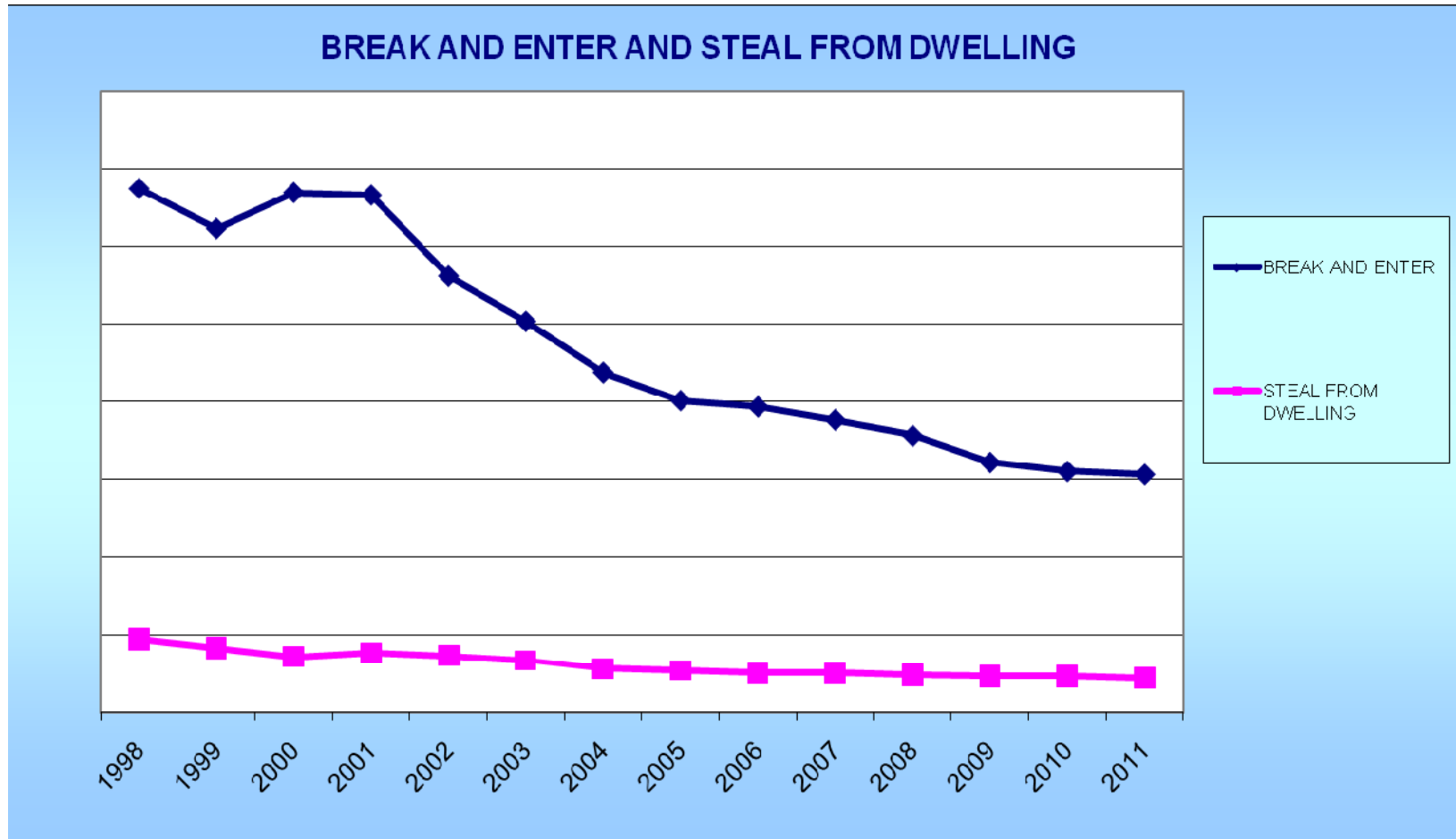


Consideration of Factors Influencing the Incidence of Break and Enter Offences

