

# CRIME VICTIMS SURVEY

QUEENSLAND  
1991

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## PREFACE

Surveys of crime victimisation have become a widely-used tool in estimating the true nature and extent of crime. As officially-reported levels of crime in recent years have continued to show sustained and, at times, sharp increases, policy-makers and administrators have sought solid data upon which to base solutions.

In a number of countries, especially in Western Europe and North America, policy-makers have recognised the value of victim surveys in measuring, defining or evaluating offensive behaviour, the seriousness of offences, the allocation of resources, legislative changes, the effectiveness of crime prevention measures, confidence in police services, the protection of the community and more.



This publication presents the results of a State-wide Crime Victims Survey conducted in Queensland by the Government Statistician's Office. It is the first of a series to be produced in Queensland.

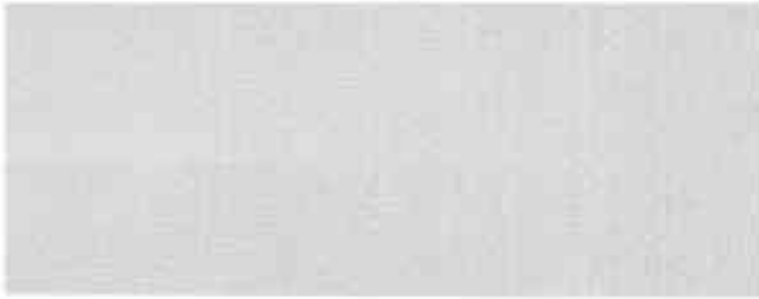
The survey was undertaken at the initiative of the Queensland Criminal Justice Commission with the objective of extending the range of data on the characteristics of crime and crime victims in this State. It was funded by the Government Statistician's Office and the Criminal Justice Commission.

The statistical tables are presented in four groupings, reflecting the main areas covered in the survey:

- All Offences (Tables 1.1 and 1.2)
- Household Property Offences (most recent occurrences - Tables 2.1 to 2.7)
- Offences Against Persons (most recent occurrences - Tables 3.1 to 3.10)
- Characteristics of Victims of Offences Against Persons (Tables 4.1 to 4.4)

The Explanatory Notes which follow, and Technical Note (Appendix One) provide a brief description of the survey, its concepts, definitions and methodology used in collecting the data.





We would like to gratefully acknowledge the following organisations for their assistance and preparation of this publication:

*The Queensland Police Service and  
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We also thank all Queenslanders who so readily gave their time and cooperation for this survey.

HENRY SMERDON  
Government Statistician for Queensland  
Brisbane

SIR MAX BINGHAM Q.C.  
Chairman  
Criminal Justice Commission





## EXPLANATORY NOTES

The 1991 Queensland Crime Victim Survey was conducted between 8 April and 8 June 1991. The objective of the survey was to obtain information about types of household and personal crime occurring in Queensland, the characteristics of people most affected, the reporting behaviour of victims of crime and related matters.

The information obtained was based upon respondents' recollection of their experiences. As such, offences reported by respondents may not necessarily correspond to legal or police definitions of crime.

The Queensland Crime Victims Survey was conducted to obtain an estimate of the true volume and nature of crimes occurring in the State over the 12 months preceding this survey.

This was the sole major objective of the survey. Its secondary objectives address the obtaining of information on types of crime, its location, time of occurrence, *modus operandi*, etc. An extension of this would be to obtain victim and offender details.


Such surveys, if conducted at regular intervals, can provide trends in the incidence of crime.

Data obtained through crime victims surveys can be used as one of the indicators of the success or failure of crime prevention measures. But, these surveys, by themselves, cannot be used to evaluate the success or failure of any such program.

Crime Victims Surveys are most effective in obtaining valuable insights on crimes which occur with considerable frequency (e.g., assaults, robberies, personal and household thefts, burglaries, motor vehicle thefts, vandalism, etc).

Such surveys are less helpful in measuring the extent of offences such as rape, kidnapping, terrorism; nor have they been used to estimate the extent of such illegal acts as consumer and corporate fraud, price-fixing, money-laundering, insider-dealing, etc.

The survey, as planned presently, will not allow the estimation of the extent and nature of spouse assault or domestic violence.



It does, however, offer valuable information on incidents of assault inside a dwelling. It is always preferable to conduct special surveys to examine specific issues such as domestic violence, child abuse and illegal gambling.

### **Scope and coverage**

The 1991 Crime Victims Survey was conducted among usual residents of private dwellings (houses, flats, retirement villages consisting entirely of self-contained units, etc) in Queensland. Non-private dwellings, such as the following, were excluded:

- all short-term accommodation establishments, including hotels, motels, hostels, holiday units/flats and caravan parks;
- private hotels, boarding houses, barracks and boarding schools; and
- hospitals, nursing homes and combined nursing home/retirement villages.

Visitors to private dwellings were excluded, unless:

- they were staying at the selected dwelling for the entire survey period; and
- their usual residence was in Queensland and was unoccupied for the entire survey period.

People with holiday or second homes were considered to be usual residents of the selected dwelling if they lived there for two months or more during the year.

The household property offence questions were asked of usual residents aged 18 years or over and the offence against person questions were asked of usual residents aged 15 years or over.


Details were only collected for offences occurring in Queensland in the 12 months prior to interview and only for the selected 17 household property and personal offence types specified. Incidents relating to businesses or companies were excluded from the survey.

### **Survey design and content**

Four types of questionnaire were used in face-to-face interviews during the survey and copies of these questionnaires appear in Appendix Two of this document. The *Household Questionnaire* collected demographic details of the household from any usual resident aged 18 years or over.

The same respondent was then asked questions from the *Household Crime Questionnaire* which screened for household property offences experienced by any household member in Queensland during the 12 months prior to interview.





The *Personal Crime Questionnaire* was asked of a randomly-selected usual resident aged 15 years or over (in each household), in private where possible. This questionnaire asked a number of attitudinal questions and screened for offences against persons in Queensland in the 12 months prior to interview.

Details were collected for the most recent occurrence of each household property and personal offence type, excluding verbal abuse, on the *Victim Questionnaire*.

**Questions about these offences were asked in the hierarchical order listed below.**

**Incidents which included more than one offence were recorded in the first relevant category.**

The household property offences in this survey were:

- home broken into and something stolen or attempted to be stolen;
- home broken into and vandalised;
- attempted home break-in with intent to steal or cause damage;
- theft from inside the home without a break-in occurring;
- theft from outside the home;
- home or garden was defaced or damaged by vandals;
- theft of a motor vehicle from any usual residence;
- theft from a motor vehicle; and
- a motor vehicle deliberately damaged or vandalised.

The offences against persons included in the survey were:

- deliberate use of a weapon;
- attack or assault (sexual or other);
- threat of force or violence that frightened, or threat to damage property;
- theft from the person,
- attempted theft from the person;
- personal theft from elsewhere (office, school, shop or elsewhere);
- deliberate damage or tampering by vandals or thieves; and
- verbal abuse.

For example, assault which included threat was recorded as assault only and theft of a motor vehicle which included vandalism of the vehicle was recorded as theft only.

All details were then collected in the Victim questionnaire.



Details concerning offences not listed above were not collected in the survey.

### **Definitions**

For the purposes of this survey, an **offence** is defined as any of the household property or personal offences listed in the previous section.

A **victim** is a person who has experienced one or more offences in Queensland during the 12 months prior to interview.

The **victimisation rate**, or rate per hundred, for a particular offence and demographic category (e.g. rate of verbal abuse for unemployed persons) is the percentage of the population aged 15 years and over in that category who were victims of that offence (e.g. the percentage of unemployed persons aged 15 years or over who were victims of verbal abuse).

As this survey is based on respondents' experiences, all other terms are as used in the questionnaires.

For example, the term **weapon** (refer to Offence "K" on the Personal Crime questionnaire) includes any object which a respondent perceived to have been used as a weapon (e.g. gun, knife, bottle, etc ).


Labour force regions are defined in Australian Bureau of Statistics publication *Labour Force Queensland Catalogue No. 6201.3*.

### **Sample design**

The 1991 Crime Victims Survey was conducted on a stratified, multi-stage sample spread throughout Queensland.

The State was divided into 66 areas or "strata" (based upon the Australian Bureau of Statistics Monthly Labour Force Survey design), each stratum determined to be relatively homogeneous with respect to the socio-economic characteristics of households within it.

Each stratum consisted of a number of Census Collector's Districts (CDs) used in the 1986 Population Census.



In the Brisbane Statistical Division (BSD) and other major urban or high-density areas, the sample was selected in two stages:

- (1) a sample of CDs was selected from each stratum, with probability proportional to the number of occupied private dwellings in each CD;
- (2) within each selected CD, a sample of private dwellings was selected by randomly selecting a starting point within the CD, then proceeding along a pre-determined route and selecting every *k*-th private dwelling (where *k* is a given skip interval) until the required number of private dwellings (the CD cluster size) had been selected.

In strata with low-population density, the CDs were first grouped into larger units (Primary Sampling Units — PSUs) and one or two PSUs were selected from each stratum, with probability proportional to the number of occupied private dwellings in each PSU.

