

NSW Bureau of Crime  
Statistics and Research

# Crime and Justice Statistics

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## RECENT TRENDS IN RECORDED INCIDENTS OF GRAFFITI IN NEW SOUTH WALES 1996-2005

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*This paper examines graffiti incidents recorded by NSW Police and appearances in NSW Local Courts for graffiti offences. The information presented here is an update of an earlier Bureau Brief published by the NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research in March 2000, titled 'Graffiti in New South Wales'. The data show a significant upward trend in recorded graffiti incidents in New South Wales over the last 10 years, with a particularly marked rise in graffiti recorded in 2005.*

### INTRODUCTION

Graffiti vandalism is of significant concern to both the NSW Government and the public. In 2004, one in four people in New South Wales stated that vandalism/graffiti/damage to property was a problem in their area (Australian Bureau of Statistics 2004). In early 2006, the Premier of New South Wales, Morris Iemma, stated that "Graffiti is not art, it's vandalism and it's an offence" and that "The total cost across NSW for cleaning up this so called 'art' runs into tens of millions of dollars" (Sun-Herald, 5<sup>th</sup> February 2006).

Despite the considerable concern that exists in the public domain, there is little in the way of official statistics to measure the incidence of graffiti. This is primarily because the offence of graffiti is not well represented in the available data sources due to low rates of reporting. In lieu of any alternative, more reliable data source, this paper attempts to describe the nature of graffiti in New South Wales according to incidents reported to police and those proceeded against to court. The significant limitations of both these sources are considered.

### GRAFFITI AND POLICE RECORDED CRIME STATISTICS

#### ***Trends in the recorded incidence of graffiti***

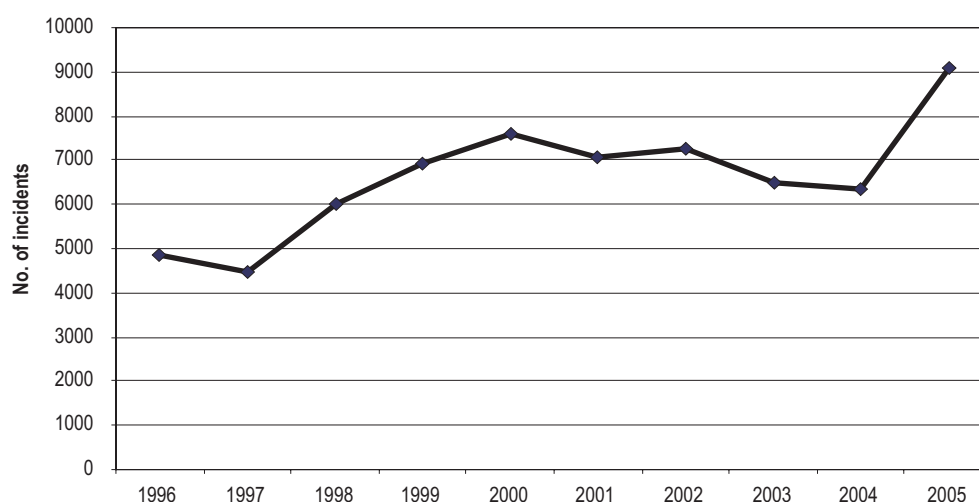
The report *New South Wales Recorded Crime Statistics 2005* showed a significant upward trend in the incidence of *malicious damage to property* over the 24 months

to December 2005. The annual number of recorded *malicious damage to property* incidents rose from 95,123 incidents in 2004 to 102,816 incidents in 2005, an increase of 8.1 per cent.

Of interest here is a subset of *malicious damage to property* offences; recorded incidents of graffiti. Graffiti incidents represent a relatively small percentage of all *malicious damage to property* incidents recorded by police (8.8%). However, this offence category made a substantial contribution to the recent increase in property damage in New South Wales, accounting for over one-third (35.8%) of the overall rise in this offence category in the 24 months to December 2005. In light of this finding, further investigation of police recorded incidents of graffiti was warranted.

Figure 1 shows the number of graffiti incidents recorded by NSW Police over the last ten years. There has been a significant upward trend in recorded graffiti incidents in New South Wales over this period, with a net increase of 88 per cent. As seen from Figure 1, the total number of recorded incidents gradually increased from about 4,500 incidents in 1996 and 1997 to just over 7,000 incidents, in 2000. After this peak in 2000, the number of recorded graffiti incidents fell back to about 6,000 incidents whereupon it remained relatively stable. In the latest year for which data is available, however, there has been a sharp rise in graffiti incidents recorded in New South Wales, increasing from 6,340 incidents in 2004 to 9,094 incidents in 2005, an increase of 43 per cent.

