempted break-in.

Face-to-face threatened assault is defined as any verbal and/or physical threat, made in person, to inflict physical harm where the person being threatened believed the threat was able and likely to be carried out. Excludes any incident where the victim did not encounter the offender in person (e.g. via telephone, text message, e-mail, in writing or through social media).

Household is a group of two or more related or unrelated people who usually reside in the same dwelling, who regard themselves as a household, and who make common provision for food or other essentials for living; or a person living in a dwelling who makes provision for his/her own food and other essentials for living, without combining with any other person.

Household crimes are crimes that were committed with the intent to deprive another person of, or deliberately damage, their personal property. The types of household crime included in the survey are break-in, attempted break-in, motor vehicle theft, theft from a motor vehicle, malicious property damage and other theft. Includes incidents occurring in all households in Australia the victim lived in during the 12 months prior to interview.

Incident is defined as a single occurrence of a crime event, which may involve one or more crimes and/or crime types.

Malicious property damage is intentional or wilful (not accidental) damage, defacement or destruction of any part of the victim's home or anything usually kept at home. Property is something tangible in nature, including land, conveyances, animals or other objects capable of being privately owned. Destruction can mean any alteration that may render something imperfect or inoperative, including destruction of property, graffiti or vandalism, partial destruction, killing or harming an owned animal and removing or destroying a plant or other part of an owned landscape. Excludes any rental, investment or holiday properties owned by a member of the household. Excludes acts such as turning off water meters and flicking safety switches if no damage to the meter occurred.

Motor vehicle theft is defined as an incident where a motor vehicle was stolen from any member of the household. This includes cars, utilities, motorcycles (including motorised scooters), buses, trucks and motor homes. Includes privately owned vehicles and business/employer/company owned vehicles only if the vehicle was used exclusively by members of the household. Excludes boats, trailers and company vehicles not used exclusively by household members. For the purposes of this survey, motor vehicle theft incidents are considered to be household crimes.

Multiple victimisation is defined as victims who experienced more than one incident of the same crime type within the 12 months prior to interview.

Non face-to-face threatened assault is defined as any threat to inflict physical harm where the person being threatened believed the threat was able and likely to be carried out and where the victim did not encounter the offender in person. Non face-to-face threatened assault may occur via telephone, text message, e-mail, in writing or through social media.
Offender is defined as a person who commits a crime, as identified by the victim. There may be one or more than one offender involved in any one crime incident.

Other theft is defined as any unlawful taking of money or goods owned by a household member (other than from motor vehicles owned by a household member) with the intent to permanently deprive the owner of the money or goods, without the use, or threat, of force or violence, coercion or deception. Includes:

- Property belonging to a member of the household not covered by the other types of crime included in the survey.
- Property belonging to a household member stolen from a vehicle not owned by a household member.
- Property stolen from a yard or garden (e.g. statues or plants).

Excludes any incidents involving theft covered in other crime types in the survey (e.g. break-in or robbery).

Other theft is considered to be a household crime for the purpose of this survey.

Personal crimes are crimes that were committed against a person which caused or threatened harm to their physical self. The types of personal crime included in the survey are physical assault, threatened assault (including face-to-face threatened assault and non face-to-face threatened assault), robbery (including attempts), and sexual assault (including attempts). Physical assault, threatened assault and robbery are collected for people aged 15 years and over and sexual assault is collected for people aged 18 years and over.

Physical assault is an act of physical force or violence by an offender/s against a victim. Examples of physical force or violence include being beaten, pushed, grabbed, shoved, slapped, hit with an open hand or fist, kicked, bitten, choked, stabbed, shot, burnt, being hit with something such as a bat or being dragged or hit deliberately by a vehicle. Includes assault that occurred while the victim was at work. Excludes incidents that occurred during the course of play on a sporting field or organised sport, verbal abuse, incidents where the person did not encounter the offender face-to-face, and incidents of sexual assault or threatened sexual assault which also involved physical assault.

Police are state and territory police agencies. Excludes federal police, except in the Australian Capital Territory.

Reporting rate is the total number of victims who reported the most recent incident they experienced of that type of crime to police expressed as a percentage of victims. Includes incidents where the victim did not report the incident themselves, but were aware of another person who did.

Relative Standard Error (RSE) is a measure of sampling variability. That is, the survey estimates may differ from those that would have been produced had all persons been included in the survey. The Relative Standard Error is obtained by expressing the Standard Error as a percentage of the estimate.

Robbery is an act of stealing (or attempting to steal) property from a person by physically attacking them or threatening them with force or violence. Includes incidents that occurred at the victim's place of work. Excludes pick pocketing or other types of theft that did not involve physical or threatened violence.

Sexual assault is an act of a sexual nature carried out against the victim's will or without the victim's consent, involving physical contact and/or through the use of physical force, intimidation or coercion. Includes any actual or attempted forced sexual activity such as rape, attempted rape or indecent assault (e.g. being touched inside clothing or intentional rubbing of genitals against the victim) and assault with the intent to sexually assault. Includes incidents that occurred at the victim's place of work. Excludes sexual harassment that did not involve or lead to an actual assault. For this survey, only people aged 18 years and over were asked the questions about sexual assault.

Theft from a motor vehicle is where property owned by any member of the household was stolen from a motor vehicle (for private use) by any member of that household. Excludes property stolen that belonged to someone not living in the household (e.g. a friend or other relative) and property owned by a business or employer (e.g. a computer, mobile phone or work tools). Also excludes property stolen from commercial vehicles (e.g. a self-employed business operator whose vehicle is mainly used for work purposes) and any break-in to a motor vehicle where nothing was stolen. For the purpose of this survey, incidents of theft from a motor vehicle are considered to be household crimes.

Threatened assault is a verbal, written and/or physical threat to inflict physical harm where the person being threatened believed the threat was able and likely to be carried out. Threatened assault may occur face-to-face or via non face-to-face methods (such as email). Includes any threat or attempt to strike the person which could cause pain; situations where a gun or other weapon was left in an obvious place (including fake or toy guns/weapons where the victim thought it was real) or if the person knew the perpetrator had access to a gun (including toy guns, starter pistol, etc). Also includes incidents where the victim was threatened in their line of work. Excludes any incident of name calling or swearing which did not involve a physical threat and threats that resulted in an actual assault.
**Victim** is a person or household who has experienced at least one incident of a selected type of crime within 12 months prior to the interview in 2013–14. A victim may experience more than one incident of a type of crime, but is only counted once for each type of crime experienced.

**Victimisation rate** is the total number of victims of a crime in a given population, expressed as a percentage of that population.