

EMBARGOED UNTIL 11:30 AM 9 NOVEMBER 1995

**CRIME AND SAFETY
NEW SOUTH WALES AND AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY
APRIL 1995**

**Gregory W. Bray
Deputy Commonwealth Statistician**

© Commonwealth of Australia 1995

Produced by the Australian Government Printing Service

CONTENTS

		Page
SUMMARY OF FINDINGS		
New South Wales	Household crime	1
	Personal crime	1
	Multiple victims	2
	Reporting to police	2
	Perception of crime/public nuisance	2
	<i>Graphs</i>	
	Victims of household crime in the 12 months to April	1
	Victims of personal crime in the 12 months to April	2
Australian Capital Territory	Household crime	3
	Personal crime	3
	Reporting to police	3
	Perception of crime/public nuisance	3
	<i>Graphs</i>	
	Victims of household crime in the 12 months to April	3
	Victims of personal crime in the 12 months to April	3
TABLES		
New South Wales	1 Victims and non-victims of crime in the 12 months to April: Type of offence	5
	2 Victims and non-victims of household crime in the 12 months to April: Selected characteristics	5
	3 Victims and non-victims of personal crime in the 12 months to April: Sex by age	6
	4 Victims and non-victims of personal crime in the 12 months to April: Selected characteristics	7
	5 Victims of crime in the 12 months to April 1995: Number of incidents experienced by type of offence	7
	6 Victims of crime in the 12 months to April: Whether told police about last incident by type of offence	8
	7 Persons: Perceptions of crime or public nuisance problems in the neighbourhood	8
Australian Capital Territory	8 Victims and non-victims of crime in the 12 months to April: Type of offence	9
	9 Victims and non-victims of household crime in the 12 months to April: Selected characteristics	9
	10 Victims and non-victims of personal crime in the 12 months to April: Selected characteristics	10
	11 Victims of crime in the 12 months to April: Whether told police about last incident by type of offence	10
	12 Persons: Perceptions of crime or public nuisance problems in the neighbourhood	11

		Page
EXPLANATORY NOTES	Introduction	12
	Scope	12
	Coverage	12
	Comparisons with police statistics	13
	Definitions	13
	Related publications	14
	Symbols and other usages	14
TECHNICAL NOTE ON DATA RELIABILITY	Estimation procedure	15
	Reliability of estimates	15
	Estimates of sampling error	15
Tables	Standard errors of estimates of persons and households, New South Wales, April 1995	16
	Standard errors of estimates of persons and households, Australian Capital Territory, April 1995	17

INQUIRIES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>for further information about statistics in this publication, and the availability of related unpublished statistics, contact Michael Clarke on (02) 268 4498.</i> • <i>for information about other ABS statistics and services, please refer to the last page of this publication.</i>
-----------	---

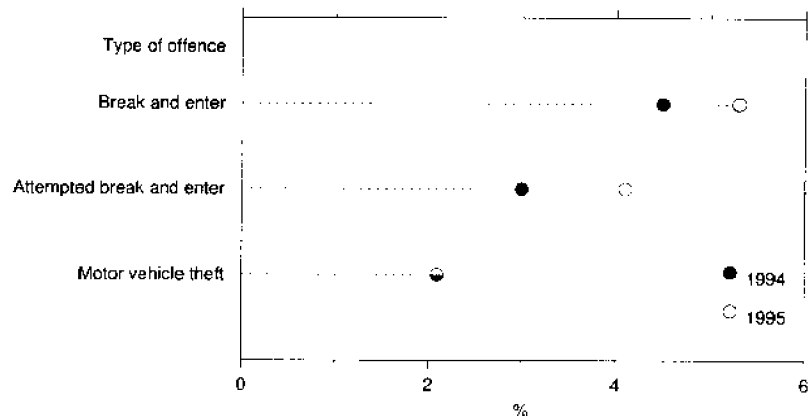
SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

NEW SOUTH WALES

HOUSEHOLD CRIME

Of the 2 191 400 households in NSW, 222 200 households (10.1%) experienced at least one household crime during the 12 months to April 1995. This was an increase over the 8.5% victimisation rate recorded for the 12 months to April 1994.

VICTIMS OF HOUSEHOLD CRIME IN THE 12 MONTHS TO APRIL



The victimisation rate for household crime was higher for Sydney (12.2%) than for the balance of NSW (6.9%).

The victimisation rate for household crime varies according to household type. 'One parent' households and 'Other' households had the highest victimisation rate (15.5% and 14.3% respectively). 'Couple only' households experienced the lowest victimisation rate (6.9%).

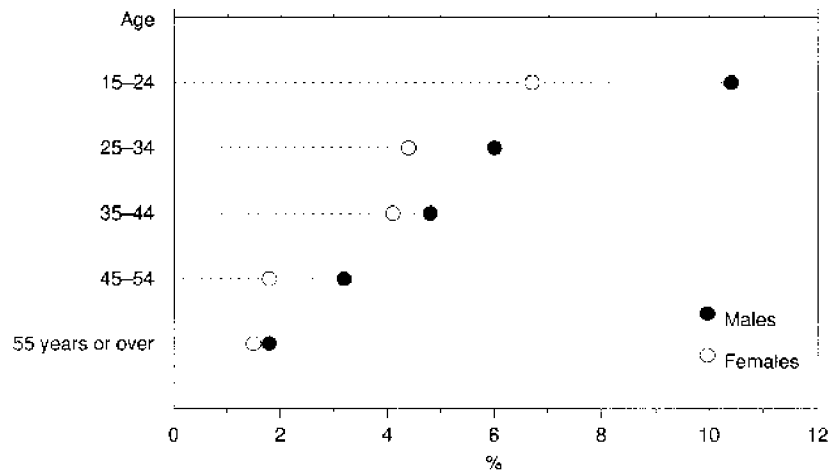
A total of 185 600 households experienced an occurrence of break and enter or attempted break and enter. The overall victimisation rate for these types of crime increased from 6.7% in 1994 to 8.5% in 1995.