**Figure 1: Number of graffiti incidents recorded by police, NSW, 1996-2005**



### **Graffiti incidents by location**

In recording the details of a criminal incident, the NSW Police include information about the premises type where the incident occurred. Table 1 shows the number and percentage of graffiti incidents reported in 2004 and 2005 by the premises type recorded by police. In both these years the largest number of graffiti incidents were recorded as occurring on educational premises (31% in

both 2004 and 2005). The next most frequent place for graffiti incidents to occur was residential premises (22% in 2005), followed by business/commercial premises (17% in 2005) and outdoor/public place (12% in 2005).

Figure 2 presents trends in recorded graffiti incidents by premises type for the period 1996 to 2005. As shown in this figure, the number of graffiti incidents recorded by police increased across all premises between 2004 and 2005. Educational premises accounted for the largest proportion of the rise in graffiti incidents between 2004 and 2005, contributing to 29 per cent of the total increase recorded in New South Wales (though in 2005, graffiti incidents on educational premises were still below the peak levels recorded in 2000 and 2001). However, graffiti incidents occurring on business/commercial and residential premises also made substantial contributions to the recent increase in recorded incidents, with these premises types each accounting for 24 per cent of the total rise in graffiti in New South Wales between 2004 and 2005.

**Table 1: Recorded incidents of graffiti by premises type, NSW, 2004 - 2005**

Premises type	2004		2005	
	No.	%	No.	%
Adult Entertainment	1	0.0	1	0.0
Business/Commercial	908	14.3	1,577	17.3
Carpark	139	2.2	224	2.5
Education	1,965	31.0	2,771	30.5
Health	66	1.0	97	1.1
Industrial	62	1.0	118	1.3
Law Enforcement	31	0.5	44	0.5
Licensed Premises	51	0.8	86	0.9
Marine Transport	1	0.0	6	0.1
Outdoor/Public Place	931	14.7	1,126	12.4
Recreation	221	3.5	205	2.3
Religious	41	0.6	72	0.8
Residential	1,354	21.4	2,020	22.2
Rural Industry	5	0.1	2	0.0
Transport	394	6.2	499	5.5
Unknown	71	1.1	106	1.2
Utilities	92	1.5	97	1.1
Vehicle	7	0.1	43	0.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,340</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>9,094</b>	<b>100.0</b>

When interpreting the importance of these figures it should be noted that these variations in the incidence of graffiti at certain locations are likely to reflect differences in reporting behaviour rather than differences in the incidence of this crime type. In some locations, for example schools and businesses, victims may be motivated to report graffiti incidents to police because of insurance requirements or internal organisational policies, whilst in other locations there may be no obvious victim (e.g. outdoor/public place) or the victim may be less willing to get the police involved (e.g. residential premises).

**Figure 2: Number of recorded graffiti incidents by premises type, NSW, 1996-2005**

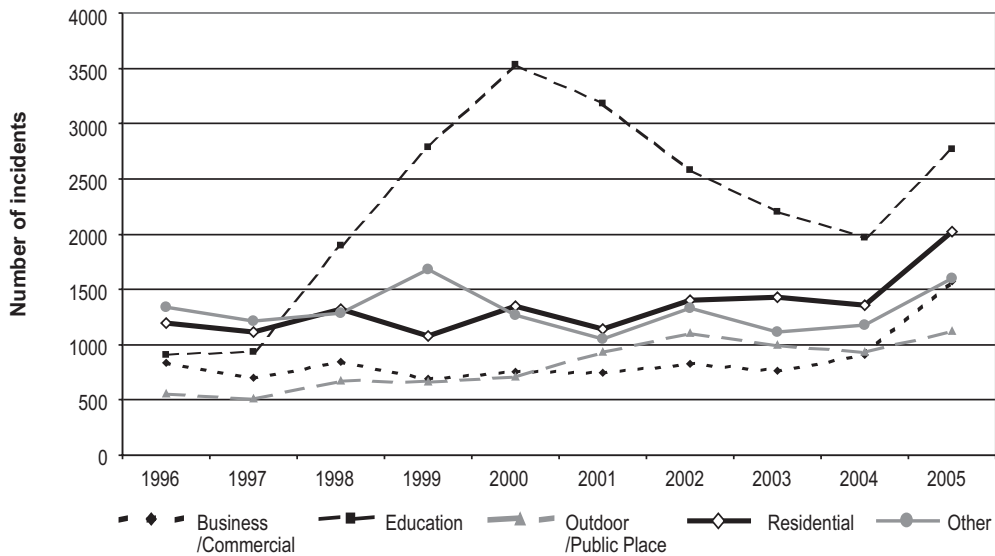


Table 2 shows the number of graffiti incidents recorded by the NSW Police over the last five years and the rate per 100,000 residential population for New South Wales as a whole, and for each NSW Statistical Division/Statistical Subdivision. Generally these figures show that Statistical Divisions in or near Sydney record much higher rates of graffiti than the rest of New South Wales. In 2005, the Outer Western Sydney Statistical Subdivision (SSD) recorded the highest rate of graffiti per 100,000 of population, while Fairfield-Liverpool SSD recorded the lowest rate. The regional areas with the highest rate of recorded graffiti incidents were the Hunter and Illawarra areas, which both recorded incident rates above the State average, followed by the Murrumbidgee Statistical Division (SD) and North Western SD.

