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Crime in England and Wales 2007/08

Findings from the British Crime Survey and police recorded crime

Edited by:

Chris Kershaw, Sian Nicholas and Alison Walker

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ISSN 1358-510X

July 2008

07/08

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ISSN 1358-510X

ISBN 978-1-84726-753-5

July 2008

Acknowledgements

This publication and the accompanying web tables have been prepared by staff in the Home Office Statistics unit of the Science and Research Group. We thank the individual chapter authors and are grateful for the additional support received from:

Kathryn Coleman, Vicky Cotter, John Flatley, Rachelle Hembury, Peter Kaiza, Clare Southcott, Kevin Smith and Zoe Uren.

Special thanks are due to Angela Wilson and Maya Bhudia who coordinated the production of the volume.

The editors also thank David Blunt, the Home Office Chief Statistician and Head of Profession for statistics, for his support and guidance during the preparation of this report.

We would like to thank staff in the Policing Data Collection Section in the Home Office and the crime registrars and statistical staff in the police forces of England and Wales. Thanks also to all the staff involved in the work on the BCS at BMRB Social Research, the interviewers working on the BCS and the members of the public who gave up their time to take part in the survey.

Finally, we would also like to thank those colleagues in the Communications Development Section (CDS) who assisted in preparing the report.

Forthcoming publications

We are continually working to improve the dissemination of crime data by improving the clarity of reporting cycles. Our main annual report is published in July each year. We also produce a regular series of National Statistics supplementary bulletins (currently three per year) drawing on the main data sources which cover: serious crime; 'other' crime; and attitudes, perceptions and risks. The supplementary bulletins report on additional analysis not included in the main annual publication with exact content agreed each year.

The next supplementary bulletin, and the first to include 2007/08 data is planned for November 2008.

Forthcoming publications are pre-announced via the UK Statistics Authority (UKSA) website: <http://www.statistics.gov.uk/>

Copies of 'Crime in England & Wales 2007/08' and other Home Office statistical bulletins are available from the Research Development Statistics Internet site: <http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/index.html>

For further information about the British Crime Survey and police recorded crime statistics, please email crimestats.rds@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk or write to: Home Office Statistics, 5th Floor, Peel Building, 2 Marsham Street, London, SW1P 4DF.

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A summary of the main findings

This summary presents latest results from the British Crime Survey (BCS) and crimes recorded by the police. Together they provide a more comprehensive picture of crime than could be obtained from either source alone.

Crime statistics provide information on the levels of crime in England and Wales and are used to help develop policy, for example by highlighting groups that are most at risk of certain crimes. They also provide trends in crime, measures for Home Office targets, and information to inform public debate about crime.

IS THERE MORE CRIME THAN LAST YEAR?

The BCS and police recorded crime differ in their coverage of crime, but both show that overall crime has fallen in the last year. All BCS crime has fallen by 10% and recorded crime by 9% compared with 2006/07; and most crime types have shown decreases.

BCS CRIME

- ↓ All BCS crime down 10% to 10.1 million crimes
- ↓ Violent crime down 12%
- Domestic burglary – stable
- ↓ Vehicle-related theft down 11%
- Personal theft – stable
- ↓ Other household theft down 12%
- ↓ Vandalism down 10%
- ↓ Risk of being a victim of crime down from 24% to 22%

POLICE RECORDED CRIME

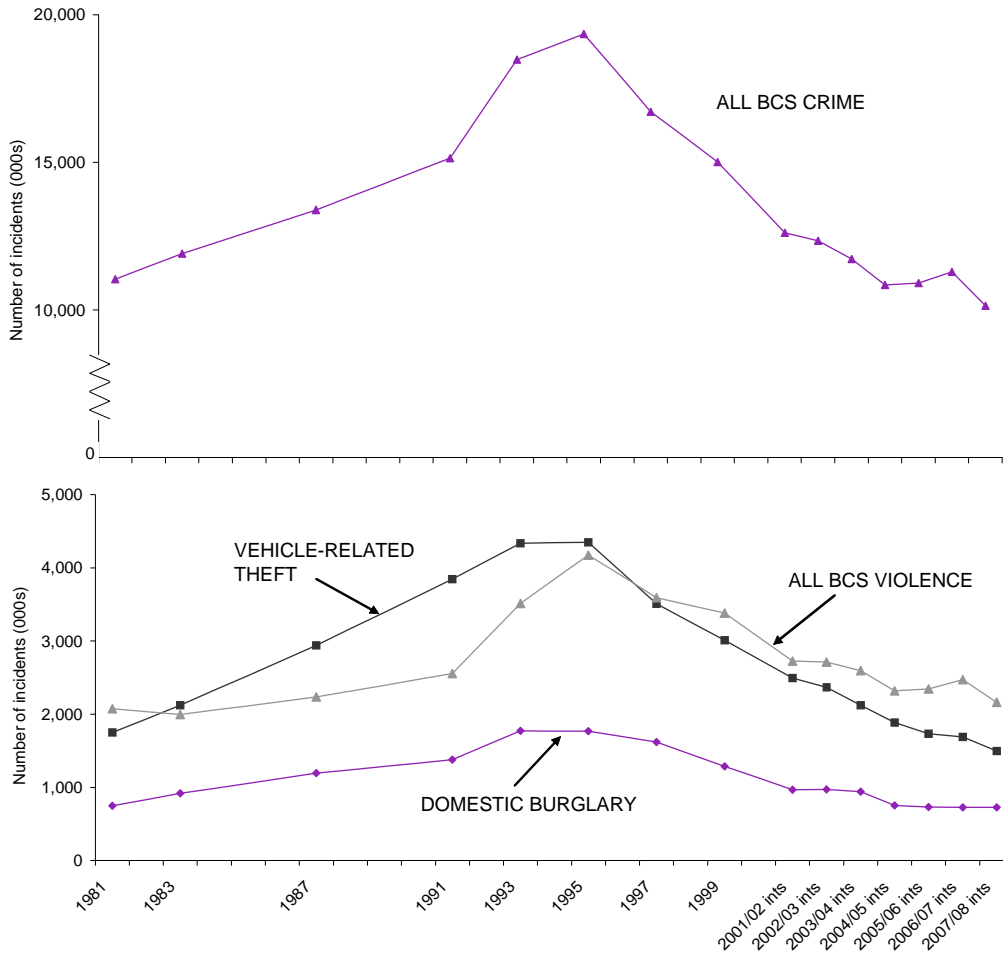
- ↓ All police recorded crime down 9% to almost 5.0 million crimes
- ↓ Violence against the person down 8%
- ↓ Most serious violence against the person down 12%
- ↓ Sexual offences down 7%
- ↓ Robbery down 16%
- ↓ Domestic burglary down 4%
- ↓ Offences against vehicles down 14%
- ↓ Criminal damage down 13%
- ↑ Drugs offences up 18%

These statistics on crime in England and Wales are prepared by staff of the Government Statistical Service under the National Statistics Code of Practice. They are produced free from political interference.

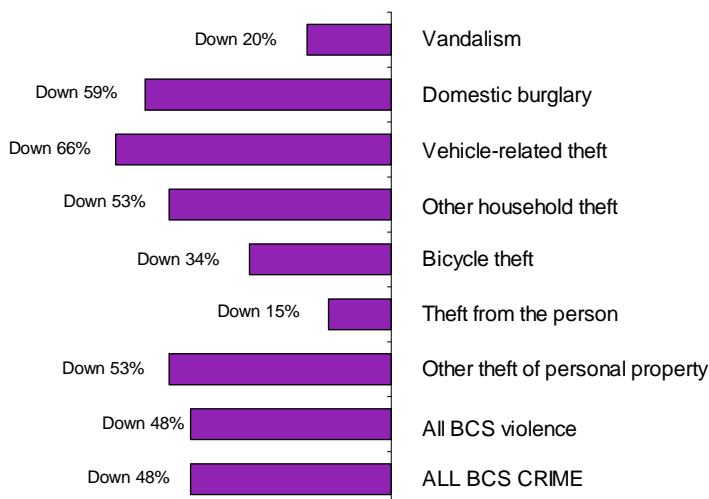
HOW HAVE LEVELS OF CRIME CHANGED OVER THE LONGER TERM?

Long-term trends show that BCS crime rose steadily from 1981 through to the early 1990s, peaking in 1995. Crime then fell, making 1995 a significant turning point. The fall was substantial until 2004/05, when BCS crime levels stabilised until the further decline this year. BCS crime is now at the lowest-ever level since the first results in 1981. Trends in BCS violence, vehicle-related theft and burglary broadly reflect the trend in all BCS crime.

Trends in crime, 1981 to 2007/08 BCS



Percentage change in BCS offences, 1995 to 2007/08



HOW IS CRIME MEASURED IN ENGLAND AND WALES?

BRITISH CRIME SURVEY (BCS)

- A large survey of a representative sample of people aged 16 and over living in private households in England and Wales
- Asks about people's experiences and perceptions of crime
- Includes questions on people's attitudes towards crime-related topics (e.g. anti-social behaviour, the police, and criminal justice system)
- Asks about people's use of illicit drugs
- Provides the most reliable measure of the extent of victimisation and of national trends over time
- Not affected by whether the public report crime or by changes to the way in which the police record crime

POLICE RECORDED CRIME

- Based on figures supplied by the police to the Home Office
- Covers crimes which are reported to and recorded by the police
- A good measure of trends in well-reported crimes and also the less common but more serious crimes
- An important indicator of police workload
- Provides data for small geographic areas

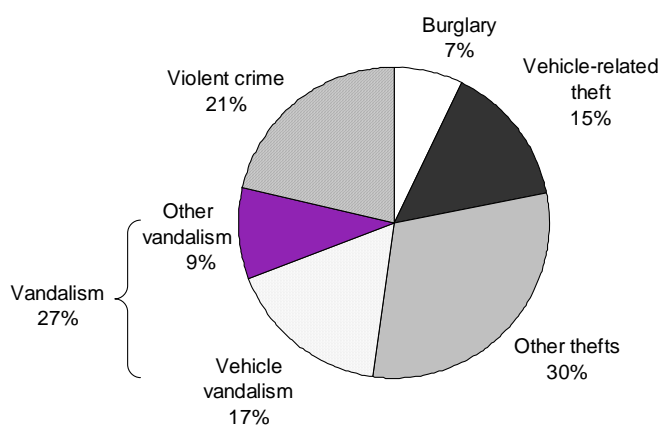
Over the last four years, the BCS and police recorded crime have tracked each other reasonably well. Trends in police recorded crime figures are however affected by changes in police activity, coverage, public reporting and recording practices. The National Crime Recording Standard implemented by the police in 2002 has significantly improved the integrity and consistency of the police recorded crime figures.

Other sources of administrative data are also used to give a more complete picture of crime. Fraud is a good example of this, as it is substantially under-reported to the police and is not included in the BCS count of crime; therefore it is useful to draw on sources from the finance industry. APACS (the UK payments association) records information on the financial losses resulting from plastic card fraud in the UK.

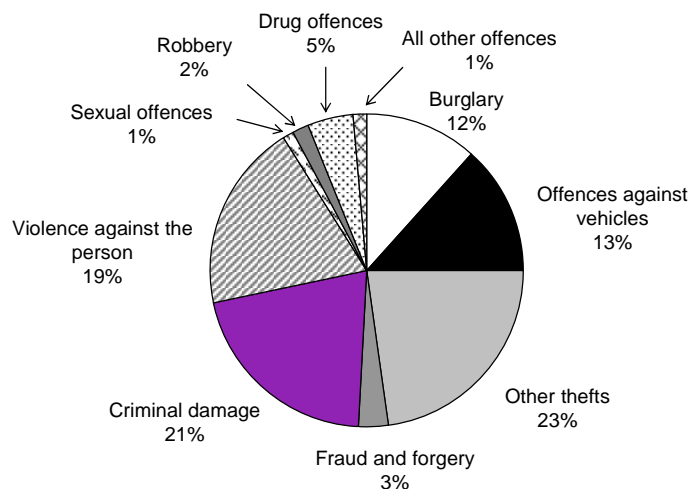
- There were 2.7 million fraudulent transactions on UK-issued cards recorded by APACS in the UK in 2007, an increase of 20% from 2006.

WHICH CRIMES ARE INCLUDED?

British Crime Survey



Police Recorded Crime



The majority of crimes are property related.

- Vandalism accounts for 27% of all BCS crime (two-thirds of which is vehicle vandalism); criminal damage accounts for one in five (21%) of crimes recorded by the police.
- Vehicle-related theft accounts for 15% of all BCS crime and offences against vehicles for 13% of recorded crime.
- Burglary accounts for 7% of all BCS crime and 12% of recorded crime.

Violent crime represents around a fifth (21%) of BCS crime. Violence against the person and sexual offences account for 19% and 1% respectively of police recorded crime.

How do crimes included in the BCS and police recorded crime differ?

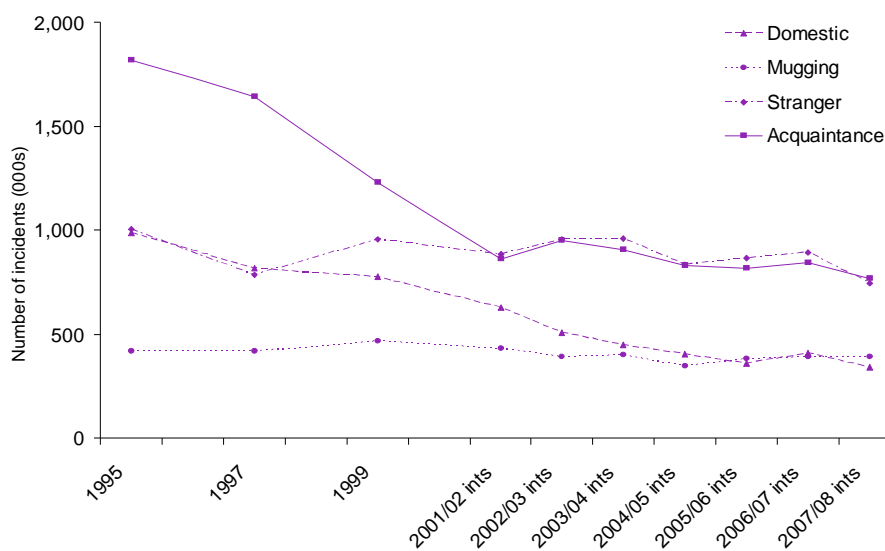
- Differences in the profile of offences between the two sources are influenced by the different coverage of the BCS and police recorded crime; for example, recorded crime includes crime experienced by under 16s and commercial premises, and the BCS does not.
- Some crimes are more likely to be reported and recorded than others, overall less than half of BCS crime is reported to the police.

FOCUS ON VIOLENT CRIME

- Half of violent crime involves no injury (51% of BCS violence and 52% of police recorded violence against the person).
- Since the last year BCS violent crime is down 12% and police recorded violence against the person is down 8%.
- Most serious violence against the person comprises offences recorded by the police where the injury inflicted or intended is life threatening; this represents 2% of all violence against the person.

The BCS shows that since 1995 there have been large falls in domestic and acquaintance violence, a smaller fall in stranger violence, while muggings have remained stable.

Trends in BCS violent crime by type of violence, 1995 to 2007/08



Weapons were used in a quarter (24%) of BCS violent crimes (this figure has been stable over the past decade); hitting implements were used in 7%, knives in 6%, glasses/bottles in 4% and firearms in 1% of incidents.

In 2007/08 there were a provisional 9,803 firearm offences recorded in England and Wales: this number rose by 2% in the last year, following a 13% fall in the previous year.

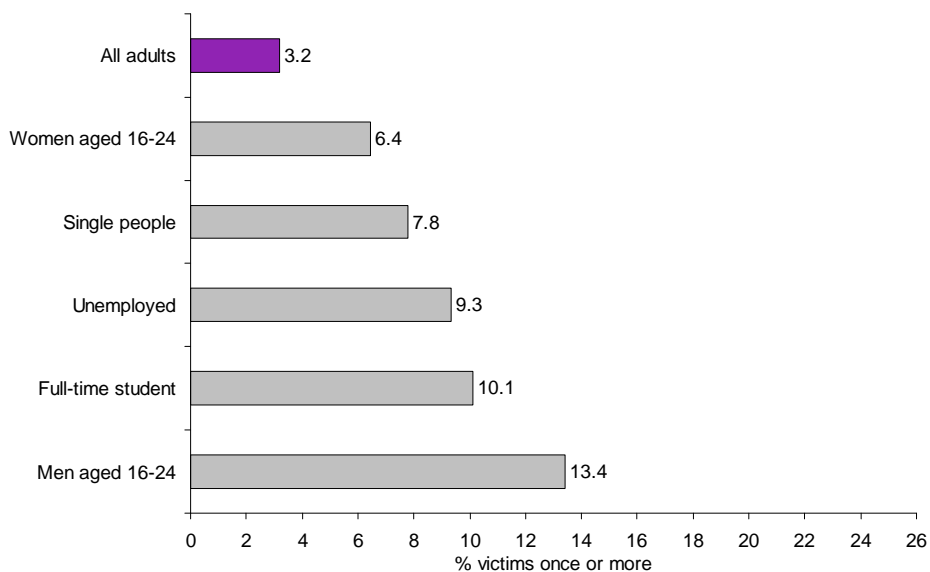
In 2007/08 the Home Office started collecting additional statistics on the use of a knife or a sharp instrument in offences of attempted murder, grievous bodily harm and robbery. For these offences, close to one in five (22,151 offences) involved knives or sharp instruments.

WHO IS AT RISK OF CRIME?

The risk of becoming a victim of crime has fallen from 24% to 22% in the last year, representing nearly a million fewer victims. Risk of victimisation varies by personal and household characteristics and by crime type.

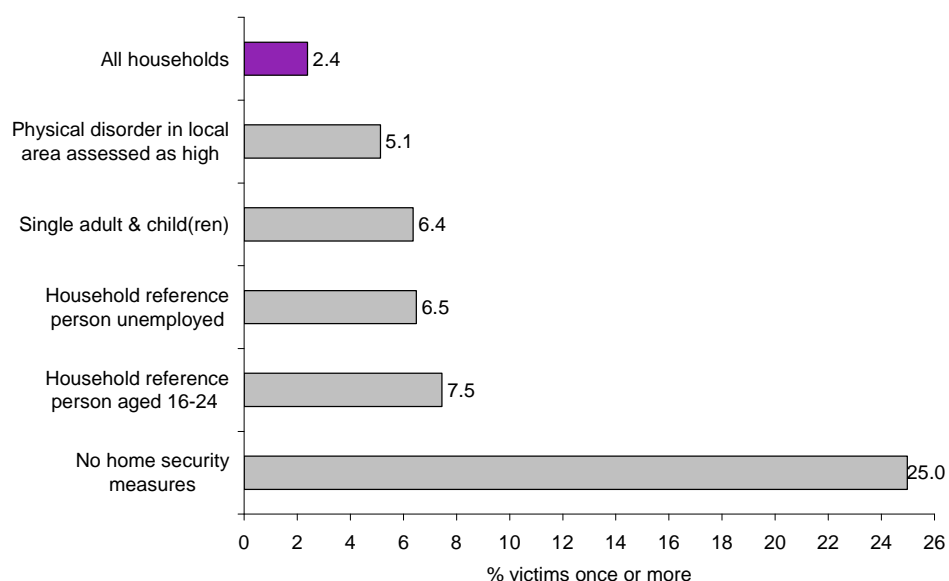
Overall, 3% of adults had experienced a violent crime in the last year. Men were almost twice as likely as women to have been victims of violence, with young men aged 16 to 24 having the highest risk (13%).

Risk of being a victim of violent crime, 2007/08 BCS



Overall, around 2% of households had experienced a burglary in the last year. Households with no security measures were around ten times more likely to have been victims than households with simple security measures such as deadlocks on doors and window locks.

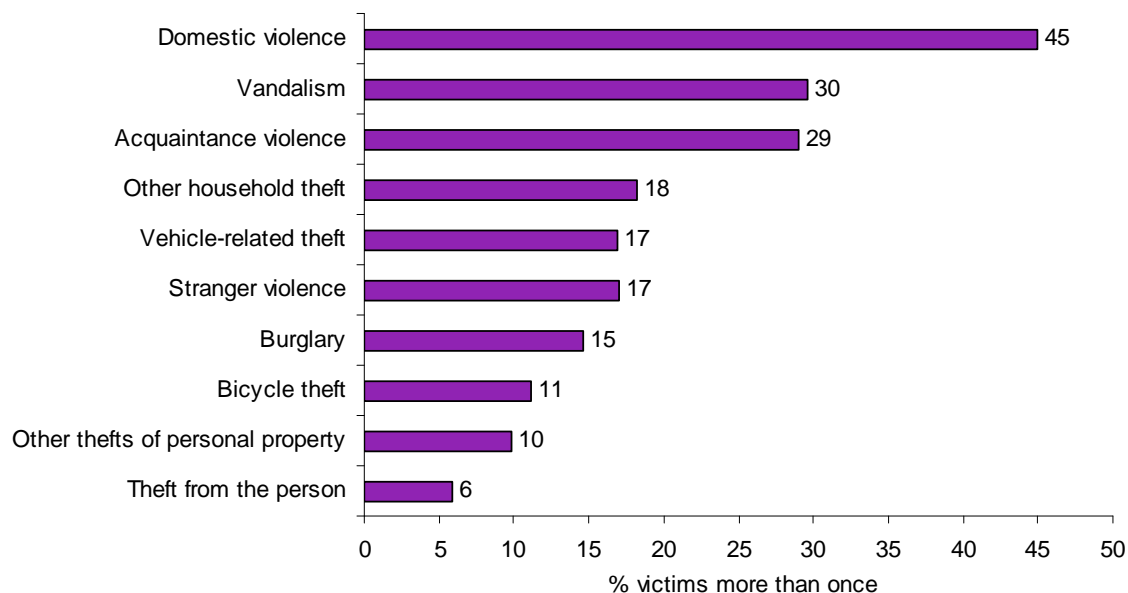
Risk of being a victim of burglary, 2007/08 BCS



Repeat victimisation

Levels of repeat victimisation (being a victim of the same crime type more than once) vary by offence type. Victims of domestic violence and vandalism are most likely to experience repeat victimisation.

Proportion of victims who were victimised more than once in the last year, 2007/08 BCS



Variation by area

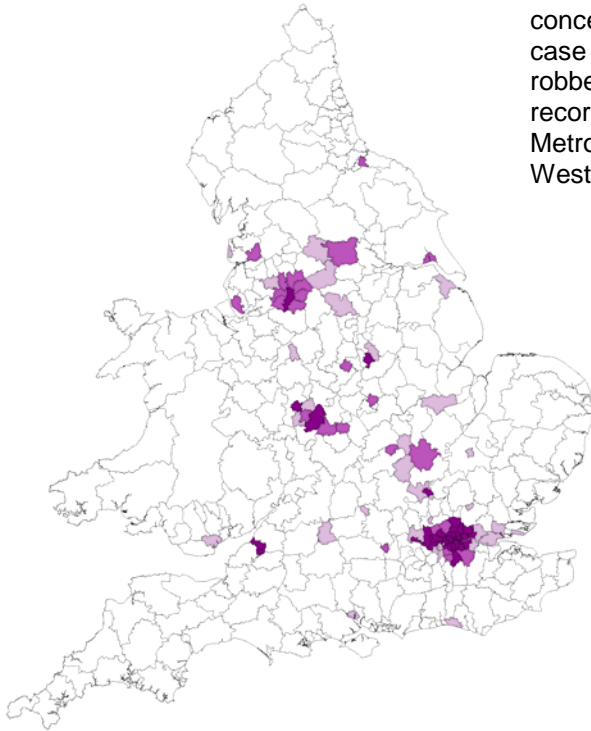
Crime is not evenly distributed and can be highly concentrated in particular areas. The national picture may not therefore reflect people's experiences in their own local area.

- Households in rural areas have a lower risk of being a victim of BCS household crime than households in urban areas (12% compared with 18%); this was also true for vandalism, vehicle-related theft and burglary.
- Risk of being a victim of these household crimes was lower for households in the least deprived areas compared with the most deprived areas in England (15% compared with 21% for BCS household crime).

Distribution of robbery and domestic burglary in England and Wales

Robbery

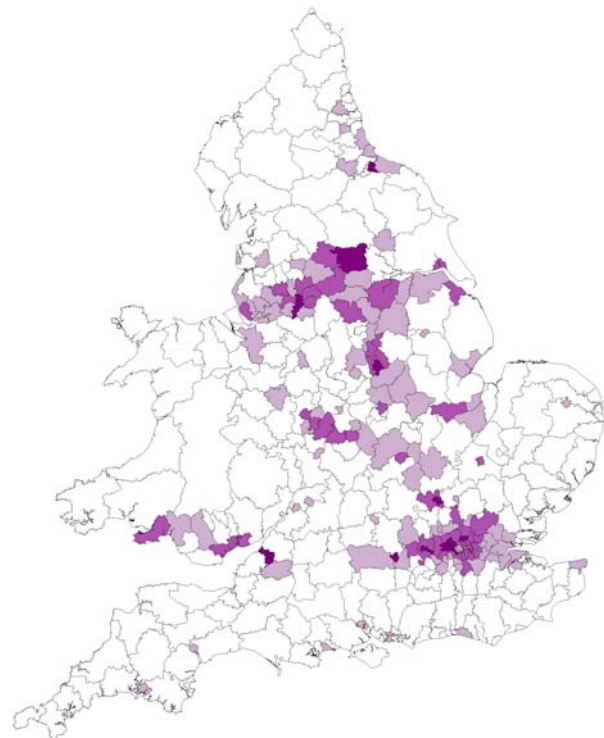
All crime tends to be geographically concentrated, but this is particularly the case for robbery. In 2007/08 62% of robberies in England and Wales were recorded by three police forces: Metropolitan, Greater Manchester and West Midlands.



- Local authorities more than twice the average rate
- Above the average group, but less than twice the average rate
- Average group*
- Below the average group

*Local authorities classified within the 'average group' include those up to 20% above or below the robbery rate or domestic burglary rate for England and Wales as a whole.

Domestic burglary



Recorded domestic burglary rates are more evenly spread across England and Wales but there are also areas with a high concentration of offences.

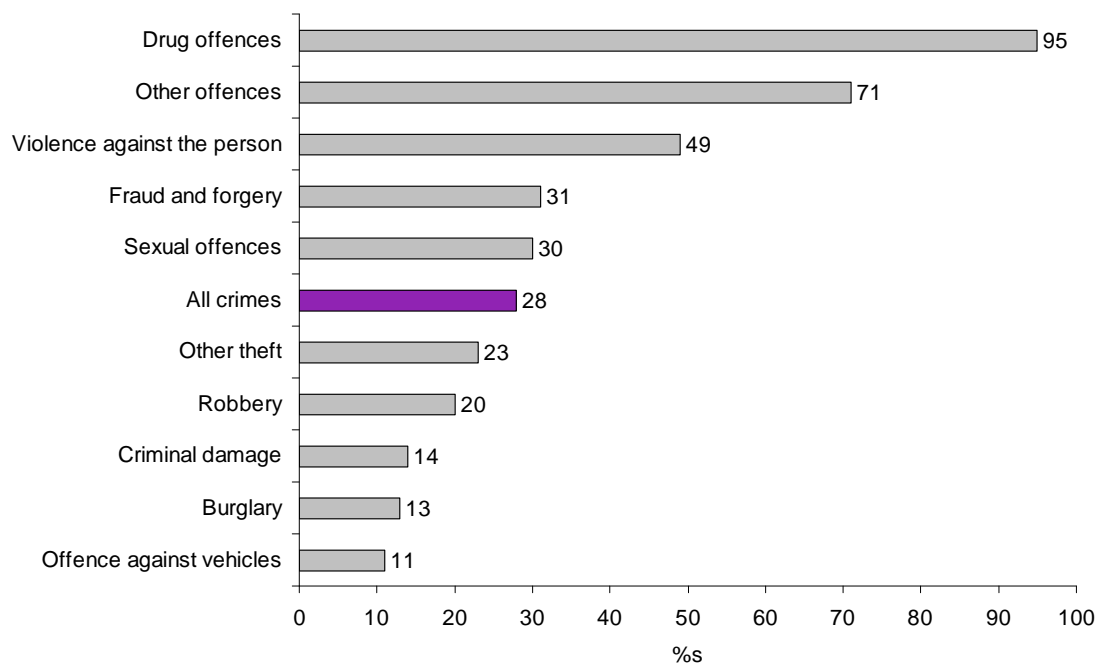
HOW MUCH CRIME DO THE POLICE DETECT?

Detected crimes are those that have been 'cleared up' by the police. These can be subdivided into sanction and a much smaller category of non-sanction detections where no further action is taken by the police. Reporting of detections now focuses on sanction detections.

- There were just under 1.4 million crimes detected using sanction detections in 2007/08.
- The number of sanction detections fell by 1% over the period but the overall number of offences fell by 9%.
- The proportion of recorded crimes cleared up by a sanction detection reached 28% in 2007/08 compared with 26% in 2006/07.

The sanction detection rate for drug offences is the highest, reflecting the fact that normally these offences come to light when the police apprehend an offender. In contrast, for the crimes with lower detection rates often there will be fewer possible lines of inquiry.

Sanction detection rates for police recorded crime, 2007/08



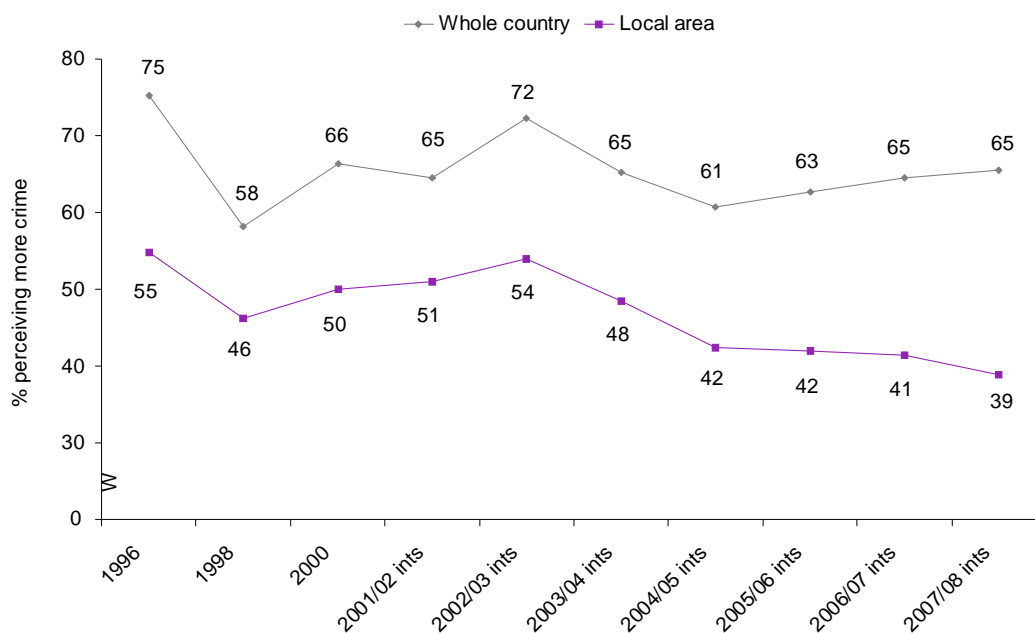
HOW CONFIDENT ARE PEOPLE IN THE POLICE AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM?

- The proportion of people who think their local police do a good or excellent job was higher in 2007/08 (53%) than in 2006/07 (51%).
- There are higher levels of confidence in the police treating people fairly (64%) and with respect (83%), but less confidence that they are effective in dealing with crime and related issues, for example, 43% of people thought their local police could be relied on to deal with minor crimes.
- There has been an increase in the proportion of people who have confidence in the criminal justice system (CJS) being effective in bringing people to justice; 44% of people said they were very or fairly confident in 2007/08 compared with 41% in 2006/07.
- Around four out of ten people think that the police and local council seek people's views about the anti-social behaviour and crime issues that matter in their local area (41%) and are dealing with them (45%).
- Thirty-seven per cent of people were confident that the CJS as a whole was effective and 56% thought that it was fair.
- The BCS asks people what they think are the main causes of crime in Britain today. Drugs and lack of discipline from parents were the two most common causes selected.

DO PEOPLE THINK CRIME IS GOING UP OR DOWN?

Despite the falls in BCS crime since 1995 and more people being confident in the police and CJS, around two in three people believe that crime nationally has increased in the last two years.

Perceptions of changing crime levels, 1996 to 2007/08 BCS



People tend to have less negative perceptions about crime in their local area, but around two in five people still think crime locally has increased.

Since 2004/05 the gap between perceptions of national and local crime levels has widened.

Perceptions of crime rates vary by people's characteristics; for example those who read national tabloids are more likely to think that crime nationally has risen 'a lot'.

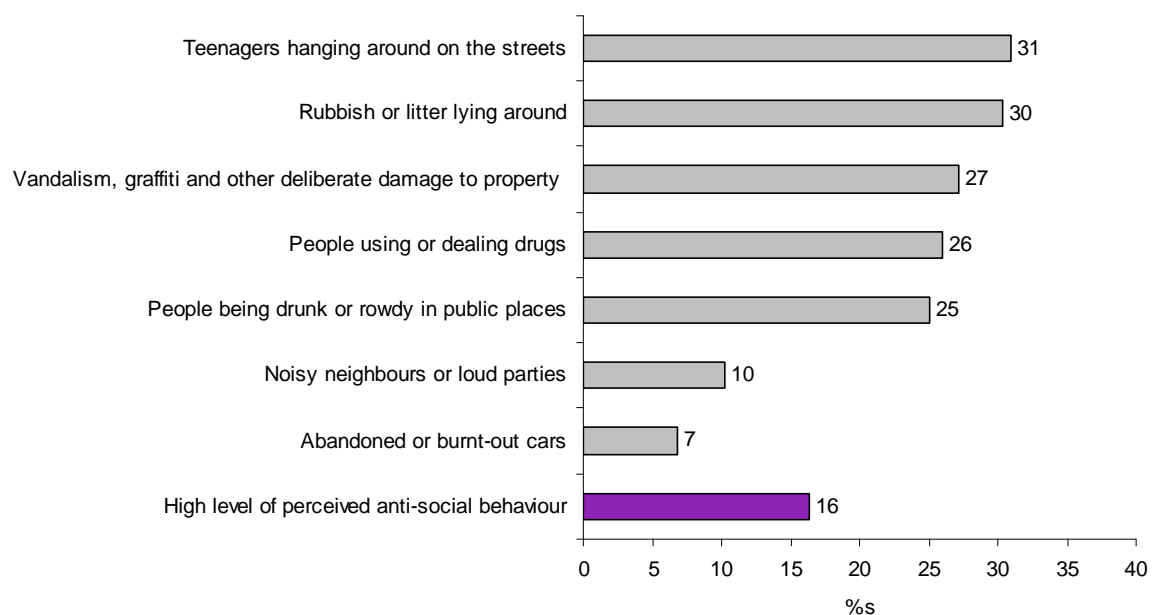
DO PEOPLE THINK ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR IS A PROBLEM?

The BCS asks people if they think that different types of anti-social behaviour are a problem in their local area. There have been small falls in the proportion of people perceiving problems with abandoned cars, teenagers hanging around, people using or dealing drugs and vandalism in their local area between 2006/07 and 2007/08.

Seven individual strands of anti-social behaviour (ASB) are combined to form a measure of high level of perceived ASB; this decreased from 18% to 16% in the last year.

Longer-term trends show that following a fall between 2002/03 and 2003/04 (from 21% to 16%) there was an increase between 2003/04 and 2006/07 in the proportion of people with a high level of perceived ASB. The recent fall in the last year brings the level back to that of 2003/04.

Proportion of people perceiving anti-social behaviour to be a problem in their area, 2007/08 BCS



HOW MUCH DRUG USE IS THERE?

The BCS is able to provide reliable trends on the use of illicit drugs since the measurement has remained the same since 1995 and the BCS is not affected by police activity or changes in recording practices.

The prevalence of illicit drug use among 16 to 59 year olds and 16 to 24 year olds is now at its lowest ever level since the first BCS results in 1995. This mainly reflects decreases in the use of cannabis, the most prevalent drug among both age groups.

- Among 16 to 59 year olds the overall use of any illicit drug fell from 10.0% to 9.3% between 2006/07 and 2007/08.
- Among 16 to 24 year olds there was a decrease in the use of any illicit drug in the last year, from 24.1% to 21.3%.
- Class A drug use among 16 to 59 year olds is at a similar level to 1995, and for 16 to 24 year olds is at its lowest ever level since 1995.
- Police recorded drug offences rose by 18% between 2006/07 and 2007/08, mainly due to an increase in possession of cannabis offences. The number of cannabis possession offences rose by 21%, largely associated with the increased police use of powers to issue cannabis warnings, an example of changes in police activity affecting trends.

TRENDS IN CRIME AND HOME OFFICE PUBLIC SERVICE AGREEMENT (PSA) TARGETS

The Home Office PSA target 1 was to “Reduce crime by 15%, and further in high crime areas, by 2007/08”.

The overall crime reduction was measured by the BCS. Based on 2007/08 interviews, BCS crime has fallen 18% since 2002/03 (baseline), thus exceeding the target.

The figures for high crime areas, based on police recorded crime, showed a reduction of 24% between 2003/04 and 2007/08 compared with 18% in the remaining areas, thus also exceeding the target.

For information on other PSAs see Chapters 2 and 5 in Crime in England and Wales 2007/08.

Crime in England and Wales 2007/08

Findings from the British Crime Survey and police recorded crime.

MAIN REPORT

1 Introduction

This report is the main annual volume in a series of publications produced by the Home Office on the latest levels and trends in crime in England and Wales. The report is based on two sources of statistics, the British Crime Survey (BCS) and police recorded crime data. The BCS and police recorded crime statistics are complementary series, and together these two sources provide a more comprehensive picture of crime than could be obtained from either series alone. New results for 2007/08 are presented along with trends over time.

1.1 COVERAGE

BCS

The BCS is a face-to-face victimisation survey in which adults living in private households are asked about their experiences of crime. It includes property crimes such as vehicle-related thefts and burglary, and personal crimes such as assaults. For the crime types it covers, the BCS can provide a better reflection of the true extent of household and personal crime because it includes crimes that are not reported to the police and crimes which are not recorded by them.

The BCS does not aim to provide a total count of crime, but to provide robust trends over time for the crime types it covers. The BCS is a better indicator of crime trends because it is unaffected by changes in levels of reporting to the police, and in police recording practices. The methodology of the BCS has remained the same since the survey began in 1981 – therefore it is the best guide to long-term trends.

The BCS is also the main Home Office source of data on perceptions of crime, anti-social behaviour and attitudes to the criminal justice system (CJS).

As a survey of members of the public living in private households, the BCS does not cover commercial victimisation, e.g. thefts from businesses and shops, and frauds. Another Home Office survey, the Commercial Victimization Survey, was undertaken to capture the extent and costs of crime to the retail and manufacturing sectors (Shury *et al.*, 2005). The BCS also excludes crimes termed as victimless (e.g. possession of drugs) and, as a victim-based survey, murders are not included.

The BCS does not currently cover crimes against children; however, the Home Office is planning to extend the BCS to include children aged under 16 (see Box 1.1). The Home Office has previously conducted a survey of offending and victimisation which includes young people aged 10 to 16 (Roe and Ashe, 2008).

Police recorded crime

Police recorded crime statistics provide a good measure of trends in well-reported crimes, are an important indicator of police workload, and can be used for local crime pattern analysis. Recorded crime statistics provide the only measure of homicide and also the only reliable measure of relatively rare crimes such as robbery. However, they do not include crimes that have not been reported to the police or incidents that the police decide not to record. It is estimated that around 42 per cent of all BCS crime is reported to the police although this varies for individual offence types. Police recording practice is governed by Home Office Counting Rules for Recorded Crime and the National Crime Recording Standard. More detailed information is available at: <http://www.homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk/rds/counrules.html>.

The National Crime Recording Standard was introduced in all police forces in April 2002 to ensure better consistency of crime recording. The Audit Commission published its latest assessment of police data quality in September 2007 (Audit Commission, 2007) which commented that, "The police have continued to make significant improvements in crime recording performance and now have better quality crime data than ever before". They judged that 38 police authorities and forces (88% of the 43 Home Office funded forces) were assessed as "good" or "excellent" for crime data quality, which demonstrates a substantial improvement from 12 in 2003/04 (28%). The remaining five forces were judged "fair" and since 2005/06 no police authority or force has "poor" crime data quality.

Police recorded crime statistics, like any administrative data, will be affected by the rules governing the recording of data, systems in place and operational decisions in respect of the allocation of resources. More proactive policing in a given area could lead to an increase in crimes recorded without any real change in underlying crime trends. The trends need to be interpreted in this light, and where appropriate this is commented on in the text.

Crime statistics provide information on the levels of crime in England and Wales and are used to help develop policy, for example by highlighting groups that are most at risk of certain crimes. They also provide trends in crime, measures for Home Office targets, and information to inform public debate about crime.

BCS methodology

The BCS is a continuous survey of adults aged 16 or over living in private households in England and Wales. The findings in this bulletin are based on 46,983 face-to-face interviews conducted by BMRB Social Research between April 2007 and March 2008. The sample is designed to be representative of private households, and of adults aged 16 and over living in private households. The overall response rate for the calendar year 2007 was 76 per cent.

BCS respondents are asked about their experiences of crime-related incidents in the 12 months prior to their interview. In addition, the respondents are asked about their attitudes towards different crime-related issues such as the police, criminal justice system, perceptions of crime and anti-social behaviour.

Police recorded crime data

Crime data are collected from police forces on a monthly basis for each crime within the notifiable offence list (see Appendix 3). Notifiable offences include all offences that could possibly be tried by jury (these include some less serious offences, such as minor theft that would not usually be dealt with this way) plus a few extra closely related offences, such as assault without injury. Information on recorded crimes that are detected is collected in the same way. These offences are recorded according to the rules specified in the latest version of the Home Office Counting Rules, available at www.countingrules.homeoffice.gov.uk.

Time periods covered

The police recorded crime figures relate to the crimes recorded by the police in England and Wales in the financial year 2007/08. The figures given in this volume are those as notified to the Home Office and which were contained on the database as at 9 June 2008.

The BCS figures are based on interviews between April 2007 and March 2008 (BCS year ending March 2008) and incidents experienced by survey respondents in the 12 months prior to their interview, with the estimates centring on March 2007. Averaging over the moving reference period of the BCS generates estimates that are most closely comparable with police recorded crime figures for the 12 months up to the end of September 2007 (about six months behind the latest recorded crime figures reported here).

Box 1.1 Key developments planned for the BCS and police recorded crime data

Extending the BCS to people aged under 16

One of the key recommendations of the crime statistics reviews carried out in 2006 was that the BCS should be extended to include populations currently not covered by the survey, for example people aged under 16 and those living in communal establishments (for more information see Smith et al., 2006, Statistics Commission, 2006).

The Home Office commissioned independent expert advice on the feasibility of extending the BCS to cover these groups (Pickering et al., 2008). This work concluded that extending the BCS to under 16s is feasible, and should be done by interviewing children in households selected to take part in the main survey. However, extending the BCS to cover those living in communal establishments would not be viable, but would require the development of a separate survey with a full feasibility study.

The Home Office is therefore planning to extend the survey to under 16s in January 2009, following developmental work to:

- design a question set suitable for under 16s while retaining comparability with the adult interview;
- test the feasibility of including the under 16s survey in the BCS.

The Home Office is also currently seeking views and comments from users on extending the survey to under 16s. The consultation note is available online until 8 August 2008:

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/pdfs08/bcs-consultation-0508.pdf>

Police recorded crime data

Further key recommendations made by the Smith Review included:

- NMIS (National Management Information System) data should be available to Home Office statisticians as soon as possible.
- The Home Office should plan to “measure crimes which are either not included in the present crime statistics or are poorly measured by them”.

The Home Office NMIS Data Hub project is designed to offer a long-term IT solution for Home Office collection, analysis and reporting of police data, to provide:

- access to more detailed and complete data than ever before to help understand and interpret police recorded data and to inform the Home Office’s crime reduction and policing agendas;
- a reduction in the bureaucratic burden on police forces by automating the required returns and reducing ad hoc data requests; and
- a long-term cost saving to the Home Office by streamlining the data collection process.

The first phase of development is due to end in the summer of 2008. A period of double running will commence in the autumn with forces providing data to the new and existing systems. During this time further reporting functionality will be developed. After the successful testing of the new system, the submission of the individual offence-level data will replace the aggregate collection of data gradually, on a force- by-force basis.

Box 1.2 UK comparisons on crime statistics

The BCS and police recorded crime data used in this publication cover crimes in England and Wales only. Crime statistics for Scotland and Northern Ireland are collected and published separately.

Police recorded crime

The latest annual recorded crime sources for Scotland and Northern Ireland can be downloaded from:

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/214670/0057270.pdf>

http://www.psni.police.uk/1_recorded_crime-2.pdf

The Scottish system for recording crime makes a distinction between 'crimes' and less serious 'offences'. In Scotland in 2006/07 there was an overall increase in crimes recorded by the police of less than half a per cent, with the Scottish police recording 419,257 crimes. The number of offences increased by one per cent to 607,406. However, it should be understood that the legal and statistical recording systems differ from those used in England and Wales and so figures are not immediately comparable.

In Northern Ireland in 2007/08 there was an overall decrease in crime recorded by the police of 10.5 per cent, with the Police Service of Northern Ireland recording 108,468 offences. Comparability with England and Wales is closer for Northern Ireland figures as they are governed by the same set of counting rules as those applied in England and Wales and the legal system does not differ to as great an extent as for Scotland.

Crime surveys

The latest Scottish Crime and Victimization Survey (SCVS) and Northern Ireland Crime Survey (NICS) results can be downloaded from:

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Statistics/Browse/Crime-Justice>

www.nio.gov.uk/index/statistics-research/publications.htm

The SCVS and NICS interview adults aged 16 and over. Both surveys have broadly similar approaches to the BCS, although the SCVS has only recently become a continuous survey (now called the Scottish Crime & Justice Survey).

The SCVS estimated that around 1.1 million crimes were committed against adults in private households in the 12 months before interview in 2005/06, an increase from 900,000 in 2003/04. The NICS estimated that 180,000 crimes were committed against adults living in private households in the 12 months before interview in 2006/07. This was a decrease from the 220,000 crimes identified in the 2005 NICS.

Additionally, a report on crime in Wales is produced; the 2007/08 report can be downloaded at: <http://wales.gov.uk/topics/statistics/headlines/crime2008/?lang=en>

1.2 STRUCTURE OF THE REPORT

Chapter 2 provides information on the overall levels and trends in crimes as estimated by the BCS and recorded by the police. This chapter also compares the two measures, including the extent to which crimes are reported to and recorded by the police. Statistics on repeat victimisation are also covered.

Chapter 3 provides more detailed information on violent and sexual crimes. The chapter examines the levels and trends of different violent and sexual crime types, including offences involving weapons. It also looks at victim-offender association, the risk of victimisation and the influence of alcohol and drugs.

Chapter 4 provides detailed information on property crime. It looks at extent and trends and the risk of victimisation for the various crime types.

Chapter 5 focuses on attitudinal measures such as public confidence in the local police and the criminal justice system (CJS), victim and witness satisfaction with the police, anti-social behaviour, worry about crime and public perceptions of changing crime levels.

Chapter 6 focuses on geographic patterns in crime at regional, police force and local authority level and variations in crime rates by type of area.

Chapter 7 provides information on detection of crimes. It includes information on various methods of detection and explains the impact of changes in recording rules particularly with respect to non-sanction detections.

Box 1.3 Guide to tables and figures

BCS Reference periods

Prior to 2001/02, BCS respondents were asked about crime-related experiences in the previous calendar year but when the BCS changed to a continuous survey, respondents were asked about crime in the 12 months prior to interview. As respondents are now interviewed on a rolling basis over the course of a year, the time period covered by the data is not directly comparable with any calendar year. Therefore tables including trends over time differentiate between the year in which the crime took place for interviews prior to 2001/02 (e.g. 1995), and the year in which the survey interviews took place for interviews since 2001/02 (e.g. 2007/08 ints). Other questions on the BCS (e.g. attitudes to policing, confidence in the criminal justice system) ask the respondent their current views or attitudes, and thus the data are referenced as the year in which the respondent was interviewed (e.g. 1996, 2007/08).

Weighting

All BCS percentages and rates presented in the tables in the substantive chapters are based on data weighted to compensate for differential non response. Tables show the unweighted base which represents the number of people/households interviewed in the specified group.

Percentages

Row or column percentages may not add to 100% due to rounding.

Most BCS tables present cell percentages where the figures refer to the percentage of people/households who have the attribute being discussed and the complementary percentage, to add to 100%, is not shown.

A percentage may be quoted in the text for a single category that is identifiable in the tables only by summing two or more component percentages. In order to avoid rounding errors, the percentage has been recalculated for the single category and therefore may differ by one percentage point from the sum of the percentages derived from the tables.

'No answers' (missing values)

All BCS analysis excludes don't know/refusals unless otherwise specified.

Numbers of BCS incidents

Estimates are rounded to the nearest 10,000.

Table abbreviations

'ints' used as an abbreviation for 'interviews' and refers to BCS interviews conducted in the specified year.

'0' indicates no response in that particular category or less than 0.5% (this does not apply when percentages are presented to one decimal point).

'n/a' indicates that the BCS question was not applicable or not asked in that particular year.

'..' for the BCS, indicates that data are not reported because the unweighted base is less than 50, unless otherwise stated. For police recorded crime, indicates that the data are not available.

******* indicates that the change is statistically significant at the five per cent level (see Glossary). Where an apparent change over time is not statistically significant the figures are described in the text as 'stable'.

2 Extent and trends

Krista Jansson, Paul Robb, Neil Higgins and Penny Babb

2.1 SUMMARY

The latest British Crime Survey (BCS) and police recorded crime figures for 2007/08 show overall crime has fallen since the previous year.

- All BCS crime has fallen by ten per cent, and police recorded crime by nine per cent compared with 2006/07. The police recorded serious crime subset¹ fell by eight per cent over the same period.
- Based on the 2007/08 BCS, violent crime, vandalism and vehicle-related thefts have all fallen since the previous year (by 12%, 10% and 11%) and domestic burglary has remained stable.
- Over the same period, there were falls in crimes recorded by the police for each of the main crime types with the exception of drug offences which rose by 18 per cent (34,725 more offences). This rise was largely associated with the increased police use of powers to issue warnings for the possession of cannabis. The number of these warnings increased by 28 per cent compared with 2006/07.
- As measured by the BCS, the risk of becoming a victim of crime has fallen from 24 to 22 per cent.

In broad terms, the BCS and recorded crime series display similar trends, with some divergence due to reporting and recording changes (particularly for violent crime), although for the last few years trends have been much more consistent.

Long-term trends show that BCS crime rose steadily in the decade from 1981, and continued to rise during the early 1990s, peaking in 1995. Since then it has fallen, making 1995 a significant turning point in levels of BCS crime.

- Since peaking in 1995, BCS crime has fallen by 48 per cent, representing over nine million fewer crimes. Both BCS overall crime and the risk of victimisation are now at their lowest ever levels since the first BCS results in 1981.
- BCS domestic burglaries and vehicle-related thefts have fallen by over a half (59% and 66% respectively), violent crime by 48 per cent and vandalism by 20 per cent since 1995.

Recorded crime statistics from 2002/03 onwards are not comparable with figures prior to that year when the National Crime Recording Standard was first introduced. Comparing 2002/03 with 2007/08:

- Police recorded offences against vehicles, domestic burglary and criminal damage have all fallen since 2002/03, by 39 per cent, 36 per cent and eight per cent, respectively.
- Total violence against the person rose by 25 per cent between 2002/03 and 2005/06 to peak at 1.06 million offences. The numbers of these offences then fell by nine per cent to 0.96 million in 2007/08.
- Although robbery increased in 2005/06 and 2006/07, it is now 23 per cent lower than in 2002/03.

¹ The police recorded serious crime subset comprises: most serious violence against the person; most serious sexual offences; robbery; burglary, theft or unauthorised taking of a motor vehicle; and aggravated vehicle taking.

The prevalence of illicit drug use among 16 to 59 year olds and 16 to 24 year olds is now at its lowest ever level since the first BCS results in 1995. This mainly reflects decreases in the use of cannabis, the most prevalent drug among both age groups.

Levels of multiple victimisation have remained stable compared with the previous year, but have declined since the 1995 BCS peak in overall crime. The relatively large decline in multiple victimisation is a major factor in the overall decline in BCS crime since 1995.

- Based on the 2007/08 BCS, one-third (34%) of the people who had been victims of crime had experienced more than one crime in the past 12 months, accounting for 61 per cent of all BCS incidents. In 1995, 45 per cent of all victims had experienced multiple victimisation, accounting for three-quarters (74%) of all BCS incidents.
- The proportion of victims experiencing repeat victimisation for each of the main crime types (burglary, violence and vehicle-related thefts) has also fallen since 1995, with the exception of vandalism.

Repeat victimisation rates vary by crime type.

- BCS interviews for 2007/08 indicated that within the main crime types, victims of vandalism (30%) were most likely to suffer repeat victimisation. Within violent crime, victims of domestic violence (45%) are most likely to experience repeat victimisation compared with victims of muggings, stranger and acquaintance violence.

The likelihood of reporting crime to the police varies considerably by type of offence.

- Based on the 2007/08 BCS, 42 per cent of incidents² had been reported to the police or the police came to know about in another way.
- Thefts of vehicles and burglaries in which something was stolen are most likely to be reported (93% and 76%) and crimes such as vandalism, assault without injury and theft from the person are least likely (35%, 34% and 32% respectively).

² BCS comparable crime- see Glossary.

2.2 EXTENT OF CRIME

The latest British Crime Survey (BCS) and police recorded crime figures for 2007/08 show overall crime has fallen since the previous year. This is the first financial year since 2004/05 that the BCS has shown a fall in overall crime.

- All BCS crime fell by ten per cent compared with 2006/07, representing at least a million fewer crimes. The BCS estimated that there were approximately 10.1 million crimes against adults living in private households in 2007/08, compared with 11.3 million in 2006/07 (Tables 2.01 and 2a).
- All BCS household crime decreased by ten per cent, and all personal crime by 11 per cent between 2006/07 and 2007/08 interviews, to an estimated 6.4 million household crimes and 3.7 million personal crimes.
- There were just under five million crimes recorded by the police in 2007/08, a fall of nine per cent compared with 2006/07 (Tables 2.04 and 2c).

Table 2a Number of crimes based on BCS interviews in 2006/07 and 2007/08

	2006/07 ints	2007/08 ints	% change	BCS
				Statistically significant change ¹
<i>Number of incidents (000s)</i>				
All household crime²	7,101	6,422	-10	**
Vandalism	2,993	2,689	-10	**
Domestic burglary	726	729	0	
Vehicle-related theft	1,689	1,497	-11	**
All household acquisitive	4,108	3,734	-9	**
All personal crime²	4,186	3,721	-11	**
Theft from the person	574	577	1	
BCS violence ³	2,471	2,164	-12	**
<i>With injury</i>	1,270	1,042	-18	**
<i>With no injury</i>	1,201	1,122	-7	
All personal acquisitive	2,035	1,870	-8	
All BCS crime	11,287	10,143	-10	

1. Statistical significance for change in all BCS crime cannot be calculated in the same way as for other BCS figures. See Glossary. Statistically significant falls in all BCS household and personal crime indicate a statistically significant fall in all BCS crime.

2. For details on 'all household acquisitive' and 'all personal acquisitive' see Glossary.

3. BCS violence includes wounding, assault with minor injury, assault with no injury and robbery. See Glossary.

- The 2007/08 BCS also shows a statistically significant decrease in the risk of becoming a victim of a BCS crime compared with the 2006/07 BCS, from 24 per cent to 22 per cent, representing just under a million fewer victims. The risk of victimisation is now at its lowest ever level since the survey began in 1981 (Table 2b).

Any discrepancies between trends in incidence rates (total number of offences) and prevalence rates (the proportion of the population victimised once or more) is due to the level of repeat victimisation within crime types. See section 2.5 for more information.

Table 2b Risk of becoming a victim of crime based on BCS interviews in 2006/07 and 2007/08

	BCS		
	2006/07 ints	2007/08 ints	Statistically significant change
<i>Percentage risk of being a victim once or more</i>			
All household crime	18.9	17.1	**
Vandalism	7.9	7.3	**
Domestic burglary	2.5	2.4	
Vehicle-related theft ¹	7.5	6.4	**
All personal crime	6.6	6.0	**
Theft from the person	1.2	1.2	
BCS violence ²	3.6	3.2	**
<i>With injury</i>	2.0	1.7	**
<i>With no injury</i>	1.8	1.7	
All BCS crime	24.4	22.1	**

1. Results for 'vehicle-related theft' are based only on households owning, or with regular use of, a vehicle. It includes thefts of vehicles, thefts from vehicles and attempts of and from vehicles.

2. BCS violence includes wounding, assault with minor injury, assault with no injury and robbery. For more information see the Glossary.

- BCS interviews in 2007/08 show statistically significant decreases in vehicle-related thefts and vandalism (and the risk of these crimes); vehicle-related thefts fell by 11 per cent and vandalism by ten per cent compared with 2006/07. Police recorded offences against vehicles fell by 14 per cent and criminal damage offences by 13 per cent in 2007/08 (Tables 2a, 2c, 2.01 and 2.04).
- Domestic burglaries as measured by the BCS remained stable. Police recorded domestic burglaries fell by four per cent between 2006/07 and 2007/08 (Tables 2a, 2c, 2.01 and 2.04).
- Violent crime has fallen by 12 per cent based on the 2007/08 BCS compared with the previous year. BCS interviews in 2007/08 also show a statistically significant decrease in the risk of becoming a victim of violent crime (from 3.6% to 3.2%, Tables 2a, 2b, 2.01 and 2.03).
- For police recorded crime, total violence against the person has fallen by eight per cent and sexual offences by seven per cent. The more limited category of most serious violence against the person fell by 12 per cent, continuing the year-on-year falls since 2003/04. Robbery decreased by 16 per cent following increases in 2005/06 and 2006/07 (Table 2.04 and Chapter 3).
- Drug offences rose by 18 per cent (34,725 more offences) between 2006/07 and 2007/08. This is mainly due to an increase in possession of cannabis offences which accounts for 69 per cent of all drug offences. The number of cannabis possession offences rose by 21 per cent in 2007/08, largely associated with the increased police use of powers to issue warnings for the possession of cannabis (Table 2.04 and 2c).

Table 2c Number of crimes recorded by the police in 2006/07 and 2007/08

Offence group	2006/07	2007/08	% change
	<i>Number of offences¹ (000s)</i>		
Violence against the person (VAP)	1,046.2	961.2	-8
<i>Most serious VAP²</i>	19.2	16.9	-12
<i>Other violence against the person – with injury³</i>	487.4	435.5	-11
<i>Other violence against the person – with no injury⁴</i>	539.6	508.8	-6
Sexual offences	57.5	53.5	-7
<i>Most serious sexual crime⁵</i>	43.7	41.5	-5
<i>Other sexual offences</i>	13.8	12.1	-12
Robbery	101.4	84.7	-16
Domestic burglary	292.3	280.7	-4
Other burglary	329.8	303.0	-8
Offences against vehicles	765.0	656.5	-14
Other theft offences	1,180.8	1,121.1	-5
Fraud and forgery ⁶	199.7	155.4	-22
Criminal damage	1,185.0	1,036.2	-13
Drug offences	194.2	229.0	18
Other offences	75.7	69.3	-8
Total recorded crime	5,427.6	4,950.7	-9

1. The figures given in the table are the latest available. Therefore they may differ slightly from figures published in previous bulletins.

2. Most serious violence against the person includes homicide and serious wounding.

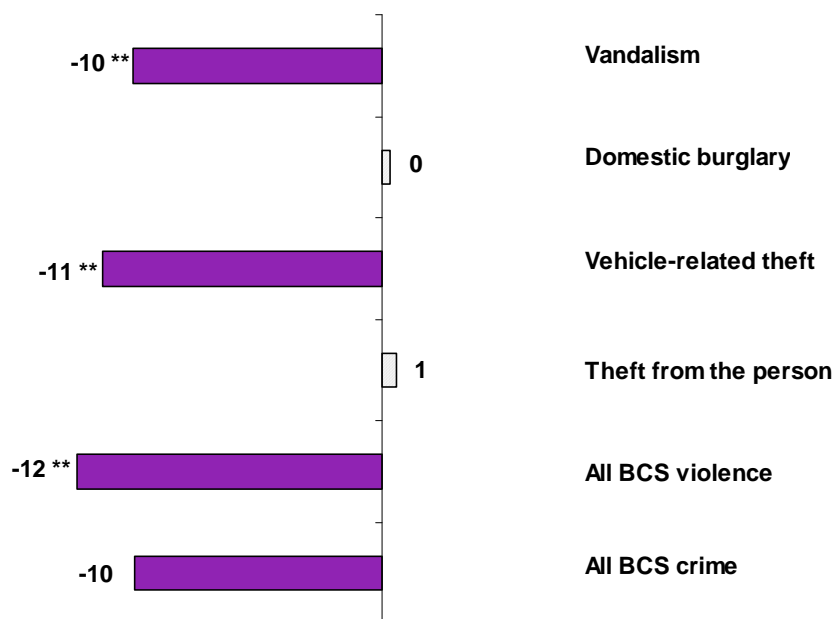
3. Other violence against the person – with injury comprises less serious wounding and causing or allowing death of a child or vulnerable person.

4. Other offences against the person – with no injury comprises threats or conspiracy to murder, harassment, endangering railway passengers, possession of weapons, other offences against children, procuring illegal abortion, and assault without injury.

5. Most serious sexual crime comprises rape, sexual assault, and sexual activity with children.

6. These offences were modified by the Fraud Act 2006 which came into force on 15 January 2007. For cheque and credit card fraud counting changed from a per fraudulent transaction to per account basis from 15 January 2007. From 1 April 2007 these offences were reported to a single point of contact within each police force by financial institutions.

Figure 2.1 Percentage change in the main crime types; BCS interviews in 2007/08 compared with 2006/07



1. Statistically significant change at the 5% level is indicated by a double asterisk. See Glossary for more information.
 2. Statistical significance for change in all BCS crime cannot be calculated in the same way as for other BCS figures. Statistically significant falls in all BCS household and personal crime indicate a statistically significant fall in all BCS crime. See Glossary for more information.

Figure 2.2 Percentage change in police recorded crime, 2007/08 compared with 2006/07

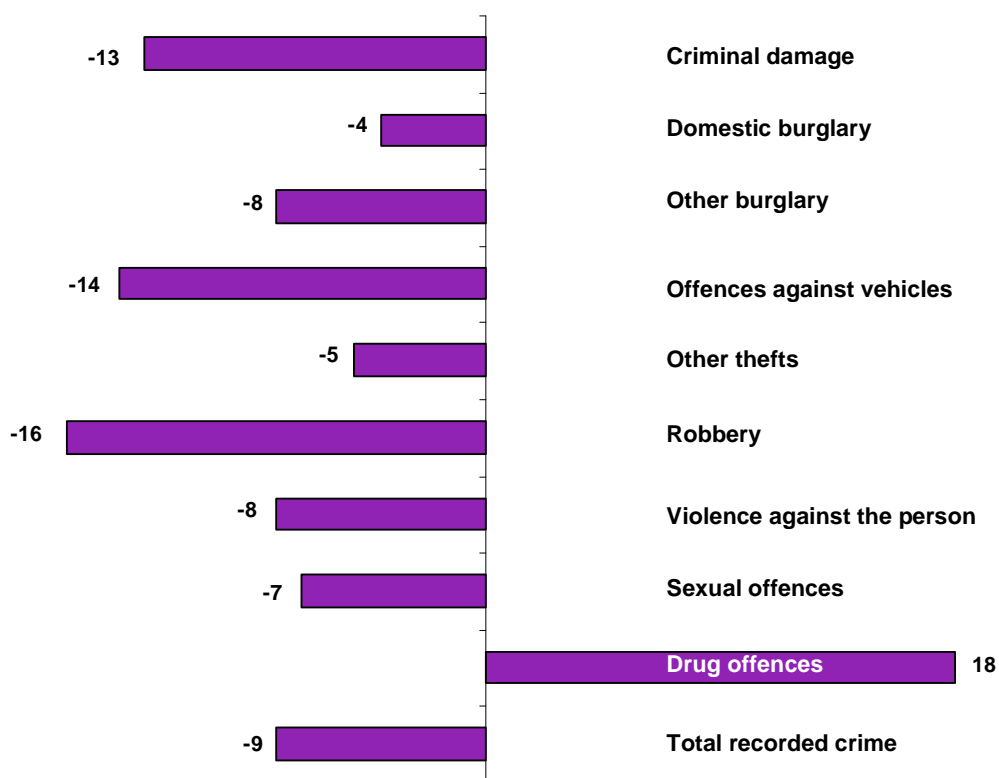
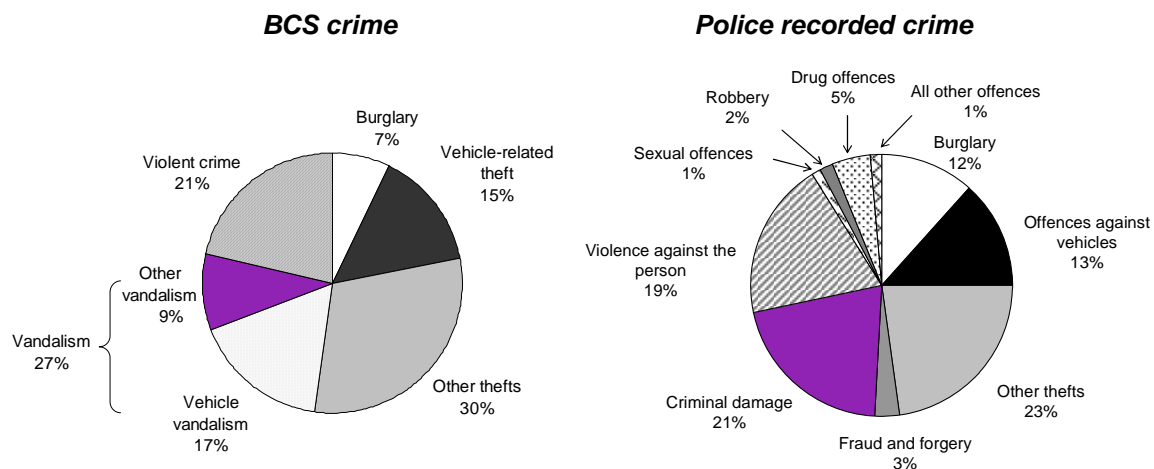


Figure 2.3 BCS crime and police recorded crime by type of crime¹, 2007/08

1. Figures may not add to 100% due to rounding.

Figure 2.3 shows the offence profiles of BCS crime and police recorded crime. Differences in the offence profiles reflect the different coverage of the two series and variation in the levels of reporting and recording for different crime types.

- Property crime³ accounts for the majority of both BCS and recorded crime (79 and 72 per cent respectively). Vehicle-related thefts account for 15 per cent of all BCS crime and offences against vehicles for 13 per cent of recorded crime. Other thefts account for 30 per cent of BCS crime and 23 per cent of recorded crime. Burglary accounts for seven per cent of BCS crime and 12 per cent of recorded crime. Just over half of recorded burglaries are in a building other than a dwelling (not included in the BCS, see Chapter 4) (Figure 2.3).
- Violent crime represented just over a fifth (21%) of all BCS crime in 2007/08. Violence against the person and sexual offences accounted for 19 per cent and one per cent respectively of police recorded crime. Just over half of the violent crimes recorded by the BCS and violence against the person recorded by the police involved no injury to the victim⁴ (Figure 2.3, Tables 2a and 2c).
- Robbery accounts for two per cent of recorded crime and three per cent of BCS crime (included in BCS violence) (Figure 2.3 and Tables 2.01 and 2.04).

³ Property crime comprises burglary, theft and vandalism for the BCS, and burglary, offences against vehicles, other thefts, fraud and forgery and criminal damage for recorded crime.

⁴ The actual proportion for recorded crime may be higher as some offences classified under 'more serious violence against the person', such as threats or conspiracy to murder, may not involve injury.

2.3 TRENDS IN CRIME

Trends in the crimes measured by the BCS now extend over 25 years. The surveys carried out between 1982 and 2001 reported victimisation in the preceding calendar year. Since 2001/02, interviews have been conducted continuously throughout the year with respondents being asked about crimes they have experienced in the 12 months preceding the interview. This means the incident recall period for the 2007/08 data is centred around March 2007. The latest BCS estimates are most closely comparable with police recorded crime figures for the 12 months up to the end of September 2007, about six months behind the latest recorded crime figures reported here.

Recorded crime statistics have been collated since 1857 but statistics from 1981 only are used here to enable comparisons to be made with the BCS. The data are presented for each calendar year up to 1997 and then by financial year with break points in the series indicated by differential shading for the 1998 changes to the Counting Rules and the 2002 introduction of the National Crime Recording Standard (NCRS) (Figure 2.6).

Over the last four years the British Crime Survey (BCS) and police recorded crime (once the latter has been adjusted to reflect crimes covered by the BCS) have tracked each other reasonably well. There was a divergence in trends between the two series when the NCRS was introduced in April 2002, but since then the trends have become closer.

Trends since 1981

- BCS crime rose steadily in the decade from 1981 and continued to rise during the early 1990s, peaking in 1995. Then BCS crime fell between 1995 and 2004/05, and remained stable for two years until the decrease between 2006/07 and 2007/08 surveys. BCS crime is now at its lowest ever level since the first BCS results in 1981 (Figure 2.4).
- Trends in BCS violence, vehicle-related thefts and domestic burglaries have been broadly similar to trends in all BCS crime between 1981 and 2007/08 (Figure 2.5, also see Chapters 3 and 4).

Figure 2.4 Trends in all BCS crime, 1981 to 2007/08

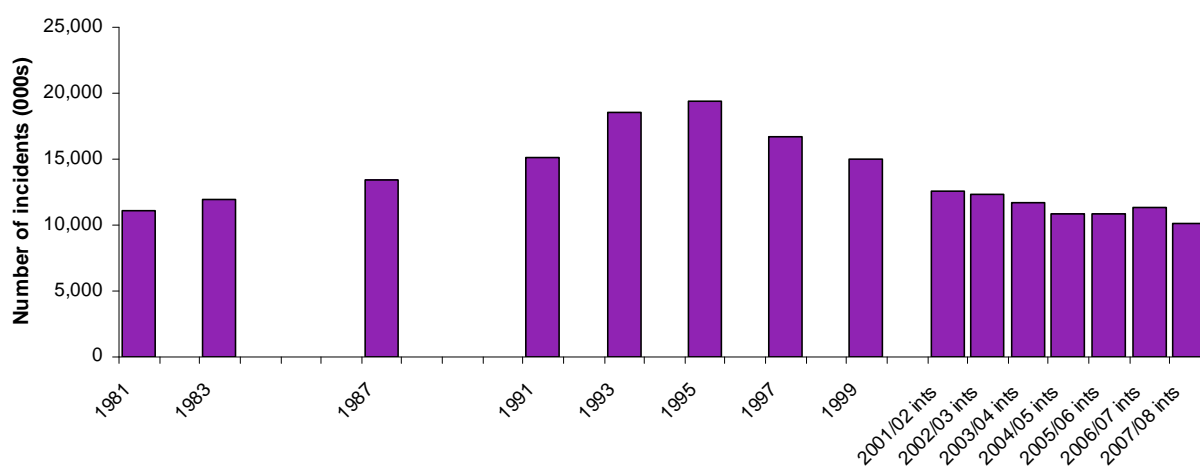
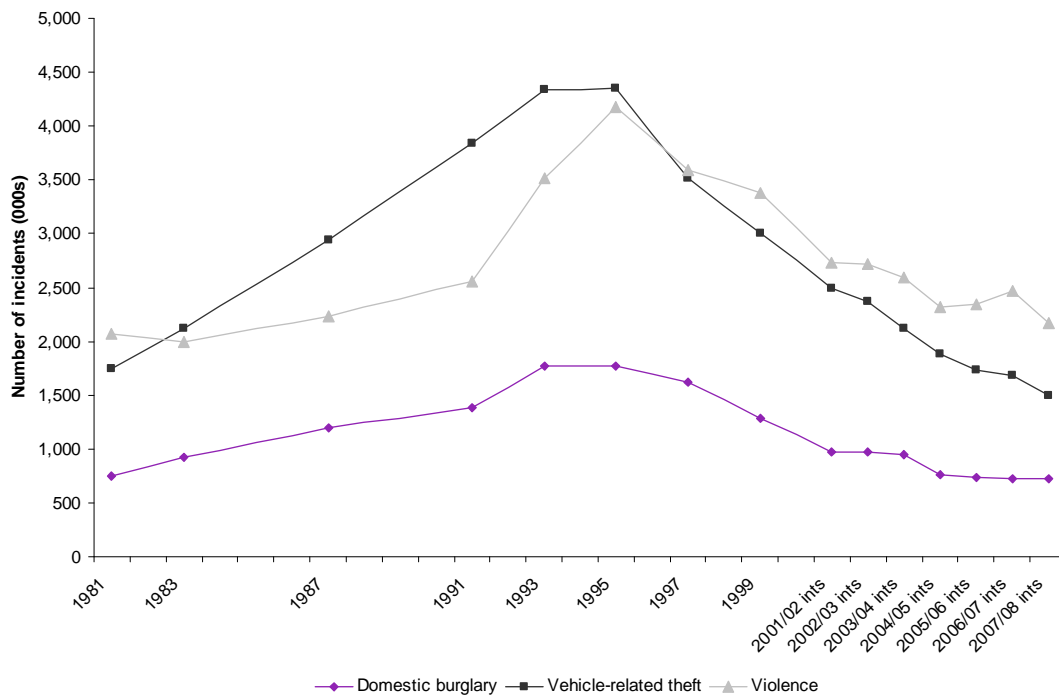


Figure 2.5 Trends in BCS violence, vehicle-related theft and burglary, 1981 to 2007/08



- Recorded crime increased during most of the 1980s, reaching a peak in 1992, and then fell each year until 1998/99 when the changes in the Counting Rules resulted in an increase in recorded offences (see Box 2.1 on ‘Changes in recording practices’). This was followed by the introduction of the National Crime Recording Standard (NCRS) in April 2002 which led to a rise in recording in 2002/03 and 2003/04, as the rules were bedded-in within forces. The level of police recorded crime has since fallen from 5.64 million in 2004/05 to 4.95 million offences in 2007/08 (see Figure 2.6 and Table 2.04).

Figure 2.6 Trends in recorded crime, 1981 to 2007/08



Box 2.1 Changes in recording practices

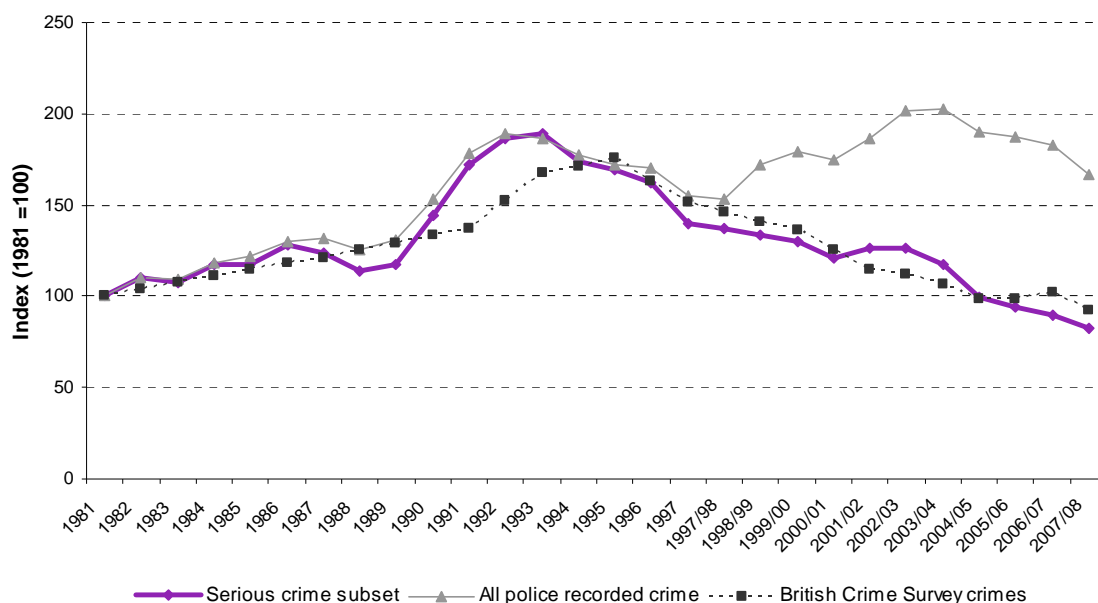
Recorded crime statistics are affected by changes in reporting and recording practices. There have been two major changes to the recording of crimes. In April 1998 the Home Office Counting Rules for Recorded Crime were expanded to include certain additional summary offences and counts became more victim-based (the number of victims was counted rather than the number of offences). In April 2002 the National Crime Recording Standard was introduced to ensure greater consistency between forces in recording crime and to take a more victim-oriented approach to crime recording with the police being required to record any allegation of crime unless there was credible evidence to the contrary (see Simmons et al., 2003).

Both these changes resulted in an increase in the number of crimes recorded. Certain offences, such as the more minor violent crimes, were more affected by these changes than others. All of these factors need to be considered when looking at the trends in recorded crime.

Serious crime subset

The Smith Review (Smith et al., 2006) of crime statistics recommended that the Home Office present a 'basket of serious crimes'. Figure 2.7 presents the trend for a serious crime subset compared with the overall trends for the British Crime Survey and total police recorded crime indexed against the levels in 1981. Historically the serious crime subset has been less affected by the recording and counting rule changes that substantially impacted on the recorded crime total and more closely reflects the trend in BCS crimes. More recently, since the introduction of NCRS in 2002/03 there was a similar degree of change in BCS crime and total recorded crime – the numbers of each falling by 18 per cent and 17 per cent respectively. However, there was a larger fall in the serious crime subset which fell by 35 per cent over the same period. The falls between 2006/07 and 2007/08 were similar for each offence grouping at eight per cent for the serious crime subset, nine per cent for total police recorded crime and ten per cent for BCS crime.

Figure 2.7 Trends in most serious recorded offences¹, total police recorded crime and BCS crimes, 1981 to 2007/08



¹ The police recorded serious crime subset comprises most serious violence against the person, most serious sexual offences, robbery, burglary, and theft or unauthorised taking of a motor vehicle.

Comparisons of more detailed breakdowns of police recorded crime are restricted to the years after the introduction of the National Crime Recording Standard in April 2002 when the underlying basis for crime recording substantially changed.

- The number of domestic burglaries and offences against vehicles recorded by the police fell between 2002/03 and 2007/08 by 36 per cent and 39 per cent respectively, while the number of offences of criminal damage fell by eight per cent over the same period (see Table 2.04).
- Recorded violence against the person rose each year from 2002/03 to peak in 2005/06 at 1.06 million offences and partly reflects the longer time taken for the new rules to be adopted by police forces for some of these offences, for example in relation to the recording of assault without injury, to exclude any cases of minor injury. The number of total violence against the person offences then decreased, and fell below one million offences in 2007/08. The decrease was greatest for most serious violence category which fell by 12 per cent between 2006/07 and 2007/08.

BCS trends since 1995

This section focuses on trends in BCS crime since 1995, as this year represents a significant turning point in crime levels since the first BCS results in 1981.

- Based on interviews in 2007/08, BCS crime was estimated to be 48 per cent lower than the peak in 1995, representing over nine million fewer crimes. The risk of becoming a victim of BCS crime has also fallen from 40 per cent in 1995 to 22 per cent in 2007/08. This represents over six million fewer victims (Figure 2.9, Tables 2.01 and 2.03).

All household and personal crime remain at significantly lower levels compared with their highest point in 1995. More details can be found in Chapters 3 and 4.

- Since 1995 vehicle-related thefts, domestic burglary and other household thefts have each fallen by over a half (66%, 59% and 53% respectively). Vandalism as measured by the BCS has fallen by 20 per cent (Table 2.01, Figures 2.8 and 2.9).
- The BCS shows overall violent crime has fallen by 48 per cent: assault with minor injury by 65 per cent; assaults with no injury by 42 per cent; and wounding by 49 per cent since 1995 (Table 2.01, Figures 2.8 and 2.9).

