

Police Service of Northern Ireland

# Trends in Police Recorded Crime in Northern Ireland 1998/99 to 2015/16

**Annual Bulletin published 01 December 2016**

# Contents

	Page
<b>Contents</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>List of figures and tables</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Introduction</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Changes to crime classifications</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Conventions used in figures and tables</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Key Points Police Recorded Crime (excluding fraud)</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Section 1      Overview of Trends in Recorded Crime</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Section 2      Trends in Recorded Crime by Type of Crime</b>	<b>16</b>
2.1 Victim-based crime	16
2.2 Other crimes against society	26
<b>Section 3      Knife and Sharp Instrument Crime</b>	<b>37</b>
<b>Section 4      Online Crime</b>	<b>38</b>
4.1 Online Crime Victim Age and Gender Profile 2015/16	39
<b>Section 5      Alcohol Crime</b>	<b>41</b>
<b>Section 6      Other Fraud</b>	<b>43</b>
<b>Section 7      Victims of Crime</b>	<b>44</b>
7.1 Age profile 2015/16: age of victim	45
7.2 Age profile 2015/16: type of crime	46
7.3 Victim under 18	46
<b>Section 8      Outcomes</b>	<b>52</b>
8.1 Comparison of Outcome Rates, 2014/15 and 2015/16	52
8.2 Trends in outcome rates over time	53
<b>Section 9      Geographic Patterns of Crime</b>	<b>63</b>

# List of figures and tables

## Section 1 Overview of Trends in Recorded Crime

- Figure 1.1 Trends in recorded crime, 1970 to 2015/16 (excluding fraud)
- Figure 1.2 Recorded crime by crime type, a comparison of 1998/99 and 2015/16
- Figure 1.3 Trends in recorded crime by crime type, 1998/99 to 2015/16 (excluding fraud)
- Table 1.1 Recorded crime: numbers and rates per 1,000 population including and excluding fraud, 1970 to 2015/16

## Section 2 Trends in Recorded Crime by Type of Crime

- Figure 2.1 Homicides by calendar year 1969 to 2015
- Figure 2.2 Violence with and without injury, 1998/99 to 2015/16
- Figure 2.3 Comparison of assault offences with and without injury, 2003/04 to 2015/16
- Figure 2.4 Percentage of rape and sexual assault/sexual activity offences reported more than 12 months after the offence occurred
- Figure 2.5 Number of business and personal robberies recorded, 1998/99 to 2015/16
- Figure 2.6 Trends in theft (including burglary), criminal damage and all other crime, 1998/99 to 2015/16
- Figure 2.7 Domestic and non-domestic burglaries, 1998/99 to 2015/16
- Figure 2.8 Comparison of theft offences, 1998/99 to 2015/16
- Figure 2.9 Criminal damage by type of damage, 2015/16
- Figure 2.10 Trafficking of drugs and possession of drug offences, 1998/99 to 2015/16
- Table 2.1 Rape and sexual assault/sexual activity offences: length of time between the date the offence occurred and the date the offence was reported to police, 1998/99 to 2015/16
- Table 2.2 Recorded crime by offence, 1998/99 to 2015/16
- Table 2.3 Homicides, 1969 to 2015
- Table 2.4 Homicides, 1998/99 to 2015/16

## Section 3 Knife and Sharp Instrument Crime

- Table 3.1 Selected violent and sexual offences recorded by the police involving knives or sharp instruments by crime type in Northern Ireland, 2007/08 to 2015/16
- Table 3.2 Proportion of selected violent and sexual offences recorded by the police involving knives or sharp instruments by crime type in Northern Ireland, 2007/08 to 2015/16

## Section 4 Online Crime

- Figure 4.1 Online crime (excluding fraud) by type of offence, 2014/15 and 2015/16
- Table 4.1 Online crime by offence (excluding fraud), 2014/15 and 2015/16
- Table 4.2 Online crime (excluding fraud) by age of victim, 2014/15 and 2015/16
- Table 4.3 Online crime (excluding fraud) by gender of victim, 2014/15 and 2015/16

## Section 5 Alcohol Crime

- Figure 5.1 Alcohol-motivated crime by type of crime (excluding fraud), 2015/16
- Table 5.1 Alcohol-related crime (excluding fraud) by offence, 2012/13 to 2015/16
- Table 5.2 Alcohol-related crime (excluding fraud) as a percentage of all recorded crime by offence, 2012/13 to 2015/16

## Section 6 Other Fraud

- Table 6.1 Offences of Other Fraud recorded by PSNI and Action Fraud, 1998/99 to 2015/16

# List of figures and tables continued

## Section 7 Victims of Crime

Figure 7.1	Crimes recorded by type of victim, 2015/16
Figure 7.2	Percentage of victims by age band in each main crime type, 2015/16
Figure 7.3	Age profile of crime victims compared with Northern Ireland population profile, 2015/16
Figure 7.4	Proportion of crime victims by age band for the main crime types, 2015/16
Figure 7.5	Number of violence against the person offences recorded by victim age; comparison of 2007/08, 2014/15 and 2015/16
Figure 7.6	Number of violence against the person offences recorded by victim gender, 2007/08 to 2015/16
Figure 7.7	Number of sexual offences recorded by victim age; comparison of 2007/08, 2014/15 and 2015/16
Figure 7.8	Number of sexual offences recorded by victim gender, 2007/08 to 2015/16
Figure 7.9	Rape offences victim under 18, percentage reporting to police when aged under 18 or when aged 18 and over, 2007/08 to 2015/16
Figure 7.10	Sexual assault offences victim under 18, percentage reporting to police when aged under 18 or when aged 18 and over, 2007/08 to 2015/16
Table 7.1	Percentage of each victim type recorded by type of crime (excluding fraud), 2015/16
Table 7.2	Violence against the person offences where the victim was under 18 at the time the offence was committed, by type of offence, 2007/08 to 2015/16
Table 7.3	Sexual offences where the victim was under 18 at the time the offence was committed, by type of offence, 2007/08 to 2015/16
Table 7.4	Obscene Publications and Protected Sexual Material offences, 2007/08 to 2015/16

## Section 8 Outcomes

Figure 8.1	Percentage point change in the main recorded crime type outcome rates (excluding fraud), 2015/16 compared with 2014/15
Figure 8.2	Outcome rates (excluding fraud), 1998/99 to 2015/16
Figure 8.3	Outcome rates (excluding fraud) by method of disposal, 1998/99 to 2015/16
Table 8.1	Crime outcomes by crime type (excluding fraud) and method of disposal, 2015/16
Table 8.2	Recorded crime outcome rates by offence (excluding fraud), 2007/08 to 2015/16
Table 8.3	Recorded crime outcomes and outcome rates by method of disposal (excluding fraud), 1998/99 to 2015/16

## Section 9 Geographic Patterns of Crime

Figure 9.1	Map of policing districts in Northern Ireland
Table 9.1	Recorded crime (excluding fraud) by policing district, 1998/99 to 2015/16
Table 9.2	Outcome rates (excluding fraud) by policing district, 2007/08 to 2015/16
Table 9.3	Recorded crime (excluding fraud) per 1,000 population by policing district, 1998/99 to 2015/16

# Introduction

## National Statistics Designation

National Statistics status means that official statistics meet the highest standards of trustworthiness, quality and public value.

All official statistics should comply with all aspects of the Code of Practice for Official Statistics. They are awarded National Statistics status following an assessment by the Authority's regulatory arm. The Authority considers whether the statistics meet the highest standards of Code compliance, including the value they add to public decisions and debate.

It is a producer's responsibility to maintain compliance with the standards expected of National Statistics, and to improve its statistics on a continuous basis. If a producer becomes concerned about whether its statistics are still meeting the appropriate standards, it should discuss its concerns with the Authority promptly. National Statistics status can be removed at any point when the highest standards are not maintained, and reinstated when standards are restored.

## Assessment of police recorded crime in Northern Ireland

In January 2014 the UK Statistics Authority cancelled the designation of police recorded crime statistics in England & Wales because of concerns regarding the quality and integrity of their statistics. While the lack of assurance of the data integrity in Scotland also resulted in the designation of these statistics being cancelled in July 2014, the National Statistics status of Police Recorded Crime Statistics in Scotland was re-instated in September 2016.

As a result of these concerns, the Authority commenced an assessment of police recorded crime in Northern Ireland in June 2014. In addition to this assessment, Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary (HMIC) were invited to conduct a crime data integrity audit within PSNI during September 2014 similar to those they conducted in England & Wales during 2014. The outcome of the audit was published on 19<sup>th</sup> March 2015 in the report [Crime data integrity – inspection of the Police Service of Northern Ireland](#). The main findings in relation to data quality were:

- a crime recording accuracy rate of 97 per cent with a confidence interval of +/-2 per cent;
- 98 per cent of crimes correctly classified; and
- 84 per cent recorded within the 72-hour limit allowed under the Home Office Counting Rules.

The UK Statistics Authority assessment was concluded after the publication of the HMIC report; the Authority's [assessment report Number 301 Statistics on Police Recorded Crime in Northern Ireland \(Police Service of Northern Ireland\)](#) was published on 28<sup>th</sup> May 2015. This report judged that the police recorded crime statistics in Northern Ireland can be designated as National Statistics. A letter of confirmation as National Statistics was published on 18<sup>th</sup> February 2016.

## Introduction of Action Fraud within Northern Ireland

From 1<sup>st</sup> April 2015 Action Fraud has taken responsibility for the central recording of fraud and cyber crime previously recorded by PSNI; Action Fraud became responsible for all such reports in England & Wales by 1<sup>st</sup> April 2014. Action Fraud is the UK's National Reporting Centre for fraud and cyber crime reported directly to them from the public and other organisations. While this means that these fraud and cyber offences are no longer recorded by PSNI, Action Fraud figures relating to fraud and cyber crime occurring in Northern Ireland are provided to PSNI on a monthly basis. As a result, this bulletin includes a section on 'Other Fraud' (Section 6) which presents figures dating back to 1998/99 and shows whether the source is PSNI or Action Fraud. All other sections within the bulletin present figures on a comparable basis that exclude 'other fraud'.

## Change to policing boundaries as a result of implementing the Review of Public Administration

As part of the Review of Public Administration which came into effect on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2015, PSNI has moved from eight to eleven policing districts, with the new policing model becoming fully operational at the end of September 2015.

The level of geographic information required to allocate crime records to the new boundaries was insufficient for the financial years 1998/99 to 2000/01. For this reason, comparison of crime at policing district level is only available for the financial years dating back to 2001/02.

While being only one policing district, Belfast City accounts for approximately one third of all crime recorded in Northern Ireland. It includes four local policing teams based in Lisburn Road (South), Tennent Street (North), Strandtown (East) and Woodbourne (West). To assist with district level comparisons, crime figures for each of these local policing teams are provided in Section 9 Geographic Patterns of Crime.



## Strengths and Limitations of Police Recorded Crime Statistics and Alternative Measures of Crime

While this monthly update presents the level of crime recorded by the police, there is an alternative but complementary measure of crime, the Northern Ireland Crime Survey (NICS) which is published by the Department of Justice for Northern Ireland. Each source of crime information has different strengths and limitations but can be looked at together to provide a more comprehensive picture of crime than could be obtained from either series alone. Details around the need for both recorded crime figures and the NICS can be found in paragraphs 1.2 and 1.3 of the bulletin [Experience of Crime: Findings from the 2014/15 Northern Ireland Crime Survey](#). Both of these measures of crime inform public debate about crime and support the development and monitoring of policy.

Unlike the Northern Ireland Crime Survey, police recorded crime figures do not include crimes that have not been reported to the police or those that the police decide not to record, but they do cover crimes against those aged under 16, organisations such as businesses, and crimes 'against the state' i.e. with no immediate victim (e.g. possession of drugs). It was estimated in 2014/15 that around 47 per cent of NICS comparable crime was reported to the police in Northern Ireland although this varied for individual offence types.

Like any administrative data, police recorded crime statistics are 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. These issues need to be taken into account when using these data.

Recorded crime statistics are affected by changes in reporting and recording practices. To ensure consistency, police recording practice is governed by Home Office Counting Rules (HOCR) and the National Crime Recording Standard (NCRS). These rules provide a national standard for the recording and classifying of notifiable offences by police forces in England and Wales. Although the Police Service of Northern Ireland does not fall under the jurisdiction of the Home Office, the same recording practices are followed and applied within Northern Ireland. However differences in legislation between the two jurisdictions must be taken into account when making comparisons between police recorded crime statistics for England & Wales and those for Northern Ireland. Details of the relevant guidance are available through a [two-page NCRS fact sheet](#) and the [Home Office Counting Rules](#).

Further details on Police Recorded Crime statistics are available in the [User Guide to Police Recorded Crime Statistics in Northern Ireland](#), and in the [Police Recorded Crime Statistics Quality Report](#). These are reference guides with explanatory notes regarding the issues and classifications which are key to the production and presentation of police recorded crime statistics.

## Variations in crime trends: crime survey data and police recorded crime figures in England & Wales and Northern Ireland

An analysis of variation in crime trends looking at comparable crime categories between the Crime Survey for England and Wales (CSEW) and the police recorded crime series for England and Wales was conducted by the Office for National Statistics. This was initially published in January 2013, with updated analysis made available in the User Guide to Crime Statistics for England and Wales in July 2014, an archived document on the ONS website in [Guidance and methodology - User Guides](#). This work identified a divergence in the trends between the two sets of figures, with the police recorded crime figures showing larger falls in crime. This raised questions about the quality of the police recorded crime figures and was one of the issues that led to the UK Statistics Authority removing the National Statistics designation from the police recorded crime figures in England and Wales.

The trends identified by ONS were not reflected in Northern Ireland; the Northern Ireland Crime Survey (NICS) showed crime falling at a greater rate than the police recorded crime statistics. Please note that the NICS was not conducted in 2002/03 and so comparisons were made instead with 2003/04. In addition, the initial analysis was based on comparisons with 2006/07 and was not re-run based on 2007/08. Further details can be found on page 6 of the [User Guide to Police Recorded Crime Statistics in Northern Ireland](#).

### Percentage reduction in comparable crime categories 2002/03 to 2014/15 (England and Wales)

	Percentage change 2002/03-2007/08	Percentage change 2007/08-2012/13	Percentage change 2012/13-2014/15	Percentage change 2002/03-2014/15
Police recorded crime	-20	-32	0	-45
CSEW	-16	-19	-20	-46

### Percentage reduction in comparable crime categories 2003/04 to 2014/15 (Northern Ireland)

	Percentage change 2003/04- 2006/07	Percentage change 2006/07- 2012/13	Percentage change 2012/13- 2014/15	Percentage change 2003/04- 2014/15
Police recorded crime	-7	-22	0	-28
NICS	-28	-25	-17	-55

## Data Quality and Auditing

The quality assurance processes mentioned above have been set in place to ensure that the numbers and types of crimes being recorded are, as far as is possible, recorded in compliance with the Home Office Counting Rules. Further details of the data quality checks and processes that PSNI has in place are available in section 4 of the [User Guide to Police Recorded Crime Statistics in Northern Ireland](#).

As mentioned previously in this bulletin, in light of the crime recording issues in England & Wales and Scotland, Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary (HMIC) were invited to conduct a crime data integrity audit within PSNI during September 2014, similar to those they conducted in England & Wales during 2014. The outcome of the audit was published on 19<sup>th</sup> March 2015 in the report [Crime data integrity – inspection of the Police Service of Northern Ireland](#). The main findings in relation to data quality were:

- a crime-recording accuracy rate of 97 percent with a confidence interval of +/-2 percent;
- 98 percent of crimes correctly classified; and
- 84 percent recorded within the 72-hour limit allowed under HOCR.

## Data Use

Recorded crime figures are an important indicator of police workload, and can be used for local crime pattern analysis and provide a good measure of trends in well-reported crimes (in particular, homicide, which is not covered by the NICS). There are also some categories of crime (such as drug possession offences) where the volume of offences recorded are heavily influenced by police activities and priorities; in such cases recorded crime figures may not provide an accurate picture of the true extent of criminality.

Recorded crime figures are used widely within PSNI as management information, to monitor performance on crime and detection rate targets against the Policing Plan, to inform PSNI policy and to provide information in support of operational research identifying appropriate allocation of police resource. The figures are also used by the Northern Ireland Policing Board and at local level by Policing and Community Safety Partnerships (PCSPs) to monitor the performance of the police. The Department of Justice for Northern Ireland is a key user of crime figures in relation to policy development.

Recorded crime figures are also used in response to both Assembly and Parliamentary questions, informing public debate and concerns around criminal activity. Information is used by academic researchers and the media, examining local and national public interest in current affairs relating to crime levels. There is a demand for crime figures from businesses, either keen to identify crimes that may affect their business or to identify demand for any related business service they may provide. Members of the public would also forward requests for crime information specific to their area of interest or specific to the area in which they live or work.

## Data Availability

Information that is published in the monthly and annual crime bulletins has been examined to make sure it meets levels of quality and completeness appropriate for publication. The proportion of records for which information is unavailable is identified in the bulletins and accompanying spreadsheets. There will be some variables held on the operational system for which the level of missing or incomplete information is too high to allow for inclusion in the bulletins, or where the data quality is not sufficient for publication.

Crime classifications are published at levels for which disclosure issues have been considered, including the geographic level at which the information is produced and also the length of time period covered. The [confidentiality protection arrangements](#) document on the PSNI internet site provides additional information on PSNI's arrangements for maintaining the confidentiality of statistical data and statistical disclosure control. Details on the availability of information relating to victim characteristics can be found in Section 4.5 of the [User Guide to Police Recorded Crime Statistics in Northern Ireland](#).

## Publication

Annual data are published on a financial year basis (i.e. 1<sup>st</sup> April to 31<sup>st</sup> March), with the annual bulletin providing finalised figures for the latest financial year along with trends and commentary. This ties in with PSNI's statutory obligation to report on performance on a financial year basis.

Provisional recorded crime figures are published each month on a rolling 12 month basis and financial year to date basis. Provisional figures remain subject to change until the annual data are published. Provisional figures in each monthly bulletin supersede those published in previous monthly updates.

The publication date for the monthly bulletin covering the final crime figures for the latest financial year is pre-announced and can be found via the [UK National Statistics Publication Hub](#). This is also made available via a [publication schedule](#) on the PSNI Internet site, along with the publication date of each monthly update and annual trends bulletin.

The main tables in this bulletin are also available on the PSNI Internet site in the form of [summary tables](#), [general crime pivot tables](#) and [victim characteristic pivot tables](#) in both excel format and open data format.

The PSNI Internet site has a [crime statistics archive](#) containing information relating to crime figures dating back to 1968.

## Related information available on the PSNI Internet site

### Anti-Social Behaviour Statistics

These statistics are updated on a monthly basis and published at the same time as the police recorded crime monthly updated, with publication dates available in the [publication schedule](#). The latest publications and those that have been archived can be accessed through:

<https://www.psni.police.uk/inside-psni/Statistics/anti-social-behaviour-statistics/>

### Domestic Abuse Statistics

These statistics are updated on a quarterly basis (in August, November, February and May), with a more comprehensive trends publication made available annually; publication dates are available in the [publication schedule](#). The latest publications and those that have been archived can be accessed through:

<https://www.psni.police.uk/inside-psni/Statistics/domestic-abuse-statistics/>

### Hate Motivation Statistics

These statistics are updated on a quarterly basis (in August, November, February and May), with a more comprehensive trends publication made available annually; publication dates are available in the [publication schedule](#). The latest publications and those that have been archived can be accessed through:

<https://www.psni.police.uk/inside-psni/Statistics/hate-motivation-statistics/>

### Drug Seizure Statistics

These statistics report on numbers of drug seizure incidents, quantities of drugs seized and drug related arrests. They are updated on a monthly basis, with publication normally happening on the third Wednesday of each month; publication dates are available in the [publication schedule](#). The latest publications and those that have been archived can be accessed through:

<https://www.psni.police.uk/inside-psni/Statistics/drug-seizure-statistics/>

### Geographic availability of police recorded crime statistics

Figures are available for a range of additional geographic areas through the [Northern Ireland Neighbourhood Information System \(NINIS\)](#). These figures are updated on an annual basis.

Provisional management information drawn from police recorded crime figures, published at street level each month, is available through the [police crime mapping website](#). The figures on the crime mapping website will differ from those provided in this bulletin as they have been extracted from the police administrative system on different dates, and also require a grid reference in order to be mapped.

### Crime Statistics User Guide

Further details on Police Recorded Crime statistics are available in the [User Guide to Police Recorded Crime Statistics in Northern Ireland](#). This is a reference guide with explanatory notes regarding the issues and classifications which are key to the production and presentation of police recorded crime statistics. The guide provides background information on:

- definitions relating to crimes, incidents and detections, including a description of the crime types included within the crime bulletins;
- recording practices, including PSNI data collection, quality and audit processes;
- data timeliness and availability; and
- the geographic areas for which crimes are available (statistics for geographies other than policing area and policing district can be accessed through the [Northern Ireland Neighbourhood Information System \(NINIS\)](#)).

### User Feedback

We welcome comment and feedback on these statistics. If you would like to forward your views, receive notification of new publications or be kept informed of developments relating to PSNI statistics, please email your contact details using the email address provided below. [Comments and feedback](#) from users of the crime data are available on the PSNI Internet Site.

### Contact Details

For further information about the police recorded crime statistics for Northern Ireland, or to contact the PSNI Crime Statistician please:

Email: [statistics@psni.police.uk](mailto:statistics@psni.police.uk);

Write to: Statistics Branch, Lisnasharragh, 42 Montgomery Road, Belfast, BT6 9LD; or

Telephone: 028 9065 0222 ext 24135



## Changes to crime classifications

On occasion, the structure of the classifications used to compile recorded crime may change.

**Alignment of PSNI classifications with England and Wales:** During 2010/11 an exercise was conducted to more closely align the crime recording classifications used in PSNI publications with those used for police recorded crime figures in England and Wales. The aim of this exercise was to improve comparability of police recorded crime figures in Northern Ireland with those for England and Wales, while taking into account legislative differences between the two jurisdictions. The realigned crime classification was introduced within PSNI in April 2011.

This exercise realigned the police recorded crime figures for each financial year dating back to 1998/99. Figures at the level of individual classifications differed slightly after reclassification to those figures published prior to reclassification. However the total recorded crime figure for each financial year 1998/99 onwards remained unchanged from the total figure originally published.

**Crime classifications consultation November 2011:** In November 2011 PSNI's Statistics Branch ran a consultation exercise about proposed changes to reduce the overall number of crime classifications. This was in line with a similar exercise conducted by the Home Office in England and Wales. This resulted in a reduction in the number of crime classifications from 148 to 126 and these changes which were introduced in April 2012.

**Crime classifications consultation December 2012:** The focus of the consultation launched in December 2012 concerned the presentation of police recorded crime under two broad categories – 'victim-based crime' and 'other crimes against society' in order to improve clarity of presentation. This consultation followed a similar exercise conducted by ONS in respect of police recorded crime in England and Wales. This resulted in a change to the previous classification system implemented from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2013. All police recorded crime figures published from June 2013 onwards are based on this revised classification.

Figures based on previous classifications are still available in the [crime statistics archive](#) on the PSNI Internet site.

## Conventions used in figures and tables

While the detection rates are rounded to one decimal place, the detection rate change in % pts is calculated on the unrounded detection rates and then rounded to one decimal place.

'-' indicates that for offences recorded a percentage change is not reported because the base number of offences is less than 50, and that for offences detected a detection rate cannot be calculated as there were no offences recorded.

'..' indicates that data are not available.

# Key Points Police Recorded Crime (excluding fraud)

## Section 1 Overview

- Crime has shown an overall downwards trend over the last thirteen years. From a peak of 138,132 in 2002/03 levels fell to 98,558 in 2012/13, the lowest level recorded since 1998/99. Crime has since risen in each of the last three years to a level of 105,023 in 2015/16.
- The level of crime recorded in 2015/16 is the seventh lowest crime figure recorded since 1998/99.
- In 2015/16 there were 57 crimes recorded per 1,000 population, compared with the peak of 81 crimes per 1,000 population in 2002/03.
- Between 1998/99 and 2015/16 the proportion of crime (excluding fraud) represented by theft (including burglary) and criminal damage fell from three quarters of all crimes recorded to half of all crimes recorded, while the proportion of violence against the person, sexual offences and robbery increased from one in five to represent nearly two in five crimes recorded.

## Section 2 Trends in Recorded Crime by Type of Crime

- In 2015/16 the main crime classifications of robbery, burglary and theft each fell to their lowest levels since 1998/99. Criminal damage was at its lowest level in 2014/15.
- Offences of violence against the person, sexual offences, drug offences, possession of weapons offences and the classification covering miscellaneous crimes against society recorded their highest levels in 2015/16.
- There were 21 murders in 2015/16, four more than 2014/15 and the highest number recorded since 2008/09 when there were 24.
- While the volume of offences recorded is small, the following crime types have recently shown sharp increases:
  - The cruelty to children/young persons classification reached its highest level in 2015/16 with 341 crimes recorded, nearly twice the level recorded during 2014/15.
  - Sexual activity offences increased from 257 recorded in 2012/13 to 603 in 2015/16. Some of this increase this may be influenced by 'sexting', when someone sends or receives a sexually explicit text, image or video on their mobile phone, computer or tablet which can include 'sexual chat' and requests for pictures of sexual offences.
  - 'Sexting' might also have influenced the increase in offences relating to obscene publications and protected sexual material where levels have increased from 59 in 2010/11 to 394 in 2015/16.
  - At 223, the number of blackmail offences recorded in 2015/16 is nearly three times higher than for 2014/15. This may be linked to online crime; a quarter of blackmail offences recorded in 2014/15 were flagged as having an online element, rising to nearly half of all blackmail offences in 2015/16.

## Section 3 Knife and Sharp Instrument Crime

- The proportion of selected violent and sexual offences involving knives or sharp instruments in 2015/16 was four per cent, the same proportion as was found in 2010/11 and 2011/12. In all other years the proportion was five per cent.

## Section 4 Online Crime

- Online crime accounted for 0.8 per cent of all crimes in 2015/16, with 4 such offences recorded per 10,000 population. Victims aged under 18 were most likely to be victims of sexual activity offences with an online motivation while those aged 18+ were most likely to be victims of harassment or blackmail. Females were most likely to be victims of harassment or sexual activity, with males most likely to be victims of harassment and blackmail.

## Section 5 Alcohol Crime

- Since 2012/13 around one in five crimes recorded by police in each year have been flagged with an alcohol motivation. Around half of all violence with injury offences (between 51 and 58 per cent) and a third of violence without injury offences (between 32 and 38 per cent) have been given an alcohol motivation. The proportion of violence against the person offences with an alcohol motivation has fallen each year from 47 per cent in 2012/13 to 40 per cent in 2015/16.

## Section 6 Other Fraud

- From 1<sup>st</sup> April 2015 Action Fraud took over responsibility for the central recording of fraud and cyber crime previously recorded by PSNI. In 2014/15 there were 1,896 offences recorded by PSNI within the 'Other Fraud' classification. Action Fraud recorded 2,228 frauds and cyber crimes occurring in Northern Ireland during 2015/16.

## Section 7 Victims of Crime

- During 2015/16 around 70 per cent of all crimes had a person victim, 3 per cent a police officer victim, 17 per cent a business/organisation victim and 10 per cent were state-based.
- Of the 73,541 offences recorded in 2015/16 where there was a person victim, ten per cent were persons aged under 18, 83 per cent were aged 18-64 and 7 per cent were aged 65 or over.
- In 2015/16 there were 18 crime victims under the age of 18 per 1,000 of the population under 18, 54 crime victims aged 18-64 per 1,000 of the population aged 18-64 and 17 crime victims aged 65 or over per 1,000 of the population aged 65+.
- Ninety three percent of victims who were under 18 at the time the offence occurred were victims of violence against the person or a sexual offence.
- The number of victims of sexual offences who were under 16 at the time the offence was committed more than doubled between 2007/08 and 2015/16.
- Offences relating to sexual activity within the 12 to 15 age group are nearly three times higher when comparing 2015/16 with 2011/12; the largest increases in levels have been seen in the last two years.
- Up to two in five sexual offences occurred when the victim was under 18 but were reported to police when the victim was 18 or over.

## Section 8 Outcomes

- There were 105,023 offences recorded in 2015/16 and 30,133 offences detected giving an outcome rate of 28.7%, an increase in the outcome rate of 1.2 percentage points when compared with 2014/15.
- At 28.7%, the outcome rate for 2015/16 is the third highest since 2007/08.
- The charge / summons methods of disposal accounted for 73 per cent of all outcomes in 2015/16, with discretionary disposals representing 14 per cent, cautions (adult and juvenile) 10 per cent and penalty notices for disorder 3 per cent.

## Section 9 Geographic Patterns of Crime

- As part of the Review of Public Administration which came into effect on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2015, PSNI has moved from eight to eleven policing districts. Comparison at policing district level is available for the financial years dating back to 2001/02.
- In 2015/16 there were 105 crimes per 1,000 population in Belfast City and 63 per 1,000 population in Derry City & Strabane. Within the remaining districts the crime rates ranged from 35 per 1,000 population in Mid Ulster to 50 per 1,000 population in Newry, Mourne & Down.

# 1 Overview of Trends in Recorded Crime

**Background:** The police recorded crime figures presented in this bulletin provide a comprehensive data series of crimes recorded in line with the expanded offence coverage which came into effect with revised Home Office Counting Rules on 1<sup>st</sup> April 1998. During 1998/99 crime figures were collated using the rules which were in place previously, as well as by the revised rules. The revised rules added more than 32,000 crimes to the dataset, increasing the level of crime (including fraud) by 42% (from 76,644 to 109,053).

Since 1998/99 there have been changes to the way in which crimes have been captured on PSNI systems. Between 1998/99 and 2000/01 crimes were recorded through a paper-based system where a completed form was forwarded to the PSNI Statistics Branch for input onto a stand-alone computer system from which crime figures were then extracted.

In April 2001 PSNI introduced electronic crime recording through an integrated crime information system (ICIS), which resulted in more low level crime being captured than would have occurred through the previous crime recording process. Including fraud, the level of crime recorded in 2001/02 was 139,786. While the National Crime Recording Standard (NCRS) was implemented by the Home Office in April 2002, the introduction of ICIS in the previous financial year meant that PSNI had already experienced much of the increase in crime attributed to NCRS which was seen in police forces in England and Wales. In 2002/03 the level of crime (including fraud) was 142,496, an increase of 2 per cent on the previous year. The levels of crime experienced in 2001/02 and 2002/03 were the highest levels recorded within this data series.

The current system which is used within PSNI to record crime is called NICHE and was introduced from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2007. Ensuring continuation of the crime recording process and data quality was an integral part of the development of this system. An audit was conducted a few months after the system commenced to establish if the crime recording process and data quality had been impacted in any way. The results of the audit indicated that the change to using the NICHE system for crime recording had no negative impact on the quality of recorded crime data.

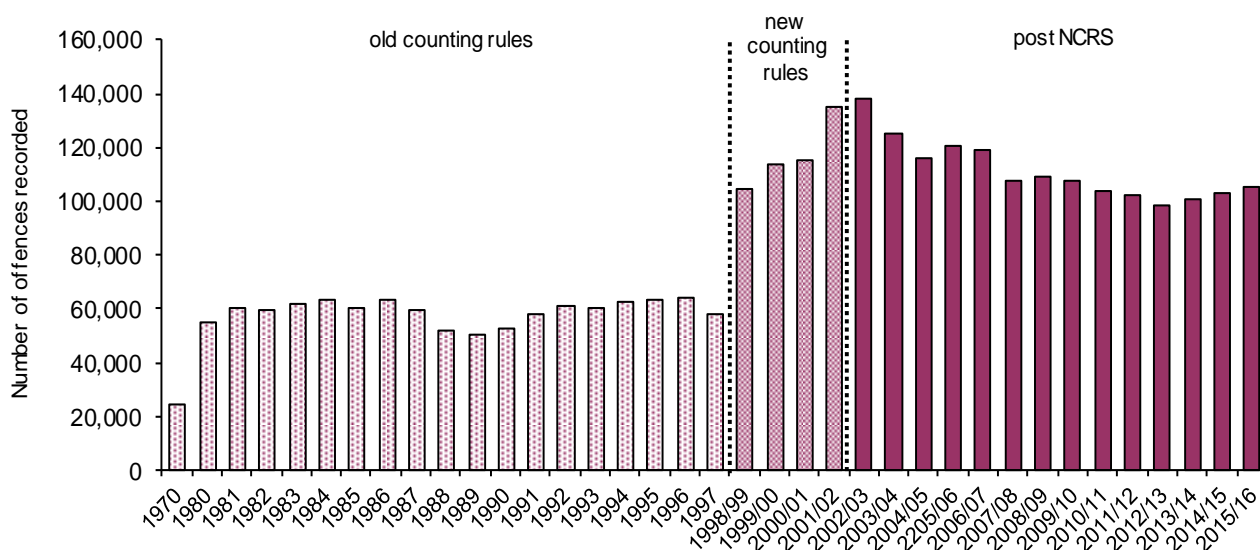
There are a range of factors that can have an impact on the recorded crime data series. For example changes to existing legislation, the introduction of new legislation and clarifications or changes to the Home Office Counting Rules can all cause discontinuities to the data series. As far as possible these factors will be identified in the commentary or table footnotes within this bulletin.

## Overview of trends in recorded crime (excluding fraud)

Crime increased each year from a level of 104,647 in 1998/99 (the first year for which crime data comparable under the revised Home Office Counting Rules is available) to a peak of 138,132 in 2002/03. This was followed by an overall downwards trend to 2012/13 when 98,558 crimes were recorded, the lowest level seen since 1998/99. Crime has risen in each year since 2012/13 to reach 105,023 in 2015/16.

While the level of crime recorded in 2015/16 shows an increase of 1.8 per cent on the previous year, it is the seventh lowest crime figure recorded since 1998/99 and is 24 per cent lower than the peak in 2002/03.

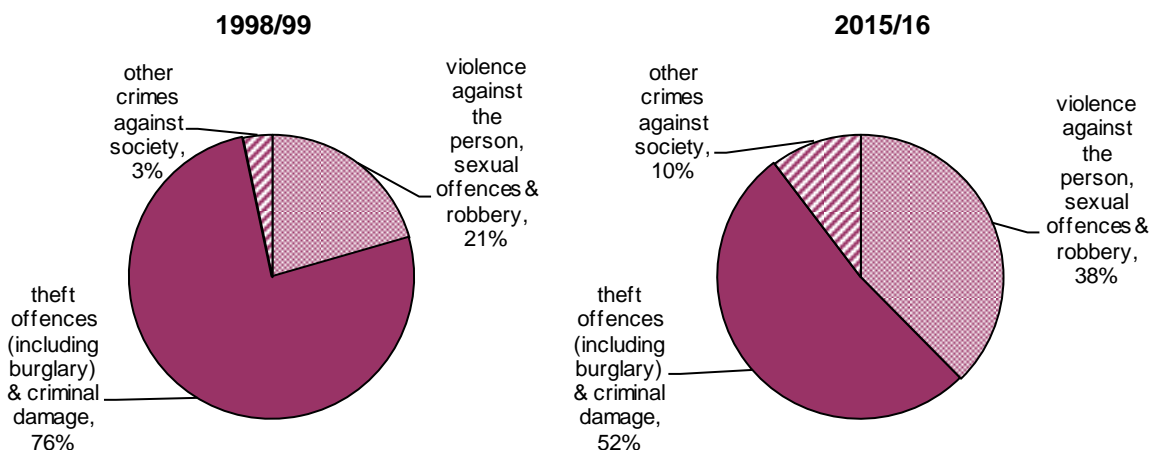
**Figure 1.1 Trends in recorded crime, 1970 to 2015/16 (excluding fraud)**



Excluding fraud, there were 62 crimes recorded per 1,000 population in 1998/99, rising to a peak of 81 crimes per 1,000 population in 2002/03. The crime rate has remained similar over the last six years ranging from 54 crimes per 1,000 population in 2012/13 (the lowest crime rate recorded) to 57 crimes per 1,000 population in 2010/11 and 2015/16.

The decrease in crime has mainly been experienced within the offence categories of theft (including burglary) and criminal damage, while offences of violence against the person and sexual offences have shown an upwards trend. As a result the profile of crime has changed in the years between 1998/99 and 2015/16. In 1998/99 violence against the person, sexual offences and robbery accounted for one in five crimes (excluding fraud), while theft (including burglary) and criminal damage accounted for three out of four crimes. In 2015/16 the proportion of crime represented by theft (including burglary) and criminal damage fell from three quarters to half of all crimes recorded (excluding fraud), while the proportion of violence against the person, sexual offences and robbery offences increased from one in five to represent nearly two in five crimes (excluding fraud).