Again however, it is possible that there are regional differences in the *reporting* rate of graffiti, which would mean that areas with the highest **actual** rate of graffiti are not the same as those with the highest **recorded** rates (Fitzgerald 2000). This is reinforced by the fact that some regions have recorded substantial increases in the incident rate of graffiti over the last five years, while other areas have recorded large decreases. For example, Outer Western Sydney SSD recorded 157 incidents per 100,000 population in 2001 and 258 incidents per 100,000 population in 2005. On the other hand, Outer South Western Sydney SSD recorded a rate of 198 graffiti incidents per 100,000 population in 2001 but only 86 incidents per 100,000 population in 2005. Caution is therefore warranted when interpreting these figures.

Recorded incidents of graffiti for each NSW Local Government Area (LGA) are included in the Appendix. The

table in the Appendix shows the total number of graffiti incidents recorded, the rate per 100,000 population and the State ranking for graffiti offences for each LGA. This table also includes the same data for graffiti incidents occurring on educational premises. It is thought that this latter category may be a more reliable indicator of graffiti in an area if it can be assumed that schools generally have more consistent rates of graffiti reporting (Fitzgerald 2000).

### **Age and gender of graffiti offenders**

Very few graffiti offenders become known to police. In 2005, three months after the incident was reported to police, the clear-up rate for *malicious damage to property* offences was 18 per cent. Police only proceeded against a person identified in relation to a *malicious damage offence* in 10 per cent of incidents (Moffatt, Goh & Poynton 2006). Furthermore, this figure could be substantially higher than the actual clear-up rate of all graffiti incidents given that incidents where an offender has been identified are more likely to be reported to police (Fitzgerald 2000).

The age and gender of alleged offenders who were identified by police as being involved in graffiti incidents is shown in Table 3. As seen here, NSW Police recorded the details of 1,904 persons who were allegedly involved in graffiti incidents reported in 2005. Over two-thirds of the persons identified were under the age of 18 and over half of all identified persons were young males. Young females, however, were also frequently identified in relation to graffiti, with over one in ten of the alleged offenders belonging to this group. As with other offences, it is difficult to determine how representative this group

**Table 2: Recorded incidents of graffiti by region, NSW, 2001-2005**

Statistical Division or Statistical Subdivision	2001		2002		2003		2004		2005	
	No.	Rate per 100,000	No.	Rate per 100,000	No.	Rate per 100,000	No.	Rate per 100,000	No.	Rate per 100,000
Inner Sydney	393	133.6	409	136.7	410	134.1	412	132.6	608	195.6
Eastern Suburbs	267	110.6	270	111.8	303	125.5	250	103.5	420	173.8
St George-Sutherland	521	120.3	565	129.7	570	130.2	544	123.5	802	182.1
Canterbury-Bankstown	248	80.1	235	75.8	306	98.8	329	106.0	491	158.1
Fairfield-Liverpool	214	61.5	192	54.5	177	50.0	138	38.8	170	47.8
Outer South Western Sydney	463	197.8	237	99.9	162	67.6	173	71.8	208	86.3
Inner Western Sydney	198	121.6	239	145.7	137	82.6	199	118.0	354	209.9
Central Western Sydney	314	106.2	412	138.2	345	114.8	274	89.8	320	104.9
Outer Western Sydney	499	157.3	497	155.9	490	153.5	351	110.3	822	258.4
Blacktown	228	86.1	320	118.6	320	117.2	221	79.3	354	127.1
Lower Northern Sydney	392	133.8	417	141.3	289	97.4	386	129.1	435	145.5
Central Northern Sydney	316	77.7	328	79.4	269	64.2	313	73.9	473	111.7
Northern Beaches	394	170.4	202	86.9	186	79.8	189	80.6	346	147.5
Gosford-Wyong	387	130.6	627	208.9	574	189.7	650	213.4	585	192.1
Hunter	799	135.7	806	135.6	548	91.4	593	98.1	1073	177.6
Illawarra	454	113.5	489	120.9	417	102.3	516	125.8	653	159.2
Richmond-Tweed	150	69.3	139	63.5	127	57.3	125	55.8	114	50.9
Mid-North Coast	148	52.8	177	62.3	178	61.9	199	68.2	196	67.2
Northern	125	69.3	138	76.5	111	61.8	88	49.1	122	68.1
North Western	102	85.3	113	94.6	106	89.1	76	64.0	93	78.3
Central West	124	69.8	101	56.6	133	74.4	105	58.6	110	61.4
South Eastern	87	45.1	101	51.6	114	57.4	67	33.4	123	61.3
Murrumbidgee	131	85.9	120	78.5	124	81.1	87	56.8	144	94.0
Murray	83	73.2	90	79.0	51	44.6	31	27.0	61	53.2
Far West	23	94.3	16	66.2	52	217.8	24	101.3	17	71.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>7061</b>	<b>107.4</b>	<b>7240</b>	<b>109.1</b>	<b>6500</b>	<b>97.3</b>	<b>6340</b>	<b>94.2</b>	<b>9094</b>	<b>135.1</b>

