

**Table 1: Percentage change in number of recorded incidents in 2002, compared with 2001, for major offences showing statistically significant trends in NSW Statistical Divisions**

Statistical Division	Assault	Sexual assault	Indecent assault	Robbery assault, act of indecency	Robbery without a weapon	Robbery with a weapon	Break and enter – dwelling	Break and enter – non-dwelling	Motor vehicle theft	Steal from motor vehicle	Steal from retail store	Steal from dwelling	Fraud	Malicious damage
Sydney			-18.7	-37.6	-17.7	-23.7	-20.7	-18.3		-8.5				
Hunter	8.7	31.3	38.6		20.0	-21.8	-24.2				13.3*			
Illawarra					-18.8	-25.2	-42.5	-30.6	20.7	7.5	-27.0*			
Richmond – Tweed			73.6					18.9	7.9					
Mid-North Coast					-9.2		-22.8		13.9				7.8	
Northern					9.1				28.5					
North Western			-37.5	-76.0	-14.3									
Central West						-35.3								
South Eastern	-11.1			-75.0	-13.3	-22.6		-17.2						
Murrumbidgee					-16.4		-27.7					-38.5		
Murray		-44.3												13.9
Far West	15.8													

\* Due to a discontinuity in the recording of this offence, the test for trend was applied to the 17 month period Aug 01 to Dec 02. The percentage change reflects a comparison between the last five months of 2001 and the last five months of 2002.