



Noise Complaint Statistics for Northern Ireland

2021 - 2022

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Department of
**Agriculture, Environment
and Rural Affairs**

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Introduction

The purpose of this report is to inform central government, district councils, the general public and any other interested parties as to the number and nature of noise complaints received each year by district councils across Northern Ireland. The Natural Environment Policy Division of the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA) has compiled this report from data supplied by district councils, the organisations that are legally empowered to deal with the vast majority of noise complaints.

This report analyses noise complaints received by all 11 councils between 1 April 2021 and 31 March 2022 and covers the latter stages of the COVID-19 pandemic, where lockdown restrictions in Northern Ireland began easing from April 2021. During this reporting period 13,261 noise complaints were received in Northern Ireland. This is a 26.4% increase in the total number of complaints received compared to the previous year and represents the highest number of complaints received since records began in 2003/04.

There has been a 63.8% increase in the number of notices served this year compared to last year (344 served this year and 210 served in 2020/21). There were no prosecutions for the 2021/22 year, compared to two prosecutions in 2020/21 and four in 2019/20.

The information in this report is an important indicator of the increasing public awareness of noise issues and the effectiveness of current noise controls. However, the continued impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the reporting of this year's statistics should be borne in mind.

The statistics provided by district councils enable the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs to target policy development, such as through the application of the powers in the Noise Act 1996 following the introduction of the Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act (Northern Ireland) 2011 in April 2012.

This report also allows councils to compare their noise statistics to those of neighbouring districts, to examine trends and to consider initiatives implemented by other district councils that have proved effective in increasing noise awareness or reducing noise. It also provides an insight into the continued impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the reporting of noise complaints, as many restrictions only began to ease from April 2021.

Noise

Noise is commonly defined as 'sound which is undesired by the recipient'. Noise can be any sound that is intrusive, disturbing, or annoying. It can be one of the most pervasive pollutants and is capable of causing annoyance, stress, sleep disturbance and other serious conditions. The likelihood of individuals complaining to their council about noise depends on the degree of disturbance and the individual's awareness of the noise control service provided by the council.

A report published by the World Health Organisation (WHO)- Environmental Noise Guidelines for the European Union 2018¹ describes the public health burden from environmental noise. Exposure to noise can lead to auditory effects on health for example through direct injury to the auditory system, noise leads to auditory effects such as hearing loss and tinnitus. It can further lead to nonauditory effects on health as noise is also a nonspecific stressor that has been shown to have an adverse effect on human health, especially following long-term exposure. These effects are the result of psychological and physiological distress.

Given the potential adverse impacts on health, it is important that instances of noise pollution are taken seriously and fully addressed. The most common complaints relating to excessive noise suffered in Northern Ireland include lack of sleep, inability to relax and interruption to conversations or television programmes.

¹ Environmental Noise Guidelines for the European Region (2018), xviii + 160 pages ISBN 978 92 890 5356 3

Noise Complaints

Councils receive a wide variety of noise complaints which are categorised as follows:

- **Domestic;**
- **Commercial and leisure;**
- **Industrial;**
- **Noise in the street;**
- **Construction, demolition or road works; and**
- **Transport**

These categories have been further sub-divided; details can be found in Table 1.

What can be done?

Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act (Northern Ireland) 2011

Articles 63 and 65 of the Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act (Northern Ireland) 2011 (CNEA) give district councils the power to deal with noise from premises, including land, which they consider is prejudicial to health or amounts to a statutory nuisance. These powers apply to not only existing noise, but also where noise is expected to occur or reoccur. There is no fixed level of noise that constitutes a statutory nuisance. Individual circumstances differ and each case is judged on its merits. In deciding whether or not a noise is sufficient to amount to a statutory nuisance, the authorised officer of the district council has to consider the reaction of the average, reasonable person to the nuisance, taking account not only of its volume, but factors such as when and how often the noise occurs and the duration of the occurrence.

Where a council is satisfied that a nuisance exists, articles 63 and 65 require the district council to serve an Abatement Notice. The notice may require the noise to be stopped altogether or limited to certain times of the day. A notice must be served on the person responsible for the noise or if this person cannot be located, the owner or occupier of the premises. A person on whom an abatement notice is served has the right to appeal it within 21 days of being served.

The CNEA also introduced new powers for district councils to designate all or part of their district as an alarm notification area. In such areas the occupier or owner of any premises (residential or non-residential, occupied or vacant) that are fitted with an audible intruder alarm must nominate a key-holder for those premises and provide the district council with contact details. The key-holder is contacted by the council to silence an alarm that is sounding. Failure to nominate a key-holder

is an offence and an individual found guilty is liable on summary conviction to a fine of £1000. Under this legislation, an authorised officer of a district council can enter premises (including land), without force, in order to silence an audible intruder alarm that::

1. has been sounding continuously for more than twenty minutes or intermittently for more than 1 hour;
2. is likely to give persons living or working in the vicinity reasonable cause for annoyance; and
3. if the premises are in an alarm notification area, reasonable steps have been taken to get the nominated key-holder to silence the alarm².

Once on the premises, an authorised officer can take whatever steps are necessary to silence the alarm³. This might include, for example, disabling the externally mounted alarm, but would not include picking a lock to enter. However, if requested by a district council, a lay magistrate can issue a warrant authorising the use of force by an authorised officer to enter premises where certain conditions are satisfied. Before issuing a warrant, a lay magistrate must be satisfied that the conditions outlined above have been met, and that a district council cannot gain entry without the use of force⁴.

Noise Act 1996

The Noise Act 1996 allows council officers to issue warning and fixed penalty notices and, in certain circumstances, to seize noise making equipment from premises emitting noise during night hours (from 11pm to 7am). These powers apply to premises including dwellings, those with an exhibition or entertainment licence, premises with a licence to sell intoxicating liquor (including an occasional licence) or where meals or refreshments are supplied for consumption on or off the premises, or premises occupied by a registered club.

² Article 56 of the Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act (Northern Ireland) 2011.

³ Article 58 of the Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act (Northern Ireland) 2011.

⁴ Article 57 of the Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act (Northern Ireland) 2011.

Key findings

Complaints

- 13,261 noise complaints received in Northern Ireland in 2021/22.
- 26.4% increase in the total number of complaints received compared to the previous year.

Figure 1 shows the number of complaints in each council area per 1,000 people, based on mid 2021 population estimates⁵. Noise complaints occur more often in urban areas where there are large numbers of people who may be bothered by the noise. As expected, the greatest number of complaints occur in Belfast (20.2 complaints per 1,000 people) and the fewest complaints per 1,000 of population occur in Newry, Mourne and Down District Council (2.1 per 1,000 persons).

Notices

- 63.8% increase in the total number of notices served by district councils.
- A total of 344 notices were served in 2021/22. 210 were served in 2020/21.

Of the 344 notices, 310 were served in Belfast. Of these 310, 292 were warning notices served on dwellings. In Belfast of the 16 served under CNEA, 14 were in respect of music/TV/parties, so again related to private dwellings.

Table 2 illustrates the numbers of all notices served by district councils in Northern Ireland under the CNEA and the Noise Act 1996 per 100 complaints received. Councils serving the greatest number of notices per 100 complaints in 2021/22 were Belfast (4.46), Fermanagh and Omagh (1.59) and Ards and North Down (1.18).

Of the 13,261 complaints received only two resulted in fixed penalty notices being served. This may indicate that council officers are very effective at resolving complaints informally without serving a notice, or that once the issue is drawn to the attention of the noisemaker, they rectify the problem quickly.



⁵ <https://www.nisra.gov.uk/system/files/statistics/MYE21-Bulletin.pdf>

Analysis by noise source

Analysis of the data reveals that domestic noise accounted for 76% of all complaints this year, followed by complaints relating to commercial and leisure (11%), noise in the street (5%) and construction (4%). Figure 3 contains a breakdown of the figures but the tables below give a snapshot comparison of some of this year's statistics compared to last year's.

