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GRAFFITI IN NEW SOUTH WALES

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In 1999 NSW Police recorded 6870 incidents of graffiti. While this amount represents only a small proportion of the overall amount of graffiti occurring, analysis of these statistics may give an indication of the general characteristics of graffiti. Despite some fluctuation in the number of recorded graffiti incidents between 1995 and 1999, there is no apparent upward or downward trend. In 1999 the Illawarra Statistical Division had the highest rate of recorded graffiti in the State followed by Outer South Western Sydney and Outer Western Sydney. Graffiti incidents recorded by police are most likely to occur in educational premises (40.4%) followed by residential (15.6%) and transport premises (14.8%). Graffiti offenders who become known to the police are most commonly juvenile males. However their activity seems not to be influenced by seasonal factors. Very few persons appear in the Local Court charged with property damage by spray paint offences although a large number appear for general malicious damage charges. Graffiti is not perceived as a major crime or public nuisance problem in the neighbourhood of most NSW residents. Graffiti seems to be of the highest concern in regions without other major public order concerns.

INTRODUCTION

The occurrence of graffiti is widespread in our community. It can manifest itself in many forms, from relatively innocuous scribbles, to large murals, political statements and opportunistic vandalism. This briefing paper will attempt to give some perspective on the problem. The limited information available on graffiti incidence, distribution of occurrence and offender characteristics will be presented. It is important to remember that much of these data are incomplete and should be interpreted as indicative of trends rather than conclusive.

The main data source for the information presented is the Computerised Operational Policing System (COPS). However, data from this source are of limited usefulness because most graffiti is probably not reported to the police. Another data source is court appearances. There are several graffiti-specific offences which are heard in the Local Court. The data from both these data sources will be discussed below. This paper will also present data from the annual Crime and Safety survey, showing community perceptions of vandalism and graffiti.

POLICE RECORDED CRIMINAL INCIDENTS OF GRAFFITI AND THE DATA LIMITATIONS

Only a very small proportion of graffiti incidents are reported to the police. There are several reasons for this.

Firstly, only a small proportion of *all* criminal incidents are ever reported to the police. Victim surveys show that in NSW in 1999 only 73.7 per cent of households experiencing a break and enter reported it to the police (ABS 1999). This is an offence where private property has been breached, a theft has often occurred and insurance acts as a further incentive to report the offence. Even in these circumstances, only three out of four households notify the police. Given this, it is unlikely that people would report a crime where members of the public are rarely the direct victims and the damage is more often aesthetic than material.

For household crime generally, the reasons people fail to alert the police about incidents of crime include the perception that there is nothing the police can do,

that the police will be unwilling to do anything or that the offence was too trivial (ABS 1999). These reasons would have particular pertinence to the reporting, or lack of reporting of incidents of graffiti.

The British Crime Survey provides an indication as to the level of reporting of vandalism which occurs to people's own homes (Mirrlees-Black, Budd, Partridge & Mayhew 1998). Unfortunately graffiti is not differentiated from other acts of vandalism. The survey found that in 1997 only 26 per cent of residential vandalism offences were reported to the police. This was the lowest reporting percentage of all offence categories. As people seem rarely to report criminal property damage involving their own residence it seems fair to assume that they would be ill-inclined to report damage occurring in public places. Graffiti itself might also be even less likely to be reported than other acts of vandalism.

For these reasons the NSW Police figures concerning the incidence of graffiti should be treated with considerable caution. It may be that some aspects of the data are more reliable than others. However, these data certainly in no way reflect the actual incidence of graffiti in the community. Certain incidents of graffiti, such as serious incidents which require insurance claims to be made, are more likely to be consistently reported, whereas the reporting of less significant incidents is likely to vary according to the level of community concern and activism. Different tolerance levels for milder forms of graffiti are likely to be a factor in the level of reporting.

