Criminal Incidents — Data Visualisation Guide for Use

Using the Data Visualisation

This data visualisation contains the number and rate of criminal incidents in Victoria. This guide for use will outline key points in navigating through the visualisation and filtering the dashboards to focus on specific areas of interest.

The visualisation has a navigation panel along the top. This allows you to explore each of the dashboards by clicking on the box (or tab) that you are interested in. Most dashboards contain filters that allow you to focus on areas of interest. The main filters in the dashboards allow you to change geographical areas, principal offence, family violence flag and investigation status.

The first dashboard is a 'Guide for use' regarding the data, and provides details of data exclusions and general information about the data.

Using the criminal incidents visualisation
This interactive tool has a navigation panel along the top and consists of the following dashboards:
- Criminal incidents and rate per 100,000 by principal offence
- Criminal incidents and rate per 100,000 by police region and local government area (LGA)
- Criminal incidents and rate per 100,000 by principal offence and LGA
- Criminal incidents by postcode or suburb/town
- Property and deception principal offence incidents by location type
- Criminal incidents and rate per 100,000 recorded by family violence flag
- Criminal incidents by principal offence and investigation status

To explore each of these components, navigate through the selection buttons at the top of the page, and select the section you are interested in.

Filtering the dashboards
Most dashboards contains filters that allow you to focus on areas of interest. The main filters in the dashboards allow you to change geographical areas, principal offence type, family violence flag and investigation status.

Data exclusions
There are some additional exclusions to the data presented in the dashboards that should be noted, other than those mentioned within the table titles.

Criminal incidents by police region and LGA – Excludes criminal incidents recorded where the geographic location is unknown or outside of Victoria.

Rate per 100,000 by police region and LGA – Excludes criminal incidents recorded at Justice institutions and immigration facilities, Unincorporated Victoria and where the geographic location is unknown or outside of Victoria. For further information of these geographic locations please refer to the Explanatory Notes and Glossary on the website.

Criminal incidents recorded by principal offence and LGA – Excludes criminal incidents recorded at Justice institutions and immigration facilities, Unincorporated Victoria and where the geographic location is unknown or outside of Victoria.

Rate per 100,000 by principal offence and LGA – Excludes criminal incidents recorded at Justice institutions and immigration facilities, Unincorporated Victoria and where the geographic location is unknown or outside of Victoria.

Postcode or Suburb/Town – Excludes incidents recorded at Justice institutions and immigration facilities, and where the postcode or suburb/town is unknown or outside of Victoria.

General information
Recorded crime statistics are based on data extracted by Victoria police on the 18th day after the reference period, and are subject to movement between releases. For more information about how statistics are compiled, refer to the Explanatory notes on the CSA website.

Criminal incidents in dashboards are grouped according to the CSA offence classification. For more information please refer to the classification on the CSA website.

In order to maintain confidentiality, sensitive criminal incident counts for subdivisions 'A10 Homicide and related offences' and 'A30 Sexual offences' with a value of 3 or less are given a value of 2 to calculate totals.

Rates are based on populations provided by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS). The most recent year of data was not available from the ABS in time for it to be used to calculate current year rates. The CSA uses estimates created by the Victorian State Government 'Victoria in Futures' report.

Filtering the dashboards

Each dashboard contains filters that allow you to focus on areas of interest. The main filters included in the dashboards allow you to change the following:

- Geographic area
- Principal offence type
- Family violence flag
- Investigation status flag

The following are examples of the Single Value (dropdown) filters in the dashboards that will allow you to drill down into specific areas of interest.

Displaying more data in the dashboards

Some of the dashboards have a drill down/up ([+]/[-]) icon on the table row headers for offence categories. To display these icons hover over the row header until the ⊟ icon or ⊞ displays as shown in the examples below.

Example of drill down icon display

The plus symbol ⊞ denotes that there is further data available, and clicking on the symbol will display the additional data.

Example of drill up icon display

You can also click on the minus symbol ⊟ to collapse the displayed data to a higher aggregated level, i.e. Location Division Level data

Downloading data

Once you have filtered or changed the display in a dashboard, this data can then be exported. However you must click within the worksheet (i.e. in the cross tab), as the options to download "Data" or "Crosstab" will not appear unless you do this.

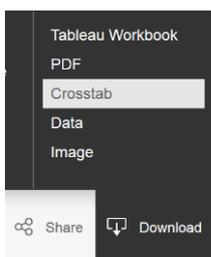Navigate to the bottom of the dashboard until you see the tableau footer.

Then click on the section.