Within selected PSUs, the sample of dwellings was selected in the same manner as that described earlier for the high-density strata.

### **Comparison with other statistics**

Users may wish to compare the results of Queensland's 1991 Crime Victims Survey with police statistics or with other surveys, such as the 1983 Crime Victims Survey conducted by the Australian Bureau of Statistics.

Results of the 1991 Crime Victims Survey were based on respondents' perceptions of offences and these do not always correspond with police, legal or other definitions.

Comparability with other data sources can be affected in several ways, including:

- Different definitions or question wording (e.g. motor vehicle theft only recorded if the vehicle was owned by the respondent, versus motor vehicle thefts from any member of the household);
- Different recall periods (e.g. 6 months versus 12 months); and
- Different in-scope population (e.g., persons aged 15 years and over versus persons aged 18 years and over).

Consequently, comparisons between statistics should be made with care and only where appropriate.



### **Accuracy of results**

The following symbols are used in this publication:

- \* indicates that the relative standard error of the estimate is from 25 per cent to 50 per cent inclusive. The estimate should, therefore, be used with caution.
- \*\* indicates that the relative standard error of the estimate is more than 50 per cent. These estimates have been suppressed as they are considered too unreliable for most practical purposes.

Appendix 1 contains a detailed description of the reliability of estimates presented in this publication.

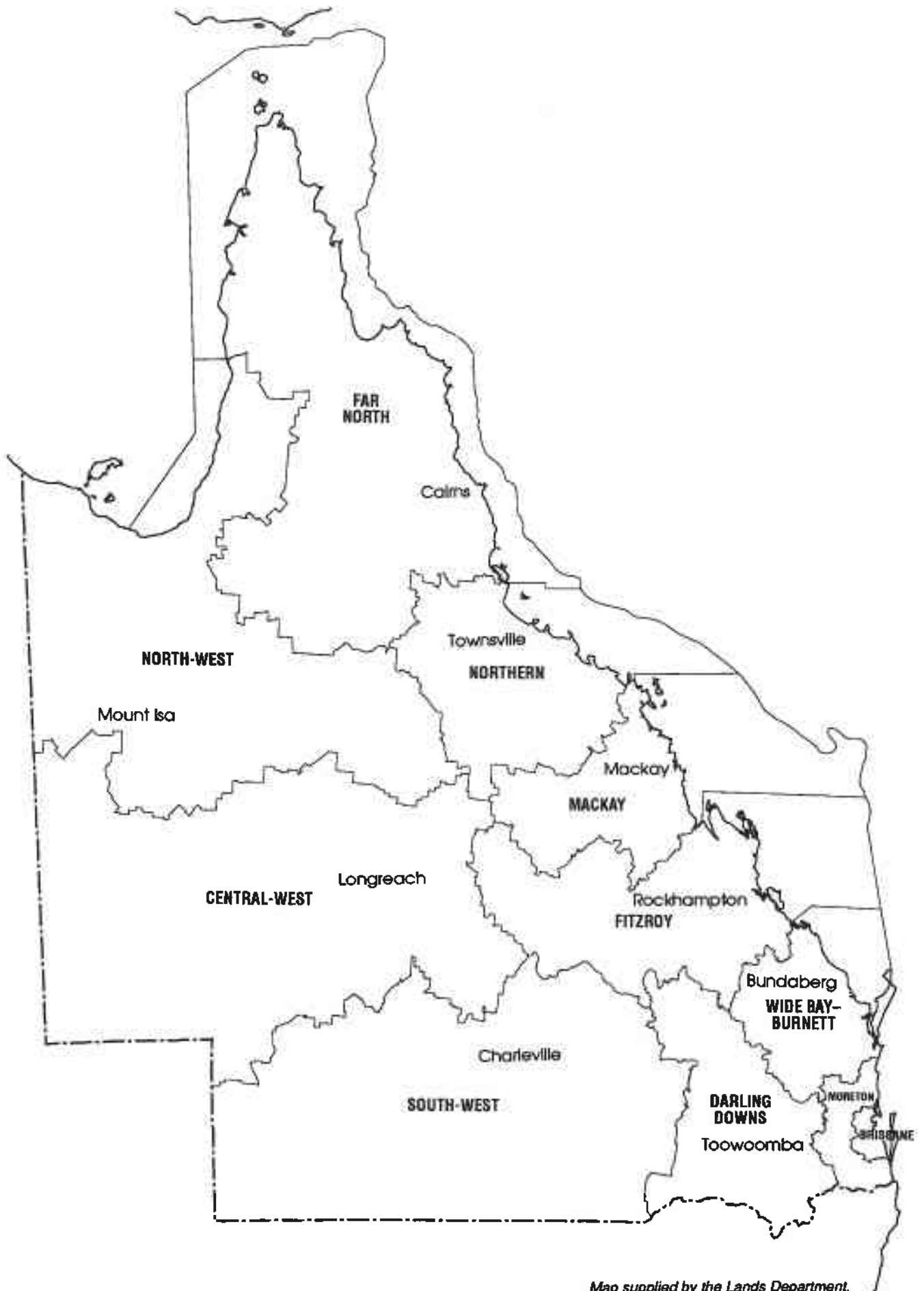
Within individual tables, discrepancies may occur due to the rounding off of numbers and percentages.

Components of a row or column may add to more than the total, as multiple responses were recorded in some questions.

Percentages may add to more than 100 per cent, where figures in rows or columns refer to multiple incidents.



# QUEENSLAND STATISTICAL DIVISIONS



Map supplied by the Lands Department.

All Offences

**Table 1.1(a) Number of Households:  
Type of Offence by Frequency of Occurrence  
(‘000 households)**

Type of Offence	Frequency of Occurrence				
	None	Once	Twice	Three or More	Total Households
Home broken into and something stolen/attempted to be stolen	967.7	30.3	7.7	3.1*	1008.8
Home broken into and vandalised	1007.2	1.3*	**	**	1008.8
Attempted home break-in with intent to steal/cause damage	977.2	25.5	4.7	1.5*	1008.8
Theft from inside the home without a break-in occurring	984.4	17.3	3.5*	3.7*	1008.8
Theft from outside the home	906.7	71.6	18.4	12.1	1008.8
Home/garden defaced/damaged by vandals/thieves	978.2	18.7	4.1	7.8	1008.8
Theft of motor vehicle	996.0	12.1	0.7*	**	1008.8
Theft from motor vehicle	945.2	53.3	5.7	4.6	1008.8
Motor vehicle deliberately damaged/vandalised	949.8	47.7	7.5	3.8*	1008.8
All household property offences	729.8	169.3	53.6	56.2	1008.8

**Table 1.1(b) Percentage of Households:  
Type of Offence by Frequency of Occurrence  
(per cent)**

Type of Offence	Frequency of Occurrence				
	None	Once	Twice	Three or More	Total Households
Home broken into and something stolen/attempted to be stolen	95.9	3.0	0.8	0.3*	100.0
Home broken into and vandalised	99.8	0.1*	**	**	100.0
Attempted home break-in with intent to steal/cause damage	96.9	2.5	0.5	0.1*	100.0
Theft from inside the home without a break-in occurring	97.6	1.7	0.3*	0.4*	100.0
Theft from outside the home	89.9	7.1	1.8	1.2	100.0
Home/garden defaced/damaged by vandals/thieves	97.0	1.9	0.4	0.8	100.0
Theft of motor vehicle	98.7	1.2	0.1*	**	100.0
Theft from motor vehicle	93.7	5.3	0.6	0.5	100.0
Motor vehicle deliberately damaged/vandalised	94.2	4.7	0.7	0.4*	100.0
All household property offences	72.3	16.8	5.3	5.6	100.0

\* the relative standard error of estimate is between 25% and 50% - use with caution

\*\* the relative standard error of estimate is greater than 50% - no reliance can be placed on this estimate

## ALL OFFENCES

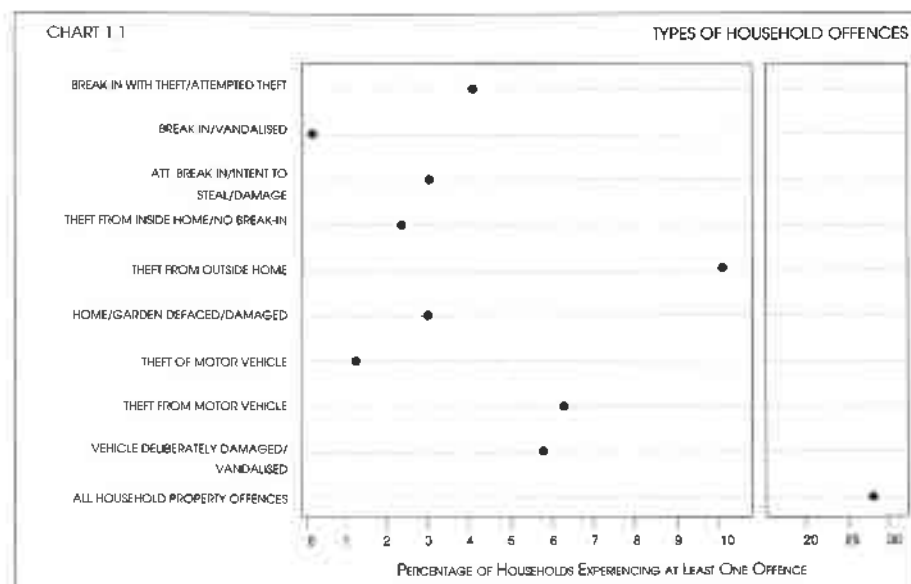
### 1.1

Of the estimated 1,008,800 households in Queensland, more than one in four — or 279,000 households — experienced at least one property offence during the 12 months prior to the survey; 5.6 per cent or 56,200 households were touched by a property crime at least three times during the same period.