GRAFFITI AND POLICE RECORDED CRIME STATISTICS

Incidents of graffiti are usually included within malicious damage to property offences in the police

Table 1: Recorded incidents of graffiti by region, 1995 to 1999

<i>Statistical Division or Sub-Division of Sydney</i>	1995		1996		1997		1998		1999	
	<i>Rate per 100,000</i>		<i>Rate per 100,000</i>		<i>Rate per 100,000</i>		<i>Rate per 100,000</i>		<i>Rate per 100,000</i>	
	<i>No.</i>	<i>100,000</i>	<i>No.</i>	<i>100,000</i>	<i>No.</i>	<i>100,000</i>	<i>No.</i>	<i>100,000</i>	<i>No.</i>	<i>100,000</i>
Inner Sydney	759	303.9	532	197.1	303	110.0	378	134.3	384	134.0
Eastern Suburbs	285	124.9	318	131.4	221	90.7	253	104.0	252	102.3
St George-Sutherland	422	104.1	461	112.1	632	151.6	463	110.1	527	123.9
Canterbury-Bankstown	277	93.0	159	52.5	190	62.1	314	102.0	475	154.0
Fairfield-Liverpool	136	45.8	96	30.6	92	28.7	135	41.2	233	69.8
Outer South Western Sydney	307	144.7	115	53.3	137	62.6	297	133.5	398	175.8
Inner Western Sydney	171	112.6	122	78.7	128	81.8	182	115.1	147	91.5
Central Western Sydney	360	133.3	221	78.9	150	53.0	232	80.7	232	79.8
Outer Western Sydney	328	110.1	311	103.0	227	74.4	430	139.7	544	174.5
Blacktown-Baulkham Hills	365	101.3	225	61.6	264	71.1	430	113.7	340	87.5
Lower Northern Sydney	327	120.5	169	60.2	362	127.9	467	163.5	315	108.5
Hornsby Ku-ring-gai	254	102.5	165	66.3	146	57.9	358	140.9	257	100.0
Northern Beaches	262	120.5	152	68.0	147	65.3	257	113.6	158	69.2
Gosford-Wyong	133	50.6	93	34.4	72	26.1	106	37.7	259	90.1
Hunter	1,007	180.2	671	120.9	385	68.5	610	107.7	675	117.8
Illawarra	256	69.3	221	59.3	248	65.8	293	77.1	729	189.1
Richmond-Tweed	82	41.0	74	36.9	85	41.7	117	56.7	179	85.5
Mid North Coast	146	55.8	168	64.0	138	52.0	170	63.3	154	56.8
Northern	103	54.9	63	35.3	130	73.4	97	55.2	110	62.9
North Western	64	53.6	52	44.3	82	69.9	106	90.6	90	76.5
Central West	109	62.4	95	55.1	55	31.9	56	32.5	94	54.2
South Eastern	67	37.1	153	85.5	98	54.5	114	63.2	122	67.2
Murrumbidgee	111	73.4	137	91.9	99	66.4	75	50.4	99	66.5
Murray	55	49.4	43	38.8	62	56.0	65	58.4	83	75.0
Far West	25	90.9	21	82.9	12	48.2	14	57.0	14	57.7
Total	6,411	104.9	4,837	78.0	4,465	71.2	6,019	95.0	6,870	107.1

system. Malicious damage is one of the most numerous offences recorded in COPS. In 1999 there were over 90,000 malicious damage incidents recorded. Incidents of graffiti accounted for less than 7,000 of these (7.5%). The total number of malicious damage to property incidents remained stable over the 24-month period from January 1998 to December 1999.

Table 1 shows the number of graffiti incidents recorded by the NSW Police over the past five years. These data should be interpreted with regard to the constraints outlined above. The number of recorded graffiti incidents has fluctuated widely over the relevant period with no steady trend either upward or downward. The highest number of recorded incidents over the past five years was in 1999, with the next highest in 1995. The rates of offending per head of population in these two years are very similar. Variations in rates of reporting could account for the sizeable differences between the number of incidents recorded in each year.

In 1999 the areas with the highest rates of recorded graffiti incidents were the Illawarra Statistical Division followed by Outer South Western Sydney and Outer Western Sydney Statistical Sub-Divisions within Sydney. If there are regional differences in the rate of reporting graffiti to police then the areas with the highest recorded rates of graffiti may not be those

with the highest actual rates of graffiti. The number and rate of recorded incidents of graffiti in each Local Government Area in NSW can be seen in the Appendix.