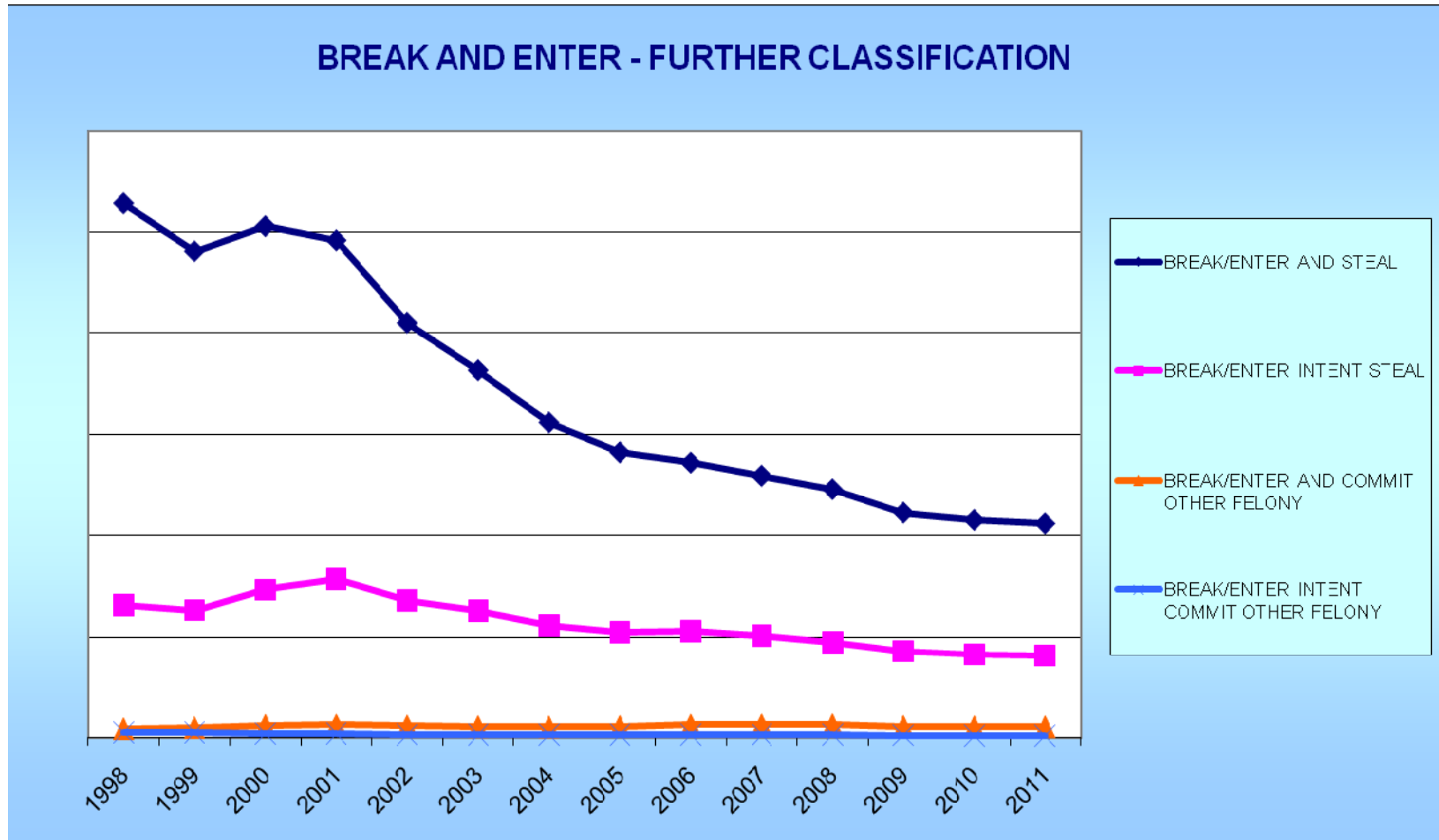


Superintendent Greig Newbery
Commander, Property Crime Squad
State Crime Command,
NSW Police Force