The most frequent property crime experienced by Queenslanders during the 12-month period was theft from outside their homes. A little over 10 per cent of the households experienced this crime at least once during this period.

Slightly more than 4 per cent — or 41,000 households — were touched by a crime of break, enter and steal.

Approximately 13,000 households reported the theft of a motor vehicle, while 64,000 households experienced theft from a motor vehicle at least once during the 12-month period.



**Table 1.2(a) Number of Persons:  
Type of Offence by Frequency of Occurrence  
(‘000 persons)**

Type of Offence	Frequency of Occurrence				
	None	Once	Twice	Three or More times	Total Persons
Deliberate use of weapon	2149.0	13.0	2.2*	3.8*	2167.9
Attack/assault (sexual/other)	2082.3	48.0	15.5	22.1	2167.9
Threat of force/violence that frightened, or threat to property	2071.8	59.5	19.6	17.1	2167.9
Theft from the person	2129.8	34.4	3.2*	**	2167.9
Attempted theft from the person	2163.2	3.3*	1.4*	**	2167.9
Theft from elsewhere (office, school, shops or elsewhere)	2015.8	114.1	22.3	15.7	2167.9
Deliberate damage/tampering by vandals/thieves	2116.5	36.6	8.4	6.4*	2167.9
All offences against persons (excluding verbal abuse)	1807.7	217.9	63.1	79.3	2167.9
Verbal abuse	1795.7	113.7	74.3	184.2	2167.9
All offences against persons	1573.8	228.6	112.9	252.6	2167.9

**Table 1.2(b) Percentage of Persons:  
Type of Offence by Frequency of Occurrence  
(per cent)**

Type of Offence	Frequency of Occurrence				
	None	Once	Twice	Three or More times	Total Persons
Deliberate use of weapon	99.1	0.6	0.1*	0.2*	100.0
Attack/assault (sexual/other)	96.1	2.2	0.7	1.0	100.0
Threat of force/violence that frightened, or threat to property	95.6	2.7	0.9	0.8	100.0
Theft from the person	98.2	1.6	0.1*	**	100.0
Attempted theft from the person	99.8	0.2*	0.1*	**	100.0
Theft from elsewhere (office, school, shops or elsewhere)	93.0	5.3	1.0	0.7	100.0
Deliberate damage/tampering by vandals/thieves	97.6	1.7	0.4	0.3*	100.0
All offences against persons (excluding verbal abuse)	83.4	10.0	2.9	3.7	100.0
Verbal abuse	82.8	5.2	3.4	8.5	100.0
All offences against persons	72.6	10.5	5.2	11.7	100.0

\* the relative standard error of estimate is between 25% and 50% -  
use with caution

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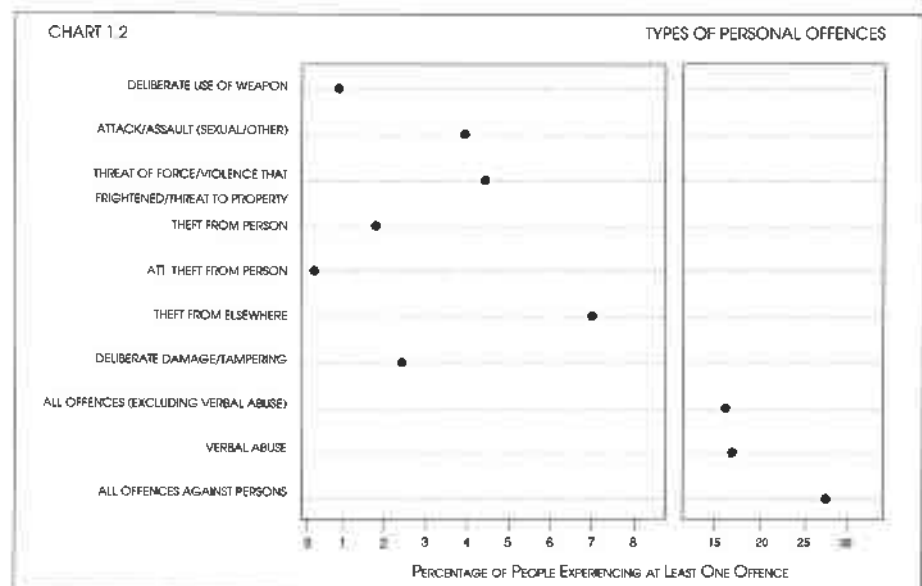


## 1.2

The survey showed an estimated 360,200 people were victims of at least one personal offence, other than verbal abuse, during the year.

Nearly four per cent (about 85,600) were victims of at least one attack (other than by a weapon), during the 12 months prior to the survey. An estimated 37,600 were attacked more than once.

About seven per cent of the target population were victims of one or more thefts of personal property from such places as offices, schools and shops.



**Household Property Crime  
Most Recent Occurrence**

**Table 2.1(a) Number of Households:  
Type of Offence by Location of Offence <sup>(a)</sup>**  
(‘000 households)

Type of Offence	Location of Offence												Total Qld
	Brisbane Inner	Brisbane Outer	Sth & East BSD Bal	Nth & West BSD Bal	Sth & East Moreton	Nth & West Moreton	Sth West	Wide Bay-Burnett	Central West, Fitzroy & Mackay	Nth & Nth-West	Far Nth	Not Known	
Home broken into and something stolen/attempted to be stolen	11.1	3.9	4.0	1.9*	7.4	1.5*	0.9*	2.4*	1.9*	2.0*	4.3	**	41.1
Home broken into and vandalised	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	1.6*
Attempted home break-in with intent to steal/cause damage	6.9	4.4	2.4*	3.1*	4.8	2.8*	0.9*	1.0*	1.3*	1.3*	2.3*	**	31.7
Theft from inside the home without a break-in occurring	4.3	2.0*	3.3*	3.2*	3.5*	1.0*	1.1*	1.2*	1.4*	1.3*	2.1*	**	24.4
Theft from outside the home	19.8	12.6	7.0	9.1	17.4	7.1	6.2	3.9	6.9	4.5	7.1	**	102.1
Home/garden defaced/damaged by vandals/thieves	6.1	5.1	4.6	3.9	3.2*	1.5*	2.7*	1.1*	0.9*	**	1.0*	**	30.6
Theft of motor vehicle	4.1	1.4*	2.0*	1.3*	1.9*	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	12.8
Theft from motor vehicle	13.0	8.6	3.9	4.4	9.7	4.1	3.4*	1.7*	5.1	3.5*	5.6	0.7*	63.6
Motor vehicle deliberately damaged/vandalised	11.9	8.8	5.1	4.6	8.8	4.6	3.4*	2.1*	2.3*	3.2*	2.4*	2.0*	59.0
Number of households	151.7	133.8	83.0	92.2	112.5	86.9	69.0	63.7	93.2	67.0	55.8	--	1,008.8

<sup>(a)</sup> ABS Labour Force Survey regions.

**Table 2.1(b) Percentage of Households:  
Type of Offence by Location of Offence <sup>(a)</sup>**  
(per cent)

Type of Offence	Location of Offence												Total Qld
	Brisbane Inner	Brisbane Outer	Sth & East BSD Bal	Nth & West BSD Bal	Sth & East Moreton	Nth & West Moreton	Sth West	Wide Bay-Burnett	Central West, Fitzroy & Mackay	Nth & Nth-West	Far Nth	Not Known	
Home broken into and something stolen/attempted to be stolen	26.9	9.4	9.7	4.7*	18.0	3.6*	2.1*	5.8*	4.5*	4.7*	10.5	**	100.0
Home broken into and vandalised	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	100.0
Attempted home break-in with intent to steal/cause damage	21.8	13.8	7.5*	9.8*	15.2	8.9*	2.7*	3.3*	4.2*	4.2*	7.4*	**	100.0
Theft from inside the home without a break-in occurring	17.6	8.1*	13.5*	13.0*	14.2*	4.2*	4.7*	4.9*	5.7*	5.2*	8.8*	**	100.0
Theft from outside the home	19.4	12.3	6.9	8.9	17.0	6.9	6.1	3.8	6.8	4.4	6.9	**	100.0
Home/garden defaced/damaged by vandals or thieves	19.9	16.7	15.0	12.8	10.4*	5.0*	8.7*	3.4*	2.9*	**	3.2*	**	100.0
Theft of motor vehicle	32.4	11.1*	15.4*	9.8*	15.3*	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	100.0
Theft from motor vehicle	20.4	13.5	6.2	6.9	15.3	6.4	5.4*	2.6*	7.9	5.5*	8.8	1.1*	100.0
Motor vehicle deliberately damaged/vandalised	20.2	14.9	8.6	7.7	15.0	7.8	5.7*	3.5*	3.9*	5.4*	4.0*	3.4*	100.0
Percentage of households	15.0	13.3	8.2	9.1	11.2	8.6	6.8	6.3	9.2	6.6	5.5	--	100.0

<sup>(a)</sup> ABS Labour Force Survey regions.