Figure 2.8 Trends in BCS crime, 1995 to 2007/08 (indexed 1995)

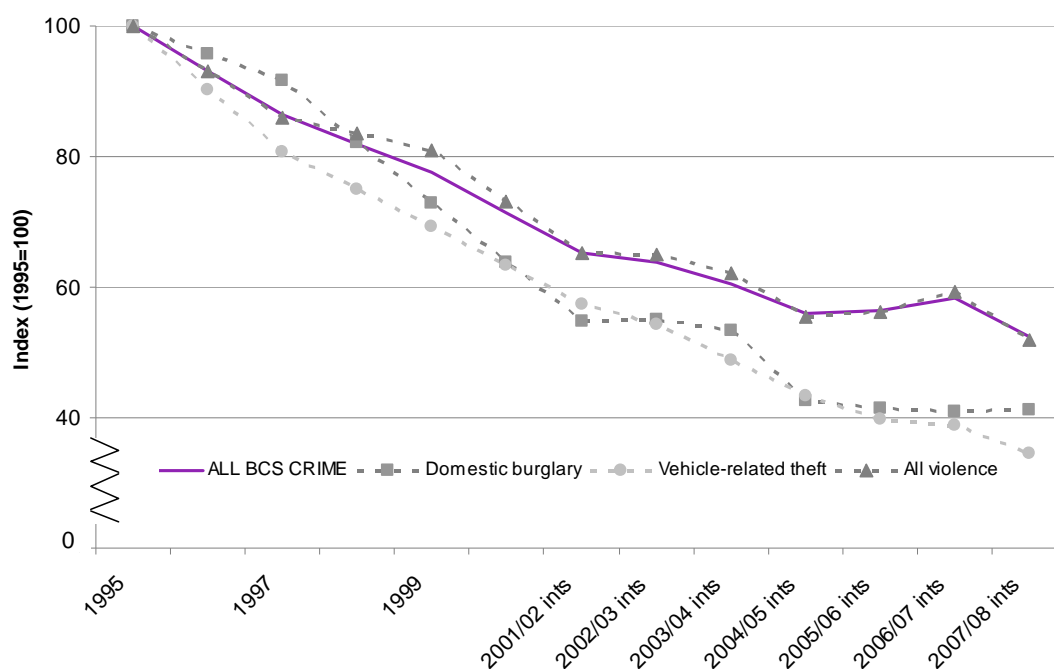
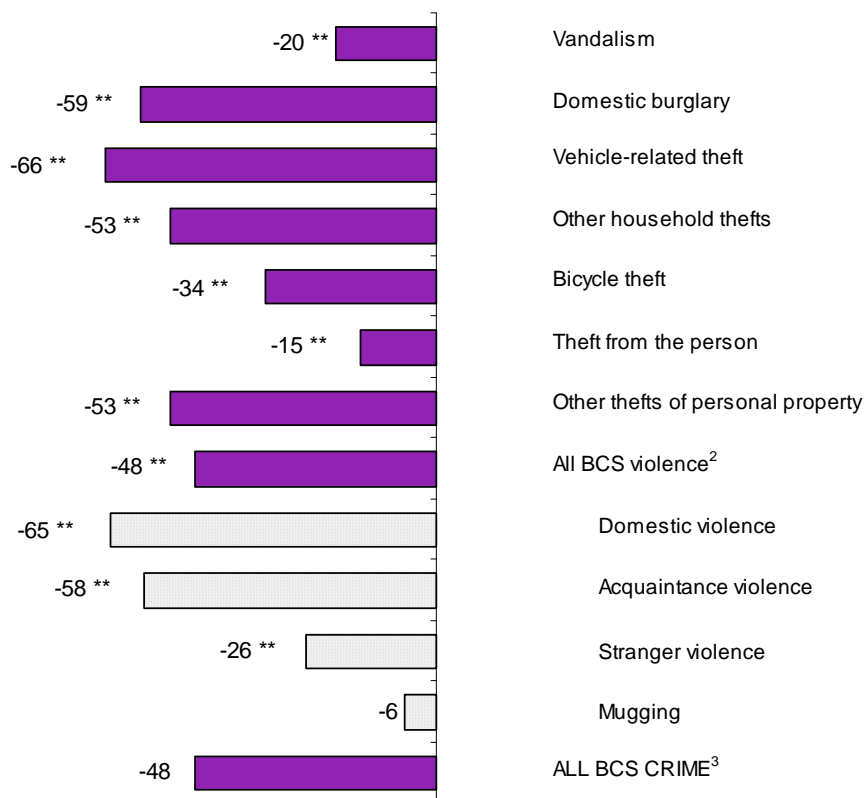


Figure 2.9 Percentage change in BCS offences between 1995 and 2007/08



1. Not all crime categories making up all BCS crime are presented individually.
2. See Glossary for details of all BCS violence.
3. Statistical significance for change in all BCS crime cannot be calculated in the same way as for other BCS figures. Statistically significant falls in all BCS household and personal crime (shown elsewhere) indicate a statistically significant fall in all BCS crime. See Glossary for further information.
4. Statistically significant change at the 5% level is indicated by a double asterisk. See Glossary for more information.
5. Lighter shaded boxes are types of BCS violence.

Box 2.2 Public Service Agreements (PSAs)

The BCS and police recorded crime data are used to measure PSA targets which are set to measure the Home Office and other Government Departments' performance on crime and community safety.

Public Service Agreements 2005–2008

The target period for PSAs for 2005 to 2008 concluded at the end of March 2008. The Home Office PSA target 1 was to "Reduce crime by 15 per cent, and further in high crime areas, by 2007/08". The overall crime reduction aspect was measured by the BCS. Based on 2007/08 BCS interviews, the fall in all BCS crime has exceeded this, falling by 18 per cent since 2002/03 (baseline).

The second part of this target was measured by the police recorded crime BCS comparator measure (see Box 2.5). This required the average reduction in the 40 High Crime Areas (HCAs) between 2003/04 and 2007/08 to be more than the average reduction in the remaining Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership (CDRP) areas. Based on the final figures, BCS comparator crime reduced by 24 per cent in the HCAs between 2003/04 and 2007/08 and by 18 per cent in the remaining CDRP areas.

For more information about PSAs 2005–2008 see:

http://www.hm-treasury.gov.uk/spending_review/spend_sr04/psa/spend_sr04_psaindex.cfm

The Home Office and the Department for Children Schools and Families share a PSA target for this period to "Reduce the use of Class A drugs and the frequent use of any illegal drug among all young people under the age of 25, especially by the most vulnerable young people". Parts of this target were measured by the BCS:

- Reducing Class A drug use in the last year amongst 16 to 24 year olds by 2007/08; and
- Reducing frequent use of any illicit drug amongst 16 to 24 year olds in the last year by 2007/08.

Based on the 2007/08 BCS, there has been a statistically significant decrease in the prevalence of Class A drug use among 16 to 24 year olds since 2003/04 (baseline) and a statistically significant decrease in the prevalence of frequent drug use among this age group since 2003/04 (baseline).

Public Service Agreements 2008–2011

PSA delivery agreement 23 aims at making communities safer by March 2011 and sets out priority actions. Police recorded crime will be used to measure performance on the following actions:

- Reduce the most serious violence, including tackling serious sexual offences and domestic violence.
- Continue to make progress on serious acquisitive crime through a focus on the issues of greatest priority in each locality and the most harmful offenders – particularly drug-misusing offenders.

For more information see:

http://www.hm-treasury.gov.uk/pbr_csr/psa/pbr_csr07_psacommunities.cfm

More information about PSA targets based on BCS perception measures, including an element of PSA 23, is included in Chapter 5.

2.4 EXTENT AND TRENDS IN DRUG USE AND OFFENCES

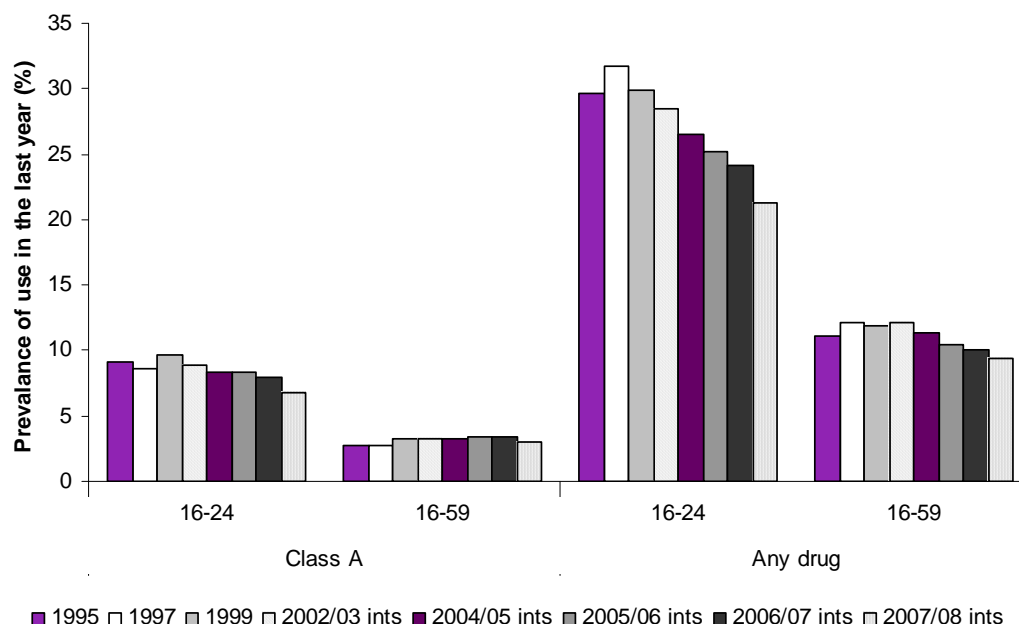
The British Crime Survey has included a self-completion module on drug use which can be compared over time since the 1996 BCS (measuring drug use in 1995)⁵. This section describes prevalence of illicit drug⁶ use among 16 to 59 year olds and also 16 to 24 year olds, the group most likely to use illicit drugs (Murphy and Roe, 2007).

Overall, the prevalence of illicit drug use is now at its lowest level since measurement began in 1995, largely reflecting decreases in the use of cannabis, the most prevalent drug among both age groups.

Drug use among 16 to 59 year olds

- Between 2006/07 and 2007/08, the overall use of any illicit drug fell among 16 to 59 year olds from 10.0 per cent to 9.3 per cent. This reflects falls in the prevalence of cannabis use in particular, as well as cocaine, ecstasy and amphetamine use compared with the 2006/07 BCS. The overall use of class A drugs also fell among this age group between the 2006/07 and 2007/08 BCS (from 3.4% to 3.0%, Table 2.06).
- Based on the 2007/08 BCS, overall use of any illicit drug by 16 to 59 year olds is now at its lowest level since the BCS started measurement in 1995, mainly due to declines in the use of cannabis since 2003/04 (Table 2.06, Figure 2.10).
- The prevalence of class A drug use among this age group is at a similar level to 1995, which reflects decreases seen in the use of hallucinogens and an increase in cocaine use over this period. The increase in cocaine use is largely due to steep increases in the prevalence of cocaine powder use between 1995 and 1999, followed by smaller increases between 1999 and 2006/07. The decrease in prevalence of hallucinogen use reflects a decrease in LSD use since 1995, in particular between 1995 and 2001/02 (Table 2.06, Figure 2.10).

Figure 2.10 Trends in prevalence of class A and any drug use, 1995 to 2007/08 BCS



1. See Tables 2.06 and 2.07 for figures and statistical significance of changes between years.
2. Years 2001/02 and 2003/04 are not presented here, see Tables 2.06 and 2.07.

⁵ The figures here relate to the percentage of people who said they had used drugs in the last year, so prevalence relates to the year of use (e.g. 1995 for interviews carried out in 1996).

⁶ Illicit drugs include class A, B and C – see Table 2.06 and 2.07.

Drug use among 16 to 24 year olds

- Compared with the 2006/07 BCS, 2007/08 figures show a decrease in the use of any illicit drug among 16 to 24 year olds. Overall 21.3 per cent of people in this age group said they had used illicit drugs in the last year in the 2007/08 BCS, compared with 24.1 per cent in the previous year. This reflects falls in the use of cannabis, as well as ecstasy, hallucinogens and amphetamines since 2006/07. The prevalence of class A drug use also fell from 8.0 to 6.8 per cent in the last year (Table 2.07).
- Among 16 to 24 year olds, the overall use of illicit drugs is at its lowest ever level since 1995. This is also true of the overall prevalence of class A drug use, based on BCS interviews in 2007/08 (Table 2.07, Figure 2.10).
- Since 1995, the prevalence of cannabis use has decreased from 26.0 per cent to 17.9 per cent among this age group. The prevalence of ecstasy, hallucinogens, and amphetamines use have also fallen. Cocaine use has, however, increased since 1995, reflecting large increases in the prevalence of cocaine powder use between 1995 and 1999 (Table 2.07, Figure 2.10).

Police recorded drug offences

- Police recorded drug offences increased by 18 per cent in 2007/08 compared with 2006/07. Increases in recent years have been largely attributable to increases in the recording of possession of cannabis offences which account for 69 per cent of all recorded drug offences. In 2007/08 possession of cannabis increased by 21 per cent, following increases of nine per cent in 2006/07 and 36 per cent in 2005/06. This rise was largely associated with the increased police use of powers to issue warnings for the possession of cannabis. The number of these warnings increased by 28 per cent – a rise of 22,900 detections compared with 2006/07. The increase in possession of other drugs was 15 per cent in 2007/08 compared with the previous year (Table 2.04, also see Chapter 7 Detections).

The recorded crime figures for possession and trafficking when compared with those from the BCS for drug use can be seen to significantly understate the true extent of offending in those areas. The statistics will also be heavily influenced by local policing priorities in response to local drug problems, and may reflect changes in the policing of drug crime, such as the use of cannabis warnings, rather than real changes in its incidence.

2.5 MULTIPLE AND REPEAT VICTIMISATION

Being a victim of crime can be a very traumatic event. The impact of this can be made worse by being victimised repeatedly. The BCS has historically been a significant source of information for understanding the importance of multiple and repeat victimisation. The BCS has also been influential in highlighting the need to target certain crimes that are particularly prone to repeat victimisation such as domestic violence and vandalism (Gottfredson, 1984; Walby and Allen, 2004; Povey *et al.*, 2008, Jansson *et al.*, 2007).

Previous analyses of BCS data have also demonstrated the impact that multiple and repeat victimisation can have on the crime rates. Analysis of the 2006/07 BCS data showed that the number of single incidents of crime fell by 16 per cent since the peak of crime in 1995 but there was a much larger drop (51%) in the number of incidents experienced by victims who had experienced more than one crime between 1995 and 2006/07 (Jansson *et al.*, 2007). This relatively large decline in multiple victimisation is a major factor in the overall decline in BCS crime since 1995.

Box 2.3 The BCS definitions of multiple and repeat victimisation

Multiple victimisation is defined here as the experience of being a victim of more than one crime in a year, of the same or different type. This includes victims of repeat victimisation within a crime type and also those who have been victims of more than one type of crime irrespective of whether it is a household or personal crime (e.g. burglary and violence). So people who have experienced multiple victimisation include those who have been a victim of more than one personal crime, or have been resident in a household that was a victim of more than one household crime, or have been a victim of both types of crime.

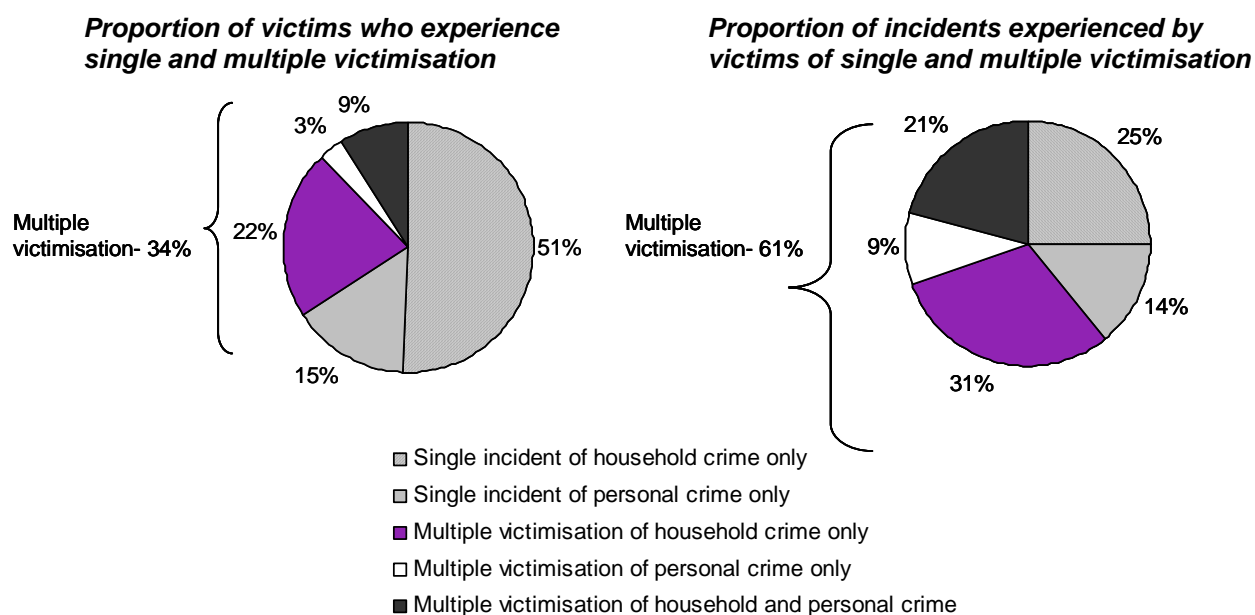
Repeat victimisation (a subset of multiple victimisation) is defined here as being a victim of the same type of crime more than once in the last 12 months (e.g. vandalism). Levels of repeat victimisation account for differences between incidence rates (total number of offences) and prevalence rates (the proportion of the population victimised once or more). For instance, high levels of repeat victimisation will be reflected in relatively lower prevalence rates compared with incidence rates.

Based on the 2007/08 BCS, just over a fifth of all adults had experienced one or more BCS crimes in the last 12 months (22%, Table 2.03). The overall risk of becoming a victim of more than one crime in this 12-month period was eight per cent, compared with 15 per cent for the risk of becoming a victim of one crime only (data not shown).

Multiple victimisation

- According to BCS interviews in 2007/08 around a third (34%) of all BCS victims had experienced more than one crime (multiple victimisation) in the previous 12 months. Just under one in ten (9%) of all BCS victims had experienced multiple victimisation of both household and personal crimes; 22 per cent of all victims had experienced multiple household crimes only and three per cent multiple personal crimes only (Figure 2.11).
- Based on the 2007/08 BCS, the third of victims (34%) who experienced multiple victimisation accounted for 61 per cent of all BCS incidents. This compares with 45 per cent of victims in 1995 who experienced multiple victimisation, accounting for three-quarters (74%) of all BCS incidents (Nicholas *et al.*, 2007). This indicates that both the proportion of victims who had experienced multiple crimes and the proportion of incidents experienced by these victims have fallen since 1995.

Figure 2.11 Single and multiple victimisation for all BCS crime (2007/08)



Box 2.4 BCS repeat victimisation estimates

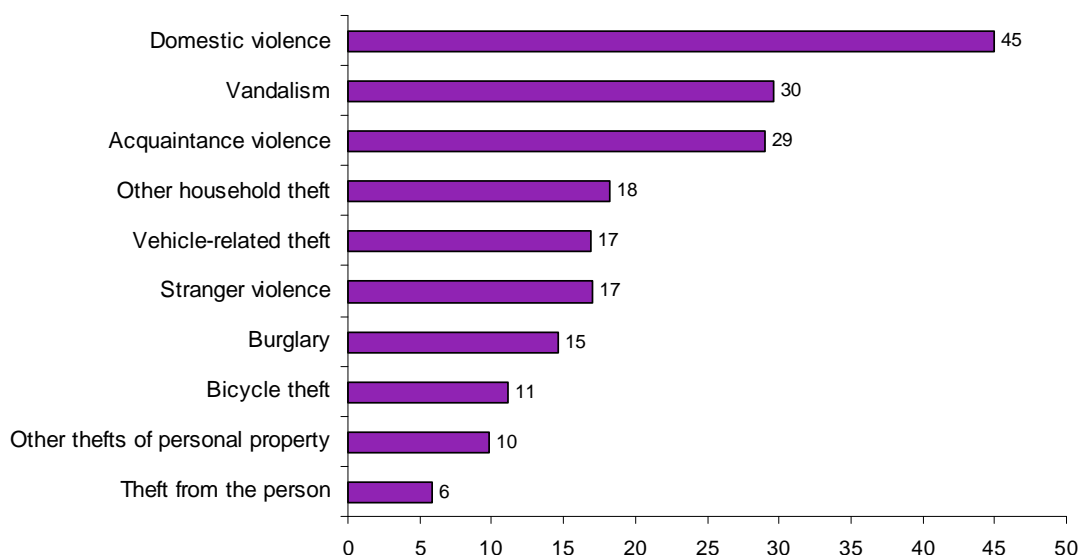
Where incidents of a similar nature and probably by the same perpetrator(s) have occurred, BCS estimates only include the first five incidents in the series of victimisations. This restriction has been applied since the BCS began in order to ensure that estimates are not affected by a very small number of respondents who report an extremely high number of incidents and which are highly variable between survey years. The inclusion of such victims could undermine the ability to measure trends consistently. This sort of capping is consistent with other surveys of crime and other topics. Prevalence rates are not affected by this procedure. (See Grant et al., 2007 for information on the measurement of series data.)

Extent of repeat victimisation

The latest BCS figures show that levels of repeat victimisation vary by offence type.

- BCS interviews in 2007/08 indicated that victims of domestic violence were most likely to experience repeat victimisation, with 45 per cent of victims being victimised more than once. Repeat victimisation accounts for 73 per cent of all incidents of domestic violence as measured by the BCS. Over one in four (27%) victims of domestic violence were victimised three or more times (Figure 2.12, Tables 2.08 and 2.09; see Chapter 3 for more details).
- Vandalism and acquaintance violence also had high repeat victimisation rates compared with other crime types; 30 per cent of vandalism victims and 29 per cent of acquaintance violence victims had experienced repeat victimisation in the last 12 months (Figure 2.12, Table 2.09).
- Theft from the person had the lowest repeat victimisation rates, with only six per cent of victims being victimised more than once in a 12-month period. This represents 12 per cent of all incidents (Figure 2.12, Tables 2.08 and 2.09).

Figure 2.12 Proportion of victims who were victimised more than once in past 12 months by offence, 2007/08 BCS interviews



1. See chapter 3 for more information about BCS estimates of domestic violence.

Trends in repeat victimisation

- The proportion of victims who had experienced repeat victimisation for the main crime types have remained stable compared with the 2006/07 BCS (Table 2.09).
- There has, however, been a reduction in the proportion of incidents of vandalism and stranger violence that were experienced by repeat victims. In 2007/08 55 per cent of vandalism and 35 per cent of stranger violence incidents were experienced by repeat victims, compared with 58 and 42 per cent in 2006/07 respectively (Table 2.09).

Table 2d Proportion of victims who were victimised more than once in the past 12 months by main offence groups, 1981 to 2007/08 BCS interviews

Percentages													BCS
	1981	1991	1995	1997	1999	2001/02 ints	2002/03 ints	2003/04 ints	2004/05 ints	2005/06 ints	2006/07 ints	2007/08 ints	Unweighted base
Vandalism	33	31	30	33	31	32	30	29	30	30	32	30	3,372
Burglary	13	16	19	19	20	15	18	16	14	16	13	15	1,038
Vehicle-related theft	21	25	28	24	25	21	19	19	19	18	16	17	2,203
All BCS violence ²	27	32	38	32	35	34	28	27	28	27	28	27	1,281

1. Base numbers for the interview years 2001/02 to 2006/07 are similar to the 2007/08 base numbers presented in the table. Prior to this base numbers are around a quarter of those shown.

2. 'All BCS violence' includes wounding, assault with minor injury, assault with no injury and robbery. For more information see the Glossary.

3. For statistical significance between 2007/08 and 1995 see Table 2.09. For statistical significance between 2007/08, 2006/07 and 2005/06 see Table 2.08.

- With the exception of vandalism, long-term trends in repeat victimisation show a broadly similar pattern to overall trends in crime by peaking in the mid to late 1990s (Table 2d).
- Levels of repeat victimisation for burglary, violence and vehicle-related thefts remain around their lowest levels since first measured in the BCS in 1981 (Table 2d).
- Within the same crime types, there have also been reductions in the proportions of incidents accounted for by repeat victims, when compared with 1995 when BCS crime peaked. For example, in 2007/08 53 per cent of violent incidents and 34 per cent of vehicle-related thefts were experienced by repeat victims compared with 68 and 49 per cent respectively in 1995 (Table 2.09).

2.6 REPORTING CRIME

The BCS asks people who experienced crimes in the past year whether they had reported the incidents to the police, or if the police came to know about them in another way. Reporting rates in general appear to have been relatively stable in recent years. Apart from a recent increase in the reporting of vandalism, there were no statistically significant changes in the proportions of BCS incidents reported to the police since the previous year.

Based on the 2007/08 BCS, 42 per cent of incidents had been reported to the police or the police came to know about in another way (BCS comparable crime⁷). This figure is similar to 2006/07 and shows that more than half of crimes (58% of all comparable crimes) are never reported to the police. This gap is the main reason why the estimated number of BCS crimes is higher than the recorded crime figure and why the BCS represents a more complete picture of household and personal crime within England and Wales (Figure 2.13 and Table 2.10).

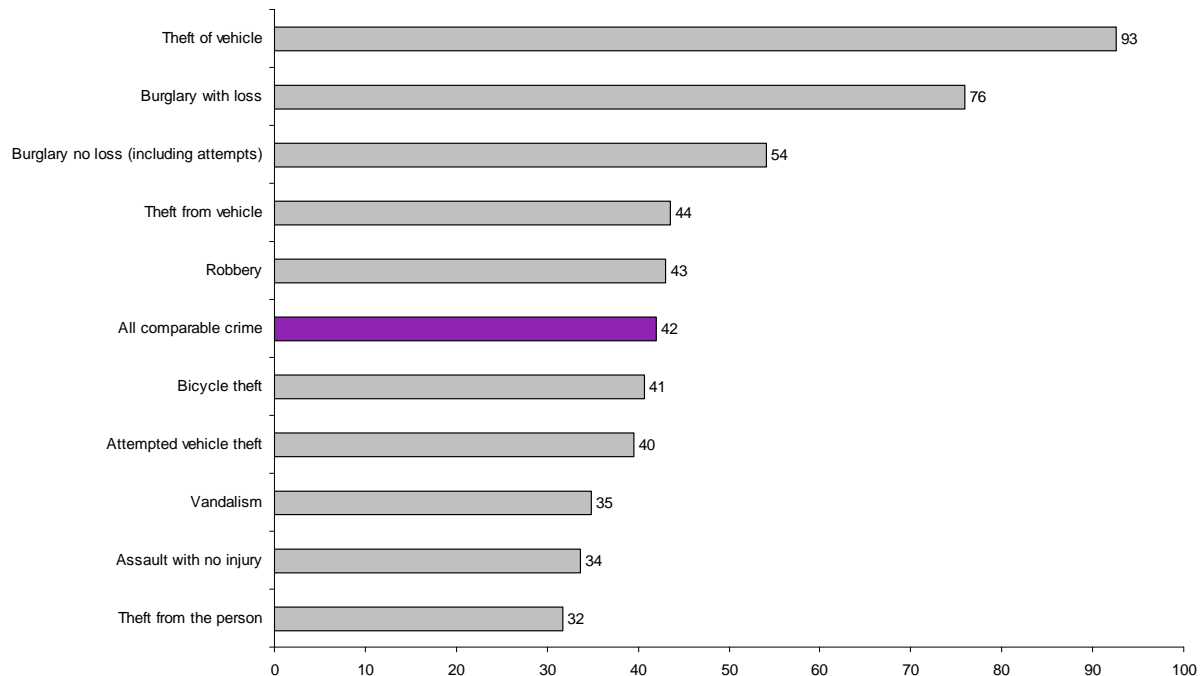
The BCS has consistently shown that the likelihood of reporting crime varies considerably by the type of offence (Figure 2.13 and Table 2.10).

- The 2007/08 BCS shows that thefts of vehicles are most likely to be reported (93%), followed by burglaries in which something was stolen (76%).
- Reporting rates are relatively low for crimes such as vandalism, assault without injury and theft from the person (35%, 34% and 32% in 2007/08).

⁷ The comparable crime subset includes vandalism, burglary, vehicle theft, bicycle theft, wounding, assault with and without minor injury and robbery. For more information see the Glossary.

- The only statistically significant change when compared with last year was for vandalism (increasing from 32 per cent in 2006/07 to 35 per cent in 2007/08). Reporting rates in general appear to have been relatively stable in recent years.

Figure 2.13 Reporting rates based on 2007/08 BCS interviews, comparable subset



Victims of crime were asked why they did not report incidents to the police (Table 2.11).

- As in previous years, the most frequently mentioned reason for not reporting incidents (comparable subset) was that victims perceived them to be too trivial, there was no loss or they believed that the police would or could not do much about them (75% of incidents). For violent crime, however, a large proportion of the incidents were not reported because victims considered the issue to be a private matter and dealt with it themselves (35%). This reflects the personal relationships involved with many of these offences.

2.7 COMPARING THE BCS AND POLICE RECORDED CRIME

The BCS provides a measure of the level of crime committed against the private household population in England and Wales, whereas recorded crime is a measure of those crimes reported to the police and then recorded by them. By adjusting each series, comparisons can be made between police recorded crime and the BCS which allow a better interpretation of overall crime trends. The need for this comparison has been particularly important in recent periods due to various changes made to the police recording of crime.

There are differences in the type of offences and population that each series covers, and so a comparable subset of offences is used to compare trends in the two series (see Box 2.5). The number of crimes in this comparable subset estimated by the BCS in 2007/08 was over eight million compared with fewer than three million offences recorded by the police. There are clear reasons for this difference between the series. A significant limitation of recorded crime as an indicator of crime levels and trends is that it can only consider those crimes that are brought to the attention of the police (estimated by the BCS to be only 42 per cent of comparable crime). The BCS includes crimes that are not reported to or recorded by the police, but is limited to crimes against adults living in private households, and also does not

cover all crime types (e.g. drug offences). Reasons why the public choose not to report crimes to the police are discussed briefly in section 2.6.

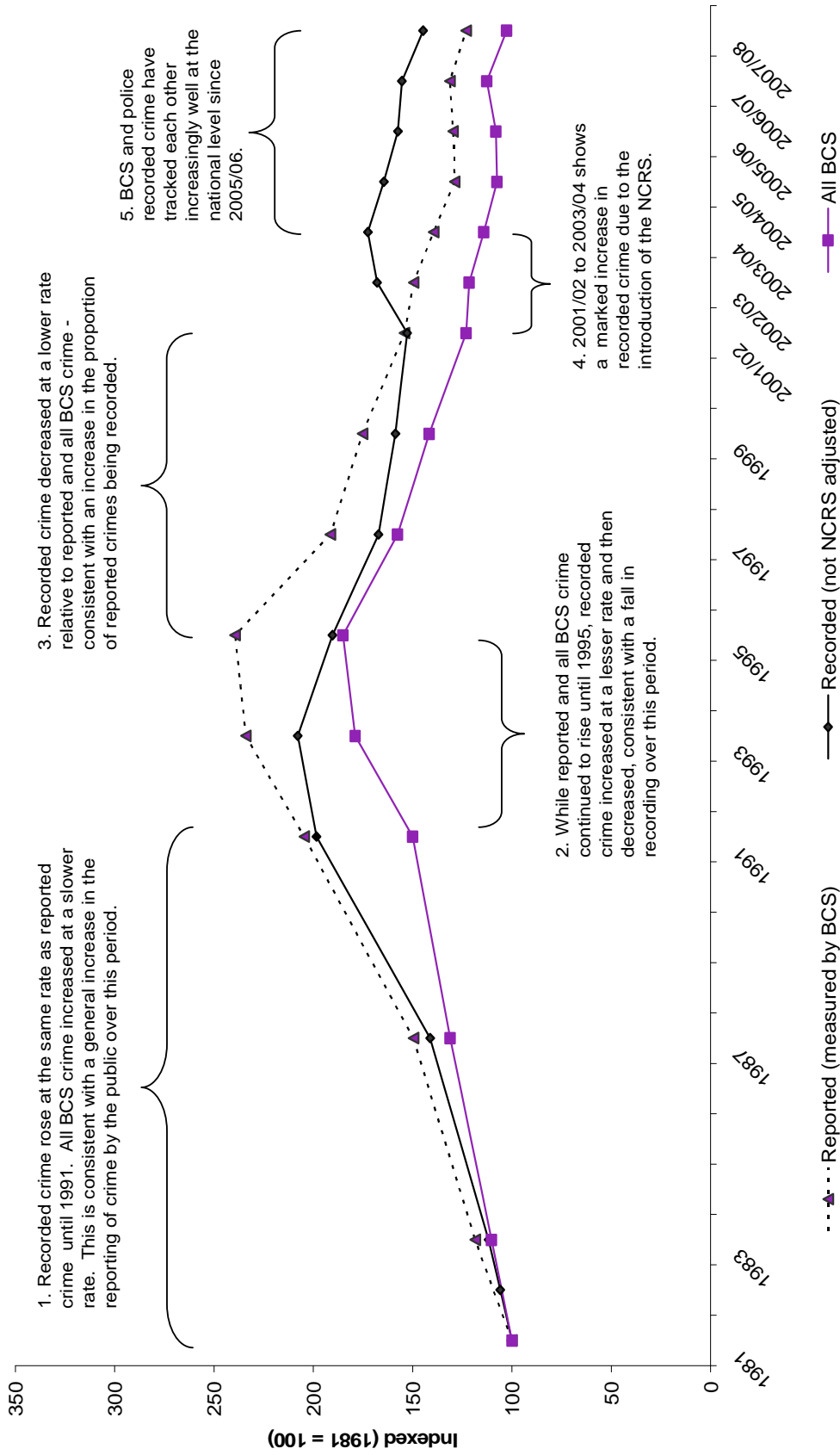
Box 2.5 The recorded crime BCS comparator (comparable subset)

The recorded crime BCS comparator is a recorded crime measure used when comparing recorded crime with BCS crime. This measure contains the set of recorded crimes defined by the comparable subset (vandalism, burglary, vehicle-related theft, bicycle theft, theft from the person, robbery, common assault and wounding). The recorded crime BCS comparator is not adjusted for commercial targets and offences against under 16s but it does allow monitoring of comparable crime at a more local level than the BCS. It is termed the BCS comparator because the offence coverage is intended to approximate to the offences included in the BCS.

A table showing the recorded crime BCS comparator figures for Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships (CDRPs) in England and Wales is available online at:

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/crimeew0708.html>

Figure 2.14 Indexed trends in the reporting and recording of crime, and all BCS crime, 1981 to 2007/08 (1981=100)



1. BCS estimates of incidents for 1991 to 2007/08 are based on estimates of population and the number of households in England and Wales that have been revised in light of the 2001 Census. For more information please see the Glossary.

2. From 2001/02, reported and all BCS crime relate to interviews carried out in that financial year and incidents experienced in the 12 months prior to interview. Recorded crimes relate to incidents in the 12 months up to the end of September of that financial year. This is so that the recorded crime data are centred on the same period as reported and all BCS crime.

3. To compare BCS and police recorded crime figures it is necessary to limit both to a set of offences that are covered by both series (comparable subset).

2.8 TRENDS IN REPORTING AND RECORDING OF CRIME

In broad terms, the BCS and recorded crime series display similar trends (with some divergence due to reporting and recording changes) with rises from the early 1980s to peaks in the early to mid 1990s and falls thereafter. However, from 2001/02 to 2003/04 there was considerable divergence in these trends, mainly associated with police recording changes, although for the last few years trends have been much more consistent. Of particular interest have been the divergent trends in violent crime, an important category in which the number of recorded offences has risen in recent years. BCS violent crime fell last year and longer-term trends show substantial falls since the mid 1990s (Figure 2.14).

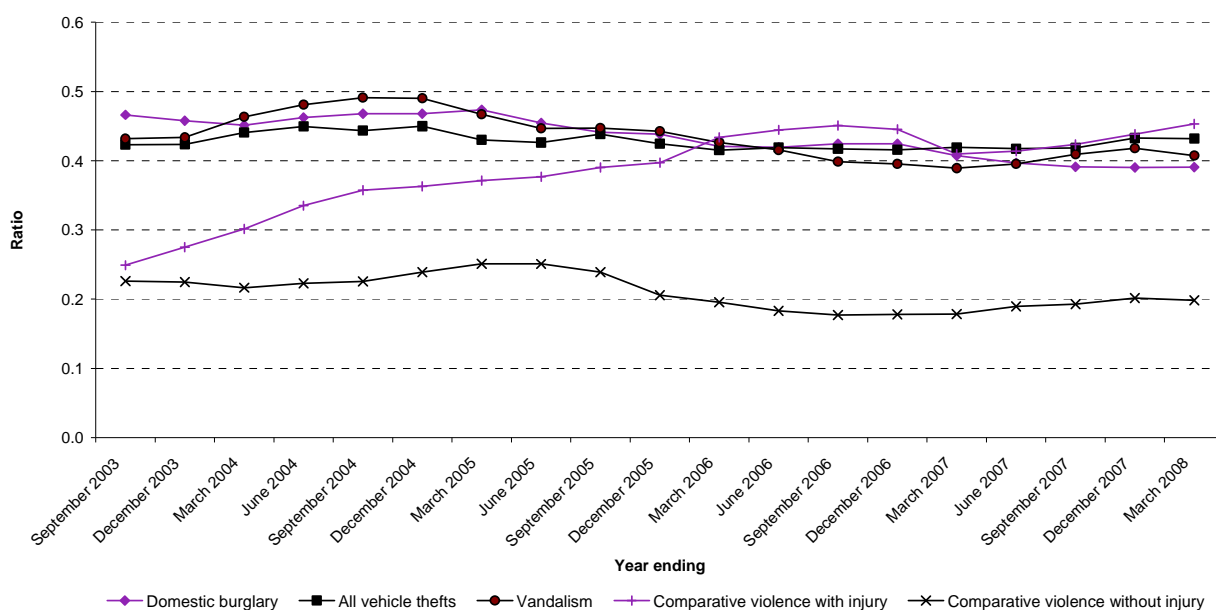
Comparison by offence group

For individual crime types, BCS and police recorded crime have tracked each other increasingly well at the national level since 2005/06. This can be seen in Figure 2.15, which shows how the ratio of comparable recorded crime, weighted to reflect the interview recall periods used by the BCS, to BCS crime has varied over time for particular crime types⁸. The levelling of the lines for the separate offences indicates how the ratios have stabilised.

Figure 2.15 shows that the ratio for domestic burglary, vehicle thefts and vandalism has been relatively stable over the years. This means that the correspondence between the BCS and weighted recorded crime trends has been reasonably good for these offences.

The figure also illustrates that for violence with injury there has been considerable variation in the ratio, although it has stabilised in the most recent years. There has recently been an increasingly good correspondence between the trends for BCS violence with injury and weighted police recorded offences of wounding, indicated by the levelling of the line following a steep increase. The correspondence between the trends for BCS violence without injury and weighted police recorded offences of assault without injury has also varied though not to the same extent. Taking into account the scale of measurement, this has shown more variation than burglary, vehicle thefts and vandalism. However, this is as might be expected, as there have been continuing known changes to crime recording in relation to assault without injury as the revised rules under NCRS were bedded-in within some forces (see section 2.3).

Figure 2.15 Ratio of weighted recorded crime to BCS crime by crime type



⁸ All BCS violence includes wounding, robbery, assault with minor injury and assault without injury. See Glossary for more information about violence categories.

Table 2.01 Trends in BCS incidents of crime from 1981 to 2007/08, with percentage change and statistical significance of change between 1995, 1997, 2002/03, 2005/06, 2006/07 and 2007/08 interviews

Numbers (thousands) and percentage changes

	1981	1991	1995	1997	2001/02 ints	2002/03 ints	2004/05 ints	2005/06 ints	2006/07 ints	2007/08 ints	1995 to 2007/08	1997 to 2007/08	2002/03 to 2007/08	2005/06 to 2007/08	2006/07 to 2007/08	BCS
PROPERTY CRIME																
Vandalism	2,713	2,759	3,366	2,866	2,603	2,535	2,564	2,731	2,993	2,689	-20 **	-6 **	6	-2	-10 **	
Vehicle vandalism	1,558	1,685	1,826	1,609	1,511	1,517	1,564	1,697	1,895	1,732	-5 **	8	14	2	-9 **	
Other vandalism	1,155	1,073	1,540	1,256	1,093	1,018	1,001	1,034	1,098	957	-38 **	-24 **	-6	-8	-13 **	
Burglary ²	749	1,380	1,770	1,621	969	973	756	733	726	729	-59 **	-55 **	-25 **	-1	0	
With entry	474	869	852	852	552	561	469	440	425	435	-56 **	-49 **	-23 **	2	2	
Attempts	276	511	772	768	416	412	287	293	301	294	-62 **	-29 **	-29 **	1	-2	
With loss	373	712	791	651	396	407	327	315	310	318	-60 **	-51 **	-22 **	1	3	
No loss (including attempts)	376	668	979	970	573	566	429	418	417	411	-58 **	-58 **	-27 **	-2	-2	
Vehicle-related theft	1,751	3,845	4,350	3,511	2,494	2,365	1,886	1,731	1,689	1,497	-66 **	-57 **	-37 **	-14 **	-11 **	
Theft from vehicle	1,286	2,424	2,544	2,200	1,496	1,426	1,121	1,129	994	-61 **	-55 **	-30 **	-11 **	-12 **	-11 **	
Theft of vehicles	285	522	510	378	316	278	214	185	176	161	-68 **	-57 **	-42 **	-13	-9	
Attempts of and from	179	899	1,297	933	683	662	462	425	384	342	-74 **	-63 **	-48 **	-20 **	-11	
Bicycle theft	216	569	673	541	368	359	403	439	482	441	-34 **	-18 **	23 **	1	-8	
Other household theft	1,518	1,857	2,267	2,024	1,445	1,360	1,183	1,158	1,210	1,067	-53 **	-47 **	-23 **	-8 **	-12 **	
Unweighted base – household crime	10,905	10,059	16,310	14,900	32,720	36,395	44,973	47,610	47,027	46,765	-16 **	-7	-16 **	0	1	
Theft from the person	434	438	680	621	604	690	584	576	574	577	-15 **	-7	-16 **	0	1	
Snatch theft from person	86	79	80	83	74	88	92	71	72	79	-11	-5	-11	10	10 ³	
Sleath theft from person	348	359	600	538	529	602	482	504	502	498	-17 **	-7	-17 **	-1	-1	
Other thefts of personal property	1,586	1,739	2,069	1,935	1,407	1,344	1,154	1,196	1,141	980	-53 **	-49 **	-27 **	-18 **	-14 **	
VIOLENCE																
All BCS violence ⁴	2,074	2,556	4,176	3,593	2,728	2,714	2,320	2,349	2,471	2,164	-48 **	-40 **	-20 **	-8	-12 **	
Wounding	308	624	914	804	648	709	577	547	578	467	-49 **	-42	-34	-15	-19 **	
Assault with minor injury	609	784	1,356	1,198	709	623	629	572	571	481	-65 **	-60 **	-16	-16	-16	
Assault with no injury	793	966	1,567	1,257	1,015	1,079	966	918	1,002	903	-42	-28 **	-16 **	-2	-10	
Robbery	164	182	339	334	356	303	255	311	320	313	-8	-7	3	1	-2 ³	
Violence with injury	1,194	1,441	2,408	2,184	1,497	1,441	1,300	1,227	1,270	1,042	-57 **	-52 **	-28 **	-15 **	-18 **	
Violence with no injury	881	1,115	1,768	1,409	1,231	1,273	1,020	1,121	1,201	1,122	-37 **	-20 **	-12	0	-7	
Domestic violence	292	534 ⁵	989	814	626	506	401	357	407	342	-65 **	-58 **	-32 **	-4	-16	
Acquaintance	774	1,043 ⁶	1,816	1,642	862	949	828	817	845	765	-58 **	-53 **	-19 **	-6	-9	
Stranger	844	797 ⁶	1,004	784	883	956	836	863	894	744	-26 **	-5	-22 **	-14	-17 **	
Mugging (robbery + snatch theft)	250	259 ⁶	419	417	430	391	347	382	392	391	-6	-6	0	2	0	
Unweighted base – personal crime	10,905	10,059	16,337	14,937	32,787	36,450	45,069	47,729	47,138	46,903	-48 ⁷	-39 ⁷	-18 ⁷	-7	-10 ⁷	
TOTALS																
Household acquisitive	4,234	7,651	9,060	7,697	5,275	5,057	4,227	4,060	4,108	3,734	-59 **	-51 **	-26 **	-8 **	-9 **	
Personal acquisitive	2,184	2,358	3,088	2,891	2,367	2,337	1,993	2,082	2,035	1,870	-39 **	-35 **	-20 **	-10 **	-8	
Comparable crime ^{6,7}	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	9,766	9,636	8,513	8,558	8,935	8,097	n/a	n/a	-16	-5	-9	
All household crime ⁵	6,947	10,410	12,426	10,562	7,879	7,592	6,792	6,792	7,101	6,422	-48 **	-39 **	-15 **	-5 **	-10 **	
All personal crime ⁵	4,094	4,733	6,925	6,149	4,739	4,748	4,058	4,120	4,186	3,721	-46 **	-39 **	-22 **	-10 **	-11 **	
All BCS crime ⁷	11,041	15,142	19,351	16,712	12,618	12,341	10,850	10,712	11,287	10,143	-48 ⁷	-39 ⁷	-18 ⁷	-7	-10 ⁷	
Unweighted base – personal crime	10,905	10,059	16,337	14,937	32,787	36,450	45,069	47,729	47,138	46,903	-48 ⁷	-39 ⁷	-18 ⁷	-7	-10 ⁷	

1. For household crimes the 2007/08 numbers are derived by multiplying offence rates (incidence rates) by 23,807,316 households in England and Wales. For personal crimes the 2007/08 numbers are derived by multiplying incidence rates by 43,859,000 adults in England and Wales.
 2. Burglary with entry plus attempted burglary add up to total burglary. Burglary with loss plus burglary with no loss (including attempts) also add up to total burglary.
 3. Percentage changes for some crimes have been shaded out. This is because the number of victims interviewed is generally too low to provide robust estimates or percentage changes for these crimes (bases are around 200 or fewer in 2007/08).
 4. All BCS violence includes wounding, assault with minor injury, assault with no injury and robbery. Mugging includes robbery and snatch theft. For more information see the Glossary.
 5. The 1991 estimates for domestic, acquaintance and stranger violence and mugging were calculated based on the estimate for all BCS violence. Estimates for these individual categories could not be calculated using their individual incidence rates because the data used for calculating these rates were not collected for that year.
 6. Comparable crime includes a set of offences that are covered by both the BCS and police recorded crime and is used to compare trends in police and BCS figures. For more information about crime types included in 'Comparable', 'All household' and 'All personal' crime see the Glossary.
 7. Statistical significance for change in all BCS crime cannot be calculated in the same way as for other BCS figures. Falls in both all household and personal crimes indicate a statistically significant fall in all BCS crime. For more information see the Glossary.
 8. Figures for years not presented in this table are included in an extended version of the table, available online: <http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/crds/crimeaw0708.html>

Table 2.02 Trends in BCS victimisation rates from 1981 to 2007/08, with percentage change and statistical significance of change between 1995, 1997, 2002/03, 2005/06, 2006/07 and 2007/08 interviews

PROPERTY CRIME	Rates per 10,000 adults/households and percentage changes										Percentage change:		
	1981	1991	1995	1997	2001/02 ints	2002/03 ints	2004/05 ints	2005/06 ints	2006/07 ints	2007/08 ints	1995 to 2007/08	2002/03 to 2007/08	2005/06 to 2007/08
1,481	1,356	1,588	1,330	1,185	1,145	1,125	1,182	1,281	1,139	-14 **	-1	-4	-11 **
Vandalism	850	829	747	687	685	686	735	811	734	-2	7	0	-10 **
Vehicle vandalism	630	528	727	583	459	439	448	470	405	-31 **	-12	-9	-14 **
409	678	835	752	441	439	331	317	311	309	-59 **	-30 **	-3	-1
Burglary ¹	258	427	471	396	251	253	190	182	184	-63 **	-27 **	-3	1
With entry	150	251	364	357	189	126	127	129	125	-65 **	-33 **	-2	-3
Attempts	204	350	373	302	180	143	136	132	135	-55 **	-27 **	-1	2
With loss	205	328	462	450	261	256	181	178	174	-61 **	-32 **	-4	-2
No loss (including attempts)	955	1,890	2,052	1,630	1,135	1,068	749	723	634	-61 **	-41 **	-15 **	-12 **
Vehicle-related theft	702	1,192	1,200	1,021	643	531	485	483	421	-65 **	-35 **	-13 **	-13 **
Theft from vehicle	156	257	241	175	126	94	80	75	68	-72 **	-46 **	-15	-9
Theft of vehicles	98	442	612	433	311	299	202	184	145	-67 **	-52 **	-21 **	-12
Attempts of and from	118	280	317	251	162	177	190	206	187	-41 **	15 **	-2	-9
Bicycle theft	828	913	1,070	940	614	519	501	518	452	-52 **	-26 **	-10 **	-13 **
Other household theft	10,905	10,059	16,310	14,900	32,720	36,395	44,973	47,610	47,027	46,765			
Unweighted base – household crime	112	108	167	152	144	164	134	132	132	-13	-20 **	-1	0
Theft from the person	22	19	20	20	21	21	17	17	18	-8	-14	9	9 ³
Stealth theft from person	90	89	148	131	126	143	117	115	114	-14	-14	-3	-2
Other thefts of personal property	410	429	508	472	336	319	277	263	223	-53 **	-30 **	-19 **	-15 **
536	631	1,026	877	652	644	544	545	569	493	-44 **	-23 **	-9	-13 **
All BCS violence ⁴	131	154	225	196	168	135	127	133	107	-46 **	-37 **	-16	-20 **
Wounding	157	194	333	292	169	147	133	131	110	-67 **	-26 **	-17	-17
Assault with minor injury	205	239	385	307	242	256	201	231	206	-47 **	-20 **	-3	-11
Assault with no injury	42	45	83	82	72	60	72	74	71	-14	-1	-1	-3 ³
Robbery	75	-	243	199	120	94	83	94	78	-61 **	-36 **	-6	-17
Domestic violence	200	-	446	401	206	194	190	174	174	-61 **	-23 **	-8	-10
Acquaintance	218	-	247	191	227	196	200	206	170	-11	-25 **	-15	-17 **
Stranger	65	64	103	102	103	93	89	90	89	-12	-4	1	-1
Mugging (robbery + snatch theft)	10,905	10,059	16,337	14,937	32,787	36,450	45,069	47,729	47,138	46,903			
Unweighted base – personal crime	3,791	5,118	5,863	4,903	3,586	3,428	2,978	3,038	2,720	-45 **	-21 **	-7 **	-10 **
TOTALS	1,057	1,169	1,702	1,501	1,132	1,127	956	963	848	-43 **	-25 **	-11 **	-12 **
All household crime ⁵	10,905	10,059	16,337	14,937	32,787	36,450	45,069	47,738	46,903				
Unweighted base – personal crime	1. Rates for all BCS violence (wounding, assault with minor injury, assault with no injury, robbery), theft from the person, and other theft of personal property are quoted per 10,000 adults. For vandalism, burglary, vehicle-related thefts, bicycle thefts and other household thefts, rates are quoted per 10,000 households.												
2. Burglary with entry plus attempted burglary add up to total burglary. Burglary with loss plus burglary with no loss (including attempts) also add up to total burglary.													
3. Percentage changes for some crimes have been shaded out. This is because the number of victims interviewed is generally too low to provide robust estimates and percentage changes for these crimes (e.g. bases are around 200 or fewer in 2007/08).													
4. All BCS violence includes wounding, assault with minor injury, assault with no injury and robbery. Mugging includes robbery and snatch theft. For more information see the Glossary.													
5. It is not possible to construct a rate for all BCS-comparable crime because rates for household offences are based on rates per household, and those for personal offences on rates per adult, and the two cannot be combined.													
6. For more information about the crime types included in 'All household' and 'All personal' crime please see the Glossary.													

Table 2.03 Trends in percentage of households/adults who were victims once or more, from 1981 to 2007/08 (prevalence risks), and statistical significance of change between 2006/07 and 2007/08

Percentages	1981	1991	1995	1997	2001/02 ints	2002/03 ints	2004/05 ints	2005/06 ints	2006/07 ints	2007/08 ints	BCS Statistically significant change 2006/07 to 2007/08
PROPERTY CRIME											
<i>Percentage of households, victims once or more:</i>											
Vandalism	9.2	8.6	10.1	8.2	7.3	7.3	7.1	7.6	7.9	7.3	**
Vehicle vandalism	5.7	5.7	6.2	5.1	4.7	4.8	4.8	5.2	5.5	5.1	**
Other vandalism	3.9	3.4	4.3	3.4	2.9	2.8	2.7	2.8	2.8	2.5	**
Burglary	3.4	5.3	6.4	5.6	3.4	3.4	2.7	2.4	2.5	2.4	
With entry	2.2	3.5	3.7	3.2	2.0	2.0	1.7	1.5	1.5	1.4	
Attempts	1.4	2.1	2.9	2.7	1.5	1.5	1.0	1.0	1.1	1.0	
With loss	1.8	2.9	3.1	2.5	1.5	1.6	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.1	
No loss (including attempts)	1.9	2.7	3.6	3.3	2.0	1.9	1.5	1.4	1.4	1.4	
Vehicle-related theft	7.3	13.5	14.5	12.0	8.5	8.2	6.4	5.8	5.8	5.0	**
Theft from vehicle	5.6	8.8	9.1	7.9	5.3	5.2	4.1	3.8	3.9	3.4	**
Theft of vehicles	1.4	2.4	2.1	1.6	1.3	1.2	0.9	0.7	0.7	0.6	
Attempts of and from	0.8	3.6	4.8	3.6	2.5	2.5	1.7	1.5	1.4	1.2	**
Bicycle theft	1.1	2.4	2.7	2.2	1.5	1.4	1.5	1.6	1.8	1.6	
Other household theft	5.4	6.4	7.6	6.6	4.8	4.7	3.9	3.7	4.0	3.5	**
<i>Unweighted base – household crime</i>	<i>10,905</i>	<i>10,059</i>	<i>16,310</i>	<i>14,900</i>	<i>32,720</i>	<i>36,395</i>	<i>44,973</i>	<i>47,610</i>	<i>47,027</i>	<i>46,765</i>	
<i>Percentage of vehicle-owning households, victims once or more:</i>											
Vehicle-related theft	10.8	18.2	19.7	16.0	11.3	10.8	8.2	7.5	7.5	6.4	**
Theft from vehicle	8.2	11.8	12.3	10.5	7.0	6.8	5.4	4.9	5.1	4.4	**
Theft of vehicles	2.1	3.2	2.9	2.2	1.7	1.5	1.1	0.9	0.9	0.8	
Attempts of and from	1.1	4.8	6.5	4.9	3.3	3.3	2.2	1.9	1.8	1.5	**
Vehicle vandalism	8.5	7.6	8.5	6.8	6.4	6.3	6.2	6.6	7.0	6.4	**
<i>Unweighted base – vehicle crime (owners)</i>	<i>7,714</i>	<i>7,386</i>	<i>11,721</i>	<i>10,930</i>	<i>25,022</i>	<i>28,106</i>	<i>35,378</i>	<i>38,016</i>	<i>37,526</i>	<i>37,487</i>	
<i>Percentage of bicycle-owning households, victims once or more:</i>											
Bicycle theft	2.7	5.5	6.1	4.8	3.7	3.4	3.6	3.8	4.0	3.6	
<i>Unweighted base – bicycle theft (owners)</i>	<i>4,766</i>	<i>4,093</i>	<i>6,882</i>	<i>6,380</i>	<i>13,501</i>	<i>15,567</i>	<i>19,344</i>	<i>20,861</i>	<i>21,054</i>	<i>20,779</i>	
<i>Percentage of adults (16+), victims once or more:</i>											
Theft from the person	1.0	1.0	1.6	1.4	1.3	1.5	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	
Snatch theft from person	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	
Stealth theft from person	0.9	0.8	1.4	1.2	1.1	1.3	1.0	1.1	1.1	1.1	
Other thefts of personal property	3.3	3.3	4.1	3.8	2.8	2.8	2.3	2.4	2.2	1.9	**
VIOLENCE											
Any BCS violence²	3.1	3.5	5.3	5.0	3.8	3.9	3.4	3.3	3.6	3.2	**
Wounding	1.0	1.0	1.2	1.2	1.0	1.1	1.0	0.8	0.9	0.8	**
Assault with minor injury	1.0	1.2	1.9	1.7	1.0	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.9	0.8	
Assault with no injury	1.1	1.2	2.1	1.9	1.5	1.6	1.3	1.3	1.4	1.4	
Robbery	0.3	0.4	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.5	0.5	
Domestic violence	0.3	0.6	1.0	0.9	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.4	**
Acquaintance	1.2	1.4	2.3	2.3	1.3	1.4	1.2	1.1	1.3	1.1	
Stranger	1.5	1.2	1.7	1.5	1.5	1.6	1.4	1.4	1.5	1.3	
Mugging (robbery + snatch theft)	0.4	0.5	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.8	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	
<i>Percentage victims once or more:</i>											
TOTALS											
ALL HOUSEHOLD CRIME³	22.2	29.0	32.5	27.8	21.6	21.0	18.4	18.1	18.9	17.1	**
ALL PERSONAL CRIME³	6.9	7.3	10.4	9.5	7.3	7.5	6.5	6.4	6.6	6.0	**
All BCS CRIME⁴	27.7	34.9	39.7	34.6	27.5	27.0	23.9	23.5	24.4	22.1	**
<i>Unweighted base – personal crime</i>	<i>10,905</i>	<i>10,059</i>	<i>16,337</i>	<i>14,937</i>	<i>32,787</i>	<i>36,450</i>	<i>45,069</i>	<i>47,729</i>	<i>47,138</i>	<i>46,903</i>	

1. Percentages for any BCS violence (wounding, assault with minor injury, assault with no injury, robbery), theft from the person and other theft of personal property are based on adults. Percentages for vandalism, burglary, vehicle-related thefts, bicycle thefts and other household thefts are based on households.

2. BCS violence includes wounding, assault with minor injury, assault with no injury and robbery. Mugging includes robbery and snatch theft. For more information see the Glossary.

3. For more information about the crime types included in 'All household' and 'All personal' crime please see the Glossary.

4. This percentage is calculated treating a household crime as a personal crime. It is the estimated percentage of adults who have been a victim of at least one personal crime or have been resident in a household that was a victim of at least one household crime.

Table 2.04 Recorded crime by offence 1997 to 2007/08 and percentage change between 2006/07 and 2007/08

Offence	1997	1997/98 ¹	1998/99 ²	1999/00	2000/01	2001/02 ^{3,4}	2002/03 ^{3,4}	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	Recorded crime % change 2006/07 to 2007/08
	1 Murder	739	748	750	766	850	891	1,047	904	868	766	759	784	3
4.1 Manslaughter													
4.2 Infanticide													
2 Attempted murder ⁵	652	661	676	750	708	856	822	888	740	920	633	620	-2
4.3 Intentional destruction of viable unborn child	5	6	9	1	2		2	8	4	5	5	4	-20
4.4 Causing death by dangerous driving	291	325	348	317	335	370	414	445	441	432	459	418	-9
4.6 Causing death by careless driving when under the influence of drink or drugs													
4.8 Causing death by careless or inconsiderate driving													
4.9 Causing death by driving: unlicensed drivers etc.													
5 More serious wounding or other act endangering life	12,531	12,833	13,960	15,135	15,662	16,547	18,016	19,528	19,612	18,825	17,276	15,094	-13
37.1 Causing death by aggravated vehicle taking	12	18	30	37	35	36	55	63	40	24	18	18	0
Most serious violence against the person	14,230	14,591	15,773	17,006	17,592	18,699	20,356	21,836	21,705	20,972	19,150	16,939	-12
3 Threat or conspiracy to murder	9,340	9,661	11,112	13,434	14,064	13,651	18,132	22,299	23,758	18,683	12,822	9,977	-22
4.7 Causing or allowing death of a child or vulnerable person													
6 Endangering railway passengers	11	7	15	7	10	16	1,164	811	718	646	484	402	-17
7 Endangering life at sea				1	-	4	2	2	3	13	5	10	100
8A Less serious wounding ^{6,7}	226,795	231,360	203,313	201,290	195,925	208,542	347,353	431,056	488,135	516,523	481,822	430,660	-11
8B Possession of weapons ^{8,9}				23,635	23,792	28,787	32,816	35,669	36,374	35,590	34,689	32,397	-7
8C Harassment ¹⁰				79,534	88,625	96,784	122,810	155,000	197,616	218,705	228,645	210,038	-8
8D Racially or religiously aggravated less serious wounding ¹¹					2,687	3,463	4,415	4,930	5,426	6,107	5,620	4,823	-14
8E Racially or religiously aggravated harassment ¹¹					10,758	14,975	16,910	20,975	23,363	26,605	28,485	26,495	-7
11 Cruelty to and neglect of children ¹⁰				2,300	2,558	3,068	4,109	6,083	5,724	5,045	4,917	5,299	8
12 Abandoning a child under the age of two years	56	54	41	51	48	48	59	49	49	49	23	19	-17
13 Child abduction	390	391	490	577	546	584	846	930	1,035	919	696	595	-15
14 Procuring illegal abortion			2	2	4	6	7	9	7	6	6	5	-17
104 Assault without injury on a constable ^{7,10}				21,510	28,000	30,095	33,948	22,189	23,604	22,217	21,749	20,457	-6
105A Assault without injury ^{7,10}				151,469	189,783	226,440	237,549	241,229	216,712	183,555	202,701	198,748	-2
105B Racially or religiously aggravated assault without injury ^{7,11}					4,275	5,164	4,602	4,161	3,866	3,945	4,351	4,320	-1
Other violence against the person	236,592	241,473	214,973	486,958	564,028	631,627	824,722	945,392	1,026,390	1,038,613	1,027,018	944,249	-8
TOTAL VIOLENCE AGAINST THE PERSON OFFENCES	250,822	256,064	230,746	502,778	581,034	650,326	845,078	967,228	1,048,095	1,059,585	1,046,168	961,188	-8

Table 2.04 (cont'd) Recorded crime by offence 1997 to 2007/08 and percentage change between 2006/07 and 2007/08

Offence	Numbers and percentage changes											Recorded crime		
	1997	1997/98 ¹	1998/99 ²	1999/00	2000/01	2001/02 ^{3,4}	2002/03 ^{3,4}	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	% change 2006/07 to 2007/08	
17 Indecent assault on a male ^{12, 29}	3,503	3,885	3,672	3,614	3,530	3,611	4,132	4,110	1,003	347	76	209	-4	
17A Sexual assault on a male aged 13 and over ¹²	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,316	1,428	1,450	1,315
17B Sexual assault on a male child under 13 ¹²	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,227	1,394	1,237	1,118
19A Rape of a female ^{12, 29}	6,281	6,523	7,139	7,809	7,929	9,002	11,445	12,378	693	61	25	145	-8	
19C Rape of a female aged 16 and over ¹²	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	8,192	8,725	8,222	7,613
19D Rape of a female child under 16 ¹²	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3,014	3,153	2,853	2,418
19E Rape of a female child under 13 ¹²	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	970	1,388	1,524	1,472
Rape of a female	6,281	6,523	7,139	7,809	7,929	9,002	11,445	12,378	12,869	13,327	12,624	11,648		
19B Rape of a male ^{12, 29}	347	375	502	600	664	732	850	894	81	22	18	10	-13	
19F Rape of a male aged 16 and over ¹²	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	444	438	413	334
19G Rape of a male child under 16 ¹²	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	322	292	261	235
19H Rape of a male child under 13 ¹²	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	297	364	458	427
Rape of a male	347	375	502	600	664	732	850	894	1,144	1,116	1,150	1,006		
20 Indecent assault on a female ^{12, 29}	18,674	18,979	19,463	20,664	20,301	21,789	25,275	27,240	5,152	1,215	267	768	-4	
20A Sexual assault on a female aged 13 and over ¹²	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	15,087	17,158	16,883	15,790
20B Sexual assault on a female child under 13 ¹²	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4,391	4,647	4,245	3,976
21 Unlawful sexual intercourse with a girl under 13 ¹²	148	156	153	181	155	169	183	212	..	..	..	1,836
21 Sexual activity involving a child under 13 ¹²	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,510	1,950	1,936	33
22 Unlawful sexual intercourse with a girl under 16 ^{12, 29}	1,112	1,084	1,133	1,270	1,237	1,326	1,515	1,911	436	138	67	33	-5	
22B Sexual activity involving a child under 16 ¹²	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2,546	3,283	3,208	3,100
22A Causing sexual activity without consent ^{12, 26}	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	239	744	224	217
70 Sexual activity etc. with a person with a mental disorder ¹²	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	104	139	163	128
71 Abuse of children through prostitution and pornography ¹²	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	99	124	101	110
72 Trafficking for sexual exploitation ¹²	21	33	43	56	30	
74 Gross indecency with a child ^{12, 29}	1,269	1,314	1,271	1,365	1,336	1,654	1,917	1,987	398	120	64	150		
Most serious sexual crime¹²	31,334	32,316	33,333	35,503	35,152	38,285	45,317	48,732	47,542	47,163	43,738	41,460		
16 Buggery ^{12, 29}	645	657	567	437	401	355	287	247	73	39	35	49		40
18 Gross indecency between males ^{12, 29}	520	483	353	286	167	163	245	260	49	20	12	17		
23 Incest or familial sexual offences ¹²	183	189	139	121	80	92	99	105	713	966	1,344	1,125		
24 Exploitation of prostitution ¹²	131	142	155	138	129	129	127	186	117	153	190	183		
25 Abduction of female ^{12, 29}	277	258	242	251	262	262	291	403	86	36	21	4		
27 Soliciting for the purpose of prostitution ¹²	973	1,028	1,655	2,111	1,944	1,821	1,640	1,290	1,258	-2	
73 Abuse of position of trust of a sexual nature ^{12, 29}	..	..	..	..	12	417	678	792	682	463	361	327
88A Sexual grooming ¹²	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	186	237	322	272
88B Other miscellaneous sexual offences ^{12, 13}	..	..	..	9,476	8,647	8,223	9,735	9,873	11,593	11,363	10,209	8,845
Other sexual offences	1,756	1,729	1,456	11,682	10,726	11,296	13,573	13,810	15,320	14,917	13,784	12,080		
TOTAL SEXUAL OFFENCES	33,090	34,045	34,789	46,372	45,878	49,581	58,890	62,542	62,862	62,080	57,522	53,540		

Table 2.04 (contd) Recorded crime by offence 1997 to 2007/08 and percentage change between 2006/07 and 2007/08

Numbers and percentage changes		Recorded crime											Recorded crime % change 2006/07 to 2007/08		
		1997	1997/98 ¹	1998/99	1998/99 ²	1999/00	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03 ^{3,4}	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06		2006/07	2007/08
34A	Robbery of business property	63,072	62,652	66,172	10,481	12,148	12,394	13,186	11,066	10,110	7,934	8,760	9,454	9,141	-3
34B	Robbery of personal property	56,354	72,129	82,760	56,354	72,129	82,760	108,173	99,205	93,626	83,076	89,438	91,922	75,565	-18
	TOTAL ROBBERY OFFENCES	63,072	62,652	66,172	66,835	84,277	95,154	121,359	110,271	103,736	91,010	98,198	101,376	84,706	-16
28	Burglary in a dwelling	516,346	498,578	470,005	470,465	439,609	399,927	426,859	434,098	398,945	318,969	298,355	290,454	279,129	-4
29	Aggravated burglary in a dwelling	2,919	3,015	2,955	2,884	2,993	3,057	3,483	3,485	3,400	2,538	2,162	1,806	1,575	-13
	Total burglary in a dwelling of which: distraction burglary ¹⁴	519,265	501,593	472,960	473,349	442,602	402,984	430,347	437,583	402,345	321,507	300,517	292,704	280,704	-4
		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	15,716	13,258	11,552	12,750	10,635	-17
30	Burglary in a building other than a dwelling	495,396	486,408	478,508	479,425	463,372	432,540	447,552	451,904	417,133	358,398	344,195	329,473	302,781	-8
31	Aggravated burglary in a building other than a dwelling	414	431	410	410	494	503	610	612	535	453	356	279	214	-23
	Total burglary in a building other than a dwelling	495,810	486,839	478,918	479,835	463,866	433,043	448,162	452,516	417,668	358,851	344,551	329,752	302,995	-8
	TOTAL BURGLARY OFFENCES	1,015,075	988,432	951,878	953,184	906,468	836,027	878,509	890,099	820,013	680,358	645,068	622,012	583,699	-6
37.2	Aggravated vehicle taking	8,031	8,143	9,811	10,098	10,416	10,759	11,794	11,560	11,570	11,409	10,943	10,920	10,335	-5
45	Theft from a vehicle	710,333	695,498	680,937	685,919	669,232	629,651	655,161	663,679	603,256	500,360	507,239	502,651	432,377	-14
48	Theft or unauthorised taking of motor vehicle	399,208	392,381	381,080	381,709	364,270	328,037	316,321	306,947	280,288	231,323	203,239	182,464	159,847	-12
126	Interfering with a motor vehicle ^{10, 15}	..	..	..	48,011	56,521	62,696	80,755	92,473	89,892	77,004	71,400	68,980	53,990	-22
	TOTAL OFFENCES AGAINST VEHICLES	1,117,572	1,096,022	1,071,828	1,125,737	1,100,439	1,031,143	1,064,031	1,074,659	985,006	820,096	792,821	765,015	656,549	-14
38	Profiting from or concealing knowledge of the proceeds of crime ¹⁶	..	..	..	63,118	76,254	87,332	114,848	148,488	137,154	122,081	123,867	114,852	101,660	-11
39	Theft from the person	57,767	57,894	63,054	63,118	76,254	87,332	114,848	148,488	137,154	122,081	123,867	114,852	101,660	-11
40	Theft in a dwelling other than from automatic machine or meter	38,301	38,765	44,199	44,375	44,764	43,045	46,859	56,444	61,099	57,713	54,757	54,471	51,349	-6
41	Theft by an employee	17,156	17,476	17,872	17,900	17,468	17,487	17,120	17,530	17,700	17,251	17,048	16,323	15,858	-3
42	Theft of mail	3,638	3,692	4,919	4,931	5,856	6,890	9,665	13,458	20,537	22,509	9,351	4,740	3,044	-36
43	Dishonest use of electricity	3,325	2,978	2,454	2,454	2,157	1,451	1,335	1,413	1,309	1,296	1,299	1,497	2,027	35
44	Theft or unauthorised taking of a pedal cycle	139,092	140,031	125,178	128,557	131,240	108,509	102,713	97,755	105,467	105,953	113,192	110,526	103,999	-6
46	Shoplifting	274,015	273,509	281,457	281,972	292,494	293,080	306,596	310,881	303,235	281,127	295,999	294,282	290,625	-1
47	Theft from automatic machine or meter ³⁰	13,595	12,662	15,211	15,343	19,077	18,619	19,544	24,311	29,515	35,918	42,049	33,721	11,941	-65
49	Other theft or unauthorised taking	466,917	469,592	472,869	479,306	510,573	518,573	565,475	647,827	634,491	589,189	554,368	536,603	526,994	-2
54	Handling stolen goods	33,574	32,352	27,677	27,746	23,298	19,243	18,775	18,817	17,308	14,157	12,714	11,826	11,227	-5
	OTHER THEFT OFFENCES	1,047,380	1,048,951	1,054,890	1,065,702	1,123,181	1,114,229	1,202,933	1,336,924	1,327,884	1,247,632	1,226,192	1,180,802	1,121,104	-5

Table 2.04 (cont'd) Recorded crime by offence 1997 to 2007/08 and percentage change between 2006/07 and 2007/08

Offence	Numbers and percentage changes											Recorded crime		
	1997	1997/98 ¹	1998/99	1998/99 ²	1999/00	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03 ^{3,4}	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	% change 2006/07 to 2007/08
51 Fraud by company director ^{17, 27}	15	15	39	159	165	152	106	27	80	51	626	101	197	95
52 False accounting	1,820	1,711	1,203	1,304	1,103	1,043	1,033	880	721	541	487	462	248	-46
53A Cheque and credit card fraud (pre Fraud Act 2006) ^{18, 27, 32}	..	..	..	141,948	173,857	148,252	153,646	142,249	131,022	121,376	87,860	59,011	..	..
53B Preserved other fraud and repeated fraud offences (pre Fraud Act 2006) ^{18, 27, 31, 33}	124,389	126,790	165,221	122,437	145,448	155,647	144,436	169,639	171,002	141,667	128,182	127,854	..	..
53C Fraud by false representation: cheque, plastic card and online bank accounts ^{27, 32}	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	23,344	..
53D Fraud by false representation: other frauds ^{27, 33}	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	118,407	..
53E Fraud by failing to disclose information ²⁷	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	266	..
53F Fraud by abuse of position ²⁷	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	658	..
53G Obtaining services dishonestly ²⁷	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,883	..
53H Making or supplying articles for use in fraud ²⁷	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	182	..
53J Possession of articles for use in fraud ²⁷	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,081	..
55 Bankruptcy and insolvency offences ⁴	..	..	..	23	82	10	15	11	9	11	93	14	31	121
60 Forgery or use of false drug prescription	941	799	838	842	871	821	762	881	805	747	693	593	439	-26
61 Other forgery	7,233	6,917	6,427	6,762	6,173	6,225	6,835	8,793	7,992	10,249	10,627	8,479	4,139	-51
61A Possession of false documents	..	..	..	6,028	7,074	7,174	8,026	8,618	8,016	5,420	4,206	3,138	2,327	..
814 Vehicle/driver document fraud ¹⁰	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2,156	-31
TOTAL FRAUD AND FORGERY OFFENCES^{19,27}	134,398	136,232	173,728	279,503	334,773	319,324	314,859	331,098	319,647	280,062	232,774	199,652	155,358	-22
56 Arson	31,516	32,051	39,636	47,273	53,794	52,818	60,456	53,552	57,546	48,368	45,731	43,100	39,318	-9
57 Criminal damage endangering life	372	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
58 Other criminal damage ²⁰	842,415	827,104	792,275	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
58 Other criminal damage ²¹	704,717	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
58A Criminal damage to a dwelling ¹⁰	..	..	..	216,590	234,575	238,896	269,456	291,999	321,613	308,973	297,579	288,285	256,777	-11
58B Criminal damage to a building other than a dwelling ¹⁰	..	..	..	159,461	166,770	166,960	178,288	176,702	186,784	174,489	161,436	160,207	131,134	-18
58C Criminal damage to a vehicle ¹⁰	..	..	..	367,152	374,218	378,903	419,403	434,270	457,950	461,346	468,143	483,237	425,612	-12
58D Other criminal damage ¹⁰	..	..	..	95,777	108,318	113,628	126,076	152,440	180,411	188,842	195,069	197,036	173,081	-12
58E Racially or religiously aggravated criminal damage to a dwelling ¹¹	..	..	..	..	1,452	1,765	2,226	2,044	1,982	1,845	1,742	1,543	1,150	-25
58F Racially or religiously aggravated criminal damage to a building other than a dwelling ¹¹	..	..	..	..	756	985	1,547	1,160	1,185	1,137	1,274	1,079	823	-24
58G Racially or religiously aggravated criminal damage to a vehicle ¹¹	..	..	..	..	1,232	1,399	1,885	1,525	1,603	1,640	1,899	1,711	1,340	-22
58H Racially or religiously aggravated other criminal damage ¹¹	..	..	..	..	590	612	822	780	838	837	975	953	692	-27
59 Threat etc. to commit criminal damage	2,739	2,691	2,459	3,333	3,977	4,121	4,334	6,138	8,612	10,066	10,501	7,889	6,319	-20
TOTAL CRIMINAL DAMAGE OFFENCES	877,042	861,846	834,370	879,586	945,682	960,087	1,064,495	1,120,610	1,218,524	1,197,543	1,184,349	1,185,040	1,036,246	-13
TOTAL PROPERTY CRIME²²	4,191,467	4,131,483	4,086,695	4,303,712	4,410,543	4,260,810	4,524,827	4,753,390	4,671,074	4,225,691	4,081,204	3,952,521	3,552,956	-10

Table 2.04 (contd) Recorded crime by offence 1997 to 2007/08 and percentage change between 2006/07 and 2007/08

Offence	Numbers and percentage changes											Recorded crime		
	1997	1997/98 ¹	1998/99	1998/99 ²	1999/00	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03 ^{3,4}	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	% change 2006/07 to 2007/08
92A Trafficking in controlled drugs	23,153	23,336	21,306	21,788	19,956	19,820	19,686	22,435	24,628	24,190	25,276	26,550	28,130	6
92B Possession of controlled drugs ^{10, 23}	..	..	..	112,576	100,598	92,716	100,905	119,896	118,006	..	..	680	809	19
92C Other drug offences ¹⁰	..	..	..	1,581	1,312	922	802	989	877	781	601	36,608	41,933	15
92D Possession of controlled drugs (excluding cannabis) ²³	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	32,603	32,685	130,395	158,086	21
92E Possession of controlled drugs (cannabis) ²³	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	88,263	119,917	..	..	..
TOTAL DRUG OFFENCES	23,153	23,336	21,306	135,945	121,866	113,458	121,393	143,320	143,511	145,837	178,479	194,233	228,958	18
15 Concealing an infant death close to birth	5	6	10	10	4	9	4	7	6	6	8	4	8	100
26 Bigamy	75	106	126	129	83	80	74	88	71	104	101	61	78	28
33 Going equipped for stealing, etc.	6,132	6,006	5,852	5,866	5,208	4,634	5,081	5,792	5,706	4,567	4,382	4,253	3,761	-12
35 Blackmail ³⁴	877	927	1,036	1,038	1,137	1,086	1,072	1,331	1,497	1,465	1,645	2,481	1,197	-52
36 Kidnapping	1,559	1,652	2,046	2,049	2,339	2,404	2,789	3,198	3,141	2,814	2,799	2,367	2,000	-15
62 Treason	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
64 Riot	6	6	3	2	6	2	12	8	8	4	7	4	2	-50
65 Violent disorder	2,060	2,113	2,460	2,500	2,804	2,753	2,602	2,856	2,790	2,636	2,457	1,742	1,181	-32
66 Other offences against the State and public order	16,240	16,736	17,334	18,638	19,600	17,834	18,872	19,935	19,926	20,370	31,999	35,935	35,058	-2
67 Perjury	309	348	314	329	217	183	143	186	206	265	245	197	191	-3
68 Libel	5	3	3	3	4	2	3	2	..	..	1	1	1	0
75 Betting, gaming and lotteries ¹⁰	..	..	..	48	23	27	17	5	1	12	6	13	11	-15
76 Aiding suicide	14	12	8	8	6	10	4	8	11	6	11	13	9	-31
78 Immigration offences ¹⁰	..	..	..	505	427	262	329	433	451	550	935	792	660	-17
79 Perverting the course of justice	6,779	7,108	9,216	9,265	9,637	9,763	10,282	11,346	11,894	11,567	12,712	11,114	9,124	-18
80 Absconding from lawful custody	1,379	1,372	1,294	1,301	1,559	1,389	1,357	1,553	1,721	1,362	1,272	979	831	-15
81 Other firearms offences ^{10, 24}	..	..	..	3,325	3,143	3,531	3,199	3,522	3,322	4,210	4,106	4,239	4,509	6
82 Customs and Revenue offences ¹⁰	..	..	..	119	96	116	124	117	49	30	49	27	10	-63
83 Bail offences ¹⁰	..	..	..	66	143	107	133	252	212	202	177	83	25	-70
84 Trade descriptions, etc. ¹⁰	..	..	..	263	245	192	173	195	513	1,344	1,360	1,353	1,321	-2
85 Health and Safety offences ¹⁰	..	..	..	7	3	5	5	3	4	15	8	9	8	-11
86 Obscene publications, etc and protected sexual material ¹⁰	..	..	..	603	643	665	852	2,106	2,881	2,861	2,592	2,378	2,642	11
87 Protection from eviction ¹⁰	..	..	..	68	66	71	56	63	75	70	75	69	80	16
89 Adulteration of food ¹⁰	..	..	..	69	46	94	117	80	34	29	45	32	44	38
90 Other knives offences ¹⁰	..	..	..	99	66	51	59	41	30	21	15	9	6	-33
91 Public health offences ¹⁰	..	..	..	9	12	10	17	20	86	112	128	50	44	-12
94 Planning laws ¹⁰	..	..	..	2	1	5	3	1	3	4	5	0	0	0
95 Disclosure, obstruction, false or misleading statements etc. ¹⁰	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	16	22	144	368	266	422	59
99 Other indictable or triable-either-way offences	1,283	1,362	2,408	2,537	3,559	4,058	4,034	3,223	3,440	2,577	2,197	1,915	1,391	-27
802 Dangerous driving ¹⁰	..	..	..	4,589	5,205	5,287	6,126	7,624	7,567	6,669	5,923	5,353	4,709	-12
TOTAL OTHER MISCELLANEOUS OFFENCES	36,723	37,757	42,110	53,447	56,282	54,630	57,536	64,011	65,668	64,016	75,628	75,739	69,323	-8
SERIOUS CRIME SUBSET³⁵	1,530,950	1,498,515	1,458,047	1,461,070	1,417,940	1,322,721	1,384,967	1,384,550	1,286,175	1,083,347	1,025,583	979,660	896,986	-8
TOTAL RECORDED CRIME - ALL OFFENCES	4,598,327	4,545,337	4,481,817	5,109,089	5,301,187	5,170,843	5,525,024	5,974,960	6,013,759	5,637,511	5,555,174	5,427,559	4,950,671	-9

See next page for the footnotes applicable to this table.