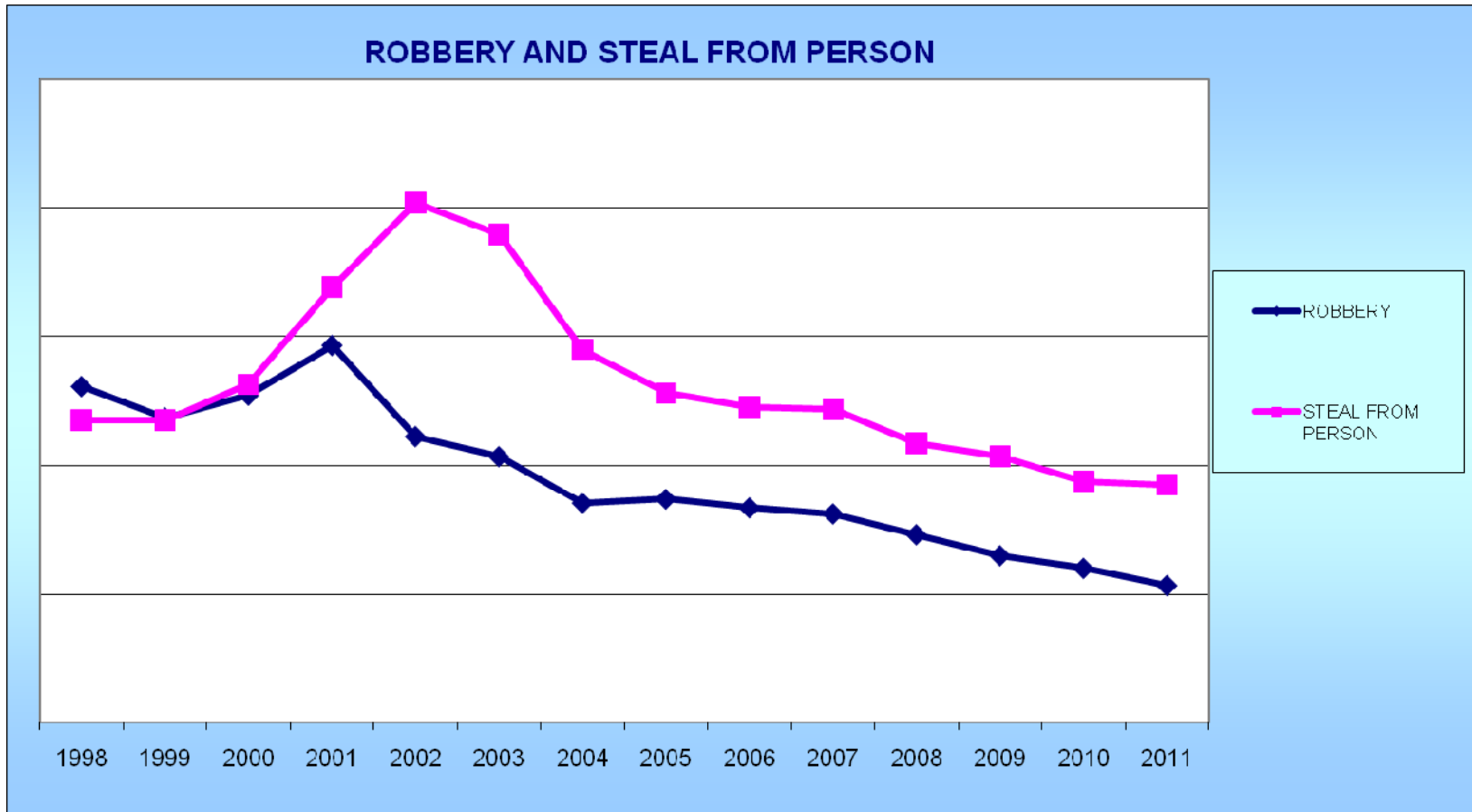
Reported Incidents of Break and Enter/Steal from Dwelling