\* the relative standard error of estimate is between 25% and 50% - use with caution

Crime Victim Survey

\*\* the relative standard error of estimate is greater than 50% - no reliance can be placed on this estimate

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## **HOUSEHOLD PROPERTY OFFENCES (most recent occurrence)**

### **2.1**

While South-East Queensland — Brisbane Statistical Division and the Moreton Statistical Division — contains around two-thirds of Queensland's households, the region experienced approximately 75 per cent of the State's household property crimes during the twelve months of the survey. This region also registered about 85 per cent of all the State's motor vehicle thefts.

However, in the Far North Statistical Division — which includes Cairns — where there were less than six per cent of the State's households, more than 10 per cent of break-in offences occurred. But the region experienced relatively few motor vehicle thefts.

Brisbane Inner region had more household offences than it would have had if these offences were distributed according to the percentage of households in the region. For example, Brisbane Inner had 15 per cent of the State's households, yet the proportion of households victimised ranged between a low of 18 per cent (for theft from within home without break-in) and a high of 32 per cent (for theft of motor vehicle).

**Table 2.2(a) Number of Households:  
Type of Offence by Whether Police Aware of Offence  
(‘000 households)**

Type of Offence	Police Aware of Offence			
	Yes	No	Not known	Total
Home broken into and something stolen/attempted to be stolen	31.0	10.0	**	41.1
Home broken into and vandalised	1.0*	**	**	1.6*
Attempted home break-in with intent to steal/cause damage	10.3	20.8	**	31.7
Theft from inside the home without a break-in occurring	6.6	17.8	**	24.4
Theft from outside the home	22.6	78.7	0.8*	102.1
Home/garden defaced/damaged by vandals/thieves	7.7	22.8	**	30.6
Theft of motor vehicle	11.9	0.8*	**	12.8
Theft from motor vehicle	21.2	42.1	**	63.6
Motor vehicle deliberately damaged/vandalised	10.3	47.9	0.8*	59.0

**2.2(b) Percentage of Households:  
Type of Offence by Whether Police Aware of Offence  
(per cent)**

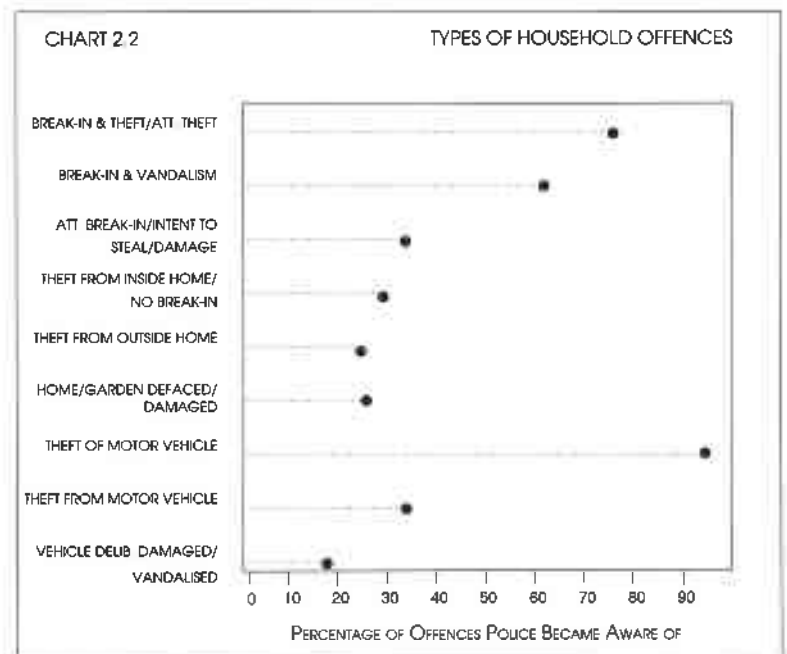
Type of Offence	Police Aware of Offence			
	Yes	No	Not known	Total
Home broken into and something stolen or/attempted to be stolen	75.3	24.3	**	100.0
Home broken into and vandalised	60.9*	**	**	100.0
Attempted home break-in with intent to steal/cause damage	32.7	65.7	**	100.0
Theft from inside the home without a break-in occurring	27.0	73.0	**	100.0
Theft from outside the home	22.1	77.0	0.8*	100.0
Home/garden defaced/damaged by vandals/thieves	25.0	74.5	**	100.0
Theft of motor vehicle	93.5	6.5*	**	100.0
Theft from motor vehicle	33.3	66.1	**	100.0
Motor vehicle deliberately damaged/vandalised	17.5	81.2	1.3*	100.0

## 2.2

Of all the household crimes experienced during the 12 months prior to the survey, the police became aware of only 30 per cent.

The police became aware of nearly all thefts of motor vehicles and more than 75 per cent of the break, enter and steal offences.

Police awareness of crime varied from one type of crime to another. For example, less than one in five crimes concerning vandalism of motor vehicles compared to almost 61 per cent of households broken into and vandalised.



*Household Property Crime  
Most Recent Occurrence*

**Table 2.3(a) Number of Households:  
Type of Offence by Main Reason For Not Reporting Offence to Police  
(‘000 households)**

Type of Offence	Main Reason Offence Not Reported to Police			Total
	Considered Too Trivial/ Unimportant	Doubt Police Could/ Would Do Anything	Other <sup>(a)</sup>	
Home broken into and something stolen/attempted to be stolen	3.1*	4.6	2.3*	10.0
Home broken into and vandalised	**	**	**	**
Attempted home break-in with intent to steal/cause damage	11.5	6.3	3.0*	20.8
Theft from inside the home without a break-in occurring	5.4	3.8*	8.6	17.8
Theft from outside the home	49.6	17.5	11.6	78.7
Home/garden defaced/damaged by vandals/thieves	15.9	5.3	1.7*	22.8
Theft of motor vehicle	**	**	**	0.8*
Theft from motor vehicle	23.0	13.0	6.1	42.1
Motor vehicle deliberately damaged/vandalised	25.0	15.3	7.7	47.9

<sup>(a)</sup> Includes Private Matter, Told Someone Else Instead, Offender(s) Thought/Known to be Child(ren), Did Not Want Offender Punished, Afraid of Reprisals

**Table 2.3(b) Percentage of Households:  
Type of Offence by Main Reason For Not Reporting Offence to Police  
(per cent)**

Type of Offence	Main Reason Offence Not Reported to Police			Total
	Considered Too Trivial/ Unimportant	Doubt Police Could/ Would Do Anything	Other <sup>(a)</sup>	
Home broken into and something stolen/attempted to be stolen	31.5*	45.8	22.8*	100.0
Home broken into and vandalised	**	**	**	100.0
Attempted home break-in with intent to steal/cause damage	55.3	30.4	14.3*	100.0
Theft from inside the home without a break-in occurring	30.3	21.2*	48.5	100.0
Theft from outside the home	63.0	22.2	14.8	100.0
Home/garden defaced/damaged by vandals/thieves	69.6	23.1	7.3*	100.0
Theft of motor vehicle	**	**	**	100.0
Theft from motor vehicle	54.6	30.9	14.5	100.0
Motor vehicle deliberately damaged/vandalised	52.1	31.9	16.0	100.0

<sup>(a)</sup> Includes Private Matter, Told Someone Else Instead, Offender(s) Thought/Known to be Child(ren), Did Not Want Offender Punished, Afraid of Reprisals

\* the relative standard error of estimate is between 25% and 50% - use with caution

\*\* the relative standard error of estimate is greater than 50% - no reliance can be placed on this estimate



### 2.3

The most frequent reason for not reporting a household property crime to police was the trivial nature of the crime. The next most frequent reason was the respondents' perception that police could not or would not do anything about the crime.

Of the 24 per cent of households not reporting theft from break-ins to police — see Table 2.2 (b) — almost half doubted whether police could or would do anything about the matter.

More than half the households not reporting *attempted* break-ins of their homes to police considered the matter as too trivial or unimportant to report.

