

Monthly Crime Trends

The graphs in this section provide monthly data for selected offence categories from July, 1997 (1997/98 financial year) to June, 2007 (2006/07 financial year), expressed as a rate, thereby factoring in the size of the Queensland population for each year. All crime statistics appearing in these graphs are comparable over the ten year period except where indicated with a break in continuity.

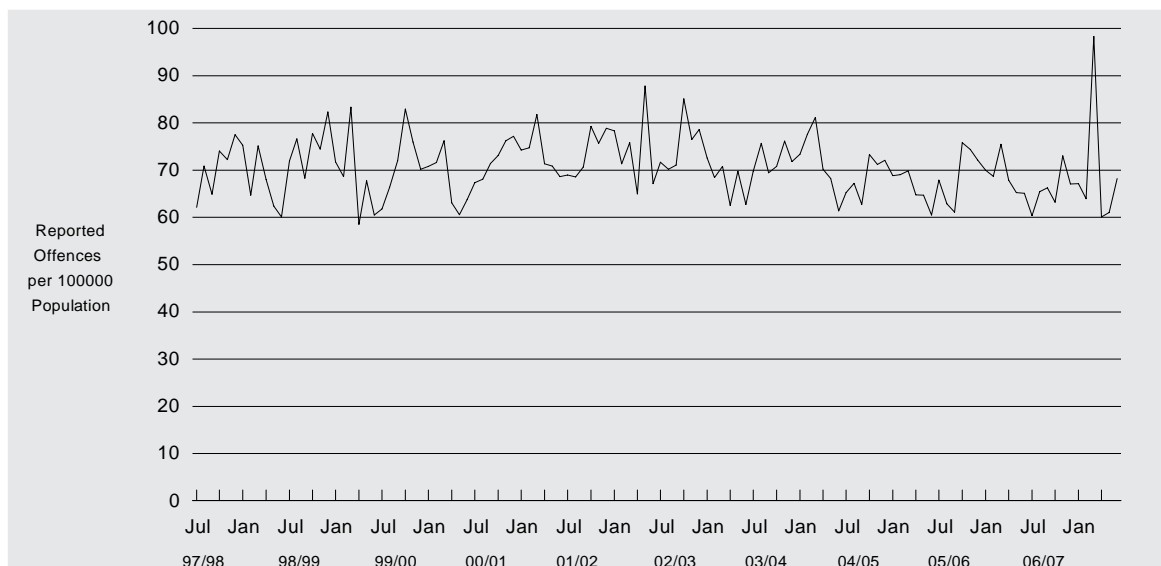
Quarterly Estimated Residential Population (ERP) statistics for Queensland provided by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (Catalogue 1301.0) were used to calculate the rates up to June, 2007.

To test for a statistically significant trend in the following graphs, Kendall's rank order correlation test (Conover, W.). 1971 *Practical Non-Parametric*

Statistics, 2nd edition, John Wiley and Sons, pages 256-260) was used. Although the 5% level of significance was used, most results were significant at the 1% level. Details are footnoted where appropriate in the text under each graph. This test is a two-tailed test which determines whether there is an increasing or decreasing trend in the recorded number of offences over the one hundred and twenty month period covered in the report.

Some month to month variations in the numbers of recorded offences suggested seasonal factors may be operating. The test for trend is not sensitive to seasonal variations; it is sensitive only to a generally increasing or decreasing trend over the time period examined.

Offences Against the Person



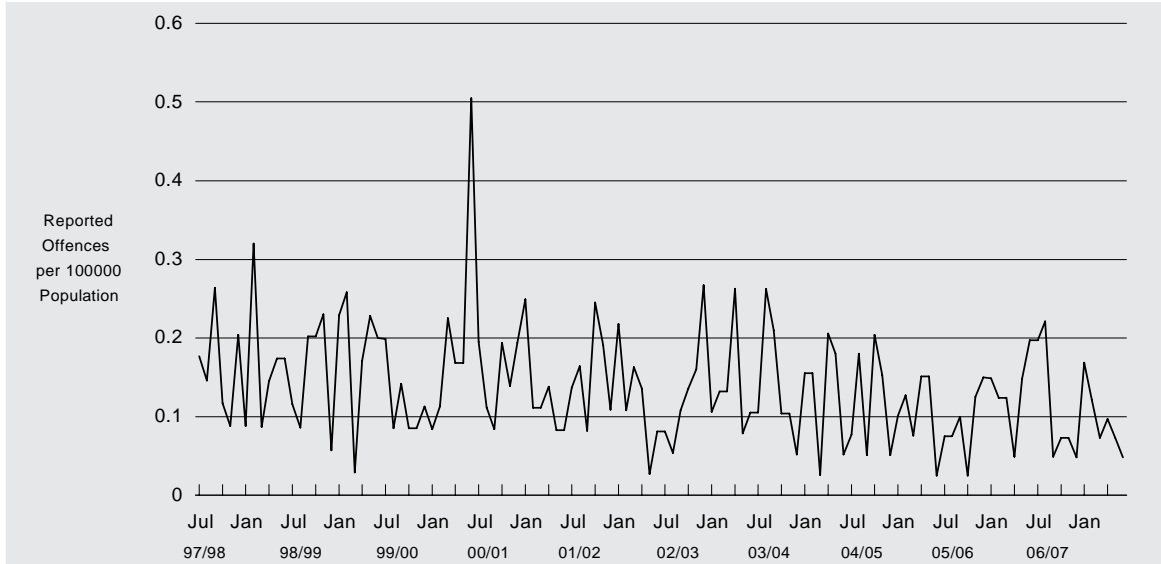
Total Offences Against the Person has no statistically significant* increasing or decreasing trend over the ten year period. This broad offence group tends to be dominated by Assaults as is evidenced by the strong

seasonal influence exhibited by the time series. The peaks in March and June 2007 are the result of a large number of reported historical Sexual, Deprivation of Liberty and Life Endangering Act Offences.

* The result is significant at the 1% level of confidence, using Kendall's rank order correlation test. See above for further information.

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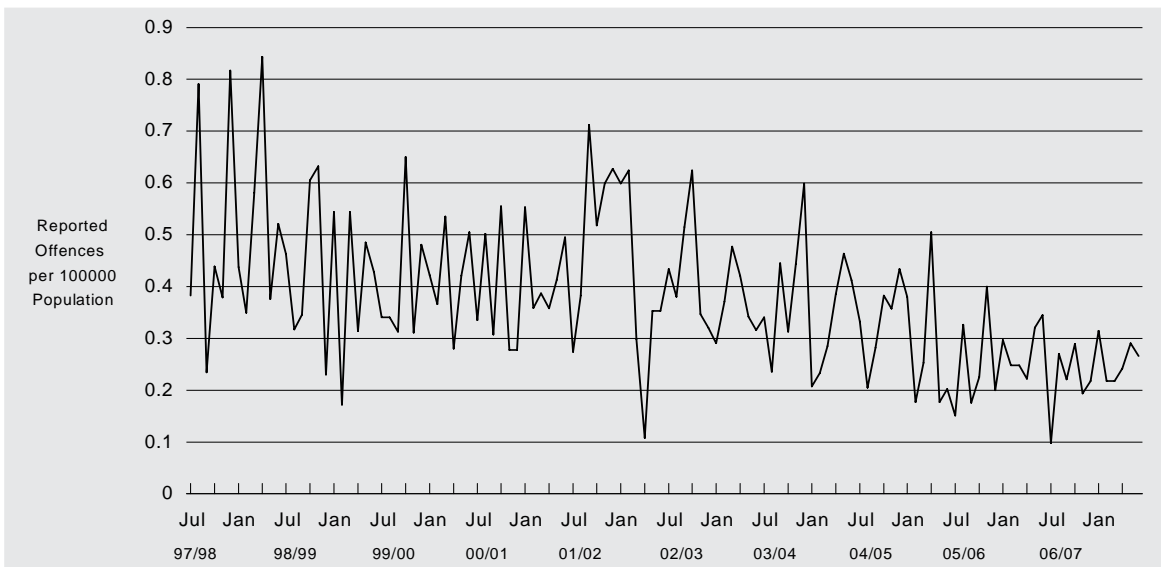
Homicide (Murder)



Over the ten year period there is a significantly decreasing trend* in the Homicide (Murder) time series. This small volume offence is subject to marked fluctuations from one month to the next. The spike in

the time series occurred in June 2000 and was the result of the Childers Backpacker fire in which there were fifteen victims.

Other Homicide



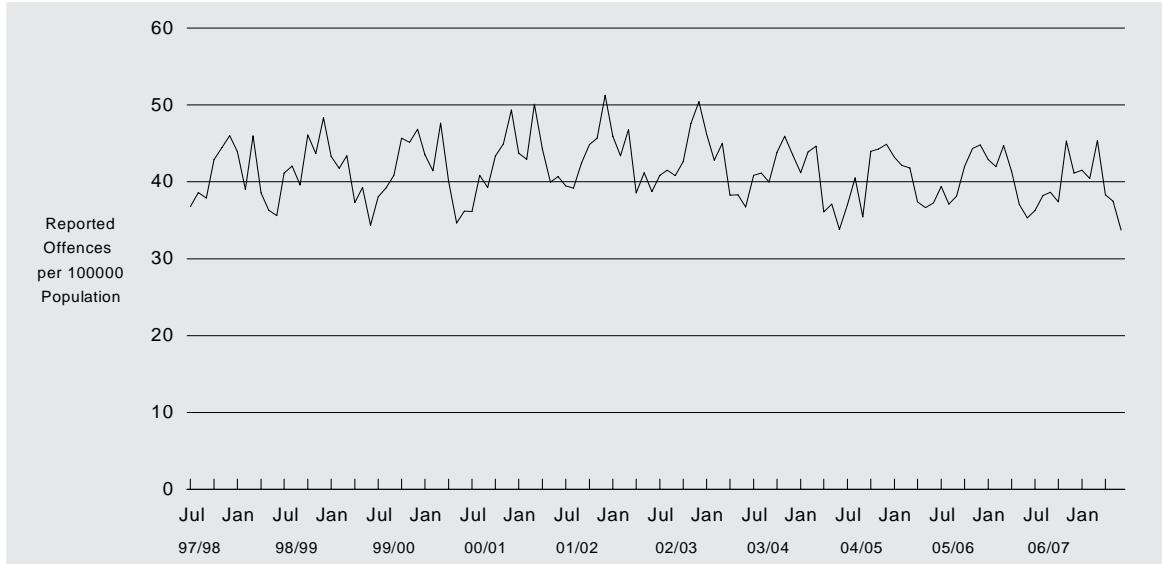
As with Homicide (Murder), Other Homicide is a low volume offence category and, as such, is subject to random fluctuations from month to month. Over the

ten year period, there is a significantly decreasing trend* for the Other Homicide time series.

