

Police Service of Northern Ireland

Trends in Domestic Abuse Incidents and Crimes Recorded by the Police in Northern Ireland 2004/05 to 2012/13

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Introduction

The Police Service of Northern Ireland publishes figures on the levels and trends of crime in Northern Ireland, based on police recorded crime data. PSNI also publishes data on those incidents and crimes which have a domestic abuse motivation. Statistics on domestic abuse incidents and crimes recorded by the police are not a National Statistics product.

The Northern Ireland Regional Steering Group on Domestic Violence has defined domestic abuse as 'any incident of threatening behaviour, violence or abuse (psychological, physical, verbal, sexual, financial or emotional) inflicted on one person by another where they are or have been intimate partners or family members, irrespective of gender or sexual orientation', where:

- **Incident** means an incident anywhere and not confined to the home of one of the partners/family members;
- **Intimate partners** means there must have been a relationship with a degree of continuity and stability. The relationship must also have had (or reasonably supposed to have had) a sexual aspect, such as in the relationship between husband and wife or between others generally recognised as a couple including same sex couples; and
- **Family members** include mother, father, son, daughter, brother, sister, grandparents, whether directly or indirectly related, in-laws or stepfamily.

An explanation of what constitutes an incident and a crime is provided in Section 2.1 of the [User Guide to Police Recorded Crime Statistics](#). A crime will be recorded as having a domestic abuse motivation where it meets the relevant definition provided above. Not all domestic abuse motivated incidents will result in the recording of a crime as what has occurred in the incident may not be of the level of severity that would result in a notifiable offence being recorded. Where crimes with a domestic abuse motivation are recorded they are classified according to the Home Office Counting Rules and form a subset of the overall police recorded crime statistics. Further details of the background and recording practice in relation to police recorded crime statistics are available in the [User Guide to Police Recorded Crime Statistics](#), with those relating to domestic abuse motivated incidents and crimes available in Section 5. These recording practices, methods of counting detections and crime types apply equally to crimes with a domestic abuse motivation.

Data Collection and Use

Domestic abuse statistics have been collated by PSNI in their current format since 2004/05. They are used widely within PSNI as management information and to monitor performance on domestic abuse related targets against the Policing Plan. The figures are also used by government departments and other voluntary and statutory agencies to inform debate and policy development regarding domestic abuse in Northern Ireland. Furthermore it is widely accepted that there is under-reporting of domestic abuse incidents to the police.

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 a domestic abuse motivation 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 a domestic abuse 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.

Data Availability

Domestic abuse incidents and crimes in Northern Ireland are currently published as an annual bulletin providing finalised figures for the latest financial year, along with trends and commentary. Quarterly updates providing a summary of the latest domestic abuse incidents and crimes are published during the year, these statistics being provisional and subject to change.

Publication

Annual data are published on a financial year basis (ie 1st April to 31st March), with the annual bulletin providing finalised figures for the latest financial year along with trends and commentary. Provisional incident and recorded crime data are published each quarter 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 quarterly bulletin supersede those published in previous quarterly updates.

A [publication schedule](#) is available on the PSNI Internet site.

The main tables in this bulletin are also available in excel format on the PSNI Internet site.

[PSNI publications on domestic abuse motivated incidents and crimes](#) are available from the PSNI Internet site. This link also provides access to the latest quarterly updates and to annual reports dating back to 2004/05.

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](#), including the recording of incidents and crimes with a domestic abuse motivation which is available in Section 5. 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 \(NINIS\)](#)).

Contact Details

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.

For further information about the domestic abuse incidents and crimes recorded by the police in Northern Ireland, or to contact the PSNI Crime and Incident Statistician please:

Email: statistics@psni.police.uk;

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

Telephone: 0845 600 8000 ext 24135, Fax: 028 9092 2998

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 1st April 2013. All police recorded crime figures published from June 2013 onwards are based on this revised classification, including this trends bulletin. 'Victim based crime' and 'other crimes against society' are further broken down as follows:

Victim-based crimes

- Violence against the person
- Sexual offences
- Robbery
- Theft offences (inc burglary)
- Criminal Damage

Other crimes against society

- Possession of weapon offences
- Public order offences (includes breaches of court orders e.g. non-molestation orders and ASBOs)
- Drug offences
- Miscellaneous crimes against society

Figures based on previous classifications are still available in the [Domestic Abuse and Hate Motivation 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.

1 Overview of Trends in Domestic Abuse Incidents and Crimes

PSNI's Statistics Branch started compiling statistics on domestic abuse incidents and crimes in April 2004. The system which was in use at that time for crime recording (the integrated crime information system or 'ICIS') was modified to enable incidents to be identified as having a domestic abuse motivation. Where an incident was given this marker, each crime recorded within that incident was also identified as having a domestic abuse motivation, although offences of assault of police were excluded from the domestic abuse crime figures. While PSNI compiled statistics on domestic abuse prior to 2004/05, the method of data collection and definitions of crimes and crime types was not comparable and so these figures are not included within this bulletin.

The current system which is used within PSNI to record crime is called NICHE and was introduced from 1st April 2007. This system refined the process for recording crimes with a domestic abuse motivation in that the marker identifying an incident or crime as domestic could be applied to each incident or crime separately. In other words a crime which may have been recorded within an incident identified as domestic, but which did not itself have a domestic motivation, would not have the domestic marker applied. However this did not have a great impact on the number of domestic abuse crimes recorded.

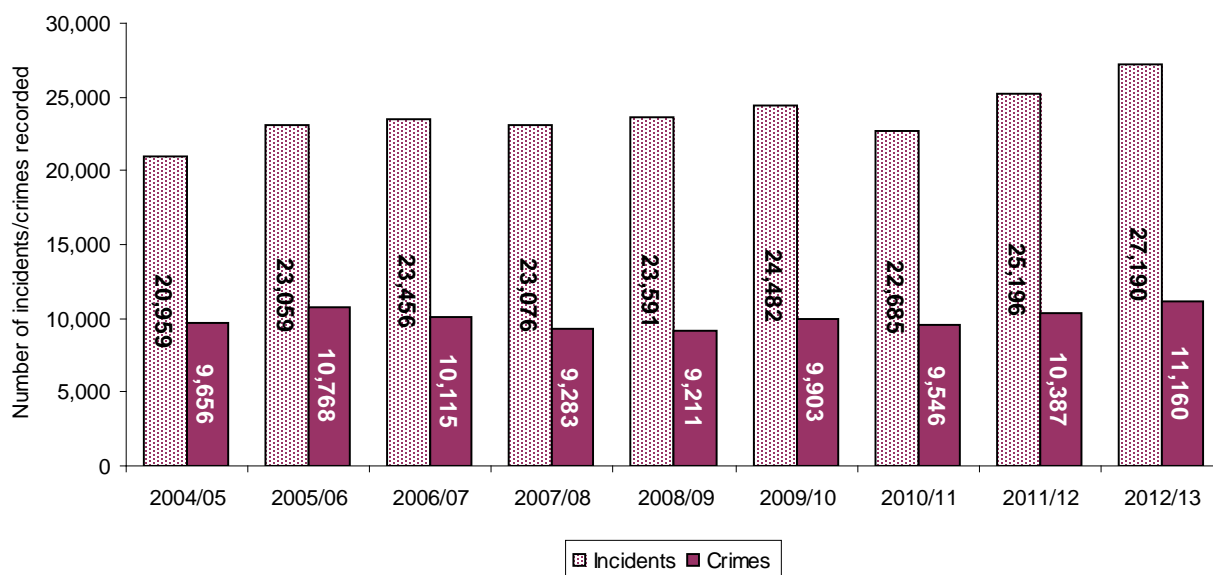
Domestic abuse incidents: There were 27,190 domestic abuse incidents recorded in 2012/13, 7.9 per cent higher than the 2011/12 figure of 25,196, and the highest level recorded since the data series began in 2004/05 (the 2012/13 figure is 29.7 per cent higher than the level of 20,959 recorded in 2004/05). Domestic abuse incidents have increased year on year since 2004/05, with the exception of two decreases recorded, a 1.6 per cent decrease between 2006/07 and 2007/08 and a 7.3 per cent decrease between 2009/10 and 2010/11.

Domestic abuse crimes: The level of 11,160 domestic abuse crimes recorded in 2012/13 is also the highest level recorded since 2004/05 (the 2012/13 figure is 7.4 per cent higher than 2011/12 and 15.6 per cent higher than 2004/05). While the offence of breach of a non molestation order was only introduced into the recorded crime data series in 2005/06, PSNI compiled data on those breaches of a non molestation order which were domestic in nature during 2004/05. This allowed these offences to be included within the 2004/05 domestic abuse crime figures and provide a comparable data series.

Table 1.1 Number of incidents and crimes with a domestic abuse motivation, 2004/05 to 2012/13

	Numbers								
	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13
Domestic abuse incidents	20,959	23,059	23,456	23,076	23,591	24,482	22,685	25,196	27,190
Domestic abuse crimes	9,656	10,768	10,115	9,283	9,211	9,903	9,546	10,387	11,160

Figure 1.1 Trends in domestic abuse incidents and crimes, 2004/05 to 2012/13



There were 12 incidents of domestic abuse recorded by the police per 1,000 population in 2004/05. Between 2005/06 and 2008/09 the rate was 13. In 2009/10 the rate rose to 14, before falling to 13 in 2010/11, and then increasing to 14 again in 2011/12. The rate increased further to 15 incidents per 1,000 population in 2012/13, this is the highest rate in the data series. The number of domestic abuse crimes per 1,000 population has ranged between 5 and 6.

There are a range of factors that can have an impact on the recorded crime data series, including those crimes with a domestic abuse motivation. 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.

2 Trends in Domestic Abuse Crimes by Crime Type

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. Northern Ireland continues to record 'other fraud' offences, while in England and Wales these offences are now reported through Action Fraud. The low levels of other fraud recorded do not permit any further analysis of this category to be provided.

Figure 2.1 Crimes with a domestic abuse motivation by crime type, 2012/13

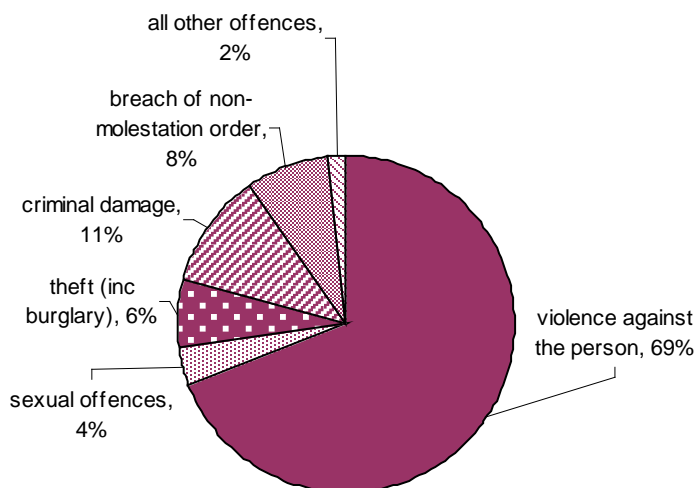
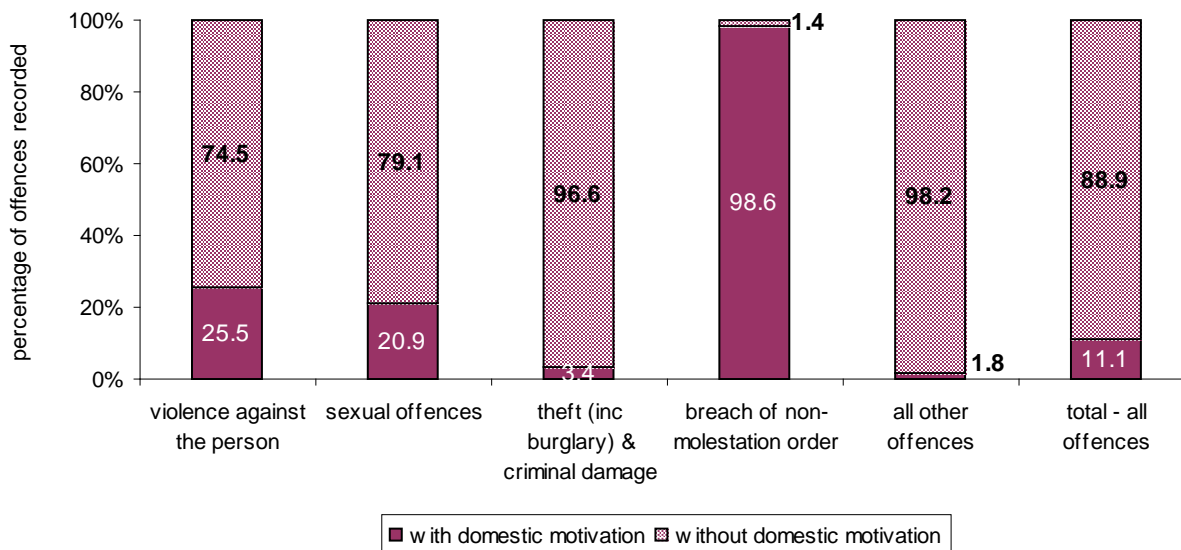


Figure 2.2 Crimes with a domestic abuse motivation as a percentage of all crimes recorded by the police, within the main crime types, 2012/13



2.1 Victim-based crime with a domestic abuse motivation

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 with a domestic abuse motivation

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

The level of violence against the person offences with a domestic motivation has remained relatively steady since 2004/05. The lowest level recorded was 6,282 in 2007/08. The 2012/13 figure of 7,722 offences recorded was the highest level recorded, showing an increase of 7.8 per cent on the 2011/12 figure of 7,162.