Footnotes applicable to Table 2.04

1. The number of crimes recorded in that financial year using the coverage and rules in use until 31 March 1998.
2. The number of crimes recorded in that financial year using the expanded offence coverage and revised counting rules which came into effect on 1 April 1998.
3. The National Crime Recording Standard was introduced in April 2002. Figures before and after that date are not directly comparable.
4. Includes the British Transport Police from 2002/03 onwards.
5. The homicide figure for 2002/03 includes 173 murders committed by Harold Shipman in previous years but coming to light in the official inquiry in 2002. The homicide figure in 2005/06 of 766 includes 52 homicide victims of the 7 July London bombings, which also accounted for approximately one-quarter of the total 920 attempted murders.
6. These offences were split with effect from 1 April 1998.
7. The change in definition relating to resultant injury in common assaults and less serious woundings, which applied from 1 April 2002, is described in Chapter 5 of 'Crime in England and Wales 2005/06'.
8. Included within 'less serious wounding' prior to April 1998.
9. Possession of weapons offences can also be included in other offence classifications.
10. These offences were added to the series from 1 April 1998. Offences of 'assault without injury' include some assaults with injury prior to April 2002.
11. These offences were added to the series from 1 April 1999; prior to that they would have been included in the original classifications. Religiously aggravated offences were added to the series from April 2002.
12. The Sexual Offences Act 2003 introduced in May 2004 altered the definition and coverage of sexual offences.
13. This offence consists solely of the former offence of Indecent Exposure for years prior to 2004/05. This became the offence of Exposure and is included within 'Other miscellaneous sexual offences' from May 2004.
14. Excludes Cumbria, Durham, Nottinghamshire, South Wales and Sussex for 2003/04.
15. Includes tampering with a motor vehicle.
16. These offences were added to the series from 1 April 2003.
17. The large increase in this offence in 2005/06 was due to one large-scale fraud recorded by the Cambridgeshire Constabulary and the large rise in 2007/08 due to fraud recorded by the North Yorkshire Constabulary.
18. These offences were split with effect from 1 April 1998.
19. This table includes the fraud offences used prior to the commencement of the Fraud Act 2006 on 15 January 2007.
20. Including offences of 'other criminal damage' of value £20 and under.
21. Excluding offences of 'other criminal damage' of value £20 and under.
22. Includes offences of burglary, offences against vehicles, other theft offences, fraud and forgery and criminal damage.
23. Possession of controlled drugs offences were split with effect from April 2004 into possession of cannabis and possession of drugs other than cannabis.
24. These are offences under the Firearms Act 1968 and other Firearms Acts connected with licensing and certification of firearms. Such offences are not included in the firearms offences statistics which are discussed in Chapter 3 of 'Crime in England and Wales 2006/07'.
25. A summary of recorded crime data from 1898 to 2007/08 is available in Excel format on the RDS website at: <http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/recordedcrime1.html>
26. The increase in 2005/06 was accounted for by a large number of offences that were dealt with by the Norfolk Constabulary.
27. These offences were introduced under the Fraud Act 2006 which came into force on 15 January 2007. Offences under the new classifications 53C to 53J were recorded under these classifications from 1 April 2007. Between 15 January and 31 March 2007 these offences were recorded under classification 53B Other fraud. For classifications 53A and 53C counting changed from a per fraudulent transaction to per account basis from 15 January 2007. From 1 April 2007 these offences were reported to a single point of contact within each police force by financial institutions.
28. Some forces have revised their data and totals may not therefore agree with those previously published.
29. A small number of offences continue to be recorded relating to offences repealed by the Sexual Offences Act 2003, while these may continue to be legitimately recorded for offences committed prior to May 2004 it is also possible that some may have been recorded in these old categories in error, so recent changes based on small numbers should be interpreted with caution.
30. Following a change in the implementation of the Fraud Act 2006, offences involving theft from an automatic machine using a plastic card are now regarded as false representation and recorded under classification 53C.
31. Offence classification 53B includes cheque and credit card fraud for years 1997 and 1998/99.
32. Classification 53C in 2007/08 includes some offences recorded under code 53A as the offences are very similar in nature.
33. Classification 53D in 2007/08 includes some offences recorded under code 53B as the offences are very similar in nature.
34. The large increase in 2006/07 was due to the recording of threats made against shareholders of GlaxoSmithKline by animal rights activists.
35. The police recorded Serious Crime Subset comprises most serious violence against the person; most serious sexual offences; robbery; burglary; theft or unauthorised taking of a motor vehicle, and aggravated vehicle taking.
- .. Not applicable.

Table 2.05 Recorded crime and number per 100,000 population for violence against the person, property crime and offences against vehicles

Year	Numbers (thousands) and numbers per 100,000 population				Total recorded offences against vehicles ⁴ (thousands)	Number of offences against vehicles per 100,000 population	Total recorded offences (thousands)	Recorded crime per 100,000 population
	Total recorded violence against the person (thousands)	Number of violence against the person offences per 100,000 population	Total recorded property crime (thousands)	Number of property crime offences per 100,000 population				
1950	6	14	435	993	39	90	461	1,053
1960	16	34	699	1,513	110	237	744	1,610
1970	41	84	1,471	2,994	323	657	1,556	3,166
1980	97	196	2,547	5,134	619	1,249	2,688	5,420
1981	100	202	2,815	5,671	712	1,435	2,964	5,971
1982	109	219	3,102	6,254	800	1,613	3,262	6,577
1983	111	224	3,079	6,208	750	1,512	3,247	6,546
1984	114	230	3,325	6,696	800	1,611	3,499	7,047
1985	122	245	3,424	6,882	846	1,701	3,612	7,258
1986	125	251	3,653	7,316	988	1,980	3,847	7,707
1987	141	282	3,674	7,337	1,048	2,093	3,892	7,773
1988	158	315	3,477	6,920	987	1,965	3,716	7,396
1989	177	351	3,603	7,150	1,022	2,029	3,871	7,681
1990	185	365	4,263	8,430	1,267	2,506	4,544	8,986
1991	190	375	4,976	9,812	1,495	2,948	5,276	10,403
1992	202	395	5,268	10,309	1,549	3,032	5,592	10,943
1993	205	400	5,191	10,124	1,523	2,971	5,526	10,777
1994	218	424	4,895	9,516	1,384	2,691	5,253	10,212
1995	213	412	4,739	9,180	1,322	2,560	5,100	9,880
1996	239	462	4,636	8,946	1,293	2,495	5,037	9,719
1997	251	482	4,191	8,059	1,118	2,149	4,598	8,841
1997/98 ^{1,2}	256	492	4,131	7,944	1,096	2,107	4,545	8,739
1998/99 ²	231	442	4,087	7,827	1,072	2,053	4,482	8,584
1998/99 ³	503	963	4,304	8,243	1,126	2,156	5,109	9,785
1999/00	581	1,108	4,411	8,413	1,100	2,099	5,301	10,111
2000/01	601	1,140	4,261	8,087	1,031	1,957	5,171	9,814
2001/02	650	1,228	4,525	8,547	1,064	2,010	5,525	10,436
2002/03 ^{5,7}	845	1,603	4,753	9,010	1,075	2,050	5,975	11,323
2003/04 ⁷	967	1,821	4,671	8,785	985	1,865	6,014	11,308
2004/05 ⁷	1,048	1,960	4,226	7,896	820	1,543	5,638	10,531
2005/06 ⁷	1,060	1,970	4,081	7,591	793	1,485	5,555	10,328
2006/07 ^{6,7}	1,046	1,930	3,953	7,305	765	1,424	5,428	10,024
2007/08 ⁷	961	1,788	3,553	6,613	657	1,222	4,951	9,214

1. Change from calendar year to financial year.

2. The number of crimes recorded in that financial year using the coverage and rules in use until 31 March 1998.

3. The number of crimes recorded in that financial year using the expanded offence coverage and revised counting rules which came into effect on 1 April 1998.

4. Offences against vehicles includes aggravated vehicle taking, theft or unauthorised taking of a motor vehicle, theft from a vehicle and, from 1998/99 onwards, interfering with a vehicle.

5. Numbers of recorded crimes will be affected by changes in reporting and recording. For further information see Chapter 3 in 'Crime in England and Wales 2002/03'. The national impact of recording changes in 2002/03 was estimated to be ten per cent for total recorded crime. This impact will vary for different types of offences.

6. Some forces have revised their data and totals may not therefore agree with those previously published.

7. From 2002/03, the number of offences recorded by the British Transport Police (BTP) were added to the England and Wales figures. The rates per 100,000 population do not include figures from the BTP.

Table 2.06 The proportion of 16 to 59 year olds who said they had used drugs in the last year, 1995 to 2007/08

Percentages	Statistically significant change										BCS		
	1995	1997	1999	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08		1995 to 2007/08	1997 to 2007/08	2006/07 to 2007/08
<i>Percentage of 16 to 59 year olds:</i>													
Class A													
Any cocaine	0.6	1.3	2.0	2.0	2.1	2.5	2.0	2.4	2.6	2.3	**	**	**
Cocaine powder	0.6	1.2	2.0	2.0	2.1	2.4	2.0	2.4	2.6	2.3	**	**	**
Crack cocaine	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.1			
Ecstasy	1.7	1.5	1.8	2.2	2.0	2.0	1.8	1.6	1.8	1.5	**	**	**
Hallucinogens	1.3	1.3	1.0	0.7	0.7	0.9	1.1	1.1	0.7	0.6	**	**	**
LSD	1.0	0.8	0.7	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.3	**	**	**
Magic mushrooms	0.7	0.9	0.7	0.5	0.6	0.8	1.1	1.0	0.6	0.5	**	**	**
Opiates	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2			
Heroin	0.2	0.1	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1			
Methadone	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1			
Class A/B													
Amphetamines	3.2	3.0	2.1	1.6	1.6	1.5	1.4	1.3	1.3	1.0	**	**	**
Class B/C													
Tranquillisers	0.4	0.7	0.7	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.5			
Class C													
Anabolic steroids	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	**	**	**
Cannabis	9.5	10.3	10.5	10.6	10.9	10.8	9.7	8.7	8.2	7.4	**	**	**
Ketamine	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	0.3	0.4	n/a	n/a	n/a
Not classified													
Amyl Nitrite	1.3	1.5	1.3	1.2	1.3	1.3	1.2	1.2	1.4	1.5	**	**	**
Glues	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.1	**	**	**
Total													
Class A	2.7	2.7	3.2	3.2	3.3	3.5	3.2	3.4	3.4	3.0	**	**	**
Any drug	11.1	12.1	11.9	11.9	12.2	12.3	11.3	10.5	10.0	9.3	**	**	**
<i>Unweighted base</i> ⁴	10,741	9,809	12,771	19,973	23,357	24,197	28,206	29,631	28,819	28,331			

1. Source 1996 to 2007/08 BCS (self-completion modules) – the years listed in the table refer to the year the usage occurred not the survey year (as in previous drug-related publications).

2. Amphetamines can be classified as either Class A (prepared for injection) or Class B (powdered). For the purposes of calculating Class A drug use, the BCS assumes all reported amphetamine use to be of the Class B variety. Similarly, tranquillisers can either be classified as Class B (e.g. barbiturates) or Class C (e.g. benzodiazepines). Consequently, Class B and Class C drugs cannot be aggregated reliably because the survey does not identify which specific tranquilliser respondents used.

3. The category 'not classified' indicates that it is an offence to supply these substances if it is likely that the product is intended for abuse.

4. Base numbers relate to any drug use. Bases for other drug measures will be similar.

Table 2.07 The proportion of 16 to 24 year olds who said they had used drugs in the last year, 1995 to 2007/08

Percentages	BCS											
	1995	1997	1999	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	Statistically significant change	
				ints	ints	ints	ints	ints	ints	ints	1995 to 2007/08	1997 to 2006/07 to 2007/08
<i>Percentage of 16 to 24 year olds:</i>												
Drug Class A												
Any cocaine	1.4	3.2	5.4	5.1	5.2	5.4	5.1	5.9	6.1	5.0	**	**
Cocaine powder	1.3	3.1	5.2	5.1	5.1	5.2	5.1	5.9	6.0	5.0	**	**
Crack cocaine	0.2	0.3	0.9	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.1	0.4	0.4	0.2		
Ecstasy	6.6	5.1	5.6	6.8	5.8	5.5	4.9	4.3	4.8	3.9	**	**
Hallucinogens	5.3	5.3	3.4	2.0	2.2	2.9	3.0	3.4	2.1	1.5	**	**
LSD	4.5	3.2	2.5	1.2	0.9	0.9	0.5	0.9	0.7	0.7	**	**
Magic mushrooms	2.3	3.9	2.4	1.5	1.9	2.7	3.0	3.0	1.7	1.2	**	**
Opiates	0.4	0.8	0.8	0.3	0.2	0.5	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	**	**
Heroin	0.4	0.3	0.8	0.3	0.2	0.4	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1		
Methadone	0.1	0.6	0.1	0.0	0.2	0.3	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1		
Class A/B												
Amphetamines	11.8	9.9	6.2	5.0	3.8	4.0	3.2	3.3	3.5	2.4	**	**
Class B/C												
Tranquillisers	0.9	1.5	1.5	1.0	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.7	0.6	0.7		
Class C												
Anabolic steroids	0.5	0.5	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.1		
Cannabis	26.0	28.2	27.0	27.3	26.2	25.3	23.6	21.4	20.9	17.9	**	**
Ketamine	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	0.8	0.9	n/a	n/a
Not classified												
Amyl Nitrite	4.6	5.1	3.9	3.8	4.4	4.3	3.6	3.9	4.2	4.3	**	**
Glues	0.9	1.3	1.0	0.6	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.4	**	**
Total												
Class A	9.2	8.6	9.7	9.1	8.9	8.5	8.3	8.4	8.0	6.8	**	**
Frequent use	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	11.6	12.4	10.3	9.5	8.3	7.3	n/a	n/a
Any drug	29.7	31.8	29.9	30.0	28.5	28.3	26.5	25.2	24.1	21.3	**	**
<i>Unweighted base</i> ⁶	1,420	1,246	1,468	3,995	4,227	5,351	6,196	5,892	5,706	5,767		

1. Source 1996 to 2007/08 BCS (self-completion modules) – the years listed in the table refer to the year the usage occurred not the survey year (as in previous drug-related publications).
 2. Amphetamines can be classified as either Class A (prepared for injection) or Class B (powdered). For the purposes of calculating Class A drug use, the BCS assumes all reported amphetamine use to be of the Class B variety. Similarly, tranquillisers can either be classified as Class B (e.g. barbiturates) or Class C (e.g. benzodiazepines). Consequently, Class B and Class C drugs cannot be aggregated reliably because the survey does not identify which specific tranquilliser respondents used.
 3. The category 'not classified' indicates that it is an offence to supply these substances if it is likely that the product is intended for abuse.
 4. Frequent use refers to use of any drug more than once a month in the past year. Questions on frequency of use have been completed by 16 to 24 year olds only since the 2002/03 BCS.
 5. The table includes revised figures for young people's drug use for the period 2001/02 to 2004/05 to reflect amendments to weighting procedures.
 6. Base numbers relate to any drug use. Bases for other drug measures will be similar.

Table 2.08 Number of times victims were victimised, 2005/06, 2006/07 and 2007/08 BCS

Percentages											BCS
		2005/06 ints			2006/07 ints			2007/08 ints			Unweighted base
		Once	Twice	Three or more	Once	Twice	Three or more	Once	Twice	Three or more	
PROPERTY CRIME											
Vandalism	%	70	17	12	68	18	14	70	16	14	3,372
Vehicle vandalism	%	73	17	9	72	17	11	74	16	10	2,336
Other vandalism	%	71	15	15	69	14	17	70	15	15	1,196
Burglary	%	84	9	7	87	9	4	85	9	6	1,038
Vehicle-related theft	%	82	11	7 **	84	11	5	83	12	5	2,203
Bicycle theft	%	88	9	4	89	8	3	89	9	3	765
Other household theft	%	79	13	7	83	11	7	82	12	6	1,669
Theft from the person	%	92	7	1	93	4	2	94	5	1	491
Other theft of personal property	%	88	10	2	89	7	4	90	7	3	810
VIOLENCE											
All BCS violence ²	%	73	13	14	72	15	13	73	14	13	1,281
Wounding	%	79	10	11	82	10	8	82	10	8	334
Assault with minor injury	%	74	15	11	76	15	9	78	13	9	315
Assault with no injury	%	72	13	15	72	12	16	74	15	12	532
Robbery	%	86	10	5	84	10	6	80	14	6	186
Domestic violence	%	57	20	23	58	20	23	55	18	27	226
Acquaintance	%	72	11	17	77	10	12	71	15	14	450
Stranger	%	81	10	9	80	13	8	83	11	5	477
Mugging (<i>robbery + snatch theft</i>)	%	87	9	4	85	9	5	84	11	4	244

1. Based on victims of specified offences.

2. All BCS violence includes wounding, assault with minor injury, assault with no injury and robbery. For more information see the Glossary.

3. Unweighted base relates to 2007/08 figures. Bases for 2005/06 and 2006/07 will be similar.

4. Statistical significance of changes is calculated to 2007/08 interviews. Only one result was statistically significant.

Table 2.09 Percentage of victims who were victimised more than once and percentage of incidents experienced by repeat victims, 1995, 2006/07 and 2007/08 BCS

	Percentages					BCS				
	% victim more than once			Statistically significant change		% of incidents experienced by repeat victims			Statistically significant change	
	1995	2006/07 ints	2007/08 ints	1995 to 2007/08	2006/07 to 2007/08	1995	2006/07 ints	2007/08 ints	1995 to 2007/08	2006/07 to 2007/08
PROPERTY CRIME										
Vandalism	30	32	30			56	58	55		**
Burglary	19	13	15	**		38	29	34		
Vehicle-related theft	28	16	17	**		49	32	34	**	
Bicycle theft	14	11	11			26	22	23		
Other household theft	23	17	18	**		46	36	37	**	
Theft from the person	4	7	6			7	16	12		
Other thefts of personal property	14	11	10	**		31	24	21	**	
VIOLENCE										
All BCS violence ²	38	28	27	**		68	55	53	**	
Wounding	24	18	18			58	42	41	**	
Assault with minor injury	33	24	22	**		63	47	45	**	
Assault with no injury	39	28	26	**		66	55	51	**	
Robbery	16	16	20			31	37	41		
Domestic violence	50	42	45			79	70	73		
Acquaintance	37	23	29	**		68	50	55	**	
Stranger	24	20	17			49	42	35	**	**
Mugging (<i>robbery + snatch theft</i>)	13	15	16			26	34	34		

1. Based on victims of specified offences.

2. All BCS violence includes wounding, assault with minor injury, assault with no injury and robbery. For more information see the Glossary.

3. Unweighted base for 2007/08 figures are included in Table 2.08. Bases for 2006/07 will be similar, and for most crime types smaller for 1995.

Table 2.10 Percentage of BCS incidents reported to the police, 1981 to 2007/08 interviews

Percentages	1981	1991	1995	1997	1999	2001/02 ints	2002/03 ints	2003/04 ints	2004/05 ints	2005/06 ints	2006/07 ints	BCS 2007/08 ints
PROPERTY CRIME												
Vandalism	22.2	27.0	29.9	26.2	30.4	31.7	31.0	30.8	32.0	31.4	31.8	34.9
Vehicle vandalism	10.3	24.5	25.6	23.0	23.6	25.9	27.1	26.3	27.8	26.2	28.0	31.9
Other vandalism	36.4	30.9	35.0	30.2	39.0	39.6	36.8	37.1	38.6	40.0	38.4	40.2
Burglary	66.2	73.0	65.7	63.5	63.3	61.3	64.9	61.5	60.8	65.0	65.9	63.6
With entry	81.2	87.9	81.8	78.4	74.1	76.7	81.3	74.5	72.2	76.9	76.6	72.7
Attempts	42.0	48.1	45.0	47.0	47.5	40.8	42.6	44.7	42.2	47.1	50.7	50.2
With loss	84.7	92.2	84.0	84.5	81.6	84.6	86.8	77.9	76.8	81.4	80.8	76.0
No loss (including attempts)	48.4	53.0	51.0	49.4	49.7	45.2	49.2	48.5	48.5	52.6	54.8	54.0
Vehicle-related theft	40.8	55.9	51.1	46.1	50.3	51.7	49.8	48.0	48.7	48.6	47.2	47.9
Theft from vehicle	30.0	52.6	50.1	41.7	47.0	48.2	47.0	45.1	44.9	44.5	42.9	43.6
Theft of vehicles	94.9	98.6	97.7	95.9	94.6	93.5	96.8	95.3	94.7	94.1	93.4	92.6
Attempts of and from	30.7	41.2	34.9	36.3	39.6	40.0	36.1	34.2	37.2	39.8	38.5	39.6
Bicycle theft	63.9	69.0	61.6	63.0	54.7	53.1	50.1	43.1	44.0	46.5	36.0	40.6
Other household theft	25.2	29.2	30.2	32.8	32.4	33.0	30.0	30.1	30.1	27.8	28.5	26.8
Theft from the person	31.3	34.6	40.6	33.2	31.9	34.2	32.6	38.4	32.0	32.6	35.0	31.8
Snatch theft from person	24.1	37.5	74.9	49.8	46.4	54.2	39.6	50.2	53.9	40.6	46.7	56.1
Stealth theft from person	32.9	33.9	36.0	30.7	30.5	31.3	31.6	35.7	27.9	31.5	33.3	27.9
Other thefts of personal property	22.7	38.0	28.6	30.7	31.5	32.0	36.1	34.5	34.7	33.3	33.4	30.4
VIOLENCE												
Assault with and without minor injury	25.1	25.5	34.3	29.6	29.5	25.8	34.2	33.0	39.1	38.5	36.8	36.8
Assault with no injury	-	-	-	-	-	-	34.5	30.3	34.0	35.0	35.8	33.6
Wounding	40.2	47.7	39.7	45.8	58.3	55.9	51.0	57.2	59.5	60.5	58.2	59.5
Robbery	46.5	47.2	55.1	56.6	29.7	44.5	52.9	53.2	49.1	48.5	47.4	43.1
ALL BCS VIOLENCE (COMPARABLE)¹	-	-	-	-	35.1	35.4	40.7	41.3	45.3	44.9	43.2	42.6
Domestic violence	19.6	23.4	27.3	25.9	30.7	34.8	34.7	40.3	39.6	41.8	44.3	39.7
Acquaintance	25.2	29.1	37.4	31.8	36.6	36.4	42.0	39.9	43.8	45.4	47.4	47.7
Stranger	35.2	37.5	40.0	45.6	39.8	31.1	38.7	39.7	48.2	44.6	36.8	38.4
Mugging (robbery + snatch theft)	37.8	47.2	58.9	55.3	31.8	46.2	49.9	52.3	50.4	47.0	47.3	45.7
OLD COMPARABLE CRIME²	36.0	49.4	46.6	43.7	44.5	45.1	44.4	44.0	43.1	43.2	42.0	43.1
COMPARABLE CRIME²	-	-	-	-	41.5	41.7	42.6	42.0	42.4	42.3	41.1	42.0
ALL BCS CRIME²	31.2	43.0	40.9	38.8	39.4	39.6	40.5	39.9	40.3	39.8	38.9	39.3

1. All BCS violence includes wounding, assault with minor injury, assault with no injury and robbery (and is equivalent to comparable violence in previous publications). For more information see the Glossary.

2. It is not possible to test significance for old comparable crime, comparable crime and all BCS crime because rates for household offences are based on rates per household, and those for personal offences on rates per adult, and the two types of rates cannot be combined. For more information see the Glossary.

3. The proportion of BCS incidents reported to the police is calculated from the actual number of BCS incidents (rate multiplied by households/population) and the actual number of BCS incidents reported to the police (reported incidents rate multiplied by the households/population).

4. For household crimes the 2007/08 numbers are derived by multiplying offence rates (incidence rates) by 23,607,316 households in England and Wales. For personal crimes the 2007/08 numbers are derived by multiplying incidence rates by 43,859,000 adults in England and Wales.

Table 2.11 Reasons for not reporting crime to the police

Percentages								2007/08 BCS	
	Vandalism	Burglary	Thefts from vehicles & attempts ¹	Other household theft	Other personal theft	BCS violence ²	Comparable subset ³	All BCS crime	
Trivial/no loss/police would not/could not do anything ⁴	85	68	88	84	71	52	75	76	
Private/dealt with ourselves	9	22	7	10	10	35	16	15	
Inconvenient to report	4	3	5	5	6	6	5	5	
Reported to other authorities	2	1	2	1	12	6	3	4	
Common occurrence	2	0	2	1	2	3	2	2	
Fear of reprisal	2	5	0	2	0	5	2	2	
Dislike or fear of the police/previous bad experience with the police or courts	2	3	2	1	0	2	2	2	
Other ⁵	3	5	3	4	6	10	6	6	
Unweighted base	2,446	339	1,144	1,326	565	801	5,514	7,405	

1. Thefts of vehicles not shown as very few incidents were not reported.

2. All BCS violence includes wounding, assault with minor injury, assault with injury and robbery (and is equivalent to comparable violence in previous publications). For more information see the Glossary.

3. The comparable crime subset includes vandalism, burglary, vehicle theft, bicycle theft, wounding, assault with and without minor injury and robbery. For more information see the Glossary.

4. Too trivial/no loss/would not have been interested/police could not do anything/attempt at offence was unsuccessful are merged due to the similarity in their definition, for example: a respondent who thinks the incident was too trivial may code the incident as 'too trivial, no loss' or 'the police would not be interested' as these two codes may be understood as meaning the same.

5. This category includes: something that happens as part of job; partly my/friend's/relative's fault; offender not responsible for actions; thought someone else had reported incident/similar incidents; tried to report but was not able to contact the police/police not interested; other.

6. Figures may add to more than 100 as more than one reason could be given.

3 Violent and sexual crime

Jacqueline Hoare and David Povey

3.1 SUMMARY

This chapter presents findings from the British Crime Survey (BCS) and police recorded crime. Both sources show that the number of violent crimes has decreased in the past year.

- After little change in recent years, the number of BCS violent crimes experienced by adults has decreased by 12 per cent between 2006/07 and 2007/08 BCS interviews. Police recorded violence against the person fell by eight per cent between 2006/07 and 2007/08, resulting in the lowest figure since 2002/03.
- Within violence against the person, the most serious offences recorded by the police have fallen markedly: 16,939 offences of most serious violence against the person were recorded in 2007/08, 12 per cent fewer than in 2006/07, and the smallest total seen for nine years.

Longer-term trends from the BCS show that violent crime increased since the first BCS results in 1981 to peak in 1995, followed by a gradual decline then stability in recent years.

- The number of violent incidents has fallen by half (48%) since 1995, representing an estimated two million fewer incidents and around three-quarters of a million fewer victims; violent crime is now at a similar level to 1981.

The degree of violence varies considerably between incidents:

- Just over half (51%) of all violent incidents reported to the BCS did not result in any injury to the victim. A similar proportion (52%) of all police recorded violence against the person in 2007/08 involved no injury.
- Weapons were used in a quarter (24%) of violent crimes as measured by the 2007/08 BCS (this figure has been stable over the past decade). Hitting implements were used in seven per cent of violent crimes, knives in six per cent, glasses/bottles in four per cent and firearms in one per cent of incidents.
- The number of police recorded offences involving firearms rose by two per cent between 2006/07 and 2007/08; this follows a 13 per cent fall in the previous year.

Risk of victimisation varies by personal characteristics, with men, and in particular young men, being at greatest risk of victimisation according to the BCS.

- The risk of being a victim of violent crime in the 2007/08 BCS was 3.2 per cent. Men (4.1%) were almost twice as likely as women (2.3%) to have experienced some sort of violence in the year prior to interview. The risk for men aged 16 to 24 was highest at 13.4 per cent.
- Not only did men have the highest risk of violent crime victimisation, but 87 per cent of violent incidents involved male offenders.

3.2 BRITISH CRIME SURVEY AND POLICE MEASURES OF VIOLENT AND SEXUAL CRIME

This chapter presents information about violence against the person, sexual offences and robbery. Violence against the person contains the full spectrum of assaults, from pushing and shoving that result in no physical harm, to murder. Even within the same offence classification, the degree of violence varies considerably between incidents and in around half of incidents identified in both BCS and police statistics, the violence results in no injury (see Section 3.9). There are differences in the range of offences that the BCS and police recorded crime covers (see Box 3.1), however, a 'comparable subset' of offences can be used to compare the two series (see Chapter 2).

The BCS provides a generally more reliable trend measure of violent crime, enabling better comparisons over time for the types of violence that it routinely covers. This is because the BCS is not affected by changes in reporting, police recording and local policing activity, and has been measured in a consistent way since the survey began measuring crime in 1981. Nonetheless, police statistics remain important for showing the mix of violent crimes dealt with, and recorded, by the police. They are an important measure of activity locally and a source of operational information to help identify and address local crime problems, at a lower geographical level than is possible using the BCS. Police statistics also provide more reliable information on rarer crimes, such as robbery, and are the only source of data on homicides, violent crimes against under 16s, and those not living in private households.

Trends in police recorded violent crime can be very difficult to interpret, as they have been distorted by a number of factors. It is important to consider the following issues when interpreting trends.

(i) Police recorded crime data are subject to changes in the levels of public reporting of incidents. The proportion of violent crimes estimated to be reported to the police has increased from the first BCS results in 1981, but has been reasonably stable since 2002/03 (see Chapter 2).

(ii) Local policing activity and priorities affect the levels of reported and recorded violent crime. Where the police are proactive in addressing low-level violence and anti-social behaviour, this can lead to more of these crimes being brought to their attention and being recorded. For example, research by the Cardiff Violence Research Group showed an association between the introduction of CCTV surveillance and increased police detection of violence (Sivarajasingam *et al.*, 2003).

(iii) Police recorded crime data are subject to changes in police recording practices, including those relating to national counting rules and crime recording standards. The 1998 changes to the Home Office Counting Rules had a very significant impact on the recording of violent and sexual crime; the number of violence against the person offences recorded by the police increased by 118 per cent as a result of the 1998 changes (Povey and Prime, 1999). Much of this increase resulted from a widening of the offence coverage to include assaults with little or no physical injury, and offences of harassment (again with no injury).

The National Crime Recording Standard (NCRS), introduced in April 2002, again resulted in increased recording of violent and sexual crimes particularly for less serious offences, as well as for some other offences. There was an estimated NCRS effect of 23 per cent on violence against the person offences in the first 12 months of implementation (Simmons *et al.*, 2003).

Audits undertaken by the Audit Commission on behalf of the Home Office indicate substantial improvements in crime recording across forces in the two to three years following NCRS introduction, which would particularly impact on violence against the person and result in increases in recorded crimes for this category (see Introduction for more details).

Box 3.1 Violent and sexual crime – offences covered by the BCS and police recorded crime

Violence against the person

In order to address the wide range of seriousness, police recorded violence against the person is separated into two sub-categories:

- Most serious violence against the person (including homicide, attempted murder and more serious wounding).
- Other violence against the person (including less serious wounding, threat or conspiracy to murder, harassment and assault without injury).

All categories also include attempts and threats to commit those offences (apart from attempted murder and threat/conspiracy to murder which are themselves separate categories) that may not involve injury (see Section 3.4 for fuller descriptions, and Appendix 3 for a full list of offences).

The BCS covers wounding, assault with minor injury and assault with no injury.

- BCS wounding includes offences that correspond to police recorded more serious wounding and part of less serious wounding.
- BCS assault with minor injury broadly corresponds to the remaining part of police recorded less serious wounding.
- BCS assault with no injury corresponds to police recorded assault without injury.

Sexual offences

Police recorded sexual offences cover different types of unlawful sexual activity, including rape and sexual assault. Some of the offences do not necessarily involve violence: unlawful sexual intercourse with a person under 16 or with a mental disorder, for example. As with violence against the person, the range of seriousness is addressed by creating two sub-categories:

- Most serious sexual crime (including rapes, sexual assaults, and sexual activity with children).
- Other sexual offences (including soliciting, exploitation of prostitution, and other unlawful sexual activity between consenting adults).

Due to the small numbers of sexual offences picked up by face-to-face BCS interviews, results are too unreliable to report (for more information see Box 3.2).

Robbery

As with violence against the person, police recorded robberies cover a wide range of seriousness from armed bank robberies to muggings for mobile phones or small amounts of money. In certain circumstances, there is a fine distinction between robbery and theft; this is detailed in the Glossary.

The BCS covers robberies against adults living in private households. However, as one of the rarer crimes, the number of robbery victims interviewed is too low to provide robust estimates for individual years; therefore police statistics provide a better measure of trends. Any BCS figures relating to robbery in this chapter should be treated with caution due to the low number of victims.

BCS violence type

Violent crime as measured by the BCS can alternatively be divided into four types, broadly based on the relationship between the victim and offender.

- **Domestic violence** – assaults and woundings which involve partners, ex-partners, other relatives or other household members.
- **Stranger violence** – assaults and woundings in which the victim did not have any information about the offender(s), or did not know and had never seen the offender(s) before.
- **Acquaintance violence** – assaults and woundings in which the victim knew one or more of the offenders, at least by sight.
- **Mugging** – robbery, attempted robbery, and snatch theft from the person (note, snatch theft is not included in the overall violence measure).

Respondents may not wish to disclose sensitive information relating to domestic violence in a face-to-face interview, so self-completion modules are included in the BCS to better capture this information. These results are published separately (see Box 3.2 for more information).

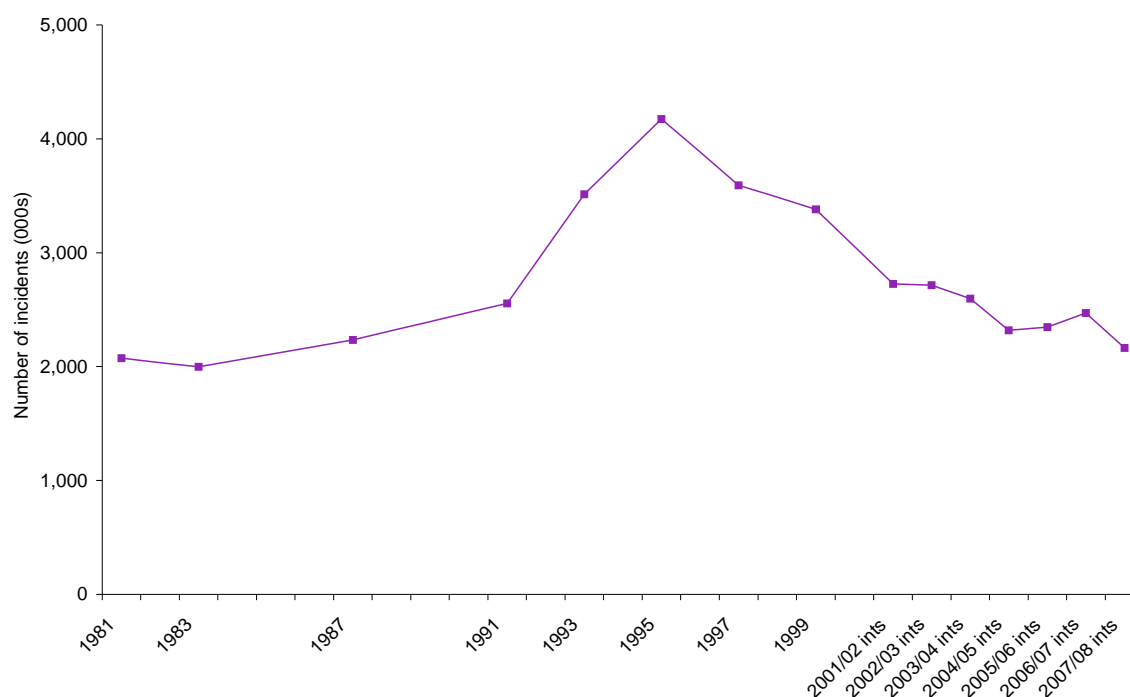
3.3 EXTENT AND TRENDS

This chapter presents findings from the British Crime Survey (BCS) and police recorded crime. Both sources show that the number of violent crimes has decreased in the past year.

- After little change in recent years, the number of BCS violent crimes experienced by adults has decreased by 12 per cent between 2006/07 and 2007/08 BCS interviews. Police recorded violence against the person fell by eight per cent between 2006/07 and 2007/08, to the lowest figure seen for five years (Tables 2.01 and 2.04).
- The 2007/08 BCS estimates that there were 2,164,000 violent incidents against adults in England and Wales (Table 2.01).¹

Longer-term trends in violence from the BCS show that the number of violent crimes increased since the first BCS results in 1981: gradually through the 1980s and then sharply after 1991 to reach a peak in the mid-1990s. Substantial declines have been noted subsequently (although levels in recent years have appeared more stable) and the number of violent incidents is now at a similar level to 1981. Incidents of violent crime reported to the BCS have fallen by half (48%) since 1995, representing an estimated two million fewer incidents and around three-quarters of a million fewer victims (Figure 3.1 and Table 2.01).

Figure 3.1 All violent crime, 1981 to 2007/08 BCS

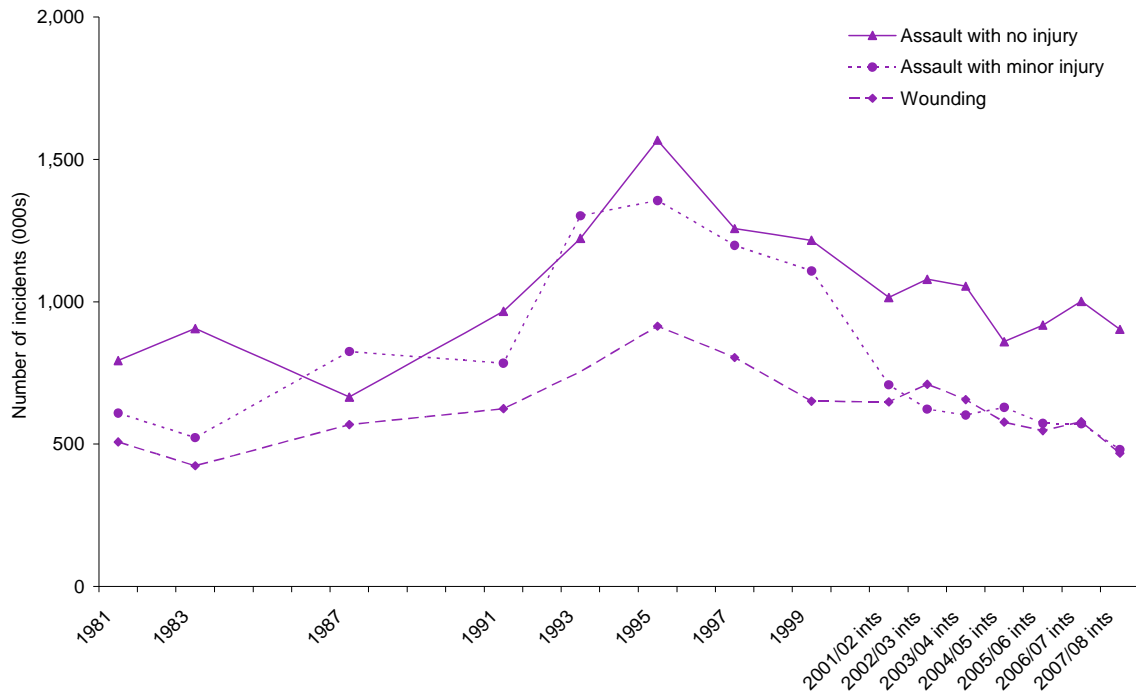


- The trend in the number of incidents of BCS wounding has shown a similar pattern, and after the gradual and then sharp rise between 1981 and 1995, there has been a notable decrease since 1995 but with stability seen in recent years. There were 467,000 incidents of wounding estimated by the 2007/08 BCS, representing half (49%) the number of incidents in 1995 (Figure 3.2 and Table 2.01).
- Again following a similar pattern since 1981, incidents of BCS assault with minor injury have decreased significantly since 1995 by around two-thirds (65%). The estimated number of assaults with minor injury was 481,000 based on the 2007/08 BCS.

¹ 'All violence' includes wounding, assault with minor injury, assault with no injury and robbery. For more information see the Glossary.

- The BCS shows a steep increase in numbers of assaults with no injury between 1987 and 1995, reaching a peak of 1,567,000 incidents. In the 2007/08 BCS there were 903,000 assaults resulting in no injury, a decrease of 42 per cent since 1995, after generally downward fluctuations and then stability in the past few years.

Figure 3.2 Trends in violence by offence type, 1981 to 2007/08 BCS



- There were 961,188 offences of violence against the person recorded by the police in 2007/08, eight per cent fewer than in the previous year and the lowest figure since the introduction of the National Crime Recording Standard (NCRS) in April 2002. There were also falls in sexual offences, down seven per cent to 53,540, and robberies, down 16 per cent to 84,706, the lowest number for eight years (Table 2.04).

Although recorded violence against the person has fallen in the last two years, it rose in each of the previous three years following the introduction of the NCRS. BCS trends in violence did not mirror the recorded crime increases following NCRS introduction, indicating that improved police recording practices and proactive policing are responsible for a large part of these earlier increases in recorded violence against the person.

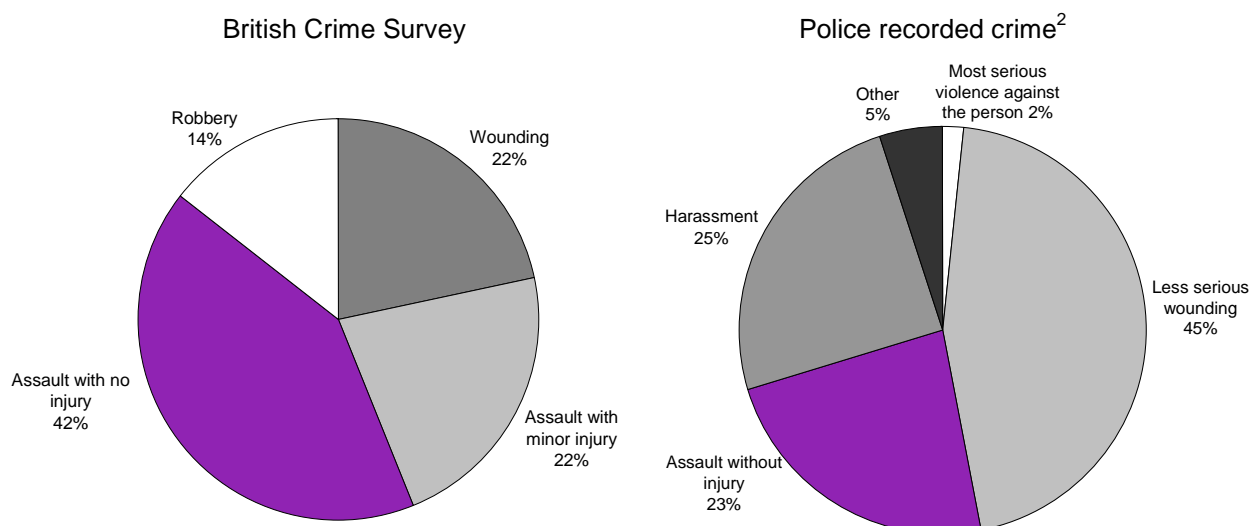
3.4 VIOLENCE AGAINST THE PERSON

All BCS violence includes wounding, assault with minor injury, assault with no injury and robbery. The BCS violence categories were changed in 2006/07 with snatch thefts being removed from overall violence, and the former common assault category being split into assault with minor injury and assault with no injury, to mirror the recorded crime offence classifications. Due to the relatively small numbers of serious woundings experienced by BCS respondents, separate figures for serious woundings cannot be provided.

- The latest figures for woundings show a statistically significant decrease of 19 per cent between the 2006/07 and 2007/08 BCS. The categories of assault with minor injury and assault with no injury have remained stable between the 2006/07 and 2007/08 BCS (the apparent falls are not statistically significant, Table 2.01).
- Continuing a similar pattern in previous years, assaults with no injury accounted for 42 per cent of all violence in the 2007/08 BCS. Assaults with minor injury and woundings accounted for just under a quarter each (22% for both categories), and robberies for 14 per cent of all violence (Figure 3.3).

- Less serious wounding accounted for the largest proportion (45%) of police recorded violence against the person in 2007/08, followed by harassment (25%) and assaults without injury (23%). Most serious violence against the person accounted for two per cent (Figure 3.3).

Figure 3.3 BCS and police recorded violence, 2007/08



Not all violent crimes are reported to the police (see Chapter 2 for more information). The BCS shows that the proportion of incidents of comparable violence³ reported to the police has been stable over the last few years at around two in five (43%, 2007/08 BCS). Longer-term trends show that reporting rates for BCS assault with minor or no injury and BCS wounding increased between 1981 and 2007/08 (from 25% to 37% and 40% to 59% respectively) (Table 2.10).

Most serious violence against the person

This grouping comprises violent offences recorded by the police where the injury inflicted or intended is life threatening. This includes offences resulting in death, regardless of intent; homicide; and causing death (by either dangerous driving, careless driving when under the influence of drink or drugs, or aggravated vehicle taking). It also includes offences where serious injury was intentionally caused or attempted: attempted murder, and more serious wounding or acts endangering life (e.g. wounding, poisoning and use of weapons and explosives, all with intent to cause serious injury) (see Chapter 2, Box 2.2).

Offences of most serious violence against the person will tend to provide a more reliable measure of trends than overall violence recorded by the police as they are more immune to changes in reporting and recording. The Audit Commission audits (see Chapter 1) indicated that in many forces it took two or three years for the full effects of NCRS to bed in. In 2004/05, the third year following NCRS implementation, the number of most serious violence against the person offences was 16 per cent higher than in 2001/02, the year immediately prior to implementation. This is a much smaller rise than that of 62 per cent in other violence against the person over the same period.

- Most serious violence against the person offences accounted for two per cent of all recorded violence against the person offences in 2007/08, and 0.3 per cent of all police

² Recorded crime pie-chart in Figure 3.3 includes violence against the person only: most serious violence against the person; and other violence against the person (less serious wounding, assault without injury, harassment, other). Robbery is excluded.

³ Comparable violence includes wounding, assault with minor injury, assault with no injury and robbery; it is therefore consistent with BCS figures for 'All violence' presented in this chapter.

recorded crime. There were 16,939 recorded offences compared with 19,150 in 2006/07, a decrease of 12 per cent and the smallest total seen for nine years (Figure 3.3 and Table 2.04).

- The most serious violent crime is homicide⁴; further analysis of 2007/08 homicides will be published when complete data are available early in 2009. Provisional data show that the police recorded 784 incidents, three per cent more than the 759 recorded in 2006/07. There were 620 attempted murder offences recorded in 2007/08, two per cent fewer than in 2006/07.
- The majority of offences of most serious violence against the person recorded by the police are more serious wounding or other acts endangering life (15,094 offences). These offences decreased by 13 per cent in 2007/08, and represent two per cent of all recorded violence against the person. There were also 418 offences of causing death by dangerous driving or by careless driving while under the influence of drink or drugs, nine per cent fewer than in 2006/07.
- Most serious violence against the person is concentrated in a small number of geographical areas. The average rate for England and Wales was 0.3 offences per 1,000 population in 2007/08. A comparison of local authority rates shows that the 21 authorities with rates more than twice the average for England and Wales represent ten per cent of the population but account for 26 per cent of offences of most serious violence against the person (Figure 3.4).

Other violence against the person

This grouping includes offences recorded by the police involving less serious injury: in particular, the offence of less serious wounding. It also includes certain offences that involve no physical injury: some involving serious intent, such as threats to kill, and others that are generally viewed less seriously by the courts, such as assault without injury and harassment.

- These other violence against the person offences accounted for 98 per cent of all recorded violence against the person in 2007/08 and 19 per cent of all police recorded crime. There were 944,249 offences in 2007/08 compared with 1,027,018 in 2006/07, representing an eight per cent fall (Table 2.04).
- Within this total, the police recorded 435,483 offences of less serious wounding⁵ in 2007/08, a decrease of 11 per cent from 2006/07. There were 9,977 offences of threat or conspiracy to murder, down 22 per cent on 2006/07, although some of this reduction may be influenced by changes in recording.⁶
- The police recorded 223,525 assaults without injury⁷ in 2007/08, two per cent fewer than in 2006/07 (228,801 offences). Two per cent of these assaults without injury in 2007/08 were racially or religiously aggravated. Assaults without injury accounted for 23 per cent of recorded violence against the person in 2007/08.
- Police recorded harassment (which does not involve physical injury to the victim) accounted for 25 per cent of police recorded violence against the person in 2007/08. The police recorded 236,533 harassment offences in 2007/08, eight per cent fewer than in 2006/07 (257,130 offences). Eleven per cent of harassment offences were racially or religiously aggravated.
- Possession of weapons offences⁸ that fall within the violence against the person category decreased by seven per cent, from 34,689 in 2006/07 to 32,397 in 2007/08.

⁴ The police statistics for the number of homicides include murders, manslaughters and infanticides that come to the attention of the police. Deaths that are not initially believed to be suspicious may be re-categorised as homicides at a later date. The police record such incidents at the time of re-classification, not the year of death.

⁵ Including racially or religiously aggravated offences.

⁶ In April 2008 the Home Office Counting Rules reiterated guidance issued in 2005 that clarified the legal definition of threats to kill, especially around the intent of the offender.

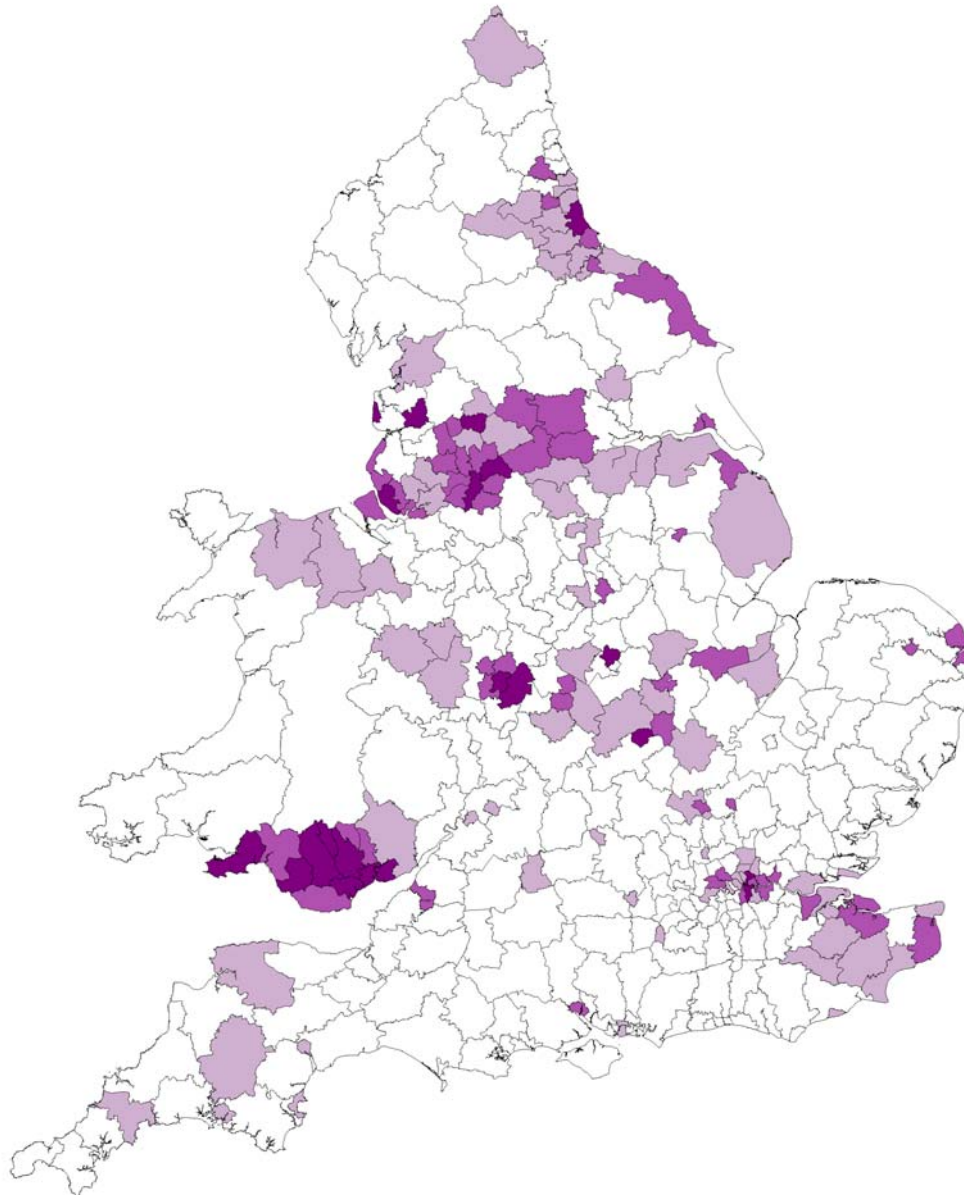
⁷ Including assault without injury on a constable and racially or religiously aggravated assault without injury.

⁸ Mainly possession with intent. Simple possession offences are not included in violence against the person.

Figure 3.4 Police recorded offences of most serious violence against the person: rates by population at local authority level, 2007/08

- Local authorities more than twice the average rate (10% of population)
- Above the average group, but less than twice the average rate (21% of population)
- Average group* (20% of population)
- Below the average group (49% of population)

*Local authorities classified within the 'average group' include those up to 20 per cent above or below the most serious violence against the person rate for England and Wales as a whole.



3.5 SEXUAL OFFENCES

Most serious sexual crime

This group encompasses rape, sexual assault, and sexual activity with children. The sensitivity of these offences has resulted in under-reporting, and work is ongoing to improve this (e.g. through the opening of more sexual assault referral centres).⁹ Additionally, the Sexual Offences Act 2003, introduced in May 2004, altered the definitions of all three categories. For these reasons, comparisons around this time should be made with caution. A fuller description of the legislative changes appears in Appendix 3.

- The police recorded 41,460 most serious sexual offences in 2007/08, five per cent fewer than the 43,738 recorded in 2006/07. These offences accounted for 77 per cent of total sexual offences and just under one per cent of all recorded crime in 2007/08.
- Within this total, rapes of a female fell by eight per cent to 11,648 offences, and rapes of a male fell by 13 per cent to 1,006 offences. Sexual assaults on a female fell by four per cent to 20,534 offences, and sexual assaults on a male also fell by four per cent to 2,642 offences.

Other sexual offences

This group covers unlawful sexual activity, mostly involving consenting adults. It includes exploitation of prostitution and soliciting, but not prostitution itself.¹⁰ The Sexual Offences Act 2003, introduced in May 2004, introduced certain offences such as sexual grooming which is included here.

- The police recorded 12,080 other sexual offences in 2007/08, 12 per cent fewer than in 2006/07. Within this total there were falls in incest or familial sexual offences (16% to 1,125 offences) and soliciting for the purposes of prostitution (2% to 1,258 offences).
- Based on the 2006/07 BCS self-completion module on intimate violence (see Box 3.2), approximately three per cent of women and one per cent of men had experienced a sexual assault (including attempts) in the previous 12 months. The majority of these are accounted for by less serious sexual assaults. Less than one per cent of both women and men reported having experienced a serious sexual assault (Povey *et al.*, 2008).

Box 3.2 Interpreting BCS statistics on intimate violence

The issue of willingness to disclose incidents is very important for intimate violence (the collective term used to describe domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking). Respondents may not wish to disclose such sensitive information face-to-face and so interviews since 2004/05 (and prior to this in 1996 and 2001) have included self-completion modules on intimate violence asked of those aged 16 to 59 years.

Domestic violence figures published in this report relate only to incidents reported in face-to-face BCS interviews, so any changes should be treated with caution. Prevalence rates for domestic violence derived from the 2005/06 self-completion module were around five times higher for adults than those obtained from the face-to-face interviews. Due to the small numbers of sexual offences identified by the main BCS, findings are published solely from the self-completion module.

*The self-completion figures are published separately from the annual volume (Mirrlees-Black, 1999; Walby and Allen, 2004; Finney, 2006; Coleman *et al.*, 2007; and Povey *et al.*, 2008). Analysis of self-completion data from the 2007/08 BCS is planned for publication early in 2009.*

⁹ The Government's approach to tackling sexual violence is detailed in the Sexual Violence Action Plan (<http://www.crimereduction.homeoffice.gov.uk/sexualoffences/finalsvaap.pdf>).

¹⁰ Prostitution in itself is not a criminal offence; trafficking for sexual exploitation is included in most serious sexual crime.

3.6 ROBBERY

Robbery is an offence in which force or the threat of force is used either during or immediately prior to a theft or attempted theft. It covers a wide variety of different incidents including bank robbery, mobile phone robbery and street robbery, regardless of the amount of money or property stolen. The BCS covers robberies against adults living in private households but the number of robbery victims interviewed is too low to provide robust estimates for individual years (see Box 3.1).

- The police recorded 84,706 robberies in 2007/08, 16 per cent fewer than the 101,376 in 2006/07. While this follows two years of increases, the 2007/08 total was still 30 per cent below the 2001/02 peak of 121,359. Eighty-nine per cent of robberies in 2007/08 were of personal property, compared with 91 per cent in the previous three years. The smaller proportion is due to robberies of personal property falling at a faster rate in 2007/08 (18% to 75,565) than those of business property (3% to 9,141).

All crime tends to be geographically concentrated, but this is particularly the case for robberies.

- In 2007/08, 62 per cent of robberies in England and Wales were recorded by three forces: the Metropolitan Police, Greater Manchester and West Midlands (Table 6.11). This concentration is more acute at the local level (Figure 3.5). The average rate for England and Wales was 1.6 offences per 1,000 population in 2007/08. A comparison of local authority rates shows that the 29 authorities with rates more than twice the average for England and Wales represent 15 per cent of the population but account for 53 per cent of robbery offences. All but three of these authorities are in the three forces listed above.

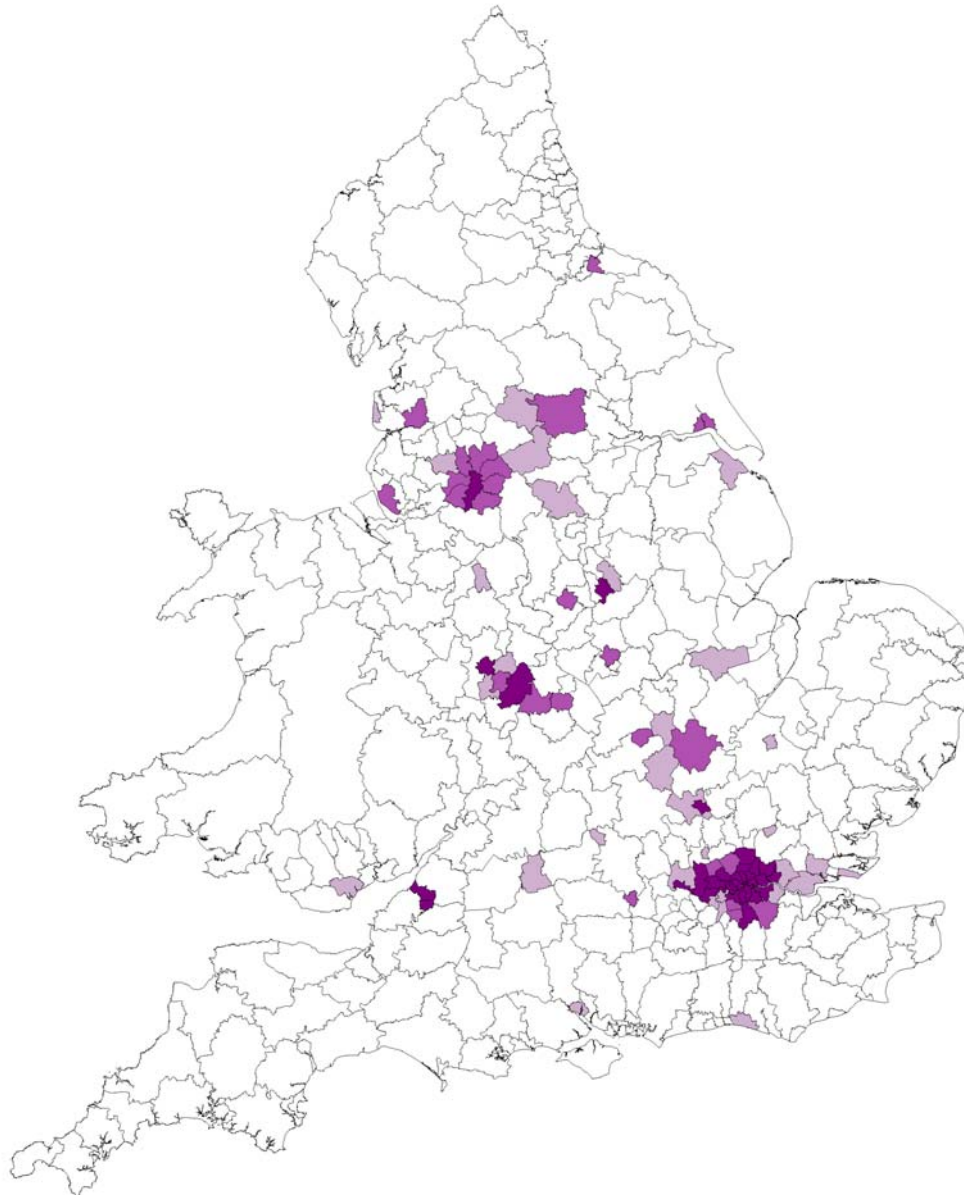
From 2007/08 the Home Office is collecting supplementary data on the taking of vehicles during robberies (often termed car-jacking).

- Data were received for 42 of the 44 police forces in England and Wales and these showed that overall three per cent of robberies in 2007/08 involved the taking of a vehicle. The proportion was slightly higher for instances of robbery of business property (at 5%) compared with the robbery of personal property (3%).

Figure 3.5 Police recorded offences of robbery: rates by population at local authority level, 2007/08

- Local authorities more than twice the average rate (15% of population)
- Above the average group, but less than twice the average rate (12% of population)
- Average group* (12% of population)
- Below the average group (61% of population)

*Local authorities classified within the 'average group' include those up to 20 per cent above or below the robbery rate for England and Wales as a whole.



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3.7 RISKS OF BECOMING A VICTIM OF VIOLENT CRIME

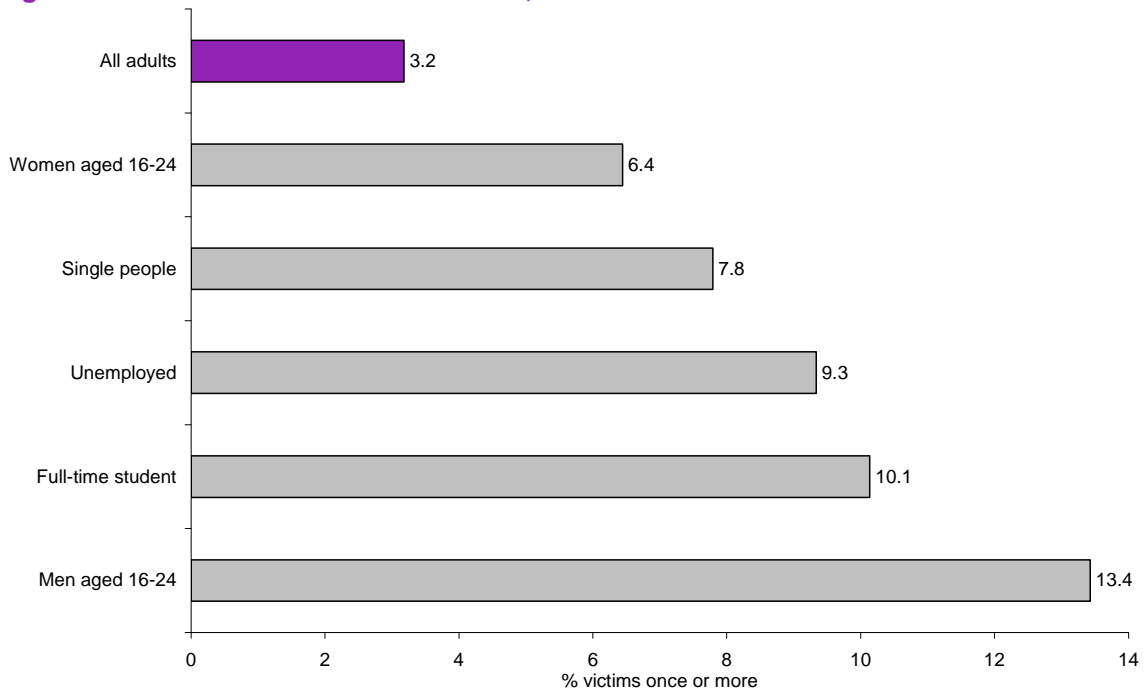
According to the BCS, risk of victimisation varies by personal characteristics, with men, and in particular young men, being at greatest risk of victimisation. In general, the characteristics of adults with the highest risk of being a victim of violent crime have not changed over the past few years.

- The risk of being a victim of violent crime in the 2007/08 BCS was 3.2 per cent. Men were almost twice as likely as women (4.1% compared with 2.3%) to have experienced one or more violent crimes in the year prior to interview (Figure 3.6 and Table 3.01).
- Risk was highest for men aged 16 to 24 (13.4%) and then decreased with increasing age, with risk levels at less than one per cent for men aged 65 and older. For women the pattern was similar; those aged 16 to 24 had the highest risk (6.4%) with a decline in risk as age increased (Table 3.01).
- Single people had the highest risk of violent crime (7.8%) compared with all other marital status groups. Conversely, people who were widowed or married had the lowest risk (0.4% and 1.3% respectively). Single people in particular have a higher risk of stranger and acquaintance violence which is likely to reflect differences in their social interactions compared with other groups.
- Unemployed people (9.3%) had a higher risk of becoming victims of violence compared with employed or economically inactive people (3.3% and 2.7% respectively). At 10.1 per cent, students had the highest risk of violent crime compared with other occupational classifications, at considerably higher risk than those in managerial and professional occupations for example (2.4%); this level of risk is likely to reflect the younger age of students.
- People who visited pubs or wine bars more than once a week in the month prior to interview had a higher risk of violent crime (5.3%) than those who had visited pubs or wine bars less than once a week on average (2.9%) or not at all (2.2%). Spending seven or more hours out of the home on an average weekday was also associated with increased risk of violence victimisation.

Risk of victimisation also varies by key household and area characteristics.

- People living in houses (3.0%) rather than flats/maisonettes (4.5%) had a lower risk of violence victimisation; for those in detached houses the risk was half (2.1%) that of people living in flats/maisonettes. Single adults living in a household with children (6.5%) had a higher risk of violence victimisation than people in other household types, for example in households with more than one adult with children (3.7%) (Table 3.02).
- People living in areas with relatively low levels of physical disorder (3.1%), in rural areas (2.3%) and in Wealthy Achievers ACORN areas (1.9%) also had lower risks of victimisation.

A full breakdown of risk of violent crime victimisation by personal, household and area characteristics is shown in Tables 3.01 and 3.02.

Figure 3.6 Adults most at risk of violence, 2007/08 BCS**Box 3.3 Factors strongly associated with higher risk of violence**

Multivariate analysis (logistic regression) carried out on the 2007/08 BCS shows that after the influence of other characteristics is taken into account, many of the relationships between socio-demographic factors and risk of victimisation still hold true.

The factors most strongly independently associated with higher risk of violence were:

- being young, in particular aged 16-24;
- not being married; and
- being male.

The model explains around 13 per cent of the variation in the risk of being a victim of violent crime based only on the factors described here (see the Glossary for more information).

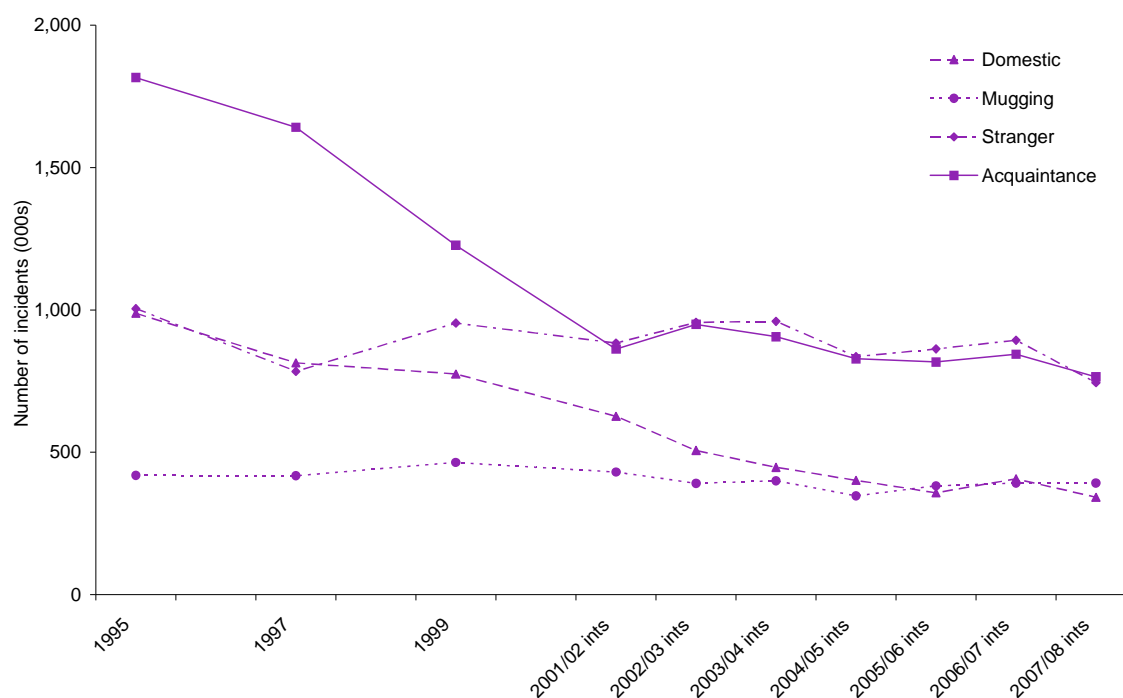
3.8 VICTIM-OFFENDER ASSOCIATION

Violent crime measured by the BCS can be subdivided into four types, broadly on the basis of the relationship between the offender(s) and victim (see Box 3.1). In the vast majority of cases, victims were able to say something about the offender(s).

- Around a third of the estimated 2,164,000 violent incidents recorded by the BCS in 2007/08 were incidents of stranger violence, and a further third were incidents of acquaintance violence. Domestic violence accounted for about one in six violent incidents as measured on the main BCS (Table 3.03).
- Domestic violence was the only category of violence for which the risk for women (0.6%) was significantly higher than for men (0.2%). Risk of stranger and acquaintance violence was substantially greater for men than for women; 2.1 per cent of men were victims of stranger violence, compared with 0.6 per cent of women based on 2007/08 interviews (Table 3.01).
- Violence against men is much more likely to be stranger violence: 45 per cent of violent incidents against men were stranger violence, compared with 19 per cent of incidents against women. Conversely, 33 per cent of violent incidents against women were domestic violence, compared with four per cent of incidents against men.

- In the majority of incidents of domestic violence the victims were women (85%) while for incidents of stranger violence most victims were men (78%, Table 3.03).
- Similar to the 2006/07 BCS, over half of violent incidents involved a sole offender (54%) but in a quarter of incidents there were four or more offenders. This varied within type of violence, with there being a sole offender in 97 per cent of domestic violence incidents (Table 3.04).
- Not only did men have the highest risk of violent crime victimisation, but men were also most likely to be the offender (87% of incidents involved male offenders).
- In just over half of violent incidents the offender was believed to be aged between 16 and 24 years (52%). The proportion of robberies involving offenders aged 16 to 24 was higher at around three-quarters (71%) compared with other violence types (around 50%).
- The increase seen in overall violence between 1981 and the mid-1990s was reflected in increases in the number of incidents for each type of BCS violence (apart from mugging). Following the peak in 1995 there have been large and statistically significant falls in domestic, acquaintance and stranger violence (65%, 58% and 26% respectively). The largest part of this reduction occurred between 1995 and the 2001/02 BCS but there was a decrease in the number of incidents of stranger violence between the 2006/07 and 2007/08 BCS. The number of muggings has remained relatively stable over the entire period from 1981 to 2007/08 (Figure 3.7 and Table 2.01).

Figure 3.7 Trends in violent crime by type of violence, 1995 to 2007/08 BCS



3.9 INJURIES AND VIOLENCE

- According to the 2007/08 BCS, just over half (51%) of all violent incidents resulted in no injury to the victim, showing no change since the previous year (Table 3.05).
- There was also no injury in at least 52 per cent of all police recorded violence against the person offences in 2007/08 (Table 2.04).¹¹

¹¹ The 'no injury' offences comprise assault without injury, assault on a constable, harassment, possession of weapons, and the specific offences against children within other violence against the person. The percentage is likely

- According to the BCS, the most common injuries sustained in violent incidents were minor bruising or a black eye (28%), followed by severe bruising (15%) and cuts (13%) (Table 3.05).
- The 2007/08 BCS shows that in 12 per cent of violent incidents the victim received some form of medical attention; around one in ten victims received attention from a doctor (9%). Around one per cent of all violent incidents resulted in an overnight hospital stay.
- After increases up to a peak in the mid-1990s, the BCS shows that the substantial falls in violent crime since 1995 are evident for both violence with injury (57% decrease) and violence with no injury (37% decrease). In fact, BCS interviews in 2007/08 show the number of violent crimes with injury is now at a slightly lower level than that first reported by the BCS in 1981 (Table 2.01).

Further evidence on trends in serious violent crime is provided by the Violence and Society Research Group at Cardiff University (Sivarajasingam *et al.*, 2008) from a study covering a sample of 29 Accident and Emergency departments in England and Wales. The report indicated that:

- There was an overall fall of 12 per cent in serious violence in 2007 compared with 2006, continuing an overall downward trend observed between 2000 and 2006 according to this Health Service data.
- Those at highest risk of violence-related injury were males and people aged 18 to 30; there were national decreases in violence affecting males, females and all age groups but an increase affecting children aged ten and under.

3.10 OFFENCES INVOLVING WEAPONS

The BCS provides an indication of weapons¹² used in violent offences, and an estimate of the trends in weapon use over time.

- Weapons were used in a quarter (24%) of violent crimes as measured by the BCS in 2007/08, no change from the 2006/07 BCS, and this proportion has been stable over the past decade (Table 3.06).
- The most common types of weapons used were hitting implements¹³ (used in 7% of all violent incidents), knives (6%) and glass or bottles (4%). The use of different types of weapons has remained similar between 2006/07 and 2007/08.

Offences involving firearms

Provisional statistics are available for police recorded crimes in 2007/08 involving firearms other than air weapons (referred to as 'firearm offences' in the remainder of this section). Firearms are taken to be involved in an incident if they are fired, used as a blunt instrument against a person, or used in a threat.

The figures presented here relate to types of weapon used and the degree of injury caused. Last year, in 2006/07, there was a concentration of firearm offences (55%) in just three forces: the Metropolitan Police, Greater Manchester and West Midlands. However, 2007/08 figures for offence type and police force area will not be published until complete data are available in January 2009.

- In 2007/08 there were a provisional 9,803 firearm offences recorded in England and Wales, a two per cent increase on 2006/07. This follows a 13 per cent fall in the

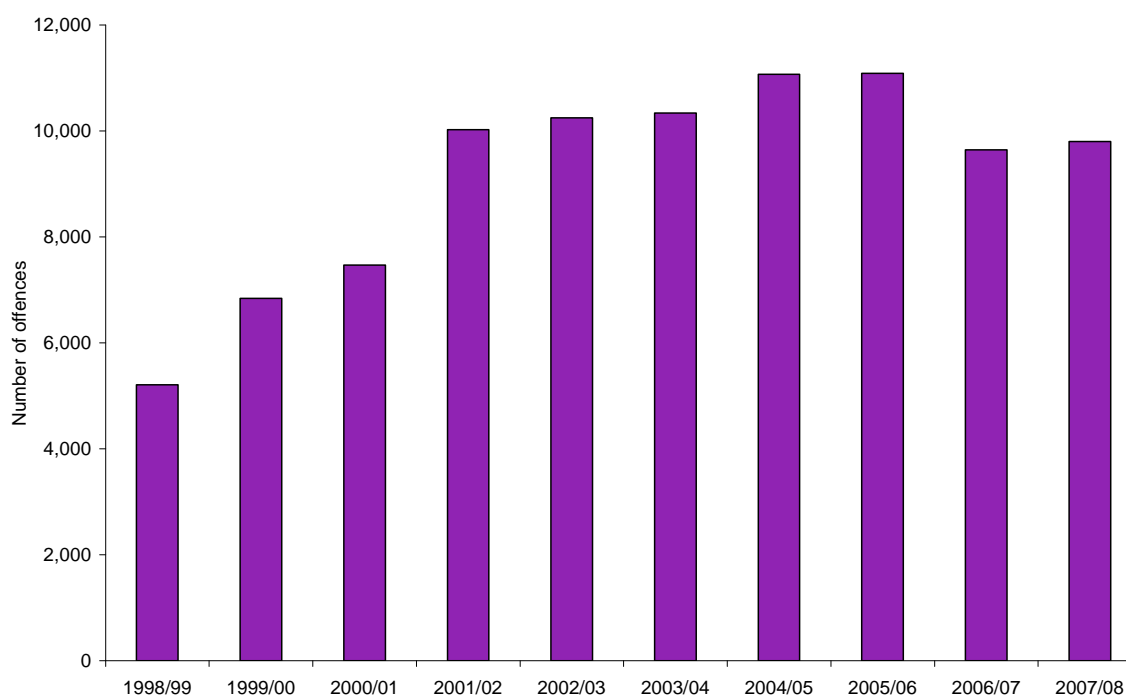
to be higher if one also includes threats to kill, which is currently included within threat or conspiracy to murder, also in other violence against the person.

¹² BCS 'weapons' include bottles/drinking glasses, knives, screwdrivers/stabbing implements, hitting implements, firearms, stones and syringes.

¹³ This category includes sticks, clubs and other hitting implements.

previous year. Prior to this, firearms offences rose sharply between 1998/99 and 2001/02, but the increases slowed from 2002/03. The 2007/08 total is two per cent lower than that of 2001/02. (Figure 3.8, Table 3.07).

Figure 3.8 Trend in recorded crimes involving firearms other than air weapons



- Just over two-thirds of firearm offences in 2007/08 involved no physical injury. There were 5,036 threats to commit a firearm offence, broadly similar to the 2006/07 total, and another 1,550 were actual offences where no injury ensued, three per cent less than in 2006/07 (Table 3.07).
- Less than two per cent of injuries from firearm offences were fatal and another 13 per cent were serious. Firearms were used in 52 homicides, i.e. the offence resulted in a fatal injury. This is four offences (or 7%) fewer than the 56 recorded in 2006/07. In addition there were 403 offences resulting in serious injuries, two per cent (or 9 offences) down on 2006/07.
- Of the firearm offences which involved injury, 86 per cent (or 2,762 offences) resulted in slight injury, representing nine per cent more slight injury offences than in 2006/07. Many of these slight injuries were caused by imitation weapons (some of which fire plastic pellets).
- Handguns were used in 4,151 offences during 2007/08, one per cent (or 22 offences) fewer than in 2006/07. Shotguns were used in 594 offences, down three per cent (or 18 offences) (Table 3.08).
- Imitation weapons were used in 2,523 offences in 2007/08, broadly similar to the previous year but this total is 25 per cent lower than the peak of 3,373 offences in 2004/05.

Further analysis of 2007/08 firearm offences is planned for publication early in 2009 when complete data are available. Additional information from the BCS on the use of firearms is also available:

- In the 2007/08 BCS, the use of a firearm¹⁴ in violent incidents has remained stable at one per cent compared with 2006/07. Between 1995 and 2007/08, the proportion of violent incidents where a firearm was used has remained stable at or below one per cent (Table 3.06).

Offences involving knives

In 2007/08, the Home Office started collecting additional statistics on certain serious violent offences involving the use of a knife or sharp instrument (referred to as 'offences involving knives' in the remainder of this section). A sharp instrument is any object that pierces the skin (or in the case of a threat, is capable of piercing the skin), e.g. a broken bottle. Knives are taken to be involved in an incident if they are used to stab or cut or as a threat.

The violent offences included in the 2007/08 collection comprise: attempted murder; wounding with intent to do grievous bodily harm (GBH); wounding or inflicting grievous bodily harm (i.e. without intent); robbery of business property; and robbery of personal property (see Appendix 3 for a fuller description of these offences). They were selected as the serious violent offences most likely to involve the use of knives. They will therefore give a higher proportion of offences involving knives than violent crime overall.

Only data for 2007/08 have been collected so far and, in the absence of trend data, it is not possible to say whether the figures quoted below are higher or lower than previous years.

Homicide was not included in this list, as the Home Office collects sharp instrument homicide data separately as part of its Homicide Index collection. However, figures for 2007/08 are not yet available (planned for publication in January 2009). Therefore, 2006/07 figures are quoted in this section for homicide and 2007/08 figures are quoted for all other offences.

- For the selected serious violence categories, 19 per cent or 22,151 offences involved knives in 2007/08. Generally speaking, more urban forces tended to record higher proportions involving knives than the more rural ones, although the 18 per cent recorded by the Metropolitan Police was slighter below the England and Wales average.
- Wounding with intent to do GBH accounted for the largest number of recorded offences involving knives in 2007/08, with 5,248 offences recorded in this subset of serious offences. This represents 37 per cent of all recorded wounding with intent to do GBH offences. The offence category of wounding or inflicting GBH (i.e. without intent) produced a smaller proportion of offences involving knives: 2,785 offences or 15 per cent of offences (Table 3.09).
- Attempted murder is a far less common offence than the two GBH categories, but 37 per cent or 231 offences involved knives. Homicides are also far less common but a sharp instrument is the most common method used, with 258 offences or 35 per cent of the 734 recorded in 2006/07. Full details of methods and circumstances of homicides recorded in 2006/07 were published in January 2008 (Povey *et al.*, 2008).
- Within robbery, robberies of business property were less numerous in total, but they produced a higher proportion of offences involving knives: 2,359 or 26 per cent of the 9,141 offences recorded, compared with 11,528 or 15 per cent of the 75,565 robberies of personal property.

Some additional information on the use of knives is available from the BCS and also from the Offending Crime and Justice Survey (OCJS), which is a survey of 10 to 25 year olds (Roe and Ashe, 2008).

¹⁴ Including pistol, rifle, shotgun, airgun, air rifle, and any gun which could not be identified.

- The use of knives in violent incidents in the 2007/08 BCS (6%) is not statistically significantly different from the 2006/07 BCS (7%). The proportion of violent incidents where a knife was used has remained at or below eight per cent since 1995 (Table 3.06).
- Combining the BCS categories including the use of a 'knife' or 'stabbing implement' better compares with police recorded crime categorisation; in total these were used in seven per cent of violent incidents in the 2007/08 BCS. This proportion is expected to be lower than that for police recorded crime as the BCS figure is based on a much wider range of violent offences.
- The 2006 OCJS showed that overall three per cent of young people aged 10 to 25 had carried a knife with them in the last 12 months for their own protection (the most common reason), for use in crimes, or in case they got into a fight. Just over half (54%) of these young people had only carried a knife once or twice in this period and the most commonly carried knife was a pen knife (46%).