PERSONAL CRIME

Of the estimated 4 617 400 persons aged 15 or over 199 900 (4.3%) were victims of at least one personal crime during the 12 months to April 1995. This compares with the victimisation rate of 3.5% recorded for the corresponding period in 1994.

Victimisation rates varied according to age and sex. Higher victimisation rates occurred among males (5.1%) than among females (3.6%). Younger people experienced higher victimisation rates than older people, with the highest rate being among 15-24 year olds (8.6%) and decreasing to 1.1% among those aged 65 and over.

VICTIMS OF PERSONAL CRIME IN THE 12 MONTHS TO APRIL



MULTIPLE VICTIMS

Of the 222 200 households that were victims of household crime, 58 400 (26.3%) experienced more than one occurrence within the 12 month reference period.

Among victims of personal crime, 87 900 (44.0%) experienced multiple occurrences within the 12 month reference period.

REPORTING TO POLICE

Reporting to the police varied widely according to the nature of the crime. For household crimes, rates of reporting the most recent incident to police ranged from 91.4% for motor vehicle theft to 31.3% for attempted break and enter.

Among victims of personal crime, 52.2% of robbery victims reported the most recent incident to police. By comparison, 30.4% of victims of assault reported the most recent incident to police.

PERCEPTIONS OF CRIME/PUBLIC NUISANCE

Just over half (51.4%) of all persons aged 15 years and over felt that their neighbourhood had a crime or public nuisance problem.

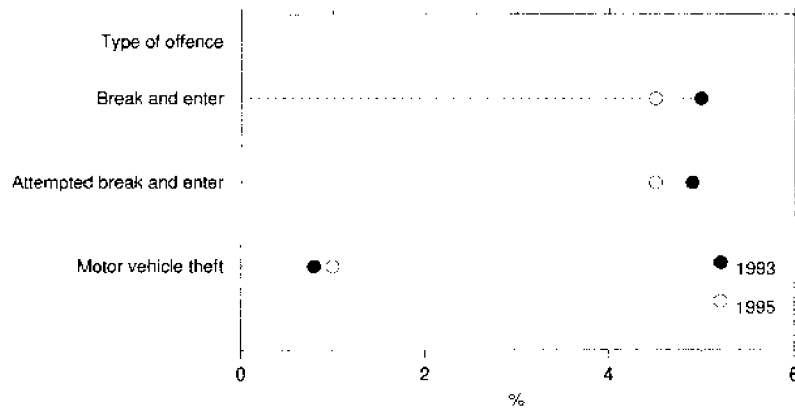
The main crime/public nuisance problem was perceived to be housebreaking/burglaries/theft from homes, reported as the main problem by 18.1% of persons.

AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

HOUSEHOLD CRIME

Of the 105 300 households in the ACT, 9 000 (8.6%) were victims of at least one household crime during the 12 months to April 1995. This compares with a victimisation rate of 9.7% recorded for 1993.

VICTIMS OF HOUSEHOLD CRIME IN THE 12 MONTHS TO APRIL

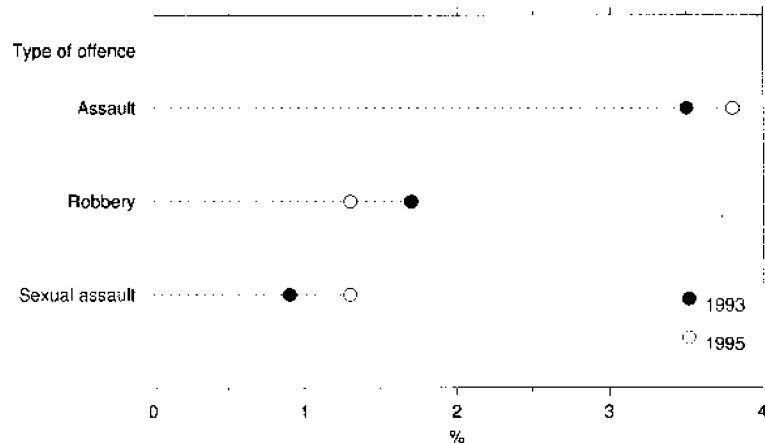


PERSONAL CRIME

Around 11 800 (5.3%) of the 222 800 persons aged 15 and over were victims of personal crime. This compares with a victimisation rate of 4.9% recorded in 1993.

The victimisation rate was higher for males (6.2%) than for females (4.5%).

VICTIMS OF PERSONAL CRIME IN THE 12 MONTHS TO APRIL



REPORTING TO POLICE

For household crime, the rate of reporting the last incident to the police was 87.8% for victims of break and enter and 38.1% for victims of attempted break and enter.

For personal crime, 62.5% of robbery victims reported the last incident to police, while 31.6% of assault victims reported the last incident to police.

PERCEPTIONS OF CRIME/PUBLIC NUISANCE

Approximately 53.7% of persons in the ACT thought that there were problems from crime or people creating a public nuisance in their neighbourhood.

Housebreaking/burglaries/theft from homes was thought to be the main problem by 23.2% of persons.

NOTES

The NSW and ACT Crime and Safety Survey covered only selected types of household and personal crimes. Household crimes covered in the survey were break and enter, attempted break and enter and motor vehicle theft. Personal crimes covered in the survey were robbery, assault and sexual assault.

The terms used to describe various types of offences in this publication may not necessarily correspond with the legal or police definitions. Victims are counted once only for each type of offence, regardless of the number of incidents of that type. Sexual assaults were not identified separately from assaults in the 1990 and 1991 surveys, thus affecting comparability with these data. Explanatory and Technical Notes for these data can be found on pages 12 to 17.