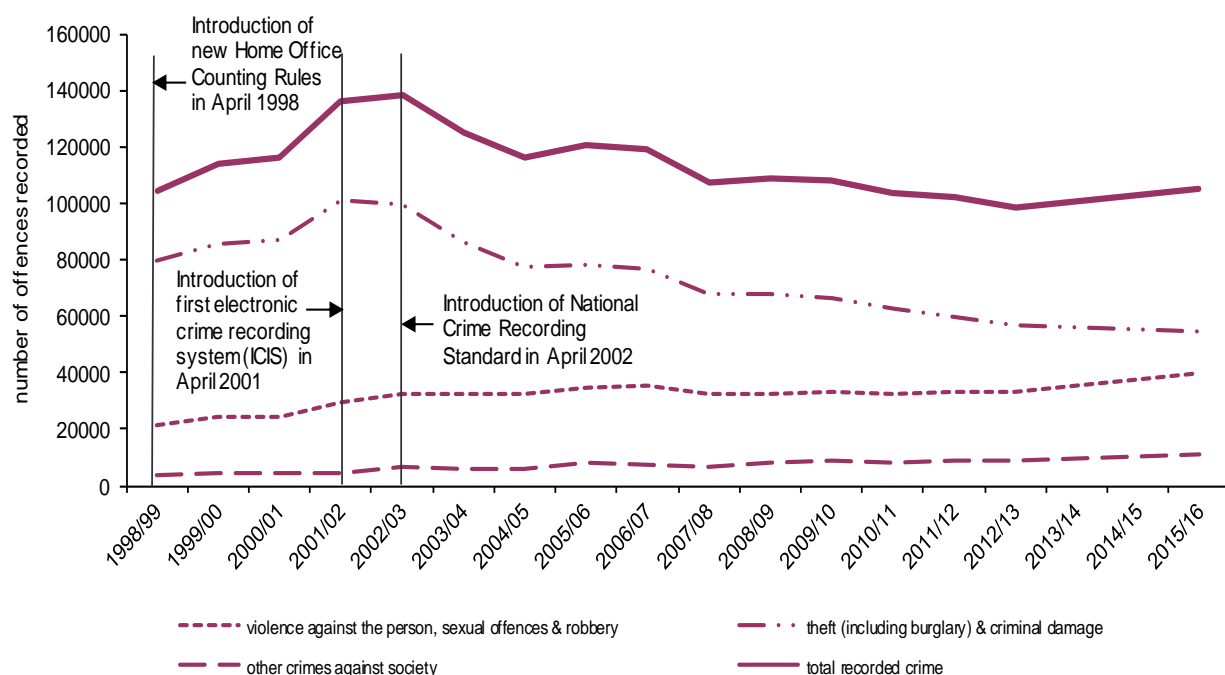
**Figure 1.2 Recorded crime by crime type, a comparison of 1998/99 and 2015/16**



### Overview of trends in recorded crime by type of crime (excluding fraud)

Figure 1.3 shows the trends for the main types of crime since 1998/99, reflecting both the decreasing levels of crime and also the changing profile of crime described previously.

**Figure 1.3 Trends in recorded crime by crime type, 1998/99 to 2015/16 (excluding fraud)**





**Victim-based crimes:** In 2015/16 robbery and burglary fell to their lowest levels since 1998/99. Robbery and burglary levels have more than halved since they reached a peak in 2002/03. Criminal damage fell to its lowest level in 2014/15 (around half of that recorded in 2001/02). After decreasing year on year between 2006/07 and 2014/15 there was an increase in levels of criminal damage in 2015/16.

Within theft, vehicle offences fell to their lowest level recorded in 2015/16 and have fallen by 76 per cent when compared with the peak in 2002/03. All other theft offences (including theft from person, bicycle theft, shoplifting and other theft) reached a peak in 2001/02 before falling to the lowest level recorded in 2007/08. Since then there has been a general upwards trend to 2014/15 followed by a fall in 2015/16; the number of such theft offences recorded in 2015/16 is the seventh lowest since 1998/99.

Offences of violence against the person showed a general upwards trend between 1998/99 and 2006/07. The level fell again in 2007/08 and figures remained fairly constant until 2012/13. Levels have since risen in each of the last three financial years, with 2015/16 showing a 4.2 per cent increase on 2014/15 to become the highest level recorded since 1998/99.

Sexual offences have shown an upwards trend since 2000/01. The figure for 2015/16 is the highest level recorded since 1998/99 and is more than twice the level recorded in 2000/01.

**Other crimes against society:** Drug offences are at their highest level since 1998/99. The number of such offences has increased year on year since 2006/07. Offences of this nature can be influenced by police activities (see Section 2.1 of the [User Guide to Police Recorded Crime Statistics in Northern Ireland](#)), for example Operation Torus, a high profile operation specifically targeted at 'street level drug dealing' which started during 2012 has continued during 2015/16.

Possession of weapons offences showed an upwards trend between 1998/99 (351 recorded) and 2009/10 (804 recorded) before falling each year to a level of 651 in 2012/13. Levels have increased again in each of the last three financial years, reaching 923 in 2015/16, the highest level in the data series.

The trend for public order offences is only comparable from 2005/06, due to the introduction that year of offences relating to breaches of anti-social behaviour, non-molestation and sex offender orders. Public order offences were at their highest during 2005/06, reaching a level of 2,007. Levels have fluctuated since then with a mainly downwards trend since 2009/10. At 1,447 the figure for 2014/15 was the lowest since the peak in 2005/06 and was followed by a small increase in 2015/16 to 1,470 offences.

The number of miscellaneous crimes against society has tended to fluctuate over the years with no real trend emerging. The latest figure of 2,877 is the highest seen since 1998/99, when 1,498 offences were recorded, and is similar to the levels recorded in 2002/03, 2005/06, 2009/10 and 2014/15.

**Other fraud:** From 1<sup>st</sup> April 2015 Action Fraud has taken responsibility for the central recording of fraud and cyber crime previously recorded by PSNI; Action Fraud became responsible for all such reports in England & Wales by 1<sup>st</sup> April 2014. Action Fraud is the UK's National Reporting Centre for fraud and cyber crime reported directly to them from the public and other organisations. While this means that these fraud and cyber offences are no longer recorded by PSNI, Action Fraud figures relating to fraud and cyber crime in Northern Ireland are provided to PSNI on a monthly basis. As a result, this bulletin includes a section on 'Other Fraud (Section 6)' which presents figures dating back to 1998/99 and shows whether the source is PSNI or Action Fraud.

As seen in Table 6.1 (Section 6 Other Fraud), total PSNI recorded Other Fraud showed an overall downwards trend between 1998/99 (when 4,406 offences were recorded) and 2007/08 (978 offences), followed by an upwards trend to reach 1,896 offences in 2014/15. There were 2,228 offences recorded by Action Fraud in 2015/16. Further details on frauds recorded by Action Fraud are available in table 6.2 in the accompanying [summary tables](#).

### **Overview of trends in recorded crime (excluding fraud) by policing district**

As part of the Review of Public Administration which came into effect on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2015, PSNI moved from eight to eleven policing districts, with the new policing model becoming fully operational at the end of September 2015.

The level of geographic information required to allocate crime records to the new boundaries was insufficient for the financial years 1998/99 to 2000/01. For this reason, comparison of crime at policing district level based on the new boundaries is only available for the financial years dating back to 2001/02, providing a fifteen year time series.

All policing districts experienced their highest levels of crime in the first six years of the data series (between 2001/02 and 2006/07), with the lowest levels being seen in the most recent six years (between 2010/11 and 2015/16).

Belfast City, Lisburn & Castlereagh City, Ards & North Down, Newry, Mourne & Down, Armagh City, Banbridge & Craigavon, Mid & East Antrim and Antrim & Newtownabbey all showed their highest crime levels in 2001/02 or 2002/03. These districts also showed their lowest level of crime between 2011/12 and 2013/14.

Mid Ulster, Fermanagh, Derry City & Strabane and Causeway Coast & Glens all showed their highest crime levels in 2005/06 or 2006/07. These districts showed their lowest level of crime between 2013/14 and 2015/16, with the exception of Derry City & Strabane which experienced their lowest level in 2010/11.

### Overview of trends in outcome rates (excluding fraud)

Prior to April 2013 these figures were mainly presented in the form of sanction detections and sanction detection rates. These included the outcome methods of charge/summons, cautions (adult and juvenile), penalty notices for disorder and offences taken into consideration. The sanction detections and sanction detection rates did not include discretionary disposals or indictable only offences where no action was taken against the offender.

Since April 2013 the figures have been presented as outcomes, covering the methods of charge/summons, cautions (adult and juvenile), penalty notices for disorder, offences taken into consideration, discretionary disposals and indictable only offences where no action was taken against the offender. For this reason, most of the outcome figures in this bulletin are shown dating back to 2007/08 in order to provide a data series that is as comparable as possible, bearing in mind that discretionary disposals were first introduced as an outcome method during 2011/12 and penalty notices for disorder were introduced in June 2012.

The outcome rate rose each year from 20.4% in 2007/08 to 2012/13 when it reached 29.4%. The rate then fell to 27.1% in 2013/14 before increasing to 27.5% in 2014/15 and again to 28.7% in 2015/16. PSNI introduced discretionary disposals during 2011/12; these contributed 2.9% to the outcome rate in 2011/12, 3.1% in 2012/13, 2.6% in 2013/14, 3.1% in 2014/15 and 3.9% in 2015/16. Penalty notices for disorder, introduced in June 2012, contributed 0.4% to the outcome rate in 2012/13, 0.8% in 2013/14, 0.9% in 2014/15 and 1.0% in 2015/16.

In 2015/16 the following main crime types experienced outcome rates that were slightly lower than for 2014/15; sexual offences (0.4% points), criminal damage (0.1% points), possession of weapons offences (2.2% points) and public order offences (0.3% points). All of the other main crime types showed higher outcome rates over the same time period.

The outcome rate for violence against the person with injury (including homicide) increased year on year from 28.3% in 2007/08 to 37.0% in 2010/11, before falling each year to 32.2% in 2014/15. The outcome rate has since increased to 32.5% in 2015/16. Violence against the person without injury shows a similar trend, increasing year on year from 27.3% in 2007/08 to 40.7% in 2011/12, then falling each year to 28.7% in 2014/15 before increasing again to 29.5% in 2015/16.

The outcome rate for sexual offences rose each year from 17.5% in 2007/08 to 26.5% in 2011/12 before falling each year to 14.9% in 2015/16. The outcome rate for rape reached its highest level during 2008/09 (21.0%), with the lowest rate being recorded in 2014/15 (10.3%). Other sexual offences reached their highest outcome rate of 30.2% in 2011/12 before falling each year to 16.0% in 2015/16, the lowest outcome rate since 2007/08.

The outcome rate for robbery offences rose each year between 2008/09 (16.4%) and 2012/13 (21.3%). While the rate fell to 16.5% in 2013/14, it has since increased in each of the last two years to 20.4% in 2015/16.

The lowest recorded outcome rate for burglary of 10.4% was seen in both 2007/08 and 2014/15; the outcome rate in 2015/16 was slightly higher at 10.7%. Outcome rates for the classification of all other theft offences remained unchanged between 2014/15 and 2015/16 at 10.0%. Bicycle theft and shoplifting rose over the same time period while the outcome rates for vehicle offences and theft from the person fell.

The highest outcome rate since 2007/08 for criminal damage was achieved in 2014/15 (16.4%). The outcome rate for 2015/16 was only slightly lower at 16.3%.

The outcome rate for drug offences was at its highest level in 2015/16 (88.9%). At 75.9% the lowest level was seen in 2007/08.

The outcome rate for possession of weapons offences has fluctuated between a low of 62.7% in 2013/14 and a high of 72.9% in 2010/11; the outcome rate for 2015/16 is 63.5%, the second lowest since 2007/08. The outcome rate for public order offences has also fluctuated with levels ranging from a low of 55.0% in 2013/14 to a high of 65.5% in 2012/13; the outcome rate of 55.2% in 2015/16 recorded in 2015/16 is also the second lowest since 2007/08.

The outcome rate for miscellaneous crimes against society rose each year from 57.8% in 2007/08 to 66.5% in 2010/11 before falling each year to 54.3% in 2014/15. The outcome rate sits at 54.8% in 2015/16.

**Table 1.1 Recorded crime: numbers and rates per 1,000 population including and excluding fraud 1970 to 2015/16**

Year	Numbers and rates per 1,000 population					
	Total recorded crime (excluding fraud) <sup>7</sup>	Total recorded crime (excluding fraud) per 1,000 population <sup>1</sup>	Total recorded fraud offences <sup>6,7</sup>	Fraud offences per 1,000 population <sup>1</sup>	Total recorded crime (including fraud) <sup>7</sup>	Total recorded crime (including fraud) per 1,000 population <sup>1</sup>
1970 <sup>8</sup>	24,707	16	103	0	24,810	16
1980 <sup>8</sup>	55,139	36	1,177	1	56,316	37
1981 <sup>8</sup>	60,844	39	1,652	1	62,496	41
1982 <sup>8</sup>	59,987	39	2,033	1	62,020	40
1983 <sup>8</sup>	61,854	40	2,130	1	63,984	41
1984 <sup>8</sup>	63,662	41	3,117	2	66,779	43
1985 <sup>8</sup>	60,887	39	3,697	2	64,584	41
1986 <sup>8</sup>	64,046	41	4,209	3	68,255	43
1987 <sup>8</sup>	59,710	38	4,150	3	63,860	40
1988 <sup>8</sup>	52,009	33	3,881	2	55,890	35
1989 <sup>8</sup>	50,752	32	4,395	3	55,147	35
1990 <sup>8</sup>	53,021	33	4,177	3	57,198	36
1991 <sup>8</sup>	58,681	37	4,811	3	63,492	40
1992 <sup>8</sup>	61,686	38	5,846	4	67,532	42
1993 <sup>8</sup>	60,675	37	5,553	3	66,228	40
1994 <sup>8</sup>	62,786	38	5,100	3	67,886	41
1995 <sup>8</sup>	63,924	39	4,884	3	68,808	42
1996 <sup>8</sup>	64,468	39	4,081	2	68,549	41
1997 <sup>8</sup>	58,404	35	3,818	2	62,222	37
1997/98 <sup>2,3,8</sup>	56,302	34	3,620	2	59,922	36
1998/99 <sup>3,8</sup>	71,364	43	5,280	3	76,644	46
1998/99 <sup>4</sup>	104,647	62	4,406	3	109,053	65
1999/00	114,209	68	4,902	3	119,111	71
2000/01	115,791	69	4,122	2	119,913	71
2001/02 <sup>5</sup>	135,814	80	3,972	2	139,786	83
2002/03 <sup>5</sup>	138,132	81	4,364	3	142,496	84
2003/04	124,966	73	2,987	2	127,953	75
2004/05	115,965	68	2,159	1	118,124	69
2005/06	120,919	70	2,275	1	123,194	71
2006/07	119,314	68	1,830	1	121,144	69
2007/08	107,490	61	978	1	108,468	62
2008/09	108,870	61	1,224	1	110,094	62
2009/10	107,951	60	1,188	1	109,139	61
2010/11 <sup>9</sup>	103,676	57	1,364	1	105,040	58
2011/12	102,009	56	1,380	1	103,389	57
2012/13	98,558	54	1,831	1	100,389	55
2013/14	100,917	55	1,929	1	102,746	56
2014/15 <sup>9</sup>	103,177	56	1,896	1	105,073	57
2015/16	105,023	57	2,228	1	107,251	58

- Population figures available from the Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency Internet site: <http://www.nisra.gov.uk/demography/default.asp3.htm>
- Change from calendar year to financial year.
- The number of crimes recorded in that financial year using the coverage and rules in use until 31 March 1998.
- 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.
- The National Crime Recording Standard was introduced in April 2002, although some forces adopted NCRS practices before the standard was formally introduced. Figures before and after that date are not directly comparable. The introduction of NCRS led to a rise in recording in 2002/03 and, particularly for violent crime, in the following years as forces continued to improve compliance with the new standard. Much of the impact of introducing NCRS was experienced by PSNI in 2001/02, through the introduction of an integrated crime information system (ICIS) within PSNI which improved the capture of low level crimes.
- For offences of Fraud by false representation, counting changed from a per fraudulent transaction to a per account basis from January 2007. From 1st April 2007 these offences were reported to a single point of contact within each police force by financial institutions.
- From 1st April 2015 Action Fraud has taken responsibility for the central recording of fraud and cyber crime previously recorded by PSNI; Action Fraud became responsible for all such reports in England & Wales by 1st April 2014. Action Fraud is the UK's National Reporting Centre for fraud and cyber crime reported directly to them from the public and other organisations. As a result, figures are presented on a comparable basis that excludes 'other fraud' (unless clearly noted otherwise).
- These figures are taken from the annual Report of the Chief Constable. Scanned images of the relevant crime tables from these reports, dating from 1968 until 2001/02 are available on the [Police Recorded Crime Statistics Archive](#) page on the PSNI website.
- A change to the number of corporate manslaughter offences recorded during 2014/15 has resulted in the violence against the person total and the total recorded crime figures (both excluding and including fraud) total for 2014/15 increasing by 1.

Crime figures for England & Wales are available from the [Office for National Statistics](#) Internet site. Further information and links to UK and International crime statistics can be found in Section 8 of the [User Guide to Police Recorded Crime Statistics in Northern Ireland](#). A further breakdown showing violence against the person, theft (including burglary) and criminal damage and vehicle offences is available in the accompanying [summary tables](#).

## 2 Trends in Recorded Crime by Type of Crime

A description of each main crime type is provided in section 3 of the [User Guide to Police Recorded Crime Statistics in Northern Ireland](#). Appendix 1 of the user guide contains a list of all recorded crime classifications. The classification structure implemented from April 2013 presents recorded crime on the basis of victim-based crime and other crimes against society. From 1st April 2015 Action Fraud has taken responsibility for the central recording of fraud and cyber crime previously recorded by PSNI; Action Fraud became responsible for all such reports in England & Wales by 1st April 2014. Action Fraud is the UK's National Reporting Centre for fraud and cyber crime reported directly to them from the public and other organisations. While this means that these fraud and cyber offences are no longer recorded by PSNI, Action Fraud figures relating to fraud and cyber crime in Northern Ireland are provided to PSNI on a monthly basis. As a result, this bulletin contains a section on 'Other Fraud' (Section 6) which presents figures dating back to 1998/99 and shows whether the source is PSNI or Action Fraud. All other sections within the bulletin present figures on a comparable basis that exclude 'Other Fraud'.

### 2.1 Victim-based crime

These offences include violence against the person, sexual offences, robbery, theft offences (including burglary) and criminal damage offences.

#### 2.1.1 Violence against the person

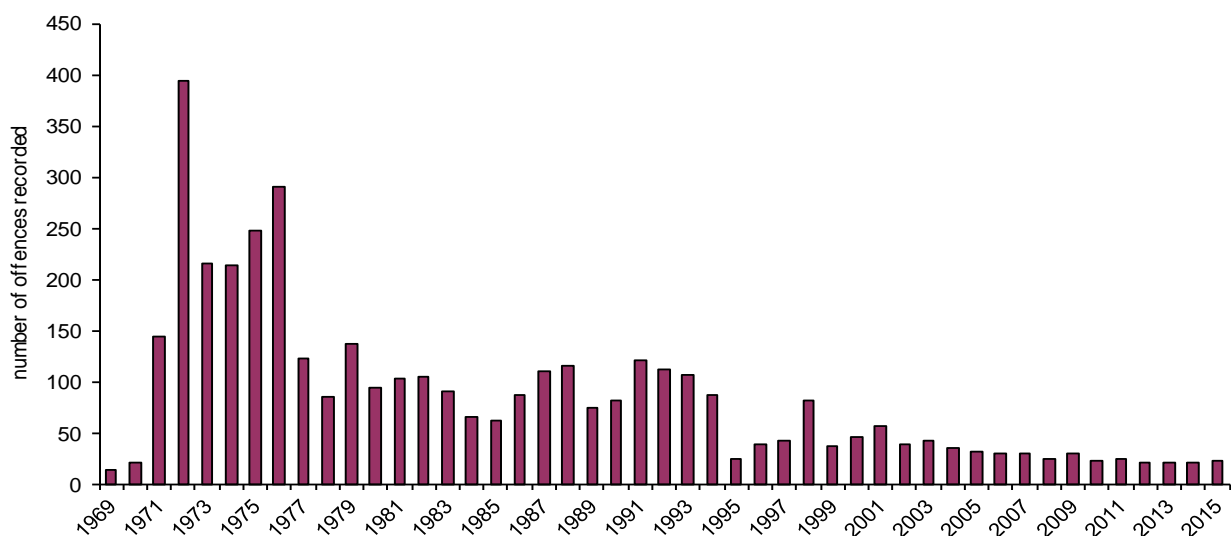
Violence against the person includes a wide range of offences from murder to minor assaults such as pushing and shoving that result in no physical harm. Even within the same classification the degree of violence used can vary considerably between incidents.

The number of violence against the person offences showed a general upward trend from a level of 18,498 in 1998/99 to a level of 31,802 in 2006/07. Between 2007/08 and 2012/13 levels were close to 30,000 offences. Levels have since increased in each of the last three years to reach 35,734 offences recorded in 2015/16, an increase of 4.2% when compared with 2014/15 and the highest level recorded since 1998/99. The largest percentage change between financial years was a 22.0 per cent increase in the number of offences recorded between 2000/01 and 2001/02, which coincided with the introduction of the ICIS crime recording system. As this system had improved processes for picking up and recording low level crimes, this may have some impact on the scale of this increase.

This classification is further split into homicide, violence with injury and violence without injury.

**Homicide:** Homicide comprises the offences of murder, manslaughter, corporate manslaughter and infanticide. Figures presented in table 2.3 show the number of homicides dating back to 1969 by calendar year, and by financial year from 1998/99 in table 2.4.

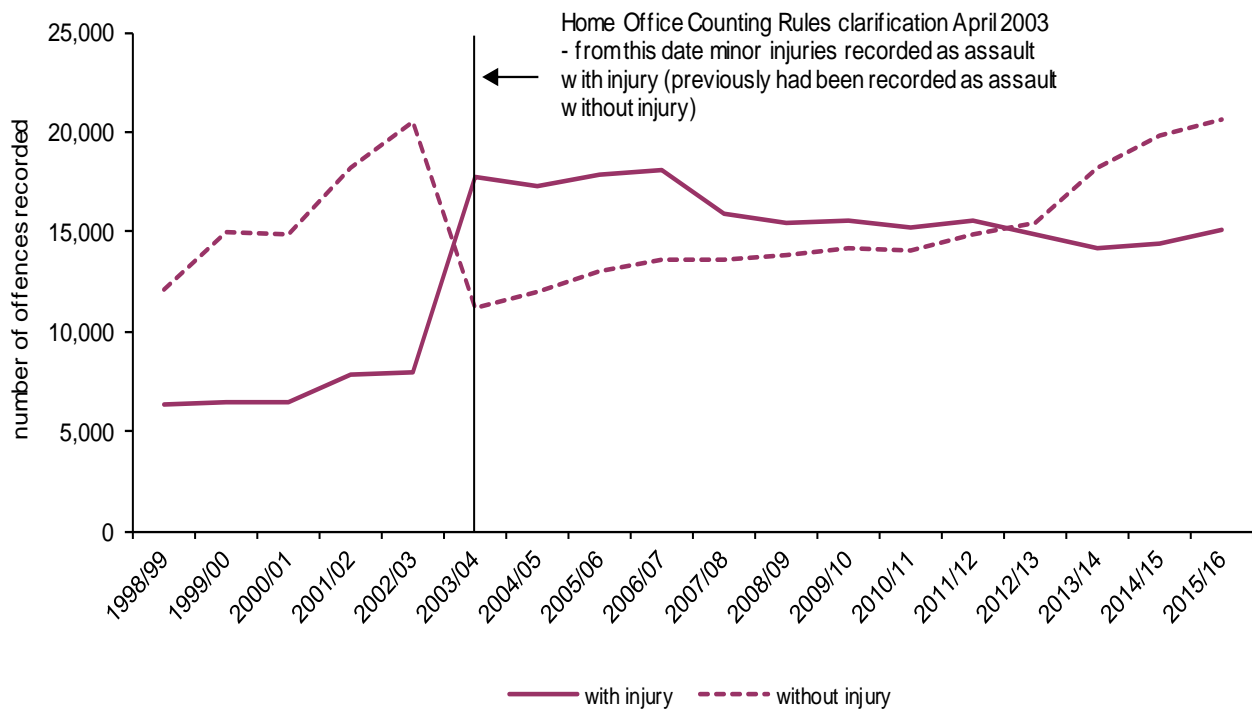
**Figure 2.1 Homicides by calendar year 1969 to 2015**



In the current data series from 1998/99, the number of murders recorded was at its lowest level in 2011/12 with 16 recorded. There were 17 offences of murder recorded each of 2012/13, 2013/14 and 2014/15, with 21 murders recorded in 2015/16. The figure for 1998/99 includes the 29 persons killed in the Omagh bomb which occurred on 15 August 1998.

**Comparability of trends in violence with and without injury:** The violence with and without injury classifications are only comparable from 2003/04 onwards due to the following Home Office Counting Rules clarification. Prior to April 2003, offences where the victim received minor injuries (e.g. bruising or minor abrasions) were recorded as assault without injury. Since April 2003, these offences have been recorded as assault occasioning actual bodily harm (AOABH). As can be seen in figure 2.2, the impact of this was a large increase in violence with injury, particularly the classification 8N Assault with injury which increased from 6,979 in 2002/03 to 17,056 in 2003/04. This also resulted in a corresponding decrease in violence without injury, particularly classification 105A Assault without injury which fell from a level of 16,105 in 2002/03 to 7,345 in 2003/04. However the overall trend for violence against the person was not impacted.

**Figure 2.2 Violence with and without injury, 1998/99 to 2015/16**



**Violence with injury:** As discussed above, changes to the recording of minor injuries means that this classification is only comparable from 2003/04 onwards. It reached a peak in 2006/07 with a total of 18,127 offences. The latest figure for 2015/16 (15,047 offences) is 4.1 per cent higher than 2014/15. However it is the fourth lowest level seen since 2003/04 and is 17.0 per cent lower than the 2006/07 peak. In 2015/16 offences within classification 8N Assault with injury represented 89 per cent of all violence with injury offences. Even though levels of assaults resulting in injury (classifications 5D and 8N) have increased in both 2014/15 and 2015/16, figure 2.3 illustrates the generally falling levels of these assaults compared with the increasing trend in assaults with no injury (classifications 104 and 105A) since 2003/04.

**2 Attempted murder:** The number of attempted murders was at its lowest level in 1999/00 when 61 were recorded. The level rose each year to 235 in 2002/03, the highest level in the data series. There was a second peak of 172 recorded in 2005/06. Since then the number of attempted murders has remained at a level ranging from 134 in 2007/08 down to 99 in 2015/16, the third lowest level since 1998/99.

**Causing death or serious injury by driving (4.4 dangerous driving, 4.6 careless driving when under the influence of drink or drugs, 4.8 careless or inconsiderate driving, 4.9 unlicensed drivers):** When looking at these offences combined, there has been an increasing trend particularly since 2007/08 when 52 offences were recorded. Levels reached 126 in 2013/14 before falling to 110 in 2014/15. The level currently stands at 168 offences, the highest recorded in the data series and an increase of 52.7 per cent when compared with the previous year.

**5D Assault with intent to cause serious harm:** Increases in the number of offences within this classification from 2008/09 should be considered in the context of the following revised technical guidance which was issued by the Home office in April 2008. This guidance was issued to ensure that these offences were recorded in a consistent manner by all police forces. Clarification was provided to police forces on how to record offences of wounding with intent/GBH with intent for those assaults resulting in minor or no injury to a victim, but where the intent was to cause serious injury. The effect of this clarification was that some offences that would previously have been recorded as other types of assault are now recorded as GBH with intent. While the clarification was introduced in 2008/09 (when 791 offences were recorded), PSNI continued to experience the impact of this during 2009/10. The majority of police forces in England and Wales experienced



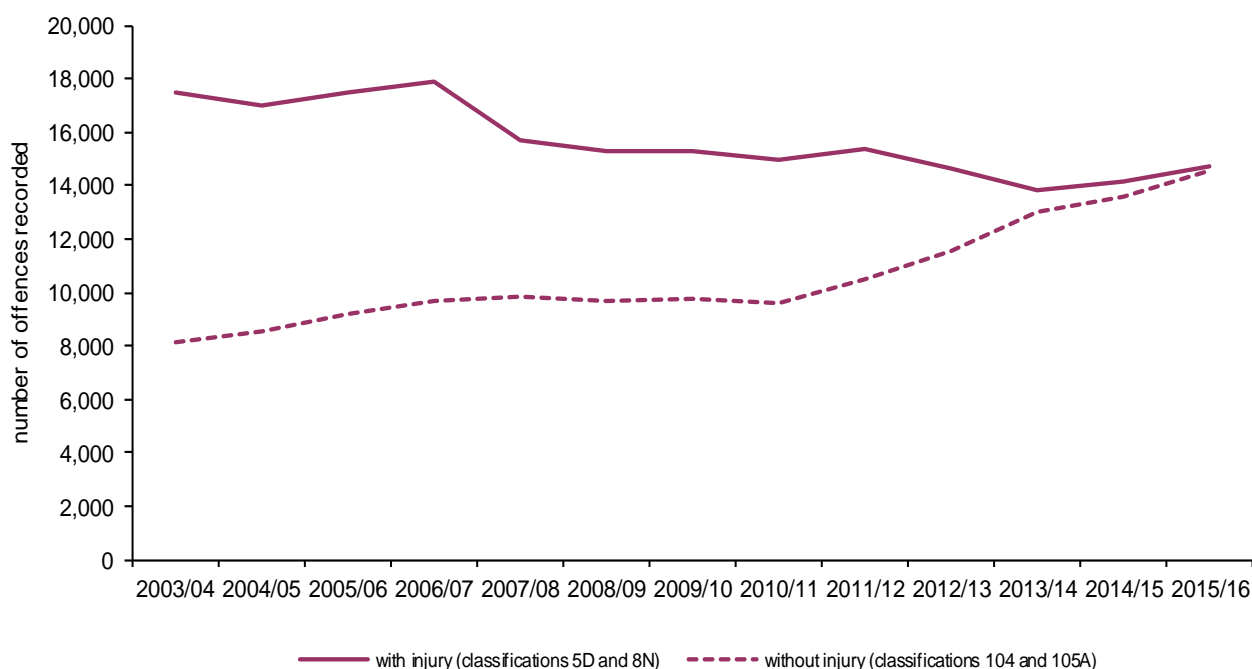
similar increases in these offences as a result of this clarification. The level recorded for this crime type reached 1,266 in 2009/10 and has fluctuated since then; 2015/16 showed an increase of 119 offences when compared with 2014/15 to reach 1,294. This is the highest level recorded since 1998/99 and is 28 offences higher than the previous peak seen in 2009/10.

**8N Assault with injury:** These offences were at their highest level in 2006/07, reaching 17,416. Since then the series showed an overall downwards trend to 12,817 in 2013/14 which was the lowest level recorded since 2003/04. While levels increased in 2014/15 and again in 2015/16, the level of 13,424 recorded in 2015/16 is the third lowest since 2003/04. Within the classification of assault with injury, offences of grievous bodily harm and wounding have remained relatively consistent since 2001/02. With the exception of the highest levels of 935 and 901 experienced in 2008/09 and 2011/12 respectively, figures since 2001/02 have fluctuated between 689 recorded in 2005/06 and 814 recorded in 2009/10. Assault occasioning actual bodily harm (AOABH) was at its highest level in 2006/07 with 15,509 offences recorded. Since then there has been an overall downward trend with the lowest level since 2003/04 being recorded in 2013/14 (11,255 offences). While the level has increased in each of the last two years, the number of offences recorded in 2015/16 (11,982) is 22.7 per cent lower than the peak in 2006/07. Assault on police with injury showed its highest levels between 1999/00 and 2007/08, ranging from 987 in 2007/08 to 1,234 in 2002/03. Levels have been slightly lower since then, with the exception of 2012/13 when 976 offences were recorded. There were 727 offences recorded in 2015/16, 23 higher than 2014/15 and the second lowest figure since 1998/99.

**Violence without injury:** As with violence against the person with injury, this classification is comparable from 2003/04 onwards. Figures have shown a general upwards trend from this date. At 20,666 the figure for 2015/16 shows the highest level recorded, a 4.3 per cent increase on the previous year and an increase of 85.1 per cent when compared with 2003/04. Figure 2.3 shows the changing profile of assault offences with and without injury since 2003/04.

**Assault without injury (104 Assault without injury on a constable and 105A Assault without injury):** Offences of assault on police without injury increased year on year from a total of 470 in 2000/01 to 2,568 in 2010/11. Since 2010/11 levels fell each year to 2,067 in 2014/15 before increasing by 78 offences to 2,145 recorded in 2015/16. Offences of assault without injury, comparable from 2003/04 only, showed a relatively flat trend between 2003/04 and 2010/11; 2010/11 experienced the lowest level in that time period with 7,024 offences recorded. The level has since risen each year to 12,386 recorded in 2015/16, the highest level experienced since 2003/04 and an increase of 7.3 per cent on 2014/15.

**Figure 2.3 Comparison of assault offences with and without injury, 2003/04 to 2015/16**



**3B Threats to kill:** These offences remain unaffected by the changes to the recording of minor injuries and so can be compared from 1998/99 onwards. Offences of threats to kill increased each year from 409 offences in 1998/99 to a level of 2,324 recorded in 2010/11 before falling to 1,677 in 2012/13. The level increased again to 2,294 offences in 2014/15, the second highest level since 1998/99. The level recorded in 2015/16 was 2,280.

**8L Harassment (including intimidation):** Looking at harassment offences only, these have shown a general upward trend from a level of 234 in 1998/99 to around 1,600 offences recorded in each of the four years between 2009/10 and 2012/13. Levels of harassment rose by 64.9 per cent between 2012/13 and 2013/14 (from 1,608 to 2,651), with a further increase of 15.4 per cent in 2014/15 to reach 3,059 offences. There were 2,759 offences recorded in 2015/16, 9.8 per cent lower than 2014/15.

Intimidation is an offence in legislation in Northern Ireland but not within England and Wales and would be associated with the Northern Ireland security situation, involving offences such as intimidation-residence/occupation, person to leave employment or to do/refrain from doing any act. Intimidation offences reached levels of more than 1,000 in 2002/03, 2003/04 and 2005/06. However levels then dropped to 383 offences recorded in 2008/09. Similar levels were recorded between 2008/09 and 2012/13 when 358 offences were recorded. Since then levels have shown a year on year increase with 620 offences recorded in 2015/16. While this is the second highest level in the last ten years, it is 45 per cent lower than the peak of 1,128 recorded in 2002/03.

**11A Cruelty to children/young persons:** The number of offences recorded generally fell between 1998/99, when 84 offences were recorded, and 2007/08 when there were 28 offences (except for a peak of 89 in 2003/04). Levels rose year on year from 84 in 2008/09 to 184 recorded in 2013/14 before falling to 174 in 2014/15. The level of 341 recorded in 2015/16 is nearly twice the level recorded during 2014/15, showing an increase of 167 offences.

**13 Child abduction:** These offences have shown lower levels in more recent years. There were peaks of 76 recorded in 2001/02 and 79 in 2006/07. Since 2008/09 levels have ranged from 24 recorded in 2010/11 to 43 in both 2012/13 and 2014/15. There were 29 such offences recorded in 2015/16.

**36 Kidnapping:** The number of kidnapping offences recorded tends to fluctuate from year to year with no real trends identified. The lowest level recorded was 45 in 2014/15 with the highest being 91 in 2008/09. There were 71 offences recorded in 2015/16; along with 1998/99 this is the fifth highest level in the data series.

**106 Modern Slavery:** This classification was created in 2015/16 to bring together offences relating to human trafficking, trafficking for sexual exploitation and forced/compulsory labour which were previously classified within sexual offences or within the general 'Other offences' classification. The first year for which offences were recorded was 2007/08 with 3 offences, with similar levels recorded in 2009/10 (3 offences), 2010/11 (1 offence) and 2013/14 (2 offences). Higher levels were recorded in 2011/12 (12 offences), 2014/15 (27 offences) and 2015/16 (35 offences). There were no offences recorded in 2008/09 or 2012/13.