Domestic		
	2020/21	2021/22
Music, television and parties	42%	46%
Animal noise	35%	34%
Other neighbourhood noise	18%	15%

Commercial and Leisure		
	2020/21	2021/22
Entertainment premises	11%	47%
Security alarms	33%	16%
Other Shops and Offices	13%	11%
Other	17%	11%
Sport and leisure	20%	12%

Industrial		
	2020/21	2021/22
Industry, manufacturing and workshops	59%	64%
Agriculture	31%	28%
Wind Turbine (Individual)	9%	6%
Wind Farm	1%	1%

Noise in the Street		
	2020/21	2021/22
Other	24%	27%
Road Works	7%	5%
Antisocial behaviour	44%	43%
Street performance/public address	8%	12%

Transport		
	2020/21	2021/22
Road vehicles	32%	36%
Delivery vehicles	16%	8%
Vehicle horn/revving engine/exhausts	32%	32%

The CNEA enables district councils to designate all or part of their district as an alarm notification area and enter premises with or without force to silence an alarm. No councils have designated alarm notification areas since this legislation came into operation. In 2021/22 Belfast City Council used the powers to silence alarms on four occasions: twice without force and twice with force pursuant to a Magistrate's warrant.

Analysis since 2003/04

The total number of noise complaints in Northern Ireland in 2021/22 are 57.9% greater than the total number of noise complaints in Northern Ireland in 2003/04⁶. Noise complaints rose each year between 2003/04 and 2006/07 when they reached 11,923 complaints. The lowest number of complaints since 2006/07 occurred in the last reporting year (2020/21) with 10,494 complaints made. This reporting year has resulted in the highest number of noise complaints received since 2003/2004, surpassing the previous peak of 12,563 complaints received in 2018/2019.

Full details of the annual changes by sector are illustrated in Figure 4. This demonstrates that the proportion of noise complaints attributable to each category has varied little each year until the arrival of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020. Domestic noise complaints far outweigh all the other sources and, in general, since 2003/04 the commercial and leisure sector is the second largest category. Figures 5 to 10 show the changes in numbers of noise complaints across the various categories over the past 19 years.

Domestic				Commercial and Leisure				Industrial			
	2020/21	2021/22	% Change		2020/21	2021/22	% Change		2020/21	2021/22	% Change
Number of complaints	8,046	10,046	24.9% increase	Number of complaints	705	1,421	101.6% increase	Number of complaints	402	334	16.9% decrease
<p>Levels of domestic noise complaints increased notably between 2003/04 and 2006/07. In 2003/04 6,879 complaints were received. This rose to 10,393 in 2011/12 when complaints relating to domestic noise reached their peak. Domestic noise complaints decreased steadily from 10,268 complaints in 2018/2019, to 8,046 complaints in 2020/21 but have returned to higher levels this reporting year.</p>				<p>Complaint numbers are significantly higher this reporting year compared to all other years in the time series and have more than doubled compared to 2020/21. Councils noted that the reopening of Entertainment premises alongside continued working from home for large proportions of the public had an impact on this.</p>				<p>Industrial noise complaints have remained relatively steady over the years with the most significant increase recorded in 2020/21. Figures for this reporting year are the second highest of the time series.</p>			

⁶ The total number of noise complaints in 2003/04 was 8,397.

Noise in the Street

	2020/21	2021/22	% Change
Number of complaints	596	708	18.8% increase

After decreasing for four consecutive years between 2015/16 and 2019/20 complaints relating to noise in the street spiked in 2020/21 and have reached their highest level this reporting year since the beginning of the time series. Complaints are now 266.8% higher for this category than in 2003/04.

Construction

	2020/21	2021/22	% Change
Number of complaints	467	513	9.9% increase

Construction noise complaints rose almost 86% between 2003/04 and 2007/08 and subsequently fell until 2010/2011, possibly due to the decline in construction and property development following the economic downturn. 2021/22 saw a 161.7% increase in construction noise complaints in comparison to 2010/2011 (Figure 9). Noise complaints in this category are now at their highest since the start of the time series.

Transport

	2020/21	2021/22	% Change
Number of complaints	278	239	14% decrease

Transport noise complaints make up only 2% of complaints for this reporting year and figures 3 and 8 provide a breakdown of the number of complaints by type of transport. Road vehicles are the predominant source of noise complaints in this category this year (36%) followed closely by vehicle horns/revving engines/noisily exhausts (32%). Along with industry, transport was the only other category to see a slight decrease in complaints compared to last year.

Continued impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on Noise Complaints in 2021/22

In the Noise Complaint Statistics 2020-21 report⁷ the impact of COVID-19 restrictions on noise complaints were discussed. It was established that lockdowns throughout the reporting year had a significant impact on complaints received and on the councils' ability to investigate due to the restrictions in place. From April 2021 Northern Ireland was in the process of coming out of the final lockdown of the pandemic with restrictions lifted over the coming months. Despite this easing of restrictions many sectors in Northern Ireland have continued to offer working from home or hybrid working policies.

Noise complaints received during the 2021-22 reporting year were at the highest level since records began in 2003-2004. This increase can be seen across several categories, but it is most prevalent in the domestic categories and those which are likely to impact people during working hours such as construction noise. This may be attributed to the increased number of people who are continuing to work from home, as well as a rise in animal noise complaints due to both an increase in the number of people getting pets during the pandemic as well as animals being left at home alone more frequently as restrictions eased.

Complaints for entertainment premises were more than 8 times higher than the previous reporting year, which coincides with the reopening of entertainment premises following COVID-19 restrictions. A steep rise in Music/TV/Parties complaints may also reflect the easing of restrictions, which has allowed gatherings to take place within domestic properties once again. With all restrictions now fully lifted and working from home for many becoming the new normal, the continued reporting of noise complaints by the councils will provide a valuable insight into future trends and policy development.

⁷ <https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/publications/noise-complaint-statistics-northern-ireland-2020-2021>

Council initiatives to increase awareness and aid enforcement

Since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic there has been an increase in the number of councils utilising the Noise App. This app can be used to record and upload a noise nuisance which can be submitted to the Environmental Health Department for further investigation. The number of recordings a user may submit in a 24-hour period is not restricted and the app provider is working on extending the recording time segments to from 30 seconds to 5 minutes. As the App allows users to record noise nuisance as it happens, it can help to create a 'noise diary', which may provide supporting evidence to any noise complaint. It can also bring awareness of the noise complaint issue to the alleged perpetrator.

There is a useful introduction on the Noise App at this [link](#). The App has proved to be a valuable tool during this reporting year when the councils were faced with lockdown and restrictions around contact with others and entry to people's homes.

To download the App, go to the 'App Store' for iPhone users or the 'Play Store' for Android users. Search for 'The Noise App' and click 'Get' or 'Install' to download the app.⁸

Conclusion

Neighbourhood noise problems can arise from many quarters. The lack of consideration for the rights of others is a contributory factor in many of these problems. The COVID-19 pandemic has continued to have an impact on noise complaints received in Northern Ireland with many businesses continuing to adopt working from home or hybrid working practices. This societal shift in how we work and live could potentially have an impact on noise complaints received in the future.

The Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs considers that increasing education on noise prevention is one way of tackling the problem and is keen for the councils to continue their efforts to raise noise issues on local agendas. Continued engagement and partnership between the councils and appropriate authorities, such as the PSNI, Universities and Planning Departments will ensure that noise complaints and mitigations can be appropriately managed.

⁸ Android link https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.rhe.noiseapp&hl=en_GB

App Store link <https://apps.apple.com/gb/app/the-noise-app/id926445612>

Noise Complaint Figures & Tables



Table 1

Total noise complaints received by district council 2021 - 2022

COUNCIL	Category of Source															
	Industrial				Commercial & Leisure								Domestic			
	Industry Manufacturing & Workshops	Agricultural	Wind Turbine (Individual)	Wind Farm	Entertainment Premises	Sports & Leisure	Petrol Stations/Car Wash	Hot Food Bars/Restaurants	Other Shops & Offices	Security Alarms	Other	DIY	Music/Televisions/Parties	Animal Noise	House Alarms	Other Neighbour Noise
Antrim & Newtownabbey	20	10	0	0	24	12	0	1	4	25	38	16	129	375	7	117
Armagh, Banbridge & Craigavon	28	20	7	0	14	6	2	1	0	2	6	11	130	411	3	86
Belfast	3	1	0	0	508	74	0	0	133	160	34	83	3,572	672	199	884
Causeway Coast & Glens	20	1	3	0	23	11	2	17	3	6	15	11	91	258	12	48
Derry & Strabane	19	6	0	0	25	8	0	6	3	6	3	15	135	257	13	53
Fermanagh & Omagh	21	10	8	2	13	6	1	0	1	5	15	3	48	143	2	32
Lisburn & Castlereagh	16	5	1	0	16	3	0	2	0	11	12	6	134	290	7	66
Mid & East Antrim	20	11	1	1	19	22	0	1	4	3	13	11	97	286	2	91
Mid Ulster	35	8	1	1	12	7	2	3	1	1	4	9	111	215	4	34
Newry, Mourne & Down	17	8	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	59	229	3	10
Ards & North Down	16	14	0	0	13	16	2	9	1	5	22	24	107	325	8	102
TOTAL	215	94	21	4	671	165	9	40	150	224	162	189	4,613	3,461	260	1,523
				334							1,421					10,046