Since the data series for domestic abuse crimes started in 2004/05, violence against the person offences with a domestic abuse motivation have represented between 21 per cent and 26 per cent of all violence against the person offences recorded by the police in Northern Ireland. The 2012/13 figure of 25.5 per cent is the highest proportion recorded.

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.

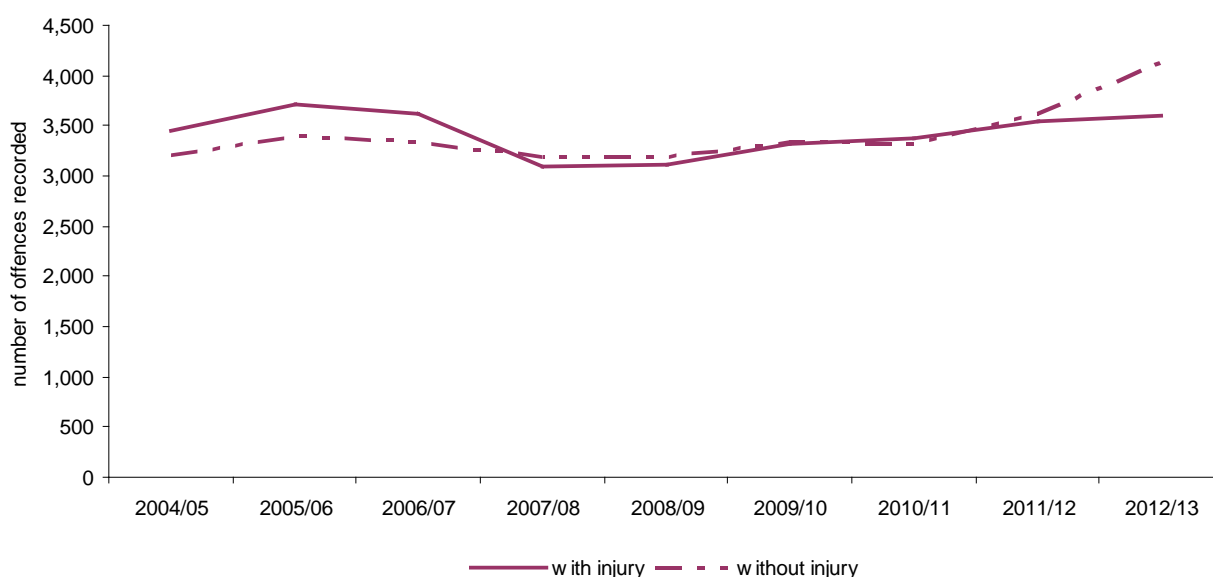
Homicides levels with a domestic abuse motivation have varied from a low of 3 in 2006/07 to a high of 11 in 2007/08 (6 of which related to the same incident).

Murders with a domestic abuse motivation: There were 7 murders with a domestic motivation in each of the financial years 2004/05, 2008/09, 2009/10 and 2010/11. There were 6 such murders recorded in 2005/06, 5 in 2012/13 and 3 in each of 2006/07 and 2011/12. There were 11 murders with a domestic abuse motivation in 2007/08, 6 of which related to the same incident.

In 2012/13 murders with a domestic abuse motivation accounted for 29.4 per cent of all murders recorded by the police.

Violence with injury (domestic abuse motivation)

Figure 2.3 Violence against the person with and without injury (domestic abuse motivation), 2004/05 to 2012/13



Violence with injury offences have remained relatively constant since 2004/05. The highest level recorded within this classification was 3,710 offences recorded in 2005/06. The lowest level recorded was 3,092 offences in 2007/08. The latest figure of 3,596 for 2012/13 is 60 offences higher than the level recorded in 2011/12.

In 2012/13 offences of violence against the person with injury with a domestic abuse motivation accounted for 24.2 per cent of all violence against the person with injury offences recorded by the police.

5D Assault with intent to cause serious harm (domestic abuse motivation): Increases in the number of offences of inflicting grievous bodily harm with intent, which occurred 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, 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 2012/13 level (217 offences) for this crime type is the highest recorded in the series, showing an increase of 48 offences on 2011/12.

8N Assault with injury (domestic abuse motivation): Following a peak of 3,631 offences recorded in 2005/06, levels fell year on year to a low of 2,965 in 2008/09. Since then levels have been steadily increasing to the current level of 3,347 offences recorded in 2012/13, although this is very similar to the 2004/05 figure of 3,374 and to the level recorded in the previous financial year (3,345).

Violence without injury (domestic abuse motivation)

The levels and trends within this classification are very similar to those for violence with injury, although in the last two years larger increases have been recorded than for violence without injury. Levels have varied from a low of 3,179 in 2007/08 to a high of 4,121 in 2012/13. The 2012/13 figure is an increase of 13.8 per cent on the previous year and an increase of 28.5 per cent on 2004/05.

In 2012/13 offences of violence without injury with a domestic abuse motivation accounted for 26.7 per cent of all violence with injury offences recorded by the police. Within this classification offences of threats to kill with a domestic motivation account for over one third of all such offences recorded by the police.

Assault without injury: Between 2004/05 and 2010/11 there was a general downwards trend in the number of assault without injury offences recorded. However, increases of 13.3 per cent (265 offences) and 22.7 per cent (512 offences) have been recorded in the last two years. The current figure of 2,769 offences in 2012/13 is the highest since the beginning of the data series in 2004/05.

Threats to kill: Offences recorded for this crime type increased year on year between 2004/05 and 2009/10 (from 469 offences to 809 offences). Since then levels have been falling. The current figure for 2012/13 (594 offences) is a decrease of 135 offences (18.5 per cent) compared with the previous year.

2.1.2 Sexual offences with a domestic abuse motivation

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 with a domestic abuse motivation showed a slight upward trend between 2004/05 and 2007/08. However there was a large increase of 70.1 per cent (68 offences) in the number of sexual offences recorded between 2007/08 and 2008/09, followed by a second increase of 54.5 per cent (90 offences) between 2008/09 and 2009/10. The number of sexual offences then fell by 18.4 per cent (47 offences) between 2009/10 and 2010/11, before increasing again by 13.5 per cent (28 offences) in 2011/12. The 2012/13 level of 404 sexual offences shows an increase of 168 offences or 71.2 per cent on 2011/12 and is the highest level recorded since 2004/05 and the largest year on year increase in the time series.

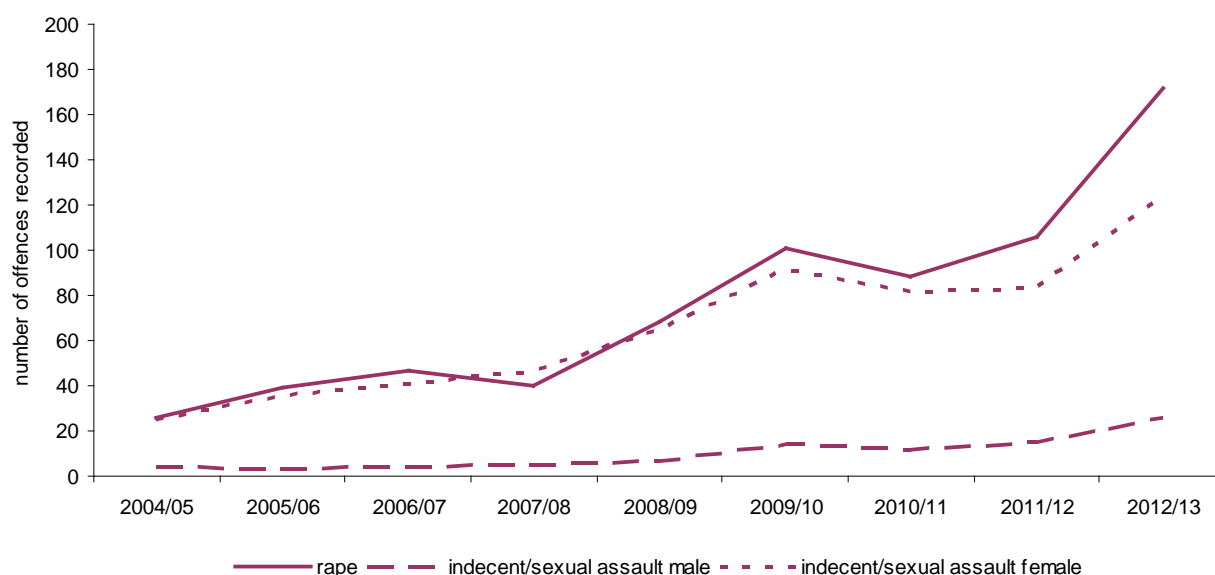
In 2012/13 sexual offences with a domestic abuse motivation accounted for 20.9 per cent of all sexual offences recorded by the police. This is the largest proportion since the time series began in 2004/05, the next highest being 14.2 per cent in 2009/10.

Rape offences: Rape offences have shown a very similar pattern to all sexual offences. The latest figure of 172 rapes with a domestic abuse motivation recorded for 2012/13 is 62.3 per cent (66 offences) higher than 2011/12, and is the highest level recorded since the data series began in 2004/05 as well as the largest year on year increase in the number of offences recorded.

In 2012/13 offences of rape with a domestic abuse motivation accounted for 32.3 per cent of all rape offences recorded by the police. This is the second highest proportion in the data series after 21.9 per cent in 2009/10.

Indecent /sexual assault offences: Offences of indecent or sexual assault where there was a domestic motivation showed a similar trend to offences of rape. With 26 offences recorded in 2012/13, indecent or sexual assaults on a male represented 11.6 per cent of all such assaults. With 124 offences recorded, indecent or sexual assaults on a female represented 18.8 per cent of all such assaults in 2012/13.

Figure 2.4 Sexual offences (domestic abuse motivation), 2004/05 to 2012/13



2.1.3 Robbery with a domestic abuse motivation

The number of robbery offences with a domestic motivation recorded range from 5 in 2004/05 and 2005/06 to 19 recorded in 2011/12 (the largest year on year increase, rising from 9 robbery offences recorded in 2010/11). Robberies with a domestic motivation represent around 1 per cent of all robberies recorded by the police.

2.1.4 Theft offences (including burglary) and criminal damage with a domestic abuse motivation

Theft offences: Theft offences (including burglary) with a domestic abuse motivation have shown a general upwards trend since 2004/05, reaching a peak of 721 offences in 2012/13, a rise of 17.4 per cent when compared with 614 offences recorded in 2011/12. Theft offences with a domestic motivation represent up to 2 per cent of all theft offences recorded.

Criminal damage offences: The highest level recorded was in 2005/06 (1,507 offences). Since then there was a downwards trend until 2010/11. There was then an increase of 134 offences between 2010/11 and 2011/12 and the latest figure of 1,214 offences recorded in 2012/13 is one offence less than 2011/12. Criminal damage offences with a domestic abuse motivation accounted for between 4 and 6 per cent of all criminal damage offences recorded.

2.2 Other crimes against society with a domestic abuse motivation

Between 80 and 90 per cent of other crimes against society with a domestic abuse motivation are breaches of non-molestation orders. The remainder relate mostly to the offence of threat or possession with intent to commit criminal damage.

2.2.1 Breach of non molestation order (domestic abuse motivation)

As discussed previously, the offence of breach of a non-molestation order was only introduced into the recorded crime data series in 2005/06. However the offence was in existence during 2004/05 and, during this financial year, those offences with a domestic abuse motivation were collated within PSNI.

Non-molestation orders are most commonly issued where the relationship between those involved would meet the domestic abuse definition. Generally speaking, at least 90 per cent of all breaches of non-molestation orders recorded by the police have a domestic abuse motivation. There were 911 breaches of non molestation orders recorded in 2012/13, 98.6% of all such breaches recorded in that year. The 2004/05 figure of 100 per cent in table 2.2 represents the fact that only those offences with a domestic abuse motivation were collated in this financial year as they were not part of the recorded crime data series.