Box 3.4 Knife enabled crime recorded by the Metropolitan Police

The Metropolitan Police's own recorded crime collection includes a measure of knife enabled crime. This means offences where a knife is used to injure, threaten or intimidate. It covers a broader range of offences than the Home Office's collection: violence against the person (excluding possession of weapons), robbery, sexual offences and burglary. However, unlike the Home Office's collection, it covers only knives and not other sharp instruments.

The Metropolitan Police figures show 10,220 knife enabled crimes recorded in 2007/08, 16 per cent fewer than in the previous year. This follows a four per cent fall in 2006/07.

Within the 2007/08 total, there were 5,148 violence against the person offences (down 13%), and 4,713 robberies (down 19%). To compare Metropolitan Police figures with the Home Office collection requires combining figures for robbery and grievous bodily harm (within violence against the person), giving a total of 6,080 knife enabled crimes in 2007/08, down 17 per cent on 2006/07. The corresponding total in the Home Office collection is 7,428, but this also covers attempted murder and offences involving other sharp instruments.

3.11 INFLUENCE OF ALCOHOL AND DRUGS¹⁵

- According to the 2007/08 BCS, victims believed the offender(s) to be under the influence of alcohol in 45 per cent of all violent incidents, similar to the level in the 2006/07 BCS (46%). In 19 per cent of incidents the victim believed the offender(s) to be under the influence of drugs, again no statistically significant change since 2006/07 (17%, Table 3.10).
- Offenders were most likely to be perceived to be under the influence of alcohol in incidents of stranger violence (58% of incidents), and most likely to be under the influence of drugs for acquaintance violence (28%). Comparing violent offence types, victims believed the offender(s) to be under the influence of alcohol or drugs most often in incidents of assault with minor injury (61% and 24% of incidents respectively).
- Based on the 2007/08 BCS, there were 947,000 violent incidents where the victim believed the offender(s) to be under the influence of alcohol and 383,000 incidents where the offender(s) were perceived to be under the influence of drugs. These figures are similar to the levels in 2006/07 (the apparent differences are not statistically significant) (Table 3.11).

¹⁵ Questions asked if the victim was able to say something about the offender(s), and if there was more than one offender, victims were asked if any of the offenders were perceived to be under the influence. Questions were not asked if any offender(s) were perceived to be under school age.

- Longer-term trends show there have been significant decreases since 1995 in the number of violent incidents believed by victims to involve offender(s) under the influence of either alcohol or drugs. The fall in incidents is related to the overall fall in the number of violent crimes as the proportion of alcohol and drug-related incidents has remained relatively stable over this period.
- Recently published research evaluating the effect of the Licensing Act 2003 on levels of crime and disorder suggested that the overall volume of crime and disorder remains unchanged, but that some people are drinking later into the night (Hough *et al.*, 2008).

Table 3.01 Proportion of adults who were victims of violence by personal characteristics

Percentages											2007/08 BCS
	Type of offence					Type of violence					Unweighted base
	All violence ¹	Wounding	Assault with minor injury	Assault with no injury	Robbery	Domestic	Acquaintance	Stranger	Mugging (robbery + snatch theft)		
	% victims once or more					% victims once or more					
Men	4.1	1.0	1.0	1.7	0.7	0.2	1.4	2.1	0.9	21,331	
16-24	13.4	3.7	3.8	4.9	2.7	0.1	4.9	6.7	3.0	1,825	
25-34	5.7	1.4	1.6	2.2	0.9	0.5	1.8	2.8	1.1	2,994	
35-44	2.7	0.7	0.3	1.5	0.3	0.2	0.9	1.4	0.5	4,095	
45-54	2.5	0.5	0.5	1.3	0.4	0.1	0.8	1.2	0.5	3,582	
55-64	1.1	0.2	0.2	0.5	0.2	0.0	0.3	0.6	0.3	3,716	
65-74	0.8	0.1	0.0	0.5	0.2	0.0	0.1	0.5	0.3	2,859	
75+	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.2	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.2	2,260	
Women	2.3	0.5	0.6	1.0	0.3	0.6	0.8	0.6	0.5	25,572	
16-24	6.4	1.4	1.7	2.8	1.2	0.9	2.9	1.8	1.7	2,137	
25-34	3.3	0.8	0.9	1.4	0.3	1.2	1.0	0.9	0.5	3,713	
35-44	2.4	0.8	0.5	1.0	0.3	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.3	4,806	
45-54	1.6	0.2	0.4	0.9	0.2	0.6	0.5	0.4	0.4	3,875	
55-64	0.8	0.1	0.2	0.5	0.1	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.3	4,179	
65-74	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.3	3,484	
75+	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.2	3,378	
Ethnic group											
White	3.1	0.8	0.8	1.4	0.5	0.4	1.2	1.3	0.6	43,756	
Non-White	3.5	0.8	0.6	1.3	1.2	0.3	0.7	1.6	1.3	3,139	
Marital status											
Married	1.3	0.3	0.2	0.7	0.1	0.2	0.4	0.6	0.2	22,314	
Cohabiting	3.8	0.9	1.1	1.6	0.5	0.5	1.5	1.5	0.6	4,115	
Single	7.8	2.0	2.1	3.0	1.5	0.7	2.8	3.3	1.9	9,591	
Separated	3.8	1.2	0.8	1.4	0.5	2.0	0.8	0.7	0.6	1,403	
Divorced	3.3	0.8	0.7	1.3	0.6	0.7	1.1	0.9	0.7	4,098	
Widowed	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.3	5,366	
Respondent's employment status											
In employment	3.3	0.8	0.8	1.5	0.4	0.4	1.1	1.6	0.6	26,310	
Unemployed	9.3	3.0	2.6	4.1	1.3	1.2	4.4	3.4	1.5	792	
Economically inactive	2.7	0.6	0.6	0.9	0.6	0.4	0.9	0.8	0.8	19,659	
Student ²	11.1	2.3	2.4	3.4	3.6	0.1	3.7	4.1	4.1	1,078	
Looking after family/home	3.2	0.9	0.9	1.3	0.2	1.4	1.1	0.5	0.3	2,772	
Long-term/temporarily sick/ill	3.8	1.2	1.0	1.0	0.9	0.8	1.7	0.6	1.3	2,130	
Retired	0.5	0.0	0.1	0.3	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.2	0.2	13,130	
Other inactive	5.7	2.2	1.6	2.3	0.4	0.8	3.0	2.0	0.9	549	
Respondent's occupation											
Managerial and professional occupations	2.4	0.4	0.5	1.2	0.3	0.3	0.6	1.2	0.6	15,608	
Intermediate occupations	2.0	0.4	0.6	0.8	0.3	0.3	0.6	0.8	0.4	9,459	
Routine and manual occupations	3.1	1.0	0.8	1.3	0.4	0.4	1.3	1.2	0.5	18,393	
Never worked and long-term unemployed	3.7	1.1	1.2	1.7	0.3	0.9	1.6	0.9	0.3	1,406	
Full-time students ²	10.1	2.0	2.4	3.5	2.9	0.3	3.3	4.1	3.4	1,814	
Not classified	8.5	1.5	2.1	3.4	1.5	1.8	2.0	3.7	1.5	223	
Highest qualification											
Degree or diploma	2.9	0.6	0.6	1.5	0.5	0.3	0.8	1.4	0.7	14,226	
Apprenticeship or A/AS level	4.3	1.0	1.1	1.8	0.7	0.3	1.4	2.2	0.9	7,964	
O level/GCSE	4.4	1.3	1.1	1.7	0.8	0.6	1.8	1.5	0.9	9,302	
Other	1.9	0.6	0.4	0.7	0.2	0.3	0.6	0.8	0.4	2,024	
No qualifications	1.8	0.4	0.6	0.6	0.3	0.4	0.7	0.5	0.4	13,226	
Long-standing illness or disability											
Long-standing illness or disability	2.5	0.7	0.5	1.1	0.4	0.3	1.1	0.9	0.6	13,337	
Limits activities	2.5	0.7	0.5	1.1	0.4	0.4	1.1	0.7	0.5	9,282	
Does not limit activities	2.3	0.6	0.5	1.0	0.3	0.2	0.9	1.1	0.6	4,048	
No long-standing illness or disability	3.4	0.8	0.8	1.4	0.6	0.4	1.1	1.5	0.7	33,463	
Hours out of home on an average weekday											
Less than 3 hours	1.7	0.4	0.4	0.8	0.3	0.4	0.6	0.5	0.3	13,849	
3 hours less than 7 hours	3.2	0.8	0.9	1.3	0.6	0.5	1.2	1.1	0.8	12,382	
7 hours or longer	3.9	0.9	0.9	1.7	0.6	0.3	1.3	1.9	0.8	20,549	
Number of visits to pub/wine bar in evening during last month											
None	2.2	0.5	0.4	0.9	0.5	0.3	0.8	0.6	0.6	23,236	
Less than once a week	2.9	0.7	0.7	1.2	0.5	0.4	0.9	1.3	0.7	12,712	
Once a week or more often	5.3	1.4	1.4	2.4	0.6	0.4	2.0	2.6	0.9	10,950	
ALL ADULTS	3.2	0.8	0.8	1.4	0.5	0.4	1.1	1.3	0.7	46,686	

1. 'All violence' includes wounding, assault with minor injury, assault with no injury and robbery. For more information see the Glossary.

2. Base sizes for the student categories differ as they are based on different classifications. Economically inactive students exclude those who are in employment, or in other ways economically active, but full-time students are recognised as such within the occupational coding. For more information see the Glossary (NS-SEC and Employment Status).

3. See the Glossary for definitions of personal characteristics.

Table 3.02 Proportion of adults who were victims of violence by household and area characteristics

Percentages											2007/08 BCS
	Type of offence					Type of violence					
	All violence ¹	Wounding	Assault with minor injury	Assault with no injury	Robbery	Domestic	Acquaintance	Stranger	Mugging (robbery + snatch theft)	Unweighted base	
		% victims once or more					% victims once or more				
Household type:											
Household reference person under 60:											
Single adult & child(ren)	6.5	2.1	2.1	1.9	0.7	3.4	1.6	0.9	1.0	2,414	
Adults & child(ren)	3.7	0.9	1.0	1.6	0.6	0.5	1.6	1.3	0.8	10,352	
No children	4.1	1.0	1.0	1.8	0.7	0.3	1.3	2.0	0.9	17,230	
Head of household 60 or over	0.9	0.2	0.1	0.5	0.2	0.1	0.3	0.4	0.3	16,865	
Household income											
Less than £10,000	3.8	1.0	0.9	1.4	0.9	0.9	1.4	0.9	1.1	7,422	
£10,000 less than £20,000	2.6	0.8	0.5	1.1	0.3	0.5	0.9	0.9	0.4	8,247	
£20,000 less than £30,000	3.3	0.7	0.8	1.4	0.5	0.4	1.5	0.9	0.6	6,458	
£30,000 less than £40,000	2.9	0.5	0.7	1.6	0.3	0.2	1.0	1.6	0.4	4,988	
£40,000 less than £50,000	3.2	0.7	1.0	1.4	0.4	0.2	0.9	1.8	0.6	3,510	
£50,000 or more	2.9	0.5	0.7	1.5	0.5	0.3	1.0	1.3	0.8	5,639	
Tenure											
Owner occupiers	2.2	0.5	0.5	1.0	0.3	0.2	0.7	1.0	0.5	33,018	
Social renters	4.7	1.4	1.2	1.6	0.9	1.0	1.9	1.3	1.2	7,777	
Private renters	5.8	1.4	1.4	2.5	1.0	0.6	2.0	2.6	1.3	5,891	
Accommodation type											
Houses	3.0	0.7	0.7	1.3	0.5	0.4	1.0	1.3	0.6	38,871	
Detached	2.1	0.4	0.5	1.2	0.2	0.2	0.7	1.1	0.4	11,726	
Semi-detached	3.1	0.7	0.9	1.3	0.5	0.4	1.0	1.3	0.6	14,710	
Terraced	3.7	0.9	0.9	1.5	0.6	0.4	1.4	1.5	0.8	12,435	
Flats/maisonettes	4.5	1.1	1.0	2.0	0.9	0.5	1.6	1.8	1.2	5,274	
Other accommodation	1.2	0.6	0.0	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.8	0.0	216	
ACORN category											
Wealthy Achievers	1.9	0.4	0.5	1.0	0.2	0.3	0.7	0.8	0.3	12,793	
Urban Prosperity	4.7	0.6	0.8	2.4	1.2	0.1	1.1	2.5	1.8	3,542	
Comfortably Off	2.7	0.7	0.7	1.1	0.3	0.3	0.9	1.3	0.4	14,726	
Moderate Means	3.7	0.8	1.1	1.2	0.7	0.6	1.4	1.1	0.9	6,424	
Hard Pressed	4.6	1.4	1.1	1.8	0.8	0.7	1.8	1.6	1.0	9,317	
Area type											
Urban	3.4	0.8	0.8	1.4	0.6	0.4	1.1	1.4	0.8	34,926	
Rural	2.3	0.5	0.6	1.2	0.2	0.4	1.0	0.9	0.3	11,977	
Level of physical disorder											
High	5.1	1.5	1.7	1.3	0.9	0.9	2.0	1.4	1.0	2,480	
Not high	3.1	0.7	0.7	1.4	0.5	0.4	1.0	1.4	0.7	41,666	
ALL ADULTS	3.2	0.8	0.8	1.4	0.5	0.4	1.1	1.3	0.7	46,686	

1. 'All violence' includes wounding, assault with minor injury, assault with no injury and robbery. For more information see the Glossary.

2. See the Glossary for definitions of household and area characteristics.

Table 3.03 Number of violent incidents against men and women by violence category

Numbers (000s) and percentages	2007/08 BCS								
	Men	Women	All						
				Men	Women	All			
	Number of incidents (000s)			Percentage of incidents by violence type ²			Percentage of incidents by sex		
All violence¹	1,292	875	2,164	100	100	100	60	40	100
Wounding	268	200	467	21	23	22	57	43	100
Assault with minor injury	285	197	481	22	23	22	59	41	100
Assault with no injury	525	379	903	41	43	42	58	42	100
Robbery	215	99	313	17	11	14	68	32	100
Domestic	52	288	342	4	33	16	15	85	100
Acquaintance	445	321	765	34	37	35	58	42	100
Stranger	581	167	744	45	19	34	78	22	100
Mugging (robbery + snatch theft)	247	145	391	19	17	18	63	37	100

1. 'All violence' includes wounding, assault with minor injury, assault with no injury and robbery. For more information see the Glossary.

2. Percentages may not sum to 100 due to rounding and also, within the bottom half of the table, the inclusion of the snatch theft category within 'mugging'.

Table 3.04 Offender characteristics in violent incidents

Percentages	2007/08 BCS							
	Type of offence			Type of violence				
All violence ¹	Wounding	Assault with minor injury	Assault with no injury	Robbery	Domestic	Acquaintance	Stranger	Mugging (robbery + snatch theft)
Able to say something about offender(s)	100	100	100	99	100	100	99	96
<i>Unweighted base</i>	367	344	584	195	257	508	528	255
Number of offenders								
One	58	61	55	33	97	52	43	40
Two	13	10	12	27	1	10	15	25
Three	8	8	7	14	1	7	12	13
Four or more	25	21	26	26	1	30	30	22
Sex of offender(s)								
Male(s)	76	72	72	87	77	68	79	86
Female(s)	13	20	12	8	20	13	11	9
Both	11	8	16	5	3	18	10	6
Age of offender(s)²								
School age and under	13	7	17	15	3	19	10	14
Aged 16 to 24	52	48	51	71	23	53	59	67
Aged 25 to 39	31	38	29	16	46	31	28	20
Aged 40 or older	13	17	14	1	29	15	8	2
<i>Unweighted base (victim was able to say something about offender)³</i>	1,476	362	344	579	257	507	519	239
Relationship to victim⁴								
Stranger	44	34	43	75	0	0	100	77
Known by sight or to speak to	26	22	29	21	1	62	0	19
Known well	30	45	28	5	99	38	0	4
<i>Unweighted base (victim was able to say something about offender)⁵</i>	1,528	368	359	599	260	521	545	251

1. All violence includes wounding, assault with minor injury, assault with no injury and robbery. For more information see the Glossary.

2. Figures add to more than 100 as more than one offender could be involved.

3. Figures here are based on incidents in which the victim could say something about the offender(s); base given is for the question asking about number of offenders, other bases are similar.

4. The relationship to the offender(s) is classified as: 'stranger' if the victim did not have any information about the offender(s), or did not know and had never seen the offender(s) before; 'known by sight or to speak to' if at least one offender falls into either category; and 'known well' if at least one offender falls into this category (for multiple offenders this takes priority over any less well-known offenders).

5. All victims were asked about their relationship to the offender(s).

Table 3.05 Injuries sustained in violent incidents

Percentages	2007/08 BCS								
	Type of offence			Type of violence					
All violence ¹	Wounding	Assault with minor injury	Assault with no injury	Robbery	Domestic	Acquaintance	Stranger	Mugging (robbery + snatch theft)	
Sustained physical injury²	49	100	100	0	31	69	49	47	25
Type of injury²									
Minor bruise/black eye	28	85	n/a	n/a	16	37	27	29	13
Severe bruising ³	15	2	n/a	n/a	11	28	12	13	9
Cuts	13	51	0	n/a	13	18	11	13	10
Scratches	11	24	19	n/a	11	15	11	9	9
Concussion or loss of consciousness	2	8	0	n/a	3	2	2	2	2
Broken bones	2	7	0	n/a	1	0	2	2	1
Other	2	4	3	n/a	0	3	2	1	0
Facial or head injuries (no bruising)	1	4	2	n/a	0	1	2	2	0
Broken nose	1	5	0	n/a	0	1	1	2	0
Broken or lost teeth	1	3	0	n/a	0	0	1	1	0
Chipped teeth	1	3	0	n/a	0	0	1	1	0
No physical injury	51	0	0	100	69	31	51	53	75
Some form of medical attention⁴	12	40	9	2	6	15	12	14	6
Medical attention from a doctor	9	31	5	2	5	11	9	10	5
Hospital stay ^{4,5}	1	4	0	0	0	1	2	1	0
Unweighted base⁶	1,547	376	360	606	205	260	521	559	268

1. 'All violence' includes wounding, assault with minor injury, assault with no injury and robbery. For more information see the Glossary.

2. Figures may add to more than 100 as more than one type of physical injury may have been sustained. By definition, all incidents of wounding and assault with minor injury will involve a physical injury; conversely assault with no injury does not include any incidents where a physical injury was sustained.

3. A small proportion of assaults with minor injury involved severe bruising – these incidents have been coded as such based on additional information provided by the victim.

4. Asked of victims where force or violence was threatened or used.

5. This question asks whether the victim stayed in hospital for at least one night and is asked of those who sought medical attention (excluding dentists); base is victims of all violent incidents.

6. The base given is for the question about injury sustained in violent incidents; base sizes for overnight hospital stay will be lower as not all victims were asked this question.

Table 3.06 Use of weapons in violent incidents

Percentages	2007/08 BCS							
	Type of offence			Type of violence				
All violence ¹	Wounding	Assault with minor injury	Assault with no injury	Robbery	Domestic	Acquaintance	Stranger	Mugging (robbery + snatch theft)
Weapon used	24	17	27	23	13	29	24	18
No weapon used	76	83	73	77	87	71	75	77
Not known (not able to say anything about offender/no contact)	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	5
Knife	6	1	5	15	6	6	4	12
Hitting implement ²	7	5	8	5	4	9	8	4
Glass/bottle	4	3	4	0	2	5	5	0
Stabbing implement ³	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0
Firearm ⁴	1	0	3	1	1	3	1	0
Stones	2	1	3	1	0	4	2	0
Syringe	1	2	0	0	0	1	0	0
Other	4	5	6	0	1	6	5	0
Unweighted base	1,477	343	582	188	257	506	524	248

1. 'All violence' includes wounding, assault with minor injury, assault with no injury and robbery. For more information see the Glossary.

2. Includes sticks, clubs and other hitting implements.

3. Includes screwdrivers and other stabbing implements.

4. Includes pistol, rifle, shotgun, airgun, air rifle, and any gun which could not be identified.

5. Figures may add to more than 100 as more than one weapon could be used.

Table 3.07 Firearm offences (excluding air weapons) by level of injury

Nature of Injury	Numbers and percentage changes		Recorded crime
	2006/07	2007/08	% change
	<i>Numbers</i>		
Fatal injuries ¹	56	52	-7
Serious injuries	412	403	-2
Slight injuries	2,543	2,762	9
Total injuries	3,011	3,217	7
Threats	5,042	5,036	0
No injuries	1,592	1,550	-3
Total	9,645	9,803	2

1. Because of the small number of fatal injuries the percentage change should be treated with caution.

Table 3.08 Firearm offences (excluding air weapons) by type of weapon

Type of weapon	Numbers and percentage changes		Recorded crime
	2006/07	2007/08	% change
	<i>Numbers</i>		
Shotgun	612	594	-3
Handgun	4,173	4,151	-1
Rifle ¹	69	72	4
Imitation firearm ²	2,516	2,523	0
Unidentified firearm	1,276	1,334	5
Other firearm ³	999	1,129	13
Total	9,645	9,803	2

1. Because of the small number of offences involving rifles the percentage change should be treated with caution.

2. Imitation handguns, which are converted to fire bullets like handguns, are counted as handguns.

3. Other firearms include CS gas, disguised firearms, machine guns, pepper spray, stun guns and other specified weapons (the majority being paintball guns).

Table 3.09 Knife and sharp instrument offences recorded by the police for selected offences, 2007/08¹

Police force area and region	Total of selected serious offences ²				Attempted murder				Wounding with intent to do GBH				Wounding or inflicting GBH (i.e. without intent) ³				Robbery of business property				Robbery of personal property			
	Offences involving a knife		%		Offences involving a knife		%		Offences involving a knife		%		Offences involving a knife		%		Offences involving a knife		%		Offences involving a knife		%	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Cleveland	169	20	4	40	76	38	17	12	16	40	56	12	12	40	16	40	56	12	40	16	40	56	12	
Durham	93	16	2	67	53	27	8	4	13	27	17	4	13	27	17	4	13	27	17	4	13	27	17	
Northumbria	351	22	1	20	140	48	64	13	34	45	101	15	34	45	101	15	34	45	101	15	34	45	101	
North East Region	613	20	7	39	269	39	89	11	74	37	174	14	89	11	74	37	174	14	89	11	74	37	174	
Cheshire	224	23	1	17	64	32	26	13	68	50	65	15	26	13	68	50	65	15	26	13	68	50		
Cumbria	73	28	2	100	20	45	35	21	6	75	10	23	6	75	10	23	6	75	10	23	6	75		
Greater Manchester	2,294	20	20	20	600	43	315	14	373	30	966	16	315	14	373	30	966	16	315	14	373	30		
Lancashire	361	18	8	44	138	26	46	9	41	35	128	15	46	9	41	35	128	15	46	9	41	35		
Merseyside	757	22	3	52	312	35	52	7	153	35	237	19	52	7	153	35	237	19	52	7	153	35		
North West Region	3,709	21	34	21	1,134	37	474	12	641	33	1,426	16	474	12	641	33	1,426	16	474	12	641	33		
Humber	267	17	2	40	55	23	34	10	29	31	147	16	34	10	29	31	147	16	34	10	29	31		
North Yorkshire	66	12	1	20	21	15	4	2	12	28	2	13	40	2	12	28	2	13	40	2	12	28		
South Yorkshire	381	20	10	43	111	33	43	14	45	29	176	16	43	14	45	29	176	16	43	14	45	29		
West Yorkshire	915	21	6	45	306	37	75	12	113	32	411	16	75	12	113	32	411	16	75	12	113	32		
Yorkshire and the Humber Region	1,629	19	19	41	493	32	156	11	199	31	762	16	156	11	199	31	762	16	156	11	199	31		
Derbyshire	187	15	2	22	49	32	28	10	24	28	84	12	28	10	24	28	84	12	28	10	24	28		
Leicestershire	294	19	5	45	99	33	25	14	16	25	149	15	25	14	16	25	149	15	25	14	16	25		
Lincolnshire	71	18	0	0	29	20	9	12	11	39	22	16	9	12	11	39	22	16	9	12	11	39		
Northamptonshire	216	17	3	27	83	42	10	5	19	18	101	13	10	5	19	18	101	13	10	5	19	18		
Nottinghamshire	548	21	5	42	122	51	27	9	56	28	338	18	27	9	56	28	338	18	27	9	56	28		
East Midlands Region	1,316	19	15	33	382	37	99	10	126	26	694	16	99	10	126	26	694	16	99	10	126	26		
Staffordshire	219	13	1	25	34	50	75	9	36	39	73	12	75	9	36	39	73	12	75	9	36	39		
Warwickshire	160	26	2	50	41	39	14	11	31	31	72	26	14	11	31	31	72	26	14	11	31	31		
West Mercia	144	15	1	17	43	27	20	8	19	25	61	13	20	8	19	25	61	13	20	8	19	25		
West Midlands	2,303	22	14	26	561	45	370	22	192	29	1,166	17	370	22	192	29	1,166	17	370	22	192	29		
West Midlands Region	2,826	20	18	27	679	43	479	17	278	30	1,372	16	479	17	278	30	1,372	16	479	17	278	30		
Bedfordshire	316	22	4	57	67	38	14	25	32	35	199	18	14	25	32	35	199	18	14	25	32	35		
Cambridgeshire	100	11	3	50	21	13	16	11	8	19	46	8	16	11	8	19	46	8	16	11	8	19		
Essex	289	16	6	40	89	30	10	7	30	17	154	14	10	7	30	17	154	14	10	7	30	17		
Hertfordshire	222	19	8	89	46	26	35	15	21	24	112	17	35	15	21	24	112	17	35	15	21	24		
Norfolk	67	12	1	100	22	15	13	12	7	23	24	9	13	12	7	23	24	9	13	12	7	23		
Suffolk	118	22	2	50	33	48	42	22	11	31	30	13	42	22	11	31	30	13	42	22	11	31		
East of England Region	1,112	17	24	57	278	27	130	15	115	23	565	14	130	15	115	23	565	14	130	15	115	23		
London, City of	19	22	1	100	3	25	2	11	1	50	12	23	2	11	1	50	12	23	2	11	1	50		
Metropolitan Police	7,409	18	59	50	878	48	869	32	612	18	4,991	15	869	32	612	18	4,991	15	869	32	612	18		
London Region	7,428	18	60	51	881	48	871	32	613	18	5,003	15	871	32	613	18	5,003	15	871	32	613	18		
Hampshire	388	18	7	50	88	36	108	14	33	27	152	16	108	14	33	27	152	16	108	14	33	27		
Kent	327	18	10	71	94	25	32	12	43	27	148	15	32	12	43	27	148	15	32	12	43	27		
Surrey	114	17	6	60	25	27	18	12	29	29	36	12	18	12	29	29	36	12	18	12	29	29		
Sussex	274	20	2	29	62	47	84	24	27	29	99	12	84	24	27	29	99	12	84	24	27	29		
Thames Valley	329	11	9	31	63	28	30	5	47	19	180	10	30	5	47	19	180	10	30	5	47	19		
South East Region	1,432	16	34	46	332	31	272	13	179	25	615	13	272	13	179	25	615	13	272	13	179	25		
Avon and Somerset	360	14	3	30	85	26	27	6	17	16	228	13	27	6	17	16	228	13	27	6	17	16		
Devon and Cornwall	288	25	5	56	127	45	45	14	33	45	78	17	45	14	33	45	78	17	45	14	33	45		
Dorset	47	9	0	0	20	31	11	5	3	11	13	6	11	5	3	11	13	6	11	5	3	11		
Gloucestershire	85	18	1	33	15	17	4	4	14	38	51	20	4	4	14	38	51	20	4	4	14	38		
Wiltshire	140	25	6	86	17	48	17	14	22	52	22	17	17	14	22	52	22	17	14	22	52	22		
South West Region	920	17	15	43	290	34	104	9	89	31	422	14	104	9	89	31	422	14	104	9	89	31		
England total	20,985	19	226	37	4,738	37	2,674	16	2,314	26	11,033	15	2,674	16	2,314	26	11,033	15	2,674	16	2,314	26		
Dyfed-Powys	74	21	3	75	31	53	31	12	3	50	6	15	31	12	3	50	6	15	31	12	3	50		
Gwent	130	17	1	50	79	22	8	5	10	37	32	14	79	22	8	37	32	14	79	22	8	37		
North Wales	108	26	1	33	56	41	25	18	0	0	19	23	25	18	0	0	19	23	25	18	0	0		
South Wales	585	28	0	0	333	38	46	13	29	42	177	23	46	13	29	42	177	23	46	13	29	42		
Wales total	897	25	5	38	499	35	110	12	42	41	241	21	110	12	42	41	241	21	110	12	42	41		
British Transport Police	269	23	0	0	11	17	1	2	3	100	24	24	1	2	3	100	24	24	1	2	3	100		
ENGLAND AND WALES																								

Table 3.10 Proportion of violent incidents where the victim believed the offender(s) to be under the influence of alcohol or drugs

Percentages		2007/08 BCS							
		Type of offence			Type of violence				
All violence ¹		Wounding	Assault with minor injury	Assault with no injury	Robbery	Domestic	Acquaintance	Stranger	Mugging (robbery + snatch theft)
Offender(s) perceived to be under influence of alcohol²									
Yes	45	48	61	44	19	37	48	58	17
No	45	42	32	47	63	61	46	28	63
Don't know	10	10	7	9	19	2	7	14	20
Offender(s) perceived to be under influence of drugs²									
Yes	19	15	24	20	14	12	28	14	13
No	56	60	49	56	58	82	51	47	58
Don't know	25	25	27	24	28	6	21	39	29
<i>Unweighted base</i>		362	342	581	192	256	507	520	241

1. 'All violence' includes wounding, assault with minor injury, assault with no injury and robbery. For more information see the Glossary.

2. Questions asked only if the victim was able to say something about the offender(s), and if there was more than one offender, victims were asked if any of the offenders were perceived to be under the influence. Questions were not asked if any offender(s) were perceived to be under school age.

Table 3.11 Violent incidents where the victim believed the offender(s) to be under the influence of alcohol or drugs, 1995 to 2007/08

Percentages and numbers (000s)	Proportion of all violent incidents ¹										Statistically significant change	
	1995	1997	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	1995 to 2007/08	2006/07 to 2007/08	BCS
Offender(s) perceived to be under the influence of:²												
Alcohol	41	43	48	45	51	49	45	46	45			
Drugs	16	18	21	20	20	18	23	17	19			
<i>Unweighted base</i>	1,078	915	1,285	1,397	1,398	1,455	1,512	1,658	1,477			
	Number of violent incidents (000s)											
Offender(s) perceived to be under the influence of:²												
Alcohol	1,656	1,457	1,244	1,177	1,299	1,105	1,023	1,087	947		**	
Drugs	655	603	549	544	474	390	531	398	383		**	
<i>Unweighted base</i>	16,348	14,947	32,824	36,479	37,931	45,120	47,729	47,138	46,903			

1. 'All violence' includes wounding, assault with minor injury, assault with no injury and robbery. For more information see the Glossary.

2. Questions asked only if the victim was able to say something about the offender(s), and if there was more than one offender, victims were asked if any of the offenders were perceived to be under the influence. Questions were not asked if any offender(s) were perceived to be under school age.

4 Property crime

Paul Taylor and Alison Patterson

4.1 SUMMARY

Property crime covers the various ways that individuals, households or corporate bodies have their property damaged or are deprived of it by illegal means (or where there is intent to do so).

Between the 2006/07 and 2007/08 BCS there was no change in the overall level of burglary but there were falls in all of the other main property offence categories:

- The number of vehicle-related thefts fell by 11 per cent.
- Other household theft and other theft of personal property fell (by 12% and 14%).
- There was a ten per cent fall in the number of incidents of vandalism.

Police recorded crime also showed a decline in the number of property crimes between 2006/07 and 2007/08:

- Police recorded burglary fell by six per cent; comprising a four per cent fall in domestic burglaries and an eight per cent fall in non-domestic burglaries.
- The number of offences against vehicles recorded by the police fell by 14 per cent.
- There was a 13 per cent fall in total criminal damage.

Longer-term trends show that property crime covered by the BCS has fallen considerably since its peak in 1995:

- Between 1995 and the 2007/08 BCS, the number of burglaries has declined by 59 per cent, vehicle-related thefts by 66 per cent and vandalism by 20 per cent.

For both burglary and vehicle-related thefts, having security measures in place was strongly associated with lower levels of victimisation:

- The BCS shows that households with no home security measures were around ten times more likely to have been victims of burglary than those where there were simple security measures, for example, deadlocks on doors (25.0% compared with 2.3%).

The vast majority of fraud does not come to the attention of the police and for this reason this report focuses particularly on data from finance industry sources. Information from APACS (the UK payments association) shows there were 2.7 million fraudulent transactions on UK-issued credit cards in the UK in 2007, an increase of 20 per cent on the 2.3 million recorded in 2006. Those types of card fraud more easily prevented by the introduction of Chip and PIN technology (for example, losses attributable to frauds from lost or stolen cards) continue to decline but for other types of card fraud (for example, the use of card-not-present fraud) there were rises.

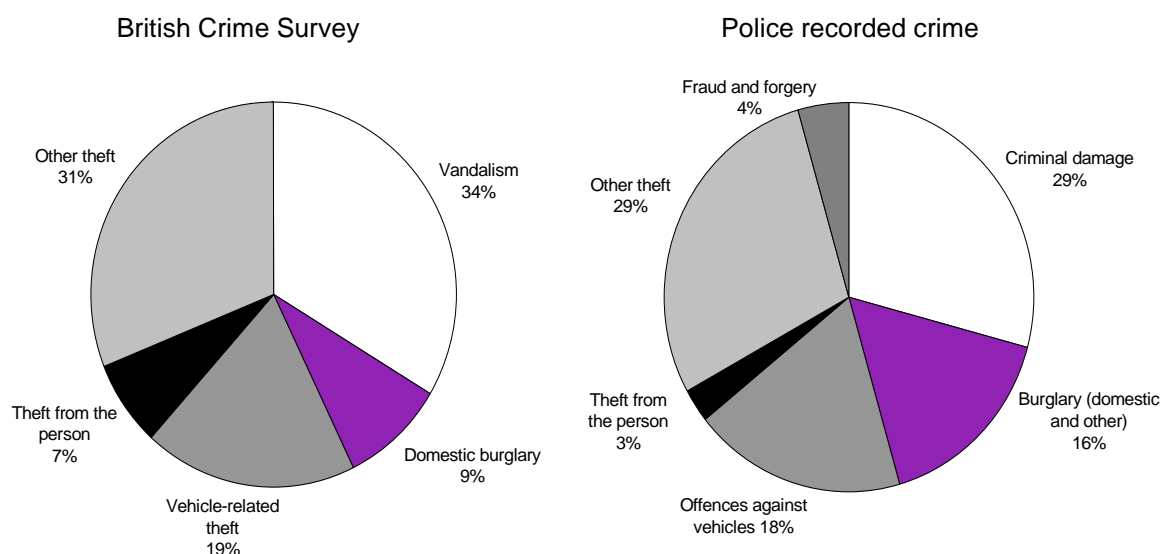
4.2 INTRODUCTION

This chapter looks at the various ways that individuals, households or corporate bodies are deprived of their property by illegal means (or where there is intent to do so) or where their property is damaged. These include offences of burglary, theft, criminal damage and fraud (including identity fraud). Whilst victims are deprived of their property in recorded offences of robbery, because there is the use or threat of force involved in such offences these are discussed in Chapter 3.

Recorded crime figures include crimes in all these categories, provided that they have been reported to and recorded by the police. The degree to which crimes are reported and recorded varies according to crime type (see Chapter 2). Key factors as to whether property crime is reported are perceived seriousness and whether property is insured. The BCS provides reliable estimates of crimes against the person and household but does not include crimes against corporate bodies. The BCS does cover identity fraud, but not in the main offence groups (see Section 4.7).

Figure 4.1 shows different property offence types for both police recorded crime and the BCS. Although the picture for police recorded crime and the BCS looks to be broadly similar, their coverage differs so the two data sources are not directly comparable. For example, the police recorded category of offences against vehicles covers both private and commercial vehicles whereas the BCS only includes offences against vehicles belonging to private households, but does include offences not reported to the police.

Figure 4.1 BCS and police recorded property crime by offence, 2007/08



4.3 BURGLARY

Extent and trends

Box 4.1 Classification of offence types: burglary

Key elements of police recorded **burglaries** (as defined by the Theft Act 1968) are entry (or attempted entry) to a building as a trespasser with intent to either (a) steal property from it (including stealing or attempting to steal), (b) inflict grievous bodily harm or (c) commit unlawful damage to property whilst inside. Recorded crime figures include burglaries of all buildings, reported to and recorded by the police, and make the distinction between domestic and non-domestic offences.

- **Domestic burglaries** include burglaries in all inhabited dwellings, including inhabited caravans, houseboats and holiday homes, as well as sheds and garages connected to the main dwelling (for example, by a connecting door).
- **Non-domestic burglaries** include burglaries to businesses (including hotels and similar accommodation) and also some burglaries of sheds and outhouses where these are not clearly connected to the inhabited property.

The BCS covers domestic burglaries only, which is defined as an unauthorised entry (including break-ins and attempts) into the victim's dwelling (any house or flat or any outhouse or garage linked to the dwelling via a connecting door), regardless of intent.

The BCS and police recorded crime have both shown similar trends over time with considerable falls in burglary levels since peaks in the mid-1990s (Figures 4.2 and 4.3).

- The number of domestic burglaries in England and Wales as measured by the BCS showed no change between 2006/07 and 2007/08. Longer-term trends in burglary show increases since the first BCS results in 1981 to reach a peak in 1995, before declining considerably. Since 1995, the number of burglaries estimated by the BCS has fallen by more than half (59%) from 1,770,000 to 729,000 in the 2007/08 BCS (Figure 4.2 and Table 2.01).
- The police recorded 280,704 domestic burglaries and 302,995 non-domestic burglaries in 2007/08, a fall in overall burglary of six per cent. This is the fifth consecutive year there has been a fall following a small rise during the period when the National Crime Recording Standard (NCRS) was introduced in 2002/03 (Table 2.04). It is estimated that domestic burglary figures in 2002/03 were initially three per cent higher because of the NCRS effect.
- From 2007/08 the Home Office is collecting supplementary data on the taking of vehicles during burglaries, often referred to as 'car key' burglaries. Data were received for 42 of the 44 police forces in England and Wales and showed that overall six per cent of burglaries in a dwelling in 2007/08 involved the taking of a vehicle.

The 2007/08 BCS estimated that 64 per cent of domestic burglaries were reported to the police, and that burglaries with loss were the type of burglary most likely to be reported (76%) (Table 2.10).

Figure 4.2 Trends in domestic burglary, 1981 to 2007/08 BCS

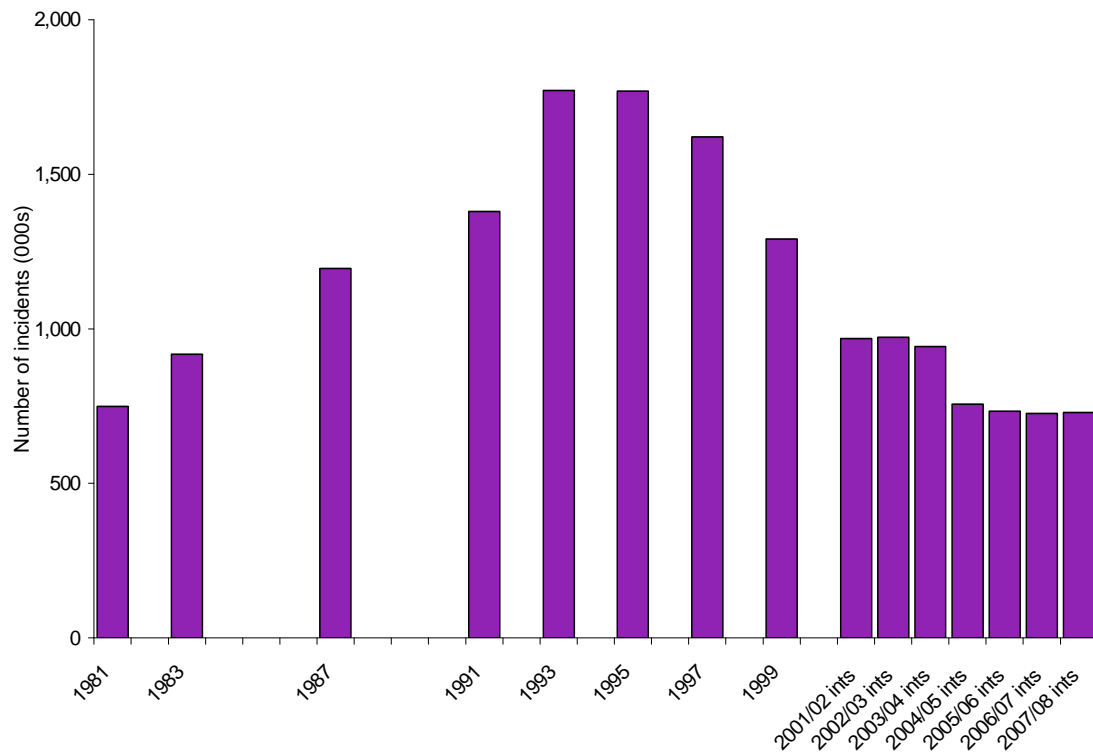


Figure 4.3 Trends in police recorded domestic burglary, 1981 to 2007/08

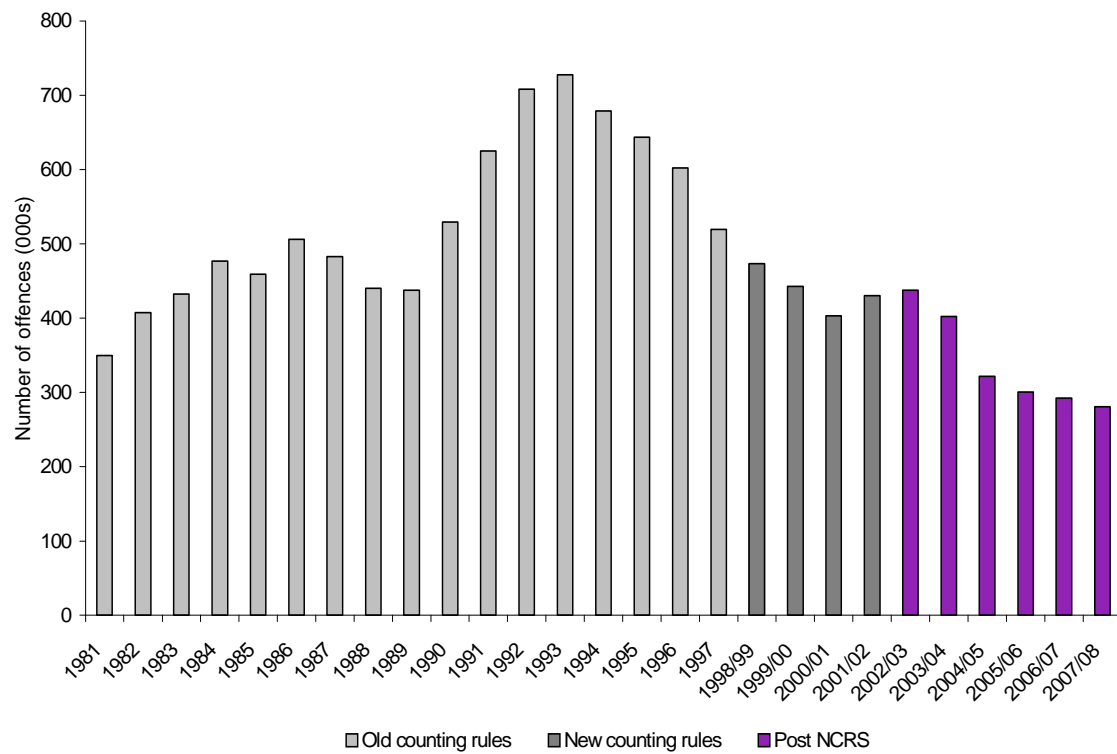
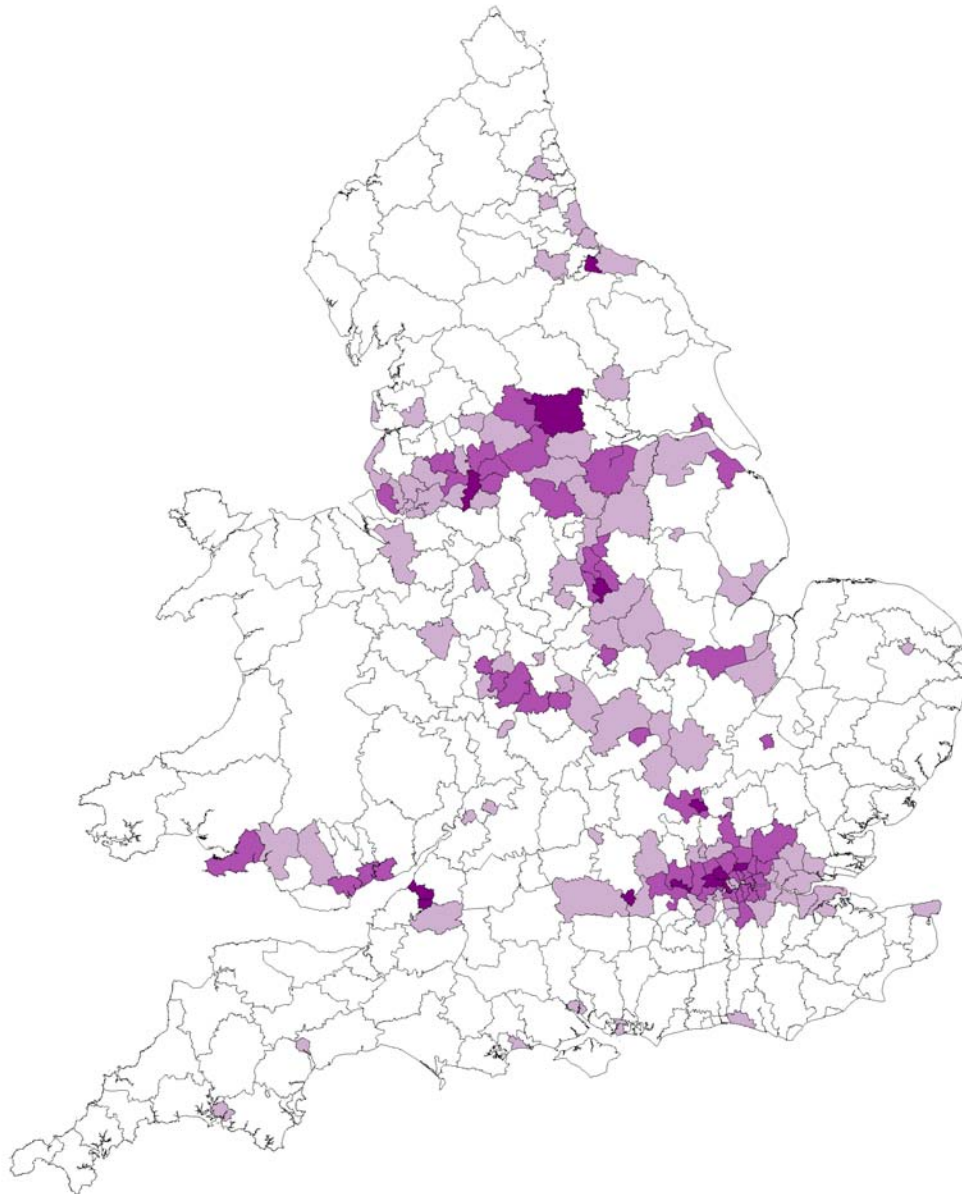


Figure 4.4 Police recorded offences of domestic burglary: rates by households at local authority level, 2007/08

- Local authorities more than twice the average rate (6% of population)
- Above the average group, but less than twice the average rate (23% of population)
- Average group* (26% of population)
- Below the average group (45% of population)

*Local authorities classified within the 'average group' include those up to 20 per cent above or below the domestic burglary rate for England and Wales as a whole.



Risks of becoming a victim of burglary

Overall, the risk of a household being a victim of burglary remained stable compared with 2006/07, with 2.4 per cent of households interviewed in the 2007/08 BCS experiencing one or more burglaries in the previous 12 months. Within the 2.4 per cent experiencing burglary, 1.4 per cent of households were victims of burglary with entry and 1.0 per cent were victims of attempts (a few households were victims of both) (Table 2.03).

The BCS shows that the risk of becoming a victim of burglary varied by characteristics of the household reference person (HRP¹) (Figure 4.5 and Table 4.01).

- Households with an HRP aged between 16 and 24 were more likely to have experienced burglary (7.5%) than households where the HRP was older (for example, 1.4% of households where the HRP was aged 75 and over experienced a burglary).
- Risk was higher for households where the HRP was unemployed (6.5%) compared with those where the HRP was employed or economically inactive (both 2.3%).

Risk of victimisation also varied considerably by key household and area characteristics.

- Households consisting of a single adult and child(ren) (6.4%) were more likely to have been a victim of burglary compared with all other household types.
- People who had lived at an address for less than a year had a higher risk (4.8%) than those who had lived there longer (for example, 10 years or more, 1.7%).
- Households in areas where physical disorder was assessed² as high were more likely to be victims of burglary (5.1%) than those in areas where the assessed level was not high (2.2%).

In addition to these socio-demographic factors, the level of home security remains a key defence against burglary victimisation.

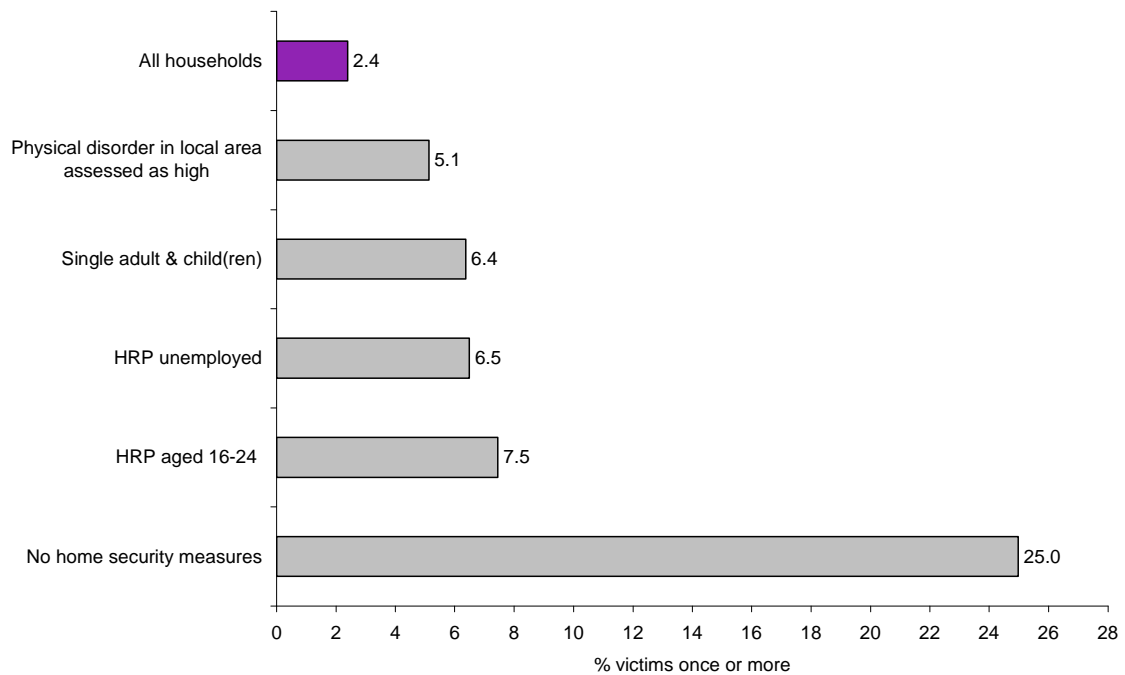
- Households with no home security measures were around ten times more likely to have been victims of burglary than households where there were simple security measures such as deadlocks on doors or window locks (25.0% compared with 2.3%) (Table 4.01).
- Households that had been a victim of burglary were less likely to have any home security measures (67%) than those households that had not been a victim of burglary (97%) (Table 4.02).

The factors described here as being associated with higher or lower risk of experiencing burglary are similar to those found in previous years.

¹ See the Glossary for definition of household reference person (HRP).

² Interviewer assessment, see the Glossary for more information.

Figure 4.5 Households most at risk of burglary, 2007/08 BCS



Box 4.2 Factors strongly associated with higher risk of burglary

Multivariate analysis (logistic regression) carried out on the 2007/08 BCS shows that after the influence of other characteristics is taken into account, many of the relationships between socio-demographic factors and risk of victimisation still hold true.

The factors most strongly independently associated with higher risk of burglary were:

- having no security measures; and
- HRP being young, in particular being aged between 16 and 24.

This model explains around 42 per cent of the variation in the risk of being a victim of burglary based only on the factors described here (see the Glossary for more information).

4.4 VEHICLE OFFENCES

Extent and trends

Box 4.3 Classification of offence types: vehicle offences

The police recorded crime category of **offences against vehicles** covers private and commercial vehicles and comprises:

- **thefts and attempted thefts of vehicles** (where the intent is to permanently deprive the owner);
- **unauthorised taking of a vehicle** (where intent to permanently deprive the owner is not evident – this would typically include ‘joyriding’ where the car is later recovered);
- **aggravated vehicle taking** (where a vehicle once taken is known to have been driven dangerously, damaged or caused an accident);
- **thefts and attempted thefts from a vehicle** (targeting property in or on the vehicle);
- **interfering with a motor vehicle** (which includes attempts to drive away without apparent intent to permanently deprive the owner – mostly included as ‘attempted thefts’ within BCS).

The BCS includes offences against private households only and includes cars, vans, motorbikes, motor-scooters or mopeds used for non-commercial purposes.

It identifies three vehicle theft categories:

- **thefts of vehicles** (where a vehicle is stolen);
- **thefts from vehicles** (refers to both theft of parts and accessories of motor vehicles and to theft of contents);
- **attempted thefts of and from vehicles** (not distinguished between due to the difficulty in establishing the offender’s intentions).

The BCS and police recorded crime have both shown similar trends over time with considerable falls in vehicle-related theft levels since the peaks in the mid-1990s (Figures 4.6 and 4.7).

- There were 1,497,000 vehicle-related thefts measured by the 2007/08 BCS, representing a decrease of 11 per cent compared with 2006/07. Since the first BCS results in 1981, the number of vehicle-related thefts increased to a peak in the mid-1990s; this was followed by a substantial decline and since 1995 the number of vehicle-related thefts has decreased by 66 per cent (Figure 4.6 and Table 2.01).
- Within the individual BCS categories of vehicle-related theft, the number of thefts from vehicles also fell between 2006/07 and 2007/08 (down 12%). However, thefts of vehicles, and attempted thefts of and from vehicles remained stable over this period. Since 1995, the number of offences in each of these categories has more than halved (Table 2.01).
- Between 2006/07 and 2007/08, recorded crime showed a 12 per cent fall in thefts of motor vehicles, a five per cent fall in aggravated vehicle taking, a 14 per cent fall in thefts from vehicles and a 22 per cent fall in the closely related offence of interfering with a motor vehicle. Taken together, the number of offences against vehicles recorded by the police fell by 14 per cent to 656,549 between 2006/07 and 2007/08. This represents a continuing downward trend over recent years. Altogether recorded offences against vehicles have fallen by 39 per cent since 2002/03 when the NCRS was first introduced (Figure 4.7 and Table 2.04).

BCS interviews in 2007/08 estimated that around half (48%) of vehicle-related thefts were reported to the police. Thefts of vehicles were considerably more likely to be reported (93%) than thefts from vehicles (44%) (Table 2.10).

While vehicle-related theft has fallen over time, the number of motor vehicles licensed in England, Scotland and Wales has increased by 23 per cent, from 27.5 million to 34.0 million between 1998 and 2007 (Vehicle Licensing Statistics, 2007³).

Longer-term trends from the BCS show that the proportion of vehicles with security precautions has increased over time and that the majority of vehicles now have some form of security precaution fitted (see Nicholas *et al.*, 2008). For example, between 1991 and the 2006/07 BCS⁴ the presence of immobilisers has more than tripled (23% to 78%) and central locking has more than doubled (35% to 88%). Additional information on the risk of vehicle-related theft is published in the Car Theft Index and the Bike Theft Index⁵.

Risks of vehicle-related theft

Overall, 6.4 per cent of vehicle-owning households in the 2007/08 BCS had experienced one or more vehicle-related thefts in the previous 12 months. This represents a decrease in the risk of being a victim of vehicle-related theft compared with 2006/07 (7.5%) (Table 2.03).

The risk of experiencing vehicle-related theft is not evenly spread across the vehicle-owning population with the risk varying by different household and area types (Figure 4.9 and Table 4.03).

- Households where the HRP was aged between 16 and 34 were more likely to have experienced vehicle-related theft than those where the HRP was aged 55 years and older (for example, HRP aged 16 to 24 year olds, 9.4%; HRP aged 75 and over, 1.9%).
- Victimization also varied by ACORN category, with those living in Wealthy Achievers ACORN areas less likely to be victims (4.1%) than those in any other ACORN category (in particular, Urban Prosperity, 9.7%).
- Households in areas where physical disorder was assessed⁶ as high were more likely to be victims (10.5%) than households in areas where the assessed level was not high (6.2%).

The number of vehicles that a household owned was also a key risk factor. Overall, 10.2 per cent of households with three or more cars had been victims of vehicle-related theft, compared with 5.3 per cent of households owning one car, and 7.0 per cent owning two.

In addition to these socio-demographic factors, an important element of risk is how secure the vehicle itself is. According to the 2007/08 BCS, 73 per cent of vehicles which were subject to an unsuccessful attempted theft had central locking, and 75 per cent had an immobiliser, compared with 57 per cent and 51 per cent respectively for vehicles which were successfully stolen. This suggests that security measures can be effective in preventing successful thefts of vehicles (Table 4.04).

The factors associated with being at higher or lower risk of being a victim of vehicle-related theft have been similar in recent years.

³ Vehicle Licensing Statistics 2007 (<http://www.dft.gov.uk/pgr/statistics/datatablespublications/vehicles/licensing/>) are based on the total number of licensed vehicles (including both private and commercial vehicles) in England, Scotland and Wales taken from the Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency (DVLA) database.

⁴ In the 2007/08 BCS, respondents were only asked questions about vehicle security measures on vehicles which had been involved in vehicle-related theft. Therefore, the latest figures available for security measures on all main cars are from the 2006/07 BCS.

⁵ The Car Theft Index 2006 (<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/documents/car-theft-index/>) and the Bike Theft Index 2005 (<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/documents/bike-theft-index-05.pdf>) are based on theft data taken from the Police National Computer and are the latest data currently available.

⁶ Interviewer assessment, see the Glossary for more information.

Figure 4.6 Trends in vehicle-related theft, 1981 to 2007/08 BCS

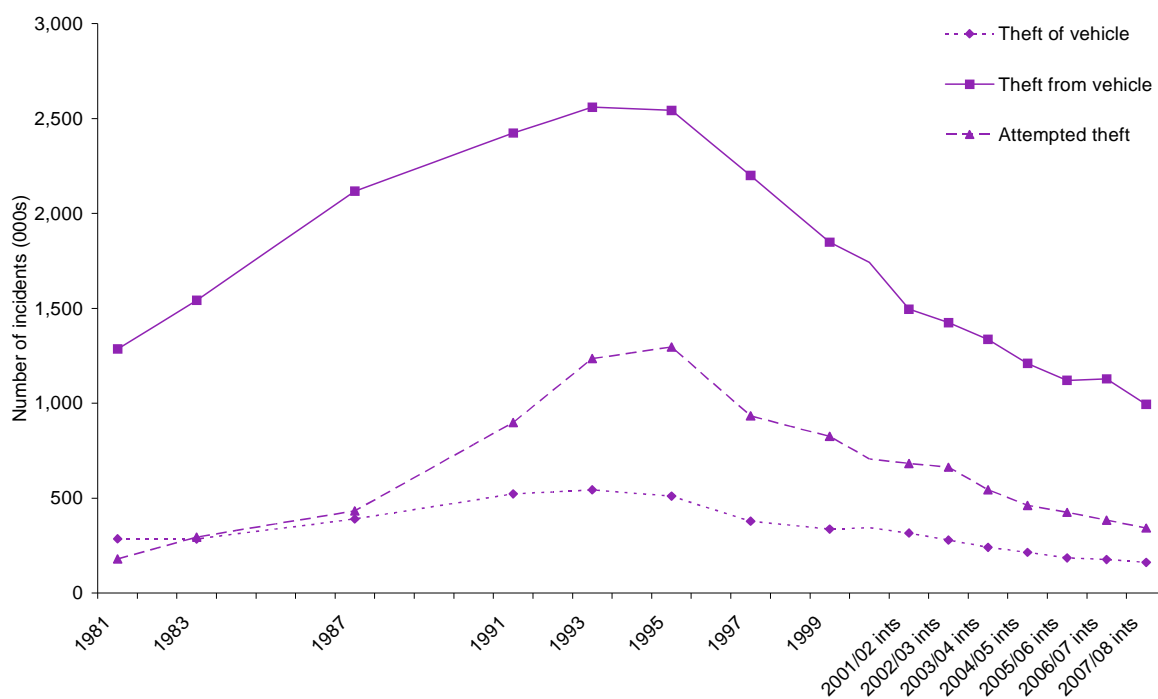
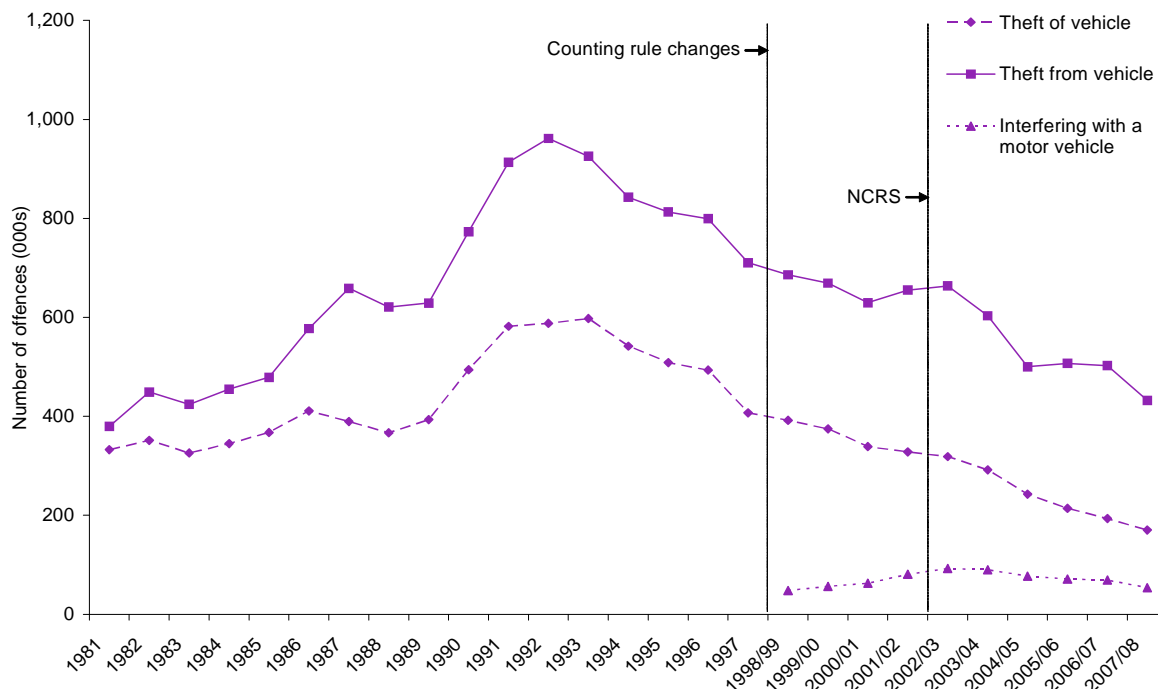


Figure 4.7 Trends in police recorded offences against vehicles, 1981 to 2007/08⁷



⁷ New counting rules for recorded crime were introduced in 1998/99 and the National Crime Recording Standard (NCRS) was introduced in April 2002. Figures before and after these dates are not directly comparable.

Figure 4.8 Police recorded offences of theft or unauthorised taking of motor vehicles: rates by population at local authority level, 2007/08

- Local authorities more than twice the average rate (4% of population)
- Above the average group, but less than twice the average rate (32% of population)
- Average group* (23% of population)
- Below the average group (41% of population)

*Local authorities classified within the 'average group' include those up to 20 per cent above or below the theft of motor vehicles rate for England and Wales as a whole.

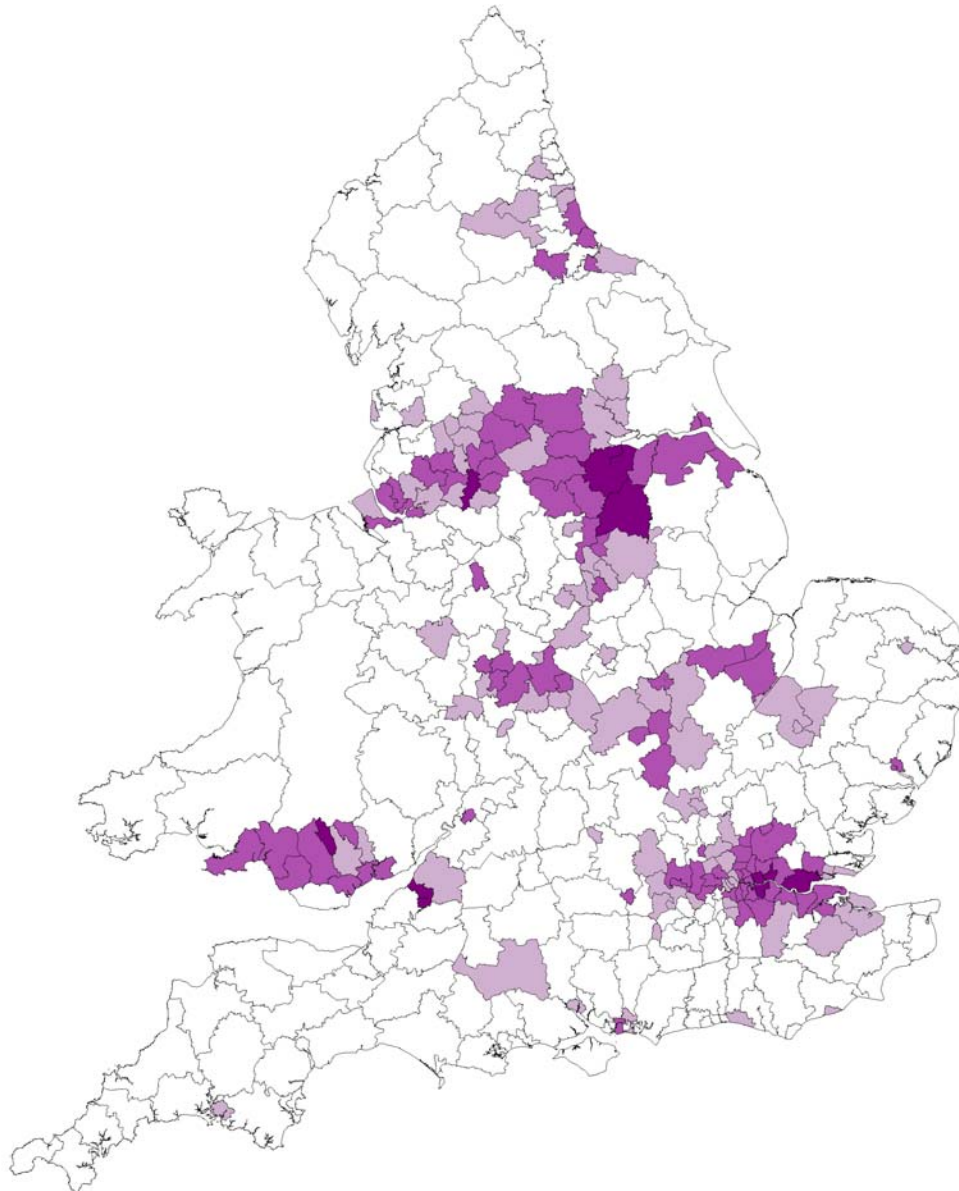
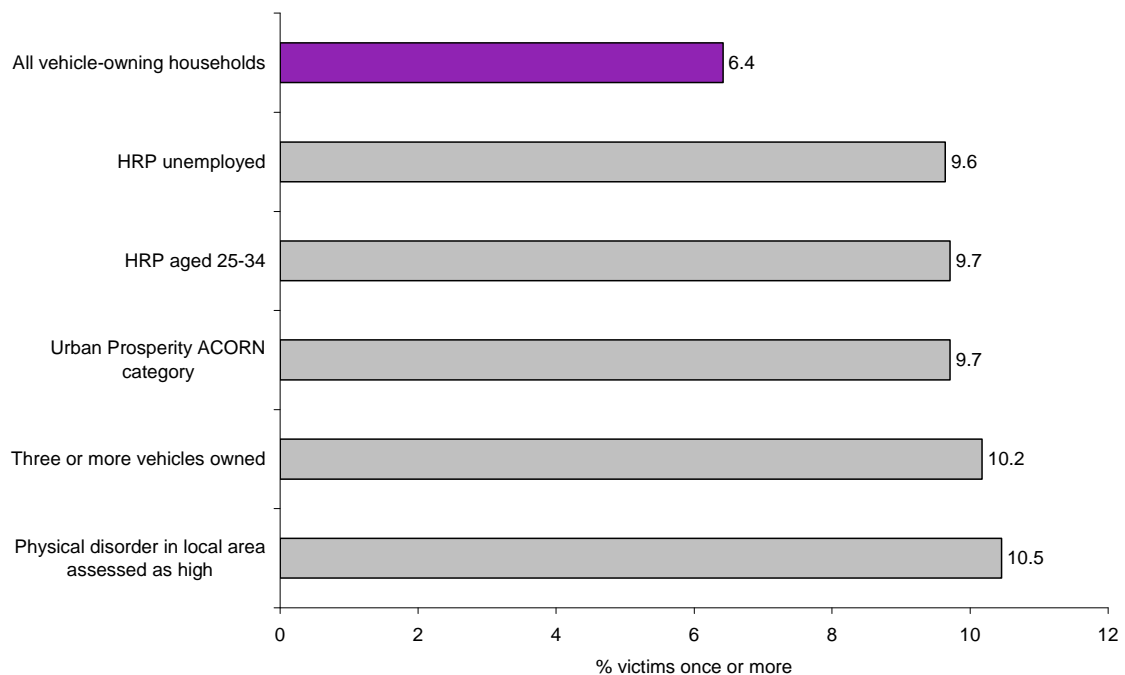


Figure 4.9 Vehicle-owning households most at risk of vehicle-related theft, 2007/08 BCS



Box 4.4 Factors strongly associated with higher risk of vehicle-related theft (among vehicle-owning households)

Multivariate analysis (logistic regression) carried out on the 2007/08 BCS shows that after the influence of other characteristics is taken into account, many of the relationships between socio-demographic factors and risk of victimisation still hold true (the effect of security devices could not be included in this analysis).

The factors most strongly independently associated with higher risk of vehicle-related theft were:

- *HRP being younger than 65 years old;*
- *not living in a Wealthy Achievers ACORN area; and*
- *owning more than one vehicle, in particular owning three or more vehicles.*

This model explains around five per cent of the variation in the risk of being a victim of vehicle-related theft based only on the factors described here (see the Glossary for more information).

4.5 OTHER THEFT OFFENCES

Extent and trends

Box 4.5 Classification of offence types: theft

Police recorded **other theft** includes all theft and handling stolen goods offences but excludes **all offences against vehicles** (such as theft of and from a vehicle).

The BCS coverage of thefts is as follows:

- **Theft from the person** comprises snatch and stealth theft. There may be an element of force in snatch theft (just enough to snatch the property away) and victims are often aware of the incident. No force is used in stealth thefts and victims are usually unaware of incidents at the time they occur. For recorded crime, theft from the person offences are those where there is no use of threat or force.
- **Other theft of personal property** covers thefts away from the home where no force is used and the victim is not holding or carrying the items when they are stolen (for example, thefts of unattended property in the workplace).
- **Other household thefts** cover a number of theft types. Theft in a dwelling includes thefts that occurred in the victim's dwelling, by someone who was entitled to be there. Theft from outside a dwelling covers incidents where items are stolen from outside the victim's home. The category also includes burglaries to non-connected buildings, for example, garden sheds.
- **Bicycle thefts** are recorded by the BCS if no attempt was made to steal anything else.

Excluding burglaries and vehicle-related thefts, the 2007/08 BCS estimated that there were 3,065,000 thefts from adults or households in England and Wales, of which 1,067,000 were other household thefts, 577,000 thefts from the person, 980,000 other thefts of personal property and 441,000 bicycle thefts (Table 2.01).

- Between the 2006/07 and 2007/08 BCS, the number of other household thefts and other thefts of personal property decreased (12% and 14% respectively). Theft from the person and bicycle thefts, however, were stable over this period. Longer-term trends show that since the first BCS results in 1981, all categories within other theft showed an increase before peaking in the mid-1990s. Other household thefts and other thefts of personal property have fallen by more than half (both 53%) between 1995 and 2007/08 interviews, while thefts from the person fell by 15 per cent and bicycle thefts by 34 per cent (Table 2.01).

In terms of recorded crime, there was a five per cent fall in other theft offences (excluding offences against vehicles) between 2006/07 and 2007/08 (Table 2.04). However, there are concerns over the reliability of recorded crime as a measure of underlying trends in other thefts. For example, levels of recorded shoplifting offences, which fell by one per cent between 2006/07 and 2007/08, are highly dependent on whether the shops themselves apprehend suspects and/or subsequently involve the police. According to the 2007/08 BCS, approximately one-third (32%) of thefts from the person and 41 per cent of bicycle thefts were reported to the police (Table 2.10).

Other Home Office surveys have previously been undertaken to capture the extent and costs of crime to the retail and manufacturing sector, for example, the 2002 Commercial Victimization Survey (see Shury *et al.*, 2005).

Risks of theft from the person

According to the 2007/08 BCS, 1.2 per cent of adults in England and Wales had been a victim of theft from the person; this has remained stable compared with the 2006/07 BCS (Table 2.03). The risk of becoming a victim of theft from the person varied by personal characteristics (Table 4.05).

- Young people were most at risk, for example, young men aged between 16 and 24 (3.0%) were more likely to be victimised than men in all other age groups (twice as likely as men aged 25 to 34, 1.3%).
- Older women were more likely than older men to have been victims of theft from the person. For example, women aged 75 and over (1.3%) were more likely than men aged 75 and over (0.2%) to be a victim.

Risk factors relating to theft from the person are likely to reflect the variations in the lifestyles of individuals and therefore their exposure to risk.

- Single people were more likely to be a victim of theft from the person (2.3%) than those with any other marital status (for example, married, 0.8%).
- People who had visited a pub or a wine bar three or more times a week in the last month were more likely to have been a victim of theft from the person (2.5%) than those who had not visited a pub or wine bar (1.0%).

The factors associated with being at higher or lower risk of being a victim of theft from the person have been similar in recent years.

Box 4.6 Factors strongly associated with higher risk of theft from the person

Multivariate analysis (logistic regression) carried out on the 2007/08 BCS shows that after the influence of other characteristics is taken into account, many of the relationships between socio-demographic factors and risk of victimisation still hold true.

The factors most strongly independently associated with higher risk of theft from the person were:

- *being aged between 16 and 34 years; and*
- *living in London or the South East.*

This model explains around four per cent of the variation in the risk of being a victim of theft from the person based only on the factors described here (see the Glossary for more information).

4.6 CRIMINAL DAMAGE (VANDALISM)

Extent and trends

Box 4.7 Classification of offence types: criminal damage (vandalism)

Criminal damage (called vandalism in the BCS) is any intentional and malicious damage to property belonging to another (see the Glossary for more information). The BCS only includes vandalism of private households and their property, while the police record offences for both domestic and non-domestic property. Damage which is repairable without cost, or which is accidental, is not included in the BCS or police recorded crime.

*BCS vandalism specifically covers **arson** (where there is deliberate damage to property caused by fire), **vandalism to a motor vehicle, to the home** (includes doors, windows, gates, fences and belongings in the garden) and **to other property**.*

The police record offences of criminal damage to a dwelling, to buildings other than a dwelling, to a vehicle, and other damage. Figures are also collected for racially or religiously aggravated criminal damage.

Arson and deliberate fires recorded by fire brigades

There are substantial recording differences between arson recorded by the police and deliberate fires figures recorded by fire brigades. The police need a higher level of proof to establish that the report of a fire legally constitutes arson than the fire brigades need to attribute a fire as deliberately started. Also, the police record a large proportion of fires to stolen vehicles as thefts of vehicles rather than arson. The figures recorded by fire brigades also relate to a different time period.

The definition of arson used in the BCS is deliberate damage by fire to property belonging to the respondent or their household regardless of the type of property involved. The only exception is where the item that is set on fire was stolen first (this is coded as theft). Arson is included in vandalism to other property; and includes arson to vehicles.

There were 2,689,000 offences of vandalism against private property as measured by BCS interviews in 2007/08. Of these, 1,732,000 were against vehicles and 957,000 against other private property, such as a dwelling or surrounding property (Table 2.01). Just over a third of incidents of vandalism were reported to the police (35%) (Table 2.10).

- The 2007/08 BCS showed that the number of incidents of vandalism has decreased by ten per cent since 2006/07. Longer-term BCS trends show that the number of vandalism incidents increased after the first BCS results in 1981 to reach a peak in 1995. The number of vandalism incidents has now returned to around the same level as in 1981, decreasing by 20 per cent since 1995.

Recorded crime figures showed a 13 per cent fall in total criminal damage between 2006/07 and 2007/08. Of the 1,036,246 offences recorded, 41 per cent were to a vehicle, 25 per cent to a dwelling and 13 per cent to a building other than a dwelling (Table 2.04).

There was a nine per cent fall in the number of arson offences recorded by the police between 2006/07 and 2007/08 to 39,318 offences (Table 2.04).

The number of deliberate fires⁸ recorded by fire brigades in England and Wales fell from 71,061 in 2005 to 63,995 in 2006, a decrease of ten per cent (Department for Communities and Local Government, 2008⁹).

⁸ A 'deliberate fire' is a primary fire where the cause of fire is suspected to be non-accidental. A 'primary fire' is any fire involving casualties, property (including non-derelict vehicles) or where at least five fire appliances attend.

⁹ These are the latest available figures and are taken from Summary Fire Statistics, United Kingdom, 2006 (<http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/fire/pdf/732982.pdf>).

Risks of vandalism

Based on the 2007/08 BCS, 7.3 per cent of households had experienced some form of vandalism in the previous 12 months. The risk of victimisation was 6.4 per cent for vehicle vandalism (based on vehicle-owning households) and 2.5 per cent for vandalism to the home or other property (Table 2.03). A very small proportion of households (0.3%) had been a victim of both vehicle vandalism and vandalism to the home or other property in the previous year, representing five per cent of all victims of vandalism (data not shown).

The risk of becoming a victim of vehicle vandalism or of vandalism to the home or other property varied according to different household characteristics and type of area (Figures 4.10 and 4.11 and Table 4.06).

Vehicle vandalism (vehicle-owning households only) (Figure 4.10 and Table 4.06)

- The risk of being a victim of vehicle vandalism was higher for households in social-rented accommodation (9.8%) compared with owner occupiers (5.8%) or private renters (7.7%).
- Households consisting of a single adult and child(ren) were more likely to have been a victim of vehicle vandalism (10.7%) compared with all other household types and in particular households where the HRP was aged over 60 years (3.2%).
- The risk of experiencing vehicle vandalism was higher for households in areas where physical disorder was assessed¹⁰ as high (10.2%) compared with areas where the assessed level was not high (6.3%). Households living in Moderate Means or Hard Pressed ACORN areas were also more likely to be a victim (9.5% and 9.4% respectively) than those in other types of area (for example, Wealthy Achievers, 3.8%).
- Households owning three or more cars were more likely to have experienced vandalism to vehicles (9.1%) compared with households owning one (5.9%) or two cars (6.7%).

Vandalism to the home or other property (Figure 4.11 and Table 4.06)

- Households where the HRP was long-term or temporarily sick had a higher risk of vandalism to the home (4.1%) than those with an HRP in employment (2.6%) or retired (1.8%).
- Households living in terraced houses (3.3%) had a higher risk of being a victim of vandalism to the home or other property than households living in other accommodation types (for example, flats or maisonettes, 1.9%).
- The risk of victimisation from vandalism to the home was higher for households in areas where physical disorder was assessed¹⁰ as high (3.9%) compared with areas where the assessed level was not high (2.5%).

BCS interviews for 2007/08 indicated that within the main crime types, victims of vandalism were most likely to experience repeat victimisation; 30 per cent of victims had experienced vandalism more than once in the previous 12 months (Figure 2.09).

The factors described here as being associated with higher or lower risk of experiencing vehicle vandalism or of vandalism to the home or other property are similar to those found in previous years.

¹⁰ Interviewer assessment, see the Glossary for more information.