**Table 3: Age and gender of alleged offenders in graffiti incidents, NSW, 2005**

Age	Male		Female		Total*	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
under 18	1,080	56.7	212	11.1	1,293	67.9
18	126	6.6	2	0.1	128	6.7
19	63	3.3	7	0.4	71	3.7
20 – 24	147	7.7	9	0.5	157	8.2
25 – 29	36	1.9	2	0.1	38	2
30 - 34	28	1.5	1	0.1	30	1.6
35 - 39	12	0.6	3	0.2	15	0.8
40 - 44	90	4.7	3	0.2	93	4.9
45 +	14	0.7	7	0.4	21	1.1
Missing/ Unknown	50	2.6	8	0.4	58	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,646</b>	<b>86.4</b>	<b>254</b>	<b>13.3</b>	<b>1,904</b>	<b>100</b>

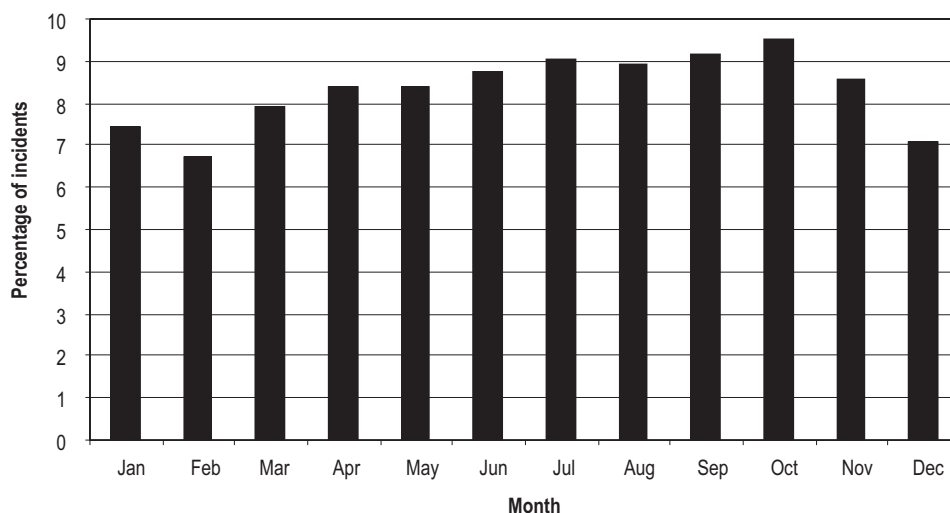
\* Includes four persons aged under 18, 19, 20-24 and 30-34 whose gender was unknown

is of the broader population of graffitiists. It is possible that a greater number of young people come into contact with NSW Police not because they offend more frequently than other age groups but simply because they are more visible to police or are less experienced offenders (Fitzgerald 2000).

### **Graffiti incidents by month and time of day**

Figure 3 shows the proportion of recorded graffiti incidents occurring each month. These data represent the average number of graffiti incidents recorded each month between 2001 and 2005 as a proportion of the total monthly averages.<sup>1</sup> This figure suggests a seasonal trend in recorded graffiti incidents. The lowest months for recorded incidents are December through to March, while the largest proportion of graffiti incidents is recorded during the winter months, with a peak in October.

**Figure 3: Graffiti incidents by month, NSW, 2001- 2005**



There is also a consistent pattern in the time of day and day of week when graffiti incidents are reported to occur. Table 4 presents the average number of graffiti incidents occurring between 2001 and 2005 by the 15 three-hour periods in which they are most likely to occur.<sup>2</sup> As seen from this table a large proportion of graffiti incidents are reported to have occurred on Friday nights between 3pm and 9pm. Almost one-quarter of all recorded graffiti incidents are reported to have occurred during these two three-hour time periods. Overall, 3pm to 9pm is the most frequently occurring time for graffiti incidents, with over 60 per cent of all incidents occurring during this period. Graffiti incidents also frequently occur on Fridays and Saturdays, with almost half of all incidents reported to have occurred on these two days.