Table 2.1 Recorded crime with a domestic abuse motivation by offence, 2004/05 to 2012/13

Offence	Numbers and percentages										
	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	change 2011/12 to 2012/13	% change 2011/12 to 2012/13
Victim-based crime											
Homicide¹	9	6	3	11	8	8	7	5	5	0	-
2 Attempted murder	22	15	23	21	23	25	19	19	24	5	-
5D Assault with intent to cause serious harm ²	52	64	64	69	116	168	197	169	217	48	28.4
8N Assault with injury	3,374	3,631	3,536	3,000	2,965	3,126	3,161	3,345	3,347	2	0.1
All other violence with injury	0	0	1	2	2	3	2	3	8	5	-
Violence with injury	3,448	3,710	3,624	3,092	3,106	3,322	3,379	3,536	3,596	60	1.7
3B Threats to kill	469	486	590	637	652	809	784	729	594	-135	-18.5
8L Harassment	313	405	425	381	426	512	476	539	629	90	16.7
11A Cruelty to Children/Young Persons, 13 Child abduction	6	13	14	12	42	42	62	78	106	28	35.9
105A Assault without injury	2,415	2,488	2,309	2,138	2,050	1,959	1,992	2,257	2,769	512	22.7
All other violence without injury	5	6	3	11	23	23	14	18	23	5	-
Violence without injury	3,208	3,398	3,341	3,179	3,193	3,345	3,328	3,621	4,121	500	13.8
Total violence against the person offences	6,655	7,114	6,968	6,282	6,307	6,675	6,714	7,162	7,722	560	7.8
Rape	26	39	47	40	68	101	88	106	172	66	62.3
17 Indecent assault on a male, 17A/17B Sexual assault on a male ^{3,4,5}	4	3	4	5	7	14	12	15	26	11	-
20 Indecent assault on a female, 20A/20B Sexual assault on a female ^{3,4,5}	25	36	41	47	65	92	82	83	124	41	49.4
All other sexual offences³	1	3	5	5	25	48	26	32	82	50	-
Total sexual offences³	56	81	97	97	165	255	208	236	404	168	71.2
Robbery	5	5	10	7	6	12	9	19	6	-13	-
Theft offences - burglary	75	103	87	100	100	104	93	122	115	-7	-5.7
Theft - vehicle offences	33	60	63	48	78	153	194	239	307	68	28.5
40 Theft in a dwelling other than from an automatic machine or meter	85	106	82	60	55	119	79	69	108	39	56.5
All other theft offences	72	124	104	96	110	131	126	184	191	7	3.8
Total theft offences (including burglary)	265	393	336	304	343	507	492	614	721	107	17.4
56A Arson endangering life, 56B Arson not endangering life	14	24	25	18	14	24	20	30	20	-10	-
58A Criminal damage to a dwelling	932	1,025	909	829	712	709	665	726	755	29	4.0
58C Criminal damage to a vehicle	202	228	264	200	210	243	193	225	219	-6	-2.7
58B/58D All other criminal damage	210	230	221	211	223	190	203	234	220	-14	-6.0
Total criminal damage offences	1,358	1,507	1,419	1,258	1,159	1,166	1,081	1,215	1,214	-1	-0.1
Other crimes against society											
Breach of non-molestation order ⁶	1,148	1,415	1,026	1,182	1,074	1,067	879	946	911	-35	-3.7
All other crimes against society	150	244	243	145	143	197	140	164	130	-34	-20.7
Other fraud											
Other fraud	9	9	16	8	14	24	23	31	52	21	-
Total recorded crime (domestic abuse motivation) - all offences	9,656	10,768	10,115	9,283	9,211	9,903	9,546	10,387	11,160	773	7.4

- Homicide comprises the offences of murder, manslaughter, corporate manslaughter and infanticide.
- 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.
- The Sexual Offences (Northern Ireland) Order 2008 was introduced in February 2009 and has altered the definition and coverage of sexual offences.
- 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.
- 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.
- The offence of breach of a non-molestation order was only introduced into the recorded crime data series in 2005/06, although the offence was in existence during 2004/05. However PSNI compiled data during 2004/05 on those breaches of a non molestation order which were domestic in nature at policing area level. This allowed these offences to be included within the 2004/05 domestic abuse crime figures and provide a comparable data series.

¹- indicates that for offences recorded, a percentage change is not reported because the base number of offences is less than 50.

Table 2.2 Recorded crime with a domestic abuse motivation as a percentage of all recorded crime by offence, 2004/05 to 2012/13

Offence	Percentages								
	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13
Victim-based crime									
Homicide¹	22.0	20.7	12.5	36.7	30.8	36.4	25.0	20.8	25.0
2 Attempted murder	17.1	8.7	19.5	15.7	18.5	21.9	17.3	16.7	23.1
5D Assault with intent to cause serious harm ²	12.9	15.4	13.3	12.6	14.7	13.3	17.9	17.0	19.2
8N Assault with injury	20.3	21.2	20.3	19.8	20.5	22.3	22.8	23.3	24.8
All other violence with injury	0.0	0.0	0.9	2.9	2.2	2.3	1.4	2.1	5.6
Violence with injury	20.0	20.8	20.0	19.4	20.1	21.4	22.2	22.7	24.2
3B Threats to kill	34.2	34.9	34.1	34.9	31.0	36.4	33.7	33.8	35.5
8L Harassment	16.4	17.5	20.5	22.0	23.2	25.2	24.3	27.5	32.0
11A Cruelty to Children/Young Persons, 13 Child abduction	7.5	13.4	11.9	14.6	34.7	33.9	46.6	50.6	60.6
105A Assault without injury	32.4	31.5	28.5	26.7	26.7	26.5	28.4	28.5	30.5
All other violence without injury	0.4	0.5	0.2	0.6	1.1	1.0	0.5	0.7	0.9
Violence without injury	26.7	26.1	24.5	23.5	23.0	23.6	23.6	24.4	26.7
Total violence against the person offences	22.7	23.0	21.9	21.3	21.5	22.4	22.9	23.5	25.5
Rape									
17 Indecent assault on a male, 17A/17B Sexual assault on a male ^{3,4,5}	3.0	1.9	2.5	3.3	4.4	10.1	6.4	8.0	11.6
20 Indecent assault on a female, 20A/20B Sexual assault on a female ^{3,4,5}	4.1	5.6	6.4	7.1	10.0	16.0	13.0	13.7	18.8
All other sexual offences³	0.2	0.6	1.1	1.0	4.0	7.7	4.7	6.6	15.9
Total sexual offences³	3.4	4.9	5.6	5.6	9.0	14.2	10.8	12.9	20.9
Robbery									
Theft offences - burglary	0.6	0.8	0.8	0.9	0.8	0.8	0.8	1.2	1.2
Theft - vehicle offences	0.3	0.6	0.7	0.6	1.0	1.9	2.8	4.0	5.8
40 Theft in a dwelling other than from an automatic machine or meter	9.8	13.6	10.5	10.6	10.4	18.6	14.4	11.4	13.9
All other theft offences	0.4	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.7	0.9	1.0
Total theft offences (including burglary)	0.6	0.9	0.8	0.8	0.9	1.2	1.3	1.6	2.0
56A Arson endangering life, 56B Arson not endangering life	0.7	1.0	1.0	0.8	0.7	1.2	1.1	1.9	1.3
58A Criminal damage to a dwelling	9.7	9.8	8.1	8.9	8.2	8.9	8.9	10.2	11.3
58C Criminal damage to a vehicle	1.8	1.8	2.1	1.8	2.0	2.5	2.1	2.6	2.7
58B/58D All other criminal damage	2.5	2.6	2.4	2.8	3.3	3.1	3.4	4.3	4.7
Total criminal damage offences	4.4	4.4	4.0	4.1	4.2	4.5	4.4	5.3	5.8
Other crimes against society									
Breach of non-molestation order ⁶	100.0	99.4	89.3	99.9	95.8	96.6	92.5	97.1	98.6
All other crimes against society	2.4	3.5	3.9	2.5	2.0	2.6	1.9	2.2	1.7
Other fraud									
Other fraud	0.4	0.4	0.9	0.8	1.1	2.0	1.7	2.2	2.8
Total recorded crime (domestic abuse motivation) - all offences⁷	8.1	8.7	8.3	8.6	8.4	9.1	9.1	10.0	11.1

- Homicide comprises the offences of murder, manslaughter, corporate manslaughter and infanticide.
- 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.
- The Sexual Offences (Northern Ireland) Order 2008 was introduced in February 2009 and has altered the definition and coverage of sexual offences.
- 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.
- 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.
- The offence of breach of a non-molestation order was only introduced into the recorded crime data series in 2005/06, although the offence was in existence during 2004/05. However PSNI compiled data during 2004/05 on those breaches of a non molestation order which were domestic in nature at policing area level. This allowed these offences to be included within the 2004/05 domestic abuse crime figures and provide a comparable data series.
- In order to provide a comparable figure for 2004/05, the offences of breach of non-molestation order were added to the total recorded crime figure for that year.

3 Victims of Domestic Abuse Crime

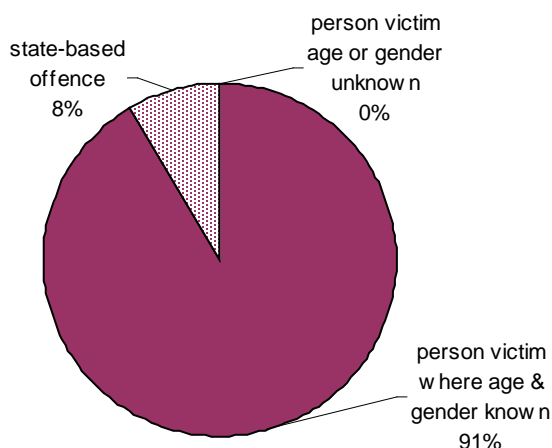
The Home Office has identified offences as being victim-based, state-based or victim and state-based. State-based offences are those for which no member of the public or business/organisation is a victim. For victim-based offences, the victim can be a member of the public (referred to here as person victim), a police officer who was the victim of a crime in the course of carrying out their duty, or a business or organisation.

In relation to domestic abuse crimes, between 9 and 14 per cent of these crimes are regarded as state-based offences, the most frequently recorded of these offences being a breach of a non-molestation order. In around 1 per cent of domestic abuse crimes there are no age or gender details available. The remaining 85 to 90 per cent are person victims whose age and gender are known.

Table 3.1 Domestic abuse crimes recorded by type of victim, 2004/05 to 2012/13

	Numbers and percentages								
	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13
Person victim where age and gender known	86%	85%	87%	86%	87%	88%	90%	90%	91%
State-based offence	12%	14%	11%	13%	12%	11%	9%	9%	8%
Person victim where age or gender unknown	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	0%	0%
Number of domestic abuse crimes	9,656	10,768	10,115	9,283	9,211	9,903	9,546	10,387	11,160

Figure 3.1 Domestic abuse crimes recorded by type of victim, 2012/13



3.1 Age and gender profile 2012/13: age/gender of victim

Please note: age and gender figures provided in this bulletin may differ slightly from those previously published. These details are extracted from a live operational system and, where possible, are updated to improve the level of coverage available.

There were 10,204 domestic abuse crimes recorded in 2012/13 where there was a person victim with known age and gender details. Twelve percent of this total were persons aged under 18 (1,233 offences), 63 per cent were females aged 18+ (6,446 offences) and 25 per cent were males aged 18+ (2,525 offences). There were an additional 13 offences where the age or gender of the victim was unknown. A further breakdown by victim age and gender for each financial year from 2004/05 is available in Table 3.2.

Victims aged under 18: Seventy nine per cent of those domestic abuse victims under the age of 18 were victims of violence against the person offences, 1 per cent were victims of theft (including burglary) or criminal damage, and 21 per cent were victims of other offences.

Crime rates victim aged under 18: There were 3 victims of domestic abuse crimes under the age of 18 per 1,000 of the population under 18.

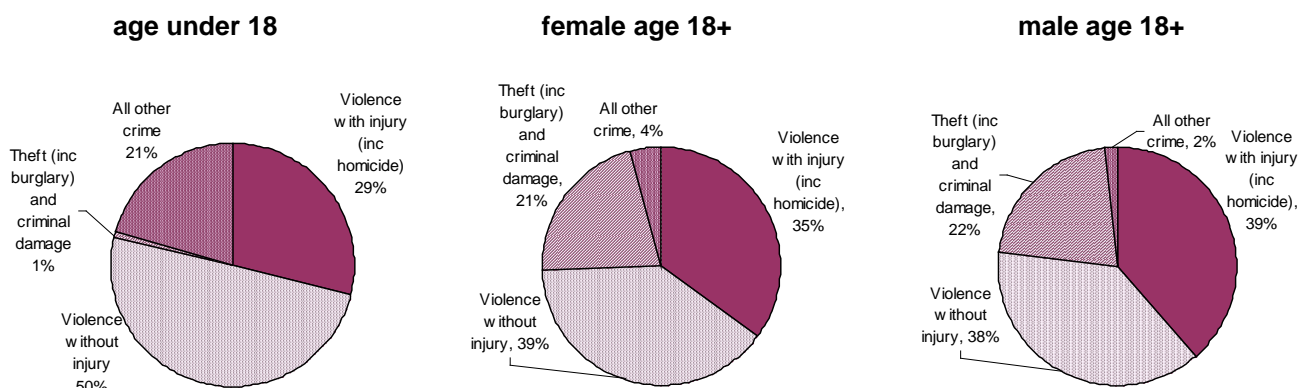
Female victims aged 18+: Seventy four per cent of female domestic abuse victims aged 18+ were victims of violence against the person offences and just less than half of these were victims of violence against the person with injury. Twenty one per cent were victims of theft (including burglary) or criminal damage, and 4 per cent were victims of other offences.

Crime rates female victims aged 18+: There were 9 female victims of domestic abuse crimes aged 18+ per 1,000 of the female population aged 18+.

Male victims aged 18+: Seventy seven per cent of male domestic abuse victims aged 18+ were victims of violence against the person offences, half of these being violence against the person with injury. Twenty two per cent were victims of theft (including burglary) or criminal damage, and 2 per cent were victims of other offences.

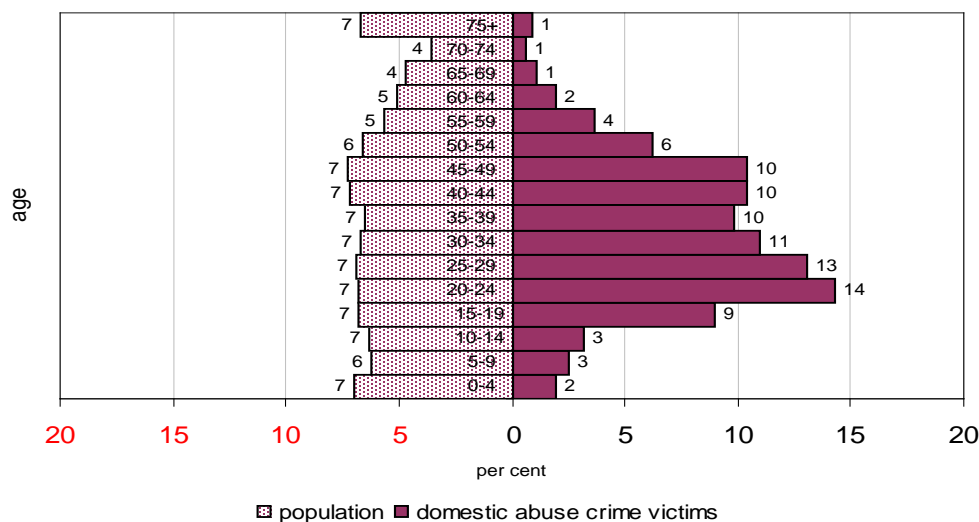
Crime rates male victim aged 18+: There were 4 male victims of domestic abuse crimes aged 18+ per 1,000 of the male population aged 18+.