Gregory W. Bray
Deputy Commonwealth Statistician

1

VICTIMS AND NON-VICTIMS OF CRIME¹ IN THE 12 MONTHS TO APRIL: TYPE OF OFFENCE, NSW

Type of offence	1995 ²		Victimisation rate ³					
	Victims '000s	Non- victims '000s	1990 %	1991 %	1992 %	1993 %	1994 %	1995 %
Households—								
Break and enter	116.8	2 074.6	5.6	5.6	4.6	3.7	4.5	5.3
Attempted break and enter	88.9	2 102.4	4.6	3.8	3.3	2.6	3.0	4.1
<i>Break and enter or attempted break and enter</i>	185.6	2 005.8	8.9	8.3	6.9	5.7	6.7	8.5
Motor vehicle theft	46.2	2 145.2	na	na	2.1	2.0	2.1	2.1
Total households	222.2	1 969.1	8.6	7.5	8.5	10.1
Persons—								
Robbery	78.7	4 538.6	1.6	1.5	1.1	1.3	1.2	1.7
Assault	125.4	4 492.0	2.1	2.7	2.2	2.6	2.4	2.7
Sexual assault ⁴	11.8	2 215.5	na	na	0.6	0.8	0.7	0.5
Total persons	199.9	4 417.4	3.5	4.0	3.2	3.9	3.5	4.3

¹ Refers to households or persons who were victims of any of the types of offence specified.

² Because an individual household or person could be a victim of two or more types of offence, figures given for individual offence types do not sum to the totals in these columns.

³ Proportion of all households/persons.

⁴ Sexual assault questions were asked only of females aged 18 years and over. Sexual assault was not separately identified in the 1990 and 1991 surveys.

2

VICTIMS AND NON-VICTIMS OF HOUSEHOLD CRIME¹ IN THE 12 MONTHS TO APRIL: SELECTED CHARACTERISTICS, NSW

Selected characteristics	1995			Victimisation rate ²			
	Victims '000s	Non- victims '000s	Total '000s	1992 %	1993 %	1994 %	1995 %
Major statistical region—							
Sydney	164.3	1 183.3	1 347.7	10.6	8.5	9.8	12.2
Balance of New South Wales	57.9	785.8	843.7	5.4	5.8	6.3	6.9
Household type—							
Couple with child(ren)	72.7	709.8	782.5	8.9	6.9	8.6	9.3
Couple only	35.6	476.8	512.4	7.5	4.2	6.2	6.9
One parent household	28.2	153.6	181.8	11.9	13.0	12.1	15.5
Person living alone	48.7	407.7	456.4	7.7	8.7	8.3	10.7
Other households	37.0	221.3	258.3	8.9	9.5	11.0	14.3
Whether a member of Neighbourhood (or Rural) Watch—							
Member	45.8	455.2	501.0	7.8	7.3	8.6	9.1
Not a member	142.3	1 238.6	1 381.0	8.8	7.1	8.6	10.3
Don't know	34.1	275.3	309.4	10.1	9.9	7.8	11.0
Total households	222.2	1 969.1	2 191.4	8.6	7.5	8.5	10.1

¹ Break and enter, attempted break and enter or motor vehicle theft.

² Proportion of all households.

3

VICTIMS AND NON-VICTIMS OF PERSONAL CRIME¹ IN THE 12 MONTHS TO APRIL: SEX BY AGE, NSW

Age	1995			Victimisation rate ²	
	Victims '000s	Non-victims '000s	Total '000s	1994 %	1995 %
MALES					
15-24 years	45.7	393.6	439.3	9.3	10.4
25-34 years	27.5	430.5	458.1	4.4	6.0
35-44 years	21.1	421.1	442.2	3.3	4.8
45-54 years	12.0	362.1	374.1	3.1	3.2
55-64 years	*6.0	247.6	253.6	*1.2	*2.4
65 years or over	*3.8	298.8	302.5	*1.0	*1.2
Total males	116.1	2 153.8	2 269.9	4.1	5.1
FEMALES					
15-24 years	28.9	403.8	432.7	6.0	6.7
25-34 years	20.8	450.0	470.8	3.8	4.4
35-44 years	18.4	433.4	451.8	2.6	4.1
45-54 years	*6.6	357.5	364.1	*1.5	*1.8
55-64 years	*5.5	249.2	254.7	*2.2	*2.2
65 years or over	*3.6	369.7	373.4	*0.5	*1.0
Total females	83.8	2 263.7	2 347.5	2.9	3.6
PERSONS					
15-24 years	74.6	797.4	872.0	7.6	8.6
25-34 years	48.3	880.5	928.9	4.1	5.2
35-44 years	39.6	854.5	894.1	3.0	4.4
45-54 years	18.5	719.7	738.2	2.3	2.5
55-64 years	11.5	496.8	508.3	1.7	2.3
65 years or over	*7.4	668.5	675.9	*0.7	*1.1
Total persons	199.9	4 417.4	4 617.4	3.5	4.3

¹ Robbery, assault or sexual assault.

² Proportion of all persons.

4

**VICTIMS AND NON-VICTIMS OF PERSONAL CRIME¹ IN THE 12 MONTHS TO APRIL:
SELECTED CHARACTERISTICS, NSW**

Selected characteristics	1995			Victimisation rate ²	
	Victims	Non-victims	Total	1994	1995
	'000s	'000s	'000s	%	%
Major statistical region—					
Sydney	141.9	2 755.4	2 897.3	4.0	4.9
Balance of New South Wales	58.1	1 662.0	1 720.1	2.6	3.4
Labour force status—					
Employed	135.8	2 632.2	2 768.0	3.8	4.9
Unemployed	15.7	194.4	210.1	6.3	7.5
Not in the labour force	48.4	1 590.8	1 639.2	2.5	3.0
Total persons	199.9	4 417.4	4 617.4	3.5	4.3

¹ Robbery, assault or sexual assault.