Table 1

Total noise complaints received by district council 2021 - 2022 (continued)

COUNCIL	Category of Source																Total
	Construction	Transport							Noise in the Street								
	Construction Sites/ Demolition Works Road Works	Road Vehicles	Railways	Civil Aircraft	Military Aircraft	Delivery Vehicles	Vehicle Alarms	Vehicle horns/rewing engines/noisy exhausts	Loudspeakers	Road Works	Ice Cream Van Chimes	Street Traders	Street Performance/ Public Address	Children Playing	Antisocial Behaviour	Other	
Antrim & Newtownabbey	45	18	1	1	1	0	1	0	4	2	1	0	0	0	0	22	874
Armagh, Banbridge & Craigavon	29	6	0	0	1	1	0	18	15	0	1	0	8	3	25	18	852
Belfast	171	35	24	1	2	10	0	2	17	24	1	0	41	0	222	82	6,955
Causeway Coast & Glens	38	3	0	0	0	2	0	8	3	0	1	0	2	5	5	8	596
Derry & Strabane	15	6	0	0	0	0	1	19	5	3	3	0	2	2	14	23	642
Fermanagh & Omagh	32	3	0	1	0	0	0	8	3	1	0	0	6	0	12	2	378
Lisburn & Castlereagh	63	5	1	0	0	0	1	6	2	2	0	1	8	2	3	5	668
Mid & East Antrim	41	2	0	0	0	2	0	8	15	1	0	0	2	2	5	13	673
Mid Ulster	10	2	0	0	0	2	1	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	11	0	477
Newry, Mourne & Down	20	4	0	0	0	0	17	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	8	381
Ards & North Down	49	3	0	3	0	1	0	6	3	1	1	0	14	8	5	7	765
TOTAL	513	87	26	6	4	18	21	77	69	34	9	1	83	22	302	188	13,261
	513	239							708								

Table 2**Notices served per 100 complaints 2021 - 2022**

COUNCIL	Number notices served (CNEA & NA)	Number of notices per 100 complaints
Antrim & Newtownabbey	1	0.11
Armagh, Banbridge & Craigavon	7	0.82
Belfast	310	4.46
Causeway Coast & Glens	0	0.00
Derry & Strabane	1	0.16
Fermanagh & Omagh	6	1.59
Lisburn & Castlereagh	2	0.30
Mid & East Antrim	5	0.74
Mid Ulster	2	0.42
Newry, Mourne & Down	1	0.26
Ards & North Down	9	1.18
TOTAL	344	2.59

Figure 1

Noise complaints per 1,000 head of population 2021 - 2022

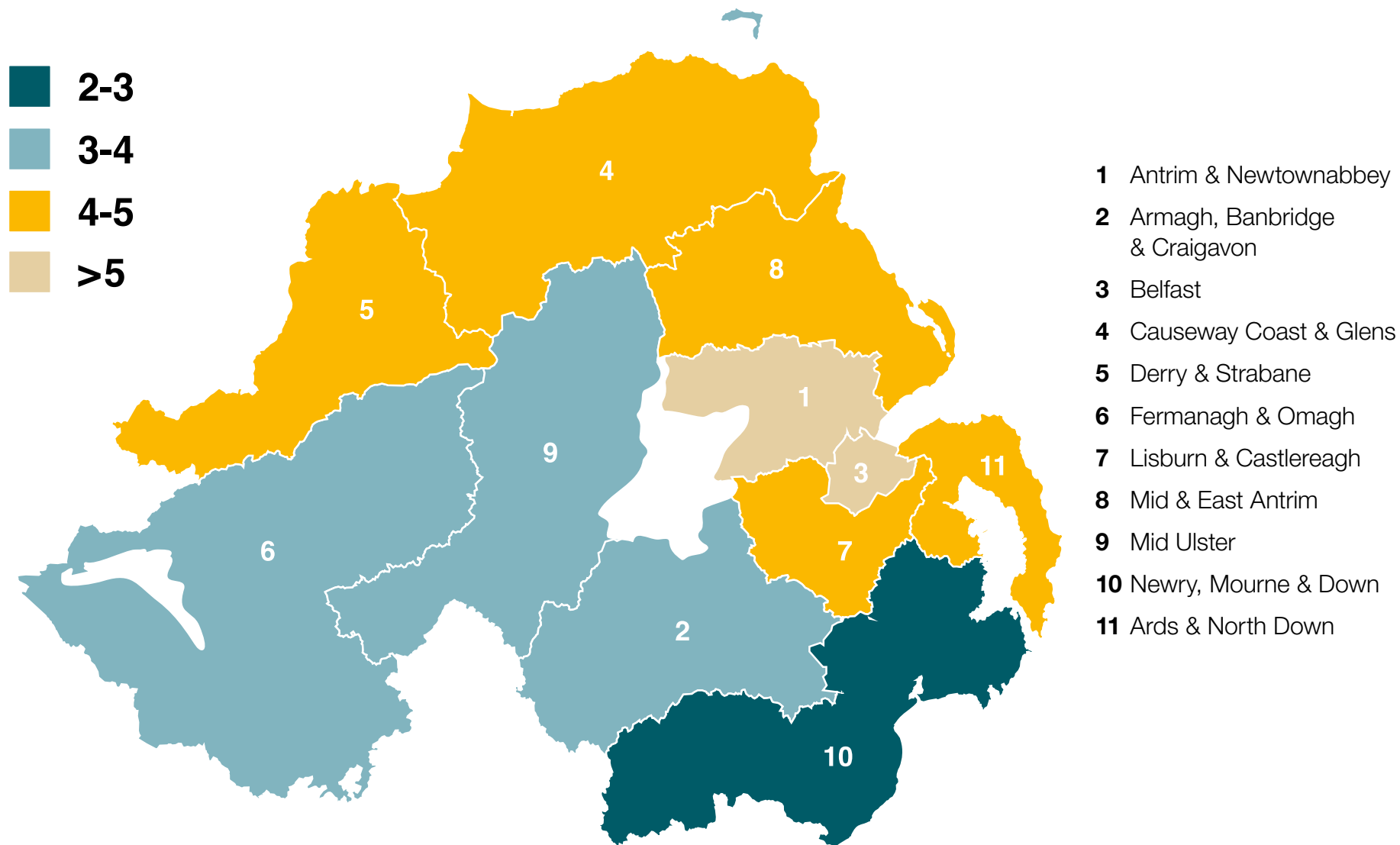
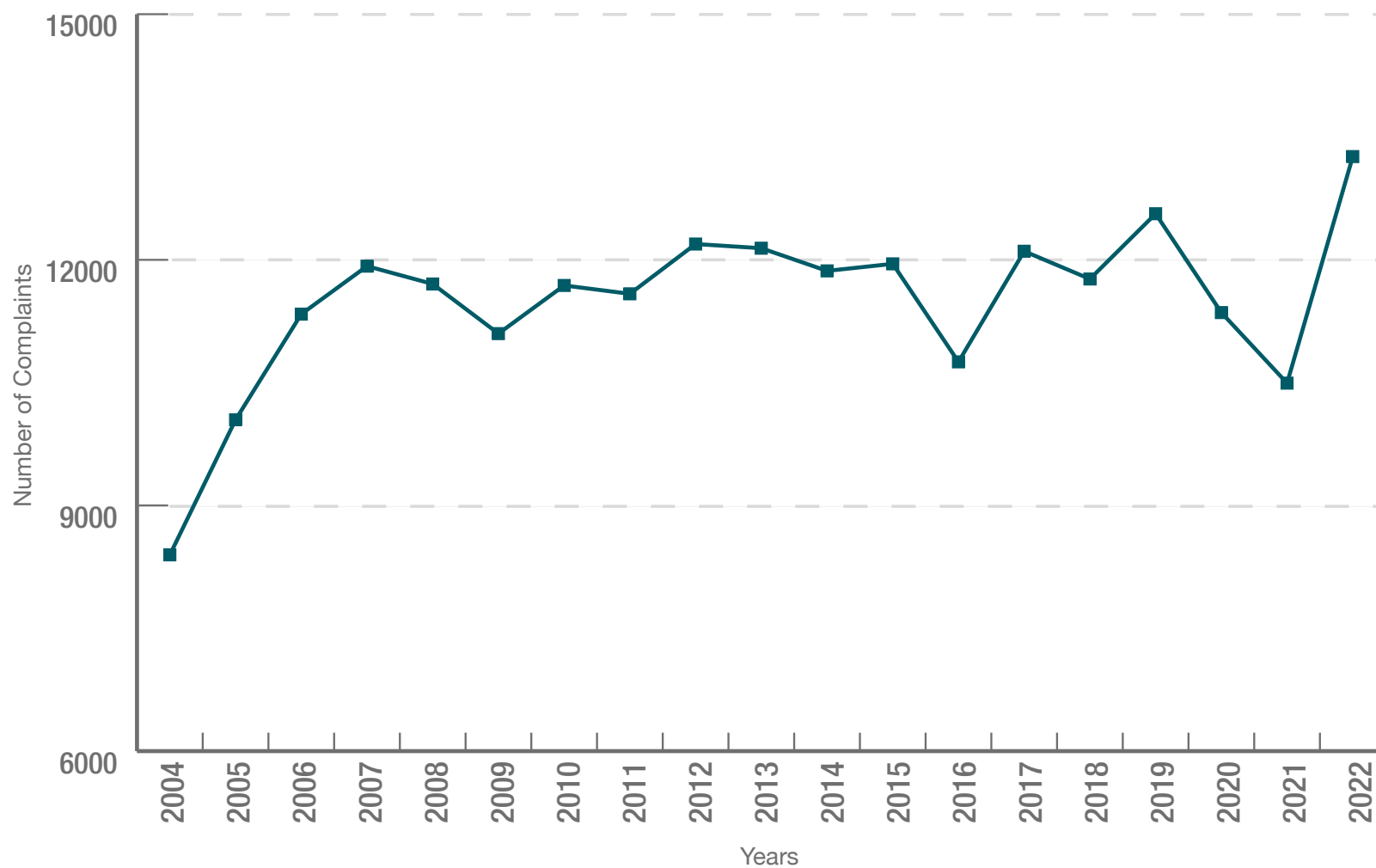