Figure 4.10 Vehicle-owning households most at risk of vehicle vandalism, 2007/08 BCS

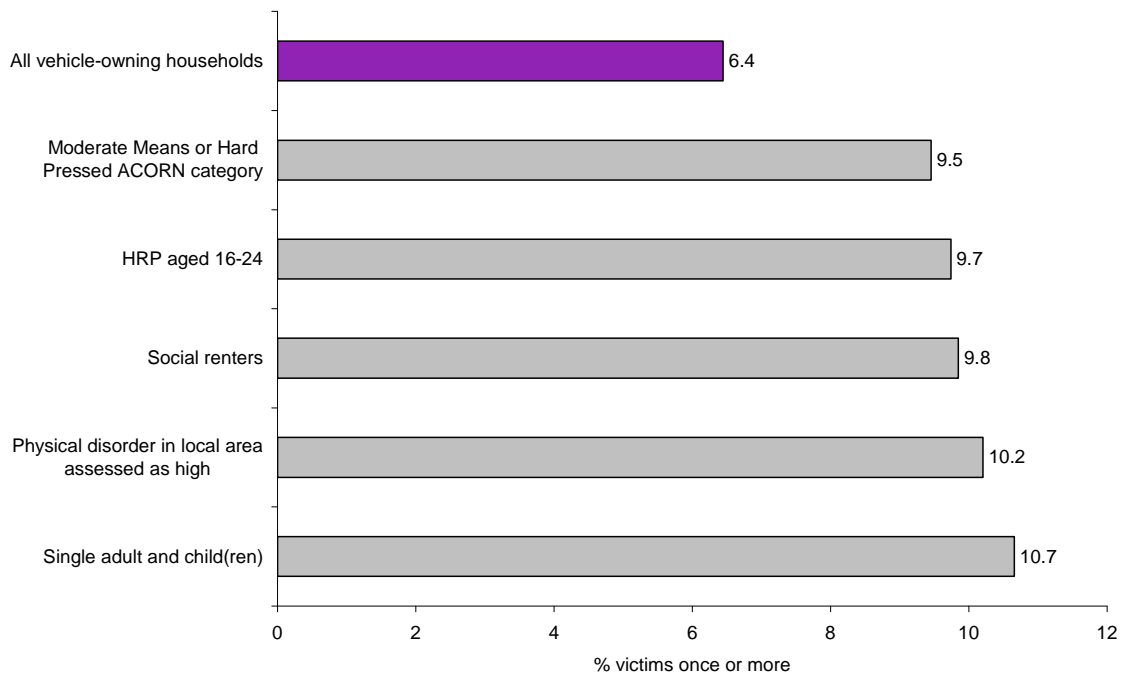
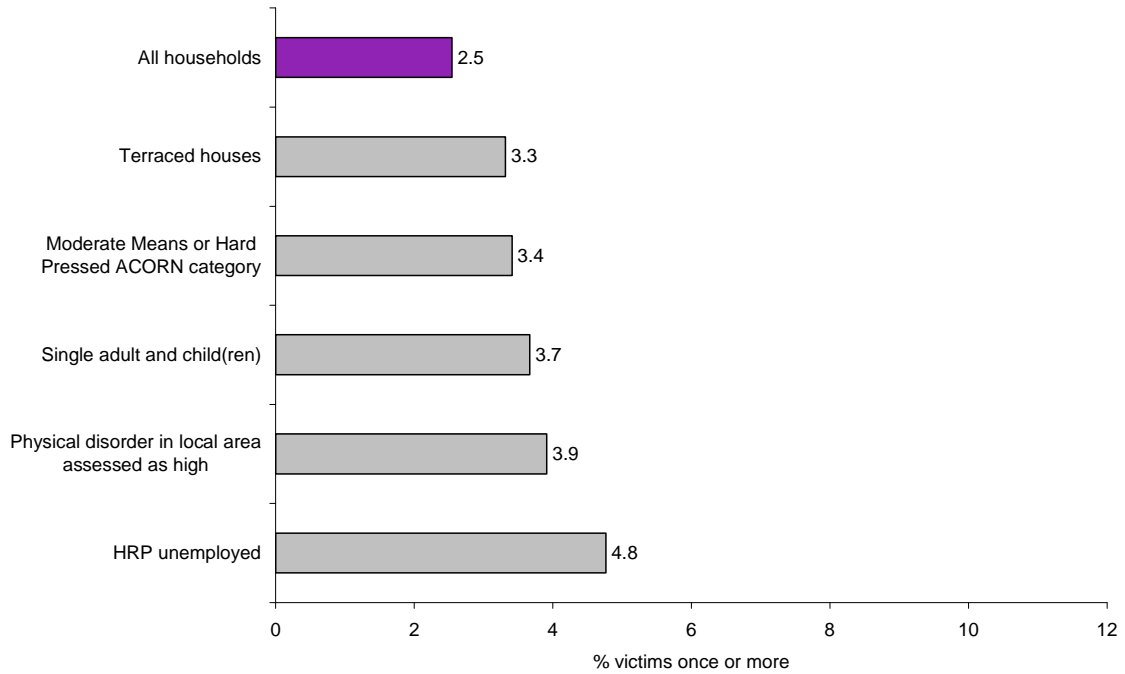


Figure 4.11 Households most at risk of vandalism to home/other property, 2007/08 BCS



Box 4.8 Factors strongly associated with higher risk of vandalism

Multivariate analysis (logistic regression) carried out on the 2007/08 BCS shows that after the influence of other characteristics is taken into account, many of the relationships between socio-demographic factors and risk of victimisation still hold true.

*The factors most strongly independently associated with higher risk of **vehicle vandalism** (among vehicle-owning households) were:*

- *not living in a Wealthy Achievers ACORN area, in particular living in Hard Pressed areas;*
- *HRP not being aged 75 years or over; and*
- *owning more than one vehicle, in particular owning three or more vehicles.*

This model explains around four per cent of the variation in the risk of being a victim of vandalism based only on the factors described here (see the Glossary for more information).

*The factor most strongly independently associated with higher risk of **vandalism to the home or other property** was:*

- *living in Moderate Means or Hard Pressed ACORN areas.*

This model explains around one per cent of the variation in the risk of being a victim of vandalism to the home or other property based only on the factor described here (see the Glossary for more information).

4.7 FRAUD AND FORGERY

Introduction

The measurement of fraud is challenging as fraud is known to be very substantially under-reported to the police. Better information can be derived from other sources (for more information on administrative sources of fraud, see Wilson *et al.*, 2006a). For more information on the nature, extent and economic impact of fraud in the UK, see Levi *et al.*, (2007). Recent changes to the measurement of fraud by the police (see Box 4.9) mean that recorded fraud and forgery figures for 2007/08 are not comparable with those for previous years. There is now a wider range of coverage (for example, ATM fraud that previously had to be recorded as theft from an automatic machine now being covered by a new fraud offence) and the counting rules have been changed altering the way in which some frauds are counted. Overall, the number of fraud and forgery offences recorded by the police in 2007/08 was 155,358.

To improve the understanding of fraud, this section focuses on fraud and forgery offences identified by organisations within the industry (APACS, the UK payments association and CIFAS) and the BCS. The BCS provides a measure of fraud (including identity fraud) committed against individuals in private households, which is important because it captures unreported incidents. However, there are conceptual difficulties around the definition and measurement of fraud in surveys, not least because by its very nature, respondents might not be aware that the deception has taken place.

Box 4.9 Fraud measurement changes

In 2007 there have been three significant changes affecting the measurement of fraud:

Changes to offences: *The introduction of the Fraud Act 2006, which commenced on 15 January 2007, saw significant changes to offences in the fraud and forgery offence group. New offences were introduced which were temporarily recorded as 'Other Fraud' until the new offence codes came into being on 1 April 2007.*

Changes to the counting rules: *From 15 January 2007, if an account is defrauded only one offence is to be recorded rather than one offence per fraudulent transaction on each account (as was the practice prior to 15 January 2007). Previously if a person had their credit card stolen and it was subsequently used on ten separate occasions to buy goods fraudulently from ten different shops there would be a requirement for one crime record for theft and ten for deception. Now there is a requirement to record one theft and one fraud by false representation. The result of this change means that fewer crimes of plastic card and cheque fraud were recorded by the police during 2007/08 when compared with previous years. This change was made to reduce significant bureaucracy in recording crime (possibly involving several police forces) and to reflect the fact that in the cases when this counting basis is used, the financial loss is borne by the financial institution at which the account is held rather than by the merchants who process a transaction or by the account holder.*

Changes to reporting procedures: *From 1 April 2007, where a financial institution makes full financial recompense to an account holder, the financial institution (rather than the account holder) can report the crime directly to a single point of contact within the police.*

These changes have been supported by APACS (the UK payments association) and ACPO as they have resulted in significant reductions in bureaucracy in relation to the reporting of cheque and plastic card fraud. This has focused police effort on reports of fraud most likely to lead to a suspect being brought to justice and also introduced single points of contact within police forces for the financial institutions to report cases directly to. The Fraud Review (2006) also specifically welcomed the changes that were being put in place:

<http://www.attorneygeneral.gov.uk/Fraud%20Review/Fraud%20Review%20Final%20Report%20July%202006.pdf>

Plastic card fraud

APACS (the UK payments association) records information on the financial losses resulting from plastic card fraud in the UK (Tables 4a and 4b).

- The total losses from plastic card fraud on UK-issued cards reported by APACS in 2007 were £535.2 million, an increase of 25 per cent from 2006 (£427.0 million).
- There were 2.7 million fraudulent transactions on UK-issued cards recorded by APACS in the UK in 2007, an increase of 20 per cent from 2006 (2.3 million).

Those types of card fraud more easily prevented by the introduction of chip and PIN technology continue to decline but other types of card fraud have risen.

Table 4a Annual plastic card fraud losses for UK-issued cards, 2000 to 2007

Loss (£ millions) and percentage changes									APACS
Fraud type	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	% change 2006 to 2007
Card not present	72.9	95.7	110.1	122.1	150.8	183.2	212.7	290.5	37
Counterfeit card	107.1	160.4	148.5	110.6	129.7	96.8	98.6	144.3	46
Lost and stolen	101.9	114.0	108.3	112.4	114.5	89.0	68.5	56.2	-18
Card ID Theft	17.4	14.6	20.6	30.2	36.9	30.5	31.9	34.1	7
Mail non-receipt	17.7	26.8	37.1	45.1	72.9	40.0	15.4	10.2	-34
Total	317.0	411.5	424.6	420.4	504.8	439.4	427.0	535.2	25
<i>of which:</i>									
UK retailer (face-to-face)	139.1	188.9	186.9	177.9	218.8	135.9	72.1	73.0	1
Domestic/International split of total losses:									
UK fraud	213.4	273.0	294.4	316.3	412.3	356.6	309.9	327.6	6
Fraud abroad	103.5	138.4	130.2	104.1	92.5	82.8	117.1	207.6	77

1. Source: APACS 'Fraud: The Facts 2008' published in April 2008.

The largest fraud type was card-not-present fraud, which involves the use of stolen cards or card details in non face-to-face transactions either on the internet, by phone or by mail order. Losses from this fraud type were £290.5 million in 2007, up by 37 per cent since 2006. This has been the largest type of card fraud in the UK for the past five years. However, the losses are in the context of large increases in shopping online and over the phone. From 2000 to 2007, card-not-present fraud trebled while APACS note the total value of online shopping alone increased by almost ten-fold (£3.5 billion in 2000 to £34 billion in 2007).

Counterfeit card fraud occurs when criminals use an illegal copy of a genuine credit or debit card. Losses from this fraud type were £144.3 million in 2007, an increase of 46 per cent from 2006. The increase is driven by a rise in fraud abroad with UK card details stolen for use in countries yet to upgrade to chip and PIN. Related to chip and PIN, lost or stolen card fraud has decreased by 18 per cent since 2006 with losses at £56.2 million in 2007.

Card ID theft occurs when a criminal uses a fraudulently obtained card or card details, along with stolen personal information, to open or take over a card account in someone else's name. Card ID theft resulted in losses of £34.1 million in 2007, up by seven per cent from 2006.

Mail non-receipt fraud involves cards being stolen before they are delivered to the cardholder. This fraud type totalled £10.2 million in 2007, down by 34 per cent from 2006. This decrease is attributable to chip and PIN making it more difficult for fraudsters to use stolen cards, but also because fewer cards were being sent out than at the peak of the chip and PIN roll out.

The domestic/international split of the total figure of £535.2 million for UK-issued plastic card fraud was £327.6 million in UK fraud and £207.6 million in fraud abroad. For UK fraud, the number of fraudulent transactions and loss split by fraud type are detailed in Table 4b. APACS note that chip and PIN continues to have a positive effect on card fraud committed in the UK. UK retailer fraud has fallen by two-thirds from £218.8m in 2004 to £73.0m last year, with fraudsters looking to target those environments that do not yet use chip and PIN such as the internet and countries that have not yet upgraded to chip and PIN.

Table 4b Annual plastic card UK fraud transactions and losses for UK-issued cards, 2006 to 2007

Fraud type	Numbers, loss and percentage changes			APACS		
	Number of fraudulent transactions			Loss		
	Count (thousands)		% change	(£ millions)		% change
	2006	2007	2006 to 2007	2006	2007	2006 to 2007
Card-not-present	1,272	2,014	58	171.8	221.4	29
Counterfeit card	279	224	-20	45.8	31.0	-32
Lost and stolen	519	321	-38	51.4	37.7	-27
Mail non-receipt	101	43	-57	14.2	8.7	-39
Card ID theft: Account take-over	40	48	19	18.5	21.0	14
Card ID theft: Third-party application fraud	49	59	22	8.1	7.7	-5
Subtotal: UK fraud	2,260	2,709	20	309.9	327.6	6
Subtotal: Fraud abroad				117.1	207.6	77
Total				427	535.2	25

1. Source: APACS

According to the latest data available from the 2006/07 BCS¹¹, four per cent of plastic card users were aware they had been a victim of card fraud in the previous 12 months (see Flatley *et al.*, 2007). This is higher than the risk of victimisation for other types of theft, for example, 1.2 per cent had been a victim of theft from the person in the 2006/07 BCS.

Identity fraud

There is no comprehensive measure of the extent of identity fraud since different sources measure it in different ways. In recent years there has been growing interest in trying to increase the knowledge base using surveys, adding to the information which exists from administrative sources (for more information see Flatley *et al.*, 2007).

- Previous findings from the 2006/07 BCS, found that two per cent of adults had experienced their personal details being used in the last year without their permission in one or more of the ways asked about¹². This proportion represents those who came to know about the identity fraud, but the true figure could be higher because some respondents may not have known about the deception.

Other sources of fraud data

CIFAS is an industry fraud prevention service and has provided additional information on fraud set out in Box 4.10. As with the APACS data, it should be stressed that these data are not produced by the Government Statistical Service, but they nevertheless provide useful information on levels of fraud.

¹¹ Due to methodological improvements, new questions on card and identity fraud were introduced in October 2007; hence a full year's data is not yet available.

¹² See the Glossary for the full list of fraudulent activities the respondents were asked about.

Box 4.10 CIFAS and fraud

CIFAS is a not-for-profit membership association dedicated to the prevention of financial crime and staff fraud. It has over 270 member organisations in the UK spread across banking, credit cards, asset finance, retail credit, mail order, insurance, investment management, telecommunications, factoring and share dealing. Members share information on identified frauds to prevent further crime. See Table 4c for types of fraud covered.

CIFAS records information on fraud cases identified by member organisations. Members must have sufficient evidence to take the case to the police although it is not mandatory that they do so. A fraud case can involve multiple subjects and multiple addresses.

The total number of fraud cases identified by CIFAS members in 2007 was 185,003, an increase of eight per cent from 2006 (171,488).

The largest fraud type was identity fraud, which includes cases of false identity and impersonation. CIFAS members identified 77,593 identity fraud cases in 2007, a decrease of three per cent compared with 2006.

Application fraud involves material lies on application forms (for example, for finance or insurance) or false supporting documentation. In 2007, 76,870 application fraud cases were identified by CIFAS members, an increase of 20 per cent compared with the previous year.

Facility or account takeover occurs when the fraudster impersonates a victim in order to take over and control one or more of the victim's existing accounts/policies. CIFAS members identified 6,272 facility takeover fraud cases in 2007, up by 34 per cent since 2006.

Misuse of facility occurs when an account, policy or other facility is used fraudulently. CIFAS members reported 23,400 frauds of this type in 2007, an increase of eight per cent since 2006.

Table 4c Annual fraud cases identified by CIFAS members, 2006 to 2007

Fraud type	2006	2007	% change
	Number	Number	2006 to 2007
Identity fraud	80,377	77,593	-3
Application fraud	63,860	76,870	20
Facility takeover fraud ¹	4,665	6,272	34
Misuse of facility	21,751	23,400	8
Total²	171,488	185,003	8

1. Account takeover fraud.

2. Total includes false insurance claims (395 in 2006 and 390 in 2007) and asset conversion fraud (440 in 2006 and 478 in 2007). False insurance claims include lying on claim forms. It should be noted that not all insurance companies share fraud data through CIFAS. Asset conversion involves the sale of assets under a credit agreement e.g. a car, when still owned by lender.

Source: CIFAS '2007 Fraud Trends', published in January 2008. As with the APACS data, it should be stressed that these data are not produced by the Government Statistical Service, but they nevertheless provide useful information on levels of fraud.

Table 4.01 Proportion of households that were victims of burglary by household and area characteristics

Percentages				2007/08 BCS
	Burglary	Burglary with entry	Attempted burglary	Unweighted base
	% victims once or more			
Age of household reference person				
16-24	7.5	4.7	3.0	1,553
25-34	3.4	1.7	1.8	6,051
35-44	2.7	1.4	1.3	9,462
45-54	2.5	1.7	0.8	8,772
55-64	1.5	0.9	0.6	8,425
65-74	1.2	0.7	0.4	6,566
75+	1.4	1.1	0.3	5,936
Household type				
Household reference person under 60:				
<i>Single adult & child(ren)</i>	6.4	4.1	2.7	2,410
<i>Adults & child(ren)</i>	2.5	1.3	1.2	10,327
<i>No children</i>	2.8	1.7	1.2	17,184
Household reference person over 60	1.3	0.9	0.4	16,844
Household income				
Less than £10,000	3.4	2.1	1.4	7,419
£10,000 less than £20,000	2.4	1.4	1.0	8,240
£20,000 less than £30,000	2.2	1.2	1.1	6,448
£30,000 less than £40,000	1.8	1.0	0.9	4,980
£40,000 less than £50,000	1.9	1.1	0.9	3,507
£50,000 or more	2.6	1.3	1.3	5,625
Tenure				
Owner occupiers	1.8	1.0	0.7	32,945
Social renters	3.9	2.3	1.7	7,766
Private renters	3.3	2.1	1.3	5,850
Household reference person's employment status				
In employment	2.3	1.3	1.0	28,446
Unemployed	6.5	3.7	3.3	522
Economically inactive	2.3	1.5	0.9	17,656
<i>Student</i>	4.5	2.7	2.0	413
<i>Looking after family/home</i>	5.1	3.3	2.0	1,668
<i>Long-term/temporarily sick/ill</i>	5.0	3.1	2.0	2,093
<i>Retired</i>	1.2	0.8	0.4	13,085
<i>Other inactive</i>	5.6	4.0	1.6	397
Household reference person's occupation				
Managerial and professional occupations	2.3	1.2	1.1	17,463
Intermediate occupations	2.1	1.4	0.8	9,129
Routine and manual occupations	2.3	1.4	0.9	17,962
Never worked and long-term unemployed	5.0	3.0	2.0	1,061
Full-time students	4.8	3.3	1.6	766
Not classified	5.3	2.9	2.4	384
Accommodation type				
Houses	2.2	1.3	0.9	38,758
<i>Detached</i>	1.7	1.1	0.5	11,687
<i>Semi-detached</i>	2.1	1.2	0.9	14,668
<i>Terraced</i>	2.7	1.6	1.2	12,403
Flats/maisonettes	3.6	2.1	1.6	5,259
Other accommodation types	1.0	0.5	0.5	215
ACORN category				
Wealthy Achievers	1.5	1.1	0.4	12,750
Urban Prosperity	3.6	2.1	1.5	3,517
Comfortably Off	1.9	0.9	1.0	14,693
Moderate Means	2.7	1.8	1.1	6,404
Hard Pressed	3.3	2.0	1.4	9,300
Area type				
Urban	2.7	1.6	1.1	34,817
Rural	1.3	0.8	0.4	11,948
Hours home left unoccupied on an average weekday				
Never	2.7	1.8	1.0	5,415
Less than 3 hours	1.9	1.2	0.7	14,996
3 but less than 5 hours	2.5	1.5	1.1	8,702
5 hours or more	2.6	1.4	1.2	17,534
Number of years at address				
Less than 1 year	4.8	3.0	1.9	4,690
1 year, less than 2 years	2.7	1.6	1.3	3,397
2 years, less than 5 years	2.5	1.5	1.1	7,999
5 years, less than 10 years	2.5	1.4	1.1	8,332
10 years or more	1.7	1.0	0.7	22,345
Level of physical disorder				
High	5.1	3.1	2.2	2,476
Not high	2.2	1.3	0.9	41,540
Level of home security				
High	1.8	0.9	1.0	3,613
Some	2.3	1.2	1.1	1,998
None	25.0	15.0	10.0	170
ALL HOUSEHOLDS	2.4	1.4	1.0	46,765

1. See the Glossary for definitions of household and area characteristics.

Table 4.02 Ownership of home security measures among households that were victims of burglary and non-victimised households

Percentages	2007/08 BCS			
	Burglary victim ¹			Not a burglary victim ²
	Burglary	Burglary with entry	Attempted burglary	
Burglar alarm	25	24	27	30
Double/deadlocks	42	38	47	82
Outdoor sensor/timer lights	19	16	22	44
Indoor sensor/timer lights	10	9	11	25
Window locks	40	36	45	87
Window bar/grilles	2	2	2	3
Security chains on door	19	17	23	34
Any of these security devices	67	62	74	97
<i>Unweighted base</i>	878	533	362	5,615

1. Victims were asked what security measures were in place at the time of the burglary.

2. Base is all households that were asked about home security measures in the 2007/08 BCS but were not victims of any burglary. Base given is for 'double/deadlocks', bases for all other security precautions will be higher.

3. Figures add to more than 100 as more than one response possible.

Table 4.03 Proportion of households that were victims of vehicle-related theft by household and area characteristics

Percentages		2007/08 BCS			
	Vehicle-related theft	Theft of vehicle	Theft from vehicle	Attempted theft	Unweighted base ¹
% victims once or more					
Age of household reference person					
16-24	9.4	1.9	5.8	1.8	922
25-34	9.7	1.1	6.3	2.8	4,905
35-44	7.8	0.9	5.5	1.8	8,383
45-54	7.4	1.0	5.2	1.6	7,823
55-64	5.0	0.5	3.4	1.3	7,313
65-74	2.7	0.3	2.0	0.6	5,022
75+	1.9	0.2	1.2	0.5	3,119
Household type					
Household reference person under 60:					
Single adult & child(ren)	7.4	1.1	5.1	1.5	1,506
Adults & child(ren)	8.1	1.1	5.7	1.7	9,591
No children	7.6	0.9	5.1	2.0	14,536
Household reference person over 60	3.2	0.3	2.2	0.8	11,854
Household income					
Less than £10,000	5.6	1.4	3.2	1.3	3,372
£10,000 less than £20,000	5.7	0.8	3.7	1.6	6,311
£20,000 less than £30,000	6.5	0.6	4.7	1.5	5,863
£30,000 less than £40,000	7.7	0.9	5.3	1.8	4,748
£40,000 less than £50,000	7.4	0.7	5.3	1.7	3,390
£50,000 or more	7.6	0.6	5.6	1.8	5,488
Tenure					
Owner occupiers	5.9	0.6	4.1	1.4	29,346
Social renters	8.5	1.7	5.5	1.9	3,668
Private renters	7.9	1.0	5.1	2.0	4,317
Household reference person's employment status					
In employment	7.4	0.8	5.2	1.7	26,062
Unemployed	9.6	3.2	5.5	2.2	268
Economically inactive	4.0	0.6	2.4	1.0	11,060
Student	9.4	0.5	4.5	4.4	207
Looking after family/home	7.3	1.9	4.4	1.3	868
Long-term/temporarily sick/ill	8.4	2.0	4.5	2.2	1,113
Retired	2.8	0.3	1.8	0.7	8,656
Other inactive	6.4	2.2	4.2	0.0	216
Household reference person's occupation					
Managerial and professional occupations	6.5	0.6	4.6	1.7	15,983
Intermediate occupations	6.8	0.7	5.1	1.4	7,700
Routine and manual occupations	5.8	1.0	3.8	1.3	12,593
Never worked and long-term unemployed	6.8	2.7	1.9	2.5	451
Full-time students	8.9	1.4	5.0	3.1	478
Not classified	8.7	0.1	4.6	4.0	282
Accommodation type					
Houses	6.1	0.7	4.2	1.4	32,582
Detached	4.0	0.3	2.9	0.8	11,059
Semi-detached	6.0	0.7	4.2	1.4	12,298
Terraced	8.3	1.1	5.6	2.2	9,225
Flats/maisonettes	9.3	1.2	5.9	2.4	2,774
Other accommodation types	4.0	0.5	3.2	0.3	169
ACORN category					
Wealthy Achievers	4.1	0.4	3.1	0.7	12,000
Urban Prosperity	9.7	0.7	7.2	2.3	2,457
Comfortably Off	5.6	0.6	3.7	1.4	12,528
Moderate Means	9.3	1.4	6.0	2.4	4,825
Hard Pressed	8.1	1.4	5.1	2.1	5,602
Area type					
Urban	7.2	0.9	4.9	1.7	26,892
Rural	3.7	0.4	2.6	0.9	10,595
Number of vehicles owned by household					
One or more	6.4	0.7	4.4	1.5	37,110
One	5.3	0.6	3.6	1.3	19,847
Two	7.0	0.7	4.8	1.8	13,492
Three or more	10.2	1.4	7.6	2.0	3,771
Level of physical disorder					
High	10.5	2.4	6.4	3.0	1,477
Not high	6.2	0.7	4.3	1.5	33,908
ALL VEHICLE-OWNING HOUSEHOLDS	6.4	0.8	4.4	1.5	37,487

1. Based on vehicle-owning households.

2. See the Glossary for definitions of household and area characteristics.

Table 4.04 Vehicle security precautions on vehicles targeted in theft and on all main household vehicles

Percentages				2007/08 BCS
	Theft of and from vehicles	Theft of vehicle	Theft from vehicle	Attempted theft
Car alarm	42	37	43	42
Central locking	71	57	73	73
Any immobiliser	64	51	67	75
- Electronic	49	37	51	56
- Mechanical	31	24	32	41
Tracking device	3	0	4	1
Window security etching	50	52	50	46
<i>Unweighted base¹</i>	<i>842</i>	<i>148</i>	<i>694</i>	<i>263</i>
Audio security	75	69	76	79
Removable stereo	47	39	49	50
Security pin number	51	51	50	55
<i>Unweighted base²</i>	<i>849</i>	<i>141</i>	<i>708</i>	<i>267</i>

1. Base is cars or light vans subject to vehicle theft; base given is for 'window security etching', bases for all other security precautions will be higher.

2. Base is cars or light vans with radio/cassette/CD; base given is for 'security pin number', bases for all other security precautions will be higher.

3. Figures add to more than 100 as more than one response possible.

Table 4.05 Proportion of adults who were victims of theft from the person by personal characteristics

Percentages	2007/08 BCS	
	% victims once or more	Unweighted base
Men	1.0	21,331
16-24	3.0	1,825
25-34	1.3	2,994
35-44	0.7	4,095
45-54	0.6	3,582
55-64	0.3	3,716
65-74	0.4	2,859
75+	0.2	2,260
Women	1.5	25,572
16-24	2.4	2,137
25-34	1.8	3,713
35-44	1.2	4,806
45-54	0.9	3,875
55-64	1.1	4,179
65-74	1.7	3,484
75+	1.3	3,378
Marital status		
Married	0.8	22,314
Cohabiting	1.2	4,115
Single	2.3	9,591
Separated	1.3	1,403
Divorced	1.3	4,098
Widowed	1.3	5,366
Respondent's employment status		
In employment	1.2	26,310
Unemployed	1.2	792
Economically inactive	1.3	19,659
<i>Student</i>	3.0	1,078
<i>Looking after family/home</i>	1.6	2,772
<i>Long-term/temporarily sick/ill</i>	1.6	2,130
<i>Retired</i>	0.8	13,130
<i>Other inactive</i>	1.5	549
Respondent's occupation		
Managerial and professional occupations	1.3	15,608
Intermediate occupations	0.7	9,459
Routine and manual occupations	1.1	18,393
Never worked and long-term unemployed	2.1	1,406
Full-time students	3.0	1,814
Not classified	1.1	223
Highest qualification		
Degree or diploma	1.5	14,226
Apprenticeship or A/AS level	1.4	7,964
O level/GCSE	1.1	9,302
Other	1.3	2,024
No qualifications	0.9	13,226
Long-standing illness or disability		
Long-standing illness or disability	1.3	13,337
<i>Limits activities</i>	1.3	9,282
<i>Does not limit activities</i>	1.4	4,048
No long-standing illness or disability	1.2	33,463
Hours out of home on an average weekday		
Less than 3 hours	1.0	13,849
3 but less than 7 hours	1.4	12,382
7 hours or more	1.3	20,549
Number of visits to pub/wine bar in the evening during last month		
None	1.0	23,236
Less than 3 times a week	1.3	20,657
Three or more times a week	2.5	3,005
ALL ADULTS	1.2	46,903

1. See the Glossary for definitions of personal characteristics.

Table 4.06 Proportion of households that were victims of vandalism by household and area characteristics

Percentages	2007/08 BCS			Unweighted base ¹
	Vandalism	Vehicle vandalism	Vandalism to home and other property	
	% victims once or more			
Age of household reference person				
16-24	8.0	9.7	2.7	1,553
25-34	8.9	8.4	2.6	6,051
35-44	9.3	7.9	2.8	9,462
45-54	9.3	7.7	3.1	8,772
55-64	7.0	5.3	2.7	8,425
65-74	4.2	3.2	1.9	6,566
75+	2.5	1.8	1.7	5,936
Household type				
Household reference person under 60:				
<i>Single adult & child(ren)</i>	9.9	10.7	3.7	2,410
<i>Adults & child(ren)</i>	9.6	7.7	3.0	10,327
<i>No children</i>	8.5	7.6	2.7	17,184
Household reference person over 60	4.0	3.2	1.9	16,844
Household income				
Less than £10,000	5.1	6.2	2.5	7,419
£10,000 less than £20,000	6.8	5.7	2.9	8,240
£20,000 less than £30,000	8.4	7.1	2.6	6,448
£30,000 less than £40,000	8.8	7.0	2.7	4,980
£40,000 less than £50,000	9.2	6.9	3.2	3,507
£50,000 or more	9.2	7.2	2.8	5,625
Tenure				
Owner occupiers	7.3	5.8	2.6	32,945
Social renters	7.3	9.8	2.9	7,766
Private renters	7.1	7.7	1.9	5,850
Household reference person's employment status				
In employment	8.7	7.2	2.6	28,446
Unemployed	8.4	8.5	4.8	522
Economically inactive	4.9	4.5	2.4	17,656
<i>Student</i>	6.8	6.6	3.8	413
<i>Looking after family/home</i>	8.4	9.4	3.7	1,668
<i>Long-term/temporarily sick/ill</i>	8.0	8.9	4.1	2,093
<i>Retired</i>	3.8	3.2	1.8	13,085
<i>Other inactive</i>	6.1	7.2	2.6	397
Household reference person's occupation				
Managerial and professional occupations	8.1	6.5	2.7	17,463
Intermediate occupations	6.9	6.1	2.1	9,129
Routine and manual occupations	6.8	6.5	2.7	17,962
Never worked and long-term unemployed	4.8	5.7	2.7	1,061
Full-time students	6.8	8.1	2.5	766
Not classified	6.1	7.6	0.8	384
Accommodation type				
Houses	7.6	6.2	2.7	38,758
<i>Detached</i>	5.3	3.5	2.2	11,687
<i>Semi-detached</i>	7.3	6.2	2.5	14,668
<i>Terraced</i>	9.6	9.0	3.3	12,403
Flats/maisonettes	6.4	8.7	1.9	5,259
Other accommodation types	5.1	4.5	1.6	215
ACORN category				
Wealthy Achievers	5.2	3.8	1.9	12,750
Urban Prosperity	7.1	7.4	2.3	3,517
Comfortably Off	6.8	5.8	2.2	14,693
Moderate Means	10.1	9.5	3.4	6,404
Hard Pressed	8.5	9.4	3.4	9,300
Area type				
Urban	7.8	7.1	2.8	34,817
Rural	5.2	4.3	1.6	11,948
Hours home left unoccupied on an average weekday				
Never	6.6	6.3	2.3	5,415
Less than 3 hours	5.8	5.1	2.3	14,996
3 but less than 5 hours	7.1	6.2	2.6	8,702
5 hours or more	8.8	7.5	2.8	17,534
Number of cars owned by household				
None	2.8	n/a	2.6	9,655
One or more	8.6	6.5	2.5	37,110
<i>One</i>	7.9	5.9	2.5	19,847
<i>Two</i>	8.9	6.7	2.6	13,492
<i>Three or more</i>	11.2	9.1	2.5	3,771
Level of physical disorder				
High	9.4	10.2	3.9	2,476
Not high	7.3	6.3	2.5	41,540
ALL HOUSEHOLDS	7.3	6.4	2.5	46,765

1. Base given is for all households, bases for vehicle vandalism will be slightly lower as based on vehicle-owning households only.

2. See the Glossary for definitions of household and area characteristics.

5 Public perceptions

Sian Moley

5.1 SUMMARY

This chapter presents the latest headline figures and trends from the 2007/08 BCS for the key public perception measures included in the BCS, which show an overall picture of improving confidence.

Public perceptions and confidence in a number of aspects of the criminal justice system (CJS) and in the local police have generally increased between 2006/07 and 2007/08.

- Fifty-three per cent of people thought the local police were doing an excellent or good job, up from 51 per cent in the 2006/07 BCS.
- Overall, people had high levels of confidence in the police treating people fairly and with respect but less confidence that they were effective in dealing with crime and related issues.
- Forty-one per cent of people thought the police and local council sought people's views about the anti-social behaviour and crime issues that matter in their local area and 45 per cent of people thought they were dealing with these issues.
- Compared with 2006/07, confidence in the CJS improved in five of the seven aspects measured, for example confidence in the effectiveness of the CJS in bringing people who commit crimes to justice increased from 41 per cent to 44 per cent.
- Thirty-seven per cent of people were confident that the CJS as a whole is effective and 56 per cent thought that the CJS as a whole is fair.
- Victim and witness satisfaction with the police and the CJS remained stable compared with 2006/07.

Overall perceptions of anti-social behaviour have fallen since 2006/07 returning to the same level as the overall low in 2003/04.

- One in six (16%) people had a high level of perceived anti-social behaviour, a decrease from 18 per cent in 2006/07.

Levels of worry about burglary, car crime and violence have fallen compared with the previous year and have now fallen by more than a third since 1998.

- One in eight (12%) people had high levels of worry about burglary and car crime, while 15 per cent of people had high levels of worry about violent crime in 2007/08.

Despite these general improvements in confidence and the falls in the number of crimes estimated by the BCS, relatively high proportions of people still believe the crime rate to have risen in the previous two years.

- Around two-thirds (65%) of people thought crime in the country as a whole had increased in the previous two years, unchanged from 2006/07.
- Thirty-nine per cent of people thought crime in their local area had risen in the last two years, a decrease from 2006/07, further widening the gap between national and local perceptions of crime levels.
- Drugs and lack of discipline from parents were the two factors most commonly identified by people as the main causes of crime in Britain today.

5.2 INTRODUCTION

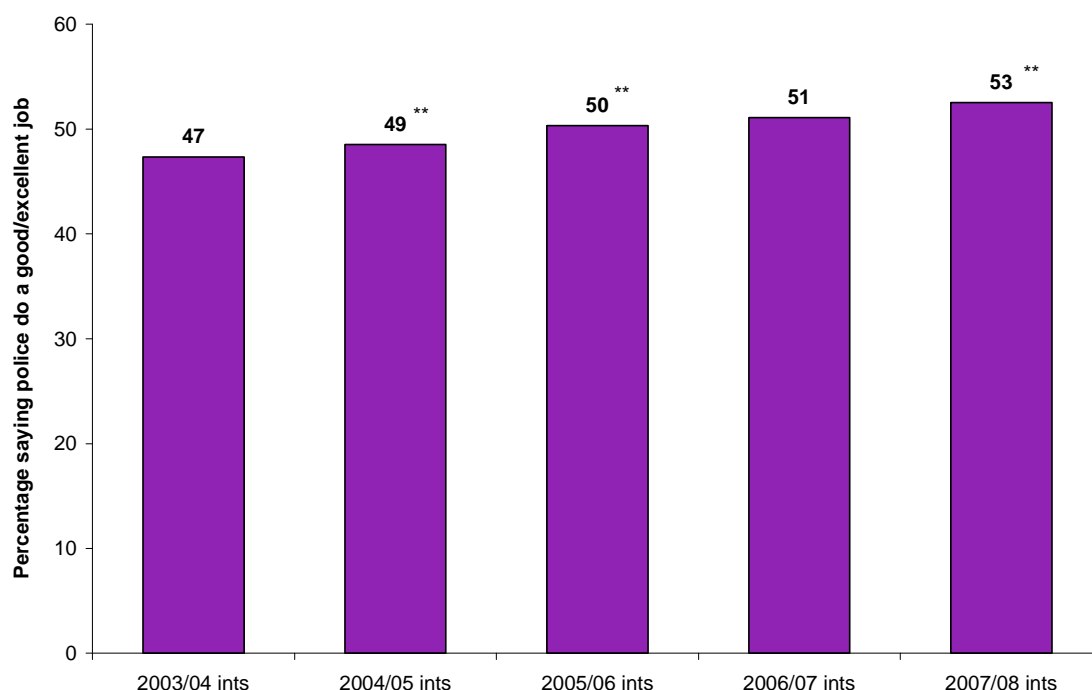
As well as providing an indication of crime levels in England and Wales, the BCS also provides information on a wide range of public perception measures relating to crime and the criminal justice system. This chapter presents the latest headline figures and trends from the 2007/08 BCS for the key perception measures within the BCS.

5.3 CONFIDENCE IN THE LOCAL POLICE AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM

Ratings of the local police

The 2007/08 BCS shows that 53 per cent of people thought that the police in their local area were doing a good or excellent job compared with 51 per cent in the 2006/07 BCS. Longer-term trends show an overall picture of increasing confidence in the local police (Figure 5.1).

Figure 5.1 Trends in confidence in the local police, 2003/04 to 2007/08 BCS



1. The questions on public confidence in the local police changed in the 2003/04 BCS and so comparable data are only available for the years provided.

2. ** denotes statistically significant change at the 5% level compared with the previous year.

Confidence in the local police varies according to certain demographic and socio-economic characteristics, with certain groups being more likely to perceive the local police as doing a good or excellent job. Women were more likely to be confident in the local police (54%) than men (50%) and this was generally true across the age groups (Table 5.01).

Confidence in the local police was also more likely to be high among Black and Minority Ethnic groups¹, people living in private-rented accommodation, students and those with educational qualifications at degree or diploma level, readers of national 'broadsheets', people living in Urban Prosperity ACORN areas and those who have not experienced crime in the past 12 months. For example:

¹ In the appendix tables Black and Minority Ethnic groups are referred to as 'Non-Whites'.

- Fifty-nine per cent of people from Black and Minority Ethnic backgrounds rated the local police as doing a good or excellent job compared with 52 per cent of people from White backgrounds.

People who have experienced crime as a victim or witness in the previous 12 months, those living in Hard Pressed ACORN areas and in areas where physical disorder was assessed² as high, and those with high levels of perceived anti-social behaviour were less likely to rate the local police highly. For example:

- Those living in Hard Pressed ACORN areas were less likely to rate the local police as doing a good or excellent job (48%) compared with people living in any other ACORN area and in particular, in Urban Prosperity areas (58%).
- Forty-one per cent of those who had been both a victim and a witness rated the local police as doing a good or excellent job compared with 57 per cent of those who had not experienced crime.

For a full breakdown of confidence in the local police by demographics and socio-economic characteristics based on the 2007/08 BCS, see Table 5.01.

Box 5.1 Factors strongly associated with confidence in the local police

Multivariate analysis (logistic regression) was carried out on the 2005/06 BCS to find out what attitudinal and socio-demographic factors were independently associated with confidence in the local police (Myhill and Beak, forthcoming). After controlling for all other factors, the analysis found that the following factors were strongly associated with perceiving the local police to be doing a good or excellent job:

- *believing that the local police are dealing with the things that matter to communities;*
- *thinking that the local police treat everyone fairly and with respect;*
- *thinking that the level of crime in the local area had stayed the same or decreased in the previous two years; and*
- *being very or fairly satisfied with the way the police handled the matter after initiating some form of contact with them.*

This model accounted for 29 per cent of the variance in confidence in the local police based only on the attitudinal and socio-demographic factors described here. See Myhill and Beak (forthcoming) for further details.

Perceptions of the local police

In October 2004 the BCS included a new set of questions relating to people's perceptions of the local police.³ The 2007/08 BCS shows an improvement in perceptions for six of the seven aspects measured compared with the previous year (Table 5a).

Generally, there were high levels of confidence in the police treating people fairly and with respect but less confidence that they were effective in dealing with crime and related issues.

- Over four-fifths (83%) of people thought that the local police would treat them with respect if they had contact with them, the same level as in 2006/07. Just under two-thirds (64%) thought their local police would treat them fairly regardless of who they were, an increase from 2006/07 (62%).
- Public perceptions were less positive in relation to police actions. Forty-three per cent of people thought their local police could be relied on to deal with minor crimes, 48 per cent believed that they would be there when needed and around half (51%) of people

² Interviewer assessment, see the Glossary for more information.

³ As the questions were introduced in the middle of the survey year, full-year results are only available from 2005/06 onwards.

thought that the police were dealing with issues that matter to the local community. Levels of confidence in these aspects of police performance increased between the 2006/07 and 2007/08 BCS.

- Overall, compared with the 2006/07 BCS, there was an increase in the proportion of people who said that taking everything into account, they have confidence in the local police (64% to 65%).

Table 5a Perceptions of the local police, 2005/06 to 2007/08 BCS

Percentages	BCS			
	2005/06 ints	2006/07 ints	2007/08 ints	Statistically significant change, 2006/07 to 2007/08
	<i>Percentage agreeing¹</i>			
Police in local area:				
Would treat you with respect if you had contact with them	82	83	83	
Treat everyone fairly regardless of who they are	63	62	64	**
Can be relied on to be there when you need them	47	47	48	**
Can be relied on to deal with minor crimes	42	41	43	**
Understand the issues that affect this community	60	60	62	**
Are dealing with the things that matter to people in the community	49	49	51	**
Overall confidence in the local police ²	63	64	65	**
<i>Unweighted base³</i>	<i>47,367</i>	<i>46,855</i>	<i>46,627</i>	

1. Percentage saying they strongly agree/tend to agree.

2. Based on question 'taking everything into account I have confidence in the police in this area'.

3. Unweighted base refers to overall confidence in local police. Bases for other measures will be similar.

Confidence in the local police and agencies working together

A greater emphasis on partnership working has resulted in the policing questions in the BCS being expanded to cover working in partnership. A new set of questions was included in the BCS relating to levels of confidence in the police working with local agencies to tackle the anti-social behaviour and crime issues that matter in the local area (see Box 5.3).

- BCS interviews in the six months to March 2008⁴ showed that around four out of ten people (41%) thought that the police and local council⁵ sought people's views about the anti-social behaviour and crime issues that matter in their local area. Forty-five per cent of people thought they were dealing with the anti-social behaviour and crime issues that matter in their area (data not shown).

Confidence in the criminal justice system

The BCS reports on public confidence in seven different aspects of the criminal justice system (CJS). The 2007/08 BCS shows that, compared with 2006/07, public confidence in the CJS has improved in five of the seven aspects covered. These increases follow a period where confidence fell in most aspects of the CJS between 2005/06 and 2006/07. Prior to this there had been general improvements between 2002/03 and 2005/06 (Table 5b).

- According to the 2007/08 BCS, 44 per cent of people were confident in the effectiveness of the CJS in bringing people who commit crimes to justice, an increase from 41 per cent in 2006/07.

⁴ As the questions were introduced in the middle of the 2007/08 survey year, full-year results are not yet available.

⁵ Local council has been used as a proxy for local agencies.

- Similar increases were also seen in the proportions of people believing that the CJS treats people who come forward as witnesses well (from 67% to 69%), deals with cases promptly and effectively (from 40% to 42%), meets the needs of victims (33% to 36%) and is effective at reducing crime (from 36% to 38%).
- Despite these increases, for five of the seven aspects of the CJS the proportion of people who were confident in the CJS remained in the minority. The general public's confidence in the CJS remains lowest in the way it is perceived to deal with young people accused of crime (25%), the same level as in 2006/07.

Table 5b Public confidence in the criminal justice system, 2001/02 to 2007/08 BCS

Percentages	BCS							Statistically significant change, 2006/07 to 2007/08
	2001/02 ints	2002/03 ints	2003/04 ints	2004/05 ints	2005/06 ints	2006/07 ints	2007/08 ints	
	<i>Percentage very or fairly confident</i>							
Respects rights of people accused of committing a crime and treats them fairly	76	77	77	78	80	79	80	
Treats people who come forward as witnesses well ¹	n/a	n/a	n/a	65	68	67	69	**
Effective in bringing people who commit crimes to justice	44	39	41	43	44	41	44	**
Deals with cases promptly and efficiently	39	36	38	39	41	40	42	**
Effective at reducing crime	36	31	35	39	38	36	38	**
Meets the needs of victims of crime	34	30	32	34	36	33	36	**
Dealing with young people accused of crime	25	21	24	27	26	25	25	
<i>Unweighted base</i> ^{2,3}	32,288	36,007	37,393	44,460	47,175	46,618	36,425	

1. This question on treatment of witnesses was introduced in late 2003.

2. Unweighted base refers to confidence that the CJS is effective in bringing people who commit crimes to justice. Bases for other measures will be similar.

3. The confidence in the CJS questions were asked of half of the sample from October 2007; prior to this they had been asked of the full sample.

Levels of confidence in the CJS varied by demographic and socio-economic characteristics. In general, levels of confidence in the CJS were more likely to be higher among women, younger people, Black and Minority Ethnic groups, those in private-rented accommodation and those who had not experienced crime in the past 12 months (Table 5.02). For example:

- People from Black and Minority Ethnic backgrounds had higher levels of confidence than those from White backgrounds for five of the seven aspects of the CJS measured. The only aspect of the CJS where those from White groups had higher levels of confidence than those from other ethnic groups was in relation to respecting the rights of people accused of committing a crime and treating them fairly (80% and 76% respectively). There was no difference between White groups and Black and Minority Ethnic groups in levels of confidence in the CJS treating witnesses well.

People with a high level of perceived anti-social behaviour in their local area, those who had experienced crime as a victim or witness in the previous 12 months and readers of national 'tabloids' were less likely to have high levels of confidence in the CJS. For example:

- Thirty-six per cent of those who had been both a victim and a witness were confident that the CJS was effective in bringing people who commit crimes to justice, compared with 47 per cent of those who had not experienced crime in the previous 12 months.

For a full breakdown of confidence in the CJS by demographics and socio-economic characteristics based on the 2007/08 BCS, see Table 5.02.

Box 5.2 Factors strongly associated with confidence in the effectiveness of the criminal justice system (CJS) in bringing people who commit crimes to justice

For the purpose of the multivariate analysis, the CJS measure 'confidence in the effectiveness of the CJS in bringing people who commit crimes to justice' was selected. The analysis (logistic regression) based on the 2007/08 BCS showed that the socio-demographic factor strongly independently associated with a high level of confidence in the CJS being effective in bringing offenders to justice was:

- *being young, in particular aged 16 to 24.*

This model explains around three per cent of the variance in confidence in the effectiveness of the CJS in bringing offenders to justice.

Multivariate analysis has previously been carried out which included perception measures as well as socio-demographic characteristics as potential explanatory factors. Analysis based on the 2004/05 BCS showed that the following perception measures were independently strongly associated with being confident that the CJS is effective in bringing people who commit crimes to justice: perceiving sentences to be too tough or just right, and not believing the crime rate in the country as a whole had risen in the previous two years (see Allen et al., 2006, for further details). Relationships between these types of factors tend to show little change over time therefore this analysis is not carried out on an annual basis.

Confidence in the fairness and effectiveness of the criminal justice system

In October 2007 the BCS introduced a new set of questions relating to the fairness and effectiveness of the CJS (see Box 5.3).

- Based on six months data from October 2007 to March 2008⁶, 37 per cent of people were confident that the CJS as a whole is effective and 56 per cent thought that the CJS as a whole is fair (data not shown). The level of confidence in the effectiveness of the CJS as a whole is similar to the level found for the question relating to the effectiveness of the CJS in bringing people who commit crimes to justice (see Box 5.3).

5.4 VICTIM AND WITNESS SATISFACTION WITH THE POLICE

For incidents that the police came to know about, the BCS asks victims and witnesses of crime how satisfied overall they were with the way the police handled the matter (data not shown).

- Victims were very or fairly satisfied with the way the police handled the matter in 59 per cent of incidents that the police came to know about. This is similar to the level found in the 2006/07 BCS (58%).
- Similarly, 60 per cent of those who had witnessed a crime in the previous 12 months were fairly or very satisfied with the way the police handled the most recent incident. This remains unchanged compared with 2006/07.
- Over the longer term, victim satisfaction with the police fell in the 1990s but since 2000 has remained broadly stable between 58 per cent and 60 per cent.⁷

⁶ As the questions were introduced in the middle of the 2007/08 survey year, full-year results are not yet available.

⁷ The question on witness satisfaction with the police was added to the BCS in 2004/05, and so there are no longer-term trend data available.

Box 5.3 Development of new BCS questions on confidence in the criminal justice system (CJS) and police and local agencies**Confidence in the fairness and effectiveness of the CJS**

As part of the process of measuring the new 'Justice for All' public service agreement (PSA 24) a set of questions was developed to measure public perceptions of the fairness and effectiveness of the CJS. These questions were introduced to the BCS in October 2007.

A multi-stage approach was used to develop and test these questions. This included:

- qualitative research involving group discussions to explore the public's understanding and perceptions of fairness and effectiveness within the CJS; and
- development, cognitive testing and piloting of a question set, followed at each stage by further revisions.

The development work identified two different approaches to measuring perceptions of effectiveness and perceptions of fairness.

For effectiveness, respondents are asked about their confidence in the effectiveness of each of the individual agencies that comprise the CJS, followed by a question about 'confidence in the effectiveness of the CJS as a whole'. This prompts the respondent's awareness and knowledge of the agencies within the CJS before asking about the overall CJS.

For fairness of the CJS, the approach is based on a set of statements covering common attitudes towards issues around 'fairness' (e.g. discrimination against particular groups or individuals and the balance between the victim and offender) in order to provoke consideration of these different aspects before asking the general question on perceptions of fairness in the CJS as a whole.

Confidence in the police and local agencies working together

As part of this process, questions were also developed to measure public confidence in the police and local agencies involved in tackling crime and anti-social behaviour for use in the new 'Making Communities Safer' PSA (PSA 23).

The development work showed that people had difficulty answering the question when the term 'local agencies' was used, as there was little understanding of what this meant, with most people only considering the local council. As a result, 'local council' has been used in these questions as a proxy for local agencies.

A report providing further details on this development work is available at:

<http://rds.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/bcs-methodological.html>

5.5 ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

The 2007/08 BCS shows a statistically significant decrease in overall perceptions of anti-social behaviour (ASB)⁸, from 18 per cent in 2006/07 to 16 per cent in 2007/08 (Tables 5c and 5.03).

Table 5c Anti-social behaviour indicators, 2001/02 to 2007/08 BCS

Percentages								BCS
	2001/02 ints	2002/03 ints	2003/04 ints	2004/05 ints	2005/06 ints	2006/07 ints	2007/08 ints	Statistically significant change, 2006/07 to 2007/08
	<i>Percentage</i>							
High level of perceived anti-social behaviour ¹	19	21	16	17	17	18	16	**
	<i>Percentage saying very/fairly big problem in their area</i>							
Abandoned or burnt-out cars ²	20	25	15	12	10	9	7	**
Noisy neighbours or loud parties	10	10	9	9	10	11	10	
People being drunk or rowdy in public places	22	23	19	22	24	26	25	
People using or dealing drugs	31	32	25	26	27	28	26	**
Teenagers hanging around on the streets	32	33	27	31	32	33	31	**
Rubbish or litter lying around	32	33	29	30	30	31	30	
Vandalism, graffiti and other deliberate damage to property	34	35	28	28	29	28	27	**
<i>Unweighted base³</i>	<i>30,695</i>	<i>34,622</i>	<i>36,116</i>	<i>42,892</i>	<i>45,787</i>	<i>45,063</i>	<i>45,021</i>	

1. This measure is derived from responses to the seven individual anti-social behaviour strands as described in the Glossary. This measure can only be calculated for the 2001/02 BCS onwards as this was when the question on people being drunk or rowdy in public places was introduced.

2. The question relating to abandoned or burnt-out cars was asked of one-quarter of the sample in 2001/02 and 2002/03.

3. Unweighted bases are based on the question relating to people using or dealing drugs. Other bases will be similar.

4. Five of the individual anti-social behaviour strands have been asked about since the 1992 BCS; for trends from 1992 to 2007/08 see Table 5.03.

Longer-term trends show that following a fall between 2002/03 and 2003/04 (from 21% to 16%) there was an increase between 2003/04 and 2006/07 in the proportion of people with a high level of perceived ASB. The recent fall in the last year brings the level back to that of 2003/04.

Of the seven strands that make up the overall ASB measure, four have shown statistically significant decreases since 2006/07, while the other three remained stable (Tables 5c and 5.03).

- The falls seen since 2002/03 in the proportion of people perceiving abandoned or burnt-out cars to be a problem have continued in the last year (from 9% to 7%), and the level is now less than a third of that seen in 2002/03.
- Between 2006/07 and 2007/08 there were also falls in the proportion of people perceiving teenagers hanging around on the streets (from 33% to 31%), people using or dealing drugs (from 28% to 26%) and vandalism, graffiti and other deliberate damage to property (from 28% to 27%) to be problems. Despite these falls, the figures for most of the individual ASB strands are higher than the summary measure for ASB.
- Perceptions of most of the individual strands of ASB are also still higher than the overall low found in 2003/04. Only the proportions of people perceiving problems with abandoned or burnt-out cars, and vandalism, graffiti and other deliberate damage to property are lower than they were in 2003/04.

⁸ See the Glossary for definition of anti-social behaviour.

There were considerable differences across demographic and socio-economic groups in their levels of perceptions of ASB. The largest disparities were within the area based characteristics. In particular there were considerable variations across ACORN groups, between urban and rural areas, by type and tenure of accommodation, and whether or not areas was assessed⁹ as having high levels of physical disorder (Table 5.04).

- Those living in Hard Pressed ACORN areas were considerably more likely to perceive high levels of ASB (30%) than those in other ACORN areas, in particular, Wealthy Achiever areas (6%).
- Thirty per cent of people living in social-rented accommodation had high levels of perceived ASB compared with 18 per cent of people in private-rented accommodation and 13 per cent of those in owner-occupied accommodation.

Perceptions of ASB also varied with age and experience of crime.

- Both men and women aged 16 to 24 years were generally more likely to have high levels of perceived ASB (21% and 26% respectively) than older age groups. Those aged 75 years and over were least likely to perceive high levels (4% of both men and women).
- Thirty-seven per cent of those who had been both a victim and a witness in the previous 12 months had high levels of perceived ASB, compared with nine per cent of those who had not experienced crime.

For a full breakdown of the ASB figures from the 2007/08 BCS by demographic and socio-economic characteristics, see Table 5.04.

Box 5.4 Factors strongly associated with perceptions of high levels of anti-social behaviour (ASB)

Multivariate analysis (logistic regression) carried out on the 2007/08 BCS shows that the socio-demographic factors most strongly independently associated with perceiving high levels of ASB were:

- *living in an ACORN area other than Wealthy Achievers, in particular Moderate Means and Hard Pressed areas;*
- *being a victim of crime in the previous 12 months;*
- *being young;*
- *living in an area areas where physical disorder was assessed¹ as high; and*
- *living in an area for more than 12 months.*

This model explains around 18 per cent of the variance in perceptions of high levels of ASB based only on the socio-demographic factors described here (see the Glossary for more information).

1. Interviewer assessment, see the Glossary for more information.

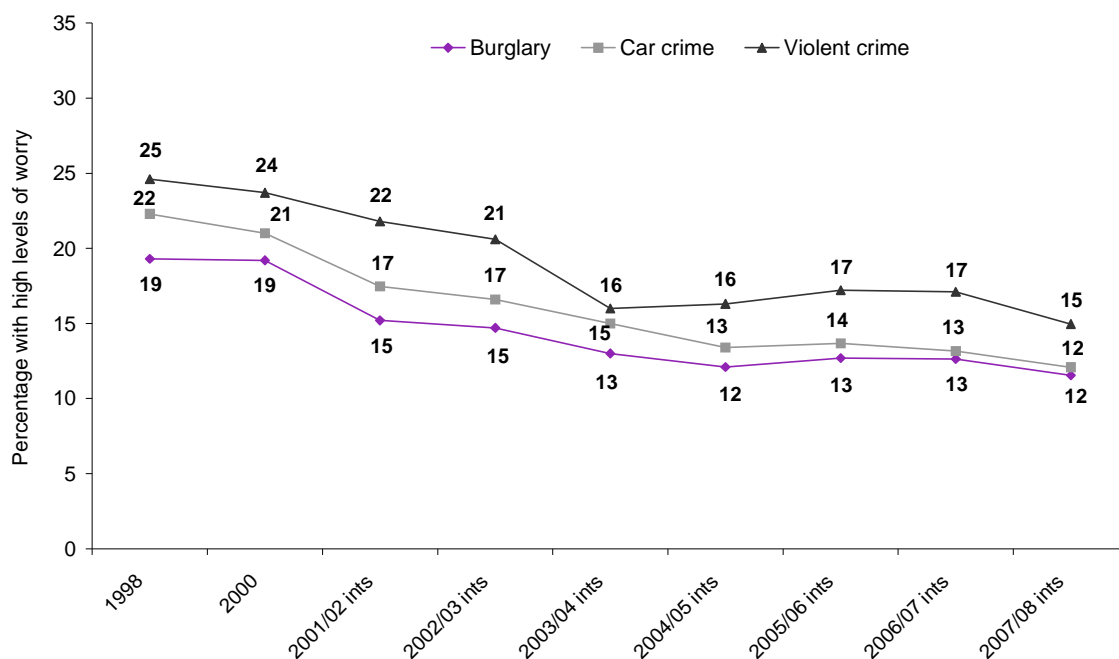
5.6 WORRY ABOUT CRIME

The 2007/08 BCS shows that there was a decrease in the proportions of people with high levels of worry about burglary (from 13% to 12%), violent crime (from 17% to 15%) and car crime (from 13% to 12%) compared with the previous year.¹⁰ These decreases in the last year follow a period of little change between 2003/04 and 2006/07 after steady decreases between 1998 and 2003/04. Worry about each of the three crime types has now fallen by more than a third since 1998 (Figure 5.2 and Table 5.05).

⁹ Interviewer assessment, see the Glossary for more information.

¹⁰ See the Glossary for definitions.

Figure 5.2 Worry about crime, 1998 to 2007/08 BCS



Worry about crime varies across demographic and socio-economic groups. In general, high levels of worry about all three crime types were more likely among women, Black and Minority Ethnic groups, social renters, and those living in Hard Pressed ACORN areas and in areas where physical disorder was assessed¹¹ as high. People aged 75 and over, those with educational qualifications at degree or diploma level, those in managerial and professional occupations, readers of national 'broadsheets' and those living in rural areas were less likely to have high levels of worry about crime (Table 5.06). For example:

- Across all the age groups, women were more than twice as likely to be worried about violent crime as men, contrasting sharply with actual risk of being a victim of violence (see Chapter 3). For example, among 16 to 24 year olds 28 per cent of women had high levels of worry compared with ten per cent of men.
- Twenty-three per cent of people from Black and Minority Ethnic backgrounds had high levels of worry about burglary compared with ten per cent of people from White backgrounds.
- People in urban areas were more than twice as likely to have high levels of worry about violence than those in rural areas (17% and 8% respectively).

Victims of crime in the last 12 months were more likely to have high levels of worry about crime, with worry about each type of crime being particularly high among those who had experienced that type of crime. For example:

- Those who had been burgled in the last 12 months were more than twice as likely to have high levels of worry about burglary than those who had not been a victim of any crime (25% and 10% respectively).

For a full breakdown of the figures on worry about crime from the 2007/08 BCS by demographics and socio-economic characteristics, see Table 5.06.

¹¹ Interviewer assessment, see the Glossary for more information.

Box 5.5 Factors strongly associated with high levels of worry about crime

Multivariate analysis (logistic regression) based on the 2007/08 BCS shows that the socio-demographic factors most strongly independently associated with high levels of worry about **burglary** were:

- living in an ACORN area other than Wealthy Achievers, in particular Hard Pressed areas;
- being from a Black and Minority Ethnic background;
- having qualifications lower than a degree or diploma, in particular no qualifications;
- being a victim of crime in the previous 12 months; and
- being female.

This model explains around eight per cent of the variance in high levels of worry about burglary based only on the socio-demographic factors described here (see the Glossary for more information).

The socio-demographic factors most strongly independently associated with high levels of worry about **car crime** were:

- being a victim of crime in the previous 12 months;
- living in an ACORN area other than Wealthy Achievers, in particular Hard Pressed areas; and
- being from a Black and Minority Ethnic background.

This model explains around six per cent of the variance in high levels of worry about car crime based only on the socio-demographic factors described here (see the Glossary for more information).

The socio-demographic factors most strongly independently associated with high levels of worry about **violence** were:

- being female;
- being from a Black and Minority Ethnic background;
- not having a managerial or professional occupation; and
- Government Office region, with no clear geographic pattern.

This model explains around 13 per cent of the variance in high levels of worry about violence based only on the socio-demographic factors described here (see the Glossary for more information).

Multivariate analysis has previously been carried out which included perception measures as well as socio-demographic characteristics as potential explanatory factors. Analysis based on the 2004/05 BCS showed the following perception measures to be independently strongly associated with high levels of worry about the different crime types: perceiving a high level of ASB in the local area (high levels of worry about burglary, car crime and violent crime); believing it likely their home will be burgled in the coming year (burglary); believing it likely their car will have something stolen from it in the coming year (car crime) and believing they will be physically attacked by a stranger in the coming year (violent crime) (see Allen et al., 2006, for further details). Relationships between these types of factors tend to show little change over time therefore this analysis is not carried out on an annual basis.

In addition to questions on worry about crime, the BCS asks how likely people think it is that they will be a victim of crime in the next 12 months, for burglary, vehicle crime and violent crime.¹² For a full breakdown of the findings from the 2007/08 BCS by demographic and socio-economic characteristics, see Table 5.07.

- The 2007/08 BCS showed that 14 per cent of people thought they were fairly or very likely to be a victim of burglary or violent crime, while 23 per cent of those who owned a vehicle thought they were likely to be a victim of vehicle crime.

¹² See the Glossary for the definition of perceived likelihood of victimisation.

The BCS also asks people to rate the impact that crime in general and fear of crime has on their quality of life (irrespective of whether they have been a victim of crime in the previous 12 months).¹³ For a full breakdown of the 2007/08 figures by demographic and socio-economic characteristics, see Table 5.08.

- More than a third (36%) of people said that fear of crime had a high or moderate impact on their quality of life, while 26 per cent of people rated crime in general as having a moderate or high impact on their quality of life.

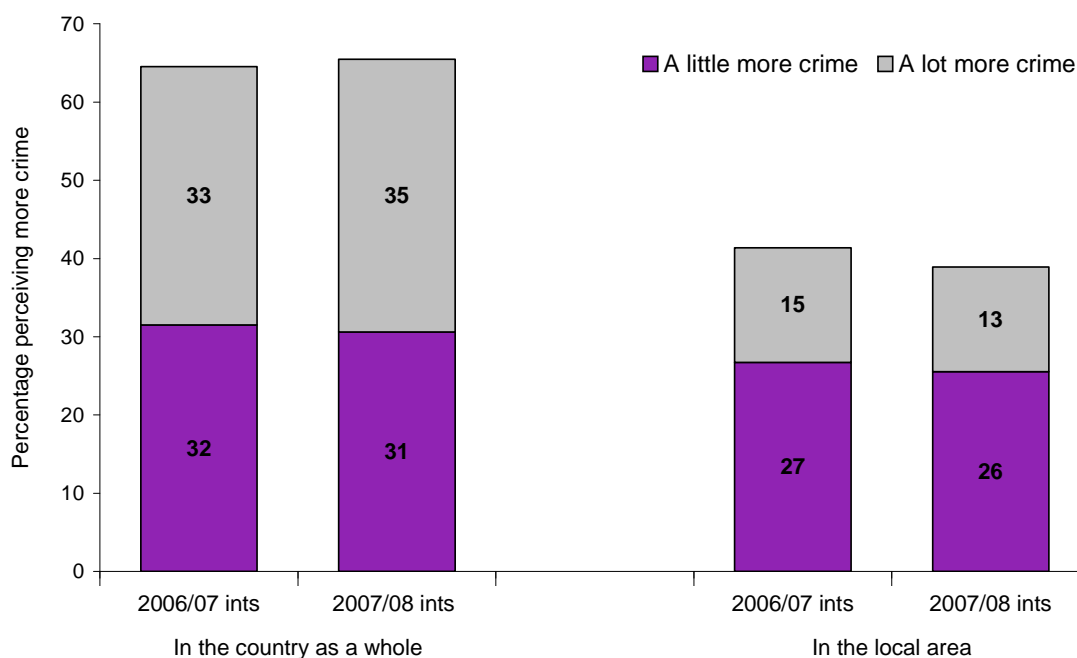
5.7 PERCEPTIONS OF CRIME LEVELS AND CAUSES OF CRIME

Perceptions of crime levels

The BCS asks respondents if they think the level of crime in the country as a whole and in their local area has changed over the previous two years.

- Despite falling crime levels and increases in other measures of confidence, around two-thirds (65%) of people thought crime in the country as a whole had increased ('a lot' or 'a little') in the previous two years, the same level as in the 2006/07 BCS; with more than a third (35%) believing that it had increased 'a lot', compared with 33 per cent in 2006/07 (Figure 5.3).
- People have less negative perceptions about the crime rate in their local area. The proportion of people who believe crime had increased ('a lot' or 'a little') in their local area¹⁴ has fallen from 41 per cent in 2006/07 to 39 per cent in the 2007/08 BCS; with only 13 per cent of people believing it had increased 'a lot', compared with 15 per cent in 2006/07 (Figure 5.3).

Figure 5.3 Perceptions of changing crime levels, 2006/07 and 2007/08 BCS



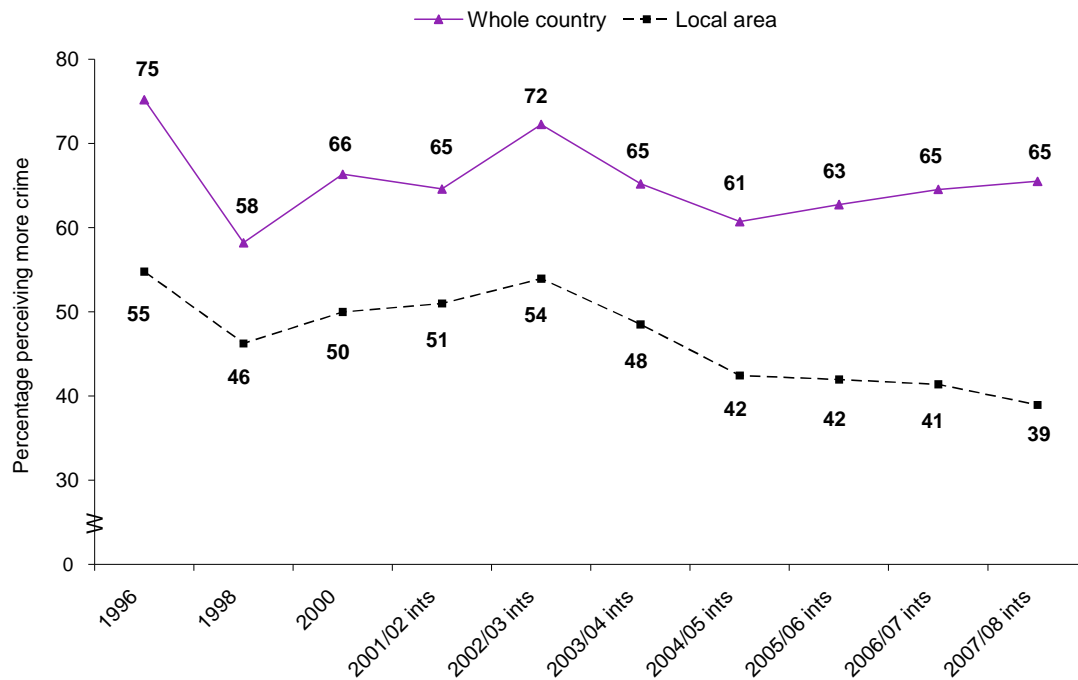
1. Local area crime rate question asked only of those who have lived in area for three years or more.
2. The combined 'A little' and 'A lot more crime' figures are based on totals from unrounded figures.

¹³ See the Glossary for details on the impact on quality of life questions.

¹⁴ The question asking about the local crime rate is asked only of people who have lived in their current area for three years or more.

Longer-term trends show that the proportions of people believing there to be more crime are lower now than in 1996 for both crime in the local area and crime in the country as a whole. Until 2004/05 the trend fluctuated over time but was relatively consistent between the two measures. However, since 2004/05 the trends have diverged slightly, widening the gap between perceptions of national and local crime levels. The proportion perceiving there to be more crime in the country as a whole has increased, while the proportion believing there to be more crime in the local area has continued to fall (from 54% in 2002/03 to 39% in 2007/08) (Figure 5.4).

Figure 5.4 Perceptions of changing crime levels, 1996 to 2007/08 BCS



Perceptions of crime rates varied with demographic and socio-economic factors. In general, older people, women and those who read national 'tabloids' were more likely to think that the crime rate in the country as a whole had increased 'a lot' in the previous two years. People with educational qualifications at degree or diploma level and those in private-rented accommodation were less likely to think it had increased 'a lot' (Table 5.09). For example:

- Fifty-one per cent of women aged 65 to 74 and 49 per cent of women aged 75 and over thought national crime levels had risen 'a lot' compared with 26 per cent of women aged 16 to 24.
- Readers of national 'tabloids' were nearly twice as likely as those who read national 'broadsheets' to think the crime rate nationally had increased 'a lot' (44% and 24% respectively).

Perceptions of the local crime rate appear to be more strongly influenced by personal experience and area characteristics, while perceptions of the national crime rate are more influenced by general socio-demographic characteristics such as age.

People living in Hard Pressed and Moderate Means ACORN areas, in urban areas and in areas where physical disorder was assessed¹⁵ as high were considerably more likely to think that crime in the local area had increased 'a lot'. Those who had experienced crime in the past 12 months were also more likely to perceive crime levels locally to have risen 'a lot'. For example:

¹⁵ Interviewer assessment, see the Glossary for more information.

- Those living in Hard Pressed and Moderate Means ACORN areas were more than twice as likely to think crime locally had increased 'a lot' (19% and 18% respectively) than those in Wealthy Achievers areas (8%).
- Twenty-six per cent of those who had been both a victim and a witness thought crime in the local area had risen 'a lot', compared with ten per cent of those who had not experienced crime in the previous 12 months.

For a full breakdown of the figures from the 2007/08 BCS by demographic and socio-economic characteristics, see Table 5.09.

Box 5.6 Factors strongly associated with perceptions of crime levels

*Multivariate analysis (logistic regression) based on the 2007/08 BCS showed that the socio-demographic factors most strongly independently associated with perceiving that the **national** crime rate had increased 'a lot' were:*

- *being aged 35 or over; and*
- *reading a newspaper other than the national 'broadsheets' (or not regularly reading any newspaper).*

*The socio-demographic factors most strongly independently associated with perceiving that the **local** crime rate had increased 'a lot' were:*

- *being a victim of crime in previous 12 months;*
- *living in an ACORN area other than a Wealthy Achiever area, in particular Moderate Means and Hard Pressed Areas;*
- *Government Office region, in particular living in London; and*
- *living in an area for five years or more, in particular ten or more years.¹*

Both models explain around seven per cent of the variance in perceptions of crime rates based only on the socio-demographic factors described here (see the Glossary for more information).

Multivariate analysis has previously been carried out which included perception measures as well as socio-demographic factors as potential explanatory factors. Analysis based on the 2002/03 BCS showed the following perception measures to be strongly independently associated with perceiving the national crime rate to have increased 'a lot': thinking that the criminal justice system was not effective in reducing crime and being fairly or very worried about being attacked by a stranger. Perception measures strongly independently associated with perceiving the local crime rate to have increased 'a lot' were: perceiving a high level of anti-social behaviour in the local area and perceiving that the criminal justice system was not effective in reducing crime (see Nicholas and Walker, 2004, for further details). Relationships between these types of factors tend to show little change over time therefore this analysis is not carried out on an annual basis.

1. The question asking about the local crime rate is only asked of those who have lived in their current area for three years or more.

Causes of crime

The 2007/08 BCS showed that drugs and lack of discipline from parents were the two factors most commonly selected as one of the major causes of crime in Britain today (71% and 69% respectively). When people were asked which single factor they believed was the main cause of crime in Britain today, three out of ten (30%) said drugs, while a further three out of ten (29%) people thought lack of discipline from parents was the main cause (Table 5d).

More than half of people (52%) also thought that alcohol was one of the major causes of crime, although a much smaller proportion (7%) thought it was the main cause of crime in Britain today.

Table 5d Factors considered to be causes of crime in Britain today, 2006/07 and 2007/08 BCS

Percentages	Major causes of crime ^{1,2}			Main cause of crime ¹			BCS
	2006/07 ints	2007/08 ints	Statistically significant change, 2006/07 to 2007/08	2006/07 ints	2007/08 ints	Statistically significant change, 2006/07 to 2007/08	
	<i>Percentage perceiving this as a factor:</i>						
Drugs	73	71	**	31	30		
Lack of discipline from parents	67	69	**	28	29		
Alcohol	49	52	**	6	7		
Too lenient sentencing	41	40		11	11		
Lack of discipline from school	37	39		4	4		
Breakdown of family	34	35		6	6		
Too few police	30	30		3	3		
Unemployment	29	28		3	3		
Poverty	23	20	**	5	4	**	
None of these	0	0		n/a	n/a		
Do not think there is one main cause	n/a	n/a		3	4		
<i>Unweighted base</i>	<i>11,789</i>	<i>11,611</i>		<i>11,715</i>	<i>11,522</i>		

1. Respondents were asked to select from a list the factors they thought were the major causes of crime in Britain today. If respondents selected more than one factor they were then asked which of the factors they believed to be the main cause of crime.

2. Percentages add to more than 100 as respondents could select more than one cause.

Box 5.7 Public Service Agreements (PSAs)

The BCS is used to measure PSA targets, which are set to measure performance of the Home Office and other Government Departments, on crime, community safety and criminal justice.

Public service agreements 2005–2008

PSAs for 2005 to 2008 came to the end of their target period at the end of March 2008. BCS data were used to measure elements of two Home Office targets PSA 1 (see chapter 2, Box 2.2) and PSA 2. The BCS was used to measure the following strands of the PSA 2 target to 'reassure the public, reducing the fear of crime and anti-social behaviour, and building confidence in the criminal justice system without comprising fairness':

- The percentage of people who have a high level of worry about becoming a victim of crime (to be lower than in 2002/03).
- The percentage of people who feel anti-social behaviour to be a very or fairly big problem (to be lower than in 2002/03).
- The percentage of people who think that the police in their area are doing a good or excellent job (to be higher than in 2003/04).
- The percentage of people who are very or fairly confident about the effectiveness of the criminal justice system in bringing people who commit crimes to justice (to be higher than in 2002/03).
- The percentage of victims and witnesses who are satisfied (to be higher than in 2003/04).

Based on 2007/08 BCS interviews, the percentages of people with high levels of worry about burglary (12%), car crime (12%) and violent crime (15%) are statistically significantly lower than in 2002/03 (15%, 17%, and 21% respectively). There has also been a statistically significant reduction, compared with 2002/03, in the proportion of people who believe anti-social behaviour is a fairly or very big problem in their local area (from 21% to 16%).

The 2007/08 BCS also showed 44 per cent of people were confident in the effectiveness of the criminal justice system (CJS) in bringing people who commit crimes to justice, a statistically significant increase compared with 2002/03 (39%). The proportion of people who believe the local police are doing a good or excellent job showed a statistically significant increase in 2007/08 compared with 2003/04 (53% compared with 47%).

BCS interviews in the year to March 2008 showed that 60 per cent of victim and witnesses were satisfied with the police and the CJS, compared with 58 per cent in the six months to March 2004¹; the apparent increase is not statistically significant. Further information about the combined levels of victim and witness satisfaction can be found at:

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/pdfs08/hosb0708tab.pdf>

For more information about the 2005–2008 PSAs see:

http://www.hm-treasury.gov.uk/spending_review/spend_sr04/psa/spend_sr04_psaindex.cfm

1. These figures are based on the combined witness and victim satisfaction measure and not the separate witness and victim satisfaction measures reported earlier in the chapter.

Box 5.7 (continued) Public service agreements 2008–2011

PSAs for 2008 to 2011 came into effect at the beginning of April 2008. The BCS is being used as a source of data for the following performance indicators within PSA 23, PSA 24 and PSA 25:

PSA23 Making communities safer

Priority Action 3: Tackle the crime, disorder and anti-social behaviour issues of greatest importance in each locality, increasing public confidence in the local agencies involved in dealing with these issues.

- *Indicator 3: Public confidence in local agencies involved in tackling crime and anti-social behaviour.*

The measure will require a statistically significant increase (at the 5% level) against the baseline period (six months to March 2008) by March 2011.

- *Indicator 4: The percentage of people perceiving ASB as a problem.*

The measure will require a statistically significant reduction (at the 5% level) against the baseline period (year ending March 2008) by March 2011.

PSA 24 Deliver a more effective, transparent and responsive criminal justice system for victims and the public

Priority Action 2: To increase the levels of public confidence in the fairness and effectiveness of the CJS.

- *Indicator 2: Public confidence in the fairness and effectiveness of the CJS.*

The measure will require a statistically significant increase (at the 5% level) against the baseline period (six months to March 2008) by March 2011.

PSA 25 Reduce the harm caused by alcohol and drugs

- *Indicator 4: The percentage of the public who perceive drug use or dealing to be a problem in their area.*
- *Indicator 5: The percentage of the public who perceive drunk or rowdy behaviour to be a problem in their area.*

The two measures require statistically significant reductions (at the 5% level) against the baseline period (year ending March 2008) by March 2011.