*Household Property Crime  
Most Recent Occurrence*

**Table 2.4(a) Number of Households:  
Type of Offence by Whether Police Identified Offender(s)  
(‘000 households)**

Type of Offence	Police Identified Offender(s)			
	Yes	No	Not known	Total
Home broken into and something stolen/attempted to be stolen	5.5	23.6	1.8*	31.0
Home broken into and vandalised	**	1.0*	**	1.0*
Attempted home break-in with intent to steal/cause damage	1.7*	6.8	1.9*	10.3
Theft from inside the home without a break-in occurring	1.6*	4.8	**	6.6
Theft from outside the home	1.8*	19.7	1.1*	22.6
Home/garden defaced/damaged by vandals/thieves	2.2*	5.2	**	7.7
Theft of motor vehicle	2.9*	8.1	1.0*	11.9
Theft from motor vehicle	1.5*	18.4	1.3*	21.2
Motor vehicle deliberately damaged/vandalised	1.6*	7.4	1.3*	10.3

**2.4(b) Percentage of Households:  
Type of Offence by Whether Police Identified Offender(s)  
(per cent)**

Type of Offence	Police Identified Offender(s)			
	Yes	No	Not known	Total
Home broken into and something stolen/attempted to be stolen	17.7	76.4	6.0*	100.0
Home broken into and vandalised	**	100.0*	**	100.0
Attempted home break-in with intent to steal/cause damage	16.2*	65.5	18.3*	100.0
Theft from inside the home without a break-in	24.4*	73.4	**	100.0
Theft from outside the home	7.9*	87.1	5.0*	100.0
Home/garden defaced/damaged by vandals/thieves	28.1*	68.4	**	100.0
Theft of motor vehicle	24.1*	67.7	8.2*	100.0
Theft from motor vehicle	7.0*	86.7	6.3*	100.0
Motor vehicle deliberately damaged/vandalised	15.6*	71.5	12.9*	100.0

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\*\* the relative standard error of estimate is greater than 50% - no reliance can be placed on this estimate



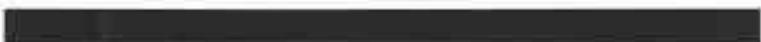


## 2.4

In a large majority of household property crimes, of which police became aware, no offenders could be identified.

For example, although police became aware of about 75 per cent of homes which were broken into and where something was stolen or attempted to be stolen — see Table 2.2 (b) — the offender was identified in only about 18 per cent of cases.

Similarly, for motor vehicle theft, police became aware of about 94 per cent of the incidents, but identified the offender in about 24 per cent of those incidents.



*Household Property Crime  
Most Recent Occurrence*

**Table 2.5(a) Number of Households:  
Type of Offence by Whether Satisfied With Police Handling of Offence  
(‘000 households)**

Type of Offence	Satisfied With Police Handling of Offence			
	Yes <sup>(a)</sup>	No <sup>(b)</sup>	Other <sup>(c)</sup>	Total
Home broken into and something stolen/attempted to be stolen	20.3	9.4	1.3*	31.0
Home broken into and vandalised	0.8*	**	**	1.0*
Attempted home break-in with intent to steal/cause damage	6.6	2.6*	1.1*	10.3
Theft from inside the home without a break-in occurring	3.6*	2.3*	0.7*	6.6
Theft from outside the home	16.7	5.1	0.9*	22.6
Home/garden defaced/damaged by vandals/thieves	5.7	1.7*	**	7.7
Theft of motor vehicle	9.2	2.4*	**	11.9
Theft from motor vehicle	13.8	5.8	1.6*	21.2
Motor vehicle deliberately damaged/vandalised	5.9	3.6*	0.8*	10.3

<sup>(a)</sup> Very Satisfied and Fairly Satisfied.

<sup>(b)</sup> Not Very Satisfied and Not At All Satisfied.

<sup>(c)</sup> Too Early to Say and Not Known.

**2.5(b) Percentage of Households:  
Type of Offence by Whether Satisfied With Police Handling of Offence  
(per cent)**

Type of Offence	Satisfied With Police Handling of Offence			
	Yes <sup>(a)</sup>	No <sup>(b)</sup>	Other <sup>(c)</sup>	Total
Home broken into and something stolen/attempted to be stolen	65.6	30.4	4.1*	100.0
Home broken into and vandalised	81.0*	**	**	100.0
Attempted home break-in with intent to steal/cause damage	63.6	25.6*	10.8*	100.0
Theft from inside the home without a break-in occurring	54.8*	35.1*	10.1*	100.0
Theft from outside the home	73.7	22.5	3.8*	100.0
Home/garden defaced/damaged by vandals/thieves	74.5	21.9*	**	100.0
Theft of motor vehicle	77.2	20.4*	**	100.0
Theft from motor vehicle	64.9	27.5	7.6*	100.0
Motor vehicle deliberately damaged/vandalised	56.8	35.4*	7.8*	100.0

<sup>(a)</sup> Very Satisfied and Fairly Satisfied.

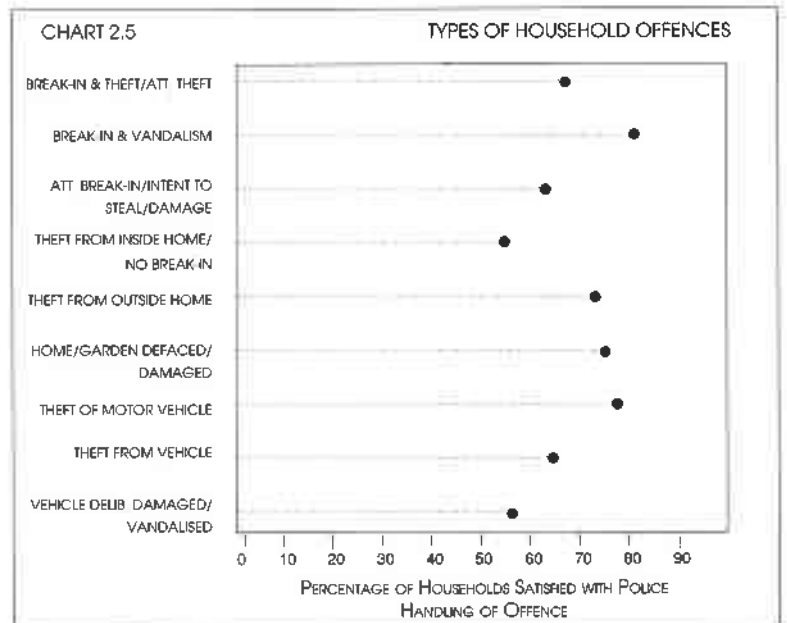
<sup>(b)</sup> Not Very Satisfied and Not At All Satisfied.

<sup>(c)</sup> Too Early to Say and Not Known.

## 2.5

Generally, Queenslanders were satisfied with police handling of reported incidents. Of those householders who reported theft from home break-in offences to police, about two-thirds were satisfied with the way police handled the matter.

A greater proportion of householders were satisfied with the way police handled other theft — from outside the home (74 per cent) and theft of motor vehicle (77 per cent).



Household Property Crime  
Most Recent Occurrence

**Table 2.6(a) Number of Households:  
Type of Offence by Reasons Not Satisfied With Police  
(‘000 households) <sup>(a)</sup>**

Type of Offence	Reasons Not Satisfied With Police						Total
	Didn't do Enough	Were Impolite/ Weren't Interested	Were Slow to Arrive	Didn't Recover Property/ Apprehend Offender	Didn't Keep Respondent Informed	Other	
Home broken into and something stolen/attempted to be stolen	5.1	3.9	2.9*	3.6*	3.4*	1.8*	9.4
Home broken into and vandalised	**	**	**	**	**	**	**
Attempted home break-in with intent to steal/cause damage	1.1*	1.3*	1.1*	**	0.8*	**	2.6*
Theft from inside the home without a break-in occurring	1.7*	1.2*	**	**	**	**	2.3*
Theft from outside the home	2.8*	3.1*	**	1.8*	0.7*	0.8*	5.1
Home/garden defaced/damaged by vandals/thieves	1.2*	1.0*	**	**	**	**	1.7*
Theft of motor vehicle	1.0*	**	**	0.9*	1.4*	**	2.4*
Theft from motor vehicle	3.0*	3.1*	1.0*	0.8*	1.2*	1.4*	5.8
Motor vehicle deliberately damaged/vandalised	1.5*	1.7*	0.8*	1.6*	**	**	3.6*

<sup>(a)</sup> Components may add to more than totals as multiple reasons were recorded.

**Table 2.6(b) Percentage of Households:  
Type of Offence by Reasons Not Satisfied With Police  
(per cent) <sup>(a)</sup>**

Type of Offence	Reasons Not Satisfied With Police						Other
	Didn't do Enough	Were Impolite/ Weren't Interested	Were Slow to Arrive	Didn't Recover Property/ Apprehend Offender	Didn't Keep Respondent Informed	Other	
Home broken into and something stolen/attempted to be stolen	54.0	41.9	30.3*	37.8*	36.2*	19.6*	
Home broken into and vandalised	**	**	**	**	**	**	
Attempted home break-in with intent to steal/cause damage	40.7*	47.7*	43.0*	**	30.9*	**	
Theft from inside the home without a break-in occurring	74.2*	51.9*	**	**	**	**	
Theft from outside the home	54.1*	60.0*	**	35.1*	13.7*	15.3*	
Home/garden defaced/damaged by vandals/thieves	68.8*	59.4*	**	**	**	**	
Theft of motor vehicle	40.8*	**	**	36.6*	56.6*	**	
Theft from motor vehicle	51.1*	53.9*	16.8*	14.1*	20.6*	23.4*	
Motor vehicle deliberately damaged/vandalised	41.3*	46.7*	21.5*	44.3*	**	**	

<sup>(a)</sup> Percentages may add to more than 100% as multiple reasons were recorded.