GRAFFITI INCIDENTS BY PREMISE TYPE

It is likely that graffiti occurring in certain locations is more often reported than in others. Table 2 shows the location of graffiti incidents recorded by the police.

Table 2 shows that educational premises have the highest proportion of recorded graffiti incidents (40.4% in 1999). This figure is likely to be influenced by schools being required to report significant graffiti incidents to the police for insurance purposes. Residential premises accounted for 15.6 per cent of graffiti incidents recorded and transport terminals 14.8 per cent.

The number and rate of recorded incidents of graffiti occurring in educational premises in each Local Government Area in NSW can be seen in the Appendix. Given that schools generally have a high rate of graffiti reporting, these data probably give a better indication as to the relative extent of the graffiti problem in each Local Government Area than the number of recorded incidents alone. Bankstown, Campbelltown, Casino and the Blue Mountains are ranked in the top ten for both all recorded graffiti incidents and graffiti in educational premises.

Table 2: Recorded incidents of graffiti by premise type, 1998, 1999

<i>Premise type</i>	<i>1998</i>		<i>1999</i>	
	<i>No.</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>No.</i>	<i>%</i>
Transport terminals	710	11.8	1,016	14.8
Business/commercial	848	14.1	688	10.0
Outdoor/public place	675	11.2	661	9.6
Recreation	119	2.0	158	2.3
Utilities	32	0.5	38	0.6
Industrial	72	1.2	46	0.7
Residential	1,318	21.9	1,070	15.6
Carpark	96	1.6	117	1.7
Education	1,894	31.5	2,776	40.4
Health	69	1.1	63	0.9
Law enforcement	29	0.5	28	0.4
Licensed premises	34	0.6	42	0.6
Religious	39	0.6	48	0.7
Rural industry	3	0.0	5	0.1
Marine transport	3	0.0	3	0.0
Vehicle	67	1.1	88	1.3
Unknown	11	0.2	23	0.3
	6,019	100.0	6,870	100.0

Table 3: Age and gender of suspected offenders in graffiti incidents, 1999

Age	Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
under 18	790	59.0	213	15.9	1,009*	75.4
18	64	4.8	4	0.3	68	5.1
19	48	3.6	15	1.1	63	4.7
20 - 24	137	10.2	6	0.4	143	10.7
25 - 29	18	1.3	3	0.2	21	1.6
30 - 34	11	0.8	1	0.1	12	0.9
35 - 39	10	0.7	1	0.1	11	0.8
40 - 44	4	0.3	1	0.1	5	0.4
45+	7	0.5	0	0.0	7	0.5
Total	1,089	81.3	244	18.2	1,339	100.0

* includes six persons under the age of 18 whose gender was not known

AGE AND GENDER OF GRAFFITI OFFENDERS

Only a small proportion of graffiti offenders become known to the police. The clear-up rate for malicious damage offences reported to the police in 1997 was 14.4 per cent six months after the incident (Chilvers 1999a). This figure is likely to be higher than the actual clear-up rate as incidents where the offender is known or can be identified are more likely to be reported. In 1999, 1,339 suspected offenders in graffiti incidents became known to the NSW Police. Table 3 shows the age and gender distribution of these persons.

Persons under the age of 18 account for three-quarters of graffiti offenders known to police. Males under the age of 18 account for almost 60 per cent. As with other offences, it is possible that offenders who