Figure 2

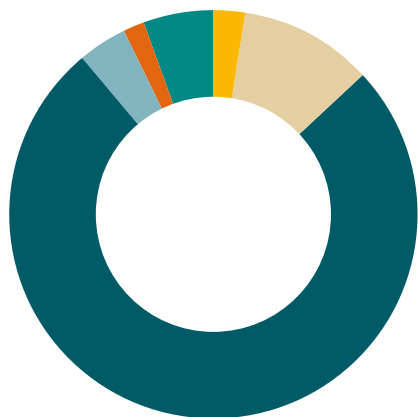
Total number of complaints 2004 - 2022



Total No. Complaints	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
	8,397	10,047	11,337	11,923	11,705	11,099	11,687	11,585	12,193	12,142	11,865	11,951	10,754	12,105	11,766	12,563	11,356	10,494	13,261

Figure 3

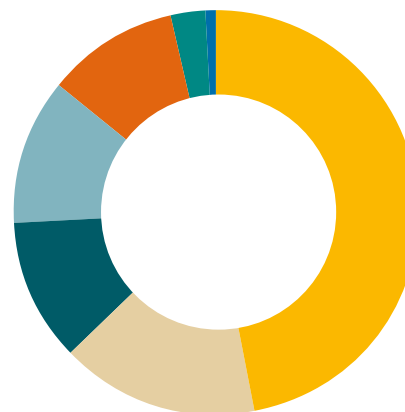
Noise complaints by category 2021 - 2022



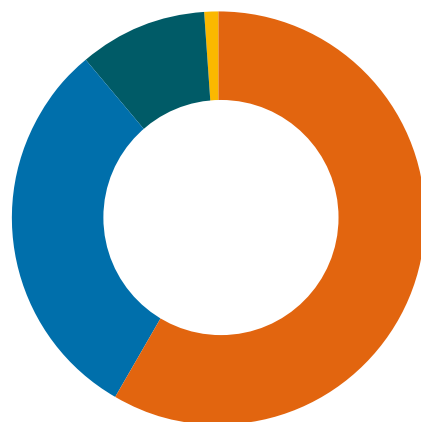
Total Noise Complaints

Industrial	2.52%
Commercial & Leisure	10.72%
Domestic	75.76%
Construction	3.87%
Transport	1.80%
Noise in the street	5.34%

Commercial and Leisure Complaints



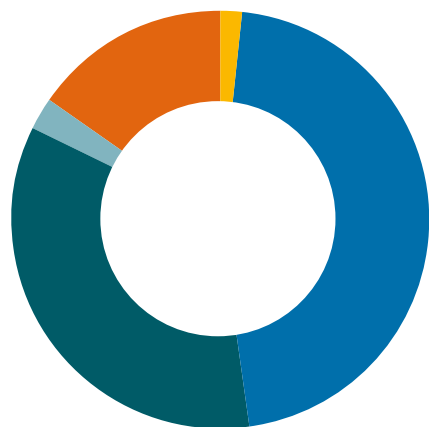
Entertainment Premises	47.22%
Security Alarms	15.76%
Other	11.40%
Sports & Leisure	11.61%
Other Shops & Offices	10.56%
Hot Food Bars Restaurants	2.81%
Petrol Stations/Car Wash	0.63%



Industrial Complaints

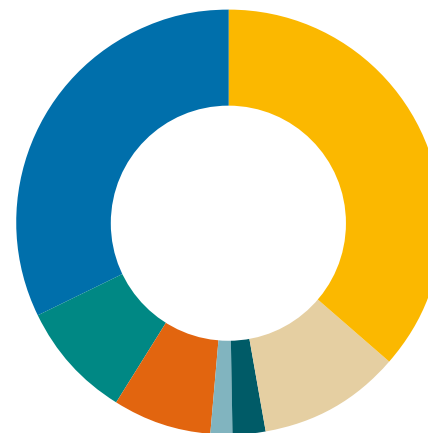
Industry Manufacturing & Workshops	64.37%
Agricultural	28.14%
Wind Turbine (Individual)	6.29%
Wind Farm	1.20%

Figure 3 Noise complaints by category 2021 - 2022 (continued)



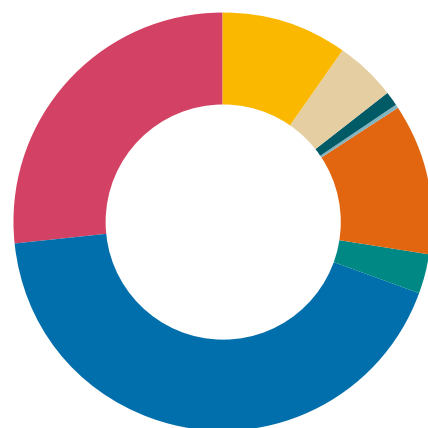
Domestic Complaints

●	DIY	1.88%
●	Music, Televisions & Parties	45.92%
●	Animal Noise	34.45%
●	House Alarms	2.59%
●	Other Neighbour Noise	15.16%



Transport Complaints

●	Road Vehicles	36.40%
●	Railways	10.88%
●	Civil Aircraft	2.51%
●	Military Aircraft	1.67%
●	Delivery Vehicles	7.53%
●	Vehicle Alarms	8.79%
●	Vehicle horns/revving engines/noisy exhausts	32.22%



Noise in the Street Complaints

●	Loudspeakers	9.75%
●	Road Works	4.80%
●	Ice Cream Van Chimes	1.27%
●	Street Traders	0.14%
●	Street Performance Public Address	11.72%
●	Children Playing	3.11%
●	Antisocial Behaviour	42.66%
●	Other	26.55%