* The result is significant at the 1% level of confidence, using Kendall's rank order correlation test. See page 17 for further information.

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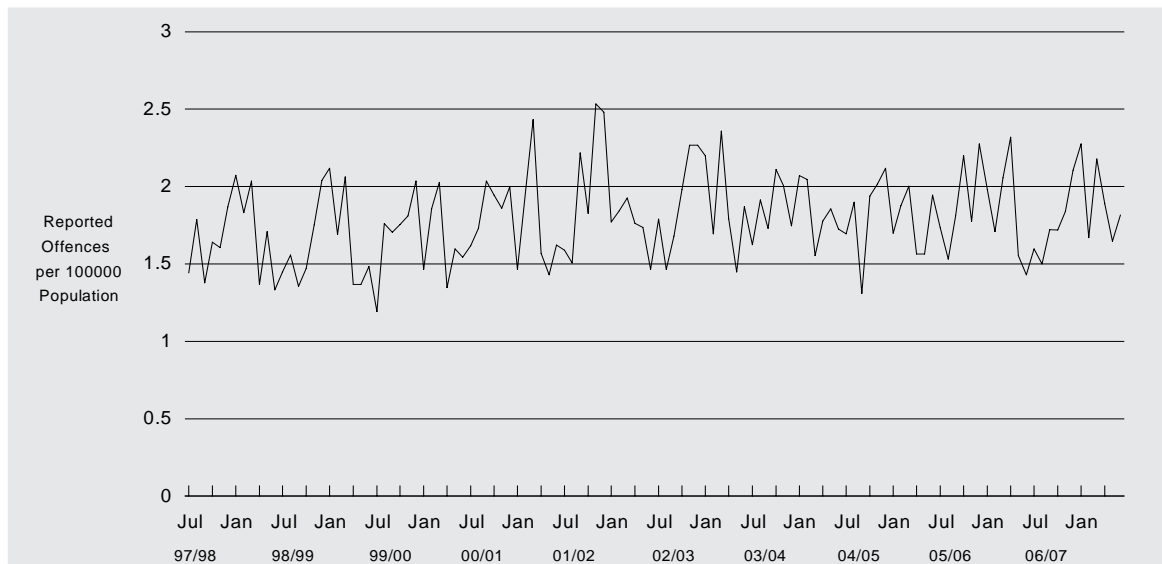
Assault



Assault is the largest in volume of the Offences Against the Person categories. There was no significantly increasing or decreasing trend* detected. Assault offences are subject to strong seasonal influences,

which are evident in the time series, with a higher rate of offences occurring over the summer months and a lower number of offences occurring in the winter months.

Grievous Assault



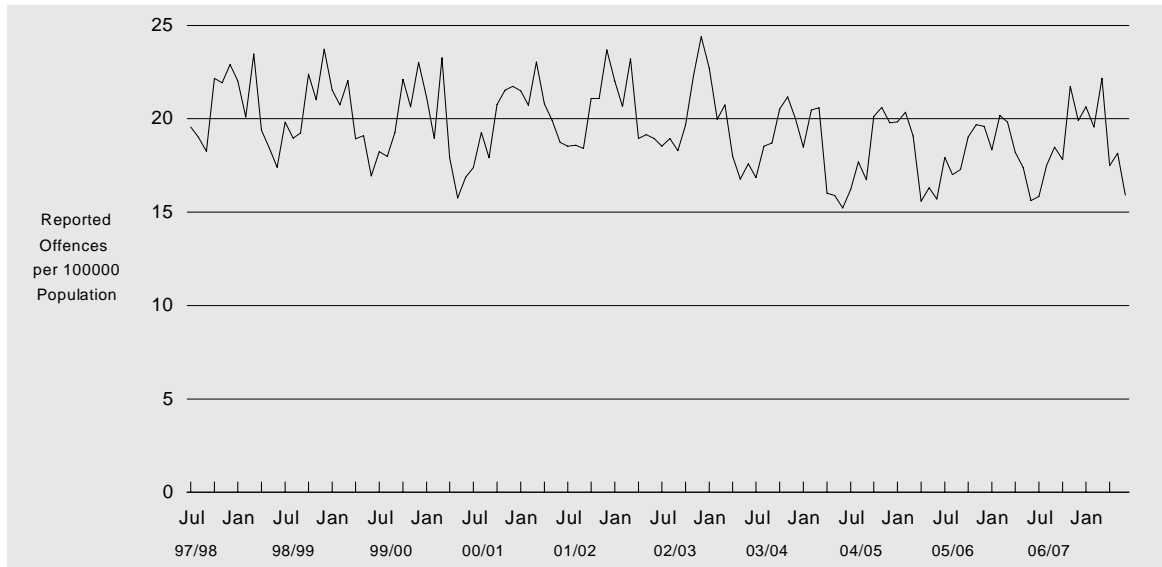
Grievous Assault is a small volume offence and, as such, will be subject to marked fluctuations over time. Overall, the rate of Grievous Assaults has increased*

slightly. The seasonal influence is obvious in the time series with the peaks occurring in the summer months.

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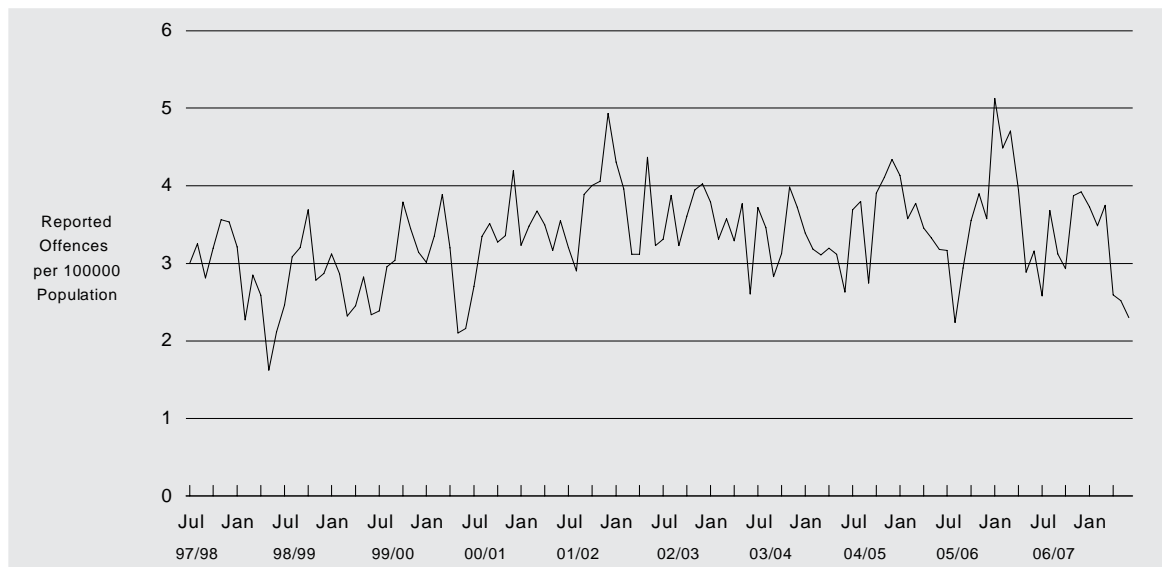
Serious Assault



Again, the strong seasonal influences are evident in this time series, with a higher rate of offences occurring over the summer months and a lower

number of offences occurring in the winter months of each year. A significantly decreasing trend was detected over the ten year period*.

Serious Assault (Other)



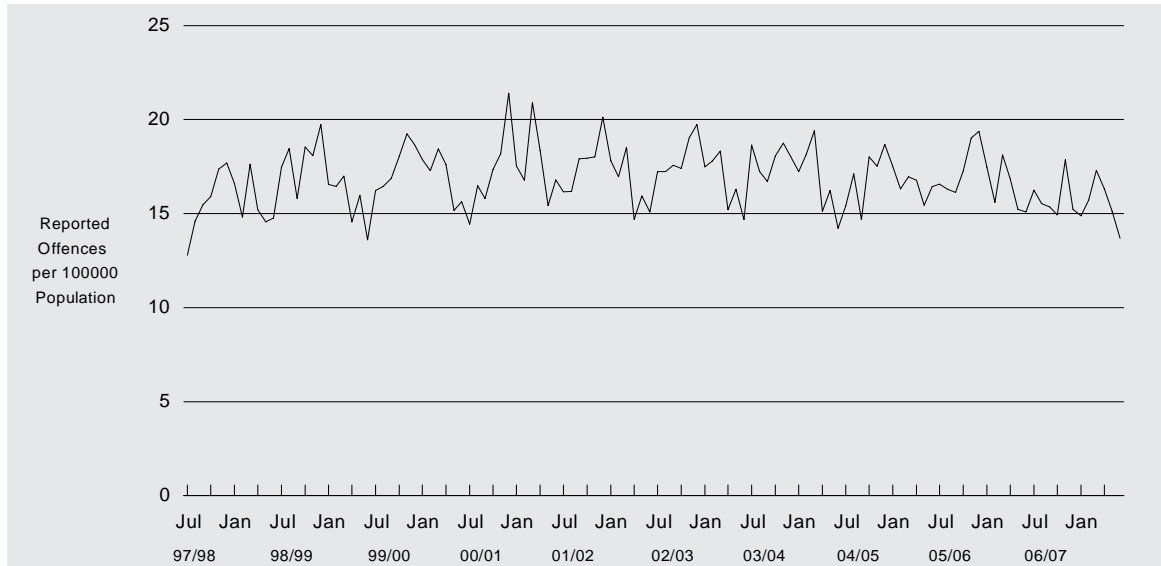
Serious Assault (Other) has been significantly increasing* over the ten year period. Although less apparent than for the other sub-categories of Assault,

the peaks and troughs reflect the strong seasonal influence exerted on the time series with the higher rates occurring in the summer months.