## 2.1.2 Sexual offences

The Sexual Offences (Northern Ireland) Order 2008 was introduced in February 2009 and has altered the definition and coverage of sexual offences. While this has had an impact on the provision of comparable data series for sexual offences, the new legislation has brought the recording of sexual offences in Northern Ireland more into line with the legislation and recording of these offences in England and Wales.

Under the Home Office Counting Rules, offences which were reported to the police between February 2009 (implementation date of the new legislation) and March 2010 but which were committed prior to February 2009 were recorded under the previous legislation wherever possible. However in April 2010 this guidance was changed so that historic allegations committed under the previous legislation should be recorded and detected as if committed today. Interpretation of the sexual offence data series should be considered in the context of these changes.

Sexual offences have shown a general upward trend from a low of 1,167 recorded in 2000/01 to a high of 3,037 recorded in 2015/16; levels have increased year on year since 2011/12. The number of sexual offences recorded in 2015/16 shows an increase of 11.3 per cent when compared with 2014/15 and is more than twice the level recorded in 2000/01. The classification of sexual offences is split into rape and other sexual offences.

**Rape offences:** In Northern Ireland, prior to 2003/04 the offence of rape could only be committed against a female. However the Criminal Justice (Northern Ireland) Order 2003 redefined the offence so that buggery without consent would constitute an offence of rape, in other words rape could be committed against a male. The number of rape offences recorded has shown a generally increasing trend. The lowest level recorded was in 2000/01 with 232 offences, rising to 461 offences in 2009/10. Between 2010/11 and 2013/14 the number of rape offences recorded ranged between 534 and 553. The level increased by 186 between 2013/14 and 2014/15, the largest increase between any two years seen in the data series. This increase in the number of rape offences recorded during 2014/15 may in part be due to clarification received from the Home Office in relation to the issue of consent. This is an area that has been the subject of considerable debate from a crime recording perspective. [Crown Prosecution Service guidance](#) on the subject was issued to police forces which assisted with the application of the rules for recording rape offences set out by the Home Office. The number of rape offences increased by 43 from 737 in 2014/15 to 780 in 2015/16, the highest level recorded.

**Other sexual offences:** This includes sexual assault and sexual activity, along with offences such as sexual grooming and exposure / voyeurism. Offences relating to trafficking for sexual exploitation are now classified within 106 Modern Slavery (Violence against the person without injury).

**Indecent/sexual assault offences:** Prior to the introduction of the new legislation in February 2009, offences of indecent assault were split into offences against males and females and also by age 17+ and under 17. Under the new legislation this breakdown changed to males and females aged 13+ and under 13. Offences of indecent assault and sexual assault did not show any overall upwards or downwards trend over the time period 1998/99 to 2011/12. However the number of indecent/sexual assaults has risen in each year since 2011/12 when 792 offences were recorded to the current level of 1,345 in 2015/16, the highest level recorded since 1998/99.

**Indecent/sexual assaults with female victims:** the lowest number of offences recorded was in 2000/01 with a level of 508, while the highest level was 1,030 recorded in 2015/16, an increase of 92 on the previous year. Levels have increased year on year since 2011/12.

**Indecent/sexual assaults with male victims:** the lowest level of 89 offences was recorded in 2001/02; there were 315 offences recorded in 2015/16, the highest level recorded since 1998/99 and an increase of 24.0 per cent when compared with 2013/14 and 2014/15 (254 offences were recorded in both years). In respect of male victims the last fall in the level of indecent/sexual assaults recorded was seen in between 2008/09 and 2009/10.

**Sexual activity:** Offences of unlawful sexual intercourse with a girl under 14 or under 17 were in place prior to the introduction of the new legislation in February 2009. The offences now in place are sexual activity involving a child under 13 or under 16 and causing sexual activity without consent. Classification 70 Sexual activity with a person with a mental disorder has also been included in this larger category. There were 169 offences recorded in 1998/99. Between 1999/00 and 2006/07 the number of sexual activity offences recorded ranged between 43 in 2001/02 and 99 in 1999/00, increasing to 122 offences recorded in 2007/08. Between 2008/09 and 2011/12 levels were higher and ranged between 212 and 230. Since 2012/13 levels have increased each year from 257 recorded in 2012/13 to 603 recorded in 2015/16. Taking into account the level of crime recorded in this classification, there have been some large increases since 2012/13 of 91, 145 and 110. Some of the overall increase may be influenced by 'sexting'. 'Sexting' is when someone sends or receives a sexually explicit text, image or video on their mobile phone, computer or tablet; it can include 'sexual chat' and requests for pictures or images of a sexual nature. Section 4 provides information on online crime, including figures on sexual offences with an online motivation. Section 7.3.2 provides information on sexual offences where the victim was under 18 at the time the offence was committed.

**Sexual grooming:** The first sexual grooming offences were recorded in 2004/05. Between this date and 2014/15 the number of offences recorded ranged from 1 in 2006/07 to 10 in 2012/13. There was an increase from 4 offences in 2014/15 to 46 offences in 2015/16. During 2015/16 new legislation was introduced for the offence of sexual communication by an adult with a child; this offence is included within the sexual grooming classification.

**Exposure and voyeurism:** These offences showed a general increase between 119 offences recorded in 1998/99 and the peak in 2004/05 when 405 offences were recorded. The increase from 135 such offences in 2000/01 to 333 offences recorded in 2001/02 may have been in part impacted by the introduction of the ICIS crime recording system, for reasons previously outlined. While the trend since 2004/05 has been generally downwards there were increases in each year between 2011/12, when 234 offences were recorded and 2014/15 with 289 offences. The number of offences recorded in 2015/16 was 248.

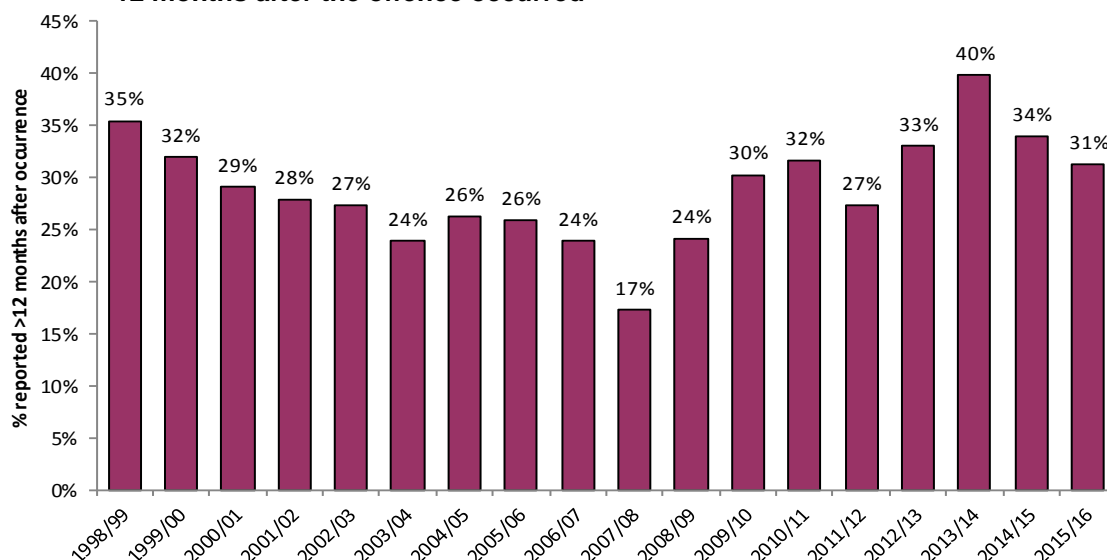
Many of the classifications included within other sexual offences ceased to apply with the introduction of the new sexual offence legislation. Those classifications not specifically mentioned above tend to have very low levels of offences recorded.

**Length of time between offence taking place and report to police:** Crimes are recorded based on the date the crime was reported to the police, rather than the date on which the offence occurred. For the majority of crimes, the reported date and the occurrence date are the same. However sexual offences are the main crime type where there can be a large gap between the date the offence occurred and the date the offence was then reported to the police.

Table 2.1 provides an indication of the delay in reporting rape and sexual assault/sexual activity offences. These figures are dependent on the accuracy of the date on which the offence occurred and, in many cases, this will have been so long prior to reporting the offence that the exact date cannot be remembered and in these cases an approximate year may be the best information able to be provided.

While the majority of rape and sexual assault/sexual activity offences are reported to police within 12 months of the date the offence occurred, up to two out of every five offences of this nature recorded by police are reported more than 12 months after the offence occurred (see Figure 2.4).

**Figure 2.4 Percentage of rape and sexual assault/sexual activity offences reported more than 12 months after the offence occurred**



In the last five years, between 16 percent and 27 percent of rape and sexual assault/sexual activity offences were reported to police more than ten years after the offence occurred. The highest proportions were seen in 2013/14 when 28 percent of rapes and 26 percent of sexual assault/sexual activity offences were reported more than ten years after the offence occurred. These proportions fell in 2014/15 and again in 2015/16 to stand at 19 percent of rape offences and 20 percent of sexual assault/sexual activity offences reported more than ten years after the offence occurred. The focus on cases of historical sexual abuse in the media and the Inquiry into Historical Institutional Abuse in Northern Ireland Between 1922 and 1995 may have had an impact on increasing the number of historic sexual offences reported.

**Table 2.1 Rape and sexual assault/sexual activity offences: length of time between the date the offence occurred and the date the offence was reported to police, 1998/99 to 2015/16**

	Numbers and percentages					
	Rape Offences			Sexual assault / sexual activity offences		
	rape offences recorded	occurred up to 12 months prior to report date (%)	occurred more than 12 months prior to report date (%)	sexual assault / sexual activity offences recorded	occurred up to 12 months prior to report date (%)	occurred more than 12 months prior to report date (%)
1998/99	318	69	30	1,138	61	36
1999/00	310	71	28	861	66	33
2000/01	232	80	20	794	68	32
2001/02	292	74	26	774	71	29
2002/03	357	75	25	770	71	29
2003/04	394	76	24	977	76	24
2004/05	379	74	26	856	74	26
2005/06	391	78	22	933	73	27
2006/07	457	73	27	929	78	22
2007/08	415	81	19	993	83	17
2008/09	404	71	29	1,134	78	22
2009/10	461	67	33	974	71	29
2010/11	550	64	36	1,048	71	29
2011/12	553	67	33	1,004	76	24
2012/13	534	60	40	1,141	70	30
2013/14	551	54	46	1,372	63	37
2014/15	737	61	39	1,683	69	31
2015/16	780	61	39	1,935	72	28

### 2.1.3 Robbery

Robbery offences are split into those offences where the property stolen is business property and those where personal property is stolen. Robbery figures are also available according to whether the robbery was armed (i.e. involving a weapon of any type), those where a weapon was not involved and those robberies where a vehicle was hijacked.

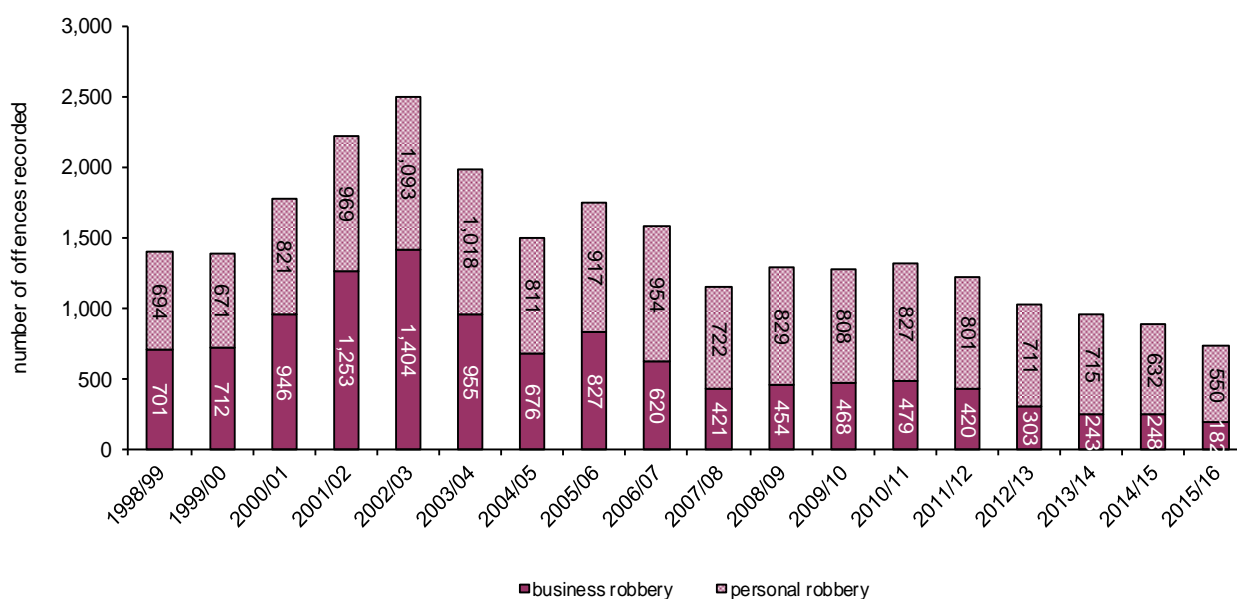
The number of robbery offences rose each year between 1999/00 and 2002/03, from 1,383 to 2,497 before showing a general downward trend. At 732, the level recorded in 2015/16 is the lowest since 1998/99. This represents a fall of 148 when compared with 2014/15 and is 1,765 (70.7 per cent) lower than the peak of 2,497 recorded in 2002/03.

Between 1998/99 and 2002/03, when robbery reached it's peak of 2,497 offences recorded, business robbery represented more than half of all robberies. However since 2003/04 this proportion has fallen and in 2015/16 business robbery represented 25 per cent of all robberies.

**Robbery of business property:** Business robbery increased each year between 1998/99 and 2002/03 when it reached a peak of 1,404 offences. The trend has been downwards since then, falling to the lowest level recorded of 182 offences in 2015/16. This is 66 lower than 2014/15 and 1,222 lower than the highest level in 2002/03. Armed business robbery accounts for at least 60 per cent of all business robbery. In 2004/05 this reached a proportion of 82 per cent, while in 2015/16 the proportion is 66 per cent.

**Robbery of personal property:** The number of personal robbery offences rose from 671 recorded in 1999/00 to the highest level of 1,093 offences in 2002/03. This was followed by a general downwards trend. At 550, the level recorded in 2015/16 is the lowest since 1998/99. It is 82 lower than 2014/15 and 543 lower than the peak in 2002/03. Ordinary (as opposed to armed) personal robbery accounts for around half of all personal robbery, ranging from 48 per cent in 1998/99 to 64 per cent in 2007/08 and 2008/09. In 2015/16 ordinary personal robbery represented 62 per cent of all personal robbery.

**Figure 2.5 Number of business and personal robberies recorded, 1998/99 to 2015/16**



**Hijacking offences:** These offences are included in the figures for robbery of business and personal property but are more specifically linked to a robbery where a vehicle has been taken. The highest number of hijacking offences was in 2005/06 with 290 recorded (representing 16.6 per cent of all robberies). Since then the number has ranged between 92 recorded in 2007/08 and 181 recorded in 2011/12. There were 58 hijacking offences recorded during 2015/16 (representing 7.9 per cent of all robberies recorded), the lowest level recorded since 1998/99. The majority of hijacking offences fall within robbery of personal property; in 2015/16, 51 of the 58 hijacking offences recorded fell within robbery of personal property.

### 2.1.4 Theft offences (including burglary) and criminal damage

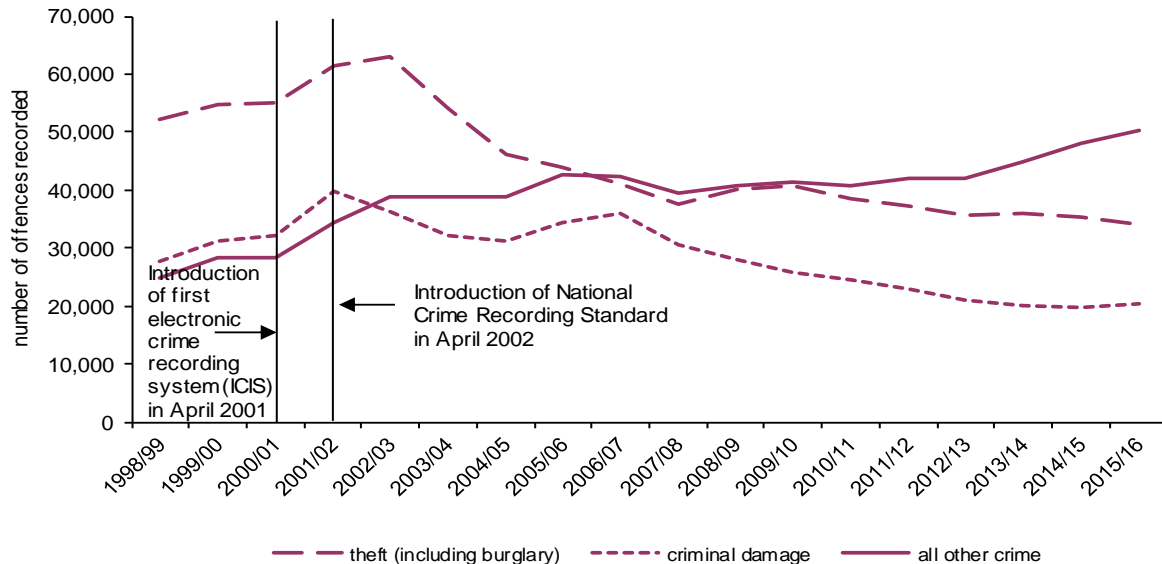
Theft offences include domestic and non-domestic burglary, vehicle offences, theft from the person, bicycle theft, shoplifting and all other theft offences. Criminal damage includes arson offences.

Theft offences (including burglary) rose each year from 52,143 in 1998/99 to reach a peak of 63,053 in 2002/03 and in 2002/03 accounted for 46 per cent of all recorded crime (excluding fraud). Since then the level of these offences has shown a downward trend. The 2015/16 figure of 34,157 is 1,287 offences (3.6 per cent) lower than the previous year, it is the lowest level recorded in the data series and it represents 33 per cent of all recorded crime (excluding fraud).



Criminal damage offences increased from a level of 27,551 recorded in 1998/99 to a peak of 39,748 offences recorded in 2001/12 before showing a general downwards trend, with the exception of increases between 2004/05 and 2006/07. There were 19,830 criminal damage offences recorded during 2014/15, the lowest level recorded since 1998/99. In 2015/16 the level increased again for the first time since 2006/07 to 20,516, 686 offences higher than the previous year and the third lowest level in the data series. At its peak in 2001/02 criminal damage accounted for 29 per cent of all recorded crime (excluding fraud); in 2015/16 this figure has fallen to 20 per cent.

**Figure 2.6 Trends in theft (including burglary), criminal damage and all other crime, 1998/99 to 2015/16**

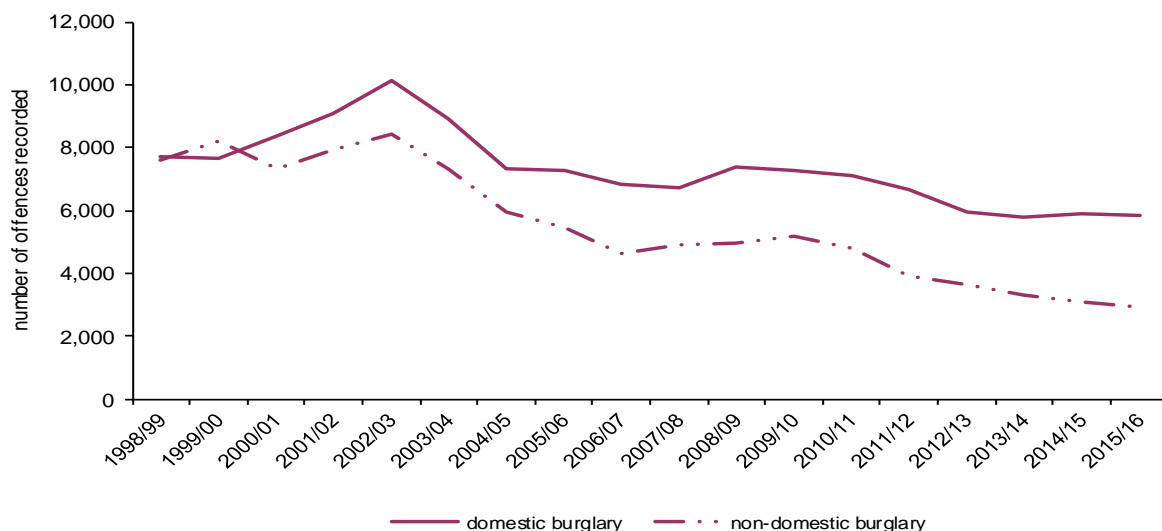


**Burglary:** The number of burglaries recorded was at its highest in 2002/03 when 18,531 offences were recorded. The lowest level of recorded burglaries was experienced in 2015/16 with 8,773 recorded, a 1.8 per cent reduction on 2014/15 and less than half of the level recorded in 2002/03. The number of burglaries recorded has fallen year on year since 2009/10. In 1998/99 the number of burglaries was evenly split between domestic and non-domestic burglary. In more recent year the proportion of burglaries that are domestic has been closer to two thirds and, in 2015/16, 67 per cent of all burglaries were domestic.

**Domestic burglary:** These offences showed an upwards trend between 1998/99 and 2002/03 to reach 10,122 offences. Between 2002/03 and 2004/05 the number of domestic burglaries fell by 2,820 (27.9 per cent). Between 2008/09 and 2013/14 the number of domestic burglaries recorded fell year on year from 7,350 to 5,753. The current level of 5,856 in 2015/16 is the second lowest level recorded since 1998/99, 17 offences fewer than 2014/15 and 42.1 per cent lower than the level recorded in 2002/03.

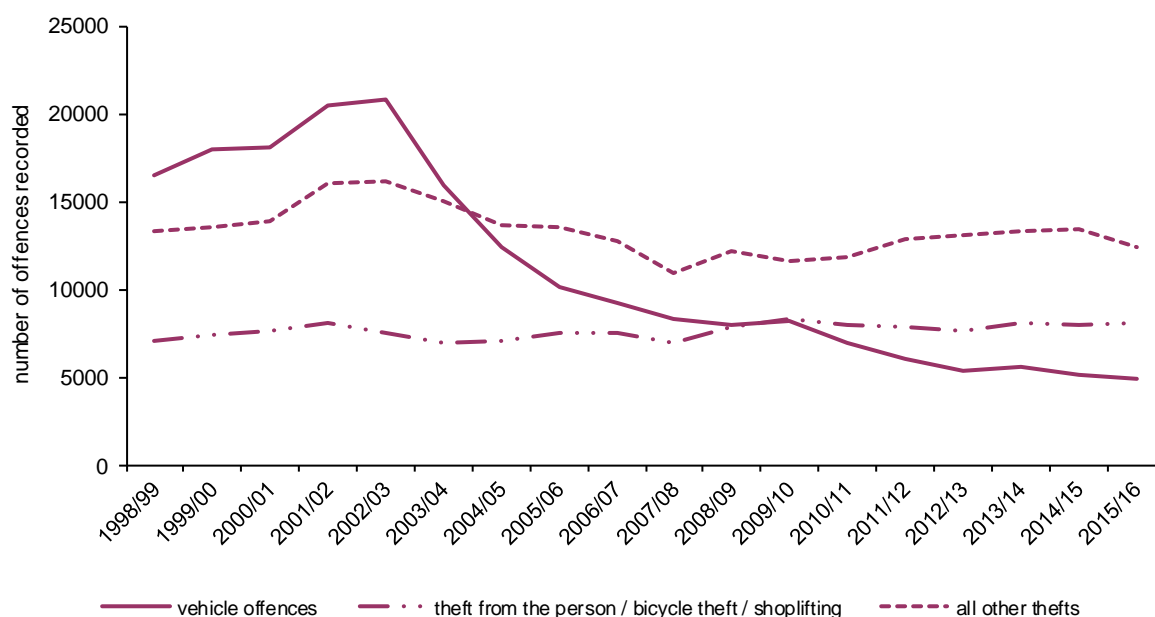
**Non-domestic burglary:** Since 2000/01 these offences have followed a similar trend to domestic burglary, albeit at a lower level. The highest figure was recorded in 2002/03 (8,409 offences), while the lowest level was seen in 2015/16 (2,917 offences), a 4.8 per cent decrease on 2014/15 and a fall of 65.3 per cent when compared with 2002/03. Levels have fallen year on year since 2009/10.

**Figure 2.7 Domestic and non-domestic burglaries, 1998/99 to 2015/16**



**Theft offences (excluding burglary):** These offences showed a general increase between 1998/99 and 2001/02 reaching a level of 44,555, followed by a small decrease in 2002/03 with 44,522 offences recorded. Between 2002/03 and 2007/08 theft offences fell year on year to 26,108. Since 2007/08 levels have remained fairly similar, ranging from 25,384 offences recorded in 2015/16 to 28,129 in 2009/10. The number of theft offences recorded in 2015/16 is the lowest level since 1998/99, a 4.2 per cent decrease on the previous year and is 43.0 per cent lower than the peak in 2001/02.

**Figure 2.8 Comparison of theft offences, 1998/99 to 2015/16**



**Offences against vehicles:** From 1st April 2002, a clarification to the Home Office Counting Rules meant that most attempted thefts/unauthorised taking of motor vehicles previously recorded in theft or unauthorised taking of a motor vehicle were to be recorded as vehicle interference. This resulted in a decrease of 3,225 or 27.7 per cent in the number of offences of theft or unauthorised taking of a motor vehicle between 2001/02 and 2002/03, with a corresponding rise of 3,071 or 137.8 per cent in offences of interfering with a motor vehicle. Offences against vehicles showed large falls from 2002/03, decreasing year on year with the exception of a 4.0 per cent increase between 2008/09 and 2009/10. At 4,925, the total for 2015/16 is the lowest level recorded showing a decrease of 164 offences (3.2 per cent) on 2014/15 and is less than a quarter of the peak in 2002/03.

In 2002/03, when the Home Office clarification described above was introduced, theft or unauthorised taking of a vehicle represented 40 per cent of all offences against vehicles, while theft from a vehicle represented 34 per cent. These proportions have since reversed, with theft or unauthorised taking of a vehicle accounting for 29 per cent and theft from a vehicle 54 per cent of all offences against vehicles in 2015/16.

**Theft from the person:** Offences of theft from the person jumped from 362 offences recorded in 2000/01 to 1,534 recorded in 2001/02. Much of this increase may be due to the introduction of the ICIS crime recording system and its improved capture of low level crime. Since a peak of 1,624 in 2002/03 these offences have shown a general downwards trend, falling to 514 offences in 2014/15. There were 558 offences in 2015/16.

**Bicycle theft:** The trend for offences involving theft of a pedal cycle has tended to fluctuate. The highest levels recorded were in 1998/99 and 1999/00 with 1,220 and 1,223 offences recorded respectively. After an overall downwards trend levels increased year on year between 2009/10 when 983 offences were recorded and 2013/14 with 1,097 offences recorded. This has since been followed by a fall in each of the last two years to 966 in 2014/15 and 718 in 2015/16, the lowest level recorded since 1998/99.

**Shoplifting:** Shoplifting offences have shown a slight upwards trend. The lowest level recorded was 4,743 in 2003/04 after which levels increased to 2009/10 when the second highest level of shoplifting was recorded (6,754 offences). While levels then fell each year to 5,890 in 2012/13 they have increased again in each of the last three years. The level of 6,773 in 2015/16 is the highest recorded since 1998/99 and shows an increase of 4.3 per cent on 2014/15.

**All other theft offences:** These offences reached a peak in 2002/03 with 16,157 recorded, while the lowest level was experienced in 2007/08 with 10,898 offences recorded. Since then these offences have shown a generally increasing trend, with levels increasing year on year between 2009/10 and 2014/15. The total for 2015/16 of 12,410 shows a fall of 1,033 (7.7 per cent) when compared with 2014/15.

Offences recorded in classification 49 Other Theft account for at least 71 per cent of all other theft offences, in 2015/16 this figure was 80 per cent. The trend for these offences was in an overall downwards direction between 2002/03 when 11,893 offences were recorded and 2007/08 when there were 8,316 offences. This was followed by an upwards trend to 2013/14 with 11,217 offences recorded, while falls have been seen in the latest two years. The level of 9,956 recorded in 2015/16 is 5.4 per cent lower than 2014/15.

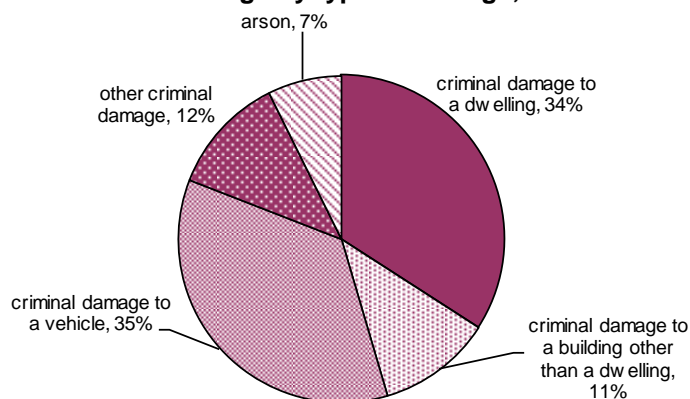
The change in classifications implemented from April 2013 saw offences of **making off without payment** move into the all other theft offences classification. These offences reached a peak of 3,081 in 2001/02 before showing a general downwards trend to 957 offences recorded in 2013/14, the lowest level since 1998/99. The introduction of schemes such as Forecourt Watch may have had an impact on the number of offences of this nature recorded. Levels then rose by 718 to 1,675 offences of making off without payment in 2014/15, this level being similar to those seen prior to 2010/11. A factor which may have contributed to this rise was a change in the Home Office Counting Rules that was introduced in April 2014 and which made it more difficult for crimes of making off without payment to meet the criteria allowing offences to be cancelled or removed from the crime figures. The figure for 2015/16 is 1,247, a fall of 428 offences (25.6 per cent) when compared with 2014/15 and the fourth lowest level recorded since 1998/99.

While the levels are low in comparison to most theft classifications, **dishonest use of electricity** saw a year on year increase from 8 offences recorded in 2007/08 to 159 offences recorded in 2012/13, an increase of 151. A larger increase of 175 was seen between 2013/14 (158 offences) and 2014/15 (333 offences), making 2014/15 the highest level recorded. Levels have since fallen to 215 offences in 2015/16, 118 fewer than were recorded in 2014/15.

**Blackmail:** The number of blackmail offences ranged between 14 offences recorded in 2000/01 and 77 offences recorded in 2014/15. The number recorded in 2015/16 increased to 223, nearly three times higher than the previous year. This may be linked to online crime; a quarter of the blackmail offences recorded in 2014/15 were flagged as having an online element and in 2015/16 this rose to nearly half of all blackmail offences (further details are available in Section 4 Online Crime).

**Criminal damage offences:** Criminal damage offences increased each year between 1998/99 and 2001/02 to reach a level of 39,748 offences recorded. There was an increase of 7,558 offences recorded (23.5 per cent) between 2000/01 and 2001/02 which may in part be due to the introduction of the ICIS crime recording system and it's improved capture of low level crime. The criminal damage trend showed a second peak in 2006/07 with 35,827 offences recorded. Levels then fell year on year to 2014/15 when 19,830 offences were recorded, the lowest level in this data series. The level rose again in 2015/16 by 686 offences to 20,516.

**Figure 2.9 Criminal damage by type of damage, 2015/16**



**Arson/arson endangering life:** The number of arson offences recorded increased each year between 1998/99 and 2001/02 when the level reached 2,924. Levels then followed a generally downwards trend to 1,496 offences in 2013/14, the lowest number recorded since 1998/99. There were 1,503 offences recorded in 2015/16, 10 higher than in 2014/15 and the third lowest level in the data series. Offences of arson not endangering life account for at least 88 per cent of all arson offences recorded. Prior to the introduction of ICIS in 2001/02, there were very few offences of arson endangering life recorded. This may have been affected by the process of classifying offences which then improved with the ICIS crime recording system. There were 30 offences of arson endangering life recorded in 2001/02. Since then, levels have increased to 186 recorded in 2015/16, 43 offences higher than 2014/15 and the highest level recorded since 1998/99.

**Criminal damage to a dwelling:** Levels increased between 1998/99 (7,711 offences) and 2001/02, reaching a peak of 12,224 offences recorded. The level then fell to 9,565 in 2004/05 before increasing again to 11,179 in 2006/07. The number of offences recorded decreased year on year between 2006/07 and 2013/14 when they reached their lowest level of 6,366 offences. The level has risen again in each of the last two years to 6,996 in 2015/16, the fourth lowest level recorded since 1998/99.

**Criminal damage to a building other than a dwelling:** Levels increased to a peak of 6,820 in 2001/02. Between 2003/04 and 2006/07 levels remained reasonably constant at just below 5,300. This was followed by an overall downwards trend falling to 2,326 offences in 2015/16, the lowest level recorded since 1998/99.

**Criminal damage to a vehicle:** Levels increased between 1998/99 and 2001/02 to reach 14,055 offences recorded before falling each year to 11,052 recorded in 2004/05. Increases in each of 2005/06 and 2006/07 were followed by year on year decreases to 7,047 recorded in 2014/15, the lowest level since 1998/99. There was an increase of 229 to 7,276 offences in 2015/16, the second lowest level recorded.

**Other criminal damage:** These offences showed a general increase between 1998/99, when 2,339 offences were recorded, and 2006/07 (4,033 offences recorded). Between 2007/08 and 2011/12 the number of offences fell from 3,402 to 3,002. This was followed by a sharp fall in 2012/13 of 36.0 per cent to 1,922 offences, the lowest level recorded since 1998/99. Since 2012/13 the level has increased year on year to 2,415 recorded in 2015/16.

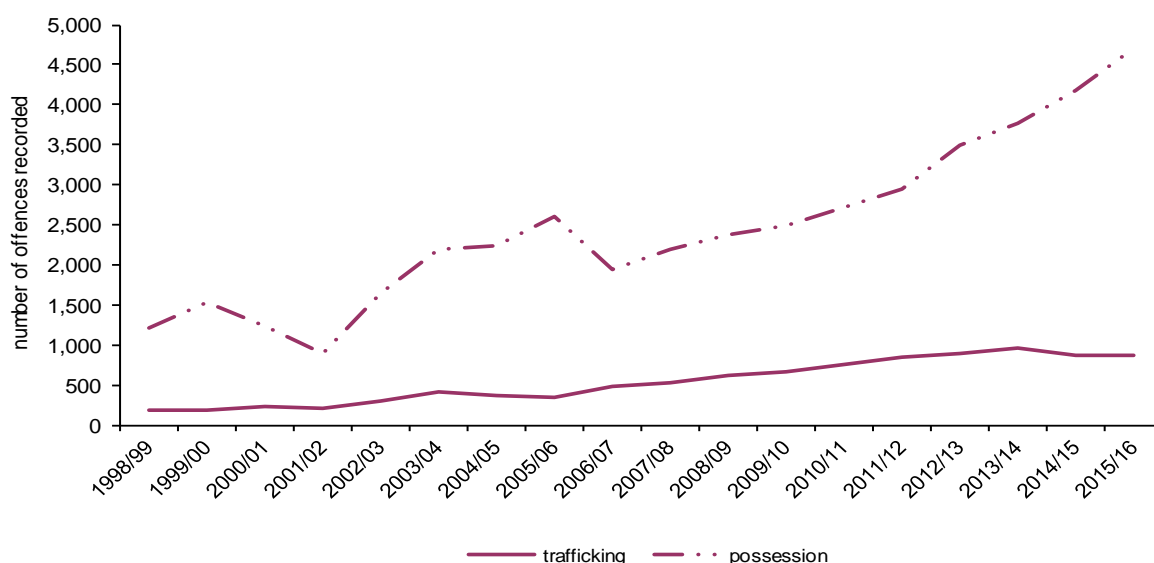
## 2.2 Other crimes against society

These offences include drug offences, possession of weapons offences, public order offences and miscellaneous crimes against society.