**Table 4: Top 15 three-hour periods (time and day) for graffiti incidents, NSW, 2001-2005**

Day & Time	Average no. of graffiti incidents	% total graffiti incidents
Friday, 6pm - 9pm	872	12.0
Friday, 3pm - 6pm	856	11.8
Thursday, 3pm - 6pm	267	3.7
Wednesday, 6pm - 9pm	256	3.5
Thursday, 6pm - 9pm	254	3.5
Monday, 6pm - 9pm	238	3.3
Monday, 3pm - 6pm	236	3.3
Tuesday, 3pm - 6pm	239	3.3
Tuesday, 6pm - 9pm	232	3.2
Wednesday, 3pm - 6pm	229	3.2
Saturday, 3pm - 6pm	215	3.0
Saturday, 6pm - 9pm	216	3.0
Friday, 9pm - 12am	197	2.7
Saturday, 9pm - 12am	168	2.3
Sunday, 6pm - 9pm	140	1.9

There is however some uncertainty with regard to the times and dates when graffiti incidents actually occur. Each incident recorded in COPS contains both a time and date estimating when the incident commenced and a time and date estimating when the incident ended. For other offences, like assault and offensive behaviour, the median difference between estimated start and end dates is zero (Briscoe & Donnelly 2001). However, for graffiti incidents the median difference is one day. The reason for this is that with many graffiti incidents not being witnessed, the start time for the offence would more likely reflect the last time the property was observed to be undamaged rather than the actual time the offence occurred. This would suggest that the peak time of 3pm to 9pm simply reflects that graffiti offences typically occur at night and once discovered the next day are reported to police. The delay in graffiti offences being committed and the subsequent damage being observed would also account for the relatively small number of alleged graffiti offenders who become known to police for this offence.

## LOCAL COURT APPEARANCES FOR GRAFFITI

In New South Wales a person can be charged under the *Crimes Act 1900* for maliciously damaging or destroying property. This is a common offence in the NSW Local Courts, with over 9,000 charges finalised in 2004. This offence category is not, however, exclusive to graffiti offences. For this reason it is also useful to examine prosecutions under the *Summary Offences Act 1988*. There are three graffiti specific offences under this legislation; wilfully marking premises by chalk/paint without consent, wilfully damaging property by spray paint and possessing spray paint with intent to wilfully damage property. In 2004, 20 charges of wilfully marking a premises with



chalk/paint were finalised, while 65 charges were finalised for spray can offences (30 charges for wilfully damaging property by spray paint and 35 charges for possession of spray can with intent). Seventy-one of these charges (84%) were proven and where it was the offenders' principal offence the most frequent penalty imposed was a fine. No charges were finalised in New South Wales in 2004 for selling a spray paint can to a minor.<sup>3</sup>

It should be noted however, that these charges only include graffiti offences brought before the Local Courts. These matters are also dealt with in the Children's Court if the alleged offender is a juvenile (the Bureau does not currently hold data on appearances before the Children's Courts). Given that a large proportion of identified offenders are under the age of 18, this could account for the relatively low number of charges being brought before the courts.

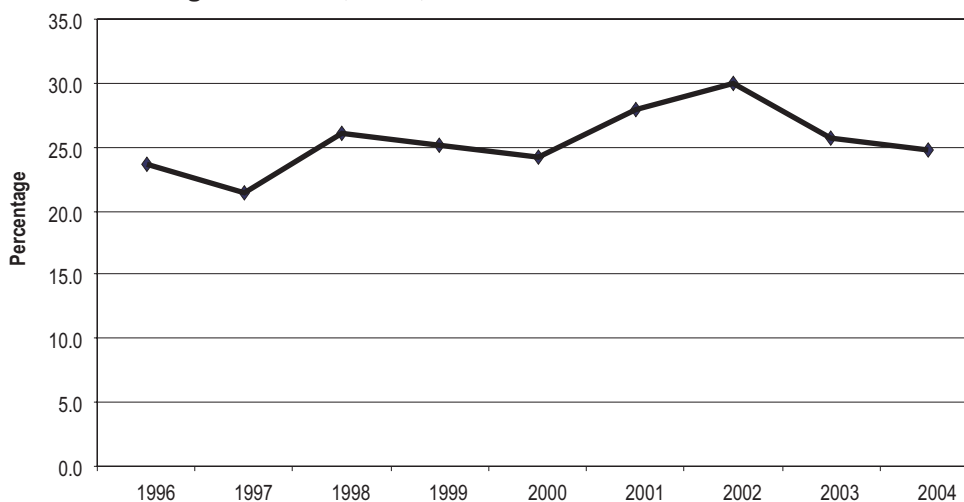
## PERCEPTIONS OF GRAFFITI

As discussed at the outset of this paper recorded crime and criminal court statistics are limited in that they only capture offences that are reported to police. Another way to gauge the extent of a crime problem is to examine crime victim surveys. To this end, the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) carries out a regular crime victim survey on behalf of the NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research and the NSW Police. In this survey respondents are asked about perceived crime problems in their neighbourhood. Again these data are limited when examining graffiti offences given that people are asked whether they perceive 'vandalism/graffiti/property damage' as a problem. Nevertheless, these data are a useful supplement to the recorded crime data described earlier in this paper.