Figure 4 Total Noise Complaints Comparison by category 2004 - 2022

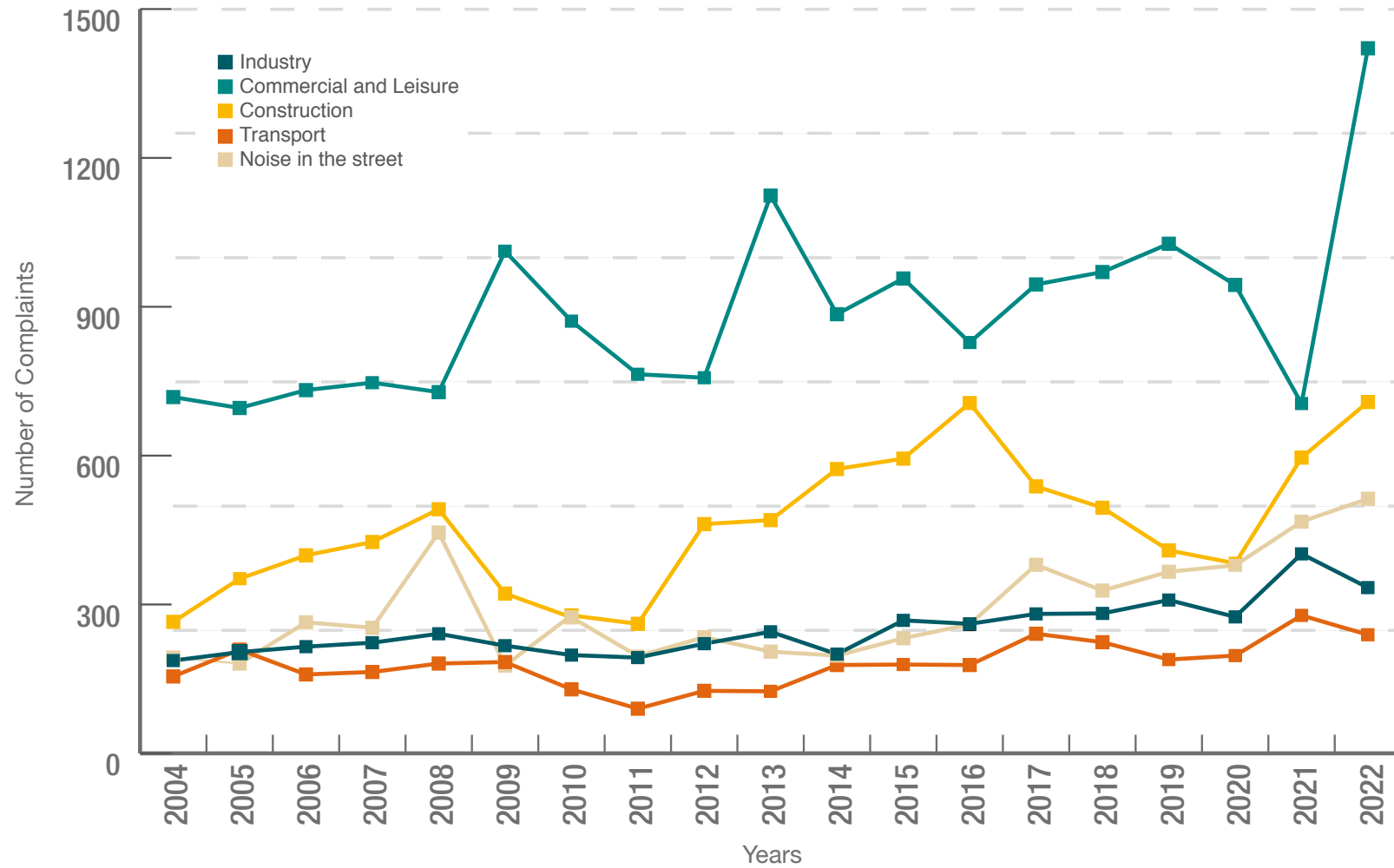


Figure 4

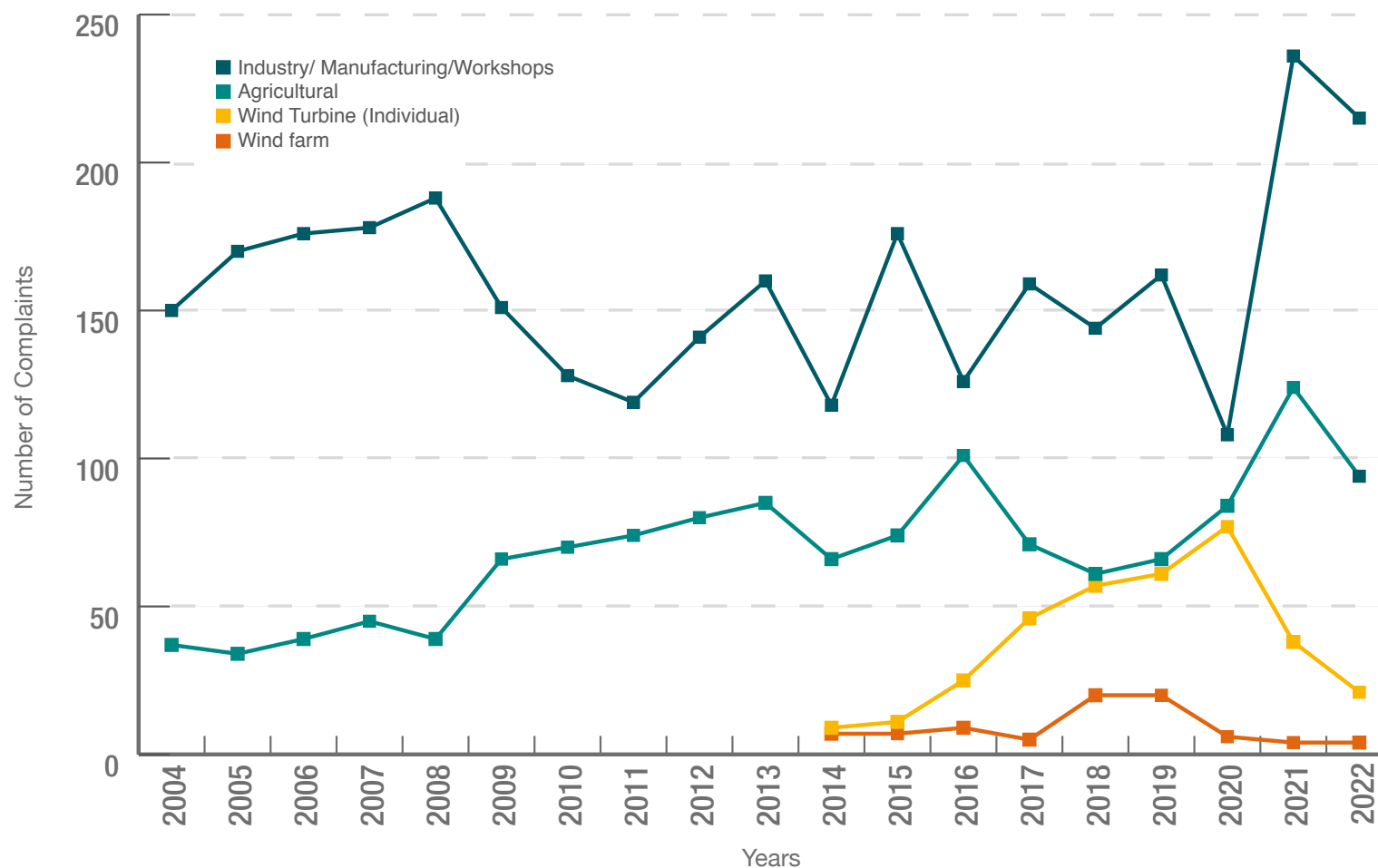
Total Noise Complaints Comparison by category 2004 - 2021 (continued)