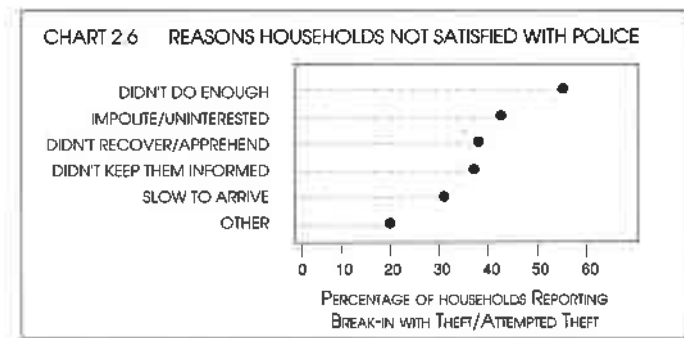
\* the relative standard error of estimate is between 25% and 50% - use with caution

\*\* the relative standard error of estimate is greater than 50% - no reliance can be placed on this estimate

## 2.6

Only a minority of Queenslanders were dissatisfied with police handling of reported offences.

Of those whose houses were broken into and something stolen and who were not satisfied, more than half (54 per cent) felt police didn't do enough. Just under 42 per cent said they felt police were impolite or weren't interested.



Similar responses about dissatisfaction were made in regard to most other offences.

Household Property Crime  
Most Recent Occurrence

**Table 2.7(a) Number of Households:  
Type of Offence by Emotional Reactions Experienced After the Offence  
(‘000 households) <sup>(a)</sup>**

Type of Offence	Emotional Reactions Experienced After the Offence							Total
	Anger	Shock	Fear	Difficulty Sleeping	Crying	Other	None & Not Known	
Home broken into and something stolen/ attempted to be stolen	33.0	17.3	11.2	12.3	4.4	2.4*	2.1*	41.1
Home broken into and vandalised	1.0*	0.9*	**	**	**	**	**	1.6*
Attempted home break-in with intent to steal/cause damage	16.6	7.2	10.0	7.3	1.5*	2.1*	7.5	31.7
Theft from inside the home without a break-in occurring	17.9	6.1	2.6*	2.8*	2.0*	3.5*	3.1*	24.4
Theft from outside the home	65.4	12.6	4.0	3.7*	2.1*	12.4	21.1	102.1
Home/garden defaced/damaged by vandals/thieves	21.4	4.9	3.6*	3.3*	1.0*	4.4	4.6	30.6
Theft of motor vehicle	10.6	6.2	1.4*	1.5*	2.7*	1.1*	0.9*	12.8
Theft from motor vehicle	47.6	8.6	1.3*	1.5*	2.1*	7.5	8.8	63.6
Motor vehicle deliberately damaged/vandalised	45.8	8.6	2.5*	1.4*	1.2*	5.5	6.6	59.0

<sup>(a)</sup> Components may add to more than the totals as multiple reactions were recorded.

**Table 2.7(b) Percentage of Households:  
Type of Offence by Emotional Reactions Experienced After the Offence  
(per cent) <sup>(a)</sup>**

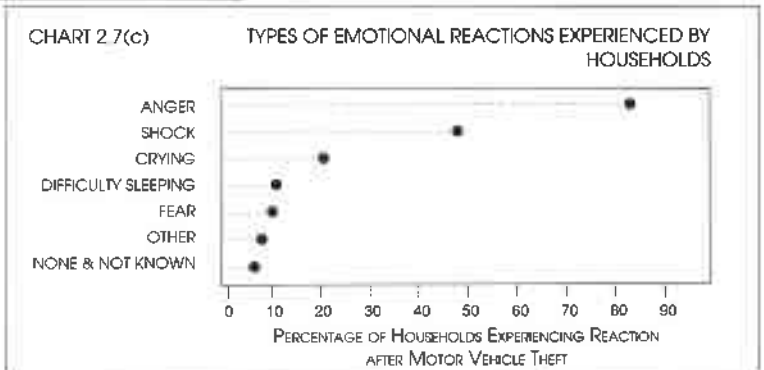
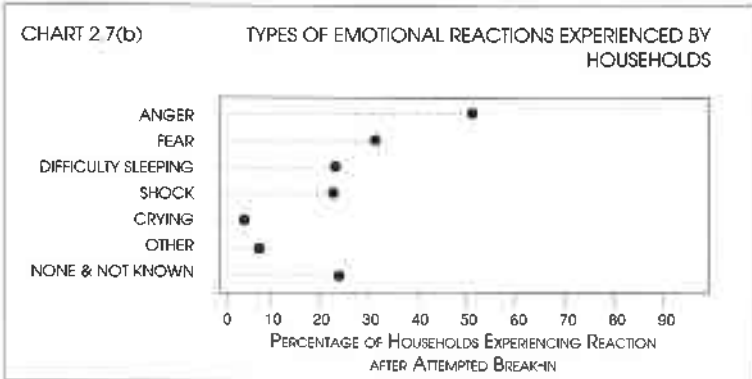
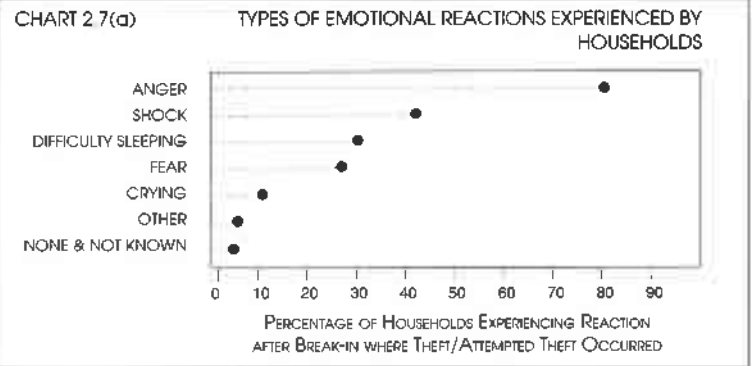
Type of Offence	Emotional Reactions Experienced After the Offence							Total
	Anger	Shock	Fear	Difficulty Sleeping	Crying	Other	None & Not Known	
Home broken into and something stolen/ attempted to be stolen	80.2	41.9	27.2	29.9	10.6	5.9*	5.2*	
Home broken into and vandalised	61.5*	59.5*	**	**	**	**	**	
Attempted home break-in with intent to steal/cause damage	52.6	22.7	31.5	23.2	4.8*	6.5*	23.6	
Theft from inside the home without a break-in occurring	73.4	25.1	10.8*	11.4*	8.1*	14.5*	12.5*	
Theft from outside the home	64.0	12.3	3.9	3.7*	2.1*	12.1	20.7	
Home/garden defaced/damaged by vandals/thieves	70.0	16.1	11.7*	10.6*	3.3*	14.4	15.1	
Theft of motor vehicle	83.3	48.2	10.6*	11.5*	21.1*	8.5*	7.2*	
Theft from motor vehicle	74.8	13.5	2.1*	2.3*	3.3*	11.8	13.9	
Motor vehicle deliberately damaged/vandalised	77.6	14.7	4.3*	2.4*	2.1*	9.4	11.2	

<sup>(a)</sup> Percentages may add to more than 100% as multiple reactions were recorded.



## 2.7

Anger was the predominant emotional reaction expressed in regard to all types of offences, followed by shock at being victimised. Fear and difficulty sleeping were most felt when it came to break-in offences, both actual and attempted.



*Household Property Crime  
Most Recent Occurrence*

**Table 2.8(a) Number of Households:  
Type of Offence by Actions Police/Court Should Take  
(‘000 households) <sup>(a)</sup>**

Type of Offence	Actions Police/Court Should Take								Total
	Nothing/ Not a Matter for Police	Warning/ Caution from Police/ Court	Have to Pay Compensation	Have to do Community Service	Put on Probation	Be Fined	Prison Term <sup>(b)</sup>	Other/ Not Known	
Home broken into and something stolen/ attempted to be stolen	**	9.8	24.2	19.0	5.7	6.3	8.9	1.6*	41.1
Home broken into and vandalised	**	**	0.7*	**	**	**	**	**	1.6*
Attempted home break-in with intent to steal or cause damage	0.9*	11.6	10.0	11.0	3.0*	3.8*	3.4*	2.9*	31.7
Theft from inside the home without a break-in occurring	3.7*	6.1	12.4	6.2	1.8*	2.8*	2.3*	2.1*	24.4
Theft from outside the home	6.2	37.9	53.6	28.4	5.6	14.0	4.9	4.9	102.1
Home/garden defaced/damaged by vandals/thieves	2.4*	12.6	14.9	10.8	0.9*	1.4*	1.2*	1.0*	30.6
Theft of motor vehicle	**	1.2*	8.3	4.8	**	3.2*	5.8	**	12.8
Theft from motor vehicle	2.4*	19.3	35.5	26.7	6.0	11.6	4.3	4.0	63.6
Motor vehicle deliberately damaged/vandalised	1.6*	20.7	37.7	17.6	3.3*	8.9	2.5*	4.4	59.0

<sup>(a)</sup> Components may add to more than the total number of victims as multiple actions were recorded.