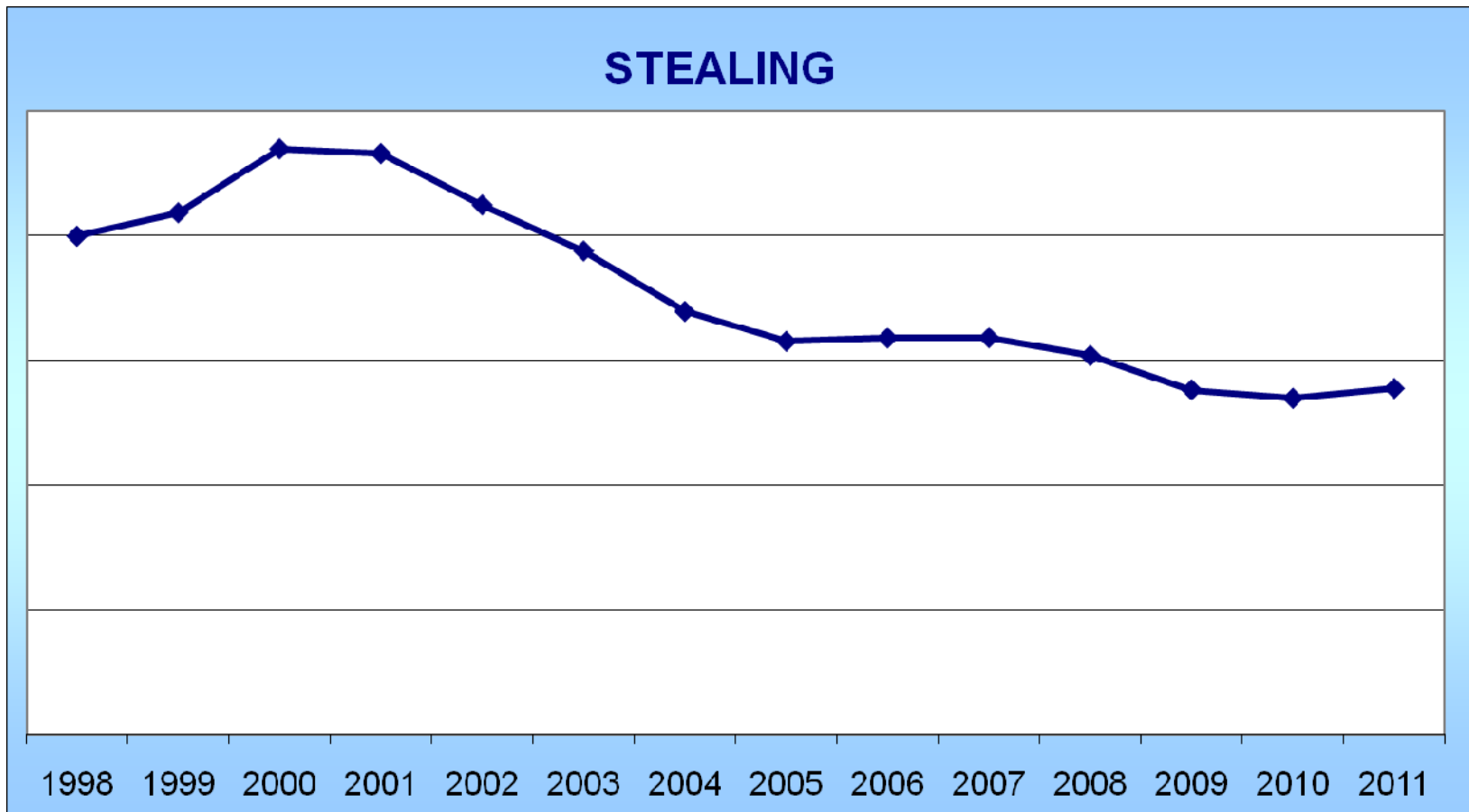
Reported Break and Enter Incidents