### 2.2.1 Drug offences

The recording of drug offences by police is particularly dependent on police activities and priorities (see Section 2.1 of the [User Guide to Police Recorded Crime Statistics in Northern Ireland](#)), for example the PSNI ran a high profile operation specifically targeted at 'street level drug dealing' which started during 2012 and continued during 2015/16 (Operation Torus). Since 1998/99 there has been a general upwards trend in the number of drug offences recorded. The lowest level recorded was in 2001/02 when there were 1,108 offences. Figures have increased year on year since 2006/07 and the latest figure for 2015/16 is 5,577, an increase of 10.5 per cent when compared with 2014/15, five times higher than 2001/02 and the highest level recorded in the data series.

**Figure 2.10 Trafficking of drugs and possession of drug offences, 1998/99 to 2015/16**



**Trafficking of drugs:** In 1998/99 these offences accounted for 14 per cent of all drug offences, while in 2011/12 they represented 22 per cent. In 2015/16 they account for 16 per cent. Trafficking offences showed a year on year increase between 2005/06 (349 offences) and 2013/14 (968 offences, the highest recorded since 1998/99). The level fell in 2014/15 to 871 offences recorded, a decrease of 10.0 per cent on 2013/14. The figure for 2015/16 is 876, 5 offences higher than the previous year.

**Possession of drugs:** Cannabis was reclassified from a Class B to a Class C drug in January 2004 and was subsequently reclassified back to a Class B drug in January 2009. From 2004/05 additional information on drug type was collated enabling drug possession offences to be split into possession of cannabis and possession of other controlled drugs. Cannabis possession has increased year on year since 2006/07 (1,365 offences) to reach 3,336 offences in 2015/16, an increase of 21.4 per cent on 2014/15. In 2004/05 cannabis possession accounted for 81 per cent of all drug possession offences. This proportion has since decreased and in 2015/16 cannabis possession accounted for 71 per cent of all possession offences. Since 2004/05, possession of other controlled drugs increased year on year to a level of 1,420 in 2014/15. A fall of 68 to 1,352 offences in 2015/16 is the first fall seen since 2001/02.

### 2.2.2 Possession of weapons offences

The change in classifications implemented from April 2013 sees this grouping of offences introduced for the first time. The majority of these offences were previously included within violence against the person. These offences showed a general upwards trend between 1998/99 and 2009/10, when the level peaked at 804 offences recorded. Levels then fell each year between 2009/10 and 2012/13 when 651 offences were recorded. The number of possession of weapons offences recorded has risen in each of the last three years to the current level of 923 in 2015/16, the highest level recorded in the data series. Within this classification, offences of possession of article with blade or point have increased from 4 in 2001/02 to 204 in 2015/16.

### 2.2.3 Public order offences

This classification, which contains violent disorder and other offences against the state and public order, was also introduced through the revised classifications implemented in April 2013. Offences were previously included in other miscellaneous offences. Other offences against the state and public order include offences such as breaches of orders, bomb hoax related offences and offences under anti-terrorist legislation. In 2005/06 offences relating to breaches of anti-social behaviour orders, non-molestation orders and sex offender orders were added to the data series, resulting in an additional 1,400 offences being recorded in that financial year. Levels for other offences against the state and public order have fallen since the 1,908 offences recorded in 2005/06 with 1,424 offences recorded in 2015/16, an increase of 20 offences on 2014/15.

Bomb hoax related offences peaked in 2002/03 with 927 offences recorded. The second highest level recorded was in the following year with 582 offences, a fall of 345 (37.2 per cent) on 2002/03. The figure for 2015/16 is 200 offences, an increase of 53 on 2014/15 and the fifth lowest level recorded since the start of the data series in 1998/99.

Violent disorder offences also peaked in 2002/03 with 246 offences recorded, before falling to 64 offences recorded in 2003/04. Levels then showed a general increase to 164 offences in 2009/10 and have since fallen to 46 such offences recorded in 2015/16, the fourth lowest level recorded since 1998/99.

### 2.2.4 Miscellaneous crimes against society

There is a wide range of offence types included within this classification, such as dangerous driving, forgery offences, handling stolen goods, going equipped for stealing, threat or possession with intent to commit criminal damage, perverting the course of justice and obscene publications/protected sexual material.

**Dangerous driving:** This is currently the largest category within miscellaneous crimes against society. There was a general upwards trend in the number of dangerous driving offences recorded from 148 offences in 1998/99 to 865 recorded in 2009/10. After a fall to 699 offences in 2010/11, levels have since remained similar. There were 744 offences recorded in 2015/16, 49 higher than the previous year and the third highest in the data series. Although the general rule for recording a crime is to do so on report of the crime [on the balance of probability that a crime has occurred], dangerous driving offences are only recorded when investigation confirms that the offence is made out. Improved processes for capturing police charges and recommendations made by the Public Prosecution Service may have contributed to the increases experienced prior to 2010/11.

**Threat or possession with intent to commit criminal damage:** Although the majority of offences classified to other crimes against society have no person or business victim, 98 per cent of offences of threat or possession with intent to commit criminal damage in 2015/16 were recorded with businesses or individuals as the victim. These offences showed a general increase from 111 offences in 1998/99 to reach 583 offences in 2009/10. Levels then fell each year to 405 offences recorded in 2012/13. Since then increases in each of the last three years have seen levels reach 669 offences in 2015/16, the highest level recorded since the start of the data series in 1998/99.

**Perverting the course of justice:** This classification has shown a general upwards trend from a level of 23 offences recorded in 1998/99 to 260 offences in 2015/16. The largest single increase was from 144 offences in 2007/08 to 231 offences in 2008/09. Since then the number of offences recorded each year has remained relatively constant. With 260 offences recorded in 2015/16, this is an increase of 9 compared with the previous year and is the highest level in the data series.

**Obscene publications and protected sexual material:** The number of offences recorded between 1998/99 and 2010/11 showed a general upwards trend and ranged from 11 recorded in 1999/00 and 2000/01 to 62 recorded in 2006/07 and 2009/10. Since 2010/11 levels have risen year on year from 59 to 394 recorded in 2015/16. The level recorded during 2015/16 is the highest in the data series and represents an increase of 163 offences when compared with 2014/15. This increase is the largest increase seen between any two years in the data series. Increases over the last few years can also be seen in a rise in obscene publications offences flagged with an online crime motivation (further details available in Section 4 Online Crime). Increases may also be linked to the rise seen in offences of sexual activity through 'sexting' (further details available in Section 2.1.2 Sexual Offences, Section 4 Online Crime and Section 7.3 Victim under 18).



**Table 2.2 Recorded crime by offence, 1998/99 to 2015/16<sup>1</sup>**

Offence	1998/99 <sup>2</sup>	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12 <sup>30</sup>	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15 <sup>30</sup>	2015/16	Numbers and percentage change	
													change 2014/15 & 2015/16	% change 2014/15 to 2015/16
VICTIM-BASED OFFENCES														
TOTAL VIOLENCE AGAINST THE PERSON OFFENCES <sup>30</sup>	18,498	30,882	31,802	29,509	29,365	29,755	29,328	30,457	30,304	32,404	34,281	35,734	1,453	4.2
Homicide <sup>30</sup>	75	29	24	30	26	22	28	24	20	21	25	21	-4	-
1 Murder <sup>4,30</sup>	71	25	23	25	24	18	20	16	17	17	17	21	4	-
4.1 Manslaughter <sup>30</sup>	4	3	1	5	2	4	8	6	3	3	4	0	-4	-
4.10 Corporate manslaughter <sup>30</sup>	..	..	..	..	0	0	0	2	0	1	4	0	-4	-
4.2 Infanticide	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-
Violence with injury <sup>5,27</sup>	6,344	17,812	18,127	15,934	15,474	15,550	15,220	15,599	14,850	14,129	14,449	15,047	598	4.1
2 Attempted murder <sup>27</sup>	85	172	118	134	124	114	110	114	104	114	117	99	-18	-15.4
4.3 Intentional destruction of a viable unborn child	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	-
4.7 Causing or allowing death of a child or vulnerable person	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	-
4.4 Causing death or serious injury by dangerous driving <sup>6</sup>	69	73	84	52	55	52	44	29	38	41	27	77	50	-
4.6 Causing death or serious injury by careless driving when under the influence of drink or drugs <sup>6</sup>	0	2	1	0	4	7	0	14	0	1	11	2	-9	-
4.8 Causing death or serious injury by careless or inconsiderate driving <sup>6</sup>	..	..	..	0	6	37	58	52	68	83	71	85	14	19.7
4.9 Causing death or serious injury by driving: unlicensed drivers etc <sup>6</sup>	..	..	..	0	0	0	0	5	2	1	1	4	3	-
37.1 Causing death by aggravated vehicle taking <sup>8</sup>	..	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-
5D Assault with intent to cause serious harm <sup>4,7,27</sup>	564	416	480	546	791	1,266	1,102	998	1,129	1,044	1,175	1,294	119	10.1
5E Endangering life <sup>27</sup>	155	55	28	17	25	33	37	40	28	27	66	61	-5	-7.6
of which:														
Explosives	46	25	12	7	12	12	19	14	11	12	11	3	-8	-
Firearms / Ammunition	108	30	15	10	7	10	12	17	9	4	11	9	-2	-
8N Assault with injury <sup>5,27</sup>	5,471	17,094	17,416	15,184	14,468	14,041	13,868	14,347	13,481	12,817	12,981	13,424	443	3.4
Grievous bodily harm and Wounding <sup>4,27</sup>	709	689	745	756	935	814	795	901	784	780	714	707	-7	-1.0
AOABH <sup>5</sup>	3,924	15,262	15,509	13,439	12,694	12,394	12,237	12,714	11,718	11,255	11,559	11,982	423	3.7
Assault on police with injury	837	1,142	1,155	987	837	831	834	729	976	769	704	727	23	3.3
Poisoning to aggrieve	1	1	7	2	2	2	2	3	3	13	4	8	4	-
Violence without injury <sup>5,27</sup>	12,079	13,041	13,651	13,545	13,865	14,183	14,080	14,834	15,434	18,254	19,807	20,666	859	4.3
3A Conspiracy to murder	6	1	0	2	4	0	1	0	2	1	0	0	0	-
3B Threats to kill	409	1,391	1,728	1,826	2,100	2,223	2,324	2,160	1,677	1,888	2,294	2,280	-14	-0.6
8L Harassment	715	2,317	2,077	1,730	1,839	2,030	1,955	1,959	1,966	3,107	3,607	3,379	-228	-6.3
Harassment	234	1,274	1,363	1,269	1,456	1,626	1,587	1,597	1,608	2,651	3,059	2,759	-300	-9.8
Intimidation	481	1,043	714	461	383	404	368	362	358	456	548	620	72	13.1
11A Cruelty to children/young persons	84	33	39	28	84	88	109	116	132	184	174	341	167	96.0
13 Child abduction	30	64	79	54	37	36	24	38	43	40	43	29	-14	-
14 Procuring illegal abortion	0	1	0	0	0	0	6	1	0	1	3	0	-3	-
36 Kidnapping	71	48	54	69	91	68	68	51	56	55	45	71	26	-
104 Assault without injury on a constable	594	1,282	1,570	1,840	2,021	2,349	2,568	2,564	2,480	2,204	2,067	2,145	78	3.8
Assault on police without injury	365	1,282	1,570	1,840	2,021	2,349	2,568	2,564	2,480	2,204	2,067	2,145	78	3.8
Obstructing/Resisting police <sup>9</sup>	229	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
105A Assault without injury <sup>5,27</sup>	10,170	7,904	8,104	7,993	7,689	7,386	7,024	7,933	9,078	10,772	11,547	12,386	839	7.3
106 Modern Slavery <sup>14</sup>	..	..	..	3	0	3	1	12	0	2	27	35	8	-

**Table 2.2 (cont) Recorded crime by offence, 1998/99 to 2015/16<sup>1</sup>**

Offence	1998/99 <sup>2</sup>	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12 <sup>30</sup>	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15 <sup>30</sup>	2011/12 <sup>30</sup>	Numbers and percentage change	
													change 2014/15 & 2015/16	% change 2014/15 to 2015/16
VICTIM-BASED OFFENCES														
TOTAL SEXUAL OFFENCES <sup>10,14,27</sup>	1,596	1,662	1,725	1,736	1,839	1,795	1,927	1,816	1,933	2,233	2,729	3,037	308	11.3
Rape	318	391	457	415	404	461	550	553	534	551	737	780	43	5.8
19A-19H Rape <sup>11,27</sup>	318	391	457	415	404	461	550	553	534	551	737	780	43	5.8
Rape <sup>11,27</sup>	284	356	431	382	381	446	525	529	502	507	711	735	24	3.4
Attempted rape <sup>11</sup>	34	35	26	33	23	15	25	24	32	44	26	45	19	-
Other sexual offences <sup>10,14</sup>	1,278	1,271	1,268	1,321	1,435	1,334	1,377	1,263	1,399	1,682	1,992	2,257	265	13.3
16 Buggery <sup>10,11,12,13</sup>	43	0	4	1	2	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
17 Indecent assault on a male <sup>10,12,13</sup>	185	162	159	150	128	59	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Indecent assault on a male 17+ <sup>10,12,13</sup>	36	47	60	57	48	9	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Indecent assault on a male child <17 <sup>10,12,13</sup>	149	115	99	93	80	50	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
17A Sexual assault on a male aged 13 and over <sup>10</sup>	..	..	..	..	17	44	83	94	100	102	115	146	31	27.0
17B Sexual assault on a male child under 13 <sup>10</sup>	..	..	..	..	14	36	104	94	124	152	139	169	30	21.6
18 Gross indecency between males <sup>10,12,13</sup>	18	17	6	11	16	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
20 Indecent assault on a female <sup>10,12,13</sup>	693	646	638	665	573	174	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Indecent assault on a female 17+ <sup>10,12,13</sup>	307	295	296	317	257	12	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Indecent assault on a female child <17 <sup>10,12,13</sup>	386	351	342	348	316	162	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
20A Sexual assault on a female aged 13 and over <sup>10</sup>	..	..	..	..	55	349	441	423	458	515	621	685	64	10.3
20B Sexual assault on a female child under 13 <sup>10</sup>	..	..	..	..	23	51	192	181	202	263	317	345	28	8.8
21 Unlawful sexual intercourse with a girl under 14 <sup>10,12,13</sup>	18	16	13	15	19	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
21 Sexual activity involving a child under 13 <sup>10</sup>	..	..	..	..	7	49	62	74	94	119	193	220	27	14.0
22 Unlawful sexual intercourse with a girl under 17 <sup>10,12,13</sup>	149	51	73	106	160	26	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
22B Sexual activity involving a child under 16 <sup>10</sup>	..	..	..	..	23	145	166	138	162	217	293	366	73	24.9
22A Causing sexual activity without consent <sup>10</sup>	..	..	..	..	6	3	0	0	1	4	5	4	-1	-
23 Incest or familial sexual offences <sup>10</sup>	7	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	6	4	4	6	2	-
25 Abduction of a female <sup>10</sup>	0	2	2	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-
70 Sexual activity etc. with a person with a mental disorder <sup>10</sup>	2	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	0	8	2	13	11	-
71 Abuse of children through prostitution and pornography <sup>10</sup>	..	..	..	..	0	1	4	5	2	7	1	2	1	-
73 Abuse of position of trust of a sexual nature <sup>10,15</sup>	..	0	2	2	3	2	2	0	1	2	3	2	-1	-
74 Gross indecency with a child <sup>10,12,13</sup>	32	41	36	45	91	26	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
88A Sexual grooming <sup>10,15</sup>	0	2	1	5	3	6	8	9	10	8	4	46	42	-
88C Other miscellaneous sexual offences <sup>10</sup>	12	5	1	5	1	4	2	11	3	1	4	5	1	-
88D Unnatural sexual offences <sup>10</sup>	0	1	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	-2	-
88E Exposure and voyeurism <sup>10,15</sup>	119	328	330	315	293	344	310	234	236	280	289	248	-41	-14.2
Exposure <sup>10</sup>	119	320	318	299	270	322	295	217	211	262	270	225	-45	-16.7
Voyeurism <sup>10,15</sup>	..	8	12	16	23	22	15	17	25	18	19	23	4	-

**Table 2.2 (cont) Recorded crime by offence, 1998/99 to 2015/16<sup>1</sup>**

Offence	1998/99 <sup>2</sup>	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12 <sup>30</sup>	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15 <sup>30</sup>	2015/16	Numbers and percentage change	
													change 2014/15 & 2015/16	% change 2014/15 to 2015/16
VICTIM-BASED OFFENCES														
TOTAL ROBBERY OFFENCES	1,395	1,744	1,574	1,143	1,283	1,276	1,306	1,221	1,014	958	880	732	-148	-16.8
34A Robbery of business property	701	827	620	421	454	468	479	420	303	243	248	182	-66	-26.6
Armed robbery business	486	602	469	256	310	337	333	297	208	169	181	121	-60	-33.1
Ordinary robbery business	181	160	127	147	121	113	126	98	74	68	56	54	-2	-3.6
Hijacking business	34	65	24	18	23	18	20	25	21	6	11	7	-4	-
34B Robbery of personal property	694	917	954	722	829	808	827	801	711	715	632	550	-82	-13.0
Armed robbery personal	146	240	282	188	198	220	229	256	199	206	181	157	-24	-13.3
Ordinary robbery personal	333	452	545	460	529	487	496	389	383	413	353	342	-11	-3.1
Hijacking personal	215	225	127	74	102	101	102	156	129	96	98	51	-47	-48.0
TOTAL THEFT OFFENCES (INCLUDING BURGLARY)	52,143	43,961	41,011	37,694	40,198	40,589	38,472	37,270	35,611	36,023	35,444	34,157	-1,287	-3.6
Total theft - burglary offences	15,296	12,727	11,461	11,586	12,331	12,460	11,849	10,580	9,581	9,067	8,937	8,773	-164	-1.8
Total domestic burglary	7,719	7,255	6,831	6,712	7,350	7,269	7,081	6,650	5,945	5,753	5,873	5,856	-17	-0.3
28A Burglary in a dwelling	7,217	6,457	6,108	5,974	6,457	6,451	6,313	5,884	5,177	4,970	5,047	4,941	-106	-2.1
28B Attempted burglary in a dwelling	400	753	673	664	821	719	704	689	710	706	746	802	56	7.5
29 Aggravated burglary in a dwelling	102	45	50	74	72	99	64	77	58	77	80	113	33	41.3
Total non-domestic burglary	7,577	5,472	4,630	4,874	4,981	5,191	4,768	3,930	3,636	3,314	3,064	2,917	-147	-4.8
30A Burglary in a building other than a dwelling	7,138	4,932	4,168	4,381	4,483	4,629	4,229	3,506	3,200	2,941	2,723	2,568	-155	-5.7
30B Attempted burglary in a building other than a dwelling	438	535	459	485	487	558	529	423	427	371	338	346	8	2.4
31 Aggravated burglary in a building other than a dwelling	1	5	3	8	11	4	10	1	9	2	3	3	0	-
Total theft - vehicle offences	16,508	10,135	9,256	8,301	7,906	8,221	6,933	6,017	5,339	5,609	5,089	4,925	-164	-3.2
37.2 Aggravated vehicle taking <sup>8</sup>	..	16	51	94	187	233	250	224	238	178	204	236	32	15.7
45 Theft from a vehicle	6,075	4,404	3,994	3,395	3,823	4,018	3,350	3,126	2,770	3,070	2,708	2,671	-37	-1.4
48 Theft or unauthorised taking of a motor vehicle <sup>16</sup>	9,715	3,708	3,367	3,242	2,769	2,743	2,469	2,066	1,900	1,943	1,684	1,429	-255	-15.1
126 Interfering with a motor vehicle <sup>16</sup>	718	2,007	1,844	1,570	1,127	1,227	864	601	431	418	493	589	96	19.5
Total theft from the person	234	774	861	791	637	591	530	609	661	576	514	558	44	8.6
39 Theft from the person	234	774	861	791	637	591	530	609	661	576	514	558	44	8.6
Total bicycle theft	1,220	1,029	907	861	997	983	1,027	1,058	1,073	1,097	966	718	-248	-25.7
44 Theft or unauthorised taking of a pedal cycle	1,220	1,029	907	861	997	983	1,027	1,058	1,073	1,097	966	718	-248	-25.7
Total theft - shoplifting	5,645	5,738	5,745	5,257	6,214	6,754	6,371	6,201	5,890	6,372	6,495	6,773	278	4.3
46 Shoplifting	5,645	5,738	5,745	5,257	6,214	6,754	6,371	6,201	5,890	6,372	6,495	6,773	278	4.3
Total all other theft offences	13,240	13,558	12,781	10,898	12,113	11,580	11,762	12,805	13,067	13,302	13,443	12,410	-1,033	-7.7
35 Blackmail	41	39	58	52	49	50	44	35	61	70	77	223	146	189.6
40 Theft in a dwelling other than from an automatic machine or meter	615	781	778	565	531	640	550	603	777	719	663	587	-76	-11.5
41 Theft by an employee	378	305	361	328	342	278	214	222	201	163	149	148	-1	-0.7
42 Theft of mail	22	96	96	52	22	22	21	12	24	15	17	22	5	-
43 Dishonest use of electricity	13	7	14	8	35	100	119	142	159	158	333	215	-118	-35.4
47 Theft from an automatic machine or meter	1	184	233	53	189	46	24	8	2	3	1	12	11	-
49 Other theft	10,286	10,184	9,284	8,316	9,136	8,732	9,434	10,743	10,873	11,217	10,528	9,956	-572	-5.4
49A Making off without payment <sup>28</sup>	1,884	1,962	1,957	1,524	1,809	1,712	1,356	1,040	970	957	1,675	1,247	-428	-25.6

**Table 2.2 (cont) Recorded crime by offence, 1998/99 to 2015/16<sup>1</sup>**

Offence	1998/99 <sup>2</sup>	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12 <sup>30</sup>	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15 <sup>30</sup>	Numbers and percentage change		
												2015/16	change 2014/15 & 2015/16	% change 2014/15 to 2015/16
VICTIM-BASED OFFENCES														
TOTAL CRIMINAL DAMAGE OFFENCES	27,551	34,296	35,827	30,426	27,904	25,862	24,483	22,758	20,959	19,889	19,830	20,516	686	3.5
56A Arson endangering life	4	95	125	113	104	126	164	160	145	134	143	186	43	30.1
56B Arson not endangering life	1,993	2,238	2,303	2,131	1,898	1,854	1,720	1,425	1,353	1,362	1,370	1,317	-53	-3.9
58A-D Criminal damage (to 06/07 only) <sup>17</sup>	250	131	75	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
58A Criminal damage to a dwelling	7,711	10,424	11,179	9,288	8,635	7,975	7,496	7,114	6,654	6,366	6,710	6,996	286	4.3
58B Criminal damage to a building other than a dwelling	5,199	5,297	5,248	4,069	3,259	2,918	2,580	2,490	2,725	2,585	2,353	2,326	-27	-1.1
58C Criminal damage to a vehicle	10,055	12,611	12,864	11,423	10,595	9,842	9,170	8,567	8,160	7,339	7,047	7,276	229	3.2
58D Other criminal damage	2,339	3,500	4,033	3,402	3,413	3,147	3,353	3,002	1,922	2,103	2,207	2,415	208	9.4
OTHER CRIMES AGAINST SOCIETY														
TOTAL DRUG OFFENCES	1,399	2,944	2,413	2,721	2,974	3,146	3,485	3,780	4,378	4,732	5,048	5,577	529	10.5
Trafficking of drugs	193	349	475	530	607	668	762	846	890	968	871	876	5	0.6
92A Trafficking in controlled drugs	193	349	475	530	607	668	762	846	890	968	871	876	5	0.6
Possession of drugs	1,206	2,595	1,938	2,191	2,367	2,478	2,723	2,934	3,488	3,764	4,177	4,701	524	12.5
92B Possession of controlled drugs <sup>18</sup>	943	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
92C Other drug offences	3	1	4	5	3	6	15	10	15	16	8	13	5	-
92D Possession of controlled drugs (excluding cannabis) <sup>18</sup>	260	475	569	785	790	815	918	961	1,099	1,177	1,420	1,352	-68	-4.8
92E Possession of controlled drugs (cannabis) <sup>18</sup>	..	2,119	1,365	1,401	1,574	1,657	1,790	1,963	2,374	2,571	2,749	3,336	587	21.4
TOTAL POSSESSION OF WEAPONS OFFENCES	351	684	740	799	794	804	741	714	651	727	772	923	151	19.6
10A Possession of firearms with intent	16	28	29	42	31	30	27	34	21	23	22	30	8	-
10B Possession of firearms offences	96	150	98	81	84	82	99	97	92	88	82	113	31	37.8
10C Possession of other weapons	238	477	565	617	592	584	482	463	392	476	499	560	61	12.2
10D Possession of article with blade or point	0	18	38	43	64	91	119	109	139	134	161	204	43	26.7
81 Other firearms offences	1	11	10	16	23	17	14	11	7	6	8	16	8	-
TOTAL PUBLIC ORDER OFFENCES	216	2,007	1,713	1,602	1,895	1,995	1,682	1,679	1,517	1,536	1,447	1,470	23	1.6
62A Violent disorder	80	99	85	96	127	164	125	100	119	67	43	46	3	-
Riot	17	12	26	14	5	19	23	23	58	33	12	10	-2	-
Violent disorder	63	87	59	82	122	145	102	77	61	34	31	36	5	-
66 Other offences against the State and public order	136	1,908	1,628	1,506	1,768	1,831	1,557	1,579	1,398	1,469	1,404	1,424	20	1.4
Bomb hoax related offences	101	446	405	222	426	475	320	333	191	202	147	200	53	36.1
Breach of anti-social behaviour order <sup>19</sup>	..	3	32	58	124	135	119	80	73	57	51	51	0	0.0
Breach of non-molestation order <sup>19</sup>	..	1,423	1,149	1,183	1,121	1,104	950	974	924	1,010	1,023	979	-44	-4.3
Breach sex offender orders etc <sup>19</sup>	..	2	15	16	50	81	124	124	133	129	103	100	-3	-2.9
Offences under anti-terrorist legislation	32	16	7	5	7	7	19	15	19	10	16	10	-6	-
Other <sup>20</sup>	3	18	20	22	40	29	25	53	58	61	64	84	20	31.3

**Table 2.2 (cont) Recorded crime by offence, 1998/99 to 2015/16<sup>1</sup>**

Offence	1998/99 <sup>2</sup>	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12 <sup>30</sup>	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15 <sup>30</sup>	Numbers and percentage change		
												2015/16	change 2014/15 & 2015/16	% change 2014/15 to 2015/16
OTHER CRIMES AGAINST SOCIETY														
TOTAL MISCELLANEOUS CRIMES AGAINST SOCIETY	1,498	2,739	2,509	1,860	2,618	2,729	2,252	2,314	2,191	2,415	2,746	2,877	131	4.8
15 Concealing an infant close to birth	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-
24 Exploitation of prostitution <sup>10</sup>	0	4	1	4	3	2	5	8	13	9	16	6	-10	-
26 Bigamy	1	0	0	3	1	2	1	2	0	1	0	0	0	-
27 Soliciting for the purpose of prostitution <sup>10,21</sup>	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	0	3	0	0	8	8	-
33 Going equipped for stealing, etc	178	105	101	112	142	123	93	99	62	82	71	78	7	9.9
33A Possession of items for use in fraud <sup>22</sup>	..	..	1	18	17	20	28	32	38	45	27	14	-13	-
38 Profiting from or concealing knowledge of the proceeds of crime <sup>23</sup>	..	15	11	10	15	14	21	26	29	35	34	54	20	-
54 Handling stolen goods	435	240	225	191	220	226	194	185	166	168	179	181	2	1.1
59 Threat or possession with intent to commit criminal damage	111	504	495	467	524	583	513	497	405	453	612	669	57	9.3
60 Forgery or use of false drug prescription / 61 Other forgery	427	457	293	132	338	235	130	161	156	202	217	140	-77	-35.5
61A Possession of false documents	..	..	5	26	57	47	48	28	32	23	24	22	-2	-
67 Perjury	1	2	6	3	12	6	4	5	3	6	6	5	-1	-
69 Offender Management Act <sup>24</sup>	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	2	4	21	36	35	-1	-
76 Aiding suicide	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-
79 Perverting the course of justice	23	127	102	144	231	258	234	252	236	257	251	260	9	3.6
80 Absconding from lawful custody	8	58	49	17	30	24	28	17	16	12	8	8	0	-
83 Bail offences	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-
86 Obscene publications, etc. and protected sexual material	14	46	62	60	51	62	59	95	124	143	231	394	163	70.6
95 Disclosure, obstruction, false or misleading statements etc <sup>25</sup>	..	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-
99 Other offences	116	378	362	104	110	134	97	95	88	92	176	174	-2	-1.1
802 Dangerous driving	148	728	714	513	746	865	699	701	674	674	695	744	49	7.1
814 Fraud, forgery etc associated with vehicle or driver records	36	74	77	56	119	128	97	109	142	192	163	85	-78	-47.9
TOTAL RECORDED CRIME - ALL OFFENCES (excluding fraud) <sup>30</sup>	104,647	120,919	119,314	107,490	108,870	107,951	103,676	102,009	98,558	100,917	103,177	105,023	1,846	1.8
TOTAL OTHER FRAUD (police recorded) <sup>26,29</sup>	4,406	2,275	1,830	978	1,224	1,188	1,364	1,380	1,831	1,829	1,896	..	-	-
Total Action Fraud	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2,230	-	-

**Please note: Detailed notes to accompany this table are available on the following page.**

Although figures for the financial years 1999/00 through to 2004/05 are not shown in this table, they are available in the accompanying [summary tables](#).



## Notes to accompany Table 2.2

1. Between 1998/99 and 2000/01 crimes were recorded through a paper-based system where a completed form was forwarded to PSNI's Statistics Branch for input onto a stand-alone system, from which crime figures were then extracted. In April 2001 PSNI introduced electronic recording through an integrated crime information system (ICIS), resulting in more low level crime being captured than would have occurred through the previous crime recording process. This system remained in place until the end of 2006/07. In April 2007, the NICHE record management system was introduced within PSNI for crime recording, a product specifically designed for police services to record and manage occurrences. Further information on [administrative data sources](#) within PSNI can be obtained from the PSNI website.
2. Number of crimes recorded 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, although some forces adopted NCRS practices before the standard was formally introduced. Figures before and after that date are not directly comparable. The introduction of NCRS led to a rise in recording in 2002/03 and, particularly for violent crime, in the following years as forces continued to improve compliance with the new standard. Much of the impact of introducing NCRS was experienced by PSNI in 2001/02, through the introduction of an integrated crime information system (ICIS) within PSNI which improved the capture of low level crimes.
4. The number of murders in 1998/99 includes the 29 persons killed in the Omagh bomb which occurred on 15 August 1998. This incident also accounts for approximately 90% of all wounding with intent and wounding offences recorded in 1998/99.
5. Prior to April 2003, offences where the victim received minor injuries (e.g. bruising or minor abrasions) were recorded as assault without injury. Since April 2003 assaults with minor injuries have been recorded as assault occasioning actual bodily harm (AOABH). This accounts for the large increase in AOABH offences and the large fall in assault without injury offences between 2002/03 and 2003/04. The Home Office introduced this change for England & Wales a year earlier, in April 2002.
6. Prior to 2008/09 classification 4.4 Causing death by dangerous driving was the only classification of this nature. From 2008/09 onwards these offences are split across classifications 4.4, 4.6, 4.8 and 4.9.
7. In April 2008 the Home Office issued clarification to police forces on how to record offences of wounding with intent/GBH with intent for those assaults resulting in minor or no injury to a victim, but where the intent was to cause serious injury. This revised technical guidance was issued to ensure that these offences were recorded in a consistent manner by all police forces. The effect of this clarification was that some offences that would previously have been recorded as other types of assault are now recorded as GBH with intent. While the clarification was introduced in 2008/09, PSNI continued to experience the impact of this during 2009/10. The majority of police forces in England and Wales experienced similar increases in these offences as a result of this clarification.
8. The offence of aggravated vehicle taking was introduced in Northern Ireland in 2004.
9. The offence of obstructing police was removed from the notifiable offence list in April 2003.
10. The Sexual Offences (Northern Ireland) Order 2008 was introduced in February 2009 and has altered the definition and coverage of sexual offences.
11. Up to 2003/04 the offence of rape could only be committed against a female. However the Criminal Justice (Northern Ireland) Order 2003 redefined the offence so that buggery without consent would constitute an offence of rape (i.e. rape could then be committed against a male).
12. Offences classified as 17 Indecent assault on a male, 20 Indecent assault on a female, 21 Unlawful sexual intercourse with a girl under 14, 22 Unlawful sexual intercourse with a girl under 17, 74 Gross indecency with a child, 16 Buggery and 18 Gross indecency between males relate to legislation that existed prior to that introduced in February 2009. From April 2010 offences are no longer recorded using these classifications (see 13. below).
13. Under the Home Office Counting Rules, offences which were reported to the police between February 2009 and March 2010 but which were committed prior to February 2009 were recorded under the previous legislation wherever possible. However in April 2010 this guidance was changed so that historic allegations committed under previous legislation should be recorded and detected as if committed today.
14. The classification of 106 Modern Slavery came into effect from April 2015, offences which were previously classified in Sexual offences - 72 Trafficking for sexual exploitation have moved into this category along with offences of Modern Slavery which were previously classified in 99 Other offences.
15. Offences were originally implemented through the Sexual Offences Act 2003.
16. From 1st April 2002, a change in the Home Office Counting Rules meant that most attempted thefts/unauthorised taking of motor vehicles previously recorded in Theft or unauthorised taking of a motor vehicle are now recorded as Vehicle interference.
17. This classification contains explosives and petrol bombing offences for which information prior to 2007/08 is not available to allow classification to dwelling, building other than a dwelling, vehicle or other.
18. Cannabis was classified as a Class B drug until 29 January 2004 when it was reclassified to a Class C drug. Cannabis was then reclassified back to a Class B drug on 26 January 2009. The systems from which the crime figures were extracted did not record the type of Class B or Class C drug until the first cannabis reclassification took place. Therefore it is not possible to provide a complete data series that separately identifies cannabis possession offences.

19. These offences were added to the data series in 2005/06.
20. The sub-classification of 'Other' includes offences such as affray, unlawful assembly and offences relating to incitement to hatred.
21. The reclassification exercise conducted during 2010/11 identified that, within Northern Ireland, offences of soliciting for the purposes of prostitution had not been identified as notifiable offences. This omission has been rectified and these offences are included in the recorded crime figures from April 2011.
22. New offences were introduced under the Fraud Act 2006 which came into force in January 2007.
23. These offences were added to the data series from 1st April 2003.
24. While the Offender Management Act offences which are included in the notifiable offence list do not extend to Northern Ireland, offences which do extend to Northern Ireland and are similar in nature are recorded in this classification.
25. These offences were added to the series from 1 April 2002.
26. From 1st April 2015 Action Fraud has taken responsibility for the central recording of fraud and cyber crime previously recorded by PSNI; Action Fraud became responsible for all such reports in England & Wales by 1st April 2014. Action Fraud is the UK's National Reporting Centre for fraud and cyber crime reported directly to them from the public and other organisations. While this means that these fraud and cyber offences are no longer recorded by PSNI, Action Fraud figures relating to fraud and cyber crime occurring in Northern Ireland are provided to PSNI on a monthly basis. Section 6 in this bulletin and Table 6.1 in the accompanying [summary tables](#) present fraud figures dating back to 1998/99, showing those recorded by PSNI and those recorded by Action Fraud. A further breakdown of the Action Fraud figures is available in Table 6.2 in the accompanying [summary tables](#). All other sections within the bulletin present figures on a comparable basis that exclude 'other fraud' (unless clearly noted otherwise).
27. A number of offences that were previously classified in 5E Endangering Life have been reclassified following detailed checks which identified they were incorrectly classified. Following the reclassification the majority of the offences have remained in the Violence with injury category, however some offences have moved to Violence without injury and some have moved to the Sexual Offences classification.
28. From April 2014 there was a change introduced in the Home Office Counting Rules making it more difficult for crimes of making off without payment to meet the criteria which allow offences to be removed from the crime figures (ie for the crime to be cancelled or "no crime'd"). This may have contributed to the increase seen in this classification between 2013/14 and 2014/15.
29. For offences of Fraud by false representation, counting changed from a per fraudulent transaction to a per account basis from January 2007. From 1st April 2007 these offences were reported to a single point of contact within each police force by financial institutions.
30. An offence originally recorded in 2014/15 as manslaughter was reclassified to murder in August 2016. In addition, the number of manslaughter offences in 2011/12 has been revised downwards by 1 and the number of corporate manslaughter offences in each of 2011/12 and 2014/15 has increased by 1. These changes have correspondingly increased by 1 the totals for homicide, violence against the person and total recorded crime all offences for 2014/15, while these totals remain unchanged for 2011/12.