² Proportion of all persons.

5

**VICTIMS OF CRIME¹ IN THE 12 MONTHS TO APRIL 1995:
NUMBER OF INCIDENTS EXPERIENCED BY TYPE OF OFFENCE, NSW**

Type of offence	Number of incidents				Victimisation rate		
	One	Two	Three or more	Total victims	One	Two	Three or more
	'000s	'000s	'000s	'000s	%	%	%
Households —							
Break and enter	94.6	15.4	*6.8	116.8	81.0	13.2	*5.9
Attempted break and enter	66.7	15.1	*7.1	88.9	75.0	17.0	*8.0
Break and enter or attempted break and enter ²	138.0	26.6	21.0	185.6	74.3	14.3	11.3
Motor vehicle theft	40.5	*4.7	*0.9	46.2	87.7	*10.3	*2.0
Total household victims²	163.8	33.6	24.9	222.2	73.7	15.1	11.2
Persons—							
Robbery	53.1	18.2	7.4	78.7	67.4	23.1	9.4
Assault	67.4	25.4	32.6	125.4	53.8	20.2	26.0
Sexual assault ³	*7.4	*1.9	*2.5	11.8	*62.5	*16.0	*21.5
Total personal victims²	112.1	41.6	46.3	199.9	56.0	20.8	23.1

¹ Refers to households or persons who were victims of any of the types of offence specified.

² Because an individual household or person could be a victim of two or more types of offence, figures given for individual offence types do not sum to the totals in this row.

³ Sexual assault questions were asked only of females aged 18 years and over.

6

VICTIMS OF CRIME¹ IN THE 12 MONTHS TO APRIL: WHETHER TOLD POLICE ABOUT LAST INCIDENT BY TYPE OF OFFENCE, NSW

Type of offence	1995		Police told ²					
	Police told	Police not told	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995
	'000s	'000s	%	%	%	%	%	%
Household victims—								
Break and enter	85.8	31.0	73.2	72.3	71.2	73.4	76.0	73.5
Attempted break and enter	27.8	61.1	36.0	30.1	28.2	28.5	35.2	31.3
Motor vehicle theft	42.2	*4.0	na	na	95.5	95.6	94.5	91.4
Person victims—								
Robbery	41.1	37.6	59.7	58.7	58.6	45.6	52.6	52.2
Assault	38.1	87.3	30.8	31.8	37.0	31.9	38.9	30.4
Sexual assault ³	np	np	na	na	*24.6	*28.8	*25.6	np

¹ Refers to households or persons who were victims of any of the types of offence specified.

² Proportion of all households/persons.

³ Sexual assault questions were asked only of females aged 18 years and over. Sexual assault was not separately identified in the 1990 and 1991 surveys.

7

PERSONS: PERCEPTIONS OF CRIME OR PUBLIC NUISANCE PROBLEMS IN THE NEIGHBOURHOOD, NSW, APRIL 1995

Crime or public nuisance problem	Perceived to be a problem ¹		Perceived to be the main problem	
	Number	Proportion ²	Number	Proportion ²
	'000s	%	'000s	%
Housebreaking/burglaries/theft from homes	1 522.9	33.0	834.0	18.1
Car theft	923.3	20.0	119.2	2.6
Other theft	425.9	9.2	50.2	1.1
Louts/youth gangs	977.5	21.2	316.2	6.8
Prowlers/loiterers	392.0	8.5	34.8	0.8
Vandalism/graffiti	996.2	21.6	179.4	3.9
Dangerous/noisy driving	1 364.6	29.6	495.4	10.7
Illegal drugs	617.6	13.4	169.7	3.7
Sexual assault	151.8	3.3	12.2	0.3
Other assault	234.1	5.1	23.3	0.5
Problems with neighbours/domestic problems	354.9	7.7	76.6	1.7
Other	108.6	2.4	61.8	1.3
No perceived problem	2 244.7	48.6	2 244.7	48.6
All persons	4 617.4	..	4 617.4	..

¹ A person could nominate more than one perceived problem. As a consequence, figures in these columns do not sum to the total shown for all persons.

² Of all persons.

8

VICTIMS AND NON-VICTIMS OF CRIME¹ IN THE 12 MONTHS TO APRIL: TYPE OF OFFENCE, ACT

Type of offence	1995		Victimisation rate ²	
	Victims	Non-victims	1993	1995
	'000s	'000s	%	%
Households—				
Break and enter	4.8	100.5	5.0	4.5
Attempted break and enter	4.8	100.5	4.9	4.5
<i>Break and enter or attempted break and enter</i>	8.3	96.9	8.9	7.9
Motor vehicle theft	*1.0	104.2	*0.8	*1.0
Total households	9.0	96.3	9.7	8.6
Persons—				
Robbery	2.8	220.0	1.7	1.3
Assault	8.5	214.3	3.5	3.8
Sexual assault ³	1.4	105.9	*0.9	1.3
Total persons	11.8	211.0	4.9	5.3

¹ Refers to households or persons who were victims of any of the types of offence specified.

² Proportion of all households/persons.

³ Sexual assault questions were asked only of females aged 18 years and over.