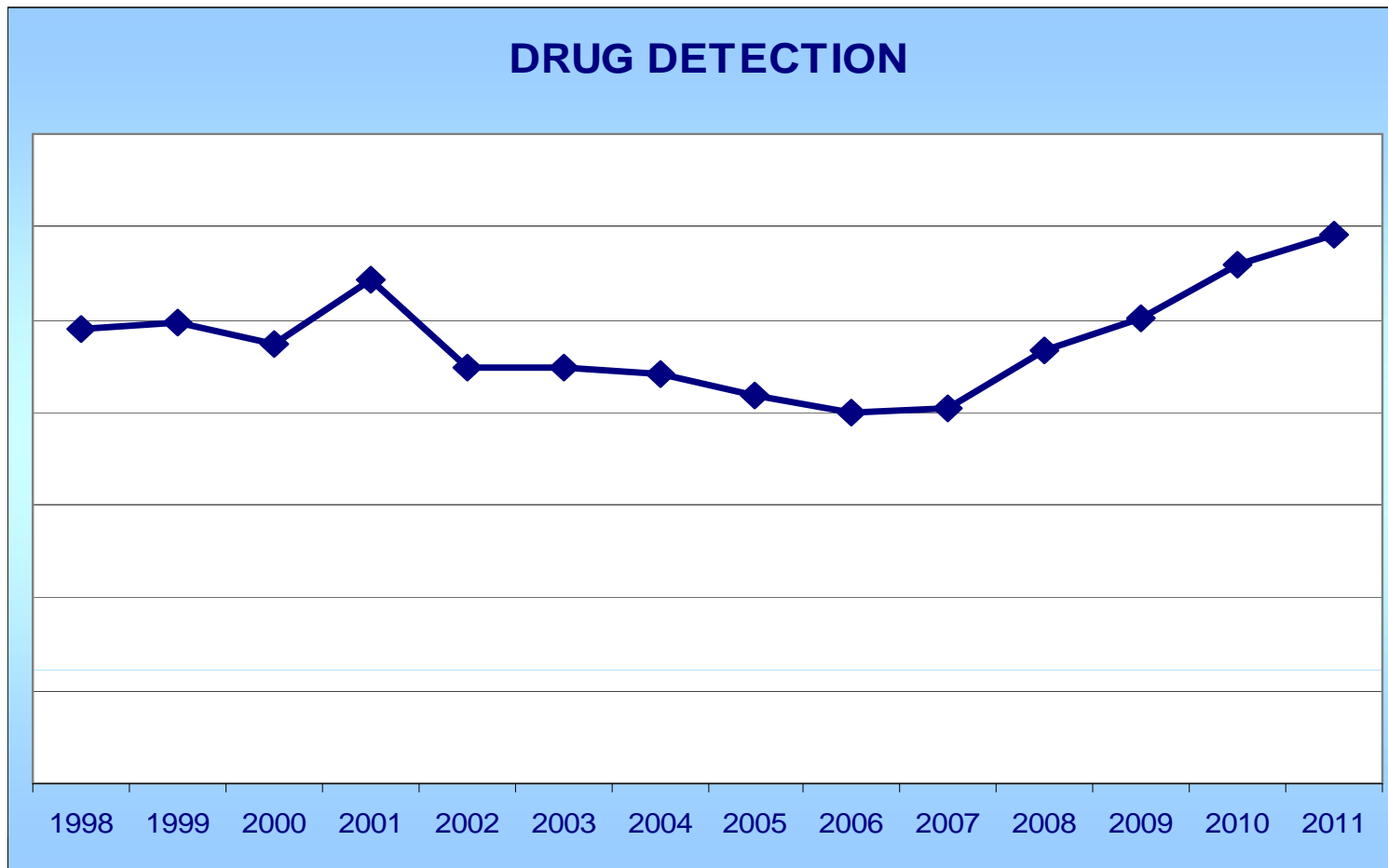
Reported Robbery/Steal from Person Incidents



