

17 March 2016

01/2016

MEDIA RELEASE

Embargo: 9:00AM Thursday 17 March 2016

Latest crime statistics show increases in justice procedures offences and breaches of orders

The Crime Statistics Agency has today released its recorded crime statistics for Victoria for the year ending 31 December 2015.

Recorded crime statistics show that there were 497,116 offences recorded by Victoria Police in the year to December 2015, up 8.1% compared to the same period last year.

The crime rate was 8,353.4 offences per 100,000 people, an increase of 6.2%. There were 74,385 family incidents recorded, an increase of 9.2%.

Offender incidents increased by 8.3% from 154,336 in the year ending December 2014 to 167,154 in the year ending December 2015.

Victim reports made to police have increased by 7.1% compared to the same period last year, making the victimisation rate 5,018.3 per 100,000 population.

Crime Statistics Agency Chief Statistician Fiona Dowsley said that there are similar trends in this quarter to previous periods. 'Weapons and explosives offences and justice procedures offences have again seen statistically significant increases this quarter' Ms Dowsley said.

'Theft offences and Burglary/Break and Enter offences have also increased in 2015, up 11.0% and 9.1% respectively.'

'There has been a significant trend in the number of theft from a motor vehicle offences, with this category accounting for 1 in every 10 offences recorded by Victoria Police in 2015.'

'This quarter's spotlight on theft from motor vehicle offences highlights the upwards trend in this category.'

Further information, including Local Government Area data, can be found in the latest crime statistics quarterly release, available to download from the CSA website:

<http://www.crimestatistics.vic.gov.au/home/crime+statistics/latest+crime+data/>

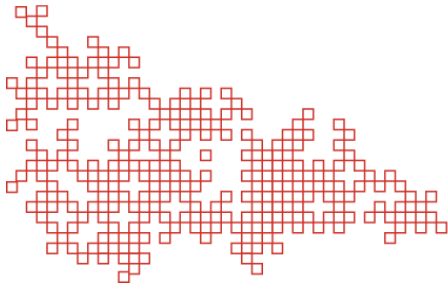
For further information please contact:

Brad Petry

Manager, Operations & Development

Phone: 0408 169 338

Email: info@crimestatistics.vic.gov.au



CSA FACT SHEET: RECORDED CRIME STATISTICS – YEAR ENDING 30 DECEMBER 2015

Embargo: 9:00AM Thursday 17 March 2016

State wide figures

- The number of offences recorded by police in the year to 31 December 2015 was 497,116. This is up 8.1% from 459,681 offences recorded in the same period last year.
- Family incidents increased in the year to 31 December 2015, up 9.2% from 68,135 to 74,385.
- There were 167,154 offender incidents recorded in the year to 31 December 2015, up 8.3% from 154,336 in the year to December 2014.
- Victim reports increased in the year to 31 December 2015 by 7.1% to 298,641 victim reports.

Offence trends

Between the year ending December 2014 and 2015, the major offence categories that showed a significant upward trend were:

- Assault and related offences (up 4.2% from 37,687 to 39,255)
- Burglary/Break and enter offences (up 9.1% from 45,549 to 49,682)
- Theft offences (up 11.0% from 147,802 to 164,109)
- Drug dealing and trafficking offences (up 17.7% from 4,498 to 5,292)
- Drug use and possession offences (up 16.5% from 19,765 to 23,020)
- Weapons and explosives offences (up 17.1% from 13,478 to 15,779)
- Public nuisance offences (up 15.8% from 2,579 to 2,987)
- Justice procedures (up 39.3% from 6,517 to 9,079)
- Breaches of orders (up 11.5% from 46,925 to 52,322)

Between the year ending December 2014 and 2015 one offence subdivision showed a significant downwards trend:

- Disorderly and offensive conduct (down 14.5% from 20,966 to 17,928)

All other offence categories were stable.

Local Government Area level figures

The five Local Government Areas with the highest offence rates were:

1. Melbourne (25,694.1 offences per 100,000 estimated resident population, down 4.1%)
2. Latrobe (17,862.0 offences per 100,000 estimated resident population, up 10.0%)
3. Horsham (14,768.3 offences per 100,000 estimated resident population, up 20.4%)
4. Yarra (14,654.0 offences per 100,000 estimated resident population, down 1.1%)
5. Greater Dandenong (12,783.1 offences per 100,000 estimated resident population, up 18.7%)

For a detailed breakdown of the data, click to view the [crime statistics quarterly release](#)

For a breakdown of offences at the LGA level, click to access the [CSA crime by location tool](#)

For explanatory information and definitions for the latest release, see the [explanatory notes](#) and [glossary](#)