* The result is significant at the 1% level of confidence, using Kendall's rank order correlation test. See page 17 for further information.

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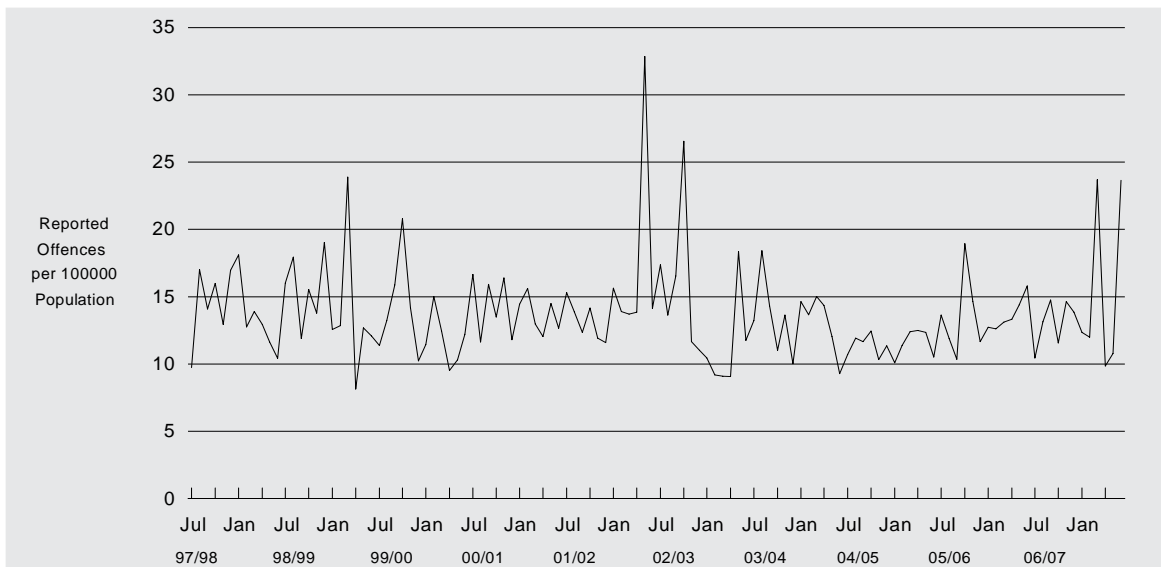
Common Assault



The stability in the trend of Common Assault Offences continues into 2006/07. There is no statistically significant increasing or decreasing trend*. As with all

sub-categories of Assault, the seasonal influence is apparent in the graph above.

Sexual Offences



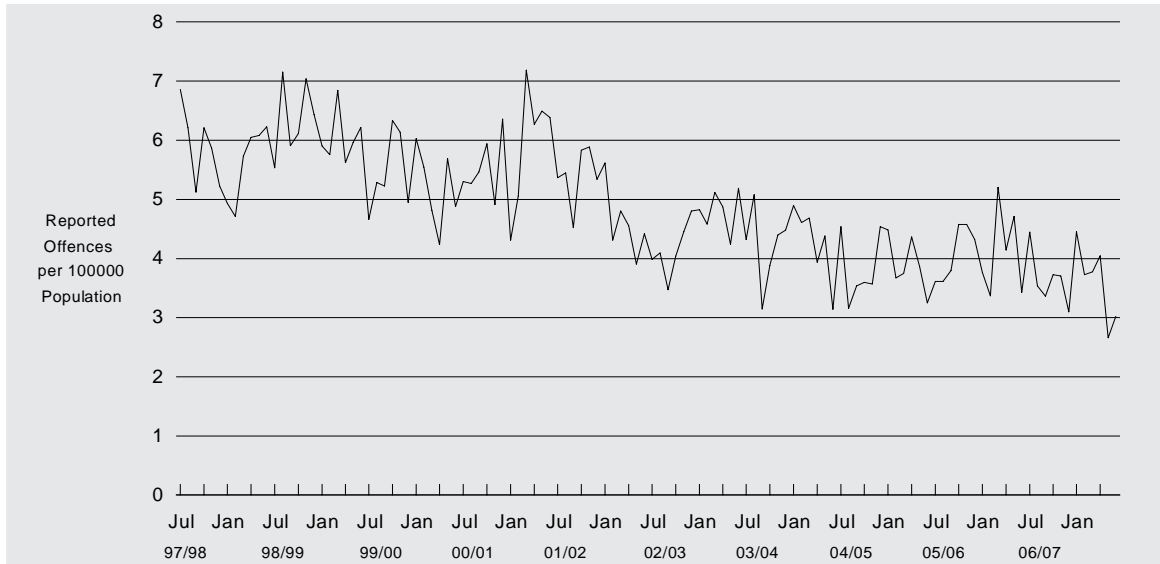
The spikes in the Sexual Offences time series are the result of large numbers of offences being reported to police in March 1999, May 2002, October 2002, August 2003, March and June 2007. All are due to single

offenders who were responsible for multiple offences for incidents occurring over a number of years. Overall, this time series exhibits no significant trend*.

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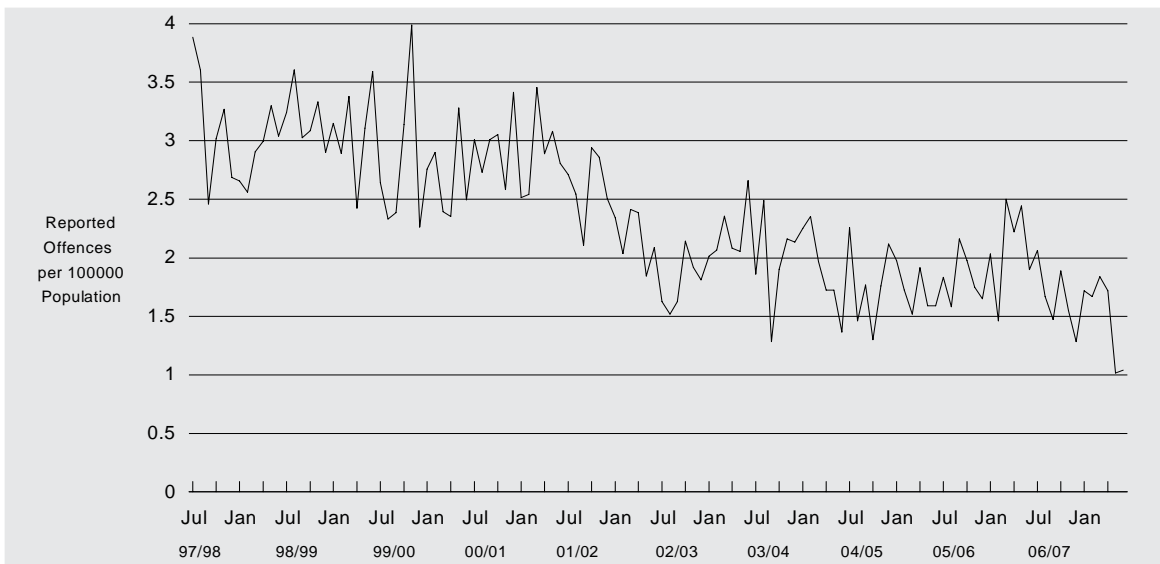
Robbery



Rates of Robbery offences decreased markedly from July 1997 to mid 2000 and then again from early 2001 to 2002. Since 2003, rates of Robbery offences have

continued to decrease. As a result of the recent decreases across the time series, overall there was a significantly* downward trend detected.

Armed Robbery



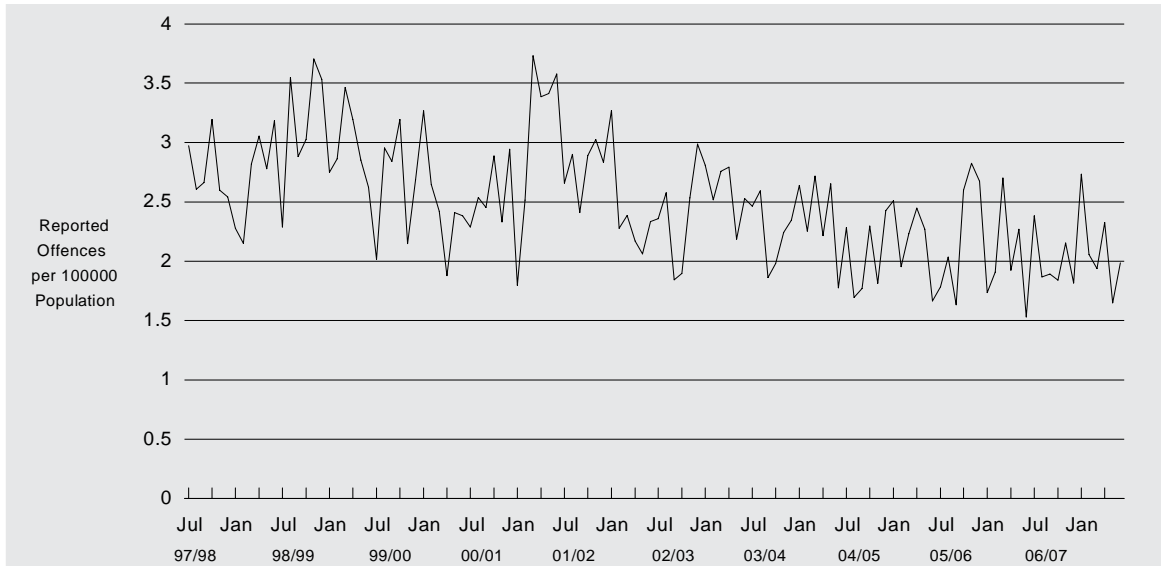
Again, the recent decreases in the rate of Armed Robbery over the past six years are apparent in the time series above. Overall, there was a statistically significant* downward trend detected. After recording

an increase in 2005/06 for the first time in four years, Armed Robbery has again recorded a decrease (19%) in the current period under review.