For more information about the 2008–2011 PSAs see:

http://www.hm-treasury.gov.uk/pbr_csr/psa/pbr_csr07_psacomunities.cfm

Table 5.01 Public confidence in the local police by demographic and socio-economic characteristics

Percentages	Local police		Percentage saying police doing a good/excellent job
	Unweighted base	Unweighted base	
			Percentage saying police doing a good/excellent job
Men	50	20,911	
16-24	52	1,803	49
25-34	54	2,946	48
35-44	51	4,017	51
45-54	49	3,522	54
55-64	47	3,639	
65-74	48	2,797	
75+	53	2,187	
Women	54	24,871	
16-24	54	2,101	
25-34	57	3,647	
35-44	55	4,722	
45-54	52	3,770	
55-64	52	4,068	
65-74	53	3,375	
75+	59	3,188	
Ethnic group			
White	52	42,747	
Non-White	59	3,028	
Marital status			
Married	52	21,829	
Cohabiting	51	4,022	
Single	52	9,416	
Separated	56	1,364	
Divorced	50	4,000	
Widowed	58	5,136	
Respondent's employment status			
In employment	52	25,822	
Unemployed	50	789	
Economically inactive	53	19,063	
<i>Student</i>	58	1,060	
<i>Looking after family/home</i>	56	2,708	
<i>Long-term/temporarily sick/ill</i>	45	2,088	
<i>Retired</i>	53	12,673	
<i>Other inactive</i>	52	534	
Respondent's occupation			
Managerial and professional occupations	55	15,252	
Intermediate occupations	51	9,243	
Routine and manual occupations	50	17,971	
Never worked and long-term unemployed	56	1,351	
Full-time students	58	1,781	
Not classified	50	184	
Highest qualification			
Degree or diploma	56	13,887	
Apprenticeship or A/AS level	51	7,824	
O level/GCSE	50	9,165	
Other	55	1,964	
None	51	12,819	
		ALL ADULTS	53
			45,782

1. Based upon the interviewer's assessment of the local area (see the Glossary for definition of physical disorder).

2. This is the overall measure of anti-social behaviour as described in the Glossary.

3. See the Glossary for definitions of personal, household and area characteristics.

Table 5.02 Confidence in the criminal justice system by demographic and socio-economic characteristics

Percentages	Respects the rights of and treats fairly people accused of committing a crime	Effective in bringing people who commit crimes to justice	Effective in reducing crime (% very or fairly effective)	Deals with cases promptly and efficiently	Meets the needs of victims	Effective in dealing with young people accused of crime (% very or fairly effective)	Witnesses are treated well	2007/08 BCS Unweighted base ¹
<i>Percentage very or fairly confident</i>								
Men	80	44	37	42	34	23	68	16,684
16-24	77	58	55	53	58	39	81	1,454
25-34	80	50	43	48	44	25	76	2,337
35-44	82	43	36	43	35	21	68	3,226
45-54	82	40	35	39	28	21	63	2,811
55-64	81	35	27	33	21	17	61	2,907
65-74	80	34	28	33	21	17	62	2,222
75+	80	38	33	36	27	20	64	1,727
Women	79	45	39	43	37	26	69	19,741
16-24	75	53	50	47	51	38	78	1,670
25-34	80	50	44	49	47	30	72	2,947
35-44	80	50	39	45	41	27	69	3,702
45-54	80	42	33	42	33	23	65	3,000
55-64	78	38	31	37	27	20	63	3,209
65-74	80	37	35	37	27	20	65	2,673
75+	81	41	37	40	31	22	64	2,540
Ethnic group								
White	80	43	37	41	34	24	68	34,009
Non-White	76	56	52	54	51	34	69	2,410
Marital status								
Married	82	42	35	40	31	22	66	17,269
Cohabiting	79	43	37	43	37	23	70	3,236
Single	77	53	47	47	48	33	75	7,530
Separated	79	47	41	48	42	27	66	1,088
Divorced	76	38	33	38	29	19	62	3,184
Widowed	80	42	38	42	32	23	66	4,105
Respondent's employment status								
In employment	80	45	38	43	37	24	70	20,678
Unemployed	73	53	44	47	47	29	70	610
Economically inactive	79	42	38	41	34	25	66	15,052
Student	79	63	57	54	60	40	80	826
Looking after family/home	78	50	44	49	44	33	70	2,109
Long-term/temporarily sick/ill	72	37	35	39	30	22	59	1,660
Retired	81	37	33	36	26	19	63	10,025
Other inactive	75	49	46	47	43	35	65	432
Respondent's occupation								
Managerial and professional occupations	82	44	34	38	32	21	69	12,163
Intermediate occupations	80	41	36	40	33	22	67	7,227
Routine and manual occupations	78	42	39	44	36	26	67	14,410
Never worked and long-term unemployed	77	54	45	52	48	35	70	1,057
Full-time students	78	60	55	52	56	39	80	1,420
Not classified	78	41	45	44	35	30	62	148
Highest qualification								
Degree or diploma	82	48	38	40	36	23	70	11,040
Apprenticeship or A/AS level	81	43	36	41	36	23	69	6,243
O level/GCSE	79	45	40	45	39	28	70	7,224
Other	80	43	38	44	36	25	67	1,585
None	77	41	39	43	34	26	64	10,231
Long-standing illness or disability								
Long-standing illness or disability	78	37	33	37	28	21	63	10,336
Limits activities	78	36	32	36	27	20	61	7,190
Does not limit activities	80	40	34	37	30	21	66	3,139
No long-standing illness or disability	80	47	40	44	39	26	70	26,031
Daily newspaper readership								
National broadsheets	83	49	38	38	35	23	71	4,636
National tabloids	79	38	34	41	31	22	66	12,385
Other daily newspaper	79	46	42	45	39	26	68	4,249
Read more than one	75	39	32	40	31	23	74	193
Tenure								
Owners	81	42	35	40	32	22	68	25,709
Social rented sector	74	43	40	45	38	27	65	6,023
Private rented sector	79	56	49	49	49	33	75	4,556
Accommodation type								
Houses	80	44	37	42	35	24	69	30,311
Detached	83	44	36	41	33	23	70	9,132
Semi-detached	80	42	37	41	34	23	67	11,469
Terraced	78	45	39	44	38	26	69	9,710
Flats/maisonettes	77	49	43	45	41	28	69	4,059
Other accommodation	82	46	47	43	39	27	74	174
ACORN category								
Wealthy Achievers	83	45	36	41	34	23	70	9,900
Urban Prosperity	79	52	44	44	44	28	71	2,760
Comfortably Off	80	43	36	41	34	23	69	11,429
Moderate Means	78	43	39	44	38	27	67	4,997
Hard Pressed	76	43	41	45	37	26	65	7,254
Area type								
Urban	79	44	38	42	36	25	68	27,147
Rural	81	45	38	42	35	25	71	9,278
Level of physical disorder²								
High	74	42	39	43	37	25	61	1,897
Not high	80	44	38	42	36	25	69	32,472
Perceived level of ASB³								
High	73	34	31	36	30	20	60	5,244
Not high	81	46	40	44	37	26	70	29,570
Experience of crime in past 12 months								
Not victim or witness	81	47	41	45	38	27	70	21,141
As witness only	79	42	36	40	35	23	68	7,817
As victim only	80	43	36	41	35	22	67	3,690
As both victim and witness	76	36	31	35	31	19	65	3,747
ALL ADULTS	80	44	38	42	36	25	69	36,425

1. Unweighted bases refer to confidence that the criminal justice system is effective in bringing people who commit crimes to justice. Bases for the other measures will be similar.

2. Based upon the interviewer's assessment of the local area (see the Glossary for definition of physical disorder).

3. This is the overall measure of anti-social behaviour as described in the Glossary.

4. See the Glossary for definitions of personal, household and area characteristics.

Table 5.03 Trends in the anti-social behaviour indicators, 1992 to 2007/08 BCS

Percentages	BCS												Statistically significant change, 2006/07 to 2007/08
	1992	1994	1996	1998	2000	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	
	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	19	21	16	17	17	18	16	
						Percentage saying very/fairly big problem in their area							
High level of perceived anti-social behaviour ¹	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	19	21	16	17	17	18	16	**
Abandoned or burnt-out cars ²	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	14	20	25	15	12	10	9	7	**
Noisy neighbours or loud parties	8	8	8	8	9	10	10	9	9	10	11	10	
People being drunk or rowdy in public places	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	22	23	19	22	24	26	25	
People using or dealing drugs	14	22	21	25	33	31	32	25	26	27	28	26	**
Teenagers hanging around on the streets	20	26	24	27	32	32	33	27	31	32	33	31	**
Rubbish or litter lying around	30	26	26	28	30	32	33	29	30	30	31	30	
Vandalism, graffiti and other deliberate damage to property	26	29	24	26	32	34	35	28	28	29	28	27	**
<i>Unweighted base</i> ³	8,486	13,745	7,625	13,986	8,910	30,695	34,622	36,116	42,892	45,787	45,063	45,021	

1. This measure is derived from responses to the seven individual anti-social behaviour strands as described in the Glossary.

2. The question relating to abandoned or burnt-out cars was asked of one-quarter of the sample in 2001/02 and 2002/03.

3. Unweighted bases refer to the question relating to people using or dealing drugs. Other bases will be similar.

Table 5.04 High levels of perceived anti-social behaviour in local area by demographic and socio-economic characteristics

Percentages	High level of perceived ASB ¹	Unweighted base	High level of perceived ASB ¹	Unweighted base
Men		20,574		
16-24	16	1,789	18	12,559
25-34	21	2,920	19	8,721
35-44	19	3,994	16	3,831
45-54	17	3,474	16	32,193
55-64	15	3,566		
65-74	11	2,714		
75+	4	2,117		
Women		24,267		
16-24	17	2,086	11	5,644
25-34	26	3,589	18	15,202
35-44	20	4,630	19	5,201
45-54	18	3,720	21	232
55-64	17	3,943		
65-74	15	3,251		
75+	9	3,048		
	4			
Ethnic group				
White	15	41,911	15	37,272
Non-White	24	2,922	7	11,294
			15	14,078
Marital status			23	11,900
Married	14	21,479	25	4,936
Cohabiting	19	4,003	8	208
Single	22	9,223		
Separated	19	1,333		
Divorced	18	3,882		
Widowed	8	4,906		
Respondent's employment status				
In employment	17	25,432		
Unemployed	31	770		
Economically inactive	15	18,511		
Student	24	1,053		
Looking after family/home	22	2,670		
Long-term/temporarily sick/ill	27	2,030		
Retired	8	12,244		
Other inactive	23	514		
Respondent's occupation				
Managerial and professional occupations	12	15,005		
Intermediate occupations	14	9,035		
Routine and manual occupations	19	17,501		
Never worked and long-term unemployed	22	1,324		
Full-time students	23	1,773		
Not classified	17	203		
Highest qualification				
Degree or diploma	13	13,655		
Apprenticeship or A/AS level	17	7,726		
O level/GCSE	20	8,991		
Other	17	1,892		
None	16	12,436		
			16	44,841

1. This measure is derived from responses to the seven individual anti-social behaviour strands as described in the Glossary.
 2. Based upon the interviewer's assessment of the local area (see the Glossary for definition of physical disorder).
 3. See the Glossary for definitions of personal, household and area characteristics.

Table 5.05 Trends in worry about crime, 1992 to 2007/08 BCS

Percentages	BCS											Statistically significant change, 2006/07 to 2007/08		
	1992	1994	1996	1998	2000	2001/02 ints	2002/03 ints	2003/04 ints	2004/05 ints	2005/06 ints	2006/07 ints		2007/08 ints	
	<i>Percentage with high level of worry about¹ :</i>													
Burglary	19	26	22	19	19	15	15	13	12	13	13	12	12	**
Car crime	n/a	n/a	n/a	22	21	17	17	15	13	14	13	12	12	**
Violent crime	n/a	n/a	n/a	25	24	22	21	16	16	17	17	15	15	**
<i>Unweighted base²</i>	10,044	14,502	7,973	14,925	19,388	32,765	36,427	37,872	45,046	47,713	47,122	46,888		

1. See the Glossary for more information on the definitions of the worry about crime indicators.

2. Unweighted bases refer to high levels of worry about burglary. Bases for violent crime will be similar but for car crime they will be slightly lower as based on those residing in households owning, or with regular use of, a vehicle only.

Table 5.06 Worry about crime by demographic and socio-economic characteristics

Percentages	Worry about crime			Worry about crime			Worry about crime			2007/08 BCS			
	Worry about burglary	Worry about car crime	Worry about violent crime	Worry about burglary	Worry about car crime	Worry about violent crime	Worry about burglary	Worry about car crime	Worry about violent crime	Unweighted base ¹	Unweighted base ¹	Unweighted base ¹	
	<i>Percentage with high levels of worry</i>												
Men	9	11	8	21,326	14	13	16	13,333					
16-24	7	13	10	1,824	15	14	17	9,278					
25-34	9	13	8	2,994	11	11	14	4,048					
35-44	9	11	8	4,094	11	12	15	33,452					
45-54	9	12	7	3,580									
55-64	11	12	8	3,716									
65-74	11	11	8	2,859									
75+	7	5	5	2,259									
Women	14	13	21	25,562	7	7	8	5,867					
16-24	15	18	28	2,136	13	14	17	15,896					
25-34	14	14	25	3,712	14	13	19	5,432					
35-44	14	12	22	4,804	15	20	17	2,462					
45-54	13	12	20	3,875									
55-64	16	13	20	4,178									
65-74	14	11	18	3,480									
75+	10	8	12	3,377									
Ethnic group													
White	10	11	13	43,743	11	12	15	38,856					
Non-White	23	22	32	3,137	8	8	10	11,722					
Marital status													
Married	12	12	14	22,310	12	12	15	14,706					
Cohabiting	11	13	14	4,115	14	15	17	12,428					
Single	11	14	18	9,587	13	15	18	5,274					
Separated	15	14	17	1,403	14	15	17	2,16					
Divorced	12	12	15	4,094	13	15	18						
Widowed	12	9	14	5,363	14	7	12						
Respondent's employment status													
In employment	10	12	14	26,304	11	12	15	34,916					
Unemployed	15	19	20	790	13	13	17	11,972					
Economically inactive	14	12	17	19,652	7	8	8						
<i>Student</i>	9	13	18	1,078									
<i>Looking after family/home</i>	20	15	27	2,772									
<i>Long-term/temporarily sick/ill</i>	20	21	24	2,130									
<i>Retired</i>	11	9	12	13,125	21	21	23	2,480					
<i>Other inactive</i>	19	11	25	547	11	12	14	41,651					
Respondent's occupation													
Managerial and professional occupations	8	9	10	15,606	25	30	31	6,641					
Intermediate occupations	11	12	14	9,454	9	9	12	38,189					
Routine and manual occupations	14	15	18	18,387									
Never worked and long-term unemployed	22	19	31	1,404									
Full-time students	9	15	18	1,814	25	29	25	1,040					
Not classified	15	11	20	223	15	16	17	8,436					
Highest qualification													
Degree or diploma	8	10	11	14,223	10	10	14	37,412					
Apprenticeship or A/AS level	9	12	12	7,963									
O level/GCSE	12	12	18	9,300									
Other	15	15	18	2,023									
None	17	15	20	13,218									
					12	12	15	46,888					
					ALL ADULTS								

1. Unweighted bases refer to high levels of worry about burglary. Bases for violent crime will be similar but for car crime they will be slightly lower as based on those residing in households owning, or with regular use of, a vehicle only.

2. Based upon the interviewer's assessment of the local area (see the Glossary for definition of physical disorder).

3. This is the overall measure of anti-social behaviour as described in the Glossary.

4. Relevant crimes are burglary for worry about burglary, vehicle crime for worry about car crime and any BCS violence for worry about violent crime.

5. See the Glossary for definitions of personal, household and area characteristics.

Table 5.07 Perceived likelihood of being a victim of crime by demographic and socio-economic characteristics

Percentages	2007/08 BCS		
	Burglary	Unweighted base ¹	
	Car crime	Violent crime	
	Percentage saying very or fairly likely	Percentage saying very or fairly likely	
Men	13	15	5,286
16-24	10	23	428
25-34	12	18	768
35-44	15	14	1,029
45-54	15	28	909
55-64	14	27	923
65-74	13	23	685
75+	6	8	544
Women	14	13	6,289
16-24	15	24	533
25-34	16	26	920
35-44	15	23	1,219
45-54	14	23	949
55-64	17	22	1,016
65-74	14	21	849
75+	9	13	803
Ethnic group			
White	13	23	10,800
Non-White	20	30	773
Marital status			
Married	14	23	5,573
Cohabiting	15	27	1,013
Single	14	22	2,352
Separated	16	31	345
Divorced	15	24	968
Widowed	9	16	1,321
Respondent's employment status			
In employment	13	24	6,556
Unemployed	21	33	193
Economically inactive	14	21	4,814
Student	12	16	268
Looking after family/home	15	25	705
Long-term/temporarily sick/ill	18	29	522
Retired	12	19	3,192
Other inactive	26	31	127
Respondent's occupation			
Managerial and professional occupations	12	21	3,698
Intermediate occupations	14	26	2,365
Routine and manual occupations	15	26	4,478
Never worked and long-term unemployed	16	17	347
Full-time students	14	17	448
Not classified	7	32	39
Highest qualification			
Degree or diploma	13	22	3,648
Apprenticeship or A/AS level	14	25	1,944
O level/GCSE	14	22	2,312
Other	13	26	514
None	14	24	3,137

Percentages	2007/08 BCS		
	Burglary	Unweighted base ¹	
	Car crime	Violent crime	
	Percentage saying very or fairly likely	Percentage saying very or fairly likely	
Long-standing illness or disability			
Long-standing illness or disability	15	24	3,275
Limits activities	15	24	2,264
Does not limit activities	15	24	1,011
No long-standing illness or disability	13	23	8,291
Daily newspaper readership			
National broadsheets	12	17	1,430
National tabloids	15	26	3,906
Other daily newspaper	15	23	1,282
Read more than one	25	35	52
Tenure			
Owners	13	23	8,237
Social rented sector	16	30	1,871
Private rented sector	15	23	1,432
Accommodation type			
Houses	14	23	9,568
Detached	12	20	2,938
Semi-detached	14	23	3,601
Terraced	15	26	3,029
Flats/maisonettes	13	30	1,307
Other accommodation	3	12	57
ACORN category			
Wealthy Achievers	11	18	3,242
Urban Prosperity	19	28	855
Comfortably Off	11	22	3,641
Moderate Means	15	29	1,581
Hard Pressed	18	30	2,228
Area type			
Urban	15	25	8,602
Rural	8	17	2,973
Level of physical disorder²			
High	19	31	612
Not high	13	23	10,266
Perceived level of ASB³			
High	29	44	1,575
Not high	11	20	9,539
Experience of crime in past 12 months			
Victim of relevant crime ⁴	44	54	233
Victim of other BCS crime	18	30	2,094
Not victim of crime	12	19	9,248
ALL ADULTS	14	23	11,575

1. Unweighted bases refer to perceived likelihood of being a victim of burglary in the next year. Bases for violent crime will be similar but for car crime they will be slightly lower as based on those residing in households owning, or with regular use of, a vehicle only.
 2. Based upon the interviewer's assessment of the local area (see the Glossary for definition of physical disorder).
 3. This is the overall measure of anti-social behaviour as described in the Glossary.
 4. Relevant crimes are burglary for perceived likelihood of being burgled, vehicle crime for perceived likelihood of being a victim of car crime, and any BCS violence for perceived likelihood of being a victim of violent crime.
 5. See the Glossary for definitions of personal, household and area characteristics.

Table 5.08 Impact of fear of crime and crime on quality of life by demographic and socio-economic characteristics

Percentages	Fear of crime		Crime		2007/08 BCS	
	Unweighted base	Unweighted base	Unweighted base	Unweighted base	Crime	Unweighted base
	Percentage with a 'high' or 'moderate' impact on quality of life					
Men	32	2,663	25	2,689		
16-24	28	222	25	212	41	1,691
25-34	35	361	28	394	44	1,150
35-44	35	502	25	537	34	541
45-54	34	463	25	459	34	4,164
55-64	30	439	22	498		
65-74	28	355	27	337		
75+	30	301	17	252		
Women	39	3,205	26	3,178		
16-24	38	251	27	268	25	733
25-34	41	463	31	468	41	1,959
35-44	37	629	25	606	37	678
45-54	42	493	25	464	50	30
55-64	40	522	28	508		
65-74	42	442	27	423		
75+	33	405	23	421		
Ethnic group						
White	35	5,482	24	5,452	35	4,831
Non-White	43	386	37	413	30	1,525
Marital status						
Married	36	2,824	24	2,811	35	4,862
Cohabiting	34	504	26	514	20	1,448
Single	33	1,180	28	1,209	39	1,751
Separated	46	166	34	185	36	1,555
Divorced	39	501	27	481	40	674
Widowed	36	691	25	666	23	37
Respondent's employment status						
In employment	36	3,319	25	3,301	29	1,647
Unemployed	44	85	28	109	40	452
Economically inactive	35	2,448	26	2,442	35	1,855
Student	30	122	28	150	39	774
Looking after family/home	35	349	27	367	42	1,124
Long-term/temporarily sick/ill	47	273	37	259		
Retired	35	1,643	24	1,598	44	303
Other inactive	25	61	21	68	35	5,209
Respondent's occupation						
Managerial and professional occupations	31	2,037	23	1,899	61	776
Intermediate occupations	40	1,203	26	1,193	31	4,843
Routine and manual occupations	39	2,212	27	2,319		
Never worked and long-term unemployed	34	175	34	183		
Full-time students	34	212	27	241	31	3,436
Not classified	14	29	17	32	37	1,279
Highest qualification						
Degree or diploma	33	1,869	25	1,819	43	576
Apprenticeship or A/AS level	35	953	24	1,008	50	573
O level/GCSE	38	1,157	25	1,173		
Other	48	265	29	256		
None	36	1,604	27	1,589		
ALL ADULTS	36	5,868	26	5,868	36	5,867

1. Based upon the interviewer's assessment of the local area (see the Glossary for definition of physical disorder).

2. This is the overall measure of anti-social behaviour as described in the Glossary.

3. See the Glossary for definitions of personal, household and area characteristics.

Table 5.09 Perceptions of changing crime levels by demographic and socio-economic characteristics

Percentages	2007/08 BCS	
	Whole country	Local area
	Unweighted base	Unweighted base
	Percentage perceiving 'a lot' more crime over the previous two years	
Men	31	12
16-24	5,185	17,335
25-34	431	1,284
35-44	718	1,796
45-54	964	3,188
55-64	887	3,045
65-74	942	2,614
75+	684	2,103
Women	38	20,999
16-24	526	1,372
25-34	897	2,368
35-44	1,181	3,840
45-54	937	3,351
55-64	1,045	3,717
65-74	847	3,210
75+	786	3,141
Ethnic group		
White	10,671	36,243
Non-White	731	2,085
Marital status		
Married	37	19,094
Cohabiting	33	2,574
Single	26	7,327
Separated	32	1,022
Divorced	43	3,363
Widowed	45	4,942
Respondent's employment status		
In employment	32	20,616
Unemployed	34	574
Economically inactive	40	17,042
Student	17	743
Looking after family/home	36	2,043
Long-term/temporarily sick/ill	45	1,806
Retired	46	12,026
Other inactive	32	424
Respondent's occupation		
Managerial and professional occupations	29	12,361
Intermediate occupations	38	7,881
Routine and manual occupations	41	15,562
Never worked and long-term unemployed	37	1,076
Full-time students	20	1,283
Not classified	27	171
Highest qualification		
Degree or diploma	27	10,811
Apprenticeship or A/AS level	33	6,467
O level/GCSE	35	7,606
Other	41	1,648
None	45	11,685
	35	11,404
ALL ADULTS	35	11,404
	13	38,334
	Percentage perceiving 'a lot' more crime over the previous two years	
Long-standing illness or disability		
Long-standing illness or disability	44	3,174
Limits activities	46	2,203
Does not limit activities	39	970
No long-standing illness or disability	32	8,213
Daily newspaper readership		
National broadsheets	24	1,513
National tabloids	44	3,953
Other daily newspaper	35	1,372
Read more than one	51	62
Tenure		
Owners	35	8,057
Social rented sector	42	1,897
Private rented sector	28	1,400
Accommodation type		
Houses	35	9,468
Detached	33	2,881
Semi-detached	36	3,611
Terraced	35	2,976
Flats/maisonettes	35	1,261
Other accommodation	53	46
ACORN category		
Wealthy Achievers	32	3,133
Urban Prosperity	27	847
Comfortably Off	36	3,579
Moderate Means	37	1,524
Hard Pressed	40	2,301
Area type		
Urban	35	8,495
Rural	35	2,909
Level of physical disorder¹		
High	38	641
Not high	35	10,095
Perceived level of ASB²		
High	45	1,690
Not high	32	9,232
Experience of crime in past 12 months		
Not victim or witness	34	6,567
As witness only	36	2,521
As victim only	35	1,124
As both victim and witness	38	1,186

1. Based upon the interviewer's assessment of the local area (see the Glossary for definition of physical disorder).

2. This is the overall measure of anti-social behaviour as described in the Glossary.

3. See the Glossary for definitions of personal, household and area characteristics.

6 Geographic patterns of crime

Mark Bangs, Stephen Roe and Neil Higgins

6.1 SUMMARY

Both BCS and police recorded crime data indicate that crime is not evenly distributed across England and Wales. Previous chapters have illustrated this by presenting geographic patterns of recorded crime at local authority level for selected crime types. This chapter begins by describing variations in BCS and recorded crime at a regional level.

- London was the region with the highest rates of recorded violence against the person, offences against vehicles, other theft offences and total recorded crime. This region also had higher BCS rates of vehicle-related theft and risk of personal crime than for England and Wales overall.
- Yorkshire and the Humber also had higher rates of recorded crime than England and Wales overall for each of the five main offence types except violence against the person, and the North East and North West regions had higher rates for criminal damage. BCS risk of household crime was also higher in the northern regions.
- The East of England region had the lowest rates of overall recorded crime and violence against the person and amongst the lowest rates of burglary and offences against vehicles. This region also had significantly lower rates of BCS burglary, vehicle-related theft and violent crime, and risk of household crime than England and Wales overall.
- BCS risk of personal and household crime was lower than the average for England and Wales in the South West region and in Wales. Recorded crime rates for each of the main offence groups in the South West region were also lower than the overall rates for England and Wales.

Crime also varies by type of area. BCS data show that differences in household crime between urban and rural areas and between the most and least deprived areas have remained consistent over recent years.

- As in previous years, the 2007/08 BCS found that the risk of being a victim of any household crime was lower in rural areas than in urban areas. Trends in household crime have been broadly similar in urban and rural areas in England and Wales since 2001/02.
- The 2007/08 BCS found that the risk of being a victim of any household crime was higher in the most deprived areas compared with the least deprived areas in England. Trends in household crime in the most and least deprived areas in England have been broadly similar between 2001/02 and 2007/08, with the exception of trends in burglary. Burglary has decreased in the most deprived areas since 2001/02 while it has remained stable in the least deprived areas.

6.2 INTRODUCTION

Both BCS and recorded crime data indicate that crime is not evenly distributed across England and Wales. Previous chapters have illustrated this by presenting geographic patterns of recorded crime at local authority level for selected crime types. This chapter describes regional variations in crime and also uses both police recorded crime and BCS data to look at variations in crime rates by type of area (including rural and urban areas and differing levels of deprivation).

6.3 REGIONAL PATTERNS OF CRIME

Table 6a presents a summary of police recorded crime rates¹ for the main offence types for each of the English regions and Wales and shows the percentage change between 2006/07 and 2007/08. Figures for each police force area are presented in Tables 6.06 to 6.08.

Table 6a Police recorded crime by English region and Wales, 2007/08

Numbers and rates per 1,000 population		Recorded crime					
English region and Wales	Total recorded crime ¹	Total recorded crime ¹	Violence against the person	Burglary	Offences against vehicles ²	Other theft offences ³	Criminal damage
	<i>Number</i>	<i>Recorded crime rates per 1,000 population</i>					
North East	223,736	88	16	10	10	19	24
North West	663,141	97	17	12	13	20	23
Yorkshire and the Humber	521,263	101	18	15	14	22	23
East Midlands	405,426	93	17	12	13	21	21
West Midlands	457,605	85	18	11	12	17	18
East of England	420,054	75	13	9	10	18	17
London	869,604	116	23	13	16	28	14
South East	680,557	83	18	9	10	19	18
South West	397,787	78	15	9	10	18	18
England	4,639,173	91	18	11	12	21	19
Wales	243,623	82	17	9	12	16	20
British Transport Police	67,875	..	..	..	..	..	..
England and Wales	4,950,671	91	18	11	12	20	19

Percentage change		Recorded crime					
English region and Wales	Total recorded crime ¹	Violence against the person	Burglary	Offences against vehicles ²	Other theft offences ³	Criminal damage	
<i>Percentage change in the numbers of recorded crime 2006/07 to 2007/08</i>							
North East	-11	-15	-13	-17	1	-13	
North West	-12	-12	-12	-21	-3	-17	
Yorkshire and the Humber	-10	-12	-7	-18	-1	-13	
East Midlands	-6	-4	-7	-14	1	-9	
West Midlands	-10	-9	-4	-13	-6	-15	
East of England	-8	-9	-2	-10	-6	-12	
London	-6	-5	-3	-8	-10	-10	
South East	-9	-4	-8	-15	-6	-12	
South West	-9	-9	-3	-11	-7	-10	
England	-9	-8	-6	-14	-5	-13	
Wales	-6	-8	-1	-16	0	-8	
British Transport Police	-11	-4	-15	-16	-10	-22	
England and Wales	-9	-8	-6	-14	-5	-13	

1. The listed recorded offences are a selection of the main offence groups (see Appendix 3). Total recorded crime offences include: violence against the person, sexual offences, robbery, burglary, offences against vehicles, other theft offences, fraud and forgery, drug offences, criminal damage and other offences.

2. Includes theft of or from a motor vehicle, aggravated vehicle taking and interfering with a motor vehicle.

3. Theft excluding offences against vehicles. See Appendix 3 for the list of offences.

¹ The rate is equal to the number of recorded offences in the area divided by the resident population.

- London had the highest overall police recorded crime rate and the highest rates for three of the five main offence groups: violence against the person, offences against vehicles and other theft offences. However, it had the lowest rates of criminal damage in 2007/08.²
- Yorkshire and the Humber also showed consistently high rates for the main crime types and had the highest burglary rate among the English regions and Wales. Rates for each of the offence groups in the region fell between 2006/07 and 2007/08.
- The East of England and South West regions showed the lowest overall recorded crime rates and were among the regions with the lowest rates for each of the main offences. Violence against the person rates for both regions were low at 13 offences per 1,000 population and 15 per 1,000 population in the East of England and the South West respectively, compared with the highest rate of 23 per 1,000 population in London.
- The South East and the West Midlands had crime rates for each of the main offence types at or below the rates for England and Wales overall. Wales had the lowest rate of other theft offences in 2007/08 at 16 per 1,000 population, despite the rate showing no change compared with the previous year.
- The rates for the North West tended to be at or above the overall rates for England and Wales – with the exception of violence against the person. North East rates tended to be slightly below the national figures – with the exception of criminal damage for which the North East had the highest rate among the English regions and Wales. The North East and North West regions showed substantial falls in recorded crime rates per 1,000 population for each of the main offences in 2007/08, with the exception of other theft offences which only fell slightly in the North West and rose slightly in the North East. The greatest fall in both regions was for offences against vehicles which fell by 21 per cent in the North West and 17 per cent in the North East region.

Table 6b BCS victimisation by English region and Wales, 2007/08

English region and Wales	2007/08 BCS				
	Risk of household crime	Risk of personal crime	Rate of burglary	Rate of vehicle-related theft	Rate of violent crime
<i>Compared with England and Wales</i>					
North East	Higher	-	-	-	-
North West	Higher	-	-	-	-
Yorkshire and the Humber	Higher	-	-	-	-
East Midlands	-	-	-	-	-
West Midlands	-	-	-	-	-
East of England	Lower	-	Lower	Lower	Lower
London	-	Higher	-	Higher	-
South East	-	-	-	-	-
South West	Lower	Lower	-	Lower	-
Wales	Lower	Lower	-	Lower	-

1. '-' denotes no statistically significant difference from the overall England and Wales figure. See the Glossary for a definition of statistical significance.

2. See the Glossary for definitions of household and personal crime.

According to the 2007/08 BCS, in the majority of the English regions and Wales risk of household and personal crime as well as rates of burglary, vehicle-related theft and violent crime were similar to the overall figures for England and Wales (Table 6b). There were a few exceptions:

- In the London region, risk of personal crime and the rate of vehicle-related theft were significantly higher than for England and Wales overall.

² Rates of recorded crime in London and other cities will be affected by the size of the transient or visiting population relative to the resident population and may therefore over represent the number of crimes relative to the real population of potential victims.

- In the East of England, risk of household crime as well as rates of burglary, vehicle-related theft and violent crime were significantly lower than for England and Wales.
- In the South West and in Wales, risk of household and personal crime and the vehicle-related theft rate were significantly lower than for England and Wales overall.
- In the North East, North West and the Yorkshire and the Humber regions, risk of household crime was significantly higher than for England and Wales overall.

The regional crime rates show some differences; however, these figures mask further variation as crime tends to be geographically concentrated in smaller areas. This is particularly the case for robberies and most serious violence against the person, while for domestic burglaries the spread is more even. Maps for these crime types showing the variation by local authority are presented within Chapter 3 Violent and sexual crime and Chapter 4 Property crime. More detail on BCS and recorded crime data can be found in Tables 6.01 to 6.11, including additional offence groups and figures by police force area.

6.4 VARIATION IN CRIME BY TYPE OF AREA

Crime also varies by area according to factors such as levels of deprivation. These variations are explored using recorded crime by grouping local authority districts into clusters in relation to their population characteristics, such as the nature of employment and industry and socio-economic characteristics, from the 2001 Census (see Box 6.1). BCS data are used to describe variations in crime between rural and urban areas, and the most deprived and least deprived areas (see the Glossary for details of all area classifications used).

Box 6.1 2001 Area Classification

The 2001 National Statistics Area Classification is used to cluster geographic areas according to key characteristics common to the population in that grouping, derived using census data. The clusters are split into six main dimensions: demographic, household composition, housing, socio-economic, employment and industry sectors. These areas are available at three levels of hierarchy: 'supergroups', 'groups' and 'subgroups'. The analysis presented here focuses on supergroups:

- *Cities and Services – built up areas such as Leeds*
- *London Suburbs – areas located in outer London such as Redbridge*
- *London Centre – areas located in inner London such as Hammersmith and Fulham*
- *London Cosmopolitan – areas in inner London such as Haringey*
- *Prospering UK – areas located throughout the UK such as Maidstone*
- *Coastal and Countryside – located around the coast of England and Wales and some inland areas, such as Caradon*
- *Mining and Manufacturing – areas in the M8 corridor, north-east England, and parts of South Wales, and manufacturing towns in southern Yorkshire, such as Blyth Valley*

Detailed information on the 2001 Area Classification is available from:

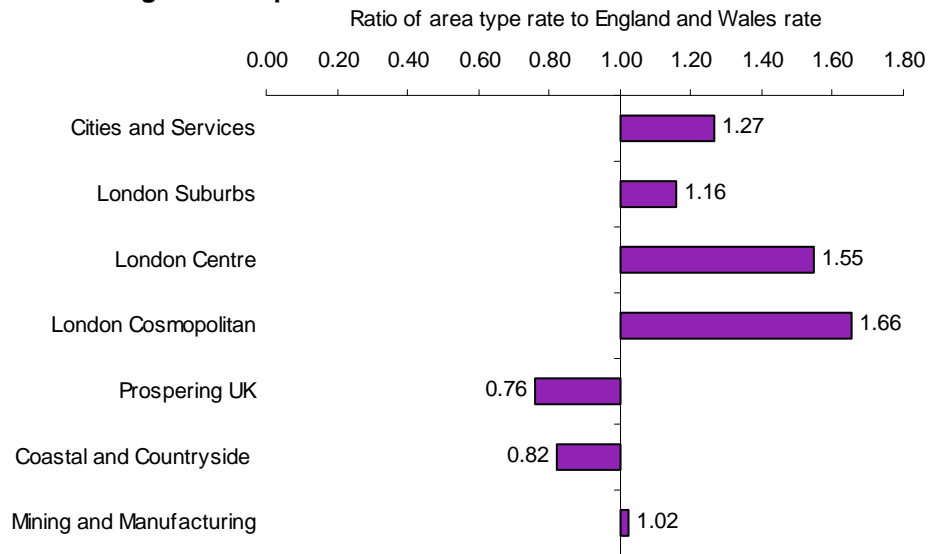
http://www.statistics.gov.uk/about/methodology_by_theme/area_classification/default.asp

Variations in police recorded crime by area type

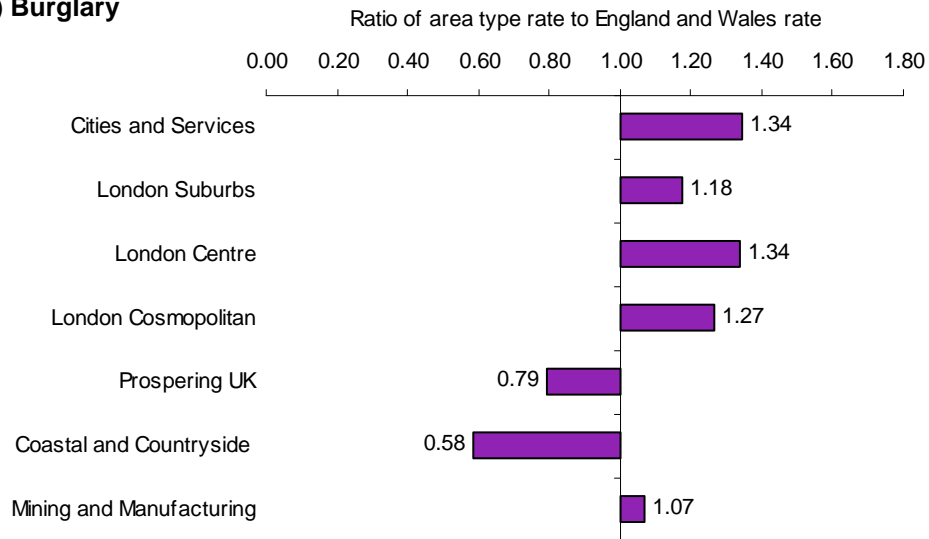
Figure 6.1 shows how police recorded crime rates for selected crime types varied across area groups. Each chart in this figure shows ratios of the rates for different types of areas compared to the rates for England and Wales as a whole, for three main offence groups: violence against the person, burglary and criminal damage. Bars to the right of the vertical axis indicate a rate higher than that for England and Wales, while bars to the left of this axis represent a rate lower than the national level.

Figure 6.1 Police recorded crime rates by the 2001 Area Classification, 2007/08

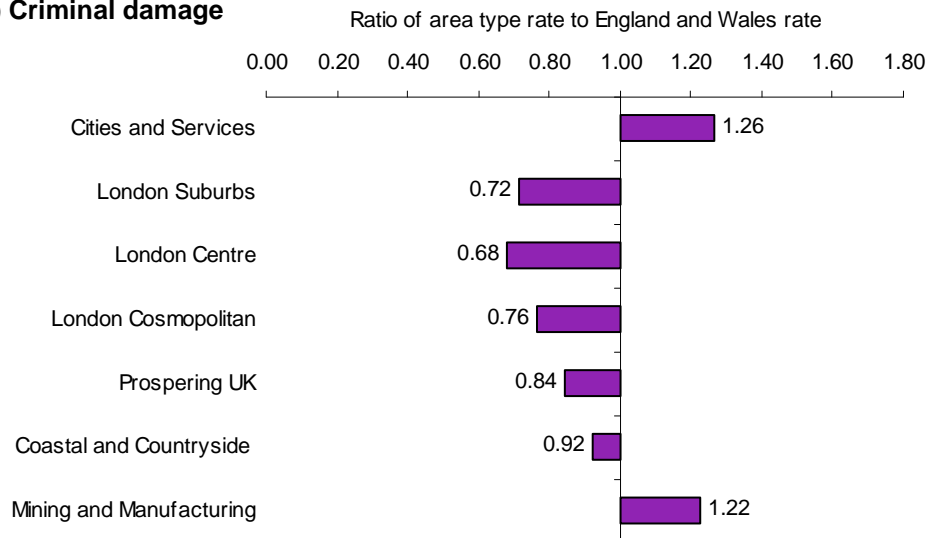
a) Violence against the person



b) Burglary



c) Criminal damage



There was considerable variability in the police recorded crime rates across different area types. Crime rates were generally above the national average in local authorities classified as 'Cities and Services' and, with the exception of criminal damage, the same was true of the three London area types. In the 'Prospering UK' and 'Coastal and Countryside' area types, rates were typically below the rate for England and Wales. In the 'Mining and Manufacturing' area type, the criminal damage rate was above average.

The profile of rates across area types varied between crime types. For example:

- Recorded violence against the person rates were highest in the London area types and in the 'Cities and Services' group. The 'City and Services' group recorded a rate 1.27 times higher than the rate for England and Wales as a whole. The London area types recorded a rate between 1.16 and 1.66 times higher than the national rate.
- Rates of recorded burglary were more evenly distributed across area types. Most area types had rates above that for England and Wales overall. However, rates were below this level in 'Coastal and Countryside' and 'Prospering UK' areas (0.58 and 0.79 of the national rate respectively). Although not shown here, the profile across area types for offences against vehicles was very similar to that of burglary.
- The profile of recorded criminal damage was distinctly different from other crime types – only 'Cities and Services' and 'Mining and Manufacturing' area types recorded rates above that for England and Wales as a whole.

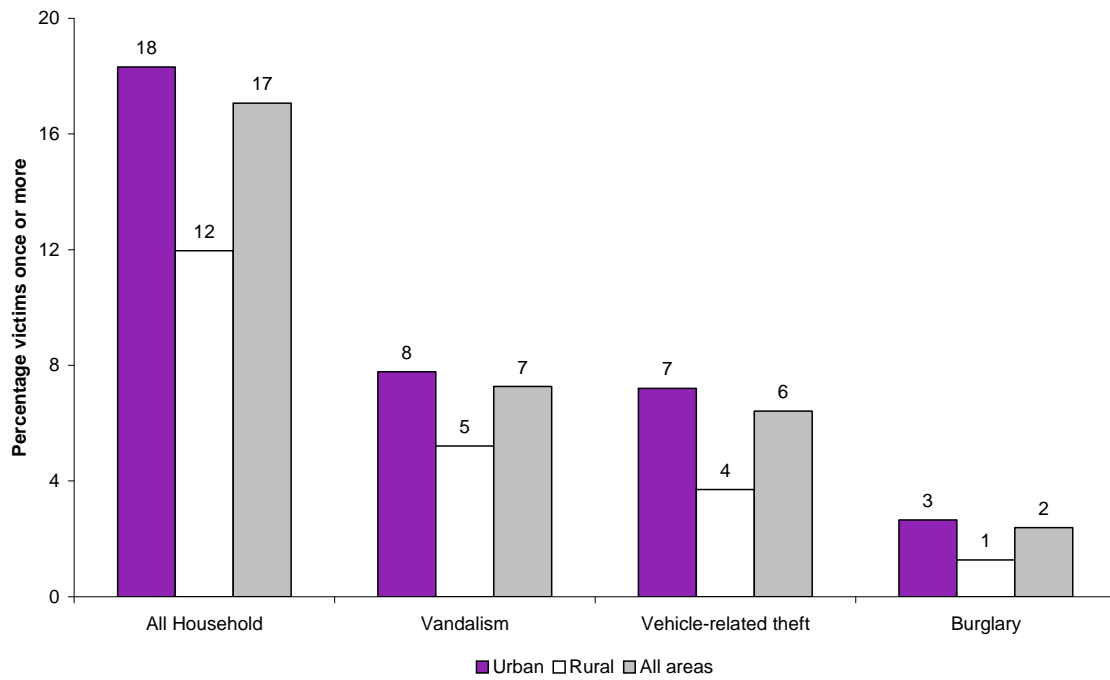
Variations in BCS data by area type

This section uses BCS data to investigate trends in household crimes (burglary, vehicle-related theft and vandalism) in urban and rural areas and in the 20 per cent most deprived and 20 per cent least deprived areas. The BCS is the preferred source of data for monitoring trends and is a better source of data for this sort of analysis as it includes crimes not reported to the police. This section focuses on household crime because the area classifications used in the BCS relate to the respondent's residence and household crimes are most likely to take place in or around the victim's residence. Trends are presented from 2001/02 onwards as the area classifications used are based on the lower level geographic identifiers introduced in 2001.

Crime in urban and rural areas

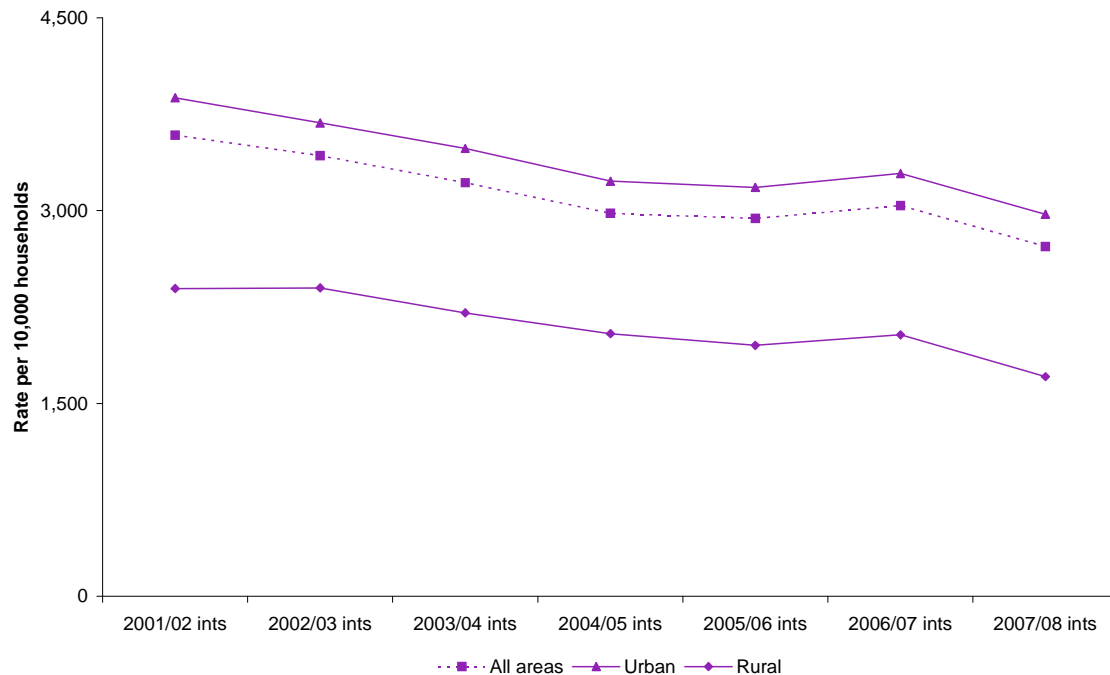
As in previous years, the 2007/08 BCS found that the risk of being a victim of any household crime was lower in rural areas than urban areas (12% compared with 18%). The levels of risk for households in rural areas were also lower for each of the main household crime types (vandalism, vehicle-related theft and burglary) (Figure 6.2).

Figure 6.2 Risk of crime in urban and rural areas, 2007/08 BCS



Trends in household crime have been broadly similar in urban and rural areas in England and Wales. Levels of BCS household crime have decreased by 23 per cent and 29 per cent in urban and rural areas respectively between 2001/02 and 2007/08 (Figure 6.3, Table 6.12). Urban and rural areas have also experienced similar levels of decrease in burglary and vehicle-related thefts while vandalism has remained stable in both types of area (Table 6.12).

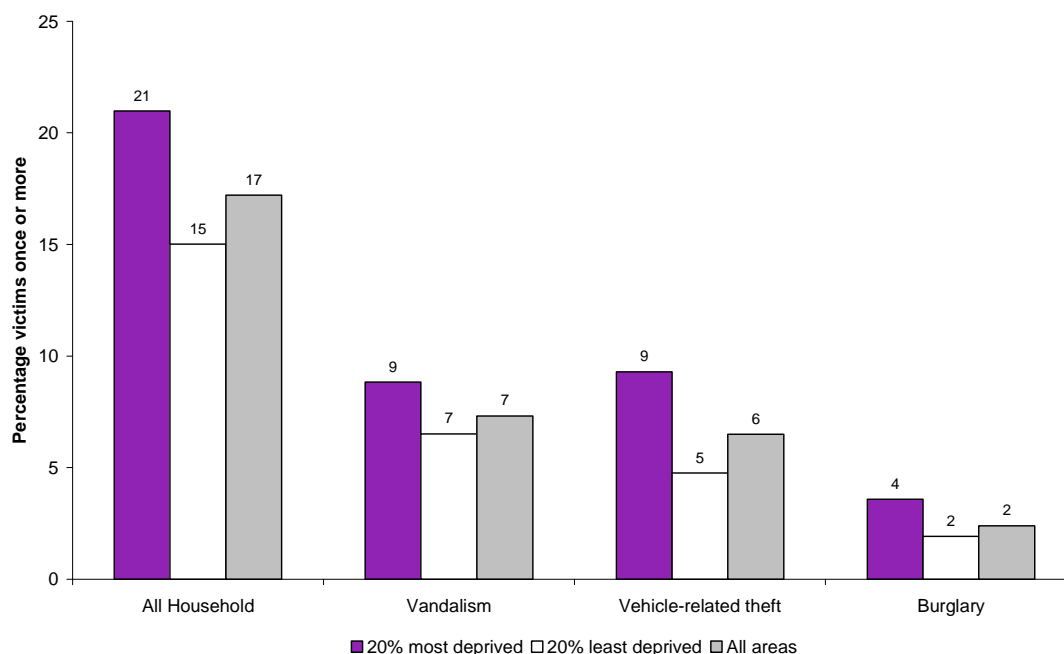
Figure 6.3 Trends in incidence rates of BCS household crime in urban and rural areas, 2001/02 to 2007/08



Crime in the most and least deprived areas

The 2007/08 BCS found that the risk of being a victim of any household crime was higher in the most deprived areas compared with the least deprived areas in England (21% compared with 15%). The levels of risk for households in the most deprived areas were also higher for each of the main household crime types (vandalism, vehicle-related theft and burglary) (Figure 6.4).

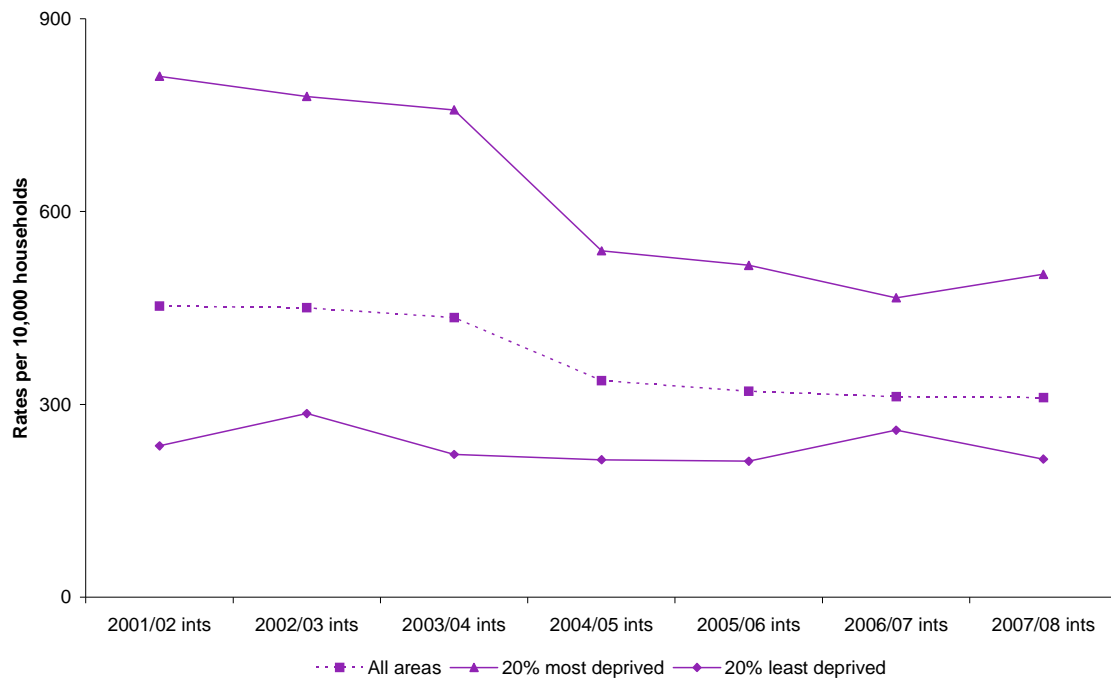
Figure 6.4 Risk of crime by level of deprivation in England, 2007/08 BCS



Trends in household crime in the most and least deprived areas in England have been broadly similar between 2001/02 and 2007/08, with the exception of trends in burglary. Burglary has decreased in the most deprived areas since 2001/02 while it has remained broadly stable in the least deprived areas. Despite this difference in trends, in 2007/08 the rate of burglary remained higher in the most deprived areas compared with the least deprived areas in England.

- According to the 2007/08 BCS there were 502 burglaries per 10,000 households in the 20 per cent most deprived areas whereas there were 215 burglaries per 10,000 households in the 20 per cent least deprived areas (Figure 6.5, Table 6.13).

Figure 6.5 Trends in incidence rates of burglary by level of deprivation in England, 2001/02 to 2007/08 BCS



Box 6.2 Sources of Home Office crime data

In addition to the information provided in this report, tables showing recorded crime figures for the 351 Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships (CDRPs) in England and 22 Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) in Wales and for police Basic Command Units (BCUs – see Glossary) and police force areas are available online at:

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/crimeew0708.html>

Interactive maps of local authority level police recorded crime data are available on the Home Office website at:

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/soti.html>

This website also allows users to tabulate crime data and to download the results.

In addition, some police recorded crime data at a more detailed geographic level are available as Experimental Statistics on the Neighbourhood Statistics website:

<http://www.neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk>

These small area data are published at the level of middle Super Output Area level. The most recent data currently published are for 2005/06, but it is planned to update the site during 2008/09 with more recent data covering the majority of police forces in England and Wales. There is a separate initiative whereby forces will be placing more detailed data on their own websites.

Table 6.01 BCS incidents of crime and victimisation rates by police force area, English region and Wales

Percentages, numbers and rates per 10,000 population								2007/08 BCS
Police force area, English region and Wales	% victim once or more ¹	Statistically significantly different from England and Wales	Statistically significant change, 2006/07 to 2007/08	BCS household crime				Unweighted base
				Number of incidents (thousands)	Rate per 10,000 households	Statistically significantly different from England and Wales	Statistically significant change, 2006/07 to 2007/08	
Cleveland	19				3,186			1,064
Durham	20				3,102			990
Northumbria	19				3,436			1,026
North East Region	19	**		368	3,306	**		3,080
Cheshire	17				2,762			959
Cumbria	12	**			2,193			1,027
Greater Manchester	23	**			4,186	**		1,551
Lancashire	17		**↓		2,525			979
Merseyside	14	**			2,293			1,005
North West Region	18	**	**↓	918	3,098	**		5,521
Humberside	18				3,124			1,008
North Yorkshire	11	**			1,876	**		1,033
South Yorkshire	23	**			4,151	**		1,019
West Yorkshire	21	**			3,165			1,212
Yorkshire and the Humber Region	20	**		712	3,237	**		4,272
Derbyshire	17				2,616			1,053
Leicestershire	14	**	**↓		2,166			988
Lincolnshire	16				2,511			1,012
Northamptonshire	21	**			3,032			1,102
Nottinghamshire	20				3,013			1,048
East Midlands Region	17			498	2,662		**↓	5,203
Staffordshire	18				3,278			1,103
Warwickshire	18				2,709			1,053
West Mercia	15				2,164	**		996
West Midlands	15		**↓		2,604			1,535
West Midlands Region	16			599	2,653			4,687
Bedfordshire	22	**			3,357			1,046
Cambridgeshire	19				3,256			984
Essex	12	**			1,851	**		1,008
Hertfordshire	19				2,965			1,050
Norfolk	12	**	**↓		1,945	**		979
Suffolk	11	**			1,741	**		989
East of England Region	15	**		577	2,403	**		6,056
Metropolitan/City of London	18				2,670		**↓	3,590
London Region	18			857	2,670		**↓	3,590
Hampshire	14	**			2,229			987
Kent	16		**↓		2,605			973
Surrey	20	**			3,001			946
Sussex	15				2,300			1,063
Thames Valley	21	**			3,211			1,188
South East Region	17			924	2,658			5,157
Avon and Somerset	15				2,244	**		967
Devon and Cornwall	13	**	**↓		2,230		**↓	1,056
Dorset	16				2,526			900
Gloucestershire	14	**			2,092	**		991
Wiltshire	15				2,051	**		1,049
South West Region	14	**	**↓	500	2,233	**	**↓	4,963
ENGLAND	17		**↓	5,952	2,739		**↓	42,529
Dyfed-Powys	11	**			1,456	**		1,094
Gwent	23	**			4,039	**		1,003
North Wales	11	**	**↓		1,508	**	**↓	1,066
South Wales	14	**	**↓		2,587			1,073
WALES	15	**	**↓	311	2,418			4,236
ENGLAND AND WALES	17		**↓	6,422	2,720		**↓	46,765

1. Statutory Performance Indicator for PPAF (see the Glossary for explanation)

2. Numbers of incidents at a regional level will not sum to the total for England and Wales. This is due to differences in the population and household estimates used to calculate the numbers of crimes. Please see the Glossary for further details.

Table 6.01 (continued) BCS incidents of crime and victimisation rates by police force area, English region and Wales

Percentages, numbers and rates per 10,000 population								2007/08 BCS
Police force area, English region and Wales	BCS personal crime							Unweighted base
	% victim once or more ¹	Statistically significantly different from England and Wales	Statistically significant change, 2006/07 to 2007/08	Number of incidents (thousands)	Rate per 10,000 adults	Statistically significantly different from England and Wales	Statistically significant change, 2006/07 to 2007/08	
Cleveland	4		**↓		488	**	**↓	1,065
Durham	7				873			991
Northumbria	8				1,012			1,026
North East Region	7			181	869			3,082
Cheshire	4				664			962
Cumbria	4	**			491	**	**↓	1,030
Greater Manchester	6				839			1,553
Lancashire	7				955			979
Merseyside	5				806			1,008
North West Region	6			445	804		**↓	5,532
Humberside	6				913			1,009
North Yorkshire	4	**			503	**		1,037
South Yorkshire	5				932			1,022
West Yorkshire	7				1,005			1,218
Yorkshire and the Humber Region	6			374	899			4,286
Derbyshire	4	**	**↓		564	**	**↓	1,053
Leicestershire	5				595	**		992
Lincolnshire	6				788			1,014
Northamptonshire	7				1,199			1,103
Nottinghamshire	8				1,164			1,050
East Midlands Region	6			299	842			5,212
Staffordshire	5				955			1,104
Warwickshire	5				976			1,056
West Mercia	5				788			997
West Midlands	5				741			1,540
West Midlands Region	5			352	818			4,697
Bedfordshire	7				1,050			1,051
Cambridgeshire	7				951			985
Essex	4				503	**		1,010
Hertfordshire	7				845			1,056
Norfolk	6				879			982
Suffolk	3	**			417	**	**↓	991
East of England Region	5			330	729			6,075
Metropolitan/City of London	8	**			1,072	**		3,615
London Region	8	**		651	1,072	**		3,615
Hampshire	5				868			993
Kent	5				759			976
Surrey	7				1,162		**↑	958
Sussex	7				887			1,067
Thames Valley	7				909			1,194
South East Region	6			598	898			5,188
Avon and Somerset	6				826			969
Devon and Cornwall	4	**			495	**		1,058
Dorset	6				986			903
Gloucestershire	5	**			673			991
Wiltshire	5				597	**		1,051
South West Region	5	**		290	691	**		4,972
ENGLAND	6		**↓	3,520	857		**↓	42,659
Dyfed-Powys	4	**			645			1,098
Gwent	7				1,272			1,004
North Wales	3	**	**↓		392	**	**↓	1,067
South Wales	5				646			1,075
WALES	5	**		170	709			4,244
ENGLAND AND WALES	6		**↓	3,721	848		**↓	46,903

1. Statutory Performance Indicator for PPAF (see the Glossary for explanation)

2. Numbers of incidents at a regional level will not sum to the total for England and Wales. This is due to differences in the population and household estimates used to calculate the numbers of crimes. Please see the Glossary for further details.

Table 6.02 Worry about crime by police force area, English region and Wales

Police force area, English region and Wales	High level of worry about burglary ^{1,2}				High level of worry about car crime ^{1,2}				High level of worry about violent crime ^{1,2}				Unweighted base
	%	Statistically significantly different from England and Wales	Statistically significant change, 2006/07 to 2007/08	Unweighted base	%	Statistically significantly different from England and Wales	Statistically significant change, 2006/07 to 2007/08	Unweighted base	%	Statistically significantly different from England and Wales	Statistically significant change, 2006/07 to 2007/08	Unweighted base	
Cleveland	12			1,065	14			738	15			996	
Durham	9			991	10			705	10	**		884	
Northumbria	11			1,025	12			673	16			943	
North East Region	10			3,081	12			2,116	14			2,823	
Cheshire	9	**		962	11			768	14			768	
Cumbria	7	**		1,030	7	**		795	9	**		993	
Greater Manchester	14	**		1,552	15	**		1,099	20	**		1,444	
Lancashire	11	**		978	11	**		741	12	**	**↓	957	
Merseyside	19	**		1,008	19	**		674	22	**		884	
North West Region	13	**		5,530	14	**		4,077	17	**		5,046	
Humber-side	9			1,009	9	**		748	13			967	
North Yorkshire	7	**		1,034	8	**		771	9	**		936	
South Yorkshire	14			1,021	15			701	14			968	
West Yorkshire	11			1,217	12			825	12			1,068	
Yorkshire and the Humber Region	11			4,281	12			3,045	12	**		3,939	
Derbyshire	10		**↓	1,053	13			801	14		**↓	1,000	
Leicestershire	16	**		991	15			791	20	**		954	
Lincs-hire	10			1,014	11			838	13			998	
Nottinghamshire	13			1,103	14			888	16			1,049	
Nottinghamshire	16	**		1,050	16	**		761	16			1,025	
East Midlands Region	13	**		5,211	14	**		4,089	16			5,026	
Staffordshire	14			1,104	16			870	17			1,051	
Warwickshire	10			1,056	12			843	13			1,042	
West Mercia	8	**		997	10	**		819	10	**		882	
West Midlands	18	**		1,540	17	**		1,087	24	**		1,487	
West Midlands Region	14	**		4,697	15	**		3,619	19	**		4,462	
Bedfordshire	13			1,051	14			813	17			1,015	
Cambridgeshire	8	**		885	8	**		804	12			804	
Essex	8	**		1,010	9	**		791	10	**	**↓	821	
Hertfordshire	9	**		1,055	9	**		869	15	**		936	
Norfolk	8	**		982	6	**		787	11	**		843	
Suffolk	8	**		991	8	**		810	11	**		787	
East of England Region	9	**		6,074	9	**		4,874	13	**	**↓	5,206	
Metropolitan/City of London	17	**		3,613	16	**		2,322	22	**	**↓	3,234	
London Region	17	**		3,613	16	**		2,322	22	**	**↓	3,234	
Hampshire	8	**		992	9	**		807	13			884	
Kent	9	**	**↓	976	10	**		768	14			883	
Surrey	9	**		968	11	**		832	13			895	
Sussex	7	**		1,067	9	**		832	8	**		1,053	
Thames Valley	11	**		1,194	12	**		986	15	**		1,078	
South East Region	9	**		5,187	10	**		4,225	13	**		4,793	
Avon and Somerset	7	**		969	11	**		777	8	**		923	
Devon and Cornwall	6	**		1,058	5	**		877	7	**	**↓	1,041	
Dorset	8	**		902	7	**		731	10	**		881	
Gloucestershire	6	**		991	8	**		798	8	**		914	
Wiltshire	7	**		1,051	6	**		863	7	**	**↓	986	
South West Region	7	**		4,971	8	**	**↓	4,046	8	**	**↓	4,745	
ENGLAND	12		**↓	42,645	12		**↓	32,413	15		**↓	39,274	
Dyfed-Powys	5	**		1,098	6	**		892	5	**		1,046	
Gwent	10			1,004	15			758	9	**		965	
North Wales	11			1,067	11			871	13			955	
South Wales	13			1,074	14			786	16			1,000	
WALES	10			4,243	12			3,307	12	**		3,966	
ENGLAND AND WALES	12		**↓	46,888	12		**↓	35,720	15		**↓	43,240	

1. Fear of crime (see the Glossary for explanation)

2. Statutory Performance Indicator for PPAF (see the Glossary for explanation)

Table 6.03 Perceptions of anti-social behaviour by police force area, English region and Wales

Police force area, English region and Wales	High level of perceived anti-social behaviour ^{1,2}				High level of perceived drug use or dealing ^{3,4}				High level of perceived drunk or rowdy behaviour ^{3,4}				2007/08 BCS	
	%	Statistically significantly different from England and Wales 2006/07 to 2007/08	Unweighted base	Statistically significant change, 2006/07 to 2007/08	%	Statistically significantly different from England and Wales 2006/07 to 2007/08	Unweighted base	Statistically significant change, 2006/07 to 2007/08	%	Statistically significantly different from England and Wales 2006/07 to 2007/08	Unweighted base	Statistically significant change, 2006/07 to 2007/08	Unweighted base	Statistically significant change, 2006/07 to 2007/08
Cleveland	18		1,017		29		1,022		26		1,063		1,063	
Durham	20		933		33	**	939		29		966		966	
Northumbria	17		991		26		993		29		1,023		1,023	
North East Region	18		2,941		28		2,954		28		3,072		3,072	
Cheshire	13		941		22		942		24		961		961	
Cumbria	12	**	981		23		982		20	**	1,029		1,029	
Greater Manchester	21	**	1,475		33	**	1,481		33	**	1,545		1,545	
Lancashire	15		931		26		938		24		975		975	
Merseyside	20		950		33	**	955		27		1,006		1,006	
North West Region	18		5,278		29	**	5,298		28	**	5,516		5,516	
Humber	15		988		25		989		21		1,009		1,009	
North Yorkshire	10	**	991		21	**	996		20	**	1,034		1,034	
South Yorkshire	20		978		31		987		24		1,016		1,016	
West Yorkshire	14	**]	1,157		29		1,163		19	**	1,215		1,215	
Yorkshire and the Humber Region	15		4,114		28		4,135		21	**	4,274		4,274	
Derbyshire	17		1,024		28		1,026		26		1,050		1,050	
Leicestershire	17		957		23		957		22		989		989	
Lincolnshire	9	**	959		18	**	964		18	**	1,011		1,011	
Northamptonshire	17		1,088		20	**	1,083		21		1,097		1,097	
Nottinghamshire	19		1,002		31		1,006		27		1,048		1,048	
East Midlands Region	16		5,000		25		5,016		23	**	5,195		5,195	
Staffordshire	16		1,042		26		1,050		23		1,091		1,091	
Warwickshire	13		1,023		21	**	1,027		21	**	1,055		1,055	
West Mercia	13		963		25		967		22		991		991	
West Midlands	20		1,486		29		1,489		23		1,540		1,540	
West Midlands Region	17		4,514		27		4,533		23	**	4,677		4,677	
Bedfordshire	17		1,036		25		1,036		22		1,050		1,050	
Cambridgeshire	12	**	925		21	**	927		22	**	981		981	
Essex	10	**	965		17	**	966		21	**	1,010		1,010	
Herefordshire	15		1,007		23		1,013		24		1,049		1,049	
Norfolk	12	**	941		20	**	947		18	**	978		978	
Norfolk	9	**	943		16	**	945		15	**	989		989	
Suffolk	12	**	5,817		20	**	5,834		20	**	6,057		6,057	
East of England Region	12	**	5,817		20	**	5,834		20	**	6,057		6,057	
Metropolitan/City of London	22	**]	3,298		31	**	3,324		31	**	3,575		3,575	
London Region	22	**]	3,298		31	**	3,324		31	**	3,575		3,575	
Hampshire	15		945		23		949		29		988		988	
Kent	15		928		21	**	931		21	**]	975		975	
Surrey	13	**	904		22	**	910		23	**	953		953	
Sussex	13		1,021		21	**	1,022		22	**	1,063		1,063	
Thames Valley	17		1,152		26	**	1,158		26	**	1,184		1,184	
South East Region	15		4,930		23	**	4,950		25	**	5,163		5,163	
Avon and Somerset	14	**	959		24	**	959		26	**	988		988	
Devon and Cornwall	10	**	1,040		18	**	1,040		22	**	1,057		1,057	
Dorset	11	**	862		17	**]	866		22	**	898		898	
Gloucestershire	12	**	965		23	**	971		20	**	998		998	
Wiltshire	13	**	1,017		23	**	1,019		23	**]	1,047		1,047	
South West Region	12	**	4,843		21	**	4,865		23	**	4,958		4,958	
ENGLAND	16	**]	40,735		26	**]	40,899		25	**	42,487		42,487	
Dyfed-Powys	9	**	1,076		25	**	1,080		18	**	1,096		1,096	
Gwent	22	**	972		34	**	976		30	**	1,002		1,002	
North Wales	13	**	1,010		31	**	1,016		24	**	1,062		1,062	
South Wales	23	**	1,048		35	**	1,050		34	**	1,072		1,072	
WALES	18	**	4,106		32	**	4,122		28	**	4,232		4,232	
ENGLAND AND WALES	16	**]	44,841		26	**]	45,021		25	**	46,719		46,719	

1. Anti-social behaviour (see the Glossary for explanation).
 2. Statutory Performance Indicator for PPAF and APACS (see the Glossary for explanation).
 3. Statutory Performance Indicator for APACS (see the Glossary for explanation).
 4. Perceptions of drug use/dealing and perceptions of drunk/rowdy behaviour are two of the seven strands that make up the overall measure of perceptions of anti-social behaviour.

Table 6.04 Confidence in the criminal justice system by police force area, English region and Wales

Police force area, English region and Wales	2007/08 BCS						
	CJS effective in bringing people to justice ¹				Confidence in local police ²		
	% very/fairly confident	Statistically significantly different from England and Wales	Statistically significant change, 2006/07 to 2007/08	Unweighted base	% excellent/good job	Statistically significantly different from England and Wales	Statistically significant change, 2006/07 to 2007/08
Cleveland	44			827	50		1,050
Durham	41			765	52		965
Northumbria	47		**↑	809	58	**	1,010
North East Region	45		**↑	2,401	55		3,025
Cheshire	51	**	**↑	733	52		934
Cumbria	44			773	56	**↓	1,004
Greater Manchester	42			1,195	49	**	1,514
Lancashire	46		**↑	752	55		947
Merseyside	45		**↑	784	52		963
North West Region	45		**↑	4,237	52		5,362
Humberside	35	**		785	36	**	1,003
North Yorkshire	45			796	56		1,013
South Yorkshire	39	**		786	45	**	990
West Yorkshire	40	**		920	55	**↑	1,187
Yorkshire and the Humber Region	40	**		3,287	49	**	4,193
Derbyshire	41			844	49	**	1,031
Leicestershire	48		**↑	793	55		969
Lincolnshire	39	**		793	44	**	982
Northamptonshire	43		**↑	827	49	**↑	1,074
Nottinghamshire	43			811	43	**	1,017
East Midlands Region	43		**↑	4,068	48	**	5,073
Staffordshire	42			844	47	**	1,079
Warwickshire	45		**↑	804	51		1,046
West Mercia	46			758	53		971
West Midlands	41			1,171	50		1,522
West Midlands Region	43		**↑	3,577	50	**	4,618
Bedfordshire	48			825	52		1,042
Cambridgeshire	46			770	51		968
Essex	45		**↑	793	53		991
Hertfordshire	47			803	58	**	1,029
Norfolk	47			794	56	**	966
Suffolk	49	**		780	57	**	964
East of England Region	46	**	**↑	4,765	55	**	5,960
Metropolitan/City of London	48	**		2,880	55	**	3,491
London Region	48	**		2,880	55	**	3,491
Hampshire	46			768	57	**	974
Kent	41		**↑	747	50		957
Surrey	47			754	59	**	940
Sussex	44			813	52	**	1,038
Thames Valley	46			934	57	**	1,155
South East Region	45		**↑	4,016	55	**	5,064
Avon and Somerset	41			785	48		953
Devon and Cornwall	43			827	56		1,040
Dorset	46			693	64	**	889
Gloucestershire	41			768	54		967
Wiltshire	46			806	56		1,024
South West Region	43			3,879	54		4,873
ENGLAND	44		**↑	33,110	53		41,659
Dyfed-Powys	50	**	**↑	836	56	**	1,084
Gwent	35	**		808	39	**	963
North Wales	43			821	47	**	1,025
South Wales	43			850	49		1,051
WALES	42			3,315	48	**	4,123
ENGLAND AND WALES	44		**↑	36,425	53		45,782

1. New questions will measure confidence in the effectiveness and fairness of the CJS for APACS (see the Glossary for explanation).

2. Statutory Performance Indicator for PPAF and APACS (see the Glossary for explanation).

Table 6.05 Attitudes to local police by police force area, English region and Wales

Police force area, English region and Wales	2007/08 BCS							
	Police understand local concerns ¹				Police deal with local concerns ¹			
	% agree	Statistically significantly different from England and Wales	Statistically significant change, 2006/07 to 2007/08	Unweighted base	% agree	Statistically significantly different from England and Wales	Statistically significant change, 2006/07 to 2007/08	Unweighted base
Cleveland	65			1,049	51			1,042
Durham	67	**		969	54			971
Northumbria	70	**	**↑	993	62	**		992
North East Region	68	**	**↑	3,011	58	**	**↑	3,005
Cheshire	63		**↑	948	52		**↑	947
Cumbria	69	**		1,008	57	**		1,002
Greater Manchester	58	**		1,514	45	**		1,510
Lancashire	64			966	54			968
Merseyside	65			978	53			978
North West Region	62		**↑	5,414	50			5,405
Humberside	58			996	39	**		996
North Yorkshire	66			1,008	50			1,009
South Yorkshire	56	**		997	41	**		1,001
West Yorkshire	64			1,162	53			1,161
Yorkshire and the Humber Region	61			4,163	47	**		4,167
Derbyshire	62			1,037	47	**		1,042
Leicestershire	65			980	54			982
Lincolnshire	62			981	49			976
Northamptonshire	62		**↑	1,091	44	**		1,088
Nottinghamshire	60			1,034	45	**		1,033
East Midlands Region	62		**↑	5,123	48	**		5,121
Staffordshire	60			1,074	50			1,076
Warwickshire	64			1,035	52		**↑	1,030
West Mercia	61			953	52			947
West Midlands	60			1,497	52			1,498
West Midlands Region	61			4,559	51		**↑	4,551
Bedfordshire	63			1,034	53			1,034
Cambridgeshire	63			981	51			976
Essex	60			999	48			1,001
Hertfordshire	67	**		1,036	56	**		1,035
Norfolk	69	**	**↑	966	57	**		970
Suffolk	73	**		969	56			966
East of England Region	65	**		5,985	53			5,982
Metropolitan/City of London	58	**		3,430	52			3,420
London Region	58	**		3,430	52			3,420
Hampshire	65			975	53			968
Kent	59			943	52		**↑	947
Surrey	66	**		921	56	**	**↑	924
Sussex	61			1,047	48			1,050
Thames Valley	63			1,166	53			1,171
South East Region	63			5,052	52		**↑	5,060
Avon and Somerset	59			956	45	**		953
Devon and Cornwall	68	**		1,026	56	**	**↑	1,023
Dorset	74	**		869	59	**		865
Gloucestershire	63			972	50			972
Wiltshire	69	**		1,039	54			1,036
South West Region	66	**	**↑	4,862	52		**↑	4,849
ENGLAND	62		**↑	41,599	51		**↑	41,560
Dyfed-Powys	72	**		1,076	59	**		1,079
Gwent	57	**		975	42	**		975
North Wales	63			1,036	51			1,040
South Wales	58	**		1,061	47	**		1,060
WALES	62			4,148	49			4,154
ENGLAND AND WALES	62		**↑	45,747	51		**↑	45,714

1. A new question will measure attitudes to the local police and agencies for APACS (see the Glossary for explanation).

Table 6.06 Recorded crime by offence group by police force area, English region and Wales, 2007/08

Police force area, English region and Wales	Recorded crime										
	Total	Violence against the person	Sexual offences	Robbery	Burglary	Offences against vehicles ¹	Other theft offences	Fraud and forgery	Criminal damage	Drug offences	Other offences
<i>Numbers</i>											
Cleveland	66,646	12,915	630	499	7,388	6,961	16,164	1,087	17,545	2,357	1,100
Durham	47,839	8,625	507	181	6,028	5,421	9,369	876	14,674	1,246	912
Northumbria	109,251	19,545	1,077	800	11,519	13,182	24,056	2,621	29,758	4,592	2,101
North East Region	223,736	41,085	2,214	1,480	24,935	25,564	49,589	4,584	61,977	8,195	4,113
Cheshire	79,278	15,105	757	572	9,074	10,099	19,113	2,391	18,949	2,091	1,127
Cumbria	35,282	8,055	345	52	2,591	2,475	7,366	695	11,425	1,584	694
Greater Manchester	297,966	50,287	3,014	7,433	40,594	47,066	58,710	8,521	65,150	11,790	5,401
Lancashire	123,681	25,012	1,424	966	13,199	13,293	28,237	3,141	32,284	4,277	1,848
Merseyside	126,934	20,729	936	1,671	15,902	16,650	23,027	3,209	30,773	12,627	1,410
North West Region	663,141	119,188	6,476	10,694	81,360	89,583	136,453	17,957	158,581	32,369	10,480
Humberside	97,034	19,358	996	1,003	13,318	11,780	21,522	2,402	22,064	3,136	1,455
North Yorkshire	50,265	9,538	590	251	6,295	5,597	12,714	1,430	11,076	2,180	594
South Yorkshire	145,769	24,453	1,191	1,283	19,647	23,542	30,262	4,197	35,467	4,342	1,385
West Yorkshire	228,195	39,027	2,174	2,989	36,150	32,007	48,649	6,033	51,526	6,006	3,634
Yorkshire and the Humber Region	521,263	92,376	4,951	5,526	75,410	72,926	113,147	14,062	120,133	15,664	7,068
Derbyshire	77,534	16,729	1,067	796	9,371	9,510	16,985	2,324	17,894	1,930	928
Leicestershire	88,253	18,779	1,257	1,059	10,315	11,012	19,207	3,160	18,642	3,335	1,487
Lincolnshire	51,102	9,402	617	166	5,751	4,989	13,135	1,284	13,345	1,488	925
Northamptonshire	63,657	10,612	710	876	9,066	9,205	13,916	2,272	14,858	1,413	729
Nottinghamshire	124,880	19,836	1,217	2,052	18,784	20,220	27,303	2,645	26,735	4,262	1,826
East Midlands Region	405,426	75,358	4,868	4,949	53,287	54,936	90,546	11,685	91,474	12,428	5,895
Staffordshire	89,348	19,800	983	711	10,150	10,809	18,738	3,196	20,509	3,341	1,111
Warwickshire	39,968	7,526	386	375	5,546	5,790	7,818	1,041	9,234	1,359	893
West Mercia	80,054	15,699	1,040	532	10,423	9,497	18,178	1,993	18,672	2,557	1,463
West Midlands	248,235	53,335	3,015	7,664	35,398	36,818	44,082	7,510	46,670	9,394	4,349
West Midlands Region	457,605	96,360	5,424	9,282	61,517	62,914	88,816	13,740	95,085	16,651	7,816
Bedfordshire	51,327	7,599	428	1,210	7,927	8,825	12,106	1,378	10,141	1,178	535
Cambridgeshire	65,308	10,296	752	624	7,533	9,126	16,968	2,186	14,001	2,904	918
Essex	119,164	23,145	1,146	1,310	14,141	16,634	25,808	4,823	26,379	3,971	1,807
Hertfordshire	80,239	13,348	761	758	9,534	11,366	18,998	3,630	17,374	3,539	931
Norfolk	55,686	9,926	719	286	5,492	5,247	14,736	1,653	14,790	2,191	646
Suffolk	48,330	9,413	736	262	5,060	5,516	11,079	1,347	12,207	1,884	826
East of England Region	420,054	73,727	4,542	4,450	49,687	56,714	99,695	15,017	94,892	15,667	5,663
London, City of	7,572	934	48	54	371	213	4,244	488	234	847	139
Metropolitan Police	862,032	172,741	8,732	37,000	93,894	122,533	209,623	33,011	102,493	71,260	10,745
London Region	869,604	173,675	8,780	37,054	94,265	122,746	213,867	33,499	102,727	72,107	10,884
Hampshire	164,940	39,028	2,329	1,066	14,629	17,948	37,641	5,335	38,927	5,754	2,283
Kent	131,269	25,191	1,694	1,151	14,591	16,691	30,884	4,762	31,425	3,524	1,356
Surrey	68,947	14,085	673	406	7,814	9,544	13,997	2,610	15,961	2,607	1,250
Sussex	119,393	25,082	1,327	899	11,133	12,077	29,995	4,394	26,659	6,095	1,732
Thames Valley	196,008	42,281	2,036	2,117	22,353	26,938	45,565	9,218	35,931	7,827	1,742
South East Region	680,557	145,667	8,059	5,639	70,520	83,198	158,082	26,319	148,903	25,807	8,363
Avon and Somerset	144,970	27,147	1,545	1,906	18,311	21,530	33,284	4,523	30,063	5,325	1,336
Devon and Cornwall	111,260	23,139	1,402	540	11,455	12,318	25,081	2,468	28,982	4,202	1,673
Dorset	51,285	11,117	751	243	4,973	5,005	13,511	1,447	11,907	1,678	653
Gloucestershire	45,685	9,306	595	298	5,604	5,262	10,888	1,198	10,342	1,477	715
Wiltshire	44,587	8,142	563	343	4,951	5,119	11,386	2,081	10,929	717	356
South West Region	397,787	78,851	4,856	3,330	45,294	49,234	94,150	11,717	92,223	13,399	4,733
ENGLAND	4,639,173	896,287	50,170	82,404	556,275	617,815	1,044,345	148,580	965,995	212,287	65,015
Dyfed-Powys	25,639	5,956	340	46	2,213	2,093	4,883	696	6,657	2,346	409
Gwent	48,472	10,198	608	252	5,523	7,060	8,570	1,000	12,524	2,082	655
North Wales	45,545	11,108	584	134	4,084	3,664	8,723	955	12,938	2,515	840
South Wales	123,967	22,114	1,042	828	14,801	22,074	25,182	3,021	27,671	5,757	1,477
WALES	243,623	49,376	2,574	1,260	26,621	34,891	47,358	5,672	59,790	12,700	3,381
British Transport Police	67,875	15,525	796	1,042	803	3,843	29,401	1,106	10,461	3,971	927
ENGLAND AND WALES	4,950,671	961,188	53,540	84,706	583,699	656,549	1,121,104	155,358	1,036,246	228,958	69,323

1. Includes theft of motor vehicle, theft from a vehicle, aggravated vehicle taking and interfering with a motor vehicle.