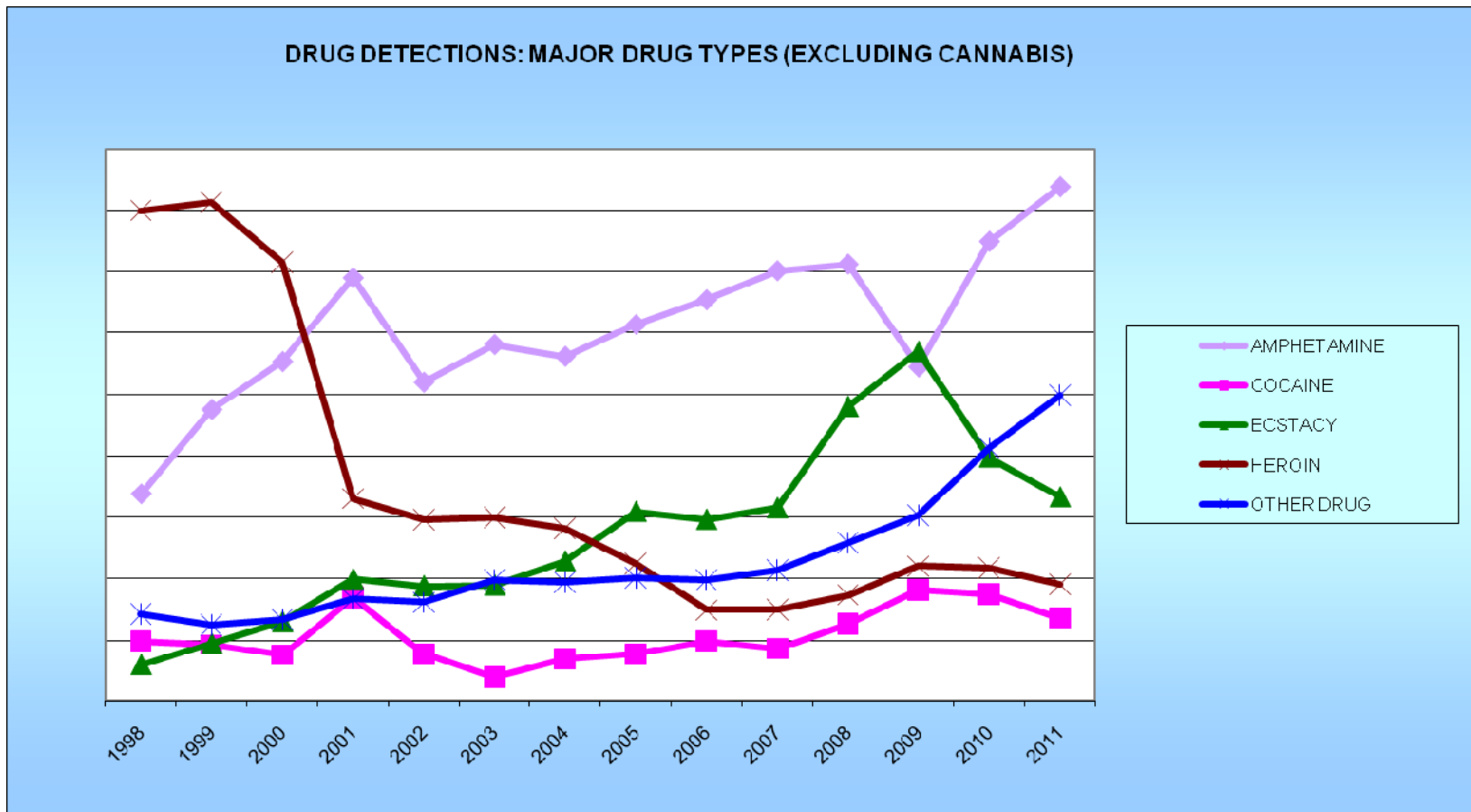
Reported Stealing Incidents



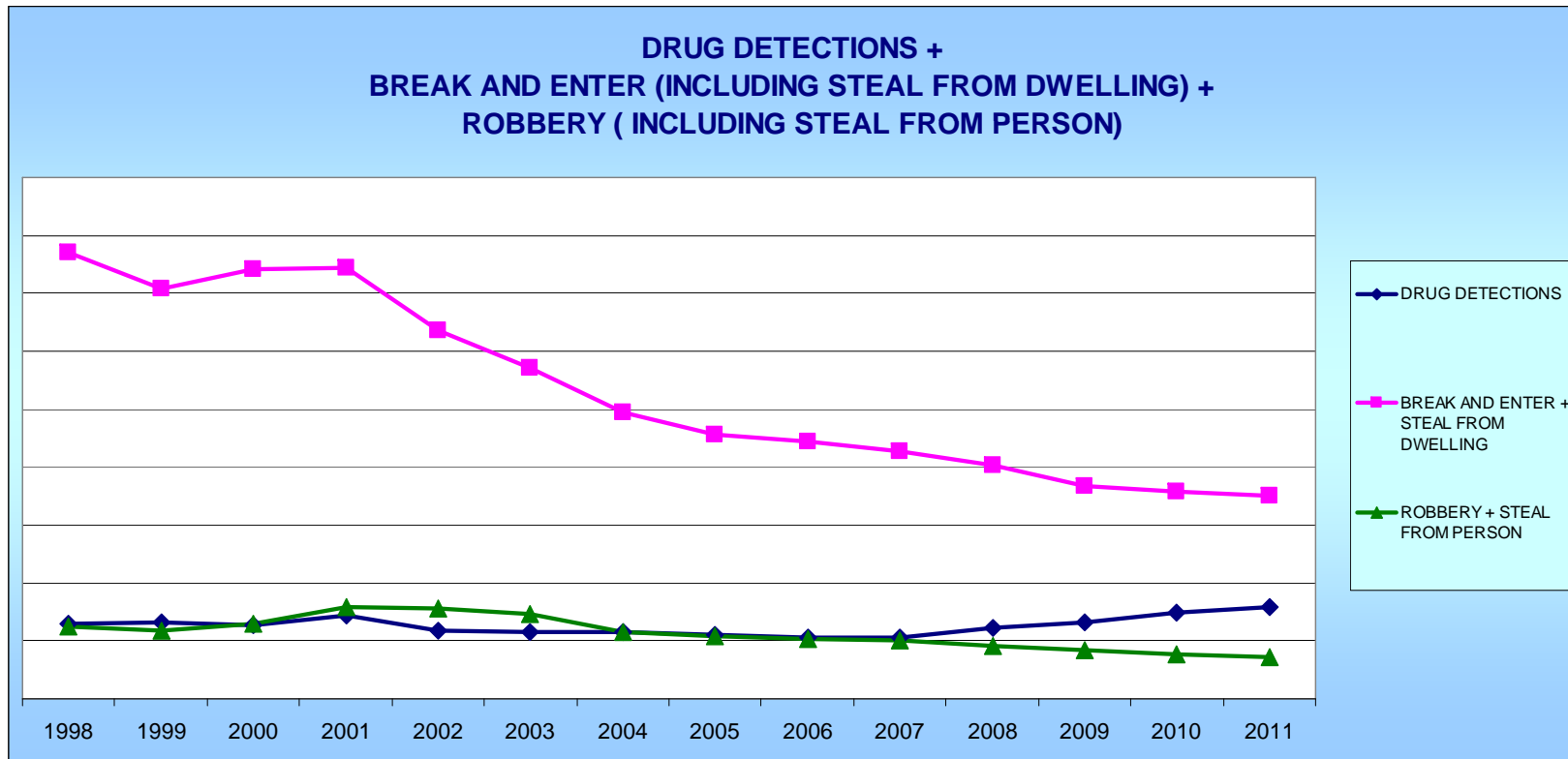
Drug Detection



Types of Drugs Detected (excluding cannabis)



Selected Crime Reports and Drug Detections



Typology of Break and Enter

- Opportunistic
- Organised



Difference between opportunistic and organised

- Scale of proceeds (size/quantity/value)
- Ability to dispose of proceeds
- Capacity to store proceeds
- Level of planning/complexity
- Level of risk



Motivation

- Intimidation/extortion
- Impact on business of another
- Commit a further offence (eg domestic violence, sexual offence, assault, malicious damage)

Break and Enter –
Commit Other Felony

- Boredom – youth related
- Profit (opportunistic or organised) or personal gain

Break Enter
and Steal



WHY?

What has caused the reduction in break and enter offences?



Drug Environment

- Reduced availability of heroin
- Other drugs are now more commonly detected by police
- Different demographic?
- Different drug environment (eg when consumed and why, level of dependence)?
- Increase in stimulant drugs (eg methylamphetamine) – why hasn't this resulted in an increase in more violent types of crime eg robbery?

An offender must be able to convert stolen property to cash or other benefits in order to profit from the offence.



Market demand and level of risk
are therefore key considerations



Economic

- Economic conditions have been stable for the last 10 years
- Youth unemployment has been relatively stable during the same period



Market

- Rapidly changing technology
- Reduction in cost of items places them within reach of most incomes
- Acceptance of online purchasing