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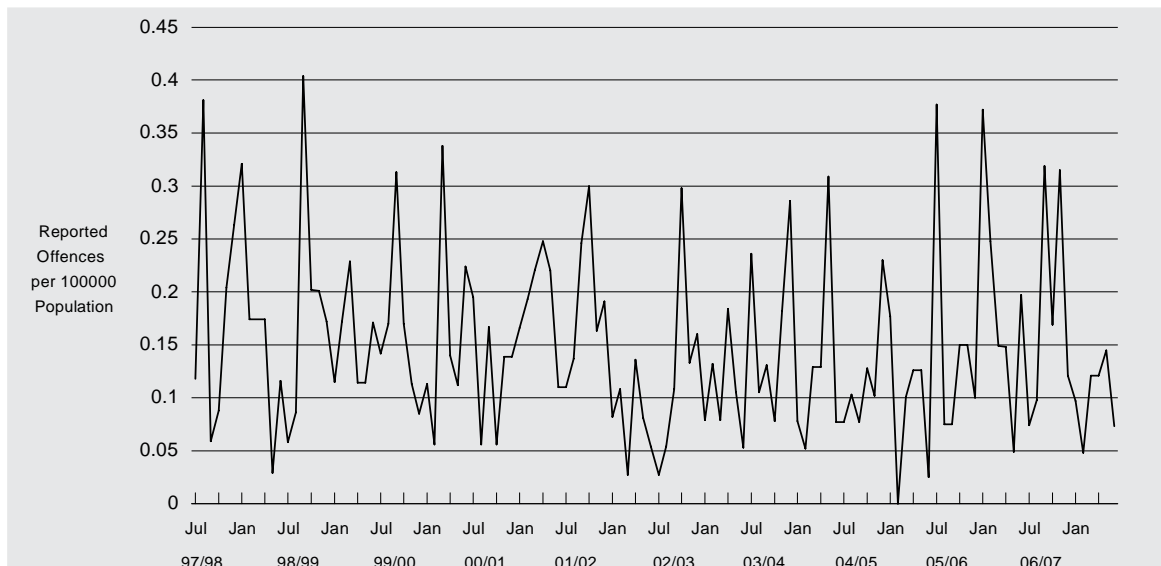
Unarmed Robbery



Rates of Unarmed Robbery have recorded fluctuations over time. Since recording a peak in 2000/01 the rate

of Unarmed Robbery has continued to record an overall downward trend*.

Extortion



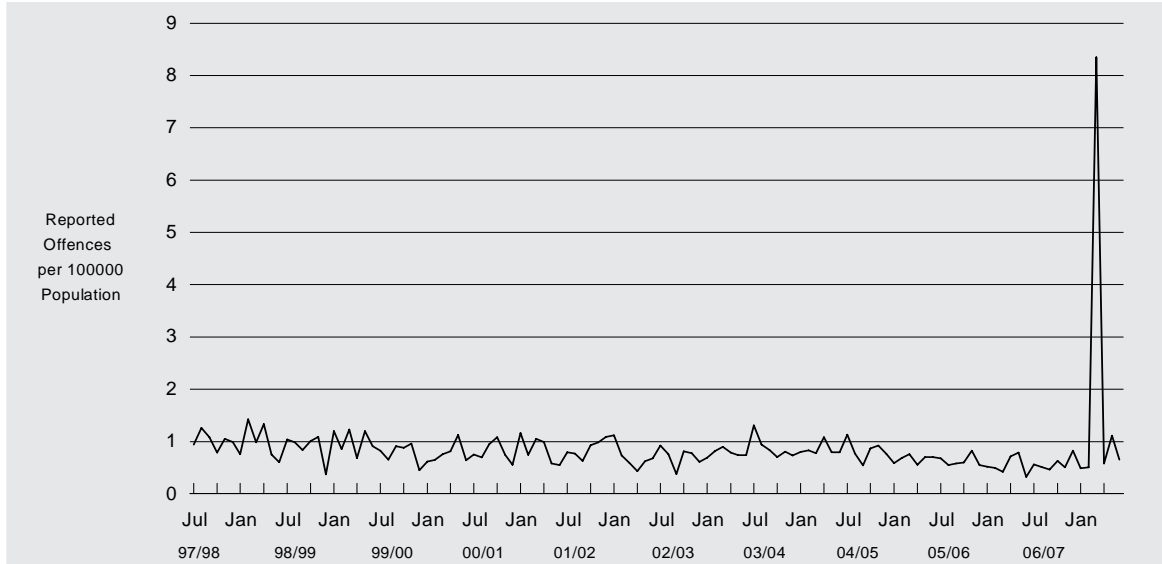
Extortion is the lowest in volume of the Offences Against the Person categories and, as such, is prone to random variations from month to month. Overall, no

statistically significant increasing or decreasing* trend was detected over the ten year period.

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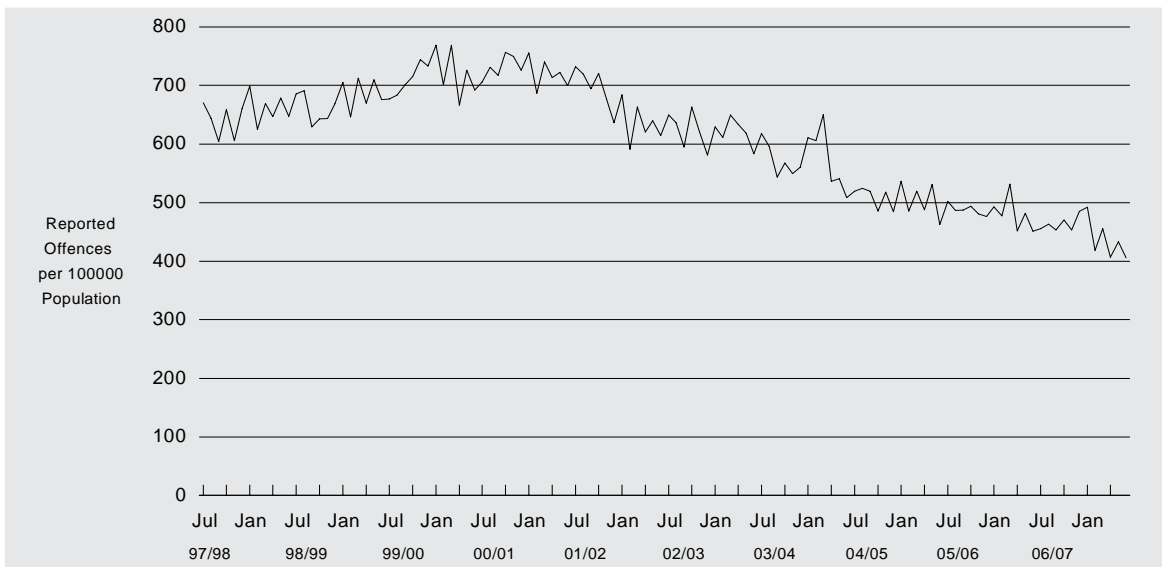
Kidnapping, Abduction, etc.



This time series is subject to the fluctuations that occur in small volume offence categories. The rates of Kidnapping and Abduction etc. offences have been steadily decreasing over the ten year period of the time

series and exhibits a statistically significant decreasing trend*. The spike in March 2007 is the result of reported historical offences that occurred between 1968 and 1971.

Offences Against Property



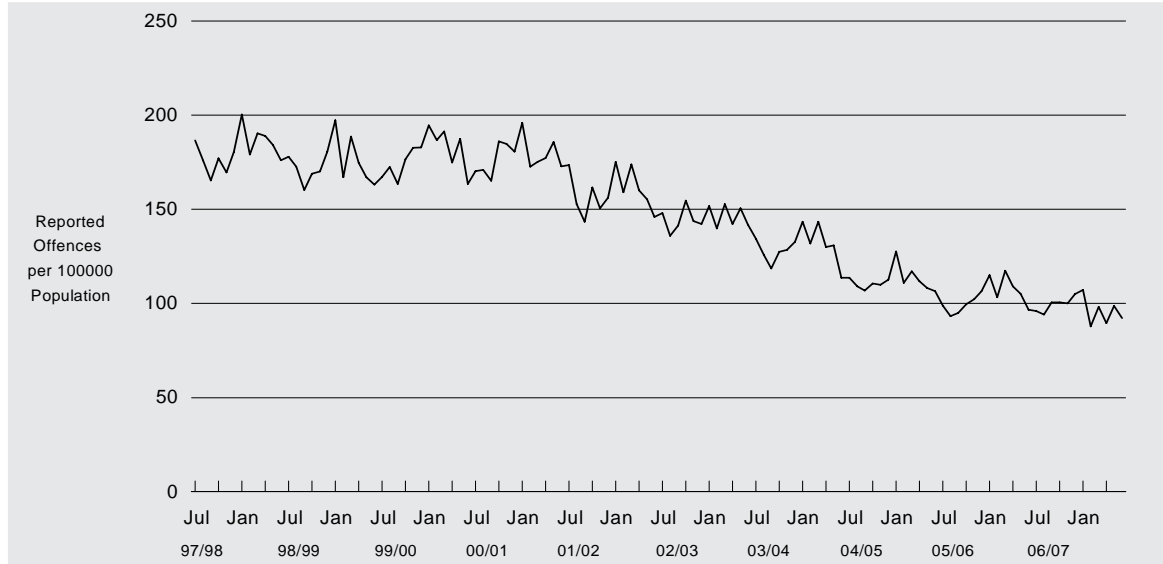
The Offences Against Property time series has historically been reasonably stable, though since January 2001, has a statistically significant downward trend* being detected. This is a large volume offence group and, as such, increases or decreases are usually

small in the overall context. The rate of Offences Against Property has decreased over the last six years. In the current time period, Offences Against Property decreased by 7%.