2. Numbers of recorded crimes will be affected by changes in reporting and recording.

Table 6.07 Recorded crime by offence group by police force area, English region and Wales, percentage change, 2006/07 to 2007/08

Police force area, English region and Wales	Percentage change									Recorded crime	
	Total	Violence against the person	Sexual offences	Robbery	Burglary	Offences against vehicles ¹	Other theft offences	Fraud and forgery	Criminal damage	Drug offences	Other offences
<i>Percentage change</i>											
Cleveland	-3	-7	-9	-13	-3	-22	14	-3	-6	17	46
Durham	-10	-14	8	-22	-10	-19	1	-19	-11	-5	1
Northumbria	-15	-19	-19	-24	-20	-14	-7	-23	-18	-10	-12
North East Region	-11	-15	-11	-21	-13	-17	1	-18	-13	-3	2
Cheshire	-11	-13	-14	-17	-13	-13	-6	-3	-15	27	-7
Cumbria	-9	-2	10	-24	-16	-22	-5	-41	-10	10	-9
Greater Manchester	-10	-12	-4	-9	-9	-21	5	-13	-16	12	-14
Lancashire	-9	-7	-3	-5	-9	-20	-1	-21	-15	30	1
Merseyside	-18	-20	-15	-27	-20	-24	-16	-21	-25	24	-9
North West Region	-12	-12	-6	-13	-12	-21	-3	-16	-17	20	-10
Humberside	-14	-19	-21	-16	-15	-26	-4	-3	-17	24	38
North Yorkshire	-8	-5	0	-10	-8	-21	-4	-9	-11	26	-5
South Yorkshire	-9	-13	-10	-20	-10	-17	5	-16	-10	26	-12
West Yorkshire	-9	-10	-11	-5	-1	-15	-2	-8	-13	-6	-26
Yorkshire and the Humber Region	-10	-12	-12	-11	-7	-18	-1	-10	-13	11	-13
Derbyshire	-4	4	0	-9	-7	-15	4	-20	-11	24	1
Leicestershire	-5	-8	0	-13	-4	-8	1	-28	-4	8	-7
Lincolnshire	-8	-8	-5	-28	-13	-16	-3	-4	-8	5	-7
Northamptonshire	-4	5	15	-16	-3	-14	3	-6	-7	1	-15
Nottinghamshire	-9	-10	-8	-16	-9	-15	0	-20	-12	20	-7
East Midlands Region	-6	-4	-1	-14	-7	-14	1	-19	-9	13	-7
Staffordshire	-14	-20	-18	-6	-10	-13	-10	-15	-18	6	-13
Warwickshire	-12	2	-9	-23	-14	-24	-10	-32	-10	-15	12
West Mercia	-2	-2	13	-8	9	-4	1	-21	-10	6	-3
West Midlands	-11	-8	-10	-17	-3	-14	-6	-32	-17	-3	-19
West Midlands Region	-10	-9	-8	-16	-4	-13	-6	-27	-15	-1	-13
Bedfordshire	-10	-17	-19	-3	9	-7	-15	-51	-5	16	-22
Cambridgeshire	-6	-1	5	-15	-15	-6	-2	-20	-10	37	-1
Essex	-6	1	-6	-14	1	-17	-2	-20	-12	22	-2
Hertfordshire	-12	-21	-18	-23	-2	-5	-12	-21	-16	20	-21
Norfolk	-11	-14	-1	-20	-2	-11	-8	-31	-14	9	-19
Suffolk	-5	-8	5	-3	-2	-10	0	-28	-7	6	-4
East of England Region	-8	-9	-6	-13	-2	-10	-6	-27	-12	19	-10
London, City of	-5	-3	7	32	-8	-12	-2	-24	-25	8	-29
Metropolitan Police	-6	-5	-6	-19	-3	-8	-10	-23	-10	32	-3
London Region	-6	-5	-6	-19	-3	-8	-10	-23	-10	32	-3
Hampshire	-9	-4	-12	-12	-6	-18	-5	-33	-14	41	5
Kent	-10	-9	-5	-18	-13	-15	-5	-11	-15	18	-17
Surrey	-7	4	2	-9	-4	-12	-7	-48	-9	23	23
Sussex	-10	-12	-18	-11	-8	-12	-11	-12	-11	22	-21
Thames Valley	-7	2	-11	-9	-7	-15	-5	-23	-11	4	0
South East Region	-9	-4	-10	-12	-8	-15	-6	-25	-12	19	-4
Avon and Somerset	-10	-12	-12	-4	3	-11	-6	-40	-10	-14	-20
Devon and Cornwall	-10	-7	-3	-17	-8	-15	-12	-21	-12	11	-3
Dorset	-7	-6	-1	28	0	-15	-6	-39	-4	2	2
Gloucestershire	-13	-14	-11	-24	-13	-7	-12	-45	-14	22	-2
Wiltshire	-1	-6	-2	-6	-4	1	7	28	-6	-26	-23
South West Region	-9	-9	-7	-7	-3	-11	-7	-30	-10	-3	-9
ENGLAND	-9	-8	-7	-16	-6	-14	-5	-23	-13	17	-8
Dyfed-Powys	-15	-23	-16	-2	-1	-5	-10	-34	-17	-6	-26
Gwent	-9	-13	14	-11	-4	-17	-1	-31	-8	10	-7
North Wales	-15	-23	-3	0	-11	-28	-10	-15	-13	19	-2
South Wales	2	12	14	-7	4	-14	8	7	-3	42	-3
WALES	-6	-8	5	-7	-1	-16	0	-12	-8	21	-7
British Transport Police	-11	-4	-18	-47	-15	-16	-10	-10	-22	40	-38
ENGLAND AND WALES	-9	-8	-7	-16	-6	-14	-5	-22	-13	18	-8

1. Includes theft of motor vehicle, theft from a vehicle, aggravated vehicle taking and interfering with a motor vehicle.

2. Numbers of recorded crimes and percentage changes will be affected by changes in reporting and recording.

Table 6.08 Recorded offences by offence group by police force area, English region and Wales, rates per 1,000 population ¹, 2007/08

Police force area, English region and Wales	Rates per 1,000 population									Recorded crime	
	Total	Violence against the person	Sexual offences	Robbery	Burglary	Offences against vehicles ²	Other theft offences	Fraud and forgery	Criminal damage	Drug offences	Other offences
<i>Rates per 1,000 population</i>											
Cleveland	119	23	1	1	13	12	29	2	31	4	2
Durham	80	14	1	0	10	9	16	1	24	2	2
Northumbria	78	14	1	1	8	9	17	2	21	3	2
North East Region	88	16	1	1	10	10	19	2	24	3	2
Cheshire	79	15	1	1	9	10	19	2	19	2	1
Cumbria	71	16	1	0	5	5	15	1	23	3	1
Greater Manchester	117	20	1	3	16	18	23	3	26	5	2
Lancashire	85	17	1	1	9	9	19	2	22	3	1
Merseyside	94	15	1	1	12	12	17	2	23	9	1
North West Region	97	17	1	2	12	13	20	3	23	5	2
Humberside	107	21	1	1	15	13	24	3	24	3	2
North Yorkshire	64	12	1	0	8	7	16	2	14	3	1
South Yorkshire	113	19	1	1	15	18	23	3	27	3	1
West Yorkshire	106	18	1	1	17	15	23	3	24	3	2
Yorkshire and the Humber Region	101	18	1	1	15	14	22	3	23	3	1
Derbyshire	78	17	1	1	9	10	17	2	18	2	1
Leicestershire	92	19	1	1	11	11	20	3	19	3	2
Lincolnshire	74	14	1	0	8	7	19	2	19	2	1
Northamptonshire	95	16	1	1	14	14	21	3	22	2	1
Nottinghamshire	118	19	1	2	18	19	26	3	25	4	2
East Midlands Region	93	17	1	1	12	13	21	3	21	3	1
Staffordshire	84	19	1	1	10	10	18	3	19	3	1
Warwickshire	77	14	1	1	11	11	15	2	18	3	2
West Mercia	68	13	1	0	9	8	15	2	16	2	1
West Midlands	95	21	1	3	14	14	17	3	18	4	2
West Midlands Region	85	18	1	2	11	12	17	3	18	3	1
Bedfordshire	87	13	1	2	13	15	20	2	17	2	1
Cambridgeshire	87	14	1	1	10	12	23	3	19	4	1
Essex	71	14	1	1	8	10	15	3	16	2	1
Hertfordshire	76	13	1	1	9	11	18	3	16	3	1
Norfolk	67	12	1	0	7	6	18	2	18	3	1
Suffolk	69	13	1	0	7	8	16	2	17	3	1
East of England Region	75	13	1	1	9	10	18	3	17	3	1
London, City of ⁴	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Metropolitan Police	115	23	1	5	13	16	28	4	14	9	1
London Region	116	23	1	5	13	16	28	4	14	10	1
Hampshire	90	21	1	1	8	10	21	3	21	3	1
Kent	80	15	1	1	9	10	19	3	19	2	1
Surrey	64	13	1	0	7	9	13	2	15	2	1
Sussex	78	16	1	1	7	8	20	3	17	4	1
Thames Valley	91	20	1	1	10	12	21	4	17	4	1
South East Region	83	18	1	1	9	10	19	3	18	3	1
Avon and Somerset	93	17	1	1	12	14	21	3	19	3	1
Devon and Cornwall	67	14	1	0	7	7	15	1	18	3	1
Dorset	73	16	1	0	7	7	19	2	17	2	1
Gloucestershire	79	16	1	1	10	9	19	2	18	3	1
Wiltshire	70	13	1	1	8	8	18	3	17	1	1
South West Region	78	15	1	1	9	10	18	2	18	3	1
ENGLAND	91	18	1	2	11	12	21	3	19	4	1
Dyfed-Powys	51	12	1	0	4	4	10	1	13	5	1
Gwent	87	18	1	0	10	13	15	2	22	4	1
North Wales	67	16	1	0	6	5	13	1	19	4	1
South Wales	101	18	1	1	12	18	21	2	23	5	1
WALES	82	17	1	0	9	12	16	2	20	4	1
ENGLAND AND WALES	91	18	1	2	11	12	20	3	19	4	1

1. Numbers will be affected by the size of the resident population relative to the transient or visiting populations and may therefore over represent the number of crimes relative to the real population of potential victims.

2. Includes theft of a motor vehicle, theft from a vehicle, aggravated vehicle taking and interfering with a motor vehicle.

3. Numbers of recorded crimes will be affected by changes in reporting and recording.

4. '+' data for London Region includes the City of London.

Table 6.09 Burglaries recorded by the police and BCS rates by police force area, English region and Wales, 2007/08

Police force area, English region and Wales	Numbers and rates per 10,000 population or households						Recorded crime and 2007/08 BCS		
	RECORDED CRIME						BCS ¹		
	Total burglary in a dwelling	Burglary in a dwelling per 10,000 households	Attempted burglary	Attempted burglary per 10,000 households	Total burglary other than in a dwelling	Burglary other than in a dwelling per 10,000 population	All burglary per 10,000 households ²	Burglary with entry per 10,000 households	Attempted burglary per 10,000 households
Cleveland	3,548	153	501	22	3,840	69	310		
Durham	2,349	92	218	9	3,679	61	296		
Northumbria	4,984	82	703	12	6,535	47	379		
North East Region	10,881	99	1,422	13	14,054	55	346	202	144
Cheshire	3,865	93	173	4	5,209	52	163 **		
Cumbria	834	39	96	4	1,757	35	206		
Greater Manchester	21,541	200	3,523	33	19,053	75	552 **		
Lancashire	4,987	83	588	10	8,212	57	267		
Merseyside	8,365	145	1,333	23	7,537	56	378		
North West Region	39,592	137	5,713	20	41,768	61	376	228	148
Humberside	5,460	142	724	19	7,858	87	327		
North Yorkshire	2,386	73	322	10	3,909	50	196		
South Yorkshire	8,958	165	1,056	19	10,689	83	437		
West Yorkshire	18,700	213	3,265	37	17,450	81	369		
Yorkshire and the Humber Region	35,504	167	5,367	25	39,906	78	355	195	160
Derbyshire	3,764	90	569	14	5,607	57	203		
Leicestershire	5,138	135	905	24	5,177	54	300		
Lincolnshire	2,095	73	205	7	3,656	53	226		
Northamptonshire	3,677	135	571	21	5,389	81	399		
Nottinghamshire	9,639	216	1,547	35	9,145	87	582 **		
East Midlands Region	24,313	135	3,797	21	28,974	66	347	192	155
Staffordshire	4,257	96	623	14	5,893	55	409		
Warwickshire	2,373	109	335	15	3,173	61	204 **		
West Mercia	3,654	74	540	11	6,769	57	262		
West Midlands	18,040	172	2,945	28	17,358	67	309		
West Midlands Region	28,324	129	4,443	20	33,193	62	308	198	111
Bedfordshire	4,506	193	850	36	3,421	58	377		
Cambridgeshire	3,503	116	402	13	4,030	54	402		
Essex	6,144	88	944	14	7,997	48	141 **		
Hertfordshire	4,538	106	701	16	4,996	47	259		
Norfolk	1,618	45	139	4	3,874	47	157 **		
Suffolk	1,762	60	200	7	3,298	47	202		
East of England Region	22,071	95	3,236	14	27,616	49	233 **	150	83 **
London, City of ³	29	+	5	+	342	+			
Metropolitan Police	59,837	193	12,211	39	34,057	45	332		
London Region	59,866	193	12,216	39	34,399	46	332	185	148
Hampshire	5,300	71	757	10	9,329	51	168 **		
Kent	6,045	90	868	13	8,546	52	344		
Surrey	3,568	81	334	8	4,246	39	208 **		
Sussex	4,242	64	525	8	6,891	45	170 **		
Thames Valley	10,943	129	1,881	22	11,410	53	433		
South East Region	30,098	89	4,365	13	40,422	49	274	170	104
Avon and Somerset	8,761	135	740	11	9,550	61	272		
Devon and Cornwall	4,225	60	361	5	7,230	44	328		
Dorset	1,739	57	230	8	3,234	46	168 **		
Gloucestershire	2,297	94	332	14	3,307	57	148 **		
Wiltshire	1,729	66	236	9	3,222	51	134 **		
South West Region	18,751	87	1,899	9	26,543	52	245	161	84
ENGLAND	269,400	128	42,458	20	286,875	57	310	186	125
Dyfed-Powys	751	35	77	4	1,462	29	132		
Gwent	2,394	102	186	8	3,129	56	387		
North Wales	1,175	41	n/a	n/a	2,909	43	173 **		
South Wales	6,978	137	978	19	7,823	64	357		
WALES	11,298	91	1,241	10	15,323	52	281	154	127
British Transport Police⁴	6	n/a	0	n/a	797	n/a			
ENGLAND AND WALES	280,704	126	43,699	20	302,995	56	309	184	125

1. BCS figures at police force area level are given only for main offence types due to the variability of specific offence figures at this level.

2. *** denotes statistical significance in comparison to England and Wales, while ** †/‡ denotes statistically significant change from 2006/07 to 2007/08.

3. '+' data for London Region includes the City of London.

4. No rates are given for British Transport Police as their data are not provided for specified geographic areas.

Table 6.10 Offences against vehicles recorded by the police and BCS rates by police force area, English region and Wales, 2007/08

Police force area, English region and Wales	RECORDED CRIME					Recorded crime and 2007/08 BCS			
	Theft or unauthorised taking of a vehicle	Theft or unauthorised taking of a vehicle per 10,000 population	Theft from a vehicle	Theft from a vehicle per 10,000 population	Interfering with a motor vehicle	All vehicle-related theft per 10,000 households ²	Theft of a vehicle per 10,000 households	Theft from a vehicle per 10,000 households	Attempted theft of and from a vehicle per 10,000 households
Cleveland	1,992	36	4,157	74	812	557			
Durham	1,804	30	3,108	52	509	463 **			
Northumbria	3,264	23	8,079	58	1,839	579			
North East Region	7,060	28	15,344	60	3,160	548	73	359	116
Cheshire	2,637	26	6,661	67	801	696			
Cumbria	725	15	1,567	32	183	397 **			
Greater Manchester	12,408	49	30,926	121	3,732	1,011 **			
Lancashire	3,250	22	8,429	58	1,614	538			
Merseyside	4,561	34	9,901	73	2,188	600			
North West Region	23,581	34	57,484	84	8,518	738	74	461	204
Humberside	3,117	34	7,138	79	1,525	820			
North Yorkshire	1,447	18	3,590	46	560	331 **			
South Yorkshire	6,481	50	14,365	111	2,696	856 **			
West Yorkshire	8,429	39	20,641	96	2,937	686			
Yorkshire and the Humber Region	19,474	38	45,734	89	7,718	704	97	423	185
Derbyshire	2,454	25	6,005	61	1,051	561			
Leicestershire	2,414	25	7,811	81	787	558			
Lincolnshire	1,463	21	3,074	45	452	476			
Northamptonshire	2,367	35	5,684	85	1,154	794			
Nottinghamshire	4,203	40	13,796	131	2,221	652			
East Midlands Region	12,901	30	36,370	83	5,665	604	41 **	434	130
Staffordshire	2,746	26	6,826	64	1,237	610			
Warwickshire	1,567	30	3,682	71	541	619			
West Mercia	2,308	20	6,184	52	1,005	458			
West Midlands	10,741	41	23,359	90	2,718	678 **↓			
West Midlands Region	17,362	32	40,051	75	5,501	611 **↓	67	405	140
Bedfordshire	1,694	29	6,554	111	577	786			
Cambridgeshire	2,105	28	6,141	82	880	542			
Essex	5,041	30	10,247	61	1,346	449			
Hertfordshire	2,831	27	7,895	75	640	681			
Norfolk	1,414	17	3,414	41	419	389 **			
Suffolk	1,238	18	3,638	52	640	332 **			
East of England Region	14,323	26	37,889	68	4,502	516 **	61	366	88 **
London, City of ³	41	+	165	+	7				
Metropolitan Police	33,906	45	85,554	114	3,073	914 **			
London Region	33,947	45	85,719	114	3,080	914 **	87	586 **	241 **
Hampshire	4,060	22	12,456	68	1,432	341 **			
Kent	4,930	30	10,007	61	1,754	538			
Surrey	1,907	18	6,322	58	1,315	772			
Sussex	2,851	19	8,151	53	1,075	542			
Thames Valley	6,069	28	18,184	84	2,685	708			
South East Region	19,817	24	55,120	67	8,261	566	60	409	97
Avon and Somerset	5,241	34	14,285	92	2,004	416 ** **↓			
Devon and Cornwall	2,688	16	8,700	53	930	379 **			
Dorset	1,123	16	3,436	49	446	549			
Gloucestershire	1,334	23	3,515	61	413	534 **↑			
Wiltshire	1,258	20	3,494	55	367	460			
South West Region	11,644	23	33,430	65	4,160	440 ** **↓	66	287 **	87 **
ENGLAND	160,109	32	407,141	80	50,565	642 **↓	70	425	147
Dyfed-Powys	605	12	1,350	27	138	258 **			
Gwent	2,094	37	4,317	77	649	880			
North Wales	1,134	17	2,150	32	380	381 **			
South Wales	5,811	47	14,226	116	2,037	488 **↓			
WALES	9,644	33	22,043	74	3,204	497 ** **↓	41 **	355	101
British Transport Police ⁴	429	n/a	3,193	n/a	221				
ENGLAND AND WALES	170,182	32	432,377	80	53,990	634 **↓	68	421	145

1. BCS figures at police force area level are given only for main offence types due to the variability of specific offence figures at this level.

2. *** denotes statistical significance in comparison to England and Wales, while ** ↑/↓ denotes statistically significant change from 2006/07 to 2007/08.

3. '+' data for London Region includes the City of London.

4. No rates are given for British Transport Police as their data are not provided for specified geographic areas.

Table 6.11 Violent and sexual crime recorded by the police and BCS by police force area, English region and Wales, 2007/08

Police force area, English region and Wales	RECORDED CRIME						Recorded crime and 2007/08 BCS					
	Violence against the person	Violence against the person per 10,000 population	Sexual offences	Sexual offences per 10,000 population	Robbery	Robbery per 10,000 population	All BCS violence per 10,000 adults ^{2,5}	Domestic violence per 10,000 adults	Acquaintance violence per 10,000 adults	Stranger violence per 10,000 adults	Mugging per 10,000 adults ⁹	
Cleveland	12,915	231	630	11	499	9	301 **	**↓				
Durham	8,625	144	507	8	181	3	568					
Northumbria	19,545	140	1,077	8	800	6	723					
North East Region	41,085	161	2,214	9	1,480	6	598	86	260	212	68	
Cheshire	15,105	151	757	8	572	6	376					
Cumbria	8,055	162	345	7	52	1	324	**↓				
Greater Manchester	50,287	197	3,014	12	7,433	29	503					
Lancashire	25,012	173	1,424	10	966	7	606					
Merseyside	20,729	153	936	7	1,671	12	582					
North West Region	119,188	174	6,476	9	10,694	16	508	**↓	78	153	178	106
Humberside	19,358	214	996	11	1,003	11	563					
North Yorkshire	9,538	122	590	8	251	3	278 **					
South Yorkshire	24,453	189	1,191	9	1,283	10	683					
West Yorkshire	39,027	181	2,174	10	2,989	14	730					
Yorkshire and the Humber Region	92,376	180	4,951	10	5,526	11	624	145 **	275	165	69	
Derbyshire	16,729	169	1,067	11	796	8	294 **	**↓				
Leicestershire	18,779	195	1,257	13	1,059	11	376					
Lincolnshire	9,402	137	617	9	166	2	463					
Northamptonshire	10,612	159	710	11	876	13	868					
Nottinghamshire	19,836	188	1,217	12	2,052	19	810 **					
East Midlands Region	75,358	173	4,868	11	4,949	11	546	106	156	235	62	
Staffordshire	19,800	186	983	9	711	7	641					
Wanwickshire	7,526	144	386	7	375	7	626					
West Mercia	15,699	133	1,040	9	532	5	499					
West Midlands	53,335	205	3,015	12	7,664	29	451					
West Midlands Region	96,360	180	5,424	10	9,282	17	517	91	225	158	64	
Bedfordshire	7,599	129	428	7	1,210	20	481					
Cambridgeshire	10,296	137	752	10	624	8	445					
Essex	23,145	139	1,146	7	1,310	8	245 **					
Hertfordshire	13,348	126	761	7	758	7	433					
Norfolk	9,926	119	719	9	286	3	479					
Suffolk	9,413	134	736	10	262	4	165 **	**↓				
East of England Region	73,727	132	4,542	8	4,450	8	356 **	45 **	112 **	165	47 **	
London, City of ³	934	+	48	+	54	+						
Metropolitan Police	172,741	230	8,732	12	37,000	49	542					
London Region	173,675	231	8,780	12	37,054	49	542	31 **	144	167	247 **	
Hampshire	39,028	213	2,329	13	1,066	6	492					
Kent	25,191	154	1,694	10	1,151	7	398					
Surrey	14,085	130	673	6	406	4	585					
Sussex	25,082	164	1,327	9	899	6	298 **					
Thames Valley	42,281	196	2,036	9	2,117	10	531					
South East Region	145,667	177	8,059	10	5,639	7	456	65	159	163	77	
Avon and Somerset	27,147	174	1,545	10	1,906	12	452					
Devon and Cornwall	23,139	140	1,402	9	540	3	333					
Dorset	11,117	159	751	11	243	3	651					
Gloucestershire	9,306	161	595	10	298	5	403					
Wiltshire	8,142	128	563	9	343	5	221 **					
South West Region	78,851	154	4,856	9	3,330	6	402	100	169	122	15 **	
ENGLAND	896,287	177	50,170	10	82,404	16	516	78	175	170	93	
Dyfed-Powys	5,956	118	340	7	46	1	470					
Gwent	10,198	182	608	11	252	5	885 **	**↑				
North Wales	11,108	164	584	9	134	2	238 **					
South Wales	22,114	180	1,042	8	828	7	303 **					
WALES	49,376	166	2,574	9	1,260	4	429	69	161	167	34 **	
British Transport Police ⁴	15,525	n/a	796	n/a	1,042	n/a						
ENGLAND AND WALES	961,188	179	53,540	10	84,706	16	493	**↓	78	174	170	89

1. BCS figures at police force area level are given only for main offence types due to the variability of specific offence figures at this level.

2. ** denotes statistical significance in comparison to England and Wales, while **↑/↓ denotes statistically significant change from 2006/07 to 2007/08.

3. '+' data for London Region includes the City of London.

4. No rates are given for British Transport Police as their data are not recorded in specified geographic areas.

5. All BCS violence includes wounding, assault with minor injury, assault with no injury and robbery. For more information see the Glossary.

6. Mugging includes robbery and snatch theft.

Table 6.12 Trends in BCS household victimisation rates in urban and rural areas, 2001/02 to 2007/08

	BCS						
	2001/02 ints	2002/03 ints	2003/04 ints	2004/05 ints	2005/06 ints	2006/07 ints	2007/08 ints
	<i>Rate per 10,000 households</i>						
All household crime							
All areas	3,586	3,428	3,217	2,978	2,939	3,038	2,720
Urban	3,877	3,682	3,484	3,228	3,181	3,289	2,970
Rural	2,395	2,398	2,205	2,042	1,951	2,034	1,708
Vandalism							
All areas	1,185	1,145	1,104	1,125	1,182	1,281	1,139
Urban	1,305	1,227	1,201	1,211	1,276	1,384	1,237
Rural	694	812	736	799	799	867	741
Vehicle-related theft							
All areas	1,512	1,399	1,239	1,068	957	925	807
Urban	1,667	1,527	1,374	1,199	1,084	1,042	916
Rural	985	958	808	650	513	533	432
Burglary							
All areas	441	439	422	331	317	311	309
Urban	496	490	480	369	344	341	348
Rural	214	235	204	191	209	191	148
<i>Unweighted base¹</i>							
All areas	32,720	36,395	37,826	44,973	47,610	47,027	46,765
Urban	25,346	27,730	28,314	33,118	35,876	35,407	34,817
Rural	7,374	8,665	9,512	11,855	11,734	11,620	11,948

1. Bases given are for all households, bases for vehicle-related theft will be slightly lower as based on vehicle-owning households only.

Table 6.13 Trends in BCS household victimisation rates by level of deprivation in England, 2001/02 to 2007/08

	BCS						
	2001/02 ints	2002/03 ints	2003/04 ints	2004/05 ints	2005/06 ints	2006/07 ints	2007/08 ints
	<i>Rate per 10,000 households in England</i>						
All household crime							
All areas	3,610	3,480	3,264	3,000	2,953	3,043	2,739
20% most deprived	4,651	4,285	4,149	3,619	3,895	3,847	3,677
20% least deprived	2,710	2,780	2,290	2,308	2,258	2,554	2,098
Vandalism							
All areas	1,197	1,157	1,117	1,134	1,191	1,282	1,138
20% most deprived	1,538	1,287	1,330	1,300	1,470	1,584	1,472
20% least deprived	862	914	763	855	910	1,071	888
Vehicle-related theft							
All areas	1,513	1,418	1,257	1,078	962	927	819
20% most deprived	2,213	2,053	1,828	1,476	1,509	1,294	1,260
20% least deprived	1,146	1,072	863	772	746	779	559
Burglary							
All areas	453	450	435	337	321	312	310
20% most deprived	810	779	758	539	516	466	502
20% least deprived	235	286	222	214	212	260	215
<i>Unweighted base¹</i>							
All areas	30,136	33,396	34,817	41,346	43,410	42,946	42,529
20% most deprived	6,028	6,900	6,954	7,826	7,936	7,832	7,785
20% least deprived	5,984	6,588	7,273	8,580	8,986	8,881	8,837

1. Bases given are for all households, bases for vehicle-related theft will be slightly lower as based on vehicle-owning households only.

7 Detection of crime

Penny Babb and Irene Ogunbor

7.1 SUMMARY

This chapter presents the latest information on the levels and trends in detections in England and Wales. The variation in detection rates by method of detection is presented by offence group, as well as by police force area, English regions and Wales.

Detections can be subdivided into sanction and non-sanction detections. Changes in the Counting Rules have limited the use of non-sanction detections. Sanction detections are now the preferred measure, providing a more meaningful comparison of individual force performance, with some forces already having abandoned their use of non-sanction detections altogether.

- There were just under 1.4 million crimes detected using sanction detections in 2007/08.
- The number of sanction detections fell by one per cent over the period while the overall number of offences fell by nine per cent.
- The proportion of recorded crimes cleared up by a sanction detection reached 28 per cent in 2007/08 compared with 26 per cent in 2006/07.
- For each type of detection the number of detections fell with the exception of cannabis warnings which rose by 28 per cent and cautions which showed a slight increase between 2006/07 and 2007/08.
- Despite the overall fall in numbers of detections the sanction detection rate increased or remained stable for all of the main offence groups. The largest increase in sanction detection rate by offence group was for fraud and forgery, up by four percentage points between 2006/07 and 2007/08. However, major changes have occurred in the way these offences are recorded which has in turn affected the detection rate, particularly for cheque and credit card fraud.

Box 7.1 Detected crime

Detected crimes are those that have been 'cleared up' by the police. Not every case where the police know, or think they know, who committed a crime can be counted as a detection. Some crimes are not counted as detected even though the offender is apprehended for another offence; and some crimes are counted as detected when the victim might view the case as far from solved. For any crime to be counted as detected, sufficient evidence must be available to claim a detection and all of the conditions below must be met:

- *a notifiable offence has been committed and recorded;*
- *a suspect has been identified and has been made aware that they will be recorded as being responsible for committing that crime and what the full implications of this are;*
- *one of the methods of detection listed below applies;*
- *the victim has been informed that the offence has been 'cleared up'.*

The police may use one of several methods to count a crime as detected and they fall into two broad categories:

'Sanction detections' include offences which are cleared up through a formal sanction, i.e. by an offender:

- *being charged or summonsed;*
- *being cautioned, reprimanded or given a final warning;*
- *having an offence taken into consideration;*
- *receiving a penalty notice for disorder; or*
- *receiving a warning for cannabis possession.*

Not all sanction detections will necessarily result in a subsequent conviction. In cases detected by 'charge/summons', the CPS may not take forward proceedings; or the offender might be found not guilty.

'Non-sanction detections' comprise those where the offence was counted as cleared up but no further action was taken. From 1 April 2007 non-sanction detections can only be claimed for 'indictable-only' offences (those offences which must be tried in a Crown Court) where a Crown Prosecutor is satisfied there is enough evidence to provide a realistic prospect of conviction but has decided not to proceed with the case, or the case cannot proceed because the offender has died.

Prior to April 2007 there were various reasons for claiming non-sanction detections including:

- *offender, victim or essential witness is dead or too ill;*
- *victim refuses or is unable to give evidence;*
- *offender is under the age of criminal responsibility;*
- *police or Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) decides that it would not be in the public interest to proceed;*
- *time limit of six months for commencing prosecution has been exceeded.*

The detection (or clear-up) rate is the number of detections recorded in a given year as a percentage of the total number of crimes recorded in the same period.

Further information on counting detections can be found in section H of the general Counting Rules, found at: <http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/pdfs08/countgeneral08.pdf>

Box 7.2 Changes affecting recent detection figures**Counting rules changes**

The Home Office Counting Rules for recorded crime changed from 1 April 1998. These brought new offences into the series with varying detection rates. It is estimated that the effect of the changes was to increase the overall detection rate from 28 to 29 per cent. For violence against the person, these changes led to a fall in the detection rate from 75 to 71 per cent, largely due to the inclusion of assaults without injury or minor injury which are harder to detect than other violent crimes.

Guidance on counting detections

Additional changes were implemented with effect from 1 April 1999. Any detection recorded required 'sufficient evidence to charge', an interview with the offender, and notification to the victim. In addition, detections obtained by the interview of a convicted prisoner ceased to count. The overall effect of the April 1999 change is estimated as a single percentage point decrease in detection rates (although the effect varied between crime types).

The National Crime Recording Standard (NCRS)

The NCRS was intended to ensure greater consistency between forces in the recording of crime, and to take a more victim-oriented approach by recording all reports of crime by victims unless there was credible evidence to the contrary. The NCRS was implemented in April 2002. It was thought to have had an inflationary effect on recorded crime, and the assumption is that it would depress the detection rates in 2002/03 and 2003/04 since additional recorded crimes would generally be less serious and possibly harder to detect.

The Sexual Offences Act 2003

The classification and coverage of the offences included in the Sexual Offences group changed from 1 May 2004 due to the introduction of the Sexual Offences Act 2003. This added a number of new offences and the definitions of other offences were broadened. Some of these 'new' offences would not necessarily have the same chance of being detected as other offences in their overall group.

The Fraud Act 2006

The Fraud Act 2006 came into force on 15 January 2007 and at the same time changes were made to the way the police record offences of plastic card/cheque and online account fraud by recording on a per account basis as opposed to the previous 'per transaction' basis. On 1 April 2007 further changes were made, with the support of Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO) and APACS (the UK payments association), so that single points of contact were brought into each police force to allow financial institutions to report cases directly as opposed to having account holders report frauds. The aim of these changes has been to target resources towards those cases with a chance of a sanction detection resulting while reducing bureaucracy. (See Chapter 4.)

British Transport Police (BTP)

Data for the BTP have been included from 2002/03 onwards. Adding in offences and detections recorded by the BTP has changed the sanction and overall detection rates by less than one percentage point.

Penalty Notices for Disorder (PND)

The use of PNDs for some notifiable offences was taken up across all forces in 2004/05. By 2007/08 PNDs had contributed more than two percentage points to the increase in the sanction detection rate. However, any new detection method will to some extent displace existing detection methods.

Cannabis warnings

With effect from April 2004, ACPO issued guidance to forces over the recording of warnings for cannabis possession (these were termed 'formal warnings' for cannabis possession prior to 16 January 2007). These were incorporated into the Home Office Counting Rules. As with PNDs, cannabis warnings contributed more than two percentage points to the increase in the sanction detection rate by 2007/08 but again there will be some displacement from other detection methods.

7.2 LEVELS OF DETECTIONS

Detected crimes are those that have been cleared up by the police. Information on the main ways in which crime can be detected is set out in Box 7.1. Sanction detections are offences cleared up through a formal sanction, such as a police charge or summons to appear in court or giving a caution. The number of sanction detections fell by one per cent between 2006/07 and 2007/08, while the fall in overall offences was nine per cent. This pattern is reflected in the rise in the sanction detection rate from 26 per cent to 28 per cent between the two years (see Tables 7a and Table 7.01).

This rise in the sanction detection rate will include some cases that previously would have been dealt with by a non-sanction detection being resolved with a sanction. In terms of the overall detection rate there was a 0.6 percentage point rise, with the fall in non-sanction detections being offset by increases in charge/summons, cautions and cannabis warnings.

Table 7a Numbers of detections and detection rate by method, 2006/07 and 2007/08

				Recorded crime		
	2006/07	2007/08	% change	2006/07	2007/08	% point change in rate
	<i>Number of detections</i>			<i>Detection rates ¹</i>		
Charge/summons	693,811	674,592	-3	12.8	13.6	0.8
Cautions	357,306	358,016	0	6.6	7.2	0.6
Offences taken into consideration	121,417	107,213	-12	2.2	2.2	-0.1
Penalty notices for disorder	139,735	129,037	-8	2.6	2.6	0.0
Cannabis warnings	81,311	104,207	28	1.5	2.1	0.6
Total sanction detections	1,393,580	1,373,065	-1	25.7	27.7	2.1
Non-sanction detections ²	81,840	868	-99	1.5	0.0	-1.5
All detections	1,475,420	1,373,933	-7	27.2	27.8	0.6
Total number of offences ³	5,427,559	4,950,671	-9			

1. The number of crimes that are cleared up by method divided by total number of recorded offences.

2. The rules governing the recording of non-sanction detections changed from 1 April 2007 to substantially reduce the range of offences and circumstances in which a non-sanction detection could be claimed.

3. Total recorded crime whether cleared up or not.

Offences cleared up through a charge or summons accounted for about half of all detections. While the number of these detections fell by three per cent in 2007/08, the contribution to the sanction detection rate rose by almost one percentage point (0.8). The largest proportionate fall in the number of detections occurred in offences that were taken into consideration by the court – a decrease of 12 per cent, although the rate showed little change. There was also a fall in the number of penalty notices for disorder (8% fall). In contrast there was a rise of 28 per cent in the number of cannabis warnings, with a 0.6 percentage point rise in the contribution to the sanction detection rate. This reflects the increased police use of powers to issue warnings for the possession of cannabis. These warnings accounted for 69 per cent of clear-ups for possession of cannabis in 2007/08, compared with 64 per cent in the previous year (data not shown).

New rules governing non-sanction detections significantly limit the occasions for which such administrative disposals can be applied. Non-sanction detections now can only be claimed for indictable-only offences (sufficiently serious that they must be tried in a Crown Court) for cases where the Crown Prosecution Service determines that it is not in the public interest to proceed with a prosecution or if the offender dies before any action can be taken to claim a sanction detection (e.g. in cases where a murder suspect commits suicide). There had already been a significant shift away from the use of non-sanction detections by some police forces for several years prior to the change in the Counting Rules.

Table 7b summarises the numbers and rates of sanction detections by key offence group for the last two years. Some key findings are:

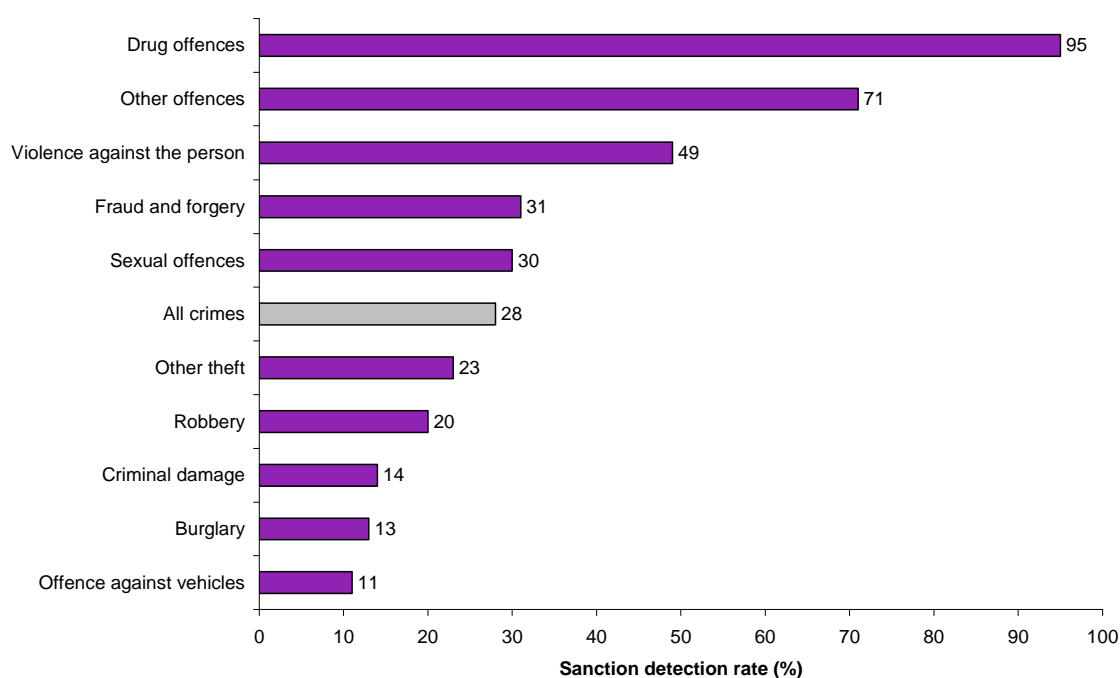
- With the exception of drug offences (where levels of recorded offences have markedly increased), the number of sanction detections for each of the main offence groups showed a fall or remained stable. These falls were smaller than those seen in the number of offences in each of these groups.
- Despite these falls the sanction detection rate increased or remained broadly stable for all of the main offences.
- There was a two percentage point rise in the sanction detection rate for both violence against the person offences and robbery, reaching 48.6 per cent and 20.1 per cent respectively in 2007/08.
- The greatest rise in sanction detection rates was for fraud and forgery offences at four per cent. However, major changes have occurred in the way these offences are recorded that has in turn impacted on the detection rate. For example, cheque and credit card offences are now recorded against the account rather than for every fraudulent transaction, substantially reducing the number of such offences recorded. Further information can be found in Chapter 4 Property Crime.

Table 7b Change in the number of offences detected through a sanction detection, by offence group, 2006/07 and 2007/08

	2006/07			2007/08			Recorded crime		
	Number of offences	Number of sanction detections	Sanction detection rate (%)	Number of offences	Number of sanction detections	Sanction detection rate (%)	Number of offences	Number of sanction detections	Sanction detection rate (%)
Violence against the person	1,046,168	961,188	-8	485,882	466,889	-4	46.4	48.6	2.1
Sexual offences	57,522	53,540	-7	17,067	16,323	-4	29.7	30.5	0.8
Robbery	101,376	84,706	-16	18,553	17,066	-8	18.3	20.1	1.8
Burglary	622,012	583,699	-6	84,709	76,997	-9	13.6	13.2	-0.4
Offences against vehicles	765,015	656,549	-14	79,796	71,249	-11	10.4	10.9	0.4
Other theft offences	1,180,802	1,121,104	-5	260,931	261,536	0	22.1	23.3	1.2
Fraud and forgery	199,652	155,358	-22	54,066	48,141	-11	27.1	31.0	3.9
Criminal damage	1,185,040	1,036,246	-13	159,217	148,062	-7	13.4	14.3	0.9
Drug offences	194,233	228,958	18	181,995	217,765	20	93.7	95.1	1.4
Other offences	75,739	69,323	-8	51,364	49,037	-5	67.8	70.7	2.9
Total	5,427,559	4,950,671	-9	1,393,580	1,373,065	-1	25.7	27.7	2.1

Figure 7.1 shows the sanction detection rates for each of the main offence groups in 2007/08. The detection rate is highest for drug offences, reflecting the fact that normally these offences come to light when the police apprehend an offender. In contrast, for the crimes with lower detection rates often there will have been few lines of inquiry.

Figure 7.1 Sanction detection rates by offence group, England and Wales, 2007/08



7.3 CRIME MIX

Recorded crime is made up of various offence types, the volumes of which change over time. Different offence types have different detection rates so any change in 'crime mix' affects the overall rates of detection. Furthermore, the most numerous crimes have the greatest influence on overall detection rates.

There has been a slight change in crime mix over the last year: offences against vehicles, fraud and forgery and criminal damage accounted for a slightly lower share of total offences and there was a slight increase in the proportion of drug and other theft offences. If the 2006/07 crime mix is applied to the 2007/08 data then the overall sanction detection rate drops by one percentage point to 27 per cent, indicating that some of the increase in the overall sanction detection rate is due to the change in crime mix.

7.4 TRENDS OVER TIME

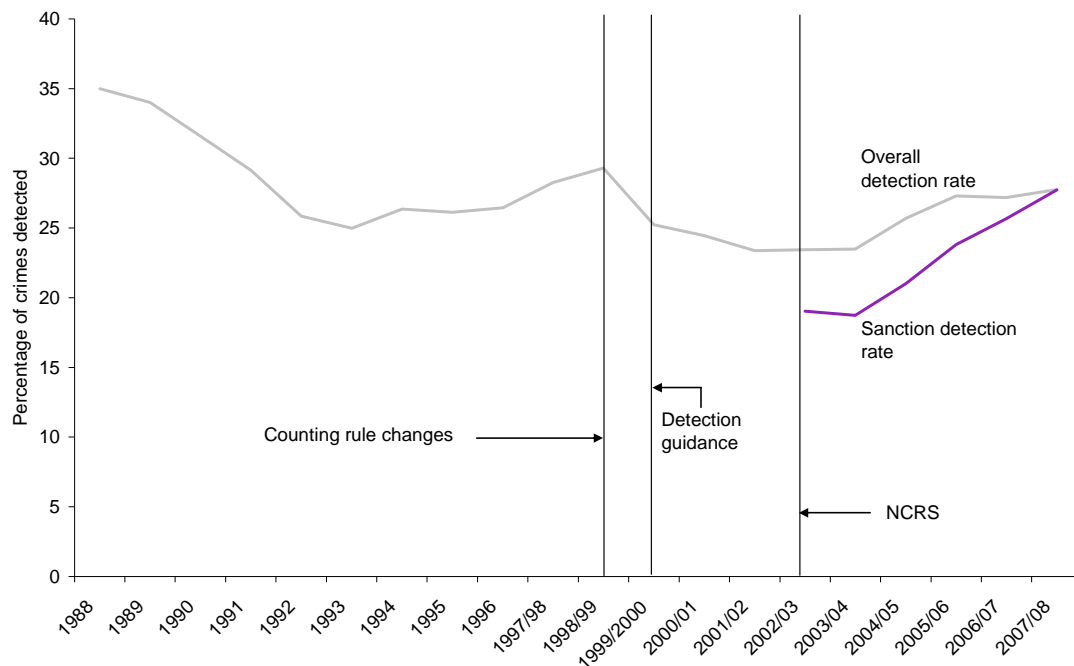
Figure 7.2 shows overall changes in detection rates since 1988 with the sanction detection rate displayed since 2002/03 when it first became available. Detection rates declined between 1988 and 1993. Following a period of little change, detection rates then fell from 1998/99 with the introduction of various changes to the counting of offences and detections (see Box 7.2 'Changes affecting recent detection figures'). It is thought that the National Crime Recording Standard (NCRS) introduced in April 2002 will have had some effect in reducing detection rates, relative to what they would have been, as it resulted in most forces recording more crimes which were less easy to detect. The overall detection rate remained broadly stable between 2001/02 and 2003/04. It then rose to reach 27 per cent in 2005/06 and then remained at this level in 2006/07, before rising to 28 per cent in 2007/08. The overall detection rate has been affected by changes in the usage of non-sanction detections as mentioned above, thus explaining the closing of the gap between overall and sanction detection rates.

For sanction detections, the rate remained stable between 2002/03 and 2003/04 following the introduction of the NCRS when more offences were recorded that tended to be harder to detect. The rates then rose in successive years between 2004/05 and 2007/08 with an increase of two-three percentage points per year. The recent rise will include some cases that

would have been dealt with by a non-sanction detection previously but that have been resolved through a sanction detection. Table 7.02 presents sanction detection rates by offence group and selected offences between 2002/03 and 2007/08:

- Detection rates for violence against the person showed the greatest rise over the period (an increase of 13 percentage points from 36 per cent in 2002/03 to 49 per cent in 2007/08). The introduction of penalty notices for disorder introduced in 2004/05 across forces particularly drove the increase in detection rates for harassment from 53 per cent in 2004/05 to 65 per cent in 2007/08. This also contributed to the increase in the detection rate for violence against the person.

Figure 7.2 Detection rates, England and Wales, 1988 to 2007/08



1. Sanction detection rates are shown for 2002/03 onwards as they are not available for all forces prior to 2002/03. 2002/03 and 2003/04 sanction detection rates exclude figures for Durham.
2. Data for the British Transport Police (BTP) are included from 2002/03 onwards. Including BTP data for these four years makes no substantial difference to either of the trend lines shown.
3. Box 7.3 discusses the impact of the NCRS, counting rules changes and detections guidance.

7.5 VARIATIONS IN DETECTIONS BY POLICE FORCE AREA

Table 7.03 shows 2007/08 detection rates by method of detection, police force area and region:

- Dyfed-Powys had the highest overall sanction detection rate at 42 per cent, followed by North Wales at 40 per cent.
- Bedfordshire and Nottinghamshire had the lowest rates at 22 per cent and 23 per cent respectively.
- The highest rates of charge/summons were in Cumbria (at 22%) and Northumbria (20%), compared with the charge/summons rate of 14 per cent for England and Wales as a whole.

Table 7.04 shows variations in sanction detection rates for the main offence groups across police force areas. These variations reflect a range of factors, including differing resources available to investigate crime, varying force priorities, and the crime mix within the wider offence groups. For example force sanction detection rates ranged between:

- 36 per cent in the Metropolitan Police Service and 69 per cent in North Yorkshire for violence against the person offences;
- 22 per cent in Thames Valley and 47 per cent in Cleveland for sexual offences;
- nine per cent for the British Transport Police and 40 per cent in Northumbria for other theft offences (excluding offences against vehicles).

Table 7.05 shows sanction detection rates by region and police force area between 2002/03 and 2007/08:

- 33 forces recorded an increase in their overall sanction detection rate over the last year, with six showing decreases and five remaining stable.
- The biggest increases in sanction detection rates between 2006/07 and 2007/08 occurred in Humberside with a rise of seven percentage points, and in Cumbria, Merseyside and North Wales with an increase of six percentage points each.
- West Mercia showed the largest decrease in sanction detection rate in 2007/08, falling by three percentage points, followed by falls of two percentage points in Dorset and Surrey.

Box 7.3 Count of offences brought to justice – differences from sanction detection numbers

The count of offences brought to justice (OBTJ) was introduced by the Home Office in 2000 to measure the performance of the criminal justice system in England and Wales. An offence is considered to have been brought to justice when an offender has been cautioned, convicted or had the offence taken into consideration by the court. In addition penalty notices for three notifiable disorder offences and cannabis warnings are included following their introduction nationally during 2004.

Care should be taken when comparing detection data with conviction data, as the latter count individual offenders, where the former count crimes. A single recorded crime can result in more than one conviction or caution and can therefore lead to more than one offence being counted as 'brought to justice'. For example if a crime is recorded and, as a result, three offenders are convicted, each for two offences, this counts as a single recorded crime (and a single detection) but as six offences brought to justice. In addition, for most offences, there will be a delay between the offence being recorded and it being brought to justice; this may result in it being included in the recorded crime figures for one period, and the OBTJ figures for a later period.

For the OBTJ measure the offence also reflects that for which an offender is charged rather than that for which a crime has been originally recorded (e.g. taking into account the relevant charging standards that apply). The OBTJ measure only makes use of the crime detection figures for crime detected as 'taken into consideration by the court' and cannabis warnings, but otherwise relies on figures collected by court systems and separate returns for penalty notices for disorder and cautions. These above factors should be borne in mind when the two series are being compared.

For more information see Criminal Statistics, 2006, England and Wales, Ministry of Justice:

<http://www.justice.gov.uk/publications/criminalannual.htm>

and the Criminal Justice System website:

<http://lcjb.cjsonline.gov.uk/ncjb/39.html>

Table 7.01 Sanction detection rates by individual offence, 2006/07 and 2007/08^{1,2,3}

Offence	2006/07			2007/08			% point change 2006/07 to 2007/08
	Number of offences	Number of sanction detections	Sanction detection rate %	Number of offences	Number of sanction detections	Sanction detection rate %	
1 Murder							
4.1 Manslaughter							
4.2 Infanticide							
2 Attempted murder							
4.3 Intentional destruction of viable unborn child							
4.4 Causing death by dangerous driving							
4.6 Causing death by careless driving when under the influence of drink or drugs							
4.8 Causing death by careless or inconsiderate driving							
4.9 Causing death by driving: unlicensed drivers etc.							
5 More serious wounding or other act endangering life							
37.1 Causing death by aggravated vehicle taking							
Most serious violence against the person	19,150	9,189	48	16,939	8,485	50	2
3 Threat or conspiracy to murder	12,822	4,555	36	9,977	3,410	34	-1
4.7 Causing or allowing death of a child or vulnerable person	3	2	67	4	2	50	-17
6 Endangering railway passengers	484	92	19	402	64	16	-3
7 Endangering life at sea	5	4	80	10	7	70	-10
8A Less serious wounding	481,822	187,200	39	430,660	174,184	40	2
8B Possession of weapons	34,689	30,400	88	32,397	28,731	89	1
8C Harassment	228,645	152,185	67	210,038	142,990	68	2
8D Racially or religiously aggravated less serious wounding	5,620	1,999	36	4,823	1,873	39	3
8E Racially or religiously aggravated harassment	28,485	10,922	38	26,495	11,313	43	4
11 Cruelty to and neglect of children	4,917	2,414	49	5,299	2,655	50	1
12 Abandoning a child under the age of two years	23	15	65	19	16	84	19
13 Child abduction	696	214	31	595	203	34	3
14 Procuring illegal abortion	6	3	50	5	2	40	-10
104 Assault without injury on a constable	21,749	19,907	92	20,457	18,708	91	0
105A Assault without injury	202,701	65,264	32	198,748	72,636	37	4
105B Racially or religiously aggravated assault without injury	4,351	1,517	35	4,320	1,610	37	2
Other violence against the person	1,027,018	476,693	46	944,249	458,404	49	2
TOTAL VIOLENCE AGAINST THE PERSON OFFENCES	1,046,168	485,882	46	961,188	466,889	49	2

Table 7.01 (cont'd) Sanction detection rates by individual offence, 2006/07 and 2007/08^{1,2,3}

Offence	2006/07			2007/08			% point change 2006/07 to 2007/08
	Number of offences	Number of sanction detections	Sanction detection rate %	Number of offences	Number of sanction detections	Sanction detection rate %	
17 Indecent assault on a male	76	43	32	209	71	29	-3
17A Sexual assault on a male aged 13 and over	1,450	397		1,315	351		
17B Sexual assault on a male child under 13	1,237	441		1,118	354		
19A Rape of a female	25	29	25	145	61	25	0
19C Rape of a female aged 16 and over	8,222	1,743		7,613	1,567		
19D Rape of a female child under 16	2,853	805		2,418	680		
19E Rape of a female child under 13	1,524	553		1,472	591		
Rape of a female	12,624	3,130		11,648	2,899		
19B Rape of a male	18	7	26	10	4	33	8
19F Rape of a male aged 16 and over	413	58		334	49		
19G Rape of a male child under 16	261	83		235	109		
19H Rape of a male child under 13	458	148		427	175		
Rape of a male	1,150	296		1,006	337		
20 Indecent assault on a female	267	136	28	768	267	28	0
20A Sexual assault on a female aged 13 and over	16,883	4,354		15,790	4,082		
20B Sexual assault on a female child under 13	4,245	1,494		3,976	1,445		
21 Sexual activity involving a child under 13	1,936	636	33	1,836	659	36	3
22 Unlawful sexual intercourse with a girl under 16	67	26		33	11		
22B Sexual activity involving a child under 16	3,208	1,058	33	3,100	1,035	33	0
22A Causing sexual activity without consent	224	58		217	57		
70 Sexual activity etc. with a person with a mental disorder	163	43	26	128	43	34	7
71 Abuse of children through prostitution and pornography	101	51	50	110	38	35	-16
72 Trafficking for sexual exploitation	43	22	51	56	25	45	-7
74 Gross indecency with a child	64	38	59	150	62	41	-18
Most serious sexual crime	43,738	12,223	28	41,460	11,736	28	0
16 Buggery	35	13	37	49	15	31	-7
18 Gross indecency between males	12	5	42	17	7	41	0
23 Incest or familial sexual offences	1,344	406	30	1,125	429	38	8
24 Exploitation of prostitution	190	145	76	183	120	66	-11
25 Abduction of female	21	1	5	4	3	75	70
27 Soliciting for the purpose of prostitution	1,290	1,232	96	1,258	1,217	97	1
73 Abuse of position of trust of a sexual nature	361	265	73	327	234	72	-2
88A Sexual grooming	322	125	39	272	124	46	7
88B Other miscellaneous sexual offences	10,209	2,652	26	8,845	2,438	28	2
Other sexual offences	13,784	4,844	35	12,080	4,587	38	3
TOTAL SEXUAL OFFENCES	57,522	17,067	30	53,540	16,323	30	1

Table 7.01 (contd) Sanction detection rates by individual offence, 2006/07 and 2007/08^{1,2,3}

Offence	2006/07				2007/08				% point change 2006/07 to 2007/08
	Number of		Sanction detection rate %	Number of		Sanction detection rate %	Number of		
	offences	sanction detections		offences	sanction detections				
34A Robbery of business property	9,454	2,182	23	9,141	2,373	26	3		
34B Robbery of personal property	91,922	16,371	18	75,565	14,693	19	2		
TOTAL ROBBERY OFFENCES	101,376	18,553	18	84,706	17,066	20	2		
28 Burglary in a dwelling	290,454	48,156	17	279,129	43,785	16	-1		
29 Aggravated burglary in a dwelling	1,806	712	39	1,575	579	37	-3		
Total burglary in a dwelling	292,260	48,868	17	280,704	44,364	16	-1		
30 Burglary in a building other than a dwelling	329,473	35,749	11	302,781	32,572	11	0		
31 Aggravated burglary in a building other than a dwelling	279	92	33	214	61	29	-4		
Total burglary in a building other than a dwelling	329,752	35,841	11	302,995	32,633	11	0		
TOTAL BURGLARY OFFENCES	622,012	84,709	14	583,699	76,997	13	0		
37.2 Aggravated vehicle taking	10,920	5,310	49	10,335	5,496	53	5		
45 Theft from a vehicle	502,651	43,660	9	432,377	39,047	9	0		
48 Theft or unauthorised taking of motor vehicle	182,464	24,477	13	159,847	21,588	14	0		
126 Interfering with a motor vehicle	68,980	6,349	9	53,990	5,118	9	0		
TOTAL OFFENCES AGAINST VEHICLES	765,015	79,796	10	656,549	71,249	11	0		
38 Profiting from or concealing knowledge of the proceeds of crime	1,961	1,608	82	2,380	1,828	77	-5		
39 Theft from the person	114,852	4,551	4	101,660	4,107	4	0		
40 Theft in a dwelling other than from automatic machine or meter	54,471	8,800	16	51,349	8,679	17	1		
41 Theft by an employee	16,323	9,078	56	15,858	8,719	55	-1		
42 Theft of mail	4,740	518	11	3,044	287	9	-1		
43 Dishonest use of electricity	1,497	985	66	2,027	1,236	61	-5		
44 Theft or unauthorised taking of a pedal cycle	110,526	5,588	5	103,999	5,224	5	0		
46 Shoplifting	294,282	182,892	62	290,625	185,840	64	2		
47 Theft from automatic machine or meter	33,721	5,286	16	11,941	1,708	14	-1		
49 Other theft or unauthorised taking	536,603	30,657	6	526,994	33,134	6	1		
54 Handling stolen goods	11,826	10,968	93	11,227	10,774	96	3		
OTHER THEFT OFFENCES	1,180,802	260,931	22	1,121,104	261,536	23	1		

Table 7.01 (cont'd) Sanction detection rates by individual offence, 2006/07 and 2007/08^{1,2,3}

Offence	2006/07				2007/08				% point change 2006/07 to 2007/08
	Number of offences	Number of sanction detections	Sanction detection rate %	Number of offences	Number of sanction detections	Sanction detection rate %	Number of offences	Number of sanction detections	
51 Fraud by company director	101	116	115	197	66	34	197	66	-81
52 False accounting	462	374	81	248	208	84	248	208	3
53A Cheque and credit card fraud (pre Fraud Act 2006)	59,011	19,081	32	..	..	..	..	..	..
53B Preserved other fraud and repeated fraud offences (pre Fraud Act 2006)	127,854	26,242	21	..	..	..	..	..	..
53C Fraud by false representation: cheque, plastic card and online accounts ^{4,5}	..	..	..	23,344	10,677	46	23,344	10,677	..
53D Fraud by false representation: other frauds ^{4,5}	..	..	..	118,407	28,556	24	118,407	28,556	..
53E Fraud by failing to disclose information ⁴	..	..	..	266	182	68	266	182	..
53F Fraud by abuse of position ⁴	..	..	..	658	360	55	658	360	..
53G Obtaining services dishonestly ⁴	..	..	..	1,883	565	30	1,883	565	..
53H Making or supplying articles for use in fraud ⁴	..	..	..	182	100	55	182	100	..
53J Possession of articles for use in fraud ⁴	..	..	..	1,081	845	78	1,081	845	..
55 Bankruptcy and insolvency offences	14	9	64	31	10	32	31	10	-32
60 Forgery or use of false drug prescription	593	374	63	439	299	68	439	299	5
61 Other forgery	8,479	5,147	61	4,139	2,219	54	4,139	2,219	-7
61A Possession of false documents	..	..	..	2,327	2,153	93	2,327	2,153	..
814 Vehicle/driver document fraud	3,138	2,723	87	2,156	1,901	88	2,156	1,901	1
TOTAL FRAUD AND FORGERY OFFENCES	199,652	54,066	27	155,358	48,141	31	155,358	48,141	4
56 Arson	43,100	3,729	9	39,318	3,499	9	39,318	3,499	0
58A Criminal damage to a dwelling	288,285	43,104	15	256,777	40,214	16	256,777	40,214	1
58B Criminal damage to a building other than a dwelling	160,207	28,140	18	131,134	25,773	20	131,134	25,773	2
58C Criminal damage to a vehicle	483,237	46,744	10	425,612	43,382	10	425,612	43,382	1
58D Other criminal damage	197,036	33,703	17	173,081	32,313	19	173,081	32,313	2
58E Racially or religiously aggravated criminal damage to a dwelling	1,543	205	13	1,150	153	13	1,150	153	0
58F Racially or religiously aggravated criminal damage to a building other than a dwelling	1,079	293	27	823	234	28	823	234	1
58G Racially or religiously aggravated criminal damage to a vehicle	1,711	451	26	1,340	316	24	1,340	316	-3
58H Racially or religiously aggravated other criminal damage	953	213	22	692	141	20	692	141	-2
59 Threat or possession with intent to commit criminal damage	7,889	2,635	33	6,319	2,037	32	6,319	2,037	-1
TOTAL CRIMINAL DAMAGE OFFENCES	1,185,040	159,217	13	1,036,246	148,062	14	1,036,246	148,062	1
TOTAL PROPERTY CRIME	3,952,521	638,719	16	3,552,956	605,985	17	3,552,956	605,985	1
92A Trafficking in controlled drugs	26,550	23,596	89	28,130	25,191	90	28,130	25,191	1
92C Other drug offences	680	587	86	809	712	88	809	712	2
92D Possession of controlled drugs (excluding cannabis)	36,608	33,575	92	41,933	39,962	95	41,933	39,962	4
92E Possession of controlled drugs (cannabis)	130,395	124,237	95	158,086	151,900	96	158,086	151,900	1
TOTAL DRUG OFFENCES	194,233	181,995	94	228,958	217,765	95	228,958	217,765	1

Table 7.01 (contd) Sanction detection rates by individual offence, 2006/07 and 2007/08^{1,2,3}

Offence	2006/07			2007/08			% point change 2006/07 to 2007/08
	Number of offences	Number of sanction detections	Sanction detection rate %	Number of offences	Number of sanction detections	Sanction detection rate %	
	15	4	4	100	8	3		38	-63
26	61	37	61	78	33	42	-18
33	4,253	3,437	81	3,761	3,125	83	2
35	2,481	344	14	1,197	315	26	12
36	2,367	990	42	2,000	776	39	-3
62	0	0	..	0	0	..	..
64	4	1	25	2	0	0	-25
65	1,742	1,018	58	1,181	694	59	0
66	35,935	25,072	70	35,058	25,015	71	2
67	197	122	62	191	133	70	8
68	1	0	0	1	0	0	0
75	13	9	69	11	9	82	13
76	13	4	31	9	3	33	3
78	792	693	88	660	594	90	3
79	11,114	6,282	57	9,124	5,137	56	0
80	979	819	84	831	688	83	-1
81	4,239	3,434	81	4,509	3,844	85	4
82	27	20	74	10	4	40	-34
83	83	75	90	25	21	84	-6
84	1,353	1,202	89	1,321	1,186	90	1
85	9	6	67	8	4	50	-17
86	2,378	1,718	72	2,642	1,770	67	-5
87	69	8	12	80	10	13	1
89	32	20	63	44	30	68	6
90	9	10	111	6	4	67	-44
91	50	32	64	44	25	57	-7
94	0	1	..	0	0	..	..
95	266	184	69	422	330	78	9
99	1,915	955	50	1,391	968	70	20
802	5,353	4,867	91	4,709	4,316	92	1
TOTAL OTHER MISCELLANEOUS OFFENCES	75,739	51,364	68	69,323	49,037	71	3
TOTAL RECORDED CRIME — ALL OFFENCES	5,427,559	1,393,580	26	4,950,671	1,373,065	28	2

1. Offences detected in the current year may have been initially recorded in an earlier year and for this reason some percentages may exceed 100.

2. Numbers of recorded crimes and percentages will be affected by changes in reporting and recording.

3. Some forces have revised their 2006/07 data and totals may not agree with those previously published.

4. These offences were introduced under the Fraud Act 2006 which came into force on 15 January 2007. Offences under the new classifications 53C to 53J were recorded under these classifications from 1 April 2007. Between 15 January and 31 March 2007 these offences were recorded under classification 53B Other fraud. For classifications 53A and 53C counting changed from a per fraudulent transaction to a per account basis from 15 January 2007. From 1 April 2007 these offences were reported to a single point of contact within each police force by financial institutions.

5. Classification 53C in 2007/08 includes some offences recorded under code 53A as the offences are very similar in nature.

6. Classification 53D in 2007/08 includes some offences recorded under code 53B as the offences are very similar in nature.

Table 7.02 Sanction detection rates by offence group and selected offence types, 2002/03 to 2007/08 and percentage point change between 2006/07 and 2007/08

Percentages									
Offence	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	% point change 2002/03 to 2007/08	% point change 2006/07 to 2007/08	
Most serious violence against the person	50	47	45	47	48	50	0	2	
Other violence against the person	35	33	36	42	46	49	14	3	
<i>of which</i>									
Assault without injury ¹	26	21	23	30	38	42	16	4	
Harassment ²	49	46	53	58	63	65	16	2	
Less serious wounding ³	33	31	31	37	39	40	7	2	
Total violence against the person	36	33	36	42	46	49	13	2	
Most serious sexual crime	31	29	27	29	28	28	-3	0	
Sexual assault on a female	30	28	27	29	28	28	-2	0	
Rape of a female	30	26	25	25	25	25	-5	0	
Other sexual offences	34	33	32	35	35	38	4	3	
Total sexual offences	32	30	28	31	30	30	-1	1	
Total robbery	17	17	17	17	18	20	3	2	
Burglary in a dwelling	13	14	14	16	17	16	3	-1	
Burglary in a building other than a dwelling	10	10	10	10	11	11	1	0	
Total burglary	11	12	12	13	14	13	2	0	
Theft or unauthorised taking of motor vehicle	13	13	14	14	15	16	3	1	
Theft from a vehicle	6	6	7	8	9	9	3	0	
Interfering with a motor vehicle	6	6	7	8	9	9	3	0	
Total offences against vehicles	8	8	9	10	10	11	3	0	
Other theft offences	19	18	18	20	22	23	5	1	
Fraud and forgery ⁴	23	23	24	27	27	31	8	4	
Criminal damage	10	9	10	12	13	14	5	1	
Drug offences	86	81	92	92	94	95	9	1	
Other offences	70	68	65	68	68	71	1	3	
TOTAL RECORDED CRIME — ALL OFFENCES	19	19	21	24	26	28	9	2	

1. Assault without injury figures include assault without injury on a constable and racially or religiously aggravated assault without injury.

2. Harassment figures include racially or religiously aggravated harassment.

3. Less serious wounding figures include racially or religiously aggravated less serious wounding.

4. The Fraud Act 2006 came into force on 15 January 2007 and made changes to the way the police record offences of plastic card/cheque and online account fraud by recording on a per account basis as opposed to the previous 'per transaction' basis. From 1 April 2007 these offences were reported to a single point of contact within each police force by financial institutions. This means that detection rates are not comparable.

Table 7.03 Detection rates by method of detection, police force area and region, 2007/08¹

Numbers and percentages										
Police force areas, English regions and Wales	Recorded offences	Detection rate	Sanction detection rate	Non-sanction detection rate	Detection rate by method of detection					
					Charge/summons	Cautions	Taken into consideration		Penalty notices for disorder	Cannabis warnings ²
							Previously recorded	Not previously recorded		
Cleveland	66,646	33	33	0	17	9	2	0	4	1
Durham	47,839	29	29	0	18	9	1	0	1	1
Northumbria	109,251	38	38	0	20	11	3	0	2	1
North East Region	223,736	35	35	0	19	10	2	0	2	1
Cheshire	79,278	26	26	0	14	6	2	0	1	1
Cumbria	35,282	38	38	0	22	10	2	0	2	1
Greater Manchester	297,966	25	25	0	15	5	1	0	3	2
Lancashire	123,681	35	35	0	17	9	2	0	5	0
Merseyside	126,934	32	32	0	16	4	2	0	5	6
North West Region	663,141	29	29	0	16	6	2	0	3	2
Humberside	97,034	31	31	0	14	7	2	1	7	1
North Yorkshire	50,265	33	33	0	19	8	1	0	4	1
South Yorkshire	145,769	27	27	0	12	7	5	0	3	1
West Yorkshire	228,195	24	24	0	12	7	4	0	1	1
Yorkshire and the Humber Region	521,263	27	27	0	13	7	3	0	3	1
Derbyshire	77,534	29	29	0	15	8	4	0	2	1
Leicestershire	88,253	27	27	0	13	7	3	0	2	2
Lincolnshire	51,102	28	28	0	14	8	2	0	3	1
Northamptonshire	63,657	25	25	0	10	8	3	0	3	0
Nottinghamshire	124,880	23	23	0	12	7	1	0	1	1
East Midlands Region	405,426	26	26	0	13	7	2	0	2	1
Staffordshire	89,348	28	28	0	14	8	2	0	2	1
Warwickshire	39,968	26	26	0	12	9	2	0	2	1
West Mercia	80,054	29	29	0	14	10	2	0	3	1
West Midlands	248,235	27	27	0	16	8	1	0	1	1
West Midlands Region	457,605	27	27	0	15	8	1	0	2	1
Bedfordshire	51,327	22	22	0	12	6	1	0	2	1
Cambridgeshire	65,308	27	27	0	12	7	3	0	3	2
Essex	119,164	32	32	0	15	11	2	0	3	1
Hertfordshire	80,239	30	30	0	13	8	3	0	3	2
Norfolk	55,686	32	32	0	16	9	3	1	2	1
Suffolk	48,330	30	30	0	16	8	1	0	3	1
East of England Region	420,054	30	29	0	14	9	2	0	3	1
London, City of	7,572	36	36	0	19	9	1	0	1	6
Metropolitan Police	862,032	25	25	0	11	5	2	0	2	5
London Region	869,604	25	25	0	11	5	2	0	2	5
Hampshire	164,940	27	26	0	15	6	1	0	2	1
Kent	131,269	27	27	0	11	9	3	0	4	1
Surrey	68,947	27	27	0	12	8	1	0	4	1
Sussex	119,393	32	32	0	15	12	1	0	2	2
Thames Valley	196,008	25	25	0	10	7	2	0	4	1
South East Region	680,557	27	27	0	13	8	2	0	3	1
Avon and Somerset	144,970	25	25	0	12	7	2	1	2	2
Devon and Cornwall	111,260	28	28	0	13	9	2	0	3	1
Dorset	51,285	27	27	0	15	7	2	0	3	1
Gloucestershire	45,685	32	32	0	13	8	6	0	3	1
Wiltshire	44,587	27	27	0	13	7	2	2	2	0
South West Region	397,787	27	27	0	13	8	2	1	2	1
England	4,639,173	28	28	0	14	7	2	0	3	2
Dyfed-Powys	25,639	42	42	0	19	15	2	0	2	3
Gwent	48,472	30	30	0	15	10	1	0	3	2
North Wales	45,545	40	40	0	19	9	2	0	8	2
South Wales	123,967	26	26	0	14	5	1	0	4	2
Wales	243,623	31	31	0	16	8	1	0	4	2
British Transport Police	67,875	27	27	0	14	6	1	0	4	3
ENGLAND AND WALES	4,950,671	28	28	0	14	7	2	0	3	2

1. Percentage of offences detected.

2. Prior to 16 January 2007 named 'Formal warnings for cannabis possession'.

Table 7.04 Sanction detection rates by offence group, police force area and region, 2007/08 ¹

Percentages											
Police force areas, English regions and Wales	Total	Violence against the person	Sexual offences	Robbery	Burglary	Offences against vehicles	Other theft offences	Fraud and forgery	Criminal damage	Drug offences	Other offences
Cleveland	33	60	47	26	17	14	33	41	15	100	85
Durham	29	64	43	40	11	11	27	43	15	92	75
Northumbria	38	67	39	31	18	22	40	56	19	98	84
North East Region	35	64	42	30	16	18	35	50	17	98	82
Cheshire	26	46	36	23	14	12	25	24	12	94	69
Cumbria	38	62	38	42	20	20	34	57	19	93	77
Greater Manchester	25	50	32	19	12	8	25	31	11	92	65
Lancashire	35	58	43	35	20	21	31	33	20	93	81
Merseyside	32	54	33	24	13	13	33	26	10	97	77
North West Region	29	53	35	22	14	12	28	31	14	94	71
Humberside	31	61	32	25	12	11	27	50	15	98	83
North Yorkshire	33	69	35	28	12	8	28	55	17	86	86
South Yorkshire	27	51	34	35	15	19	26	33	13	96	70
West Yorkshire	24	44	27	26	16	15	22	21	13	91	68
Yorkshire and the Humber Region	27	52	31	28	15	15	25	33	14	93	73
Derbyshire	29	51	30	26	17	17	23	31	17	93	74
Leicestershire	27	43	26	25	13	15	24	26	14	94	62
Lincolnshire	28	60	29	20	13	8	23	62	13	92	68
Northamptonshire	25	50	37	25	13	14	24	28	12	92	75
Nottinghamshire	23	50	34	18	9	5	21	25	11	96	77
East Midlands Region	26	50	31	22	12	11	22	31	13	94	71
Staffordshire	28	47	29	18	12	13	26	25	14	99	70
Warwickshire	26	50	30	23	10	11	21	27	15	95	68
West Mercia	29	54	29	22	12	13	28	42	14	93	73
West Midlands	27	44	29	21	9	7	30	28	15	92	69
West Midlands Region	27	47	29	21	10	9	28	29	14	94	70
Bedfordshire	22	48	35	16	9	6	23	39	12	90	72
Cambridgeshire	27	55	25	20	13	12	22	26	13	98	75
Essex	32	62	29	21	12	12	32	32	19	94	79
Hertfordshire	30	55	31	27	14	13	28	41	15	94	66
Norfolk	32	57	37	20	13	23	28	54	15	98	81
Suffolk	30	61	35	27	13	9	25	34	14	93	77
East of England Region	29	57	32	21	12	12	27	37	15	95	76
London, City of	36	51	23	20	35	18	18	71	35	97	62
Metropolitan Police	25	36	28	16	13	7	14	20	13	96	65
London Region	25	36	28	16	14	7	14	21	13	96	65
Hampshire	26	46	26	28	12	8	23	23	12	93	63
Kent	27	48	32	19	15	13	26	30	16	93	71
Surrey	27	52	35	26	9	6	22	38	13	100	69
Sussex	32	57	27	22	12	9	25	43	18	96	78
Thames Valley	25	45	22	19	9	9	21	21	15	93	67
South East Region	27	49	27	22	12	9	23	28	15	95	69
Avon and Somerset	25	43	28	20	11	9	22	44	15	98	70
Devon and Cornwall	28	48	26	28	16	12	25	37	14	93	62
Dorset	27	50	23	28	11	11	21	54	13	94	67
Gloucestershire	32	51	28	36	23	25	27	42	15	91	63
Wiltshire	27	51	28	34	13	14	19	72	13	112	97
South West Region	27	47	27	25	14	12	23	48	14	96	68
England	28	48	30	20	13	11	23	31	14	95	71
Dyfed-Powys	42	61	39	57	24	19	34	55	23	96	83
Gwent	30	55	29	18	14	10	31	28	15	94	71
North Wales	40	61	30	33	20	20	39	55	20	100	85
South Wales	26	49	40	33	12	8	25	25	12	94	68
Wales	31	54	35	31	15	10	30	35	16	95	75
British Transport Police	27	52	33	39	11	9	9	52	13	96	60
ENGLAND AND WALES	28	49	30	20	13	11	23	31	14	95	71

1. Percentage of offences detected through a sanction detection.

Table 7.05 Sanction detection rate by police force area and region, 2002/03 to 2007/08¹ and percentage point change between 2006/07 and 2007/08

Percentages							
Police force areas, English regions and Wales	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/2008	% point change ² 2006/07 to 2007/08
Cleveland	22	19	19	24	29	33	4
Durham	..	..	22	23	28	29	1
Northumbria	27	26	25	32	37	38	1
North East Region	21	20	23	28	33	35	2
Cheshire	21	19	18	26	26	26	0
Cumbria	25	26	25	30	32	38	6
Greater Manchester	16	17	20	24	24	25	1
Lancashire	26	22	22	29	34	35	0
Merseyside	21	21	18	25	27	32	6
North West Region	19	19	20	25	27	29	2
Humberside	16	15	17	20	24	31	7
North Yorkshire	20	21	25	26	28	33	5
South Yorkshire	19	22	21	23	25	27	2
West Yorkshire	17	17	22	26	26	24	-1
Yorkshire and the Humber Region	17	18	21	24	25	27	2
Derbyshire	21	18	23	26	25	29	4
Leicestershire	21	20	24	29	28	27	-1
Lincolnshire	19	18	21	24	27	28	2
Northamptonshire	20	19	19	20	23	25	2
Nottinghamshire	16	16	17	21	22	23	1
East Midlands Region	19	18	20	24	25	26	1
Staffordshire	23	23	25	25	26	28	2
Warwickshire	20	19	20	24	26	26	-1
West Mercia	23	21	27	32	33	29	-3
West Midlands	26	25	22	26	27	27	0
West Midlands Region	24	24	23	26	27	27	0
Bedfordshire	21	20	23	23	20	22	2
Cambridgeshire	14	15	17	26	24	27	3
Essex	16	17	22	26	29	32	3
Hertfordshire	18	19	21	22	29	30	1
Norfolk	20	22	22	25	29	32	3
Suffolk	24	24	24	27	28	30	2
East of England Region	18	19	21	25	27	29	2
London, City of	33	30	26	40	35	36	1
Metropolitan Police	13	13	15	18	21	25	4
London Region	13	13	15	18	21	25	4
Hampshire	24	22	23	21	22	26	5
Kent	23	22	20	24	25	27	3
Surrey	18	19	22	23	29	27	-2
Sussex	18	21	21	26	27	32	5
Thames Valley	19	17	21	27	24	25	1
South East Region	20	20	21	24	25	27	3
Avon and Somerset	15	15	16	23	24	25	1
Devon and Cornwall	21	20	20	25	26	28	2
Dorset	18	20	25	28	29	27	-2
Gloucestershire	24	23	21	29	30	32	1
Wiltshire	23	24	25	27	22	27	5
South West Region	19	19	20	26	26	27	1
England	18	18	20	24	26	28	2
Dyfed-Powys	55	37	30	40	42	42	0
Gwent	34	30	28	27	30	30	0
North Wales	21	21	25	29	34	40	6
South Wales	24	23	24	22	24	26	2
Wales	28	26	26	27	30	31	2
British Transport Police	14	15	15	19	23	27	4
ENGLAND AND WALES³	19	19	21	24	26	28	2

1. Percentage of offences detected through a sanction detection.

2. Percentage change based on unrounded figures.

3. Data for 2002/03 and 2003/04 do not include Durham.

Appendix 1 Glossary

2007/08 Interview sample – This is the sample on which latest BCS results are based. It consists of all respondents interviewed by the BCS during the 2007/08 financial year and the crimes they experienced in the 12 months prior to interview.

ACORN – ‘A Classification of Residential Neighbourhoods’, developed by CACI Ltd., which classifies households into one of 56 ACORN types according to demographic, employment and housing characteristics of the surrounding neighbourhood. ACORN is useful in determining the social environment in which households are located. The 2001 ACORN classification has been used in this report. The main five-group breakdowns have been used in this report and are characterised as follows:

- **Wealthy Achievers** – wealthy executives, affluent older people and well-off families.
- **Urban Prosperity** – prosperous professionals, young urban professionals and students living in town and city areas.
- **Comfortably Off** – young couples, secure families, older couples living in the suburbs and pensioners.
- **Moderate Means** – Asian communities, post-industrial families and skilled manual workers.
- **Hard Pressed** – low-income families, residents in council areas, people living in high-rise, and inner-city estates.

Further information about ACORN is available from CACI Ltd., CACI House, Kensington Village, Avonmore Road, London W14 8TS (<http://www.caci.co.uk/acorn/>).

Acquaintance violence – A type of **BCS violence**. It comprises **wounding, assault with minor injury** and **assault with no injury** in which the victim knew one or more of the offenders, at least by sight. It does not include **domestic violence**.

Acquisitive crime – A BCS offence group which covers all household and personal crime where items are stolen. Household acquisitive crime includes: burglary and attempted burglary in a dwelling; theft in a dwelling; theft from outside a dwelling; theft and attempted theft of and from vehicles; and theft of pedal cycles. See also: **burglary, theft in a dwelling, vehicle-related theft** and **bicycle theft**. Personal acquisitive crime includes: **snatch theft from the person; other theft from the person; attempted theft from the person; other theft; other attempted theft; robbery; and attempted robbery**.

APACS – The UK payments association (<http://www.apacs.org.uk>), records information on the financial losses resulting from plastic card fraud in the UK. Membership of APACS is open to any institution that is a principal member of a payment scheme that is widely used in the UK.

APACS – *Assessments of Policing and Community Safety*, the Home Office performance management framework for policing and community safety, which is used to measure and assess performance across policing, crime and drugs. The APACS was introduced in April 2008, replacing the Policing Performance Assessment Framework (PPAF) and applies to all police forces in England and Wales. See **Statutory Performance Indicator (SPI)** for information on APACS measures. For more information about APACS see <http://police.homeoffice.gov.uk/performance-and-measurement/assess-policing-community-safety/?version=4>

Anti-social behaviour – The BCS measures high levels of perceived anti-social behaviour from responses to seven individual anti-social behaviour questions:

- noisy neighbours or loud parties;
- teenagers hanging around on the streets;
- rubbish or litter lying around;
- vandalism, graffiti and other deliberate damage to property;
- people using or dealing drugs;
- people being drunk or rowdy in public places; and
- abandoned or burnt-out cars.

Perceptions of anti-social behaviour are measured using a scale based on answers to the seven questions as follows: 'very big problem' = 3, 'fairly big problem' = 2, 'not a very big problem' = 1 and 'not a problem at all' = 0. The maximum score for the seven questions is 21. Respondents with a score of 11 or more on this scale are classified as having high levels of perceived anti-social behaviour. This disorder scale can only be calculated for the 2001 BCS onwards as the question on people being drunk or rowdy was only introduced in 2001. This measure is an **SPI** in **PPAF** and **APACS**.

Arson – Deliberately setting fire to property including buildings and vehicles. In the BCS this is any deliberate damage to property belonging to the respondent or their household caused by fire, regardless of the property involved. The only exception to this offence coding is where an item was stolen and then set on fire. For vehicle crime, if a vehicle is stolen and later found deliberately burnt out by the same offender, one crime of theft of a vehicle is recorded by the police and in the BCS. If there is evidence that someone unconnected with the theft committed the arson, then an offence of arson is recorded by the police in addition to the theft. For the BCS, only an offence of theft of a vehicle would be recorded as in practice it would often not be possible to establish that the arson was committed by someone unconnected with the theft. See also **vandalism**.