	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Industrial	187	204	215	223	241	217	198	193	221	245	200	268	261	281	282	309	275	402	334
Commercial & Leisure	718	696	732	747	728	1,012	871	764	757	1,124	885	957	828	945	970	1,027	944	705	1,421
Domestic	6,879	8,405	9,568	10,110	9,618	9,187	9,937	10,081	10,393	9,973	9,832	9,721	8,521	9,720	9,467	10,263	9,178	8,046	10,046
Construction	265	352	399	426	492	322	274	196	234	205	197	232	260	380	328	366	379	467	513
Transport	155	209	159	164	181	184	129	90	126	125	178	179	178	241	224	189	197	278	239
Noise in Street	193	181	264	253	445	177	278	261	462	470	573	594	706	538	495	409	383	596	708
Totals	8,397	10,047	11,337	11,923	11,705	11,099	11,687	11,585	12,193	12,142	11,865	11,951	10,754	12,105	11,766	12,563	11,356	10,494	13,261

Figure 5

Industrial Noise Complaints comparison 2004 - 2022



	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Industry Manufacturing & Workshops	150	170	176	178	188	151	128	119	141	160	118	176	126	159	144	162	108	236	215
Agricultural	37	34	39	45	39	66	70	74	80	85	66	74	101	71	61	66	84	124	94
Wind Turbine (Individual)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	11	25	46	57	61	77	38	21
Wind Farm	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	7	9	5	20	20	6	4	4

Figure 6

Commercial and leisure noise complaints comparison 2004 - 2022

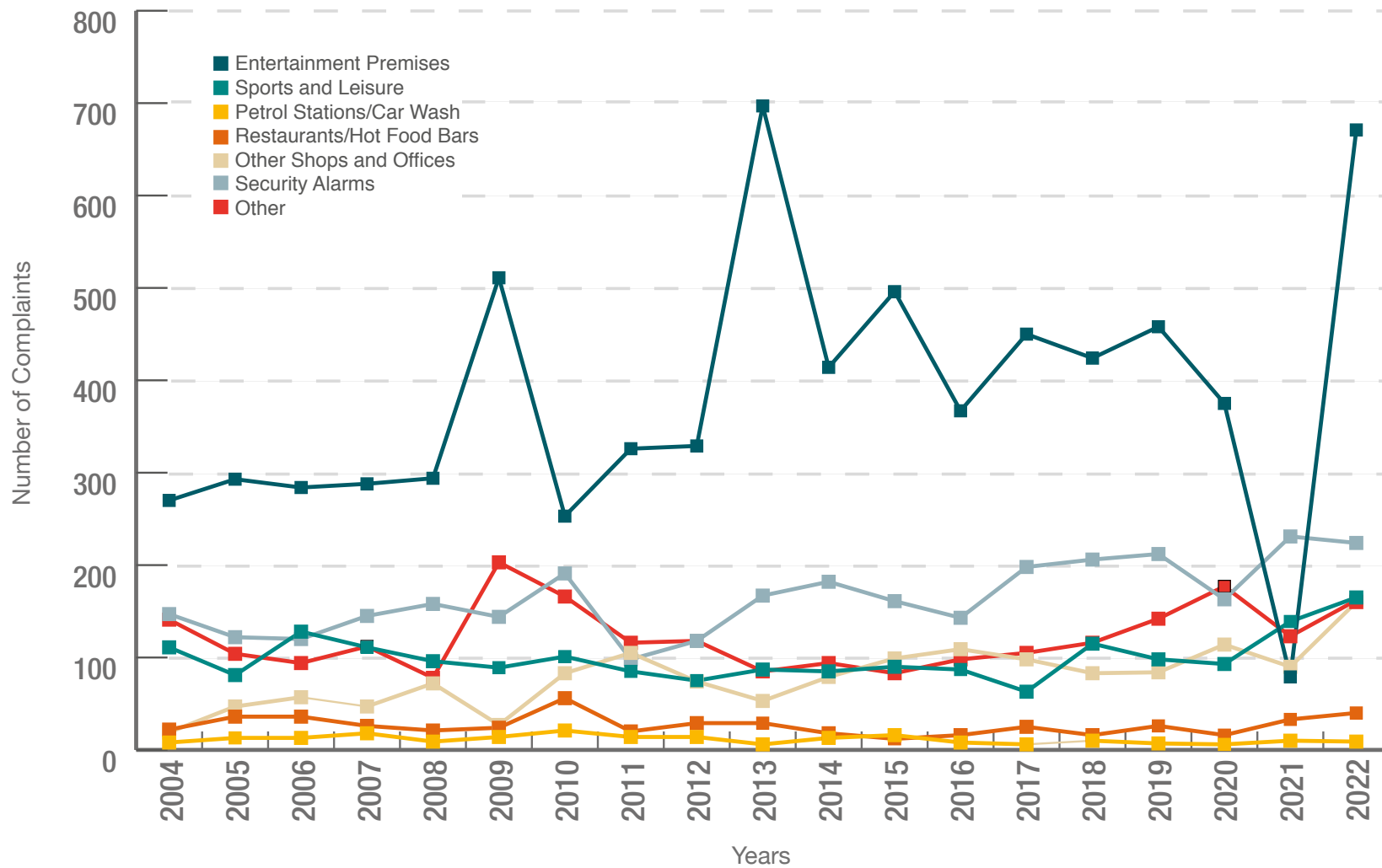


Figure 6**Commercial and leisure noise complaints comparison 2004 - 2022 (continued)**

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Entertainment Premises	270	293	284	288	294	511	253	326	329	697	414	496	367	450	424	458	375	79	671
Sports & Leisure	111	81	128	111	96	89	101	85	75	87	85	90	87	63	115	98	93	139	165
Petrol Stations/Car Wash	8	13	13	18	9	14	21	14	14	6	13	16	8	6	10	7	6	10	9
Restaurants Hot Food/ Bars	22	36	36	26	21	24	56	20	29	29	18	12	16	25	16	26	16	33	40
Other Shops & Offices	19	47	57	47	72	27	83	105	74	53	79	99	109	98	83	84	114	90	150
Security Alarms	147	122	120	145	158	144	191	98	118	167	182	161	143	198	206	212	163	231	224
Other	141	104	94	112	78	203	166	116	118	85	94	83	98	105	116	142	177	123	162