<sup>(b)</sup> Includes Get a Suspended Prison Term.

**Table 2.8(b) Percentage of Households:  
Type of Offence by Actions Police/Court Should Take  
(per cent) <sup>(a)</sup>**

Selected Type of Offence	Actions Police/Court Should Take								Total
	Nothing/ Not a Matter for Police	Warning/ Caution from Police/ Court	Have to Pay Compensation	Have to do Community Service	Put on Probation	Be Fined	Prison Term <sup>(b)</sup>	Other/ Not Known	
Home broken into and something stolen/ attempted to be stolen	**	23.8	58.7	46.2	13.9	15.4	21.5	3.8*	100.0
Home broken into and vandalised	**	**	47.1*	**	**	**	**	**	100.0
Attempted home break-in with intent to steal or cause damage	2.9*	36.6	31.7	34.6	9.5*	11.9*	10.7*	9.0*	100.0
Theft from inside the home without a break-in occurring	15.1*	24.9	50.9	25.5	7.4*	11.5*	9.2*	8.5*	100.0
Theft from outside the home	6.0	37.1	52.4	27.8	5.4	13.7	4.8	4.8	100.0
Home/garden defaced/damaged by vandals/thieves	7.8*	41.2	48.6	35.1	2.9*	4.6*	3.9*	3.3*	100.0
Theft of motor vehicle	**	9.4*	65.2	37.8	**	25.0*	45.2	**	100.0
Theft from motor vehicle	3.8*	30.4	55.8	42.0	9.5	18.3	6.7	6.3	100.0
Motor vehicle deliberately damaged/vandalised	2.7*	35.0	63.8	29.9	5.5*	15.0	4.2*	7.4	100.0

<sup>(a)</sup> Percentages may add to more than 100% as multiple actions were recorded.

<sup>(b)</sup> Includes Get a Suspended Prison Term.





## 2.8

A significant proportion of householders affected by crime would like offenders to have to pay compensation. This was evident in all types of offences, ranging from attempted break-ins (32 per cent) to motor vehicle theft (65 per cent).

Between a quarter and almost a half of respondents, (depending on the offence), favour having the offender do community service.

Almost one half of householders would like to see prison terms for motor vehicle thieves.



Household Property Crime  
Most Recent Occurrence

**Table 2.9(a) Number of Households:  
Selected Type of Offence by Items Stolen  
(‘000 households) <sup>(a)</sup>**

Selected Type of Offence	Items Stolen										Total
	Cash	Jewell- ery	Other Personal Effects <sup>(b)</sup>	Cloth- ing	Bicycle	Electr- onic Equip- ment <sup>(c)</sup>	Camera	Plants/ Garden Equip- ment	Other/ Not Known	Nothing Stolen	
Home broken into and something stolen/attempted to be stolen	16.2	9.1	5.8	4.6	1.8*	9.6	4.0	1.6*	13.4	8.3	41.1
Theft from inside the home without a break-in occurring	7.5	5.3	3.1*	2.7*	0.7*	1.7*	**	**	7.6	**	24.4
Theft from outside the home	1.5*	**	0.9*	24.6	8.2	**	**	31.8	37.1	1.2*	102.1
Theft from motor vehicle	15.4	1.4*	6.6	5.2	**	7.6	1.3*	**	34.9	**	63.6

<sup>(a)</sup> Components may add to more than the totals as multiple items may have been recorded.

<sup>(b)</sup> Includes Handbag, Wallet, Purse and Cheque Book, Credit Card.

<sup>(c)</sup> Includes Microwave Oven, Television and Video Equipment and Audio Equipment.

**Table 2.9(b) Percentage of Households:  
Selected Type of Offence by Items Stolen  
(per cent) <sup>(a)</sup>**

Selected Type of Offence	Items Stolen										Total
	Cash	Jewell- ery	Other Personal Effects <sup>(b)</sup>	Cloth- ing	Bicycle	Electr- onic Equip- ment <sup>(c)</sup>	Camera	Plants/ Garden Equip- ment	Other/ Not Known	Nothing Stolen	
Home broken into and something stolen/attempted to be stolen	39.3	22.2	14.1	11.2	4.4*	23.2	9.6	4.0*	32.5	20.2	100.0
Theft from inside the home without a break-in occurring	30.8	21.8	12.8*	11.2*	2.9*	7.1*	**	**	31.0	**	100.0
Theft from outside the home	1.5*	**	0.9*	24.1	8.1	**	**	31.1	36.3	1.2*	100.0
Theft from motor vehicle	24.2	2.1*	10.4	8.2	**	12.0	2.0*	**	54.8	**	100.0

<sup>(a)</sup> Percentages may add to more than 100% as multiple items may have been recorded.

<sup>(b)</sup> Includes Handbag, Wallet, Purse and Cheque Book, Credit Card.

<sup>(c)</sup> Includes Microwave Oven, Television and Video Equipment and Audio Equipment.



## 2.9

Of households which experienced thefts from within the home or the motor vehicle the most common item stolen was cash.

When the home was broken into, cash was stolen in four out of 10 instances.

Plants and garden equipment, followed by clothing, were the most likely items to be stolen from outside the home (31 and 24 per cent respectively).



*Household Property Crime  
Most Recent Occurrence*

**Table 2.10(a) Number of Households:  
Selected Type of Offence by Value of Items Stolen  
(‘000 households)**

Selected Type of Offence	Value of Items Stolen					Total
	Under \$50	Over \$50 but under \$500	Over \$500 but under \$1000	\$1000 or more	Not Known	
Home broken into and something stolen/attempted to be stolen	2.7*	11.5	7.2	11.3	**	32.8
Theft from inside the home without a break-in occurring	6.8	11.8	3.2*	1.8*	0.7*	24.4
Theft from outside the home	37.9	50.8	5.9	1.6*	4.8	100.9
Theft from motor vehicle	27.4	28.0	3.7*	2.1*	1.9*	63.2

**Table 2.10(b) Percentage of Households:  
Selected Type of Offence by Value of Items Stolen  
(per cent)**

Selected Type of Offence	Value of Items Stolen					Total
	Under \$50	Over \$50 but under \$500	Over \$500 but under \$1000	\$1000 or more	Not Known	
Home broken into and something stolen/attempted to be stolen	8.2*	35.1	22.0	34.3	**	100.0
Theft from inside the home without a break-in occurring	27.8	48.5	13.1*	7.5*	3.1*	100.0
Theft from outside the home	37.5	50.3	5.8	1.6*	4.7	100.0
Theft from motor vehicle	43.4	44.3	5.9*	3.3*	3.0*	100.0

\* the relative standard error of estimate is between 25% and 50% - use with caution

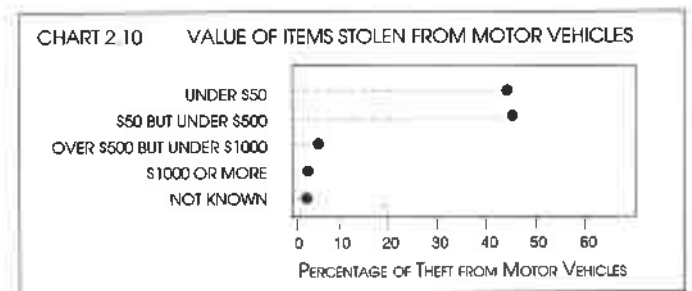
\*\* the relative standard error of estimate is greater than 50% - no reliance can be placed on this estimate

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## 2.10

More than half of the households which experienced break-in and stealing lost items valued at \$500 or more and, in about one third of the incidents the loss was \$1,000 or more.

When it came to other types of theft, in more than three out of four cases the value of items taken was less than \$500.



*Crime Against Persons (Excluding Verbal Abuse)  
Most Recent Occurrence*

**Table 3.1(a) Number of Persons:  
Type of Offence by Location of Offence <sup>(a)</sup>  
(‘000 persons)**

Type of Offence	Location of Offence <sup>(c)</sup>												Total Qld
	Brisbane Inner	Brisbane Outer	Sth & East BSD Bal	Nth & West BSD Bal	Sth & East More-ton	Nth & West More-ton	Sth West	Wide Bay-Burnett	Central West, Fitzroy & Mackay	Nthn & Nth-West	Far Nth	Not Known	
Deliberate use of a weapon	6.2*	2.2*	1.7*	**	1.4*	**	1.4*	**	2.3*	**	1.4*	**	18.9
Attack/assault (sexual/other)	21.7	10.3	7.6	6.8	6.7	6.4*	3.3*	3.9*	7.0	4.2*	6.3*	1.5*	85.6
Threat of force/violence that frightened, or threat to property	22.3	10.2	9.1	8.4	8.5	5.4*	3.6*	6.0*	7.1	8.3	5.5*	1.6*	96.2
Theft from the person	6.2*	9.4	2.3*	**	4.5*	2.3*	**	**	4.8*	3.3*	3.1*	**	38.1
Attempted theft from the person	**	1.3*	**	**	1.7*	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	4.7*
Theft from elsewhere (office, school, shops or elsewhere)	29.6	19.6	9.1	9.6	24.8	10.4	5.4*	5.0*	13.5	10.4	9.5	5.2*	152.1
Deliberate damage/tampering by vandals/thieves	10.0	6.5*	4.6*	4.7*	4.0*	3.5*	**	4.1*	5.0*	2.9*	4.4*	**	51.4
Number of persons	303.9	310.6	187.4	207.3	236.1	175.5	147.1	131.3	206.6	146.1	116.1	--	2,167.9

<sup>(a)</sup> ABS Labour Force Survey regions.

