

Household services

Cost category Costs as a consequence of crime

Cost item Household services

Victims who are injured physically or emotionally by crime may often experience an interruption of their ability to function normally at home. The loss of household services attributable to the injury represents a cost. Replacement services may be supplied from external service via the market or by other household members or relatives. Procedures for estimating the costs of such replacement are a live issue in civil litigation.

Definition

Theoretical discussion

[link to relevant section in Bibliography]

Preferred estimation methodology

Multiply the replacement cost per day for the lost services by the number of days lost on average.

Comments

where estimated these are sometimes calculated alongside estimates of productivity loss. Can use as a working assumption that the number of days of household services lost equals the number of days off work.

Usage

not normally included

Offences normally included

Potentially all crimes where the daily functioning of the victims is impaired at least temporarily: most likely in cases involving physical injury to victims.

Formula

proportion of households where supply of services interrupted by injury to victim in household*average no of days lost*daily replacement cost/number of offences estimated from survey to get average cost per offence

Data sources

Victim surveys may ask about interruption of daily activities cost of replacement household services may be estimated for purposes of personal injury litigation.

Example

Assault		
Proportion of assault cases where days lost		0.2
Proportion of households victim of assault		0.03
Number of households		20,000,000
Replacement cost per day (8 hours at minimum wage=10)	£	80.00
average number of days lost		4.2
Total Cost	£	40,320,000.00
Number of assaults		600,000.00
Average cost per offence		67.20