Figure 7

Domestic noise complaints comparison 2004 - 2022

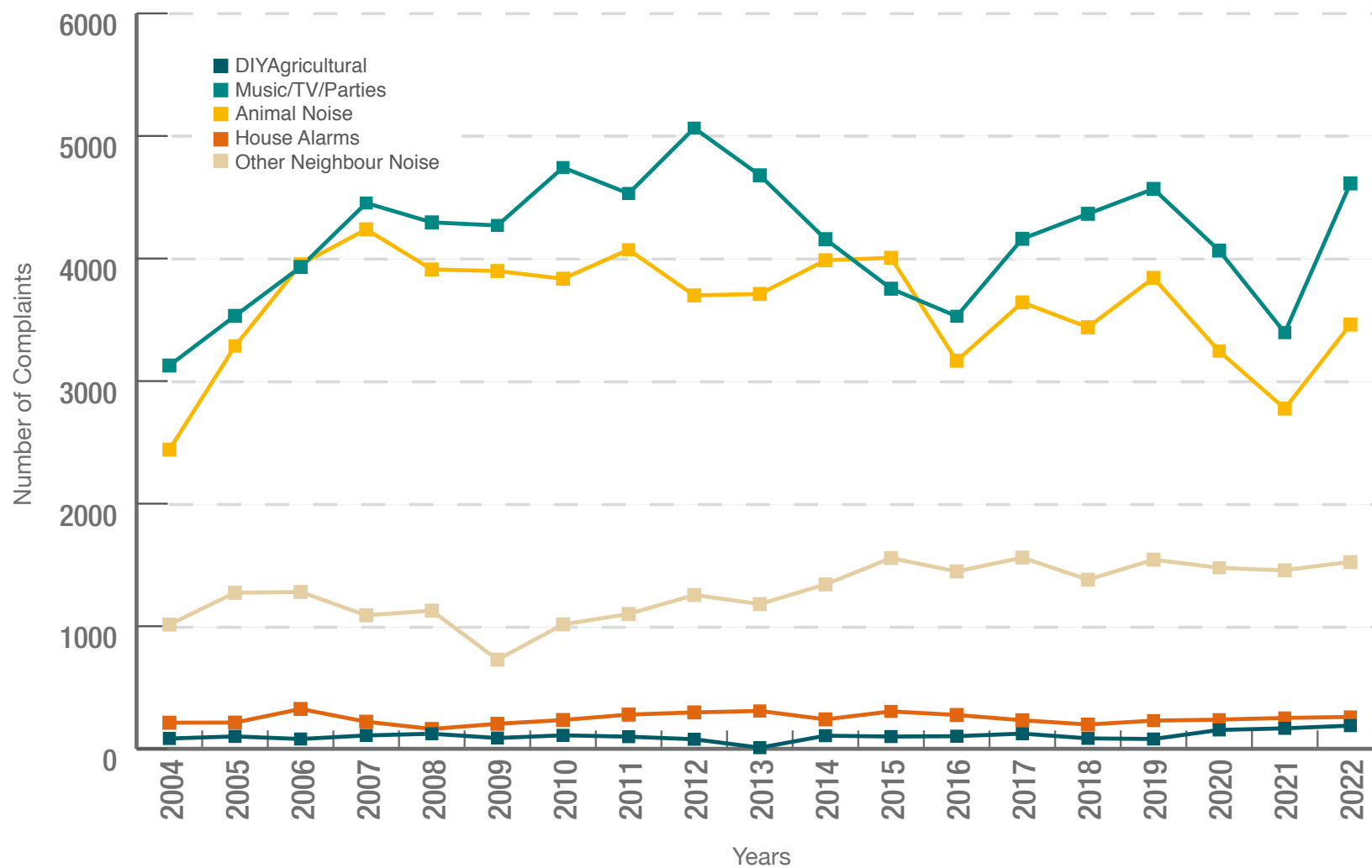


Figure 7**Domestic noise complaints comparison 2004 - 2022 (continued)**

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
DIY	84	101	80	109	123	88	110	99	78	9	107	100	103	124	85	80	154	167	189
Music/TV/ Parties	3,127	3,532	3,931	4,453	4,295	4,270	4,742	4,531	5,064	4,679	4,158	3,754	3,529	4,161	4,365	4,568	4,065	3,395	4,613
Animal Noise	2,441	3,285	3,952	4,238	3,911	3,898	3,835	4,072	3,699	3,711	3,986	4,006	3,166	3,642	3,439	3,842	3,244	2,776	3,461
House Alarms	213	214	325	221	162	204	235	279	297	309	240	305	276	233	198	230	238	252	260
Other Neighbour Noise	1,014	1,273	1,280	1,089	1,127	727	1,015	1,100	1,255	1,181	1,341	1,556	1,447	1,560	1,380	1,543	1,477	1,456	1,523

Figure 8

Transport noise complaints comparison 2004 - 2022

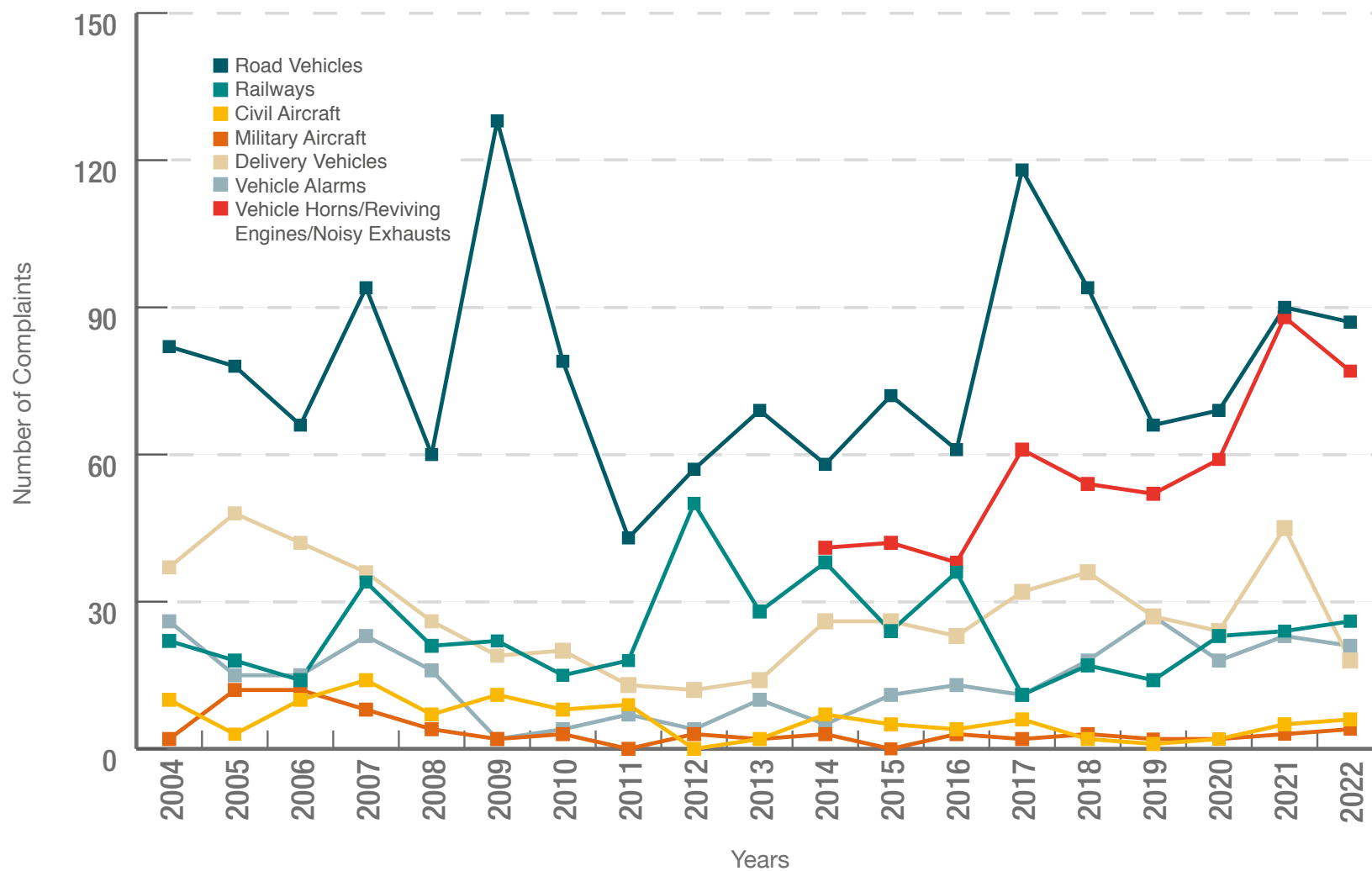
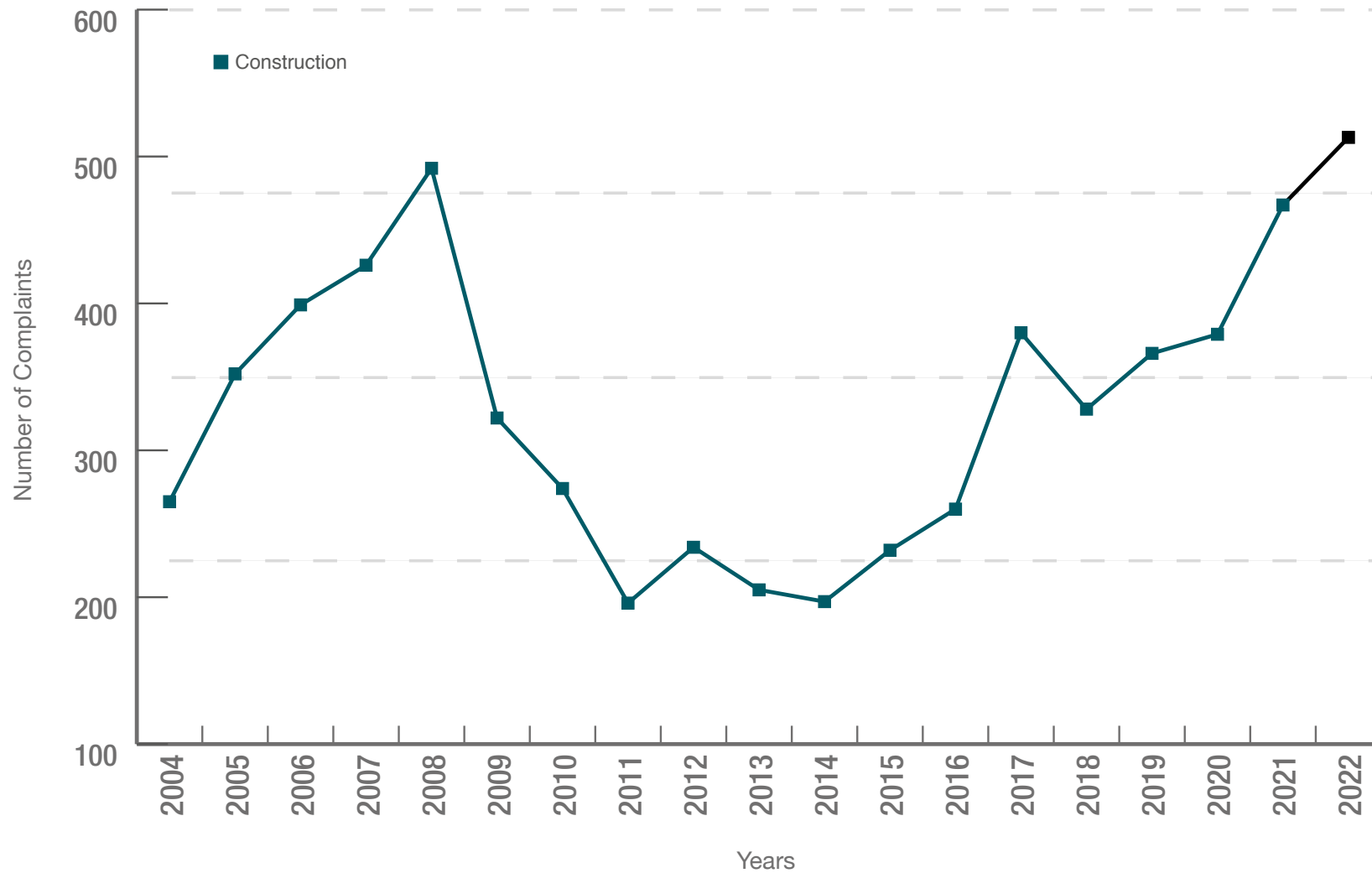


