

Property stolen/damaged

Cost category **Costs as a consequence of crime**
Cost item **property stolen/ damaged**

Value of property stolen, damaged or lost as a result of an offence. Property loss may result from a wide range of crimes, although it will be most pronounced for the offence types referred to as 'property crimes' such as burglary, theft and robbery. The loss may result from items being stolen or damaged.

Definition

Theoretical discussion

[link to relevant section in Bibliography]

Preferred estimation methodology

Based on mean value of property loss reported in victim survey data.

Comments

may be estimated as separate components (as in Dubourg et al 2005) for property stolen, property damaged and property recovered respectively (data from victim surveys): may be a case for looking at other parameters of the distribution of losses (e.g. median or estimated mean of a lognormal distribution): if survey data are not available it is sometimes possible to get data from police records or from insurance sources, although these other sources may be prone to error for reasons of under-reporting etc. explored elsewhere.

Usage

widely estimated in cost of crime studies: comparatively good data available from most victim studies

Offences normally included

burglary, theft, robbery, criminal damage, vehicle crime

Formula

average value of [property stolen + property damaged - property recovered] per offence of type j (from victim survey)*proportion of households victimised (from victim survey)*number of households

Number of households surveyed, proportion of households burgled, proportion of burglaries victims believe are known to police, average loss experienced by victim and number of burglaries experienced by survey respondents from, Domestic Crime Victimization Survey (e.g. EU ICS or British Crime Survey) number of households in the country, H: Eurostat or domestic statistical office number of burglaries recorded by the police: official recorded crime statistics (Ministry of Justice, national statistical office, etc.)

Data sources

Example 1

Country:	Denmark	
Offence:	Burglary	
S	survey respondents	3,007
H	total households	2,456,000
B	number of offences experienced by survey respondents	93
z=B/S	proportion of households victim of this offence	0.0309
E=zH	estimated number of offences	75,959
r	proportion of offences that victims believe are known to police	0.80
R	number of offences recorded by the police	32,956
M = E/R	standard multiplier	2.30
v	average value of property stolen	22,934
w	average value of damage to property	4,009
y	average value of property recovered	
v+w-y	net average loss	26,943
C=E[v+w-y]	total cost of offence type	2,046,556,948

Example 2
country

	damage (in local currency units)	stolen	mean total
England & Wales	559	1,603	2,162]
Scotland	444	1,498	1,942
N. Ireland	244	1,382	1,626
Netherlands	1,605	724,427	726,032
Belgium	28,935	287,199	316,133
France	4,022	16,317	20,339
Finland	5,522	8,863	14,385
Sweden	3,693	16,130	19,823
Portugal	5,334	8,079	13,413
Denmark	4,009	22,934	26,943
Catalonia	102,071	284,923	386,995
USA	554	5,742	6,296
Canada	688	4,219	4,908
Australia	347	7,697	8,044
Poland	165,560	113,018	278,578