



Home Office

24 January 2013

Statistical News Release: Crime against businesses: Headline findings from the 2012 Commercial Victimisation Survey

The first analysis from the 2012 Commercial Victimisation Survey (CVS) is released today. This is the first of a new series of Home Office surveys measuring crime against businesses. The CVS was previously run in 1994 and 2002.

Methodology

- The CVS is a telephone survey in which respondents from a representative sample of business premises in England and Wales were asked about crimes experienced at their premises in the 12 months prior to interview.
- Estimates for the 2012 CVS are based on 4,017 interviews with respondents at premises in the manufacturing, wholesale and retail, transportation and storage, and accommodation and food industry sectors.

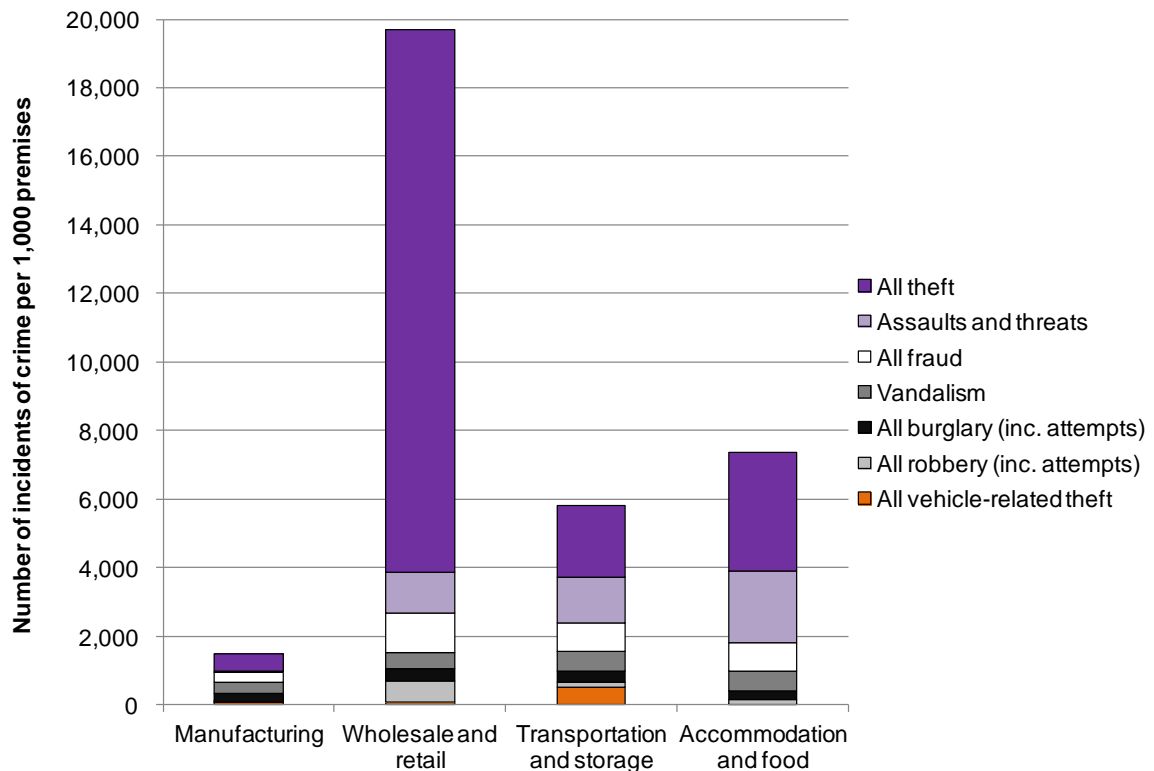
Crime against business premises

- There were 9.2 million crimes against the four sectors covered by the 2012 CVS in the year prior to interview, divided between the four sectors as follows:

	2012 CVS, England and Wales				
	Manufacturing	Wholesale and retail	Transportation and storage	Accommodation and food	All four sectors
Number of incidents (000s)	164	7,708	324	985	9,181
Number of incidents per 1,000 premises	1,500	19,701	5,824	7,361	13,305

- Premises in the wholesale and retail sector experienced the highest rate of crime of the four sectors covered in the survey (19,701 incidents per 1,000 premises), mostly driven by shoplifting offences. There were a total of 4.1 million incidents of shoplifting estimated from the survey, almost half the total number of crimes across all four sectors covered by the survey.
- Manufacturing premises experienced relatively low rates of crime across all crime types compared with other sectors.
- Transportation and storage premises had the highest rate of vehicle-related theft (506 incidents per 1,000 premises over the year).
- Accommodation and food premises experienced the highest rate of assaults and threats (2,073 incidents per 1,000 premises over the year).

Number of incidents of crime per 1,000 premises experienced in the last 12 months, by sector (2012 CVS)



Other findings

- There were 180,000 incidents of online crime against businesses across the four industry sectors covered by the survey in the 12 months prior to interview, of which the vast majority (75%) were computer viruses (135,000).
- Premises in the manufacturing sector were most likely to have experienced a crime where the respondent thought that items were taken for their scrap metal value, with 14 per cent of premises in this sector having experienced metal theft, higher than the wholesale and retail (9%), transport and storage (9%) and the accommodation and food (8%) sectors.
- When asked about the most recent incident of vehicle theft, around half (47%) of respondents thought that the crime was carried out by an organised group of criminals, the highest proportion of any crime type.
- Of all the crime types, thefts of vehicles were the most likely to be reported to the police (all incidents of this crime type that were experienced by business premises in the survey were reported) while incidents of online crime were the least likely to be reported (only 2% of incidents reported to the police). Thefts by customers, the most frequently experienced crime type, had a reporting rate of 41 per cent.

Notes to editors

1. 'Crime against businesses: Headline findings from the 2012 Commercial Victimization Survey' is available online via the UK National Statistics Publication Hub and the Home Office website

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/publications/science-research-statistics/research-statistics/crime-research/crime-business-prem-2012/>

This release is published in HTML format, with a pdf document also provided which will enable users to print out all HTML pages from one source document (all tables are solely available online).

For all press enquiries, please contact the Home Office Press Office who will liaise with Home Office Statistics Unit:

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