9

VICTIMS AND NON-VICTIMS OF HOUSEHOLD CRIME¹ IN THE 12 MONTHS TO APRIL:
SELECTED CHARACTERISTICS, ACT

Selected characteristics	1995			Victimisation rate ²	
	Victims	Non-victims	Total	1993	1995
	'000s	'000s	'000s	%	%
Household type—					
Couple with child(ren)	2.9	37.6	40.5	7.7	7.3
Couple only	*1.2	18.1	19.4	6.8	*6.4
One parent household	*1.2	7.9	9.1	18.1	*13.3
Person living alone	1.6	19.2	20.8	11.0	7.9
Other households	2.0	13.5	15.5	11.8	12.7
Whether a member of Neighbourhood (or Rural) Watch—					
Member	3.1	29.4	32.5	9.0	9.5
Not a member	4.4	52.3	56.7	10.4	7.8
Don't know	1.5	14.6	16.1	9.2	9.2
Total households	9.0	96.3	105.3	9.7	8.6

¹ Break and enter, attempted break and enter or motor vehicle theft.

² Proportion of households.

10

VICTIMS AND NON-VICTIMS OF PERSONAL CRIME¹ IN THE 12 MONTHS TO APRIL: SELECTED CHARACTERISTICS, ACT

Selected characteristics	1995			Victimisation rate ²	
	Victims '000s	Non-victims '000s	Total '000s	1993 %	1995 %
Sex—					
Male	6.7	102.2	108.9	6.0	6.2
Female	5.1	108.8	113.9	3.9	4.5
Age—					
15–24 years	4.9	47.4	52.3	8.9	9.4
25–34 years	3.4	44.9	48.3	5.4	7.0
35–44 years	1.6	44.4	46.0	4.2	3.5
45–54 years	*0.7	36.7	37.4	*2.6	*1.9
55 years or over	*1.2	37.6	38.8	*1.6	*3.1
Labour force status -					
Employed	8.5	143.3	151.9	5.1	5.6
Unemployed	1.4	10.0	11.3	12.0	12.0
Not in the labour force	1.9	57.7	59.6	3.3	3.2
Total persons	11.8	211.0	222.8	4.9	5.3

¹ Robbery, assault or sexual assault.

² Proportion of persons.

11

VICTIMS OF CRIME¹ IN THE 12 MONTHS TO APRIL: WHETHER TOLD POLICE ABOUT LAST INCIDENT BY TYPE OF OFFENCE, ACT

Type of offence	1995		Police told ²	
	Police told '000s	Police not told '000s	1993 %	1995 %
Household victims -				
Break and enter	4.2	*0.6	72.1	87.8
Attempted break and enter	1.8	2.9	27.2	38.1
Motor vehicle theft	*1.0	—	*88.1	*100.0
Person victims -				
Robbery	1.8	*1.1	40.4	62.5
Assault (excluding sexual assault)	2.7	5.8	30.9	31.6

¹ Refers to households or persons who were victims of any of the types of offence specified.

² Proportion of all households/persons.

12

**PERSONS: PERCEPTIONS OF CRIME OR PUBLIC NUISANCE PROBLEMS IN THE NEIGHBOURHOOD,
ACT, APRIL 1995**

<i>Crime or public nuisance problem</i>	<i>Perceived to be a problem¹</i>		<i>Perceived to be the main problem</i>	
	<i>Number</i>	<i>Proportion²</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Proportion²</i>
	<i>'000s</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>'000s</i>	<i>%</i>
Housebreaking/burglaries/theft from homes	81.7	36.7	51.6	23.2
Car theft	28.7	12.9	2.2	1.0
Other theft	22.2	10.0	2.7	1.2
Louts/youth gangs	36.3	16.3	6.8	3.1
Prowlers/loiterers	19.4	8.7	1.9	0.9
Vandalism/graffiti	62.8	28.2	17.4	7.8
Dangerous/noisy driving	61.5	27.6	23.0	10.3
Illegal drugs	21.9	9.8	5.2	2.4
Sexual assault	5.9	2.6	*0.5	*0.2
Other assault	7.6	3.4	*0.5	*0.2
Problems with neighbours/domestic problems	17.0	7.6	4.2	1.9
Other	7.0	3.1	3.5	1.6
No perceived problem	103.3	46.3	103.3	46.3
All persons	222.8	..	222.8	..

¹ A person could nominate more than one perceived problem. As a consequence, figures in these columns do not sum to the total shown for all persons.

² Of all persons.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

INTRODUCTION

1 This publication contains results from a Crime and Safety survey which was conducted throughout NSW and the ACT in April 1995 as a supplement to the ABS Monthly Population Survey (MPS). The survey was conducted and funded at the request of the NSW Police Service, the NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research and the ACT Attorney-General's Department.

2 Information was collected from individuals and households about their experience of selected crimes, reporting behaviour, individuals' perception of crime problems in their neighbourhood and households' membership of Neighbourhood or Rural Watch programs.

3 The survey was conducted using all the private dwellings included in the MPS, with the exception of private dwellings containing only visitors. The MPS was conducted during the two weeks commencing Monday, 10 April 1995.

4 For NSW, information was sought from approximately 12 900 persons, of whom about 10 300 (79.9%) responded. Data pertaining to households were sought from approximately 6 200 households and about 4 900 (79.1%) replied.

5 Information was sought from around 2 400 persons in the ACT. Of these, approximately 2 000 (85.3%) responded. Of the 1 100 households in the ACT from which data was sought, about 900 (84.1%) responded to the survey.

6 Examination of successive waves of responses did not indicate any serious problem of non-response bias. Special estimation procedures and imputation were employed to reduce the effect of non-response.

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

(a) members of the permanent defence forces;

(b) certain diplomatic personnel of overseas governments, customarily excluded from censuses and surveys;

(c) overseas residents in Australia; and

(d) members of non-Australian defence forces (and their dependants) stationed in Australia.

8 Residents of other non-private dwellings such as hospitals, motels and jails (included in the MPS) were excluded from this survey.