- Access to global online stores/sellers



Regulation of Second Hand Dealers/Pawnbrokers

- Changes to the *Pawnbrokers and Second-hand Dealers Act 1996* and *Pawnbrokers and Second-hand Dealers Regulation 2008* (originally drafted in 2003, repealed and replaced in 2008)
- Requirement to produce identification
- Requirement to hold items for 14 days
- Improved record keeping
- Police powers to audit records and goods
- Provision of records electronically to the Commissioner of Police – ability to match items sold to stolen/lost property



Changes to the Environment

- Improved security of premises – alarms, secure access, CCTV
- More affordable security for premises
- Increased awareness of security requirements (personal and property)
- Application of CPTED principles
- Police promotion of security eg Neighbourhood Watch/eyewatch, community meetings



Police Practices

- Introduction of Crime Prevention Officers within Local Area Commands
- Application of Intelligence Led Policing principles – more effective allocation of resources
- Suspect Target Management Plan (STMP)
- Police proactivity (LEPRA) – increases in person searches/move on directions
- COMPASS/Operations and Crime Review
- Identified goal for all break and enter scenes to be assessed by Scene of Crime Officers to maximise the collection of forensic evidence
- Adaptation of programs to keep up with developing technology/trends (eg use of social media)



Definitive Answer?

- No absolute answer
- Multiple possibilities
- No single cause
- Likely to be a combination of:
 - market demands;
 - perceived risk vs perceived benefit;
 - changed environment and increased awareness; and
 - police initiatives/practices





QUESTIONS