The first point to note from the 2004 Crime and Safety survey<sup>4</sup> is that just over half of all NSW residents who responded to the survey perceived no crime or public nuisance problems in their neighbourhood. Thus, most people perceive the area in which they live to be relatively problem-free. Where problems were identified, burglary and dangerous/noisy driving were the most frequently nominated categories (27% and 28% of all NSW residents, respectively), followed by vandalism/graffiti/property damage, which was nominated by 25 per cent of residents as being a problem in their neighbourhood. Just seven per cent of NSW residents perceived vandalism/graffiti/property damage to be the main problem in their neighbourhood (12% perceived burglary and 10% perceived dangerous/noisy driving to be the main problem).

Figure 4 shows the percentage of people who perceive vandalism/graffiti/property damage to be a crime or public nuisance problem in their neighbourhood. These data are shown for the years 1996 to 2004. As seen here, between 1996 and 2002 there was an upward trend in NSW residents' concern about vandalism/graffiti/property damage in their neighbourhood. In 1996, 24 per cent of persons perceived vandalism/graffiti /property damage as a problem. By 2002, this had increased to 30 per cent. The percentage of NSW residents concerned about vandalism/graffiti /property damage has however fallen in the last two surveys. While overall few residents see vandalism/graffiti/property damage as the main problem in their neighbourhood, this percentage has also increased, rising from four per cent to seven per cent over the last 10 years. Unfortunately, at the time of publication no equivalent survey data were available for 2005, the year in which police recorded the greatest increase in this offence category.

**Figure 4: Property damage/graffiti/vandalism perceived as a problem in the neighbourhood, NSW, 1996-2004**



Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics (1996-2004)

There are also regional variations in people's perceptions of the relative importance of graffiti. Generally concern about vandalism/graffiti/property damage was highest in urban areas and lowest in regional areas. In 2004, for example, the areas where the highest proportion of residents indicated vandalism/graffiti/property damage to be the main problem in their neighbourhood was the Eastern Suburbs and Inner Sydney Statistical Subdivisions (10.2% and 10.1%, respectively). On the other hand, only a small proportion of residents in the Richmond-Tweed and Mid-North Coast SDs perceived these offences to be a major problem.

## CONCLUSION

In the 24 months to December 2005 there was a significant increase in recorded incidents of graffiti in New South Wales. Most of this increase stems from a rise in graffiti incidents recorded as occurring on educational premises, though graffiti at business/commercial and residential premises also increased significantly during this two-year period. The data available from police, while limited, suggests that graffiti offenders tend to be young males and that these types of offences frequently occur on Friday and Saturday nights. A seasonal trend was also evident from this analysis, which indicated that fewer graffiti incidents occur in the summer months.

While only a small proportion of NSW residents perceive graffiti to be a problem (and fewer still perceive it to be the main crime problem in their neighbourhood), there has been growing concern about graffiti in New South Wales over the last decade. This may account for the greater number of incidents being reported to police in recent years.

When interpreting the statistics reported in this bulletin it is important to remember that they are based primarily on graffiti incidents that become known to police. Many members of the community, particularly those living in more developed and urban areas, observe examples of graffiti everyday. Very few people, however, would think to inform the police about these observations. Graffiti that does come to police attention is a small proportion of the total incidence and may not be representative of all offences.

## NOTES

1. Note that in the Newcastle LGA there was an unusually large spike in the number of graffiti incidents recorded in March 2005. This increase was due to a joint operation between the NSW Police and the Local Council in that area which attempted to assess the current level of graffiti in the Newcastle CBD at

one point in time. For this reason, graffiti incidents recorded in the Newcastle LGA in March 2005 have been excluded from Figure 3.

2. Based on recorded incident start time and date.
3. No charges for selling a spray paint can to a minor have been brought before NSW courts since this offence was introduced in New South Wales in September 2003.
4. At the time of publication the 2005 Crime and Safety Survey had not yet been released.

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## APPENDIX

**Table A1: Police recorded incidents of graffiti by Local Government Area  
All incidents and incidents on educational premises, 2005**