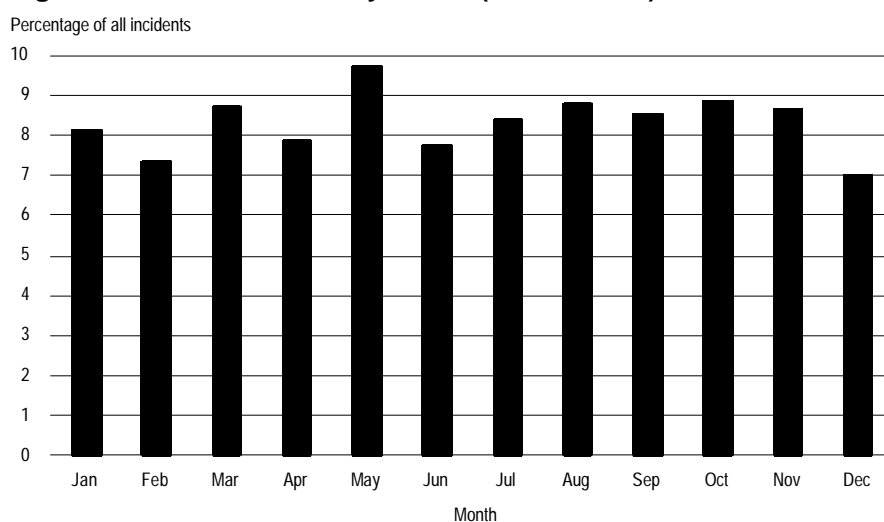
become known to the police are not representative of all offenders. Persons who are inexperienced or attract attention because of their youth may be likely to be apprehended by the police.

GRAFFITI INCIDENTS BY MONTH

Given that the majority of persons who come into contact with the police for graffiti incidents are young males, one might expect graffiti activity to be influenced by the timing of school holidays. The available data do not confirm this expectation.

Figure 1 shows the proportion of recorded incidents of graffiti occurring in each month. Figures for the past five years, 1995 to 1999, have been tallied to produce the graph. The greatest proportion of recorded incidents occurred in May and October (9.7%

Figure 1: Graffiti incidents by month (1995 to 1999)



and 8.9% respectively), while December and February had the lowest proportion of incidents (7.1% and 7.3% respectively). Generally the recorded incidence of graffiti did not fluctuate greatly from month to month.

LOCAL COURT APPEARANCES FOR GRAFFITI

In NSW it is an offence under the Crimes Act to maliciously destroy or damage property. This offence is frequently heard in the NSW Local Court with 5,207 charges finalised in 1998. The Summary Offences Act, however, has provision for specific graffiti offences. Charges can be laid for wilfully damaging or defacing property by spray paint, or possessing spray paint with intent to deface or damage property. Very few appearances for these offences come before the NSW Local Court. In 1998 only seven charges of wilful damage with spray paint were heard, six of which were proven. Where this was the offenders' principal offence, a fine was the most common penalty. Another seven charges were heard for spray paint possession with intent to deface or damage property, of which three were proven.

The low number of charges for spray-paint offences may be due to several factors. Firstly, these figures only reflect charges before the Local Court, which does not hear charges against juveniles. (Note that data on Children's Court appearances are not held by the Bureau.) Secondly, persons suspected of performing acts of graffiti may be more commonly charged with general malicious damage under the Crimes Act rather than with the spray-paint offences under the Summary Offences Act. The Bureau does not have the information to confirm or refute this point.

PERCEPTION OF GRAFFITI

Part of the impact of vandalism and graffiti is upon the community's feeling of wellbeing and security. For this reason it is useful to consider how great a problem people consider graffiti. Here again the available research is limited in that graffiti is not differentiated from vandalism or other types of property damage. In 1999, 47.1 per cent of persons perceived no crime or public nuisance problem in their neighbourhood (ABS 1999). Thus, nearly half NSW residents are not troubled by issues of crime in their neighbourhood. Where concerns do exist, the most commonly identified problems are housebreaking, and dangerous or noisy driving (36.3% and 28.1% of all NSW residents respectively). Twenty-five per cent of persons reported vandalism, graffiti, or damage to property to be among the problems existent in their neighbourhood.

Only 4.9 per cent of persons perceived the main problem in their neighbourhood to be vandalism, graffiti, or damage to property.

Perception of vandalism, graffiti or damage to property as the main crime or public nuisance problem varied considerably from area to area in NSW. In Sydney 5.4 per cent of persons perceived this to be the main problem while in the remainder of NSW only 4.0 per cent saw this as the main issue (this is the percentage of all NSW residents including those who did not perceive a crime problem).

