

Lost School days

Cost category Costs in consequence to crime

Cost item Lost school days

Definition Crime victims in full time education may lose time off school or college or training programme. If the programme is provided by a private sector supplier the market price of the days lost can be used to measure the loss. If it is a publicly-funded programme then the cost of provision is likely to be the best guide to the opportunity cost to the victim.

Theoretical discussion [link to relevant section in Bibliography]

Preferred estimation methodology the number of days of schooling lost by crime victims: may extend to further and higher education if data are available and measure lost education opportunities: usually valued at the cost of education provision

Comments not normally estimated where surveys exclude victims under the age of 16: may sometimes be separate surveys of young people that ask about time lost from school because of victimisation

Usage a lower bound estimate is the average cost of providing a day of schooling: UK around £21 per diem: similar method can be applied to over 16s including those in further education (16-18 year olds) and college or university (over 18s)

Offences normally included offences involving younger victims: e.g. assault, burglary

Formula no of school days lost per annum as a result of offence type
$$j \times \text{average daily cost of school place provision} / \text{no of offences (from survey)}$$

Data sources School costs data from education authorities number of days of education lost by victims from crime data, proportion of victims losing time from school, number of days lost on average cost of school day

Example