Figure 3.2 Victims of domestic abuse by age and gender: percentage in each main crime type, 2012/13



¹ Violence against the person has been shortened to 'VAP' in the above charts.

Figure 3.3 Age profile of victims of domestic abuse crimes compared with Northern Ireland population profile, 2012/13



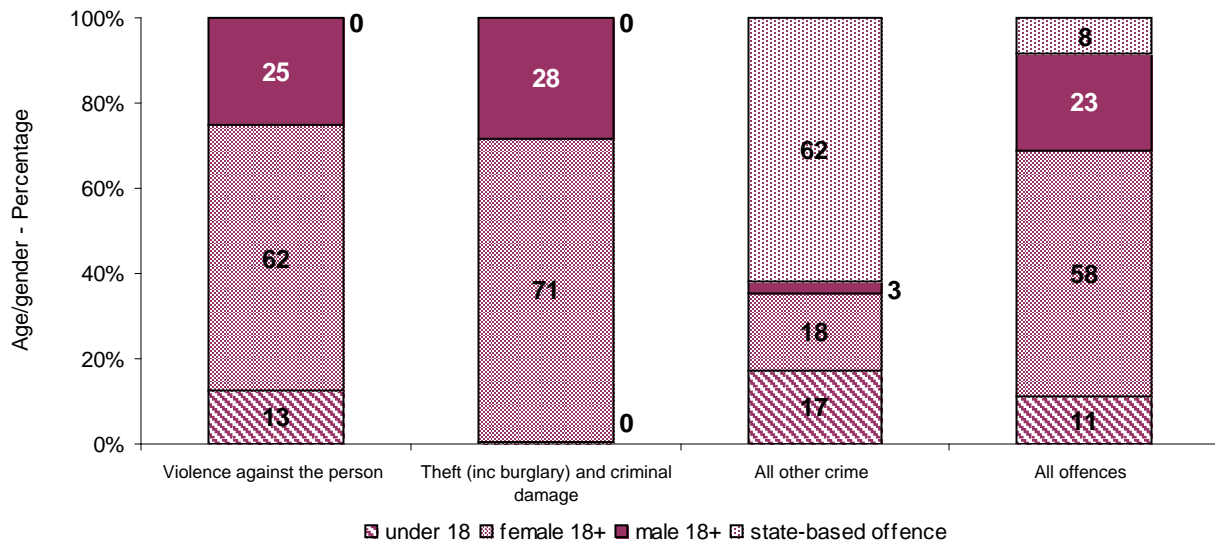
3.2 Age and gender profile 2012/13: main crime classifications

Violence against the person: The majority of domestic abuse victims were females aged 18+ (62 per cent), 25 per cent were males aged 18+ and 13 per cent victims under the age of 18. The age or gender of the victim was unknown in less than 1 per cent of violence against the person crimes with a domestic abuse motivation.

Theft (including burglary) and criminal damage: Seventy one per cent of domestic abuse victims were females aged 18+, 28 per cent were males aged 18+ and less than 0.5 per cent were victims under the age of 18. The age or gender of the victim was unknown in less than 0.1 per cent of all cases.

Other offences: State-based offences accounted for 62 per cent of all other offences, as this includes the offence of breach of non molestation order. Excluding state-based offences from these calculations reveals that, in relation to all other offences, 45 per cent of domestic abuse victims were under the age of 18, 48 per cent were females aged 18+, 7 per cent were males aged 18+ and for less than 0.5 per cent of offences the age or gender of the victim was unknown.

Figure 3.4 Proportion of victims of domestic abuse crimes by age and gender for the main crime classifications (state-based offences included), 2012/13



The proportion of victims of domestic abuse crimes where the age/gender was unknown was 0 per cent for each crime type and so this grouping has not been shown in figure 3.4.

Table 3.2 Domestic abuse crimes recorded by age of victim and type of crime, 2004/05 to 2012/13

Victim Age / Gender	Offence	Numbers and percentages										
		2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	change 2011/12 to 2012/13	% change 2011/12 to 2012/13
Victim aged under 18	Violence with injury (inc homicide)	311	322	325	259	297	350	305	330	356	26	7.9
	Violence without injury	309	347	362	400	517	451	462	507	613	106	20.9
	Theft (inc burglary)	4	6	5	7	4	10	2	3	5	2	-
	Criminal damage	13	13	14	17	13	9	9	13	4	-9	-
	All other offences	18	31	36	48	100	154	120	126	255	129	102.4
	Total all offences	655	719	742	731	931	974	898	979	1,233	254	25.9
Female victim aged 18+	Violence with injury	2,318	2,482	2,395	2,091	2,070	2,158	2,294	2,271	2,265	-6	-0.3
	Violence without injury	2,299	2,370	2,292	2,152	2,038	2,227	2,185	2,306	2,525	219	9.5
	Theft (inc burglary)	197	287	243	217	256	348	363	412	504	92	22.3
	Criminal damage	957	1,042	995	915	817	833	813	889	876	-13	-1.5
	All other offences	119	150	171	153	164	266	212	245	276	31	12.7
	Total all offences	5,890	6,331	6,096	5,528	5,345	5,832	5,867	6,123	6,446	323	5.3
Male victim aged 18+	Violence with injury	828	909	907	743	733	808	777	932	978	46	4.9
	Violence without injury	599	678	685	610	629	649	656	790	963	173	21.9
	Theft (inc burglary)	54	82	72	69	80	138	120	194	211	17	8.8
	Criminal damage	284	353	316	261	285	271	249	299	334	35	11.7
	All other offences	28	39	19	28	30	37	31	51	39	-12	-23.5
	Total all offences	1,793	2,061	1,999	1,711	1,757	1,903	1,833	2,266	2,525	259	11.4
Age or gender unknown	Violence with injury	0	3	0	10	14	14	10	8	2	-6	-
	Violence without injury	1	0	2	17	7	14	23	6	9	3	-
	Theft (inc burglary)	10	18	16	11	3	11	7	5	1	-4	-
	Criminal damage	102	98	94	65	44	53	10	14	0	-14	-
	All other offences	25	23	22	11	8	3	0	4	1	-3	-
	Total all offences	138	142	134	114	76	95	50	37	13	-24	-
State-based offence	Violence with injury	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-
	Violence without injury ¹	0	3	0	0	2	4	2	12	11	-1	-
	Theft (inc burglary)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-
	Criminal damage	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-
	All other offences ²	1,178	1,511	1,144	1,199	1,100	1,095	896	970	932	-38	-3.9
	Total all offences	1,180	1,515	1,144	1,199	1,102	1,099	898	982	943	-39	-4.0
All domestic abuse crimes	Violence with injury	3,457	3,716	3,627	3,103	3,114	3,330	3,386	3,541	3,601	60	1.7
	Violence without injury	3,208	3,398	3,341	3,179	3,193	3,345	3,328	3,621	4,121	500	13.8
	Theft (inc burglary)	265	393	336	304	343	507	492	614	721	107	17.4
	Criminal damage	1,358	1,507	1,419	1,258	1,159	1,166	1,081	1,215	1,214	-1	-0.1
	All other offences	1,368	1,754	1,392	1,439	1,402	1,555	1,259	1,396	1,503	107	7.7
	Total all offences	9,656	10,768	10,115	9,283	9,211	9,903	9,546	10,387	11,160	773	7.4

1. These relate to the offences of breach of injunction prohibiting harassment and breach of restraining order, which under Home office Counting Rules get counted in the violence against the person category, whereas most other breaches get counted under all other offences.
2. Includes the offence of breach of non molestation order, which is classified as a state-based offence.

^{1,2} indicates that for offences recorded, a percentage change is not reported because the base number of offences is less than 50.

Table 3.3 Domestic abuse crimes by policing district and policing area where the victim is under 18, 2004/05 to 2012/13¹

Policing district/area	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	Numbers
										change 2011/12 to 2012/13
North Belfast	54	67	59	53	91	76	62	45	81	36
West Belfast	22	30	22	28	29	30	52	40	58	18
A District	76	97	81	81	120	106	114	85	139	54
East Belfast	31	28	36	25	42	68	49	51	59	8
South Belfast	13	24	25	32	36	33	23	38	54	16
B District	44	52	61	57	78	101	72	89	113	24
Ards	32	37	36	51	38	37	38	47	77	30
Castlereagh	13	9	13	7	16	20	26	19	34	15
Down	13	20	22	15	34	23	32	35	66	31
North Down	28	32	31	36	24	34	38	40	35	-5
C District	86	98	102	109	112	114	134	141	212	71
Antrim	14	20	13	17	23	33	27	45	43	-2
Carrickfergus	11	12	8	14	16	15	27	25	25	0
Lisburn	71	47	66	46	49	69	67	61	96	35
Newtownabbey	30	33	41	20	42	28	47	52	42	-10
D District	126	112	128	97	130	145	168	183	206	23
Armagh	8	13	13	12	29	32	31	20	24	4
Banbridge	11	9	9	11	16	9	12	18	22	4
Craigavon	47	57	42	37	51	69	62	46	62	16
Newry & Mourne	14	32	31	36	28	43	41	59	52	-7
E District	80	111	95	96	124	153	146	143	160	17
Cookstown	25	19	11	18	19	23	17	22	21	-1
Dungannon & South Tyrone	5	11	17	14	17	23	19	35	35	0
Fermanagh	16	21	25	35	40	22	19	31	51	20
Omagh	12	18	27	39	27	25	14	22	41	19
F District	58	69	80	106	103	93	69	110	148	38
Foyle	52	36	45	62	77	84	54	85	96	11
Limavady	17	15	20	28	31	29	20	24	19	-5
Magherafelt	8	13	8	18	14	11	12	23	23	0
Strabane	26	17	24	17	42	26	18	21	12	-9
G District	103	81	97	125	164	150	104	153	150	-3
Ballymena	24	34	29	24	23	43	35	30	22	-8
Ballymoney	12	11	13	2	9	17	6	15	23	8
Coleraine	30	39	40	23	43	28	23	21	41	20
Larne	12	15	13	9	20	16	21	3	12	9
Moyle	4	0	3	2	5	8	6	6	7	1
H District	82	99	98	60	100	112	91	75	105	30
Northern Ireland	655	719	742	731	931	974	898	979	1,233	254

1. Crimes are geographically recorded by the police based on the location in which the crime occurred.

Table 3.4 Domestic abuse crimes by policing district and policing area where the victim is female and aged 18+, 2004/05 to 2012/13¹

Policing district/area	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	Numbers
										change 2011/12 to 2012/13
North Belfast	449	553	596	539	500	444	483	442	577	135
West Belfast	398	344	185	317	249	298	319	321	387	66
A District	847	897	781	856	749	742	802	763	964	201
East Belfast	266	287	307	263	270	245	279	326	372	46
South Belfast	228	285	257	256	227	230	243	246	261	15
B District	494	572	564	519	497	475	522	572	633	61
Ards	229	248	253	181	144	189	214	196	188	-8
Castlereagh	129	109	125	73	100	118	131	107	110	3
Down	97	214	201	127	155	207	172	166	162	-4
North Down	205	238	232	227	179	189	202	168	208	40
C District	660	809	811	608	578	703	719	637	668	31
Antrim	163	161	228	160	141	200	176	209	179	-30
Carrickfergus	113	142	130	161	129	114	114	143	113	-30
Lisburn	544	477	520	361	299	365	391	339	334	-5
Newtownabbey	270	312	304	226	263	265	214	261	256	-5
D District	1,090	1,092	1,182	908	832	944	895	952	882	-70
Armagh	113	138	126	122	103	123	108	150	127	-23
Banbridge	125	115	114	109	90	97	107	133	157	24
Craigavon	361	360	363	351	333	363	362	373	407	34
Newry & Mourne	196	313	271	218	254	305	285	293	331	38
E District	795	926	874	800	780	888	862	949	1,022	73
Cookstown	116	131	89	87	79	104	127	121	102	-19
Dungannon & South Tyrone	88	103	105	104	96	161	146	173	192	19
Fermanagh	103	184	140	173	123	158	171	182	221	39
Omagh	156	154	159	140	130	125	119	130	163	33
F District	463	572	493	504	428	548	563	606	678	72
Foyle	463	411	331	401	469	554	557	554	588	34
Limavady	141	146	125	121	141	152	179	138	110	-28
Magherafelt	68	88	103	91	74	71	73	83	127	44
Strabane	230	143	118	88	121	107	127	157	126	-31
G District	902	788	677	701	805	884	936	932	951	19
Ballymena	225	223	249	209	241	228	199	259	221	-38
Ballymoney	83	88	57	60	69	67	64	84	81	-3
Coleraine	219	242	278	208	231	199	198	228	240	12
Larne	76	70	94	122	95	97	77	103	68	-35
Moyle	36	52	36	33	40	57	30	38	38	0
H District	639	675	714	632	676	648	568	712	648	-64
Northern Ireland	5,890	6,331	6,096	5,528	5,345	5,832	5,867	6,123	6,446	323

1. Crimes are geographically recorded by the police based on the location in which the crime occurred.

Table 3.5 Domestic abuse crimes by policing district and policing area where the victim is male and aged 18+, 2004/05 to 2012/13¹

