

Crime in Dublin up by 8%

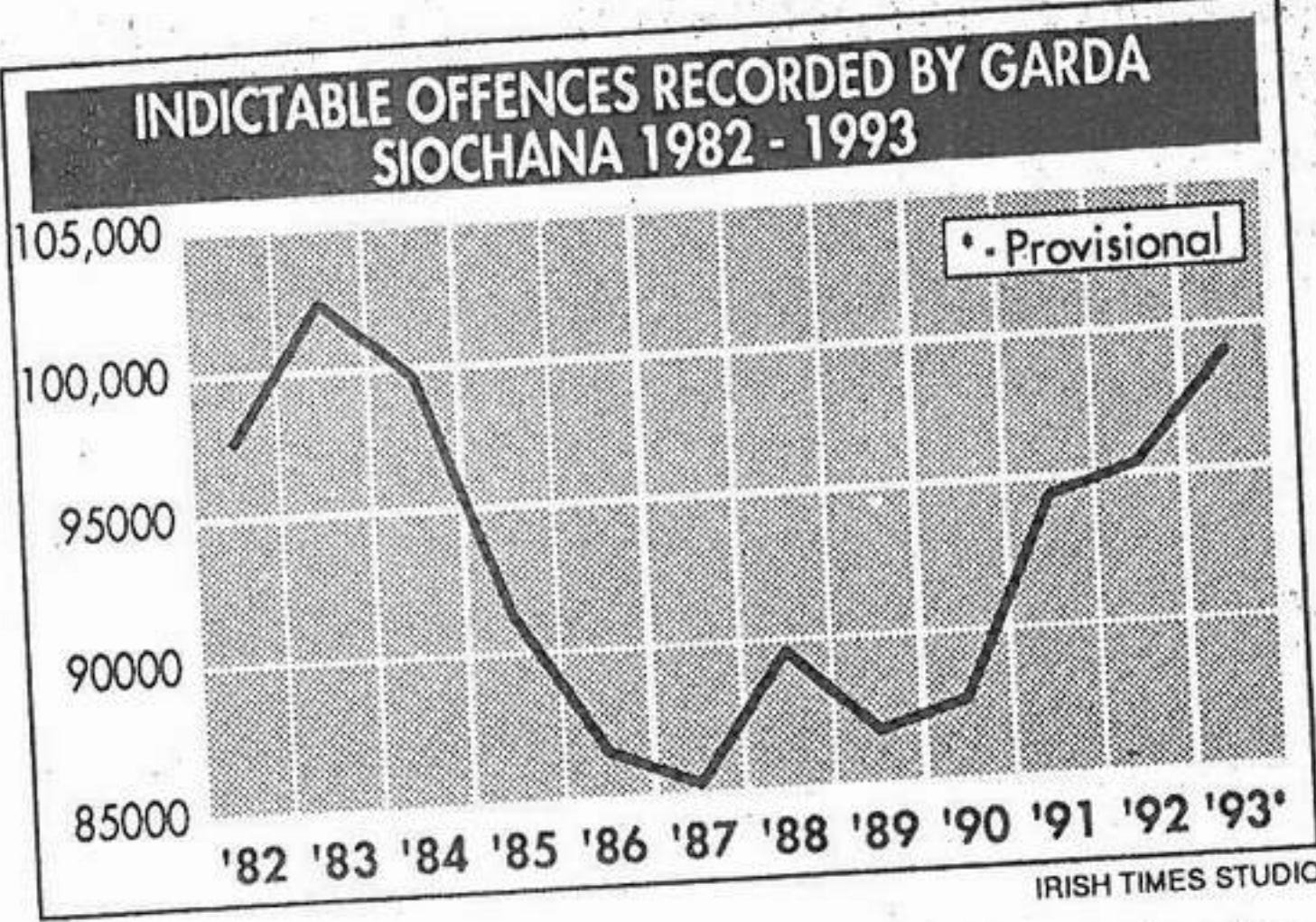
By Paul O'Neill,
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THE NUMBER of reported crimes rose last year for the fourth year in succession, to the highest level in almost a decade, according to confidential Garda statistics. The number of indictable offences reported during the year increased by 4 per cent in the State as a whole and by 8 per cent in Dublin.

A total of 99,072 indictable crimes was recorded during 1993 — 55,401 of them in the Dublin Metropolitan Area (DMA). *The Irish Times* has learned. That figure is the highest since 1984 and approaches the peak of 102,387 recorded in 1983.

According to the Garda figures, crime rose in four of the five Dublin divisions in 1993 after falling by 1.9 per cent the previous year. The number of crimes also increased in several other divisions, including Sligo/Leitrim, Waterford/Kilkenny, Wexford, Galway West and Roscommon/Galway East, but decreased in others, including Longford/Westmeath, Cork West, Kerry, Tipperary and Limerick.

The figures show that the Garda detection rate improved during 1993 — reaching 35 per cent com-



pared with 34 per cent in 1992, 33.5 per cent in 1991 and 33.1 per cent in 1990. The detection rate in Dublin in 1993 was 31 per cent.

The figures are still being analysed, but only minor alterations are expected to be made before the Garda Commissioner, Mr Patrick Culligan, publishes his report on crime in late summer. Indictable crimes include a wide range of offences from murder and manslaughter to burglary, robbery and larceny.

The highest increase in crime — 14 per cent — occurred in the DMA south division, which includes Crumlin, Clondalkin, Tallaght, Rathfarnham and Ballyfermot. In this division, a total of 12,763 offences was recorded.

There was a 13 per cent increase in the Sligo/Leitrim division, although the number of indictable offences recorded was only 925. There were 12 per cent increases in Wexford (3,002 indictable of-

fences), in Waterford/Kilkenny (2,601), and in the DMA south central division, which includes Kilmainham, Kevin Street, Donnybrook, Irishtown, Leeson Street, Harcourt Street and Temple Bar. That division had the highest recorded number of indictable offences — 13,835 — in the State.

Increases of 10 per cent were recorded in Galway West (2,695 indictable offences), Roscommon/Galway East (1,045) and the DMA north division (9,659), which includes Santry, Coolock, Howth, Malahide, Cabra and Finglas.

There was a 3 per cent rise to 11,326 in the DMA north central division, which takes in Fitzgibbon Street, the Phoenix Park, Mountjoy, Ballybough and Clontarf, while the DMA east, which stretches from Merrion to Dundrum and south to Bray and Greystones, was the only Dublin division in which crime fell — by 2 per cent to 7,818.

The figures show that crime fell by 24 per cent in Longford/Westmeath, where 1,796 indictable offences were recorded, by 16 per cent in Kerry (1,593), by 14 per cent in Cork West (1,136), 11 per cent in Tipperary (1,975) and 5 per cent in Limerick (3,623).