The areas that had the highest proportion of persons identifying vandalism, graffiti or damage to property as the main problem were the Northern Beaches (9.2% of persons) and the Eastern Suburbs (9.0% of persons). It appears that the areas in which people consider the problem of graffiti and vandalism to be a high priority are those areas that have generally lower levels of crime. In the Northern Beaches and the Eastern Suburbs rates of crime were below the State average for each of the major offences of robbery without a weapon, motor vehicle theft and break and enter of dwelling, with the exception of motor vehicle theft in the Eastern Suburbs. By contrast, in Fairfield-Liverpool and Canterbury-Bankstown Statistical Divisions, rates of crime were higher than the NSW average for each of these offences. In Fairfield-Liverpool only 1.2 per cent of persons perceived vandalism, graffiti or property damage as the main problem and in Canterbury-Bankstown the figure was only 3.0 per cent

These figures indicate that areas with serious crime issues tend to focus on those important concerns, whereas vandalism, graffiti and property damage are perceived to be a problem usually in the absence of more critical matters (for further discussion see Chilvers 1999b).

CONCLUSION

The limited amount of graffiti which becomes known to the police suggests that many graffiti offenders are juvenile. Public buildings are often the target of graffiti, in particular educational premises. Despite the young age of graffiti offenders, their activity seems not to be influenced by seasonal factors.

Grffiti is not perceived as a major crime or public nuisance problem by most NSW residents. Graffiti seems to be of the highest concern in regions without other major public order concerns.

REFERENCES

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APPENDIX

Table A1: Police recorded incidents of graffiti by Local Government Area, All incidents and incidents on educational premises, 1999

LGA	All graffiti incidents			Graffiti incidents on educational premises only		
	Number	Rate per 100,000	Rank	Number	Rate per 100,000	Rank
Albury	51	120.09	33	20	47.09	28
Armidale	10	47.54	113	3	14.26	87
Ashfield	16	38.06	128	6	14.27	86
Auburn	40	68.76	89	18	30.94	47
Ballina	18	48.99	111	8	21.77	68
Balranald	1	n.a.	-	0	n.a.	-
Bankstown	377	223.61	5	233	138.20	2
Barraba	0	n.a.	-	0	n.a.	-
Bathurst	31	103.15	43	10	33.27	43
Baulkham Hills	116	86.78	59	71	53.11	20
Bega Valley	15	51.65	106	2	6.89	105
Bellingen	3	23.68	141	0	0.00	-
Berrigan	0	0.00	-	0	0.00	-
Bingara	0	n.a.	-	0	n.a.	-
Blacktown	224	87.91	58	133	52.19	22
Bland	2	31.65	131	0	0.00	-
Blayney	3	46.90	117	0	0.00	-
Blue Mountains	146	190.87	9	60	78.44	8
Bogan	2	61.50	97	1	30.75	48
Bombala	0	n.a.	-	0	n.a.	-
Boorowa	2	n.a.	-	0	n.a.	-
Botany Bay	28	77.70	73	14	38.85	36
Bourke	9	238.03	3	1	26.45	53
Brewarrina	6	n.a.	-	2	n.a.	-
Broken Hill	8	38.13	127	2	9.53	100
Burwood	25	82.39	66	7	23.07	61
Byron	31	108.49	39	11	38.50	37
Cabonne	9	74.18	75	0	0.00	-
Camden	15	37.33	129	8	19.91	75
Campbelltown	355	236.34	4	170	113.18	4
Canterbury	98	70.12	82	71	50.80	24
Carrathool	0	0.00	-	0	0.00	-
Casino	32	301.29	2	19	178.89	1