Policing district/area	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	Numbers
										change 2011/1 to 2012/13
North Belfast	110	127	170	150	133	118	129	126	200	74
West Belfast	90	94	58	83	63	68	106	114	127	13
A District	200	221	228	233	196	186	235	240	327	87
East Belfast	95	106	103	94	82	88	92	122	151	29
South Belfast	77	102	103	89	82	65	57	106	99	-7
B District	172	208	206	183	164	153	149	228	250	22
Ards	82	107	121	85	64	63	58	60	80	20
Castlereagh	42	30	30	21	34	32	37	23	37	14
Down	31	49	77	44	49	56	54	53	69	16
North Down	57	79	87	72	60	58	52	69	75	6
C District	212	265	315	222	207	209	201	205	261	56
Antrim	52	41	52	59	46	68	61	72	77	5
Carrickfergus	28	52	45	41	29	41	28	50	36	-14
Lisburn	186	171	163	100	112	133	117	120	136	16
Newtownabbey	90	127	104	71	64	80	89	89	105	16
D District	356	391	364	271	251	322	295	331	354	23
Armagh	44	46	50	40	42	49	51	70	72	2
Banbridge	57	53	41	46	26	40	40	58	64	6
Craigavon	126	142	123	105	140	124	109	153	148	-5
Newry & Mourne	50	102	91	66	107	106	106	147	147	0
E District	277	343	305	257	315	319	306	428	431	3
Cookstown	54	39	41	30	30	38	32	59	53	-6
Dungannon & South Tyrone	28	26	36	13	27	39	32	64	70	6
Fermanagh	28	57	42	46	43	56	56	64	90	26
Omagh	48	48	49	50	64	60	47	53	57	4
F District	158	170	168	139	164	193	167	240	270	30
Foyle	124	112	94	127	153	178	170	213	218	5
Limavady	43	56	52	51	60	50	66	49	50	1
Magherafelt	21	43	25	32	9	26	31	44	45	1
Strabane	59	49	45	26	35	34	49	62	59	-3
G District	247	260	216	236	257	288	316	368	372	4
Ballymena	60	51	38	57	75	75	53	93	99	6
Ballymoney	26	29	19	24	34	29	20	24	37	13
Coleraine	53	81	93	63	60	86	50	69	79	10
Larne	21	32	31	19	22	32	29	27	30	3
Moyle	11	10	16	7	12	11	12	13	15	2
H District	171	203	197	170	203	233	164	226	260	34
Northern Ireland	1,793	2,061	1,999	1,711	1,757	1,903	1,833	2,266	2,525	259

1. Crimes are geographically recorded by the police based on the location in which the crime occurred.

4 Detections of Crimes with a Domestic Abuse Motivation

Detected crime is a term that describes offences which have been ‘cleared up’ by the police. They can be divided into two categories: sanction and non-sanction detections. Sanction detections occur where the offender receives some formal sanction such as being charged or summonsed, cautioned, receiving a penalty notice for disorder or by having an offence taken into consideration at court (TICs). Non sanction detections occur where the offence was cleared up but where no further action is taken against an offender.

Section 2.4 of the [Crime User Guide](#) describes in detail what detections are, the recording practice in relation to detections and changes to this practice that have affected the recording of detections and detection rates.

Detection rates refer to the number of detections 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 detection 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).

This section of the bulletin looks at the levels and trends in detections and detection rates in Northern Ireland, with the main focus being on sanction detections. The use of non-sanction detections was considerably restricted from April 2007, meaning that the overall detection rate is not a suitable measure to use when examining longer term trends in detection rates. Instead, a focus on sanction detection rates allows more meaningful comparisons to be made on these figures dating back to 2004/05.

4.1 Comparison of detection rates (domestic abuse motivation), 2011/12 and 2012/13

There were 11,160 domestic abuse offences recorded in 2012/13 of which 3,888 were detected, all but one by means of a sanction detection. The number of detections (both sanction and non sanction) fell by 386 between 2011/12 and 2012/13 while the number of crimes recorded rose by 773, resulting in an decrease in the overall detection rate of 6.3 percentage points from 41.1% to 34.8%. The sanction detection rate matched the overall detection rate in both years as there were no non-sanction detections in 2011/12, and only one in 2012/13 (where no prosecution was directed).

Detection rates by offence group: Between 2011/12 and 2012/13 there were decreases recorded in the detection rates across most crime types. The violence against the person sanction detection rate fell by 6.6 percentage points from 37.5% to 30.8%, for sexual offences it decreased by 11.4 percentage points from 23.3% to 11.9%, and for criminal damage it fell by 7.3 percentage points from 44.9% to 37.6%. The sanction detection rate for theft offences (including burglary) was 50.9%, an increase of 4.2 percentage points on the 2011/12 figure of 46.7%. Offences of breach of non-molestation orders had a sanction detection rate of 62.1% in 2012/13, 1.3 percentage points lower than for 2011/12.

Comparison of sanction detection rates for domestic abuse crimes and all crimes recorded by the police: In 2012/13, sanction detection rates for all domestic abuse crimes were higher than those for all crimes recorded by the police. Due to the nature of domestic abuse crimes a potential offender can be more easily identified than for crime in general. In 2012/13 this was particularly noticeable in relation to theft and criminal damage offences where the sanction detection rate for all such offences with a domestic abuse motivation was 42.6%, compared with 15.7% for all such offences recorded by the police. However the detection rate for sexual offences, violence against the person and other offences with a domestic abuse motivation tend to be lower than for all crime in general (as seen in Figure 4.1)

Figure 4.1 Sanction detection rates by crime type, domestic abuse crime and all crimes recorded by the police, 2012/13

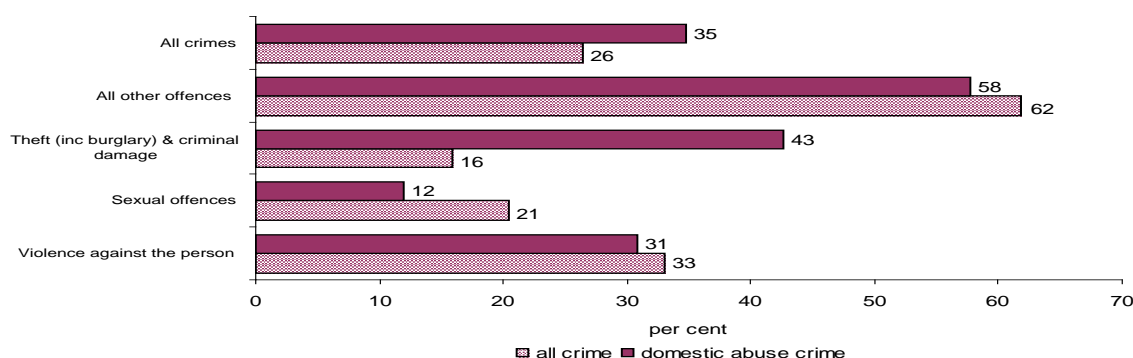


Table 4.1 Domestic abuse offences detected by offence group and method of detection, 2012/13

Offence group	Numbers and percentages					
	Total recorded crime	Charge / summons	Cautions	TICs	Penalty notice for disorder	Non-sanction detections
<i>Number of detections</i>						
Violence against the person	7,722	2,131	248	0	1	0
Sexual offences	404	47	1	0	0	1
Robbery	6	3	0	0	0	0
Theft (including burglary)	721	341	26	0	0	0
Criminal damage	1,214	396	55	0	6	0
Breach of non-molestation order	911	556	10	0	0	0
Other offences	182	63	3	0	0	0
Total	11,160	3,537	343	0	7	1
<i>Detection Rate (%)</i>						
	All detection methods	Charge / summons	Cautions	TICs	Penalty notice for disorder	Non-sanction detections
Violence against the person	30.8	27.6	3.2	0.0	0.0	0.0
Sexual offences	12.1	11.6	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.2
Robbery	50.0	50.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Theft (including burglary)	50.9	47.3	3.6	0.0	0.0	0.0
Criminal damage	37.6	32.6	4.5	0.0	0.5	0.0
Breach of non-molestation order	62.1	61.0	1.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other offences	36.3	34.6	1.6	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total	34.8	31.7	3.1	0.0	0.1	0.0

4.2 Trends in detection rates over time (domestic abuse motivation)

Figure 4.2 shows the trend in the overall detection rate, as well as by the sanction and non-sanction split, for domestic abuse crimes since 2004/05. It should be noted that the sanction detection rate for 2004/05 will have been impacted to some extent by the fact that this was the first year of the domestic abuse crime data series. Each year detections will be achieved for crimes that were recorded in previous years. As there were no crimes identified as having a domestic motivation prior to 2004/05, the detection rate for this financial year was based solely on those offences with a domestic motivation that were both recorded and detected within that financial year. Any impact of this will have been experienced to a much lesser extent in later financial years.

In April 2006, a higher evidential standard was adopted within the PSNI following the establishment of the Public Prosecution Service in Northern Ireland. This restricted the use of the non-sanction detection method complainant declined to prosecute which was widely used as a detection method due to the nature of domestic abuse crimes where a victim did not wish to support prosecution of the offender. In 2004/05 detections by means of complainant declined to prosecute accounted for 78 per cent of all detections with a domestic abuse motivation, and accounted for 66 per cent in 2005/06. The adoption by PSNI of the higher evidential standard reduced the use of complainant declined to prosecute detections and in 2006/07 this method accounted for 27.4 per cent of all detections.

From April 2007 some of the methods that had been allowed for claiming non-sanction detections were discontinued altogether. The result of these changes was that the overall detection rate for domestic abuse crimes fell from 77.5% in 2005/06 to 45.8% in 2006/07 and again to 33.9% in 2007/08. The overall detection rate increased each year between 2007/08 and 2010/11. However, between 2010/11 and 2011/12 the detection rate fell from 46.6% to 41.1%, followed by a further fall to its current level of 34.8% in 2012/13.

Figure 4.2 Detection rates for domestic abuse crimes, 2004/05 to 2012/13

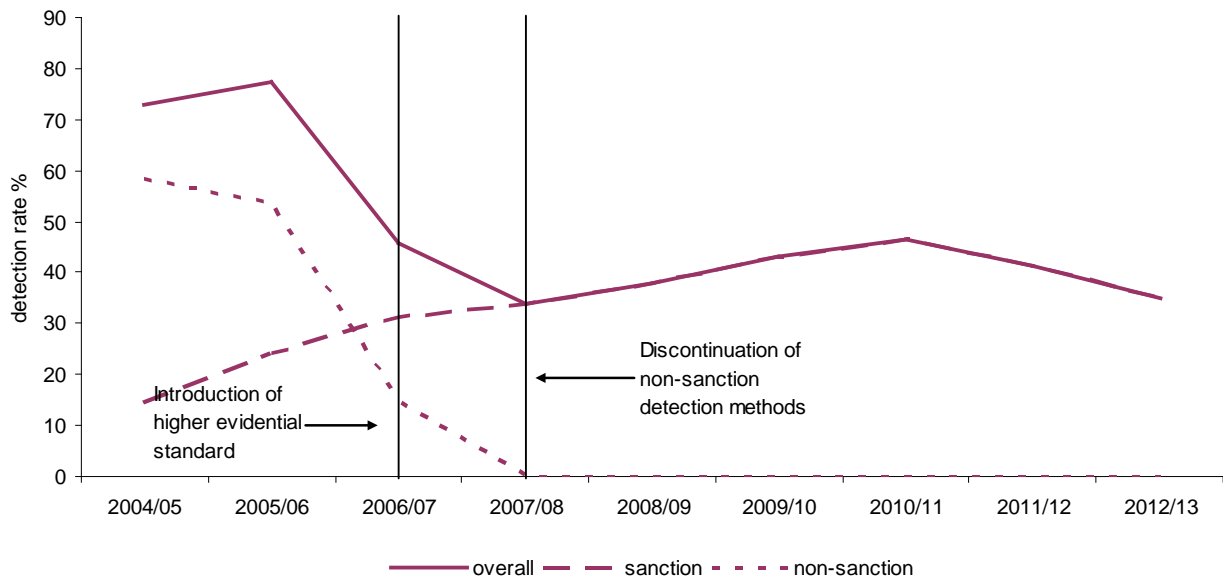


Figure 4.3 illustrates the move away from non-sanction detections following the introduction of the higher evidential standard in 2006/07 and the limited use of non-sanction detection methods from 2007/08. The increase in the use of charge / summons as a detection method can also clearly be seen. In particular this clearly shows the impact that adopting the higher evidential standard and the subsequent limitation in the use of non-sanction detection methods had on the overall detection rate.