If you receive a message similar to the one below, return to the dashboard and click within the worksheet (see note above).
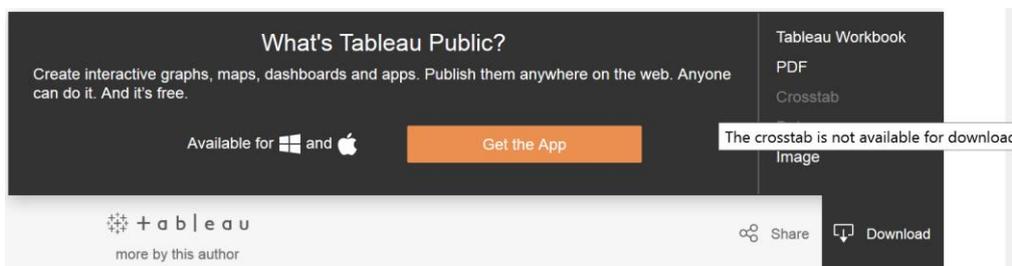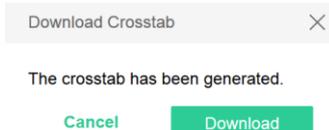

Once the worksheet in the dashboard has been selected the download "Data" or "Crosstab" options will be available for selection, as shown below.
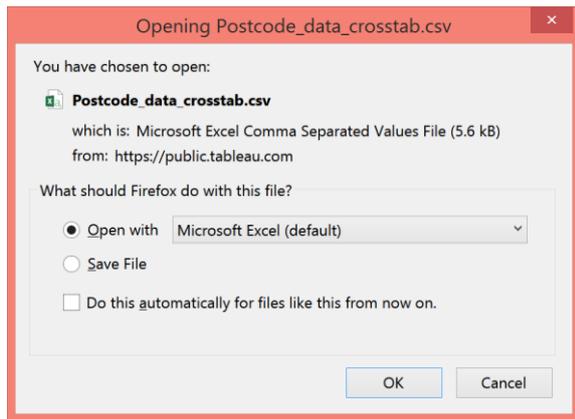

Note: The CSA recommends using the "Crosstab" option for the dashboard.

Once the Crosstab option has been selected, the below dialogue box will appear.

The data is downloaded in a .csv (comma separated values) format which can be opened directly or saved.

The data that is in the dashboard will be presented in a layout similar to the following. If you would like to format the data into a table presentation, or add formulas like percentage change, save the file as an Excel Workbook.

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
			2013	2014	2015	2016	2017		
1	Offence Div	Offence Sul							
2	A Crimes ag	A20 Assaul	36,807	37,725	37,008	40,549	43,759		
3	A Crimes ag	A50 Robbe	2,978	2,656	2,414	2,753	3,293		
4	A Crimes ag	A70 Stalkin	10,119	10,692	11,895	12,649	11,944		
5	A Crimes ag	A80 Dange	3,491	4,078	4,258	5,055	6,076		
6	A Crimes ag	Other crim	9,979	11,301	12,647	13,174	14,681		
7	A Crimes ag	Total	63,374	66,452	68,222	74,180	79,753		
8	B Property	B10 Arson	3,821	3,685	3,349	4,353	3,478		
9	B Property	B20 Proper	46,928	44,938	42,065	43,715	43,089		
10	B Property	B30 Burgla	47,397	46,787	44,981	51,172	53,459		
11	B Property	B40 Theft	145,796	148,433	147,463	172,659	188,729		
12	B Property	B50 Decept	24,378	36,754	33,020	38,427	35,397		
13	B Property	B60 Bribery	9	11	40	10	22		
14	B Property	Total	268,329	280,608	270,918	310,336	324,174		

Calculating a percentage change

The percent change formula is used regularly in Excel, for example, to calculate the Percentage Change between reference periods.

The example below demonstrates how to calculate a percentage change between the most recent 12 month period and the previous 12 month period (Column G and Column F).

1. Select cell I2 and enter the following formula (without the quotation marks): "=(G2-F2)/F2"

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J
						f_x	=(G2-F2)/F2			
	Offence Div	Offence Sul	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017		% Change 2016 to 2017	
1										
2	A Crimes ag	A20 Assaul	36,807	37,725	37,008	40,549	43,759		=(G2-F2)/F2	
3	A Crimes ag	A50 Robbe	2,978	2,656	2,414	2,753	3,293			
4	A Crimes ag	A70 Stalkin	10,119	10,692	11,895	12,649	11,944			
5	A Crimes ag	A80 Dange	3,491	4,078	4,258	5,055	6,076			
6	A Crimes ag	Other crim	9,979	11,301	12,647	13,174	14,681			
7	A Crimes ag	Total	63,374	66,452	68,222	74,180	79,753			
8	B Property	B10 Arson	3,821	3,685	3,349	4,353	3,478			

2. Select cell I2, then on the Home tab, select a Percentage format.

3. Select cell I2, click on the lower right corner of cell I2 (until you see a black cross) and drag it down to the cell with the last row of data in the table. Alternatively copy the formula down to the last row of data in the table.

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
						f_x	=(G2-F2)/F2		
1	Offence Div	Offence Sul	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017		% Change 2016
2	A Crimes ag	A20 Assaul	36,807	37,725	37,008	40,549	43,759		7.9%
3	A Crimes ag	A50 Robbe	2,978	2,656	2,414	2,753	3,293		19.6%
4	A Crimes ag	A70 Stalkin	10,119	10,692	11,895	12,649	11,944		-5.6%
5	A Crimes ag	A80 Dange	3,491	4,078	4,258	5,055	6,076		20.2%
6	A Crimes ag	Other crim	9,979	11,301	12,647	13,174	14,681		11.4%
7	A Crimes ag	Total	63,374	66,452	68,222	74,180	79,753		7.5%
8	B Property	B10 Arson	3,821	3,685	3,349	4,353	3,478		-20.1%

Note: This is just one method of calculating a percentage change within Excel.