

# Terms and Definitions

## Crime and Justice

Crimes	Crimes refer to a group of designated offences which are generally considered more serious in nature and require investigation by the criminal investigation police officers.
Drug abuse	Drug abuse refers to the taking of substances which harms or threatens to harm the physical, mental or social well-being of an individual, in doses above or for periods beyond those normally regarded as therapeutic. Substances of abuse include heroin, opium, morphine, physeptone/methadone and psychotropic substances (such as ketamine, methamphetamine (or “ice”), cocaine, cough medicine and organic solvents), but exclude alcohol and tobacco.
Number of newly reported child abuse cases	The number of newly reported child abuse cases is based on information of child abuse cases and children found at risk reported by reporting agencies including all service units of Social Welfare Department (SWD) and non-governmental organisations (NGOs) providing casework service such as Integrated Family Service Centres, Integrated Services Centres, Family and Child Protective Services Units, Medical Social Services Units, Probation Offices, School Social Work Units, District Youth Outreaching Social Work Teams, Integrated Children and Youth Services Centres etc., to the Child Protection Registry (CPR) which is under the administration of the SWD.
Number of newly reported elder abuse cases	The number of newly reported elder abuse cases is based on the information reported by reporting agencies such as social welfare units, the police, Hospital Authority and Department of Health to the Central Information System on Elder Abuse Cases which is under the administration of the Social Welfare Department. The Central Information System on Elder Abuse Cases collects essential data on elder abuse cases handled by different organisations and departments to gauge the size of elder abuse problem in Hong Kong.

<p>Number of newly reported spouse/cohabitant battering cases and sexual violence cases</p>	<p>The number of newly reported spouse/cohabitant battering cases and sexual violence cases is based on the information reported by reporting agencies such as social welfare units, the police, Hospital Authority and Department of Health to the Central Information System on Spouse/Cohabitant Battering Cases and Sexual Violence Cases which is under the administration of the Social Welfare Department. The Central Information System on Spouse/Cohabitant Battering Cases and Sexual Violence Cases collects essential data on spouse/cohabitant battering and sexual violence cases handled by different organisations and departments to gauge the size of spouse/cohabitant battering and sexual violence problem in Hong Kong.</p>
<p>Number of persons arrested for crime</p>	<p>The number of persons arrested for crime includes all persons arrested regardless of whether they are prosecuted or not. The counting rule for persons arrested for crime is based on the number of occasions on which offenders are arrested. If a person is arrested on two or more occasions, each occasion is counted as a “separate” person. If a person is arrested on one occasion for several offences, the offence with the heaviest maximum permissible penalty is chosen for statistical purposes.</p>
<p>Number of reported drug abusers</p>	<p>The number of reported drug abusers is based on information of drug abusers reported by reporting agencies such as law enforcement departments, treatment agencies and welfare organisations to the Central Registry of Drug Abuse (CRDA) established by the Narcotics Division of the Government Secretariat. The information on drug abuse by individuals is provided on a voluntary basis and with the co-operation of the reporting agencies. CRDA figures therefore do not measure the exact size of abusing population but reflect the trends of drug abuse in Hong Kong.</p>
<p>Reported crimes</p>	<p>Reported crimes refer to the cases which are classified and dealt with by the police. Cases which are handled by other law enforcement agencies such as Immigration Department, Customs and Excise Department and Independent Commission Against Corruption are not included.</p>