* The result is significant at the 1% level of confidence, using Kendall's rank order correlation test. See page 17 for further information.

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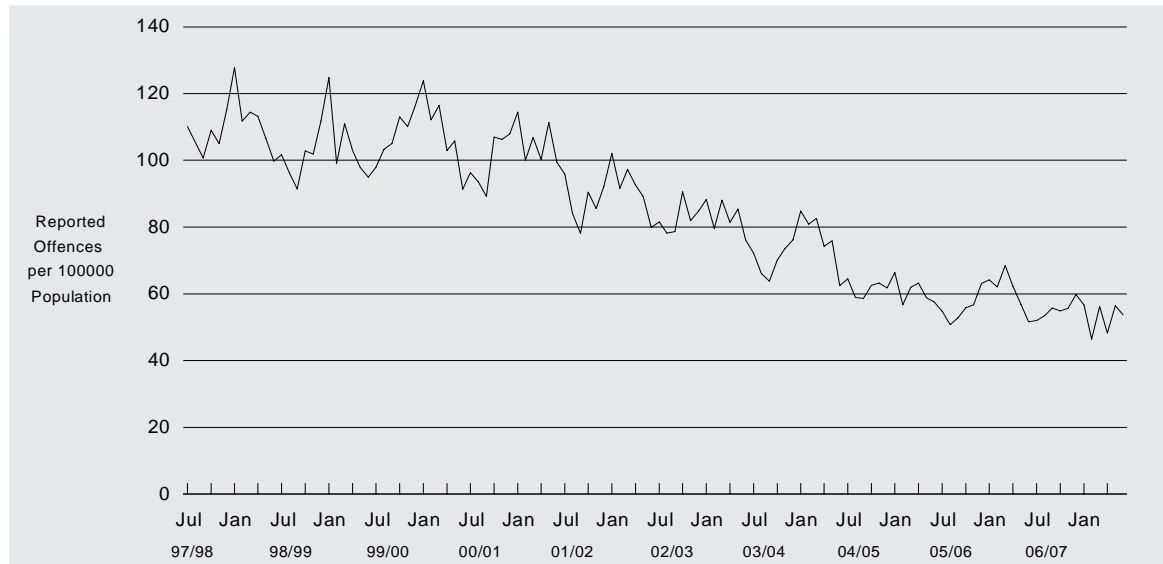
Unlawful Entry with Intent



Overall, there was a statistically significant decreasing trend detected* for Unlawful Entry with Intent. In the current period, the rate of Unlawful Entry with Intent

offences decreased by 6% following on from a decrease of 7% in the 2005/06 financial year.

Unlawful Entry - Dwellings



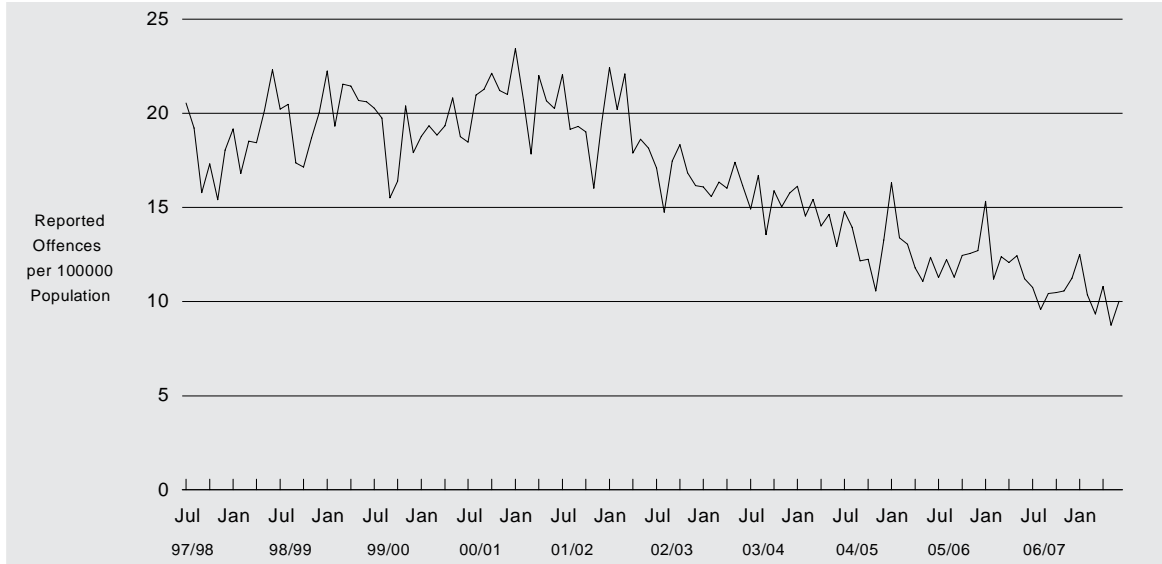
The rate of Unlawful Entry - Dwellings stabilised from 1997 to 2000. Since this time, the rate has been steadily decreasing to the extent that an overall statistically significant decreasing trend* was detected.

The rate continued to decrease reflecting a 7% reduction in the current review period. The fact that this offence is subject to seasonal variation is evidenced in the graph above.

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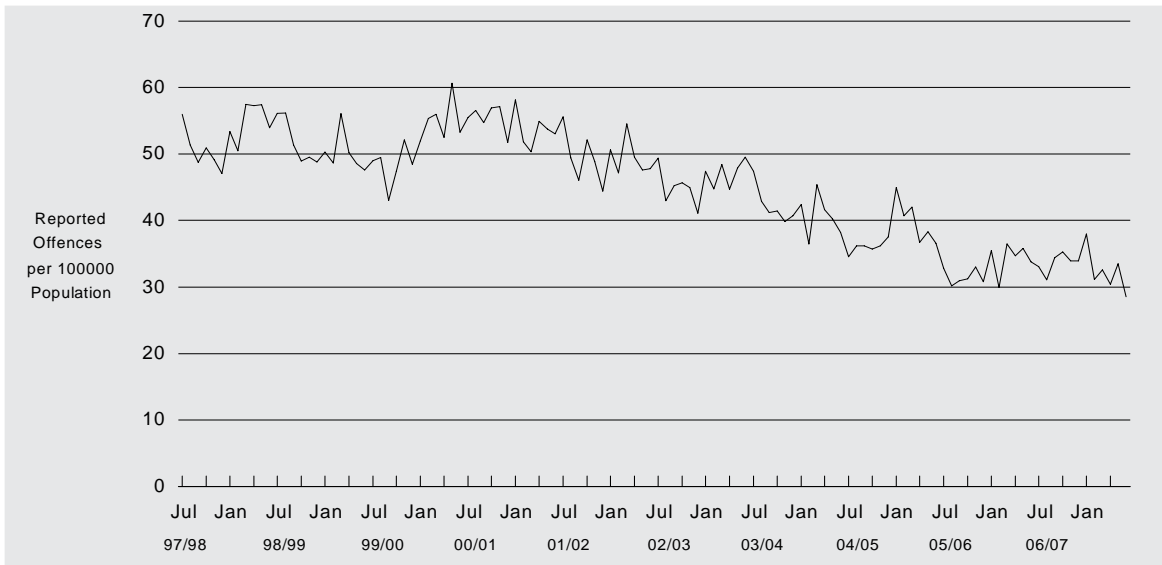
Unlawful Entry - Shops



Over the ten years, the rate of Unlawful Entry - Shops offences has been significantly decreasing*. Again, the dip towards the end of the time series is the result of the

decreases seen over the last six financial years. 2006/07 saw a decrease of 15% in Unlawful Entry - Shops offences.