Table A1 continued

LGA	All graffiti incidents			Graffiti incidents on educational premises only		
	Number	Rate per 100,000	Rank	Number	Rate per 100,000	Rank
Central Darling	6	n.a.	-	4	n.a.	-
Cessnock	22	47.10	115	6	12.85	93
Cobar	12	214.78	6	0	0.00	-
Coffs Harbour	31	51.89	105	8	13.39	91
Conargo	1	n.a.	-	0	n.a.	-
Concord	39	149.99	21	21	80.76	7
Coolah	1	26.20	136	0	0.00	-
Coolamon	1	25.34	137	0	0.00	-
Cooma-Monaro	4	42.63	121	2	21.32	70
Coonabarabran	1	14.75	146	0	0.00	-
Coonamble	6	123.15	29	0	0.00	-
Cootamundra	3	40.20	125	0	0.00	-
Copmanhurst	6	141.31	22	0	0.00	-
Corowa	2	23.76	140	0	0.00	-
Cowra	2	15.89	145	1	7.95	103
Crookwell	0	0.00	-	0	0.00	-
Culcairn	5	121.48	31	0	0.00	-
Deniliquin	4	48.73	112	0	0.00	-
Drummoyne	30	89.03	57	14	41.55	34
Dubbo	22	58.69	100	6	16.01	81
Dumaresq	3	79.43	69	0	0.00	-
Dungog	1	12.69	147	0	0.00	-
Eurobodalla	21	66.58	91	2	6.34	108
Evans	4	76.92	74	2	38.46	38
Fairfield	133	69.74	84	87	45.62	30
Forbes	3	29.53	133	2	19.69	76
Gilgandra	4	84.28	64	0	0.00	-
Glen Innes	4	67.17	90	2	33.59	41
Gloucester	1	20.23	143	0	0.00	-
Gosford	164	103.68	42	50	31.61	46
Goulburn	8	38.39	126	4	19.19	78
Grafton	9	53.57	102	1	5.95	109
Great Lakes	24	78.52	70	9	29.44	50
Greater Lithgow	13	65.28	92	3	15.07	83
Greater Taree	11	24.92	138	4	9.06	101
Griffith	12	51.52	107	1	4.29	111
Gundagai	1	26.80	135	0	0.00	-
Gunnedah	6	47.44	114	1	7.91	104
Guyra	5	116.69	34	0	0.00	-
Harden	0	0.00	-	0	0.00	-
Hastings	58	94.62	51	24	39.15	35
Hawkesbury	78	126.03	28	33	53.32	19
Hay	4	108.02	40	0	0.00	-
Holbrook	1	n.a.	-	0	n.a.	-
Holroyd	53	61.23	98	20	23.11	60
Hornsby	166	111.20	37	66	44.21	32
Hume	8	110.57	38	0	0.00	-
Hunters Hill	23	168.87	14	7	51.40	23

Table A1 continued

<i>LGA</i>	<i>All graffiti incidents</i>			<i>Graffiti incidents on educational premises only</i>		
	<i>Number</i>	<i>Rate per 100,000</i>	<i>Rank</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Rate per 100,000</i>	<i>Rank</i>
Hurstville	114	161.95	18	72	102.29	5
Inverell	18	120.40	32	2	13.38	92
Junee	0	0.00	-	0	0.00	-
Kempsey	10	36.94	130	3	11.08	97
Kiama	9	47.10	116	1	5.23	110
Kogarah	47	90.28	56	24	46.10	29
Ku-ring-gai	91	84.58	61	22	20.45	73
Kyogle	12	122.31	30	7	71.35	10
Lachlan	0	0.00	-	0	0.00	-
Lake Macquarie	185	101.09	45	92	50.27	25
Lane Cove	26	81.93	67	4	12.60	94
Leeton	13	112.74	36	1	8.67	102
Leichhardt	115	185.33	10	41	66.07	11
Lismore	40	92.38	54	14	32.33	45
Liverpool	100	69.79	83	78	54.44	17
Macleay	7	42.14	123	0	0.00	-
Maitland	99	184.70	11	13	24.25	55
Manilla	0	0.00	-	0	0.00	-
Manly	35	91.35	55	9	23.49	57
Marrickville	107	133.97	24	44	55.09	15
Merriwa	2	n.a.	-	1	n.a.	-
Moree Plains	11	72.63	77	5	33.01	44
Mosman	48	170.65	13	16	56.88	14
Mudgee	11	60.65	99	4	22.06	66
Mulwaree	0	0.00	-	0	0.00	-
Murray	3	51.44	108	0	0.00	-
Murrumbidgee	3	n.a.	-	0	n.a.	-
Murrurundi	0	n.a.	-	0	n.a.	-
Muswellbrook	11	71.86	80	1	6.53	107
Nambucca	10	56.49	101	4	22.60	64
Narrabri	6	43.03	120	0	0.00	-
Narrandera	9	131.20	25	1	14.58	84
Narromine	3	45.47	118	1	15.16	82
Newcastle	289	206.39	7	70	49.99	26
North Sydney	91	155.32	20	15	25.60	54
Nundle	0	n.a.	-	0	n.a.	-
Nymboida	2	44.63	119	1	22.32	65
Oberon	3	64.53	93	1	21.51	69
Orange	4	11.11	148	1	2.78	112
Parkes	8	52.71	104	1	6.59	106
Parramatta	139	95.29	50	52	35.65	40
Parry	6	50.33	109	0	0.00	-
Penrith	320	184.55	12	213	122.84	3
Pittwater	39	69.64	85	25	44.64	31
Port Stephens	28	50.03	110	7	12.51	95
Queanbeyan	38	129.28	27	19	64.64	12
Quirindi	3	62.31	95	0	0.00	-