**Table 3.1(b) Percentage of Persons:  
Type of Offence by Location of Offence <sup>(b)</sup>  
(per cent)**

Type of Offence	Location of Offence <sup>(c)</sup>												Total Qld
	Brisbane Inner	Brisbane Outer	Sth & East BSD Bal	Nth & West BSD Bal	Sth & East More-ton	Nth & West More-ton	Sth West	Wide Bay-Burnett	Central West, Fitzroy & Mackay	Nthn & Nth-West	Far Nth	Not Known	
Deliberate use of a weapon	32.6*	11.6*	9.2*	**	7.4*	**	7.5*	**	12.3*	**	7.3*	**	100.0
Attack/assault (sexual/other)	25.3	12.0	8.9	8.0	7.8	7.4*	3.9*	4.5*	8.2	5.0*	7.3*	1.7*	100.0
Threat of force/violence that frightened, or threat to property	23.2	10.6	9.5	8.7	8.9	5.6*	3.8*	6.3*	7.3	8.7	5.7*	1.7*	100.0
Theft from the person	16.2*	24.6	6.0*	**	11.8*	6.0*	**	**	12.6*	8.8*	8.1*	**	100.0
Attempted theft from the person	**	27.8*	**	**	36.0*	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	100.0
Theft from elsewhere (office, school, shops or elsewhere)	19.4	12.9	6.0	6.3	16.3	6.8	3.5*	3.3*	8.9	6.9	6.2	3.4*	100.0
Deliberate damage/tampering by vandals/thieves	19.4	12.6*	8.9*	9.2*	7.9*	6.8*	**	7.9*	9.7*	5.7*	8.5*	**	100.0
Percentage of persons	14.0	14.3	8.6	9.6	10.9	8.1	6.8	6.1	9.5	6.7	5.4	--	100.0

<sup>(a)</sup> ABS Labour Force Survey regions.

\* the relative standard error of estimate is between 25% and 50% - use with caution

\*\* the relative standard error of estimate is greater than 50% - no reliance can be placed on this estimate

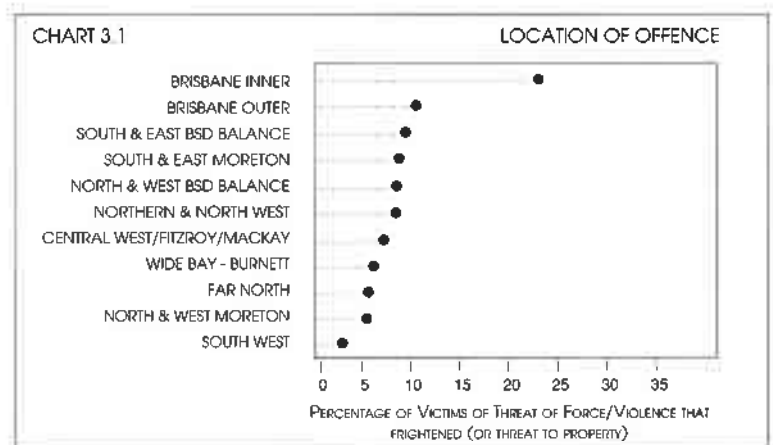
## OFFENCES AGAINST PERSONS (Most Recent Occurrence)

### 3.1

About one quarter of attacks or assaults, other than those involving deliberate use of a weapon, took place in Brisbane's inner suburbs.

On the other hand, about a quarter of thefts from the person occurred in Brisbane's outer suburbs.

Slightly more than two-thirds of theft of other personal property — from the office, school, shops and elsewhere — took place in South-East Queensland and about 13 per cent in the northern part of the State.



*Crime Against Persons (Excluding Verbal Abuse)  
Most Recent Occurrence*

**Table 3.2(a) Number of Persons:  
Type of Offence by Whether Police Aware of Offence  
(‘000 persons)**

Type of Offence	Police Aware of Offence			
	Yes	No	Not known	Total
Deliberate use of a weapon	10.1	8.8	**	18.9
Attack/assault (sexual/other)	22.9	61.8	**	85.6
Threat of force/violence that frightened, or threat to property	22.5	72.0	1.7*	96.2
Theft from the person	10.2	27.9	**	38.1
Attempted theft from the person	**	4.7*	**	4.7*
Theft from elsewhere (office, school, shops or elsewhere)	46.3	104.7	**	152.1
Deliberate damage/tampering by vandals/thieves	16.0	35.4	**	51.4

**Table 3.2(b) Percentage of Persons  
Type of Offence by Whether Police Aware of Offence  
(per cent)**

Type of Offence	Police Aware of Offence			
	Yes	No	Not known	Total
Deliberate use of a weapon	53.3	46.3	**	100.0
Attack/assault (sexual/other)	26.8	72.2	**	100.0
Threat of force/violence that frightened, or threat to property	23.4	74.8	1.7*	100.0
Theft from the person	26.8	73.2	**	100.0
Attempted theft from the person	**	100.0	**	100.0
Theft from elsewhere (office, school, shops or elsewhere)	30.4	68.9	**	100.0
Deliberate damage/tampering by vandals/thieves	31.2	68.8	**	100.0

\* the relative standard error of estimate is between 25% and 50% - use with caution

\*\* the relative standard error of estimate is greater than 50% - no reliance can be placed on this estimate





### 3.2

Except for the crime of deliberate use of a weapon, only a minority of all other personal crimes became known to police.

Police became aware of only slightly over half of the crimes involving deliberate use of a weapon. In all other types of personal crime, police became aware of between 23 and 31 per cent of incidents.

*Crime Against Persons (Excluding Verbal Abuse)*  
*Most Recent Occurrence*

**Table 3.3(a) Number of Persons:  
Type of Offence by Main Reason For Not Reporting Offence to Police  
(‘000 persons)**

Type of Offence	Main Reason Offence Not Reported to Police						Total
	Considered Too Trivial/Unimportant	Doubt Police Could/ Would Do Anything	Private Matter	Told Someone Else Instead	Afraid of Reprisals	Other <sup>(a)</sup>	
Deliberate use of a weapon	2.0*	4.4*	1.6*	**	**	**	8.8
Attack/assault (sexual/other)	24.0	8.8	13.2	3.7*	6.7	5.3*	61.8
Threat of force/violence that frightened, or threat to property	32.5	13.6	10.2	2.7*	4.9*	8.0	72.0
Theft from the person	9.7	12.0	1.5*	2.4*	**	2.3*	27.9
Attempted theft from the person	3.1*	**	**	**	**	**	4.7*
Theft from elsewhere (office, school, shops or elsewhere)	53.4	22.0	4.7*	14.7	**	10.0	104.7
Deliberate damage/tampering by vandals/thieves	22.0	7.7	**	2.1*	**	2.9*	35.4

<sup>(a)</sup> Includes Offender(s) Thought/Known to be Child(ren), Did Not Want Offender Punished.

**Table 3.3(b) Percentage of Persons:  
Type of Offence by Main Reason For Not Reporting Offence to Police  
(per cent)**

Type of Offence	Main Reason Offence Not Reported to Police						Total
	Considered Too Trivial/Unimportant	Doubt Police Could/ Would Do Anything	Private Matter	Told Someone Else Instead	Afraid of Reprisals	Other <sup>(a)</sup>	
Deliberate use of a weapon	22.8*	50.0*	17.7*	**	**	**	100.0
Attack/assault (sexual/other)	38.8	14.2	21.4	6.0*	10.9	8.5*	100.0
Threat of force/violence that frightened, or threat to property	45.2	18.9	14.1	3.8*	6.8*	11.2	100.0
Theft from the person	34.6	43.0	5.5*	8.5*	**	8.4*	100.0
Attempted theft from the person	66.9*	**	**	**	**	**	100.0
Theft from elsewhere (office, school, shops or elsewhere)	51.0	21.0	4.5*	14.0	**	9.5	100.0
Deliberate damage/tampering by vandals/thieves	62.3	21.7	**	6.1*	**	8.3*	100.0

<sup>(a)</sup> Includes Offender(s) Thought/Known to be Child(ren), Did Not Want Offender Punished.

### 3.3

The two main reasons for not reporting a personal crime to police were that respondents considered the crime to be too trivial and a perception that police could not or would not do anything about it.

In about 40 per cent of attacks or threats not reported to police, the respondent considered the matter too trivial.

Personal reasons, including “private matter”, “told someone else” and “afraid of reprisals” for not reporting to police were the next most frequent responses (38 per cent for attacks and 25 per cent for threats).

When it came to theft (other than from the person) and deliberate damage of personal property, more than half and almost two-thirds of victims respectively regarded the offence as too trivial to report.

