

20 December 2018

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MEDIA RELEASE

Embargo: 9:00AM Thursday 20 December 2018

Recorded offences and Criminal incidents continue to decline

The Crime Statistics Agency has today released the Victorian recorded crime statistics for the year ending 30 September 2018.

In the last 12 months the number of criminal incidents dropped by 1.6% or 6,388 incidents to 384,183, the lowest since the year ending September 2015. The criminal incident rate also declined by 3.8% to 5,938.7 incidents per 100,000 Victorians, the lowest rates since the year ending September 2014.

The number of recorded offences decreased by 1.6% to 508,597, the lowest since the year ending September 2015. The offence rate dropped 3.9% to 7,861.9 offences per 100,000 Victorians, the lowest since the year ending September 2014.

Alleged offender incidents increased by 1.2% to 173,684 in the last 12 months. Victorian population growth contributed to the alleged offender rate dropping 1.1% to 2,684.8 per 100,000 population.

In the year ending September 2018 the number of victim reports recorded decreased 2.8% to 299,994, the lowest since September 2015. The rate decreased by 5.0% in the last 12 months to 4,637.3 victim reports per 100,000 Victorians, the lowest in the last 10 years.

Family related incidents increased 3.5% in the last 12 months to 78,001 incidents. The family incident rate increased by 1.2% to 1,205.7 incidents per 100,000 population.

Crime Statistics Agency Chief Statistician Fiona Dowsley said that "the key measures of recorded crime have continued to decline in the year ending September 2018, these figures are similar to those reported in 2014 and 2015."

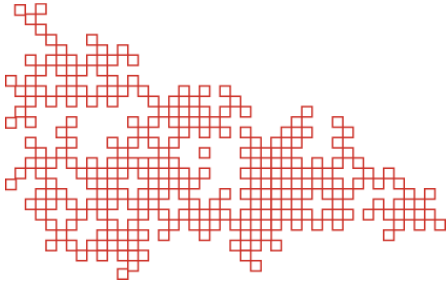
Further information can be found in the latest crime statistics quarterly release, available from the CSA website: <http://www.crimestatistics.vic.gov.au/crime-statistics/latest-crime-data/>

For further information please contact:

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CSA FACT SHEET: RECORDED CRIME STATISTICS – YEAR ENDING 30 September 2018

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State wide figures – Year ending 30 September 2018

- The number of criminal incidents recorded by police in the year to 30 September 2018 was 384,183. This is down 1.6% from 390,571 incidents recorded in the same period last year.
- The number of offences recorded by police in the year to 30 September 2018 was 508,597. This is down 1.6% from 517,112 offences recorded in the same period last year.
- Alleged offender incidents increased 1.2% to 173,684 in the year to September 2018, up from 171,588.
- Victim reports decreased in the year to 30 September 2018 by 2.8% (8,616) to 299,994 victim reports.
- Family incidents increased in the year to 30 September 2018, up 3.5% from 75,371 to 78,001.

Local Government Area level figures

The five Local Government Areas with the highest criminal incident rates were:

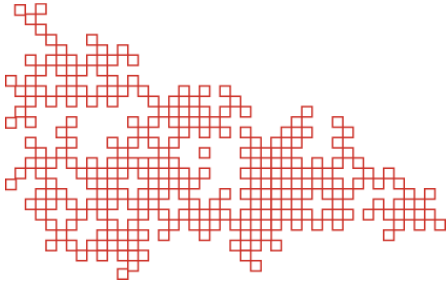
Criminal Incidents – year ending September 2018

1. Melbourne (15,765.1 incidents per 100,000 estimated resident population, down 5.3%)
2. Latrobe (13,212.2 incidents per 100,000 estimated resident population, up 3.4%)
3. Yarra (11,559.8 incidents per 100,000 estimated resident population, up 4.0%)
4. Mildura (9,580.5 incidents per 100,000 estimated resident population, up 6.3%)
5. Greater Shepparton (9,326.0 incidents per 100,000 estimated resident population, up 3.0%)

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

Recorded Offences – year ending September 2018

1. Melbourne (21,172.6 offences per 100,000 estimated resident population, down 6.6%)
2. Latrobe (19,358.2 offences per 100,000 estimated resident population, up 5.5%)
3. Horsham (15,217.3 offences per 100,000 estimated resident population, up 21.6%)
4. Yarra (14,287.2 offences per 100,000 estimated resident population, up 4.6%)
5. Greater Shepparton (13,132.2 offences per 100,000 estimated resident population, up 7.4%)



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Crime category trends

For the year ending September 2018, the offence subdivisions that showed significant upward trends were:

Criminal Incidents

- Sexual offences
(up 6.7% from 8,010 to 8,544)
- Stalking, harassment and threatening behaviour
(up 6.4% from 6,745 to 7,175)

Recorded Offences

- Breaches of orders
(up 5.2% from 57,354 to 60,311)

For the year ending September 2018, the offence subdivisions showed a significant downward trends were:

Criminal Incidents

- Property damage
(down 3.0% from 36,070 to 35,004)
- Burglary/Break and enter
(down 14.1% from 46,494 to 39,928)
- Disorderly and offensive conduct
(down 6.3% from 13,335 to 12,498)

Recorded Offences

- Property damage
(down 2.4% from 41,608 to 40,591)
- Burglary/Break and enter
(down 14.0% from 49,018 to 42,170)
- Disorderly and offensive conduct
(down 5.5% from 16,545 to 15,639)

For explanatory information and definitions for the latest release, see the [Explanatory Notes](#) and [Glossary](#).