'..' in the table indicates that data are not available.

'-' indicates that for offences recorded, a percentage change is not reported because the base number of offences is less than 50.

**Table 2.3 Homicides, 1969 to 2015<sup>1,2</sup>**

	Murder	Manslaughter <sup>3</sup>	Infanticide <sup>3</sup>	Corporate Manslaughter <sup>4</sup>	Numbers Homicide
1969	5	8		-	13
1970	14	6		-	20
1971	123	21		-	144
1972	376	17		-	393
1973	200	15		-	215
1974	205	8		-	213
1975	238	9		-	247
1976	280	11		-	291
1977	116	5	2	-	123
1978	82	2	1	-	85
1979	128	7	1	-	136
1980	85	5	3	-	93
1981	95	7	0	-	102
1982	99	5	0	-	104
1983	86	4	1	-	91
1984	63	2	0	-	65
1985	59	2	0	-	61
1986	85	2	0	-	87
1987	100	6	3	-	109
1988	111	5	0	-	116
1989	67	8	0	-	75
1990	71	11	0	-	82
1991	114	7	0	-	121
1992	108	3	0	-	111
1993	101	5	0	-	106
1994	82	3	1	-	86
1995	22	1	1	-	24
1996	35	4	0	-	39
1997	40	2	0	-	42
1998 <sup>5</sup>	80	1	0	-	81
1999	29	8	0	-	37
2000	42	3	0	-	45
2001	53	4	0	-	57
2002	35	3	0	-	38
2003	35	6	1	-	42
2004	30	4	0	-	34
2005	26	3	2	-	31
2006	27	3	0	-	30
2007	26	3	0	-	29
2008	20	4	0	0	24
2009	25	4	0	0	29
2010	15	8	0	0	23
2011 <sup>6</sup>	17	5	0	2	24
2012	17	4	0	0	21
2013	19	1	0	1	21
2014 <sup>7</sup>	13	4	0	4	21
2015	21	2	0	0	23

1. Figures from 1969 to 1998 have been sourced from the Chief Constable's Annual Reports.

2. IRA ceasefires were declared in 1994 and 1997 and a Loyalist ceasefire was announced in 1994. In 1998 the Northern Ireland peace agreement was reached and the Real IRA announced a ceasefire.

3. Between 1969 and 1976 the figures for manslaughter and infanticide in the Chief Constable's Annual Reports were not provided separately.

4. Corporate manslaughter – Corporate Manslaughter and Corporate Homicide Act 2007 (came into force 6 April 2008).

5. The number of murders in 1998/99 includes the 29 persons killed in the Omagh bomb which occurred on 15 August 1998.

6. The number of manslaughter offences recorded in 2011 has been revised downwards by 1 (from 6 to 5) and the number of corporate manslaughter offences in 2011 has been revised upwards from 1 to 2. The homicide total for 2011 remains unchanged.

7. An offence recorded in the 2014 as manslaughter was reclassified to murder in August 2016, increasing the number of murders from 12 to 13 and reducing the number of manslaughter offences from 5 to 4. In addition, the number of corporate manslaughter offences in 2014/15 has been revised upwards from 3 to 4. These changes have increased the homicide total for 2014 by 1 (from 20 to 21).

**Table 2.4 Homicides, 1998/99 to 2015/16**

	Murder	Manslaughter	Infanticide	Corporate Manslaughter <sup>1</sup>	Numbers Homicide
1998/99 <sup>2</sup>	71	4	0	-	75
1999/00	29	5	0	-	34
2000/01	45	4	0	-	49
2001/02	49	3	0	-	52
2002/03	42	3	0	-	45
2003/04	26	6	1	-	33
2004/05	34	6	1	-	41
2005/06	25	3	1	-	29
2006/07	23	1	0	-	24
2007/08	25	5	0	-	30
2008/09	24	2	0	0	26
2009/10	18	4	0	0	22
2010/11	20	8	0	0	28
2011/12 <sup>3</sup>	16	6	0	2	24
2012/13	17	3	0	0	20
2013/14	17	3	0	1	21
2014/15 <sup>4</sup>	17	4	0	4	25
2015/16	21	0	0	0	21

1. Corporate manslaughter – Corporate Manslaughter and Corporate Homicide Act 2007 (came into force 6 April 2008)
2. The number of murders in 1998/99 includes the 29 persons killed in the Omagh bomb which occurred on 15 August 1998.
3. The number of manslaughter offences recorded in 2011/12 has been revised downwards by 1 (from 7 to 6) and the number of corporate manslaughter offences in 2011/12 has been revised upwards from 1 to 2. The homicide total for 2011/12 remains unchanged.
4. An offence recorded in the 2014/15 as manslaughter was reclassified to murder in August 2016, increasing the number of murders from 16 to 17 and reducing the number of manslaughter offences from 5 to 4. In addition, the number of corporate manslaughter offences in 2014/15 has been revised upwards from 3 to 4. These changes have increased the homicide total for 2014/15 by 1 (from 24 to 25).

### 3 Knife and Sharp Instrument Crime

Since April 2007 the Home Office has collected additional data from police forces on offences involving knives and sharp instruments, where 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 and sharp instruments are taken to be involved in an incident if they are used to stab or cut, or as a threat. Offence coverage is for a group of selected offences, as detailed in tables 3.1 and 3.2 below. In England and Wales comparable data for these offences is available back to 2008/09. PSNI has compiled knife and sharp instrument data for each financial year since 2007/08 based on the definitions used by the Home Office.

**Please note:** the records used to provide the figures in tables 3.1 and 3.2 are identified from an operational crime recording system and, as such, may be subject to change where more up-to-date weapon information becomes available.

**Table 3.1 Selected violent and sexual offences recorded by the police involving knives or sharp instruments<sup>1</sup> by crime type in Northern Ireland, 2007/08 to 2015/16**

Selected offence type	Numbers								
	Number of selected offences involving a knife or sharp instrument								
	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16
Homicide <sup>2</sup>	5	8	7	8	7	7	3	3	8
Attempted murder	50	44	31	33	40	28	27	41	31
Threats to kill	100	102	105	67	74	84	72	80	65
Actual bodily harm & grievous bodily harm <sup>3</sup>	569	521	600	520	492	558	574	573	538
Robbery	207	236	228	215	249	238	200	216	142
Rape / sexual assaults <sup>4</sup>	3	9	7	8	7	13	13	11	5
<b>Total selected offences</b>	<b>934</b>	<b>920</b>	<b>978</b>	<b>851</b>	<b>869</b>	<b>928</b>	<b>889</b>	<b>924</b>	<b>789</b>

**Table 3.2 Proportion of selected violent and sexual offences recorded by the police involving knives or sharp instruments<sup>1</sup> by crime type in Northern Ireland, 2007/08 to 2015/16**  
(i.e. 38 per cent of all homicides in 2015/16 involved knives or sharp instruments)

Selected offence type	Percentages								
	Number of selected offences involving a knife or sharp instrument								
	2007/08 (%)	2008/09 (%)	2009/10 (%)	2010/11 (%)	2011/12 (%)	2012/13 (%)	2013/14 (%)	2014/15 (%)	2015/16 (%)
Homicide <sup>2</sup>	17	31	32	29	29	35	14	12	38
Attempted murder	37	35	27	30	35	27	24	35	31
Threats to kill	5	5	5	3	3	5	4	3	3
Actual bodily harm & grievous bodily harm <sup>3</sup>	4	3	4	3	3	4	4	4	4
Robbery	18	18	18	16	20	23	21	25	19
Rape / sexual assaults <sup>4</sup>	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0
<b>Total selected offences</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>

1. A sharp instrument is any object that pierces the skin (or in the case of a threat, is capable of piercing the skin), eg a broken bottle. The knife and sharp instrument figures presented here are based on weapon details taken from a live operational system and are therefore subject to change.
2. Homicide includes murder, manslaughter, infanticide and corporate manslaughter. The proportion of homicides involving a knife or sharp instrument shown in table 3.2 for 2014/15 has been revised from 13% to 12% due to an increase of 1 in the homicide base total for calculating the proportions.
3. Includes 5D Assault with intent to cause serious harm and 8N Assault with injury.
4. Includes indecent assault on a male/female (classifications 17/20) and sexual assault on a male/female (classifications 17A/17B/20A/20B), as well as 19A-19H Rape.



## 4 Online Crime

**Home Office Definition and guidance:** Online crime (formerly cyber crime) is identified through the use of a 'flag' on the crime recording system. Its aim is to help provide a national and local picture of the extent to which the internet and digital communications technology are being used to commit crimes. An offence should be flagged where the reporting officer believes that on the balance of probability the offence was committed, in full or in part, through a computer, computer network or other computer-enabled device.

Below is an outline of the circumstances in which a crime should be flagged as 'online':

- a crime was committed *online or through internet-based* activities, such as: sending or receiving emails, use of social media or networking sites, use of internet forums or blogs, online auction or retail sites, communication via online video game networks or communications platforms; and
- a 'computer, computer network or other computer-enabled devices were used to commit a crime. This includes desktop computers or laptops in the home or in the workplace, smartphones, tablets and other telecommunications devices linked to computer networks, or any other identifiable computer system or network that produces, processes and transmits data.

In the following circumstances a crime should not be flagged as 'online':

- the crime has already been recorded by Action Fraud (ie in the case of fraud and computer misuse offences).
- the crime only involved a phone network to make phone calls or send/receive text messages, rather than an internet network. Some use of a computer network or internet technology is required.
- the computer was used to make or design fraudulent items such as fake gift or shopping vouchers.
- the offence involved theft of computers or other internet-enabled devices.
- the crime was committed using a machine but the intention was not to interact with the computer e.g. theft at an ATM or self-service tills.

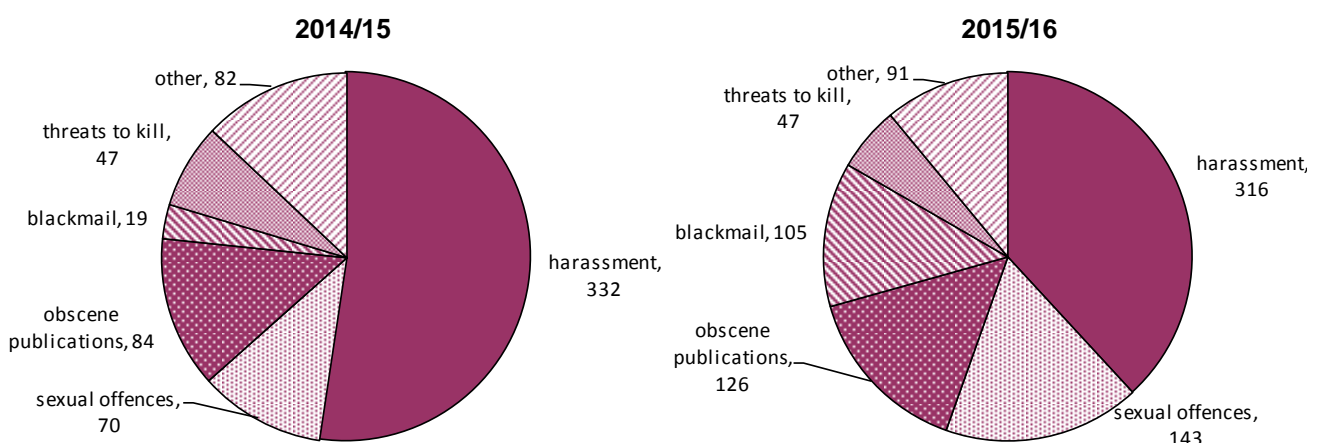
The first complete financial year for which online crimes are available is 2014/15. The following tables provide a comparison of 2014/15 with 2015/16. As Action Fraud took over responsibility for the central recording of fraud and cyber crime previously recorded by PSNI from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2015, the figures provided here do not include the 'other fraud' classification.

**Data quality:** While crimes included within the police recorded crime statistics for Northern Ireland are individually checked for compliance with the Home Office Counting Rules, the identification of an online crime is derived from a motivation 'tick box' on the system used by PSNI to record crime. The motivation is identified and completed by a police officer or member of police staff for each such reported incident or crime. The correct application of an online motivation for all such incidents/crimes is not quality assured by the PSNI's Statistics Branch. As Online Crime has not been assessed as a National Statistic it is being presented here as an Official Statistic. This is the first of these annual bulletins to make detailed online crime figures available.

**Comparison of 2014/15 and 2015/16:** Online crime (excluding fraud) accounted for 0.6 per cent of all crimes in 2014/15 and 0.8 per cent in 2015/16. In terms of population rates there were 3 offences of online crime per 10,000 population in 2014/15 and 4 per 10,000 population in 2015/16.

Figure 4.1 demonstrates the change in distribution of offence types between 2014/15 and 2015/16. The changing pattern is seen particularly in relation to blackmail, sexual offences and obscene publications, which have shown the largest volume increases between the two time periods of 86, 73 and 42 respectively.

**Figure 4.1 Online crime (excluding fraud) by type of offence, 2014/15 and 2015/16**



**Table 4.1 Online crime by offence (excluding fraud<sup>1</sup>), 2014/15 and 2015/16**

	Numbers and percentages			
	2014/15	2015/16	change	% change
<b>VICTIM-BASED OFFENCES</b>				
Violence against the person	396	378	-18	-4.5
<i>3B Threats to kill</i>	47	47	0	0.0
<i>8L Harassment</i>	332	316	-16	-4.8
<i>All other violence against the person</i>	17	15	-2	-11.8
Sexual offences	70	143	73	104.3
<i>Sexual activity<sup>2</sup></i>	62	118	56	90.3
<i>All other sexual offences</i>	8	25	17	212.5
Burglary, robbery, theft and criminal damage	30	114	84	280.0
<i>35 Blackmail (theft offences)</i>	19	105	86	452.6
<i>All other offences of burglary, robbery, theft and criminal damage</i>	11	9	-2	-18.2
<b>OTHER CRIMES AGAINST SOCIETY</b>				
<i>66 Other offences against the State and public order</i>	36	39	3	8.3
<i>59 Threat or possession with intent to commit criminal damage</i>	9	14	5	55.6
<i>79 Perverting the course of justice</i>	7	10	3	42.9
<i>86 Obscene publications, etc. and protected sexual material</i>	84	126	42	50.0
<i>All other crimes against society</i>	2	4	2	100.0
<b>TOTAL RECORDED CRIME - ALL OFFENCES (excluding fraud<sup>1</sup>)</b>	<b>634</b>	<b>828</b>	<b>194</b>	<b>30.6</b>

1. From 1st April 2015 Action Fraud has taken responsibility for the central recording of fraud and cyber crime previously recorded by PSNI; Action Fraud became responsible for all such reports in England & Wales by 1st April 2014. Action Fraud is the UK's National Reporting Centre for fraud and cyber crime reported directly to them from the public and other organisations. While this means that these fraud and cyber offences are no longer recorded by PSNI, Action Fraud figures relating to fraud and cyber crime occurring in Northern Ireland are provided to PSNI on a monthly basis. Section 6 of this bulletin and Table 6.1 in the accompanying spreadsheet present fraud figures dating back to 1998/99, showing those recorded by PSNI and those recorded by Action Fraud. A further breakdown of the Action Fraud figures is available in Table 6.2 in the accompanying spreadsheet. All other sections within this bulletin present figures on a comparable basis that exclude 'other fraud' (unless clearly noted otherwise).
2. Sexual activity includes the following classifications: 21 Sexual activity involving a child under 13, 22A Causing sexual activity without consent, 22B Sexual activity involving a child under 16 and 70 Sexual activity etc. with a person with a mental disorder.

## 4.1 Online Crime Victim Age and Gender Profile 2015/16

There were 640 online crimes recorded in 2015/16 where victim age was applicable or known, and 638 online crimes recorded where victim gender was applicable or known. Age and gender information were unavailable for 23 per cent of online crimes in 2015/16; in the vast majority of these cases the offence is regarded as a 'state-based' offence and therefore victim age and gender are not applicable.

**Victim Age:** Where victim age was available, those aged under 18 represented 32 per cent while victims aged 18+ represented 68 per cent. Those aged under 18 were most likely to be victims of sexual activity offences with an online crime motivation, with 114 such offences recorded in 2015/16 representing 55 per cent of all online crime where the victim was under 18. In 2015/16 those aged 18+ were most likely to be victims of harassment (268 offences) or blackmail (94 offences) with an online crime motivation, representing 62 per cent and 22 per cent respectively of all online crime where the victim was aged 18+.

**Victim Gender:** Where victim gender was available, females represented 59 per cent while male victims represented 41 per cent. Females were most likely to be victims of harassment (207 offences) and sexual activity (86 offences) with an online crime motivation, representing 55 per cent and 23 per cent respectively of online crime where the victim was female. Males were most likely to be victims of harassment (103 offences) and blackmail (92 offences) with an online crime motivation, representing 39 per cent and 35 per cent respectively of online crime where the victim was male.

**Table 4.2 Online crime (excluding fraud<sup>1</sup>) by age of victim, 2014/15 and 2015/16**

	Numbers							
	Under 18		18+		Age unknown or not applicable		Total	
	2014/15	2015/16	2014/15	2015/16	2014/15	2015/16	2014/15	2015/16
<b>VICTIM-BASED OFFENCES</b>								
Violence against the person	57	57	338	316	1	5	396	378
<i>3B Threats to kill</i>	10	9	37	38	0	0	47	47
<i>8L Harassment</i>	42	43	289	268	1	5	332	316
<i>All other violence against the person</i>	5	5	12	10	0	0	17	15
Sexual offences	66	139	4	4	0	0	70	143
<i>Sexual activity<sup>2</sup></i>	61	114	1	4	0	0	62	118
<i>All other sexual offences</i>	5	25	3	0	0	0	8	25
Burglary, robbery, theft and criminal damage	4	11	26	100	0	3	30	114
<i>35 Blackmail (theft offences)</i>	3	10	16	94	0	1	19	105
<i>All other offences of burglary, robbery, theft and criminal damage</i>	1	1	10	6	0	2	11	9
<b>OTHER CRIMES AGAINST SOCIETY</b>								
<i>59 Threat or possession with intent to commit criminal damage</i>	0	0	7	13	2	1	9	14
<i>86 Obscene publications, etc. and protected sexual material</i>	0	0	0	0	84	126	84	126
<i>All other crimes against society</i>	0	0	0	0	45	53	45	53
<b>TOTAL RECORDED CRIME - ALL OFFENCES (excluding fraud<sup>1</sup>)</b>	<b>127</b>	<b>207</b>	<b>375</b>	<b>433</b>	<b>132</b>	<b>188</b>	<b>634</b>	<b>828</b>

**Table 4.3 Online crime (excluding fraud<sup>1</sup>) by gender of victim, 2014/15 and 2015/16**

	Numbers							
	Female		Male		Gender unknown or not applicable		Total	
	2014/15	2015/16	2014/15	2015/16	2014/15	2015/16	2014/15	2015/16
<b>VICTIM-BASED OFFENCES</b>								
Violence against the person	265	246	130	125	1	7	396	378
<i>3B Threats to kill</i>	29	27	18	19	0	1	47	47
<i>8L Harassment</i>	223	207	108	103	1	6	332	316
<i>All other violence against the person</i>	13	12	4	3	0	0	17	15
Sexual offences	58	105	12	38	0	0	70	143
<i>Sexual activity<sup>2</sup></i>	50	86	12	32	0	0	62	118
<i>All other sexual offences</i>	8	19	0	6	0	0	8	25
Burglary, robbery, theft and criminal damage	10	16	20	95	0	3	30	114
<i>35 Blackmail (theft offences)</i>	5	12	14	92	0	1	19	105
<i>All other offences of burglary, robbery, theft and criminal damage</i>	5	4	6	3	0	2	11	9
<b>OTHER CRIMES AGAINST SOCIETY</b>								
<i>59 Threat or possession with intent to commit criminal damage</i>	6	9	1	4	2	1	9	14
<i>86 Obscene publications, etc. and protected sexual material</i>	0	0	0	0	84	126	84	126
<i>All other crimes against society</i>	0	0	0	0	45	53	45	53
<b>TOTAL RECORDED CRIME - ALL OFFENCES (excluding fraud<sup>1</sup>)</b>	<b>339</b>	<b>376</b>	<b>163</b>	<b>262</b>	<b>132</b>	<b>190</b>	<b>634</b>	<b>828</b>

- From 1<sup>st</sup> April 2015 Action Fraud has taken responsibility for the central recording of fraud and cyber crime previously recorded by PSNI; Action Fraud became responsible for all such reports in England & Wales by 1<sup>st</sup> April 2014. Action Fraud is the UK's National Reporting Centre for fraud and cyber crime reported directly to them from the public and other organisations. While this means that these fraud and cyber offences are no longer recorded by PSNI, Action Fraud figures relating to fraud and cyber crime occurring in Northern Ireland are provided to PSNI on a monthly basis. Section 6 of this bulletin and Table 6.1 in the accompanying spreadsheet present fraud figures dating back to 1998/99, showing those recorded by PSNI and those recorded by Action Fraud. A further breakdown of the Action Fraud figures is available in Table 6.2 in the accompanying spreadsheet. All other sections within this bulletin present figures on a comparable basis that exclude 'other fraud' (unless clearly noted otherwise).
- Sexual activity includes the following classifications: 21 Sexual activity involving a child under 13, 22A Causing sexual activity without consent, 22B Sexual activity involving a child under 16 and 70 Sexual activity etc. with a person with a mental disorder.

## 5 Alcohol Crime

**Home Office Definition and guidance:** Alcohol crime is identified through the use of a 'flag' on the crime recording system. Its aim is to provide the number of crimes directly attributable to alcohol to assist in assessing the impact of alcohol on crime and policing.

The alcohol flag should be applied where it is perceived by the victim or any other person that the effects of alcohol consumption on the offender or victim was an aggravating factor.

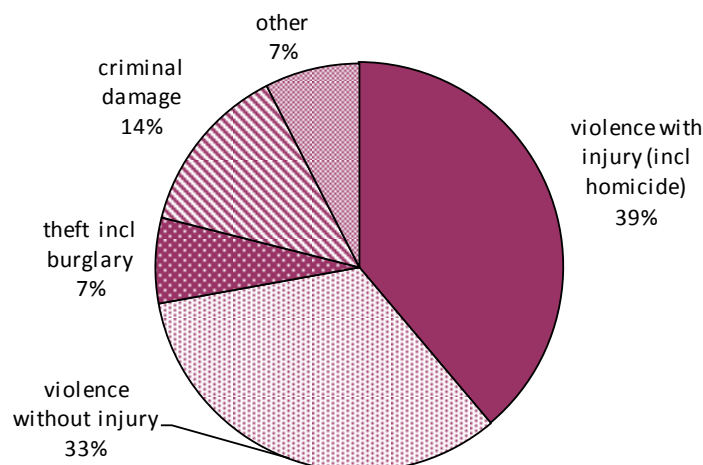
During 2012/13 a baseline was established for those crimes where alcohol was a contributory factor. The following tables provide a comparison for the years 2012/13 to 2015/16.

**Data quality:** While crimes included within the police recorded crime statistics for Northern Ireland are individually checked for compliance with the Home Office Counting Rules, the identification of an alcohol crime is derived from a motivation 'tick box' on the system used by PSNI to record crime. The motivation is identified and completed by a police officer or member of police staff for each such reported incident or crime. The correct application of an alcohol motivation for all such incidents/crimes is not quality assured by the PSNI's Statistics Branch, but audits and data quality checks are routinely conducted in an attempt to ensure that any under or over-recording is corrected. As Alcohol Crime has not been assessed as a National Statistic it is being presented here as an Official Statistic. This is the first of these annual bulletins to make detailed alcohol crime figures available.

**Trends in alcohol-related crime:** Since the start of the data series in 2012/13, around one in five crimes recorded by the police are flagged with an alcohol motivation; in 2015/16 the proportion sits at 19 per cent. The crime types where the highest levels of alcohol motivation have been identified are those within violence against the person. Around half of all violence with injury (including homicide) offences and a third of violence without injury offences have been given an alcohol motivation.

The proportion of violence against the person offences with an alcohol motivation was at its highest in 2012/13 and has since fallen in each year. For violence with injury (including homicide) the proportion has fallen from 56.8 per cent in 2012/13 to 51.0 per cent in 2015/16; levels have also fallen each year from 8,453 in 2012/13 to 7,679 in 2015/16. While the proportion in respect of violence without injury has fallen from 37.8 per cent in 2012/13 to 31.8 per cent in 2015/16, the levels have fluctuated with the highest level seen in 2014/15 and the second highest being seen in 2015/16.

**Figure 5.1 Alcohol-motivated crime by type of crime (excluding fraud), 2015/16**



**Table 5.1 Alcohol-related crime (excluding fraud<sup>1</sup>) by offence, 2012/13 to 2015/16**

	numbers			
	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16
<b>VICTIM-BASED OFFENCES</b>				
Violence against the person	14,280	14,580	14,706	14,261
Violence with Injury (including Homicide)	8,453	8,136	8,050	7,679
5D Assault with intent to cause serious harm	627	557	645	599
8N Assault with injury: of which	7,787	7,542	7,346	7,042
Assault on police with injury	526	473	457	457
All other violence with injury (including homicide)	39	37	59	38
Violence without injury	5,827	6,444	6,656	6,582
104 Assault without injury on a constable	1,630	1,494	1,423	1,389
105A Assault without injury	3,593	4,213	4,282	4,371
3B Threats to kill	465	541	686	595
All other violence without injury	139	196	265	227
Sexual offences	391	369	506	454
Robbery	126	134	98	92
Theft offences - Burglary	243	208	200	196
Theft offences	1,376	1,460	1,351	1,145
Criminal damage	2,684	2,725	2,682	2,678
<b>OTHER CRIMES AGAINST SOCIETY</b>				
Drug offences	295	296	332	272
Possession of weapons offences	164	194	208	223
Public order offences	214	180	151	160
Miscellaneous crimes against society	212	256	233	284
<b>TOTAL RECORDED CRIME - ALL OFFENCES (excluding fraud<sup>1</sup>)</b>	<b>19,985</b>	<b>20,402</b>	<b>20,467</b>	<b>19,765</b>

**Table 5.2 Alcohol-related crime (excluding fraud<sup>1</sup>) as a percentage of all recorded crime by offence, 2012/13 to 2015/16**

	numbers			
	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16
<b>VICTIM-BASED OFFENCES</b>				
Violence against the person	47.1	45.0	42.9	39.9
Violence with Injury (including Homicide)	56.8	57.5	55.6	51.0
5D Assault with intent to cause serious harm	55.5	53.4	54.9	46.3
8N Assault with injury: of which	57.8	58.8	56.6	52.5
Assault on police with injury	53.9	61.5	64.9	62.9
All other violence with injury (including homicide)	15.0	12.8	18.6	10.9
Violence without injury	37.8	35.3	33.6	31.8
104 Assault without injury on a constable	65.7	67.8	68.8	64.8
105A Assault without injury	39.6	39.1	37.1	35.3
3B Threats to kill	27.7	28.7	29.9	26.1
All other violence without injury	6.3	5.8	6.8	5.9
Sexual offences	20.2	16.5	18.5	14.9
Robbery	12.4	14.0	11.1	12.6
Theft offences - Burglary	2.5	2.3	2.2	2.2
Theft offences	5.3	5.4	5.1	4.5
Criminal damage	12.8	13.7	13.5	13.1
<b>OTHER CRIMES AGAINST SOCIETY</b>				
Drug offences	6.7	6.3	6.6	4.9
Possession of weapons offences	25.2	26.7	26.9	24.2
Public order offences	14.1	11.7	10.4	10.9
Miscellaneous crimes against society	9.7	10.6	8.5	9.9
<b>TOTAL RECORDED CRIME - ALL OFFENCES (excluding fraud<sup>1</sup>)</b>	<b>20.3</b>	<b>20.2</b>	<b>19.8</b>	<b>18.8</b>

1. From 1st April 2015 Action Fraud has taken responsibility for the central recording of fraud and cyber crime previously recorded by PSNI; Action Fraud became responsible for all such reports in England & Wales by 1st April 2014. Action Fraud is the UK's National Reporting Centre for fraud and cyber crime reported directly to them from the public and other organisations. As a result, figures are presented on a comparable basis that excludes 'other fraud' (unless clearly noted otherwise).



## 6 Other Fraud

From 1st April 2015 Action Fraud has taken responsibility for the central recording of fraud and cyber crime previously recorded by PSNI; Action Fraud became responsible for all such reports in England & Wales by 1<sup>st</sup> April 2014. Action Fraud is the UK's National Reporting Centre for fraud and cyber crime reported directly to them from the public and other organisations. While this means that these fraud and cyber offences are no longer recorded by PSNI, Action Fraud figures relating to fraud and cyber crime occurring in Northern Ireland are provided to PSNI on a monthly basis.

Offences previously recorded within the fraud and forgery classification and which continue to be recorded by all police forces are:

- Making off without payment – now included in the 'all other theft' classification;
- Possession of items for use in fraud, other forgery, possession of false documents and fraud/forgery etc associated with vehicle or driver records – now included in miscellaneous crimes against society.

Within the police recorded crime data series (1998/99 to 2014/15), the recording of fraud and forgery offences was impacted by a change to offences of fraud by false representation, where counting changed from a 'per fraudulent transaction' to a 'per account basis' from January 2007. There were also some new offences introduced under the Fraud Act 2006 which came into force in January 2007. However it is known that incidents of fraud were under-reported to the police and this should be considered when interpreting this data series.

Table 6.1 shows the data series for the '*other fraud*' classification as recorded by PSNI and Action Fraud. Further details on frauds recorded by Action Fraud during 2015/16 are available in table 6.2 in the accompanying [summary tables](#).

**Table 6.1 Offences of Other Fraud recorded by PSNI and Action Fraud<sup>1</sup>, 1998/99 to 2015/16**

	PSNI Recorded Fraud							Numbers
	51 Fraud by Company Director, Sole Trader etc	52 False accounting	53D Other fraud (not covered elsewhere incl deception) <sup>2</sup>	53E Fraud by failing to disclose information <sup>3</sup>	53F Fraud by abuse of position <sup>3</sup>	55 Bankruptcy and insolvency offences	Total PSNI Recorded Other Fraud	Recorded by Action Fraud <sup>1</sup>
1998/99	0	11	4,395	..	..	0	4,406	..
1999/00	0	16	4,886	..	..	0	4,902	..
2000/01	0	15	4,107	..	..	0	4,122	..
2001/02	0	7	3,965	..	..	0	3,972	..
2002/03	1	6	4,357	..	..	0	4,364	..
2003/04	0	23	2,964	..	..	0	2,987	..
2004/05	0	2	2,157	..	..	0	2,159	..
2005/06	1	25	2,249	..	..	0	2,275	..
2006/07	0	4	1,800	26	0	0	1,830	..
2007/08	1	1	970	0	6	0	978	..
2008/09	0	7	1,201	2	13	1	1,224	..
2009/10	0	4	1,156	8	20	0	1,188	..
2010/11	0	1	1,331	5	27	0	1,364	..
2011/12	0	0	1,348	9	23	0	1,380	..
2012/13	0	0	1,786	9	36	0	1,831	..
2013/14	0	1	1,781	8	39	0	1,829	..
2014/15	0	0	1,847	4	45	0	1,896	..
2015/16	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2,228

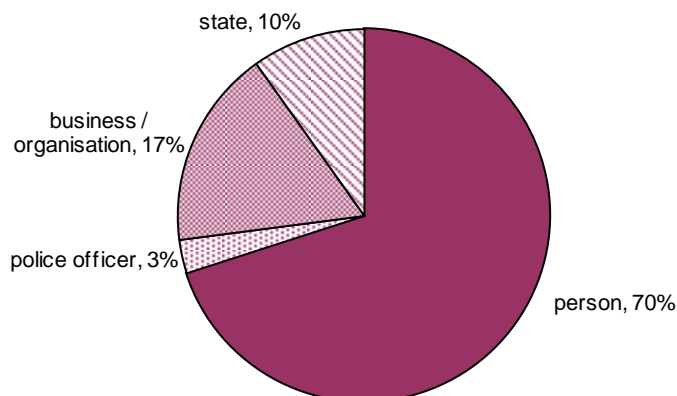
1. From 1st April 2015 Action Fraud has taken responsibility for the central recording of fraud and cyber crime previously recorded by PSNI; Action Fraud became responsible for all such reports in England & Wales by 1st April 2014. Action Fraud is the UK's National Reporting Centre for fraud and cyber crime reported directly to them from the public and other organisations. While this means that these fraud and cyber offences are no longer recorded by PSNI, Action Fraud figures relating to fraud and cyber crime in Northern Ireland are provided to PSNI on a monthly basis. Action Fraud total for 2015/16 based on figures provided September 2016.
  2. For offences of Fraud by false representation, counting changed from a per fraudulent transaction to a per account basis from January 2007. From 1st April 2007 these offences were reported to a single point of contact within each police force by financial institutions.
  3. New offences were introduced under the Fraud Act 2006 which came into force in January 2007.
- '..' in the table indicates that data are not available.

## 7 Victims of Crime

The Home Office has identified offences as being victim-based, state-based or victim and state-based. State-based offences are those for which no member of the public or business/organisation is a victim. For victim-based offences, the victim can be a member of the public (referred to here as person victim), a police officer who was the victim of a crime in the course of carrying out their duty, or a business or organisation. Details on the availability of information relating to victim characteristics can be found in Section 4.5 of the [User Guide to Police Recorded Crime Statistics in Northern Ireland](#).

The introduction of the NICHE system in 2007/08 has enabled a breakdown of crime by the type of victim to be provided from this date. Each of the financial years since 2007/08 shows a similar picture. Figures for 2015/16 show that around 70 per cent of all crimes have a person victim, 3 per cent a police officer victim, 17 per cent a business/organisation victim and 10 per cent are state-based.

**Figure 7.1 Crimes recorded by type of victim, 2015/16**



There were 73,541 persons identified as victims of crime in 2015/16, 3,058 police officers and 18,083 businesses/organisations. There were 10,341 state-based offences recorded. The table below shows the main crime classifications split by victim type for 2015/16.

**Table 7.1 Percentage of each victim type recorded by type of crime (excluding fraud<sup>1</sup>), 2015/16**

	Percentages			
	Person (%)	Police Officer (%)	Business / Organisation (%)	State (%)
<b>VICTIM-BASED CRIME</b>				
Violence against the person	91	8	0	0
Sexual offences	99	1	0	0
Robbery	75	0	25	0
Theft offences - burglary	76	0	24	0
Theft offences	60	0	40	0
Criminal damage	73	0	27	0
<b>OTHER CRIMES AGAINST SOCIETY</b>				
Drug offences	0	0	0	100
Possession of weapons offences	0	0	0	100
Public order offences	0	0	0	100
Miscellaneous crimes against society <sup>2</sup>	21	0	2	77
<b>Total recorded crime – all offences (excluding fraud<sup>1</sup>)</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>10</b>

1. From 1st April 2015 Action Fraud has taken responsibility for the central recording of fraud and cyber crime previously recorded by PSNI; Action Fraud became responsible for all such reports in England & Wales by 1st April 2014. Action Fraud is the UK's National Reporting Centre for fraud and cyber crime reported directly to them from the public and other organisations. As a result, figures are presented on a comparable basis that exclude 'other fraud' (unless clearly noted otherwise).

2. While the majority of miscellaneous crimes against society are state-based, there are a few which can have a person or business victim, mostly offences relating to Classification 59 Threat or possession with intent to commit criminal damage.

Details relating to the age of the victim at the time the offence was committed are also available dating back to 2007/08 for all relevant crime types and for person victims (police officer victims are not included in these figures). A more detailed breakdown of victim age is available in the [victim characteristic pivot tables](#) which accompany this bulletin, through pivot tables which allow manipulation of data by age band, crime type and financial year.

## 7.1 Age profile 2015/16: age of victim

There were 73,541 offences recorded in 2015/16 where there was a person victim. Ten per cent of this total were persons aged under 18 (7,703 offences), 83 per cent were aged 18-64 and 7 per cent were aged 65 or over. Age information was unavailable for less than 1 per cent of all person victims.

**Victim aged under 18:** Seventy per cent of those victims who were under 18 at the time the offence occurred were victims of violence against the person offences, 23 per cent were victims of sexual offences, 6 per cent were victims of theft offences (including burglary) and criminal damage, and less than 1 per cent were robbery victims.