9 In the survey, coverage rules were applied which aimed to ensure that each person was associated with only one dwelling, and hence had only one chance of selection in the survey.

10 Crime and Safety questionnaires were delivered to the selected households by MPS interviewers for completion by respondents and return by mail. One questionnaire per household contained questions relating to the household as a whole. In addition, all persons in scope (refer paragraph 7) were provided with a questionnaire relating to their personal experiences of crime. All females aged 18 years or over were provided with an additional questionnaire relating to their personal experiences of sexual assault only.

SCOPE

COVERAGE

COMPARISONS WITH POLICE
STATISTICS

DEFINITIONS

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

12 Household: A group of residents of a dwelling who share common facilities and meals or who consider themselves to be a household. It is possible for a dwelling to contain more than one household, for example, where regular provision is made for groups to take meals separately and where persons consider their households to be separate.

13 Neighbourhood (or Rural) Watch: A community-based crime prevention program mainly aimed at preventing break and enter offences.

14 Offence: Indicates crimes which persons or households reported had been committed against them.

15 Break and enter offence: An incident where the respondent's home had been broken into. The respondent's home was defined to include their garage or shed, but break and enter offences relating to their car or garden were excluded.

16 Attempted break and enter offence: An incident where an attempt was made to break into the respondent's home.

17 Motor vehicle theft: An incident where a registered motor vehicle was stolen from any member of the household. It included privately owned motor vehicles as well as business/company vehicles used exclusively by any members of the household.

18 Robbery: An incident where someone had stolen something from a respondent by threatening or attacking them.

19 Assault: An incident other than a robbery where the respondent was threatened with force or attacked.

20 Sexual assault: An incident which was of a sexual nature involving physical contact, including rape, attempted rape, indecent assault, and assault with intent to sexually assault. Sexual harassment (that did not lead to an assault) was excluded. Only females aged 18 years and over were asked sexual assault questions.

21 Victim: A person or a household reporting at least one of the offences listed above. Victims were counted once only for each type of offence, regardless of the number of incidents of that type.

22 Crime or public nuisance problems: Anything perceived by the respondent to be problems arising from crime or people creating a public nuisance.

23 Neighbourhood: Respondents were asked about crime problems in their neighbourhood. The precise definition of this term was left to the respondent.

RELATED PUBLICATIONS

24 The ABS produces a wide range of publications of social and demographic statistics. Other ABS publications which relate to this survey topic include:

Crime and Safety, South Australia, April 1995 (4509.4)

Crime and Safety, Victoria, April 1995 (4509.2)

Crime and Safety, Queensland, April 1995 (4509.3)

Crime and Safety, Australia, April 1993 (4509.0)

National Crime Statistics, January-December 1994 (4510.0)

Crime Victims, Western Australia, October 1991 (4506.5)

Crime and Crime Prevention Survey, Victoria, July 1987, Preliminary (4507.2)

Crime Victims Survey, Victoria 1986 (4506.2)

Crime Victims Survey, Australia, 1983, Preliminary (4505.0)

Victims of Crime, Australia, 1983 (4506.0)

SYMBOLS AND OTHER USAGES

na	not available
np	not available for publication but included in totals where applicable
*	estimate is subject to a relative standard error greater than 25%.
..	not applicable (due to non-comparability)
—	nil occurrences or rounded to zero

TECHNICAL NOTE ON DATA RELIABILITY

ESTIMATION PROCEDURE

1 Estimates derived from this survey were obtained in two stages. In the first stage, adjustment of non-response was carried out based on the demographic composition of the Monthly Population Survey sample, as well as on analysis of the effect of reminder action on the responses obtained.

2 The second stage was a complex ratio estimation procedure, which ensured that the survey estimates conformed to an independently estimated distribution of the population by age, sex and part of state, rather than to the age, sex and part of state distribution among respondents.

RELIABILITY OF ESTIMATES

3 Estimates in this publication are subject to non-sampling and sampling errors.

Non-sampling errors

4 Non-sampling errors may arise as a result of errors in the reporting, recording or processing of the data and can occur even if there is a complete enumeration of the population. Non-sampling errors can be introduced through: inadequacies in the questionnaire; non-response; inaccurate reporting by respondents; errors in the application of survey procedures; incorrect recording of answers; and errors in data entry and processing.

5 It is difficult to measure the size of the non-sampling errors and the extent of these errors could vary considerably in significance from survey to survey and from question to question. However, every effort is made in the design of the survey and development of survey procedures to minimise the effect of these errors.

Sampling errors

6 Sampling error is the error which occurs by chance because the data were only obtained from a sample, not the entire population.

ESTIMATES OF SAMPLING ERROR

7 One measure of the variability of estimates which occurs as a result of surveying only a sample of the population is the *standard error* (table below).

8 There are about two chances in three (67%) that a survey estimate is within one standard error of the figure that would have been obtained if all persons had been included in the survey. There are about nineteen chances in twenty (95%) that the difference will be less than two standard errors.

9 Linear interpolation should be used to calculate the standard error of estimates falling between the sizes of estimates listed in the table.

10 The standard error can also be expressed as a percentage of the estimate and this is known as the *relative standard error* (RSE). The RSE is determined by dividing the standard error of an estimate $SE(x)$ by the estimate X and expressing it as a percentage. That is—

$$RSE(x) = \frac{100SE(x)}{x}$$

(where x is the estimate). The relative standard error is a useful measure in that it provides an immediate indication of the percentage errors likely to have occurred due to sampling.