Unlawful Entry - Other Premises



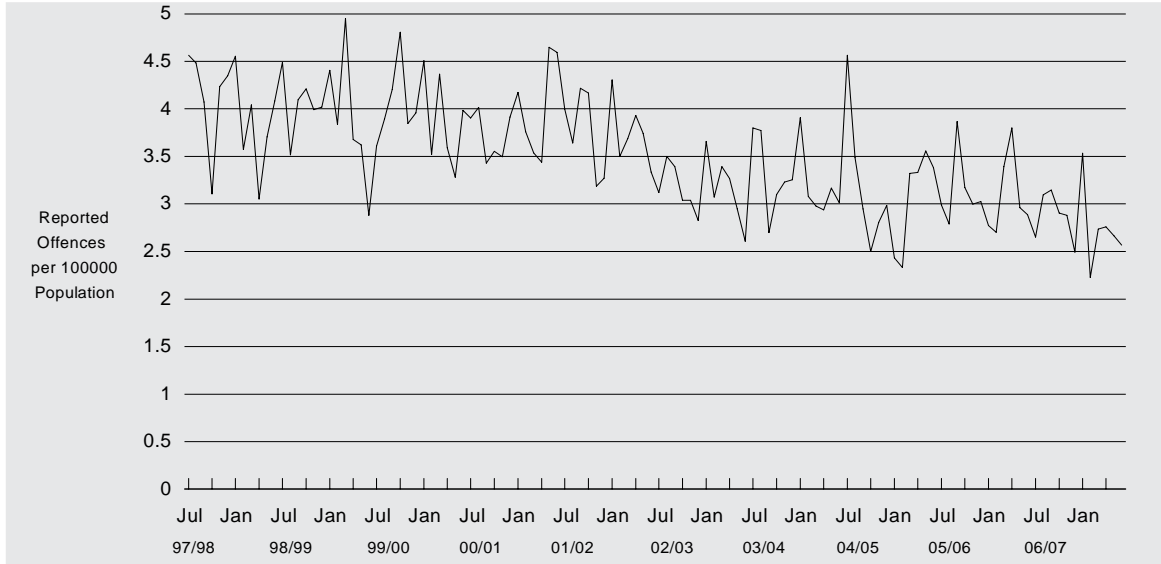
Overall, there was a significantly decreasing trend* detected for Unlawful Entry - Other Premises. Following a steady trend between 1997/98 and 2000/01 the time

series is decreasing. The reductions over the last six financial years are apparent at the end of the time series.

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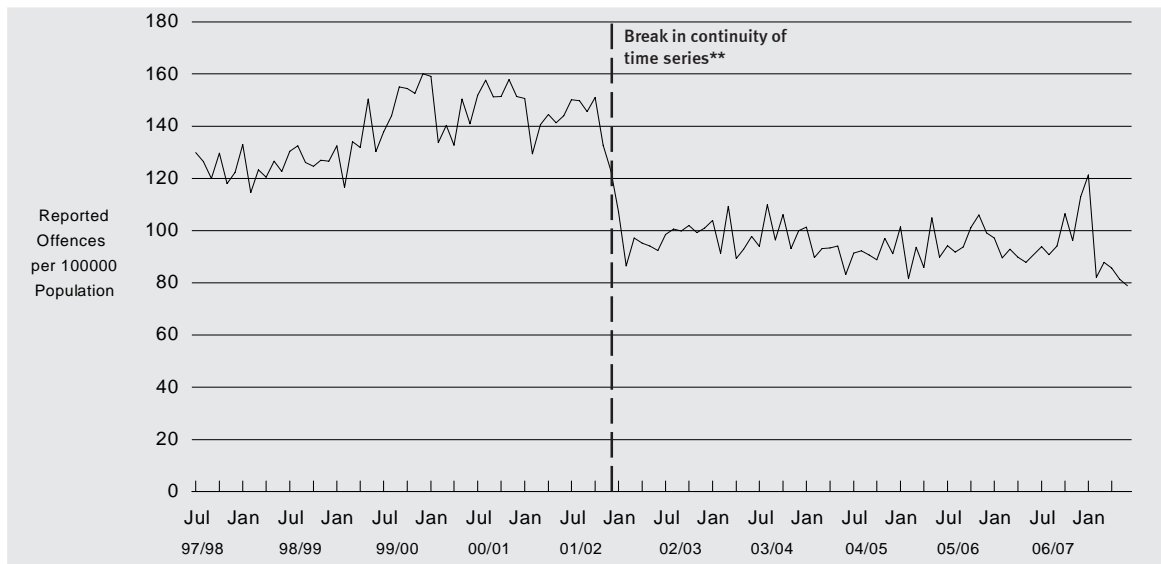
Arson



The rate of Arson offences increased in the first half of the time series but has been decreasing since. Over the ten years of the time series, a statistically significant

downward trend* was detected. For the year under review, the rate of Arson decreased by 10% from 37 to 34 offences per 100,000 persons.

Other Property Damage



The sharp decrease in the middle of the time series is the result of a change in policy regarding the reporting of Other Property Damage offences. This break in continuity** effectively renders a statistical test invalid.

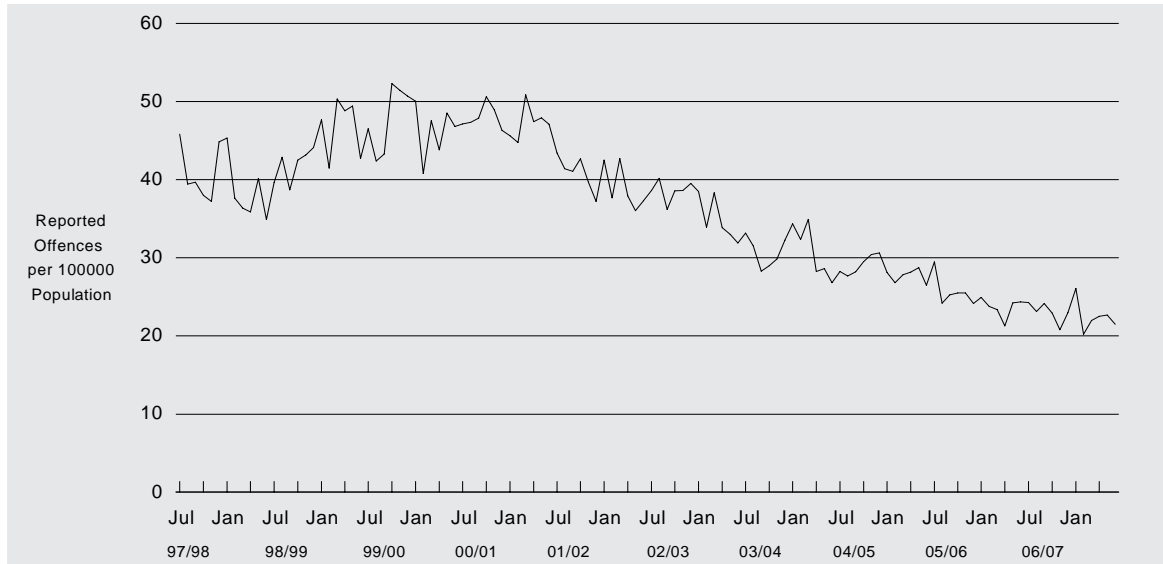
While the change in policy contributed to a 20% decrease in the rate of offences in 2001/02, this downward trend continued for the next five years.

* The result is significant at the 1% level of confidence, using Kendall's rank order correlation test. See page 17 for further information.

** Change in policy regarding the recording of Property Damage offences in conjunction with Unlawful Entry and Unlawful Use of Motor Vehicles has resulted in a break in continuity and, thus, caution should be exercised when looking at offences over time (see Explanatory Notes page 140 for further information).

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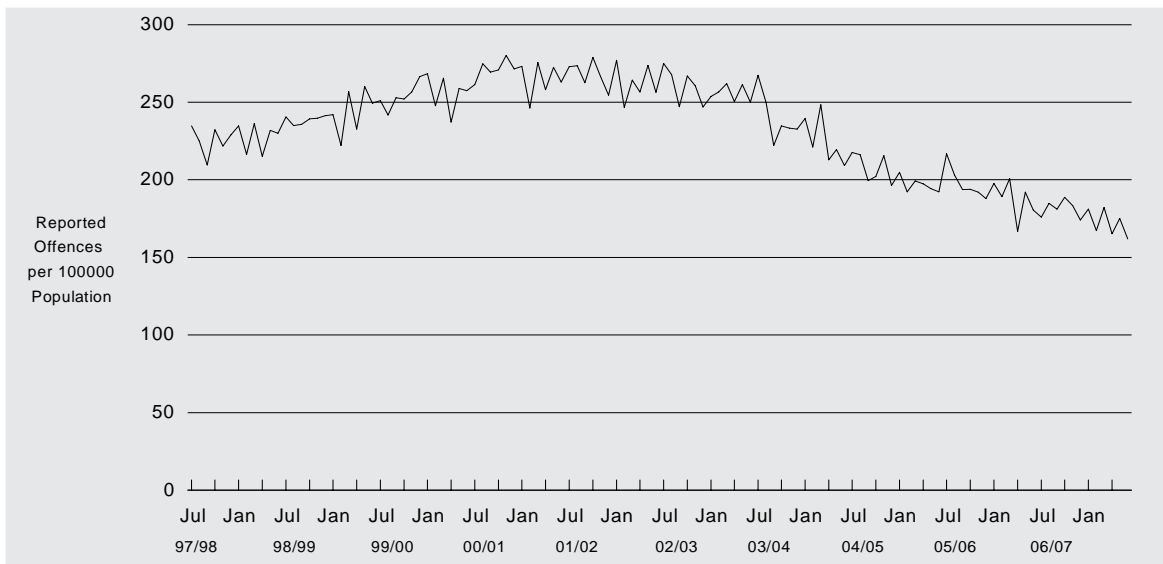
Unlawful Use of Motor Vehicle[^]



Overall, a statistically significant decreasing trend* was detected for the Unlawful Use of Motor Vehicle time series. As with other Offences Against Property, the substantive decreases recorded in the rate of Unlawful Use of Motor

Vehicle offences over the last six financial years is apparent at the end of the time series. Following a sizeable decrease in 2005/06 of 13%, the rate of offences fell a further 7% in 2006/07.