**Crime rates victim aged under 18:** There were 18 crime victims under the age of 18 per 1,000 of the population under 18. The rate per 1,000 of the under 18 population for violence against the person was 12, while the rate for sexual offences was 4.

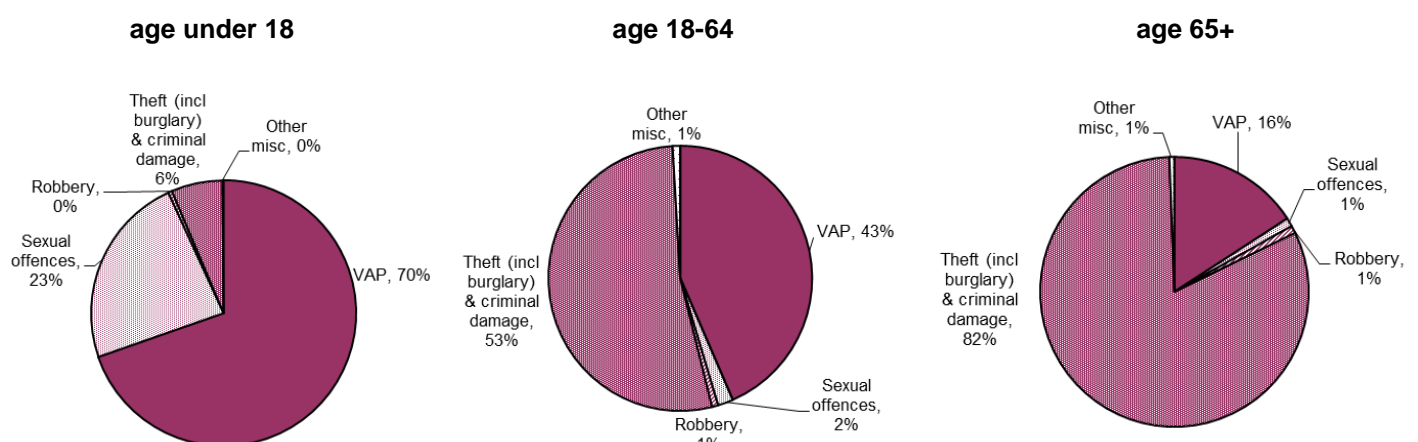
**Victim aged 18-64:** Forty three per cent of victims aged between 18 and 64 were victims of violence against the person offences, 22 per cent were victims of theft offences, 22 per cent were victims of criminal damage and 9 per cent were victims of burglary. Two per cent were victims of a sexual offence.

**Crime rates victim aged 18-64:** There were 54 crime victims aged 18-64 per 1,000 of the population aged 18-64. The rate per 1,000 of the population aged 18-64 for theft (including burglary) and criminal damage was 29 and for violence against the person the rate was 23. The rate was 1 for sexual offences and less than 1 for robbery.

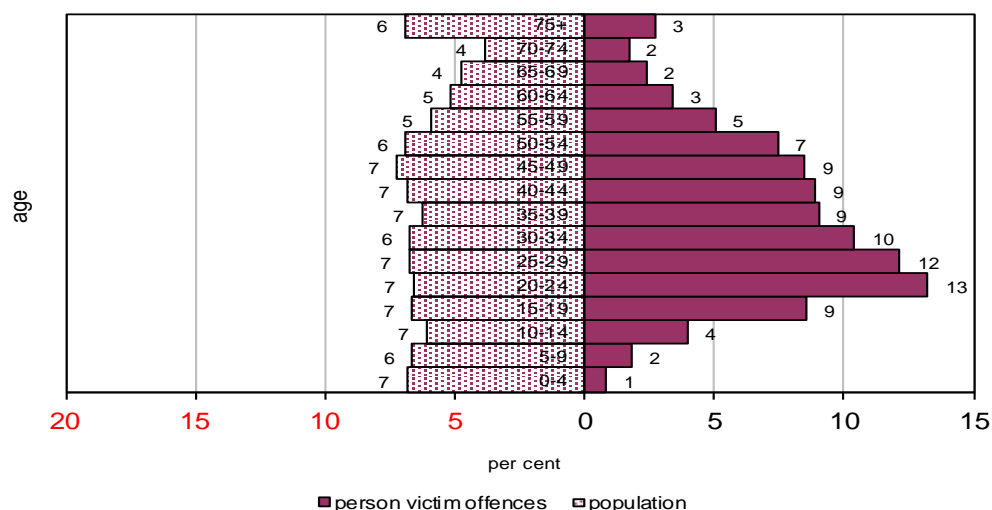
**Victim aged 65+:** Twenty eight per cent of victims aged 65 or over were victims of theft, while 26 per cent were victims of burglary and 27 per cent were victims of criminal damage. Sixteen per cent were victims of violence against the person offences.

**Crime rates victim aged 65+:** There were 17 crime victims aged 65 or over per 1,000 of the population aged 65+. The rate per 1,000 of the 65+ population for theft (including burglary) and criminal damage was 14, while the rate for violence against the person offences was 3.

**Figure 7.2 Percentage of victims by age band in each main crime type, 2015/16**



**Figure 7.3 Age profile of crime victims compared with Northern Ireland population profile, 2015/16**



## 7.2 Age profile 2015/16: type of crime

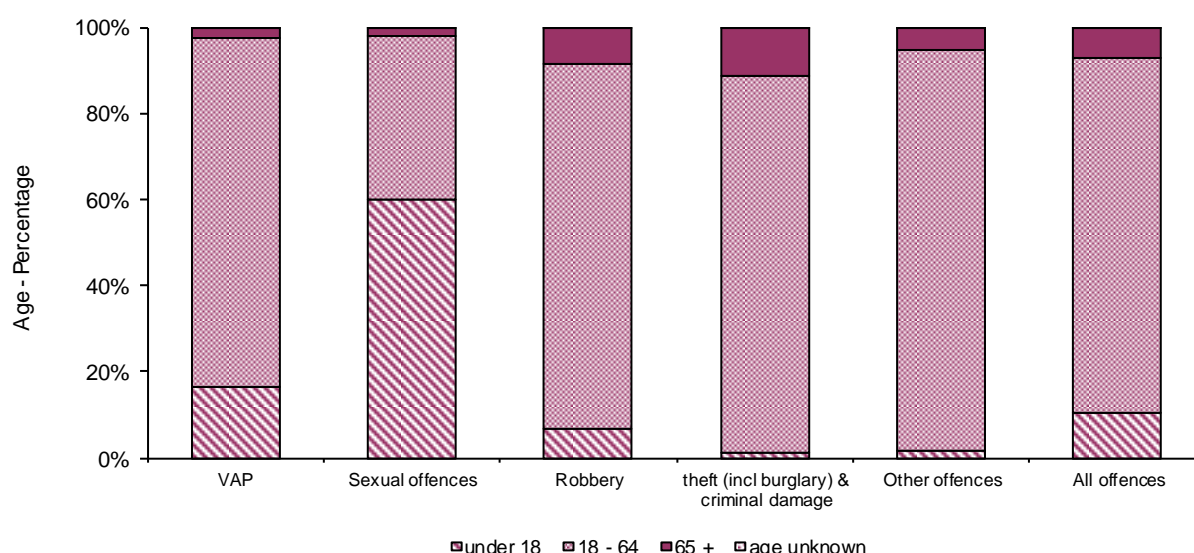
**Violence against the person:** The majority of victims were in the 18-64 age group (81 per cent), with 16 per cent aged under 18 and 2 per cent aged 65+. The age of the victim was unknown in less than 1 per cent of cases. Section 7.3.1 provides further information on these offences where the victim was under 18 by age and gender.

**Sexual offences:** Sixty per cent of victims were under 18 at the time the offence occurred, while 38 per cent were between the ages of 18 and 64. Two per cent were aged 65 or above. The figure of sixty per cent of victims of sexual offences being under 18 at the time the offence was committed stands out when compared with the other main crime classifications. Section 7.3.2 provides some extra context around this figure, looking at age and gender details as well as at the age the victim was at the time they made the report to police.

**Robbery:** Eighty five per cent of victims were aged 18-64, with 7 per cent aged under 18 and 8 per cent aged 65+. The age of the victim was unknown in less than 1 per cent of cases.

**Theft offences (including burglary) and criminal damage:** Eighty seven per cent of victims were aged 18-64, with 11 per cent aged 65 or above and 1 per cent aged under 18. In less than 1 per cent of cases the age of the victim was unknown.

**Figure 7.4 Proportion of crime victims by age band for the main crime types, 2015/16**



## 7.3 Victim under 18

The majority of victims who were under 18 at the time the offence occurred were victims of violence against the person or a sexual offence. This section looks at the trends occurring within these classifications. Tables 7.2 and 7.3 provide violence against the person and sexual offences where the victim is under 18 split by type of offence.

Trends in the classification relating to obscene publications are also presented. These offences are recorded as state-based offences, meaning that victim age is not available. However the legislation for these offences can determine if the offence was committed against a person under the age of eighteen. Figures are available in Table 7.4 where they are split between those offences where the legislation relates to persons under 18 and all other offences within this classification.

### 7.3.1 Violence against the person offences

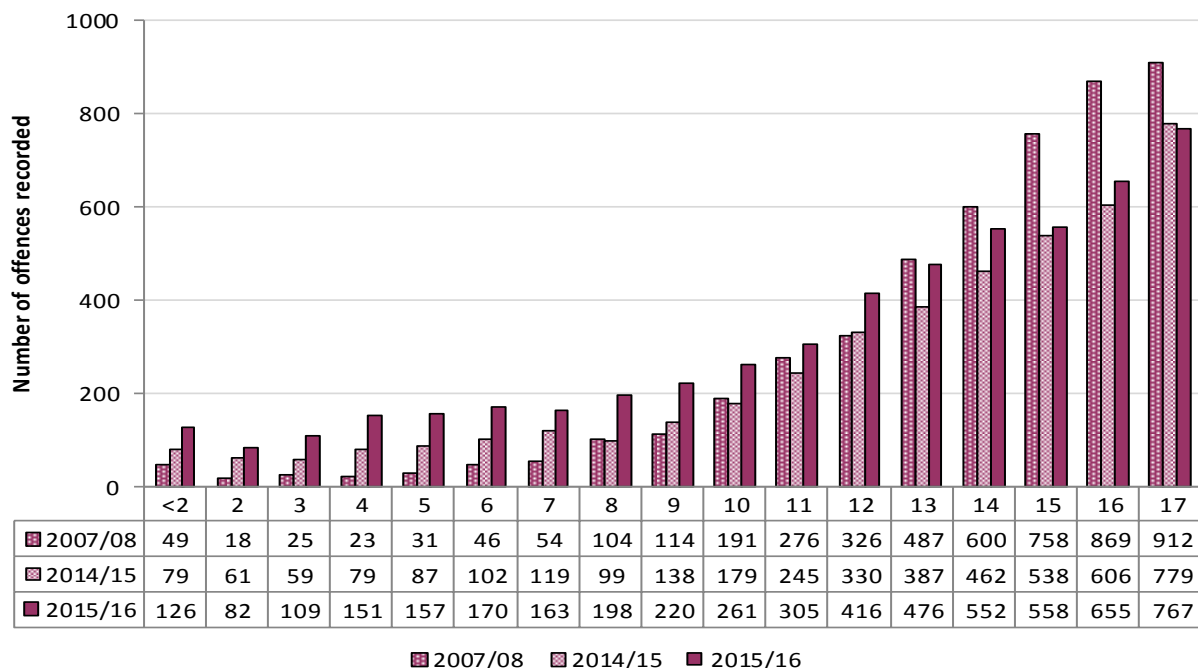
Figure 7.5 shows the differing patterns and levels seen in the number of violence against the person offences recorded in 2007/08, 2014/15 and 2015/16 by age of victim. Figure 7.6 shows these details for each year 2007/08 to 2015/16 by victim gender. A complete set of figures is available in the accompanying [summary tables](#) (Tables 7.5 and 7.6).

**Victim age:** When figures are combined for victims in the 0 to 10 age band at the time the offence was committed, levels from 2007/08 fluctuate before increasing in each year 2011/12 to 2013/14. Between 07/08

and 14/15 the level ranged from 464 in 2007/08 to 839 in 2013/14, a variation of 375. A slight fall in 2014/15 was followed by a marked increase of 553 offences in 2015/16, from 823 to 1,376.

Combined figures for victims aged 10 to 17 showed an overall downward trend to 2012/13. In the last few years there have been increases in levels where the victim was aged 10 to 12 with the latest figures for 2015/16 being the highest seen since 2007/08 for each of these ages. For those victims aged 13 to 16 an increase in levels was seen between 2014/15 and 2015/16, although the level in 2015/16 was not the highest recorded in the data series. Where the victim was aged 17 the level recorded in 2015/16 was slightly lower than that recorded in 2014/15.

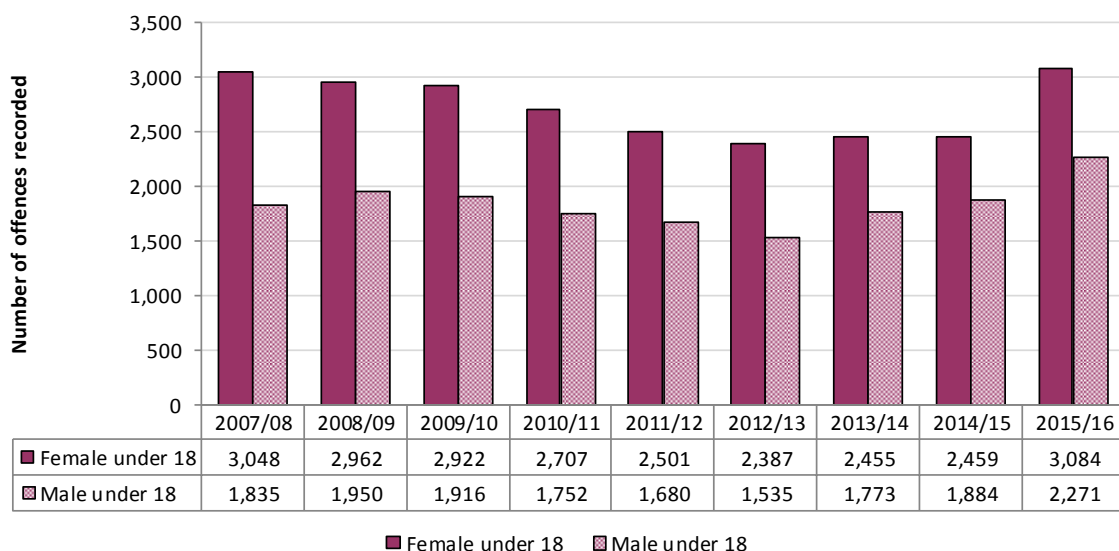
**Figure 7.5 Number of violence against the person offences recorded by victim age; comparison of 2007/08, 2014/15 and 2015/16**



**Victim Gender:** Following a downwards trend since 2007/08, the level of violence against the person offences where the victim was a female under 18 was at its lowest in 2012/13 before increasing each year to reach the highest recorded level in 2015/16. The level recorded in 2015/16 is 36 higher than that recorded in 2007/08 (the second highest level in the data series) and 697 higher than the lowest level recorded in 2012/13.

Offences where the victim was a male under 18 showed a similar picture to female victims, with a general downward trend to 2012/13 followed by increases each year to 2015/16. The level recorded in 2015/16 is the highest in the data series, 321 higher than 2008/09 (the second highest level in the data series) and 736 higher than the lowest level recorded in 2012/13.

**Figure 7.6 Number of violence against the person offences recorded by victim gender, 2007/08 to 2015/16**





**Table 7.2 Violence against the person offences where the victim was under 18 at the time the offence was committed, by type of offence, 2007/08 to 2015/16**

									Numbers
Offences, victim under 18	2007/08	2008/09 <sup>1</sup>	2009/10 <sup>1</sup>	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16
<b>Homicide</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Violence with injury</b>	<b>2,679</b>	<b>2,629</b>	<b>2,675</b>	<b>2,459</b>	<b>2,194</b>	<b>1,900</b>	<b>1,790</b>	<b>1,789</b>	<b>2,062</b>
5D Assault with intent to cause serious harm	61	95	150	106	79	110	87	103	98
8N Assault with injury	2,604	2,519	2,508	2,335	2,093	1,770	1,676	1,673	1,936
All other violence with injury	14	15	17	18	22	20	27	13	28
<b>Violence without injury</b>	<b>2,197</b>	<b>2,282</b>	<b>2,162</b>	<b>1,999</b>	<b>1,989</b>	<b>2,024</b>	<b>2,441</b>	<b>2,558</b>	<b>3,304</b>
105A Assault without injury	1,823	1,822	1,637	1,525	1,541	1,637	1,901	1,979	2,621
11A Cruelty to Children/Young Persons <sup>1</sup>	28	84	88	109	116	132	184	174	341
13 Child abduction <sup>1</sup>	54	37	36	24	38	43	40	43	29
3B Threats to kill	150	166	209	175	145	80	133	145	116
8L Harassment	122	144	172	153	142	120	172	208	189
All other violence without injury	20	29	20	13	7	12	11	9	8
<b>TOTAL VIOLENCE AGAINST THE PERSON OFFENCES</b>	<b>4,883</b>	<b>4,914</b>	<b>4,839</b>	<b>4,460</b>	<b>4,183</b>	<b>3,924</b>	<b>4,233</b>	<b>4,349</b>	<b>5,366</b>

1. In 2008/09 there was one offence of cruelty to child/young person where the victim age was missing or unknown; in 2009/10 there was one offence of child abduction where the victim age was missing or unknown. Therefore the totals provided in this table will differ by 1 from the totals provided in Tables 7.2 and 7.3 in this table for violence against the person. They will also differ by 1 from the totals provided in the age and gender pivot tables in the victim characteristics accompanying spreadsheet.

### 7.3.2 Violence against the person where victim was 18 or over at time of reporting

Crimes are recorded based on the date the crime was reported to the police, rather than the date on which the offence occurred. For the majority of crimes the reported date and the occurrence date are the same, in other words the age of the victim at the time the offence was committed is that same as the time of report to police. However there are occasions where there can be a large gap between the date the offence occurred and the date the offence was then reported to the police.

Within the violence against the person classification the victim was under 18 at both time of offence and date of report to police in at least 97 per cent of offences recorded. Those offences where the victim was under 18 at time of offence and over the age of 18 at time of report to police were mainly found within classification 11A Cruelty to Children/Young Persons.

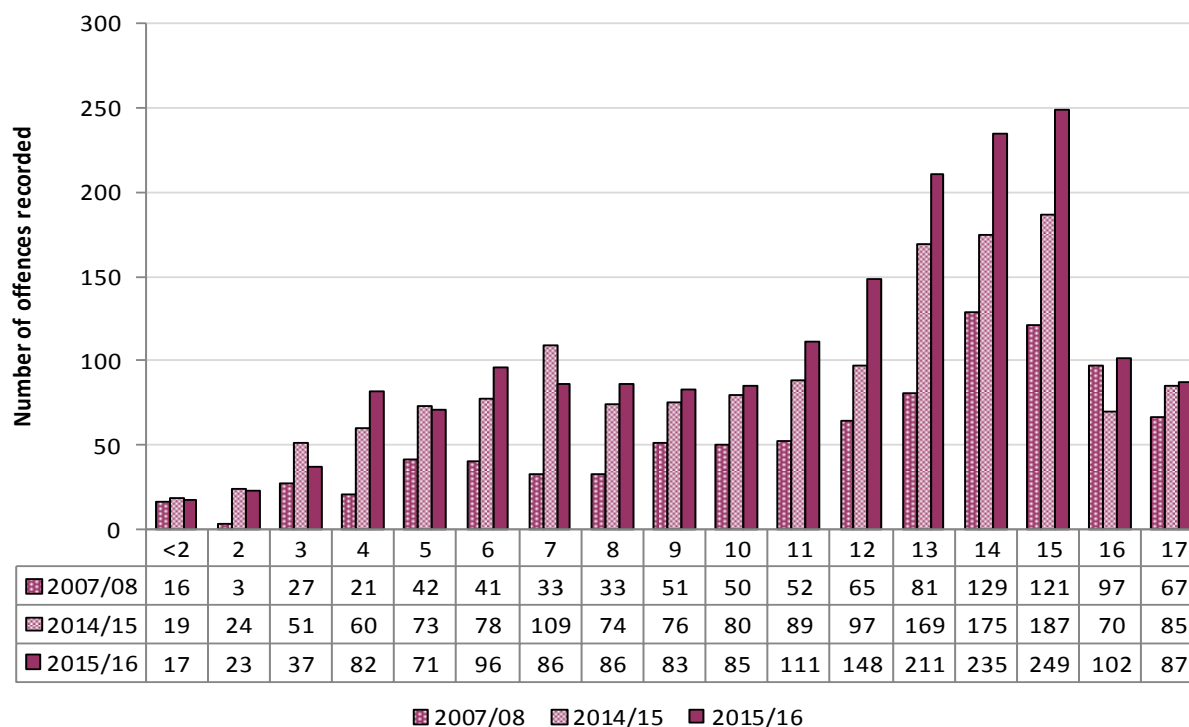
### 7.3.3 Sexual offences

Figure 7.7 shows the differing patterns and levels seen in the number of sexual offences recorded in 2007/08, 2014/15 and 2015/16 by age of victim. Figure 7.8 shows these details for each year 2007/08 to 2015/16 by victim gender. A complete set of figures is available in the accompanying [summary tables](#) (Tables 7.5 and 7.6).

**Victim age:** The number of victims who were under 16 at the time the offence was committed more than doubled between 2007/08 (765 offences recorded) and 2015/16 (1,620 offences recorded). The largest number of offences recorded is in the 12 to 15 age group, which has experienced large increases between 2007/08 and 2015/16 and also when comparing 2015/16 with 2014/15. Offences relating to sexual activity within the 12 to 15 age group are nearly three times higher in 2015/16 when compared with 2011/12, with the largest increases seen in the last two years. Some of this increase may be influenced by 'sexting', which is when someone sends or receives a sexually explicit text, image or video on their mobile phone, computer or tablet and which can include 'sexual chat' and requests for pictures or images of a sexual nature.



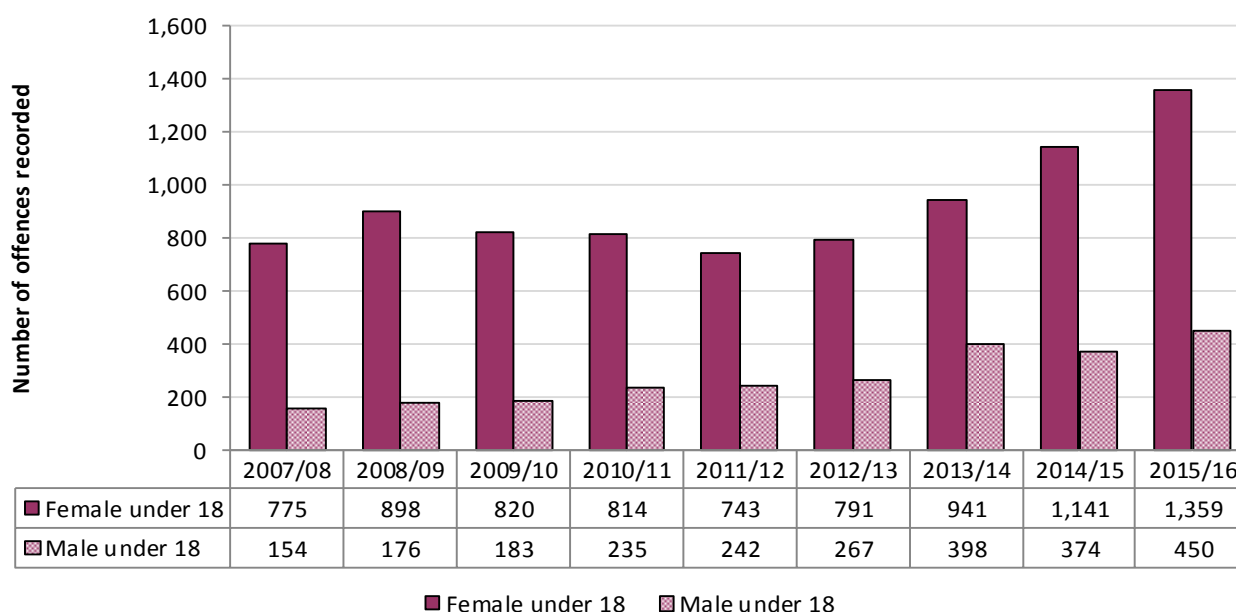
**Figure 7.7 Number of sexual offences recorded by victim age; comparison of 2007/08, 2014/15 and 2015/16**



**Victim gender:** The level of sexual offences where the victim was a female under 18 fluctuated between 2007/08 and 2012/13 before increasing each year to 2015/16, the highest figure recorded. The largest increase has been seen in sexual activity, with the number of offences in 2015/16 more than three times the number recorded in 2011/12 (rising from 142 offences in 2011/12 to 460 offences in 2015/16). Increases in relation to offences of rape and sexual assault are less marked.

Sexual offences where the victim was a male under 18 have generally increased each year between 2007/08 and 2015/16. The number of rape offences was at its highest in 2013/14, while both sexual assault and sexual activity offences reached their highest levels in 2015/16.

**Figure 7.8 Number of sexual offences recorded by victim gender, 2007/08 to 2015/16**



**Table 7.3 Sexual offences where the victim was under 18 at the time the offence was committed, by type of offence, 2007/08 to 2015/16**

Offences, victim under 18	Numbers								
	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16
19A-19H Rape	181	207	230	266	267	236	295	300	334
16 Buggery <sup>1,2,3</sup>	1	2	4	..	..	..	..	..	..
17 Indecent assault on a male <sup>1,2,3</sup>	99	83	50	..	..	..	..	..	..
17A Sexual assault on a male aged 13 and over <sup>1</sup>	..	4	9	33	31	26	41	43	65
17B Sexual assault on a male child under 13 <sup>1</sup>	..	14	36	104	93	124	152	139	169
18 Gross indecency between males <sup>1,2,3</sup>	10	15	5	..	..	..	..	..	..
20 Indecent assault on a female <sup>1,2,3</sup>	374	335	163	..	..	..	..	..	..
20A Sexual assault on a female aged 13 and over <sup>1</sup>	..	28	111	159	130	154	176	171	205
20B Sexual assault on a female child under 13 <sup>1</sup>	..	23	51	192	181	202	263	317	344
21 Unlawful sexual intercourse with a girl under 14 <sup>1,2,3</sup>	15	19	3	..	..	..	..	..	..
22 Unlawful sexual intercourse with a girl under 17 <sup>1,2,3</sup>	103	160	26	..	..	..	..	..	..
21 Sexual activity involving a child under 13 <sup>1</sup>	..	7	49	60	70	92	119	193	219
22A Causing sexual activity without consent <sup>1</sup>	..	1	1	0	0	0	1	1	1
22B Sexual activity involving a child under 16 <sup>1</sup>	..	22	143	166	137	162	214	292	363
23 Incest or familial sexual offences	0	1	1	1	0	6	3	4	6
70 Sexual activity etc. with a person with a mental disorder	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
71 Abuse of children through prostitution and pornography	0	0	1	4	4	2	7	1	2
73 Abuse of position of trust of a sexual nature	2	3	2	2	0	1	2	3	2
74 Gross indecency with a child <sup>1,2,3</sup>	44	91	26	..	..	..	..	..	..
88A Sexual grooming	5	3	6	6	9	10	8	4	46
88C Other miscellaneous sexual offences	2	0	1	1	5	2	1	0	1
88E Exposure and voyeurism	93	56	85	56	58	41	58	48	51
<b>TOTAL SEXUAL OFFENCES</b>	<b>929</b>	<b>1,074</b>	<b>1,003</b>	<b>1,050</b>	<b>985</b>	<b>1,058</b>	<b>1,341</b>	<b>1,516</b>	<b>1,809</b>

1. The Sexual Offences (Northern Ireland) Order 2008 was introduced in February 2009 and has altered the definition and coverage of sexual offences.
2. Offences classified as 17 Indecent assault on a male, 20 Indecent assault on a female, 21 Unlawful sexual intercourse with a girl under 14, 22 Unlawful sexual intercourse with a girl under 17, 74 Gross indecency with a child, 16 Buggery and 18 Gross indecency between males relate to legislation that existed prior to that introduced in February 2009. From April 2010 offences are no longer recorded using these classifications (see 13. below).
3. Under the Home Office Counting Rules, offences which were reported to the police between February 2009 and March 2010 but which were committed prior to February 2009 were recorded under the previous legislation wherever possible. However in April 2010 this guidance was changed so that historic allegations committed under previous legislation should be recorded and detected as if committed today.

### 7.3.4 Sexual offences where victim was 18 or over at time of reporting

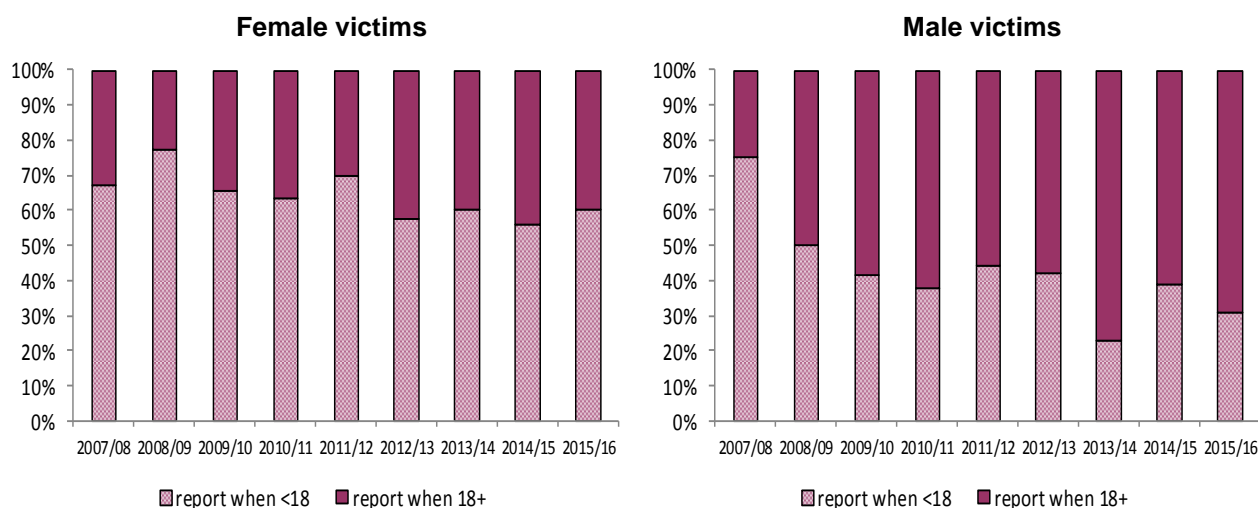
Crimes are recorded based on the date the crime was reported to the police, rather than the date on which the offence occurred. For the majority of crimes the reported date and the occurrence date are the same, in other words the age of the victim at the time the offence was committed is that same as the time of report to police. However sexual offences are the main crime type where there can be a large gap between the date the offence occurred and the date the offence was then reported to the police.

Within the sexual offences classification the victim was under 18 at both time of offence and date of report to police in 61 per cent to 81 per cent of offences recorded.

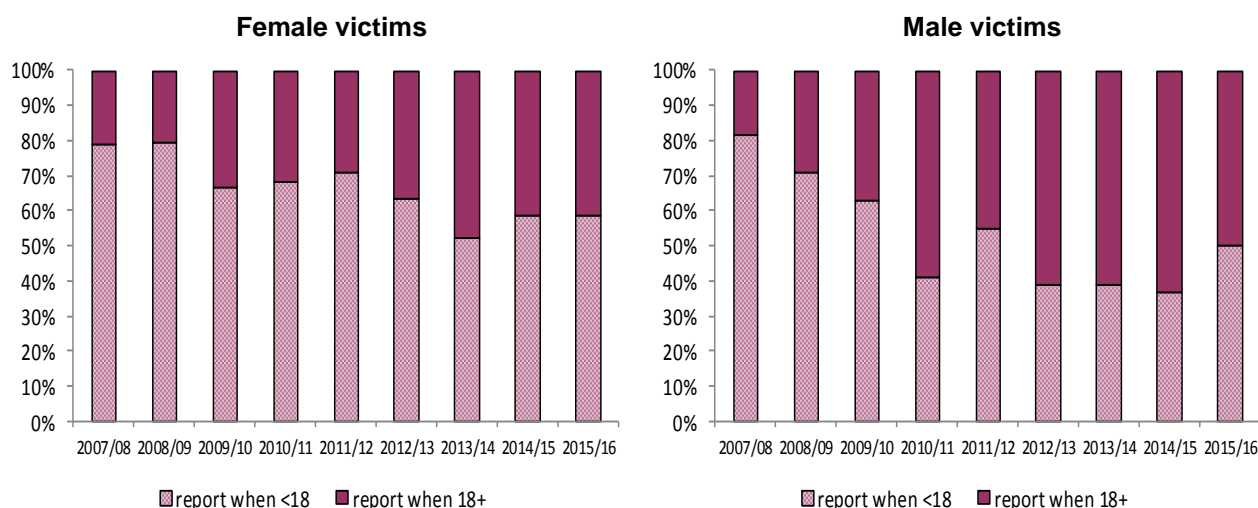
Up to two in five sexual offences occurred when the victim was under 18 but were reported to police when the victim was 18 or over. In respect of rape offences this ranged from one in four rape offences reported in 2008/09 to half of all rape offences reported in 2013/14. For indecent/sexual assault on a male the range was between one in five reports in 2007/08 and nearly two thirds of reports in 2014/15 (63 per cent). The proportions were lower for indecent/sexual assault on a female ranging from one in five reports in 2008/09 to nearly half of all reports in 2013/14 (48 per cent). When looking at reports of sexual activity, up to 13 per cent of those occurring when the victim was under 18 were reported to police when the victim was 18 or over.

Figures 7.9 and 7.10 present the reporting patterns for offences of rape and sexual assault and highlight the differing patterns of reporting by male and female victims.

**Figure 7.9 Rape offences victim under 18, percentage reporting to police when aged under 18 or when aged 18 and over, 2007/08 to 2015/16**



**Figure 7.10 Sexual assault offences victim under 18, percentage reporting to police when aged under 18 or when aged 18 and over, 2007/08 to 2015/16**



### 7.3.5 Obscene Publications and Protected Sexual Material

These offences are recorded as state-based offences, meaning that victim age is not available. However the legislation for these offences can determine if the offence was committed against a person under the age of eighteen. Table 7.4 below provides figures split between those offences where the legislation specifically relates to persons under 18 and all other offences within this classification.

**Table 7.4 Obscene Publications and Protected Sexual Material offences, 2007/08 to 2015/16**

	Numbers								
Obscene publications / protected sexual material offences	2007/08	2008/09 <sup>1</sup>	2009/10 <sup>1</sup>	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16
Offences relating to persons under 18 <sup>1</sup>	60	51	62	57	93	116	141	231	394
All other offences <sup>2</sup>	0	0	0	2	2	8	2	0	0
<b>Total offences</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>124</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>231</b>	<b>394</b>

- Includes offences relating to taking, permitting to be taken, making, copying, distributing, possessing or publishing advertising relating to indecent photograph or pseudo photograph of a child, where child means a person under the age of eighteen.
- Includes offences such as importing indecent or obscene articles, possession for supply of unclassified video work, possession of an extreme pornographic image.

## 8 Outcomes

This section of the bulletin looks at the levels and trends in outcomes and outcome rates in Northern Ireland. There have been a number of changes to the rules governing what can be counted as an outcome since 1998/99. Section 2.4 of the [User Guide to Police Recorded Crime Statistics in Northern Ireland](#) describes in detail what outcomes are, the recording practice in relation to outcomes and changes to this practice that have affected the recording of outcomes and outcome rates.

Prior to April 2013 these figures were mainly presented in the form of sanction detections and sanction detection rates. These included the outcome methods of charge/summons, cautions (adult and juvenile), penalty notices for disorder and offences taken into consideration. The sanction detections and sanction detection rates did not include discretionary disposals or indictable only offences where no action was taken against the offender.