Figure 4.3 Detection rates for domestic abuse crimes by method of detection, 2004/05 to 2012/13

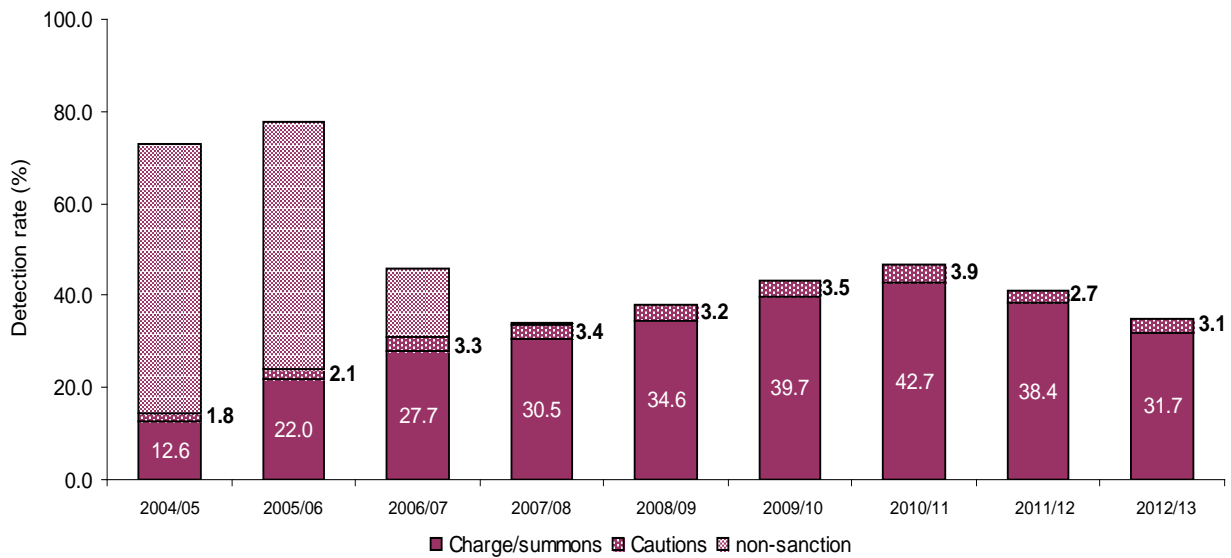


Table 4.2 Sanction detection rates for crime with a domestic abuse motivation by offence, 2004/05 to 2012/13¹

Offence	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	Percentages
										% point change 2011/12 to 2012/13 ²
Victim-based crime										
Homicide³	66.7	100.0	100.0	27.3	87.5	75.0	85.7	60.0	80.0	20.0
2 Attempted murder	54.5	86.7	65.2	76.2	60.9	76.0	57.9	63.2	70.8	7.7
5D Assault with intent to cause serious harm	42.3	50.0	62.5	53.6	56.9	50.0	66.5	50.3	48.4	-1.9
8N Assault with injury	12.3	17.9	26.8	32.3	36.7	43.3	45.3	42.3	37.0	-5.3
All other violence with injury	-	-	0.0	0.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	62.5	-37.5
Violence with injury	13.0	18.8	27.7	33.1	37.6	43.9	46.7	42.9	38.0	-4.9
3B Threats to kill	37.7	45.1	47.1	44.9	51.1	50.6	55.6	55.3	42.8	-12.5
8L Harassment	31.0	21.0	18.6	13.1	12.9	20.9	24.4	16.7	18.8	2.1
11A Cruelty to Children/Young Persons, 13 Child abduction	33.3	46.2	57.1	41.7	31.0	28.6	16.1	21.8	47.2	25.4
105A Assault without injury	4.8	7.5	15.5	19.7	23.2	31.2	34.8	28.8	21.1	-7.7
All other violence without injury	20.0	16.7	0.0	36.4	34.8	52.2	42.9	27.8	26.1	-1.7
Violence without injury	12.3	14.7	21.6	24.1	27.7	34.4	37.9	32.1	24.5	-7.6
Total violence against the person offences	12.7	16.9	24.8	28.5	32.7	39.2	42.4	37.5	30.8	-6.6
Rape	11.5	15.4	19.1	17.5	14.7	11.9	15.9	18.9	11.6	-7.2
17 Indecent assault on a male, 17A/17B Sexual assault on a male ^{4,5,6}	25.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	14.3	7.1	0.0	6.7	11.5	4.9
20 Indecent assault on a female, 20A/20B Sexual assault on a female ^{4,5,6}	20.0	27.8	41.5	19.1	30.8	22.8	31.7	36.1	15.3	-20.8
All other sexual offences⁴	100.0	33.3	0.0	40.0	16.0	10.4	26.9	12.5	7.3	-5.2
Total sexual offences⁴	17.9	21.0	26.8	18.6	21.2	15.3	22.6	23.3	11.9	-11.4
Robbery	0.0	20.0	30.0	14.3	50.0	25.0	77.8	42.1	50.0	7.9
Theft offences – burglary	26.7	24.3	35.6	38.0	44.0	55.8	51.6	38.5	47.0	8.4
Theft - vehicle offences	48.5	35.0	46.0	60.4	48.7	66.0	76.8	79.5	80.8	1.3
40 Theft in a dwelling other than from an automatic machine or meter	7.1	12.3	18.3	23.3	18.2	19.3	35.4	26.1	25.0	-1.1
All other theft offences	2.8	17.7	24.0	19.8	17.3	31.3	30.2	17.4	19.9	2.5
Total theft offences (including burglary)	16.6	20.6	29.8	32.9	32.4	44.0	53.5	46.7	50.9	4.2
56A Arson endangering life, 56B Arson not endangering life	21.4	33.3	60.0	61.1	42.9	50.0	40.0	50.0	50.0	0.0
58A Criminal damage to a dwelling	22.4	21.8	29.5	34.0	42.4	50.6	52.5	45.3	39.3	-6.0
58C Criminal damage to a vehicle	18.3	27.6	34.8	38.5	40.5	41.6	49.2	43.1	38.4	-4.8
58B/58D All other criminal damage	15.7	17.4	24.4	32.2	31.4	48.9	51.2	44.9	30.0	-14.9
Total criminal damage offences	20.8	22.2	30.2	34.8	39.9	48.5	51.4	44.9	37.6	-7.3
Other crimes against society										
Breach of non-molestation order ⁷	-	60.4	71.9	62.2	68.5	71.1	75.2	63.4	62.1	-1.3
All other crimes against society	27.3	42.2	46.1	40.7	48.3	37.6	37.1	52.4	39.2	-13.2
Other fraud										
Other fraud	0.0	22.2	18.8	12.5	42.9	25.0	47.8	29.0	28.8	-0.2
Total recorded crime (domestic abuse motivation) – all offences	14.4	24.1	31.1	33.9	37.8	43.3	46.5	41.1	34.8	-6.3

- The detection figures provided in this table are based on sanction detections only. The reason for focusing on sanction detections instead of the overall detection rate is that there have been a number of changes to the rules governing what can be counted as a detection since 2004/05. However sanction detections remained unaffected by these changes and so provide the most comparable data series. An explanation of the changes to the recording of detections, along with details on what constitutes a sanction detection, can be found in the [User Guide to Police Recorded Crime Statistics in Northern Ireland](#). 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 sanction detection rate is the number of crimes that are cleared up by a sanction detection divided by the total number of recorded offences. The two definitions mentioned above should be taken into account when considering the sanction detection rate for 2004/05. As there were no crimes identified as having a domestic motivation prior to 2004/05, the detection rate is based solely on those offences with a domestic motivation that were both recorded and detected within that financial year.
- Percentage point change is based on unrounded figures.
- Homicide comprises the offences of murder, manslaughter, corporate manslaughter and infanticide.
- The Sexual Offences (Northern Ireland) Order 2008 was introduced in February 2009 and has altered the definition and coverage of sexual offences.
- 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.
- 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.
- The offence of breach of a non-molestation order was only introduced into the recorded crime data series in 2005/06, although the offence was in existence during 2004/05. PSNI compiled data during 2004/05 on those breaches of a non molestation order which were domestic in nature at policing area level, however the number that were detected was not compiled. So while the number of offences recorded has been included within the 2004/05 domestic abuse crime figures, a detection rate for 2004/05 is not available. This will have had an impact on the sanction detection rate for 2004/05 as these offences tend to have a high detection rate.

⁴ indicates that for offences detected, a detection rate cannot be calculated as there were no offences recorded.

Table 4.3 Number of detections and detection rates by method of detection for crimes with a domestic abuse motivation, 2004/05 to 2012/13

Method of detection	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13
<i>Number of detections</i>									
Charge/summons	1,070	2,367	2,805	2,829	3,191	3,935	4,073	3,990	3,537
Adult cautions ¹	140	180	223	233	206	259	292	211	276
Juvenile cautions ²	15	44	112	79	87	88	76	73	67
TICs ³	1	1	1	4	0	4	0	0	0
Penalty notices for disorder ⁴	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7
Total sanction detections	1,226	2,592	3,141	3,145	3,484	4,286	4,441	4,274	3,887
Complainant declined to prosecute ^{5,6}	4,836	5,471	1,268	..	..	..	..	..	..
No prosecution directed ^{5,7}	121	249	210	1	2	1	1	0	1
Offender died before proceedings ^{5,7}	6	12	8	1	0	1	2	0	0
Other ^{5,6,7}	12	26	4	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total non-sanction detections⁵	4,975	5,758	1,490	2	2	2	3	0	1
All detections	6,201	8,350	4,631	3,147	3,486	4,288	4,444	4,274	3,888
Total number of offences^{9,10}	8,508	10,768	10,115	9,283	9,211	9,903	9,546	10,387	11,160
<i>Detection rates (%)¹¹</i>									
Charge/summons	12.6	22.0	27.7	30.5	34.6	39.7	42.7	38.4	31.7
Adult cautions ¹	1.6	1.7	2.2	2.5	2.2	2.6	3.1	2.0	2.5
Juvenile cautions ²	0.2	0.4	1.1	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.7	0.6
TICs ³	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Penalty notices for disorder ⁴	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	0.1
Total sanction detections	14.4	24.1	31.1	33.9	37.8	43.3	46.5	41.1	34.8
Complainant declined to prosecute ^{5,6}	56.8	50.8	12.5	..	..	..	..	..	..
No prosecution directed ^{5,7}	1.4	2.3	2.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Offender died before proceedings ^{5,7}	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other ^{5,6,7}	0.1	0.2	0.0	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total non-sanction detections⁵	58.5	53.5	14.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
All detections	72.9	77.5	45.8	33.9	37.8	43.3	46.6	41.1	34.8

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. Offences asked to be taken into consideration at court.
4. From 1 April 2007, new rules governing non-sanction detections significantly limited the occasions for which such administrative disposals can be applied.
5. Penalty notices for disorder were introduced within Northern Ireland in June 2012.
6. From 1 April 2007 these non-sanction detections can longer be claimed as a detection.
7. From 1 April 2007 these non-sanction detections can only be claimed as a detection 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 provide a realistic prospect of conviction but has decided not to proceed with the case, or where the case cannot be proceeded with because the offender has died.
8. Includes offender under age.
9. Total recorded crime whether detected or not.
10. As this table focuses on detection methods, the total number of offences recorded for 2004/05 excludes the breach of non molestation order offences. While the number of these offences recorded during 2004/05 was compiled by PSNI, the number of offences detected was not compiled.
11. The number of crimes that are cleared up by a detection expressed as a percentage of the total number of recorded offences.

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

5 Victim and offender characteristics for Domestic Abuse Motivated Crimes, 2010/11 to 2012/13

This section provides details on victim and offender characteristics for crimes with a domestic abuse motivation. This is in addition to the victim details provided in section 3 of this report. As this information was first collated in response to a specific request for information, data is only available from 2010/11 onwards but will be updated annually in future editions of this trends bulletin.

Information on victim characteristics is based on the number of offences with a domestic abuse motivation recorded in each financial year, whereas information on offender characteristics is based on the number of offences with a domestic abuse motivation detected in each financial year. Please note that offences detected may have been recorded in a previous financial year. For the purposes of this section an offender is defined as someone who has been dealt with by police by means of a formal detection (i.e. charge, summons, caution, penalty notice for disorder or having the offence taken into consideration at court – see section 4 for further details on detections).

Victim characteristics (crimes with a domestic abuse motivation), 2010/11 to 2012/13

The information presented in the tables below relates to domestic abuse crimes recorded where there was a person victim (state based offences, the majority of which relate to breaches of non-molestation orders, have been excluded). A person could have been a victim of more than one crime on more than one occasion during the time period. The figures below therefore relate to the victim characteristics of each crime recorded rather than number of discrete victims. Victim characteristics are taken from a live crime recording system and will be subject to change.

Of the 10,217 abuse crimes recorded in 2012/13 where there was a person victim, 70 per cent were female and 30 per cent were male. This compares with 74 per cent female and 26 per cent male in 2010/11. In 2012/13, 88 per cent of person victims were aged 18 and over (compared with 89 per cent in 2010/11) and 12 per cent were under 18 (compared with 10 per cent in 2010/11). The ethnicity was unknown for 10 per cent of all victims of domestic abuse crimes in 2012/13, but where it was available 99 per cent were of white ethnicity, and within this category most have a UK or Ireland nationality (90 per cent of all those with white ethnicity in 2012/13).

Table 5.1 Domestic abuse crimes recorded by gender of victim, 2010/11 to 2012/13

Gender	Numbers		
	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13
Male	2,216	2,665	3,029
Female	6,414	6,724	7,178
Unknown/Missing	14	13	10
Total (person victims)	8,644	9,402	10,217

Table 5.2 Domestic abuse crimes recorded by age of victim, 2010/11 to 2012/13

Age	Numbers		
	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13
Under 18	898	979	1,233
18 and over	7,713	8,398	8,980
Unknown/Missing	33	25	4
Total (person victims)	8,644	9,402	10,217

Table 5.3 Domestic abuse crimes recorded by ethnicity and nationality of victim, 2010/11 to 2012/13

Ethnicity (<i>Nationality</i>)	Numbers		
	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13
Asian: of which	38	43	48
<i>UK and Ireland</i>	10	12	9
<i>All other nationalities</i>	28	25	33
<i>Nationality missing</i>	0	6	6
Black: of which	39	34	39
<i>UK and Ireland</i>	9	14	9
<i>All other nationalities</i>	29	16	26
<i>Nationality missing</i>	1	4	4
Mixed/Other: of which	26	30	38
<i>UK and Ireland</i>	13	12	14
<i>All other nationalities</i>	13	18	22
<i>Nationality missing</i>	0	0	2
White: of which	7,964	8,396	9,040
<i>UK and Ireland</i>	7,233	7,420	8,114
<i>Poland</i>	116	107	109
<i>Lithuania</i>	70	96	106
<i>Latvia</i>	24	31	30
<i>Portugal</i>	16	20	20
<i>All other nationalities</i>	63	78	93
<i>Nationality missing</i>	442	644	568
Ethnicity Missing/Unknown Person: of which	577	899	1,052
<i>UK and Ireland</i>	355	401	431
<i>All other nationalities</i>	22	33	61
<i>Nationality missing</i>	200	465	560
Total (person victims)	8,644	9,402	10,217

Offender characteristics (crimes with a domestic abuse motivation), 2010/11 to 2012/13

Offender characteristics have only been included for those offenders who have been dealt with by police by means of a formal detection. Detected crime is a term that describes offences which have been 'cleared up' by the police. They can be divided into two categories: sanction and non-sanction detections. Sanction detections occur where the offender receives some formal sanction such as being charged or summonsed, cautioned, receiving a penalty notice for disorder or by having an offence taken into consideration at court (TICs). Non sanction detections occur where the offence was cleared up but where no further action is taken against an offender.