Assault with minor injury and with no injury – In the BCS, an **assault with minor injury** is one where the victim was punched, kicked, pushed or jostled and the incident resulted in minor injury to the victim, e.g. minor scratches or bruises. An **assault with no injury** includes similar incidents (or attempts) which resulted in no injury to the victim. These categories replace the BCS category of **common assault**, which has been used in previous publications. The BCS does not measure assaults against those aged under 16 years old and those not living in private households, this being a caveat on all personal crimes. Assault on a constable is a separate category within recorded crime; however, such incidents are not treated separately for the BCS and would fall within the BCS assault with minor injury or without injury categories. The police recorded crime figures quoted in the text and charts include assault on a constable and racially or religiously aggravated assault.

Attempted burglary – An attempted burglary is recorded by the police and in the BCS if there is clear evidence that the offender made an actual, physical attempt to gain entry to a building (e.g. damage to locks, or broken doors) but was unsuccessful. This offence type combines with **burglary with entry** to comprise total burglary in the BCS.

Basic Command Units (BCUs) – These equate to police divisions and are also referred to as Operational Command Units in some forces. As at 1 April 2007 (and therefore for the reporting year 2007-08) there were 228 BCUs in England and Wales. Recorded crime figures for seven key offences for each BCU are published on the Home Office website.

BB gun – An imitation firearm that discharges plastic pellets typically by way of a spring action or compressed air.

Bicycle theft – Thefts of pedal cycles. This does not include every bicycle theft, as some may be stolen during the course of another offence and are therefore classified as such by the police and in the BCS. The BCS covers thefts of bicycles belonging to the respondent or any other member of the household. Bicycle thefts are recorded by the BCS if no attempt was made to steal anything else. It is classed as:

- burglary – if anything else was stolen, or an attempt was made to steal something else, from the household’s dwelling;
- theft in a dwelling – when a bicycle is stolen from inside a house by someone who was not trespassing; and
- theft from a vehicle – if the bicycle is one of a number of things stolen.

Black and Minority Ethnic groups – Respondents are asked to make a choice from a card to identify their ethnic background using the standard 2001 Census classification. Due to small sample sizes, it is necessary to collapse this classification into either a five-fold classification, i.e. White, Black, Asian, Mixed and Chinese or Other or to a simpler two-fold White and Non-White classification, based on the National Statistics **harmonised classification**. Adopting the 2001 Census definition, however, means analysis by ethnic group since 2001/02 is not directly comparable with results from earlier rounds of the BCS which used a different classification. The latest detailed results from the BCS focusing on the experiences of people from different ethnic minorities are reported in Jansson *et al.*, 2007.

Burglary – An offence of burglary is recorded by the police if a person enters any building as a trespasser and with intent to commit an offence of theft, grievous bodily harm or unlawful damage. The BCS covers domestic burglary only, which is an unauthorised entry into the victim’s dwelling. Burglary does not necessarily involve forced entry; it may be through an open window, or by entering the property under false pretences (e.g. impersonating an official). Burglary does not cover theft by a person who is entitled to be in the dwelling at the time of the offence (see **theft in a dwelling**). The dwelling is a house, flat or any connected outhouse or garage. Common areas (e.g. hallways) are not included. Figures on recorded crime are provided separately for burglaries that occur in domestic properties and those which occur in commercial or other properties. Using the BCS it is possible to differentiate between attempted burglaries and burglaries with entry and thus burglary can be classified as: **attempted burglary; burglary with entry; burglary with no loss (including attempts); and burglary with loss**. Burglary with entry plus attempted burglary add up to total burglary. Burglary with loss plus burglary with no loss (including attempts) also add up to total burglary.

Burglary with entry – This term is used in the BCS and comprises burglary where a building was successfully entered, regardless of whether something was stolen or not. This offence type combines with **attempted burglary** to comprise total burglary.

Burglary with loss – This term is used in the BCS and comprises burglary where a building was successfully entered and something was stolen. This offence type combines with burglary with no loss (including attempts) to comprise total burglary.

Burglary with no loss (including attempts) – In the BCS this includes attempted entry to a property and cases where a property was entered but nothing was stolen. In making comparisons with police recorded crime, BCS **burglary with no loss** (including attempts) is used as a proxy for attempted burglary, though there will be some instances with no loss where entry has been gained. This offence type combines with **burglary with loss** to comprise total burglary.

Calibration weighting – A review of the BCS by survey methodology experts in the Office for National Statistics (ONS) and the National Centre for Social Research recommended that the calibration weighting method be adopted in the BCS (Lynn and Elliot, 2000). The weighting is designed to make adjustments for known differentials in response rates between different age by sex subgroups and households with different age and sex composition. For example, a household containing a 24-year-old male living alone may be

less likely to respond to the survey than a household containing a 24-year-old male living with a young partner and a child. The procedure therefore gives different weights to different household types based on their age/sex composition in such a way that the weighted distribution of individuals in the responding households matches the known distribution in the population as a whole.

The weights are generated using an algorithm that minimises the differences between the weights implied by sampling and the final weights subject to the weighted data meeting the population controls. They are based on calibrating on **population figures** provided by the Labour Force Survey (LFS) from ONS. Calibration weights were applied from the 1996 BCS onwards using CALMAR (a SAS-based macro); the 2006/07 and 2007/08 BCS used g-Calib within a new SPSS-based data processing system (the weights produced by g-Calib are the same as those from CALMAR).

The effects of calibration weights are generally small for household crime, but are more important for estimates of personal crime, where young respondents generally have much higher crime victimisation rates than average but also lower response rates to the survey. However, crime trends since the 1996 survey did not change to any great extent with the introduction of calibration weighting.

Cannabis warning – Prior to 16 January 2007 this was known as a 'Formal warning for cannabis possession'. From 1 April 2004 information on police formal warnings for cannabis possession started to be collected centrally as part of the information held (prior to this a pilot scheme was run in parts of London). Those aged 18 and over who are caught in simple possession of cannabis can be eligible for a police cannabis warning which would not involve an arrest. An offence is deemed to be cleared up if a cannabis warning has been issued in accordance with guidance from the Association of Chief Police Officers.

Cautions – An offence is deemed to be detected if an offender has been cautioned by the police or given a reprimand or warning under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998. A caution may be given by, or on the instructions of, a senior police officer when an offender admits guilt, where there is sufficient evidence for a realistic prospect of conviction, where the offender consents, or where it does not seem in the public interest to instigate criminal proceedings. Guidance on administering cautions was published in June 2005 (see Home Office Circular 30/2005. Revised guidance on cautioning policy can be found in Home Office Circular 16/2008).

Charge/summons – An offence is deemed to be detected if a person has been charged or summonsed for the crime (irrespective of any subsequent acquittal at Court).

CIFAS – CIFAS is an industry Fraud Prevention Service with 270 members spread across banking, credit cards, asset finance, retail credit, mail order, insurance, savings and investments, telecommunications, factoring, and share dealing. Members share information about identified frauds to prevent further fraud.

Common assault – In the BCS, the previously used common assault (or attempted assault) category, which had been inconsistent with the police recorded offence category, was replaced with **assault with minor injury** and **assault with no injury** categories in 2006/07. This change was made to align BCS categories more closely with those used by the police.

Comparable subset of crimes – A set of offences that are covered by both the BCS and police recorded crime. Various adjustments are made to the recorded crime categories to maximise comparability with the BCS. Comparable crime is used to compare trends in police and BCS figures. Eighty per cent of BCS offences reported via interviews in the **2007/08 interview sample** fall into categories that can be compared with crimes recorded by the police.

Computer Assisted Personal Interview (CAPI) – BCS interviewers record responses to the questionnaire on laptop computers (CAPI). The questionnaire is a computer program that specifies the questions, range and structure of permissible answers and instructions for navigating through the questionnaire. Plausibility and consistency checks are incorporated to improve data quality. The self-completion modules on the BCS are conducted using Computer Assisted Self-Interviewing (CASI) where the interviewer gives the laptop to the respondent. CASI allows respondents to report behaviours or attitudes to more sensitive questions in private. The mode of interview changed in the 1994 BCS from a paper-based questionnaire to CAPI.

Confidence interval – The range of values between which the population parameter is estimated to lie (also referred to as margin of error). Surveys produce statistics that are estimates of the real figure for the population under study. These estimates are always surrounded by a margin of error of plus or minus a given range. At the 95 per cent confidence level, over many repeats of a survey under the same conditions, one would expect that these confidence intervals would contain the true population value in 95 times out of 100. When assessing the results of a single survey it is assumed that there is a one in 20 chance that the true population value will fall outside the 95 per cent confidence interval calculated for the survey estimate.

There are Appendix tables for the 2007/08 BCS which provide 95 confidence intervals around estimates: Table A.01 shows main estimates of incidents of crime; Table A.02 shows main estimates of victimisation and key perception measures; Table A.03 shows main estimates of personal victimisation by respondent sex and age; and Table A.04 shows main estimates of household victimisation by household reference person age and tenure.

Confidence intervals can also be constructed for changes in estimates between years of the BCS and for differences between population subgroups. If a difference is outside a range set by a 95 per cent confidence interval then one judges the difference to be 'statistically significant at the five per cent level'. In this publication a five per cent significance level has been applied. See also the definition of **statistical significance**.

Confidence in the criminal justice system (CJS) – The BCS includes questions about people's confidence in seven aspects of the criminal justice system (CJS):

- respects the rights of people accused of committing a crime and treats them fairly;
- effective in bringing people who commit crimes to justice;
- deals with cases promptly and efficiently;
- effective at reducing crime;
- meets the needs of victims of crime;
- dealing with young people accused of crime; and
- treats people who come forward as witnesses well.

Questions on public confidence in six aspects of the CJS were introduced in the 2001/02 BCS. The question 'treats people who come forward as witnesses well' was introduced in late 2003.

A new set of questions to measure confidence in the effectiveness and fairness of the CJS was introduced in October 2007.

The measure for confidence in the effectiveness of the CJS is based on the question 'How confident are you that the criminal justice system as a whole is effective?' This question comes at the end of a series of questions about the effectiveness of the individual CJS agencies. This measure is an **SPI** in **APACS**.

The measure for confidence in the fairness of the CJS is based on the question 'How confident are you that the criminal justice system as a whole is fair?' This question comes at the end of a series of attitude statements relating to issues around 'fairness' within the CJS. This measure is an **SPI** in **APACS**.

Confidence in the police – The main measure for confidence in the police is the percentage of respondents who believe the local police are doing 'a good or excellent' job. This measure is an **SPI** in **PPAF** and **APACS**.

The BCS also includes questions about people's perceptions of the following seven aspects of their local police (how much they agree or disagree with the statements):

- the police in this area can be relied on to be there when you need them;
- the police in this area would treat you with respect if you had contact with them for any reason;
- the police in this area treat everyone fairly regardless of who they are;
- the police in this area can be relied on to deal with minor crimes;
- the police in this area understand the issues that affect this community;
- the police in this area are dealing with the things that matter to people in this community;
- taking everything into account I have confidence in the police in this area.

Confidence in the local police and agencies – Since October 2007 the BCS has included two questions to measure public confidence in the police working with local agencies to understand and tackle the crime and anti-social behaviour issues of importance in their community. Respondents are asked how much they agree or disagree with the statements:

- the police and local council seek people's views about the anti-social behaviour issues that matter in the area;
- the police and local council are dealing with the anti-social behaviour issues that matter in the area.

These two measures are an **SPI** in **APACS**.

Counting rules – Instructions issued to the police by the Home Office on how the police should count and classify crime. Recorded crime figures in this publication are based on the counting rules that came into force on 1 April 1998. These rules were updated following the introduction on 1 April 2002 of the Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO) **National Crime Recording Standard** devised by ACPO in collaboration with Home Office statisticians. A copy of the latest counting rules is available on the Home Office website at www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/countrules.html.

Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships (CDRPs) – Set up under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 and are, in nearly all cases, coterminous with local authority areas. They include representatives from police, health, probation and other local agencies and provide strategies for reducing crime in the area. As at 1 April 2007 (and therefore for the reporting year 2007-08) there were 373 CDRPs in England and Wales. In Wales, the 22 CDRPs have changed to Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) to reflect their new identity subsequent to merging with Drug and Alcohol Action Teams. Recorded crime figures for seven key offences for each CDRP are published on the Home Office website, together with analogous figures for local authority areas.

Criminal damage – Criminal damage results from any person who without lawful excuse destroys or damages any property belonging to another, intending to destroy or damage any such property or being reckless as to whether any such property would be destroyed or

damaged. Separate recorded crime figures exist for criminal damage to a dwelling, to a building other than a dwelling, to a vehicle and other criminal damage. Combined figures are also published for racially or religiously aggravated criminal damage. In the BCS, criminal damage is referred to as vandalism; that is any intentional damage done to property belonging to the respondent, or to their home or vehicle. As in the case of burglary, the BCS only includes vandalism relating to households. See also: **arson**, **vandalism** and **vehicle vandalism**.

Detections – Crimes that have been ‘cleared up’ by the police (previously known as clear ups). Detailed information on the way the police are able to show a crime as ‘detected’ is contained in Section H of the Home Office Counting Rules. A copy of the counting rules is available on the Home Office website (see **Counting rules**).

Domestic burglary – Burglary in a dwelling. The BCS only covers domestic burglary whilst police recorded crime covers both commercial and domestic burglary (see also **Burglary**)

Domestic violence – A type of **BCS violence**. It comprises wounding, assault with minor injury and assault with no injury which involves partners, ex-partners, other relatives or household members. A computer-assisted self-completion module was included in the 1996 and 2001 BCS to improve estimates of domestic violence (Mirrlees-Black, 1999; Walby and Allen, 2004) and a similar module has been included since the 2004/05 BCS. Results from the most recent self-completion module are reported in Povey *et al.* (2008). See also: **acquaintance violence**, **mugging** and **stranger violence**. Figures on recorded crime do not identify offences of domestic violence since it is not a legal definition. Such offences would be recorded in accordance with any injuries sustained e.g. other wounding.

Drugs – Since 1996 the BCS has included a self-completion module of questions on illicit drug use that can be compared over time. This module is restricted to respondents aged 16 to 59. As a household survey, the BCS provides an effective measure of the more commonly used drugs for which the majority of users are contained within the household population. However, the BCS does not cover some groups, potentially important given that they may have relatively high rates of drug use: notably the homeless, and those living in institutions such as prisons or student halls of residence. Nor, in practice, will any household survey necessarily reach problematic drug users. As a result, the BCS is likely to underestimate the overall use of drugs such as opiates and crack cocaine, where the majority of users are concentrated within small subsections of the population not covered by the survey. For further information on drug use from the BCS see Murphy and Roe (2007).

Ethnic group – See definition of **Black and Minority Ethnic groups**.

Employment status – The BCS uses the following categories for employment status which are based on the National Statistics **harmonised classification** but include further breakdowns for those in the ‘Economically inactive’ category.

- In employment – includes people doing paid work in the last week; working on a government-supported training scheme; or doing unpaid work for own/family business.
- Unemployed – actively seeking work, or waiting to take up work.
- Economically inactive – those who are retired; going to school or college full-time; looking after home/family; are temporarily or permanently sick; or doing something else.

Base sizes for the student categories differ in the economic categories from those in the occupational classification (see **NS-SEC**) as economically inactive students exclude those who are in employment, or in other ways economically active, but full-time students are recognised as such within the occupational coding of NS-SEC.

Fear of crime – The fear of crime indicator is synonymous with the **worry about crime** indicator (see definition).

Fraud – For offences prior to 15 January 2007, defined as dishonestly deceiving to obtain either property or a pecuniary advantage. Recorded crime statistics are collected for: fraud by company director; false accounting; cheque and credit card fraud; other frauds; bankruptcy and insolvency offences; forgery or use of false drug prescription; other forgery; vehicle/driver document fraud.

For offences after 15 January 2007, fraud is defined as dishonestly making a false representation to obtain property or money for themselves or another. Recorded crime statistics are collected for: fraud by company director; false accounting; other frauds; failing to disclose information; abuse of position; obtaining services dishonestly; making or supplying articles for use in fraud; possession of articles for use in fraud; bankruptcy and insolvency offences; forgery or use of false drug prescription; other forgery; vehicle/driver document fraud. The counting rules were also altered from 15 January 2007 so that in most cases cheque and plastic card fraud is counted on a 'per account' rather than 'per transaction' basis, with from 1 April 2007 financial institutions becoming responsible for reporting such crime in most cases.

Figures for cheque and credit card fraud are obtained from **APACS** (the UK payments association). Plastic (credit, debit or bank) card fraud is covered within a module in the BCS (Flatley, 2007) but as victims of fraud are mainly commercial organisations, it is not covered in the same way as other crimes. See also the definition of **Identity fraud**.

Government Office Region (GOR) – Government Offices for the Regions were established across England in 1994. The Government Office Regions are the primary classification for the presentation of regional statistics. There are nine GORs in England: North East; North West; Yorkshire and the Humber; East Midlands; West Midlands; East of England; London; South East; South West. In this report analysis by region also includes separate analysis for Wales.

Harmonised classifications – National Statistics have developed a set of standard classifications that allow greater comparability of different surveys and other data collection systems. A number of these classifications have been adopted by the BCS. For more information on the harmonised classifications see:

<http://www.statistics.gov.uk/about/data/harmonisation/default.asp>.

Homicide – Comprises the recorded crimes of murder, manslaughter and infanticide. The published figures do not separately identify between these categories since at the time an offence is recorded by the police the circumstances surrounding the offence may not necessarily be known. Whether an offence is murder or manslaughter may be decided once an offender has been apprehended and appeared in court. The BCS, by its nature (i.e. being reliant on victim interviews), cannot include homicide.

Household accommodation type – The BCS uses this definition of the household's accommodation, based on the National Statistics, **harmonised classification**.

- House or bungalow: detached, semi-detached, terraced.
- Flat or maisonette: includes purpose-built block, non-purpose built (including bedsits) and all flats and maisonettes.
- Other accommodation types: includes caravans and mobile homes for example.

Household crimes – For household offences reported in the BCS, all members of the household can be regarded as victims. Therefore, the respondent answers on behalf of the whole household in the offence categories of: bicycle theft; burglary; theft in a dwelling; other

household theft; thefts of and from vehicles; and vandalism to household property and vehicles.

Household reference person (HRP) – For some topics it is necessary to select one person in the household to indicate the characteristics of the household more generally. Following the National Statistics' **harmonised classifications**, the BCS replaced head of household with household reference person (HRP) in 2001/02. The HRP is the member of the household in whose name the accommodation is owned or rented, or is otherwise responsible for the accommodation. Where this responsibility is joint within the household, the HRP is the person with the highest income. If incomes are equal, then the oldest person is the HRP.

Household structure – The classification of households in the BCS is on the basis of size, age of household reference person, and number of children. Households are divided into those where the household reference person is aged over 60, and those where the household reference person is aged 16 to 59. The latter group is subdivided into the following categories:

- one adult aged less than 60, and one or more children (under 16). Note this does not necessarily denote a lone parent family, as the adult may be a sibling or grandparent of the child;
- more than one adult with one or more children (under 16);
- one or more adults with no children (under 16).

Identity fraud – The Home Office Identity Fraud Steering Group defines identity (ID) fraud as occurring when a false identity or someone else's identity details are used to support unlawful activity, or when someone avoids obligation/liability by falsely claiming that he/she was the victim of ID fraud. ID fraud occurs, for example, when criminals obtain personal details and use them to open bank accounts and get credit cards, loans, state benefits and official documents such as national insurance numbers, drivers' licences, birth certificates and passports. It also includes fraud that results directly from a known crime, such as subsequent use of a stolen credit card, rather than obtaining someone's identity through deception, or manufacturing a false identity.

BCS respondents were asked whether they had experienced having their personal details used in any of the following activities: to apply for and obtain a credit card; to open a bank or building society account; use credit or debit card to make a purchase; to obtain a loan, mortgage or credit agreement; to apply for state benefits; to apply for a driver's licence; to register a vehicle; to apply for a passport; or to apply for a mobile phone contract.

Impact of fear of crime and crime on quality of life – The impact of fear of crime and crime on quality of life is measured through two questions each asked of approximately 6,000 respondents. The questions are 'How much is YOUR OWN quality of life affected by fear of crime/crime, on a scale from 1 to 10, where 1 is no effect and 10 is a total effect on your quality of life?' The ratings from 1 to 10 are then classed as Low (1-3), Moderate (4-7), and High (8-10).

Incidence rates – The number of crimes experienced per household or adult in the BCS. See also prevalence rates.

Indices of deprivation – Local area deprivation is measured in this report using the Indices of Deprivation 2004. There are seven domains of deprivation: income; employment; health and disability; education, skills and training; barriers to housing and services; living environment; and crime. There are a number of indicators of deprivation in each of these domains, such as level of unemployment and incapacity benefit claimants, which are combined into a single deprivation score for each local area on that domain. The analysis in this report uses the employment deprivation indicator.

In order to examine how deprivation varies across the country the local areas are ranked according to their scores on a domain. The 20 per cent of areas with the highest deprivation

scores are identified as the most deprived areas on the domain of interest and the 20 per cent of areas with the lowest deprivation scores are identified as the least deprived.

An Index of Multiple Deprivation is also available which combines all seven separate domains into one index. The Indices of Deprivation 2004 are the responsibility of the Department for Communities and Local Government; further information is available at www.communities.gov.uk. Further information on the Welsh Index of Deprivation 2005 is available at www.wales.gov.uk.

Interfering with a motor vehicle – This mostly includes recorded crime offences where there is evidence of intent to commit either theft of or from a vehicle or taking without consent (TWOC), but there is either (i) no evidence of intent to commit one of these three offences specifically, or (ii) there is evidence of intent to commit TWOC (TWOC is a summary offence but, under the provisions of the Criminal Attempts Act 1981, it is not legally valid to have an attempted summary offence). Interfering with a motor vehicle offences as presented in this volume are equivalent to the offence class formerly referred to as ‘vehicle interference and tampering’. The BCS cannot separately identify this category. In comparisons with the BCS it is included in the attempted vehicle theft category but in some instances could be viewed as criminal damage or even a nuisance.

Level of home security – This measure is based on the type of security measures fitted to the respondent’s home. Households are divided into the following categories:

- high security – households with burglar alarms, internal or external lights or bars on windows;
- some security – households with deadlocks on doors, window locks or security chains on doors; and
- no security – households with no home security measures.

Living arrangements – The BCS uses the following definitions for living arrangements, based on the National Statistics **harmonised classification**:

- persons living in a couple: married, cohabiting (includes same-sex couples);
- persons not living in a couple: single, separated, divorced or widowed.

Local Authority areas – A combination of metropolitan and non-metropolitan districts, unitary authorities and London boroughs. As at 1 April 2007 there were 376 local authorities in England and Wales. These areas provide the basis for Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships, although since their formation a small number of partnerships have merged to cover multiple local authority areas (see also **Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships**).

Logistic regression – A multivariate statistical technique that predicts the outcome of a dependent variable (e.g. risk of crime), which has only two possible outcomes, from a set of independent variables. Multivariate techniques allow the assessment of which of the independent variables are statistically related to the dependent variable when the influence of all other variables under consideration is taken into account. Both continuous and categorical variables can be used to predict the dependent variable. The logistic regression method used in this report was the forward stepwise selection.

The Nagelkerke statistic presented for each regression is a measure of how much variance in the dependent variable is explained by the model based on the factors which are listed in the text boxes. These factors are ‘strongly independently associated’ with the dependent variable; that is, each factor contributes around a one per cent improvement in explained variance to the overall model. All independent variables, including those which are not presented and those that did not make the final model, will be presented in online tables to be published subsequent to this report.

Mugging – This is a type of **BCS violence**. It is a popular rather than a legal term, comprising robbery, attempted robbery, and snatch theft from the person. The BCS does not cover muggings against those aged under 16 or not living in private households. Police recorded crime does not separately record the small category of snatch theft, this being part of the police recorded crime category of theft from the person. Snatch thefts are also excluded from all violence in the BCS.

Multiple victimisation – Multiple victimisation is defined in the BCS as the experience of more than one crime in a year, of the same or a different type. Thus it is a broader definition than repeat victimisation. Victims can be divided into those who have experienced one incident of any household *or* personal crime only; those who have experienced more than one incident of a household crime *or* a personal crime; and those who have experienced more than one incident of household *and* personal crime.

National Crime Recording Standard (NCRS) – Instigated by the Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO), with the collaboration of Home Office statisticians, it aims to promote greater consistency between police forces in the recording of crime and to take a more victim-orientated approach to crime recording. Under the NCRS, where a member of the public reports a crime the police must record it providing “there is no credible evidence to the contrary”. Although some forces adopted the Standard early, it was officially introduced across England and Wales on 1 April 2002, though audits indicated that in some forces it took two to three years to be implemented. Counting rules are available on the Home Office website, see: <http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/counrules.html>.

National Statistics Area Classification – The 2001 National Statistics Area Classification is used to cluster geographic areas according to key characteristics common to the population in that grouping, derived using census data. The clusters are split into six main dimensions: demographic, household composition, housing, socio-economic, employment and industry sector. These areas are available at three levels of hierarchy: 'supergroups', 'groups' and 'subgroups'. The analysis presented in this bulletin focuses on supergroups:

- Cities and Services – built up areas such as Leeds;
- London Suburbs – areas located in outer London such as Redbridge;
- London Centre – areas located in inner London such as Hammersmith and Fulham;
- London Cosmopolitan – areas in inner London such as Haringey;
- Prospering UK – areas located throughout the UK such as Maidstone;
- Coastal and Countryside – located around the coast of England and Wales and some inland areas, such as Caradon;
- Mining and Manufacturing – local authorities in the M8 corridor, north-east England, and parts of South Wales, and manufacturing towns in southern Yorkshire, such as Blyth Valley.

Detailed information on the 2001 Area Classification is available from:

http://www.statistics.gov.uk/about/methodology_by_theme/area_classification/default.asp

NS-SEC – The National Statistics Socio-economic Classification (NS-SEC) is an occupationally based classification, but provides coverage of the whole adult population. The NS-SEC aims to differentiate positions within labour markets and production units in terms of their typical 'employment relations'.

More information about NS-SEC can be found on the National Statistics website, see: http://www.statistics.gov.uk/methods_quality/ns_sec/default.asp.

BCS analysis is based on the three analytic classes provided within NS-SEC (http://www.statistics.gov.uk/methods_quality/ns_sec/downloads/NS-SEC_User.pdf) but also describes full-time students in a separate category (usually included within the 'Not classified'

category). Base sizes for the student categories differ in NS-SEC from those in the economic classification (see **Employment status**) as economically inactive students exclude those who are in employment, or in other ways economically active, but full-time students are recognised as such within the occupational coding of NS-SEC.

Offences against vehicles – A police recorded crime group which includes offences of aggravated vehicle taking, theft of a motor vehicle, theft from a vehicle and **interfering with a motor vehicle** (formerly termed interference and tampering). Attempted theft of and theft from offences are included in the substantive offence.

Other household theft – A BCS category of household offences covering thefts and attempted thefts from domestic garages, outhouses, sheds, etc. not directly linked to the dwelling, as well as thefts from both inside and outside a dwelling (excluding thefts of milk bottles from the doorstep). This category is not in the **comparable subset of crimes**. In principle, it could be in the comparable subset, but the number of offences is small and therefore changes over time are unreliable. The category of **theft in a dwelling** is included here.

Other theft of personal property – A BCS offence category referring to theft of personal property away from the home (e.g. handbags from offices), where there was no direct contact between the offender and victim. Only the respondent can be the victim of this crime category. This category is not in the **comparable subset of crimes**.

Penalty Notice for Disorder (PND) – An offence is deemed to be detected if the police issue a penalty notice for disorder. Such a notice must be issued in accordance with any operational guidance to the police (e.g. Police Operational Guidance on Penalty Notices for Disorder issued by the Home Office in March 2005). A detection is counted if the penalty notice is not contested, is contested but the Crown Prosecution Service proceeds with the case, or, in discontinued cases, the dedicated decision maker reviews the case and stands by the original decision.

Perceived likelihood of victimisation – The perceived likelihood of burglary is based on those who say they are very or fairly likely to have their home burgled in the next year. Perceived likelihood of violent crime is a composite measure of anyone who thinks they are very or fairly likely to be *either* mugged/robbed, *or* physically attacked by a stranger in the next year, or both. Perceived likelihood of vehicle crime is a composite measure of vehicle owners who think they are very or fairly likely to either have a car/van stolen, *or* have something stolen from a car/van in the next year, or both. All the perceived likelihood questions are asked of respondents, irrespective of whether they have been a victim of crime in the previous 12 months.

Perceptions of drug use – The percentage of BCS respondents who perceive people using or dealing drugs to be a very or fairly big problem in their local area. It is also an **SPI** in **PPAF** and **APACS**.

Perceptions of drunk or rowdy behaviour – The percentage of BCS respondents who perceive people being drunk or rowdy in public places to be a very or fairly big problem in their local area. It is also an **SPI** in **APACS**.

Personal crimes – For personal offences, the respondent reports only on his/her experience to the BCS. This applies to the following offence categories: wounding, assault with minor injury, assault with no injury, sexual offences, robbery, theft from the person, and other personal theft. Information is also collected on threats, though not reported in this publication as few meet the criteria of an offence. The BCS does not cover personal crimes against those aged under 16 or not living in private households. In the BCS data presented in this volume 'all personal crime' excludes sexual offences; the number of sexual offences picked up by the survey is too small to give reliable estimates and these figures are not provided in this publication.

Physical disorder – This term is used to describe a measure based on the interviewer's assessment of the level of (a) vandalism, graffiti and deliberate damage to property, (b) rubbish and litter, and (c) homes in poor condition in the area. Using guidance, the interviewer has to make an assessment as to whether each of these problems is very common, fairly common, not very common or not at all common. For each, very and fairly common is scored as 1 and not very and not at all as 0. A scale is then constructed by summing the scores for each case. The scale ranges from 0 to 3, with high disorder areas being those with a score of 2 or 3. The measurement of respondents' own perceptions is described under **anti-social behaviour**.

Population figures – The BCS uses population figures in the calibration weighting and in calculating the estimates of numbers of crimes. Following the 2001 Census, the Office for National Statistics (ONS) issued revised estimates of population involving the total numbers of people and the distribution by age and sex. **Calibration weighting** for the 2007/08 BCS and previous years has been calculated using population distributions, which have not fully incorporated the census revisions.

For the calculation of the numbers of crimes, population figures based on census-revised mid-year estimates have been used for figures up to and including 2003/04 and census-revised population projections have been used since 2004/05.

The latest available estimates were used for 2007/08:

- national population figures are mid-2006 based projections for the 2007 population from ONS;
- regional and Wales population figures are mid-2006 based estimates from ONS;
- national household figures are forecast from mid-2006 based projections for the 2007 population;
- regional household figures are mid-2004 based projections for 2007 from DCLG;
- Wales household figures are mid-2003 based projections for 2007 from the Welsh Assembly.

Some of the tables in this volume use population figures with recorded crime figures to calculate the number of crimes per 1,000 population. The population figures used are mid-2006 population estimates provided by ONS.

Postcode Address File (PAF) – The small users' Postcode Address File has been used as the sampling frame for the BCS since 1992. It is a listing of all postal delivery points in the country, with almost all households having one delivery point or letterbox. BCS sampling methods take account of the fact that a delivery point may correspond to more than one household such as a house with one front door converted into flats.

PPAF – Policing Performance Assessments Framework – A Home Office performance management framework used to monitor and assess policing performance from 2004/05 until March 2008 (2007/08). PPAF has now been replaced by **APACS**. See **Statutory Performance Indicators (SPI)** for information on PPAF measures. For more information about PPAF see: <http://police.homeoffice.gov.uk/performance-and-measurement/>

Prevalence rates – Prevalence rates show the percentage of the BCS sample who were victims of an offence once or more during the year. Unlike BCS incidence rates they only take account of whether a household or person was a victim of a specific crime once or more in the reference period, but not of the number of times victimised. Prevalence rates are taken as equivalent to risk of crime.

Public Service Agreements (PSAs) – PSAs were first introduced in the 1998 Comprehensive Spending Review (CSR). These targets set out the key priority outcomes the Government wants to achieve within the spending review period and how the Government will

measure success. The BCS and police recorded crime data are used to help measure progress towards PSA targets relating to crime, community safety and criminal justice.

The set of PSA targets for the spending review period 2005/06 to 2007/08 concluded at the end of March 2008. For more information about the PSA targets for 2005 to 2008 see: http://www.hm-treasury.gov.uk/spending_review/spend_sr04/psa/spend_sr04_psaindex.cfm

The new set of PSA targets for the spending review period 2008/09 to 2010/11, set out as part of the Comprehensive Spending Review 2007, came into effect at the beginning of April 2008. For more information about the PSA targets for 2008 to 2011 see: http://www.hm-treasury.gov.uk/pbr_csr/psa/pbr_csr07_psaindex.cfm

Racially or religiously aggravated offences – Used in recorded crime, racially aggravated offences are legally defined under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 (section 28). The Anti-terrorism, Crime and Security Act 2001 (section 39) added the religiously aggravated aspect. Racially or religiously aggravated offences cannot be separately identified in police recorded crime. BCS respondents are asked whether they thought the incident was racially motivated, and from 2005/06 whether they thought the incident was religiously motivated. Figures on racially and religiously motivated crimes from the 2005/06 and 2006/07 BCS are reported in Jansson *et al.* 2007.

Reference period – (previously listed as recall period). This is the time period for which crimes experienced by BCS respondents are reported. Following the introduction of continuous sampling in 2001/02 the BCS reference period for offences relates to the 12 full calendar months prior to interview. Prior to this the reference period was between 1 January and 31 December of the previous year.

Recorded crime – Police recorded crime covers crimes which are recorded by the police and which are notified to the Home Office. All indictable and triable-either-way offences are included together with certain closely associated summary offences. Attempts are also included. See Appendix 3 for a full list of recorded crimes.

Recorded crime BCS comparator – This is a subset of the total number of police recorded crimes based on the set of offences that form the **comparable subset of crimes** (i.e. which match offences recorded by the BCS). This total is not adjusted for offences against under-16s or commercial targets. See Chapter 2.

Religion – The BCS collects information about the respondent's and the household reference person's religion, using the following categories: Christian, Buddhist, Hindu, Jewish, Muslim, Sikh, Other and No religion. First results from the BCS focusing on the experiences and perceptions of different religious groups are published in Jansson *et al.* 2007.

Repeat victimisation – Repeat victimisation is defined as being a victim of the same offence or group of offences more than once within the same year. Such victimisation accounts for the differences between incidence rates (total numbers of offences) and prevalence rates (the proportion of the population victimised once or more). See also **multiple victimisation**.

Risk of crime – The estimated risk of an adult being a victim once or more in the previous 12 months of a personal or household crime (excluding sexual offences). Risk is taken as equivalent to prevalence rates.

Risk of personal crime – The estimated risk of an adult being a victim once or more in the previous 12 months of a personal crime (excluding sexual offences). This measure was an **SPI** in **PPAF**.

Risk of household crime – The estimated risk of a household being a victim once or more in the previous 12 months of a household crime. This measure was an **SPI** in **PPAF**.

Robbery – An incident or offence in which force or the threat of force is used either during or immediately prior to a theft or attempted theft. Recorded crime offences distinguish between robbery of personal property and business property. Robbery of business property is a recorded crime classification where goods stolen belong to a business or other corporate body (such as a bank or a shop), regardless of the location of the robbery. If there is no use or threat of force an offence of theft from the person is recorded (this would be classified in the BCS as **snatch theft**, which together with **robbery** comprises the BCS **mugging** category). The BCS excludes robberies against those not living in private households and those aged under 16, as for all personal crimes.

Rural areas – The National Statistics rural and urban area classification 2004 has been used in this report. Rural areas are those classified as ‘small town and fringe – sparse’, ‘village – sparse’, ‘hamlet and isolated dwelling – sparse’, ‘small town and fringe – less sparse’, ‘village – less sparse’ and ‘hamlet and isolated dwellings – less sparse’.

More information is available on the National Statistics website, see: <http://www.statistics.gov.uk/geography/nrudp.asp>.

Sampling error – A sample, as used in the BCS, is a small-scale representation of the population from which it is drawn. As such, the sample may produce estimates that differ from the figures that would have been obtained if the whole population had been interviewed. The size of the error depends on the sample size, the size and variability of the estimate, and the design of the survey. It can be computed and used to construct **confidence intervals**. Sampling error is also taken into account in tests of **statistical significance**.

Sample size – In the 2007/08 BCS the overall achieved core sample size was 46,983 and the response rate for the calendar year 2007 was 76 per cent. The survey was designed to achieve a minimum of around 1,000 core sample interviews in each police force area (PFA). Table A.05 shows the sample sizes for different subgroups (household and personal characteristics), PFAs and regions. For more information on BCS methodology see Bolling *et al.*, (2007).

Sanction detections – A sanction detection is an offence cleared up through a judicial sanction, i.e. it is detected by a charge or summons, a caution, an offence taken into consideration, the issue of a penalty notice for disorder or a cannabis warning.

Sexual offences – Prior to May 2004 there were 15 separate offences included in the recorded crime sexual offences group including the offences of rape and indecent assault. The Sexual Offences Act 2003, which came into force in May 2004, introduced several new offences and repealed some of those which were previously in the series. Full details are provided in Appendix 2. Due to the small number of sexual offences picked up by the BCS the figures are too unreliable to report. The 1994 BCS, however, included a computer-assisted self-completion component on sexual victimisation to improve estimates (Percy and Mayhew, 1997), and similar modules were included in the 1998 and 2000 BCS (Myhill and Allen, 2002), and the 2001 BCS (Walby and Allen, 2004). A similar module has been included since the 2004/05 BCS. Results from the most recent self-completion module are reported in Povey *et al.*, 2008. Wounding with a sexual nature is included in **wounding**.

Snatch theft – Incidents reported to the BCS where an offender snatches property away from the victim (there may be an element of force involved but this is just enough to snatch the property away) and the victim was clearly aware of the incident as it happened. The BCS does not cover snatch theft against those aged under 16 or not living in private households, the caveat for all personal crimes. Snatch theft is included within the recorded crime category of theft from the person and is not separately identifiable in police recorded crime figures. See also **stealth thefts**, which are thefts from the person in which the victim was not aware of what was happening and are included as such in the recorded crime figures.

Statistical significance – Because the BCS estimates are subject to **sampling error**, differences between estimates from successive years of the survey or between population subgroups may occur by chance. Tests of statistical significance are used to identify which differences are unlikely to have occurred by chance. In this publication tests at the five per cent significance level have been applied (the level at which there is a one in 20 chance of an observed difference being solely due to chance).

Statistical significance for change in all BCS crime cannot be calculated in the same way as for other BCS figures. This is because estimates of all BCS crime are calculated by combining estimates of all household and personal crimes, which are based on two distinct samples (household and personal with different statistical weights). Whether a change in all BCS crime is statistically significant is assessed by examining if changes in all personal and household crime are significant over the same period; if BCS household and personal crime each show a statistically significant increase or decrease, in the same direction, this indicates a statistically significant change in all BCS crime.

Statutory Performance Indicators (SPIs) – These are a suite of indicators developed for monitoring the performance of local authorities and police authorities/forces. Monitoring up to March 2008 uses the Policing Performance Assessment Framework (**PPAF**), while from April 2008 onwards the Assessment of Policing and Community Safety (**APACS**) framework will be used for performance monitoring.

The PPAF indicator areas that are directly based on BCS data are:

- confidence in local police;
- risk of household crime;
- risk of personal crime; and
- quality of life measures (fear of crime; perceptions of anti-social behaviour; and perceptions of drug use).

The APACS indicator areas that are directly based on BCS data are:

- confidence in local police;
- confidence in the fairness and effectiveness of the criminal justice system;
- attitudes to the local police and agencies; and
- anti-social behaviour measures (overall perceptions of anti-social behaviour; perceptions of drug use/dealing; and perceptions of drunk/rowdy behaviour).

The BCS can generate indicator values at police force area level, but finer breakdowns are not possible (e.g. to Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership level).

Stealth theft – Thefts from the person which involve no force and where, unlike **snatch theft**, the victim was not aware of what was happening at the time. The BCS does not cover stealth theft against those aged under 16 or not living in private households. Stealth theft is included as part of the recorded crime theft from the person category and cannot be separately identified from snatch theft.

Stranger violence – A type of **BCS violence**, it includes **assault with minor injury**, **assault with no injury** and **wounding**, in which the victim did not have any information about the offender(s), or did not know and had never seen the offender(s) before.

Stratification – One of the BCS requirements is a design that achieves a minimum of around 1,000 core sample interviews per police force area (PFA). The survey was designed to over-sample in the smaller PFAs to achieve the minimum number of interviews. One result of this is that the data have to be weighted to remove the effect of differences in the probability of selection of addresses within different PFAs. As well as stratifying

disproportionately by PFA, the sample was stratified by other socio-demographic variables in order to maximise the precision of estimates. The stratifiers used in 2007/08 were the same as in previous surveys, namely population density and the proportion of household reference persons in non-manual occupations.

Super Output Areas (SOAs) – The default geography used by Neighbourhood Statistics that was designed for the collection and publication of small area statistics. They are already used on the Neighbourhood Statistics website, and it is intended that they will eventually have wider application across National Statistics. To support a range of potential requirements there are three layers of SOA:

- Lower Layer – Minimum population 1,000; mean 1,500. Built from groups of Output Areas (typically four to six) and constrained by the boundaries of the Standard Table (ST) wards used for 2001 Census outputs.
- Middle Layer – Minimum population 5,000; mean 7,200. Built from groups of Lower Layer SOAs and constrained by the 2003 local authority boundaries used for 2001 Census outputs.
- Upper Layer – To be determined; minimum size c.25, 000.

Taken into consideration – An offence is deemed to be detected if the offender admits the crime and asks for it to be taken into consideration by the court.

Tenure – The following definition of tenure is used by the BCS based on the National Statistics **harmonised classification**:

- Owners: households who own their homes outright, or are buying with a mortgage (includes shared owners, who own part of the equity and pay part of the mortgage/rent).
- Social-rented-sector tenants: households renting from a council, housing association or other social-rented sector.
- Rented privately: households privately renting unfurnished or furnished property. This includes tenants whose accommodation comes with their job, even if their landlord is a housing association or local authority.

Theft from the person – Theft (including attempts) of a purse, wallet, cash etc. directly from the person of the victim, but without physical force or the threat of it. One BCS component of theft from the person is **snatch theft** (there may be an element of force involved but this is just enough to snatch the property away), which is added to **robbery** to create a category of **mugging**. The other is **stealth theft**. Theft from the person exists as a separate police recorded crime category.

Theft in a dwelling – This BCS classification includes thefts committed inside a home by someone who is entitled to be there at the time of the offence (e.g. party guests, workmen, etc.). They are included in other household thefts.

Urban areas – The National Statistics rural and urban area classification 2004 has been used in this report. Urban areas are those classified as ‘urban – sparse’ and ‘urban – less sparse’. More information is available on the National Statistics website at: (<http://www.statistics.gov.uk/geography/nrudp.asp>).

Vandalism – In the BCS this is intentional and malicious damage to household property and equates to the recorded crime category of criminal damage. Vandalism shown in the BCS ranges from arson to graffiti. Cases where there is nuisance only (e.g. letting down car tyres) or where the damage is accidental are not included. Where vandalism occurs in combination with burglary or robbery, the burglary or robbery codes take precedence over the damage codes in offence coding. The BCS produces estimates both for vandalism to the home and other property and against vehicles. Vandalism to the home and other property involves

intentional or malicious damage to doors, windows, fences, plants and shrubs for example. Vandalism to other property also includes arson where there is any deliberate damage to property belonging to the respondent or their household (including vehicles) caused by fire, regardless of the property involved.. See **vehicle vandalism** for details of what this covers.

Vehicles – In the BCS these cover cars, vans, motorcycles, scooters, mopeds etc. either owned or regularly used by anyone in the household, including company cars. Vehicles used solely for business purposes such as lorries or work vans, however, are excluded. See also **vehicle crime**. For recorded crime purposes, a ‘motor vehicle’ is defined as any mechanically propelled vehicle made, intended or adapted for use on roads.

Vehicle crime – Recorded vehicle crimes include offences of theft of or from a vehicle, aggravated vehicle taking, vehicle interference and tampering, and criminal damage to a vehicle. Theft of a vehicle includes offences of theft of a vehicle and aggravated vehicle taking. Attempted thefts of a vehicle offences are also collected by the police. Theft from a vehicle includes attempts if there is evidence of intent to commit theft from a vehicle. If such evidence does not exist then an offence of vehicle interference or tampering is recorded. Offences of **interfering with a motor vehicle** and criminal damage to a vehicle are also included. See also **vehicle-related theft**, **offences against vehicles**, and **vehicle vandalism**.

Vehicle-related theft – In the BCS this covers three categories: (i) theft or unauthorised taking of a vehicle (where the vehicle is driven away illegally, whether or not it is recovered); (ii) theft from motor vehicles (i.e. theft of parts, accessories and contents); and (iii) attempts. No distinction is made between attempted thefts of and attempted thefts from motor vehicles, as it is often very difficult to ascertain the offender’s intention. If parts or contents are stolen as well as the vehicle being moved, the incident is classified as theft of a motor vehicle. The BCS covers vehicle-related theft against private households only and includes cars, vans, motorbikes, motor-scooters or mopeds used for non-commercial purposes. Police recorded crime does not separately identify whether a theft is a **non-commercial vehicle-related theft**.

Vehicle theft – This old terminology has been replaced by **vehicle-related theft**.

Vehicle vandalism – Includes in the BCS any intentional and malicious damage to a vehicle such as scratching a coin down the side of a car, or denting a car roof. It does not, however, include causing deliberate damage to a car by fire. These incidents are recorded as arson and therefore included in vandalism to other property. The BCS only covers vandalism against private households; that is, vehicles owned by any member of the household and company cars which count as belonging to the respondent. Recorded crime includes all vehicle vandalism under the offence classification of criminal damage to a motor vehicle.

Victim and witness satisfaction – The BCS asks victims and witnesses of crime how satisfied they were overall about the way the police handled the matter. Victim and witness satisfaction in the police is measured by the proportion of respondents who were ‘very or fairly satisfied’.

Violence against the person – A group of recorded crime offence classifications which is split into ‘Most serious violence against the person’ and ‘Other violence against the person’ offences. The ‘most serious’ subgroup comprises violent offences where the injury inflicted or intended is life threatening, and offences resulting in death, regardless of intent. ‘Other violence against the person’ includes offences involving less serious injury. It also includes certain offences that involve no physical injury, and some involving serious intent. The offence classes where no injury is sustained are as follows:

- Endangering railway passengers;
- Endangering life at sea;
- Other possession of weapons;

- Harassment;
- Racially or religiously aggravated harassment;
- Cruelty to and neglect of children;
- Abandoning a child under the age of two years;
- Child abduction;
- Assault without injury on a constable;
- Assault without injury;
- Racially or religiously aggravated assault without injury.

Violence types – Two different categorisations of BCS violence are violent offences and types of violence. BCS offences, in which the nature of the offence is such that the offender had some physical contact with the victim, comprise of wounding, assault with minor injury, assault with no injury and robbery (including attempts). The BCS violent offence categories were revised in 2006/07 by separating **common assault** into **assault with minor and no injury**, and by excluding **snatch theft** from all violence. The BCS violence types are based on the relationship between victim and offender and comprise of **domestic**, **acquaintance** and **stranger violence**, and **mugging** (which includes snatch theft, thus totals do not sum to all violence).

Violent crime – As for other personal crimes, the BCS does not cover violent crime against those aged under 16 or against those not living in private households. The coverage of all BCS violence consists of **wounding**, **assault with minor injury**, **assault with no injury** and **robbery**. The BCS All violence category was adjusted in 2006/07 to exclude **snatch theft**; therefore estimates for 1981 to 2005/06 BCS violence vary from those published subsequently. **Sexual offences** are not included in the BCS violent crime figures presented in this publication, because of the small number of offences the main survey picks up. For recorded crime a subtotal for total violent crime is no longer presented in this volume. To improve clarity, figures are given for the individual offence groups of ‘Violence against the person’, ‘Sexual offences’, and ‘Robbery’.

Weighted data – Two types of weighting are used to ensure the representativeness of the BCS sample. First, the raw data are weighted to compensate for unequal probabilities of selection. These include: the individual's chance of participation being inversely proportional to the number of adults living in the household; the over-sampling of smaller police force areas; and the selection of multi-household addresses. Second, calibration weighting is used to adjust for differential non-response.

Witnessing crime – The BCS asks respondents whether they have witnessed any of a number of crimes in the previous 12 months (used in the composite measure of witnessing crime), and also the previous five years. The crimes are: vandalism of property or vehicle; theft of or from a vehicle; threats or violence, including fights; muggings or robberies; burglary or attempted burglary; and shoplifting. There are also questions about witnessing ASB and dangerous driving. A composite measure is derived which excludes ASB and dangerous driving as they do not necessarily involve criminal behaviours.

Worry about crime – The worry about crime indicator has three components: worry about burglary, car crime and violent crime.

The measure for worry about burglary is the percentage of respondents who say they are ‘very worried’ about having their home broken into and something stolen.

The measure for worry about car crime is based on two questions on worry about ‘having your car stolen’ and ‘having things stolen from your car’. It uses a scale which scores answers to the questions as follows: ‘very worried’ = 2; ‘fairly worried’ = 1; ‘not very worried’ and ‘not at all worried’ = 0. Scores for individual respondents are calculated by summing the scores

across each question, these ranging from 0 to 4. The percentage for this component is based on respondents residing in households owning, or with regular use of, a car who score 3 or 4 on this scale.

The measure for worry about violent crime is based on a scale constructed from questions on worry about mugging, rape, physical attack by a stranger and racially motivated assault. The same coding system for question responses has been used as for the vehicle crime questions. Once results from the four questions are combined, the scale ranges from 0 (i.e. all responses are either 'not very worried' or 'not at all worried') to 8 (i.e. all responses are 'very worried'). The percentage for this component is based on respondents who score 4 or more on this scale. The three worry about crime measures were included as SPIs in PPAF.

Wounding – There are two types of wounding classifications used for recorded crime. The more serious are those offences committed with intent to do grievous bodily harm and are classified as 'wounding or other act endangering life'. Those of assault occasioning actual bodily harm are classified in the 'other wounding' category. In the BCS, wounding is a category of violence comprising 'serious' and 'other' wounding. 'Serious wounding' involves severe injuries (where the victim required immediate medical attention), where it is clear the injury was not accidental. 'Other wounding' involves less serious injury (e.g. cuts, severe bruising, chipped teeth, bruising or scratches requiring medical attention) or severe injuries which appeared to be inflicted unintentionally. For other assaults which involve no injury or only negligible injury see **assault with minor injury and assault with no injury** categories.

Table A.01 Confidence intervals around BCS estimates of incidents of crime

Numbers (thousands)	2007/08 BCS	
	Estimate ¹	Range ²
PROPERTY CRIME	<i>Numbers (thousands)</i>	
Vandalism	2,689	2,546 - 2,831
Vehicle vandalism	1,732	1,629 - 1,835
Other vandalism	957	879 - 1,034
Burglary	729	665 - 793
With entry	435	384 - 485
Attempts	294	258 - 330
With loss	318	274 - 363
No loss (including attempts)	411	367 - 454
Vehicle-related theft	1,497	1,413 - 1,581
Theft from vehicle	994	929 - 1,058
Theft of vehicles	161	137 - 185
Attempts of and from	342	303 - 381
Bicycle theft	441	401 - 482
Other household theft	1,067	992 - 1,141
<i>Unweighted base – household crimes</i>	<i>46,765</i>	
Theft from the person	577	509 - 646
Snatch theft from person	79	52 - 105
Stealth theft from person	498	435 - 562
Other thefts of personal property	980	890 - 1,070
VIOLENCE		
All BCS violence³	2,164	1,985 - 2,342
Wounding	467	396 - 539
Assault with minor injury	481	407 - 555
Assault with no injury	903	786 - 1,019
Robbery	313	241 - 385
Domestic violence	342	276 - 407
Acquaintance	765	655 - 874
Stranger	744	652 - 837
Mugging (<i>robbery + snatch theft</i>)	391	314 - 469
<i>Unweighted base – personal crimes</i>	<i>46,903</i>	
TOTALS		
ALL HOUSEHOLD CRIME	6,422	6,189 - 6,656
ALL PERSONAL CRIME	3,721	3,496 - 3,947
ALL BCS CRIME	10,143	9,780 - 10,507
<i>Unweighted base</i>	<i>46,903</i>	

1. For household crimes (vandalism, domestic burglary, vehicle-related theft, bicycle theft and other household theft) the 2007/08 numbers are derived by multiplying offence rates (incidence rates) by 23,607,316 households in England and Wales. For personal crimes (theft from the person, snatch theft, stealth theft, other theft of personal property, all BCS violence, wounding, assault with minor injury, assault with no injury and robbery) the 2007/08 numbers are derived by multiplying incidence rates by 43,859,000 adults in England and Wales.

2. The range given for these estimates is based on a 95 per cent confidence interval (see the Glossary). Estimates based on subsamples (for example, age group) will have larger confidence intervals.

3. 'All violence' includes wounding, assault with minor injury, assault with no injury and robbery. For more information see the Glossary.

Table A.02 Confidence intervals around BCS estimates of victimisation rates (prevalence risk) and key perception measures

Percentages	Estimate ¹	2007/08 BCS Range ²
<i>Percentage of households, victims once or more:</i>		
PROPERTY CRIME		
Vandalism	7.3	7.0 - 7.6
Vehicle vandalism	5.1	4.8 - 5.3
Other vandalism	2.5	2.4 - 2.7
Burglary	2.4	2.2 - 2.6
With entry	1.4	1.3 - 1.6
Attempts	1.0	0.9 - 1.1
With loss	1.1	1.0 - 1.2
No loss (including attempts)	1.4	1.2 - 1.5
Vehicle-related theft	5.0	4.8 - 5.3
Theft from vehicle	3.4	3.2 - 3.6
Theft of vehicles	0.6	0.5 - 0.7
Attempts of and from	1.2	1.1 - 1.3
Bicycle theft	1.6	1.5 - 1.8
Other household theft	3.5	3.3 - 3.7
<i>Unweighted base – household crimes</i>	<i>46,765</i>	
<i>Percentage of vehicle-owning households, victims once or more:</i>		
All vehicle-related theft	6.4	6.1 - 6.7
Theft from vehicle	4.4	4.1 - 4.6
Theft of vehicles	0.8	0.7 - 0.9
Attempts of and from	1.5	1.4 - 1.7
Vehicle vandalism	6.4	6.1 - 6.8
<i>Unweighted base – vehicle crimes (owners)</i>	<i>37,487</i>	
<i>Percentage of bicycle-owning households, victims once or more:</i>		
Bicycle theft	3.6	3.3 - 4.0
<i>Unweighted base – bicycle theft (owners)</i>	<i>20,779</i>	
<i>Percentage of adults (16+), victims once or more:</i>		
Theft from the person	1.2	1.1 - 1.4
Snatch theft from person	0.2	0.1 - 0.2
Stealth theft from person	1.1	0.9 - 1.2
Other thefts of personal property	1.9	1.8 - 2.1
VIOLENCE		
Any BCS violence³	3.2	3.0 - 3.4
Wounding	0.8	0.7 - 0.9
Assault with minor injury	0.8	0.7 - 0.9
Assault with no injury	1.4	1.2 - 1.5
Robbery	0.5	0.4 - 0.6
Domestic violence	0.4	0.3 - 0.4
Acquaintance	1.1	1.0 - 1.2
Stranger	1.3	1.2 - 1.5
Mugging (robbery + snatch theft)	0.7	0.6 - 0.8
<i>Unweighted base – personal crimes</i>		
TOTALS		
ALL HOUSEHOLD CRIME	17.1	16.6 - 17.5
ALL PERSONAL CRIME	6.0	5.7 - 6.3
ALL BCS CRIME	22.1	21.5 - 22.7
<i>Unweighted base</i>	<i>46,903</i>	
High level of worry about crime		
Burglary	11.5	11.1 - 12.0
Car crime	12.1	11.6 - 12.6
Violent crime	15.0	14.4 - 15.5
<i>Unweighted base⁴</i>	<i>46,888</i>	
High level of perceived anti-social behaviour	16.3	15.7 - 17.0
<i>Unweighted base</i>	<i>45,021</i>	
CJS effective in bringing people to justice	44.3	43.7 - 45.0
Confidence in local police	52.5	51.8 - 53.2
<i>Unweighted base</i>	<i>45,782</i>	

1. Risks for vandalism, domestic burglary, vehicle-related theft, bicycle theft and other household theft are based on households. Risks for theft from the person, snatch theft, stealth theft, other theft of personal property, all BCS violence, wounding, assault with minor injury, assault with no injury and robbery are based on adults.

2. The range given for these estimates is based on a 95 per cent confidence interval (see the Glossary). Estimates based on subsamples (for example, age group) will have larger confidence intervals (see Table A.03).

3. 'All violence' includes wounding, assault with minor injury, assault with no injury and robbery. For more information see the Glossary.

4. Unweighted base refers to high level of worry about burglary. Base size for car crime will be lower as based on vehicle-owning households only.

Table A.03 Confidence intervals around BCS estimates of personal victimisation rates (prevalence risk) by respondent sex and age

Percentages	2007/08 BCS									
	All BCS crime		All personal crime		Other theft of personal property		All violence ²			
	Estimate	Range ¹	Estimate	Range ¹	Estimate	Range ¹	Estimate	Range ¹		
Respondent sex										
Male	22.9	22.2 - 23.5	6.6	6.2 - 7.0	1.0	0.8 - 1.1	1.9	1.7 - 2.1	4.1	3.8 - 4.5
Female	21.4	20.8 - 22.0	5.4	5.1 - 5.8	1.5	1.3 - 1.6	2.0	1.8 - 2.2	2.3	2.1 - 2.5
Respondent age										
16-24	33.1	31.4 - 34.9	15.0	13.6 - 16.3	2.7	2.1 - 3.3	3.6	2.9 - 4.3	9.9	8.8 - 11.1
25-34	28.9	27.6 - 30.2	8.7	7.9 - 9.5	1.5	1.2 - 1.9	3.2	2.7 - 3.7	4.5	3.9 - 5.1
35-44	24.3	23.2 - 25.4	5.2	4.6 - 5.8	1.0	0.7 - 1.2	1.9	1.6 - 2.3	2.6	2.2 - 2.9
45-54	23.1	22.0 - 24.3	4.1	3.6 - 4.6	0.7	0.5 - 1.0	1.5	1.2 - 1.8	2.0	1.6 - 2.4
55-64	16.7	15.7 - 17.6	2.8	2.4 - 3.3	0.7	0.5 - 0.9	1.2	0.9 - 1.5	1.0	0.7 - 1.2
65-74	11.1	10.1 - 12.0	2.2	1.8 - 2.6	1.1	0.8 - 1.4	0.6	0.4 - 0.9	0.6	0.4 - 0.8
75+	8.2	7.3 - 9.1	1.7	1.3 - 2.1	0.8	0.5 - 1.1	0.7	0.4 - 0.9	0.3	0.1 - 0.4

Table A.03 (cont) Confidence intervals around BCS estimates of personal victimisation rates (prevalence risk) by respondent sex and age

Percentages	2007/08 BCS									
	Domestic violence		Acquaintance violence		Stranger violence		Mugging (robbery + snatch theft)		Unweighted base	
	Estimate	Range ¹	Estimate	Range ¹	Estimate	Range ¹	Estimate	Range ¹	Estimate	Range ¹
Respondent sex										
Male	0.2	0.1 - 0.2	1.4	1.2 - 1.6	2.1	1.8 - 2.3	0.9	0.7 - 1.0	21,331	
Female	0.6	0.5 - 0.7	0.8	0.7 - 1.0	0.6	0.5 - 0.8	0.5	0.4 - 0.6	25,572	
Respondent age										
16-24	0.5	0.2 - 0.8	3.9	3.2 - 4.6	4.3	3.5 - 5.1	2.4	1.8 - 2.9	3,962	
25-34	0.9	0.6 - 1.1	1.4	1.1 - 1.7	1.8	1.5 - 2.2	0.8	0.5 - 1.1	6,707	
35-44	0.4	0.3 - 0.6	0.8	0.6 - 1.0	1.1	0.8 - 1.4	0.4	0.3 - 0.6	8,901	
45-54	0.4	0.2 - 0.5	0.7	0.4 - 0.9	0.8	0.5 - 1.0	0.4	0.3 - 0.6	7,457	
55-64	0.1	0.0 - 0.2	0.3	0.2 - 0.5	0.4	0.2 - 0.5	0.3	0.1 - 0.4	7,895	
65-74	0.0	0.0 - 0.1	0.0	0.0 - 0.1	0.3	0.2 - 0.5	0.3	0.1 - 0.4	6,343	
75+	0.0	0.0 - 0.1	0.0	0.0 - 0.1	0.0	0.0 - 0.0	0.2	0.1 - 0.3	5,638	

1. The range given for these estimates is based on a 95 per cent confidence interval (see the Glossary).

2. 'All violence' includes wounding, assault with minor injury, assault with no injury and robbery. For more information see the Glossary.

Table A.04 Confidence intervals around BCS estimates of household victimisation rates (prevalence risk) by household reference person age and tenure

Percentages	All household crime			Vandalism			Burglary			
	Estimate	Range ¹	Estimate	Range ¹	Estimate	Range ¹	Estimate	Range ¹	Estimate	Range ¹
HRP age										
16-24	23.3	20.8 - 25.9	8.0	6.4 - 9.6	7.5	5.9 - 9.0				
25-34	22.6	21.3 - 23.9	8.9	8.0 - 9.7	3.4	2.9 - 4.0				
35-44	21.7	20.7 - 22.7	9.3	8.6 - 10.0	2.7	2.3 - 3.1				
45-54	20.5	19.5 - 21.5	9.3	8.6 - 10.0	2.5	2.1 - 2.9				
55-64	14.9	14.0 - 15.8	7.0	6.3 - 7.6	1.5	1.2 - 1.8				
65-74	9.9	9.1 - 10.8	4.2	3.6 - 4.8	1.2	0.9 - 1.5				
75+	6.4	5.6 - 7.1	2.5	2.0 - 3.0	1.4	1.0 - 1.7				
Tenure										
Owner occupiers	16.4	15.9 - 16.9	7.3	7.0 - 7.6	1.8	1.6 - 1.9				
Social renters	18.1	17.1 - 19.1	7.3	6.6 - 8.0	3.9	3.4 - 4.5				
Private renters	18.6	17.4 - 19.8	7.1	6.3 - 7.9	3.3	2.8 - 3.9				

Table A.04 (cont) Confidence intervals around BCS estimates of household victimisation rates (prevalence risk) by household reference person age and tenure

Percentages	Other household theft			Vehicle-related theft ²			Bicycle theft ³		
	Estimate	Range ¹	Estimate	Range ¹	Estimate	Range ¹	Estimate	Range ¹	Unweighted base
HRP age									
16-24	3.9	2.7 - 5.0	9.4	7.2 - 11.7	7.8	5.1 - 10.6	1,553		
25-34	3.9	3.3 - 4.5	9.7	8.7 - 10.7	5.5	4.5 - 6.4	6,051		
35-44	4.1	3.6 - 4.6	7.8	7.1 - 8.5	4.1	3.5 - 4.7	9,462		
45-54	3.9	3.4 - 4.4	7.4	6.7 - 8.0	3.4	2.8 - 4.0	8,772		
55-64	3.0	2.6 - 3.5	5.0	4.4 - 5.6	2.0	1.4 - 2.5	8,425		
65-74	3.3	2.8 - 3.8	2.7	2.2 - 3.3	1.0	0.4 - 1.5	6,566		
75+	1.9	1.5 - 2.4	1.9	1.3 - 2.5	1.4	0.3 - 2.5	5,936		
Tenure									
Owner occupiers	3.4	3.2 - 3.7	5.9	5.6 - 6.2	2.7	2.4 - 3.0	32,945		
Social renters	4.2	3.6 - 4.7	8.5	7.4 - 9.6	7.6	6.3 - 8.9	7,766		
Private renters	2.8	2.3 - 3.3	7.9	6.9 - 8.8	5.5	4.5 - 6.6	5,850		

1. The range given for these estimates is based on a 95 per cent confidence interval (see the Glossary).

2. Based on vehicle-owning households, unweighted base will be slightly lower than that given.

3. Based on bicycle-owning households, unweighted base will be slightly lower than that given.

Table A.05 BCS sample sizes for household and personal characteristics, police force areas and regions

Household characteristic ¹	Unweighted base ²	Personal characteristic ¹	Unweighted base ²	Police force area and region ¹	2007/08 BCS
					Unweighted base ²
Age of household reference person		Men	21,331		
16-24	1,553	16-24	1,825	Cleveland	1,064
25-34	6,051	25-34	2,994	Durham	990
35-44	9,462	35-44	4,095	Northumbria	1,026
45-54	8,772	45-54	3,582	North East Region	3,080
55-64	8,425	55-64	3,716	Cheshire	959
65-74	6,566	65-74	2,859	Cumbria	1,027
75+	5,936	75+	2,260	Greater Manchester	1,551
				Lancashire	979
Household type		Women	25,572	Merseyside	1,005
Household reference person under 60:		16-24	2,137	North West Region	5,521
Single adult & child(ren)	2,410	25-34	3,713		
Adults & child(ren)	10,327	35-44	4,806	Humberside	1,008
No children	17,184	45-54	3,875	North Yorkshire	1,033
Household reference person over 60	16,844	55-64	4,179	South Yorkshire	1,019
		65-74	3,484	West Yorkshire	1,212
		75+	3,378	Yorkshire and the Humber Region	4,272
Household income					
Less than £10,000	7,419	Ethnic group		Derbyshire	1,053
£10,000 less than £20,000	8,240	White	43,756	Leicestershire	988
£20,000 less than £30,000	6,448	Non-White	3,139	Lincolnshire	1,012
£30,000 less than £40,000	4,980			Northamptonshire	1,102
£40,000 less than £50,000	3,507	Marital status		Nottinghamshire	1,048
£50,000 or more	5,625	Married	22,314	East Midlands Region	5,203
		Married	4,115		
Tenure		Cohabiting	4,115	Staffordshire	1,103
Owner occupiers	32,945	Single	9,591	Warwickshire	1,053
Social renters	7,766	Separated	1,403	West Mercia	996
Private renters	5,850	Divorced	4,098	West Midlands	1,535
		Widowed	5,366	West Midlands Region	4,687
Household reference person employment status		Respondent's employment status			
In employment	28,446	In employment	26,310	Bedfordshire	1,046
Unemployed	522	Unemployed	792	Cambridgeshire	984
Economically inactive	17,656	Economically inactive	19,659	Essex	1,008
Student ³	413	Student ³	1,078	Hertfordshire	1,050
Looking after family/home	1,668	Looking after family/home	2,772	Norfolk	979
Long-term/temporarily sick/ill	2,093	Long-term/temporarily sick/ill	2,130	Suffolk	989
Retired	13,085	Retired	13,130	East of England Region	6,056
Other inactive	397	Other inactive	549		
				Metropolitan/City of London	3,590
Household reference person's occupation		Respondent's occupation		London Region	3,590
Managerial and professional occupations	17,463	Managerial and professional occupations	15,608		
Intermediate occupations	9,129	Intermediate occupations	9,459	Hampshire	987
Routine and manual occupations	17,962	Routine and manual occupations	18,393	Kent	973
Never worked and long term unemployed	1,061	Never worked and long-term unemployed	1,406	Surrey	946
Full-time students ³	766	Full-time students ³	1,814	Sussex	1,063
Not classified	384	Not classified	223	Thames Valley	1,188
				South East Region	5,157
Accommodation type		Highest qualification			
Houses	38,758	Degree or diploma	14,226	Avon and Somerset	967
Detached	11,687	Apprenticeship or A/AS level	7,964	Devon and Cornwall	1,056
Semi-detached	14,668	O level/GCSE	9,302	Dorset	900
Terraced	12,403	Other	2,024	Gloucestershire	991
Flats/maisonettes	5,259	No qualifications	13,226	Wiltshire	1,049
Other accommodation types	215			South West Region	4,963
Hours home left unoccupied on an average weekday		Long standing illness or disability			
Never	5,415	Long standing illness or disability	13,337	England Total	42,529
Less than 3 hours	14,996	Limits activities	9,282		
3 but less than 5 hours	8,702	Does not limit activities	4,048	Dyfed-Powys	1,094
5 hours or more	17,534	No long standing illness or disability	33,463	Gwent	1,003
				North Wales	1,066
Area type		Hours out of home on an average weekday		South Wales	1,073
Urban	34,817	Less than 3 hours	13,849	Wales	4,236
Rural	11,948	3 but less than 7 hours	12,382	ENGLAND AND WALES	46,765
		7 hours or more	20,549		
Number of years at address		Number of visits to pub/wine bar in the evening during last month			
Less than 1 year	4,690	None	23,236		
1 year, less than 2 years	3,397	Less than once a week	12,712		
2 years, less than 5 years	7,999	Once a week or more often	10,950		
5 years, less than 10 years	8,332				
10 years or more	22,345	ALL ADULTS	46,903		
Level of physical disorder					
High	2,476				
Not high	41,540				
ACORN category					
Wealthy Achievers	12,750				
Urban Prosperity	3,517				
Comfortably Off	14,693				
Moderate Means	6,404				
Hard Pressed	9,300				
ALL HOUSEHOLDS	46,765				

1. Sample sizes are based on cases where a valid weight is assigned; this is the household weight for household characteristics, police force areas and regions; and the individual weight for personal characteristics.

2. Unweighted base sizes refer to the number of respondents who gave information about each characteristic.

3. Base sizes for the student categories differ as they are based on different classifications. Economically inactive students exclude those who are in employment, or in other ways economically active, but full-time students are recognised as such within the occupational coding. For more information see the Glossary (NS-SEC and Employment Status).

4. See the Glossary for definitions of personal, household and area characteristics.

Appendix 3 Recorded crime list

The classifications defined in this Appendix are those used for crime recorded by the police and notifiable to the Home Office. In general, attempting, conspiring, aiding, abetting, causing or permitting a crime is classified under the heading of the crime itself, though in certain cases it is shown separately.

Recorded crime covers all indictable and triable-either-way offences. Additionally, a few closely associated summary offences are included. These offences are identified in the listing, together with the reasons for their inclusion.

Most of the offences listed are defined in terms of legal offences (i.e. sections of Acts). A comprehensive list of these laws, together with key legal definitions and explanatory notes, appears on the Home Office website: www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/countrules.html

Each offence is listed along with its Home Office classification code. The following extra information is shown (in their presentation style):

MAIN OFFENCE GROUPS

Offence subgroups

Other offence aggregations

Explanatory notes on coverage and definition.

VIOLENCE AGAINST THE PERSON

Most serious violence against the person

1. Murder.
- 4.1 Manslaughter.
- 4.2 Infanticide.
Applies to infants aged under 12 months killed by the mother while of disturbed mind.
- Homicide
Comprises murder, manslaughter and infanticide.
2. Attempted murder.
- 4.3 Intentional destruction of a viable unborn child.
Applies to the unborn child 'capable of being born alive'.
- 4.4 Causing death by dangerous driving.
Limited to causing death by reckless driving between 1977 and 1991.
- 4.6 Causing death by careless driving when under the influence of drink or drugs.
- 4.8 Causing death by careless or inconsiderate driving.
- 4.9 Causing death by driving: unlicensed drivers etc.
5. More serious wounding or other act endangering life.
Includes, amongst other offences, wounding with intent to do grievous bodily harm (section 18 of the Offences against the Person Act 1861). Figures for offences involving knives (used in section 3.10) include section 18 offences only.
- 37.1 Causing death by aggravated vehicle taking.

Other violence against the person

- 3. Threat or conspiracy to murder.
- 4.7 Causing or allowing death of a child or vulnerable person.
- 6. Endangering railway passengers.
- 7. Endangering life at sea.
- 8A. Less serious wounding.
Includes, amongst other offences, wounding or inflicting grievous bodily harm (section 20 of the Offences against the Person Act 1861 and assault occasioning actual bodily harm (section 47 of the same Act). This means that non-intentional GBH is included as well as all assaults involving minor injury (as from 1 April 2002). Figures for offences involving knives (used in section 3.10) include section 20 offences only.
- 8B. Possession of weapons.
The police record this offence only if it is thought to be the only offence or the most serious committed by the suspect at that time.
- 8C. Harassment.
Includes the summary offences of harassment; harassment, alarm or distress; and fear or provocation of violence. They are closely associated with the offence of 'putting people in fear of violence' which is also included here.
- 8D. Racially or religiously aggravated less serious wounding (see 8A).
- 8E. Racially or religiously aggravated harassment (see 8C).
- 11. Cruelty to and neglect of children.
- 12. Abandoning a child under the age of two years.
- 13. Child abduction.
- 14. Procuring illegal abortion.
- 104. Assault without injury on a constable.
Summary offences, closely associated with actual bodily harm (see 8A).
- 105A. Assault without injury.
Summary offences, closely associated with actual bodily harm (see 8A). Includes, amongst other offences, common assault and battery (section 39 of the Criminal Justice Act 1988). From 1 April 2002 only includes assaults involving no injury.
- 105B. Racially or religiously aggravated assault without injury (see 105A).

SEXUAL OFFENCES

Most serious sexual crime

- 17. Indecent assault on a male - *with effect from May 2004 split into:*
 - 17A. Sexual assault on a male aged 13 and over.
 - 17B. Sexual assault on a male child under 13.
- 19A. Rape of a female - *with effect from May 2004 split into:*
 - 19C. Rape of a female aged 16 and over.
 - 19D. Rape of a female child under 16.
 - 19E. Rape of a female child under 13.
- 19B. Rape of a male - *with effect from May 2004 split into:*
 - 19F. Rape of a male aged 16 and over.
 - 19G. Rape of a male child under 16.
 - 19H. Rape of a male child under 13.
- 20. Indecent assault on a female - *with effect from May 2004 split into:*
 - 20A. Sexual assault on a female aged 13 and over.
 - 20B. Sexual assault on a female child under 13.

- 21. Unlawful sexual intercourse with a girl under 13 - *up until May 2004.*
- 21. Sexual activity involving a child under 13 - *with effect from May 2004.*
- 22. Unlawful sexual intercourse with a girl under 16 - *repealed with effect from May 2004.*
- 22A. Causing sexual activity without consent - *with effect from May 2004.*
- 22B. Sexual activity involving a child under 16 - *with effect from May 2004.*
- 70. Sexual activity etc. with a person with a mental disorder - *with effect from May 2004.*
- 71. Abuse of children through prostitution and pornography - *with effect from May 2004.*
- 72. Trafficking for sexual exploitation - *with effect from May 2004.*
- 74. Gross indecency with a child - *repealed with effect from May 2004.*

Other sexual offences

- 16. Buggery - *repealed with effect from May 2004.*
- 18. Gross indecency between males - *repealed with effect from May 2004.*
- 23. Incest or familial sexual offences.
- 24. Exploitation of prostitution.
- 25. Abduction of a female - *repealed with effect from May 2004.*
- 27. Soliciting for the purpose of prostitution.
- 73. Abuse of position of trust of a sexual nature - *with effect from May 2004.*
- 88A. Sexual grooming - *with effect from May 2004.*
- 88B. Other miscellaneous sexual offences - *with effect from May 2004. Includes the former offence of indecent exposure.*

ROBBERY

Key elements of the offence of robbery (section 8 of the Theft Act 1968) are stealing and the use or threat of force immediately before doing so, and in order to do so. Any injuries resulting from this force are not recorded as additional offences of violence. See also glossary entry in Appendix 1.

- 34A. Robbery of business property.
- 34B. Robbery of personal property.

BURGLARY

*Key elements of police recorded **burglaries** (as defined by the Theft Act 1968) are entry (or attempted entry) to a building as a trespasser with intent to either (a) steal property from it (including stealing or attempting to steal), (b) inflict grievous bodily harm or (c) commit unlawful damage to property whilst inside. The offence group also includes aggravated burglary (section 10 of the same Act), which is defined as a burglary where the burglar is in possession of a weapon at the time. The Home Office website (see above) contains details of the types of premises that constitute a dwelling. See also glossary entry in Appendix 1.*

- 28. Burglary in a dwelling.
- 29. Aggravated burglary in a dwelling.
- 30. Burglary in a building other than a dwelling.
- 31. Aggravated burglary in a building other than a dwelling.

OFFENCES AGAINST VEHICLES

- 37.2 Aggravated vehicle taking.
Part of section 1 of the Aggravated Vehicle Taking Act 1992. Applies to offences of unauthorised vehicle taking (see 48 below) with additional aggravating factors of dangerous driving, or causing an accident involving injury or damage.
45. Theft from a vehicle.
48. Theft or unauthorised taking of motor vehicle.
Unauthorised taking of motor vehicle (part of section 12 of the Theft Act 1968; also known as taking without consent or TWOC) is a summary offence. It is closely associated with theft of a motor vehicle because at the time of recording it may not be known whether the intention is to permanently deprive the owner.
126. Interfering with a motor vehicle.
Summary offences, closely associated with theft of or from vehicles. The Home Office website (see above) contains detailed guidance for forces on distinguishing between these offences, and criminal damage, where a vehicle is reported damaged.

Thefts of and from vehicles

Comprises aggravated vehicle taking, theft from a vehicle, and theft or unauthorised taking of a motor vehicle.

OTHER THEFT OFFENCES

All the offences listed here, unless shown otherwise, form the legal offence of theft (section 1 of the Theft Act 1968), which is defined as a person dishonestly appropriating property belonging to another with the intention of permanently depriving the other of it.

38. Profiting from or concealing knowledge of the proceeds of crime.
39. Theft from the person.
Includes snatch theft, but if this involves the use or threat of force (e.g. if the victim resists), then it is recorded as robbery.
40. Theft in a dwelling other than from automatic machine or meter.
41. Theft by an employee.
42. Theft of mail.
43. Dishonest use of electricity
44. Theft or unauthorised taking of a pedal cycle.
Includes taking a pedal cycle without consent (section 12(5) of the Theft Act 1968).
46. Shoplifting.
47. Theft from automatic machine or meter.
49. Other theft or unauthorised taking.
Includes, amongst other offences, unauthorised taking of conveyance other than a motor vehicle or pedal cycle.
54. Handling stolen goods.
Section 22 of the Theft Act 1968. Dishonestly receiving etc. goods, knowing them to have been stolen.

FRAUD AND FORGERY

- 51. Fraud by company director.
- 52. False accounting.
- 53A. Cheque and credit card fraud (pre Fraud Act 2006).
- 53B. Preserved other fraud and repealed fraud offences (pre Fraud Act 2006).
- 53C. Fraud by false representation: cheque, plastic card and online bank accounts.
- 53D. Fraud by false representation: other frauds.
- 53E. Fraud by failing to disclose information.
- 53F. Fraud by abuse of position.
- 53G. Obtaining services dishonestly.
- 53H. Making or supplying articles for use in fraud.
- 53J. Possession of articles for use in fraud.
- 55. Bankruptcy and insolvency offences.
- 60. Forgery or use of false drug prescription.
- 61. Other forgery.
- 814. Vehicle/driver document fraud.
These records comprise driving licences, insurance certificates, registration and licensing documents, work records, operators' licences, and test certificates.

CRIMINAL DAMAGE

- 56. Arson.
Not all malicious fires that the police record are included here. If the owner of the property set alight is wounded, then a crime of violence is recorded. If a stolen vehicle is subsequently burnt out, it is recorded as a vehicle theft. An additional arson offence is recorded only if there is evidence that the arsonist is unconnected with the vehicle thief (see also glossary entry in Appendix 1).
- 58A. Criminal damage to a dwelling.
- 58B. Criminal damage to a building other than a dwelling.
- 58C. Criminal damage to a vehicle.
- 58D. Other criminal damage.
- 58E. Racially or religiously aggravated criminal damage to a dwelling (see 58A).
- 58F. Racially or religiously aggravated criminal damage to a building other than a dwelling (see 58B).
- 58G. Racially or religiously aggravated criminal damage to a vehicle (see 58C).
- 58H. Racially or religiously aggravated other criminal damage (see 58D).
- 59. Threat or possession with intent to commit criminal damage.

DRUG OFFENCES

- 92A. Trafficking in controlled drugs.
- 92B. Possession of controlled drugs - *with effect from 1 April 2004 split into class 92D and class 92E.*
- 92C. Other drug offences.
Various offences, mostly under the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971, including permitting premises to be used for unlawful purposes; failure to comply with notice requiring information relating to prescribing, supply etc. of drugs; supply of intoxicating substance; and supply etc. of articles for administering or preparing controlled drugs.
- 92D. Possession of controlled drugs (excluding cannabis).
- 92E. Possession of controlled drugs (cannabis).

OTHER MISCELLANEOUS OFFENCES

15. Concealing an infant death close to birth.
26. Bigamy.
33. Going equipped for stealing, etc.
35. Blackmail.
36. Kidnapping.
62. Treason.
64. Riot.
65. Violent disorder.
66. Other offences against the State and public order.
67. Perjury.
68. Libel.
75. Betting, gaming and lotteries.
76. Aiding suicide.
78. Immigration offences.
79. Perverting the course of justice.
80. Absconding from lawful custody.
81. Other firearms offences.
82. Customs and Revenue offences.
83. Bail offences.
84. Trade description offences.
85. Health and Safety offences.
86. Obscene publications, etc. and protected sexual material.
87. Protection from eviction.
89. Adulteration of food.
90. Other knives offences.
91. Public health offences.
94. Planning laws.
95. Disclosure, obstruction, false or misleading statements etc.
99. Other indictable or triable-either-way offences.
802. Dangerous driving.

Further detail on all these offences is available in the Home Office Counting Rules for Recorded Crime. This is available on the Home Office website at:

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/countrules.html>

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Copies of recent Home Office publications based on the British Crime Survey, including reports that report jointly on the BCS and police recorded crime, can be downloaded from:

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/bcs1.html>

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