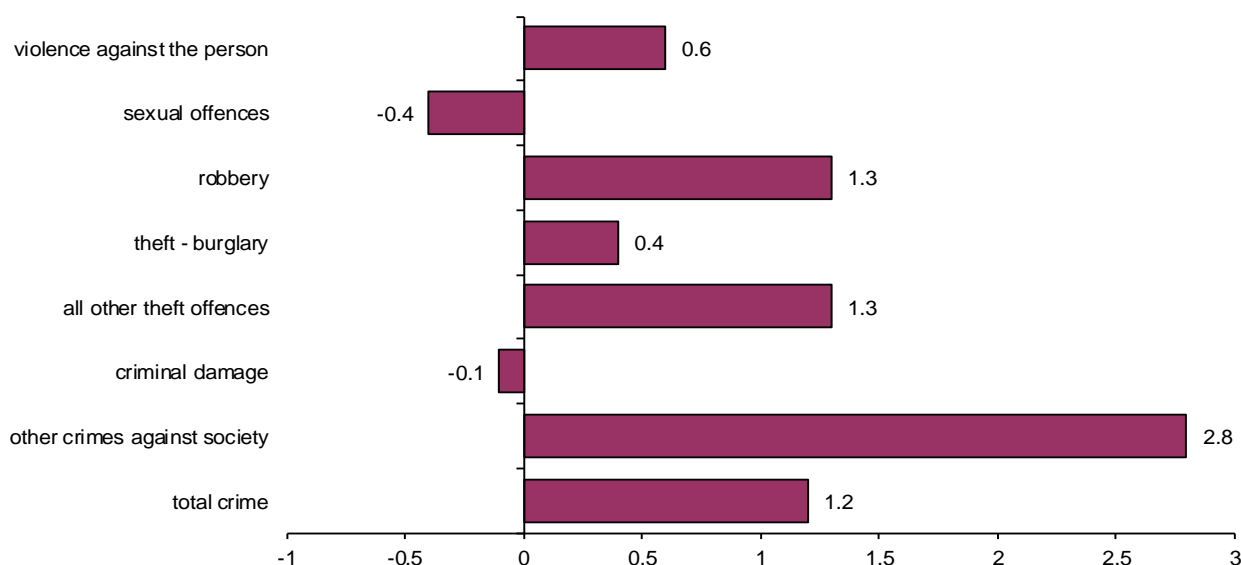
For this reason, most outcome figures in this bulletin are shown dating back to 2007/08 in order to provide a data series that is as comparable as possible, bearing in mind that discretionary disposals were first introduced as an outcome method during 2011/12, with penalty notices for disorder introduced in June 2012.

Outcome rates refer to the number of outcomes recorded in a given year expressed as a percentage of the total number of crimes recorded in the same period. This is not a clear-cut measure of police investigative performance and needs to be interpreted with care. For example, some of the offences with the highest outcome rates are the offences most influenced, in terms of their recorded numbers, by proactive policing to apprehend offenders (e.g. drug offences and many of the offences in the 'other offences' category).

### 8.1 Comparison of outcome rates, 2014/15 and 2015/16

Excluding fraud, there were 105,023 offences recorded in 2015/16 and 30,133 offences detected giving an outcome rate of 28.7%. In 2014/15 there were 28,412 offences detected, with an outcome rate of 27.5%. The number of offences recorded increased by 1,846 and the number of outcomes rose by 1,721 between 2014/15 and 2015/16; this resulted in an increase in the outcome rate of 1.2 percentage points.

**Figure 8.1 Percentage point change in the main recorded crime type outcome rates (excluding fraud), 2015/16 compared with 2014/15**



**Outcome rates by offence group:** Between 2014/15 and 2015/16 outcome rate increases were seen in other crimes against society (2.8 percentage points), followed by robbery and all other theft offences (1.3 percentage points each), violence against the person (0.6 percentage points) and theft - burglary (0.4 percentage points). Falls in outcome rates were experienced in sexual offences (-0.4 percentage points) and criminal damage (-0.1 percentage points).

**Outcomes by method of outcome:** The outcome rates in respect of charge/summons and adult caution showed no change between 2014/15 and 2015/16, remaining at 20.9% and 1.9% respectively. Over the same time period the juvenile caution rate rose slightly from 0.7% to 0.9%, the rate for discretionary disposals rose from 3.1% to 3.9% and penalty notices for disorder showed a slight increase from 0.9% to 1.0%.

**Table 8.1 Crime outcomes by crime type (excluding fraud<sup>1</sup>) and method of disposal, 2015/16**

	Numbers and percentages							
	Total recorded crime	Charge/ summons	Cautions	Discretionary disposals	Penalty Notice for Disorder	TIC	No prosecution directed	Offender died before proceedings
Outcomes (number)								
VICTIM-BASED CRIME								
Violence against the person	35,734	9,000	859	1,124	0	1	0	2
Sexual offences	3,037	427	15	6	0	0	2	3
Robbery	732	149	0	0	0	0	0	0
Theft - burglary	8,773	895	24	15	0	6	0	0
Theft - vehicle offences	4,925	813	33	25	0	9	0	0
All other theft offences	20,459	2,947	439	1,109	945	1	0	0
Criminal damage	20,516	2,298	279	699	75	3	0	0
OTHER CRIMES AGAINST SOCIETY								
Drug offences	5,577	2,747	1,159	1,050	0	0	0	0
Possession of weapons offences	923	453	75	58	0	0	0	0
Public order offences	1,470	784	25	2	0	0	0	0
Miscellaneous crimes against society	2,877	1,478	55	44	0	0	0	0
Total recorded crime – all offences (excluding fraud <sup>1</sup> )	105,023	21,991	2,963	4,132	1,020	20	2	5

	All methods of outcome	Charge/ summons	Cautions	Discretionary disposals	Penalty Notice for Disorder	TIC	No prosecution directed	Offender died before proceedings
Outcomes (rate, %)								
VICTIM-BASED CRIME								
Violence against the person	30.7	25.2	2.4	3.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Sexual offences	14.9	14.1	0.5	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1
Robbery	20.4	20.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Theft - burglary	10.7	10.2	0.3	0.2	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0
Theft - vehicle offences	17.9	16.5	0.7	0.5	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0
All other theft offences	26.6	14.4	2.1	5.4	4.6	0.0	0.0	0.0
Criminal damage	16.3	11.2	1.4	3.4	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0
OTHER CRIMES AGAINST SOCIETY								
Drug offences	88.9	49.3	20.8	18.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Possession of weapons offences	63.5	49.1	8.1	6.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Public order offences	55.2	53.3	1.7	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Miscellaneous crimes against society	54.8	51.4	1.9	1.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total recorded crime – all offences (excluding fraud <sup>1</sup> )	28.7	20.9	2.8	3.9	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

1. From 1st April 2015 Action Fraud has taken responsibility for the central recording of fraud and cyber crime previously recorded by PSNI; Action Fraud became responsible for all such reports in England & Wales by 1st April 2014. Action Fraud is the UK's National Reporting Centre for fraud and cyber crime reported directly to them from the public and other organisations. As a result, figures are presented on a comparable basis that excludes 'other fraud' (unless clearly noted otherwise).

## 8.2 Trends in outcome rates over time (excluding fraud)

Figure 8.2 shows the trend in the overall outcome rate since 1998/99. Northern Ireland experienced a drop in the overall outcome rate of 6.8 percentage points between 2000/01 and 2001/02, most likely influenced by the introduction of the ICIS system within PSNI. This system improved the capture of low level crimes such as criminal damage which tend to be harder to detect.

In April 2006, a higher evidential standard was adopted within the PSNI following the establishment of the Public Prosecution Service in Northern Ireland. This resulted in a fall in the overall outcome rate, from 30.4% in 2005/06 to 23.5% in 2006/07.

From April 2007 some of the methods allowed for claiming outcomes that did not result in a sanction against the offender were discontinued altogether, and the overall outcome rate within Northern Ireland fell further, from 23.5% in 2006/07 to 20.4% in 2007/08.

The outcome rate then rose each year from 2008/09 to 2012/13 when it reached 29.4%, before falling by 2.2 percentage points to 27.1% in 2013/14. The outcome rate has increased in each year since to reach 28.7% in 2015/16. However it should be remembered that discretionary disposals were included as an outcome method from 2011/12 and penalty notices for disorder were introduced in June 2012, both of which will have had an impact on the increase in outcome rate in 2011/12 and 2012/13.

**Figure 8.2 Outcome rates (excluding fraud), 1998/99 to 2015/16**

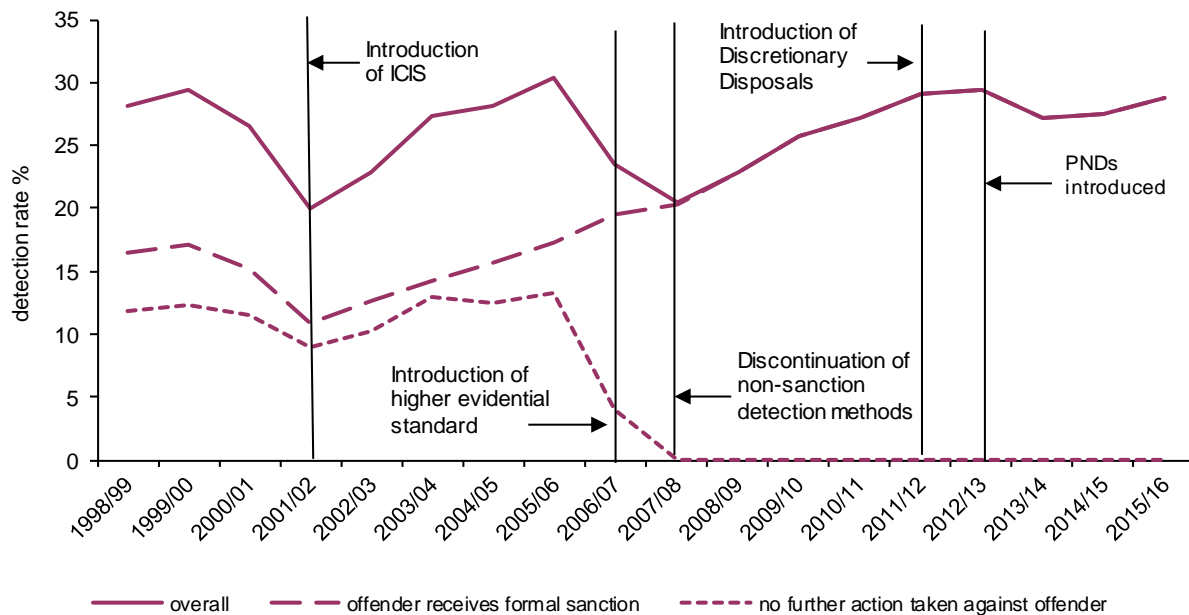
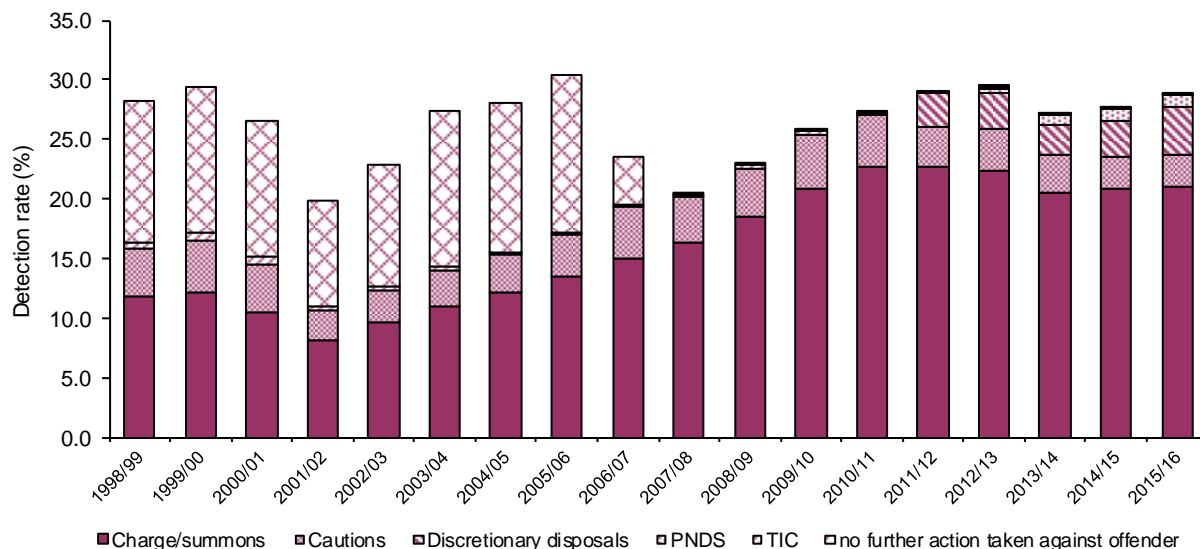


Figure 8.3 illustrates the move away from the use of those outcomes not resulting in a sanction against the offender, following the introduction of the higher evidential standard in 2006/07 and the limited use of outcome methods where no action was taken against the offender from 2007/08. The increase in the use of charge / summons as an outcome method can also clearly be seen.

**Figure 8.3 Outcome rates (excluding fraud) by method of disposal, 1998/99 to 2015/16**



The charge/summons outcome rate was at its lowest level in 2001/02 (8.1%) before increasing year on year since to a rate of 22.7% in 2010/11 and remaining at this level in 2011/12. The charge/summons outcome rate then fell to 20.5% in 2013/14 before increasing slightly to 20.9% in both 2014/15 and 2015/16. The outcome rate for adult cautions was also at its lowest level in 2001/02 (1.5%) and then generally increased to a rate of 2.9% in 2010/11; the rate for 2015/16 is 1.9%. The outcome rate for juvenile cautions has fluctuated between 0.7% (recorded in 2014/15) and 2.1% (recorded in 2006/07). Adult and juvenile cautions accounted for 20 per cent of all outcomes in 2007/08, this proportion has since decreased and currently stands at 10 per cent. The TIC outcome rate reached 0.7% in 2000/01 but has been lower than this in all other years. Discretionary disposals, which were introduced in 2011/12, had an outcome rate of 3.9% in 2015/16 showing an increase of



0.9 percentage points on the rate recorded in 2014/15. Penalty notices for disorder, which were introduced in June 2012, had an outcome rate of 0.4% in 2012/13 rising to 1.0% in 2015/16.

**Trends in outcome rates by offence group (excluding fraud):** The outcome rate for violence with injury increased year on year from 28.2% in 2007/08 to reach a peak of 37.0% in 2010/11 before falling each year to 32.1% in 2014/15; the rate achieved in 2015/16 is 32.5%. Violence without injury shows a similar trend, increasing year on year from 27.3% in 2007/08 to 40.7% in 2011/12 before falling each year to 28.7% in 2014/15; the outcome rate for 2015/16 increased to 29.5%.

The outcome rate for rape offences was at its highest point in 2008/09 (21.0%) before falling to 12.8% the following year. The outcome rate then increased to 18.1% in 2011/12 before generally falling to 10.3% in 2015/15. The outcome rate currently stands at 11.8%; while this is an increase of 1.5 percentage points when compared with 2014/15 it is the second lowest rate since 2007/08. The outcome rate for other sexual offences increased year on year from 17.9% in 2007/08 to 30.2% in 2011/12 before falling year on year to 16.0% in 2015/16.

The robbery outcome rate was 17.9% in 2007/08. It increased year on year from 16.4% in 2008/09 to 21.3% in 2012/13 before falling to 16.5% in 2013/14. The outcome rate has since increased each year to reach 20.4% in 2015/16.

The outcome rate for overall burglary was at its highest in 2011/12 (12.8%) before falling year on year to 10.4% in 2014/15, the same outcome rate as was recorded in 2007/08 and the lowest level recorded in the data series. The outcome rate increased slightly in 2015/16 to 10.7%. Since 2007/08 the domestic burglary outcome rate was at its highest in 2011/12 (12.1%) while the lowest outcome rate of 8.8% was experienced in 2014/15. The domestic burglary outcome rate in 2015/16 is 9.6%, the second lowest rate in the data series. The outcome rate for non-domestic burglary was 10.9% in 2007/08 and reached 13.9% in 2011/12; the outcome rate in 2015/16 is 13.0%.

The outcome rate for theft offences (including burglary) showed a general increase from a level of 15.1% in 2007/08 (the lowest outcome rate recorded) to reach 21.3% in 2015/16 (the highest outcome rate recorded). Criminal damage offences had an outcome rate of 9.5% in 2007/08 (the lowest rate recorded) and showed a general increase to reach 16.4% in 2014/15. The outcome rate for 2015/16 is 16.3%, 0.1 percentage points lower than 2014/15 and the second highest outcome rate recorded since 2007/08.

The vehicle offences outcome rate rose each year from a low of 11.9% in 2007/08 to 20.6% in 2012/13, the highest rate recorded. The rate has fallen since then, standing at 17.9% in 2015/16.

The outcome rate for drug offences was at its lowest in 2007/08 (75.9%) and showed a general increase to reach 86.8% in 2012/13. After a fall to 80.7% in 2013/14 the rate has since increased to 88.9% in 2015/16 which is the highest rate achieved since 2007/08. At 82.6%, the 2015/16 outcome rate for drug trafficking offences is the second highest recorded since the start of the data series (the rate in 2014/15 was 82.7%). For possession of drugs offences the outcome rate in 2015/16 is 90.0%, the highest recorded and an increase of 5.8 percentage points when compared with 2014/15.

Outcome rates for possession of weapons offences reached levels of 72% to 73% between 2010/11 and 2012/13. In all other years the outcome rate has ranged between 62.7% and 69.5%; an outcome rate of 63.5% was recorded in 2015/16.

Since 2007/08 public order offences have seen outcome rates fluctuate between 55.0% and 57.5% each year with the exception of 2010/11 and 2012/13 when the outcome rates were 63.2% and 64.5% respectively. The outcome rate in 2015/16 is 55.2%.

The outcome rate for miscellaneous crimes against society increased each year from 57.8% in 2007/08 to 66.5% in 2010/11. The outcome rates then fell each year to 54.3% in 2014/15 before increasing slightly in 2015/16 to 54.8%, the second lowest rate in the data series.

**Table 8.2 Recorded crime outcome rates by offence (excluding fraud<sup>16</sup>), 2007/08 to 2015/16<sup>1,2</sup>**

Offence	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12 <sup>18</sup>	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15 <sup>18</sup>	2015/16	Percentages % point change between 2014/15 and 2015/16 <sup>3</sup>
VICTIM-BASED OFFENCES										
TOTAL VIOLENCE AGAINST THE PERSON OFFENCES	27.9	31.3	35.4	38.6	38.6	35.9	31.0	30.2	30.7	0.6
Homicide	73.3	80.8	86.4	85.7	83.3	95.0	85.7	56.0	76.2	20.2
1 Murder	64.0	83.3	100.0	100.0	106.3	82.4	88.2	58.8	71.4	12.6
4.1 Manslaughter	120.0	50.0	25.0	50.0	16.7	166.7	66.7	0.0	0.0	0.0
4.10 Corporate manslaughter	..	-	-	-	100.0	-	100.0	100.0	-	-
4.2 Infanticide	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Violence with injury <sup>17</sup>	28.2	30.8	34.2	37.0	36.6	35.6	32.9	32.1	32.5	0.3
2 Attempted murder <sup>17</sup>	50.7	49.2	48.2	51.8	50.0	45.2	42.1	46.2	62.6	16.5
4.3 Intentional destruction of a viable unborn child	-	-	-	-	-	-	100.0	-	-	-
4.7 Causing or allowing death of a child or vulnerable person	0.0	0.0	-	0.0	-	-	-	-	-	-
4.4 Causing death or serious injury by dangerous driving <sup>4</sup>	80.8	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	0.0
4.6 Causing death or serious injury by careless driving when under the influence of drink or drugs <sup>4</sup>	-	100.0	100.0	-	100.0	-	100.0	100.0	100.0	0.0
4.8 Causing death or serious injury by careless or inconsiderate driving <sup>4</sup>	..	100.0	89.2	101.7	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	0.0
4.9 Causing death or serious injury by driving: unlicensed drivers etc <sup>4</sup>	..	-	-	-	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	0.0
37.1 Causing death by aggravated vehicle taking	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5D Assault with intent to cause serious harm	43.0	39.7	32.0	43.3	40.9	33.7	30.9	33.6	32.5	-1.1
5E Endangering life <sup>17</sup>	23.5	28.0	30.3	27.0	60.0	50.0	48.1	30.3	18.0	-12.3
of which:										
Explosives	0.0	16.7	0.0	5.3	57.1	63.6	41.7	54.5	33.3	-21.2
Firearms / Ammunition	40.0	42.9	30.0	41.7	41.2	22.2	50.0	45.5	55.6	10.1
8N Assault with injury <sup>17</sup>	27.3	29.9	33.8	35.9	35.7	35.1	32.3	31.3	31.4	0.1
Grievous bodily harm and Wounding <sup>17</sup>	21.0	25.2	28.3	33.1	28.9	27.0	26.4	27.2	31.1	3.9
AOABH <sup>17</sup>	23.7	25.7	30.6	32.3	32.9	32.2	29.3	27.7	28.1	0.4
Assault on police with injury	81.7	98.8	87.2	91.5	92.7	76.4	83.5	94.9	86.9	-8.0
Poisoning to aggrieve	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	33.3	7.7	0.0	0.0	0.0
Violence without injury <sup>17</sup>	27.3	31.8	36.8	40.2	40.7	36.2	29.4	28.7	29.5	0.8
3A Conspiracy to murder	0.0	0.0	-	100.0	-	0.0	100.0	-	-	-
3B Threats to kill <sup>17</sup>	32.4	36.5	36.5	39.8	42.6	33.0	31.8	34.6	36.9	2.3
8L Harassment	9.4	9.5	12.7	14.9	13.2	14.3	10.1	13.1	17.3	4.2
Harassment	11.6	11.4	15.1	17.0	15.7	17.0	11.5	14.8	20.9	6.0
Intimidation	3.5	2.3	3.0	5.7	2.5	2.0	2.0	3.5	1.5	-2.0
11A Cruelty to children/young persons	35.7	20.2	23.9	26.6	21.6	35.6	28.8	17.8	10.6	-7.3
13 Child abduction	11.1	18.9	16.7	29.2	28.9	27.9	27.5	18.6	17.2	-1.4
14 Procuring illegal abortion	-	-	-	16.7	0.0	-	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
36 Kidnapping	14.5	25.3	30.9	23.5	39.2	19.6	25.5	22.2	39.4	17.2
104 Assault without injury on a constable	78.6	90.3	92.6	92.1	95.7	93.6	92.6	91.1	91.5	0.3
Assault on police without injury	78.6	90.3	92.6	92.1	95.7	93.6	92.6	91.1	91.5	0.3
Obstructing/Resisting police <sup>5</sup>	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
105A Assault without injury <sup>17</sup>	18.4	20.8	26.1	28.8	29.6	26.0	21.7	21.4	21.2	-0.2
106 Modern Slavery <sup>17</sup>	33.3	-	0.0	100.0	66.7	-	0.0	48.1	8.6	-39.6

**Table 8.2 (cont) Recorded crime outcome rates by offence (excluding fraud<sup>16</sup>), 2007/08 to 2015/16<sup>1,2</sup>**

Offence										Percentages
	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12 <sup>18</sup>	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15 <sup>18</sup>	2015/16	% point change between 2014/15 and 2015/16 <sup>3</sup>
<b>VICTIM-BASED OFFENCES</b>										
<b>TOTAL SEXUAL OFFENCES<sup>6,9,17</sup></b>	<b>17.5</b>	<b>21.4</b>	<b>21.6</b>	<b>21.7</b>	<b>26.5</b>	<b>21.2</b>	<b>20.8</b>	<b>15.3</b>	<b>14.9</b>	<b>-0.4</b>
<b>Rape<sup>17</sup></b>	<b>16.1</b>	<b>21.0</b>	<b>12.8</b>	<b>14.4</b>	<b>18.1</b>	<b>15.2</b>	<b>16.5</b>	<b>10.3</b>	<b>11.8</b>	<b>1.5</b>
19A-19H Rape <sup>17</sup>	16.1	21.0	12.8	14.4	18.1	15.2	16.5	10.3	11.8	1.5
<i>Rape<sup>17</sup></i>	15.7	20.2	12.6	14.1	18.1	14.1	15.6	10.1	10.6	0.5
<i>Attempted rape</i>	21.2	34.8	20.0	20.0	16.7	31.3	27.3	15.4	31.1	15.7
<b>Other sexual offences<sup>7,9</sup></b>	<b>17.9</b>	<b>21.5</b>	<b>24.7</b>	<b>24.6</b>	<b>30.2</b>	<b>23.5</b>	<b>22.2</b>	<b>17.2</b>	<b>16.0</b>	<b>-1.2</b>
16 Buggery <sup>6,7,8</sup>	0.0	50.0	25.0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
17 Indecent assault on a male <sup>6,7,8</sup>	9.3	14.8	13.6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
<i>Indecent assault on a male 17+<sup>6,7,8</sup></i>	10.5	16.7	33.3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
<i>Indecent assault on a male child &lt;17<sup>6,7,8</sup></i>	8.6	13.8	10.0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
17A Sexual assault on a male aged 13 and over <sup>6</sup>	..	5.9	6.8	14.5	24.5	17.0	12.7	8.7	13.0	4.3
17B Sexual assault on a male child under 13 <sup>6</sup>	..	0.0	25.0	7.7	23.4	5.6	23.7	15.1	15.4	0.3
18 Gross indecency between males <sup>6,7,8</sup>	36.4	12.5	120.0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
20 Indecent assault on a female <sup>6,7,8</sup>	18.3	25.1	34.5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
<i>Indecent assault on a female 17+<sup>6,7,8</sup></i>	18.9	25.7	216.7	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
<i>Indecent assault on a female child &lt;17<sup>6,7,8</sup></i>	17.8	24.7	21.0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
20A Sexual assault on a female aged 13 and over <sup>6</sup>	..	5.5	21.8	25.2	27.2	24.5	22.3	20.1	19.1	-1.0
20B Sexual assault on a female child under 13 <sup>6</sup>	..	0.0	21.6	12.5	29.3	26.2	25.1	16.7	17.1	0.4
21 Unlawful sexual intercourse with a girl under 14 <sup>6,7,8</sup>	6.7	10.5	0.0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
21 Sexual activity involving a child under 13 <sup>6</sup>	..	14.3	6.1	21.0	21.6	18.1	13.4	10.4	7.7	-2.6
22 Unlawful sexual intercourse with a girl under 17 <sup>6,7,8</sup>	..	9.4	15.4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
22B Sexual activity involving a child under 16 <sup>6</sup>	..	0.0	15.2	13.9	15.9	13.0	10.1	7.5	3.6	-4.0
22A Causing sexual activity without consent <sup>6</sup>	..	33.3	33.3	-	-	0.0	0.0	0.0	25.0	25.0
23 Incest or familial sexual offences <sup>6</sup>	-	0.0	0.0	0.0	-	0.0	50.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
25 Abduction of a female <sup>6</sup>	-	-	0.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
70 Sexual activity etc. with a person with a mental disorder <sup>6</sup>	..	-	-	0.0	-	-	0.0	100.0	15.4	-84.6
71 Abuse of children through prostitution and pornography <sup>6</sup>	..	-	0.0	0.0	120.0	0.0	14.3	0.0	0.0	0.0
72 Trafficking for sexual exploitation <sup>6,9</sup>	0.0	66.7	0.0	50.0	-	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
73 Abuse of position of trust of a sexual nature <sup>6,10</sup>	6.7	36.3	50.0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
74 Gross indecency with a child <sup>6,7,8</sup>	20.0	0.0	33.3	37.5	55.6	30.0	12.5	0.0	2.2	2.2
88A Sexual grooming <sup>6,10</sup>	60.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	36.4	0.0	0.0	25.0	60.0	35.0
88C Other miscellaneous sexual offences <sup>6</sup>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0	-	-
88D Unnatural sexual offences <sup>6</sup>	27.0	28.7	32.0	31.9	37.2	38.6	35.4	30.1	35.1	5.0
88E Exposure and voyeurism <sup>6,10</sup>	28.1	28.1	32.0	29.8	36.4	39.3	34.7	29.6	32.4	2.8
<i>Exposure<sup>6</sup></i>	6.3	34.8	31.8	73.3	47.1	32.0	44.4	36.8	60.9	24.0
<i>Voyeurism<sup>6,10</sup></i>	<b>17.5</b>	<b>21.4</b>	<b>21.6</b>	<b>21.7</b>	<b>26.5</b>	<b>21.2</b>	<b>20.8</b>	<b>15.3</b>	<b>14.9</b>	<b>-0.4</b>

**Table 8.2 (cont) Recorded crime outcome rates by offence (excluding fraud<sup>16</sup>), 2007/08 to 2015/16<sup>1,2</sup>**

Offence										Percentages
	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12 <sup>18</sup>	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15 <sup>18</sup>	2015/16	% point change between 2014/15 and 2015/16 <sup>3</sup>
<b>VICTIM-BASED OFFENCES</b>										
<b>TOTAL ROBBERY OFFENCES</b>	<b>17.9</b>	<b>16.4</b>	<b>18.6</b>	<b>19.9</b>	<b>20.7</b>	<b>21.3</b>	<b>16.5</b>	<b>19.1</b>	<b>20.4</b>	<b>1.3</b>
34A Robbery of business property	23.8	23.1	20.3	28.2	27.1	33.7	30.0	23.8	35.2	11.4
<i>Armed robbery business</i>	26.6	24.8	22.3	28.5	27.3	38.9	31.4	24.3	37.2	12.9
<i>Ordinary robbery business</i>	20.4	22.3	17.7	27.8	31.6	27.0	27.9	26.8	33.3	6.5
<i>Hijacking business</i>	11.1	4.3	0.0	25.0	8.0	4.8	16.7	0.0	14.3	14.3
34B Robbery of personal property	14.5	12.7	17.6	15.1	17.4	16.0	11.9	17.2	15.5	-1.8
<i>Armed robbery personal</i>	17.0	14.6	17.3	20.1	17.2	18.6	13.6	18.2	21.7	3.4
<i>Ordinary robbery personal</i>	12.0	11.0	16.6	11.5	14.9	15.9	9.9	14.2	10.8	-3.3
<i>Hijacking personal</i>	24.3	17.6	22.8	21.6	23.7	12.4	16.7	26.5	27.5	0.9
<b>TOTAL THEFT OFFENCES (INCLUDING BURGLARY)</b>	<b>15.1</b>	<b>16.5</b>	<b>18.5</b>	<b>18.4</b>	<b>19.9</b>	<b>20.8</b>	<b>19.6</b>	<b>20.3</b>	<b>21.3</b>	<b>1.0</b>
<b>Total theft - burglary offences</b>	<b>10.4</b>	<b>11.4</b>	<b>10.9</b>	<b>11.1</b>	<b>12.8</b>	<b>12.1</b>	<b>10.5</b>	<b>10.4</b>	<b>10.7</b>	<b>0.4</b>
<b>Total domestic burglary</b>	<b>10.0</b>	<b>9.9</b>	<b>10.0</b>	<b>9.7</b>	<b>12.1</b>	<b>11.4</b>	<b>9.7</b>	<b>8.8</b>	<b>9.6</b>	<b>0.8</b>
28A Burglary in a dwelling	10.4	10.2	10.0	9.9	12.2	11.8	10.2	9.1	9.8	0.7
28B Attempted burglary in a dwelling	5.3	6.2	6.7	6.3	10.2	7.5	4.8	5.0	4.9	-0.1
29 Aggravated burglary in a dwelling	24.3	29.2	32.3	28.1	26.0	22.4	19.5	26.3	32.7	6.5
<b>Total non-domestic burglary</b>	<b>10.9</b>	<b>13.6</b>	<b>12.1</b>	<b>13.2</b>	<b>13.9</b>	<b>13.3</b>	<b>12.1</b>	<b>13.3</b>	<b>13.0</b>	<b>-0.3</b>
30A Burglary in a building other than a dwelling	11.5	14.3	12.9	13.6	14.9	13.9	12.5	14.2	13.8	-0.4
30B Attempted burglary in a building other than a dwelling	4.1	8.0	4.8	9.6	5.4	8.4	8.6	5.6	6.6	1.0
31 Aggravated burglary in a building other than a dwelling	37.5	9.1	75.0	20.0	100.0	11.1	50.0	66.7	66.7	0.0
<b>Total theft - vehicle offences</b>	<b>11.9</b>	<b>12.9</b>	<b>13.3</b>	<b>15.4</b>	<b>17.8</b>	<b>20.6</b>	<b>16.7</b>	<b>18.1</b>	<b>17.9</b>	<b>-0.2</b>
37.2 Aggravated vehicle taking <sup>8</sup>	45.7	58.8	60.9	64.8	74.6	73.5	68.0	60.8	66.5	5.7
45 Theft from a vehicle	4.9	4.1	3.3	4.1	4.2	5.1	4.7	5.8	4.9	-0.9
48 Theft or unauthorised taking of a motor vehicle <sup>16</sup>	18.8	21.9	25.6	27.9	33.9	36.7	32.1	34.2	37.4	3.2
126 Interfering with a motor vehicle <sup>16</sup>	10.8	13.0	9.7	9.6	11.6	20.0	11.5	12.6	9.5	-3.1
<b>Total theft from the person</b>	<b>3.4</b>	<b>6.1</b>	<b>5.4</b>	<b>9.1</b>	<b>4.8</b>	<b>7.0</b>	<b>4.7</b>	<b>8.0</b>	<b>6.5</b>	<b>-1.5</b>
39 Theft from the person	3.4	6.1	5.4	9.1	4.8	7.0	4.7	8.0	6.5	-1.5
<b>Total bicycle theft</b>	<b>2.7</b>	<b>2.9</b>	<b>3.9</b>	<b>3.5</b>	<b>5.4</b>	<b>4.3</b>	<b>4.5</b>	<b>4.0</b>	<b>5.3</b>	<b>1.3</b>
44 Theft or unauthorised taking of a pedal cycle	2.7	2.9	3.9	3.5	5.4	4.3	4.5	4.0	5.3	1.3
<b>Total theft - shoplifting</b>	<b>51.4</b>	<b>51.0</b>	<b>58.4</b>	<b>54.9</b>	<b>56.6</b>	<b>61.0</b>	<b>59.6</b>	<b>60.4</b>	<b>60.8</b>	<b>0.5</b>
46 Shoplifting	51.4	51.0	58.4	54.9	56.6	61.0	59.6	60.4	60.8	0.5
<b>Total all other theft offences</b>	<b>6.9</b>	<b>8.0</b>	<b>8.9</b>	<b>9.6</b>	<b>11.0</b>	<b>11.1</b>	<b>9.7</b>	<b>10.0</b>	<b>10.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>
35 Blackmail	19.2	16.3	12.0	34.1	20.0	19.7	7.1	13.0	3.1	-9.8
40 Theft in a dwelling other than from an automatic machine or meter	11.7	8.5	11.3	14.0	14.6	14.7	11.4	11.2	9.7	-1.5
41 Theft by an employee	47.0	40.4	54.0	72.4	52.7	57.7	74.8	53.7	60.8	7.1
42 Theft of mail	1.9	18.2	27.3	9.5	41.7	12.5	6.7	17.6	9.1	-8.6
43 Dishonest use of electricity	12.5	42.9	76.0	61.3	74.6	74.2	72.8	45.6	79.1	33.4
47 Theft from an automatic machine or meter	20.8	11.6	8.7	29.2	50.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
49 Other theft	5.1	5.7	6.3	6.0	7.9	7.6	6.6	6.7	6.6	-0.1
49A Making off without payment	5.8	11.5	10.0	16.7	22.9	26.5	22.4	19.2	21.1	1.9

**Table 8.2 (cont) Recorded crime outcome rates by offence (excluding fraud<sup>16</sup>), 2007/08 to 2015/16<sup>1,2</sup>**