Table A1 continued

LGA	All graffiti incidents			Graffiti incidents on educational premises only		
	Number	Rate per 100,000	Rank	Number	Rate per 100,000	Rank
Randwick	136	107.37	41	91	71.84	9
Richmond River	17	168.30	15	10	99.00	6
Rockdale	78	85.51	60	44	48.24	27
Ryde	76	77.79	72	12	12.28	96
Rylstone	6	161.12	19	0	0.00	-
Scone	8	82.48	65	2	20.62	72
Severn	4	n.a.	-	0	n.a.	-
Shellharbour	41	72.02	79	31	54.45	16
Shoalhaven	58	70.28	81	19	23.02	62
Singleton	5	24.17	139	3	14.50	85
Snowy River	4	62.12	96	0	0.00	-
South Sydney	88	102.49	44	20	23.29	58
Strathfield	37	129.39	26	8	27.98	51
Sutherland	288	135.99	23	112	52.88	21
Sydney	46	201.99	8	5	21.96	67
Tallaganda	1	n.a.	-	0	n.a.	-
Tamworth	19	52.95	103	12	33.44	42
Temora	5	84.42	62	0	0.00	-
Tenterfield	11	166.06	16	2	30.19	49
Tumbarumba	1	27.23	134	0	0.00	-
Tumut	9	80.99	68	2	18.00	79
Tweed	29	41.35	124	10	14.26	88
Ulmarra	7	112.99	35	0	0.00	-
Unincorporated Far West	0	n.a.	-	0	n.a.	-
Uralla	1	17.37	144	0	0.00	-
Wagga Wagga	39	69.27	87	8	14.21	89
Wakool	1	20.88	142	1	20.88	71
Walcha	3	92.71	53	0	0.00	-
Walgett	6	72.28	78	0	0.00	-
Warren	1	29.90	132	0	0.00	-
Warringah	84	62.73	94	51	38.08	39
Waverley	62	95.37	49	13	20.00	74
Weddin	6	162.25	17	2	54.08	18
Wellington	6	69.05	88	2	23.02	63
Wentworth	3	42.25	122	1	14.08	90
Willoughby	51	84.30	63	14	23.14	59
Windouran	2	n.a.	-	0	n.a.	-
Wingecarribee	28	69.44	86	4	9.92	99
Wollondilly	28	77.88	71	7	19.47	77
Wollongong	593	317.78	1	119	63.77	13
Woollahra	54	98.95	46	13	23.82	56
Wyong	95	73.47	76	36	27.84	52
Yarrowlumla	9	93.79	52	4	41.68	33
Yass	9	95.62	48	1	10.62	98
Young	11	96.37	47	2	17.52	80
Total	6,870			2,776		

Note: Rates are not calculated for Local Government Areas with populations less than 3000 and Local Government Areas with zero rates are not ranked.