A person could have been an offender in relation to more than one offence on more than one occasion during the time period. The figures in the following tables therefore relate to the offender characteristics of each offence detected rather than number of discrete offenders. It is also important to note that more than one offender can be detected for the same offence.

Table 5.4 Domestic abuse crimes detected and number of offenders detected, 2010/11 to 2012/13

Detections / Offenders	Numbers		
	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13
Crimes with a domestic abuse motivation which have been detected during each financial year	4,444	4,274	3,888
Total number of offenders for detected crimes with a domestic abuse motivation	4,485	4,288	3,908

Of all offenders who were dealt with by police by means of a formal detection in 2012/13, 87 per cent were male and 12 per cent were female. The majority (94 per cent) of offenders were over 18. Ethnicity was missing for around 12 per cent of all offenders, but where ethnicity was known the vast majority were white (98 per cent).

Table 5.5 Gender of offender (domestic abuse detected crimes), 2010/11 to 2012/13

Gender	Numbers		
	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13
Male	3,808	3,742	3,391
Female	416	441	454
Unknown/Missing	261	105	63
Total (offenders)	4,485	4,288	3,908

Table 5.6 Age of offender (domestic abuse detected crimes), 2010/11 to 2012/13

Age	Numbers		
	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13
Under 18	281	157	164
18 and over	3,941	4,025	3,681
Unknown/Missing	263	106	63
Total (offenders)	4,485	4,288	3,908

Table 5.7 Ethnicity/Nationality of offender (domestic abuse detected crimes), 2010/11 to 2012/13

Ethnicity (<i>Nationality</i>)	Numbers		
	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13
Asian: of which	22	21	16
<i>UK and Ireland</i>	5	4	6
<i>All other nationalities</i>	17	17	10
<i>Nationality missing</i>	0	0	0
Black: of which	32	25	32
<i>UK and Ireland</i>	8	6	6
<i>All other nationalities</i>	23	19	26
<i>Nationality missing</i>	1	0	0
Mixed/Other: of which	19	21	14
<i>UK and Ireland</i>	11	7	4
<i>All other nationalities</i>	8	14	9
<i>Nationality missing</i>	0	0	1
White: of which	3,677	3,637	3,358
<i>UK and Ireland</i>	3,473	3,411	3,182
<i>Poland</i>	66	68	41
<i>Lithuania</i>	26	52	48
<i>Latvia</i>	16	15	11
<i>Portugal</i>	8	15	8
<i>All other nationalities</i>	40	31	23
<i>Nationality missing</i>	48	45	45
Ethnicity Missing/Unknown Person: of which	735	584	488
<i>UK and Ireland</i>	410	432	382
<i>All other nationalities</i>	37	48	44
<i>Nationality missing</i>	288	104	62
Total (offenders)	4,485	4,288	3,908

In 2012/13, the victim offender relationship was missing for 20 per cent of all cases. For the remainder where a victim offender relationship was available, 33 per cent fell into the ex spouse, partner, girlfriend, boyfriend category, 30 per cent were current spouse, partner, girlfriend, boyfriend, 24 per cent were parent and child and 8 per cent were siblings.

Table 5.8 Victim / offender relationship (domestic abuse detected crimes), 2010/11 to 2012/13

Victim/Offender Relationship ¹	Numbers		
	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13
Current spouse, partner, girlfriend, boyfriend etc	1,071	1,074	927
Ex spouse, partner, girlfriend, boyfriend etc	1,081	936	1,039
Parent and child	731	701	757
Grandparent and grandchild	17	27	36
Sibling	227	244	261
Other family relationship	95	80	96
Unknown/Missing	1,263	1,226	792
Total (all offenders)	4,485	4,288	3,908

¹Although breach of a non-molestation order is an offence against the state, where a victim offender relationship has been supplied in relation to this offence it has been included in the figures above.

6 Geographic Patterns of Domestic Abuse Incidents and Crimes

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, sanction detection rates and population rates for each policing district and policing area within Northern Ireland.

The policing areas are based on the local government district boundaries for Northern Ireland, with Belfast being split into East, North, South and West. Policing areas have then been grouped together to form the eight policing districts as shown in Figure 5.1. The tables in this section group the policing areas within each district.

While the tables in this report provide policing district and policing area figures for domestic abuse crimes at overall crime level, figures are available by crime type from pivot tables contained within the spreadsheets which accompany this report:

http://www.psnl.police.uk/domestic_abuse_incidents_and_crimes_in_northern_ireland_2004-05_to_2012-13.xls.

Additional geographic breakdowns of crime, such as by ward and parliamentary constituency, are available on the Northern Ireland Neighbourhood Information Service (NINIS) Internet site:

<http://www.ninis2.nisra.gov.uk/public/Home.aspx>

Figure 6.1 Map of policing districts and policing areas in Northern Ireland

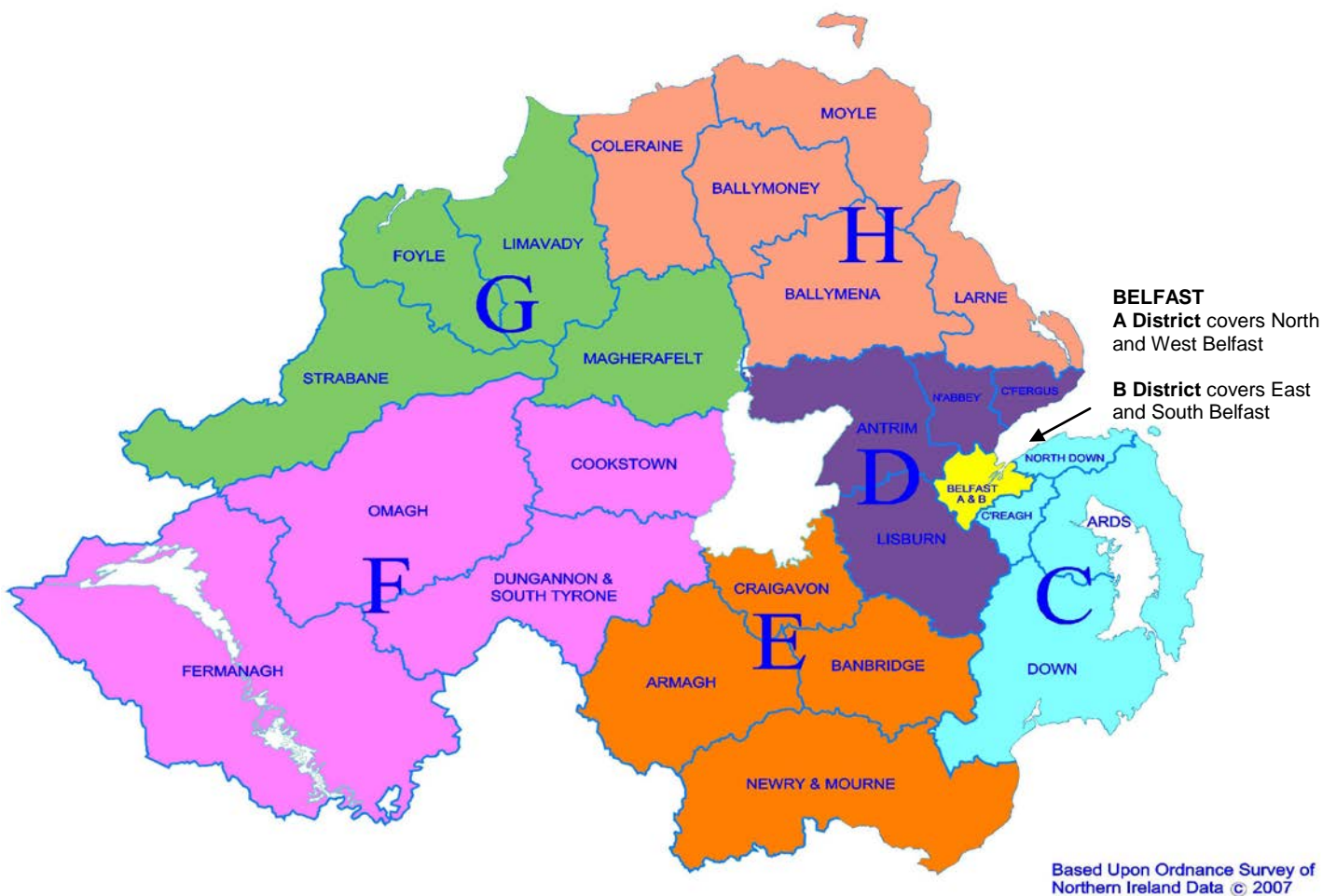


Table 6.1 Incidents with a domestic abuse motivation by policing district and policing area, 2004/05 to 2012/13¹

Policing district/area	Numbers and percentages										
	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	change 2011/12 to 2012/13	% change 2011/12 to 2012/13
North Belfast	1,843	2,157	2,231	2,198	2,053	1,928	1,844	1,940	2,406	466	24.0
West Belfast	1,086	1,113	1,069	1,427	1,362	1,349	1,323	1,264	1,540	276	21.8
A District	2,929	3,270	3,300	3,625	3,415	3,277	3,167	3,204	3,946	742	23.2
East Belfast	1,246	1,336	1,513	1,376	1,269	1,363	1,354	1,527	1,478	-49	-3.2
South Belfast	853	999	886	968	867	789	823	1,086	1,025	-61	-5.6
B District	2,099	2,335	2,399	2,344	2,136	2,152	2,177	2,613	2,503	-110	-4.2
Ards	728	843	1,012	858	788	741	661	737	861	124	16.8
Castlereagh	617	432	493	485	496	494	480	429	540	111	25.9
Down	363	670	792	674	686	702	540	619	718	99	16.0
North Down	774	919	867	862	709	674	644	726	887	161	22.2
C District	2,482	2,864	3,164	2,879	2,679	2,611	2,325	2,511	3,006	495	19.7
Antrim	628	706	595	688	622	732	635	854	727	-127	-14.9
Carrickfergus	364	480	419	460	511	463	470	539	492	-47	-8.7
Lisburn	1,782	1,551	1,819	1,539	1,735	1,765	1,686	1,749	1,566	-183	-10.5
Newtownabbey	863	973	941	963	948	877	904	1,046	1,121	75	7.2
D District	3,637	3,710	3,774	3,650	3,816	3,837	3,695	4,188	3,906	-282	-6.7
Armagh	353	482	497	535	574	658	514	595	636	41	6.9
Banbridge	346	431	406	432	395	503	402	567	655	88	15.5
Craigavon	1,233	1,403	1,460	1,283	1,433	1,306	1,174	1,399	1,784	385	27.5
Newry & Mourne	617	960	954	832	1,125	1,130	1,050	1,136	1,221	85	7.5
E District	2,549	3,276	3,317	3,082	3,527	3,597	3,140	3,697	4,296	599	16.2
Cookstown	446	503	386	367	411	461	418	490	535	45	9.2
Dungannon & South Tyrone	323	406	476	355	357	450	438	656	773	117	17.8
Fermanagh	518	609	557	592	531	551	550	631	750	119	18.9
Omagh	666	723	789	728	719	755	511	631	639	8	1.3
F District	1,953	2,241	2,208	2,042	2,018	2,217	1,917	2,408	2,697	289	12.0
Foyle	1,921	1,691	1,561	1,742	2,115	2,429	2,282	2,224	2,405	181	8.1
Limavady	392	460	564	551	544	535	534	467	455	-12	-2.6
Magherafelt	448	345	342	323	279	431	353	391	434	43	11.0
Strabane	495	498	479	484	670	742	566	636	561	-75	-11.8
G District	3,256	2,994	2,946	3,100	3,608	4,137	3,735	3,718	3,855	137	3.7
Ballymena	580	584	516	601	718	827	818	932	895	-37	-4.0
Ballymoney	255	272	232	286	322	335	270	345	368	23	6.7
Coleraine	824	1,072	1,183	998	905	900	922	978	1,109	131	13.4
Larne	293	313	272	330	301	408	373	426	412	-14	-3.3
Moyle	102	128	145	139	146	184	146	176	197	21	11.9
H District	2,054	2,369	2,348	2,354	2,392	2,654	2,529	2,857	2,981	124	4.3
Northern Ireland	20,959	23,059	23,456	23,076	23,591	24,482	22,685	25,196	27,190	1,994	7.9

1. Incidents are geographically recorded by the police based on the location in which the incident occurred.

Table 6.2 Recorded crime with a domestic abuse motivation by policing district and policing area, 2004/05 to 2012/13¹