Figure 8**Transport noise complaints comparison 2004 - 2022 (continued)**

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Road Vehicles	82	78	66	94	60	128	79	43	57	69	58	72	61	118	94	66	69	90	87
Railways	22	18	14	34	21	22	15	18	50	28	38	24	36	11	17	14	23	24	26
Civil Aircraft	10	3	10	14	7	11	8	9	0	2	7	5	4	6	2	1	2	5	6
Military Aircraft	2	12	12	8	4	2	3	0	3	2	3	0	3	2	3	2	2	3	4
Delivery Vehicles	37	48	42	36	26	19	20	13	12	14	26	26	23	32	36	27	24	45	18
Vehicle Alarms	26	15	15	23	16	2	4	7	4	10	5	11	13	11	18	27	18	23	21
Vehicle Horns/Engines/Reving	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	41	42	38	61	54	52	59	88	77

Figure 9

Construction noise complaints comparison 2004 - 2022



	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Construction	265	352	399	426	492	322	274	196	234	205	197	232	260	380	328	366	379	467	513

Figure 10 Noise in the street complaints comparison 2004 - 2022

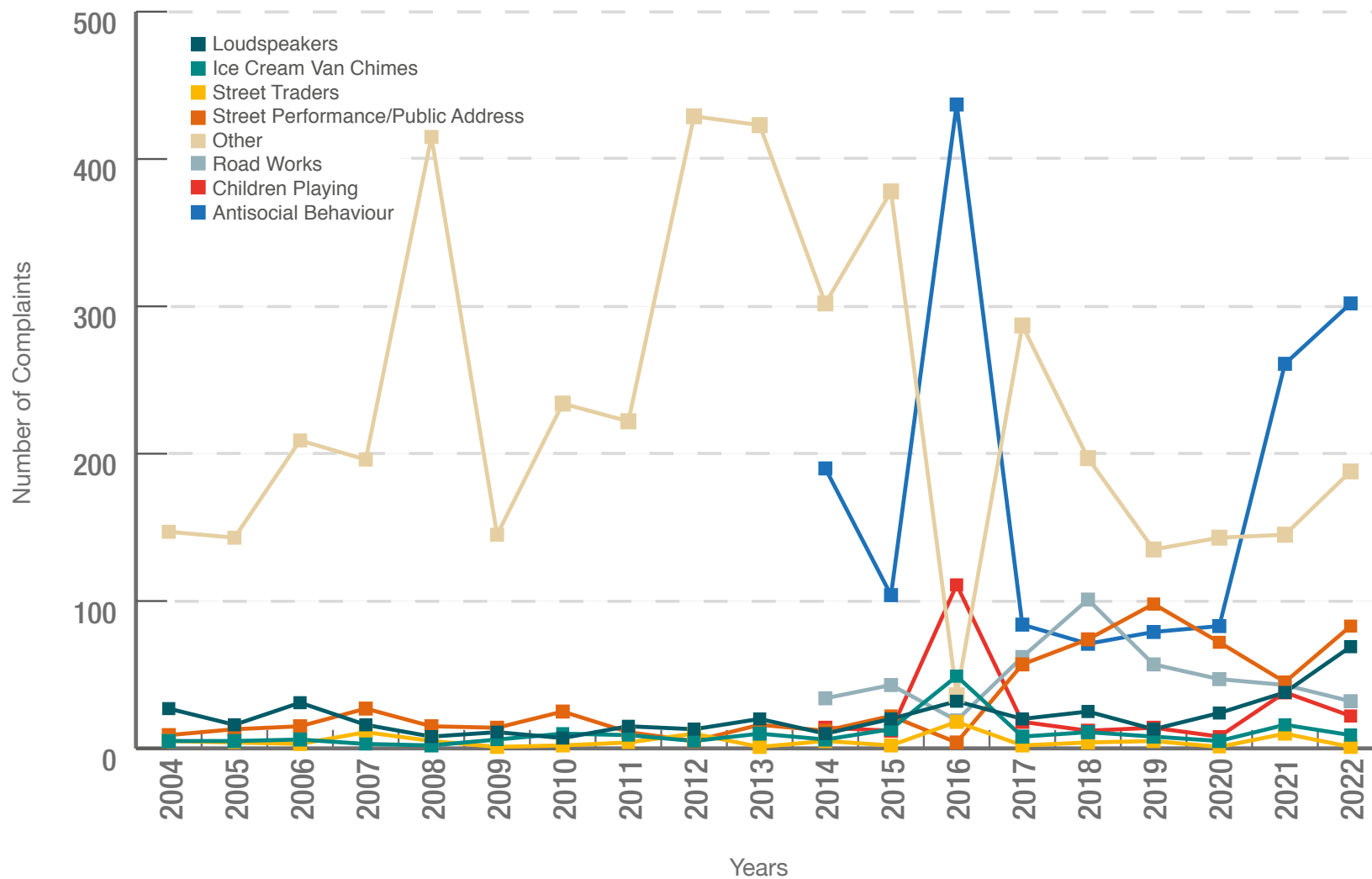


Figure 10**Noise in the street complaints comparison 2004 - 2022 (continued)**

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Loudspeakers	27	16	31	16	8	11	7	15	13	20	10	20	32	20	25	13	24	38	69
Ice Cream Van Chimes	5	5	6	3	2	6	10	9	5	10	6	13	49	8	11	8	5	16	9
Street Traders	5	4	3	11	5	1	2	4	10	1	5	2	18	2	4	5	1	10	1
Street Performance/Public Address	9	13	15	27	15	14	25	11	5	16	12	22	4	57	74	98	72	45	83
Other	147	143	209	196	415	145	234	222	429	423	302	378	36	287	197	135	143	145	188
Road Works	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	34	43	19	62	101	57	47	43	34
Children Playing	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14	12	111	18	12	14	8	38	22
Antisocial Behaviour	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	190	104	437	84	71	79	83	261	302

Noise Complaint Statistics for Northern Ireland

2021 - 2022

Further information on noise matters in general, or the content of this report can be obtained from the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs at the following address:

Air and Environmental Quality Unit

Natural Environment Policy Division
Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs
2nd Floor Klondyke Building
Cromac Avenue
Gasworks Business Park
Lower Malone
Belfast
BT7 2JA

Tel: 028 9056 9543

E-mail: aeqteam@daera-ni.gov.uk

www.daera-ni.gov.uk/articles/noise



Department of
**Agriculture, Environment
and Rural Affairs**

www.daera-ni.gov.uk