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

$$RSE(x/y) = \sqrt{[RSE(x)]^2 + [RSE(y)]^2}$$

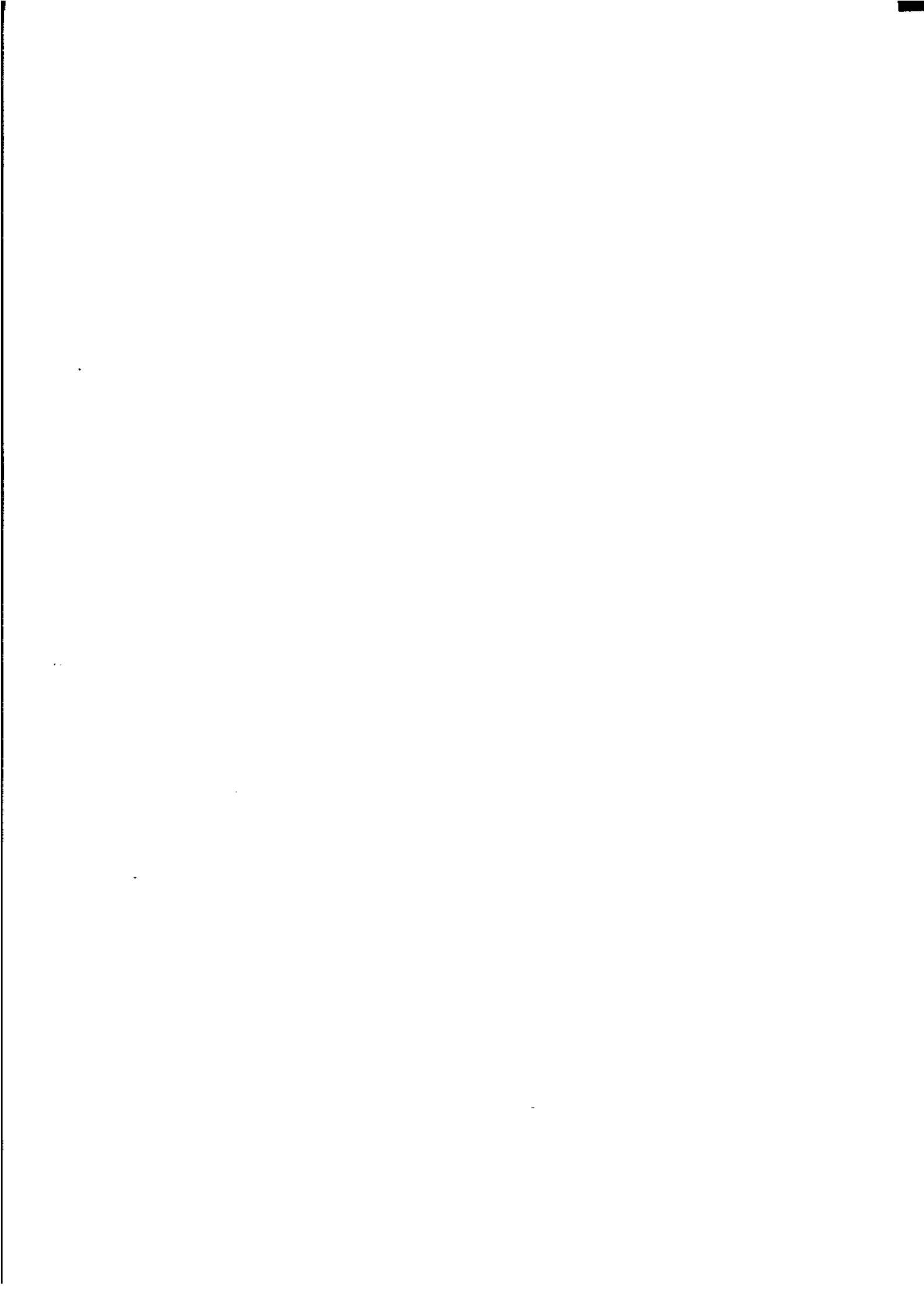
12 For all tables in this publication, only estimates with relative standard errors of 25% or less, and percentages based on such estimates, are considered sufficiently reliable for most purposes. However, estimates and percentages with relative standard errors greater than 25% have been included, preceded by the symbol * to indicate that they are subject to high standard errors and should be used with caution.

**STANDARD ERRORS OF ESTIMATES OF PERSONS AND HOUSEHOLDS,
NEW SOUTH WALES, APRIL 1995**

Size of estimate (number of households or persons)	Standard error	Relative standard error
	Number	%
1 000	710	70.9
1 500	870	57.8
2 000	1 000	49.9
2 500	1 100	44.4
3 000	1 200	40.4
3 500	1 300	37.3
4 000	1 400	34.7
5 000	1 550	30.8
7 000	1 800	25.7
10 000	2 100	21.2
15 000	2 550	16.9
20 000	2 900	14.4
30 000	3 450	11.4
50 000	4 250	8.5
100 000	5 650	5.7
200 000	7 450	3.7
300 000	8 650	2.9
500 000	10 500	2.1
1 000 000	13 450	1.3
2 000 000	17 100	0.9

**STANDARD ERRORS OF ESTIMATES OF PERSONS AND HOUSEHOLDS,
AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY, APRIL 1995**

<i>Size of estimate (number of households or persons)</i>	<i>Standard error</i>		<i>Relative standard error</i>
	<i>Number</i>	<i>%</i>	
1 000	290	29.1	
1 500	350	23.2	
2 000	390	19.7	
3 000	470	15.6	
4 000	530	13.2	
5 000	600	11.6	
8 000	700	8.8	
10 000	750	7.7	
20 000	1 000	5.0	
30 000	1 200	3.9	
50 000	1 450	2.9	
100 000	1 850	1.8	
200 000	2 350	1.2	



For more information ...

The ABS publishes a wide range of statistics and other information on Australia's economic and social conditions. Details of what is available in various publications and other products can be found in the *ABS Catalogue of Publications and Products* available at all ABS Offices (see below for contact details).