Other Theft (excluding Unlawful Entry)



A statistically decreasing trend* was detected for the Other Theft (excluding Unlawful Entry) category. A decrease in offences can be seen since July 2003. The

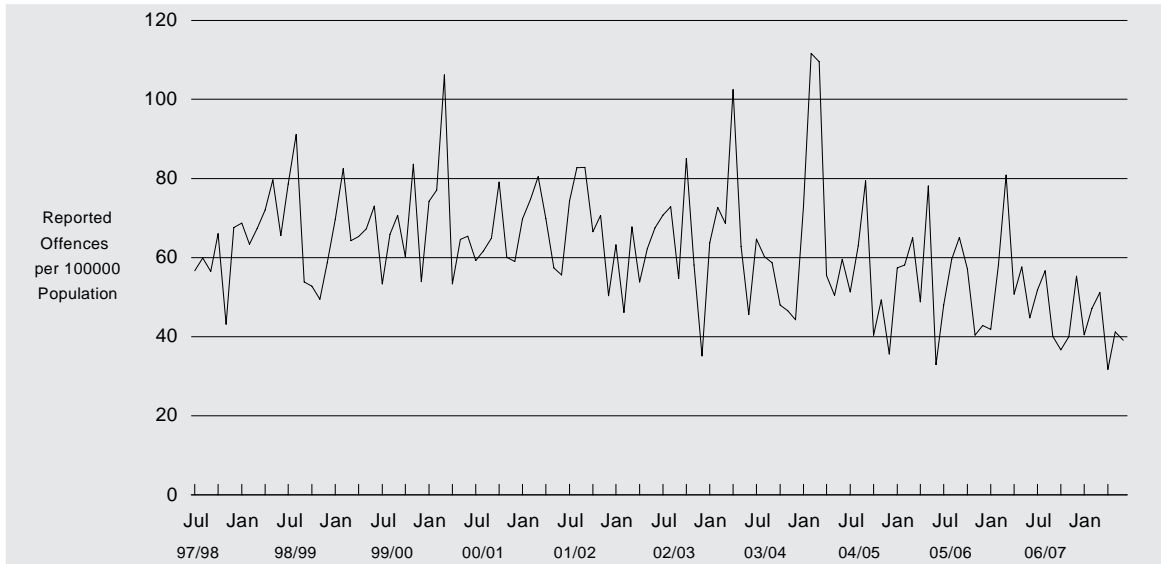
current period exhibited an 8% decrease following a 4% decrease recorded during the previous period.

[^] Includes attempted offences.

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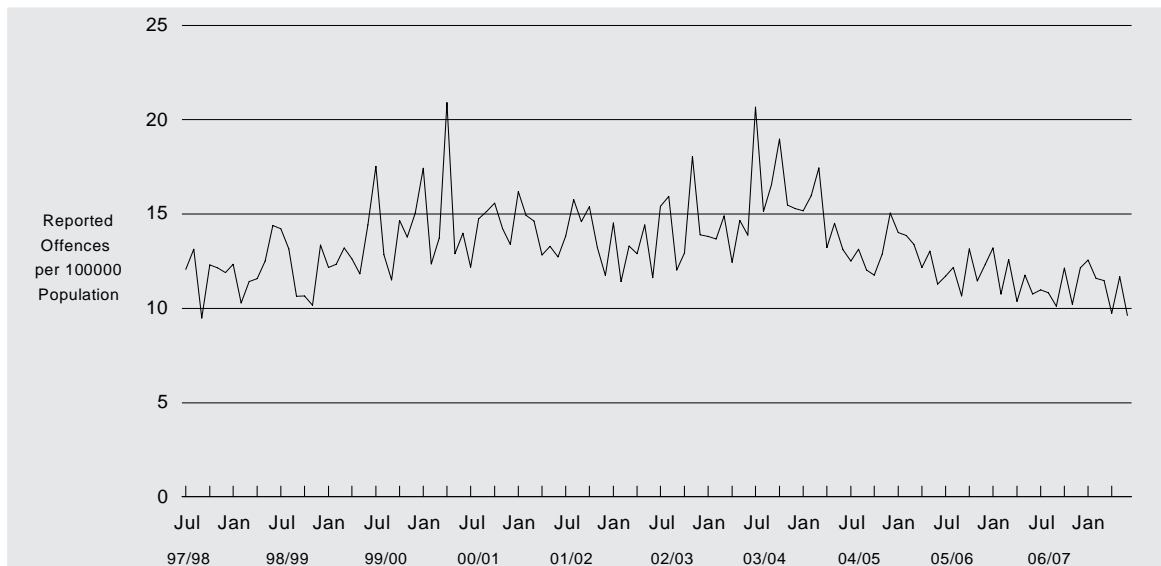
Fraud



There is a statistically significant downward trend* in Fraud offences as evident in the graph above. Three of the four sub-categories of Fraud recorded decreases

attributing to the 18% decrease in overall Fraud offences in the current reporting period.

Handling Stolen Goods



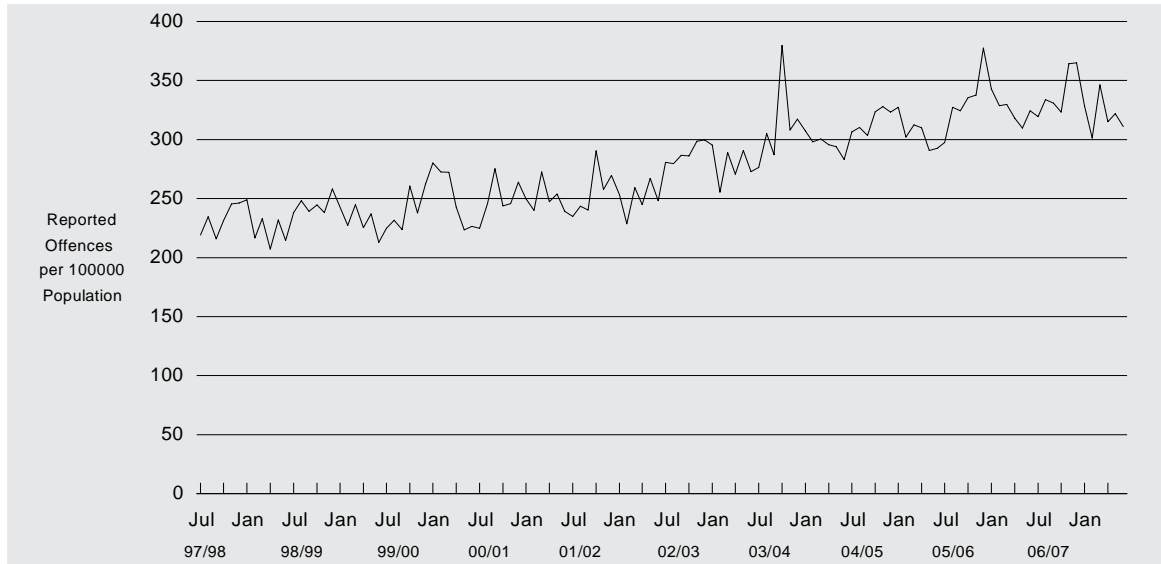
No significantly increasing or decreasing trend* is evident in the Handling Stolen Goods time series. The rate of offences decreased by a further 5% in 2006/07, after having decreased 9% during 2005/06. The first

spike in the time series is the result of approximately 270 offences laid against two offenders in April, 2000. One offender was responsible for the spike in July 2003 being charged with 171 offences.

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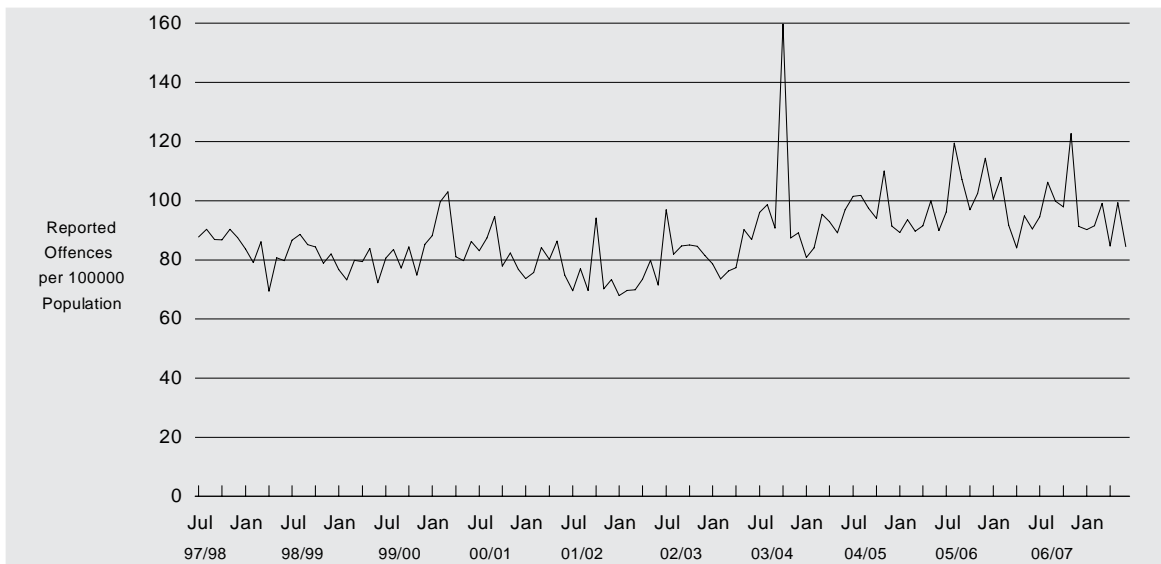
Other Offences



Other Offences are generally detected by police rather than reported to police. As such, any rise in Other Offences is usually regarded as a positive result. As is

evidenced in the graph above, a statistically significant upward trend* was detected with rates for 2006/07 continuing this trend.