LGA	All graffiti incidents			Graffiti incidents on educational premises only		
	Number	Rate per 100,000	Rank	Number	Rate per 100,000	Rank
Albury	26	57.9	96	7	15.6	69
Armidale Dumaresq	24	97.6	50	9	36.6	30
Ashfield	91	226	12	37	91.9	6
Auburn	47	74.8	72	17	27.1	42
Ballina	17	43	110	3	7.6	97
Balranald	0	n/a	n/a	0	n/a	n/a
Bankstown	364	207.5	16	185	105.5	2
Barraba	0	n/a	n/a	0	n/a	n/a
Bathurst	13	41.2	115	4	12.7	81
Baulkham Hills	226	143.2	30	111	70.3	12
Bega Valley	17	53.2	99	4	12.5	82
Bellingen	4	31.4	122	1	7.9	95
Berrigan	4	48.9	103	3	36.6	29
Bingara	1	n/a	n/a	0	0	n/a
Blacktown	354	127.1	37	110	39.5	27
Bland	1	15.3	141	0	0	n/a
Blayney	3	44.9	108	2	29.9	38
Blue Mountains	310	402.5	2	70	90.9	7
Bogan	0	n/a	n/a	0	n/a	n/a
Bombala	4	n/a	n/a	0	n/a	n/a
Boorowa	1	n/a	n/a	1	40.4	n/a
Botany Bay	51	137.1	31	12	32.3	35
Bourke	6	152.9	24	0	0	n/a
Brewarrina	1	46.7	n/a	0	0	n/a
Broken Hill	16	78.3	69	0	0	n/a
Burwood	53	170.5	21	15	48.3	18
Byron	14	45.6	105	2	6.5	99
Cabonne	2	15.8	140	0	0	n/a
Camden	34	67.6	83	11	21.9	53
Campbelltown	144	96	52	52	34.7	34
Canada Bay	169	255.5	8	62	93.7	4
Canterbury	127	94	54	53	39.2	28
Carrathool	0	n/a	n/a	0	n/a	n/a
Central Darling	0	n/a	n/a	0	n/a	n/a
Cessnock	20	41.5	114	5	10.4	88
Clarence Valley	22	44.5	109	5	10.1	89
Cobar	2	39.8	117	0	0	n/a
Coffs Harbour	59	88.7	59	12	18	64
Conargo	2	n/a	n/a	0	0	n/a
Coolah	1	25.8	130	0	0	n/a



**Table A1: Police recorded incidents of graffiti by Local Government Area**  
**All incidents and incidents on educational premises, 2005 - continued**

<b>LGA</b>	<b>All graffiti incidents</b>			<b>Graffiti incidents on educational premises only</b>		
	<b>Number</b>	<b>Rate per 100,000</b>	<b>Rank</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Rate per 100,000</b>	<b>Rank</b>
Coolamon	1	24.3	131	0	0	n/a
Cooma-Monaro	2	20.5	134	0	0	n/a
Coonabarabran	8	119.9	39	0	0	n/a
Coonamble	4	84.6	64	0	0	n/a
Cootamundra	2	26.3	129	0	0	n/a
Corowa	1	11.6	143	0	0	n/a
Cowra	17	129.3	35	2	15.2	70
Culcairn	2	49.8	102	1	24.9	46
Deniliquin	6	73	77	0	0	n/a
Dubbo	28	71.7	80	9	23	52
Dungog	3	35.8	119	0	0	n/a
Eurobodalla	29	80.8	67	3	8.4	94
Evans	5	93.4	55	1	18.7	62
Fairfield	66	35.2	120	23	12.3	83
Forbes	5	50.1	101	2	20.1	56
Gilgandra	4	85.4	62	0	0	n/a
Glen Innes	1	16.8	138	0	0	n/a
Gloucester	3	61.2	93	2	40.8	26
Gosford	460	282.5	6	152	93.3	5
Great Lakes	29	84.8	63	1	2.9	101
Greater Argyle	24	88.9	58	5	18.5	63
Greater Queanbeyan	17	46.8	104	1	2.8	102
Greater Taree	33	71	81	5	10.8	87
Griffith	15	60.2	95	3	12	84
Gundagai	1	26.6	127	0	0	n/a
Gunnedah	7	57	97	0	0	n/a
Guyra	2	45	107	0	0	n/a
Harden	0	n/a	n/a	0	n/a	n/a
Hastings	45	64.5	85	9	12.9	79
Hawkesbury	104	163.5	22	17	26.7	43
Hay	1	28.2	125	0	0	n/a
Holbrook	0	n/a	n/a	0	n/a	n/a
Holroyd	108	118.4	40	38	41.7	25
Hornsby	167	106.4	46	56	35.7	32
Hume	9	110.2	42	0	0	n/a
Hunter's Hill	10	71.9	79	2	14.4	75
Hurstville	112	148.1	26	45	59.5	14
Inverell	10	63.6	87	2	12.7	80
Jerilderie	1	n/a	n/a	0	n/a	n/a
Junee	6	101.9	48	0	0	n/a
Kempsey	17	60.5	94	4	14.2	76
Kiama	43	213.1	15	18	89.2	9
Kogarah	79	143.6	29	35	63.6	13
Ku-ring-gai	80	73.5	76	21	19.3	61
Kyogle	6	62.3	89	2	20.8	55

**Table A1: Police recorded incidents of graffiti by Local Government Area**  
**All incidents and incidents on educational premises, 2005 - continued**