Policing district/area	Numbers and percentages										
	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	change 2011/12 to 2012/13	% change 2011/12 to 2012/13
North Belfast	679	863	932	839	791	713	744	693	958	265	38.2
West Belfast	613	564	316	513	414	473	522	536	629	93	17.4
A District	1,292	1,427	1,248	1,352	1,205	1,186	1,266	1,229	1,587	358	29.1
East Belfast	434	513	492	436	453	449	473	552	623	71	12.9
South Belfast	368	481	430	423	381	357	348	433	464	31	7.2
B District	802	994	922	859	834	806	821	985	1,087	102	10.4
Ards	359	425	456	361	283	330	330	337	361	24	7.1
Castlereagh	227	171	189	126	172	199	213	164	202	38	23.2
Down	163	350	353	246	267	331	295	298	323	25	8.4
North Down	314	395	395	378	307	327	330	326	360	34	10.4
C District	1,063	1,341	1,393	1,111	1,029	1,187	1,168	1,125	1,246	121	10.8
Antrim	266	291	367	303	245	352	293	359	329	-30	-8.4
Carrickfergus	160	223	201	238	193	190	190	235	183	-52	-22.1
Lisburn	920	781	841	603	539	662	680	593	640	47	7.9
Newtownabbey	430	538	514	361	412	406	377	433	428	-5	-1.2
D District	1,776	1,833	1,923	1,505	1,389	1,610	1,540	1,620	1,580	-40	-2.5
Armagh	193	254	223	192	198	245	221	253	243	-10	-4.0
Banbridge	232	211	205	203	158	160	165	222	253	31	14.0
Craigavon	604	646	632	589	611	620	575	621	698	77	12.4
Newry & Mourne	305	559	449	376	462	529	490	538	578	40	7.4
E District	1,334	1,670	1,509	1,360	1,429	1,554	1,451	1,634	1,772	138	8.4
Cookstown	220	219	155	157	143	186	198	216	185	-31	-14.4
Dungannon & South Tyrone	149	187	170	148	154	237	204	282	314	32	11.3
Fermanagh	196	307	234	293	243	252	257	296	380	84	28.4
Omagh	285	272	261	248	241	231	199	223	272	49	22.0
F District	850	985	820	846	781	906	858	1,017	1,151	134	13.2
Foyle	837	698	551	689	823	949	866	941	983	42	4.5
Limavady	215	253	221	229	266	269	284	232	188	-44	-19.0
Magherafelt	154	181	163	163	106	118	131	172	204	32	18.6
Strabane	339	241	213	156	222	185	219	253	203	-50	-19.8
G District	1,545	1,373	1,148	1,237	1,417	1,521	1,500	1,598	1,578	-20	-1.3
Ballymena	329	361	358	331	378	399	347	435	390	-45	-10.3
Ballymoney	126	150	100	103	130	136	93	152	152	0	0.0
Coleraine	353	423	472	346	396	348	299	363	402	39	10.7
Larne	134	142	155	179	162	167	151	159	140	-19	-11.9
Moyle	52	69	67	54	61	83	52	70	75	5	7.1
H District	994	1,145	1,152	1,013	1,127	1,133	942	1,179	1,159	-20	-1.7
Northern Ireland	9,656	10,768	10,115	9,283	9,211	9,903	9,546	10,387	11,160	773	7.4

1. Crimes are geographically recorded by the police based on the location in which the crime occurred.

Table 6.3 Sanction detection rates with a domestic abuse motivation by policing district and policing area, 2004/05 to 2012/13¹

Policing district/area	Numbers and percentages									
	2004/05 ²	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	% point change 2011/12 to 2012/13 ³
North Belfast	16.5	23.5	32.3	37.2	42.9	45.2	49.7	48.6	35.5	-13.1
West Belfast	15.5	32.4	42.1	34.3	38.2	43.8	44.6	42.2	38.8	-3.4
A District	16.1	27.0	34.8	36.1	41.2	44.6	47.6	45.8	36.8	-9.0
East Belfast	16.4	26.5	36.4	34.4	33.6	47.2	48.8	34.1	33.2	-0.8
South Belfast	10.2	17.0	27.7	22.7	27.3	45.1	43.1	33.9	30.0	-4.0
B District	13.6	21.9	32.3	28.6	30.7	46.3	46.4	34.0	31.8	-2.2
Ards	12.5	19.3	21.3	26.6	32.2	43.0	47.6	32.0	27.4	-4.6
Castlereagh	24.6	20.5	32.8	63.5	34.3	49.2	49.3	51.2	35.6	-15.6
Down	12.2	28.6	26.6	51.6	40.1	43.2	40.0	40.9	27.9	-13.1
North Down	13.9	28.9	27.8	24.6	30.0	40.7	55.2	39.0	30.6	-8.4
C District	15.2	24.7	26.1	35.6	33.9	43.5	48.1	39.2	29.8	-9.4
Antrim	14.0	29.2	37.6	41.9	49.4	43.5	40.6	40.4	39.8	-0.6
Carrickfergus	9.9	12.6	30.8	45.4	50.3	47.4	48.4	43.4	30.1	-13.3
Lisburn	16.5	20.7	30.3	37.3	45.5	44.0	49.9	33.6	33.4	-0.1
Newtownabbey	12.4	15.8	28.8	38.0	36.7	49.0	47.7	37.9	32.5	-5.4
D District	14.5	19.6	31.4	39.7	44.2	45.5	47.4	37.7	34.1	-3.5
Armagh	22.3	37.4	40.8	29.7	35.4	38.8	40.7	38.3	34.2	-4.2
Banbridge	21.0	17.1	34.6	29.6	37.3	43.1	40.0	40.5	36.8	-3.8
Craigavon	11.9	20.1	28.3	26.0	29.3	34.0	41.0	39.9	34.5	-5.4
Newry & Mourne	14.6	22.5	23.8	28.7	36.6	45.2	40.6	43.9	37.5	-6.3
E District	15.5	23.2	29.7	27.8	33.4	39.5	40.7	41.1	35.8	-5.3
Cookstown	8.7	21.0	27.1	43.9	35.7	51.1	55.6	42.6	41.6	-1.0
Dungannon & South Tyrone	18.0	33.7	42.9	29.7	36.4	43.5	49.5	45.4	39.8	-5.6
Fermanagh	13.9	27.0	27.4	41.6	39.1	43.3	45.5	42.6	45.3	2.7
Omagh	13.7	26.1	35.6	31.9	48.1	43.3	57.8	47.1	40.4	-6.6
F District	13.1	26.7	33.2	37.1	40.7	44.9	51.6	44.3	42.1	-2.3
Foyle	15.1	27.8	26.5	23.2	34.0	43.2	46.4	45.3	33.2	-12.1
Limavady	2.0	28.1	24.9	32.3	43.6	42.8	51.4	47.8	34.0	-13.8
Magherafelt	20.2	20.4	31.9	28.2	53.8	50.0	48.1	44.2	32.4	-11.8
Strabane	14.2	29.5	45.1	42.9	41.4	40.5	51.1	37.9	36.5	-1.5
G District	13.2	27.2	30.4	28.1	38.5	43.3	48.2	44.4	33.6	-10.8
Ballymena	11.3	21.6	27.9	32.9	37.8	41.4	40.9	42.5	41.8	-0.7
Ballymoney	12.3	20.7	34.0	35.9	26.9	45.6	35.5	34.9	22.4	-12.5
Coleraine	17.8	28.8	33.9	39.3	37.1	33.9	47.5	44.9	31.1	-13.8
Larne	9.9	23.2	38.1	44.7	54.3	49.7	48.3	37.1	35.7	-1.4
Moyle	9.6	14.5	31.3	31.5	24.6	32.5	34.6	48.6	36.0	-12.6
H District	13.4	23.9	32.5	37.4	38.0	40.2	43.3	41.9	34.4	-7.5
Northern Ireland	14.4	24.1	31.1	33.9	37.8	43.3	46.5	41.1	34.8	-6.3

1. The detection figures are based on sanction detections only. The reason for focusing on sanction detections instead of the overall detection rate is that there have been a number of changes to the rules governing what can be counted as a detection since 2004/05. However sanction detections remained unaffected by these changes and so provide the most comparable data series. An explanation of the changes to the recording of detections, along with details on what constitutes a sanction detection, can be found in the [User Guide to Police Recorded Crime Statistics in Northern Ireland](#).
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 sanction detection rate is the number of crimes that are cleared up by a sanction detection expressed as a percentage of the total number of recorded offences.
2. The offence of breach of a non-molestation order was only introduced into the recorded crime data series in 2005/06, although the offence was in existence during 2004/05. PSNI compiled data during 2004/05 on those breaches of a non molestation order which were domestic in nature at policing area level, however the number that were detected was not compiled. So while the number of offences recorded has been included within the 2004/05 domestic abuse crime figures, a detection rate for 2004/05 is not available. This will have had an impact on the sanction detection rate for 2004/05 as these offences tend to have a high detection rate.
3. Percentage point change is based on unrounded figures.

Table 6.4 Incidents with a domestic abuse motivation per 1,000 population by policing district and policing area, 2004/05 to 2012/13^{1,2}

	Rate per 1,000 population								
	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13
North Belfast	23	27	28	27	25	24	23	24	30
West Belfast	17	18	17	23	22	21	21	21	25
A District	21	23	23	25	24	23	22	23	28
East Belfast	18	20	22	20	19	20	20	21	21
South Belfast	13	16	14	15	13	12	12	16	15
B District	16	18	18	18	16	16	16	19	18
Ards	10	11	13	11	10	10	8	9	11
Castlereagh	9	7	7	7	7	7	7	6	8
Down	6	10	12	10	10	10	8	9	10
North Down	10	12	11	11	9	9	8	9	11
C District	9	10	11	10	9	9	8	9	10
Antrim	13	14	12	13	12	14	12	16	14
Carrickfergus	9	12	11	12	13	12	12	14	13
Lisburn	16	14	16	13	15	15	14	15	13
Newtownabbey	11	12	11	12	11	10	11	12	13
D District	13	13	13	13	13	13	12	14	13
Armagh	6	9	9	9	10	11	9	10	11
Banbridge	8	10	9	9	8	11	8	12	13
Craigavon	15	17	17	15	16	14	13	15	19
Newry & Mourne	7	10	10	9	12	12	11	11	12
E District	9	12	12	11	12	12	11	12	14
Cookstown	13	15	11	10	11	13	11	13	14
Dungannon & South Tyrone	7	8	9	7	6	8	8	11	13
Fermanagh	9	10	9	10	9	9	9	10	12
Omagh	14	15	16	15	14	15	10	12	12
F District	10	12	11	10	10	11	9	12	13
Foyle	18	16	15	16	20	22	21	21	22
Limavady	12	14	17	16	16	16	16	14	13
Magherafelt	11	8	8	8	6	10	8	9	10
Strabane	13	13	12	12	17	19	14	16	14
G District	15	14	13	14	16	18	17	16	17
Ballymena	10	10	8	10	11	13	13	15	14
Ballymoney	9	9	8	10	11	11	9	11	12
Coleraine	14	19	20	17	15	15	16	17	19
Larne	9	10	9	10	9	13	12	13	13
Moyle	6	8	9	8	9	11	9	10	12
H District	11	12	12	12	12	13	12	14	15
Northern Ireland	12	13	13	13	13	14	13	14	15

1. Crimes are geographically recorded by the police based on the location in which the crime 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>.

Table 6.5 Recorded crime with a domestic abuse motivation per 1,000 population by policing district and policing area, 2004/05 to 2012/13^{1,2}

	Rate per 1,000 population								
	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13
North Belfast	8	11	12	10	10	9	9	9	12
West Belfast	10	9	5	8	7	8	8	9	10
A District	9	10	9	9	8	8	9	9	11
East Belfast	6	8	7	6	7	7	7	8	9
South Belfast	6	7	7	7	6	5	5	6	7
B District	6	8	7	6	6	6	6	7	8
Ards	5	6	6	5	4	4	4	4	5
Castlereagh	3	3	3	2	3	3	3	2	3
Down	2	5	5	4	4	5	4	4	5
North Down	4	5	5	5	4	4	4	4	5
C District	4	5	5	4	4	4	4	4	4
Antrim	5	6	7	6	5	7	5	7	6
Carrickfergus	4	6	5	6	5	5	5	6	5
Lisburn	8	7	7	5	5	6	6	5	5
Newtownabbey	5	7	6	4	5	5	4	5	5
D District	6	6	7	5	5	5	5	5	5
Armagh	3	5	4	3	3	4	4	4	4
Banbridge	5	5	5	4	3	3	3	5	5
Craigavon	7	8	7	7	7	7	6	7	7
Newry & Mourne	3	6	5	4	5	5	5	5	6
E District	5	6	5	5	5	5	5	5	6
Cookstown	7	6	4	4	4	5	5	6	5
Dungannon & South Tyrone	3	4	3	3	3	4	4	5	5
Fermanagh	3	5	4	5	4	4	4	5	6
Omagh	6	5	5	5	5	5	4	4	5
F District	4	5	4	4	4	4	4	5	5
Foyle	8	7	5	6	8	9	8	9	9
Limavady	6	8	7	7	8	8	9	7	6
Magherafelt	4	4	4	4	2	3	3	4	4
Strabane	9	6	5	4	6	5	5	6	5
G District	7	6	5	6	6	7	7	7	7
Ballymena	5	6	6	5	6	6	5	7	6
Ballymoney	4	5	3	3	4	4	3	5	5
Coleraine	6	7	8	6	7	6	5	6	7
Larne	4	5	5	6	5	5	5	5	4
Moyle	3	4	4	3	4	5	3	4	4
H District	5	6	6	5	6	6	5	6	6
Northern Ireland	6	6	6	5	5	6	5	6	6

1. Crimes are geographically recorded by the police based on the location in which the crime 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>.