Drug Offences



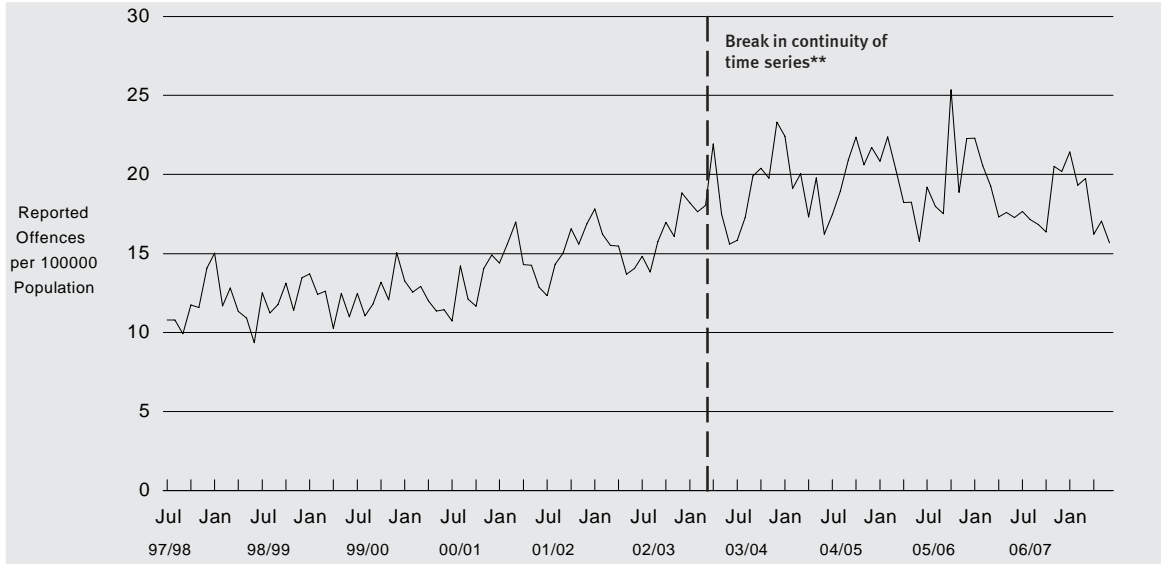
A statistically significant increasing trend* was detected for this time series over the ten year period. Following a slight decrease in the rate of Drug Offences from early 2000 to end 2001, rates again increased in 2003/04.

The spike in the latter part of the time series was the result of over 2100 offences laid against a single offender in October 2003. The State recorded a decrease of 3% in the current period.

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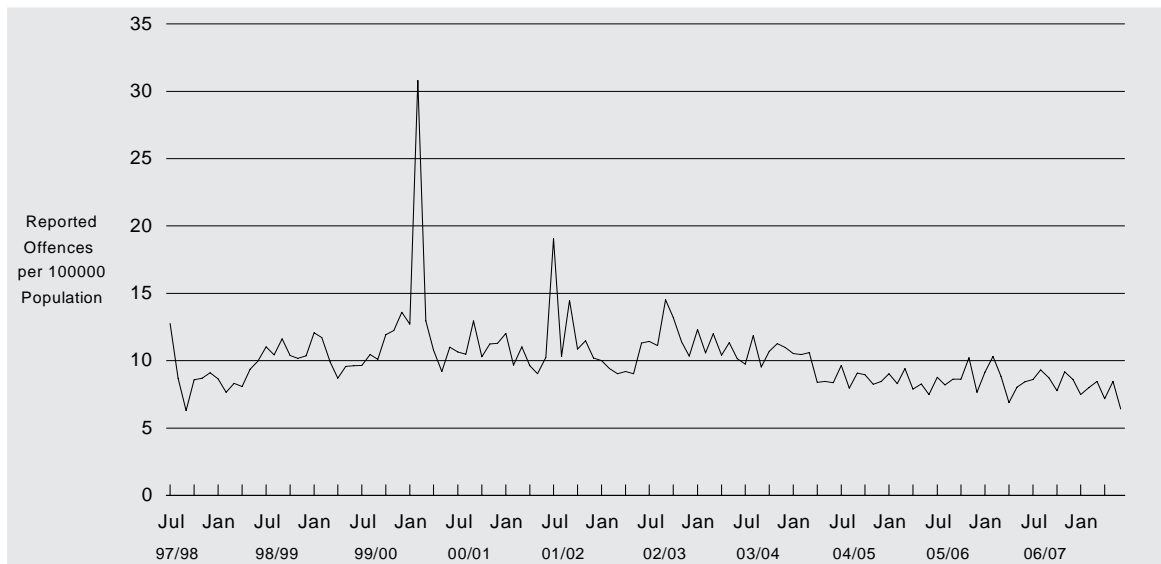
Breach of Domestic Violence Protection Orders



The legislative change in March 2003** caused a break in the continuity of this time series. Since this amendment, the time-series has stabilised. The spike near the end of the time series is the result of nearly

226 offences committed by one offender and reported to police in October 2005. Breach of Domestic Violence Protection Orders are subject to strong seasonal influences, as is evidenced in the graph above.

Weapons Act Offences



One offender was charged with 650 Weapons Act Offences in February 2000 resulting in a significant spike in the time series. Despite this spike, the time series exhibits a significantly decreasing trend*. Following the cessation of the Buy Back campaign

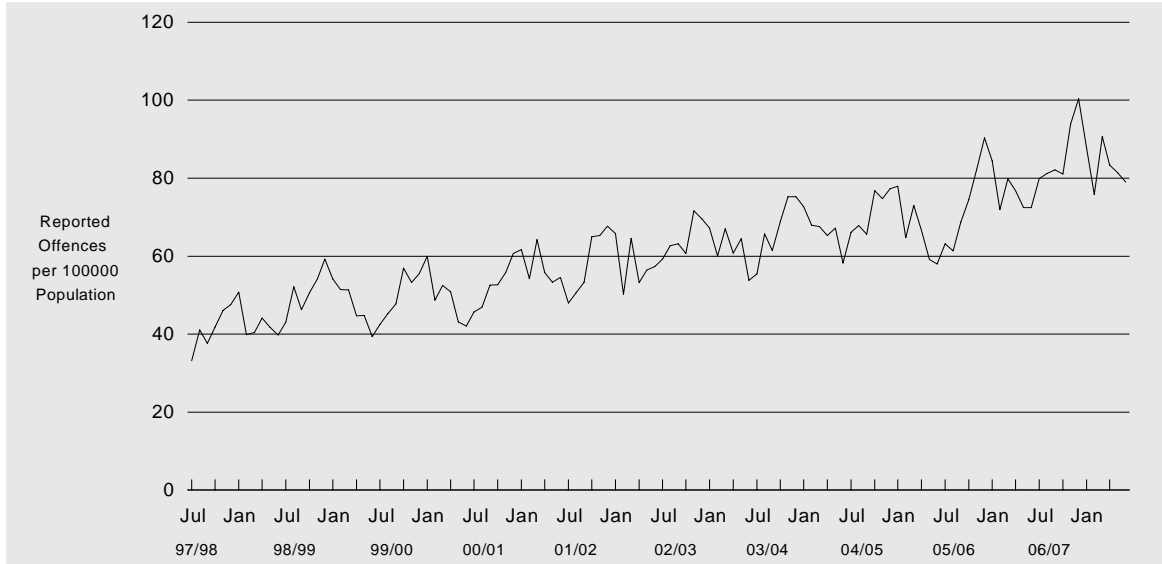
(September 1997), the rates increased markedly. However, since January 2003, the time series has been decreasing. The rate of offences decreased by 5% in the current period.

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** The Domestic and Family Violence Protection Act 1989 was expanded in March 2003 to include intimate personal, familial and informal care relationships.

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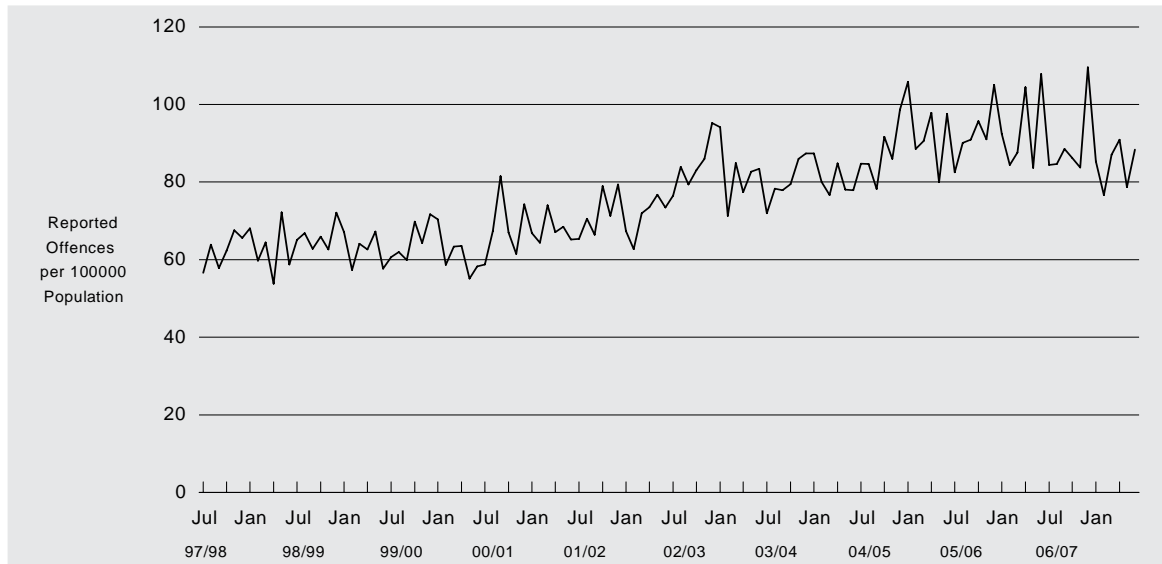
Good Order Offences



While the time series for Good Order Offences exhibits a statistically significant upward trend*, a strong seasonal influence can also be seen. Offences tend to peak in the summer months and fall to a low during the

winter months of each year. Following an increase of 9% during 2005/06, Good Order Offences increased again by 13% in the current period.

Traffic and Related Offences



Overall, a statistically significant increasing trend* was detected in the time series. Following increases in

2004/05 and 2005/06 of 12% and 3% respectively, the current time period recorded a decrease of 6%.

* The result is significant at the 1% level of confidence, using Kendall's rank order correlation test. See page 17 for further information.