<b>LGA</b>	<b>All graffiti incidents</b>			<b>Graffiti incidents on educational premises only</b>		
	<b>Number</b>	<b>Rate per 100,000</b>	<b>Rank</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Rate per 100,000</b>	<b>Rank</b>
Lachlan	2	26.9	126	0	0	n/a
Lake Macquarie	230	121.6	38	89	47	19
Lane Cove	35	108.2	45	8	24.7	47
Leeton	34	282.7	5	2	16.6	65
Leichhardt	136	264.4	7	53	103.1	3
Lismore	18	41.6	113	4	9.3	91
Lithgow	27	131.3	33	2	9.7	90
Liverpool	104	61.9	90	48	28.6	40
Lockhart	1	28.3	124	0	0	n/a
Lord Howe Island	0	n/a	n/a	0	n/a	n/a
Maitland	46	76.7	70	9	15	73
Manilla	2	61.5	91	1	30.7	37
Manly	62	159	23	12	30.8	36
Marrickville	162	213.5	13	66	87	11
Merriwa	0	n/a	n/a	0	n/a	n/a
Moree Plains	5	31.2	123	0	0	n/a
Mosman	54	190	18	10	35.2	33
Mudgee	15	81.4	66	3	16.3	67
Murray	3	45.4	106	1	15.1	72
Murrumbidgee	2	n/a	n/a	0	n/a	n/a
Murrurundi	1	n/a	n/a	0	n/a	n/a
Muswellbrook	8	52.6	100	1	6.6	98
Nambucca	16	86.4	61	2	10.8	86
Narrabri	14	98.3	49	0	0	n/a
Narrandera	5	75.8	71	1	15.2	71
Narromine	3	42.7	111	0	0	n/a
Newcastle	686	471	1	67	46	20
North Sydney	113	185.9	19	12	19.7	58
Nundle	0	n/a	n/a	0	n/a	n/a
Oberon	1	19.6	137	0	0	n/a
Orange	23	61.3	92	5	13.3	78
Palerang	3	26.5	128	1	8.8	93
Parkes	6	39.9	116	3	20	57
Parramatta	165	109.2	44	64	42.4	23
Parry	5	39	118	1	7.8	96
Penrith	408	229.8	11	161	90.7	8
Pittwater	83	145.7	27	25	43.9	22
Port Stephens	40	64.1	86	7	11.2	85
Quirindi	1	20.3	136	0	0	n/a
Randwick	189	149.5	25	73	57.7	15
Richmond Valley	15	72	78	6	28.8	39
Rockdale	107	112.6	41	53	55.8	16
Ryde	96	96.3	51	24	24.1	49
Rylstone	5	130.9	34	0	0	n/a
Scone	2	20.4	135	0	0	n/a

**Table A1: Police recorded incidents of graffiti by Local Government Area**  
**All incidents and incidents on educational premises, 2005 - continued**

LGA	All graffiti incidents			Graffiti incidents on educational premises only		
	Number	Rate per 100,000	Rank	Number	Rate per 100,000	Rank
Severn	2	n/a	n/a	1	n/a	n/a
Shellharbour	46	73.8	74	15	24.1	50
Shoalhaven	83	90.4	57	18	19.6	59
Singleton	5	22.8	132	1	4.6	100
Snowy River	7	95.6	53	0	0	n/a
Strathfield	41	131.7	32	13	41.8	24
Sutherland Shire	504	234.7	10	235	109.4	1
Sydney	259	177	20	24	16.4	66
Tamworth	25	67.1	84	5	13.4	77
Temora	5	79.4	68	0	0	n/a
Tenterfield	21	309.5	3	0	0	n/a
Tumbarumba	0	n/a	n/a	0	n/a	n/a
Tumut	8	70.3	82	0	0	n/a
Tweed	44	55.1	98	17	21.3	54
Unincorp. Far West	1	n/a	n/a	0	n/a	n/a
Upper Lachlan	1	13.1	142	0	0	n/a
Uralla	1	16.6	139	0	0	n/a
Urana	0	n/a	n/a	0	n/a	n/a
Wagga Wagga	63	109.5	43	21	36.5	31
Wakool	1	20.7	133	0	0	n/a
Walcha	0	n/a	n/a	0	n/a	n/a
Walgett	6	74.1	73	0	0	n/a
Warren	7	213.3	14	0	0	n/a
Warringah	201	145	28	77	55.5	17
Waverley	80	128.8	36	12	19.3	60
Weddin	0	n/a	n/a	0	n/a	n/a
Wellington	8	92.3	56	2	23.1	51
Wentworth	6	82.9	65	2	27.6	41
Willoughby	127	198.7	17	29	45.4	21
Wingecarribee	28	63.2	88	4	9	92
Wollondilly	30	73.8	75	6	14.8	74
Wollongong	453	236.5	9	168	87.7	10
Woollahra	151	284.4	4	13	24.5	48
Wyong	125	88.2	60	37	26.1	44
Yallaroi	1	31.9	121	0	0	n/a
Yass Valley	13	103.6	47	2	15.9	68
Young	5	41.8	112	3	25.1	45
NSW	9094	135.1		2771	41.2	

Note: Rates are not calculated for Local Government Areas with populations less than 3,000. Local Government Areas with zero rates are not ranked.