Offence										Percentages
	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12 <sup>18</sup>	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15 <sup>18</sup>	2015/16	% point change between 2014/15 and 2015/16 <sup>3</sup>
<b>VICTIM-BASED OFFENCES</b>										
<b>TOTAL CRIMINAL DAMAGE OFFENCES</b>	<b>9.5</b>	<b>10.3</b>	<b>12.0</b>	<b>12.5</b>	<b>16.0</b>	<b>16.2</b>	<b>15.6</b>	<b>16.4</b>	<b>16.3</b>	<b>-0.1</b>
56A Arson endangering life	19.5	25.0	14.3	18.3	22.5	26.9	23.1	25.2	28.0	2.8
56B Arson not endangering life	6.0	5.0	5.1	4.9	6.1	4.2	4.7	4.1	4.1	0.0
58A-D Criminal damage (to 06/07 only) <sup>11</sup>	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
58A Criminal damage to a dwelling	8.6	9.1	11.4	11.4	13.8	14.7	14.5	13.8	14.5	0.7
58B Criminal damage to a building other than a dwelling	13.0	13.5	15.0	16.5	20.4	23.6	23.3	24.5	24.8	0.3
58C Criminal damage to a vehicle	8.8	10.1	11.5	11.9	15.0	14.6	13.9	15.6	14.6	-1.0
58D Other criminal damage	12.4	13.4	15.9	17.4	24.8	24.5	21.8	25.3	24.6	-0.6
<b>OTHER CRIMES AGAINST SOCIETY</b>										
<b>TOTAL DRUG OFFENCES</b>	<b>75.9</b>	<b>81.9</b>	<b>81.3</b>	<b>83.0</b>	<b>81.4</b>	<b>86.8</b>	<b>80.7</b>	<b>84.0</b>	<b>88.9</b>	<b>4.9</b>
<b>Trafficking of drugs</b>	<b>81.9</b>	<b>74.3</b>	<b>75.3</b>	<b>75.5</b>	<b>76.5</b>	<b>81.7</b>	<b>71.2</b>	<b>82.7</b>	<b>82.6</b>	<b>0.0</b>
92A Trafficking in controlled drugs	81.9	74.3	75.3	75.5	76.5	81.7	71.2	82.7	82.6	0.0
<b>Possession of drugs</b>	<b>74.4</b>	<b>83.8</b>	<b>82.9</b>	<b>85.1</b>	<b>82.8</b>	<b>88.1</b>	<b>83.2</b>	<b>84.2</b>	<b>90.0</b>	<b>5.8</b>
92B Possession of controlled drugs <sup>12</sup>	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
92C Other drug offences	100.0	33.3	83.3	53.3	70.0	86.7	81.3	87.5	69.2	-18.3
92D Possession of controlled drugs (excluding cannabis) <sup>12</sup>	69.7	81.8	69.2	72.4	71.4	82.6	70.2	73.0	85.4	12.5
92E Possession of controlled drugs (cannabis) <sup>12</sup>	77.0	84.9	89.6	91.8	88.4	90.6	89.1	90.1	92.0	1.9
<b>TOTAL POSSESSION OF WEAPONS OFFENCES</b>	<b>64.2</b>	<b>69.5</b>	<b>66.9</b>	<b>72.9</b>	<b>72.1</b>	<b>71.9</b>	<b>62.7</b>	<b>65.7</b>	<b>63.5</b>	<b>-2.2</b>
10A Possession of firearms with intent	50.0	38.7	26.7	37.0	58.8	57.1	21.7	40.9	30.0	-10.9
10B Possession of firearms offences	64.2	60.7	64.6	60.6	67.0	70.7	67.0	79.3	61.1	-18.2
10C Possession of other weapons	63.9	72.5	68.5	75.9	71.5	70.4	60.1	62.9	60.0	-2.9
10D Possession of article with blade or point	83.7	73.4	78.0	82.4	85.3	79.1	75.4	71.4	81.4	9.9
81 Other firearms offences	62.5	56.5	35.3	42.9	54.5	71.4	83.3	50.0	37.5	-12.5
<b>TOTAL PUBLIC ORDER OFFENCES</b>	<b>56.7</b>	<b>56.0</b>	<b>57.4</b>	<b>63.2</b>	<b>57.5</b>	<b>64.5</b>	<b>55.0</b>	<b>55.5</b>	<b>55.2</b>	<b>-0.3</b>
62A Violent disorder	81.3	77.2	82.9	81.6	85.0	78.2	64.2	65.1	76.1	11.0
<i>Riot</i>	71.4	40.0	68.4	69.6	78.3	74.1	60.6	41.7	40.0	-1.7
<i>Violent disorder</i>	82.9	78.7	84.8	84.3	87.0	82.0	67.6	74.2	86.1	11.9
66 Other offences against the State and public order	55.1	54.5	55.2	61.7	55.7	63.3	54.6	55.2	54.5	-0.7
<i>Bomb hoax related offences</i>	4.1	4.0	4.8	5.3	8.4	35.6	6.9	4.8	13.5	8.7
<i>Breach of anti-social behaviour order</i>	77.6	93.5	88.1	95.0	95.0	87.7	93.0	88.2	70.6	-17.6
<i>Breach of non-molestation order</i>	62.9	67.9	70.9	73.7	64.5	62.4	58.4	59.7	60.9	1.2
<i>Breach sex offender orders etc</i>	100.0	88.0	85.2	82.3	89.5	93.2	79.8	84.5	83.0	-1.5
<i>Offences under anti-terrorist legislation</i>	40.0	42.9	42.9	57.9	60.0	68.4	70.0	56.3	80.0	23.8
<i>Other</i> <sup>13</sup>	63.6	57.5	44.8	72.0	52.8	67.2	57.4	25.0	31.0	6.0

**Table 8.2 (cont) Recorded crime outcome rates by offence (excluding fraud<sup>16</sup>), 2007/08 to 2015/16<sup>1,2</sup>**

Offence										Percentages
	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12 <sup>18</sup>	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15 <sup>18</sup>	2015/16	% point change between 2014/15 and 2015/16 <sup>3</sup>
<b>OTHER CRIMES AGAINST SOCIETY</b>										
<b>TOTAL MISCELLANEOUS CRIMES AGAINST SOCIETY</b>	<b>57.8</b>	<b>59.3</b>	<b>64.8</b>	<b>66.5</b>	<b>65.5</b>	<b>64.8</b>	<b>59.7</b>	<b>54.3</b>	<b>54.8</b>	<b>0.5</b>
15 Concealing an infant close to birth	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
24 Exploitation of prostitution <sup>6</sup>	50.0	66.7	50.0	60.0	75.0	38.5	44.4	25.0	50.0	25.0
26 Bigamy	0.0	300.0	50.0	0.0	50.0	-	0.0	-	-	-
27 Soliciting for the purpose of prostitution <sup>6,14</sup>	-	-	-	-	-	100.0	-	-	75.0	-
33 Going equipped for stealing, etc	71.4	59.2	73.2	71.0	56.6	58.1	58.5	64.8	76.9	12.1
33A Possession of items for use in fraud	61.1	41.2	65.0	57.1	40.6	31.6	24.4	25.9	50.0	24.1
38 Profiting from or concealing knowledge of the proceeds of crime	90.0	60.0	57.1	61.9	76.9	69.0	25.7	44.1	50.0	5.9
54 Handling stolen goods	66.5	61.4	74.8	73.7	77.3	72.3	78.6	70.9	84.0	13.0
59 Threat or possession with intent to commit criminal damage	22.5	30.3	28.3	31.4	37.6	31.9	32.7	23.4	27.4	4.0
60 Forgery or use of false drug prescription / 61 Other forgery	50.0	38.8	51.5	74.6	49.1	45.5	30.2	32.7	33.6	0.9
61A Possession of false documents	96.2	94.7	95.7	56.3	75.0	84.4	82.6	83.3	72.7	-10.6
67 Perjury	33.3	16.7	16.7	50.0	0.0	33.3	33.3	33.3	0.0	-33.3
69 Offender Management Act <sup>15</sup>	-	100.0	-	100.0	50.0	50.0	23.8	33.3	77.1	43.8
76 Aiding suicide	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
79 Perverting the course of justice	29.9	29.4	32.9	31.6	34.5	35.2	33.5	31.1	32.7	1.6
80 Absconding from lawful custody	64.7	66.7	58.3	75.0	88.2	56.3	100.0	87.5	75.0	-12.5
83 Bail offences	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
86 Obscene publications, etc. and protected sexual material	58.3	37.3	35.5	30.5	34.7	37.9	30.1	24.7	11.4	-13.3
95 Disclosure, obstruction, false or misleading statements etc <sup>25</sup>	-	0.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
99 Other offences <sup>9</sup>	48.1	41.8	66.4	72.2	74.7	75.0	45.7	39.8	46.0	6.2
802 Dangerous driving	92.8	100.0	100.0	99.7	99.7	100.0	99.9	100.0	100.1	0.1
814 Fraud, forgery etc associated with vehicle or driver records	62.5	56.3	61.7	90.7	76.1	80.3	76.6	84.0	103.5	19.5
<b>TOTAL RECORDED CRIME - ALL OFFENCES (excluding fraud<sup>16</sup>)</b>	<b>20.4</b>	<b>22.9</b>	<b>25.7</b>	<b>27.1</b>	<b>29.1</b>	<b>29.4</b>	<b>27.1</b>	<b>27.5</b>	<b>28.7</b>	<b>1.2</b>

Please note: Detailed notes to accompany this table are available on the following page.



## Notes to accompany Table 8.2

1. Between 1998/99 and 2000/01 crimes were recorded through a paper-based system where a completed form was forwarded to PSNI's Statistics Branch for input onto a stand-alone system, from which crime figures were then extracted. In April 2001 PSNI introduced electronic recording through an integrated crime information system (ICIS), resulting in more low level crime being captured than would have occurred through the previous crime recording process. This system remained in place until the end of 2006/07. In April 2007, the NICHE record management system was introduced for crime recording, a product specifically designed for police services to record and manage occurrences. Further information on the [administrative data sources](#) within PSNI can be obtained from the PSNI website.
2. The outcome figures provided in this table are based on the following outcome methods; charge/summons, cautions (adult and juvenile), discretionary disposals, penalty notices for disorder, offences taken into consideration and indictable only offences where no action was taken against the offender (died before proceedings or PPS did not prosecute). There have been a number of changes to the rules governing what can be counted as an outcome since 1998/99, an explanation of which can be found in the User Guide to Police Recorded Crime Statistics in Northern Ireland. For this reason figures are shown dating back to 2007/08 in order to provide a data series that is as comparable as possible, bearing in mind that discretionary disposals were first introduced as an outcome method during 2011/12 and penalty notices for disorder were introduced in June 2012.  
Offences detected in any particular year may have been initially recorded in an earlier year and for this reason some percentages may exceed 100.  
The outcome rate is the number of crimes that are cleared up divided by the total number of recorded offences.
3. Percentage point change is based on unrounded figures.
4. Prior to 2008/09 classification 4.4 Causing death by dangerous driving was the only classification of this nature. From 2008/09 onwards these offences are split across classifications 4.4, 4.6, 4.8 and 4.9.
5. The offence of obstructing police was removed from the notifiable offence list in April 2003.
6. The Sexual Offences (Northern Ireland) Order 2008 was introduced in February 2009 and has altered the definition and coverage of sexual offences.
7. Offences classified as 17 Indecent assault on a male, 20 Indecent assault on a female, 21 Unlawful sexual intercourse with a girl under 14, 22 Unlawful sexual intercourse with a girl under 17, 74 Gross indecency with a child, 16 Buggery and 18 Gross indecency between males relate to legislation that existed prior to that introduced in February 2009. From April 2010 offences are no longer recorded using these classifications (see 12. below).
8. Under the Home Office Counting Rules, offences which were reported to the police between February 2009 and March 2010 but which were committed prior to February 2009 were recorded under the previous legislation wherever possible. However in April 2010 this guidance was changed so that historic allegations committed under previous legislation should be recorded and detected as if committed today. Please note that for an offence recorded under the previous legislation but detected from 1st April 2010 the detection will be recorded against the previous legislation, although no detection rate will be calculated as no offences will have been recorded.
9. The classification of Modern Slavery came into effect from April 2015, offences which were previously classified in Sexual offences - 72 Trafficking for sexual exploitation have moved into this category along with offences of Modern Slavery which were previously classified in 99 Other offences.
10. Offences were originally implemented through the Sexual Offences Act 2003.
11. This classification contains explosives and petrol bombing offences for which information prior to 2007/08 is not available to classify to dwelling, building other than a dwelling, vehicle or other. Please note that offences of this nature recorded up to 2006/07 but detected after 2006/07 will be included in this classification, although no detection rate will be calculated as no offences will have been recorded.
12. Cannabis was classified as a Class B drug until 29 January 2004 when it was reclassified to a Class C drug. Cannabis was then reclassified back to a Class B drug on 26 January 2009. The systems from which the crime figures were extracted did not record the type of Class B or Class C drug until the first cannabis reclassification took place. Therefore it is not possible to provide a complete data series separately identifying cannabis possession offences. Please note that offences of this nature recorded up to 2003/04 but detected after 2003/04 will be included in this classification, although no detection rate will be calculated as no offences will have been recorded.
13. The sub-classification of 'Other' includes offences such as affray, unlawful assembly and offences relating to incitement to hatred.
14. The reclassification exercise conducted during 2010/11 identified that, within Northern Ireland, offences of soliciting for the purposes of prostitution had not been identified as notifiable offences. This omission has been rectified and these offences are included in the recorded crime figures from April 2011.
15. While the Offender Management Act offences which are included in the notifiable offence list do not extend to Northern Ireland, offences which do extend to Northern Ireland and are similar in nature are recorded in this classification.
16. From 1st April 2015 Action Fraud has taken responsibility for the central recording of fraud and cyber crime previously recorded by PSNI; Action Fraud became responsible for all such reports in England & Wales by 1st April 2014. Action Fraud is the UK's National Reporting Centre for fraud and cyber crime reported directly to them from the public and other organisations. While this means that these fraud and cyber offences are no longer recorded by PSNI, Action Fraud figures relating to fraud and cyber crime occurring in Northern Ireland are provided to PSNI on a monthly basis. These figures are available in the table Action Fraud. As a result, all other sections within the bulletin present figures on a comparable basis that exclude 'other fraud'.
17. A number of offences that were classified in 5E Endangering Life have been reclassified following detailed checks identified they were incorrectly classified. Following the reclassification the majority of the offences have remained in the Violence with injury category, however some offences have moved to violence without injury and some have moved to the Sexual Offences classification.
18. Revisions made to murder, manslaughter and corporate manslaughter offences in 2011/12 and 2014/15 have resulted in an increase of 1 in each year to the total number of outcomes for violence against the person, homicide, corporate manslaughter and total recorded crime-all offences. These revisions have also resulted in an increase in the outcome rates for homicide in 2011/12 and 2014/15, an increase in the murder outcome rate for 2011/12 and a fall in the murder outcome rate for 2014/15.

'..' in the table indicates that data are not available.

'-' indicates that for offences detected, a detection rate cannot be calculated as there were no offences recorded.

**Table 8.3 Recorded crime outcomes and outcome rates by method of disposal (excluding fraud<sup>10</sup>), 1998/99 to 2015/16**

		Numbers and Percentages										
Method of disposal	1998/99	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12 <sup>12</sup>	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15 <sup>12</sup>	2015/16
Outcomes (number)												
Charge/summons	12,432	16,390	17,980	17,471	20,112	22,595	23,485	23,185	22,018	20,726	21,523	21,991
Adult cautions <sup>1</sup>	2,406	2,353	2,525	2,268	2,539	2,760	2,958	2,286	2,424	2,280	1,993	2,007
Juvenile cautions <sup>2</sup>	1,667	1,734	2,542	2,006	1,887	2,013	1,592	1,056	980	848	766	956
Discretionary disposals <sup>3</sup>	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2,953	3,070	2,662	3,169	4,132
Penalty notices for disorder <sup>4</sup>	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	359	822	953	1,020
TICs <sup>5</sup>	658	301	188	119	360	406	97	171	100	35	4	20
No prosecution directed <sup>6,7</sup>	1,732	2,114	959	22	5	5	3	0	1	3	0	2
Offender died before proceedings <sup>6,7</sup>	51	113	52	3	3	4	4	0	1	1	4	5
Offender under age <sup>6,8</sup>	200	236	159	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Complainant declined to prosecute <sup>6,8</sup>	10,309	13,273	3,369	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Other <sup>6,8</sup>	78	294	233	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
All outcomes (excluding fraud <sup>10</sup> )	29,533	36,808	28,007	21,889	24,906	27,783	28,139	29,651	28,953	27,377	28,412	30,133
Total number of offences (excluding fraud <sup>9,10</sup> )	104,647	120,919	119,314	107,490	108,870	107,951	103,676	102,009	98,558	100,917	103,177	105,023
Outcomes (rates, %) <sup>11</sup>												
Charge/summons	11.9	13.6	15.1	16.3	18.5	20.9	22.7	22.7	22.3	20.5	20.9	20.9
Adult cautions <sup>1</sup>	2.3	1.9	2.1	2.1	2.3	2.6	2.9	2.2	2.5	2.3	1.9	1.9
Juvenile cautions <sup>2</sup>	1.6	1.4	2.1	1.9	1.7	1.9	1.5	1.0	1.0	0.8	0.7	0.9
Discretionary disposals <sup>3</sup>	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2.9	3.1	2.6	3.1	3.9
Penalty notices for disorder <sup>4</sup>	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	0.4	0.8	0.9	1.0
TICs <sup>5</sup>	0.6	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.3	0.4	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
No prosecution directed <sup>6,7</sup>	1.7	1.7	0.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Offender died before proceedings <sup>6,7</sup>	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Offender under age <sup>6,8</sup>	0.2	0.2	0.1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Complainant declined to prosecute <sup>6,8</sup>	9.9	11.0	2.8	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Other <sup>6,8</sup>	0.1	0.2	0.2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
All outcomes (excluding fraud <sup>10</sup> )	28.2	30.4	23.5	20.4	22.9	25.7	27.1	29.1	29.4	27.1	27.5	28.7

1. Adult cautions include adult cautions and adult informed warnings.

2. Juvenile cautions include juvenile restorative cautions, juvenile informed warnings and juvenile prosecutorial diversions.

3. Discretionary disposals were introduced as an outcome during 2011/12.

4. Penalty notices for disorder were introduced within Northern Ireland in June 2012.

5. Offences asked to be taken into consideration at court.

6. From 1 April 2007, new rules governing non-sanction detections significantly limited the occasions for which such administrative disposals can be applied.

7. From 1 April 2007 these methods can only be claimed as an outcome for 'indictable-only' offences (those offences which must be tried in a Crown Court) where the Public Prosecution Service is satisfied that there is enough evidence to prosecute.

8. From 1 April 2007 these methods can longer be claimed as an outcome.

9. Total recorded crime whether detected or not.

10. From 1st April 2015 Action Fraud has taken responsibility for the central recording of fraud and cyber crime previously recorded by PSNI; Action Fraud became responsible for all such reports in England & Wales by 1st April 2014. Action Fraud is the UK's National Reporting Centre for fraud and cyber crime reported directly to them from the public and other organisations. While this means that these fraud and cyber offences are no longer recorded by PSNI, Action Fraud figures relating to fraud and cyber crime occurring in Northern Ireland are provided to PSNI on a monthly basis. These figures are available in the table Action Fraud. As a result, all other sections within the bulletin will present figures on a comparable basis that exclude 'other fraud'.

11. The number of crimes that are cleared up expressed as a percentage of the total number of recorded offences.

12. Revisions made to corporate manslaughter offences in 2011/12 and 2014/15 have resulted in an increase of 1 in each year to the number of charge/summons outcomes and to the total number of outcomes for all offences. The total number of offences recorded (excluding fraud) for 2014/15 has also increased by 1. All outcome rates for 2011/12 and 2014/15 remain unchanged.

'..' in the table indicates that data are not available.

Although figures for the financial years 1999/00 through to 2004/05 are not shown in this table, they are available in the accompanying [summary tables](#).

## 9 Geographic Patterns of Crime

As a general rule crimes are geographically recorded by the police based on the location in which the incident occurred. This section provides details on recorded crime, outcome rates and population rates for each policing district within Northern Ireland.

As part of the Review of Public Administration which came into effect on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2015, PSNI has moved from eight to eleven policing districts, with the new policing model becoming fully operational at the end of September 2015.

The level of geographic information required to allocate crime records to the new boundaries was insufficient for the financial years 1998/99 to 2000/01. For this reason, comparison of crime at policing district level is only available for the financial years dating back to 2001/02.

While being only one policing district, Belfast City accounts for approximately one third of all crime recorded in Northern Ireland. It includes four local policing teams based in Lisburn Road (South), Tennent Street (North), Strandtown (East) and Woodbourne (West). Figures for each of these local policing teams are provided in the following tables to assist with district level comparisons.

Care should be taken when comparing crime rates at policing district level as some of the differences between districts may reflect variations in their composition, such as the degree of urbanisation, level of deprivation and the balance between the resident population, day-time population and night-time economy. Where there is an increased day-time population or night-time economy relative to the resident population, the number of crimes relative to the real population of potential victims may be over-represented.

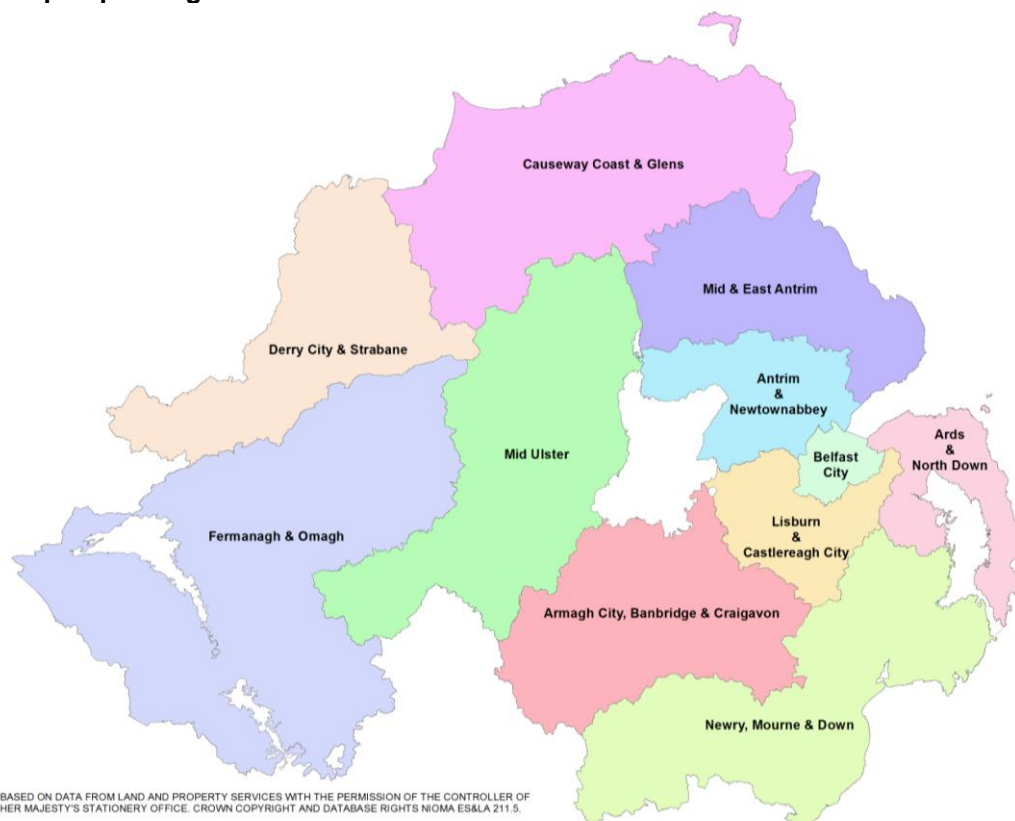
While the tables in this report provide policing district figures at the overall crime level, figures are available by crime type from the general [crime pivot tables](#) which accompany this report.

Additional geographic breakdowns of crime, such as by ward and parliamentary constituency, are available on the [Northern Ireland Neighbourhood Information Service](#) (NINIS) website.

Provisional management information drawn from police recorded crime figures and published at street level each month, is available through the [police crime mapping website](#). The figures on the crime mapping website will differ from those provided in this bulletin as they have been extracted from the police administrative system on different dates, and also require a grid reference in order to be mapped.

Further details on the geographic recording of crime in Northern Ireland can be found in Section 7 of the [User Guide to Police Recorded Crime Statistics in Northern Ireland](#).

**Figure 9.1 Map of policing districts in Northern Ireland**



**Table 9.1 Recorded crime (excluding fraud) by policing district, 2001/02 to 2015/16<sup>1,2,3,4</sup>**

Policing district	2001/02 <sup>5</sup>											Numbers and percentages	
		2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12 <sup>7</sup>	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15 <sup>7</sup>	2015/16	change 2014/15 & 2015/16	% change 2014/15 to 2015/16
Belfast City <sup>6</sup>	47,130	36,664	33,282	33,920	33,362	32,101	31,920	31,930	33,751	34,911	35,701	790	2.3
Lisburn Road	16,723	12,647	10,756	11,452	10,826	10,604	10,975	10,972	11,917	12,077	12,199	122	1.0
Strandtown	8,562	5,923	5,861	6,428	6,010	5,790	5,861	6,135	6,580	6,948	6,621	-327	-4.7
Tennent Street	13,491	9,296	9,214	9,182	9,196	8,791	8,257	8,262	8,828	9,028	9,590	562	6.2
Woodbourne	8,354	8,798	7,451	6,858	7,330	6,916	6,827	6,561	6,426	6,858	7,291	433	6.3
Lisburn & Castlereagh City	8,643	6,560	5,519	5,553	5,560	5,410	4,934	4,940	5,125	5,331	5,960	629	11.8
Ards & North Down	10,625	8,091	6,767	6,189	6,288	6,108	5,916	5,672	5,889	6,167	6,256	89	1.4
Newry, Mourne & Down	9,632	10,125	9,482	9,517	9,726	9,182	8,292	7,739	8,652	8,536	8,800	264	3.1
Armagh City, Banbridge & Craigavon	10,899	10,645	9,796	10,207	10,106	9,497	9,695	9,023	9,287	9,878	10,068	190	1.9
Mid Ulster	6,067	6,094	5,969	5,961	6,206	5,971	5,974	5,359	5,124	5,019	5,044	25	0.5
Fermanagh & Omagh	5,507	5,676	5,522	5,180	5,142	5,183	5,388	4,948	4,708	4,934	4,998	64	1.3
Derry City & Strabane	10,128	10,106	9,027	9,261	9,188	8,993	9,301	9,659	9,430	9,370	9,425	55	0.6
Causeway Coast & Glens	8,623	9,763	8,070	8,954	8,305	7,437	7,317	6,978	6,719	6,535	6,301	-234	-3.6
Mid & East Antrim	8,550	7,336	6,870	7,064	6,894	6,447	6,255	5,448	5,646	5,696	5,565	-131	-2.3
Antrim & Newtownabbey	10,010	8,254	7,186	7,064	7,174	7,347	7,017	6,862	6,586	6,800	6,905	105	1.5
<b>Northern Ireland</b>	<b>135,814</b>	<b>119,314</b>	<b>107,490</b>	<b>108,870</b>	<b>107,951</b>	<b>103,676</b>	<b>102,009</b>	<b>98,558</b>	<b>100,917</b>	<b>103,177</b>	<b>105,023</b>	<b>1,846</b>	<b>1.8</b>

- Between 1998/99 and 2000/01 crimes were recorded through a paper-based system where a completed form was forwarded to the PSNI Statistics Branch for input onto a stand-alone system, from which crime figures were then extracted. In April 2001 PSNI introduced electronic recording through an integrated crime information system (ICIS), resulting in more low level crime being captured than would have occurred through the previous crime recording process. This system remained in place until the end of 2006/07. In April 2007, the NICHE record management system was introduced for crime recording, a product specifically designed for police services to record and manage occurrences. Further information on the [administrative data sources](#) within PSNI can be obtained from the PSNI website.
- Crimes are geographically recorded by the police based on the location in which the incident occurred.
- The National Crime Recording Standard was introduced in April 2002, although some forces adopted NCRS practices before the standard was formally introduced. Figures before and after that date are not directly comparable. The introduction of NCRS led to a rise in recording in 2002/03 and, particularly for violent crime, in the following years as forces continued to improve compliance with the new standard. Much of the impact of introducing NCRS was experienced by PSNI in 2001/02, through the introduction of an integrated crime information system (ICIS) within PSNI which improved the capture of low level crimes.
- As part of the Review of Public Administration which came into effect on 1st April 2015, PSNI moved from eight to eleven policing districts, with the new policing model becoming fully operational at the end of September 2015. The level of geographic information required to allocate crime records to the new boundaries was insufficient for the financial years 1998/99 to 2000/01. For this reason, comparison of crime at policing district level is only available for the financial years dating back to 2001/02.
- The National Crime Recording Standard was introduced in April 2002, although some forces adopted NCRS practices before the standard was formally introduced. Figures before and after that date are not directly comparable. The introduction of NCRS led to a rise in recording in 2002/03 and, particularly for violent crime, in the following years as forces continued to improve compliance with the new standard. Much of the impact of introducing NCRS was experienced by PSNI in 2001/02, through the introduction of an integrated crime information system (ICIS) within PSNI which improved the capture of low level crimes.
- Belfast City, whilst being only one policing district, accounts for approximately one third of all crime recorded in Northern Ireland. It includes four local policing teams based in Lisburn Road (South), Tennent Street (North), Strandtown (East) and Woodbourne (West). Figures for each of these local policing teams are provided in the above table to assist with district level comparisons.
- Revisions to the number of homicide offences recorded in 2011/12 and 2014/15 have resulted in the 2011/12 Armagh City, Banbridge & Craigavon total increasing by 1, the 2011/12 Causeway Coast & Glens total reducing by 1 and the 2014/15 Causeway Coast & Glens total increasing by 1. For 2011/12 the Northern Ireland total remains unchanged while the 2014/15 total has increased by 1.

Although figures for the financial years 2002/03 through to 2005/06 are not shown in this table, they are available in the accompanying [summary tables](#).

**Table 9.2 Outcome rates (excluding fraud) by policing district, 2007/08 to 2015/16<sup>1,2</sup>**

Policing district	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	Percentages
										% point change 2014/15 to 2015/16 <sup>3</sup>
Belfast City <sup>4</sup>	19.4	21.6	24.6	27.2	27.0	25.9	22.0	21.9	23.1	1.2
<i>Lisburn Road</i>	20.5	21.7	26.2	29.3	27.7	26.9	22.7	23.3	24.8	1.4
<i>Strandtown</i>	19.1	18.1	23.4	24.8	24.6	24.4	20.2	17.7	19.6	1.9
<i>Tennent Street</i>	20.2	24.5	25.6	28.0	27.1	24.0	22.4	22.5	23.7	1.2
<i>Woodbourne</i>	17.0	21.0	21.9	25.1	27.8	27.9	22.3	22.6	22.5	-0.1
Lisburn & Castlereagh City	20.9	22.3	25.3	26.7	30.8	30.1	27.8	32.1	37.2	5.1
Ards & North Down	21.1	22.7	29.1	29.8	31.3	28.8	24.9	29.8	32.8	3.0
Newry, Mourne & Down	21.3	22.0	26.5	25.3	30.2	31.8	31.0	32.9	32.3	-0.6
Armagh City, Banbridge & Craigavon	20.0	22.6	24.7	27.3	30.7	30.3	31.2	34.0	31.6	-2.4
Mid Ulster	21.4	27.1	26.7	29.5	31.5	34.4	31.6	29.6	29.3	-0.3
Fermanagh & Omagh	24.7	30.8	29.4	31.4	34.1	37.3	31.5	29.8	32.8	3.0
Derry City & Strabane	15.3	22.0	25.0	27.7	28.9	30.3	33.1	30.4	30.0	-0.5
Causeway Coast & Glens	24.3	23.4	26.9	28.5	30.9	31.7	30.8	27.3	31.2	3.9
Mid & East Antrim	22.8	25.3	26.6	25.1	27.7	33.3	28.2	28.2	29.7	1.5
Antrim & Newtownabbey	18.5	19.6	24.3	21.9	25.3	25.4	24.3	27.5	29.8	2.2
<b>Northern Ireland</b>	<b>20.4</b>	<b>22.9</b>	<b>25.7</b>	<b>27.1</b>	<b>29.1</b>	<b>29.4</b>	<b>27.1</b>	<b>27.5</b>	<b>28.7</b>	<b>1.2</b>

1. The outcome figures provided in this table are based on the following outcome methods; charge/summons, cautions (adult and juvenile), discretionary disposals, penalty notices for disorder, offences taken into consideration and indictable only offences where no action was taken against the offender (died before proceedings or PPS did not prosecute). There have been a number of changes to the rules governing what can be counted as an outcome since 1998/99, an explanation of which can be found in the User Guide to Police Recorded Crime Statistics in Northern Ireland. For this reason figures are shown dating back to 2007/08 in order to provide a data series that is as comparable as possible, bearing in mind that discretionary disposals were first introduced as an outcome method during 2011/12 and penalty notices for disorder were introduced in June 2012.

Offences detected in any particular year may have been initially recorded in an earlier year and for this reason some percentages may exceed 100.

The outcome rate is the number of crimes that are cleared up divided by the total number of recorded crimes.

2. From 1st April 2015 Action Fraud has taken responsibility for the central recording of fraud and cyber crime previously recorded by PSNI; Action Fraud became responsible for all such reports in England & Wales by 1st April 2014. Action Fraud is the UK's National Reporting Centre for fraud and cyber crime reported directly to them from the public and other organisations. While this means that these fraud and cyber offences are no longer recorded by PSNI, Action Fraud figures relating to fraud and cyber crime occurring in Northern Ireland are provided to PSNI on a monthly basis. Section 6 of the bulletin presents fraud figures dating back to 1998/99, showing those recorded by PSNI and those recorded by Action Fraud. All other sections within the bulletin present figures on a comparable basis that exclude 'other fraud' (unless clearly noted otherwise).

3. Percentage point change is based on unrounded figures.

4. Belfast City, whilst being only one policing district, accounts for approximately one third of all crime recorded in Northern Ireland. It includes four local policing teams based in Lisburn Road (South), Tennent Street (North), Strandtown (East) and Woodbourne (West). Figures for each of these local policing teams are provided in the above table to assist with district level comparisons.

**Table 9.3 Recorded crime (excluding fraud) per 1,000 population by policing district, 2001/02 to 2015/16<sup>1,2,3,4</sup>**

Policing district	Rate per 1,000 population										
	2001/02	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16
Belfast City <sup>2</sup>	143	112	102	103	101	96	96	96	101	104	105
Lisburn & Castlereagh City	69	51	43	43	42	40	36	36	37	38	43
Ards & North Down	71	53	44	40	40	39	38	36	37	39	39
Newry, Mourne & Down	63	62	57	57	57	54	48	45	49	49	50
Armagh City, Banbridge & Craigavon	62	57	51	53	52	48	48	45	46	48	48
Mid Ulster	51	48	46	45	46	44	43	38	36	35	35
Fermanagh & Omagh	52	52	50	46	46	46	47	43	41	43	43
Derry City & Strabane	70	69	62	63	62	61	63	65	63	63	63
Causeway Coast & Glens	66	71	58	64	59	53	52	49	47	46	44
Mid & East Antrim	67	56	52	53	51	48	46	40	42	42	41
Antrim & Newtownabbey	78	62	53	52	52	53	51	49	47	49	49
<b>Northern Ireland</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>57</b>

1. Crimes are geographically recorded by the police based on the location in which the incident occurred.
2. Crime rates are calculated using the Northern Ireland mid-year population estimates. These estimates can also be obtained from the Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency Internet site: <http://www.nisra.gov.uk/demography/default.asp17.htm>. Population rates for the four local policing teams within Belfast City have not been included in this table as the required geographic breakdown that would allow these rates to be calculated is not available.
3. From 1st April 2015 Action Fraud has taken responsibility for the central recording of fraud and cyber crime previously recorded by PSNI; Action Fraud became responsible for all such reports in England & Wales by 1st April 2014. Action Fraud is the UK's National Reporting Centre for fraud and cyber crime reported directly to them from the public and other organisations. While this means that these fraud and cyber offences are no longer recorded by PSNI, Action Fraud figures relating to fraud and cyber crime occurring in Northern Ireland are provided to PSNI on a monthly basis. Section 6 of the bulletin presents fraud figures dating back to 1998/99, showing those recorded by PSNI and those recorded by Action Fraud. All other sections within the bulletin present figures on a comparable basis that exclude 'other fraud' (unless clearly noted otherwise).
4. As part of the Review of Public Administration which came into effect on 1st April 2015, PSNI moved from eight to eleven policing districts, with the new policing model becoming fully operational at the end of September 2015. The level of geographic information required to allocate crime records to the new boundaries was insufficient for the financial years 1998/99 to 2000/01. For this reason, comparison of crime at policing district level is only available for the financial years dating back to 2001/02.

Crime figures for England & Wales are available from the [Office for National Statistics](#) Internet site. Further information and links to UK and International crime statistics can be found in Section 8 of the [User Guide to Police Recorded Crime Statistics in Northern Ireland](#).

Although figures for 2002/03 to 2005/06 are not shown in this table, they are available in the accompanying [summary tables](#).