Information Consultancy Service

Information tailored to special needs of clients can be obtained from the Information Consultancy Service available at ABS Offices (see Information Inquiries below for contact details).

National Dial-a-Statistic Line

0055 86 400

(Steadycom P/L: premium rate 25c/21.4 secs.)

This number gives you 24 hour access, 365 days a year for a range of statistics.

Electronic Data Services

A large range of data is available via on-line services, diskette, magnetic tape, tape cartridge and CD ROM. For more details about these electronic data services, contact any ABS Office (see below).

Bookshops and Subscriptions

There is a large number of ABS publications available from ABS bookshops (see below Bookshop Sales for contact details). The ABS also provides a subscription service through which nominated publications are supplied by mail on a regular basis (telephone Subscription Service toll free on 008 02 0608 Australia wide).

Sales and Inquiries

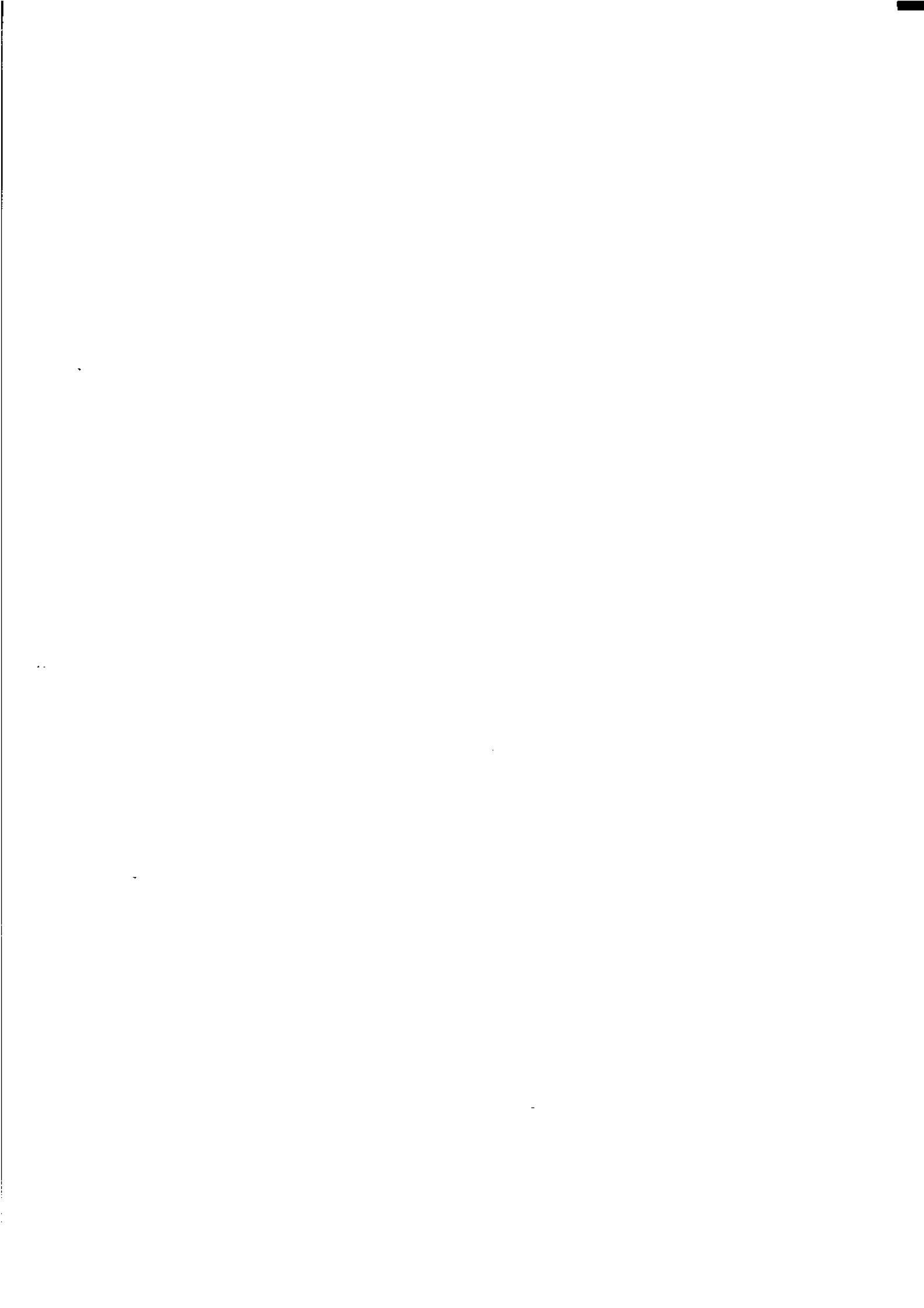
Regional Offices	Information Inquiries	Bookshop Sales
SYDNEY (02)	268 4611	268 4620
MELBOURNE (03)	9615 7000	9615 7829
BRISBANE (07)	3222 6351	3222 6350
PERTH (09)	360 5140	360 5307
ADELAIDE (08)	237 7100	237 7582
HOBART (002)	205 800	205 800
CANBERRA (06)	207 0326	207 0326
DARWIN (089)	432 111	432 111
National Office		
ACT (06)	252 6007	008 020 608

ABS Email Addresses

Keylink	STAT.INFO/ABS
X.400	(C:AU,A:TELMEMO,O:ABS,SN:INFO,FN:STAT)
Internet	STAT.INFO@ABS.TELEMEMO.AU



Information Services, ABS, GPO Box 796, Sydney NSW 2001
or any ABS office





ABS Catalogue No. 4509.1

CRIME AND SAFETY, NEW SOUTH WALES AND AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY, April 1995



2450910001952

ISSN 1325-2542

Recommended retail price: \$15.50